

VANDALISM: What's the Point?

BY KRICKET MORTON

During the first two weeks of January, vandalism at Albemarle High School, as well as at North Stanly and South Stanly, baffled the police and resulted in \$30,000 dollars in damages. No one had a clue as to who was committing the crimes, but the theft of a football from the South Stanly trophy case led to the arrest of three North Stanly seniors.

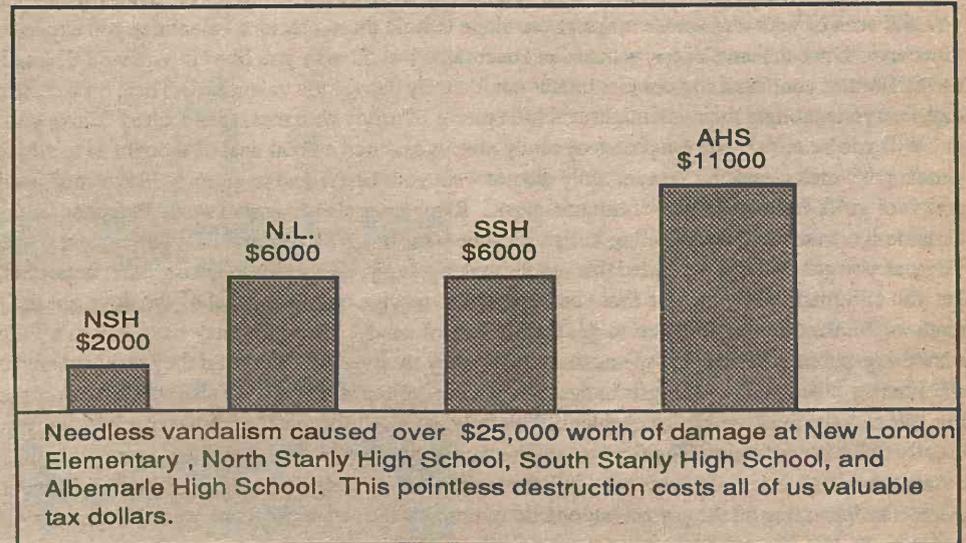
Arrested were Timothy Harris, 17, of New London, Dennis Wiseman, 17, of Richfield, and Kevin Walker, 17, of Albemarle. They were charged with the January 6 break-in and vandalism at Albemarle High School.

Of the three high schools vandalized, Albemarle High School suffered the greatest dollar loss in property. The students broke into the gym lobby, where they smashed all of the trophy cases and damaged some of the older trophies. They also broke the bandroom windows and battered the driver's education car, breaking windows and denting the body.

Vandalism is a growing problem among teenagers today. What drives someone to destroying others' property? According to Harris, Wiseman, and Walker, they didn't mean for it to go as long as it did. Once they started it just got out of hand.

Also over Christmas break our athletic buses and van were vandalized, along with our school sign. Headlights, taillights, and mirrors were broken on the vehicles, while someone threw a metal handicapped parking sign into the school marquee. However, Harris, Wiseman, and Walker were not charged with the vandalism over Christmas.

When Mr. Morgan was asked about all the vandalism he said, "I'll bet my last dollar that no one from Albemarle High School was involved in any of the vandalism." Mr. Morgan was right, but it's unfortunate that our community has to suffer from these immature acts.



Are Sophomores Competent?

BY SHERRI ALLEN

Get ready all you Sophomores! Starting February 14-16 you will be taking the competency tests. There will be three sections given. These include: reading, math, and writing. The writing has two parts, which include the objective and essay. This test will be given during first, second, and possibly third periods. It will also be given to eleventh and twelfth graders who have not passed all three sections. It is required you pass this test before you can receive your diploma.



Chemega Campbell and Tangelia Christian are two sophomores taking the competency tests this year.

Brown Advances in Morehead Competition

BY KENDALL HOMESLEY

AHS student body president Palmer Brown continues to represent AHS in competition for the prestigious Morehead Scholarship.

On November 2 Palmer journeyed to Pinehurst, N.C., and competed in the regional level for the scholarship. Along with students from eleven counties other than Stanly County, Palmer was drilled for fifteen long minutes on thought questions such as worldwide current events, opinions, present school activities, future goals, and the good and bad aspects of AHS. At the conclusion of the interviews, seven finalists were chosen to travel to Chapel-Hill on March 3-8 for

final interviews for this award.

While at the finals Palmer will reside with one of two local Morehead Scholars, either Neil Rieman or Rob Byrum. This final competition will undoubtedly be the toughest. It will include students from throughout the world and consist of formal interviews and banquets.

When asked about the possibility of being named a Morehead Scholar, Palmer admits, "I feel privileged to be able to compete for this scholarship. I'm thankful to have made it this far and hopefully I will succeed at this final step."

Eight Juniors Nominated for Governor's School

BY ADRIENNE SOYER

The 1989 Governor's School Nominees have been selected by the Honors Committee. These students were chosen due to their abilities in either academics or in the performing arts. Academic nominees are Bill Snyder, Brett Richards, and Matt Lowder. Math, social science, natural science, English, Spanish, French, and creative technology will be the areas of concentration they may choose from. Nominated in the arts were Sally Frye, Shannon Thomas, Debbie Crabtree, Natasha Tyson, and Lori Ingram. If selected to attend Governor's School, these students will spend six weeks this summer at either Governor's School West at Salem College in Winston-Salem or Governor's School East at St. Andrews Presbyterian College in Laurinburg. About four hundred students from across North Carolina will attend each campus with a weekend break at the end of three weeks. Not only will these students have a major subject area of concentration, but they will also take classes in philosophy and psychology. Governor's School is designed to challenge students abilities, not evaluate them. Nominees will be notified in early spring of their acceptance.



Governor's school nominees look forward to an exciting and challenging summer.

SIMS Makes Life Easier for All of Us

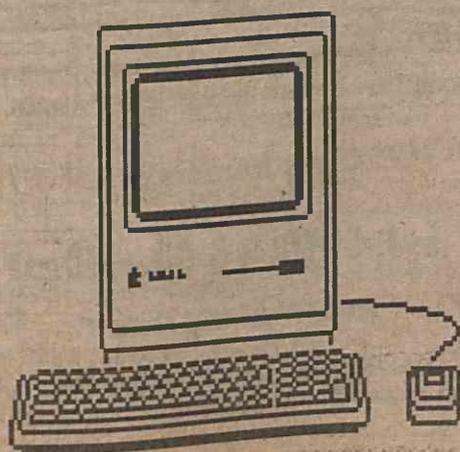
BY SUZIE BRITT

SIMS. It is an acronym that stands for "Student Information Management Systems." The capabilities of this system seem to be almost limitless. The three major jobs it performs are keeping the attendance, academic progress reports (report cards), and student schedules. Mr. Edwards is the SIMS coordinator, and he, along with Mrs. Saunders, has put the system in use this past school year. In the spring of last year, class scheduling, usually a tremendous task, was performed by this system with relatively few flaws. And finally this year, the computer relieved teachers of filling out the old type of report card.

This new type of academic progress reports

gives more information than the past report cards. They give first and second nine week grades in all of your classes, along with your semester grades, all recorded on one grade form. It also shows class averages, individual grade point averages, absences, and tardies. The new SIMS computer also prints a copy of your report card for your cumulative folder, providing a more complete record of your high school grades.

The SIMS system is much easier to use and more complete than any system used in the past. In the future the report cards will show credit values, class rank, and teacher comments.



REPORT CARD			
ENGLISH IV	93		
ADV. MATH	85		
ART I	96		
SPANISH II	87		
PHYSICS	90		
P.E. II	98		