



Features

EDITOR: KRICKET MORTON



A Day of Love

BY PALMER BROWN

February 14th, Valentine's Day. Throughout our short lifetimes, this day has held many different meanings and occupies various feelings in our memories. Remember back to elementary school when Valentine's Day was the favorite day of the year behind Christmas and birthdays. Your teacher had you and each of your classmates make an envelope to hold those precious valentines you expected to receive. Once the envelope was made and decorated just the way you liked it, you would hang it on the front of your desk so your classmates could easily deliver the valentines. Then, on a certain day, everyone brought their valentines and little pieces of candy with messages such as "I love you" or "Will you be mine". These pieces of candy always required a great deal of thought as to which person got which message. You certainly did not want your best friend to get an "I love you" heart and your girlfriend to get a run-of-the-mill heart. Remember also how you made everyone in the classroom a valentine, every the big bully that stole your lunch money and beat you up last week. Then, as you got older, you decided that maybe making everyone a valentine wasn't that important, but you still made everyone one that you expected to receive one from. All of the guys got their mothers to take them to the store to get them a box of candy. The girls may have gotten a little something but mainly they just speculated on who they received candy from if they received any at all. It never failed, one or two girls in the class got everything and everyone else was left out of the fun. Now, valentines are all but obsolete. You only get a gift for that "someone special", but you usually make it a nice one. The florists and the card shops have a field day every year at this time because when all else fails, why not send the traditional? I guess Valentine's Day has different memories depending on the person but one thing remains the same, everyone wants a valentine.

STUDY SKILLS ARE SURVIVAL SKILLS

With the new rule passed by the North Carolina High School Athletic Association stating that all student athletes must pass five classes per semester in order to participate in sports, many students have found out that they must develop new study skills if they are to maintain eligibility for athletics. The following guidelines, offered by the College Board, are a good place to start in improving classroom performance. For athletes in North Carolina, study skills are now survival skills.

Tackling your most difficult assignments first, studying in a quiet place, and reviewing your notes before class are among the study habits that should be part of your daily routine now—before you get to college.

Good study skills such as these are essential to academic survival. Practicing good study habits as well as note-taking and reading skills now, as high school student, will give you a boost in college.

If you're not already doing so, you might want to follow some of these suggestions for studying and note-taking:

- * Always study without distractions.
- * Have available all the materials you'll need to complete an assignment without interruption.
- * Study as soon after class as possible, while the information is fresh in your mind. If this is not possible, then study as early in the day as possible.
- * While reading a chapter in a book, try to learn the lesson in small chunks by summarizing the important points. Ask yourself questions about the material.
- * As you read, jot down any questions to ask the teacher.
- * Read as much as you can. Push yourself to read novels or magazine articles in addition to your school assignments.
- * If you're interested in a particular subject, borrow library books to read more about it. Get into the habit of reading a newspaper or news magazine regularly.
- * For concise, accurate notes, rely on a large notebook, a pen (ink is easier to read than pencil), and wide margins.
- * Organize notes by course and date each page.

FULL MOON

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What's Happening?

BY BILL SNYDER

"What are you gonna do tonight?" is a question you've all probably been asked a million times, and your reply is usually, "I don't know." It's definitely no secret that there is very little for Albemarle teenagers to do, so I have decided to look into this problem, but by no means solve it.

One type of entertainment for the "doomed" Albemarle teenagers is going to school football and basketball games. Even if you're not into sports, these are great social events. You can talk openly to your friends, without having to stay after school and scrape gum off desks.

Another type of recreation (and probably the most popular) here in Albemarle is the movie theater. Students go there to catch a good flick, but most are more interested in scoping out some babes or hunks, as the case may be. The movie theater may be fulfilling for a while, but two movies per weekend just don't cut it. If there are no good movies (or you've seen them all), cruising around in this metropolis of Albemarle is usually a good way to pass the time.

Parties are usually a lot of fun, on the rare occasion that somebody's throwing one (and on the rarer occasion that you're allowed to go). Because of their scarcity, parties are usually crowded with teenagers from all around Stanly County. This brings about the problems of fighting and police raids, which are nearly inevitable. More likely than not, parties are an enjoyable way to spend a festive evening in Albemarle.

As you can see (and probably already knew), there are not too many fun places to go or fun things to do here in Albemarle, but you gave to be creative. (Example: Who would ever think that driving a car back and forth in front of Sky City, "jumping the bumps," could be so much fun?) Don't get me wrong; Albemarle is a great place to grow up, but what are we gonna grow up to be?



Chris "jumps the bumps" to pass some time.



Eastgate Cinemas have become Albemarle's entertainment center.



At this time of year a teacher's three favorite words have become June, July, and August.

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