



The FULL MOON



Volume 55, No. 6

ALBEMARLE HIGH NEWSPAPER
311 Park Ridge Road Albemarle NC 28001

982-3711

MARCH 1990

AHS Students Win Many Awards

By Bill Snyder

Albemarle High School's vocational programs, DECA, VICA, and FHA, have had much success in competition recently. A number of students have received distinguished awards at District 6A Competition. These honors are impressive because our district consists of six counties.

The Albemarle Chapter of DECA participated in competition on January 24. The most outstanding performer at this event was Blia Xiong, who won first place in the performance event and first place in the overall series.

ICT-VICA students at AHS participated in the District 6 VICA Skill and Leadership Contests on March 6. Crystal Crisco won first

place in the VICA Ambassador Contest. John Garris won first place in the Prepared Speech Contest. Phillip Hedrick placed second in the Extemporaneous Speech competition. Bill Scell presented a Job Skill Demonstration entitled "Making a Warp Yarn."

The Future Homemakers of America participated in a District 6A proficiency event on March 5. Ernest Davis won first place in the illustrated talk division with a speech entitled, "Shoplifting: An Issue of Concern to Teenagers and Society." Misty Dennis and Debbie Page placed second in the "Little Friends" event.

Albemarle High School is proud to be represented so well in competition with other areas.



DECA, VICA, and FHA members have won many competitive awards recently.

Suicide: A Preventable Death

By Tom Stubbs

On March 6, Trooper Fred Davis of the North Carolina Highway Patrol, spoke to seniors about suicide and its prevention. Trooper Davis is well qualified to speak on suicide since he is what is known as a "suicide survivor." His 16 year old daughter committed suicide four years ago, and he, along with his wife and older child, have spent the past four years learning to cope. Because of this experience, Trooper Davis has formed a crisis center to assist teenagers who are considering suicide. The organization, called PATS (Parents Against Teen Suicide) is headquartered at Clyde, North Carolina. After its dedication on April 10, it will be staffed 24 hours a day by trained counselors. The toll-free number is 1-800-For-Pats or 1-800-367-7287.

Every day in the United States, 16 teenagers commit suicide. Although suicide is a complex issue, it is one of the most preventable causes of death. When a person is depressed and possibly considering suicide, there are several warning signs that can be detected: clues in behavior such as giving away personal possessions, talking about not being around any more, resisting being touched or hugged by a close friend or family member, acting very sad or depressed, and becoming unusually artistic, such as writing poetry.



Jason Wagoner congratulates Trooper Davis on an insightful assembly.

Go Fly a Kite . . . But Watch for Tornadoes

By Brett Richards

Do you know why March has always been the best month for flying kites? It's also the month that begins tornado season, and March has been designated as Tornado Awareness Month. Schools across the state are preparing their students for the possibilities of severe weather. Here at AHS, we've already sounded the tornado alarm and learned our crouching positions in the halls.



Back in March of 1984, 22 tornadoes tore through the state of North Carolina, devastating miles of housing and industry. Let's hope that doesn't happen again anytime soon. Stanly County isn't exactly known for an abundance of tornadoes, but several twisters have been spotted in our area in the last few years. People who live along Lake Tillery remember one that struck mid-June last year, snapping trees and leaving their trunks twisted.

Tornadoes strike quickly and often with little time for residents who are in its path to take cover or even be warned that it is coming. Tornadoes also leave quickly, but leave behind a landscape almost unrecognizable with destruction. If you find yourself in the path of a tornado, take the best cover available, preferably a basement with no glass windows or doors. If you are outside, find a ditch and cover your head with your arms.

Be informed about tornadoes. Your life may depend on your quick thinking.

ABC Plan for Success

On February 1, Dr. Lloyd Hackley, Chancellor of Fayetteville State University, spoke to our student body to kick-off Black History Month. Included in his memorable and inspiring address were the ABC's for success. The *Full Moon* staff is happy to reprint his formula for success.

- A - Accept your history and your heritage.
 - B - Believe in yourself, in your capabilities and in your possibilities. According to scientists, the bumblebee cannot fly; but since it doesn't know that and believes it can, it does.
 - C - Commit yourself wholeheartedly to your dreams and to your life's plans.
 - D - Dream dreams as big as you want to be, and see yourself as having accomplished your dreams. Don't let anybody step on your dreams.
 - E - Expect some hard times; life is tough, but take the E and fight on, finish your tasks; know that failure is just like any other bad habit -- you have to have the will to break it.
 - G - Get God into your plans, into your present and into your future.
 - H - Have a made-up mind.
 - I - Inspire somebody else who may not be as strong as you are.
 - J - Judge each step each day by the way it fits your plan.
 - K - Keep on keeping-on.
 - L - Learn to leave the comfort of the crowd and make an I ought to, I can, I must, I will decision. Much of what you will have to do to succeed in life will have to be done by you alone.
 - M - Make every day count.
 - N - Learn to say NO! When your so-called friends try to give you drugs, sex without love, alcohol and other cop-outs — tell them NO! Tell them you are too serious to be stupid, too committed to be careless, too busy to be bothered, and too dedicated to be dumb.
 - O - Overcome your obstacles.
 - P - Learn the eight P's of excellence - proper preparation prevents poor performance; press forward, persevere, prevail. Don't succumb to the four destructive P's of the ME generation — pot, pornography, promiscuity, and pregnancy.
 - Q - Quit quitting.
 - R - Run every race to the finish.
 - S - Stand strong regardless of the odds.
 - T - Tell the truth to yourself, and accept only truth.
 - U - Use your talents.
 - V - Value your time.
 - W - Work hard for your dream 'til your work is done.
 - X - X-Ray your reality and your life.
 - Y - Yield not to temptation.
 - Z - Zealously strive to reach your mountain top, achieve your dream, and make your life worthwhile.
- This is reality in America. We are all God's children and God does not make junk.



FHA winners Ernest Davis, Debbie Page, and Misty Dennis are following an ABC plan for success.