



Features



EDITOR: ALEX OVERCASH

The "Ups" and "Downs" of AHS

By Bill Snyder

Over the course of my four years here at Albemarle High School, I have become well-acquainted with most aspects of the school. Despite several position changes involving teachers, coaches, counselors, and vice principals, the atmosphere of AHS has remained relatively the same. I would like to take this time to reflect on these three main aspects of our school: physical appearance, educational atmosphere, and school spirit.

The outside appearance of our school building has changed just slightly during my four years at AHS. A monument from the Class of '89 adorns the entrance to our football/track stadium. The landscape just below the parking lot was another recent addition to the AHS campus. The gym floor has been repainted and refinished since the PE days of my freshman year. A most-welcomed addition to all the classrooms has been the ceiling fans and air-conditioning units. One part of our school grounds that, unfortunately, has not changed is the muddy area in front of our school where the students gather during lunch. Despite efforts to plant grass there, this place often becomes a messy bog with the slightest amount of rain. An aspect of our school's appearance that has changed for the worse is the parking lot. Certain administrators show little hesitation in punishing students who park their cars a little crooked, regardless of the fact that the parking lines are practically non-existent.

The educational atmosphere and opportunity has steadily improved during my high school years. The teachers have maintained their concern and caring for the students. This is one of the most outstanding aspects of AHS. While all the teachers form good working relationships with their students, a majority of them also form friendly relationships with their students. This type of bond makes the educational experience more effective and, at the same time, more enjoyable. Aside from a successful faculty, new course offerings have also enhanced the educational opportunity at AHS. The additions of World Geography, Drama I and II, and in-depth Home Economics courses have provided greater flexibility for students to tailor their individual needs.

As a whole, school spirit has not changed much over my four-year high school career. Senior spirit, especially, has remained the same. During this final year of high school, students have always had increased enthusiasm along with a greater sense of dominance over underclassmen. Seniors all want to enjoy their last year in high school because after graduation they have to face a more challenging world. School spirit among high school athletics has stayed the same as well. Students are always eager to pack into the gym for a basketball game or crowd the stadium to watch football, which reflects their enthusiasm. A discredit to students' athletic support is their reluctance to attend any other sporting event at the school. Another way students express school spirit is through pep rallies. Although at times misdirected, students have always provided plenty of pep.

Although things have changed, AHS still seems the same. Enjoy these four years because they pass very quickly. Possibly contrary to your current beliefs, AHS is a great place to learn, but an even better place to enjoy the best of times and friends.

Catching The Wave

By Alex Overcash

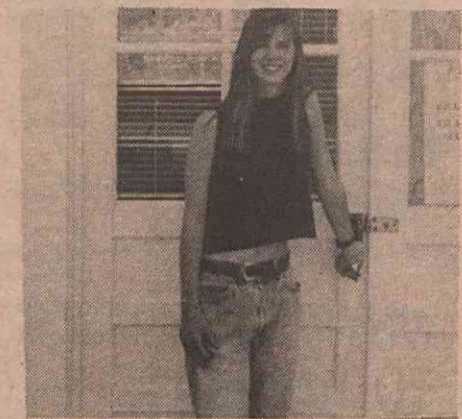


After a long wait, summer has finally arrived. Along with the heat returns such familiar terms as "laying out" (in the sun or out of school), "senioritis" (a terribly contagious disease that worsens with time), and "vacation" (what we've all been waiting for). Summer is the favorite time of year for most students because it brings such sports as track, tennis, baseball, golf, water-skiing, hydroskiing and wave-running back into action. It also indicates that the end of the school year is in sight (Hallelujah!) Many of us may have already taken a traditional trip to the beach over spring break just to get a taste of the good life. As hard as it may be, most of us have to keep those grades up or else join a dreaded five-year high school program or summer school. Most of us have survived the winter without much trouble, but remember there's still a month to go, so be careful!

As we near June 7, remember to enjoy your last few weeks of school instead of wishing it away. For some of us, it'll be the last chance we get. Whatever you like, all you have to do is get out there and "JUST DO IT."



Chad Dennis reluctantly pays his last overdue fines.



Trish Eley will be glad to leave her "second home."

Seniors Say Farewell

By Alex Overcash

With 23 days of school left, some of us seniors are already packing our bags. Although we will miss most aspects of high school, following are some things we'll be glad to say farewell to!

- The wonderful food in the cafeteria
 - All the overdue fines for the library
 - "The Barn" for those of us that experienced it
 - The laughter in the hallways
 - Mr. Morgan's familiar voice- "Thank you Tim."
 - All those exciting assemblies that we so gracefully marched into
 - The maximum security system Mr. Taylor so thoroughly enjoys
 - Mr. Townsend's stylin' brown uniform
 - Those popular school dances that never seem to please anybody
 - Mr. Klutzz's strenuous "driver's ed" program
 - Our famous "Bulldog pride" that leads our teams to success
 - Mrs. Almond's confidence boosts she continually gives
 - All the outstanding coaches and teachers
 - Those policemen that are always waiting for you in the mornings
 - Research papers
 - Having your report card signed
 - Being grounded for bad grades
- And finally...
- ALBEMARLE HIGH SCHOOL!!!

A Night To Remember: Maybe Not!

By Mesheka Davis and Shelly Austin

Girls get ready!! Your night of fun awaits! All those days of deciding are now winding down and by now you should have some idea about your make up, your dress, and especially your "MAN." However, this dream date could turn into the ULTIMATE NIGHTMARE if a few minor details don't work out. First, you have to get up at 7:00 A.M. to take the three hour long grueling and mind-boggling SAT. Then after having your brain stir-fried, you walk into the beauty salon and find ten girls ahead of you. What more could you ask for? Two hours later you hand over 15 dollars and go by the florist to pick up your date's boutonniere. You are greeted with the news that there is a problem with your order and instead of purple flowers, you will have to take yellow ones. Although yellow will look nauseating with purple, you have no choice at this time of day, so you take it and hurry to your car. With time flying by, you step on the gas a little, slide through a stop sign with a quick look left and right, only to be promptly rewarded with a blue light in your mirror. After listening to a ten minute lecture, you take your warning ticket and creep home. As you race into the house, the phone rings. It is your date who tells you that his cummerbund and tie don't match your dress. You try to calm down and think about how things could be much worse.

Now it's time to get ready. You have showered and you are applying a second coat of nail polish, and everything is going well. Maybe tonight won't be the worst night of your life after all. But, when you go to your mother and ask to borrow her precious diamonds for this special event, she politely says no and hands you a perfect pair of fake-me-out earrings. How could she?! She says that she doesn't think you're responsible. You are now fed up with everything! But, just as you are about to explode you stop, and with a smile you accept the earrings and quietly

go to your room, secretly wishing this night had never existed. Finishing your dressing, you pull your hose over your ankle and your fingernails goes right through it. You start to cry, repeating the words, "Why me?" until you have almost ruined your make-up. Glancing at the clock, you realize that your date is scheduled to arrive in fifteen minutes. You change hose, slip into those high heels, and race to the living room with two minutes to spare. Your mom has taken a whole roll of film of you in your dress when your realize that your date has not arrived. An hour later, he rings the doorbell. By this time you are in no mood for gaiety and insist on leaving immediately. Suddenly you notice a Pinto sitting in your driveway instead of the BMW you expected. You rudely ask, "What is this Pinto doing in my driveway?" He explains that he had car trouble on the way and this was the only car available on short notice. You get into the car without a word and as you and your date drive off into the sunset you mutter Murphy's famous law, "What Can Go Wrong Will Go Wrong."



Should Jennifer Gellen prepare to have a torturous day?

FULL MOON

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