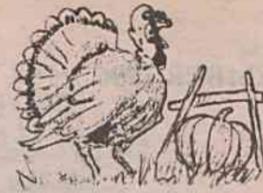


The FULL MOON



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Band Achieves High Ratings

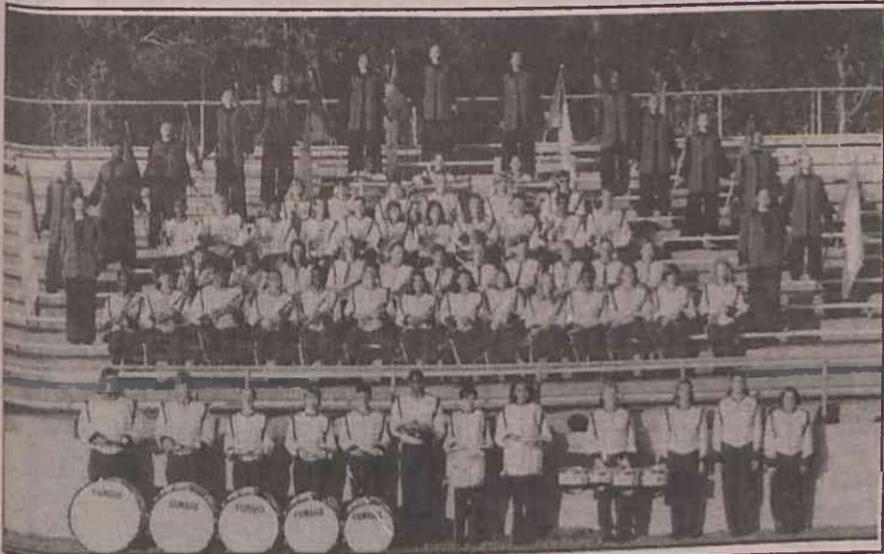
by Allison Hudson

If you attend any football games or go by the band room during sixth period, then you know that the Albemarle High School band is superb in its musical performances. The band is made up of 76 ninth through twelfth grade members.

On Saturdays during the fall, the band attends various band contests at different high schools in North Carolina. The concerts that Albemarle has attended have been held at Ledford, S.W. Guilford, N. Gaston, Union Pines, and Albemarle's own Showcase of Bands. At these contests Albemarle has received one superior rating, three excellent ratings, six second place awards, and one third place award.

Upcoming plans for the band members include their annual Christmas concert at the Agri-Civic Center on December 19. Over spring break the band will be traveling to Orlando, Florida, to compete in a concert and parade competition. While in Florida, they will have time to relax and have fun at Disney World, Epcot Center, Sea World, and Universal Studios. They will also be competing in a concert bands competition in March.

The band has worked very hard to accomplish such outstanding awards. Look for our award winning band in the upcoming Albemarle Christmas Parade on Nov. 30.



The AHS Band has entertained numerous fans during their marching season and impressed many judges during their competitions.

AHS Will Parade On Nov. 30

by Kelly Rakes

You can really tell the holidays are rolling around when the malls are decorated, we're out for Thanksgiving, the Christmas Wish Book has arrived, and the Christmas Parade is scheduled on November 30.

AHS is sponsoring numerous clubs and athletic groups in this festive event at the end of November. The S.A.V.E. Club and the B.A.D.D. Club are sponsoring a float that will illustrate the importance of driving safely, with a focus on drug and alcohol awareness, especially during the holiday season. The band is participating in the parade to show their musical genius in playing festive music for this special occasion. The JV and the Varsity Cheerleaders will be marching to show all of Stanly County their AHS pride. The Black Culture Club is also marching to remember and honor the roots of all African-American citizens. AHS Homecoming Queens Kelly Miller and Tonya Smith along with the junior court and senior court representatives will also participate in the parade. In addition, DECA Queens will represent the vocational club in the parade. Senior Miss DECA Marci Tucker and Junior Miss DECA Tiffany Eudy will ride in the

parade as symbols of DECA.

The parade will be on November 30 at 3:00 P.M. We encourage all AHS students and faculty members to come and watch the parade and show their school pride during this holiday season. We hope for good weather for all those participating in the parade.

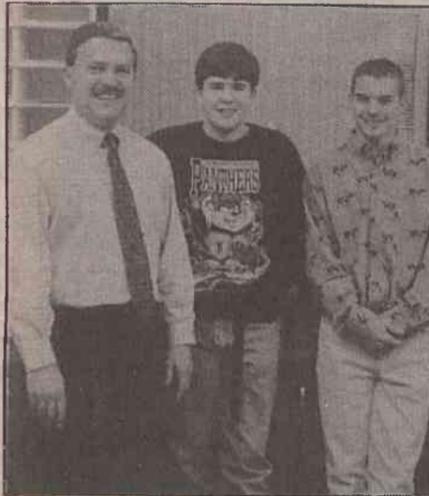


Tiffany Eudy and Marci Tucker will represent AHS as DECA queens.

Welcome, Mr. Byrd!

by Kelly Rakes

AHS is proud to welcome another new member to the AHS staff and student body. Mr. Kent Byrd is our new assistant principal.



Mr. Byrd gets to know AHS students Michael Burgess and Alex Lowder.

Mr. Byrd has jumped right into the scheme of things here at AHS, even though he has never held an administrative job at a high school level. He received his undergraduate and master's degrees at Appalachian State, so he is used to a smaller student-teacher environment. He was formerly employed by the Newton-Conover Schools where he doubled as one of the football and basketball coaches. He has also worked for the Thomasville schools and the Guilford County schools. Even though he has worked at other school systems, Mr. Byrd is "looking forward to working with the AHS students." Mr. Byrd also mentioned the school is absolutely beautiful and the football team is outstanding.

Although Mr. Byrd loves working in public education, he also has other hobbies that include golf, reading, writing his autobiography, and spending time with his family (which includes five children from first grade to tenth grade). AHS is privileged to have Mr. Kent Byrd on the staff and wish him productive and happy times at AHS!



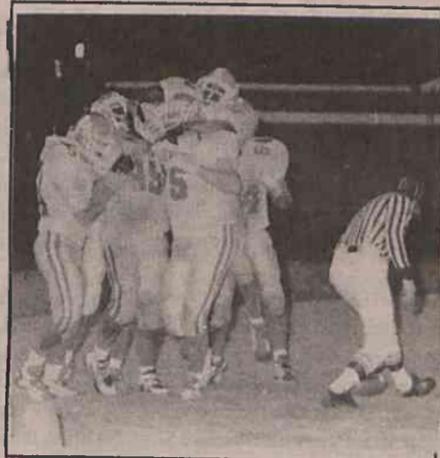
YVC Champs - AGAIN!

by Wilson Beaver

On November 4, 1994, the Albemarle Bulldogs football team made history. The team beat the Yadkin Valley Conference arch rival, the North Rowan Cavaliers, in overtime to become YVC champions. Ever since this highly emotional game, there has been fierce competition between the two schools. On November 8, 1996, history was made once again. The Bulldogs beat the Cavaliers in a last second play and won the YVC championship for a second time!

The game was a nail-biter until the end, especially when North Rowan turned up the juice and scored with only eight seconds left in the game. But the miracle did not occur until the Cavaliers missed the extra point and kept Albemarle ahead 14-13. With the sight of the missed extra point, the Albemarle stands cleared out onto the field for an early celebration. The fans finally calmed down and left the field so the remaining final seconds of the game could be played. The fans once again piled out onto the field for a championship celebration.

Congratulations to Coach Gaster and his staff and the team members who brought home our second YVC championship in three years!



Football players celebrate their recent victory over North Rowan and their YVC Championship! (photo courtesy SNAP)

Albemarle City Schools Merged with Stanly County Schools

by Journalism Staff

November 7, 1996, became a monumental day in the history of the Albemarle City Schools as the system ceased to exist when a merger was instituted by the Stanly County Commissioners. The five Albemarle City Schools are now part of the Stanly County School System.

Both school boards were dissolved and a new school board was appointed to lead the newly formed system for the next two years. Mr. David Grigg, local attorney, was elected to chair the school board through the merger process. Dr. Gene Moore was elected by the school board to continue in the position of superintendent.

School is continuing as usual while the school board and administrative officials work on melding the two systems; their first goals are to merge the financial and the personnel aspects of the two former systems. Hopefully, the process will ultimately result in better education for all students in Stanly County.