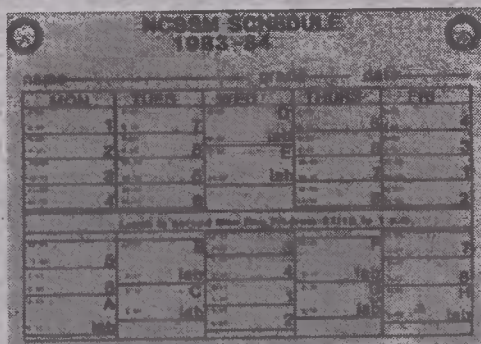


**THE EARLY YEARS:
1980 - 1994**

We've all heard stories of the pool behind Hill. It was demolished when the Hunt dorm was built. The "New Dorm" was nicknamed "Rome", because it sure "wasn't built in a day either."



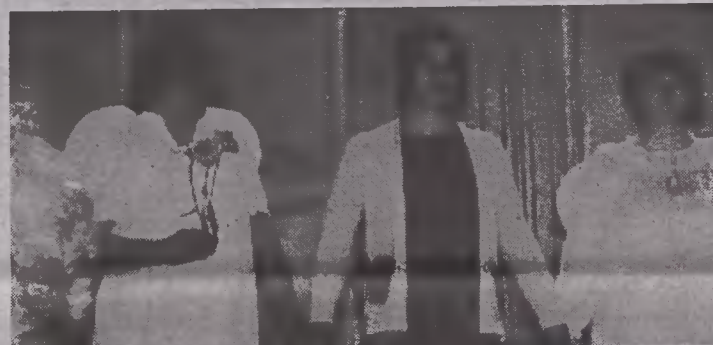
An ancient NCSSM schedule is pictured here. To the right of that, evidence that student attitudes about cafeteria food have not changed much over the years. Nor has the workservice requirement...



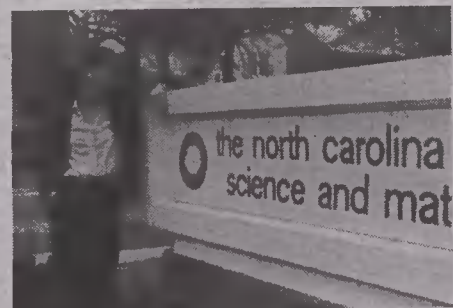
A secret dormitory? No, the Wyche House, a boys' dorm in the eighties, is now called Royall.



Below that, a scene from Faculty Airband, a tradition that has now stopped. According to Michael Grant, class of '86: "Well it seems one day we had a faculty air band contest, in which each department was expected to put on a performance. Dr. Kolena, the emcee, made some comment at the beginning like 'We've decided that, due to budget cuts, we're going to have to ax one of the departments, so whoever finishes in last place will have to go.'"



While construction work was going on, students had to travel to EK Powe ("Icky Poo") to eat their meals.



MID-NINETIES: 1994-1996

The first issue of the 1994 was devoted almost entirely to Alt Day, a new feature of NCSSM's calendar. Once a month, students had a "day off" to catch up on homework or do fun activities. In an editorial titled "Time to Explore," student John Smith suggested that students "go fishing on the Eno river, see a play, ballet, or orchestral performance, take an all-day bike trip around Durham, [or] take a class in martial arts."



Alt Day later evolved into a forum for student life classes, assemblies, and other activities. They were removed entirely with the switch to the trimester system.

NCSSM THROUGH reconstructing the

Jennifer Zhu and Alex Lew take a trip back in time, recovering forgotten bits of history dating back to 1994, the rich story of the School of Science and Mathematics is reconstructed.

(note: information and pictures before 1994 come from the writings of alumni publications; quotes are direct quotations from previous issues of the Stentorian.)

The Bio Pond, previously situated behind Hunt Hall, "was removed over summer break due to school officials' concerns that it was unsafe." The article quotes Director of Operations Ed McBride: "Last winter people were walking out on the pond when it was only thinly iced over." Fish in the Bio Pond had been found to be parasite-ridden. The fish were almost left to die, but in the end were moved to another, newly constructed pond off campus.



The events we now know as IVIZes used to go by a different name; the word "Interviz" occurs in old Stentorian publications a number of times. RLAs were previously DAs: Dorm Assistants.

Smoking was permitted on campus in 1994, making NCSSM the only public school in the state to allow it. "This seems to be a bit anomolous," student writer John Smith points out. "Only the best and brightest students are allowed to inhale carcinogens . . . Dr. Barber, Director of Student Life, has pointed out that the policy of allowing limited smoking has quite possibly prevented students from having to sneak off campus to smoke. And because a student can ask an SLI to let them outside to smoke for a minute or two after check, fire hazards are averted inside dorms."

In 1995, Hill Dormitory was still a girls' hall and Bryan belonged to the guys. The school's plan to switch the two dormitories lead to a number of student complaints, as males would effectively be pushed to one side of the campus, with females on the other. "Science & Math will turn into a fifth grade dance with the girls on one side of the campus and the boys on the other," senior Nikki Miller said. Girls also expressed fears that "if the boys move into Hill, they'll tear the place apart," according to junior Jenny McInerney. At the time, Hill was air-conditioned while Bryan was not.

On one Alt Day in 1995, NCSSM held its first Women's Conference. To the left (as originally captioned): "Marilyn Monroe (English teacher Ms. Elizabeth Moose) struts her stuff to 'Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend' at the closing ceremony of the Women's Conference. Aretha Franklin also did a number with her back-up singers."

