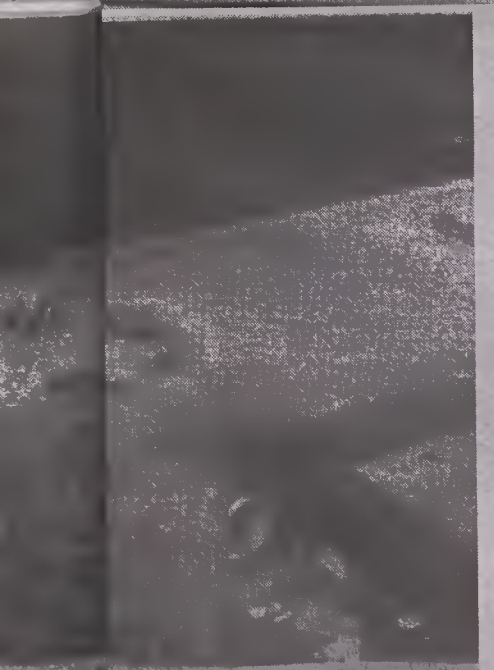
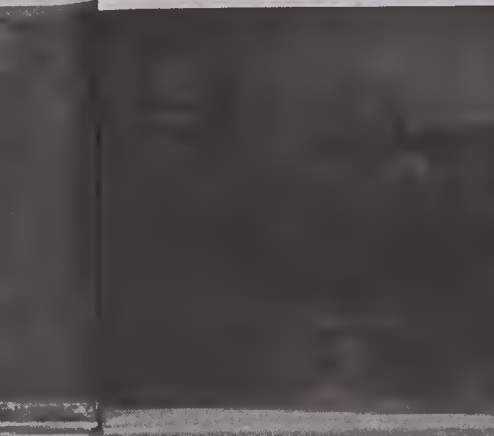


ROUGH HISTORY Reconstructing the past

Forgotten bits of history from NCSSM's past. Using the archive of newspapers and Math is reconstructed here--the good, the bad, and the ugly. Enjoy.

Items of alumni published at <http://barks.org/ncssm>. Also, items appearing in previous issues of the Stentorian.)



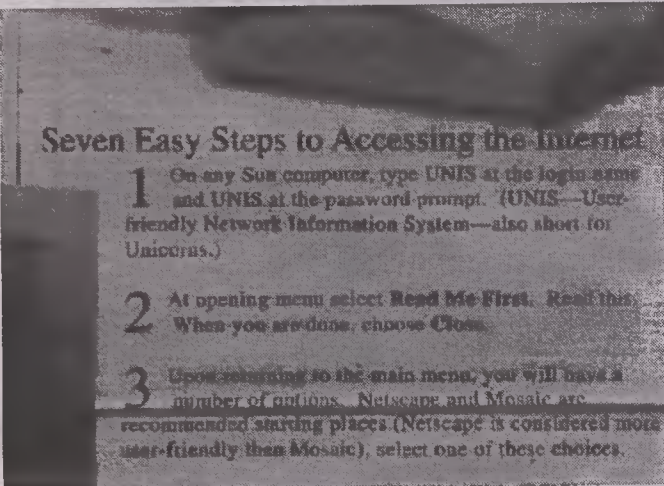
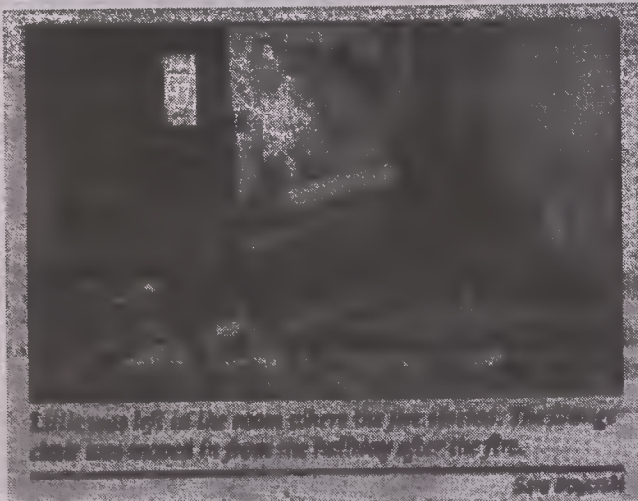
"One of the most-used technological tools is 'electronic mail,'" reads one 1995 article about technology on NCSSM's campus. "Pete Goldberg, head of the computer center . . . envisions that someday in the future students could find class assignments online and in turn submit the assignments over the computer." The article also gives "Seven Easy Steps to Accessing The Internet".

In 1995, Cheerleading was removed from NCSSM's athletic program. "Cheerleading was started explicitly as a support function for the sports for which they cheered," athletic director Branson Brown said at the time. "It had evolved to a performance-based activity in and of itself, and did not complement the athletic department. I had an objection to calling it cheerleading, because they did not lead cheers."

The SAB Lounge used to have a blind, but it was removed in 1996 when Jennifer Madriaga, SAB coordinator at the time, began to suspect it was being abused. "Based on complaints from students, evidence from positioning of furniture, and her own witnessing, Madriaga believed that students had been using the lounge to a degree that was too personal to allow others to use it freely. During a first semester exam break, Madriaga walked in on a couple lying together in the lounge with the blind rolled down." The Copy Center is now in that location.

While the rest of the state was required to overhaul the Sex Ed curriculum to portray abstinence until marriage as the "only answer to teen sex," NCSSM was exempt from this requirement. Dr. Barber said at the time: "We would never want to [advocate] one idea over another. We want to empower students to make intelligent choices by educating them about those choices. Abstinence is one choice they have and it has some advantages." Mr. Kevin Cromwell taught the Sexual Issues course at NCSSM at the time. "I think that [abstinence] should be taught," he said, "but it's naive to assume that it will solve all the problems."

NCSSM did not have a theater until March 5, 1997, when construction of the ETC was completed. The construction of the ETC was a massive undertaking and was first reported on in the Stentorian two years before its construction was finished.



NCSSM Cheerleaders were a bit last year. Due to safety concerns cheerleading has been dropped as a sport.

On the night of April 24, 1996, a fire in Beall 109 caused an evacuation of the Beall dormitory for the night and damaged many personal possessions. "Twenty-five firefighters from all over Durham worked to extinguish the fire."

In an opinion piece on the fire, one reporter wrote: "In forcing students to go to classes the following day, the administration showed very poor judgment. Just a few hours before, many students had hopelessly watched as everything they owned went up in flames... Many female students who spent the night on the gym floor had been unable to sleep at all... Perhaps [Director] Dr. Friedrich did the best he could in a tough situation; but perhaps somebody more understanding could have portrayed his message better. Comments about pulling bodies out of the building a few hours later, forcing crying students to remain and listen, insulting the intelligence of Science & Math students in regards to the physics of electrical wiring, unwillingness to listen to student concerns, and minimizing just how much of victims the students were, were all highly unprofessional as well as unjust."

The boys at the school, however, provided their help in every way possible. "First, thank you to the guys. Most of you were wonderful to the girls, bringing your food, clothes, and beds to the PEC and leaving little for yourselves... Also, thanks to Jeff Bray. Your guitar playing took our minds off the tragedy we had just been a part of. You gave us the chance to sing and dance, to let our minds wander with the music instead of back over the Beall... Many, many thanks to Corey Wilson, the security guard who was sent to the hospital with smoke inhalation. You heroically sacrificed your own health for the safety of the first Beall girls."

An article in the same issue of the Stentorian is titled "How to use your TI-82 -- in two semesters or less!"

stentorian

Watauga School of Science and Mathematics

May 16, 1998

extinguished quickly despite delays

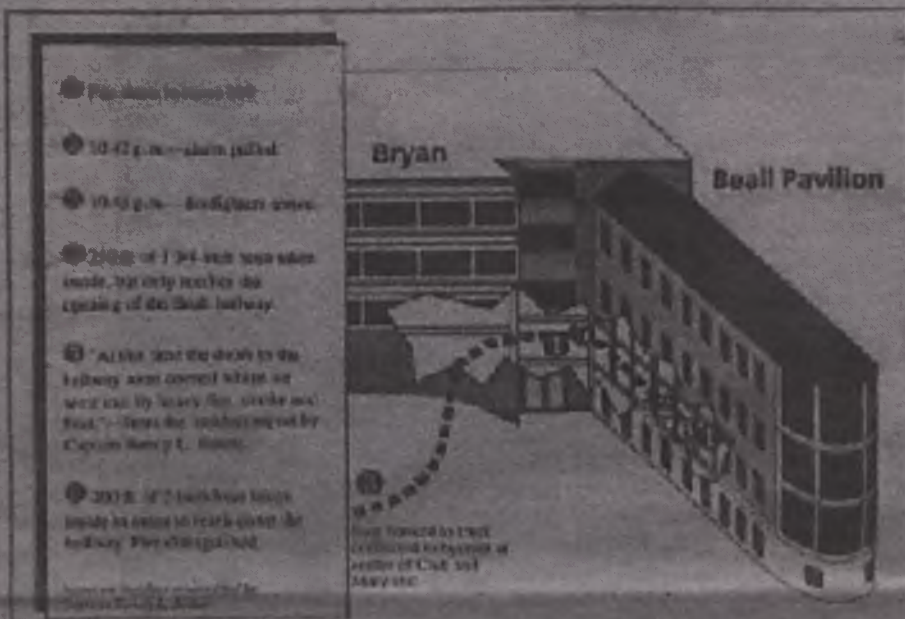


Illustration by Dawn Davidson