

Dickie Watkins

Room 306

The Owl

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Commencement Exercises To Be Held May 31

Rev. Russell Harrison, Dr. William H. Cartwright To Be Speakers

Plans for the graduating exercises of the Class of '56 have been completed, as announced by Superintendent C. W. Duggins and Principals W. J. House and E. T. Regan. The annual baccalaureate sermon, which begins the exercises, will be held at the First Baptist Church at eight o'clock on May 27. Following the custom of the rotation of ministers, the Reverend Russell Harrison, pastor of the Oxford Methodist Church, will deliver the baccalaureate sermon. Rev. Harrison will be assisted by several local pastors.

Class Night

Informal exercises in honor of Class Night will be held in the Oxford High School auditorium on Wednesday, May 30, at eight-fifteen o'clock.

The valedictory will be delivered by Johnny Welch, who has achieved the highest scholastic average in the class; the salutatory will be given by Jack Raper whose average is second highest. At this time, Peggy Hamme will read the prophecy; Charlotte Hunt will deliver the Class Poem; Rowland Matteson will present the Last Will and Testament; Guy Reid will review the Class History and Jean Earl Hawks will introduce the Class of '56. Class gifts have been chosen by Johnny Welch, and Jack Raper, class treasurer, will present a farewell gift to the school. Various medals and awards will be presented at this time by Mr. House.

Graduation Night

On the night of May 31 at eight fifteen, members of the Senior Classes of Oxford High School and of John Nichols High School will receive their diplomas. Speaker for the occasion will be Dr. William H. Cartwright, chairman of the Department of Education of Duke University.

Members of the Class of '56 who will make up the Oxford High School roll are: Adcock, James Astor, Jr.; Baker, Allan Price, Jr.; Baker, David Joseph; Blackwell, Bobby Clifton; Blackwell, Nelson Gray; Bryan, Dora Allred; Burnette, James Garrett; Cheatham, Vera Mae; Clayton, Albert Thomas; Crawford, James Walker, Jr.; Crews, Walter Washington, Jr.; Currin, William Crawford; Currin, Rosalie; Day, Frances Ann; Dement, Bruce Edward; Dickerson, Janet Marie; Dixon, Myrta Ann; Gentry, Benjamin Autry; Gibbs, Ovis Marie; Gillis, Kathleen; Hamme, Mary Elizabeth; Hatton, Joanne Clara; Hawks, Jean Earl; Hogan, Thomas Ward; Hughes, Phillip L.; Hunt, Charlotte Ann; Jones, Doris Jean; Mangum, Carrie Patricia; Matthews, James William; Matteson, Rowland Lanier, Jr.; Morgan, John Hayward; Munn, Robert Thomas; Newman, James Willie, Jr.; Newton, Barbara Grace; Oakley, Naomi Rhe; O'Brien, Nancy Carolyn; Parrott, Nelson O'Brian; Puckett, Carl Leland, Jr.; Quick, Stella Louise; Raper, Julius Rowan, Jr.; Reid, William Guy, Jr.; Seate, Margaret Jean; Walters, Shelba Jean; Watkins, Betty Jean; Watkins, Jack; Welch, John Tuns-tall; Wells, Patsy Taylor; Wheeler, James Howard; White, David Lee; White, Doris Patricia; Wrenn, John David; Yow, Earl Russell, Jr.

Seniors Leave Many Useful Gifts

The senior class of 1956 has left Oxford High School several gifts which will remain useful over the years. The new speaker's stand, which has a beautiful light oak finish, replaces the one given by the Class of 1947. The stand was made by Mr. John Baker who lives in Oxford. The school has long needed some new flags, so the Seniors gave a new United States and North Carolina flag. Ever run around wondering what time it is? Well, those days are definitely over, because that shiny new clock in the Auditorium keeps good time all day.

It is the sincere hope of each senior that these gifts will be used for the comfort and enjoyment of the students.

Student Body Elects Officers

Nellie Holmes Ballou was elected by the student body of Oxford High School to serve as President for the 1956-57 term. Martha Taylor was chosen by acclamation for the office of Vice-President, as was Ann White for Secretary and John Webb for the office of Treasurer.

Nellie Holmes serves as President of the Junior Class, a forward on the Basketball Team, a member of the G.A.A., this year she was Vice-President of the Student Council and Associate Editor of "The Owl."

Martha, who was chosen for Vice-President, is a member of the Latin Club, G. A. A., guard on the Basketball Team, and Circulation Manager of "The Owl". Martha was also the Sophomore representative in the Homecoming Court.

The Secretary, Ann White, is President of the Latin Club, a member of the Chorus and Girls' Glee Club, she is in the G.A.A., as well as being prominent in Church activities.

John Webb, who was chosen as Treasurer, is a member of the Debating Club, Latin Club, B.A.A., and was this year a representative from his home room to the Student Council.

Seniors Present "Green Valley"

"Green Valley", a comedy-fantasy in three acts written by Frank Watton was presented on April 20, 1956 by The Senior Class of Oxford High School.

The play, under the direction of Miss Lorena Averett, took place in front of Eldon Berry's cabin in the fabulously fertile Green Valley.

The seniors who participated in the play and the part they portrayed are as follows:

Eldon Berry Billy Currin
Prim Stokes Jean Earl Hawks
Tinker Smith Johnny Welch
Tobias J. Everheel Rowland Matteson
Martha Mears Dora Bryan
Eva Friese Nancy O'Brien
Lonesome Berry Jack Raper
Grandpaw Berry Guy Reid
Granny Berry Charlotte Hunt
Calhoun Berry Tommy Hogan
Zeb Berry Walter Crews
Ransome Berry Jimmy Adcock
Prudence Peggy Hamme
Rufe Thomas Phillip Hughes
Sarah Thomas Patsy Mangum
Hip Cooley Robert Munn
Mamie Cooley Frances Day
Shade Stokes Jimmy Burnette

Honor Students



JOHNNY WELCH



JACK RAPER

Honor Students Chosen

At the close of the second six week's period the Valedictorian and Salutatorian were chosen from the graduating class of '56. The Valedictorian is Johnny Welch. Johnny has been a fine student all through high school. Some of his activities have been: Band 1,2,3,4; Drum Major 4; Debating Club 1,4; Debater 2,3,4; Beta Club 3,4; Latin Club 1,2; Chorus 2,3; Chief Marshal 3,4; Junior Play; Annual Staff 4; Giftorian; Senior Superlative.

Jack Raper is the Salutatorian. Some of his activities have been: B.A.A. 1,2,3,4; Intramurals 1; Chorus 2,4; Beta Club 3, 4; Student Council 3; Junior Play; Marshal 3,4; Debating Club 3,4, Vice President 3; Junior Class Treasurer; Senior Class Treasurer; French Club 3; Band 1,2,4; Senior Superlative.

Norwood Heads Oxonian Staff

On April 30, 1956 the officers for the 1956-1957 Oxonian Staff were elected. They are as follows: Editor, Buddy Norwood; Associate Editor, Dan Averett; Art Editor, Gwen Hester; and Business Manager, Frank Bullock.

Buddy Norwood was elected Editor by acclamation. Buddy has a wide range of activities which include B. A. A., Oxonian Staff, a member of the Football Team, Basketball Team and Golf Team. Buddy is also a member of the Bus Drivers Club.

Dan Averett, winning over his opponent William Watkins was elected Associate Editor. Dan is a member of the Annual Staff, B. A. A., Golf Team, Football Team, Basketball Team and is on the Student Council. He also belongs to the Latin Club and is Treasurer of the Sophomore Class.

The Art Editor, Gwen Hester won over her opponents, Johnny Williams and John Cheatham. Gwen has a wide range of activities which include: Latin Club, G. A. A., Chorus and Girls Glee Club. Gwen is also very active in Church activities.

Frank Bullock was elected by acclamation for the office of Business Manager. Frank is a member of the Baseball Team, Basketball Team and the Football Team. He is in the B. A. A. as well as Annual Staff.

"Evening In Paris" Theme of Jr.-Sr.

On Saturday, May 12, the Junior Class was host to the Seniors at the annual Junior-Senior Banquet and Prom. The dinner was held at the Woman's Club, where a French menu consisting of fruit cocktail, salad, broiled chicken, asparagus casserole, parselied potatoes, ice tea, hot rolls, and Chocolate eclairs was served. Guests were seated at card tables with white table cloths and drip candles in the middle. Nellie Holmes Ballou, president of the Junior Class, was mistress of ceremonies and gave the welcome. Others giving toasts were as follows:

Toast to Superintendent.....Jimmy Baucom
Toast to Principal.....Frank Bullock
Toast to Faculty.....Sallie Webb
Toast to School Board.....Tommy Steagall
Toast to SeniorsJane Hedrick
Toast to MothersMary Hall

The waiters and waitresses provided the entertainment after the meal by doing the Can-Can. The girls wore black costumes with bright aprons and small headbands. The waiters were dressed in black trousers with white eton jackets and plain cummerbunds. The waiters and waitresses were Marsha Ray, Mae White, Callie Frazier, Polly Daniel, Charlotte Easton, Augusta Burwell, Mary Helen Blackwell, Jane Williams, John Hall, John Webb, Charles Stovall, Jack Overton, Edwin Knott, Jerry Averett, William Lytton, and Fielding Walker.

Following the banquet, the Prom was held in the Gymnasium. Guests entered through the Arch of Triumphe into a street of Paris, lined with sidewalk cafes, shops, and the Eiffel Tower in the background. During intermission a floor show was given as the entertainment. The orchestra which provided the music was "The Seranders."

Juniors Receive Class Rings

April 16 will always be remembered by the class of '57. On this most memorable date the Juniors received their class rings. After ten weeks the long awaited date finally arrived. The members of the class who ordered rings had a meeting after exams and decided that they would all order the same color stone. The color selected was blue, which any Junior will tell you is the most beautiful of all.