

# Date: 1947. Class of '37 Still Scoring

By ANNE HOLLINGSWORTH

(Editor's Note: This is a summary of the prophecy as presented in play form at Class Day.)

On a late summer day in 1947 I found myself in New York on a business trip. Woman-like, I wanted some new clothes to carry home with me. So I asked several people to direct me to a dress shop and was told that the Mazingo Dress Shoppe was the best in the city. I needed a dress for a reception being given in honor of Hilda Rae Pate, the opera singer. Several other well-known figures, or celebrities, were to attend. Among them were Albert Rose, the millionaire; Busbie Glasco, the explorer; C. B. Barbree, the sports writer and Marshall McDowell of the firm of McDowell and Proud, Lawyers.

### A Memory-Reviving Outfit

I tried on dresses for what seemed hours and finally spied a red and white net that I liked. It was a "Yvette" model. The wrap that I selected to wear with it was a creation of Elaine James. The clerk, much to my surprise, was none other than Ruth Frederick, who persuaded me to buy a pair of Spence and Creech sandals to match my dress. I didn't feel that I could pay the price that Ruth asked for the entire outfit; so I asked her to call the manager and let me talk with him.

He turned out to be Mr. William Hosea Shepard, or my old friend "Stupe." It was hard to imagine "Stupe" Shepard as the manager of a ladies' ready-to-wear shoppe. He must be a busy man because as he came to talk with me two secretaries rushed after him. He was trying to dictate a letter to Dot Savage and all the while Margery Waters was trying to get him to answer an urgent phone call from his lawyer, William Dees.

### Celebrities

While I was waiting for my packages to be wrapped, I talked to another of the clerks, Hazel Shaver. She told me that some of our old classmates were regular customers of hers—that Annie Laurie Howell, the concert pianist, had been in just that morning. Annie Laurie had just returned from a tour of Europe. It happened that Mary Clyde Hill, the writer, was on the same boat with her and that Hayes Beamon was the captain of the ship.

I learned all of this from Hazel too—that Edythe Tesler was no longer Edythe Tesler but the Countess Texetta; that Carolyn Smith was the head nurse at the Goldsboro Hospital with Madeline Yates, Blanche Crocker, Lillian Pate, Rachel Hooks, Doris Warrick, and Inez Costin all nurses under her; that James Rollins and Edwin Deans were partners in the grocery business in Goldsboro and that Pete Jarrell, Christine Epps, Mable Deans and Mary Sherman were teaching in the Goldsboro schools.

### News Across the Table

I left the dress shop and went to Marguerite Thompson's "Ye Beste Foode" tearoom for lunch. Elsie Lewis was Marguerite's dietitian. And whom should I run into? Katherine Jones! I ate lunch with "K" and found out that she was a secretary in the Langston-Walton Manufacturing Company and the Wilborne Jones was a salesman in the same company.

We "swapped news" for awhile and pieced together this much—that it was rumored that Elizabeth Norman, a feature dancer of Eleanor Smith's "Carolina Girls," was under contract to Cecil Willis, the film director; that Frank Farfour and Clevia Balkeum had both recently won first places in the Olympics—Frank for track and Clevia for swimming; and that "Teeny" Lewis had married a boy from Fremont in a beautiful church wedding, Ozello Woodward, the interior decorator, had charge of the arrangement of the church for the wedding.

### Stage Production

Katherine told me that Patrick M. Witherington had been made the president of the Great Atlantic and Pacific Tea Company and that Rosanna Barnes was his private secretary. After lunch "Kay" and I went to Harold Ward's Grande Theater and saw Dot Parker in "A Fleeting Moment." The story was written by Margaret Fordham; the clothes were designed by Marjorie Wood Fagan; the scenario writer had been Elizabeth Bass and the head electrician, James Thompson.

### Studio of Voice

After the show Katherine and I separated and I wandered aimlessly up the street. I saw a sign on a window that read "The Mitcham Studio of Voice." I wondered if it could possibly be my old friend, Irene. Going in, I was pleasantly surprised to find that it was. We had a good "old times" talk. I asked Irene just how many of our classmates of '37 had jobs in New York. She said there were several who were secretaries in the big city—Katherine Sheffield, Lena Reeves, Mary Alice Hardy, Rachel Daugherty, Hattie Smith, Coleen McClenny, and Adelle Beamon. She told me that Ruth Slocumb, the surgeon, was in New York visiting Margaret Edmundson. At least she used to be Margaret Edmundson, but now she was married to one of

the Police Inspectors of New York City.

### Merchants

Leaving Irene's studio, I walked up the avenue and saw two shoppes owned by former GHS girls. The first was the Ellis Hatte Shoppe, owned by Hellon Ellis, and the second was the Bass and Best Dress Shoppe, owned by Kathleen and Edythe. I went in this shoppe and found that Margaret Britt and Ruth Dillworth were models there. I talked with them for a long time.

Ruth told me that Clifton James was head athletic coach at the University of North Carolina—that Mary Elizabeth Rackley was Goldsboro's public librarian—that Geraldene Gregory was a medical missionary in China and that Helen Flowers was teaching the English language in a Paris school.

### Opening of WGHS

Margaret asked me if I was planning to listen to the opening of Radio Station WGHS that night. I told her that I was. Franklin Spencer was the head engineer of the station and Henry Simmons his assistant. The Monk-Etheridge Wholesale Grocery Company was sponsoring the opening program, which was featuring "Babe" Badour and her Syncopated Sizzlers with Dorothy Hill as vocalist.

I wondered how these girls knew so much Goldsboro news. Edythe told me she had just returned from a visit to North Carolina. I had not known that Robert Hatch was running for governor of North Carolina. She told me, too, that she had seen Morris Warrick while she was in Goldsboro and that he was in a business all his own—the Warrick Electric Refrigeration Company. Sadie Watson was his secretary. Ralph Britt was in the Used Car Business in Goldsboro.

### A Get-Together

We decided that we would like to have a partial reunion of our class that night. We called everyone that was in New York including Zealy and Teague, the doctors; Bruce Duke, the manager of a well-known department; Seymour Brown, the steel magnate; Woodrow Barden, teacher of industrial arts, and Bessie Green, Helen Powers, and

Frances Gillikin, teachers in School Number 13.

Bryan, Grady and Montague, engineers, had their offices in New York, and was felt sure we could get them to come to the reunion. Randall Davidson, the secretary of the Deshong-Smith Steel Works, was in Chicago on business, but we called Earl and John. I knew that Catherine Buie wrote a column on Advice to the Lovelorn for a New York paper and was informed by Catherine's secretary, Delphia Rose, that Miss Buie was out of town. Floyd McDowell, the shortstop for the Yankees, agreed that he would come when we called.

### Evening of Fun

For entertainment we decided to go to see the new Musical, "The Dog and the Lady," with Mildred Parker, playing leading lady to Robert Bartholomew, the handsome screen idol. The play had been produced by the Dewey-Spicer Production Company. I had not known that Margaret Norman was a secretary in this company until Edythe told me. We planned to go from the play to the Lancaster Mewborn Hotel to dance.

I wanted to have my hair fixed before time for the reunion. Ruth

suggested that I go to the Edwards, Ginn and Hinson Beauty Parlor. We agreed to meet at eight; and realizing how much fun I was going to have, I left the Bass and Best Shoppe looking forward with keen anticipation to the pleasures of the night.

### Growth and Inconsistency

To the strains of "Largo" 42 Seniors in 1928 walked down the aisles of the auditorium to receive their diplomas. This year 112 Seniors will go over the same proceedings.

An inconsistency and at the same time growth is shown in the following: In 1930 74 diplomas were conferred; in 1931, 79; in 1932, 89; 1933, 118; in 1934 and 1935, 105; and in 1936, 95.

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