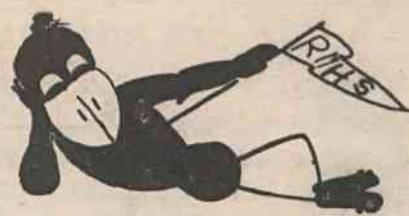


# The Blackbird



Published by Journalism Class of Rocky Mount High School

VOLUME XXIV

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 1953

NUMBER 5

## Off To See "Mr. President"



Bobby Savage was selected as one of twelve Boy Scouts in the nation to make an official report to the President of the United States, February 8.

Representing the twelve regions and over three million scouts, Bobby and the eleven other Scouts will have a five day trip covering Washington, D. C., and New York City during Boy Scout Week, February 7-13, at the expense of the Boy Scouts of America. Bobby will represent Region Six.

### Tentative Schedule

Highlighting the trip, naturally, will be the visit to "Mr. President" who is honorary president of the Boy Scouts of America. The tentative schedule runs something like this. The group should be checked into the Washington Hotel, Washington, D. C., by noon Saturday, February 7. At 2:00 they will assemble for orientation, review of schedule and uniform inspection, after which they will rehearse for various ceremonies.

Sunday will include attendance at church services, a trip to Annapolis, a probable visit to the White House, and possible radio and TV broadcasts.

The boys will look forward to moving on to New York, Monday night, but not until they have visited the F. B. I. and toured the capital buildings. In New York they will check into Hotel Van derbilt.

Tuesday and Wednesday will include tours over the giant city

## One Holiday Left

With exams finally over and first semester finally gone, students of RMHS received their report cards yesterday and headed home with happiness or desperation on their faces.

Exams marked the end of half the school year. Only one holiday remains for the remainder of the year. The Easter holidays will fall on the third and the fifth of April. If nothing happens to hinder, the school year of 1952-1953 will come to a close on May 29.

They will visit the Empire State Building, the United Nations Building, the home office of the B. S. A., the Radio City Music Hall, the Statue of Liberty, and the Rockefeller Center. Also included are tours of lower Manhattan and the N. B. C. networks.

Wednesday night they will check out for home.

### Represents Three States

In representing Region Six, Bobby will represent North and South Carolina, Georgia and Florida. He is an Eagle Scout of Troop 7, sponsored by the First Presbyterian Church, and is a leader in various fields. Bobby has held numerous honors in school. He was president of the sophomore class last semester and in leaving grammar school was the winner of the American Legion citizenship award. In the scouts Bobby is a senior patrol leader. He was presented the Eagle badge in September, 1951 and also holds the God and Country award for outstanding work in the church.

## Mystery Date Set

Emlyn Williams' "A Murder Has Been Arranged" will be presented Friday night, February 27, at 8:15 in the high school auditorium by the dramatics department.

The characters are Miss Groge, Valentine McMillan; Cavendish, Joe Whitehead; Mrs. Wragg, Christine Hufham; Jimmy North, Newsom Maples; Beatrice Jasper, Suzanne Covington; Mrs. Arthur, Patsy McAuley; Sir Charles Jasper, Grady Gardner; Maurice Mullins, Jim Barksdale; a woman, Mary Ruth Divine.

The author of this play, Emlyn Williams, British actor-playwright, has been touring the country for the past year reading Charles Dickens work. Mr. Williams will appear in Chapel Hill, March 7. "Night Must Fall," which was presented here several years ago, was written by him.

## Classes Hold Semester Elections

### Polio Fund Benefits From Talent Show

In raising money for the March of Dimes the Service Club is going about the campaign much different from those of previous years. They are sponsoring a talent show featuring high school talent with all proceeds going to the Polio fund.

Under the direction of Mrs. Gladys Robbins, adviser, and Sylvia Crocker, president, the Service Club members have worked hard to select the best talent and work out an entertaining program. Among the acts will be songs by James Chandler, Edith Ann Johnson, Nancy Leehane and Elice Williams. Alton Denning will show Ann Moore will give an amazing his dance technique and Barbara acrobatic act.

The "Highlanders" featuring Harry Gay will also be on hand to give a dance band touch.

Tickets have been sold in the homerooms by Service Club members for fifty cents. The program will be held tomorrow during fifth period.

## NEWSEES

### Council Reports

Mary Wilkinson, president of the student organization called a special meeting of her cabinet last semester at which time the group discussed and voted on the idea of starting a supply store at school for students of RMHS. Mary will see Mr. Edson to find out if such a project will be possible.

Also discussed was the need of appropriating money for tuning the piano which was given to the school by the seniors of 1951.

To encourage better student council reporting on the part of homeroom representatives, the group discussed the idea of adding five minutes to homeroom periods the day after student organization meetings.

### Talent On Display

Third program in a series of paid assemblies will feature Alla and W. Bajan, The Gypsy Troubadours. The two, who have toured the entire world, will present a program of humor and music from foreign lands. This assembly will be held on January 30.

The fourth will be the Irish tenor, Harry Hart. Mr. Hart will sing the melodies of a different nations. He is scheduled to appear before the student body on February 13.

Local talent, too, will perform February 12. Carl Stough's Corale will present a program featuring "Bach to Boogie." It will be held in the high school auditorium at 8:15 p. m. under the sponsorship of the P. T. S. A.

### What's New

As an added feature "The Blackbird" has been lucky enough to obtain copies of the Scholastic Roto which will be distributed with the last five issues of the paper.

The Roto is a nation-wide high school publication in picture and paragraph. It is given without charge to a limited number of schools. Advertising pays all cost.

### Boys-Of-The-Month

"They must have been hard up for boys when they picked me" was the statement George Farmer made when he was picked for January, Exchange Boy of the Month.

George, a husky 170 pound senior, has been attending the regular meeting of the club because of his outstanding high school activities. He has excelled especially in sports, having played football four years and basketball two years.

He was chairman of the elections committee, was the president of the Hi Y, and has been on the social committee and dance committees.

### Pitt, Kiwanis Boy

Wilson Pitt, former president of the National Honor Society, was honored as Kiwanis Boy of the Month.

"I feel mighty lucky to have such an honor come to me," said "Woody", as he is called by close friends.

Besides being in the NHS he is in the Junior Music Club, is vice president of the Photography club, and is in the band for the fourth year. Wilson has been on various dance committees, has held home room offices, and has been a student government representative.

## Local Boys Form Orchestra; Hope For Minor Dance Bids

Something new has been added to all the activities of RMHS. The "Highlanders" made their first public appearance before the student body with a new version of dance band music and tearing up "Five-Foot Two" while a group demonstrated the Charleston.

Dicky Collins, Ralph Chason, George Knight, Dick McIntyre and Harry Gay put together the trumpet, saxophone, clarinet, drums and piano, respectively, and showed what a student orchestra could do. They played "Hold Me" "Everything I Have Is Yours" "Johnson Rag" "How Am I To Know?" "Should I"

Topping everything Harry Gay, widely known local pianist and vocalist, sang his version of

"Skeletons in the Closet." The theme of the program was

"Vote for—" is the term most often used around RMHS this time of year. With second semester elections moving in campaign is at its height.

Freshman and sophomore groups are voting today after having heard campaign speeches yesterday. The Frosh are voting in Miss Kitchin's office while sophomores are voting in room 2.

Junior and senior campaign speeches will be heard tomorrow. They will vote Friday. Juniors vote in Mr. Privott's homeroom; seniors in Miss McLaughlin's.

### Candidates For Office

Running for senior offices are Jimmy Daughtridge and Ben Williams for president; Billy Kilgo, Fred Lee and Mary Ruth Divine for vice president; Betty Hedgepeth, Beryle Peters, and Janet Fulcher for secretary; and Louis Falkner and Wilson Pitt for treasurer.

Junior candidates are Sue Gregory and George Knight for president for vice president, Lloyd Hedgepeth and Jimmy Daughtridge; for secretary, Gordon Wilkinson and Betty Sue Cash; for treasurer, James Chandler, Vivian Williams and Jimmy Lancaster.

### Sophomores and Frosh

In the sophomore class Bobby Savage is running against Bill Kinchelov for president. Bill Hedgepeth, Jean Stevenson, Sandy Thorpe, and Jane Hatchett are running for "veep." The candidates for secretary are Marjorie Audrie Kennedy, Lee Ann Brown and Sylvia Bullock are hoping for treasurer.

Fred Reuben is running against Maria Parker for president of the freshman, "veep" candidates are Norma Savage, Jimmy Davis and Ann Brinson; for secretary are Patsy Pullen, Patricia Parrish, and Cacky Atkins; for treasurer are Fred Harris, Dan Johnson and Una Driver.

good sportsmanship. Baxter Savage, acting as master of ceremonies, between numbers introduces Coach Bill Lundy who then introduced the varsity basketball team. The cheerleaders were on hand to urge the crowd to come to the basketball game against Wilmington that night.

The "Highlanders," with the exception of Harry Gay, were at one time only a group of band members, but they had a sudden inspiration to start a dance band. The four students got together and practiced, found themselves fairly good, and then asked for a part on the assembly program.

Now the group hopes to play for special groups and small school dances. Harry Gay has offered to play for them anytime they want him,