

THE BLACKBIRD

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Edsonians Present Plays, Book, Stage In Drama Festival

With much excitement and anticipation, the Edsonians left Rocky Mount on Wednesday afternoon, April 15, to attend the North Carolina drama festival to present "Good Medicine" and "Two Crooks and a Lady." They also carried a scrapbook and a stage model to be judged.

Chapel Hill, April 18.

Rocky Mount high school's Edsonians came away with top honors in the scrapbook contest sponsored at the Drama festival in Chapel Hill last weekend.

Honorable mentions were given to both of the plays, "Good Medicine" and "Two Crooks and a Lady."

It was the first time that a Rocky Mount group has come away first with the scrapbook honors. Nancy Parry and Sarah Moore did the excellent job of making the scrapbook.

Those in the cast of "Two Crooks and a Lady" were Suzanne Covington, Lucille; Joe Whitehead; Milton; Christine Huffman; Mrs. Synes-Vann; Kay Sanders; Miss Jones; and Newsome Maples, Inspector. The members of the cast of "Good Medicine" were Patsy McAuley, the doctor's wife; Newsome Maples, Dr. Graves; and Christine Huffman, Hett, Sage.

Production Staff

The production staff of both plays were Donna Clark, Grady Gardner, Barbara Ann Moore, Brooks Hinson, Mollie Spruill, and Edith Ann Johnson. The stage crew were Bart Ritner, Nicky Shine, Dan Stancil, Albert Parker, and Eddie Pennington.

Sarah Moore and Nancy Parry designed and made this year's scrapbook, the cover of which is tooled leather. In this book are the pictures and programs of this year's production.

Officer Slate Set

Elections committee met this past week and prepared a slate of officers for next year's Student Organization.

Those who were nominated for the offices are, president, Baxter Savage, Sue Gregory, and Theo Pitt; vice president, Marvin Ward and Eddie Booth; secretary, Margaret Daughtridge, Gordon Wilkinson, and Audrey Kennedy. Petitions for additional candidates may be circulated through today.

There will be no campaigning until tomorrow morning. The election date is to be announced later this month. Those who are elected will head the student body in the Senior high school next year.

Marv Wilkinson, president of the Student Organization, appointed the Elections committee. They were, Vivian Williams, Eddie Booth, and Janet Spain from the junior class; Fred Reuben, Ann Prinson, Sandy Thorn, Kay Williford, representing the freshmen class; and Sheila Robbins from the senior class.



The burdens of publishing the school paper and annual will be on the shoulders of the pictured people (See Story). Pictured from left to right, sitting are Valentine McMillan, Gordon Wilkinson, Bobby Deans, Carolyn Gardner, Theo Pitt, and Ruth Farmer. Standing are Robert Daughtridge and George Knight.

Photo by James Reid

Publ. Staffs Choose 1954 Editors, Mgrs.

Editors and staffs for next year's Blackbird and Hi-Noc-Ar have been selected. The co-editors for the Blackbird are Valentine McMillan, who was advertising manager this year and George Knight, who was a columnist this year. The Hi-Noc-Ar editor is Bobby Deans, who was on the staff this year as a junior member.

Next year's business manager for the Blackbird is Carolyn Gardner, who was a columnist this year. Business manager for the Hi-Noc-Ar is Theo Pitt. Circulation manager for the newspaper is Patsy Pearce and for the yearbook it is Gordon Wilkinson. Advertising manager for the Blackbird is Ruth Farmer and the Hi-Noc-Ar is Robert Daughtridge.

Elected To Posts

The Blackbird staff is elected by the entire staff and the Hi-Noc-Ar staff by the junior members only.

In the recent Columbia Scholastic Press Association contest in New York, the Blackbird received a one rating in its group of newspaper publications. Since next year's staff will have so many senior members, they say they hope for a medalist rating.

Juniors who have an average of a "B" on English work may elect journalism in place of eleventh grade English, on recommendation of their English teachers and the journalism instructor. Seniors take journalism as an elective course. Staff members for the Hi-Noc-Ar are elected by the staff from the junior and senior classes.

Bulluck Improves

Monday, April 23.

Reports from Park View Hospital stated that Paul Bulluck is resting comfortably and is completely out of critical condition.

Paul, reported a nurse, is much better and is completely conscious. He will be in the hospital for sometime and it will be a good while before a number of visitors are allowed.

Juniors Plan Prom In Cinderella Style

Cinderella is making plans to attend the annual Junior-Senior banquet and dance which will be held at "Ye Old Country Club," May 1. Her favorite knight will have his hands full, helping her with her wraps and glass slippers during this "Cinderella Ball."

The highlight of her night will be the coronation of the queen and the selection of her court. The program has been kept secret.

The Highlighters from Wilson under the direction of David Batts, has been secured to play for the dance.

The decorations and program will carry out the idea of the Cinderella theme. Green and white, the senior colors, will be used for the invitations and decorations.

What'll They Eat?

Menu for the banquet will include ham, string beans, potato salad, hot biscuits, apple pie, tarts, and tea. Tomato juice will be served on the terrace prior to the banquet.

The committees with their chairmen and advisers are music committee, Harry Gray and Mr. Earl Frivott; program, George Knight and Miss Athleen Turner; food, Elizabeth Vann and Miss Jessie Johnson; decorations, Peggy Pettit, Miss Alma Murchison and Mr. Lee Chapman; invitations, Linwood ("Boots") Pittman and Mrs. Ora Van Buskirk and clean up, Bill Tharrington and Mr. Ben Fountain.

NEWSEES

Under the direction of James Cobb, the Flora MacDonald College Choral club presented its spring concert in a special Assembly April 14.

They sang selections of folk songs, religious and Scottish ballads. As an added attraction eight of the girls, dressed in Scotch costumes, gave three of the folk dances. One of the most well known was the Highland Fling.

Singing and touring with the group is a 1950 RMHS graduate, Phyllis Leggett.

Alice Diehl Barnes, senior, presented the winning speech from RMHS in the World Peace Contest sponsored by the University of North Carolina, but she lost out in the district competition to a student from Jamesville.

Alice was chosen from the five finalists—Jim Barksdale, Christine Huffman, Janet Spain and Sue Gregory. These finalists were selected from the second and third period American History classes entering the contest.

"Building World Peace: What are the accomplishments and what are the prospects of the United Nations?" was the theme for the essays.

Donald Edwards and Billy Knowles were selected the Boys of the Month for April 1. Donald is attending the Kiwanis meeting while Billy is the Exchange Boy.

The North Carolina Symphony Orchestra, under the direction of Dr. Benjamin Swalin, gave a concert for the grammar school students, Monday afternoon in the high school auditorium.

Part of the RMHS choir presented a group of selections for the Lions Club last Saturday night. "Morning Prayer," "I Wish I Wuz" and "Alleluia" were among their selections.

Street Picks Queen

James Howell Street, noted author, has graciously consented to be judge of the beauty contest for this year's Junior-Senior. The pictures will be sent to him when they are completed.

Mr. Street is the author of the recent best seller *The Velvet Doublet* and many other best sellers. Notably are *The Gauntlet*, the life of a small town Baptist minister, and *Dabrey* books covering life in Mississippi from 1794 to the present day.

Mr. Street moved to Chapel Hill in 1945 so his daughter and two sons could attend UNC.

Colleges Select R M Grads To Impt. Student Offices

Phyllis Leggett, a graduate of the class of '50, is now a senior at Flora MacDonald College. Phyllis has been an outstanding student both in high school and college. Recently she was elected president of the student body and brought further honor to herself and to her alma mater.

Bobby Gorham, class of 1950 and editor of the Hi-Noc-Ar for that year, has been elected president of the student body at the University of North Carolina. Bobby was running on the University Party ticket and won out over two other candidates.

Russell Cowell also of the class of '50, has been elected vice-president of the senior class at Carolina. He is a NROTC student.

Another graduate of RMHS, Tom McMillan, has been elected treasurer of Pi Kappa Alpha at

the University of North Carolina. Tom is now a senior.

Success in another way has come to Christine Glasgow, formerly Christine Searcy. After graduating from school here, and attending Flora MacDonald College, Christine married and is now the mother of two darling children.

Herman Geddie, who graduated in the class of '49, is with the navy in Japan. He holds the rank of 3rd class petty officer. Herman plans to further his education at the University of North Carolina when his term in the navy is completed.

George Starling and his cousin Leonard Starling, class of '49, had leading roles in the East Carolina College production of the operetta, "The Student Prince."