



The Blackbird



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Groups Consider Landscaping Plans For Senior High

Landscaping for the senior high campus has been investigated by the school board and the P. T. S. A. At the present the grounds have the appearance of being bare.

In the future these bare grounds will disappear and lovely ones will take their places, since plans are already underway to change the looks of them. The above mentioned organizations have decided to hire an expert landscaper, who will draw up the plans for such a project. Through the years the process of improving the grounds will take place. Estimates of the cost of such a project have been given but none have been chosen.

One man's opinion of what the new school ground looks like was, "Something must be done to hide all the cars, for right now it looks like a used-car lot."

Mr. George Booth, president of the P. T. S. A., expressed the hope that various civic clubs or citizens would take on the project of planting certain areas of the grounds. If they can't do this they could contribute money which could be used for such purposes. Also, he stressed the hope that all students will take pride in their school and school grounds and help keep them looking their best.

It is the desire of the authorities that other cities in the state will consider this school a model to follow.

Staff Meets Push With Co-op Effort

That strange uproar that was heard coming from the Blackbird office last Thursday was no party. Far from it!

From second period until five o'clock that afternoon the staff was in a constant flurry. Typewriters clicked, voices buzzed, girls rushed back and forth tearing their hair—"Where is that parade article?" "Have you finished that senior privilege write-up?" "Hurry up with those heads!" "Where did I put that cut?" "Try to get some more ads, we're three inches short!"

What caused this mad scramble? Just one little phone call! Yes, just one little phone call from the publisher in Spring Hope! The print shop is going to close for a holiday and the editor told the adviser that all deadlines had to be pushed up. The Blackbird staff had to get all copy there Thursday afternoon or else there would be no papers before Thanksgiving.

With full co-operation from all teachers and students, the staff went directly to work and by five o'clock had the copy ready to go out. They were more than ready to go home!

NEWSEES

Dorothy Wareskjold, leading soprano of the San Francisco Opera Company, was the guest star of the Community Concert Association on November 11 in the high school auditorium. The songs she sang consisted mostly of classical selections. Jack Crossan assisted her at the piano.

Special assembly on Peace was presented on November 11 by the United Council of Church Women.

Norman Johnson, son of Dr. and Mrs. Norman Johnson, was recently named to the membership of Phi Beta Kappa, nation honorary scholastic fraternity, at Davidson College. Norman was a 1949 graduate of this high school.

Miss Craighall's homeroom was the winner in the recent magazine campaign. Twenty-six students in her homeroom received free tickets to the Ice Capades. A chartered bus took to the homeroom to see the show.

"Oil Town, U. S. A.," starring Billy Graham, was presented in the high school auditorium, November 2 and 3. Showings were at 7:00 p. m. and 9:00 p. m. This picture was filmed against the background of the fabulous city of Houston, Texas.

Red Cross closed its campaign on November 2. There were four homerooms which reached the 100 per cent mark. Total amount taken in by the Red Cross was \$33.31.

Hi-Noc-Ar staff reports that the senior class was 100 per cent in subscribing to the annual. Only thirty-four students failed to buy a yearbook out of the more than 600 students enrolled in school.

Homeroom 112, Miss Jessie Johnson's class, had Harry Gay to perform during assembly program on October 30. Harry Gay, a Negro pianist popular among students, played a variety of songs.

Daughtridge Tops In Contest

Charles Daughtridge, junior, was named grand champion in the magazine subscription sales campaign held recently at RMSHS. His outstanding sales, totaling \$141, entitled him to the number one prize, a Philco table model radio. Charles' record was challenged by sophomore Luke Landen who sold \$110 worth.

Mr. Charles Doak, representative of the Curtiss Publication Company, presented other prizes last Friday to Glenda Starling, who sold \$81 worth, Charles Daughtridge, and Luke Landen, who were the high salesmen for the senior, junior, and sophomore classes respectively. They each received a wrist watch.

Other winners were second place, Emily Ryals, senior, with \$67 sales; Judy Brewer, junior, \$104 sales; and Peggy Robbins, sophomore, \$70 sales. In third place were Dan Capps, Carolyn Rabil, and Betsy Hutto. Each second placer received a camera set and each third placer was awarded an Ansco camera.

Thorpe Wins Miss Print Title



Jean Thorpe, the senior who came out on top in the Miss Print contest, is shown in the above picture. Jean was one of eleven girls who helped to make the contest this year the most successful one ever held.

Spain Runs Second In Successful Race

Miss Jean Thorpe, a senior, wearing a lovely blue evening dress was crowned the 1953-54 Miss Print in a special assembly this morning.

Against a background of gold curtains and soft music played by Carolyn Lowder, Val McMillan, co-editor of *The Blackbird*, crowned Jean Thorpe, while Patsy Pearce, the other co-editor, presented her a large bouquet of assorted flowers. Miss Janet Spain, a senior, who was runner-up in the contest, was presented a lovely bouquet of flowers by the co-editors.

Davis, Thorpe's Manager

Miss Jean Thorpe, whose campaign manager, Jimmy Davis, received 23,237 votes. The runner-up, Miss Janet Spain, with Freddy Turnage as her campaign manager, had a total number of 6,994 votes.

The other candidates who ran for Miss Print, escorted by their campaign managers, were also introduced to the student body. They were Margaret Daughtridge with L. M. Barnes, Sue Gregory with Newsome Maples, Betty Ivey with Eddie Booth, Patsy McAuley with James Chandler, Margaret Parker with Eddie Pennington, Leah Lee with Marvin Ward, Angeline Lamm with Billy Proctor, Anna Yelverton with Dave Barnes and Pat Parrish with Marvin Barnes.

Blackbird Staff Introduced

Before the crowning of Miss Print, the officers, of *The Blackbird* staff were presented. They too, like the contestants were attired in lovely evening dresses and suits. After each name and the position which each held was called, they walked across the stage, down the steps and up the aisle down which Miss Print was to presently come.

This is the seventh year that *The Blackbird* has sponsored the Miss Print contest. Purpose of this contest is to raise money for the school paper. Each penny donated counts as one vote for the candidate who secured it.

Those who won the Miss Print contest in the past were Norma Hunley, 1947-48; Donna Jean Capps, 1948-49; Nancy Williams, 1949-50; Joyce Proctor Thomas, 1950-51; Norma Jean Pittman, 1951-52; and Lillian Daughtridge, 1952-53.

On behalf of *The Blackbird* staff, Carolyn Gardner, business manager, thanked each girl who ran, her campaign manager, and those who contributed to make the contest a success.

Vann, Glamor Girl

Elizabeth Vann, a senior, was chosen Glamor Girl of the Month for October in the contest sponsored by Bugs Barringer. She was chosen by students who voted on ballots printed in *The Blackbird*.

Elizabeth has received proofs from the pictures Mr. Barringer took and the one of her choice will be displayed in the show window of Barringer's Studio. After the display period Elizabeth will be presented the picture as a gift from Barringers.

Until after Christmas the contest will be discontinued and then the ballots will be put back in the paper. Students will again have an opportunity to vote for the Glamor Girl of the school.

Bye 'Til Monday

Beginning Thursday, stores will be busier and more than likely traffic will be sprinkled with students' faces behind the wheels of that treasured possession, the family car. Pies and cakes Thursday morning will have faint traces of fingerprints and, worse still, smudges in the smooth icing undoubtedly made to cover up the first offense.

Why? Because students will be having a holiday Thursday and Friday. Yes, there's all this and more!—The gobbler better be on a sharp lookout 'cause November 26 is Thanksgiving!

Class Adopts Child

Class of '54 decided to carry on the project started by last year's seniors when it voted to adopt Jamna Maciejna, a foreign war orphan. The class plans to send their "child" a whole year's care, including food, clothing and a place to live.

Jamna Maciejna was previously adopted by the class of '53 three consecutive years. After graduation, the class suggested that the rising senior class adopt her and carry on the project started when this group was sophomores.

Present senior class sent a check for \$180 to the Foster parent's Plan For War Children, Inc., in New York City last week. They will in turn notify Jamna that she has been adopted by the senior class for another year.

Foster Parent's Plan For War Children is an organization started back in 1937 by Major John Langdon-Davis and it has continued since then. Sole purpose is to give a home, some food, and some clothing to those children who have lost everything through the ravages of war.

Knight, Band Prexy

Band members elected officers for the year last week. They are George Knight, president; George Strickland, vice president; and Mary Jo Currin, secretary.

These major officers with the band librarian, Ruth Farmer, Jean Sugg and Boots Pittman will form the band council. The council's first duty will be to write the band constitution.

Already the band has performed in various parades and many football games this season. It has played at the Oxford Orphanage, Greensboro, Wilmington, Fayetteville, Washington, Durham, Greenville and Raleigh football games. It represented the school at parades in Williamston, Nashville, and several in town. Now it is preparing for the Christmas parades in Raleigh, November 23, and Tarboro, December 4.