

## Ancient Rome Roams The Halls With Latin Students At Banquet

## N.H.S. Picks 17 In Spring Tapping



New National Honor Society members are from left to right: front row: Norma Bulluck, Betty James, Joyce Hudson, Shirley Proctor, Katherine Batten, Shelia Culpepper, Jean Stephenson. Second row: Fred Harris, Flaye Hammond, Harold Gilbert, Tommy Vaughn, Marvin Barnes, Fred Rueben, Joyce Harris, Faye Batts, Cacky Adkins, and Tony Turner. (Photo by Barringer.)

Seventeen students were picked for membership into the Romanica chapter of the National Honor Society in the impressive annual spring tapping, March 8.

Of those tapped six were seniors and eleven were juniors. The seniors were Marvin Barnes, Flaye Hammond, Jean Stephenson, Shirley Proctor, Joyce Hudson, and Betty James. The juniors were Fred Harris, Norma Bulluck, Kathryn Batten, Shelia Culpepper, Tony Turner, Cacky Adkins, Joyce Harris, Fred Ruben, Tommy Vaughn, and Harold Gilbert and Fay Batts.

Reverend Henry Chestnut of the Bethel Presbyterian Church guest speaker stressed the importance of doing the best one can with the talents he has.

Four basic qualities required of an honor society student were portrayed by Erwin Robbins as character, Wiley Shearin as scholarship, Bobby Savage as Leadership and Jane Hatchett as service. The devotion was given by Mary Lee Newbold, Carolyn Rich and Nancy Newbold. "Clair de Lune", the background music, was provided by Jackie Davis.

In addition to scholarship, a student must be voted on the basis of the above qualities by teachers and society members. The student vote counts one third of the necessary average, teachers votes count one third, and the individual scholastic average one third.

Each National Honor Society in the U. S. is asked to nominate one famous person in any field for the Hall of Fame. William Sydney Porter (O'Henry) is the local chapter's nominee.

Rome came "alive" again at the annual Roman banquet presented by the first and second year Latin classes of the junior and senior high schools in the senior high cafeteria Friday night, March 25. "Romans of old" roamed the halls of the senior high school. Each member of the second year Latin group was dressed in traditional Roman attire of the wealthy class and first year students as slaves and served the "wealthy" at the banquet and also provided entertainment during the after dinner program.

**Slaves Entertain**  
Included in the entertainment was a skit by David Barney, juggling act by Bill Dunn, and wrestling by Reid McAuley and Frank Brake. Gladiators were Milton Barnes, Rusty Lancaster, Ronald Roberson, and Don Robbins. A group of dances were presented by some of the first year girls.

Caesar was there as the official head of the gathering, this role being portrayed by Jackie Williams. Other famous Romans present were Davette Smith — Calpurnia; Frank Wilkinson — Brutus; Debbie Wall — Portia; Morrison Divine — Cassius; Judy Garner — Julia; Larry Warner — Casca; Ellen Joyner — Flavia; Don Harris — Cicero; Elbert Robbins — Augustus; Edward Riner — Horace; Robert Wynne — Virgil; Billy Sessoms — Livy; Ronald Smith — Anthony; Phil Dickens — Sallust; John Gorham — Cornelius; Ted Little — Catullus; Edwin Justa — Lucretius; Jackie Skinner — Ariovistus; Eleanor Bulluck — Cleopatra.

**Committees Work**  
Clare Davenport with the aid of

Mrs. Ed Justa, chairman of the mother's committee, and Mrs. W. H. Proctor, manager of the cafeteria, was in charge of the food committee, which planned the menu from "eggs to apples". The menu consisted of turkey, snaps, potatoes, wine (grape juice), pickles, mixed cakes and fruits.

Don Harris headed those who worked on the place cards committee, Edward Riner planned the program covers; Faye Kirkland and Letitia Joyner prepared the invitations, and Ellen Joyner and Larry Warner were in charge of the decorations.

The banquet was a big success and everyone enjoyed it, say the many students who attended.

Miss Louise Parker, senior high Latin teacher, and Mrs. Kathleen Exum, junior high teacher, were the faculty advisers for the event.

### Who's The Champ?

Attention, Spelling Champs! Now is your opportunity to prove your ability. A spelling match is to be conducted among the three classes to select the best speller in the school.

The three contestants to be in the finals will first have to be selected from the fourth period spelling classes by the individual teachers — then they go on to higher competition.

These participating in the finals will be the winners from the sophomore, junior, and senior classes.

Definite plans have not been made, but tentative plans are that the final match is to be conducted in assembly.

### RM Kick Off City

## 'Look' Features Safety Story

Look Magazine will feature in the May issue a story and pictures on local activities concerning the nation-wide safety observance program promoted in Rocky Mount which was selected as the key kick-off city of 500 cities participating.

One of the highlights of the campaign is a parade sponsored by the local observance committee, Friday April 1. Floats, cars, bicycles, and bands from in and out of town will emphasize the importance of safety.

Previous to the parade are other activities, such as a current poster campaign throughout the city schools. Judged by artists and safety officials, March 22, the winner Ellen Joyner's poster is on display at Peoples Bank and the runner up posters in other prominent spots in town.

In addition safety lanes are set up to test the ten basic parts of the car, and bicycles are being checked. Safety seals are placed on the cars and bikes that pass the test.

The motion picture division of WNC-TV at U. N. C. will make pictures of the over all safety program. These films will be kept by the Safety Film Library for use in

schools, clubs, safety groups and T. V. programs.

The safety observance is sponsored by the local committee in cooperation with the National Safety Council, the Inter Industry Highway Safety Committee and Look Magazine.

## Alumnus Gives Service News

A-3c Johnny Soden, a former student who is now an instructor at Lackland Air Force Base in San Antonio Texas, recently wrote a letter to THE BLACKBIRD telling the staff information on many former students now in the service.

Johnny as an instructor contacts many Rocky Mount boys in the service. He thought the present students might be interested to know about some of them.

Bill Hedgepeth, husband of senior Lottie Moore Hedgepeth, is at Lackland in the radar network. Nicky Shine, now in basic training, is going to radio school. James Campbell is also in basic training to be a tactical instructor.

Billy Howell and Dick Norment stationed at Kelly Air Force Base in security are the top men in

their classes. (Billy averaged a 94).

Eulis Roburds is in technical school studying in the radio career field in Illinois. John Gilbert is a second lieutenant in the Air Cadets.

Billy Mathews and Jerry Horton, new members of the Air Force will, after six or seven weeks of training, be assigned to new jobs. When they complete eleven weeks, they will go to a technical school for more specialized training in their career field.

Cadet Bernard Brown is now at Fork Union Military Academy, Fork Union, Virginia, and like Johnny also subscribes to THE BLACKBIRD by mail. He recently wrote and complimented the paper and said that he enjoyed the home schools news very much.

## Awni Hamad Third Student To Arrive From Jordan To Be American Citizen

Awni Hamad, aged 19, (relative of Wasila who is now a senior, and Ghazi now a student at State College in Raleigh) is Rocky Mount's most recent newcomer from Arabia.

After a flight of about 26 hours, Awni arrived with his brother in New York City, March 10, from Bireh, Jordan. Bireh is approximately ten miles north of the city of Jerusalem.

Awni was in the middle of his senior year at El-Ahlia high school in Jordan before coming here. He said that his school was one for boys only and that there great emphasis is placed on discipline.

He is taking almost the same subjects that any other senior would take. Having classes in English is not new for Awni, because

all of his classes in high school were taught in English except the native Arabic.

Although Awni isn't quite certain just what he intends to do after graduation, he says he will probably attend college at Chapel Hill, where he hopes to study medicine. At any rate, he plans to make his home in America and is going to apply for American citizenship.



AWNI HAMAD

### Slater Makes List

Tommie Slater, a 1952 graduate of RMSHS and now a junior at Colgate University, has been named to the Dean's List there for outstanding academic excellence during the preceding semester.

Only 13 percent of the 1302 students at Colgate attained this honor. Slater ranked first in a class of 158 when here. He was in the National Honor Society and is the recipient of a \$4,000 scholarship to Colgate.

## Parade (Prancers) Get Ready For Easter

By Norma Bulluck

Everyone loves a parade! Rocky Mount may not have a Fifth Avenue but the local town-folk will be prancing their finery somewhere on Easter Sunday.

Long waistlines with flared skirts will be seen as will also the boatline or rounded necks. Pat Lewis has already given the people a preview with her fitted dress.

### Box Jackets Popular

The boxed jackets, too, are smart looking with suits and are proving popular with students in this vicinity.

In the shoe line pumps will always be in style, but a new type of footwear is now on display—a shoe with no back. These are worn with formal attire or with comfortable lounging clothes.

After a Sunday of wearing dressy clothes, students will more than likely go back to their "fads". You might see someone going on a picnic with lengthened pedal-pushers or treader pants like those of Anne Yelverton or in some like Skippy Stone's — the black ones with yellow-gold diamond blocks on them.

### Bermudas For Hikes

Those who decide to go on hikes will probably wear Bermuda shorts with knee socks and some may even wear the Bermuda skirts like the plaid one Judy McRae has.

Peggy Whitehurst might wear her rope beads that exactly match her blue cashmere sweater of the same shade to the show that evening. (Incidentally they make a beautiful combination).

Well — here you have it! The styles of Easter Sunday and the fads of the following Monday. Quite a contrast between the fashions of dressy and sports clothes.