

Students Invade Rival Port City

"Boy, was that a trip!" exclaimed students as they got off the "Special" in Rocky Mount Saturday morning at 1:30, October 1. Well over 300 students had piled on the "Blackbird Special," a chartered Atlantic Coast Line train, to go to Wilmington for the second conference football game of the season. As the train pulled out of Rocky Mount at 4:30 p. m. Friday, everyone waved good-bye to teachers, parents and friends and off they went for an evening of enjoyment.

Things started off right away as everyone joined in group yelling and singing with pauses for refreshments. When it was time to eat, homemade box lunches were passed around.

After a dozen or so stops and starts in a three-hour trip, the train backed into the Wilmington station. A mad dash for waiting buses to the football stadium followed. They were on their last lap before the game. By the time everyone had seats at the stadium, things were already rolling. A wildly cheering group from RMSHS watched the Blackbirds come out victorious in a game packed with excitement and plenty of thrills.

Back to the train by bus went the happy supporters of the Birds. After starting out slowly, everyone got their second wind and all the fun of the trip up was repeated.

Two Bits - - Four Bits



Bill Nelms, head cheerleader, is showing Lyman Whitehead and Sylvia Updegraff, new members of the squad, the fundamentals of one of their favorite cheers. Photo by Barringer.

Activities Begin

DeMolay Has Sweetheart Ball

To the music of The Moderns of Roanoke Rapids and amid the splendor of autumn decorations, the Deux Pays Chapter, Order of DeMolay, opened a weekend of activities with its annual Sweetheart Ball at the Ricks Hotel, October 1.

Highlight of the ball came when Fay Batts was presented a DeMolay Sweetheart pendant and a corsage of red roses as the chapter sweetheart for the next year. She

will travel with the group to Asheville next summer to participate in the state contest. Fay was chosen by the local order on the basis of her school, church, and civic activities.

About midway the dance officers of the local chapter, the state officers and the chapter advisers formed an impressive figure to illustrate a cross. From the head of the cross, the Master Councilor, James Ezzell, conducted the nine o'clock interpolation, a prayer conducted at every DeMolay function.

On Sunday after attending morning services at the First Baptist Church, the group met in the afternoon at 2:30 at the Massonic Temple. At this time the officers for the incoming year were installed, merit bars were presented to deserving boys, and "Hats-Off Award" were given to Mr. W. M. Sutton, Mr. H. T. Parry, Mr. Vernon Secrest, Mr. Bill Johnson, Mr. K. M. Sutton and Miss Marjorie Staton.

'School Supports Team Better,' Says Head Cheerleader Nelms

"I think school support of the team with the help of the cheerleaders is a lot better than last year," Bill Nelms, head cheerleader, said recently.

He explained further that there were a number of reasons for this. One, Bill said, is that RMSHS has an excellent cheerleader squad that is willing to work hard — They worked last summer, practicing twice a week.

Another reason is there are more students participating in the outdoor pep rallies than there were last year. Also, more people are going with the team to the out-of-town games. Everybody yells! "They don't give up; they're behind the team all the way," says Bill.

Participants of this group are like any other team in believing that this year is the best one yet, for them as well as for the football squad. They are a hard-working, school-spirited group, supporting a champion team.

Cheerleaders are Bill Nelms, Judy Carr, Lyman Whitehead, Sylvia Updegraff, Doc Joyner, Tonya Pennington, Ray Joyner, Ginger Roney, Pat Parrish and Ray Edwards.

The three old and seven new cheerleaders were chosen last spring by the student body after a demonstration of their talents on the stage.

'Exciting Moment' Says Gin Roney

"Standing beside Governor Hodges was one of the most exciting moments of my life," said Ginger Roney, who, with Governor Luther H. Hodges, cut the ribbon to open the new 301 by-pass around Rocky Mount.

Ginger's father Mr. Ben Roney who is Administrative Assistant to Senator Scott, played an important part in getting Mr. Scott, while governor, to appropriate money for the construction of the by-pass. For this reason Ginger was chosen to cut the ribbon and help with the opening of the new road.

Following the ceremony, Ginger attended a luncheon, which was given for the special guests at the Ricks Hotel.

F. Batts, Princess At Tobacco Fete

Representing Rocky Mount at the Tobacco Festival in Richmond, Va., Fay Batts was the only North Carolina Princess among the group of Virginians, and she convinced everyone that North Carolina is one of the outstanding states in the Union.

All Princesses stayed at the John Marshall Hotel while in Richmond. Each of them received enough flowers, such as orchids, American beauty roses, gardenias, and chrysanthemums, to leave memories for a long, long time.

Fay had a full schedule of activities. She attended three formal dances, modeled dresses at Miller and Rhoads, visited campuses of the University of Virginia and the University of Richmond, where she went to football games. The Tobacco Ball ended an exciting experience for Fay.

Incidentally, (this should have been in last month's paper) Fay, as Governor of N. C. Girls' State, was a delegate to Girls' Nation in Washington, D. C., where she was elected Speaker of the House. She was also a candidate for president of Girls' Nation. Fay was so modest that she failed to release the above information for fear that someone would think she was bragging. On the contrary, it is good school news to know that one of its number can and does represent Rocky Mount so well.

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