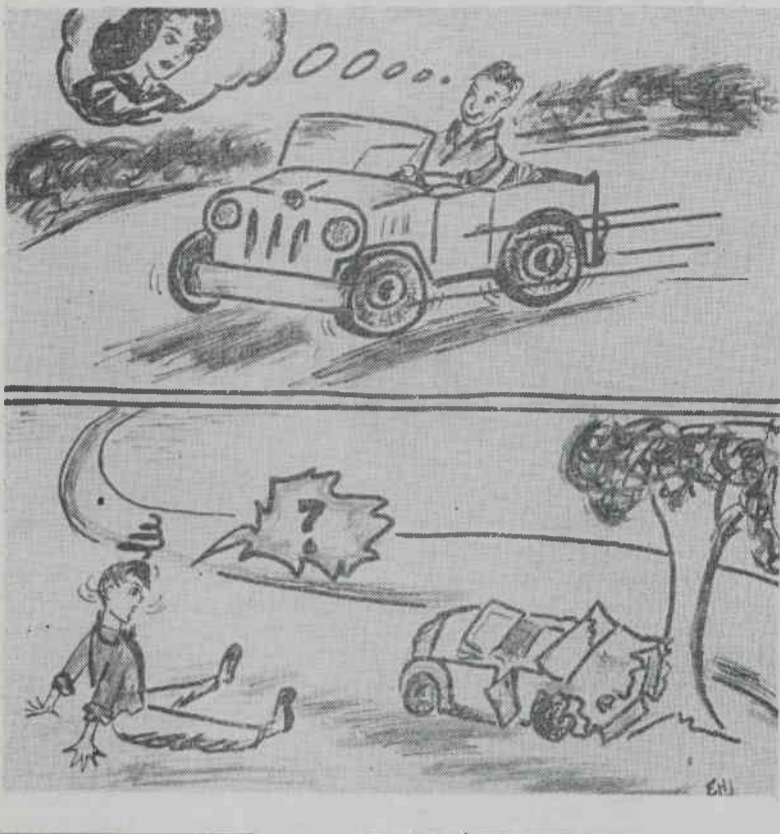


Don't Shatter Your Dreams!



'Rotten Apple Spoils Whole Barrel'

"One rotten apple can spoil a whole barrel of them" is an adage that may well apply to a group of decent people with one or more misguided, undisciplined, filthy-minded individuals in their midst.

From the appearance of obscene drawings and writing on some of the magazines in the library and a few "trashy" pieces of literature circulated around school, it is evident that there is at least one "rotten apple" in school. Just like fruit, this decay is often not noticeable on the outside—it looks much as all the others until it is seen on the inside—the core—the heart. For this reason it is accepted with the good "apples" and works in its insidious manner to destroy eventually those near it.

Why? Why after one reaches this age and mental level would there be such immature or warped behavior? Some psychiatrist might say it is a mental illness—Perhaps, but we like to think all are healthy in that capacity; and we know that the number in this "decaying" group is small—However, we want it "nil."

Human "rotten apples" have one capacity the fruit lacks. They can correct their disease! The cure comes from within if the "apple" is to be helped. Of course, it can be taken out of the "barrel" and thrown away by others to protect the good ones—but then the bad "apple" would continue to rot. We want all our apples, so the answer? Well, do we have to say more?

School Spirit Zooms At RMSHS

That school spirit has been higher than ever lately is an indication that Senior High students are showing a keener sense of interest in their school.

Attendance at ball games and other school activities has been steadily picking up. Interest in the basketball team and other organizations is a dominating factor in this new growth of school spirit.

Students are to be commended for their interest in this school. It is a fine reflection upon the school, the faculty, and, most of all, the individuals themselves. The students may be proud that they are reflecting good school character, and showing that the faculty is bringing about results through stressing of standards in maturing the mind of the individual.

However, let us better this record. In other instances than basketball games, the students have been slack. Let us remember that school spirit is indicated in our attitude toward the other students and the faculty, and even, indirectly, in the way we walk through the halls of this school.

Think on this! Attitudes are the intangible attributes of a person.

Landslide!

Lucy, Como Grab Most Votes

**Rock'nRolls On The Way Out
Progressive Jazz Is Coming In!**

After seeing "The Benny Goodman Story," this writer (along with perhaps thousands of others in and about the Rocky Mount area) has come to the conclusion that maybe music is on the way back and we shall soon be rid of these forms of so-called music which seem to have the present generation in their grasp.

Probably, and almost without a doubt, the majority of the readers of this column will agree with the reporter in these observations, but, not to be misunderstood, this refers definitely not to the regular popular class of songs which has been around for so long, but to the rock and roll group of melodies.

Truly the type of music known as swing is among the great forms in three important aspects: listening and dancing on the receiving end of the ledger, and the terrific art of playing on the other side. To play like Gene Krupa, Lionel Hampton, Harry James, Ziggy Elman, and, of course, BG himself, and sing like Martha Tilton, takes a person certainly superb in musical ability.

Let's look at the rock and roll side. First heard is a blasting sax which could be played as well by a two-year old. The next thing encountered is a nauseating singer or group of singers (supposedly) who sound like a crew of dying cows.

Don't let the wrong idea form. The proposition is not to rid the world of the 50's and go back to the 40's. Progressive jazz is really great; and it is another advancement in the jazz field, begun in New Orleans, of which swing is part. So are the current popular hits great too; but this reporter is advocating the overthrow of the rock and roll and the replacement with a better brand of music.

**Church Bells Toll
Symbolizing Hope**

Bells have rung for grief and happiness, victory and glory, but on March 2, 1956, the bells rang for hope.

Hope's a little word but has a great deal of meaning for the people of Rocky Mount where the bells chimed with hope that the new Presbyterian College would be located in this area. On that day the breeze ever so gently carried the beautiful sound over the entire city, leaving an almost reverent silence when the bells stopped ringing.

As I heard the tones floating softly through the window of my class, I paused in the scramble for my seat and thought how important the location of the new College must be for so many people to hope, almost as one, symbolized by the ringing of the bells in unison. Overhead the flag of our country waved proudly in the breeze as if to announce its support in this project.

My deepest impression was that whether the college were placed here or not, these people were filled with hope — the kind of hope that built this nation.

Landslide! Well, almost, anyway — according to the 220 votes garnered by Lucille Ball as favorite comedienne of RMSHS.

Out of a possible 500 votes, no other entertainer won in his group by such a majority. The next highest vote-getter was Perry Como, who conquered the "Favorite Male Singer" title with 143 votes.

Rock Hudson and James Dean fought all the way, but near the end a rash of votes for Mr. Hudson gave him 85 votes against the late Mr. Dean's 76, to win the "Favorite Actor" category.

Fairy-tale Princess Grace Kelly won another title, small as it is, as favorite actress with 88 votes over second place Jane Wyman's 55.

For comedian, Jerry Lewis' 86 votes won over Jack Benny by 13 votes. George Burns also had a high percentage.

Votes averaged about 500 for each category, since some students left blanks. All answers, no matter how improbable, were recorded and counted.

"F'rinstance" — Lassie got three votes for favorite actress, also Liberace cropped the same title twice, plus one as comedian.

Suprise — but not much of one! Between them, Peggy Jones and Patsy Nelms received 23 votes for most esteemed female vocalist.

Receiving a high percentage of "Favorite Actor" votes were Marlon Brando, William Holden, and James Stewart.

Marilyn Monroe, Elizabeth Taylor, Debbie Reynolds had an appreciative number of votes cast for them.

Safety Rhymes

Careless Pedestrian

By Anita Taylor

Little Willie was a terror
Still we bemoan his fate
One day he started
cross the street
And forgot to wait.
The moral of this story is
Of course, "Crime
Never Pays"
So when you cross the
street, my friend,
Don't forget to look
both ways

Is Life So Boring?

By Martha Fountain

When tearing down the
highway
At 50 miles or more,
Make sure its not your
"Bye"-way;
Slow down and don't be sore.
You think your caution's real
When between the marks
you're roaring;
Eventually you'll kill.
Is your life so boring?

RM College Entrants Rate High

Did you know that Rocky Mount Senior High School has the third highest percentage of students going on the college or schools of higher levels of any white school in the state?

Well, it's a fact. In comparison with state figures of 1954, this school sent 52.9% of its graduates to four-year colleges while 8.9% of the same class went to two-year schools. This was over half the graduating class. Another 2.6% went to vocational school, such as business schools, trade schools, and nursing schools. A remaining 6.3% went into military service.

Figures for the state show that 27.1% of the 1954 class is now attending four-year colleges while 5.4% is now in two-year institutions of higher learning.

Against the state's records, Rocky Mount shows an admirable record in the fields of higher education.

Even though the consolidated Presbyterian College did not come here, which would have given even more students a chance to enter college, Rocky Mount, we feel sure, will continue its excellent record in this field.



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