

Slip Costs Years

A fundamental principle of an upright person is an element called honor—an element which includes truth, courage, loyalty, and self respect.

A man of honor has faith in himself and in others and he recognizes right from wrong. Resisting many temptations, he lives up to promises, scorns cheating, and is faithful in his work.

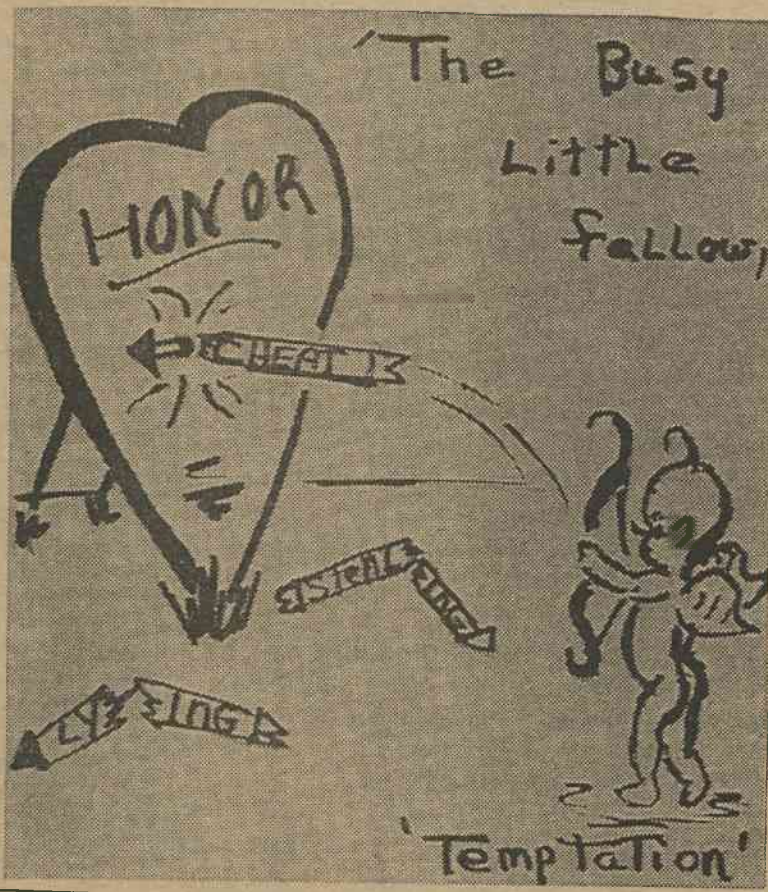
Children should be taught to be honorable in all their actions. They should earn that a lie dishonors them and that a neglected duty is dishonorable.

More and more the "honor system" is being used in schools. A boy who is put "on his honor" not to cheat during a test feels that he is trusted and he is ashamed to do wrong acts.

The "honor system" lays a foundation. The person involved builds it. Once he slips by putting up a false front he finds it is easy to keep slipping. A number of years will not repair a few minutes loss of honor.

"Honor is like an island, rugged and without shores; we can, however, re-enter it once we are on the outside." (Boileau)

Cupid Meets His Match



Busy Little Month

Big Events in Feb.

Stuffing a lot of important events into a short month is just what has been done to February.

Valentine's Day is a special day set aside for lovers, while Washington's and Lincoln's birthdays are observed as national holidays in some states.

Surprising as it is, Lincoln's birthday is observed in only twenty-nine states as a national holiday; Washington's birthday is observed in all states. North Carolina is one of the many states that does not observe Lincoln's birthday.

No one is really sure how the custom of exchanging "sweet notes" on February 14 originated. One of the stories that has passed down through the centuries is that a festival in honor of St. Valentine, a Christian martyr who lived in the third century, was celebrated on February 14.

Ground Hog Day on February 2 must not be omitted. This year the ground hog saw his shadow which means 40 more days of winter. The meteorologists, however, tell us that spring is on the way even if we do feel chilly these mornings.

RM Seniors Mature?

Representatives Say Yes

Do you think the seniors in Rocky Mount Senior High School are as mature as they should be?

A reporter asked this question to a representative of each class and their opinions are stated below:

Nancy Carr, sophomore. Being a sophomore and not having the responsibilities and higher offices as the seniors, I'll answer this question to the best of my knowledge. As far as I can see, our seniors have lived up to their responsibilities. Most of the ones I know have maintained good grades, and have some idea of what they would like to be in the future.



Buzzy Tilley, junior: In my opinion seniors in Rocky Mount Senior High School are as a rule as mature as they should be. The teacher have much to do with this, because they make it possible for students to think and act on their own. The seniors have to make many important decisions during



their last year in high school that will have a great effect on their later lives. An experience of this kind seems to help the seniors to consider their decisions in a mature way.

Jo Jo Cuthrell, senior: Here there is a distinct contrast in the maturity of the seniors as compared with the underclassmen.

This view is of the high school collectively, but individually some seniors could be more mature. Assuming responsibility and being dependable play an important part in developing maturity. Even though many seniors possess these traits, the degree is not as high as it should be in sixteen and seventeen-year olds. In short, I think we are not as mature as we should be.



To The Editor

Prexy Lauds Staff For Honor Stand

On behalf of the officers and representatives of the Student Organization, I would like to express my deep gratitude and appreciation to you and your staff for the generous co-operation given in support of "Operation Honor."

It is through such co-operation as you have given that we can ever hope to have a unified school, strong in name and in manner.

We can never measure the success of this week of emphasis on honor by any material means, but you and your fellow workers should look ahead with pride when recalling the active participation which you contributed to the project.

Again you have proven by your example the high level of media in communication which the newspaper holds in our society today. It is an interminable part in the progress of a school, a community, a nation.

Thomas Hood once said in THE LAST MAN "For when was honey ever made with one bee in the hive." Until we have gathered all our bees into the hive, the opportunity to make a real name for our school decreases as time passes. Let us hope that more will follow the example set forth by THE BLACKBIRD and lend their full support to better our school.

Again may I thank you for your coverage and support of "Operation Honor."

Sincerely,
Don Harris
President Student Organization

Ed. Note: The above letter to the editor was received from Don Harris, president of the Student Organization of Rocky Mount Senior High School.

Frolikin' With Frank

By Frank Brake

It has been pretty cold these past few weeks early in the morning; nevertheless many hearty teenagers can be found in the fields or in the thicket with a good dog and a gun.

Not long ago, Bill Dunn was telling me that the next time he and John Pearson go hunting together, he is going to leave his beagles at home. According to Bill, it must have been too early, in the morning for "hearty" John. Just as a dog crashed through the brush with full intention of

running a rabbit within range of sleepy John's artillery, there came the sound of gunfire. (As we see it, the dog and rabbit must have run between John's legs, the noble hound escaping with his life.) Humorous? Naw!

To change the subject slightly but still to stay outdoors, this columnist (Wheew!), I would like to take no credit for this brilliant deduction.

Now to get back to the frolic I was speculating about. First, build or create a conflagration (another humdinger translated into English meaning fire) and put a big kettle on the fire (half full or less) of water. As the water boils, add stewing meat, onions, carrots and potatoes; season to taste with salt and pepper; and serve with a hot beverage and soppin' bread to take care of the gravy. (It's soppin' fine eating, believe thee, me!) This frolic goes over big on a cold Saturday night.

Well, fair friends and eager readers of this column, my space has grown short and my arm has grown weary. (I'm hungry.) So I will close with the words of our distinguished Mile. Dorothy Craig-hill. Quote, "Au revoir." (That means "Until we see each other again" or something like that. I'm hopeful anyway.)

Local Top Tunes

- 1. YOUNG LOVE Tab Hunter
- 2. TOO MUCH Elvis Presley
- 3. DON'T FORBID ME Pat Boone
- 4. SINGING THE BLUES Guy Mitchell
- 5. JIM DANDY La Vern Baker
- 6. BANANA BOAT SONG The Fontaine Sisters
- 7. MOONLIGHT GAMBLER Frankie Laine
- 8. BLUE MONDAY Fats Domino
- 9. LOVE IS STRANGE Mickey and Sylvia
- 10. YOU DON'T OWE ME A THING Johnny Ray
- 11. ON MY WORD OF HONOR The Platters
- 12. CONFIDENTIAL Bubber Johnson
- 13. I FEEL GOOD Shirley and Lee
- 14. AIN'T GOT NO HOME Clarence Henry
- 15. HONKY TONK (Part 2) Bill Doggett

(These are the records played most on the RMSHS juke-box.)

Ben Blackbird Sez



The biggest room in the world is room for improvement.



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