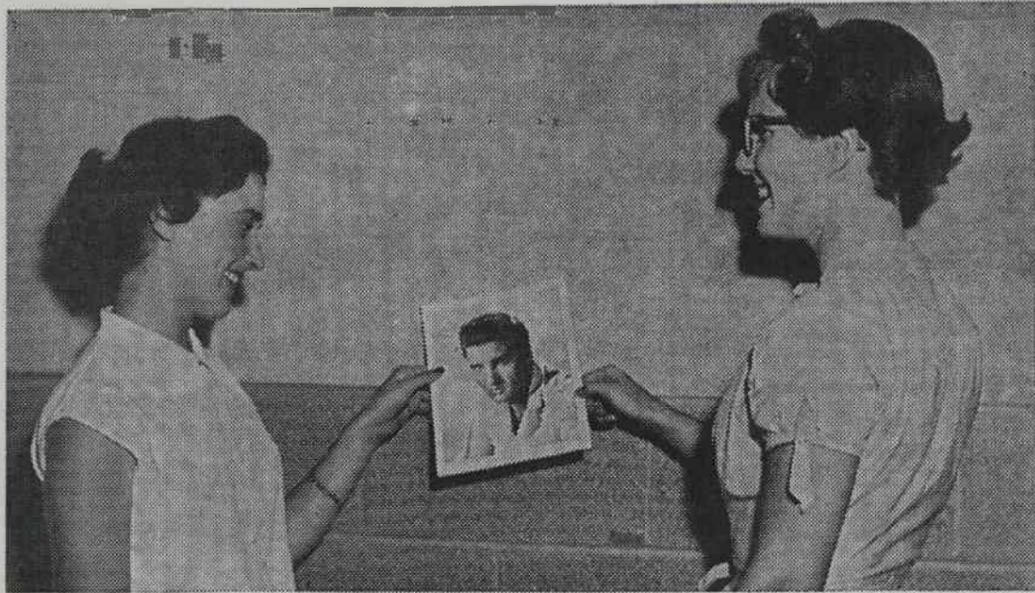


He's In The Army Now!



Penny Connell, this year's American Field Service exchange student to Rocky Mount, is shown above with her American "sister," Frances Gorham, admiring a picture of Elvis Presley. Penny applied for her scholarship hoping to see the famous rock-n-roll idol.

Penny Connell Applies 'To See Elvis Presley'

"I think I'll apply for that scholarship to America — might even get to see Elvis Presley!" casually stated Penny Connell, exchange student to senior high from Norbury, England, when the exchange program was offered to her class.

Tiny 5' 4" Penny, who had never dreamed of being selected, has dark brown eyes and hair which set off her lovely complexion. She has a ready smile for everyone and with it comes a charming dimple.

They "Jive" in England

She likes rock and roll music as well as classical, but in England instead of bopping they "jive" as she has demonstrated for a few people. There's not too much difference between the two dances.

In answer to the question of what

she thought of Americans, Penny commented, "What I notice most about Americans is that they are so friendly and so informal."

Penny makes her American home with Mr. and Mrs. George Gorham and their daughter, Frances, who have introduced her to Rocky Mount and have already made a trip with her to the North Carolina mountains.

Parties Keep Penny Busy

Busy describes Penny and her adopted family, especially her "sister" Frances. They have attended a variety of parties since Penny's arrival, introducing her to many American styles and enjoyments.

Already Penny has picked up some teenage sayings, such as, "I just love it to death." Too she has learned to like bermudas which she disliked at first.

Subscribed to your school paper and keep informed of all the happenings.

THE BLACKBIRD

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VOLUME XXX

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 19, 1958

NUMBER 1

Support your school in all its activities. Attend the B-squad and Varsity games.

Applications For Membership To Clubs Take Place This Week

Applications for membership in service and interest-type groups, and organization of various clubs took place this week.

Service-type groups are open to juniors only. Leading clubs of this kind are Good Sports, Service Club, SOS, Kudos and Phalanx.

Good Sports' purpose is to promote good sportsmanship, win or lose. This club is an all-girl society under the advisership, of Mrs. Mary Cuthrell. It sponsors the sales of ribbons and decorates the sale of ribbons before each football game.

Oldest service organization in school is the Service Club under Mrs. Gladys Robbins. This group sponsors many worthwhile activities, among which are planning the Homecoming Parade and getting football game programs printed.

Service over self is the main aim of the SOS Club, under the direction of Miss Dorothy Craighill.

Selling ribbons before home basketball games and selling year-book covers are among money-making projects of the Kudo Klub.

A yearly service project is to act as ushers at the Back-to-School PTSA meeting in the fall, but members are ready to help in any call for civic service. Mrs. T. D. Young has been the adviser in the past.

Students in the Phalanx Club conduct many civic drives and honor the basketball "Player of the Week". Mr. C. M. Edson was the adviser last year.

The National Honor Society, the Black Masquers, and the Quill and Scroll are honor organizations. Black Masquers recognizes outstanding students in dramatics and the Quill and Scroll honor special workers in publications. The National Honor Society has a tapping twice a year for students excelling in character, scholarship, leadership and service.

Interest or hobby-type clubs are F. H. A., Junior Red Cross, Personal Typing Club, Bible Club, Musettes, Junior Classical League, Radio Broadcasters, and dramatics.

Holiday Schedule

NCEA Meeting . . . Oct. 21, 1958
Thanksgiving . . . Nov. 27-28, 1958
Christmas . . . Dec. 19-31, 1958
Easter March 27-31, 1959
Last Day of School May 30, 1959

School Head Tells Of Permit Changes

Mr. D. S. Johnson, superintendent of the Rocky Mount City Schools, said that the changes in the lunch permits were due to a School Board action which took place after a survey of the large schools in North Carolina.

Lunch permits will be allowed but restricted and will be given with the assumption that the children eat at home or, if in public places, with their parents. If the rules are broken, the permits will be revoked.

Parents have to sign for the permits but the issuing permits will be discouraged and no more given than necessary. After the parent has signed for the permit, the student is given a card which bears the rules.

Lunch periods will remain the same length as last year with the promise of school officials to improve the conditions in which the students eat. The cafeteria accommodates a little over 200 at a time, and there will be some 300 students during each of the two lunch periods. This makes for crowded conditions.

"Our type of regulations for our lunch permits is about midway the scale of the large schools," says Mr. Johnson.

731 Enrollment Shows Increase Of 140 Over Five Years Ago

"This year's enrollment of 731 shows an increase of 140 Senior High students over the 1956 total," said Principal C. M. Edson in an interview last week.

Mr. Edson continued that although the increase means a heavier load on the faculty, the students have not caused excessive disciplinary problems in the school.

Salesman Compliments School
Principal Edson reported that a furniture dealer had commented on the upkeep of Senior High's furniture. In comparison with other North Carolina schools, students here seem to have more respect for school property. The dealer was also favorably impressed with the smooth flow of hall traffic and the general behavior of students.

In reference to smoking, Mr. Ed-

son stated that only 20 per cent of the student population smoke (at school), and this portion have special permits.

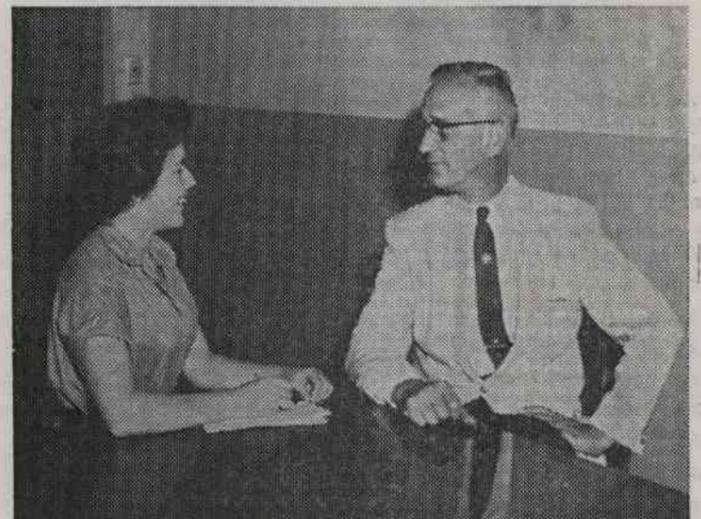
There is a minimum of rule-breaking and racing in the parking lot.

Faculty Number 31

With the rise in enrollment, Senior High's faculty has grown until now it is composed of 31 teachers, including the special teachers, the librarian, the line coach and Principal Edson. If the student population demands, there may be a new social studies and English teacher.

With the high number of scholarships accredited to local students and the lack of childish behavior in mind, Mr. Edson remarked that the coming year should be a full and advancing year for the school.

Are You French?--Non!



Clark Lee Shuff, who speaks French fluently, seems to have surprised the usually jovial Principal C. M. Edson, while interviewing him on the growth of Senior High in the last five years.

Photo by Harper

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