



Happy Thanksgiving!

The Blackbird

Vote For 'Miss Print'

Published by Journalism Class of Rocky Mount Senior High School

VOLUME XXX ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 1958 NUMBER 3

Screams and Blackouts Cause Tension, Suspense To Mount

Diamonds, strange voices, screams, and sudden blackouts made tension and excitement mount in the Edsonian's first production of the year, "Lights Out," a three-act mystery-comedy presented last Saturday night on the Senior High stage.

Setting for "Lights Out," the study of an old mansion, was reproduced for the stage by set designer, Vicki Odom. The presentation went smoothly under the direction of stage manager, J. D. Privette; lights foreman, Ben Singleton; sound man, Posey Reeves; house manager, Gale Koonce; student director, Lillie Mae Delmar; and dramatics advisor, Mrs. Ada Hobbs.

Members of the case were Honey McIntyre, Lou Ann Randolph, Penny Connell, Edward Fleming, Wayne White, Dianne Kennedy, Skippy Best, Dale Stevens, Judy Sorrell, Brenda Roberson, and Jerry Wayne Blankenship.

A matinee was given Friday for grammar school children. Excerpts from the play were presented in assembly Friday afternoon to stimulate interest in attendance at the production.

From all reports the presentation was a success, and nearly everyone admitted that it was well worth the admission price to see Skippy Best outshine the nervous man on the Steve Allen Show.

Sale Successful

"We have reached our goal, but we feel that student participation should have totaled 100%," reported Miss Alma Murchison, advisor for the Hi-Noc-Ar, at the end of the subscription campaign.

Miss Murchison also complimented her staff and remarked that "they are the most cooperative group I have ever had the pleasure of working with."

She stated that the staff feels that the 58-59 yearbook will be better than any preceding it. The cover, the traditional dedication, and the secret theme are improved. The theme serves to unify the book and has a connection with the school or community.

Candidates Launch Campaigns As Miss Print Contest Starts

Who will shine the brightest for 'Miss Print' of '58-59 at the end of the campaign, officially starting for two weeks November 20-December 5, is the question students and candidates are wondering as they set to work.

Twelve eager service-minded and school-spirited girls accepting the nominations and securing campaign managers are seniors —

Bonnie Baker, Jimmy Morring; Nancy Coggins, David Williams; Gloria Nelson, John Hines; Jane Sutton, Johnny Williams; juniors—Sandra Weller, Robert Page; Patsy Warren, Double Snow; Margaret Carmichael; Roger Waters; Jettie Lou Thorpe, Jack Brake, sophomore — Judi Weller, Bud Joyner; Nannie Hussey, Allen Whitaker; Betty Jane Munden, Gus Tulloss; and Dade Wall, Butch Jones.

Meetings Attended

Local teachers attended the Northeastern District Classroom Teachers Association in Elizabeth City, and Mr. C. M. Edson took part in a panel discussion at the Principals' Conference.

Teachers holding offices were Mr. D. S. Johnson, Mrs. Ora VanBuskirk, Mrs. Nellie Winstead, Mrs. Fernor Hobs, Miss Kate Parks Kitchin, Miss Dorothy Craighill, Mrs. Hiram Cuthrell, and Miss Iola Parker.

Each candidate, nominated by the student body and the staff, has a campaign manager and three other workers who will help her solicit money.

Winner of the contest (one with the most penny votes) will be honored in an assembly program by The Blackbird staff and also have her picture in the Hi-Noc-Ar.

This contest was originated by The Blackbird staff ten years ago to raise money to help finance the paper.

'Let Me Call You Sweetheart'

Lou Bryan Gets Campus Honors

With the lights dimmed, the band formed a heart and played "Let Me Call You Sweetheart" as Lou Bryan, a petite, brown-eyed brunette rode into the heart was crowned "Campus Sweetheart" at half-time during the Homecoming

football game Friday, November 14. Chosen by the student body, Lou was selected from a group of seven girls including Lou, Jane Fountain, Ellen Stovall, Patsy Viverette, Susie Street, Kay Beach, and Bonnie Baker. Each girl represented

a senior homeroom.

Flanked on either side by Bonnie Baker and Jane Fountain, the runners-up, Lou rode onto the field in a 1959 black and white Ford convertible, preceded by the majorettes carrying flaming batons.

"Ya'll, I really can't believe it's happening," commented Lou as Ann Warren, head majorette, placed the crown on her head.

Later Lou reigned over the Homecoming dance in the gaily decorated gym. Amidst a setting of covered goal posts and black and gold streamers, the queen was again introduced to the students by Nancy Coggins, chairman of the Social Committee.

Receiving honors is not unusual where Lou is concerned. She was elected head cheerleader by the cheerleading group, chosen Demolay Sweetheart, elected secretary of the Service Club and tapped into the National Honor Society.

The dance brought to an end a day filled with the Homecoming parade, the exciting game and the dance honoring the "Sweetheart."

Smile For 'Sweethearts'



Ann Warren, head majorette, is scarcely seen above as she crowned Lou Bryan, Campus Sweetheart for '58-'59. The second runner-up, Jane Fountain, and the first runner-up, Bonnie Baker, smile approvingly. Photo by Killebrew

ECC Senior Day Draws Local Interest; 70 Attend

Senior day found approximately 70 students from Rocky Mount among at least 1,000 others from the Old North State visiting the campus of East Carolina College for an open house Tuesday, November 11.

Activities for the day included various departmental meetings a program by the choir and band, lunch in the cafeteria or student union, and a tea dance.

Discussions of various courses in business administration, education, English, social studies, psychology, and languages were of interest to the students in the departmental meetings. The students visited the classrooms, were given a tour of the campus, visited the dormitories and talked with many of the Sen-

ior High alumni who are now students of ECC.

After the program by the choir and band in Wright's auditorium, the visitors met Dr. James D. Messick, president of ECC, who welcomed them and gave a talk concerning the importance of education.

Some students ate lunch in the school cafeteria while others ate in the student union. Following lunch they were given the choice to attend different discussion groups concerning scholarships or to watch a live television program on a closed circuit.

The Collegiates, the college band, played for the students at a tea dance from 3:30 to 4:30. This concluded the day's activities.