

THE BLACKBIRD

Published by Journalism Classes of Rocky Mount Senior High School

VOLUME XXXII

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C. TUESDAY, MAY 29, 1962

NUMBER 9

Class of 1962 Awaits Graduation



Margie Parrish is queen of the 1962 Beauty Court. Photo by Killebrew

Margie Parrish Wins Crown Of Annual Beauty Court Queen

Margie Parrish, a senior girl, was crowned queen of the 1962 Beauty Court, during the Junior-Senior Prom sponsored May 11 in the Senior High gymnasium. Sylvia Hutto, Business Manager of THE BLACKBIRD, introduced the winners of the contest. Chosen as Maid of Honor was Mary Alice Ray. First runner-up was Dawana Gay; second runner-up, Shelley Stallings; third runner-up, Martha Weeks; fourth runner-up, Judy Kincheloe; fifth runner-up, Carolyn Swain. Ladies-in-waiting were Betty Jo Bryant, Polly Reynolds, Marietta Broadfield, Pat Daniel, Lee Cuthrell, Diane Smith, Bryan Daley, Ginna Aldridge, and Theresa Haggerty. Queen Margie was crowned by Sandra Sultan, Editor of THE BLACKBIRD. Crown bearer was Scott Merit, and flower girl was Lee Brewer. After being crowned in the center of the dance floor, the queen walked to the throne which was decorated with flowers. Her court then made their entrance and took their places beside her. Later, members of the Junior class, Jackie Redding and Deverna Gerlinger performed for the queen. Winners of the contest were chosen by Vincent Edwards, better known as Dr. Ben Casey.



New Student Organization officers are (l-r) Jan McCrary, Greg Low, and David Williams. Photo by Killebrew

Student Body Chooses Officers To Serve in New School Year

Student Organization officers for the term of 1962-1963 were elected May 15 in one of the most competitive elections ever conducted at Senior High.

New officers are President, Greg Low; Vice-President, David Williams; and Secretary, Jan McCrary. Edwin Arrington will fulfill the duties of treasurer, as he was appointed for this position by the president. Candidates for the offices were President, Ginna Aldridge and Greg Low; Vice-President, Glenn Hemmerle, David Williams, Neal Adkins; Secretary, Martha Carson and Jan McGrary. Campaign managers for candidates were Tom McAuley, Eddie Allen, Jimmy Hubbard, John H. Daughtridge, Tom Nicholson, Bill Bonner, Jim McChesney, and Shelly Stallings, respectively.

Candidates spoke individually to both the Freshman and Sophomore classes before they spoke to the student body May 14.

Voting was stimulated by the efforts of current Student Organization vice-president, Jimmy Davenport. As proposed by Jimmy, competition among the classes was conducted to encourage students to exercise student government voting. As an incentive to urge students to vote, it was stated that the class with the highest number of members voting percentage-wise was to be allowed to leave the auditorium first at the next Friday assembly. This competition was won by the freshmen,

who claim 100 percent voting among all present members. Seniors, sophomores, and juniors rated first, second, and third respectively and left the auditorium in that order.

Students Honor Olivier Andre Hammel At Final Farewell Assembly, Banquet

Foreign Exchange Student Day was proclaimed Tuesday, May 22, in honor of Olivier Andre Hammel, foreign exchange student from France.

Foreign Exchange Day featured an assembly program at activity period and a banquet at Josh Bullock's that night. Presiding over the assembly was Jim McChesney, Chairman of the Foreign Exchange Committee. Dudley Harper introduced the guest speaker, Mr. Norman Lee, who gave an explanation of the American Field Chapter in Rocky Mount. Jim McChesney told the story of Senior High exchange students, and Robert K. Smith introduced the 1962 host family of Mr. and Mrs. T. A. Williams and son David. Following this was Olivier's farewell speech.

Olivier's Banquet also was presided over by Jim McChesney. Principal C. M. Edson delivered the invocation. There were toasts to Danielle Wenandy by Lanny Shuff and to Greta Shine by Becky

Calendar . . .

Monday, May 28 — Caps and gowns issued, Athletic Awards Assembly.

Tuesday, May 29 — THE BLACKBIRD issued, Caps and gowns issued.

Thursday, May 31 — Senior Class picture made on steps of First Baptist Church, End of senior exams.

Friday, June 1 — Beginning of regular exams.

Sunday, June 3 — Baccalaureate Sermon (5:00 p. m.)

Monday, June 4 — Senior Day activities.

Tuesday, June 5 — End of regular exams.

Wednesday, June 6 — Awards Assembly, Make-up exams, Commencement Exercises.

Friday, June 8 — Report cards issued.

Monday, June 11 — Summer School registration.

Delegates Selected For Annual Project

Honored this year as Senior High delegates to Girls' and Boys' State are Jimmy Hubbard, Skipper Tuttle, Ginna Aldridge, and Ann Flye.

This program is sponsored annually by the American Legion. Those who attend live and work in a miniature state government. Each delegate participates in a party and elects officers. To teach the structure of government and to show the importance of good citizenship is the purpose of the convention.

A committee of Junior Class faculty members choose the delegates according to leadership, character, service, and patriotism qualities and potential civic responsibility.

This year Skipper and Ann will serve as alternates.

Walder. Both Danielle and Greta are also foreign students. Following these were the toasts to Olivier by each of the class presidents, a community representative, and a representative of the Student Organization. Olivier's farewell speech was the highlight and the final item at the banquet.



Olivier Andre Hammel

Memorable Services Conducted In Honor Of Graduation Class

In honor of the Class of 1962 a baccalaureate and a commencement service will be conducted Sunday, June 2, and Wednesday, June 6, respectively, in the Senior High auditorium.

C. M. Edson, principal, will preside over the baccalaureate. Band members will play a prelude entitled "To a Wild Rose" and the pro-

cessional and recessional of "Pomp and Circumstance". Dr. James McChesney, Jr. will present the invocation. Members of the Senior High choir will sing selections entitled "Twenty-Third Psalms" and "One God." Reverend Hok H. Ritchie of the Trinity Lutheran Church in Rocky Mount will read the scriptures and pray the prayer. Reverend Frank C. Perry of the Holy Trinity Lutheran Church in Chapel Hill will deliver the sermon. Dr. McChesney will then give the benediction, and Seniors will march out of the auditorium.

Big Crowd Attends Performance Given By School Bands

Rocky Mount Junior and Senior High bands conducted a joint spring concert in the Senior High auditorium May 18.

Approximately 800 people attended the program, which consisted of both popular and classical music. Junior High appeared first and presented five compositions. After a short intermission the Senior Band presented the remainder of the program.

Mr. C. M. Edson, Senior High Principal, presented the annual music awards. Dianne Wilhail was recipient of the Chamber of Commerce John Phillips Sousa Award. Arnold Adams received the W. C. Reid Award.

Members of the Class of '62 will be officially graduated at the Commencement Service. Reverend Henry Ruark of the local First Methodist Church will give the commencement invocation. Dr. Stacy Weaver, President of the new North Carolina Methodist College, will deliver the commencement address. Diplomas will be presented to graduates by a member of the School Board. Band and choir members will provide music. A prelude of "Waltz and March" will be played by the band, as well as the processional and recessional of "Pomp and Circumstance". Choir members will sing the "Beatitudes" and "Alleluia". Reverend Ruark will pronounce the benediction.

Staff Members Elect Officers To Head School Publications

Staff officers for the two Senior High publications, THE BLACKBIRD and the "Hi-Noc-Ar" have recently been elected to serve on the staffs of 1962-1963.

"Hi-Noc-Ar" staff members conducted their election May 16. Becky Walker was elected to serve as editor. Ginna Aldridge will fulfill the duties of business manager, and Pete Raper will be in charge of circulation for the yearbook. Jack Cummings will manage staff advertising. Advisors for the "Hi-Noc-Ar" are Mrs. Nellie Winstead and Miss Alma Murchison.

As a result of the election of THE BLACKBIRD staff, there will be five seniors and one junior serving as officers next year. Staff

members elected Dwight Thomas, Jr. to head the officers as editor. J. C. Kermon will serve the staff in the capacity of assistant editor. As circulation manager, Mike Floyd will manage the circulation of the paper; and Dell Harris, Business Manager, will handle staff business affairs. Receiving training throughout a part of the past school year in the field of advertising was Nancy Helms. This training qualifies her to fill the position of advertising manager. Assistant advertising manager will be a junior who is selected to work on the staff. Prior to the closing of school, Mrs. Margaret Williams, Staff Advisor, will appoint page editors.



Publication staff officers for next year are, back row (l-r), Jack Cummings, Pete Raper, Mike Floyd, J. C. Kermon; middle row (l-r), Nancy Helms, Dell Harris; and front row (l-r), Ginna Aldridge, Dwight Thomas, and Becky Walker.

Photo by Killebrew