

BLACKBIRD GRAVEYARD HAS POTENTIAL TO BE KNOWN BY EVERY PERSON IN THE STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA

How Many More?

The Blackbird Graveyard is truly a symbol of victory. After each Rocky Mount win, in a tiny graveyard in front of the central kitchen, a burial ceremony is preformed for our conquered foes. The legend of Egor, "The Spirit of the Blackbirds, lives on, as his father solemnly places a tombstone in the ground, reads the victory poem, and pronounces Egor's prophecy for the next week's game. "Hail to the Varsity" is sung as a tribute to the mighty Blackbirds who have eliminated another foe. As the

Birds have buried their opponents on the football field, the student body puts the opposition to rest in the Blackbird Graveyard.

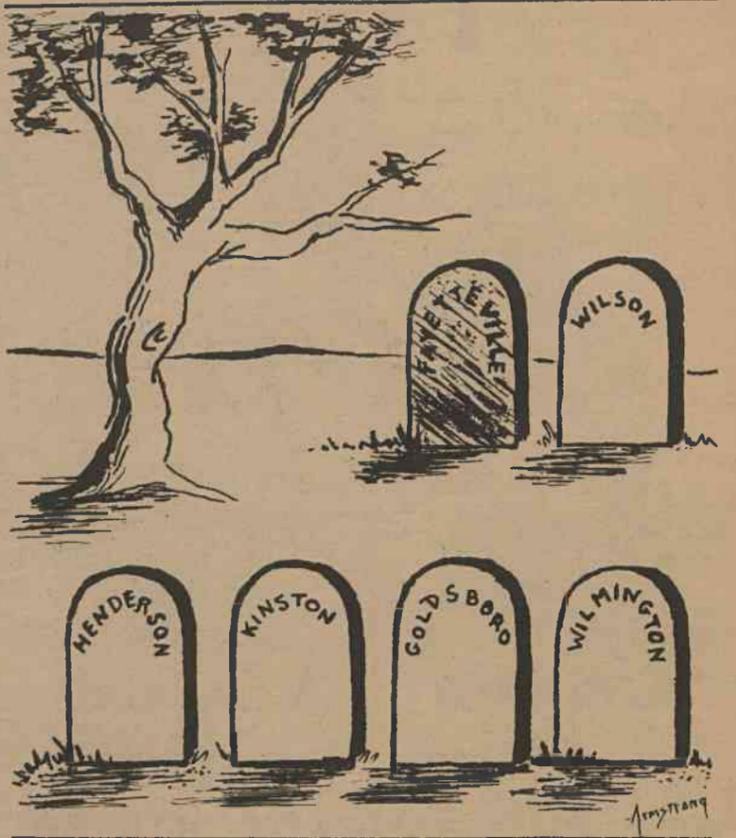
Why is it that the entire student body does not enthusiastically support this thrilling way of symbolizing our victories on the gridiron? Why hasn't our Blackbird Graveyard been recognized by the adults in Rocky Mount and by people all over North Carolina? What can we do to correct both of these situations?

The first problem we face is that of arousing student in-

terest in the graveyard and in the burial ceremonies. About one hundred truly school-spirited students do attend the rituals immediately following the ball games. Why doesn't every Senior High School student who goes to the games go to the burial afterwards? Is it because they don't know that the ceremonies are being performed? If so, more publicity should be given. Possibly there should be reminders on the bulletin as well as on the intercom.

We come to our second problem now. Why isn't the graveyard known all over town and the state? Some people may not even know where the graveyard is located. Should it possibly be moved to a different spot where it can be seen by everyone, yet still have the simplicity of the secluded location where it is now?

On the whole, however, the Blackbird Graveyard idea has much merit and surely rated commendation. It is a truly excellent idea, and certainly needs the support of the entire student body. We should let it be known to the town of Rocky Mount and the state of North Carolina that the Blackbirds intend on burying each of their opponents. The Blackbird Graveyard could indeed develop into a really great symbol of victory.



Interest In Government Is Needed

Our government greatly influences our daily lives, probably more so than any other American institution other than the Church. In everything we do, the national, state or local government is in some way connected with the situation. It is logical, therefore, that we should definitely understand the fundamentals and functions of government. This knowledge of government can be obtained either through our schools or through individual study and reading. After acquiring an understanding of our government, we should study the basic political theories that form its backbone. By gaining a knowledge of these fundamental theories we will recognize more easily the problems within our government and the most logical solutions to these problems.

As high school students of today, we should see that we must form some basic political ideals. By doing so, we will have laid out the ground to build these ideas on as we mature and further our education. This will surely make us better adults in the world of tomorrow. We will understand our government, promoting those candidates and ideas that we think best. We will be politically educated and informed, and after all, isn't knowledge actually the backbone of democracy.

Underclassmen Abuse Senior Rights

Seniors at Rocky Mount Senior High have several so-called "senior privileges." These rights have been granted by the faculty to signify that as seniors, they command respect from the underclassmen. Having waited 11 years to obtain the rank of seniors, the upperclassmen eagerly looked forward to exercising their privileges.

Since the beginning of school, however, the few privileges that RMSH seniors have been granted, have not been totally respected by the members of the Sophomore and Junior Classes. The underclassmen have had to be reprimanded seriously for their conduct in the auditorium. When seniors were dismissed, many sophomores and juniors also began leaving, thus violating the oldest of the senior privileges. In the lunchroom, seniors have had to actually struggle to gain their place at the head of the lunchline. Every student of Rocky Mount Senior High knows of the senior privileges and also that he should honor these rights, but more and more disrespect is being shown toward the Senior Class.

Each member of the Sophomore and Junior Classes should remember that one day, he will also become a senior and have the use of senior privileges. If the rights of the seniors are not soon acknowledged by each sophomore and junior, measures will be taken to insure the high honor and reputation of the Senior Class of Rocky Mount Senior High.



(Editor's note: Here are several slips, funny ads, bits of philosophy, and other little tidbits that were found printed in newspapers across the country.)

(1) From the Marysville-Yuba City, Calif., Appeal-Democrat: "Greater control of automobile traffic on the tops of levees in Sutter county will be made possible through a new county ordinance, now in the process of complication."

(2) From an ad in the Los Angeles Times: "Fly now, pay later! You can fly Budget Fare on the Golden Jet for only \$7.50 down, take up to 20 minutes to pay."

(3) "Ever notice? the man who never made an enemy never made anything". T. A. Lally, Bridgeport, Neb., News-Blade.

Purposes Are Needed To Establish Program For Student Organization

(Editor's note: These articles concerning the Student Organization will be continued throughout the year. Each will deal with some phase of the Student Organization that needs to be explained and emphasized more.)

There are several general purposes and aims defined and implied in the Constitution of the Student Organization of Rocky Mount Senior High School. Each student should be aware of these objectives for the Student Organization, for everything the Student Council does falls into some category that is outlined in its constitution.

The Preamble of our constitution states the general purposes for which the Student Organization is established. These are the basic goals for which it is constantly striving, as well as the limits for its functions.

The first stated objective of the student organization is to promote student participation in the government of our school. If the students are allowed to handle certain school affairs which are delegated to them from the administration, they can feel as though they are an actual part of their school. This student feeling is necessary in order to have student co-operation in school functions. Of course, this

Field Of Law Is Excellent Career For Students With Varied Interests

Law, like government, is concerned with society, with men and women in their daily lives, with the rights and conduct of citizens in relation to each other and in relation to society as a whole. Law affords, therefore, a fascinating penetration into the complexities of human behavior. The lawyer finds his work a vast variety of problems calling for his wisdom and advice, in his defense of life, liberty, and property.

The lawyer, if he is to properly fulfill his function, must be a man of high moral character a man of learning, with a well disciplined mind, capable of keen and positive insight into complex situations, and capable of clear, definite interpretation of the law in its application to particular cases. The lawyer must be able to express himself forcefully, intelligently, and in a manner that is appealing to his hearers. He must be a gentleman convinced of the vital importance of his life in society, enthusiastic and properly interested in

his work, and unwilling to sacrifice principles for expediency.

A student may prepare for law in many ways, as no single college curriculum can be designated as the exclusive preparation for law. Though the student thus may choose one of several curricula, whether technical or non-technical, in his preparation for law, he should be careful to obtain a broad background including courses in accounting, economics, English, history, mathematics, philosophy, and ethics, political science, and the natural sciences. He would greatly benefit from courses in modern language, sociology, and the study of literary classics. Everything that will give him a deeper understanding of his fellow man is of extreme importance to the sincere student of law.

The student who seeks to obtain the Bachelor of Law degree must pursue a three-year curriculum in day sessions of law school, and a four-year curriculum in evening sessions. He must be prepared to pass a state bar examination upon completion of his law school training.

Opportunities in the field of law are too numerous to be described in this article. The experienced lawyer has further possibilities in government, business, industry, and in non-governmental organizations, which need legal advice. The lawyer has the possibility of becoming a judge and partake of the satisfactions and compensations of that high office.

Law is not merely an occupation, it is a life, and the aspirant must, if he is to be a worthy lawyer, value his profession above its compensations.

Ben Blackbird

Sez



BACK THE

BLACKBIRDS

ALL THE WAY



THE BLACKBIRD

official publication of

Rocky Mount Senior High

Member of the Columbia Scholastic Press Association

Editor	Dwight Thomas
Assistant Editor	J. C. Kermon
Advertising Manager	Nancy Helms
Business Manager	Dell Harris
Circulation Manager	Mike Floyd
Art Editor	Betty Armstrong
1st Page	Marilyn Spencer
2nd Page	Greg Low
3rd Page	Jimmy Williams
4th Page	Carlton Edwards
5th Page	J. C. Kermon
6th Page	David Lamm
7th Page	Mike Floyd
8th Page	Dell Harris
Reporters	Barbara Swinson, Cheryl Andrews, Ellie Watson, Betty Armstrong, Laurie Collins, Nancy Peyton, Sherry Bulluck, Jeff Kincheloe, Linda Edwards, Ann Chandler, Jean Joyner, Jay Kridel, Bob Sides
Advisor	Mrs. Z. L. Williams
Principal	Mr. C. M. Edson