THE BLACKBIRD

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PRINCIPAL V. J. COLOMBO

New RM Principal Is Not New To His Job

Rocky Mount Senior High School's principal is new, but he does not find his work new to him. Vincent J. Colombo, originally of Brockton, Mass., has spent fifteen of his eighteen years in the educational profession as a principal.

He began his teaching career in Bladenboro High School where he taught English and social studies for three years. Since then he has spent his entire career in North Carolina.

Mr. Colombo has been principal at Williams Township High School and Robersonville High School. He comes to Rocky Mount from Plymouth High School where he served as principal for four years.

Mr. Colombo was educated at Atlantic Christian College where he received his AB degree. He later studied at Duke University and East Carolina where he received his Masters degree.

Mr. Colombo is replacing C. M. Edson, principal for 16 years, who received another city school post in July. Separate features on both Edson, Director of Secondary Education and Special Services, and Mr. Colombo, Principal of Rocky Mount Senior High, are on inside pages.

Mrs. Williams Returns As Blackbird Advisor

After two years of absence Mrs. Margaret Williams has returned to Rocky Mount Senior High and The Blackbird. Mrs. Williams left in 1963 before the arrival of her daughter, Margo Louise, now two years old.

Miss Diane Disney, advisor in her absence received a teaching post in New York this summer.

Mrs. Williams has taught English for twelve years and has been advisor to newspapers an annuals for eleven years. A native of Greenville, she has taught in Chatham County, Nashville, R. M. Wilson Jr. High and Senior High for four years.

She was educated at U. C. L. A., U. N. C. and E. C. C. where she received her Master's degree She has done summer work at Duke University, the University of London, England and four years ago was awarded a fellowship from the Wall Street Journal to study Journalism at the University of Minnesota.

Mrs. Williams resides at 400 Oakdale Rd. with her daughter and husband, Zeno Williams.

School Calendar

Oct. 22—Holiday for NCEA district meeting

Oct. 29—Holiday for NCTA district meeting

Nov. 25-28—Thanksgiving holidays

Dec. 18-29—Christmas holidays

April 8-12—Easter holidays

June 1—Last day of school

James Bond Featured In Kickoff

Editor's note: The Blackbird featured its annual kickoff program in assembly today with the fourth James Bond series, **Blackfeather**. Each year it is the custom of the Blackbird to present an assembly program to boost its sales. This is the story.

James Bond, renouned agent 007, began a desperate search today for the last Blackbird. SMERSH, an international crime syndicate, almost succeeded in a plot to destroy the international law agent.

Destroying all the Blackbirds they could find, the members of the organization hoped to keep Bond, portrayed by Vance Grady, from fighting crime again. Whit is the secret?

Bond is used to working all over the world with glamorous women and dangerous spies and needs a change of pace from his daring life, so he enjoys reading the Blackbird.

Smersh first discovered the mysterious secret when they broke into an apartment previously occupied by agent 007. Here they found boxes of the tabloid newspaper which had been read several times. They began an all out plot to destroy all the Blackbirds they could find. All SMERSH agents, portrayed by journalism students destroyed them by the hundred.

However, James Bond may survive! One Blackbird that has not been found by SMERSH agents is hidden somewhere in Rocky Mount Senior High School.

If a student finds the last Blackbird he may save James Bond, and win for himself a free subscription to the Blackbird

A clue will be given each day to the entire student body as to where the last Blackbird is. When it is found and returned to room 110 the student will receive a refund if he has already purchased a subscription or he will be given a free subscription.

Motorbike Fad Comes To RMSH

With the start of school, strange noises were heard from the school's parking lot as students arrived for the first day. These noises, sounds of a new national craze, were coming from the exhausts of many motor scooters and motorcycles now being driven.

The motorcycles craze, started anew by college and high school students all over the nation, is now sweeping from coast to coast. Young people, looking means of transportation for school, work, and fun, began to buy these smaller motorcycles when they realized the motorcycles were cheap to maintain and the cost of purchase was fairly inexpensive.

Two Popular Makes

Students of Senior High have shown preference to two makes of motorcycles, Honda and Harley-Davidson. The Honda, made in Japan, is rising in popularity because of its thrift and wide range of small styles. Ranging from the small 50cc motorcycle to the powerful 305 Super Hawk, Honda now has a motorcycle for most every need. Harley-Davidson, made both in Italy and the United States, does not have as many smaller sizes of motorcycles as Honda does, but has faster and bigger motorcycles on the market.

Principal Comments

Colombo recently stated that Senior High needs two parking lots, one for cars and another for motorcycles. Colombo said that parking both automobiles and motorcycles together is dangerous. He also surmised that a motorcycle could fall and damage itself and the automobile.

Steve Horne, a senior, who has owned two motorcycles, finds his motorcycle a means of both fun and transportation. His second Honda, a 160 cc model, is capable to top speeds of 80 m.p.h. Horne is now planning a trip to Tennessee on his Honda at the beginning of next summer.

David Williamson, editor of the Blackbird, stated, "I bought my Harley-Davidson primarily for an inexpensive way of trabel and to use on trips to Nashville for the Blacklird."

(Continued on page 8.

A TYPICAL SCENE—Motorcycles in the school parking lot. (Photo by Killebrew)

Old And New Teachers Arrive At RMSHS

Nine of the city's thirty-four new teachers are teaching at Rocky Mount Senior High. In addition to the list of new teachers at RMSH is Principal V. J. Colombo, of Plymouth.

New teachers are Mrs. Elizabeth Hardy of Benvenue, Mrs. Oneida Price of Henderson, Mrs. Phyllis Marcom of Bunn, Mr. Walt Wiggins fo Newton-Conover High School, Mr. Cecil Long, a former probation officer in Dunn, and Mr. J. D. Langley, a used car dealer.

Teachers returning this year who have taught here before are Mrs. Nellie Winstead, who taught at Nashville, and Mrs. Betty Rogers and Mrs. Margaret Williams who were out children.

Two teachers who taught here last year, Miss Judy Sorrell and Miss Huldah Ferguson, were married this summer and will not teach this year.

Other teachers who are not here this year are Miss Dianne Disney, now in New York, Mr. B. T. Norris, who is working in an industrial chemical plant in South Carolina, Mr. Holton Harrison, now principal at R. M. Wilson Jr. High, Mr. James Cannon, director of Admissions at a South Carolina junior college and Dr. Eduardo Ochoa, who has moved to Miami to be with his family.

IN THE BLACKBIRD

Emi Manabe, AFS foreign exchange student, arrived here August 1. For this and other foreign exchange news see page three.

The Blackbird features new Principal Colombo and his family on page five of this issue.

A review of the Blackbird football game and news concerning junior varsity football may be found in the sports section, pages six and seven.

Blackbird Sales Begin Monday

Subscription sales for the Blackbird will begin Monday in homeroom period. The Blackbird staff will have a member in every room every morning to sell subscriptions in the two week campaign.

The Blackbird will sell for $1.25 for the entire year. Mailing subscriptions are being sold for $2. Eleven issues will be published.

Students are reminded to bring their money to school Monday. The Blackbird is a self-supporting student paper financed only by advertising and subscriptions. Without both it cannot survive as a student paper.

Promissory notes will be sold for those who forget to bring money or who like to pay-as-they-go. However, all promissory note subscribers are reminded that all money must be paid by April 1.

A free subscription will be given to the homeroom that has all students subscribing or to the homeroom that after two weeks has the largest number to subscribe according to the percentage of members.