

# THE BLACKBIRD

Published by the Journalism Class of Rocky Mount Senior High School

VOL. XXXVII—No. 3

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.

FRIDAY, NOVEMBER 3, 1967



—PHOTO BY KILLEBREW

**TAPPED INTO NATIONAL HONOR SOCIETY** Shown from left are (Front Row) Fran Warren, Marsh Pully, Betsy Elmore, Kitty Keel, Linda Ray; (Second Row) Doug Bradham, Margaret Winstead, Kacky Harrison, Sherry

Pope, Carolyn White; (Third Row) Charles Houseworth, Terry Thompson, Ronnie Eggers, Stephen Battle, Stephen Draper. Absent from picture is Wynne Gatsis.

## Wita A. Bond National Honor Society Taps Sixteen Seniors In Assembly October 27

Friday, during activity period sixteen seniors were tapped into the Wita A. Bond Chapter of the National Honor Society.

Mary Jo Sheridan, president of the Society, presided over the assembly. Homer Vernon gave the devotion. Hatcher Kincheloe talked about the requirements for admission to the National Honor Society.

### Sixteen Seniors

The eighteen old members then went out into the body of the auditorium and tapped the new members. Those tapped

were Steven Battle, son of Mr. and Mrs. Turner W. Battle; Doug Bradham, son of Mr. and Mrs. Ingram D. Bradham; Steven Draper, son of Mr. and Mrs. E.V.S. Draper; Ronnie Eggers, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Eggers; Betsy Elmore, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. A. R. Elmore; Wynne Gatsis, daughter of Lt. Col. and Mrs. Andrew J. Gatsis; Kacky Harrison, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. W. B. Harrison; Charles Houseworth, son of Mr. and Mrs. C. W. Houseworth;

Kitty Keel, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Page Keel; Sherry Pope, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. J. T. Pope, Jr.; Marsh Pully, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Young A. Pully; Linda Ray, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William E. Ray; Terry Thompson, son of Mr. and Mrs. H. A. Thompson; Fran Warren, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Warren; Carolyn White, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. William J. White; and Margaret Winstead, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jake Winstead.

Charlotte Looney was overall chairman of the tapping. In charge of the stage was Greyson Shuff and Homer Vernon; flowers, Faye Casey; robes, Hatcher Kincheloe; certificates, Lee Simrell; ribbons, Charlotte Looney; publicity, Lynne Pulen; pianist was Mary Elizabeth Bradley, and program, Mary Jo Sheridan.

The requirements for admission to the National Honor Society are that a student should maintain a 90.5 average since the ninth grade and that he be evaluated and rated by the faculty according to service, leadership, character, and growth.

The NCSCC was organized in the school year 1927-28, and was probably the first organization of its kind in the nation. It is sponsored by the Secondary Principals' Association, of which Principal V. J. Colombo is president.

The purpose of the NCSCC is to give expression to the thoughts and problems of school life and to provide training for students in democratic living. It provides the student's only real opportunity for training through participation and practice.

Since 1936, Rocky Mount has been represented at every annual session of the NCSCC. RMSH has taken an active part in the development of the NCSCC since its inauguration in 1927. Rocky Mount entertained the Congress for its 16th annual session in November, 1942 and for its 29th annual meeting in October, 1955. Jean Griffin, a Rocky Mount student, served as President of the State Congress for the year 1943-44. Miss Kitchin served a 3½ year term as Executive Secretary of the Congress from 1952-1955.

## R.M.S.H. Hosts N.C.E.A. For Annual Convention

About 2,000 North Carolina teachers attended the 45th Annual Convention of the North Carolina Education Association, Friday, October 20, at Rocky Mount Senior High School. The teachers came from the Northeastern District encompassing 18 counties in this area.

A general session of the teachers began at 10 a. m. in the Senior High Auditorium. President R. Eugene Rogers welcomed the group and Dr. W. O. Fields gave the invocation. Dr. Charles F. Carroll, state superintendent of public instruction, talked to the delegates about matters concerning the teaching profession. Dr. A. C. Dawson, NCEA executive secretary, spoke to the teachers on major problems facing the teachers of this state. Some of the problems discussed were those concerning a pay raise, merger with North Carolina Teachers Association, and teacher sanctions.

President Rogers adjourned the general session. Following the general session the seven

divisions and 21 departments met separately to elect officers for the year and to talk about present problems. Several Rocky Mount Senior High teachers were elected as officers. These were John Behr, secretary of the Art Department; Mrs. Suzanne Sifford, president of the Modern Foreign Language Department; and Mrs. Ruth P. Bell, president of the Social Studies Department.

## NMSC Reports 1968 Test Date

Rocky Mount Senior High School students who expect to complete their secondary school requirements and to enter college in 1969 can register now to participate in the 1968-69 National Merit Scholarship Program, Principal V. J. Colombo announced recently.

The first step for all students who wish to enter the nationwide competition is to take the National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (NMSQT). The test will be given in the school at 9:00 a. m., Saturday, February 24, 1968.

Participating students pay a \$1.25 fee. If an unusually promising student is unable to pay the \$1.25 test fee, it will be paid by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) at the request of his school.

When his NMSQT scores are reported, each participating student will receive a handbook to help him evaluate his scores.

## Education Week

National Education Week is observed each year in November. The purpose is to instill in America the idea that education is the most important commodity educators have to sell.

This week is set aside also to honor educators throughout the country who are giving their very best in trying to help educate the youth of America.

## R.M.S.H. Delegates Travel To Kannapolis SO Congress

Sunday, November 12, the North Carolina Student Council Congress will convene at A. L. Brown High School in Kannapolis, N. C., for its three-day session.

Present at the statewide meeting will be delegates from all North Carolina member schools, including 5 from RMSH: Benjie Smith — S. O.

President, Mike Dixon — House and Grounds Committee Chairman, Ken Thompson — S. O. Secretary, Miss Kate Parks Kitchin — our student advisor, and Mario Obreque — our AFS student. Benjie, Mike, and Ken were chosen to represent RMSH by the members of the Student Organization at the last S. O. meeting.

## Sr. High Plans Homecoming 67

RMSH Homecoming will take place Friday, November 10, as the Blackbirds take on the Durham Bulldogs.

On Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday of Homecoming Week, students will exhibit school spirit in several different ways. Wearing ties to stand for the slogan "Tie Up the Bulldogs," wearing hats to express "Top the Bulldogs," painting black eyes to signify "Beat Up the Bulldogs," and sporting boots to show "Stomp the Bulldogs." are some of the ingenious ways decided upon by the School Spirit Committee.

The band is in charge of the Homecoming Queen festivities as part of its participation in the Homecoming Program. While being crowned by Sheila Stone, the head majorette, the Queen will receive one dozen roses.

As is customary, the RMSH Band will lead the Homecoming Parade.

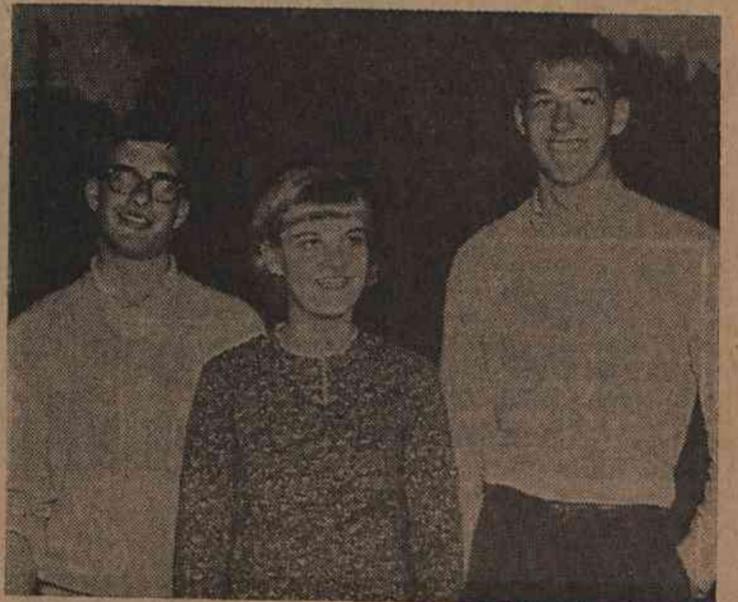
## Youth Council Elects New Officers

The Rocky Mount Youth Council met on October 24, to elect officers for this school year. At the meeting, now members were welcomed into the council and told of the history and functions of the Youth Council.

Harry J. Harles was chosen by the 35 members present to be the new president. Other officers elected were Greg Copley, vice-president; Ruth Edwards, secretary; and Judy Hunter, treasurer.

Presiding at the meeting was Bob Chapman, acting president. Bob announced that the treasury had more than doubled since the beginning of the summer. He said that all of the dances had been successful, and he told of plans for future dances.

Several members were recognized for their volunteer during the summer with a class of retarded children.



**YOUTH COUNCIL OFFICERS** for 1967-68 are (left to right): Harry J. Harles, president; Judy Hunter, treasurer; and Greg Copley, vice-president. Absent is Ruth Edwards, secretary.