

'71-End Of An Era

As the mighty class of seventy-one leaves RMSH, there comes to our school the end of an era. The last remnants of the old Rocky Mount Senior High and the Booker T. Washington High School will be finally removed from our school system.

After a year of peace and understanding between the two races led by the class of '71, the community can now see that black and white youth can work together to solve the problems that have confronted our segregated society in the past.

So after three long years of change and confusion, a new day will begin at RMSH. With this year's junior and sophomore classes in control next year, a truly extra-super school will develop. But, it must not be forgotten that the great class of 1971 was a very influential spearhead--setting an example by showing that the best way things can be worked out and unified is peacefully.

Summer--A Bummer!

The time is approaching when students everywhere will be putting down their books and heading on down to the beach, beginning summer jobs and generally soaking up the summer sun.

This means that we will be separated from many of our friends.

For many years, the white folk and the black folk were entirely segregated. But, in the last couple of years, the Rocky Mount Senior High School has been integrated and the students have crystalized relations among themselves. Now, the summer vacation moves in and the students separate and don't see each other for three months, right? Wrong! During the summer, there will be many opportunities for blacks and whites to get together. There will be dances, sporting events, swimming pools, and rock quarries; all of which bar no one. These are excellent times for all people to get together for a good time. Come to think of it, everyday is a good day to have a friend. R.W.N.

To The Loyal Squads

Students! Who has been supporting you, Gryphons, for nine months? The "Jocks" of course. That is to say those few daring souls that have mastered the technique, sweated out practice, and represented our school all over the state in vigorous competition in sports have been major upholders of the fine RMSH tradition that began only a year ago.

Rarely do our own jocks receive the recognition for their unending supply of spirit. This year, our football team just barely missed the championship, our basketball team did a really great job, wrestling had its best season yet, and all of our Spring sports have been doing better than best. But, now the year is over. We have to look to next year. With the strong and powerful underclassmen coming into our varsity sports, a successful year is coming in like a tidal wave.

Remember to watch RMSH sports next year for excitement and hopefully there will greater support by the fans to make the great even greater.

Premarital What?

In these days when the older generation is becoming more and more worried about the promiscuity of the younger generation, an age-old moral offense has been slowly creeping back into the halls of RMSH. The nerve of some people to actually commit premarital heterosexual interdigitation! How terrible! You can see it in the halls, in the streets, almost anywhere you go, people are doing it. Something must be done about it. We can't allow such unspeakable actions to take place in a society such as ours. Although we have laws against it, including school policies, people still cannot control themselves when approached by a member of the opposite sex--the result, more premarital heterosexual interdigitation. If our society continues to allow such crimes to occur in broad daylight, sooner or later it may be hard for people to hold hands in public.

71
FREEDOM
IS FUN
 COMPLIMENTS OF THE GRYPHON - SR STAFF
ASK A SENIOR AFTER JUNE 5TH

Around The Campus by Tim Brinn

This has been a long year. And nobody on the GRYPHON staff will disagree with me on that point. Now, with just two weeks to go until graduation for the seniors and the end of another year for the juniors and the sophomores, it's time to take a good look at the last nine months and see just what we did with them.

The administration can look back with a good deal of pride on another excellent year for RMSH. The lack of any significant crisis this entire year can certainly be attributed to their careful planning and hard work to make things go right.

The coaches can also puff out their manly chests just a little bit as they think about the athletic accomplishments of their squads this year. Starting in early September with the outstanding football team, these talented men soon produced great basketball, wrestling, baseball, tennis, and track outfits. Without the coaches to help build student morale through winning each game, this would have been a bleak year.

Of course, the people who deserve a great deal of praise are you, the student body. Think a second. Who was it who filled six and seven buses each week to see the Gryphs football squad defeat their out-of-town opponents? Who filled

the gym every Friday night for almost two months to see the basketball squad play, whether they won or lost? Why is it that the wrestling team, even with a 1-8 record, has the best attendance of all the wrestling teams in the 4-A conference? Somebody was there doing an awful lot of work, cheering and screaming, missing homework, staying up late, and (perish the thought!) spending a lot of money to help back our teams. That somebody was the student body, and speaking for the athletic teams, I will say thank-you.

Before I turn over the Editor's typewriter to newly-elected Editor Richard Newman, I must say thank you to one of the most unusual groups of people I have ever met--the 1970-1971 GRYPHON staff. Without these nineteen talented individuals this year would have never been this year. They are responsible, er, that is, they can take the credit for producing the paper this year. I must applaud them for keeping impossible hours, meeting impossible deadlines, pleasing impossible - to - please people, and putting up with an impossible editor. Despite all of these difficulties eleven issues of the GRYPHON still were released on the student body, so we felt useful. So did I.

THE GRYPHON

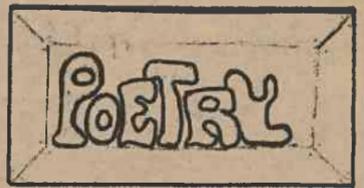
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Tomorrow and Today
Chewing on your thumbs
when trouble comes
never helps to eat it away.
You've got to share
the bad times with someone
tomorrow and today.

Looking out to sea
shouldn't just be
another debt to loneliness you
pay:
You ought to try
to open up with someone
tomorrow and today.

What troubles you, troubles me.
Didn't you know that
silence can be loud
even in a crowd
Loud enough to drive love away.
You ought to come out
and play with someone
tomorrow and today.

I only mention that as some-
one
who intends to be here to stay
tomorrow and today
tomorrow and today
tomorrow and tomorrow and
today.
--Rod McKuen

(part one of "hit 'em in the head with love")

Some towns have so many is-
lands
you need a boat to go from
block to block
and since the sand
keeps on getting deeper
I'm building my home upon a
rock.

And the next time somebody
comes along
and knocks me down
I'm gonna get up
and hit 'em in the head with
love.
--Rod McKuen

Get Well Soon!

In case you haven't noticed recently, one very important member of our administration has been absent for several days. Mr. Armstrong has been temporarily incapacitated due to illness. Having those buses come in late every morning must finally have gotten to him.

We hope every student will think of Mr. Armstrong during his illness and hope that some students will go by and see him in the hospital if possible.

Get well soon, Mr. Armstrong!

☆ Hapie ☆
 Gwadewaishun

WHAT HAVE WE LEARNED?