



PICTURED ABOVE are RMSH's three new principals. From left to right: Principal Elton L. Newbern, Jr., Assistant Principal Robert A. Miller, and Associate Principal Roscoe A. Batts, Jr.

Principals Selected For RMSH With Anticipation Of New Year

RMSH opened the new school year August 31 with three new principals, Mr. Elton L. Newbern, Jr., Mr. Roscoe A. Batts Jr., and Mr. Robert A. Miller.

The three highest positions of RMSH were filled as the result of the resignations of former principal V. J. Colombo and former assistant principal John Langley, along with the retirement of former associate principal R. D. Armstrong. Mr. Colombo accepted the post as superintendent of Cleveland Co-

nty Schools, while Mr. Langley became business manager for the Rocky Mount School System.

Elton L. Newbern, Jr., Principal Newbern, previously the principal of Bertie Senior High School, was nominated for the position here by Dr. Ben F. Currin, superintendent of city schools.

Dr. Currin commented that, at the age of 30, Mr. Newbern is experienced in his field and has rapport with the students, having been a principal for five years.

Mr. Newbern obtained his Bachelor of Science degree in Math and Physics at ECU, and continued there, getting his Master's Degree in Public School Administration.

A native of Bertie County, Mr. Newbern first taught at the high school there, and eventually became assistant principal and later principal.

Mr. Newbern and his wife, Anne Phelps Newbern, are Baptists. They have two children, Lee, three years old, and Nancy, 17 months.

Roscoe A. Batts

Principal Batts, the new associate principal of RMSH, was principal of J. W. Parker Junior High School for ten years.

Mr. Batts has been with the Rocky Mount School System since he was graduated from college. He has been a teacher-coach at O. R. Pope School the principal of Lincoln School from 1949 to 1956, and until recently the principal of Parker Junior High.

Mr. Batts attended Sayettesville State College, where he obtained his B. S. degree in 1948. In 1951 he received his Master's Degree from Columbia University.

Prior to attending college, Mr. Batts served in the army during World War II.

Mr. Batts, who is on the State Board of Athletic Officials, is also a Sunday School teacher at the Episcopal Church of the Epiphany.

Robert A. Miller

Principal Miller, originally from Ahsokie, has been teach-

ing at Enfield High School for the past two years.

When asked why he accepted the post here at RMSH as assistant principal, Mr. Miller commented that he liked working with students and that in his new capacity he has a better opportunity to do so than he previously did in a classroom.

Mr. Miller attended UNC at Chapel Hill, where he was graduated in 1969. Presently he is in graduate school at ECU, where he is majoring in school administration.

Mr. Miller, who is unmarried, is a member of the First Baptist Church in Ahsokie. In his spare time he enjoys playing golf.

During Summer Vacation

Seniors Attend Governors School

Bob Dozier and Mary Jo Odom, both seniors at RMSH, attended Governor's School this summer for seven weeks, from June 20 to August 2.

Governor's School, under the direction of Professor James H.

Bray in Winston-Salem, selects approximately 400 students from North Carolina schools to attend Salem College each summer. Its purpose is to educate these students in the twentieth century logical ways of think-

ing. The course attempts to help these students deal with twentieth century problems, and to understand new philosophies.

Bob, who studied English while at Governor's School, attended three courses a day; Black literature, Contemporary poetry, and Contemporary literature. Mary Jo, who studied music while there, rehearsed three hours a day, and played in the orchestra. Mary Jo stated that the course stressed contemporary music, with lectures from college music professors.

Both students participated in extra-curricular activities as well as academic ones. The school offered activities each week, including sports, newspaper and yearbook publications, music therapy, and weekly dances.

Bob and Mary Jo felt that the overall program was excellent, but that it did have some drawbacks. Mary Jo felt that in stressing twentieth century ideas, the program tended to question pre-twentieth century philosophies which she thought were relevant today.

RMSH Begins New Year With Minimum Changes

RMSH, with new principal Elton L. Newbern, Jr., and associate principal Roscoe A. Batts, Jr., opened Tuesday August 31, to approximately 1521 students for the school year 1971-72.

All students reported to the gymnasium, where Richard Bulluck, President of the Student Representative Assembly, called the assembly to order. After welcoming the students to RMSH, Richard introduced the new principals.

Mr. Newbern, along with Mr. Batts, welcomed the students to RMSH. Both men expressed their hopes that the upcoming year would be a successful one - a year of learning - for both the students and the faculty.

After the principals mentioned a few of the new regulations to be put into effect, the eleventh and twelfth graders reported to their homerooms. The sophomores remained to receive further instructions.

Although there have not been a great number of new rules and regulations a few old rules have been adjusted for the new school year.

Admit slips are no longer issued, instead, all tardies and absences are to report to Mr. Harris in the Student Commons until 8:40, after which they are to report to the Principals' office. Unexcused absences will cost a student a 3 point deduction off of his six-weeks grade in each subject.

Detention slips are to be issued at a minimum this year. Gum chewing will no longer cost a detention slip; instead, this is to be left to the teacher. Lunch permits must be obtained

through the office with the consent of the parents.

Activity period has been moved from the middle of the day to the last part of the school day.

The new Assistant Principal, Robert A. Miller, who took the place of John Langley, began his new position on Wednesday, September 1.

Mars Hill Course Explains Methods To SRA Officers

Richard Bulluck, Bruce Flye, Lynn Carter, Marty Riddick and Steve Braswell, all from Rocky Mount, attended the Mars Hill Convention at Mars Hill College from July 18 to July 23.

The convention, located at Mars Hill, about 25 miles from Asheville, was mainly designed to teach the students involved the responsibilities and methods of student government.

Of the 267 students who attended the conference, some were representatives of their schools, while others were officers from their schools.

Under the direction of Miss Francis Bounds, a junior staff of twelve college student members executed the activities involved.

Although many of the students thought that the course would be strictly form, it involved a more creative method of teaching. The students were arranged in group councils, which simulated high school conditions in order to teach the student government conditions of working.



BOB DOZIER and Mary Jo Odom, the RMSH Governor's School students for last summer, examine a North Carolina publication in the school library.

Gryphon Members Sell Subscriptions

The 1971 Gryphon subscription campaign, which officially began last Monday at RMSH, will continue until Monday, September 27.

The Gryphon offers reporting on relevant school news. It features editorials concerning school information, along with timely sports commentaries and several pages of features.

However, students, look out! Expect one of the following sure-fire methods of selling subscriptions by the Gryphon staff:

1. Corner every relative from fat ole' Aunt Wilma to rich but stupid Cousin Fred.
2. Threaten all your little sister's friends.
3. Go door to door without a coat and shiver (teeth chattering is optional.)
4. Blackmail the neighbors.
5. Palm them off on everybody at work.
6. Sell them at a dance and tell everybody they're raffle tickets.
7. Have your cousin, sister, friend, or aunt, (the "flirt") sell them to all her boyfriends.
8. Kidnap somebody and sell subscriptions as ransom.
9. Mortgage your house and use the money for subscriptions.
10. Sell them to all the doctors and nurses in the hospital after your dad finds out your mortgaged the house.

- Pirate Puns
Perryville, Mo.