

The Option Of Senior Exams: Faculty And Students Comment

One of the controversial things that the new administration has brought to Rocky Mount is the policy of having senior year exams optional. Many seniors and teachers are in favor of not taking exams, but to many, it is surprising to find some teachers and students in favor of mandatory senior exams. Here are the comments of some faculty members and students on this issue.

Mrs. Sharpe: "If exams are a measure of student achievement and are necessary for determining the degree of excellence in a subject, all students should be required to take exams. If exams are to become a reward and punishment tool all excellent students should be exempt."

Mrs. Hart Leaves For J. W. Parker

Mrs. Alice Hart, a secretary at RMSH left her position here for a new job at J. W. Parker Jr. High at the end of first semester.

Mrs. Hart, a Rocky Mount native, has one son, Kelvin who attends Baskerville elementary school. She was employed at Parker, where she worked for about ten years. She came to RMSH at the beginning of the 71-72 school year. When asked to comment on her job at RMSH, she replied, "It was very interesting and most enjoyable."

The Gryphon would like to thank Mrs. Hart, on behalf of all RMSH students, for her wonderful contribution to our school.

Mr. W. C. Hendrix: "I am in favor of keeping exams optional on the Senior Class level. I feel that it gives the senior some motivation to keep his six weeks average up in order to exercise his senior option. Remember that only seniors who are passing a course may decline to take the exam. As for lowering the standards, I feel that if a senior must be threatened by exams to make him learn, then the exam is going to be of little value."

William Farmer: "A student who has an excellent (A) or above average (B) should be exempted from exams the last semester of the school year. This is because the exam gives one good practice who plan to go to college. These students must take examinations in college."

Leon Robbins: "Exams are the terror of student life. For someone to be exempted from an exam simply because he is a senior is not fair to those sophomores and juniors who have to take exams."

Mary Whitaker: "I might complain about having tests, but I believe that unless we are required to take tests (exams), then many of us wouldn't study and try to learn as much as we can. As an experiment, I would have to see the time come when they won't be any tests given at all. If a test is given, let the students ask for and let the grading be primarily for their own benefit."

Bruce Flye: "This is a practice which has placed more responsibility on the individual student. He now has to learn for his own benefit, because

their is no semester exam to force him to retain the material. It's all up to him. No one will be waiting at the end of a semester to see what he's learned. But then again, he'll really find out if he has learned anything if he goes to a highly scholastic school."

Ray Brinn: "To me, the value of not having senior exams is questionable. I would rather take a 'wait and see' attitude."

So one can now formulate his own opinions on Seniors' option of taking exams.

George Jones To Play In East-West All Star

Coach Wiggins has informed George Jones that he has been invited to play in the 1972 All-Star Games.

George has stated that he is honored to have been asked to take part in the North Carolina All-Star East-West and will be happy to play in the All-Star Game.

The following are rules passed by the Board of Directors of the North Carolina Coaches Association for players participation in the North Carolina All-Star Games: all players must be well-groomed with ta-

pered haircuts, no mustaches, no goatees, and clean shaven everyday.



George Jones selected as East-West all star player.

Position Filled

(Continued from Page 1)

sional education needed for their positions and relate very well with others.

The physical environment, both interior and exterior, is excellent. The classrooms present a cheerful appearance and the bulletin boards are uniformly well done. The grounds are clean and have been well cared for.

Instructional Program

The curriculum at Senior High provides a variety of program activities in all subjects.

There is a great deal of acquainting students with current developments in science through the use of supplementary materials, including newspapers, magazines, and technical papers.

I found considerable evidence of teacher-student dialogue and little tendency toward the pedagogical monologue in the social studies.

A well-organized program of home economics is in operation at Senior High. The program is planned to provide opportunities for students to gain some instruction which helps them in meeting some of the

day-by-day needs of family members in the area of food and nutrition, clothing, housing, family relations, and the like.

I found the student-teacher relationship in the Vocational Educational program good. This program, which is constantly being expanded, has the varied aspects needed at the Senior High level.

Library Facilities

The library climate is good at Senior High. A cooperative selection of all materials provides for teacher and student participation to assure the meeting of special needs and for high standards in the quality of materials acquired. A well-organized collection is easily accessible and offers variety in the content, media and reading levels of instructional materials."

Overall, Mr. Batts was highly complimentary of RMSH, and of the student body. We are all saddened with his leaving us, but let us hope that others who are employed in our school are as successful, and when they depart that they may leave with a good impression of life at Rocky Mount Senior High.

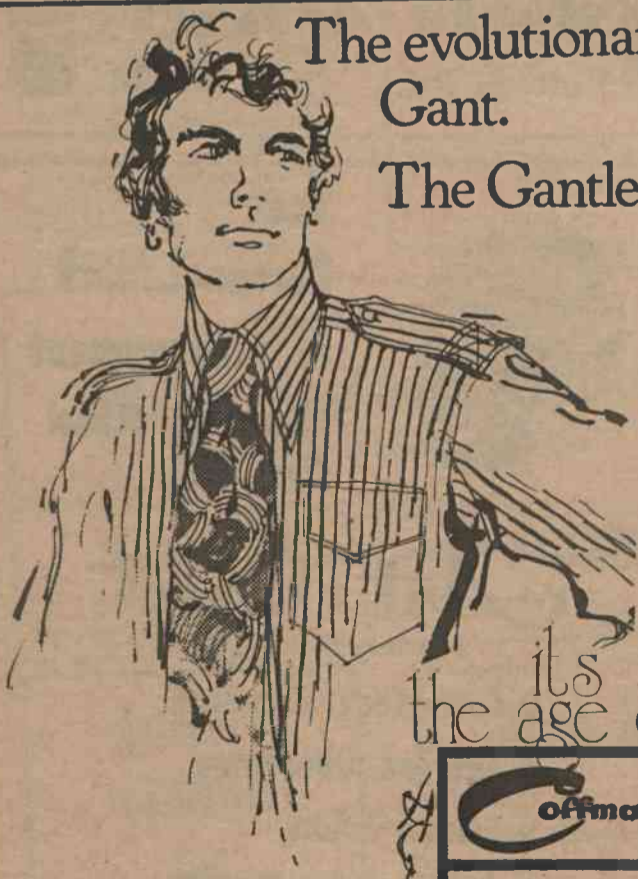
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