



HAPPY EASTER!!

THE GRYPHON

Published by the Journalism Class of Rocky Mount Senior High School



HAPPY EASTER!!

VOLUME IV, No. 8

ROCKY MOUNT, N. C.

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 18, 1973



Pictured above is Leon Robbins, starting the March of Dimes sponsored Walkathon.

Walkathon Ruled As Big Success

Over two hundred students the majority from the student body of Rocky Mount Senior High received over \$4,000 in pledges in the city's first "Walkathon" sponsored by the Sigma Omega Fraternity of North Carolina Wesleyan College April 8.

Threatening skies and chilling temperatures did not discourage the enthusiastic gathering from completing the twenty mile trek through the local area in support of the March of Dimes walk against birth defects.

The route was interrupted by rest stops every five miles at the City Lake, Benvenue School, D. S. Johnson School and finally the return to the starting point, Rocky Mount Senior High.

Each participant solicited pledges at a minimum of ten cents per mile. Upon completion of the walk, certificates of ordination into the "Order of the Battered Boot" were issued, saluting the finishers for their "heroic support of the continuous fight against birth defects, who most generously lend the March of Dimes their feet when we needed a hand."

Prizes will be awarded to the high solicitors following the turning in of collected money and checks to Planters National Bank.

The marchers included many high school students, mixed in with some parents, and younger children, not to mention one dog who was picked up following 13 miles by the "poop-out-pick-up" truck.

The first finisher in the event was Leon Robbins, RMSH cross country, who finished the course in 2L34.

Concert To Be Given By RMSH Chorus

The Modernaires and Mixed Chorus are giving a concert tonight, April 18, at 8:00 p.m. in RMSH auditorium. Admission is \$1.50 per person.

Mrs. Antoinette Battle, head of the music department, said that plans began for the concert before Christmas. The concert will consist of excerpts from several compositions by Rogers and Hammerstein. The music will be taken from "South Pacific," "The Sound of Music," "Oklahoma," "Carousel," and "Showboat."

Band Begins Concert Season

By Debra Stancell

The Inaugural Parade in Raleigh for Governor Jim Holsinger brought to an official end the marching season for the Rocky Mount Senior High Band. The termination of after-school practices for Friday night half-time shows and a halt to street marching signified the beginning of concert season for one hundred thirty-one band students.

During concert season, the instrumental department is divided into three classes: the Concert Band, directed by Charles Woods; the Wind Ensemble, directed by John Sykes; and the Dance Band, which begins to meet each day under the direction of Mr. Sykes.

The Concert Band and the Wind Ensemble placed special emphasis for the past four months on preparation for the Eastern North Carolina Band Contest-Festival held here Friday, April 13.

Each band played a warm-up march and two concert selections before a panel of four judges. The judges were Herbert L. Carter from ECU; Donald Adcock from NCSU; Richard Dill from Chesapeake High School in Chesapeake, Virginia; and Emory Fears from Manor High School in Portsmouth, Virginia.

Preparations are now underway for the annual spring concert which will be held May 17 in the RMSH auditorium. The program will begin at 8:15. Admission will be \$1.00 for adults and \$.50 for students;

tickets may be purchased from any band student. Following the program of various styles of music, band awards will be presented by Mr. Newbern, Mr. Sykes, and Mr. Woods.

As a part of the instrumental music program, the Wind Ensemble and the Concert Band will perform at the grammar schools within the city. During the performance, individual

(Continued on Page 4)

Four RMSH Juniors Announced As Governors' School Candidates

Matthew Armstrong, Wadye Morton, Melanie Goff and Mary Thane Barnes were recently announced as 1973 candidates for Governors' School.

Matthew Armstrong is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Matthew Armstrong of 1108 Ryals Street. He will study in the field of social science at the Governors' School.

Wadye Morton is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Felix Morton of 920 Shearin Street. She will study in the field of natural science at the Governors' School.

Melanie Goff is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. David C. Goff of 817 Burton Street. She will study French at the Governors' School.

Mary Thane Barnes is the daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Barnes, Jr., of 712 Marigold Street. She will also study French at the Governors' School.

The Governors' School is a seven week residential program of the Salem College campus in Winston Salem. It is a program for "intellectually gifted North Carolina high school student."

The Governors' School was begun in 1963 and was financed by a grant from the Carnegie Corporation in New York and individual contributions. In 1965, the North Carolina General Assembly voted an appropriation to finance the school.

Governors' School has a

four-fold purpose. First, it provides a variety of distinctive educational experiences. Second, it provides experimental and model practices which may be used in local schools. Third, it provides an appropriate setting and equipment for intensive and professional training. Fourth, it conducts studies of the education and development of exceptional youth.

Candidates for the Governors' School are selected from

rising junior and senior students on the basis of high intelligence and academic ability or a high degree of talent in one of the arts.

Candidates spend about two thirds of their class time studying in their chosen fields. About one sixth of the candidate's time is spent in the development of general concepts. The remaining time is spent in personal and social development.

Gryphon Awarded First Place Rating

The Gryphon was awarded a first place certificate for high school newspapers by the Columbia Scholastic Press Association on March 16, 1973 in the forty-ninth annual contest.

Three 1972 fall issues were sent to Columbia University in New York. They were compared with papers of other schools throughout the United States which were in the same classification as The Gryphon. Newspapers are classified by the number of students in the school, by the way in which the paper is printed, and by the presence of absence of sports and advertising.

The Board of Judges evaluates the relative standing of the newspaper and give constructive criticism. The content, style, form and organization are rated with respect to a typical school newspaper.

Among the comments and suggestions of the Board of Judges was "The Gryphon has a nice professional appearance that should enhance its popularity with its readers."

Annual Jr.-Sr. To Be Biggest Happening Yet

The annual Junior-Senior prom, once again brought about through the efforts of the Junior class of RMSH, will be held at Tarrytown Mall, May 11 from 9 p. m. until 1 a. m.

Aided by faculty advisors Mr. Hicks and Mrs. Sampson, five committees were set up. These were the Decorations Committee, the Clean-up Committee, the Band Committee, the Refreshments Committee, and the Program Committee, each of which was aided by a faculty advisor.

BAND

The Band Committee, through Hit Attractions, Inc. of Charlotte, was able to look at several bands before deciding on a group known as "Flic and his Orchestra." The nine-man group which plays all types of music---rock, soul, hard rock, by individuals and groups such as Isaac Hayes, The Allman Brothers, Chicago, Al Green, and Santana. It's a group that's bound to please everyone.

Once again the theme and decoration scheme of the prom will remain secret until the night of the prom. Also, as in the last few years, there will be no figure, but Program Committee chairman Steve Braswell states that a different type of program honoring the entire class of 1973 has been planned.



Pictured above is Mary Thane Barnes, Matthew Armstrong, and Wadye Morton, the 1973 Governor's School candidates.