

## EDITORIALS

### Hats Off To The Sophomores

"Hey, I saw a sophomore ride his tricycle into the new fence."

"Big Deal."

"Yeah, and I heard another sophomore ask the lunch-room lady for a funnel to pour his milk into this bottle."

"Whoopee."

"Hey, what's with you? You used to be the best one at sophomore jokes!"

"Yeah, well, obviously you didn't go to the sophomore assembly."

"Nah, but so what? I didn't want to see a bunch of babies sing 'Mary Had A Little Lamb!'"

"Boy, are you wrong. It was one of the best assemblies we've had."

"Come off it. You're just kidding."

"Sure ain't. There were singers, and pianists, and skits, and dances, and . . ."

"Really? Where'd they dig them up?"

"Look, you may think it's funny, but that assembly was planned and organized and it showed."

"I haven't heard that much said about it. You must be joking."

"I promise I'm not. The show kept the attention of the students and there was a lot of good talent."

"Well, nobody's said anything to me."

"That's true. I guess some of the upper classmen didn't like being showed up so bad, so they enjoyed it and forgot it."

"Thanks for telling me."

"Yeah, and thanks for reminding me that I ought to be telling and thanking the sophomores for an assembly well done."

### Twirp Week Has New Twist

This year's Twirp Week and dance included many new different ideas and apparently they worked. For the first time, there was a "Woman's Superiority" Day which added a little change to the usual girl-does-for-the-boy emphasis.

The dance was different in that for the first time, students were able to invite guests. However, the increased attendance from the After Exam Jam was because of RMSH students and not guests.

The success of the dance falls mainly on the shoulders of the Social Committee, who worked hard to give the TWIRP activities a bit of a twist. There were around 440 RMSH students present with only 28 guests. It seemed that everyone was enjoying the music, the dancing, and the fruit-filled donuts.

Probably because of the success of this recent dance, the future classes will be allowed more dances and hopefully the privilege to ask guests will continue. Also, because of the excellent behavior of many students, it is probable that the teachers and administration will look upon this with favor and agree to help in other dances.

So often, students tend to take their "free" dances for granted and not show up. In many schools, students must pay for admission into school dances, but because of the system in which students sell magazine subscriptions, there is no need to pay. All you have to do is show up, and enjoy yourself.



The 012 Blues

Dona

## Study, Sleep, Or Play Options Available-012

Either babysitting fees have dropped greatly, or study hall teachers and librarians are becoming the most underpaid babysitters around. That's right — babysitters. Technically, Mrs. Davis' vocation is head librarian; however, one glimpse into the library at any given time will prove the former to be true. Not only do the librarians have to take care of all the books, magazines, and reference materials, but they also take care of a large number of study hall students each period. It's not that the students have become more studious, but that they are escaping the rigidity of the study hall by entering the library.

Study hall teachers have not ceased to be teachers or to be willing to assist but who can help five students without disturbing 200. Besides how many social studies teachers can tutor in Math, Chemistry, or vice versa. Thus the big study hall is a silent vacuum.

#### "Study Hall" Redefined

The big study hall was developed because of an inadequate number of teachers with free periods to hold individual study halls. It was stationed in the four rooms adjoining the library and directly across from the restrooms, thus decreasing the motion in the halls. The idea was perfect except for one thing — its name. To call it a "study hall" would imply that its occupants use the hour for study, and this is false. Any teacher who guards one of the halls will vouch that not one-fourth of the students do any work at all. Without any work, yet unable to talk these students wander into the library where they can laugh at a joke in a magazine without receiving a detention slip.

Of the one-fourth of the students who have something to do, only one-half of them are able to complete the assignment alone. Those requiring assistance also head toward the library where whispering isn't usually a detention offense. Thus, the buck is passed from four teachers in the study hall to two in the library.

However, many days the library is filled with research classes and closed to study hall students. This results in unrest in the study hall and incompleting assignments.

#### Possible Solutions

What can be done to resolve this problem? Surely, talking between 200 people in 012 can't be allowed; yet, the primary use of the library should be reading and research. Small study halls are out because of the lack of teachers, and excluding study periods from the curriculum is impractical.

Investigation into the matter has yielded a new proposal based on the same principals of location and motion; yet, academically improved. The four rooms making up the present study hall should be divided, but with entrance ways between them. Students should be assigned to a particular room for attendance check. The rooms should be categorized into subjects: Math, English, Science, or History, (with the teacher in charge knowledgeable in the subject) and Silent Study. Following roll call, students would be free to go to the library for research, or to any of the subject rooms to work with the teacher or a friend on an assignment. This system would retain the former's efficiency, while giving students a real chance to study. Hopefully, students would then use the library only for reading and research.

#### Anticipating Objections

Others will say, "Well, what about those students who never have anything to do except talk?" These people, often seniors with two free periods, students with no outside work, or students who have work but never do it, shouldn't be in a study hall to begin with. With an improved gym program and Miss Carpenter's Development Reading classes, many of these students could be placed elsewhere! Seniors might check into the possibility of scheduling their extra study halls at the sixth period and receiving early dismissal rights from the administration.

In any case, something needs to be done, and this seems to be a workable solution. As it stands now, there may be less motion in the halls and more teachers with free periods, but there are progressively more unprepared students for class. The library has lost its quality of seriousness and teachers dislike the "prison camp" as much as the students. It's full time that the buck is revised and improved upon, instead of passed and ignored!

THE GRYPHON  
Member of Columbia Press Association  
Member of Quill and Scroll

PUBLISHED MONTHLY



Editor  
Advertising Manager  
Business Manager  
Circulation Manager

Cathy Allen  
Sara Jane Collier  
Kim Nelson  
Phyllis Goffney

Senior Staff Writers

Nancy Davis, Bill Matthews,  
Terre Kilpatrick, Isabel Williams

Junior Staff Writers

Billy Odom, Boon McGee  
Terri Gardner, Mitchell Landen, Jan Forsythe,  
Thomasina Pollard, Debbie Cook, Dolly Clark,  
Biff White, Robin Bass, Gail Phillips  
Natalie Knight, Teresa Mosley  
Virginia Culpepper, Wade Bryant, Corbi Bullock,  
Karen Butler, Dona Edwards

Advisor  
Principal  
Assistant Principal  
Assistant Principal

Mrs. Henrietta Barbour  
Mr. Elton Newbern  
Mr. Richard Hicks  
Mr. Robert Miller