



The purpose of the Gryphon is to examine events in the school, the community and the world which affect the lives of the students of RMSH. It is the Gryphon's aim to stimulate awareness of issues, to promote a better understanding of others, and to bring about positive action where change is needed. Student, faculty and community response is welcomed and may be sent to the Gryphon, room 110; however, the editor reserves the right to withhold libelous or profane letters.

Year End Work Seems Too Heavy

Lately does it seem as though you do not have enough time to complete your school assignments? If you do happen to do it all, is it hard to stay alert in class because you were up late the night before trying to catch up?

Frequently students are heard complaining about the homework situation by saying, "She thinks that she is the only teacher I have." Or "I just don't see anyway that I can do this work; there is too much of it." There are several explanations for these complaints. Perhaps the students could have avoided

the accumulation of work by doing the homework as it was assigned instead of saying, "I have got plenty of time, I will do it later." But even the students who have been working diligently and consistently are feeling defeated because of all of their work.

Many students make accusations against some of the teachers saying that the teachers have not been following their lesson plans closely enough, and now they realize that they are behind schedule. These teachers may feel pressured to finish the book of

the unit of study and to do this many of them are trying to finish a whole semester's work in the last six weeks. This proves to be frustrating to both the students and the teachers.

As the time gets closer to graduation students are becoming restless and excited. The hot weather and the lack of air-conditioning in a lot of the classrooms only seem to irritate the problem. An understanding between the teachers and the students is needed to make these last few weeks a little bit more bearable.



SECRETARIES HONORED — Mr. Elton Newbern honored Rocky Mount Senior High School secretaries during National Secretary Week by presenting them corsages. Pictured in the main office are: Doris Dupuy, Irene Dixon, Vivian Anderson, Faith Lehman, Susie Herrington, and Pat Johnson.

(Photo by Bulluck)

EDITOR'S ECHO ECHO ECHO

By Jackie Wilde

Parents agonize; children writhe. Why? Too often parents try to mold their offspring into what they conceive as "the thing to do" or what "they wish they had been."

This parental-child conflict is critical. I've seen too many students turn completely against their parents even though the parental pressure was well-intentioned. This is sad because the turning away is not always what the confused child wants to do. Parents should let the child grow and mature dependent upon the home guidance, but the child should be free to develop independent social and moral values. There needs to be some discipline, but some parents over do it and use discipline as a means of taking out their own frustrations.

I've also seen too many people resign to their parents' "do's and don'ts." This is sad also because the child becomes a prototype of his parent and will never become his own person.

Many of these parent-child problems arise because of

academic ability. If one member of the family is exceptionally bright and the other member is of average ability, the parent tends to compare. This causes jealousy between the siblings. The child becomes hostile towards the family. A family should work together and show rewards individually, not rewarding one and scolding the other.

I've seen a parent try to handle his child's social life which most of the time causes disaster. Many children rebel in order to get back at their parents. This causes identity crisis in the child and the parent. Granted a child on his own may make mistakes, but he'll learn from them.

Most parents, no doubt, only want the best for their children. Mr. and Mrs. Smith always want Johnny to have all the opportunities they missed. However, they must remember Johnny is not a carbon copy of his parents. College or social status may have been ideal for Mr. and Mrs. Smith, but for Johnny such things could be torture rather than fulfilling.

Teachers Get The Scoop

How do the teachers always seem to know what is going on in the lives of their students? Have you ever observed how they seem to be able to zero in on the direct subject no matter how much you try to disguise it. They seem to know so much without having been told by

another student or by gossiping with other teachers.

The students consider that teachers are big eavesdroppers, but actually they get the news by just simply walking down the hall. It's not all that preposterous. Try it for yourself as an experiment. Maybe teachers

are just so concerned with the students that they take the time to listen and digest what they've heard so as to be able to communicate more effectively with the students in class. Maybe this ability to listen to the conversation up and down the halls and pick up the news is a side effect of their profession.

Parking Lot Rules For Students' Safety

Damaged, scratched cars... Stolen tape players... People getting high... How do these three fit together? According to Assistant Principal Robert E. Miller, these are the three primary reasons for not allowing students to sit in cars in the school parking lot during lunch.

Mr. Miller cited several instances of damage and theft occurring to cars in the lot adding that the damage could have been avoided or the person

could have been caught if there were not so many students in the lot. Furthermore evidence of alcoholic consumption can be found in almost any trash can on the lot.

In answer to some students queries as to "why can't we have the first two rows to park on to eat or sit?" Mr. Miller replied, that it wouldn't be fair and that everyone can't park on the front rows. The situation

would just get back to the way it was before with students all over the lot.

Mr. Miller also notes that if restrictions were not placed on the lot then non-students could easily go into the lot and possibly damage anyone's car or possessions. "It's just a situation that we can't control; the lot is too big, and it's sometimes hard to distinguish a student from a non-student," Mr. Miller states.

EDITOR'S NOTE:

We regret that we omitted two names from the list of the local winners in the Junior Woman's Club Fine Arts Festival. In piano, Terri Connor placed first and Nancy Davis placed second in the same category.

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