

THE GRYPHON

November 2, 1977

Rocky Mount Senior High School, Rocky Mount, N. C. 27801

Vol. 4, No. 3

Homecoming Queens Picked

Beth Hutchisson and Nadine Birth were elected Homecoming Queens. The homecoming court consisted of Kathy Callahan and Jana Lucas representing the junior class and Shelli Byrd and Brenda Lowe from the sophomore class.

Nadine Birth stated, "I was very excited to get the news that I have been chosen Homecoming Queen. It was an experience I'll never forget. I'm thankful I had the opportunity to participate." Nadine has lived in Rocky Mount for 17 years. Aside from working at the Soul Clinic in her spare time, Nadine noted she enjoys reading, cooking, shopping and meeting people. After finishing school she wants to get a job in the field of Sociology.

Beth Hutchisson was also elected Homecoming Queen for Rocky Mount Senior High. Beth stated, "I was really shocked when I found out that I had won. I thought they were just kidding me." Beth has lived in Rocky Mount for 7 years. She has been a cheerleader for 5 years. This year she is head cheerleader. Beth is the photographer for *The Gryphon*. She is a cashier at Bonanza. She said she enjoys swimming, and bicycle riding. After finishing college, Beth plans to be a Certified Public Accountant.

Serving as one of the representatives for the junior class is Kathy Callahan. "I really feel honored at being chosen Homecoming Queen. It was really a big surprise," said Kathy. Kathy has been a cheerleader for 4 years. Gymnastics, swimming and tennis take up a lot of Kathy's free time. She also plays the piano, and works at Sunset Pharmacy. Kathy plans to study law after finishing high



QUEEN SELECTED: Nadine Birth was selected as a Senior Homecoming Queen. She is escorted by Freddie Woods.

school.

"I was really surprised to have won over the other girls that ran, but it was an honor to win," says Jana Lucas. Jana stated she enjoys reading, and meeting people. She has been a cheerleader for 2 years. After finishing school Jana wants to be a veterinarian.

"It was a shock because I

thought there were other people running against me that were more popular and more well known," commented Brenda Lowe on being chosen Sophomore Homecoming Sweetheart. Brenda has lived in Rocky Mount all her life. She said she enjoys singing, dancing, reading and jogging. After finishing school, Brenda hopes



QUEEN SELECTED: Beth Hutchisson was also selected as Senior Homecoming Queen. She is escorted by Clay Harris.

to be a fashion buyer.

Shelli Byrd was also chosen as Sophomore Homecoming Sweetheart. Shelli works at Kerr Drugs after school. She also water skis and sings. "After finishing college I plan to be a social worker," said Shelli. She said that her first reaction to being chosen was "I couldn't believe it."

Court Hears Bakke

Presently before the Supreme Court is a case which could be the biggest civil rights decision since *Brown V. the Topeka Board of Education*. The case, *The Regents of the University of California v. Allan Bakke*, is a case of alleged reverse discrimination.

Bakke, an engineer in the space program, applied for admission to the medical school at the University of California at Davis. The University rejected his application, and then he discovered that his scores and grades ranked well over those of the "disadvantaged students" who had been accepted at the medical school. Those students ranked below him

included Blacks, Chicanos and Asian-Americans. Bakke filed suit charging that his right to equal protection under the Fourteenth Amendment had been violated.

By filing the suit, Bakke challenged the constitutionality of the federal government's affirmative action program. According to *Newsweek*, affirmative action is "designed to improve educational and job opportunities for racial minorities and women." Bakke's suit charges that this practice is unconstitutional because it unfairly discriminates against white men.

One hundred applicants were accepted in the Davis medical school. Of these hundred, sixteen places were allotted to "disadvantaged students" (Blacks, Indians, Chicanos, etc). These students competed among themselves for the sixteen places. White applicants with an average below a 2.5 were immediately out of consideration. Averages of some of the "disadvantaged students" were 2.1 and 2.2 Allan Bakke had an average of 3.5.

Several organizations, such as the Department of Health, Education and Welfare and the North Carolina Association of Educators, have filed as friends of the court on the side of the

University of California and affirmative action.

The Supreme Court must decide the case in one of several ways. It could decide that the University is right in its racial quotas or that affirmative action is indeed unconstitutional. In the latter case, a legal precedent would be established. It could also approve of affirmative action but send the

Davis plan back to lower courts for a new decision.

According to *Newsweek*, *The Regents of the University of California v. Allan Bakke* asks the question: "Is it right to discriminate against white men to compensate for past injustices?"

Coming Up

Scholastic Aptitude Test Dates

November 5

December 3

January 28

March 11

June 3

Wesleyan Performance Dates

Midsummer Nights Dream
November 2-5, 9-12

Night Must Fall
January 24-28, 30-31

Fiddler On The Roof
April 18-22, 26-28

Student Holidays

November 4
November 24-25
December 19-January 3
January 26-27
March 27-March 31
April 10