

THE GRYPHON

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

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Concert Performance Rendered By Choir

The Rocky Mount Senior High Chamber Choir and Chorus rendered a Christmas Concert Thursday, December 8, in the auditorium.

The first half of the concert titled, A Ceremony of Carols by Benjamin Britton, was given by the Chamber Choir. Phyllis Tillery, an alto, soloed "That Young Child." Joni Thrower, first soprano, sang a lullaby titled "Balulolow." Linda Hunter, also a soprano, sang "In Freezing Winter Night." A duet, "Spring Carol," was sung by Joni and foreign exchange student Regina Perla, who is a second soprano.

Other songs were: "Wolcom Yole," "There is No Rose," "As Dew In Aprille," "This Little Babe," and "Deo Gracias."

The second half of the concert, titled Series of Carols, was given by both the Chamber Choir and the Chorus. "Coven-

try Carol" was sung by the Chamber Choir which featured a solo by Billy Noble. "Silent Night" was sung by the Chorus and the Chamber Choir. "Mary Had a Baby," sung by the Chamber Choir and Chorus also had a solo by Jackie Sessoms. Michael Jones soloed "My King." He was accompanied by the Chorus. Phyllis Tiller soloed "Slumber, O Holy Jesu." The Chorus and Chamber Choir accompanied her.

The Chorus and Chamber Choir merged voices to sing "Lirum Lirum" and "Whence Comes This Rush of Wings." "Hymn to the Virgin" was sung by the Chamber Choir Echoes. They were accompanied by both the Chamber Choir and the Chorus.

The Choir and Chorus were directed by Mr. Lawrence Gup-ton. The pianist was Mrs. Caroline Cooney.



Rocky Mount Senior High Choir and Chorus: The choir and chorus performed a Christmas Concert, December 8. (Photo by Jerry Joyner)

Gryphon Surveys Graduates

A survey on Senior High preparation for the working world and college was taken recently by The Gryphon. A fairly equal number of surveys were sent out to Blacks and Whites in both college and work areas. Each survey included a self-addressed stamped envelope and the appropriate survey for either college students or employees. Twenty per cent of those sent out returned and oddly enough, most were from college students and most came from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. However, a good distribution of college surveys did return from such schools as East Carolina University, the U. S. Naval Academy, Peace College, The University of Virginia and Atlantic Christian College.

The survey's purpose was to discover how strong a foundation Senior High lays for its students in the various disciplines. Intended majors included accounting, environmental design, sociology, industrial relations, economics, business administration, chemistry, English, biology, pre-med and optometry.

College students reported that 65 per cent of them had been prepared at Senior High in the area of math, whereas 35 per cent stated that they hadn't mathematically been prepared for college work. Forty-seven per cent said that they had been prepared for freshman English but 53 per cent said they hadn't.

When asked, "did you have to spend a lot of time developing study skills or were they already developed at Senior High?" 40 per cent said they had developed study skills; however, 60 per cent stated otherwise.

In comparing themselves with fellow classmates at college in the area of secondary preparation, a scale of 1-9 was devised ("9" being the best prepared in High School with regards to classmates). On the average, the students rated themselves a "6."

For those people now working, a similar survey was sent out. Responses came from such varied fields as department manager, furniture salesman, receptionist, rental management secretaries, and electricians. One hundred per cent said that Senior High prepared

them very well for math, but only 60 per cent said they had been prepared in English.

"Did you have to spend a lot of time developing job skills or were they already developed at Senior High?" Eighty per cent said they had been prepared for their various work skills at Senior High; 20 per cent said they hadn't.

In the 1-9 scale with the employees comparing themselves with fellow workers their age, they averaged an "8", one down from the top.

Many gave a lot of credit to specific teachers and departments. Some were savagely fierce at the lack of preparation they had, but some reported that Senior High had accomplished its goal of educating them.

One student gave advice to Senior High students. "Learn grammar well. Learn to write in specific terms. Professors want to know "why" for everything. Learn to write, rewrite, revise and rewrite each paper." She also said, "don't memorize the process in which you do certain mathematical functions—know how and why—also master the processes."

Local Girl Competes



Kaye Batts will compete in the North Carolina National Teenage Pageant. (Photo by Beth Hutchisson)

pictures of herself, a list of school activities that she's involved in, and also a list of her grades. A month later she received another letter that she had been chosen as a state finalist. She also received a ribbon sash to wear in the pageant.

The pageant will be held at Meredith College Auditorium. Tickets are \$2.50, and anyone who would like a ticket should see Kaye.

The girls are judged on scholastic achievement, poise, personality, leadership and on physical attractiveness to a lesser degree.

The winner of the Miss North Carolina National Teenage pageant receives a \$1,000 savings bond, a scholarship to modeling school, a new wardrobe, and a free trip to Atlanta, Ga. where she will be participating in the Miss Teenage America Pageant. The winner of that pageant receives a scholarship, and a new car. She will serve as the United States teen-age ambassador to other countries.

In the Miss North Carolina National Teen-age Pageant Kaye will be modeling a formal gown, and sportswear. She will have to answer impromptu questions and will be interviewed by all the judges before the pageant.

Kaye's personal reaction was, "I was very shocked of course. I thought the letter must have come to the wrong address. I'm looking forward to the pageant, but I'm quite nervous about the whole thing. I just hope I don't trip on stage, or get up there to answer the questions and discover that my microphone doesn't work."

Kaye Batts, a senior at Rocky Mount Senior High School, will be participating in the North Carolina National Teenage Pageant on April 1st in Raleigh, N. C.

Kaye received a letter from the pageant about two months ago asking her if she would be interested in entering the pageant. Kaye stated, "At first I didn't think much of it. The idea of a pageant turns me off, but this one isn't centered around physical attractiveness. Also, it offers very good scholarships."

After receiving the letter, Kaye was required to submit

SRA Become Babysitters

Over the Christmas holidays many parents find shopping to be a big problem because they have no one to keep the children while there is shopping to be done. This year the March of Dimes and Student Representative Assembly have set up a babysitting service with the cooperation of the Central City Revitalization Committee to help eliminate this problem as

well as help out the March of Dimes. Students who are interested may volunteer a few hours of their time over the holidays to supervising children while their parents are out.

The babysitting service will be held in downtown Rocky Mount on Main and Marigold Streets next to the Spur Filling Station. A caboose is being decorated to resemble a Santa Workshop. There is no set fee

for the babysitting service but donations are asked for in contributing to the March of Dimes.

The project starts on the 17th of December and will continue through December 24th. The hours students may work are from 11:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. on Monday through Friday and 11:00 to 6:00 on Saturdays.