

the GRYPHON

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RMSH Not Only The Best But The Smartest

Takia Cousar

It is very rare for two students in the same town to be named winners of The John Motley Morehead Scholarship to UNC-Chapel Hill, not to mention the same school. Yet, Tyler Lester and Jennifer Orr beat the odds. Both active members in our school and community, Lester and Orr were among 126 finalists to be selected out of 876 candidates nominated for the award. To receive this scholarship students were selected according to academic achievement, leadership skills, physical and character traits. Only 69 students in the U.S and Great Britain received this prestigious

honor.

Principal Wayne Doll said "I was overwhelmed with the possibility that we could have one but also two. We've had Morehead scholars before, but we are continuing the tradition. It's simply unheard of and a tremendous accomplishment. If you establish goals and work towards those goals you can obtain them. Jennifer Orr and Tyler Lester are excellent representatives of our students here at RMSH".

The Morehead Award was established in 1951 by UNC alumnus John Motley Morehead III.

Blast From The Past

Justin Oswalt

On October 11th, Phillip Coumo from School is Fun Productions, came to talk to RMSH students. The students, though, do not know his real name. They just know him simply as "William". William Shakespeare that is.

Before the assembly began he joked with the gryphon staff and made sure to stay in character the whole time. As the rest of the students came in they seemed dumbfounded that this dressed from the sixteenth century, was telling them were to sit.

As he began, he described the time setting 1588. He {Shakespeare} had just been assigned a special play for the queen a

and wanted students to help him finish the play. He described the English Theatre which was the only form of entertainment.

He had students come on stage to help him act out parts of the plays, such as Romeo and Juliet and Hamlet. The parts were easy mainly just making appropriate faces bringing out the humor in the assembly. Even our staff writer Elizabeth Masingill volunteered to show her acting talent. Hearing a complaint that Shakespeare used big words, he asked "What is big words? To Be? or Not to be?"

As the assembly closed, he encouraged the students to use more interesting and colorful language whenever they write. The performance made an impact on students-several of whom have since been caught reading Shakespeare's work.

RMSH Graduate New North Carolina Governor

Gabriel Rodriguez

Mike Easley was born in Nash County March 23, 1950. Easley graduated from Rocky Mount Senior High in 1968 where he was a class officer. Easley attended UNC and received his B.A. in political science with honors in 1972. Easley then graduated Cum Laude and earned his law degree at North Carolina Central University in 1976.

Today Easley has been elected governor defeating Richard Vinroot who had 46 percent compared to Easley's 56 percent.

Another Rocky Mount Senior High tie in this election was Roy Cooper's tap for Attorney General, Cooper's daughter Hillary is a Junior at Rocky Mount Senior High.

Open House

Justin Oswalt

On September 14, 2000, the Senior High faculty, staff, and administration hosted our parents at the first semester open house. This is the time for parents to meet the people running our school, as well as meet with the teachers.

The evening started early for some parents and students as Mrs. Charlotte Holloway's computer class brought the family to learn with the students. Students invited their family members to come and learn to produce address labels on the word processor. The students and family also created a "slide show" Power Point presentation with sounds and graphics. Two of these were presented via a projector to the entire class.

"The purpose of this gathering is to promote family connections with the school and to enhance student learning," stated Mrs. Holloway. "One of the best ways to learn a new principle is to share it with someone else or to teach someone else what you have learned."

While these students shared what they learned with their parents, the remainder of the parents arrived in the auditorium for a short presentation from Principal Wayne Doll. He introduced the administration members and then went straight into the facts. He reiterated to the parents how much he enjoys being back at Senior High and how he is striving to have excellence.

"This is the Cadillac School," Doll added, "but it is a 1952 Cadillac." He then went into the fact that the school is in some disrepair, but in due time, these problems will be worked with and finally corrected.

As the parents were dismissed from the auditorium, the administration made time to talk with the parents and also answer their questions and concerns as they moved to their students first period class. Mr. Doll even made time to joke with a few of his previous students that were there that night.

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