

'Twas The Night Before Deadlines ...

By DEBBIE FARLOW

'Twas the night before Christmas
when all through the room,
Everyone was busy, deadlines
were soon.
The reporters were settled at
their typewriters with care,
In hopes that a great issue of The
Full Moon would be there.
Dale was determined to meet the
deadline.
The staff proclaimed, "Why look
at the time!"
Debbie was working on the ads
and the money.
"Our financial situation isn't too
funny!"
When out in the hall there arose
such a clatter,
We sprang from our seats to see
what was the matter.
Away to the door we flew like a
flash,
Jerked open the door, and
knocked over the trash.
The lights of the hall gave a
cheerful glow
To the new Johnson wax on the
floor below.
When to our wondering eyes
should appear,
A walking bundle of clothes,
showing only an ear.
In our eyes we saw a great horror
Oh thank goodness, it's only Ms.
Morrow.
Struggling with the bundle, on-
ward she came,
She whistled and shouted and
called them by name

"Think Jim! Think Shannon,
think Dees, think Mitzi!
Work Paula, work Sheila, work
Beth, work Christie!"
Out of the typewriter and onto the
press,
We'll finish this paper with great
finesse.

Mike was writing love letters to
his new flame
"I'm in love again!" we heard
him proclaim.
Pam sat working on her French
"I'm not worried! My article's a
cinch!"

Jim was debating whether to
write.
"Me and my girlfriend just had a
fight."

Melissa worked diligently on her
layout.
"Sheila, your article is too long,"
she began to shout.

Sonya as usual was full of great
cheer
But replied, "Gee, I wish I had a
..."

Lynn and Christie stood
discussing the news
Wondering which articles they
should use.

Mrs. Morrow walked in and
nearly had a heart attack
"As a journalism class, you are
pretty slack!"

"You all know how to work hard
on The Full Moon
I want this issue to be finished
very soon."

Then with a twitch of her nose she
drove out of sight.
The Journalism staff cheered,
"Merry Christmas to all, and to
all a Good Night!"

Top Talent Chosen At Show

The Student Council sponsored
a talent show November 17 to
raise money for a Senior Citizens
Seminar in the spring of 1979. The
fifth place winner was Lorraine
Watkins. Her prize was \$5. Patti
Love and the band Freefall won
fourth place with a prize of \$10.
Third place and \$15 went to Tracy
Asbury and Carey Stutts. The
runners up and the winners of \$20
were Bryan Shumate and
Commonwealth. "First Five"
members of the Rifle squad, and
Leigh Ann Whitley won first
place. Their prize was \$25.

Tryouts for the talent show
were held November 2. Eleven
acts were chosen to perform. The
line-up was as follows:

1. Lorraine Watkins — "I Made
A Vow"
2. Linda Schreppe, Patti Love,
Melissa McKeithen, Gwyn
Poplin, and Karen Souther, Rifle
Maneuvers.
3. Patti Love — tap dance
4. Carey Stutts — tap dance
5. Tracy Asbury — "People"
6. Leigh Ann Whitley — "Dr.
Gradus Parnassum"
7. Bryan Shumate — "Carolina
on My Mind"
8. "Freefall" — "Stay" medley
9. Commonwealth — Melage (a
musical collage)

The talent show wound up a full
week of activities pertaining to
Senior Citizen Appreciation
Week, sponsored by the Student
Council. Overall, the event was
termed a success and the Council
hopes to make Senior Citizen
Appreciation Week an annual
happening.



Roger displays some of his work.

Roger's Skill 'Mounts'

"People think I'm crazy for
stopping and picking up dead
animals on the road." That might
seem like a strange statement,
but for Roger Martin, a senior, it
is legitimate. Roger is a
taxidermist, and he is always on
the lookout for an interesting
specimen. He has been involved
in taxidermy for seven years,
learning the trade, by reading all
of the books in the library on the
subject and completing a
correspondence course. Roger
now works part-time at Morrow
Mountain State Park where he
has his own office and work area.

Roger has mounted (the term
"stuffed" is incorrect) a wide
variety of animals including
ducks, owls, snakes, deer,
chipmunks, frogs, opossums, and
even a small African antelope. At
the present he is working on a
Siamese cat.

At Morrow Mountain he
mounts animals and arranges
displays for the museum. He is
also experimenting with the use
of microwaves for drying

flowers, bleaching bones and
other similar concepts. The work
at Morrow Mountain also puts
him in contact with taxidermists
all over the state who, Roger
says, work together trading
animals and ideas.

Roger eventually plans to go
into taxidermy as a career. He
wants to work for a museum,
however, rather than doing
commercial taxidermy.
"Museum work," Roger says,
"offers more variety and a
chance to be more artistic."
After high school, Roger plans to
attend a technical school for two
years and continue working at
Morrow Mountain to gain ex-
perience. His plans are to then
transfer to UNCC and finish with
a minor in art and a major in
biology. Roger hopes that after
graduating from college, he will
be able to get a job in a major
museum. With all of his ex-
perience, this shouldn't prove to
be terribly difficult. It looks like
Roger Martin has a promising
future.

Reading Opens Doors To Land Of Facts

By PAULA CARTER

How many times has this catchy line been heard, "I don't read because I don't have time."? Or how about, "Reading is just too boring"? Excuses, excuses. That's exactly what they are, excuses for those who think reading is for people "who don't have anything better to do."

Well, reading is "something better to do." Reading a short story by Jack London for 30 minutes is better than watching an episode of "Gilligan's Island" for the fifth time. Reading a few chapters in a novel by John Steinbeck is better than listening to the stereo while staring at the ceiling. Reading is "something better to do" because it stimulates the mind in a way that a rerun of "Gilligan's Island" can not.

A good book is never boring. It may be that the subject is not interesting to some, others however, may find it fascinating. Books in general should not be put down because of conflicts between subject matter and the reader's interest. In fact, it is this conflict that makes books the good teachers that they are.

Many times books are labeled "boring" because nothing is known about the subject. War and Peace, by Tolstoy is often considered boring because it is long, and because even the thought of reading about the Russian Revolution puts the average "non-reader" to sleep. Other books "non-readers" shun as "boring" are fantasies and science fiction stories. How these can be considered uninteresting is very hard to comprehend. Do people who find fantasies and science fiction boring totally lack imagination? It seems that they do. Maybe it is the thought of something that is intangible that turns these people off. Let us hope so, because if not, there are too many people walking around today with no imagination. It would take a truly cold person to resist the tug of the mind that the works of Isaac Asimov produce. If even a speck of imagination is hidden in the minds of these people surely one of J.R.R. Tolkien's hobbits or wizards can lure it out.

Reading a book is not only an excellent way to fill spare hours, it makes the reader a well-rounded person. It is amazing the holes in an education that reading can fill. Books not only give the reader clues to the meaning of words like "naprapathy" and "pichiciago", they also allow the reader to look at the lifestyles of people he will never really meet, hear the views of philosophers who lived 2,500 years before he was born, and fly home to Kansas in a pair of ruby slippers. Reading is something better to do.

Follow Santa's Example

By DALE IVEY

You can surely bet that about
this time at the North Pole, old
Santa and his elves are planning
and working to get ready for the

Christmas holidays.

The saying that Santa starts
early making his toys excites
small children and encourages
them to be on their best behavior

at all times. To older people like
you and me, Santa's practice of
planning ahead and organizing
his work is an idea that may not
be such a bad one.

Exams Cause 'Brain Strain'

By MITZI MORRIS and SHEILA SIMPSON

It is 2 a.m. and Bob Goodgrade sits alone in his room surrounded by books and papers. Sweat drips slowly from his exhausted forehead as he rereads the last paragraph of his Latin notes. The clock catches his occasional worried glance as he labors over his studies. The next day the scene shows Bob Goodgrade being wheeled into the Crazyday Insane House after his long and difficult exam.

The above story just shows how damaging exams can be. Bob Goodgrade is just one of the students who works and studies hard all year long and fails the exams. On the other hand, Bob's good friend, Tommy Lay-out, who cheats, passes the exam.

The night of the Latin exam Tommy is found at the Loading Dock surrounded by pretty girls and music. Latin is the furthest thing from his mind.

Not only is Bob suffering, but his Latin teacher, Mr. Slavedriver, must give up his weekend trip to Hawaii to grade 92 exams. As he slaves over his grading, his mind wanders to a nearby high school where his brother-in-law, Mr. Agreeable, sits grading his small number of 12 exams. In Mr. Agreeable's high school only those students having an average lower than a "C" take the exam. This enables Mr. Agreeable's poor students to slightly raise their average. But, the biggest advantage is that the students work harder to get higher grades.

Mr. Slavedriver thinks of another alternative as he remembers his high school days. Back in the "dark ages" those with perfect attendance were exempt from exams. Mr. Slavedriver remembers that this cut down on lay-outs and made students want to make-up missed work. When Mr. Slavedriver thinks of the system applied at his high school (which is the same system at ASHS) he frowns and silently goes back to the work he has done for years, feeling the system needs a change.

Procrastination is just a
natural part of human nature.
Everybody at one time or another
wishes that they had not put off
completing an assignment, a
project, or whatever. Santa's
method, however, assures that
all the work is finished on time.

Santa Claus begins by
organizing his work by setting
certain deadlines to have a
certain number of his toys
completed. This idea can be
applied in our lifestyle by also
setting due dates for future
projects. Santa also plans ahead.
He decides on what to do, how to
do it, and when to get it done. By
working out a definite schedule
such as this one, both Santa and
you can accomplish what is set
out to be done.

Christmas is a perfect time to
begin a new system of ac-
complishment. Now is the time to
plan for Christmas presents and
now is the time to start on those
assignments that are due on the
last day before vacation starts.
Also, it's a great time to start
planning for the new year.

Remember, don't pro-
crastinate. Use the method
that Santa does — organize and
plan ahead! And by the way, have
a Merry Christmas and a Happy
New Year!

The Full Moon

Albemarle Senior High School
Albemarle, N. C. 28001

Dale Ivey, Editor-in-chief
Sonya Mauldin, News Editor
Melissa McKeithen, Feature Editor
Mike Parker, Sports Editor
Sheila Simpson, Asst. Sports Editor
Debbie Farlow, Business Manager
Dees Fort, Exchange Editor



SENIOR STAFF
Jim Andrew, Paula Carter

JUNIOR STAFF
Shannon Bell, Shannon Bowers, Pam
Cox, Tony Hinson, Donna Laton,
Sonya Mabe, Beth Mabry, Mitzi Mor-
ris, Lynn Rivers, Christie Sasser.

Ms. Linda Morrow, Advisor

The Full Moon is published nine times during the school year by the
journalism class of Albemarle Senior High and is printed by Press Print-
ing Company of Albemarle.