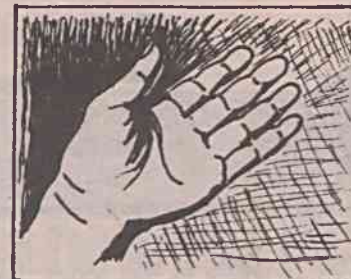


Features

EDITOR : JENNIFER LOWDER



Becoming One With the County?

by Mary Nance

Although many of you may have only heard of the decision to merge city and county school units, you need to be aware of the significant impact that it could have on our community, our staff, and especially us, the students.

There are many goals that are usually proposed in arguments in favor of merger; however, in the case involving Albemarle High School, they would not be applicable. First, some believe that a racial balance can be achieved without substantial busing. Because currently there is not a problem with racial balance in either the Albemarle City or Stanly County Schools, this would be futile. The cost of busing would certainly rise sharply, and such a plan would limit those students who could participate in after school activities as many would live miles away from the school. Second, merger is said by some to result in a more effective education. Improvement should not be tied to merger as it is directly related to the commitment of each individual teacher and parent. Third, some say merger will save money. With jobs being eliminated, a small savings can be obtained; nevertheless, salary increases for the remaining employees would offset this.

As you can see, merger could do more harm than good for both school systems. There would be a loss of neighborhood schools, transportation nightmares because of schools spread over such a vast area, and increased costs to taxpayers, resulting in nearly a 30% increase. Moreover, what would our mascot be? A Cometdog? Still, I believe that more research needs to be done in order to do make the best decision on the subject of merging.

Is It Really the Wrong Hand?

by Allison Hudson

Are you a left handed person having problems with everything being made for right handed people? Well, if you are right handed you probably don't give this much thought, but the "leftys" that I talked with had a lot to say about it. A great number of them say that they did not choose to be a left handed person, so why all the problems? Being a left handed person is not something that you learn to do. You are born with it in your blood, I guess you could say. Most all "leftys" are ambidextrous and can do things with both hands. Grant Hopkins says that he writes with his left hand, but he can bat and throw with either hand. Adam Crawley, another lefty, says that all of his motor skills are done with his left hand, but everything having to do with athletics is done with his right. Here at Albemarle there are a surplus number of ambidextrous students. One of the worst things they hate is having to sit in a desk made for students that use their right hands. As you can see, that there are a great amount of problems with being left handed, but there are some advantages.

Being able to use both hands for different things is not a nuisance but more of a talent. A lot of the athletes say when you get up to bat in baseball they can bat with either hand, and it was nice just to be able to change.



Trellis Edwards and Gene Scott can be artistic with their left hands.

FULL MOON

Published nine times per year by the journalism class at Albemarle High School
Member Quill and Scroll Staff

Mary Nance - Editor-in-Chief

April Bailey - Co-Editor, Sports Eloise Odom - Co-Editor, News

Jennifer Lowder - Features Editor

Dustin Poplin - Entertainment Editor

Susan Hathcock - Advisor

Senior Staff

Shawna Euto, Mandy Poston, Kristina Scott

Junior Staff

Christine Chambers, Allen Furr, Allison Hudson, Katie Mabry, Kelly Rakes, Rusty Story

A Different Kind of Style

by Allison Hudson

Is the color of your hair important to you? Have you really given it much thought? Well, many people feel that they can express who they are through the color of their hair. If you take a look around Albemarle High you will find almost every natural and non natural color hair there is. You will see plenty of brunettes, a great number of blondes, and probably a lot of in between. One color that is not as common but is very resplendent is red. When you think of red hair the vision of Little Orphan Annie probably comes to your mind. Not all red heads are replicas of Annie. The hue of red is enormous. You will see anything from fire engine red to the very soft strawberry red. Connie Edwards, a strawberry red, says that she has never given her hair color much thought, but she likes it a lot. Beverly Poplin, a fire engine red, says that the color she has is great, although she has had comments from people since she was a preschooler about having red hair. Red hair can really express you as a person. "Being blessed with red hair is great" said an Albemarle student, but there are some problems with having red hair. Ashley Whitley said that when beach time comes around it is really hard to get a tan because of her such fair skin. So if you are a red head or would like to be one, more power to you. I went around asking the opinions of some students, and here is what they had to say...

DeShanne Lilly - Most of them have pretty green eyes.
Tiffany Davis - It looks dingy!
Jason Burns - They have bad attitudes.
Paige Lowder - Most of them get mad easily.
Kendra Murray - They usually have a pale complexion and freckles.
Chris Harris - I don't like all of the freckles.
Erin Mauldin - Red hair does not look good with some types of clothing, and that is too bad!



Thomas Dunevant and Ashley Whitley enjoy their red hair.

Are You A Good Friend?

by Jennifer Lowder

Do you think friendship is a 100 percent round the clock deal? Or do friends need space sometimes, too? Check out this quiz and see if your friendship style is a bit too warm or way to chilly?

1. For three years, you two have gone everywhere and done everything together. Now you are starting to feel suffocated and want some space. You

- A. Tell them how you feel and ask if they would mind if you invite other people to hang out with you.
- B. Tell them how you feel and hope some time apart will help out.
- C. Start pulling away with no explanation.

2. You're friend has been acting strange. You find out he/she is heavily involved in drugs. You

- A. Make it your mission to get him/her to stop.
- B. Don't do anything, because its his/her life and you do not want to run it.
- C. Try to get him/her some help.

3. You're friend has a new special someone in his/her life-and no time to spend with you lately. You

- A. Call once in a while but work on the friendship.
- B. Call them everyday, and ask " Why can't we get together?"
- C. Stop making any contact at all.

4. Your friend asks you to cover for him/her, while he/she goes to stay at their boyfriend/

girlfriend's house. You say
A. "Okay, I'll cover for you if your mom calls."
B. "Only if you do me a favor"
C. "Sorry, I just do not feel right about lying for you."

5. Two of your friends really get into a fight and you are stuck in the middle. You

- A. Stick to the friend you always liked best.
- B. Decide to not talk to either of them until they fix the problem.
- C. Tell them you are going to talk to both of them, because your friendships are too valuable. When it comes to friendship, where do you stand?

Score yourself by this chart:
1. a-3 b-2 c-1
2. a-3 b-1 c-2
3. a-2 b-3 c-1
4. a-3 b-1 c-2
5. a-1 b-3 c-2

15-11 You think your best friends should be all but identical to you. You'd do anything for them-and expect the same in return! Give your friends a little room, and do not expect them to act and think just like you.

10-6 You're in the perfect balance with your friends. You know how to enjoy just being friends without taking it to extremes.

5-1 It's a really wonder you have any friends at all. All you really care about is yourself. Maybe if you thought how much friends really are needed, you wouldn't be so stubborn.