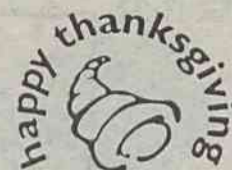




THE FULL MOON



Volume 63, No. 3

311 Park Ridge Road Albemarle, N.C. 28001

982-3711

NOVEMBER 1997

English as a Second language

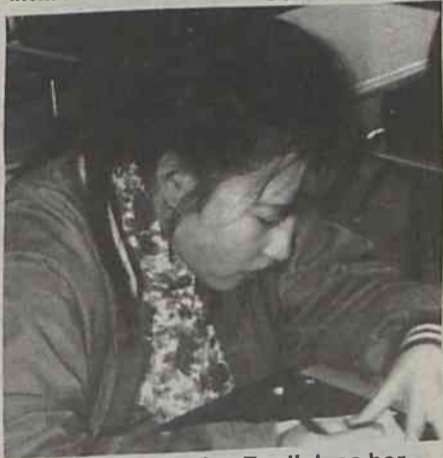
by Emily Nance

Imagine if your family had to move overseas within less than a year? Say you were going to...France. A whole new culture, set of friends, school, and language. Communication is the center of a teen's entire social life. Not being able to speak the language would truly impede upon your everyday activities. This hypothetical situation is a reality for thirteen students at Albemarle High School. Surprisingly enough, these individuals are not foreign exchange students, but rather students who speak English as a second language.

Miss Shelby O'Brien teaches a new course, English as a Second Language (ESL), which is a class that teaches students to speak English. AHS is only one of the Stanly County Schools where Miss O'Brien teaches. Although she can understand many of her students in their native language, she expects them to use only English in class. Consequently, she only uses English with them so they will gain a better understanding and be able to function in the classroom with no problem.

In order to gain a better insight into the program, I sat and observed a class. During this particular block, the students were learning about contractions such as don't,

doesn't, and can't. Then, they were asked to describe the differences between a restaurant and a fast food restaurant. Three girls who were in the intermediate English class, Nou Lor, Nou Lee, and Sheng Lor, seemed to enjoy themselves as they laughed with each other and attempted to communicate in English. These three are also enrolled in a regular high school English class. This degree of difficulty is beyond my comprehension. Cast a smile to these unique students and welcome them to the world's melting pot, America.



Nou Lor studies English as her second language.

SENIORS RECOGNIZED FOR THEIR ACHIEVEMENTS

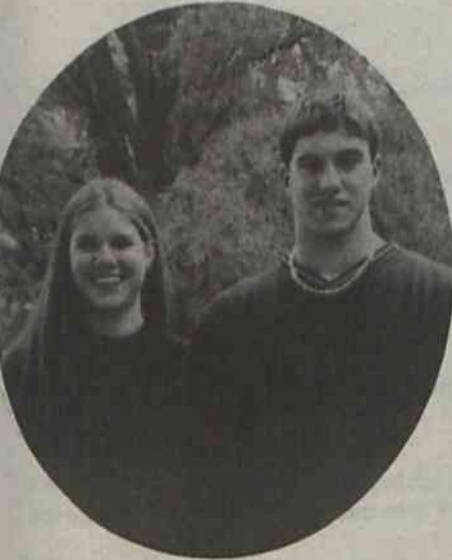
Albemarle High School's class of 1998 is honored to recognize Stacy Sinclair and Jonathan Dry for their outstanding achievements.

Stacy Sinclair illustrated her service, leadership, dependability, and patriotism when nominated by the high school for the DAR Good Citizen of the Year award. Moving to county competition, Stacy wrote an essay concerning the preservation of patriotism in Stanly County. At a tea on October 17, Stacy was honored by the Daughters of the American Revolution as the DAR Good Citizen of the Year. At the reception, Stacy read her essay and later commented

on the honor: "To be named Good Citizen of the Year is an honor that not only recognizes my own scholastic efforts, but reflects my family and teachers as their support has helped to mold my personality." Stacy is a first lieutenant for the Marching Bulldogs and plays first-chair clarinet. Furthermore, Stacy is an active member of the Rotary Interact Club, National Honor Society, and Spanish National Honor Society. Congratulations, Stacy!!!

Jonathan Dry, another senior, has recently been selected to advance to the semi-finals in the John Motley Morehead Scholarship Competition. This scholarship honors students who are active in academics, athletics, community service, and leadership. The Morehead Scholars receive a full-paid education to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. Jonathan will travel to his second interview on December 11 in Charlotte. He will be competing against 219 other students from the surrounding area. Seventy will travel to Chapel Hill for a weekend where the final scholars are chosen. Jonathan commented, "I feel that the Morehead is a great opportunity and by competing for this scholarship I can gain experience to better myself for the future." Jonathan serves as AHS's student body president and is an active member of the National Honor Society and Spanish National Honor Society. Good luck, Jonathan!

AHS salutes both Stacy and Jonathan for their honorary endeavors and encourages all students to strive for the top!



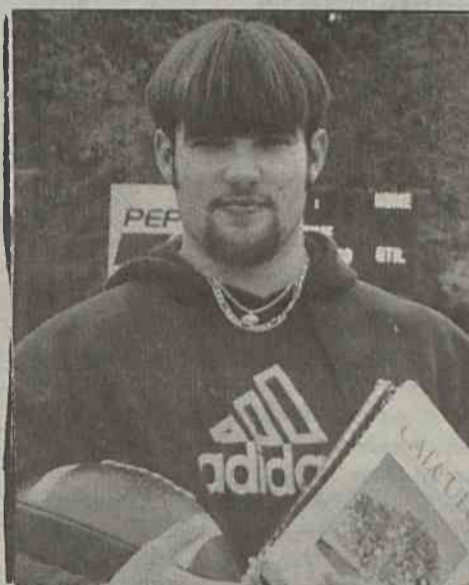
Stacy Sinclair and Jonathan Dry have been selected for senior honors.

Gaster Receives Heisman

Albemarle High School is honored to be the home of Travis Gaster, recently selected as North Carolina's Wendy's High School Heisman Scholarship program winner. Sponsored by Dave Thomas and Wendy's Old Fashioned Hamburgers, this extremely prestigious award recognizes the top male and female who exemplify scholastics, athletics, community service, and leadership. Every school in the state nominates their top boy and girl to compete at the state level. This year, over 4,000 nominees sent applications and only 1,062 males made the finals. Among those applicants was Travis Gaster, one of AHS's finest athletes and leaders. Of the finalists, one student was selected as North Carolina's High School Heisman Award winner. Proudly, AHS's own Travis Gaster was named to this honor.

This All-American student participates in three varsity sports while maintaining his 4.07 GPA. Travis is additionally president of the Rotary Interact Club, which recently received a Governor's Award for community service. He also serves as the National Honor Society vice-president and an active member of the Spanish Club. On the football field, Travis has proved to be phenomenal. He is a four-year letterman and captain and was named All-County all four years. He made All-Conference honorable mention his freshman year, second-team his sophomore year, and first team his junior year. Also, in the eleventh grade, Travis was named to the All-Piedmont and All-State teams. He hopes to receive the same honors this year. *North Carolina Prep News Magazine* named Travis as one of the top Baby Boomers, Sophomore Sensations, and Junior Players. Of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Virginia, and Tennessee, *Fox Sports South* named Travis one of the top seventy senior recruits. Recently, Travis was selected to play in the Shrine Bowl. He will travel to Char-

lotte in December to spend a week with the Shriners and other players. When winter arrives, Travis joins the basketball team as he played two years on the junior varsity squad and was a letterman his junior year. Furthermore, Travis gets out his baseball glove at the first sights of spring and prepares to continue his outstanding record on the diamond. He has received three varsity letters and hopes to earn his fourth in the 1998 season. When asked how he felt about being given this honorary award, Travis stated, "To simply be AHS's nominee was an honor. However, to be the North Carolina winner puts the icing on the cake. Ultimately, I would like to thank my dad for allowing me to achieve my goals. Without him, I would have never been able to create a reality out of my dreams." Congratulations, Travis, and best wishes in your future endeavors.



Travis Gaster exemplifies his skills on the field and in the classroom.

Welcome to AHS

Albemarle High School is honored to welcome two new faculty members to their staff.

Familiar to the Stanly County School System is Assistant Principal Charles Phillips. A graduate of the University of North Carolina



Mr. Phillips and Mr. Ramirez are welcomed to AHS!

at Charlotte, Mr. Phillips received his BS in Social Studies and his MS in Educational Administration. From 1976 to 1995, he served as a teacher, coach, and athletic director at South Stanly High School. When asked what his goals are for Albemarle High School, Mr. Phillips responded, "I hope to work with students and staff to provide the opportunity for success in all aspects of both educational and co-curricular activities at AHS. As a new leader of Bulldog Pride, we welcome Mr. Phillips to our staff."

Traveling all the way from the sunny state of Florida is Mr. Dennis Ramirez, a new addition to the math hall at AHS. A graduate from the University of Florida, Mr. Ramirez earned his BS in Physics and has been an instructor of math, chemistry, and physics in a middle school, high schools, and community colleges. Mr. Ramirez commented on his first impression of AHS: "From the onset the administration, faculty and students have been warm and cordial. Your pride is reflected in both your conduct and the manner in which the school is kept."

We welcome you to our school and hope your every day here is enlightening to your career.