



# THE FULL MOON



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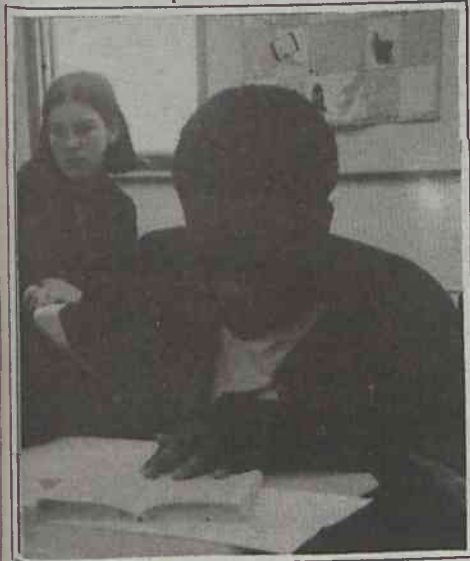
## Exempt Your Exams 101

by Emily Nance

Because of a typing error, the exam exemption criteria was recently rewritten. The new *Blue and White Handbook* states, "Students who maintain academic and attendance standards and apply two weeks prior to the end of the term may exempt some final exams. Students with a 4.0 GPA or above and have five or fewer absences of the previous semester, exempt all exams (must be passing the course with a grade of 78 or better and not an End-of-Course exam). Students with a 3.0-3.99 GPA and have five or fewer absences for the previous semester, exempt two final exams (student's choice) (must be passing the course with a 78 average or better and not an End-of-Course exam). Students who improve their grade point average by .5 (regardless of GPA) and have five or fewer absences for the previous semester, exempt one final exam (student's choice) (must be passing the course with a grade of 78 or better and not an End-of-Course exam).

Okay, so you want to exempt some exams this year, huh? I bet you are totally confused about the exact regulations and criteria that allow exam exemptions. Well, I have written this article to answer all of your questions.

To begin with, the attendance is considered from the previous semester. The atten-



Antonio Watkins works diligently in an attempt to exempt his exams.

dance for the upcoming exams is accounted for from the spring semester of 1997 (January 1997-June 1997). Therefore, if you missed only three days of school during spring semester 1997 and have missed seven days this semester (August 1997-January 1998), then you may still have a chance for exemption. However, you may not exempt any exams next semester (January 1998-June 1998). Excused and unexcused absences both count toward your limit of five. Even if you went to visit a college campus, you still missed class discussion and are counted absent for the day.

Furthermore, GPA's are also considered from the previous semester. The only grades used for this exam exemption are those made from January 1997-June 1997. Grades made any other time are not relevant except if you are a student who has improved his GPA by .5 or more. Freshmen may not exempt any exams because they do not have GPA's yet. Next semester exam exemption will consider this semester's grades. Remember: the idea behind exam exemption is to provide an incentive to those who show dedication to their education and who do so year round, not just during one semester.

In order to exempt any exams, you must be passing the class with a 78 average or higher. This grade comes from the class that you are presently taking and not any other semester.

So, if you are lucky enough to exempt all exams, you do not have to be present on exam days; however, if you exempt only one or two, you must be present to take those exams.

The following exams are either state exams or vocational exams and cannot be exempt: English I, Algebra IA, Algebra IB, Algebra I, Algebra II, US History, Biology, Chemistry I, Geometry, Physics, Physical Science, Economics, Legal, and Political Systems (ELPS)(Civics), and all vocational courses using VOCATS.

All applications for exemption are due two weeks prior to exam week. If you forget to apply, then you will not be able to exempt any exams. These forms may be picked up from the guidance counselors or the main office. Work hard and maintain good attendance so that exam exemptions will be a possibility for you!

## COOKE ELECTED GOVERNOR

Brandon Cooke, a senior here at Albemarle High School, has been recently elected to serve as North Carolina West District Junior Civitan Governor for the 1997-98 fiscal year. Brandon was elected to this position by his peers during the North Carolina West District Convention. The main purpose of Junior Civitan International is to provide members with personal and career development opportunities while improving schools and communities through community service. Brandon is one of twenty-four governors leading Junior Civitan districts across the United States and Canada. Brandon will be traveling to Ontario, Canada, in January. Snowmobiles, freezing temperatures, and lots of fun are the elements of the Junior Civitan International Sno-Do. Along with his fellow district governors, international board members, and guests, Brandon will set out in the early morning hours for a wild snowmobile ride through the countryside of Ontario. He is anticipating this weekend where he will hopefully raise \$10,000



for charity. The money he raises will be used for the treatment and prevention of developmental disabilities. Through donations by caring citizens and surrounding Junior Civitan and Civitan Clubs, Brandon hopes to add to the already successful program. Businesses and individuals in the Albemarle area may contact Junior Civitan International at 1-800-CIVITAN, ext. 132, to make a donation.

By being the governor of the North Carolina West District, Brandon represents forty-nine clubs and over 2,000 members as the largest district in all of Junior Civitan. Not only is his club raising money for the Sno-Do, but they held a Can-Do canned food drive and collected over 500 cans. Additionally, the club recently volunteered at the Stanly County Special Olympics. Besides being a member of Junior Civitan, Brandon is active in student government, Spanish Club, National Honor Society, and the Spanish National Honor Society. He is also an Editor-in-Chief of the yearbook, *Crossroads*. On Friday nights during football season, Brandon entertained the crowd as the Bulldog mascot.

Brandon Cooke takes leadership to heart. When asked about his leadership, Brandon stated, "I have always enjoyed leading others to success. Now, through Junior Civitan, I will be able not only to help my peers, but now I can help stop the developmental disabilities through raising money on my trip to Canada." Congratulations, Brandon.

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## Get Certified in High School

by Emily Nance

How would you like to graduate from high school certified to be a nurse's assistant? Now with two new programs here at AHS, this degree can be earned by completing Allied Health Science I and Allied Health Science II.

Allied Health Science I is programmed for juniors. By learning about health care settings, body systems, and diseases, these students become aware of the medical field. Monique Hammond, a junior in Allied Health Science I, commented on the class: "I am glad to have the opportunity to be able to train while in high school. Hopefully, when I graduate, I will be prepared to enter the medical field as a nurse's assistant."

After completing this course, seniors may take Allied Health Science II. Because the material in this specialized course is so intense, the class runs two semesters. During the first semester, the students learn skills to use in the hospital, such as taking blood pressure. During the second semester, the students participate in clinical work at numerous medical offices. At the end of the course, the students must pass the State Board Exam to be certified as a nurse's assistant.

HOSA, Health Occupation Students of America, is a club that extends from these classes. The club meets about once a month and has become involved in community service. In addition to hosting competitions for HOSA clubs, the program offers scholarships to students wishing to further their education. With fall registration coming up, consider the opportunities Allied Health Science offers.



Monique Hammond and Melissa Fair are taking advantage of the Allied Health Science program as they work together in class.

## WANNA BE RICH?

by Emily Nance

Albemarle students, listen up! If you plan to attend the Shrine Bowl on December 20 to watch our Bulldog captain Travis Gaster plays for the North Carolina team, you may win a college scholarship just for being there. Four lucky students who register and attend the Shrine Bowl will each win a \$5000 scholarship to the college of their choice. Anyone who attends high school in either North Carolina or South Carolina is eligible to win. The four lucky students will be chosen through a drawing, so all four grade levels are eligible to win. The requirements are (1) you must be present and have a completed entry form and (2) you must present one form of identification. If an underclassman wins, a \$5000 scholarship will be set up at the college of his/her choice when he or she graduates from high school. If you plan to attend the Shrine Bowl, be sure and pick up a form from the guidance office and take the form with you to the game. You could leave the game \$5000 richer.