



The NEW BERN MIRROR

PUBLISHED WEEKLY
- HEART OF -
Mr. Mrs. A. N. Murphy
2000 Arendall St.
Morehead City, NC
5¢

VOLUME 9

NEW BERN, N. C., FRIDAY, APRIL 15, 1966

NUMBER 3

Donald Smith, during more than 20 years as head of New Bern High school's music department, proved an inspiration to every youngster who came under his spell.

So emphatic was his influence that quite a few pupils embarked on professional careers of their own in the world of melody. One of them, Robert Gaskins, has had notable success as band director, and more recently music director, at Jacksonville Senior High school.

Robert has gone a long way since he was our next door neighbor on Johnson street. For hours on end he would strive in vain to make the right notes come out of a trombone. It was hard on the ears, but you couldn't help admiring his perseverance.

Little by little, he mastered the instrument, and by the time he graduated from NBHS he was not only a good musician but an exceptional one. As an instructor, he has been able to pass along to others the determination that was his greatest as an aspiring (and perspiring) teen ager.

Few directors of music on the High school level are willing to undertake the production of a Broadway show. Robert refused to be intimidated, and the musicals he has turned out at Jacksonville win critical approval.

Now he is at it again. This season's vehicle, scheduled for a three-night run starting Thursday, April 28, is the great Lerner-Lowe favorite, "My Fair Lady." Curtain time is 8 p. m.

There's nothing left out of the Jacksonville high school version of a show that did much to make Julie Andrews one of the world's best loved performers. The cast includes 68 actors, singers and dancers, plus a 30-piece pit orchestra.

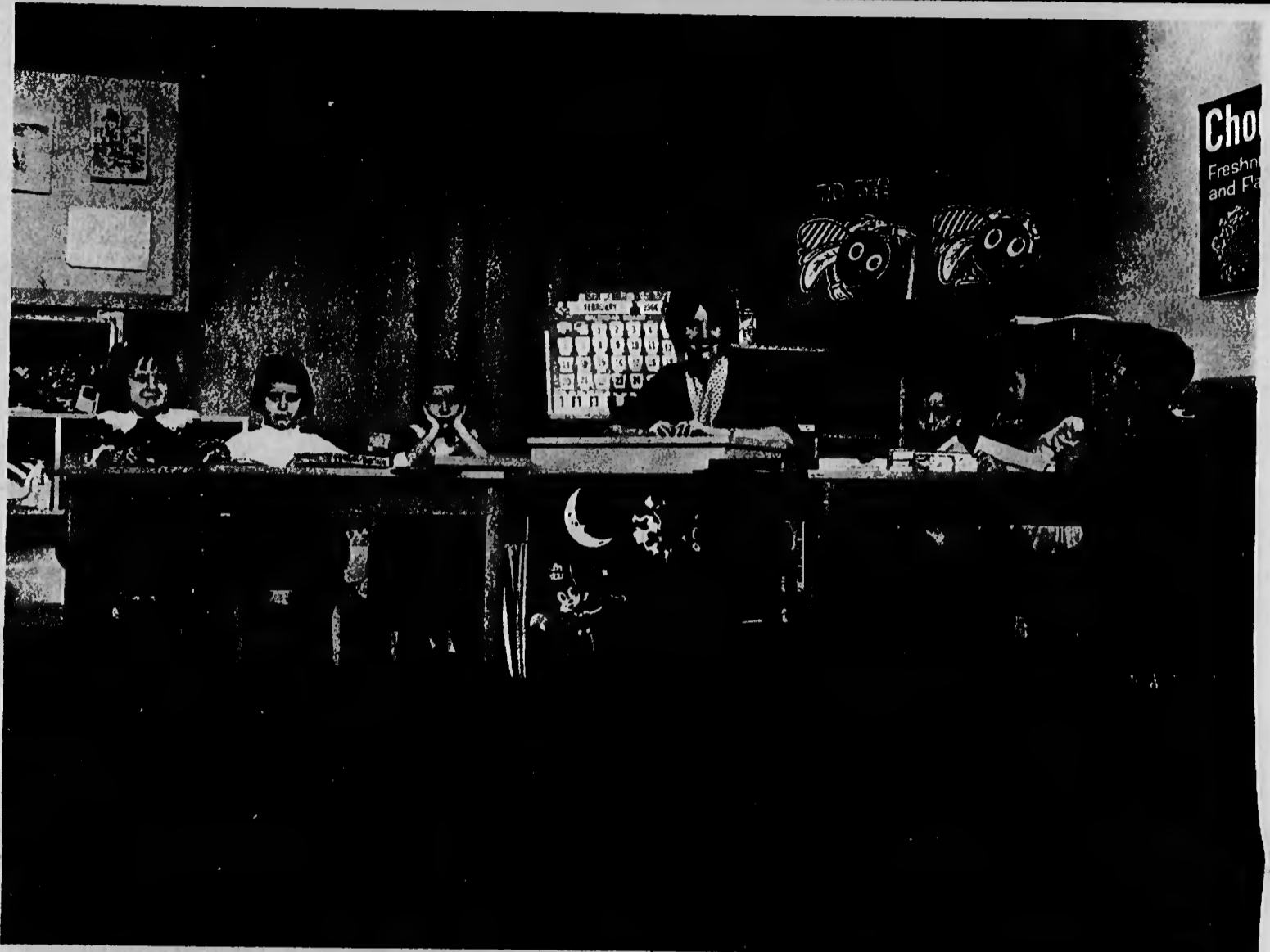
And for those of you who might be wondering about the price of tickets, they are selling for a very reasonable dollar and a half. It would be best, we feel sure, to purchase yours in advance, because of the heavy demand. Incidentally, we're not being paid to plug the show. How could we do less, and with good conscience, than sing the praises of this latest production by a native New Bernian?

Others news concerning the Jacksonville section is less pleasant. Chatting with Bill Ballard of Washington WTN-TV this week, we learned that his station has been getting frequent calls from tearful service wives at Camp Lejeune, who have been made victims of a cruel hoax.

According to Bill, the women get anonymous phone calls from a warped individual who says that their husband has been listed as a Viet Nam war casualty on a newscast over WTN. Quite often the wives are alone when they receive the phoney report.

Similar calls have been made in the vicinity of Fort Bragg, and at other military bases throughout the United States. It is common knowledge among service families that the next of kin should be notified by government authorities before a name is placed on a casualty

(Continued on page 6)



READY FOR ACTION—Less than a minute after Ted Carey snapped this Mirror photo, Romper Room, the popular WNBE program for kids, was in full swing. Thousands of youngsters in the Channel 12 viewing area look forward to the show five times weekly. Patsy

Bevill, a charming and capable New Bern native, presides over the well planned and equally well executed festivities. "Miss Patsy" is a whiz at getting her guests to participate.



APRIL MAGIC—One of our good friends and Mirror readers, Jack Layne, hauled his camera out to record this scene for us. Coastal waters are never more beautiful than they are when spring arrives. Fishing boats

resting along a tree-lined shore, under the canopy of a cloudless sky, add to the serenity of this calm stream. What a pity it is that all the world can't know such peace in this season of glorious awakening.