

# TEEN Topics



## IN NEW BERN TODAY

All vandalism is senseless, whether it is committed with malice or as a not so funny prank.

Each year throughout America, at High school prom and graduation time, a few idiotic seniors paint their class numerals on buildings and landmarks.

Because it is always difficult, and often impossible, to remove this paint, it remains as a lasting memorial to utter stupidity.

Let's suppose you belong to the Class of '73. Will you be proud or ashamed of this fact, long after graduation, when you pass a place that was permanently damaged by you or

one of your classmates? What is there about destroying someone else's property that gives the guilty party a sense of importance? Is this the sort of thing we can point to as proof of our maturity?

Foresters in all of our National Parks complain that thoughtless young people smear paint on large rocks, and cut gashes in beautiful trees a century or more old. Plumbing facilities suffer daily damage during vacation months.

Aside from spoiling scenic attractions for others, these acts necessitate costly repairs and restoration. Much of the money provided to maintain and improve these tourist attractions has to be used for replacement.

It is a known fact that many of the large forest fires in our country are deliberately set. Thousands of acres of timber, residences, and wildlife are destroyed annually.

In other instances, unauthorized campfires take a tremendous toll. When an area is posted against campfires, it isn't done to spoil your fun. There was a good reason for ordering this restriction.

People who are careless with matches in the woods, or start a forest fire as a prank, should be forced to see terrified animals, with their fur blazing, trying in vain to escape cremation.

All vandals aren't young people, but everyone who is, regardless of age, hasn't grown up mentally. The urge to destroy is common among small children, but what excuse can a teenager give for such behavior?

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DEAR, DEER . . . Cynthia Perkins offers a soothing sip to Rocky, a young fawn at Silver Springs (Fla.) International Deer Ranch.

### Looking Glass

(Continued from page 1)

four major battles, and Presidential citation.

Through all this bloody fighting, Raymond carried a battered yet tuneful accordion, boosting the morale of other boys with songs of the day and the familiar favorites that Grandma used to sing.

Perhaps no other accordion in all the world ever had an existence half so colorful. Reinforced with adhesive tape, Smith's sturdy little squeeze-box kept bringing home-sick kids a little bit of home—a little hunk of America—through the medium of song.

When he got back to Cherry Point, he still had the accordion

with him. On nights that he could get leave, he would come to New Bern and head for the USO club on East Front street. There, the talented but unassuming musician played for hours on end.

Most sleepless nights are unpleasant, but wakefulness in the wee small hours has its compensation when you're remembering boys like John Tepe and Raymond Smith.

### LAUNDRY CART

When your TV trays are old and battered, remove the tray and keep the folding leg bases. Make a bag of lightweight canvas and sew it to the top rims of the TV tables. Presto, a laundry cart. Stands with wheels are especially handy. You'll have a lightweight laundry stand and you can use two or three at one time as you divide your clothes.

### Top Ten Tunes In New Bern This Week

1. Daddy Don't You Walk So Fast—Wayne Newton.
  2. Alone Again—Gilbert O'Sullivan.
  3. Brandy—Looking Glass.
  4. If Loving You Is Wrong—Luther Ingram.
  5. Too Late to Turn Back Now—Cornelius Bros. & Sister Rose.
  6. School's Out—Alice Cooper.
  7. Lean on Me—Billy Withers
  8. Where Is the Love—Roberta Flack and Donny Hathaway.
  9. Day By Day—Godspell.
  10. Long Cool Woman in A Black Dress—Hollies.
- (This week's Mirror pick for a future spot in the Top Ten is the Osmonds version of Hold Her Tight.)

### CRAVEN COUNTY'S COUNTRY AND WESTERN FAVORITES

1. It's Gonna Take A Little Bit Longer—Charley Pride.
  2. Loving You Could Never Be Better—George Jones.
  3. Reach Out Your Hand—Tammy Wynette.
  4. Listen to A Country Song—Lynn Anderson.
  5. Borrowed Angel—Mel Street.
  6. Sweet Dream Woman—Waylon Jennings.
  7. Soft, Sweet and Warm—David Houston.
  8. Woman—Don Gibson.
  9. My Heart Has A Mind of Its Own—Susan Raye.
  10. Lonely Weekends—Jerry Lee Lewis.
- (This week's Mirror pick for a future spot in the Top Ten Johnny Paycheck's Love Is A Good Thing.)

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