

"Don't Knock The Rock"

Jack Paar stood up, walked to the speaker's stand, and said to all America in a serious voice,

"DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK,
 "DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK,
 "DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK,
 "DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK,
 OH, DON'T KNOCK THE ROCK."

This was one of the many poetic readings of the lyrics presented on the "Tonight Show." Humor, of course, was the purpose of this sketch, but a number of blase' critics sighed and said, "That's funny, but it's true."

They should have heeded Paar's words, "Don't Knock the Rock!" What these and most other narrow-minded enemies of this musical form do not realize is that rock and roll is a terse and abrupt emotional expression of teenagers set to appropriate music.

Teenagers have to live in the present, fast and hard, while their fun is excused as the actions of children, for in a few years they will be cut off from the real joys of life and forced into the conformed world of

years ago it was jazz; twenty years ago, swing; ten years ago, and today it is the 1957 Ford cruising by the school with the blaring out the voice of Fats, or the local drive-in crowded with kids jiving with Presley. Youth has always loved life and lived it. Violence and rebellion — these are said to be part of an attempt for expression.

Fast music does supply teenagers with a form of physical activity in this world of cars, trains, big cities, and crowded suburbs. Dancing is one of the few exercises of the "cat".

Anti-rock and rollers should get off their "Slow Boat To China" and live and let live.

Hans Conreid stood up, walked to the speaker's stand, and said to all America,

"PUT THE CHAIN AROUND MY NECK, AND
 LET ME BE YOUR TEDDY BEAR."

Excused Absence: State Fair

Raleigh is playing host to thousands this week as our capital city is the scene of the North Carolina State Fair.

This annual affair provides fun and entertainment for many students from all parts of the state, as well as a valid excuse for being absent from school.

All types of people are drawn to this spectacle for there is something of interest for everyone at a fair.

Exhibits are of paramount importance to most farm families. They have a chance to show off the work of a year, whether it be a prize bull or a beautiful wardrobe made by an efficient 4-H club member. Aside from farm exhibits, there are displays and demonstrations of every new and amazing gadget.

Students are attracted to the Fair by the thrilling and unusual rides. They like to show their daring and courage by trying out as many of these roaring monstrosities of machinery as possible.

This year several celebrities have made appearances at the Fair. Carmel Quinn, the Four Lads, and Julius La Rosa are among the entertainers.

At our State Fair there are many sounds uncommon in everyday life. Walking along the numerous paths, students are almost made deaf by the whirl of the rides, the shouts and screams from the riders, and the pleading voices of the venders.

Near the Cow Palace noises from the cattle stalls mingle with the sounds of little children begging their parents for just one more cone of cotton candy.

Odors are another trademark of the Fair. Everywhere are the odors of rich, buttery popcorn, fresh candy-covered apples, and cakes and pies which send fragrant aromas out from the women's food displays. The odor of hay and freshly washed cattle dominates the area near the arena. Also present is the dusty smell made by the thousands of feet trampling all over the grounds.

All these sounds and sights make for an exciting day which can only be enjoyed by those who are young at heart.



Homecoming Festivities Feature For Seven Years

In the past seven years, scores of events have been recorded in the annals of Walter M. Williams High School and none has attracted greater attention than the activities of Homecoming weekend which draws a large crowd every year.

The Long Walk

BY CLIFTON CATES

The time had come when I must go. Someone had come to escort me down the hall. As we started on that long walk, my companion and I exchanged knowing glances.

As we moved along I could feel the eyes of friends and relatives upon me. Some looked in sympathy, others in understanding of what I was feeling at this moment.

As we continued, I thought back at the times when I had been a gay young blade. No worries — life was just one happy song. No more would the gang and I sit in the corner drugstore sipping sodas while whistling at the girls walking past.

Oh, and there was that pretty blonde I had met at the beach last summer. What a time we had. Would I ever have such carefree fun again?

Had I done the wrong thing? Was it really my fault? What was ahead of me, as if I didn't know. Would Joe forgive me for what I did? Is this the end of our life long friendship? "Oh death, where is thy sting?"

Yes, it is all over now, but I was not too sad. I had lived my life in a happy way, and now all that was through. Why did Joe have to come along the dark, winding, trail just then? How was I to know he would be there, thinking of the past, gone now forever more? What was in our future? Was there a future for us?

The time was here, we were drawing near the finish. My feet were so heavy I could hardly put one in front of the other.

My heart was pounding; my breath came hot and shallow; my throat felt parched.

A man in black stood before us and said something I didn't hear. Why did he have to talk so long, why couldn't he stop? Then I remembered "A coward dies a thousand deaths, a brave man only one."

The man in black turned and looked at me and said, "Frank, do you take Mary to be your wedded wife?"

In 1956 Mrs. Frances Jamen, Mr. Weaver Tripp, and Mr. Charles Lewis of Durham selected Ann Raynor homecoming queen. Richard Shoe was her escort, elected by the students. Gastonia defeated Burlington by a score of 13-12.

Marianne Mull was selected queen of homecoming in 1955 by Mrs. Anne Cantrell White, Mr. Fred W. Fischer and Mr. Arnold Schiffman, all of Greensboro. The student body elected Jim Powell, king. The Bulldogs were defeated 13-7 by Raleigh.

Barbara Miles was chosen to reign in 1954 by Mrs. Kay Kyser, noted model and wife of famed band leader; Mr. and Mrs. Carleton Noell of Rocky Mount; and Miss Lucille Lantelme, a New York television actress. Jerry Long was elected king. The homecoming game was lost to Salisbury.

In 1953 Marian Lorimer was selected by Universal International stars Janet Leigh and Tony Curtis to reign as homecoming queen. The students elected Edward Webster king. The football game with Greensboro was won by the home team by 14-13.

Yvonne Buff and Ray Barts were chosen queen and king of homecoming in 1952. Writers James Street and Paul Green selected Yvonne from a group of five finalists. Ray was elected by the student body. At the game Salisbury triumphed over Burlington 22-7.

The 1951 homecoming was the first to be held at Walter Williams High. The queen and king were selected by the popular vote of the student body. Results of the voting were not announced until halftime at the game. Carrie Trollinger and Lacy Hall reigned over the Homecoming activities. That night saw a victory of 14-6 over arch-rival Greensboro.

There have been only a few homecomings held at Walter Williams, but every year adds another entry to the record. Past homecomings are occasions to remember in years to come.

Students Discuss School Marriages

Opinions were given by a representative group of Williams High students on high school marriages during a survey made by The Barker staff this week.

Opinions expressed by the students are as follows:

I think that the boy ought to be at least out of high school and have a good job. The girl ought to be at least a senior and be mature enough to accept the full responsibilities of marriage. —Paul Ellis

I think high school marriages are foolish. They have no place in high school. —Mary Anne Latta

In my opinion, people who marry while in high school should be exceptionally mature. I don't believe high school students are mature enough to meet difficulties in marriages. I am neither for nor against young marriages except in my own life, as I believe this is everyone's personal decision. —Pat Newton

In most cases I don't think it works out too well. It interferes with school, in that in many cases the boy has to quit school and get a job to support his family. —Delores Long

Marriage is an institution which should be studied and planned very carefully. It is supposed to last a lifetime. I believe time is an important element in deciding and planning marriages. I do not believe that high school students have had the proper time to decide definitely about marriage. —Frank Rich

I refuse to answer on the grounds that it might incriminate me —Jerry Hollifield

If a person wants to continue school after he is married I think that he certainly should be given the opportunity to do so. —Faye Jones

I don't approve of high school marriages at all, because students still have childish ideas. I think they should wait until after graduation. —Johnnie Jean Stephens

I do not approve of high school marriages. A boy who is in high school can not support a wife or a family. —Harriet Lee

When asked my opinion of this subject, I must say that upon first thought it could prove unwise. I think, however, if two people can come to a mature understanding of what problems they will face in a marriage under these circumstances, they further realize the primary importance of acquiring an education. —Mrs. Eve Poythress

I think if a couple feels they are mature enough to become husband and wife and are equally intent to remain with each other the rest of their lives, marriage is the only answer. Young marriages can not be entirely all wrong for statistics show that some have succeeded. —Sandra Rackley

There is a place for high school marriage if the people concerned are mature enough to accept the responsibilities of marriage —Brenda Butler

I think that if you really love someone, you can wait until after graduating because your high school education is very important. —Sandra Kay Wood

High school is a place for social and mental growth. Age is not important, but only when a person is mature enough to think of the future and to consider intelligently the consequences of such a step is he ready for marriage. —Ranny Umberger

I may be old-fashioned, but I think it is best to have a high school education before undertaking anything so serious as matrimony. —Carolyn Dunn

Marriage can wait until after one's graduation from high school. If you are really going to enjoy your high school career, there is no time for marriage. —Linda Minton

THE BARKER

Published monthly as the official voice of Williams High School.
 EDITOR-IN-CHIEF Calvin Linnemann
 MANAGING EDITOR Wanda Ware
 NEWS EDITOR Jim Copland
 EDITORIAL STAFF
 Feature Editors Frank Rich, Ruth Lemmons
 Society Editor Becky Carlyle
 Sports Editor Johnny Weeks
 Associate Editor Sandra Schiffler
 BUSINESS STAFF
 Circulation Manager Jack Newman
 Business Manager Alvis Rich
 Advertising Manager Tripp May
 Photographers George Best, Lin Puckett
 Typists Billie Gray Thomas, Sandra Rackley
 ASSISTANT EDITORS.....Phil Deaton, Nancy Lorimer, Ruth Lupton,
 Malcolm Kilpatrick, Mike Barham
 ADVISOR Mrs. Ella Booker