

Mr. Smith

European Trip Makes for a Super Summer

by Cheryl Luteman

Imagine... You are boarding the jet for a leisure summer trip to Europe with your current, favorite book in one hand and, just in case, your seasick pills in the other. As you settle back in your seat for a ride on the wind, you dream of your cultural escapades and the different lands you have yet to conquer.

Sounds exciting? It definitely will be. As of now students from Grimsley, Dudley and Kernersville schools will leave for a vivid tour of Europe with Mr. Smith, an English teacher of Grimsley. The cost of this trip will be roughly \$1500 per student. Included in this sum is a \$65 deposit which must be paid prior to the trip and is non-refundable under any terms. The tour will last 28 days and the countries toured in that time will be France, Italy, Spain, Switzerland and England. "The trip will give the students a chance to compare different cultures," Smith says, "and will provide them with a valid, non-tourist view of the cultures."

The main purpose of the trip is to culturally enrich the students in the literary arts of the European world. Those who go will have a chance to talk with a member of parliament, visit the birthplace of Shakespeare, attend a number of plays plus many more attractions.

Perhaps you want to know what kind of teacher Mr. Smith is before you start contemplating how much clothing to take. Well, you have nothing to worry about because he is one of the best. A very intelligent man, Mr. Smith started teaching nine years ago. When asked why he decided upon teaching he replied "My first desire to teach came in high school and I thought of it as a very influential position. I really think the decision to teach was made for me because it was something I could do well. (Today) teachers are sort of seen as slaves of society where as in Europe, teachers still command a lot of respect. I think people just don't realize the great effect teachers have on a student's destination."

Smith is studying to be a master of fine art and poetry and should be finished in one year. He



Photo by Ken Bicknell

has studied at both UNC-G and Chapel Hill. His favorite writers are John Fowles, Robert Pen Warren and John Gardner and he, himself, also writes poetry.

Mr. Smith was asked for his opinion of television as opposed to classic literature. "T.V. is much abused by the programmer and viewer alike. It doesn't fulfill its potential as the most important median we have today and I truly think you can become addicted to it. I agree with Frank Lloyd Wright when he said 'television is chewing gum for the eyes'."

Smith's classes are by no means easy. If you like English, like to read and are willing to put forth an effort in learning, you can possibly make an "A" or at least a "B". If you are fascinated with literature, just listening to him talk allows you to paint a picture in your mind in that he explains very vividly and leaves you feeling like a sponge ready to soak up knowledge wherever obtainable. **High Life** wishes to speak for the students in saying that we greatly appreciate Mr. Smith's services and dedication to educating the young. He really cares. Now you can decide what to pack and I'll see you on the Champs-Elysees.



Children Pick Up Rules of the World

by Ann Strange

A baby is born so innocent that people should stop to catch their breath. They don't though, because birth and innocence are no longer a novelty, only routine.

Little girls pick the wildflowers of the season, and study the intricate petals of Queen Anne's Lace, daisies, and dandelions. They are spellbound by the delicate beauty that adults are quick to call weeds.

A child has an uninhabited imagination that allows jungle gyms to be castles, and small hills to be mountains.

Kids cannot lie when they are young either. Their facial expressions have been honest so long that they can't conceal the truth.

A child has idealistic goals for the future. Their vision spreads over the horizon, where as adults find it hard to see beyond tomorrow.

As the years pass, their innocence is washed over by experience. One can see the next generation of rednecks at skating rinks, bowling alleys, and football parlors.

The girls have one hand on their hip while the other hands runs through their Farrah-Fawcett hairstyle. They wear so much mascara, eye shadow, and lid liner that one wonders how they manage to keep their eyes open. They chew enough gum to choke a horse; and its not at all uncommon for them to stop in the middle of a sentence to blow a

bubble in your face.

The boys have long shaggy hair. They walk like gorillas with slumped shoulders and swinging arms. They are chain smokers; they hold their cigarette between their thumb and forefinger so they can flip it through the air

when they're through. That's "cool."

Do you think that they're being stereo-typed? You're wrong, they have stereo-typed themselves. If one of them were to continuously step out of the mold set by their peers, they would become outcasts. The whole scene would be funny if it were not so sad. What's ironic is their ages range from ten to fourteen.

So when do dandelions become weeds and castles become jungle gyms? When does a kid lie and realize that he can get away with it? When does a child lose sight of

his dreams; when do black people become "niggers" and white people become "honkies."

The problem is not the kids, but the society that they are a reflection of. So they've grown up with peer pressure and prejudice; does that make it right?

Jethro Tull

From Commodes to Concerts

by Joe Morris

Before a wildly screaming audience, the leader appears, flute in hand, clad in British riding apparel. The bassist, dressed in a tiger suit, and the four other band members take their places on stage. The leader blows a few notes on his flute, and the arena filled with anxiety, explodes with sounds of guitar and drums. This is a Jethro Tull concert.

The leader is wild-eyed, bearded Ian Anderson says he once wanted to be the guy all the girls screamed over, until he saw his picture in a magazine. "I knew I would be loved neither by the teenyboppers nor their Mums. So I deliberately found a new direction. I turned my band into a concert group."

Jethro Tull is definitely a concert group. The magnetism of Anderson's flute playing and the powerful guitar of Martin Barre, the awesome drum solos of Barriemore Barlow, as well as the group's bizarre dress and on-stage antics, all make a Tull concert one to remember. Judging from the mere six dollar fee for their electric performance here last November, you also get your money's worth. In fact, when members of the band became sick before the recent appearance in Madison Square Garden, they gave an abbreviated show plus a four-dollar refund. Not bad.

Tull's albums are not bad either. Named for a seventeenth century British agricultural pioneer, the band itself is a pioneer in music. With its first album, **This Was** is 1968, Jethro Tull first brought British "underground" music to the United States. But it was not until the release of **Benefit** in 1970 and **Aqualung** a year later, that the group first drew a hard-core following in America. Typical of the music of that period, **Aqualung**, which

focused on an old man facing life on the streets, reflected Anderson's personal pessimism toward the world. At the time, it was what the world wanted to hear, and it brought Tull to the forefront of rock music.

However, the group's next work, **Passion Play**, was not as readily accepted as **Aqualung**. It was equally brilliant, but represented a radical change from Tull's previous albums. Anderson's views change as a necessity. "We must all change if we are to continue to grow."

After the early seventies, the popularity of Jethro Tull was on the decline. The fans of Ian Anderson began to wonder if his band would ever return to its former prominence in music. Then, last year, came the release of **Songs from the Wood**. This too was a change from the band's old sound, but this change was accepted hungrily by Tull followers, and the group was re-established as among the best in rock.

Jethro Tull consists of Anderson, Barre, Barlow, bass player John Glasrock, keyboard man John Evan, and multi-instrumentalist David Palmer. The 30-year old Anderson is the guiding force and focal point of the band. Born in Edinburgh and raised in Blackpool, England, he began his music career playing the guitar.

He recalls his switch to the flute: "When we were still an unknown band, I stopped playing the guitar because someone else in the band played it better. I went to a music shop to trade in my own guitar for any other instrument I could find. There were only two which I fancied, a double bass would have been a ridiculous thing to cart around, so I settled for the flute." This account reveals Anderson's great versatility. In fact, he also plays the acoustic guitar and sax, and on occasion, the



Ian Anderson

violin and trumpet.

Regardless of his immense talents, Ian Anderson, who has been given such labels as "De-ranged Flamingo" (because of his one-legged flute playing stance), has his critics. Some say his stage shenanigans and his band's outlandish costumery are gimmicks used to attract a following. Gimmicks or not, they are part of Jethro Tull. And all the band needs to attract a following is its unbelievable sound.

And its leader, a very ambitious musician, is constantly looking for ways to improve that sound. This hard work has paid off for Ian; he now owns two large estates in Britain, has been married two years, and recently became the father of James Duncan Anderson. But things have not always been so good. "While waiting for us to get started, I literally cleaned toilets for a living. I remind myself it could happen again." That seems unlikely for the man who has supplied us with his genius for ten years.

HIGH LIFE

Published Monthly
Grimsley Senior High School
801 Westover Terrace
Greensboro, N.C. 27408

HIGH LIFE is a member of Quill and Scroll and The National Scholastic Press Association. The cost is \$1.50 per semester, \$2.00 per year.

- EDITOR..... Hank Howard
- NEWS EDITOR..... Sara Gramley
- NEWS STAFF..... Manuel Campano, Ellen Mitchell, Anna Poulos, Kirk Rice, Jill Utter
- FEATURE EDITOR..... Cindy Ward
- FEATURE STAFF..... Carole Dolin, Cheryl Luteman, Martin Miller, Jackie Scism, Joe Morris, Gerri Ratliff, Ann Strange
- SPORTS EDITOR..... Lisa McDowell
- SPORTS STAFF..... Anthony Beard, Cindy Caveness, Wayne Earley, Jackie Scism, Bryan Smith
- AD MANAGER..... Jackie Scism
- ASST. AD MANAGER..... Kirk Rice
- BUSINESS MANAGER..... Jill Utter
- PHOTOGRAPHERS..... Ken Bicknell, Kathy McEachern
- ADVISOR..... Kathi Scroog