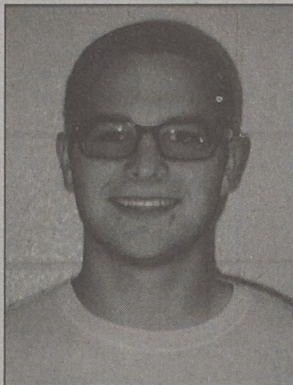


Sidewalk Survey

by LIB STEWART

What are your plans after high school graduation?



Chaney Barnes, 18

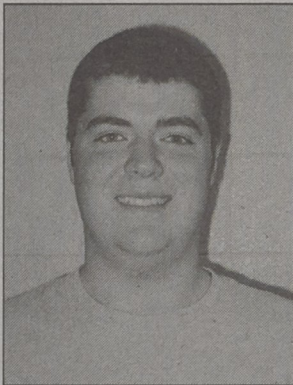
I'm going to Spain in June for five weeks to study Spanish and then enroll at Davidson College to major in Math/Science.



Sarah Scoggins, 17

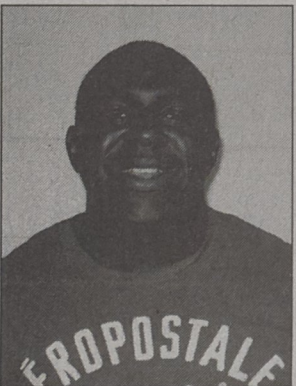
I plan to attend mission trips this summer and in the fall enroll at Gardner-Webb University and major in elementary education. My goal is to be a classroom teacher.

* Sarah had perfect attendance for her entire school career.



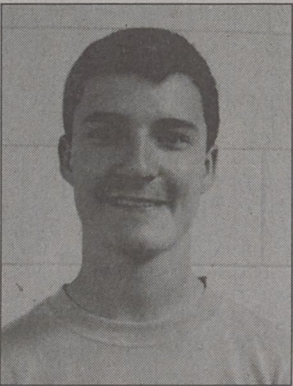
Ross Clark, 18

I plan to work this summer at Kings Mountain Hospital and enter the nursing program at Central Piedmont Community College this fall. I plan to continue my volunteer service with Kings Mountain Fire Department.



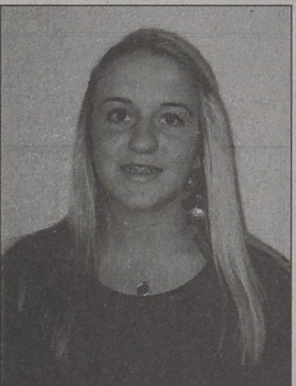
Edward Hopper, 18

My career plans are to become a doctor. I plan to enroll at UNC-Pembroke and study medicine.



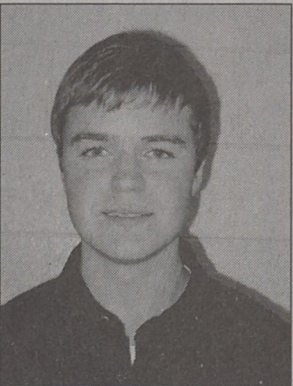
Matt Lovelace, 18

After a vacation with family I plan to enroll at UNC in Chapel Hill and major in Chemistry.



Mariah McKee, 18

I'm excited to be going to Honduras this summer on a mission trip. In the Fall I plan to enroll at UNC-Charlotte and major in elementary education. My goal is to be a teacher.



Ridge Scruggs, 18

After a trip to Vegas I plan to enroll at UNC in Chapel Hill. I plan to become a doctor.



Front Porch Music

By Ron Isbell, Publisher emeritus

A word of advice...

This time of year almost always brings a little celebration to Rusty Springs. With a family the size of ours there seems to be a new graduate every year. This year, however, it's a little more special because the graduates have moved down to the next generation and our first grandchild will walk across a stage and pick up her high school diploma.

Brette is a beautiful 18 year old blonde superstar that seemed to inherit all of our family's good qualities. I assure you there is no more prejudice here than in any assessment of your grandchildren's qualities. She is a multi-sport athlete, loves her job in a gun shop and will start a medical career at University of Louisville this fall.

All of our grandkids are pretty close to perfect. Brette just happens to be the first.

While I've presented this list of advice to graduates in the past, here it is again, but especially for Brette.

- Eat less. Taste more.
- Climb more mountains.
- Drive a red sports car.
- Appreciate kudzu.
- Start a fire in someone's soul.
- Learn how to choose a good

- melon.
- Change your own flat tire.
- Create something. Anything.
- Learn a foreign language.
- Sail a boat.
- Take pictures. Lots of them.
- Dance.
- Watch a sunset. Repeat. Repeat.
- Repeat.....
- Taste raindrops.
- Eat a brussels sprout.
- One is enough.
- Vote.
- Go fishing without bait.
- Spend more time. Less money.
- Get lost.
- Sleep in a tent.
- Write a poem.
- Hold a newborn child.
- Cry, but just a little.
- See a Broadway play, even if it's off-Broadway.
- Smell a mum.
- Everybody smells roses.
- Learn to play golf. Then actually play only if you enjoy it.
- Swim in an ocean and walk in a desert in the same year.
- Make friends everywhere you go.
- Go everywhere with friends.
- Don't work at a job you don't like.
- Work hard at a job you do.
- Love your parents for who they are. Appreciate them for who

- you are.
- Hear music when there isn't any.
- Love someone more than yourself.
- Know the virtue of being alone.
- Never know the pain of being lonely. Know the difference.
- Appreciate art for what it is.
- Don't try to make it something else.
- Start saving for retirement before you get your first job.
- Just like your funeral, it's inevitable.
- Avoid the seven deadly sins. They're aptly named.
- Paddle in a lake.
- Make a friend in someone of a different culture.
- Read Huck Finn.
- Spend a St. Patrick's Day evening in a real Irish pub.
- Be a part of a revolution, but do it peacefully.
- Find a way for others to be right when they disagree with you.
- Learn the difference between flowers and weeds before you tend a garden.
- Milk a cow.
- Visit New York City. Like brussels sprouts, once is probably enough.
- Read enough to have a favorite author.
- Make a list like this, then share it.

110 BC seniors to march Saturday

First and last class of BC early college students to take the field with their peers

By EMILY WEAVER

BESSEMER CITY - Dressed in caps and gowns of green and gold, 110 graduates will march into Bessemer City High School Stadium at 9 a.m. Saturday for commencement. Among that number, will be the first and last class - the only graduating class - of Bessemer City Early College High School.

The five-year program, which afforded Bessemer City students the chance to earn a high school diploma and up to two years of college credits, is moving to the Dallas campus of Gaston College. In August, the new Gaston County Early College High School will open to freshmen throughout the county.

But for four years the 10 Bessemer City seniors, who will be graduating with diplomas and college credits, have walked the halls with their peers at BCHS. They've shared stories over

lunch, whispers at the lockers, sang together in chorus, played together on the field and at 9 a.m. on June 9, the graduates of two schools, who've shared one roof, will - all together - turn their tassels.

The valedictorian and salutatorian (still to be announced) will address the crowd along with James Montgomery, principal of BCHS. And the Yellow Jacket fans that fill the stands will cheer for their favorite graduates as the new diploma-holders embark on their next journey in life.

On Friday, June 8, the Class of 2012 is invited to a senior picnic at 11:30 a.m.

The Class of 2012 has chosen Jan Sean's song "2012" as its class song. The class' motto is "The proud, the few, the class of two thousand one two." Tiger Lily is the class flower.

See a complete list of graduates on page 8C.

2012 Graduates, Rev Up Those Engines For A Great Future!!

Congratulations on your accomplishment.



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- Corbin

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Congratulations to the graduates of the class of 2012. Your achievement will lead to a better future for yourself and our community for years to come.

It's just better here. sm