

**CHRONOLOGY OF CARY HIGH SCHOOL**

**1896-1996**

**Prepared March 1996**

**by**

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**and**

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**As a contribution to the celebration  
of Cary High School's Centennial**





## BACKGROUND

Cary High School is the successor to Cary Academy, built in 1870 by Allison Francis (Frank) Page, the founder of Cary. The academy was a four-room, two-story, wooden structure that stood at the head of Academy Street where the main building of Cary Elementary School is now located. Frank Page sold one-third interest in Cary Academy to Rufus Jones in 1873. He sold his remaining interest in the Academy to two of Jones' daughters, Sarah and Lula, in 1886. The Joneses were teachers; in fact, Rufus served as superintendent of the Wake County school system prior to the Civil War. His home stood on the present site of Cary Public Library. The home of his parents, Henry and Nancy Jones, is still standing, at 9391 Chapel Hill Road. Built about 1804, it is the oldest house in Cary.

## THE FIRST QUARTER CENTURY - 1896-1921

**1896** - Cary High School officially begins when 16 citizens purchase the academy from the Joneses and give it a new name and a new direction. Articles of Agreement forming the Cary High School Corporation are filed with the clerk of Wake County Superior Court on June 9, 1896, and the corporation charter is issued on July 24, 1896, by Secretary of State C. M. Cooke.

Elected chairman of the Board of Directors is the Rev. C. W. Blanchard, who had negotiated the purchase. The Joneses were willing to sell because they knew Blanchard was sincerely interested in education. Other directors of the corporation are A. D. Hunter, and J. E. White, also Cary ministers; F. R. Gray and C. W. Scott, Cary merchants; and J. C. Angier, manager of Cary Lumber Company. Other stockholders are Lula Jones, R. E. Atkins, R. R. Yates, Z. V. Johnson, J. W. Creel, C. B. Passmore, B. S. Franklin, and J. R. Walker, all of Cary, and Josiah W. Bailey, editor of the Biblical Recorder in Raleigh.

The corporation issues 80 shares of stock at \$25 per share. Thus, the total capitalization is \$2,000. Stockholders begin recruiting students, who are charged tuition.

Edwin Lee Middleton, the principal of Durham Female Academy, is hired as the first principal of Cary High School. An 1889 graduate of Wake Forest College, he is a "born teacher, full of energy and enthusiasm."

**1897** - Commencement exercises for the first class of Cary High School are held Thursday and Friday, May 20 and 21, 1897. The first day features exercises by the primary and intermediate departments and the Clay Literary Society; the second day includes a sermon by the Rev. W. C. Tyree of Durham, a literary address by Professor J. O. Atkinson of Elon College, and exercises by the Music Class and Browning Literary Society.

**1898** - The new owners issue an "announcement," which reveals how Cary High School is to differ from Cary Academy. The public school system collapsed during the Civil War and had not been revived when Frank Page built the Academy in 1870. Thus, it was the only school here. But, by the time Cary High School was chartered in 1896, the countryside was dotted once more with one-room public schools, offering a rudimentary education free of charge. The announcement states:

The Cary High School was established to meet a manifest need for its class of work in this section of the State. While arrangements will be made for proper care

of the primary department, which is a necessity, the design of the school is mainly to afford facilities for a higher course of instruction than is provided for in our public schools.

Special effort will therefore be made to give systematic training in fundamental and higher English courses, and in all branches of study necessary to prepare girls and boys for entering the best colleges and schools – literary, scientific and technical.

About the school's location, the announcement has this to say:

... It is both healthful and beautiful. The moral atmosphere of the town of Cary could not be excelled in the State. The society in the town...(is) elevating and stimulating ... No better railroad facility could be furnished in the State – just at the junction of the Seaboard and Southern Railways. It is far removed from the malarial regions, with pure, cold well-water in abundance as the beverage of the people. The town was chartered dry, and is fortified against the possibility of alcoholic drinks ever being sold in or near it.

The school's "higher course of instruction" is divided into four levels: freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior. The elementary level is described as primary one, primary two, intermediate one and intermediate two. Thus, the school begins with eight grades, although the term "grades" is not used until many years later.

Stockholder John C. Angier arranges for President John C. Kilgo of Trinity College (now Duke University) to come over for an inspection and address.

1899 - President Kilgo endorses the school, saying it "... is doing a good class of work, and is worthy of patronage." Another endorsement comes from President C. E. Taylor of Wake Forest College. He praises the school's "moral and religious influences, the training in promptness and regularity, and instruction in the classrooms."

Employed are four teachers: Lily Jones teaches primary grades and French; Kempie Carlton teaches music and elocution; E. S. Edwards teaches English, Greek and higher mathematics; and Principal Middleton teaches Latin, history, science and arithmetic. Pay for teachers averages \$50 monthly.

1900 - A major building program is under way. Being added are one-story wings to each side of the original building. They will house "four excellent music rooms." Being added to the rear of the original building is a two-story addition, the second floor of which will contain "nice dormitory rooms for 24 young men." The expansion will give the school five "well-lighted classrooms" arranged so they can be converted into an auditorium that seats 800. The school grounds cover four acres, shaded by a grove of oaks. Hired as "matron" for the Boys' Dorm is Mrs. C. A. Wood.

Cary High School issues its first catalogue, a practice that will continue for most of the next 27 years.

Scholarships are secured from six universities, including the University of North Carolina. They are valued at \$40 to \$60 each.

The 1900 Census shows the village of Cary has 333 people.

1901 - As head of a private school, Principal Middleton is expected to spend his summer vacation "drumming up students." Recruited are boys "of good habits who want an education and are willing to work for it" and girls "who prefer well-stored brains and

countenances beaming with intelligence to servile obedience to the whims of fashion." Not wanted are boys "who curse, swear, play cards, and use intoxicants" and girls "who are unwilling to obey rules made for their welfare and protection."

1902 - Principal Middleton resigns to become a book salesman. Selected to succeed him is A. F. Sams, principal of Marshville Academy and an 1897 graduate of Wake Forest.

The school operates 10 months out of the year by offering two five-month terms, each of which constitute a "year's work." The fall term (for 1902) opens August 12 and closes December 19. The spring term begins December 30 and ends May 21. Students get one holiday in the fall, Thanksgiving Day, and one in the spring, Easter Monday. Quipped Effie Poplin, Class of 1904, "Going to school in August nearly killed us for the rest of the year."

Stenography and "typewriting" are added to the curriculum. They are taught by Lucy V. Reavis.

More endorsement are received. Wake School Superintendent W. G. Clements says: "It gives me pleasure to state that I have been intimately acquainted with the educational work of the Cary High School for more than three years, and regard it first class in every department. I know of no school of its kind (preparatory) that I can more heartily recommend."

1903 - The Seventh Annual Commencement Exercises for Cary High School are held May 17-May 21. Receiving their diplomas are six boys and five girls. Four of the graduates are from Cary; the remainder are from New Hill, Elberon, Dunn, Wadesboro, Wilson, and Durham.

E. L. Middleton returns as principal.

Cary High School now has 10 grades. Grades one through six are taught in the primary and intermediate departments; the high school "department" still offers four levels of instruction.

1905 - Student enrollment is 182, including 73 "locals" and 109 "boarders." Fifty-one of the boarders are from outside Wake County. Two of those are from South Carolina and another from Georgia. Room and board in the dormitories is \$7 monthly, that in private homes, \$8. Students must do their own laundry regardless of where they live.

Principal Middleton tells parents of prospective students:

However much we may be interested in the reformation of bad boys, we could not take the risk of endangering the character of many others for the hope of benefiting one. Because of the excellent moral atmosphere of Cary, and its numerous incentives to noble living, many boys have been strengthened morally while under our tuition.

New subjects and activities include bookkeeping, tennis, and (base) ball.

1907 - A momentous year for Cary High School! The momentum begins March 26 when the North Carolina General Assembly agrees to assist a statewide system of public high schools. The State has previously put some money into elementary education, but schools are mainly the responsibility of cities and counties. A few city systems have started public high schools, but only private high schools – like Cary – are available in most places. The 1907 General Assembly says the state will now match dollar-for-dollar money counties invest in public high schools as long as these schools operate at least five months a year and pay teachers \$40 a month.

Immediately upon learning of the General Assembly's action, stockholders offer to sell Cary High School to the Wake County Board of Education for \$2,750. The Public School Committee of Cary Township urges the Board to buy the school and convert it into "one of the public high schools ... provided for by the recent legislation." Here are some of the reasons the committee sets forth in asking for the conversion:

- For over 10 years Cary has successfully maintained the largest boarding school in Wake County.
- With tuition to pay, Wake County has sent an average of over 50 boarders to Cary High School for the past three years.
- There is no other place more desirably located.
- No other place has such good arrangements for boarding pupils. We can now take care of over 90 boarders and other rooms will be provided.
- The school already has a reputation for thoroughness and good morals in the colleges of North Carolina.
- The community stands loyally by the cause of education.
- We already have men trained in managing large school enterprises.
- We are petitioning for an election for a local tax and have enough signatures to make us reasonably sure of ample funds for our own children.

The Board of Education agrees to both the purchase and the conversion on April 3, just eight days after the General Assembly passes the enabling legislation. Wake County School Superintendent Zebulon Vance Judd says in his biennial report for 1907 that Cary High School (his alma mater) is "the first county high school in the State of North Carolina." Other leaders at the time call it the first state high school or state-assisted high school. Later, some people slightly stretch the distinction to call it the first public high school in North Carolina. Raleigh, which had its own school system, opened a high school in 1905 with Hugh Morson as principal.

The Wake Board of Education concludes that its new, instant high school, renamed "Cary Public High School," is "easily worth" \$8,000. But the cost to the County is only \$1,375 because half of the \$2,750 purchase price comes from the state. The property consists of 4 acres of land, four school rooms, four music rooms, a reading room and library, a literary society hall, 16 bedrooms, a dining room and kitchen, three pianos, and desks and benches for 150 pupils. (The library had 500 books.)

The General Assembly also creates a Cary School District and authorizes citizens living in the district to vote on a school tax of up to 30 cents per \$100 valuation on their property. The tax is approved by a margin of 100 to 2 in a referendum held on May 7, 1907. Superintendent Judd, a native of the Cary area and 1898 graduate of Cary High School, notes that a "healthier school spirit" exists in districts with a local tax.

As long as they pay tuition, Cary still accepts students from outside the district. Tuition for freshmen and sophomores is \$14 per term; that for junior and seniors, \$16. There are additional fees for students enrolled in music, piano, art, and elocution (speech) classes.

Replacing the stockholders' Board of Directors as overseers of the school is a three-member Cary School Committee, chaired by C. W. Scott.

Cary Public School, a small elementary school on West Chatham Street, is closed and those students are assigned to the primary and intermediate departments at Cary High School.

**1908** - Principal Middleton resigns again, this time to become Sunday School Secretary for the Baptist State Convention. Selected to succeed him is 37-year-old Marcus Baxter Dry, another graduate of Wake Forest. Dry already has 17 years of experience in education: seven as the teacher in a one-room, log school in Union County and 10 as



principal of privately-owned Wingate High School, now Wingate College. Principal and Mrs. (Wilma) Dry set up housekeeping in Browning Hall until they can build a home of their own. That house still stands, at 400 Faculty Drive.

**1909** - Students at North Carolina's first state-assisted high school can look forward to four years of English, mathematics, history and Latin; three years of science; and one year of French. Mathematics includes arithmetic, algebra and plane geometry. Science consists of physiology, geography and physics.

**1910** - The faculty has grown to 10, including one teacher for the grammar grades and two for the primary department. A new subject is "domestic science," taught by Josephine Evans. Graduating this spring are three young women and twelve young men.

Published are eight rules of student conduct:

- No form of immorality, such as drinking, cursing or playing cards, will be tolerated. The first offense will be sufficient grounds for expulsion.
- No form of hazing is allowed.
- Boys must not loaf on streets, in stores, or at the railroad depots.
- Girls must keep off the streets except for necessary exercise and then in approved places and under proper chaperonage.
- There must be no written communication between boarding girls and the boys of the school or village.
- Girls are no allowed to have the company of young men in walks or at boarding places.
- All pupils must be studious and orderly in school rooms.
- Giving and receiving aid on examination will be grounds for heavy demeriting or suspension.

**1911** - Explaining "what we do," school leaders say, "As far as possible, the wholesome influence of a Christian home is thrown around our students." Students are encouraged to attend local churches. Each school day opens with devotional services.

In all our work we have three ends in view: to teach pupils to be observant of what they see, judicious in what they do and logical in what they say. For a teacher to educate a pupil he must lead him, not drive him; draw out his mental powers rather than pour in a heterogeneous mass of information. Pupils are encouraged to do as much original thinking as possible."

Pointing to the baseball "grounds" and tennis courts, the leaders pledge to cultivate students "physically as well as mentally and morally.

**1912** - Enrolling for the fall term are 119 high school students, including 80 "boarders" from 14 counties. Another 188 students are enrolled in the elementary grades. A Girls' Athletic Club is organized for young ladies who wish to play tennis and basketball. Botany, agriculture and chemistry are added to the science curriculum.

Among the students is Lenna Matthews (Holleman), who is still living in 1996 at the age of 102. What she remembers most is that "We had a good school." She also remembers that as a "local" girl she could date, something "boarding" girls were not allowed to do. "And they (boarding girls) were jealous of me," recalls Mrs. Holleman, whose children, grandchildren, and great grandchildren have attended Cary High.

**1913** - Declaring that "the school has outgrown our present accommodations," Principal Dry writes a two-page letter to Cary citizens urging them to support a tax increase to build a new building. Among his arguments for the tax are these:

A new building with modern equipment and an up-to-date heating plant, with provisions for teaching Domestic Science, Agriculture, and Manual Training, would not only be a source of pride to the community, but a good investment. Such a building would attract from other sections families seeking school advantages. Property values would rise, so that in a few years it would be found that the small tax would hardly be noticed.

Principal Dry adds:

The citizens of Cary have always stood by their school. It is the one enterprise that they have sacrificed for and that distinguishes them in the eyes of other communities. Herein is an opportunity for Cary to set a good example before the whole State.

By this time, North Carolina has 200 state-assisted high schools of which Cary is the largest.

Citizens in the Cary School District go to the polls in May and approve \$25,000 in bonds to erect a new brick building on the same site as the old wooden structure. The State contributes another \$5,000, enabling Cary to erect the "best high school building in the state."

Dry would later say:

It can truly be said that this building led the way for better high school buildings in North Carolina. Many delegations of school people from all over the State came to Cary to see this building, and many a building in the next few years was modeled after it.

The dormitory wing of the original building is trundled to a new site where it continues to serve the same purpose. Another portion of the original building is saved for the "janitor's house."

Principal Dry spends the next three summers at A&M College (now N.C. State University) studying agriculture in preparation for Cary High School's next big undertaking.

**1914** - Cary adds a Farm Life Department, one of the first in the state, for teaching vocational agriculture and home economics. This leads to a new name: Cary Public High School and Farm Life School. Harold E. Stone is hired as the first agriculture teacher and Elizabeth Pryor is hired as the first home economic teacher. They are both 1914 graduates of Iowa State University.

Delegates to the State Teachers Assembly in Raleigh wear buttons sporting a picture of Cary High School's new, 33-room building. Many delegates stop by for a tour before returning home to lobby for a similar facility.

**1915** - Attorney James M. Templeton Jr., donates 15 acres of land on Walnut Street for a model farmstead so boys enrolled in the Farm Life Department can learn scientific agriculture in a hands-on manner. Other citizens and the town of Cary contribute \$1,500 to equip and stock the farm and to erect a farmhouse and barn. (The farmstead was abandoned after 10 or 12 years. But the old farm house still stands, at 510 Walnut Street, and so does the barn behind it.)

Agricultural students arise early, milk the cows and deliver the milk via horse and wagon to the dining hall in time for breakfast. Girls take their cooking, sewing and other "domestic science" classes in the eighth and ninth grades and then practice their skills in the

dining hall and dormitories. Once a week they prepare a sumptuous meal of which townspeople can partake for 25 cents.

About this time, Joseph A. Smith, an instructor in the woodshop at A&M College, builds a private dormitory for girls adjacent to his residence on Academy Street. Named Browning Hall, it has rooms for 24 girls and three teachers. The manager is Mrs. W. T. Lynn.

Also about this time, a professor of education at Columbia University brings his class down to study Cary High School. The class has black students, who take their meals alongside whites in the school dining hall. Students and townspeople are astonished, but not offended, to see blacks and whites eating together.

Making its debut is the "Chsite," an annual (yearbook) edited by seniors. The first issue is dedicated to Principal Dry "who unconsciously wins his way into the hearts of all with whom he comes into contact." His name also appears among the annual's "Funnybone Ticklers." To wit: "If he gets caught in the rain, will Marcus B. Dry?"

1916 - Cary High School designates March 9 as "Health Day," and uses the occasion to dedicate its new swings, slides and other playground "apparatus." Taking part in the day-long festivities are the state and county superintendents of public instruction, the lieutenant governor, president of A&M College, and dozens of other state, county and community leaders. They call the playground "a model for other schools in the State" and praise Cary for putting physical development on par with mental and moral development. Students are given "health score cards" on which they record health-related activities. Cary is also lauded for its leadership in vocational education and student government. Students have been given a role in developing and enforcing rules of behavior in the dormitories, and townspeople say discipline is better than ever.

North Carolina is overwhelmingly rural. Because of its proximity to Raleigh and progressiveness of the community, officials in the State Department of Public Instruction and at A&M College view Cary High School as a convenient laboratory for testing innovative ideas for other rural schools.

The Boys Dormitory burns to the ground the day after Health Day. Within two weeks, Principal Dry and the Cary School Committee meet with the Wake Board of Education to discuss plans for a new, two-story, \$15,000, brick dormitory. Asked to pay \$5,000 of the cost, the Board agrees to provide \$2,500. The speed of the meeting prompts The News and Observer to state editorially:

The quick and businesslike way in which the school committee and others interested at Cary are going about the matter to have a new brick dormitory built at Cary High School to replace the wooden structure recently burned gives fresh evidence of the progressive spirit of the school people of Cary, whose work in school lines has made this neighboring town of Raleigh known throughout the State.

Cary is certainly setting a hot pace for rural communities in North Carolina, and occupies an enviable position. It is a splendid example of what a few live, intelligent, and determined educators can do for a community. Small towns with a sluggish educational spirit should send some of their citizens to Cary and see what is being done. They will go back with a new light and will become missionaries whose work is bound to produce great results ...

Before work begins on a new dorm, Professor J. P. Pillsbury of A&M College designs a campus for the entire school. Like many colleges, Cary's school grounds are laid out in the form of a quadrangle.

The new dorm is completed by fall at a cost of \$11,000. Equipped with electricity and steam heat, it is named for Frank Page, Cary's founder. It is also given to the girls, while the boys are placed in Joe Smith's privately-owned, wooden building.

Much of the school basement is now filled with facilities for vocational training. A kitchen, dining room and sewing room are located there for home economics students. Work benches and a dairy laboratory are installed for agricultural students. Offered are three courses of study: academic, agriculture and home economics.

**1917** - Cary fields a football team. The players, who average 150 pounds, are coached by Tal Stafford, a former A&M star. (The team apparently does not last. Another six years pass before football is mentioned again.)

Congress passes the Smith-Hughes Act, making more federal money available for vocational education. Agriculture teacher J. S. Howard is given a 12-month appointment so he can assist students during the summer months with project work. His pay is \$1,800 annually, out of which he must provide his own transportation.

The United States enters World War I. Prices soar, creating budget problems for everyone, including Cary High School.

**1918** - The school year begins against a backdrop of two global tragedies: the Great War (World War I) is raging in Europe and the deadly Spanish Influenza Epidemic is sweeping the world. Principal Dry lectures students daily on the perils of visiting flu-plagued Raleigh. As Raleigh's death toll climbs, school is suspended. As a patriotic war effort, students and teachers remaining in town pick cotton for local farmers. Lady Principal Lillian Killingsworth sets the pace by picking 100 pounds in an afternoon.

At 9 p.m. on the night of Oct. 20, while school is suspended, fire breaks out in the home of Prof. Smith. Citizens quickly form bucket brigades and a fire engine arrives from Raleigh in only 11 minutes. But their efforts are in vain. The flames spread from the Smith home to the Boys' Dormitory, destroying them both. This sad news is followed three weeks later by the armistice ending World War I, which brings "great joy."

The school catalogue is suspended because of inflationary pressures on the budget.

Private companies donate milk processing, cooking and canning equipment. The Woman's Betterment Association of Cary pays for a concrete walk and gravel drive. The Junior Order and Patriotic Sons of Cary erects a flag pole, wall and six brick piers in front of the school (which are still there – the oldest things on the school grounds).

**1919** - Typical of new students this year is 15-year-old Rachel Eaton who arrives in August "dirty as I could be" after a sooty train ride from Davie County. Now Mrs. Rachel Dunham, she says of that experience: "It was the first time I had been away from home, and I got homesick, terribly homesick, especially before my sister, Mossa, arrived in November. But I wanted to learn. As far back as I could remember, I had wanted to study home economics. And Mama wanted Mossa and me to come to Cary High School ... "

Seniors begin a monthly newspaper for alumni, patrons, and friends, Cary High School Echoes, later abbreviated as C. H. S. Echoes, and then as just The Echo. The cost



is 10 cents per issue or 40 cents for an annual subscription. With a circulation reaching as high as 900, the Echoes will appear off and on in various forms over the next 40 years.

Inflation is slowing work on a new Boys' Dorm. Erected is a cannery so fruits and vegetables produced on the school farm can be preserved for use in the dining hall.

Students form a council with representatives from each of the four high school classes. They also form a general athletic association with representatives from four groups of students: local boys, local girls, boarding boys and boarding girls. Adopted is a Cary High School Creed based on the Scout Law.

The Chsite (annual) publishes the height and weight of seniors. The women are from 5 feet 3 inches to 5 feet 5 inches tall and weigh from 108 to 145 pounds. The men range from 5 feet 5 to 5 feet 9 inches tall and weigh from 110 to 170 pounds. The average age of women: 17.6 years, that of the men: 18.3.

A member of the Chsite staff describes his senior year this way: "Been broke - 136 times; Had money - 5 times; Went to Raleigh - 98 times; Had permission - 5 times; Had a bath - 102 times; Talked to girls - 101 times; Excused for sickness - 13 times; Been sick - 1 time; Worked on annual - all the time."

1920 - The new Boys' Dorm is finally ready. As part of the strategy to keep the sexes separate, it is located on the east side of the main building (on the present site of the cafeteria). It is almost identical to the Girls' Dorm, located on the west side of the main building. But it cost over twice as much to build, \$25,000, because of the inflation caused by the war. Boys pay a monthly dorm fee of \$5. Girls pay \$5 for a single bed, \$4.50 for a double. Meals are \$15 per month for everyone.

Home economics students are now operating a "soup kitchen" for day students. The girls plan the meals, buy the food, cook it, serve it and collect the money - 10 cents per meal. A typical lunch consists of "vegetable-milk soup, toast, fruit sandwich."

Boarding students have their own dining hall. The Betterment Association, a forerunner of the Parent-Teacher Association, later assists with the lunchroom.

Here is how boarding students spend a Saturday in the dead of winter (January 31, 1920):

About 50 of them, girls and boys, gather early on the school grounds to work on the tennis and basketball courts. Afterwards, they hike (3 miles) to High House. There they sit around a blazing log fire, enjoy guitar and mandolin music, eat sandwiches, apples, pickles and marshmallows, and listen to tales about the people who built and lived in the old house. They then hiked 3 miles back to school.

(High House was a spooky old place, built in the late 1700s, that stood in the 500 block of the Cary road that now bears its name.)

There are new titles all around. M. B. Dry is now the "superintendent" of Cary Public High School and Farm Life School. W. C. Merritt is the principal; Mattie McArthur, lady principal; J. K. Coggins, principal of the Farm Life School; and Irma Ellis, principal of the elementary school.

Commencement exercises, which last three days, feature a music recital, oratorical contest, debates by the four literary societies and a play, "A Strenuous Life," by the Dramatic Club.

Voters in the Cary School District go to the polls in May and approve bonds to construct a \$45,000 building for the Farm Life Department. Among other things, the building is planned as a meeting place for area farmers. They will be made "to feel at home at all times," promises Agriculture Teacher J. S. Howard.

The Census places Cary's population at 645, nearly twice that of 20 years ago.

1921 - Enrollment is 537, 235 of whom are in elementary school (grades 1-7), and 302 in high school (grades 8-11). The high school has 212 "boarders" from 19 counties of North Carolina. Admission to high school is by completion of the seventh grade or by passing an entrance exam.

The school year begins with a new entity - the Cary High School Band, the first school band in this part of the state. Students in the Agriculture Department build a shop "equipped with a forge, work benches and a complete set of tools."

Cary High School now has a motto - service; colors - olive green and white; flower - white rose; and a three-verse song sung to the tune of "Over the Summer Sea." The first verse and refrain are as follows:

Cary! here's love to thee,  
And we will ever be  
Filled with true loyalty  
And with devotion.  
Long we will ever claim  
The blessings of thy name,  
And may thy spirit reign  
From crest to ocean.

Fond hearts entwining,  
Cease all repining,  
Near us is shining  
Cary's bright smile.

The (boys) basketball team goes 8-3, the best win-loss record ever. The girls basketball team does poorly because it has "little or no coaching." Baseball fans are saddened to learn that their star pitcher, Victor B. Sorrell of Morrisville, is matriculating at Clayton High School instead of returning to Cary.

## THE SECOND QUARTER CENTURY, 1922-1946

1922 - Completed is the Walter Hines Page Vocational Education Building, named for Cary's "most illustrious" native son and forceful spokesman for the "free public training of both the minds and hands of every child born of woman." Along with accommodating agriculture and home economics, the basement of the Page Building has laboratories for biology, chemistry and physics.

Cary gets a second agriculture teacher, E. N. Meekins, who doubles as an extension agent to the community. Paid with federal funds, he travels 462 miles in May helping students and their families vaccinate poultry, plan pasture rotations, mix tobacco fertilizer, cull hens, treat fruit tree diseases and identify a new pest - the cotton boll weevil.

Returning to give the annual literary address during the weeklong commencement exercises is Josiah W. Bailey, one of the 16 original stockholders. He is now a United States senator.

There is jubilation on campus as the fall term begins. Returning to Cary High for his senior year is 20-year-old Vic Sorrell, who had pitched the Clayton High School baseball team to a state championship the previous spring.

1923 - Cary loses its first baseball game of the season, 6-2. But that's not bad considering the opponent: Wake Forest College, and the varsity team at that. Awaiting Cary at this point are four high school games, the first against Raleigh. On the morning of that game, The News and Observer quotes Raleigh Coach Torgan as saying that "he has some sluggers in his outfit that will make Sorrell's life miserable." Here are headlines and story from the next day's paper:

CARY HURLER FANS 21 IN BLANKING RALEIGH HIGH SCHOOL, 9-0  
BUT ONE EXTRA BATSMAN FACES CARY HIGH SCHOOL PITCHING STAR  
Sorrell Strikes Out 21 Raleigh Players in Locals First Game  
Allows But Two Hits;  
Pitches to But 28;  
Turns in Unexcelled Record  
As Raleigh Bites the Dust

The story goes on to say: "Performing a feat never before recorded in baseball annals in North Carolina high school or college baseball, Pitcher Vic Sorrell of the Cary High School team yesterday afternoon on the Red Diamond at State College let the Raleigh High School down to a 9-0 defeat, after allowing but 28 batters to face him in the course of nine innings. In performing this remarkable feat, Sorrell struck out 21 batsmen and allowed but two hits ...

Sorrell allows no more hits. He shuts out Clayton and Durham in the next two games and is ready for the final game of the regular season, a rematch with Raleigh to be played in Cary. On the day of that game Sorrell is in bed with the measles, and a pitcher named Franks comes off the bench and pitches Cary to a 3-1 victory.

All bets are now on Cary to win the state championship game, which is to be played in New Bern against New Bern High. Sorrell pitches good ball, but the breaks go the other way. With the score tied 3-3, the game is called for darkness after 15 innings. "Oldtimers declare that in their long experience on the field and in the bleachers they had never seen a contest so fiercely fought or so filled with sensational plays."

That game was on Saturday (May 12, 1923). Players observe the sabbath, sit through a rainy Monday, and take to the field again on Tuesday as a record crowd jams the stands and sidelines. That game goes 14 "smashing" innings before Cary fielder David Pleasants drops a fly ball, allowing New Bern to win, 3-2. (Pleasants always says New Bern fans interfered with him.).

Postscript: Sorrell was a solid student as well as superb ball player. He went on to pitch for Wake Forest College and the Detroit Tigers and to coach baseball at N. C. State University. William H. (Bill) Dry (Class of '26) said he once saw Vic Sorrell pitch against Babe Ruth in Yankee Stadium.

Opening at Cary High School is a "State Normal Training Class for Teachers," one of four such units in the State. Graduates will be able to "teach directly out of high school." (The program lasted five years, after which the supply of teacher college graduates was deemed adequate to meet school needs.) Also organized is a new Department of Physical Training to teach marching, running, tumbling, wand and dumb-bell drills, body and rank tactics, dancing, gymnastics, and games.

Football returns (and this time it stays). The Cary squad loses its first game ever, against Selma, 13-6. It drops its next game, too, against N.C. State freshmen, before finally tasting victory in a 6-0 win over Buies Creek Academy, now Campbell University. Cary closes its four-game season with a 7-6 loss to Sanford.

Operating expenses have reached \$33,000 annually. The money comes from the special school tax levied on property in Cary Township, tuition fees and dorm rent, and from the county and federal appropriations.

Commencement activities span five days and include a literary address, delivered this year by Governor Cammeron Morrison.

**1924** - The fifth annual Charlotte Observer College Edition contains an advertisement from Cary High School, which is described as having "four brick buildings, 25 teachers, a statewide patronage, and reasonable rates." The ad also states: "Cary is one of the few communities in North Carolina which at great cost to itself and without much outside help provides a school plant adequate not only to its own needs but sufficient to meet the needs of a school population more than twice its own. At present ... (it) can accommodate 350 high school pupils."

Graduates can earn one of four diplomas: academic, home economics, agriculture, or teacher training.

Superintendent M. B. Dry writes an article for The News and Observer's annual education edition titled "Ten Years Experience Confirms Belief in Vocational Education." He describes how as a student he was "exposed to liberal quantities of classical learning in the form of Latin and Greek ..." and how he had "imbibed great doses of mathematical lore" in the form of trigonometry, geometry and calculus. Then he adds:

For the past ten years I have been at the head of a school that strongly emphasizes ... agriculture and home economics. I have seen boys and girls become interested in these subjects and stay in school through four years who without a doubt would have had a brief and unhappy high school career if they had been compelled to study Latin or some of the higher mathematics. ...

**1925** - Work is completed on the new \$12,000 gymnasium, permitting basketball teams to play on a hardwood floor instead of a dirt court. The gym, which seats 500, is named the James M. Templeton Physical Education Building in honor of the town doctor. (Dr. Templeton practiced medicine here for 47 years and for 32 of those years he served on the Cary School Committee.)

Track is becoming a major sport, attracting about an equal number of boys and girls. Letters are offered in running, jumping, hurdling, pole vaulting, and in throwing the discus, javelin and shot.

Diplomas are awarded to 46 graduates: 32 "boarders" and 14 "locals."

Wake County voters go to the polls and approve a countywide school tax of up to 50 cents per \$100 property valuation.

**1926** - The Farm Life Department adds a 12,000-egg incubator to hatch chicks for the community and to stimulate production of quality poultry. (This work eventually led to the formation of two businesses: the Cary Hatchery and Cary Egg Market, the latter of which is still in operation.)



The playground is expanded to provide space for five organized sports: baseball, football, basketball, track and tennis, the latter three of which have both boys' and girls teams. Other organizations include the Dramatic Club, Girls Glee Club and Boys Glee Club. The Parent-Teachers Association presents loving cups to the winners of the annual debate sponsored by the four literary societies: Browning, Calhoun, Clay and Irving.

Students form a Science Club, later called the Physimetry Club. Girls enrolled in domestic science organize a Home Economics Club, later called Future Homemakers of America.

Wake County commissioners agree to fund all future school construction as long as local districts pay teacher salaries and other operating expenses for at least an eight-month school year.

Cary gets its first school truck (bus). It travels 24 miles daily, transporting 22 pupils.

**1927** - The era of consolidation begins. Realizing the potential of the school bus, the Wake County Board of Education extends the Cary School District from the Durham County line to the Raleigh city limits. This means that students living as far east as the State Fairgrounds and Avent Ferry Road are now in the Cary district. Three elementary schools in the district – Morrisville, Sorrell's Grove, and Reedy Creek – are closed and those students are bused to Cary.

Wake County provides Cary High School with its first school construction money – \$38,000 to erect a building to accommodate the influx of students caused by consolidation. Consisting of 12 classrooms, it is named the Marcus Baxter Dry Building. (The Dry Building was torn down in 1993.) The county provides another \$20,000 for Cary to install a central heating system.

The number of high school students on campus is dropping at the same time the number of elementary students is increasing. This year there are only 189 enrolled in high school, mainly because fewer "boarders" arrived the previous fall. School buses are making it easier for them to commute to a high school nearer home, and those schools are getting better each year.

Citizens living in the new and enlarged Cary School District go to the polls in March and vote 448 to 76 in favor of continuing the local school tax. The district's two largest taxpayers are the Seaboard and Southern railroads.

The boys' basketball team racks up a 12-1 season, losing only to Green Level. The highest scoring game of the season was Cary's 25- 24 win over Wake Forest; the lowest, Cary's 2-0 triumph over Holly Springs.

The Music Department adds violin for a \$5 monthly fee. Piano is still offered for \$1. This fee entitles students to an hour of daily practice in one of the six music rooms.

**1928** - With interest in its "boarding department" lagging, Cary High School fails to publish a catalogue for the first time in many years.

The high school faculty consists of 12 teachers, including two each in English, piano and agriculture. One of the English teachers also coaches girls' athletics, while the history teacher does the same for boys athletics. Principal Dry teaches geometry and algebra. Other subjects offered are biology, physics, chemistry, Latin, French, teacher training, public school music, violin, typing, stenography and bookkeeping.

**1929** - Seven school buses are now in service, transporting 260 pupils daily. Only the roads leading directly to Raleigh, Durham and Apex are paved. All others are dirt. Classes are dismissed shortly after noon on rainy days to give buses more time to traverse the muddy roads.

The General Assembly authorizes the Cary School District to borrow \$7,500 to expand the playground.

Agriculture students form a club called Tar Heel Farmers, a forerunner of the Future Farmers of America.

The Stock Market crashes, triggering the Great Depression. Plans for expanding the playground are put on hold.

**1930** - The district school tax is set at 50 cents per \$100 valuation, but property values are dropping. The Bank of Cary fails and the "Chsite" is suspended for a lack of funds.

Added about this time is a six-week, make-up session during the summer for students who have failed a course.

Former students provide Principal Dry with a 13-nation foreign tour.

**1931** - High school students have an 1,970-volume library to which no books were added this year because of financial hard times. Periodicals received by the library include: Scientific American, Current History, American Magazine, Scribners, Boys Life, School Arts, Good Housekeeping, Better Homes & Gardens, Readers Digest, Popular Science, National Geographic, Time, Popular Mechanics, Radio News and American Girl.

To save money, the Wake Board of Education closes Mount Herman and Ebenezer schools and sends those students to Cary, too.

The General Assembly boosts the State's School Equalization Fund to help financially hard-pressed, local school districts defray operating expenses.

**1932** - The local school tax is reduced to 40 cents.

One of this year's grads will later give his "Personal View of School Life at Cary High" in a service by young people at Cary Methodist Church. Among other things, he urges parents not to believe all the bad stuff little "Johnny" runs home and tell them about his teachers. On discipline the grad had this to say: "Frankly, the faculty is helpless to enforce the rules if the majority of the students will allow the few that are set on being a nuisance have sway. But if they frown on the few that are always up to mischief, it will soon be curbed."

**1933** - The dormitories are closed. The Boarding School Era is over, a victim of the Depression, school buses and the statewide system of public high schools pioneered by Cary. The dormitories are converted into living quarters for teachers "who want to do light housekeeping." They are now called "teacherages."

The state assumes responsibility for operating the public school system of North Carolina. The 1933 General Assembly takes away the taxing authority of local school districts and agrees for the state to pay teachers and other annual school expenses. Buildings remain a county responsibility.

The Wake Board of Education establishes "Cary Consolidated School District No. 1." It has three schools: Cary High School with grades 1-11, and Mount Vernon-Goodwin and Swift Creek, both with grades 1-7. Dry is both principal of Cary High School and superintendent of the district. Principals of the other two schools report to him.

There is also a "Cary Consolidated School District No. 2" with somewhat different boundaries for black students. They attend Cary Colored School for their elementary education and Berry O'Kelly at Method for their high school years. The "Negro school bus" leaves Fuquay each morning and makes stops in Holly Springs, Apex and Cary on its way to Method.

To help citizens through these "tough times," the agriculture and home economics teachers take the leadership in forming the Cary Community Club. The club sponsors a square dance at the school each Saturday night and a community fair in the fall.

Students get back in the publishing business by starting a newsletter, The Representative. Articles are typed on stencils and mimeographed on the most economical paper available. Ads are hand-lettered. The subscription rate is 10 cents per year (six issues) or 2 cents per copy.

1934 - Graduating are 43 seniors, 23 girls and 20 boys. Total enrollment 821, of whom 329 are in high school, grades 8-11.

1935 - Arriving on campus about this time is a gung-ho new teacher and football coach, Albert H. Werner. Having played both football and baseball at Duke University, he is "Blue Devil" to the core. One of Cary's star football players during this period is Hubert B. (Squeaky) Jordan, who still lives here. He recalls:

Most of us were just country boys. We'd go to school half the day and pick cotton the other half. But Werner was big time, and he was tough. I learned that when he caught me smoking down at the drugstore. One day he had a meeting of the team. I remember it was in a little out-of-the-way room on the third floor. But I don't remember exactly when it was. I think it was the first year I played (1935). We decided at the meeting that our team needed a name, and we picked "Imps" because of Duke University.

Duke's junior varsity teams were called Blue Imps, meaning young devils. The name was also used there at times to denote players in the intramural program.

As it turned out, Werner did not have total say over the name selection. Carolina players in those days were White Phantoms, not Tar Heels. Someone whose identity has not been determined, but obviously a person with Carolina blood, succeeded in making Cary'simps white instead of blue. Initially, only the football team was called the White Imps, a name shortened to Imps in the 1970s, but eventually it spread to other segments of the school, too.

President Roosevelt establishes by Executive Order the Works Progress Administration (WPA) to relieve unemployment, and Cary High will soon feel the impact of this order.

Principal Dry is asked to reflect on his "40 years as a principal" in a special publication issued by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction. Among his comments were these:

It has been exceedingly interesting to watch the changes that have come about in the high schools in the past 12 or 15 years. Immediately after the World War the schools were filled to overflowing with boys and girls seeking an education,

for the war had revealed an amazing amount of illiteracy among the young boys who went overseas. The dormitories at Cary ... were unable to accommodate all that came, even with four to the room ... The teaching force had to be practically doubled and extra buildings and equipment provided. In the next half-dozen years the consolidated schools began to spring up with fine brick buildings, well equipped laboratories and libraries, steam heat, running water and sewerage, free transportation of pupils, the final result being that the boarding patronage dwindled ...

In spite of all this change the school at Cary is still outstanding in the character of its curriculum, the practical subjects being strongly emphasized and kept to the fore while the classical subjects of Latin and some of the higher mathematics are kept in the background, but not altogether discarded. Very few pupils now graduate from the high school without having had some contact with home economics, agriculture, or typewriting and bookkeeping.

This writer is often asked whether he prefers the modern consolidated school to the old type boarding school. The answer is both affirmative and negative. The old time boarding school had as its student body for the most part the picked representatives of the various communities from which they came; they studied harder; they were under better control, but not all could pay the board, room rent, tuition, and other expenses ... The consolidated school must necessarily maintain a lower average standard of scholarship than the old type boarding school for in the consolidated school everybody goes to school, the good, the bad, the indifferent; too, it is free, and this doubtless makes application to studies less diligent; still it must be admitted, and to this writer this outweighs all other consideration, that the consolidated school places a high school education in the reach of every boy and girl whether they be rich or poor, whether they live in the small town with a fair degree of culture or in the most out of the way county district remote from cultural influences. Is it the firm conviction of this writer that the consolidated school is the best type of school that has ever been devised for a rural people.

**1936** - The first WPA money arrives, enabling the school library to stay open during the summer months. Another "welfare worker," as Principal Dry calls him, is available at the library two days a week to repair books (for the community).

The Wake Board of Education buys land to expand the playground. Purchased from the J. M. Templeton estate are about 5 acres of land adjacent to the campus, most of which will be used for ball fields. Boys have baseball, football and basketball; girls, basketball, volleyball and soccer.

**1937** - While pinching pennies is the order of the day, students still manage to enjoy social events that help to make high school memorable. There are the annual junior-senior banquet and dance, and dances sponsored by the Hi-Y and Dramatics clubs. There is also a class ring, which this year has an emblem on the side commemorating the centennial of public education in the State.

What Miriam Brown (Class of '37) remembers most fondly about those Depression years were the good teachers. Many, she said, had master degrees. Miriam, now Mrs. Klimstra, added:

Cary was little, but we didn't feel isolated. We were close to Raleigh, and I think that was one reason we were able to attract such good teachers. I never



will forget my English teacher, Mr. (J. Andrew) Morgan. He could make literature so fascinating, so alive. That's why reading is still my favorite hobby. And, of course, there was Mr. Dry. He set the tone. We knew we were there to learn, not to fool around, and we knew he cared about each student. I never will forget the day Mr. Dry was making announcements during chapel and a girl said something to him of an argumentative nature. I couldn't believe it. Argue with Mr. Dry! I felt the building was going to fall.

Graduating in the Class of '37 are 55 seniors, 28 of whom received academic diplomas, 11 of whom receive home economics diplomas, 1 of whom receives an agriculture diploma, and 15 of whom receive a diplomas in both academics and home economics. The commencement speaker this year is Dean (and later chancellor) Robert B. House of the University of North Carolina. As is customary on commencement day, tables are erected on the school grounds and there is dinner for everyone, students, parents, and townspeople.

1938 - Community leaders gather at the school to thank "Professor Dry" for his 30 years of service as principal of Cary High School.

The Monogram Club raises enough money to buy letters and sweaters for top athletes. Among them is James T. (Preacher) Hurley, Class of '38, who scored all of his team's points in a 23-17 win over Garner. "His teammates couldn't hit and Hurley couldn't miss" is how The News and Observer described the game. The feat is later reported statewide in a newspaper feature called "Odd Facts in Carolina." Hurley, who is still a resident of Cary, says he once mentioned the game to (Carolina Player) Phil Ford, and he told me "he had never heard of such a thing."

R. O. Heater and about a dozen other men organize the Cary Athletic Association (CAA) to support the school's sports program. One of their first goals is to secure a football stadium. The WPA is helping to build all kinds of public facilities, and the CCA decides to go after some WPA money for Cary, also. They get it with the help of the Wake Board of Education. Using that money, along with some county and local funds, they build what is said to be one of the best high school football stadiums in the state. It includes bleachers for 1,500 fans. To get funds to buy uniforms and equipment for the various sports teams, the CAA sells tickets to athletic events. Season tickets are \$3; tickets to individual events are from 10 to 25 cents each. Heater is an avid boxing fan, and before long Cary has both a boxing team and a wrestling team.

Shortly after the Board of Education agrees to help Cary obtain WPA funds for a football stadium, community leaders decide to seek WPA help with an even bigger project – a new "central" building for the high school. Although the existing building is only 25 years old, people say "Professor Dry has already worn it out." The Board of Education agrees on July 7 (1938) to provide \$70,000 of the \$132,000 cost of a new building with the remainder to come from the WPA. Dr. John P. Hunter, a Cary physician, is a member of the Board and a leader in securing the funds. (He is also credited with buying, out of his own pocket, the band's first uniforms.) Other strong advocates of a new building are Dr. F. R. Yarborough, the town's other doctor, and R. O. Heater. As the owner of Heater Well Company, the largest business in town, he never misses an opportunity to help the community.

Thus, the "model" structure erected in 1913 is torn down to make way for the new building on the same site. Also razed is the Boys Dormitory, erected in 1920. Chiseled into the cornerstone of the new building are these words:

Cary High School  
First State Public

High School Established  
in North Carolina April 3, 1907  
This building erected in 1938

Actually, most of the construction takes place in 1939. While the work is under way, the 400 high school students are packed into the Page Building and Templeton Gymnasium. It is a period that tests the patience of teachers and students.

**1939** - The boys basketball team wins the State Class B championship, the first rural school in North Carolina to achieve this honor. The championship game is played against Mount Airy High School on Feb. 24 in Carmichael Gym on the campus of the University of North Carolina in Chapel Hill. Mount Airy leads 9-7 at halftime, but "with the crafty shooting" of Douglas Holleman, Cary pulls off a 20-17 victory. Holleman was voted the conference's most valuable player after scoring 13 of Cary's points. "They didn't give us a trophy," says Holleman, Class of '41 and a lifelong Cary resident. "Instead, they gave us the game ball, which all the players signed." The ball was kept at the school for many years before disappearing. Other names on the ball were those of players Robert Barbee, Early Oakley, Dwight Dillard, Garland Herndon and Jack Baucom, and Coach Y. W. Howard.

Three members of boxing team – Tom Britt, Everett Morgan, and Bill Parish – win championship cups in the Golden Groves match in Raleigh. And here is how the season went for the football team:

Cary 14 – Erwin 0  
Cary 13 – Wakelon 0  
Cary 19 – Catholic Orphanage 0  
Cary 7 – Apex 0  
Cary 0 – Dunn 13  
Cary 0 – Fuquay 13  
Cary 0 – Methodist Orphanage 12  
Cary 0 – Hillsborough 0

The Representative adds a printed cover that has a photograph of the school's 44 seniors.

On Dec. 4, as 1940 draws to a close, members of the Wake Board of Education meet in Cary "to inspect and receive the new Cary High School." Awaiting them is a handsome, three-story building chock full of "the most modern equipment for education in North Carolina." Among other things, Board members find an intercom system, movie projector, fire doors, a sound-proof room for typing classes, an 834-seat auditorium, a first aid room, and a "well-equipped cafeteria." Soup there is a nickel a bowl and meals are a dime, served by ladies of the PTA.

Among the first students in the new building is Doris Jones, now Doris Buchanan. She remembers how thrilled she was with the student lockers – 612 of them lining the halls. The old building had rows of open shelves and hooks.

Along with all the modern stuff, Principal Dry moves his 50-year-old, roll-top desk into his new office. First used by Principal E. L. Middleton, the desk was given to Dry after his retirement. It is now owned by Dawson Kelly of Raleigh, who obtained it from the Dry family after the death of Mrs. (Wilma) Dry in 1973.

The new building was planned to accommodate future growth as well as meet present needs. The third floor was not needed for several years. Now the main building of Cary Elementary School, it is one of the most recognizable places in town because of its prominent location at the head of Academy Street. It is the third building over a span of 125 years to occupy the town's original "school lot."

1940 - Governor Clyde Hoey calls Cary "a beacon of hope and inspiration to other communities of the State" at dedication ceremonies for the new building on March 4. Says The News and Observer:

Cary High School, with its predecessor, Cary Academy, has occupied a position of leadership in the field of secondary education, not only in Wake County, but in the State as a whole for 75 years ... At the dedication exercises, well-deserved tributes were paid to Prof. M. B. Dry, who for the last 32 years has served as principal of Cary High School. Cary has been fortunate in having Professor Dry. Professor Dry has been fortunate in the continuous support of a progressive community...

Marvin T. Jones, chairman of the Cary School Committee, informs the Wake Board of Education that the new structure at Cary has been named the John C. Lockhart Main Building. The announcement is made a month before Lockhart ends his 22-year tenure as Wake's school superintendent. That is the first, last, and only reference that has been found to the Lockhart Building in Cary. However, the county has a John C. Lockhart School near Zebulon.

The Representative is replaced by a new school newspaper, the Hoo-Wair-N-Wat. It is typeset and printed on quality paper. When the first issue comes off the press, editor Ethel Brickell and her staff celebrate with a party in the Log Cabin of the Methodist Church.

Eight people are now being employed with WPA money: two librarians, two art center workers, a cafeteria helper, the band director, an office helper, and a person "to care for the toilets." The library is open to the community and the art center has a gallery where works from both inside and outside the community are displayed. The town-grown tie is further strengthened by the "Thursday night picture show" in the new auditorium for the entire community. Admission is 10 cents. A Tuesday afternoon movie is shown for students who can stay after school (and pay a dime).

Organized on Nov. 21 (1940) is the Band Booster Club "to arouse greater interest in something worthwhile."

High school students are again in the majority at Cary High School. They pulled ahead of elementary students this year by a margin of 428 to 396.

The Federal Census reveals that Cary's population has passed 1,000 for the first time. It is 1,141 to be exact.

1941 - With an enrollment of 460 students, Cary is by far the largest high school in the Wake County system. Another 375 students are enrolled in elementary classes. The total number of teachers is 34 and the value of the school "plant" is \$210,000.

People object to Hoo-Wair-N-Wat as a name for the school newspaper. Therefore, it is scrapped in favor of Cary High Echo, a variation of an old name.

The Japanese bomb Pearl Harbor. The United States is at war again.

1942 - After 34 years as principal of Cary High School and 51 years in education, M. B. Dry submits his resignation on April 1. Newspapers describe him at the age of 71 as "the oldest principal at the State's oldest high school." Under his leadership, North Carolina's first state-assisted high school has been a model for all that followed and the name Cary has been synonymous with innovative education at the secondary level.

Commencement on May 4 is turned into a homecoming as former students, teachers, and committeemen return to pay their respect. The community presents the Dry family with a silver service. Mr. Dry's Sunday school class (at the Baptist Church) rewards him with another trip abroad. The graduation speaker is R. Gregg Cherry, North Carolina's next governor. In his last official act as principal, Dry hands diplomas to 62 seniors. Of the 37 boys, 33 say they want to join the military, and 13 of those want to become aviators. That's also true of two girls.

Dry only gives up his administrative duties. When he announced his resignation, he began by saying, "I have been at the work of teaching so long that I don't see how I can reconcile myself to stay away from the classroom." And he didn't. He begins teaching in summer school the week after graduation and in the fall he returns as an algebra teacher.

Among his students is Daniel Wilbur Jones (Class of '45), who recalls: "Mr. Dry was one of the finest gentlemen I have ever known. He always came to class dressed in a coat and tie, starched shirt and high collar. And I will never forget when he told us, 'If the good Lord had intended for a boy to smoke, he would have put a smokestack in his head.'"

The Cary School Committee selects Thaddeus N. Frye as the new principal. Like his three predecessors, he is a graduate of Wake Forest and an seasoned educator. His experience includes 18 years as principal of schools at Jackson Springs, Candor and Liberty. The News and Observer notes that as "Cary superintendent" Frye will supervise Mount Vernon and Swift Creek schools and "Negro schools in the area." The total number of students under his purview is placed at 1,300.

Wake County schools add a 12th grade, which is plugged in at the end of elementary school. High school students continue to graduate on schedule. But there are no incoming freshmen because 8th graders who normally would have entered high school are still in elementary school. In fact, there will be an empty class for each of the next four years as the effects of the added grade works it way through high school.

Gasoline is rationed and educators wonder if this will mean an end to school consolidation. The district's 11 school buses get 7.5 miles per gallon – at a cost of 10 cents per gallon – and Principal Frye must justify every drop of it.

Gasoline rationing puts a crimp in student social life, too. Getting the family car for a night out is not nearly as hard as getting gas to put in it. With most automobile owners entitled to only a gallon and a half a week, double dating is almost a necessity.

**1943** - The school year is extended to nine months (180 days) from eight months (160 days).

Enrollment is dropping, partially because of the "empty" class and partly because so many young men are heading off to war. The draft age is 18, but 16-year-olds can volunteer if their parents will "sign for them." While it is possible to graduate at 17, many students, especially boys, are older. Some have "missed" a grade or two; other have had to stay home for a year or so to do farm work. Some students drop out for "good-paying" defense jobs. Instead of feeling guilty about quitting school, they feel patriotic about helping the war effort.

R. O. Heater is back in the news. This time he establishes a \$1,500 loan fund to help graduates further their education at any school in the state. If they want to be a nurse, they can attend any school in the United States.

**1944** - With many foods rationed, agriculture teacher R. S. Dunham arranges for the old cannery be converted to community use as part of the war effort. Over the next several years, up to 250 families will use it to can meat, corn, beans, applesauce, soup mixtures



and Brunswick stew. They even can ham biscuits for the GI's overseas. Part of the cannery is used to render lard – 20,000 pounds of it.

Enrollment drops to about 200, the lowest in about 30 years.

Although the war is being fought many miles away, students are reminded of it each day. They plot the movement of armies on maps, show the latest letters from friends and relatives overseas and watch German prisoners of war load pulpwood on rail cars at the Cary Depot. The military establishes a camp in Umstead Park for British sailors whose ships were undergoing repairs in U. S. ports. Dan Jones recalls sailors walking to Cary and sitting on the school steps "hungry for someone to talk to."

Poor health forces Mr. Dry to give up teaching, also.

**1945** - Classes begin Sept. 18, three weeks late because of the polio epidemic.

Surprised that Cary High School has had no yearbook since the Great Depression, Mary Underwood, the new commercial teacher, agrees to sponsor one. The result is a 24-page, soft bound volume, called "The Echo," a name often used for the school newspaper. It is published by the senior class under the editorship of Dorothy Lawrence.

The Cary School Committee invites to its August meeting several alumni and patrons to discuss ideas for a 50th anniversary observance of Cary High School. Collected and still preserved are the names and addresses of former students and teachers. Nothing has been found to show how the list was used or whether any observance was held.

Graduating is the last class to earn a diploma with 11 years of school, and it is a small one – 38 girls and 10 boys. When it entered high school in the fall of 1941, the Class of '45 had 91 boys and 70 girls. "Most of the boys had already left for service," explained Dan Jones.

The faculty is small, too. Serving with Principal Thad N. Frye are R. S. Dunham, agriculture; Mary A. Underwood, commercial; Sibyl P. Beddingfield, English; Earl R. Franklin, assistant principal and social science; Margaret Wooten, English; Inez S. Stephenson, home economics; J. R. Jeffreys, science; Eliza Matthews, English, and social studies; Esther Mitchell, math and French; and Effie Meekins, librarian.

Returning from the Coast Guard is Douglas Holleman, who finds his beloved mentor, Mr. Dry, too feeble to get to the Baptist Church by himself. Therefore, each Sunday morning Holleman pushes him there in a wheelchair.

**1946** - Retired Principal Dry dies on January 27. His funeral is at the (First) Baptist Church; his burial in Hillcrest Cemetery.

The "empty class" reaches the 12th grade, meaning there is no Class of '46. However, all classes are filled in the fall for the first time since 1942.

Wartime food shortages continue. The cafeteria serves mainly meat substitutes: cheese, beans, eggs and peanut butter.

Principal Frye resigns on Aug. 1. In commenting on the resignation, County Superintendent Randolph Benton says Cary is in line for acceptance into the Southern Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

The Cary School Committee selects Earl R. Franklin as Frye's successor, and the Wake Board of Education concurs with the choice. Franklin has been associated with the school for many years as a student, teacher and assistant principal. The Cary School Committee, like the principal, is responsible for all the schools in the district, black and white. Current committee members are Dr. F. Y. Yarborough, the Rev. J. Gray Murray, Harold Wilson, C. F. Parrish, and M. T. Jones, chairman. Clyde Evans Sr., serves as an adviser to the committee from the black community since blacks do not serve on the committee per se. Committee meetings are well attended by parents and community leaders. Most people call it the "Cary School Board."

### THE THIRD QUARTER CENTURY, 1947-1971

**1947** - Graduating is the first class to have completed all 12 grades. As part of commencement activities, a memorial service is conducted for M. B. Dry. Speaker for the occasion is former Governor J. Melville Broughton, who knew Dry personally for 30 years. Said Broughton: "Mr. Dry was a good teacher; he was a good citizen; he was diligent, faithful, and never spoke harshly of anyone ... As an attorney for the School Board, I noticed Mr. Dry asked for things for his school, but never for himself."

Charlotte Dry unveils a bronze plaque to her grandfather, which still hangs near the school's front door. It reads:

In Affectionate Memory of Marcus Baxter Dry  
Born October 23, 1871  
Died January 27, 1946  
Principal Cary High School from 1908-1942  
Presented by Friends

School Committee Chairman M. T. Jones announces that a portrait of Dry will be presented to the school later. That portrait is still at the school.

Students publish another issue of the Echo, this time with a hard cover.

Monthly rent in the teacherage is \$7.50 for rooms, \$15 for suites, and \$25 for apartments. Prices include water and heat.

**1948** - The first issue of "YRAC," the new student yearbook, comes off the press. (The name YRAC, C-A-R-Y spelled backwards, was chosen in 1963 for the community's rural fire department.)

Principal Earl Franklin resigns. The School Committee feels that discipline may have gotten a little lax, so they want a seasoned replacement. The person they select is Paul W. Cooper, a 47-year-old native of South Carolina, graduate of Wake Forest College, and principal in the Warren County school system for the past 20 years.

Raleigh annexes part of the Cary School District, causing the average daily attendance (for both the high school and elementary grades) to drop from 716 last year to 627.

**1949** - The freshman class numbers 88, of whom 56 move up from the eighth grade at Cary. The others come from elementary schools at Swift Creek and Mount Vernon-Goodwin.

**1950** - Mrs. Iva A. Stuckey presents the school with the flag that draped her son's coffin at his burial in Arlington National Cemetery. A 1941 graduate of Cary High School, Pvt. David W. Stuckey was a decorated airman when killed in the South Pacific in 1943.

The body was returned to the United States for (re)burial in 1949. Mrs. Stuckey told Principal Cooper that she considered "it an honor and privilege to pay tribute to Cary High School in memory of my son, who made the supreme sacrifice in the line of duty."

Cary citizens vote 237 to 44 in favor of Wake County issuing \$4.2 million in school bonds.

In the wee hours of April 9 (1950) the 1949 Mercury in which six young men are riding runs off a road near Fuquay and crashes into a creek. Five die. Among them are Joseph Franks, 18; Eddie Gibson, 18; and Albert Lawrence, 16; all of Cary High.

The 1950 Census shows Cary has gained only 300 people since 1940, but it looks as if the next decade might be different. Several young families from Raleigh can be seen riding around Cary almost every weekend. They say they are looking for a nice little town with a good school in which to raise their children.

North Korea invades South Korea, and the United States enters the war under the United Nations flag.

**1951** - Luther W. Maynard, whose sawmill stood on the present site of Cary High School, donates the poles for the White Imp Club to install lights at the football stadium. This permits games to be played on Friday nights instead of Friday afternoons. Attendance surges. The whole community appears to come out for the games.

As their extracurricular activities, students can join the annual (YRAC) staff, Creative Writing Club, Journalism Club, Library Club, Dramatics Club, Band, Glee Club, Choir, Mixed Ensemble, Future Farmers of America or Future Homemakers of America. They can run for the Student Council and apply for a job as a bus driver. Boys can go out for basketball, football, baseball and track; girls for basketball, track and cheerleading.

**1952** - The Wake Board of Education uses some of its new bond money to build Cary High a bigger gymnasium. The old Templeton gym is converted into space for home economics and the band.

Rixie Maison is selected as the first Homecoming Queen. The school previously had a football queen (and king).

The school's new coach, Simon Terrell, is getting off to a great start. The White Imps football team goes 10-0.

**1953** - The White Imp basketball team remains undefeated in regular season play but loses in triple overtime to St. Stephen High School in the state quarterfinals. Said Coach Terrell: "We had an excellent team, but weren't up to our strength. Tommy Crowder had the flu and Linville Midgette had been diagnosed with appendicitis earlier in the day but didn't tell me. (He was operated on three days later.)"

More football fans than ever jam into the stadium as Terrell coaches the White Imps to another 10-0 season. Harold Smith (Class of '55) recalls fans lining up five deep, 5 yards from the edge of the field. He said, "You'd be knocked out of bounds and before you could hit the ground hard, they'd pick you up and send you back towards the field."

Two new organizations are formed: the Beta Club and Future Teachers of America.

**1954** - This time Coach Terrell and his White Imps win it all - the State 1A Basketball Championship. The team drops one game in regular season play, captures the county championship, and wins the District 3 Tournament by defeating Red Oak High School 28-26 in overtime. Next comes the semifinals and the toughest opponent of all - Cabarrus County's Odell High School. Guy Mendenhall (Class of '54) still remembers going into the locker room at halftime with Odell leading 30-26. But Charles Adams (Class of '54) is hot. He pours in 26 points and grabs 24 rebounds, which is enough to put his team on top.

That left the big one - the championship game to be played at Aberdeen against King High School and its famous sharpshooter, Bobby Joe Harris. Although Harris pours in 32 points, Cary wins 63-54 behind the scoring of Adams (23 points) and C. W. Jones (Class of '55) 17 points. Fans are jubilant until they learn that Coach Terrell is leaving for Durham High School. He later said, "I don't why I left. I really loved it here."

Students dedicate YRAC to Raymond Lewis Holliday, who was killed in Korea while serving in the Marines. A member of the Class of 1951, he was voted the senior boy most likely to succeed.

Formed is the Distributive Education Club.

The U. S. Supreme Court hands down its famous Brown vs. Board of Education decision, which holds that separate schools for the races, even if equal, are unconstitutional.

**1955** - Under their new football coach, John Ebby, the White Imps are undefeated in regular season play. They whip three more teams to win the Eastern Class A championship. That sets them up on Dec. 2 for the state championship game against the Spruce Pine Blue Devils in N. C. State's Riddick Stadium. With their split-T offense the Imps drive 54 yards for a touchdown the first time they get their hands on the ball. That was the first of two touchdowns made by Quarterback Charles Maidon. Fullback John Yarborough adds a third to give the White Imps a 27-0 victory over the Blue Devils. Maidon (Class of '56) later becomes an All-American at Elon College.

New student organizations include the Dance Band, 4-H Club, Spanish Club, Science Club, Arts and Crafts Club and Service Club. Resurrected is The Echo, the student newspaper.

Chairman Henry R. Adams and other members of the Cary School Committee say its time for the Wake Board of Education to start planning for a new school here. The town's population is believed to be at least 2,000. That's 600 more than just five years ago. (Other members of the School Committee at this time are R. W. Bagwell, J. M. Lewis, W. A. Green, and G. W. Miller, Jr. Each white school in the district has a member on the Committee. Clyde Evans Sr., a leading citizen in the black community, serves as an adviser to the committee.)

**1956** - Cary High School is accredited by the Southern Association of Secondary Schools and Colleges. It is the first school in the Wake County system to be so recognized.

Erected on the former site of the Boys Dormitory is a new, free-standing cafeteria building. It is still there, serving lunches daily to students at Cary Elementary School.

High School enrollment is 433 this year, double that of seven years ago. Included are 84 seniors, 95 juniors, 104 sophomores, and 150 freshmen.



Because most new families moving here are young, the elementary grades are growing even more rapidly than the high school. As a consequence, they are placed under the supervision of a separate principal, Carl Mills, Jr. He reports to Paul Cooper, who is "district principal" as well as principal of Cary High School. Also reporting to Cooper are principals of three other elementary schools: Swift Creek, Mount-Vernon Goodwin and Cary Colored School; and the principal of Berry O'Kelly, the area high school for blacks.

**1957** - At its Nov. 4 meeting, the Wake Board of Education agrees to ask the Wake Board of Commissioners to buy 40 acres of land from Luther W. Maynard for a new high school. The site, which is available for \$30,000, is about one mile east of town on the Cary-Macedonia Road (now Walnut Street).

The high school faculty is organized into the departments: English, Mathematics, Science, Social Science, Homemaking, Agriculture, Business Education, Distributive Education, Music, and Languages. Added to the faculty is a fulltime, professional librarian. Also added is driver education.

As the student body has increased, so has royalty on campus. There are now kings and queens for the annual Homecoming Dance, Sweetheart Ball, and Junior-Senior Dinner Dance, and a queen for the annual Sock Hop.

**1958** - Around 150 Cary area citizens appear before the Wake Board of Education to debate the proposed location for the new high school. Most of them like the Maynard property. But a vocal minority wants the new school built on property adjacent to the existing school. They say the Maynard property is "too far out in the country" where utilities are inadequate, roads poor, and police and fire protection limited. They say the price (\$750 an acre) is too high, and they ask why a high school needs more acreage than Columbia University. The Board sticks by the Maynard site.

YRAC commemorates the school's half-century as a public institution by publishing a special edition dedicated to the citizens of Cary. Included in YRAC's tribute to the community are these words: "Since the first academy was founded in 1870, the citizens of Cary have believed in the premise that a good design for education is one that fulfills the needs of a particular community."

Cary and the Marching Band host the first Cary Band Day, an annual event that is still going strong.

**1959** - Under director James Johnson, the band is invited to march in Raleigh's Christmas Parade, Wilmington's Azalea Festival Parade and Charlotte's Shrine Bowl Parade.

Barbara Bunch is hired as the first full-time counselor.

Former Cary School Committee Chairperson Henry R. Adams is sworn in on Jan. 23 as a member of the Wake Board of Education. Ten days later, the Board awards J. M. Thompson Construction Company of Raleigh the general contract to build a new high school for Cary. Thompson's winning bid is \$771,251. Architect William A. Deitrick is paid another \$38,000.

**1960** - (District) Principal Paul Cooper hands out diplomas to 108 seniors in the last graduation exercises at the "old" school. It is the 64th class there and the first to top 100 members.

On the morning of Wednesday, Sept. 7, (1960), 573 students begin streaming onto the brand new, "sprawling" campus of Cary Senior High School. Among them are 140 seniors, 153 juniors, and 280 sophomores. Their first stop is the gym to receive instructions on how to find their homeroom and, if necessary, to pick up a guide furnished by the Student Council. Awaiting them are 23 faculty members posted in three classroom buildings. As they explore their new campus, the students also find a shop building, library, auditorium, and cafeteria. Lunches there, they learn, are 35 cents, a dime more than at the "old" school.

Students in R. S. (Dad) Dunham's agricultural classes begin drawing plans for landscaping the new campus.

Arriving from New Bern is Samuel Arbes, the first principal of Cary Senior High School. He reports to Cary District Principal Paul W. Cooper, who also moves his office to the new campus. Left behind on the old campus, renamed Cary Junior High and Elementary School, is Principal Carl Mills, Jr., with grades 1-9. That name is later shortened to Cary Elementary School after junior highs move to other campuses.

The Student Council sponsors a contest to develop an official school seal. The winning entry, selected at a student assembly, features the lamp of knowledge, a book, and the Latin words "Cognitio Vincit," meaning knowledge conquers. Cary High School, 1907, is written around the periphery of the seal, which is decorated with pine cones and dogwood blossoms.

Under Coach Ed Lane, the football team goes 6-2-2, the best record in several years.

Automobiles are still taking their toll. Between July 1, 1960, and January 1, 1961, accidents claim the lives of three students: Stephen Blanchard, Bobby Highsmith, and Jayne Joyner, all 18.

**1961** - The new football field at Cary Senior High School is dedicated as the Paul W. Cooper Athletic Field in ceremonies on September 15.

The Dance Band is rated No. 1 at a stage band clinic in West Virginia.

Senior John Theys represents North Carolina at the National Science Fair in St. Louis with his binary digital computer.

**1962** - Assistant Wake School Superintendent Tom Grimes tells the Board of Education that Cary Senior High School "was practically filled to capacity the first day in operation and already needs 10 more classrooms." Also needed, the Board says, is a "Negro High School" to accommodate black students from this area. Their old school, Berry O'Kelly at Method, is being annexed by Raleigh and will be torn down.

**1963** - The Wake Board of Education approves the transfer of six students from all-black Berry O'Kelly to all-white Cary High. These are the first transfers authorized under a "freedom of choice" policy adopted by the Board following the Supreme Court's decision on segregation. Selected for this historic group are seniors Lucille Evans and Frances Louise White, juniors Gwendolyn Matthews and Brenda Lee Hill; sophomore Esther Lee Mayo; and freshman Phyllis Rose.

When asked, years later, why these transfers were granted, while others were denied, Board member Ferd Davis said:

It had been my observation that people in areas that were changing rapidly,

like Cary, would accept something new more readily than people in an established area. I felt that if we could get some successful examples of integration in Cary, people in places like Wake Forest and Zebulon would see the world was not coming to an end and would accept integration, too."

Integration of the Wake school system officially begins on the morning of Aug. 30, 1963, when the six girls arrive on the campus of Cary High. And Gwen Matthews still remembers stepping off the school bus into a group of white students yelling, "Two, four, six, eight; we don't want to integrate." Frightened, Gwen does not want to return the next day. But, she recalls:

My parents...said it would get better, and it did. The demonstrations went on for about 10 days with fewer students participating each day. They were never more than 50 ... and that's not many at a school the size of Cary..."

County school officials follow the Cary situation closely and are delighted when no organized community opposition to integration develops. They are also comforted by the presence of Principal Paul Cooper, who is known for "running a tight ship" and is not likely to "tolerate any foolishness."

Also arriving on campus for the first time are freshmen, 209 of them. The word "senior" is thus dropped from the school name.

Hoisted to the side of the auditorium is a six-foot replica of the school seal.

The day after approving the transfer of six students from Berry O'Kelly to Cary, the Board of Education selects a tract of land on Evans Road for the town's first "Negro High School."

The band, under Director Jack White, is selected to represent North Carolina at a national band festival in at Sioux City, Iowa. To finance this first major trip, Band Boosters spearhead a \$10,000 fund-raising drive that is capped off by a WRAL-TV telethon.

**1964** - The graduating class includes the first-ever blacks, Lucille Evans and Frances Louise White. Among the new students arriving on campus in the fall is Gregory Crowe, the first black male student.

The Board of Education names the Negro high school for Clyde Evans, who has served 22 years as an adviser from the black community to the Cary School Committee. Currently serving on that committee are George Gasperson, Haywood Jones, W. C. (Billy) Creel, Mrs. D. H. Ferrell, and Ralph Sorrell.

Congress passes the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Title VI of which is designed to end discrimination in education.

**1965** - The senior class tops 200 for the first time, 218 to be exact.

Health occupations is added to the curriculum. Cary is one of three schools in the state chosen for this pilot program. It's led by Carlee Jenkins, former director of nurses at Wake Hospital. Starting with about 145 students, the program grows to more than 500 students by Ms. Jenkins' 15th year, 1979. It introduces students to medical careers and procedures, nutrition, body science, first aid and emergency care, and provides hands-on learning opportunities.

Under Director A. J. Moore, the band marches in Governor Dan K. Moore's inaugural parade. Wrestling returns under Coach Ed Lane, and YRAC has a later deadline. This enables editors to include photographs of the track and baseball teams for the first time.

Wanting to preserve some vestige of their old school, friends and alumni of Berry O'Kelly petition the Board of Education to transfer that name to the new school for blacks being erected in Cary. Instead, the Board changes the name from Clyde Evans to West Cary High School.

With pressures to end segregation mounting, the state takes firmer control of all public schools. The old school districts and school committees are abolished. Wake County is reconstituted as one district, divided into attendance areas, each of which has an advisory council. Placed in the Cary attendance area are two high schools: Cary and West Cary; and four elementary schools: Cary, East Cary (now Kingswood), North Cary (now Northwoods), and Swift Creek. Selected for the first Cary School Advisory Council are W. C. Creel, Ralph Sorrell, Mrs. D. H. Ferrell, Haywood Jones, George Gasperson, Mrs. Melba Collins, Clancey D. Cain, Herbert Barbee, and Dr. Kenneth R. Keller.

(Raleigh still has its own school system at this time, just as it has had since 1876.)

1966 - Student Gerry Davis astonishes her teacher, her classmates, and herself by typing 228 words in a minute. She is so surprised, in fact, that she sees a doctor. His diagnosis: an unexplained burst of energy.

The U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare (HEW) warns the Wake Board of Education that its progress on desegregation is inadequate "to accomplish the purposes of the Civil Rights Act of 1964." HEW suggests transferring 100 to 300 blacks to white schools and vice versa.

1967 - Principal Paul Cooper retires after 39 years in education, 19 of them as principal of Cary High. Under his leadership, the school occupied a new campus, became accredited, won state championships in basketball and football, welcomed the first black students, and started the first classes in the county system for both the gifted and talented and the retarded. As a good-bye gift, students and faculty present him and Mrs. Cooper with a trip to Nassau.

Some insight into Cooper's method for handling students is revealed in this letter written by Billy Thrower (Class of '56):

Four football players cut school and went to a pool hall, taking great care to hide the car they were in. (When) one of them spotted Mr. Cooper's car turning in, they all jumped under a pool table. Mr. Cooper came in, slowly drank a Coke, and left; and the players were elated they had fooled the "old man." The next day, Mr. Cooper approached one of the players, Tommy Crowder, who ... was a leader on and off the field. "Tommy," Mr. Cooper said, "I need your help. There are a few players trying to destroy our team." Case closed!

Assistant Principal John Stevens, 47, is promoted to succeed Cooper. He had come to Cary in 1966 after serving as principal of York High School in Yorktown, Va.

A survey of seniors shows the most popular "outside" books are "1984," "The Pearl," "Treasure Island," "Robinson Crusoe," "The Scarlet Letter," "House of Seven Gables," "Gone With the Wind," "Lord of the Flies," "Last of the Mohicans" and "Animal Farm."



The Cary School Advisory Council suggests to the Board of Education that students at West Cary High be transferred to Cary High and that West Cary then be turned into an all-eighth grade school for both races. After substituting all-ninth grade for all-eighth grade, the Board approves the suggestion. It has, at last, a plan that might produce more than token integration. The Board is profuse in its thanks to the Council Advisory Council and its chairman, Dr. Kenneth R. Keller, for its "good work."

A group of parents is less impressed. They sue the board, claiming the creation of an all-ninth grade school is illegal because it was done without a public hearing. School Board Chairman Ferd Davis tells William Creech, attorney for the plaintiffs, that Creech's clients are only interested in "not letting my children go to school with those Negroes." Under the plan, Cary High would have 764 whites and 112 blacks, giving it a minority rate of 12.8%, and West Cary (Junior) High would have 300 whites and 37 blacks for a rate of 10.9%. "If people cannot live with this degree of integration," Davis told Creech, "they cannot live with anything." The parents persists, taking their case all the way to the North Carolina Supreme Court, and losing each step of the way.

The way is thus cleared for "full integration." Among the 100 or so new blacks arriving in the fall is Douglas Brown, a senior. After attending Berry O'Kelly for nine years and West Cary for two, he says the diversity of the student body at Cary High almost caused him to go into "culture shock." Brown added:

It was a great learning experience, one that I truly wish I could have started earlier. Of course, there were some trying times, a couple of fights, and a bomb scare or two. But the teachers were receptive; they liked us as people, and I wasn't treated too badly by any of the students. My parents supported the change. They knew what it was like to go to a one-race school and get out and have to play catch up. They told me to learn everything I could at Cary High and not cause trouble for anyone.

With the ninth graders at West Cary Junior High, Cary High becomes Cary Senior High once more.

English teacher Clare Johnson Marley is the subject of a feature story in The Raleigh Times. During her 29 years at Cary High, she has written several award winning plays and poems and has helped the school achieve distinction in the dramatic arts. High school plays directed by Mrs. Marley are a community institution.

**1968** - Principal Stevens has several surprises awaiting students – all 890 of them – when they return to campus in the fall. Lunches are now 40 cents, up a nickel from last year. The extra money will enable Mrs. Hilliard and her cafeteria staff to offer a choice between two meat dishes each day.

The Demerit System has replaced Detention Hall. Students accumulating eight demerits will have a letter sent to their parents. Those racking up ten will be expelled. Instead of one place to smoke, boys now have two: behind the teachers' parking lot and between the gym and vocational building. (Girls cannot smoke any place on campus.) A final surprise concerns Head Football Coach Ed Lane, who has compiled an enviable 73-27-7 record. At the end of this season, he will move up to the "head office" as assistant principal.

**1969** - R. S. (Dad) Dunham retires after 40 years as Cary High's agriculture teacher and, perhaps, the best known member of the faculty. To show their appreciation for his services, seniors invite Dad to be their commencement speaker. James Atkins (Class of '47) wrote at the time: "... 'Dad' Dunham was always a stabilizing force. As a student I was able to develop a sense of individual worth even when part of a group. His class

contained as much training for living and dealing with people as it did with agriculture. Dad had the ability to keep little problems small ... "

Atkins was on the Wake County Board of Education when he wrote those words. Over his long career, Dunham served as the supervising teacher for about 100 prospective vocational agriculture teachers from N. C. State University. One of them is now Governor James B. Hunt, Jr. Located near Cary High today is the R. S. Dunham Park named in his honor by the town in recognition for his services to the community. Still residing in Cary is Mrs. (Rachel) Dunham (Class of '24), who also taught at Cary High.

Black students ask that "white" be dropped from White Imps.

Writing in The Echo, Daniel R. Flebotte notes that Cary is a melting pot for all types of students. He adds: "Besides our native Cary populace, we have our brothers from the old West Cary High, our friends from up north, and students diverted from other school districts for various reasons." Flebotte pleads for tolerance and urges his fellow students to examine without prejudice all the new ideas that these groups are bringing to the school.

The Board of Education approves the purchase of 43 acres of land (at \$1,700 an acre) for a new Apex High School. That school will eventually have a big impact on Cary High.

"Seasons of Our Minds," a student literary magazine, debuts.

1970 - President Stan Lucas of the White Imp Booster Club announces a campaign to raise \$100,000 to enlarge Cooper Stadium to 5,000 seats and to install restrooms, dressing rooms, and showers. The improvement are expected to be completed in time for Cary's big centennial celebration next year. Bill Wingo, chairman of the fund raising drive, asks each student to contribute \$5, each family and teacher \$30, and each business \$100.

Under Coach Tom Kelly, the cross country team places second in state competition.

Some 298 seniors receive diplomas in graduation exercises on June 1 in Raleigh Memorial Auditorium. The speaker is Dr. Roger Crook, chairman of the department of religion at Meredith College and husband of Cary High's well-known English teacher Mary Ruth Crook.

A computer is installed in the YRAC Room as part of an experiment being conducted by a student from N.C. State University. It is a GE-235 tied to another computer in an insurance office in Raleigh. It can play tic-tac-toe, serve as a slot machine and produce a version of "Jingle Bells." Students can also enter their birthdate and the computer can tell them how many years, months, and days they have spent eating, sleeping, playing, and studying.

1971 - For a week in May, newly renovated Cooper Field is the setting for Cary's colorful centennial pageant, "The Unbeatable Century."

The U. S. Department of Health, Education, and Welfare unveils a plan to racially balance each of the county's 43 schools. Among other things, the plan calls for a "marriage" of the Cary, Apex and Holly Springs attendance areas. Students are to be bused from one area to another until each school reflects the county's 26 percent black population. The plan causes an uproar. Nearly 6,000 Cary citizens sign a petition vowing to fight HEW. Some 2,000 try to jam in the auditorium of Cary Elementary School to assail busing and organize their opposition.

## THE FOURTH QUARTER CENTURY – 1972-1996

1972 – Student David Moore is named Mr. Future Business Leader of America at the 18th annual North Carolina leadership conference of the Future Business Leaders of America organization.

In May, the Marching Band plays at the opening of South Hills Mall, one of the area's first shopping centers, where major stores include Roses and an S&H green stamp redemption center. The Band Boosters – led by president Cecil Allen and vice president Koka Booth – announce the band will enter the Sun-Fun Festival at Myrtle Beach, S.C., in June. Fund-raisers such as monthly scrap paper drives and sales of 50-pound bags of fertilizer (at \$2 each) help pay for the trip.

Cary wins the festival, defeating 35 nationally known bands including Wilson High of Reading, Pa. Wilson is the defending national band champion and still listed as number one a few months later in "Ruffles and Flourishes" national band magazine (Cary is listed among the nation's 20 best).

The Cary News (June 14, 1972) describes the band's homecoming from Myrtle Beach on page one:

Saturday night, their three Trailways buses caravan was stopped at Helmold's Ford about 11:00 (p.m.) where Mayor Fred Bond himself greeted the young musicians and gave them police car escorts to the high school. Bond was accompanied by Matt Brady, "Mr. Cary Band Day." At the school entrance, floodlights illuminated the green and white school flag at top mast, and the just-completed signs – 'Welcome Cary Band' and '1st' – placed on the building's frontispiece. Caryites braved the unusually chilly June night for at least an hour before the buses arrived. ... The young people spilled out of the buses chanting their winning cheers, joyfully mingling with the welcoming crowd. When Jimmy Burns, band director, emerged with the first place trophy, the students lifted and carried him on their backs. ... the band quickly organized itself for parade, and marched down Walnut Street, down Academy to Ashworth Drugstore, down East Chatham to the A&P, playing the numbers and repeating the performance that brought them victory. Dressed in jeans, shorts, T-shirts, many with funny hats and bare feet, the musicians had an equally oddly-garbed audience as people ran out of their houses in pajamas, nightgowns and robes to cheer the middle-of-the-night parade.

This proves to be the beginning of several years of headline-grabbing band activity.

Right after Myrtle Beach, it's announced the group has received an invitation to the prestigious Tournament of Roses parade for Jan. 1, 1973. Twenty-one of 700 applying bands have been chosen, including only eight high school bands. Cary is the first North Carolina band invited.

Efforts to raise \$30,000 for the trip begin immediately and by Aug. 1, about \$10,000 has been raised. Fund-raisers include band members selling white roses for \$1; companies sponsoring students at \$450 each; a dinner and fashion show held at North Ridge Country Club; a stall at the state fairgrounds flea market; benefits by local civic groups; "Evenings Out" at Cary's Village Dinner Theatre; and donations of proceeds from Duke-N.C. State football games. Money pours in from outside Cary, too.

Curriculum changes include the addition of German classes, to Spanish, French and Latin offerings. Math courses are: general math I and II, bookkeeping, business math, algebra I and II, plain geometry, trigonometry, analytic geometry and advanced math. Social studies is revamped. The requirement that juniors all take one year of American

history is scrapped. Instead, students take semester courses such as sociology, psychology, economics, recent American history, law and justice, and minority groups.

The Society for Better Human Understanding sponsors its second "walk for hunger and development." Around 150 students walk from the school to Raleigh and back to raise money for orphans, victims of the war in Vietnam, and to "aid the Indians of North Carolina." During the year, the group hosts speakers on topics such as pollution and the national drug problem, and does service projects for groups like UNICEF.

The White Imp baseball team goes 8-7, posting its first winning season in several years and finishing one game shy of the playoffs. Based on yearbooks and newspaper clippings, the 1971-72 school year – which includes the addition of boys' soccer and a coed tennis team – sees last mention of the "White Imps" nickname. From now on, it's simply the Imps.

The Class of 1972 includes 321 students, of which about 40 are black. About 317 attend baccalaureate exercises at the Meredith College Amphitheatre. At their June 7 evening graduation at Memorial Auditorium, the 309 grads on hand sing "We've Only Just Begun."

A survey indicates that 37 percent plan to attend four-year colleges, 21 percent plan to go straight to work, 15 percent plan to attend two-year colleges, and 21 percent plan to attend some type of technical school program. Class motto is "Champion the Right to be Yourself."

In late May, with the sports program poised to move up from 3A to 4A competition (to a league that will include Raleigh schools) because of growing enrollment, and Cary Band Day drawing larger crowds each fall, a \$45,000 fund-raising campaign begins for a new stadium. The effort is led by businessmen Pete Murdock and Charles Pendergraft, along with the Imp Club, of which Claude Greene is president.

The group wants to expand from 1,200 seats to 3,800. In August, with only about \$3,200 raised, 15 local men sign personal bank promissory notes for \$1,000 to \$5,000 each to allow the contract to be granted.

"Two or three years ago," Murdock tells The Cary News, "a drive for a new stadium was conducted and it fell through. We all felt that if something wasn't done soon and this one failed also, Cary High School would never have a new stadium."

Money is slowly raised to retire the principal of the men's debts. By late October, about \$16,000 has been raised and by the next fall, more than \$20,000 is still owed. After several construction delays, the new stadium debuts Oct. 27, 1972 for a homecoming game delayed for its opening.

In mid-August, hundreds turn out for a town Planning and Zoning Board hearing on a rezoning request for the rural area of empty fields between Cary High and Adams Elementary, at the northwest corner of the intersection of Maynard and Walnut. There is talk of a drugstore, steakhouse and medical clinic, and school officials and citizens are concerned about traffic, distractions and truancy.

One parent quoted in The Cary News bemoans "the possibility of an ice cream parlor luring the kids from the schools." Some argue that shopping should be kept downtown or centered further out, while others fear the land being used for apartments. By late September, the town council approves the rezoning of about 55 acres to general commercial in a split vote.

1972 is a year of change for the town. A three-day auction empties the old Kildaire Farm of its final animals and equipment. Plans are announced for Cary's first Planned Unit Development, Kildaire Farms, which is expected to include nearly 3,000 single and multi-family homes on 900-plus acres. In 1974, families move in.



New courses in 1972-73 include "Contemporary English," which focuses on periodicals and business writing in addition to traditional subjects. College and honors English are also offered. New social studies courses include Afro-American History, Current Events, Modern Social Problems, and Comparative Analysis of Government and Economics.

When school opens Sept. 5, the Tuesday after Labor Day, principal John Stevens warns that because of overcrowding, the school will have two \$6,500 "mobile classrooms" on campus, a first. The school was slightly over capacity with 1,169 students at the end of the 1971-72 school year and Stevens expects closer to 1,400 now. The faculty will increase from 58 to 61, he says, and he fears he must allow students living near the school to go home for lunch, with parental permission, because of crowding in the cafeteria.

With the growth of Research Triangle Park, other area schools are growing, too, and local school officials complain that county commissioners are four or five years behind in calling for a bond referendum for school building.

Cary's final 3A season, 1972, includes football games against Apex, Northern Durham, Chapel Hill, Southern Durham, Roxboro, Orange, Jordan, Henderson Vance, Oxford Webb and arch-rival Garner.

In October, the Key Club is reformed. Its first service project is a toy drive. The president is Craig Tabler and faculty adviser is Charles "Doc" Robinson.

The Computer Math Club is cutting edge. For the first time, student schedule cards can be printed on the school's single computer.

1973 - On New Year's Day, the band marches in the 84th annual Tournament of Roses parade, seen by 110 million TV viewers. The parade theme is "Movie Memories" and John Wayne is its grand marshal. There are six non-California bands.

The band also appears in "Sounds of '73," a pre-parade nationally televised show that features six top high school bands from the parade and is emceed by comedian Jerry Lewis. An estimated 20-30 million viewers see this two-minute performance. The event is won by Angleton (Texas) High School, although members of other bands later tell the Marching Imps they should have won. Paul Winslow is this year's drum major.

Responding to criticism that too much is being spent on this small group of students, Koka Booth (vice president of the Band Boosters and future Cary Mayor) says the trip is a once-in-lifetime chance to mingle with other people and to showcase talent in front of an international audience. "In Cary, there is no bowling alley, no dance hall, no recreational facilities to speak of. I think that if the band keeps one kid out of trouble by involving him in doing something constructive, it's well worth it," he tells The Cary News. "They trained for something and saw that training pay off."

The "Marching 100" as the band has come to be known (although there are actually about 125 members) is just getting started. Fresh from Pasadena, they march in the inaugural parade for Gov. James Holshouser Jr. in Raleigh, playing "Battle Hymn of the Republic" and "Exodus."

On Jan. 20, they head to Washington, D.C., for Richard Nixon's second presidential inauguration. Cary is one of 10 bands playing for about an hour along the route from the Capitol to the White House as dignitaries are escorted to reviewing stands.

The Cary News reports:

As the president's black limousine passed the Cary Band's location at 7th Street, the group struck up "Stars and Stripes Forever." The president responded with his familiar clasped hands gesture, which he uses to signify victory and appreciation. He then returned the salute of band director Jimmy Burns.

In February, the band visits the state legislature and is celebrated for bringing honor to North Carolina. On May 5, they headline the 21st annual Fireman's Day parade in downtown Cary. Many students also enjoy that day's all-you-can-eat (\$2) fish fry at Cary Elementary, which benefits the fire department with a record \$2,600 profit.

Senior student Larry King is the third straight CHS student to win the state architectural design contest at the N.C. VICA (Vocational-Industrial Clubs of America) leadership conference.

In the fall, a \$20 million county bond referendum passes to fund a record setting \$44 million building program in Wake County schools, including \$700,000 of work at Cary High. There is talk of pushing Cary High's capacity to 2,000 or opening a new high school in north Cary, but the main focus is a new junior high planned on Maynard Road.

By the end of the 1972-73 school year, Charlie Maidon – who has seen seven sports added during his tenure as athletics director – has retired as basketball and golf coach and AD, after nine years at CHS. There are several other coaching changes.

The 1973 senior class is the first featured in outdoor environmental portraits in the "YRAC." Suddenly, many students are casually dressed, instead of wearing the traditional drapes, graduation gowns, or matching blouses, and coats and ties.

In July 1973, South Hills Twin Theater opens and CHS students no longer have to drive into Raleigh to see a movie. The first showing is G-rated musical "Godspell."

The Cary Police are closely observing the shelter in Lions Park on Tanglewood Drive, where they find students with marijuana. From 1973 to 1974, drug arrests in the town more than double.

Cary High continues to grow. The 1973-74 school year opens with more than 1,500 students and eight trailers. Every classroom is in use for each of the first three periods as the idea of "floating teachers" must be introduced. The nine Cary district schools report their enrollment up from 5,939 the previous fall to 7,390.

The football team's first 4A season in its new Capital 8 conference features games against Fuquay-Varina, Northern Durham, Southern Durham, Broughton, Millbrook, Smithfield-Selma, Sanderson, South Johnston, Enloe and Garner.

Local men have completed the new stadium's press box, a 10-month project. New football coach Dave Riggs – who calls the stadium the area's finest – makes his office there. "As a result of the old goal posts being torn down by a group of over-enthusiastic Cary students during a pep rally last year, new single professional goal posts were erected," The Cary News reports. In October, Wake County businessman A.E. Finley donates \$15,000 toward retiring the stadium debt and officials agree to call the facility Cooper Field at "A.E. Finley Stadium."

The team finishes 4-6, but pulls a 13-0 upset over Broughton.

In October, developers J.W. York and Seby Jones announce plans for two big shopping centers on the empty land adjacent to the school – Village Square and Cary Village. The three-year \$25 million construction plan also includes several office buildings. In December, it's announced Cary Village will be a newfangled covered mall with 75 stores and 450,000 square feet. School officials wonder whether to expand CHS's cafeteria,

figuring students will be drawn to the new shops and restaurants whether given permission to leave campus or not.

On Dec. 31, the band appears in the King Orange Bowl Festival parade in Miami, Fla., televised on New Year's Day. They also play in the Junior Orange Bowl Parade in Coral Gables, visit Disney World and attend the Orange Bowl game.

**1974** – It's a year of fuel shortages and gas lines across America. About 50 students find out the problem has hit elsewhere, as they tour England for nine days with English teachers Mary Ruth Crook and Dorothy Baker – who take several groups on popular trips over the years. Students report on many sights (from Windsor Castle to Madame Tussaud's Wax Museum to plays such as "Jesus Christ, Superstar") and on the fact that in London, it's against the law to turn lights or heat on during the day.

There are several months of public debate about converting Cary Elementary's main building (built at then-Cary High in 1939) into a town hall complex, civic center, library or a historic site – some feel it's no longer fit for a school. The Cary Town Council offers the Wake County School Board \$452,000 for the 12-acre site and its buildings, offering to lease it back to the school board for five years. Cary reserves three years to raise the money.

School officials, afraid the Cary district's 7,300 student enrollment may double in the next five years, have been begging for trailers to keep classes out of gyms and cafeterias. They say they cannot do without the space now and reject the offer (which they term low). They spend about \$200,000 at Cary Elementary on renovations that include turning the old auditorium into a "mediatorium," a project completed in 1977.

The basketball team finishes as regular season conference champs in its first year in the 4A Capital Eight Conference, 1973-74. Their regular season record is 18-2. After finishing as runner-up in the conference tournament, they lose in the first round of the playoffs to Fayetteville 71st, 67-65. Jeff Gruber scores 42 points. Led by coach Irvin Slade, the "Baby Imps" jayvee basketball team goes 17-2.

In March, as the school board begins talking about how to reorganize 7th through 9th grade students with Maynard Road Junior High planned for a fall 1975 opening, it brings up the idea of assigning undeveloped sections of Cary's Scottish Hills subdivision to Apex High. It's the start of a two-year debate.

A new program called PEPI (Physical Education Pupil Instructors) is initiated. It's designed to teach high school students to help with PE activities in elementary schools.

During spring of the 1973-74 school year, CHS adds volleyball to two other girls' sports (basketball, softball). Concern about opportunities for girls is increasing, as the federal department of Health, Education and Welfare warns schools that Title IX of the Civil Rights Act bars sex discrimination at institutions receiving federal funds.

In May, the first girls tennis team begins play. In their first year in 4A and under coach Mike Schilawski, the track team wins the conference and sectional meets, going undefeated in the regular season. In the fall, with sports for female students still limited, two girls, Susan Bennett and Janine Jones, join the cross country team, which again wins the conference meet, its first 4A title. Mike Jones places second in the state, while the team places fifth.

Student Mark Peterson wins first place in the state in machine drafting at the N.C. VICA Skill Olympics and competes in San Antonio in June in the national event. CHS has five state medalists.

One April afternoon, an undercurrent of excitement runs through the gym where students, as usual, have gathered for volleyball, trampolining and other activities. Two-time national college basketball player of the year David Thompson, fresh off leading N.C. State to the NCAA basketball championship, has dropped by. He wows the growing crowd with reverse dunks. Thompson is often mobbed by fans during practices at Reynolds Coliseum, which occasionally draw up to 10,000 spectators, and sometimes drops by Cary High to work out or join in a pick-up game.

The 1973-74 faculty numbers the following teachers: 11 English, five PE, one art, one band, six foreign language, eight math, eight science, six social studies, and 16 in business, home economics, vocational education and distributive education. Principal John Stevens is assisted by two assistant principals, two secretaries, two librarians, two guidance counselors and several part-time staff members.

To save faculty time and give students new rights, Stevens decides to let rising seniors do their own schedules for 1974-75, college style. Some students arrive before 6 a.m.; gym doors open at 8:20 a.m. and it takes two hours to sign everyone up. Over the next few years, officials experiment with various ways of doing scheduling, including by computer.

In late May, work begins on a project that includes a new 8-classroom building behind E building, which will be the new home of foreign language. Also in the works are additions to the media center, cafeteria and gym. Of particular concern has been the media center, which can accommodate only 60 students at once and where books are stacked everywhere because of lack of shelf space. It will expand to accommodate about 160 students.

Also planned are a stadium field house and an auto mechanics shop – students have commuted to West Cary for that program. New offices will be created in the A building lobby, where guidance will shift from F building.

For the first time, the student newspaper, "Spirit," wins a first place special award for excellence from the Columbia Scholastic Press Association. It's praised for its layout, news and feature stories, ad layouts, photography and artwork.

The 1974 YRAC notes: "Like it or not, progress is everywhere. This year, Cary added two new theaters, a bowling alley, eight stoplights and a Fine Arts Club."

Serving as the first black Student Council president is Calvin Baker, also a well-known athlete.

The prom, held at Royal Villa, has a theme of "Hasta La Vista" and ends at midnight.

The Class of 1974 includes 402 students, out of a total school population of about 1,300. Twenty-two grads wear gold honor sashes, indicating a grade point average of at least 3.7 throughout high school, at the June 6 graduation ceremony at Memorial Auditorium. (Valedictorians and salutatorians are not recognized at Wake County schools during this time.) About 76 percent of the grads plan to continue their education, compared to 56 percent statewide and 59 percent countywide. Class song is "Friends" by Elton John.

In June, the FFA (Future Farmers of America) is named the number one chapter among 353 in the state, and receives several other awards for everything from dairy judging to ecology to parliamentary procedure. For two years it had been among the state's top three chapters. In the fall, representatives travel to the national FFA convention in Kansas City as one of the nation's top 75 chapters. President Gerald Ford is guest speaker.



Over the summer, "Citizens for A Better Direction of Cary" forms to fight the shopping developments near the school. They claim Cary's drawing point as a small, family town with good schools and a close knit, community feeling is in a "crisis of change." Some ask for the land to be turned into a recreation area. But steel is already going up and developers continue to say that extensive sidewalks, traffic improvements and a phased-in village look will ease the transition. By the fall, the first tenants open in Village Square, including Pizza Inn, a popular student hangout.

On July 28, the band performs a special concert for the town at Cooper Field in preparation for going to the third "Fetes de Geneve" in Geneva, Switzerland. (One American band is invited each year.) Hundreds show up for "Jimmy Burns Day." As the Switzerland trip grows near, three-a-day rehearsals last late into the evenings, and flag girls are reported to have Band-Aid covered blisters on every finger. Declaring goals that include "showing up the Russian military band," students leave July 31 on a 14-day trek.

The band – introduced as "the world famous Cary High School Band of North Carolina" – gives the first of about eight performances in Switzerland on Aug. 1, the opening ceremonies of the Fetes de Geneve (which includes Europe's largest parade) and a celebration of Swiss independence.

The show includes Disney themes and flag girls dressed in official Mickey, Pluto and Goofy costumes. Charleston and square dance numbers delight the Swiss crowds. Swiss newspapers use words such as "enraptured audiences," "perfect" and "spectacular" to describe the band. One of the biggest shows is at the Ice Palace in Geneva, where Cary shares billing with the Buenos Aires Symphonic Orchestra and a Hungarian dance group called Avas. While accommodations are far from luxurious, the trip is a big hit.

Wake County Schools delay the opening of the 1974-75 school year by a week, to Sept. 3, to give tobacco farmers time to harvest crops. This postponement, which happens more than one fall, is criticized in more urban areas, but school officials say about 3,000 of the county's 32,000 students still work in tobacco fields. As a result, school will not end until June 10.

Due to "skyrocketing inflation" nationwide, school lunch prices are up for 1974-75: grades 7-12, 55 cents; adults, 65 cents; extra milk, 7 cents. Each meal consists of two ounces of protein, 3/4 of a cup of fruit/vegetables, bread, milk and one teaspoon of butter.

New English classes are popular in fall 1974. "The World Beyond" focuses on mythology, the supernatural and science fiction. "World Masters" focuses on non-English and non-American writers. Also popular are the "Bible as Literature" and "Bible History." For the first time in several years, a drama class is offered.

The vocational department's aviation class is popular and there's an Aviation Club. Other electives include child care, interior design, clothing and textiles, carpentry, drafting and office occupations.

School buses, which many CHS students drive for \$2.23 per hour, are crowded and double-routed throughout the area.

Homecoming in October features a Disney World theme. The week includes a parade, pep rally, and an evening bonfire on the baseball field, in which a Smithfield-Selma High player is burned in effigy. For \$1, couples attend the Homecoming dance, which features the C.P. Memory Band, a popular area group named in honor of the late Charlie Patton, a black blues musician.

After several losing seasons, the Imp football squad wins the conference title by beating Garner 20-6 in its last game, securing its first 4A playoff berth and its best record (6-3-1



overall, 5-1-1 conference) since 1967. The fun ends when Richmond County downs the host Imps 21-0 in round two.

As a fund-raiser, the Inter Club Council sells "roll insurance." Its members clean up yards "decorated" with toilet paper. Cary police will soon be concerned with an outgrowth of the more harmless "rolling" – yard burning, which involves driving a vehicle across a lawn.

In 1974-75, Cary High adds a second assistant principal's post. It's filled by J.W. Jackson, who joins Douglas Fulford on John Stevens' team.

1975 – First semester exams run Tuesday through Thursday, Jan. 21-23, with two per day. Seniors with A's for the first two nine weeks don't have to take exams. Friday and Monday after exams are days off.

Rick French, 28, is named the State's Outstanding Young Educator by the N.C. Jaycees. after two years of being recognized as North Carolina's Outstanding Young Agriculture Teacher. A teacher at Cary High since 1969, he leads the active, award-winning FFA Club and teaches subjects including small engine repair, horticulture, agricultural science, wildlife and applied ecology. Over the past two years, 45 percent of his students have gone on to further agricultural-related education at two- and four-year schools. The 1976 YRAC will be dedicated to French when he leaves to pursue a doctorate in occupational education.

The federal Education for All Handicapped Act directs school districts nationwide to provide an education for all students "in the least restrictive environment."

On Feb. 14, an Afro-American Jam concludes a week of special activities sponsored by the Afro-American Society during National Negro History Week. Also included are decorations in C Building and a special assembly. The society, in its third year, aims to promote better understanding of black culture and history.

For several years, each class (senior, junior and sophomore) elects two vice presidents and two sergeants at arms – one black and one white – to go with a president, a secretary and a treasurer.

In the spring, the controversy over who will attend the new Apex High School blows up. The school, scheduled to open in fall 1976, is being built for 800 but there will be fewer than 400 high school students in the Apex district at that time.

All kinds of proposals are made. Some want to restructure the grade levels, so that 10th grade goes to West Cary, 11th and 12th graders go to Cary High and the new Apex High, along with East Cary, houses seventh through ninth graders. Others want the new school's originally planned name, Western Wake High School, restored. Some suggest sending Cary High's non-Cary city limits students – those in Swift Creek, for example – to AHS.

The most controversial suggestions involve carving out parts of western Cary and sending them to Apex High. Eventually, that's what happens. When Apex High opens in fall 1976, all Cary students no longer attend the same school.

For the first time, the 1975 yearbook features color senior portraits. The staff hand cuts each color picture to size. The book reflects student style - its theme is "blue jeans" and it sports a denim cover.

The band goes to the Kentucky Derby in May as one of nine out-of-state bands in the fifth-largest parade in the United States.

Pre-graduation festivities include a picnic and a senior luncheon at Meredith Dining Hall. Seniors rent the "Showcase" for a graduation night party. The class of 429 wears white tassels, chosen over green by a narrow vote, during the evening ceremony June 3 at Memorial Auditorium.

In May, "Godspell" is students' first drama production in several years. Teacher Nancy Nokoff directs. Heartened by success, the 37-member Drama Club presents the musical "Barefoot in the Park" in December.

Mary Ruth Crook – who teaches English and journalism, and serves as "Seasons of Our Minds" literary magazine adviser and senior class sponsor – is named Wake County Teacher of the Year. A panel of educators and parents picks Ms. Crook, who has been at CHS 13 years at this point, from 27 nominees based on teaching performance, and school and community activities. She's known for everything from a love of poetry to standing on her head to make a point.

In a Cary News interview, she says making literature more real for students and pointing out its universal themes are among her goals:

Everything I teach I bring to the students in a way that they can see in their own terms. People must learn to love each other, understand and share. My mission in life is to help young people at the high school level. I do that through building skills in writing and reading. Reading is not just word recognition, but understanding what another meant on a higher level than just words.

The first day of school, 1975-76, about 1,700 students surge onto campus including seniors wearing "'76" tags. The senior class is known throughout the year as "Spirit of '76," in reference to America's upcoming 1976 Bicentennial Celebration. The usual inter-class rivalry is reported to be strong at the opening day pep rally in the stadium. Student Mike Wade writes in The Cary News: "The juniors produced a large green and white flag emblazoned with '77. Some of the more spirited seniors immediately proceeded to kidnap the flag; its location is still unknown."

Faculty members are increasingly concerned about declining interest in history. Only three courses are offered: Recent American History Since 1945; American History 1900-1945; and Revolution and Independence (a Bicentennial course). Only one social studies credit is needed to graduate and most students opt for Law and Justice, or Modern Social Problems.

A special 1975 census puts Cary's population at 14,530.

1976 – On Jan. 1, the band marches in the Cotton Bowl parade in Dallas, the first out-of-state band to do so.

The junior-senior prom is held March 27 at Scott Pavilion on the N.C. State Fairgrounds. The Drifters play.

Popular cars in 1976: AMC Pacer, \$3,499; Pinto Pony, \$3,207; Mustang II, \$3,874; Sunbird, \$3,654; Maverick, \$3,466; and Gremlin, \$2,599. Skateboarding is a popular hobby, and clothing fads, according to the yearbook, include Levis (about \$15 per pair), adidas clothing, pukka shell jewelry, tall sandals, long skirts and embroidered shirts.

The Imp wrestlers beat Southern Alamance, a defending state champion. They finish as conference runners-up but win their sectional and finish seventh in the state. John Sanderson is the first-year coach who will put the program on the map.

About 45 students participate in a 30-week business education program new to Wake County, Junior Achievement. It involves setting up small companies and making products.

Spirit Week, previously held in the fall, is held in February prior to a basketball game against Garner. Activities include "Inside-Out Day," when everyone's clothes look a little odd; "Stomp 'em Day," when everyone wears their biggest boots; and Olympic Night, which features students in sack races, three-legged races, tug of war and other non-traditional events. There are also the usual Green and White Day and pep rally, and the crowning of the Spirit King, a male student who happens to be wearing a dress. The hall decorating competition is fierce, with the seniors' "Spirit of '76" beating the juniors' "America, This is Your Life." A Sweetheart Dance is held at the Crabtree Valley Community Room, featuring a group called The Sunbursts. (Students no doubt do one of the popular dances of the year, the bump. "Saturday Night Fever" and the hustle are still to come.)

Led by All-State guard Jim Ramsey and coach Steve Holleman, the basketball team wins the regular season conference title and finishes the regular season 19-5. They reach the state quarterfinals, losing to McDowell County 65-64 in overtime to finish 22-6. The jayvee team, under Irv Slade, finishes 18-2 and shares the league crown with Broughton.

Several bomb scares that turn out to be hoaxes keep students out of class and waiting in the gym during searches in the spring.

In fall 1975, some enthusiastic students change the Historical Society into the Bicentennial Club. In April, they sponsor American Heritage Week, which includes a contest for painting trash barrels in Bicentennial themes, won by the Library Club. Heritage Week also features social studies classes doing skits. Teachers are a hit with a parody of a popular TV show, "Welcome Back Kotter."

The Bicentennial Club is led by faculty adviser Linda Gunter and other social studies teachers. A group goes on a special tour of historically significant places in the Northeast. In fall 1977, the club changes its name again, to United Students in Action (USA).

Near the end of the school year, frustrated principal John Stevens announces a "door slam method" for dealing with rampant tardiness. Teachers are told to close classroom doors as soon as the last bell rings. Latecomers must report to the office for a note and a warning.

It's a good year for spring sports teams. Pitcher Neil Woodall tosses a no-hitter to beat Enloe 7-0, and the baseball team finishes 12-4, 7-3 in the league. The tennis team finishes 10-1 in the conference in the regular season, while the softball team finishes its regular season undefeated. The track team places fourth in the state meet.

Graduation preparations include several practice sessions on the class song, The Eagles' "I Wish You Peace." Boys are reminded to wear light-colored shirts and ties, and girls, light-colored dresses, under the white graduation robes. Many of the 446 grads attend a party at the Showcase.

On July 1, the merger of the Raleigh City and Wake County school systems is official, following a decree the previous fall by the state legislature. This action follows at least four years of heated, divisive debate and an earlier popular vote that defeated the idea 2-1. A

large group of Cary parents is among those who have led the effort against merger. The concerns include lack of local control and increased busing for racial balance. (The Raleigh City Schools are faced with declining enrollment and are under a court desegregation order from the federal department of Health, Education and Welfare.) Many school officials believe merger is necessary to provide equal educational opportunity.

The band wins the parade and finishes third overall in the Pennsylvania Festival of the Colonies in Allentown, Pa., a Bicentennial-inspired event featuring bands from the original 13 colonies (New York's doesn't make it because of exams.) Jimmy Burns and his group are noted for their smooth, military-style step and their method of marching diagonally, facing the judges, instead of in a block style. They play for Cary's Bicentennial celebration, held July 5 so residents can enjoy the other celebrations going on July 4.

Students find odd ways to amuse themselves at lunch time. One, called "Buck-Buck," involves a single file line of students forming, with students bending over and grabbing one another around the waist. The front of the line grabs on to a tree and another team of students runs at the line to try and collapse it.

A straw presidential ballot is held to give students a realistic look at the democratic political process. There are debates in social studies classes and students register to vote. (Most choose the traditional political parties; a few register for things like the "Freak Power Party.") In the end 579 of 759 registered students vote, the majority picking President Ford and his running mate Bob Dole over Jimmy Carter and Walter Mondale. Ford wins Cary, too, but not the nation.

The October Homecoming theme is "Bungle in the Jungle."

The football team records one of its finest seasons ever, under Coach Dave Riggs. They go 8-2, and win the conference title at 6-1. It's on to the playoffs, where the Imps win at undefeated Goldsboro 18-6 in the first round.

They score all three of their touchdowns in the second quarter. Senior quarterback Van Mainer throws for two: to Randy Phelps for 70 yards and to Warren Woodard for 17. Speedy Chris Castor scores the final touchdown on an 80-yard kickoff return. Phelps caught the ball but handed off to Castor on a reverse, and Castor ran up the sideline. (One extra point kick goes wide, and two two-point conversion passes fail.) The bubble then bursts at Cooper Field, as the Imps lose to unbeaten Richmond County 34-8 and finish the year 9-3. Postseason honors pour in for Riggs and several players. There won't be such a successful football season again until 1995.

The cross country team finishes fifth in the state after winning their Eastern Sectional.

Because of Title IX of the federal Civil Rights Act, schools receiving federal money must institute co-educational physical education classes. Cary's begin in 1976-77.

**1977** – The band again starts off the New Year in the Tournament of Roses parade. It's a rare honor to be invited back so soon after its '73 appearance. Intense practice sessions include daily laps run around the parade field to build up endurance for the 7-mile parade, and marching on the streets of Tanglewood. Before leaving, the band holds a "Thank You Cary Concert" on the grounds of McDonald's on Maynard Road, one major supporter during fund-raising for trips and new uniforms.

A medley arranged by Dick Travathan of Western Carolina is played, including versions of "Happy Days are Here Again," "It's A Big Wide, Wonderful World" and "It's A Good Day." The overall Rose Parade theme is "The Good Life." Cary, with 155 band



members, is one of five high school bands from outside of California in the parade. There are 22 bands and Roy Rogers and Dale Evans are grand marshals.

In early January, Burger King at Village Square opens.

It's a championship year for the wrestling team. Late in the season, North Carolina Mat News ranks the Imp wrestlers number one on the strength of 10 straight dual match wins. They fall to 11-1 with a 31-30 loss to No. 2 D.H. Conley. (A CHS wrestler is penalized one point after throwing his headgear in anger after the Conley coach forfeits the weight class to him.) After a 12-1 regular season, John Sanderson's team wins the conference meet 222-123 over Sanderson. Eleven Imps make the finals, with seven winning championships and one finishing third as Cary takes its third league title in four years.

Seven wrestlers go to the state meet. The Imps meet Conley again and beat the Vikings 87-64.5 for the state title. Five wrestlers make the semifinals, with Barry Armstrong winning the state title at 141 and being named Most Valuable Wrestler. His season record is 30-0, with 27 wins by pin, and he has won five tournament championships. Armstrong's varsity record is 75-3-1 and he is named an All-American, Cary's first. Four other Imps are named all-state.

In late January, in the midst of ice and snow, officials at all local schools urge students to dress warmly, as thermostats will be set at 60 degrees. Governor Jim Hunt has ordered energy conservation in the face of a nationwide natural gas shortage. Several classes in G Building move to the cafeteria or library because of faulty heating.

In early February, Wake County Schools Superintendent John Murphy cancels after-school activities until the weather gets warmer. Athletic practices and events can be held, but only in 40 degree weather. Many area businesses and churches reduce their hours of operation. The Key Club sponsors a "Warmth Drive," placing collection boxes in local businesses for heaters, blankets, wood and other supplies.

In February and March, about 200 sharks are dissected by biology students. Coincidentally, Principal John Stevens has a 60-gallon aquarium set up in the library for students to enjoy.

In February, the juniors stun one and all during Spirit Week, winning the building decoration contest with their "Sea of Spirit" theme and winning the "Olympics" sponsored by the cheerleaders.

Student parking is a problem, even with the lot next to the gym paved in fall 1976. Some students are allowed to park across Walnut Street in the Village Square lot for \$6 per month, but business owners are concerned about too much socializing and abuse of restroom facilities. Many cars are crowded into the area around Lions Park.

The YRAC staff decides in April to produce a "summer supplement" that will focus on graduation and other late spring activities such as sports. The seniors receive their annuals in a special morning assembly April 28, then are given the rest of the day off, as has become tradition in the last few years.

Coached by teachers Bill Mann and Locke Moore, auto mechanics students Michael DeBarr and Michael Peacock win the state Plymouth Troubleshooting Contest over students from 28 other North Carolina schools.

In June, 489 students graduate, compared to Apex High School's first graduating class of 122.



Dave Riggs resigns as athletics director and alumnus Guy Mendenhall, 41, is hired from Enloe High, where he coached basketball 10 years. In August, Mike Schilawski, 28, resigns after four years and a 72-7 record as track coach to take a vocational counselor position at Apex High. Schilawski's cross country teams have finished fifth in the state twice and seventh twice.

In mid-August the Page Building on the old CHS campus, now Cary Elementary, is knocked down. Built in 1922 for vocational education, it had been deemed unsafe several years before and been used only for storage.

When 1977-78 school year begins Sept. 6, the Wake County school board swaps starting times and makes them uniform by school level. All high and junior high schools run 8 a.m.-2:30 p.m. (instead of 8:30-3 p.m.), with elementary schools moving to 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m. The decision is reversed the next year. There are school bus shortages.

There is no school newspaper during 1977-78. Instead, journalism students produce four 48-page newsmagazines, "Spirit," during the year. A subscription is \$2.

In October, the school gets unwanted attention as three black men, including two students, allegedly flog a white special education student with switches in the bus loading area after school. The non-student and the older student (one is a juvenile) are convicted of simple assault.

The public focuses on the school's discipline and the ability of outsiders to wander campus. Local merchants complain about students roaming and loitering. Principal Stevens says discipline is as good as it could be, with 1,700 students – 700 of whom have parental permission to leave campus for lunch – on a big campus, with a shopping center and ABC Store across the street, and without turning the school into a fenced fortress. He says he wishes the shopping center had never been built.

Later in the month, residents near the school are upset by a 15-minute victory march by the band, which occurs at 1 a.m. after the band's return from winning first place in a statewide competition, the Richmond County Band Festival in Rockingham. Mayor Fred Bond marches with the group and some residents turn out to cheer the performance of the winning music, but there are nearly 40 angry phone calls to the police about violations of the town noise ordinance.

In October, two homecoming queens are crowned, one white (Cathy Watkins) and one black (Sharon Kearney).

With a 10-2 record, the tennis team finishes as Cap-8 Co-Champs and places third in the sectionals. The football team loses to Garner 20-17 in overtime in the regular season finale. Its 8-2 record isn't good enough for the conference's two state playoffs berths.

The school's library is the only one in the county that requires no pass for use before school or at lunch. At lunch, students crowd in. The library offers 14,000 books and 82 magazine subscriptions.

For the sixth year, Spanish IV students spend one hour each Friday teaching fourth-through sixth-graders at Cary Elementary School.

Race relations are one of the year's biggest issues, with the school system making attempts to boost racial balance within classrooms as well as schools. English, for example, is no longer grouped solely based on ability (except for in the top honors class). More black students are being bused into CHS from Raleigh, including a group from the

Walnut Terrace community. Instead of 10-minute bus rides to Broughton, the students face 30-minute bus rides to Cary. In a story in The Cary News, one student says they enjoy Cary High, while another resents being there.

In November, senior English classes celebrate a recent tradition, "1984 Day," based on studies of the George Orwell novel. At one point, principal Stevens is arrested by the Thought Police and taken to Room 101 for "torture" after disloyalty to Big Brother.

In December, the Imperial Cinema IV – yes, Cary High puts the Imp into the title – opens across from the school.

**1978** - In the spring, football coach Dave Riggs shocks everyone by announcing he will become the football coach at the new Athens Drive High School. By the time Athens opens in fall 1978, Cary has sent it several faculty members, including band director Joseph Secrest, and more than 200 students. Cary students now attend three high schools.

In February, seniors win back the hall decorating title during Spirit Week with an outer space theme featuring such characters as Darth Vader and R2D2 from the popular 1977 "Star Wars" film. One contest involves girls wearing "I resist" buttons. If they speak to a male student during the day, they must hand over their button. The boy wears it on the other side, which says "I'm irresistible." Two boys who collect the most tags are crowned Mr. Irresistible.

In 1977-78, English courses are converted to semester lengths. Students focus on composition for one semester and literature for one semester.

In late February, popular six-year biology teacher, and Key Club and Science Club adviser, Charles "Doc" Robinson, 56, dies. A fund is established for an annual biology award in his name to be given to a senior. Praising Robinson for both his ability to spark academic interest and for his encouragement, compassion and respect for students, and sense of humor, the senior class of 1978 commissions a portrait by local artist Pete Turner to be hung in the media center. Students buy science books for the media center in Robinson's memory.

A girls' track team is started again, under coach Martha Mial, after several years of girls competing on the boys' team.

In April, the band competes in the weeklong Festival of States in St. Petersburg, Fla. In November, under Don Stubblefield, it marches in the 52nd annual Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade in New York in front of 80 million TV viewers.

The class that graduates June 6 at the Raleigh Civic Center numbers nearly 440. It donates a "Cary Senior High School - Home of the Imps" marble and brick sign for the campus' front lawn. The class is called exemplary – 84 percent plan further education, with more than half of those going to four-year colleges; four students finish with perfect 4.0 averages and 64 graduate with highest honors or honors; and 30 receive academic, athletic and other scholarships.

Jean Lamson, class of 1978, is believed to be the first female Cary athlete to win a college scholarship, going on to play basketball at Campbell.

Former principal Paul Cooper dies Aug. 18 at the age of 76. During his tenure, Cary was accredited, and began pioneering programs in distributive education, gifted and talented English and health occupations, and for developmentally disabled students.

Homecoming in the fall features a "circus" theme and the juniors win with a float featuring a large, revolving carousel, balloons, a trapeze and caged (Athens) jaguars. The activities also include cheerleaders singing jingles over the morning announcements, a "car bash" and purchase of links for the "spirit chain."

Under first-year head coach Mike Devine, the football team reaches the playoffs, winning the league title, but falls to Scotland County.

In November, the class of 1980 takes the first state competency tests in math and English. When the juniors' scores come back in January, 28 of 451 fail the reading portion, while 34 fail in math. Remediation plans are set up.

Girls favor the "Annie Hall look" with long skirts, open vests, high waist pants, boots, blazers and neckties replacing many girls' blue jeans. A popular look for boys when they dress up – as the football team does on game days – is three-piece suits.

1979 – In February, basketball coach and alumnus Steve Holleman announces he will leave Cary. Like many faculty members who leave, he is burned out and concerned about the low pay available to high school teachers and coaches. Irvin Slade, junior varsity coach for seven years, replaces him. (Slade, an assistant coach for varsity, has won two conference titles and tied for two, with only one losing season.) Holleman's six-season CHS record was 107-44, he won two Cap-8 regular season and two tournament titles, and his Imps went to the playoffs three times. His final 16-11 season is a tough one, with games postponed several times due to ice and snow. One game at Smithfield-Selma is even postponed because of a big ACC game on TV that night.

John Sanderson's wrestling team wins its third straight Cap 8 title, finishes second in the regionals behind High Point Andrews, and qualifies three wrestlers for the state meet. The Imps place third in the state meet, entered by wrestlers from 124 teams, as Bob Wagner (115) and Clint Reese (170) win state titles, the second and third under Sanderson. Andrews finishes second, behind South Stokes. Reese is an All-American.

On Feb. 14, Cary Village Mall opens with 48 stores, including anchors Hudson Belk and Ivey's. The Marching Band and Symphonic Band perform to kick off the grand opening ceremonies. The drama department sends costumed characters like the three little pigs over to walk around and do skits during grand opening day, and the Choral Ensemble sings. (The mall later causes a stir by staying open on Sundays during the Christmas 1979 shopping season.)

Spirit Week is held Feb. 12-16, but new fire codes limit hall decoration plans. Well into planning, upset students find out that three-dimensional constructed objects can't block the hallways.

Cary High's 1978-79 dropout rate is 8 percent, compared to the state average of 32 percent.

The swim team defeats Athens Drive 48-18 (boys) and 43-19. Athens is the only other team in the area. The Imps compete against teams such as Greenville Rose and Chapel Hill.

A team of six girls unofficially represents Cary High in the North Carolina State High School Gymnastics Championship. The girls, who practice basically on their own at Candler Swim Club, win first place in the optional events and second in compulsory. In

Class I compulsory, Tracy Hash finishes second in the all-around and in each of the four events. In optional, she wins the floor exercise and places second all-around.

By spring, another gas crunch is on, with prices up to nearly 75 cents per gallon. Many stations close on Sundays and consider other measures, including rationing. Smaller cars gain popularity.

Mike Ripberger wins the state title in the high jump.

Under Sue Pleasants, the softball team goes 14-4 (9-3 league). The sport has only been a full-fledged conference sport for a couple of years and only champion Garner gets to go the playoffs.

For the first time in 1979, the Paul W. Cooper Memorial Award is presented by the former principal's family. The award, given first to Clay Gitter, goes to a senior recognized for character, leadership and ability. The faculty chooses finalists, who then write essays.

From the 1979 YRAC: "1978-79 was a year that both fascinated and frustrated the junior class. It was a year of Steve Martin, class rings and 'toga parties'; a year of PSATs, competency tests and future planning; and a year that brought the class of 1980 one step closer to graduation."

In May, the Junior-Senior Prom is held at the Raleigh Civic Center, with the theme "Cruise to Paradise." Graduation is Friday, June 8 at 8 p.m. at the Raleigh Civic Center. Of 477 students receiving diplomas, 373 say they plan further education and 54 win scholarships.

For 1979-80, the state of North Carolina increases graduation requirements to four English, two math, two social studies (including one American history), two science (including one life science or biology), one PE/health and seven electives. The schedule for 1979-80 is 8:30 a.m.-3 p.m.

The school board debates closing campus at lunch. One reason is the energy crunch. They decide against it. Since 1976, principals have decided the issue and at Cary, all grade levels are eligible. John Stevens guesses about half of Cary's 1,480 students leave campus for lunch, a privilege reserved for seniors previously. Students eat in two 50-minute blocks, from 11:20-1:10. If lunch was closed, lunch times would be shortened. Popular lunch spots include Burger King, McDonalds, Blimpies, Pizza Inn and Convenient Mart. About 350 students drive cars to school.

On Sept. 25, the Drama Club and adviser Jane-Elizabeth Mosher sponsor the first annual "Faculty Frolics." The show includes the debut of vocal ensemble "The Kids from Cary." Teachers and students dance, sing and show off other talents (some of them rather dubious!).

In the fall, the soccer team under first-year coach John Bonner reaches the state playoff semifinals in the state tournament, losing to Sanderson. The Imps are 11-5 and four of the losses are to eventual state champion Sanderson. It's their first playoff trip. Peppy Yamamoto is first-team All-State.

After two years without a student newspaper, English teacher Mary Ruth Crook again sponsors one, "Spirit." Mrs. Crook had sponsored the paper for many years, but stepped aside because it was so demanding. The paper and journalism class briefly die out, but she resurrects the paper as an extracurricular activity.



The first issue of the revived newspaper, which comes out in December, features stories on the undercover drug bust in Wake high schools (152 arrests result, including those of two Cary High students), the open lunch policy, and the band, and it has a dartboard sized picture of Iran's Ayatollah Ruhollah Khomeini. Six student editors run the paper and raise funds to print it, so it will be a "free press" not subsidized by the school.

In late December, about 200 students turn out next to the gym to burn the Ayatollah in effigy, to chant anti-Iranian slogans, and to sing pro-American songs on National Unity Day. Senior class president Peppy Yamamoto tells The Cary News, "We're just expressing our concern for the hostages," referring to the 50 Americans being held in Iran, who are released in January 1981 after 444 days of captivity. Cary Police arrive at the event and ask if the administration wants it dispersed. "If this is the way they want to take their lunch period, it's OK with me," Principal Stevens says. The students can't help but be stirred up by the anti-Iran mania sweeping the country, he says.

1980 – In January, enrollment is 1,552.

Cary officials worry about a new magnet school program with special class offerings at Enloe High School in Raleigh draining away talented students. The program's first year, about 30 Cary students enroll.

In February, more than 60 students take the stage acting, singing and dancing in Rodgers and Hammerstein's "Oklahoma!" Tickets to each of the six performances are \$2.

Six students are chosen to compete in the first annual Wake County Quiz Bowl, which includes teams from public and private schools. Teacher Linda Gunter coaches the group, with help from Barbara Buescher of Cary Public Library. The students answer questions on all kinds of subjects. The Imps win the title, beating Wake Christian, Apex and Enloe. (The 14-team field also includes Athens Drive, Zebulon, Fuquay-Varina, Cardinal Gibbons, Broughton, Millbrook, Wake Forest-Rolesville, East Wake, Southern Christian and Hale.) Each member receives a \$100 savings bond. Cary beats Moore County in the mid-east regional in Troy in March (earning a perfect score of 240) before falling to Richmond County 210-200.

During the 1979-80 school year, 60 students are enrolled in Industrial Cooperative Training. They take classes in the morning and are placed in jobs in the afternoon.

In March, there is talk of a new high school in the Cary-Apex area and the possible closing of Kingswood Sixth Grade Center. County school officials want to reorganize, sending ninth grade to the high schools and changing the junior highs into middle schools. Principal John Stevens says Cary High is already 200 students over its capacity and he doesn't know how ninth-graders can possibly be added. (Apex High is among schools that are already grades 9-12. It has about 1,000 students.) This discussion will go on for most of the decade.

On March 30, 120 band members directed by Don Stubblefield depart for a two-week musical tour of Romania under the auspices of the Friendship Ambassadors, a foundation linked to Readers Digest that promotes international understanding through performing arts exchanges. The band gives nine concerts in concert halls, plazas and schools, plays impromptu events such as soccer games, and visits places such as Dracula Castle. One concert in Bucharest's Palace Hall is attended by more than 3,000 and broadcast on Romanian television.

The band members play selections by American composers such as Irving Berlin, Cole Porter, Arthur Miller and Aaron Copeland, and from Broadway. The trip includes about 1,200 miles of travel within Romania, where students often see armed Russian guards.



Before the trip, concerns are raised because of the Soviet presence in Afghanistan and the ongoing controversy over a possible U.S. boycott of the 1980 Olympics, but everything goes OK.

A trip highlight is a weekend homestay with villagers in Leresti, which is mainly made up of woodcutters and farmers. Many Romanians reportedly want to trade for cowboy hats ("Dallas" is the rage of European television), blue jeans and band uniforms. "We could take a history course for four years and never learn what we did in two weeks there," one student tells The Cary News.

The Friendship Ambassadors pick up about 40 percent of the trip's cost, leaving the musicians to raise about \$750 each. The main fund-raiser is "Rent-A-Kid," which involves band members being hired out for yard work, child care, house cleaning, errands, repair work, pet and plant care, birthday party musical entertainment and the like.

In 1979-80, 26 students are enrolled in calculus. Five are girls.

In May, the 60-member Key Club sponsors a Donkey Basketball game involving students and faculty members astride donkeys. About 580 fans turn out and more than \$500 is raised to help a local child who suffered a brain seizure. There are concerns about what donkey feet might do to the gym floor, but the popular event is repeated in ensuing years.

The faculty is increasingly concerned about the so-called "beach weekend," the second weekend in May. For at least a decade, many seniors have left early on Friday afternoon, missing seventh period with unexcused absences, to head to the Myrtle Beach, S.C., area. (The whole thing apparently got started when the prom was on Friday nights and students would leave school early to get ready, heading to the beach the next day. The prom was moved to Saturday.) But more and more underclassmen are joining in, and students are skipping classes Thursday, Friday and Monday. School officials ask for parents' help and understanding that beach weekend truly is not a school-sponsored activity.

The baseball team, under coach Don Staley and with 11 returning seniors, records its first 20 win season, going 20-7. The Imps beat Fayetteville Westover 4-0 in the first round of the state playoffs (pitcher Andy Dupree gets his ninth win of the year and his career record is 24-7). In the second round, Cary faces Garner, which had beaten the Imps three times already – twice in the regular season and once in the Cap 8 conference finals. The Trojans win 5-4.

Senior Mike Ripberger repeats as state high jump champion with a jump of 6-8 1/4 (more than an inch lower than his season's best).

Graduation is held Friday, June 13 at 8 p.m. at the Raleigh Civic Center. The 1979-80 school year does not end for non-seniors until June 18 (the year included one 10-inch snowfall).

After several disputed counts, the final 1980 census count for the Town of Cary is 21,865 residents, 95 percent of which are white, making it North Carolina's 19th largest town. This compares to 7,640 in 1970 and 3,300 in 1960. Morrisville's population is 251 and Apex's is 2,847.

In the fall, once again, only seniors have off-campus lunch privileges. ISS (In School Suspension) is now available for underclassmen who attempt to sneak off.

Apex High visits Cary on Sept. 5 in the season football opener. At the Friday afternoon pep rally, the Imps' varsity cheerleaders wear "I shot J.R. – Apex you're next" t-shirts, in

reference to the spring's season-ending episode of the "Dallas" television show, a cliffhanger that kept viewers wondering who had shot main character J.R. Ewing right into the fall. The cheerleaders' pep rally routine is choreographed to "Hello, Texas," music from the movie "Urban Cowboy." Apex wins the game 18-6.

In November, a story in The Cary News concerns the lack of black student council officers over the years. Each class still has a black vice president and a white vice president, and black and white sergeants-at-arms. Social circles are still segregated, says assistant principal Douglas Fulford, who is black: "Very seldom do you see a mixed lunchroom table."

In their second year, 1980-81, The Kids from Cary favor such fare as Billy Joel, Barry Manilow, Barry Gibb, Kenny Rogers and the Beach Boys.

**1981** – Junior wrestler Jeff McCracken wins the 170-pound state title.

In late March, wrestling coach John Sanderson announces he will become wrestling coach at Waynesville Tuscola High, his alma mater. Since the 1975-76 school year, Sanderson has never lost a Cap 8 dual meet, has led the Imps to five Cap 8 titles, five sectional titles and one state title, has been named Mat News Coach of the Year, and has coached four individual state champions and two all-Americans, Barry Armstrong (1977) and Clint Reese (1979). In July, East Wake High's Jerry Winterton is named to carry on Sanderson's tradition.

Under third-year coach Carolyn Shannonhouse, the girls basketball team – which lost no players from a 9-13 team – loses its first three games of the season before finishing the year 15-3, 14-0 in the conference. By winning the regular season Cap 8 title, the Debbie Mulligan- and Sandy Martin-led Imps earn a state playoff berth. They beat Smithfield-Selma 59-52 after trailing by 10 in the fourth quarter in the conference tournament finals.

On March 3, Cary defeats visiting Scotland County in the first round of the state playoffs 71-56, led by Martin with 21 points and by point guard Sonya Ward. On March 12, the Imps beat Terry Sanford (which had a 20-6 record coming in) 69-58 at Wilson Hunt in the East Regional semifinal, leading by as much as 21 points in the third before holding off a Bulldog rally. Junior center Donna Mullinax adds 17 points to Mulligan's 21, and Cary hits 85 percent of its free throws, a strength all season.

In the East Regional final, also at Hunt, Cary faces defending state champion Goldsboro and its 52-game winning streak. Cary wins 82-60, shattering Goldsboro's famed press with quickness and 60 percent outside shooting. "They handled our press better than anyone we've faced," says Goldsboro coach Gerald Whitley, calling Cary a good, smart team. "They are a lot better conditioned than we thought they would be. That's why we kept pressing them. We haven't played anybody we couldn't wear down."

Cary also makes 24-of-34 free throws, compared to 4-11 for Goldsboro. Martin, Mulligan, Mullinax and senior forward Maria Ward all score in double figures. At this point, the Imps have won 23 in a row (23-3), a school record.

On March 20, they face Chapel Hill in the state championship at Elon College, and lose 67-46. A poor shooting night, aided by the Tigers' 2-1-2 zone defense, dooms the Imps.

Two days later, Shannonhouse says: "Chapel Hill was the better team that night, but we know we can play so much better than we did. ... The girls were disappointed they couldn't show the kind of ball we can play. But at the same time we remember the kind of season we had. It was a great season, and I'm very proud of the girls."

The 1981 YRAC yearbook sells for \$12. Its current events section lists favorite movies: "The Shining"; "Apocalypse Now"; "Urban Cowboy"; "The Empire Strikes Back"; "Norma Rae"; "Kramer Vs. Kramer"; "The Rose"; and "The Blues Brothers." Other

newsmakers are Bjorn Borg, the Olympic boycott, Bruce Springsteen's "Born to Run" and Pink Floyd's "The Wall."

In March, at least 95 seniors are missing on "senior skip day." Principal Stevens, unimpressed, reminds them of ISS.

Pam Cross' French students win the third annual Wake County Foreign Language Festival at N.C. State University.

Graduation activities include a senior barbecue in Umstead State Park. The ceremony is Tuesday, June 2 at 8 p.m. at the Raleigh Civic Center. The class song, "Cutting the Ties," is written by Teresa Louise Tullo, a graduate studies classical guitar at The University of Georgia (she eventually plays Carnegie Hall). There are about 310 graduates.

The 1981-82 school year starts Aug. 31. The first day, there are 1,303 students, 86 faculty members and six trailer classrooms. The annual school supply fee, which had been \$3.25 per student, has been dropped.

In September, on a long weekend with a Friday teacher workday, senior class president Colin Thomas and senior Nelson Hyatt go on a 160-mile walkathon from Atlantic Beach to Cary to bolster the senior class treasury, which must pay for homecoming, baccalaureate, senior pig picking and other expenses. The two are greeted at the gym by a crowd of students when they finish the walk

The Martha Mial-coached volleyball team, which competes in the fall now, finishes second in the Cap 8. But this is a rare year when the conference has two state playoff berths, so the Imps make their first trip. They beat Louisburg in the first round, 15-2, 15-9, and upset unbeaten Chapel Hill 15-6, 15-4 in Cary in the second. In the state quarterfinals, the Imps face Millbrook (who had beaten them in the conference finals) at Broughton and win 12-15, 15-12, 15-3. But in the state semifinals, they fall to Asheville Roberson 15-6, 15-12, ending their season at 17-4.

The Homecoming parade features a "Movies" theme. The seniors win with "King Kary," a gorilla climbing the water tower. Other float features are "coming attractions" posters with names like "Imp Side Story" and "Super Imp," and a big, gold "Oscar Imp" Award. The 13 members of the Homecoming Court ride in six Corvettes.

After dropping its opener to Apex 19-17, the football team wins seven in a row on the way to finishing 8-2. Cary clinches the conference title with a 24-0 win over visiting Garner in the season finale. In the playoffs, the Imps lose 14-0 at Fayetteville 71st. The offense is stopped three times within the hosts' 20 yard line.

In December, a Taco Bell fast food restaurant opens near the school.

1982 – The Imp wrestlers finish fourth in the state, behind Ragsdale, Fayetteville 71st and Sanderson. Cary's Jeff Farwell finishes the season 32-0 and wins the state title at 129.

Basketball star Debbie Mulligan is the first Cary player to be named first team all-state.

More than 150 students are involved in the spring musical, "The Music Man."

The Spirit Week dress up days are: Boys Irresistible Day, Prep Day, Punk Rock Day, Formal Day, and Green and White Day.

In the spring, the old Cooper Field press box is knocked down after being deemed unsafe. A controversy soon ensues amongst Wake County Board of Education members as to what size, type and cost to allow Cary to rebuild. A \$67,000, 15,000-square-foot facility is proposed. The final product is a \$29,500, 420-square-foot facility.

The 1982 YRAC's senior title page begins:

Our senior year. We dreamed of it, we longed for it, and then it became a reality. Could it be that only two years ago we were the lost and confused sophomores at Cary High?! We were constantly humiliated those first few weeks by the juniors and seniors who gave us wrong directions, taped us to poles and threw pies at us ... And don't forget the chants of "Go back to junior high."

The book lists Pizza Inn and the Imperial Theater among top "hangouts," along with Sportsworld and Darryl's restaurant on Hillsborough Street in Raleigh. Ralph Lauren clothing is replacing Izod Lacoste as most popular, it reports, and anything goes in fashion, from prep to punk to western. The ending song is "Time" by the Allen Parsons Project. There are 21 clubs pictured.

Ninth-graders are allowed to compete on CHS teams if the sport is not offered at their junior high (such as tennis, soccer, or swimming). Only four Cap 8 schools have feeder junior highs instead of middle schools.

At the start of the 1982-83 school year, there are 1,370 students and 82 faculty members. New classes include computer math and data processing.

The football team beats Apex 10-0 in the season opener. The game features 15 fumbles, 8 by the Cougars and 7 by the Imps. (The Imps finish 7-3, but all their losses are in the conference, so they don't make the playoffs.)

On Oct. 26, the band plays "Hail to the Chief" as President Ronald Reagan enters the Raleigh Civic Center for a campaign event for Republican Congressional and state candidates. The official music had been flown in from Langley Air Force Base. Band members go through metal detectors and take their instruments apart so that dogs can search them for weapons.

"I had to try hard not to look up and try to see the president right when he came out," said drum major Chris Branam, who played saxophone at the event. "But we knew we had to play and get it right and not be looking around."

Don Stubblefield next directs the band in the 63rd annual Gimbel's Thanksgiving Day parade in Philadelphia.

In December, Golden Corral opens off the recently opened Western Boulevard Extension, which links Maynard Road to Interstate-40. Also opening around this time is the Beltline, from around Maynard to South Saunders Street in downtown Raleigh.

**1983** – Coming off a disappointing 5-19 mark the season before, the boys basketball team jumps out to an 8-0 start and wins 13 of its first 14 games, including the Raleigh Times Tipoff Tournament title. The team then finishes 15-9, losing in the first round of the Cap 8 tournament to Millbrook, 60-59. Six league losses are by a total of 13 points.

Yet another coach leaves for private business. After four years, Cary alumnus Irvin Slade resigns his basketball post. A seven-year assistant to Charlie Maidon and Steve Holleman, Slade first plans to stay at the school, but then decides to take a job in the insurance field. After a two-month search, 29-year-old Phil Spence – a member of N.C. State University's 1974 NCAA Championship team – is named to the job. Spence has



coached the junior varsity team for four years, earning a 39-40 record (15-5 and 12-7 the previous two years).

Coaches seem to leave in groups. By mid-summer, football coach Mike Devine has left (30-22, with two conference titles, in five years), as have five-year soccer coach John Bonner and cross country coach Ben Trench. Don Staley, 36, who has coached baseball at Cary since 1969, takes over football, with Mike Byers arriving for soccer and Allan Gustafson taking over cross country.

Four students win John T. Caldwell Scholarships, the most prestigious award given at N.C. State University. The scholarships are worth \$3,000 a year for four years. The four – John Emerson, Beth Gray, Tom Monaco, Clarence Hauer – represent the largest group ever named from one high school. They are among 26 students selected, from an initial pool of 1,000 applicants.

Honors classes offered are English, math, biology and foreign languages. They are all open to any student, except English, which requires a certain test score, and they offer an extra quality point in a student's grade point average.

Students enjoy Spring Day in early May. It's an afternoon of volleyball, sack races, horse shoes and other games. Of course, one of the more popular features is the dunking booth where students, with a well-aimed baseball, can dump "favorite" teachers from a seat into a tank of water.

A student survey in the YRAC reports that about 72 percent of students have some kind of part-time job. Reasons? Cars, college planning and movies/dates.

A new school year opens Monday, Aug. 29. The school board considers delaying school's opening because of extreme heat, and does dismiss classes at noon several days.

The 1983 football team loses to Lee County (25-7), Northern Durham (10-0) and Smithfield-Selma (21-14), and beats Apex (27-13), Enloe (35-7), Broughton (10-6), Millbrook (9-7), Athens Drive (16-0), Sanderson (20-0) and Garner (32-7). The Cap 8 title is shared with Smithfield-Selma and Broughton, and a drawing is held for the two playoff berths. Cary and Smithfield-Selma win the spots, but the Imps – plagued by turnovers – lose to visiting Terry Sanford 16-0 in the first round.

The fall play is "Ten Little Indians" by Agatha Christie.

The fall edition of "Seasons of Our Minds" includes 52 pages of poems, sketches and photos. It's put together by the creative writing, art and photography classes. More than 150 poems submitted had to be narrowed to 30.

**1984** – On Jan. 2, the 150 members of the band and director Don Stubblefield step off as the 81st of 110 units in the 95th annual Tournament of Roses Parade in Pasadena, Calif. Cary's third trip to the prestigious event is a record for an out-of-state band. (This time, the Imps represent a region that includes the Carolinas, Georgia and Florida.) Band members had to raise about \$825 each to go, with pizza kit sales and "Rent-A-Kid" two of the biggest fund-raisers. The parade theme is "Salute to A Volunteer." The rifle team gets special permission to carry rifles – parade organizers have never allowed weapons of any kind to appear. Cary plays four numbers: NBC chimes festival, "Softly As I Leave You," "Crown Imperial" and "Sanbandrea Swing."

Three-year featured twirler Tonya Hildreth is featured in a "cameo" interview, taped the night before, that's shown in the corner of the television screen as the band passes TV cameras.



"You just couldn't imagine all the people at the parade," drum major Chris Branam tells The Cary News. "I have never seen so many people in my life as were along that parade route. They were just great and seemed to really enjoy us."

In February, chapters of SADD (Students Against Driving Drunk) are formed at Cary High and Apex High, largely in response to Apex student Tracy Bowman's death the previous fall, in an accident caused by a drunk driver. Cary's SADD is led by students Blaire Tidwell and Wendy Phelps, and English teacher Michael Byers. Its purpose is to educate students about the problems of drinking and driving, and to raise awareness of the alcohol problem. Activities include sponsoring a "Friends Don't Let Friends Drive Drunk" poster contest.

The women's basketball squad finishes the regular season 17-6. In the Cap 8 tournament finals, the Imps win 31-30 over Broughton, snapping the defending state champions' 54-game win streak. (Cary had lost three close games to the Caps during the season.) Center Natalie Lew leads Cary with 16 points and hits the final free throw. She's named all-conference, along with guard Jenny Yopp. In the first round of the state playoffs, Cary hosts rival Goldsboro and loses 42-38.

Cary's estimated 1984 population is 30,702 (up from 21,763 in the 1980 census), making it the 18th largest town in North Carolina.

In the spring, the first-ever Cary girls soccer team begins play. Fourteen players are coached by Michael Byers. The softball team (13-5, 10-4) makes its fifth state playoff appearance in Myra Gaban's sixth year as coach, losing at Northern Durham 9-5.

The theme of the April 21 prom, held at the Radisson Plaza in downtown Raleigh, is "An Evening in Paris." A top 40 band, "Flying High," plays. Admission is \$3 for juniors, since they didn't sell quite enough magazines to cover expenses, and free for seniors.

The second annual Humanities Festival includes dramatic readings from literary classics, choral numbers, speeches and a spelling contest. Classrooms are decorated by themes such as "The Jazz Age" and "The War Torn World." The art, choral and English departments collaborate on the event.

This year, Cary has three Caldwell winners at N.C. State: Berry Credle, Sheila Stone and Patti Hilliard.

The American Political Processes classes participate in the townwide fund-raising drive for a downtown clock. They raise \$105 in their "Give A Dime for Time" effort.

The Wake Educational Foundation gives excellence awards to seven teachers in the county – chosen from 82 nominees – and two are at Cary: art teacher Barbara Allen and math teacher Julie Schilawski. Criteria for the award include contributions to student achievement, extracurricular involvement, use of community resources, leadership, special accomplishments in the field, curriculum work, and activity with professional organizations. Both winners give credit to principal John Stevens for trusting teachers and giving them the freedom to try things.

The YRAC features two sets of senior pictures: one the environmental, outdoor portraits, and the other the "traditional" drapes and tuxedos look retired years before. It notes video music as a new rage. A big news event is the Winter Olympics, held in Sarajevo, Yugoslavia. Within a few years, Yugoslavia will exist no more and Sarajevo will be wrecked by war.

Graduation exercises are held at Reynolds Coliseum for about 325 grads. Susan Stephenson is the first female president of a senior class.

After 21 years in the same classroom, D-21, English teacher Mary Ruth Crook retires at age 62.

The school hosts much of the town's Fourth of July celebration, including a breakdancing contest, the fireworks at Cooper Field, and games and booths in the gym parking lot.

In September, Douglas Fulford Sr., who had undergone surgery for a brain tumor in the spring, dies of cancer. Fulford, 51, had served for 14 years as assistant principal, after a brief stint as a teacher. His administrative duties include teacher duty assignments, budget and supply matters, supervision of the custodial and cafeteria staffs, and responsibility overseeing 11th-graders. Principal Stevens calls him the most loyal and fair man he has known: "He weighed all angles of a controversy to get the facts before he made a decision. He counseled with students and teachers with their problems. He was a good, hard worker and devoted to the school."

Former teacher Mary Ruth Crook says Fulford was "a calming kind of person who brought this school through racial integration in the 1970s," with a relaxed and patient manner that helped make black students feel more at home and white students more accepting." She says Fulford saw the good in every student and showed them that success was the product of hard work.

A memorial scholarship is started in Fulford's name. The annual Powder Puff football game, in which the senior girls take on the underclassmen, raises the \$467 for the scholarship. Several clubs help with fund-raising, resulting in \$1,000, and in spring 1985, Fulford's wife Anne presents the first Douglas Fulford Scholarship to Steve Lewis. The award is given based on academics, contributions to school and community, leadership and an essay.

1985 – The girls basketball team finishes 14-6 (11-2 conference) in the regular season, as league runner-up to Broughton. In the first round of the state playoffs, Cary upsets defending state champion Reid Ross 61-55 behind Monique Burnett's 30 points. After beating Hoke County, Cary falls 42-41 to Broughton.

Twenty-six girls make up the Sweetheart Court. They are sponsored by student organizations to which they have given a lot of time.

There are 221 students on the second quarter A/B honor roll, and 22 with straight A's.

Attendance is a concern. On a given day, 91.6 percent of students are in class. The state allows 15 absences per semester. Wake County lets students with an A average and no more than six absences skip the exam in that class (or with a B average and no more than four absences).

A pilot peer counseling program begins. The students tutor, counsel and lead support groups. They learn listening and problem-solving skills, and about the dangers of drugs and alcohol. The group works with peers and with younger students in local schools.

Wake high schools write their own homework policies, with faculty members, parents and students collaborating. Cary's states that students will average 10-12 hours of homework per week (5.6 hours is the national average), or 20-30 minutes per class each evening. Homework decreased in the '60s and '70s, but many are stressing it again. The

new policy, however, does state that homework can count for no more than 25 percent of a student's grade, and that it shouldn't be checked completely each day. Teachers may sometimes judge it by a student's class participation or through periodic notebook checks. Quite a few parents come out against the new policy, saying their children are too busy with extracurricular activities to do so much and that homework is often busy work.

Sophomores sell 12,000 boxes of M&M candies, for a net profit of \$2,300.

Righthander Tommie Adams throws a perfect game, including 14 strikeouts, as the baseball team downs Athens Drive 7-0 to share the league lead April 30. "I had realized in the third or fourth inning that I had it going, but I'd tried not to think about it," Adams tells The Cary News. "I was hungry and went to Pizza Hut. Just what I always do (after a game). I enjoyed the attention. But it doesn't affect me too much. It's nice while it lasts."

During three years, Adams has a better than 6.6:1 strikeout to walk ratio. His senior ERA is 0.85 (compared to 1.42 as a junior) and he averages 1.27 strikeouts per inning over his senior season. Adams goes 24-8 during his career, 11-2 as a senior, setting Cary High and conference win marks. The Imps finish the regular season 17-5, 10-4 and beat Millbrook 6-1 in the finale to share the Cap 8 title with Sanderson. A one-game playoff is held for one playoff berth. Cary wins 3-0 as senior righthander Mark McComas pitches a one-hit shutout, striking out seven.

On May 19, Cary faces Big East champion Rocky Mount at Rocky Mount Municipal Park. The Imps win 6-2 behind Adams, who also hits a homerun (he bats above .400 for his career).

Southern Pines Pinecrest beats the Imps 6-4 in the second round on Charles Blue's two-run homer with two out in the seventh and final inning. A record crowd of more than 500 rings the field (built for 150 spectators) in lawn chairs to see the Imps strand 11 runners and suffer through a third inning in which they commit five errors (which ties the GAME high for the season), then rally before losing.

In May, math teacher Jane Gower receives one of nine \$5,000 teacher excellence scholarships from Wake Education Foundation. In eight years at CHS, she has become known for the math fair, and her unusual lesson plans and projects, and has written geometry lessons used across the county and state. She is Student Council adviser.

Senior Barry Jones is the first Cary golfer in at least a decade to reach the state tournament at Finley Golf Course, shooting a lifetime tournament best 72 in the sectional at the Duke Golf Course.

In February, John Stevens undergoes surgery for a pancreatic tumor. In early March, Dr. Richard Jewell – principal of Raleigh's Broughton High for 15 years – is named interim principal. Assistant principals are Kay Carey and Don Staley. In March, the 65-year-old Stevens returns to work half days, doing teacher evaluations, but in April, announces he will retire June 30.

With several staff members stricken by cancer, asbestos concerns arise again, and ceilings in the offices and band room are treated with sealers. But health officials say none of the employees' cancers are the kind typically related to asbestos.

On Sunday afternoon, May 26 there is a community reception for Principal Stevens in the cafeteria, remembering a tenure that stretches back to 1967. "A" building is renamed "The John Stevens Administration Building." Students present Stevens with a silver punch bowl set engraved with his name and years of service, and it's used at the reception. The faculty hosts a retirement banquet in June at Mission Valley Inn.

On May 27, Dr. Ramey Beavers, 42, is named as the new principal. He comes to Cary all the way from Clinton (Mississippi) High School.

The 1985 YRAC lists as "hot" the movies "Ghostbusters" and "Beverly Hills Cop"; television shows St. Elsewhere, Hill Street Blues, Dynasty, The Cosby Show and Cheers; newsmakers Prince, '84 Olympians Mary Lou Retton and Carl Lewis; and fashion trends of baggy sweaters, plaids, big jewelry, and all kinds of jeans, from stone to acid washed, to colored, to two-toned. A student survey lists among the biggest perceived problems for youth: drug and alcohol abuse, drunk driving, peer pressure, quarrels with parents and "lack of knowledge."

Thirty-nine seniors win nearly \$650,000 worth of scholarships. Twenty-seven junior marshals, chosen based on grade point averages, assist at graduation, held June 4 at 8 p.m. at Reynolds Coliseum at N.C. State. Speakers include class president Ronald Stuart Holland (the first black senior class president), valedictorian Tiffany Ann Sweitzer (who has a 4.4 average in honors courses, with all A's) and other class officers. Principal Stevens hands out diplomas for the last time.

Teacher Julie Schilawski, having just finished her 13th year at Cary, is one of three North Carolina winners of the Presidential Award for Excellence in Science and Mathematics. She is head of the math department and math team adviser, and has been involved in a variety of extracurricular activities. She is also frequently a mentor to student teachers and teaches workshops for other teachers. Mrs. Schilawski, some of her students say, is known for her daily quizzes, her love of word problems, and for being "hard, but fair." She goes to Washington, D.C., in October to represent the state.

Over the summer, Darrell Perry is hired as Cary's first full-time athletic trainer.

In the fall, the Capital 8 Conference becomes the Capital 9 Conference, with the addition of Triton, a consolidated version of Dunn and surrounding schools.

The first day of the 1985-86 school year is Aug. 27. By Labor Day, there are 1,439 students. The old "smoking flats," a gathering place for some students, have disappeared as smoking fades from public favor.

In September, concerned about safety, town officials talk with student leaders about the water tower on Southeast Maynard Road. It's become an annual ritual for seniors to paint their graduation year on the tower. In October, town officials hire professional painters to paint "Class of '86" and the step draws national media attention. For a few days, principal Ramey Beavers can hardly get anything done except interviews. Local developers pitch in the \$500 fee. The town will continue to paint the tower in coming years.

In October, a Wake County bond referendum for \$70 million for school facilities passes. One project on the list is an addition at Cary High, which will include a new auxiliary gym. Cary has five trailer classrooms, while Apex High, also slated for work, has 19.

Newly-elected school board member Jean Schilawski of Cary says Cary High really should be replaced. It's landlocked, is getting old and shabby, and is in an area that is too congested and commercial, she says. Ms. Schilawski suggests that a new school be built in northwest Cary and that developers might donate the land. In 1986, the Cary School Advisory Council formally asks the board for a new high school, citing Ms. Schilawski's reasons as well as the small size of the cafeteria, auditorium and other support areas. Eventually, additions to the cafeteria and a new media center are added to the plan for Cary.

Wake County expands science offerings and increases the requirement from two to three units. (One must be in biology or life science, and one in physical science.)



Graduation requirements increase from 19 to 20 units. The school board votes that after the class of 1986, all students must take exams, canceling the previous system by which students could earn exemptions with high grades and attendance. The board also passes attendance and grade point average requirements for participation in sports and other athletic activities, effective with the 1986-87 school year.

Town development continues, with several shopping centers springing up on Kildaire Farm Road and plans announced for a major development at the Walnut Street-U.S. 1 intersection called "Crossroads Plaza." High House Road is also developing.

The 1985 SAT average for Cary is 904 (up nine points), compared to the national average of 906, the Wake County average of 893 and the North Carolina average of 833. Cary's participation rate is 65 percent, versus 37 percent nationally.

Senior Paul DeWitt caps a perfect cross country season with the Cap 9 title, and a third place finish at the state meet. Coach Allan Gustafson's team places eighth in the state.

The school is saddened by the death of a very young Jane-Elizabeth Mosher Hart, an eight-year teaching veteran, in December. The spring 1986 musical, "Bye Bye Birdie," will be dedicated in her memory.

1986 – In February, the 13-member varsity cheerleading squad travels to Orlando, Fla., for the National High School Cheerleading Championships. They compete with 40 teams, which have advanced from regional competitions, and place 15th in the All Girl Varsity Division. The squad works hard before the trip, putting in many four- and five-hour practices under adviser Sylvia Carr. Their routine must include cheers, dance steps, chants and stunts. They make the competition again in 1987.

The school opens a "Career Center," where students can browse through or pick up information on educational opportunities (including college catalogs), the military, careers, SAT preparation, financial aids and jobs. A senior survey indicates that the most popular career choices are business administration, accounting and engineering.

Virginia Blackley, who joined the staff in 1968, is nominated for American History Teacher of the Year in North Carolina. She is cited for her commitment, her ability to inspire students and her subject matter knowledge. An article in The Cary News notes that Ms. Blackley encourages critical thinking, debate and discussion, and uses methods such as having students sit on couches, instead of in rows of desks, for discussion. She says students of the 1980s are more conservative and less opinionated than her students of the late 1960s and early 1970s. The recent explosion of the space shuttle Challenger is an example of the kind of thing Ms. Blackley brings into her class, relating it to the space program's development during her own youth and her memories of watching the first space launches.

Cary offers two semester-long courses in computer studies, which have become the most popular vocational courses in their four years offered. The classes focus on computer hardware, software and programming.

The Lady Imps basketball team finishes the regular season 18-3, 14-1 in the conference, and wins the regular season and tournament Cap 9 titles. Senior forward Monica Burnett, who averages 20 points per game, pulls down a school record 22 rebounds in one game and sets the mark for most double-digit scoring efforts in a season. She is named Wake County Player of the Year and is Cary's second Associated Press all-state player.

In the state quarterfinals at Wilson Fike, Cary beats Wilmington Laney, 49-45. They go on to the East Region Finals, where they lose to Fayetteville Pine Forest, 57-34. Before season's end, coach Carolyn Shannonhouse, who has guided the basketball and tennis programs for eight years, announces she will leave to take a position as assistant executive director of the North Carolina High School Athletic Association, working with several ex-Cary High coaches.

Cary's Mickey Hinnant is the conference scoring leader for the second straight year and Cap 9 Most Valuable Player. He scores more than 1,200 points in his three year career and is a last-minute addition to the annual East-West All-Star Game. He is named the game's MVP.

In March, Don Staley, a fixture for 18 years (he coached baseball throughout and football for three years, winning Wake County Coach of the Year honors in both sports) leaves Cary for an administrative job in Garner.

In the spring, it's announced that the class for older Trainable Mentally Handicapped students will move from Cary Elementary to Cary High, so the students will be around peers of their own age.

In an April guest column in The Cary News, principal Ramey Beavers says that among the biggest challenges to making Cary High excellent is the fact that students aren't overly committed to education, as demonstrated by his concerns with attendance. He also stresses the need for more parental involvement in education, which has slipped as more families include two working parents, or single parents.

Sophomores Bill Polson and Wade Newhouse are among four regional winners in the annual Dickens' Disciples contest at N.C. State University, which features about 50 contestants competing in oral interpretation. Their English teacher is Marilyn O'Neil.

In late May, the band – directed by Don Lucas – plays on the front lawn of Cary Town Hall as part of a fund-raiser for efforts to restore the Page-Walker Hotel, one of the town's oldest buildings. It's the band's first community concert in some time. They play music ranging from marches, to television and movie themes, to symphonic music.

Also in late May, the first-ever "Star Search" talent show is held, modeled after the TV show of the same name. Students compete in singing, dancing, acting, comedy and spokesmodel categories. More than 25 acts appear. Tickets are \$3.

For the first time, Cary boasts two state track champions at the same time: Paul DeWitt in the 1,600 meters (4:19.59) and Larry Patterson in the high jump (6-8). It's Patterson's only year on the track team. Coach Roy Anderson's team finishes sixth in the state.

Floral and paisley prints, new wave hair, Swatch watches and singer Madonna are a few of the "fads" gracing the yearbook pages.

In July, the band plays at a local Republican rally attended by Vice President George Bush.

Former principal John Stevens dies in August. Wake County superintendent Robert Bridges praises Stevens for his role in leading Cary High during a time of tremendous change, which included desegregation, merger of the city and county school systems, and the area's development from rural to urban. Despite all the change, the school has maintained academic excellence, he says. "John Stevens excelled at motivating the

professionals he worked with and provided support for creativity and innovation in teaching. His leadership and ability will be missed," Bridges says. The John Stevens Service Award is established, to be given annually to a senior who has made a significant contribution to Cary High.

The school day is extended slightly for 1986-87. Cary High's day will run from 7:50-2:35. Lunch price is \$1.05, and opening enrollment is 1,382, just under the school's capacity. By the fifth day, enrollment is 1,441. The staff includes 85 teachers.

Brian Hardy, a popular junior who had become a familiar sight dressed as the Imp at sporting events since his sophomore year, dies of meningitis. A moment of silence is held in his memory one Monday morning in September.

In early October, it's so hot that school is let out one day at 12:30. Only the media center, cafeteria and main offices are air conditioned. Some classes are held outside under trees.

The marching band considers a trip to Ireland for spring 1987, which would include a St. Patrick's Day parade in Dublin. Controversy arises among parents and students, and the school board, over the cost (about \$850 per student), class time that would be missed, unrest in Ireland and other issues. Some people suggest there are plenty of places the band could play in the United States instead. At first, the school board rejects the trip, but later votes to approve it. Board members who switch votes say their initial concern was with insurance issues and they have been satisfied that everything is OK. But director Don Lucas announces the trip will be canceled because too few of the 125 students say they will go.

English teacher Jo Ann Hines receives the Governor's Business Award in Education from Gov. Jim Martin, as one of three state winners honored for teaching excellence. Ms. Hines has 22 years of teaching experience, including 16 at CHS. It's hardly her only honor – she is also named a finalist for Wake County Teacher of the Year, and received recognition as Teacher of the Year from North Carolina English teachers. Ms. Hines says she is fortunate to teach in Cary, where there is a high level of student and parent interest. In the 1987 YRAC dedication, she is hailed as someone special who can "give back a paper with 'awks' and 'frags' marked in blood one day and cry reading 'The Velveteen Rabbit' the next."

The Imp Club joins the push for a new high school to replace Cary. In November, the school board moves ahead with plans for an addition, which will include 13 classrooms, three chemistry labs, a biology lab, four special programs classrooms and an auxiliary gym. Jean Schilawski still wants to sell the old school. Another suggestion from the community is that Cary High and East Cary Junior High swap campuses, since East Cary's campus offers more space for expansion. School board members say high school enrollment is declining slightly and the new high school they will likely build in Raleigh in the early 1990s will probably be enough additional space through the turn of the century.

In November, drama students skip the usual fare and present "David and Lisa" by James Reach, a play about two mentally disturbed teenagers. Chuck Sinclair directs and the stars are advised by a local psychiatrist. In spring '87, the musical is "South Pacific."

The football team, coached by John Thomas, finishes 6-4 and wins a three-way drawing for its conference's third place state playoff berth. Junior quarterback Tommy Crowder sets several conference passing marks. But Cary is crushed at Henderson Vance, 35-0.

1987 – After several years' absence, a parent group to support Cary High forms. PATCH (Parents and Teachers for Cary High) is designed as an information, public relations and advocacy resource group, and as a formal volunteer support group.

The wrestling team, which hasn't lost a dual-team match since Jan. 8, 1982, goes 18-0. They are ranked No. 25 in the nation, among 8,600 high school wrestling programs, in Amateur Wrestling News. It's the highest such honor ever for a Cary High team. Coach Jerry Winterton's program is also featured on "Scholastic Sports America," a television program on the ESPN channel. Winterton says this team, with victories that include a win over Rock Hill, five-time defending South Carolina champions, is his best ever.

They're devastating in the Cap 9 Conference tournament, advancing 12 wrestlers to the finals, and winning 10 out of the 13 finals bouts on the way to a 256.5-83.5 win over Garner and Triton, tied behind Cary. The Imps also crush the Mid-East Regional field of 25 teams, and advance a school-record 10 wrestlers to the state finals at Winston-Salem Parkland High School. Cary wins the state championship 98.5-76 over second place Fayetteville 71st. Phil Gray wins the state title at 129 and all 10 Cary wrestlers win at least one bout to score points.

During 1986-87, Wake County raises the minimum age to drive a bus to 17, a step the state will take in 1988. Federal law soon raises the age to 18.

The Town of Cary's continued growth boosts the number of postal service zip codes from one to five.

Seventeen students travel to Old Dominion University for a Model United Nations event, Cary's second year of participation. The event is attended by about 1,200 students from 75 schools.

About half of the student body, 720 students, is enrolled in at least one vocational education class. Most popular are health occupations, electronics, child care services and horticulture. The school system offers 80 courses in eight disciplines.

"Teacher Appreciation Week" is held in May and teachers probably gain a few pounds. The Calculus Club coordinates notes from students to favorite teachers; Health Occupations sends cards; Key Club and Student Council host an ice cream social; DECA distributes daisies and cards; the French Club, Psychology Club and Student Council give out candy; the senior class bring in cookies and balloons; and Future Teachers of America hands out apples.

The girls soccer team wins its first Cap 9 title, 1-0 over Millbrook, as freshman Kim Foster converts in a sudden death shootout. The teams are tied at 0-0 after 80 minutes of regulation, two 10-minute overtime sessions and two 5-minute sudden death periods. A shootout featuring five players from each team then ends 3-3. In the sudden death shootout, five more players from each team are chosen, and with that score 1-1, Millbrook misses to set up Foster's winning kick.

The Imps beat Greenville Rose 2-0 in the state playoffs, then lose to Millbrook 1-0 in – guess what – sudden death. Their final record is 13-5.

With seven school days are missed due to snow, the last day is pushed to June 12. But graduation is Sunday, June 7 at the Raleigh Civic Center, so senior exams are held the week before everyone else's. There are 35 junior marshals, each with a 4.0 or higher grade point average.



Several students produce a video yearbook for 1986-87, called "Time on Tape." The regular 1987 YRAC lists slang expressions of the year: airhead, cool, cruise, dude, fine, killer, hey and trippin.'

The marching band turns down an invitation to play in the U.S. Olympic Festival opening ceremony in Carter-Finley Stadium in July, but about 40 members participate in a mass band event.

The 1987-88 opening enrollment is 1,384 and there are 59,728 students in the Wake school system. Students are upset to find out that only seniors will be allowed to park on campus because of the upcoming construction. Of 400 parking spaces, 140 are reserved for faculty. Tanglewood residents are concerned about the noise and trash from students parking in their neighborhood. Cary Police enforce no parking areas there and on East Cornwall.

Barbara Carter, who has been teaching at Cary for three years, receives the Novice Teacher of the Year Award from the Health Occupations Teachers Association, and is runner-up for the state Greenhorn Award from the N.C. Vocational Association.

A Powder Puff football game featuring Cary High versus Apex High girls nets \$1,500 for United Way.

Walnut Street Park is renamed R.S. Dunham Park after R.S. "Dad" Dunham – the popular vocational agriculture teacher at Cary High from 1929-69 – dies at age 82 from cancer.

The Psychology Club is in its third year visiting patients at Dorothea Dix Mental Hospital twice a month. The students throw a Christmas party there. Their community involvement also includes "PhoneFriend," a telephone support service for children who are at home alone after school.

The fall play is "You're A Good Man, Charlie Brown."

Adviser Fred Fox accompanies 10 students to the National FFA Convention in Kansas City, Mo., an event attended by more than 24,000 students. Guests include Lee Iacocca of Chrysler, U.S. Secretary of Education William Bennett, presidential hopefuls Vice President George Bush and Sen. Robert Dole, and former Dallas Cowboys quarterback Roger Staubach.

First-year band director Tony Robinson takes his charges on his first major trip, to the Citrus Bowl Music Festival. The 105-member group places third overall.

The first annual Cary High School Imp Club Golf Tournament raises more than \$3,000 for training room equipment.

**1988** – The wrestlers, ranked 11th in the nation, run their winning streak to 92, the 10th longest streak ever in U.S. high school wrestling history. Seven Imps win conference titles as Cary crushes Sanderson for the team title. After six wrestlers win Mid-East Regional titles and Cary wins the team title, the Imps cruise to the state championship, held at East Forsyth High, their second championship in a row. They total 131.5 points, to Davie County's 66 and Kannapolis Brown's 63.5.

A school-record seven wrestlers go to the state championship, and three win titles: Neile King, Robbie Boyer and David Cauffman. Coach Jerry Winterton is featured in June in Sports Illustrated magazine's "Faces in the Crowd" and Cauffman is later named 1987-88 Outstanding Wrestler for North Carolina by the N.C. High School Athletic Association.

In the first two weeks of January, students miss seven days of school because of snow. Four days are taken from spring break, and the snow plays havoc with sports schedules.

During 1987-88, Youth Opening Doors for Youth – started by student Jackie Kilgus – is in its second year. The club is designed to promote social interaction between TMH (trainable mentally handicapped) students and regular education students. Activities include Christmas shopping and attendance at sporting events.

The 1987-88 Spirit newspaper, advised by Janice Richardson, wins first place in the American Scholastic Press Association Writing Contest.

In January, 10 John Stevens Excellence in Teaching Awards (which each include \$1,000, overseen by the Wake Education Foundation) are awarded to: Barbara Allen, art; Virginia Blackley, social studies; Pamela Cross, French; Vicki Barfield, special programs; Angela Farthing, social studies, psychology and peer discovery; Linda Gunter, social studies; Jo Ann Hines, English; Norma Hill, math; Elaine Melson, math; and Julie Schilawski, math. A committee of teachers, administrators and parents picks the winners through a formal application process.

Cary High's 58 school buses are moved to East Cary, allowing 81 more students to get parking spaces.

A school-record 16 swimmers qualify for the state meet and the girls team places sixth. Suzanne Gardiner wins the 100 butterfly title.

The Cary Chamber of Commerce sponsors the second annual Cary High School Career Fair, involving about 200 students.

Principal Beavers attends a national conference on "Implementing a Critical and Creative Thinking Curriculum" in Boulder, Colo., as part of the county's principal staff development program.

The first "Project Graduation" is held at Dorton Arena. The alcohol-free event – a student idea – is coordinated by parents, businesses and volunteers. It features food, games and a performance by The Connells. A school system survey indicates that more than 4,100 of Wake County's 17,469 high school students consider themselves problem drinkers.

Diana Jones wins the state discus title with a throw of 117 feet, two inches, not her best of the year.

Cary receives state recognition in the U.S. Department of Education's Secondary School Recognition Program.

The fall enrollment is 1,178 (down from more than 1,300) and Cary loses eight teachers.

Principal Beavers calls "flexibility" the word for 1988-89, as the \$4.5 million construction project, that includes "Building 10" and a "pitched roof" is under way. Students are greeted in August by dirt, noise and shifted trailer classrooms. The cafeteria addition opens in September.

A \$50 fee to park on campus is first charged in 1988-89. It pays for security personnel who patrol the parking lots. Checking student lunch passes is one of their duties.

Under a new county attendance policy, high school students who miss more than 10 days in a semester or 20 in a year can fail a class.

The junior class' homecoming float, which has a hoe-down theme, catches fire briefly. The YRAC refers to this as "the unfortunate homecoming mishap."

Fred H. Fox Jr., agriculture teacher at Cary for 13 years, is named one of 70 teachers nationwide to receive FFA Honorary American Farmer degrees, based on accomplishments as a teacher, FFA adviser and participant in professional organizations. Four of Fox's students have won American Farmer degrees, 46 have won state degrees, and he has advised 4 state officers.

The 1988-89 edition of Faculty Frolics features principal Ramey Beavers covered in purple balloons and other accouterments, and singing "I Heard it Through the Grapevine."

A new Spirit Club is formed, along with an Art Club. The weightlifting club of 1988-89 holds its first "Lift-A-Thon" fund-raiser.

The senior skit at the annual Christmas assembly is "The 12 Days of Christmas."

**1989** – The wrestling team's winning streak reaches 101 and they are ranked 16th in the nation by Amateur Wrestling News.

The team wears matching rented tuxedos to school the day before a home match against Triton, which turns out to be its 100th straight victory. The Jan. 3 win, 52-12, happens before 1,500 fans (including 24 former Cary wrestlers, six of them state champs), Cary's largest wrestling crowd ever. "It's a big night for the kids, something they've really earned," says coach Jerry Winterton.

By year's end, the streak is at 109 (the eighth longest in high school wrestling history) and the Imps have their seventh straight conference title and their fourth straight regional title. Eight wrestlers advance to the state competition at East Forsyth High.

Cary wins its third straight state title. This time it's close – 88.5-86 over Davie County. Davie County's heavyweight loses to an Anson County wrestler in a decision to give the Imps the title, as coach Jerry Winterton sits outside in the concourse to listen to a match he can't bear to watch. Cary senior Pat King (who goes 143-10 for his career, setting a state record for individual career victories) is the 130-pound state champion. All eight state qualifiers win at least two bouts, a first under Winterton.

A Cary High PTSA is formed, developing out of the PATCH group. The first project for this academically oriented parent support group is sponsoring a \$500 scholarship for a 1989 senior.

The spring musical, "Little Shop of Horrors," is even more technically challenging than 1988's "Singin' in the Rain," for which students created rain on stage. Four stages of Audrey II, the talking, man-eating plant from outer space, are constructed. Two require a student inside to operate them.

The band marches in Gov. Jim Martin's second inaugural parade. They also appeared in his first.

Through a grant from the Wake Education Foundation, special programs teacher Rogerline McKenzie opens the first student store in many years in E building. It's run by 20 students, who Ms. McKenzie hopes will learn business and customer relations skills. Sold are basic school supplies, before school and during lunch, and snacks after school. Plans are made to use the profits for a student scholarship program.

Suzon Dickey's sixth period sophomore English class wins third in Wake County's version of the Bon Jovi "Band Together - Be Drug Free" video contest, sponsored through Make A Difference Foundation, with a video called "The Drug Free Rap." They represent CHS at a county assembly held at Broughton High and hosted by rock singer Jon Bon Jovi. The nine students and their keyboard endure about 30 takes before completing the video, which ties into their studies of poetry. Part of the rap, the only rap among 45 county entries, goes: "Your friends might be saying that this is cool/Tell them you know better, who're they trying to fool?" The students say they aren't big Bon Jovi fans, but they enjoy the pizza party and t-shirts they win.

Spring sports are plagued by rainouts, with 12 events wiped out in one week in March. Baseball makes its first playoff trip since 1985, beating Oxford Webb 14-5 in round one under fourth-year coach Mike McLelland. The Imps (16-5, 12-4 in the regular season) share the Cap 9 title with Garner and Millbrook, despite being picked to finish fifth in the league in the preseason. In the playoffs, the Imps also beat Millbrook 5-4. In the quarterfinals, they down Richmond County 7-5 after trailing 5-3 going into the bottom of seventh. With Cary down 5-4, Matt Berry hits a two-out, three-run homer. The Imps also die by the homerun, losing to Wilson Hunt 5-4 in 10 innings.

A new club in 1988-89 is Cultural Connections. This group is designed to get minority students more involved in Cary High, and to highlight the culture and history of all minorities. Activities range from guest speakers to holiday observances to a support group function.

The 1989 YRAC gives a "thumbs up" to music groups Def Leppard, INXS and Van Halen, Pizza Inn, the mall, TV's "The Cosby Show," "Cheers" and "21 Jump Street," and the movie "Who Framed Roger Rabbit?" Those getting a dreaded thumbs down include singers Tiffany, George Michael and Debbie Gibson.

In June, Guy Mendenhall steps down after 12 years as athletics director. His term saw varsity sports increase from 12 to 17 and jayvee, from 2 to 4. Mendenhall remains as a teacher and golf coach, while CHS alumnus Lee Mauney succeeds him as AD.

Call it The Return of the Freshmen. The \$4.5 million addition is ready in fall 1989 and nearly 400 freshmen manage to find their way to the expanded campus, the first time since the mid-60s that four classes have called Cary High home. With the 363 sophomores, a large portion of the 1,500-odd students (up from 1,231 in mid-September of 1988) are new to CHS. Freshmen comments to The Cary News include: "I didn't want to get off the bus," and "Since they're bigger, they treat us a little differently."

Teachers report a fresh excitement about work this August, with the new building and all. The new "10 Building," including the media center, and areas created out of the old media center, are air conditioned. The new building does contrast with the old buildings. A group of faculty members and area business people launch the "IMProvement Committee," to work on painting, lighting in hallways, entry ways (new doors, glass), miniblinds to replace shades in classrooms and other facility projects. They have a list of \$500,000 worth of such needs.

Projects such as a giant yard sale and the first annual Cary High Halloween Carnival (which also provides local elementary children with a safe place to celebrate) are held.

For 1989-90, Apex High goes 4A (with just over 1,000 students), providing a new full-fledged rivalry. The Cap 9 is to be realigned into two groups, one of which will include Cary, Apex and Athens Drive among its teams.



In September, Wake schools close one Friday because of Hurricane Hugó. The high winds don't materialize in the area.

Six boys join the varsity cheerleading squad halfway through the year.

More than 25 entries are in the annual Homecoming parade in October. The movie theme inspires the seniors' Imp Kong, the juniors' Jaws, the freshmen's Honey I Shrunk the Jags, the sophomores' Jag Busters and the Calculus Club's The Untouchables. With less than 30 players, the football team beats Athens 17-13 and a dance in the cafeteria follows. Unfortunately, the football team ends the year 2-8.

The USA Club sponsors a town council candidates forum, which about 150 attend, mostly students. Issues students raise include environmental concerns, traffic concerns and talk about the lack of activities for young people.

Students for Environmental Action forms. Its interests include protection of rain forests and endangered animals, ozone layer awareness, recycling and conservation, and campus beautification projects.

State Senate Bill 2, the School Improvement and Accountability Act, is passed in 1989.

The band goes to the San Diego Holiday Bowl Music Festival at Jack Murphy Stadium.

A state-of-the-art sports medicine and weight training center opens off the gym. Trainer/teacher Kurt Glendenning – an alumnus also known as the school disc jockey – oversees the area.

1990 – As a new decade dawns, Cary has grown from 21,919 residents in 1980 to 42,301 in 1988, up to the 13th largest city in the state. Its area has increased from 10 square miles in 1980 to 30 square miles in 1989. The 1990 census will record 43,858 residents.

On Jan. 19, at halftime of the Cary-Sanderson boys basketball game, members of the 1954 and 1939 state championship teams are honored.

Spirit Week draws lessened participation, the YRAC reports, with dress up days like "18th Century," "Gender Bender" and "Safari."

About 150 members of the Cary Chamber of Commerce visit the school for the monthly "Business After Hours" program, hosted by the faculty. The emphasis is on the school's needs and the possibilities of partnerships with the business community.

The wrestlers' 188-match winning streak – the seventh-longest winning streak ever in high school wrestling – is ended by arch-rival Apex, 28-21, in late January. A capacity crowd of more than 2,000 fills the Apex gym – spilling into the lobby – to watch the state's 7th-ranked team, the Cougars, and 10th-ranked Imps. "You know it has to end sometime, but when it does, it makes you heartsick," says coach Jerry Winterton.

Each team wins six bouts and the 13th is a tie, but Apex has two pins to none for Cary. The Imps bounce back by smashing Smithfield-Selma, 53-22, to start a new streak. They also win their ninth straight conference title in the first-ever Tri-County 6 event, beating second place Apex 185-165. Cary finishes fourth in the regionals and doesn't place in the state. A new dual-team state tournament has been introduced. Cary beats Anson County in the first round, before losing to Northern Durham in the second.

Efforts to recycle white paper, glass and aluminum cans are under way.

Campus security is discussed after a student reports being attacked in a bathroom around 5 p.m. while waiting for a ride home.

After 12 years in residence around campus, especially around the cafeteria, unofficial school pet School Cat disappears.

Stephen Karasick wins the Morehead Award to UNC-Chapel Hill. It's valued at \$36,000 for four years of undergraduate study and summer programs.

The North Carolina Jaycees name math teacher Julie Schilawski as the Outstanding Educator for North Carolina. She is chosen from 22 nominees from across the state. Ms. Schilawski comments that she has had an unbelievable number of teaching role models in her life, including those at Cary High, a school she loves. "A day does not go by that I don't have a lot of laughs," she says. "The kids are really great."

The drama production "Don't Drink the Water" is postponed twice because of poor weather.

In May, an alumni group of athletes, most coached by Simon Terrell, form the White Imp Club of the 50s. In addition to social activities, the group plans to award a scholarship each year. The first is awarded in 1992 to Mike Dunham. The award aims to recognize character, academics, sportsmanship and loyalty to the school. Coaches can nominate athletes and a small panel will choose winners.

The 1990 YRAC reports that freshman girls are masters of "spraying, scrunching, teasing, tossing and gelling" their hair into big productions. It lists key current events as the fall of the Berlin Wall, student riots in China's Tiananmen Square, Hurricane Hugo and the earthquake in the San Francisco area, AIDS, Pete Rose's lifetime ban from baseball, the movie "Batman" and comedian Dana Carvey.

In the fall, Linda Gunter's social studies classes begin an extensive project, "Adopt-A-GI," which results in a student-generated book more than two years later. The students correspond with area residents serving in the Persian Gulf War, a result of Iraq's invasion of Kuwait. The students sponsor other related activities, such as sales of red, white and blue ribbons in honor of those in service.

1991 – Mike Sewell, a Cary High student with Down Syndrome, makes the town and school proud. He begins the year starring in a commercial for McDonalds' "McJobs" program, which airs during the Super Bowl. In the fall, Mike goes to the White House and talks to President George Bush. Everyone is saddened by his death in December.

The varsity cheerleaders, who finish fourth at the N.C. Cheerleading Coaches Association competition, feature six girls and six boys.

The spring musical, "Anything Goes," is directed by Carol Loots of Garner High because drama teacher Kim White is on maternity leave.

For the first time, letter jackets aren't only for athletes. The PTSA awards academic letters to students with a 3.5 or better grade point average for at least two straight semesters. Those with a 3.25 during the previous semester get certificates. The first letters go to 154 seniors, 51 juniors and 37 sophomores, and 157 students receive certificates.

Girls track, coached by Lee Mauney, wins the Tri-County 6 title as Michelle Richardson is named Most Valuable Athlete. Two Cary athletes win state titles: Wendy Utley in shot put and Pete Zeman in 800 meters.

Seniors Rachel Allison and Karin Naderman finish first and third in the state, respectively, on the National Association of Teachers and Spanish/Portuguese state Spanish exam. Their teacher is Luz Barefoot.

The drafting classes experiment with a structural stress analyzer, which allows them to test models of bridges and other structures they have made. The analyzer simulates the forces of gravity, wind and stress, and takes the place of hanging weights from the models. Much of the students' work is done on computers.

In May, the Wake County sheriff's department searches lockers unannounced, using drug sniffing dogs, but no drugs are found.

The prom is held Saturday, May 18 at the Kerr Scott Building at the State Fairgrounds. Graduation is Sunday, June 9 at 2 p.m. at Raleigh Civic Center, for about 340 grads. (Baccalaureate on Sunday, June 2 at 6:30 p.m. in the Meredith College Amphitheater features WRAL-TV sportscaster Tom Suiter as speaker.) "May your lives be filled with holes in ones," principal and golf enthusiast Ramey Beavers tells the graduates after handing out the last diploma (at what proves to be his time presiding over graduation).

On June 29, a rally for troops returning from Operation Desert Storm is held at Cooper Field as part of the Adopt-A-GI project.

Plans are announced to knock down the old Music Building/ Movement Center (The Cannery) and the Dry Building at Cary Elementary (former Cary High buildings) to make room for new construction. The Music Building had been built in 1953, with the Dry Building built 1928.

In July, a renovated and expanded Cary Village Mall opens as Cary Towne Center. It more than triples in space and doubles its number of stores.

Over the summer, about \$25,000 raised by the IMProvement committee goes toward added overhead lighting in Buildings A through F, and paint in several areas.

About 100 students return to school in mid-august for a Leadership Institute sponsored by the faculty. Teachers invite students with leadership potential. The two days feature sessions on communication, running a meeting, team spirit, problem solving, goal setting and similar topics.

Wake County schools restructure from a seven period day to six, with Cary opening at 7:45 a.m. Fourth period is staggered so everyone goes to lunch in two sessions (the previous year, there were four sessions). Everyone has 40 minutes instead of 50. Students also return to the completion of universal air conditioning.

English teacher Karen Baker Burden is one of six finalists for Wake County Teacher of the Year. She is a 1977 CHS alumna and has been active since arriving back in 1981, serving as Key Club adviser for one thing.

Science teacher Mike McCracken is named the town's top environmental educator for 1991.

In 1991-92, jayvee girls soccer and jayvee volleyball programs are added.

A former Cary High student is shot and killed at the State Fair and officials worry about fringe gang activity in the county.

The volleyball, boys soccer and girls cross country teams win conference titles. The soccer squad loses in the first round of the playoffs, 2-1 in overtime, to Durham Jordan, under first-year coach Charley Norkus. Girls cross country wins its second regional title in a row and places third in the state.

In December, Principal Ramey Beavers is chosen to become principal of West Lake Middle School, Wake County's first year-round middle school. Since 1985, Beavers has been involved in the school system's study of the year-round school concept (which spreads the 180-day school year out with several shorter breaks, instead of one longer summer break). The faculty votes to ask the school board to appoint Dr. Laurel Crissman, assistant principal, to the job.

The senior skit at the Christmas assembly features a spoof of Iraq leader Saddam Hussein kidnapping St. Nick. Elves mix up gifts as well – sports star Bo Jackson and pop singer Michael Jackson get the wrong gloves.

The band wins the parade event at the Citrus Bowl Music Festival.

**1992** – The wrestlers, ranked third in the state, stage remarkable comebacks. Against eighth-ranked Hillsborough Orange they are down 27-0, but win 32-29. Down 25-5 against Apex, they win 32-25. They win the conference title yet again and go 16-0, but lose in the first round of the dual-team state tournament. Josh Klein wins the state title at 160.

Western Boulevard Extension becomes Cary Towne Boulevard. But the Town Council leaves the upper part of Walnut Street, from Cary Village Square to Cary Elementary, as Walnut Street.

In 1991-92, students dread a new threat: lunch detention. Tardiness is the main reason for drawing this punishment.

Principal Beavers leaves in January. "This faculty, I think, is one of the strongest composite faculties you will find anywhere. I'll miss them," he says. He names receiving state recognition in the U.S. Department of Education's Secondary Schools Recognition Program and the school improvement process among other aspects he's particularly been proud of at Cary.

On Jan. 21, the school board names Donna Hargens, an assistant principal for instruction for four years at Millbrook High, as Cary High's first woman principal. Interested in becoming a principal, Ms. Hargens says she investigated Cary High, and no one had anything bad to say. "I think there's a match with Cary High School and me," Ms. Hargens says. "It just feels right. If I could have chosen any school in Wake County it would have been this high school."

In a February showdown, the girls basketball team, No. 9 in the state, takes on No. 8 Apex and win 54-41. The Imps beat the Cougars again 54-47 to win the regular season Tri-County 6 title and again 63-55 in the conference tournament. Debbie Edwards, coach at CHS six years after six years at Ravenscroft School, tops the 200 win mark during the season. After receiving a first round bye, the team is upset 60-58 by East Wake (who they had beaten twice in the regular season) in the second round of the state playoffs. They won't forget it.



"It was the best of weeks. It was the worst of weeks. It was Spirit Week." That's how the 1992 YRAC describes it. In February, more than 600 students sign a petition protesting the faculty-chosen Olympic theme for Spirit Week's dress up days and hall decoration contest. Principal Hargens calls a meeting with faculty and student representatives, promising that students will be more involved in event planning and in school improvement efforts. The faculty committee plans for Opening Ceremonies, International Day, Olympic Night, Gold Medal and Closing Ceremonies dress ups are replaced by the students' Dress Like Your Hall Day, Hat and Ugly Tie Day, ACC Day, Nerd Day, and Green and White Day.

Also part of the compromise is a change involving the hall decorating schedule, and the competition between classes is eliminated, with the idea of boosting school (instead of individual class) spirit.

Karen Brown's clothing and textile students help make costumes for elementary and middle school social studies classes for the Raleigh Bicentennial celebration. They learn about teamwork, quality control and assembly lines.

The Imp boys basketball team has a disappointing 6-16 season, but upsets the nation's No. 18 team, East Wake by a 67-56 score.

Barbara Allen is named North Carolina's Secondary Art Educator of the Year by the N.C. Art Educators Association. Her 27-year career has been almost all at Cary High and she was the first Wake County schools art teacher. "I wouldn't leave for all the tea in China," she says, noting that she loves working with students and seeing their progress over the long term. Cary has a "faculty who cares about students, a faculty who is willing to spend extra time and go the extra mile" and the right administrators, she says.

In April, Laurel Crissman leaves for an assistant principal post at Apex Elementary.

In the fall, the 60-year Beta Club is replaced with National Honor Society. The PTSA leads the change effort, because NHS is more widely known. It recognizes students nominated by teachers and voted on by a five-member faculty committee for demonstrating scholarship, leadership, service and character. (For Beta Club, students with a certain GPA were notified and could then apply.)

In May, about 100 students, calling for an end to racism, participate in an open forum during lunch to discuss the trial of white Los Angeles police officers charged with violating black citizen Rodney King's civil rights by beating him.

The softball team wins its first conference title since 1983. Charlotte Kral's squad is 16-2, 8-1 during the regular season. They beat Purnell Swett 7-0 behind pitcher Sara McEwen, but then fall to Orange 8-3. The baseball team loses in the first round of the state playoffs to Anson County, 12-5, after committing five errors, to the shock of observers who saw them go 17-6 during the regular season. The girls soccer team beats Wilson Fike 3-1 in the first round of the state playoffs before losing to No. 1 Broughton 4-0.

Freshman Isaac Bruck wins first place in botany at the 43rd annual International Science and Engineering Fair in Nashville, Tenn., with his project "Effects of Crude Madagascar Periwinkle Extract on agrobacterium tumefaciens in vivo and in vitro." He will win several more such awards.

The Wake County Chapter 617 of the Council for Exceptional Children recognizes Roy Anderson, longtime physical education teacher and coach, for his work with the TMH students over the past six years, work often done during his lunch and planning periods.

Another controversy hits in late spring, as students – including student body president David Martin and senior class president Tim Curran – are disciplined for "The Underground Bacon." The non-campus newspaper is distributed and many find it demeaning, tasteless and otherwise harmful, saying it's full of racism and sexism and stereotypes. (The final of several issues is marked "If you haven't been offended yet, you probably will now.") Its creators maintain that it's a satire and is in fact meant in the opposite way that many take it.

About 20 black students and their families, along with some faculty members, walk out of June 7's graduation in Memorial Auditorium in silent protest when Martin, who is also the valedictorian, rises to speak. Many say they have no problem with him personally, but feel they must make a statement. Martin makes no valedictorian's speech, only apologizing and saying he wishes it all had never happened. "It felt really good when we all got up and walked out to let them know you can't make fun of racism," one black student says.

In the wake of the incident, area black leaders ask the school board to institute more human relations training for school employees.

The Conflict Resolution Advisory Board – including law enforcement, education, psychology, parent and civic leader representatives – talks about establishing peer mediation programs at Cary secondary schools. Peer mediation is a way to solve disputes peacefully before they boil over into violence, an increasing concern in schools nationwide.

In early 1991, the State Board of Education decides it will eliminate drivers education as part of the regular school day and that the class will no longer count toward graduation. Wake County gets a one-year extension, to make changes in 1992-93. The work is now contracted out after school, on weekends and during the summer. The 28 drivers ed teachers retire or get new positions.

When school opens Aug. 24 there are 1,636 students, up from 1,529 the year before.

In conjunction with Raleigh Amateur Radio Society, technology students link up with the Space Shuttle Endeavor through close circuit TV, along with two other Wake schools as part of a nationwide NASA experiment involving three school systems. Students chat with shuttle pilot Curtis Brown Jr.

Principal Hargens moves her office to A Building, where the principal's office had been before 10 Building opened. The 10 Building suite will be used by assistant principals.

It's announced that in 1993, athletic conferences will realign, with Garner moving into Cary's conference and Athens moving out.

Social studies teacher Linda Gunter – always an advocate for civic involvement to her students – wins a term representing the 36th District in the N.C. Senate.

The Imp girls win their third straight regional cross country title and place second in the state (after being sixth and third the previous two years).

The fall play is a spoof of fairy tales, "The Clumsy Custard Horror Show."

The Christmas assembly again features the seniors' "Twelve Days of Christmas." Included are "11 principals prowling" with walkie talkies, a familiar campus sight.

After Christmas, the old Dry Building, close to the intersection at Walnut Street and Kildaire Farm Road, is knocked down at Cary Elementary's campus. Many area residents remember attending grammar school in the building when the campus hosted all the area's students.

1993 – In January, the band is one of 34 marching in Gov. Jim Hunt's inaugural parade in Raleigh. The group explores a possible May trip to Russia, where they would be part of the celebration of the one-year anniversary of St. Petersburg changing its name back from Leningrad. The faculty and the school board approve the trip, but the invitation comes too close to the proposed departure date. In late March, after a lot of effort, the group decides it can't raise the \$130,000 or so needed in so short a time.

Put another mark on the wrestling wall of honor. As usual, the wrestlers finish the regular season 17-0 and win the conference title, with a team-record nine finalists (six win titles). Ranked No. 1, the Imps beat Durham Riverside and Anson County to advance to the finals of the dual-team state tournament against Davie County. Down 22-3, they rally for a 26-22 victory and their fifth state championship, the first in the dual-team format begun in 1990. Heavyweight Elliott Smith clinches the title with a pin.

"Each one is different because there were different kids involved," coach Jerry Winterton says of his fourth state championship. "The first was great, because it was the first and it had been over 10 years since we had won one. The second was great, because we won by a wide margin; then the third we won by a really, really close margin. This one is special in its own way, because it was the first dual title we've won." In the individual state tournament, the Imps finish fifth. On Feb. 22, they are honored at the General Assembly. Their home unbeaten streak still dates back to 1982.

In the spring, the Cary Chamber of Commerce begins a mentor program. Sixteen adults are paired with students having difficulty at school or home, or who just need a friend to talk to. The program is designed to help students improve in academics, social skills, family relationships and general motivation. Mentors agree to spend at least one hour every other week with their student.

The spring musical is "Grease" and the fall play is "Arsenic and Old Lace," with both directed by teacher Carol Loots.

The wrestlers aren't the only sports team grabbing headlines. Behind 5-3 point guard Karen Curtis – who averages 17.8 points and 10 rebounds, and is named Tri-County 6 Player of the Year for the second time – and her fellow seniors Heather Early and Anna Evenhouse, the Lady Imps win their fourth straight regular season conference title. Their regular season record is 22-1 overall and 9-0 in the league. Other starters are Sheila Best and Angela Warren.

After winning the league tournament, Cary gets a bye into the second round of the state playoffs, where they have lost for two straight years. The third time proves the charm, as No. 6-ranked Cary crushes Roxboro Person 80-51 behind Curtis' 30 points.

In round three, the Imps host No. 5 Hillsborough Orange (26-1). Curtis scores 21 of her 33 in the fourth quarter to lead a 58-46 win. "Karen is awesome," says Early. "There's no other way to put it." In the Eastern Regional semifinal in Greenville, Cary downs Fayetteville Pine Forest 66-63 as Curtis hits a running three-pointer with three seconds to go. Best also steps up with a season-high 14 points, including three second half three-pointers.

In the regional final, the Imps meet a familiar foe: Apex, 22-6, a team they have beaten 10 straight times including 8-point and 11-point wins earlier in the season. Cary wins 65-

50 as Regional MVP Curtis scores 26, and also notches 14 rebounds, 7 steals and 7 assists.

In a high noon showdown Saturday, March 27 in Carmichael Auditorium in Chapel Hill, Cary (29-1) takes on Morganton Freedom High (27-3). Down 43-41 at the end of the third quarter, Cary holds Freedom without a field goal over the last eight minutes to win the school's first state championship in girls sports, 61-48. Curtis scores 26, 11 in the fourth quarter.

It's mission accomplished for a team fighting for respect all season.

"I really think this is for all of the Cary teams of the last seven years," says coach Debbie Edwards. "We've been ranked in the top 10 the last three seasons. The problem was we weren't taking care of business like we should have. Cary's always been out there."

For the first time, a Cary student is elected Governor of the Carolinas District of Key Club International. Erica Everett will lead 200 Key Clubs in North and South Carolina.

A new event is the Cary Shakespeare Festival. The main feature is a production of "The Tempest" directed by English teacher – and alumnus – Wade Newhouse.

In April, the primary driveway into the athletic field area is named "Jim Valvano Drive" by the Cary Town Council in honor of 13-year Cary resident Valvano, who led N.C. State to the NCAA basketball title in 1983. Shortly after the renaming, Valvano dies of cancer.

Town officials agree to lease Lions Park to the school system during school hours, so school officials can keep an eye on the area. It's been plagued by vandalism and litter, as a gathering place for both students and non-students. The park had been closed the previous fall as a safety measure after a fight broke out there.

In May, Wake County sheriff's deputies are posted on each high school campus and administrators are given handheld metal detectors to use as needed. Officials describe the measures as precautionary.

On May 23, the first parent-organized baccalaureate service for graduating seniors is held in the usual baccalaureate place, Meredith College's Amphitheater. Tracy Howe of the Cary YMCA speaks to about 175 seniors, about half the graduating class. A few months earlier, school system superintendent Robert Wentz had caused an uproar by announcing high schools could no longer sponsor baccalaureates. He says this after the Supreme Court's Lee vs. Weisman decision, in which the practice of having a clergyman deliver prayer at graduation ceremonies is ruled in violation of the non-government establishment of religion clause of the First Amendment, because it "forces impressionable students into participating in a religious activity." Parents and students organize at most schools to keep the tradition going.

Cary High School gets a new satellite television system. "Satellite TV in the school will open many more doors to students to learn about the whole world, from language arts students learning Japanese and Russian, to social studies students learning current events as they happen," says Ray Martin, CHS electronics teacher. "The system can also be used to allow teachers and other members of the community to participate in satellite educational programs." Students help install the equipment.

The softball team beats Wilmington Laney 8-2 in the first round of the state playoffs, then beats Person 9-8, rallying from 5-2 down after two innings, in the second. They reach the Eastern Regional final with an 8-1 win over Fayetteville Smith, but lose to South View



5-1 (25-1) at Bond Park in Cary. "We just didn't hit the ball," laments fourth-year coach Charlotte Kral. The Imps finish 16-3.

The team of Tonya Pate, Brennan Fish, Jessica Johnson and Kristen McKinney wins the state championship in the 2-mile relay, in a time of 9:52.3.

"Block scheduling," a new schedule growing in use across the state, is debated for several months through the school improvement plan process. Touted by some as a way to boost achievement and instruction, it involves students taking four 90-minute classes each semester, instead of six 55-minute classes at once. A study group of teachers, students, parents, community leaders and others looks at the issue. Many reasons for and against the schedule are presented during a forum among teachers. One "pro" is that teachers would have fewer students each day, giving them more planning time and more chance to work with each student. A "con" is that students' attention spans might not hold up over 90 minutes. Eventually, of 1,700 ballots sent to parents, only 513 are returned, with 412 against block. The faculty is more divided, 56-50 against (with five undecided and eight not turning in ballots).

A special census puts Cary's population at 56,584.

In August, about 40 students join about 30 local middle school students, and 35 teachers, in a 20-hour "peer mediation" training program held at Meredith College. Teachers recommended students for their leadership potential and communication skills. (In "conflict resolution" individuals work through their own problems; when individuals can't resolve their problems, a neutral party can help them through "peer mediation.")

Cary High junior Michael Held says learning to mediate was tougher than he expected: "We're looking for a win-win situation and we have to be careful what we say. This a good idea though. When a kid has a problem, they don't necessarily want to talk to an adult. You'd rather talk to your peers – you feel they understand you better."

A mediation session requires laying out ground rules, working through what the problem is, what the individuals' needs and concerns are and finding a solution that satisfies everyone. The students expect to be met with skepticism initially, but hope to earn trust. Students expect to see mediations involving rumors, relationships, self-esteem or family problems. By the end of the first school year, the 20 peer mediators enrolled in the class are involved in about 80 mediations, with most resulting in some kind of resolution.

A new class offered in 1993-94 is technical theater. Also, some students enroll in an African-American studies program.

The school struggles to cope with the suicides of three students in November.

The girls cross country team finishes third in the state again.

Cary is one of 35 Wake schools participating in the ninth annual "Triangle Students Against Hunger" food drive to benefit the N.C. Food Bank in Raleigh. Wake students turn in more than 88,000 pounds of food to the Food Bank, which operates as a food warehouse for a 34-county area in Eastern North Carolina. At Cary, the Student Council's Service and Spirit Committees sponsor a "CHS Feeding Frenzy" drive that brings in 3,484 pounds of food, more than any recent food drive. The Student Council sponsors lunch period "competitions" during Dec. 6-10, to raise loose change to buy food. Frozen turkey bowling is a big hit.

One issue around this time is hats – should male students be allowed to wear them in school? Some teachers don't allow hats in classrooms, while others look the other way. Baseball caps pulled low over the eyes are almost a uniform for many guys.

**1994** – The Cary Police Department stations Officer Chris Hoina at the school full time as a "school resource officer." His duties range from patrolling the campus to watch for trespassers, to serving as a role model, to monitoring hallways between classes.

Math students know what a TI-81 is – they pay \$62.40 for these calculators.

The boys basketball team finishes the regular season undefeated, then falls to Smithfield-Selma in the Tri-6 finals and enters the state playoffs 23-1. In round one against Sanford, a 22-2 opening run leads to a 95-64 win. The second round is equally easy: 109-80 over Pine Forest.

At the regionals in Greenville, the Imps beat Northern Nash 88-59 as Jeremy Pearson scores 18 and Dave Ebert, 10. Cary then knocks off Rose, 85-84, to reach the state finals for the first time since the school's 1954 championship season. Ranked second in the state, and 18th in the nation by USA Today, they go up against No. 4, Morganton Freedom, the girls team's victims the previous year in the finals. Cary loses 87-75 as Freedom's Danny Johnson scores 37 and the Patriots enjoy a 31-to-10 free throw attempt advantage.

Fifth-year coach Bill Boyette is disappointed, but proud. "They are winners in every sense of the word," he says of the Imps. After the season, Boyette discovers one of his players was academically ineligible second semester. He immediately reports his oversight, which results in Cary forfeiting its conference and regional titles, and ending the season with an 11-18 record. Boyette's action also draws admiration in many quarters for his honesty and integrity. A new system of checks and balances is established.

The wrestlers finish second in the state and two wrestlers win individual titles: Joel Dramis at 135 and Scot Gordon at 112.

In late January, KARY-TV hits the airwaves. The student-produced television show is broadcast over closed circuit TV (added during the last renovation) each afternoon during the last five minutes of school, originating from a studio of donated equipment set up in part of the media center. The show's produced by a new year-long elective class, "Programming and Broadcasting for Television I," which includes 19 students, who do everything from makeup to camera work to writing. Advising the class are Ray Martin, electronics teacher, and Carol Loots, drama teacher. KARY replaces daily PA announcements, which used to happen every day during third period, and there are also feature stories.

Improving technology is a major concern. A school system count totals 102 computers throughout Cary High (one for every 16 students or so). Most are in business classrooms and in the vocational department, and are used by classes including keyboarding, introduction to computers, computer applications and typing, and many are outdated. The library, with automated checkout and computers for student use, is more advanced than most of the school.

Fifth-year physics and physical science teacher Jerry Dotson receives the Discovery Award for Excellence in Teaching, awarded each year (with a \$1,000 prize) by local merchants Ralph and Daphne Ashworth. Dotson is also in his fourth year as coach of the cross country team and assists with the track team. Parents nominate teachers for the award – which rotates among area schools – and a Cary Chamber of Commerce committee picks the winner. (Other finalists include Virginia S. Blackley, Jo Ann H. Hines, Julie F. Schilawski and Andrew J. Zappia.) "He's fun to be around," student Shawn Lydon says.

"He doesn't just hand you the book and say 'here, learn this.' He uses real-life examples. ... He's flexible and he'll always help you at lunch or after school or whatever." Others praise Dotson's ability to teach and relate to all kinds of students.

Jimmy Burns, longtime Cary band director, ends his career at East Cary Middle and retires after more than 30 years in education. He is honored in several ways, including as marshal of the annual Cary Band Day parade. The campus entry road that runs by the band room is named "Jimmy V. Burns Way."

The "Parents Coalition for Excellence," a support group for African-American students at Cary, forms in 1993-94. The group aims to work closely with the school's staff and parents to improve the overall academic achievement of African-American students.

School opens in August with 1,555 students on campus, and hours pushed back even earlier, to 7:30 a.m.-2:15 p.m., because of a countywide plan for busing efficiency.

On Sept. 15, the first class is inducted into the newly created Cary High Sports Hall of Fame. They are honored at a reunion, luncheon, pep rally and reception.

In the fall, a wood working program returns to Cary High. Everyone from School Resource Officer Chris Hoina to Cary Mayor Koka Booth gets involved in refurbishing the old carpentry shop, which had been used mainly for storage for years. Students help clean, paint and generally fix up. The Triangle Woodworkers Association gets involved as well, and one of its members, Dan Cameron, single-handedly secures the donation of more than \$15,000 worth of equipment from area businesses during the first school year of the program. Businesses and TWA members teach seminars.

The carpentry class – designed with a real world residential construction focus – starts with six students. By spring, teacher Mike Collins has 30 students signed up for carpentry and 29 for tech theater for the next fall, and the staff is wondering where to put all the interested students. The shop is used by other classes – physics students build musical instruments and carbon dioxide-powered cars, for example.

Homecoming 1994 is chaotic, thanks to lots of rain. The dance is held Friday, the game Monday, and the parade Tuesday. The juniors star with their Egyptian float.

The soccer team wins the league title and the Imps get their first state playoff win, beating South View 7-0. They lose to Millbrook 1-0 in the second round.

Fifth-year football coach Bill Devine experiences his first winning season at 6-5, falling one win short of the playoffs and setting the stage for a memorable season to come.

Vicki Barfield, a special programs teacher at Cary for 20 years, is one of six finalists for 1994-95 Wake County Teacher of the Year. This year, Ms. Barfield teaches three resource classes in pre-algebra, with about 55 students total, as well as works with Angela Baker to teach two PALS classes in ninth-grade social studies – economic, legal and political systems. (PALS – programmed alternative learning for students – is a program in which a special education and a regular education teacher team teach in a regular classroom setting. Students with milder disabilities are mixed in with regular education students, without being identified as "different.")

Like most high school special ed teachers, Ms. Barfield is a cross-categorical teacher, teaching a variety of special programs students. Over the years, she has seen most every incarnation of "special programs" and through resource, in which a student comes to her one period a day for help in a particular subject, she has taught most every high school subject – biology to basic English to vocational to history. Always with a sense of humor.

1995 – This time, it's third in the state for the wrestlers. Joel Dramis wins his second title, at 145 this time, becoming Cary's first two-time champ.

With a 22-3 regular season mark and the conference title, the boys basketball team heads into the state tournament. In the first round, they crush Enloe 87-66. Their next opponent is No. 2 Fayetteville 71st (which has been listed in USA Today's Top 10 in the Southeast), and they fall behind 43-18 in the second quarter. Just when everyone starts to think about baseball season, the Imps rally behind guard Scotty Hall for a 73-67.

Their trip to the Eastern Regionals in Greenville is something of a "deja vu." Cary beats Northern Nash 73-59 as Hall and backcourt mate Marque Carrington score 23 points each, then beats previously unbeaten and No. 1 Greenville Rose, 53-50 to reach the state finals.

Carrington is named Regional MVP and says "I'm shocked, I'm surprised and I'm grateful to my teammates." The other starters include Brian Dick, Josh Bang and Karim Shyllon. Key reserves include Tim Burgess and Scott Walton.

It comes down to the No. 7 Imps versus No. 4 Greensboro Smith (26-4) at the Dean E. Smith Center for the state 4A title. While Smith is in its first state final game, Cary is in its eighth (although the Imps are 2-5 in past appearances). The experience, and more importantly the experience with coming from behind, help.

Comeback Cary rallies from 11 points down in the third quarter to win its third state championship, 55-54, and redemption from the disappointments of 1994. Carrington's two free throws with 9 seconds left help seal the Eagles' fate. "We never quit believing," Shyllon says. "We had been done before by more than that, so we knew we could come back." This time, Hall takes his turn as MVP.

"This is an experience of a lifetime," says coach Bill Boyette, who is named Associated Press State Coach of the Year. "It's been a lot of fun and I cannot imagine coaching a basketball team with more heart."

Donna Hargens – whose tenure at Cary High hasn't always been smooth sailing – is named Wake County PTA Council Secondary Principal of the Year. She is recognized for efforts to involve the business community in school life, to improve technology at the school, and to involve students more in decision making.

Lex Depp ties for seventh in the state golf tournament at Finley Golf Club in Chapel Hill.

Michael Roposh is Tri-County Six tennis player of the year. He wins the Eastern Regional in Greenville and finishes in the state's final eight for the second straight year.

Coming off a season in which they lost in the second round of the state playoffs, Jim Hourigan's baseball team finishes the regular season 21-2 and loses a one-game playoff with Garner, 3-2, for the conference title and No. 1 seed in the state playoffs. In the playoffs, they hit their way to wins over South View, 16-3, and Millbrook, 15-2. In the Eastern Regional semifinal, they down Hillsborough Orange 5-1, earning a "dream matchup" with two-time defending state champion New Hanover.

The teams are similar. Cary hits .332, with 32 homers, averages 8.5 runs per game and has a 1.57 ERA. New Hanover's numbers are: .369, 32 homers, 10.5 runs, 1.85. New Hanover rallies from 1-0 down to win 4-1. "We were four outs away," pitcher Billy Figulski says. "That's what makes it so disappointing."

Cary's "Accelerated Learning Center" is established as a Wake County pilot. It includes 14 computer stations, where students can do lessons originating from the University of Illinois in every core subject and some electives. The center is used for remediation, electives such as SAT prep and study skills, and enrichment.



The 1995 YRAC lists the personalities of 1994-95: "Forrest Gump" of movie fame, ex-football star O.J. Simpson in his murder trial, comedian Jim Carey, singer and suicide victim Kurt Cobain and rap singer Snoop Doggy Dogg.

The senior class, which includes 353, earns a record \$1,691,816 in scholarships.

Cary student Nicole Bridges competes in track and field at the Special Olympics Summer World Games (for persons with mental retardation) held July 1-9 in Connecticut. She captures two bronze medals as well as two ribbons in the event, which includes 65 athletes from North Carolina and 7,100 from around the world.

The 1995-96 school year is a crowded one for Wake high schools. Cary has around 1,800 students in a facility with space for about 1,455. The school has five trailers and 18 teachers are "floating," moving from room to room. The cafeteria is crowded. "You can feel it. Everyone is a little closer," principal Donna Hargens says. "Space is at a premium."

Parking is also an even bigger problem than usual, as a nearby church that rented spaces relocates and its building is knocked down for a shopping center. There are 391 student spaces this year, 343 seniors who got first priority in the spring, and 413 juniors wishing for parking. This results in a bizarre camping out situation in the school parking lot.

In October, Gov. Jim Hunt visits to talk for about 45 minutes about school violence, and about the ways Cary High is trying to prevent it as part of "Safe Schools Week" in North Carolina. He speaks with 15 students, most of whom are involved in the peer mediation program. They tell Hunt about that program, about the school's chapter of SAVE (Students Against Violence Everywhere), started in 1993, and about Officer Hoina.

"Statistics show that crime actually is going down, but the crime rate among young people is shooting up, and we see some of it in our schools," Hunt says. He lists steps the state has taken against school violence. Ever savvy, he also refers to Cary High's Centennial, noting he student taught at Cary High back when it was located at what is now Cary Elementary. The governor tells the students he remembers state championship teams besides the '95 boys basketball squad, says that CHS "may have the best band in the state," and adds he voted for the first time at Cary Town Hall when John F. Kennedy was running for president. "It's a wonderful school," Hunt said. "It's got a great history, a great tradition."

Football coach Bill Devine (16-45 before this season) leads the Imps to a dream season. Battling disbelievers all year, unbeaten Cary gets serious Oct. 19 with a win at fifth-ranked Garner, 21-18, to clinch its first playoff berth since 1986. The Imps, in winning their first conference title in more than a decade, allow only 45 points during the regular season, scoring six shutouts. They later score their first playoff win since 1976, beating Wilmington Laney 21-0 at Cooper Field, before winning at Raleigh Millbrook 36-15. The season ends with a 31-14 loss at Cooper Field to hard-rushing Fayetteville Byrd, the eventual state runner-up.

"We've had a great run," Devine said. "Only one team is going to win a state title and go away happy at the end of the year. I'm not too proud to say we were beaten by a better football team."

During the season, the Imps tie the school record for wins, turn the second-longest winning streak in school history (13), and set school records that include most points scored in a season (414) and most interceptions grabbed (28). Running back coach Roy Anderson – Cary veteran of 11 winning seasons, 11 losing seasons and one 5-5 season, under five coaches – notes: "It's nice to know you've shared in the history of the school."

**1996** – The Marching Band, directed by Tony Robinson, sweeps 14 of 15 first place awards in the high school band competition at the Gator Bowl, on the way to capturing the

Grand Champions trophy in Jacksonville, Fla. The Grand Champions award goes to the band with the highest combined score from the field show and parade competitions. Since Cary wins the first place band awards in both competitions, the Grand Championship isn't hard to figure.

"I don't think I've ever seen the band march so well," Robinson says, calling it the group's best show of the year. As field show champions, the band, led by drum major Eason Hildreth performs its "Fiddler on the Roof" show as the pre-game entertainment at the Gator Bowl between Syracuse and Clemson. They participate in a halftime "mass band" performance of popular 1950s through 1980s music.

Work begins on a new building, which will include a new main entrance, planned at the front of the school on Walnut Street, along with renovations scattered throughout the campus. The \$3.44 million project is scheduled for completion in time for fall 1997 as part of the Wake County school system's \$300 million long-range building program, called "Phase IIIA."

The project is to increase the school's building capacity from 1,455 students to 1,585. (Enrollment is over 1,800, with several trailer classrooms in use.) The new building will look similar in design to that of 10 Building, running parallel to 10 Building toward Walnut Street. It will house four science classrooms with labs, as well as a business/computer classroom, the new front office, administrative office suite and student support services area including guidance offices and a new Career Center. The main/principal's office and guidance counselors' offices currently adjacent to the auditorium in A Building will be renovated for use by the performing arts department.

School officials say they wish they could do more expansion. But Cary High's campus, at 39 acres, is third-smallest among the county's 12 high schools. Renovations will improve existing science classrooms and labs, home economics areas, the vocational department including the wood working shop and other areas.

The wrestlers (19-0) do it again. They avenge their previous losses to Riverside in the previous two Eastern Regional finals by beating them 28-26 for the state dual-team title, the Imps' sixth state title. Nick Von Hoene clinches the title with a pin at 215 pounds.

"Ever since my freshman year, we have been shooting for this moment," says 189-pound competitor Jason Gore.

School officials announce that the Secretary of the Navy has approved the establishment of a Naval Junior Reserve Officers Training Corps (NJROTC) at Cary High. The school is one of four in the mid-Atlantic region chosen for a new NJROTC program for 1996-97, and will have the only new one in North Carolina. Male and female students at all grade levels will be able to sign up for NJROTC.

"We're all very excited," says Tom Lewis, Cary High's assistant principal for instruction. "This program can benefit all kinds of students. I think it's a good program for any high school to have – it adds to the overall spirit of the school."

Two other Wake County schools – Broughton High and Sanderson High – have junior ROTC programs. Lewis said the program's establishment is the work of a large team of people at the school and in the community. Navy officials judged everything from facilities to commitment to the program in considering the application.

Cary High alumnus Del Richards donates \$40,000 to secure the first year of the new NJROTC program (the Navy pays most, but not all, of the costs), and commits to providing funds for two years after that, either personally or by leading fund-raising efforts in the community.

Celebrations of Cary High's centennial are held April 27 and July 20, after planning begun in earnest in summer 1995. The celebration begins in fall 1995 at homecoming, with the return of former homecoming queens and other activities.

The first day back from winter vacation, Jan. 4, a Marine Corps helicopter lands on campus and a special assembly highlighting the school's history officially kick off the celebration of Cary High's 100th anniversary.

NOTE: Primary sources for Cary High School, fourth quarter century, were the editions of the school yearbook, YRAC, for 1972-1995, along with editions of The Cary News for the same years. (In the 1970s, for example, Cary High students wrote a weekly column for the newspaper.)

Whenever possible, events were also confirmed with people involved, or through looking items up in The News and Observer, student newspapers or other publications.



Endnotes for Cary High School, First Quarter Century, 1896-1921.

1. The best source of information on Cary Academy is an article by M. B. Dry titled "The History of Education at Cary," published by North Carolina Education, Vol 2, (February 1936), pp. 213-14. A copy of the original manuscript for this article is in the Perkins Library at Duke University. Additional information on Cary Academy can be found in The Training of an American, the Earlier Life and Letters of Walter Hines Page, 1855-1913 by Burton J. Hendrick, Boston: Doubleday, Page & Co., 1918. Walter Hines Page was the son of Frank Page, builder of the Academy. The deeds by which Page transferred to the school to the Joneses are recorded in Wake County Deed Bk. 36, p. 458 and Bk. 127, p. 311.
2. The original charter for Cary High School hangs in the foyer of the John Stevens Administrative Building at Cary High School. It is recorded in Wake County Corporations, Bk. A., p. 330, Wake County Register of Deeds Office. The Rev. Blanchard's role in the purchase is discussed in a diary kept by James M. Templeton, Jr.
3. An invitation to 1897 Commencement Exercises is found in a "history" file at what is now Cary Elementary School, which was Cary High School prior to 1960. The files contain material saved primarily by M. B. Dry, the principal from 1908 to 1942. These materials were organized and catalogued for safekeeping by the Cary History Society in the 1970s.
4. 1898 Announcement of Cary High School.
5. History File.
6. 1900-01 Catalogue.
7. 1900-01 Catalogue.
8. 1902-03 Brochure. Mrs. Poplin's comments were attained in a 1970 interview.
9. 1903 Commencement Program.
10. 1905-06 Catalogue.
11. The reasons the School Committee gave in asking that the school be purchased are contained in handwritten notes found in the history files. Other information on the purchase can be found in the Minutes of the Wake County Board of Education for April 3, 1907, the 1907 Biennial Report for the Wake County Public Schools, and the 1907 Cary High School Catalogue.
12. M. B. Dry described his arrival here in "Forty Years a Principal," an article published in Three Hundred Years of American High Schools. State Department of Public Instruction, Publication No. 184 (February 1935) Raleigh. Information on L. E.

Middleton is contained in an undated brochure by B. W. Spillman found in the history files. Other information has been attained from William H. Dry (1908-1995), son of M. B. Dry.

13. 1909 Catalogue.
14. 1910 Catalogue.
15. 1911 Catalogue.
16. 1912 Catalogue. Interview with Mrs. Lenna Matthews Holleman.
17. A copy of Dry's letter urging support for a new building is found in the History File. Other information is found in his "History of Education at Cary" cited earlier.
18. Dry, "The History of Education at Cary."
19. Wake Deed Bk. 290, p. 250. Interview with William H. Dry.
20. 1917 Chsite, 1916 Catalogue, The News and Observer, March 10, March 21, and March 25, 1916. 1922 Catalogue. The News and Observer gave the School Committee more credit for acting with dispatch after the dormitory fire than it actually did. The editorial writer thought the fire had occurred on March 17, only four days before the Committee met with the Board of Education. The fire had actually occurred a week earlier, on March 10, according to the 1917 The Chsite.
21. 1917 Chsite.
22. 1918 Chsite. The Raleigh Times, Oct. 22, 1918.
23. 1920 C.H.S. Echoes. 1919 Chsite. Interview with Mrs. Rachel Eaton Dunham.
24. 1920 C.H.S. Echoes. 1920 Commencement Program. 1920 Chsite. Holland, Evelyn, "A History of Cary High School" in Cary's 100th Anniversary, 1971.
25. 1921 C.H.S. Echoes. 1921 Chsite. 1922 Catalogue.

Endnotes for Cary High School, Second Quarter Center, 1922-1946.

1. 1922 Chsite; E. N. Meekins' monthly report in the history files.
2. The News and Observer, March 30, April 3, and April 24, 1923; the Morning New Bernian, May 15, 1923. Two Franks were enrolled at Cary High School during this period: Henry of Apex and Eugene of Garner. It is not known which pitched in the second game with Raleigh.
3. 1923 Chsite. 1924 Chsite.
4. The C. H. S. Echoes, Vol. III, No. (April 1922).
5. 1925 Catalogue. 1925 Chsite.
6. 1926 Catalogue. Jordan, Graydon Wright, A History of Wake County Schools, Thesis, University of North Carolina, 1943. Principal's Final Report, 1926-27.
7. Principal's Final Report, 1927-28, history files.
8. 1927 Catalogue. 1927 Chsite.
9. Principal's Final Report. Session Laws, 1929 General Assembly, Chapter 207, p. 283.
10. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, Aug. 19, 1930.
11. Annual Library Report, 1931, history files. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, July 27, 1931.
12. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, Aug. 26, 1932.
13. Typescript dated January 29, 1933, First United Methodist Church, Cary.
14. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, July 13, 1933. Holland, Evelyn, "A History of Cary High School" in Cary's 100th Anniversary, 1971.
15. Principal's Final Report, 1934.
16. Interview with H. B. Jordan.
17. Dry, M. B., "Forty Years a Principal," in 1635-1935 Three Hundred Years of American High Schools, issued by the State Superintendent of Public Instruction, Publication No. 184 (February 1935). Holland, "A History of Cary High School."
18. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, May 6, 1936.

19. The Representative, Vol. 5, No. 1, December, 1937; scrapbook kept by Miriam Brown Klimstra; Interview with Mrs. Klimstra.
20. Interview with James Hurley. The News and Observer, January 15, 1939.
21. Minutes, Cary Athletic Association, 1938. Fund Raising Letter from Principal Dry, August 4, 1838.
22. Interview with Douglas Holleman.
23. The Representative, 1939.
24. Principal's Final Report. The News and Observer, March 3, 1940, p. 10. Minutes, Board of Education, February 18, July 7, 1938. Interview with Doris Jones Buchanan. The Cary News, November 16, 1968.
25. The News and Observer, March 5 and March 6, 1940.
26. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, September 3, 1940.
27. Principal's Final Report, 1940.
28. 1942 Commencement Program, history files. Cary High Echo, Vol. 11, No. 4 (April 30, 1942).
29. Interview with Daniel W. Jones.
30. The News and Observer, August 30, 1942, p. 4
31. The News and Observer, March 11, 1943.
32. Holland, "A History of Cary High School." Principal's Final Report, 1943-44.
33. The Echo, 1945.
34. Minutes, Cary School Committee, August 1946. The News and Observer, August 3, 1946, p. 10.



Endnotes for Cary High School, Third Quarter Century, 1947-1971.

1. The News and Observer, May 19, 1947.
2. Minutes, Cary School Committee.
3. Letter to Paul Cooper, History Files, Cary Elementary Files.
4. The News and Observer, April 10, 1950, p. 1.
5. 1951 YRAC
6. 1953 YRAC. The Cary News, January 30, 1991, p. B1.
7. The Cary News, January 30, 1991.
8. The News and Observer, December 3, 1955.
9. 1956 YRAC.
10. Minutes. Wake Board of Education, November 4, 1957.
11. 1957 YRAC.
12. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, January 13, 1958; The News and Observer, January 14, 1958, p. 18.
13. 1958 YRAC.
14. The News and Observer, February 3, 1959, p. 3; 1959 YRAC.
15. The Raleigh Times, September 2, 1960.
16. 1961 YRAC.
17. 1961 YRAC.
18. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, February 6, 1962, October 8, 1962.
19. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, July 1 & July 2, 1963; Interviews with Ferd Davis and Gwendolyn Matthews; 1963 YRAC.
20. 1964 YRAC; Minutes, Wake Board of Education, July 13, 1964.
21. 1965 YRAC.
22. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, April 12, 1965.
23. The Echo, Vol. 3, No. 2 (Nov. 1966)

24. Minutes, Wake County Board of Education, August 29, 1966.
25. The Cary News, January 30, 1991.
26. The Echo, Vol. 3, No. 5 (Feb. 9, 1967)
27. Minutes, Wake Board of Education, February 27, 1967; August 7, 1967.
28. Interview with Douglas Brown.
29. The Raleigh Times, August 3, 1966.
30. The Echo, September 13, 1968.
31. The Cary News, May 28, 1969.
32. The Echo, December 19, 1969.
33. The Echo, Vol. 7, No. 3 (Nov 25, 1970)
34. The Cary News, May 27, 1970, Nov. 18, 1970.
35. The Echo, March 6, 1970.
36. The Cary News, August 11, 1971; The News and Observer, August 17, 1971.