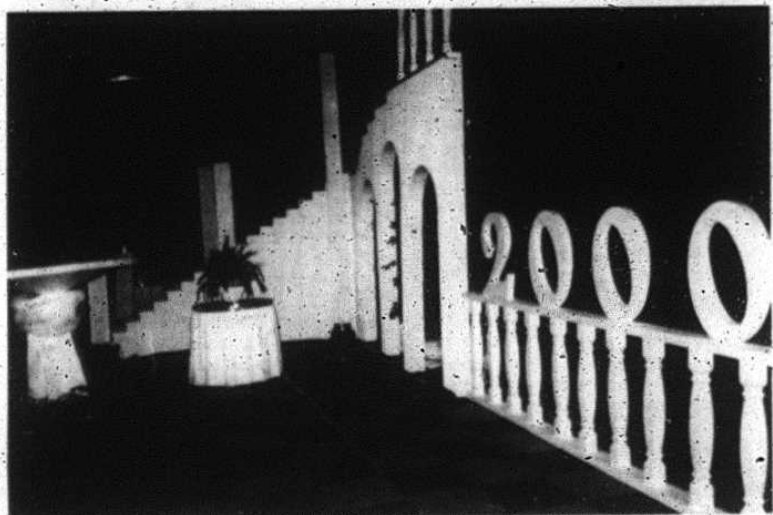




Last year's prom theme, "Amazed" featured a stairway and fountain. Details of this year's theme have not yet been revealed.

Prom date set, other details kept secret

by JOSH ROWLAND

A night consisting of fancy cars, short dresses, and plenty of dancing, prom is the biggest dance of the year and plans have already begun.

This year's prom will take place May 19 in the high school gymnasium. The theme will be Reflections.

"Think water," said Ms. Dana Singleton.

Other details are at a minimum. "We are not allowed [to tell anything]," said junior decorator

Mikey Howard.

Tickets are now on sale and are \$20 for a single, \$35 for a couple.

The first 200 to purchase a ticket will receive a commemorative key chain engraved with the prom theme and date.

No sophomores, freshmen or middle school students will be admitted into the dance.

Any student who purchases a ticket for someone of these grade levels will not have their money refunded.

According to Mrs. Singleton, this rule has come about because three eighth graders tried to sneak into last year's prom.

Decorating will begin the week before prom, and, as usual, the gym will be off limits.

This year's prom committee was selected by applications submitted to Ms. Singleton. After a review of their GPA and their current classes, she looked at their disciplinary records before making her final decision.

Juniors pick up where Seniors left off

BY SHANA NOE

At some schools, senior trips are included in your typical twelfth grade package: senior pictures, college visits, skip day, ect. But here, the tradition of a final gathering of the graduating class has long been disbanded.

"We didn't even have a trip the year I was a senior," English teacher Susan Norton, who graduated in 1989, said. "I think we went to the mall."

The last official senior trip, according to Principal Ruth Allen, was in 1971, when there were still three separate high schools. After consolidation a year later in '72, faculty at the new high school decided not to continue the tradition because the classes were so much larger.

This year's attempts of organizing a senior trip failed after a lack of student participation. Whether it was students wanting the trip, but not willing to work for it, or the failure of some teachers to communicate to their students, either way it's not going to happen. Juniors—it's your turn now.

"I think we need to organize a student committee to start the process," said junior Cassie Smith. "If our trip, we should have to work for it."

According to Sergeant Major Keith Taylor, chairperson of the Student Support Committee, plans for a senior trip should begin sophomore year, but this year's juniors still have enough time.

"I'm all for a senior trip," Sgt. Major Taylor stated, "but I think it's entirely up to the students."

The juniors can start their planning by organizing a committee to be responsible for all the decisions

that need to be made. Eligibility requirements for the trip must be established first thing, because the students have to be presented with the criteria at the first of their senior year. Whether eligibility be based on grades, absences, and/or discipline is totally up to the committee.

Sgt. Major Taylor explained that there are only a few limits to where the seniors can go. The destination has to be within the United States, for obvious reasons, and some educational value must be attributed to places students plan on visiting. Washington, D.C. and Williamsburg, Virginia have been two suggestions thus far.

A proposal must be written stating criteria, destination, dates, chaperones and costs. The proposal must be approved by the Student Support Committee, Ms. Allen, the SBDM Council and finally the school board.

Spring break seems to be the most feasible time frame to travel, but a date during the summer could be arranged, although it'd be after graduation.

Funding could easily be one of the more debatable decisions of the entire planning process. Charter buses seem to be the more popular choice of transportation.

According to Sgt. Major Taylor, a flat fee of around \$500 would cover everything from transportation costs to hotel arrangements. Seniors could pay the full fee on their own, or try fundraisers. The downfall of that would be inter-

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