

Dear Seniors,

"Money, so they say is the root of all evil today. But, if you ask for a rise it's no surprise that they're giving none away, away, away." -Pink Floyd's "Money."

Money. The most prominent word in our vocabulary today, simply because we don't have it. Our birthday funds are wearing down and last Christmas' gifts are all returned and the money spent.

Seniors, we still have invitation balances, spring break, and prom to pay for, and we've already put either ourselves or our parents out for cap and gown money, senior pictures, down payment on invitations, letterman jackets, a car and all of its glorious maintenance, application fees for college, and ACT fees. Needless to say, money is getting tight and believe it or not, it's going to get a whole lot tighter!

The fast food restaurants that you once swore you'd never work at look to be your only opportunity to acquire funds for the next few months. Desperation kicks in, not only for those moving into the work force, but also those who are planning to attend college. Those who were not fortunate enough to receive funds from the first round of financial aid handouts are now reduced to scrounging around for scraps.

Okay, money is not completely gone, we still have our parents and our age acting as safety nets, but not forever. Enjoy your senior spring break while you can, because it's the last time money will flow freely for a loooooong, loooooong time.

In closing I leave you with some advice: remember that old piggy bank you've been filling with pennies since you were three? Pick up the hammer and then...SMASH!



After school pick-up policy in need of a tune-up

BY CLIFTON T. WILLIAMS

"Halt, who goes there? Take one more step towards that building and you'll be arrested."

Does this sound like something that you would hear when trying to pick up someone from RCHS? If you said no, then you're absolutely right, unless you show up between 2:45 and 3:10 in the afternoon. If you happen to be the individual who thies this, you may find that this is what you're likely to get.

Over a year now, RCHS has adopted a new policy about after-school pick-up. It says that no unauthorized vehicles are allowed on campus between 2:45 and 3:10. This is supposed to help get the buses out faster without having interference between buses, and par-

ents arriving to pick up their kids.

According to assistant principal Barry Noble, the policy does accomplish this very well. However, he also said that it has caused problems in other areas such as the backups that are ever too common now in the student parking lot. Although this is true, it is not what concerns me most about this policy.

About a month ago, when the school day was nearing its completion, I received a call from the office telling me someone was waiting for me. When I got to the office, my friend Eric VanZant told me that he had gotten there 10 minutes before, but wasn't allowed up to the school to tell me.

"She told me to wait until the buses left," said VanZant when

asked to comment on the school's security official. If he hadn't ignored the security guard when he did, and made his way up to the front of the school, I would have ridden the bus home and would never have been able to get to my 64-year-old father. He was in serious need of help at his job.

To top it all off, after the buses left and we were able to leave, the security guard stopped us and told us that if we ever did that again, we would be arrested for trespassing. A little harsh for trying to get your friend to his father, to say the least.

What does this factual account

**See PICKUP
page 16**

The Rocket

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It Rocks...

~ Boys basketball team going to the Sweet Sixteen

~ A new parking lot exit

~ Spring Break--a whole week off from school!!

~ After much hullabaloo, actually receiving a senior trip

It Reeks...

~ We only had two days to give them the send-off they deserved

~ The seniors won't be able to use it

~ The CATS assessment when we return from Spring Break

~ It was cancelled due to lack of participation