

Dear Seniors,

It's finally over. No longer can we sit and anticipate the day when we're out because it is now here. What we really have to ask ourselves is do we really truly want it to be?

Most of us cringe at the sound of the alarm clock and the sight of the crowded school parking lot every day before class officially starts. We have found that although we wouldn't trade some of our classmates for the world, they are beginning to crawl under our skin for the simple fact of seeing them every day for the past thirteen years.

All we want is a change. Something bigger, something better.

Every day our elders tell us that we'll want to go back to the days of high school—to make all that we can out of each day while we have a chance.

The majority of the time we shut our minds to that suggestion and focus solely on that graduation gown and diploma.

The ones who have made their senior worth it should be commended. The ones who failed to need to be reminded of the times that were actually good.

What about the days when our only worries were coloring in the lines, swinging the highest at recess, or getting the most gold stars on our report card?

What about the days of having a different boyfriend or girlfriend each week, the "whatever" and "as if" comments, and the total awkwardness of being an adolescent?

What about the first day of high school and having the feeling of complete terror and excitement at the same time, finally realizing that it wasn't a big deal after all.

Who could forget the unending 90 minute classes, after school practices, and that great place called "Happyville"?

The awe of Cardinal Stadium and Rupp Arena are experiences that we will tell our children in hopes that they will set their goals just as high.

Remember the priceless friendships you've made and the goals you've conquered.

Hold close to your hearts the precious ones we have lost and how beautiful they were while they were here.

Put aside the anxiousness of graduation day for a minute and remember the times that made high school worthwhile, for this is all we can do.

No matter how hard we try, we can't go back now.

Former Rocket editor Cheyenne Carmack began Dear Seniors in the fall of 2000. Upon her graduation in 2001, seniors Cassie Smith and Shana Noe continued the column. This final column was written by senior Amber Thacker.

The Rocket

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The stench was overpowering. Never, in all of his journeys, had the Great Explorer come across such a vile and repulsive swamp. Surely some creature had died here only days ago...



courtesy of Scholastic News Services

Hmm... Time to clean out my locker again!



Dresscode is just as important as any other rule

by AMBER THACKER

Many students at RCHS roll their eyes every time a warning about dress code violations is mentioned. Announcement after announcement and the glare from teachers who seem to be on the prowl can definitely be frustrating at times.

A sudden crackdown on dress code unexpectedly occurred at the Class Olympics activity. Assistant Principal Barry Noble made it clear that a violation of any kind would no longer be tolerated.

The dress code policy had always been enforced, but it became serious after that point. Many students were guilty, pulling their shirts and shorts down to appropriate length.

There have always been com-

plaints about the strict rules, but there became an even bigger uproar when the rules were more heavily enforced.

"It's hard to find clothes to fit according to the dress code," says junior Heather Pingleton. "What's in style is strictly not allowed at school."

What are reasons for such strict rules? RCHS students obviously need some answers.

"Dress code may not be the most important of all the rules," said Mr. Noble. "But, it's like with student behavior...if you ignore the small things, they grow into bigger things eventually."

As the temperature increases the amount of clothing decreases. That is a statement that has been said

uncountable times over the intercom.

Noble commented that when the weather gets warmer, students begin to take advantage of the dress code. Students began to go over the line, and rules had to be more strictly enforced.

In the past, students were able to call home before they were sent to "Happyville" (aka ISS). But in recent dress code referrals, students weren't granted that privilege.

Noble felt that students should know better than to come to school violating the dress code. Too many second chances were given and that is why students began to take ad-

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It Rocks...

◇ Summer is just around the corner

◇ Being off of school Monday and Tuesday

◇ Getting next year's schedule before this year's over

◇ Only 1/2 day remains of school year 2001-2002

It Reeks...

◇ Still having to wear our winter clothes

◇ Returning to finals on Wednesday

◇ Not getting any of the classes you really wanted

◇ An extension of school year 2001-2002 because you have to attend summer school