

South High School 1959-60

The home of the Colts, South High School began to take shape on May 21, 1957. The administration provided the beauty and efficiency of the building in what was the ultimate in school construction. In January 1959 the leadership was added when Mr. David A. Wilkerson was appointed Principal and Vernon D. Cochran Assistant Principal. The school colors were black and white. The mascot was the Colt and the horseshoe was its emblem. The student body elected their leadership in April of 59 by choosing a Student Council which was to be led by Alan Takaki as their first President, and Jim Simmons their Vice President. Mary Lou Cabral was the first Secretary and Phyllis Sutton the first Treasurer.

On September 1 the school doors were swung open for 950 students, who were immediately assembled in the auditorium for an orientation assembly at which time Mr. Wilkerson in his welcoming address gave the school motto, "something extra for South." As in the case of all schools, the first weeks were occupied with orientation programs, selection of candidates for class officers, and of course the opening of our football season. This opened with a bang. Our team under the direction of Bob Overstake, on the first play from scrimmage sent Clyde E. Wilson over tackle for 60 yards to a touchdown. The record of the team, as well as all other athletic events, can be found in the award section of our history. The Coronation game was heralded by a new first in which South decided concentrate all student body activity in the building of one float on which the first football queen, Carrlyn Ward was crowned.

As yet the school had not a flag, however this situation was remedied by the selection of flag design presented by Ronald Nolan, a senior.

While the South athletic teams were winning victories on the field, the student body was hard at work organizing new clubs to provide for the extra curricular needs of the school. Such clubs were the Bible Club, the Junior Red Cross, the Future Teachers of America, and the S Club. The Girls'

Cabinet was organized with Sandra Leri as Head Girl. And the Coltsputs, a name chosen by the girls under the leadership of Phyllis Sutton solidified the student body in their efforts to support South and its teams. A drill team was organized for the purpose of flag ceremonies in lieu of the drill teams present at Central and Centennial. The final name selected for this drill team was the Pepperettes.

Among some of the presentations presented on the stage of South High School were a three act play, Reserve for Murder, a follies, Memories of 59, and another three act play The Importance of Being Ernest. The South dramatics team took first in district with a skit from Ghosts by Henrik Ibsen. Our chorus, in addition to having active parts in the Christmas and Easter assemblies, as well as the follies, took first in the district Music Festival.

In spring of 1960 we were informed by the administration that the Vice Principal for 60-61 would be Mr. Gordon Sullivan and that Mr. Vernon Cochran would be promoted to the position of second assistant to the Superintendent. In April of 1960 the students selected Don Ferguson as their student body President and Jim Epperson as their Vice President.

The first Remuda was given to the students on May 19, 1960, and it was followed by the traditional annual signing day on the 20th. 850 annuals were sold the first year.

The first graduating class of South High School, totaling 270, received their diplomas from Mr. John Dunlap, Superintendent of Schools in the District 60 Stadium June 1st, 1960.