

Driver's ed won't be part of 2000-01 regular schedule

by Adam Lister

If you're planning on registering for driver's ed, you might need to change your plans.

According to driver's ed instructor Pat Greene, the course will not be offered during the regular school day.

Instead the course will be offered outside the school, but students will still receive full credit for the course.

According to Mr. Greene, logistical problems with students led to the change.

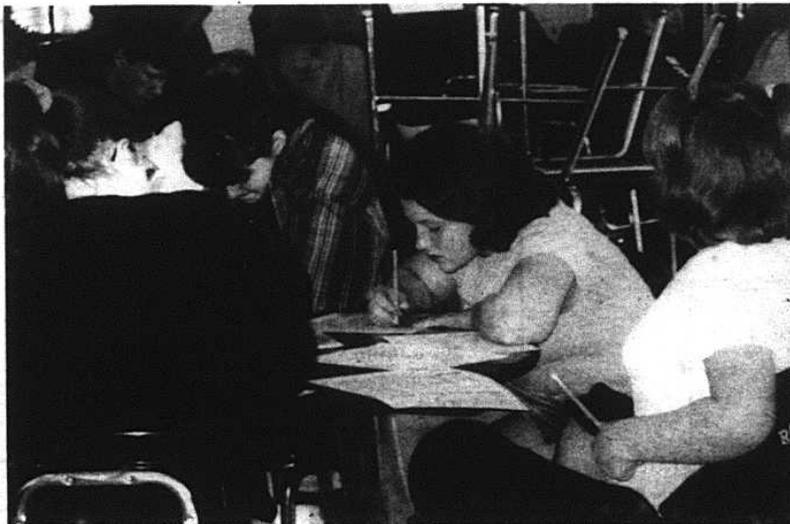
"I get 24 students in a class, take five to drive. Where are the rest of the students going to go?"

Another factor is the growth of Mr. Greene's technology classes. There simply are not enough teachers for both.

He went on to emphasize the final decision is not his. It rests with the SBDM Council.

Other departments are not exempt from change.

The previous set-up of one 9 week practical living class and one 9 weeks of an optional vocational course caused some class numbers to be extremely high and many others to be extremely low.



Next year's freshmen visited the high school Monday, February 28 to sign up for classes.

In an effort to solve the problem, the SBDM voted for a return to the previous 18 week practical living class.

More changes can be found in the English department, as well.

This year, all students had the

option of taking Honors English. However, next year the class will be offered only to juniors and se-

niors.

One change students will NOT find is the removal of Transitions, a required class for all seniors.

Transitions will remain a full 18 week course required for graduation.

Class sizes have been a large concern among teachers and students. In an effort to hopefully even them out, Transitions will be shared with another department.

If students are still uncertain about the focus of Transitions, it is "a career focused class that will enable students to identify and work with their goals," according to Mrs. Wanda Gonzalez.

English IV will remain an 18 weeks course, as well. According to senior English teacher Mrs. Jennifer Mattingly, the focus of the course will be on writing.

"Our seniors are assessed on their writing skill, and writing is a basic communication that students should refine before graduation," explained Mrs. Mattingly.

She emphasized a variety of texts will be used "to enhance students' overall understanding of purpose, technique, and form."

Band members honored

by Vonda Carmack

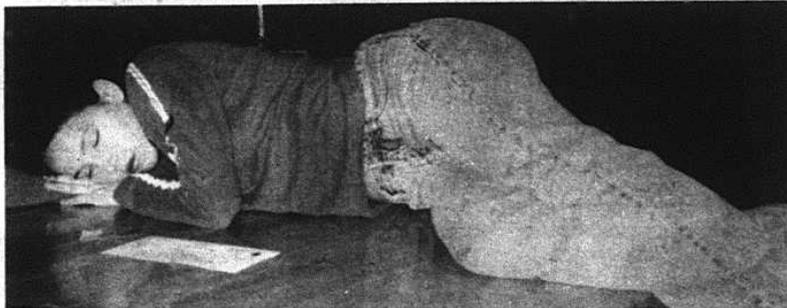
Five members of the RCHS Band took part in Eastern Kentucky University's Honors Band on February 18 - 20.

The students who attended were seniors Vonda Carmack and Shannon Stevens, junior, Tom Mills, and sophomores, Shana Noe and Ricky Barrett.

The students were accepted by application and then were sent a piece of difficult music to audition with for chair placement.

The students spent two days continually practicing their music breaking only for lunch and dinner and watching concerts by the ECU Symphonic Band, Jazz Band, and the Steel Drum Band.

The weekend was concluded with a concert performed by the Honor Bands on Sunday the 20th.



Who said being a senior was a breeze? It must be exhausting for Brandy Reynolds who took a brief nap during senior pictures taken Friday, February 25.

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