



Reactions on Returning Back To School

Donjaleque Jackson

On Aug. 18, 1997 North Central High School opened their doors to students all over. Here are some of their reactions on coming back to school.

As a student at N.C.H.S. I am very excited because I am a part of the 97-98 Senior Class. Since this is my last year, I will make it my best.-Demetra Rideau

I was excited because I finally achieved the opportunity of being on top. Now I am a member of the Senior Class of 1997-98, and I am loving every minute. -Reginald Jackson (Drummajor 97-98)

I feel excited and eager to take on the task that I have set before me.-Shemike Johnson

I am happy to come back. This is my last year and hopefully to be my best year. Ya'll will see a lot of me. - John Quezada

I am excited because my summer was boring and I had nothing to do. I was happy to see my friends.-Victor Offord

I'm glad I came back to school because I'm a Junior. Next year will be my last year. - La'Keithia Bennett

Who's New Among Us?

Donjaleque Jackson

This year we are welcoming four new teachers in to North Central High School. Mr. Damian Gordon, Mrs. Vanessa Taylor, Mr. H. Lamb, and Mrs. Page Knapp.

Mr. Damian Gordon, room 424, is a graduate of USL with a degree in public relations and a minor in English. He teaches 9th & 10th grade English and is a assistant coach, in basketball and football. He sees teaching as a challenge and is very optimistic about the 1997-98 school season.

A former police officer of Lafayette L.A., Mrs. Vanessa Taylor, room 416, is the head coach for both softball and the girls basketball team. Her goals are to help the ARE students to achieve their goals and take the girls basketball team to the playoffs. She loves teaching at North Central and enjoys the friendliness of the staff and students.

The 8th graders also have a new teacher, Mr. H. Lamb, room 444. He's a graduate of Southern University, and he has a BA in Elementary Ed., Masters degree+30 in Administration and Surpervision. His goal is to help this institution grow as a whole and for each student to believe that they could achieve his or her goals in life. We would like to congratulate Coach Lamb on his newly appointed job as North Central's Athletic Director. He is also the head baseball coach and the new head football coach. Good Luck!!

Mrs. Page Knapp, room 512, is the new art teacher. She loves art and would like to teach students to appreciate it. She is a graduate of Louisiana Technical University. She also taught at Farmerville Elementary and Crowley High. She loves the subject and the small classes.

Trade School Christina Phillips

Get your career started early at WVS. This year at WVS there are many different fields offered. Courses at WVS for a two year program include air conditioning, construction, graphic arts (drafting), electricity, food services, mechanics, and welding. Courses that are offered within a one year program include office occupations and nursing. These courses are great for starting ahead for something you really want as a career. Here are some replies from our students at WVS.

I think that trade school is a good opportunity to get a jump start on your career. Even if you don't use your trade school training in your career, you can use it in every day life.-Suzanna Courville

It is a good experience for training us for our future jobs. -Mandy Johnson

It is very interesting and I hope to further my education in the course I am taking-Heidi Soileau

I've been enjoying trade school, but can't wait for the weekends to go out and have fun.-Stephanie Ducote

So, for all of you out there who don't like to come to school all day long, this may be just the thing for you.

New Computer Lab Christina Phillips

Did you know that North Central's business department has received new and improved computers? These computer labs don't run cheap. The old labs were approximately \$75,000 and the new ones were approximately \$100,000. The new labs are IBM compatible. Every one of these new and improved computers will be connected to the Internet. Students in business classes will be able to use these computers for educational needs. Instead of using typewriters, we will now be using computers for our keyboarding classes. The money for these computers was contributed by the Carl Perkins Act. Each year this act supplies a different department with new supplies. These labs will be very useful and successful in many ways. They will change many of our business classes.

Foreign Languages Jessica Ryder

This year any student taking a foreign language will better be prepared to work. The foreign language department has received new books for the Spanish and French classes. These books are much more challenging than the books that they had last year and they also come with videos. Mr. Honhon has decided to make French II and Spanish II a little more challenging. English will rarely be spoken in those classes.

French I and Spanish I students will start off speaking a little English, but they will soon learn the difficulty of speaking another language because later on in the year they will be speaking very little English. So, to all of the students taking a foreign language, you better start studying now, because it is going to be a fun year.

Teen Institute Keisha Curette

Teen Institute is sponsored by and under the supervision of the Department of Health and Hospital, Office of Alcohol and Drug Abuse. It is a Substance Abuse Prevention summer program designed to empower young people to resist alcohol, tobacco, and other drugs (ATOD) use. It further empowers them to take an active role in preventing ATOD use among their peers.

Each year, high school students in grades 10-12 have an opportunity to stay one week, free of charge, at a state university. Some of the universities Teen Institute has been held at: Southern University, Baton Rouge; McNeese, Lake Charles; Nicholas State, Thibodeaux.

This year Ieshia Doucet, Cordese Shaw, Emma Adams, Tawanda Washington, Natalie Sanders, and Lynette Thomas attended Teen Institute and they all said it was a delightful experience.

North Central's Dazzling Dancers Kristy Buie



This year is the second year that NCHS has had a dance team. These dancers add color and cheer to the football games, pep rallies, and basketball games. They also have lots of spirit that

rub off on some students! The dancers all train and practice really hard, but despite hard training they also have lots of fun. On July 24-27 the NC dance team went to dance camp at USL. All dancers placed 1st in each division. They earned a superior trophy and stick. Congratulations to Darlithia Malveaux-captain, Chauntiel Schexsnayder-co captain, Daffine McKnight, and Sharayna Carlin. Janean Prince and Daphne Cormier will also be part of this years 97-98 dance team. Hope you all will have a successful year!

Class of '98 Jessica Ryder

Can you believe it! Our senior year has finally arrived. It is hard to believe that this is our last year of high school. We are all anxious, but we will miss all of the good times. Here are a few of the seniors to tell you how they feel about their final year in high school.

I am glad that this year is finally here, I have been looking forward to this year all of my life. I am excited, but in a way I will miss all of my friends and teachers.
-Neica Harrington

I am anxious to finish school, but I will miss all of the fun times that my friends and I had.
-Christina Phillips

I have been waiting for this year all of my life. I feel great.
-Keisha Curette

I feel good because I am getting out of school, and I am a little sad because I will miss the good times.
-Miguel Fontenot

It seems that everyone is ready to get out of here, but we are all going to miss the good times that we had. We may all be anxious to get out of here, but we better enjoy this year while we can.

Kenneth Doucet



This summer the Upward Bound Students of North Central High School attended the University of Southwestern Louisiana (USL). The aspiration of this program is to let high school students get the feeling of college life during the summer.

I got a chance to discourse with Marcus Blueitt, Mildred Curette, Byrd Adams, and Miguel Fontenot about how the summer really was. These are a few of the students who attended the USL Upward Bound Program. They felt that it was an introduction to college life. The teachers were superb and looked after their personal needs

correspondingly. They studied math, English, reading, physical education, science, and a foreign language. These classes gave the students a headstart on the following year. Every last one of our North Central students I spoke to received a trophy or medal in two or three more classes. They were either received for outstanding work or tremendous improvement. While there, they not only received knowledge, but got to meet people who would presumably end up being life long friends. So I would like to congratulate our Upward Bound Students for a job well done.

Congratulations!!!

NCHS Student Council



**Marcus Blueitt
President**



**Duke Nevills
Vice-President**



**Miguel Fontenot
Treasurer**



**Tyronica Christmas
Secretary**

Student Council Representatives:

11th grade officers

President Theresa Swafford
Vice-President Claudette Robinson
Secretary Emma Adams

10th grade officers

President-Run-off
Justin Fontenot/Dajuana Oliney
Vice-President-Effie Cane
Secretary -Sabrina Nevills

9th grade officers

President-Tawanda Washington
Vice-President-Robin Mckeel
Secretary-Natalie Sanders

8th grade officers

President-Kim Rideau
Vice-President-Willie Haynes

Seniors' Plans After High School

Donjaleque Jackson

Are you wondering what are some of the senior plans after high school? Well I went around school and asked a couple of seniors what were some of their plans after graduating from high school.

I plan to go to Grambling State University, in the fall of "98". My major will be Business Management. Over the summer I would like to find a nice paying job so that I can get a car (I can't be rolling on foot).

-Sharayna Carlin

I, as a senior getting fresh out of high school, plan to go to Avoyelles Technical Institute. My major would be L.P.N. (License Practical Nurse).

-Rose Gray

I plan to join the United States Air Force and major in Human Resources.

-Tyronnica Christmas

I will attend a school of Cosmetology.

-Racquel Clayton

Soon I will be moving to Houston, Texas to work at one of the United States Postal Office.

-Bradley Boyd

The name of my college is still undecided, but I would like to attend one under the major of Coaching.

-Keith Johnson

Morehouse College is were I will be soon going. My major will be in Electric Engineering.

-Kenneth Doucet

I plan to join the National Guard Reserves while attending Southern University. My major will be in Physical Education. Then I will live out my dream of becoming a certified coach.

-Eric Nelson

I plan to join the United States Marines and major in Computer Engineering after my 5 year enlistment.

-Michael Sanchez



Newspaper Staff-Kristy, Christina, Donna, Heidi, Kenneth, and Keisha
(not pictured-Jessica Ryder)

Great Job!

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Goodbye Reynard, Hello Reg!

Heidi LeDoux

This year North Central has many new things to offer to students. A new drum major is one of them. If you thought Reynard was good, wait until you see Reg in action!

Reginald Jackson, the new 97-98 drum major, says he has always loved to dance, even as a little child. He said "It's just a rhythm that God gave to me." When he dances, he dances to enjoy himself, while bringing a little excitement to the students.

Reg said, "Being drum major is like trying out for any other sport in school. You have to train hard, and you have to be in great shape. I really love what I'm doing, so I don't think about how hard the job is. Being drum major is something that I wanted very badly. I worked hard to get where I am, and I don't regret any of it."

Artificial Roses

Betty Sue

You run away from your problems.
Inside your heart you hide
Because someone just kissed your lips
and told you goodbye.

Now how do you go on?
How do you get over the love that you have shown?
Will it just fade away with time
Or will it go on living with every tear drop that falls?

You knew he had to leave;
You knew he had to part.
You could have saved yourself a lot of grief
If you would have just ended it from the start,
But you had to go on loving
'til he told you to stop.

You try to tell your heart
It's time to find another,
But it won't listen.
You tell yourself to stop looking at his pictures.
That face you have to hide.
You can't let anyone know you still love him.
So inside your room you cry,
And you let the little girl out
That you have hidden deep inside.

Your tears flow freely
Onto the pictures he left behind.
As you pick up the roses he once gave to you,
You finger them so gently
Because they are memories you never have to lose
And as you look at the roses,
You know that like those artificial roses
True love never dies.

