

As the first day of the 2001-2002 school year came into focus, teachers and administrators greeted students with smiling faces. Throughout the day the faces of new teachers such as Ms. Cattles, Ms. Belcher, Ms. Young, Mrs. Whittington, and Mr. Tomlin met the wonderful students of RHS. For some, homework assignments also met them with open arms. Students went through the classroom doors ready to discover the new adventures that awaited them.

As the year unfolded, students began to get involved in the diverse extracurricular activities of Ruffin High School. All of our athletic teams worked hard to make it to the playoffs. Some accomplished this goal and some did not. Despite the hard times, all our athletes worked hard to display and improve their skills.

Other activities this year included Homecoming 2001, the Mr. and Miss Ruffin High Coronation and Prom 2002. Additional events that took place were the Fashion and Talents Shows sponsored by the RAID Team. While encouraging Ruffin High students to recycle, the Environmental Science Club sponsored a basketball jamboree between Ruffin High Alumni and Z93-JAMZ radio personalities. Other clubs and organizations that were recognized throughout the school and community were the National Honor Society, BETA Club, Pre- MATE Club, Student Council, Sisters in Action, Men above the Crew, and Chorus.

With the conclusion of the school year, each underclassmen was given the opportunity to visit Walterboro High School to acclimate themselves with the environment of a school population of over 1700 students compared to the small student population of only 250. These trips were a part of the one-year plan for the transition of Ruffin and Walterboro into a consolidated school, Colleton County High School. In the fall of 2002 the Patriots and Bulldogs will become the fearless Cougars. With the enrollment possibly topping 2000, further renovations have been made to Walterboro High School to accommodate all students to avoid overcrowding at the present building.

Despite the disastrous events that took place on September 11th, we, the Ruffin High family, have prayed for the victims and their families. The lives of all people in the United States were affected by this act of terrorism. As we go into the change of going to a new high school, we have to reflect on the events such as "9-11" and be thankful for the chance to be alive and go through this great change. For our seniors, underclassmen, teachers and administrators we hope this book will represent the pleasant and unpleasant memories that made this "*The End of an Era and The Beginning of A Change.*"

Wishing you much love, prosperity and success in the future,
Karen Jones and the 2002 Yearbook Staff



The Beginning Of A Change