

Trying to Get Ahead

Most AP students knew that fast-paced college level classes would be hard work, but some did not anticipate the amount of extra time they'd have to put into the class.

"Dawn Bowman and I spent five hours at the College of Charleston library getting information for AP English," said senior Holly Bottomley.

All the extra work was an effort to get ahead. Small classes often spurred friendly competition.

"I always try to make the highest grade in the class," said senior Michelle Bryce.

The self-discipline and maturity needed to succeed in the AP classes scared many people off. When the challenges of AP Biology and AP U.S. History presented themselves to sophomore Morgan Cooper, he gladly accepted. Morgan took U.S. History as a freshmen and earned a 3 on the Advanced Placement examination.

"This year I don't feel weird being the youngest in my class," said sophomore Morgan Cooper.

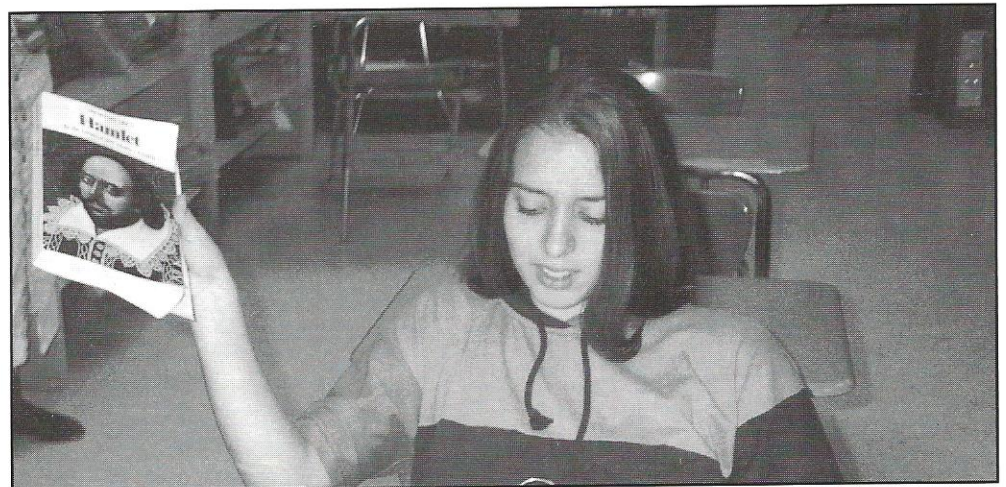
The work of the year culminated in the Advanced Placement examination. A score of 3, 4, or 5 on the test earned a student college credit for the course.

Teachers helped students prepare for the exams administered in May by classroom work, outside assignments and after-school study sessions.

"We've been working all along to prepare for the tests with study sessions, practice quizzes, and worksheets," said AP Calculus teacher Mrs. Lynn Stroble.

Ultimately, the students had to be prepared enough to take the national exam with confidence. The end result of entering college with credit for several courses made the extra effort worth it.

— Victoria Cunningham



To pass or not to pass . . . Trying to comprehend one of Shakespeare's great plays, senior Michelle Bryce uses both her notes and a copy of *Macbeth* to answer questions in Mrs. Janis Blocker's AP English class. Michelle was the only National Merit Scholar Finalist of the school year.

Through the looking glass. Junior Cora Campbell studies a specimen on the microscope stage. Students learned a lot about the world by using the microscope.