

The Joy of Achievement

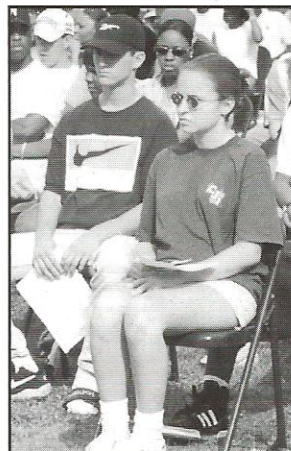
Students go from dream to reality

A few drops of rain fell from a threatening sky at 8:30 a.m., but the sun peeped out at 8:45 just in time for the graduation to go on as planned at 9 o'clock. The three honor graduates and the 11 distinguished graduates led the class of nearly 300. The NJROTC Color Guard started the ceremonies with the presentation of the flag. Wayne Wright, third-honor graduate, gave the invocation followed by the welcome by Ashley Heaton, Salutatorian and Student Body President. When Senior Class President Nikki Young, on behalf of the class, presented Principal Pence with a set of speakers for the public address system, the audience laughed in response because ironically the company to provide the sound system for the ceremonies had broken

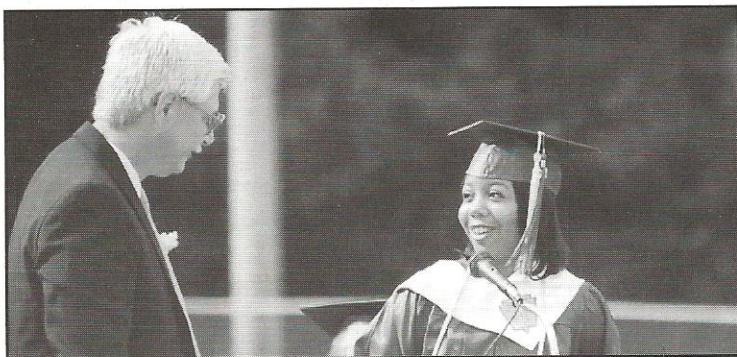
down and never arrived to set up. The administration had to monitor and adjust with a last-minute substitution of the old sound system from the school.

In her valedictory address, Beth spoke of the past four years and the memories that they shared. She told them that the world might be harsh and competitive but reminded them that the solid academic foundation and the support of teachers, friends, and family would go with them. Superintendent William Cason and School Board Chair Redell Fields presented diplomas.

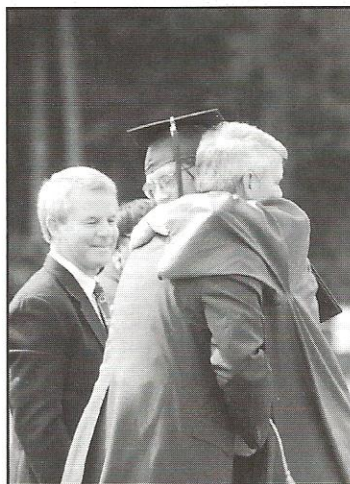
Student Body President Ashley Heaton pronounced the benediction immediately following the playing of the Alma Mater by the Band of Blue.



Listen up! Leah Steele gives strict attention to directions from class advisor Patti Pawlak at practice on Friday the 13th. The well-organized practice lasted only about two hours, giving the seniors time for a 10:30 lunch.



Token of Appreciation. Class President Nikki Young presents Principal Bob Pence with a monetary gift from the Class of '97. Nikki will leave SC to attend UNC-Asheville.



Proud Poppa! Senior Alex Pournelle hugs School Board member and dad, P.A. Pournelle. Dr. Cason stepped aside to allow Mr. Pournelle to present Alex's diploma.

A Guiding Hand. Popular guidance counselor Donna Fields presents Jenny Shomber with a carnation and a hug. Jenny will become a gamecock this fall.