

"Baseball Outlook"

State Championship Sighted

First it was Whirlie football, Coach Vansant, and Glenn Ford, an all-American one-two championship combination. Now it's Whirlie baseball, Coach Johnson, Glenn Ford with Rod Elkins, and the result could be the same. Another Championship for Grimsley.

Coach Raymond Johnson, who was a standout pitcher at A&T, will try to improve on his club's dismal 4-12 season of a year ago. "We have no key losses," said Johnson as he prepares his team for their first game, March 7 at Williams.

Returning for Grimsley will be all conference standout of a year ago, Rod Elkins. He is backed by Glenn Ford, Willie Baynes, Tom Williams, Andre Blount, Don Dempsey, Ashley Apple, and a host of other strong players.

"The team looks good on paper," says a confident coach Johnson. "We improved in our defense" and if we can hit the ball this season, the team should have a good season.

The Whirlies look to challenge Dudley, the defending conference champs and runner up in the state. Parkland and West Forsyth also will be deep threats in the Whirlies quest for a state championship.

Bringing to the plate power hitters like Don Dempsey and Rod Elkins, and adding such speedsters as Glenn Ford, Andre Blount, and Mauride Jolly, offensively, Grimsley should be a threat to any team in the state. With the exception of the third base area, the defense is no "piece of cake" with as Grimsley shows off a wealthy pitching

core that includes Glenn Ford, Willie Baynes, Tom Williams, and sophomore Billy Livingstone.

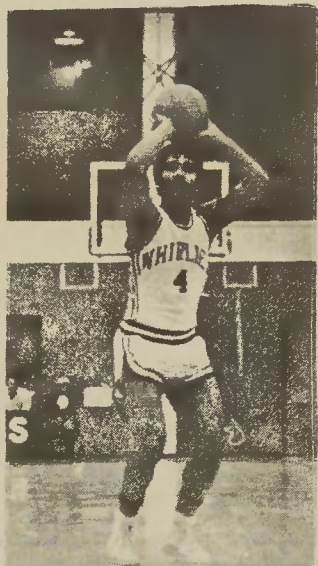
So, excitement fills the air, or should we say, "the diamond" as head coach Raymond Johnson and Assistant coach Dennis Barbour look ahead at this year's schedule with optimism.

Grimsley 1978 Baseball Schedule:
 Mar. 7 at Williams; Mar. 10 at Western Guilford*; March 14 WILLIAMS; Mar. 21 Ragsdale*; Mar. 22-26 Tournament**; Mar. 29 Reynolds; Mar. 31 at Kannapolis; Apr. 4 at Dudley; Apr. 6 West Forsyth*; Apr. 11 Parkland away; Apr. 18 Andrews*; Apr. 20 at Ragsdale; Apr. 22 Western Guilford*; Apr. 25 Kannapolis*; Apr. 27 Dudley; Apr. 29 at Page*; May 2 at West Forsyth; May 4 Parkland*; May 10 Page*; May 11 at Andrews;

WHIRLIES MAKE IT IN CONFERENCE

by Bryan Smith

Grimsley's balanced scoring attack, all five starters in double figures, led the Whirlies to a



Amp Long free throw.

93-72 victory over Raleigh Enloe in the quarter finals of the state championship at Grimsley, Wednesday evening, March 8.

Bug Anderson and Eric Summers paced the Whirlies with 22 and 20 points, respectively. Dick Gilbert has 14 points, David Cox 12 points and Rod Elkins dumped in 10.

Amp Long came off the bench in the first quarter to help the Whirlies get the ball moving. He did just that and Grimsley led 28-18 at the end of the first period.

Early in the second period, Grimsley widened their margin to 12 points and Grimsley seemed to be in total command of the game. But Enloe's outside scoring threats, William Wilson and Danny Young, kept the Eagles within striking distance. The Eagles outscored the Whirlies 22-18 in this period and Grimsley led only 46-40 at halftime.

The third quarter was much like the first as the Whirlies outscored the Eagles 22-10. Grim-

sley reeled off 11 unanswered points to go ahead 68-50 and put the contest out of reach.

Grimsley led by as much as 22 points, 90-68 in the fourth quarter. Coach Weaver was able to clear the bench with just over two minutes remaining.

Rounding out the scoring for Grimsley was Amp Long with 7 points, Jimmy White with 5 points, Tommy Arthur with 2 and Kyle Neve with 1.

Raleigh Enloe was paced by Danny Young with 17 points and William Wilson with 13.

Surprisingly, Raleigh made 33 baskets and Grimsley only made 32. But the foul line made the difference as Grimsley hit 29 of 38 free throw attempts, and Enloe hit only 6 out of 8.

Rebounding was also a big factor. The Whirlies out-rebounded the Eagles 44-25. Bug Anderson led the Whirlies in rebounding with 15.

Girls Softball Schedule '78		
Date	Opposing Team	Place
3/15	Graham	H
3/20	Ragsdale	H
3/22	Smith	A
3/30	Kannapolis	A
4/3	Dudley	A
4/5	W.F.	H

Girls End With Satisfying Season

Pat Addison sits back in her chair, surveys her small office, and sighs. A bouquet of daisies takes center place on her desk. Her eyes mist over as she recalls the stunning upset of her girls' basketball team by the West Forsyth team in the first round of the Division 7 Conference Tournament.

The shots "just wouldn't fall," she says. "We only made 11 of 43 for 26% (field goal shooting percentage)," she goes on, in the 31-30 loss. "We couldn't buy a basket! We played real well the first half, but the second half we just went cold."

The daisies sitting on her desk are from her protegeses -- the members of the Grimsley girls' basketball team, who went 14-4 on the season, ended up as the number one team in the conference, and achieved a Top 20 prep ranking in the state. The flowers are only a small token of appreciation to a woman who was named Division 7 Coach of the Year.

Coach Addison is quick to praise the girls. "We had a good team when we started. We had six players back from the previous season. We started out with a

good nucleus," she stated. The four new girls on the squad blended quickly with the six veterans to form a powerhouse squad. Their biggest strength came from their playing as a unit, rather than playing each woman for herself.

By running the wheel offense with Rita Barrett and Player of the Year Teri Wallace as the post players, the twelve-year coach hoped to gain more balanced scoring and give the girls confidence to shoot.

And, although that style of offense proved successful in most cases, the team ended up with a 35 1/2% field goal accuracy.

But Coach Addison is not really in the mood to discuss the technical points of the season. The close hard fought wins and the losses are memories now. She sighs once again and concludes, "When you end up in the first place, you can only say you've had a good season."

And although it was not the best season it could have been, the 1977-1978 basketball season was a season the coach and girls will long remember.

Satire: Baseballmania

Anthony Beard

It's pennant chasing time again and Grimsley looks this year to be in the running. So bring out your balls and gloves, bring your bench pillows and caps and prepare for another year of America's favorite past time, baseball.

As coach Johnson and troop prepare for their first game, March 7 at Williams, let's review our knowledge of the game. Now, the lead-off batter is known as the leading lady is the first batter in the lineup or in any inning. He receives the ball from a member of the opposing team called a pitcher. Now there are other names for pitcher, such as hurler, twirler, flinger, slinger, flipper, chucker, tosser, and moundsmen to name a few. Now what he does is throw the ball to the batter. There are numerous names for batters -- usually for the style of effect they have on the job they do.

For instance, weak hitters are called, banjos, flackey, goats, and mop-up men. Power hitters are called blue darters, peppers, and sluggers. They hit singles, doubles, triples, grandslams, home runs, Texas Leaguers, Baltimore Choppers, Big Bills, bleeders, blue darters can of corns, and Chinese Homers. It's a dangerous job being a batter, they get collared, beamed, handcuffed, they go through the cycle, and are very often used as Deeks, or decoys.

There are nine defensive positions. They are played by the pitchers, catchers, first, second and third basemen, short stops, right, left and center fielders. The third base area is also known as the hot corner.

Baseball has become known for its famous nicknames. Such names as Red, Whitey, Lefty, Dizzy, Bugs, Sad Sam, Slim Sallee, Fats, Stubby, King Kong, Moose, Ducky, Hawk, and there are a million others. Grimsley has "Smilin'" Willie Baynes, Dandy Don Dempsey, Maury "The Folly" Jolly, "Silly" Billy Livingstone, "Rhyming" Raymond Johnson, "Bashley" Ashley Apple, "Mod" Rod Elkins, and Andre "Bunt" Blount.

The baseball fans are more intense, more exciting than any other sports fan. Buying hot dogs, pizzas, sodas, beer, peanuts, pop corn is normal in every sports arena, but is sold more in baseball than in any other sport.

Baseball equipment includes bats, balls, gloves, stockings, bases, caps, jerseys, belts, rousin bags, tar, and knickers. All this makes baseball, America's favorite past time.

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