

# Wherefore Art Thou, Whirliebird?

By David Kalifon

Weaverbirds, Western Tanager, Whippoorwills, Woodpeckers . . . no, Whirliebirds! In fact, there is no Whirliebird, extinct or living in this world . . . or is there? How did this never-bird become the mascot of Grimsley, if it, indeed, is? The search for the Whirliebird took us to Miss Virginia Powell, adviser of the WHIRLIGIG.

"In 1956, we wanted a bird's eye view of Grimsley for the theme of the yearbook. Chic Forbes, a staff member, came up with a little bald-headed bird and crowned it the GHS Whirliebird," says Miss Powell. He was featured on division pages and scattered here and there throughout the book.

"The Whirliebird was a smash that year," Miss Powell goes on, "and a few years later, the Junior Jaycees borrowed the idea and

featured him at a football game." Success brought him Phoenix-like to life again.

The whimsical Whirliebird has brought forth a lot of problems. The coaching staff resents him because the fight name, which was originally the "Purple Whirlwinds" before our colors became navy and white, is now simply "Whirlies." The staff feels that the mascot was unofficially changed, if at all, and that the beastly bird is a usurper.

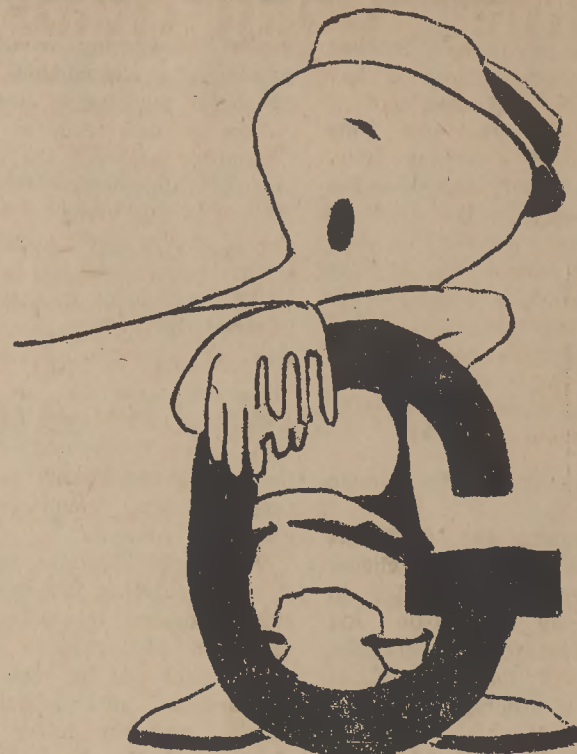
Some other older teachers think that the Whirliebird as a mascot is silly, remembering the "Purple Whirlwinds" of yore.

Though the Whirliebird caused a lot of problems, it caught on quickly with students. The students use him in almost everything to do with the school. He is super-imposed on the student handbook, towels, stickers, and a few pennants. Most students

look forward to seeing him at games and enjoy watching the person inside the costume make a fool of himself.

The ill-bred bird now has his talons well-sunk into GHS tradition. He is expected to be at every game with his plumber's helper. It is still a mystery why he carries it or whose idea it was to begin with. Contests were run a few years ago concerning who the Whirliebird was, and many times people have discussed who or if he really is.

Does he fly above the lights at football games or perch on the rim at basketball contests? Does he peep from beneath the mat at blue-clad wrestlers or ride the ripples with GHS swimmers? Who knows? Like Santa, he sort of dwells within the soul of GHS'ers. Like it not, "Yes, Grimsley, there is a Whirliebird!"



# High School Students At College

By Hank Bullard

If you are like me, you probably are happy to see a report card full of A's and B's in courses such as French and Math. However, there are two seniors at GHS this year who did not want to waste their time taking easy subjects such as Physics, French VI, or Russian VIII. These two Einsteins are Debbie Metzger and Kyle Woosley.

Debbie is taking Intermediate German at Greensboro College. She attends classes every day (except Wednesdays) from 12:30 to 1:30. In addition to class time, she spends three hours per week in the language lab.

Debbie began taking German her sophomore year in Florida. She says that this course at Greensboro College is more demanding because the class moves so fast. The semester she has just finished ended December 8 and will have covered the equivalent amount of material that she would have received in a full three years of high school German.

Debbie feels that taking this course has been of great value to her because it has helped her to learn to do more things on her own.

Kyle is taking basic chemistry at UNC-G. His lecture class meets each Monday and Wednesday with a recitation class on Friday. His lab, too, is three hours long, and it is met every Wednesday from 2:00 to 5:00.

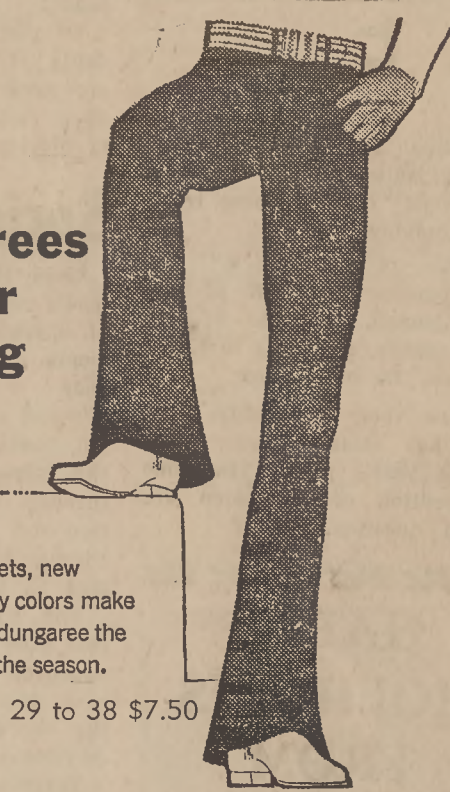
Kyle is taking this course because he is interested in making Kyle has three tests a semes-

ter which are hard because they cover a very large amount of material. His class is also covering a vast amount of material at a very fast pace, but this has helped Kyle.

his major in college oceanogra-

phy.

His lab class has around 230 students in it. This has been different from Grimsley, obviously, but he says that it keeps the probability of pop tests down considerably.



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