

# Council Faces Communication Gap

Throughout the years the Executive Council (formerly known as the student council) has been under fire from the Grimsley student body. (The student council and the student body formed the Student Cooperative Association.) Many of the problems encountered were blamed on the faults of the written constitution.

Although the written constitutions (of which there have been five in the last six years at Grimsley) have held their faults; (they were usually written by outgoing seniors), the main problem lies in the 15 elected representatives. We're not saying that the Executive Council does no work, but that there is a communication gap somewhere along the line.

The homeroom president, initially designed to bridge the communication gap, has become an obsolete figure. Not because of his lack of support, but because there have been very few homeroom presidents meetings. A mimeographed copy of council news does serve the purpose of communicating to the students. A reading of the council news tends to be bland; it is written in such a manner that the students do not care to listen. If the homeroom president's only job is to read this newsletter then he is not needed, any student can be picked at random to read the council news.

Towards the end of last year and at the beginning of this year proposals were made to send student government reports through the GCS meetings.

Without a reasonable type of communication between the Executive Council and the student body the role of the Executive Council will fall into the recesses of student activity.

If council members were able to campaign with an ardent spirit of winning, why can't they get out and talk to the student body, meet them head to head. Perhaps an assembly every month would help to enlighten the student body as the year progresses.

We offer a note of consolation; after two and a half years of talking and saving, the Executive Council has finally purchased a parking lot sweeper. It is not one of the rideable type, but one that must be pushed. At any rate it should help to alleviate the problem of the trashy parking lot.

# Elections Reap Interest

Editor, The Grimsley High Life

For several weeks, I have been actively engaged in the campaign to elect Jimmy Carter President of the United States. The purpose of this letter is to explain why I think Jimmy Carter is the best and most viable candidate for Presidency.

Jimmy Carter has been, among other things, a farmer, engineer, scientist, planner, businessman and Governor of the State of Georgia. He was born on October 1, 1924, in a small farming town of Georgia. He attended the Naval Academy from 1942-46, with his major field of nuclear physics.

After resigning his commission, Carter returned to Georgia to take over his deceased father's farm. He built up a small fertilizer and seed business, and soon became a prominent member of the community. Carter was elected to the Georgia Senate in 1962, his first public office.

In 1970, Carter waged an uphill campaign against the established political forces of Georgia, and successfully defeated the opposition to become the 76th Governor of Georgia. He set the atmosphere for his term as Governor in his inaugural

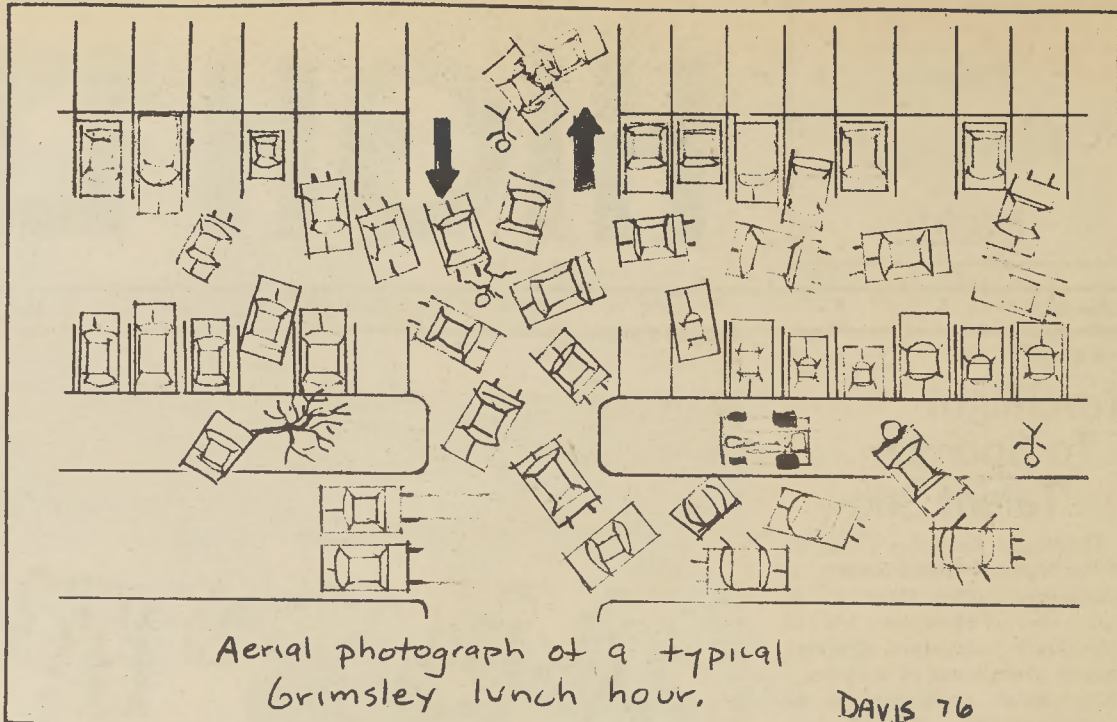
address, stating that no Georgian should "ever again be deprived of the opportunity for a job, an education, or simple justice because he is poor, rural, black or not influential."

Carter turned these ideals towards realization, as sponsor of legislation to equalize education funds between the richer and poorer countries, to raise the salaries of school teachers, to increase the number of special education teachers, and to establish a statewide testing program for students and schools. In 1974, the General Assembly approved his total revision of the state's educational funding program.

Jimmy Carter completely reorganized the Georgia government to make it more efficient and more responsive to the people, reducing the total of some 300 agencies to 22. The state saves over \$50 million per year from this action.

Among other legislation passed by Georgia Assembly and approved by Carter are:

1. Environmental protection laws among the strongest in the nation.
2. Age of majority legislation to provide full citizenship for 18 year olds.



# 1976: A Year of Celebration

As we celebrate the Bicentennial we should realize what it is we are rejoicing for and consider how it applies to our lives.

On many occasions July 4, 1976 is called the two-hundredth anniversary of the nation. It is not. The Fourth will commemorate the signing of The Declaration

of Independence by men from thirteen colonies or, in other words, the celebration of this land's independence.

While America has its eyes on events of two hundred years ago, we should look at our past and plan our future. Those men could not foretell the consequences of their action; they could only use their imagination and human abilities, in the hope that they would succeed and make their home a better place to live.

From our heritage we recall phrases such as pioneer spirit and rugged individualism which described people who stood where we now stand. Those phrases could refer to us if we take time to dream about improving our situations and ourselves. We must recognize our dependencies and strive to make ourselves independent.

Complaint after complaint has been made about the oil companies, yet little attention has been given to how the oil companies actually made their money. They profit by our dependency on oil. Household electric bills go up and some think Duke Power is the sole culprit. We can improve our lives if we notice the dependence in our habits and attempt greater self-reliance.

Anyone with eyes or a nose can tell that the use of alcohol and marijuana is increasing among students at Grimsley. But what is getting high, other than a dependence of a person on a drug in order to have fun. We should use our imagination to find other ways to have a good time without being in a stupor.

A greater independence is very simple and requires only 1) independent thinking and 2) independent action. We cannot throw technology away, but we can be aware of some of its complications which lead to greater expense and frustration. When it's warm, instead of driving to school, ride a bicycle and enjoy the day. Use a manual can opener, which works in the same time as most electric models and is more economical. Be a pioneer living in a solar-heated house. Get high on a date's company.

All we have to do is use our imagination to become more independent and to enjoy life more. The men who signed the Declaration of Independence took the chance of signing what might have been their death warrant--we should make the most of what they gave us. Celebrate our Bicentennial by being independent. **DAVID DODD**

# Old Letter Brings Back Memories

With the arrival of a new year, we must pause to pay tribute to the great yester years here at GHS. Perhaps many of the lighter moments can be recaptured in these Letters to the Editor which were printed in previous issues.

October 24, 1958  
Dear High Life Editor:

I thought someone ought to write you about the awful way all those boys stand around the entrance buildings between classes smoking. They look like a bunch of convicts hanging around the compound during a rest period. Something should be done about this terrible condition. Students should not be allowed to smoke at school anyway. There ought to be a law against selling cigarettes to anyone under 25 years old, to protect young people from this terrible habit. The next thing you know, they will be handing out drinking permits and gambling permits.

FOR AMERICA'S THIRD CENTURY, WHY NOT OUR BEST? Elect Jimmy Carter President.

Anyone who wants to help the campaign or who wants more information about Jimmy Carter, please contact me.

Steve Jacobson

Some people think they just come to school to play around anyway. All they care about is football games and clubs. And I think it's just awful the way some teachers don't give you enough work to do. The Russians are ahead of us in everything and we are still going to school only five days a week till 3:30.

November 21, 1958  
For more than three years now that nauseating musical mania which has been given the inadequate appellation of Rock 'n' Roll has reigned supreme on the air waves of America. This jungle-born madness has already outlived most skeptical predictions of its life span, and it is becoming horrifyingly evident to those looking hopefully to its down-fall that the thing may be here to stay...

...But there is evidence yet more disturbing! The thing has truly fastened itself on Young America! Most teen-agers are now able to understand the words!

## HIGH LIFE

Published Monthly  
by

Grimsley Senior High School  
801 Westover Terrace  
Greensboro, N.C. 27408

HIGH LIFE is a member of Quill and Scroll and the National Scholastic Press Association. The cost is \$1.50 per semester, \$2.00 per year.

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