

Computer Scheduling

Does It Work?

By Tommy Grant

Who do we blame? Computer scheduling has once again caused many problems for both students and faculty.

The blame may be in the system itself. Many students were scheduled for three study halls and no lunch; and many other outrageous schedules appeared with the opening of school.

What are the answers? Many courses such as communications, citizenship, art, and especially physical education need to be streamlined. Schedules of students taking courses at Weaver Center present other problems in scheduling; that is the reason students attending classes at Weaver Center must go in the morning and after school.

Is it that the high school curriculum has become impossible to schedule? Computers only put out what people put in. If course curricula are not streamlined, then there will continue to be malfunctions. Maybe courses need to be offered as they were in the past -- for example, physical education was offered as PE 2, 3, and 4, just as English and history were. Today students select one single part of the main subjects.

Indeed, streamlining the schedules could solve up to 75 percent of the problems. The computer is a tool and only works as well as the people who use it. We must use this tool to put students in the classroom, not in the Guidance Center to correct schedules after the fact.

According to the City Schools' computer office: "Computer scheduling is designed to make the schools build the schedules around the requests and needs of the students. Arena scheduling forced the students to adjust their needs and desires around what the school wants to offer."

Maybe if these problems can be solved, computer scheduling is a good idea. But as it stands now, a return to arena scheduling offers a more viable option.



GHS Provides Many Outlets

By Karen Brown

In this issue of *High Life*, a letter to Grimsley's faculty from Catherine Evans, Pep Board Chairperson, is reprinted. I agree one hundred percent with her emphasis on faculty support of school events; but I would like to add to this and speak to both faculty and students.

Although participation in sports, pep rallies, and spirit days is of great importance, there are many other ways in which the students and faculty can be supportive of school activities such as school government, drama, music, and special interest clubs.

Here are a few activities involving the school government: Student Council, Student Affairs, Student School Board Action Group (SSBAG).

For those people who are dramatically inclined or who like music, Grimsley provides excellent drama and music programs. In drama there is Studio Theatre, Playmasters, and Puppetmania. As for the music curriculum, there are many different types of choirs ranging from barbershop to mixed choir to Madrigals. Also included in the Music Department are various bands and orchestras.

All students are not talented in the same ways. Some people are drawn toward other

groups of interest such as High IQ, Math Club, French Club, Spanish Club, and the Torchlight and Quill & Scroll Honor Societies, and, even further, service clubs.

Sports do play a very important role in boosting spirit. There are many different ways to show this kind of support -- actual participation, spectating, attending pep rallies, and wearing the proper attire for spirit days.

Last, but certainly not least, the student publications offer educational and creative outlets for students. There is the literary magazine, *In Full Flight*, which is full of short stories and poems written by students and faculty. This is an afterschool activity advised by Richard Smith. The second publication is the yearbook, *Whirligig*, with Wanda Shockley as advisor. A third publication is, of course, *High Life*, the school newspaper which is under the advice of Lynn Tanner.

No matter what kind of person you are, no matter where your interests lie, no matter what your talent is, Grimsley offers a large selection of ways through which you can support your school. For at Grimsley, there is an outlet through which each and every student can show individual as well as group spirit.

Opinion

Glenn: Message To Students

An open letter to the Grimsley community:

It is a pleasure to welcome all students and teachers to school. We hope that you will have a happy and successful year.

Let us all work together to make GHS the very best school in North Carolina. We should always keep in mind the number one goal in high school, and that is to achieve the very best education possible and to establish for ourselves the goals and objectives that will lead to a happy and successful life.

My sincere best wishes to each one of you for this school year and the future.

Sincerely,
R.L. Glenn

Unification

Dear Grimsley Faculty:

I would like to express the importance of the Grimsley Faculty supporting sports, plays, musical concerts, pep rallies and spirit days.

We, as members of Grimsley High School, should work together as one in hopes of unifying G.H.S.

The students are always looking for guidance through the Faculty. Please help us achieve our goal of a unified school.

Thank you for your time.
Sincerely,
Catherine Evans
Chairperson, Pep Board

Finds Little Difference

To the Editor:

Last year as a ninth grader, I endured a 25-minute closed lunch period with the notion that the situation would change with my arrival at Grimsley.

Due to an administrative policy, however, the lunch period at the high school level was shortened to under 50 minutes. The reason for

this action, we are told, is to shorten the school day.

I appreciate this administrative concern for the students, but maybe someone should have asked us first. Personally, I would rather have an extra fifteen minutes of school in order to eat

lunch in a more relaxed manner.

If, in fact, the main objective of the shortened lunch period was not to shorten the school day but rather to relieve the drug problem, as many of us were led to believe by statements from Dr. Newbold this summer, then the School Board is very naive. Not only will a shortened lunch period not cut

down on the use of drugs and alcohol by students, but, I believe, it may cause some students to use the drugs faster or at other times during the day, perhaps between classes. Certainly there are better ways to control drugs and alcohol than by controlling the consumption of food; and certainly the wishes of students and teachers should be taken into consideration before any more schedule changes are made.

Sincerely,
Marty Leary

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Congratulations to Sylvia Graham, Greensboro's
1980-81 Junior Miss.

HIGH LIFE

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