

Throughout the year, **High Life** will feature various departments at Grimsley. The Vocational Department is the second featured department of the year.

Vocational Department Offers Wide Variety

By Leslie Berkelhammer

The Vocational Education Department at Grimsley has over eighty percent of its three hundred twenty students placed in jobs throughout the community.

The program at Grimsley, consisting of DE, ICT, COE, ITIE, and Drafting, has many career options open to GHS students.

Distributive Education, DE, deals with jobs in retail or wholesale. ICT, Industrial Cooperative Training, involves technical, trade, or professional related jobs. The range of diversity goes from electronics, auto mechanics and building to a veterinarian's or doctor's assistant. COE, or Cooperative Occupational Educations students learn job skills that can be applied to any field. After suc-

cessfully completing COE, they may then take a DE or ICT class.

ITIE, Introduction to Trade and Industrial Education, presents an overview of technical and electronic conceptions helpful in any field. The Vocational Education Department at Grimsley also offers Drafting. The class begins with basic skills and progresses to more complicated designs.

The CO-OP student must take a minimum of three academic classes, one CO-OP class, and will receive one credit for working. CO-OP students acquire job skills and supervision that a regular employee would not have. The class meets daily and focuses on keeping the job with plans for advancement. One period every two weeks is spent discussing in-

dividual work problems.

"The instructors in the Vocational Department are of outstanding caliber," says Mrs. Gayle Bowers, chairman of the department. She adds that they work well together.

The federal government funds the department, and as Mrs. Bowers, says, "is behind our program all the way." In fact, a bill was passed two years ago giving a tax credit supporting employers of students enrolled in a cooperative education program.

Comments Bowers, "My philosophy is: you can't separate vocational education from academic education. All we take is for a goal, a career. We are a growing department. We hope to grow even more as students increase their awareness of what is offered."

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Distributive Education Clubs of America, DECA, is an industrial club open to any student presently taking Distributive Education. Unlike other clubs, DECA competes in local, district, state and national competition displaying skills learned in DE. Scholarships are offered to students excelling in areas of marketing and other types of Distributive Education.



Jim Dickens listens to instructions from Mr. Darnell in drafting class (Sykes photo)

Drafting Offers New Opportunities

By Cindy LeBauer

Blythe Haines, former GHS student, has designed the new headquarters for the North Carolina Coach's Association. Marty Blackmon, Mark Edgerton, Ken Garner, and Teska Dillard are designing their "dream house."

The drafting classes at Grimsley offer these and other opportunities to students interested in "the language of industry." The courses offer a good background in drafting and design which can lead to a future in engineering, architecture, drafting, or commercial art.

According to Mr. Don Darnell, who has taught

drafting at Grimsley for twenty-five years, the greatest satisfaction has been "associating with all these good kids and watching their achievements."

Some of the first drawings for the Grimsley pool were initiated by several members of a previous drafting class and presented before the school board.

Presently fifty students are enrolled in the program. The courses are divided into two levels: beginning and secondary architectural drafting. The primary requirement for a course in drafting is interest.

As a beginner, one learns basic fundamentals -- the use of drafting instruments and basic drafting techniques. The second level offers one the opportunity to learn to design a residential or commercial structure of his own. The building of a model from these plans follows. Other projects have included designing playground equipment, furniture, or magazine illustrations.

A problem in the past has been a lack of awareness in the student body that the course even existed. Mr. Darnell encourages anyone who is interested to visit the department."

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