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# SPORTS

Stephen Canter  
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 Paris Davis

## Cross Country team captures State Championship

by Paris Davis and Pat Goodwin

Photo by Chris Pickeral



1984-85 State Cross-Country Champions.

### Weaver optimistic about team

by Stephen Canter

The 84-85 basketball team is the tallest team in recent years. There are only two players under six feet. They are Darryl

teen players: Greg Burzell, Scotty Arant, Mike Dunn, Brian Gay, Darryl Graham, Jerome Isley, Scott Jones, Joey Kauder, Grant Lowe,

ing to have to work to keep their positions on the team. Weaver said "The team members are going to have to do the little things right.

the eternal light was re-kindled. The Israelites knew that there was only enough oil to last for one day, but some miracle kept the light burning for eight days straight.

Many people consider Hanukkah the "Jewish Christmas" but this is not an accurate statement.

Tyrone Moss, Andy Moss... It is a happy occasion for everyone, although people celebrate in various ways. Although the majority of people do not attend parties every night of Hanukkah, the families light candles in their own home and share the special time with each other.

### Moravian customs unique

by Amy...

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Christ. The customs and symbols that are used in the churches and homes of Moravians are there as reminders that Christ is the Saviour of the world.

The church year begins with Advent, a four week period prior to Christmas.

The Advent season is a time when Moravians prepare their minds and hearts for the celebration of the birth of Christ. The Advent wreath, which is placed on the Altar table in the front of the church, signifies the opening of the Christmas season.

Eve Lovefeast service, each worshipper receives a lit handmade beeswax candle trimmed with red crepe paper. The message of the candle is that this flame of Love will burn forever to Christ's joy and our salvation.

These are some of the customs and symbolisms of the Moravian religion. But for the actual celebration on Christmas Day, the Moravians spend it like any other family, with friends and family, sharing that Love, eating, exchanging gifts.

to the glowing room. Their eyes are wide open now, and their heart beats faster as they turn to peek around the door, hoping...expecting...

There are those who feel the true meaning of Christmas has been lost in the commercialism which surrounds it. They have obviously not watched a child in the midst of all of... stay free of injuries and we could have a state championship team."

### Griffin enjoys coaching career

by Greg Hoover

Coach Durante Griffin is presently the Grimsley High School swimming coach and a physics teacher. In the past five years of coaching Grimsley, coach Griffin has had a very successful career. The boys team has been Conference and Sectional champions every year except last and the girls team was in first place three times and second place twice. Overall, the boys and girls record for the past five years combined has been 102 wins, 16 losses and only one tie. In 1980 the boys team were State and Conference champions while

Andy Reed and Paul Bates led the Cross Country team to its first State Championship in 14 years. Reed finished 16th and Bates followed in 18th. With a final score of 108, Grimsley finished ahead of 2nd place, Chapel Hill with 120 points, 3rd place R.J. Reynolds with 140 points, as well as twelve other teams in North Carolina.

Monday an assembly was held to congratulate the Cross Country team on their victory. Dr. Baur commended both the girls and the guy boys team and Coach Smith for bringing its first State Championship since the track team won in the Spring of '83.

Although this win was well deserved, it was quite unexpected due to the fact that the team had lost to Chapel Hill twice at invitations and to Reynolds the week before in the Sectionals.

Grimsley's other five runners were John Leone, who finished 35th, Derreck Leonard, who finished 48th, Benny Carver, who finished 59th, Pat Goodwin, who finished 60th, and John Strassel, the only sophomore, finished 84th. The girls Cross Country team had a very respectable 8th place finish in the state meet. Jennifer Poole came in 23rd with a time of 20:28, Stacey Watkins finished 59th, Susan Rutishauser was 72nd, Alison

Shale was 73rd, and Hazel McCollum was 81st.

Coach Smith is very pleased with the success of both teams. "I really enjoyed working with both the boys and girls teams," stated Smith. "I had a group of young men and women who worked well together; most important they believed in themselves and were not afraid of competitions."

Next year the returning runners are Pat Goodwin, John Strassel, Paul Bates, Benny Carver, Matt Ingram, Scott Gerber, Chris Luper, and Robert Copper.

Andy Reed, whom will not be returning, is very excited about the state championship. Reed believes with the returning runners the team will be strong again next year. Other runners leaving the team are seniors Derreck Leonard, and John Leone.

The Cross Country team has done extremely well all season. Both the girls and boys started defeating Page. The boys then went on to defeat High Point Andrews to bring their undefeated record to 47-0 since 1977. They also did well in their three large invitationals, while the girls defeated Eden Morehead in a dual meet and also did well in the invitationals.

The Cross Country team has had three state championships but this is Coach Smith's first.

the girls were 5th in the State and 2nd in the Conference.

Coach Griffin graduated from Wake Forest, is now married and has one son. He started his teaching and coaching career at Oak Ridge, teaching physics and coaching baseball and basketball. To date, Griffin has also taught physics at Grimsley for the past eight years.

According to Griffin, more time is spent on coaching than teaching. He sometimes spends 20 hours a week on swimming alone, most of which is spent between 6 O'clock in the morning for an hour

and a half of practice, plus swim meets which are held once a week.

When asked if he would ever change sports, the answer was a flat no. "I have always enjoyed swimming, ever since I was little," says Griffin.

"Being a teacher and a coach at the same time does not conflict at all," says Griffin "Coaching tends to complement teaching, but teaching always comes first. If, for instance, a swimmer doesn't come to practice, I will probably see him sometime during the day."