

# HIGH LIFE

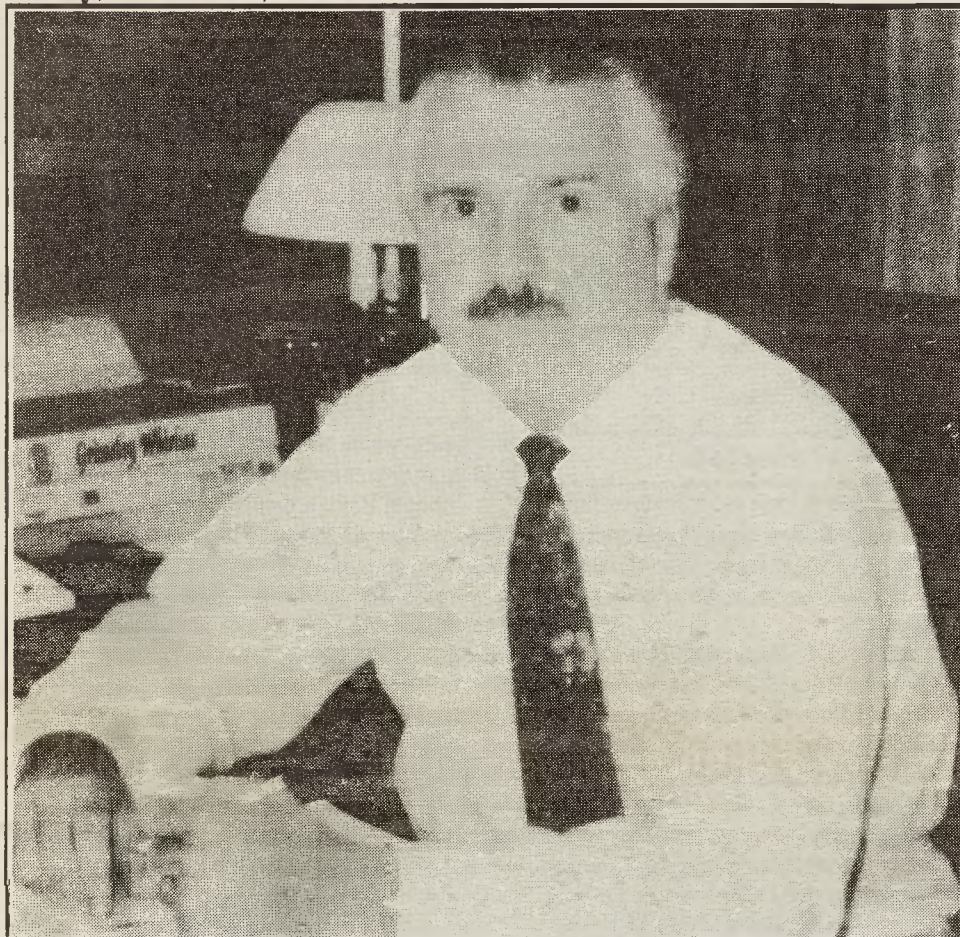
## GRIMSLEY HIGH SCHOOL



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GRIMSLEY HIGH LIFE

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Mr. Penland, the new man on campus.

## MR. PENLAND: The student, man, and principal

By Erin Murphy

As the new students must adjust to the new school year, so does the new principal, Mr. Penland. "I'm still adjusting and learning!" the principal said with a smile. However, Mr. Penland is no stranger to change.

With his family, Mr. Penland moved to Malaysia to teach science and math at a school for missionary children, international business children, and Malaysian children. He and his wife, a teacher of English as a second language, were under a contract with a mission group from their church. A year later, he became the principal of the school in Southeast Asia. He later became the director of the school, much like serving as a superintendent.

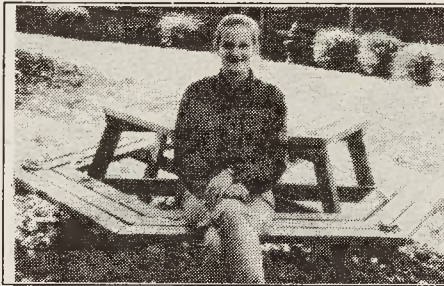
"The ten years in Malaysia, I wouldn't trade for anything," Mr. Penland said. "I learned about different cultures and exchange programs. Through my international experiences I have also seen how we are competing with the world."

In the principal's eyes, Grimsley is "a great place" and could be recognized nationally if it reached its potential. In high school, where problems of racism and violence may be present, Mr. Penland said, "They are products of society and do not belong on our campus. We have to teach by word and deed that civilized society does not tolerate such behaviors." Grimsley's competitive academic spirit and desire of parental involvement impress the new principal, as well as the way the faculty yearns to work as a team.

Today, October 29, 1993, the students at Grimsley are primarily thinking of what will become a memorable Homecoming Weekend. Mr. Penland recalls some of his homecoming memories at Asheville Reynolds High School by going back a "few" years- "I remember that we lost the game and there was freezing rain, but we had a good time." There are many other pleasant recollections of high school for Mr. Penland: he maintained an A/B average and was captain of the basketball team before going on to college at UNC-Asheville, Toccoa Falls College, and, later, the University of Georgia. In his first year of teaching in Georgia he taught science and math and coached basketball, areas in which he excelled as a student.

Presently Mr. Penland keeps active in his church, plays golf, enjoys his four children, and has done quite a bit of traveling. "I have been to every free country in Asia, to Europe, North America, and to South America twice for school visits." He recently finished his doctoral coursework at UNCG and is working on his dissertation on cross-cultural sensitivity. Mr. Penland has an interest in Grimsley's International Club and Human Relations Committee because, "We need to celebrate human diversity."

While Mr. Penland adjusts to his new assignment with the Whirlies he shares his philosophy openly. "I would like for Grimsley students to know that I care about them, I will try to be fair, I will try to help provide a good school climate for all to learn, and I will try to be an example to them that they can be proud of by being a life-long learner and caregiver."



Susan Evans and Mandy Fields take a break from their studies.



include Outward Bound experiences, internships with law enforcement agencies and national business corporations, as well as foreign travel. "These experiences involve learning from the real world, things I would never have the advantage of doing without a scholarship," Evans said.

Besides UNC-Chapel Hill, Evans is applying to Duke, Wake Forest, and William and Mary. While she is not sure of what career she will pursue, she wants to do something math oriented.

### FEATURED INSIDE:

Teacher Feature- GHS teachers reflect on their own high school years

pg. 3- Michael Jordan's early retirement

pg. 6 and 7- Homecoming photos

pg. 9- Men's soccer

pg.12- Halloween fashion

*Senior spotlight:*

*Morehead Nominees*

*Mandy Fields & Susan Evans*

By Rebecca Green

Studies have always been a top priority for Mandy Fields. Fields competes with the GHS swim team, is vice-president of the Speech and Debate Team, and is an active member of her church. Fields said it is her willingness to put the time and effort into her studies that has enabled her to stay at the top of her class. "I have always known I want to do something important that can truly help people. The best way to do this

is to get the best education possible," Fields said. She has always been interested in UNC-Chapel Hill. "I feel comfortable there, Carolina has a very diverse population," she said. As for the Morehead nomination, she feels "it is a valuable way to meet many different kinds of people." "I feel it is important to become acquainted with many different cultures, ideas, and opinions." Fields is also applying to Duke and Davidson College. She is interested in a career in law or surgical medicine.

Susan Evans is president of the Jayettes Service Club, Co-editor of the yearbook, and plays GHS varsity soccer. How has she managed to stay at the top? "It takes a lot of hard work, time, and effort," Evans said. Her motivation comes from herself and her parents. "I want to be the best I can be, and my parents are very supportive of me," she said.

Evans is most interested in the summer enrichment programs included in the Morehead Scholarship. These programs