

High Life

Grimsley High School

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Greensboro, NC 27408

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Out of the Blue

The following Grimsley students are National Merit **Semifinalists**: Ryan Robinson, Tommy Ross, Lindsey Schechter, and Carrie Traister. Grimsley students who finished as National Merit **Commended** are: Laura Arrington, Kim Bardy, Josh Bledsoe, Mike Dalton, April Jeffers, Will Medford, Jason Moff, Brian Moore, Halie Sage, Graham Sharp, Diana Shull, Jason Stipanov, Erin Wells, and Tina Wilkinson. Merit recognition is based on students' PSAT scores.

All athletes who plan to participate in Spring sports are required to have sports physicals **no later** than tomorrow, February 15.

Jamie Link has been recognized as a member of the 1993-1994 *U.S. Swimming Scholastic All-America Team*. The team is comprised of high school student-athletes who have a grade point average of 3.5 or higher and who have competed in the senior or junior nationals.

Wan Park, a Grimsley junior, was named assistant principal cellist for the 1994 **North Carolina All-State Honors Orchestra**, November 11-13 in Winston-Salem. The 116 piece Honors Orchestra represents the top players from both the Western and Eastern Regional High School Honors Orchestras, selected last spring.

Art Gold Key Awards were given to five Grimsley students: Michael Duehring, Danielle Johnson, James Nickerson, Nicholas Fragola, Mac Newell.

GHS finished **first** among Guilford County Schools and **second** out of 38 North Carolina schools competing in the International Knowledge Master Tournament. Grimsley was second only to the School of Science and Math. Members of this year's team include: Lindsey Schechter, Diana Shull, Jason Moff, April Jeffers, Mike Dalton, Joe Murphy, Patrick Kinlaw, Anna DeCasper, Hester DeCasper, Irina Bochkis, Keith Taylor, Maia Kaplan, John Mark Pool, and James Khanlarian.

Where there's smoke, there's controversy

By Sarah Pendergraft
Reporter

"The prohibition of smoking on school grounds generally applies to only one population, the students. Others, faculty and staff are allowed to smoke publicly in designated areas. Thus, the school as an institution is placed... in conflict with notions of equality," says the Surgeon General in his 1976 report, *Smoking and Health*.

Not anymore.

On December 27, 1994, it became illegal for anyone to smoke in any elementary, middle, or high school, or library that serves children. This is the "Pro-Children Act of 1994," part of President Clinton's "Goals 2000."

This federal law applies at all times, not just during school hours, and includes all federally funded day care programs. Violators may be fined up to \$1000.

In a recent interview with the *High Life*, Congressman Howard Coble expressed his distaste for the new regulation. "I am opposed to any law that restricts willing adults from consuming tobacco... Once a person attains his or her majority (becomes an adult) it is up to the individual whether he or she consumes tobacco products." He does not, however, support student smoking.

"The new policy is a good one. I have no sympathy with addicts who cannot cope with nicotine withdrawal for eight hours!" said one Grimsley teacher, speaking in the safety of anonymity.

Others disagree. "It destroys the morale of teachers and causes excess stress," said

another teacher.

"The motivation behind this is administrators with nothing better to do, and over concern with being politically correct. I question the validity of studies on the effects of second-hand smoke. I am afraid this is another government intrusion in people's lives," said one teacher.

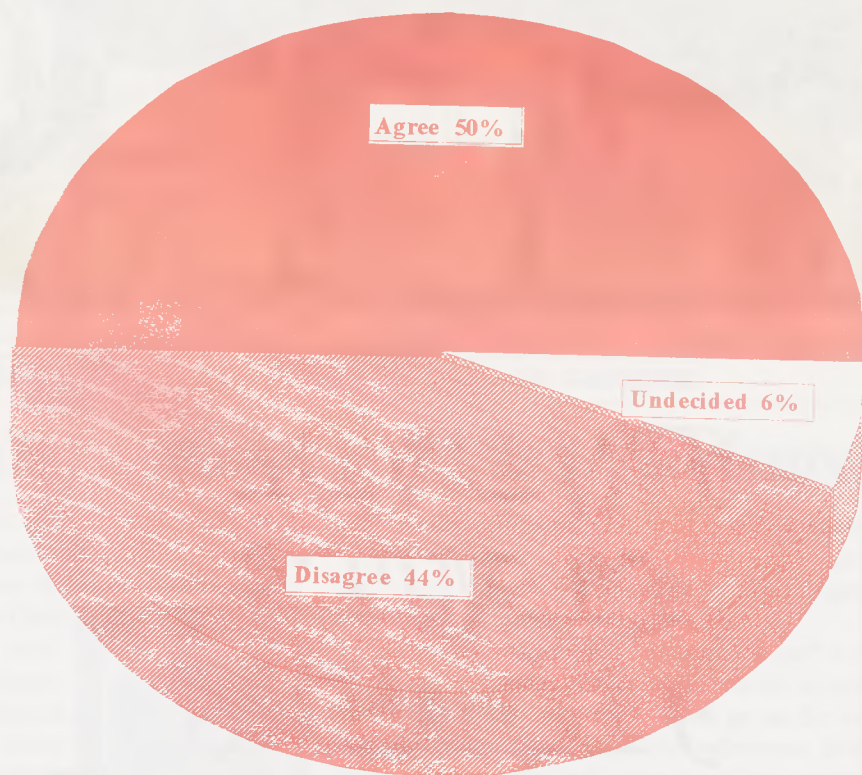
"All of a sudden lung cancer has become an epidemic. Why? Anyone who doesn't believe that smoke, first or second hand, is dangerous is a big, fat fool," said another

member of Grimsley's staff.

"The law will have both positive and negative effects - the nonsmokers can breathe a sigh of relief and stop complaining - the smokers now have more stress to deal with. The administrators who enforce the policy will have to decide which is more important, catching teachers who smoke or working to improve education, discipline, and attendance," commented a teacher.

Students also have mixed viewpoints.

Teacher Response to Regulations



Members of the 1995 TWIRP court: Ryan Robinson, Mac Newell, Kenneth Miller, Tommy Ross, Zakim Williams, Adam Barisich, Ezra Jones, Billy Linnane, Seth Cross, David Bass, and Chad Kraska. Please see the accompanying TWIRP article on page 8.

"I think that this is a great idea. We can't smoke so they shouldn't (either)," said Elizabeth Baynard, a sophomore.

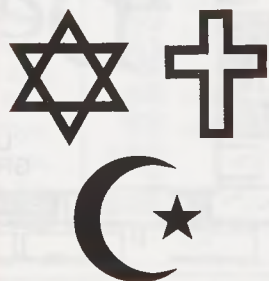
"People make their own decisions," said sophomore Jessie Grandon. "It's not fair to regulate adults so much that they have the same rules as students."

All of the students that spoke with the *High Life* expressed doubts about the effectiveness of this new law. "If the students don't obey the regulations (about smoking on campus), the teachers will see no reason for them to," said Alec Ferrel, a junior.

To date, there has been only one report of adult smoking on campus in 1995. Although the bathroom smoker was never identified, our sources suggest that the culprit was a parent volunteer, unaware of the new law.

However, some faculty at Grimsley feel that more is going on than most are aware of. "A negative effect (from the law) is seen in the fact that school personnel addicted to nicotine are now sneaking smokes in restrooms on campus, thus polluting the air of non-smokers."

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