

# Senior Reflections...

## Student Body President

Mark Robinson

Thirteen years ago I was waiting at the bus stop to go to Peeler Elementary School's kindergarten class one early Friday morning in the fall, when a station wagon zoomed by me with people hanging out the window. Their faces were painted blue and white and homemade flags with Whirlies hung from the antenna. These students were on their way to school on the day of the Grimsley-Page football game. I remember turning to little Timmy and saying, "I can't wait to go to high school."

The wait was definitely worth it. Grimsley has been everything I expected and much, much more. Grimsley's excellence can't be summed up in one word; rather, it's our school's wide range of attributes that make it a superior school.

The diversity of people on our campus is one of the many things that make Grimsley so great. Sure we have all the "Saved by the Bell" stereotype students like the nerds, the jocks, the air heads, and maybe even one or two Zack Morris here and there. The thing that separates Grimsley from Bayside besides the fact that we don't have a burger joint owned by a magician, is the way our students intermingle. On the weekends you can see all types of

students together at parties, movies or just driving around looking for something to do. In class we are forced to be with people from other races, religions, and even countries, but it is special to see all of these people together outside of class.

I'm going to miss all the little things that I used to take for granted. Like getting to school early to talk to my friends in the parking lot, cheering along with the rest of the students at pep rallies, going to the beach for spring break, eating lunch in the grove, and Friday nights in the fall. Who will be able to tell their kids about high school without mentioning the Grimsley-Page game? "We never won," you'll tell them, "but we always had a good time," and with the game come the memories of caravans, spirit days, painted cars, and the perfect prank that you would have gotten away with if it weren't for those mangy kids and their dog.

All of our teachers and coaches have taught us something, whether it was the value of  $x$  in an equation or how to write a haiku. Although we will not always remember the different parts of the cell, we will always remember the valuable morals that teachers taught. These are the lessons that prepare us for life.

However, it was not just teachers and coaches that taught me important

lessons. Other students have been my most valuable teachers. Student council taught me how to cooperate and communicate with others. We all had different opinions, but we put them together to get the best solution. Being a part of the *High Life* has expanded

After having a 2-9 season my junior year, a group of rising seniors met and decided we needed to make a stronger commitment towards football. We all worked harder and it paid off. We went 7-5 this year and made a trip to the state 4-A playoffs for the first time since 1991. The guys on the football team also taught one very important lesson... how to eat. Before I played football, I ate at many of the "normal" restaurants, but now I am on a first name basis with most of the waitresses at Panda Inn, Quincy's, Pizza Hut, Golden Corral and all the other all-you-can-eat buffets in town. I not only learned from my teammates, fellow reporters and officers, but from my other friends as well. Loyalty, trust and friends you can depend on will be re-



Whirligig photo

my knowledge. The paper tries to be a reflection of the student body, and I've learned a lot by reporting your interests. In football, my teammates taught me several things. First of all, they taught me that hard work does pay off.

membered long after graduation.

Time has passed very quickly since that day at the bus stop. Ferris Bueller said it best on his day off: "Life moves pretty quick. If you don't stop and look around you might miss something."

## ... four years as a Whirlie

### Senior Class President

Cori Stevens

I guess there is one way to describe my four years at Grimsley: Time flies when you're having fun! As graduation approaches I ask myself, as I am sure all you other seniors have, "Where have these four years gone?" It saddens me to think that I am leaving behind a place of security, familiar faces, and treasured memories. A place "where everybody knows your name."

My senior year has been everything expected and more. How do you explain to people what it is like to be involved in such a high spirited atmosphere as Grimsley/ Page week? A week where making fools out of ourselves expressed our Whirlie Pride. Or the feeling of chanting, "SENIORS! SENIORS!" to intimidated freshmen as they sit in the nosebleed sections of the auditorium.

Grimsley is in a class of its own when it comes to its reputation as a

school. Whether it's our academic team winning the High I.Q. Bowl, our Madrigals performing at Carnegie Hall, or our athletic teams competing for a state championship, Grimsley has proven its superiority as one of the top schools in the state. When people ask



Whirligig photo

me where I attend high school, I am always proud and honored to say Grimsley, as it speaks for itself.

Another thing that makes Grimsley

unique is its diversity. You can learn so much by opening yourself to others and allowing them to teach you about their backgrounds, ethnicities, and values. I have learned to respect people for who they are, not what they wear, or what race or religion they are. This aspect of Grimsley has prepared me for my future, especially as I go off to college.

I can honestly say that I am happy with my high school career. I was involved with sports, student council, and various clubs, which have made memories that will remind me of my high school years for the rest of my life.

My advice to underclassmen: Take advantage of the opportunities given. Give that extra effort on a project, stay after school to meet with a teacher, attend that club meeting that you were hesitant about, or even try out for that athletic team that you were unsure of. Take chances to meet new people and become involved in the activities offered at Grimsley because those are things that you will remember most about high school. High school comes around once in a lifetime and before you know it, your four years will be over. Don't be the one to say, "I should

have done this..." Go out and experience life to its fullest. It's great, I'm telling you, because I've been there. But now it's over and I'm moving on.

I am closing another chapter in my book of life, but at the same time I am opening a new

one. Starting all over again, back to being a freshman, back to the insecurity of new people, new faces, and new places. I guess what makes it so hard is the fact that these great times have enabled me to form a bond with the school itself, which will be difficult to leave behind.

I would like to thank Grimsley as a school for allowing me the chance to meet wonderful people, learn from diversity, receive a great education, and make the greatest memories that I will take with me forever. A special thanks to all the members of my senior class, who have been with me from the beginning, and who will finish, together with me as the Class of 1998!

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-Cori Stevens