

# High Life

Grimsley High School

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Greensboro, NC 27408

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Out of the  
Blue

The Grimsley JROTC, or "Whirlie" Battalion received notification from their headquarters in Fort Bragg, NC on September 3, 1998, of their designation as "Honor Unit with Distinction" for the 1998-1999 school year. The Department of the Army presents this award to the JROTC unit that demonstrates an exceptionally high standard of performance. The "Whirlie" Battalion will receive permanent orders, gold stars for their uniforms, and LTC Lazelle E. Free and Sergeant Major Rick Dunlap, the army instructors, will be presented with a certificate.

Two of Grimsley's faculty received awards for the 1997-1998 school year. The Central District Bandmasters Association named Mr. Munden, Grimsley's band director, the 1998 recipient of the Award of Excellence. Mrs. Cea has been selected as the North Carolina 1998 Outstanding Biology Teacher.

Graduate student Timothy Wall is trying to start a speech and debate club at Grimsley. He has encouraged Ms. Edwards' speech class to join and is willing to pay all of the dues out of his own pocket. Information about the club is available in room 624 above the cafeteria.

1998 will be Grimsley's fourth year of participation in the IB program. This year, 17 seniors are currently in their second year of working towards the diploma, while 23 juniors are beginning their first year.

## Counseling delivers diplomas

By Meredith Lemon  
Reporter

On Sunday, June seventh, the capped and gowned senior Whirlies of 1998 prepared to walk across the stage of the known, and into the unknown world ahead of them; but wherever they would go, they all left together.

Last year, for the first time in many, the entire senior class had the honor of receiving the diploma that they had worked so hard for the past

four years to obtain. Mrs. Teague, counselors, parents, and the students themselves made all of this possible by an extreme, collaborative effort.

Though some did not get to walk across the stage last June with the rest of their class, several were able to earn the needed credits during summer sessions. This extra time allowed them to receive their diploma, and to graduate as a complete class of 238 students; the same number with which they began their senior year.

Mrs. Teague says, "There was no

secret to the success of last year's class. The biggest difference was that there were more of us involved." The staff made several changes that helped the seniors along during the year and provided them with any needed support or counseling. Mrs. Teague assigned each senior a specific counselor to attend to his/her needs and answer his/her questions. "If you have someone to go to, who is there to help, you are more apt to go for help. This is what we tried to establish. We are there for you, as administrators to students," says Mrs.

Though the seniors' principal did not start out the year with such ends in sight, she was nonetheless impressed. Last year's success is merely a by-product, rather than a consequence of the increased support of the graduating students. "I think that the amount of support provided to the upperclassmen now is terrific. It can only help us," says Elizabeth Bullard, a junior.

Mrs. Teague spent her first year at Grimsley learning the ropes, but last year she had already settled into the routine and could focus on her main job

as the senior principal and administrator. Until that point, there had never been just one person who had worked with only seniors. "I think it's



Lamar Chiles revels in the glory of graduation on June seventh, 1998 at the Greensboro Coliseum.

Teague.

Besides the counselors, parents also got involved to assure the success of their child. The staff held many meetings with parents, counselor, principal, and student to discuss the academic standing of the senior. If necessary, Mrs. Teague provided sessions on Saturday so the scholar could make up any time needed to earn credits. "Any and all effort was made to ensure the success of the student," says Mrs. Teague.

great that Mrs. Teague is devoting her time to us (seniors). It shows that she really cares about the graduating class," said Kevin Hough, a senior.

Although, she would like to see 100 percent of this year's class graduate, this was not what she had in mind when she developed her senior support plan. "My goal was not for everyone to graduate," she says, "but for everyone to have an advocate and someone on his or her side. It just happened to work out great."

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