

High Life

Grimsley High School

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Greensboro, NC 27408

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Out of the
Blue

The Junior ROTC Drill Team earned two trophies at the Lee County Drill Meet in Sanford, North Carolina. While competing against 26 other ROTC units from North Carolina, the cadets won first place for Drill (marching) and second place for Individual Drill (with a rifle). Calling commands for the drill events were Cadet Second Lieutenants Johnny Rivera, Ervina Scales, and Erin White.

Grimsley students Lauren Webster, Anya Russian, and Mary Kristen Kelly will perform in the Greensboro Ballet's annual performance of "The Nutcracker" on December 11, 12, and 13. Russian, a sophomore, will dance the lead role of Clara. The Grimsley Women's Advanced Chorus will accompany the Greensboro Symphony Orchestra during the Snow Scene.

Whirlie battalion cadets defeated the Page Pirate Navy Junior ROTC during the first annual basketball game. Grimsley Cadet Marcus Gause was selected as the MVP for the game. All players will receive a JROTC Athletic Ribbon for their participation.

Seniors Lisa Guttentag and Jeff Moseley were nominated from Grimsley to compete for the prestigious Morehead Scholarship to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. The Guilford County Morehead Selection Committee selected both students to advance from the local to the regional level where the committee will interview them on December 11.

The National Honors Society (NHS) inducted 19 new senior members, who were voted on by a board of Grimsley teachers, on Friday, December 6. NHS will induct more junior members in the spring of 1999.

Drivers' education takes on new meaning

By Meredith Lemon & Nicole Rozelman
Reporters

It's time for Grimsley students to grab their books and drop their keys or prepare to spend a semester without their licenses.

A new bill passed on August 1, requires that any student who fails to pass at least 70 percent of his or her classes may not obtain or use a driver's license from North Carolina. However, high school students who received their licenses before December 1, 1997 are exempt from these requirements. The law also states that a student must be enrolled in and attending a school to earn a license. A student who drops out of high school will have his license revoked by the Department of Motor Vehicles (D.M.V.).

In addition, if a student driver gets in an accident, or receives a speeding ticket, they will be unable to obtain their unrestricted license until they reach the age of 18. Student Resource Officer Robinette says, "The most important thing to remember, regardless of the D.M.V.'s policies, is that in North Carolina, driving is a privilege, not a right. It can easily be taken away."

Any student under the age of 18 must obtain a Driving Eligibility Certificate, that must be signed by a parent and the school, to receive a driving permit or license. The student can acquire this document from the school's vice-principal. The certificate states that the student is passing 70 percent of his classes. This means that for a Grimsley student to maintain his license, he must pass at least four of his six classes. Also, any high school graduate who wishes to obtain a permit or license

must present a diploma in place of the Driving Eligibility Certificate.

Every school in Guilford County is in direct contact with the D.M.V. through E-mail so that they can notify one another of students who fail to meet these new standards. The D.M.V. is responsible for revoking licenses, and an appeals process will be implemented in which the D.M.V. will review certain cases. Under special circumstances, the D.M.V. can choose to return the student's license.

After a student returns to school or improves his grades after one semester without driving privileges, he is eligible to renew the license, but only if he obtains another Eligibility Certificate from the vice-principal. The legislators expect to reduce the high school drop-out rate significantly and

example, you won't be able to drive to get there." Matt Hunter, also a junior,



Senior Silvia Bombardieri and freshman Jackie Gallagher must maintain good grades in order to receive their licenses.

to motivate students to succeed in their school work. The legislators believe that driving is a privilege that comes with a great deal of responsibility. Mrs. Teague says, "Responsibility for passing course work is in the students' hands, and this is the one direct action taken by the state to enforce this."

Students hold varying opinions on the new law. Annie Phillips, a junior, says, "This isn't a good policy for many kids struggling in school because if you need tutoring, for

says, "This policy doesn't make much sense. Driving should not have anything to do with how well you do in school." While Tom Wilkinson, a freshman, says, "This is a wonderful idea because it will give students an incentive for good grades."

Although this new law is supposed to encourage North Carolina's students to improve their standards, it easily raises opposition. Zach Wineburg, a senior, says, "If they take away students' licenses, what will their next move be? Will the administrators take away school lunches because food may be a distraction from education?"

"The most important thing to remember is that driving is a privilege, not a right. It can easily be taken away."

-Officer Robinette

Featured
Inside

The
name
game

page 2

★
Horoscopes
★ ★

page 6

Men's
basketball
hoops it up

page 7