

Locker squeeze takes toll

By Dirk Lankford
Reporter

Carrying around an unduly heavy backpack was not what students had in mind upon their return to school. The shortage of lockers is the reason for this arduous situation.

Some Grimsley High School students face this obstacle everyday. "Grimsley is a great school but due to frustration caused by lack of lockers...it is easy to lose sight of the greatness," said Ilana Marks, a sophomore. Marks is one of several students who has been disappointed by the scarcity of lockers around Grimsley.

Students have weighed their backpacks and some exceed 45 pounds. For some students, this is weight is one-third or even half of their total body weight, and it is hard to survive this weight without a locker.

Mr. Overby, our school's student support specialist,

said, "Our maintenance crew is supposed to go around to all the lockers and get the correct combination for them, but until then we are doing the best we can."

A large majority of homerooms have disproportionate student/locker ratios. Mrs. Humbard's sophomore homeroom has 25 kids while only 22 lockers. Senior homerooms are arguably the worst. Some homerooms are as bad as 27 students to six lockers.

"There are just not enough lockers, period. Our school has about half the lockers we need," said Mr. Overby. In addition, lockers weren't checked over the summer by the maintenance department, so some lockers will not even open. "I don't know, hopefully our maintenance department can work on this problem and fix the situation," said Mr. Overby. The majority of the students implied they didn't know what they would

do without their locker. "I can't imagine having to carry all my books around. School would be very tough without my locker," said Matt Guttentag, a sophomore. Overall, freshman and sophomores have the least severe locker situation. Most of these homerooms have an adequate supply of lockers. Most juniors seem to be satisfied with their locker space. Seniors, however, are a different story. On the first floor of the Main Building, most seniors find themselves four to a locker.

Alternative sites have been suggested for lockers. For example, rolling backpacks and sharing lockers with friends are lengths students have gone to and will continue to take in order to find shelter for their books.

"I'm just glad to have a spot to keep my stuff," said Guttentag. Most students feel the same, but for those students who don't have lockers, any place will do.

Lights go up on film study club

By Tim Norton
Reporter

After a long day of reading, writing, and arithmetic, sometimes the most appealing idea is to sit down, relax, and watch a good movie.

Thanks to the leadership of Emily Sinks and Lauren Oliver, both seniors, and the support of Mr. Ralston, the sponsor of the club, the film study club meets and watches movies after school. Sinks, co-founder of the club, said, "The club is a good chance for people to critique classic films." That is exactly what the club is all about.

At the beginning of a meeting, Sinks and Oliver pass out information sheets to everyone so they will have an understanding of certain aspects of the film before it starts. These sheets contain information such as the director, lead actors of the film, pertinent information of the film, and minor flaws in the plot or setting. After they pass out the information, the members discuss

it and start the film.

Sinks and Oliver show a whole film and discuss it with the group. In some cases, longer films will be shown over a two-week period. If membership in the club is high enough, the film club society might take an occasional field trip to local theaters to view current and classic films.

"I have a passion for good, classical films. I would love to share them with the population."

-Lauren Oliver,
senior

Some of the films that the club will watch this year are "Apocalypse Now," "Bedazzled," "Otto e Mezzo (8 1/2)," "2001: A Space Odyssey," "Lawrence of Arabia," "Blade Runner," "Das

Boot," and "Citizen Kane".

Although many view the film industry as primarily entertainment, Sinks said she founded the club for the "enhancement of culture." Sinks and Oliver also started the club because there are no other clubs like it at Grimsley. Oliver, the other founder of the club, said, "I have a passion for good, classic films. I would like to share them with the population."

Sinks is very interested in the study of film. "I really love film and I want to be a director," she said. Oliver also has ambitions to be a director in the film industry.

Whether it is an intellectual journey into the political theories of Ayn Rand or a comedic frolic with the age old plot involving the sale of a human soul to the devil for seven wishes, there is always something interesting to discover in the world of the film industry. With Oliver and Sinks leading, the film study club will study all: the old, the new, the dramatic, and the comedic.

New dress code says 'one size fits all'

By Lauren Marker
Reporter

"Clothing or any items worn on clothing containing suggestive or profane signs, pictures, or language will be considered inappropriate, as well as short shorts. No head scarves or bare back shirts are to be worn during the school day. No tank tops or cut off tops that expose the mid-portion of the body are permitted..."

The above quote is an excerpt from page 43 of the Grimsley High School Student-Parent Handbook for the 2000-2001 school year. While many have disregarded Grimsley's dress code in years past, the harsher crack down on appropriate attire has made many take notice.

The handbook also states, "In the event that students come to school dressed in a manner that tends to create disruption, the administration reserves the right to send him/her home to change into more appropriate attire." This absence from class is considered a Category 2. According to Ms. Green, the administration is giving out "Safe and Sober Prom Night" T-shirts so students won't have to go home and change.

Some people have been surprised by the scrutiny of seemingly non-revealing tank tops. Technically, tank tops have not been allowed in school for years but people have worn them anyway.

"During the summer, girls wear tank tops and it's ridiculous for the administration to expect us to buy entirely new wardrobes for school. It's too hot to wear T-shirts everyday," said Molly Chadbourne, a sophomore. Maital Guttman, a senior, said, "Tank tops are definitely appropriate. They cover everything that should be covered. In such

a hot school, it is unfair not to allow us to wear tank tops. Last time I checked, shoulders are not inappropriate."

According to Ms. Green, the handbook uses a one-size-fits-all approach. By saying that people cannot wear tank tops at all, it limits the extremes that people can take tank tops to, like bare back shirts.

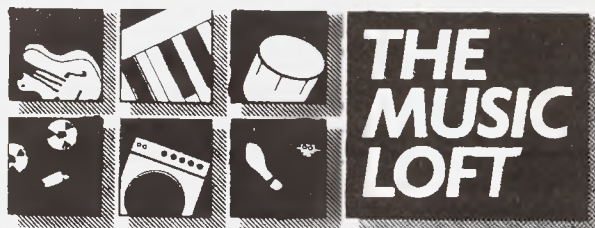
Another blanket approach that the handbook uses pertains to the issue of short shorts. How short is too short? Common sense should be sufficient enough as to what is appropriate, lengthwise, according

"...if you are not paying attention in class because of what someone else is wearing, it's your fault. You shouldn't be obsessing about what others are wearing."

-Nicole Washington,
junior

to Ms. Green. Certain measurements of certain types of clothing are too much to deal with, so the administration says "No" to all short shorts.

However, this "one-size-fits-all" approach does not work for everyone. Some feel that it is not a school's place to say what one can and cannot wear. Nicole Washington, a junior, said, "If your mother or father lets you out of the house wearing whatever it is that you have on, no one at school should have the right to tell you to go home and change. Personally, I think if you are not paying attention in class because of what someone else is wearing, it's your fault. You shouldn't be at school obsessing about what others are wearing."



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Seniors Lauren Oliver and Emily Sinks, co-founders of the film club, discuss a film that they have just watched. Both Oliver and Sinks aspire to a career in the film industry.