

High Life

Volume 77 No. 2

Grimsley High School
801 Westover Terrace
Greensboro, NC 27408

Friday, October 27, 2000

Presidential debate has impact on local students

By McKenzie Clark
Reporter

On Wednesday October 11th, 2000, the second presidential debate was held at Wake Forest University.

Gore arrived at 2:55 p.m., an hour late, at the Smith-Reynolds Airport in Winston-Salem. Shaking hands with local Dignitaries, Politicians, and Homecoming Queens and posing for pictures, Gore made his way to his limousine. Many well-known local journalists from stations such as Fox 8 and News Channel 12 were there to greet the Vice-President, and NBC provided national coverage for the event.

Before the debate, the Quad was filled with students, most of who were very conservative. Around the Quad was a creatively decorated dormitory that had "Debate 2000" written in Christmas lights on the windows. Dorms were also adorned with either Bush/Cheney signs of Gore/Lieberman signs, which had been mutilated to say Gore/Lie.

As the Debate time approached, many people were go-

ing to extreme measures to get into the Debate. Secret Service and local police arrested a newswoman and when she burst through the security checkpoint. She said she was invited to the Debate, when she was detained, she began to cry hysterically.

A Secret Service agent explained that since the woman had no identification, she very well could have been a threat to the safety of the candidates and those there to witness the debate, which included not only the visitors in the chapel, but the numerous students and media, both local and national, on the Quad.

The agent also said, "The Secret Service began protecting the presidential candidates after the assassination of Robert Kennedy."

Not much else happened on the Quad except a sighting of George Stephanopolos and a hurried conversation with NC senator, John Edwards. As it neared nine, people began retiring to their respective areas to watch the debate, including Brendle Recital Hall where a live feed of the debates of the De-

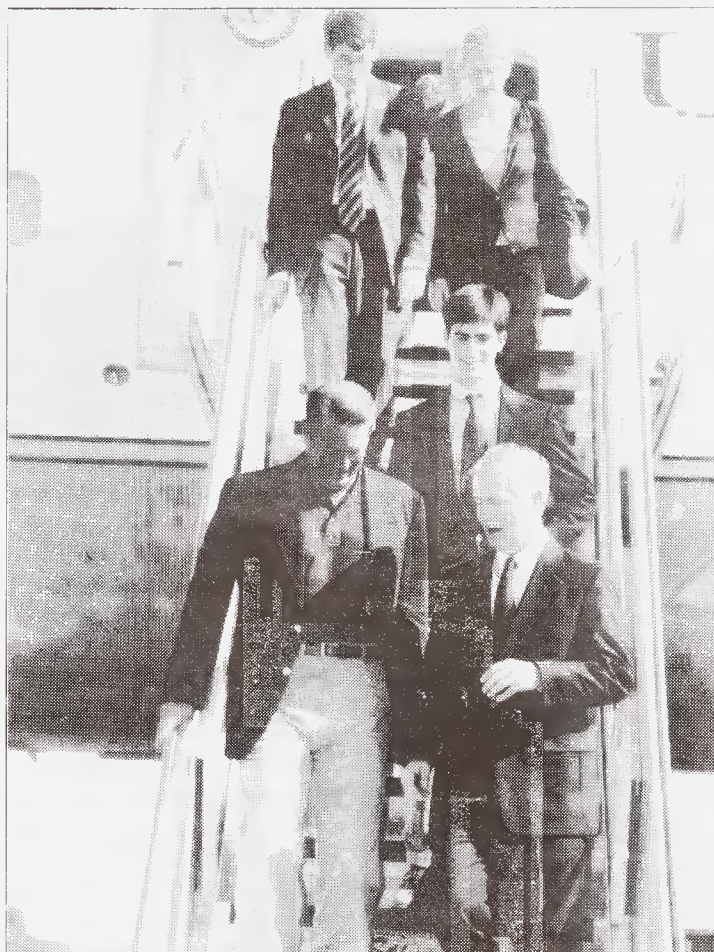
bate was shown.

Many thought that the tempo of the debate wasn't very typical. Others found it very entertaining, listening to the candidates and figuring out where they differed on the issues.

The popular opinion seemed to be that the Wake Forest Debate was similar to the Boston Debate. Some said that George Bush came off as a person who doesn't pay attention and has no knowledge of national or international policy, and Al Gore appeared to feel he needed to prove just how much smarter he was than Bush.

After the Debate ended, many of the Wake Forest visitors went to the after-party at the Winston-Salem Coliseum where Vice-President Gore made a short speech after Sen. John Edwards, Governor Jim Hunt and Rep. Watt all introduced the Vice President.

The coliseum was crammed with an ecstatic crowd cheering on their candidate. With banners and streamers waving in all directions, the people of Winston-Salem gave the Vice President one last wave good-bye and wished him luck in the weeks ahead.



Clark photo
Vice President Al Gore arrives at Reynolds Airport in Winston-Salem. He came to North Carolina for the presidential debate held at Wake Forest University.

Spirit presides over vandalism

By Dirk Lankford
Reporter

The rivalry between Grimsley and Page is an old one, as are the pranks and vandalism that occurs the week of the game. It happens every year, some years worse than others. How did this year measure up?

According to Officer Robinette, the vandalism was about the same as last year. It was a bit more severe the night of the bonfire only because there was no school the following day. "The positive thing we're seeing is that there isn't as much damage being done to property. There was not as much spray painting. There was not as much trespassing, but we're still getting a lot of citizen complaints about egg throwing," Officer Robinette said.

Kelly Dassow, a junior, said, "I think there was less unfixable vandalism but there was more conflict in general."

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Earp photo
Page's anchor, which sits near the entrance to the school, was completely cemented to the ground. The degree of damage done to each school and surrounding neighborhoods has decreased considerably within the past few years, however.

SAT scores climb

By Kate Boylan
Reporter

Last year, all across Guilford County, students headed into schools equipped with number two pencils, calculators, and nervous thoughts. Despite the nervousness, last year Guilford County's SAT scores rose, as did the number of students taking the SAT's.

The 2000 school year saw the Guilford County School district's SAT scores rise seven points from 1999. There was improvement seen in the county's average scores, and the county's average score of 999 beat the state average by 11 points.

The SAT is a test that most high school seniors and juniors take. The test is divided into two portions, math and verbal. The maximum score for both the math and the verbal section is 800 making a possible combined score of 1600. Both math and verbal have various sections and an allotted amount of time for each section.

tion.

Guilford County's average overall score rose and according to Superintendent Terry Grier, the average verbal score was up one point from last year, and the average math score was up six points.

Improvement not only went up in the scores of Guilford County students but also in the number of students taking the SAT. Throughout the 1999-2000 school year 74.6% of senior students graduating from Guilford County took the SAT's, while the 1998-1999 school year saw only 71.9% taking the SAT's. Here at Grimsley 91% of the graduating class of 1999 took the SAT's. Despite trailing the national averages, local schools are seeing great improvement at very high rates.

The SAT test is widely used by colleges as the standardized college admission test. Many students when applying for colleges find that the admissions board concentrates as much on their SAT scores as their grades.

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