

# Former teacher's memory leaves legacy behind

**By Dirk Lankford**  
*Reporter*

"She wanted the gold in her teeth melted down, and the money from them donated to the school."

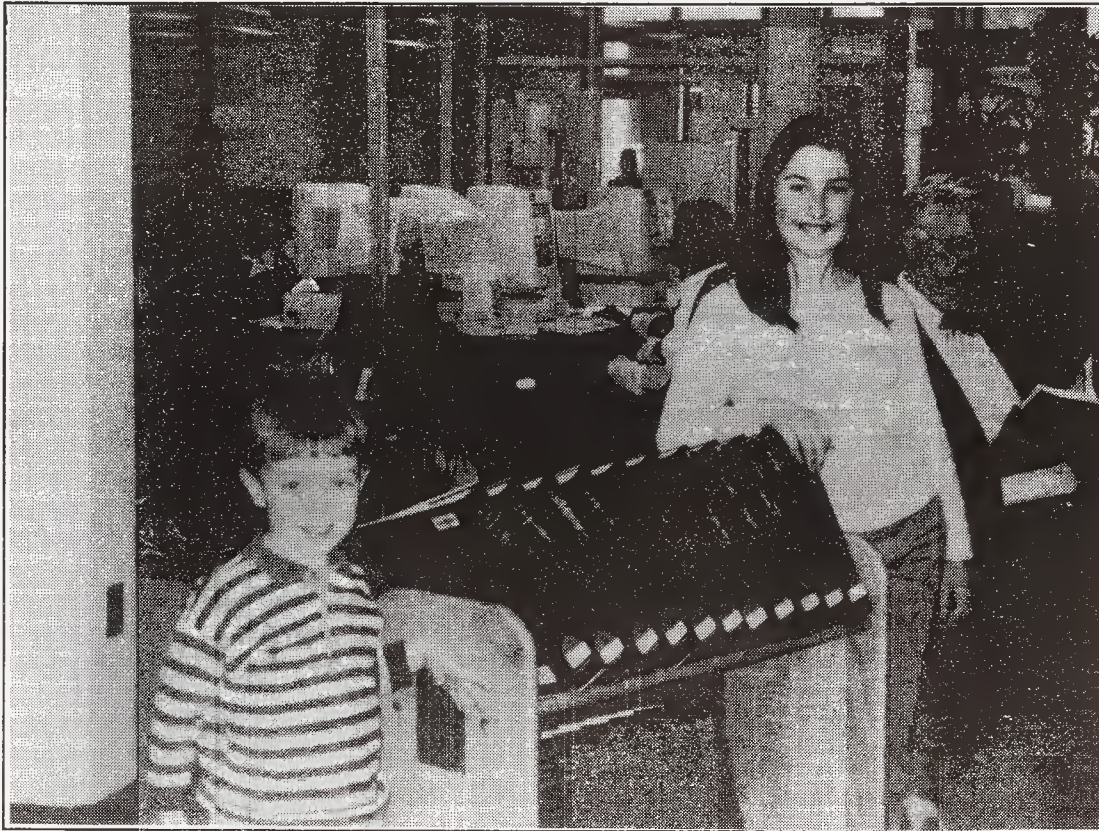
According to Ms. Edwards, an English teacher, this was a request from Mrs. Mary Frances Hazelman, a dedicated teacher of 46 years who died last fall, but has a legacy that continues to live.

At this moment, her legacy is reflected in a full set of Oxford Dictionaries.

"The idea of the Oxford Dictionaries was thought of by Kate Cummings [a media specialist]. They were perfect for a lady who loved teaching and loved words," said Ms. Edwards.

Cake and ice cream were in full effect and the Media Center was very alive. Young and old mixed as one, and the voices filled the room up with a musical happiness rare to most school campuses. They weren't here to cry; they were here to celebrate the life of a great woman, Mrs. Hazelman, and remember everything she gave to her peers and students.

Mrs. Hazelman started teaching at Lindley Junior High, and then moved to teach at Kiser Junior High. When it was decided that the 9<sup>th</sup> grade would be placed at the high school level, she decided to go along, and taught at



*Kidd photo*

**Patrick and Caroline Hazelman, grandchildren of the late Mary Frances Hazelman, stand proud beside the complete set of Oxford Dictionaries. The dictionaries were donated to the Grimsley Media Center in memory of Mrs. Hazelman.**

Grimsley. However, she only taught one year here before she retired.

"She asked me if she should go over with the 9<sup>th</sup> grade, and I told her yes. In Jr. High, [the 9<sup>th</sup> graders] are at the top and act wild, but in high school, [the 9<sup>th</sup> graders] are at the bottom and feel a little different, more mature.

That's why I thought she should go," said Mr. Hazelman.

Mr. Hazelman has an intimate connection with Grimsley as well, being the band director for 42 years. He also wrote the words and music to Grimsley's "Alma Mater"

"I only left for a few years when I was in the Navy during

World War II, to go defend democracy and Chiquita bananas," said Mr. Hazelman.

A small girl with a mischievous look, one of untainted childhood bliss, interrupts Mr. Hazelman. It is fitting for the occasion. She is his granddaughter.

He starts up again. "She was the most popular teacher of an

academic subject because she didn't treat teens as below her, she treated them as peers, and they responded to that. She had a great sense of humor, which is very important to kids. That's why she was so good," said Mr. Hazelman.

"When I started at Kiser, I was a long haired hippie and the first divorcee on the staff. She took me under her wing and helped me. She was the best teacher," said Ms. Edwards.

Many people would agree with Mr. Hazelman's assessment of the situation. The first year the McNutt award for best teacher was given, Mrs. Hazelman won it. The next year, an award was named after Ben L. Smith, who Smith High School was named after, and Mrs. Hazelman won that award as well.

"She was the top teacher in Greensboro, probably even in Guilford County. She knew everyone and everyone knew her," said Mrs. Edwards.

"The person who won it the year after her was second best. She was first," said Mr. Hazelman.

Her influence spreads far past the realm of education. A famous Los Angeles Disc-Jockey, Rick Dees, is a graduate of Grimsley High School and can you guess who his favorite teacher is? If you

*Continued on page 2*

# Indian earthquake devastates country, world

**By Dirk Lankford**  
*Reporter*

Imagine 10 Grimsleys, filled to the brim with students, and these students wiped off the face of the earth, forever. Sadly, this death toll has been reached in India, with over 20,000 people dead as a result of the earthquake.

The search for survivors continues, but no one is hopeful.

The reason for their pessimistic outlook is because time is running out and reality is setting in. Rescue teams are recovering more corpses than survivors. Even if a person

can survive the tremendous weight of the rubble, he will likely die of thirst.

However, there are some stories of inspiration. One woman was found over 2 days after the earthquake occurred. She was rushed to a nearby hospital and managed to recover.

People and supplies have arrived from around the world to aid these victims. In Indian provinces not hit as badly, the people are flocking to give blood to be sent to hospitals, in an effort to handle their overflowing capacity of injured people.

The earthquake was a 7.9 on the rictor scale. This is a mammoth sized quake, in earthquake lingo, it's like a terrorist action, no one ever thinks it will happen and when it does, the aftermath is prodigious.

Emergency officials in India say this is the worst disaster in 50 years.

The Indian state of Gujarat was the worst hit.

Thousands of villagers have been left homeless by the earthquake. Indian officials have instated a program in which homeless villagers will be given food in exchange for helping the reconstruction ef-

fort.

"After one more round of free grain distribution, there will be a food-for-work program," said Gujarat state official P.K. Lahiri. "For now, the people are dazed since their trauma was so enormous."

One major concern is that neighboring states will be flooded with masses of homeless immigrants. This could spread the economic burden caused by the quake outside the immediate disaster area.

Fortunately, there have been no outbreaks of disease.

"There is always a risk unless

you do something about it early, and it looks like government agencies have been doing that," said Mr. Lahiri.

The Red Cross says it expects relief for the state of Gujarat to last three months to a year.

For now, there is nothing to do for the victims of this horrible disaster. Governments around the world are doing all they can: selling food for a fraction of what it is worth, and donating free supplies, such as tents or flashlights. The emergency in India is sure to stay a top priority for governments everywhere over the next few months.

<h2 style="margin: 0;">Featured Inside</h2>	<p><b>Fed Ex Invasion</b> Will the profit from the new hub be worth the pain and protest? <b>page 5</b></p>	<p><b>Taboo Television</b> Television shows shape viewers' perspectives of reality. <b>page 8-9</b></p>	<p><b>Whirlie Basketball</b> Men and women make strong conference appearance. <b>page 14</b></p>	<p><i>News.....1</i> <i>Editorial.....4</i> <i>Features.....7</i> <i>Sports.....14</i></p>
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