

Out of the Blue

The Student Tobacco and Alcohol Resource Team (START) has created a website including a scrapbook for the club, tobacco and alcohol information, a parent page, and other links. The address is www.start4.org

Greensboro Ballet will present an all new *Nutcracker*, with new costumes, new scenery, and all new choreography at the War Memorial Auditorium. Opening night will be December 7th at 8:00 P.M. and other performances will be December 8th at 2:00 P.M. and December 9th at 3:00 P.M.

The GHS band will be raising money by selling grapefruit, tangerines, oranges, tangelos, apples and pairs throughout November and December.

This year's theme for the Reflection's contest is "I hold in my hand..." Applications with rules for music, visual arts, photography and literature are available in the main office. Deadline for entries is Friday, December 14th.

All students interested in taking the January 26th SAT must register by December 21st. Late Registration will extend until January 2nd.

Driver's education classes will not be held throughout the rest of November or December. The next class will run from January 14-29th.

Make sure to go to www.schoolpop.com before buying anything online and register Grimsley as your selected school. After doing this whenever you shop online on over 200 major sites, a portion of your purchase will go to benefit Grimsley.

If your family uses Campbell products, please save the labels and deposit them in the collection box located in the Grimsley Media Center. These labels can be redeemed for school supplies. These labels are going to be collected all year long.

Coming soon from the sophomore class...the coolest in Whirlie fashion...Be sure to buy a Grimsley keychain/photo ID holder for only \$3, on sale between December 10 and December 21.

Middle College offers alternative to traditional school experience

An increasing number of students are turning to the alternative means of education that Middle College offers.

By Sara Nelson
Reporter

Junior Lauren Michaelson has what many students would consider the perfect schedule. She begins each morning by waking up at 8:30 A.M. Her first class doesn't start until 9:45, she has an hour and a half for lunch, and her day ends at 2:45.

As one might guess, Michaelson is not a student at a typical high school. She attends Greensboro College Middle College, and is just one of an increasing number of students opting to attend Middle College instead of a traditional high school.

While Middle College is new to Guilford County, it is not a new concept. Superintendent Terry Grier began a similar program in Williamson County, Tennessee, before coming to Guilford County. The Middle College program is one of about 30 nationwide. New York, New York and Austin, Texas have similar programs.

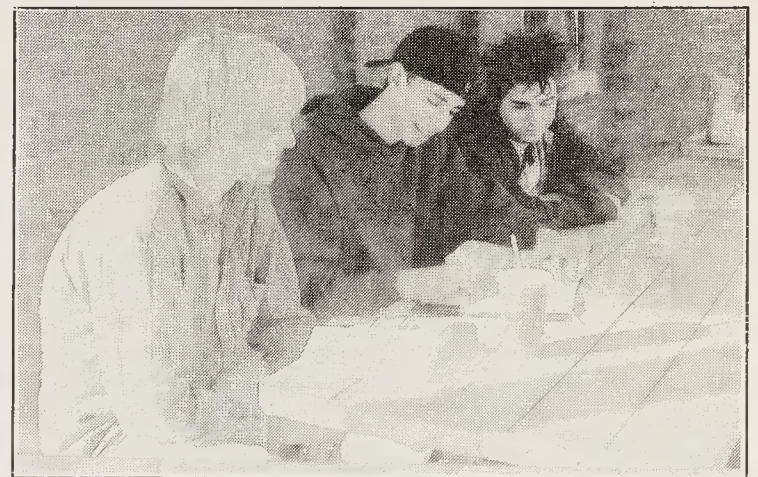
The program operates by placing satellite high schools on local college campuses. While students

have the option of enrolling in college courses, most classes are taught by high school teachers. Guilford County operates Middle Colleges on the campuses of Greensboro College and Guilford Technical Community College. Students on the Greensboro College campus focus more on the humanities, while GTCC offers a more technologically oriented path. Each campus has between 100 and 150 students.

Middle College seeks to provide teens who don't fit in at traditional high schools with an environment in which they can thrive. Michaelson agrees, citing the relaxed atmosphere as her primary reason for choosing Middle College over Grimsley. "I was too pressured at Grimsley," she said. "It was too overwhelming and competitive there. [Here] it is smaller and you have a lot more freedom. You also get a lot more respect from teachers."

The school also targets students who have or are considering dropping out of school. It encourages them to consider staying in school by providing an alternative educational environment.

Middle College students take three honors level high school courses in core subjects. They also have the option of enrolling in a college course, which is funded by the school district. This semes-



Bartow photo

The learning environment at Middle College is much less formal than at Grimsley. Three friends joke around at a bench and study for their classes.

ter, Michaelson is not enrolled in any college courses, although she does plan to enroll in one at a later date.

Contrary to popular belief, Middle College is no easier than the typical public high school, and does not cater to slow learners in the manner that so many other alternative education programs do. Its relaxed atmosphere, combined with respect from teachers is what makes it so appealing. "Everyone talks about how Middle College seems really easy, but the classes are really not. The atmosphere makes it less stressful and that's what makes it easier," said Michaelson.

Though Middle College might not be for everyone, those who

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**-Lauren Michaelson,
junior**

attend it are definitely getting more out of their high school experience. Michaelson sums it up best by stating that though she misses her friends from Grimsley, the relaxed atmosphere and increased responsibility found at Middle College makes the experience worth it.

New technology continues towering growth

New cell phones, pocket PC's, and palm pilots replace bigger, less expensive ones.

By Margaret Hair
Reporter

Meet the ridiculously large, horribly outdated cell phone. Available in only one color, with but one ring tone, circa the early '90s, and requiring a purse all its own to carry, this communication technology is the direct opposite of today's telephones for the person on the go.

Now consider the Sprint Samsung SPH-n200, which has text in both English and Spanish, stores 238 numbers, and has an alarm and the capability to keep a to-do list. Compared to this and many other recent technological advances in communication, the aforementioned phone dials and rings-sometimes.

According to a recent survey done by Teenage Research Unlimited, owning a cell phone, no matter how antiquated, makes one part of the 37 percent of children ages 12 to 19 who use mobile phones. This figure is predicted to be on the rise as sending text messages back and forth between two tele-

phones becomes the latest trend. Often wielding numerically based names, such as Motorola T900, Nokia 3360, Rio Volt SP250, or IBM T560, these new devices are beginning to flood the tech world. In addition to the widespread use of cellular phones, instant messaging services and pocket computers are also causing a ruckus in the techno communication market.

For example, pocket PCs in 2002 are designed to be only slightly less developed than a basic desktop, sized to fit in your pocket. Though they carry price tags of about \$500, they allow Internet access, game play, downloading capabilities, and various other features that boggle the non-computer-oriented mind.

As students and everyone else

"Technology has become part of our society."

**-Gerald Lau,
junior**

use these advancements more frequently, their necessity and beneficial qualities come into question. Gerald Lau, a senior, said, "Technology has become part of our society. Hi-tech devices like G3 cellular system, palm pilots,

and DSL have made our world efficient and communication more convenient. However, our reliance on technology would end up in social disorder if technology were to fail."

Junior Ben Thompson said, "Technological advances in the past century have enhanced our society ten-fold. The world market as we know it today could not exist without speed of light communications systems." Both agree that technology has advanced society greatly.

Despite differing views concerning their benefits and necessity, technological advances are being made around every corner, at every bend in the road of a year.

As the trusty, heavy, old mobile



Bartow photo

New technology not only affects the business and entertainment world, but the students of Grimsley as well. Junior Audrey Barker organizes her day on her palm pilot, one of the newest technological advances becoming more common in high schools.

phone stands defeated by the newer, smaller, and more advanced versions, it gives one last obnoxiously loud monotone ring before it gives up. Left in a cloud of dust with the likes of bag phones and 8 track players, palm-sized conveniences have finally surpassed it.