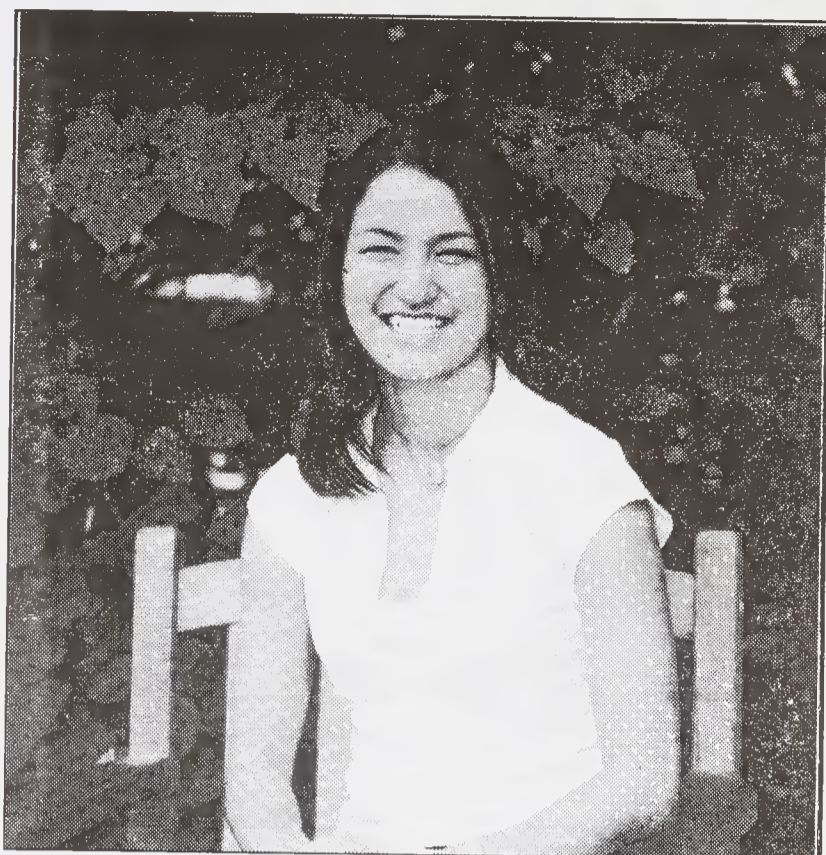


High school experience teaches senior leaders...



~Sarah Rashid~
Student Body President

I honestly couldn't remember a time being more nervous. Encircled in a roaring gymnasium, my knees got weak as we jogged to the center. Our adrenaline rose with

Coach Frank's "You say beat! And you say Page!" chant, and after the seventeenth round, it was time for us to begin our routine.

All was going well. The first

three eight counts passed in perfect unison and we scattered into our respected positions to hit the hardest part: the stunt.

Messing up wasn't an option and in doing so, I would disappoint not only myself, but the squad as well. The stunt required added individual focus, while keeping a level of consciousness of the girls around me.

I held my breath and couldn't help making my "game face" smile more authentic when it hit strong. We each held our own while still working together and couldn't have been more proud of our performance.

In many ways I find my experiences and challenges at Grimsley comparable to my routine. We've spent these years

working towards our own goals and finding ourselves, while maintaining a level of consciousness of our surrounding peers.

Stepping out, we've courageously made decisions to shift our focus from what everyone else was doing, to what we needed to do in order to "hold our own" and achieve our personal goals.

Yet, most of us will define High School by the moments spent joining the crowd.

We won't forget the good times cheering ridiculously at Grimsley Page games, the excitement and fuss of an upcoming dance, or simply sharing food as well as laughs in the grove during lunch.

These people whom we've met along the way, who have unknowingly allowed us to take the focus off ourselves, have helped us keep our sanity and made these four years enjoyable. And as we dissipate in different directions, we'll always have these memories connecting us.

People always refer to that "fine line" — the line that separates adolescence from adulthood. For four years we have walked that line together. Tottering back and forth between whether we should act like adults or minors, has more often than not been confusing.

Through trial and error, we've spent our time at Grimsley finding a balance that suits us best.

We've made the mistake of worrying ourselves too much with our own goals and the future rather than living the day, or have been too involved in the good times we were experiencing at the moment with everyone else, than realizing where our actions would put us in the future.

We've struggled between individuality and conformity, but in the process have learned more about ourselves than we could have imagined.

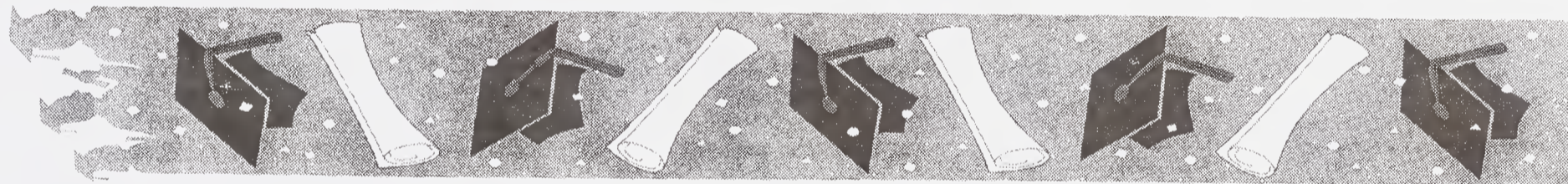
I view graduation as a huge accomplishment. The road to this

These people whom we've met along the way, who have unknowingly allowed us to take the focus off ourselves, have helped us keep our sanity and made these four years enjoyable.

moment may have been easier for some than others, but nonetheless, it's reason to be proud and confident for the journey ahead of us.

We have the ability to do so many things, but it's all about figuring out what works best for us to complete our perfect routine. I wish nothing but the best for all of you and encourage you to do whatever it is you want to do in the future—I'm confident you are capable of it.

All my love,
Sarah Rashid.



...life essentials: Balance, friendship, active living

The time has finally come; the day will soon be here. We will no longer be children; we will have grown up and joined the world as contributing members of society.

We have waited so long for this moment, and now that it is upon us, what will we do? Where do we go from here? Most of us will go off to a college or university; oth-

Exams came and went; lost love turned into beautiful friendships, and everything turned out okay—maybe not the way you wanted it, but okay in the end.

ers will enter the workforce upon graduation, and even fewer will defend our country by joining the armed services. Everything is moving so fast and yet so slow at the same time.

Things that seemed so important to us only a short time ago are now distant memories. We look back on the years and see how young, ignorant and idealistic we

were. We believed our lives to be over if we were grounded and could not go to the biggest party ever, or if we did not get the coolest and newest clothes. We stressed and stayed up long hours to pass quizzes and tests, to finish IDs and essays. We knew there was no hope for love ever again after we broke up with our first loves.

Only now do we begin to look back and realize that our lives were never nearly over; they were just beginning. Exams came and went; lost love turned into beautiful friendships, and everything turned out okay—maybe not the way you wanted it, but okay in the end.

We look back and laugh at how young and naïve we were and often still are. We see all the mistakes we have made along life's short path thus far.

Many of us would give anything to go back and change some of the things we said and did, or were too afraid to do or say, but we cannot. All we can do is learn from our mistakes and grow as people.

I will leave Grimsley as a much different person than I entered. Like all of us, I have grown and matured. I have come to many conclusions in my short time here, but

I believe the most important conclusion I have reached is to live for today.

Do not live in the past; you can not change what has already been done, no matter how hard you try. You can only learn to accept it and grow from it. Do not solely live your life in the future either. Do not worry; it will be here soon enough. We have to live for today, or our lives will pass by before we realize they are gone.

So, I leave you with the following: live life to its fullest because if you do not, one day it will be gone, and you will realize that you never really lived life at all. You only watched it pass you by.

Do not let all the little things stress you out; it will be okay. Just breathe and do what you have to do, and have some fun. These are supposed to be the best times of our young lives.

To all my teachers, thank you. To my friends, thank you, and good luck on life's journey.



~Mikh Gunderman~
Senior Class President