



*Cooper Photo*

## Booster club fundraiser proves successful

Sixty-nine golfers and nine corporate sponsors participated in the newest Booster Club fundraiser. The charge to play was \$40, and sponsoring a hole cost \$250. All the first-place winners were non-Grimsley students. Both parents and students were involved in order to benefit the weight room.

The earnings totaled \$2,994.08, while only \$25,000 was needed to finish updating the weight room. The Booster Club Golf Tournament took place at Pine Knoll's Golf Course in Kernersville, on September 27, 2003.

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## School bond referendum to eliminate funding problems

*With the November voting day approaching quickly, Guilford County citizens must vote on a \$300 million bond for betterment of the schools.*

**By Holly Sharpless**  
*Reporter*

Guilford County Schools have not been immune to the economic problems of the county, state, or country. Facing a rapidly growing student body, the school board is under pressure to keep up in terms of facilities and equipment.

According to the Guilford County Schools website, over 450 "portable classrooms," otherwise known as trailers, help to accommodate more than 64,000 students at over 100 facilities.

This year, another 15 increased that number to 465. In spite of the referendum passed in 2000, the county's needs in terms of education are far from being met. New construction to accommodate a growing student body in the county is becoming increasingly important.

As voters head to the polls on Election Day in November, they will find on their

ballots a referendum for a \$300 million school bond.

On August 5, 2003, the school board approved a list of construction projects to be included in the bond. If passed, the bond would provide funds for construction and renovation projects in schools throughout the district.

One of the largest provisions in the bond is for a new Northern High School, capable of accommodating 1600 students. Construction of a Northern High School would help to alleviate pressure from the already overcrowded Northeast and Northwest High Schools.

Other high schools to receive funding include Southern, Southwest, Ragsdale, and Northeast. Most of the construction and renovations at these high schools relate to expansion.

Grimsley was not included in the bond, as many of its construction needs were met with the provisions of the bond in 2000.

The bond is expected to pass in November with work beginning over the next few years.

Specific plans for the construction of the new high school have not yet been finalized.

## School violence decreases in '03-'04 from years past

*Despite the allegations of increasing gang violence on Grimsley's campus, the actual confrontations occurring this year are declining.*

**By Brian Gould**  
*Reporter*

This school year has been blanketed with numerous rumors, both accurate and fabricated, ranging from bomb threats to gang violence. But why is this year so much different from years past? A socioeconomic view of the situation may prove effective in answering students' questions.

A common misconception is that the number of physical fights on campus has increased. Actually, "there have been fewer violent fights...while the number of verbal altercations between females has risen," said Mr. Gasparello.

Much of the student body has heard rumors about the relationship between the altercations on campus and neighborhood issues.

According to Freshman Seam Ray, whose mother lives in Hampton Homes and father lives in Starmount, the same number of al-

tercations between kids occurs in both neighborhoods. According to the administration, that is one of the reasons for the disputes that have taken place.

In less affluent economical neighborhoods, social disputes after school and on weekends have caused concern at Grimsley.

"On Mondays, we occasionally receive calls concerning weekend altercations in the community," said Gasparello.

The school recognizes there is a major problem and has taken proactive measures to help reduce tensions between groups of students. For instance, a three-day ninth-grade orientation has seemed to help ease the transition into high school, preventing possible violence among many students.

Staff and faculty have been trained in identifying, preventing, and dealing with volatile situations. When a group of students lingers, it increases the likelihood of altercations and disruptive behavior, so teachers try to keep students moving during class changes.

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Senior Jack McDonald writes a letter concerning disrespect at assemblies.

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#### Homecoming Court

Senior girls elected to the 2003-04 Homecoming Court present themselves on a personal level.

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#### Football for Dummies

Complexities of the game of football becomes clear for individuals still left in the end zone.

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