

*With stabbings and fights plaguing school bus stops, but new clubs promoting a violence-free environment, school safety becomes an even greater concern of students, parents, faculty, and staff.*

## School safety

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## New assistant principal offers students advice

Mr. Robert Christina

BY HALEY PHILLIPS  
Reporter

New administrator Robert Christina eagerly advises his students: "The level of your success will be measured by your attitude!"

Christina exerts a positive attitude as he describes his new home as "a great school with a tremendous tradition and a super staff."

The new assistant principal replaces previous administrator Marty Woody. Born in State College, Pa., Christina has served education for 20 years. He earned master's degrees in school administration and health planning administration from Penn State and UNCG, respectively.

Previously, Christina worked at Parkland High School in Winston-Salem and both Cummings and Western Alamance High Schools, both in Burlington.

Though new to the staff, Christina is already speculating about what he hopes to accomplish.

"I'd like to see if I could make an impact on lowering the dropout rate and on closing the achievement gap. We're trying to release progress reports on ninth graders every two weeks and to encourage alternative schooling for those who find it difficult in traditional schools," said Christina.

Christina believes this campus is different from others where he worked in the past because of its tradition of high expectations academically and athletically, the quality of the faculty, and the range of courses offered on campus.

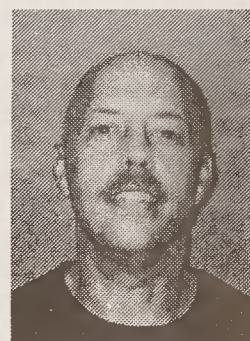
"Grimsley has a culture of high expectations for everything from social norms to academic responsibility, to character education," said Christina.

Seven years in high school administration, he enjoys interacting with students.

"I like the contact with the students, and I like to be able to speak with them. I like to have a positive impact," said Christina.

In his free time, he plays sports and works out.

"I like all sports," said Christina. "I've played football, basketball, soccer, lacrosse, and field hockey, and I play in an adult soccer league on the weekends." When bored, "I comb my hair," he said.



Ward photo

## Gas prices in chaos across the country

For millions of motorists, gasoline price increase arrives at unwelcomed time

BY WILL BAKER

Katrina crashed through the Gulf States with a path of destruction, resulting in high gas prices throughout the nation. Katrina's wrath left unimaginable chaos which included nine shut down refineries along the Gulf Coast, and disrupted pipelines to the Midwest and East, which halted 90 percent of the oil production in the Gulf of Mexico.

Because the hurricane knocked refineries and pipeline links along the Gulf Coast off line, the nation saw its source for nearly one-third of gas supplies become paralyzed. Such a loss left the nation in a panic. Gas prices soared, as people rushed to fill their tanks in fear of severe

shortages, causing many stations to run out of gas. Incidents in which stations ran out of gas occurred in Georgia, North Carolina, West Virginia, Wisconsin, and Arizona.

As stations ran out of gas, others responded by raising their prices as well. Gasoline costs jumped an average of 35 to 50 cents per gallon overnight from Wednesday, Aug. 31 to Thursday, Sept. 1, to well over three dollars per gallon. In extreme cases, as stations in Georgia shut down, prices at the pumps were reported as high as six dollars per gallon.

"Before the hurricane, about forty five dollars, and after about seventy five dollars" said junior Joseph Parish on the price of filling his vehicle.

With the rapid escalation in gas prices, people became suspicious

of stations gouging their prices. Although an increase was expected, some people wondered if some stations were perhaps charging too much. On Sept. 1, the Energy Department reported over 5000 calls to its price-gouging hotline. The states with the most complaints included North Carolina, Georgia, New York, Texas, Pennsylvania, South Carolina, Michigan, New Jersey, and Illinois.

"I think a lot of it has to do with people panicking and the gas stations taking advantage of that," said senior Heidi Andringa.

On a local level, Greensboro felt the effects of the hurricane through the significant increase in gas prices. The Sheetz located on Swing Rd. jumped in a matter of minutes from \$2.99 per gallon to \$3.29 per gallon

at 5:00 p.m. on August 31. Also between those two days, the Gate station on Battleground rose from \$2.73 to \$3.13 per gallon overnight, and then eventually to \$3.53 per gallon.

As a result of the high prices of gasoline, students here at Grimsley are altering their lifestyles to fit the situation.

"I go to the G&S mart located next to Elizabeth's Pizza," said junior William Chasse, "because the gas is usually about twenty cents cheaper."

"I don't let my tank get below half-full" said junior Collyn Murray.

"Carpool, and consolidation of trips" said junior Margaret Rich on how she is responding to the situation.

Analysts expect relief as soon as electricity is restored.

## Hurricane Katrina kills hundreds, destroys cities

BY BRIAN GOULD  
Editor-in-Chief

As waters still recede in New Orleans and surrounding cities, the damage is assessed and bodies counted. Death tolls have reached a staggering 10,000 assumed dead; however, the actual body count is far less. As of the week of Sept. 18, the number of dead reached 970, much less than the expected tens of thousands.

Death tolls are highest in Louisiana at 736 because of the direct impact of Hurricane Katrina. Mississippi follows with 219 dead. With officials still surveying the area for survivors, bodies, and structural damage to buildings, experts can only estimate

how long the clean up will take. Some suggest months, others predict years.

An estimated 100,000 people are still living in shelters in New Orleans and surrounding areas.

With many of the citizens of the disaster area evacuated, the clean up process continues and eventually the rebuilding process will begin.

### Katrina Death Tolls

Louisiana:	736
Mississippi:	219
Florida:	14
<b>Total:</b>	<b>970</b>



Above, citizens of New Orleans walk through waist-deep water to escape the destruction of Hurricane Katrina.

## Hurricane Katrina fundraiser succeeds in aiding relief



### American Red Cross

BY MELLISA BYRD  
Reporter

Student Council fundraising to aid hurricane Katrina victims began Sept. 3 and continued through Sept. 16. Students and teachers placed donations in classroom envelopes during lunches and at the beginning of classes.

Student Council Advisor Mr. Grady Peace and Student Body President Neagheen Homair headed the relief committee with volunteer help from various student clubs and

council members. Plans for Katrina assistance were modeled after those of last year's Tsunami aid. Student Council set a \$12,000 goal for the two-week period. Lowe's Home Improvement Center will accept all donations and promises to double the total amount before sending funds to the American Red Cross.

Principal Rob Gasparello encouraged support from all students, parents, and alumni. Katrina relief donations are tax-deductible. The total sum collected in the two weeks was \$12,300. All proceeds directly went to the Red Cross.

## Homecoming

Who are the top 12 nominees for Homecoming Court 2005.  
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## GHS vs. PHS

Check out past scores for the most important game of the season.  
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