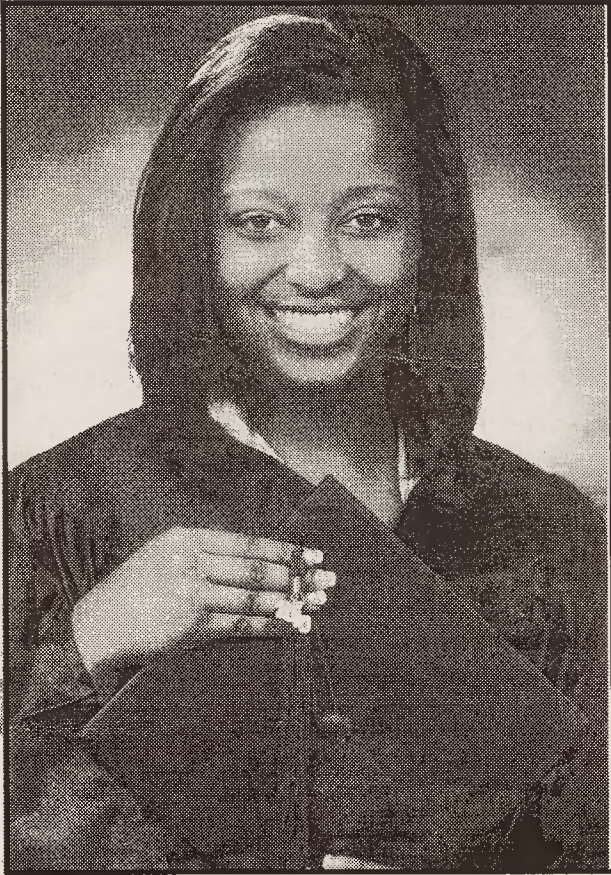


In loving memory of a cherished Grimsley student who shall forever remain in our hearts and minds, *Arielle Blake Parker.*



Arielle Parker, a recent graduate in Grimsley's Class of 2010, passed away Saturday, August 14, 2010. While traveling to an academic enrichment program for Wingate University's rising freshman class, Parker was a passenger in a fatal car accident. She received recognition for her singing and was recently featured as a soloist on the debut CD by contemporary gospel group ChoZen.

Parker was also an active participant in the DECA program and was a member of the

National Junior Beta Club. During her senior year, she also served as copy editor of the Whirligig.

Parker is survived by her parents, Ministers James and Djuana Parker; her sister Ashtenne Blaire Parker; her two brothers, Shaed Collins Parker and Stone Thomas Parker; and her extended family and friends. She will be loved and missed dearly while her legacy continues through the Arielle B. Parker Youth Ministries Fund, which is accepting contributions through The Church of God of Prophecy.

Arielle was looking forward to majoring in psychology with a minor in human resources at Wingate University where she had received over \$70,000 in scholarships. Provisions had already been made for her to pursue a master's degree upon graduation from Wingate to fulfill her dream of becoming a psychotherapist. Her compassion was to work with the mentally, physically, and emotionally challenged to improve their quality of life. Many claim her passing as, "Our loss, Heavens gain."

"You and I will meet again when we're least expecting it. One day in some far off place, I will recognize your face. I won't say goodbye, my friend, for you and I will meet again."

~ Tom Petty

Student artists share their experiences as they climb to success in the music business

BY KAT ELLIOTT
Reporter

Known for its diversity in race, religion, sexuality, and gender, Grimsley also hosts many talented students in sports, academics, and music. The band, drum line, Jazz band, Madrigals, and orchestra also contribute to the school's wealth of talent; however, students have found their way into the music scene off campus by playing at local venues or even recording small mix tapes to assist them in slowly reaching popularity in the music business.

Sophomore Avalon Kenny has spent the past summer playing her guitar and singing in Tate Street Coffee, Maya Art Gallery, and Elsewhere, which is located in downtown Greensboro. At the age of six, Kenny picked up the guitar and began lessons for a year and a half until she called it quits for a few years. At 12 years of age, her desire to play again rejuvenated, but this time, she taught herself, which is rather difficult after three years of not blanket. Music soothes her soul.

Junior Gabbie Pittman, a talented playing. She progressed gradually over the years with the help of her idol, Ryan Adams.

Kenny emulates Adams' style in her own music writing and also frequently plays covers by him in her performances. This past summer, she performed at the corner of Walker Avenue a few times until she finally booked gigs in which she played music in the genre known as Americana. She is determined to make writing and performing music her lifelong career because the choice involves more than the crowd, her name being recognized, or the money; it is her dream in the making and her comfort



Above is sophomore Avalon Kenny performing at Tate Street Coffeehouse. Her favorite genres include folk and indie music. Elliott photo

cello player in the school orchestra, holds especially high standards in reference to her music. At the age of six, Pittman's mother encouraged her to play the piano. She took lessons for six years until her passion for playing ebbed; she was ready to search for a new passion. Such required exploring many different instruments and a variety of lessons before she found her calling, the cello.

Depending upon her mood, Pittman plays from the classical genre as well

Broadway melodies for fun. Presently, she is deciding whether or not to progress to the next level with her cello and play in the rock orchestra from a local church. Over the years, Pittman has enjoyed multiple opportunities to perform in All-County and All-State performances, as well as with the Greensboro Youth Symphony's concerts. Recently, she was invited to play in an adult-only orchestra known as the Philharmonia of Greensboro, certainly a huge accomplishment

considering her age.

Pittman believes she could not have achieved such success without the guidance of her idols, Han Na Chang and Apocalyptica. They inspire her because of their styles and levels of creativity, which has resulted in their growing audiences.

Senior Tioney Harrison also expresses such a deep interest in music that he plans to achieve fame in the music business. One day, while Harrison was riding with his father in town and listening to the radio, he describes himself as gradually receiving positive vibes from the music. Such a reaction inspired him to return home and repeat the rap to his mirror.

Rapping soon became more than a hobby for Harrison; he began performing at small events, such as cookouts, food drives, and union meetings. This lifestyle, along with the adrenaline rush he experiences while performing, encourages him to continue practicing every day to reach his goal of succeeding in the music business. After graduating from high school, Harrison plans to attend Guilford Technical Community College (GTCC) where he will major in Music Engineering in order to climb a step at a time until he reaches the ultimate goal of having people recognize him for his innovative style in the future.

All three of these students have bright futures ahead of them as long as they continue feeding their passions. Their efforts confirm that setting goals early in life can prove to be effective in reaching their potential as artists in the field of music, regardless of the genre, and we all look support our student musicians and their ambitions and are more than excited to see what the future holds.