



the high LIFE

“True superstars dominate at any level, so there is no reason to hold them back by mandating they remain in school for a substantial amount of time.”



Page 4

News

IB teachers attempt to include Theory of Knowledge concepts into all of their classes. page 2

Opinion

“Skins,” the American remake of the original UK show, enralls teens but disturbs parents and guardians. page 4

Features

Media sources send mixed messages regarding changes among astrological signs. page 9

Sports

Athletes in winter sports earn chances to compete at conference, regional, and state levels. page 11

Index

News	2-3
Opinion	4-5
Spread	6-7
Features	8-10
Sports	11-12

TWIRP dance delights crowd

BY MARY CLAIRE HURLEY
Reporter

Making their way to the Empire Room in downtown Greensboro, on the windy night of Saturday, February 12, were approximately 340 students dressed to the nines for the annual TWIRP dance. The elegant ballroom on the second floor of the Elm Street Center provided the setting of this gala event, for which “The Woman Is Required to Pay.” Unlike the traditional homecoming and prom affairs for which the men invite the ladies and pay for dinner and expenses, TWIRP requires women to ask dates, and it is customary for the females to pay for dinner as well.

“I didn’t go to TWIRP last year, but I did my sophomore year. This year’s dance was better because the décor was prettier, and I loved going with

my best friend, Kevin Simmons. He even had the perfect tie to match my dress!” said senior Jada Powell.

Tickets went on sale a week prior to the dance for \$15 each. Students could invite dates from multiple schools around the city, including Page, Bishop McGuinness, Greensboro Day School, and others. In order to do so, however, they first had to fill out permission slips for administrative approval that required the following: name and address of the guest, signed permission from the inviter’s parents along with their phone numbers, and signed permission from an administrator from the guest’s school. Although this may seem like a lot of work for a date, it is necessary to make sure no one at the dance is a threat to students.

Numerous students chose to eat dinner in downtown res-

taurants, which made the dance location easily accessible by foot. Doors opened at 8:00 pm, and no students were admitted after 9:30 pm.

Teachers, administrators, and PTSA representatives made themselves visible in the lobby to welcome couples, to check pockets for prohibited substances, and to take coats, purses, and uncomfortably high heels. Multiple security guards and policemen were also present to ensure safety. Because there were behavior issues last year, added security helped maintain appropriate behavior, so there were no problems.

Attending his first TWIRP was sophomore Tyler Hooker, who was fairly satisfied with the evening.

“It was fun, but could’ve been better. The music was enjoyable, so I had a pretty good time,” said Hooker.

When people were not boogying to the hip hop playlist

of the lively DJ, they were either at the refreshment table enjoying punch/water and pastries or sitting down and chatting around the many tables in the spacious room.

“I had fun with my friends, and I enjoyed the ambiance of the event. However, many of my classmates felt that the music was ‘wack’ for lack of a better word, and they left early. I really wasn’t impressed with the attitudes of some of the other students. You came to the dance to have fun, not to sit down at the tables the entire time. I guess you cannot make people have fun or change their attitudes,” said junior Ryan Oakley.

During the middle of the dance, the music stopped for the announcement of the 2011 TWIRP King, Ali Ali, whose evening date was Anna Nash. Ali Ali is also the student body president.

Senior Soroush Shahbazi earns recognition as Poet Laureate

BY ALINA GABITOV
Reporter

Laurels, wreaths of honor awarded to poets and heroes in Ancient Greece, were considered sacred to Apollo, the god of prophecy, music, healing, and later the sun. Eventually, the word entered the English language as Laureate, referring to a person recognized for progressing in a particular field or for earning a degree from a prestigious European university, as in baccalaureate. Poet Laureate, a royal degree in rhetoric, was awarded at European universities as far back as the Middle Ages.

Poet Laureates have existed since the time of King Charles II, referencing a title for the official poet of the monarch. Now the title infers an officially appointed poet expected to compose poems for State occasions and other government events. In some cases, he or she merely organizes poetry readings and promotes poetry in general. Poets Laureate are still appointed in different countries for various lengths of time. Whereas they once held life-long terms, the average term now is for two years, depending upon the country.



For the past seven years, media specialist Kate Cummings has encouraged students to participate in the High School Poet Laureate competition. Any student in high school can submit three original poems to be judged in the first stage. Three English teachers, Christina Adams, Elyse Topkins, and Douglas Greene, assumed the responsibility. They chose the work of three poets to send to published poet, Joellen Craft, who teaches at UNC-G, and will judge the literary pieces from high

school students across the county. This year’s contenders were freshman Helen Ni and seniors Soroush Shahbazi, and Stephanie Cedeno.

Honored with a reception, winner Soroush Shahbazi earned the title of Grimsley’s Poet Laureate. As one of his duties, he will initiate a project to celebrate National Poetry Month in April, as well as write a poem to recite at the graduation ceremony on June 12.

Shahbazi has written poetry for a year and a half, and

Growing Cheers

How soon is soon
When there is a midnight moon
Who sings a song
of an old friend’s tune?
Wandering about,
Do you have a clue
Of what comes next,
of what comes of you
Playing catcher in the rye,
Meet a friend coming soon.
Home is where the pitcher is:
The water is poured for you.

-Soroush Shahbazi

Media Specialist Kate Cummings presents Soroush Shahbazi with a certificate of recognition as Poet Laureate. His poem above was one of three he submitted for the competition

he also enjoys writing movie scripts. The subject of his three poems were about his grandfather, a girl, and growing up. “The people I meet, the things I see, and what I feel” are what inspire Shahbazi to write poetry. He usually expresses his thoughts about people he cares about and nature.

“I hope to write something that reflects on the good times we had at Grimsley,” said Shahbazi regarding the poem he will present upon graduation.