**Drama program enters ‘Wonderland’**

By Jane Zamarripa

On Jan. 20-22, Grady’s drama program will take a leap from its roots in realism to bring to life the colorful story of Alice in Wonderland in their fall production. In past seasons the production included works such as Shakespeare's Twelfth Night, but with the recent addition of the black box theater, teachers and students have selected a more creative direction for this season’s production.

The play was originally scheduled to debut on Dec. 2, but the production has been moved to next year because neither the black box nor the existing theater was ready to accommodate a full production. “It’s frustrating not to be able to be in the space and do blocking,” senior Katie Godby said of the delay, “but hopefully now the play will be better and more polished.”

Godby, who plays Alice in the production, assumed early on in the casting process that she would be cast in the title role. “On a certain level, Katie was born to be Alice,” literature teacher Ms. Lisa Willoughby said, but first Katie eyed the role of the Queen of Hearts, a part which in the end was given to junior Joy Carter.

Ms. Willoughby, the director, held a large screening process of open cast calls and pool auditions. Juniors Nyssa Daniels and Jasmine Brown were cast as the Cheshire Cat and the Caterpillar, while sophrone Rafael Velez will play the part of the Mad Hatter.

“We wanted to develop a way to include anyone who wants to be involved,” Ms. Willoughby said. Godby has worked in a black box theater in local productions and is excited about the artistic possibilities it will create for the Wonderland. “It’s really a great new atmosphere to expand and learn how to work with,” she said.

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**Grishman takes on new role as assistant principal**

By Matt Westmoreland

Grady magnet coordinator and 20-year school veteran Naomi Grishman was appointed the school’s second vice principal last month, joining current vice principal Mr. Roosevelt Foreman and principal Dr. Vincent Murray atop the school’s administrative leadership.

"I was ready for a change," Ms. Naomi Grishman said. "I’ve been magnet coordinator for 10 years, and if you don’t change, you get stale.

Grady became eligible for a second assistant principal last year after the school's population exceeded 1,000 students. Ms. Grishman, a graduate of the University of Alabama and Georgia State University, was selected for the position by Dr. Murray from a group of five applicants.

Prior to her decade-long tenure as coordinator for the magnet program, Ms. Grishman served as chair of the social studies department and as a teacher of the gifted. She acknowledges, though, that her interests have grown larger than any one program. "In recent years, my vision for Grady has grown bigger than the magnet," she said. "I felt like I needed to move in order to have a broader impact."

Though the idea of two assistant principals is new, Dr. Murray has outlined a detailed job description for Ms. Grishman’s new position.

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**PLAYOFF DROUGHT ENDS AT 51 YEARS**

By Patrick McGlenn

Down six points with less than two minutes left in the game, the ball deep in their own territory, a 50-year playoff win drought rested squarely on their backs. All odds were working against the Grady Knights football team in their first-round playoff game at Putnam County on Sept. 5.

But a sophomore quarterback Simon Godby didn’t panic. He led the Knights down the field, and on second and 10 from the Putnam County 33, he lobbed a pass to the back of the end zone. Senior tight end Brandney Johnson dove, bobbled the ball, and bodily pulled it in as the stadium erupted. As the clock expired after a failed Putnam County field goal, the Grady team and fans swarmed onto the field, celebrating Grady High School’s first playoff win since former University of Georgia and Georgia Southern coach Erk Russell led Grady to a state championship.

After the 27-26 win over Putnam County, the Knights took a two and a half hour bus ride to Calhoun, Georgia where

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**Cadets march to success through the JROTC**

By Katherine Hagan

“I wish I could wear rain boots,” a Junior Reserve Officer Training Corp member remarked to her fellow cadet on her way to the JROTC classroom. The entire Grady battalion was prepared to march in a rainy Veteran’s Day parade. She knew that rain boots didn’t come with the uniform, instead, she wore black polished patent leather shoes and avoided the puddles.

JROTC army instructors require more of their cadets than polished shoes. Official inspection requires polished posture and “proper placement of the accoutrements that go into the uniform,” senior army instructor Major Charles Huddleston explained. Those include the unit insignia, the brass, the cadet’s rank, and the army unit of distinction star that belongs a quarter of an inch above the chest-pocket lining.

“And then we look at how is the uniform worn?” Major Huddleston said. “Has it been pressed in the last six years or have they ironed and taken care of it?” The rubic goes beyond the wardrobe to the hygiene of the cadet being inspected. Males must be cleanly shaved, and females should be wearing “appropriate jewelry” and have their hair “within normal bounds” in a way that does not interfere with the uniform hate.

The cadets stand straight ahead in quiet attention at the department chair examines the shine of their brass buttons.

After the Veteran’s Day formal inspection, Master Sgt. Henry Blake informed the cadets that the parade had been rained out. Many
No broken promises

Previously covered in our second issue (“Grady gains new technology despite loss of E-rate funds,” Oct. 8), the promised video projector equipment is again the subject of a story in this issue (“Late arrival for the projectors needs to be approved, and the projectors need to be ordered and installed. Future promises aren’t good enough—we can’t afford them.”)

Polling for scholars

In the past year, the Southerner has conducted a number of polls on issues ranging from the quality of Grady’s bathrooms to student opinions of construction. But these polls were not conducted scientifically using the method of equal probability of selection. Without using this method—which states that if everyone has an equal chance of being polled, a small group’s response to a question will mirror the response a much larger pool would give—these results aren’t necessarily the true opinions of students at the school.

In polling results, it is important to conduct biased surveys. But our survey methods—going around to various teachers’ rooms, asking which students want to be surveyed, and surveying them orally—was unintentionally biased, especially against non-magnet students, because the surveying will tend to go to the rooms of teachers that they’ve had, and, since all Southerner staff members are in the magnet program, they tend to be to magnet teachers’ classrooms. Second, students are more likely to want to be surveyed if they are the magnet program, they tend to be to magnet teachers’ classrooms. Students are more likely to want to be surveyed if they are the magnet program, they tend to be to magnet teachers’ classrooms.

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In every published survey, we report the entire question, the percentage of responses to each answer choice, and the margin of error. In some questions, the percentages do not add up to 100 percent because a student gave multiple responses.

We have gone from using survey methods that are informal and unintentionally biased to using a procedure similar to professional polling agencies. It’s not a flashy change that is extremely noticeable, but it is something that further ensures we are reporting the facts to our readers.

Richard Schenck, Chelsea Spencer, Amberly Thompson, Woody Morgan, Allana Neely, Greg O’Donnell, Matt Mulcahy, Elly Bookman

The teaser on the front page of the Nov. 11 issue stated that the story, “Owen Writes, Raps to Success,” was on page 14, but it was on page 12.

Experiences prove veggie diet is better

Dear Editor,

In the Nov. 11 issue of the Southern, Steven Johnson argues that vegetarianism is unhealthy and that vegetarians don’t get enough protein in their diets. In fact, studies show that the average American gets five times the necessary amount of protein and that more usable protein is found in one tablespoon of tofu or soybeans than the average serving of meat does. These studies also show that the vegetarian diet may help to reduce the risk of developing medical conditions such as obesity, heart disease, high blood pressure, and diabetes.

Here are some famous vegetarians with which you might be familiar with: Plutarch, Leonardo Da Vinci, Tolstoy, Shelley, George Bernard Shaw, Gandhi, Henry David Thoreau, Albert Einstein, Bob Dylan, George Harrison, Paul McCartney, and Natalie Portman, to name a few. I’ll bet these people had reasons for being vegetarian, and I doubt it was to be “trendy.” Maybe, just maybe, these people wanted to make a difference and improve the world we live in. Just a thought.

Michelle Wilks
Class of 2008

Meat eating wasteful

Dear Editor,

It pains me to hear anyone speak in opposition to the vegetarian way of life as Steven Johnson did in “Vegetarians on their way to an unhealthy life.” (Nov. 11). With obesity becoming an epidemic in the United States—it has increased by 60 percent since 1991—you’d think more people would choose to cut back on the amount of meat they consume.

According to People for the Ethical Treatment of Animals, 80 percent of all agricultural land in the United States is used to raise animals for food. The world’s cattle alone consume a quantity of food equal to the caloric needs of 8.7 billion people, more than the entire human population on Earth.

Furthermore, when people eat meat, they are exposed to the 20,000 drugs in livestock, including steroids, antibiotics, growth hormones and other veterinary drugs. Many argue that vegetarians are unhealthy because they fail to get an adequate amount of the necessary nutrients. Serious vegetarians, however, make sure that those nutrients are obtained everyday through day-to-day meal plans or simply taking daily vitamins.

The next time you see a vegetarian don’t think about how you can curse them. Merely think about how they are working towards the betterment of their health. Miriam Archibong
Class of 2005
Americans plagued by procrastination

It was inevitable that I be better on election night. Mostly because I had sat on my couch and watched the results pour in, knowing that I’d had no say in the election of the leader who would have such a great effect on my future. It also hurt because my 18th birthday fell just 27 days after the fact, meaning it all rested in the hands of America’s eligible voters.

By the next morning, hopes for the candidate I supported was waning quickly enough so that before lunch time, he had conceded the victory to the incumbent. The bitter scenario was joyed by my brother, a Tek, who was in the middle of October. There are not one but many holidays, including major ones, between October and Dec. 25, the watch-your-kids-sip-open-all-of-their-presents-that-you’ve-spent-way-more-money-on-than-you-planned-day, half of which they will either toss to the side or say, “Ew, where’d you find this thing?”

Why have Americans started their lives around one of these holidays? What about Halloween? Thanksgiving! What about the millions of other Americans who celebrate Hannukah or Kwanzaa? Yes, kits, teenagers, and, even some adults can be seen dressed up as Batman or some kind of princess or fairy, running around the neighborhood trying to stuff as much candy into their bag as possible on that eerie night of Oct. 31. But still, no one spends as much time decorating, baking, or whatever they might do for Halloween as they do for Christmas, and stores usually set up their plastic pumpkins and fake witch’s brooms only a few days before the big night.

It’s a gift from God!” my brother exclaimed on Nov. 8. No, my tap isn’t running Merlot, instead his broken Xbox had been cured and returned the day before the release of Halo 2. This apparently qualifies as a gift from the Almighty, at least according to my brother and countless other high school boys.

I am familiar with Halo and the obsession that follows, but Halo 2 seems to have the excitement that usually accompanies, oh say, getting accepted to your No. 1 college. All the hype that came with Halo 2 had my brother begging me not only to take him months before its release to receive a copy of the Special Collectors Edition (which I did), but to take him up to it at midnight Nov. 8 (which I didn’t do). He did, however, get it the next day and promptly went home where he is probably still playing now.

Apparently, he is not alone. With excitement equal to that of a new Harry Potter book, game stores across the country were open at midnight for people to come purchase Halo 2. Microsoft, the producer of the game, had sales of $125 million in the first 24 hours.

That’s when the parties started. Not regular high school parties, but instead, Halo parties, where the punch is really just punch. Actually to say that was when the parties started would be incorrect. Halo parties had been going on for at least a week before the release of Halo 2 in preparation for the big day. Basically a ton of boys, and maybe a few girls, hook up several Xboxes and battle each other to see who dominates the rest.

Halo is not just a game, no matter what anyone tells you. It’s a cult. Being constantly surrounded by Halo devotees, I decided it was time to attempt to learn how to play the game. It couldn’t be that hard, right? I mean, it looks as if the object is to run around and kill as many people as you can, just point and shoot. That may be the objective, but it’s a lot harder than I thought. I couldn’t even walk, let alone run. And it didn’t help that my brother kept killing me (something I found highly amusing). After several minutes of this abuse, I gave up. Yes, I know, I gave up too easily, but when my brother started to explain that it would take a year to become decent at the game, I decided I had better things to do with my time, like sleep.

Then, there’s Xbox Live. Xbox Live makes it possible to hook up your TV to the Internet and play with people from all over the world. Not only can you kill people you know, you can also kill people in Texas. Thankfully, I don’t have a dial-up connection on it, or in addition to never being able to use the TV, I also wouldn’t be able to use the Internet. Not only can you kill them, you can talk to them whilst you kill them, thanks to Halo headsets.

Some of these kids say the most obscene things, and their voice sounds like that of a 10-year-old. It makes you want to buy a headset just to tell them to watch their language.

Halo 2 is God’s gift to little bros

KATI RITZ

It’s all so easy nowadays that we come to believe decisions should be that way too. We receive entertainment in our households with the touch of a button and can connect with people the world over in much the same way.

So is it any wonder that nowadays we come to believe decisions should be that way too. We receive entertainment in our households with the touch of a button and can connect with people the world over in much the same way.

We've forgotten that all that matters to us is giving, and more importantly, receiving, numerous gifts that we most likely could live without? If the idea of presents had never been incorporated into the Christmas holiday, we would look past it as we do every other holiday. Not only have we made Christmas into this incredibly materialistic holiday, it seems that everyone’s dragging their Christmas trees out to the street the day after Christmas. We decorate ‘til we drop for two months leading up to the morning of Dec. 25, and then, bam, it’s over, and all of the stores revert back to their plain, undecorated isles and storefronts. What are we doing to this holiday?

I love Christmas, and don’t think I’m against receiving any kind of gift— I’m a teenager after all. But that doesn’t mean that I don’t value the many other aspects of this holiday—getting all dressed up and going to church on Christmas Eve, watching the children’s annual Christmas pageant and singing in the choir. Whether you’re Episcopal or Lutheran, Baptist or Methodist, whatever, or perhaps affiliate yourself with no religious denomination at all, I’m sure you and your family can find some special part of Christmas to share besides just presents.

If you found 94 9 LIt FM blasting “Here Comes Santa Claus” in the middle of November and joyfully sang along and danced to the music, instead of turning off the radio and yelling at Delilah for playing Christmas music too early. You’d be ashamed. If you saw your neighbor decorating some 3-foot plastic tree the day after Thanksgiving, and ran over to help him string on the lights, you should feel even worse. And if you’ve had a Christmas wreath with little red bow hanging on your door for the past month, take it down, go inside, wait a day or two, and then re-hang it as if it had never been taken off. Christmas is special, wonderful holiday. But folks, you’re taking away the spirit and the feeling of Christmas if you spend half of November and all of December celebrating it. Believe me, Christmas will come soon enough.

We Americans tend to do some crazy things, especially when it comes to the holidays. We love the holidays. We love the parties, the yummy treats and desserts, the decorating. But overall we love to virtually ignore every single holiday except for one—Christmas.

Malls, department stores, grocery stores, even restaurants seem to all hang Christmas wreaths, set up miniature trees with flashing, colored lights, and put up little Santa Clauses that rock back and forth and sing songs like “Holly Jolly Christmas” in the middle of October. There are not one but many holidays, including major ones, between October and Dec. 25, the watch-your-kids-sip-open-all-of-their-presents-that-you’ve-spent-way-more-money-on-than-you-planned-day, half of which they will either toss to the side or say, “Ew, where’d you find this thing?”

Why have Americans started their lives around one of these holidays? What about Halloween? Thanksgiving! What about the millions of other Americans who celebrate Hannukah or Kwanzaa? Yes, kits, teenagers, and, even some adults can be seen dressed up as Batman or some kind of princess or fairy, running around the neighborhood trying to stuff as much candy into their bag as possible on that eerie night of Oct. 31. But still, no one spends as much time decorating, baking, or whatever they might do for Halloween as they do for Christmas, and stores usually set up their plastic pumpkins and fake witch’s brooms only a few days before the big night.

When it comes to Thanksgiving, it’s almost as if people have never heard of the holiday. Sure, grocery stores advertise their fresh turkeys and delicious pumpkin pies, but I have yet to see any array of Thanksgiving decorations displayed at the front entrance of any store, be it the supermaket or the mall. Why are there no dancing turkeys that wobble back and forth and sing some crazy Thanksgiving song? Couldn’t someone as easily make up a song about some turkey and a crazy adventure that he had as some song about Santa Claus coming down the chimney? What’s the difference? They’d both be equally amusing. What is so bad about Thanksgiving that it causes us to push it to the side like those Brussels Sprouts or an otherwise appetizing dinner plate? Love Thanksgiving, the smell of freshly cooked turkey, the taste of warm combbed muffins that have just been taken out of the oven. I love getting together with my aunts, uncles and cousins, and catching up on things. Am I the only one that enjoys such a gathering, such a wonderful occasion?

Maybe some of you created a Thanksgiving turkey stand, or some other crazy thing that a store could sell at an extremely high price, Americans wouldn’t ignore Thanksgiving and other holidays as much. If someone created a tradition of opening gifts on Thanksgiving, maybe we would get two weeks off for that too.

But is that really necessary? Have we become so materialistic that all that matters to us is giving, and more importantly, receiving, numerous gifts that we most likely could live without? If the idea of presents had never been incorporated into the Christmas holiday, we would look past it as we do every other holiday. Not only have we made Christmas into this incredibly materialistic holiday, it seems that everyone’s dragging their Christmas trees out to the street the day after Christmas. We decorate ‘til we drop for two months leading up to the morning of Dec. 25, and then, bam, it’s over, and all of the stores revert back to their plain, undecorated isles and storefronts. What are we doing to this holiday?

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The SAT has long been criticized for being a culturally biased exam. Critics say the exam is selective towards wealthy, white Americans. While there has been a lot of focus on this aspect of the SAT, the content of the test is not the only way the test is culturally biased.

Across the country, students must arrive at 8 a.m. to their designated testing center, wiping sleep from their eyes. But what about the students who have to ride the bus to school? In Atlanta, buses leave Five Points station every hour on the hour. In order to get to the SAT on time, one would have to be at Five Points at 7 a.m. In order to get to the Five Points station, one must catch a bus near their house around 6 a.m. Most students taking the bus have to wake up around 5 a.m. in order to get to the testing site on time. And then there are people who wake up at 7:30 a.m. and can get a ride to the testing site in five minutes. But here’s the problem: the majority of students taking the bus to the testing site are lower-income Americans who can’t drive or get a ride.

And the majority of these lower-income Americans are African-Americans and Hispanics. The SAT disadvantages these students not only because of the content of the test, but also because of the SAT starting time.

Studies have proven that students perform better in school and on tests when school starts later and they have had more sleep. Yes, on the most important test for high school students, partially deciding where we spend the next four years, some people have to wake up at 5 a.m. School is seven hours long and on weekdays, so it must start at 8:15. I don’t know how to solve the seemingly unfixable problem of the biased content of the SAT. In fact, I do think something like the SAT is necessary for college applications. But I do know how to solve the other bias of the SAT—by starting the test later, every student will have a good night’s sleep before they embark on a several hour bus ride to take the most important test of their lives.

I don’t know how to solve the seemingly unfixable problem and it is not going to just go away. It will continue to grow, like our waistlines, waiting or not we are actually still hungry. This is our problem and it is not going to just go away. It will continue to grow, like our waistlines, waiting for a cure that only we can provide.
Interactive entertainment faces censorship, criticism

If nurturing properly, video games will evolve into... a completely realistic and immersive simulation which destroys the boundaries of the physical world.

I love living in this city. Everyone I am around is outspoken and firm in their beliefs. We aren’t afraid to stand up for what we believe in, and we desire change. We try to make a difference. Urban Atlanta, however, is like a little child, who screams at the top of its lungs but never gives us the giant bible-belt state of sweet Georgia.

Our opinions go practically unheard in the big splash of red covering our state, placing it in the majority—as usual. California is the same way. The silence is deafening. I have to say it, but it seems to me that there is a difference between what the Bible says and your personal moral beliefs. I just wish someone could have pulled those aside at the polls and told them that they would not be punished if they voted for something they believed in morally, regardless of what their preacher says is right.

When America came to the polls on Nov. 2nd, many people voted for the gay marriage ban for one reason: religion. It is absolutely wrong and unfair that our government does not enforce the separation between church and state. The views of the largest decision-making body in our country should not be based on religious belief. I grew up in a very open religious environment, and have developed an understanding that there is a difference between what the Bible says and your personal moral beliefs. I just wish someone could have told those people that they would not be punished if they voted for something they believed in morally, regardless of what their preacher says is right. I wish someone could have told them that thoughts of equality for everyone in this country should not be denied by the rules of religion. For all of those who do, indeed live by the Bible, let me remind you that “We know and believe the love God has for us. Everyone in this country should not be denied by the rules of religion. For all of those who do, indeed live by the Bible, let me remind you that “We know and believe the love God has for us. Everyone in this country should not be denied by the rules of religion.

Gay marriage ban tests morals, matters of the heart

I love living in this city. Everyone I am around is outspoken and firm in their beliefs. We aren’t afraid to stand up for what we believe in, and we desire change. We try to make a difference. Urban Atlanta, however, is like a little child, who screams at the top of its lungs but never gives us the giant bible-belt state of sweet Georgia.

Our opinions go practically unheard in the big splash of red covering our state, placing it in the majority—as usual. California is the same way. The silence is deafening. I have to say it, but it seems to me that there is a difference between what the Bible says and your personal moral beliefs. I just wish someone could have pulled those aside at the polls and told them that they would not be punished if they voted for something they believed in morally, regardless of what their preacher says is right. I wish someone could have told them that thoughts of equality for everyone in this country should not be denied by the rules of religion. For all of those who do, indeed live by the Bible, let me remind you that “We know and believe the love God has for us. Everyone in this country should not be denied by the rules of religion. For all of those who do, indeed live by the Bible, let me remind you that “We know and believe the love God has for us. Everyone in this country should not be denied by the rules of religion.
Early action considered a better choice for students

By Chelsia Spencer

While early college-application pools continue to increase, so does the debate over the merits of early-decision programs. Since 2002, more than 50 colleges and universities have switched their policies from early decision to early action. To many students and parents, these two policies may seem synonymous, but the difference between them is of paramount importance for graduating seniors.

Early decision is a binding agreement in which students agree that if they are accepted, they will attend that college. Early action, on the other hand, is non-binding. If a student is accepted via early action, the student may still apply to other schools.

Early action is more flexible. Early action programs do not require students to enroll if accepted. Students simply send in an application in earlier in order to receive their response from the college earlier. Early applications in either category are generally due between Nov. 1 and Feb. 1 of the senior year.

“Early action” is presented for the students’ benefits as well as our own,” said Stephen Farmer, director of admissions at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill. “It gets the decision process out of the way for the student and gives us a head start.”

In response to both early-decision and early-action applications, students receive one of three responses from the college: acceptance, rejection, or deferral to regular decision for reconsideration.

Deferrals may seem rejections to early applicants, but they merely mean that the college is unsure about accepting a student and wants to judge the student’s application against the larger regular-decision pool. Likewise, students have time to reconsider their options and decide what is best for themselves based on early results.

High school counselors suggest that students should only apply early decision if they are absolutely sure of a first-choice school. Students who apply early decision, but choose only one school, they may apply early action to as many colleges as they please.

Because early-decision programs have trapped students in a commitment they may later regret, many schools, like UNC at Chapel Hill, have changed their early-decision policy to early action. The problem lies in the fact that many students are convinced that they must apply early decision to ensure a seat, but are not actually ready to select a school.

“It is better to base a decision on where [students] really want to go,” Farmer said, “not where they think they have the best chance of getting in. Most students in September of their senior year don’t really know where they want to go yet.”

In addition to early-decision applications, colleges can only examine a student’s academic records through their junior year. Accordingly, students need to complete all testing and application preparation before the fall deadline. If a student feels that his or her grades will improve in the senior year, then it may be better to wait to apply to college through the regular-decision process.

“There has been a bit of a frenzy,” Farmer said. “We want to give students and parents helpful advice...”

Arabs, others mourn Arafat loss

By Nick Stevens

Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat died at 75 in a Paris hospital bed on Nov. 11. He had flown to Paris Oct. 29 at his wife’s request after unsuccessful treatment in Africa for an unknown illness. On Nov. 5 he lapsed into a coma that left him on a respirator in treatment in Africa for an unknown illness. On Nov. 5 he lapsed into a coma that left him on a respirator. According to the family, Arafat’s death was caused by multiple organ failure on Nov. 11.

Arafat’s body was flown back to Ramallah on Nov. 12 where a private ceremony was held. Following his address, the Palestinian Authority brought in the ruins to serve as a gravesite for Arafat. Arafat will be buried in the ruins this week. Close friends, family, and assistants were at the funeral. In response to both early-decision and early-action applications, students receive one of three responses from the college: acceptance, rejection, or deferral to regular decision for reconsideration.

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Cobb County Schools’ debate over evolution goes to court

By Amelia Godfrey

The topic of evolution has been the bane of controvery over the past few years. In February, State Superintendent Kathy Cox announced that 70 of the state’s 159 school districts have ended up in a courtroom. The problem is with the intent of those who originally opposed the teaching of evolution.

“Teachers also feel that the long-lived debate over evolution goes to court Georgia education a bad reputation.”

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from page 1

"Ms. Grishman will serve as monitor for the attendance clerk, supervise the maintenance of the buildings and grounds, and set the master schedule for the entire school," he said. "She will also assist the staff and their lesson plans, develop performance evaluations to review strengths and weaknesses of teachers, and screen new applicants for teaching positions."

Ms. Martin Kelly collaborated on Ms. Grishman's new responsibilities.

"Ms. Grishman will have the same authority as assistant principal as Ms. Martin Kelly," Linn said. "It's nice to have a second assistant principal who loves the school and has Grady's best interests at heart." Linn was of the opinion that the split of responsibilities was a positive development.

"My role hasn't changed," she said. "I will continue to deal primarily with discipline. [Ms. Grishman] will deal with other areas as well as with discipline."

Dr. Murray's announcement to the student body on the morning of Nov. 10 brought both praises of Ms. Grishman’s work for the school and touched off widespread speculation as to who would replace her as assistant principal and what would happen until that time.

"Ms. Grishman wears many hats," Mr. John Brandhorst said. "She is not only the construction liaison, but has taken on many other roles in addition to coordinator for the magnet program."

Ms. Grishman said, "I have been awarded as a possible successor, quelled rumors she was interested in the job. "I am qualified for the administration position, but not the publication or mass-media aspect," he said. "I want to stay and lead the arts academy."

Ms. Lisa Willoughby, who has also been named as a possible successor, made it clear she prefers to stay where she is. "I don't have the necessary certification for such a position," she said. "And my passion is still in the classroom."

Dr. Murray explained how he anticipates the following months to unfold. "Ms. Grishman will fulfill both roles until we find a replacement for magnet coordinator," he said. "I hope that position can be filled by the beginning of second semester."

Dr. Murray also commented on some of the qualifications and characteristics he would like to see in the new magnet coordinator. "We definitely want a person whose vision for the magnet program will foster continued growth and excellence," he said. "I like to see vision from people, and I’m looking for someone with that next level of vision for the magnet program. New vision will help our program thrive."
The boys stayed in Sudan for only three months before they arrived. Since that time, the Sudanese government has stepped up its efforts to诱捕 and deport them. The boys are not able to stay in the same village, the UN said, because the government has declared them to be "outlaws." Many of the boys and girls have been turned away from schools, and others are not able to go to school. In fact, the UN says that the boys and girls are not able to obtain education at all. They are not allowed to attend school, and the government is not willing to let them continue their education. The boys are not able to stay in the same village, the UN said, because the government has declared them to be "outlaws." Many of the boys and girls have been turned away from schools, and others are not able to go to school. In fact, the UN says that the boys and girls are not able to obtain education at all. They are not allowed to attend school, and the government is not willing to let them continue their education.

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John Chol

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Lack of sleep blamed on school

By Allania Neely

Exhaustion. Fatigue. Lack of physical energy. These are just a few symptoms that have been sweeping the nation. The culprit is sleep deprivation.

Statistics show that the number of sleep-deprived Americans has greatly increased over the last hundred years. According to the Sleep Apnea Foundation, the average American adult only sleeps 6.9 hours a night. This number greatly differs from a poll in which the dozers of 1910 slept an average of nine hours a night. Shift work, such as firefighters, police officers, and doctors, average only five hours of sleep a night.

Insomnia, sleep apnea, narcolepsy are just a few of the many types of sleep disorders that affect people around the globe. According to the National Commission on Sleep Disorders Research, approximately 70 million people in America are affected by sleep problems. This dilemma has also greatly affected the economy. Sleep deprivation and sleep disorders cost Americans more than $100 billion a year due to lost productivity, sick leave, medical expenses, and property and environmental damage.

For Grady students, the cost is frequently attention during class. Drowsiness plagues students throughout the school—65 percent of students said sleep deprivation had a medium or big effect on their ability to do schoolwork. Sleep deprivation not only affects the students by reducing their attention during class; it’s also a problem for the teachers.

“Sleep deprivation is particularly a problem after lunch,” said Mrs. Guilbert, one of Grady’s math teachers. “It’s worse in periods five, six, and seven.”

Over two-thirds of all children experience one or more sleep problems at least a few nights a week. This problem has been proven to affect some students’ academic performance. Instead of the recommended nine to nine and a half hours of sleep a night, the most students are getting is six. This problem has been proven to affect some students’ academic performance.

“Mr. Brandhorst is going to make an initiative to go and support our sleep,” said senior Josie Duffy. “I am sleep-deprived from too much homework.”

Many school officials hope to purchase and install the state-of-the-art projectors by next year. Administration intends for the new projector system to improve instruction and the learning environment. The system was to include two wall-mounted speakers, a projector, amplifier and DVD/VHS combination. The teacher’s desk was to be updated with the equipment that is needed to make Grady a top-notch school.

Planners thought the addition of new projectors would improve the learning environment. The system was to include two wall-mounted speakers, a projector, amplifier and DVD/VHS combination. The teacher’s desk was to be updated with the equipment that is needed to make Grady a top-notch school.

We used to be more of a studio-based show. Now it’s more field-based.

Mr. Thaddeus Roberts

MAGAZINE TO THE RESCUE: After more than a year of viewing taped episodes of GNN, students continue to wait for live shows as a cure for their field-based projects.

But if sleep deprivation becomes continuous, it can seriously worsen one’s health.

Lack of sleep blamed on school

DEAD TIDED: Senior Frederick Clark falls asleep while reading Death of a Salesman in his sixth-period class. Most students at Grady feel they do not receive enough sleep, an average of six-to-seven hours a night, which they blame primarily on a heavy coursework load.
Survival skills mastered through primitive tech club

By Alex Daniels

What are the odds that a global energy crisis will send the planet back to the Stone Age? Probably project, the new Primitive Technology Club at Grady, they’re well-prepared for the long-term blackout that comes their way. “It’s pretty much just a hands-on history club,” said senior Dylan Woodliff to describe the Primitive Technology Club that he leads and helped create. By starting a similar program, and they have spoke with Dubose and Combs, who started a similar program, and they have spoke with Dubose and Combs, who.

The club, which currently has seven members and meets Fridays after school, has already commenced planning their first project to the creation of the club: a dugout canoe constructed using traditional Native American methods. To build the canoe, they will use slow-burning to hollow a log and then cut it with primitive tools. Senior Nick Stephens said he got the idea last summer while on the Lewis and Clark trail. “After seeing [a canoe] on the trail, I thought about making one, so I pitched the idea to [Woodliff].” The result, he said, was the founding of the club. Students a glimpse of things to come when Woodliff showcased a traditional bow drill at school. The tool demonstration elicited awe and amusement, but the always-modest Woodliff claims not to be in it for the glory. “I just find it interesting to preserve and appreciate primitive cultures,” Woodliff said. “I’ve been interested in this subject for years, and I always wanted a club where I could do some of the things I enjoy.”

Even before the club’s start, Woodliff always found interest in the outdoors. “I think [Woodliff’s] finally able to do Primitive in a club that he’s done in his free time for a good part of his life,” Martin said. “For other students, it’s just an opportunity for them to do something that they’ve never done before.”

The club’s sponsor, Mr. Scott Stephens, finds the subject not only interesting, but vital. With the way things are headed in the world, he says, the skills learned will be necessary. “I’m definitely anticipating a stone-age situation some time in the near future,” Stephens said. “What better place than school to learn the primitive technology that we’ll need once [oil and electricity are] all gone? That, and I just thought it was a neat idea.”

Some love history, some the outdoors, others fear the onset of a perpetual blackout. Every member has their own reasons for joining the Primitive Tech Club. And it goes without saying that it’s an interesting place to be.

Freshmen receive advice from WISE program, seniors

By Laura Jones

The gap between middle school and high school can often be wide. Students may feel overwhelmed and only need someone to offer a few words of advice to make the transition easier. “I’ve come in contact with many young ladies who just need someone to listen to them, and I’ve enjoyed being that person for them,” explained Ms. Keri McDonald, Grady’s health teacher. Ms. McDonald is now working with her friends Aisha Dubose, Aleza McClean and Janae Combs to establish a program to help these students.

Ms. McDonald got the idea for a program to help freshmen after working with the Boys and Girls Club for three years. She spoke with Dubose and Combs, who started a similar program, and they have now created WISE—Women Inspiring Self-Empowerment. Dubose, Combs and McClean previously put together a program called Advocating Children’s Rights, using their first names as inspiration for the title—AJA. Unfortunately, that program never got off the ground, so the women decided to use its blueprint for a new club at Grady.

The program consists of adult mentors working with upperclassmen—mostly seniors or juniors—with who the students are not already acquainted. There is one informational and one more physical event on Saturdays every month. The topics for the information sessions range from nutrition to stress management to college planning, while the other events focus on fitness and exercise.

The goal is to get the freshmen in touch with upperclassmen and adults, will turn in regular reports on what activities they do and what topics they discuss during these meetings, which will be reviewed by the founders of the club. The pupils are very optimistic. “I’m just excited,” freshman Lachrisha Baker said. “I wanted somebody to look up to. I’ve never had a sister, so I wanted to have an older friend to help.”

Fredman Leah Berger-Singer had similar reasons to join WISE. “It’s going to be fun to have older friends to show me the ropes,” Berger explained.

These mentors are equally animated. Junior Angela Oliver, an upperclassman mentor, is enthusiastic about the program. “I think this will be great,” Oliver said. “I remember what it was like to be an upperclassman, and it would have been fun to have an upperclassman friend, someone who already knew everything about Grady.”

The club’s goals are based on the broad idea of fostering good relationships between peers. These goals become more concrete when working to improve grades, decrease absences and risky behavior in pupils and achieve meaningful life goals. The group also plans on contributing their time to community service.

McClean put it best: “This should be an enjoyable experience that hopefully everyone will get something out of.”
Sierra leaves gap in office, travels home

By AALIYAH CARTER-BUFF

Many Grady students have noticed that despite new renovation and additions to the school, it’s still lacking something. That something is the school’s old attendance office secretary, Ms. Carla Sierra. Ms. Sierra’s warm smile and bubbly attitude contributed to a positive atmosphere in the sometimes-dull halls of Grady.

Ms. Sierra is greatly missed by students. “She was cool,” junior Stephanie Cooper said. “She let us do what we wanted but was still stern with the rules.”

Unfortunately for Grady, Ms. Sierra has moved back to Puerto Rico in order to help care for her grandparents. “I left Grady to help support my family,” Ms. Sierra said. “With my grandparents not healthy, I felt it was important [for me] to do as much as I could [for them].”

Ms. Roosevelt Foreman recognizes the necessity for Ms. Sierra’s departure. “Coming from the close-knit family that she has, she decided to go with [her parents],” Mr. Foreman said.

Mr. Foreman does admit that without Ms. Sierra, the school is less efficient. “She not only did work in the attendance office,” Mr. Foreman said, “but she was also fluent in Spanish, so she was able to mediate for Grady’s Spanish-speaking students and parents.”

Ms. Sierra worked in the attendance office, took minutes for the APS board and had a third job teaching ESOL classes. “She contributed a lot to this school,” Coach Thomas Jones said.

Ms. Sierra also helped Grady’s Spanish teachers with class, and even helped them to improve their own Spanish. “Not only did she have a good personality, she loved literature,” Spanish teacher Richard Buerkle said. Though Ms. Sierra knows leaving was necessary, she retains fond memories of Grady.

“I miss Grady a lot,” Ms. Sierra said. “I miss the people and the environment. I wish I could be at Grady, but I know that I need to stay with my family.”

Despite Brown vs. Board ruling, students still experience self-segregation

By CHELSEA BLADEC

Integrative schools do not mean integrated students. Even upon the 50th anniversary of the Brown vs. Board of Education case, look at a classroom and you’ll see that few students venture across the color line. Although some students have included people of other races in their repertoire of friends, studies show that allowing people to mix does not mean they will.

Take Grady for example. The make up of Grady is diverse, with 64 percent African-American, 31 percent Caucasian, and 5 percent other. But, according to a Grady survey, 45 percent of students’ friends are primarily of their own race.

“I don’t think we need to worry when young people choose to sit with people like themselves, with whom they may share common experiences and interests,” said Dr. Beverly Tatum, president of Spelman University and a well-respected scholar and expert in the field self-segregation. “When those groups are racially similar, we get nervous because it reminds us of segregation tendencies. But the flip side is that in fact connecting with people like yourself can be an important part of identity development.”

But many Grady teachers believe that forcing students to integrate is necessary. “I look up and if the dynamics of the classroom don’t suit me, I ask people to move around,” science teacher Jeff Cramer explained.

Ms. Diane Young agrees. “Classrooms should be diverse in race, and teachers must make an effort to encourage students to work with a diverse group in classes,” Young explained. “But the parents had more issues with it than the students did.”

Forty years later, Southern Regional Council president, Donald Cleveland, doesn’t think the integration process is complete.

“What we have isn’t really integration,” Cleveland said. “What we have is the mixing of bodies. There are still certain systems in place that prohibit people from having an equal opportunity to develop to their fullness.”

Senior Bevelyn Ukhah agrees, and offers a solution. “Segregation now is really more of a state of mind,” Ukhah said. “It took time to physically integrate people, and now all we need is time because people are comfortable with each other.”

While Ukhah believes time is the ultimate healer, the senior asserts that Grady is not yet cured of its segregationist tendencies. Ukhah gave the example of the one-on-one meeting, where the racial divide was very obvious. “It was all the white people on one side and then all the black people falling all over each other,” Ukhah said. “It disgusts me, how segregation affects our lives.”

In contrast, some Grady students have a more luke-warm disposition towards self-segregation.

“It just tends to happen,” senior Lillian Van said. “It’s not always an issue about racism or sexism, but the opportunities for young people to connect across lines of difference,” Dr. Tatum said.

“It is important to affirm both identity and build community, so that all students do feel a part of the whole.”
Masquerade hosts Spare Change, releases news of club’s sale next year

By William Van DerKloot

From obnoxious punk rock to Norwegian teenage rock: Spare Change's music uses a variety of instruments and styles, including many instrumentals. The music was far more sophisticated than the typical rock band. "It was a good turnout," sophomore Brandon said. "I'm looking forward to the next show."
Lady Knights lack effective offense in first loss

By Dyl Lino

After a disappointing 7-14 season last year, the Lady Knights basketball team is looking to bounce back. Coach Dawn Baker, coming off her first year coaching at Grady, struggled to get last year’s team to play together and communicate on the court. Things are expected to change dramatically this year, however, as the players and coaching staff get to know each other better and develop a more positive feeling on the court.

“We are more confident than last year and hope to interact with each other during the games better,” junior guard Kail Woods said. The Lady Knights will need to replace four key seniors lost to graduation: Lebritney Akila Glasby. There is a lot of pressure on this year’s upperclassmen to step into their position and their leadership roles.

“My goal this year is to become more of a leader,” Woods said. “I intend to speak out more and help with team unity.”

This year’s team features four seniors, a junior, three sophomores, and a couple of freshmen.

“We need to improve our depth and experience because we have a lot of young players this year,” Baker said. “Our biggest expectation this year is to develop basketball players that don’t mind playing hard.”

The Lady Knights played their first game of the season at Turner Middle School against Washington High School. The game was a low-scoring affair as both teams had trouble finding their offense early. The Knights began to lose their composure after early foul trouble forced starters to sit on the bench. The Knights came out with energy in the second half, but ultimately Washington’s low-post play and outside shooting buried Burke’s dreams.

“We played good defense, but our early foul trouble costs us in the end,” senior Allison Quell said. Quell was forced to sit on the bench after four fouls in the first half.

Offensively, the Lady Knights failed to execute their offensive plan. They stepped up their defense during the fourth quarter to give the team a chance to win the game. The deficit, however, was too much for the Lady Knights to overcome as Washington held the ball and ran out the clock.

“We need a lot of improvement offensively. We need to stop getting intimidated and start remembering the plays,” sophomore guard Tiffany Platt said. Platt played an excellent game, hitting three three-point shots, and scoring 12 of the team’s 27 points.

Horseback riding often overlooked as rigorous sport

By Wendy Morgan

As the wind whips across her face and she reflects on her life in the cool serenity of Piedmont Park, Emily Burke has to double-check her surroundings. She is at another grueling cross-country time trial, preparing for the state meet, but her mind is in a completely different world: a world not far from here, but one filled with her to be, his philosophy is still the same: be aggressive at all times.

Coach Jones is the prime definition of a player’s coach, for he can teach the game and still have fun. “I am a hands-on type of coach,” Jones said. “If I tell a player to run three miles, I’m going to run with them.” That attitude is seemingly rubbing off on impressionable players.

Coach Jones only cares about his players, which will make us play harder,” junior outfielder Mark Cheney said. “The Knights will need to play as hard as possible this year to meet the huge expectations for the upcoming season. With six returning starters, including four seniors, the Knights are expected to contend for the region championship. But judging by his laidback attitude, Coach Jones doesn’t seem daunted by the pressure.

“I understand I have some big shoes to fill, but I’m not worried because we have great senior leaders on this team,” Coach Jones said. “As long as the chemistry is there we’ll be alright.”

Coach Jones understands that success begins in practice. He is planning a rigorous practice routine that will focus on every part of the game. The practice will begin with a three-mile jog followed by a two-hour practice in which there will be no guarantees, but one thing is certain: this year’s team will be aggressive.
Boys place second at state meet

By RUSS SEASORN

In a repeat performance of the 5-AAA region meet, the 2004 boys cross country team fell short of a first-place finish at the state championship meet on Nov. 6 at Carrollton High School. Although seniors Nick Stephens and Saji Girvan placed first and second, running times of 15:55 and 16:16 respectively, it was not enough to send the team home with a championship trophy.

"Saji and Nick had the individual spots wrapped up," Stephens said. "So the real focus was on the team finish." Despite the low team average time of 17:34, the Kings were unable to post the least amount of points needed to win. Instead their season-long rival, the Lovett Lions, placed first with three runners in the top 20. The average of 17:28 and a meet low of 53 points, 19 points ahead of the Knights.

"I'm not at all disappointed in what happened because no one really expected them to do," Coach Richard Buerkle said. "They ran over their heads," D'Avanzo said. "They really ran like they were there, so the crowd kept you going. It was definitely more exciting than the region meet.

The last two years, the girls have been ousted from the top three spots by private schools. In 2003, Westminster took first, followed by Pace Academy and Walker.

"The big issue in cross-country, and all sports in Georgia, is the Atlantic Coast Conference when it comes to anything basketball is the equivalent of the NFL," Buerkle said. "The ACC rules high over any other conference whenever it comes to basketball. It dominates like King Kong did the Empire State Building and the city of New York. It is very possible this season that the nation could see the best college basketball performance by a single conference in a long, long time. Even the less-hyped teams are always good for a couple of upsets."

"I want to stay in shape, and I'm really working on my speed," Girvan said. "I was especially pleased with Wes," Buerkle said. "He ran a great time on a hard course.

Junior Collier Johnson, Montague and senior Nick Ward ran together throughout the race pushing one another to move ahead, and placed 29th, 30th and 31st respectively. "I felt like we could have done better," Montague said. "But we gave it our best shot." Due to the small AA field, the meet did not begin until 1 p.m. As a result of the unexpected heat, every Grady runner except for Vernon slowed down after the first mile. "Our first miles were where they should've been," Stephens said. "But the heat really wore on all of us."

Nick Stephens

Next year will be a rebuilding year for the Knights. Four of the top seven runners will graduate. But returning runners Vernon, Johnson and sophomore Stone Irvin will be among the more experienced runners and hope to lead the team to another successful season.

Girls finish fourth to end season

By WOODY MORGAN

Even though fourth place doesn't furnish the family room with a championship trophy to stick up by the fire, it is starting to feel like a lot like home to the Grady girls cross-country team. For the second year in a row, the girls have placed fourth in the state championship meet held Nov. 6 at Carrollton.

"They did exactly what I expected them to do," Coach Jeff Cramer said. "My goal every year is to qualify for state, and if you do that then you've had a good season.

"I think we had the individual spots wrapped up," Stephens said. "So the real focus was on the team finish." Despite the low team average time of 17:34, the Kings were unable to post the least amount of points needed to win. Instead their season-long rival, the Lovett Lions, placed first with three runners in the top 20. The average of 17:28 and a meet low of 53 points, 19 points ahead of the Knights.

"I'm not at all disappointed in what happened because no one really expected them to do," Coach Richard Buerkle said. "They ran over their heads," D'Avanzo said. "They really ran like they were there, so the crowd kept you going. It was definitely more exciting than the region meet.

The last two years, the girls have been ousted from the top three spots by private schools. In 2003, Westminster took first, followed by Pace Academy and Walker.

"The big issue in cross-country, and all sports in Georgia, is the Atlantic Coast Conference when it comes to anything basketball is the equivalent of the NFL," Buerkle said. "The ACC rules high over any other conference whenever it comes to basketball. It dominates like King Kong did the Empire State Building and the city of New York. It is very possible this season that the nation could see the best college basketball performance by a single conference in a long, long time. Even the less-hyped teams are always good for a couple of upsets."

"I want to stay in shape, and I'm really working on my speed," Girvan said. "I was especially pleased with Wes," Buerkle said. "He ran a great time on a hard course.

Junior Collier Johnson, Montague and senior Nick Ward ran together throughout the race pushing one another to move ahead, and placed 29th, 30th and 31st respectively. "I felt like we could have done better," Montague said. "But we gave it our best shot." Due to the small AA field, the meet did not begin until 1 p.m. As a result of the unexpected heat, every Grady runner except for Vernon slowed down after the first mile. "Our first miles were where they should've been," Stephens said. "But the heat really wore on all of us."

Nick Stephens

Next year will be a rebuilding year for the Knights. Four of the top seven runners will graduate. But returning runners Vernon, Johnson and sophomore Stone Irvin will be among the more experienced runners and hope to lead the team to another successful season.
WINTER SPORTS UPDATE

BOYS BASKETBALL
Grady 42, WASHINGTON 39
Washington 56, GRADY 54
Luella 62, GRADY 53
THERRELL 79, Grady 53
Grady 66, PAIDEA 33

Region 5-AA Standings

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from page 1

The undefeated Calhoun Yellow Jackets ended Grady’s postseason hopes with a 37-3 victory in the second round of the state playoffs.

Grady began the game with a drive that led to a Jason Pimser 39-yard field goal, the Knights only points of the game. Calhoun used their size and strength to rebound, scoring 37 unanswered points.

The players took that advice to heart and a week after Grady’s season ended, preparation for the next year began. The team has begun weight training Mondays through Thursdays in the renovated workout room under the practice gym.

“Our team has so much potential,” Kelley said. “We could be as successful as this year. We have athletes, but we need to get stronger.”

Junior linebacker Cedric Sykes began weight training with goals of bouncing back from a leg injury suffered against North Atlanta in the second game of the season.

“The season was over, and I hadn’t played in 11 weeks,” Sykes said. “I know that I could have contributed to the team. The fact that I only played only one game motivates me to get bigger, stronger and faster.”

The team does a lot of joking around in the weight room, but they are also there to work. The Knights will only be losing eight seniors, meaning the team that learned to play so well together will still be largely intact next season.

“We know we have talent, we are a young team that needs to get more physically dominant,” Sykes said. With young players and hard work, the Knights should have little problem improving this year’s 8-4 record and playoff success.

“We have all the tools to compete for a state championship,” Kelley said.

Knights fall by two after opening season with victory

By Walthall Beck

By beating the Washington Bulldogs 42-39, in their season opener, the boys varsity basketball team equaled their regular-season win total from the year before. But in the rematch on Nov. 23, it was Washington who walked off the court with a win, 56-54.

The Knights entered the season with plenty of room for improvement. In the 2003-04 season, the Knights had one of the worst seasons in Grady history, ending with a 2-20 record. Both wins, one in the regular season and one in the regional playoffs, came against Holy Innocents, whose only win was against Grady.

The Knights have returned most of their key contributors this year and have picked up several young players to replace the four seniors lost to graduation.

“It is on the returning players to step up and lead the team,” said freshman small forward Andrerius Thomas. “The young guys don’t have the experience to step up yet, so those who do have to take the lead.”

Entering the game on Nov. 23 the Knights knew they would see a different Washington team than they had five days before. In that game the Bulldogs were missing several key players because their football team was still in the state playoffs. These players debuted against Grady on Nov. 23 after their football team fell to Ware County 10-7 the previous Friday. Early in the game, the Knights struggled to get their offense going. Plagued by turnovers and missed free throws, the Knights fell behind 15-8 at the end of the first quarter.

The Knights’ scoring continued during the second quarter, and they entered halftime trailing 26-18. The Bulldogs were carried by a terrific performance from guard Jimmy Williams, who scored 12 of his 16 points in the first half.

The Knights came out strong to start the third quarter, led by Thomas’ 12 third-quarter points. But Thomas fell off in the fourth quarter, recording only two points and finishing with 18.

“We struggled to run our offense in the first half,” said junior point guard Kevin Holly. “Coach Slade yelled at us at halftime about the amount of turnovers we had made and told us that it was up to us to fix it.”

Entering the fourth quarter, the Knights had closed the once 16-point deficit to only three points, at 40-37. Grady’s good play continued throughout the fourth quarter, and they tied the game at 45. The teams traded buckets for the next couple of possessions and were still deadlocked at 51 with two minutes to play. The Knights’ scoring attack was led by senior forward Gerald Perriman who tallied two three-point plays and 11 points, all in the second half.

Washington close was center George Robinson, who had 13 second-half points.

In the closing minute, Grady had the ball and a chance to tie, trailing by only three, when point guard Kevin Holly’s pass was intercepted by Washington’s Wil- liams who converted the uncon- tested layup, giving the Bulldogs a 56-51 lead. A buzzer beater by junior forward Michael Gunn pulled the Knights within two but no closer.

“A lot of people want to blame the game on our late turnover,” Gunn said. “But if we could have made our free throws earlier in the game, we never would have had to come from behind.”

ALL’S WELL THAT ENDS WELL: Freshman wide receiver Andrerius Thomas (far left) watches the ball into his hands against the Carver Panthers. Thomas had one touchdown reception on the year. Sophomore running back Zachary Reem (above) still arms a Coke Eagle out of the way en route to a 37-6 victory. Head Coach Ronnie Millen (left) led the Knights to a second-place region finish and the first playoff victory in more than 50 years.