



WEST SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL 6100 ROLLING ROAD SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22152

For many, school opens on a somber note

Former student Miguel Saenz killed in Rolling Road wreck

By Gracy Obuchowicz
& Melissa Tran

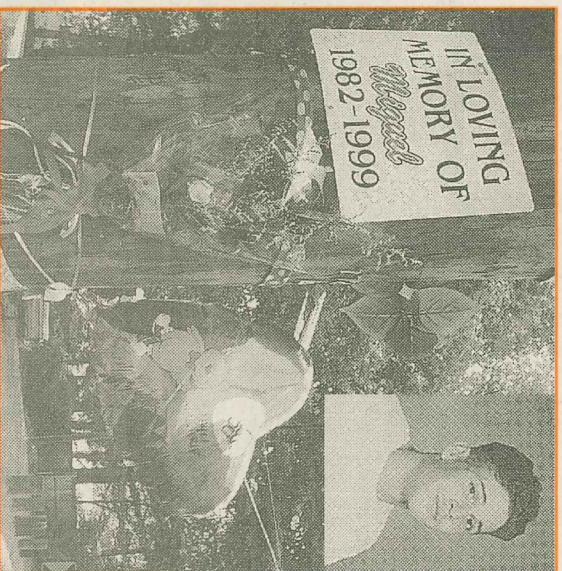
Oracle Editors

For many WS students, the death of a well-known former student has dulled the usual back to school excitement.

Miguel Saenz, a rising senior and former WS athlete, was killed in a car accident in the early morning of August 7 on Rolling Road. Saenz was traveling with Khalid Bag, 19, who survived with a broken neck. Both passengers were wearing seatbelts, but due to the high speed impact to the driver's side of the vehicle, the accident was fatal for Saenz.

The vehicle, traveling southbound, drifted over the double yellow lines. Saenz, in an attempt to steer back, overcorrected and ran off the road, hitting a telephone pole.

The viewing was held at Advent Funeral Home on August 16, and funeral services followed the next day at Ft. Belvoir. Because of his military family, Saenz was buried in Arlington Cemetery.



Friends show their sadness for Saenz by decorating the site of the accident.

Amy Whipple

Juniors 'steal' parking

By Donnie Watkins
News Editor

Beginning this year, thirty parking spots have been reserved for WS juniors.

WS has 300 available parking spots which students may reserve for a \$100 fee. Historically, seniors were given priority with the leftovers made available to juniors on a first come, first served basis. Last year, this method resulted in a problem.

"If you were a junior last year, you weren't getting a parking space unless you camped out the

night before they went on sale," said senior Jose Coll.

Because of last year's minor outcry, the WS administration decided that 30 parking spaces would be reserved for juniors. But unlike years past, these spaces will be distributed not on a first come, first served basis, but instead according to need.

"We have persons who are non-seniors with needs which require them to have vehicles at school," said Zion McKinney, head of WS security.

McKinney admits that the concept of "need" is gray and will

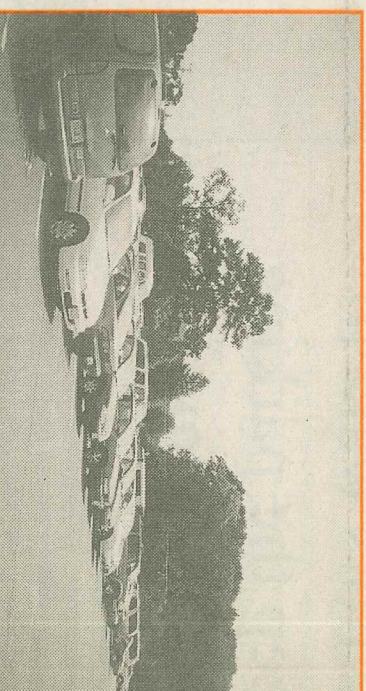
have to be decided case by case, but that, roughly, "it's something unusual, it puts persons in a bind, where having a car is important."

This new plan, while perhaps solving last year's problems, does not please everyone.

"It's not fair at all. Last year we had no chance at getting parking," said senior Jeff Prieleau. "Seniors have to have priority."

Other students see the new policy as a practical answer to last year's problems.

"Sometimes juniors need them," said senior Jared Fischer.



Melissa Tran

Reserved parking spots give 30 juniors guaranteed spaces.

"You need a car if you're going to co-op,"

Juniors who are selected to get

one of the spaces must still pay the \$100 fee, and should be prepared to walk. The reserved

spaces are located at the far end of the lower parking deck, next to the baseball fields.

"I'm not too concerned that I'll be missing out on the farthest spaces available," said Fischer.

Flock of new teachers arrives

Group includes WS grads and Irving English teacher

By Erin Muir
Managing Editor

More kids and more retirements made for huge problems in Fairfax County this summer.

The comparatively high salaries Fairfax teachers usually earn ensure that teaching vacancies will be quickly filled. But this year, the sheer volume of open teaching positions due to increased teacher retirements and a higher number of enrolled students has made qualified teachers a precious commodity.

Dr. Smith interviewed over 100 potential teachers to fill the almost 40 vacant positions at WS. He finished filling the last few slots just a few weeks before the beginning of the school year.

The teachers Dr. Smith hired are a diverse group composed of former WS students, teachers from Washington Irving and other nearby schools, and some teachers from as far away as California or New York.

Social Studies teacher Micah Hertzig moved to Springfield from San Diego after three years of teaching there.

"My wife and I are expecting our first child and her family lives here," said Hertzig. Fairfax County's reputation for excellence led him to seek a teaching position here. He selected WS after seeing the school web site.

Fitzroy Frew, who teaches English, was born in Jamaica. He later moved to New York, where he finished school and did his student teaching.

"I chose Fairfax County because of its multi-cultural setting and its proximity to DC," said Frew.

Most new teachers, however, are transfers from other Fairfax County schools or other nearby counties.

Math teacher Lee Edwards was an engineer for Lockheed-Martin before he became a teacher. He originally sought a job teaching physics, but took a position in the math department when Dr. Smith

asked him if he would be interested in teaching algebra.

"I think it's important that professionals come back into education," said Edwards. "I'm an engineer turned teacher."

World history teacher Margaret Mey taught at the Islamic-Saudi Academy in Alexandria before coming to WS.

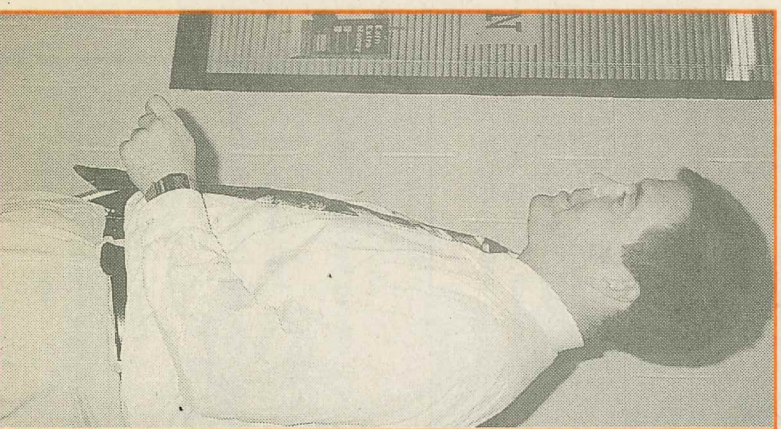
Brad Davis, Malia Bell and Brian Martin all were students at WS before returning to be teachers.

English teacher Martin is a new teacher at WS, but his face is familiar to students who attended Irving.

"My first year teaching at Irving, those kids will be seniors now," said Martin.

Besides being a former student, Bell was a long-term substitute last year when John Natalie left. This year she is a full-time English teacher and swim team coach.

With the diverse population of WS, the school welcomes new additions from a variety of backgrounds into the school year.



Melissa Tran

Government teacher Brad Davis stops to talk in the hallway.

English department surprises students

Teachers hold students accountable for summer reading assignments with timed writings

The English department has finally put its foot down. Year after year, summer reading has supposedly been required. But, until this year, there has been no uniform policy on enforcing this requirement.

Beginning in 1996, students were told that they must read an approved book over the summer. Upon returning to school, they learned that they would not be tested on the books.

The next year, students were warned that "this year you will be tested on your summer reading." It didn't happen.

Last year, although it wasn't uniform, some teachers did make it a point to give timed writings on the summer reading. This, of course, was the exception, not the rule.

But this year, the English department has finally done what it should have done long ago. It has voted to make it a policy, that by September 17, every student will have to take a timed writing on their summer reading.

It is given that required reading over the summer will cause students to complain. Students instinctively hibernate over the summer months,

Editorial

"I love school. And this book, too!"



allowing their brains to slow to a snail's pace. It takes an extra effort to focus their minds long enough to read, but the rewards are obvious and worthwhile. And so, when

in the past students would make this extra effort and would arrive at school to learn that it wasn't worthwhile, more harm than good was done.

Students began their school year with the impression that teachers were unreliable and that their effort during the year may or may not be worthwhile. Yet it is essential that students understand and recognize that they will be held accountable for their academic actions.

Instead, when summer reading is assigned and not graded, we punish those students who take the time and exert the effort to read.

The solution offered by the English department this year was proper.

Instead of lowering standards and expectations, those expectations have been raised. Instead of giving up on summer reading, they have made it a certainty. Read, and you will be rewarded. Fail to do so, and you will be punished accordingly.

Certainly, students may not enjoy summer reading and timed writings, but thanks to the English department's decision, at least they know that they have to do it.

Driving people mad

Seniors want to keep the parking lot for themselves

By Gracy Obuchowicz

Oracle Editor

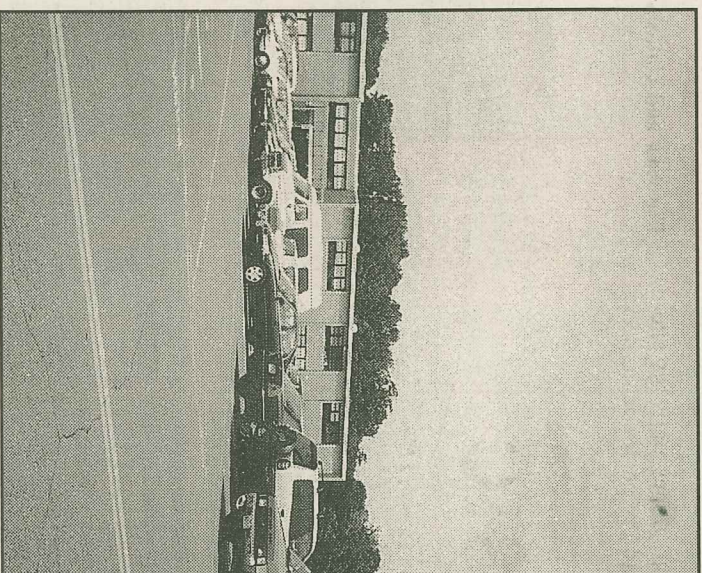
I could handle not getting a parking permit last year.

I could handle parking blocks away from the school, waking up 20 minutes earlier, and being at the mercy of the crossing guard everyday because I was not one of the 11 juniors lucky enough to get a parking permit last year. I could handle all of these things because I still had the thought that next year I would take full advantage of one of my few senior privileges. I would have my very own covered parking space in the WS student lot.

What I can't handle is that this year 30 parking spaces that should go to the seniors who were denied spaces last year will be given to juniors who have the "greatest need."

I understand that juniors' lives are busy enough that they would need a parking permit. Last year, when I rushed out of school as soon as the bell rang in order to be at crew practice on time, I definitely felt I had appropriate need for a parking permit. But at the same time, I also realized that the majority of the senior class was in my same situation. Since they had been here a year longer than I had, they also deserved the spot more than I did.

Real senior privileges have always been lacking at WS, and I think it would be a big mistake to take away one of the last real ones. By giving juniors parking spots, the school would be taking away one of the few things that I did have last year: something to look forward to.



Christie Nelson

Seniors and juniors both want spots in the WS parking lot.

all this hassle just to find a way to get to school? The school's answer to this issue is obvious—just have more students take the bus to and from school. Unless juniors are in a desperate situation, they would not dream of standing at the bus stop with freshmen and be humiliated. Seniors should have "special privileges", but parking should not be one. Seniors probably remember when they were juniors, too, and stressed out about how they would get to school. Something must be done about this problem. WS' population increases every year, so it is obvious that a bigger parking lot be built, or more parking off campus should be available for students. The last thing any junior wants to hear at the end of the day is that their bus ride home has just taken off.

Juniors want their own parking spaces in the main lot

By Theresa Rupp

Viewpoint Editor

Juniors have licenses. Juniors have cars. What juniors don't have is parking spaces.

There are only 30 available spaces for juniors this year, which means that only 5% of the class receive spaces in the school lot.

Since Oakford Drive has recently been made a no-parking zone, juniors with cars have to either get to school at 6:30 to get a place on Rolling Road or risk getting hit on busy Hillside Road. The church, as always, is also a no-parking place.

Without lots of options, juniors are finding new ways to get spaces, such as carpooling or having a senior buy them a parking permit. Should juniors have to go through

THE ORACLE

West Springfield High School
6100 Rolling Road,
Springfield, VA 22152
(703) 913-3953

A student-run publication to inform and entertain the West Springfield High School community. Opinions expressed in Viewpoint and in reviews and columns. Editorials represent the opinion of at least two-thirds of the Editorial Board, and do not reflect the views of the adviser, the administration or the Fairfax County Public School System. *The Oracle* reserves the right to reject inappropriate advertising. Signed letters and personal commentary will be considered for publication, but could be edited.

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Editors

Experiencing Jewish culture

Yom Kippur holiest holiday

By Jen Schonberger
Inside Story Editor

A day of atonement, fasting, and praying are some of the characteristics that make up the most important Jewish holiday, Yom Kippur.

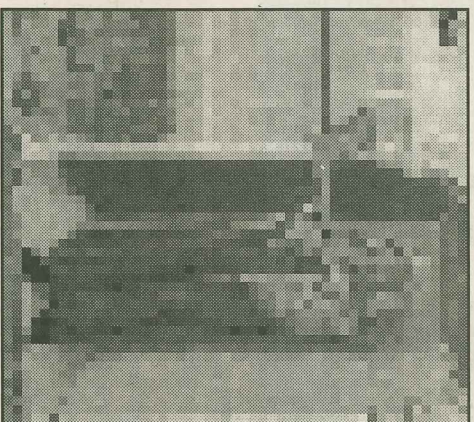
Yom Kippur itself actually means "the day of atonement." The holiday falls on September 20 this year, and is the holiest day of the year. The entire day is spent praying to God for forgiveness for sins committed over the past year. The holiday starts from sundown the day before, this year September 19, until sundown the next day.

Beginning from sundown, eating, drinking, working, wearing leather shoes, bathing, and anointing one's self is forbidden until the holiday is over. These procedures are done so that the focus is on God, and only God, and the mind can focus on asking for forgiveness.

There are some exceptions to these restrictions. They can be lifted when there is a threat to health or life. Children under the age of nine and women in childbirth are not permitted to fast.

Most of the holiday is spent in the synagogue in prayer. The evening service that begins Yom Kippur takes place the evening before. The opening prayer is called "Kol Nidre" which means "all vows." In this prayer God is asked to annul all personal vows that may be made in the next year.

The service generally starts in the morning around 9 AM and lasts into the early afternoon when there is a break for rest. The service is then resumed at 5 or 6



The sounding of the shofar traditionally ends a service on Yom Kippur.

PM until nightfall. The concluding service of Yom Kippur, Ne'ilah, usually runs an hour long. The service is sometimes referred to as the "closing of the gates" because it is the last chance to ask for forgiveness. It ends with a last blast of the shofar.

Yom Kippur is a combination of confession and spiritual purification. Yom Kippur is the day on which Moses descended from Mt. Sinai with the commandments from God.

It is customary to wear white on the holiday, which symbolizes purity. It is also customary to refrain from eating fish or drinking intoxicating drinks during the festive meal eaten before the fasting begins.

Yom Kippur atones only for sins between man and God not for sins against another person.

Making music

Marching Spartans endure summer camp

By Janelle Baldwin
News Editor

The Spartan football team isn't the only group getting ready for the first home kickoff on September 16. The WS Marching Spartans are preparing for the game as well. They practiced more hours during two weeks of band camp than the football team did in that same time.

Members of WS' top bands are required to attend marching band camp in August to rehearse for performances at competitions and at home football games.

Daily practices focused on marching, memorizing music, and learning marching formations. These routines were review for returning members, but newcomers had a lot to learn.

Teaching rookies how to march is really frustrating," said senior section leader Jackie Stellar.

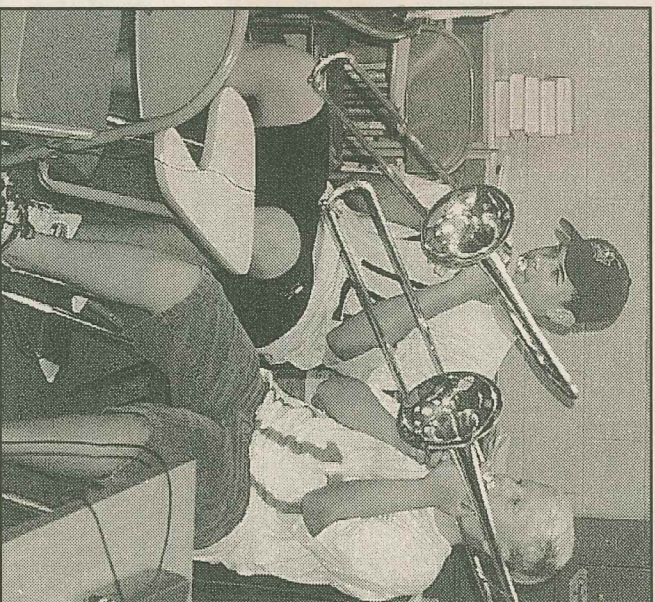
In spite of the frustrations, the Marching Spartans have worked diligently this summer to put together what they hope will be their best show yet.

This year, with songs that are more recognizable, the marching band thinks that more people will be humming along

with them at halftime.

"The football players spent two weeks making fun of us, but one day we saw them singing our songs as they walked from the stadium after practice," said Stellar.

In preparation for their halftime performances, marching band members endure all-day practices while standing at attention on the asphalt.



The trombone section of the band practices diligently during part of the two-week band camp.

Christie Nelson

Every day during camp, the Marching Spartans practiced despite grueling heat and humidity.

"It takes a lot of work and a lot of time," said senior drum major Jaime Wilkins. "Commitment is the biggest part of the

Students spend summer in Israel

By Katie Walker
Features Editor

Sightseeing, hiking, or heading for the beach may sound like the typical activities of a summer vacationer, but some West Springfield students got to take these experiences to a whole new level.

Select members of the B'nai B'rith Youth Organization (BBYO) each had the opportunity to take part in one of several trips to Israel. Each trip concentrated on a particular theme, such as outdoor adventure or leadership, and lasted for approximately a month.

"You could go on whichever trip sounded the most appealing," said WS senior Steve Orens. "I went on the outdoor adventure trip. I liked going rappelling because it helped me to conquer my fear of heights. I don't do things like that often."

Students who participated in the adventure trip went hiking, mountain biking, rappelling, and kayaking, along with various other activities. They visited major cities such as Jerusalem, Tel Aviv, and went snorkeling in Eilat.

Through an organization called Nesiya, which offers trips to Israel for high school students, WS senior Rachel Brogan went to Israel with a program called the Nesiya Arts and Culture Seminar.

The first two weeks we spent in the desert hiking on little goat trails," said Brogan. "My favorite experience was watching the sunrise in the desert on our hikes."

The Arts and Culture Seminar also featured a two week long study of kibbutzim, and a final two weeks in which

participants traveled to the cities of Jerusalem and Tel Aviv to examine the differences between various sects of the Jewish faith.

Students on both trips had the opportunity to interact with the Israeli teens that lived on a collective settlement called a kibbutz.

"It was really interesting talking to them," said Orens, "but they speak a different language, and the little bit of



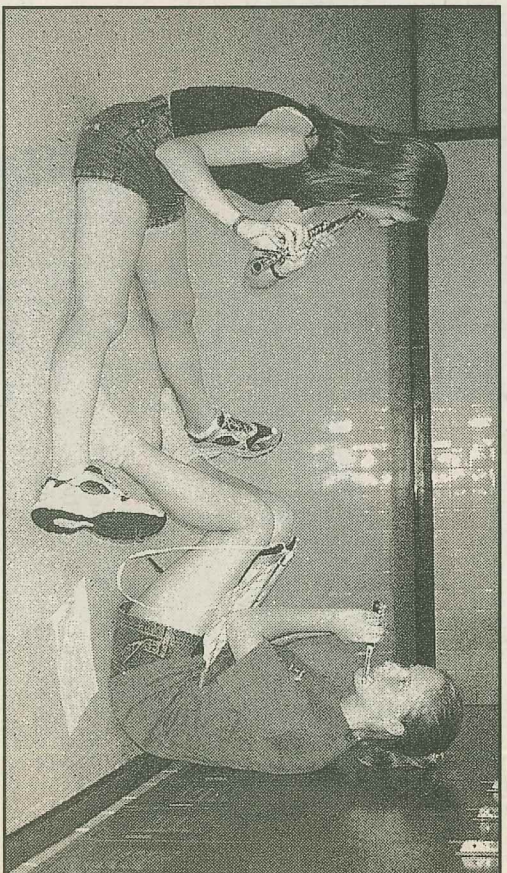
Senior Steve Orens plants a tree on a kibbutz in Israel.

English they know is bad so it was hard to communicate."

While in Israel, teens on the BBYO and Nesiya trips had to adjust to the differences in American and Israeli culture, and got to observe Israeli customs and values up close.

"The people there like to serve you; they like to make a guest feel completely at home," Orens said. "They kept on feeding me. They made me a chocolate cake."

Brogan, however, did not want to adjust to the new diet. "The food was awful," she said. "If I ever eat another schnitzel again, I'll scream."



Sophomore Laura Carpenter practices her flute along with sophomore Wendy Pedder, who is accompanying her on the piccolo, during band camp.

Christie Nelson

whole thing," she said.

In their senior year, many dedicated Marching Spartans who have been with the program for their entire high school career step up into leadership positions in the band.

Drum majors Nona Spain, Gwynne Booth, and Jaime Wilkins are the marching band's student directors. Also, there are section leaders that are in charge of a particular section of the band and assist with the music, marching, and drills.

Realizing that it is sometimes hard to stay motivated during the two weeks of camp, seniors try to keep up spirit in various ways.

"It's only going to be as fun as we make it," said senior section leader Amber Steele. Spirit days with crazy hats and boxers as well as a Marching Spartans softball game help to boost the morale of band campers.

For many of the Marching Spartans, there "will always be a part of their lives in music," said senior drum major Nona Spain. "For the most part, everyone's out there because they want to be."

Spirit days with crazy hats and flowers as well as a Marching Spartans softball game help to boost the morale of band campers. Daily practices focused on marching, and memorizing music and line formations, in preparation for the fall football season.

Oomph!

Wrestling bounces basketball out of spotlight

By Jenny Braudaway

Inside Story Editor

Fake is "in". At least in sports. But, fictitious nature and all, wrestling has recently become one of the most popular and talked about sports.

"People like wrestling because it's fun to watch other people beat each other up," said sophomore Ryan David.

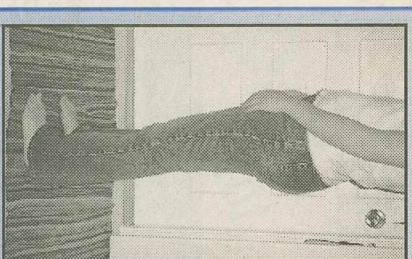
The two leagues behind the growing sport are the World Wrestling Federation (WWF) and World Championship Wrestling (WCW), both multimillion dollar corporations. The two leagues create a world that thrives on choreographed matches, and cheesy, soap opera-like story lines, both of which have received enormous reaction from fans.

"World wrestling is popular now because of all the drama," said sophomore Mike Bowah. "It's the high intensity and the extremity that makes it fun to watch."

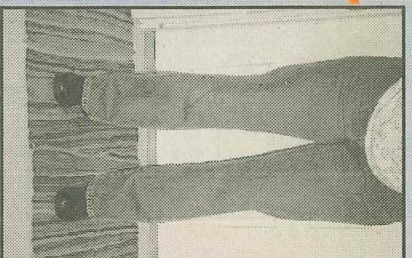
Unlike many fads, wrestling is staying strong, partly due to extreme commercial infiltration. WWF and WCW can be seen everywhere. There are WWF CDs, WWF and WCW videos, and bestselling video games, such as "WCW Nitro" and "WWF Attitude".

TV is a whole other market for the corporations, launching the popular "WWF's Raw/War Zone" on USA and "WCW's Monday Nitro" on TNT. WrestleMania, the equivalent to the Superbowl in wrestling, had the largest pay-per-view intake ever for the WWF, raking in \$30 million last March.

The large fan base also has a lot to do with the stars of wrestling who have made a name for themselves, recognized as their alter-egos,



Back
to



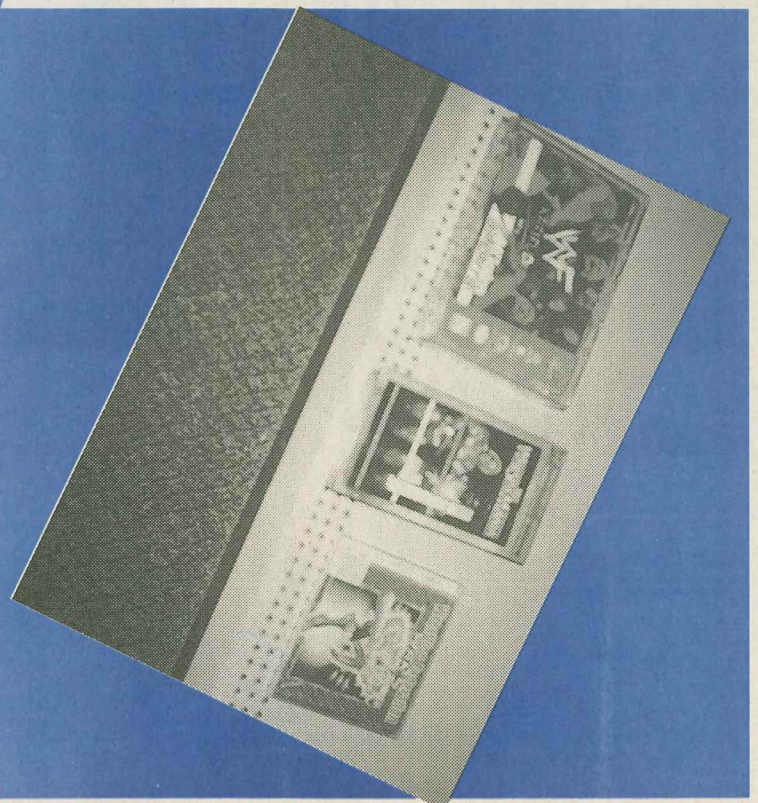
So

such as Hollywood Hogan and Goldberg.

"The Rock is my favorite because he is so sexy," said senior Gina Ciardullo.

On the other hand, the NBA, formerly one of the more popular sports, is dying down. Basketball has lost hype and much interest in the past year due to stalling games and poor role models.

It may seem as though wrestling is in danger of becoming played out as well, but corporation executives are taking measures to prevent that, including more record deals, TV movies/specials, and a 1,000 room casino hotel in Vegas in the future. Meanwhile, Stone Cold Steve Austin will continue to replace Michael Jordan on TV's all across America.



Commercial items such as videos, CDs, or games like "WWF Attitude" help keep the sport of wrestling popular.

Jenny Braudaway

Vroom!

Accessorizing with speakers, rims, spoilers

By Mike Fletcher

Business Assistant

Years of waiting, and months of practice leaves potential WS motorists with one final hurdle: picking out a car.

Many first-time car buyers can't quite afford to pick any vehicle they desire, but with so many choices out there, favorites are bound to come up.

"I'll almost take anything I can get, but I like smaller cars like a Honda Civic," said sophomore Jake Harris.

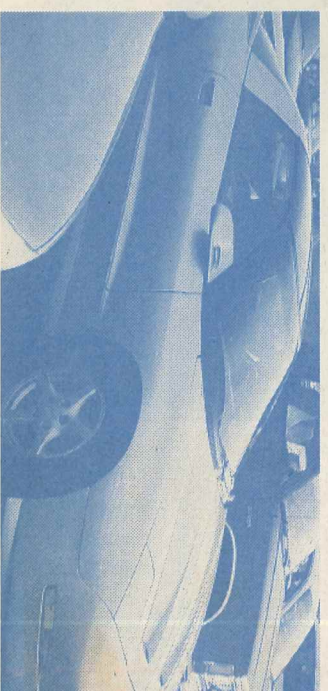
Agreeing with what many WS students prefer, the top cars under \$15,000 are, according to an IntelligenceChoice survey, all small cars. The Volkswagen Jetta came up on top, followed by the Dodge Stratus and Chevrolet Malibu.

Many young car companies are now presenting buyers with quality cars for a reasonable price. Saturn and Kia have always marketed towards a younger audience, and are usually ranked high in quality standards. Along with compact cars comes the also popular trend of a much larger design.

The latest type of car to take center stage are the Sports Utility Vehicles, or SUVs. According to the research firm, Nextrend, SUVs should account for more than 16 percent of all new vehicle sales in 1999.

W

- Hard Times Cafe
- Oracle
- "Fight Club"
- Bright colors
- Gap Commercial
- Denim
- Turntable Music
- WWF
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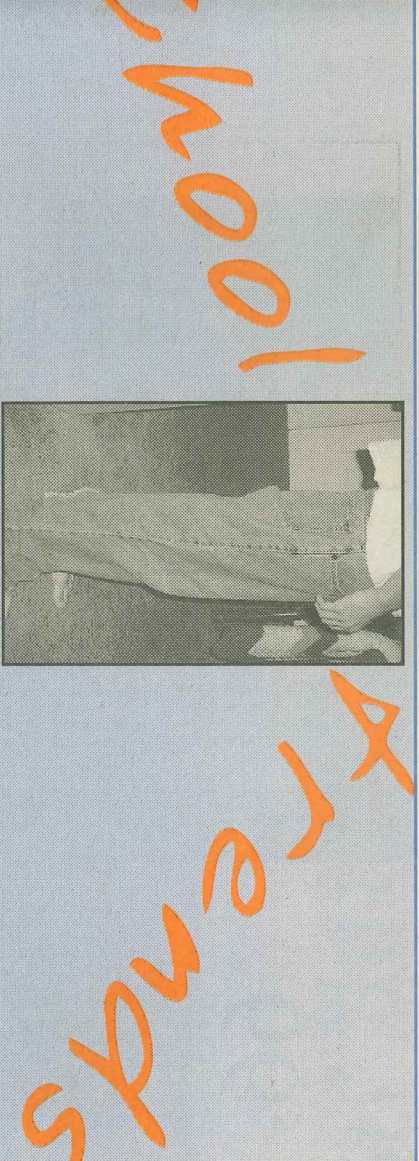
Advertised as rugged, off-road adventure vehicles, very few actually see this type of action. The look, feel, and safety that SUVs provide is what seems to appeal to most buyers. Almost every company, from Dodge to Lexus and Mercedes-Benz has some form of an SUV on the market today.

After narrowing down the possibilities through price and style, there are still many choices to make. As always, price is important to consider when making such a large purchase, and popular accessories are usually figured into everyone's budget.

"When I go to buy a car, I'll make sure it has at least a few extras," said sophomore Nick Garza. "Air conditioning, power windows, and a decent stereo are the least of what I would like."

From sporty and compact cars to rugged SUVs, it is not hard to pick out these popular cars by their sheer numbers on the road. Despite all preferences, most new drivers will be happy with almost anything.

Popular cars with students include Volkswagen Jettas, convertibles and Honda Civics



Jeans
 hit the halls
 of WS
 hottest styles

Ooooooh!

Fall's

By Jenny Braudaway

Inside Story Editor

Fashion is tired. Meanwhile, comfortable individuality is still popular among high school students, as it has been for the past few years.

Replacing the colors black and gray which were popular last fall, are bright colors, particularly orange and red. Vests have stayed popular, ranging from casual to utilitarian, and

OUT

Milanos

Lee Lance

“The Blair Witch Project”

Black

Old Navy Commercials

Cargo

Latin Music

NBA

Tae-Bo

Palm Reading

Pagers

www.hamsterdance.com

Play Station

The Daily Show

Bill Clinton

Adidas

Virginia Beach

Seventeen Magazine

CK Be

Redskins

Superbowl

Matt Damon

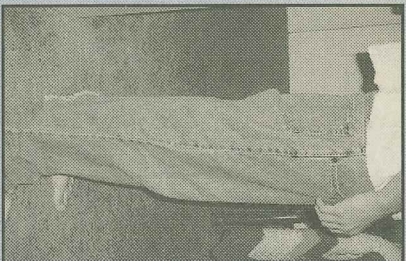
VW Bugs

Britney Spears

Fleece

Purses

Dawson's Creek



of WS

are seen paired with basics.

“The Old Navy Tech Vests were cool at first, but once everyone started getting them, they became overdone,” said sophomore Jason Havinga.

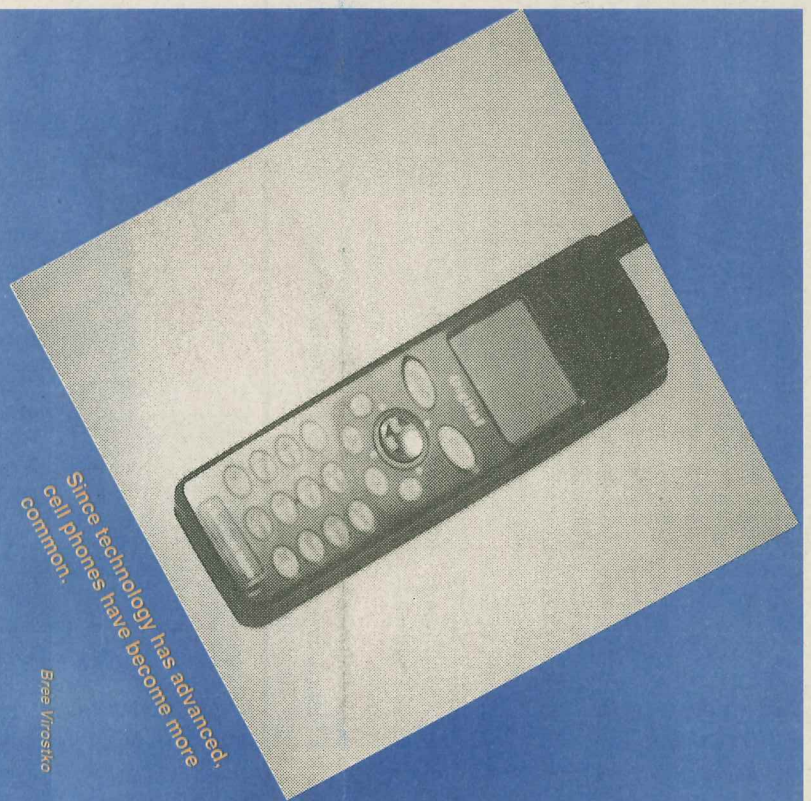
Going in with winter are roll neck sweaters, knits, and plaid. Also, staying with the comfortable theme, denim is making a huge comeback in dark shades and in every facet of clothing, including shirts, jackets, jeans, and skirts.

“I think denim is a versatile fabric,” said junior Krisen Hamilton. “You can do anything with it. It kind of goes with everything.”

Items that will not make a comeback this year include Capri pants and butterfly clips. For guys, oversized T-shirts are being replaced by fitted sweaters. Utility bags and backpacks are convenient alternatives to purses, or in the case of guys, nothing. Wool slides or clogs and boots are also “in” for both girls and guys.

The big picture however, is comfort. The look for this fall is natural and clean cut, which is little change from the atmosphere of ‘WS. But to help personal style among students in the midst of Abercrombie and Gap, paying attention to details is important. Mixing old and new clothing, layering, and pairing contrasts, like bright colors with basics, or prints with solids make a difference.

“Comfort is in style now because it reflects your personality,” said senior Diana Luk. “It shows a person is comfortable with themselves.”



R-r-r-rr-ing!

Cellular
 phones
 are called
 into popularity

By Theresa Rupp
 Viewpoint Editor

Move over pagers. Step aside old-fashioned telephones. The cool way to “ring” in the new millennium is with a brand new cell phone.

Cell phones aren't only for corporate business people anymore. To prove that, many companies are showing consumers how useful a cell phone

can be for anyone. Nextel, Ericsson, Motorola, and Nokia are a few brands who have taken the newest technology and used it to increase the options available to prospective cell phone buyers.

“I love my cell phone,” says junior Maggie Van Camp. “It is so convenient because I can talk to anyone even when I'm not at home.”

The cell phone itself can cost anywhere from \$60 to over \$200.

Monthly access fees, which depend on how many airtime minutes you want, can cost from \$20 to \$150 a

month. For an added \$10 to \$20 a month, customers have the option of getting special features such as text messaging or paging and voice mail capabilities.

PC, e-mail, and WEB Text Messaging allows anyone with access to e-mail or the Internet the ability to send messages from any computer to a digital phone. Most cell phones can hold up to 120 characters per message and have easy reading, storing, and deleting abilities.

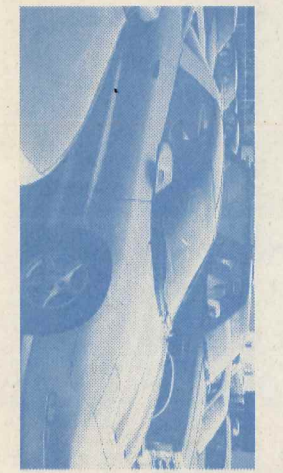
Being able to page and also receive pages or voice mails from a cell phone is also another reason why cell phones are very convenient.

“I never have to worry about having a pager and then trying to get to a phone anymore,” says Van Camp.

Another reason why cell phones are becoming so popular is because they are small and light-weight. Fully extended, some phones are about four or five inches long and can weigh as little as five ounces, which make them easy to slip into a pocket or a purse.

Most cell phones include the same options as regular telephones do, such as Caller ID, Speed Dial, memory for storing phone numbers, and multiple ringing tones.

“Cell phones have become so high tech,” says senior Ryan Lewis. “I'm so glad that I don't have to be home anymore to receive my calls.”



Compact cars fit many students' budgets.

Bree Vrostko

Bree Vrostko

HFSStival back for another round in '99

By Sue Moon
News Section Editor

With the millennium coming to an end, people have been counting down to the last minute.

To add to the hype of the end of the millennium, rock station 99.1 WHFS has been celebrating 1999 as "the year of HFS."

In addition to special promotions and events sponsored by HFS, a second edition of the HFSStival for the fall season follows the concert usually held in the beginning of the summer.

Tickets to the show, which went on sale Saturday, August 28 sold out in a record time of 64 minutes.

Expecting a sellout, people camped out and waited in lines Friday night to get tickets, or they had other people attempt to purchase tickets for them.

"My friend got my tickets because I was visiting a college in Pittsburgh when they were on sale," said senior Serena Detry.

Not everyone had to wait overnight for tickets. A special offer for the members of WHFS's e-mailing list allowed for the presale of 9,900 tickets through Ticketmaster's online transactions.

For this edition of the HFSStival, the event is returning to RFK Stadium in Washington, D.C. from the larger and newer

PSINet Stadium in Baltimore where the year's previous concert was held.

"I'm glad the festival is back at RFK. Going to Baltimore was too far away to see a concert," said sophomore Laura Ogborn.



Limp Bizkit is one of the bands headlining this fall's HFSStival.

Bands headlining the Fall Edition of the event include 311, Limp Bizkit, Long Beach Dub Allstars, Filter, and Jimmie's Chicken Shack.

The organizers of the HFSStival finally booked 311 for their first appearance at the concert, after years of scheduling conflicts which prevented the group from performing in the past.

"I like the style of 311 because they combine different types of music into one," said junior Danielle Consentino.

Limp Bizkit is also playing at the festival after declining an offer to attend this past summer's event. Busy with the recording of their release, *Significant Other*, the band could not make time to be in Baltimore.

Formerly Sublime, the Long Beach Dub Allstars also join in the musical festivities.

On the local side, Baltimore band Jimmie's Chicken Shack will grace the Main Stage for a

third time.

Other local acts, such as SEV, Underfoot, Colouring Lesson, and Modern Yesterday will perform on the Second and Local Stages.

Fairfax natives SEV, with their blend of heavy metal and hip-hop, perform for the second time at the HFSStival. They appeared earlier this summer at the festival after they won a contest sponsored by HFS to find an opening band for the Second Stage.

Acts can also be seen in the rave-oriented Transmissions Tent which will feature the Thievery Corporation, Diesel Boy, as well as other deejays and turntablists.

Some believe the devotion to the year's hype displayed by the station will ensure one of the best concerts of the year.

Sophomore Nina Chumbley said, "There's going to be a lot of bands, a lot of people and a lot of fun."



Bree Virostko

A juke box, friendly service, and hearty chili can always be expected at Springfield's brand new Hard Times Cafe.

Hard times cafe chases away school blues

By Myles Curran
Entertainment Assistant

They call it the Hard Times Cafe, but it isn't hard to eat there by any stretch of the imagination.

Hard Times Cafe, which opened at Springfield Plaza in the recent months, is a restaurant where you can get good, filling food at affordable prices.

Chili is what Hard Times Cafe is most known for, but not expensive chili. The most expensive dish of chili on the menu is only \$6.70. The types of chili that flavor the menu are Texas, Cincinnati, Terlingua, and Vegetarian chili.

All of the styles are unique, as they all have their own little quirk to them. Out of the four, Cincinnati style is the most unique. It is served over spaghetti, and has spices such

as cinnamon added.

If you're not looking for a hearty bowl of chili to eat, Hard Times offers many other items, from the basic BLT sandwich to the Inferno Salad.

The Inferno Salad is the cafe's house salad topped with chicken and a blend of hot sauces. Inferno Chicken is also an available selection on the lengthy menu.

In addition to the cafe, the Santa Fe Cue Club is in the back of the building. The pool hall has twenty-five pool tables, and, like the cafe, is open until 2 AM every night. Its \$5 for unlimited play from Monday to Friday, and \$8 on Saturday and Sunday. However, if you make a purchase at Hard Times Cafe, you get free pool from 11-5.

If you suddenly have a craving for chili, or for basically anything else, Hard Times Cafe is the place to go.

Now Open **PAPA JOHN'S** Now Open

Papa John's Pizza is now open in Burke and offers delivery service to your school. We provide special deals for schools and school-related functions including all booster events, fund raisers, parties, meetings and other activities.

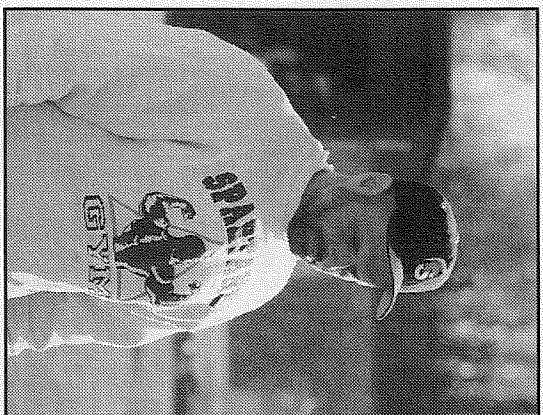
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Coaches change arenas

Football, tennis, swimming, girls CC see new faces

By Laura Robinson
Sports Editor

After the football team turned in a disappointing 4-6 finish last season, Athletic Director Tod Chappell took action. Chappell decided to hire a new addition to the football coaching staff. Along with the new football staff, coaching changes have also been made on other sports teams including the tennis, swim and dive, and girls cross country teams.



Tasha Rimm

Chappell hired Bill Renner, Langley High School's former coach, as the head football coach. Renner replaced Frank Greneti who was head coach for 14 seasons leading the Spartans to one playoff season in 1993. As a new addition to the sports program Renner is the most well known coach in part because he brings NFL experience; having punted for the Green Bay Packers in the '86 and '87 seasons. In his five seasons at Langley, he visited the playoffs twice. During his career at Langley Renner acquired a 31-19 lifetime record.

Malia Bell, assistant coach of the '98-'99 swim and dive team has taken the head coach position from former coach Gerry Pannoni. Pannoni led the girls swim and dive team to the state championship meet. He was on the coaching staff for the football team, and was also the head coach of the JV baseball team, which finished first in Patriot district play. Pannoni is now the head football coach at Lee High School.

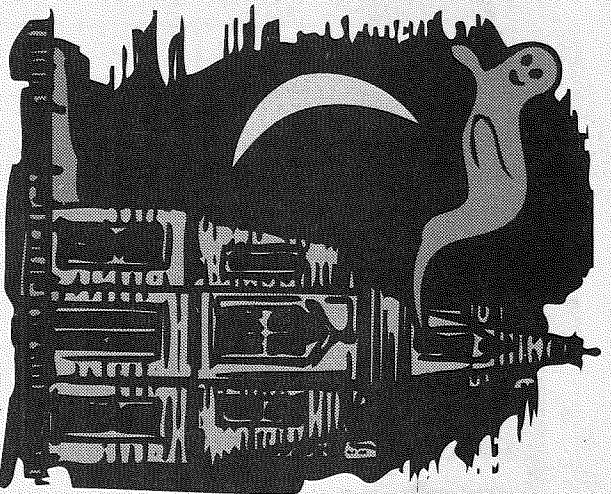
The girl's cross country team has a new assistant coach, Duke Baird, former WS graduate and Marine. On the tennis team Steve Riggs replaces Alexandra Meighan as head coach. There are also many new assistants helping out on the fall sports teams.

With all the new additions to the already talented sports program, Chappell is very optimistic about the upcoming sports seasons. Chappell looks forward to the new year.

"We have a lot of new coaches this year. Hopefully they'll make it a good one."

HELP Needed For Burke Nursery's Fall Festival!

October Nights, Weekends and After School Hours



HAVE FUN
MAKE MONEY!

9041 Burke Road Burke, VA
323-1188

| | |
|------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Varsity Football | Varsity Field Hockey |
| Sept. 9 at Lee 7:30 | Sept. 14 at Home 5:15 |
| Sept. 17 at Home 7:30 | Sept. 22 at TC Williams 7:30 |
| Sept. 24 at Home 7:30 | Sept. 24 at Home 5:15 |
| Oct. 1 at West Potomac 7:30 | Sept. 28 at Home 5:15 |
| Oct. 8 at Lake Braddock 7:30 | Sept. 30 at Lake Braddock 7:30 |
| Oct. 15 HOME COMING | Oct. 4 at Home 5:15 |
| Oct. 22 at Hayfield 7:30 | Oct. 6 at Hayfield 7:30 |
| Oct. 29 at Home 7:30 | Oct. 14 at Home 5:15 |
| Nov. 5 at Home 7:30 | Oct. 20 at West Potomac 5:15 |

Fall sports schedule

| | |
|--------------------------------|---|
| Fall Tennis | Cross Country |
| Sept. 9 at TC Williams 4:00 | Sept. 15 Monroe Parker Invitational girls-4:15, boys-4:45 |
| Sept. 13 at Home 4:00 | Sept. 28 Tri-Meet at Robinson 4:00 |
| Sept. 15 at Home 4:00 | Oct. 5 Tri-Meet at South Run 4:00 |
| Sept. 17 at Lake Braddock 4:00 | Oct. 13 Quad-Meet at Burke Lake 4:00 |
| Sept. 21 at Home 4:00 | |
| Sept. 23 at Hayfield 4:00 | |
| Sept. 29 at Home 4:00 | |

| |
|--|
| Golf |
| Sept. 9 vs. Oakton at Int'l GC 4:00 |
| Sept. 13 vs. Lake Braddock at Twin Lakes 4:00 |
| Sept. 15 vs. Annandale at ANGC FX 4:00 |
| Sept. 22 vs. West Potomac at Belle Haven 4:00 |
| Sept. 23 vs. Hayfield at Fort Belvoir 4:00 |
| Sept. 27 vs. Edison at Fort Belvoir 4:00 |
| Sept. 29 vs TC Williams at Springfield GC 4:00 |

Football trains for success

By Mike Waldron
& Julie Davis
Oracle Staff Writers

Even though WS' first football game was played 30 minutes away on the Thursday night before school started, the fans still turned out to support the team. Many of the fans came just to watch the Spartans' football program enter a new era.

The game marked the first under new head coach Bill Renner, who previously led Langley to the Virginia AAA playoffs. For months Renner challenged his players in preparation for the coming season.

The players took part in mandatory weightlifting and conditioning sessions. They also built team unity by having fundraisers that would eventually pay for new uniforms.

In the team's first game against Chantilly, it exhibited the results of working hard in the off-season.

The Spartans fell behind 14-0 in the open-

ing minutes and things looked desolate when they trailed 21-0 going into halftime.

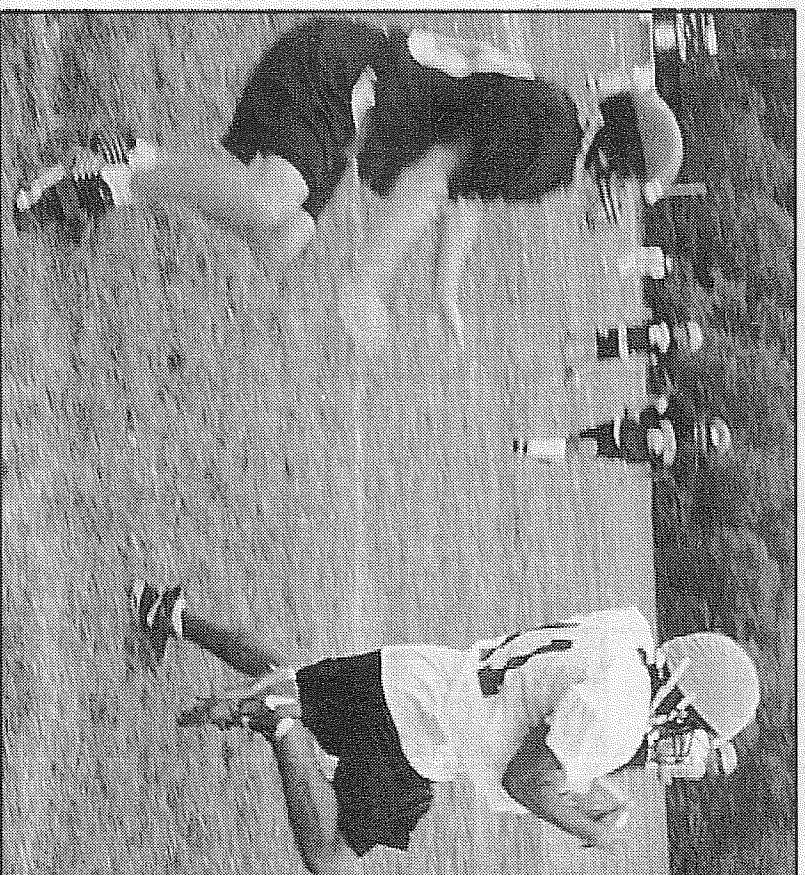
"At halftime we realized that we were not playing up to our potential," said junior Mike Keller. "After working hard in the off-season, we knew that we could play much better. We knew that we had to come back."

But in the second half, it was as though a different team emerged.

Senior running back Steve Massie's 32 yard touchdown run in the third quarter fueled the team's rally. After another Chantilly touchdown, junior Kurt Mielec recovered a fumble and ran 65 yards to make the score 28-14.

Minutes later, Massie, who gained 193 yards on 25 carries, scored again. However, the Spartans were unable to recover the on-side kick and lost 28-21.

"Even though we came up short, it was still a great comeback," said junior Chris Behnmann. "We will learn from this game and use it to our advantage."



Members of the football team practice under new head coach Bill Renner.

Jenny Askin

Horoscopes



Virgo (8/23-9/22): You will contract a rare tropical disease found only in Springfield due to the lack of parking spaces.



Libra (9/23-10/23): Think about investing in some medieval armor. Mrs. Harris doesn't like you and wants to throw you out the window.



Scorpio (10/24-11/22): Watch out for being online too much. All those hang-up calls were from people who thought you were the online help hotline.



Sagittarius (11/23-12/21): Watch your back. You never know when a rabid grizzly bear, disguised as a freshman, may be following you.



Capricorn (12/22-1/20): Avoid the Fairfax County Parkway. African albino endangered rhinos and elephants are taking it over.



Aquarius (1/21-2/18): As part of your first social studies project, you will travel to Peru by llama.

Pisces (2/19-3/20): An old teacher will return from an extended stay on an African island and is back to make up for all those days you stuck gum to her chair.



Aries (3/21-4/19): You are a person of great beauty. Run away to Timbuktu to kick off your career as a neck model.



Taurus (4/20-5/20): Remember all those hours you spent online this summer? It was a bad idea. Now your kids will all be three-headed mutants due to excessive computer monitor radiation.



Gemini (5/21-6/21): You will drink too much Gatorade and will end up looking like one of those people in the commercials, the ones with the multicolored neon perspiration.

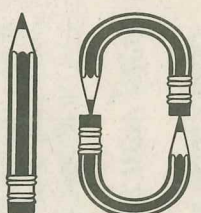


Cancer (6/22-7/22): Record the time and location every time you blink. You never know when this information could become vital.



Leo (7/23-8/22): You will catch the Ebola virus from a member of the elusive WS monkey drill team.

-Compiled by Nikki Werking and Amy Whipple

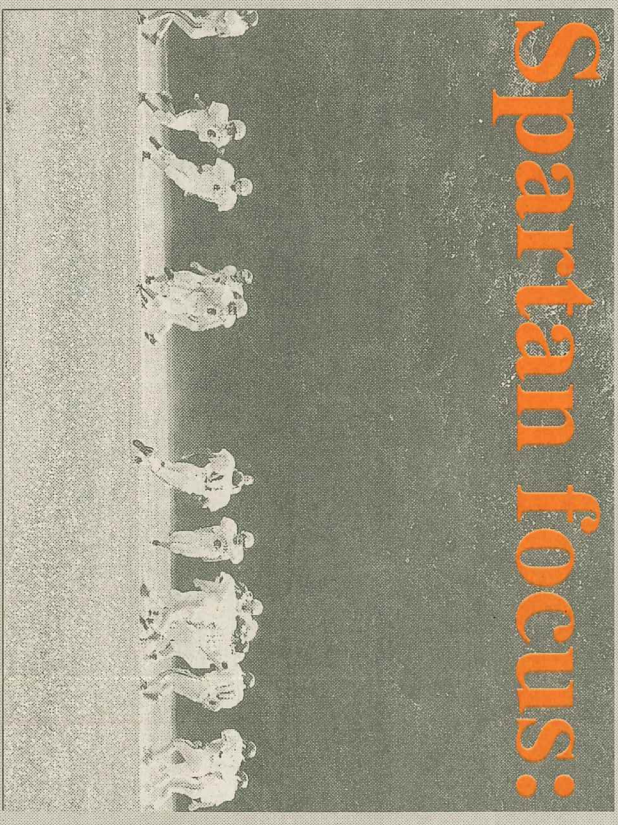


Top

Reasons why it's great to be a senior

10. Sleeping in on PSAT day
9. Getting into college
8. Having a broken locker
7. Harassing the underclassmen
6. Open campus (wait a second...)
5. Having a freshman buddy
4. Parking Permits for all but thirty unlucky seniors
3. Senior Rail!!!
2. Finally winning the spirit stick after being cheated three years straight
1. Carpeted hallways (oops, I mean...)

-Compiled by Melissa Tran



Bree Vinastko

Spartan focus:

The WS Freshman football team practices before the start of the season. Their next scrimmage will be played at Centreville HS at 6:00 P.M. on Thursday, September 16. The team's first game is on Thursday, September 23 at Robinson HS at 6:00 P.M.

September Calendar 1999

| Sunday | Monday | Tuesday | Wednesday | Thursday | Friday | Saturday |
|--------|--------|---------|-----------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | | 1 | 2 | 3 | 4 |
| 5 | 6 | 7 | 8 | 9 | 10 | 11 |
| 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 |
| 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 |
| 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | | |

Tennis @ Home vs. W. Potomac 4PM

Field Hockey@Home vs. Hayfield V~4PM JV~5:15 PM

CC~Monroe Parker Invitational G~4:15PM /B~4:45 PM

Underclass Photos September 15-17

Football @ Home vs. Centreville 7:30 PM

Back-to-School Dance 8-11:30 p.m.

Tennis@Home vs. Annandale 4PM

Golf@BelleHav vs W. Potomac 4PM Back-to-School Night 6:45 PM

Football~Away vs. Robinson Frosh 6PM / JV 7:30PM

Football@Home vs. Robinson 7:30 PM New Senior Orientation

Golf @ Ft. Belvoir vs. Edison 4PM

Field Hockey@Home vs. Robinson V 4PM / JV 5:15 PM

Tennis @ Home vs. TCW 4PM Golf @ Spg GC vs. TCW 4PM

Football @ Home vs. W. Potomac Frosh 6PM / JV 7:30 PM