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THE ORACLE

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Infamous songs seize spotlight

By Melissa Lipman
Entertainment Editor

The Infamous sang their way to first place in WS's sixth annual Battle of the Bands on Friday, June 9.

The band includes George "Infamous" Biskey on guitar and vocals, Steve Carr on bass and vocals, and Quinn Gorburt on drums.

The set was marred only by a brief interruption, which occurred when Biskey's stage-jump in the last song prompted the crowd to start moshing. The song had to be stopped and the audience returned to their seats in order to prevent injuries. Despite this, the Infamous was well received by the audience and judges.

The second place band was Milos. Its members, Tom Hauser, Jason Wendling, Donny Potter, Jason Strzemienski and



Steven Carr, a member of the winning band Infamous, sings to the crowd.

Steven Adamchak, entered wearing blue T-shirts, each of which has one large white letter of "Milos" printed on it, so the shirts spelled out the band's name. Although they were a bit more relaxed than Infamous,

Bree Vrotsko

they were equally well received by the crowd. Dark Haven, a heavy metal band, came in third with howling vocals, loud music and head banging. Before performing, Jeremy Cassano, Haven's bass player and WS senior, described his feelings on the show saying, "I've been looking forward to it for years."

The show was held in the auditorium. Seven bands, including the winner and Mathias, Gimpy Squirrel, Low Profile and Cambiata performed for five judges and many students. The show ran for over four hours and included acoustic performances between sets.

Almost all music was original, except for a Red Hot Chili Peppers song done by Gimpy Squirrel, and "Billie Jean" by Michael Jackson, from Low Profile. During the song, Tejas Singh, lead singer of the group, donned Jackson's trademark glove, which was handed to him by an audience member during the song.

Throughout the show, band members mentioned the work Owens put into the competition. Before the last song in Milos's set, Potter, a senior said, "Just right now I'd like to thank Mr. Owens for all the work he did." Owens maintained that although the show was a lot of work it was worth doing so students could express themselves. "This is a very positive thing," said Owens, "These students are very creative and they need their voices heard."

Murphy makes Irving publications after-school only

By Amy Whipple

Oracle Editor

The WISP has left the building.

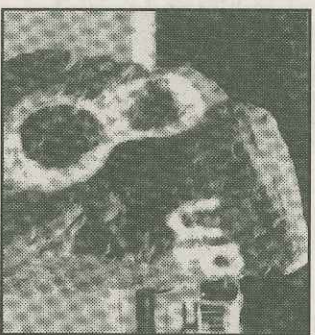
Starting in the 2000-2001 school year, Washington Irving Middle School's paper, the *WISP*, and yearbook, the *Sketchbook*, will both be held as after school activities instead of regular classes. Due to low sign-up for the newspaper, principal Dr. Patrick Murphy pulled the class. The yearbook was also made into an afternoon activity.

Murphy was busy with interviews and was unable to talk to *The Oracle*.

After the decision to censor the *WISP* was made at the end of the last school year, assistant principal Elizabeth Franklin has been keeping a close watch over the staff and everything that goes

in the paper. This has caused a disruption in making it hard for the staff to meet the Fairfax County requirement of four issues per year.

In the Irving Journalism computer lab there is a total of 13 computers, which are expected to be sufficient for two after-school clubs, both of which rely mainly on computer usage.



The rock will forever symbolize Irving.

equipment," said WS Technology Instructor Becky Brandt.

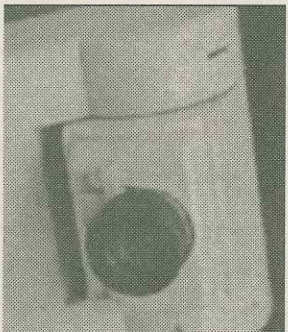
A large portion of the equipment will focus on the county's three-year implementation plan for core curriculum. The plan, which focuses on putting cameras, computers, printers, TVs, and VCRs in the classroom, is a three-step process—math last year, english this year, and social studies next year. Combined, all of the equipment carries a price tag between \$2,500 and \$3,000

Most computers were issued in the renovation of Irving in 1995. "Hopefully they will keep this lab strictly for journalism use," said current advisor Carol Hazzam.

Hazzam was new to the school staff this year and will be moving on to an undetermined school in the fall. So far the job has not been opened up to anyone else. Journalism advisement will be a volunteer job open for any teacher who wants to help.

"I hope that despite all the changes, the tradition of the newspaper can continue," said eighth grader Jessica Mckesey.

Outlook for *The Oracle* is also looking dim as the sign up for Journalism I is much smaller than in previous years. Only 20 students signed up for next year



Cameras will be implemented to school computers as part of the new technology update.

per classroom.

One unique aspect of the equipment is that the cameras and computers, once connected, will enable teachers to hold video-conferences by using a program called "C U See Me." See TECH PAGE 5

WISP

compared to this year's current enrollment of 37. Turned off interest from the middle school level will begin to waver *Oracle* and *Olympian* sizes significantly in the next two to three years.

"If I hadn't worked on the *WISP* staff, I would have never found my interest in *The Oracle*," said senior Matt Barker, former *WISP* member and three year member of *The Oracle* staff.

Moving onto high school journalism was a difficult step to take for current freshman as they saw the downfall of their previous publication.

"Our morale was low from the administration and the staff never really getting along. It

current English teacher at Irving Linda Beuhring helped build both publications up to almost high school standards. At the time of her resignation at the end of the last school year, the publications both held Gold awards.

Beuhring would not give a comment, but Hazzam offered the voice of many when she said, "It's very sad. These kids have worked too hard to let this all fall apart."

New technology set to allow video-conferencing in WS

By Mike Waldron
Oracle Editor

On May 25, the Fairfax County School Board unanimously adopted a \$1.4 billion budget that called for minor cuts in technology. However, WS is one of the county's seven pilot high schools for technology education; so while budget cuts may damage other schools, they will not hurt WS.

"Since we're one of the pilot schools, we'll get all of our

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16 SEE WS FROM THE VIEW OF SPARTAN FOCUS



With few weeks left, we eat pizza

On May 23, WS drummed up a lot of business for the pizza industry.

Because of the SOL testing schedule, fifth-period lasted for three hours, encouraging students and teachers to have a treat. More than 50 pizzas were ordered that day, and that concerned the administration. They're afraid the parents will think we're not doing academic, educational things in school anymore.

You know what? They're right.

After the May AP exams, classes really start to slow down for 11th- and 12th-graders. While schools in other states are ending for the summer, we still have six weeks with little to do. We understand that Virginia law requires all public schools to run for 180 days. However, ending school in late June causes an inconvenience.

All of our friends from other areas are out, enjoying the springtime weather. We sit in silence, staring out the windows, and wishing for the guts to pull a Ferris Bueller.

Rugby rules the UVA field

By Julie Davis
ETC. Editor

Saturday, April 3, was perfect weather for rugby. However, our game was Sunday, not Saturday. It snowed early that morning, making the UVA rugby field a huge pool of mud for the UVA Invitational Rugby Tournament.

A couple of concussions, bruises, scrapes and frostitbes later, we still lost. That was pretty good for our first game, though.

We aren't your everyday, ordinary sports team. We go tanning before practice, we make Subway runs after practice, and we worry about whether or not our socks match our uniform. We are late to practice, and early to leave. Somehow, we managed to learn enough to win a district championship.

Our team, Lake Braddock Amazon, is more than a bunch of athletes who practice and play together.

As female rugby players, we were friends who made lifelong memories, whether it was wondering why Mary Gary's car was making weird noises, staying past our welcome in Subway or

So our parents tell us, "They start in August. You all get to wait until September." Maybe someone missed something, but it's extremely nasty to be in DC in August. Popular consensus shows that it would be preferable to

be out earlier than in the heatstroke-inducing late summer rays.

We all know about the Kings Dominion Law. It says that because of the state's tourist attractions, schools can't start until after Labor Day. Most theme park workers are

Editorial

throwing Erica Farawell in the mud.

We even dealt with negative spectators (you know who you are), but in the end, we prevailed with a District Champion trophy.

Senior Casey Hennessy, an eightman and a wing for West End Rugby, says he approves of the women's league. "I would want to be on the woman's league because it's the only action I would ever get."

He was kidding, but senior Julian Cox wasn't when he said that rugby is like communism, because whether or not you are qualified, you can still play. Well, OK, then—hail, Fidel Castro.

My research didn't end on an entirely disappointing note though. At least senior Pat Bresley thinks that it is cool that everyone has an opportunity to play. Thank you, we deserve our props.

We were a strange bunch, no doubt. And for a selected few, it was more like a soap opera.

There was Erica, who had an eye for a certain boy. Mary, who let too many people drive her car. Stephanie, feared certain words. Michelle, who doesn't remember the UVA game at all after a



The Lake Braddock Amazon battles for the ball in a match versus UVA.

Peter Gary

blow to the head. Nicole, who wasn't allowed to play after she suffered from a concussion. Jennifer, sister to West End legend Joe.

Then there was me, who still has a bruise where Mary hit me after I told her that a white Rav 4 was mine, when it wasn't.

Summer jobs are just around the corner Romance, friends, and money lure some students to get a summer job

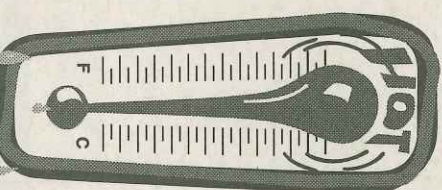
By Nayna Gupta
Inside Story Editor

With summer right around the corner, plans for the long awaited ten week break are an important issue on the minds of most students. Though sitting on the couch and watching TV all summer is definitely appealing to me, this pleasure pales in comparison to the benefits I could receive with a summer job.

The most obvious advantage of a summer job is the money it provides for my weekend fun and shopping. While money is my main motive for landing a summer job, there are other benefits too.

Learning during the summer is not a priority for most, but acquiring new, interesting skills can never hurt. In

addition, I gain the advantage of job experience that looks great on later job applications and college resumes. The added bonus for me is the possibility of a job that provides interesting adventures, new friends, and maybe even romantic interests. When September comes around, having worked all summer will hopefully ease my transition from summer freedom to classroom captivity.



The variety of jobs available makes it easy to find one that suits all interests and personalities. Working as a lifeguard at a local pool appeals to some, because it provides working in retail also have their advantages like tips and store discounts.

with good money. Some local pools even offer \$10 for every half hour of swimming lessons for children. For those who enjoy working with children, a job as a camp counselor is the perfect answer. While this job involves more responsibility than I can handle during the summer, some students prefer it because they can pick a camp that matches their interests.

More commonly preferred jobs such as waiting tables or working in retail also have their advantages like tips and store discounts.

THE ORACLE

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

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Temperatures in classes cause confusion

By Jenny Braudaway

Weekend Editor

It is either too hot or too cold. Every time I enter a classroom, I wonder which it will be. Will I have goosebumps? Or will I be sweating beads?

The temperature at WS is often a concern of students, and unlike other problems such as the bathroom conditions, it is not an easy one to solve. The temperature preference will always differ from person to person. And many times, the temperature control is at the teacher's discretion.

In the winter I remember that my temperature preference changed from day to day. Some days I would wear my winter coat throughout the whole school day. Other days, I would roll up my sleeves because the heat was at full blast, and I would find myself warmer than I wanted to be.

Now with the weather getting warmer, I wear shorts and tank tops to school, only to find myself freezing once I get there. I realize our school is privileged to have air conditioning, but at the same time, it is hard to pay attention in class, much less take a test, when you are shivering.

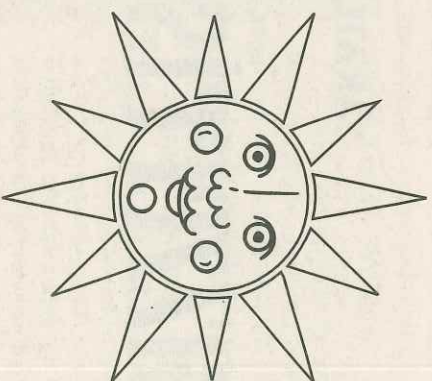
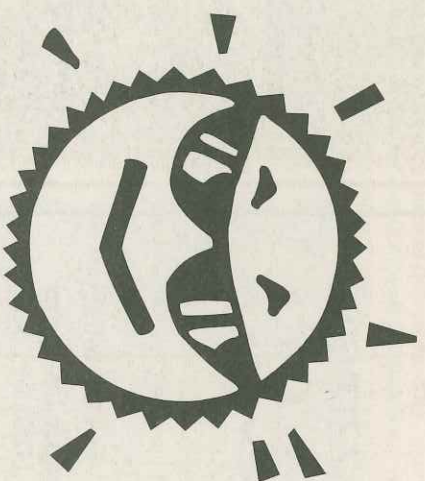
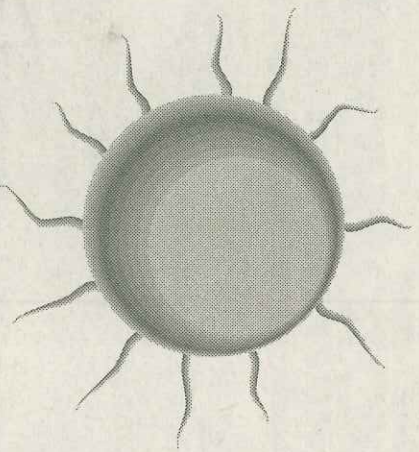
And I'm not exaggerating. The temperatures are sometimes so extreme that I sweat and shiver in the same day, in different classrooms. Very seldom is the temperature neutral or, in my opinion, normal.

However, as mentioned before, air conditioning is a privilege, and without it, students would probably be complaining even more.

The only solutions I can think of are dressing in layers, and, depending on what classroom you're in, asking the teacher to help regulate the temperature so that it doesn't fall into the extremes of "freezing cold" or "burning hot."



Maggie Atteberry
Students shed their layers when the temperature in the classroom is comfortable, which is a rarity.



Spartan spotlight

What are you doing the very first day of summer vacation?



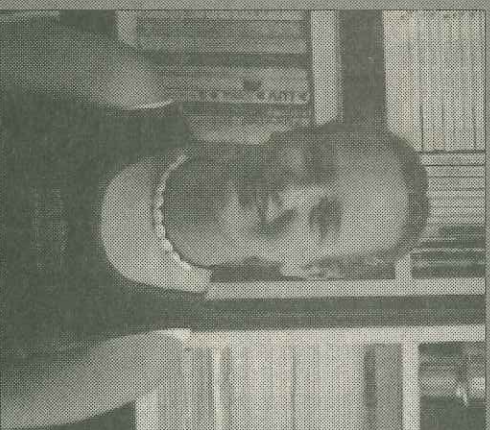
"I'm going to start my job at Wakefield Rec Center and chill at home with my friends."

-Lauren Caprio,
freshman



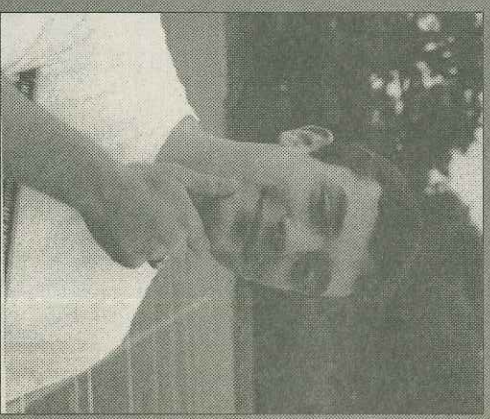
"I'm going to be starting my first full-day shift at Companion Animal Shelter in Burke."

-John Byrns,
sophomore



"I will be sleeping in."

-Jen Newsome,
junior



"I'm going to have a water balloon fight and later catch up on my sleep."

-Matt Crawford,
senior

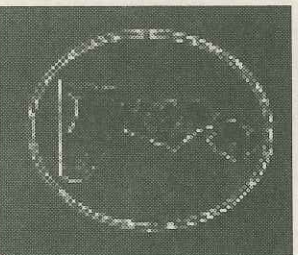
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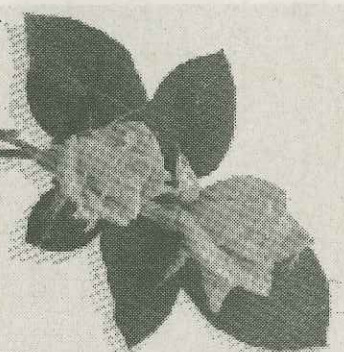
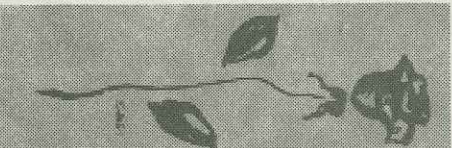
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WS writing impresses competition judges

New time of year helps increase student interest, winners proud of accomplishments

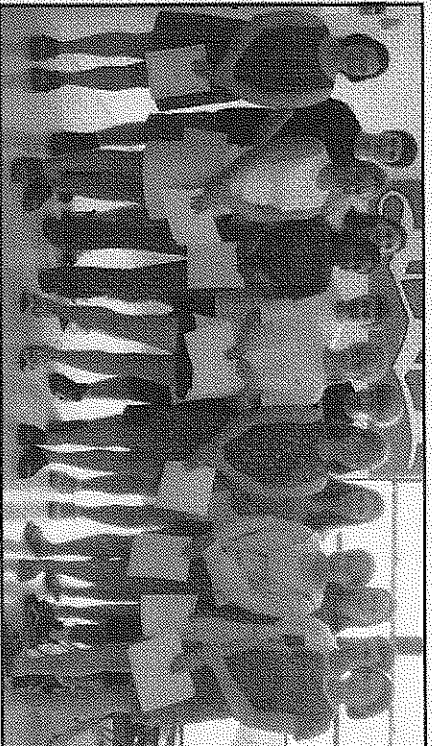
By Amy Steed
News Section Assistant

The 15 year old WS writing contest succeeded this year with over 70 winners.

The competition was originally started by English teacher Wendy Pinahey. When she retired at the end of the '98 school year, she passed on the responsibility of the annual contest to the PTSA.

"Last year the competition was in a transition stage, so it has less participants," said English teacher J.R. Mathews. "This year I was impressed by the number of students who entered."

PTSA writing competition chairwoman Jane Martin organized the contest this year.



The writing competition has had one of its most impressive years. The sophomore class, pictured here, shows the increased interest of students.

One of her main responsibilities was to find the judges for the contest. Each of the seven categories that students could enter had four judges. "The judging was excellent

this year," said Martin. "We had two poets, a *Washington Post* writer, and great teachers." The contest was open to all grade levels and a \$50 prize was available to the overall winner of

each grade. Each grade had an overall winner. Jessica Chesnut was the sophomore class winner, Caitlin Marvin won for the juniors, and Chris Plehal won for the seniors.

The only thing that kept the freshmen class from the award was having no one enter more than one writing.

Teachers encouraged students to enter, but students had to decide to enter it on their own.

Junior Adam Martin has entered all three years he has been at WS.

"I like to write and it is good to get feedback and a reward," said Adam.

This year the competition was different from years in

the past. Instead of being held near the end of the school year it was during third quarter.

It is thought that the date change might have helped increase student interest because of the less stressful time period.

"Athletes get attention so it was good for writers to get some," said Adam.

This year teachers, organizers and students were impressed with how well the writing contest turned out.

Not only were those from the school impressed, but the judges found it hard to believe that they were reading the work of high-schoolers.

PTSA President Mary Halfhill said, "Several judges thought the work was so good that they requested copies."

From TECH- PAGE 1

"Classes will be able to conference with multiple people, anytime, anywhere," said Brandt. "For many teachers, the thought of using this technology in the classroom is a major step."

In addition to the county's three-year implementation plan for core curriculum, WS will also focus on two other main initiatives regarding technological equipment—the Windows Migration and the Instructional Management System, or IMS. The Windows Migration calls for a shift so that nearly all WS computers will operate on Windows 2000.

"The IMS is a multi-year project to give teachers a more efficient means by which they can do attendance and grading," said WS Principal David Smith.

Within two years, IMS could also provide teacher and parent resources. While teachers will be able to access enormous educational databases, parents will also be able to access information regarding their child's attendance and grading reports.

"We're not doing this all at the same time," said Smith. "It will be attendance first, grading second, and then teacher and parent resources."

So while the exact time-table is not yet determined, WS awaits new and exciting changes regarding upcoming technological equipment.

"We'll be exploring next year," said Brandt. "The opportunity is here."

Van Brocklin honored



Susan Latour organized the service for Van Brocklin and spoke in his honor.

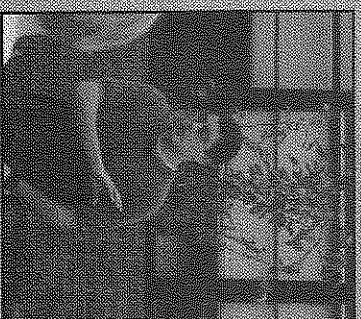


Susan Latour



Fred Peterbark was one of the many students who remembered Van Brocklin on this special day.

A ceremony for Steve Van Brocklin was held Wednesday, June 7. A flowering cherry tree was planted in his honor in the science courtyard. Over a hundred students, faculty, and family members attended and many spoke in his honor. English teacher Susan Latour organized the fundraiser to buy the tree and to hold the ceremony in the memory of beloved Steve Van Brocklin.



Austlin Eickman recounted memories of his former teacher.

discussion offered personal information that could never be found in a textbook.

"I think the discussion gave students a first-hand look at the war from people who participated in it," said math teacher David Harpman, who, as a pilot, was shot down twice during his two-year stint in Vietnam.

During the discussion, the speakers talked about everything from allies to enemies, while also describing their good and bad experiences in Vietnam. But while the panel featured a rather conservative outlook of the war, students heard a more liberal interpretation on May 26 during an assembly with Jan Scruggs, the president and founder of the Vietnam Veterans Memorial Fund. Scruggs spent one year participating in the Vietnam War, which he believed was an improper use of American time and effort. Ironically, in 1979,

Scruggs began lobbying for a national memorial on the mall that would honor the 58,281 Americans who died in the Vietnam War. At first, even his wife thought that he was crazy for starting such a difficult project, but upon overcoming economic and political barriers, Scruggs saw the dedication of his Vietnam Veterans Memorial in 1982.

During his assembly, Scruggs talked about the influence of the war and the wall in American history.

"The wall has really become a national shrine," said Scruggs, whose memorial was visited by all juniors during the unit.

The interactive part of the unit came to an end with the Scruggs assembly, but according to Percoco, it met its expectations.

"The experience was a great success," said Percoco. "I think that we'll stay with the Vietnam unit in future years."

Students see Vietnam War in new light

History unit adds personal experiences and increases awareness

By Mike Waldron
Oracle Editor

Following the AP and SOL examinations, all US History teachers began an in-depth, interactive unit on the Vietnam War that featured films, discussions, and an assembly.

"It was a very moving experience to work with all the US History teachers in order to bring this important era to life," said history teacher Jim Percoco. "It was very obvious that the students learned a great deal."

On May 17-18, all juniors participated in a film festival that included movies related to the Vietnam War, such as "Good Morning Vietnam" and "Platoon." Just one week later, on May 24-25, the students took part in a discussion with a living history panel of Vietnam veterans. According to most students and speakers, the

Mark Deegan, 2002 class sponsor. "We have a lot of good ideas, and the background and legwork is already set. We have a good class with enthusiasm. It should be a good year."

Jenny Askin, 2002 President. "Next year we hope to raise a lot of money for our prom. We want to get everyone involved in student council."

Kathleen Kehler, 2002 Vice President. "Most of the money for prom comes from the junior class so we'll raise a lot of money, we should have a lot of support, and we have an awesome list of officers. This is Jenny's second year so it should be awesome. We already have carwashes and a t-shirt sale planned; this should be a good year."

Mary Duley, 2003 class sponsor. "I think we have a bunch of good officers and I am looking forward to working with them this year. We have a lot planned and I expect a successful year."

Jonny Styron, 2003 President. "We have learned from our mistakes and will know what we are doing from the start. I think it will be a lot better, most people elected were officers last year, so we know how to work together."

James Barber, 2003 Vice President. "I think it will be very productive. If we do all we need to do, our class will be all it can be. Its a great group of people to work with."

Due to the late release of the delegate winners of the 2001 class, they were unable to be included.

—Compiled by Amy Steed T

Spring fashions take control of WSJ

By Jen Berne
Weekend Assistant

A quick glimpse down the halls clearly conveys a multitude of bright colors, compared to the dark, drab colors of winter. Tangerine, magenta, and bright yellow are among some of the most popular attire of this season. The change in color has brought about an abundance of cheerful attitudes and the desire for the lazy days of summer.

"Bright colors like pink and yellow are really cheerful and summer-like," said sophomore Kelly Humbertson. Capri pants of assorted fabrics and lengths have made their way to the center of the fashion industry.

"I have seen many girls wearing all different kinds of capris, from Abercrombie & Fitch, nylon knee-lengths, to the Gap cotton stretch ankle lengths," said freshman Allison Tugwell. "It's all a matter of preference."

For girls, there is a variety of styles to wear associated



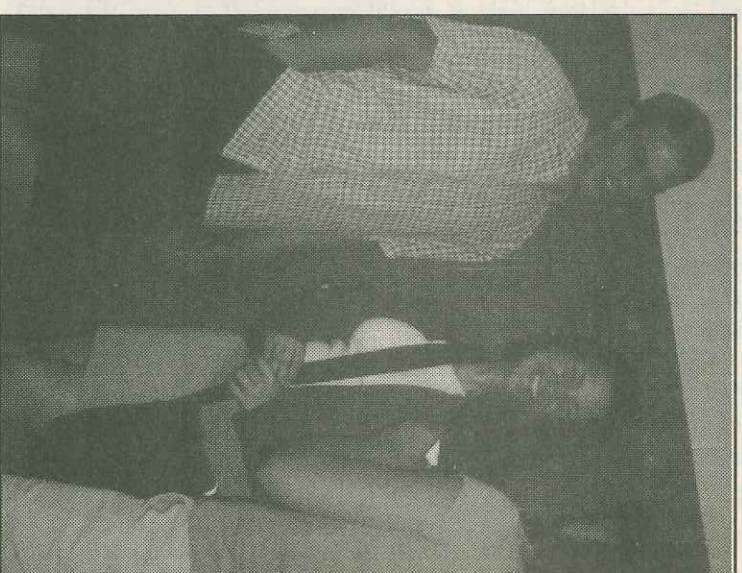
with capri pants. Though not always appropriate, halter tops have become a necessity in almost every girl's closet and can be worn with a three-quarters length matching cardigan.

"Cardigans are really convenient when it's cold in the morning and hot during the day because you can just add a layer or take one off," said The Limited employee Karen Masek.

Of course, once an outfit is put together, it's never really complete without the necessary accessories. "My favorite new fad is the bead bracelet that comes in almost every color," said senior Anne Bernside. "They pretty much go with every outfit."

Shoes are among the most important accessories to have. In the 2000 summer season, flip flops and flat shoes seem to have taken over bulky heels and platforms.

While not everyone has an open-ended wardrobe fund, the latest styles and accessories can be found at reasonable prices at many stores ranging from Ross to Old Navy.



Maggie Altherr
Sophomores Joe Connell, Deanna Powers, and Chelsea Poling strut the latest fashions down sophomore hall.

Students plan 'ski' vacations this summer

By Clint Crosier
Business/Systems Editor

During those hot summer days, it's always great to get into the water for a good cool down. While many people just head off to the local pool, others find more active ways to beat the heat.

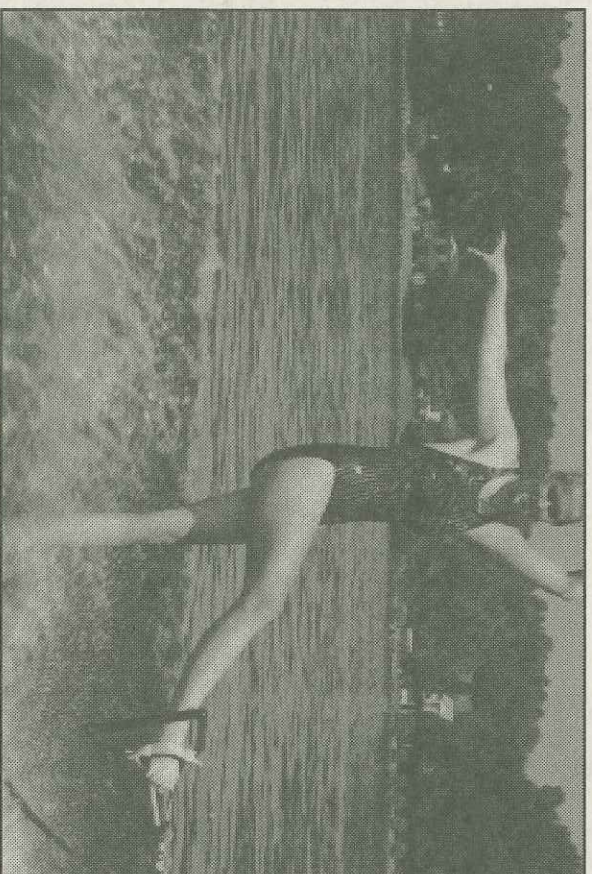
Water skiing is a great way to work on a tan, yet stay cool at the same time. Ripping wind and cold splashes of water replenish the body while giving the water-skier a thrill.

"Every time I try, as soon as I stand up, I fall flat on my face," said senior Jill Hurst.

To help the inexperienced, almost all ski clubs and lakes offer ski lessons or clinics to teach people how to enjoy themselves on the water.

"I had ski lessons one summer at South River [Ski Club] when I was twelve, and now I love going skiing whenever I have the chance," said freshman David Grifin.

There are many places to go for water-skiing lessons in the area. A few of the nicer establishments include South River



Michelle Redding
Junior Jenee Eilermann shows that she can pose while water skiing at the lake.

Ski Club (SRSC), located in Maryland, Lake Anna in Virginia, and Cheat Lake in West Virginia. Lessons and clinics are given at all

three, but SRSC is the only one that has regularly scheduled lessons with fixed prices. Lessons at SRSC start this year on June

23 and run through the end of August. Prices vary for different ages depending on the length of the lessons. Kid prices are in the low \$100's and adult prices are around \$170.

Lake Anna and Cheat Lake are smaller lakes that offer less options than SRSC, but they can still offer pure water-skiing fun. Both allow boats and skiing, but there are no safety patrols roaming the waters. Lake Anna hosts an annual summer clinic in the middle of June. Cheat Lake also offers various local competitions for young water-skiers throughout the summer.

Many other lakes are available for skiing, but they do not have any type of organized clubs. Lake Pohick and Oquaquean Lake allow skiing and boating.

"I was going to go water skiing with my youth group on Lake Anna," said sophomore Mary Holloway, "The boat broke down unfortunately. They sent another boat for us, but it took to long for it to come. So I did not yet to go. Hopefully this summer I will get to go water-skiing."

Survival of the funniest

Green gets fans involved in personal details

By Jennifer Schonberger
Features Editor

He is the epitome of teenage comedy. He is on every Tuesday night on MTV. He entertains us while we watch him trying to contain ourselves from falling off the couch. He is Tom Green.

Green was born in 1971 in Pembroke, Canada. By the age of six, Green was painfully skinny.

"I was skinny, OK?" Green said to *Rolling Stone*. "Dying basically."

Nowadays, he weighs 150 pounds at six foot three. "Back then, my legs were, like, crazy skinnier," Green said in *Rolling Stone*. "Until about a year and a half ago, I never wore shorts outside, ever."

He crashed into trash cans, purposefully, fell out of chairs comically and gave humorous student council candidate speeches that got him elected to higher offices. At age 16, he propelled himself into local comedy clubs to take a stab at stand-up comedy. A few years later he formed a comedy-tap group called Organized Rhyme. When it disbanded, he broadcasted his skills on a college radio station where he would howl sometimes for 20 minutes at a time.

Green then got ahold of the video camera and started taping his everyday life as a suburban skate boarder. This led to his first show, on local access-cable in Canada, then to Canada's Comedy Network. Finally he got a meeting with MTV executives, during which he covered himself

with shaving cream.

"I want the show to be labeled a smart comedy show, not a gross-out comedy show," Green told *Rolling Stone*. The show has turned out to be a major success. It is number one among the ages of 12-34.

"I wouldn't say it's [a show] about anything, actually," Green said to *Rolling Stone*, "But, I mean, to me, the show is about, 'Keep making it entertaining!'"

While making the show, Green is always looking to catch viewers off guard and at the same time make them laugh.

"Hopefully, we'll get in some trouble," Green said to *The Washington Post*, "The goal is trouble."

Green has proved he made it big by making an appearance on the *Late Show with David Letterman*.

While on the show, Green showed the video of the time he had his parents' Honda secretly painted with a lesbian love scene and the words Slut Mobile, then recorded his parents' responses and his mother's telephone messages.

"Dave actually laughed," Green said to *The Washington Post*, "I was like, 'Omgigod, this is crazy,' he likes my little joke."

On a serious note, Green was diagnosed with testicular cancer and has already undergone two rounds of surgery. "Hey, Kids," Green said, "feel your testicles. That way you won't get cancer."

During his treatment, Green will be taking a break from his popular program and is expected to be back to work within a few months. Girlfriend Drew Barrymore



Tom Green makes one of his typical funny faces.

supported Green while in the hospital. Recently Green had a television special on testicular cancer.

"Cancer is a reality for everyone," said sophomore Jasmine Wilkins, "Tom Green set out to make a joke of this fatal disease. Although I was disgusted by the graphic scenes involving his surgery, I found the entire experience to be quite funny. He's a strong man for doing what he did. He is a survivor."

Green has also appeared in the movie "Road Trip," which came out May 19.

"The movie was typical Tom Green comedy," said junior Rebecca Szweczek. "I would definitely have to say that it's a guy flick."

He once was a super dork, a nerd, a dweeb, the boy with the chicken legs. You name it, that's what Green was, but never again. Now he's in the MTV spotlight.

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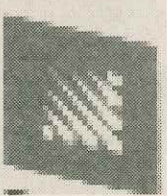
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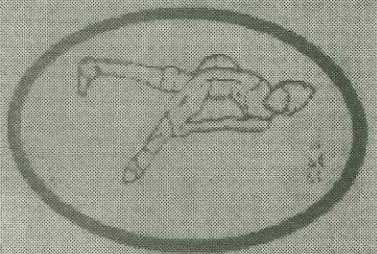
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Sometimes, I'm all thumbs

By Gretchen McKeever

Special to The Oracle

If there were a senior superlative for Class Klutz, I would win it, hands down. It's not just the fact that I trip over things (including my own feet), rather, it's the circumstances that make my klutziness so unique. Ask any of my good friends, they'll tell you how I always manage to hurt myself.

Take swimming, for example. It's supposed to be one of the safest sports with the lowest chance of injury of all or most sports. Yet, I have miraculously managed to end up in the hospital twice with swim-team-related injuries.

Swimming breaststroke, I took my goggles off to do sprints. Distracted by sounds from the deck, my rhythm became uneven and it wasn't long before my right thumb hit my unprotected right eye. Ouch. It didn't just hit though. I have the distinct honor of being the only person I know who has touched their browbone from the inside. I managed to struggle my way to the deck where the lifeguards then carried me to the office to call my mother. I ended up with a scratched cornea and a summer worth of teasing from the lifeguards.

Poking your eye sounds bad. It is. But thing don't end here. At South Run about a year later, I was preparing for the practice just like always. I put on my cap, goggles, and drag suit, like always. Then, just like always, I jumped into the pool. Whoops. Looks like I misjudged the depth.

I had jumped in hard, ready to sink to the of a ten foot-deep pool. Too bad it was only four feet deep. My foot bent in half and my ankle inverted. In an extreme case of deJa-vu, I crawled to the deck where the lifeguards met me to take me to the office and call my parents. We went to the hospital yet again and I spent more quality time with a wheelchair. After three hours worth of X-rays, the doctors determined they didn't have to amputate and instead put me in a cast and outfitted me with crutches. I looked really cool the next night at the Dave Matthews Band concert.

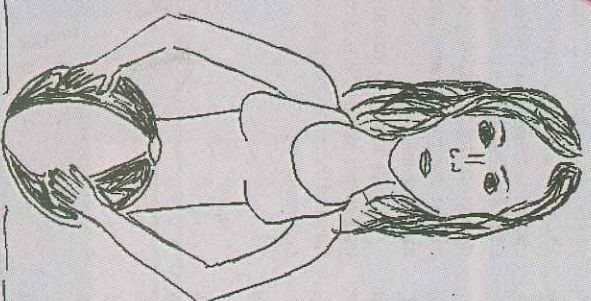
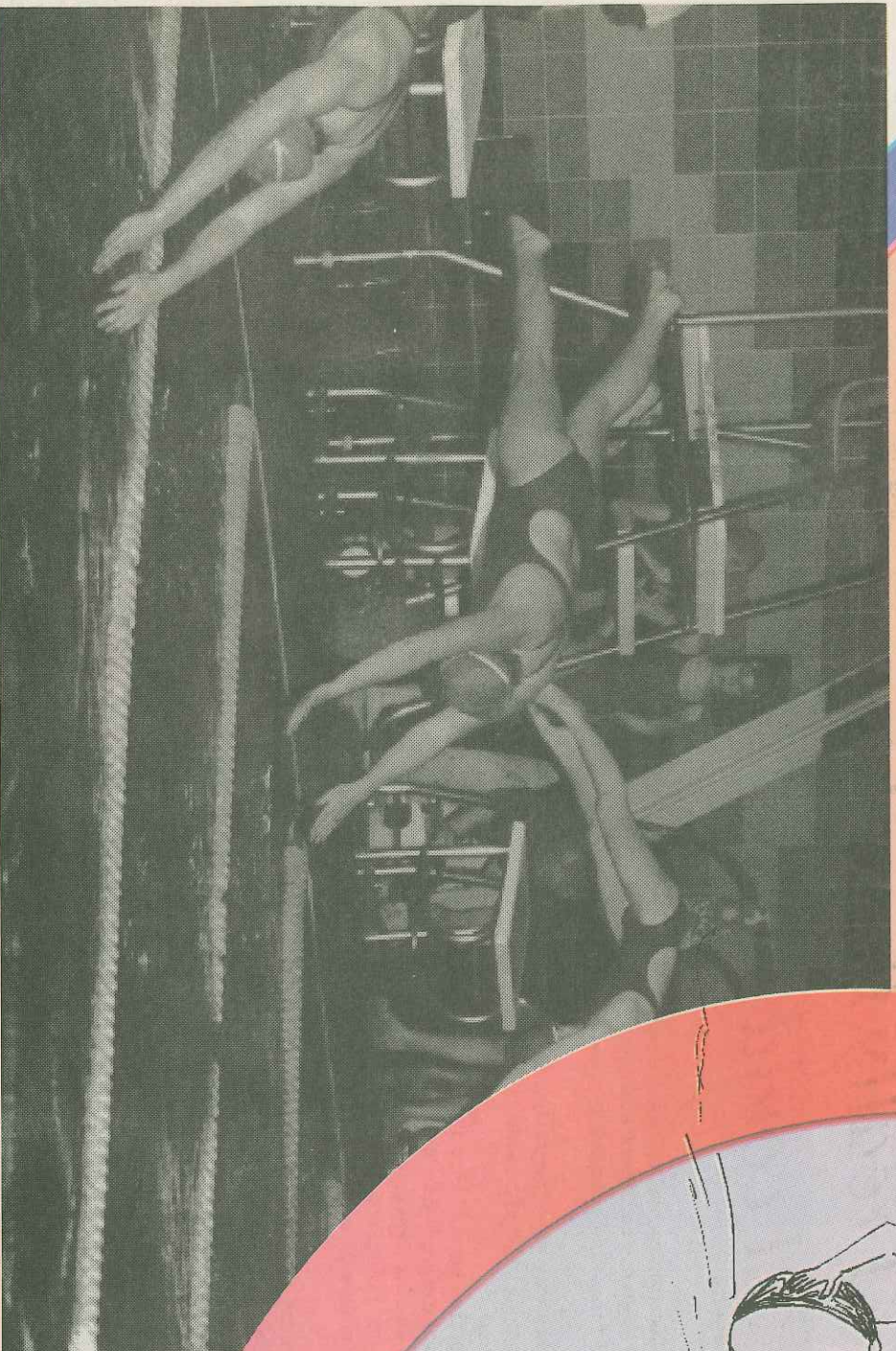
By now, senior year, I'm used to the embarrassment of tripping and falling in front of others. Luckily, there's usually only a very small group to witness my humiliation.

But it wasn't a small group two weeks ago. Actually, it was more like half of the WS swim team. Strolling casually on the bottom row of bleachers, my wet sandals slipped on wet wood beneath them. Like in slow motion, my feet slid toward the next row of seats while my arms flew up over my head. My left knee was the first thing to slam against the very seats I'd been walking on. It was followed by my left rib cage. My arms were still up and continued leading me towards the concrete floor.

As I fell, I heard the shouts and gasps of my teammates. My hands finally landed in perfect cartwheel form with my head an inch from the ground. I froze. Helping hands reached to me, pulling me to a sitting position. Everyone gathered around me and asked if I was OK. When I finally caught my breath, I couldn't help it. I started to laugh.

A classic TV sitcom moment just actually happened in real life. To me! Nobody else laughed. They were all still scared. However, when I told my diver friend Amy Gembacz, she immediately broke out in laughter. For anyone else, it's a scary instance. For me, it's a way of life.

Maybe you still think that I'm not such a goof. Maybe you think you actually can rival me for that superlative. Just wait, there will be plenty more chances for me to fall down. When that happens, you can just point and laugh. Really, I don't mind. I'm used to it.



Melissa Lipman

I'm embarr

By Theresa Rupp

Managing Editor

I am sorry to say that I toilet paper on the back of n out of my nose. To tell you one really embarrassing mo

Sure, little embarrassing the time when I was about t my mom. She told me to go and when I came back to the piled on top of each other. "I said, "Milk's gross!" And with a beard—it was his sh and not to mention scared—and started crying.

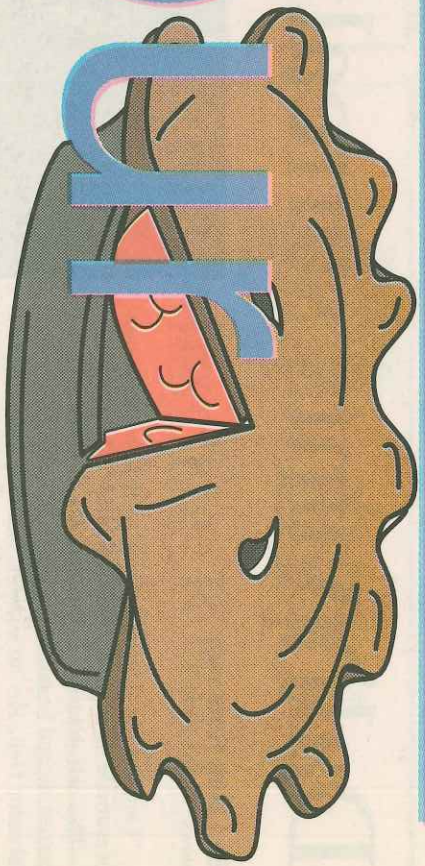
And then there was the about 12. I was on one of t control by turning the whee only has about 10 minutes back to the front of the poo next people.

Well, I had not quite ma wanted it to, and so when t in the middle of the pool an the water.

Everyone was staring at who just pointed at me and did not understand (probab American!"). To make the sit the "water safety" patrol ha come out to me, and tow me water park.

It is just the little episod mind. They were not n embarrassing enough to ca laugh at them now. Becau

When life
gives you lem
make lemon



WE ON OUR SUPERHERO

...ever really
...essed, except...

...ver walked out of the bathroom with
...or laughed so hard that milk has come
... I can't recall a time in my life where

...ave happened to me. Like I remember
...id, and I was at the grocery store with
...ext aside and pick out a box of cereal,
...oked in and saw 20 cartons of milk all
... Mom, why did you buy all this milk?"
...oked up and saw a big scary fat man
...art, not mine. I was so embarrassed—
...an over to where my mom really was

... I was at this water park when I was
...er boats that have a motor which you
...irection you want to go. Each person
...the boat, and then you have to come
...they all get lined up and ready for the

...e trick of making the boat go where I
...was going around in circles
...was the only one left in

...nding some foreigners
...and said things that I
...Ha—what a stupid
...ten more embarrassing
...p into an empty boat,
...each, good times at the

...hese that stick in my
...g situations, only
...o look back and
...were not cliché

...stories about how I dropped my books in
...the middle of the hallway or how I tripped
...in the cafeteria and spilled my lunch all
...over the floor. I was a bit apprehensive of this story
...assignment. I mean, do people really want to read
...about or even care about my humiliating
...experiences?
...So, all I have to say now is just please do not
...come up to me in the hall and tell me that you read
...this and that it was stupid. Now that would be really
...embarrassing.

*I really thought
I could fly!*

By Nikki Werking
Oracle Editor

When I was 3, Superwoman was my idol. I absolutely adored her. I watched her TV show every single day, and I threw a hissy fit when I missed it. More than anything in the world, I wanted to be just like her. I made it my life's goal to become Superwoman.

While other children were playing with their dolls, I practiced my superhero skills. I tied a blanket around my neck, ran in dizzying circles around the play room, and darted down the hallways.

"Look at me! I'm flying." I would say. I knew that I really wasn't flying, but it was part of the routine. I had to practice saying it if I ever wanted it to really happen.

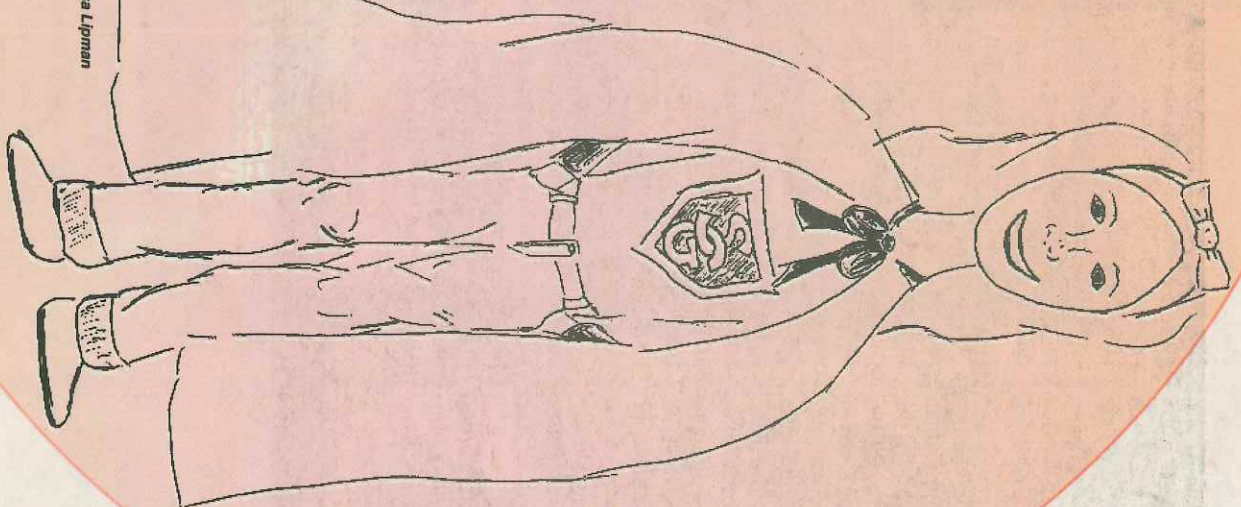
One summer afternoon, after watching my beloved Superwoman on TV, I had a sudden revelation. Today was the day. For one reason or another, I had at that moment become a real superhero. It was time to show the world what I could do. It was my moment to shine: it was time to fly.

I snatched up my ratty, worn-out baby blanket from off the floor and pulled it around my shoulders, carefully, artfully, tying it with the perfect knot (meaning a knot tight enough to make the blanket stay on). Now properly dressed, I was ready for my maiden flight. I took a deep breath, jumped up as high as my little legs would thrust me, only to land back on my feet a second later. My plans were not working out very well. Being the clever person I am, however, I quickly identified the problem. I needed a take-off point, somewhere way up high where I could take a great flying leap. I wandered around the house, looking for just the spot. I looked up toward the staircase leading to the second level of my house. The stairs were tall and there was plenty of open space around them for flying. It was the perfect place.

Quickly, I clambered my way up the staircase. I stood at the top with my toes touching the very edge of the step as I stared down into my flight zone. Caught up in my moment of greatness, I yanked the blanket from my neck. I was a great superhero, even better than Superwoman, and I didn't need a cape to enable me to fly. I raised my arms over my head, and with a short leap from the edge, I dove into the air.

The air rushing by my face was incredible as I descended down the staircase. Suddenly, my blissful flight came to an abrupt halt. I had hit the ground. You know what I learned that day? I couldn't fly.

Melissa Lipman



Dali paints surrealistic picture in DC

By Laura Robinson
News Section Editor

"I am like the alchemist trying to apprehend the non-measurable through the measurable."

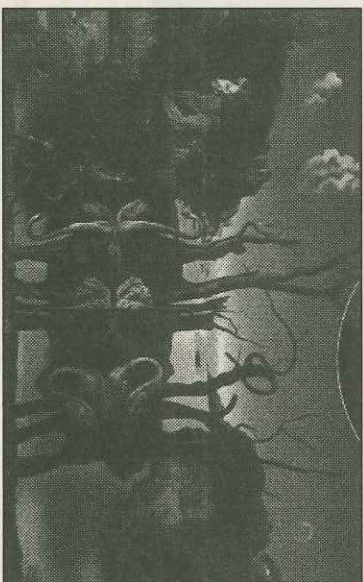
This self-description best describe the confusing but interesting and beautiful paintings of Spanish Surrealist Salvador Dali. His art exhibit, entitled "Dali's Optical Illusions," will be shown downtown at the Hirshhorn Museum from April 19 through June 18 in D.C.

Throughout his 85 year life, Dali created thousands of paintings, made films, designed clothes and created magazine ads. He is most well-known as the greatest Surrealist artist of all time and his works are icons of the Surrealistic movement.

Perhaps his most famous painting is *The Persistence of Memory*, which features melting clocks on a barren beach. This painting is much more impressive at the exhibit than it is in books. All of Dali's works show his amazing abilities to paint all kinds of objects with unique flair and fantastic detail.

Many of the exhibited paintings have recurring themes, such as religion, his wife and muse, Gala, and his phobias and obsessions. He was terrified of grasshoppers and showed them in *The Portrait of Paul Eluard* and many of his more graphic paintings.

Dali was quite an unusual character and believed he



Salvador Dali is known for his surrealistic paintings.

received messages from outer space through his trademark handlebar mustache. Quite a few of his paintings reflect dark and unsettling images, while others are full of nonsensical things.

His subconscious, dreams, and life experiences are also mirrored into many of his paintings. Dali invented what he called the "paranoiac critical method" to unlock the mysteries of the subconscious.

"His art of the 1930's was based on his study of Freud, which seemed to clarify to Dali his personal fantasies and obsessions," said art teacher Mercedes Saffron.

Dali's art reflects the time periods in which he lived.

Gladiators grapple with excellent script

By Katie Walker
Production Editor

"The beating heart of Rome is not in the marble of the Senate, it's the sand of the Colosseum," proclaims a character from Ridley Scott's recent epic release, "Gladiator." Such statements, simple but profound, are what make this movie so intense. "Gladiator" is the first Roman drama of its kind in 40 years.

The film stars Russell Crowe as Maximus, a revered Roman general who is beloved by the emperor, Marcus Aurelius. Jealous of his father's favor towards Maximus, young Prince Commodus, played by Joaquin Phoenix, tries to kill Maximus. After a series of events, Maximus escapes, starting a new life as a gladiator as he swears revenge on Commodus. As a gladiator, he must fight for the favor of the Roman spectators as he gains a reputation in the ring that is great enough to rival that of the emperor of Rome.

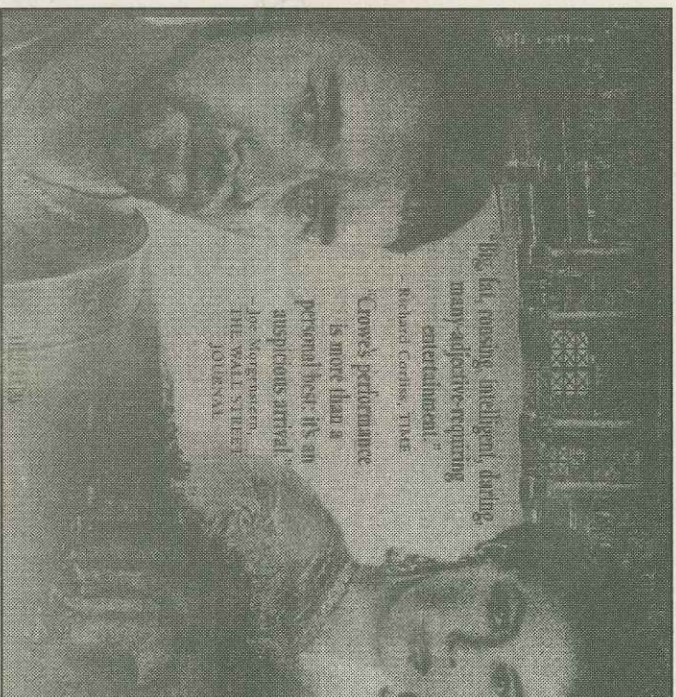
The script and directing in this film are excellent, but the acting truly makes the whole story come

together. Crowe is the perfect choice for Maximus; in few words he is able to convey a realism that goes beyond the movie screen. As Commodus, Phoenix plays the perfect villain. Not the typical Hollywood bad guy, Phoenix is absolutely detestable in a way never quite seen before.

"Gladiator" is definitely a movie that should be seen, and there's already been talk about Academy Awards. Despite the "R" rating, "Gladiator" was number one at the box office in its first week.

The movie itself cost \$103 million to make, and required thousands of extras. The main actors received training in sword-fighting, while the extras had to take baths in mud in order to look as though they had just come from battle. The movie's filming took place in four different countries.

"Gladiator" combines fact and fiction to create an intricate plot. Many of the characters are based on actual people, yet most of the story-line is fictional. The movie tries to recreate the time period, it doesn't attempt to



'Gladiator' came in number one at the box office during its first week open.

present itself as a historical documentation.

The movie is also deeper than many might believe. It implies that people today are no different than the spectators rooting for the gladiators to kill one another in the Colosseum two thousand years ago. "Gladiator" reveals humanity in all its bloodthirsty glory.

Death, honor, suspense, and bloodshed. And some people have the nerve to call this a guy movie? Maybe so, but

Premontion of Civil War and *Spain* symbolize how his homeland broke itself apart. Some of his other paintings show explosions which symbolize the Atomic Age. Some of the most magnificent of his paintings are ones which involve religious themes. *Santiago el Grande*, *The Ascension* and *Madonna of Port Ligat* are the most uplifting and powerful of Dali's works because of the emotion they show and their strong colors.

My favorite painting exhibited is *Velaquez Painting the Infanta Margarita With the Lights and Shadows of his Own Glory*. This painting shows how Dali paints with great perspective and can create images with profound depth.

Dali also created many impressive paintings featuring optical illusions. In the complex painting *Apparition of Face and Fruit Dish on a Beach*, a bowl of fruit resembles a man and the beach itself transmutes into a dog in profile. He is well-known for his double images such as in *The Metamorphosis of Narcissus*. Dali also applied photography techniques to his paintings and experimented with holograms.

For all of his unique work and fantastic artistry, Dali will always draw a crowd. Saffron finds reason for his fans.

Said Saffron, "He is adored by late twentieth and twenty-first century fans because he reflects some of the bizarre that is prevalent."

Thespians honored

WS drama students and this spring's musical, "Damn Yankees," were honored at a gala presentation June 4 at Hayfield High School. "Cappies", the high school equivalent of Broadway's Tony Award, went to WS students in eight categories:

- **Set design:** Dan York and Catherine O'Dell.
 - **Orchestra:** WS Orchestra.
 - **Ensemble in a musical:** "Damn Yankees" baseball team members.
 - **Female dancer:** Erin Miele.
 - **Actor in a comic role:** Chris Plehal, as "Applegate".
 - **Female vocalist:** Elizabeth Wilcox, as "Meg".
 - **Male vocalist:** Chris St. Germain, as "Young Joe".
- The "Cappies" are a new high school drama award, sponsored by the Capitol Steps comedy troupe and the Northern Virginia Theatre Alliance. Twenty-three Northern Virginia schools participated this year.

Napster nabbed as groups gripe about site

By Leigh Johnson
Entertainment Assistant

Over the past several years, the world has seen technology advance at an incredibly rapid pace. The Internet has become a crucial part of society, including the music world.

Now, fans can easily buy concert tickets, CDs, and chat about their favorite bands online. However, a recent collision of the Internet and the music world has proven to not be as graceful.

Audio files of perceptibly flawless quality called MP3, allow users to download songs free of charge. Napster is a website that allows users to download

and exchange MP3s. This concept, however, has raised questions concerning copyrights. The band Metallica sued Napster claiming that they allow users to trade copyrighted recordings.

Metallica took further action and sent Napster lists of over 300,000 users who allegedly were infringing on Metallica's copyrights. Napster complied with Metallica's requests to disable those accused of missing the software, however they did have the opportunity to continue using Napster if the accusations against them proven false.

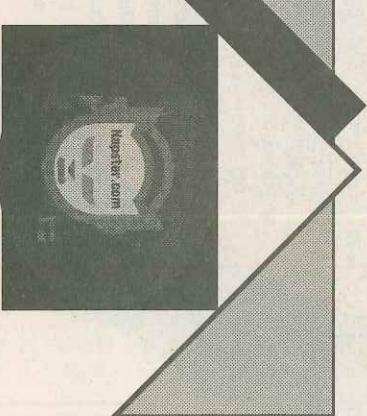
Since Metallica first publicized their stand on the issue mid-Spring, other artists have voiced their opinions on the issue.

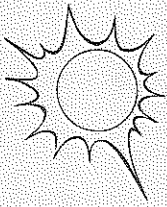
The band Filter and rapper Dr. Dre have disapproved of the website.

While other bands are busy in meetings with lawyers taking legal action against

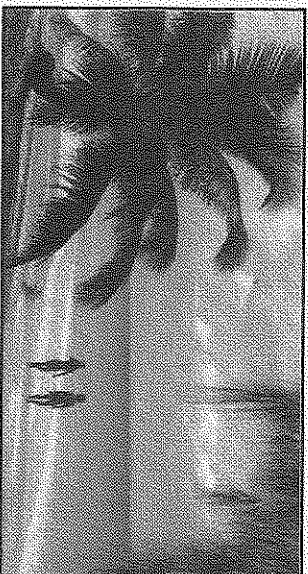
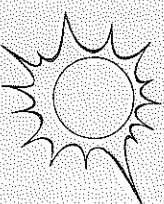
Napster, some support the website. The Offspring and Chuck D, from Public Enemy, enjoy the publicity that Napster brings and believe it has a positive affect on record sales.

Limp Bizkit also supports the company, which is sponsoring its free tour this summer.





Summer beach guide



Russ Waddell

The Outer Banks

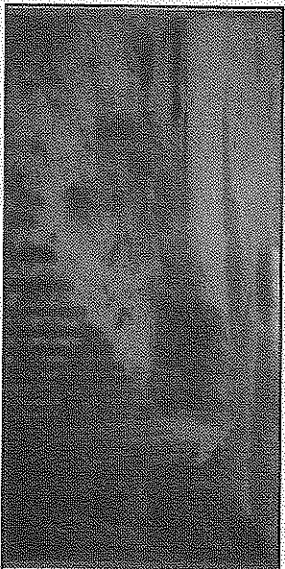
The Outer Banks is known for its beautiful beaches and its amazing ability to draw in visitors from all over the world.

Nags Head is one of the biggest and most popular beaches in the Outer Banks. It has many attractions and is home to the largest natural, living sand dune on the East Coast. The dune is located at Jockey's Ridge State Park, which is 400 acres and has a 1.5-mile trail. Another place to visit in Nags Head is the USS Huron Historic Shipwreck Reserve, the site where the USS Huron sunk on November 24th, 1872. Diving and snorkeling are permitted in the area of the sunken ship. It is a great attraction for anyone interested in naval history. Of course, after all of this activity, anyone feeling hungry can stop off at the famous restaurant, Awful Arthur's.

Kitty Hawk, whose name means "goose hunting grounds," is best known for being the site of the Wright Brothers' first flight. Unfortunately, that flight never occurred in Kitty Hawk. It actually occurred in a place called Kill Devil Hills. However, Kitty Hawk does house the Wright Brothers National Memorial and Visitor Center, which contains memorabilia from the Wright Brothers era and a recently refurbished replica of the Wright Flyer. After a long day in Kitty Hawk, you can sit back and relax in The Blue Point Bar and Grill, named to be one of the three best restaurants in the Outer Banks.

Home of the Field Research Facility of the Coastal Engineering Research Center, **Duck** is well known for the technology it possesses as well as the beautiful beaches. The Army, which controls the Research Center, studies tidal waters in Duck. They have mounted a "DuckCam" which sits at the top of a 100 foot tower and takes pictures of Duck and its surroundings regularly. Fortunately, tours are given at the Research Center, at specified times. Duck is also home to one of the three best restaurants in the Outer Banks, Ocean Boulevard, famous for making delicious crabcakes.

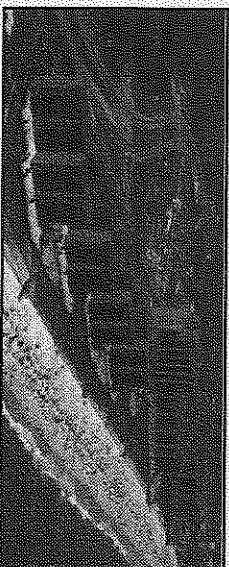
Ocean City



postcard

Ocean City, Maryland offers something for everyone. Year-round festivals such as Springfest, Winterfest of Lights, and Sundae in the Park provide fun activities for all age groups. Exceptionally unique to Ocean City is Sundae in the Park. It takes place every Sunday from June 25-August 27. There is free live music and ice cream sundaes. Along the beach, Ocean City's three-mile boardwalk offers world-famous french fries, caramel popcorn, and specialty shops. Visitors can also take a day cruise to nearby Assateague Island, which is famous for its wild ponies.

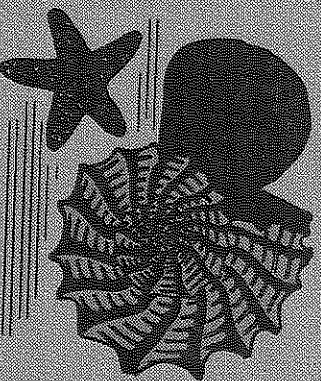
Bethany Beach, Delaware is known as one of the "quiet resorts" because it is nestled along the Eastern shore. The seven-mile long beach offers safe water for all types of sports and activities with warm water from late May to early October. The entrance of Bethany Beach has a famous totem pole that has greeted visitors since 1976. The totem pole, "Chief Little Owl," is a wooden sculpture of an Indian and eagle made to honor the Indians that lived there. Bethany Beach hosts numerous events such as Boardwalk Arts Festival, Summerfest, and Bethany Beach Bandstand, which provides live music at least twice a week. The bandstand is located on the boardwalk and is a popular event among visitors.



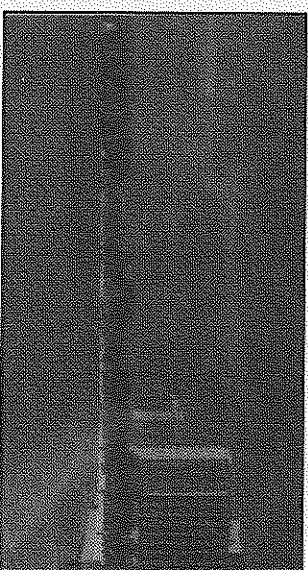
postcard

Which beach do WS students go to the most?

- Virginia Beach: 25%
- Bethany Beach: 4%
- Myrtle Beach: 10%
- Ocean City, Maryland: 14%
- Ocean City, New Jersey: 4%
- Rehoboth: 6%
- Dewey: 2%
- Nagshead: 6%
- Duck: 6%
- Kitty Hawk: 1%
- Cape Cod: 1%
- Miami Beach: 2%
- Long Beach: 2%
- Other: 17%



-Survey taken by 200 students
Compiled by Amy McKeever



Russ Waddell

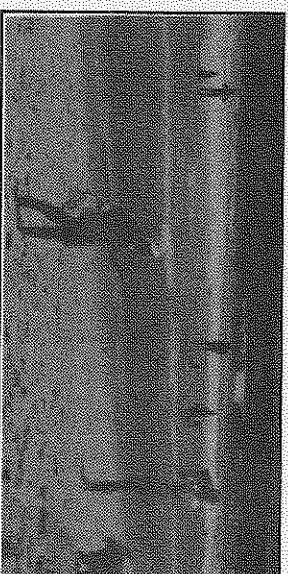
Dewey Beach

Only a mile long, yet **Dewey Beach** is ideal for couples, senior citizens, and children. On the weekends, Dewey transforms into one of the best social scenes. Popular nightspots for the party-goers are Cocoonits, Lighthouse, and Rusky Rudder's Restaurant. Dewey is also home to Ocean Outlets which holds about 140 shops, including other stores like Jeremiah's and the Dewey Beach Market. After a long day of shopping, hungry visitors can find themselves enjoying delicious prime rib, popcorn shrimp, or cheese fries at The Waterfront, Gary's Surf and Spray Cafe and Cocoonits Seafood House. Although Dewey stretches only three blocks, it is only two blocks to Rehoboth Beach's boardwalk and to the 'world's greatest rock n roll bar' - The Cork and Bottle.

People don't call it the "Grand Strand" for nothing. **Myrtle Beach** is home to not only the beach, but fun waterparks, adventurous mini golf courses, and theme parks that the whole family can enjoy. Family Kingdom Amusement, Wild Water Water Park, and Wacky Golf are just a few that decorate the city. The Grand Strand lets tourists watch over 100 species of animals roam in their natural setting along over 500 acres on the Waccamaw River and Intercoastal Waterway. Water babies can line up at Captain Dick's Deep Sea Fishing and Water Sports to rent motor boats and jet skis. As far as entertainment goes, visitors can choose between moonlit walks or dancing under pulsating lights at one of Myrtle's clubs - 2001 Nightlife, Spanish Galleon, and OD Beach Club. These clubs offer live dancing to slag: the official dance of South Carolina.

People looking for a laugh should check out Comedy Night at one of these clubs that feature comedians from all over the country on a nightly basis. On the way back to their room at the Patricia Grand Resort or their bungalow at Student Cottage and Condo Rentals, tourists can stop off at beach shops like Wings and Eagles to buy souvenirs or visit the Hammock Hut to take a genuine Myrtle Beach hammock home.

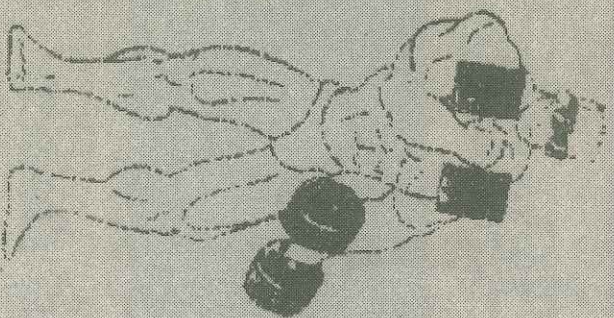
Virginia Beach



Russ Waddell

Trying to escape from the pressures of city life, Northern Virginians journey south to the fun and sunny **Virginia Beach**. Tourists can wander around historical sites such as Battle of the Capes Monument, Cape Henry Lighthouse, Norwegian Lady Statue, and Adam Thorouggood House. Bands, both local and famous, perform concerts at GTE Virginia Beach Amphitheater and Beachstreet USA. After sunbathing, swimming and playing putt-putt, Virginia Beach offers Jetro's Club, Maple Tree Pancake House, and Naturally New Orleans Cafe to end hunger pains.

-Compiled by Amy McKeever,
Pryanka Tanden, and Caitlin Marvin



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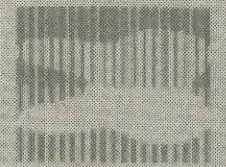
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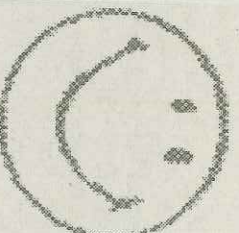


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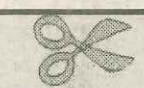
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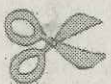
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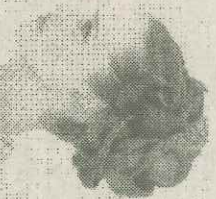


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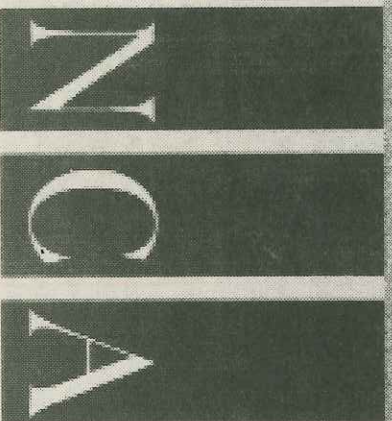


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Crew sends three to junior national training Nelson, Pavlik, Carter leave school for training camp

By Angela Florino
Etc. Editor

As the school year ends and everyone prepares for finals, three members of the WS Crew Team pack their bags and are off to Jr. National Selection Camps; juniors Ali Nelson, Brian Pavlik and Nate Carter.

The fourth member of the team, Lynn Frangipagne doesn't get to leave school before everyone else because she is going to Senior Rowing Camp at the Olympic Training Center in California. Frangipagne goes back and forth between first and second place in the nation and placed third at World Championships last year.

"I have my eyes set on 2004 [Olympics] but if I don't make that I'll shoot for 2008 [Olympics]," said Frangipagne.

The Junior National Selections camps are located at the University of Pennsylvania Boathouse in Philadelphia for the boys and Seattle, Washington for the girls. The basis for both camps is very similar. In order to make the selection camps the students that try out must have the best ERG times in the nation. ERG is an indoor rowing machine that students test on during the winter because of the weather. They also must get coaches recommendations and put together a video tape of how they row.

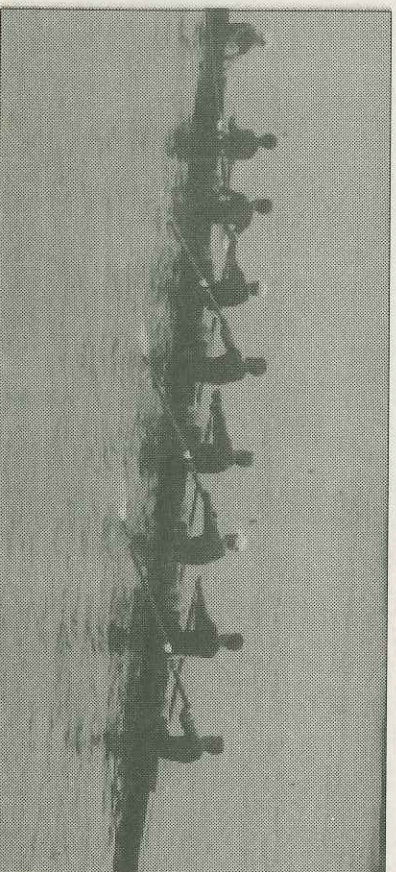
"It's a lot of work to put all the stuff together to send away to the camp and I

was really excited when my coach called and told me that I had one of the best ERG times and I made it into the Selection Camp," said Nelson.

The students leave early from school for the camps and there is one cut for the girls and two for the guys. If the rowers

consists of lifting weights, lunch, and sprint rowing all before dinner.

"I am very happy with the results," said Nelson. "Crew is lots of work, especially in the winter when the weather is miserable and it is really cold plus no one is pushing you, if you want to do well you



Lauren Sheffield

The crew team rows towards success. Members of the team are attending a special training camp in order to prepare for the National and the World Championships.

make the cuts they go on to row in the World Championship in Croatia. The top fourteen rowers from both the girls and boys camps go to the world championship.

The schedules for the day at the camps are very tight. At the girls' camps they wake up and are on the water at 6 a.m. and do lunge rows until eight or nine in the morning. While they are on the water, they are being coached and video taped so they can see where they need to improve. After they are finished with their morning rowing they eat breakfast then do video analysis. The afternoon

have to keep pushing yourself."

Carter and Pavlik will be attending the boys Junior National Selection Camps this summer. Carter holds the fourth best time in the nation and Pavlik holds the twenty-fourth.

"I just took crew up last year in order to keep me in shape and I am really happy with the results," said Carter.

This is Pavlik's last year at WS, he will not be attending next year and he already has a spot on the crew team in the high school that he is going to his senior still can do," said Frangipagne.

Olympic Development Program offers high-caliber competition

By Roberto Garcia
Production Editor

Sophomore Emily Baskin remembers the first soccer league she ever played in. Over the years, she slowly improved, moving up through the ranks, until she was playing for a high-caliber club team. Then she heard about the soccer Olympic Development Program (ODP).

"I started playing soccer in kindergarten, and when I was about 10, I started to hear about something called ODP," said Baskin. "When I was 11, I decided to try out."

ODP was introduced by the US Soccer Organization in 1977 to help identify potential national youth player through an organized series of trials at the district, state, region, and national level. Ever since, ODP has served as a means of development for highly skilled

soccer players. Several WS students, including juniors Nicole Blume, Meghan Ogilvie, and Casey McCluskey, as well as sophomore Jeff Carroll and senior Brian Fowler currently participate in the program.

"I have been playing soccer since I was six, and two years ago I decided to join ODP," said Blume. "I'm currently a member of the national pool."

Players interested in joining ODP tryout at the district level. They attend four or five tryouts, after which they are either accepted or sent home. Once they make the district level, they compete for spaces in the state pool. In order to make the state team, players must attend a weekend tryout. Out of the approximate 40 players that make the state pool, half of them are put in a State A team and the other half are put in the State B team.

From there, players continue

to climb the soccer ladder, making it to the regional pool, then the regional team, and finally having a chance to tryout for the national and Olympic pools and teams. Tryouts for regional and national teams consist of camps, in which the player's every skill is pushed to the limits.

"Tryouts for regional were incredible," said Baskin. "I couldn't believe how competitive they were."

ODP offers several advantages over regular club teams. Players compete at a much higher level and play against teams from across the nation, which helps them improve their own skills.

"In ODP, I get to play against players of my same skill," said Carroll. "When I played for an NCSL team, I was always one of



Mac Ogilvie

In addition to playing for WS, junior Meghan Ogilvie also plays for ODP.

the best players, so I wasn't very challenged." However, the biggest reward of ODP is the chance to be seen by a large number of college coaches.

"I plan to attend a college that offers me a scholarship for soccer," said junior Meghan Ogilvie. "ODP gives me a chance to be seen by coaches from all over the country."

Although ODP has its advantages, it requires much dedication. Members of the

regional and national pool often travel to tournaments around the country, missing as much as two or three weeks of school each year.

"Just this year, I've missed two weeks of school for the national pool, and before the end of the school year, I'll have missed another week," said Blume. "ODP obviously has its advantages, but it requires a lot of hard work."

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Lady Spartans fall to Woodbridge 5-3

Boys team loses in regional semifinals to Woodson

By Angela Fiorino

ETC Editor

"Ooooooooooooooooooooo
haha yeah!"

That is one of the many noises you will hear coming from the WS Varsity Crowd Rowlers at the girls soccer games. The Crowd Rowlers' co-presidents, senior David Carlise and junior, Clayton Williams, who prefers to be called Claytonius Selby Williams, started the group and they cheer at every girls' soccer game.

"Crowd rowling is an art, a science, a show, a display of heroism but very concise at the same time," said Williams.

The Crowd Rowlers didn't take their show on the road to Richmond Saturday, but they were present at most games during the season, as the Lady Spartan soccer team played to a second-place finish in the state AAA tournament.

After defeating Mills Godwin in the semifinals, the Lady Spartans lost to Woodbridge 5-3

in the final.

The Spartan finish in Richmond capped a successful soccer season for both the boys and girls teams. While both teams won the Patriot District, the boys team lost to Woodson 2-1 in the regional semifinal.

The Lady Spartans' "cheerleaders," meanwhile, consider themselves No. 1 in the state.

"Cheering involves innovation and repetition. Repeating yourself eight to ten times," said Carlise.

The Crowd Rowlers boosted the spirit of the girls team throughout the season and helped to pump them up.

"They bring instruments to the game and their cheering is very positive throughout the game. It really helps because they are so enthusiastic and it gets our adrenaline going," said junior midfielder Meghan Howie.

The road to Richmond was not completely smooth for the



Bree Vrotsko
Junior goalkeeper Cara Abbruscato blocks a shot during the District tournament.

Lady Spartans. After winning the district's and the regional semifinal game, the girls lost to Lake Braddock 2-0 after previously beating the Bruins in districts.

The Spartans were missing four starters that night because

the team to do well. However, they defied the odds and ended the season with a 17-8 record.

"We surpassed all expectations," said Tugwell. "We had graduated several seniors, and we thought our pitching staff might be weak, but Jake Glanzmann and Jeff Lizama both had great seasons on the mound."

Along with inexperience, the team also had to deal with difficult schedule. They surprised some of the best teams in the area, including Gonzaga, Paul IV, and Chantilly. Their biggest win however, was the victory over Robinson in the district tournament.

"The best part of the season was definitely beating Robinson not once, but twice this year," said Glanzmann.

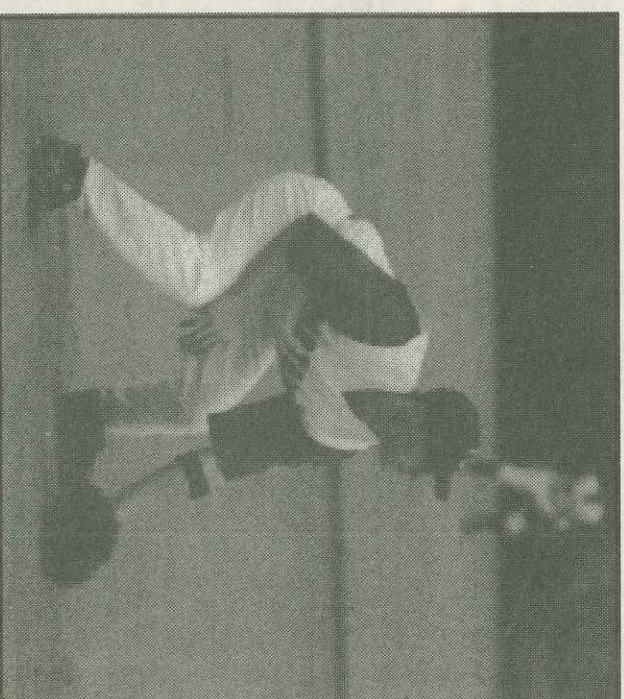
The team plans to continue to

grow on the success of the season, thanks in part to the fact that the team will not lose as many players to graduation. This year six starters were juniors, so the team will remain mostly unchanged.

"Last year, we lost tons of players to graduation," said Tugwell. "Next year, the team will remain largely intact."

As for Tugwell, baseball will continue to be a large part of his life. Over the summer, Tugwell will be part of a baseball camp for George Mason University. Afterwards, he plans to give private lessons for the Northern Virginia Baseball Academy.

"As of right now, I don't have any long term m plans, but the baseball camp and the private lessons give me a chance to continue with baseball, but with a little more freedom of time,"



Bree Vrotsko

Senior David Capizzi fields a ball at third base.

said Tugwell.

After 27 years, Tugwell has compiled a 433-183 record, won two state titles, and compiled many memories. However, there is one thing that stands out most in his mind about WS baseball.

"I've had many great moments at WS," said Tugwell. "But what I will remember most about WS is the quality of the kids that played for me, and the immense dedication of my assistant coaches."

Lacrosse teams lose in regional tourney

By Myles Curran

Sports Editor

Seasons of disappointment for both the boys and girls lacrosse teams ended this year as both teams enjoyed successful seasons.

With a team filled with seniors, including team MVP Kyle Hoyt, the boys lacrosse team enjoyed a 10-1 season as they finished second in the Patriot District. Highlights of the year included an upset win over Oakton's respected lacrosse team and a last second win over Jefferson during the regular season.

"I was taken out in the fourth quarter so that made me angry," said sophomore goalkeeper Kevin Park. "When we mounded that comeback and won with a second left, [against Jefferson] I felt it was worth it."

The team came into Districts with high hopes but failed to meet them as they lost



Segall/Majestic

Junior Megan Siebert saves one of many shots while playing rival Robinson.

to Annandale in the quarterfinals, a team they beat during the regular season 14-11, 10-4 in the semi-finals of the tournament.

Even with the early exit in Districts the team made it to Regionals..

In the first round of regionals the team beat rival Lake Braddock 4-3 as the game was called with 10 minutes to go in the fourth quarter due to weather. The Spartans went on to play defending state champions Woodson. After a horrid start the team lost 21-9.

"We had a great regular season, but we could've done better in the playoffs," said Park.

Even with expectations of being serious contenders for the District title, the girls lacrosse team failed to disappoint as they finished second in the Patriot District with an 8-5 record.

"We had a very potent offense, but our defense was our strongest asset," said varsity lacrosse coach Brian Publick.

The team took on Lake Braddock in the second round of Districts. Lake

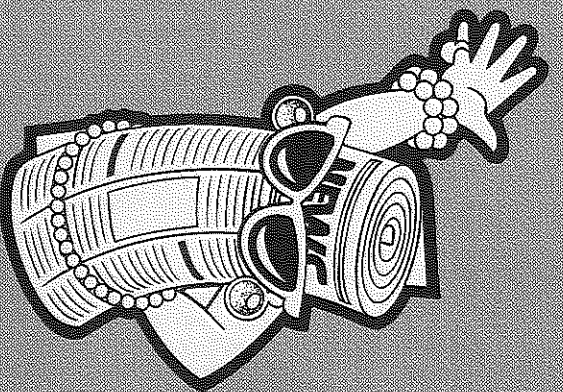
Braddock had beaten WS 12-2 earlier in the season in what their coach called the "worst game he has ever seen." WS prevailed in the rematch, defeating Lake Braddock 8-7. The celebration was short as they then lost to Robinson 9-6 in the District finals.

"The win over Lake Braddock was our biggest win of the season," said Publick. "We came so close, [to winning Districts] but we didn't play a full 50 minutes against Robinson."

The team continued their woes as they lost to Fairfax in the first round of Regionals 10-9 in an overtime loss. The team came back from an 8-3 second half deficit to send the game to overtime but couldn't quite pull it out.

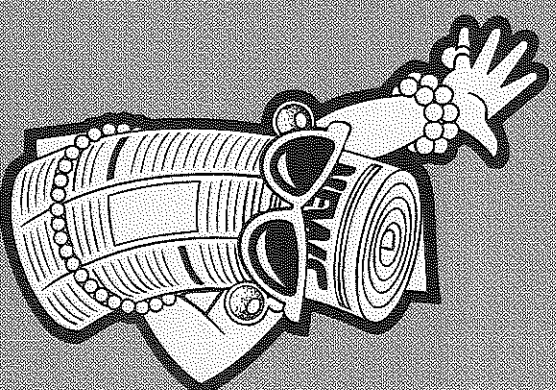
"We are there, we just need to take the next step," said Publick. "I expect to be district champions next year. It's not a goal, it is a serious expectation."

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WISH YOU A

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SUMMER!!!

Quench your Summer thirst

By Emily Morris

Features Assistant

Welcome to *The Oracle's* new food feature. Since you like to eat, we'd like to provide you with ideas for tasty summer snacks. Three of the four recipes below were tested by 30 students.

Classic Fruit Smoothie

(Add all ingredients to taste.)

- Milk, ice, a sweetener of preference
- (i.e. Fruit Juice or Chocolate Syrup)
- Any fruit or two fruits
- Vanilla Extract

Combine all in blender and blend

(This recipe was not included in the taste test)

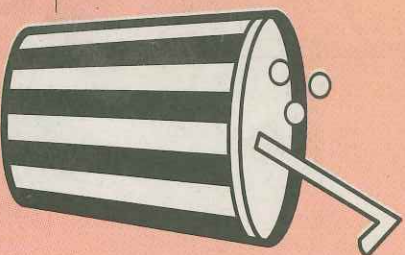
When smooth add 1-2 ice cubes at a time. (54% said this was the best)

Weight Watcher's Strawberry Daiquiri

- 2 cups Diet Mountain Dew,
- 2 cups frozen strawberries
- 2 tsp lime juice
- 2 tsp lemon juice

Combine in blender and blend until smooth

(40% said this was the best.)



- 1 (3 oz.) package of Jell-O
- Blend until smooth

(40% said this was the best.)

Florida Frosty

- 1 cup orange juice
- 1/2 cup plain yogurt
- 1 banana

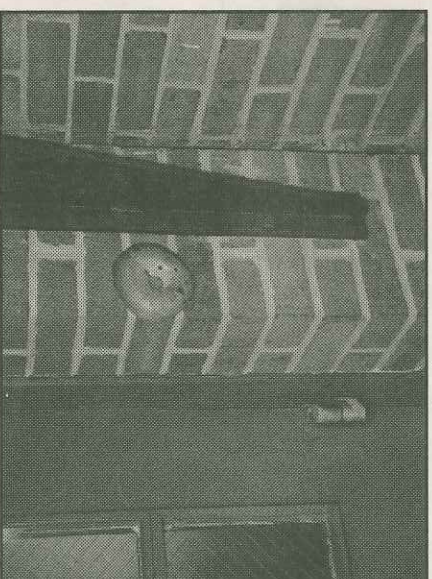
Combine in blender and blend until smooth

(6% said this was the best)

Orange Julius

- 6 oz. can of orange juice concentrate
- 1 cup milk
- 1 tsp vanilla
- 1 cup sugar
- 1 cup water
- 12-16 ice cubes

Combine everything but ice cubes and blend.



There is a bagel stuck to this wall. Cream cheese is more sticky than you might think.

Sometimes lunch isn't all that's being served during 5th period.

-Photos by Russ Waddell



Freshman Luke Short strikes a pose. Yes, ladies, he is available.

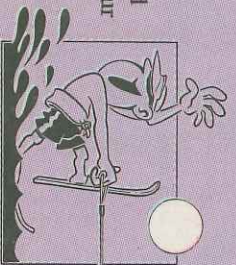
SPARTAN FOODS



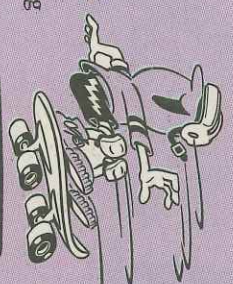
The traveling hobos have descended upon WS.

Top 10 ways to make the most out of summer

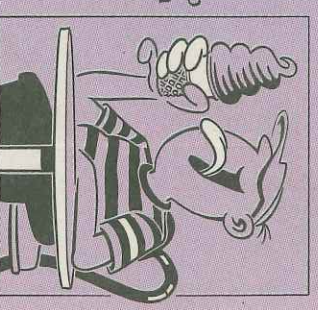
10. Go to all the local swimming pools and ask if anyone has seen your pet shark.



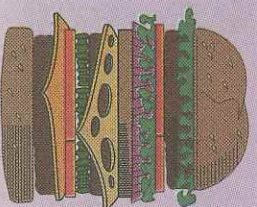
6. Go to a pool and ask small children if they have seen any suspicious-looking sea monsters lately.



2. Find a summer job and constantly complain about it to your parents, then quit and complain about not having a job. After this, get another job, complain about it again, etc.



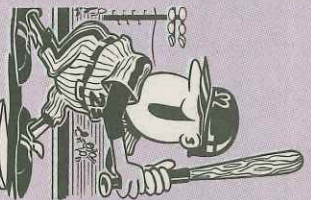
9. When you're on your hotel elevator, greet everyone arriving with a warm handshake and ask them to call you "Admiral."



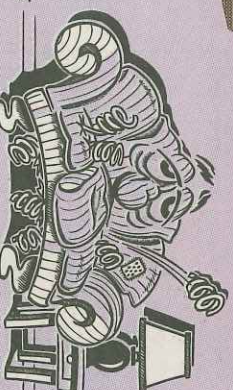
5. Go to an amusement park and try to negotiate the price of admission.

1. Go to Australia for the Summer Olympics (A little hint: our summer is Australia's winter).

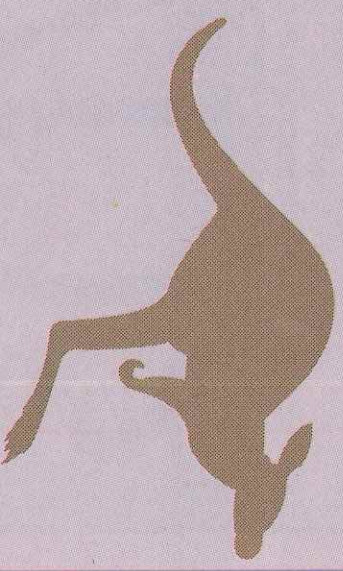
8. Visit a European country and constantly ask which side of the road you are supposed to drive on in the country's language. Then act like you do not understand when the person gives you his or her answer.



4. Whenever you are dragged by your parents to go somewhere you don't want to go, set up a "Valet Parking," sign in front of the place.



3. Go to the Maryland Science Center and proclaim loudly, "Who believes this junk anyway?"



7. Go to a national park and say, "This place doesn't look so special to me."

