

# THE ORACLE

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## SGA, SAC cancel elections, appoint members *Decreased interest from students causes change in election process*

By Lauren Decot

Viewpoint Editor

During Student Government Association (SGA) and Student Advisory Council (SAC) election time, candidates are usually busy putting campaign posters on the walls or perfecting their speeches to give to the student body. This year, that didn't happen.

The five members of next year's SGA are juniors Elisa Gonzalez, Meghan Halfhill, Ashley Hoffmann, Marisa Nomi, and Stephanie Shaw. Next year's delegate for the Student Advisory Council (SAC) is junior Roberto Garcia. The members are fellow juniors Ann Blaschke and Jasmine Wilkins.

Elections for the SGA were not held this year because only five students showed interest, turned in their applications on time and met all of the requirements. Previous leadership experience was necessary to run for office. This fact is a possible explanation for the decreased interest.

"Interest in SGA is on and off. Over the past two years



Jenn Owens, pictured with leadership students, laments the decreased interest in SGA.

Russ Waddell

## WS sweeps halls with new strategy

By Emily Morris

Features Assistant

The bell rings releasing students from class. In the next five minutes, students receive time to get prepared for next class, which they are expected to be at before the next bell rings.

"I don't find it hard to get to class on time, even when I go to my to get the right books," said freshman Spencer Homer.

But for some students, it has become a problem. Both teachers and administrators have noticed more students remaining in the hall after the bell rings.

"We only ask students to be on time," said administrator Richard Griffin. "When they can't do that, then it is time to encourage them to get there on time."

So in March, WS administrators and security started the first of a chain of hall sweeps.

The hall sweeps are focused in one hall or section of the school, which may change with every hall sweep.

"I am glad that [administrators and security] started the hall sweeps," said math teacher Gary Embrey. "The amount of late students and how late they are is getting ridiculous."

Not all students are extremely late. Some victims of the hall sweep just

See **SWEEPS**, on Page 5



2 THE GOOD.  
THE BAD. THE  
HALL SWEEPS.



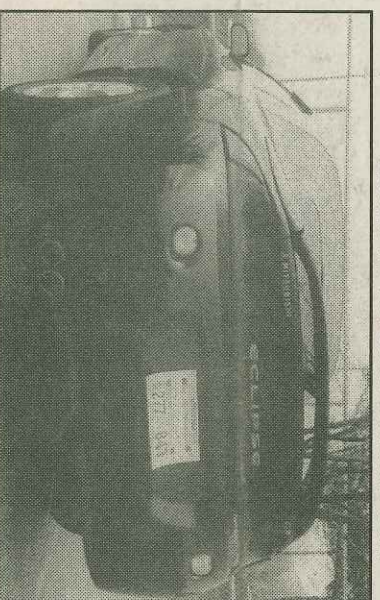
6 GET THE  
SCOOP ON  
FCA.



8 WHAT WILL  
WE BE WHEN  
WE GROW UP?



16 GET  
READY FOR  
SUMMER!



Russ Waddell

Expensive new cars are just one sign of the wealth of WS students' families.

## Counselors finish successful careers

By Mike Waldron

Oracle Editor

Once Nancy Wright and Janis Harless became guidance counselors at WS, they did not want to leave. But in June, both of them plan to end long stints at the school and retire.

"I love everything at this school, from the students to the faculty," said Harless. "But if you love your job, the time goes by fast."

The time may have gone by fast, but the two of them made the most of it. While Wright, who has been at WS for 20 years, has served as a peer helping teacher and a sponsor of the Class of 1989, Harless, who has been here for 16, has served as a history teacher and sponsor of the Understanding People Program.

And while both of them say that they will have mixed emotions about retiring, they both agree that they will have great memories about WS, mainly because of the people and the environment at the school.

"I have loved working at West Springfield, because it's my 'home town.'

## Teens reap benefits from county affluence

By Nikki Werking

Oracle Editor

Sixty-thousand dollars. It's more than enough to pay for a new luxury car or an undergraduate degree from a public state college. It's also the cost of the Class of 2000's All Night Graduation Party.

See **RICH**, on Page 5

school," said Wright. "I live in the area, and I enjoy seeing students in other settings."

Harless, who also lives in the area, said that the thing she will miss most will be seeing students mature from the time they get to WS to the time they leave.

"I like to see people mature from their first day at this school to graduation," she said. "It's exciting for me to feel like I had a part in it."

Upon retiring, Wright and Harless may

miss helping students, but they both plan on continuing to help people by getting involved with volunteer work, although neither is locked in to a certain field. In addition to volunteering, Wright hopes to travel, and Harless hopes to spend more time working on her garden.

But Wright and Harless will not forget about their time at WS.

"I'm really lucky [to have worked at West Springfield]," said Wright. "I'm going to miss everybody."



Nancy Wright, an involved and influential counselor, will be retiring from WS at the end of the year.

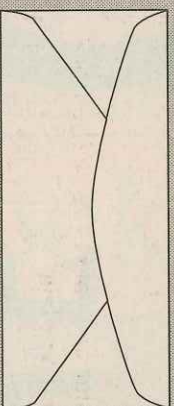
Brae Vrotsko

# Letters to *The Oracle*

To *The Oracle*:

Recently an article appeared in *The Oracle* that brought to light an incident where a staff member had students sign their parents' name to the Federal Aid form. I cannot condone and will not condone this action. No one should forge another's name to any document. This is like cheating on a test, lying to a parent or another individual, being dishonest. And we all know that we do not do things of this nature. However, this is not what prompted me to write this. It was not the content of the front page article, but that individuals on the staff went to *The Washington Post* and it snowballed with other media. That in my book, is unforgivable. What happened to the philosophy, "Take care of yourselves, take care of each other, and take care of this place?" I have never written to a newspaper to express my disdain, disgust, or whatever negative term you wish to

place on it. But I am so disappointed in what was done. Do you realize the harm the newspaper staff (yes, one for all and all for one) has done? You have inflicted wounds on this school and the principal that will hurt for a long time to come. To think that I have willingly provided information to the newspaper staff when they have asked, NO MORE!!!!!! You have hurt US all. You may ask, why I am taking this so personally? Well, I am a proud staff member of West Springfield High School. I have served for thirty-one years in Fairfax County and have served at least seven other schools in my career. Let me tell you that no other school can compare to this school. Other schools cannot hold a candle to West Springfield's academics, student body, and staff members. To see someone do something to hurt/damage this institution is hard to understand. I think that the entire staff of *The Oracle* should be ashamed of what was done. I know there is freedom of the press, but not when the freedom of the press



results in destroying good people and positive things that are going on. We may forgive that this has occurred, but we will never forget.

Bart Kramer, Ed D.  
Assistant Principal  
Dear Oracle Staff,

It was with great pride that I read *The Washington Post* account of how *The Oracle* broke the story of forced forgery at West Springfield. Congratulations to Laura Robinson, Amy Sneed, and Melissa Lipman. I hope they consider pursuing journalism as a career. We could use more reporters like them.

Sincerely,  
Patrick Eaton-Robb (Class of '83)  
Associated Press Newsmen,  
Hartford, Conn.

## Sweeps clear the hallways of students

By Theresa Rupp  
Managing Editor

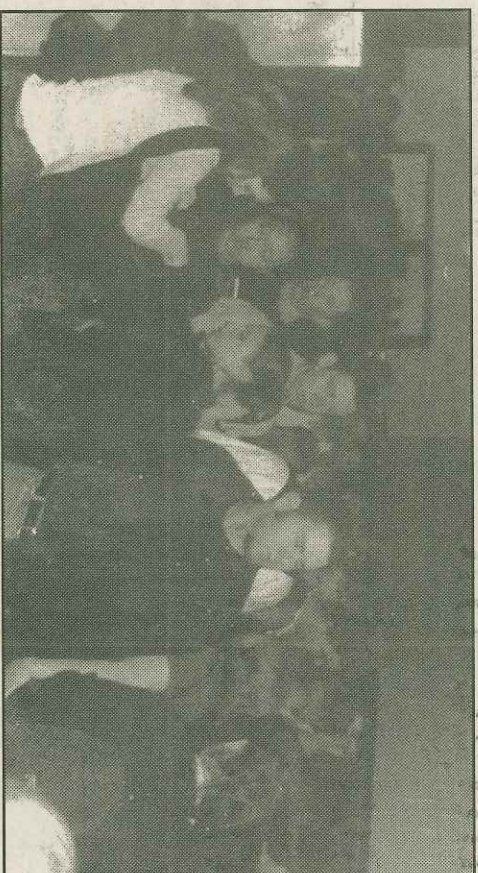
Hearing the words "hall sweep" makes me think of a big broom and dust pan. I am not a dust ball, nor a piece of crumbled cookie, nor a squished spider. Therefore, I do not believe that I should be "swept" away into the big garbage can known as "detention." I am a high school senior, and like everyone else in the world, sometimes I am late.

I fully understand how one major goal of high school is to prepare you for life outside of the "daycare" which we are confined to every weekday from 7:30 to 2:15.

Things such as appropriate personal appearance, honesty, and punctuality are important lessons that, if taken seriously, will lead us to a successful, fulfilling life in good old Fairfax County. (I'll bet that some of those \$90,000 a year median income making adults have problems being late too, but that is beside the point since these people can afford to be late. Literally. Ha ha.)

The punctuality lesson seems to be the most difficult of those for us teenagers to achieve. WS' administrative staff seemed to think so as well, and has come up with a foolproof way to curb us from this disgraceful habit—on the first offense, we are given one unexcused tardy (big surprise there) and a teacher assigned detention.

Hmmm. So in effort to punish the

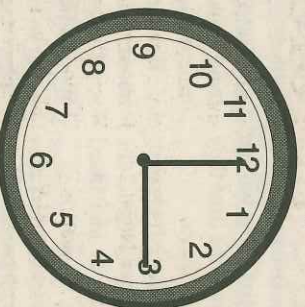


Maggie Atberry

WS students protest hall sweeps as useless and a waste of time. The fourth offense for getting caught has yet to be chosen. Students, the administrators are also punishing teachers. So much for the teacher's cool idea of getting out of the building at 2:45.

Instead, teachers have to babysit their less-than-punctual students after school when they'd rather be sitting at home eating bon bons and watching their dogs eat their students' ungraded papers. Our tardiness consequently means fun times for all! The second offense is much more severe than the "beginner's offense." This time, students will receive a detention with an administrator. Third offenders will have the joy of two administrative detentions. Double the fun times for all!

The fourth and final offense is made to several punish those who consistently



choose to disobey the rules of the school. The administrators aren't playing around anymore; this time they mean business! A 6:00am detention before school is the wake up call (haha) for any student who apparently has all the signs of the huge social problem called lateness. I believe a seminar on the perils of lateness should be given at all morning detentions. That should do the trick.

No word has been given on the punishment for gasp! a fifth offense. Apparently, the administrative staff believes that our lateness will be cured in four easy steps.

Special gun and arm patches will be given out to any student who feels the need for some additional "support" down the rough road toward timeliness. Remember WS students, take care of yourself, each other, this place, and our tardy problem. You don't really want to get swept away. Trust me.

Mike Waldron  
Nikki Werking  
Amy Whipple  
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# THE ORACLE

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High School  
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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.

## Editorial

it doesn't mean that we are responsible for the actions that have made it into the paper. We are merely letting everyone know what is going on in this school.

A perk of being on a newspaper staff is that you receive all the latest news first. Another perk is being able to report a story to the people and hopefully, receive a reaction from them. We love letters to the editor and willingly publish all of them for everyone to read. When news causes people to display a strong emotion, it means that we have done our job well—and it doesn't matter if it's a negative or a positive reaction. We give people the chance to respond, in print, to anything said in the newspaper.

*The Oracle* has a code of ethics that all of us follow. We talk to both sides before a story is printed. We do all of our homework, and we go to the source to find out the information that is needed to finish the story.

*The Oracle* has consistently been ranked a number one high school newspaper in Virginia, and we are proud to say that we are one of the only papers in Fairfax County that is not censored. We do not abuse this privilege; instead, we choose to use it cautiously. We feel very fortunate that Dr. Smith and his staff trust us to adhere to high journalistic standards. Our intent is not to hurt or cut down any person or any issue that we report on. Our intent is fairness and non-biased reporting.

The job of *The Oracle* is to report the news to the people, the same as any other newspaper. We do not suppress any news we believe the public should know. If you don't like it, then don't read it. It's as simple as that.



"Blue and gold because I'm from West Virginia."

—Phil Burnside, junior

"Purple and green because Burney is my hero."

—Brendan Carter, freshman



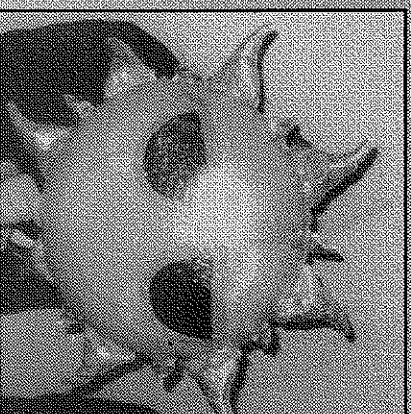
# Spartan Spotlight

If you could change the school colors, what would they be and why?



"Yellow and turquoise. And glittery, too."

—The Lunch Eaters



"Pink and yellow like this balloon."

—Laura Chubb, sophomore

—Compiled by Russ Waddell

## Stats reveal the truth on teens

By Amy Whipple

Oracle Editor

Adults are always looking for excuses. They have to be, otherwise I wouldn't hear. "Teenagers today: those rotten kids. Why in my day..."

I'd like to know where they're getting their information. Statistically, it's absolutely impossible for us to be rotten kids if they're comparing us to how they were as teenagers. They might as well have glowing neon signs above their heads proclaiming their idiocy. Since they don't, I'll do it here.

For kids 12-17, alcohol, cigarette, binge alcohol, marijuana, and cocaine use have all gone down significantly. The most drastic of all changes has been in alcohol abuse. In 1979, almost 50 percent of said they were using alcohol, while in 1997, it had gone down to just below 20 percent. Yep, we're really bad.

In 1979, death from drug overdose was the same for teenagers and adults in their forties. In 1996, the rate for teenagers hasn't changed a sizable amount, but for the adults, it's grown to over four times that amount. That's a tremendous change on their part, yet we're still targeted for being morons.

As both victims and offenders in serious violent crimes, teenagers are

becoming less and less involved. In 1993, 53 per 1,000 youth, ages 12-17, were the offenders. In 1998, it was closer to 28 per 1,000. Teenage victims fell from 44 per 1,000 in 1993 to 27.

Today's teenagers are also more aware of their surroundings, and equally more adaptable. In a 1999 survey in Time, 90 percent of kids six to fourteen years old had friends of a different race. This is after most of our parents' generation spent their childhoods in race-separate schools.

Academic achievement is also high. In a 1998-1999 survey, 81 percent of girls admitted to trying their best in their classes. Boys were at a lower 64 percent. In 1984, 50 male students per 1,000 took AP exams, and 50 female students per 1,000 did the same. By 1996, boys had risen to 117 per 1,000. Girls nearly tripled that amount, increasing to 144 per 1,000.

Even the amount of TV we watch is lower than it used to be. The ultimate excuse doesn't hold water anymore. How can anyone blame TV for the source of all of society's problems when only 32 percent of fourth-graders watch more than four hours per day, 28 percent of eighth graders, and 18 percent of seniors? This is down from 52 percent, 39 percent, and 26 percent respectively in 1984.

Tell us again how rotten we are. Please?

## Letter to *The Oracle*

Dear Oracle,

Hi. I read the paper a lot and I think something is missing. I think you need to have a "teacher of the issue" section. There are people in this school who have to go through a lot, and they get zero recognition. I'm nominating Mrs. Jenn Owens as the first candidate. She does PSAB, she teaches, she does Homecoming, she has a new baby, she is a great role model for others, and not one time have I seen her get any recognition.

Also, I haven't ever seen her feel sorry for herself or ask for anything. She always works hard and sets an example for her students as someone who works hard and does what she needs to do without complaining.

Lastly, I ask *The Oracle* to write a little something giving her the praise everyone who is close to her knows she deserves.

Desmond Brazel, 9

## Put music before money

By Jenny Braudaway

Weekend Editor

Every other day it's: Napster is being shut down! So, like every other Napster user I know, I rush home from school, get online, and start the lengthy, sometimes frustrating (if you're a 56K modem-er like me) process of downloading all the songs I'll ever need to make a CD.

The thing is, every other Napster user has heard the news and is doing the same exact thing — so there I am, staring at the download indicator on the screen move an invisible amount of space, indicating the song is two hours from being complete. And while I sit there, trying to download songs that would normally take triple less the amount of time, I wonder if I'll be able to actually feel it when someone turns the switch to shut it off. You know, like how it feels when you lose someone close to you...like an empty, hollow longing in the pit of your stomach.

Is it all worth it? Put simply, yes. Put complicatedly, yes.

Music, like all good, necessary, and beautiful things in life, should be shared. I can cite both the universal and personal reasons for not shutting down Napster. In my case, my music interests have

expanded like a balloon in the past year since I've used Napster. Also, I can own a one-hit wonder song without having to buy a CD that is worthless otherwise. If, for example I download a song by AF1 or Bouncing Souls and realize they are too "bouncy" for my tastes, I haven't lost any money. Or I'll download a song by AF1 or The Get Up Kids and realize that I've discovered an incredible band I can't believe I was missing out on. Never heard of them? Not a problem. Yet.

The universal reasons mirror my own — music should be available to everyone it affects — which is everyone. Napster serves as a catalyst for broadening people's horizons.

Metallica and Dre don't want their music made available. They advocate copyright laws, when all the while they are just thinking about the record sales they could possibly lose. And who wants to download Metallica anyway? Please. I'm all for people having their own tastes, but if bands don't want their music being shared then they should just take care of it — don't wage an all out war. Right now, Napster is the greatest forum music has ever had. In the lyrics of Operation Ivy, "Sound system gonna bring me back up, one thing that I can depend on."

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# VIEWER

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## Administration cracks down on tardies

**SWEEPS, from Page 1**

need an extra 30 seconds to get to class. "I wasn't going to be very late, but then I was caught in the hall sweep," said Wesley Breden. "I had to go fill out a form and that made me about five minutes late."

When a hall sweep is conducted, all administrators and security go to one section of the school. After the bell rings, every student still remaining in the hall that the administrators see is herded to a central point. At the central point, forms are waiting for the students to be filled out on the honor system. Then the students are sent to their next class.

"I knew there was going to be a hall sweep; too many administrators were standing around. I thought I could make

it to class, but I didn't," said sophomore ID Kaleem. "I considered putting a false name on it, but decided against it when the administrators surrounded me."

For students like Kaleem, the first offense receives the punishment of one teacher detention. The second offense means the student serves administrative detention. Punishments must be given so that tardies do not remain a reoccurring problem.

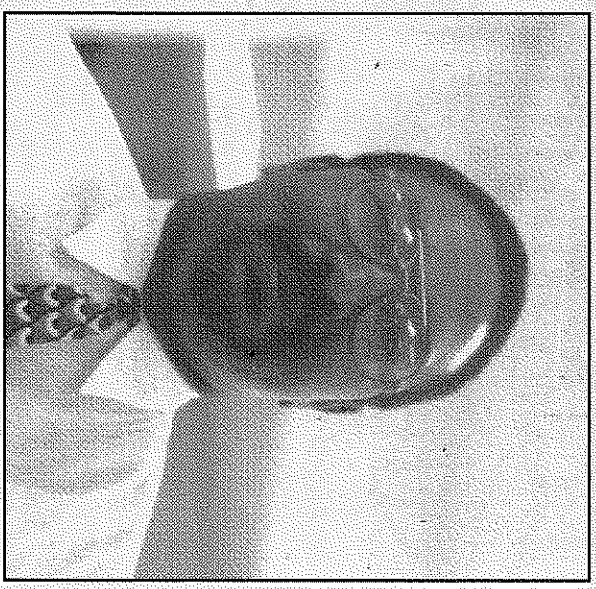
"It is just too many, when a student is late it hurts the teacher and the entire class," said security specialist Chris Cotter. "We catch an average of 30 students; that is just in one hall."

The security staff and administrators maintain that hall sweeps must be done to curb student tardies.

"These students were warned, we made an announcement saying we would start hall sweeps," said Griffin.

Warnings or not, lateness can be a chronic problem. This problem is one that the security staff and administrators plan to deal with until it is no longer a major issue. Major efforts to control student lateness will continue.

Cotter said, "We plan to keep doing hall sweeps throughout the school year."



Oracle File Photo  
Assistant Principal Richard Griffin and other administrators have been catching many students in sweeps.

## Forgery story receives media attention

### Incident goes nationwide with AP story, TV, and radio news coverage

**By Laura Robinson**  
News Section Editor

It keeps going, and going, and going.

After publication of *The Oracle's* April 5 story about students signing their parents' names to the Federal Survey Form, articles relating to the incident ran on the Associated Press national wire, and were featured in newspapers across the country, including *The Washington Post*, *The Washington Times*, *The Boston Globe*, *The Springfield Times*, *The Richmond News*, *The Daytona News-Journal*, *The Richmond Times-Dispatch*, *The Fairfax Journal*, and *The Chattanooga Times*.

The way the story snowballed in the media raised questions by some students.

"I think the media blew it out of proportion," said junior Gillian Ramsey. "They should cover more positive high school activities and not focus on the mistakes."

Other students, however, had differing opinions on the media bias.

"I was shocked when I heard it on the radio, and then on TV, and then all over the place," said sophomore Mileva Sturgis. "But I thought the media coverage was fair. They told me what *The Oracle* told me."

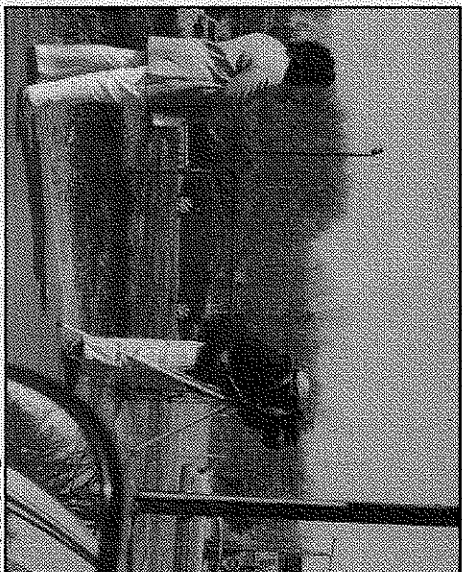
On April 5, WFLA-TV (Channel 7), WTTG-TV (Channel 5), and WUSA-TV (Channel 9) set up cameras outside the school parking lot and interviewed students about the situation. Television news reporters were following

up on a *Washington Post* story published in the Metro section that morning.

"They asked me what I felt about the whole thing," said senior J.B. Santiago. "I think they were from Channel 7."

Many hallway discussions, dinner-table discussions, and faculty discussions centered around the issue, leading some to believe that the news coverage should have been handled a different way.

"I felt that additional time spent on verifying facts and



Brooke Nelson  
Channel 9 Reporter Beverly Burke and a camera man set up to talk to students near the school.

## Fairfax ranks top in county income

**RICH, from Page 1**

would be unbelievable anywhere else. But in Fairfax County, it's nothing out of the ordinary.

For the second year in a row, Fairfax County is the richest county with a median household income of \$90,937, is also the only county in the country with a median household income over \$90,000.

Residents of the county live a life of affluence, and there are 246,264 people under the age of 18 enjoying the lifestyle. It means getting the best of everything. The best cars. Brand-name clothes. Second homes. Exotic vacations.

"If the United States is the richest country in the world, then we [Fairfax County] have to be the richest county in the

**Fairfax County is the richest county with a median household income of \$90,937.**



Oracle File Photo  
A student displays her Abercrombie & Fitch wear. Many students in WS can afford expensive brands of clothing.

world," said sophomore Kelsey Carnel.

Take a look at the WS parking lot and you'll see everything from hand-me-downs from Grandma to brand-new sports cars. Senior Maggie Van Camp drives a gunmetal silver 2000 Chrysler Sebring convertible.

"My dad just bought it for me," said Van Camp.

Students don't take their fashion lightly either. Expensive brands including Abercrombie & Fitch, American Eagle, and Gap are the top designers clothing teenagers here.

"I like Gap and Abercrombie because they have nice clothes,"

said junior Amanda Littlepage.

Though it isn't an commonplace, it also isn't an unusual occurrence to meet a student who owns a second home, like a beach house, or someone who spends nearly the entire summer at some exotic location.

"My family owns a condo at the Sea Colony in Bethany Beach," said Carnel. "My family shares it with my grandparents and aunts and uncles. All just go at different times."  
Some may call us materialistic or spoiled, but in Fairfax County, it's the way of life.

## Congratulations to students chosen for Boys and Girls State!

### Students skip elections

**ELECTIONS, from page 1**

back and present ideas to the county about the various topics. The delegate and the members go to monthly meetings with the county.

"Jasmine Wilkins will make you proud of SAC," said Wilkins. In addition to not having elections, many students were unable to watch the video which introduced the officers because of faulty TV's across the school. "First we didn't get to vote, and then we didn't even get to

#### Girls:

Elizabeth Hebda  
Jessica Chesnut  
Jenny Askin  
Lucy Hutchinson  
First Alternate:  
Amy Block  
Second Alternate:  
Mary Holloway

#### Boys:

Christopher Chipman  
Drew Brooks  
Michael Mazie  
Joseph Hans  
First Alternate:  
Alex Gorski  
Second Alternate:  
Samuel Jung

While on spring break, students received a letter from Smith through the mail. The letter was meant to "say, yes, we shouldn't have done that but it was certainly not the incident picked up and portrayed [by the media]. It was unfortunate it brought so much negative press."  
Still, students were bothered by the incident. "Maybe the media did jump on this story," said Sturgis, "but the whole thing did happen. They wrote about it [The Oracle], everyone in TV and on the newspapers found out—now the situation is being investigated. They brought out the truth."

watch the video," said junior Jess Potter.  
Despite not being elected directly by the student body, members of next year's SGA and SAC promise a successful year.  
"It isn't fair that those who aren't aware of the circumstances are passing judgements on us. It wasn't our fault that no one but us turned in the papers," said Nomu. "It is too bad that we didn't get to have elections, but we promise to do a great job next year."

# FCCA unifies to strengthen beliefs

By Angela Fiorino  
ETC. Editor

They all migrate into the basement, crowd around the food, share a few words then begin in prayer, that's the typical FCA meeting. The catchy phrase on the FCA flyers every week, food, fun and fellowship pretty much describe what you can find at the meetings.

Even though several people are involved in the group there are still many students who don't know about it. FCA stands for the Fellowship of Christian Athletes and it is open to anyone that wants to be involved with other students in discussing their religious beliefs as well as difficulties that teenagers experience and what God has to do with the.

FCA started in the NFL with a group of football players that wanted to pray together and share their beliefs about God and that is why it is called the Fellowship of Christian Athletes.

"I know that some people think that it is for athletes only but the only reason why it is called that is because it started in the NFL and the name just stuck," said senior leader Suzanne Grant. "Our goal in FCA is to reach out to the people in our school

and offer a group where they can get together and not have to worry about all the high school drama. We don't discourage anyone, we only encourage them."

Since it is a worldwide organization, FCA has such things as "super huddles," where the groups from the various high schools in one county get together and have one large FCA huddle with a guest speaker.

At FCA kids are able to get together and discuss how they think God has played into their life and then get the feedback from others involved. FCA offers an environment that is easy to talk about faith because of the fellowship. It brings kids together that don't necessarily go to church every Sunday because of they are surrounded by the fellowship of other student's going through the same things. The guest speakers usually have a had an interesting occurrence in their life that have helped them find God and they share it with the kids at FCA. Coach Jim Jones, the last speaker at FCA spoke about how he was blinded by a baseball accident when he was young but through strong prayer and faith that he would recover, he found God and his blindness was yield.

A lot of people have a misconception



Maggie Atteberry

Sophomore Jessica Penzari gets a hair cut at Hair Talks.

## A cut above the rest

By Caitlin Marvin

Managing Editor

Susan Rexford decided it was time for a change and since spring was coming, she got scissor-happy.

"I was just in the mood," said WS's career center specialist. "My beautician left and it was too hard to drive all the way to Tysons."

Rexford took Guidance Counselor Ester Pincus' advice and tried Family Hair Fashion. She got a shampoo, cut and blowdry for \$27, when she had been paying \$60 for the same in Tysons.

"I have been back there already for a shape-up," said Rexford. "I'm going to keep going back there."

Whether it's time for a change or just a shape-up, quality hair salons are abundant in Northern Virginia and are available in all price ranges.

"I go to this woman who opened her own shop in Lochmann's Plaza," said junior Julie Rahimi. "I have been going to her since I was eight years old and I completely trust her. Plus, she is very affordable."

Salons like Eclips, Beau Totale, Ernst & Co., and Bubbles are popular for WS

students and not just for updates around Homecoming and Prom time.

Depending on stylists, the prices vary. Most salons range between \$25-\$50 and only include shampoo, cut, and blowdry. Hair Cuttery's flat rate is \$17 and if clients want the stylists to use a curling iron, it is an extra \$5.

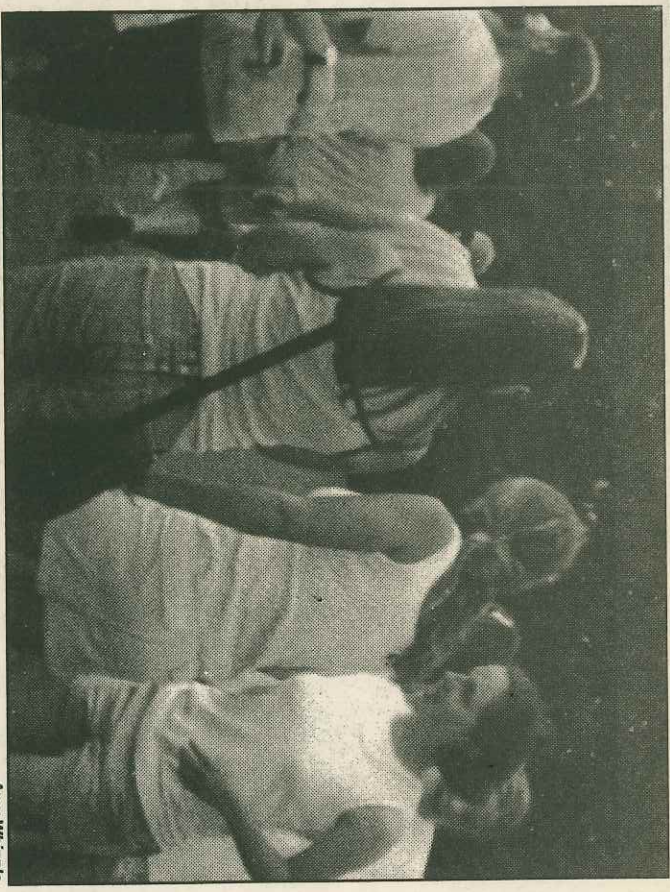
Chain salons and privately-owned beauty shops aren't the only way to go. Senior Rachel Danish trusts her hair to a friend of the family.

"He knows what I want and although he doesn't do it full-time, he's completely skilled in hair," said Danish. "It's very laid back and we just talk while he chops away and highlights my hair."

Vidal Sassoon in Tysons offers free haircuts with their training stylists. Although "training" might turn off clients, Vidal Sassoon assures them that they are certified but they haven't established themselves yet.

Whether you crimp, curl, cut, or buzz, there is a stylist and a look out there for you.

"My hair is not a big deal for me since I've had the look in the past," said Rexford. "But I know it's still a shock for other people when they see me."



Any Whipple

FCA provides a chance for more than just learning about God. Here they participate in a common ice breaker, Train wreck, to get to know each other.

of FCA and many think that it's only a bible study, but it's really not," said senior leader Beth Gibson. "It's just a group of us kids who get together to have fun and show how God works into our everyday lives."

This year's leaders of FCA, juniors Danny Baldwin and Alison Kerestes and seniors Gibson, Grant, Erin Smith, and Amanda Thornburg, encourage people to come and they think that it is important to attract many new people. They want the school to know that it is a great thing and people should get involved for reasons

## Foreign exchange students diversify the halls of WS

By Priyanka Tandon  
Business/Systems Editor

New people, places, and things welcome foreign exchange students to the United States every year.

At the beginning of this school year, sophomore Morten Kruse arrived from Denmark. He is currently being hosted by local parent Cathy Feals and her family, none of the family members attend WS. They had to make a quick decision about hosting Kruse. About two weeks before Kruse arrived, Feals's son's violin teacher told her about the program.

"Next thing I know she [violin teacher] calls me up and says she has a student to place that is perfect for us," said Feals.

The application process, which included paperwork, a visit to the home, and interviews, was speeded up for the family.

Kruse landed on August 6.

"At first it was just like—'woah,'" said Kruse.

However, Kruse soon adjusted to the American life-style. He was able to pick and choose classes that are unavailable to other sophomores, such as American Civ.

"It's mainly academics in Denmark. There's about six electives," said Kruse. "Here I got to take gourmet foods."

Varieties of electives was not the only

such as interacting with other students, strengthening their faith, sharing experiences with other students and just having a good time.

"FCA is a great place to develop your friendships and to encourage and to grow deeper in your faith with the encouragement of others," said Smith.

The next FCA meeting will be held the first Sunday following spring break at 7 p.m. Everyone interested in coming should check for flyers around the school and/or ask any leaders if they have any questions.

attraction. Kruse was on the wrestling team in the winter, and now is on the junior varsity soccer team.

"I enjoy playing sports for school because in Denmark you don't have school sports," said Kruse.

Although Kruse will finish a school year here, he will not be receiving any academic credits for it in Denmark. Kruse is not the only exchange student at WS.

Kyoko, an exchange student from Japan, stayed at senior Brianna and junior Marisa Nomi's house.

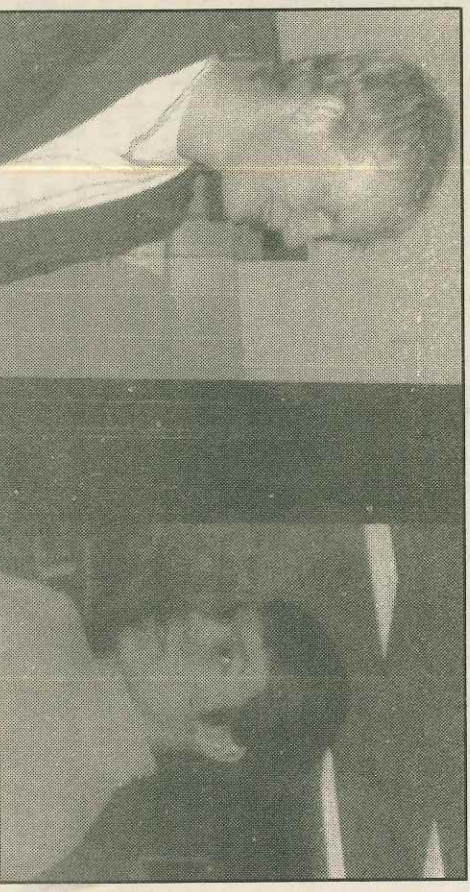
"So many things are different in Japan," said Marisa. "They have such a better understanding of hard work and life than we do."

Another student, Yuko, from Japan resided with senior Matthew Morrow.

Yuko and Kyoko were both here for only two weeks of April to spend four days with a family and then attend a program called the Presidential Classroom. The Presidential Classroom was in Washington, DC. There they talked about global problems and possible solutions.

The experience was not only beneficial to the exchange students, but their host families as well.

"I learned a lot about culture," said Morrow, "and how to make a stranger feel welcome in my house."



Maggie Atteberry

Juniors Morton Kruz and Daniel Ing chat during school.

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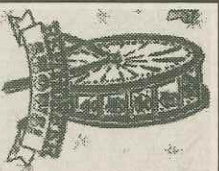


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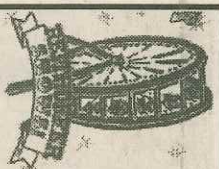


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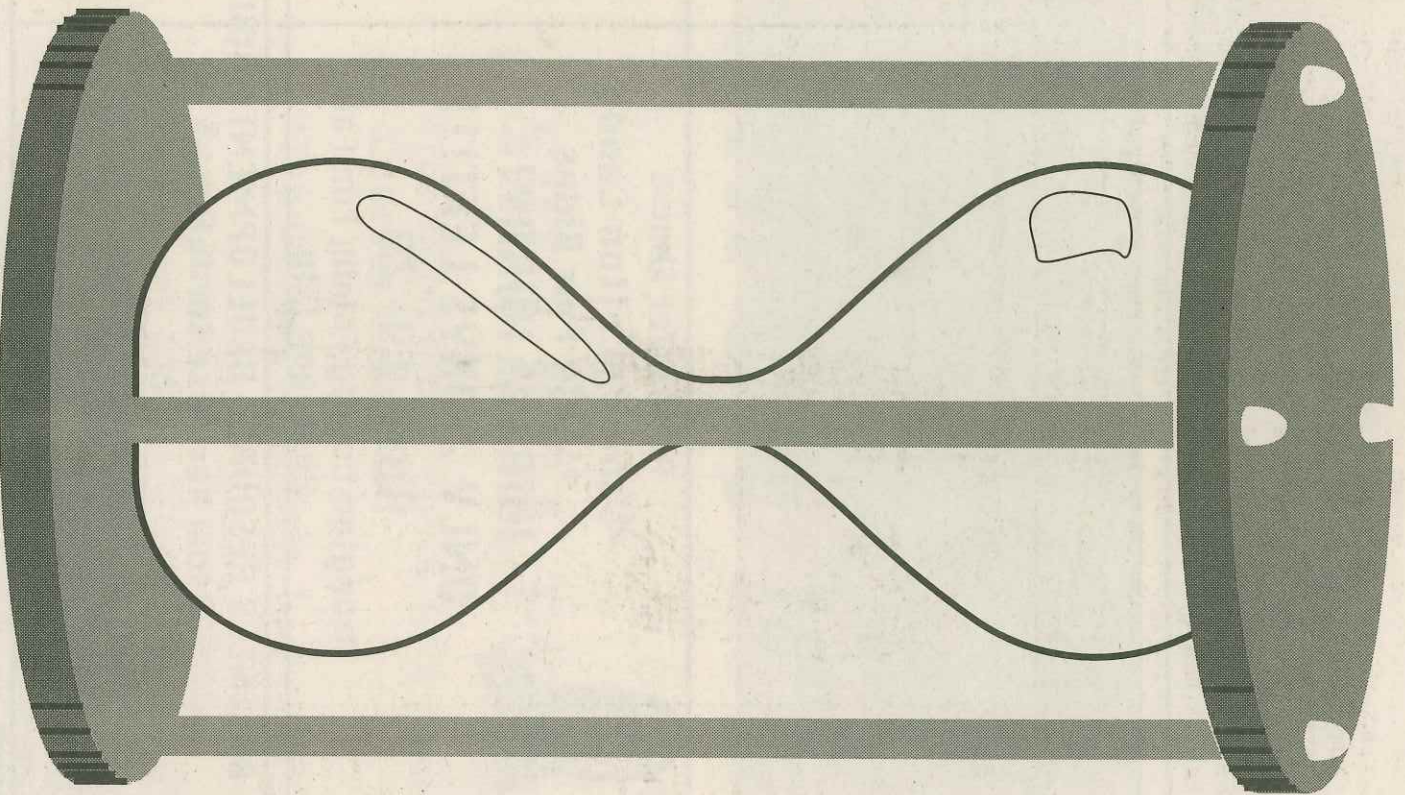
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# IN 10 YEARS...

## Where will you be???

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### Shabbat Shalom!!

By Caitlin Marvin  
Managing Editor

In ninth grade I took one of those career tests. The kind that gave results based on your personality and characteristics of your lifestyle. When the results came back, I was devastated. Mine said I would be best as a rabbi.

It certainly was not the love expert for *Cosmopolitan* or even close to a heart surgeon with a large estate in Beverly Hills. It didn't even say I would make a good librarian.

Now, I know being a rabbi takes a lot of patience, people skills and an openness many don't have. Not to mention, a steady hand. Although I don't think I'd be able to perform all those circumcisions.

In all honesty, I should be flattered. But for one, I'm Catholic, and two, don't you get a "calling" or something? Maybe they skipped my name on the phone tree.

Needless to say, I don't find these career tests helpful to my life or my self-esteem. Even though I've ruled out the whole rabbi idea, I still have no idea where I will be in 10 years.

The ballerina dream lasted two days. The astronaut dream hung around for a couple of months. The actress in me disappeared when I had

to make my first oral presentation. The inner advertising executive fell away after I realized all my commercial ideas for Velveeta cheese had been taken.

I flirted with other occupations—teacher, soldier, drummer, doctor, artist, and so on. But I always came back to just one. Writing. Naturally, I picked the one that was most closely associated with "starving" and "struggling."

Because I'm not sure where this skill will lead me, I see it as a nice move. Nobody can be sure about what they want to do for the rest of their life, much less the next decade. As a writer, I could move around or stay in one place. I could write for a newspaper, magazine, or television. With a little (okay, a lot of) luck, I could even publish my own book and still get that great house in Beverly Hills.

The point is, I know I need a career that gives me choices. I know I can't possibly know everything I want right now but I also know no person or personality test can have that knowledge either.

And who knows; maybe in 10 years, I'll try my hand at being a rabbi. If it doesn't work out, it will always make interesting reading material.

## A future full of questions

By Nayna Gupta  
Inside Story Editor

Just like so many other people, I have wanted to be it all. First woman president, doctor, journalist and Broadway star. For me, though, wanting a career was not just about dreaming. I figured if I wanted to be something, I had to start working immediately.

At seven, I knew I had to be the first woman president. When my mom told me that I couldn't because I had not been born in the United States, I cried. A week later, I decided that the only way around it was to become a senator and change the law.

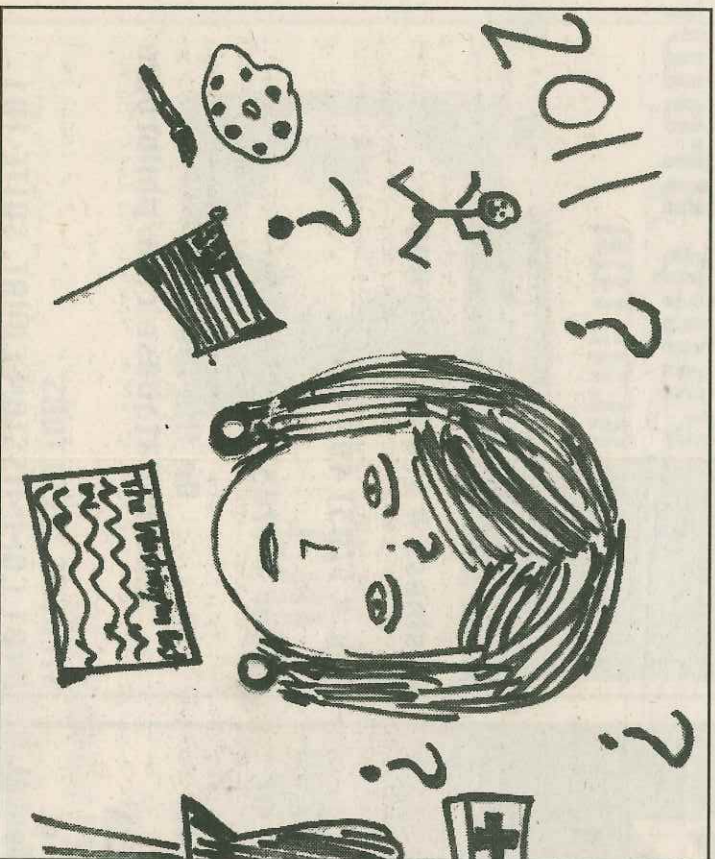
I think I was nine when I decided art was in my future, but just drawing pictures was not enough. I re-

member checking out books about artists like Monet and Picasso from the public library and then trying to copy their techniques. My artistic IQ, however, only extended as far as stick figures. After I realized that stick-figure impressionism wasn't very aesthetic, picturing myself as a successful artist became difficult.

A few years and careers later, I was sure that medical school was where I was headed. For eighth grade out-to-work I shadowed a doctor at Johns Hopkins University. I even remember requesting a stethoscope for my birthday that year. A class of biology and a pig dissection later, I knew I'd never cut it as a doctor.

There was even a time I pursued a career as an astronaut. To begin fulfilling my dream of making it to

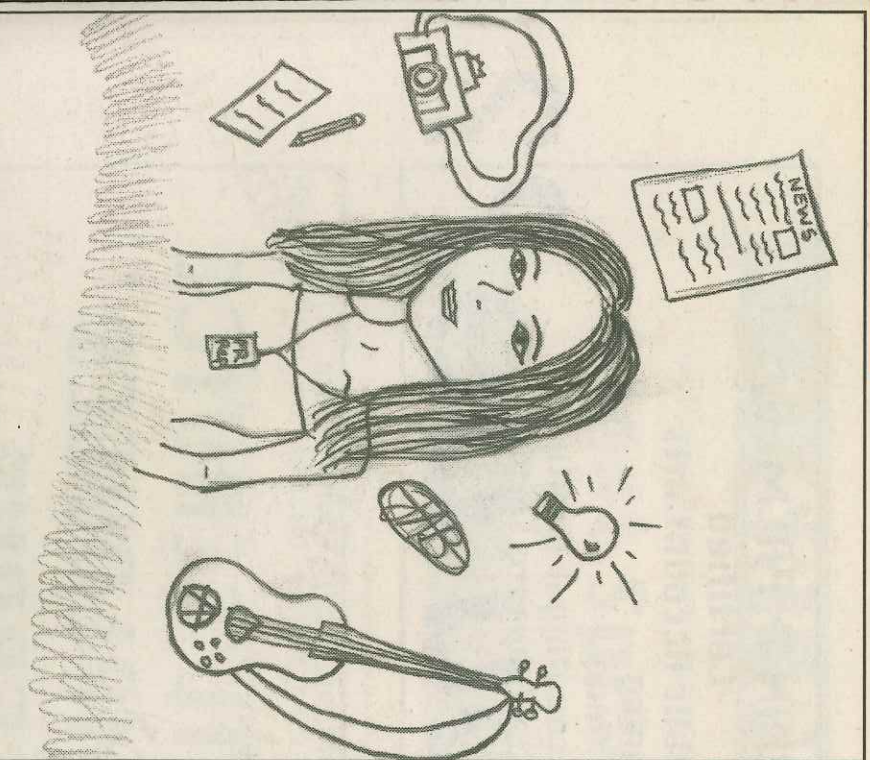
<sup>1</sup>I flirted with other occupations and so on. But I always came



<sup>1</sup>I was sure that medical school was where I was headed. A class of biology and a pig dissection later, I knew I'd never cut it as a doctor."—Nayna Gupta, 10

the moon, I decorated my room with photographs of planets and my parents to look into NAS camp in Florida. Of course, realized being an astronaut doing flips in the air, I knew I'd never cut it as an astronaut. Now, after 100 different ideas, I am actually not sure I want to be in ten years. Writing a lobbyist on the hill or a political campaign speaker, they aren't perfect in my mind. I normally prefer knowing I am headed and how I am going to get there. Having everything out usually makes me feel stressed and more secure now, however, with so much to decide, not knowing what will be in ten years seems fun and exciting.





"The thing about plans is they never work out the way you want, which is why I absolutely hate to make them." —Jenny Braudaway, 12

## Taking it one step at a time

By Jenny Braudaway  
Entertainment Editor

I was asked to write an essay about where I see myself in 10 years. I think it's relative to mention that I do not see myself in 10 years. I do not see where I'll be tomorrow. Perhaps this makes me unambitious, but I kind of understand the story assignment, so I'll take an unrealistic go at it.

I plan to major in communications, and under that major there are a number of fields I could go into. Right now, I'm looking at all of them, which include journalism, photography, filmmaking, and public relations. It's also quite possible I will just become a free-lance writer, or a poet, or a philosopher. Or if I ever learn how to play the guitar well, I might be in a band. Or I could join the Peace Corps for two years and be a teacher in Bosnia for underprivileged children. Um...where was I? Oh yeah, I plan to major in communications. I used to have a plan. For a long

time I was going to go to Yale or Harvard and become a lawyer. Then I turned 10. I realized that there were many other careers besides the staples: veterinarian, doctor, lawyer, or teacher. Law still interested me but by the time I reached high school my plan had switched to going to film school at NYU and living in the city by the time I was 18.

The thing about plans is they never work out the way you want, which is why I absolutely hate to make them. Goals are perhaps okay, but when they start becoming specific, you're just setting yourself up for a fall. And no, I'm not being cynical or pessimistic. I'm being realistic. Maybe spiritual? Maybe not. In my experience all the wonderful things that have happened to me, happened when I was not expecting them to, when I had no plans, nor visions of either the past or future. It's a waste of time to make plans when things are always changing, and they are.

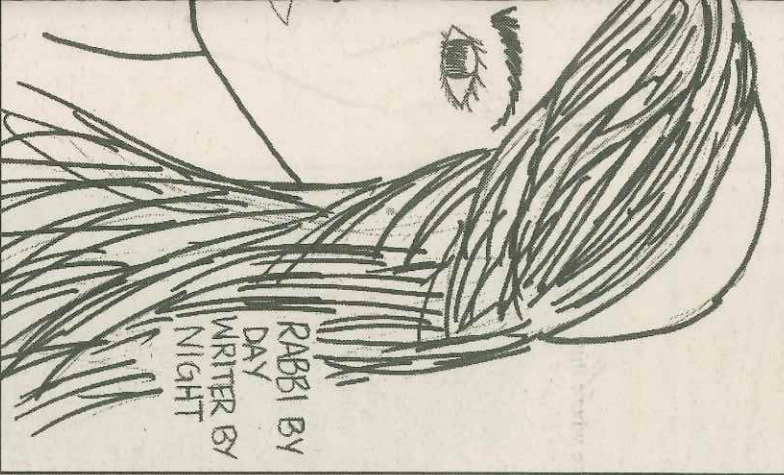
So in that respect, and for the sake of this essay, I'll be both

general and hopeful. In 10 years, whatever I'm doing, I see myself as being happy. I hope to be with someone I love and I hope be traveling. There are so many things in this world that I love and that make life beautiful, like traveling and the arts—I hope to incorporate them all into my life. Whatever I'm doing, I know it will have to do with ideas, because ideas drive me much more than material things.

Photographer Alfred Stieglitz once said, "I think a life lived in ideas is more real than one lived in reality." And I think I can rule out anything having to do with math or science, so I hope I'll flourish somewhere in the arts and humanities world.

Maybe by then my life will be less of a roller coaster and less impulsive. Maybe not. I just don't know. What I do know, however, is that, today, I'm going to go sleep—because I'm tired. Every day after this is a toss up. I'll be like poet Theodore Roethke: "sleep to wake and take my waking slow...learn by going where I have to go."

# SNO



ns—teacher, soldier, drummer, doctor, artist, back to just one. Writing." —Caitlin Marvin, 12

## Today with Jen

By Jen Schonberger  
Features Editor

Kids are quite fickle. Ask them what they wanted to be at 5 years old and it has changed some insane amount times since then until now. Some adults still don't know what they want to be when they "grow up."

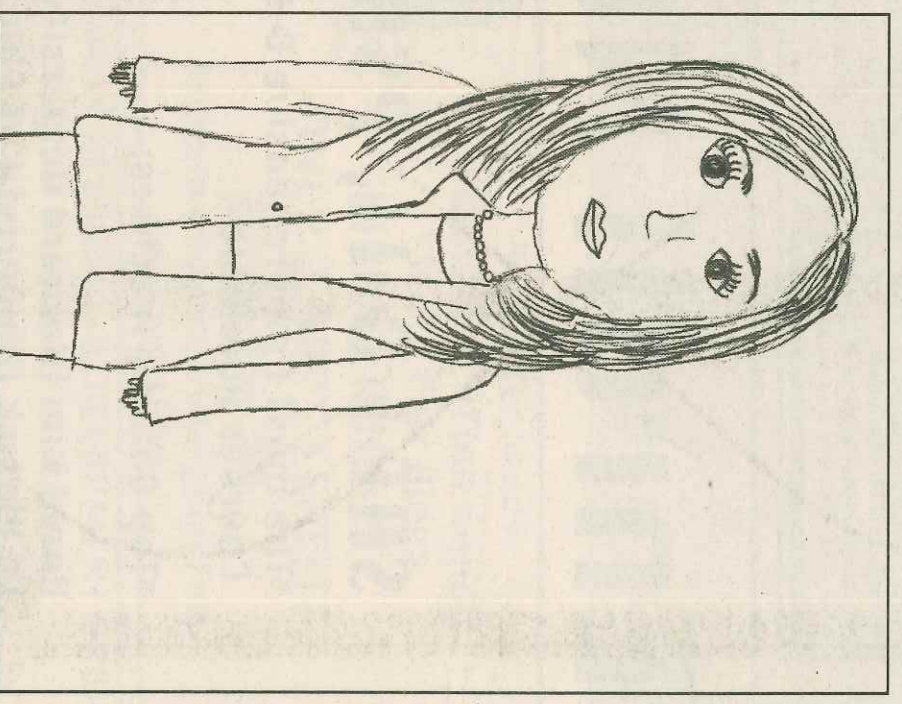
But I'm Different. I've got it all planned out. In about 10 years I should be living in Manhattan in a posh apartment landing the job of the next Katie Couric on the *Today*. That's right: in 10 years you will be able to wake up to my face every morning.

On second thought, though, I am really into the political scene. Perhaps I should follow my passion and run for the US Senate. Yes, I could be the snazzy senator from New York. Besides, since I'm already interning for Senator Tom Daschle now, I've got my foot in the door. Move over, Hillary! On third thought, the acting

scene seems glamorous. I would be paid millions of dollars to look good and hang out with box office movie stars all day. I could be living in the 90210 zip code in a luxurious house, lunching at Spagos. This career choice is shaping up to be the winner. Although...Reality Check! Me as the next big movie star cannot be done in 10 years. I should have started in the business 10 years ago.

OK, so maybe the past three scenarios have just disproved my original point. I'm not different. Maybe I'm just like everyone else. I'm just as fickle. So now what do I really want?

I know! I will combine scenarios 1 and 2. I will do the "Today" show gig for a while. Besides, at 27 I'm not going to be eligible yet to run for Senate. Then it's settled. You can find me in Manhattan in 10 years. Move over, Katie! Jen Schonberger is coming in! On second thought what about the music business?



"In about 10 years I should be living in Manhattan in a posh apartment landing the job of the next Katie Couric on the *Today*." —Jen Schonberger, 12

## 2011 a million years away

By Amy McKeever  
Inside Story Editor

I think I have tried just about every fortune cookie that passes through Tau Tau Restaurant, but I never seem to learn anything pertinent. Maybe I should try a fortune teller.

In 10 years, I could be anywhere, doing anything. There are very few plans that I have for myself that are concrete—and even those could be broken if something better comes along. In 10 years, I plan to have a college diploma and a master's degree and be living in a large and heavily populated city. My chosen profession remains unknown, but that is a start.

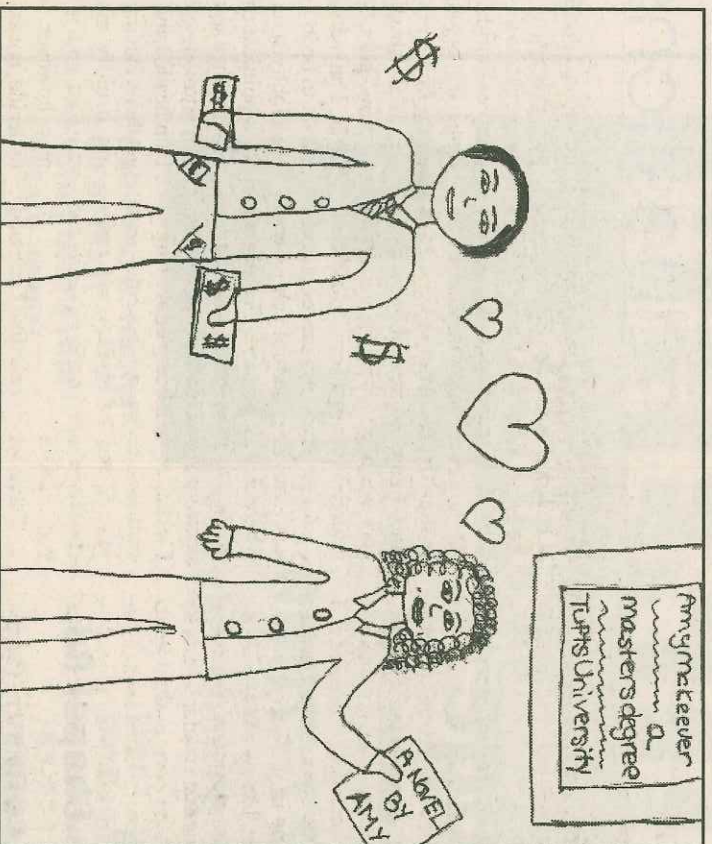
When I was little I wanted to be an astronaut. Then I found out about black holes and was no longer interested. Ever since then, my job prospects have ranged from architect to chemist to psychologist, and finally now to writing. But writing is a pretty expansive field. Now I will need to consider being a critic, screenwriter, novelist, journalist... and all of these choices are rather intimidating.

Which is why I choose not to decide yet. All that I know is that I intend to be deliciously successful in whichever profession I end up with. But still humble, of course. I also do not see myself as a novelist, sitting

around in my sweats at the computer all day. I need more structure, and, at the risk of sounding dizzy, I want to wear nice work clothes. All throughout my youth I have been bombarded with images of successful women wearing neatly tailored pantsuits and, well, I want to be one of them.

As for my personal life, I really cannot say. Love and marriage come when they do, if at all. Maybe I will take the wise advice of my physics teacher, Ed Linz: Marry a rich man.

But for now, I think I will just concentrate on getting a date for next year's Prom and figuring out my plans for this weekend.



"Which is why I choose not to decide yet. All that I know is that I intend to be deliciously successful in whichever profession I end up with." —Amy McKeever, 11

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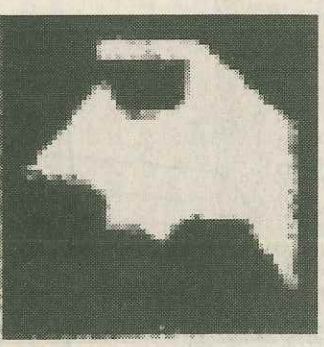
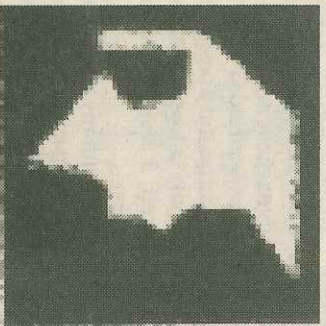
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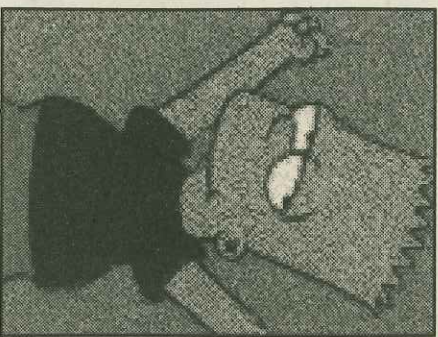
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# S-I-M-P-S-O-N-S spells success

By **Nikki Werking**  
*Oracle Editor*

A family of five runs to a beat-up red couch and manages to squish themselves onto it just in time for their favorite TV show. Or sometimes the dog gets there first and won't let them sit down. Or sometimes the family forms a kick line.



Many students identify with the character of Bart Simpson.

They are all familiar scenes to a "Simpsons" fan.

"I love 'The Simpsons' because it always makes me laugh," said sophomore Margaret Santiago. "I watch it as much as I possibly can."

"The Simpsons" began as a crudely drawn clip during "They Tracy Ulman Show" in 1989 and became a regular series starting in 1991. The show is now in its 12th season and is just as popular as ever.

"['The Simpsons'] takes a regular situation and blows it out of proportion," said senior Ryan Schlicher. "Then they [the characters] do and say what you always want to, but never do. It's classic."

It isn't enough just to watch the show, though. True fans have seen nearly every episode more than once.

"[The reruns] are still funny because you catch jokes that you

didn't the first time," said junior Jacqueline Flood. "I watch them over and over again."

Another sign of true "Simpsons" fans can be heard in everyday conversation, as many of them can quote episodes off the tops of their heads.

"The pointy cat took it," said junior Ingrid Garrett, referring to an episode in which Ralph Wiggum called a rat a "pointy cat." "That's me and my sister's quote."

For the person who can't remember catch phrases, "Simpsons" merchandise ranges from trivia books to Pez dispensers to slippers.

"I have two books, Homer and Maggie dolls, stickers, and a 'Simpsons' Clue board game," said Santiago.

Other WS students don't need outside assistance with their trivial knowledge, however.

"It's all up here," said senior

Seven Scott, pointing to his head. Scott won the "Simpsons" trivia quiz in the May 12, 2000 edition of *The Oracle* by answering all 75 questions correctly.

Besides quotable lines and fun facts, "The Simpsons" is most well known for its eclectic cast of characters.

"Homer is my favorite," said senior Todd Campbell. "He's a great parody of the everyday 'Joe' in American Society."

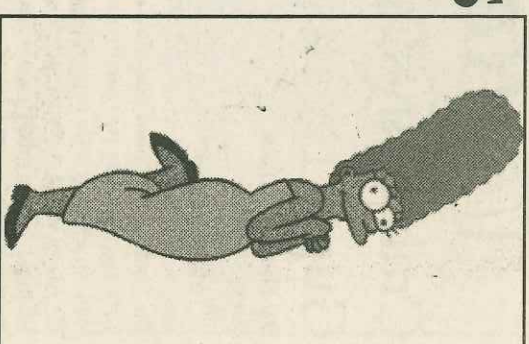
When it comes to a favorite episode, though, "Simpsons" fans generally agree that they can't pick a single favorite show.

"You can't ask for just one [favorite show]," said Scott.

"There are so many."

Campbell agreed, saying there were too many good ones, but senior Dan Duplantier selected the April Fool's episode as his favorite.

"It's the one with all the clips of Homer saying 'D'oh! D'oh!'"



Marge Simpson is a beloved "Simpsons" character.

He continued his chorus of "D'oh!"s, joined by senior Alex Gross.

The thing that really makes the show so original, though, is that the comical plot incorporates current events and allusions to pop culture.

"You've got to watch 'The Simpsons,'" said Schlicher. "How could you miss it?"

## Reality TV receives mixed reviews

By **Katie Walker**  
*Production Editor*

Eating bugs, doing push-ups, and being "tempted" by half-dressed people. Reality TV has dealt with nearly every topic. But there is much debate over whether these programs are worth America's time.

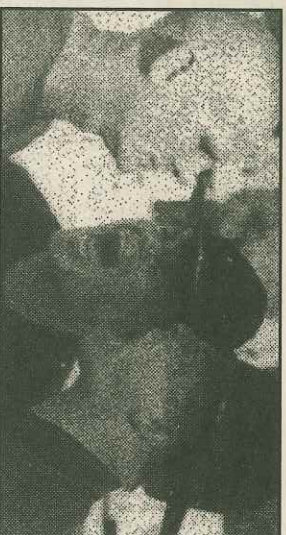
"I think reality shows are dumb and pointless," said sophomore Ashlie Reese. "It's the same plot over and over again, just with different people."

Many students don't find the situations presented on the reality shows very convincing.

"I think reality shows are boring," said freshman Lauren Stafford. "It's not real. Real people don't act like that."

The reality show "Survivor" is at the top of the craze. A huge audience is captivated by the scenes on far remote islands.

"I like watching 'Survivor.' It's interesting to see how people react to different situations and to guess how you would react in those same situations," said junior Meaghan Klutz. "Besides, watching Colby walk around with his shirt off doesn't exactly ruin my day."



Drill Instructors McSweeney and Rosenbaum yell at Recruit Lauder.

A newer reality shows, "Boot Camp," was launched by the Fox network. In this physical, recruits perform strenuous physical tasks while trying to avoid being voted out of boot camp. Despite the serious setting, for many viewers there is a humorous element as well.

"Reality shows appeal to me: I watch 'Boot Camp,'" said sophomore Kevin Mielec. "It was funny; one participant said that his profession was a balloon sculptor. Students have varying opinions on why reality programs are so popular."

"Reality shows aren't really that good. People just watch them because they get hooked on them, waiting to see what happens next," said senior Lexie Wilson.

The reality TV craze is big right now, but students have their doubts about whether it will last.

"A lot of people think reality TV is a new thing. But it has been going on for a long time," said senior Suzanne Grant. "I think the MTV shows that have been around for awhile will last. The newer primetime shows will keep trying to come up with different versions of the same thing, and they're not going to last."

## Matthews' music lifts the spirit and engages the mind with lyrics

By **Lauren Decot**  
*Viewpoint Editor*

Incredible music can be summed up with one word: Dave.

Dave Matthews released "Everyday" on February 27, and it immediately went to number one on the charts. Buying this album was one of the best ways I have ever spent

\$14. For me, however, the ultimate way to spend that a t m a t h

buying "Crash."  
D a v e  
Matthews released "Crash" in 1996, and for five glorious years, this CD has been playing over and over on my stereo.

There are 12 songs on the album, and each one has brilliant lyrics. Matthews wrote all of the lyrics himself with the exception of one song. This fact only adds to the musical mystique that is Dave Matthews Band.

The song "Crash into Me" is my absolute favorite song in the world. It has outstanding lyrics, and outstanding music to go with the words. What makes the lyrics so appealing is that the words evoke emotion, and aren't there just to take up space. Matthews' unique play on words in "Crash into Me" adds to the appeal, such as "Sweet like candy to my soul, sweet you rock, and sweet you roll, lost for you, I'm so lost for you."

Matthews' vocal abilities on this CD

never cease to amaze me. His voice is very unique, making his music easy to recognize. With this unique voice, Matthews has created his own genre of music, unlike any of the other bands on the radio today.

Matthews also has a very distinct purpose when making music, and this shows on this CD. In interviews, he has said that he makes music for the very purpose of lifting spirits and making people happy.

Dave Matthews Band has yet to surpass its smash success, "Crash," the 1996 release

He's not in the music business for the money or the fame; rather he became a musician to make people smile. And that is exactly what I do when I listen to "Crash."

The messages in his lyrics are very deep and thought-provoking. In the song "Lie in Our Graves," Matthews sings, "I can't believe that we would lie in our graves dreaming of things that we might have been." Every single word in every single song on this CD has a very distinct meaning and purpose.

"Everyday" is an excellent CD, but for me, "Crash" is not only the best Dave Matthews CD, but also the best CD out there. If you haven't already, run and buy this CD. It will be the best musical investment you have ever and will ever make.

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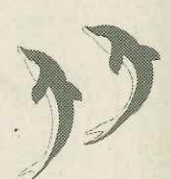
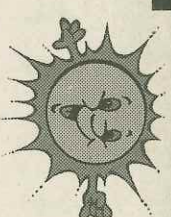
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## Road Trip: Florida



Crabs, guys, and fresh squeezed Florida orange juice: sophomore Nayna Gupta recalls her memorable road trip over spring break

By Nayna Gupta

Inside Story Editor

Would you rather pee through your nose or poo through your ears? Those are the kinds of questions that came up when Lisa and Tara, my two best friends, and I took an 18-hour road trip to Florida.

Along with Lisa's parents, the three of us piled into a minivan and headed for Tampa. Stuck on 95 South because of an overturned sludge truck, we called in a request for "Build Me Up Buttercup" on Oldies 100.

After several bathroom breaks at highway rest stops, we mastered the art of using the amenities without being exposed to the bacteria and germs that seemed to be in plentiful supply. Keeping ourselves entertained with good music, fast-paced mystery novels, and scintillating conversations, we survived the 950 mile trip to Tampa.

After setting comfortably into Lisa's grandparents' house, we decided to spend our first day on Indian Shores Beach. Three hours later, however, Lisa and Tara had been burned to a crisp. Even I, who had never been burned before, was showing signs of exposure to the Florida sun with my rosy cheeks and nose.

With our blistering and peeling skin, we

chose to spend the next day indoors at the Florida aquarium. While Lisa and Tara

were eager to touch sharks and eels, I was a little more hesitant. Even when I mustered enough courage to touch the shark, the experience was not as thrilling to me as it was to Lisa and Tara. Having the opportunity later in the week to watch dolphin families frolic in their natural habitat was much more breathtaking.

While sharks and dolphins kept our attention for awhile, nothing was quite as



Sophomores Lisa Marvin (left), Tara Austin (middle), and Nayna Gupta (right) stop and pose during their Florida trip. *Patty Marvin*

mesmerizing as the male wildlife at Tampa's Clearwater Beach. With spring breakers from all over the country vacationing in Tampa, drop-dead gorgeous men were in plentiful supply. As Lisa, Tara and I walked the beach in our sarongs with our newly painted henna tattoos, we avoided blinking in fear of missing a glimpse of yet another perfect specimen.

When we found a crab on the beach, however, Tara seemed oblivious to the good-looking men around us. Our new crab, Pete, soon became one of our best friends. The soft sand, warm water, and gorgeous guys, made Clearwater Beach our favorite Tampa spot.

Despite all these distractions we still made time for tasty, home-cooked food from Lisa's grandma's kitchen. The nights we did not eat chicken casserole or hot sticky buns at home, we enjoyed freshly baked Mahi Mahi and fried shrimp at Shells, a popular Tampa seafood restaurant.

While Tara was enthralled with the crabs on the beach, and Lisa was blown away by the numbers of good looking guys, the highlight for me was the freshly squeezed Florida orange juice from a local factory. My rapid consumption of this refreshing juice, forced Lisa's grandma to replenish her supply daily.

After an unforgettable spring break in Tampa, the road trip home was far more subdued. With memories of sunny beaches, good-looking men, and freshly squeezed orange juice, returning to Springfield seemed like a disappointing end to a perfect spring break.



Lisa Marvin  
Nayna found new uses for sea sponges.



Tara Austin  
Lisa and Nayna meet a local sponge diver.



Nayna Gupta  
Tara and Lisa pet sharks at the aquarium.



Patty Marvin  
The girls enjoy a Clearwater beach sunset.

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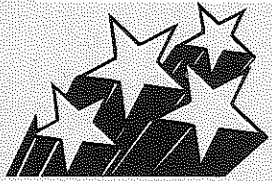
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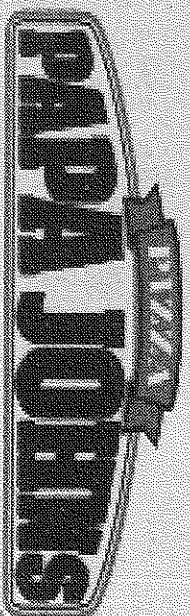
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Michael Jordan could be a Wizard.

## Opinion

### Jordan a Wizard?

Must be a magic trick

By Myles Curran

Sports Editor

When Michael Jordan was handed 20 percent of the Wizards for free, he promised great things. Things haven't exactly progressed as he had hoped.

He said this year's team would be at least .500 and would most likely fight for a playoff spot. Instead, the team had the worst record in franchise history. It was out of contention for the playoffs after the first 20 games of the season.

Things haven't gotten any better since the trade of high-priced forward Juwan Howard and the release of legally-challenged Rod Strickland. Since the trade of Howard, the team is a pathetic 4-19.

So the Wiz will have a lottery pick this season. Sounds great. But then the memories of past draft picks come to mind. Chris Monroe? Gilbert Chenney? Trading Rasheed Wallace? Its safe to say they have a good chance of picking the loser of the bunch this June.

Then there is always free agency. The Wizards have the cap space for marquee players, but so did the Chicago Bulls last year when they saw every marquee turn them away.

So how does Jordan try to right this sinking ship? Well, the rumor is he will come out of retirement and play for the Wizards. Joy, I can't wait to watch him again. I love seeing the officials give him every call and Jordan winning when he does get whistled for a foul.

Sure, the Wiz would be better with Jordan, but does he really want to comeback? I don't think that is the case. I think he wants out of his position within the Wizards organization. If Jordan does come back he has to give up his stake in the ownership of the team, which is a good thing for him. He gets to play basketball for maybe one more year, retire again, and then he is gone from the Wizards organization forever.

He doesn't have to take any more blame for how bad the team is. He will be gone for good from the Wizards. It's a move that makes sense if Jordan is looking to leave. But, Michael Jordan isn't coming back, period.

## Crew team rows on despite low turnout

By Mike Arai  
Sports Assistant

Crew team members slide gracefully on the water, rowing their oars quickly as they start to speed ahead of their opponents to take the lead, through the use of team work and cooperation.

Because of the use of these exercises, the team has been doing well this far into the season.

"The men's program is looking strong, as well as the women's," said Bill Brundage, who is in his first year as head coach for the team.

Early into the season, the WS crew team has mostly been taking second and third in their heats at the varsity level, as well as taking first at the freshmen level in their races.

"We have a lot of dedicated guys this year and all are [working hard]," said senior Daniel Holloway, a captain of the team.

The other captains include seniors Brandon Bert and Nate Carter for the mens program, and seniors Allie Nelson and Jenee Ehlernann for the women's.

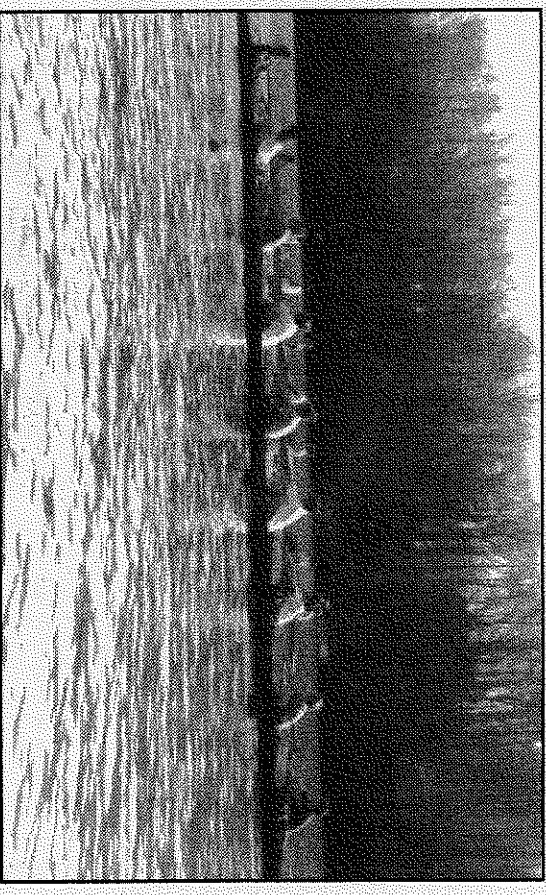
To overcome the setback of the lack of new members joining this year and members not returning, the crew team plans on "hard work and practice." Currently, the team has competed against Thomas Jefferson, Robinson,

Regional Park. Despite the teams' high marks in their heats, Brundage claims that there is a necessity for more members in the club in order to improve their standings in the area.

"I would recommend crew to anybody because it is a great sport," said Brundage. "One of the hardest that teaches teamwork and cooperation. I think they learn a lot of super teamwork and how to work together."

Despite the lack of players, Brundage still remains optimistic on the future about the rest of the season ahead of the crew team.

"So far we are having a good year," said Holloway. "We are looking to finish better than ever."



The women's varsity eight rows along with the women's second eight at Sandy Run. The team is low on members, but continues to come up with strong finishes when the compete around the area.

## Baseball team bounces back from poor start Spartans on winning streak after tournament play

By Clint Crosier  
Business/Systems Assistant

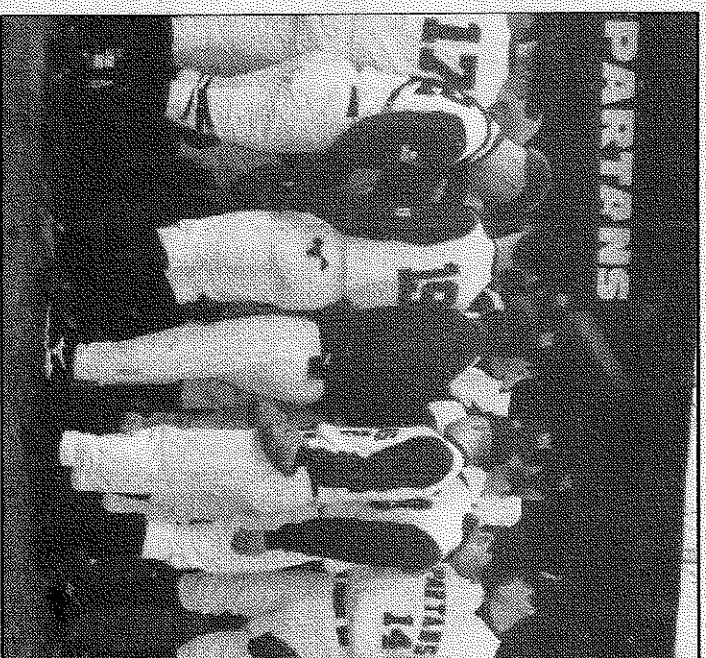
Spring at WS comes with the smell of freshly cut grass, hot dogs, and beer. This is WS baseball, well maybe not the beer.

The baseball team comes out swinging this year with new coach Ken Munoz, and a fresh group of players. For Munoz, stepping up to the plate as head coach was not the easiest thing to do, only because of the legend he replaced.

"I think we're really past that now, and I feel like this is my team. The guys are playing well and it's been a good season so far," said Munoz. Many of the players are finding it easy to adapt to Munoz as the new coach this season.

"[Ron] Tugwell was a great coach and we miss him, but Munoz is a good coach too and we're his team now," said senior Jake Glanzmann.

The baseball team started out on a



Segall Majestic

Senior Mike Straub dominated against Gonzaga throwing six shutout innings to lead the victory to a win. The team is now on a seven game winning streak.

bumpy road with a 1-3 record but over spring break the team won the Eddie Hope Invitational Tournament at Hylton High School.

The four game tournament included an impressive 11-1 win over rival Lake Braddock, which was ranked by the Washington Post going into the game. Lake Braddock had beaten WS earlier in the season. Things wrapped up with a 6-3 win over Hylton, the school that was hosting the invitational tournament.

"We didn't go in expecting to win, but we played well," said Munoz. "It obviously paid off as we ended up winning the tournament. We played the best we had played all year."

The team continued its winning streak with a win over fourth ranked Gonzaga. Senior Mike Straub dominated the

the team, but everyone does their part to help win games," said outfielder Tony Jenkins.

The test for the team will be to make states at the end of the season, and team morale is fairly confident.

"I think we have a very good chance of going to states," said junior Trey Jordan. "We are coming together very well, and this winning streak has really been a confidence booster for the entire team as a whole."

With early mistakes out of the way, and a long road ahead of them to compete and win, there are many opportunities for disappointments and heroics, and the WS baseball team is ready for the challenge.

Jenkins put it best saying, "We had a slow start, but we've pulled together and are having a successful season."

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## Lacrosse teams start season on a good note

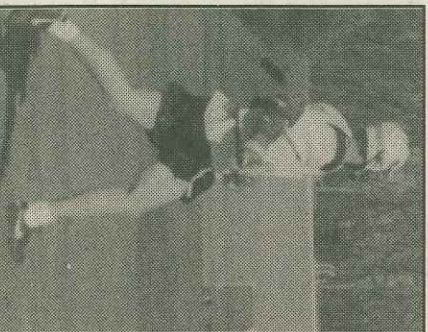
By Roberto Garcia

Production Editor

After surprising the region with successful 2000 seasons, both the boys and the girls lacrosse teams are off to good starts.

"We've played relatively easy teams, but we've shown potential," said junior Elizabeth Ingram.

The girls team started off the season with an easy 16-0 victory over Washington & Lee, but followed it with a disappointing 8-4 loss against Mount Vernon. However, the team rebounded with 15-3 and 14-5 wins over Lee and Jefferson, respectively. Unfortunately, the girls suffered several injuries in their district-opening game against Robinson,



Lauren Sheffield

The lacrosse team practices. While the teams have been playing well, they hope to beat Robinson and Lake Braddock, two top teams in the area.

leading them to lose 8-5.

"Mount Vernon was a lot better, and we had some trouble with them," said junior Jessie Freer. "Against Robinson, two of our best players were knocked out early and we had trouble recovering."

According to several team members, the team's key to success this season should be its defense. Although Ingram and senior Laura DeAngelo are strong on offense, senior Amanda Thornburg and juniors Kerry Ryan and Jaqueline Flood play a stifling style of defense that has proven effective in the past three games.

"Our defense is really strong, although our offense has a wide range of scoring potential," said sophomore

## Multi-sport athletes juggle time

By Jenny Askin

Production Editor

Juggling one practice schedule, one coach, and one sport a year might be enough for some athletes. But

Spartan athletes find a way to compete in more than one sport.

Once a member of the team, an athlete has many responsibilities to handle, such as team dinners, practices, and activities, which cause their time to be very limited.

In the fall, junior Kirby Bevis is a starter for the WS volleyball team, during the spring semester Bevis is a starting outfielder for the Lady Spartan softball team. As an athlete Bevis has dedicated her time to her practices and games.

"Because I have games on Fridays I don't see my friends as

much," said Bevis. "Recently, I joined a local gym and now I go there almost every day in order to get stronger for the season."

As a busy teenager Bevis needed a cash supply, so during last summer Bevis joined the staff at Chili's. Bevis was able to create a balance between her sports, school and work. However, once the spring sport season rolled around she was forced to cut back on her hours.

"Once softball started I had to make a decision between softball and work," said Bevis.

Sophomore Marshall Ausberry is also a "multi-sport" athlete. Ausberry is a member of both the varsity football and basketball teams. Between school, church, and sports Ausberry maintains his focus on both

teams. When football tryouts start, during the late summer months, it is understood that no cuts are made. However, in order to be a starter, an athlete must work hard in order to stand out from the others. But in basketball, tryouts are completely different.

"Only 12 people make the basketball team, so I work my hardest in order to make the team," said Ausberry.

For Ausberry, and for many other athletes, once his high school athletic career draws to a close he hopes to play at the collegiate level. His goal is to play both football and basketball in college.

Ausberry said, "In college, I would love to play both sports, but I have to work hard to get on the team."

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Brae Vroshko

Many students play more than one sport, including Brian McLain, pictured here, as well as sophomore Marshall Ausberry.

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## Top Ten

### Ways to have an unofficial open campus

10. Slither between the cars like a snake, make sure the new cop doesn't see you!
9. Bring along a female friend and say you're running home to pick up some feminine products.
8. Say you're a peer helper.
7. Take co-op.
6. Pretend you're practicing for your army training and crawl combat style underneath the cars.
5. Ask them if they want you to pick them up anything.
4. Say that you need to take your car for a test drive because you're not sure if it was the kind that you really wanted.
3. Call good ol' Harriet and have her build an Underground Railroad.
2. Dress up like these clowns and then no one will question you.
1. If anyone does ask you, then say you're just clownin' around.



What kind of fish makes music??? A TUNE-A FISH

—Compiled by Julie Davis

## Just ask Sherlock



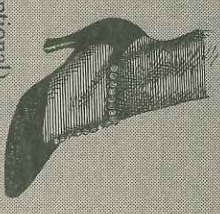
Our mystery person doesn't mind performing funny dances down the hall.  
Lauren Sheffield

**By Amy McKeever**

*Inside Story Editor*

This issue's Mystery Person at first appears to be like many other WS teenagers. He is a member of the track team and enjoys clubbing in his spare time. However, taking a closer look, the Mystery Person is also a master of the languages. In addition to English, he speaks Spanish, Italian, and Portuguese fluently. If you still can't guess the identity of the Mystery Person, you may have noticed some of his track team friends around school in March wearing T-shirts protesting his suspension from the track team, due to a technicality. The T-shirts displayed the simple slogan, "Let [the first name of the Mystery Person] Run."

### A relaxing way to wash your feet



**Ingredients:**  
1 Tbsp. sea salt  
1 tbsp. oil (any kind)  
1 tsp. corn syrup  
mint leaves  
cinnamon sticks  
rosemary sprigs or any sweet smelling herbs (optional)  
warm water

Combine sea salt, oil, corn syrup, and herbs in a bowl large enough to fit both your feet. Add water to fill the bowl almost to the top. Stir gently until blended. Soak feet for 10 minutes.

—Compiled by Jennifer Schonberger

### Get out the wax, get ready for the summer



**What you will need:**  
Strips of cloth (like pillow case material—cotton)  
3 Tbsp. sugar  
1 squeeze of lemon  
1/4 cup water  
sauce pan

Combine sugar, lemon juice and water in a sauce pan. Stir continuously on medium to low heat until the mixture comes to a boil. Then begin testing the substance. The consistency should be like chewed gum. When consistency is right, spread on pieces of cloth and wax!

**For nails that are tinted yellow from excess use of nail polish:**

- 1) Rub your nails with 1/4 lemon
- 2) Soak nails in a warm bowl of milk to exfoliate.

# MAY

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Ben Harper @ Towson Center 30	Blues Traveler @ 930 club May 1 30	A Streetcar Named Desire @ Arena Stage (through May 6) 2	Boys lax vs. Annandale-715 Girls lax @ Abermarle-715 3	Tennis vs. Hayfield-4 Baseball & Softball vs. Hayfield-7 4	The Pharmacy w/ Ugly Ducking @ 930 club 5
Boys soccer @ Annandale-7 (girls @ home) 7	Tennis @ Annandale-4 Baseball & Softball @ Annandale-6 8	Track @ West Pot-5 9	Boys soccer vs. TC-7 (girls @ TC-6) 10	Girls lax vs. Hayfield-715 Tennis @ West Pot-4 11	Cinco de Mayo!!! SATS @ WS Track @ TC-9am 12
Boys lax @ Falls Church-715 14	Girls lax vs. West Pot-715 (boys @ West Pot) 15	Track @ WS-5 Tennis @ TC-430 Baseball & Softball @ TC-6 16	Kottonmouth Kingsw/ Sprung Momeky @ 930 club 17	Girls lax vs. Hayfield-715 (boys @ Hayfield) Tennis @ West Pot-4 18	Deep Dish w/ Moral @ 930 club 19
21	22	23	24	25	26
<b>ONE MORE WEEK UNTIL THE POOL OPENS!!!!</b>					
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