



THE ORACLE

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TOTOWN!

WEST SPRINGFIELD HIGH SCHOOL 6100 ROLLING ROAD SPRINGFIELD, VIRGINIA 22152

Virus cripples computers

By Melissa Lipman
Oracle Editor

As if the technology staff didn't already have enough to do, on September 20 the Nimba virus hit WS servers. Nimba is a worm virus that attacks computer networks through Internet Explorer.

"[The virus] gets in through web browsing or email attachments and replicates itself so that the network just gets incredibly bogged down," said Becky Brandt, WS's technology specialist. "Things just come to a grinding halt."

Principal David Smith and Brandt found out about the virus, which attacked networks across the country, on Wednesday afternoon.

"I got an email from the central network people at the

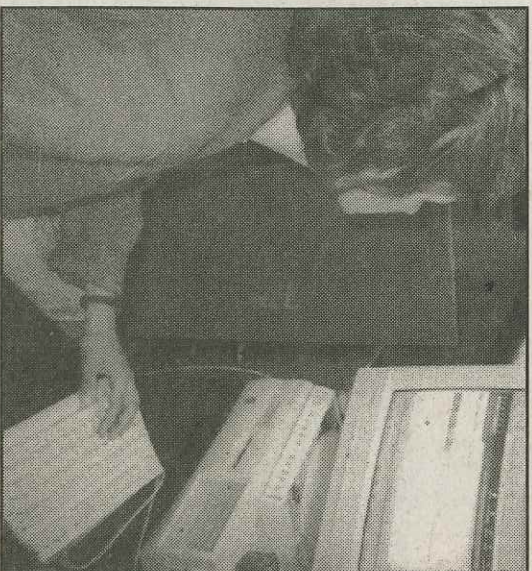
Department of Information and Technology," said Brandt. "They gave instructions and links for patches for the server."

WS was more fortunate than some of the other schools in the county that became seriously infected with the virus; only three of the teacher workstations in the school became infected. Labs that use Macs were also untouched by the worm, and people who used Netscape instead of Internet Explorer to access the Internet were unaffected as well.

But now Brandt and the rest of the WS technology staff are left with the task of updating the virus software on all of the school's computers.

"We have certified teachers that are on our technology team, and they've been helping," said Brandt.

See VIRUS, on Page 4



Russ Waddell

Librarian Stephanie Byrnes makes sure all the computers are free of the virus.

WHFS gives WS airtime

By Mary Holloway
Special to the Oracle

If it weren't for HFS, I'd be a Backstreet Boys junkie right now. And I would have lost a chance to tell the world what I think about terrorism.

It was six years ago that I made the switch, turned the dial, and never looked back to those other stations.

So it began on a Wednesday, the week after The Attack. Everything was just getting back to normal. I was writing deadlines on a wall calendar in the yearbook room when the phone rang. I overheard a slight panic in Monique's voice seconds after she put the phone to her ear.

"It's HFS. They want high-schoolers to be on their show," she said with the receiver dangling out of her open palm.

Superintendent makes sophomore PSAT mandatory

By Lauren Decot
Managing Editor

In the District of Columbia, the average SAT score dropped 24 points for college-bound seniors. These scores were the lowest scores for DC's public school students in more than five years.

In Fairfax County, the average score dropped five points.

"In my opinion, the SAT test was harder than past years, resulting in a cumulative decrease in average scores," said senior Brian Cable.

The average verbal score in the District dropped to 402 while the average math score sank to 396. This was a drop of 12 points in each category.

In Fairfax, the average combined score decreased from 1098 points to 1093 points from 2000 to 2001.

"Juniors and seniors are focusing their time on doing well in their classes and their AP classes," said senior Stephanie Perez. "Everyone is probably spending less time preparing for the SAT's."

The DC school system gives free SAT preparation classes to all students who ask to take such a class. Officials from DC have

Commentary

"Somebody take the phone."

Before I could think about the dangers of jumping off a table lined with computer equipment onto a wobbly chair and then onto a floor covered with kids sprawled out over the carpeting, the phone rested against my ear. So much for the decorum of older, more experienced staff members. It was WHFS.

Could I be there tomorrow at 7 pm to discuss the recent tragedies? Oh yes, I would, and oh yes, I could.

A little over 24 hours later, I was cruising down I-495 with four of my staffers toward Infinity Studios. We had been called upon to represent WS in a HFS-sponsored town meeting. I wish I could remember that we were just five high

announced that they plan on examining the data to detect why the scores dropped so drastically.

Fairfax County Superintendent Daniel Domenech is taking action in an attempt to improve scores overall. On September 21 school officials announced that beginning in October all sophomores will be required to take the PSAT, and the school district will pay the fee for each sophomore. The county is putting aside \$92,000 to fund the testing. In addition, each student will receive the new Score Report Plus. This will provide feedback to each student based on his or her pattern of responses to the different types of questions.

"I understand why the superintendent could want to make PSAT's mandatory because there is so much pressure for students to do well on the SAT's," said sophomore Lauren Kondo. "I was going to take the PSAT anyway."

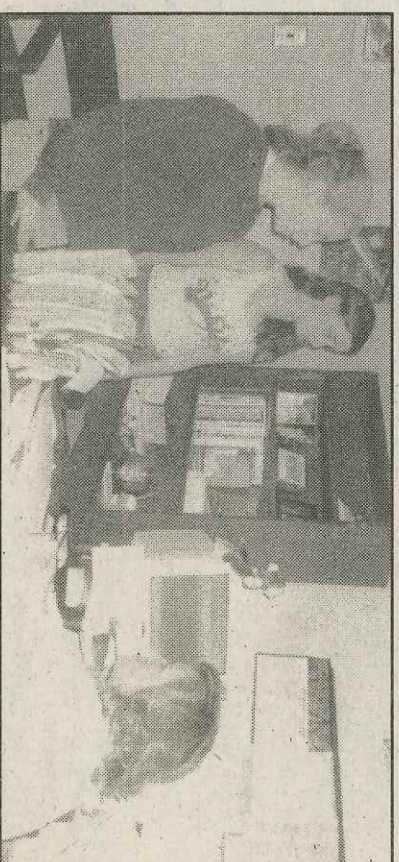
Although the SAT scores posted by Fairfax County decreased by five points, it is still higher than the Virginia state average which was 1011 points.

"I did better than the average," said senior Tanja Quinn. "Barely, but I still did better."

school students ready to take on the issues with the world in mind. Actually, we were all nervous, not knowing what to expect.

The next hour and a half of my life was a panicked blur. There was so much that I was ready to say. I had so many strong opinions and evidence to support my views. I figured that this would be the venue to let it all out. I had my questions written, my mind made up, and I was going to make sure that my voice was heard. Well that's what I had planned on, anyway.

Junior Monique Patway and seniors Sam Jung, Scott Lawler, and Gabriela Pierre were crammed in the car with me. We arrived to talk about war, peace, fear and the way things used to be.



Stephanie Morris

Juniors Katie Rice and Courtney Turco talk with counselor Michaela O'Brien about activities they should participate in during the year.

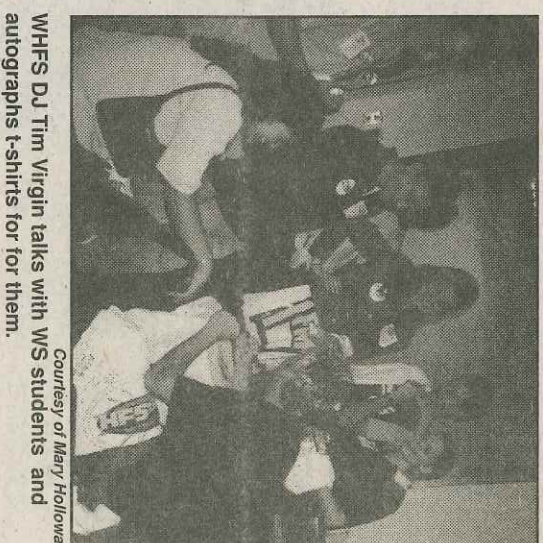
New counselors settle in

By Jenny Askin
Managing Editor

Every year WS opens its doors to new students and staff. This school year started with two additions to the Guidance Department: Kristin Hiemstra and Michaela O'Brien.

Hiemstra graduated from the University of North Carolina with a degree in Anthropology. After graduation she pursued a career working for a news agency, she then went to George Mason University in 1997 in order to earn a degree in education. After two years as a counselor at JEB Stuart, Hiemstra made the transition to WS.

"WS in my opinion, has the best



Courtesy of Mary Holloway

WHFS DJ Tim Virgin talks with WS students and autographs t-shirts for them.

There was a sense of tension in the studio, because no one knew what to expect. We'd been called together and there we all were, all wondering what the

See WHFS, on Page 4

guidance program in the county," said Hiemstra. "I was very excited to be apart of this program."

Hiemstra hopes to accomplish much during her first year at WS. She is leading several student discussion groups such as Understanding People, Anger Management, and a dating group. Hiemstra's first month at WS has already left a lasting impression.

"The students are driven, they seem to be enjoying their school," said Hiemstra "It seems that everyone was a walking advertisement for WS."

While outside of school she enjoys

See COUNSELORS, on Page 4

Generation faces harsh reality

The draft could hit close to home for WS. Some seniors are old enough to be sent to defend our country if the draft is reinstated in the US.

The eighteenth birthday is a passage to partial adulthood, with new rights opening new doors. But along with the new privileges like buying tobacco, legal admittance to MVC and other dark windowed adult establishments, voting, and declaring legal emancipation from your parents comes major responsibility.

Should the draft be brought back, the eighteen year olds would be the last ones enlisted in the military. Modern warfare no longer relies as heavily on manpower as previous conflicts. Specialists in computers and hi tech counter terrorism will be the most valuable asset for our country.

Even after the experts are enlisted, the youngest Americans eligible for the draft will not be the next candidates. If manpower does become necessary, everyone between ages twenty one and thirty will be the first ones to go.

While it is unlikely that any WS students will be drafted, it is still unnerving to receive a selective service notification in the mail. It makes the draft much more

real, and these days much scarier. The notion that any students we go to school with everyday will be asked to put their lives on the line for us is very unpleasant.

The draft probably will not come to America even though we have declared war on terrorism. There are already enough soldiers, sailors, airmen, and marines to defend the country. Not only that, but countless more people have signed up in response to the events on September 11. There will not be any shortage of military personnel in the near future.

Editorial

The war on terrorism will influence everyone at WS, even without a draft. Parents working at the Pentagon, on Ft. Belvoir, or any government installation will likely find themselves working long hours. Many more parents work for civilian organizations closely linked to the military.

With or without a draft, as Americans we are all united against the common enemy-terrorist. In this time of struggle, we have to stand together and support our leaders and the government.

To quote Pink Floyd: "Together we stand, divided we fall."

A very sad day in the neighborhood

Mister Rogers leaves young and old after 33 years on PBS

By Marianne Shaddrix

Features Assistant Editor

We will always remember the final episodes of "M*A*S*H," "Cheers," and "Seinfeld," but recently another well known show joined the world of re-runs.

Ending its 33 year tenure with PBS, "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" aired its final episode on August 31.

Even though it's been quite a long time since I sat down and watched his show, Fred Rogers will always hold a special place in my childhood memories. His kind demeanor and caring words have touched me and the multitudes of other children who have ever watched his show.

"Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" was never extremely exciting or gripping. It was based on a comfortable routine which Roger's carried on each day: singing "It's A Beautiful Day In The Neighborhood," removing his jacket and finally changing into his tennis shoes and tying them carefully. Rogers seemed to understand that children were his audience; his soft and slow voice always developmentally appropriate.

The show's daily routine was the source of much of its success. It demonstrated that despite scary changes that can occur while growing up, some parts of life will never change, and things will

always work out.

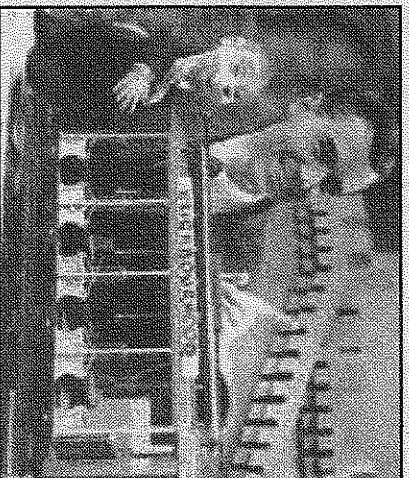
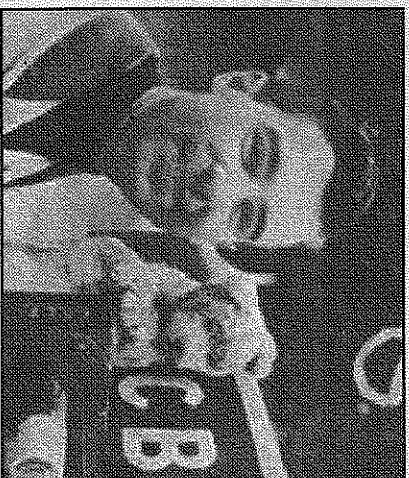
Another aspect that set "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood" apart from other children's TV shows was his ability to comfortably tackle tough issues such

as divorce and disabilities. This is fine by me. He taught me that being different is okay.

Rogers' talents are far-reaching. Besides being the show's host, he also provided the voice for each of the show's puppets, and composed all of the show's music. Rogers is also an ordained Presbyterian. Not only did I learn from "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," my mom did as well. The show taught many parents patience in dealing with children, and ways to familiarize them with the less pleasant aspects of life.

Since reruns of the show will continue to air weekdays at 11:30 AM on WETA, most children will probably not even notice the cessation of new episodes, as there is always a younger generation ready to watch the show. Those of us however, who grew up watching "Mister Rogers' Neighborhood," including myself, will always be indebted to Fred Rogers for all the lessons of life that he taught us.

Mister Rogers, I'm proud of you too.



Letters to the Editor

To the Editors of *The Oracle*

I was shocked when I read the article written by Heidi Stiffigoj (who apparently must be another race other than a proud afro-american child). To no avail do you have your facts accurate about the black community rallying to get rappers to stop using the "n" word in their music.

You must first walk in a black person's shoes to understand the humiliation the "n" word still has. So I would hope in the near future you and whomever reads your wonderful paper is aware of the danger of using the "n" word. This society has to be held accountable for unacceptable language towards one another. I plead with you and others that if you are to write about another race, I beg you to get your information from someone who could enlighten you on racism in America.

Yes, you are right it is 2001 and it's time that every one hears words "hurt".

Mrs. Denise Brazier

As we gather here today

Ready for our race

Laughing, joking with our friends

Smiles upon our face

I ask that we get silent

For a moment no one speak

So that we can remember

What happened last week

It's been called a tragedy

But that word seems too small

For a terrifying Tuesday

That has touched us all

My hope is that together

We can work to save

The greatness of our country

Home of the free and brave

Kate Richardson

9/17/01



The cross-country team hold hands as their teammate Kate Richards reads her poem about the recent tragedy.

THE ORACLE

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Out with the old, in with the old

Ripken leaves the field as Jordan returns to the court

By Laura Robinson

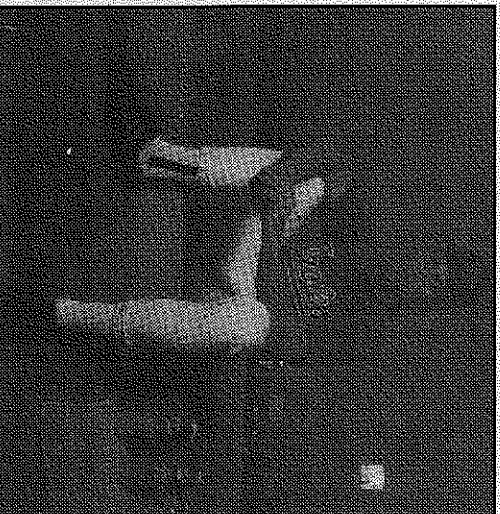
Managing Editor

I have a confession to make.

In my room are five posters, six shirts, 62 cards, three autographed items, and two framed pictures. I have a bobblehead doll, three cups, and three scrapbooks. They all feature the same person: Cal Ripken.

Yes, I know he's old. And yes, he's not the player he was in my childhood. But Cal Ripken is my hero and probably always will be. I know all his personal information, favorites and statistics. I've kept all the ticket stubs of the hundreds of Orioles games I've been to and treasure all the memorabilia I have—from Wheaties boxes to souvenir baseballs.

I can't ever remember Cal not being a part of my life (and yes I can refer to him on a first-name basis since I've met him before). I remember when I was six, and he won the Home Run Derby in

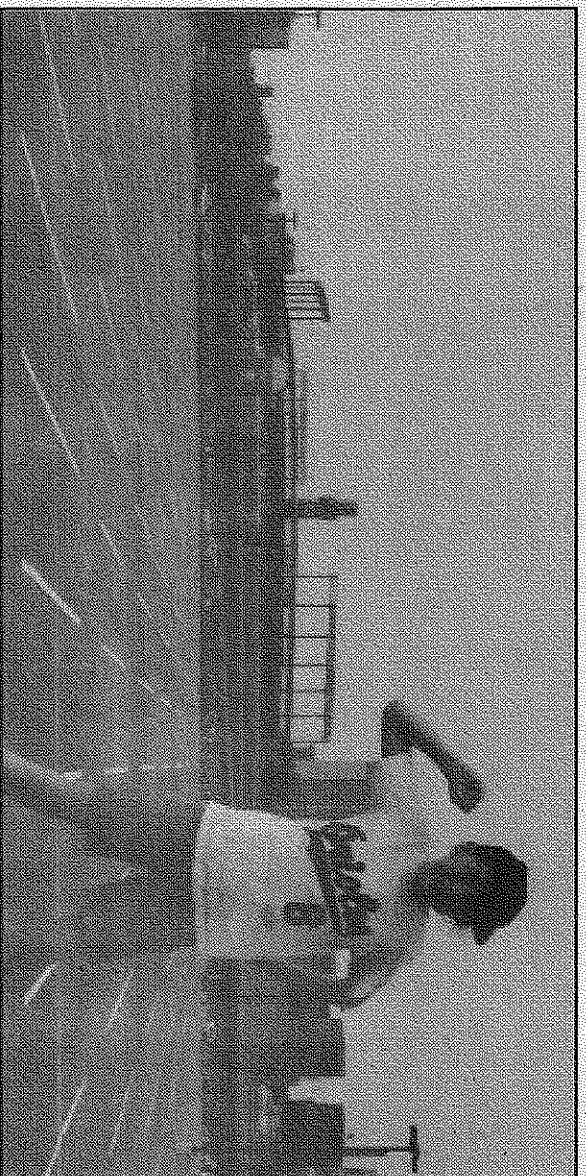


Seattle. I remember when I was eight or nine, and he was hit by a Roger Clemens pitch; I almost stormed the mound. I remember when he made an amazing play at shortstop to rob Derek Jeter of a game-winning hit. I cried with happiness when Cal broke the consecutive games record and homered in September of 1996.

And now he's leaving me.

I had anticipated that his retirement announcement would come either this season or next season. Still, when he formally stated it, I was shocked. I can't imagine going to a game without him being there or never checking the paper for pictures to put in my scrapbook. I can't imagine the Orioles without him because he's such a huge part of them.

Now Michael Jordan has announced he's coming back to basketball. He was also one of my favorites when I was younger, but he was nowhere near "Cal status." One great player is returning to sports, but my hero is leaving me.



Bo Robinson

Senior Laura Robinson, at age 9, poses in front of Camden Yards wearing the shirt of her hero, Cal Ripken.

US doesn't act fast enough

By Jason Gillis

Viewpoint Assistant

The USS Cole, attacked on October 12 of last year and the United States embassies in Kenya and Tanzania attacked on August 7, 1998 were all recent terrorist attacks along with the World Trade Center (WTC) twin towers and the Pentagon.

America has not done anything to the people responsible for these atrocities, which is the reason why we keep getting attacked by terrorists.

Osama bin Laden is the prime suspect because he is one of the most powerful in the world because he has millions of dollars at his disposal.

"I think that Bin Laden should have been taken care of years ago," said Junior Matt Shea. "We knew he was behind past incidents and has been threatening America."

Israel a nation plagued by terrorist attacks, retaliates quickly to any attack and with massive force, this has lessened the attacks on Israel over the years. The United States of America should have attacked and captured Osama bin Laden years ago when he was linked to the first WTC bombing, then this problem that we have now would not have taken place.

America should have attacked terrorists and their installations, therefore sending a message that such actions would not be feared or tolerated.

President Bush has announced that he will clean up the dirty work left behind by the Clinton Administration. President Bush said that he will wipe out all of the terrorists and their installations over a period of time.

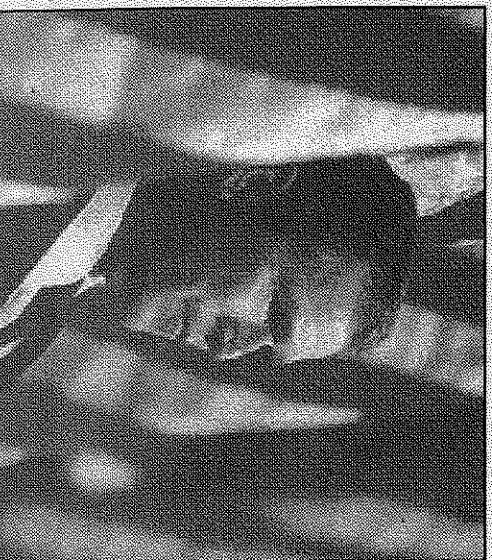
"We will not yield to this [terrorist] threat. We will meet it no matter how long it may take," Clinton said to

The Cincinnati Post in an oval office address.

But former President Clinton did not do what he said. The Clinton administration told the Navy to fire a few one million dollar cruise missiles to make his public announcement and then ceased to get rid of any terrorists or their installations and by draining the supply of cruise missiles for when they will be desperately needed.

America needs to put fear into every terrorist. Then Americans can feel a sense of mild security because a major threat has been dealt with.

Shea said, "I feel that the fact he has not been dealt with already angers me even if he was not behind this incident. He has influenced the thoughts of people who were."



Many Americans wait for George W. Bush to respond to terrorism with an aggressive attack.



Stephanie Morris

"Yes, so Kobe Bryant has competition."
Natalie Fierres,
sophomore



Stephanie Morris

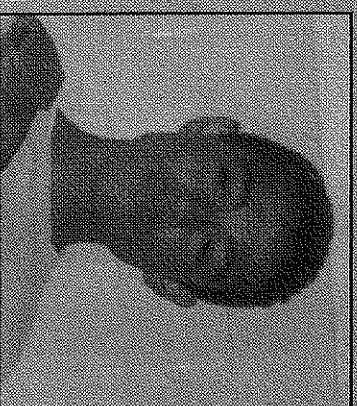
"He would not be able to retire on top, and that will tarnish his legacy."
Luis Malpartida, junior

What is your
reaction to
Michael
Jordan's
return?



Stephanie Morris

"Two words... Allen Iverson."
Chris Watson, junior



Stephanie Morris

"He is going to succeed and he is going to bring confidence to the team."
Gerald Smith, freshman

—Compiled by Stephanie Morris

Spartan Spotlight

2001 Homecoming Court & Mr. Spartan nominees

Seniors		Juniors		Sophomores		Freshmen	
Jessie Bagnall	Jessie Freer	Jared Butler	Nick Little	Mike Harris	Matt Smith	Mike Causin	
Chelsea Poling	Kat Kehler	Jeff Evans	Brian Sanford	Carlo Sandiego	Josh Wilson	Danny Hill	
Meggie Godish	Leyla Jordan	Sam Jung	Dan Weinberg				
	Lexie Gadzichowski	Scott Ankley					
	Courtney Uram	Justin Baker					
	Amy Brown						
	Christy Gudley						
	Sara Denninger						
	Megan Taylor						

Students speak out at WHFS

WHFS, from Page 1

approaching conversations would bring.

Four panelists sat waiting. They were terrorist expert Robert Meyers, a US Marines recruiting officer, a psychologist and the executive director of the Council on American-Islamic Relations, Nihad Award. We spent the next 90 minutes discussing our concerns, asking questions, and listening to what the studio audience thought.

The panel addressed our concerns, assuring us of the best and reminding us of the urgency of the situation.

It was a strange, but reassuring, evening. We listened to the moderators, Tim Virgin and Graeme from HFS, and DJ Flex and DJ Kane, from WPGC. They fielded questions from not just high school

students, but college kids and other concerned members of the community, about 60 in all.

I never got to ask my questions, but Gaby and Monique did. Gaby asked about our allies and the trust factor, and Monique, a Muslim, asked if the terrorists were really Muslims, since they were practicing war in the name of Allah.

The chance HFS gave me enforced my appreciation for their station; their reach extends far beyond the music they play.

The last thing I remember hearing before Monique, Sam, Gaby, Scott and I left the building that night was a comment made by a 1996 WS graduate, Sarah Leahy who now works for HFS.

"Drive safe and please tell Mr. Percoco

Online access denied at WS

Susan Rexford, Career Center Specialist, works to clear her computer.



File Photo

well." Susan Latour is the West Springfield School-Based Technology Specialist. She is working with Brandt to bring the computers downstairs up to date. This includes the science and business departments' computers.

"It involves renovating the old virus protection program...and then you have to scan the entire C-drive," said Latour.

Brandt hopes that all of the computers in the school will be completely free of the virus and updated with the new software by the end of October.

"A lot of labs are being used during the day so those will have to be done after school. It's a huge task and our priority is to get the labs done first," said Latour. "We probably have close to 800 machines in the building, [but] everyone's been real patient and understanding."

The virus has both upset and confused WS faculty.

"It's one of those things that just interrupts the world because everything stops," said Latour. "There are so many ways that we can be held hostage."

VIRUS, from Page 1

New counselors join WS staff

COUNSELORS, from Page 1

spending time with her husband and her daughter Haley. Hiemstra also enjoys outdoor activities like hiking, canoeing, and camping. She teaches an Outdoor Learning course and a Study Skills course at GMU.

The Guidance Department is also welcoming counselor Michaella O'Brien. O'Brien will be handling the classes of 2003 and 2005.

O'Brien is a Lee High School graduate, she also attended GMU to earn her Bachelor's degree in Psychology, as well as Marymount University for her Masters

in Secondary Counseling. As a guidance counselor, O'Brien has worked at Fairfax High School and helped develop the school's Peer Mediation program.

"I became a counselor because of my love for children. I feel that I can relate to teenagers," said O'Brien.

Away from school, O'Brien likes to spend time with her family. During vacations O'Brien likes to go to the beach, ski, and dance.

"I spend most of my free time with my family," said O'Brien. "I have two small children and they are involved in many activities."



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Local legend becomes nationally known

By Jenn Carlson
Weekend Editor

The legend of Bunnyman Bridge is so mysterious that has drawn shows such as Fox Family Channel's "Scariest Places On Earth" to investigate the bridge and its history.

In 1905 the population of Fairfax County was growing so rapidly that the state established a mental institution, much to the residents dismay. After much protest, the patients were finally moved, but while in the midst of the move, several escaped near the bridge. Two of the escapees supposedly camped near the bridge and lived on the carcasses of bunnies; hence the name Bunnyman Bridge. Eventually, one of the men was murdered by the other who was never to be found. Even to this day, the carcasses of bunnies are found scattered around the bridge.

The tragedies do not end there. Supposedly 28 deaths have occurred at the bridge since 1905, including a group of

teenagers who visited the bridge in the 1940s, according to information on the "Scariest Places on Earth" website. There are many stories surrounding Bunnyman Bridge in Clifton, VA, but this is what has been recorded on the show.

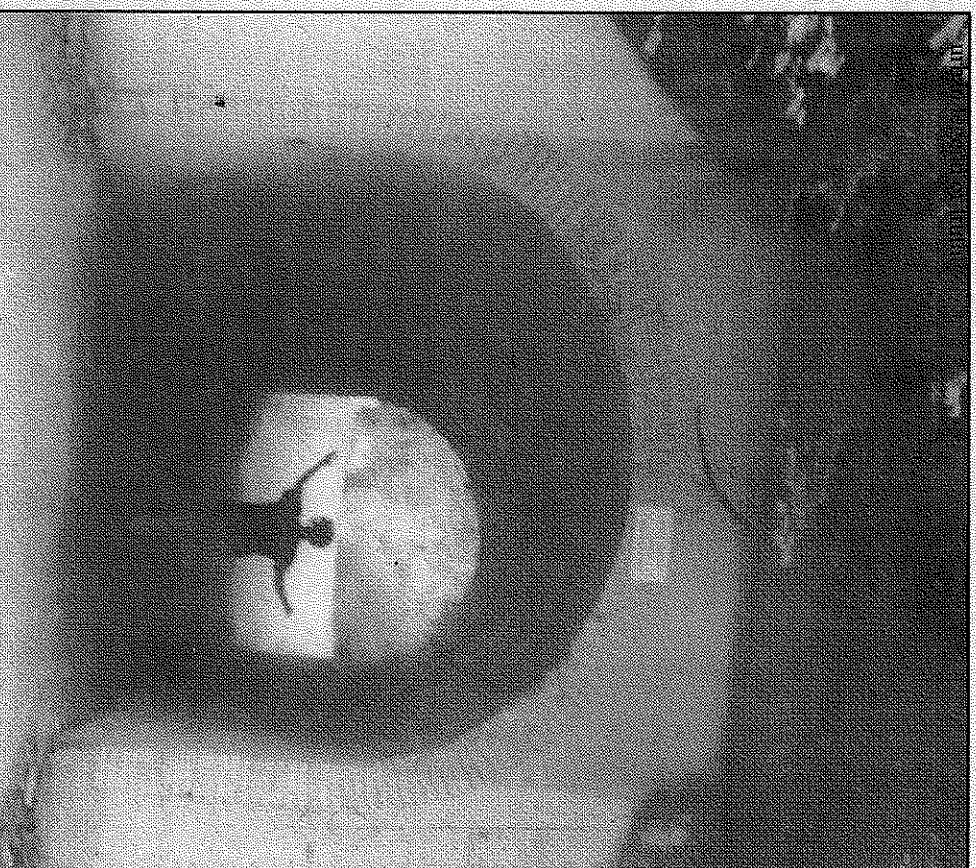
The legend is what has drawn WS students to the area.

"It was a long way out, the first time I went it was very creepy," said senior Stephanie Shaw. "I drive an automatic car, and when I tried to turn around, the gas pedal wouldn't go."

Skeptics may not believe experiences like that, but nonetheless, this could keep from students from visiting.

"I know this is a joke, but my friends told me the Bunnyman jumped out and started stabbing the car. I don't want to go," said junior Chris Lee.

Today there are surveillance cameras placed around the bridge, some of which have supposedly captured paranormal activity. But the events of Bunnyman Bridge remain a mystery, may it be an urban legend or truth.



Many WS students enjoy the thrill of visiting Bunnyman Bridge during the weekend. *Russ Waddell/Weekend* Bunnyman Bridge is considered a very scary place.

Students experience behind the wheel jitters

By Camilia Casillas

Oracle Staff Writer

Many teens daydream of picking their friends up without having their parents give them a lift, but learning how to drive is not as easy as it looks, and it does tend to generate some embarrassing but funny experiences.

"I was coming out of my court, and I saw my cousin Shing driving his car," said senior Paul Lee. "I had my head stuck out the window, and a car came out of nowhere and almost hit the same side of the car I was on, and I froze. Then that's when I understood why squirrels freeze when they're in the middle of the road."

First time drivers have a million different things to try to remember at once, like what all the gears are for, keeping within the speed limit and watching out for the many street signs. Memorizing all the signals and techniques can cause the

mind to go on overload, hence all the abrupt stops and sudden turns.

"I went to make a turn, and I kept both hands on the wheel instead of hand over hand and I kept saying 'The car won't turn, the car won't turn,'" said junior Justin Brown.

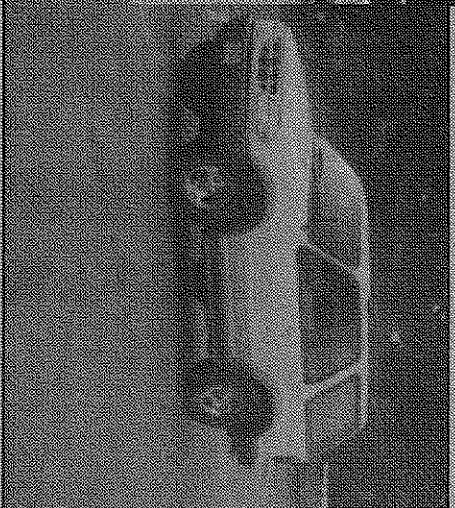
Before teens take Behind the Wheel, they often have to take their parents or guardian on the road with them to help them learn how to drive. This can be stressful for parents and new drivers.

"I feared for my life trying to teach my kids how to drive," said former WS math teacher Sherry Lis. "Let's just say I let my husband take over."

"A car came out of nowhere and almost hit the side of the car I was on."
-Paul Lee, senior



Oracle Staff Photo
A WS student heads to his car after school. Driving to school is a covered privilege, as long as the ride goes smoothly.



Meggie Godish/Oracle
Learning to drive with a parent can be quite a stressful experience for many high school students.

Early admission time draws close

By Emily Morris

Features Editor

College, Right now that's on the tip of nearly every senior's tongue. How they will pay for it, will they even get in and where to go are all on the front burner.

A big question is when to apply. Some seniors decide to apply early for colleges. This has it ups and downs.

"I did not apply early because I did not want to commit to a certain school," said senior Triyani Beh. "I may find a better school later in the year."

That is the case of early admissions. Some students are applying early action. Early action is different from early admission because students are not required to attend that school. Early action is completed on a rolling basis so students can decide to attend a different school at any time.

"I plan on applying early action, but I have not done anything yet," said senior Steven Moffa. "The deadline is not until December first, so I have plenty of time."

While some students plan on applying early, others do not want to, and some can't.

If a student has is majoring in an art, they are accepted based on an audition.

"I plan to major in music, so to get into college, I have an audition. I turn in my application at the audition so I can not do early admissions," said senior Tanja Quinn.

Many different extra curricular activities can get in the way of early applications. For example, sports may pose a problem.

"I am talking to coaches at different schools. I do not want to apply to a school if I find a better coach or team," said Maureen Hagan. "I also have more college visits planned where I will meet more coaches."

Some athletes find it better to get their act together and have already sent in their applications. Early applications often relieve senior stress. Senior Meggie Godish already applied to West Virginia University (WVU). Their early applications were accepted beginning on September 15th. The deadline is early October.

"I already applied to WVU. Mainly because I wanted a fall back school," said senior Meggie Godish. "I will apply to other schools under normal admission, but I want a school that I know I have gotten into so that I am not under so much stress."

The 2001 Recipients of the AP Diploma

Brandon Bert
Carlin Dysart
Rabeeta Farouque
Ethan Greenblatt
Gregory Gunn
Liam Heiner
Anthony Jones
An Nguyen
Philip Packett
Ryan Stewart
Ryan Yanovich
Erin Zoller

In order to qualify for the AP Diploma, students must achieve a three or higher AP examination grade in each of the four domains (Language, Science, Mathematics and History and Social Sciences.) Students must also receive a grade of three or higher in any of the four core domains or in the elective category.

Like mother, like daughter

McIlwrath joins the teaching ranks with her mom



Russ Waddell
Shannon McIlwrath, new math teacher, with her mother, Beth Roop.

By Angela Fiorino
ETC. Editor

The apple doesn't fall far from the tree.

Usually if someone sees their mom in school they might run and hide in shame but not math teacher, Shannon McIlwrath.

First year teacher McIlwrath joined the WS math team this year after graduating from James Madison University in May.

Along with becoming a part of the WS faculty, she joined her mom, Beth Roop,

who has been a math teacher at WS for 16 years.

"I love working with my mom, it's an added bonus to working here," said McIlwrath. She was also a WS graduate in '97, and she knew that one day she'd be back. She enjoyed the school's environment and being in Fairfax County. She also thought there would be no better place to teach than at the school she graduated from.

"I feel really welcome because there are still a lot of teachers here that taught when I was a student and the math department is really young, so I don't feel weird at all," McIlwrath said.

McIlwrath teaches Algebra I and precalculus, two classes that

are very different, but she has no problems.

Roop teaches BC calculus which follows precalculus, so often mother helps daughter to prepare the students for what's next. However, most of the time McIlwrath doesn't need it.

"If she has any questions I always answer them, and I'll let her know if there's anything she needs tell her students about BC calc., but she rarely has any questions," says Roop. "She's doing a great job."

McIlwrath was also the assistant girls varsity soccer coach last year and she plans to continue this year.

Before she played soccer on the varsity team at JMU, she

played soccer for John Kinney, the current coach, when she was a student at WS. McIlwrath is very active in the sport and spends a lot of time with the soccer team.

Part of the reason she came to WS to teach is because she knew she'd continue coaching the soccer team.

Many people steer clear from high school once they've graduated and promise themselves they will never return, but McIlwrath is satisfied to be back and her mom is happy to have her.

"In the back of my mind I always thought I'd come back," said McIlwrath, "but now I'm here and I love it."

Siblings are taught how to share teachers

By Melissa Lipman
Oracle Editor

"Johnny Smith? Didn't I have your brother a few years ago?"

For many WS students who have had the same teachers as an older sibling this is a familiar question.

"I have an older sister named Emily who graduated in 1999," said senior Elizabeth Hebbda. "We both had Mrs. Moriarty for English 11. This is actually the second year I had her."

These sibling situations have both an upside and a downside for the students.

"It's good because my brother and sister warned me and told me what [the teachers] are good at and what their teaching style is," said junior Jeff Day whose older brother and sister also attended WS. "But it's bad because [the teachers] know your sibling and expect a lot of you if your sibling was a good student. But mostly it's good."

Teachers also enjoy having several siblings from the same family.

"For the [siblings] that I've had they have all been good," said Judy Harris, an English teacher. "One of the things I enjoy is that I know the parents already."

While teachers like having many children from one family, they also note that they don't hold the younger siblings accountable for any mistakes that the older ones did.

Freshmen find new freedom fantastic

By Nayna Gupta
Viewpoint Editor

Out with the old, in with the new. The class of 2005 is certainly new with almost 600 students, a first-year administrator, and two completely new class sponsors.

"Freshman Summer Renner is new to the West Springfield pyramid. Renner attended middle school at Hayfield, but transferred to West Springfield because her dad works here.

Though faced with the double challenge of making a transition into high school with a new group of students, Renner has already adjusted.

"It was hard to get used to [WS] because it's much smaller than Hayfield," said Renner. "But, there was a lot of helpful people who helped and showed me my way around."

Allowing students to eat outside the cafeteria is one freedom Renner did not have at Hayfield. While some upperclassmen complain about not having the freedom of open campus lunch, most freshmen are pleased with their lunch

arrangements.

"The difference between Irving and WS is definitely the freedom," said freshman Adam Foote. "It's easier to get away with a lot more."

For freshmen with older siblings at WS, getting used to the everyday routine of school is much easier in many ways. With someone to help them find their classes and their lockers, younger WS siblings often have an advantage over other new students.

"If I have a question, my brother knows what's cool and what's not," said freshman Michael Kauffmann.

While Michael has to adjust to a new school, his older brother, David, is also adjusting to the idea of sharing a school with his little brother.

"I hardly ever see him, but it's still strange because we've never been in the same school," said junior David Kauffmann. "It's even stranger to find out that my brother has a date for Homecoming."

With the recent election of the freshman class officers, the class of 2005 is beginning to prepare for Homecoming activities.



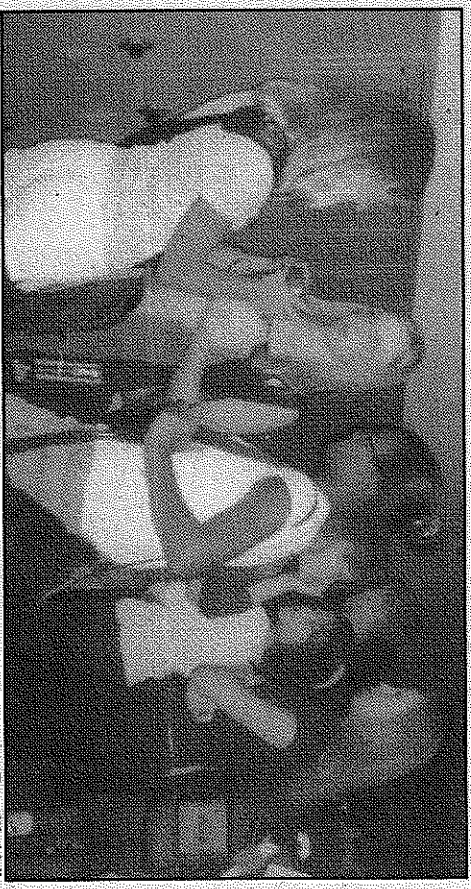
Russ Waddell
Freshman Daniel Gitlin and older brother, junior David Gitlin talk to Charles Scudder, a teacher who both of them had.

"Everybody comes in with a clean slate," said social studies department chair Connie Peduzzi. "I think every single one I've had has been unique in his or her own way."

One thing both students and teachers agree upon is

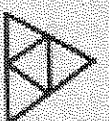
that the situation tends to turn out well for everyone involved.

"It's just neat to educate a whole class," said Harris. "I had all four McNulty's, and they were all very different, talented in one region or another."



Russ Waddell
A group of freshmen gather in freshman hall to discuss their busy days.

After Homecoming, the officers will continue to build spirit and raise money for their class. "I know from working with the class last year that we're really bonded," said freshman president Danny Tinsley. "I think we all like WS and we're really glad to be here."



MATH TUTOR

Joseph A. Orsini

Certified Math Teacher

Masters Degree; Retired Military

703-323-5905

5617 Mt. Burnside Way, Burke, VA 22015

Game shows and reality shows dominate TV

By Denis Ing
Sports Assistant

WS Spartan come on down, you are the next contestant on the "Price Is Right."

As many already know, the "Price Is Right" is one of America's top game shows, along with "Wheel of Fortune," "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" and "The Weakest Link."

"I think teens today are more into the quiz game shows like 'The Weakest Link.' I think it is because of the prizes they give away," said sophomore Stephen Kalletta.

Then there are the reality shows like "Survivor," "Big Brother," and "The Mole." These games give out big money prizes, but they take a couple months to film. They are also harder to get on the show. There is more of a real life theme to them, unlike the quiz shows which are one night things and have no reality aspects.

"Survivor" sends its contestants to an island and makes them do tasks and their peers vote each other off when one member isn't holding his share up or if one is doing too well. They stand there until one contestant is left.

"Big Brother" is a group of contestants go into a house and must live in there without leaving until there is only one contestant left. Then once a week they vote one person off.

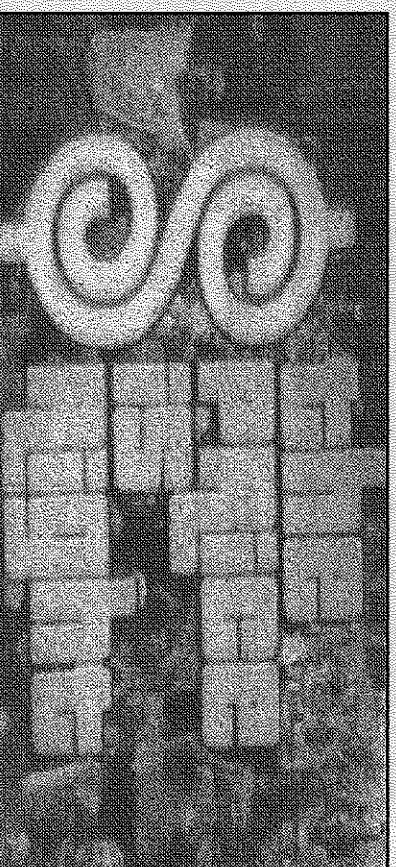
"The Mole" contestants are in teams and must do tasks in a certain time and if they finish they get clues and points to solve puzzles. Then the losing team of each puzzle must vote one person off until only one member is left.

"I like the 'Price Is Right' because Bob Barker owns, and he gets kisses from hot college chicks," said sophomore Steve Spinosa.

There are also some different kinds of shows like "Family Feud," "MTV's Tough Enough," and "Street Smarts."

"Family Feud" is about two families competing for money. The competitors must guess the same answer as he audience did for the same question. If they answer the same then they get points and if they don't then they don't get any. The family with the most points at the end of the game wins.

"MTV's Tough Enough" is about



"The Price Is Right" is one of the many game shows that are regularly featured on TV. However, "The Price Is Right" has been around for decades longer than many of its competitors.

people who are competing to become professional wrestlers in the WWF.

"Street Smarts" features people who are asked questions and then the contestants on the show guess if they answer the question right.

"I like 'Street Smarts' because people say stupid stuff for easy questions," said junior Peter Lee.

Different game show genre have

different ways of capturing a viewer. Reality shows let the viewer get to know a contestant very well. "The Price Is Right" has fun games like mountain climber and plinko. Random people are picked out of the crowd as its contestants.

For other game shows, there is a catch phrase that pulls a viewer back for more. Such as, "The Weakest Link": "WS you are the weakest link... GOOD-BYE!"

Fans mourn the death of young and respected singer Aaliyah

By Heidi Stillegoi
Entertainment Assistant

Singing, dancing, acting. She could do it all. With a recently released album and upcoming movies underway, she was one of the most accomplished 22-year-olds of today. She had everything going for her until tragedy struck and took it all away.

Aaliyah Haughton, better known simply as Aaliyah, was killed on August 26 in a plane crash. She had traveled to the Bahamas to shoot a music video for her upcoming single, and never made it off the island.

The plane carrying her and eight crew members exploded on impact just 200 feet beyond the runway of Marsh Harbour International Airport on Abaco Island at 6:45 p.m. as they were preparing to fly home. The plane was apparently overloaded with too much luggage, and was also suffering from engine failure.

Back in the United States, Aaliyah's fans, friends, and family are mourning her loss. It came as much of a shock that someone with such a big impact

on the world, was now gone.

"Aaliyah was a beautiful singer, as well as a beautiful person. I couldn't believe she died in the plane crash. She was so young and had so much going for her," said junior Amy Rivera.

Aaliyah released her debut album, *Age Ain't Nothing But A Number*, in 1994 at the age of 15. She continued her love for music, and went on to release two more successful albums. She then turned to acting when she co-starred with Jet Li in the 2000 flick, "Romeo Must Die."

Aaliyah also had two more movies under her belt. "Queen of the Damned" and "The Matrix 2," both due out in 2002. She was also expected to star in "The Matrix 3." She was known as somebody who was a great entertainer all around. Aaliyah was a wonderful example to the young people all across the country.

"Aaliyah had true inspiring words," said sophomore Jose Chavez. "She is and always will be an inspiration to us all."

Six days after the devastating crash, fans and artists gathered to pay their last respects to Aaliyah

at Campbell funeral home in Manhattan. Fans began showing up at 6:30 a.m. and converged together to show their love for the influential artist. They turned a nearby billboard promoting Aaliyah's latest album into a memorial, and dedicated prayers to the one they miss so much.

Aaliyah's death is a constant reminder to everyone that, no matter how good life is, it can be taken in a matter of seconds.

"It is very unfortunate that somebody is so young and talented has to end their life that way, she had so much more to accomplish," said sophomore Aiyah Jordan. "She will always live on forever, though, through her wonderful music."

While many fans grieve over the loss of this accomplished singer/actress, there are others who have faith that she is doing just fine.

"When she was born in the world she cried and we rejoiced," said freshman Ashley Pounds. "But when she died we cried and she rejoiced. She is in a much better place."



Movie sequels are the deja vu of the summer

By Camilla Casillas
Oracle Staff Assistant

More and more movie-makers of popular movies are turning to sequels to try and recapture the same kind of success a second time around.

"Rush Hour 2," "Jurassic Park 3," and "American Pie 2" are some of the new sequels that came out this past summer.

"Rush Hour 2" was my favorite sequel I saw this summer because Chris Tucker is so funny and Jackie Chan cannot speak English at all," said junior Chris Lee.

One reason for the new round of movie sequels may be because of the demand from the audiences who cannot get enough of their favorite movies and characters. Movies like "Star Wars" with many dedicated fans have repeatedly asked for more.

"My favorite sequel of all time is 'Star Wars,'" said gym teacher and football coach Jim Jones. "As an ancient Jedi Knight I understood everything they were teaching in the movies."

"Jay and Silent Bob Strike Back" was another sequel that came out this summer, but was more unique than the rest. The characters Jay and Silent Bob have been featured in five other movies in the past, and this summer the creators came out with a movie that features the pair.

"Jay and Silent Bob was my favorite sequel this summer. Kevin Smith made five movies that all have to do with each



"Rush Hour 2," starring Chris Tucker and Jackie Chan, is one of the sequels that came out this past summer.

other," said sophomore Andrew Rapoza. "I liked all his other movies, and this is the last one he's going to make."

Not all movie sequels are so successful. Many sequels do not live up to the original's esteem, which can be a major disappointment for their dedicated fans. Movie-makers have even made part three and four of some series, like "Jurassic Park."

"The characters in Jurassic Park 3 didn't have much depth, and the plot was pretty predictable," said sophomore Lindsey Limington.

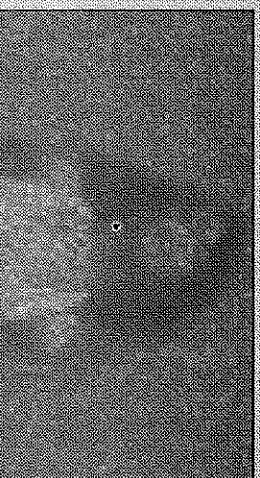
The same amount of effort is not put into some sequels, but others are just as funny and action packed as the original, and sometimes even more so.

Freshman Nick Melas said, "If the movie was good then I like seeing the sequel because it's cool to see where the characters are going."

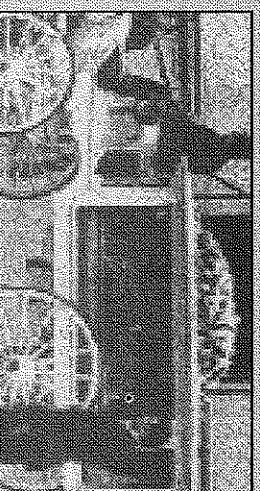
Quote of the Issue

"Heal the world, make it a better place. For you and for me and the entire human race."

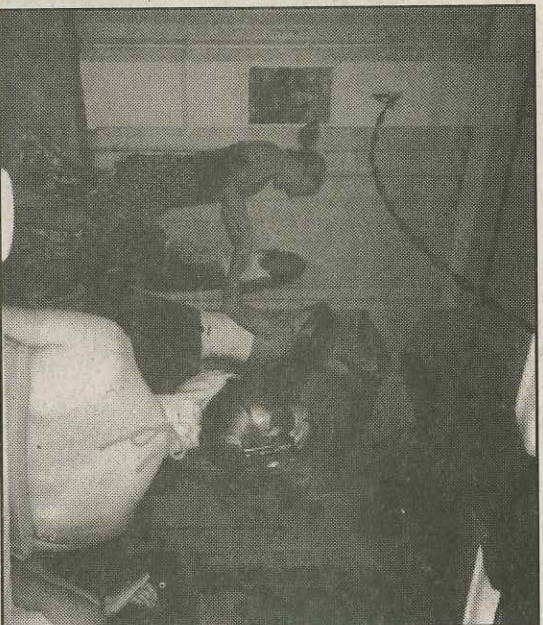
—Michael Jackson



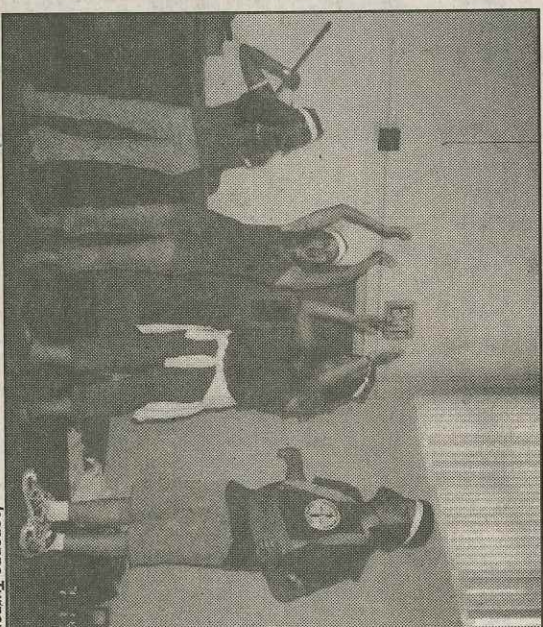
Aaliyah was considered to be in the prime of her career when she was killed in the plane crash. Her new single was being promoted and her movies will be coming out in 2002.



Aaliyah's body was taken to her funeral in this glass-paneled, horse-drawn hearse. Her friends, family, and even her fans gathered together to mourn her unexpected death.



Amy McKeever
Jen Goertz from Thomas Jefferson HS and Brittany Selkregg from Hylton HS dance the can-can at the Cafe Theatre.



Jeananne Turner
Senior Amy McKeever performs a skit as part of a special activity with her group.

French Governor's School teaches students about the African Culture

By Amy McKeever
Entertainment Editor

Some people travel as far as Paris, France to sample European culture. However, I prefer the short trek to Staunton, Virginia, home of mullets and shotguns, for my own fixing of European refinement.

This past summer, I spent three weeks at the Virginia School for the Deaf and the Blind, located in Staunton, as a part of the Governor's French Academy program. While three weeks in the sticks might not sound exactly like a cultural experience to most people, it was one of the most meaningful and enriching experiences I have ever had.

The first day of the Academy, the 60 other students and I sat outside on the terrace while our monos (resident assistants), hailing from French-speaking countries throughout the world, taught us various French songs, some that I remember singing in French class as well as some new ones. These songs kept reappearing throughout the three week stay, particularly the African song "Kilimandjaro," which quickly became everyone's favorite with a memorable chorus of "Kilimandjaro, Kilimandjaro mama, Kilimandjaro ye ye ye, Ye ye Kilimandjaro." Good times with that one, especially on Africa Day.

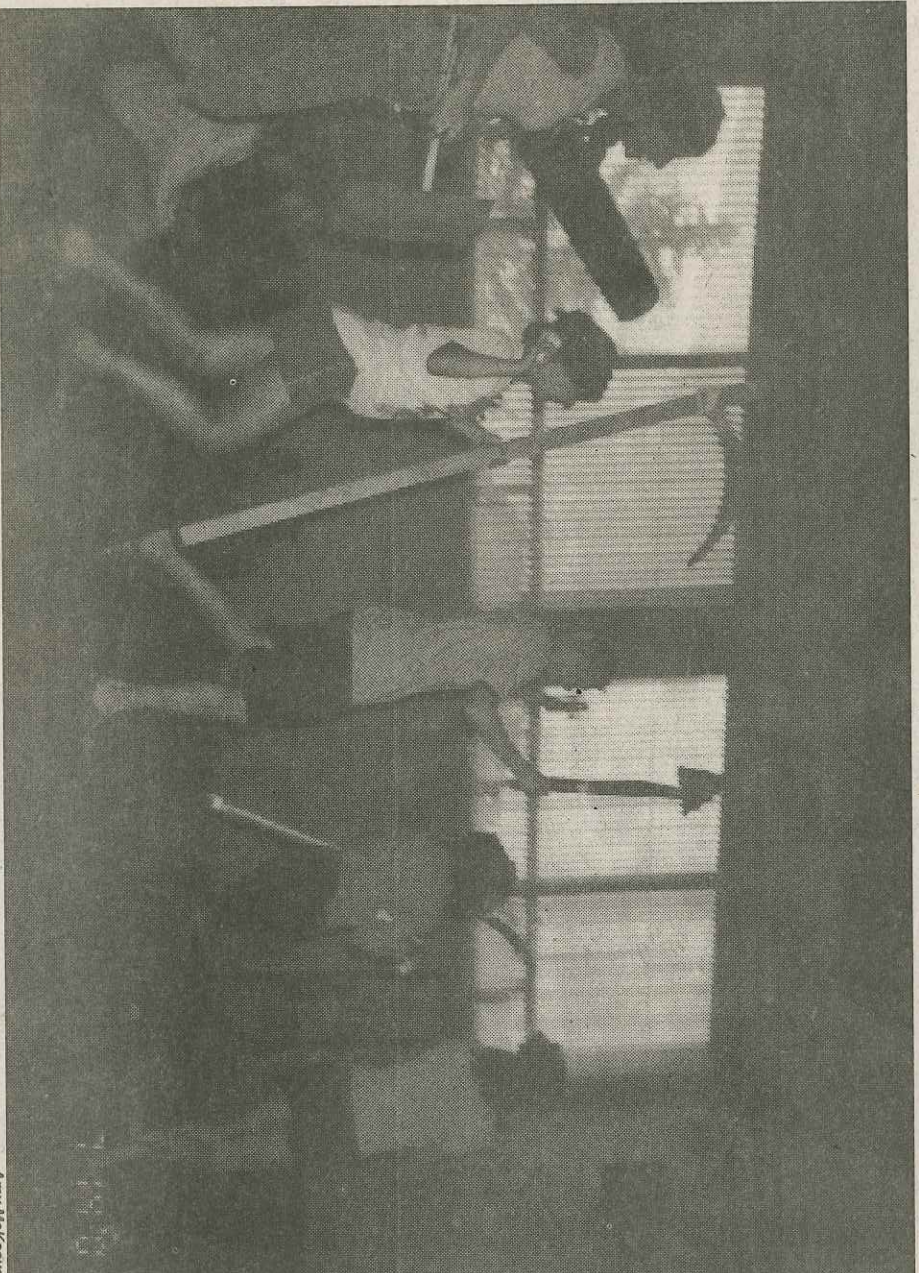
We also had an Africa Day, along with an Africa class, where I learned more about Africa than I ever expected to know, and was more interested in it than I ever expected to be. On Africa Day we did African crafts like hairbraiding, jewelry-making, and tribal makeup. That evening, we had tolerable food for once when my Tunisian Arabic teacher made us couscous, with a little help from the monos.

Arabic class was one of the most terrifying experiences of my life. After Radhia, my Arabic teacher, attempted to teach us the Arabic alphabet and some catch phrases, I have complete respect for all people who can speak this language. I still can't tell the difference between the letter rr, and the letter rh.

Basically all that I remember is, "Messmouki? Is me Amy," which translates to, "What's your name? My name is Amy." But hey, how many other kids at WS know how to sing three songs in Arabic? That's what I thought.

But of course, while I learned a lot about African culture, the Academy taught me even more about French culture. We happened to be there on Bastille Day, July 14th, France's most beloved holiday, celebrating the storming of the Bastille at the beginning of the Revolution. We had a funny mock trial of the aristocrats and got to watch all of our "suspects" be "guillotined" in the fake guillotine. We also split into groups and made skits about certain aspects of the revolution. All of these skits were hilarious. And to top the day off, we went to the mall in Harrisonburg and ate at a Chinese restaurant, giving us some communication with the outside world- although we had to speak in French. Needless to say, that was an interesting adventure.

In fact, the entire Academy was an interesting adventure for me. In some ways, it was an experiment for college, with unbelievably hot dorms, little communication with family and friends, and a totally new environment. But in other ways, the Academy was a unique summer experience that made me recognize my own love for the French language and my strong desire to travel. I would have never thought that I would have learned something like that in Staunton, Virginia.



Amy McKeever
A group of students from all around Virginia reenact the storming of the Bastille on the French Independence Day festivities at Governor's School.

Born in WS students try the world to visit



Junior Nayna Gupta stands in front of a historic Balinese Hindu

The Wonders

By Nayna Gupta
Viewpoint Editor

When my parents told me we would be spending the turn of the millennium on the tropical Indonesian island of Bali, I was thrilled. Located in the Indian Ocean next to Australia, I figured it would be full of palm trees, exotic beaches and spectacular volcanoes. I had even read in a magazine that Bali was the number one vacation spot for celebrities like Kate Hudson and Bob Dylan.

The island's beauty definitely met my expectations; Balinese culture, however, turned out to be more exotic than I could have ever imagined.

Though I was keen on trying whitewater rafting and some local paintballing, my parents insisted on taking a day trip to a town called Ubud. Full of historic temples and art, I was convinced the Ubud day trip would be a disaster.

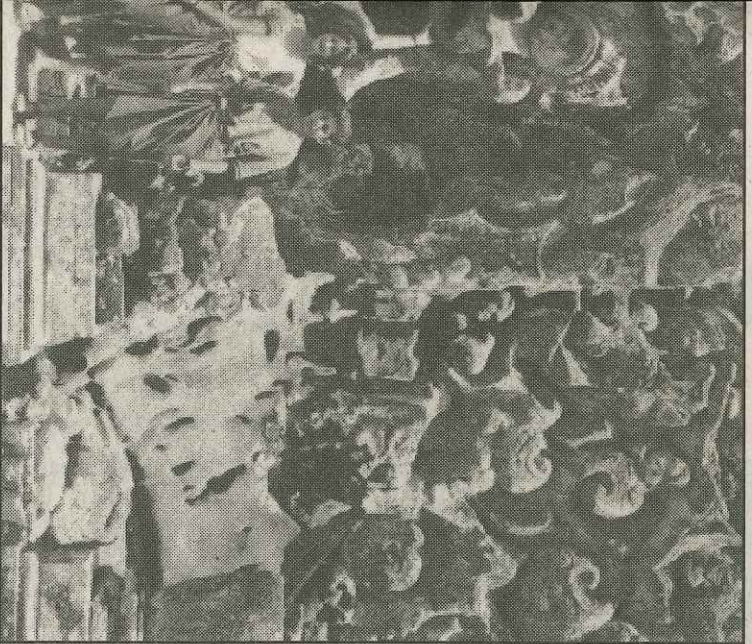
For our first hour in Ubud we had to walk through a monkey infested forest, carefully holding onto our sunglasses and hats known to be favorites of Balinese monkeys. After our trek, we reached a historic Balinese Hindu temple called Ulu Watu. Built during the 11th century, the temple was perched on top of a steep cliff overlooking the Indian Ocean.



Junior Nayna Gupta stands in front of the traditional Balinese Hindu

Joyage

Travel all over hit exotic places



Arvind Gupta

u temple Ulu Watu with her family and friends on a vacation.

of Exotic Bali

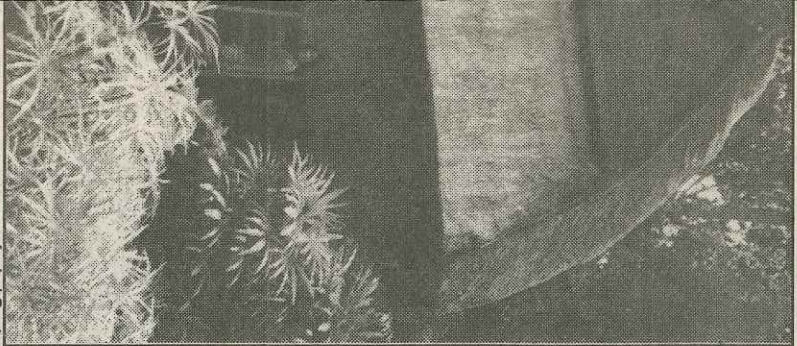
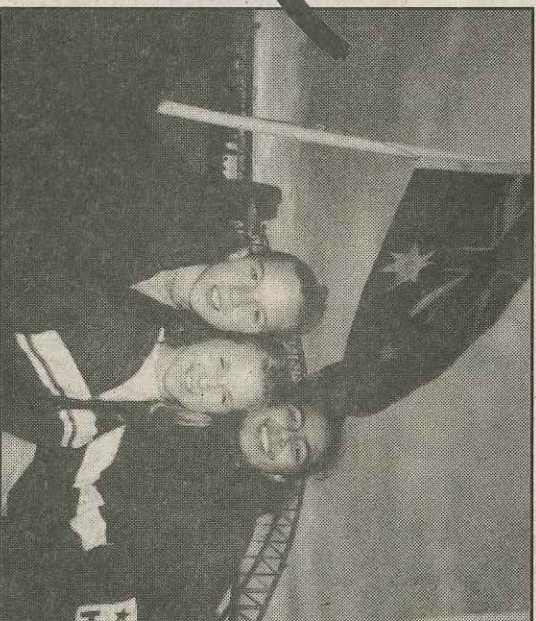
The high point in our trip to this temple was watching local Balinese Kucheyec dancers perform the story of a famous Balinese epic. While the women danced in vibrantly colored costumes, the men, dressed in sarongs, provided the background beat and music using their

voices.

Somewhere between this exotic temple and walking through the monkey forest, my family decided to stop at Dirty Duck, a local restaurant known best for its cooked duck. Turned off by the restaurant's un-appetizing name, I opted for cream pasta instead. Ironically, the thick cream and Bali heat didn't sit well, and within an hour I had serious case of food poisoning.

Even with my violent vomiting, I was still able to experience and learn about a new culture and country. Along with its exotic beaches and scenery, visiting the intricate Balinese temples built thousands of years ago, made our trip to Ubud ten times more fascinating than any Smithsonian exhibit. I eventually tried some paint balling, but

even now, almost two years later I remember our day trip to Ubud the most clearly.

Arvind Gupta
room where she slept every night, typical toMariah Woodson
Juniors Rachel Dyke, Jessie Greene, and Priyanka Tandon stand in front of the Bay Bridge.Mariah Woodson
Junior Priyanka Tandon tries to pet a kangaroo in an Australian Zoo.

A trip down under

By Priyanka Tandon
News Section Editor

My bones shiver as every drop of rain hits my already soaked clothing. The wind delivers another teeth chattering blow in the 50 degree weather. I still can't believe it's June. But oh wait, it's Australia.

Last summer I traveled to Australia for a soccer tournament. While I was there many interesting dialogues took place.

On our way home from that drenching day out on the practice fields, our tour guide, Matthew, suggested we always carry extra "jumpers."

"Jumpers?" my friends and I asked.

"Yeah mates, jumpers like the one I have on" he responded.

Matthew was wearing a blue sweater.

We didn't want to look stupid so we just smiled and nodded. Later we found out that "jumpers" were sweaters and sweatshirts. It would have probably been useful to know that on those rainy days.

Our next language misunderstanding occurred when we asked Matthew if we would need our bathing suits at the recreational park we were going to.

Joelle Torreele
Senior Lauren Decot sits with friends in front of fountains at Centre Pompidou in an area called Bombourg.

Allerg, vieren & France

By Lauren Decot
Managing Editor

My father has never had any desire to travel abroad. He stands by the notion that there are plenty of places in the US that he wants to see before he voyages overseas.

From my experience this past summer in France, I know how wrong he is. I had the best time going on the French trip with WS French teachers Joelle Torreele and Laura Bruckmann. It was amazing to see all of the places firsthand that I had studied in class.

Along with thirteen other students, I went to France in the beginning of the summer. We landed at Charles de Gaulle airport in Paris, and we stayed in the airport for about an hour before catching our flight to Nice in the south of France. While we were waiting, we saw Dick Clark standing nearby reading a newspaper. I didn't look too good being that I had been on a red-eye flight for the last eight hours, but I shrugged that off and searched for my camera and pad of paper. Amazed to see him, I walked up to him and asked him for his autograph. His

young, blondhaired wife took our picture.

We spent about four days in Nice, where I got the most awful sunburn of my life. I was so excited to be on the Mediterranean that I stayed on the beach for six hours. Madame Torreele took great care of me though, buying me bottled water, body spray for the burn, and purple flowers to make me feel better. I'm not sure how I managed to stay there that long though, because all of the beaches in Nice have rocks instead of sand which makes for a less than comfortable stay.

After exploring the south of France, we took the TGV to Paris. We saw all of the places that Paris is known for, such as the Louvre, the Arc de Triomphe, and of course, the Eiffel Tower. The sights were so incredible, especially the Eiffel Tower. We went up it at night, and we saw the entire city in lights. It was a great way to end our trip.

My dad marveled at the pictures I took, but a picture could never compare to seeing a sight such as Notre Dame in person. He can say all he wants that our family needs to go see Yosemite or the Grand Canyon, but in the meantime, I'll enjoy traveling abroad.

Michael Jackson returns

By JD Kaleem
Business/Systems Assistant

The "King of Pop" is back. Michael Jackson, that is.

Jackson released a single titled "You Rock My World," which is creeping its way up the charts, just recently breaking into the top ten on the Billboard Hot 100. Also, in many parts of Europe, the single debuted at the number one position on the charts, and receives major airplay around the world. He has already released his second singled titled "Cry," which is being played simultaneously. His new album, "Invincible," is scheduled to come out on October 29.

Jackson is just one of the many artists from past decades who are making comebacks into the music industry, including Sting and Carlos Santana, among others. While Jackson has been received well so far, some students doubt Jackson's return.

"He can't dance around the fact that he's gotten older," said freshman Elizabeth Cole. "He's trying to appeal to the same audience, but they just don't seem to want his type of music anymore."

To boost his comeback, Jackson held a sold-out concert on September 7 in Madison Square Garden in New York City to showcase his 30 years at a solo artist.

The tribute concert featured artists such as Britney Spears, 'N Sync, Liza Minnelli, Whitney Houston, Billy Gilman, Gloria Estefan, Marc Anthony, Destiny's Child and Shaggy. He also made a surprise appearance performing with 'N Sync at the 2001 MTV Video Music Awards.

Tickets sold for up to \$2,500 for Jackson's first concert since his Dangerous tour in the early '90s and a six-year absence from the music scene. Fans are discrediting his return after such an absence.

"His time is over since he hasn't put anything out for so long," said junior Seth Trevaskis. "Madonna and Janet Jackson have kept releasing songs and kept up with the times, that's why they have remained popular but Michael Jackson is keeping his old style and not changing with the times."

Part of Jackson's long absence from the music scene was due to the child molestation accusations against him in the early '90s. Although he made a short-lived comeback with his "History" album in the mid-90s, much of his credibility and popularity were down. Back for a second time, he still enjoys much support from his fans.

"There's no doubt that he's a good singer and dancer," said senior Masood Naderpoor. "He's a cultural icon, and the King of Pop will remain."



Michael Jackson, otherwise known as the "King of Pop," held a comeback concert on September 7. Jackson has been a part of the pop music scene ever since his days with the Jackson 5.

Crossing over between the movies and music

By Jennifer Stomacco
Oracle Photographer

A major part of our lives is entertainment, and we as consumers seem to idolize those who make their way to the top in this field. Whether they're singers or actors, people look up to them for succeeding.

However, people look up to some of them even more is they have the ability to conquer both singing and acting. Several celebrities such as Jennifer Lopez, Whitney, Houston, Mariah Carey, and Mandy Moore have been able to cross over the threshold and do well in both worlds. Three of these have just begun working on this expansion and are already well known for their success. The question now is how many more crossovers will come about.

Jennifer Lopez has been acting for years in movies such as "Selena" and "The Cell," but she has recently recorded two albums and is making her way in the music industry. Her songs "Waiting for Tonight," "My Love Don't Cost a Thing," and "I'm Real" have all been extremely

popular.

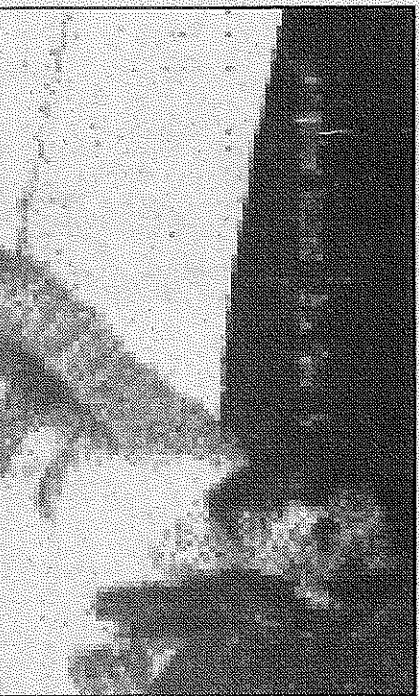
"If it was her goal to be a singer, than that would be a positive change," said freshman Soima But.

Another celebrity is Mariah Carey, who began in the music business several years ago and has had many singles and won numerous awards. She has recently filmed her first movie "Glitter." The release of the movie was delayed, though, due to the fact that she suffered a mental breakdown and was suffering from a state of depression.

"Since she did the soundtrack and the movie, it would probably be more straining mentally and physically to do both things," said sophomore Samantha Lee.

The question is also raised as to what qualities a person must possess in order to attempt this entertainment business crossover and be as successful as the likes of Jennifer Lopez.

"The world today is based upon special traits," said junior Tim LaCrosse. "You have to be a perfectionist in what you do and do it well to succeed in life."



Jennifer Lopez, or JLo as she now likes to be called, is just one example of a movie star who crossed over into the realm of music.



Many critics disliked "The Fast and the Furious" because it had no real "good guys."



"Legally Blonde" is a film that came out this past summer criticized for having little depth.

Teens enjoy movies that critics criticize

By Rachel Wohlers
Oracle Staff Assistant

Hollywood keeps on cranking out the movies: the comedies, the romances and the action films. And despite the fact that every plot has been done in every setting more than once, they still become hits with the American audience. Well, most of the American audience.

So why is it that every movie a critic slams, the American public loves? For example, the movie "Rush Hour 2" was critiqued as having a script that sounded like a few sitcoms put together with martial arts scenes interspersed throughout it. Yet, what critics consider "dumb" lines and "far-from-funny" lines attract many teenagers. "Rush Hour 2" was a hilarious movie," said senior Delaite Getachew.

Action films are quite popular among teens too. But

critics shred most of those as well.

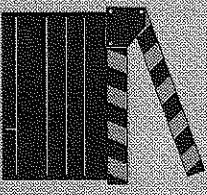
Critics claimed that the action movie, "The Fast and the Furious," had no main character worth rooting for. The good guy was not really good, the bad guy was not truly bad, and the love story never really got going. Not to mention they thought it had absolutely no main plot. Still, it had many teenage fans.

"It was tight," said sophomore Alex Byland. "It was full of action, nice cars and hot girls."

characters from a bad sitcom. Not only that, but they note that as the movie goes on, the plot gets dumber and dumber. Although teens may have noticed some of the more stupid scenes, they still enjoyed watching the movie.

"It proved people wrong about the dumb blonde theory," said freshman Jessica Butler.

What critics look for in movies is some kind of depth, a hidden meaning that viewers can take home with them. But teens do not care as much about learning a lesson from a movie. They watch it to be entertained. And as sad as it may sound to say it, stupid comedies and sappy romances are entertaining. So, for the time being, Hollywood will continue to produce shallow movies, which will continue to become American hits.



Couch Potato Season is Back

By Ruchika Malhotra

News Assistant

From sports to soaps, the fall TV line up this year serves some spice and sugar to attract viewers.

There are two main seasons in which shows run. Shows air from the fall up until the spring and then another season starts during the summer.

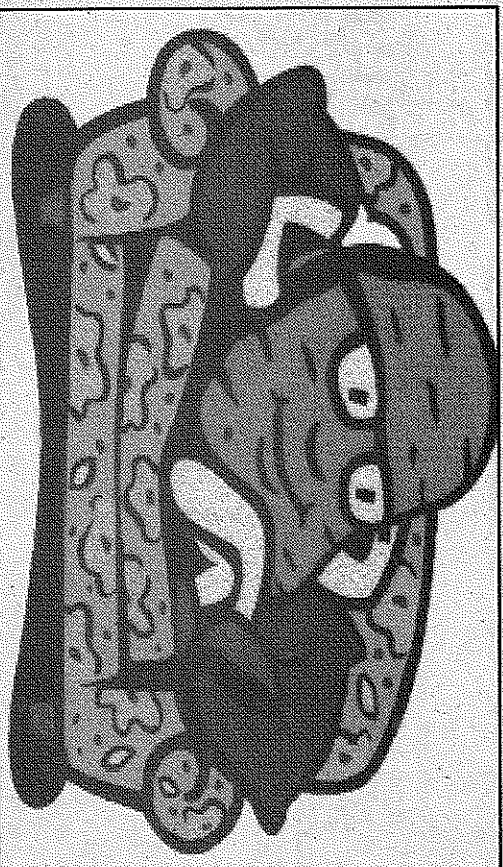
As the season ends in the spring, the finale of each show is based around a cliffhanger.

"I like cliffhangers because it keeps you in suspense," said sophomore Billy Harel. "You never know what's gonna happen."

Keeping viewers curious keeps them tuning in to see what is happening to their favorite characters.

"I'm looking forward to Felicity," said junior Sun Cho, "because it's a great show and you don't know what to expect."

Curiosity also lures viewers to tune into brand new shows.



"I want to see 'One to One,'" said freshman Zaitkha Saddat, "because I saw the commercial for it and it looks good."

Viewers also tune in because they are loyal fans of the show and have been watching them for some time, and it just

becomes a tradition of the fall.

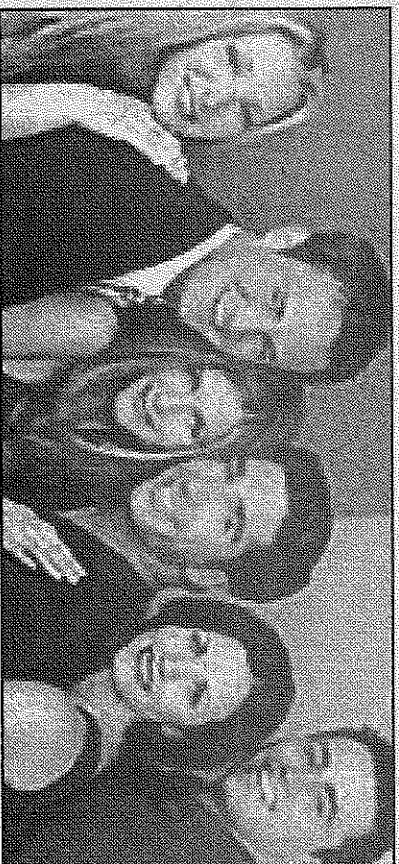
"I just want to see 'Friends' and 'ER,'"

"I'm looking forward to Felicity because it's a great show and you don't know what to expect."

—Sun Cho, junior

said junior Annie Muir, "because I want to find out what happens on my shows."

Along with shows, sporting events also start up again in the fall. These programs also attract quit a number of students, especially those who are active in different sports.



NBC.com

Friends is one of the shows students have been waiting for all summer long.

"I'm looking forward to some of the new shows on the cooking channel...cooking channel rules!"

—Danny Hill, freshman

"I'm looking forward to watching football," said senior Adam Williams. "I've played football throughout high school and have been a Cowboy's fan for life."

Another reason viewers tune in is because the shows portray things that are going on in the viewers life.

"It's [Friends] just a down to earth show that people can relate to," said senior Sarah Bashaw.

Along with all these reasons, viewers will also watch TV this fall for more simpler reasons.

"I'm looking forward to it," said sophomore Jesse Hickerman. "It's something new and not just reruns."

Not only do fans return to their favorite shows, but there are fans who are dedicated to consistently watching certain channels.

"I'm looking forward to some of the new shows on the cooking channel," said freshman Danny Hill. "Cooking channel rules!"

Shows We're Still Waiting For

ABC: The Practice.....	October 9
WB: Gilmore Girls.....	October 9
Fox: Boston Public.....	October 22
Ally McBeal.....	October 22
X-Files.....	November 4
Temp. Island 2.....	November 4
NBC: West Wing.....	October 10
Ed.....	October 10
CBS: Survivor 3.....	October 11

—Compiled by Ruchika Malhotra

Napster Users Find New Sites for mp3s

By Amy McKeever

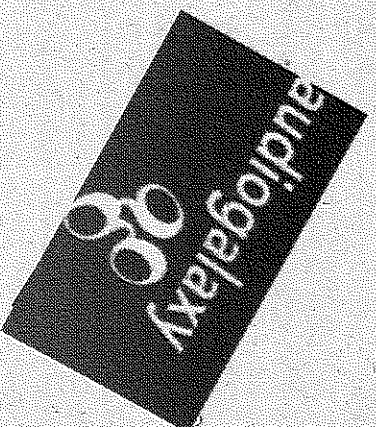
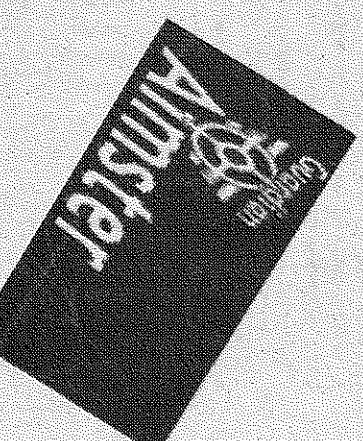
Entertainment Editor

Months and months of court battles and pleas from recording artists led to the recent demise of Napster. America's favorite site for downloading pirated music. However, in Napster's wake, several similar sites have materialized to take it's place in WS student's hearts.

"I felt bad when I couldn't keep using Napster," said sophomore Meghan Kelleher. "But then I found Kazaa."

Kelleher was a regular Napster user until it closed down and has now switched to Kazaa. Kazaa.com is a website that lets people share all kinds of media files, including mp3s. It is simple to understand and easy to use, and contains a wide variety of music. Kazaa is one of the many new file sharing sites used by WS students.

Audiogalaxy.com is another one of these sites, known for its simplicity and resourcefulness. The only required software for Audiogalaxy is their download satellite, which helps to find



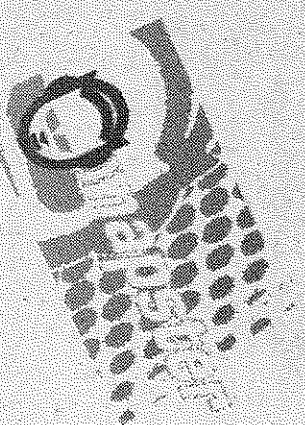
songs. The site also keeps lists of recent songs downloaded and also suggests other similar songs. This makes it easier and faster to get the songs wanted in a shorter amount of time.

"I like Audiogalaxy because it downloads stuff as long as your computer is online, even if you're not there," said senior Alicia Kirsch. "I chose to use it since Napster is dead and AlMister is too slow."

However, while Audiogalaxy has good qualities, there are always some downsides. Although it serves as a replacement for the user if an error occurs during downloading, it is difficult to find the right song since users encode their song titles to bypass the regulations set by the recording industry so that people cannot trade the songs.

"Audiogalaxy also seems a little slower than Napster," said junior Jonny Stryon.

But despite the downsides of these alternate file sharing sites, they are all WS students have now that Napster has left the building.



Local skate parks roll in amusement

By Emily Morris
Features Editor

Hurling down a half pipe at top speeds, flying into the air on the other end, performing a trick and then landing on a small piece of wood with four wheels is some students' idea of fun.

"I skateboard all the time, but skateboarding in front of my house gets boring," said freshman Steve Bonheim. "Around here, we have to go to a skate park or stay in front of our houses, otherwise we get in trouble."

A lot of the places do not allow skateboarders on their property because they are afraid it will chase away paying customers. Thus, more skate parks have been coming to the area to keep skateboarders happy.

"The one at Potomac Mills Mall is expensive, and to go there I had to have a certificate from the state for insurance purposes," said junior Ivan Collich. "I prefer just to skateboard in front of my house. It's cheap."

Potomac Mills is expensive, the cost and travel can discourage

a lot of skaters from going down there. There is also a skate park in Stafford.

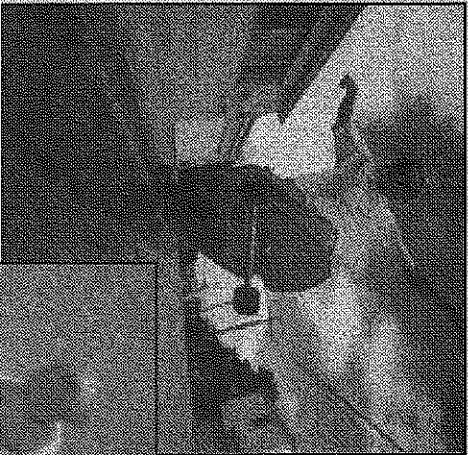
"I go to Stafford Skate Park all the time. It is the best and it's free," said junior David Abbruscato.

"I may even join the skateboarding club."

Last year, students at WS tried to get a skateboarding club off the ground.

However it was unsuccessful and never had a meeting. This year, students may attempt to start the club again. The downside to a skateboarding club is liability. The club is not allowed to sponsor skating activity. They would be allowed to watch skateboarding. Members of the club would also have to complete two

community service activities, such as cleaning up a local park where skateboarders skate. The goal is to give skateboarders a better name



Skateboarders exhibit novice tricks at local skateparks



Sophomore Cory Stuart performs a skate trick at Stafford Skate Park.

and reputation in the area. Bonheim said "I am glad that skateboarders are being more accepted in the area."

Volunteers lend a helping hand

By JD Kaleem
Business Systems Assistant

In the scorching heat of a Mexican city, she woke up, got ready and went to school - Bible school. As part of her youth group at Messiah United Church, junior Heather Bouley took a trip last spring to a mission and volunteered to teach about her religion.

WS students such as Bouley regularly take time out of their lives as they volunteer with youth groups, recreational centers, camps, churches, honor societies, and hospitals.

Besides international work, Bouley also participated in the Urban Plunge program in the metro area by helping at soup kitchens, working at homeless shelters and planting trees around the community.

"It was fun and I was helping others at the same time, so I felt great," said Bouley. Another member of the youth group, senior Casey

Berson, participated in the 30 Hour Famine, in which she had only one meal in 30 hours while raising money and collecting canned foods for the needy. She also lived in a box for a night as part of Box City, trying to put herself in the place of the local homeless.

"It was interesting because I got to put myself in the place of others, and I really felt how it was to be poor and underprivileged," said Berson.

Although church youth groups offer many volunteering opportunities, it's not the only way students get involved. Junior Paula Kim goes to Eddie's Club twice a month in the fall and winter for Keyettes. Eddie's Club is a recreational program for kids and teens with disabilities.

The kids and volunteers meet at Irving Intermediate School every other Sunday for two hours and play at different activity centers which are set up for arts and crafts, science, board games and basketball.

"The kids get to come and have fun, and it's a good break for their parents who are especially busy trying to

take care of their kids with special needs," said Kim.

School and church-related volunteering happen regularly, but in times of crisis, such as in the aftermath of the recent terrorist attacks, local organizations need hundreds of volunteers.

After hearing of the attacks, sophomore Jessica Campo was deeply affected and wanted to help the victims and their families. She went to the Salvation Army with a group of friends to help collect and sort donations for the victims at the Pentagon.

"It seemed to be the only way I could help with the tragedies. I would of done even more if I could," said Campo.

Volunteering opportunities exist everywhere, and organizations are always in need, especially after natural disasters or terrorist attacks.

"It definitely adds a new aspect to your life," said Berson. "You feel great, you're doing something great, and you should definitely try it."

Students shop for college Annual college fair comes to Fair Oaks Mall

By Erika Kim
Inside Story Editor

In addition to the senior and junior sack lunches and college visits held during school hours, attending college fairs held outside of school are also a great way to get information about colleges.

These fairs allow students to get information about many different colleges around the nation all in one night and one place.

The Fairfax County Public School 2001 College Fair will be held Sunday, October 10 at the Fair Oaks Mall from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm. There will be over 400 colleges represented that night, and 10,000 to 12,000 people are expected to attend. Colleges from all over the country will set up booths all around Fair Oaks Mall with their representatives who will have applications and other information students may be interested in. The complete list of colleges that are going to be present can be found at the FCPS web site http://www.fcps.edu/DSSSE/CollegeFair_Night.htm.

"College fairs are very helpful in finding a college that

suits your needs," said senior Masood Naderpoor.

Students will have a chance to walk around the mall and pick up information about colleges they are interested in, talk to the representatives, and ask any questions they may have. A layout of where different colleges' locations in the mall will be available at WS one week before the fair.

"My advice is to take a shopping bag or backpack and to wear comfortable shoes," said Career Center Specialist Susan Rexford.

For those who are not able to attend the fair at Fair Oaks Mall, they can have a similar experience at the FCPS 2001 College Night at Hayfield Secondary School the following night. College night will be held Monday, October 15 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm.

"Colleges look at how much interest a student shows in the college and if [attending the college fairs] would let the colleges know that you are showing interest," said Rexford.

Not only will there be over 300 colleges represented in an open fair setting, but there will be all kinds of college admissions workshops that students will be able to attend.



Sophomore Morris

Freshman Ara Deiza-Pergosi and senior Todd Wilson search through college catalogues in the Career Center. The available workshops are Attending and Affording Private Colleges, College Athletics and the NCAA, Considerations for Students with Disabilities in the College Admissions Process, Successful Strategies for College Bound Minority Students, and Writing College Application Essays. In addition, Susan Rexford and her colleague Denise Emery will also be holding a workshop that night on financial aid and on their new web site with financial aid assistance.

"It's a good way to find out what colleges I'm interested in," said junior Raymond Kim. "And also a good chance to start impressing the college people early."



Prityanka Tandon

*The Oracle and the Olympian
staffs are proud to be Americans.*

Football team has rough road ahead of them

Spartans hope for continuing success

By Priyanka Tandon
News Editor

Tweet! That's game. The WS football team won their first game of the season on September 7.

The Spartans defeated Washington and Lee 34-0.

Although the team won its first game, Coach Bill Renner knows that the team needs to keep practicing hard.

"I am never happy," said Renner. "We just need to keep working and playing our best."

He also believes part of their success is their captains. The team's four captains are seniors Jared Butler, Kevin Darling, Jamie Langley, and Todd Wilson. They called a meeting on their own because they thought the team wasn't focused or practicing hard enough.

"The captains show good

leadership through example," said junior Clifton Neal.

Although Fairfax County canceled the September 14 game against Centreville because of the terrorist attack on America, the Spartans made a good effort against Oakton on September 21.

"They were one of our tougher opponents," said junior Joe Weiderhold. "But we are definitely strong and fast enough to beat them if we had played at the level we're capable of playing."

Lake Braddock is another formidable opponent. However, the Spartans successfully defeated the Bruins 21-14.

Senior Jamie Langley rushed 155 yards and scored two touchdowns. In addition senior Chris Streeter had a 60 yard touchdown run.

Special teams did equally

well. Senior Jerome Kapinos punted well.

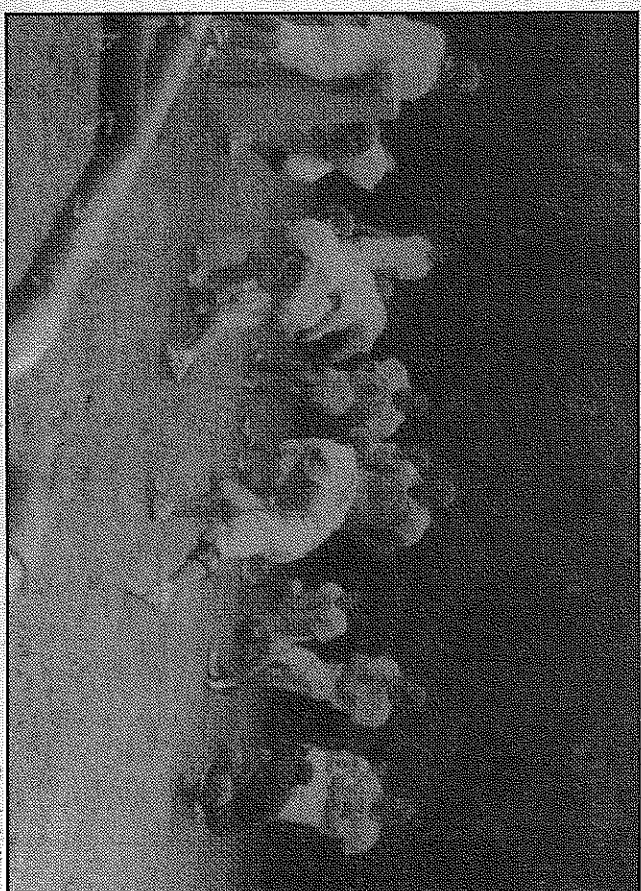
One of his punts lead to an easy touchdown when the Bruins fumbled and the Spartans recovered it. Defensively, Desmond Brazil keyed a big defensive effort with two important interceptions.

The Spartans have their first home game this Friday and are excited to be at home.

"It'll be a blowout," said

The football team has practiced hard this season, and have come away with a 2-1 record. Darling, "We're really anxious to play at home."

Although the season is long, junior Matt Smith thinks that this all doing everything we can to help us win."



Maggie Atchberry

Bonds gives chase to home-run record, but no one follows

By Myles Curran
Sports Editor

The home run record is one of the most cherished records in all of sports. In 1998, Mark McGuire increased the record from 61 to 70. This year Barry Bonds might just raise it to 71 or higher, but no one seems to be noticing.

As Bonds approaches the 70 home run plateau, the nation still shows very little care for his chase. In 1998, McGuire and Sammy Sosa swept the nation with their home run escapades. The same has not occurred with Bonds, who wasn't even the top story in most Sports sections the day after he hit #60.

"Barry Bonds has always had the reputation of a jerk, so no one wants to start liking him now," said senior

"If he breaks the record, that's good, he deserves it. Just look at the numbers instead of the personality."

—senior Chris Jones

Chris Jones. "It was different with McGuire and Sosa, because everyone liked them."

Not only is Bonds jumping up the record chart for home runs in a single season, he is also making his way up the all-time list. He started the year with 494 home runs, and is now at 563 career home runs.

"Bonds is one of the greatest players to every play the game," said senior Chris Jones. "If he breaks the record, that's good, he deserves it. Just look at the numbers instead of the personality."

In his early years with the Pittsburgh Pirates, Bonds was labeled a jerk and a primadonna by the media. That reputation has stuck with him as a Giant in San Francisco for the last eight years. The media has never opened up to Bonds, so fans have never turned to like Bonds like they do other superstars.

"I've never liked Barry Bonds," said senior Trey Jordan. "Just something about him always bugged me."

Many argue that Bonds deserves respect for what he is doing this year. No one expected this kind of home run pace to come from a 37-year old player whose time appeared to be running out. Bonds is doing it though, and he now only needs four home runs in his final eight games to break the record.



Barry Bonds has looked at 69 of his hits go for home runs this season in his pursuit of 70.

"I don't know if I want him to do it, but if he does, it's a real accomplishment," said junior Grant Bauley.

If Bonds does break the record, fans will not likely open up to him, but the free agent market will. Bonds is in the final year of his contract, and extension talks between Bonds and the Giants have stalled. Teams like the Braves, Mets and Yankees have been mentioned often in discussing who Bonds will sign with when the season ends.

"The Orioles would be a good choice," said freshman Adam Rosen. "Just as long as he doesn't sign with the Yankees."

The Sports News Desk

-CARL legend Alex Zanardi lost both of his legs after a crash during a race in Germany.

-North Carolina upset Florida State, 41-9, on September 22. It was North Carolina's first defeat of a top #5 opponent in the school's history.

-Ahman Green of the Green Bay Packers, became the first player in team history to be leading the NFL in rushing after the first two weeks of a season.

-By hitting his 48th home run of the season, Texas Ranger shortstop Alex Rodriguez, set the record for home runs hit by a shortstop in a season.

-Mark Mulder of the Oakland Athletics became the American League's first 20-game winner by beating the Texas Rangers. It is his first 20-win season of his career.

-By beating the University of Connecticut, the University of Buffalo ended the nation's longest Division I road losing streak in football at 18 games.

-On September 25 against the Tampa Bay Devil Rays, Roger Clemens lost for the first time in his last 19 starts. It took his record from 20-1 to 20-2. His 20-1 start was the best ever in MLB history.

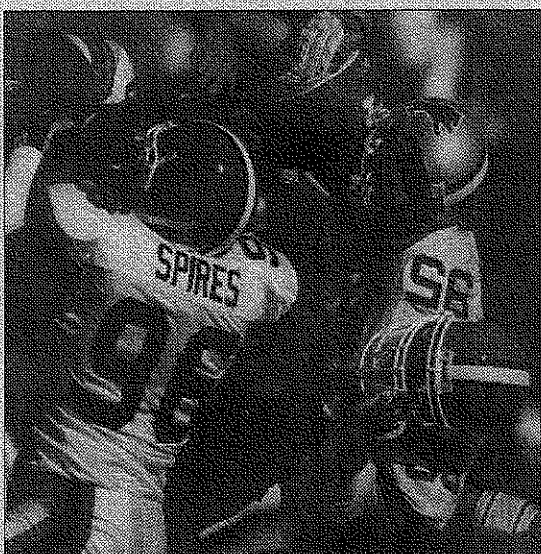
-After taking a hit from New York Jer Mo Lewis in a Week 3 game, New England Patriot quarterback Drew Bledsoe will be out for the year due to internal bleeding. The team said that the injury did not affect any organs though.

-Shawn Green of the Los Angeles Dodgers ended his consecutive game streak at 415. He sat out a game in observance of the Jewish holiday Yom Kippur. Earlier in the week Green set the team record for home runs with his 47th of the season.

-Jeff George was released by the Washington Redskins after losing his first two starts of the season. George's Quarterback Rating after the first two games was 34.3, the lowest in the NFL. George will likely sign with the sixth NFL team of his career later in the season. George will likely sign with New England or Dallas, two teams that are in dire need of an experienced quarterback.

-National collegiate football national title hopeful Oregon beat unranked USC 26-24 at Autzen Stadium to extend their home winning streak to 23 games.

—Compiled by Myles Curran



Detroit Lions quarterback Ty Detmer threw 7 interceptions in a week 3 game against Cleveland. Detmer was one off of the NFL record for interceptions in a game.

-Michael Jordan announced that he is indeed coming back to the NBA. He signed a 2-year contract with the Washington Wizards after selling his share of the Wizards franchise.

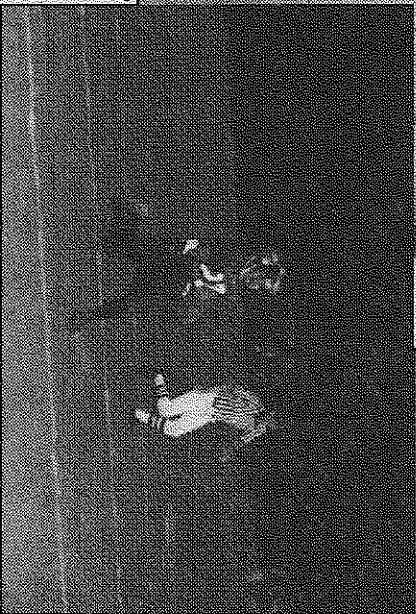
-The Detroit Lions quarterback Ty Detmer threw 7 interceptions against the Cleveland Browns on September 23. The NFL record for interceptions in a game is 8.

Sports contests pause for American mourning



Jennifer Stomacco

WS football players Mike Goodin, Ashraf Rajab, Eric Grubbs, Kanyon MacRae and Jason Hong pass some time in the sports lobby before a game later that evening.



Segal-Majestic

Senior Jamie Langley and the Spartan football team had to wait a week to play after the much anticipated Centreville game was cancelled.

"I think it's good that we took a couple of days off to respect the people lost in the tragedies,"
Kyle Murdock,
10

By Jason Gillis
Viewpoint Assistant

All of the Fairfax County school games were cancelled from September 11 to September 18 because of the unfortunate turn of events starting on September 11.

The fall sports teams still kept the same practice schedules during the week of the game cancellations. For some teams it was a needed break, or it was a relief for a potential loss to turn into a cancellation.

The cross country team had a scheduled meet against Annandale, West Potomac and Lake Braddock, but it was cancelled. "I'm disappointed that the was meet was cancelled," said sophomore cross country member Stephen Kalletta.

The football team received a break from playing Centreville; it turned into a huge cancellation. A tough, hard game for the team was predicted, but it never occurred.

"I think it was a good that we took a couple of days off to respect the people lost in the tragedies," said sophomore football team member Kyle Murdock.

Tennis did not compete against Hayfield, and most team members agree with the decision.

"It is appropriate because people need to heal emotionally and psychologically," said junior tennis team member Mai-Khanh Nguyen.

Volleyball did not play Lake Braddock, Robinson, or Hayfield during the cancellation week. It gave team member a break from the daily grind of practices and games.

"I still want to play, but I understand the reasons why they were cancelled," said sophomore and JV volleyball team member Megan Downing.

The Field Hockey team did not play Annandale at home during the week of cancellations.

"I was looking forward to play, but I was emotionally upset about the incident," said sophomore Field Hockey team member Megan Howard. "I think it was right to take time off."

Finally, the Golf team did not play West Potomac. Some team members wish that the games were not cancelled.

"I think the matches should have gone on, but it was appropriate because they were looking after the safety of our team," said sophomore golf team member Brock Taylor.

Mixed feelings ended the week about whether or not to play, but the decision was made and games resumed as normal on Wednesday September 19.

Sophomore JV football player Jeff Coratolo said, "I think it is good that the game was cancelled, but I think we should make them up instead of skipping them."

Cross Country teams starting to run towards district titles

By Mike Arai
Business/Systems Editor

Whether they run for the thrill of competition or just for enjoyment, WS's cross country teams have high expectations for the upcoming season.

"We are pleased with our performance," said girls cross country coach Ed Linz, referring to the Monroe Parker Invitational where the team finished in fifth place. "It [the invitational] is good to build on."

While the Robinson girls took first place at the 26-team event, the WS boys took first and both teams remain optimistic about the outcome of this season.

"Our goals are what they usually are," said boys cross country coach Vic Kelbaugh. "We would like to qualify for the state meet."

Before the season started, the girls team set ten goals for the season while attending their training camp in West Virginia. One of the teams' major goals is to win districts. The other goal is to win at least one invitational this season.

said Linz. "They are very tightly knit." While one of the boys cross country team's strength lies in their team enthusiasm, the girls strength lies in their team unity.

"Our primary goal is to win districts," said Linz. "It would be the first time in 20 years if we win."

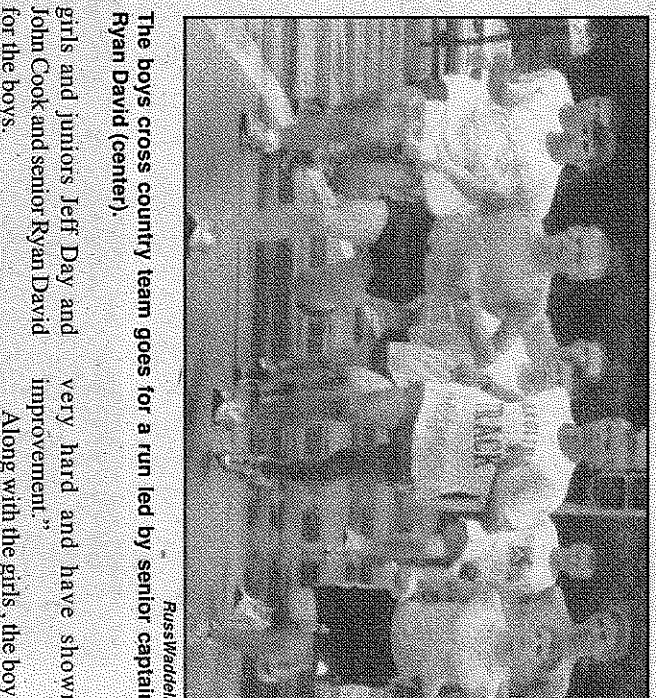
The girls usually run between six and ten miles at each practice, while the boys practice everyday and alternate from "easy," seven to eight miles, and "hard" days, running uphill and repeating intervals. Despite these strengths, though, the teams also has obstacles to overcome.

The girls team achieved on of their goals at the Brentsville Relay Invitational. The team, behind Katie Freund's impressive performance, won their first invitational race in three years.

"If we work harder and improve our work ethic, we should do well," said senior captain Katie Freund.

The team is looking to hit their midseason peak at the Saekisamm Invitational in Delaware this weekend.

Some of the key runners for the teams include juniors Jenn Powers, Huma Hussain and senior Maureen Hagan for the



Fuss-Waddell

The boys cross country team goes for a run led by senior captain Ryan David (center).

senior Maureen Hagan for the said Linz. "They really pulled

the teams include juniors Jenn Powers, Huma Hussain and senior Maureen Hagan for the said Linz. "They really pulled

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Field hockey starts off red hot

Second place at Lee Invitational foreshadows successful season

By Katie Walker
Oracle Editor

The Varsity field hockey team is looking forward to the rest of their season with confidence now that the girls have a new coach and a few wins under their belts. Under the leadership of Coach Shannon Mathey and senior captains Jess Potter and Kerry Ryan, the girls have already seen improvement in their playing.

"We're better this year, but the program is still developing," said senior Emily Finerfrock. "We're seeing results. We do a lot of running and have long practices, but it's worth it."

The team participated in the Robert E. Lee Under the Lights tournament this month. They won 1-0 against Woodson in their first game. Then they crushed Stuart 6-1 and tied Lee 1-1, placing the Spartans in the finals.

"Woodson was our biggest game before the finals," said senior Elizabeth Hebda. "We'd scrimmaged them and they'd won, so it was a big accomplishment to beat them

so we could show them what we're made of."

After two scoreless halves, TJ scored in overtime winning the final game. The Spartans placed second out of 10 teams in the tournament. The team thinks that this improvement is due to the leadership of their new coach.

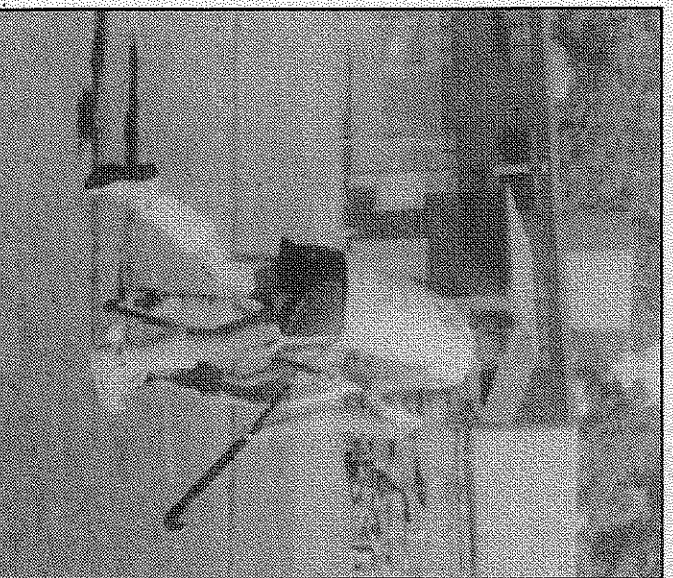
"This is the best team that we have had so far because of our coach," said Jess Potter. "She is forcing us to work very hard even though sometimes we don't want to."

With significant wins this season against teams like West Potomac, the team feels that they have come a long way from last season.

"We play better and have more confidence," said Finerfrock. "The improvement won't necessarily mean that our record is better, but now we really know what we're doing. There are games that we could have won this year, those games were blowouts."

Above all, the Spartans continue to insist that they owe their success to Coach Mathey.

"She's trained us really well," said Hebda. "We're looking forward to a winning season."



Jennifer Stomacco

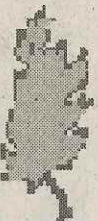
Two WS field hockey players practice their skills after school. With a new coach, the team has improved a lot this season.

Top 10 things to do with the leaves

after you finish raking



10. Throw them in your neighbor's yard.
9. Set them on fire.
8. Donate them to charity.
7. Set them on fire.
6. Build a leaf castle and spend the winter in it.
5. Set them on fire.
4. Leave them in a pile in the front yard.
3. Set them on fire.
2. Fill up your significant other's car and leave a note that says, "don't ever 'leave' me baby."
1. Set them on fire.



-Compiled by Russ Waddell

Just ask... it's a mystery!

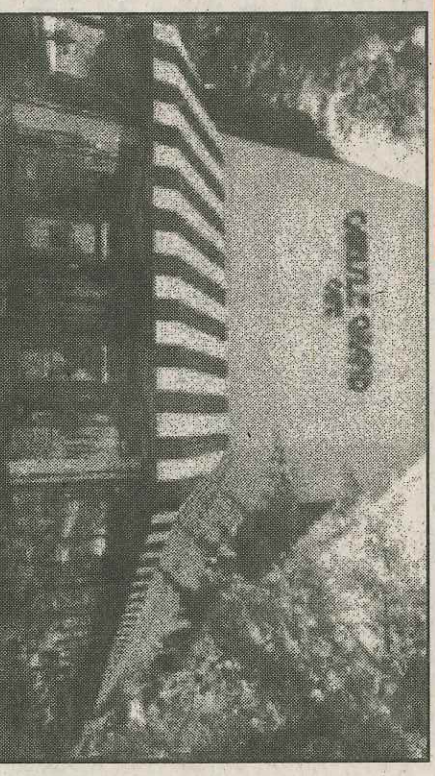
By Angela Florino
ETC. Editor

Last year you might have found her sleeping in her car, nicknamed, "Jimmy Blue" on Rolling Road at 6:30 am. But now she's got a parking spot and her 1987 GMC will be parked in spot 140 only minutes before the bell rings.

Our mystery person is a leader of Fellowship of the Christian Athletes and very involved in her church youth group at Messiah Methodist. She enjoys riding

bikes, going to the beach, playing softball and watching movies. Her list of favorites includes, "Cable Guy," "Dude Where's My Car," "Tommy Boy" and "School Ties." OAR and Everclear are often in her CD player and you'll never see her carry a lunch bag since she waits until after school so she can get a Cold Cut Trio with lettuce, tomato, cucumbers and mayonnaise, sour cream and onion Baked Lays and a Pepsi at Subway.

She is known for being able to make herself heard down the hall, and times some, backwards she talks.

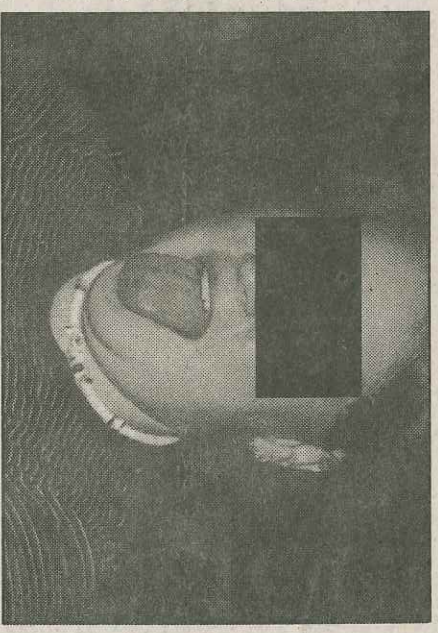


Carlyle Grand Cafe, of Great American Restaurants is one of the three GAWL restaurants to make the #1 picks.

#1 Homecoming dinner picks

1. The Melting Pot- Fondue-Reston (703) 264-0900
2. Shiro's-Japanese-Burke(703) 913-1300
3. Sweetwater Tavern-American-Falls Church (703) 645-8100
4. Outback-Steaks-Burke (703) 912-7531
5. Milke's American Grill-American-Springfield (703) 644-7100
6. Bertucci's-Pizza- (703) 313-6700
7. Duangrats-Thai-Falls Church (703) 820-5775
8. Kinkead's-Seafood-DC (202) 296-7700
9. Carlyle Grand Cafe-Exotic American cuisine-Arlington- (703) 931-0777
10. Yanigan's Yards-American-DC (202) 644-1071

-Compiled by Emily Miller



After taking a chunk out of a Hungarian whack pepper, _____ expresses her dissatisfaction.

October/November

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday/Sunday
8 St. Germain @ 930 Club	9 -----> Homecoming week	10 Volleyball vs. Ann-530/7	11 Volleyball vs. Ann-530/7	12 The Donnas @ 930 Club	13 Love Seed Manna Jump w/ Laughing Colors @ 930 Club
15 Columbus day NO SCHOOL	16 Volleyball @ LKBrdk-530/7	17 Field Hockey vs. WPot-4/515	18 Field Hockey @ Annandale-615/730	19 Sum 41 @ 930 Club VFootball vs. Rob-730	20 Homecoming College Fair- Fair Oaks Megadeath @ 930 Club
22 Basement Jaxx w/ Ugly Duckling @ 930 Club	23 Seniors Sleep in! haha PSATs! Field Hockey vs. LKBrdk-515/4	24 The Beta Band @ 930 Club	25 Volleyball @ Yorktown-530/7	26 Field Hockey @ TC-615/730 VFootball @ WPot-730	27 1/2 Day So Co tour @ 930 Club
29 Good Charlotte @ 930 Club	30 Volleyball vs. TC-530/7	31 Halloween	November 1 Volleyball @ WPot-530/7	2 Puddle of Mudd @ 930 Club VFootball @ Hayfield-730	3 VFootball vs. Westfields-730
					4 Strokes w/ Moldy Peaches @ 930 Club