



The RACER

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West Springfield High School 6100 Rolling Road Springfield, Virginia 22152

Students experience Asian tsunami

By Emily Boling
Senior Staff Writer

The Southwest Asian tsunami killed more than 155,000 people. This is equivalent to the World Trade Center being hit eight times. Five thousand of these deaths were in Thailand.

Neither senior Charlie Lichfield nor junior Keith Chirayus were among those casualties. Chirayus was on the side of Thailand that the tsunami hit with full force, but Lichfield in Hau Hin on the other side of the country.

"I was walking...when I felt a slight movement, but it passed and I thought nothing more of it," said Lichfield.

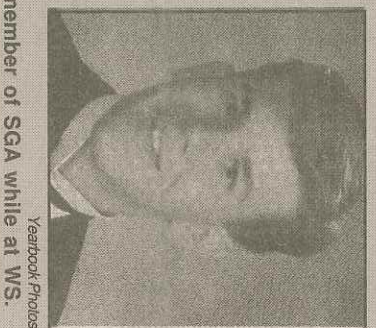
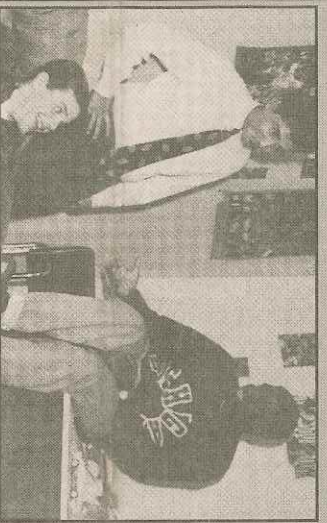
Tremendous earthquakes on the ocean floor cause tsunamis. There is almost no warning, besides a dramatic water level drop immediately before a

solid wave of water several stories high pounds the shore. Since Chirayus was on the side of the country that was hit, he had a close-up view.

"I was at the beach parking, and the water went away. Most people [went] down to see what [was] happening, and the wave came," said Chirayus. "I was driving my car up the hill. I wasn't paying attention [to the people below]. I was just trying to get myself away."

A multi-national relief program has now been put into effect by international charities. The junior class and the History Honor Society are sponsoring Penny Wars to raise money, which will go to aid the victims of the tsunami.

"I did not visit the destruction for fear of disease," said Lichfield. "Most of the people pouring in [to Phuket] were



Yearbook Photos

WS suffers first Iraq loss

By Stevie Fiorino
ETC. Assistant

The war in Iraq hit home December 7. Captain Mark Stubenhofer, class of 1992, died when his unit was attacked by insurgents. Captain Stubenhofer was the 1,000th American soldier to die in the war. Stubenhofer was on his second tour of Iraq.

According to *The Washington Post*, Stubenhofer received a Bronze Star for helping to liberate five Iraqi cities in March 2003. His former commander, Lt. Col. George Geczy credited Stubenhofer with helping with training and preparation in Kuwait before the war. He recalled a mentally and physically tough officer who was a problem-solver. Stubenhofer was also remembered fondly by a former math teacher, Beth Roop.

"He was a wonderful kid and had lots of friends. He was very close to his family and he had two brothers and two sisters who also went to WS," said Roop.

While here, Stubenhofer was vice president of the student government and played second base on the varsity baseball team.

With a large percentage of military families at WS, many of the faculty and

students felt the impact of Stubenhofer's death.

"I think it just brings home the tragedy of the war. It doesn't hit until you lose somebody you know," said Guidance Secretary Mary Halfhill.

Freshman Lauren Gibson has an uncle deployed in Iraq.

"It's hard. I worry about him a lot, but I know he'll come back safe."

Gibson said. "I think about him a lot." After graduating from Clemson University with a history degree in 1996, Stubenhofer went straight into the Army. He was first stationed in Alaska and had been at Fort Riley, Kansas since 2001.

He married his college sweetheart and they had three children. The last time Stubenhofer talked to his mother, according to *The Post*, was when he called her from Iraq to tell her that his wife had just given birth to a baby girl.

"Hope, his youngest daughter was born while he was in Iraq. He never saw her," said Roop.

Those who served with him call Stubenhofer a hero.

"This was as good as it gets in terms of quality of men," Stubenhofer's former commander, Geczy, told *The Post*. "He's an American hero. This is a tough one."

looking for missing family members and I didn't want to interfere with that."

Chirayus, on the other hand, helped the relief efforts. The destruction was massive, and he spent his vacation in a way he did not anticipate.

"On [December] 30th I was helping them recover the dead bodies," said Chirayus.

So many people in Southwest Asia have lost everything they have. The local community is fortunate that both Lichfield and Chirayus returned to the



Associated Press

A satellite photo of massive tsunami destruction.

United States unscathed. Still, Chirayus admits that the entire situation shook him up.

"It was pretty scary. The beach I used to walk around...it just disappeared," said Chirayus.

US fails to add up

Country ranked 24 of 29 in competition

By Christian Romeo
Senior Staff Writer

For years other nations have labeled Americans as "stupid," and a recent study proves them correct.

The United States was ranked 24th out of 29 of the world's richest countries in a survey conducted by the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA). The PISA study is conducted every three years and measures how well equipped students nearing the end of their secondary school education are to face the demands of society.

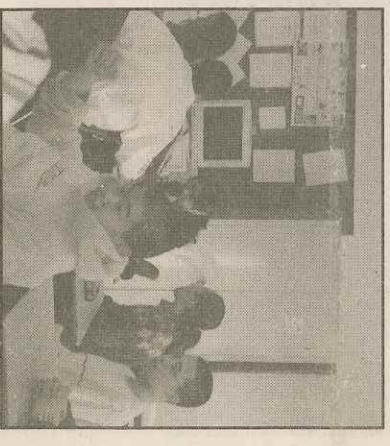
Three years ago the US was in the middle of the pack, but the past year's study shows the gap between the US and other countries has grown.

"It doesn't surprise me," said Drunpad Bezbourah, a senior in AP Calculus BC. "In Asia they work a lot harder and get a lot more homework."

In the PISA study, which assesses 15-year-olds' ability to solve real-life math problems, Finland and South Korea received top ranking. The US was slightly ahead of Russia, on par with Latvia, but behind Hong Kong and Liechtenstein.

"In America we teach differently, everyone gets the same education, to the same level," said math teacher Susan Oblinger. "Over there in 8th grade you take a test and either go to trade school or towards college."

The US's meandering decline could possibly be a result of teacher shortages, a lack of suitably difficult math courses, or overconfidence in standardized testing to predict performance and knowledge. Any way it is viewed does not lessen the fact that Americans are unable to do simple math



Erica Wilkening

Students work on skills that will help them avoid the embarrassment of being ranked near the bottom of industrialized nations in math.

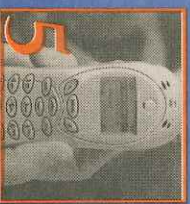
problems.

"It's worrisome that our students aren't learning what they need to be," said math teacher Shannon McIlwrath.

WS's Math Department prides itself on providing students with a "quality mathematics curriculum in accordance with the newly implemented Virginia Standards of Learning (SOL) and in preparation for the higher order thinking necessary for the world beyond our walls."

"The SOLs are focusing Fairfax County energies on middle and high school," said Sandi Novak, math teacher. "We're developing skills that are needed for the next level and/or success."

Though standardized tests such as the SOLs and SAT are forcing students to work to a uniform standard, they do not accurately represent Americans performance on an international scale. "I'm surprised," said freshman Katelyn Fray. "I'm good at math, so I don't know, but that sounds like a pretty bad score."



5 Ringtones ring in new year.



9 Students hit the slopes.



12 Evil children emerge.

Letters-to-the-Editors

Dear Misters Nylen and Rosen,

I feel the need to comment on the article that appeared in the December 10 edition of *The Oracle* entitled "WS adopts new after-school policy." *The Oracle* attempted to blend two distinct stories and consequently failed to do justice to either one.

While the first paragraph opened the subject of students in the halls after school, the five ensuing paragraphs dealt with the very violent incident that took place off school grounds on November 17th. That incident involved our students and happened in a private home during school hours. The story returned to the original subject (students in the halls after school) for the remainder of the article.

The headline indicates that we have adopted a "new after-school policy." That is wrong. We have always made clear that we welcome students after

school if they are here to make up work, receive extra help from teachers, and participate in clubs, sports or any other sponsored activities. We have also always made clear that students who are not involved in such activities are to leave the building once the school day is over.

Security and Administrative Staff members have walked the halls after school all year long encouraging those who are merely lingering to leave. We have learned through experience that problems will occur if students are merely hanging around in the halls after school.

As the winter sports season began, many students were staying after school for tryouts. Since practice space is limited, some tryouts began very late. Rather than have those students linger in the halls until their practice began, we did direct them to the cafeteria where they could be appropriately supervised.

is a measure of a devoted citizen, then forcing people to say it defeats the entire purpose.

I'd like to explain why I don't recite the Pledge of Allegiance. I have a teacher who requires everyone to stand during the morning Pledge. This isn't a big deal to me, which is why my only reaction is to write in this newspaper. Although I find it odd that teachers are allowed to do this, I don't feel it's worth the effort of fighting it. So I'll post my reasons here for everyone to read and hopefully understand.

The common mind set regarding the Pledge seems to be that reciting it is how a person expresses their respect for whichever country they're currently in. At least, that was the explanation I got from my teacher, who took several minutes of class time to charitably explain this foreign concept to us. And though I do believe this idea has merit, my own idea of how to express one's patriotism is a bit different.

Personally, I show my respect by being a dutiful and law-abiding citizen. I think that your actions show what kind of citizen you are, not your rehearsal of an oath every morning. And if choosing to say the Pledge

Now, don't think that I've never said the Pledge before. In fact, I've recited it well over a thousand times over the course of my life. I started in preschool, when I learned how to imitate the words and come close to correctly pronouncing "indivisible" and "liberty" (which is hard to do for a two-year old).

After a few years, I learned to say it all correctly, knowing the meaning to almost every word. Then I would mindlessly narrate it every morning throughout elementary school (I must have been a very patriotic child). And when I was finally able to think all by myself, I decided that it wasn't really important to say it a few thousand times more.

Whether or not this article is going to change anyone's way of thinking, I don't know. But I'd like for everyone to at least keep this article in mind. And if you disagree with anything I've said and see me, let me know what you think.

—Devon Courtwright, junior



Associated Press
The American Flag and The Pledge of Allegiance inspire patriotism in some students, but not all appreciate the significance of these symbols.

Pot invades desensitized students' lives

Last Saturday, one of us sat on the basement floor, rummaging through smeared finger-paintings, dog-eared construction paper pictures and other various masterpieces from elementary school.

One of the larger creations is a poster-board with a lumpy, egg-shaped earth. Above it, in chicken-scratch writing was scribbled "Drug Free Boys and Girls Make Our Earth a Better World!" This was an entry for the annual drug-prevention poster competition.

All of the students had thought long and hard to come up with these clever

sayings, aspiring to have their work displayed in the main office. Aside from the fact that this was an honor, trying to prevent drugs was something we believed in. They killed, made you stupid and made your parents cry.

Of course, the only thing consistent over time is change. Little Johnny Next Door, whom you used to ride bikes with, now spends most of his time in his friend's basement getting stoned. We had always pictured a few kids in high school acting this way,

Editorial

but the reality of the numbers shocked us. Almost every kid in WS is at least friends with someone who does drugs, if they don't themselves. Pot is just as common among teens now as it was in the drug revolution of the '70s. It has almost gotten to the point of being casual. Just last week we saw someone blatantly rolling a joint in the passenger seat of a car. We have overheard countless phone conversations when someone is looking for a hook-up, talk-

loud enough for anyone to hear.

We have often wondered how we transitioned from "DARE" to "Don't Care." In a way it's sad, but also inevitable. As starry-eyed youth, we believed in the genuine goodness of the world. As we age, the world grays with wars, terrorists and reality.

Whether drugs are an escape, a rebellion, or a hobby, like many other cultural realities, we have become desensitized. With murder, hate and constant letdowns, it is easy to believe that not even being a drug-free boy or girl can make our earth a better world.

The

Oracle

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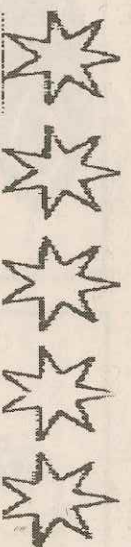


Senator Jay O'Brien visited Keith's Driving School instructors to discuss and explain new legislation.



Keith, pictured holding the sign on the left side, joins a few of his driving instructors after a meeting which included Senator Jay O'Brien.

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Malicious, cruel, belittling blogs banned

By Lindsay Bruhn
Viewpoint Editor

Ask almost any person over 30 what a blog is and they are likely to have no idea. Blogs, some created on a site known as Xanga, are popping up all over the internet. The WS blogging alone has 214 members. This number does not include the other large number of high schools in this area.

For those who are still unfamiliar with blogs, they are Internet journals where a person can post his thoughts and other people can view them and respond. Although this may sound invasive, many students vent freely. On their sites, some students describe, in detail, their dreams, crushes and innermost thoughts, while there are others who ramble on about their schedules and homework.

"A lot of the time you can't talk to people online and you can't talk at school. It's better than e-mail," said junior Kim Case.

Although these blogs can be a helpful outlet for emotions, some have been used for malicious purposes.

"Sometimes they're done with a sense of malice," said Principal David Smith.

'96 grad details her experiences in Iraqi desert

By Katie Bourget
Managing Editor

Kate Johnson, class of 1996, known as Katherine Evy while at WS, spent one year in Iraq with the 101st Airborne Division from February 2003 to February 2004.

What did you miss most about home?

The things I missed most were the little things that most people don't even think about on the average day.

I missed showers and hot water. I missed being able to go to the fridge and get cold water on a hot day. I missed washing machines and clean clothes. I missed having a place of my own

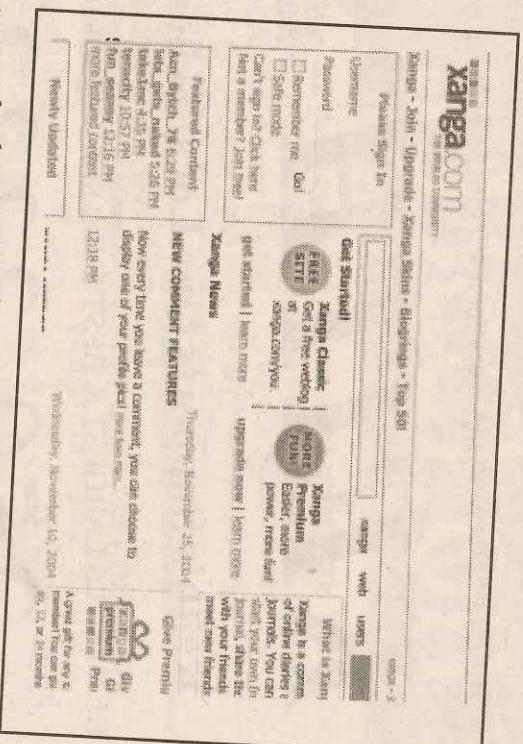
to go at the end of the day.

People think that the things you miss the most are the big things like your house, but mostly I just worried I wasn't going to have enough toothpaste to make it until the next month.

Was there any experience that was particularly significant or meaningful?

You no longer worry about groceries or rent or whether your hair or make-up looks good because you are too busy worrying about the basics: food, water, safety, and a place to live.

It kind of highlights how really unimportant all that excess really is to actually



This is the case for the most recent controversial blog, which has become well-known at WS. The site posts rumors and trashes teachers and students. Unscientific polls and casual conversations also are featured.

This is not the first site to cause controversy, forcing the administration to block the site from school computers.

At the end of last year, a senior posted criticisms of a student who had just died. Her comments offended several people who read them; they then told their friends, and the URL, or Internet address, of this particular site was made available to others. The "blogger" was threatened by students, and subsequently suspended for the last weeks of school because she posted some of her comments using school computers.

The administration has the power to block any site that it deems fit, from the

school network, which is what happened in the case last year.

"There is a gray line between freedom of speech and threats...that are so offensive that [they are] disruptive to the school," said, assistant principal, Becky Brant.

Some blogs are used simply as ways of communicating with friends or providing information. For example, Amy McKeever, class of 2002, has just created a blog concerning her study abroad in France, so that her friends and relatives can keep in touch.

Although there are harmless and possibly helpful blogs out there, school officials keep finding new offensive sites.

living and living well

What was it like coming home?

Coming home seems surreal when you are actually over there. You focus so much on the day to day and coming home is this great big thing in your future that you feel will never actually happen.

When it happens it can be anti-climatic as you are happy to be there, but are suddenly flooded with all these worries and details that you aren't used to dealing with.

You become very used to being blunt, direct and focused and it can be hard to adjust to the "politeness" of every day life.

News Bites

Later this fall, a random sample of WS parents will receive the Parent Opinion Survey, which is a part of the Principal Performance Evaluation Program and offers parents a chance to provide anonymous input about various issues related to our school, including safety, parent involvement, curriculum and communications.

WS fashion classes are starting a "panty exchange," in which girls sign their name and size on a sheet of paper, then pass on the paper to others, and should end up receiving 36 pairs of underwear in the mail.

FCPS has established a new, toll-free telephone hot line for emergency messages, with information available in several languages. This new number is expected to provide much better service to parents and the community and has a greater call capacity as well.

FCPS has created a forms web site, where just about any school related form can be found and is available to print out.

Congratulations to new inductees of the WS National Honor Society, who were inducted on January 5, 2004.

—Compiled
by Lindsay Smith

I missed being able to go to the fridge and get cold water on a hot day.

—Kate Johnson,
Class of 1996

What would you say to high school students considering military schools or joining the service after graduation?

I would tell them to think seriously about why they want to join and what their motivations are. Joining the military for money or school is not wrong, but the military is not a game. Whether you enlist

or become an officer, you will be in charge of people's lives and responsible on a level that is unheard of in most civilian jobs.

If you are not ready or willing to accept such responsibilities then consider a different career. In today's military, you will deploy to a real world situation.

There is no front line or safe branch anymore so be prepared for situations you never expected. If you join for the right reasons then the military can be one of the most rewarding careers...each day will be a challenge and at the end of each day you will be a better person for overcoming the challenge.



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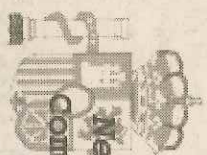
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Teachers hold firm grip on wheel of Driver's Ed

Students learn skills while trying to gain freedom and adjust to responsibility

By Sunnie Ko
Sports Editor

Driving solo means no more aimlessly looking for buses in the confusing circle, no more mooching rides off upperclassmen and no more restrictions as to where one can go.

However, to achieve the freedom that comes with driving, one must pass the state required drivers ed class. Driver's Education lasts one quarter. Students learn about cars and how they work, traffic systems, laws and recognizing different signs and situations.

"Driver's Ed informs kids about some more obscure laws their parents wouldn't normally talk about," said sophomore Challie West.

The class also teaches students the responsibility that comes with driving.

"[Students] think driving is a right of passage, a right owed to them," said Driver's Education teacher Susan Spatcher. "They don't get the responsibility that comes with it."

Though taking the class through the county does not cost anything, some students choose to take it through another source. The courses cost around 75-280 dollars.

"Even though the class is four hours long, everyday and costs money, I learned a lot more information from the class [outside the county]," said sophomore Matt Warden.

Either way, students will learn the same basic information.

"Not everyone knows everything, it's important to know the specifics," said senior Nick Perilla.

However, sophomore Ian Burpo, a Driver's Education student this quarter, thinks differently.

"It's definitely an easy walk through," said sophomore Ian Burpo, "you basically know everything before you get there."

Cell phones tuned up

By Collin Embrey
Sports Assistant

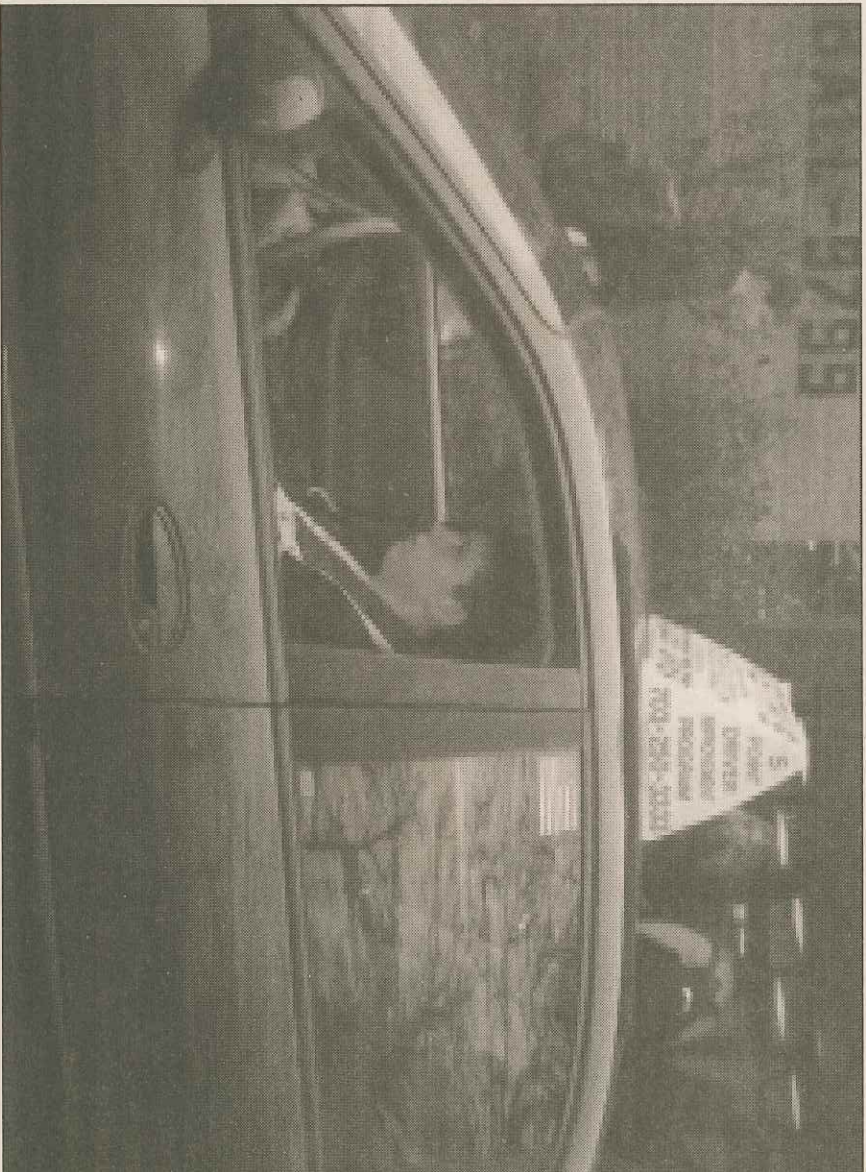
The level of technology allows cell phones the ability to take pictures, surf the Internet and above all, make phone calls.

Now cell phones have ring tones pre-programmed, downloaded ring tones, and customized ring tones. Certain phones allow the user to create any tone they want. Using the program that comes with the given phone, students put different types of ring tones.

"If they had a Megadeath ring tone, that would be sweet," said junior Josh Hanna.

Students can download ring tones off of the internet for as much as \$3.99 at mobile.ringtones.com or ring-tonejunkbox.com. Internet providers have real ring tones that sound like the songs on the radio, polyphonic ring tones, and regular ring tones. The internet providers are more compatible with new than old phones.

Phone companies such as Nokia and Samsung provide ring tones for their products. Nokia provides polyphonic



Ji Jang

Junior Geoff Summers patiently waits for his driving instructor to take him out on the road. Unfortunately, statistics on the road show otherwise. 3,657 young drivers (between the ages of 15-20) died in 2003 due to car accidents according to Keith's driving school.

"The kids say it's easy," said Driver's Education teacher Craig Hamilton. "But there were 17 fatal

accidents in the metropolitan area this year."

On the road, not only the driver's life is at stake, but everyone else on the road. Being attentive in the class can help students drive better.

"It is important to study what you know, and take it on the road," said Hamilton.

ring tones for their 3360, 3390, 3560, 3595 cell phone models. Motorola, Siemens, Sony Ericsson and Panasonic also have ring tones available for their phones.

There are phones that allow students to compose their own tones by pressing different keys. Each key lowers the octave, changes the note, and makes rests in between. Nokia, Sprint and Verizon provide phones where you can customize tones. Gifted musicians have the ability to make tones they wouldn't spend the wealth of time and extra money for.

Students have a wide range of possibilities to choose from. They can make or download the most complicated or smooth sounding tones. Students can pick their favorite choice in music. "I personally think the Ghostbusters tone would be the best," said sophomore Megan Wenger.

Technology allows students to make real sounding tones and enjoy the freedom of having a phone that much more. While some students listen to the radio, many others are now jamming to their ring tones.



Cell phone ring tones enable students to become cellular Mozarts.

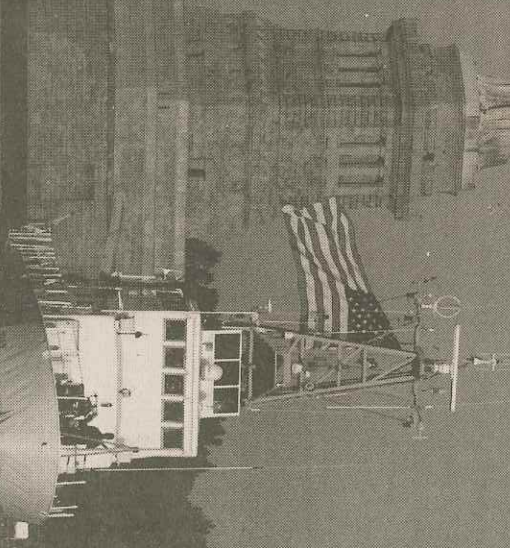
Erica Wilkening



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RESOLUTIONS

- "Not to run over squirrels." —Alison Goehring, senior
- "Put my shoes on the right feet in the morning." —Bernadette Gaston, senior
- "Become a millionaire." —Brandon Tolson, junior
- "Grow three feet." —Ford Morrill, freshman
- "To eat a cookie every day and get fat." —Amy McGregor, sophomore
- "To actually set a resolution." —Tad Gulyas, sophomore
- "Get fat." —Graham Shellenberger, junior
- "Never mix-match." —Christine Hollenbeck, senior
- "Become an A-list." —Ryan Leonard, sophomore
- "To release bodily gas for at least one minute." —Jared Dumale, sophomore
- "To grow a beard." —Steven Flood, sophomore
- "Eat more vegetables." —Katelyn Fry, freshman
- "Stop insulting my brother." —Marryam Castle, freshman
- "Remember to wear underpants." —Alex Rodriguez, junior
- "To be more like Alex Rodriguez." —Stephen Proffitt, senior
- "Actually learn something in school." —Stephanie Feinberg, junior
- "To eat a different kind of candy everyday." —Alisa Dettelach, junior
- "To grow facial hair and find stilettos." —Jesse Lambert, junior
- "To get down with my bad self." —Andrew Bentley, senior
- "To understand the depths of the ignoramus." —Jim Fahey, sophomore
- "Go to school." —John Lui, junior
- "Go to a Chinese buffet." —Justin Blau, senior
- "Graduate." —Allison Mueller, senior
- "Have a cool Yule on a frantic first." —Mr. Mac
- "To go to every Red Sox game in one season." —Johanna LaCroix, sophomore
- "Each day of the week dye a different color Easter egg." —Sara Rogers, senior
- "Don't drink and drive." —David Woody, sophomore
- "Watch Power Rangers at least twice a day, every day." —David Thornton, freshman
- "To loose 10 pounds and be happy." —Carrie DeClark, junior
- "To find Barney." —Thomas Ott, junior
- "To be able to eat a grape without peeling it first." —Aaire Jennings, junior
- "Find a cure for senioritis. Oh wait, don't care enough." —Dan Plehal, junior
- "To grow in many different places." —John Murdoc, freshman
- "I try to be a more patient person but it never works." —Lauren Angwin, senior
- "To see 10 movies a week." —Rachel Foster, senior
- "To gain 50 pounds and not get senioritis." —Peter Adams, senior
- "To wear more regular underwear." —Danielle Bean, junior
- "To take colder showers to not use up the world's hot water. But my real one is to get a date for prom." —Lisa Bellaccio, senior
- "To take a shower at least once a week." —Diego Silva, junior
- "To plan romantic surprises for my beloved Linnette." —Vince Lacsamana, senior
- "To become a ladies man like Vince Lacsamana." —Ryan Timmons, sophomore
- "To find a guy like Vince Lacsamana." —Julie Frost, sophomore
- "Getting over my fear of jellyfish and ice skating." —Danny Martin, senior
- "Spend more time in my beanbag chair and go commando less often." —Zack Moody, senior
- "Hang out with my friends more and get a really good boyfriend." —Kelli Zamfino, freshman
- "To stop hitting Christian Mason." —Chelsea Reba, freshman
- "To stop eating." —Ana Yildirim, freshman
- "I want to learn how to play the drums." —Sara Meinhofer, freshman
- "To get more ladies than ever." —Jason Coffey, sophomore
- "To improve my professional writing so as to secure the publication of my Lincoln sculpture book." —Jim Perocco (history teacher)
- "My new year's resolution last year was to make a new year's resolution by this year." —James Morris (government teacher)
- "Become famous and make a CD." —Meredith Mazie, junior
- "Making more friends and being nicer to people I've been mean to." —Nikki Black, sophomore
- "To save my money but I know that's not going to happen." —Laura Yantz, junior
- "To stop drinking chocolate milk." —Jared Bookbinder, senior
- "To stop making fun of Lindsay Smith's grandmother's blazer." —Liz Weidenhold, junior
- "To stop getting pulled over." —Lee Fletcher, junior
- "Get over my fear of sounding stupid when I talk with a spanish accent." —Jake Wolpe, sophomore.

—Compiled by Jessica Benjamin

—Compiled by Christine Park

- “To lose weight on the Krispy Kreme diet.” — Andrea Goetchius, junior
- “To pay attention in class.” — Jo Araujo, junior
- “To better manage my finances.” — Valerie Siira, senior
- “To perfect the art of telepathy.” — Shauna Feinberg, senior
- “To help Lyle lay down the J.” — Diego Silva, junior
- “To stop wasting my money.” — Kristin Kutich, senior

O

- “To destroy.” — Zach Wish, senior
- “To stop being quoted in the Oracle.” — Evan Dalrymple, senior
- “To stop gossiping.” — Katie Page, sophomore
- “To learn to fly.” — John Riley
- “To stop smoking.” — Brandon Palekas, senior
- “To eat more.” — Meredith Scharretta, junior
- “To move to California.” — Chelsea Moore, junior
- “To move to California with Chelsea.” — Vicky Pistochini, junior
- “To pay more attention in school.” — Jessica Eriksson, sophomore
- “To pass Calculus.” — Leslie Sherman, senior
- “To get decent grades.” — Steven Woody, junior
- “To come up with some New Year’s resolutions.” — Ryan Davies, senior
- “To do my homework.” — Hillary Murphy, junior

OLWE TO LAUGH

- “To exercise more.” — Laura Campbell, junior
- “To be more sensitive to others.” — Chris Colton, junior
- “To not have chapped hands.” — Daniel Martin, senior
- “To cut down on my Starbucks consumption.” — Rosemary Kelley, junior
- “To remember my New Year’s resolutions.” — Sarah Faber, senior
- “I want to stop thinking that there are sharks underneath the vent on the bottom of the pool.” — Lindsay Burke, sophomore

- “To find Waldo.” — Tina Wajda, junior
- “To learn to dance like Lindsay Lohan.” — Caitlin Crowley, senior
- “To get more disorganized.” — Carlin Sherril, sophomore
- “Stop saying Korean curse words.” — Sarah Drabkin, senior

TO LAUGH

- “To get more bling.” — Rob Patrick, junior
- “No more procrastination. It’s a disease.” — Debbie Lee, junior
- “New Year’s resolutions are stupid because you don’t follow them.” — Alyssa Zhu, junior
- “To stop looking like Rod Stewart.” — Jessie Brennan, senior
- “I want to increase my wardrobe with green clothes.” — Stephanie Aguilar, freshman
- “I want to learn how to fly a kite.” — Casey McKlveen, freshman
- “To get Jenny Craig out of business.” — Naeem Issa, junior
- “To cut my hair and donate it.” — Johnnan Younge, senior
- “I want to learn how to play the piano.” — Samantha Richards, freshman
- “To actually use my assignment planner.” — Coles Ide, sophomore
- “To be nicer to my friends.” — Kat Mackin, sophomore
- “I’m going to try and work harder in school and stop sleeping in class and pass tenth grade.” — James Cho, sophomore
- “To eat more food and get big.” — Justin Atkinson, senior

- “To remodel my home.” — Richard Griffin, senior vice principal
- “To find my matching socks. This time of year I start losing them.” — Meryl Cox, senior
- “I want to be the thumb wrestling champion of the world.” — RJ St. Thomas, junior
- “I hope to get a really big wart on my nose removed.” — Suzie O’Neil, junior
- “To stop lying to people.” — Brandon Sinnaway, sophomore
- “To stop running things over with my car.” — Amanda Meling, senior
- “To study harder.” — Daniel Hill, freshman
- “To never eat peanut butter.” — Alan Thomas, junior

- “To become a heroine.” — Caitlin Grace, sophomore
- “To remove Bush from office.” — Eric Gawalt, junior
- “To be mad sexy like Dave Barry.” — Christie Kim, WS alumni
- “To get better at free stylin’.” — Lindsay Smith, senior
- “I want to be able to conjugate my french verbs.” — Christina Matthews, sophomore
- “To live a life of ease and eat many donuts.” — Brian Hurst, senior
- “To grow.” — Catherine Rupp, senior
- “For people to stop calling me Baruch.” — Sean DeWynngaert, senior

Jump starting mornings with radio gossip

By Tina Wajda

Inside Editor

It is 7:12 a.m. and once again I am stuck in Monday morning traffic. I turn on the radio only to hear a distinctly obnoxious laugh. The harsh, all too familiar laughter belongs to a popular morning radio host, Elliot.

"Elliot in the Morning" on DC 101 is one of the favorite radio talk shows of WS students. Other favorites include "The Junkies" on 99.1, and "The Hot Morning Mess" on 99.5.

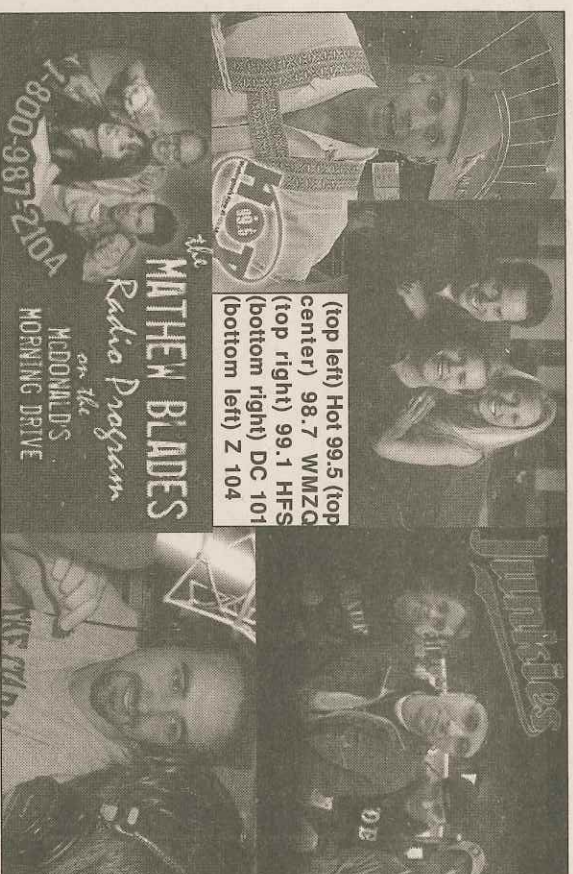
The appeal of these radio talk shows lies in the humor and ability to combine serious topics with strings of witty jokes, spontaneous remarks and personal insights.

"I think they're funny; they talk about issues that no one else does," said junior Clay Price.

The subjects covered can easily captivate the listener to liven up a sleepy drive that starts far too early for most students.

"Every morning I listen to talk shows. They wake me up," said junior David Hunt.

The hosts' topics vary as they cover an assortment of current news, weather, and sports. The mixture of random calls and cash giveaways can easily capture listeners' attention and provide them with unusual morning entertainment.



(top left) Hot 99.5 (top center) 98.7 WMZQ (top right) 99.1 HFS (bottom right) DC 101 (bottom left) Z 104

Each morning talk show has its own unique style while still providing humor.

"There is a man named Reggie that calls in every Monday after the Redskins games," said junior Brad Surdam.

The callers alone can make the listener laugh hysterically.

"The people that call in are hicks," said Price. While the shows can be a favorite morning ritual, they nevertheless bring criticism from some more discerning student listeners.

"It's annoying because you want listen to music in the morning," said junior Sam Donnelly. Finding a song on the radio in the morning is a rare occasion. Commercial breaks prove to be another common aggravation.

"Commercial breaks are the most annoying thing on the radio," said freshman Pria Chang.

Other times the topics can be blatantly vulgar.

"They're funny but sometimes they talk about gross things," said Donnelly.

The controversial remarks express the deejays' personalities and are intended to make the show engaging and more personal to listeners. Students agree that each show is amusing.

"It's how they can make even a simple weather forecast, traffic alert, or sports recap the funniest thing you will hear all day," said Donnelly.

What's your favorite morning radio talk show?

The Hot Morning Mess (HOT 99.5): 52 - 26%
 Elliot in the Morning (DC 101): 44 - 22%
 Junkies in the Morning (99.1 HFS): 10-5%
 McDonald's Morning Drive (Z104.1): 22-11%
 Ben and Brian in the Morning (98.7 WMZQ): 22-10%
 Jack Diamond Morning Show (MIX 107.3): 14 - 7%
 None: 22 -11%
 Other: 16 - 8%

Poll taken out of 200 Students

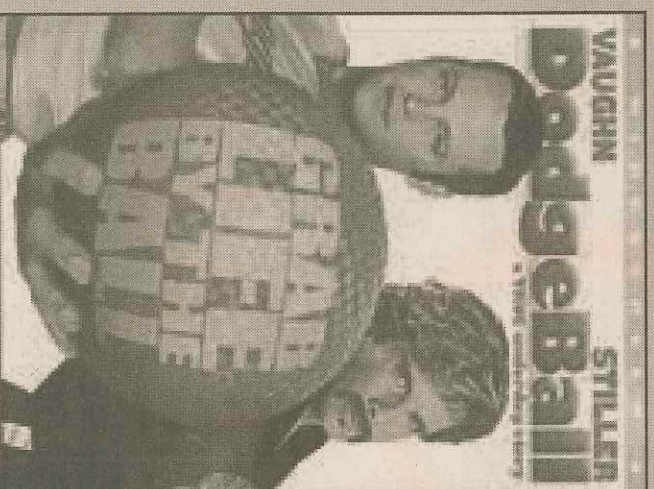
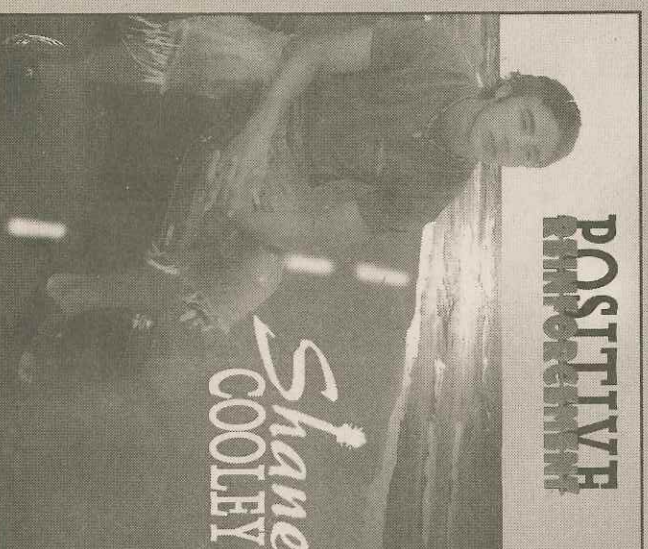
—Compiled by Chrissy Regelski

Oracle Picks

'Positive Reinforcement'

Normally, a 17-year-old high school junior from central Virginia is not in the same league as John Mayer and Jason Mraz. Shane Cooley, however, is a great exception.

After self-producing five CDs since 2001, Shane has had two recently professionally done, "Positive Reinforcement" and "Climb." "Positive Reinforcement" included sweet ballads such as "Day-Lily", as well as more classic style rock n' roll songs like "Hawaiian Shirt." Cooley includes humor any teenager can appreciate as well as great vocals and even better lyrics. Albums can only be purchased at www.shanecooleymusic.com.



'Dodgeball: A True Underdog Story'

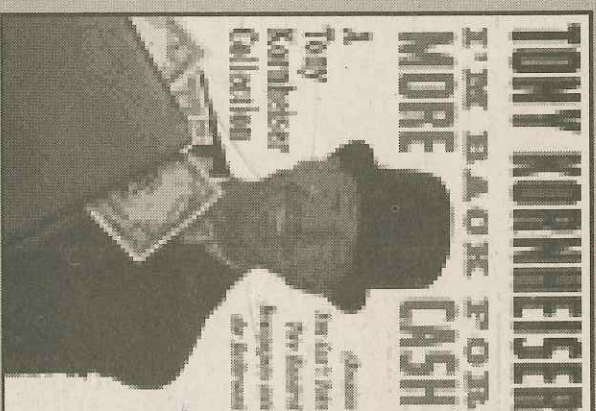
"If you can dodge a wrench, you can dodge a ball." We all know this quote from Patches O'Houlihan (Rip Torn). O'Houlihan is a dodgeball veteran who sees the struggling team from Average Joe's Gym in a regional dodgeball competition. Average Joe's owner, Peter La Fleur (Vince Vaughn) accepts O'Houlihan's offer to coach the pathetic team of geeks and a pirate who are playing to win \$50,000 so they can keep their gym from the evil wrath of Globo Gym, owned by White Goodman (Ben Stiller).

This hilarious comedy has crude humor which students love, including the typical crotch jokes and plenty of stupidity.

I'm Back for More Cash

Arguably the funniest columnist to ever write for *The Washington Post*, this is the third (and final) collection of Kornheiser's hilarious Sunday Style section columns.

A foreword written by George Washington kicks off the humor parade. Kornheiser writes about many things, including his insane family which consists of: a crazy father who collects Styrofoam trays, a wife who is seldom mentioned, a daughter who consistently labels her father as a dweeb, and a son who is very good at golf. Also, he describes his never-ending quest to fit in size 36 waist pants, gives recollections of his high school days and expresses deep hate for weathemen. Kornheiser is one of the funniest men in America, as seen in this book.



—Compiled by Sean Hogan

Get out of bed and go sled

By Joann Cassano
Senior Staff Writer

Watch out for sticks.

Big, bulky, blunt sticks prove to be painful. This reporter has a personal experience with them in her backyard. Her brother initiated her down the hill, she went too far, and the next thing she knew she had a black eye.

Interesting way to go back to school in third grade.

Along with baseball, sledding has been dubbed a national pastime. The nine most beautiful words a kid hears at 6:45 a.m. on a cold, snowy morning are, "There's no school today, honey. Go back to sleep."

After sleeping in until noon and eating a delicious breakfast (hard to have such a delicious meal when one rushes at 7:15 in the morning), the next step consists of bundling up in four warm layers.

Then trudge out to the storage room, dig out the sled from fourth grade (this is Virginia, after all—how often is there enough snow to go sledding?), and head out into the world. But wait, there's a problem: Where can we sled?

"Burke Lake right by where the train tracks are. It's icy," said sophomore Emily Bernhards. "Huntsman Lake, too.

Different slopes for different folks

By Carlin Sherrill
Features Section Editor

With thoughts of winter come thoughts of snow. When thinking about snow, you think of snowboarding and skiing. These two sports can define what winter is all about.

Living in the suburbs can limit ones ability to ski. Many students, however, leave our cozy neighborhood, and enter the world of snow and slush. Finding places to ski can be a hard task, but knowing the right places can really help skiers hit the slopes in style.

A popular place to ski is Wintergreen. Located in the Blue Ridge Mountains, it is only about a three hour drive to this beautiful lodge.

Sophomore Katie Barber has been to Wintergreen twice, and enjoyed the resort both times.

You can actually go out on the lake, just don't crack the ice."

Excellent choices. A few other popular sledding locales in the city of Springfield are the country club, Hunt Valley Elementary School and Irving Middle School.

"I go to the country club and Irving," said junior Allison Silver. "There are a lot of hills at the country club."

Hunt Valley has quite the hill sloping in the back. The hill is perfect for all ages and ability. One end has a steady, short slope for young ones and people who don't like climbing up big hills. Slowly

growing bigger, the opposite end has a steep, long hill that can either end on a flat field or on another hill consisting of bushes and a fence. In the middle of the hill lies "The Dent." When hit correctly

it can project one into the air and end with the occasional painful landing.

One problem exists. When there happens to be a beautiful, sunny, snowy day, everyone will be enjoying these popular sledding spots. The snow will disappear sooner, people will feel claustrophobic, and the experience will not be as enjoyable. Junior Maggie Seegers has two solutions.

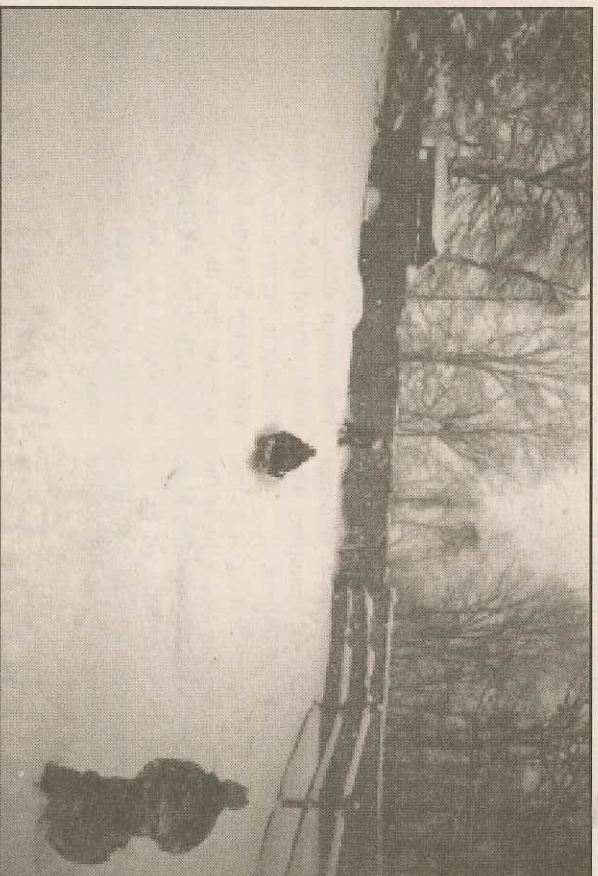
1) "We just walk through the woods and look for hills," said Seegers.

2) Make the ultimate sledding course. With an extremely detailed, hand-drawn picture, Seegers explained the sledding course her friends and family made the last time there was enough snow to sled.

It began in the backyard by the deck. A fence separated her backyard from a wide open field. When the sled began to move, it moved downhill. With speed building, the sled went up on the man-made ramp, flew over the fence, and landed safely in beautiful, snowy field.

This winter when the sledding opportunity arrives (or the next time it actually snows in Northern Virginia), keep in mind these fantastic sledding spots.

"The woods behind Barnack are a good place," said senior Andrew Bentley. "Watch out for the creek."



Andraena Maxwell

Sledding has always been one of the most popular activities when it snows. Many students even have a favorite spot to go sledding with their friends.



Andraena Maxwell

Skiing has become a popular winter activity for both teens and families. There are several popular locations in the area including Whitetail, Ski Liberty and Wintergreen.

"[The resort] was pretty. The scenery was really beautiful. There were also a lot of different activities to do," said Barber.

Wintergreen has many different slopes, ranging in difficulty. Whether skiers are hitting the slopes for the first time, or whizzing by as a pro, Wintergreen is a top resort to ski at.

About three-and-a-half hours away, is Canaan Valley Ski Resort. They have thirty-seven slopes and have a great time teaching people of all ages to ski.

Freshman Lindsay Carlin went to Canaan Valley a few years ago with her family and really enjoyed it.

"It was fun, lots of snow and it was awesome going skiing," said Carlin.

Canaan Valley is a family and a friend resort, and has individual houses to rent, whether you are going for a day trip or a weekend. They also have night skiing available, for those who want to stay out on the slopes late.

One hundred and eighty miles away stands Wisp Ski Resort. Wisp has 22 slopes, including a special hill for tubing.

They have ski lessons for all ages, and have inexpensive packages for however long you want to stay.

"Wisp is awesome because it has a great terrain park and half pipe," said freshman Wes Morrison. Wisp welcomes all ages and the staff there makes sure skiers have a fantastic stay.

Whitetail Resort, a quick hour-and-a-half trip, is a beautiful resort.

"Whitetail is a good ski place because it has a variety of courses. I go there a lot," said sophomore Daniel Stretcher.

Now knowing great places to hit the lifts, make an excellent choice on which one to go to.

So get your gloves, hats, and warm clothes and hit the slopes.

As long as you pick a great lodge to go, having an excellent time is guaranteed.

Top 10 things to do when it snows

10. Act as if you were in the movie Snow Day and attempt to stop any plows from clearing roads
9. Stick your hands in the snow and see how long it takes to lose feeling
8. Be a bum, just lay in the snow
7. Try break dancing on a nearby, iced over creek
6. Build a ramp right in front of a tree-who's talented enough to not hit it
5. Grab a blanket, plenty of food and hot chocolate, and lay out on the snow at night
4. Do yourself a favor and eat only the white colored snow
3. Stick your tongue to a pole and see what happens, with luck you'll get it back on the first try
2. Put snowballs in the freezer and wait until a warm day to peg your friends unexpectedly
1. Spend all day doing absolutely nothing

—Compiled by Adam Rosen

O'Keefe's Beef on sports

By Tim O'Keefe
Sports Editor

College football, a game of emotion, rivalries and fight songs, it is a distinct weekend pastime in the fall. The season winds down, the polls are taken and the BCS causes controversy.

The BCS, or Bowl Championship Series, ruins the spirit of competition because it chooses who plays the national championship by numbers spit out of a computer. A playoff system would allow the players to decide the true champion on the field.

Created in 1998, the BCS has been a perennial scar in the face of college football. This season, Auburn, Oklahoma and USC all have undefeated 10-0 marks, but only Oklahoma and USC get to face each other in the FedEx Orange Bowl.

Auburn plays Virginia Tech in the Noka Sugar Bowl. We will never know if Auburn was better than these other two teams, because they never will get a chance to compete.

In 2003 USC ended the season ranked number one in the AP/USA Today poll. But LSU won the Sugar Bowl and was ranked number two. Unfortunately, the two teams had to split the national championship.

There is no doubt in my mind that a playoff system would solve most of these problems. Even a four team playoff would give college football fans satisfaction of a true champion.

Look at college basketball. "March Madness" is one of the most exciting sporting events of the year. In a three week playoff, 64 teams compete for one championship.

More importantly, there is one clear national champion. Unlike college football, there are no computer rankings determining the national champion. The players decide the champion.

Not only does the BCS not give a clear cut national champion. But it hurts the integrity of the game. Sometimes head coaches are in quandaries of either running up the score to help their BCS rankings, or being a good sport and

refuse to run up the score. Without the BCS we would not have these issues. Playoffs would also be better than the BCS because teams would get a second chance.

The BCS has been a perennial scar in the face of college football. Get rid of the BCS.

It is unfair that if a team loses early in the year, like Virginia Tech or California, and then never has a chance to redeem itself later on.

Virginia Tech and California each have won seven straight games. For all we know, one of these two teams could be the best in the country. A playoff system would allow Virginia Tech and California to prove that they are the best.

I still think college football is a wonderful and enjoyable sport, but it would be so much better and exciting with a playoff. Get rid of the BCS.



Associated Press
USC celebrates after a touchdown in their win against Oklahoma.

Boys Basketball kicks into new gear

By Jenny Taylor
Entertainment Editor

Winners of two state championships, 14 regional titles, and seven district competitions, the girls varsity basketball team is one of the most successful sports teams in WS history.

For years, the boys' team has tried to step out of the enormous shadow cast by the girls' program. Despite the loss of assistant coach Dave Houston and a few talented seniors, the Spartans are looking forward to a victorious season.

It could be the change the boys need to earn back the attention of Springfield.

Seniors Steve Evans, Kiernan Whitworth, Parker Roach, Julian Pharr, Roland Thiele, Mike Caussin, and B.K. Abraham will all return to provide leadership and experience to the Spartans. Standout guards Julian Pharr and sophomore Kevin Kilday are expected to become key factors this season.

"Julian has a big impact on our team. He has incredible speed," said senior Mike Caussin. "He makes plays happen with his feet."

Perhaps one of the most noticeable differences between this year's team and teams in the past is the overall height of the players. Three Spartans tower at a staggering 6'6", while the shortest player is just under

"The girls have a history of good teams, but this year is ours."

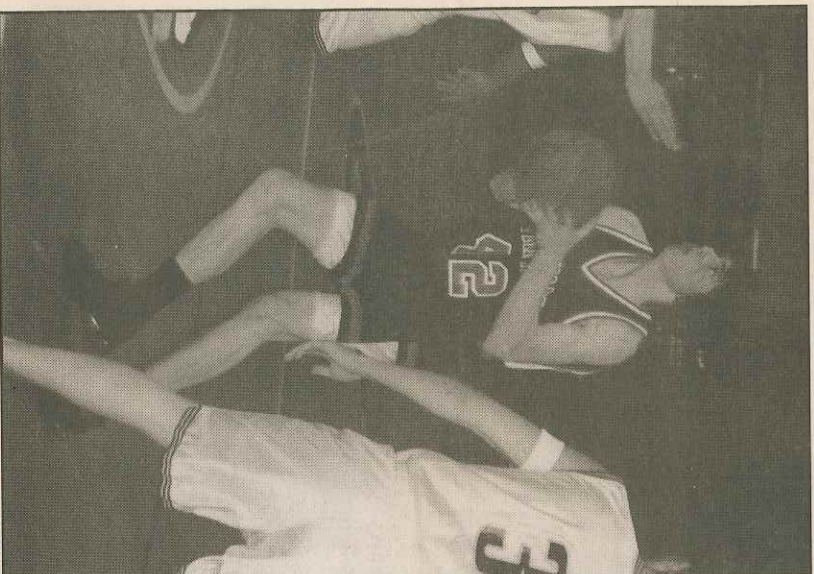
— Mike Caussin, senior

"We had a close relationship with Mr. Houston and it's been different without him," said Caussin. "He really pushed us, so we'll have to deal with him not being there." Some of the players see the switch as an opportunity to make the team tougher.

"We have felt the effects of Coach Houston's move, but it's making us stronger," said senior Kiernan Whitworth. "Now we have to rely more on ourselves."

The boy's team speed, skill, height, and experience will play a crucial role in helping them to accomplish their goals this season.

"The girls have a history of good teams," said Caussin. "But this year is ours."



File Photo
Senior Kiernan Whitworth goes up for a jump shot against rival Lake Braddock.

Team manager: Renaissance Man

By Christian Romeo
Senior Staff Writer

He can be found on the sidelines of every game and every team practice. Though his name will never be among the starters and some may overlook or undervalue his role, the truth is Ryan MacRae is essential to sports teams at WS.

"Ryan is my right hand man, I don't know where I'd be without him" said Bill Renner.

MacRae, a senior, has been the manager for the football team since 8th grade and has also been manager for the field hockey, boys' basketball, and boys' and girls' lacrosse teams, and an athletic training student aide.

When he graduates in June, he will have earned a total of 15 varsity letters.

"My brother played freshman basketball when I was in 7th grade and I helped out the coach," said MacRae. "When he was a sophomore he played JV football and I asked the coach if I could be manager."

MacRae's various duties as team manager include showing up before every practice and game to ensure that

all the equipment is in the right place and making sure the athletes have water. "He has to take care of all our equipment. If it's broken, he has to fix it.

He sets up the game field, makes sure all our balls are pumped up, he tells me when we need to reorder," said Renner. "He does just about anything we need."

Besides serving on the sidelines and behind-the-scenes, MacRae has taught players about their coaches.

"Coach Renner trusts Ryan with his keys," said senior Travis Franklin. "One of the things football players have learned is not to go to Renner for [forgotten] equipment on game day so instead we go to Ryan because we can get equipment from Ryan that otherwise we'd have to run five miles for in full pads."

Although being manager requires a lot of dedication it does have its perks.

"The best part is driving the golf cart," said MacRae. The position of team manager does not end with graduation. Colleges rely on managers to get things and be there for players.

"I think he's really nice," says freshman Katie Blaylock. "I don't think anyone else could do the job he does."



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Athletes' talents pay off

Seniors Laura Haskins and Eric Davis get scholarships from Virginia Tech for athletic accomplishments at WS.

By Josh Lipman
News Editor

Two of WS's top athletes are now being highly sought after by some of the nation's most prestigious universities. Senior Eric Davis of the varsity football team and senior Laura Haskins of the varsity girls' basketball team have received numerous scholarship offers from universities.

Davis played offensive left tackle on this year's highly successful football team. The team posted a 7-3 record, while losing only to Centreville, Robinson, and Westfield, all of which were ranked among the top five football teams in the Northern Region. Davis has received scholarship offers from the Virginia Polytechnic Institute and the United States Military Academy at West Point.

Haskins is the point guard on the girl's basketball team, which is currently in the middle of its season. She was the most valuable player of the girl's basketball Northern Region tournament last year, which WS won. She was also named the 2003-04 player of the year by *Times Community Newspapers*.

Haskins has already committed to Virginia Tech but has received scholarship offers from the, Georgia

Institute of Technology, the University of Massachusetts, Seton Hall University, Princeton University and Harvard University.

"[Haskins has] won honors in various things and is a very talented basketball player," said varsity girls' basketball coach Bill Gibson.

Varsity football coach Bill Renner thinks Davis deserves of his scholarship offers.

"He's bigger than most people for the position that he plays and he shows enough athletic potential that they [universities] like him," said Renner.

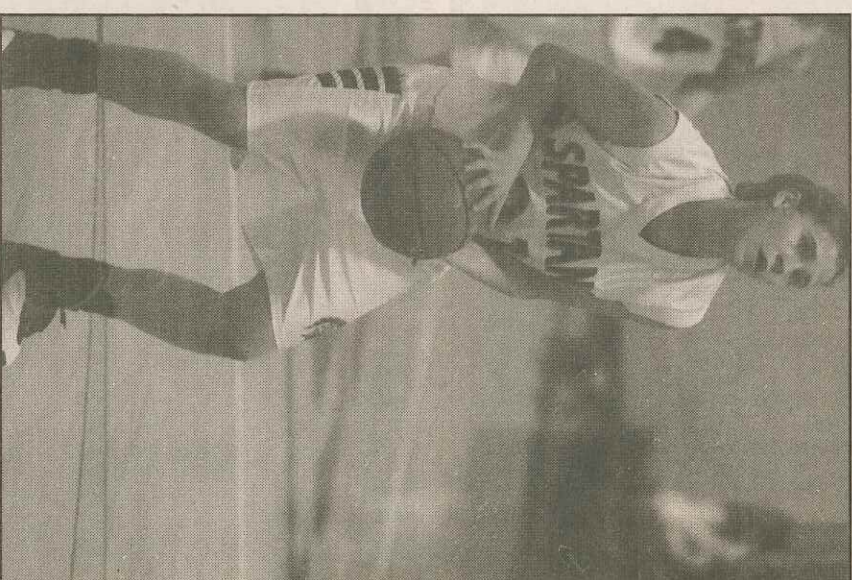
The scholarship offers allow Davis a unique opportunity.

"This is very important because this is the only way I'll be able to get into college," said Davis. "I've really only played one year of football.

I have participated for four years, but I was hurt for three of those years. It's also a reward for my four years of hard work, dedication and sacrifice in the off-season."

Haskins has a different incentive for wanting the scholarships.

"It's very exciting for me because I've always dreamed of playing college basketball," Haskins said.



File Photo
Senior Laura Haskins committed to the Virginia Polytechnic Institute where she received a scholarship.



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Hoagie's World



Dear Hoagie...

By Sean Hogan
Etc. Editor

Dear Hoagie,
I'm hoping you can help me on this issue, seeing you are an expert on condiments. When I look to dress my hamburgers, should I reach for the ketchup or the mustard?

Sincerely,
Condimentless in Canada

Personally, I prefer mayonnaise the most, but if you do not like just plain mayo, I suggest Thousand Island dressing. Mixing ketchup and mayo together works too.

Dear Hoagie,

I am ugly. What can I do to not be ugly?

Sincerely,

Don't look at me in Tennessee

Ugliness is hereditary. Chances are, your parents are also ugly, so there's nothing you can really do about it. Some temporary helpers to ugliness are placing a paper bag over your head or making everyone around you wear blindfolds. Then, there will be no hard feelings.

Dear Hoagie,

My family shuns me. When I come home, they turn around and pretend I am nonexistent. Will you be my friend? Or at least help me with my dilemma?

Sincerely,

Invisible in Indiana

Are you sure you're not really invisible? Lots of people are these days, but usually only when nobody is looking. Maybe you can try switching lives with "Don't look at me," so people will start looking at you, even if it's just to look at your ugly face. Still, it's better than being ignored.

Dear Hoagie,

Most people snore when they are sleeping, but I snore when I'm awake! It's really embarrassing. What can I do?

Sincerely,

Congested in Colorado

Have you ever tried Tylenol Allergy and Sinus? If you have not tried it, please spare us a lot of headaches and do so.

If you have tried all of the over the counter and prescription medicines in existence, there is a very common household item you probably haven't tried yet: the clothespin. Place it over your nose and you will not snore again during the day. Or, if all else fails, have a good friend punch you in the face. Chances are you will break your nose, and you will not have to worry about snoring any more. You will just have to worry about people staring at you.

ETC.

Poor Liz's Almanac

CHILDREN

ARE

EVIL!

By Liz Weidenhold
Managing Editor



I hate children.
Ever since I officially deemed myself a preteen (age 6), I have treated those younger and less mature like road kill.

"Children are our future," said junior Andy Ehrhard, a very happy and naive friend, who tried to justify why it was important that I don't hate children.

In fact, I have made plans to collect my Social Security as soon as humanly possible, move to Switzerland and make these children no part of my future.

You are probably wetting yourselves right in your blue plastic chairs, incredulous that I could be saying such bitter things toward this demographic we call "children."

I blame the Junior Class Babysitting Fundraiser. There was a girl there, allegedly 8 years old, who, apart from having a whacked up name that has been removed from this article to protect the "innocent," also has a tendency to epitomize the decadence our entire nation.

We were making snowman sticks and she and her sister were humming to "I Saw Mommy Kissing Santa Claus." Feeling this was a great chance for some sarcasm that went over the heads of the two children I said,

"Wow! You have such a good voice! Who are your favorite singers?" I was awaiting the words "Hilary Duff" when she responded,

"Umm, Eminem and 50 Cent."
As a good journalist, I would ordinarily ask her questions, but instead I sobbed in repulsion. Then I asked her questions. Her mom let her watch the music video *all the time* on her computer. Eminem was probably her favorite, because she liked when he said "Black girls, white girls, skinny girls, fat girls, tall girls, small girls." She actually knew all the words to "Just Lose It." Sure, she knew what it meant. Did I want her to "sing" it for me? And she did.



Liz Weidenhold
This evil child strikes her favorite Eminem pose.

See the evilness? This 5-year-old is actually gyrating.
As a good journalist, I would ordinarily ask her questions, but instead I sobbed in repulsion. Then I asked her questions. Her mom let her watch the music video *all the time* on her computer. Eminem was probably her favorite, because she liked when he said "Black girls, white girls, skinny girls, fat girls, tall girls, small girls." She actually knew all the words to "Just Lose It." Sure, she knew what it meant. Did I want her to "sing" it for me? And she did.

She rapped out that song with her 5-year old sister as a backup dancer, who learned her "moves" (namely gyrating over and over) from her older cousin.

Fearing democracy would collapse right in that craft room, this implacable "child" then performed the rap for the cheerleaders, the dance team and various other people because by now she had quite the ego. I hoped that they too could sympathize for America and we would stand strong against this evil force after seeing her routine. Instead, they laughed nonchalantly at her gaudy little number and moved on their merry ways.

So if in 30 years, when we have to shun our children from the musical masterpieces of some egregious little female rap star, you can deal with it, because I'll be in Switzerland.

JANUARY

"I get to go to lots of overseas places, like Canada."
—Britney Spears



Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
Boys 14 Varsity Basketball	15	16	17	18	19	20
Home vs. T.C. Williams 7:30 p.m.	Track Meet at Episcopal High School 7:30 a.m.	I'm Not Going to Take it Anywhere Day	Martin Luther King Jr. Holiday - No School	Girls Varsity Basketball Home vs. Robinson 7:30 p.m.	Varsity Wrestling at T.C. Williams - Time TBA	Inauguration Day - No School
Boys 21 Varsity Basketball	22	23	24	25	26	27
Home vs. Lake Braddock 7:30 p.m.	Rid the World of Fad Diets and Gizmos Day	National Snowplow Mailbox Hockey Day	"Just Do It" Day	Squirrel Appreciation Day	Varsity Wrestling Home vs. Robinson - Time TBA	Swim and Dive Tournament at Lee District - Time TBA
Boys 28 Varsity Basketball	29	30	31	February 1	2	3
Annandale High School 7:30 p.m.	Track Meet at Episcopal High School 7:30 a.m.	National Fresh Squeezed Juice Day	Maintenance Day	Voluntary Day	Swim and Dive Region Dive Boys at Oak Marr - Time TBA	Groundhog Day
Girls Varsity Basketball at Hayfield 7:30 p.m.	4					

10 Stories you may have forgotten from 2004

1. April 11—Golfer Phil Mickelson wins the 2004 Masters tournament, his first major win in 47 events.
2. November 4—Six-time Olympic champion Michael Phelps is charged with driving under the influence of alcohol.
3. April 3—"The Simpsons" voice actors go on strike.
4. Deaths of 2004—Ronald Reagan, Tony Randall, Ray Charles, Marlon Brando, Rodney Dangerfield, Janet Leigh, Christopher Reeve, Yasser Arafat.
5. Finals of 2004—May 6: "Friends"; May 13: "The Practice"; September 8: "The Drew Carey Show."
6. June 7—The Tampa Bay Lightning win the Stanley Cup, thus beginning the NHL lockout.
7. June 1—Australian Jennifer Hawkins wins the Miss Universe contest, and then has her skirt fall to her knees a few months later.
8. October 21—Fidel Castro falls off a step and breaks his knee and arm.
9. August 16—Spectator Ron Benschimon receives five months in jail after bounding off the springboard at the Olympics in a tutu.
10. December 10—Racehorse Zippy Chippy retires after a career record of 0-100.

Compiled by Cam Rushton