



THE

RACCLE

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West Springfield High School 6100 Rolling Road Springfield, Virginia 22152

Spartans take the mike

By Aaron Snow
Junior Staff Writer

The tension mounted as Ryan Seacrest, a.k.a. Dalton Cochran, took the stage and introduced the judges: Simon Cowell, Paula Abdul and Randy Jackson (Michael Dombrow, John Thorson, and Vera W o o d s o n).

Expectations were high as the first of nine competitors, senior A s h l e y Corum, sang her first words amidst a haze of artificial fog illuminated by colored lights on the stage floor.



As each of the nine competitors in this year's "Spartan Idol" vied for the audience's approval, as well as a bid in the final round of the competition, the inexperience of the singers was far from evident. Each performer made a strong case for a birth in the next round with vocal performances that could have easily

passed for professionally orchestrated songs. Following each performance, the three judges delivered biting criticisms that were obviously planned, but drew laughter from the audience nonetheless.

"The judges comments were just stupid," said top five qualifier Michael Ariale. "They didn't really mean all that they said." Despite the judges heckling most of the

while the Fun Bunch performed to wild applause, and afterwards sophomore Sarah Meinhofer was revealed to be the winner of the competition. Her beautiful rendition of "Hero," by Mariah Carey proved worthy of the title "Spartan Idol."

"I felt like I did pretty good, but I just winged the second song," said Meinhofer. "I was surprised to have won, I thought Shanti Chang was going to win." For the remaining competitors that failed to win, several factors were attributed to performances that were not up to personal expectations.

"My second song was more nerve racking, and the crowd started clapping off beat and I had a hard time concentrating on the lyrics," said Ariale. See IDOL on Page 5

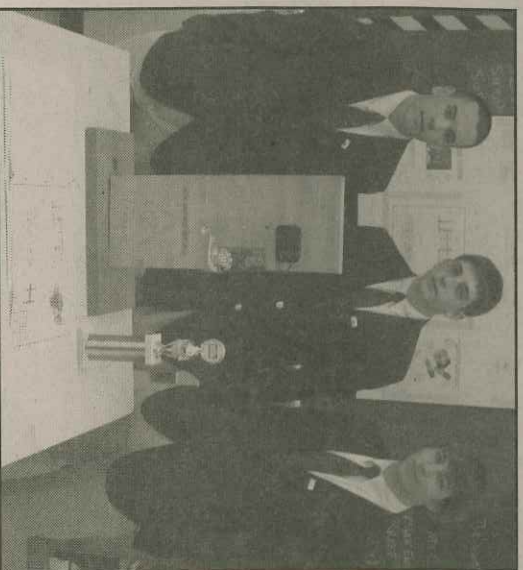
Techno-savvy students head to Dallas

By Andreaana Maxwell
Inside Editor

Technology plays an irreplaceable role in the world today; new developments are essential.

Fortunately, students at WS have already begun to pursue their interests in technology. The weekend of April 28-30 was one like no other for these 12 students at WS. These students are members of the Technology Student Association (TSA) and had the opportunity to attend a statewide competition in Hampton, VA, and qualify for Nationals. The national convention will be held from June 21-26, in Dallas, TX.

TSA is a national organization for middle and high school students, which emphasizes the role of technology in society. The goal is to get teenagers involved with technology in order to get them interested and involved in technology for the rest of their lives. Participants in the TSA competition have the option to make an invention



Juniors Scott Juhl and John Todd and senior Adam Brunderman display their winning invention.

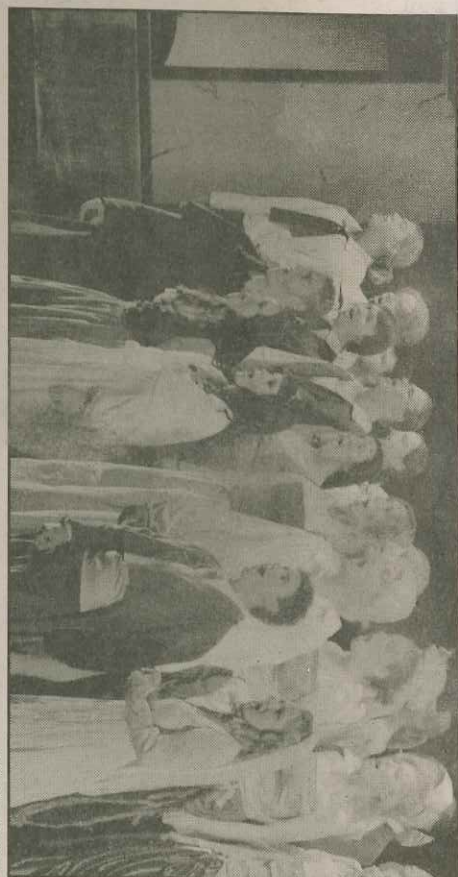
The French Revolution came to WS last month, singing its way into the hearts of an appreciative audience, and winning nine Cappie nominations for the cast, crew and critics. After six hours of rehearsals over the last two months, and arduous set preparations, the theater department was ready for blood to run in the gutters of Paris. Fifteen crew members worked through Spring Break. The actors put in countless hours as well.

On the Monday and Tuesday prior to opening night, junior Jasmine Mahboob, one of the Cappie nominees, spent between 13 and 14 hours each day in school. Mahboob, along with other cast members, rarely got home before 11 p.m.

'Les Mis' delights

By Sarah Alvarez
Sports Assistant Editor

The cast of the recent WS theater production "Les Miserables" join together to perform in the finale of the piece, after the revolution has been put down.



Katherine Powers

By Saturday, several actors had lost their voices, but that didn't get in the way of an overall entertaining performance. Sophomore Michael Ariale, who played Joly, was pleased with the cast's performance.

"It worked out better than we thought; we didn't think there'd be a play," said Ariale. Ariale was not the only one with slight doubts.

"Our theater department is notorious for pulling shows out of nowhere at the last possible second, but this time to our surprise it came together quite nicely," said crew member sophomore Valerie Lapointe. See PLAY on Page 5

involving technology over the course of the year or partake in on the spot tasks.

"We had a bag of pieces [three index cards, three papers clips, four rubber bands and an unsharpened pencil] and had to build a rubber band powered vehicle in two hours," said sophomore Joel Kellog.

Senior Adam Brunderman and juniors Scott Juhl and John Todd won first place for their invention. The team has been diligently working since the beginning of the year and their hard work paid off with their first place win at the state competition. The three developed a device that recharges the batteries on hotel door locks each time the knob is turned. Their win at states allowed them to advance to the national competition and potentially market the product to different hotel chains across the country.

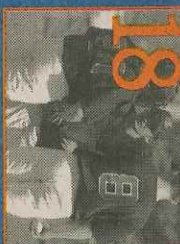
"We talked with Hilton and they said it [the recharging device] was a good idea," said Junior Scott Juhl. "They [Hilton hotels] said we should definitely get a patent as soon as possible."



6 Get your money's worth with Andrew Dollar.



10 'Stick It' takes on 'Bring it On.'



18 JV baseball goes undefeated.

Letter to the editors: Concerned student cries for African activism

Dear Editors,

I am writing because I care. What do I care about, you might ask. The key word in that sentence is "might," because in actuality, you most likely would not ask what I care about. Why not? Because you frankly do not give a damn.

No one in our school cares about anything outside of their lives. The last few months I have approached students, teachers and administrators asking for their help, only to be shot down at almost every turn (props to Mrs. Fischer for helpin' a brother out!).

My goal is pretty simple: to raise awareness about the situation in Africa. There is genocide and civil war in Sudan, civil war in Uganda, riots in Niger and many other crises in several other nations--not to mention widespread starvation and disease (i.e. AIDS). Hundreds of thousands suffer daily, 130 people die every day in Uganda alone.

Children are kidnapped and forced to serve in rebel armies, forced to kill before they're even old enough to read or write. Entire villages die of starvation. Do you care? I doubt it. Fairfax County is one of the richest counties in the nation, it has one of the best, if not the best, educational institutions in the nation, and yet it is a deplorable failure at instilling any sense of humanity in

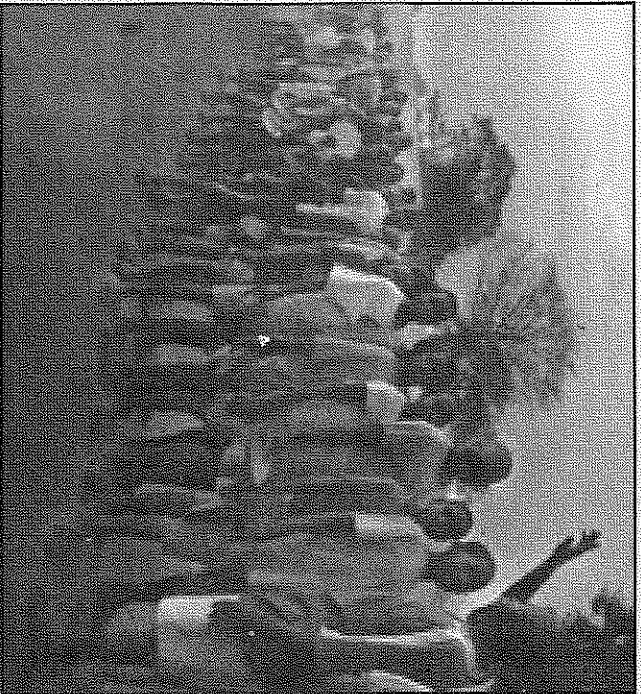
its students.

I don't bring up Darfur and Africa constantly, I'll mention it maybe two or three times in a month, but whenever I do bring it up I hear groans from people, as though it shouldn't be brought up more than once. In our school it is okay to sound like you care, but to actually want to do something, that just is not acceptable. Even the administration is no help.

I've spoken with Dr. Smith twice in the last few days about putting up a poster or two in the hallways, each time being told off that, were I to put up posters asking to stop genocide, then people could put up advertisements for their own beliefs such as Nazism. Since when was ending genocide on par with Nazism?

We don't only go to school for math and English, we go to school for political and cultural socialization, for spreading knowledge and ideas. When did hearing about the "outside world" become a threat to education? The school's staff is not only limiting our education by this, but by not acting and by denying our action they are little better than the genocidal murderers roaming the African bush. Not like you care though.

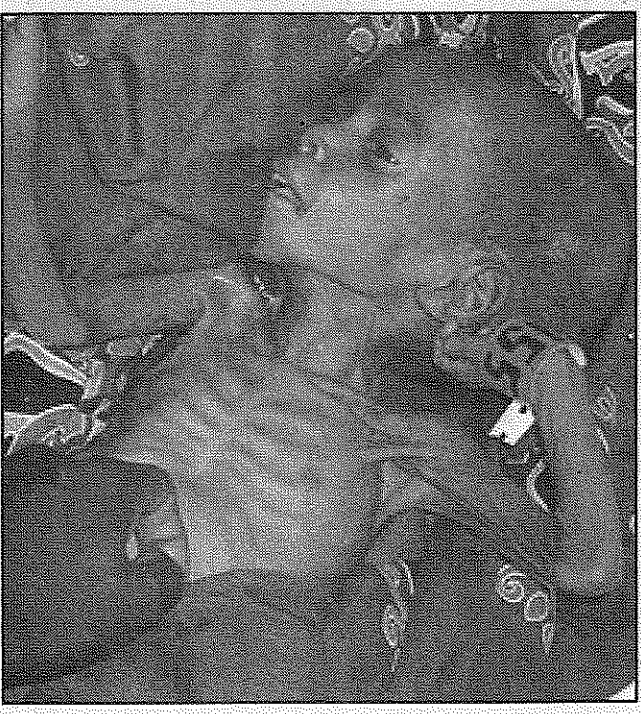
Michael Magnotti, senior



World Food Programme



Refugees
Children displaced from the civil war in Uganda stand in line for their daily ration of food in Dadaab Refugee Camp, NW, Kenya (left). Malnourished child receives aid in southern Niger (above). Starving girl in Darfur, Sudan clings to life (right).



The Village Voice

The ORACLE

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The Oracle is a student-run publication to inform and entertain the students and staff of West Springfield High School and the Springfield community. We publish articles written with as little reporter bias as possible. Opinion is expressed in Viewpoint, Inside Story, ETC., and in reviews and columns. Editors represent the opinion of at least two-thirds of the staff and do not reflect the views of the adviser, the administration, or the Fairfax County Public School System. The Oracle reserves the right to reject advertising deemed inappropriate. Signed letters to the editor and personal commentary will be considered for publication, but could be edited for grammar, spelling and space.

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Beware of web stalkers

Young online-users attract pedophiles' eyes

By Beth Stinson
Business/Systems Assistant

It has happened to us all: You're innocently strolling along the information super highway and suddenly you are struck by the cyber tractor-trailer of solicitation. It could be e-mails alerting you of free prescription drugs from Canada, or that you have caught the eye of West Central Idaho State Community Women's College. But more prevalently, students are solicited not for phony meds or scholarships – but for sex.

"Dateline NBC" series "To Catch a Predator" has brought the widespread danger of internet predators to the public's attention. The series employs a clever sting operation in which a police decoy chats online (in chat rooms, blogs and sites like MySpace and Facebook) with a potential offender. The decoy claims that she or he is a 14-year old boy or girl and lures pedophiles to an average single-family house in an average suburb. Once the potential predator arrives, he speaks briefly with "Dateline," correspondent Chris Hanson. Everything is broadcast on national television to alert viewers of the ominous danger that is frighteningly common in nearly all parts of the country.

Stop being deaf and listen up

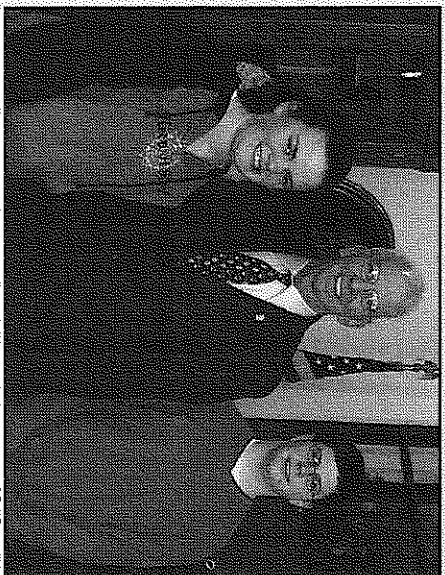
By Kristin McGregor
Junior Staff Writer

While many people know about the immigration protests or the Duke scandal, many students are deaf to the protests going on at Gallaudet University.

Sadly, many students at WS have never heard of Gallaudet, a university just 30 minutes away in DC or the history that has occurred there over the years.

Imagine if Dr. Smith was given the right to choose the senior class president. There would be chaos and rebellion. It is our student body's right to nominate the president. This is the problem Gallaudet is facing.

Eighteen years ago the Gallaudet Board of Trustees' elected a hearing president for the deaf university over two deaf candidates. After a week of protesting for a "Deaf President Now" and a march to the Capitol, the Board reversed their decision and I, King Jordan was chosen as the first deaf president of Gallaudet.



Mrs. Stevens
Juniors Kristin McGregor and Matt Norwood pose for a picture with President I. King Jordan for their project on Deaf President Now, a movement at Gallaudet in 1988, from which Jordan became the first deaf president.

Last year, I did my National History Day project on the Deaf President Now. I wanted to learn more about deaf history because it is a part of my history. My mom is deaf and she works at Gallaudet. She was at the last movement before I was born and I was there eighteen years later at the second protest.

Gallaudet University, the only liberal arts college for the deaf, is a symbol of success and opportunity for deaf people regardless of what "disabilities" the

The second installment of "To Catch a Predator" on November 10 hit close to home. The sting operation was set up in an affluent neighborhood in Fairfax. A total of 19 men in three days showed up thinking they had set up a sex-date with a minor.

Among the men arrested was a member of the armed forces stationed at Ft. Belvoir, a special education teacher, an emergency room doctor and a *rabbi* from Hemdon. The news came as a shock to the community and served as a frightening wake-up call to innumerable internet users, especially parents.

The sting was repeated again in southern California, Florida, and a rural town in Ohio – all with shocking numbers of men coming to the house looking for sex with a minor.

Statistics show that one out of five teenagers have been solicited for sex over the Internet. The point of this series is to show that Internet predators are EVERYWHERE. Teenagers need to wake up and protect themselves from the pervasions of Internet predators. You are not invincible, and you are not as Internet-savvy as you think you are.

Check your MySpace profile. Don't use your last name, address, or school. For the love of God get rid of

world says they have. It represents their culture and way of life and the president represents the community.

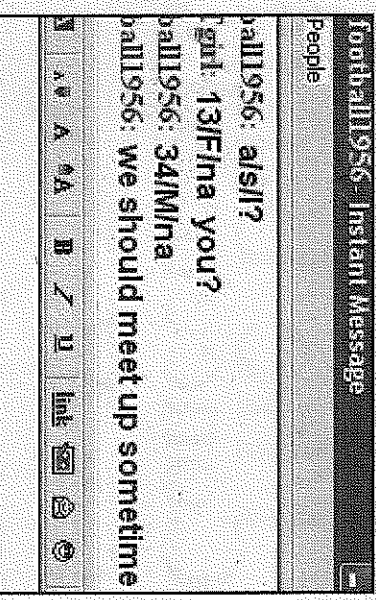
Now, in 2006, Jordan is retiring and the Board must to select another president. Down to three deaf candidates, New Mexico School for the Deaf and Blind Superintendent Ronald Sierr, Associate Professor of Communication Studies at Gallaudet, Stephen Weiner and Gallaudet Provost Jane K. Fernandes.

On May 1, interim Board chairman, Celia May Baldwin, announced the "unanimous" decision of Fernandes as the ninth President of Gallaudet University. With that announcement, dozens of students abruptly left of the room and started a protest.

I do not think Fernandes is qualified to lead because of her personality and lack of charisma. She is perfect for the job on paper, but she is not perfect for the university. The university needs someone who will keep his or her promises. The president needs to have the people skills to get funding from Congress. Fernandes does not have the ability to change, which will disable Gallaudet from changing for the better as well.

There are skeptics of the fairness of the process. First, no students are represented on the Board. Some feel this virtual representation is not fair. Second, current President I. King Jordan has publicly expressed support for Fernandes, a long time friend, since the day he announced his plans to retire. Some feel that he handpicked his successor.

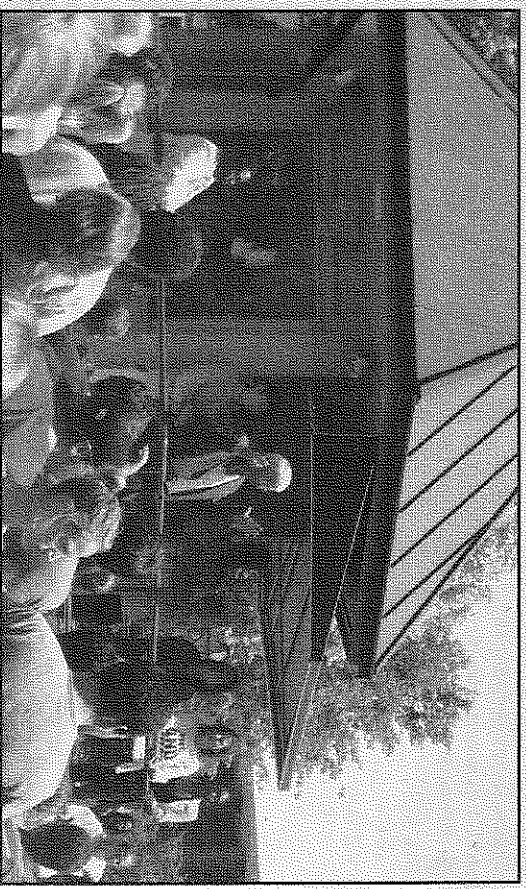
Jordan also had interviewed each of the candidates, which as President he has no right to do. Third, some students are upset that the final three were all white. People are angry that there were no people of color or minorities represented in the final three, except for Fernandes, a woman. Fourth, people question if Fernandes can adequately represent deaf people if she was 23 when she learned ASL.



Sara Kozal
Conversations like these occur between stalkers and unsuspecting teens online.

the bathing suit shots, we see enough of your cleavage at school. I showed my mom a certain profile of a certain girl whose breasts were in every picture. My mom's head exploded. The only people who want to see your bosoms are smelly boys and pedophiles, neither of which are a good thing.

Everyone knows that the more friends you have, the better of a person you are, but don't accept anyone you don't know. Nothing is sacred on the Internet no matter how safe you think your blog or profile, or whatever is. Predators rely on the fact that most teenagers believe that this will never happen to them and they are immune to any and all ills of society. So don't make yourself a target by selling your body and your secrets on the Web. Have some respect for yourselves, people!



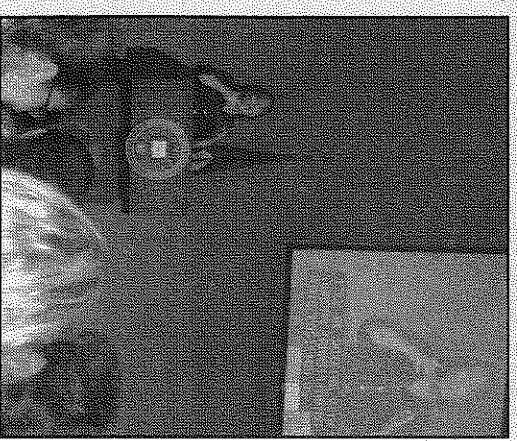
Kristin McGregor

President I. King Jordan addresses the protesters the day after the announcement. Jordan allowed students to ask questions about the search process and the future of Gallaudet. After eighteen years of service, Jordan is retiring as president of the university.

I think Gallaudet should elect the better president. Fernandes is not right for the university. A majority of the students, faculty, staff and alumni voted that she is not the right person for the job. You can't have a leader with no followers.

I met Jordan and I think he is a nice man, but that is all he is. He doesn't have the right to dictate who succeeds him: the student body does.

We should be aware of what is going on at Gallaudet. Don't be deaf to their fight. Open your eyes and become aware.



Kristin McGregor

Gallaudet Provost Jane K. Fernandes accepts the Board's offer to become the second deaf president of Gallaudet.

Letter to the Editors: 'Les Mis'

Dear Editors,

Congratulations on an astonishing production of "Les Miserables!" My wife and I attended the Saturday performance, which rivaled and in some ways surpassed the professional productions we have seen of the musical. I don't mind telling you that I have never been so moved by a school production, and it was easy to see that the audience around us experienced the same feelings.

We parents often wonder what the younger generation is coming to, and considering the new/spaper headlines, there are plenty of reasons to worry. But for the students involved in "Les Miserables" – the actors and actresses, the musicians, the stage crew, and all the rest – the answer is very clear: The new generation can turn its talents to amazing things that leave us all breathless and filled with pride.

I was fortunate to congratulate a few of the students in the lobby after the play ended, but I want to extend my praise and thanks to them all with this letter. In producing this play you brought alive for yourselves and the audience a powerful vision of what we are – and can become – as human beings trying to live decent lives in a world with all too many flaws. The world of "Les Miserables" is far from our time in years, but not so different from our lives in the ways that matter most. There is sorrow, but also joy, still injustice, but also sacrifice and devotion and love. Shining through it all, as your production captured so well, is that light in the eyes of young people, that is always sparkling and hopeful. How could we live without it?

David Burns,
Parent

The battle of the ballot box

By Sunnie Ko

Inside Story Editor

It was the rumor that the class of 2007's prom was going to be held in the cardboard box down the street next to that sketchy tattoo parlor that made me realize we needed to start raising some serious dough.

My name is Sunnie Ko and I am apart of the class of '07.

In elementary school we were always taught that class elections "are not a popularity contest." You were supposedly to choose the best suited candidate who can fulfill the duty of "insert position here*." This idea was soon dashed after we watched Nick, the most popular boy who happened to lack arms be elected as class color guard, responsible for raising and lowering the flag each day in the 3rd grade. Or when Suzan, the girl who wrote slower than a turtle or snail, but who had the best campaign buttons take victory as 4th grade secretary.

Yes, if you weren't the "it" kid, you stood no chance in politics. Now, however cliché as it may sound, "times have changed."

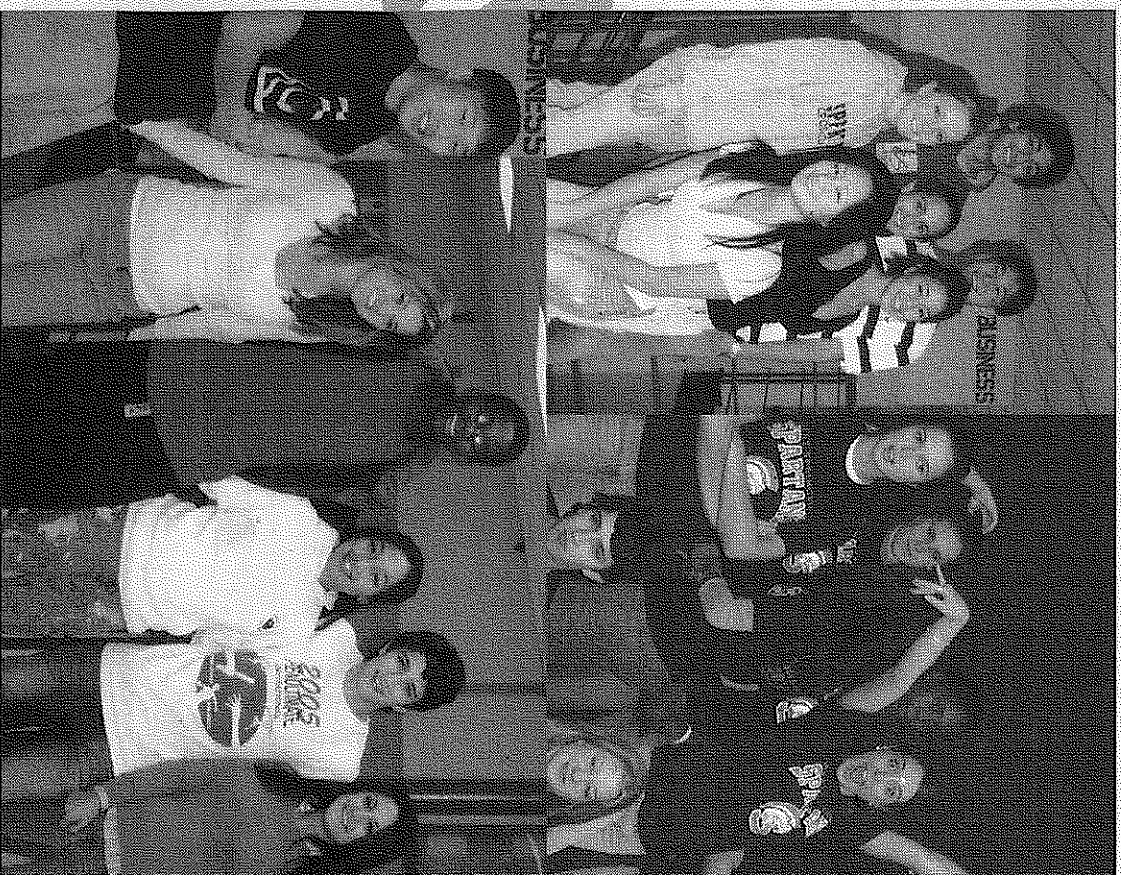
Class government is no longer the simple duty of raising and lowering a flag. It is the duty is to raise money to fund our class' prom at the end of our senior year.

The next part is not in any way saying that the class of 2007's officers aren't "popular."

By the time of elections at the end of our sophomore year, rumors (that ended up being false) had spread that our class was dead broke. A panic had diffused throughout and action had to be taken. Our class had to choose the people they believed to be the "best suited candidate."

After the votes were taken Ryan Yohe, Kaska Adyote, Denny Park, Lauren Hildago and Amy Zinicola were named the class of 2007's class officers.

After these people took office, the school began hearing advertisement of fundraisers for the class of 2007. The first Silver Diner night that occurred at the beginning of this school year raised around 450 dollars. The success of the event was based on excellent planning and effective advertising and enthusiasm from the officers. Flyers were posted on walls, bathrooms, ceilings, floors; you couldn't get away from them! Not only that, but the officers got the news



SGA officers from classes '07 and '08 pose for pictures after elections. Many students feel class officers are elected based only on their popularity.

Oracle File Photos

Popularity has always been a touchy issue in class elections. The candidates flash a bright smile and expect to steal the spotlight, raking in the votes. The rumored money scare in the Junior class paved the way for more capable and creative money-making officers. It's no surprise all six were reelected this year to complete the job they started.

spreading by word also. They also when all six of the class officers were re-planned a car-wash, on August 21, elected.

during the most vacation prone month The point of this story is simple. When around 30 student volunteers who a time of crisis came upon us, our class stopped by to help throughout the day, do the best job to come into office. It just This years elections proved that the so happens that our officers are not only class of '07 held faith in their officers effective, but are pretty cool too.

Seniors 'sacked' in fourth

By Linnette Lam

Senior Staff Writer

AP testing is over, and seniors don't take the Standards of Learning tests. So what now? Logically, graduation. But that's not for another month.

In a high-achieving, competitive academic environment such as ours, it is considered commonplace for juniors—and especially seniors—to take AP tests. These courses are designed to expose high school students to college-level material early, but ultimately, the objective of all AP courses is clear—getting to that Collegeboard-designated test date in May. Beyond that, it seems that the remainder of the year is left in the wash.

Most AP teachers issued their cumulative final examinations before the AP test to prepare their students, slammimg them with major assignments and reviews

throughout the month of April. But that was last month, and there's still a void of about four

Editorial

weeks to fill before the commencement ceremony.

Looking ahead to prom at the Mayflower Hotel, graduation at the Patriot Center and post-high school plans, seniors have little incentive to remain focused on the movie days and "fluff" assignments that will be issued to pass the time away before June 14th, the official senior end date.

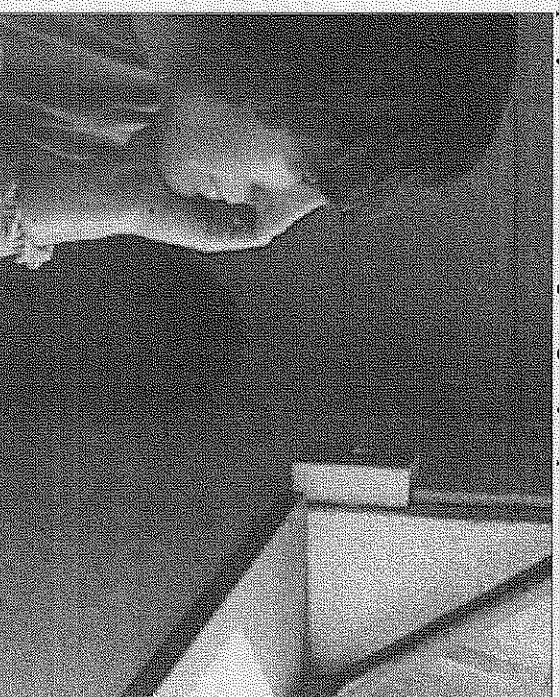
Those who may argue that graduation comes at a reasonable time because students who take non-AP classes are still learning should consider the fact that students who take AP courses learn a year's worth of college-level material in eight months,

from September to March. If the academic year for seniors in Fairfax County were abbreviated,

teachers of seniors would adjust their teaching plans accordingly. Autumn was characterized by college visits, and winter was filled with the rush to finish college applications. As most decisions spilled out of a mailboxes and online servers in

April, the prospect of the future ahs captivated so many of us as we lick the stamps on our graduation announcements and pin up our hats on Mrs. Rexford's "Seniors: Where are we going?" board. If seniors ended school a month earlier, the momentum that has been powering us through these past few months wouldn't die down.

They say we're supposed to be young adults. If not, they tell us to grow up. As most colleges let out within the first two weeks of May, this



Senior Tim Large gazes through the open window in his stuffy classroom, longing for graduation day to arrive.

Tina Madia

time would be ideal for high school seniors to start out and begin the post-secondary school cycle being able to work summer jobs that are set on college students' schedules and having three months before going back to the school again. College freshmen move in before all other students, who return in August. With the current WS end date in late June, that gives us about six weeks of a summer break. After coddling us for an extra four weeks in high school, that's not a very long time they're giving us to grow up.

Getting to know the kids next door

By Chrissy Regelski
Entertainment Editor

The only thing that clouds the laughter of kids playing dodgeball in a new gym and the gleaming, color coordinated hallways is the metal detector that guards the door.

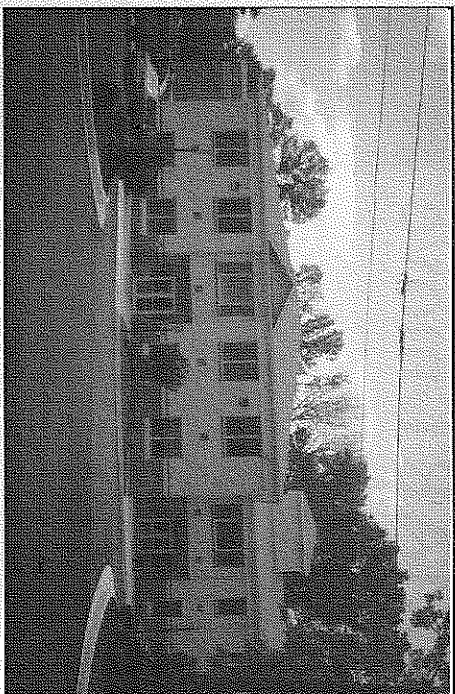
Across Tuttle Road from WS, Accotink Academy stands as a haven for students with learning disabilities and emotional disorders, caused by childhood traumas such as sexual abuse or frequent moves between foster homes.

"We worry because most of these kids are from the inner-city so we make sure they are safe," said the Academy's Admissions Director Julia Oaks, explaining the need for the detectors.

The students, ages five to 22, work towards earning credits for a high school diploma but the school emphasizes different forms of counseling, such as art therapy, to help students with their emotions, as well as their speech and motor skills.

Operational Therapy teaches younger kids how to work with their hands and develop other motor skills in colorful rooms filled with mats, bouncy balls, and mini trampolines. For teenagers, the school provides them with a job coach that helps them learn skills for after their graduation.

"It's to help them with their self esteem as well," said Oaks. Educational advisors or legal systems of the students' local community submit the student for the Academy's consideration



Carme DeCark
Accotink Academy is a new county-owned facility located right across from WS.

where the students advance from Lower, Middle, and Upper Levels instead of individual grades so they are able to progress at their own pace. Each student is also required to have a point sheet where the staff records the student's behavior, such as level of preparedness and respect, after classes. "Successful" days allow the student to move up to higher levels, giving them more and more privileges, such as be

allowed to listen to a walkman during breaks or eat lunch the school pays for. Bonus points are also rewarded and can earn the student money to purchase items at the school store.

Disciplinary measures for inappropriate behaviors are also taken, however, as in-school suspensions and time-outs are enforced to allow the student alone time to collect their thoughts and emotions. The school also has a "Clothing

and Food Bank" to give a place for kids who violate the dress code to change but to give food to student who cannot get it at their own homes. Oaks describes the average class for a student as "pretty intense" due to classes composed of roughly only ten kids with three instructors. Each student has an IEP, or Individual Educational Program, a schedule that is uniquely fitted to each student and supplies necessary support services for their needs. The intimate environment at the Academy is designed so the students' needs can be met better than they would at the normal public schools.

"A lot of times [other schools] ignore them and they fall through the cracks," said Oaks.

After already 40 years of support, Accotink Academy, as its mission statement pledges, continues to "help [their] students reach their potential both educationally and emotionally," and "prepare them to face the world outside."

'Les Mis': students steal the stage

PLAY From Page 1

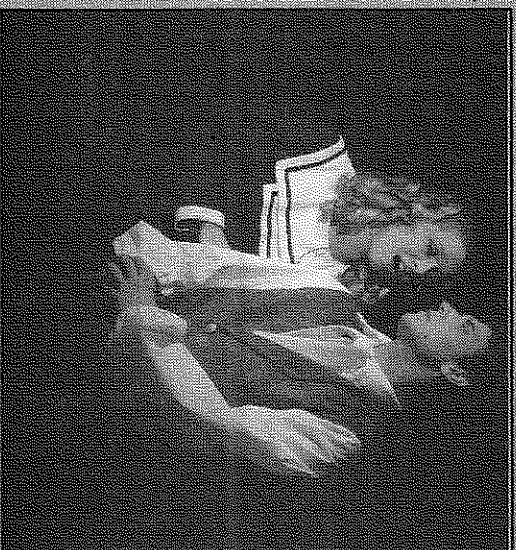
The play went off without any major hitches, but with more time some say it could have been better.

"I wish we had more time, like two days to make it polished and perfect," said junior Jasmine Mahboob. According to crew member Kai Dickinson, the Saturday matinee was the best, as for Ariane Friday was the best.

"Friday night we had the most energy and we were really excited," said Mahboob.

"Les Mis" was considered another one of WS' most captivating dramatical achievements. Its achievements were recognized by the Cappies, and WS actors were awarded with prestigious nominations. Nominations included Chris Douglas for male vocalist, Mahboob comic actress, Nathan Taylor comic actor, Meredith Mazze featured actress, Jack Powers featured actor, Rachel Alba lead actress, song "Master of the House," and best musical.

"The total package all came together in the end, it was the hardest show we've ever done here," said senior Chris Douglas, who played Marius.



Katherine Powers
Sophomore Sara Meinhofer and senior Chris Douglas serenade each other as lovers Cosette and Marius who meet on the eve of the student revolution in France, which Marius is involved in.

The day the music died

By Bethel Habte
News Section Assistant

Fliers, posters, commercials, announcements, all tools of promoting a dance that never happened. But if followed through, the intended 'fundraiser' would have landed Latinos United and Younity \$13000 in debt.

Postponed, then cancelled, the 'Hip-Hop meets Reggaeton' dance had its run-around this spring. Despite months of organizing, planning, and 2 weeks of promoting, there was not enough school-wide interest and a mere 21 tickets were bought in advance. History teacher and Younity sponsor, Regina Taylor, didn't expect many more to be sold.

"I was just holding off and holding off hoping that more tickets would be bought. It wasn't worth it," she said. "We needed 260 more tickets. If we would have gone with what we had, each club would have had to pay \$97.50. It was a major risk."

Club members and sponsors were disappointed by the cancellation mainly because of all the hard work they put into making it happen. Work that included filling out school paperwork, diagramming the cafeteria, selling tickets, finding a D.J. and purchasing

decorations and refreshments for the big night.

Lathro's United club president senior Jaime Mercado went to two meetings with Principal David Smith to get approval for the first and second planned dances.

"If we had more time to let people know about it and sell tickets, it would have happened. We just didn't have enough time," Mercado said.

The dance was first intended to be after school, but Taylor opted for the more expensive night slot when receiving repeated complaints from students who "didn't want to be treated like they were in middle school."

School dances are surprisingly expensive. By switching to the in-demand night dance, the clubs' bill went from \$300 to \$1300—and that was just for the D.J. But a D.J.'s paycheck is chum change compared to the cost of security and custodial staff required by the county for any school dance. Large interest is vital in putting on any dance.

If it is going to happen, it has to be big. "Failure to put in more effort during ticket sales was the ultimate downfall," said Younity sponsor and English teacher Daria Johnson. "Perhaps we will try again next year, having learned from our mistakes this year."

Meinhofer voted the 'Spartan Idol' 'Hero'

IDOL From Page 1

For others, nerves played an important role.

"I was really nervous," said Senior Shanti Chang. "And I probably could have chosen a better second song."

"I was really nervous. And I probably could have chosen a better second song."

—Shanti Chang, senior

Issues such as these kept would be idols a bit disappointed but undaunted about future success. "I didn't win but I had a lot of fun. I can't wait to do it again next year," said junior Reeny Enl.

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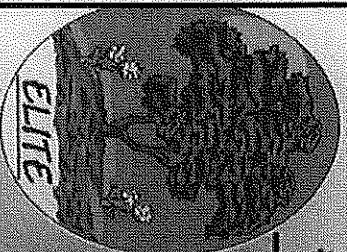
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WS makes SMART move

History class makes use of SMART Boards

By Christina Sohn

Weekend Editor

History class is becoming futuristic.

About two months ago, history teachers Maggie Tran and Ron Maggiano finally received their SMART boards. Maggiano had bought these electronic, touch-sensitive white boards with part of the \$5,000 he was awarded for his Disney Corporation Teacher of the Year Award.

"I think it's the coolest invention ever because it's like the first technology WS has ever gotten," said junior Ally Campo.

The SMART board is hooked up to a computer and an LCD projector, which projects the computer's image onto the SMART board. Once the SMART board is aligned with the projector, the teacher is able to write on the screen using electronic pens and tap on it to change a slide during a PowerPoint presentation.

"I use it mainly to support instruction when I'm showing PowerPoint presentations. It's interactive," said Tran. "As you're showing the PowerPoint, you can write things on the

screen that weren't in the PowerPoint and you could even save those classroom notes for kids who were absent."

Maggiano finds that the SMART board keeps students more alert and awake.

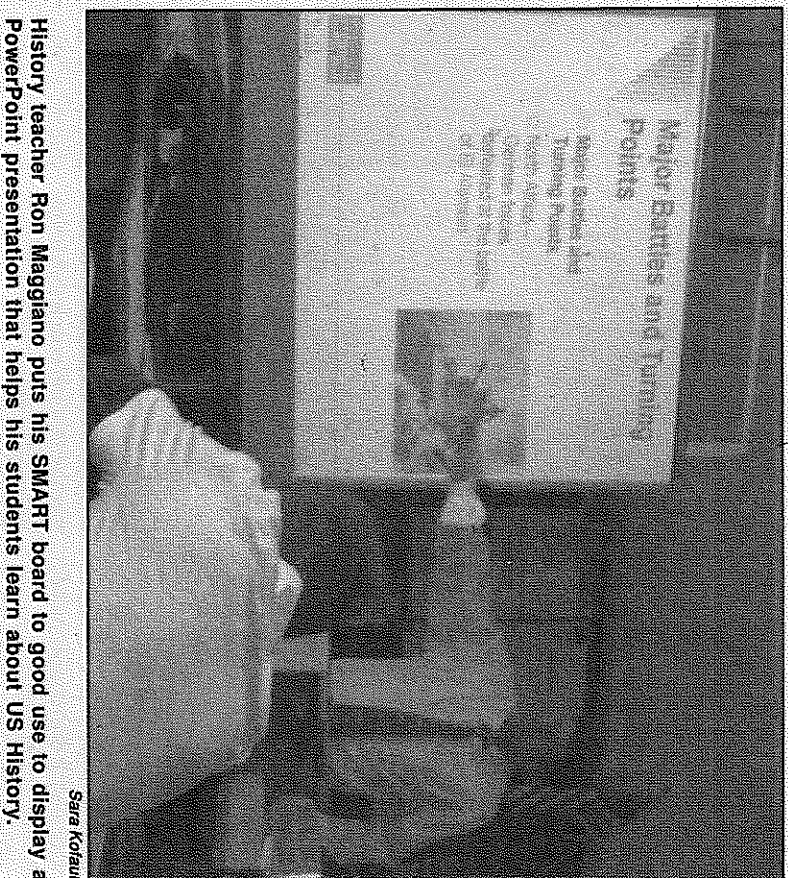
"I have not turned on my overhead projector once this year. I've found that it's a sleep-inducer," he said. "One thing I've noticed is that [students] pay more attention when I use [the SMART board]."

Tran believes that students' enthusiasm for the SMART board helps them learn more in the classroom.

"It brings history to life and makes it so much more fun," said Tran.

There are a couple of cons, however. It can be difficult to learn all that the SMART board can do.

"The downside of it is the learning curve – to use it properly a teacher has to learn to use the technology, which is hard to do on top of the grading, the planning, and the meetings," said Tran. "Admittedly, I don't know all the bells and whistles right now. To know everything it does might take a little while."



Sara Kofalt

History teacher Ron Maggiano puts his SMART board to good use to display a PowerPoint presentation that helps his students learn about US History.

Maggiano has learned to use the SMART board with the aid of his students' technological know-how and intellect.

"Most of my students are pretty savvy with technology so they've been able to help me with it," said Maggiano. "It's definitely smarter than I am."

The interactive aspect of the SMART board has made history class more interesting for both teachers and students.

"The first time the kids saw it, they were really excited. They think it's really cool," said Tran. "It's really empowering to see that excitement in a history class."

Senior Andrew Dollar is priceless

By Chrissy Regelski

Entertainment Editor

Senior Andrew Dollar never fails to add a bit of spice to life, whether at work, at play, or at his psychology class.

As a fan of skateboarding and a possible film editing student at Liberty University next year, Dollar combines his interests by making skate videos on his computer. Dollar, however, does not only enjoy making movies but watching them as well. Listing "The Shining" and "The Eye" as some of his favorites, Dollar loves horror movies for their fervent ability to surprise him.

"I always want to see what will shock me next," said Dollar.

Dollar also likes to add some daring to his job of stocking shelves at Giant by bending the rules ever so

slightly.

"It's an easy job. You can take as many breaks as you want," said Dollar. "Well, you're not supposed to."

Dollar's daily routine at WS also lacks the excitement and interest that he looks for. "My favorite thing [at WS] would be I guess, just hanging out and socializing," said Dollar. "My least would be everything else."

His favorite class, psychology, however, allows Dollar to mix some variety into his schedule. Dollar treasures his chance to write his "words of wisdom" on the chalkboard every class like "sometimes I run and sometimes I hide" and "Who let the dogs out?"

"Those are just a few gems," said Dollar.

Some students, though, do not find Dollar's humor or what he calls "a classic Andrew moment" as appealing as he does.

"[Dollar] is sort of everything that I consider evil in this world," said senior Laurin Carterby. "He has a sense of humor that criticizes people and he never laughs at his own jokes."

"My insults are spur of the moment stuff."

— Andrew Dollar, senior

Dollar's insults, as well as his blackboard banter, are still infamous and a part of his personality that he is proud of.

"[My insults] are spur of the moment stuff," said Dollar. "I don't know if I can think of one right now but I can assure you that they are incredible – just like me."

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Senior Andrew Dollar shows off his impressive skateboarding skills.

Erika Wilkening

Hoagies World Harvard's Princeton's Hoagie's guide to college acceptance

By Sean Hogan
Features Editor

I've officially begun my college search. After a few college visits, I've figured out the do's and don'ts of college tours and interviews.

DO:

Wear pants. The best way to impress the person letting you in their college is to dress in a way so that they won't automatically say "NO!"

Talk to current students. If all the students who currently attend your college of choice are planning on transferring right after the semester ends, it means



The Ivory Tree
This young UVA fan would get a similar reaction if he wore his UVA shirt on a visit to Virginia Tech.

one of two things. On the negative side, it could mean that the school is all work and no play. On the positive side, you might not have liked the kids who were leaving anyway, so at least they won't be there to bother you later on.

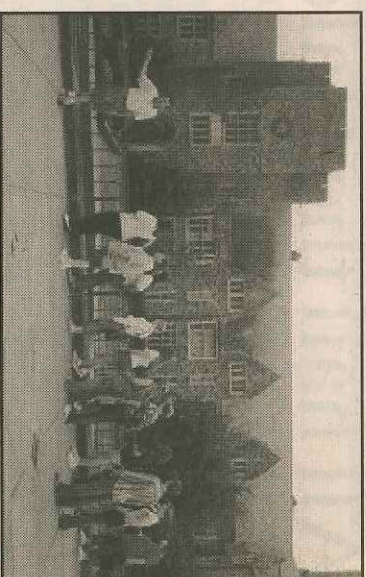
Ask questions. If you really want to know about what goes on, you have to ask. The college probably won't release any information that is less than perfect, so the only way to find out about anything, whether it be a security issue or exploding toilets, is to ask.

Walk around the campus. Some schools have beautiful, "scenic" campuses that really mean mile-long dirt roads with huge hills that will kill you after a week, not to mention making the "Freshman 15" more like a freshman loss-of-15. If a school has an urban campus, it could mean it's actually easier to get from place to place quickly. But it could also mean it's easier for muggers and petty thieves to get from your place to their place quickly.

DON'T:

Pick your nose. Obviously, something that makes you seem like a six-year-old is not a good thing to display in front of a person who is expecting you to be an adult.

Act like a lunatic. Any elaborate plans involving kittens, chains, duct tape and nun-chucks should probably be kept in your head.



Missouri Southern State University
A guide gives incoming students and their parents a tour of Missouri Southern State University.

Burp the alphabet. Similar to picking your nose, burping the alphabet is a gross fourth-grade talent. Save it for your kid brother or an easily amused freshman.

Talk about your high school classes that you got easy A's in. I spent my freshman year coloring toward A's in two core classes that are considered extremely difficult to get A's in. I don't want to get them recommended to be removed from my GPA.

Wear your favorite shirt from a rival college. This might not be a problem for people who wear University of Virginia shirts at Virginia Tech. They wouldn't make it all the way to the interview. They would be flooring it on I-81, escaping Blacksburg as quickly as possible before they got the chance to talk to admissions counselors.

In life, my goal is not to be an admissions counselor or career specialist. It would be much wiser to talk to Career Center Specialist Susan Rexford about the Do's and Don'ts when it comes to college admissions. She at least knows what she's talking about.

Hugh McGeehan was kung-fu fighting Freshman showcases his O-Mei Wushu Kung Fu talents at B lunch

By Aaron Snow
Junior Staff Writer

Though he may not be recognizable his name, freshman Hugh McGeehan is somewhat of a celebrity during B Lunch. Without saying so much as a word, McGeehan draws the gaze of others as he leaps off of walls and combats invisible foes.

McGeehan makes an almost daily habit of practicing his latest form of Kung Fu and eagerly volunteers to give a demonstration.

"I would be happy if I could show you one of my forms," he said with evident excitement.

He places his palms together as if acknowledging a competitor, and then begins his "newest form."

"I am practicing O-Mei Wushu Kung Fu," he explains. "It is a combination of a lot of different forms."

As his demonstration draws to a close, a glance around reveals that

McGeehan has already attracted a group of spectators. He seems pleased with his performance and with great fervor divulges his history practicing martial arts.

"I moved here from San Diego and I have practiced other martial arts in my

Fresh Meet

past," he said, "but I just started this one about two weeks ago."

McGeehan's passion for martial arts is shown by his constant training for his "newest form," proves his commitment. It's this zeal for Kung Fu that has earned the respect of his friends and lunch mates.

"Hugh's stances are really good," said freshman Wahab Mufti. "He doesn't use them when fighting but they are

really good."

In addition to Kung Fu, McGeehan also copies a move from the popular film, "The Matrix," as he dodges fake bullets.

"Hugh's stances are really good. He doesn't use them when fighting, but they are really good."
—Wahab Mufti,
Freshman

and even brandishes a pretend light-saber to block the pretend bullets away. "Sometimes I just like to have fun; it's just for fun," said McGeehan.

While the movie stunts may be just for fun and games, McGeehan makes few jokes when it comes to Kung Fu, a possible reason for his lunchtime popularity.

Coach K leads the way XC coach finishes his 33rd year

By Caitlin Laverdiere
Managing Editor

For thirty years he's been here, making his mark on WS.

Vic Kelbaugh has been teaching WS students since 1970, and although he is now in retirement, he continues to take on a few classes every year — he just can't get enough of us.

For the majority of his teaching career Kelbaugh has taught geography, with some other courses mixed in here and there.

"For a long time we had geography," said Kelbaugh. "But then it switched to World History and Geography One and Two."

When Kelbaugh first started teaching at WS there were 3300 students and a ten period day. "It was kind of a jungle

then," said Kelbaugh. "[And] we think we're over crowded now with 2200."

Kelbaugh grew up in Huntington, West Virginia. It was a "wholesome American place" as he put it. He attended Marshall University and half-way through college decided he wanted to teach.

Before he began teaching full time, however, he joined the army and served from 1968 to 1970. Kelbaugh was a first lieutenant, administrative officer, as such he attended to

an assortment of obligations. He also served in Vietnam for a year. "Fortunately I didn't have to

wade through the jungles," said Kelbaugh. "I was defensive mode instead of being out in the jungle." After Vietnam, he wanted

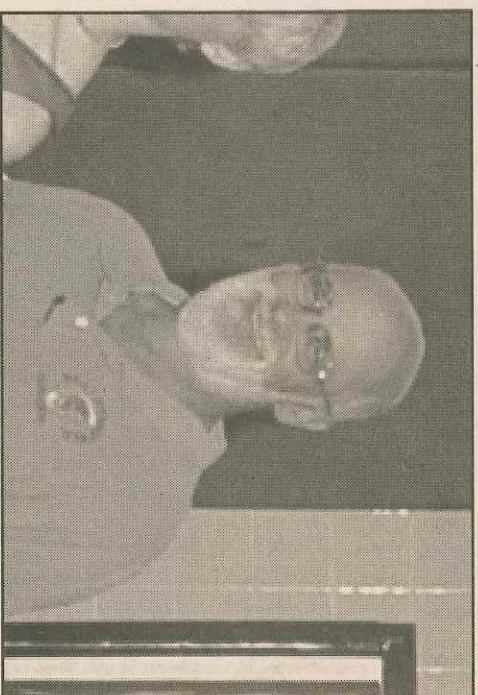
something different and decided it was time to start teaching.

"The army brought me here, my last duty station," said Kelbaugh. "And I just stayed."

After he started teaching at WS some of the faculty noticed his running skill and asked him to help coach the track team. He started as a cross country coach in 1973 and has been working with WS runners every year since then.

"By its nature cross country attracts kids that are very serious, very dedicated," said Kelbaugh. "They are a pleasure to work with."

While Kelbaugh has been at WS the cross country team has won four state championships, something he is very proud of. When asked whether he was going to be hanging around the



Lifelaugh

Vic Kelbaugh, shown here in the team picture, has coached Cross Country at WS since 1973, a total of 33 years.

halls of WS for a while longer he wasn't sure.

"I'm in limbo. I'm prepared to stay for while; it just depends on what they need," said Kelbaugh.

Throughout his thirty years of dedication to WS Vic Kelbaugh has made a lasting impact on students and faculty, both in the classroom and on the track field. "I ran for coach Kelbaugh in

Kelbaugh has something about him that inspires and motivates those who look up to him.

"He is very professional, very knowledgeable," said Baird. "He's a very quiet individual; when he speaks, you know it's very important."

All hail the Halo chief

Calderwood renowned as top-ranked gamer

By Alyssa Horton
Forum Editor

Alyssa lifted herself onto the table and got comfortable, getting ready to explain her interest in the video game Halo and how she came to be one of the top ranked players in the world.

Freshman Alyssa Calderwood was introduced to Halo three years ago when a friend brought it over for her dad.

"I tried it and I didn't practice a lot with it; it just came naturally," said Calderwood.

Pretty soon Calderwood was playing Halo 2 and then began playing on XBOX Live. On XBOX Live a player is going against 50 other people from around the world and they are each ranked.

"My best ranking so far is 37, but it's not official. Your rank changes each time you play," said Calderwood.

Alyssa has also participated in local Halo competitions. At one tournament she placed 5th out of 50 and at another

she received 1st place and 75 dollars.

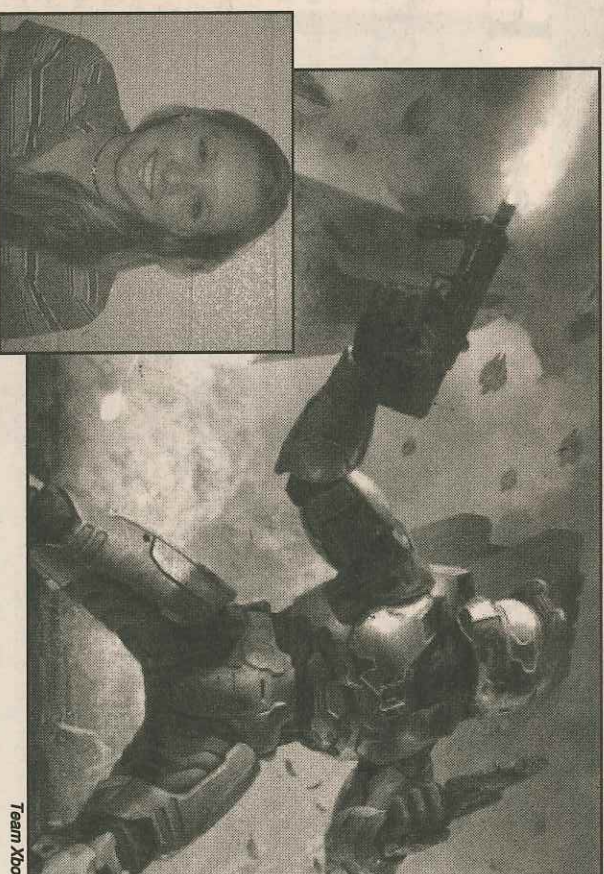
"At the tournament that I got first place, I beat my dad 10-1," said Calderwood.

Calderwood's Halo-playing skills caused her sister and cousin to place some bets, telling their friends that Alyssa could beat them easily. They have resulted in Alyssa occasionally winning money, adding up to 20 dollars.

One of Alyssa's proudest moments was when she defeated Choral Director Mike Dombrow, 25-2, at Spartanfest, and then later when she brought her XBOX into school and officially whooped him with a score of 50-4.

"Those were pity kills," said Calderwood proudly as Dombrow poked his head out of his office and said, "What was that Alyssa?" Calderwood just laughed and said that it was nothing.

Alyssa's fame has grown among the WS Halo players. She has been given the nickname "Master Chief," which is



Carrie DeClark

Team Xbox

Freshman Alyssa Calderwood has been given the nickname "Master Chief" after the lead character of Halo 2, shown above, for her success in playing the video game.

one of the characters in Halo. People approach her in the hallway and say to her, "Master Chief your shields are down!"

"I just laugh whenever that happens," said Calderwood.

Calderwood might go to Philadelphia in August for a nationwide Halo tournament.

"I'm still not sure yet if I'm going, but you never know. Maybe I'll win!" Calderwood said with a laugh.

Gregarious talk show

hosts never run out of air

By Jordy Serwin
Business/Systems Editor

Talk shows offer viewers a virtually limitless source of entertainment, news and gossip.

Once limited to daytime hours on weekdays, such programs have multiplied exponentially in recent years. Viewers can now choose from more than sixty different programs that run nearly continuously all day, every day. Today's talk shows fall into genres as diverse as the shows themselves. Programs like Jon Stewart's "The Daily Show" and Tim Russert's "Meet the Press" report on political news, with varying degrees of humor and subjectivity.

"Jon Stewart is great," said junior Carlo Canlas. "I usually try to avoid politics as much as possible, but he makes it interesting."

Stewart, in particular, merges politics and pop culture to make a more entertaining combination.

"Stewart doesn't take everything so seriously. He tries to find the lighter side," said freshman Cameron McCallum.

Others, like "Dr. Phil" and "Montel," offer psychological and medical insight. Still others, like "Ellen," "The Oprah Winfrey Show" and "The Jerry Springer Show," seek only to entertain.

"Ellen's show is really funky and fun," said freshman Cooper Millholland. "I like the way she dances."

A forward-thinking state of mind

WS's representatives to Girl's State and Boy's State have been selected for this year's summer session

By Libby Bursley
News Editor

The state of Virginia offers select rising seniors a unique, mock-government experience with its Girl's and Boy's State programs.

The juniors who applied for this prestigious opportunity faced heavy competition this year because of the large applicant pool. Four girls and four boys were chosen to be WS's representatives to this summer's Girl's and Boy's State. The sessions are set for the week of June 18-24.

The girls chosen were juniors Allison Campbell, Cori Buck, Kavika Dilawari and Nadia Khatouri, who will be attending the program at Longwood University. The boys--juniors Ben Trapp, David Dubin, Chris Benedict and Karl

Sakas--will be going to the program at Liberty University. These students were required to write an essay, fill out an activity form, acquire a teacher recommendation and participate in an interview.

"The essay was about what we could bring to Girl's State, and what we hoped to get out of the experience and achieve," said Cori Buck.

Applicants also had to list all activities that he or she participated in throughout high school and carefully chose teachers to write letters of recommendation on his or her behalf.

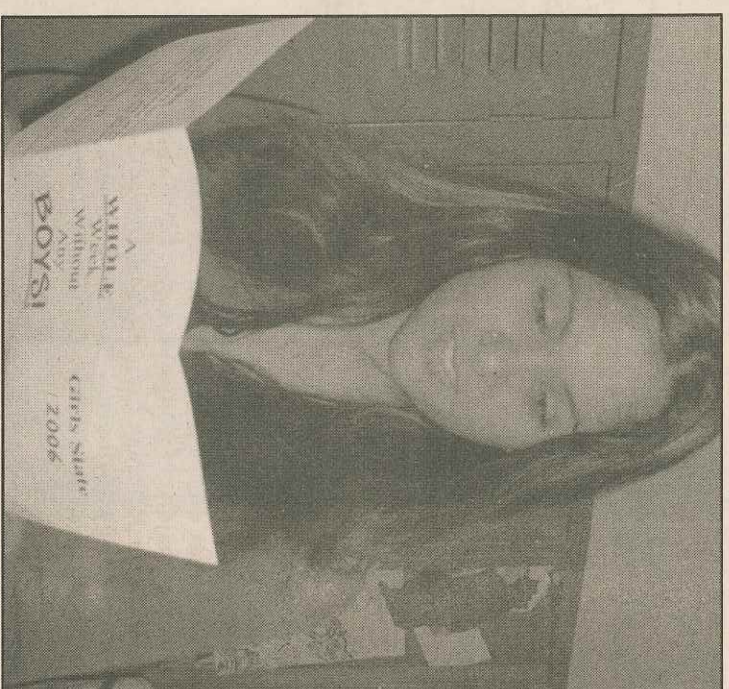
"I chose my AP Language teacher, Mr. Metzger, because he teaches an upper level class and, as an English teacher, I knew he would write [the letter] really well," said David Dubin. All the applicants agreed that

the interview was the most challenging part of the admission process. The juniors faced a panel of history teachers in both individual and group question sessions.

"For me, the whole interview made me nervous, but I thought that the group session was more comfortable because I wasn't alone. They asked questions about the government and laws and things like that," said Kavika Dilawari.

Each student had individual reasons for applying, such as a large interest in the topics covered in the program and the hope of a fun experience. There was, however, a single common factor for the students who applied.

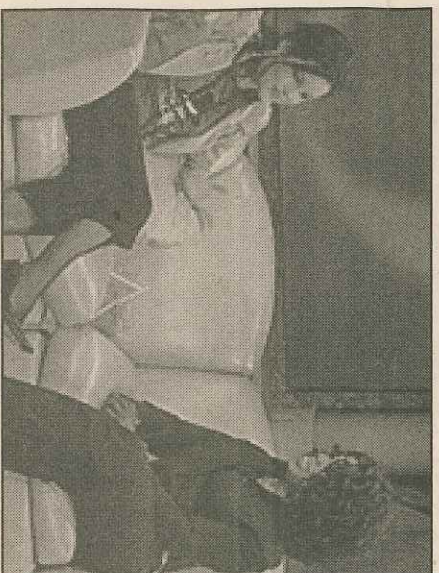
"Of course, this is going to look good on my college applications," said Dubin. All of the students chosen to



Sara Kofall

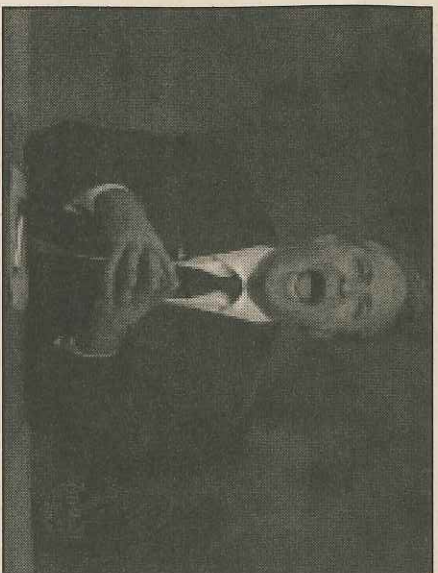
Junior Kavika Dilawari, one of WS's representatives to Girl's State this year, anticipates an educational and meaningful experience at the one-week program this summer.

attend either Girl's or Boy's State are looking forward to an enjoyable summer. "It'll be a good experience because I'm interested in government issues," said Dilawari. "I'm flattered they picked me."



LisaMarie

Talk show hosts Jon Stewart, shown at top, and Oprah Winfrey, below, both attract large audiences despite their contrasting presentation styles.



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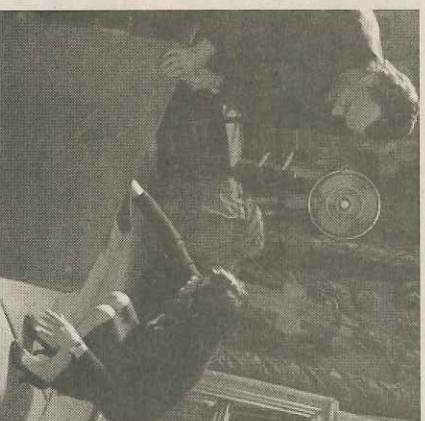


Jody Semlin

does bring up more than real questions about Catholicism, whether or not Jesus was ever married and of course the age-old question of why Mona Lisa is smiling. The novel explores the questions through the investigative work of Robert Langston, an art history professor turned detective. His expertises are called upon to help solve a murder mystery at the famous Louvre museum that sets off a string of unlikely events. He teams up with a cryptologist, Sophia, to follow the clues embedded in Leonardo Da Vinci's works that ultimately lead to the truth behind the questions.

Readers should be warned, however: Do not pick up this book unless one has the time to sit down for hours to finish it. From the moment the first page is turned, readers are completely absorbed in Robert Langston's world and caught in his desperate chase for the truth.

The structure of the novel is particularly attention grabbing. The book switches its third person narrative from character to character. One moment it follows Langston, the next chapter it follows the antagonists. This method results in each chapter being ended with a cliff hanger that forces the reader to continue on. One second you're on chapter two and the next it is six hours later, and you haven't left your chair.



Tom Hanks and Audrey Tautou in today's release, "The Da Vinci Code."



Yahoo! Movies

ian McKellen, as Sir Leigh Teabing, plays a crucial role in the protagonists' quest.

Dan Brown does an amazing job at explaining all the art history behind the novel, and incorporating incredible detail and research so that the reader forgets that the novel is fictional.

This book is perfect for anyone remotely interested in art history, Catholicism or a good page-turning murder mystery. On the plus side, if you're interested in all these, but uninterested in reading in general, you're in luck. Columbia Pictures produced a movie version based on the novel that opens today. Although a movie could never do the novel justice, and it will inevitably leave out crucial detail, it is sure to be an enjoyable experience.

By Christina Arai

Oracle Editor

Readers are instantly immersed into a world of adventure, intrigue and mystery in Dan Brown's *The Da Vinci Code*.

Although readers must remember that it is a strictly fictional plot line, the novel

'Stick It' fails to 'Bring it On'

By Katie Costello

Features Editor

The theater's newest sports movie definitely sticks it to gymnastics.

"Stick It" follows tomboy, Haley (Missy Peregrym) who gets in a little trouble with the law and is sent to the dreaded VGA or Vickerman's Gymnastics Academy. Upon her arrival we see that Haley has been hiding her amazing gymnastics skills ever since she walked out at the Worlds competition.

Her stubborn attitude meets its match as coach Vickerman refuses to let her walk out on another competition and gets her ready to show her skills. No thanks to dizzy gymnast Joanne (Vanessa Lengies) who is used to receiving all of the attention Haley is able to regain her confidence as the big competition approaches.

The two funniest characters in the movie are her two guy friends Frank (Kellan Lutz) and Poot (John Patrick Amedori). They supply the movie with its funniest lines like, "Dude why do you always have to bite my moment? Is it tasty?"

While at the competition Haley begins a revolution of gymnasts with attitude who begin protesting the judges' unfair rating system by refusing to perform



Yahoo! Movies

Joanne: "It's not gym-nice-tics."

+ "Stick It"



Yahoo! Movies

Torrance: "We're gymnasts too, except no beams, no bars, no vault."

— "Bring It On"

and picking the winners themselves. This was a little too unrealistic for my taste because the chance of a group of tiny teenage gymnasts being able to change the whole scoring system for competitions is highly unlikely.

"Bring It On," was a similar sports movie from the same writers. This movie, released in 2000 follows a cheerleading squad, The Toros, led by new captain Torrance (Kirsten Dunst) who after shortly becoming squad leader finds out that all of their routines were stolen from an inner city high school squad. With the help of new kid Missy (Elizta Dushku) and love interest Cliff (Jesse Bradford) they work on creating a brand new routine for nationals that will beat the inner city squad, The Clovers. The cheer routines were intricate and impressive, inspiring even the most non-athletic person to attempt a cartwheel after the movie.

Although both movies were fairly similar (tomboy- turns-star-girlly-athlete and corny ending), "Bring It On" had a more believable plot and more laugh out loud moments. The cheer routines were more impressive than the gymnastic routines in "Stick It," and the love interest in "Bring It On" was more developed than the potential romance between grungy Poot and jealous Joanne. I enjoyed both movies but overall "Bring It On" had more attitude, humor and witty one-liners.

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'Unanimous' bores from the bunker

By Kelly Sipple
News Assistant

When I first heard about the new Fox reality show "Unanimous," I was actually kind of intrigued. With nine people locked underground in a bunker, battling for \$1.5 million, the show was bound to have some exciting drama.

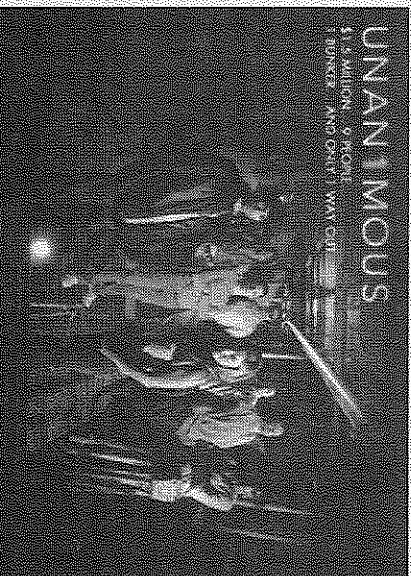
The show, which airs Wednesdays at 9:30 p.m., is about nine men and women who must come to a unanimous vote and decide who should receive the \$1.5 million prize. For every second they don't come to a decision, however, one dollar ticks off the prize money. On the episode before the season finale, there was only \$460,482 left and, from the looks of it, the contestants will never reach a decision.

There was too much bad blood on the last episode for anything other than vulgar words. Even though on several occasions the group has agreed on who to give the money to, in the end someone votes a different way. Several of the cast members are so adamant that certain cast members do not receive the money that they have vowed to remain in the bunker until the money has dwindled down to nothing.

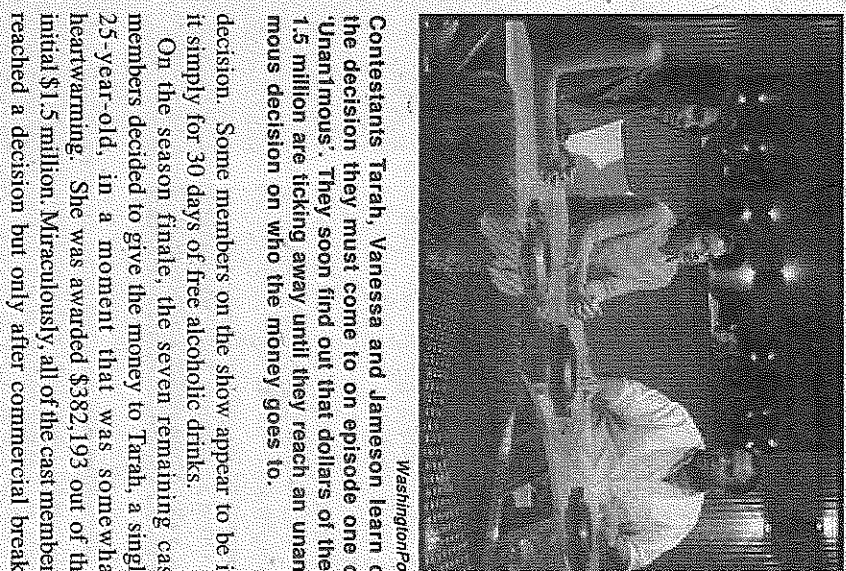
The setting on the show is extremely cheesy, and the host of the show looks like a dorky high-school student who managed to get a job. Also adding to the lame and cheesy effect of the show is the title,

"Unanimous". Since the cast members really can't decide on one person, the whole number one in the title is not really that effective. Mainly, though, poor casting is the reason why the show is nothing more than a shout-fest.

Obviously, by casting a gay activist and an extremely conservative minister, the producers of the show wanted a drama-filled half hour. Unfortunately for them, all they created was tension that totally defeated the purpose of the show which was to come to a unanimous



The recently ended series of "Unanimous" was a cheesy, tension filled waste of Fox's 9:30 block of airtime of bad blood and vulgar dialogue.



Contestants Tarah, Vanessa and Jameson learn of the decision they must come to on episode one of 'Unanimous'. They soon find out that dollars of their 1.5 million are ticking away until they reach an unanimous decision on who the money goes to.

decision. Some members on the show appear to be in it simply for 30 days of free alcoholic drinks.

On the season finale, the seven remaining cast members decided to give the money to Tarah, a single 25-year-old, in a moment that was somewhat heartwarming. She was awarded \$382,193 out of the initial \$1.5 million. Miraculously, all of the cast members reached a decision but only after commercial breaks and long, dramatic pauses.

I think we can all come to one unanimous decision, that "Unanimous" isn't really worth our time.

Lame intensity and a lot of cash

NBC spices up the air with 'Deal or No Deal'

By Nicole Simpson
Entertainment Assistant

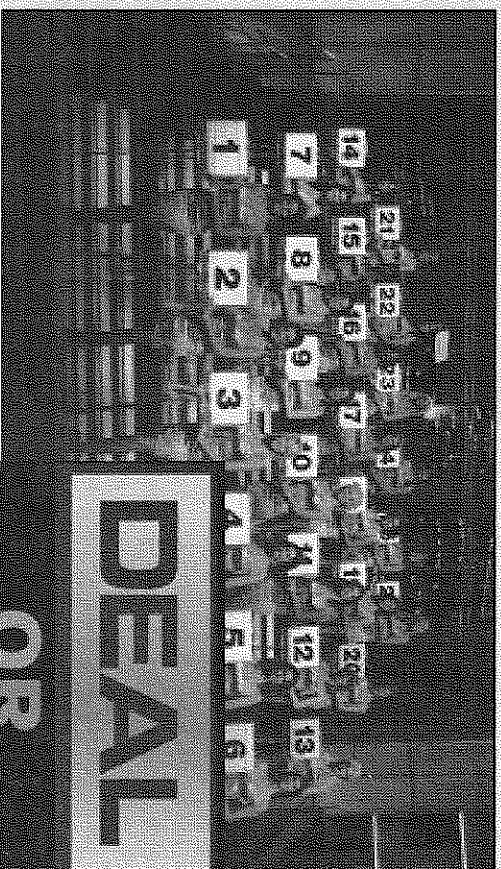
When the clock strikes eight on Monday, Wednesday and Friday nights, 26 beautiful women in matching evening gowns with 26 silver briefcases march out on stage to try to give away up to \$1 million.

The NBC game show, "Deal or No Deal," is based entirely on luck. First, the contestants choose one briefcase out of 26. The amount of money within the briefcase is the amount that he goes home with if he chooses not to accept the banker's deal. The briefcase that he chooses, however, cannot be opened until he makes his final decision.

The player continues to open the remaining 25 briefcases to uncover what their briefcase may hold. As long as the large numbered briefcases are not open, the banker's offer will remain high. When the large numbered briefcases are opened, the banker's offer goes down.

The contestants are allowed three people to stand on the side and offer them advice: usually, a spouse, parent and friend. One participant even brought her "lucky bamboo," which proved devastatingly unlucky when she went home with only \$9,000 and managed to pick the \$5 briefcase as her first and when it came down to eliminating the remaining 25, she was quick to choose the unlucky 13, which held the million, meaning any deal the banker were to offer her, would immediately go down drastically, and, the million was not in her case. That's some luck there, I'd probably burn that bamboo promptly after that loss.

The banker, who greatly "intensifies" the game with his shadowy figure and exaggerated phone calls, refuses to show his face, but assures us that behind his "Home Improvement" like Behind-The-Fence character, he finds himself "seriously hot." Because of his cruel deals and schemes, I seriously



"Deal or No Deal" is NBC's luck-based show devoted to giving away loads of cash to either very lucky, or very unlucky participants. Beautiful women offer one of the 26 different amounts of money to the contestants with deals before decision time.

doubt his attractiveness. I'd hide my face too if I was known to rip off all the people I meet at my job.

The show is basically made of lame intensity, insane amounts of money and

either a lot of disappointment or a very happy participant. Even though it seems this show couldn't get any better, at least they allow you to text in your vote to win ten grand three times a week.

'Walk the Line'

Not much of a country music fan, I was skeptical before I watched Walk the Line, the story of the country legend Johnny Cash's rise to fame and his romance and friendship with folk singer June Carter. After the first twenty minutes, I was entranced. Jonquin Phoenix does a remarkable job of portraying a vulnerable version of Cash that is easy to sympathize with. As June Carter, Reese Witherspoon is a formidable but likeable southern gal. Phoenix and Witherspoon go one step further in their portrayal of the country legends by singing Cash and Carter's music. No matter your music taste, Walk the Line will have you tapping your foot by the end.



Walk the Line
Importants

Oracle Picks



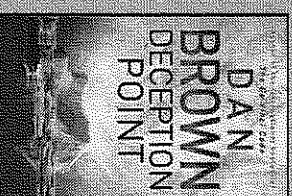
BurntBoat

'Back to Bedlam'

James Blunt is not your everyday musician. Before embarking on his singing career, Blunt was a soldier with the British Army and part of the NATO peacekeeping force in Kosovo, where he wrote one of the songs on his album, "No Bravery," about the genocide that he witnessed. He proves himself to be multi-talented on Back to Bedlam, in which he played multiple instruments and co-wrote a few songs, in addition to doing the vocals. Blunt's melodic music, with his addictive rhythms, his distinctive voice, and intriguing lyrics, is perfect for relaxing.

Deception Point

Deception Point has been mostly overlooked in the wake of Dan Brown's bestselling thriller the Da Vinci Code. Deception Point, however has all the qualities of a satisfying thriller with its exotic settings, well-developed characters that are both amusing and horrifying, multiple murders and murder attempts, and engizng plotline. Does that sound a little bit like the Da Vinci Code? Not quite. In Deception Point, Rachel Sexton, a government analyst, along with Michael Toland, a charming oceanography expert, are assembled by NASA to verify data concerning a meteorite that scientists discovered in Antarctica that has important political consequences during a heated presidential election season. Brown's ability to turn the unbelievable into the believable makes this a fantastic read.



RandomHouse
Compiled by Laura Byland

Spring showers can bring some fun hours

By Caitlin Kenney

Viewpoint Section Assistant

Don't let rainy days keep you from having fun. Rain not only cleanses the ground but it also clears the air of the pollen that has haunted us for the past few weeks. Although sports events are delayed and canceled, you don't have to sit around inside moping on the computer. There is a world outside of your air-conditioned house and opportunities that can be discovered on such a dreary day.

Often as younger kids, we would chant "Rain, rain, go away come again another day!" Now that we are older we have the privilege of a thing called a license that can take us to unknown places.

Remember rain does not mean the end of the world. After every rainy day there is a shining sun and possibly some gold at the end of your rainbow. Until then, here is a list of new explorations to make on your rainy day:

1. Arts and Crafts: a good time to visit your local pottery place and create a masterpiece. For birthday

presents, artwork from the heart is most appreciated.

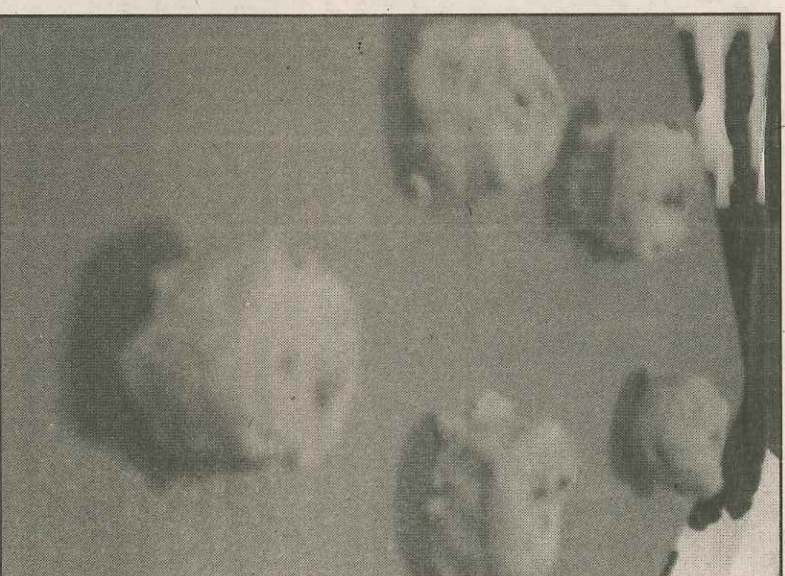
2. COOKIES! Just because Sesame Street found it necessary to change the "cookie monster" to "veggie monster" does not mean you are obligated to make such changes in your diet. Chocolate chip cookies hot from the oven hit the spot.

3. Visit the movie theater and watch one of the Hollywood hits. See crazy Tom dodge explosives in "Mission Impossible III" or Tom Hanks crack the case on the century's old mystery in "The Da Vinci Code."

4. Go to the mall; at times like these it's often overlooked. Shopping can help relieve the stress of the school week and you can look good at the same time. Check out the new Tysons Corner if you haven't had the chance. They have a great food court and shopping center in its new section.

5. Scrapbook: the end of the year is approaching so take the time to put together a memory book that can last you a lifetime.

If all else fails, you could begin your homework, but that is even drearier than the rain outside.



Erica Wilkening

Baking cookies can warm you up on a dreary, rainy day. It is a great way to spend quality time with friends and family.

Steve and Barry's carries educated shirts

Smart buyers can find college T-shirts at prices as low as \$7

By Laura Byland

Senior Staff Writer

One of the rites of senior year is to collect T-shirts from the colleges that you apply to.

Upon making your college decision, to show your school spirit, it is then necessary that you purchase as much gear as possible to advertise your home for the next four years. Unfortunately, in a tragic accident last winter my one beloved James Madison University shirt had a run-in with some paint. I felt shamed when my fellow seniors were proudly strutting the halls in their college T-shirts. I abandoned my pride and begged my mother to buy me a T-shirt while visiting my brother at James Madison, but I returned home shirtless and disheartened.

Enter Steve and Barry's, a discount chain store with a location in Potomac Mills that specializes in affordable college shirts. They advertise that they

sell the same quality clothing that you can find in campus bookstores, but for



much cheaper. When I entered the store with my mother, she zeroed in on the signs advertising that everything in the store was below \$7. Her willpower gave out in the wake of such incredible sales, and she told me gravely, "I will buy you a JMU shirt."

The selection in the store is not outstanding, but if you are willing to look, you are bound to come across a

terrific deal. Some school shirts seemed to go much faster than others. JMU shirts

Buffalo News

were in short supply, while there were a surplus of Virginia Tech and UVA shirts. Steve and Barry's also stocks shirts from schools across the country, especially larger schools, and tees with slogans that are both disgusting and amusing.

Steve and Barry's recently introduced a new clothing line expanding from their traditional t-shirt base. I was especially impressed with their \$7 jeans for women,

in a variety of sizes and styles. They have a women's line, with snug fitting tees, pants and capris, a men's line with button down shirts, pants and polos, and even a children's line.

Upon making your college decision, to show your school spirit, it is then necessary that you purchase as much gear as possible to advertise your home for the next four years.

I would recommend a trip to Steve and Barry's to anyone who is looking for fun clothes without straining his or her budget. It will be one place where you parents will most likely be gracious to pay for your clothes.

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Celebrate weekend stars and strikes

By Zohra Alnoor
Junior Staff Writer

Until recently, I had only gone bowling once in my life, not counting the one time the Bowl America truck visited my school in the third grade.

I'm still no good at the sport. I got loads of "gutter balls," but at 11:48 p.m., I made my first strike in my 16 years of living. It was one of my most triumphant moments in life.

Friday and Saturday nights, from 10 p.m. to 1 a.m., are Cosmic Bowling nights at Bowl America in Burke. When I walked into the building, the lights were off, the disco ball flashed colors everywhere and the music blared.

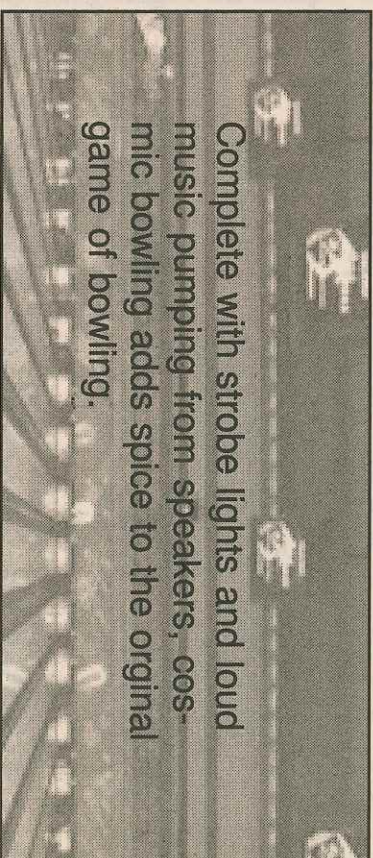
I was in a group of 11 people, which included my cousins, siblings, friends and my mom. I paid for a game and a pair of shoes. That's when I was handed a pair of old, ratty, red, blue and brown suede shoes. They were the ugliest

shoes I'd ever seen in my life.

My group walked across the bowling arena toward our lanes, past people who were smoking cigarettes and drinking alcohol. My six-year-old brother fanned the air around him with disgust. Poor boy.

We sat down on the chairs in our cute little section, and we stared at the computer screen, not knowing what to do next. We had to ask a woman near us how to start playing. We got our initials on the screen and then started looking around for bowling balls. When we asked the same woman where to find the balls, she looked at us like we were crazy and pointed to a shelf directly behind us, which was stacked with bowling balls of all sizes. It was pretty embarrassing.

After getting settled down, we started to play. Bowling was so amazingly fun. I loved rolling the ball in the lanes, even when it was a gutter ball. I loved helping my young, weak brother roll the ball, even when it was a gutter ball. Basically my



Associated Press

Complete with strobe lights and loud music pumping from speakers, cosmic bowling adds spice to the original game of bowling.

team, which consisted of elementary school kids and me, got mostly gutter balls during our pathetic attempt to win. It was pretty sad, but we played against a group of aggressive teenagers and college students.

Apart from being a fun game, Cosmic Bowling has the best music ever. Songs range from rock to rap to "The Funk." My favorite song which played that

night was, "Play that Funky Music, White Boy." I sang and danced to it...and when it was my turn I, of course, made a gutter ball.

If you're confused about what to do on Friday and Saturday nights, don't stay home and watch "Friday Night Smackdown." Instead, go out to Cosmic Bowling Night and try making a strike. If you can't, don't fret — join the club.

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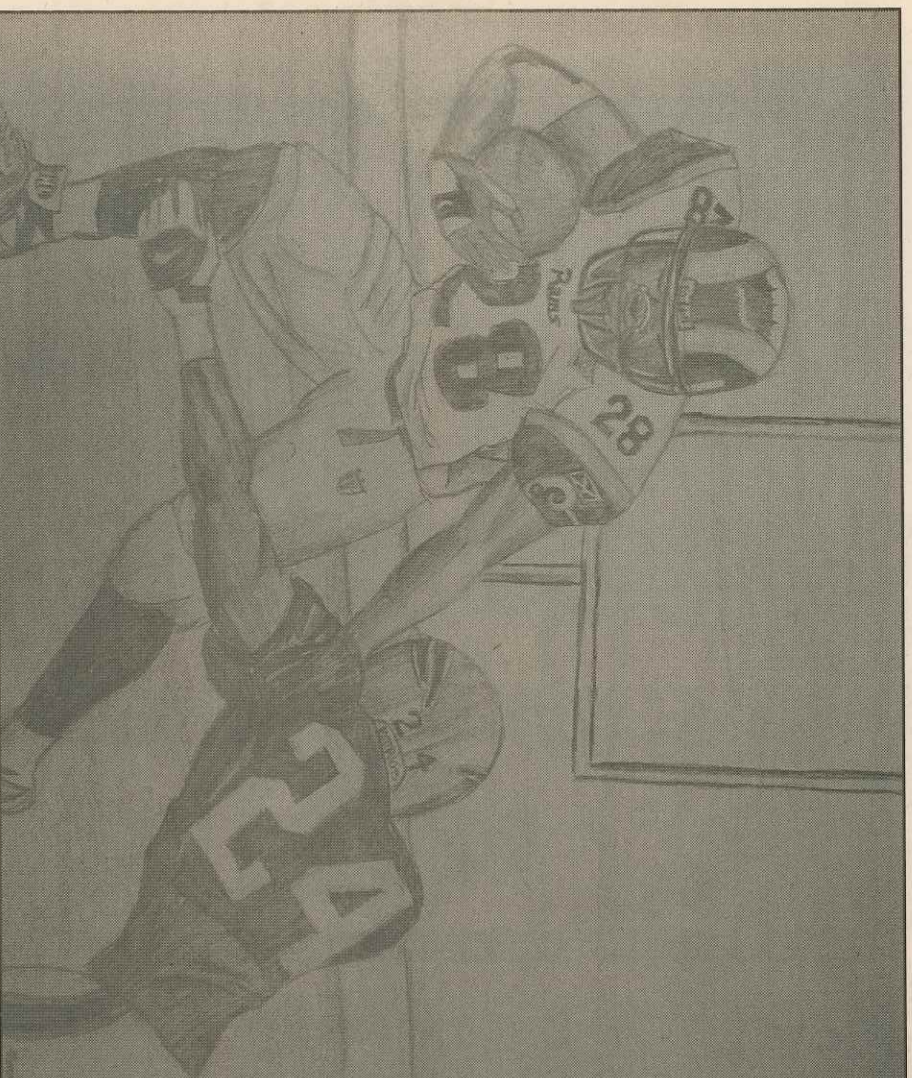
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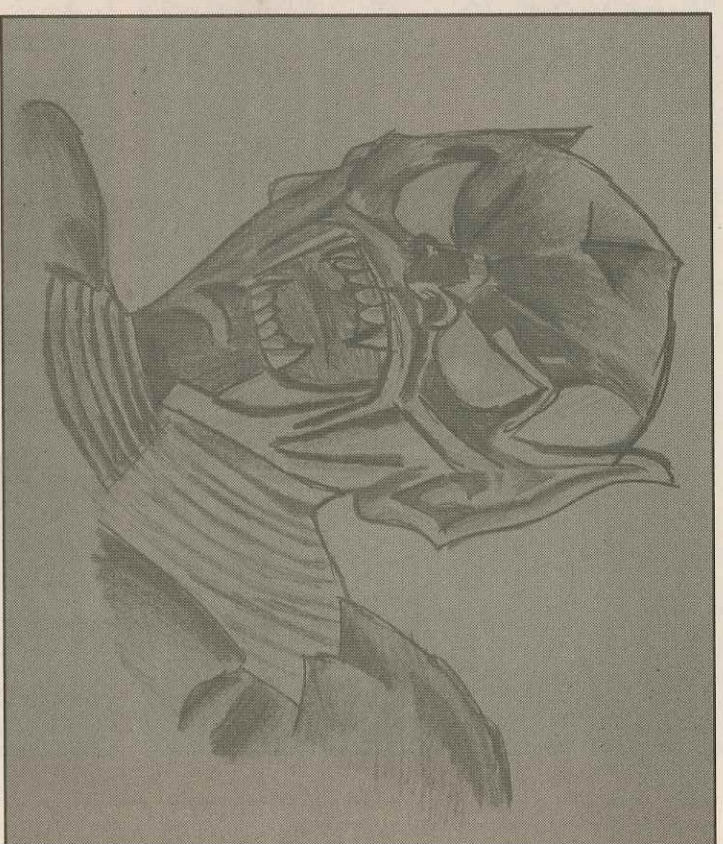
**WS boys, sophomore SPENCER
SNOW and senior CHRIS
CHENEY, mix their different
styles of art. Snow prefers
light sketches while Cheney's
creations are darker and
bolder.**



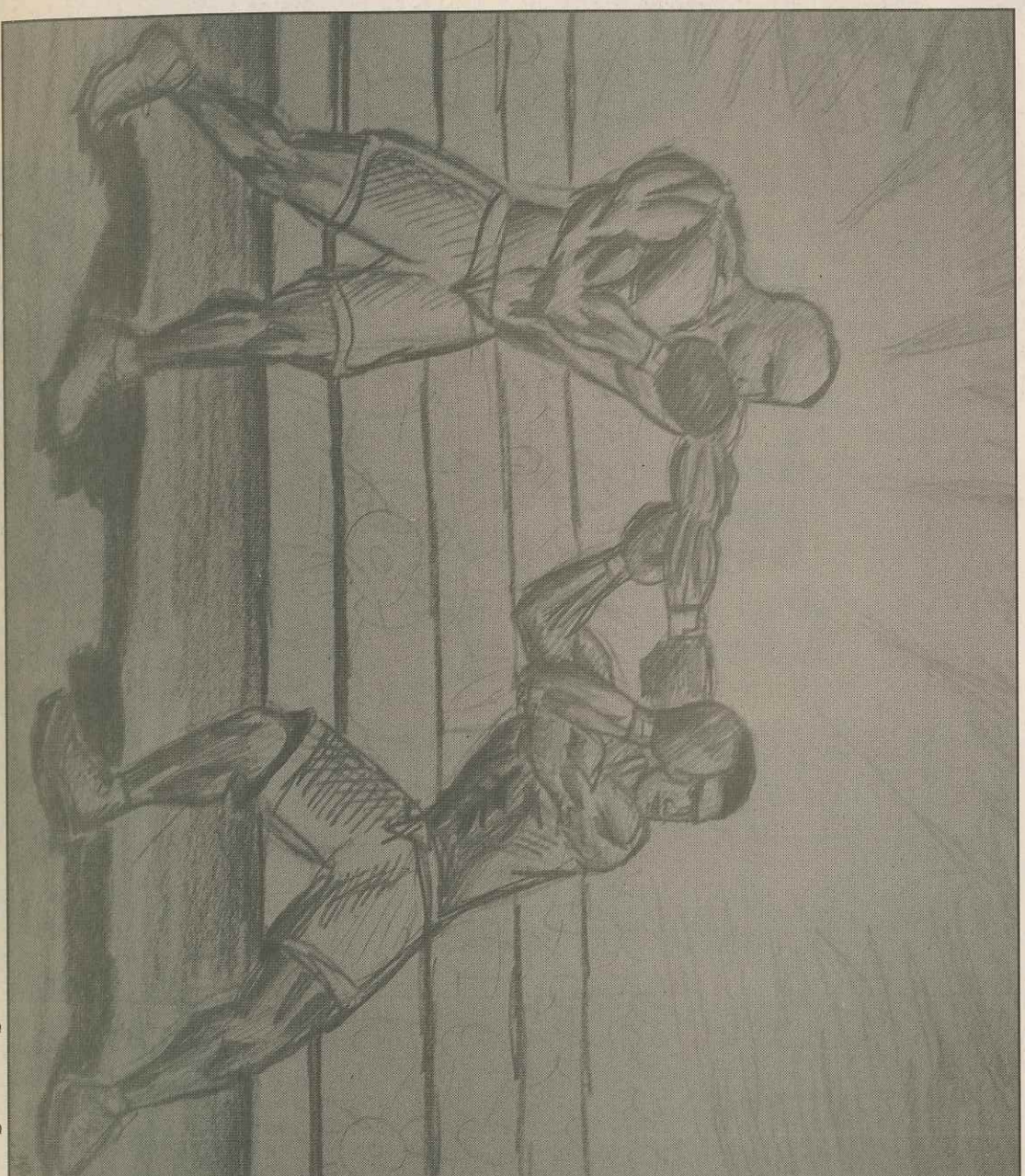
Chris Cheney



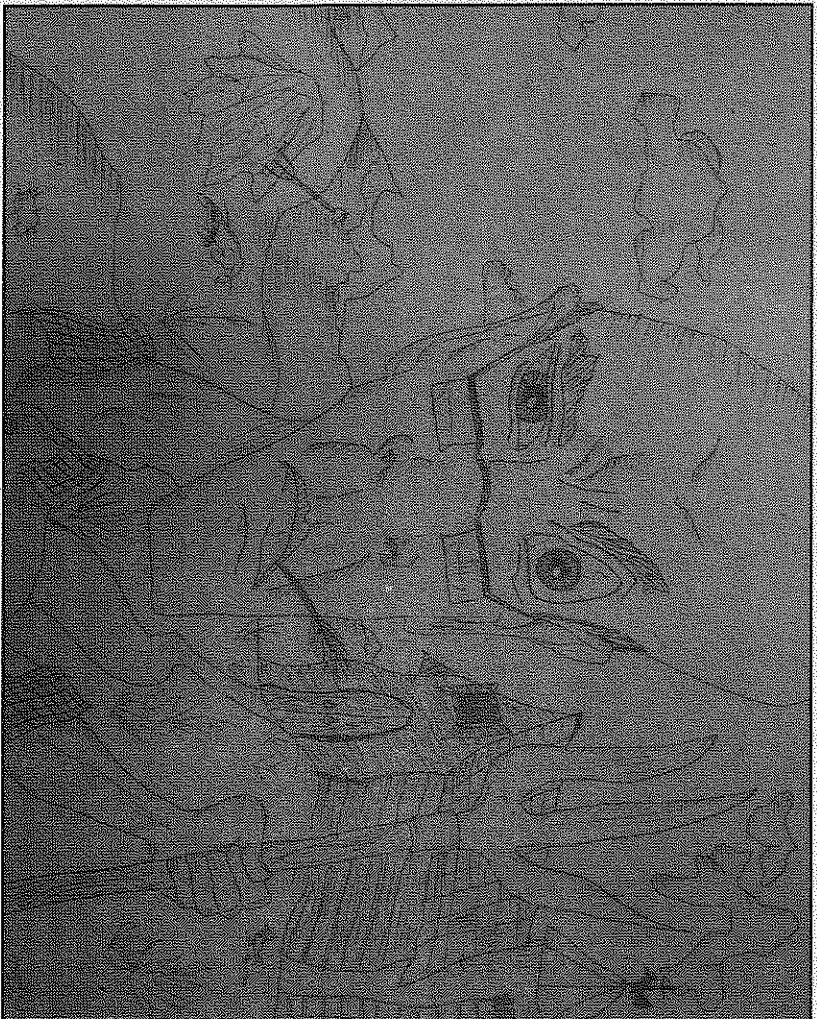
Spencer Snow



Spencer Snow



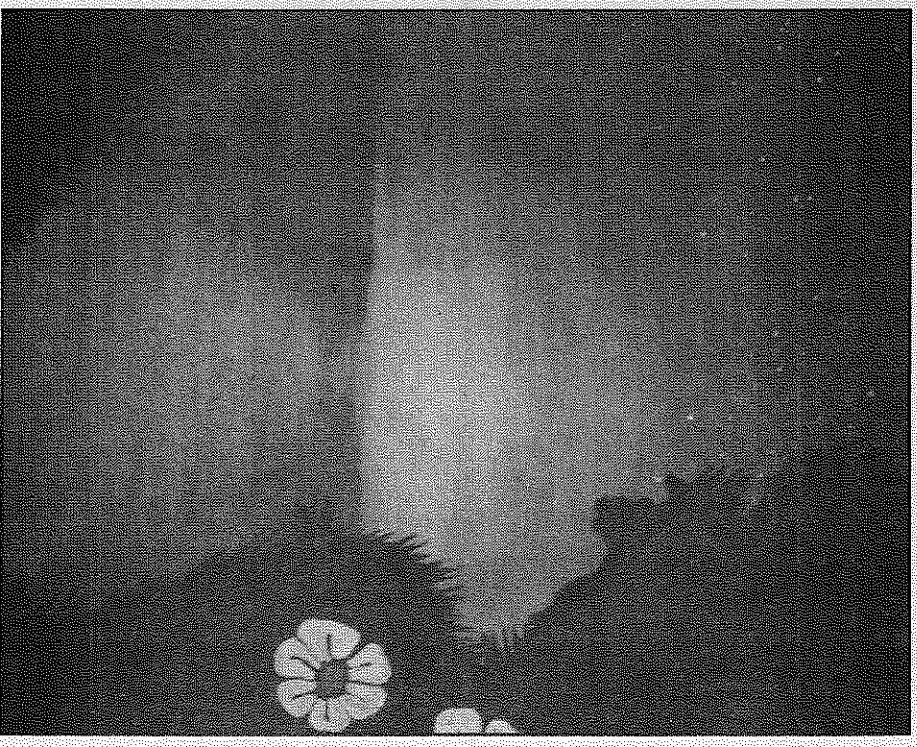
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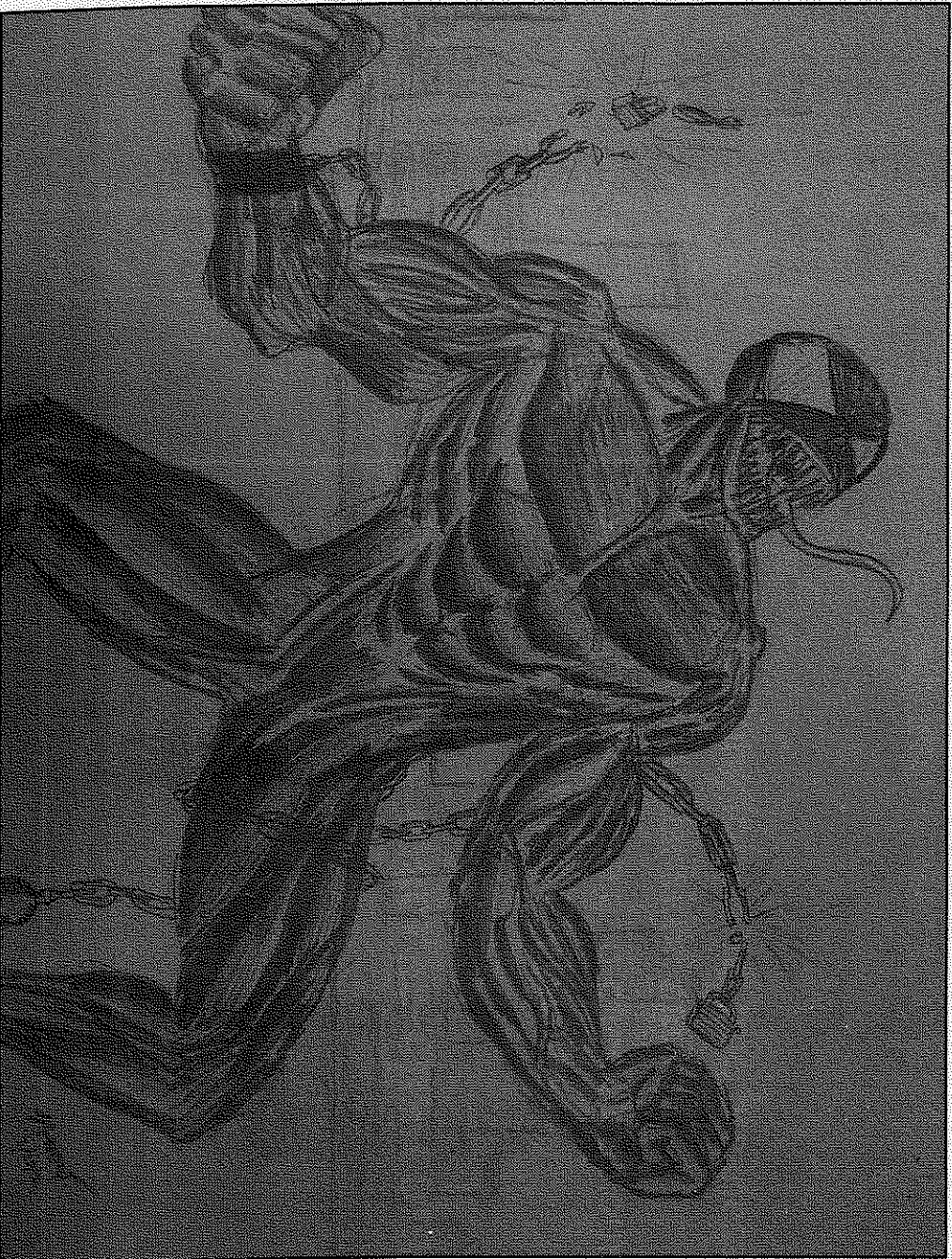
Spencer Snow



Spencer Snow



Chris Cheney



Spencer Snow

Crew rows into sports section

By **Jordy Serwin**
Business/Systems Editor

Hawaii is separated from the United States by several thousand miles of open ocean.

It's one of the 50 states and has many redeeming qualities, like jolly Hawaiian people and active volcanoes, yet it is not physically connected with the mainland in any direct way. The WS crew team functions much the same way, but without the jolly Hawaiian people or volcanoes.

The team is comprised of students who attend WS, yet is actually regarded by WS as a club rather than a sport. Aside from the obvious lack of large bodies of water on school grounds for the team to use, other factors explain this label. For one, FCPS does not provide financial support for the team.

"The biggest problem really is that it's really expensive and that goes on to the participants because we don't get funding from the school," said senior Craig Stephenson, who was on the crew team last year.

The limited number of competing teams from other schools within FCPS also contributes to the school's decision to consider crew as a club. Regardless, WS's Director of Student Activities, Mike Dobson, made clear the administration's attitude toward the team.

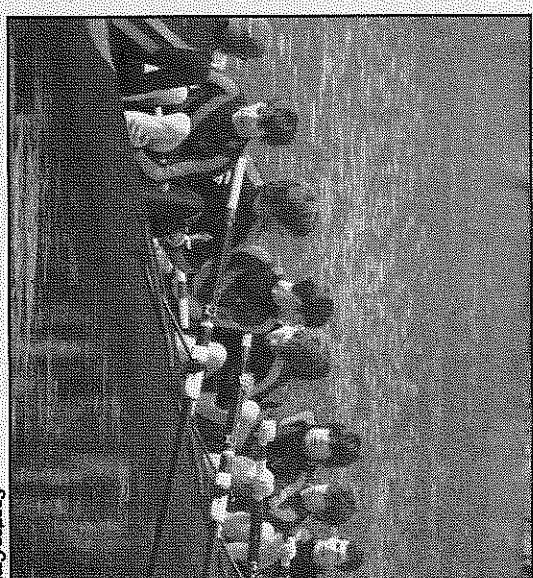
"We love the crew team," said Dobson. Further, though still technically a club, crew has its own page on spartansports.org, the ultimate source of information for WS's athletes.

The fact that crew is a club now doesn't necessarily mean it will be always be a club. Sports tend to begin as clubs until the conditions become such that they may take on the title of "sport," as was the case with boys volleyball a few years back.

Although the designation of "club" rather than "sport" could potentially foster poor morale, the team members keep their feet in the boat and keep on rowing.

"People just need to come and see what our three hour practices are like. They happen to be longer than any other sport," said junior Janne Brand.

No matter how it fits into the school's athletic community, crew is still crew. Just as mainlanders



Spartans Crew

Despite overwhelming popularity, the crew team continues to lack recognition as an official sport.

undervalue the beauties and mysteries of the Hawaiian islanders, those not on the crew team can't possibly appreciate all that it is and has to offer.

"People just don't know what [crew] is all about," said junior Matt Miller.

Allergies attack athletes

By **Stephanie Aguilar**
Forum Editor

As springtime arrives, so does the rainy weather and allergy-causing problems.

Athletes on sports teams often encounter these annoyances, which in the long run have negative effects on practices. Pollen and rain are hand in the hand especially in the spring air. Baseball is the main sport that has been disturbed lately by this pair.

"It makes me feel bad because it's hard to breathe," said senior Tommy Cryer, a varsity baseball player. "I just have to deal with it."

Even throughout the rain, hard working athletes put all their effort into making the best of practices.

"One time when we practiced, it was so muddy that I slipped," said senior Clay Price, a varsity soccer player.

"It was okay because the rain shouldn't stop our practices," May, one of the rainiest months of

the year, hasn't shown its dark side much, but is still wreaking havoc this spring season.

Lacrosse players have had difficulties with their equipment because of the rain, but practices continue.

For the love of the game, these devoted athletes don't quit, with or without rain and pollen.

The hardships are worth it in the long run for many of the talented athletes.

"It makes me feel bad because it's hard to breathe. I just have to deal with it."

—**Tommy Cryer, Senior**

"We play and practice in the rain but it's our sticks that get messed up," said senior Brian Young, a varsity lacrosse player. "It should never get cancelled unless there's lightning."



Sara Kohler

The spring season poses several threats to athletes' health including severe allergies and poor weather.

Seniors step it up for their final chance at states

By **Andreaana Maxwell**
Inside Story Editor

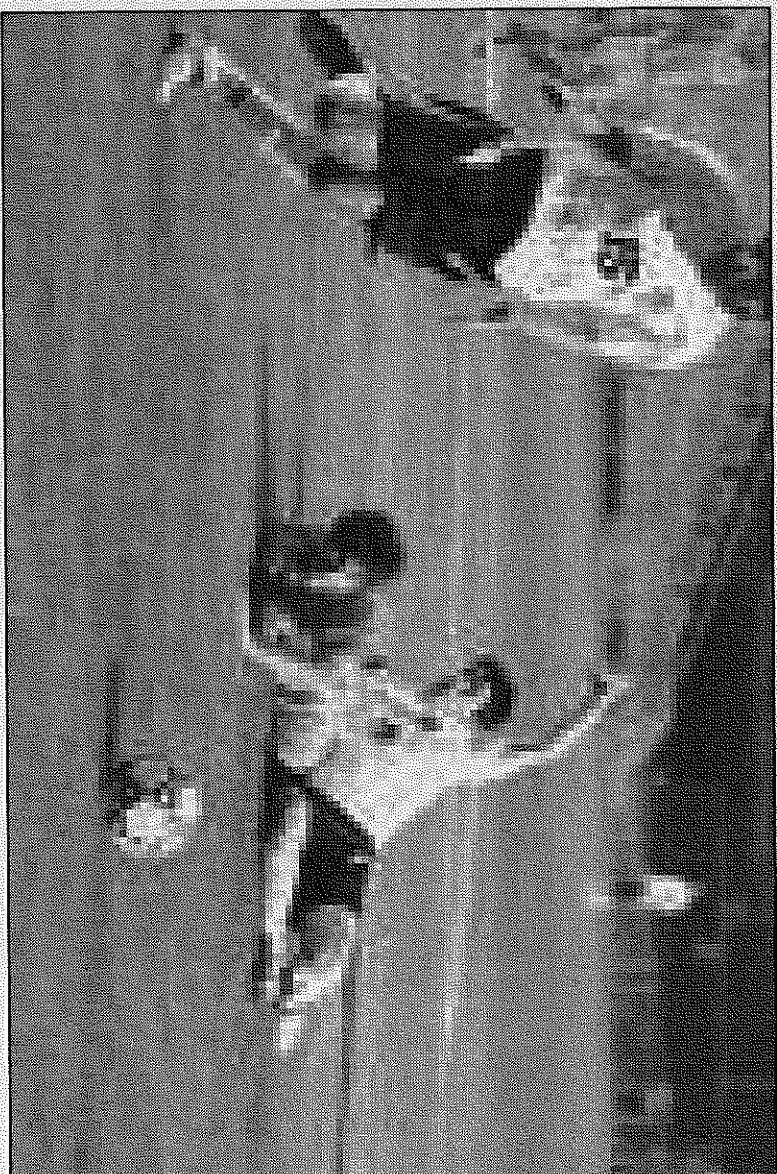
Hard work, dedication and the possibility of a state championship are undeniably the keys to the success achieved by the WS boys varsity soccer team this season.

This year, the team of 24 players is coached by Andy Saffron and WS counselor Ken Christopher.

The spring 2006 season began with the much anticipated game against Stonebridge HS, where former WS coach, Mr. May, is their new head coach. The Spartans won 1-0, putting the season off to a great start. The boys have an outstanding record of 10 wins, two losses and two ties as they enter the district tournament. As post season play begins, the team is tied for first in the district with rival Lake Braddock.

"We have a goal this year, we want to get back to states, that motivates us [to do well]," said senior Clay Price.

Unlike other sports teams, the soccer team is predominantly composed of upperclassmen, 11 seniors and nine juniors.



Springfield Connection

The boys varsity soccer team is comprised mainly of upperclassmen, including eleven senior players.

"We have a lot more senior leadership. We have a goal this year, we want to get back to states, that motivates us [to do well]."

—**Clay Price, senior**

"We have a lot more senior leadership [this year]. There's no spitting at practice and stuff," said Price. Their Patriot District soccer tournament began on May 15, 2006 with a 3-0 win over Annandale and the Spartans are hopeful that it will end in victory.

"We've worked hard the whole season," said senior Nick Gonzalez. "We should not have tied against Robinson or lost to North Stafford but that happens and if we play the way we've been playing right now, we have a good chance of going to [district] finals."

From cowbells to 'chicken man'

Ten memorable moments from four years at WS

By Tim O'Keefe
Sports Columnist

As my last O'Keefe's Beef column, I thought there would be no better way to finish it off than with my most memorable moments as a fan and participant of WS athletics over the last four years.

1. All the conversations, cowbell sightings, drum-banging and general good memories of spending an evening at WS stadium watching various sports from football in the fall to girls soccer in the spring. There is a simplicity and uniqueness to watching games at WS.

2. Head basketball coach, Dick Wickline, making statements to players like, "It is not that I do not like you, I just do not like your game." He also referred to players like Gaelan Whitworth, class of '04 who was all-district his senior year, that "He is not a good basketball player, but he sure played hard."

3. The Brazil brothers, Derrick and Desmond, class of '04, and their unique flair: Derrick in particular stood out in a game against Annandale in '03 when he rushed for 385 yards, third all time in the Northern Virginia history.

4. Speaking of Annandale Atoms, they bring back fond, memorable and comical moments. In three years playing basketball and a year playing football I never lost to Annandale. Memorable because of the "basketbrawl" where I witnessed a game winning shot

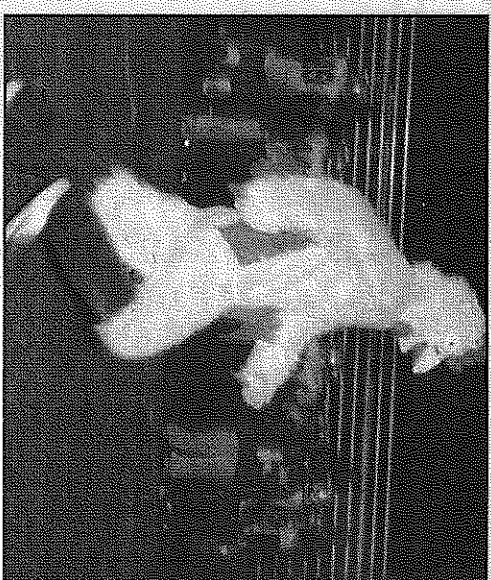
by Parker Roach, class of '05, fans rushing the court, then fans swinging at random people, all in a matter of 15 minutes. Comical memories because of Annandale's nickname "the Atoms." I am really intimidated.

5. Coach Bill Gibson's girls basketball powerhouse that every year seemed to be contending for the region title. He groomed talented players like class of '05 graduate, Laura Haskins, whose point guard expertise is now residing at Virginia Tech and '04' graduate Sarah Flanagan who is now playing at Mary Washington. Gibson's intense, strategic and personable tactics are unique.

O'Keefe's (last) Beef

6. Todd Lalich's commentary during guys and girls basketball games was unforgettable. From phrases like "beautiful shot" (regardless of which team made it), to "Microwave" (Kevin Kilday), "the eraser" (Josh Wilson) "Justin Shake-and-bake" (Justin Baker)", to "It's been a great game tonight folks." Lalich brought an element of excitement and flair to WS, that only true professionals like Bill Walton can out do.

7. The girls lacrosse senior night was special. This was not your typical senior night; each of the underclassmen on the team wore shirts of the names of all the seniors. Then in the game program it had a



Olympian '05
Among the most memorable moments in the last four years at WS is the infamous "chicken man" incident at the 2004 Homecoming football game.

detailed bio of each senior with a color picture, even team managers Dallan Cochran and Jessie Molinengo.

8. The annual powderpuff game each fall. Even though juniors beat the seniors in a down-pouring rain, it is always quite interesting watching girls play football, especially for a guy. Now if they played tackle instead of two hand touch, this might be number one.

9. "Chicken Man" running across the football field during the '05' homecoming game. Then the following week he pulled the same thing at a Lake Braddock football game. Simply classic.

10. The WS soccer teams of '02, '03, '04 remarkably winning three state championships. Pat Carroll, class of '04, the freakish athlete who is the brother of DC United player Brian Carroll, had three rings to show off by the time he graduated. Three rings in four years is something few teams at any level can enjoy.

Congratulations!

Lacrosse all-district winners

Girls Lacrosse

Co-District
Player of the Year
Summie Ko, attack

First team

Summie Ko, attack
Liz Welsh, midfield
Ryan Yohe, midfield
Julia Repa, defense
Alex Flannua, goalie

Second team

Chrissy Rogers, midfield
Kate Salazar, attack

Boys Lacrosse

First team
Matt Kawamoto, defense
Dom Coppola, defense

Second team

James Kim, midfield
Vince Coppola, midfield
Scott Holmes, defense
Brian Ho, attack
Matt Van Dao, attack

Honorable mention

Eric Burns, goalie

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Baseball's streak = winning season

By Sean Hogan

Features Editor

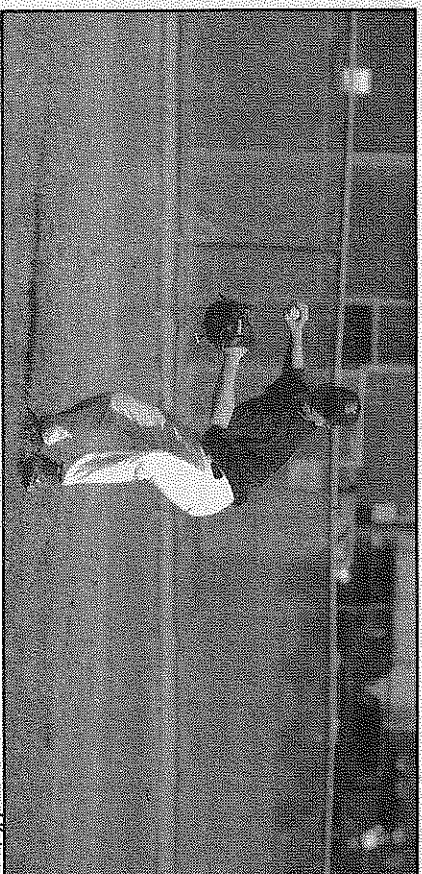
A 14-game winning streak is difficult to accomplish in any sport. When the large element of luck involved with baseball is added to the equation, winning 14 games in a row is next to impossible.

Not only did the JV baseball team win 14 games in a row; they only played 14 games, going un-defeated through their entire season.

"We're really well-rounded," said sophomore Ryan Sullivan. "We have a lot of talent."

Players attribute the success compared to last season's mediocre 7-7 record to both great coaching by Freddie Rappina and John Batchelor and an influx of talented freshmen. Five of the team's starters are freshmen, including Mike Kent and Bryn Renner.

The team scored 111 more runs than they have allowed in their 14 games, meaning they won each game by an average of 7.9 runs. Their only game that was decided by less than four runs was a 5-4 victory over South County on April 27.



Lifetouch
"We're really well-rounded. We have a lot of talent," said sophomore third baseman and pitcher Ryan Sullivan. Above, at a victorious Oakton scrimmage "South County's pretty good," said sophomore Tim Baldwin.

When a team's pitching only allows 2.4 runs per game, the team is usually successful. WS's pitchers shut out Robinson, Lee and TC Williams and gave up only 33 runs in the entire 14-game season.

With pitching this good, the offense doesn't need to do a whole lot to win games. Still, the skilled offense has scored 10.3 runs per game.

"We're pretty good at hitting," said sophomore Patrick Nutbrown,

"but we're not going to blow them all out."

The combination of hitting and pitching gave opponents little or no room for error. When a team excels at both hitting and pitching, the only thing that can bring them down is better hitting and pitching, which is nowhere to be found in the rest of the Patriot District's JV teams.

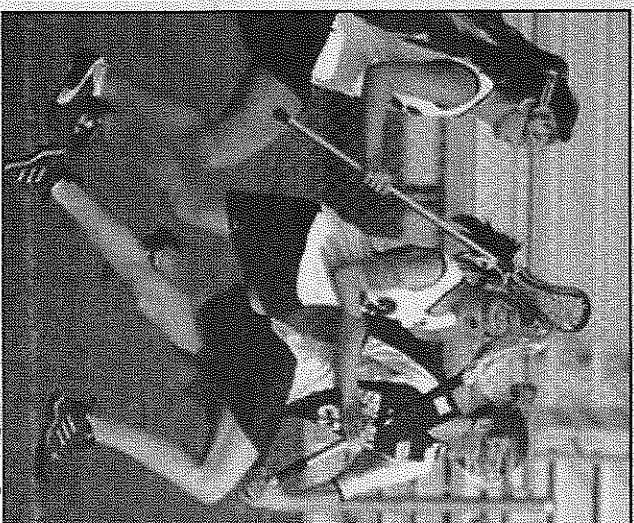
The JV baseball team's success was consistent throughout their whole season because of their dominance in both hitting and pitching.



Lifetouch
Sophomore outfielder Francis Carlin and freshman catcher Tucker Tobin talk to Coach Freddie Rappina during a preseason scrimmage.



SpartanSports
Sophomore Erica Wink runs while being guarded by a TC Williams player in a 9-3 win.



SpartanSports
Sophomore Erica Wink's twin sister Sarah runs by Stallion opponents in a 6-5 victory.

Cooperative sibling rivalry

Brother vs. brother, sister vs. sister

By Lauren Adams
Senior Staff Writer

The most famous siblings from WS are the Carroll brothers; Brian ('00) and Jeff ('02). Both of these brothers have gone on to play professional soccer for DC United after having successful careers for their WS high school team.

The sibling scene is obviously nothing new to high school sports teams, and quite a few brothers and sisters are on spring sports teams this year.

Vince and Dom Coppola share the spotlight on the varsity boys lacrosse team. Even though they may share the common every day squabbles of brotherhood, when it comes to the practice and game time, it's a different story.

"When it comes to game time, [my brother] is just like any other teammate," said Dom.

One of the main reasons the Coppola brothers feel so comfortable with one another on the playing field is because they don't get to feel the air of competitiveness.

"We play different positions, and the coach doesn't let us go against each other," said Vince.

Instead of being jealous, they tend to help keep one another's confidence up, commenting on things they did well.

"We sometimes discuss the game on the way home, but we don't criticize one another," said Dom.

Another set of siblings are twin sisters Erica and Sarah Wink.

They both compete on the Track and JV lacrosse team and have a slightly different view on being on the same team.

The Varsity boys soccer team is no stranger to sibling

relationships either. Sophomore Eddie Rivas and senior Victor Rivas are both midfielders on the field and brothers as well.

Being on the same sports team seems to help out siblings more than hurt them, and it gives them even more in common.

"We both get a lot of penalties," said Dom.



Lifetouch
In a 2-10 loss, junior Dom Coppola protects the ball from a Westfield opponent.

Playoffs propel Spartan spirit at end of season

By Colin Embrey
Sports Columnist

As sports seasons come down the final stretch, team members reminisce about the excitement from rival matches and look to relive the moment in the playoffs.

The playoffs unite the school in a way no other regular season game can.

Rivalry matches or games during the regular season exhilarate crowds and, depending on the

outcome, give them high hopes for a top

ceded home team, or drive them for revenge in the playoffs. I can account for the adrenaline rush that most players get during those contests because I've been a part of the Varsity soccer and wrestling programs, and I have watched other sports games at school.

The biggest rivalry at WS is with Lake Braddock, and with the entry of South County and Lee into the Patriot District, cross-town rivalries develop with every game.

Hayfield generally produces a very competitive team across the board of high school sports. Since I've been on the wrestling team, the Hawks have been our biggest rival because of their consistently competitive will to win.

In soccer, Lake Braddock is our most intense rival not only because the school is less than 5 minutes away, but because so much rides on one match up.

I know, as a player, that winning a rival match kills another team's confidence, and plants demons in their head

about the next meeting. Losing evokes an undying thirst for revenge. A tie does not satisfy.

In years past, the playoffs consisted of six teams, giving the top cede a bye into the semifinals.

Now that the district has eight teams, the bracket is full and the heat of the competition is higher than ever.

Playoffs have a huge effect on the players on a team. I love it when large crowds come to watch because they pump me

up. The extra support helps me perform higher than I usually do.

As an athlete, I know that when players hear friends and family cheer their name, it encourages them to step it up and take the team to the finals.

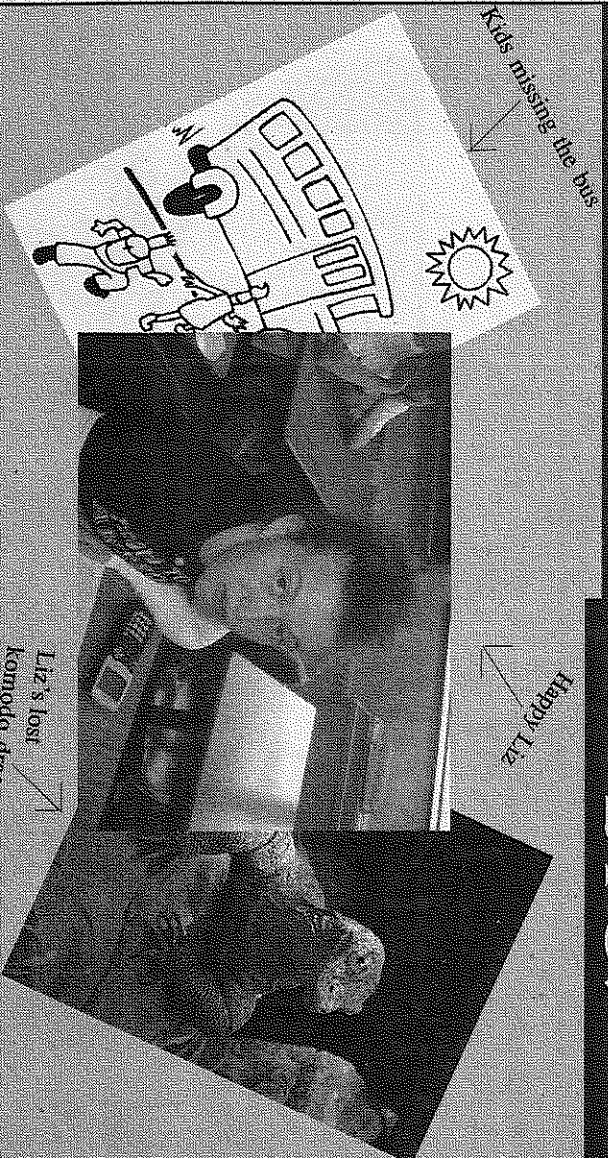
During the regular season, spectators join into their own groups and aren't as focused on the game. In the fall at football games I am sure I'm not the only one who doesn't watch the whole game.

People like me come to talk with friends and stop to cheer when we score. But in the playoffs, there is an intense passion for the game that unites our fans in cheering for the team.

With all the support, teams strive to please those who came to watch.

As we take the last step of the season into the playoffs, we remember those close games when we pulled through on top, we settled for a draw, or we fell just short.

These memories propel the Spartan spirit toward bringing home championships.



Goodbye Liz — your infamous column will be missed...

By Liz Weiderhold
Oracle Editor

I'd have to say that my entire high school experience can be summed up in one simple word: regret.

NINTH GRADE:

- I missed the bus 47 times.
- I wore saddle shoes to school.
- I refused to move out of my training bra.

TENTH GRADE:

- I got a B+ on a geometry test.
- I brought my komodo dragon to school and lost it in the girl's locker room. Coincidentally, three girls suffered inexplicable wounds to the lower legs. I was one of them.
- I somehow managed to be put on the first varsity boat in crew and then we suffered the worst defeat since the founding of the team.

ELEVENTH GRADE:

- I took yearbook and ended up exploiting my best friend for putting a very questionable photo in a spread entitled "Giving up the gym shorts." She sued me.
- I skipped school and ended up locking my keys in the car (which was running) while in the parking lot of the plaza.

TWELFTH GRADE:

- I still refused to move out of my training bra.
- I lost control entirely and took Environmental Science, not that there is anything wrong with that *per se*, except I hate the environment.
- I was coerced to go on the roof by three fellow classmates who then proceeded to lock me out. So for obvious reasons, I *readably* have no desire to repeat high school. Except regret goes two ways. While I regret the aforementioned things I *did*, I have an even stronger regret for the things I *didn't* do. I should have bought a school lunch, I should have won the Life of the Party superlative and should have taken advantage of at least eight guys. But more than that, I should thank my friends every day for being friends with a person like me. I should have told Mr. Christopher that he is my favorite of any kind of favorite I have and I should have thanked you for reading my column, because writing my column and having it published, as humiliating as it may seem, is one of the few things I don't regret.

IT AIN'T OVER 'TIL THE FAT LADY SINGS

By Stevie Florino
ETC Editor

You know that list you have of all the things you want to do before you die? Well, I have something you can add to it.

Everyone should see an opera at least once in their life. I have been oh so lucky and regularly receive free box tickets to opera's at the Kennedy Center. My mom is the personal secretary to the president of a high-class financial company and he is on the Washington National Opera Board. Whenever the board sends him tickets, he almost always gives them to my mom.

Not only does my mom's boss give her free tickets, but he also got her a part in an opera. You're probably thinking, "Wow! Your mom can sing opera?" Well, no she doesn't sing, but she is one heck of a flower maiden, a.k.a., an extra.



Her part basically consisted of dancing around the king, bowing down to the empress, and lying under a big white tarp with all of the other extras, swaying her arms and legs, making it look like wind.

The first opera my mom was in was Parsifal, starring Placido Domingo. Placido is one of the

most famous opera singers/directors there is.

The second opera my mom was in was La Clemenza Di Tito. The performances are actually still going on, so if you get the chance to drive out to the Kennedy Center, you should go see my mom act as a town peasant.

Opera's are an acquired taste. You either love them, or absolutely cannot stand them. Even though just about every opera has the same plot (a guy loves a girl, but the girl loves someone else, then conflict arises and someone either dies or gets thrown in jail, then in the end everyone lives happily ever after), they are still beautiful to listen to and interesting and entertaining to watch.

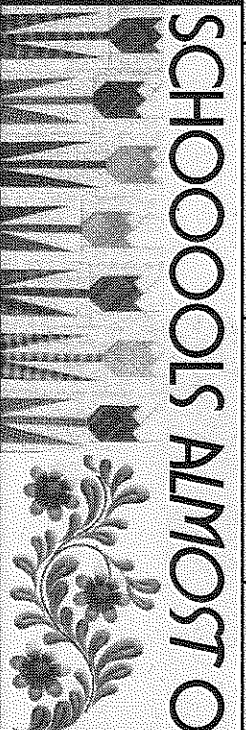
I'm telling you, you have to see an opera at least once in your life. It's an experience you do not want to pass up. For all of you who are still not convinced, did I tell you about the cookies and candy during intermission?

May/June '06

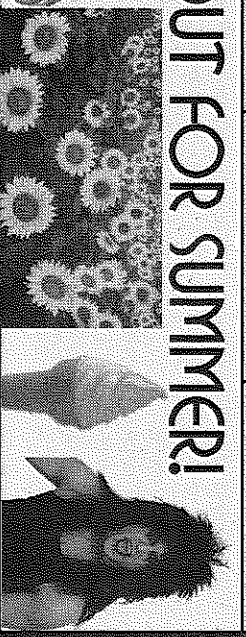
"Things do not change; we change."
"What is the use of a house if you haven't got a tolerable planet to put it on?"
"Goodness is the only investment that never fails."
~Henry David Thoreau

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
19 Big your Coach! Today is the last day of Coach Recognition Week!	20 United Nations World Refugee Day	21 The American Red Cross was founded today in 1881!	22 3 rd and 7 th period SOL Testing	23 4 th and 6 th period SOL Testing	24 1 st and 6 th period SOL Testing	25 2 nd period and retake SOL Testing
26 Regatta in New Jersey	27 Pry open the freezer 'cause today is National Grape Popsicle Day!	28 United Nations World No-Tobacco Day	29 Memorial Day Holiday-No school!	30 Buy your prom tickets (\$50) on Thursdays and Fridays outside the Cafeteria	31 Senior Military Awards at 8:00 AM and Gatorball Tournament Today!	1 Senior Awards Assembly - Auditorium - 9:00 AM, and Nicole Simpson turns 16!!

Battle of the 2 Bands, and Carrie DeClark and Tina Wejda are 18!



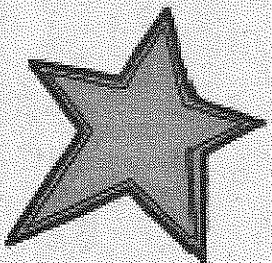
SCHOOOOOLS ALMOST OUT FOR SUMMER!



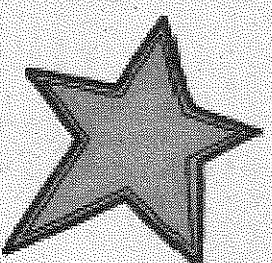
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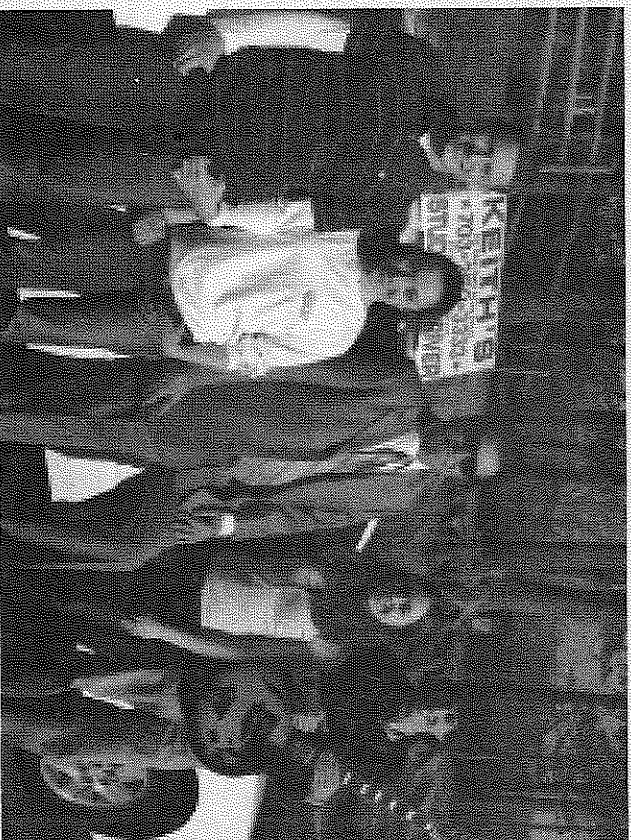


CONGRATULATIONS
Boys swim & dive district champions!
Girls swim & dive undefeated season!

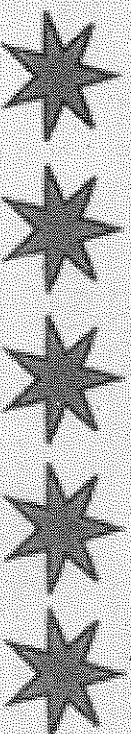


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Keith stops by West Springfield for pictures and conversation with former students.



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