

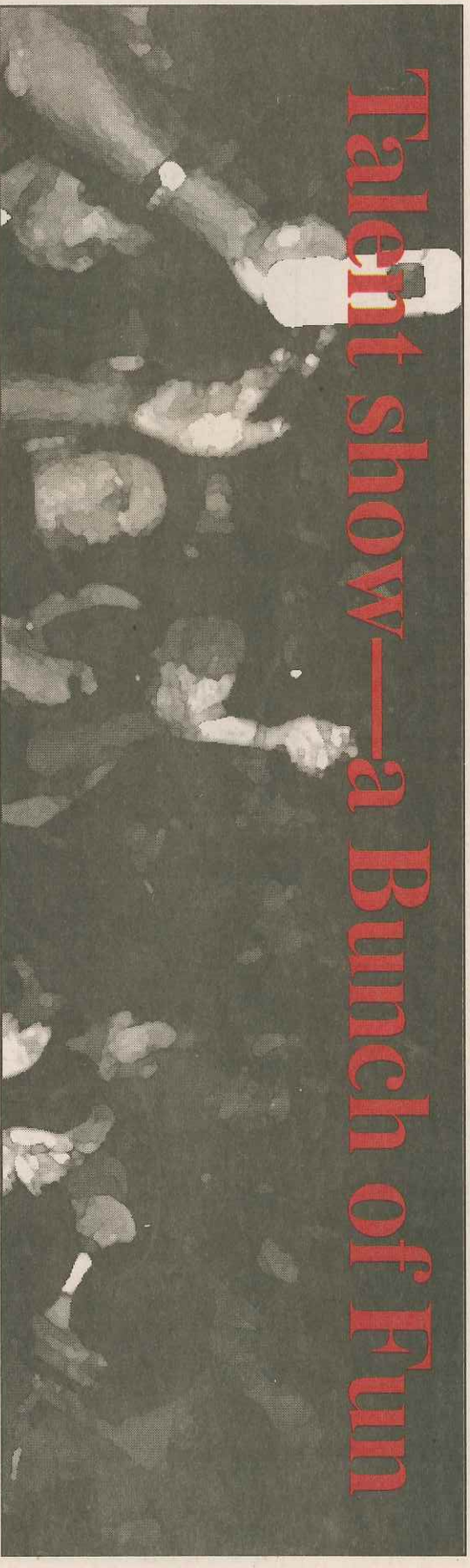
# THE



# RACCLE

February 10, 2006 Volume 42 Number 8

West Springfield High School 6100 Rolling Road Springfield, Virginia 22152



## Talent show—a Bunch of Fun

Students wave their lighted cell phones to senior Shanti Chang's rendition of Martina McBride's "Valentine." Chang was third place at this year's talent show. Erica Wilkening

By Christina Arai  
Oracle Editor

The auditorium was packed and excitement saturated the air as almost 800 students, faculty and parents waited for the annual Talent Show to take off.

And take off it did. There was not a quiet moment all night as audience members cheered for their fellow students. Ear-splitting squeals and hollers accompanied every act.

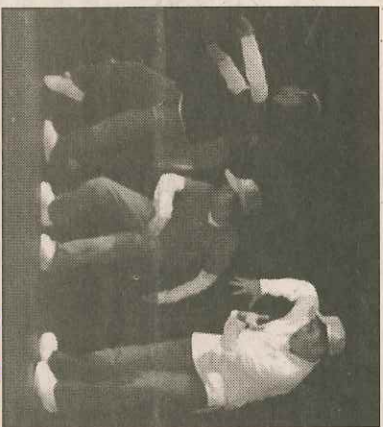
"[It was better] this year," said junior Sherrill Lewis. "It seemed like everyone was more excited about it. In the end when the senior class came out, that was really cool."

Thanks to the students who were brave enough to share their talent and to the people who came out to support them, the senior class raised more than \$3,800, the most the class has earned from any fundraiser thus far.

A vast array of talents were showcased. One thing that nearly all the acts had in common, with the exception of Steve LaFave's much-enjoyed juggling act, was a musical theme. From freshman Dan Morrill playing an original composition on the piano, to the Max Brooks Band, Springs Final Hour, Naem Issa and Nick Rodriguez on the electric violin, the Rock Creek String Trio, the Band Formerly Known as One-Eyed Buddy, to Dean Christesen on the drums, there was a genre to satisfy everyone's musical preference.

"There were some tasty beats laid down by Tommy Beekman," said junior Scott Wadell. "He was pretty rocking!" Although the show was packed with talent, only one act could come away victorious. The defending winners of last year's talent show, seniors Joe Bae, David Chang and Jonathan Choi and juniors Daniel Kim and Denny Park—collectively known as the dancing and stunning Fun Bunch—prevailed again this year with five of its six original members.

"The Fun Bunch was really good," said Lewis. "They brought something new, something fresh, something I've



Erica Wilkening  
The Fun Bunch, a five-man dance group, performed at the Talent Show to win first place for the second year in a row.

never seen before."

Just because the Fun Bunch won last year does not mean they took their competition lightly.

"[We practiced for] two weeks; it took a lot of effort," said Kim. "We practiced from five to one in the morning."

Unlike last year, however, the Fun Bunch was challenged by another up and coming dance group: The Fresh Five, who took second place with a hip-hop and break-dancing routine. The Fresh Five included junior Darryl Appiah and freshmen Kevin Appiah, Jeremy Bullock, Ross Clapsaddle and Nehemi Samuel.

"I think we'll do better [next year]," said Clapsaddle. "[We'll] practice a lot more."

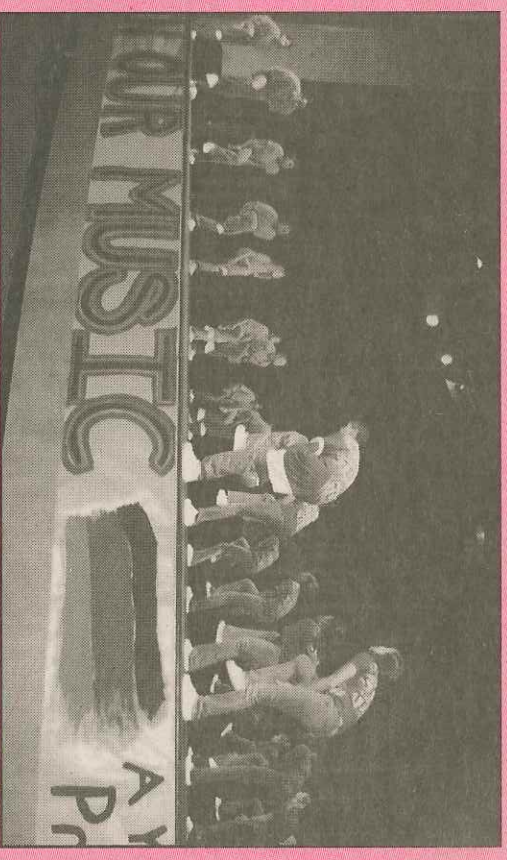
With a third-place finish, Shanti Chang stole the hearts of the audience members with her rendition of "Valentine" by Martina McBride. Students tranquilly waved their lit cell phones in the air during her performance.

Like an open seat in Congress, next year's show is up for grabs. With three out of five remaining members of the Fun Bunch graduating this year, the group will soon retire. This leaves an opportunity for new, fresh talent to steal the spotlight.

"After we're gone, it's all them; they have potential," said Choi. "Fresh Five has what it takes to go far next year."

## Music unites all

Assembly notes influence song, dance have had on generations



Carrie DeClark  
Above, the Dynasty Step Team performs at the Black History Assembly last week, symbolizing two groups coming together. In honor of Black History Month, this year's assembly was themed "A Message in Our Music." YOUNITY, sponsored by Social Studies teacher Regina Taylor and English teacher Darla Johnson, produced the show. The production was a celebration of the music, such as Ragtime, Jazz and Rap, which originated in the black American community.

Below left, Freshman Destiny Sweeny, Senior Fahsia McQueen and Sophomore Georgette Keldo teach the audience about the different musical genres. Below right, Seniors Aurelia Geddis and Christina Cain explain the importance of standing tall to Junior Brandon Allen.



Carrie DeClark  
Freshman Destiny Sweeny, Senior Fahsia McQueen and Sophomore Georgette Keldo teach the audience about the different musical genres. Below right, Seniors Aurelia Geddis and Christina Cain explain the importance of standing tall to Junior Brandon Allen.



4  
Davis departs  
from WS



5  
Celebrate year  
of the dog



8  
'New World'  
is flat

# Drugs should be expelled

It seems that in today's world the drug culture is becoming more and more popular. Drugs seem to be everywhere from TV and movies to crack dens.

One place that is not commonly associated with hard core drug use is our very own WS. That is why we were astonished when in recent weeks WS security busted students of all grades for drug use.

In a community where average incomes are high, kids at loose ends can be lured by drugs. The temptation lies in the escape from weekday stress and mundane weekends.

What is the most surprising attribute of the recent expulsions is the type of drugs that students are being prosecuted for. There has been at least

one expulsion for heroin and one for ecstasy.

For those not well acquainted with heroin, it is one of the most hard core drugs on the market. The user is addicted to the drug on the first use and is almost

undoubtedly trapped in a world of abuse for the rest of their life. Only a small percentage of users who attempt to get help actually beat their addiction.

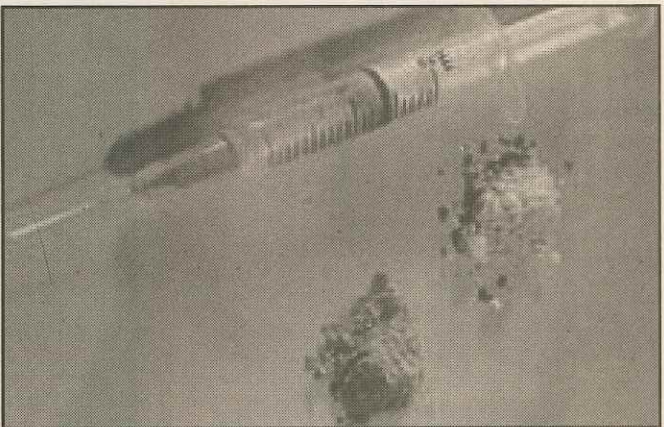
No matter what the drug, we do not approve usage. Unless of course that

drug was prescribed by a doctor, in which case we would support it.

Although it would be difficult to prove, it can be assumed that

The only solution for the problem of drugs in the WS environment is a no tolerance rule. The security staff is doing the right thing by getting these drug addicts out of our educational facility. They are on the right path and doing an effective job of cleaning up our school.

It is disappointing that WS has gotten into a situation where drugs have become a problem. We hope that in the future our school will be clean and drug free. We must side with the laws of the United States of America and the Commonwealth of Virginia.



Rene Kerwik

## Editorial

# Letter to the Editors

## Bagels need their privacy

Dear Editors,

A not so "Welcome to the Neighborhood." The recent "boycott" of The Bagel Bakery is on one level understandable and on another, misguided. Choir Director Mike Dombrow is absolutely correct in his advice to "give your patronage to those who support you," however, what students do not understand is that much like the idea of respect, patronage works both ways.

Choir members were advised, as noted in the previous article by Editor Katie Bourget, to "choose their restaurants wisely." This would lead me to believe that those who solicited businesses for their support (*in the form of a small discount*) did so because they were places West Springfield High School students, staff and their families frequented. This, of course, would also imply a strong merchant/clientele relationship built throughout years of support. The Chesapeake Bagel Bakery®, a franchised location, (Serving *Real Bagels Since 1981™*) was such a place.

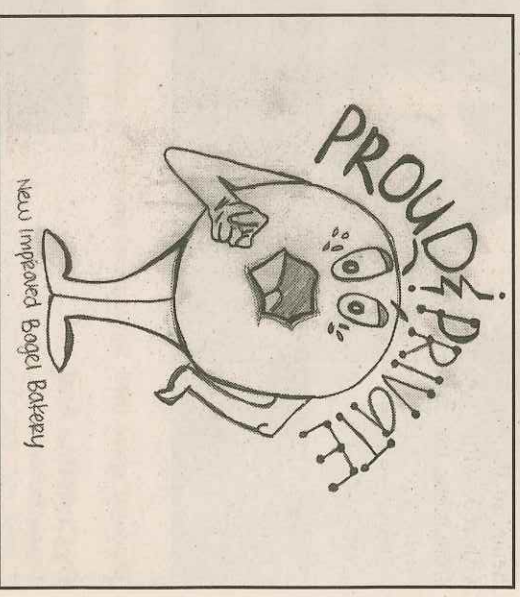
In defense of the "boycotters," when the majority of the customers at a local business are loyal West Springfield staff and students, it is only fair that to receive a denial to reciprocate support be deemed as offensive. If this WAS the case, I would be happy to

jump on board the "boycott- those-ungrateful-bagel-makers" bandwagon. However, this is not the case.

The Bagel Bakery is not a franchised location. It is a privately-owned, small business; a "mom and pop," if you will. While they may still sell great-tasting bagels (made by the hands of, what seems to me, the same individual who actually MADE those "Real Bagels" franchised by the Chesapeake Bagel Bakery®), it is an entirely different business, one that has been operating for only a few months.

Businesses that honor the Spartan Card are doing so to show their appreciation for the support given to them by their customers. However, when the new owners of the Bagel Bakery came to town and put a lot of money into major renovations, (*clearly evident upon entering the store*) they were not greeted by a hearty "Welcome to the Neighborhood." Instead, they were greeted by an inconsiderate demand to continue a relationship forged by a previous owner. If a new pottery store had moved into the location instead of the Bagel Bakery, and refused to honor the Spartan Card after its grand opening, would you be crying out "BOYCOTT JANE'S HANDMADE POTTERY?"

Understanding the loss of an old friend and the birth of a new relationship, (*remembering that some of the Bagel Bakery employees were previously employed by the Chesapeake Bagel Bakery, not to mention my*



Caitlin Kenney

*love for small businesses in a country dominated by Starbucks*) I will lead the charge in welcoming our new friends to the West Springfield area. I will also adorn a smile while I eat my Egghwich w/cheese that I purchase every Orange Day. I ask only that my efforts be echoed by those who agree, helping me to forge a new bond that will be, God willing, (*or any other supernatural, omnipotent deity in which you believe*) just as strong as the one we had with the bagel giant that is CBB, instead of throwing a hissy over losing the 15 percent discount on a 40 cent bagel. I only hope that I remember to keep my mouth closed while chewing.

—Kevin Gallagher, Government Teacher  
PS: The new Bagel Bakery's featured chips, "Dirty Chips," are da-bomb.



The  
**ORACLE**

West Springfield High School  
6100 Rolling Road  
Springfield, VA 22152  
(703) 913-3952

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. Editorials 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.

### Editors

Christina Araj  
Katie Bourget  
Liz Weidenhold

### Managing Editors

Caitlin Laverdiere  
Josh Lipman

### Columnists

Collin Embry  
Tim O'Keefe

**News Section Editors**  
Libby Bursley  
Bethel Habte, assistant  
Kelly Sipple, assistant

**Viewpoint Editors**  
Lindsay Bruhn  
Lindsay Burke  
Caitlin Kenney, assistant

**Inside Story Editors**  
Sunnie Ko  
Andreaana Maxwell

**Features Editors**  
Katie Costello  
Sean Hogan

**Weekend Editor**  
Carlin Sherrill  
Christina Sohn

**Entertainment Editors**  
Chrissy Regelski  
Nicole Simpson, assistant

**Sports Editors**  
Cam Rushton  
Jenny Taylor

Sarah Alvarez, assistant

**ETC. Editor**  
Stevie Florino

**Photo Editor**  
Liz Buchneister  
Erica Wilkening

**Photographers**  
Carrie DeClark  
Sara Kofalt  
Leah Vanatta  
Tina Wajda

**Business/Systems Editor**  
Jordy Serwin  
Beth Stinson, assistant

**Senior Staff Writers**  
Lauren Adams  
Scott Babcock  
Laura Byland  
Linnette Lam

**Junior Staff Writers**  
Zohra Alnoor  
Kristin McGregor  
Christine Smith  
Aaron Snow

**Adviser**  
Brooke Ramey Nelson

# May I have this dance?

*Sadie Hawkins lends a new twist to an old tradition*

**By Andreanna Maxwell**  
*Inside Story Editor*

In the first weeks of the school year, the talk of school shifts from the relaxing days of summer to the highlight of the fall: Homecoming. The enthusiasm practically seeps through the walls.

This year, the SGA has made a much desired change. Invitations have been sent to everyone for a Sadie Hawkins Dance on February 18. The dance will be held in the cafeteria, just like Homecoming, from 7:30 P.M. to midnight. The tickets are five dollars in advance and 10 dollars at the door.

The dance will have a Valentines Day theme, so the cafeteria will be adorned with red, white and pink decorations. Promotions for the dance began a few weeks ago with commercials on the Friday morning announcements. Invitations are also being sent to

everyone in the school in hopes of gaining interest and support.

At first glance this dance may appear to be just like Homecoming, but after a careful look, it is not. It is a Sadie Hawkins dance, which means the girls ask the guys.

Boys, you can take a sigh of relief because the stress of deciding who to

**Have some school spirit and go to the Valentine's Sadie Hawkins dance on February 18**

ask and how to go about it has been passed to the girls.

With each dance comes the need to invite someone. We cannot just "ask" someone; we have to go all out.

This year, asking people by wearing t-shirts with messages on them is the big thing.

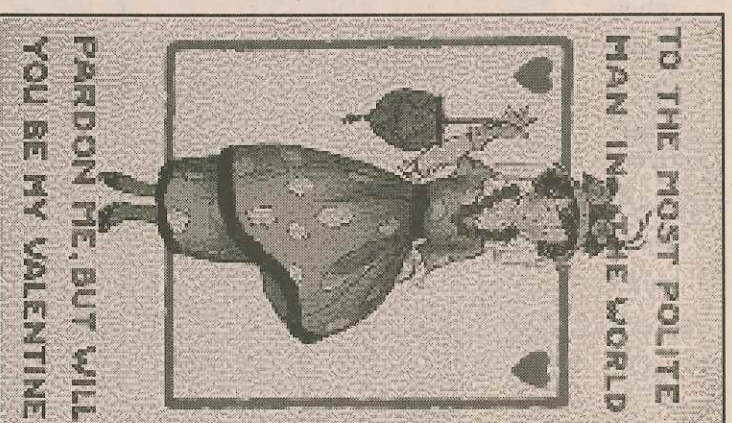
Other girls have written on driveways, golf balls and even written poems. If you are worried about who to ask, stop stressing. The SGA has the answer to your prayers.

A program has been established where the ladies pay the SGA and then [the SGA] will ask the guy of their choice on their behalf. It is up to the individual to decide what they want to do to ask their sweetie to the dance.

Have some school spirit and go to the Valentines/Sadie Hawkins dance on February 18.

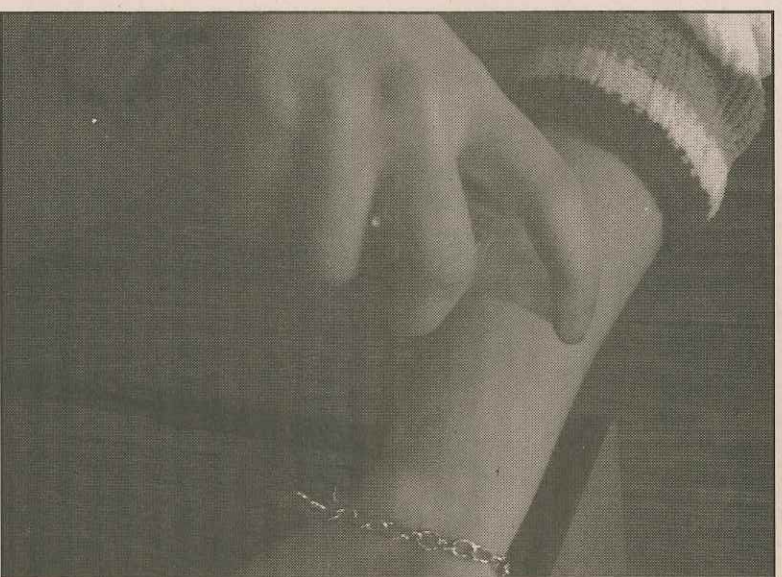
While dancing, listening to a highly recommended DJ and having fun with friends, you will also be supporting the SGA and their activities.

"I'm excited to go to the dance because it's new and it seems like it will be fun," said junior Cori Buck. "Sadie Hawkins is something different than what our school usually does."



*thepostcard*

The Winter Formal will be Sadie Hawkins style to give girls a chance to ask their special someone to dance. The dance will be decorated with a Valentine's Day theme.



*Sara Kofalt*

**Popular perfume and body sprays from Bath & Body Works and Axe are commonly sprayed in WS hallways, instead of at home.**

# Spray no more

**By Beth Stinson**  
*Business Systems Assistant*

We all remember the infamous stink-bombs that plagued our school during first quarter. We remember the smell, the gagging, the running and the subsequent trappings.

There is a new smelly evil choking the halls of WS, namely the various fragrances boys and girls find necessary to spray into the hallway air.

Many a morning I have found myself minding my own business at my locker, only to catch a whiff of tropical fruit that is being swept down wind by passing students.

Then it happens. A huge gust of "Mango Mandarin" hits me in the face as if shot out of a Bath & Body Works cannon. I find myself doubled-over and gasping for air, looking around and wondering why no one is dead yet.

Girls see me walk by (I am not making this up) and pull the pins on their perfume grenades and throw them at me. They explode in my face, the girls laugh and I crawl through the smog of Ralph Lauren to my next class. Don't think that it is just the girls' fault because

boys are just as bad. Boys douse themselves in Axe as if the locker room fire-sprinklers malfunction every day and spray Tag's "Lucky Day" instead of water. You know who you are. It is obvious that the commercials that market men's body spray are highly effective.

Boys think that if they bathe in Tag or Axe, 50 half-naked women will appear out of nowhere, driven by their primordial instinct to mate and tackle them. Apparently, they think that if they release the powerful scent into the air, all females within a 25-foot radius will instantly start fighting each other for a chance to reproduce with the boy who sprayed the Woman-Bait. Attention All Boys: THIS DOES NOT WORK!

People get headaches and even feel nauseous because of the strong, and often cheap, fragrances. Students with asthma and other respiratory problems could also be seriously affected by these olfactory horrors. Being trapped in a thick cloud of cheap perfume or cologne is not pleasant.

Our school is not a car and students are not air-fresheners. Spray your Clinique Happy in the morning before school and in the locker room. Be tasteful and subtle rather than hurling your smells into the halls of our school. Please leave the grenades at home.

# Distractions gain student attention

**By Alyssa Horton**  
*Forum Editor*

I am one of those typical students who absolutely loves coming to school and learning. Distractions, unfortunately, do not allow me to learn to my full potential.

Common distractions are people walking in and out of the classroom, tapping pencils, whistling songs, clicking pens and cell phones.

Another one is people falling asleep. I don't have a problem with sleeping, but please, refrain from the snoring. At first snoring can be quite hilarious, especially if there is a random snort here and there, but after a while it just gets annoying.

None of these distractions are really that bad so it may seem odd that I'm complaining.

But I have not even begun to explain the worst classroom distraction that exists.

One morning, after enjoying my three-day Martin Luther King, Jr. Day weekend, I walked into my history class.

As soon as I entered a disgusting stench awoke my old factory receptors. It smelled like I had walked into a barn. I did not want to breathe. It smelled as if there was a pile of cow manure right in the middle of the room.

I tried holding my breath for 50 seconds to see if that would make the stench fade away, but it did not. I tried putting lotion on my hands to mask the smell of manure, but the cow smell was too strong.

We discovered that the unpleasant odor was seeping its way into the classroom from

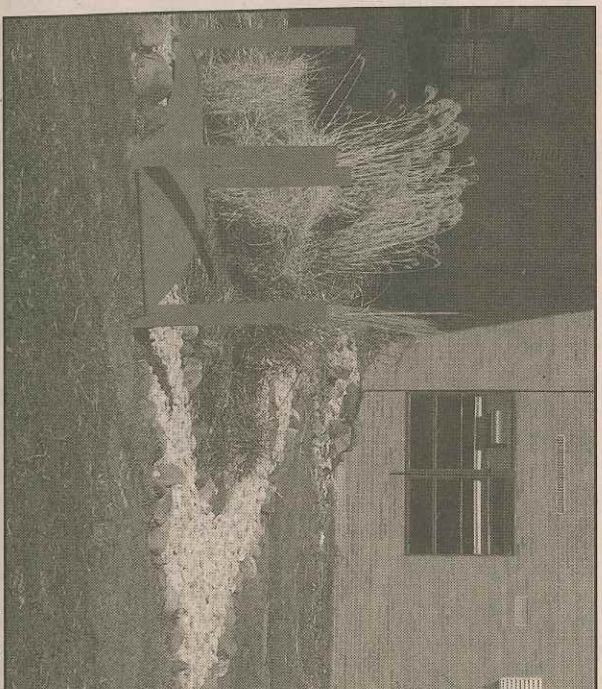
outside in the courtyard, so we closed the windows.

Relief at last! Well that's what I hoped for, but the smell still did not go away.

I had to sit there in my history class trying to do a worksheet on Napoleon and the French Revolution, which is exciting enough already, while feeling like I was in the middle of a barn. Do not get me wrong, I have nothing against farms and animals, but they smell so bad.

Fortunately the cause of the problem was found. Over the three-day weekend someone had decided to bring in tons of fertilizer (A.K.A manure) to put in the Japanese garden.

Then it rained and the window in my history room was left open, so the smell of manure was able to filter



*Leah Vanatta*

The Japanese garden in the school courtyard was fertilized with manure this winter. The smell proved to be a distraction for students.

throughout the classroom over the weekend.

I know that plants need fertilizer to grow, but in January it's cold. Plants are not going to benefit from fertilizer in the middle of a snow storm.

They should have brought the fertilizer in March or April, when it's sunny and plants actually grow.

I am only saying all this because I really do want to learn. I want to make sure I am getting the most out of my educational experience. My future depends on it.

I do not want to sit in a room for an hour-and-a-half while inhaling the reeking smell of manure. Distractions in school need to be prevented.

# Students, beware!

## Recent thefts prompt a warning

By Bethel Habte  
News Section Assistant

An iPod left unattended won't be lonely for long. Sophomore Julie Kauffman, the former owner of a 200 dollar pink iPod mini, learned this first hand.

Many students at WS have been victims of iPod, cell phone and other thefts. Those who have been lucky enough to not to play victim to these thefts have rethought bringing hefty priced electronics to school.

**"If you're going to get yourself ripped off, at least make it hard for the thief."**

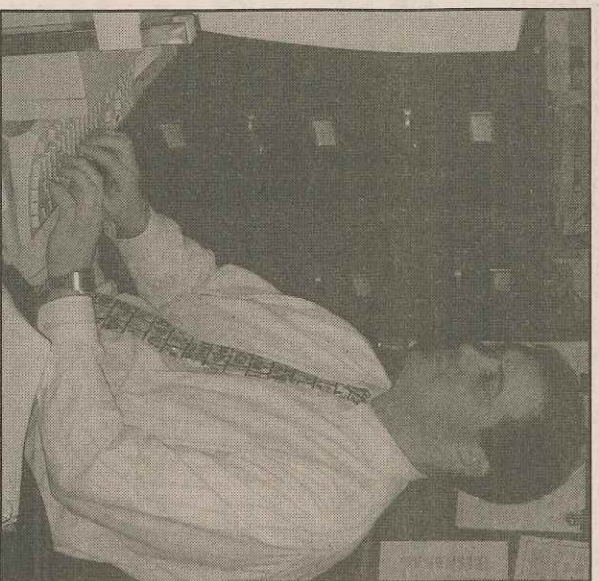
—Shaaron Williams,  
Student Resource Officer

Sophomore Matt Ballew has had two cell phones taken from school; one stolen from a "hidden" jacket pocket at Homecoming and one from an unlocked gym locker.

"I was only gone for twenty minutes at track and I came back and it was gone," he said.

Sophomore Alana Shepard's 80 dollar MP3 player was also taken from her gym locker.

"When I told my parents all they said was 'I don't know what to tell you,'" said Shepard.



Leah Vanatta

AP government teacher, Brad Davis, will no longer be at WS. Jason Croston will take over his classes.

## Even WS teachers need their sick days

By Josh Lipman  
Managing Editor

Something has been missing this year from the hallways and classrooms of WS. No, it isn't students' insatiable lust for learning. It's teachers.

Perhaps principal David Smith should start keeping a teacher disabled list because educators are disappearing rapidly.

On January 27, math teacher Tom McGrath survived a heart attack. He is expected to be out for another two to three weeks.

"He is recovering at home and he is feeling pretty good," said math teacher Susan Oblinger.

Assistant principal Richard Griffin was also recently hospitalized after experiencing extreme headaches.

"A couple of weeks ago my blood pressure got extremely high," said Griffin.

Griffin spent two days at Fairfax Hospital and missed

PE teachers emphasize the importance of not leaving lockers open during class, but many students are now taking that advice to heart.

"We give them a speech every year," PE and Drivers Education teacher Sue Spatcher said. "Your friend today may not be your friend tomorrow."

Several students, freshmen and sophomores, have been caught stealing iPods, PSP's and cell phones from the PE locker rooms. All of those who were caught have been suspended. One student, who is responsible for many thefts, has been taken to court by WS according to Safety and Security specialist, Mike Ukele.

Student Resource officer, Shaaron Williams sees the theft situation as a matter of responsibility for your own possessions.

"You have to be responsible to a point. You have kids whose sole purpose in their minds is to wait until people leave their backpack lying around somewhere," he said.

Police reports from coast to coast find iPod thefts especially a growing problem in high schools. Typically, iPods are taken from school lockers, cafeterias and cars. And overall, the majority of disappointed owners are teens.

Sounding something like an abstinence campaign, the best way to avoid having valuables stolen from school is to not bring them to school at all. But for those who can not live without their morning and after school music fix, or who can't help but bring their cell phones to school, about.com has some tips to avoid



Sarah Koell

Junior Derek Tripp listens to his iPod in the building. Many careless iPod owners pay the price.

any potential disappointment.

-Don't leave valuables in your locker

-If you choose to leave them in your car, lock them in your trunk

-Wear cell phones and iPods inside your clothing so they cannot be easily snatched in a crowd

-Be wise about where you choose to use it

Ballew (who is now on cell phone number three) can say that he's learned his lesson.

"[I will] always have it with me and never leave it alone unless necessary."

## Davis transitions from teacher to administrator

By Linnette Lam  
Senior Staff Writer

Nineteen eighty-seven WS alumnus Brad Davis may have loved Fairfax County enough to teach AP government for 12-and-a-half years, but he has decided to move south to Cate Collins Middle School, where he will take the position as assistant principal.

With a Bachelor's Degree in Government and a Master's Degree in Secondary Education and Gifted Education from William and Mary and a Doctorate in Education from the Administration from UVA, Davis is well-prepared to move along his career path.

He received his doctorate in 2004, started interviewing for

principal posts in September and completed an internship with WS principal Dr. David Smith in 2005.

With Davis' departure, AP Government teacher Jason Croston will continue to prepare Davis' students for the AP exam in May.

Davis organized his lesson plans carefully for Croston, and will relocate to a 10 acre

Fischer's surgery limited her in the first days after she returned. As soon the school day ended she had to go home to bed.

"The biggest problem was when I came back because physically I wasn't allowed to stand," said Fischer. "I couldn't stay after school."

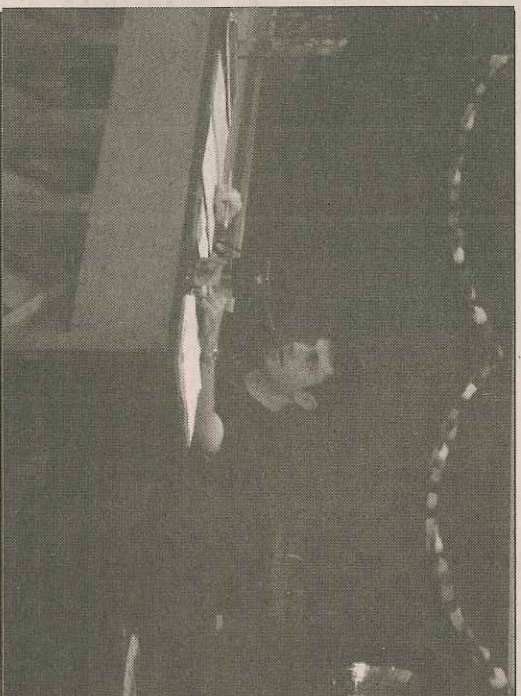
Choral director Michael Dombrow also lost two weeks to surgery.

"Because it's a music class and most of our subs are not musical, you cannot get as much done," said Dombrow.

Dombrow's return was no easier than Fischer's.

"I'm in pain. If you enjoy having pain when you speak and walk it's awesome," said Dombrow. "Otherwise it's a bumme!"

While some educators missed time for health problems, others will visit the hospital for happier reasons. Both history teacher Tamara Ogden and science teacher Ann Wong will



Leah Vanatta

Michael Dombrow, who had to miss two weeks of school because of a surgery, struggled when he returned to teaching since he was experiencing pain, especially when he walked.

about a week of school all together. He now is on a strict diet with an exercise routine and takes his blood pressure three times a day.

"Now my blood pressure's perfect," said Griffin. "I'm feeling fine."

Earlier this year history teacher Laurie Fischer was out because of surgery.

"I missed my kids. At this time of year they are my kids," said Fischer. "What I didn't miss was all the grading I had to do when I got back."

leave WS on March 17 to have babies.

Wong is not worried about the fate of her AP Biology and Biology I Honors classes.

"The pace of instruction for subs [might be difficult]," said Wong. "[But] the subs I have coming in are qualified."

The teachers who will take over for Wong, Gene Stevens and Stefanie Holskey, have both already taught at WS.

Ogden is equally optimistic about her impending absence. "I don't think it's going to cause any problems," said Ogden. "I trust that [my students] will learn from their substitute."

Ogden still wishes she could stay with her classes instead of handing them over to substitute teacher Stephanie Nortega.

"I will miss the students tremendously," said Ogden. "I will miss the content and I will really miss finishing out the year with students that I've spent three quarters with."

## Welcome, year of the Dog

*Subhead Subhead Subhead Subhead Subhead*

**By Linnette Lam**  
Senior Staff Writer

*Gung Hay Fat Choy*—Happy New Year! On January 29 billions of people celebrated the Lunar New Year, bringing in the year of the dog—and they weren't all in China.

Celebrated by Chinese and Vietnamese worldwide, the Lunar New Year is the biggest holiday in Chinese culture. Often associated with the vibrant color red, the holiday is carefully prepared for, as it is believed that actions taken on New Year's Day have major effects on the coming year.

A dragon dance through the streets is a traditional way of bringing in the new year. In America, major dragon dances—complete with

firecrackers and a ball that the dragon ceremoniously chases—took place in

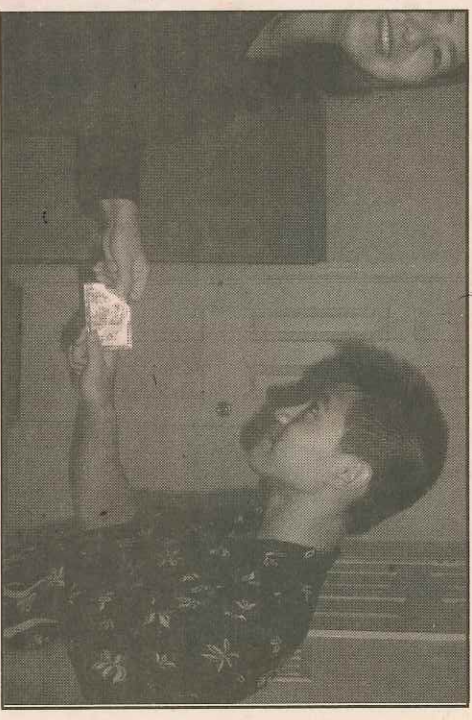
Chinatown, San Francisco, New York City and other cities with a large concentration of Chinese-Americans. All businesses are closed on New Year's Day, and as the procession of dancers passes by each store, it is custom for the business owners to give red envelopes filled with money—called *li xi*—to the dancers to bring in prosperity and good fortune to their businesses.

It is also custom for parents and employed persons of the community to give *li xi* full of cash to children, unmarried persons and the elderly on New Years. They are given in wishes of good health, good luck and success to the recipient. In turn,

the recipient bestows best wishes on the giver.

Displays of flowers, plants, candy assortments and fruit—especially oranges and tangerines—are traditional new year's decorations. Putting a pair of oranges in every room of a house is common, because oranges signify abundant happiness. Each piece of the new year display symbolizes a wish for the future—whether it be wealth, growth, perseverance, health or joy.

All cleaning should be done, all debts should be paid and all negativity done away with before the coming of the new year. Hair shouldn't be washed on the first day of the new year, for it would symbolize the removal of good luck. Celebrants look to the holiday



Linnette Lam

Freshman Ryan Lam receives a Chinese red envelope, *li xi*, from an elder on New Years. The red envelopes are filled with money and bring prosperity and good fortune.

as a fresh start.

There are numerous superstitions associated with the new year. Celebrants today may or may not believe in them, but their practice is often looked upon as a preservation of tradition and as an important means of passing on the culture through generations.

Every year the date of the Lunar New Year changes, but whatever that date may be, it has great importance to people across the globe, even more so than January 1.

## Marketing class dressed for success

**By Libby Bursley**  
News Editor

The classroom turned into a runway for fashion-conscious students.

Vera Woodson's second period Fashion Marketing class has been watching episodes of the first season of "Project Runway" in which budding designers compete against one another for \$100,000 and a chance to break into the inclusive fashion world.

"It was easier to show the kids the truth about the runway, rather than to

tell them about it. You can bring in guest speakers, but reality TV really works," said Woodson. "This show and 'The Apprentice' teach very good lessons."

The class recreated some of the tasks shown on the show in the classroom. One of the designers' tasks was to only use materials from the grocery store in their creations.

"One guy made this cute little cocktail dress out of corn husks," said senior Beth Jans

While the WS class did not have this same opportunity, they made do with

other materials. For one task, they used toilet paper. Another event was nicknamed "Knowledge is power," and the students had to create a design with newspaper.

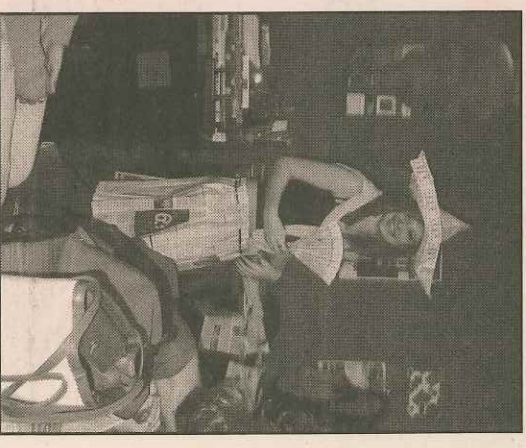
"With the time constraint, it became very intense," said Woodson. Not only is the program beneficial to the students' learning, it also is very entertaining.

"The days that I show 'Project Runway' are the days that I always have the best attendance," said Woodson. "People who are on their death beds want to know when they can come in and watch the show. I even have kids from other classes get passes from their teachers, and sneak in to watch it."

The students in the class get involved in the show, and always look forward to the days when Woodson is previewing it. When the class watches the show, the atmosphere is tense.

"Fashion One hadn't finished the season yet, so I have one girl praying in the back of the room for her favorite designer, and one girl screaming," said Woodson. "And everyone just hates Wendy Pepper."

The students sitting in the room



Tina Wejda

Fashion Marketing student, Senior Julie Roberts, models her newspaper creation inspired by Project Runway.

share the same opinion of Pepper.

"She is the evil designer from Virginia. Jay is much better," said Jans.

As this is Woodson's first year of teaching, this is also her first time showing "Project Runway" in the classroom. Woodson and her students agree that it was fun, and also educational.

"In the words of Mrs. Woodson," said Jans, "It's fabulous."

## SATPRRP

Tuesday Evening Classes

March 7, 14, 21, 28 & April 4, 2006

5:30-8:30

In

## BURKE

Burke Volunteer Fire Department

Banquet Hall

9501 Old Burke Road

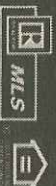
Across from the Burke U.S. Post Office

## The Hunt Course

Celebrating 30 Years of Preparation Success

huntprograms.com

703-425-7656



**RE/MAX** Allegiance

Independently and Locally Owned and Operated

**Jean Abood**

REALTOR®, NOTARY

5641 Burke Centre Pkwy

Burke, VA 22015

Office: (703) 250-8500 Ext. 4317

Direct: (703) 503-4317

Cell: (703) 401-9137

Fax: (703) 250-4586

E-mail: JeanAbood@realtor.com

PEDIATRICS • ADOLESCENT MEDICINE • PEDIATRIC ALLERGY

**LAURENCE J. MURPHY, M.D., F.A.A.P.**  
**STACEY H. STAATS, M.D., F.A.A.P.**

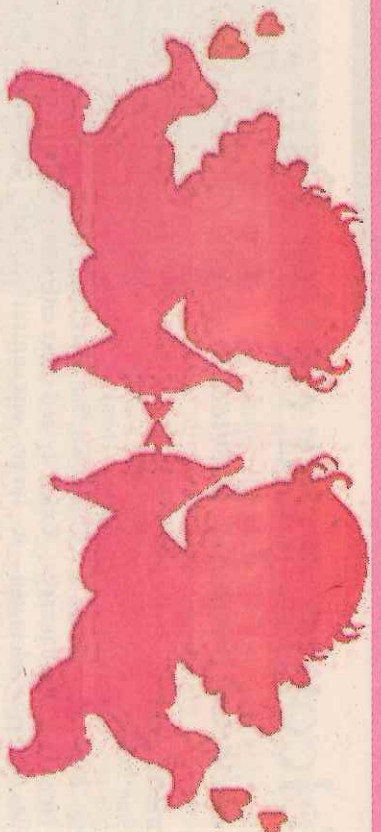
BURKE PROFESSIONAL CENTER

5212 LYNNGATE COURT • BURKE, VIRGINIA 22015-1631

(703) 503-9100

**Good luck in PLAYOFFS**  
**WVS Basketball!**

# Don't Phreak my Wife Heart!



Hearts are fulfilled or  
broken on February 14th,  
a day when students  
choose to let either love  
or apathy take control.

**By Chrissy Regelski**  
Entertainment Editor

Cheeks turn a rosy red floor at the mere mention reaction is not made out the embarrassment of the holiday.

After roaming the halls searching for at least one their Valentine's experience frequently, interviewees best experiences or they with my pen ready as the suddenly interesting I was only after this la to contemplate what anticipated. During the 14, I expected peoples' be filled with flowers, te naked cherubs with wings I expected girls would crushes showing up at the Axe on and a bouquet

## They put the bitter in bittersweet

**By Lindsay Bruhn**  
Viewpoint Section Editor

For certain students, usually those in relationships, Valentine's day is a sweet romantic holiday that encourages a generous display of affection. Flowers, chocolate and teddy bears make girls squeal with delight.

Then there are those students who have a more sinister view of the pink and red holiday. With the lack of a significant other or simply the lack of desire for one, there is no visible reason for these love deprived students to celebrate.

"I hate Valentine's day," said senior Kirsten Hughes jokingly in an AIM conversation with senior Justin Brooks one January night. This joke sparked an idea in both of their heads and developed into something more.

Hughes and Brooks have come up with a fun way to beat the "sappy," and "pointless" holiday. They are not throwing a Valentine's Day party but an ANTI-Valentine's Day party. To deal with their bad feelings, they have devised a plan to make fun of every part of the love fest.

"It's a funny holiday made up by girls as an excuse to get gifts," said Brooks.

They are making a list of guys and girls and "pairing" them up. Then there will be a random hat grab to find who you have to get a gift for. This will allow them to give and get gifts without getting hurt emotionally. It will also create interesting "love triangles."



Movie-watching will also be on the schedule. Kirsten and Justin will be finding the funnest and most ridiculously romantic movies they can find and they will spend the night making fun of them. Their list is ever changing due to the unpredictable high school relationships.

"I call it Single's Awareness Day," said Hughes. "It's just an excuse to watch some dorky love movie we can laugh at."

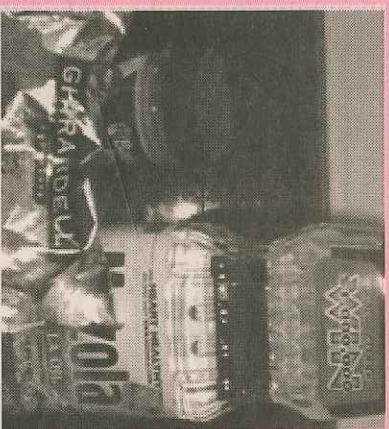
A joking AIM conversation turned into a fun way to beat what seniors Kirsten Hughes and Justin Brooks call a "sappy" and "pointless" holiday. They are throwing an ANTI-Valentine's Day party.

**By Nicole S**  
Entertainment

Back in Valentine's learning mult division. T dropping of cards stating and if the cr Tigger-ficial taken the t romantic ho Like most reason or p



### Step 1



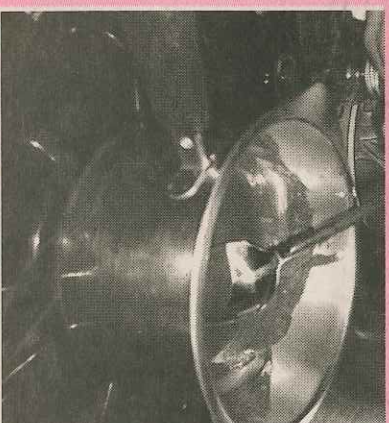
Andreaa Maxwell

The ingredients:

- 1. Chocolate
- 2. Vegetable Oil

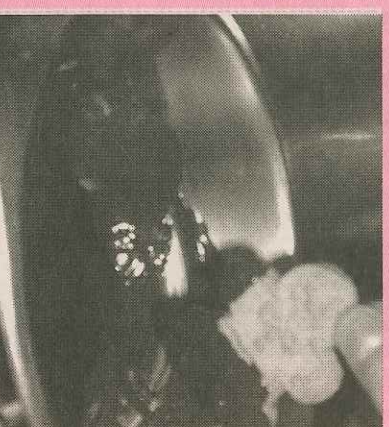
### Step 2

Boil approximately one cup of water in a saucepan. Once the water is boiling, pour chocolate and vegetable oil in the bowl that is on top of the saucepan.



Andreaa Maxwell

### Step 3



Andreaa Maxwell

Once the chocolate is melted, different candies can be added and almost anything can be dipped in it. ENJOY!

# ENJOY!

# Valentine's day values

d and eyes flutter to the  
of Valentine's Day. This  
of girlish giddiness but  
liking about the innocent

alls for thirty minutes  
person who would share  
ence, I gave up. Most  
told me that they had no  
left me standing dumbly  
ey silently stared at their  
ch trays.

ck of answers that I began  
responses I actually  
countdown to February  
heads were supposed to  
ddy bears and those little  
gs.

ll have stories of their  
eir door with a gallon of  
of roses in hand. Maybe

Possibly everyone's best Valentine's Day memories lie back in elementary school when we made pink and red shoeboxes to hold our hundreds of Valentines while we inhaled millions of comment-covered candy hearts. Valentine's Day was less a celebration of love back then, but a mothers' clever way of making everybody like each other.

what *Teen People* emblazons over their glossy pages is not high school reality, or at least not WS's.

Possibly everyone's best Valentine's Day memories lie back in elementary school when we made pink and red shoeboxes to hold our hundreds of Valentines while we inhaled millions of comment-covered candy hearts. Valentine's Day was less a celebration of love back then, but a mothers' clever way of making everybody like each other. We were all constantly told that we had to give our holographic Godzilla or Lisa Frank Valentines to everyone in the class, even if they smelled or stole your blue, sparkly pencil during the Math Minutes.

Now that we are actually old enough to practice what the day suggests, ironically, the holiday dies.

The crush that is supposed to show up at your door has to shell out at least \$40 for those roses, which rivals the truffles from Williams-Sonoma, also \$40. High school students cannot afford the price tag for the "perfect" Valentine's Day experience. The holiday image needs to be reversed into the simple act of kindness (whether it was forced or not) it used to be in elementary school. A valentine is a card, that is it. It is not bouquets or cherubs or diamond necklaces. A mere \$3 thought is plenty for a memorable Valentine's Day experience.

## Re past of passion

Simon  
Section Assistant

elementary school,  
Day was a day off of  
plication tables and long  
his day consisted of  
f little Valentine's day  
"You're a great friend"  
ish was serious, "You are  
Rarely has anyone ever  
time to learn why this  
hday even exists.

history, there is no exact  
erson to credit for the

creation of this holiday, but all legends agree that this popular Valentine character was a martyr.

One story says that after Claudius III decided that young men should be soldiers and not husbands, he forbade young couples marriage. Valentine, a priest, married these "young lovers" in secret, and once Claudius found out about the marriages, put Valentine to death.

Another tale, which seems to deal much less with love, is the belief that Valentine was killed for trying to help Christians escape from cruel Roman prisons. Where they were often found being beaten and tortured.

A third legend says that Valentine actually sent the first Valentine note

himself from a prison to the jailor's daughter.

When Valentine signed his love note, "From your Valentine," he then originated one of the many popular Valentine's day phrases.

When Valentine's imprisoner found out about this love affair, Valentine was put to death for his feelings towards the jailors daughter.

Though the history behind Valentine's day remains unclear, it seems as though the holiday itself, priest or prisoner, is here to say, comy Winnie the Pooh cards and all.

## Eat your heart out

By Carlin Sherrill

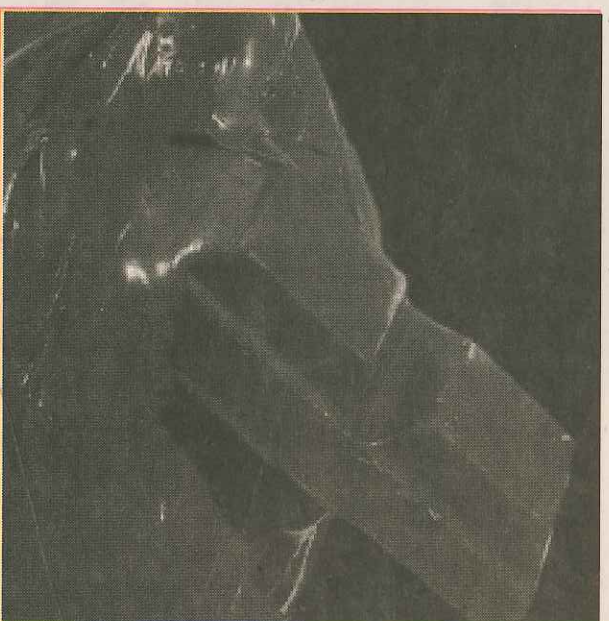
Weekend Section Editor

Fruits, marshmallows, poundcake, pretzels all doused in chocolate can only mean one thing- it's Valentines Day. Love is in the air and nothing says "I love you" better than anything edible dipped in chocolate. High schoolers are not at the highest income level, so for lovebirds, quick and easy romantic food is the best way to show their love.

While going out to a fancy restaurant and spending their life savings on their significant other may appeal to some, most enjoy just spending time together over a romantic candle light dinner in their parent's kitchen.

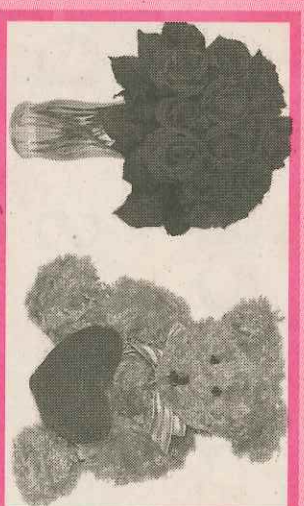
Chocolate fondue is a simple recipe that when spiced up with flavors, will impress your love. When melting chocolate, a common problem is burning the chocolate. By placing a saucepan on top of another one, filled with boiling water, you can reduce the risk of burning the chocolate.

Chocolate fondue can be as effortless as melting chocolate, but adding peanut butter or assorted nuts can make for a unique taste. Strawberry Shortcake is a sweet and fruity dessert that is great to share and adds to the festivities with pink icing and red strawberries. Not only



does it look pleasant, it is painless to create. Make a cake and cut it into bite-size squares. Place them on a bed of whipped cream and then top with strawberry icing and strawberries. Finish off the whole thing with shaved white chocolate.

Valentine's Day is a day that should be shared with loved ones. By showering them with chocolate and delightful desserts, this year's Valentine's Day will be a day to remember.



## Can't buy me love

By Caitlin Kenney

Viewpoint Section Assistant

Valentine's Day is a cheesy holiday filled with enchanted love arrows and naked cupid babies. Not the most wonderful time of year for those without a special someone. Yet the love must go on for the couples of WS.

Let's face it, guys seem to have trouble in the creative field of gifts. Here is a list of gifts that could win over the girl of your dreams.

1. Buy a Barbie (Theresa/Barbie etc.) dress her up like your Valentine and call her "My scene girlfriend." Attach this doll with a note, preferably one that you wrote and include time, date, and place where you two can spend time together for V-Day (Otherwise known as Valentine's Day).

2. Maybe you are a cheap guy that doesn't really believe in all the lovey dovey things that come along with V-Day. Buy a disposable camera and try to only spend ten dollars on the date. The snapshots can provide a great scrapbook memory.

3. Want to add a funky twist to an old fashioned gift? Buy your girl a dozen roses dyed in her favorite colors. Who wants red roses anyway?

4. A cuddly stuff animal brings the "ooohs and awws" even to the tough crowds. Get over your embarrassment and go to Build-A-Bear Workshop and pick out a new friend.

5. The jewelry and bear combo. A double whammy to your girls heart. Not only is jewelry a pretty reminder of the guy that cares about her, but the bear is oh so cute too.

6. Still stuck on a gift and none of these suggestions work for you? Try heart shaped balloons so your girlfriend can show off your love to the world.

Now ladies sometimes guys are just hard to please. It's not like you can buy them a jersey of their favorite football player, chances are they already have it. So chill out and here are some ideas from girls who got it right.

1. Take a shoe box lying around your bedroom floor and decorate it with pictures that remind you of your man. Create a memory box and put pictures, symbols or objects that represent your relationship together.

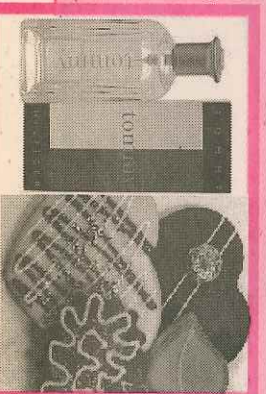
2. Burn a CD with meaningful songs that you two can listen together.

3. Decorate a frame or buy one depending on how much time you have. Put a cute picture of you as a couple and if you want others to view your handiwork make it magnetic so he can put it in his locker.

4. Bake cookies that are shaped in hearts or spell out "Be my Valentine" . Food may not be a long term reminder of your gift but it does leave a lasting impression.

5. Cologne may be a pricey gift but it leaves a scent you can't resist.

Don't worry lonely singles out we know celebrating a lacky holiday isn't your forte. So my holiday suggestion: go out with the girls and guys and just have a fun time or rent a chick flick and drown you sorrows in a tub of Brylcreem's ice cream.



# Caffeine cranks up the music

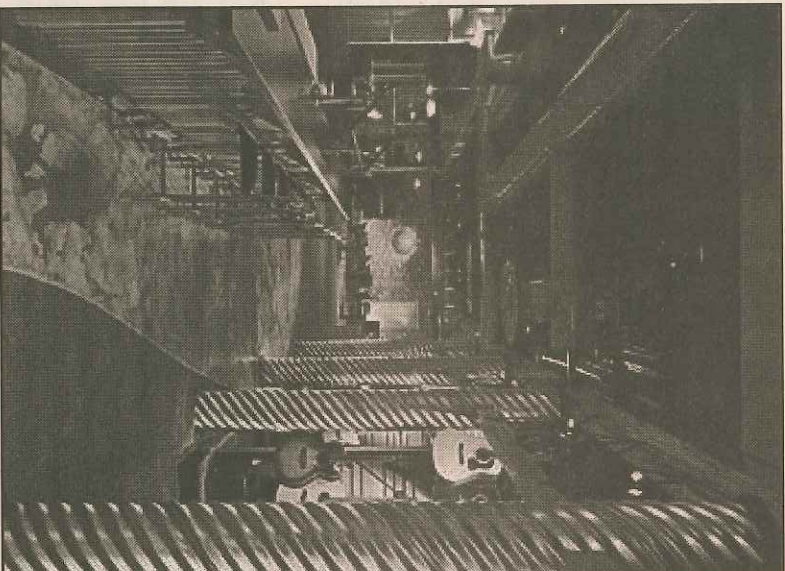
By Katie Costello

Features Editor

At Jammmin' Java electrifying tunes give patrons more of a jolt than the caffeine.

The cozy coffeehouse is located in a Vienna strip-mall, with coffee slightly cheaper but still as tasty as Starbucks. The ticket prices change depending on the performers. Tonight was Cobbler, Hotspur and Telegraph, up and coming bands that cost only nine dollars to enjoy.

I entered the surprisingly clean atmosphere (smoking is not allowed) and was greeted by the low sounds of emo rock and the sight of a woman in a long shaggy coat. I sat down and looked around at the



Eric Taylor/Photography

Jammmin' Java, located on Maple Avenue in Vienna, is the perfect place to listen to new music and enjoy a variety of coffee drinks.

## 'New World' should stay undiscovered

By Lauren Adams  
Senior Staff Writer

The first bad omen was that the movie only had two showings a day. If that wasn't bad enough, perhaps only a handful were waiting, not even eagerly, to see the film.

"The New World" has got to be one of the most slow moving and mumbled films made in the past 10 years. One would usually think that a movie full of Native American battles and handsome men with British accents would be a recipe for success. *One would think*. And it could have been at least a half-baked delight, if there was more speaking, or any speaking at all. The entire film was laced with creepy spiritual music, choreographed along with some sort of Native American sign language

(although Pocahontas repeatedly made some sort of sign to try and let the audience know she was pregnant? Hungry? Has a deadly stomach virus?)

And speaking of Pocahontas (Q'orianka Kilcher), which is only an assumption of her name, seeing as it was never mentioned in the entire film, was one of the worst actresses I have ever seen. Actually, 'Pocahontas' was dubbed Rebecca, which was one of the only lines spoken in the film. This may have been a good thing, because the conversations intertwined with British accents were probably more difficult to comprehend than the tribal hand movements. The only word comprehensible was "gentlemen." But what about the gentlemen? It didn't really matter, because it probably had nothing to do with the movie anyway. I am not actually sure what the movie

was about. I am guessing it had something to do with Pocahontas' loves, and the conflicts at Jamestown between the settlers and Native Americans. Or maybe it was about the scenery surrounding beautiful Williamsburg: a guess derived from the over emphasis on birds, water, and trees.

The movie was quite painful. I mean, being forced to watch "Lion King 1+1/2" over and over again would have been quite euphoric in comparison. But then again, every sour lemon has a sweet spot. In this movie, the only rays of sunshine were Colin Farrell (John Smith) and Christian Bale (John Rolfe)...but even that had a cloud over it, knowing of the 30 year age gap between the hotties and Pocahontas.

If you go see this film for historical inspiration and knowledge, you will be let down. Between the overly



Yahoo! Movies

"The New World," starring Farrell and Kilcher, is full of awkward silences.

emphasized scenery and lack of plot, not much is accomplished, except an eight dollar hole in your wallet.

## Classy Canines

Does going to the groomer stress you and your pet?  
Are you having trouble finding a good caring groomer?  
Want to pamper your pet and make your life easier?

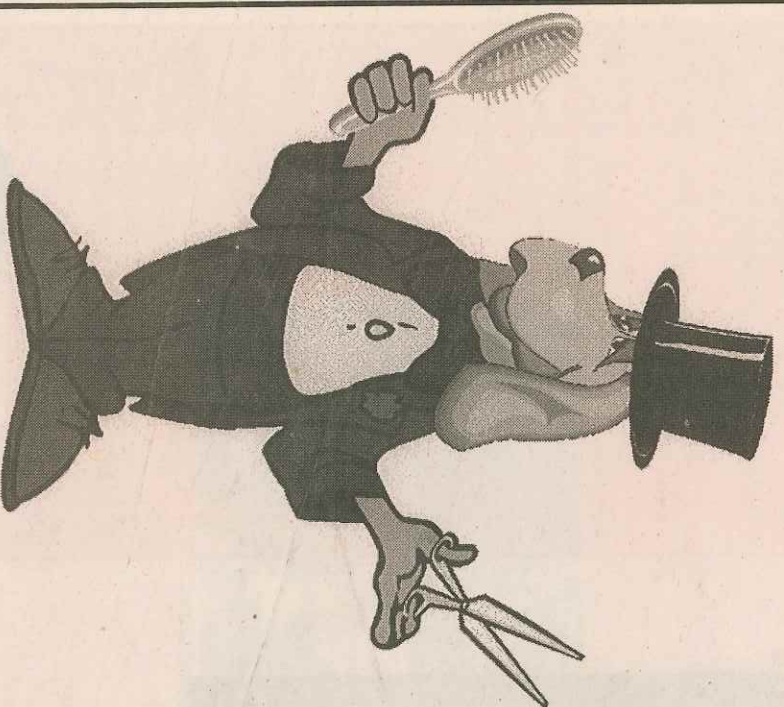
The Classy Canines van comes to you!!

**Curbside Grooming  
for the Classy Canine.**

Serving Springfield, Burke, and Kingstowne.

703-WASH-1775 (703-927-4175)

Michele Peterson, Owner/Operator





# Screaming for ice cream

By Cam Rushton  
Sports Editor

As moviegoers exit the AMC Hoffman Center in Alexandria, a small, neon sign lures them across the street. The bold, red letters scrolled across the sign spells out "Cold Stone Creamery" and invite customers to come in and taste their ice cream.

"[Cold Stone] is awesome," said senior Bryan Meyer, "because it is convenient and the ice cream is great."

Founded by Donald and Susan Sutherland in 1988, Cold Stone's mission is to serve smooth and creamy ice cream rather than the traditional hard-packed, soft-serve frozen desserts. Freshly blended on a cold stone right there in the store (which is where the creamery gets its name) and

served with a freshly baked waffle cone, makes Cold Stone's high quality creations complete.

Although a little on the pricey side, dropping a few extra dollars for Cold Stone's incredible ice cream is always worth it. Plus, if a customer puts a few extra dollars in the tip jar at the creamery, the crew members sing a song, either a well-known one or an original. The singing (and the entire atmosphere in the store for that matter) adds to the entertainment factor at Cold Stone and sets it apart from the competition.

"One of the only reasons I go there is to be sung to after I put a tip in the jar," said junior George Tritons.

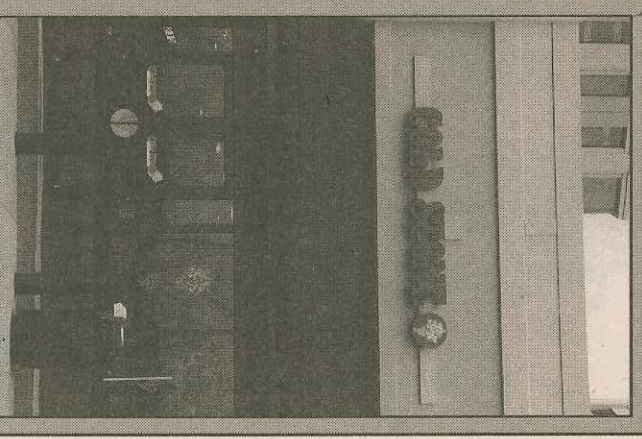
Cold Stone does not offer just the ordinary, everyday thirty one flavors like its competitors; it also offers frozen

yogurt, Italian sorbert, and cakes that

are available for personalization. Plus, half the fun of getting ice cream at the store is ordering the flavors. With unique names like Mud Pie Mojo, Monkey Cakes, and Germanchökolatcake, the titles of each flavor make the tastes even better. Customers can even make their own flavor, choose different toppings and fillings, and package the flavor in a carton to take home.

Entering only its eighteenth year in existence, Cold Stone has reached across the nation to 47 states and even multiple U.S. Territories. Word spread fast as ice cream lovers everywhere learned about Cold Stone and the high-quality desserts that the store offers.

"It's the best ice cream place that I have ever been to," said Meyer.



Liz Eichmasteer

Cold Stone Creamery is one of the only ice cream shops that the buyer can make their own ice cream flavor, with their preferences.

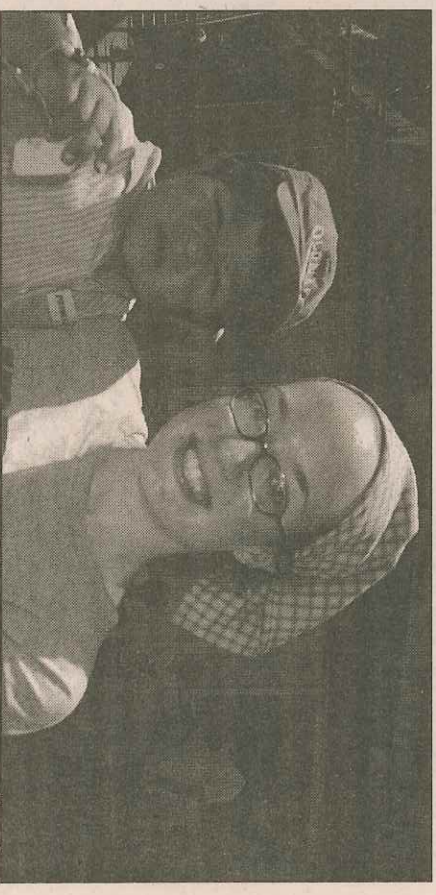
## Churches locked and loaded

By Sarah Alvarez  
Sports Assistant

Spending the night on a bowling alley floor is not a conventional way to spend a Saturday night, however for some interested parishioners, it is a great way to meet new people, expand faith, and have fun. The bi-district lock-in that junior Sam Morris attended was also attended by several other churches in the district and its main purpose was to meet new people, bowl, and have fun.

Not all lock-ins are created equal though; each is organized for different reasons. At Messiah United Methodist Church there are about three Lock-ins per year and a common lock-in with several churches is a new year's celebration.

A more specific reason to have a lock-in would be to prepare for mission work. "For instance, in the Mexico lock-in, every one is all psyched and excited cause we're about to go to Mexico for spring break," said Morris.



Zohra Alnoor

Senior Kristen Brown took a mission trip with her church to Mexico in order to give their help to those in need.

The annual Mexico trip him and the youth of his church take is a way to reach out to poverty stricken areas outside of the United States. They work with children for a week in Mexico and to prepare for this momentous event they have a lock-in.

Sometimes crafts are involved in the lock-in activities, for example bountinieres for father's day sold to the parishioners of Messiah as a fundraiser.

Games are at most all lockins, like hide and seek, mystery clue games, and ice breakers that force the youth to get to know each other. Some lock-ins have a

### Academics • Music • Athletics • Computers • More!

**WyzAnt.com, The Place to Turn When You Need to Learn.**

Your online resource for finding private instructors in academics, music, sports, computers, and more!

To find a tutor visit [WyzAnt.com](http://WyzAnt.com) or call 703-945-1835.

Browse tutor profiles to find the perfect tutor. Online scheduling and payment make booking your appointment a breeze.

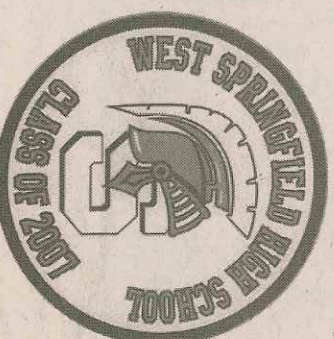
Buy a package deal and pay just \$35/hr! Satisfaction is guaranteed, so go ahead and give us a try!

**WYZANT TUTORING, Teaching & Coaching**



## SUPPORT

# THE SPARTAN BOOSTER CLUB



Buy

SPARTAN

MAGNETS

for \$ 5

Purchase

SPARTAN

APPAREL

at the school store

## Parental guidance not suggested Overbearing parents become loud coaches from the bleachers

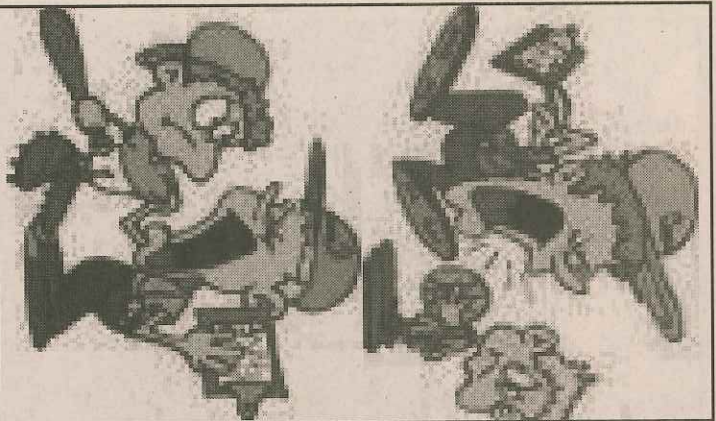
By Tim O'Keefe  
Sports Columnist

Last week, I decided to get to my recreation basketball practice 20 minutes early. As I waited for my practice to start, I had the chance to watch a softball pitching clinic for six to 10-year-old girls. A precious and innocent girl, with dark brown hair, attempted to pitch to her high strung father but threw it far left.

"Follow through! Throw it right down the center! Come on let's go," said "softball dad."

The little girl tried again, but this time worse than the first. Her face told how much pressure she was feeling from her dad.

"Softball dad" and overzealous parents similar to him such as: "baseball dad," and "soccer dad" and even "football dad," all need to catch a dose of reality. Their son or daughter is not the next superstar, so just chill out.



clip art review

In some cases, parents pressure their children to perform like professionals in youth sports, creating stress for the child and embarrassing both the athlete and the parent.

Nothing highlights this intensity of many parents in youth sports more than the Little League World Series, the nationally televised baseball tournament for children under 13. Some parents casually cheer on their sons, others are a bit more vocal, but try to give positive

### O'Keefe's Beef

reinforcement. And there are some, like "baseball dad" who pull their child behind the dugout before the seventh inning and threaten to leave them at the game if they do not get a hit. There is a reason that the kids cry uncontrollably when their team loses. It is not all because of the agony of defeat, the pressure from some parents play a vital part in the emotional state of their child.

Then, of course, there is the high strung football coach or "football dad," who thinks every play is life or death. He orders his defense, made up of fourth

and fifth graders, to team tackle a specific player on the other team because that player just injured one of their own players.

He knows every single player in the league, along with their strengths and weaknesses. He acts like coaching eight and nine-year-olds, on a volunteer basis, is his job. "Football dad" needs to take a step back and realize that at the youth level, it should be more about having fun than some type of military camp.

I am not discouraging fathers coaching their sons, or parents from avidly cheering on their kids, but it should just be toned down a bit. I understand that athletics are intense, especially at the high school, collegiate and pro levels. But I just want to give a simple reminder to "softball dad," and those like him, that these are just kids, not pro athletes. The belittling, ragging and anger not only embarrasses the child, but it also embarrasses you.

## Kim will kick it in Tennessee

By Kelly Sipple  
News Assistant

On Wednesday, February 1, senior Kim Jones signed with East Tennessee State University (ETSU) to play women's soccer. Jones was surrounded by Principal David Smith, School Resource Officer Shaaron Williams, coach Kellie Mastrodonato, her mother, and her closest friends at the signing.

Following the signing, Jones enjoyed cupcakes frosted blue and yellow, the colors of ETSU, and drinks with everyone in the room. ETSU recruited Jones this year and offered to pay for half of her education if she agreed to play women's soccer for the school.

Now that Jones has signed the document, she, as well as ETSU, cannot back out of the scholarship agreement. ETSU is a NCAA Division 1 school. It averages over 1,000 fans for home women's soccer games.

For Jones, the decision to play at ETSU was easy. "The people there were really nice and I felt like I was at home when I went to visit," said Jones. "They

also have a really good soccer program and I can study the major that I'm interested in."

Jones has played soccer since she was four years-old and has a passion for soccer.

"I love soccer," said Jones. "It helps me when I'm stressed out and I feel more like myself. If I'm mad, I take it out on the field."

Jones has always stood out as a soccer player. "Even as a freshman, Kim was an excellent player," said Mastrodonato. "We knew she would be a top defender in the region and she started for varsity her freshman, sophomore and junior years. If everything goes according to plan, she will be starting this season too. I don't know anyone else who has done that in the ten years that I've been here."

Players, such as sophomore Brittany Klippstein, are expecting Jones to lead the team this year.

"Last year as a freshman I looked up to Kim for guidance on varsity," said Klippstein. "She is a wonderful player and I am so happy for her. I know that this year she will step up as a leader on the team." Jones is hoping to relive her favorite soccer memory



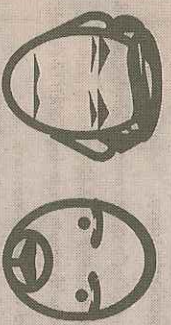
Tina Weida

Senior Kim Jones, seated, is pictured here with (from left) Officer Shaaron Williams, Principal David Smith, varsity girls soccer coach Kellie Mastrodonato, and her mother, Peyton Jones.

"My sophomore year we won districts and it was such an amazing accomplishment," said Jones. No matter what happens with the varsity team this season, Jones now knows for certain where she will continue her soccer career.

"I hope that when I'm at ETSU I can get a good education and improve my soccer skills by playing with better athletes," said Jones.

# MALEK'S PIZZA PALACE



Visit us at "malekspizza.com" with any comments, compliments, or complaints

Take-Out Dine-In Delivery  
Casual with Class

A true family restaurant right in your backyard.  
All our recipes are family originals.

2118 Old Keene Mill Rd.

Springfield Plaza

(by Long & Foster, near Giant)

11am - 3am (Mon - Thurs)

11am - 4am (Fri - Sat)

11am - 2am (Sun)

Limited Menu offer 10pm

\* Items not available after 10pm

Prices subject to change without prior notice

NO PERSONAL CHECKS PLEASE

We Deliver to selected areas only.  
Minimum \$9.00 required, depending on area

### Specialty Items

Italian Entrees\*Kejabs\*Subs  
Seafood\*Salads\*Appetizers  
\*Greek Specialties \*Childrens  
Menu\*Soups(From-Scratch)

Famous New York Style Pizza  
Cooked in Malek's authentic  
Stone Bottom Ovens

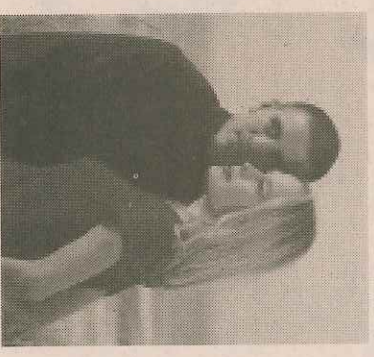
(703)451-6969

## your sexual health matters

make informed decisions—know the facts

### WE OFFER YOU FREE & CONFIDENTIAL SERVICES

help with relationship issues  
pregnancy information & testing  
STD information & testing referrals  
other resources



## Lifechoices

10521-D Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22032  
(across from GMU next to University Mall)  
703-323-8060 - [www.lifechoices.org](http://www.lifechoices.org)

Stevie's Story

How to sound like a Hippie

By Stevie Fiorino  
ETC Editor

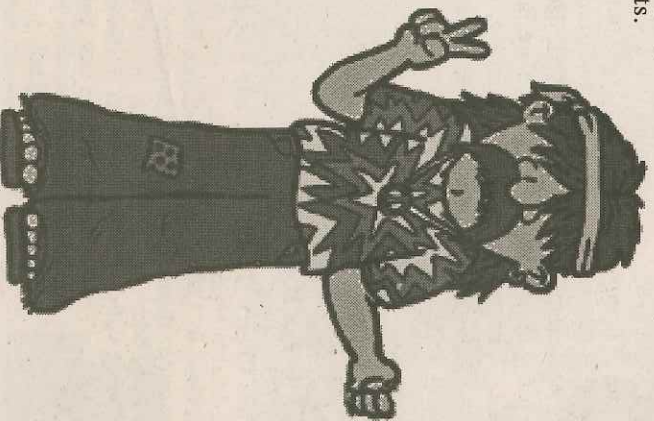
For this past Christmas, my mom gave me a 365 day calendar of hippie terms. So I am going to share some of these words and sayings with you, so you can walk around and sound cool, and make people wonder what the heck you just said.

**Laid low:** sick. Humiliated or reduced in stature. Examples: "She was *laid low* by that cold." "He was *laid low* by what she said." Similar to *cut down*, it may have evolved from that term.

**Oldie moidie:** something out of date or out of style. Can describe a person or object and does not relate literally to spoilage, as in food or produce.

**Pudding:** that which holds the world together.  
**Get down with it:** to be serious about doing something.

**Thought police:** authorities who try to control your thoughts.



**Energy rip-off:** taking away, rather than contributing, good emotions. Someone who sucks energy and "good vibes" from relationships or situations.

**Make tracks:** to leave in a hurry.  
**Belly of the beast:** a bad place to be. A tough spot. Comes from the fact that a person who is eaten by a beast is not in a very good situation.

**A lock on:** skills or knowledge of something. Having an exclusive on something. Examples: "He has a *lock on* that guitar riff." "You think you have a *lock on* her?" Think again, Gonzo's been there, too."

**I can dig it:** I understand, I agree.  
**Freak flag:** something that identifies a person as a hippie. Long hair is the most obvious. A term heard in

Crosby, Stills, Nash, and Young's song, "Almost Cut My Hair." "I feel like letting my *freak flag* fly."

**Evolve:** to become a better person.  
**The screaming meemies:** an uncomfortable feeling or nervous reaction.

**Desk jockey:** an office worker.  
**Put the bite on:** to ask for something. To pressure someone for something. Most often, it refers to asking for money.

**Flush or Flushed:** having plenty of money or possessing an excess. Example: "Hey, I'm *flush*; I have all the babes, money, and LPs I need."

**Full on:** I, correct, complete, fulfilling. An intensifier relating to being right. Example: "You were *full on* about that guy; he does have a Barbie complex."

**2, quickly or without restraint.** Example: "He was running *full on*, so he didn't see the wall."

**Fox:** a very attractive person.

**Peace:** just a dream some of us had.

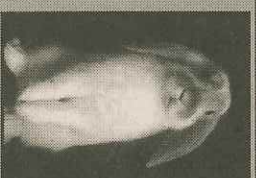
Thank you to John Bassett McCleary for writing *The Hippie Dictionary*.

Hoagie's World  
Girls, girls, girls

By Sean Hogan

Features Editor

No one will ever understand them



I am as hopeless as every other guy. I started out knowing absolutely nothing about the opposite sex other than the fact that I know nothing about them. Having two older sisters and a handful of close friends of the opposite sex makes me more of an expert than most guys, so I figured I would share the little (but important) knowledge I have when it comes to girls.

Most girls are perfectly nice. They're like cute little bunnies that frolic around in the meadows of society. I've come to realize, however, that some bunnies don't like others for silly reasons like boys, clothes, money, "hare" ties (pun police!), etc.

This leads me to rule number one for guys: don't get caught up between two girls who are fighting. Nine times out of ten, both girls will end up hating you. The other one time out of ten will usually result in one girl *hating you* and the other merely *disliking you severely*.

Either way, the best plans when a girl's name comes up in conversation with another girl are to (a) wear a helmet and (b) probably a cup too. It's a lose-lose situation because at least one of them will end up mad at you (and will probably try to hurt you).

My other tip to guys about girls - we will never understand them. I'm sure every Harvard, Oxford and NOVA male scholar has worked for years to find out what women are really thinking (probably from the couch). I've finally realized that maybe girls really don't want us to know what they're thinking. It's a battle they know they can win easily, so why lose an advantage in the battle of the sexes?

Now that the whole female sex is mad at me for exposing the question, "What are women thinking?," I must reassure them that the stereotypical female brain is much more complex than the stereotypical male brain. The male brain needs to eat, sleep, fart, light stuff on fire and blow stuff up (sometimes attempts to multitask result in death). The female brain needs to eat, sleep, do their hair five thousand times only for it to end up exactly the same as it was before (same with clothes, shoes, socks, underpants, jewelry, ribbons, bows, nail paint, and any other accessory that women stereotypically care about too much) and confuse men.

Men will simply never understand what women are thinking. I just wanted to let dudes across America know that.

February/March '06

Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
Boys Lacrosse Pasta Dinner @ 5:30 p.m. in the cafeteria	Washington Capitals vs. Pittsburgh Penguins @ MCI Center-7:00 p.m.	Abe Lincoln's Birthday!	Pajama Day!	Valentines Day/ Alyssa Horton & Sara Kofalt's Birthday!/Red, White & Pink Day!	Famous Couples/Twin Day!	Class Color Day (staff-maroon; seniors-green; juniors-red; sophomores-yellow; freshman-pink)
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
Orange & Blue Day!	Winter Semi-Formal-7:30 p.m. in the cafeteria	"DADA" exhibit opens @ the National Gallery of Art	Presidents' Day-NO SCHOOL!!!	Spring Sports Tryouts began yesterday	Stevie & Liz's Birthday!/AP Parent Night	Sunnie's Birthday and Wilson's (Stevie's dog) Birthday!
24	25	26	27	28	1	2
DC 101's Elliott in the Morning presents the Dan Band @ 9:30 Club-8 p.m.	Track Northern Regional Championships @ GMU	The Starting Line @ 9:30 club-5:00 p.m.	Registration for rising sophomores begins	Pride and Prejudice comes out on DVD today!	In 1642, on this day the Salem witch Trials began	Varsity Girls Soccer Scrimmage vs. Yorktown- 6:00 p.m. @ home

Highway Safety Is Everybody's Business, But OUR Specialty!  
"Keith Has Been Serving Northern Virginia for Over 40 Years"

# KEITH'S

ONE OF THE STATE'S LARGEST & BEST FULL SERVICE DRIVING SCHOOLS

## 250-3333

\*\*\* Sign-up EARLY \*\*\*

More information at [keithsdrivingschool.net](http://keithsdrivingschool.net)

### A Message from Keith

Dear Spartans,  
I would like to thank each one of you for allowing us to serve you; I can only hope that your experience with us has been as rewarding and gratifying as our experience with you. I also want to thank so many of you for your concern for my recent illness.

As you may know, with the help of Senator Jay O'Brien and many other good friends in Richmond, we have been able to pass several bills that have been brought to legislative order thereby becoming law, enhancing the driver education program and the quality of instruction administered to the first year driver. Virginia has some of the best first year teenage drivers in the country - mainly because of the program and the care which this program is administered, especially through Keith's Driving School.

Despite what you hear from some media, portraying teenage drivers as being the worst drivers, this is not true. They don't bother to separate states and tell you which bill or law is what. They want to send the spin the way they want it to sound. It doesn't work that way. Go to the stats. The media might portray things without telling you or breaking down state by state as to which one does and does not have these types of laws or legislation restricting first year drivers.

These laws allow us to eliminate some driver education establishments that are not concerned about administering the proper driver education nor the safety of your child. This also makes the driver education industry better. I have always done everything I can to educate the public, the students and parents, on the Virginia driver education laws.

Speaking of parents, I have taught some of you to drive. This past year, five of you searched me out to teach your children. You don't know how good that makes me feel and I wish I would be here to teach their sons or daughters, but that is a bit of a pipe dream.

In every ad you will see my Virginia's license number and the Virginia State requirements. Look at other ads and you don't see those things. It is my way of saying that we at Keith's Driving School do care and are concerned about driver education and your sons and daughters. Parents must know they are going to get the correct type of training that their son or daughter needs at Keith's.

Our instructors are professionals. That is what we do for a living. We teach people to drive and try to help them survive. Though we cannot win them all, we do try very hard. It's true, we charge quite a bit more than some driver education institutions, but this is because we give you so much more. We pick up; we drop off. We are on the road, not on a parking lot. The last time I checked, the death toll in Virginia on parking lots amounted to 1/2 of one percent. That is not a stat that warrants parking lot instruction. Virginia eliminated parallel parking in 1971 to concentrate on more important areas because parallel parking is not a life threatening maneuver. Though we teach parallel parking, we don't concentrate on it.

Our students average 125 miles on the road, with all kinds of traffic situations. Some will drive more than that based on the sparsely populated areas. But in the densely populated areas such as Springfield, Annan-



dale, Falls Church, Fairfax, Tyson's, and Mclean, they average is about 125 miles. This along with 40 hours equates close to 1,000 miles of experience before students go out by themselves. This is so important. Senator O'Brien and myself fought for six years for the bill along with the documentation of the mileage. Nobody really wanted that, but Senator O'Brien had the wisdom to get it passed in a really good bill.

There is really no one in the industry I take second to. We are the best. I ask your indulgence and patience. Enroll your child early to get their program going, even before they start their 40 hours or halfway through their 40 hours. You DO NOT have to have the 40 hours completed before enrolling.

We at Keith's are all about teaching driving. Give us a call early. We have some of the best teenage drivers in the country in Virginia and the death toll for first year drivers has been steadily dropping since Keith's Driving School opened. There is proof of that.

I wish we could teach everybody, but we can't. I wish I could be the guardian who rides around with them after they get their license but I can't.

However, I assure you that our instructors will instill safe driving habits, defensive driving habits, accident avoidance and evasive maneuvering habits in your sons and daughters. Please bear with us, summer time is coming and we all want to have a happy summer. Thank you so very much and may God bless and keep every one of you safe.

### Safe Driving is Everyone's Business



#### Driver Improvement 5 Good Points

- VA STATE LIC #15030000304 - BONDED - INSURED
- VIRGINIA TEEN LAW REQUIRES
- \* 7 - 50 minute periods of Behind-the-Wheel
- \* 7 - 50 minute periods of observation
- \* MUST BE GIVEN ON 7 SEPARATE DAYS
- \* Classroom requirements are 36 - 50 minute periods

**WE DO IT RIGHT!**

**WE OBEY VA STATE DRIVER ED LAWS**

Keith's also offers the 5 Point Driver Improvement Program