

Mondale Visits

by Cathy Moses

Visits from important persons such as government officials, citizens from the community, and even health inspectors seem like daily occurrences for NCSSM, but a visit from a former United States vice president captured almost everyone's attention this past February. Walter Mondale, vice president under Jimmy Carter, was traveling through North Carolina, making preparations for the 1984 Presidential election which he plans to run in. While in North Carolina, he stayed with Governor James Hunt, a fellow democrat. NCSSM, Governor Hunt's pet project in educational advancement, was on Mondale's agenda, so he could see how the state-funded school was organized and how it worked for both teachers and students.

Part of Mondale's visit included a session in the Conference Room where he spoke with some students about their life here at NCSSM. Mondale praised the school as a good place to learn with the importance of science, technology, and engineering continually growing in the state and the nation. One thing Mondale was concerned about is the gross negligence in American education in establishing a strong foreign language program for its high school students. He also asked students why they came to NCSSM, did they like it here, and what benefits were they receiving. Mondale stressed the importance for all of us NCSSM students to keep open minds about career opportunities and never to restrict ourselves to just one or two choices. Also, during the visit Mondale toured the campus and facilities, spoke with the teachers and students, and even tried out an Apple.



Dear Unicorn

Dear Unicorn,

Winter is melting away, and so am I. I just don't understand myself anymore. I'm constantly springing around, like a silly frog or a drunken kangaroo, and de-scumming the sinks doesn't even dampen my spirits. My homework actually seems manageable, and I'm staying awake through over half of my classes. The less sleep I get, the more energy I have, and I've started sprinting up the stairs to get to my classes on fourth floor Bryan. Sunshine makes me feel like a long-whiskered mouse zipping through a field of daffodils. Sometimes I want to grab hold of the nearest sunbeam, swing up into the clouds, and somersault through them. In physics, I'm a molecule of water with high kinetic energy, jumping around and trying to evaporate, and in math, I'm the graph of an exponential function where $x > 0$. I'm really too happy to worry about what's happening to me, but I am a bit curious. Any ideas?

Happy and Hyper

Dear Happy,

Surprise! You are one of the many NCSSMers who has already caught the spring fever epidemic. But relax; no nasty pills or syrups will cure you, and you won't be thrown in the infirmary. You'll have to let the fever wear off by itself, but, while you're in the clouds, why not slide down a few rainbows?

Musicians Herald Spring Events

by Hih Song Kim

Busy activity best describes NCSSM's music department this spring. Involved in a multitude of projects, contests and concerts headline the list of events, featuring students.

Recent accomplishments attained by NCSSM music talents start with the Choral Solo and Ensemble Festival, which was held February 26-27 in Raleigh. Five soloists, Robin Carter, Thomas Gilchrist, Herman Goins, Eugene Murray, and Janeen Vanhooke, along with the chorus and madrigals attended the contest/festival. Dr. Joel Carter, from UNC-Chapel Hill, served as the judge and assigned ratings ranging from superior, excellent, good, fair, to poor to all participants. Proving their musical ability, NCSSM performers clinched ratings of superior and excellent.

Eastern Regional Honors Orchestra followed, taking place in Chapel Hill March 6-7. Statewide auditions were held in January to select orchestra members. Six NCSSM instrumentalists were invited to attend: Ellen Dixon, Kurt Indermaur, Hih Song Kim, Cliff Mercer, Marty Schwartz, and Shauna Tilly.

Other contest clips center around All-State Chorus and Honors Band. UNC-Greensboro will host All-State Chorus on May 6-7. NCSSM will be represented by Robin Carter and Bebe Harmon. Kurt Indermaur will travel to Raleigh for Honors Band on April 23-24.

A large-scale cooperative effort will be staged the week of May 24 at NCSSM. Titled the "Creation Project", the series will involve the science, dance, drama, and music departments at NCSSM. All are committed to explore, through their specialized fields, the beginning of the world. The music department, headed by Randy Foy, will highlight two pieces, both entitled "The Creation of the World". The chorus and orchestra will perform both pieces, one by Darius Milhaud, and the other by Franz Joseph Haydn.

Other upcoming events scheduled are listed in the following calendar of events, subject to change.

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| May | Nicolson-Kitchen Duo--features violinist Dorothy Kitchen and James Nicolson on the harpsicord. Specialty: Baroque music. |
| May | student recitals (2)
Spring Concert--chorus and band
Chamber music concert |
| May 13 | Chorus singing for the Kiwanis Club |

Wild West Jamboree

by Meg Gatling

March 27th was no ordinary Saturday. After students discussed the implications of the space shuttle and tended to their usual Saturday afternoon chores, they began transforming campus into the days of the cowboys and Indians. The Wild West Jamboree, sponsored by the Student Council and made successful with the help of history teachers Wilson and Little, had begun.

One could detect more than the usual degree of uncivilized living as tomahawked Indians emerged and bonneted ladies in full-length gowns graced the grounds. Around 3:00, students from E.K. Powe between kindergarten and 3rd grade began trickling onto the field between Hill and Wyche, where they bobbed for apples, held still while tarheels were painted on their cheeks, sipped lemonade, shot baskets, threw bean bags, and fished for prizes. Of course, many became captives of vicious Indians who forced them to tour the museum in Hill basement. Once our visitors left at 5:00, a line of ravenous NCSSMers soon formed beside Hill, where they heaped baked beans and cole slaw onto their plates beside barbequed chicken and hot dogs that were still warm from the coals. The air was quite nippy, so most dined in the lounges.

But the action didn't really start until 7:00, when a square dance cranked up in the assembly hall and people began counting their chips at the casino in Wyche basement. Around 9:00, an authentic five-member bluegrass band set up and entertained their heel-stompin' audience until midnight. By then, most of the students were tuckered out and the luck of the gamblers had been determined, so those who hadn't conked out already gladly returned to their dorms.