



A recent casualty of campus construction

Construction Endangers Trees

by Chris Moore

The campus tree population has been steadily decreasing since NCSSM started. While this decrease is due to construction and abuse, efforts are being made to plant replacement trees in November.

If the only place to build a gym is where the trees live, then the trees will have to go. However, construction also involves incidental destruction of trees as workers bury wires and pipe and move vehicles around the work site.

A tree needs a 50-ft.

radius free of construction to be completely unharmed. This radius must be free from dirt piles that keep water from the roots, heavy vehicles that pack the clay around the roots, and plaster wastes that soak through to the roots.

Construction crews are notorious for accidentally harming trees outside the construction area.

One 75-year-old tree that once sat beside the Maintenance building was, at first, protected by a barrier of two-by-fours. A few weeks later, this

fencing was broken down and the tree began getting hit by cars and equipment. After about another month, equipment was being chained to the tree. Not unexpectedly, the tree died and was cut down.

Our expanding school has and will cause the death of many trees, but something is being done. Tree planting is now set for this Nov., barring complications from other project schedules. With a little care the trees will grace our campus for years to come.

Church and State: Are They Totally Separate?

by Scott Lamanna

All of us here at NCSSM know what the separation of church and state is and most of us probably believe that our school does a pretty good job of keeping them separated. Well, this may not be the case.

The U.S. constitution says that no government or government-supported institution is allowed to adopt

a church or encourage religion. On the other hand, they are also not permitted to discourage religion or discriminate against someone because of their religious beliefs.

So what has NCSSM done that violates this statement? First, there should not have been a minister to deliver the invocation because it is a group activity.

Second, a church bulletin board is required to be on campus and give students access to information concerning religious activities.

Third, our school offers religious courses which students may choose to take. Students cannot be taught to believe the religions, but the factual information about them and the historical and literary content of each are taught.

It is difficult for any government establishment, like NCSSM, to make the division between church and state.

Animal Rights

by Kasi Jackson and Vicki Carlton

Do the benefits gained by animal research outweigh the pain caused the animal? This important question affects not only the larger research community, but also NCSSM.

Dr. Joan Barber said, "You may have been against animal research until it affects a loved one. Then we see the benefit of it." Even those against animal experimentation cannot deny that it has brought enormous benefit in saving lives.

Does student experimentation which will probably never be seriously considered by medical researchers have a place? Barber defends this practice by stating, "We are allowing bright high school students to be exposed to a possible dream career, even if they decide not to go into research."

Barber points out that researchers or students cannot inflict pain beyond a certain level. NCSSM's policy toward animal use (adopted from the National Science Teachers Association) has clauses setting this level.

The policy on the sacrificing of animals is set by the American Veterinary Association, and this must be done by someone experienced in these methods. The policy states, "Behavioral studies should use only rewards (such as providing food) and not punishment in training programs."

Do we have the right to place ourselves higher than other species, and can we sacrifice their lives for our gain? Dr. Beth Timson states, "I would hope at a future date we would learn

to be embarrassed at saying one species is superior to another."

She adds, "One of the things that's wrong with killing animals is not that the animals die, but what it does to us. To think you can kill or maim something because it is another species is bound to make you ethically insensitive."

In regard to the research community as a whole, Timson feels too much repetition is involved in the experiments performed today. She opposes experimentation resulting in pain and suffering for animals merely to teach students how to perform scientific experiments.

One main thing that should concern researchers and activists is the treatment of the animals involved in experiments. Teachers at NCSSM justify their use of animals by pointing out the educational value given to the students.

The school maintains a high level of care for the animals and limits the amount of pain they can be subjected to according to NSTA guidelines. Teachers try to avoid repetition in student projects by requiring that students do not duplicate too closely the work of other researchers.

One aspect of the school's policy could stand improvement. It would be a wise idea to allow people for and against animal research to lecture students considering projects involving animals.

Until society reaches a consensus on what should be done about animal research, NCSSM is doing a fine job in keeping the high ethical standards in the use of animals for experimentation.

The Stentorian Staff - 1988-89
Advisor - Mike Gunzenhauser
Editors - Jon Carson, Danene Groenke, Beth Krudel
Production Coordinator - Greg Sutton
News Editors - Jayashri Ghate, Ross Little
Editorial Editor - Cynthia Johnson
Feature Editors - Kimberly Tisdale, Bo Wallace
Sports Editors - Sean Fahey, Aaron Peronto
Photography Editors - Lime Chang, Elizabeth Fowler
Distribution Managers - Nghia Tran, Eugene Yen
News Writers - Dana Bius, Rita Nahta, Dinesh Rao, Dana Rigsby, Tammy Williams
Editorial Writers - Vickie Carlton, Kasi Jackson, Scott Lamanna, Chris Moore, Rob Owens, Chris Pace
Feature Writers - Debby Bone, Janine Bullard, Craig Moorefield, Lisa Senzel
Sports Writers - Sally Austin, Caroline Dobson, Brent Goff, Peter Houghton, Daniel Park
Photographers - Randy Brown, Geoff Guzynski, Chirs Krause, Bryan Richardson, Jodi Wittlin, Kristi Woods
Cartoonist - Eric Coker
Typist - John Hunt

Bill and Opus Come in Close Third Dukakis leading at NCSSM

by Rob Owen

Here are the results:

Dukakis - 52%

Bush - 42%

Undecided - 6%

For all those who tried to elect Bill and Opus, they came in a close third though.

