

the stentorian

Vol. XIV, No. 5

NCSSM, 1219 Broad Street, Durham, NC 27705

May 27, 1995

Around the World: A Year in Review

By MAGDA KOTEK

News Editor

International

■ Ten people died and over 6,000 were injured in gas attacks on the Yokohama and Tokyo metro stations. Japanese police have been accused of terrorizing the suspected Aum Shinrikyo cult. The cult, though, has not yet been charged with the attacks.

■ Muslims in the war torn nation of Yugoslavia gained ground while Serbian armies blasted UN protected cities. The United Nations indicted Radovan Karadzic in its recently formed international war-crimes tribunal.

■ Over 5,000 people died and 25,000 were injured after an earthquake measuring 7.2 on the Richter scale hit Japan.

Wars in Mexico and the republic of Grozny in the former Soviet Union erupted this year. Both conflicts were quickly crushed by the respective governments.

■ The United States has decided to lift a trade embargo with the nation of Vietnam in the hopes of opening a new market. This action falls on the twentieth anniversary of the end of the Vietnam war.

■ Fighting in Rwanda continues as refugees pour into refugee camps. A recent attack by Tutsi soldiers left 2,000 Hutus slain.

National

■ Over 120 people were left dead after a bomb exploded in a federal building in Oklahoma city. Police

see AROUND THE WORLD, page 2

Duke professor chosen to speak at graduation

By JOHN SMITH

Staff Writer

As the school year draws to a close and everyone gets ready to pack up and head home, the School of Science and Math has become a beehive of activity. Seniors have begun to plan their college careers, while juniors are just starting to think about how cool it will be next year when they are the rulers of NCSSM (for a little while, anyway).

But wait, something is missing. Amidst all the turmoil and hurry, aren't we forgetting a minor detail? That's right, class of '95, GRADUATION! The moment that you have dreamed of for twelve long years has finally arrived.

Of course, a good graduation exercise requires a good graduation speaker. Two of them, in fact. And to ensure that the senior graduation is a resounding success, the SGA has worked hard since last October to obtain a top notch honorary speaker.

This year, the speaker will be Professor Shelly Schwartz of Duke University. Dr. Schwartz is a professor of Pharmacology/Neurobiology at Duke Medical School, where she studies the effects that certain drugs have on the brain. She is also involved in a private corporation that develops computer molecular simulations of drugs and diseases.

However, Dr. Schwartz is not only a scientist, but an athlete as well. She enjoys sailing, cycling (she recently won a local race),



Photo by Hao Zhu

Seniors Brian Watkins and Magda Kotek enjoy a day at the beach, one of the most popular places for post-graduation celebration.

and was also an expert on the uneven parallel bars in high school and college. She is a biathlete and triathlete, and judged the National Olympic Trials for gymnastics.

Senior speaker Marci Gambrell is multi-talented as well. She enjoys rock climbing and fencing in her spare time, while keeping up a difficult class load and serving as DA on Third Beall. Hailing from Banner Elk,

N.C., Marci plans to attend the University of Chicago next year and major in mathematics.

Seniors, good job at one of the toughest high schools in the nation. Not long from now, two hundred and seventy of you will travel from the campus of NCSSM into the world of tomorrow. Knock 'em dead, class of '95.

Traditions and memories abound at NCSSM

By HOPE JACKSON and
ANNU SOOD

Features Editor and Staff Writer

When NCSSM first opened in 1980, there were no traditions to follow. No one imagined that there would be a time known as Happy Half. Many traditions have been created throughout the years, a recent addition being the second semester senior mock graduation (it was created last year). Of course, there have been quite a few that have had to be broken, including Biopond birthday tosses and toilet papering the gym.

Regardless, a few of our very own NCSSM teachers recall traditions that began long ago. Mr. Liles remembers that there was a time when there was no place big enough

on campus to hold assemblies, so students were transported off campus for such events, like convocation, to take place. They were held at the Bryan Center at Duke University or even at E.K. Powe Elementary School. Dr. Miller remembers that the first year end slide show took place in the Assembly Hall. It lasted 45 minutes. Not only did everyone remain standing for the entire thing, but they also clapped the whole way through.

Halloween has been a fun time on campus. Several halls have their own individual haunted houses, but not much can compare to the first few haunted houses on campus when real cob-webs were everywhere and buildings like Watts were condemned and boarded up. Mr. Liles recalls one year when Halloween time came around and several stu-

dents got permission to open Watts up so they could hold a haunted house show there. Their props included a giant chain saw and old hospital equipment. Eventually, the haunted house got so popular, people from the outside community lined up outside to watch. The haunted house was also held in Wyche House.

Another tradition that has not been able to continue is one that involves hall decorating at Christmas. Each year, halls had a tough Christmas decorating contest. Judges were selected to walk through each hall and choose a winner. Competition was tough and creativity was everywhere. Mr. Liles recalls one

see SCHOOL TRADITIONS,
page 2

♦ Bored This Summer? Check out the "Top 11 things to do this summer," page 11.

♦ Walking It Out A closer look at early-morning mall-walkers, page 12.

♦ Graduation Gifts Senior Last Will and Testaments, page 3.

Inside
This Issue