

The Stentorian

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AROUND THE WORLD ...and back

Compiled by Maryellen Corbett

■The court-appointed attorney for the accused assassin of Yitzhak Rabin quit after one day on the case. Avraham Pachter quit, saying that his client was only using the trial to express his militant views.

■A fire on January 29 claimed Italy's La Fenice Opera House. The opera house was a 204-year-old structure and one of Italy's greatest artistic institutions.

■John E. du Pont was apprehended outside his mansion after a two-day standoff with police. Du Pont, an heir to the chemical company fortune, was accused of killing Olympic wrestler Dave Schultz. Schultz coached the wrestling team that du Pont formed and sponsored.

■Whey, best known from the tale about Little Miss Muffet, may prevent carriers of the AIDS virus from infecting others during intercourse. If tests continue to go well, a modified version may be put in a cream or foam. Whey is produced when milk is made into cheese.

Academic honesty put to the test

Adam Tarleton
Staff Writer

The NCSSM Student Government, in cooperation with Special Programs, Institutional Research and Evaluation (SPIRE), recently conducted a survey regarding academic honesty. Over 450 students participated in the survey, according to SGA's results. The survey reported 48.3% of Science and Math students admitted to doing "anything while at NCSSM [that could be regarded by a teacher] as cheating."

The most common type of cheating at NCSSM is asking someone to reveal what questions were on a test, according to survey results. Of the students surveyed, 43.6% admitted to asking about test questions. The least frequent types of cheating are taking answers from someone else during a test and plagiarizing. Only 8.9% had taken answers during a test, and 10.0% admitted to plagiarizing.

Sally Adkin, director of SPIRE noted that reasonable assignments, enforcing penalties for cheating, and varying tests were the most frequent suggestions for what teachers can do to encourage honesty.

Adkin added that an honor

code has been discussed for years by NCSSM administration and trustees. "Last year SGA discussed the idea of an honor code but dismissed a recommendation that Student Government suggest one to the Board of Trustees," said Jody Smith of SGA.

The NCSSM Board of Trustees challenged the Executive Committee of the SGA to conduct a survey to study the academic integrity of NCSSM students said Sally Adkin of SPIRE. This survey could affect the possible implementation of an NCSSM honor code in the future.

An honor code implies not only that the act of cheating is grounds for dismissal, but also that knowledge of cheating without notifying authorities could be punishable by expulsion.

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—anonymous response to academic honesty survey

on," wrote one student surveyed.

The NCSSM student handbook's description of academic honesty states that "students are expected to act in an ethical and honorable manner at all times." Teachers are expected to discuss any incidences of possible cheating with the student or students involved. Also, "the teacher is the final authority on what does or does not constitute cheating in a specific class."

According to some students,

Glaxo donates \$1 million for outreach program

Rajesh Swaminathan
News Editor

Glaxo company is currently funding a project with NCSSM known as Winners II. This project provides the school with \$1 million to finance a pilot project in science with East Wake High School.

Winners II, headed by teachers Myra Halpin, Chuck Roser, and Angelina Winborne, began July 1, 1995 and will last for three years. Some equipment that was purchased included a class set of computers, CBLs, and calculators.

Halpin, Roser, and Winborne go to East Wake on Tuesdays and Thursdays to teach the faculty how to use the equipment. They also work with the students and modify some of NCSSM's labs for their use.

In 1992, Glaxo Inc. initiated Winners I, also a three-year program. Marilyn Link, Hugh Haskell, and Sarah Allen were in charge of that project. Win-

ners I provided NCSSM with \$750,000 which was spent on the two middle schools that feed into East Wake. The goals were similar to the ones set by Winners II. The first objective was to increase laboratory equipment, and the second was to incorporate more laboratory experience into classrooms.

"The Glaxo foundation has always been generous to schools and museums," said Link. The company is funding pilot efforts to increase the quality of science education by establishing special projects like Winners I and II. Glaxo has also funded the NCSSM student oriented-research program.

The teachers at schools served by Winners I and II have significantly changed their teaching styles to encompass the use of equipment and laboratory. The students are also enjoying class and are learning much more in the process, said Link.

this creates a problem. "It seems as if the majority of the students do not see eye to eye with the teachers regarding what is and is not academic dishonesty," wrote one student, in response to the question of what NCSSM teachers can do to discourage cheating in their classes.

SGA reported that 26.7% of students surveyed said that teachers can do nothing to deter cheating. "Teachers can do nothing; it all comes down to the student," wrote another.

When asked what students can do to promote academic honesty, 20.2% responded that students cannot do anything to prevent cheating. 18.8% said that self-regulation is the best way to deter academic dishonesty.

This was not the first survey on academic honesty conducted at NCSSM. The original was tallied in December 1993, and 63% admitted to some form of cheating said Smith.

Staff member suspended, reinstated

Monica Dev
News Editor

An NCSSM staff member was suspended from his position and then reinstated due to an alleged conflict with an NCSSM student.

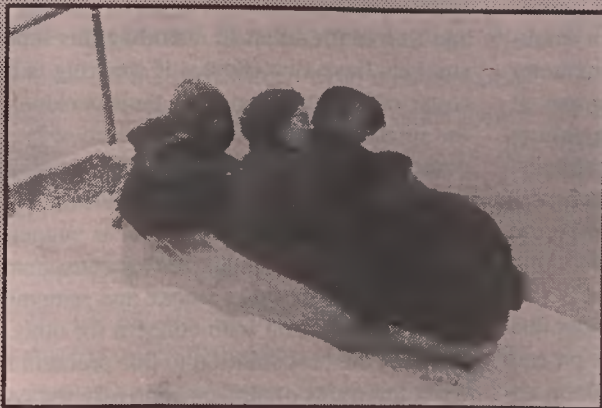
Coach Lamar Shannon was suspended from his duties as Recreation Specialist on Thursday, January 18. He was suspended with pay and was reinstated January 30. The suspension was due to an alleged conflict with a student on the indoor soccer team.

The alleged conflict occurred on January 18 in the PEC during soccer practice. Investigation of this incident has not yet been concluded. Dr. Joan Barber, Director of Student Life, said that the administration conducted "a fair investigation to the best of (its) abilities." She stated further that all parties involved would receive "appropriate consequences."

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David Bediz

Students slide down a hill in the Reynolds 2C baby pool. This year's snowstorms changed many people's plans. Story p. 6.