



The Stentorian

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AROUND THE WORLD ...and back

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U.S. election pleases international leaders

From all corners of the world, international leaders are pleased with the results of the U.S. Presidential election. Many are hoping that with the election behind him, President Clinton will be able to devote more time to improving U.S. foreign affairs.

The European leaders showed a bias towards Clinton because he symbolized continuity and he had experience in office.

Winning the American way

The British are using many of the American election tactics in their own election. Many of the important issues of the British elections are like *deja-vu* from the American elections of November 5. Issues such as welfare reform, gun control, medical care, education, crime, and tax cuts. The British candidates are even using American phrases such as "the buck stops here," and the people behind the candidates are even referred to as "spin doctors" by many.

Cyclone devastates India

A ferocious cyclone ripped through India destroying crops and homes. Even though the death toll is already at 400, the state official said that it could easily reach 2,000. The worst hit city was the coastal city, Kakinda, 300 miles east of the state capital, Hyderabad.

It's all over now

All the euphoria of Nelson Mandela's election as state president in South Africa is gone. Now citizens are beginning to complain about what is being done and what is not getting accomplished. Whites, who fear crime and affirmative action, are fleeing the country. Blacks are disappointed with the lack of new jobs. Mandela finds these complaints unfair and says they should be happy that South Africa is based on democratic principles after many years of struggle.

Students sue NCSSM

Two NCSSM students sue the school, Director Friedrich, and the Board of Trustees

ANNE FAWCETT

Two seniors who were recommended for expulsion filed a lawsuit against NCSSM on Nov. 15. The seniors received Level III's for possession and consumption of alcoholic beverages on campus.

Miles (Woody) Gray and Howard Ervin brought a civil suit against the school. At press time, however, negotiations were underway towards a possible settlement to be announced Monday, Nov. 25.

The suit had been filed against NCSSM, the NCSSM Board of Trustees and Executive Director John Friedrich, who heard the students' appeal and made the final decision to expel them.

"Based on all the evidence available to me," Friedrich wrote in a statement to the Durham Herald-Sun on Nov. 18, "I am convinced that these students deliberately violated NCSSM's anti-alcohol policy and that they ought to be expelled from NCSSM."

The incident, as described by the complaint submitted to Superior Court, states that on Oct. 19, an NCSSM graduate brought 11 bottles of beer into Gray and Ervin's room, where they and 6 other African-American



Friedrich

Curriculum Council considers 97-98 changes

KIM MCCUMBER

The Curriculum Council, a committee composed of both staff members and students, is considering changes for next year's schedule. The options being considered are alterations to both the daily schedule and academic calendar. The council is considering the needs of students and teachers in their deliberations over next year's schedule.

"I want more contact time with the students," said Gloria Barrett, a math teacher who has attended Curriculum Council meetings.

To accommodate teachers who want more time with students, the council is considering many options, including a seven-period

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JUDICIAL SYSTEM**

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Former student Leah Eisenstein speaks about her experience

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Students on hearing boards appears likely for 1997-98

than one beer, nor did they pay for, solicit, purchase, or transport the beers.

The students were caught, and their complaint states that during the hearings they were denied due process, that NCSSM violated its own policies in the trial, and that a different standard of discipline was applied to the students because they are African-American.

"First, I am satisfied that NCSSM has provided the students with all the procedural protections to which they are entitled under NCSSM policies and the law," Friedrich wrote. "With respect to the claims of discrimination, I unequivocally state that students' ethnicity was not a factor in any of

the school's decisions."

When Warsaw held their hearings on Oct. 24, Gray and Ervin claim that NCSSM infringed on their fifth amendment rights to due process, including not allowing them their rights to council or to cross-examine witnesses. Also, they claimed their parents were not notified in enough time to adequately prepare for the hearing.

The Raleigh News and Observer reported on Nov. 22 that Superior Court judge Leon Stanback said he saw little evidence at the preliminary hearing to decide on the claims of racial discrimination. He was more concerned with the short notice given Gray and Ervin before their hearings.

The seniors also stated that Warsaw had no jurisdiction over their case. Their motion stated that his hearing the case denied them the traditional hearing board of three members, another level of appeal, and the right to have their case heard by the Director of Student Life.

"If a rule broken could be considered a possible violation of state law, it is heard first by Dr. Barber or myself," said Warsaw. "I hear residential life cases, which most often occur, because if the violation occurs in residential life, some of [Dr. Barber's] staff would be involved in the gathering of information for the hearing." Since these

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Mock election, info sessions open eyes

BECCA BOOI

Students in NCSSM's Leadership Seminar did not let this year's elections pass by unnoticed. Through organization of debates, information sessions, and a mock election, the seminar has gotten more students involved in politics.

The Mock Election, a national event sponsored by a Vermont private school, is almost an exact replica of the process of voting in a real election. Junior Brian Smith likes the concept because it allows high school students who are not yet old enough to vote the chance to practice the technique.

Polls were open from 8:30 a.m. to 7:40 p.m. Tuesday, Oct. 29, allowing students and faculty to vote at their convenience. According to posted results, the mock election had about an 85% turn-out rate which was actually much higher than in real elections, a direct result of successful publicity measures. In addition to the standard methods such as posters, email, and word of mouth, the school also notified local news sources of the election, senior Justin Oxman said.

NCSSM's results for the election included Harvey Gantt as senator, Jim Hunt as governor, and Bill Clinton as president. In the 1988 and 1992 mock elections, participating students across the nation predicted which candidate would win and almost by what percentage.

As preparation for this national event, members of the Leadership Seminar, sponsored by several staff members, organized an information session and a debate between school political clubs.

The information session was held in the Assembly Hall on Saturday, Oct. 19 from 6 to 9 p.m. Smaller parties such as Natural Law, Socialist Workers, Libertarian, and Green, in addition to the major Republican and Democratic parties, were represented by speakers who provided background on their parties' views and their candidates running for office.

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they favored in the current schedule and the two aspects they most want to change.

Steve Warsaw, Director of Academic programs, said the results of this survey will be given to a professional scheduler, who will incorporate these ideas into a new schedule. An alternate schedule, with only slight modifications to this year's plan will also be considered. The Administrative Cabinet will then act on the curriculum council's recommendation.

Whatever decisions the Curriculum Council makes, major changes are a possibility for next year's schedule. The goal of the Curriculum Council is to find out "what schedule is better than the one we have now," said Warsaw.

school day, a longer day, evening classes, and shorter lunch periods. In order to increase the number of class days over the school year, the council is thinking of taking away or reducing the time of Alt-Day, adding more days to the school year, and having shorter/fewer extended weekends.

The suggestions of the council are not necessarily the plans that will be implemented. The council gave a "Preference Survey" on Nov. 19 to find out what people in the NCSSM community thought about the different ideas that could be implemented in next year's schedule. Students, staff members, and the faculty voted on whether they agreed or disagreed with each item. They also chose the two qualities