features

In his own words: Harry Tucker

GEORGE KACHERGIS & ALBERT REN

mong the hordes of new juniors this year, there were also some new officials added to our campus. This school year, an important addition to the NCSSM faculty is the new Head of Campus Resources. Here we present Harry Tucker, in his own words.

Where are you from? Maryland.

Where did you attend college?

I attended the University
of Maryland and American
University, but never graduated.

What was your most recent job?

For the nine years before Dr. Boarman came to NCSSM, I worked for him at Eleanor Roosevelt High School, a school with over 3,000 students, in Prince George's County, Maryland.

Have you ever had a job that involved a hearing process?

I had a supervising post for the last ten years, though it was with employees and not students.

Are you satisfied with the new hearing process?



Yes, although in the future I want the punishment to fit the crime better.

Do you feel that you are capable of fairly "sentencing" stu-

dents single-handedly?

Yes. My main concern is that, in the past, the process took too long. I mean, there were hearings that took four to six hours.

My goal is to be fair and equitable and to have improved sanctions. I am sympathetic to the student body. I understand your concerns, but what I want you to understand is that every rule put in place has a purpose.

I came from a school with 3,000 students, but I think that the residential part [at NCSSM] makes things different. In a residential setting you can get_____

yourself in a lot more trouble.

I don't think that at home you would

sneak out, but if you did, you would know the area. Over here, it's an alien location to you. Nothing good can happen to you when you leave lâte at night.

Do you have any children?

Yes, I have two sons and two daughters, all grown. I also have five grandchildren.

Do you feel that having been a parent allows you to bring any extra wisdom to the job?

Not really, because my kids grew up in a different world than today's.

Do you have any pets?
Yes, I've got a cocker

spaniel. My daughter has two horses, though. I've also got a Siamese fighting fish.

If someone who had just been mud-wrestling outside near the Pit came up to you offering a hug, would you let him? Would you hug them back?

It depends on what the intent of the hug was.

Let's assume it's completely non-malicious intent, a good-.

residential

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natured hug.

Am I
wearing my
suit?

Let's assume you are.
Well then, no.

I wouldn't do that because my wife would kill me!

What if you were in normal wear?

Yes, I would. I'd probably like to play in the mud with them.

If the intent was just to get someone muddy, then I wouldn't do it, but you can usually spot those types.

Do you have anything else you'd like to add?

I enjoy being here, I look forward to the challenges, and I hope that everyone will have an open mind and give me a chance.

Intellectuals respond to September 11

Continued from Front Page

section, where she states, "A lot of thinking needs to be done...about the ineptitude of American intelligence... about options available to American foreign policy...and about what constitutes a smart program of military defense. But the public is not being asked to bear much of the burden of reality."

Behind her words is an honest pleading of the public to "wise up," to reject the infantilization that the media and government peddle: "Let's by all means grieve together. But let's not be stupid together." And in response to the repeated message that we are strong, she says, "Who doubts that America is strong? But that's not all America has to be."

Pulitzer-prize winners Nicholas D. Kristof and David M. Kennedy take a different view.

Kristof, in The New York Times early this year, called our war on terrorism a "merciful war," saying "troops can advance humanitarian goals just as much as doctors or aid workers can."

He said that those against the war on terrorism focus only on the innocent civilian deaths caused by American bombs and not by diseases that often went untreated under the rule of the Taliban: "I've sat in mud huts with parents sobbing as their children died of diarrhea, and

trust me:
Their
grief is
every bit
as crushing as
that of
parents

"That is my flag,
and that's what it
means: We're all just
people together."

who lose children to bombs."
Kristof's message is that
"Military intervention, even if
it means lost innocent lives on
both sides, can serve the most
humanitarian of goals."

Kennedy, a history professor at Stanford, also wrote in the New York Times about historical instances where our country has been challenged. "Yet at least some Americans can still remember the teeming anxieties that plagued the United States after the assault on Pearl Harbor," he says, "American history abounds

with comparable trials of incertitude, trepidation and consequence." Through this and other instances, such as the American Revolution and Civil War, Kennedy indirectly defends a military response to an atrocity - in this case, the 9/11 attacks.

Former presidential nomination candidate and Arizona senator John McCain writes

in The Wall
Street Journal
that "There is
no avoiding
the war we
are in today.
...The United
States is not

waging war against a religion or a race. ...We did not cause this war - our enemies did. ...To [help repair the damage of war], we must destroy the people who started it."

Barbara Kingsolver, Pulitzer Prize finalist and author of The Poisonwood Bible, takes a non-political, non-biased view in an article that appeared in the San Francisco Chronicle. Rather than reacting to the attacks themselves, she reflects on a human American Flag assembled in her hometown of



Tucson, Arizona.

"Then my teenage daughter...laid her hand over a quarter of the picture, leaving visible more or less 6,000 people, and said, 'That many are dead.' We stared at what that looked like - all those innocent souls, multi-colored

and packed into a conjoined destiny - and shuddered at the one simple truth behind all the noise, which is that so many beloved people have suddenly gone from us. That is my flag, and that's what it means: We're all just people together."