

## Opening of Bryan Center

CONNIE CHU

The Bryan center opened in August after its comprehensive renovation, which was completed just in time for Convocation. Students go there to sign out, get on loops, study, and meet people. In general, students' opinions about the Center's appearance are high, but ideas about going there are mixed.

"It's weird because it's so shiny and new. Even just walking out from the breezeway, it's a stark contrast," said junior Robert Davis.

"It's very peaceful," added junior Shria Kumar, "and I like the lawn outside."

Junior Jasmine LaGrone has been to the Bryan Center both on personal time and for work service. "You can really concentrate because it's so quiet," she says, "and you have all these beautiful windows. The whole area has natural light streaming in. You can just imagine that you're somewhere else instead of

focusing on that physics test you have to cram for... It's a nice place to be."

The center generally stays open until 1 a.m., and students like Lyndsey Steffensen go at various times during the day. "It's quiet, normally, so you can actually use it for studying," Steffensen says.

"It's good to have a central place where you can get most of the information that you really need and where you can find help all the time," said Kumar. "If I go, I can at least find someone there in my classes, and if you need an SLI, they're always there."

However, not all students find the Bryan Center useful. Davis, despite saying that the Center was "a good public place," doesn't go there except to sign out. "It looks comfy, but something about it's just cold. It's too proper. [The Bryan Center]'s like the dining room in your parent's house, where if you touch anything, your parents will freak out."

## Jungle Run

LANCE HARDEN

The NCSSM cross country team represented the school commendably at South View High School's annual Jungle Run. In the women's race, junior sensation Leigh Ann Taylor outdistanced the rest of the field by over 24 seconds, finishing in 19:28. Juniors Caroline Fryar (26th) and Jessica Hanson (47th) also ran well, but the Unicorns didn't bring enough runners to have a team score.

The men finished in third Place out of 23 teams, just

behind 4A powers Pinecrest and South View.

Senior Lance Harden paced the Unicorns, placing third individually in a personal-record time of 16:25. Juniors Kyle Wolpert (15th) and Ben Bogardus (20th) also finished in the top 20, while seniors Nick Cook (40th), Thomas Thrasher (59th), Riley Zeller-Townson (63rd), and Alex Ahearn (75th) rounded out the scoring. The Unicorns defeated many strong teams including 3A #4 Eastern Wayne and 2A #5 Pittsboro Northwood.

## Remembering Mary Thompson

JESSICA GIBSON

The Science and Math community has recently experienced a death. Ms. Mary Thompson, the accounting supervisor in the business office died, this August 16, 2004. Her death was due to complications after surgery.

She worked as the accounting supervisor, but she served on the Staff Council, was an advisor, and had just been elected Staff Council president. Her co-workers commented on her professionalism, how she could bring everyone together when they weren't on the same page.

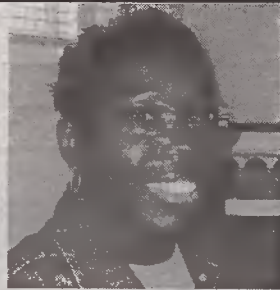
They also spoke of her

"motherly instinct," said Ms. Linda Pickett, of the business office. "She could always relate an incident or experience you had back to her life and tell you how she dealt with it." She was known for her good-natured jokes and stories, but also for not holding back what she thought. She loved her staff and talked about them as "her girls".

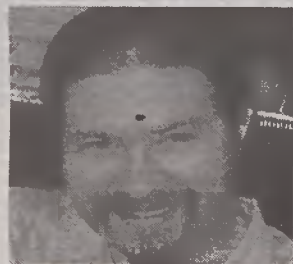
Her girls will miss her, and so will anyone else who came into contact with Ms. Thompson. She was an asset to this community, a voice that was never afraid to speak up for what she believed in. We can all help to preserve her memory by exercising our own voices and taking a stand.

## New Teachers on the Block

DAN APPLGATE



Ms. Dedra Eatmon  
Hometown: Greensboro  
Age: 31  
Married: No  
Education: B.S. in Electrical Engineering, studying for Ph.D. in Math Education  
Class: Pre-Calculus  
Interests: Volunteer work, mentoring a child, traveling  
Interesting Fact: '91 graduate of NCSSM



Dr. Michael Owen  
Hometown: Wilmington  
Age: 32  
Married: 2 years  
Education: B.S. and M.S. in Computational Astrophysics, M.S. and Ph.D. in Physics  
Classes: Pre-Calculus, Physics w/Topics  
Interests: Swing dancing, animals, poker  
Interesting Fact: Studies simulations of gas flow around neutron stars and black holes.

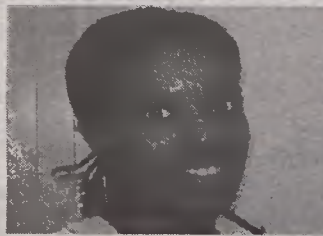


Dr. Christine Muth  
Hometown: Charlotte  
Age: 30  
Married: No  
Education: B.S. in

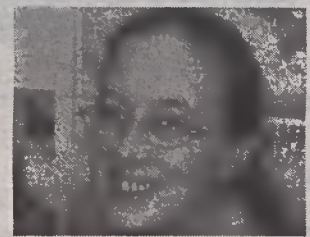
Biology, Ph.D. in Plant Ecology  
Classes: Evolution, Molecular/Classical Genetics, Ecology  
Interests: Gardening, walking, cooking, watching musicals, swing dancing  
Interesting fact: '92 graduate of NCSSM



Dr. Kyle Hudson  
Hometown: Albemarle  
Age: 34  
Married: No  
Education: B.A. in History, Ph.D. in Political Science, J.D. in Law  
Class: American Studies  
Interests: History, politics, reading, movies, college basketball

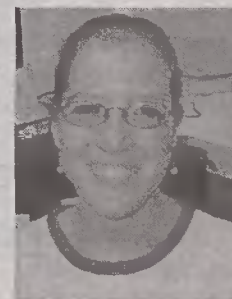


Dr. Tsahai Tafari  
Hometown: Durham  
Age: 32  
Married: No  
Education: Ph.D. in Cell Biology  
B.A. in History  
Classes: Biology work service coordination  
Interests: Ultimate Frisbee, running  
Interesting Fact: Worked at the Empire State Building while in college



Mrs. Nancy

Balasubramanian  
Hometown: Richmond, VA  
Age: 37  
Married: 2 months  
Education: B.A. in History with a minor in English, M.A. in History  
Classes: American Studies, Asian Culture  
Interests: Animals, movies, hotse-shopping  
Interesting Fact: Was married in India



Mrs. Tamar Castelleo  
Hometown: Los Angeles, CA  
Age: 27  
Married: 5 months  
Education: B.S. in Applied Math, M.S. in Mathematics  
Classes: Pre-Calculus w/Tops, Pre-Calculus  
Interests: Music, movies, musicals  
Interesting Fact: Born in Israel



Mr. Phillip Rash  
Hometown: Salisbury  
Age: 29  
Married: No  
Education: B.S. and M.S. in Math Education, B.S. in Computer Science  
Classes: Calculus w/Topics, Pre-Calculus, Statistics  
Interests: Computers, aviation  
Interesting Fact: Owns a commercial pilot's license.

## The Joy of IMs

DEAN FOX

After a hard day of classes, IntraMurals provide the perfect outlet to be competitive, build hall unity, and smack up other halls. There is soccer in the fall, with volleyball and basketball following in the spring.

The enjoyable aspect of IMs is that points are awarded based mostly on participation. The point system goes as following: 20 points for roster entry, 5 points for each game played, -5 points for each game forfeited, 5 points for each game won, and 1 point

for each entrant. If a hall fails to appear at the scheduled location within 10 minutes of playing time, a forfeit would be declared. Another aspect of IMs is the exclusion of varsity squad members. This way, halls with several varsity squad members cannot walk away with every game they play. This also encourages other non-athletes on the hall to play in IM games.

IM awards are handed out at the end of the year. The President's Cup is awarded to the male and female residence hall with the highest number of points gained throughout the year based on games won.

The 2003-2004 IM Champions were: Soccer, 4th Bryan and 2nd Hill; Softball, Reynolds 1e, 2e, 2d; Flag football, 1st Hill; Volleyball, 1st Beall and 1st Hunt; Basketball, 4th Bryan and 1st Hill. The winners of the Director's Cup last year were 4th Bryan and 3rd East. As evidenced, a hall does not have to win the championship in every sport played to win the Director's Cup; a hall can come close in playoff and finals matches (racking up a load of points in the process) of each sport. After a thrilling year of IMs last year, another is already underway.