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### Grandmother Adds Drugs to Cookies

Patricia Tabram has been cooking and baking with cannabis since her friends introduced her to it last year. She maintains that after she unknowingly tried it, the pain in her back was alleviated. She laces biscuits and soup with it. She has written a cookbook and hopes to have it published. Patricia is 66 and a grandmother of two and lives in England.

To Veenie  
You are the best!!  
Love you forever  
-Sunny Lin

To Lonely People  
How computers are better than boyfriends  
-The always ask your opinion (ok/cancel)  
-They always know today's date  
-They take you out...to the internet  
-The admit their errors  
-you know where exactly to touch them  
-their mice are sexy.  
-Stacy Kuit

Dear Leah,  
Your companionship has added much warmth to my home at school. Thank you! Let us be the closest and dearest friends.  
Love, Yan

To Agent Sheartim  
Yo FLOPI  
Go find your special treat  
Down da street  
You can eat a d-word  
Later, Gator

To Phillip, Chris, Xianlin, Yuan, Josh, Jingjing, Jimmy, and ASIMO: thanks for a Great performance, and some awesome team work.  
Keep it up!  
-Aneesh Kulkarni

To Class of 2005:  
Number of days until Graduation as of 2/3/2005:

109

Don't get in trouble!

## Then & Now: Aryano Bush, Class of 1998

**W**hat were your first experiences like at NCSSM?

I really had a lot of fun getting to know my roommate during the first few weeks. We were very different, so we had a lot to learn from each other. He was from the mountains, and he was pretty young, actually, about 14. He was into martial arts and stuff like that. However, I was more from the city. I came from Enloe in Raleigh.

Enloe was a challenging school to come from. There was always so much work. But I discovered when I came here that the kind of work at NCSSM was so different. There were more hands-on experiments, and there was a lot of responsibility involved.

I learned that pretty quickly when I overslept the first day of school. I didn't wake up until it was the middle of Spanish with Dr. Houpe. It turned out that he was my academic advisor. It wasn't a very good way to start the school year.

**What was your hall like and what were your friends like?**

Well, I was on 4th West. We were the class that started the whole "West House" thing. You see, our SLI was named Eddy Hanes. He was actually attending law school at the same time while he worked for Science and Math. So he was in a fraternity, and he brought a lot of that stuff to the hall. We had line-ups in the hall every day, and we recited chants like "West House, Stay Strong!" My hall grew really close through all of that. It was really a bonding experience.

I am still close

friends with a lot of the guys I met on my hall. In fact, two of them were groomsmen in my wedding.

**What did you do for fun?**

I was on the basketball and track teams both years. Back then, this school played in the public school conference, so taking that into consideration our teams did pretty well. And in track, we were undefeated conference champs.

I also used to go to the Duke campus a lot with my friends. We hung out there just like we were college students. And of course, we went to movies and Northgate and places nearby. But I never went on many loops. There weren't as many loops then as there are now, so they were always filled up. Also, I went to the parks a couple times. That was fun. One of the popular restaurants to go to was called Pan Pan. They had greasy food but it was so delicious. I think they bulldozed it a while ago.

**What classes and teachers did you enjoy?**

I had Mr. Woodmansee for English, and that was one of my favorite classes. I remember when I turned in my first paper. At Enloe, it definitely would have been an A. But Mr.

Woodmansee just wouldn't give me an A. He wanted to challenge me. He knew that I was capable of doing better. I learned a lot in that class.

Physics with Dr. Winters was a pretty crazy class. There was always

something interesting going on, and the experiments were really neat. I remember during one class when he shot a gun. The physics fair lab was really fun too, and I think they should

**Aryano Bush** still do that here.

I remember that I had Dr. Wilson for history. I really enjoyed that class. Before, I didn't really appreciate history, but now I'm really interested in it.

Joe Liles was my teacher for mechanical and technical drafting. My roommate and I had that class

together and we had so much fun in that class. I don't think Mr. Liles knew how much we liked it, because we used to come in a little late sometimes. But in fact, my roommate went on to study architecture in college because of that class.

**Was there any event that was really memorable from NCSSM?**

Well, I do have an interesting story. One day after basketball I was eating in the grill with my friend. It was late, and the cafeteria was already closed, but we decided to sneak into the back to get a drink. Then we see a cafeteria lady coming. I slouch down behind the drink machine. But she sees my friend and she catches him. I started running away and she saw me and she started to follow me. I didn't think that she was really going to chase me, so I was just sort of jogging. But I turn around and I see that she's really running after me, and she's knocking down chairs everywhere. That's when I picked up the pace, and I managed to escape. She never figured out who I was. She was one funny cafeteria lady. Don't worry, though, she doesn't work here anymore.

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home with many Americans, and not just those directly affected through the loss of loved ones. The \$350 million promised by The U.S. has already been matched by the contributions of Americans.

"It's one of those uniting events, like 9/11," observed senior Ryan McLinko. "It's a catastrophe, and the way that people came together for a common purpose and gave so much, it's wonderful."

"I think that the pledging is great, as long as the countries keep their word," said senior Chloe Weatherill. "Usually, when something horrible like this happens, people start to forget about it after a week."

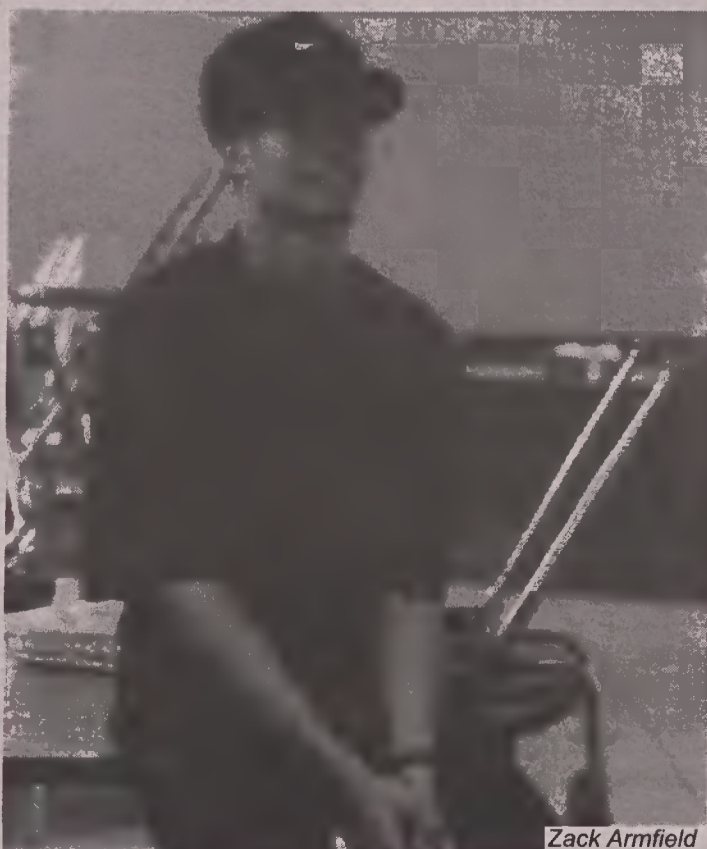
Many of the mainstream charity organizations such as the Red Cross immediately began accepting donations to go directly to relief efforts. However, in the aftermath of the tsunami, many false charity organizations began appearing and asking for money. The FBI and similar agencies in foreign countries have stepped up efforts to combat these scams.

The United States military, which had contributed to the relief effort with

the deployment of some 15,000 troops to the affected areas, announced on January 20 it would begin to scale back its aid contribution and transfer control over to international organizations and governments of target countries. However, the troops will remain in the area to assist with relief efforts. There is no word yet on when the troops will be pulled out of the area.

Some NCSSM students have more of a connection to this disaster than others. "My family is from Vietnam, so it was really scary at first," recalled junior Toan Tran-Phu. "A lot of the countries that were hit are very similar to Vietnam economically. Famines, droughts, and floods are all devastating, but this just killed so many people. I was shocked."

Senior Blake Bommelje echoed his feelings. "[The disaster] seemed really distant until I started seeing pictures of it, especially the before-and-after pictures," he said. "To know that millions of people were living in this green and luscious area, and then they were just gone - it was surreal."



Zack Armfield

Aryano takes a break from workservice in the PFM.