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Around the world and back

By **MAGDA KOTEK**

News Editor

National

■ With a vote of 234 to 199, the House of Representatives passed Newt Gingrich's "Contract With America." The Contract plans to overhaul the welfare system and give states monetary block grants for welfare distribution.

■ The Senate has voted 69-29 to give President Clinton a line item veto in spending legislation.

■ Several nominees have been named to run for the Republican part of the Presidential ticket. Included are Representative Pat Buchanan with his "America First" campaign, conservative G.O.P. California governor Pete Wilson, and pro-choice Pennsylvania Senator Arlen Specter.

■ Colin Ferguson was sentenced to 200 years in jail for opening fire in 1993 on the Long Island Railroad, NY. During the shooting, Ferguson killed six people and wounded nineteen others.

International

■ Ten people were left dead and 5,500 were injured after the Tokyo subway was targeted with a nerve gas attack. After investigation into the crime, police raided and discovered nerve gas production capabilities in the suspected Aum Shinrikyo cult's holy shrine.

■ Two Americans accidentally crossed the Iraqi boarder from Kuwait and were arrested for illegally crossing the boarder. American officials say that the two men are likely to appeal the arrest soon.

■ President Clinton and Boutros-Boutros Ghali have agreed to evacuate American troops from Haiti and to turn over control of the island to the United Nations.

■ Gary Lauch, otherwise known as the see **AROUND THE WORLD**, page 2



Photo courtesy of Gail Hudson

Marilyn Monroe (English teacher Ms. Elizabeth Moose) struts her stuff to "Diamonds are a Girl's Best Friend" at the closing ceremony of the Women's Conference. Aretha Franklin also did a number with her back-up singers.

Science and Mathers work magic at local schools

By **JODY TUCKER**

Staff Writer

No physics... no chemistry... no polymers, but magic was the explanation from many Hillandale and Chatham County Elementary school students. Maybe they were convinced a little that what they saw on the last two consecutive alt-days was pure science, but mostly these students think that here at Science and Math, we possess magic.

The kind of magic that turns water blue, red, green, purple, orange, and yellow. The kind of magic that turns a little food coloring, some funky powder, and a little detergent into what they call Gak and we call Slime (depending on how old you are). We can crush aluminum cans and make flasks adhere to our hands on command. Science and Math students float on huge discs around school, and we can even move walls. Just call us Merlin (or Mr. Wizard)!

All of this has occurred at this year's two extremely successful and very fulfilling science fest demonstrations where Science and Math students demonstrated that science can be fun— and that it isn't just for grown-ups.

Nawal El-Saadawi kicks off NCSSM women's conference

By **SARA BIRKEMEIER**

Co-Editor in Chief

Nawal El-Saadawi, Egyptian feminist, health activist, and writer, kicked off the first "celebration of the women" at NCSSM on March 22.

Previous imprisonment did not keep her from following her beliefs and an early morning assembly did not keep many students from attending her talk. "My faith in all students was renewed as I saw how many non- required seniors crawled out of bed on an alt- Day for an 8:30 assembly," commented one administrator.

El-Saadawi's talk about being an Arab women and the struggles she has gone through was followed by sessions dealing with everything from domestic violence and pornography to homosexuality and breast cancer. The sessions were led by NCSSM students and faculty, college students and people from surrounding areas. The day ended with performances and dedications from

members of the NCSSM community.

Several organizations from around town also participated including: Asian Cultures Club, the American Cancer Society, the Rape Crisis Center, and Feminists for Animal Rights.

"The NCSSM Women's Conference enhanced my appreciation for the precious gifts of: the power, passion and sisterhood of women; the natural bond and spirit created as women work together; supportive, concerned men who are proud to call themselves 'feminists;' and my hope for our future as I marvel at the energy, dreams and awareness of today's young women," said Guidance Counselor, Ms. Gail Hudson.

"My most sincere thanks go to the devoted students, staff, faculty and administration who made this remarkable event possible. It will be our treasured memory for years to come."

The kids do think, though, that they are sometimes tricked. One child, obsessed with magnets, was sure the demonstrators were using magnets to make the wall move (a well known physics floor demo) and to make the physics ball go where they wanted it to in gravity experiments.

Each experiment generally teaches some scientific principle.

The slime teaches the kids about polymers. The colored solutions teach them about chemical reactions. The crushing cans and adhering flasks demonstrate gas laws, and the physics toys demonstrate general physics principles such as inertia and gravity.

The kids learn a lot from these activities and they have fun doing it. Science and Math students also gain a lot from the endeavor.

If you have not heard it from a science demonstration person yet, volunteers receive free pizza from ap-

preciative teachers and school administrations for going.

Although pizza is a good reason to do just about anything, there are other reasons to attend also.

Science and Math students get a lot of laughs, stress relief, and gain insight from the

see **SCIENCE DEMONSTRATIONS**, page 2

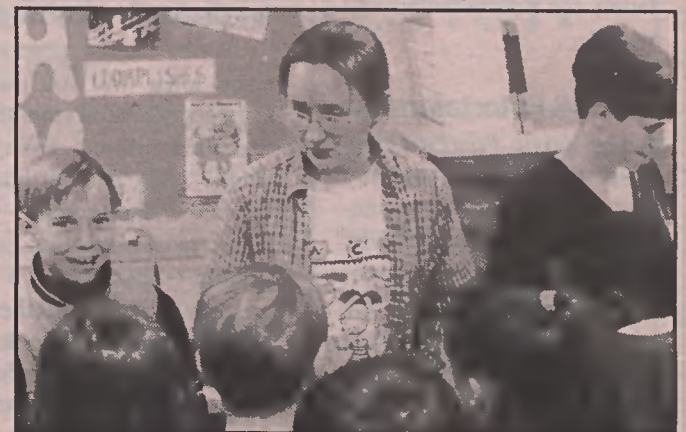


Photo by Brian Yen

Seniors Magda Kotek and Jody Tucker teach children about chemistry at a recent science demonstration at North Chatham Elementary School.

◆ **Bits, Bytes, and Internet Sites** A look at the use of technology at NCSSM, including ways to get started on the Internet, page 6-7.

◆ **Leave My Stuff Alone** One student's reaction to the increase of on-campus theft, page 3.

◆ **Poor Weezer** New releases by Weezer have gained instant pop fame, but this popularity will most likely be short-lived, page 10.

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