

# Bye- Bye, SLI

Amy White  
Staff Writer

They come, they keep the peace, they become notorious, they are our SLIs.

Unfortunately some of our illustrious wardens are leaving us.

Each year, the NCSSM residential life staff loses three or four Student Life

Instructions.

"When you have SLIs that have been here for five or six years, as we do this year, we experience a larger turnover than in years past", said Warren Basket, Head of Residential Life.

When Sheila Simmons (Ground Reynolds), Lamia Younes (2nd Bryan), Todd Oldenburg (Hunt 2nd West), and Marc Latta (Hunt 4th East) decided to make the move into the real world once again, it was a natural decision after numerous years of service.

Even though the number of SLIs not returning next year is not final, recruitment for the opening positions will begin very soon. Among the many qualities needed in a SLI, the most important is experience with adolescents and in residential life leadership roles.

Next year we can look forward to seeing new authoritative faces on campus, so we as students need to show our appreciation to those dedicated adults who are leaving us. Don't worry, we will have a new group to terrorize next fall.

Manali Patel  
Features Editor

Skits, cultural booths, folk dances, and food... This about sums up the on-campus extravaganza held by the Multi-Cultural Peer Counselors on the afternoon of Feb. 17th. World Fest is a festival held to celebrate the diversity and richness of cultures within the NCSSM community.

Students were encouraged to perform and volunteer for the afternoon's activities. Manned cultural displays such as the Asian Cultures Club Booth and the Spanish display of various items entertained students waiting for the festivities to begin and gave them a sense of the world that they live in.

Adam Niles, MPC, was

pleased with the day's activities. "Overall, World Fest went pretty well. It was a great representation of the diversity of NCSSM. Many eyes and minds were opened to the culture present here."

World Fest gave many students the opportunity to expand their cultural awareness. It also gave students a better understanding of the different cultures that are present here in the small NCSSM community, more so than is learned in an average classroom setting. Kelly Carter, a senior, believed the MPCs did a wonderful job putting World Fest together in a way that was entertaining to students and educational as well. "I thought it was a great idea that taught more than the Student Life Diversity session - it should replace it," she said.

"World Fest is a great way

to see peoples from the world abroad in the NCSSM community," Niles said in response to the educational aspects of World Fest. He believes the ethnicities and students' eagerness to learn about them made World Fest a liaison, a key to leadership in the community.

Many scholarship and athletic conflicts limited the turnout at World Fest. Vaishali Patel, MPC, however, was pleased with the students' reactions to World Fest and their interest. "I think World Fest went great. We had a bigger turnout than expected," she said. In fact, there were almost three times as many students entertained this year than there were last year despite the conflicts. Patel hopes the increasing success will continue in the years to come.

Niles believes the perfor-

mances are what kept the students' interest. "The final performance fell through, however, at the last second. Unfortunately some people were unhappy about that."

The MPCs were thoroughly impressed by the results of their efforts. Brenda Watson, MPC advisor, said a lot of time was put into planning World Fest. "Over two months were spent meeting with different groups, advertising and planning the actual program," she said.

Niles hopes World Fest will make the student body appreciate the culture at NCSSM all year. "I hope all the cultural appreciation and other positive things that went on at World Fest don't end at 4:00 p.m. on the 17th. Appreciation of the diversity of NCSSM should flourish every day."

## New Spring Trends on the Catwalk

Katie Miltich  
Features Editor

The fashion world is a large part of our popular culture. The czars of *haute couture* are responsible for what we see in magazines, movies, TV, even on the shelves of our favorite stores. For that reason, it helps to keep in step with the ever more quickly changing trends of the world of runways and paparazzi.

To sum up this spring's look, most of the designers are opting once again for the Seventies retro look. However, this year has a

unique twist to it. Many designers, most noticeably New York's Todd Oldham, have blended the disco era with the fifties, creating a Donna Reed meets the Brady Bunch look that can be slightly overwhelming.

Overall, the basic shape is a close-fitting silhouette. Hip-hugging pants, and midriff-bearing shirts are all the rage, but they're not for everyone obviously. Skirt lengths are falling just at the knees. Dresses are long, slim, and tight. Jackets are cropped at the waist, and very boxy looking. A plain, simple line dominates the designs of both New York and Paris this spring.

As for color, bright is the word of the moment. Everything from salt-water taffy pastels to khakis to acidic citrus to eye-searing fluorescent can be seen gracing the catwalks. The big winner on the palette is blue. Every shade of blue has made an appearance. Even blue eyeshadow (and you thought it had gone out along with New Kids on the Block) has made a comeback. Mismatched patterns are also going big time. The key here is to get bright, bold patterns that don't match, and put them together. But all you adventurers beware. The patterns should have the same basic color scheme. Don't try mixing that pink and blue flowered shirt with thrift store brown and orange checked pants.

Designers also took the plunge into the realm of fabrics. Synthetics were everywhere, along with lace and sheer fabrics. The amount of polyester and plastic on display made the shows seem like lost episodes of *Lost in Space*. The cyber look, straight from the *Jetsons*, was a feature of many of the designer's spring collections.

So what does all that have to do with the fashion trends of Science and Math? Jennifer Aubel, a senior and self-professed fashion savant, offered answers to some questions regarding the world of high glamor, and also about our own school's trends.

"Basically, here there's a 'do your own thing' attitude. There's always the remnants of the preppy fad from a few years ago, but everyone is pretty individualistic. The

trick of following fashion is to incorporate what you see on the runways into your own style. It's always fun to buy into a few fads if you really like them, but if you're going to spend a lot on fashion, make sure it's something that will last. Classics like a great black dress and a good suit are essential. As for the rest, styles change too fast to be worth the money."

Jennifer also made some predictions on the fate of fashion in the near future. "It's very cyclical. We just got out of a period of high glamor that emphasized line and simple elegance. The trends will probably return to the basics this winter. However, this whole in-your-face 70's retro thing will probably last longer than the Seattle grunge and the waif looks because it has become popular with the Hollywood celebrities. We're probably stuck with it for the rest of the spring and the summer. A lot of the designers, especially the younger ones, are also getting their inspiration from what young people are actually wearing now. So the trends we see in our school may be on the runways soon."

Whether or not you decide to follow the styles of this spring's designer collection, fashion still affects the way we look in our society. And who knows, maybe that ever more popular look, the my-alarm-clock-was-broken-and-I-got-up-two-minutes-before-class style may be gracing the cover of *Cosmo* before you know it. Or maybe not. That's the thing about fashion, it's unpredictable.



Supermodels show off incoming spring fashions.