

Reflecting upon the way it was in the 1980s

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Everyone remembers the 1980s. For students, it was the time of growing up and experiencing new things, the beginning of life's journey. The experiences of the 80s made impressions that will remain for the rest of their lives. They were first impressions of the way the world was and the way it will be in the future.

For adults, the 1980s were an integral part of their lives, a major section out their tangled journey. The 1980s was a decade to remember, to revisit, and, most of all, to learn from.

The 1980s was a decade overcome by gridlock between the White House and Congress. Republicans Ronald Reagan and George Bush were in the White House, and Democrats had control over Congress.

"As an actor, Reagan was okay. But as president, he stunk!" recalls Teacher Tijauna LaBennett.

New laws were passed that

shaped the way this country runs. New ways of campaigning were developed in order to get the candidates views to the mass public and the political arena was at its best.

Technology was also a major factor in the 1980s. Computers were finally becoming more manageable and the space program was in its peak. The Challenger disaster was a great loss to the US and made NASA redefine it's role in space exploration. Many people have vivid memories of the event.

"I was in Art History class at UNC when the Challenger exploded," recalled Dr. Robin Cunningham.

The economies of the world grew massively. There was a major scare for the US market when it crashed in 1987. But the US's

economy flourished in the eighties. People were spending more on themselves and their families and were enjoying doing it, their children especially. Parents stood four hours

decade ended and would be remembered, especially to those who were children at that time. Television became an integral part of society. During this time period, movies on both the big screen and the VCR impacted the lives of Americans as well.

When asked about their memories of this decade, Junior Liz Walton replied "Dirty Dancing, Flashdance, and Footloose, both the music and the movie itself."

Junior Ray Tan's response was simply "Michael Jackson—the name says it all."

Some students remember certain things better than others, as in Junior Paul Jang's case, who responded with a string of after school television shows: "Knight Rider, A-Team, Sesame Street, Thundercats, Transformers, and Smurfs."

Figures in the media started massive trends in their audiences. Tina Turner's wild hair will never be forgotten by anyone young or old.

As Junior Kristin Masel put it, "Everyone in the Eighties had bad hair."

There was also "Blue Eyeliner" as Junior Willy Tufts quoted, or "Bad clothes and Hammer Pants" as Teesha Boyd's most vivid memory of the 1980s. Sometimes the fads lasted longer than the stars that inspired them:

All in all, the 1980s is a decade to remember. Many things changed, both good and bad. Looking back over what has happened and learning from the mistakes, the 1980s have had a huge impact on Americans. Although current students do not remember much about the decade, it still impacted their personalities, lifestyles and memories, an impact that will continue to show for the rest of their lives. As SLI Alan Jung said, "The 1980s was an awesome decade!"

"As an actor, Reagan was okay. But as president, he stunk!"

-Teacher Tijauna LaBennett

in line to get a Cabbage Patch Kid, Transformer, or roller skates for their child. These were all minor things that helped boost the economy of the United States, though most of us today still think of them as mere childhood playthings.

Entertainment in the 1980s also had great influence on the way the

Haritha Bodduluri dances!

KRISTEN YOUNG

On Saturday, Nov. 15, the Vedic Priest Fund presented Junior Haritha Bodduluri in an evening of classical Indian dance. The evening was divided into eight sections, beginning with an invocation of the blessing of God using incense, and flower petals and ending with a thanks to God, guru and audience. The middle acts contained narrative stories, pertaining to the Hindu God and his manifestations, much like the stories from Roman mythology.

At one point in the performance, Bodduluri balanced herself on the edges of a brass plate while executing difficult movements. Junior Amanda Howell thought that Bodduluri's "dancing on the plate was good and it really showed her agility."

Bodduluri gains her agility from her training in classical Indian dance. She began studying in the United States at the age of

six and has been to India for the past five summers for training with her guru, Bhagavathula Venkatarama Sarma. Bodduluri's trainer is very famous in India for his talent in directing and choreographing many dances shown on TV

Commenting on her summers in India, Bodduluri said, "It's kinda

like a cram course in dance, over the summer I would dance three to four hours a day, everyday including weekends."

Her training has paid off. In



Haritha Bodduluri dressed in full costume

1997, she won the gold medal at the national TANA dance competition in Los Angeles.

Bodduluri specializes in Kuchipudi Indian dance which is distinguished from other forms of Indian dance by its music. Much of the music is hard to understand because it comes from the traditional

Indian language of Sanskrit. Kuchipudi tends to be more of a drama or narrative dance, in which the dancer takes on the character in the story.

Another distinguishing trait of Kuchipudi dance is the costume. The costumes that Bodduluri wears are made to look much like the traditional Indian dress, instead of a person who is performing. Her outfit is similar to a sari and her hair is done very naturally.

In an effort to give students the opportunity to attend the dance, the Student Activities Board offered transportation.

"It was really expressive and it showed how hard she worked. It was one of the few classical dances that I thought wasn't boring," Junior Arpita Kadakia said.

Bodduluri has worked hard for her talent, which has gained her many good reviews. One of the most well-known dancers in Indian, Padmasri Vedantam Satyanarayana Sarma said of Bodduluri's debut, "She conveyed through 'sathvika abhinaya', shared with the audience the 'rasas' she experienced ecstatically and gave a well-rounded performance."

Commenting on the night, Junior Alison Goss said, "Haritha is truly talented. I really had fun and learned a lot about Indian culture and the Hindu religion."

Feeling sick? Clinic treats campus ills

CHELSEA REDEKER

On a Monday morning, many students find their way to the NCSSM clinic. Sometimes it might be inconvenient and there might be a hassle with making an appointment, but students still run to the clinic at any sign of illness.

The clinic often gets too overloaded for Physician's Assistant Rivka Gordon and Nurse Margaret Stewart to handle efficiently.

The Clinic treats everything from sports injuries to heart palpitations. The variety of medical problems and the number of students that migrate to the clinic results in what is described as a slow and often tedious treatment process.

The Clinic of NCSSM is a Primary Care Clinic that is capable of offering a broad range of services.

"The Clinic is the first line of defense [for students who are sick] and if the problems are more complicated, students are referred to a family doctor or to a doctor in Durham," Gordon said.

While the Clinic can diagnose and treat asthma, bronchitis, pneumonia, strep throat, urinary tract infections, and other routine ailments, it is limited in the fact that it does not have a full laboratory to further diagnose patients. This delays getting quick results from blood tests taken at the clinic.

Although the Clinic is limited in its services, students appreciate the understanding and helpfulness of the staff.

"When something is really wrong with you, they care." Junior Graciela Piper said.

Gordon has worked in the Clinic for ten years and Stewart has been working there for four years. Over their careers at NCSSM they both have gained considerable experience treating patients and understanding the issues that students have to face, like stress and all-nighters. "I like working with adolescents in a school setting and feel fortunate to have worked here this long," Gordon said.

Even though the Clinic is the only way for students to get out of class, Gordon said that overall the students use the Clinic facilities responsibly and that the people who choose to abuse it are "few and far between."

The Clinic at NCSSM is meant to function as a school clinic, with the facilities to handle minor ailments. Although the Clinic might have insufficient facilities to deal with major health problems that might be found on campus, the students still take advantage of what the Clinic does provide.

"I don't have a complaint. Every time I've had a problem, they've helped me out," said Junior Christen Chamberlain.