

# prom



Courtney Melton and April Land show off their dresses while at the 1999 prom.

## So what if the Prom isn't my thing...?

benita jones

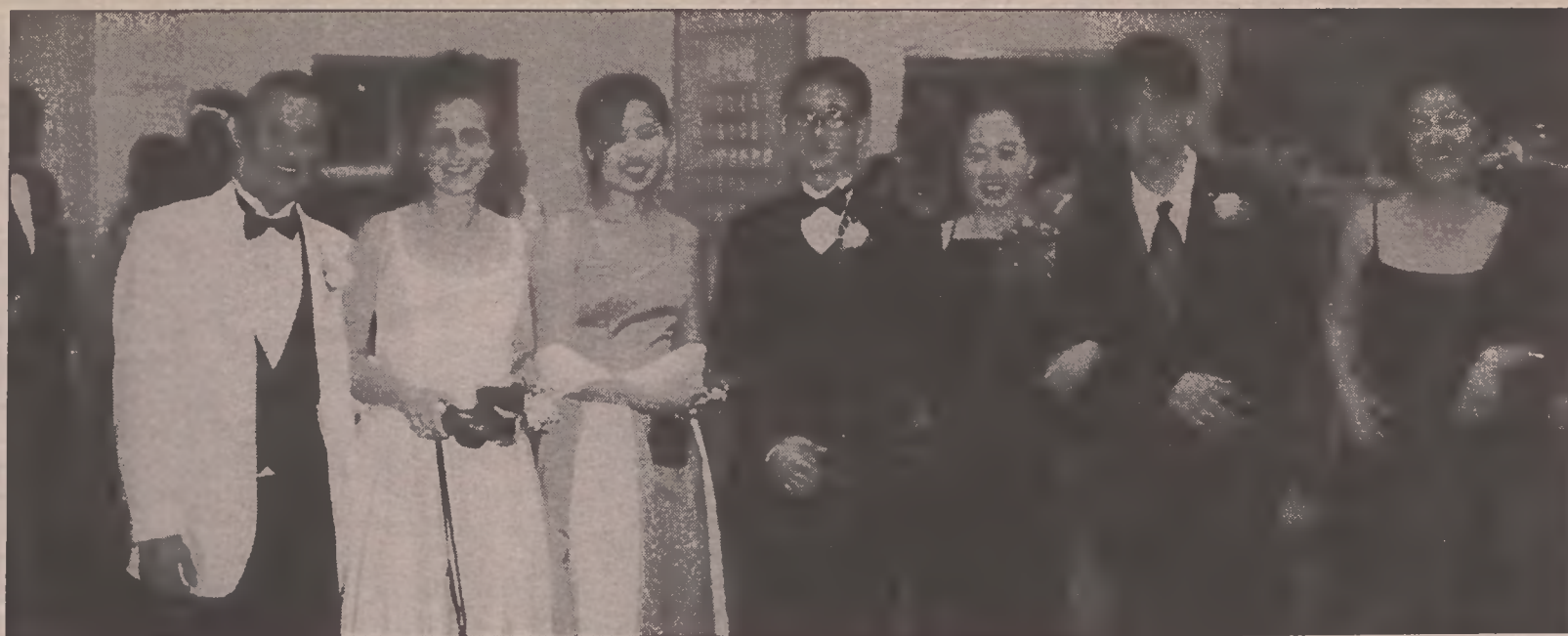
Prom night can be a great and memorable evening, but there are certainly more ways to have a great Saturday night. For those who have not caught prom fever, there are plenty of alternatives to have a fun Prom night, and still not go to the Prom.

For those who still want to spend an evening in style and glamour:

- Join a group of prom-goers for dinner and pictures, then split to see a movie. Be the best dressed at Wynnsong!
- Have a cultural evening. Find a concert or play in the area, and attend the event in style.

And for those who want to have a fun, but down-styled, evening

- Take a group of NCSSM friends home for the weekend, and enjoy good food and friends in the comfort of your own home.
- Plan a movie or video marathon.
- Take advantage of a curfew extension and go midnight bowling.
- For seniors, call a grand senior in the area and plan to spend a weekend on campus with them. Consider it a college visit and a social call.
- Plan a trip home to hang out with old friends. Use the weekend to have dinner and party with people you don't see very often.



Get ready to smile! Group pictures, couple pictures, candid: The night will be filled with flashes. Don't forget your camera.

## “I don't have a date for prom!”

shayerah ilias

This grief-stricken wail echoes through NCSSM dorm halls around this time year after year. What usually follows this howl is, “I am NOT - I am NOT going to prom!!!”

There are numerous reasons why dateless students should not attend prom. Destined to haunt the food bar until the clock strikes twelve, these dateless people would be alone in a room full of dancing

couples. They would be the laughing stock of the whole entire school.

Um, no. Reality check: Contrary to popular belief, *prom is not just for couples*. Plenty of people attend prom year after year without dates, and they thoroughly enjoy themselves. They are living proof of the fact that attending prom without a date is not the end of the world.

First and foremost, prom is *prom!* Prom is so much more than getting dressed up,

pinning on corsages, going out to dinner, dancing, attending after-prom parties, etc. Prom is an opportunity for students to spend time with the people they care about the most. For seniors especially, prom is one of the last chances they have to spend time with all of their friends. After graduation, the senior class will be split up, some attending college at State, Carolina or somewhere in Kalamazoo. Others will join the army or the peace corps or take a year off to

travel abroad. For all seniors know, the next time they may be together with all of their friends will be their high school reunion!

So, lacking a date for prom is nothing too devastating. Students always have the option of attending prom with friends who also do not have dates. Sometimes, the prom can even work out better when going with friends instead of a date. Students are not obligated to spend their time with one particular person. They can mingle

with whomever they choose to. Furthermore, in nightmare situations, a date can turn out to be horribly annoying or rude, causing people to wonder why on earth they ever agreed to attend prom with their particular date.

So, students should go to prom - regardless of whether they have a date in tow or not. Prom is meant to be one of the best nights of students' lives. Students should not permit the anxiety of being dateless ruin their entire evening.