



So why were people dressed in black on Wednesday?

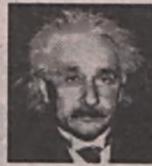
Learn about the International Outcry for Peace

PAGE 2

Italy, Fossil Hunt, Tennessee Williams, or Dynamic Equations?

What'll your Mini-Term be?

PAGE 2



Albert Einstein didn't need a high school diploma.

Do you?

PAGE 3

The New Windows XPerience

... is it worth it?

BACK PAGE

the stentorian

the north carolina school of science and mathematics 1219 broad street, durham nc 27705

vol. XXIV

<http://www.ncssm.edu/stentorian>

december 2001

Out of the Bubble

EMILY CURRIN

Winter is quickly approaching and there is so much to look forward to- there are the December holidays, the thought of snowflakes (if the temperature ever goes below 70), New Year's Eve, and Winter Break. Notice something I'm leaving out? Yep, EXAMS!!! This small word seems to frighten and terrify just about every student. Here are some ideas to help you keep your mind off studying and procrastinate opening that textbook just a little bit longer!

- Music -

- ◆ Dec. 14: Britney Spears at the Raleigh Entertainment & Sports Arena
- ◆ Dec. 15: Train at The Ritz

- Arts -

- ◆ Dec. 6- Jan. 6: Fit to be Tied (Manbites Dog Theater, Durham)
- ◆ Dec. 15-24: The Nutcracker (BTI Center, Raleigh Memorial Auditorium)

- Sports -

- ◆ Dec. 16: A&T Aggies vs. Duke Blue Devils (Cameron Indoor Stadium)
- ◆ Dec. 18: Ottawa Senators vs. Carolina Hurricanes (Raleigh Entertainment & Sports Arena)
- ◆ Dec. 19: Charleston Buccaneers vs. N.C. State WolfPack (Reynolds Coliseum)

- Food -

- ◆ Neo-China (Chinese) University Drive, Durham
- ◆ Bombay Grille (Indian) Highway 54, Durham
- ◆ Café Parizade (Greek/Mediterranean) W. Main St., Durham

- Holiday Happenings -

- ◆ Dec. 7- 22: 24th Annual Santa Train (NC Museum of Life and Science, Durham)
- ◆ Dec. 16-30: A Celebration of Lights (Alltel Pavilion at Walnut Creek, Raleigh)

- Hot Date Idea - of the Month

No Mas, No More, from the Hills of Salvador

PAUL SMITH

Three Science and Math students participated in the protest against the School of Americas/Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (SOA/WHISC) on Sunday, November 18 in Ft. Benning, GA along with approximately 10,000 concerned citizens from around the nation.

The NCSSM chapter of Amnesty International organized the trip, with senior Danielle Muehlenbein and juniors Elysa Wan and Paul Smith attending. The students decided to join the protest after attending an educational conference sponsored by Amnesty that featured both sides of the debate over the School. The three students departed Saturday night for Chapel Hill, where they met a bus sponsored by Students

United for a Responsible Global Environment (SURGE). They drove all night to Georgia and then headed to the protest.

The protest began with a mass rally and funeral procession. In the procession, which lasted around three hours; names of people who have been killed by SOA graduates were sung out while protesters walked towards the School carrying crosses with victims' names on them. After the procession, there were speakers, performers, street theater groups expressing their concern over the School, and reenactments of SOA massacres.

The SOA/WHISC is a military institution that trains soldiers from Latin American countries. The graduates often end up fighting for right-wing paramilitary groups or committing human rights abuses in their country.

The fact that these abuses are being done in the name of the American people and using American tax dollars is one of the things that outrages many citizens.

Graduates were responsible for the Uraba massacre in Colombia, the Jesuit massacre in El Salvador, the El Mozote massacre of 900 civilians in El Salvador, the assassination of Archbishop Oscar Romero, the La Cantuta massacre in Peru, and hundreds of other human rights abuses across Latin America.

The protest was organized by SOA Watch, which was formed by Father Roy Bourgeois in 1990. For



Linda Panetta

Activists have a puppet parade with signs and puppet shows to demonstrate their feelings about the SOA.

more information about the SOA or SOA Watch, go to www.soaw.org.

Jagged Little Pill



Yoon-Mi Kim

A busy student's blessing ... or is it?

ELYSA WAN

We've all been there. It's horrendously late; both your body and your mind feel as if they've been run over by a sixteen-wheeler, and yet, you still have a few more hours of work you must do. It is at times like these that many of us are willing to do anything to stay awake and functioning. Some will turn to a little magic pill.

It is not surprising that for both children and adults, caffeine is the most widely used drug in the world. We find it in our soft drinks, tea, coffee, chocolate, cold relief medica-

tion, and of course, the ominous caffeine pill.

Caffeine heightens alertness by stimulating the central nervous system and heart, thus increasing blood flow. It shortens sleep time and reduces the depth of sleep. Furthermore, caffeine is often used as a diet aid because it increases metabolism of fatty acids.

But nothing comes without a price. Caffeine has been found to cause a rapid, irregular heartbeat, increased blood pressure, and high blood sugar levels. It has a dehydrating

SEE "CAFFEINE PILLS," ON THE BACK PAGE

Unis Help Out on ALT Day

LISA TURNER

ALT Day is usually nothing more than a day for seniors to sleep in, juniors to take a load off with easier classes, and everyone to eat good food and relax. Some NCSSM students, however, did a little more with their time on the November 7th ALT Day. Students participated in a wide variety of service activities in the Durham community, ranging from feeding dogs at the animal shelter to helping out at the Durham Literacy Council. The students who participated made a positive impact on the community, and showed us all that Unis are interested in more than just science and math.

The mastermind behind the organization and implementation of Volunteer Day was Becky Logsdon. An MPC and avid community volunteer, Becky loves to get people involved in service and community interaction of all kinds. She said, "Organizing Volunteer

Day was a way to encourage other people to take an active role in the community and to value volunteer work."

Several organizations accepted volunteers from NCSSM for Volunteer Day. Durham Literacy Council, Durham Animal Shelter, Hecht's/United Way Benefit Shopping Day, Omuteko Gwamaziima Charter School, and the Red Cross were several of the places where students volunteered. The assignments at each place were very different, but all types of work proved rewarding for the volunteers. Says volunteer Tiffany Williams, "Education is the key to success, and by helping these youth, I feel that I was aiding the community in giving them a great education."

Those who did not volunteer will get another chance; the next Volunteer Day has been scheduled for an ALT Day in

SEE "COMMUNITY SERVICE," ON THE BACK PAGE