

Have a quadruple sleep-in in *your* schedule?

JORDAN LOFTON

Second semester, senior year: you've heard from your colleges or at least finished applying, and all that's left is walking across the stage on graduation day. Now you can sit back and enjoy what some may call a "slack" schedule. If you're like me though, a slack schedule means having one extra free period and maybe an extra sleep-in. We've all heard the myths about the slackest senior or the dream schedule, but has there ever been a name or a face associated with the title? Whether you consider yourself slack or not your curiosity is probably piqued. Who should this year's slackest senior be?

To answer this question I first had to state the NCSSM definition of slack. For help I turned to Slackers Club President, Eric Knight. There were five general criteria that Eric listed for true slackness. Said person must: first, be in all general classes; second, take no more than the required number of classes; third, do no more than the minimal amount of work; fourth, take no seminars; and finally, join the Slackers Club "for the T-shirt."

That's quite a long list of conditions to fulfill, so the job of being the slackest senior may be slightly more difficult than initially assessed. Going about searching for this person might have been difficult had it not been for fate. I'll admit that my search started out rather roughly. Following intuition, I immediately began to question people about every male senior's schedule. Somehow though, schedules just didn't seem to be quite as



Annafrancesca Fuchs
Laura Douglas, deemed the slackest of all seniors, relaxes in the Third Bryan lounge after a not-so-grueling scholastic day.

slack as one would hope. It was when I had almost given up on pinpointing the person that I heard a quiet voice bragging about her quadruple sleep-in. Yes, that's right boys, it's a girl!

Laura Douglas is her name and reclining is her game. With Chorus, Advanced Photography, General Statistics, General Physics, and WRRD, every day is filled with multiple free periods. Her most difficult day is when she has no sleep-in, 3 morning classes with lab, and chorus

in the evening.

"It's painful," she remarked. Laura would agree that WRRD is her hardest class but added, "...it's also the easiest to get an A in."

I know what you're thinking. So far she's only met the first two requirements. I assure you, however, that Laura doesn't waste those free periods by using them wisely. Sleeping, sitting around the lounge, and hanging out with friends all keep her pretty busy. After school she is involved in no

academic or extracurricular activity to clutter up her evenings. The only area where Laura is lacking is her involvement in the Slackers Club, but is that so astonishing? When asked if there was anybody who deserved the slack senior award more, Eric had to admit, "Not even my schedule is that slack."

As a reward for all of her not-so hard work, Laura has been made an honorary member of the Slackers Club. Laura's response to this award was nothing more than humble.

"Working more than I did last year (which was none) would have been impossible." She would also like to leave some advice to all the little people out there (juniors, that's you): "Stats is your best friend, as are A-Photo and Chorus, but only if you're going to Carolina."

Love her or hate her, Laura Douglas is this year's slackest senior. She's willing to endure all the glares she gets and will even tolerate all the "I hate you" remarks she receives from jealous peers. She'll do all that with grace and decorum because Laura Douglas is the epitome of the NCSSM "slack senior."

To Kerry McClellan:
Roses are red,
Violets are blue,
I float on Cloud Nine,
When I am with you.
Love, iThat Guy!

To Wes:
Sweetheart, I am so thankful to have you in my life. Words can't express what your friendship and love mean to me. I love you, Wesley.
Love, Ashley

To Ground Reynolds,
Happy Valentine's Day to the girls on Ground from the guys on 4E.

To Jenni:
Salve, mea bella. May every day be filled with the warmth of knowing that you are loved. Happy Valentine's Day.
Chris J.

To Whitney, Kelly, Anh, Leigh,
You girls are the greatest! I don't know what I'd do without you! You're all my babies! Luv ya!
Ashley Alexander

To Third East (Ghetto Haiku Remix),
Third east is dope, yo
Yo, yo yo yo yo yo yo
Word to your mother.
Rock on London,
Rock on Chicago,
Wheaties-Breakfast of Champions.

To Kate Morrison:
Sorry this valentine message isn't from Tommy Haas or Dr. T Jr., but I wanted to tell you I luv you!
-Katie (your roomie)

To Zach Nienstedt:
To my fav trekkie pirate of the pointy posse, you take my breath away. LOL!
Happy Anniversary, sweetie, have a great day.
Love, Kate

To The Squamous Posse:
My squami sisters! Hope you guys enjoy Valentine's Day, even though you hate mushiness.
Love, The Train

One last dance for seniors?

MICHAEL MUELLER

You've all heard about it at Monday meetings: the proposed Senior Trip. Coordinated by Matt Oettinger and Anna Barnett-Robisheaux, the purpose of the Senior Trip is to bring the seniors together one last time before they go to college.

Although the trip's location is as yet undetermined, Matt and Anna are currently evaluating possible locations. These include Windy Gap, Camp Pinnacle, and Fort Caswell. (Camp Tekoa is already reserved.) The trip is currently slated to take place during the last extended weekend of the year in early May. Additionally, there will probably be a small fee involved.

Students are welcome to make suggestions and plan activities for the trip; proposed ideas include a senior open mike night and a communal dinner for all the seniors.

There seems to be support behind the idea; in a recent poll, about 60 students showed interest in going on the Senior Trip. Many like the idea of being able to be together with the senior class one last time before they leave for college, or spending more time with their significant others.

Yet there is some dissension within the senior class. About 56% of seniors polled said that they did not plan to go on the senior trip. Some were worried that it would cost too much money.

"Money and I do not go together," said one senior. Others were discouraged because the trip will be held in the mountains. "I'm not going to pay [money] to visit some

place that's 10 minutes away from where I live," said Tim Reibold, who lives in the Asheville area.

Other reasons seniors don't want to go on the trip seem to be its proposed time and generalized disinterest. "It's not worth my time," said one senior.

"I would go if it weren't during an extended weekend," said Chad Voss. Many seniors expressed similar concerns, citing other plans for the trip's proposed date in early May.

"We've tried everything," said Matt Oettinger in response to student concerns. "Teachers won't let us miss class for the trip and [the administration] doesn't want us going to the beach, so that limits our options."

Although there is less interest in the trip than Anna and Matt had hoped for, they've decided to continue planning for it. "We have worked very hard to get to the point where we are now, and we will continue to work hard to make this retreat happen, whether 60 of us come or whether the whole class comes. I am very optimistic that no matter what happens, some of us will have a retreat on which we can look back and remember our last days here at Science and Math and the friends we have made here," said Matt.

Anna concurred, and brought up the point that, "If everything goes well and people have fun this year, then maybe next year there will be more interest in going on a similar sort of retreat."

The senior trip, it seems, will likely take place as scheduled, promising a last opportunity for seniors to bond and say their tearful goodbyes.

"I am very optimistic that no matter what happens, some of us will have a retreat on which we can look back and remember our last days here at Science and Math."

"Do you plan on attending the senior trip?"

(Results of poll taken during Student-Director Meeting, Monday, February 4, 2002. Courtesy of Matthew Oettinger and Anna Barnett-Robisheaux.)

