

Around the World

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Killer Lion Bagged

Game scouts finally bagged a three and a half year old lion that has been terrorizing villages in the Rufiji River area for the past two years. This lion has killed at least 35 people. Approximately 70 people are killed lions each year in Tanzania. An autopsy of the lion revealed that he had sizeable abscesses underneath a prominent molar. This has led scientists to believe that this lion hunted humans because their flesh is easier and less painful to chew than buffalo or other natural prey.

Drip, Drip, Drip

Four juveniles flooded the Parini School in northern Italy to avoid taking their Ancient Greek examination. The students plugged drains and left faucets running in the newly renovated school. The prank caused \$630,000 in damages. The students will face a slew of criminal charges.

Referendum In Macedonia Could Cause Chaos

A referendum which could throw the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia into chaos will come up for a vote on November 7. The referendum seeks to redraw domestic boundaries. It could lead to conflict between Macedonians and ethnic Albanians.

The Leaning Taj Mahal

The Yamuna River in the Indian state Uttar Pradesh is drying up. Experts believe that this could be the reason the nearby Taj Mahal is tilting. When the river flowed the water absorbed the force of tectonic movement. Historians hope for swift action to save the 350 year old landmark. The Taj Mahal is India's most popular tourist site.

Domestic Violence in Turkey

Almost forty percent of married Turkish women polled by the European Union agreed that physical abuse by their husband was acceptable in certain circumstances. The number rose to two thirds of the women surveyed in rural areas. Turkey has been aiming to join the EU since 1963. The EU has encouraged reforms to improve human rights in Turkey. Turkish women enjoy freedoms denied to women in other Muslim nations such as the rights to vote and file for divorce.

All articles summarized from BBC.

NCSSM Plays Host to Students From Japan and Germany

BY VANNA SOMBATSAPHAY AND YOLANDA FAIR

Recently NCSSM has had the honor of hosting 20 students from the Iwate prefecture in Japan and another delegation of 20 from Fulda, Germany. NCSSM students shared their rooms with the exchange students and tried to expose them to student life. The students were taken to visit nearby colleges, museums, and allowed to sit in on classes.

During the weekends, they attended Koffehaus, IVIZs, and a plethora of activities set up by the MPCs (see "International Festival" below). The host students and the exchange

students were also given the opportunity to learn about one another's very different culture.

The Japanese students could not speak English very fluently, but they had no problem communicating. Almost everyday, they arrived in business style uniforms for another

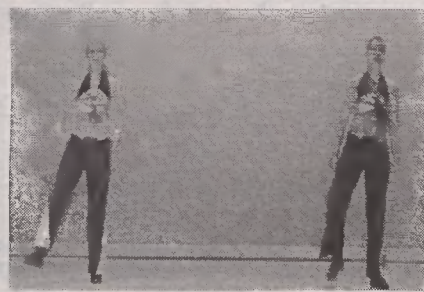
their school in Japan, their only expressions of individuality are the way they style their hair and their shoes. When they weren't in their uniforms they exhibited a very eclectic,

were very similar to us in terms of how they dressed as well as their overall culture. They spoke English relatively well because they had been studying it for six to seven years, compared to the one to two years for the Japanese. Also, many of the Germans were fluent in French. The main thing we had in common was that all of us put a great deal of emphasis on our education.

The MPCs noticed that during the outdoor activities they hosted, the exchange students played soccer, volleyball and lacrosse quite well.

From this, we can all say that it was indeed an enriching experience, and we will continue to welcome students

from across the world to our small campus in the middle of North Carolina.



Japanese and German exchange students spent a week at NCSSM.

Vanna Sombatsaphay

International Festival

DEREK PAYLOR

NCSSM's Japanese and German exchange students experienced quite a treat Saturday, October 18th on a crisp autumn afternoon. The ETC auditorium housed this school's first-ever International Fest, an event planned by the MPCs, Evan Rowe and his techies, and conceptualized by Dr. Steve Warshaw.

After the exchange students and their chaperones played soccer and lacrosse on the IM field with S&Mers and MPCs, they attended International Fest, a program designed to show both the American and worldwide talent the student body has to offer.

The MPCs, welcomed everyone and introduced various acts such as Dance Team, Kelly Walsh doing Irish step dancing, contra dancing by Olga Navros and Chloe Weatherill, a comical skit by the French Club, a rousing gospel song by Colours, and a pro-tolerance skit by Spectrum. The exchange students, however, remained the central focus throughout the show, linking different cultures together.

Infact, some of the exchange students took part in the program themselves. Japanese student Ayako Kitadate performed a saxophone solo, and the last-minute addition of a dance routine by two German students from Fulda wowed the crowd with its incorporation of American hip-hop music.

Junior Tim Allsup particularly enjoyed those two performances. "The MPCs put on a great show with many spectacular performances. I enjoyed the performances by the German and Japanese exchange students as well as the ones by my fellow NCSSM students."

However, Kyle Ivey, a junior who attended show, saw room for critique. "I liked the International Festival, but I think it needed more non-American performances."

Some performers experienced a unique joy from performing memories of their childhood non-American cultures. Senior Lucie Guo recalls how the song she and senior Jeff Tang performed, "Da Hai," was "a song that my parents sang to me all the time when I was little, and I believe this was the same for Jeff too. The song brightened my child-

hood in China. Whenever I heard it, the music brought a torrent of nostalgia. After all these years, taking a special song that faintly resounded in my memory and bringing it to life to share with the diverse NCSSM community was an amazing experience."

The program ended with a friendship dance by

"Play," continued from Page 1 they're also really similar; they have the same goal of trying to make the show believable and entertaining to the audience and trying to make it as real as possible," VanNoppen said.

According to VanNoppen, Schubert, and senior Julia Nugent, the sound technician, the audience often does not appreciate stage crew fully because it does not realize how much work stage crew puts into creating the perfect atmosphere for the production.

"When people see the play, they only see the actors, so they don't consciously realize what goes on backstage," VanNoppen said.

However, VanNoppen, Schubert, Nugent, and Waite-Jones agree that the actors support and appreciate stage crew greatly.

"[At NCSSM], we do the techie dance. We all get excit-

Akwe:kon, led by seniors Jon Cummings and Laura Lookadoo with outside help from grand senior Nina Martinez. The audience bum rushed the stage in their enthusiasm to participate, overflowing the stage and bringing a dramatic close to an eventful afternoon.

ed, and everyone gets to show appreciation for stage crew. I've noticed in other organizations that crew and the actors are separated, and crew gets left out. Here, we make sure they are put in programs and get to take a bow onstage. We try to let people recognize that stage crew is definitely part of the performance," Nugent said.

According to Schubert, stage crew and the actors become very close before the show at NCSSM that they share inside jokes that go on for the remainder of their time at NCSSM. But Schubert said, "The best part of stage crew is when you're backstage during the show, watching the actors performing, and you think 'I didn't have to memorize all those lines, but I had a part in putting together that show.'"