

## Students give back to state through summer service learning requirement

BY JAMIE WINSLOW

As a graduation requirement, students are required to complete a minimum of sixty hours of community service at an agency of their choice. Although, as Community Service Coordinator Kevin Cromwell pointed out, "60% of students exceeded the minimum requirement of hours."

A fairly new requirement is that students must maintain a journal that reflects their thoughts on the position that they held. Are you enjoying your tasks? Have you learned any new skills? Why did you choose this agency? At the completion of your project, you are required to make a

poster and encouraged to take pictures to share with others. At a poster sharing session in the fall, students are evaluated by the faculty as to whether they completed the community service project satisfactorily.

Students are not allowed to receive monetary compensation for the service, and the agency they choose to volunteer with must be non-profit. One has the choice to complete his hours the summer before junior year or the summer before senior year.

Students in the past have shared their time in many agencies, including group homes, nursing homes, public libraries, and hospitals. You can choose any agency that you are interested in and it does not have

to correlate with your intended college major; though usually should be something you are interested in.

In the future, NCSSM staff is hoping to gear the community service requirement more towards service learning and break students into smaller groups for a reflection session on their experience, but no major changes are foreseen for the next few years. Cromwell said, "I am excited that NCSSM students served over 200 agencies this summer and provided North Carolina with over 23,000 hours of community service."

While sixty hours might seem like a big chunk out of your summer, Senior Ann Mast said, "It was very rewarding!"

### Volunteering Facts

- From September 2003 to September 2004, 64.5 million people in America volunteered their time for some sort of work. This is 5 million more than in 2001.

- Women volunteer more often than men.

- People between 35 and 44 are more likely to volunteer.

- The top volunteers are those who are religiously affiliated, coming into a close second are those involved with education or youth services.

- 40% of people volunteer on their own accord, while 42% were asked or required to volunteer.

Source: [http://www.nationalservice.gov/about/volunteering\\_in\\_the\\_us.asp](http://www.nationalservice.gov/about/volunteering_in_the_us.asp)

## Students write novels for 2005 NaNoWriMo

BY MARY KOHLMANN

Okay, you need to write more than fifteen hundred words a day for the next four weeks. Go.

No, it's not an American Studies project, nor is related to WECS. This particular assignment is none other than National Novel Writing Month, or NaNoWriMo, as its thousands of enthusiastic participants have

need for quantitative output is designed to free writers from the self-criticism that leaves so many opening chapters stuffed into dusty drawers. A frenzied NaNoWriMo-er is less likely, according to the logic of Baty and the 42,000 others who participated in 2004, than other novice novelists to lose heart at his or her less-than-stellar newbie prose and more likely to just keep writing.

Several NCSSM students took the challenge. Said Whitney Baker, "I've never actually gotten beyond seven hundred and fifty words, but I really enjoy the idea. I'll definitely do it next year." Junior Kathleen Hébert agrees. "It's really helpful to have a specific goal for your writing, and I enjoyed working on something and calling it an actual novel. But then exams happened, and I

"I enjoyed working on something and calling it an actual novel."  
-Kathleen Hébert

dubbed it.

NaNoWriMo defines itself as "a fun, seat-of-your-pants approach to novel writing. Participants begin writing November 1. The goal is to write a 175-page (50,000-word) novel by midnight, November 30." Impossible? So it would seem.

However, the sheer insanity of the deadline is what, claims founder Chris Baty, makes the process so much fun. The

kind of stopped," she said.

This seems to have been something of a pattern for students here, and even in places that do not give major tests in the middle of November. The website states that out of the 42,000 who started novels in 2004, only 6,000 got to 50,000 words. But as the website says, "That's ok. Nothing ventured, nothing gained, right?"

## Eilber Enthusiasts rally Unicorn basketball fans

AS TOLD TO ALEX SOLOMON

Who are those people in the stands at all home basketball games? And why are they wearing skirts and dress coats? Well, my friends, those fanatics are the latest craze to hit Uni-sports: The Eilber Enthusiasts. The ring leader himself, 2nd Bryaner, Doc Dougherty explains.

### How did this come about?

The "cult" of the Eilber enthusiasts, like all great things, began on night in the 2B lounge. Zach Hackney and I (John James Dougherty Jr.) were discussing the possibility of getting a large group together to cheer at basketball games. Until that point, the crowd had been filled with the familiar regulars, but was never anything more than students at a game. We wanted something more. That night he and I sent an email to anyone and everyone we thought interested. This is a draft of the original email:

Hey Eilber Enthusiasts,

This is the beginning of our new cheering section distribution list. The purpose of this list is to UNI-fy our cheering efforts. This will be the greatest season in NCSSM basketball cheering history! The first order

of business is to ensure that we have the greatest number of people to support our unicorns at every game. Please spread the word of this distribution list. Also, provide me with the names of people to add, our aim is for an entire reserved section next to the pep band. Next, we have to guarantee that we are the best fans possible. The first suggestion is that everyone brings their own personal noisemakers to the Thursday game. (Irwin, grab that horn!) In upcoming mailings we will create new and inventive cheers. Please stay in correspondence by proposing such cheers. In addition, we need a name for this gang! Suggest uniforms and new seating formations (i.e. distracting colors). -Doc & Zackney

### So, how was the response?

From then on, it spread like wildfire. By our first game together against Emerson Waldorf, we had T-shirts and signs made, noisemakers, cheers and chants, and even a reporter from the Durham news. Needless to say, we won that game in blowout fashion. That would be the first of several home wins to come.

### How do you think this has affected the school?

The impact of E 2 is nearly immeasurable. The group was modeled after the Cameron crazies of Duke University's Cameron Indoor Stadium (the most hostile arena in all of college sports). There is not an

Eilber Enthusiast who doesn't believe that we affect the game. Whether it is with our patented spirit-fingers to ensure made free-throws, or our tactical distractions to create mistakes by the opposition, our presence is felt. I believe we empower our team to succeed while striking fear in the hearts of visitors.

We are no average fans. Anyone who has been to a home game this year knows that E 2 holds nothing back. Most fans of sporting events would be hesitant to cross-dress, but not us. Have you seen the b a n a n a suit? E 2 does everything and anything to ensure

that we give our unis the best chance to win and make the Eilber PEC hell on the hardwood for visiting teams.

### Why you, Doc?

I'm not a real athletic guy, but I truly love sports. E 2 is a way that I can participate in NCSSM athletics without the being an athlete. Don't get me wrong- we still suffer our share of injuries: strained larynx, sore feet, but it's all part of the job.

### How do you see E 2 in the future?

As for the future, I sincerely hope that the legacy of E 2 is passed on through the generations of Science and Mathers. We've had a great start this year and made some really big strides. I'm excited about the prospect of my junior class taking the ball and running with it. My dream is that in 10 or 20 years I can pick up a sports illustrated and see pictures of Eilber Enthusiasts in action. When I come back for alumni night at the Eilber PEC, I expect not to be the only male painted and wearing a skirt. E 2 is just the first step in turning NCSSM basketball from a team of nerds into one of the most elite basketball dynasties in high school sports history.



John 'Doc' Dougherty showing his Uni spirit