



Superintendent James Burns watches as Holly Jones, Senior Class President; Gordon Stallings, Shaw High Principal; and Richard Ussery, TSYS President, sign Adoption charter

TSYS adopts Shaw

by Holly Jones

As of October 3, 1991, Shaw High School was no longer an orphan. That morning at 10:00 A.M. during a special hour-long assembly, Shaw was officially adopted by Total System Services.

The entire student body of Shaw, as well as teachers, 200 Total Systems employees, and local dignitaries gathered in Shaw's gymnasium for the city's latest Adopt-A-School ceremony. A stage had been built and decorated at the far end of the gym for the program's speakers. Furniture on the stage was donated by the Raymond Rowe Design Center, and the greenery on the stage was donated by Neil Womack of To-Mar Nursery.

The program opened with a posting of colors and the Pledge of Allegiance led by Shaw's ROTC and Battalion Commander Chris Thiele. Mr. Fenton Dixon, adoption coordinator, then

welcomed the student body and guests with the idea that "you've gotta believe" that the Shaw High School and Total Systems partnership is one dedicated to excellence.

Musical entertainment was provided by the Shaw Marching Band, directed by Amy Kirk, and the Shaw Men's, Women's, and Mixed Choruses. The band performed the music from its halftime western theme show. It included the themes from *Bonanza*, *Happy Trails*, and *Shenandoah*. The chorus sang *Climbin' Up the Mountain*, *Swing Low Chariot*, and *The Best of Times*.

After a welcome by Mr. Stallings, several honored guests from the Columbus community gave speeches concerning the adoption effort. The content of the speeches revolved around the history of TSYS, its present involvement and future involvement with Shaw High School. Among the guests were Hazel Lewis, Muscogee County School Board member; Dr. Robert

Bushong, Deputy Superintendent; Al Hayes, a member of the Chamber of Commerce, and Richard Ussery, President of Total System Services. Shaw's PTSA President Mrs. Sandy Hamer and Senior Class President Holly Jones gave speeches praising and welcoming TSYS.

After the speeches came the official adoption. Sheri Smith, Chairman of the Educational Committee of the Columbus Chamber of Commerce, led Shaw students and other guests in the dedication as Mr. Stallings, Dr. Bushong, Mr. Ussery, and Holly Jones signed the official adoption certificate.

It was legal. Shaw had been adopted by Total Systems. Shaw acknowledged this fact by presenting Mr. Ussery with a replica of a Raider sword and a homecoming spirit banner made by the Key Club. In turn TSYS presented every student and teacher with a t-shirt proclaiming the adoption.

Band receives invitation

by Chrissy Gillespie

At the invitation of the National School Boards Association, the W. H. Shaw band will perform at the association's convention in Orlando, Florida, April 25, 1992.

Having established a reputation in the southeast, the well-traveled band has played in some of the most prestigious events in the area. The Georgia Music Educators Association Conference in Savannah, Georgia; the Presidential Inaugural Parade in Washington, D.C.; the Southeastern Bands Clinic in Troy, Alabama; and the Band and Conductors' Symposium in

Columbia, South Carolina are only a few of the appearances of which the band has been a part.

Since the group's number will be limited, Mr. Tim Zabel, band director, must decide which members will be allowed to perform. Most likely, thirty members of the symphonic band will be selected. Still, he is looking forward to the adventure. "We are excited," said Zabel. "It's an opportunity to perform for over five-thousand school board members."

Since the band represents local band programs and ultimately the Muscogee County School District, the system will defray the expenses.

Juniors elect council

By Ceri Garrett

Ten members of the Shaw High School Junior Class have been elected to the 1991-1992 Junior Council.

This year's council members include Tamara Alexander, Cara Ceccato, Dana Coppedge, Karen Cornett, Lyn James, Tori Kinney, Aliana McLennan, Jennifer

Pritchard, Jacqueline Smith, and LaToya Williams.

Under the leadership of sponsors Mrs. Janice Terry and Mrs. Helen Rodgers, members will be responsible for coordinating activities to raise money for the Junior-Senior Prom. The homecoming dance and the Reverse Beauty Pageant have been successful ventures in the past.



The 1991-1992 Raider cross-country team won its eighth consecutive region championship. See story on page 4.

A matter of guilt ?

By Jacine Girling

Simply put, Clarence Thomas is guilty, but it has been washed away in a media circus that frequently distorted the points and led viewers into so many misdirections that they soon forgot the real issues of the case.

In the end it seemed that the creation of a scandal was the only accomplishment of the hearing. Justice--real justice--was distorted by the obvious biases of each member of the panel. Anita Hill's accusations fell on deaf ears and were conjectured "unbelievable" even before she took the stand. Was that America's new standard of justice?

The judiciary committee seemed a panel of men misguided, ignorant, and confused. They seemed reluctant. They attempted to hide behind a facade of respectability when most hide only lurid pasts. Was not Kennedy the same Kennedy involved in the Chappaquiddick tragedy and the Kennedy Compound rape? Did not Biden quickly scrap his presidential plans when the issue of plagiarism erupted? And these men sat on a committee that was to arrive at the truth? Ironic, isn't it?

Witnesses testifying on the behalf of Clarence Thomas gave the impression that they were more interested in personal gain than justice. Having the favor of a Supreme Court Justice can be very helpful to one's career in the end. Even the personalities of those testifying conveyed a certain arrogance and selfishness. Mrs. Alvarvey spent eighty percent of her testimony on the plight of single mothers and her travel expense. None of Thomas' witnesses had remained close to him, and none could offer any relevant information concerning what Thomas did or did not do behind closed doors.

Clarence Thomas had much more to lose than Professor Hill; therefore it would seem he had more reason to lie. Hill staked her career on her accusations, but she had nothing to gain. She eventually took a polygraph test to prove her honesty. Why didn't Thomas?

There seemed to be no concrete evidence that could prove Thomas' guilt, but his guilt was probable. When we as a nation were considering a person who will influence decisions in such areas as abortion and affirmative action, we should have been more certain of the man's moral character. In this case, we were not.

By Sheena Baker

Guilty? Maybe. Confirmed? Yes. What difference does it make? To be honest, it makes a great deal of difference. When the sexual preference of one person becomes the concern of the entire nation, there is sufficient cause for alarm. Because of a few words that may or may not have been said nearly a decade ago, a man has been forced to endure the scrutiny of millions. An uncomfortable situation, badly blown out of proportion, has caused the eyes of every American to be glued to television sets in anticipation of the outcome of this circus.

Anita Hill's allegations have forced the public not so much to question the integrity of Judge Clarence Thomas, but to examine the topic of sexual harassment altogether. There has always been much debate over where to draw the line between flirting or showing interest and harassment, but only recently has the subject been brought to the attention of such a great audience.

Whatever we may accomplish by pondering this has absolutely nothing to do with the situation at hand. Yes, as citizens of the United States it is our responsibility to concern ourselves with the integrity of someone being nominated to the Supreme Court, but there are other questions that must be asked. For example, if there was any validity to Anita Hill's accusations, why did she continue to work with Judge Thomas after he had allegedly shown an interest in her that was neither mutual or appreciated? Why did she wait so long to come forward with the details? These questions should be of much greater import to the citizens of the United States than whether or not Thomas did sexually harass Anita Hill. Instead, precious time was wasted on unnecessary hearings initiated by a woman with a questionable motive.

Fortunately, the Senate acted appropriately in concluding that there was not enough hard evidence to prove that Hill had indeed been sexually harassed by Judge Thomas. His future actions will affirm his credibility and integrity as well as President Bush's decision to nominate him.

Reflections

Effective November 1991, Mrs. Carolyn Childs retired as secretary of Shaw High School. Her absence created a void that will be far reaching. To the faculty, administration, and students, she was a friend, a professional, and a confidante. In her fourteen years at Shaw High School, no cross word ever crossed her lips. She is a woman of faith, of compassion, of understanding. We were all made a little better by knowing her. The *Silver Star* wishes her well and hopes she will return often.

Frequently, changing times demand that we re-evaluate our actions. The balloon launch is one of these actions. Enjoyed for years by faculty and students, the activity now poses a problem to the environment. Not only is the material from which the balloons are constructed not biodegradable, but their mere presence in the environment offers a danger to wildlife. Yearly birds and small wildlife perish because they mistake the balloons for food. Some consideration needs to be given to the activity-- its merits and distractions. Individuals need to weigh the good and bad and decide if it is worth it all.



Joel Price

You can't always get what you want, but if you try sometimes, you just might find, you get what you need. -The Rolling Stones-

No place to go?

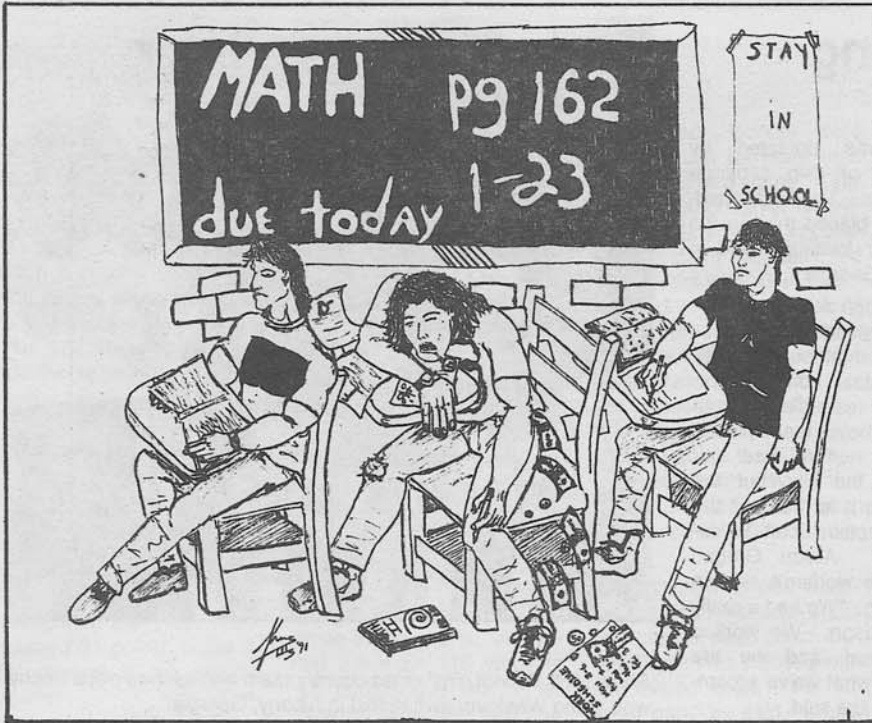
Maybe my needs for contentment are more simplistic than most or maybe I try harder, but I cannot accept the notion that there isn't anything to do in the city of Columbus. There is always something to do and almost always a place to do it.

Are teenagers blind to the fact that there are indeed things to do in Columbus? There are teen clubs, bowling alleys, skating rinks, theaters, parks, sports teams, malls, a library, and tons of social and academic clubs, but apparently people want more. If I might quote from a reponse in the last issue of the newspaper, everyone seems to want a "place to go and have fun and do whatever (you) want to do without parents, police, or other adults complaining about everything (you) do." Within the bounds of responsibility, what are people being suppressed from doing?

Imagination has died. We've killed off the concept of self-entertainment. We rely too heavily on our environment to satisfy us, and when that fails we demean the system in which we live. When was the last time you participated in a project to better the world, the last time you read a book of your own free will, or the last time you instigated something to provide entertainment for the community instead of waiting for someone else to do it?

Raise some money and build whatever you think will satisfy you or promote the idea of weekly school dances or encourage the city government to open youth centers on the weekend. I don't think a bigger mall or another club will satisfy your quest for something to do. I do not think anything will ever satisfy the people who constantly complain about the lack of a social life in Columbus. The sooner you can come to that conclusion for yourself, the sooner you will be able to solve the problem.

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Students in the workforce Can both be done successfully?

By Kim Kinsman

It's a typical scene. The teacher calls on a student but gets no reply. The teacher's inquiries uncover that a job has interfered with the preparation or completion of a homework assignment. Work not only has a profound effect on the student in the classroom, but it has an effect on the very social life of the individual.

It is obvious that working after school has the potential to apply certain strains on young people and negatively affect them in their school environment. In the world of work the students are always the casualties. The scenario is the same. Work and a long school day leave little time for homework. A conscientious student attempts to do the homework after leaving the job. But first, he must eat, shower, and relax. The time drags on; it becomes late. Little sleep can cause exhaustion and can hasten sickness. This leads to missed school and missed school work. The student falls behind in the classroom. He gives up. The undisciplined student finds the stress overwhelming.

Realizing the adverse ef-

fect long hours can have on a student, Ellen Greenberger, a professor of social ecology at the University of California at Irvine, suggests that sophomores work no more than 15 hours a week. Authorities also warn that getting a job too early can cause a variety of problems. The biggest of these is disillusionment with the potential that work has to offer. Coming face to face with unethical business practices will eventually create a distaste for work. Performing dull and routine tasks, younger workers will have a tendency to suffer boredom and form low expectations. They also acquire an ability to figure out the system and begin to modify performance and personality to suit the situation.

The social lives of many teenagers also are affected by working. With so many people working, the pressure to join the work force increases daily. Individuals see that their peers are able to buy a variety of items. The situation then breeds a contradiction: students feel the need to work to earn extra money to buy things that the next teen has and do things that the next teen does, but the time spent on

the job leaves little time to enjoy it. Weekends offer opportunity to work and make extra money. Before the individual knows it, quality time with parents and friends quietly disappears unnoticed. To say that teenagers today work out of necessity and to increase their responsibility is ridiculous. A University of Michigan survey found 80 percent of high school seniors spent money on individual pleasures and neglected necessities such as housing or education.

Young people seem oblivious to the dangers that exist in the workplace, the biggest being participating in long work hours. In June of 1990 the Labor Department conducted a survey of businesses that employed young people. Two-thirds of the 6,000 groceries, fast-food restaurants, manufacturers, and businesses were in violation of the nation's Child Labor Law. It is estimated that 20,000 young people work under conditions that are classified as illegal. The infraction found most often involved the working of young people too long or too late.

Many teenagers are unaware that the state and federal governments have laws

Students take jobs

by Tony Foley

The *Silver Star* surveyed 500 randomly selected Shaw High School students ranging from grades 9 to 12 and requested responses about their work habits and the influence of jobs on their grades. The survey also gathered information on the hours individuals worked and the ages of the individuals involved.

Of the 500 students surveyed, 38 percent were

found to have some type of job. Of those working students, 47 percent spent between 20 to 30 hours in the work place each week. Only 3 percent of the students suffered any decline in their grades; 97 percent maintained their grade average or made better grades. Of the 97 percent, many of the working students found their grades, while not falling, had remained about the same for a long period of time and had little or no hope for improvement.

Kellie Foster: My grades haven't dropped since I've been working because I still have time to do my homework before I go to work.

Jennifer P. Sanders: My grades have dropped since I started working because I don't have time to study.

Todd White: I am tired after I get off work, therefore I do not study as well.

Jerry McIntyre: Work has not affected my grades much, but sometimes I do not have time to study for major tests.

that protect the working student. These laws dictate the amount of time and the conditions in which they can work. All minors (under 18) must have a working permit.

These can be obtained at the school or from the office of the superintendent. Some employers keep a supply. Georgia law states the youngest a person can start to work is 12; federal law allows an individual to start at 14. Some exceptions include people who work on paper routes or in the field of acting. Whenever there is a difference in a law, the law that protects the worker more applies. Georgia allows a person under the age of 16 to work up to four hours on school days

and eight hours on non-school days, and up to 40 hours on a non-school week. Federal law states that a student can work no more than three hours on school days and no more than 18 hours in a school week. Students may not work before 7:00 A.M. or after 7:00 P.M. There is no restriction on the hours of individuals 16 or older. They are restricted from the types of equipment around which they can work.

Teenagers should be aware of the problems that exist in the workplace and the problems that can be created because of the work load.

Setting It Straight

In the October article "Program Opens Choices for Mother," a feature about Patricia Moorehead and her baby, some inaccuracies were given. It was suggested that the father of Patricia's baby supported the child and was in school at the time of the incident. In reality he was not in school and his financial support of the child has been almost nonexistent. It should also be noted that both Patricia's real father and her mother and stepfather offered continued support and comfort. They did everything, including pursuing entrance in the Phoenix Center and Shaw Childcare Magnet, to insure a comfortable and happy environment for Patricia and her baby. The *Silver Star* regrets any error.

Cross-country finishes strong

By Carol Everton

The men's cross-country team won its sixth consecutive region title and the women's team gathered runner-up honors at Spencer High School October 30.

Hosted at the newly created Spencer High School course for the first time in the history of the championships, the Region 3-AAA event served as a qualifier for the November 9 state tournament in Marietta. Both teams qualified by virtue of their first and second place finishes. In the men's division Scott Teixeira won the overall championship with a time of 18:46. Other times for the Shaw

finishers were Bill Taft, 19:52; Jason Loar, 20:53; John Alexander, 20:31; Jason Gibson, 21:36; Eddie Sanders, 21:51; and Brian Tucker, 22:52. Heather Duncan captured the championship in the women's division with a time of 24:18. Other top finishers included Carol Everton, Crystal Bridges, Laura Bridges, Frances Prieto, Alison Grogan, and Tara Whitmyre.

The 3-AAA Championship included a season that saw both teams finish with identical 5-2 records. The men's defeat came at the hands of Pacelli, class A state champions, and Smiths Station, third in Alabama 5 A. The women's

team was defeated by Spencer on two separate occasions. The Lady Raiders also placed third in the Westover Invitation held in Albany, Georgia.

Although dominant in local competition, the cross-country team found it difficult in state competition. The girls' team placed tenth and the boys' team placed eleventh. "We had our fame in the city, but the state was a lot harder," the senior captain Scott Teixeira said. Alison Grogan found the women's season rewarding. "We had a really good season. We worked really hard, and we are proud of what we've accomplished," she said.



Shaw High School girls' cross-country team with its third place trophy won at the Westover Invitational in Albany, Georgia.



Culminating a week of festivities, Mitzl Petty was crowned Shaw High School's 1991-1992 Homecoming Queen. Her court included seniors Amy Green, Tiffany Martin, and Renate Simpson; juniors Jackie Smith, Leslie Taylor, Tamara Alexander, and Tracy Schoolcraft; sophomores Demitra Allen, Brandi Strickland, Christy Hinton, and Karen Gilson; and freshmen Christina Malloy, Martha Davidson, Aimee Donohoe, and Brandy Perry.
by Shannon Farrell

Softball team wins 3-AAA East

By Shannon Roberts

With 15-4 and 14-3 victories, the Columbus Blue Devils prevented the Lady Raiders from reaching the state playoffs. The Shaw High softball team ended the season with a 24-7 record and the 3-AAA East title.

The Lady Raiders, the 3-AAA East champions, and the Columbus Blue Devils, champions of the West, met in a best of three elimination series at Columbus College. The first game saw Columbus pound out 13 hits to Shaw's eight. The Blue Devils were also aided by a homerun, a triple, and two doubles. In the second game the Lady Raiders were outthit 13 to 10.

Earlier in the season the Lady Raiders won the two-day Jordan Invitational and

the Shaw Invitational. In the Jordan Invitational the Raiders defeated Americus 3-0, Hardaway 4-2, Carver 12-0, and Spencer 14-4 before splitting with Troup High School 8-6 and 3-6. In the finals Shaw defeated Jordan by scores of 4-1 and 10-3 to win the championship. The softball team ran through four straight opponents to win their own invitational. After defeating Northeast Macon 20-7, Duluth 3-2, and Columbus 2-1, the Lady Raiders stormed back from a 7-1 deficit in the last inning to defeat Columbus for the title.

Coach Debbie Ball was pleased with the effort of her team throughout the year. "We had a very successful year, and I'm very proud that we were a team that fought to the end," she said. "Our team showed a lot of class and pride and



Shannon Roberts drives in run as Raiders win sub-region title.

we had great leadership from our seniors. It felt good to win the sub-region again."

Offensively, the team was led by Stephanie Mills with a .571 batting average. Dee Smith and Anne Land had .460 and .425 averages respectively. Dee Smith also led the team in home runs with four and RBI's with 39. Land led the team in doubles with five, and Shannon Roberts led the team in triples with five.

The junior varsity was also successful and concluded its season at 9-1. Offensively, Angela Longstreet led the team with a .448 batting average. Regan Griffin, Ashley Day, and Kerrie Smith finished with .444, .435, and .429 batting averages respectively.

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Football team ends 5-4

by Tony Foley

The Raider football team seemed to end its season in the opposite direction from which it began. After winning its first four and five of its first six, the Raiders lost their last three games to end the season a respectable 5-4.

The team lost its final three games of the season to Carver, and state ranked Peach County and Kendrick. The Raider offense failed to score a touchdown in any of the final games. The defense, sound throughout the year, relinquished 37 points in the final contest of the season against 3-AAA rival Kendrick.

Riddled by an inordinate number of injuries, the team which Coach David Taylor placed on the field for the final game of the season was obviously weak in places. Lost earlier in the season were impact players Dusty Wilkinson, outside linebacker; Latravis Powell, middle linebacker and fullback; Eon Anglin, running back; and

Brian Coroi, tightend. At one time Powell was one of the leading rushers in the city. "When you have as little depth as we do, one injured player hurts. But when you have so many, it is almost impossible to recover. When one of them goes down, two positions are lost because he probably has a defensive and offensive position," said Coach Charles Flowers, defensive coordinator.

Offensively the team ended the season averaging 10 points per game. In passing, Allen Porch was 10 for 23 for 115 yards and three interceptions. Jeff Allen threw for 115 yards in 18 completions on 49 attempts. Allen also had four interceptions. Freshman Pete Thomas was the leading rusher with 511 yards in 98 attempts for a 5.1 yard average.

Defensively the Raiders allowed 12 points per game, a statistic that was elevated considerably when they gave up 37 points against the Kendrick Cherokees. Only Peach County, Ken-

drick, and Spencer were able to rush for more than 100 yards in a game. Only Spencer and Carver recorded 100 yard games in passing. Anthony Dowdell led all tacklers with 43 individuals and 23 assists, followed by Darron Reed with 33 individuals and 23 assists. Reed recorded 18 tackles for losses while Charles Smith made 15. Allen Porch led the team in interceptions with five. Jeff Brand and Allen Porch each had a defensive touchdown.

Although he was disappointed with his team's last few games, head coach David Taylor was pleased with the overall effort. "For the most part," he said, "I think they gave most everything they had. I was disappointed with the Spencer and Kendrick games, but I think we all were. But overall, they worked hard. There were times they could have given up, but they didn't."



Jeff Brand and Bobby Holmes converge on Hardaway quarterback Jarvis Lipscomb.

Hoopsters rebuild

by Mayra Rivera

Coach Jimmy Lee and Coach Susie Sparks face much the same problem as they prepare for the 1991-1992 basketball season: they must rebound from disappointing 1990-1991 campaigns and do it with players with little or no experience.

Coming off a disastrous 4-20 season, this year's girls' squad hopes to improve. Seniors Kristie Williams, Dee Smith, and Pontress Webb lead this year's team. Other members of the varsity include juniors Jennifer Smith, Toni Tankley, Barbara Baker, Nicole Beck, and P.J. Kounpungchant; and sophomore Anne Land. Coach Susie Sparks looks for improvement in this year's squad. "I believe

we can have a winning season this year," said Sparks. "We have a good group of people. They seem to be intelligent and coachable."

Coach Jimmy Lee must replace a host of Raider basketball players lost to graduation, the biggest void left by Bi-City standout Marlon Allen. Allen currently is a member of the Columbus College Cougar basketball program. Also lost from last year's 5-15 team were Michael Edwards and Brian Bauer. Only sophomore Fluellen and senior Brian Coroi return with playing experience. The rest of the squad remains untested. Lee has one simple goal. "All I want to do is get the team competitive," he said.

Both coaches will get to evaluate their teams' talent when they take on Brookstone in the season opener.

Wrestling team revs up

By Sean Ray

Returning a solid nucleus from last year's squad, Coach Pitts' 1991-1992 Shaw High School Raider wrestling team shows some promise.

Still young, the team of 30 carries only four seniors. Coach Pitts sees this as the only question mark. "Although we've got a few people coming back, we still are far from being a veteran team. We have got some talent but it depends upon how they dedicate themselves to the season. Unless you've got the proper attitude, athleticism and potential don't go a long way," he said.

Returning from last years squad are seniors Stewart Godwin, Sean Ray, Kevin Hamer, and Trey Reese; juniors Scott Williams, Brian Tucker, Ben Thames, Jeff

Brand, Eddie Sanders, and Chris Layfield; and sophomores Andy Binns, Lanier Coulter, and Cam Johnson. Transfer William Rainwater could find his way into the starting lineup. Out for the first time are Eric Anderson, Shane Owens, Tony Villagas, Michael McCaffrie, Chip Smith, Ben Hardy, James Aguirre, George Vailant, and Chris Barron.

Pleased with the squad's attitude thus far this year, Pitts is looking forward to working with this year's team. "We seem to have a

good chemistry," he said. "We don't have some of the distracting elements we've had in the past. The athletes out here now want to be here; the others have fallen by the wayside. I feel like we will have some individual successes and with the correct attitude some team success."

The team will open its season against Brookstone November 26 at Shaw at 4:30. The season will conclude in February with Shaw hosting the Area I tournament.



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Exchange programs offer travel with study

by Mitzi Petty
and Kerry Kendrick

Imagine living thousands of miles from family and friends and coming face to face with a different culture. Imagine trying to maintain grades in a learning environment that is totally new. Only a small percent of students around the world have the opportunity to live and study in a foreign country. Or do they? Exchange programs are offering a multitude of students the opportunity to combine travel and study. In fact the educational programs are becoming popular educational options.

More and more students have found that they can grow academically and socially as exchange students.

Initially the exchange process may appear easier than it actually is. Frequently it can be time consuming, difficult, and frustrating.

When individuals decide to travel and study abroad, they have a variety of time options in which they can become involved: their stay can include a summer, a semester, or a school year. In order to qualify, students must complete per-applications, final applications, health forms, and personal surveys about themselves, their beliefs, their religion, and their friends. No area of the applicant's private or public life is left unturned.

Personal interviews are conducted by volunteer exchange coordinators. The interview normally takes place in the home of the applicant or at a convenient nearby location. If the interviewer is satisfied the student possesses the necessary maturity and attitude, official acceptance will be extended.

Ages of applicants differ with each foundation. Most education opportunities are offered to students between the ages of fourteen and eighteen. Students applying for the semester or yearly programs must have a 2.7 or better grade point average.

Educational opportunities in a variety of places exist for interested students. Sweden, Spain, Finland, Denmark, Germany, Italy, France, Switzerland, and Australia are included in most exchanges. The cost to engage in one of these programs can be taxing. To study in European countries and Australia for one year, the applicant must pay approximately five-thousand dollars. This program fee includes round trip airfare from a major airport to final destination, escorts for out-bound flights, health and accident insurance, orientation materials, language instruction, host family recruitment, and supervision throughout the stay. Various financial penalties exist for people who do not conclude their obligation. Very little monetary assistance is available, but some scholarships are offered in cases of hardship.

American students may also receive credit if their school system agrees. Most students carefully investigate their options before entering a foreign school. Shaw High School principal Gordon Stallings warns of hasty decisions. "If you are going to spend that much time and money, you want to make sure, beforehand, you earn credit for your stay," he said.



Coach Michael Stephens (bottom left) sits with Columbus' delegation to Visa Gold Medal Athlete Program. Pictured top row-middle is Bruce Jenner, 1976 Olympic gold medalist in the decathlon.

SHS faculty member attends Visa Gold Medal Athlete Program

by Heather Duncan

The United States Decathlon Team, including Dan O'Brien, journeyed to Atlanta to train with some of the country's leading sports science experts and former champions at the Visa Gold Medal Athlete Program October 3-5, at Emory University. Mike Stephens, Shaw cross-country coach, was also selected to attend the prestigious event.

The 13 decathletes, ten coaches, and 12 guests were officially invited to the training session. Because of his running background, Columbus Bank and Trust invited Coach Mike Stephens to attend the event. Stephens witnessed the training techniques of olympic caliber athletes. In the end he had learned much more: he witnessed firsthand the dedication, the sacrifice, and the camaraderie of the athletes.

The Visa Gold Medal Athlete Program was designed to help the U.S. capture an Olympic decathlon gold medal. It has been 16 years since this country has won the gold in an event it once dominated. The decathlon includes the following track and field events:

100 meter dash, long jump, shot put, high jump, 400 meter run, high hurdles, discus throw, pole vault, javelin throw, and the 1500 meter run. The last time an American held the title as the "World's Greatest Athlete" was in the 1976 Olympic games in Montreal when Bruce Jenner won the gold medal. Through a unique combination of sports science, personalized coaching, and motivational support, the Visa GMA program provides America's decathletes with the best training conditions and resources available. Visa began the program in November 1990 in cooperation with The Athletics Congress (TAC), the governing body of track and field in the U.S.

Visa hosted America's top ten Olympic decathlon hopefuls in a three-day clinic that focused on handling the pressures of international competition, training in heat and humidity, adapting to different time zones; eating the right pre-competition diet, and overcoming the psychological effects of being in a different environment. In addition physiologists, nutritionists, the leading track and field coaches from around the

country, and five of America's greatest track and field champions-- Bruce Jenner, Bill Toomey, Rafer Johnson, Milt Campbell, and Al Oerter-- conducted a special motivational seminar for the athletes. These legends shared their personal experiences in informal meetings. The champions stressed the qualities it took to be a success on and off the field. This included effective methods of visualization, goal setting, and relaxation. Members of the USA/ Visa Decathlon Team were also present at the round table discussion.

"Our commitment goes above and beyond publicizing Visa's corporate sponsorship of the Olympics," said John Bennett, senior vice-president of Visa USA. "Our continuing goal is to build public support for the teams and ensure that American athletes receive the best training available to compete in the international arena. Visa's GMA program is an innovative way for us to provide 'hands on' support for our athletes."

At the last Visa GMA program, held in April in Azusa, California, sports science

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AISE HOST FAMILY PROGRAM
Five Week Summer Homestay Program in
Sweden Spain Germany France
Finland Denmark Italy Norway
End of June through July 1992
Fee \$2,505

Eight Week Summer Homestay in
Australia
July 1992 through August 1992
Fee \$3,300

School Year Homestay Program in
Sweden France Switzerland Norway
Finland Denmark Spain Germany
Australia

School Year in Europe
August 1992 through July 1993
\$4,600

School Year in Australia
January 1993 through November 1993
\$4,900

EF FOUNDATION

Payment Schedule
Due within 10 days of receiving the letter of acceptance: \$400

Fall Depart.	Europe	Pacific
Feb. 1	\$1,800	\$2,000
May 1	\$1,800	\$2,000
June 1	Balance	Balance

Language and Culture Camps
We strongly recommend that all students participate in the optional Language and Culture Camp. The fee are as follows:

Country	Length	Price
France	2 weeks	\$745
Germany	2 weeks	\$745
Australia	4 weeks	\$295
New Zealand	4 weeks	\$295

A "Fair" perspective

By Kimberley Winters

The 74th Annual Chattahoochee Valley Fair came into and out of Columbus again. In the blink of an eye, a desolate auditorium parking lot was transformed into a showplace. It offered food, games, food exhibits, livestock exhibitions and rides - - always the rides. The admission was three dollars, but there were discount tickets circling around for two twenty-five. What a bargain!! Many a pay check quickly dissolved into thin air as a result of a visit to the fair.

I visited the fair on opening night. As a writer for the *Silver Star*, I had drawn an assignment-- a student's perspective of the fair. I wasn't allowed to enjoy it like the typical teenager. I had to travel the fair's nooks and crannies in search of a story.

My friends and I were too cheap to pay the dollar parking fee, so we parked at the end of Lumpkin Boulevard. It seemed a good half an hour from the entrance. A breeze moving gently off the Chattahoochee River carried through the night air the sweet scent of cotton candy dissolved with the pungent odor of the livestock stables. Excited, we entered the gate.

I wandered through the various livestock stables in search of the famous Vietnamese Pot Bellied Pig. This particular area tested the dexterity of the most coordinated visitor. Watching my step, holding my nose, and swatting flies in a unified movement was difficult on any level. When I began to turn blue, I realized seeing the pig wasn't as important as my health.

The rides were what beckoned the masses to the fair. I wondered if the fair was conscious of the recession the rest

Senior spotlight: Darron Reed

by Jessica Antley

He is easily detected in a crowd. He seems larger than life. No, he is larger than life. Crowded hallways give way as he passes.

Known by his friends as "Slick," Darron Reed has gained respect as an outstanding athlete. At 6' 2" and 270 pounds, he is an imposing and intimidating figure. He chooses, however, to use his contagious, spirited personality to disarm those wary of his size. Reed's personality follows him to the football field. Coach Pitts, his defensive line coach, admires the athlete's control. "You would think that someone who plays on his level would be over-zealous on the field, would be aggressive to a fault, and would do things to draw attention to himself. He doesn't. He does everything with the same even temperament," said Pitts. Seldom a man of words, Reed leads by example.

Using his size and talent to his advantage, Reed has

become one of the most dominant players on the football team. In fact most coaches agree he has been one of the most dominating in the history of Shaw football. He remembers always playing football. "Football's fun, something to relax your mind," he said. "It takes care of stress. You just work it out by tackling someone." Area coaches know of his talent. Many coaches send two people to block him, but it isn't always enough. One local coach, when asked what he would need to make his team complete promptly answered, "Darron Reed." Defensive coordinator Charles Flowers said, "Darron is a tremendous athlete with great potential. He can play any position on the field if he puts his mind to it."

The layer of muscle that drapes Reed's body comes from hours spent in the weight room. In a recent weightlifting competition at Kendrick High School, he won overall strength honors among the 100 athletes

of the country was facing. There were two new rides at the fair, the Roc and Rol and the Wipeout. The Wipeout was the best ride by far. It brought long lines and long waits and the individuals were lulled out of their senses to the sounds of AC/DC. How many times can a person listen to *Who Made Who* at a ten decible level?

The Wipeout attempted to simulate the feeling a surfer experiences when he rides a wave. Passengers are twisted around and thrown forward and backward. Most surfers, however, do not ride a wave moments after eating a footlong hot dog washed down with a giant 16 ounce RC. Sometimes a good eye and quick reflexes are imperative when riding carnival rides.

One of the most entertaining aspects of Goodings' Million Dollar Midway was the variety of pitches the carnival used to attract people to their games. There was always the ever popular "First try free" or "Hey Blondie" and the ear shattering whistle. Whistles were invariably attempted by the unshaven, oilyheaded, carry with a face that looked like a wild boar. Most of the games they had were rip-offs, especially the game where a quarter is tossed onto a glass plate. The plates have ridges around the edge so that the quarter will bounce off onto the ground. To keep a person playing, the the carry gave the customer his quarter so it could be attempted again. Most individuals spent several dollars before becoming frustrated enough to leave. Winners were treated to a stuffed bear that wasn't soft and cuddly, but hard and lumpy. What could be expected from Taiwan? The fair offered a selection of food. The most widely sought after was the Cullers french fries. Vinegar could be requested. Many remarked how the price of the french fries hadn't changed for as long as they could remember. The price hadn't changed, but the cone holding the fries had shrunk considerably.

The fair is an experience. Rides that turn your stomach, food that dulls the pallet and carries that rob people blind. But what the heck - I think I'll go again next October.



competing. He benched 320 pounds, power cleaned 280 pounds, and squatted 360 pounds. He could have gone farther in some events but stopped after defeating his closest competitor.

Reed's feats in the weight room and prowess on the playing field have not gone unnoticed by local college recruiters. Clemson, Auburn, Mississippi, Middle Tennessee and a host of smaller schools are interested. He dreams of a college education and a chance at the pros.

Fair top 5

by Kathy Morrison

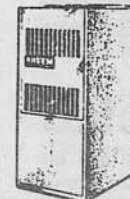
The 74th Chattahoochee Valley Fair has come and gone. Thousands of people walked through its gates, enjoyed its rides, ate its delicious food, and viewed its exhibitions. Visitors overlooked its flaws and absorbed its delights. With apologies to David Letterman, *The Silver Star* has chosen to create "The Best of The Fair List ."

Five Top Smells

1. Cotton candy stuck to the bottom of a pair of \$115 Nike Airs
2. The scent of a seldomly bathed carry running a carnival ride
3. The smell of the restrooms after many quick visits form the riders of the Double Ferris Wheel
4. Pungent vinegar poured over hot fries
5. The smell of the Jersey and Brauma Bull as a quick breeze carries it through the crowd

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Holly Jones receives honor

By Mitzi Petty

Holly Jones, a Shaw High School senior, has been selected the recipient of the 1991-1992 Good Citizen Award, sponsored by the Daughters of the American Revolution.

Holly has been an exceptional student throughout her high school career. As Senior Class president, she has recorded a variety of accomplishments. She has received the National Merit Certificate and most recently has been named the SAIL student of the month. She was selected by her peers as the Most Likely to Succeed and Most Academic. Holly is also a

member of the chorus and editor of the *Silver Star*. For the past three years, she has been honored as the Outstanding English Student in her grade and has been named a Top Ten Scholar.

Mike Regnier, social studies department head, echoed the sentiments of the student body and faculty. "Holly is quite deserving of the award. Her life and work are exemplary. It is an award made for her," he said.

A recipient of the award must be a senior. United States citizenship is not mandatory. In the selection process, the faculty and administration nominate three seniors who best represent

qualities of dependability, service, leadership, and patriotism in the home, school, and community. The Senior Class votes on the final selection. After the selection the nominee must complete an examination that will qualify him or her to compete on a higher level. A transcript and a letter of recommendation must accompany the materials. The nominee must also submit a 500 word essay on the topic "Our American Heritage and My Responsibility to Persevere It." Neatness, legibility, originality, and historical accuracy are judged. This essay must be completed within two hours in the presence of a DAR representative or faculty member.

Apples for the students

by Carol Everton

Continuing until January 25, 1992, Bruno's Incorporated will offer Muscogee County School District students the opportunity to obtain computers for their schools in its "Apples for the Students" program.

Bruno's, headquartered in Columbus, is the parent company of Foodmax Food Stores. Bruno's realized that the students' need for increased technology was coming in direct conflict with an unstable economy. This

program allows schools the opportunity to earn computers that were not within their original budget. President Bush recently presented Bruno's Incorporated with an award for its contribution to education.

The process by which a school gets a computer is simple: students collect register tapes issued from Foodmax Stores between the opening and closing dates of the competition. After depositing the register tapes into a school account, schools may order Apple computer systems, printers,

and other educational tools from the Apples Systems and Educational Tools booklet. There is no limit to the amount. All of the available items have been given register tape values which are listed in the Register Tape Value List.

Shaw's goal for the 1991-1992 competition is to collect 195,000 dollars in cash register receipts. These tapes will be exchanged for an Apple 2GS, one of the more advanced Apple computers.

cont. from pg. 6

NHS members inducted

By Mitzi Petty

Twenty-five new members have been inducted into the Shaw High School chapter of the National Honor Society for the 1991-1992 school year.

Prospective members must meet stringent criteria before being considered for membership. Students must have a grade point average of at least 3.5 and must have four faculty recommendations. Students are also required to fill out applications listing their involvement in extracurricular activities inside and outside the school. The National Honor

Society recognizes and encourages scholarship, leadership, and service as the fundamental virtues of high school students.

Inducted into the local chapter were Seniors Wendy Bland, Monchai Chuaychoo, Anne Curry, Stacy Fouche, Regina Gordy, Mitzi Petty, Sheena Baker, Heather Parton, Alison Grogan, Chris Mastin, Jacine Girling, Matthew Franhsen, Konrad Wiederhold, Shannon Dunn, Angela Collins, Heather Duncan, Tong Kwon, Brian Pippin, Kimberly O'Connor, Amy Kirk, Scott Teixeira, Kibley Parker, Stephanie Owen, and Holly Jones.

experts implemented a series of visual acuity and strength performance tests never conducted before with U.S. decathletes. Results were immediate, and U.S. decathlon's dynamic duo Dan O'Brien and Dave Johnson placed first and second, respectively, at the 1991 U.S.A. Track and Field Championships in June. O'Brien went on to win the gold medal at the 1991 World Championships in Tokyo. His point total of 8834 set a new American record.

Stephens thought the program was a complete success. "My favorite part of the program was listening to the many motivational stories told by the gold med-

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al Olympians in their approach to being successful," he said. He believes that the program was very valuable and plans to apply many of the techniques that he learned to his coaching.