55 HISTORY DAY SCHOLARS DEPART FOR D.C. SATURDAY

SAINT PAUL, MINNESOTA -

A record number of state finalists from Minnesota will depart from the Minneapolis - Saint Paul International Airport bright and early Saturday morning. Two Northwest jets will wing the Gopher State scholars to two different airports in the Washington DC area after they depart the Twin Cities shortly after 7:00 a.m. History Day staff are reportedly unafraid of the early departure and potential for logistical problems. "This is the earliest we have ever left, but I figured, what the heck -- why wait to wear the kids out when you can get them tired and crabby from the very start," commented Mr. History, Minnesota State Coordinator. Putting 75 people on two different planes would seem like a daunting task, but Mr. History seemed to have few concerns. "The trick is to put them in different color t-shirts," he said, "That way you know if you have the right group at the right gate." When asked about this seemingly novel concept, Mr. History explained that, "I learned that trick from my mom. She bought me 'garanimal' clothes when I was kid. All I had to do was match the right color tags and I would never go to school looking like a doofus!"

In addition to these two flights other History Day travelers will make their way to the national contest at the University of Maryland on a variety of planes, trains, automobiles, and CHOF buses. Upon arrival in the Washington area, the Minnesota group will link up at Union Station to begin a whirlwind tour of the nation's capital before heading off to campus. Highlights of the tour will include the White House, the FDR Memorial, the Lincoln Memorial, and a special stop at the location where it is easiest to take a picture of your friend looking like he or she is bigger than the Washington Monument. Temperatures are expected to be in the 80's with tropical humidity, When asked about the heat, Mr. History resounded, "The hotter it is, the better we like it."

STAFF LUG

EXHIBITS & PROPS EN-ROUTE

All exhibits and performance props are currently on their way to College Park, Maryland. To help defray the cost of shipping, History Day Staff rented a mini-van and utilized space in the CHOF History Day bus to transport all over-sized baggage. The CHOF bus left Saint Paul Thursday evening and the mini-van departed Friday midmorning.



Dennis Bluhm packs props into the CHOF bus, Thursday June 6.

IN FUTURE ISSUES:

Have you heard anything on the Grapevine?

CAMPER-GRAMS

News and notes from Students

Mr. History's Traveling Bands Reunited at Railway Food Court

WASHINGTON, D.C.

In an amazing display of logistical largesse the Minnesota History Day delegation reunited on schedule at the food court at Washington DC's Union Station. Five different groups of travelers made their way by land and air to a joyous reunion at the historic depot. There was much feasting as the Minnesotans tried to make up for the meager beverage and chewy bar they received on the plane.

Airplane travelers sailed smoothly through security at the Minneapolis / St. Paul airport as all youth were stripped of metallic objects and nail clippers before going through the metal detectors.



Minnesota's History Day Delegation checked in early Saturday.

Delegation Enjoys A Whirl-Wind D.C. Tour

WASHINTON, DC

After the reunification of Mr. History's traveling bands at Union Station, the entourage boarded two tour busses. Knowledgeable and talented tour guides; Mike, the sax man, and Abe, "I could be the next James Brown," guided the group around our nation's capital on two tour busses.

The White House was the first stop of the tour, and gave the group the opportunity to conduct a symbolic reuniting-of-the-bands ceremony. In a scene reminiscent of the Transcontinental Railroad golden spike ceremony, the various traveling bands reenacted the reunion for a picture op.

Other highlights of the tour included stops at the Jefferson Monument and the FDR Memorial. The group also drove by the Iwo Jima Memorial, Arlington Cemetery and the Pentagon.

See the **Photo Journal** on page 2

See **Travel** continued on page 2.

ALST IN THIS ISSUE:

Washington D.C. Tour Photo Journal I HEARD IT ON THE GRAPEVINE

TRAVEL

continued from page 1

There was some concern that siren-like lure Cinnabons in the oven would distract our travelers and keep them from getting to their gates on time. History Day staff managed to delay the Northwest gate agents long enough to get our sticky-fingered scholars down the jet-way. Even though the Minnesota jet setters achieved the DC area airport trifecta (with arrivals at Dulles, Baltimore, and Reagan National) the ground transportation arrangements worked to perfection. "I'm sure that this is a good omen for the group," said Mr. History, "I'm certain that we will not get stuck out here for a couple of extra days like we did two years ago."

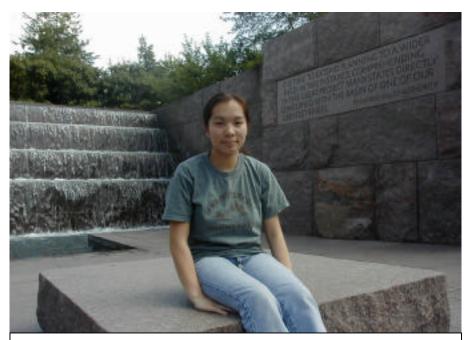
on the grapevine

- Please somebody show Matt Klaber where he can hook his PC laptop into the internet. He is going through withdrawal.
- Who ever is able to help Matt, see James Bluhm next – his inability to connect his Macintosh to the internet is vexing him as well.

Washington D.C. Tour Photo Journal



Lindsay Jans, Kaitie Cochrane and Melissa Brown of Sunrise Park Middle School pose at the FDR Monument.



Pa Houa Lee of Patrick Henry High School at the FDR Monument

Washington D.C. Tour Photo Journal

Continued from page 2



Minnesota's 2002 National History Day Scholars pose in-front of the White House



History Day Entourage minutes after the symbolic reuniting-of-the-Bands ceremony



Now how does this work? Mr. History seems confused

Additional props and exhibits arrive

COLLEGE PARK, MD

Anxious students breathed a sigh of relief as Warren Kaari, longtime South High School History Day teacher, pulled into College Park at 3:30 PM on Sunday afternoon. Although all of the Minnesota delegation was certainly happy to see Warren and his son Steve, who accompanied him on the crosscountry trip, they were noticeably thrilled to see that their props and exhibits arrived intact. Warren and Steve were driving the second ground transport van from St. Paul.



Warren Kaari arrived Sunday afternoon with student props and exhibits

Minnesota's junior scholars make a strong showing in first round

COLLEGE PARK, MD

First-round judging of all junior papers, exhibits, media documentaries, and performances took place during the day on Monday. Twenty six Minnesota students presented fourteen entries in the junior division. Our junior scholars presented topics ranging from Emma Schlatter's paper on Vietnam War draft resistance to Addie Gorlin's individual performance focusing on Sesame Street as a revolution in children's television programming.

The judging process at National History Day is similar to the judging process at school, regional, and state History Day events in Minnesota. Having interacted with judges at these various stages in the program, our students handled the most recent barrage of judge questions with little difficulty. Peter Sarbacker, from CHOF school and a member of a group performance on the Trucker's Strike of 1934, said "although we were a little nervous and the questions seemed a bit more difficult than at previous events, we were well-prepared and had a really good time."

Entries advancing to the final-round from the performance and media documentary categories were posted Monday night at 7:00 PM. Moving on from Minnesota are: Melissa Brown, Kaitlin Cochrane and Lindsay Jans from Sunrise Park Middle School with their group performance entitled "Separate But Not Equal;" and Meredith Pain and Kristen Slungaard from Capitol Hill Magnet School with their group documentary entitled "Tibet: A Nation in Exile." Junior division final-round judging for performance and media documentary will take place Tuesday night.

See **Juniors** continued on page 2.

ALST IN THIS ISSUE:

Controversy with up-coming Room judging

PHUTU JUURNAL

Accusations of widely accepted bribery taint upcoming dorm room judging

COLLEGE PARK, MD

Rumors filled the halls of the third and fourth floors of La Plata Dormitory today as the long-standing tradition of MN room decorating at National History Day drew unwanted attention. Whispers grew to open conversations as students claimed rooms judges were openly soliciting bribes in return for favorable rankings in the room decorating contest to commence late Wednesday night. One Junior Division scholar stated anonymously that "it is my understanding that if we do not pay off the judges with candy and refreshing beverages, we will have no chance at winning any of the prizes."

Room judges, state History Day staffers, released a statement through their attorney late today stating: "We categorically deny all accusations of wrong doing." The meandering incoherent statement went on to suggest that perhaps Wisconsin History Day staffers started the preposterous rumors as an attempt to undermine their Minnesota counterparts credibility. The statement concluded by clarifying that "students may choose to include snacks and beverages as part of their room theme, which most likely will increase their chance of winning by about 95% to 97%, but that these offerings are in no way to be construed as bribes."

Even more troubling perhaps is the fact that this type of corruption has been going on for years. Ex History-Day participant turned state staffer, Alexis Braun, choked back tears as she explained her experience in 1993. "I had spent the better part of the week developing my room theme based on a nineteenth-century farm (modeled after the Oliver H. Kelley Farm, a MHS historic site). I had hay on the walls and I even brought in soil and planted corn in one corner of my room."

Braun was completely crushed when the student across the hall received first place apparently in return for giving each judge a fruit punch juice box and a six Junior Mints. Braun's voice quivered as she recalled how long it took her to tape all that hay to the walls.

Mr History, who typically loves to talk to the media, had no comment except to say the room judging will commence as planned late Wednesday night.

Juniors

Continued from page 1

Advancing entries in the exhibit and paper categories are not announced until the awards ceremony on Thursday morning. Best of luck Capitol Hill and Sunrise Parkthe Minnesota History Day delegation will be watching! Congratulations to all Junior Division entries on a job well done!



Melissa Brown, Kaitlin Cochrane and Lindsay Jans of Sunrise Park Middle School advance to final-round judging in the Junior Performance category

See **Photo Journal** for additional pictures

Photo Journal



Kristen Slungaard and Meredith Pain of Capitol Hill Magnet School advance to final-round judging in the Junior Group Documentary category.



Chaos ensues as final-round schedules are posted in Stamp Union



Kristina Bjorkman trading buttons in Stamp Union



South High and Patrick Henry students in Stamp Union

Chloe Woodward to Represent Minnesota in Senior Division Final Round Judging

COLLEGE PARK, MD

Chloe Woodward's individual performance entitled: "The Woman Rebel: Margaret Sanger, the Law, and the Birth Control Revolution," will represent Minnesota in the senior division final round. Woodward, a sophomore at Southwest High School in Minneapolis, is scheduled to perform for final-round judges on Wednesday at 9:15 AM.

The Minnesota entourage is expected to show up to support Woodward as she competes against thirteen other national-finalist entries.

Although other senior division performances and media documentaries have not moved on to the final round, the participants all performed well and made Minnesota proud. Senior exhibit builders and paper writers will not learn if they have advanced until the awards ceremony on Thursday morning.

Mr. History walks away from near-fatal scooter mishap



Chloe gives the MN History Day thumbsup after learning she advanced to finals

Mr. History's attempt to apply trendy transportation at the national contest nearly turned into tragedy when he was involved in a terrible one-scooter accident on the trail to the Union, behind the football stadium. History Day students had earlier marveled at the turquoise flash as he whizzed by on his gleaming JD Bugg personal scooter. Post-crash investigations determined that driver error was the principal cause. Mr. History failed to secure the foam-padded handles, yet haughtily set out to set a record commute time to the Union.

See Mr. History's Mishap on page 2

ALST IN THIS ISSUE:

- Junior Finalists Hit the Mark
- History Day Photo Journal

I HEARD IT UN THE GRAPEVINE

Mr. History's Mishap

Contiued from page

Reenactment photo

Fortunately, History Day staffers Mollie Igo and Alexis Braun quickly arrived at the scene to pick up the pieces of Mr. History's broken scooter and bruised ego. Other than a minor elbow scrape, the leader of Minnesota History Day escaped without major injury. "Some people think that I wear my moose-antler pith helmet just to satisfy my high need for attention," explained Mr. History, "but it's really there for safety. If I hadn't pinned those big Florida buttons on my hat, my head would have cracked wide open. The National Scooter Safety Administration is now recommending padded moose antlers for all scooter riders.



Mr. History falls into a pile of buttons and despair

As usual, crack History Day staffers Alexis Braun and Mollie Igo were there to pick Mr. History up (after they stopped laughing)

THE GRAPEVINE

- Rumor has it that during a recent outing to the shore, Duane Bluhm scared the rest of the CHOF entourage as he emerged from the Atlantic Ocean with his swimsuit inside-out. Hmmm... not gonna touch that one.
- An unnamed source within Mr. History's inner circle leaked information indicating that we can expect an appearance by the Masked Banana some time Wednesday.
- Minnesota Senator Paul Wellstone is rumored to be anxiously awaiting the arrival of the Minnesota History Day delegation. The visit is scheduled for Wednesday at 1 PM.

Junior finalists competed Tuesday night

COLLEGE PARK, MD

The Sunrise Park Middle School of Melissa trio Brown, Kaitlin Cochrane and Lindsay Jans performed "Separate But Not Equal" for final-round judges and a near-capacity crowd in the Hoff Theater of Stamp Union Tuesday evening. The performers, seemingly unfazed by the large crowd and the various media crews taking video footage, presented flawless performance.

At 7:45 PM Meredith Pain and Kristen Slungaard presented their group media documentary, "Tibet: A Nation in Exile," on the big screen of a large lecture hall in the Art and Sociology building. Final-round judges were joined by a large number of spectators and Minnesota supporters for the screening.

Both groups will learn how they placed Thursday morning at the NHD Awards Ceremony.

National History Day Photo Journal



History Day staffers down-and-out in the bread line at the FDR Memorial



Mackenzie and her mother pose outside of La Plata Hall.

Minnesota History Day Scholars Visit With Senator Paul Wellstone



Minnesota Senator Paul Wellstone talks with South High School student Trevor Hicks as other Minnesota students look on

WASHINGTON D.C.

A delegation of Minnesota History Day students, teachers, staff and parents met with Minnesota Senator Paul Wellstone Wednesday afternoon at his office. Each student interacted with the Senator and had the opportunity to describe their projects and visit his office. Although the meeting did not last long, students enjoyed the opportunity to meet and talk with Senator Wellstone.

ALST IN THIS ISSUE:

- Room Judging Results
 - Floss Abducted!

PHOTO JOURNAL

Life-sized floss costume abducted

COLLEGE PARK, MD

While late-night room judging deliberations were proceeding behind the close doors of Mr History's La Plata suite, history day staffers received word that the life-sized floss costume had been abducted.



Courtney Okerstrom models the floss costume prior to its abduction

History Day Staff received a ransom note indicating that the floss box, an integral part of Minnesota's unorthodox award ceremony procession, would be exchanged for a room-decorating award.

The Floss was eventually returned in time for the Award Ceremony. "It is merely a coincidence that the abductor received the prize for 'best abduction of staff prop," stated Mr. History, "as it is our strict policy to not negotiate with prop-nappers."

Room Judging Results

COLLEGE PARK, MD

Despite the room judging controversy reported earlier this week, Wednesday night's judging went off without a hitch. Participants decorated their rooms with themes ranging from Malibu Barbi to Winter Wonderland. Some rooms even incorporated original songs with lyrics honoring Minnesota's participation in National History Day. "More importantly," stated one judge, "each entry provided some type of bribe for the over-worked judges." Judge bribes include candy, chips, half-eaten pepperoni pizza, and even one billion dollars in pretend money.

Judging did have some mishaps, however. As History Day staffer and room judge Tara Romanov discussed the finer points of the "Room of the Living Dead" with Rose Fricke, Azalea Fricke and Dominique Scheeler, she was hit between the eyes with an air-born piece of saltwater taffy. Although the taffy was intended as a bribe, the judges had no choice but to deduct points for judge abuse. Romanov, who shook off the injury and continued judging, stated: "those kids have to be careful, they can't be pelting judges with candy – I could have lost an eye! I just thank my lucky stars that I was wearing my glasses."

Prizes were awarded in the following categories:

- **Best Theme-Jr. Division:** Hillary Geerde and Courtney Okerstrom *USA Room*
- **Best Theme-Sr. Division:** Chloe Woodward and Katie Bjorkman *Dog Room*
- **Best Theme-Adult Division:** Pam Alsbury and Dorci Cerrato *Fiesta Room*
- **Best Flair:** John and Andrew "Minndiana" (two Indiana scholars adopted by Minnesota) *Nascar Room*
- **Best use of Live Props:** Rose Fricke, Azalea Fricke and Dominique Scheeler *Room of the Living Dead*
- **Best Impersonation of History Day Staff Member:** Matt Klaber and Anderw Kuzma *Mr Pre-History's Room*
- **Best use of Sponge Bob Square Pants:** Addie Gorlin and Mackenzie *Bikini Bottom Room*
- **Best use of Original Song:** Anna Rice and Casey O'Malley *Winter Wonderland*
- **Best Abduction of Staff Prop:** Juliana Kolb *History Day Cabin Room*

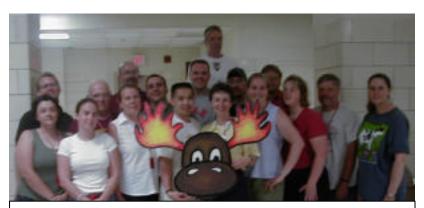
Photo Journal



Banana Dance rehearsal at the Wednesday night meeting



Kristina Bjorkman sings a Minnesota History Day song she co-authored with her sister, Katie. The song was originally intended to be a duet, but Katie fell ill earlier in the week and could only listen as Kristina sang the five versus during the Wednesday night meeting.



Minnesota teachers attending National History Day pose for a picture Wednesday night (Please note: Mooster History is not an actual Classroom teacher)

Woodward performs in finals

COLLEGE PARK, MD

Chloe Woodward perhaps saved her best performance for last as she portrayed Margaret Sanger for finalround judges early Wednesday morning.



Chloe Woodward prepares to begin her performance in finalround judging Wednesday morning

To reach the final round Woodward had to finish first or second in her preliminary judging room. She is joined in the final round by thirteen additional entries advancing from a total of seven preliminary judge rooms. National rankings for the Senior Individual Performance category will be announced at the Thursday-morning award ceremony. Good luck Chloe!

TWO MINNESOTA STUDENTS ARE CROWNED NATIONAL HISTORY DAY CHAMPIONS

COLLEGE PARK, MD

In an awards ceremony today, two young Minnesota historians burst from their seats in the University of Maryland's Cole Field House and crossed the stage as first place award winners at National History Day. In all, 9 Minnesota entries won awards in their categories.

Chloe Woodward, of Southwest High School in Minneapolis, took first place in the senior individual performance category with her entry, "Margaret Sanger: Woman Rebel." In her performance, Chloe portrayed Margaret Sanger's fight to reform laws which restricted women's access to birth control information., Anna Rice of St. Paul Central High School won first place in the senior research paper category with "General Christopher C. Andrews: Leading the Minnesota Forestry Revolution." Anna's paper looked at how C. C. Andrews helped reform Minnesota's forestry laws and conservation practices. Chloe and Anna will each receive medals and a monetary award of \$1000. Chloe and Anna made their way to the stage to the joyous cheers of their fellow sleep deprived Minnesotans. Spirits ran nearly as high as the humidity in the steamy field house.

See Minnesota award winners on page 2



Anna Rice, from Central High School in Saint Paul is the 2002 National Champion in the Senior Research Paper Category



Chloe
Woodward,
pictured here
with her
teacher Bob
Ferguson, is
the 2002
National
Champion in
the Senior
Individual
Performance
Category

1

ALST IN THIS ISSUE:

Minnesota struts their stuff at award ceremony parade

PHOTO JOURNAL

Minnesota award winners

Continued from page 1

Also winning high honors at the national contest were Caitlyn Ngam and Madeline Kreider from Capitol Hill Magnet in St. Paul who earned third place in the Junior Group Exhibit category for their project entitled, "Up in Smoke: The History of Tobacco Reform." Third place was also awarded to Brigitte Friedenson of the Bais Yaacov High School in Minneapolis. Brigitte wrote a senior research paper about the history of aspirin."

Other Minnesota students who placed in the National History Day finals include:

- Adam Nelson and Jonathan Hanson from Fergus Falls High School; fifth place, senior group exhibit: "Radicals of the Midwest: Communism in Otter Tail County." (Outstanding State Entry Award, Senior Division).
- Meredith Pain and Kirsten Slungaard, seventh place, junior group documentary: "Tibet: A Nation in Exile." (Outstanding State Entry Award, Junior Division.)
- Lindsay Jans, Kaitlin Cochrane, and Melissa Brown from Sunrise Park Middle School in White Bear Lake; twelfth place, junior group performance: "Separate but not Equal: Brown vs. the Board of Education."
- Sadie Jelinek, South High School in Minneapolis; fourteenth place, senior individual exhibit: "The Black Panther Party."
- Christa Anderson, Century High School, Rochester; twelfth place, senior individual exhibit: "The Boxer Rebellion."

2002 was also the year of "what could have been" as 8 more Minnesota entries were ranked third in the first round – one place away from the national finals!



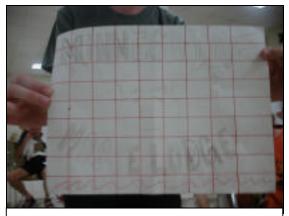
Jonathan Nelson, Kirsten Slungaard, Meredith Pain, Adam Hanson, and "Buffy" bask in the glow of their Outstanding State Entry Awards.

Bananas, floss, and "flippy cards" are part of the NHD awards ceremony parade

COLLEGE PARK, MD

As if a life-size walking floss box, a bigger than life Moose Head and the Masked Banana were not enough to draw attention to the Minnesota delegation at the Awards Ceremony, Mr. History and his staff implemented yet another first at the 2002 national contest. Working through the night on Wednesday the Minnesota delegation, led by a group of determined mothers, created 64 flippy cards for simultaneous display during the award ceremony.

When displayed in the correct order, the sixty-four-piece puzzle pictures a large moose head surrounded by the words "Minnesota Moose Lodge"



A detailed flippy card plan was constructed to guide the development of the actual cards

"Flippy cards are the next frontier in parade prowess," explained Mr. History. "Ever since we were responsible for having floats banned at the award ceremony we have been looking for new ways to make a splash."

See **Parade** continued on page 3

Parade

Continued from page 2

Andrew Kuzma from Mankato West was chosen to be the bearer of the Moose Head, and with his racoon skin cap firmly in place he blazed a trail to the floor of the field house with the rest of the state delegation following close behind. Minnesota merged smoothly into the festive throng as Lindsay Jans organized her letters and let the crowd know that there were gophers in the house. This was

quickly followed by the first appearance of the "Masked Banana" and his feisty bunch of banana dancers. Courtney Okerstrom donned the floss costume and with the help of Jevon Sacarelos spread the word about good dental hygeine to other parade goers. When the students finally made their way to their seats, it was clear that five days of sleep deprivation was about to take its toll. Fortunately, the thrill of victory broke up this latent slumberfest and the Minnesota award winners set enviable speed records from their seats to the stage.



The Masked Banana calls forth his bunch during the awards ceremony parade.





Page 3 of 4

Photo Journal



Minnesota Award Winners – National History Day 2002



Lindsay Jans helps show America that we know how to spell the name of our state



Madeline Kreider and Caitlyn Ngam share the joy of their 3rd place finish with Mr. History and "Buffy" their lucky buffalo.