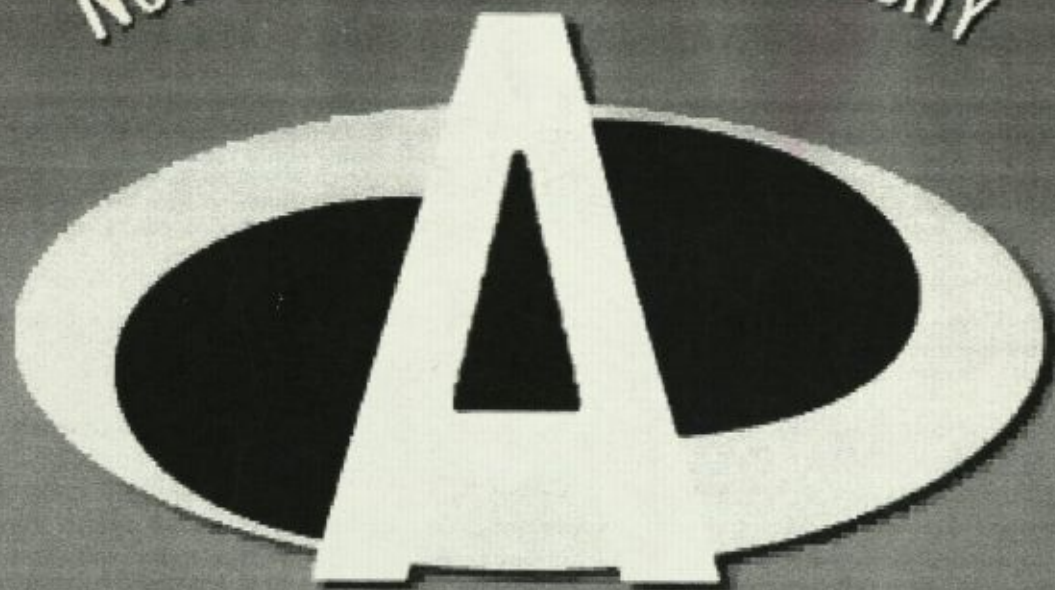


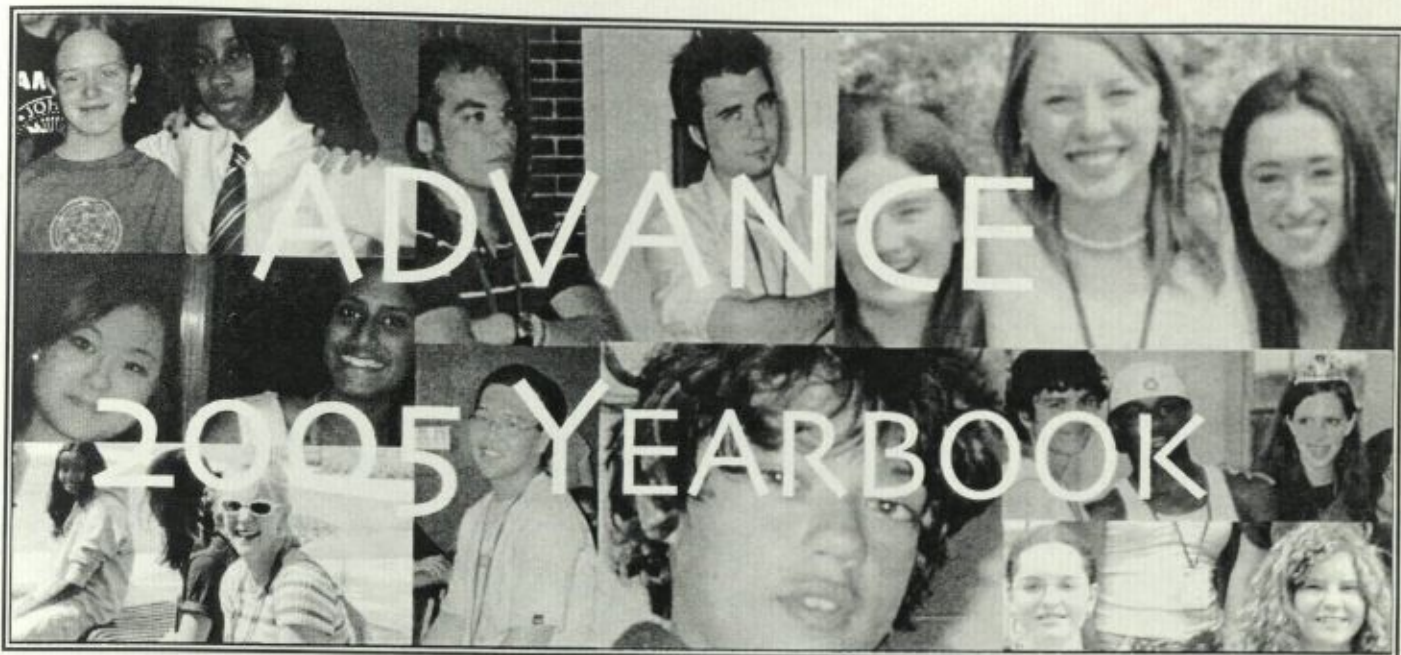
NORTHWESTERN STATE UNIVERSITY



ADVANCE
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2005 YEARBOOK



Design, layout and photography
Elaine Broussard

Photography

Josh Douglas, Devin Drouant and Amanda Vincent

Student identification

Harriette Palmer

Special thanks to:

All students and staff who submitted their snapshots especially Beckah Olinde, Kate Elfer, Rosa Mathai, Harriette Palmer, Amanda Pooler, Versha Sharma, Archana Shingwani and Chris Wendling.

Administration & Faculty

Administration

First row (from left): Janet Darfus, nurse; Harriette Palmer, assistant director; Traci LaBom, counselor.
Second row (from left): Paul Jannise, coordinator of residential life; David Wood, director.



Office workers (from left): Kayla Ellender, Amanda Storrs.



Night security: Josh Storrs.



Faculty - Front row (from left): Ms. Andra Cruse (Geometry), Ms. Begoña Pérez-Mira (Web Design), Dr. Nate Pritts (Film Studies), Mr. Mazhar Jamil (Pre-calculus), Dr. Chris Hynes (Chemistry). *Second row (from left):* Mr. John Travis (Creative Writing), Dr. Rae Osborn (Biology), Mr. Dallas Robertson (Algebra 2).

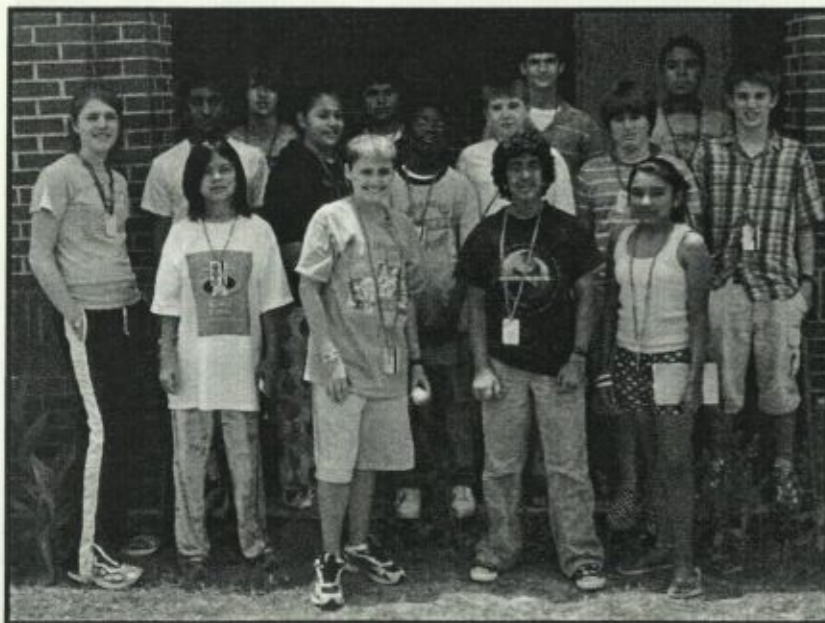


Faculty - Front row (from left): Dr. Ron Pedro (Forensic Science), Mr. Dave Andersen (Computer Science and Lead Instructor), Mr. David Zolzer (VB.NET). *Second row (from left):* Ms. Jo Ann Forrest (Psychology), Ms. Lillian Cutshall (Algebra 1), Ms. Autumn Grant (Anthropology). *Third row:* Ms. Nancy Ellis (Gestes & Quests). *Not pictured:* Ms. Mary Brocato (Journalism), Ms. Shelly Hynes (Physics).

Teaching Assistants & Classes



Teaching assistants - *First row* (from left): Evan Boswell (VB.Net), Adam Koonce (Web Design) Stephanie Yang (Pre-calculus), Stephen Finigan (Geometry) Rebekah Olinde (Algebra 1). *Second row* (from left): Erick Chelette (Gestes & Quests), David Beier (Film Studies), Marie Mahe, (Chemistry), Elaine Broussard (Journalism), Josh Douglas (Psychology), Chris Cordell (Computer Science). *Third row* (from left): Andee Savoy (Algebra 2), Mariam Choudhury (Anthropology), Katie May (Creative Writing), Shane McCully (Physics).



Algebra 1

First row (from left): Daphne Zhang, Thomas Prince, Tommy John, Mariah Arévalo. *Second row* (from left): Beckah Olinde (TA), Vivek Gullapalli, Stephanie Morales, Kodwo Pratt-Panford, Jarrett Albritton, Kirk Graham, James McCurdy. *Third row* (from left): Dakota Davison, V. J. Gandhi, J. P. Luster, David Cely.



Algebra 2

First row (from left): Jo-Ann Deasis, Casey Seifert, Kristin Gauthier, Claire Detweiler, Ajantha Ramachandran, Yogesh Gandhi, Sophie Huang. *Second row* (from left): Charlie Shoup, Max Welinder, Cory Johnson, Hussain Lalani, Jeremiah LaForge, Bijal Patel, Kittu Pannu, Andee Savoy (TA).

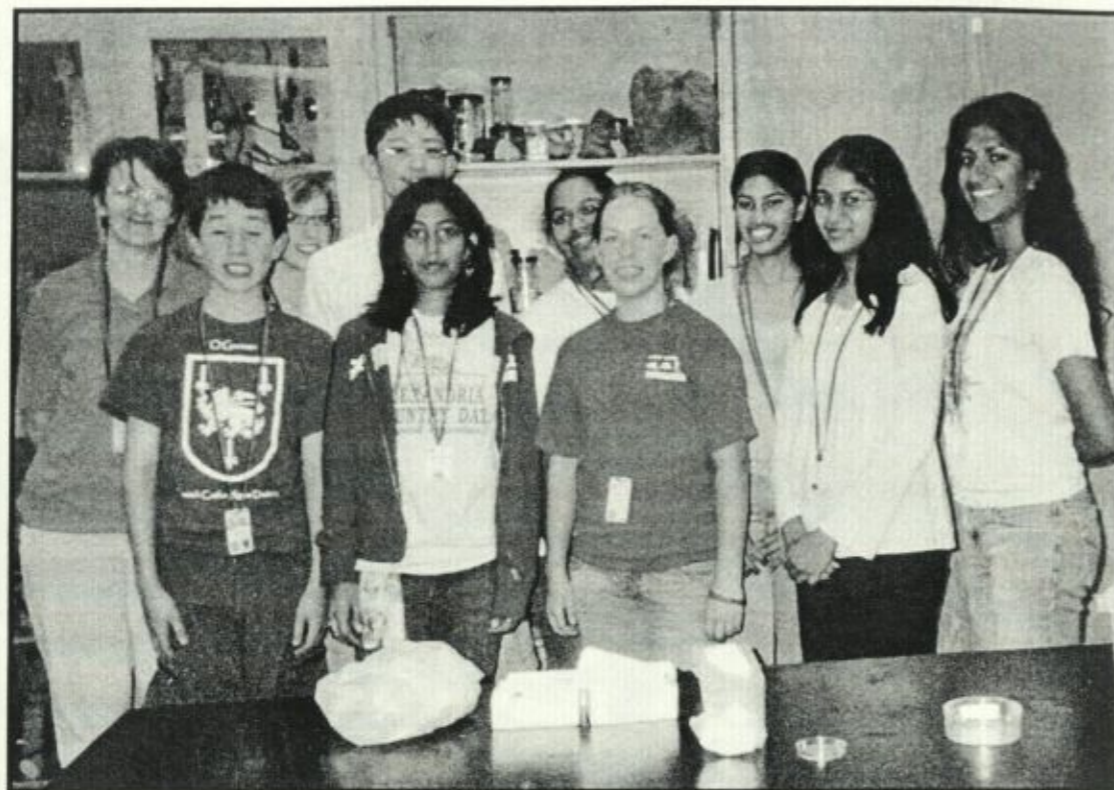


Anthropology

First row (from left): Owen Schwartzbard, Chanel Reinertsen, Emmelyn Leung, Isobel Pribil, Daniel Segrest. *Second row* (from left): Ms. Autumn Grant (instructor), Hannah Garza, Clay Matthews, Brittney Dickerson, Courtney McCune, Melissa Mertz, Caitlin Brown, Mariam Choudhury (TA), Emily Gootee.

Biology

First row (from left): Joe O'Gorman, Jayni Karsan, Rebecca Swan, Sehar Khateeb, Rosa Mathai (TA).
 Second row (from left): Dr. Rae Osborn (instructor), Insun Chong, Maira Qayyum, Laamia Islam.



Computer Science

First row (from left): Mariam Mathai, Allen Wan, David Vu, Luis deAlcuaz. Second row (from left): Uzair Qarni, Matt Turner, Kevin Boos, Wesley Clark, Ashley Bailey. Third row (from left): Chris Cordell (TA), Hoan Cheng, Shao-Bo Li, Erik Istre, Joseph Snow, Brian Ventura.



Chemistry

In front: Sam Fick. First row (from left): Michael Leung, Nick Shah, Jordan Theriot, Liz Roberts, Sharon Shih, Tammy Gudipati, Mariam Molani. Second row (from left): Dr. Chris Hynes (instructor), Jordan Goodman, Marie Maher (TA), Meaghan Hendricks, Charlie Deese, T. J. Phillips, Bo You.



Creative Writing

First row (from left): Sean Tang, Billy Belanger, Danielle Basford, Robin Bowman, Lee Barnett. Second row (from left): Isabelle Jargowsky, Chris Wendling, Adithya Yadalam. Third row (from left): Catherine Ebey, David Bush, Maureen Scott, Katie May (TA), Beau Vidrine, Luke Williams.

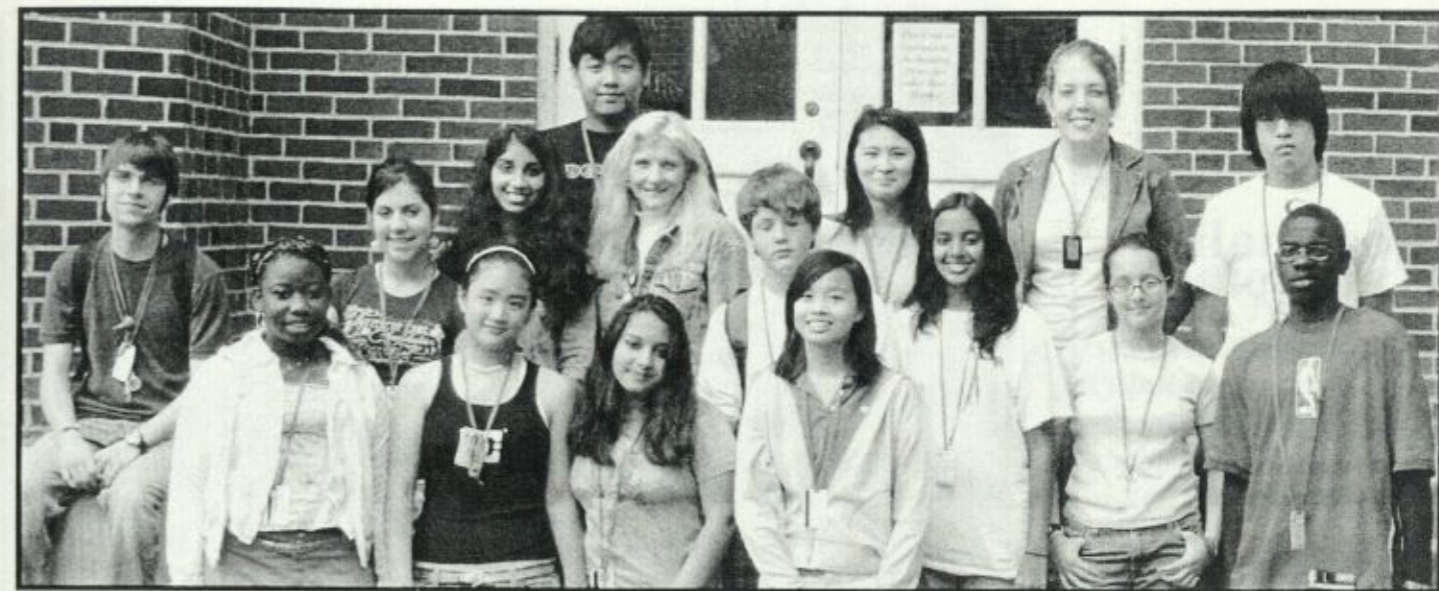


Film Studies

First row (from left): Doug Waguespack, David Beier (TA), Jessica Rash, Molly Chester, Emma Fick, Devin Mullin. *Second row (from left):* Brenna Slowey-Thomas, Katherine Barnett, Max New, Erica Catlett, Kate Fuller, Murphy Temple, Hannah Roberts, Jackson Wimberly, Ashlei McDonald, Naomi Siegmund.

Forensic Science

First row (from left): Christina Greconia, Sunny Li, Andy Cheng, Amanda Marek, Kriti Upadhyay. *Second row (from left):* Josh Callandret, Mark Brink, Christie Duronslet, Joseph Conine, Lacey Sims, Lindsey Luquette. *Third row (from left):* Andrew Holmes, Dylan Henson, Haydel Collins, Mallory Fuller.



Geometry

First row (from left): Andria Buckner, Tiffany Wei, Ayesha Shah, Daisy Fok. *Second row (from left):* Stephen Finigan (TA), Rose Shapiro, Swathi Alla, Ms. Andra Cruse (instructor), Lyle LeBlanc, Rumsha Hafeez, Daniela Rovira, Doven Glover. *Third row (from left):* David Zhang, Cynthia Yeung, Whitney Radosti, Daniel Kim.



Gestes & Quests: Arthur Through the Ages

First row (from left): Sasha Pribil, Elise Prete, Meredith Ventura, Charles Bryan, Jackie New, Vera Herbert, Patrick Johnson. *Second row (from left):* Erick Chelette (TA), Jacob Gautreaux, Heather Royer, Brittany Zeto, Steven Green, Maddie Ferguson, Stephen Levy.

Journalism

From left: Jennifer Shi, Anisha Chandra, Sarah Chan, Jenny Wales, Sara Lowenburg, Elaine Broussard (TA).



Physics

First row (from left): Lauren Riddle, Britney Haydel, Michael Floyd, Koby Wilbanks. Second row (from left): Ryan Stewart, Michael Kopynec, Ms. Shelly Hynes (instructor), Shane McCulley (TA), Brittany Gordon.



Pre-calculus

First row (from left): Ted Zee and Prashanth Mohan. Second row (from left): Kon-Kon Chao, Stephanie Yang (TA), Hunter Chen, Phillip Floyd.



Psychology

First row (from left): Andrew Galatas, Madeleine Arivett, Stephanie Wright, Lynn Truong, Corinne Bachaud, Theresa Bryan, Lizzie O'Gorman. Second row (from left): Kate Elfer, Alexandra Clark, Andrea Rachel, Al Fallick, Michael Lee, Chetan Dargan, Durrán Mitchell, Christen Edens, Josh Douglas (TA).



Visual Basic.net

First row (from left): Kyle Prete, Vinnie Sachdev, Stephen Elfer. Second row (from left): Evan Boswell (TA), Eric Ristroph, Kenny Gray, Evan Cordell, Josh Eyler, Mr. David Zolzer (instructor).



Web Design

First row (from left): Josh Woo, Abhi Mallepalli, Jordan Mathers, Devin Rooney. Standing: Begoña Pérez-Mira (instructor), Sydney Tarkington, Jasmine Holmes. Second row (from left): Ali Denby, Lucia Borrello, Sol-hee Park, Hailey Ard, Vikas Gullapalli, Adam Koonce (TA), Robbie Ehlers.

Residential Adviser Groups



Residential advisers First row (from left): Jesse George, Aaron Williams, Lauren Truxillo, Celia Mangham. Second row (from left): Paolo Naccari, Amanda Vincent, Allyson Neely, Amanda Pooler, Devin Drouant, Chris Bowes. Third row (from left): Jason Stelly, Archana Shingwani, Versha Sharma, Maria Kohls (head RA), Josh "Tiny" Elder, Seth DuBois.



Aaron

First row (from left): David Bush, Hunter Chen, David Vu, Abhi Mallepalli, Beau Vidrine. Second row (from left): Kon-Kon Chao, Kyle Prete, Aaron Williams (RA), Hoan Cheng, Eric Ristroph, Joseph Snow, Wes Clark, Kenny Gray.

Allyson

First row (from left): Meredith Ventura, Sol-hee Park, Jenny Wales, Sophie Huang, Sehar Khateeb. *Second row (from left):* Allyson Neely (RA), Laamia Islam, Maira Qayyum, Lizzie O'Gorman. *Third row (from left):* Kate Fuller, Andrea Rachel, Cynthia Yeung, Swathi Alla.



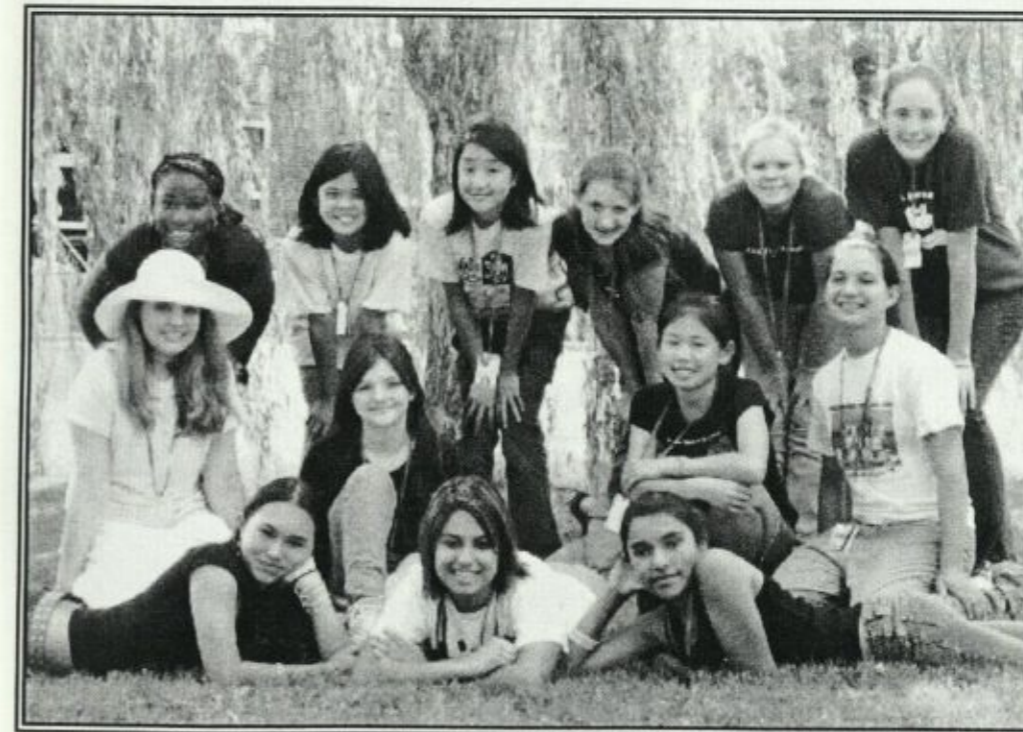
Amanda Vincent

First row (from left): Robin Bowman, Emma Fick, Bijal Patel, Tiffany Wei. *Second row (from left):* Claire Detweiler, Katherine Barnett, Anisha Chandra, Lacey Sims. *Third row (from left):* Naomi Siegmund, Ashlei McDonald, Amanda Vincent (RA), Stephanie Morales, Kriti Upadhyay.



Archana

First row (from left): Chanel Reinertsen, Archana Shingwani (RA), Maria Arévalo. *Second row (from left):* Isobel Pribil, Lucia Borrello, Sunny Li, Lindsey Luquette. *Third row (from left):* Andria Buckner, Daphne Zhang, Sarah Chan, Brittney Dickerson, Brenna Slowey-Thomas, Sydney Tarkington.



Amanda Pooler

First row (from left): Sasha Pribil, Sara Lowenburg, Daniela Rovira, Stephanie Wright, Corinne Bachaud, Kristin Gauthier. *Second row (from left):* Jayni Karsan, Jo-Ann Deasis, Amanda Pooler (RA), Emily Gootee, Christie Duronslet, Casey Seifert. *Third row (from left):* Melissa Mertz, Whitney Radosti, Jordan Goodman.





Celia

First row (from left): Ajantha Ramachandran, Courtney McCune, Molly Chester, Tammy Gudipati, Meaghan Hendricks, Heather Royer, Catherine Ebey, Jackie New, Isabelle Jargowsky. *Second row (from left):* Alexandra Clark, Vera Herbert, Celia Mangham (RA), Jessica Rash, Madeleine Arivett.



Devin

First row (from left): Vivek Gullapalli, Adithya Yadalam. *Second row (from left):* Kodwo Pratt-Panford, Yogesh Gandhi, Andy Cheng, Nick Shah. *Third row (from left):* Evan Cordell, Steven Green, Devin Drouant (RA), Haydel Collins, Robbie Ehlers, Jeremiah LaForge, Dylan Henson.

Chris

First row (from left): Devin Rooney, Daniel Kim, Michael Leung, Charlie Shoup. *Second row (from left):* Vikas Gullapalli, Vinnie Sachdev, Jacob Gautreaux, Devin Mullin. *Third row (from left):* Brian Ventura, Matt Turner, Chris Bowes (RA), Uzair Qarni, Durrán Mitchell.



Jason

First row (from left): Andrew Galatas, Kirk Graham, James McCurdy, Tommy John, Jarrett Albritton, David Cely. *Second row (from left):* Jason Stelly (RA), Charles Bryan, Andrew Holmes, Dakota Davison, Al Fallick, V. J. Gandhi, Jackson Wimberly.



Jesse

First row (from left): Josh Woo, Mark Brink, Lee Barnett, Lynn Truong. *Second row (from left):* Erik Istre, Jesse George (RA), Max New, Michael Lee, Stephen Elfer. *Third row (from left):* Prashanth Mohan, Josh Callandret, Max Welinder, Owen Schwartzbard.



Maria

First row (from left): Hannah Garza, Lauren Riddle, Maureen Scott, Hailey Ard, Maria Kohls (RA). *Second row (from left):* Christina Greconia, Caitlin Brown, Brittany Gordon, Chris Wendling, Jordan Theriot, Liz Roberts, Britney Haydel.



Lauren

First row (from left): Jasmine Holmes, Lauren Truxillo (RA). *Second row (from left):* Amanda Marek, Ayesha Shah, Rebecca Swan, Emmelyn Leung. *Third row (from left):* Rumsha Hafeez, Hannah Roberts, Daisy Fok, Jennifer Shi, Erica Catlett. *Fourth row (from left):* Ali Denby, Mallory Fuller, Elise Prete, Christen Edens.



Paolo

First row (from left): Jordan Mathers, Patrick Johnson, Thomas Prince. *Second row (from left):* Paolo Naccari (RA), Clay Matthews, Hussain Lalani, Joseph Conine, Lyle LeBlanc, Luis deAlcuaz. *Third row (from left):* Stephen Levy, J. P. Luster, Doven Glover.



Seth

First row (from left): Daniel Segrest, Sam Fick, Michael Floyd. Second row (from left): Kevin Boos, Doug Waguespack, Seth DuBois (RA), Shao-Bo Li. Third row (from left): Josh Eyler, Luke Williams, Michael Kopynec, T. J. Phillips, Allen Wan.

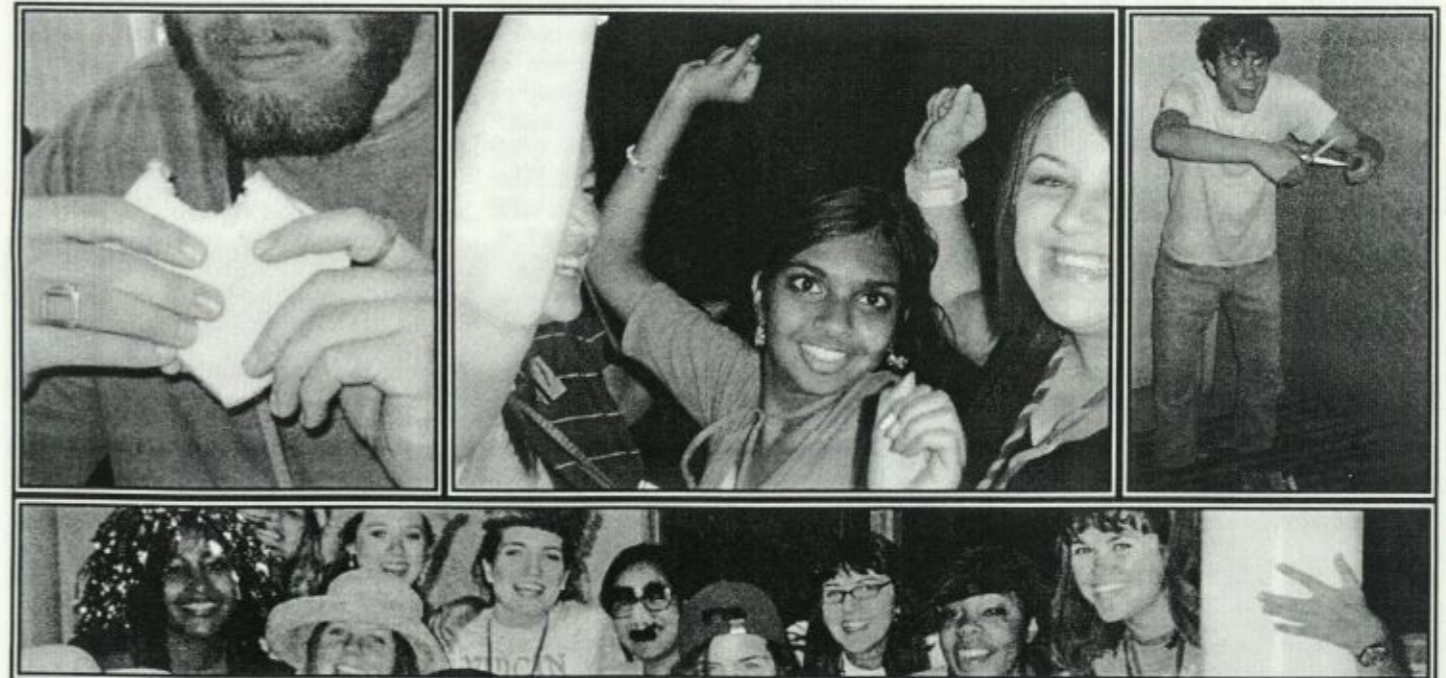
Tiny

First row (from left): Phillip Floyd, Chetan Dargan, Joe O'Gorman, Ted Zee, David Zhang. Second row (from left): Ryan Stewart, Billy Belanger, Kittu Pannu, Insun Chong, Josh "Tiny" Elder (RA), Bo You, Cory Johnson, Sean Tang.



Versha

First row (from left): Ashley Bailey, Maddie Ferguson, Versha Sharma (RA). Second row (from left): Koby Wilbanks, Rose Shapiro. Coming down from top of steps: Charlie Deese, Danielle Basford, Mariam Molani, Rachel Marcotte, Sharon Shih, Mariam Mathai, Kate Elfer, Brittany Zeto, Murphy Temple, Theresa "Tash" Bryan.



Kicking it up a Notch

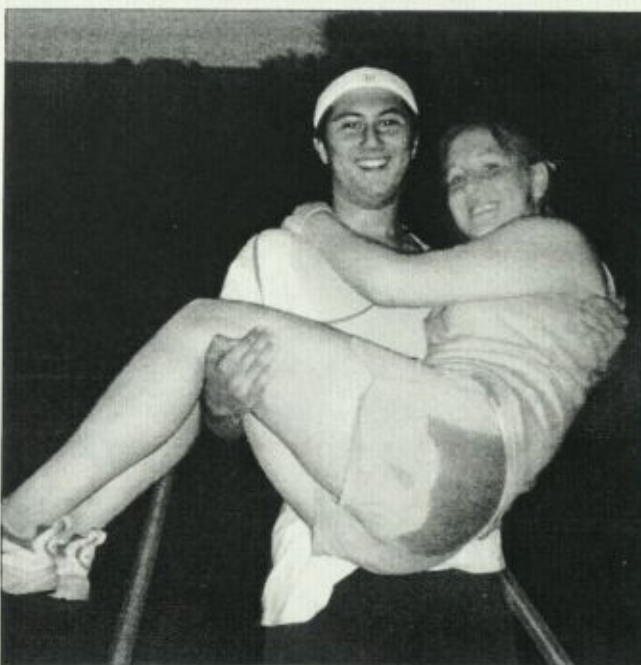
Students play hard at sports activities

By Jenny Wales
Journalism Student

White posters cover the windows in the main lobby, advertising the nightly activities in big, neon colored letters. Whether it is emo day or zombie day, the posters are always calling to students, trying to catch their attention and entice them to sign up.

One poster describes a hardcore, testosterone-fueled dodgeball game, complete with an illustration of a boy's head getting knocked off by a red rubber ball. Another one, made by Tiny himself, tells a gruesome story of two brothers named Ping and Pong, and their tragic fates. But some posters, although they are not very eye-catching, attract most of the athletic students at ADVANCE.

This year, ADVANCE featured many activities that ranged from slurping granitas at PJs to getting enveloped in shaving cream at the kindergarten games. But



some of the most popular activities were sports.

At ADVANCE, students could participate in running, dodgeball, soccer, Capture the Flag, tennis, Ultimate Frisbee, basketball, volleyball and more.

"ADVANCE is a more academic environment, so playing sports gives students a chance to get out," said Traci LaBom, the counselor at ADVANCE.

Early each morning, about five students gathered in the lobby to go running. Running was the earliest activity at ADVANCE.

"I go running to stay in shape," said Swathi Alla, a tenth grade geometry student. "It is very relaxing in the morning."

Dodgeball, also known as deathball, often attracted over 50 students.

Although the games were intense, more and more students participated each time it was offered.

"I get satisfaction out of hitting other people," joked Matt Turner, a tenth grade student in computer science class.

Students at ADVANCE also had the opportunity to kick around a soccer ball in indoor or outdoor futbol. The games included about 30 players and were always exciting.

"We try to offer a variety of sports- indoor, outdoor," said Harriette Palmer, the assistant director of ADVANCE.

She also said that even if some students do not play sports at their schools, they could come to ADVANCE and feel comfortable playing



any sport, even if they are not good.

"It's all about having a good time," said Jennifer Shi, a ninth grade journalism student.

Capture the Flag was the most popular Saturday activity. More than 60 students participated in the race to get the other team's flag. Sophie Huang, a ninth grade Algebra 2 student, said, "It was really fun because a lot of people were playing."

Tennis was an activity for the serious players who brought their own racquets.

"It's a mental game," said Andy Cheng, a ninth grade forensic science student. "You have to come up with strategies." Many students played to be with their friends, but also met new people in the process.

Ultimate Frisbee was one of the sports at ADVANCE with a rocky beginning.

Early on in the program, it was cancelled because not enough people signed up or it rained. But, nonetheless, it was exciting when it didn't get cut. Ultimate Frisbee averaged about 20 people per game.

"It is really fun and is good exercise," said James McCurdy, an eighth grade Algebra 1 student.

Basketball and volleyball were two of the less crowded, but high energy and entertaining sports at ADVANCE.

"After being cooped up in a classroom for seven hours, it's nice to be active and have a good time," said Versha Sharma, an RA at ADVANCE. "For a

lot of kids, it's a good outlet for their energy."

It's a tough job...

and they loved doing it

RA's, TAs and Paul speak about ADVANCE joy

By Sarah Chan
Journalism Student



"Being a RA is kind of stressful, but the kids make it soooooo much fun," said first year RA Archana Shingwani.

RA's help the students at ADVANCE. They live in Caddo Hall with the students, too. They make sure the students are comfortable and plan activities that are fun. They also make sure all the students sign in and out and that they go to their designated locations.

Why did the RA's decide to be RA's in the first place?

"I wanted to become an RA because I attended ADVANCE when I was younger, and I had the greatest RA so I decided to come," said Archana.

Second year RA Lauren Truxillo, also known as Trux, said, "I came back for the second year because of the kids and because I used to come to ADVANCE and I really enjoyed it so, I want the kids here now to enjoy it as much as I did."

RA Jason Stelly came for his third year because he loves the students, and he has a lot of fun. "Mrs. Harriette influenced me," he said "And after my first year I really enjoyed it."

While RA's are resident advisers, TAs are teaching assistants. They help the



"The students are great here, and the camp is so active and challenging."
- EJ Chelette, TA

teachers instruct the class and help the students with their work. They also teach sometimes.

"I like my class a lot because the students in it have so much creativity," said EJ Chelette of his class Gestes and Quests. This was EJ's first year working at ADVANCE, and he has enjoyed it.

"The students are great here, and the camp is so active and challenging," he said.

EJ is not the only one who liked his class, because Chris Cordell, TA of the computer science class, also had an opinion.

"My class is awesome because they are different. There's like some that worry so much about their work and grades, some that don't even

care, and some who do their work and then goof off," he said.

This was Chris' first year being a TA, but in the past, he was a RA.

"I don't like it when my students worry way too much about their grades," Chris said.

What does Chris think of ADVANCE? "It's a great program because it gives the students a really good and rare opportunity," he said.

Coordinator of Residential Life, Paul Jannise, is in charge of making sure the dorms are clean and how well the RAs are monitoring the students. As coordinator of residential life, Paul also ordered pizza for the students each night.

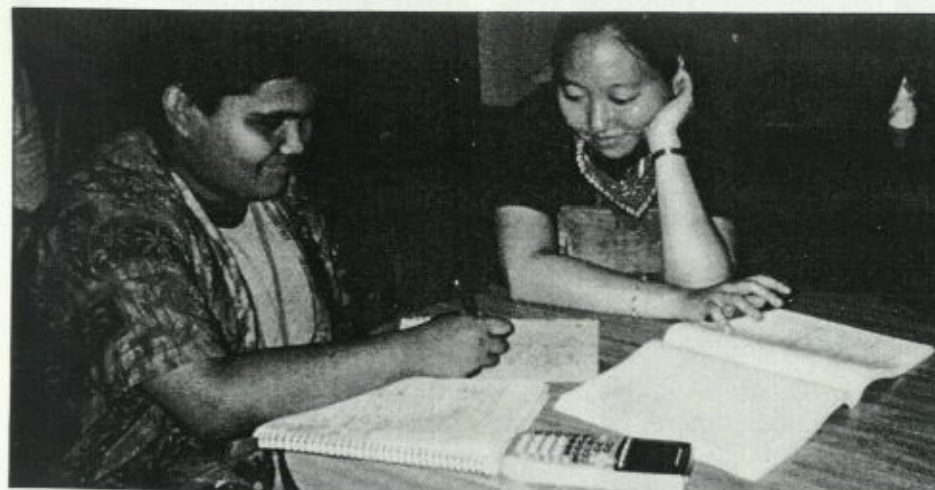
This was Paul's first year as the coordinator and he liked it, but he thought it was a kind of difficult job.

"Being the head of residential life is harder than an RA because I have more responsibilities and more solutions that need to be made," said Paul.

Paul enjoys ADVANCE and hopes to come back next year with the same position.

Even though he loved his job, there are some things he disliked.

"It's so unpredictable because you never know what might happen. Like, Domino's Pizza, they never seem to get the orders right," he said.



Stayin' active

Every afternoon as the school day ends, students get out and have fun with friends

By Jennifer Shi
Journalism student

All work and no play makes for a very dull day, which is why coordinators of the ADVANCE program mixed both work and play for students.

After classes ended for the day, a frenzy of ADVANCE students would rush down the stairs from their dorm rooms to experience one of many activities offered in free time. These activities included sports, arts and crafts, trips, games, movies, contests, and many others.

Signs advertising these events covered the walls of the lobby, and sign-up sheets lay on tables in the middle of the room. Students crowded around the tables scrambling to sign up for the activities they wanted.

"It's like a war zone because some activities have only a limited number of spots, and people are fighting for them," said Jenny Wales, a tenth grade journalism student.

One of the most popular activities was hanging out in the Student Activities Center or the lobby, where pool, foosball, and ping-pong were popular games. Hannah Roberts, a ninth grader in film studies, said that she enjoyed watching and talking to friends in the lobby.

Almost every day, there was an activity to go to PJ's, a nearby coffee shop. This was also a popular activity because many students could not wait for an opportunity get a cup o' Joe to wake themselves up.

"PJ's is packed," said Ajantha

Ramachadran, a tenth grader in Algebra 2.

Most days, at least one movie was shown for the students. Movies shown included *Finding Neverland*, *Big Fish*, *Hook*, *Edward Scissorhands*, *Little Shop of Horrors*, *Pirates of the Caribbean*, *Monty Python and the Holy Grail*, and *Phantom of the Opera*.

Arts and crafts activities gave students a chance to socialize with others while expressing their creativity. Popular craft activities were bracelet making, T-shirt painting, tie-dye, beading, sock puppets, duct tape, and clay sculpting.

A very entertaining activity was the RA/TA look-alike-contest where students chose an RA or TA to dress like, walk like, and talk like. They were also asked questions about the person they chose. Other popular activities were Dance Dance Revolution, eating at Magee's, board games, costume bowling, improvisation, swimming, and dance lessons.

Since students attended only three hours of class on Saturdays, more time was given for Saturday afternoon activities. A popular Saturday venture was Front Street, a street by the Cane River in downtown Natchitoches. The ADVANCE students who walked to Front Street shopped at the stores along the street, rode on pedal boats, ate ice cream and smoothies, and took pictures of the beautiful scenery surrounding the river.

On Sundays, there was no class at all, and students could sleep in for the morning. For the afternoon, students could sign up for two different activities. Trips to the movie theater were offered every Saturday

and Sunday. Students watched *Star Wars: Revenge of the Sith*, *Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants*, and *Batman Begins*.

Though a variety of activities were offered, some students preferred to stay in the dorm. Algebra 2 student Sophie Huang said she and her friends liked to pig out in her room.

"We do that too much," she said.

Rebecca Swan, a ninth grader in biology, said she talked to friends during her free time. Also, a good number of students used free time to study for important tests or quizzes the next day.

Some students liked to try a different kind of activity every day, like eighth grade anthropology student Clay Mathews.

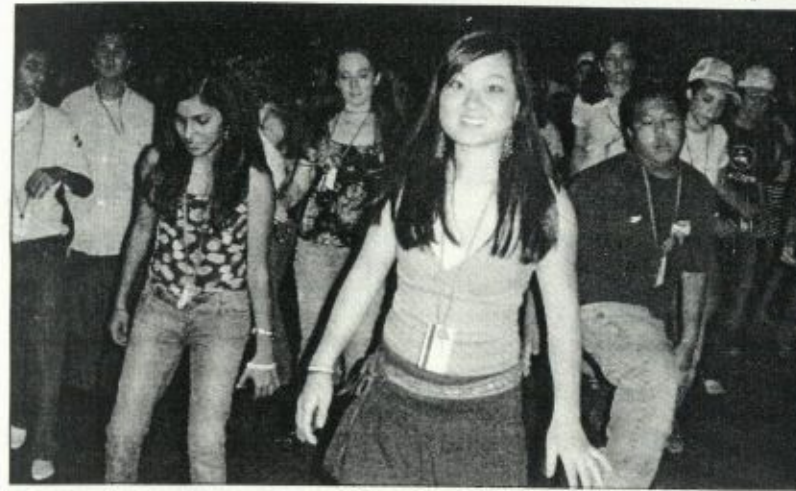
"I enjoy doing everything," he said.

The activities were planned by the resident advisers, who met every morning to discuss which activities to include. RA Lauren Truxillo said they try to have activities for all different kinds of students.

"We always try to give enough options," she said.



Saturday Night Fever



Rows of shoes line the floor as students and staff break it down

most of his time in the SAC.

"I hung out in the SAC most of the time because the music sucked, and I was a little tired. I still had a good time, though," Dargon said.

Some students did not go to the second dance. Yogesh Gandhi, a ninth grader in Algebra II, said he didn't go again because at the first dance, he got bored and didn't dance that much.

Gandhi considers himself a wallflower at dances. Even if they played his kind of music, he still wouldn't have danced to any of the songs, he said.

"I hate dancing. I like rap and hip-hop, but I wouldn't have danced to it if it was played. I only dance and when I have to and for cultural occasions," Gandhi said.

Stephanie Yang, the TA for pre-calculus, was the disc jockey for the dances. She explained how she selected the music.

"I'm not in touch with what you young folk listen to these days, so I do Google searches, look at top music charts, and get a lot of suggestions from other RAs and TAs," Yang said, "The music has to be clean and danceable."

When students requested songs, the music had to meet Yang's requirements or they didn't make the cut.

"I do requests, but the music has to fit the criteria which is it has to be danceable and clean. Like I get requests for Coldplay, but that's not danceable," Yang said.

Paul Jannise, the head RA of Caddo Hall, said, "The main reason why the dances are held is to help the students' take their minds off the intense workload."

Emmelyn Leung, a ninth grader in anthropology, said, "I like the dances because we don't have to worry about school and work for some time."

David Wood, the director of ADVANCE, said, "The program's goal is to provide students courses they can get credit for but also create an atmosphere where they can socialize with other kinds of people."

By Anisha Chandra
Journalism student

Almost anyone who has ever gone to a school dance can tell you about all those awkward moments.

The wallflowers wander alone gulping punch and munching food, and there are others who can't care less if they make a fool of themselves when they break it down in the middle of the dance floor.

The students at ADVANCE are familiar with these situations.

The ADVANCE program held dances for the students each weekend at the LSMSA gym or the Northwestern State University ballroom.

Students who didn't choose to come to the dances watched movies at the LSMSA auditorium.

Jeremiah LaForge, a tenth grader in Algebra II, went to the first two dances and said he enjoyed both of them.

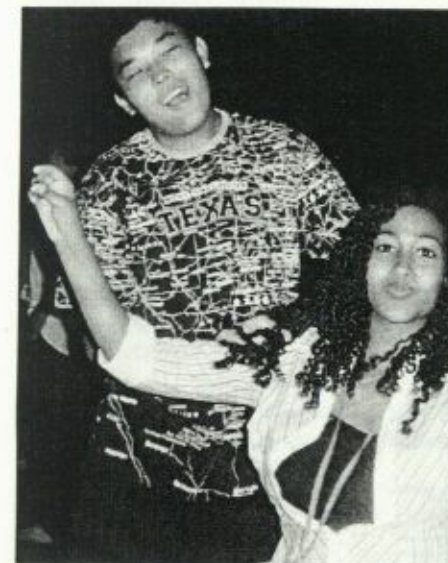
LaForge said, "I was hyper, and I knew who to be hyper with."

LaForge considers himself as an outgoing person who likes to have fun whenever he has the chance.

"I don't care if people watch me dance or if I make a fool of myself because I don't care what people think of me. If I wasn't an outgoing person, then I would be extremely boring," LaForge said.

If students got bored with the songs at the dance or got tired and wanted to relax, students usually retreated to the student activity center (SAC) if the dance was held at the gym.

Chetan Dargon, a tenth grader in psychology, went to the first two dances and said it wasn't what he expected. He spent



All colors of the Rainbow

Students at ADVANCE welcome one another with open arms regardless of race, background

By Sara Lowenburg
Journalism student

If someone walked into Caddo Hall this summer, he or she was greeted by students of all colors, some wearing flamboyant clothes with extravagant designs, others remaining reserved.

The students were there to learn, but not just in the classes they were taking. They also learned from each other. They learned about cultures and places and types of people. They also learned how to get along with each other, despite their differences.

ADVANCE 2005 had many different types of people. There were 195 people who checked off their ethnicity on the application. Of those people, there were 94 males and 102 females. There were 12 blacks, making up 6.12 percent of the

students. Hispanics made up 3.06 percent of the students, and there was one Native American. Fifty-eight people checked off that they were Asian or Pacific Islander, making 28.59 percent, and one person checked "other". There were 117 Caucasians, making 59.69 percent.

The Assistant Director at ADVANCE, Harriette Palmer, said she thinks that the diversity enhances the experience for the students. She said ADVANCE usually has students from all ethnic and religious backgrounds, and many students haven't been exposed to so many different types of people.

Traci LaBom, the ADVANCE counselor, said it is good for students to come here and learn about different cultures. She thinks the diversity challenges students and leads to social growth and development.

"You can pick up a textbook and learn about students from India," she said, "Whereas here, you can interact with them and share cultural experiences."

David Wood, the director of ADVANCE, said the staff encourages the students to go out and meet the other people at ADVANCE. He said that once

the students make friends with the other students in their RA group, they tend to seek other friends outside of their RA groups and classes and are able to meet many different types of people. The ADVANCE staff also encourages people to sign up for evening activities because it is a good way to meet people.

Students at ADVANCE agreed that they liked the diversity, both ethnically and socially.

"There is no prejudice because everybody is different, and we all just get along," said Christie Duronslet, a forensic science student.

Dylan Henson, a forensic science student, said he didn't treat anyone differently because of his or her skin color or backgrounds.

"I don't care what color or class people are," he said.

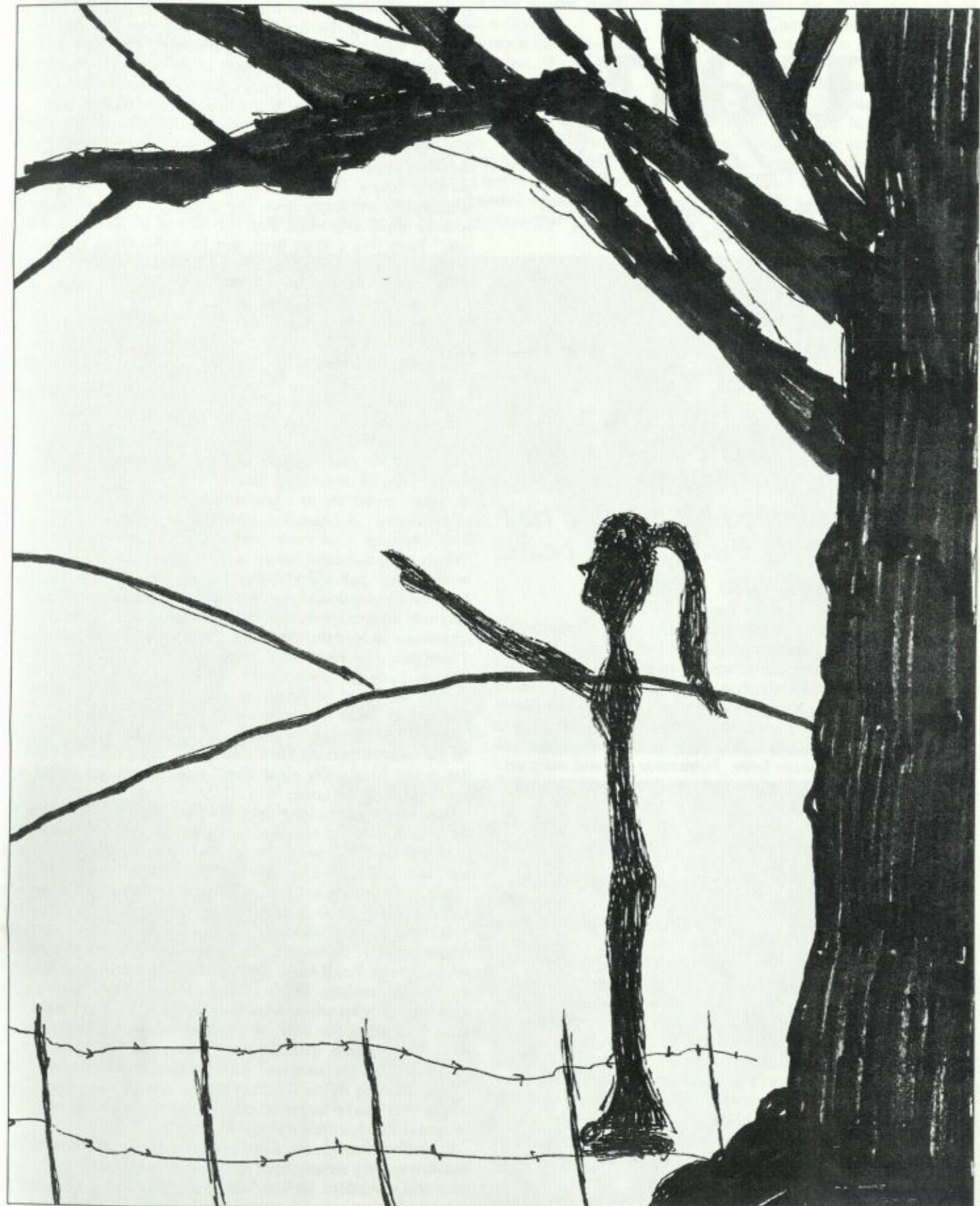
Lizzi O'Gorman, a psychology student, said students could be themselves at ADVANCE. She thinks there were more students who acted as individuals than students who just tried to blend in.

Emma Fick, a film studies student, said the diversity at ADVANCE makes her feel more welcome.

"It's not divided," she said, "its just all one blended culture."

"I don't care what color or class people are."

- Dylan Henson,
forensic science student



By Meredith Ventura, Gestes and Quests student

Juan & Love

By Beau Vidrine
Creative Writing Student

There lived, in a small shack by the sea, an old fisherman named Juan. Juan was a lonely old man who never had a wife. One day, Juan heard that Love herself had come to the beach, and he decided to pay Her a visit. Juan washed the fish smell off, combed his grizzled hair, ran his fingers through his beard, and set out to find Love.

Juan walked for a little while and met Compassion. Compassion was a beautiful young child with blonde hair and bright blue eyes. Compassion smiled sweetly up at Juan and said, "Before you find Love, you must first know Compassion. Remember, you must always help others. When you genuinely care for others, you are exercising my power. Even small acts of kindness can have great resonance with others. You must know me before you ever know Love. Remember this and carry on." Juan nodded and said that he would and thank you very much for the advice. He continued.

He walked for a short distance until he met an old man. The old man had grey hair, a grey beard, and grey eyes. In his eyes, the old man held boundless wisdom. When he spoke, a deep, resonant bass gave him voice, "You've met Compassion. I am Wisdom. You must know me as well before you know Love. You

"Even small acts of kindness can have great resonance with others."

must understand that Love is fickle. There will be good times of shining happiness and dark times of heartbreak. Know that love never dies, but it can be hurt by foolish, thoughtless acts. Profound pain in loss must be countered with the calming embrace of a lover's arms. Wisdom is a must to Love, for it is when you are possessed of true wisdom and maturity that relationships last. Keep going on your journey and I hope that you find Love." Juan listened intently and nodded his head. "Thank you, Wisdom. For everything," he replied and resumed his journey.

Juan walked for a long time and in his path sat two young men. They were identical in every way, from their black hair to their brown eyes to their ebony skin. When they spoke, each one

anticipated the previous one's words. It was odd, but Juan was able to keep up. He smiled at the two men and they spoke. "You've met Compassion and Wisdom. I'm Trust and I'm Acceptance. You must know each of us before you know Love. Love is very close to us. We are joined at the hip, so to speak" Trust and Acceptance each laughed. "Really though, both of us must be a part of any relationship. Love is jealous; Trust must be a part of your relationship. Also, you won't like everything about the other person in a relationship, but you must accept the other person's faults. Therefore, Acceptance is vital to any personal relationship you might have. The next two people you meet will be even more important than the two of us. Continue and be safe." Juan was getting tired, but he still smiled. His old feet began to hurt, but he nodded his head and pressed on, thanking Trust and Acceptance for their advice.

Juan walked for a little while until he came to a clear blue stream. He stopped for a drink. A young woman promptly joined him. She had a jovial face, bright eyes that sparkled with merriment, and dimpled cheeks whenever she smiled. She giggled and began to speak, "I'm Friendship. I was supposed to be the first person you met, but I was helping a friend. Sorry." She laughed again. "I hope you will forgive me. But, listen up. Like must come before Love. You have to be friends with someone before you can love them. Also, I can sit here all day and tell you that I love you, but Talk is cheap. Thankfully, you don't have to meet her. I'm sorry; I'm rambling. Anyway, actions speak much louder than words. You must show someone you love them by doing things for them. The hugs and 'I love you's are nice, but they mean nothing. They alone aren't enough. I hope that you find Love, Juan. Give me a hug!" Juan smiled at Friendship as he embraced her. "Thank you, Friendship. I will remember what you said." He kept walking. "O wait! The next person you meet," Friendship called after him, "is the most important. He is also very...dour. Listen to what he has to say. He's really great! Bye!" Juan waved and smiled and kept searching for Love.

Juan walked for a long time. He passed an old blind man by the side of the road who had no legs and one arm. He was covered with a thin, scanty blanket and looked pitiful. Juan's soft old heart was moved with pity for him and he bent to help him. "Truly, you are a good man to help an old cripple like me. My name is Sacrifice. No relationship can last without me." Sacrifice was blind, but he looked right at Juan while he spoke. Juan was frightened, but he listened. "In love and life, you won't always get your way. You'll make choices, do things, make sacrifices for the people you love. That's where I come in. You'll have to give up a little of what you want so that love can last. You'll never get your way all of the time. Most relationships fail because they have forgotten me. Remember me when you find Love, Juan. I hope that you see her soon." Juan nodded at this poor old wise man, beaten by the world. Juan began to walk away, but before he got very far, he turned to offer Sacrifice some more help, but he found that Sacrifice was not there.

Traveling through the woods, Juan came upon a house. The house was very simple: built from a dark wood with white curtains and a red door. He knocked on the door and an old woman answered.

"So, you've come to me at last, Juan. I am Love," the old

woman said.

"You're Love?" Juan asked. He was puzzled and massively disappointed, but he masked his emotions.

"Yes, I am. Not quite what you expected? Yes, Love isn't very pretty. I can be jealous, fickle, spiteful, and sometimes, downright mean. You do things that you would never otherwise do when you're in love. Do you still wish to know me?" Love asked Juan.

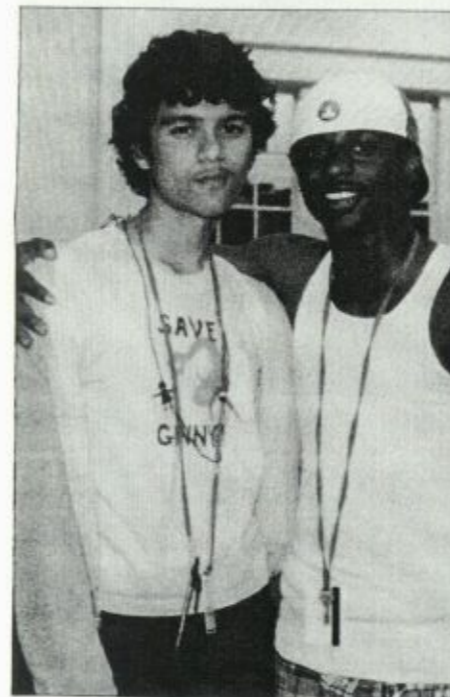
He paused for a moment before

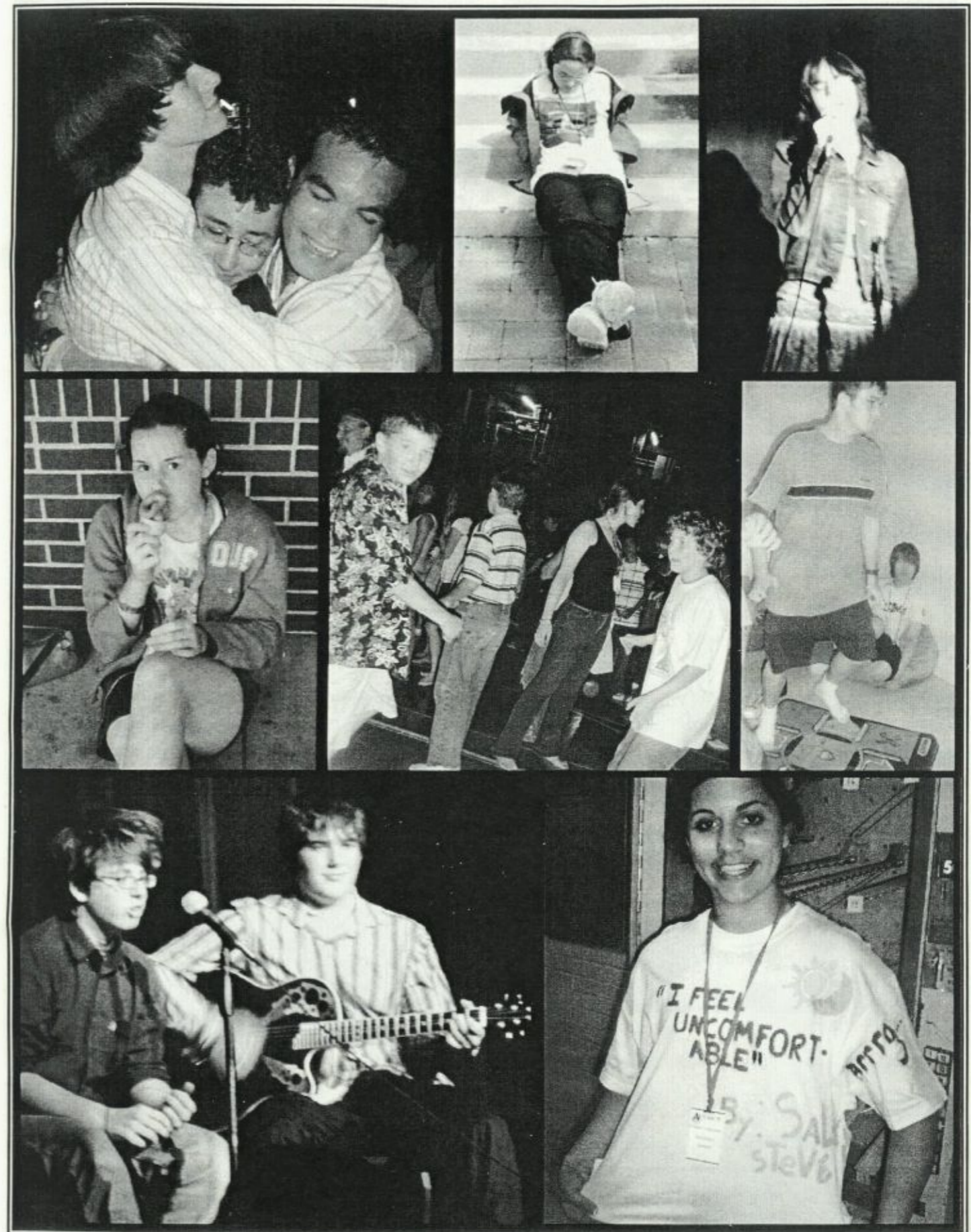
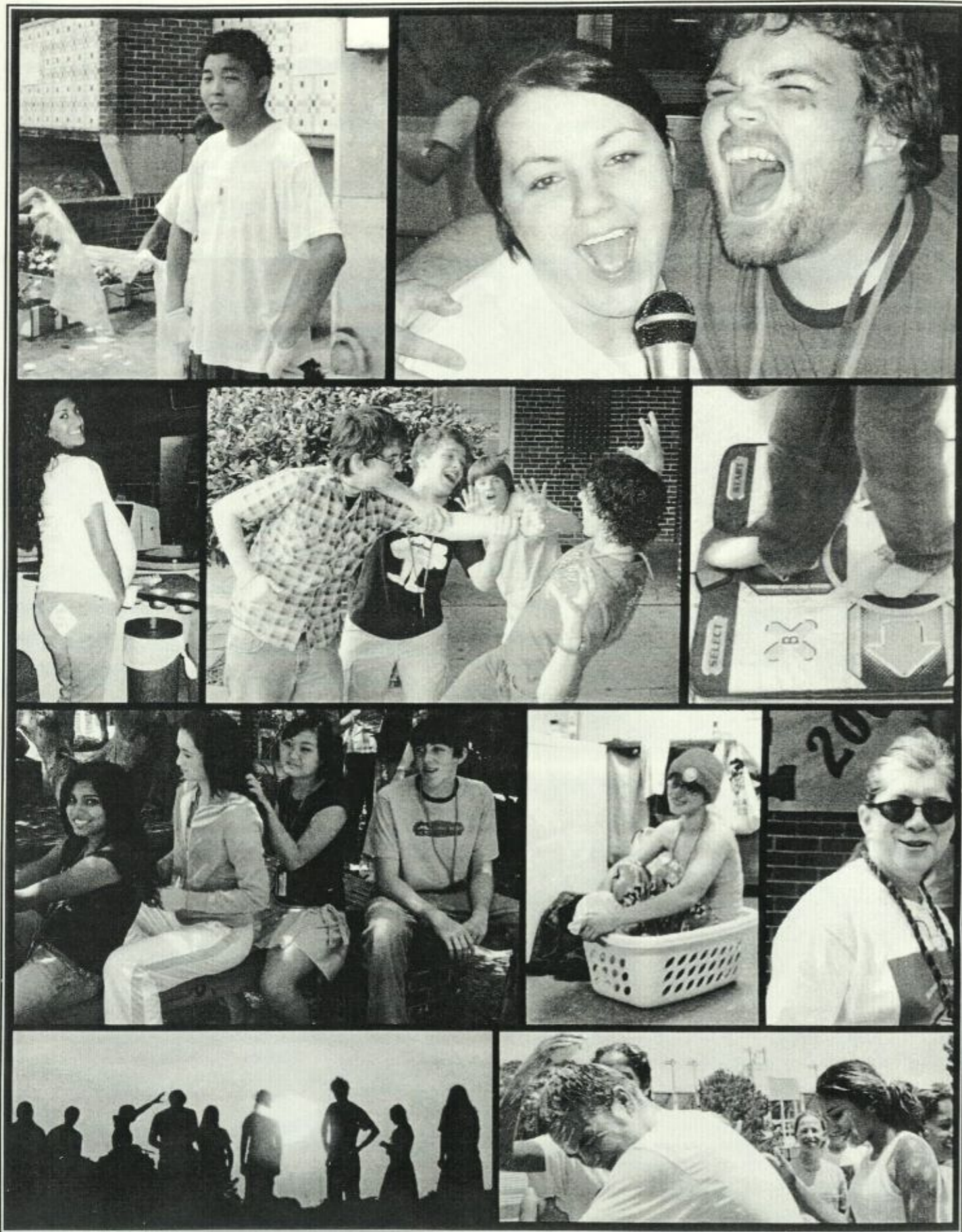
answering. "Yes, Love. I still want to know you," he said softly.

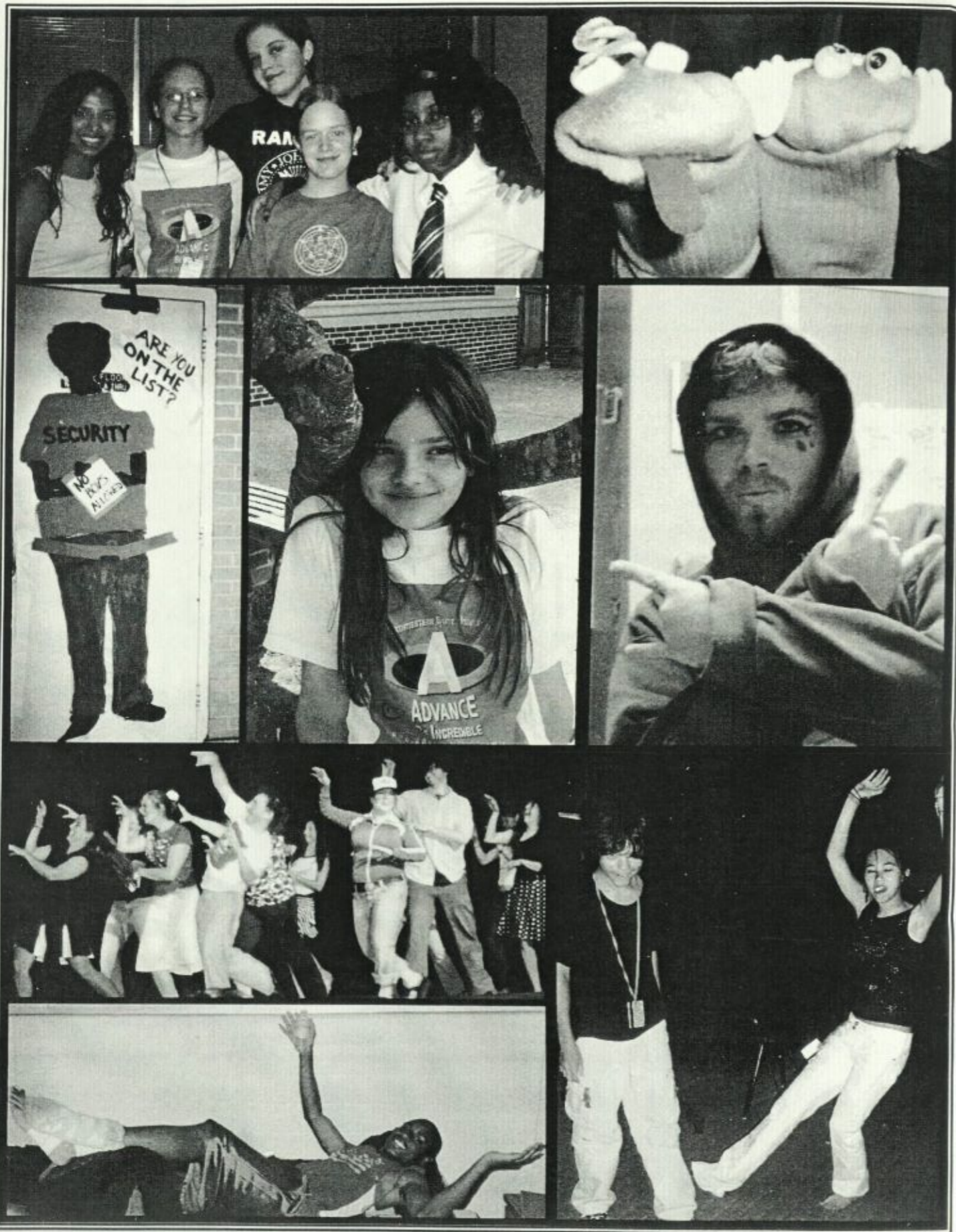
Upon hearing his reply, the old woman, Love personified, smiled. "I can also be the most beautiful thing in the world. I can be great, warm, all-encompassing, comforting, and wonderful. I make life worth living, Juan. I give life meaning. You have lived your life well, and all of the others you met before me have been a test. You have answered wisely and you know all of the virtues that you must

before knowing me. Now, you will be rewarded." Then, Love changed Her form. She became the most beautiful woman Juan had ever seen. Juan found that he, too, had changed. His gnarled form straightened. The pain in his arthritic hands was gone, and his grizzled, grey hair was restored to the raven black of his youth. Juan and Love embraced, and Juan no longer lived as a lonely fisherman. Juan lived with Love for the rest of his days.

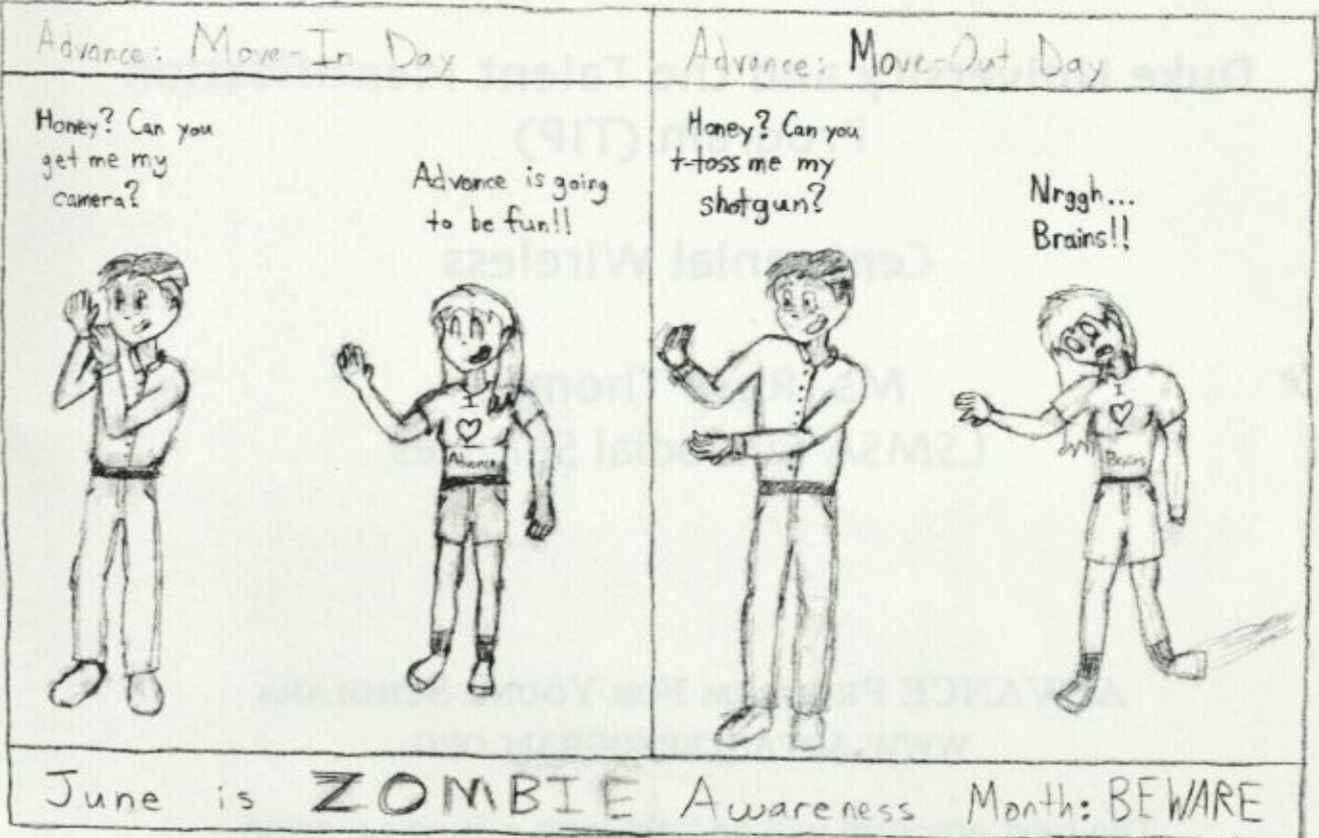
"You'll have to give up a little of what you want so that love can last. You'll never get your way all the time."







Zombies!





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