



Seldovia Gazette

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Thursday, May 24, 2007

Just another day in paradise

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Susan B English School News



SBE Report by Katie O'Leary

SBE School Beat by Tamara Blodgett

“Close Up” and Personal

“I have a political voice and I should use it,” this was said by Jennifer Giles when asked what she learned during her experience in Washington D.C. The students in the Close Up Group all learned this and much more. Each student agreed that they had a wonderful time and would do it again in a heartbeat. Three of the students from the group commented that their favorite part of the trip was seeing the monuments of D.C. The students’ journey began when they arrived in Washington D.C. and checked into their hotel. This began their week of fun and education.

On Monday, May 7th, the group started their trek in visiting the Franklin Dwight Roosevelt and Jefferson Memorials. Afterward, they visited the White House and Supreme Court and ended their first day watching a political debate. Tuesday, a day of visiting many more memorials (Korean, Vietnam and World War II); being able to speak their minds at a seminar with Washington Insiders and then spend a night on the town. Walking the steps of the Lincoln Memorial is how the Close Up students started their Thursday experience. They then went and participated in a hands-on media workshop and finished the day dancing the night away with friends they had met during their adventure. Friday the students ended the trip hanging out with their school chaperones seeing the sights of the city.

Some of the things the students said they would change were

May 24th – **Graduation** @ 6:00 for Classes 2007 and 2011

making the trip longer and having more free time to do what they wanted.

From a chaperon's point of view Vivian Rojas stated that this experience, "Opened their eyes to the big world they're going into. It gave them experience with a diversity of people. It enlightened them to the government process and gave them a tangible idea on our nation's history." When asked what she would have changed she responded, "spend more time with the kids learning about the government. Maybe have the next trip the same year our school is teaching government."

Last week I mentioned a tour of the white house. The students did get one on Monday, but were planning a more intense one on Friday. However, when they arrived at the White House the guard came out and told them the tour had been cancelled. When Rojas called Senator Stevens office to find out what happened she was informed that they sent her an email on Monday, but she hadn't received it because she was already in Washington. From this experience Rojas learned to "triple check her appointments."

All in all, the experience for our Seldovian friends was one they will forever remember. Anyone who might have an interest in politics, or not have an interest in politics, should try and make this trip part of his or her life adventure.

On a side note: **SCHOOL'S OUT FOR SUMMER!!!**

School's last day was Wednesday, May 23, 2007. The students and faculty of Susan B. English School celebrated the last day of school in great haste to have it end. The Student Council of SBE School put on a game tournament for the high school students who stayed for the entire day.

[Editors Note: we will run a PhotoStory of the Close Up trip in a couple of weeks.]

SBE Academics		
"A" Honor Roll	"B" Honor Roll	
Joshua Blodgett Molly Chapman Courtney Collier Naomi Gallien Jennifer Giles Kathleen Gruber Tatiana Gruber Katie O'Leary Timmy O'Leary Chelsea Suydam Griffin Swick	Katrina Hecks Stephanie Lewis	





[Click here to view the Graduation 2006 PhotoStory](#)

[KENAI PENINSULA BOROUGH SCHOOL DISTRICT HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES GUIDELINES \(click here for pdf\)](#)

[Click here for a PhotoStory of the Sea Otters last home game of the season!](#)

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