

The Living Room Times

"All the Noise that's fit to print."

Monday, May 15, 1995

“The trip was wonderful” Seventh grade returns from Williamsburg

Parents cheered and waved wildly as Bus One pulled into the Martin Kellogg parking circle at 9:29 PM Friday night.

Students on board, undoubtedly tired from a week of constant traveling and sightseeing, found the strength to wave back as their bus rounded the circle and parked on the opposite side.

The procedure was repeated for Bus Two, which drove in next, and for the final bus, Bus Three. Parents cheered and waved, students waved back.

Five or ten minutes later, after carry-on bags were gathered and luggage was removed from the onboard storage areas, students—returning to their regular roles as sons and daughters—were reunited with their parents for the first time in five days.

It could all mean only one thing: The end of this year's version of the Washington/Williamsburg trip.

For students, the trip is a once-in-a-lifetime experience which leaves them with memories they'll never forget.

For many of the teachers, it is an annual ritual. But they say it's different

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Above: Bus One, the first bus to drive into the Kellogg parking circle, is greeted by parents cheering and waving. Students and teachers on the bus were waving as well.



Above: Seventh graders walk out the door of Bus One.



Above: Mr. Turner, whose group was called the 'Tacos,' shows off his Mexican hat from the Jamestown gift shop.

Seventh grade returns from Williamsburg

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each time. New kids, new experiences.

Brendan Loy, chief editor of *The Living Room Times*, went to Kellogg on Friday night to report on the seventh grade's return. According to all the teachers he interviewed, the trip was a great success.

"It was great," replied Mrs. Brown, Kellogg's principal, when Brendan asked her if she enjoyed the trip. "Wish you'd been there!"

"The trip was wonderful, Brendan," said seventh grade teacher Mr. Spitzer. "It was great."

"What was the highlight of the trip for you?" Brendan asked him.

"Everything," Mr. Spitzer responded. He then added, "What can I say? I'm home, I'm tired. I'll see you Monday."

"Mr. Rob! How was the trip?" Brendan asked seventh grade teacher Mr. Robison.

"What trip?" Mr. Rob joked.

"This trip."

"It was wonderful!"

"What was the best part?"

"What was the best part? Leaving and getting back."

"How was the trip?" Brendan asked sixth grade teachers Mr. Correll, who went on the trip with the seventh graders.

"Oh, thank God we're home," he joked. He then continued seriously, "No, it was great. Great trip. Great weather. Good trip."

"What was the best part?"

"Best part? Ford's Theater was great the other night."

"What did you see?"

"*Nunsense 2*. It was great. They say it was even better than the original. It was fantastic. We followed it up by watching *Sister Act* on the bus, for a video."

Explore teacher Mrs. Rosen spotted Brendan next, saying "It looks like Brendan! How are you? It's a year later!"

"How was the trip?" Brendan asked.

"It was a wonderful. But I thought about you and all your little [stuffed animal] friends with you."

"Did you lose anyone at the Lincoln Memorial this year?" Brendan asked, referring to the fact that he got separated from Mrs. Rosen, who was his chaperone, last year on the trip at the Lincoln Memorial.

"No, I didn't lose anybody."

"What was the best part? What was the best part of the trip?"

"What was the best part of the trip? Let me see. Probably, hmm, the Lincoln Memorial. It's still my favorite."

"The trip was wonderful! The kids on the bus named our



Above: Parents gather in a large group waiting for the buses. The buses would arrive several minutes later.



Above: Bus Two rounds the circle, toward the place where they would park and let the students unload, as parents look on. In the background is Bus Three.



Above: Two students and one chaperone, Mrs. Rosen, on Bus Two look for their bags and prepare to get off the bus.

group the 'Goof Troop' after Goofy," sixth grade teacher Mrs. Pelletier said, holding up a stuffed animal of Goofy, "and he helped us go places. Find our way."

"What was the best part of the trip?"

"The best part? Every day was the best part. Ford's

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Williamsburg trip ends

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Theater. *Nonsense* was wonderful....Every character was a strong character. Wonderful. Really good. Williamsburg, we had good weather. Everything was good. Everything about it was good. And, the best part was my roommate! Mrs. Rosen was my roommate, and we had a wonderful time! We reminisced about things, and, it was great.”

“Taco!!! It’s Taco!!!” Brendan yelled as he saw Mr. Turner coming down the stairs of Bus Three.

“We were the Tacos down in Washington!” Mr. Turner, who is known to students as El Taco, said. The Tacos have invaded Washington. We have returned. Yes!”

“Did you eat any tacos while you were gone?”

“No, we didn’t. We did stop at Taco Bells, but we always ate at the Roy Rogers that was next to it there.... Not only that, but the taco phenomenon was so great that the group.... Mrs. Gauger’s group, who ended up joining us, wanted to be called—they couldn’t be called the tacos, because we were already the tacos, so they ended up being called the enchiladas. Okay?”

“Now, what was the best part of the trip?”

“The best part was seeing my sister, and her two daughters there. And not only that, but seeing the faces of all the Martin Kellogg kids when they realized—Taco has a family!”

Taco went back on the bus to get his bags, but he came back out a few minutes later with a Mexican hat on. “They got me this down in Jamestown. They say, this is perfect for me. I also have a bell that I got down in Jamestown, too...”

Because of how quickly everyone left, Brendan didn’t have time to interview very many students. He did interview Mike DelGaudio, however, who said “Yeah. Yes, I enjoyed the trip.”



On Friday, for the first time in Whifflemania, the Angels (4-0-1) of the ‘Throwers’ division played in a game and didn’t win it.

But they came back from being down 7-1 with just a few minutes left, scoring 6 runs in the final inning to tie the game at 7-7 and remain undefeated.

Their opponent, the Astros (0-3-2), was entirely substitute players. The team was Mr. Liebler, Mrs. Siano, and Claudio Gualtieri.

In the day’s other game, the Athletics (2-2-1) beat the Expos (2-3-0) by a score of 4-1, tightening the race for the #2-seed.

The Athletics will play the Angels on Wednesday, and the Astros will play the Expos, in final two games of the division’s regular season. The playoffs will be on May 30 and June 2.

<u>STANDINGS</u>	<u>Wins</u>	<u>Losses</u>	<u>Ties</u>	<u>Game Points</u>
Angels	4	0	1	9
Athletics	2	2	1	5
Expos	2	3	0	4
Astros	0	3	2	2

For seventh graders, a ‘return to normalcy’

If 1920’s President Warren Harding were alive today, he might say that today will be a “return to normalcy” for the students and teachers in seventh grade.

Those who went on the Williamsburg trip will certainly have to get back into their regular daily routines. Instead of visiting colonial theme parks and Presidential monuments, it’ll be back to Math, Science, English, and Social Studies.

But those who didn’t go to Williamsburg—two seventh grade teachers and about 22 seventh grade students—will also have some adjusting to do. With most of the members of their grade gone last week, they did some unusual activities of their own.

Mr. Fleming, one of the teachers who stayed in Newington, told Brendan afterschool Friday how the week went.

“Well, it was all right. The only problem was, we had staged a water balloon fight for tonight, and it ended up being kind of a failure because we ran out of time and we had the wrong kind of balloons. But, other than that, it was okay. It was a different kind of week. I wouldn’t want to do it every week, but, every now and again, a change of pace is good.”