



# Y in the WORLD



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## Plan Padrino Caroline Spore

The YMCA in Ibague, Colombia has partnered with the Tennessee Youth in Government Program of the YMCA in Middle Tennessee in order to sponsor Plan Padrino. Plan Padrino is a program for underprivileged children in Ibague who work hard and desire to be successful in school.

The program was created in 1998 to help solve the social problems children of Ibague face daily. Plan Padrino literally means "plan godfather," and it allows children in Ibague to continue their education. The young people of Ibague live in poverty and in a very high-risk environment. They have to earn money to help their families and often have to quit school as a result. Once they leave school, child

abuse, sexual harassment, drugs, and prostitution become a regular part of their day-to-day lives. Plan Padrino allows these kids to stay in school and achieve their goals.

In order to qualify for Plan Padrino, families have to show that they are interested in overcoming their problems by allowing their children to return to school and take part in the YMCA programs. To stay in the program, children between the ages of 7 and 18 must have outstanding academic records, participate in daily school reinforcement, and show commitment to YMCA endeavors.

The reason the Youth in

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## Myspace Invaded

Caroline Eddleman, information by Fox News

How dangerous is MySpace? I know we've all heard stories about the dangers of sites like MySpace and Facebook. In fact, on the bus ride to dinner last night I heard a freshman boy comment that his parents have prevented him from getting a Facebook account because, "If you have a Facebook than you won't get into college." Personally, I hope that theory's not true. All silly stories aside, here's one that will really catch you off guard.



Megan, a thirteen-year-old girl from Dardenne Prairie, Missouri suffered from a disastrous mix of depression and attention deficit disorder. One day while checking her MySpace account, she eagerly responded to a request from a cute boy named Josh. They began exchanging messages for more than a month until he abruptly ended all contact claiming he had heard she was mean to her friends. The next day Megan committed suicide. Sadly, soon after Megan's death, her family found out that this "Josh" is actually an identity created by members of a neighborhood family. The woman who created Josh's profile said she

wanted to gain Megan's confidence to know what the other children were saying about her own daughter.

Megan's parents would like the family to be prosecuted and are actively seeking to make legal changes to protect children from the harms of the Internet. Law officials told Megan's mother that her case did not apply to any law. Megan's parents are now separated and plan to divorce. Aldermen in the city proposed a new ordinance about child endangerment and Internet harassment that will come before city leaders on Wednesday.

**The Press Corps  
got Carlos a  
Facebook!  
Request  
"Carlos Delgatto"  
as your friend  
and keep in  
touch!**

## Pollution in Peru

Ashley Whitten

Oil searchers swarm over the vast and isolated forests of Peru, searching for the oil that hides beneath the depths of the land. These entrepreneurs reach for the most isolated places to dig and lay claim to this invaluable natural resource. However, their reach taints all it touches and creates a forest of death instead of life. The pollution caused by the dirty work of oil drilling contaminated the water. For every one barrel of oil brought to the surface, nine barrels of contaminated water are produced.

After thousands of years, the tribes in the Amazon are being threatened by the by-product of oil. The contaminated water leads to the death of wildlife and the contamination of drinking water for the many tribes located within the depths of the forest. The people were found to exceed the safe levels of

cadmium by 98% and lead by 66%. The toxins can also affect the central nervous system, causing a mental and physical breakdown beyond the control of modern medicine, and further, the development of cancer and genetic deformities.

The water contamination is compromising many lives in Peru, yet the government does not help. Community leaders even received money from two non-profit groups and went to Lima, Peru's capital, to try and convince the oil companies to leave. However, they were unsuccessful in their attempts. The communities have not been able to make any certain decisions with the oil companies regarding the issues that surround the pollution of their forest and way of life. The Peruvian government will take no action, and the tribes are left to suffer in their polluted land.

## Going Green

Sarah Stevens and Lexi Ely

You've heard it on the radio, you've seen it on the television but what is the true meaning of "going green?" Going green is having a positive outlook on your environment with a series of small changes in your daily life to reduce your carbon footprint. This includes not wasting electricity, conserving fuel, and not polluting the environment. Small, simple changes can have a big impact on this situation. Examples of simple alterations you can make are the following: turn off lights when you leave the room, ride a bike to school, and pick up trash. Going green has become a major campaign issue all across the world.

When asking fellow delegate Aditi Harsh what she does to go green she said, "At my home, we recycle and we try not to drive a lot." Recycling seems to be common for most families; however, it may not be enough, but every little bit helps. Blanket Sowell commented on situation, "I think my family should use florescent lighting and buy me a hybrid car." All changes are not cheap. To "go green" as far as converting your entire house goes can be up to 20 or 30 percent more than traditional construction costs. However, in the long run, it proves to be more efficient due to the saving of more energy, which results in a lower electricity bill for the month.

When going green, you are being eco-friendly which is strongly encouraged by most officials. Al Gore, former vice president and author of best-seller, *The Inconvenient Truth* states, "I encourage people to make

environmentally conscious choices because we all have to solve this climate crisis." Al Gore is not the only one expressing concerns over this issue, many others in the public eye are making changes in their daily lives as well. Such role models include; Cameron Diaz, Alicia

Silverstone, Harrison Ford, Tom Hanks, and Ellen DeGeneres all of whom set an example by driving Hybrid cars. As a nation, we should all take an extra step and make one small change a day to improve the environment in which we live. Remember, every little bit helps.

## From One Extreme to the Other: Tyler Ricossa's Journey from Delegate to College Staff

Caroline Eddleman

### 1. Is being a college staffer better than a delegate?

It has its advantages and disadvantages. Some advantages include: free reign over the conference, a cool green ribbon, and no curfew. Some disadvantages are: he can't participate in debate, can't win outstanding delegate, and can't chair the General Assembly.

### 2. As a college staffer, what are your responsibilities?

My responsibilities include: overlooking committees, collecting bus passes, and, most importantly passing out pizzas.

### 3. What has been the extent of your involvement in the Youth in Government Program?

I was a delegate at one Youth Legislature Conference and an officer at three Conferences. At Model UN I was a delegate for three years and an officer at one. I was Speaker Pro Tempore and Speaker of the Blue House as well as Speaker Pro Tempore of the Red Senate. My Senior Year I was Vice President at Model UN. I also represented the family of Tennessee at the Conference on Nation Affairs (CONA). It was unbelievable.

### 4. How has Youth in Government affected your life in college?

The Youth in Government Program of Tennessee helped me to attain many scholarships for college because the program allowed me to add many things to my resume.

### 5. What is your most favorable memory from your Youth in Government experience?

Presenting my joke bill in the Red Senate last year with Caroline Eddleman. It was an act to overtake and obliterate the state of North Carolina so that Tennessee could be a border state to the Atlantic Ocean in order to improve tourism and the economy in the state of Tennessee.

# No More Borders

Anna Smith

President Bush is pursuing a globalist agenda to create a North American Union, effectively erasing our borders with both Mexico and Canada. The Bush administration is pursuing a policy to expand NAFTA politically, setting the stage for a North American Union designed to encompass the U.S., Canada, and Mexico. What the Bush administration truly wants is the free, unimpeded movement of people across open borders with Mexico and Canada.

The blue print President Bush is following was laid out in a 2005 report entitled "Building a North American Community" published by the left-of-center Council on Foreign Relations. So what is the plan? Simple, erase the borders. The plan is contained in a "security and Prosperity Partnership of North America" not many noticed when President Bush and Mexican President Fox created it

in March 2005. They established the SSP to create ministerial-level working groups to address key security and economic issues facing North America and setting a short deadline for reporting progress back to their governments.

The task force proposes the creation by 2012 of a North American community to enhance security, prosperity, and opportunity. The boundaries will be defined by a common external tariff and an outer security perimeter within which the movement of people, products, and capital will be legal, orderly and safe. Its goal will be to guarantee a free, secure, just, and prosperous North America.

The three governments should commit themselves to the long-term goal of dramatically diminishing the need for the current intensity of the governments' physical control of cross border traffic, travel, and trade within North

America. A long-term goal for a North American border action plan should be joint screening of travelers from third countries at their first point of entry into North America and the elimination of most controls over the temporary movement of these travelers within North America.

Why doesn't President Bush just tell the truth? His secret agenda is to dissolve the United States of America into the North American Union. The administration has no intent to secure the border, or to enforce rigorously existing immigration laws. Securing our border with Mexico is evidently one of the jobs President Bush just won't do. If a fence is going to be built on our border with Mexico, evidently the Minuteman Project is going to have to build the fence themselves. Will President Bush protect America's sovereignty, or is this too a job the Minuteman Project will have to do for him?

## CARLOS from p. 1

Government program in Middle Tennessee is raising money for this program is because it is so expensive to send even one child in Ibague to school. It costs about \$150 a year to pay for school tuition and supplies for one student alone. The money buys textbooks, uniforms, and covers the actual cost of tuition.

At school, students are educated in English communication(both written and spoken), mathematics, Spanish language, and history.

The Tennessee YMCA Youth in Government program can sponsor 42 children through money donated



at the annual conferences, but the waiting list for students to get into

the school is hundreds of names long.

It is our responsibility to donate as much money as we can to support Plan Padrino and allow this program to expand and sponsor more students. Carlos, our representative from Plan Padrino, has done an excellent job communicating the difference that it has made in his life. Let's make a difference in the lives of those children on the waiting list.

## Dancing the Night Away

Caroline Spore

Last night was the Model United Nations dance, which was tacky themed. While most of the delegates chose to dress casually, a few got into the spirit and threw together some

pretty tacky outfits. Everyone crammed into a section of the Grand Ballroom as music blasted from the speakers. Many people participated in the dance, like when Avril Lavigne's "Girlfriend" played, all of

the girls in the room immediately began jumping around and waving their arms hysterically. Of course, Soulja Boi's "Crank That" was also a crowd favorite. Carlos showed off his newly learned dance moves.

The room got a little crazy when "Sandstorm" came on. Jay Menees from St. George's revealed that both of his shoes were somehow knocked from his feet during the dance frenzy. People were knocked to the ground, feet were stepped on... some of the delegates actually left the room right as the song came on

in anticipation of what was to come.

A highlight from the dance was the slide show. Allie Smith, the photographer, did a great job taking all of the pictures and putting



everything together. John Williams also helped (he's done an awesome job editing the broadcasts this weekend too). The show was a huge hit. There were tons of photos that covered everything from the GA to the Security Council, from the ICJ to Carlos Delgado. When peoples' friends came on the screen, they clapped and cheered. The atmosphere was so supportive. The dance and slideshow were a great way to cap off the conference. I hope everyone's had an awesome time this weekend – I know I have!

## How Many Hours of Sleep Did You Get Last Night?

Caroline Spore

12 hours- 1%  
9 hours- 1%  
8 hours- 10%  
7 hours- 22%  
6 hours- 22%  
5 hours- 23%  
4 hours- 15%  
3 hours- 5%  
1 hour- 1%

## From the Editor

I can not believe how fast this weekend has gone by! It truly feels like yesterday that I was stressing out about what I would write in my letter from the editor for the first paper. This conference has been everything I expected and more. The Press Corps have been working extremely hard this weekend to put out papers full of current events and everything that has been going on in the G.A. They have been writing between four and six articles a day, which is a huge achievement on their part and I couldn't be more proud of them! I hope that everyone has had a fantastic weekend and that you have learned a lot from this conference and each other. All those in favor of going home? AYE!

-Elizabeth Kidd

**Thanks for a great weekend from the Press!**