

Paging through the process

Each week, a unique crew of high school juniors is introduced to the high school page program at the Minnesota State Capitol. Some have traveled from across the state and others just a few miles for a glimpse of what keeps Minnesota ticking.

Lora Evinger, a student at Visitation High School, Mendota Heights, who lives in Edina, is a member of the week 14 high school page team. Lora and the other pages spend their days in the State Office Building and the Capitol exploring all aspects of the legislative system. The agenda includes meeting their district representative, debating in a mock committee and, of course, working as a page when the House is in session.

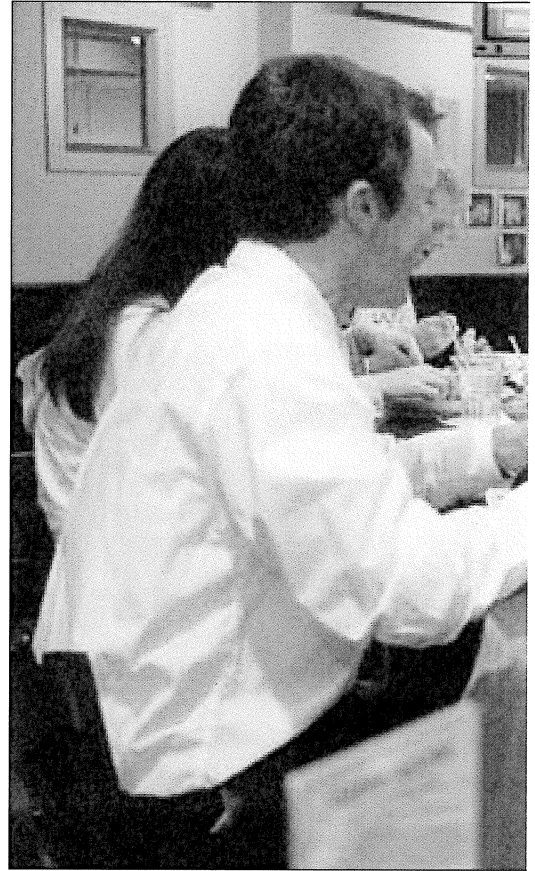
"The whole process was a shock," Lora said. "I imagined it to be much quieter, and in reality, it was really loud and chaotic."

At the end of the day the pages cross Rice Street to the Kelly Inn, where they stay during the week. It's here Lora and her comrades have a chance to reflect on the day's activities. Asked if they discussed politics at night, Lora laughed and said, "Not really."



Lora packs for a week at the Capitol.

Photos and story by
Sarah Stacke



The pages have dinner at KFAN The Restaurant in Roseville.



A member of the Minnesota Historical Society meets the pages in the governor's office.



Clay Sharkey, Lora Evinger and Micah Nystuen in a mock committee meeting.



Lora passes out amendments during session.



Lora waits on the page bench during session.