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THURSDAY, AUGUST 8, 1996

## **COMMUNITY LIFE**



BLAKE HERAGHTY

## D.C. conference widens horizons for local teenager

uite recently, I had the opportunity to natend the National Young Leaders Conference in Washington Do. The NYLO is an independent, non-profit organization that allows high school students from across the United States to get a behind the scenes look at Washington. I allows those students to witness democracy in action and to interact with some of the nation's most prominent people in Congress, the executive branch, and the national media. It

the nation's most prominent people in Congress, the executive branch, and the national media. It also gives students an opportunity to strengthen their leadership abilities, creativity, and gives them a better understanding of the rights and responsibilities of all Americans.

I'll be the first to admit, however, that I was anything but thrilled to be going to the conference in the middle of summer. I had been having the summer of my life and the last thing I wanted was to interrupt that and have to be submerged into an environment where I knew no one and where I knew there was going to be a workload and responsibility placed upon me for eleven days. But the moment I stepped off the plane at Washington National Airport something inside me changed and I recognized that this was an experience that would have a place in my heart forever.

was an experience this would never process.

I, as well as the rest of the young scholars, were fortunate enough to stay in Leonard Hall at American University. The campus was breath-

See CONFERENCE, B2

■ Pesticides are killing many of the caterpillars that change into beauti-ful moths and butterflies.



BY MAY ROBRICUS
STATY WARTS

Forty school aged children and a dozen captive audionce for Farmington Hills were a captive audionce for Farmington Hills Monday, who to the state of the stat

kids said they were arrang arrang it.

Kids learned that butterflies make a chrysalis and moths make a cocon to house them between their enterpillar and adult stages of development. That butterflies fly hy day and moths fly by night.

And that the winged creatures, like frogs and turtles, are best enjoyed in their natural habitats, not captured in jarz or boxes.

Caterpillar skins: Naturalist Joe Derek shows kids from summer camp including in foreground Liana Maffezzoli, LaurenClaridge and Rebecca Carroll and senior adults from Senex a branch containing hundreds of skins shed by caterpillars in a talk laced with visual aids.

attracts mate motifs from up to two miles away."

Derek also displayed a branch full of the skins of tiny black caterpil-lars, which shed their skins several times during their development.

"Natives in the Rain Forest in

"Moths like peach, plum and crab apple trees," said Derek, who passed around the cocoon from a cycropian moth for the audience to feel. "They also like cherry trees and black walnut trees.

"Female moths let out a scent that stracts male moths from up to two miles away."

Derek also displayed a branch full of the skins of tiny black caterpillars, which shed their skins several times during their development.

"Natives in the Rain Forest in

terfly flutters its wings to look like an owl. Such measures keep birds

an owl. Such mensures keep ourus away.

"Butterflies are important because they pollinate vegetables and flowers," said Derek.

Derek said the chemical used to kill the dreaded gyasy meth (which destroys trees) also kills all other types of caterpillars who live in close proximity to the gyasy meth.

"Now everyone is using pesticides. I don't see nearly the number of butSee BUTTERFLES, B3

See BUTTERFLIES, BA

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