

## Citizen's Train has new budget

WASHINGTON, DC — Aboard the Citizen's Train headed for the nation's capitol were a handful of students who wanted to tell Congress what they thought of the federal budget.

"I went to tell Congress how we want the (government's) money spent," said Jessica Partnow, 7, from Seattle, Washington.

The 270 people from the Pacific Northwest on the Citizen's Train had devised a "Citizen's Budget" to present to Congress. They want more money spent on education and programs to help people and less spent on military programs.

"I want (Congress) to spend (more money) on health care, schools and farmers," Jessica added, "because military hurts people. I like peace. I think the money should help people and not hurt people."

David Leitko, 18, from Hillsboro, Oregon, went with six of his classmates. "(Students) represent a lot of people. A lot of times students are not represented, but we're able to go up against powerful lobbyists in D.C. on this trip," David said.

During their three-day, coast-to-coast journey, they had meetings and study sessions about the federal budget. They even practiced what they would say to a member of Congress about the budget.

Tahni Holt, 13, from Portland, Oregon, said it was important for kids to be involved in the Citizen's Train. "We need people to know we care. We are the



Students boarded the Citizen's Train headed for Washington, D.C.

next generation," she said. "It's a real privilege to be with people who have the energy to want to make a difference," Tahni added.

## Shhh! Don't on No Talk Day

CLIO, MI — It's a tradition for third graders at Garner Elementary not to talk. But it's for only one day — No Talk Day, February 5.

Teacher Marilyn Bachelor started the day 11 years ago. Each year her students are faced with the challenge of not talking in her classroom.

"It's good when you can't talk because you can get lots of work done," Sarah Vincent, 8, reported. The third graders could talk outside at recess but not in class.

"I learned that talking is easier than writing because my hand got tired," said Keith Welch, 8. He added, "It was a fun day, but I really wanted to talk."

Even guests in the classroom had to use the scrap paper piled on each student's desk to communicate. A student greeted each guest with a note stating, "If you would like to talk about something, please write a note."

"I was accidentally going to talk to my friend when I remembered and said, 'Oops,' instead," said Sarah, who admitted other classmates made the same mistake.

The rest of the school joined No Talk Day but just for one hour of sealed lips. "No Talk Day takes the willies out of winter in Michigan," said Bachelor, who teaches without talking by writing on an overhead projector.

## Smelly garlic kills germs real well

NEW MILFORD, CT — Garlic is famous for smelling bad, but Damon Kheir-Eldin, 12, found another use for it.

A seventh grader at Schaghticoke Middle School, Damon discovered garlic combined with soap kills more germs than just soap. His discovery earned him first place in the junior biological division of Science Horizons '88 contest.

Damon, who wants to be an astronomer, said the garlic odor could be masked so people won't get put off by it.

## Young American Winners

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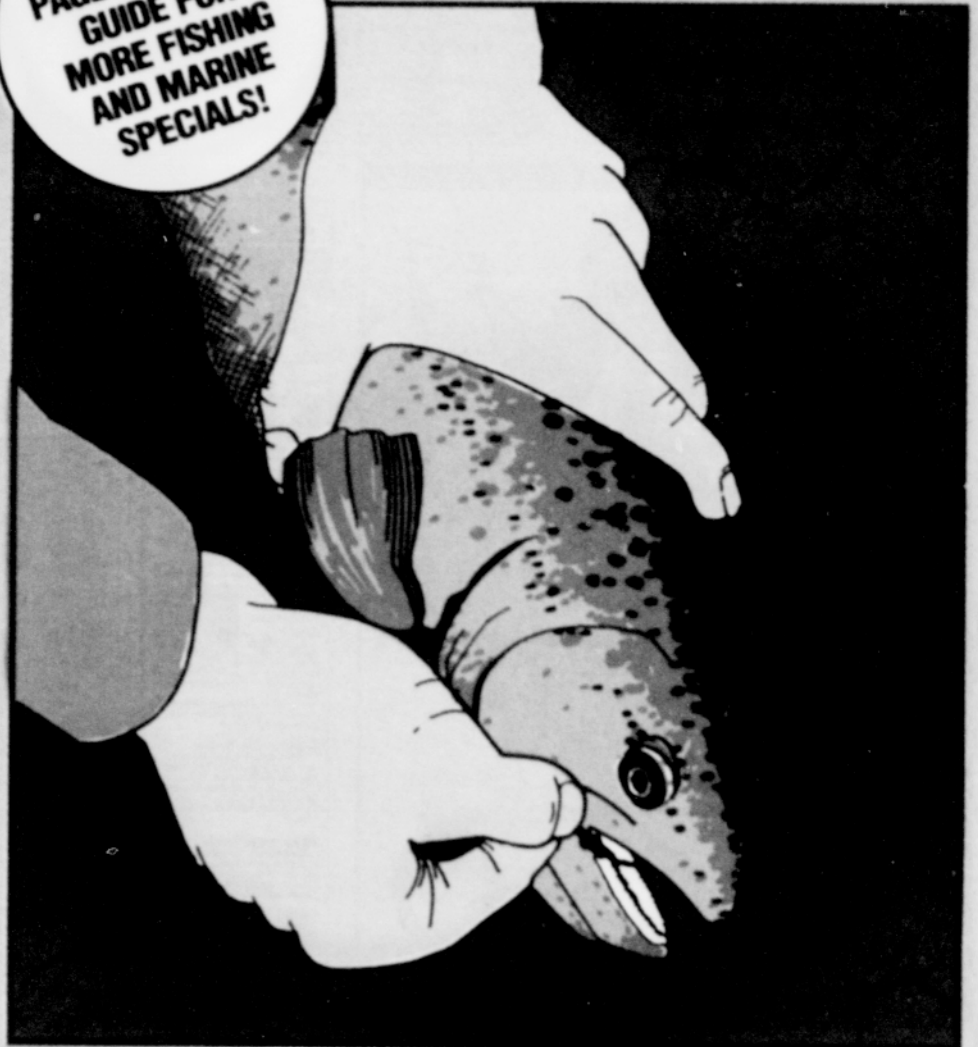
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