

colors in words and pictures

'American Spirit' will carry us through

American Spirit
by Rachel Decker
(Gate of Heaven School-grade 8)

American Spirit isn't something you can go and buy at a local grocery store, nor is it something you can pick up, or order on the phone. You can't order it by mail, or send away for it ... It's something that's deep inside you; something no one can take away;

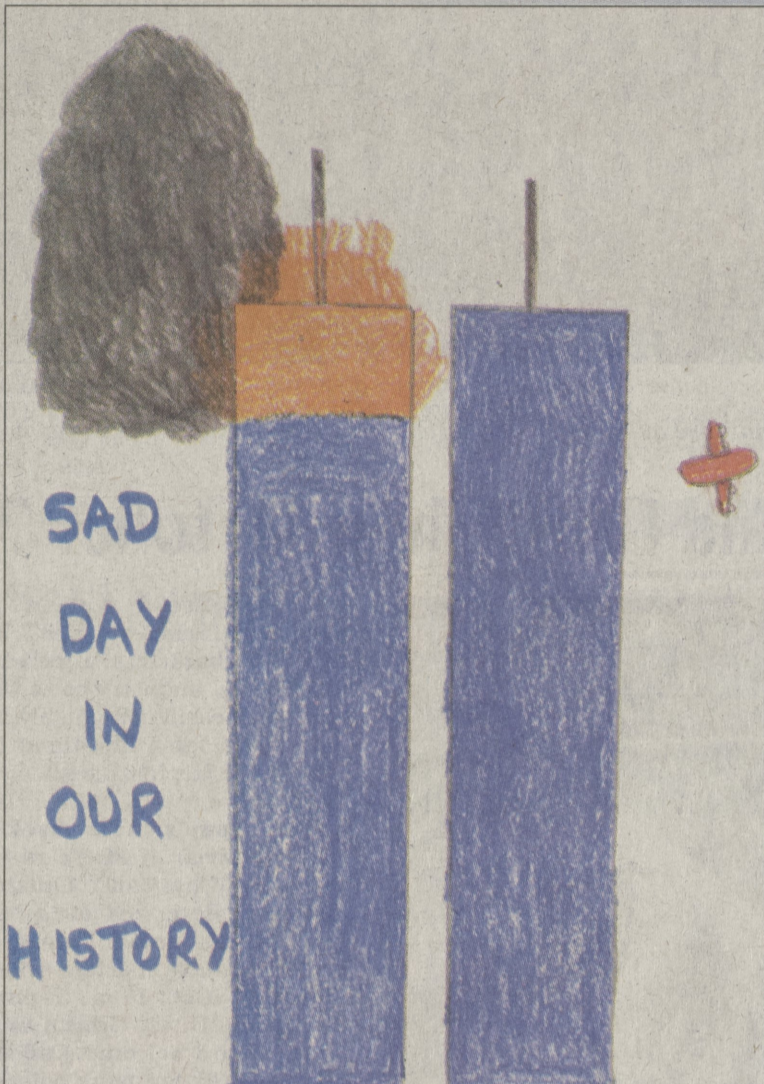
something that terrorists thought they could take away that awful day.

It was last Tuesday that we got this awful news, that a plane had crashed into one of the World Trade Center's buildings. We said it was an accident, but all of us were suspicious; we knew that wasn't true. And that thought was proven when the second plane hit, but that was only number two. Then yet a third plane, that hit our military force center; our Pentagon, but yet it was still not through. Then the final attack. Some people (however), brave enough on that one-way flight, made sure they didn't oversee, what terrible disasters it could have caused Washington, D.C.

The terror of knowing someone would want to harm our country; it chills us to the bone. But one thing they didn't plan was for us to have a strategy. American Spirit.

Maybe we didn't even plan it, but we had American Spirit and that helped us all though, the crying and the tragedy, a way to stay true to our country; the red, white, and blue.

So terrorists, whoever you may be, you can hijack our planes, trash them, and threaten us ... But guess what? We still have our AMERICAN SPIRIT, and no one can take that away from us!



Ben Gardner, Gate of Heaven School, 6th grade



Jenny Boland, Gate of Heaven School, 6th grade

'What Makes America Great'

by Chris Bittenbender
Dallas Elementary School, 5th grade

One of the things that makes America great are the freedoms and advantages we have.

One of those freedoms is the freedom of press. This freedom allows people to ask about what is going on in our country. If something is going on we have the right to know. That's where the press comes in, they ask the questions and get the answers. Once they've done that, they get the news out using T.V., radio, newspapers, and word of mouth. That's what it means to have freedom of press.

Another freedom we have is the freedom of religion. This freedom lets you worship the god or gods of your choice. That was one of the reasons people came to America a long time ago.

One of the other freedoms America has is the freedom of peaceful assembly. This means you are allowed to meet in groups for any kind of reason, cause, or purpose.

Another advantage of America is a great army. Our country has a special group in the army called the Navy Seals. Our army protects us, fights wars for us, and rescues us. That's what makes our military great.

Another awesome thing about America is the landscape. There are large canyons, snowy mountains, and small foothills. The Grand Canyon, Rocky Mountains, and the Great Plains are some examples of great American landscapes.

Freedom, the army, and the landscape are all things that make America great.



Third graders at Dallas Elementary line up to place their mark on the American flag being made from hand prints, from left: Miss Donahue, Kurtis Manganello, Jacob Simon, Tyler Shulock, Kenny Pizano, Briana Zabolney, and Rory Moran.

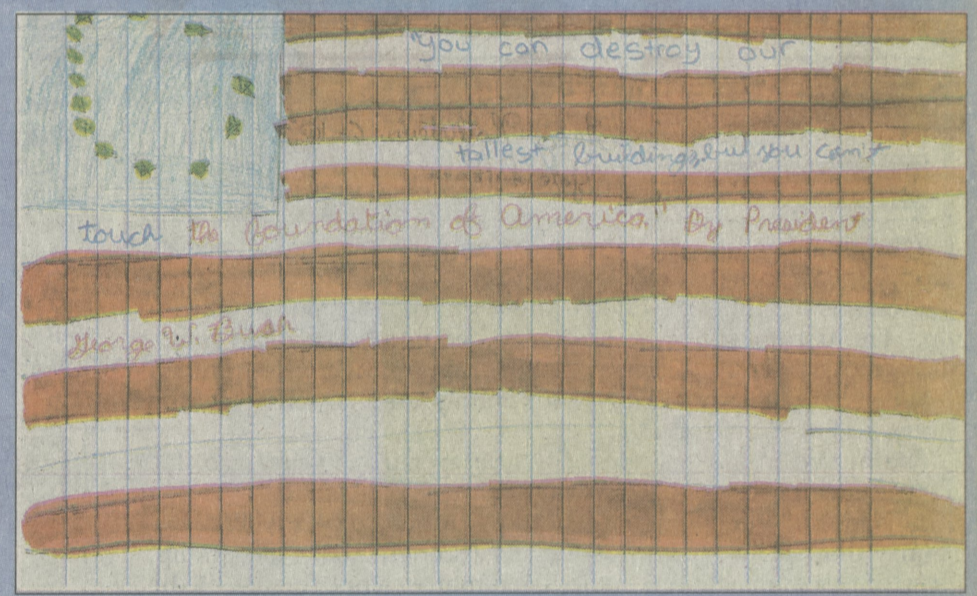
America

by Hillary Schaub
Dallas Elementary School, 5th grade

We are country
We are free
America is a place to be
We work together
We all are friends
Together always we will be to the end.

Never shall a country
beat us in our pride
If they even attempt to
we will give them a ride.

A country is a country
forever shall it be. We must
stick together for eternity.



Greg Nothstein, Gate of Heaven School, 6th grade

'I'm Proud to be an American'

by John Prater
Dallas Elementary School, 5th grade

I'm proud to be an American because this is a free country. We can go to any church we want and worship however we want. We vote to pick our leader. We can travel wherever we

want. We also have freedom of the press and can say whatever we think.

We have had great leaders. George Washington led the army during the Revolutionary War and was the first president. Thomas Jefferson, Ben Franklin, and John Adams helped form the early government. Our presi-

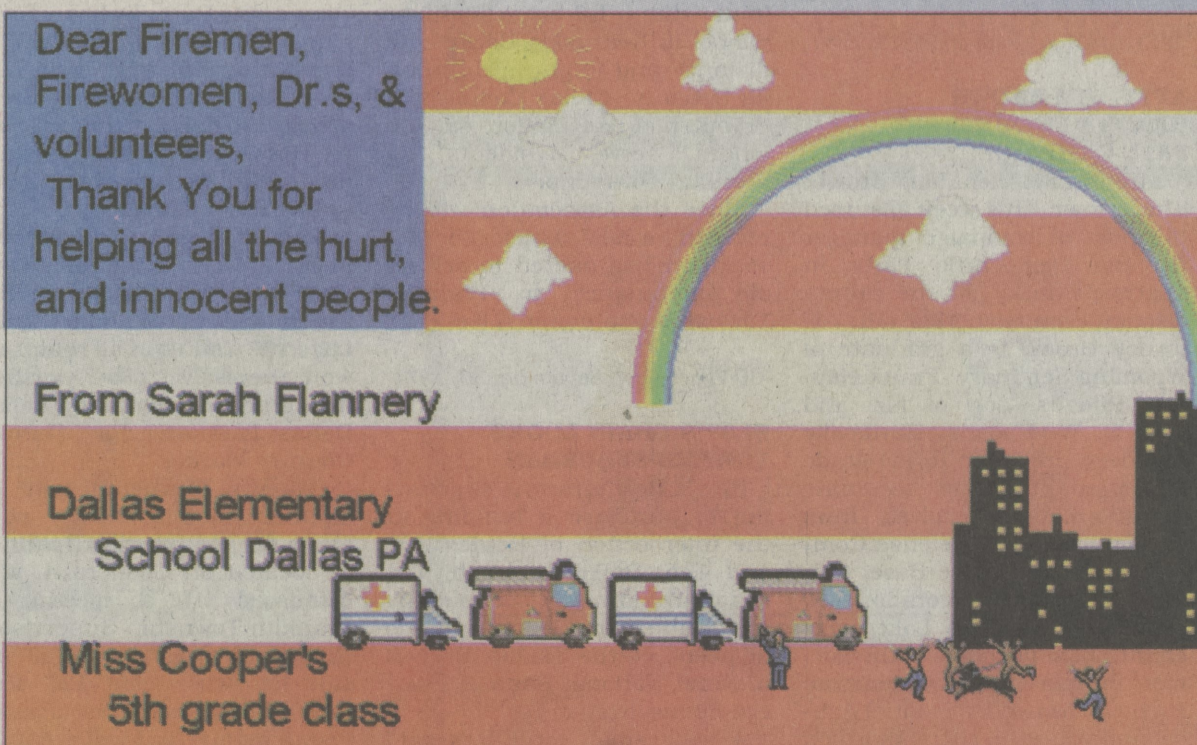
dent, George W. Bush, is leading us now.

Our military has always been strong. We have won many wars starting with the Revolutionary War in the 1700's. Now we are fighting against terrorists.

Our land is beautiful because we have mountains, beaches, forests, and even glaci-

ers. My favorite place in America is Florida, because the weather is great there. I also like the fall and winter in Pennsylvania.

All these things together make it great to live in the United States of America.



Sarah Flannery, Dallas Elementary School, 5th grade

America

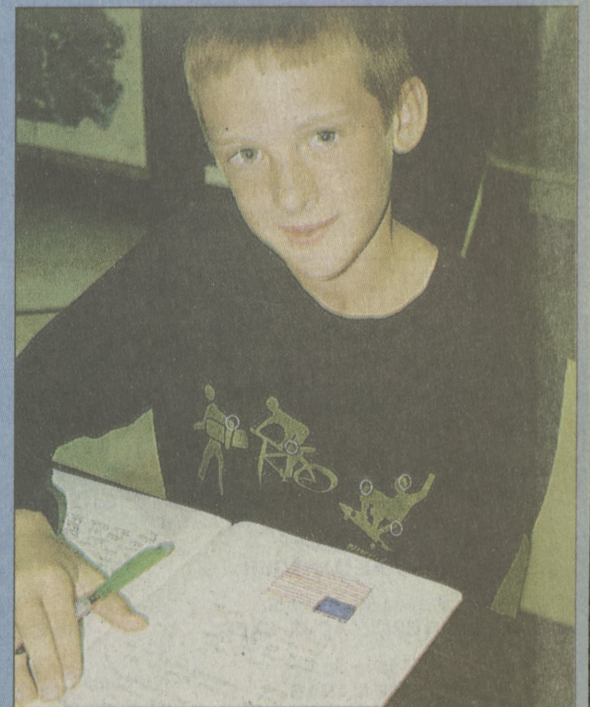
by Christian Szot
Dallas Elementary School, 5th grade

Asia
Mexico
Europe
Russia
India
Chile
Africa
We accept everyone!

America

by Michele Harvey
Dallas Elementary School, 5th grade

America
My country
Earth
Revolutions
Individuals who
Care for the people that got hurt
Americans are grieving



In his journal entry 'America the Beautiful' Scott Skammer wrote, "It's easy to smile with stars and stripes, with the land of the home and the brave, America is the place to be."