

Week 6

This week was notable not only in that I only worked three days and got to know my staff in a more friendly atmosphere – but also that my girlfriend Hannah came to visit me. The work itself was fairly light – during the long recess my member opted to work from home – due to the suspension of typical legislative activity. All that remained to do was answer phones and organize tours – which led my supervisor to implement a shift schedule for the interns. This worked out well on Tuesday, as my morning shift allowed me to pick up Hannah from the airport. Hannah’s first experience on a metro was a traumatizing for her, and entertaining for me. For starters, her metro card did not work, and she believed that since mine did, I would leave her behind and get on the train. This was not the case, but Hannah did have to experience the difficulty of having a lapsed attention while riding up the escalators with wheeled bags. A tumble and an annoyed group of people later, we got to my dorm and proceeded to have an impromptu tour of the Western half of the Mall. The days have proceeded more or less in this fashion since – commonly ending with me carrying her piggyback from the metro to my room after an eventful day. Our plans have been a healthy mix of things I have done and seen with the CAMP group and more novel experiences I had saved for us. One in particular was a the running and biking of the Teddy Roosevelt Island and the Mount Vernon Trail. Both of which presented their own challenges – the former being Hannah “dying in the heat” and the latter Hannah “How do you steer this thing?”. In any case, fun was had despite seemingly insurmountable hurdles – such was the case when our kayaking trip was cut short by an uninvited thunderstorm. Of particular note was our viewing of Hello Dolly! in the Kennedy Center Opera and our dining in The Occidental – both of which allowed us to demonstrate our collectively minimal gallantry. Hot tip for those wishing to enjoy the Occidental – order an appetizer and then share an entrée while drinking plenty of free water, but most importantly do not be tempted by your beguiling waiter who seemingly makes a commission from promoting the salmon fillet. Nevertheless, these past few days of excursions have served to uplift me in no small amount – Hannah serves not only as an

ever replenishing source of entertainment, but also a means of escape from the homesickness which plagues D.C.'s interns. And while my work here is never far from engaging – it is good to have a more human reminder of what the work is for. I am rested and ready from my respite – and have enough memories of Hannah to hold me off until I return.

BOTTOM

The statue of Teddy Roosevelt on his namesake island in the Potomac – a hidden gem!



TOP RIGHT

Taking a quick photo before getting in line to see Hello Dolly! What a view – Rosslyn and Georgetown (not pictured).



BOTTOM RIGHT

Trying to kill time before the Capitol Fourth Concert on the West Lawn of the US Capitol! GO BULLS (logo discontinued).

