

Samantha Rivera
Journal entry 5

Red, White and Blue are the colors that decorate and showcase our pride of being an American. Fourth of July is among us and there are many activities and events that help celebrate our freedom.



After another week of no sessions, I am glad to say that it was a short week and the only people we saw during this week were the tourists. One of the groups that came in had a family who had a 5 year old daughter which reminded me of my little sister from back home. Before arriving in D.C.; my mind was set that I will not experience being homesick, but after seeing all these families and their children reminded me of home. I may have experience being a



little homesick, but I know as the days come closer to going home; I will take the knowledge and skills that I have developed as an intern here in our nation's capital.



Having Friday off this week is the best feeling ever, but since it is Independence Day; there are a lot of activities being planned to commence our Fourth of July holiday. As we walked around DC it was another experience that I did not expect for everyone to be dressed in red, white and blue. Our group headed towards the National Mall, where the parade was going to be held. Since the parade was going to start at 12 o'clock, we thought that if we were to arrive half an hour early we would be able to find good seats, boy we were wrong! We walked about three



blocks from the start of the parade and found a small area that was surrounded by trees that gave great shade from the sun. We decided as a group to try to find a closer view of the parade. I realized as we were walking down the side walk, it seemed to get smaller due to the large amounts of people here to see the parade. Being at the parade was a different kind of experience for me. They had variety of bands and dancers performing numerous dance routines. Nothing like the parades I have experience in Texas. Form all the groups that performed I would have to say that the Chinese dance with the dragon was my favorite. The parade also involved different floats form different cultures expressing their Independence spirit. The one that I loved the most was the KISS float.



This year's Independence Day is the night I will always remember. I know there might be some people that may not get excited about seeing a firework display. But this display is like no other, imagine you have the fireworks blasting from the top of the Washington Monument or the Lincoln Memorial it is a breath taking site to see.



Being here in our nation's capital; I have had a wonderful time and a lot of new



experiences that I will never forget. The best part about

D.C for me is being a distance of a few minutes from all the monuments. Some nights when I need to think or just clear my head, I would walk over to the Lincoln Memorial and just walk the path all the way to the Thomas Jefferson and back. At first, when I would go on those walks I could not walk that far, because my body was not in great condition to endure such a distance. Being here in DC I have developed my cardio for

long distance walks to the point where I may have forgotten what it feels like to drive
from one place to another.

