

# Senior Reflects on Encounter

by Ernesto Tobar

Life as we know it is filled with mysteries that are surrounded by questions. Life is channeled together by a chain of events that has brought forth the life that humanity now lives and breathes today. Catastrophic events have taken place throughout history, lives have been lost, pain and suffering has staggered the hearts of loved ones, but why is it that these events take place? Is it because human beings are too careless of the actions in which they commit? Is it because of human beings are to reckless and are driven to brink of destruction that causes oneself to drive into ones madness? No, I believe that people seek to get an understandment of what life truly means by committing actions that are influenced by his or her influential surroundings. We are reminded of our dark past through the little things in life that come back to haunt us. Life's have been effected negatively through out history, but isn't it up to us, the future of this country to change it? Depressions caused major events that may have come to existence, but isn't it up to us to lend a hand? I feel that the future of this world is in the hands of our generation and it is up to us to help bring forth prosperity to our people.

God challenges the mind body and soul of the person, so that one may learn and advance forward in their personal situations. God challenges us for the purpose to teach us that we are not alone. We are not alone, and in my experience at the encounter, I learned that the experiences that one goes through is not without a cause, and I believe that God has divine plan that would help us get spiritually stronger. At this retreat in Esopus, one gains new companions so that one's experience could be educational but at the same time a great everlasting experience because of the moments that we as a group get to share with one another. Esopus has a good message for the senior students that attend at this encounter, "you are not alone" and let this message stick with one always for God will be there by

your side always.