Shashin Shah, '97

India

Mother Teresa with some diplomats from Germany. She is always willing to talk to anyone at nearly anytime. Her aura is quite tremendous. I too was able to meet and talk with her. She asked me where I was from, where I was volunteering and she blessed me. People may talk of her endlessly but could never do her or her work justice until they volunteer for her (which is what I did) in one of her many established homes.

Mother Teresa has many "homes" in which one can volunteer. This one, the Gandhi School, allows volunteers to teach street children elementary English and mathematics. I became very close to my students. Each amazed me never complained about his/her "deprived" life, but instead saw life as an endless possibility for fun!
The Gandhi School
This was my classroom.
I had a co-teacher.
This girl (teacher) shows
us one of many foreign
volunteers my age. The
students are diligently
(somewhat) working on
their addition. Others
could always find more
interesting things to do.
Just go on to show kids
are kids!

Unfortunately not every
place I volunteered in was
as much fun. I also worked
in homes for disabled
(mentally, physically)
children and dying elderly.
Work involved changing
clothes, washing, physical
therapy, grooming and
cleaning living quarters.
Working with the children
reaffirmed my desire to be
a doctor.

Also at Gandhi School.
Before and after every school
session, the volunteers and
students sing songs like
"Hallelujah", "It's Our The
Whole World In Our Hands".
Although I didn't know the
words to those in the beginning,
I was a quick learner and even
taught them a few songs myself.
Next to me is a volunteer from
Columbia University in NY.