

# It's A BioBlitz

**W**ASHINGTON College's Center for Environment & Society and the Maryland Biodiversity Project this spring co-sponsored the first BioBlitz held at the College's Chester River Field Research Station at Chino Farms. Some 56 entomologists, herpetologists, ornithologists, naturalists and students spent 24 hours probing marshes, ponds, creeks, fields and woods in search of as many species of flora and fauna as they could find. Initial counts topped 600 species, added many new species to the overall Chino species list, and the first Queen Anne's County record of a Henry's Elfin butterfly and a Common Sand-dragon dragonfly.



**ABOVE:** Audrey Keruly '13 (left) and Mariko Anderson '13 get up close and personal with a bullfrog while exploring ponds and vernal pools during the nighttime portion of the BioBlitz.  
**BELOW:** Amanda Peters '16 examines the convolutions of a local snake.



**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP LEFT:** Young fronds of the ebony spleenwort unfurl in the sunlight; an American copper butterfly alights on some spring flowers; a marbled salamander pauses long enough for a photograph.



PHOTOS: EBONY SPLEENWORT AND BUTTERFLY BY FRANK MARENGHI '44; SALAMANDER BY BILL HUBICK