



The Huntly Herald

A Message from Head of School Kathleen Grove

Dear Wakefield Country Day School Families and Friends,



During this holiday season, many of us reflect on our blessings. Wakefield Country Day School provides the perfect venue for such reflection. Each classroom and hallway, the offices and even the parking lot, all reverberate with holiday spirit.

On the Tuesday before Thanksgiving, parents enjoyed Thanksgiving poems by the pre-kindergarten class followed by homemade pumpkin bread and home-churned (alright, shaken) butter. The grade two students sent Thanksgiving thank-you's to a variety of people; the Head of School received three. As families led their children to their cars and children boarded their buses and faculty left their classrooms, "Have a Happy Thanksgiving" echoed across the parking lot. I drove home that evening counting Wakefield Country Day School as one of my blessings.

Now we are entering the Christmas season. Each grade level hung its assigned decoration in the building this afternoon to the sound of holiday music and with the support of cookies and snacks. Tomorrow at assembly we will recognize the celebration of light that characterizes Advent, Hanukkah, and other religious observances during this dark time of the year. We will light the tree in the auditorium and hear the youngest children sigh as the "candles" flame. Student government is selling poinsettias and collecting Toys for Tots. Key Club is organizing Soup for Supper to raise funds for the Rappahannock Food Bank. The seventh grade is collecting hot chocolate for the Blue Ridge Food Bank. The lower school is preparing its annual Christmas Concert, and the students' young voices in rehearsal bring smiles to those who pass by the music room. We look forward to our Latin recitations at our next assembly and songs in French and Spanish the next week. Finally, we will enact "The Twelve Days of Christmas" and dance to "Lord of the Dance" as the younger students twine in and out of the arches formed by the older students.

I trust that alumni and alumni parents remember these traditions with as much pleasure as I feel in looking forward to them. I wish everyone could enjoy the holiday season at Wakefield Country Day School! Happy holidays!

Kathleen F. Grove
Head of School

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Wakefield Country Day School Celebrates 2006 Homecoming with Fall Festival, Soccer Game and Dance

Cloudless skies and beautiful autumn scenery served as the perfect backdrop for Wakefield Country Day School's 2006 Homecoming Fall Festival and Yard Sale on Saturday, October 21st. Neighbors and families filled the school's parking lot and grounds for the better part of the day, enjoying an array of games and activities offered to help raise funds for various club and class projects. There was something for everyone. High on the list of popular booths was the Key Club's moon bounce; second grade offered elaborate face painting; Model United Nations ran the ever-popular cake walk; Student Government sold beautiful fall mums; preschool had a "count the beans" challenge with bears as prizes; Yearbook offered "wheel of fortune;" the Athletic Department sold WCDS clothing; the Dance Team provided an interesting assortment of animal treats, jewelry, and tomato soup; the international students offered international name cards, and third grade provided exciting games for the little ones. Everyone was well-fed; kindergarten sold refreshments, fifth and sixth grades sold "all things chocolate," first grade had mouth-watering fall pies and hot beverages, fourth grade offered caramel apples, pre-kindergarten staff and parent volunteers provided hot dogs and barbecue sandwiches, and Student Government served up some friendly competition with chili and cornbread. At

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Science & Technology News

Prep School Science Class “Builds Cars”

During September, Dr. Paul Gresser, Wakefield’s physics teacher, challenged his students with an engineering project which required them to create miniature cars powered by something other than electricity. His class met the challenge, with five teams of students coming up with innovative entries. The goal was to build a car roughly the size of a shoebox, and to have it successfully travel 3 meters, within a 1 meter lane. The winning entry, powered by CO₂, traveled nearly 30 meters. It was designed by Shane Parker and Kate Kevis. Rated “Most Efficient” was Ho-Sung Woo’s and Se-Youn Lims’s extremely lightweight car, which was powered by rubber bands wound up inside its axle, with compact discs for wheels. The “Safest” car honor was given to Jody Green and Ben LeBeau, whose sturdy little car of wood was also powered by rubber bands. Capturing the title of “Best

Looking” was the entry created by Saawan Mehta and Dan Carrier, which was powered by string and mousetraps, and had a patriotic theme. Finally, Amir Arsalan and Patrick Dale walked away with “Best Design” for their entry, which had an extremely light frame and wheels and was powered by a mousetrap/fish line combination set-up. Students will reference their projects throughout the year as they study the many elements of the discipline of physics.



8th Grade Physical Science Class Tried “Hands On” Approach

Taking advantage of the beautiful fall weather, WCDS’ eighth grade physical science teacher, Ann Pankow, engaged her students’ attention with a “Slow Flyer Lab,”



conducted on the school’s front lawn. The exercise was one of several experiments designed to give the students a “hands-on” understanding of the laws of

physics. The class, divided into groups of three, used three timed-trials of the flight of paper airplanes to calculate velocity, using distance over time measurements. Mrs. Pankow is conducting labs every week with her physical science class, to help her students better conceptualize scientific principles.

Once Again, WCDS is the Recipient of MITRE’s Generosity

For the third year in a row, the MITRE Corporation has helped to enhance Wakefield Country Day School’s technology program with a donation of five IBM laptops and five Dell desktops.

Patrick Dale This Year’s Heisman Nominee

Senior Patrick Dale is the school’s nominee for the 2006 Wendy’s High School Heisman Award, which “recognizes the nation’s most esteemed high school senior men and women for excellence in academics, athletics, and community/school involvement.” In order to qualify, a student must be a senior, have at least a “B” grade average, and participate in at least one officially sanctioned sport.

Club News

New Officers and Prefects Assume Duties



During the third assembly of the year, the newly elected student representatives and newly appointed prefects took their oaths of

office, led by the President and Vice President of Student Government, Patrick Dale and Ben Luke. The student representatives are: Maeve Dale (4th grade), Grace Alexander (5th grade), Sonia Mehta (6th grade), Steven Marsh (7th grade), Bret Heddleston (8th grade), Andrew Smith (9th grade), Saheel Mehta (10th grade), Alex Shafran (11th grade) and Kate Kevis (12th grade).

The class prefects are: John Morgan Christoph (7th grade), Christine Pankow (8th grade), Katie Huang (9th grade), Elida Opitz (10th grade), Taylor Hammelman (11th grade), and Jody Green (12th grade).



Key Club Officers

President: Jody Green
Vice President: Shane Parker
Treasurer: Amir Arsalan
Recorders: Kate Kevis and Joy Heddleston
Editor: Katherine Russo
Advisor: Mrs. Jessica Cahill

Wakefield Country Day School Welcomes Twelve New Faculty Members

In part to keep up with its burgeoning student enrollment, WCDS hired twelve new faculty members for the opening of the 2006/2007 academic year. These newest additions to the Wakefield staff are: Mrs. Paula Bowen, who teaches Spanish (upper school); Ms. Jessica Cahill, who is teaching Computer Science, Pre-Algebra, Algebra II and U.S. Government; Mr. Charles Cowherd, who teaches World History, Geography, AP U.S. History, and Geopolitics; Mrs. Debbie DuMez, who is teaching Art along with current Art teacher Suzanne Zylonis; Mrs. Rebecca Ernest, who joined Patricia Wingfield teaching a second 1st Grade class; Mrs. Welby Griffin, who is teaching Latin, and 7th and 8th Grade English and History; Mrs. Ann Landis, who serves as the Kindergarten aide, Mrs. Betsy Neph, who teaches Music and Chorus; Mrs. Ann Pankow, who teaches AP Environmental Science and 8th Grade Science; Ms. Lisa Sanders, who is teaching History, Mathematics and Science for grades five and six in place of Lori Perry, who became our 3rd Grade teacher; Mrs. Kirsten Youngquist, who teaches ESL (English Second Language); and Mrs. Lindsey Zanchettin, who is teaching 7th and 8th Grade English and French (upper school).

Mrs. Bowen has been teaching for seven years and holds a Master of Arts degree in Spanish from George Mason University. Ms. Cahill has taught history at the high school level and has both a Bachelor of Arts degree in History and one in Political Science/Public Administration from Shenandoah University. Mr. Cowherd, a graduate of WCDS in 1999, holds an undergraduate degree in History from the Virginia Military Institute and a Masters in International Relations from Boston University. Mrs. DuMez holds a Masters of Philosophy in Archaeology degree from Cambridge University, did her graduate studies at Rutgers University and also received a B.A. degree in Anthropology/Interdisciplinary Degree from Central College. Her previous work experience includes substitute

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WCDS Senior Attends Governor's School

Current senior Amir Arsalan spent four weeks this past summer at the University of Richmond, participating in the Virginia Governor's School. The program, which began in 1973, offers summer residential programs for 400 gifted students across the Commonwealth, and provides a wealth of academically and artistically challenging programs from which to choose. Each participant lives on campus and is involved in classroom work, field studies, research, individual and group projects, and seminars with noted scholars, visiting artists, and other professionals. Each Summer Residential



Governor's School continued on page 4

Academic News

First Quarter Honor Roll 2006 Head of School Honors (9.8 and above)



Abigael Whitaker
Grade 9



Marguerite Beattie
Grade 11



Patrick Dale
Grade 12

WCDS Students Break Record with Advanced Placement Test Results

This fall, Wakefield Country Day School students in tenth through twelfth grade, along with several 2006 graduates, received from the College Entrance Examination Board the results of their Advanced Placement (AP) tests taken back in the spring, and a record twenty-two students scored a 3 or better (on a scale of 1 to 5) in their tested subjects. In addition, Patrick Dale, Katie Doss, Amber Larkins, Ben Luke and Allison Russo earned the honor of being named *AP Scholars with Distinction*, a title granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams taken, and a 3 or higher on five or more of these exams. Amir Arsalan and Kevin Riedel were named *AP Scholars with Honor*, granted to students who receive an average grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and a 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Dorian Matthews and Kelly O'Connor earned the rank of *AP Scholar*, granted to students who receive a grade of at least 3 or higher on three or more AP Exams.

Marguerite Beattie, Joy Heddleston, and Amber Larkins scored a 4 in AP U.S. History, and Taylor Hammelman, Katherine Russo and Matthew Wingfield each earned a 3. In AP Biology, Allison Russo earned a 5, as did Amir Arsalan, Patrick Dale, and Kevin Riedel. Ben Luke earned a 4 in AP Biology and Dan Carrier earned a 3. In AP Latin (Vergil), Mr. Dale earned a 4, and Ben Luke and Kevin Riedel both scored 3's. In AP U.S. Government and Politics, Amir Arsalan,

Advanced Placement continued on page 4

WCDS Student Named National Merit Scholar



Kevin Riedel, Class of 2007, has been named a Commended Student in the 2007 National Merit Scholarship Program. Mr. Riedel is one of 34,000 Commended Students who placed in the top five percent of the more than 1.4 million students who entered the competition by taking the 2005 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship qualifying test. According to National Merit Scholarship officials, the young people who have been "...named Commended Students have demonstrated outstanding academic potential by their strong performance in this highly competitive program."



New Faculty, continued from page 3

teaching at Mountain Laurel Montessori School and at WCDS. Mrs. Ernest brings to WCDS over twenty years of teaching experience throughout northern Virginia. She holds a B.S. in Psychology from Liberty University, with additional studies at Mary Baldwin. Mrs. Griffin graduated from Wakefield Country Day School in 1995 and is the daughter of Dr. William Lynn and Pamela Lynn, the school's co-founders. She holds a Bachelor of Arts degree in Classical Languages from Bryn Mawr College and brings with her experience gained while teaching at several independent schools. Specializing in History and Latin, Mrs. Griffin was the keynote speaker at the 2005 Virginia Classical League Convention. Mrs. Landis has her Bachelor of Science degree in Human Nutrition and Food from Virginia Polytechnic Institute and is working towards her Education Certification through Old Dominion University's K through 6 program. Mrs. Neph, a talented vocalist, attended Interlochen Arts Academy, studied Music at Ball State University and Early Childhood Education at North Central Michigan College. She has privately taught piano and voice at the elementary school level. Mrs. Pankow holds a Masters in Education degree from Pennsylvania State University and a B.S. degree in Animal Science from the University of Maryland. Her teaching experience includes being a riding instructor for ten years, a certified athletic coach, and a substitute teacher. Mrs. Sanders has a Bachelor of Science degree from Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania, where she majored in Early Childhood and Elementary Education. She has taught third, fourth, fifth and sixth grades, tutored,

New Faculty continued on page 12

Two Middle School Students Excel in Latin

During a September Wednesday Assembly, Latin teacher John McMahon announced the results of the 2005/2006 Exploratory Latin Exam. Two middle school students received national recognition for their scores: John Morgan Christoph received a Magna Cum Laude award (score of 92%) and Will Mullany received a Cum Laude award (score of 80%).



John Morgan Christoph



Will Mullany

Governor's School, continued from page 3

Governor's School focuses on one special area of interest, and the area Amir chose was Humanities. He was fortunate in that the Richmond campus simultaneously offered a School for the Visual and Performing Arts, allowing him to attend numerous evening events featuring performances of ballet, opera, and African story-telling.

Amir described his four weeks at Governor's School as "rigorous, educational, and a great cultural experience." The subject area he concentrated on was foreign policy, which called for substantial reading, debates, and working with other students on diplomatic solutions for scenarios similar to those faced by the G-8 nations. Amir worked on a specific project entitled, "Fe, Fi, Fo, Food," which dealt with world hunger, and helped created an awareness campaign that involved collaboration with another group, whose focus was fair trade.

According to the Virginia Governor's office, "One of the most important aspects of the Summer Residential Governor's Schools is the opportunity participants have to live, study, and get to know other students with similar interests and abilities from across Virginia. Both co-curricular and extra-curricular activities are designed to encourage students' interests and abilities."

Advanced Placement, continued from page 3

Patrick Dale and Kevin Riedel each scored a 5, Ben Luke earned a 4, and Emre Bar, Jody Green, and Saawan Mehta all received 3's. In the subject of AP English Language and Composition 11, Patrick Dale, Ben Luke and Kevin Riedel each scored a 4, and Amir Arsalan and Jody Green both received a 3. Mr. Arsalan also earned a 4 in AP Calculus. In the area of AP Environmental Science, Emre Bar, Ben Clark and Amber Larkins each earned a 4, and Katie Doss and Kelly O'Connor both received a 3. In AP Literature and Composition 12, Allison Russo earned a 5, Mary Davis, Katie Doss, Caitlin Hammelman, Amber Larkins, and Kelly O'Connor each earned a 4, and Ben Clark, Dorian Matthews and Marissa Sullivan all earned 3's.

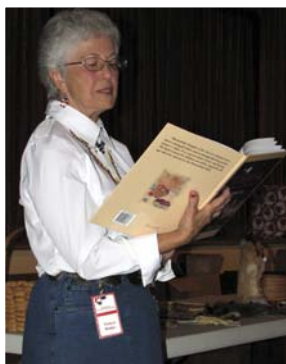
According to Head of School Kathleen Grove, "Taking on AP classes in the prep school years can help students tangibly demonstrate to potential colleges their willingness to challenge themselves and study subjects in greater depth." She also stated her strong belief that enrolling in Advanced Placement classes can serve "not only to enhance students' writing skills and problem-solving abilities, but also to promote the development of study habits critical for success in the rigorous course work covered during college

Advanced Placement continued on page 10

Reader's Digest Word Power Challenge Winners Announced

WCDS teacher Lori Perry announced the class winners of the Reader's Digest Word Power Challenge: Bret Heddleston (8th grade), Will Mullany (7th grade) Alejandro Rodriguez (6th grade), Sam Nolan (5th grade), and Michael Klosson (4th grade). The winners in grades six through eight will now go on to compete at the next level.

Local Author Shares Her Knowledge of Native-American Cultures



In mid-November, Virginia author Glenna Loving, who both wrote and illustrated the children's story Shenandoah, Daughter of the Stars, gave a presentation to several groups of WCDS lower school children. Ms. Loving, a Strasburg resident, read her beautiful children's story about a young Native American girl in the Shenandoah Valley. She also described her techniques in creating the pictures in the book, and shared her collection

of Native American artifacts. Many of the students stood in line afterward to obtain autographs from a "real author."

Chorus Added to Enrichment Options

Chorus has been added to the list of Enrichment options from which students can choose. The Wakefield Singers now meet two days a week during eighth period, under the direction of music teacher Mrs. Betsy Neph, and the group will be appearing for the first time as part of this year's Christmas Performance.



Wakefield Country Day School Launches "Visiting Artist" Program

This fall, WCDS launched a new "Visiting Artists" program, conceived and organized by Suzanne Zylonis, the head of Wakefield's Art Department. Each week, the program will feature a special "guest artist," who will teach art in a medium in which he or she specializes. During the week of September 18th, Massachusetts artist David Costello was the featured guest lecturer. Costello is, among his many talents, an illustrator and author of children's books. Throughout the week, Mr. Costello shared his knowledge on the "language of picture-making" with the prep school students who take Wakefield's Studio Art class.

The young artists learned about illustrations, and the symbolism expressed in lines, such as how horizontal lines convey stability. Mr. Costello also touched upon the challenges of creating comics, explaining sequential art and the relationship between individual drawings.

As an added treat, Costello visited with the first grade classes in the library and read Here They Come, a Halloween book he both wrote and



Focus on the Arts

Songwriter Paul Reisler Makes Encore Appearance

During October, WCDS happily welcomed back renowned songwriter Paul Reisler. Mr. Reisler worked with lower school students to write original songs to be performed at a concert on January 27th. The children generated song titles, lyrics, and melodies such as "Come Back for Me Across the Sea to Africa," by grade two; "Taxi Blues" by grade six; and "Ghost in My Closet," by grade one. Every Wednesday, WCDS students sing "Passion and Mercy," the school fight song which was written last year by the junior class with Mr. Reisler.



illustrated. Accompanied by his easel, ukulele, and a rather-shy hobgoblin puppet, Mr. Costello's presentation thrilled his audience. Squealing with delight, the students gave input and direction to the artist who, before their eyes, created a special two-headed, marshmallow dragon monster.

Mr. Costello patiently answered question upon question that

tumbled forth from his curious and energetic fans. He also has a new publication in the works – a three words-per-page book designed to help little ones learn to read entitled, I Can Help. Asked how he spends most of his time, Mr.



Costello described his "day job" as one in which he paints scenery for theatre, motion pictures and television. He has worked on sets for the movies such as "Mystic River" and "Spider-Man," Broadway plays such as "Hello Dolly!" and television shows including "Conviction" and "6 Degrees."

Other artists who agreed to share their creative talents throughout the year include: Kevin Adams, Deborah DuMez, Andrew Haley, Jennifer Heavenly, Tom Mullany, Kerrie Mullany, Maggie Rogers, Peg Schadler, Barbara Sherwood, Chris Stephens, Pamela Lynn-Tucker, and Beth Wellemeyer.



Athletes of the Month

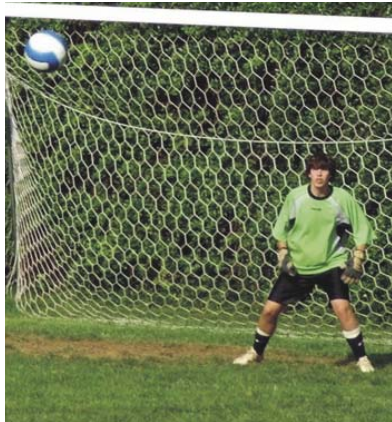
Katherine Russo, a junior, was the recipient of the Female Athlete of the Month for September. According to Coach Kenney, Ms. Russo, a setter on the Girls' Varsity Volleyball team, "was rewarded for her overall hustle, determination and ability." Coach Suzanne Zylonis applauded her play at the net, and her tremendous serving ability. During the season, Russo helped the Owls accomplish a difficult win over Colonial Beach by serving eight straight points in the deciding fifth-game against the Drifters.



During October, Taylor Hammelman, a junior midfielder for the Girls' Varsity Volleyball team, led the Owls to a near upset of previously undefeated Shenandoah Valley Christian Academy. According to Athletic Director Mike Kenney, "Taylor spearheaded a late comeback win over Colonial Beach, and she played solidly during the entire month, as the Owls split their eight October contests."



Pablo Solans-Corvinos, a native of Spain who is attending WCDS this year, is a senior forward on the Boys' Varsity Soccer team. In congratulating Mr. Solans-Corvinos for being named WCDS Male Athlete of the Month for October, Athletic Director Mike Kenney described his solid performance throughout the month: "Pablo scored two goals in the WCDS 3-1 soccer win over Massanutten Military Academy and followed that up with a two-goal performance against Fireside Christian Academy. Solans-Corvinos also recorded six goals and two assists in October."



Derek Perry, a junior and the goalie for the Boys' Varsity Soccer team, was named Male Athlete of the Month for September. During the season, Perry had a stretch where he allowed just a pair of goals over a two-game span. According to Athletic Director Mike Kenney,

"Derek racked up nearly fifty saves during a season that saw WCDS tie Wakefield School and record a 3-1 win over Massanutten Military Academy."

Walkathon 2006

On Tuesday, November 14th, Physical Education teacher Mrs. Julie Vaught once again hosted a walkathon to help raise funds for the P.E. Department. Tying into the theme of International Week, international displays lined the gymnasium, describing the characteristics of the countries that are "home" to our 15 international students. American students joined hands with international students to "walk around the world with Wakefield." Each class walked, skipped, galloped and performed several other creative moves for 20 - 30 minutes each. After completing their "walk," pre-kindergarten through eighth grade students interviewed each of the international students, all of whom gave interesting and informative presentations on their native lands. Small prizes and snacks were distributed to all the participants in reward for their hard work. With final numbers still being tallied, it appears over \$2,000 was raised this year.



WCDS Honors Its Athletes at Sports Awards Ceremony

Wakefield Country Day School (WCDS) varsity, junior varsity and middle school athletes gathered with their parents and friends on November 3rd for the 2006 WCDS Fall Athletic Awards Ceremony, organized by WCDS Athletic Director Mike Kenney to highlight and reward the efforts of the young men and women who were involved in sports at Wakefield this fall. The teams recognized during the evening were boys' varsity and middle school soccer, girls' varsity, junior varsity and middle school volleyball, and cross-country. In congratulating the students for their efforts both on and off the field, Head of School Kathleen Grove spoke of the important role that sports play, not only in the development of physical skills, but also in building teamwork, good sportsmanship, and camaraderie among the team members. Mrs. Grove expressed the school's appreciation to Athletic Director Mike Kenney for his hard work, noting that the number of WCDS athletic teams has grown from seven to sixteen under his leadership.

A record 28 students went out for the boys' varsity soccer team this season, and two members of the girls' varsity volleyball team were singled out by the Delaney Athletic Conference (DAC) for their performance on the court. Katherine Russo, a junior from Flint Hill, was named First-Team All Conference performer in the DAC, placing in the top 7 of over 100 conference players, and her teammate Emma Clark of Huntly was awarded Honorable Mention, having placed in the top 16 conference players.

Mrs. Ann Pankow, who coached middle school girls' volleyball, announced that Hailey Miller was the recipient of the *Most Valuable Player* award, *Most Improved* went to



Shannon Weir, Hannah Tufts was given the *Coach's* award, and Kimberly Pankow received a special *Server's* award, for being the only fifth grader in the Conference with an over-hand serve.

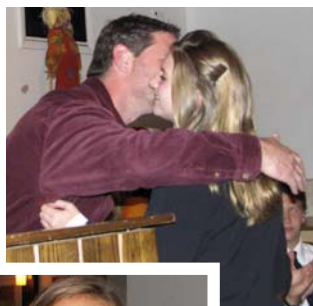
Mr. Gregory Bancroft, who coached junior varsity girls' volleyball, announced that Jessica Lester was the winner of the title, *Most Valuable Player*; Rachael Carrier captured the *Coach's* award, and his daughter, Julia Bancroft, was awarded *Most Improved*.



WCDS Athletic Director Mike Kenney, who coached cross-country; spoke of senior Dan Carrier's solid performance, dedication and conscientiousness as the sole cross-country team member this year. Tenth grader Jesse Marsh, who along with his father, Dan, coached middle school boys' soccer this year, spoke on behalf of the Middle School soccer team. Woody Hazel was given the *Coach's* award, Brian Shafran and Ryan Ochoa shared the *Most Valuable Player* award, with Brian on offense, and Ryan on defense, and the two in turn awarded Alejandro Rodriguez the *Most Improved* award.

Ms. Suzanne Zylonis, who coached varsity girls' volleyball, announced that co-captains Emma Clark, Taylor Hammelman and Katherine Russo shared the distinction of earning the *Most Valuable Player* award, Christine Pankow, an eighth grader, was recognized as *Most Improved*, and Elida Opitz was honored with the *Coach's* award. Chantel Paul, a senior who was sidelined mid-season with an injury, was presented with Coach Zylonis' whistle.

Last, but not least, Mr. Jeff Perry, who coached boys' varsity soccer, announced his awards for the season: Pablo Solans-Covinos earned the *Players' Choice* award, the *120%* award went to Jong Lim, the title *Most Valuable Player* was shared by Patrick Dale and Derek Perry, and Ian McCool was recognized as *Rookie of the Year*.



WCDS Fall Events

Students "Ignited" With School Spirit

Inhabitants of Wakefield Country Day (adults and children alike!) spent October 13 - 20 creatively celebrating "Spirit Week," beginning with *Red and White Day*, with the newly assembled Dance Team enthusiastically leading the way. For an entire week, students pulled together costumes that demonstrated their creativity in capturing the "theme of the day."

Monday was designated as *Clash Day*, and sunglasses came in handy with all the bright colors and patterns on parade at the school. This was followed by *Crazy Hair and Hat Day* on Tuesday. Wednesday, the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Tests (PSATs) were administered to the eighth through twelfth graders, so everyone took a break. Spirit Week resumed on Thursday, with *Literary and Historical Figure Day*. If you happened to stroll down the halls that day, you were likely to meet a wide-range of notables, including Albert Einstein, Shakespeare's Juliet, Cleopatra, several U.S. Presidents, the author Laura Ingalls Wilder, and the Hardy Boys, to name just a few. The grand finale was Friday's *Pirate Day*, with both students and faculty getting in the spirit, with eye patches, hooks, and peg-legs, with each mate scarier than the next! Argh!!! Friday evening, most of the prep school turned out for the bonfire, which was presided over by



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Fall Festival continued from page 1

2:00 p.m., the focus shifted to the soccer field, where the alumni gave the prep school athletes a run for their money in a hotly contested soccer match. The teams were fairly evenly matched, but ultimately junior Alex Shafran carried the day with a winning goal in the closing minutes of the second half.



The final score was WCDS Prep School - 2, WCDS Alumni - 1. At the end of the day, several hundred Wakefield friends and family had attended a good, old-fashioned community fair which served as a great venue to raise funds for a host of good "causes." Proceeds from table rentals for this year's yard sale go towards the school's growing "portable computer lab" fund. The day's celebration was capped by an evening Homecoming Dance attended by students in eighth through twelfth grade, interspersed with cameo appearances by recent graduates.

WCDS Ghosts and Goblins Share Some Holiday Cheer

Halloween 2006 found Wakefield Country Day School hallways awash with both scary and beautiful characters, among them ghosts and goblins, princesses,



puppies, monkeys, and dragons. Repeating what has become a Kindergarten tradition, thanks to teacher Mrs. Kathy Nilan, about 30 little ones made a special field trip to the Lynn Care Center in Front Royal. They brought with them a bit of Halloween magic to the residents, singing Halloween songs and reciting special fall poems to an extremely appreciative audience. In keeping with another long-standing school tradition, the upper school students created a special "haunted house" for the lower school students to tour during lunch. The "haunted effect" was greatly enhanced by materials on loan from the Flint Hill Volunteer Fire and Rescue Company, and the ghoulish residents adjusted the "scare factor," depending on the ages of their student visitors. The day ended with all the lower school students changing into costumes for classroom celebrations while students in grades seven and eight enjoyed their own haunted house, courtesy of teacher Mrs. Welby Griffin. Among other "spooky" assignments, the students played a mythological variation of bingo, matching candy to mythological characters and creatures.

WCDS Students Visit Mexico City

In late October, a group of 6th through 9th grade students traveled to Mexico City for a week, as part of an ongoing exchange program with the Westhill Institute. Mrs. Silvana Ruckman, our lower school Spanish teacher, and Mr. Chandresh Mehta, a parent who once lived in Mexico City, acted as chaperones. Throughout the week, students attended classes at the American international school, visited museums, climbed pyramids, and attended a special Halloween party and a ceremony recognizing "El Dia des Muertes" (the Day of the Dead). Student participants were:



Daniel Chadduck, Henry Johnson, Shannon Weir, Hannah Tufts, Alex Hinton, Dustin Milam, Christine Pankow, Sonia Mehta, Katie Huang, and Carl Liles. Several of the students stayed with children who visited WCDS last spring. Upon their return, the Wakefield contingent expressed its appreciation for the hospitality extended by the Westhill students, faculty and parents. Everyone looks forward to welcoming back visitors from Westhill in the near future. Below is an article written by WCDS chaperone Silvana Ruckman, recounting the trip.

We traveled to Mexico City in late October, not knowing what to expect. Prior to our departure, we had discussed the city's rich history, environmental issues due to the city's location, and most important, the city's size, the second largest in the world! We felt at ease as soon as we met our host Mexican families. They were all eager to meet us, and welcomed us with big smiles and warm words. We were so excited to finally be in Mexico City. We



were all driven to our new "homes" and treated as part of the family. First, we visited the Museo of Antropologia, one of Mexico's biggest attractions. We enjoyed the Aztec section where we got to see a large scale model of what Tenochtitlan (Mexico City's first name) looked like during the Aztec period. The Aztec Calendar was our favorite, as we had read so much about it in class over the past year. Next, we took the Turibus, a double-decker bus that took us around the city, stopping at the main points of interest. We selected El Zocalo as our stop, so we could walk around the center of the city, visit the Cathedral, and see the wonderful array of handicrafts being sold around the plaza. In the next few days we traveled to the caverns of Cacahuamilpa, where we explored for many hours an amazing show of lights and earth formations. Just a short drive from the caverns, we discovered the beautiful town of Taxco, famous for its silver production and craftsmanship. We traveled about 25 miles from Mexico City to Teotihuacan, the City of Gods, as it was called by the Aztecs. We



climbed the huge pyramid of El Sol (The Sun) and enjoyed the view of the whole city from above. We ended our trip with another visit to El Zocalo on the Day of the Dead and to Templo Mayor. El Zocalo had an enormous

display from each area of the country, with colorful displays of flowers, foods and of course the typical candy "Calaveras" (skulls). At El Templo Mayor, we were fascinated by the large display of Aztec artifacts, sculptures, tools and masks discovered right there on that location. We even were able to attend a play explaining the significance of The Day of the Dead. The city with its rich history, friendly people and delicious foods is a wonderful place to visit. We fell in love with Mexico!

- Silvana Ruckman

On November 8th, in commemoration of Veterans Day 2006, WCDS students and faculty extended a warm welcome to Flint Hill resident and U.S. Navy veteran David Hilty, who was the guest speaker at a special assembly honoring veterans. In commemorating this special national holiday, Mr. Hilty reflected on the dedication, honor, patriotism, and service of our nation's veterans. He also pointed out the many contributions that veterans' families make in support of their loved ones who serve in the armed forces -- describing the long absences and many relocations his family members experienced during his years of service. During his naval career, Captain Hilty logged over 10,000 flight hours as a Naval Aviator, served as Deputy Office Director in the Office of the Secretary of Defense's Near Eastern and Asian Affairs office, and served in several command positions, including Commanding Officer of the Naval Air Facility , Lajes, Azores, Portugal. During his remarks, Mr. Hilty summarized the evolution of the selective service process, explaining the difference between the draft that existed during World War II, the Korean



He stressed the need for team work, whether it be as a student or as a soldier, he encouraged his audience to "keep their finger on the pulse" of what is happening around them, and to go on "dreaming the impossible dream." Mrs. Grove encouraged the students to call their grandparents, aunts, uncles, or other relatives who are veterans to thank them for their service and wish them a happy Veterans Day.

Alumni News

Alumni News

Best wishes to **Courtney Beeton**, Class of 1993 and former WCDS English faculty member (2000), on her marriage to Paolo Toscano. The couple had a ceremony in Italy on the Amalfi Coast and later in Lexington, VA.



Courtney is currently living in Rome where she teaches 5th grade at Ambric Rome International School.

Congratulations to **Niall O'Donnell**, Class of 1998, who married the former Sherry Long on November 4, 2006 in Front Royal, Virginia. Pictured from left to right are WCDS friends Peter Hickson, Niall O'Donnell, his brother Hugh, and **Charles Cowherd**, Class of 1999.



Mark Your Calendar!

WCDS Silver Bucket Game

Tuesday, December 26th at 1:00 p.m.
Alumni vs. Prep School

Advanced Placement, continued from page 4

years. I admire the way our teachers work as instructors and coaches to prepare our students for these challenging exams assessed by outside and objective experts." The College Board offers exams for 37 courses across 22 subject areas, and promotes the advantages of taking such courses as "gaining the edge in college preparation," and getting a "head start on college-level work." Based on successful performance on AP Exams (3 and above), most colleges and universities in the United States award credit and/or advanced placement to new students, and more than 1,400 institutions award a full year's credit to those who earn a sufficient number of qualifying grades.

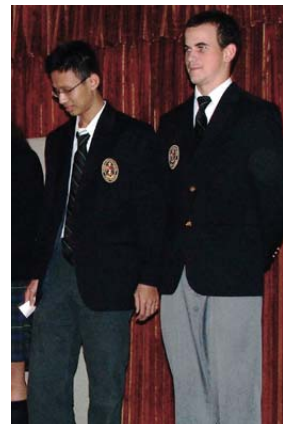
WCDS Hosts Fifteen International Students

This year, WCDS is host to fifteen international students who are visiting us via several different exchange programs. Five students are here for one year through a foreign exchange program run by the Aspect Foundation: Imane Belhaj (Morocco); Cecilie Greve (Norway); Junilson Brito (Brazil); and Victoria and Nuria Rubio-Lafita (Spain). Aspect is a small non-profit organization that offers affordable study-abroad opportunities to students from around the world. Founded in 1985, the foundation has arranged for students to live with volunteer host families in more than 350 communities throughout the United States. Japanese student



Yasuyuki Akashi comes to us via Sakura, a student exchange program that places Japanese students for their junior year in high schools throughout the United States and Canada to absorb culture and strengthen their English skills. Pablo Solans-Corvinos, a junior from Spain, is with us for one semester, and Sarah Matot of Belgium is attending WCDS to enhance her English skills, courtesy of the Cugnon family. Four of our twelfth graders this

year are Korean students: Peter Kim, Jong Lim, Se-Youn Lim, and Ho-sung Woo, joined this year by tenth grader Seong-Muk Jeong. Bora Ercanturk of Turkey is spending his second year here at WCDS and will be a member of the Class of 2007, and junior Thanh Duy Huyunh of Viet Nam is also here to earn his diploma.



WCDS Students Take Time Out for Fun



Community Involvement



On and Off Campus



WCDS Enters Float in Flint Hill Parade

WCDS, a long time supporter of Flint Hill Volunteer Fire and Rescue's annual summer fund raising carnival, expanded its participation this year with the inclusion of a Wakefield float in the Friday evening parade. Using "Famous Historical and Mythological Figures" as the theme, students who had participated in Ms. Chatelain's wax museum of famous U.S. Explorers, characters from last year's fifth grade **Heracles** play, and the stars of Ms. Hauger's adaptation of the **Trojan Wars** play donned costumes and climbed aboard the Wakefield float. The crowd lining the streets of Flint Hill responded enthusiastically to the waves from such diverse characters as Sitting Bull, Johnny Appleseed, Queen Elizabeth, Pocahontas, Aphrodite and other WCDS characters who helped distribute candy as they "floated" on Mr. Scott Clough's flatbed truck, escorted by Mrs. Grove. For the past several years, Student Government and Key Club members have helped Company Four raise funds by manning one or more of its game booths, with this year being no exception. Students and recent alumni ran the basketball booth, soccer booth, supplied targets for the dunking booth, and helped out at other booths as needed.

photos clockwise from top:

WCDS welcomes the Tufts, Murray, and Bowen families at 4-H Back to School Party.

Visitors for Fire Prevention Week

Members of both the Flint Hill and Chester Gap Volunteer Fire and Rescue squads visited WCDS in October to teach students about fire prevention.

WCDS Visits Lynn Care Center for Halloween

Brooke Miller and Brooke Woodward spread a bit of Halloween cheer among the Lynn Care Center residents in Front Royal.

WCDS Students Are "Dogs' Best Friends"

Nearly a dozen WCDS volunteers showed up for the Rappahannock Animal Welfare League's "Strutt Your Mutt" event on October 28th to lend a hand in the parking lot, with check-in, selling concessions, and "showing off the dogs."

Lions Club member Larry Grove administers sight test.



Special Thanks to Our Generous Friends:

- ☞ The Rappahannock Lions Club for pledging \$600 towards the \$1,400 needed to purchase an automated electronic defibrillator (AED) for the school.
- ☞ WCDS parent Larry Wingfield, for donating many hours of work to build the deck for our new trailer.
- ☞ Derek and Tanner Perry's grandfather, Donald Perry, for purchasing new jerseys for the boys varsity soccer team.
- ☞ WCDS parent and Pre-K teacher Kim Shafran, for her donation to the Dance Team for new uniforms.
- ☞ WCDS parent and security expert Jason Phillippe, for providing free consultation on security for our school.
- ☞ Mr. McCarthy of Verizon, for donating 50 chair desks.
- ☞ WCDS parent Scott Clough and his mother, along with WCDS parent MaryKay McCool, who together created the new scorer's table in the gymnasium.
- ☞ Williams Brothers (WCDS parents Angie and George Williams), for assistance in color printing when our copy machine malfunctioned.
- ☞ Burton-Hammond Post 2524 VFW members, who gave WCDS a \$500 scholarship in honor of Leonard Cowherd.
- ☞ Rappahannock National Bank, for contributing \$1,000 in scholarship funds.
- ☞ Special thanks to a group of generous friends in and around Rappahannock County who helped establish a new full scholarship this year and wish to remain anonymous.

School Spirit, continued from page 8



the Flint Hill Volunteer Fire and Rescue Squad. During the evening's festivities, the Key Club raised money for charity with a car smash, and students enjoyed refreshments and games such as "capture the flag," with drop-ins by recent alumni.



Wakefield Country Day School
PO Box 739
Flint Hill, Virginia 22627

WCDS is on the Web! See us at:
www.wakefieldcds.org

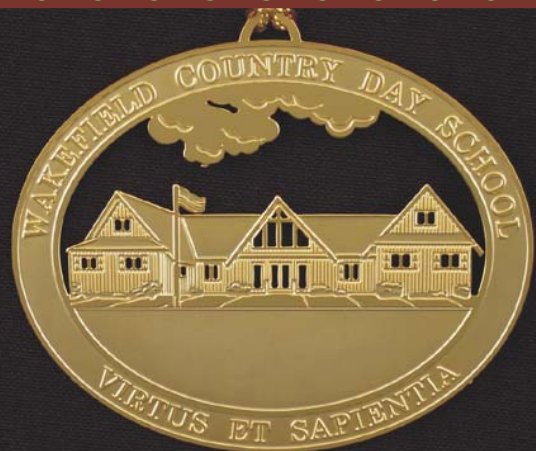
To contribute to the next issue of the *Huntly Herald*, please e-mail: **publications@wakefieldcds.org**

Articles by Kathie Russo, Joyce Hunt & Kathleen Grove
Photos by Marcy Lauben, Kathie Russo, and the WCDS Year-book Staff
Newsletter Design & Layout by Marcy Lauben

New Faculty, continued from page 4

established and run Mathematics clubs and served as an Information Specialist at the U.S. Department of Justice. Mrs. Youngquist has a B.A. in Art History from Indiana University, and also studied at the Università per Stranieri in Perugia, Italy. She previously taught English at the International Center for Language Studies, as well as provided private English tutorials at the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. Ms. Zanchettin has a Bachelor of Arts degree from the University of Richmond, was a translator for APE International, has tutored college students in French, and studied abroad at Sup De Co, La Rochelle, France.

An early observation from the new Spanish teacher, Mrs. Bowen: "What has impressed me the most as a new teacher at WCDS is the school's philosophy that students achieve the most when they are challenged to excel and held to the highest academic standards, and the belief that intellectual and moral development are inseparable in the education process. It has been my experience that students do indeed thrive learning in such an environment, and will be prepared not only academically, but also have social and moral guidelines to help them make life choices in future years."



Searching for that perfect holiday gift? Why not purchase a special WCDS ornament, for only \$15.00, (proceeds to benefit our WCDS Alumni Program). Please call 540-635-8555, ext. 232 for further details.

PLACE
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