



The Huntly HERALD

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A Message from the Head of School, Kathleen Grove



Dear Alumni, Families, and Friends of Wakefield Country Day School,

A changed and yet unchanged school greeted our students this fall. The facility is receiving upgrades even as we stay true to the delivery of a high quality, classical education that develops both character and intellect. This summer we expanded

and updated our science labs, creating two full-size rooms, one for the life sciences and one for physics and chemistry. We added a new modular building with a central hallway, two bathrooms on the hall way and four bathrooms in classrooms, and six large classrooms (two for kindergarten, two for grade one, one for grade two which has another section elsewhere, and one for lower school Spanish). The upper school hallway received a fresh coat of paint, and the stairs near the library got new flooring. Our auditorium now has speakers in the back as well as the front, allowing all students to hear the softer-voiced presenters. Attendees to athletic contests can sit on brand-new bleachers (red, of course) to cheer our teams. We are beginning a renovation of the girls' locker room and a redesign of the playground. Combined with the recent painting of the outside and the new flooring, chairs, and tables in the auditorium, our venerable building is getting a bit of a face-lift. While we undertake these physical changes cautiously and frugally, we continue to keep our focus on our mission and our traditions. Stop in and see the changes, and enjoy the unchanged!

Looking forward to your visit,
Kathleen Grove
Head of School



2007 Advanced Placement Scholars Announced

This fall, officials at Wakefield Country Day School were notified by the College Board that ten of their upper school students had earned the distinction of being named AP Scholars, in recognition of their exceptional achievement on the college-level Advanced Placement (AP) Program Exams. Approximately 18% of the more than 1.4 million high school students worldwide who took the AP Exams performed at a level high enough to merit recognition as an AP Scholar. These students take college level courses at their schools and then take a three-hour objective and essay exam that is scored by the College Board.

Advanced Placement, continued on page 3



Pen & Ink Drawing by Thomas F. Tepper

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Fall Events

WCDS Welcomes New Teachers

by Joyce Hunt

WCDS welcomed ten new teachers to the faculty this fall. Expressing her satisfaction with the diversity of background and experience that these very qualified teachers bring to the school, Mrs. Grove noted, "They are committed to the high expectations for achievement and character promoted by their new school."

Nicole Brady comes to WCDS from Buzz Aldrin Elementary School in Reston, Virginia. She has primary responsibility for grade six, and will teach fifth grade science. Ms. Brady has a Bachelor of Arts from Virginia Polytechnic and State University, a Masters from Marymount University, and graduate school instruction in technology from Old Dominion University. She joins her husband in Rappahannock County where they are building their new home.

Kim Burgess joins the lower school as a teacher in first grade. Ms. Burgess has taught in Warren County and lives in Middletown, Virginia. She obtained a B.S. degree from James Madison University.

Sra. Angeline Cancio-Bello teaches upper school Spanish. She has a Bachelor's degree from University of Puerto Rico, a Master's degree in psychology from Inter-American University, has taught at a boarding school in Latin America and in parochial schools in the United States. This summer she completed a seminar in Advanced Placement Spanish endorsed by the College Board. Bienvenidos, Sra. Cancio-Bello!

Tara Johnson from Front Royal is working in the kindergarten as an assistant teacher. Her credentials range from a Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast Journalism and Communications from Elizabeth Town College, Pennsylvania to a degree in Interpretation for the Deaf from Galludet University in Washington, D.C. She has worked as an American Sign Language interpreter, as a teacher of American Sign Language at Lord Fairfax, and as a volunteer with the Peace Corps in Turkmenistan.

Joining the WCDS science department, Alexander Popkin teaches pre-calculus, calculus, physics and chemistry. Mr. Popkin comes from Nashville, Tennessee where he recently completed his Masters in mathematics at Vanderbilt University. He obtained his undergraduate degree in computer science and course work in physics and chemistry from Harvey Mudd College. Mr. Popkin is excited about teaching in the new science labs that were installed at WCDS this summer.

Lower school music teacher Regine Roger is a private music teacher from Culpeper, Virginia. Ms. Roger has a Bachelor of Science in Music with a concentration in voice from the City University of New York. In addition to teaching lower school music, Ms. Roger works with the upper school chorus and is offering piano and guitar lessons.



Susanna Spencer joins us from Madison, Virginia as the new librarian. Ms. Spencer has a Bachelor of Science in United States History and Sociology/Secondary Education from Indiana University, and a Masters of Arts in American Civilization and Museum Administration from George Washington University. She is enrolled at present in a Media Specialist Program at Longwood University in Virginia.

Nancy Waldron has primary responsibility for grade five, sharing duties for sixth grade with Ms. Brady. Ms. Waldron recently relocated to Warren County from Fairfax, Virginia where she taught at St. Leo's. Her undergraduate degree is from Tulane University with postgraduate course work at University of New Orleans, University of Virginia, and Trinity University.

New Teachers, continued on page 4

WCDS Launches Science Lab Initiative

This summer, Wakefield Country Day School, already known for its outstanding history and English programs, undertook an initiative to upgrade its upper school science facilities, which included the modernization



Advanced Placement continued from page 1

Amir Arsalan, who graduated in 2007, was named an AP National Scholar, having earned an average grade of 4 or above (the maximum score is a 5) on at least 8 AP Exams. Two Class of 2007 students were named AP Scholars with Distinction: Patrick Dale and Benjamin Luke, both of whom earned an average grade of 3.5 or higher on all exams taken, and a grade of at least 3 on five or more of these exams. Marguerite Beattie, a senior, received the designation of AP Scholar with Honor, having earned a grade of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams taken, and a grade of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams. Two members of the Class of 2007 – Jody Green and Saawan Mehta, and four seniors – Taylor Hammelman, Joy Heddleston, Derek Perry and Katherine Russo, were named AP Scholars, a designation given to students who received grades of 3 or higher on three or more AP exams. Ms. Hammelman also had the additional distinction of being named a Commended Student for her performance on the Preliminary Scholastic Aptitude Test (PSAT) last fall. She is one of 34,000 commended students out of 1.4 million students who took the PSAT in 2006.

Based on successful performance on the AP Exams, most colleges and universities in the United States award credit, advanced placement or both, and more than 1,400 institutions award a full year's credit to students who earn a sufficient number of qualifying grades. Wakefield Country Day School (WCDS) offers nine AP courses: AP U.S. History; AP U.S. Government; AP Comparative Government; AP Biology; AP Environmental Science; AP English Literature; AP English Language Composition; AP Latin and AP Calculus, along with others on a year-by-year basis. WCDS submitted syllabi for these courses for College Board review as part of the AP Audit in 2007 and received approval for all of them.

of the existing biology lab and the creation of a second lab for chemistry and physics. This initiative helped facilitate an increase in the number of science classes offered for the 2007-2008 academic year, while also providing better instruction and lab space, more up-to-date equipment, and computer technology.

During the second week of September, the younger WCDS students visited the new and improved chemistry and biology labs, where they were briefed by science faculty members Nabers Johnson and Alexander Popkin on some of the newest features now available as part of Wakefield's enhanced science curriculum. Both teachers are confident that these new additions will engage students in more interactive learning and also will help to illustrate difficult scientific concepts in a more effective way. Mr. Popkin gave a presentation on the "states of matter" to pre-kindergarten, kindergarten, and grade two students, using acetone and Styrofoam to demonstrate the amount of air in the mass of a piece of Styrofoam. Grades one and four visited the biology classes, where the children joined upper school students under Mrs. Johnson's leadership to use



First Certamen Awards of the Year

A group of seventh and eighth grade students attended the Junior Classical League Kickoff Certamen in Alexandria, Virginia, on Saturday, October 27, where they competed against teams from approximately 20 other schools. The Level I team of Marc Cugnon, Henry Johnson, and Carl Liles won all their rounds and placed fifth, based on total points. The Level I Advanced Team of John Morgan Christoph, Julia Hale, Will Mullany, and Ryan Ochoa had a strong showing and placed fourth.

First Quarter Honor Roll Released Two Receive Top Honors



First quarter report cards were distributed on October 26th, with a record number of students earning first and second honors. Two students received "Head of School" honors, having attained a grade point average of 9.8 or above – eleventh grader Audrey Speer and twelfth grader Marguerite Beattie.

microscopes to see the parts of a plant with cross-sections and iodine. Grades three, five, and six conducted their own labs in the biology classroom. After their visits, each student received a special bookmark with a quote from Einstein, "Every day I remind myself that my inner and outer life are based on the labors of other men, living and dead, and that I must exert myself in order to give in the same measure as I have received and am still receiving."

The costs associated with this initiative are: \$165,511 for construction completed thus far, and \$75,000 for laboratory equipment. Thanks to the generosity of one of our parents, every dollar we raise for lab construction will be matched, dollar for dollar. We invite Wakefield families and friends who have not yet done so to donate to the WCDS Science Lab Initiative. Help us continue the Wakefield tradition of providing a "classical education for the 21st Century" – one that employs the best traditional methods and also recognizes the need to keep pace with today's rapidly emerging technologies.

New Teachers

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The WCDS Mathematics Department welcomes Damain Alexander Wassel, a graduate of the College of William and Mary magna cum laude with a B.A. in philosophy and a minor in mathematics. Mr. Wassel teaches Algebra I & II, Geometry, and Philosophy. He has worked as a tutor and instructional assistant, and he is a recipient of the Jerry Miller Award at William and Mary for excellence in philosophical writing.

Paul Weaver comes to WCDS from Fort Valley, Virginia, and teaches English 9 and pre-algebra. Mr. Weaver holds a Bachelor of Arts in English from Saint Vincent College and a Masters from the University of Dayton.

All WCDS faculty are college graduates, with thirty-nine percent have earned Master's degrees.

WCDS Students Earn Top Honors at Junior Classical League National Convention

Over the summer, nine students, together with their Latin teacher, Mrs. Welby Griffin, attended the 54th National Junior Classical League Convention held at the University of Tennessee, Knoxville. The event drew 1,600 Latin students from around the nation to compete in a wide variety of academic, athletic, artistic and creative events that relate to the study of the classics. Wakefield's group of seventh and eighth grade students brought home an impressive forty-one awards from the highly competitive event. Drawing on their knowledge of Latin, and benefiting from Wakefield's strong emphasis on writing and vocabulary, the students swept the top two spots in their division of the Essay writing contest and earned four of the top ten spots on the Latin Derivatives test. They also showed off their knowledge of complicated Adobe Photoshop software by winning the top three awards in the Computer Enhanced Photography graphic arts competition. All of the Wakefield delegates ranked within the top 50 of the 1,600 attendees for their overall achievements, with John Morgan Christoph and Will Mullany ranking 23rd and 29th respectively.

Awards:

John Morgan Christoph

1st Essay, 1st Large Models, 1st Maps, 1st Small Models, 3rd Slogan, 4th Classical Geography Test, 8th Reading Comprehension Test, 8th Overall in Creative Arts

Jessica Coello

2nd Mosaics, 5th Latin Derivatives Test, 6th Jewelry, 10th Mottoes Test, Finalist, Open Certamen

Julia Hale

1st Computer Enhanced Photography, 1st Pottery, 5th Jewelry

Bret Heddleston

2nd Essay, 3rd Computer Enhanced Photography

Alex Hinton

2nd Computer Enhanced Photography, 2nd Small Models, 6th Latin Derivatives Test, 6th Impromptu Art, 7th Roman Life Test, 8th Latin Vocabulary Test, 8th Mottoes Test

Will Mullany

1st Cartoons, 2nd Black Ink, 3rd Illustrated Quotes, 3rd Mixed Media, 3rd Impromptu Art, 6th Latin Derivatives, 6th Black Pencil, 7th Roman History Test, 10th Classical Geography Test

Ryan Ochoa

3rd Latin Derivatives Test, 4th Large Models, 5th Latin Vocabulary Test, 7th Classical Geography Test

Alice Silva

3rd Oil/Acrylic Paintings, 3rd Jewelry, 4th Roman Life and Culture Test

Danielle Stryker

5th Dolls, 8th Costume Contest, Junior Girls

Club News

WCDS Officials Administer Oath to New Class Officers and Prefects



At the September 21st Assembly, Student Government president and vice president Marguerite Beattie and Joy Heddleston

swore in the 2007/2008 WCDS class representatives and class prefects: This year's elected representatives are: Evan Lester (4th), Madison Romine (5th), Alex Foster (6th), Hailey Miller (7th), John Morgan Christoph (8th), Bret Heddleston (9th), Katie Huang (10th), Sean O'Connor (11th), and Katherine Russo (12th).

Key Club



Thanks to the organizational efforts of Key Club president Katie von Fange and her fellow officers, eleven excited Wakefield Country Day School students rode aboard a WCDS float in the Flint Hill Volunteer Fire and Rescue Carnival Parade held in August. Dressed in colorful medieval costumes and accompanied by Head of School Kathleen Grove, the group succeeded in capturing second place in the fire company's float competition. The students could hardly contain their enthusiasm as they eagerly waved and tossed candy to the friendly spectators who lined the streets of Flint Hill. This is the second year that the school has entered a float in the popular annual parade, and the students were thrilled to have the opportunity to participate. Congratulations also to the winners of the first place float trophy this year – the Rappahannock County Girl Scouts, whose membership includes WCDS students Sarah Merritt, Megan Kelley, and Shannon Kelley. Other Key Club activities planned

for the year include help with Family Fun nights; an International Students event; Soup for Supper; and a special Christmas project.

Chess Club Reintroduced



If you've passed by the Wakefield auditorium on Friday afternoons, you've had the opportunity to observe WCDS students of varied ages concentrating intently over chess boards. Mr. Alexander Popkin, one of our newest faculty members, circulates among them, offering advice and coaching tips to students as they begin to absorb the subtleties of chess. During the initial gathering, Mr. Popkin divided the students into skill groups and gave a basic lesson with a demonstration board to those who were unsure of moves and procedures. Turn-out for this new club has been extremely high – 30 students showed up in just one afternoon.

Spanish Club "On the Road"

On a beautiful fall Sunday, seven members of the WCDS Spanish Club traveled to Washington, D.C. to observe some of the celebrations of Hispanic Heritage Month that took place in our nation's capital. They enjoyed Latin American foods for lunch at the Museum of the American Indian and then went to the Museum of Women in the Arts to watch a performance of the Quetzales Mexican Dance Ensemble. Afterwards, they visited the Frida Kahlo exhibit and also watched outdoor performances of Flamenco dancing.

Drama Club



The WCDS Drama Club is working on two one-act plays that its members will perform in January. According to coach Kristin Hauger, "*Trifles* is an exploration of differences in perception based on gender in an early 20th century murder case, and *Overtones* reveals the 'primitive selves' of two self-absorbed society ladies."

Students appointed to the Prefect Court are: Alejandro Rodriguez (7th), Cynthia Rodriguez (8th), Ryan Ochoa (9th), Annelise Riedel (10th), Rachael Carrier (11th), and Emma Clark (12th).

Together they pledged to faithfully execute the office of prefect/class representative in accordance with the Student Government Charter, to use that office to benefit their peers, and to support, defend, and preserve "the Wakefield Way" to the best of their abilities.



Student Government Offers Soccer Program for "Little Owls"



This fall, student government leaders Marguerite Beattie and Joy Heddleston offered lower school students in grades one through five the option of playing soccer after school. This new after-school opportunity was a big hit among the younger students, who turned out in force on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00 to 5:30 p.m.

WCDS Sports 2007 - Fall Recap



Cross-Country

The WCDS varsity cross country team, coached by Athletic Director Mike Kenney, had its largest number of participants in recent memory. The team sported ten runners, and eight of the ten were attempting the

sport for the first time. Over the final month of the season, the boys squad was rewarded with a fourth-place finish at the Delaney Athletic Conference (DAC) Championships held at Great Meadows in The Plains. Four of the five boys recorded their best times of the year in the final meet, led by freshman Ian McCool, who finished second in the boys race with a time of 17:59. The girls finished the regular season as the DAC runner-up to first-ranked Quantico, who won the championship race. Abby Whitaker was the top female runner in the championships, with an eighth-place finish. Rachel Wells, Sarah Wells, and Katie Huang each posted their fastest times of the year in the final DAC race of the season.

Varsity Volleyball

The WCDS varsity volleyball squad won its first four games and were ranked eighth in the Virginia Division III state poll for Independent schools early in the season. The girls subsequently were defeated in several matches but came back to win their final three games and secured a home match in the DAC Tournament. The Owls, led by Suzanne Zylonis, finished third in the DAC and made it to the semi-finals before they were defeated by Highland. The team wrapped up the season with a 7-6 record. The trio of seniors who spent three years on the varsity squad – Katherine Russo, Taylor Hammelman, and Emma Clark – will be sorely missed.

Varsity Boys' Soccer

Returning coach Jeff Perry had the pleasure of starting the season (assisted by Tom Shafran) with the knowledge that the squad's three senior players, Derek Perry, Alex Shafran, and Matthew Wingfield, were bringing four years of varsity experience to the team. Several close early losses didn't sway the squad's energy or attitude, as the Owls continually battled the top-tier teams in the DAC. Two extremely close games, a 4-3 loss to DAC regular-season runner-up Randolph-Macon Academy, and a 5-4 loss to perennial power SVCA, proved the team's strength and determination. The Owls ended their season with a 9-2 win against Massanutten Military Academy and finished with a season record of 3-9.

Junior Varsity Volleyball

The JV volleyball squad had an exciting fall season, with the girls defeating Wakefield School and tying for first in the DAC, before a late season loss to Highland ended their championship hopes. Their record of 4-2 in the DAC and 6-4

overall was quite an accomplishment for a squad of only eight girls. Coach Suzanne Zylonis coached this squad and the varsity team simultaneously, with assistance from Ann Landis.

Middle School Volleyball

Coached by Ann Pankow, the WCDS middle school girls volleyball team had a season that saw them playing three tremendously tight games against Rappahannock County and defeating a very good SVCA team. The girls ended the season with a record of 5-8 and made it to the semi-finals of the Valley Middle School Conference (VMSC) tournament.

Middle School Boys' Soccer

WCDS middle school boys soccer team was once again coached by Dan Marsh, with assistance from his son Jesse. After losing several members to the varsity team, this was calculated to be a rebuilding season for the Owls. Still, there were many highlights during the year, including a 4-2 victory over SVCA. The boys also gave an inspired effort in a hard-fought 2-1 loss to RMA in the VMSC tournament semi-finals.

Seven Students Make All-Conference

Congratulations to the seven varsity players who were named "All-Conference" this season. Five students were selected by the Delaney Athletic Conference coaches for their stellar performances this season, and two earned the title for their performance in the final DAC cross-country race. In girls' volleyball, **Katherine Russo** was named First Team, All-Conference; **Elida Opitz** was named Second Team, All-Conference; and **Christine Pankow** was named Honorable Mention, All-Conference. In boys' soccer, **Derek Perry** and **Alex Shafran** were both named Second Team, All-Conference. In cross-country, **Ian McCool** and **Abby Whitaker** were both awarded All-Conference medals for their finishes in the final DAC cross-country race of the season.

WCDS 2007 Fall Athletic Award Winners

On Friday, November 2nd, WCDS held its Fall Athletic Awards Ceremony. Athletic Director Mike Kenney, who served as master of ceremonies, reflected on the strong WCDS fall sports season, and Head of School Kathleen Grove complimented the athletes for their sportsmanship and the parents for their support. Each team coach spoke in turn about his or her team and thanked them for their tremendous effort. Individual awards were given, including the categories of most improved player, most valuable player, rookie of the year, and the coach's award.

Athletes of the Month:

September Athletes

At the October 24th assembly, WCDS Athletic Director Mike Kenney announced that **Ian McCool** and **Elida Opitz** were Wakefield's outstanding male and female athletes for the month of September.



According to Mr. Kenney, this season Ian had a spectacular start to his varsity cross country career. He won his first career race at Sherando High School, finished third in a Delaney Athletic Conference (DAC) mini-meet held at Great Meadows, and followed up by winning another meet at Shenandoah Valley Christian Academy in Stephens City.

Ms. Opitz, a junior, was a key player on the girls' varsity volleyball team, performing extremely well and meeting the challenge of switching positions mid-season. According to Owls coach Suzanne Zylonis, Elida was, "not only the best defensive player, but her serving ability this season was also dynamic." In October, Ms. Opitz was named Second-Team All Conference in the DAC.



October Athletes

Alex Shafran and **Katherine Russo** were named WCDS's outstanding male and female athletes for the month of October.

Katherine Russo has been a three-sport standout for many years, competing at the varsity level in multiple sports. According to Mr. Kenney, "Katherine was an anchor for



this year's volleyball team, not only providing leadership but also stellar play. Her abilities enabled the Owls to sport a record of 7 - 6, a number two seeding in the Delaney Athletic Conference's tournament, and to maintain their rank in the top ten of the Virginia Division III Volleyball poll." Ms. Russo was named First-Team All Conference in the DAC.

According to Athletic Director Mike Kenney, "Alex has participated extremely well for us over his soccer career at WCDS. This season, he concluded his varsity performance in a big way, exploding for seven goals in his last varsity contest and leading the Owls to a 9 - 2 victory." Mr. Shafran was named Second-Team All Conference in the DAC.



The following individual awards were given:

Boys Varsity Soccer

Most Valuable Player: Alex Shafran
Most Improved Players: Neil McClung, Sebastian Langenberg
Coach's Award: Derek Perry (800 saves)
Rookie of the Year: Brian Shafran

Girls Varsity Volleyball

Most Valuable Player: Elida Opitz
Most Improved Player: Rachael Carrier
Coach's Award: Christine Pankow

Girls Junior Varsity Volleyball

Most Valuable Player: Jessica Lester
Most Improved Player: Laura Bancroft
Coach's Award: Brittany Spence

Boys Middle School Soccer

Most Valuable Player: Ryan Ochoa
Most Improved Player: Sam Nolan
Coach's Award: Woody Hazel

Girls Middle School Volleyball

Most Valuable Player: Kimberly Pankow
Most Improved Player: Sonia Mehta
Coach's Award: Carina Klosson

WCDS Students Participate in Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth



This summer, **John Morgan Christoph**, a WCDS eighth grader, successfully completed one of the special academic programs for

gifted students offered by the Johns Hopkins University's Center for Talented Youth. The topic he chose was "Principles of Engineering Design," a course offered at Lafayette College in Easton, Pennsylvania. Mr. Christoph spent three exciting weeks learning principles related to physics and chemistry. During his studies, John Morgan planned and created multiple projects while also learning the physical dynamics by which they are governed. Exploring the key principles of engineering design, Christoph worked collaboratively with other students to construct working models, in a laboratory setting using a variety of tools. As part of the program, students were asked to come up with a prototype for a remote-controlled racing car. According to Amalraj Somarajan, his instructor, throughout the course, John Morgan demonstrated a "strong ability to grasp the concepts involved in Engineering," as well as "...technical strength and a capacity to design and plan projects."

Fifth grader **Lily Lauben** and Fourth grader **Ashlyn Ramey** also attended Johns Hopkins programs: Lily took the Johns Hopkins three-week writing workshop entitled, *Modern Fantasy* held in Sandy Spring, Maryland. She and her classmates learned to identify the traits that characterize modern fantasy, "through literary portals such as Tolkien's, *The Hobbit*, witnessed acts of courage and heroism in times of crisis in DiCamillo's, *The Tale Of Desperaux*, and watched young characters mature onto courageous heroes in Pullmans, *The Golden*

Compass." Students did extensive creative and reflective writing, and had the opportunity to "reflect on their own worlds by reading and creating fantasy worlds."

John's Hopkins, continued on page 11

Summer Activities & Accomplishments

WCDS Student a Compassionate Counselor at Camp Forrest



Eleventh grader **Jesse Marsh** spent a good part of his summer as a counselor at Camp Forrest in Yucca Valley, California. Over an eight-week period, the camp treats different groups of disabled and non-disabled youth to week-long sessions of traditional summer camp activities such as aquatics, arts and crafts, a variety of sports, hay rides, archeological digs, rock-wall climbing, scavenger hunts, karaoke and American Indian drumming. This is the second year Jesse has worked as a counselor at the camp. The staff meets one week before camp opens and goes through rigorous training that includes CPR, first aid, team-building exercises

Camp Forrest Counselor, continued

and physical training to prepare for the different challenges they may encounter during their stay at the 17-acre campsite. According to a recent write-up on the camp in the *Hi-Desert Star*, "If patience was water, Camp Forrest would be flooded with the compassionate composure displayed by the camp staff."

Middle School Student Plays in Basketball Championship

Fifth grader **Maeve Dale** played basketball for the East Rockingham Sports Club, representing the state of Virginia in the "10 and Under" Amateur Athletic Union's National Championship in Orlando, Florida from July 11 to 21st. Her team finished 17th in the nation, winning 4 of their 6 games.



Two WCDS Faculty Members Lend a Helping Hand

This summer, WCDS faculty member **Lindsey Zanchettin**, who teaches 7th grade English and upper school French, volunteered at a work camp in Casablanca, Morocco, through an American organization called Volunteers for Peace. She worked for two weeks as the only native English speaker in a group that included volunteers from Morocco, France, Serbia, and the Czech Republic.



WCDS Home to Excellent Swimmers

During the summer, several of our students successfully competed in a number of swimming events.

Third grader **Lucas DuMez**

swam in the Shenandoah Valley Swim

League Championship Meet on August 4th, and won first place in all four of his events to earn "High Point" winner for the age eight-and-under boys group. Lucas also swam at the Long Course Summer Awards meet in July, where he took a first, a second and two third place ribbons in Division B for the age ten-and-under boys group.



One of our newest students, fifth grader **Madison Mulvey**, qualified in ten events at the 2007 Long Course

Championship meet in Newport News, and swam in eight events. She placed 4th in 50 Breast, 11th in 400 Free, and 12th in 200 IM.

Their task was to provide much needed landscaping work at a social center that houses homeless children and mentally and physically handicapped people of all ages. According to Ms. Zanchettin, "Living and working in Morocco was a strengthening and awakening experience, not only to the similarities between Americans and other cultures but also to the facets of my own culture for which I came home with a greater appreciation. I hope to participate in future programs in countries like Sierra Leone, Ghana, Zimbabwe, Kenya and India."

WCDS alumnus and current faculty member Charles Cowherd

Two Faculty Members, continued on page 11



Ninth Grader Participates in Pony Club Nationals

Christine Pankow, a WCDS ninth grader, represented Rappahannock County's Old Dominion Hounds Pony Club and the Virginia region as part of a four-member

team that competed this summer at the United States Pony Club (USPC) Nationals. The competition was held at the Kentucky Horse Park in Lexington. Christine's Junior C level team, which included Brooke Hatcher, also of Flint Hill, brought home a Bronze medal in the Quiz portion of the competition. These tests determine the members' knowledge of English riding and numerous horse sports, as well as feeding, shoeing, veterinary care and other horse management issues. USPC is a leading junior equestrian organization, represented in 30 countries throughout the world. Six hundred individual clubs are spread throughout 48 states and the Virgin Islands.



Boy Scouts Honored



At the Boy Scouts of America (BSA) Troop 36 "Summer Court of Honor" held in Washington, Virginia on August 19th, four WCDS students received recognition for their achievements:

Bret Heddleston earned the rank of First Class Scout and received his Climbing and Environmental Sciences merit badges. He also was inducted into the Boy Scouts "Order of the Arrow," an honor society which emphasizes service. **Carl Liles** earned his Canoeing, Citizenship in the World, Cooking, Emergency Preparedness, and Indian Lore merit badges. Carl also spent two weeks in Fencing camp at the Prince Williams Fencing Academy in Manassas, after which he was invited to fence with the academy's youth team, Green Ronin Fencing Club, this Fall.

Dustin Milam was awarded the rank of Life Scout, earned both his Wood Boy Scouts, continued on page 11

Africa Trip a Great Experience for WCDS Sophomore

Sophomore Louise Johns traveled throughout Africa with her parents for three weeks this summer. Describing it as one of the greatest experiences of her life, Louise declared, "It changed how I look at the world." The first portion of the trip was spent at a Wild Dog Research Camp with her father Chris Johns, Editor in Chief of *National Geographic*.

At the camp, Louise was able to experience first-hand life in the Bush and observe some of Africa's most precious animals (wild dogs, leopards, lions, elephants), from a biologist's point of view. Ten days into the trip, her mother Elizabeth joined them on a safari which took them from the sand dunes in Soussousvlei, Namibia to the Okavango Delta. According to



Africa Trip, continued on page 11

Fall Events

Spirit Week and Assorted Homecoming Celebrations Take Center Stage at WCDS During October



October 9 – 12 marked Wakefield Country Day School's annual "Spirit Week" – fun-filled days that featured sports jersey day, crazy hat and clash day, movie character day, and red and white day. Students showed amazing creativity throughout the week, choosing interesting themes and innovative costumes. Among the characters who paraded the halls were three seventh grade girls dressed identically in white with pink ears, whiskers and canes (*Three Blind Mice*), Harry Potter and an assortment



of his cohorts, replicas of the Titanic, a collection of Disney characters, an airplane, and Audrey Hepburn



from *Breakfast at Tiffany's*. Friday evening, the Homecoming celebrations began with the traditional prep school bonfire hosted by the Key Club, while a reception for alumni took place indoors. Many of the more recent graduates divided their time between the two events. Then, bright and early on Saturday, October 13th, a group of local runners representing several counties showed up for the newest addition to the WCDS fall line-up – a 5K Fun Run to raise funds for the Athletic Department. Mid-morning, scores of families, friends, and neighbors turned out to take advantage

Celebrations, continued on page 11



Halloween Celebrated

In reflecting on Halloween, Head of School Kathleen Grove observed,

"Good spirits, in both senses of the word, filled Wednesday, October 31st, a wonderful day at our school. We entered the auditorium for assembly to dim lights, creating the atmosphere for the program. The invocation related to All Saints' Day, which I described briefly and which led to a discussion of 'the day of the dead' in Latin America. Six WCDS middle school students had just returned from a week at Westhill Institute in Mexico City with first-hand accounts of this celebration. The fourth grade then took the stage to recite a portion of "The Raven" by Edgar Allan Poe, concluding with a threatening wave of the raven's wing. Next, the eleventh grade





Celebrations

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of the idyllic fall day and enjoy a host of outdoor activities on the WCDS grounds. The booth offerings included a variety of children's games, assorted delicious foods, and attractions such as face painting, a cake walk, a moon bounce; pie-throwing, tests of skill, and a yard sale. Individual classes and school clubs were given the



Celebrations, continued on page 12



students presented excerpts from *Macbeth*. Later in the day, the kindergarteners in costumes visited the Lynn Care Center, where they recited fall poems to the residents. In the afternoon, the youngest children performed poems and songs in the auditorium for a very appreciative audience of parents and faculty. The

Halloween,
continued on page 12



Two Faculty Members, continued from page 9

spent one month this summer in New Orleans working on the post-Katrina recovery effort. Volunteering through the Episcopal Diocese of Louisiana (EDOLA), he spent time throughout the greater New Orleans area at a variety of tasks, including sheet-rocking, painting, "gutting", etc. Upon his return, Mr. Cowherd noted, "Although EDOLA and other charity groups have contributed mightily to the rebuilding effort, there remains a tremendous amount of work to be done. After working with school groups across the country while I was down there, it is my hope that Wakefield can send a group at some point in the future."



Mark your calendar and join us for the annual **Silver Bucket Game** (prep school vs. alumni), scheduled for **Wednesday, December 26th at 1:00 p.m.** Everyone welcome!

Summer Activities, continued from page 8 - 9

John's Hopkins, continued from p. 8

Ashlyn attended the three-week Johns Hopkins course, *Journeys and Explorations*, in which "Students followed the paths of famous explorers and their expeditions, traveling the Old World on camels and donkeys, and faced the dangers of Africa with 19th century European explorers and imperialists." The goal of the course was to have students leave "with a better understanding of how societies and cultures have developed, through exploration."

Boy Scouts, continued from p. 9

Carving, and Fish and Wildlife Management merit badges, and the BSA World Conservation Award **Will Mullany** earned his Emergency Preparedness and Environmental Sciences merit badges.

Africa Trip, continued from p. 9

Louise, "The camps that we stayed in were exceptional, and we saw an uncountable amount of amazing wildlife. Africa is an extraordinary place, and I feel that everyone should visit Africa sometime in their lives."



Halloween, continued from pages 10 & 11

children then paraded through the school, trick-or-treating at each office and classroom. Following up on a recommendation from Student Government, upper school English classes read scary but literary passages while enjoying fall treats. The eighth grade class extended the oral tradition of the epic they are studying by telling a ghost story. Students in grades seven and eight enjoyed their own classroom haunted house, where they matched candy to mythological characters and creatures, among other spooky assignments.”



Celebrations, continued from page 11

opportunity to raise funds for their specific projects. The Class of 2008 transformed the senior garden into a café, serving delicious Italian cuisine to a packed house, and the afternoon concluded with an exhilarating soccer match between Wakefield alumni and prep school players that ended with a tie score. The weekend festivities concluded with the traditional Homecoming dance for the upper school students on Saturday evening.



Donor Tip -- Tax-free gift of IRA assets allowed through December 2007:

- You may distribute from your IRA up to \$100,000 per year tax-free through December 31, 2007, to a qualified public charity (including WCDS).
- You must be 70 ½ years or older at the time of the gift.
- Make the transfer directly through your IRA trustee.
- While there is no charitable deduction for an IRA charitable rollover, you may exclude the gifted amount from taxable gross income (provided the distribution would be otherwise taxable), and the IRA gift will be counted toward the minimum distribution requirements for IRAs.
- A direct distribution to charity is not a “withdrawal” that would customarily be subject to income taxation.

The law does not allow contributions to donor-advised funds, supporting organizations, private non-operating foundations, life income plans and charitable lead trusts. Of course, it remains the case that a gift to charity of an IRA or other qualified retirement plan after your lifetime eliminates the heavy dual burden on heirs of estate tax and income tax. Families inheriting qualified plans may receive as little as fifteen cents on the dollar. In contrast, if left to charity, neither tax is imposed. *Please consult with your tax advisor before implementing this strategy -- some trustees/custodians may require several weeks to execute this type of rollover transfer.*



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WCDS is on the Web! See us at:

www.wakefieldcds.org

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