



The Huntly Herald

A Message from Head of School Kathleen Grove

Remarks by the Head of School at the Annual Corporate Meeting, May 2007

Good evening. I am pleased to report that Wakefield Country Day School is completing a highly successful year.



✍ We continued to grow in enrollment (from 183 in the fall of 2004 to 216 in the fall of 2005 to 245 in the fall of 2006) while maintaining high standards for academic achievement and behavior.

✍ We analyzed our accreditation results to identify areas in which we could strengthen our program to better implement our mission.

✍ We added orientation activities for new students and families to help them join our

community more easily.

✍ We increased support to new teachers with frequent meetings and observations and mentors to provide assistance.

✍ We provided professional development for faculty with a focus on classroom strategies to support the achievement and involvement of all students and curricular attention to skills, knowledge, and understanding.

✍ We attended to capital improvement needs, with a new school bus, exterior painting, locker refinishing, a new classroom trailer, and a new auditorium floor.

✍ We examined our security needs and added card activated door locks and sought bids on in-house wireless phones for two-way communication with teachers.

✍ We continued a focus on communication with our weekly bulletins, parent coffees, the Parent Teacher Organization, the Athletic Advisory Committee, the newly formed Booster Club, the Meet the Coaches meetings, more frequent parent conferences and phone calls, and an improved and expanded website.

✍ We held successful events for our school community, including the Fall Festival, the Alumni party and basketball game, Art from the Heart, and the Spring Auction, and the newly established Family Fun Nights, through the support and hard work of many parents, staff, students, and volunteers.

✍ We continued our strong academic traditions including the Word of the Day, the Great 100's, the administration of the PSAT to grades 8-11, International Day, semester and final exams, the Medieval Banquet, and the Science Fair, as well as those traditions that build community and character such as our weekly assemblies, the Wakefield Courtesies, the Prefect Court, student government, Homecoming, the Haunted House, Veteran's Day, prep and middle school dances, Soup for Supper, the Christmas Concert, the Ski Trip, Grandparents' Day, the Prom, the Yearbook, and the Inscription.

✍ We continued some new traditions such as the award of Owls for courteous and generous behavior, the revival of the Hoot, the exchange with the Westhill Institute in Mexico City, the Headmistress lunches, the Key Club coffee houses, the movie matinees for lower school, the performance of Mark

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Class of 2007 Crosses the Finish Line



The steady rain that fell June 3rd could not dampen the spirits of the 17 Wakefield Country Day School students who were the focus of the school's 2007 Closing Ceremonies. Family, faculty, and friends, along with the entire upper school student body, gathered in the Leonard M. Cowherd auditorium to celebrate the end of another year, congratulating the seniors on their accomplishments and recognizing students with various awards and honors for their work during the academic year. It was an evening marked by mixed emotions, with speakers recounting shared experiences – both victories and sorrows, as well as humorous moments, during the journey to graduation day. The program began with a procession of the faculty and graduates to Edward Elgar's "Pomp and Circumstance." Honoring a long-time WCDS tradition, the senior girls wore white dresses and the boys sported navy blazers, white pants and straw boaters. Father Robert DeMartino of St. Peter's parish delivered the invocation, in which he quoted from the Book of Sirach, and then the audience sang "The Star Spangled Banner."

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Grammar School Graduation



The grammar school closing ceremony on Friday, June 1, celebrated the accomplishments of WCDS primary and middle school students with special recognition given to the grade seven students, as they officially became members of the upper school. During the ceremony two seventh graders spoke, John Morgan Christoph and

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Science & Technology News

AP Environmental Science Class Launches Wood Duck Habitat Project

During the month of March, students in Wakefield County Day School's Advanced Placement Environmental Science class successfully launched their wood duck habitat project, spending the better part of a day erecting seven nesting boxes on a local landowner's property. This collaborative effort involved nearly a dozen Rappahannock landowners, WCDS students, and four local businesses that helped underwrite the construction costs involved in this undertaking. The nesting boxes were built in class several weeks beforehand. Once on site, students used a gas auger to drill holes and then lag-bolted the boxes to 4 x 4 posts. After inserting the boxes and posts into the prepared sites, the students used tamping irons and rocks were used to stabilize the structure.



Next, predator guards were placed below the boxes to keep out raccoons, snakes and other threats and, finally, 10 inches of cedar chips were laid inside the boxes as bedding. Three of the boxes were erected in a marsh next to a river, and four were placed in a lake.

The project was spearheaded by Wakefield

WCDS to Enlarge Its Science Facilities

WCDS is undertaking a major upgrade and expansion of its existing upper school science facilities. The current lab is being renovated and modernized, and a second lab is being added. This will help to accommodate the increased number of science classes available, while also providing better teaching and lab space, and more up-to-date equipment and computer technology, including "SmartBoards." Additional details on the labs will be published in upcoming WCDS summer bulletins.

parent Mr. Jeff Perry, in coordination with AP Environmental Science teacher Mrs. Ann Pankow. Mr. Perry taught science for 17 years and holds a degree in Forestry from Virginia Tech. He oversaw a much larger version of this type of project on Maryland's Eastern shore, producing 250 nesting boxes over the course of 10 years.

The boxes come just in time for nesting season and will be checked next fall to measure the success of the project. Mr. Perry hopes to add additional boxes on other sites next year.



Students Demonstrate Engineering Skills

During the month of May, students in Dr. Gresser's AP Physics class demonstrated their engineering skills in fulfilling an assignment to design and construct a miniature roller coaster.



The winning entry was the "Sweet Surprise," a candy-themed roller coaster created by Dan Carrier, Ben Lebeau and Junilson Brito. The project featured a variety of loops, and a track that went under a layer of green Jello. The winning team then took the coaster to King's Dominion to

compete in a statewide competition.

Seventeen Students Deemed Eligible to Compete at the Virginia Junior Academy of Science Annual Meeting



This spring, the Virginia Junior Academy of Science (VJAS) accepted science and mathematics papers from seventeen WCDS students, who were invited to present their work orally before panels of scientists at the May 23rd annual VJAS meeting hosted this year by James Madison University. Each paper submitted for this competition was based on the student's own independent experimental design. Students whose papers were accepted: Imane Belhaj, Rachel Carrier, Taylor Hammelman, Joy Heddleston, Nico Hernandez, Sebastian Langenberg, Ben Lebeau, Neil McClung, Jesse Marsh, Elida Opitz, Derek Perry, Brian Ross, Katherine Russo, Alex Shafran, Keenan Sherwood, Audrey Speer, and Katie von Fange.

WCDS Recipient of National Endowment for the Humanities Award

This year, the National Endowment for the Humanities (NEH) once again partnered with the American Library Association in its fourth "We the People" Bookshelf program, and Wakefield's library was one of the 2007 grant recipients. This program, made possible with the generous support of the McCormick Tribune Foundation, annually awards



two thousand libraries across the nation with a set of 15 classic books related to different themes. For the past three years, NEH has identified a subject it believes is important to our nation's heritage and selects books that illustrate that theme. The goal of the program is to introduce young readers to quality literature and promote a better understanding of ideas through the power of particular stories. The first three program themes were "Courage," "Freedom," and "Becoming American," and the topic for 2007 is "Pursuit of Happiness." This year's selections include, Aesop's Fables, Tuck Everlasting, The Great Migration, The Great Gatsby, Common Sense and O Pioneers!

The Bookshelf program is one of several NEH initiatives intended to "...strengthen the teaching, study and understanding of American history and culture." The award includes not only 15 books in English but also 3 in Spanish, as well as posters, bookmarks and other promotional materials. Also included is a music CD entitled, "Happy Land: Musical Tributes to Laura Ingalls Wilder," described by its producers as a tribute to Wilder "for her efforts to illuminate, explain and capture the place that music-making once occupied in the family lives of ordinary Americans."

In response to this award, the WCDS library is conducting a number of programs to focus attention on these classic books and engage young readers to use them. The program reinforces Wakefield Country Day School's focus on a classical education. The "Pursuit of Happiness" Bookshelf program at WCDS will run through April 30, 2008.

Academic News

Students Receive Awards for National Mythology & Greek Exams

The results for the 2007 **National Mythology Exam** are in, and Wakefield students have garnered seven medals: Silver - Rachel Paulisch; Marc Cugnon; Bret Heddleston, Bronze - Rachel Dumez; Kaitlin Burgess; Christine Pankow; Patrick Silva.



The results are in for the 2007 **Medusa Mythology Exam**, and five WCDS students have won awards: Marguerite Beattie, Taylor Hammelman, and Keenan Sherwood received Laurea certificates (based on 33-38 correct answers of 50), and Katherine Russo and Matthew Wingfield received Olivae certificates (based on 28-32 correct answers).

This year's **National Greek Exam** winners are: Red Ribbon (34 - 37 correct) - Patrick Dale; Sawaan Mehta, Green Ribbon (30 - 33 correct) - Sebastian Langenberg.

National Latin Exam Yields Awards

Results of the 2007 National Latin Exam are in! Of the 59 students from WCDS who took the exam, 32 won awards. Congratulations to all our Latin scholars! **Intro to Latin (Latin IA)** Outstanding Achievement: Jennifer Shaffier; John Morgan Christoph; Kaitlin Burgess; Will Mullany; Carina Klosson; Alex Hinton. Achievement Certificate: Jessica Coello; Woody Hazel; Brian Shafran; Ryan Ochoa; Alice Silva. **Level I (Latin IB)** Gold Medal & Summa Cum Laude Certificate - Christine Pankow, Silver Medal and Maxima Cum Laude Certificate - Sarah Wells; Bret Heddleston; Mary Shaffier, Magna Cum Laude Certificate - Patrick Silva; Cum Laude Certificate - Ian McCool; Jessica Lester; James Silva; Dylan Marchi; Nico Hernandez. **Level II (Latin II)** Gold Medal & Summa Cum Laude Certificate - Katie Huang; Annelise Riedel, Silver Medal and Maxima Cum Laude Certificate. Abby Whitaker, Magna Cum Laude Certificate - Haley Chadduck, Cum Laude Certificate - Sarah Merritt **Level III-IV Prose (Latin III)** Gold Medal & Summa Cum Laude Certificate - Sebastian Langenberg; Keenan Sherwood, Magna Cum Laude Certificate - Jody Green, Cum Laude Certificate - Saheel Mehta **Latin III-IV Poetry (Latin IV)** Silver Medal and Maxima Cum Laude Certificate - Marguerite Beattie, Cum Laude Certificate - Taylor Hammelman.



Third Grade Collaborates with St. John's School

During the spring, WCDS third grade teacher Lori Perry and her class engaged in a collaborative effort with Betsy Anderson, the librarian at St. John's School in Warrenton, and her assistant Jen Mott. The goal of this special creative exercise was to write a play that combined the elements of good things and bad things that "could happen to anyone." During the two 1-hour sessions devoted to this pilot project, the students invented and then built up a story line around a singing and dancing teacher faced with identity theft. The exercise

Third Grade. continued on page 4



Fourth Grade Stages Living Wax Museum

One of the April assemblies featured the 4th grade's presentation of "snapshots" of their living wax museum, an annual class project on historical figures. Students stood on the stage in costume, each holding a sign specifying the explorer that he or she was portraying. Then they stepped forward individually to recite an original poem describing their chosen character. Later in the day, classes and adults visited the living wax museum in the auditorium, where they pressed a "button" (red sticker) on each "statue" and heard an in depth description of the explorer and his or her exploits. The students stayed in character with costume and props and displayed in-depth knowledge of the explorers they had selected.

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required the development of 13 different characters, tapped the students' creative writing skills to compose script lines, and also involved acting and learning proper stage positions. The actual performance, viewed by the first and second grades, called for costumes and involved the use of a "teleprompter" of sorts, so the students did not have to memorize parts or hold scripts. Once again, Mrs. Perry's students displayed the depth of their public speaking and acting skills; they had the audience in stitches throughout most of the play and clamoring for an encore when it was over.

Senior News

Two WCDS Seniors Honored at Leadership Luncheon

Seniors Patrick Dale and Jody Green were honored at the Top of Virginia Regional Chamber's "Youth Leadership Recognition Luncheon," held in Winchester on April 27th. WCDS was one of eleven area-schools that had one or more of its students honored at this event, billed as "Recognizing our Future Leaders."



Senior Summit at WCDS

On Saturday, May 19th, a Senior Summit was held in the school's auditorium, with students presenting their theses on a variety of topics. Each had chosen a topic back in the fall and worked on his or her thesis for over 6 months. As part of the research phase, the seniors traveled several times to Charlottesville to utilize the extensive library resources housed at the University of Virginia. During their presentations, many of the students used Power-point to advance their views, as well as other visual aids.



The presentations began with Patrick Dale, whose topic was, "Student Nonviolent Coordinating Committee (SNCC): The Other Civil Rights Movement;" followed by Kate Kevis, whose topic was "Private or Public - The Educational Experience." Shane Parker chose "Creationism and Evolution: The Flying Spaghetti Monster," and Ben Luke's topic was "Rapid Population Growth:

Problems of the Present and the Possible Solutions." Megan Baker presented, "One Nation under God: The Separation of Church and State, and Chantel Paul's topic was "Black Magic: The Secrecy of Slavery."

After a brief break, the program resumed with Catriona Toth, presenting "Wires of the Past: The Advancement of Wartime Communication." Bora Ercantruck followed with, "Ataturk: Father of the Turks," and Dan Carrier presented, "The Economic Scale: A Balance Between Economic Freedom and Social Regulation.: Jody Green spoke on "Women's Rights in America; Has History Changed Unequal Pay, Few Leadership Positions and Social Injustices?" Jong Lim's topic was "Mathematical Laymen: Daily Usage of Mathematics," while Peter Kim presented "Ancient Mythology: Beliefs and Cultural Differences between Europe and Asia." Amir Arsalan's topic was, "Western Hegemony and its Effect on Globalization: Case in Point - America," and Ho Sung Woo presented his thesis on "The SAT Experience: A Short Term Method for Improving Scores." The final two presenters were Saawan Mehta, whose topic was, "Propaganda: The Similarities between American and Chinese Propagandistic Techniques," and Se-Young Lim, who chose "Environmental Problems: The Effect of Technological Developments."

At the conclusion, Head of School Kathleen Grove congratulated the seniors on the quality and depth of their theses. She noted, "Your personal commitment to your subject as evidenced by your 'action research' impressed me, from designing web pages to circulating petitions to writing Congressional bills!"

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Jaster and residence of Paul Reisler, the delivery of flower baskets for May Day, the pep rally, and the senior theater trip and garden clean-up. Our students participated in middle school soccer, volleyball, and tennis and high school dance, soccer, volleyball, track, and tennis, earning many wins, all recognized at three celebratory sports banquets, and we added middle school lacrosse. Our students continued to demonstrate high achievement, as documented in report card assemblies, in the Model United Nations participation, the Virginia Junior Classical League (20 students won 55 awards at a convention of 1600 students), in the Reader's Digest National Word Power (5 students at the state level), on the National Latin Exam (32

Senior Graduation continued from page 1,

Introductory remarks were given by Head of School Kathleen Grove, who said, in part,

"The 2007 Wakefield Country Day School seniors are a remarkable group of young men and women. They have worked hard to arrive at this point, and they share many common experiences and values which will provide the foundation for their achievements in the future. While we adults may feel reluctant to let them go forth into the challenges of the bigger world of the university, in our hearts we know that they are ready to face those challenges and succeed. They take with them strong knowledge, strong skills, and strong values, and they never truly leave the Wakefield community. Tradition never graduates."



Jody Green followed with her Salutatory Address, in which she cleverly compared a lesson on "writing the perfect thesis" to navigating her way to becoming a Wakefield graduate. Ms. Green drew parallels between the two tasks, noting all the component pieces necessary to complete each process, and how each segment was interdependent on the other. She thanked her fellow students as well as the WCDS faculty for helping



her successfully complete her journey. Jody was then joined by the three other seniors, members of the Wakefield Show Choir, Cat Toth, Megan Baker, and Chantel Paul, who together sang, "You'll Never Walk Alone." As in past years, throughout the evening prep school students who excelled in particular subjects or made special contributions to the school were singled out for praise (see special section on awards on page 6).

This year's commencement speaker was Chris Johns, a resident of Rappahannock County who has served for the past two years as editor-in-chief of National Geographic. Mr. Johns began working at National Geographic in 1985 as a contract photographer and soon became renowned for his defining images of Africa and its wildlife. In 2003, he was named one of the world's 25 most important photographers by American Photo magazine. Mr. Johns shared his contention that "one is judged not by his words but by his actions," citing examples of individuals such as Nelson Mandela who embodied that



philosophy. He urged the graduates to use their gifts to "do what you can" to make a difference in the world. Following Mr. Johns' commencement address, Mrs. Grove, assisted by college advisor Marsha Dowell, presented the seniors with their diplomas.

The last speaker of the evening was Patrick Dale, who gave the Valedictory Address. In his remarks, Mr. Dale not only celebrated his fellow graduates' accomplishments but also spoke with pride of his fourteen years at Wakefield, and what that experience had meant to him. He said, in part, "Today we are not just graduates from high school, but from Wakefield, a place that has instilled in us a sense of pride and humility, helping us realize our fortunate and blessed circumstances, while directing us to use our advantages to give back. Some people wonder what we could have learned about life in this school, it being in such a beautiful, remote area with an atmosphere dissimilar to the real world. Wakefield is much more than a school, it's a lifestyle. I hope you will take your experience here and apply it to your life. We owe it to our generation to strive for the excellent standards we have learned at this school. Every generation has its own set of challenges, and I ask not just the graduates, but the entire student body to help take the initiative needed to overcome whatever challenges we may face."

The final event on the program was the traditional "ringing of the bell," carried out by the three students who had been together at WCDS since kindergarten: Patrick Dale, Kate Kevis and Ben Luke. As the graduates marched out beaming to the strains of Pachelbel's "Canon in D," one could sense the joy and anticipation they felt as they closed one chapter in their lives and prepared to begin a new one. WCDS has once again maintained its record of 100% college acceptance, and all seventeen seniors will be going on to colleges and universities throughout the United States (having received over \$550,000 in merit scholarship offers).



of 59 students won national awards), on the National Greek Exam (3 of 3), on Advanced Placement exams (88 taken this spring), at the Virginia Junior Academy of Science (17 papers accepted for presentation), the addition of wins in forensics, the initiation of the senior thesis for all students, and, most importantly, the product of the classical education at our school: college acceptances for every student with over \$550,000 in merit scholarship offers.

✍ We dealt with some difficult situations, including the Virginia Tech tragedy, with caring, compassion, and consistency. ✍ Soon we will end our year with final exams, graduation exercises for lower school, and upper school, bid farewell to our successful seniors, and focus on preparation for the 2007-2008 school year. ✍ To accommodate our enrollment, we have ordered a new modular building to replace the current grade one/kindergarten trailer that will

provide six classrooms, 4 with bathrooms, and a hallway with two bathrooms, and we have planned two state-of-the-art science labs. ✍ We are also working on multiple projects for the summer to address curricular and instructional recommendations growing out of our self-study and accreditation.

I must thank the Board for setting direction and policy; the staff for working long hours with commitment and caring; the teachers, the most important adults in the building; the students, each fascinating, delightful individual; the families, who support us and urge us to get better; the community, with its strong values. 2006-2007 has been a good year; 2007-2008 promises to be even better!

End of The Year Special Awards

The All-Around Girl and All-Around Boy Awards:

Henry Johnson – Grammar
Rachel DuMez – Grammar
Patrick Dale – Prep
Taylor Hammelman – Prep

Art Awards:

Abe Nolan – Primary
William Mullany – Grammar
Kenny Rizer – Prep

The Athletic Awards:

Patrick Dale – Prep
Chantel Paul – Prep

Citizenship Awards:

Lucy VanNess – Grammar
Catriona Toth – Prep

Creative Writing Awards:

Carina Klosson – Grammar
Patrick Dale – Prep

Courtesy Awards:

Megan Kelly – Primary
Konstantin Langenberg – Grammar
Laura Bancroft – Prep
Matthew Wingfield – Prep

1st Grade Handwriting Award:

Bernard Cieplak
Parker Rose

1st Grade Reading Award:

Connor Johnson

Geography Award:

John Morgan Christoph – Grammar

Good Samaritan Award:

Mrs. Mary Kay McCool

Grammarian Awards:

John Morgan Christoph – Grammar
Katie Huang – Prep

History Awards:

Joseph Dowell – Primary
John Morgan Christoph – Grammar
Andrew Smith – Prep

Laura Virginia Hale

U.S. History Award:

Jody Green – Prep

Mathematics Awards:

Christopher Parios – Primary
Hannah Tufts – Grammar
Taylor Hammelman – Prep

Most Improved Student Awards:

Gena Boice – Primary
Julia Hale – Grammar
Margret Murray – Prep

Music Awards:

Luke Miller – Primary
Haze Packwood – Primary
John Morgan Christoph – Grammar
Freya Rodriguez – Grammar

Outstanding Service Award:

Katherine Russo – Prep

Sports Awards:

Lucas DuMez – Primary
Tatum Vaught – Primary
Brian Shafran – Grammar
Maeve Dale – Grammar

The Catherine B. Warren Scholarship:

Rachael Carrier – Prep

The Latin Awards:

Jessica Coello – Grammar
Marguerite Beattie – Prep

The Molly Fraser French Award:

Annelise Riedel – Prep

The Pamela Lynn Leadership Awards:

Sonia Mehta – Grammar
Benjamin Luke – Prep

The Pamela Lynn New Student Awards:

Hannah Tufts – Grammar
Cynthia Rodriguez – Prep

The Religion Awards:

Bernard Cieplak
Hailey Miller

The Science Awards:

Ashlyn Ramey – Primary
Lily Lauben – Grammar
Derek Perry – Prep

The Spanish Awards:

Taylor Jones – Primary
Brittany Kwolek – Grammar
Mary Shaffier – Prep

The William E. Lynn, Jr. Awards:

Katherine Russo – Prep
Matthew Wingfield – Prep

The William E. Lynn, Sr. Awards for Academic Excellence:

Bernard Cieplak – Primary
Grace Alexander – Grammar
John Morgan Christoph – Grammar
Patrick Dale – Prep

Perfect Attendance Awards:

Yasayuki Akashi
Edward Benton
Gena Boice
Lucas DuMez
Tanner Perry
Brier Clough
Taylor Jones
Brittany Kwolek
Andy Leser
Drake Lynn
Willow Lynn
Ian McCool
Niel McClung
Shivam Mehta
Margret Murray
Derek Perry
Madison Romine
Jennifer Shaffier
Matthew Wingfield

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Brian Shafran, sharing their reflections on their schooling at Wakefield and their anticipation of the next steps in their advance towards college. Brian thanked the teachers who worked with the class over the years. He reported on the number of exams he and his classmates had completed and the number still ahead of them, acknowledging Mrs. Emma Sue Amos who was responsible for his accurate computation. John Morgan opened with a quote from Winston Churchill, "This is not the end. This is not even the beginning of the end. But it may be the end of the beginning." He gave his classmates a view into a future of universities, master's degrees, and even Ph.D.'s, and subjects like bioengineering, nanotechnology, and genetics. Following all the recognition awards and the promotion of grade seven, John Morgan rang the bell to dismiss the lower school for the year.



Youngest Grades Celebrate Year-End

May 23rd marked the closing ceremonies for the pre-school and pre-kindergarten, as well as the graduation of the kindergarten class. Proud parents, grandparents and friends gathered to celebrate the occasion at an assembly that invoked broad smiles and a few happy tears, as all present observed the strides the children have made this past year. Students from all three grades processed into the auditorium, walking slowly and proudly in their finery. The kindergarten came in last, all the girls in white and the boys in white shirts and ties with boutonnieres. Head of



School Kathleen Grove gave the invocation and welcomed the crowd, and kindergarten teacher Kathy Nilan gave opening remarks about the treasures of teaching her class, recounting special moments through out the year. She noted how wonderful it had been to watch as the children learned "everything from consonants to continents,

music to matrix, counting to calendar, George Washington to geo-boards, songs to Spanish, diaries to dominoes, and poems to penmanship." The kindergarteners then each stood in turn and recited the poem they had chosen as their "favorite" during the year. The varied, and wonderfully presented selections featured poets such as Langston Hughes, A.A. Milne,



Youngest Grades Celebrate continued on page 12

Ninth Grade Presents Anitgone

May 9th, the grade nine English classes performed the play, *Antigone*, written by Sophocles in 442 B.C. Presented outside on a free-standing stage, the students followed the Greek style, with masks and a chorus, and delivered Sophocles' lines clearly and enthusiastically.



See more *Antigone* photos in an online slideshow at: wakefieldcds.org/Clubs/Drama.shtml

Annual Art Exhibit Adds Mural to WCDS and Spring Concert Stirs Musical Appetites



Friday, May 4th, WCDS once again celebrated its fine arts program, this year with over 250 family members and guests in attendance. Thanks to the creative and

nurturing talents of art teacher Suzanne Zylonis, aided by Debbie DuMez, numerous beautiful new creations by the WCDS art students adorned the walls of the school. The exhibit showcased a beautiful mural painted by the students in the prep school studio art class, guided by renowned local artists (and WCDS parents) Tom and Kerrie Mullany. The mural hangs at the end of the prep school hallway, and depicts a Shakespearean scene framed by ancient Roman architecture. This year's show also included a selection of self-portraits, still-life, sculptures, and color and design projects, utilizing a variety of media, and each student presented at least one of his or her works.

Later that same evening, the fine arts "feast" continued with the "Menu of Music" concert, featuring performances by students from kindergarten through sixth grade, as well as the upper school show choir. The menu began with "Amazing Grace," performed by Jody Green, Joy Heddleston, Liz Laslo, Chantel Paul, and Katherine Russo, with Alex Shafran on saxophone. Other selections included the second, third and fourth grade classes singing and dancing in the aisles to, "Food Glorious Food" from the Broadway show *Oliver*, and the kindergarten class had everyone's attention with their adorable renditions of "Guacamole" and "Bate Chocolate." First grade



followed with "Spicy Hot" and "Animal Crackers in My Soup," complete with props. Not to be outdone, first, second and third grades presented "Take Me Out to the Ballgame" with great gusto. The audience grew hungry after the fourth grade's "Pasta Song," fifth grade's "Cheesburger in Paradise" and were highly amused by the sixth grade's "Pizza Love."

The concert also included an exciting new addition – instrumental music students who performed several numbers. Instructor Mark Moccio integrated the beginning band students with the advanced band students in pieces such as "Star Wars," "Boo-

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Mime Mark Jaster Returns for Encore Performance

Renowned mime Mark Jaster graced the Wakefield stage for the second time at a Wednesday assembly in March, once again delighting both students and adults alike. Thanks to the sponsorship of the Van Ness family, Mr. Jaster completely engaged his audience, which included the entire WCDS student body, along with guests from Hearthstone School, the ASPECT program, and the community-at-large. Adults and children ages 3 to 18 gasped and laughed at his clever antics, and several students had opportunities to join "the Maestro" on stage, as he conducted the audience in a variety of "musical numbers." Students in several grades later attended a special workshop with Mr. Jaster, where they learned mime techniques and asked numerous questions.





Sports Update

WCDS Athletes of the Month Named

Katie Huang, a ninth grade student on the varsity soccer team, was named Female Athlete of the Month for March. Ms. Huang was a starter from the first day of practice and continued to develop her skills throughout the year, according to WCDS Athletic Director Mike Kenney. Kenney noted, "Katie worked extremely hard in practice and was responsible for neutralizing some of the oppositions' best scorers."



According to Coach Jeff Perry, "Katie caught on quickly and was a steadying influence on defense for the team throughout the season."

Jong Lim, a senior on the varsity tennis team, was named the Male Athlete of the Month for March, according to Athletic Director Mike Kenney. Mr. Lim's coach, Brad Ross, declared that Jong was the strongest player on the team. He filled the #2 singles slot, and "his strong serves, consistent play, and quick movements served Jong well in the challenges he faced during this season's matches."



The WCDS Male Athlete for April was eighth grader **Patrick Silva**. According to Mr. Kenney, Silva was "a stalwart member of the WCDS middle school lacrosse team and was instrumental in getting the program off to a solid start." After a five-year hiatus, the sport was reintroduced at WCDS this spring. With an extensive background in lacrosse, Patrick was able to not only provide leadership to his teammates, most of whom were playing lacrosse for the first time, but also to assist them with everything from equipment problems to technique and skill development. Patrick, along with his twin brother James, was the catalyst that allowed WCDS to post a 2-2 record in its first year.



The WCDS Female Athlete for April was **Katherine Russo**, a junior. In presenting the award, Mr. Kenney noted, "This season, Katherine recorded an extraordinary stretch of games for the girls' varsity soccer team. Over the final seven contests, she scored 15 goals and was credited with 3 assists. WCDS won six of those matches, to finish third in the Delaney Athletic Conference (DAC), with a record of 6-4 conference games and a 12-6 record overall. Ms. Russo was named as a second-team member of the All-Conference team as selected by the DAC coaches. She finished out the season with a record of 29 goals and 5 assists."

Congratulations to Marguerite Beattie, Taylor Hammelman, and Katherine Russo for being selected to the DAC Second-Team All-Conference in voting conducted by the DAC Varsity Girls Soccer coaches.

WCDS Re-enacts Ancient Games



As part of its traditional end-of-year festivities, Wakefield Country Day School once again celebrated Field Day in May, an event looked upon "as an occasion to demonstrate important attributes of the school," according to Head of School Kathleen Grove. After completing morning Word of the Day (WOD) final exams, students in grades one through twelve divided into two teams: the Athenians and Spartans, and marched onto the field, led by banners with Athenians and Spartans spelled out in Greek. Seniors led the students



in warm-up exercises and cheers, such as "Who drove the Persians out of ____?" and other factual queries, to which students shouted back, "Sparta" or "Athens!" Then the two teams, all the ages mixed together, competed in

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Wakefield Country Day School Presents Spring Sports Awards

This year's spring season, the school fielded four athletic teams: Girls Varsity Soccer, Girls Middle School Soccer, Varsity Tennis, and Lacrosse, and WCDS students who played on these four teams were recognized at an awards ceremony held in their honor on May 11th.

During her introductory remarks, Head of School Kathleen Grove complimented the coaches, players, team managers and supporters for the great season. She noted how playing sports while juggling a full academic load can be a challenge, particularly on those occasions when it involves lengthy bus rides to and from conference games as far away as Virginia Beach.



Mrs. Grove also singled out for praise Mr. Kenney, noting the many "hats" that he wears as athletic director and coach and how well he fulfills his duties. She invited the students to applaud their parents in appreciation for their support, cheering, and chauffeuring.



The players on each of the teams were recognized and thanked for their hard work

and presented with t-shirts. Starting a new tradition, Mr. Kenney presented nine students with special "Three Sports" medals for having participated in three different sports during the academic year: Rachel Carrier, Cecilie Greve, Taylor Hammelman, Sarah Hazel, Christian Martinez, Elida Opitz, Chantel Paul, Katherine Russo, and Rachel Wells. Each of the four coaches spoke about his or her season and then gave special awards to individual players.

Assistant Coach Robin Wells presented the Girls Middle School Soccer Awards. The designation, "Most Valuable Player" was given to three students: Sarah Wells, Jessica Lester, and Brittany Spence. The "Coach's Award" went to Hannah Tufts, and "Most Improved Player" was awarded to Caroline Murray.

Tennis Coach Brad Ross named senior Jong Lim "Most Valuable Player," bestowed the "Coach's Award" on Jesse

Marsh, and congratulated Seong-Muk Jeong for being the "Most Improved Player."

Middle School Lacrosse Coach Charles Cowherd, a WCDS alumnus and former Lacrosse player himself, spoke enthusiastically about his team and how much the players had grown while racking up a respectable 2/2 record for their first season. He then named Patrick Silva "Most Valuable Player," announced Woody Hazel as the recipient of the "Coach's Award," and offered congratulations to Alex Hernandez as the "Most Improved" player.



With a winning season of 12 wins and 6 losses, Varsity Soccer Coach Jeff Perry named Katherine Russo "Most Valuable Player," gave the "Coach's Award" to Taylor Hammelman, awarded Marguerite Beattie with the "Defensive Award" and congratulated Elida Opitz for being the "Most Improved Player." In speaking about the team, Coach Perry complimented the players on the focus and determination they had displayed throughout the season, achieving not only a winning record but also another major goal, which was to "have fun."



The evening closed with the announcement of this year's female recipients of the Leonard M. Cowherd Award, an honor instituted three years ago in the Delaney Athletic Conference (DAC) to honor Leonard Cowherd, who played in the DAC for Wakefield in the late nineties and was killed in action while stationed in Iraq. To qualify for the award, students must be a senior, have maintained at 3.0 average, played two sports, and displayed honor, courage, and good sportsmanship over the course of their athletic careers. This year, the female award was jointly given to Chantel Paul and Catriona Toth, and Patrick Dale was the male honoree.



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several events, such as passing a water cup down the line from one bucket to another, or running relays with a hand-off midfield, sometimes between a first grader and a junior. The students showed enthusiasm and excitement as older students assisted, supported, and cheered on their younger teammates.



The audience applauded, as the older students used strategies to increase their efficiency in cup-passing and as the fastest runners lined up to race the cup back to the other end.

After the whole-team events, the students regrouped by grade levels and competed in Capture the Flag, soccer, basketball, volleyball, four-square, and other games. Students passed one another on the field, and one captain was heard asking a younger child, "How are the mini-Spartans doing?" while exchanging high-fives.

At the end of the day, the faculty congratulated the teams on their sportsmanship, the points were totaled, and the Spartans won by one of the narrowest margins in recent history. The three winning captains, Ben Luke, Chantel Paul and Shane Parker, were crowned with laurels, both sets of team captains shook hands, and Head of School Kathleen Grove invited the two teams to shake hands with their friends and siblings. The Athenians are already vowing a come-back next year.

WCDS Spring Events

Grandparents Visit WCDS



On April 25th, approximately eighty grandparents visited WCDS, spending the day enjoying a variety of activities. The visit began with a breakfast, followed by a briefing by Head of School Kathleen Grove, who described the WCDS mission statement and how it is manifested in the daily life of the school. After a few questions from the audience, students began to enter the auditorium for the Wednesday assembly. Following a special invocation in honor of families and the Pledge of Allegiance, students in grades one through fourth took the stage to sing "The Star Spangled Banner." With their young voices raised, their eyes on the flag, and their hands over their hearts, they presented a touching sight. The students then sang "An Old Irish Blessing" especially for the visitors. The preschool, pre-kindergarten, and kindergarten classes enthusiastically performed "You Are My Sunshine" and "Skinarmarink," complete with sign language for the latter, concluding with "I love you." The second grade presented the fable "The Ants and the Grasshopper" along with an original acrostic poem in honor of Grandparents Day. The third grade students recited their



original verses about their grandparents. Two representatives from the fourth grade class announced the planting of a tree at WCDS in honor of all grandfathers and

Grandparents
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Wakefield's Prom Night a Great Hit

On May 12th, visitors to the Flint Hill Public House saw a parade of beautiful gowns and handsome tuxedos as the WCDS upper school students arrived for the 2007 Prom.



The students dined and danced, talked and laughed, while cameras flashed throughout the evening's "Casino Royale"



WCDS Lords, Knights And Ladies Turn Back The Hands Of Time

Wakefield Country Day School was alive with the sound of medieval madrigal music, laughter and cheers on March 15th, as students from third through eighth grades and their families reveled at the Annual WCDS Medieval Banquet.



The auditorium was filled with visions of medieval times: flowing velvet and satin gowns, veils and elaborate headdresses with gold, silver and fur adornments, knights, monks, bishops, and assorted peasants and shepherds filled Wakefield's "Grand Hall" with a kaleidoscope of color and sound.



All guests bowed as eighth graders "Earl" Hans Doxzen and "Countess" Christine Pankow (titles awarded based on grades), made their grand entry, accompanied by their court. Later in the festivities, the titles of "Queen of Love and Beauty" and the "Squire of Worth" were bestowed on Jessica Coello and John Morgan Christoph for having earned top honors in seventh grade British History.



Then, the games began, with jousting, quarter staffing, lancing, tests of dexterity, and quests that challenged the most able knights and damsels. Various performers entertained and acts were presented; the

eighth grade presented a skit whose elements included a king's betrayal, charges of treason, and punishment (boiling in oil!). Led by the Earl, the group then proceeded to the banquet table, where His Grace, the Bishop, gave his blessings, and the guests filled their trenchers with slices of "roast beast," which had been slowly cooked on a spit all day, and other medieval fare. After the Court and guests had eaten, the investiture of the sixth grade squires and handmaidens began. Titles were awarded based on proficiency in a weapons challenge, mastery



“Santa Fe Spring” at WCDS

On April 28th, Wakefield Country Day School enjoyed “Sante Fe Spring” at the annual spring auction where, according to Head of School Kathleen Grove, “Thanks to a wonderfully talented auction committee chaired by WCDS parents Jennifer Phillippe and Alison Seaborn, parents, teachers, staff, and friends of Wakefield Country Day School gathered for good food, good fellowship, and good fund-raising for the school.” The bidding, silent and live, set new records, with marvelous items to “win” while contributing to the school, and over \$38,000 was raised for the WCDS 2007/2008 Scholarship program. Thanks again to co-chairs Jennifer Phillippe and Alison Seaborn, and their



great committee, for a terrific event. There were several new, innovative offerings during the evening, such as the “Mystery Box” raffle. The prize was an overnight at the Hilton Hotel and 4 tickets to the WolfTrap performance of choice. With regard to the 50/50 Raffle; the total raised was \$832, of which \$416 went to the winners: Tammy and Mike Vernick. The Vernicks

in turn graciously donated their winnings back to the school. Also that evening, \$3,250 was raised *Bucks for Blacktop*, in response to the challenge from WCDS students, who had raised \$325 in *Pennies for Pavement*. A note of “thanks” to the many businesses, vendors and individuals who so generously donated items and services for the event, which offered over 250 items at bargain prices. The committee that ran the event had so much fun under the leadership of Mrs. Seaborn and Mrs. Phillippe that more than one volunteer was heard to remark that they “missed those weekly meetings.”

of calligraphy, or jewelry-making. Awards were given for costumes and skill, including one for “Best Armor” – awarded to Chris Payne and also to Ryan Ochoa, who created an entire pull shirt and gauntlets from chain mail. Both “old-timers” and new families expressed their pleasure in being able to participate in the afternoon’s entertainment – an occasion to go “back in time” and experience another period in history.



Annual Appeal Results

Thank you to all our WCDS parents, alumni, friends, faculty, and staff, who generously donated to the 2006-2007 Annual Appeal. Our goal was \$65,000, which we not only met but exceeded. Donations and pledges for this year totaled \$74,764.12.

WCDS Once Again Entertains Visitors from Mexico

This spring, Wakefield Country Day School hosted thirteen 6th grade students from the Westhill Institute in Mexico City. This is the third visit by Westhill students to Wakefield, and the visitors again stayed with various WCDS families. Throughout the week, they spent time learning more not only about the school, but also about Rappahannock County, the state of Virginia, and the United States in general. Ezequiel Elias, at WCDS from Westhill for a semester exchange in grade ten, assisted as tour guide. The visit began with a field trip to



Washington, D.C., where students visited some of the museums and beautiful monuments in our nation’s capitol. Friday, the visitors spent the day in classes, participating in instructional activities with the 5th and 6th grade students. Friday evening, WCDS entertained the Westhill students at a middle school dance. Student government leaders provided balloons, refreshments, and decorations and in recapping their visit the Westhill students frequently mentioned the dance as one of the highlights of their trip. Saturday several of the visitors joined WCDS families for Family Fun Night, with parents and children shooting baskets, running races, and playing board games, as well as feasting on the potluck spread of delicious food. On Sunday, the Westhill visitors and their host families took a school bus to Massanutten’s indoor water park, where friendships developed and grew. The Mexican visitors toured Luray Caverns on Monday, visited the Air and Space Museum in Chantilly on Tuesday, and wrapped up their visit at the school’s weekly assembly with individual speeches. They took turns describing the highlights of their stay, expressing gratitude to their host families and commenting on what they had learned, e.g. “A father can cook dinner,” “Virginia is so green and beautiful,” “The people here are so nice and friendly,” “The homes have so much land around them, and “The air is so clean.” One student said, “When two cultures come together, not only do you learn from each other, but you also teach each other.” The students spoke impressively, particularly considering the fact that English is not the first language for most of them. WCDS students look forward to their next visit to Mexico as a part of this continuing partnership.

WCDS Provides Perfect Venue For Outside Events

This year, WCDS served as the site for the Old Dominion Hounds Hunt Ball. Using a “Mardi Gras’ theme, the Hunt’s talented committee transformed the auditorium and lower lobby into a gala setting for the evening’s festivities, which included a silent auction and after-dinner dancing.



Club News

Key Club Coffee House Features Entertainment



WCDS Key Club sponsored a March Coffee House to raise funds for several charitable projects, and a majority of the students in ninth through twelfth grade attended. At least ten acts performed throughout the evening. Prizes went to the "Spiders from Mars," a student band including singers, guitarists, a drummer, and a saxophonist; magicians who among other things made a young lady disappear and reappear; and a violinist who played a lively piece.

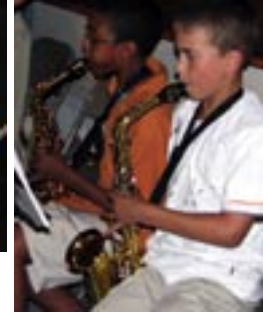
Congratulations to the 2007/2008 Officers who were elected in May:

Student Government: *President, Marguerite Beattie & Vice President, Joy Heddleston*

Key Club Officers: *President, Katie vonFange, Vice President, Taylor Hammelman, Secretary, Derek Perry, Treasurer, Saheel Mehta, & Editor, Katherine Russo*

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gie Blues," and "Ode to Joy" and also played several duets with 10th grader Sean O'Connor on violin.



The "menu" included several performances by the upper school's Show Choir, who wound out the show with a rousing "We Go Together," from *Grease*. At the end of the evening, special kudos and flowers were presented to music teacher Mrs. Betsy Neph and accompanist Mrs. Emma Sue Amos for a very entertaining "Menu of Music."

Youngest Grades cont'd from p. 6,



William Wordsworth and John Updike. The classmates each received individual reading awards and diplomas, while the younger students were presented with "leaving certificates." The program included the pre-school singing "Yankee Doodle Dandy," the pre-kindergarten's recitation of the poem, "All Things Bright and Beautiful" by Cecil Frances Alexander, and a jointly sung "Grand Old Flag," followed by a special reception for all the guests.

Grandparents Visit continued from p.10,

most especially the recently departed grandfather of Harper and Lucy Van Ness. Not to let the lower school dominate the program, grade nine students, wearing classic Greek masks, performed a scene from *Antigone*. Of course, all performances received enthusiastic applause and even cheers. Grandparents then accompanied their grandchildren to class, had their pictures taken in the courtyard, and lunched with their grandchildren.




Alumni News

☞ Congratulations to Maureen Dale '03, who graduated with distinction, Phi Beta Kappa, from the University of Virginia (UVA) with a B.A. in Religious Studies and will be attending UVA School of Medicine in the fall, and Christina Luke '03, who graduated from the University of Virginia with a B.A. in English and a Minor in Art History.



☞ Casey Longyear recently opened up an eclectic clothing shop, *Rumors Boutique*, in the heart of the VCU area. The new boutique aims to bring unique, independent fashion lines and fill a void found in Richmond's shopping scene. Featured wares include off-the-wall graphic tees by *Wowch*, screenprinted vintage dresses from *Pretty Trashy*, tattoo-inspired clothing from *Sailor Jerry* and custom-made jewelry from *Opulent Oddities*.

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

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

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