

Potomac ALMANAC

High Pride,

Warm Weather

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APRIL 22-28, 2009 ♦ VOLUME LIII, NUMBER 16



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NEWS

PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION



April 18 marked the kick-off event for the 2nd Annual C&O Canal Pride Days at Great Falls Park and along the C&O Canal for the next month. More than 200 volunteers helped clean the park and other work to mark the event.

High Pride, Warm Weather

Sunny skies and warm weather kicked off the C&O Canal Trust's Canal Pride Days for the second year in a row, giving the organization's founder Matt Logan a bright idea.

"I think I'm going to push it up a week earlier every year and get spring to come a little sooner," Logan joked.

Roughly 225 volunteers turned out on Saturday morning, April 18 to the Great Falls Tavern in the C&O Canal National Historical Park to participate in a variety of cleanup and maintenance projects as part of the second annual Pride Days, a series of

Canal Pride Days

The second annual Canal Pride Days kicked off last weekend with a month-long series of events to clean up and maintain the C&O Canal National Historical Park. The battery of park projects is sponsored by the C&O Canal Trust in conjunction with the park service and is aimed both at individual volunteers and groups of volunteers. To learn more about Pride Days and how to get involved visit canaltrust.org.

cleanup and small maintenance projects throughout the park.

"It was great; Saturday morning was awe

SEE HELPING, PAGE 4



Volunteering their Saturday morning at the Great Falls Park, Ryann Morris of North Potomac and Brian Goehring help spread new mulch in the picnic area of the park.

www.CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

Next Up: Become A Canal Quartermaster

Beginning this summer, visitors to the C&O Canal will be able to learn and experience firsthand what it was like to be a locktender on the 185-mile long canal and stay overnight in a historic lockhouse by becoming a volunteer overseer of four lockhouses in the park. These original structures, dating from the 1830s and listed on the National Register of Historic Places, served as homes for the locktenders, the men who opened and closed the lock gates for the mule-pulled canal boats, and their families.

Canal Quarters will require active and regular involvement by volunteer organizations and individuals to oversee and maintain the structures used by the public. The C&O Canal Trust is responsible for the recruitment, oversight, and recognition of the volunteer corps — known as Quartermasters — with the close involvement and oversight of the National Park Service. For more information visit canaltrust.org.



Roger Berliner, a member of the Montgomery County Council, talks about his support for the C&O Canal Park during the kick-off event on Saturday morning for the C&O Canal Pride Days.

POTOMAC ALMANAC EDITOR STEVEN MAUREN
703-916-6431 OR POTOMACALMANAC@HOTMAIL.COM
SEE WWW.POTOMACALMANAC.COM

Gay Rights Faceoff at Whitman

Kansas church plans protest at Whitman, students organizing counter protest.

BY AARON STERN
THE ALMANAC

A Kansas Church known for its anti-gay rhetoric plans to picket Walt Whitman High School on Friday, April 24 to protest the school's namesake. Whitman students have responded in kind by organizing a peaceful counter-protest that they hope will vastly outnumber the church's affiliates and drown out what they call a message of hate.

Led by Pastor Fred Phelps, the Westboro Baptist Church of Topeka, Kansas has gained notoriety in recent years for picketing the funerals of U.S. soldiers. According to the church's Web site, the soldiers who have died in Iraq and Afghanistan were killed as God's punishment "in righteous judgment against an evil nation," and the church has organized anti-gay pickets around the country since 1991 to protest what it calls "the modern militant homosexual movement."

When Whitman sophomore Ryan Hauck first heard about the scheduled protest at Whitman from a friend he thought it was a joke. Then he went online — the church's Web site is www.godhatesfags.com — and saw just how serious the church is.

"I was just shocked just from the second I heard it and I knew I had to do something," Hauck said. "[It was] the hatred of the whole thing that shocked me. It's not disapproval, its outright hatred. It's not something you would expect from people who would consider themselves a church."

The church's Web site indicates that Friday's picket at the close of the school day is scheduled at Whitman because the church believes that the

"It's not something you would expect from people who would consider themselves a church."

— Ryan Hauck, sophomore

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POTOMAC ALMANAC ♦ APRIL 22-28, 2009 ♦ 3

POTOMAC ALMANAC

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NEWS

Helping At C&O Canal

FROM PAGE 3

some," Logan said.

Some volunteers spent the morning spreading mulch and raking leaves around the parking lot area, while others repainted the flag pole behind the park ranger stand on the island at the entrance to the park. Still more worked on the barn that houses the Canal's mules — used to pull the Canal's Charles E. Mercer packet boat — repainting it, cutting back weeds around it, and moving a retaining fence.

After the morning's cleanup activities, many headed down the road to Old Angler's Inn for an afternoon of food and music that doubled as a fund-raiser for the Canal Trust, which works to raise money to fund repair projects in the underfunded national park. Logan estimated that the afternoon brought in around \$2,000 in contributions.

— AARON STERN



Joe Novosell, 12, spent his Saturday morning helping to rake leaves at Great Falls

THIS WEEK IN POTOMAC

20 Years of Blast Ends This Weekend

The 20th anniversary celebration performances of Winston Churchill High School's annual rock and roll revue Blast From the Past: Instant Replay ends this weekend, April 24-25. Performances at 7:30 p.m. with Saturday matinees at 2:30 p.m. Visit the Web site: www.churchillhs.org for more information.

Invasive Plant Seminar

The public is invited to an all-day seminar on Thursday, April 30 at the Naval Support Facility Carderock will feature expert advice on the management of invasive, non-native plant species. During this time of tightening budgets, it's more important than ever to find innovative, efficient ways to produce lasting conservation results. This seminar will cover the whys and hows of using community partnerships to break



PHOTOS BY ROBBIE HAMMER/THE CONNECTION

Superintendent Kevin Brandt talks about the day's events and upcoming events in the following month to help celebrate C&O Canal Pride Days that will include a variety of activities and volunteer projects along the historic canal.



The C&O Canal Trust held a fund-raising event at the Old Anglers Inn on Saturday afternoon following volunteer projects at the Great Falls Park to help celebrate the kick-off of C&O Canal Pride Days.

the costly cycle of short-term projects and start managing for long-term success. We will focus on invasive species management as a jumping-off point for partnership conservation programs. Registration is required, but free. Email conservationtrainingsrsvp@gmail.com or call Susan Reines Robinson at 240-247-0912. NSF Carderock is located at 9500 MacArthur Boulevard.

St. George's Festival

For several generations the Greek Orthodox Church of St. George has presented its annual Greek Festival to the community and the metropolitan area. This year's festival will be held on Friday, Saturday, and Sunday, May 1, 2, and 3 at 7701 Bradley Boulevard in Bethesda on the church grounds. Authentic Greek cuisine and vendors in the festi

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NEWS

Kenyan Engineer Aiming High

When Benson Maloba decided to go to graduate school in his home country of Kenya he knew he would need some financial help. After earning an undergraduate degree in Kenya in civil engineering before pursuing a career in that field for five years, Maloba wanted to go back to school. When Maloba looked for financial aid to fund his higher degree, he found that without a large amount of personal wealth, financing higher education was next to impossible. So he started thinking not just outside of the box — he thought outside of the country.

Maloba came to the United States in 2004 with his wife, living first in Derwood and Gaithersburg before settling in the Scotland neighborhood in Potomac. He enrolled in an undergraduate program at the University of Maryland Eastern Shore's Construction Management Technology program at the Universities at Shady Grove in Rockville. Now, three year's later, he is on course to graduate with a 3.7 grade point average in December with a degree in Construction Management Technology that he helped fund by working part-time as a lab technician on the Shady Grove campus.

That work and commitment was recognized on Friday, April 17 when Maloba was one of 20 graduating seniors at the Universities at Shady Grove's fifth annual "Tribute to the Stars" Student Achievement and Leadership Breakfast.

"I can't explain how I felt," said Maloba. "It's awesome and something I didn't expect, but I was working hard for it."

Maintaining a high grade point average and a part-time job is one thing for any college student, but doing it while raising two children — ages four years and five months — was another altogether.

"It is a lot ... but if you are determined you can do it," said Maloba, 34, with a laugh. Maloba said his award is an honor that he won't forget, and something for his children to see.

CRIME REPORT

A **commercial burglary** occurred twice at The Old Angler's Inn, 10801 Mac Arthur Boulevard in Potomac. The first incident occurred overnight between Thursday, March 26 and Friday, March 27. Suspects forced entry and removed property. The second incident occurred on Saturday, March 28 and also involved a forced entry. The same type of property was removed.

A **theft from a vehicle** occurred

at the Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road in Potomac on Thursday, March 26 at 5:54 p.m. The victim had left the trunk ajar and was walking to the building. She looked back and saw the suspect inside her trunk. She yelled and the suspect took out a canvas bag with drums inside, and fled in the suspect vehicle.

A **school burglary** occurred at Cold Spring Elementary School, 9201 Falls Chapel Way in Potomac on Sunday,

April 5 at 2:18 a.m. Officers responding for an alarm discovered the burglary and apprehended the suspects leaving the school.

A **residential burglary** occurred in the 6800 block of Capri Place in Potomac on Friday, April 3 at 9:30 p.m.

Officers responding for an alarm off discovered a burglary had occurred. Suspects forced entry and property was removed.



Kenyan Benson Maloba lives in the Scotland neighborhood in Potomac.

Though the economy is down now, Maloba is confident in his education as well as his extensive previous work experience, both in this country and in his native country. He is hopeful too, that the economy can make a turnaround as quickly as he was able to move halfway around the world and attain a degree from a quality university.

"It might be down now but it can turn around quickly," Maloba said.

— AARON STERN

BULLETIN BOARD

To submit an item for the Civic Calendar, e-mail almanac@connectionnewspapers.com or fax the submission to 703-917-0991. Deadline is Thursday at noon two weeks prior to the event. For questions, call 703-917-6407.

SATURDAY/APRIL 25

Scholar. 11 a.m. at Beth Shalom, 11825 Seven Locks Road. Rabbi Ronen Neuwirth will talk. Free. 301-279-7010.

SUNDAY/APRIL 26

Meditation Workshops. 9:15 a.m.-3 p.m. at Cold Spring E.S., 9201 Falls Chapel Way, Potomac. Free, bring a vegetarian dessert. Lunch box available for \$6. 240-688-1998.

WEDNESDAY/APRIL 29

Autism Resource Fair. 3-7 p.m. at Universities at Shady Grove, 9630 Gudelsky Drive, Rockville. Free. Learn about recreation, employment, behavior services for individuals with autism and their families. 240-777-1216.

WEDNESDAY/MAY 6

Workshop. 7 p.m. at Montgomery Hospice, 1355 Picard Drive, Rockville. For those who have lost a parent. Free. Registration required, 301-921-4400.

Support Group - DBSA. 7:30 p.m. in the Parish Hall of St. Raphael's Church at 1513 Dunster Road in Rockville. The meeting is for the families and friends of people who have been diagnosed with depression or bipolar illness. Free. For more information, call 301-299-4255 or 301-570-9065, Internet: www.dbsanca-family.org.

THURSDAY/MAY 7

Chronic Pain Support Group. 1:30 p.m. at Davis Library, 6400 Democracy Blvd., Bethesda. For anyone with chronic pain, family and residents. Free. Visit www.painconnection.org or 301-309-2444.

ONGOING

The Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road, will be holding its annual Spring Community Yard Sale/Flea Market on Saturday, May 2. **Vendors** will sell their wares, new and/or used between 8:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Spaces cost \$30 with all proceeds going to benefit programs at the Community Center. For more information, call 240-777-6960.

To become a volunteer Bike Patrol on the C & O Canal, send an e-mail to

Norman Liebow at Liebow@comcast.net or 301-714-2218.

The Greater Chesapeake and Potomac Blood Services Region of the **American Red Cross** is seeking **volunteers** to assist its blood collections staff at blood drives and blood donor centers. To register for training, or for more information, please call the American Red Cross Volunteer Office at 1-800-272-0094, ext. 1, or e-mail karloff@usa.redcross.org.

Montgomery County has launched a new Web site feature called "My

SEE BULLETIN, PAGE 9

LET'S TALK Real Estate



by
Michael Matese

YOUR PRIVACY IS MY CONCERN

One of the highest priorities among high-end homebuyers and sellers is privacy. Marketing multi-million-dollar homes that contain valuable furnishings is often done through the real estate agent's select contacts, to preserve the personal security of their clients.

Many exclusive homes never make it to the MLS service, because the agents who represent the sellers introduce the property selectively. Agents who are familiar with the luxury market know that finding a buyer is a matter of targeted networking. For every upscale home, there is an ideal buyer among a group of potential buyers with a high probability of interest in such a property. One of the secrets to success among agents who work with very high-end clients is that they are able to market the home directly to the right buyer pool, instead of casting a wide net that draws in people who do not qualify.

The client's business manager or financial advisor will often be the working contact in the negotiations process, while the client remains protected. The agent's job is to insure that privacy while finding the perfect buyer.

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CALENDAR



"Strega Nona" is playing at Adventure Theater at Glen Echo Park, 7300 MacArthur Blvd., through June 7. Visit www.adventuretheatre.org for more.

Swing Dance. 8 p.m.-midnight at Spanish Ballroom at Glen Echo, 7300 MacArthur Blvd. \$15/person. Visit www.glenechospark.org for more.

Yogathon. 1-4 p.m. at Thrive Yoga, 1321 Rockville Pike, Rockville. Anyone with chronic pain. \$20/class. Reservations required, 301-309-2444 or www.painconnection.org for more.

Arbor Day Celebration. 11 a.m.-4 p.m. at Agricultural History Farm Park, 18400 Muncaster Road. Enjoy storytellers, performances, awards, music and more. Free. Visit www.AgHistoryFarm.org.

Reading. 2 p.m., contributors including editor Tom Lombardo read from "After Shocks: The Poetry of Recovery for Life-Shattering Events," an anthology of poem on grief and trauma, at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. Free. Contact 301-654-8664 or visit www.writer.org for details.

World Laughter Day. 7 p.m. at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Enjoy laughing exercises and more. Free, all ages. E-mail nira@laughingrx.com for more.

Music Performance. 4 p.m. at Clarice Smith Performing Arts Center. Hear the U.S. Army Orchestra. Free. Visit www.usarmyband.com

Reception. 3-5 p.m., see paintings by Joann Clayton at River Road Unitarian Universalist Congregation 6301 River Road, Bethesda. Free. Visit www.joannclayton.com for more.

KidFest. Noon-5 p.m. at Public Service Training Academy, 9710 Great Seneca Highway, Rockville. All ages can enjoy food, finger painting, clowns, entertainment and more. Free. Visit www.montgomerycountymd.gov/rec.

Audubon Nature Fair. 11 a.m.-5 p.m. at Audubon Naturalist sanctuary, 8940 Jones Mill Road, Chevy Chase. Enjoy hikes, activities, arts, entertainment and more. \$5/adult; free for children. For more information, go to www.audubonnaturalist.org.

SATURDAY/MAY 2

StoryTheatre Series. 10:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Watch "Magpie." \$7/person. Visit www.imaginationstage.org or 301-280-1660.

One-Woman Show. 7 p.m. at Theatre Arts Arena, 51 Mannakee St., Rockville. Listen to Noa Baum perform "A Land Twice Promised." Free. 240-567-7417.

Auditions. 7 p.m. at Blair Family Center for Arts, 10601 Falls Road. Audition for "Don't Dress for Dinner." 301-229-7641.

MONDAY/APRIL 27

StoryTheatre Series. 10:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Watch "Anansegromma." \$7/person. Visit www.imaginationstage.org or 301-280-1660.

Migratory Bird Walk. 7:30 a.m. at Lockhouse 8, 7906 Riverside Ave., Cabin John. Watch for birds along the river. Visit www.potomac.org or 301-608-1188 ext. 211.

SUNDAY/MAY 3

StoryTheatre Series. 10:30 a.m. or 11:30 a.m. at Imagination Stage, 4908 Auburn Ave., Bethesda. Watch "Anansegromma." \$7/person. Visit www.imaginationstage.org or 301-280-1660.

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WEDNESDAY/APRIL 29

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301-229-7641.

Voices of the River. 10:30 a.m. at Lockhouse 8, 7906 Riverside Ave., Cabin John. Hear music by Kensington Station. Free. Visit www.potomac.org or 301-608-1188 ext. 211.

Reading. 2 p.m., Wendell Hawken reads from her poetry collection "The Luck of Being," at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. Free. 301-654-8664 or postmaster@writer.org for details.

World Laughter Day. 7 p.m. at Normandie Farm Restaurant, 10710 Falls Road. Enjoy laughing exercises and more. Free, all ages. E-mail nira@laughingrx.com for more.

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SATURDAY/MAY 2

Flea Market and Yard Sale. 8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. at Potomac Community Center, 11315 Falls Road. Free. 240-777-6960.

Car Wash/Bake Sale. 10 a.m.-2 p.m. at Cold Spring Elementary, 9210 Falls Chapel Way. Proceeds benefit Stepping Stones Shelter in Rockville. Contact David Weiss eski@rosslyneye.com

Reading. 2 p.m., contributors including editor Tom Lombardo read from "After Shocks: The Poetry of Recovery for Life-Shattering Events," an anthology of poem on grief and trauma, at The Writer's Center, 4508 Walsh St., Bethesda. Free. Contact 301-654-8664 or visit www.writer.org for details.

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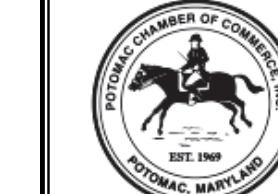
301-229-7641.



The American Dance Institute is holding an open house on Sunday, April 26 from noon-2 p.m. Angelina Ballerina will be on hand and one child will win a prize basket at the end of the day. Visit www.americandance.org for more.

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Thursday, April 30, 2009

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THIS WEEK IN POTOMAC

FROM PAGE 4

val marketplace will make the experience complete for all who attend. For more information visit the church's Web site at www.stgeorge.org or contact the St. George office at 301-469-7990.

Landon Azalea Festival

The Landon School's Azalea Garden Festival is right around the corner, starting Friday, May 1 and running through Sunday, May 3. The annual spring event

features tours of the school's 2.5-acre Perkins Garden, as well as plant and craft sales, a children's Funland, a tuition raffle, live music, a 5k race and one-mile fun run, and many other events. All proceeds from the Festival support Student Financial Assistance and Faculty Enrichment. General admission and parking is free though an admission fee is required.

For more information and a full schedule of the festival, visit www.landon.net. The Landon School is located at 6101 Wilson Lane, Bethesda.

Virginia B. Wagner

Virginia B. Wagner, 83, a Montgomery County resident and a real estate agent in the Potomac, Maryland office of Long & Foster Realtors for over 30 years, died March 24 at the Kaiser Permanente Hospital in Sacramento, Calif.

Born in Brooklyn, New York, Mrs. Wagner moved to El Paso, Texas, where she attended the Radford School for Girls. She initially attended college at the El Paso College of Mines & Metallurgy, a traditionally male school, but transferred and graduated from Smith College. She also attended the Radcliffe Management School, then the counterpart for women for the Harvard Business School for women.

Mrs. Wagner worked at the American Association for University Women in Washington, D.C. and at the U.S. Consulate in Juarez, Mexico, before marrying the late Warren H. Wagner, a Naval Intelligence officer.

Mrs. Wagner traveled extensively with her husband and family while posted in Japan (twice), Germany and Thailand. While posted in Japan in 1954-55, Mrs.

Wagner wrote for an English language daily. She also contributed to Sawaddi, a Thai cultural magazine published by the American Women's Club.

Mrs. Wagner maintained a lifetime interest in Asian art and culture; wrote poetry that she shared with friends and family; and enjoyed classical music, having performed played the flute as a young woman.

Survivors include her two children, Katharine E. Wagner, of Sacramento, Calif., and Roger B. Wagner, of Vienna, Va.; her brother, Malcolm S. Bayliss of New York, N.Y.; and two grandchildren, Alexandra Alden Wagner and Julia Bayliss Wagner.

Anna Simpson Memorial Service

Anna Simpson died Jan. 12, 2009 in Atlanta, Ga., at 80 years of age. Memorial service will take place on May 1 at 1 p.m. at the Fort Myer chapel at Arlington National Cemetery. Family and friends will be required to drive from the chapel to the gravesite and should arrive at the cemetery at 12:30 p.m.

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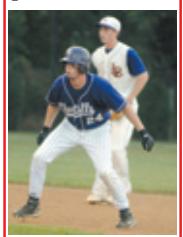


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NEWS

Students Plan Counter-Protest

FROM PAGE 3

American poet Walt Whitman was gay, but Sharon Phelps-Roper, a member of Westboro Baptist, told The Almanac by phone that the protest is about more than just that. Though aimed in part at the school's namesake — Whitman is "in hell, where he belongs," she said — it will also target the nation's public education in general that Phelps-Roper said promotes sexual promiscuity and generally sinful behavior.

"Those children sitting in that school are taught everyday rebellion against God," Phelps-Roper said. "This is a nation of worthless, brute beasts."

THAT KIND of rhetoric is supplied in ample amounts on the church's Web site, and it was what convinced Whitman sophomore Amar Mukunda to help Hauck. He set up a Facebook group to generate support for the counter-protest through which more than 600 students have committed to attend. Mukunda said he doesn't expect that many to show up on Friday, but that he does expect a healthy turnout.

"The buzz around Whitman is so huge that we really do expect a ton of people, a couple hundred probably," Mukunda said.

Phelps-Roper said that there will be between five

BULLETIN BOARD

FROM PAGE 5

Montgomery," which helps residents locate a variety of County facilities and services. "My Montgomery" can be found at

www.montgomerycountymd.gov/mymontgomery and visitors to the site need only type in their address and zip code.

Volunteers are needed to assist

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and 10 members of her church at the protest, a typical number for their picket lines. She said that her church does not permit non-members to take part in their protests because they can not vouch for their religious purity.

"What we've found is that ... the next thing you're talking to them and you find this guy is living in adultery, something like that," Phelps-Roper said.

ONLY WHITMAN students will be allowed to participate in the counter-protest because allowing people not affiliated with the school would have required obtaining a special permit, said Mukunda. The school's administration, led by principal Alan Goodwin, has been cautiously supportive of the counter-protest, Mukunda said.

"His main thing is he wants to make sure it is peaceful and non-violent," Mukunda said. Goodwin could not be reached for comment before The Almanac went to press on Tuesday morning.

Historians have long speculated that Whitman may have been either gay or bisexual, but Mukunda said the poet and philosopher's contributions to society — not his sexual preference — were more important than his sexual preference.

"I don't think it should matter either way," he said.

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Whitman Tennis Means Business

Vikings remain undefeated in 6-1 win over rival Bulldogs.

BY MARK GIANNOTTO
THE ALMANAC

The sun was shining bright and it was the warmest day of the spring last Friday afternoon when the Churchill and Whitman boys' tennis teams took the court for their annual battle. So was even more surprising to see the Vikings coach, Jasen Gohn, in a full-fledged business suit encouraging his team on.

"I decided to hit them with the suit just to let them know I feel this is really important, even though this isn't the most comfortable," said Gohn of the match-up between the two teams, both of whom were unbeaten coming in. "Usually for big matches I do something goofy, I wear these high socks or a tie dye something."

If Friday was any indication, the coach might need to break out the Pat Riley look more often after Whitman showed why it is the defending county champion, steamrolling past Churchill, 6-1.

Leading the charge for the Vikings were their four singles players, who completed an unlikely sweep over their Bulldog counterparts. Whitman's No. 3 singles starter Michael Kadar got things going with an easy 6-0, 6-2 win over Churchill's Ben Kossler.

No. 4 singles Adam Schefkind also scored a straight-set 6-2, 7-5 victory as well. But it was the two other singles matches where the drama happened.

FIRST, IT WAS the Vikings' No. 1 singles player Tim Klanke, who survived a grueling first-set tiebreak against his rival from Churchill, senior Felix Sun, winning 9-7. That momentum carried him into the second set, where Klanke won 6-3.

"I think both of us were a little tight in the first set," said Klanke. "But you definitely loosen up once you go up 1-0 because he's just as good as me."

"I decided to hit them with the suit just to let them know I feel this is really important."

— Whitman coach Jasen Gohn on why he wore a suit to Friday's match



Whitman's Pablo Gottret lost the first set of his No. 2 singles match, but rebounded to defeat Churchill sophomore Abdoulaye Camara in the pivotal match of the Vikings' 6-1 team victory over the Bulldogs.

"I just decided to kind of forget about that first set and started focusing on starting over in the second set," said Gottret.

Also winning for the Vikings was the No. 1 doubles pairing of Victor Osnos and Aaron Hoffman, who defeated Churchill's Pauan Sethi and Eric Harris, 6-2, 6-3. Whitman's No. 3 doubles team of Ryan Mundy and Jacob Pine also emerged victorious.

"We look forward to this match every year," said Klanke. "It's a rivalry with Churchill."

ALTHOUGH THE BULLDOGS suffered their first team loss of the season, coach Ben Woods saw the defeat as more good than bad since Churchill knows exactly what it must go through if it is to dethrone Whitman as county and division champion.

"I think we were right there," said Woods, whose team's only victory came from the No. 2 doubles pairing of Jason Teitelbaum and Matt Hwang. "When they were ahead, they stayed ahead and when they were behind they fought to come back. As defending division and county champions, they definitely stepped up to the task, so we know we got our work cut out for us at the county tournament."

But then something clicked in the second set's third game. Tied at one apiece, Gottret and Camara went through several deuces before Gottret finally broke Camara's serve to take a 2-1 lead. From there, the impromptu No. 2 carried the match, winning 2-6, 6-2, 3-0 before Camara retired due to a back injury.

"Now that I've done the suit, the next one I might have to break out a tux or something," joked Gohn.

Wootton Lax Triumphant

After tight first quarter, Patriots overpower Vikings, clinch fourth straight title.

BY MIKE WEINER
THE ALMANAC

For 12 minutes, it seemed as though the Wootton boys' lacrosse team would face its stiffest test this season against the upstart Whitman Vikings. But the next 36 minutes of the game just served as further proof of Wootton's dominance in Montgomery County lacrosse, as the Patriots clinched their fourth-straight division championship on Thursday by a 12-3 score.

Whitman, a surprising team who entered the game at 6-0 in Montgomery County play, hoped to become the first team to dethrone the Patriots this season. After a Wootton goal to open the game, the Vikings responded with consecutive goals by Michael Harding and Patrick Slawta to take their first lead of the game as Vikings goalie Carson Kline matched Patriot backstop Yanni Rindler save for save. From there it looked as if Whitman would give the reigning division champions a run for their money.

"Whitman came out real fired up and we had a slow start," Wootton midfielder Mark Jutkowitz said. "But we gathered ourselves after the first quarter and re-gameplanned and executed."

The Patriots took the game over in the second quarter. After a late first quarter goal by Justin Dhyani tied the score at 2, Wootton scored the first four goals of the second quarter to take the lead for good. Junior attackmen Chris Doran and Jeff Zifrony led the way for the Patriots with five and two goals, respectively. The Patriot attack was at its finest midway through the second quarter when a broken play with a man advantage turned into a pretty play for Wootton as Jutkowitz, a former Viking standout, found Doran for the goal. Jutkowitz attended Whitman during his freshman and sophomore year and played in his first game at his old school.

"It was a little weird at first. But after a little while I got into the game and it wasn't different than any other one," Jutkowitz said.

The game was more than likely Wootton's last and most important test of the regular season. The Patriots were coming off of a successful spring break tournament run in which they beat private school Good Counsel of the WCAC and Coronado High School, the top ranked team in California. The win against Whitman not only propelled the Patriots to another division championship, but also gave them three convincing wins over the "W" schools — Winston Churchill, Walter Johnson, and Walt Whitman — who are the other perennial contenders for the division title. The Patriots won these games by a combined total of 20 goals.

"We always come out with a confidence that we're the best team in the county," said senior long pole Matt Canter. "We always have a bull's-eye on our backs now, but we're still playing to beat [everyone] and we aren't given anything, we earn it."

Wootton plays at home against Magruder on Wednesday at 7, after the Almanac's press time. Whitman plays at Richard Montgomery on Wednesday, also at 7.

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Consider This



By KENNETH B. LOURIE

You all don't know me, really. I mean, you read what I write; know what I think (in print anyway); relate to what I feel, hopefully. But, other than as a weekly read, you don't really know what I'm like on a daily basis: what my personality is, what my peculiarities are (OK, maybe you do), what my reactions to things are, etc. And though I try to be open and honest, still, admitting what matters — and what doesn't — isn't always easy.

What is easy to admit to are my feelings toward my computer. We are not exactly hand and glove, we are more like hand and foot: involved with the same whole (me), but not exactly on speaking terms (although we do attend the same meetings). And as artificially intelligent as my computer is, I don't really respect it. Sure, I appreciate its many super-human abilities and skills, many (heck if I'm being honest, most) of which are far beyond this mortal man, but I don't connect with it; emotionally, physically, spiritually, etc. And as much as I would like to, I don't hit it in frustration. Nor, quite frankly, do I praise it. (That can't matter, can it?) It is within this uneasy framework that I/we exist. I try to be patient but I'm sure I'm not (absolutely sure!).

So it was not a total surprise, when I consider for a moment our man-machine association, that one day last week while computing at home, my home computer popped up a window "messengering" me a missive — with attitude, I thought: "Your cartridge is running low on ink. Consider having a replacement cartridge available." (Do you even put quotes on what computers pop up?)

"CONSIDER" Consider this (obscene gesture). If I've ever been tempted to hit a computer, this was it. "Consider." Where does my computer get off talking (printing) to me like that? I pay its Internet provider to service me monthly. I keep the computer plugged in and turned on so that it can live and learn, think and grow rich, maybe. I type its keys to give its circuits, processors and mother board (and whatever else it contains that I have no knowledge of) reasons to compute, calculate, find, file and aid and assist in whatever way I, as the master of its domain, see fit. And if I, for any reason, real or imagined, want to end its pathetic dependency on me, I can, with the press of a button or the pulling of a plug, do so. I can end its useful life. Furthermore, if I so choose, I can cart its computer carcass to the local dump — and not recycle it.

Give me attitude. I'll show you!

I can be the most understanding and accommodating person; that is until you take advantage of my patience and kindness and treat me not with the respect and appreciation I deserve but instead treat me with disdain and distrust. I know what I'm doing, mostly, "and I don't need no stinkin'" computer telling me what it thinks I should be doing. If I wanted its opinion, I'd ask for it.

So from now on, computer, just respond to my keystrokes and mind your own business. You work for me! I don't work for you. And that's just the way I want to keep it.

Kenny Lourie is an Advertising Representative for The Almanac & The Connection Newspapers.

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