Spring Fling
Schools, page 8

Hot Over HOT Lanes
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Paintings at Arlington House
History, page 4

Youth Is Served For Falle, O'Connell
Sports, page 14

Christiaan Wertz cools off in the water spray as he leaves the school fair.
People

National Poetry Champ

U.S. Rep. Jim Moran congratulates William Farley on winning the Poetry Out Loud National Recitation Contest, a poetry education program sponsored by the National Endowment for the Arts and the Poetry Foundation. Farley, the Virginia state champion, competed last week in the national competition against 53 other state champions from around the country. His winning recitation was “Danse Russe” by William Carlos Williams, the story of a middle aged man’s fancies and foibles.

Silver Anniversary for Crystal City Pentagon Rotary Club

The Crystal City Pentagon Rotary Club of Arlington will be celebrating its 25th anniversary with a gala dinner at the Belle Haven Country Club on May 8 at 6:30 p.m.

The club has supported Arlington County education through college and vocational scholarships to local high school graduates. It has partnered with the Gunston Middle school providing volunteers to help students improve their reading and funding to allow students, who would not otherwise be able, to attend summer activities. The club currently has 33 members made up of local business people and professionals who meet each Wednesday morning at 7:30 a.m. on the 3rd floor of the Crystal City Sports Pub on South 23rd Street for breakfast. The members plan service projects and listen to guest speakers. Visitors are welcome.

Arlington Reads

CNN and New Yorker journalist Jeffrey Toobin spoke with Arlington School Board member Libby Garvey on April 30 at a program with high school students who read Toobin’s book, “The Nine: Inside the Secret World of the Supreme Court,” the 2009 featured title of Arlington Public Library’s Arlington Reads initiative. Toobin spoke that night to a standing-room only audience at Central Library.

Park Benefits from Scout Project

Tyler Hudgins of Boy Scout Troop 167, led 33 volunteers on March 14 in completing his Eagle Scout Project at Potomac Overlook Regional Park located at 845 N. Marcey Road in Arlington. The project entailed replacing and re-grading the logs on the Native American Circle Garden, weeding and re-mulching the Circle Garden, transplanting three butterfly bushes, planting a historic Leopold Oak in their place, and putting up four signs. To look at the changes made by this project at Potomac Overlook Park, attend the grand re-opening of the Potomac Overlook Nature Center on Sunday, May 17, 1:30-3:30 p.m. This event is free and open to the public. For more information see www.nvrpa.org/parks/potomacoverlook.
Supervision For Child Porn

On Friday, May 1, U.S. District Court Judge T.S. Ellis III sentenced Jeff Rosato, 32 of Arlington, to serve five years in prison and 15 years of supervised release. Rosato pled guilty Jan. 29 to receipt of child pornography, according to Dana J. Boente, acting U.S. attorney for the Eastern District of Virginia and Joseph Persichini Jr., assistant director in charge of the FBI Washington Field Office.

Investigators discovered thousands of images and several movies of child pornography on Rosato’s computers that he received through a photo-sharing program, according to Boente and Persichini.

“Wouldn’t it be better for people in the inner jurisdictions to have people in outer jurisdictions to be in a carpool or transit?” asked VDOT project manager Young Ho Chang. “That’s what this project has been designed to encourage.”

The friction between jurisdictions closer to the District of Columbia and those further out is playing out as the Commonwealth Transportation Board is negotiating with a private firm known as Fluor-Transurban that would construct the lanes.

Arlington, Alexandria have withheld support for VDOT project on I-395.

By Michael Lee Pope
The Connection

Selected officials in Arlington and Alexandria have taken formal action to withhold their support for a Virginia Department of Transportation proposal to build high-occupancy toll lanes along two parts of the border between the city and county. Officials in both jurisdictions expressed concern that the proposal would create a confusing maze of off-ramps that would disadvantage Alexandria and Arlington residents to the benefit of outlying regions such as Spotsylvania.

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See Officials, Page 6

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See Officials, Page 6
STORE CLOSING

M – F 10:00 to 5:30 SAT 10:00 to 5:00
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not just another LIQUIDATION JEWELRY SALE

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$1000 DRAWING TOWARDS MERCHANDISE

HURRY….THIS STORE IS CLOSING COME IN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE

David Olin of Olin Conservation, Inc.

The "Dancing Girl" was presented to Mrs. Robert E. Lee.

Eastern National and Questers fund conservation work at Arlington House.

Seven original paintings from the museum collection of Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial, received professional conservation treatment recently through donations by Eastern National, a cooperating association partner working with the National Park Service at George Washington Memorial Parkway, and the Robert E. Lee Chapter #60 of the Questers International.

The National Park Service received a total of $21,000 in donations to conserve seven original paintings and frames — protecting and highlighting the original artwork.

One of the paintings was presented to Williams by a local artist whose name had been lost to history. Upon completion of the conservation, the artist's signature on the work will be revealed and their identity can finally be added to the historical record, according to the National Park Service.

Conservation treatment on the seven frames and paintings was completed by Olin Conservation, Inc. in Great Falls, and conservators at the National Park Service Conservation Laboratories in Harper’s Ferry, W.Va. Olin, a nationally known expert in the field of painting restoration, recently completed the multi-year task of restoring the Cyclorama Painting at Gettysburg National Military Park.

Eastern National, chartered in 1948, currently operates more than 130 educational retail outlets in national park areas and other public trusts from Maine to the Caribbean. Since they were chartered, Eastern National has donated over $95 million to the National Park Service.

The Robert E. Lee Chapter of The Questers International has had a relationship with Arlington House, The Robert E. Lee Memorial, since the chapter was chartered over 50 years ago. Through the years, The Questers have donated many objects to the museum collection as well as giving many hours of volunteer service at Arlington House. Museum collection objects that were conserved through The Questers include:

❖ The Lee Family Bible
❖ A Baroque violin made in London in 1789
❖ The bible carried by Robert E. Lee throughout the Civil War
❖ A bound set of sheet music once used by the Lee girls.
All three have ties to Northern Virginia.

By Julia O'Donoghue
The Connection

Three Republican candidates for Attorney General focused on why they would be the best person to beat Democratic nominee Steve Shannon while speaking in Reston April 17.

Former U.S. Attorney John Brownlee, state Sen. Ken Cuccinelli (R-37) and former Arlington County School Board member David Foster tried to woo supporters from the crowd of about 40 people at the event sponsored by the Republican Club of Greater Reston at the Reston Community Center.

The contest to be the Attorney General nominee is by far the most competitive inter-party battle on the Republican side of the aisle in Virginia. The three candidates will square off at the Republican Party of Virginia's statewide nominating convention in Richmond May 29 and 30. Local Republican committees have already selected their convention delegates.

Cuccinelli reminded the crowd that he is the only Republican out of the 10 state senators in Northern Virginia. He is also the only person out of all of the statewide candidates on the Republican side who has proven record of winning in Fairfax County.

“I win and I have no Loudoun or Prince William County precincts to help me,” said Cuccinelli, who represents Centreville, Burke and Springfield.

He added that each of the last five statewide Republican candidates — including Ariz. Sen. John McCain, U.S. Sen. George Allen, former Attorney General Jerry Kilgore — have lost his senate seat. But Cuccinelli continues to win, despite being outspent in campaigns by Democratic opponents.

“I am outspent by the Democrats because they can’t stand me,” said Cuccinelli.

Professionally, Cuccinelli is a lawyer in private practice that has represented small and mid-sized businesses, he said. He has also won lawsuits challenging the commonwealth of Virginia.

Foster is the only Republican to win elected office in Arlington County in 25 years, though, as a School Board member, he was not allowed to officially affiliate with any political party.

“I have taken on the toughest Democratic machine south of the Bronx and east of Chicago,” said Foster, referring to the Arlington County Democrats.

Foster, an Arlington native, is partner at Fulbright and Jaworski L.L.P and has worked at the law firm since 1990.

“I have more legal experience than my competitors combined,” said Foster.

Foster has also had to oversee several lawyers at his law firm, which is a lot like managing the 300-plus people in the attorney general’s office, he said.

“Bob McDonnell said running the attorney general’s office is like running a large law firm,” he said.

Brownlee attended Robinson Secondary School.

See GOP Candidates. Page 7
Officials Cite Concerns with Off-Ramps

Many neighborhood residents are concerned about six new traffic lights that are currently planned for an area known as the Shirlington rotary.

What Is a HOT Lane?

High-occupancy toll lanes are express travel lanes that are constructed and operated alongside highway lanes. They are designed to manage congestion by requiring travelers to use multi-passenger transportation or pay a toll. In December, the Federal Highway Administration approved a proposal that would create a 56-mile HOT-lane corridor from Spotsylvania to the Pentagon. Under the proposed plan, the Virginia Department of Transportation would own and oversee the lanes while Fluor-Transurban would construct, operate and maintain them.

TOLLS FOR THE HOT Lanes

When traffic increases, the tolls would go up — a concept known as “congestion pricing.” Yet officials in Alexandria and Arlington are still waiting to hear the details of how their residents would fit into the system. Ultimately, VDOT officials suggest, the project has been designed so that the needs of the many outweigh the needs of the few. “I can understand the concerns in Arlington and Alexandria,” said Steve Titunik, a spokesperson for VDOT. “But at the same time we need to take a look at the best way to move large amounts of people through the region with the least amount of congestion.”

The Pope Wears Size 11 Shoes

It was necessary to know the shoe size and Caecilia Jones of Arlington knew just whom to ask. She called her sister, who lived in Bavaria and asked that she look up the number of Father Georg. Apologizing for the delay in response, she explained that he would be responsible for coordinating the flow of traffic.

One of the options would be for each of the jurisdictions to take responsibility for all the traffic lights,” said Chang. “Another option would be for VDOT to take control of the signals. These kinds of things are still being worked out.” Another area of concern is the intersection of the HOT lanes and Seminary Road, where VDOT plans to build a transit station inside the Capital Beltway.

It sounds impractical to me,” said Alexandria Councilman Tim Lovain, a member of the Transportation and Planning Board of the Council of Governments. “Putting one of these things at Seminary just strikes me as dubious.”

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Which GOP Candidate Best Challenger

School in Fairfax County, though he now lives in the Roanoke area. President George W. Bush appointed him the U.S. attorney for the western part of Virginia in 2001.

“I was the top federal law enforcement officer for half of the state. I have convicted mayors, sheriffs and Board of Supervisors,” said Brownlee.

Five out of the last six attorneys general in Virginia have been former prosecutors and Brownlee is the only Republican in the race with that experience. He worries that Shannon, the Democratic nominee, could have an edge over the other Republican candidates because Shannon was also a prosecutor.

“You have to be a prosecutor to get elected. Every time, the public picks a prosecutor,” said Brownlee.

Brownlee is also a veteran, which he said is an advantage over his Republican opponents. Veterans and military people are more likely to come out and support Brownlee than other candidates, because of his military experience, he said.

Ongoing Items

Learn the basics of race walking, four sessions beginning Tuesday, May 12, 11:30 a.m., Thomas Jefferson Community Center. Cost is $20 ($28 for non-OSAP members). Call to register, 703-228-4771.

Volunteer gardeners needed to plan and help maintain a vegetable garden at Walter Reed Community Center, 2909 S. 16th St., Arlington. The garden is an intergenerational project shared by both youth and seniors anxious to learn and participate. For more information, call Jessica Vasquez, Area Supervisor, Office of Senior Adult Programs, 703-228-0948.

Learn how to be a volunteer coach for two computer-based programs on brain health and fitness. Arlington’s Office of Senior Adult Programs is currently offering two Point Science programs. For more information, call Jessica Vasquez, area supervisor at 703-228-0948.

Friday/May 8

Business Program luncheon, 11:30 a.m. at Marymount Ballston Center, 1000 N. Glebe Road. Learn about the graduate programs. Visit www.marymount.edu/infosession or 703-284-5902 to register.

Saturday/May 9

Spring Awards Luncheon, Noon at the Army-Navy Country Club. Enjoy hors d’oeuvres and more. For reservations 703-920-8591.

Monday/May 11

Lecture, 3-4:30 p.m. at Central Library, 1015 N. Quincy St. discuss “Preserving Good Fortune.” Free. 703-228-2144.

Friday/May 15


Saturday/May 16

Meeting, 9:30 a.m. at Sheraton National Hotel. Meeting of the Arlington League of Women Voters. $30/person includes breakfast. 703-536-8270.

Bulletin Board

Know of something missing from our community calendar? E-mail it to arlington@connectionnewspapers.com. Deadline is 2 p.m. the Thursday before publication. Call Rebecca Halik at 703-917-6407 with any questions. Photos are welcome. For more volunteer opportunities, classes, announcements visit www.arlingtonconnection.com and click on Community.
Schools

Oakridge Elementary School was buzzing with activity on Sunday afternoon, April 26. It was the annual school spring fair, the Spring Fling. A silent auction with all sorts of treasures and treats was being bid on as school children moved through a maze of activities in the school yard. Martial Arts demonstrations were carried on as well in the gym.

A sprinkler was set up in the afternoon shade of the school. As the temperature moved into the 90's, the spray of water provided delight and relief.

Photos by Louise Krafft/Connection

By Emily O'Connell
Bishop Ireton High School

The bare stage was crowded with hopeful auditioners, nervously reassuring themselves as they executed dance steps. Seventeen dancers in the initial cut, eight jobs available, one singular sensation: this was “A Chorus Line,” a tribute to countless Broadway dancers, performed with poise and feeling at Wakefield High School.

“A Chorus Line” opened on Broadway in 1975 and immediately became a smash hit, shattering box office records and garnering rave reviews. Supplemented by Marvin Hamlisch’s now legendary score and a universally relatable story, “A Chorus Line” provides a glimpse into the lives of dancers at an audition as each gradually reveals his or her personality, background, and reasons for dancing.

A difficult show for any high school to produce, the cast ambitiously performed complex group dances with well-practiced precision. Raw honesty and genuine deliveries carried the show as each actor evolved from a nameless member of the line to an individual with a story.

JOHN “WAFFLES” MORGAN was a dynamic force from his first appearance as the director Zach. Though he was offstage for most of the show and was only heard (not seen) questioning each dancer, Morgan created a strong character whose presence was felt constantly. He was well matched by Jocelyn Magumbal as Cassie, a fantastic dancer who never quite reached stardom. Magumbal demonstrated both an eagerness to please and a heart-breaking jadedness that made her chemistry with Zach, a former boyfriend, all the more effective. Her energetic ballad “The Music and the Mirror” was a vocal highlight of the show.

Cappies Review

THE MINIMALIST SET, consisting of panels that rotated to represent mirrors or a back wall, effectively added to the tense audition scenes. Lighting by Viktor Steury heightened the mood appropriately without drawing focus, giving each character a chance in the limelight, figuratively and literally. Despite some shaky vocals and microphones, the cast could usually be heard.

With unique performances and a bittersweet ending, Wakefield High School’s heartwarming production gave memorable insight into the lives of those who sacrifice security to do what they love.

“A Chorus Line” will also be performed this weekend, May 8 and 9 at 7 p.m. Don’t miss it.

Catch ‘A Chorus Line’ at Wakefield High School

Catch ‘A Chorus Line’ at Wakefield High School with the cast of characters.
Schools

‘Formals for Five’
Washington-Lee High School held its second annual “Formals For Five” prom dress sale April 29 and 30, selling more than 200 dresses to Arlington high school students for $5 each. The dresses were donated by women throughout the Arlington area and included new and used gowns as well as short dresses, handbags and jewelry. Emails went out to school listserves a month ago, and were then forwarded all over the area. Dresses began pouring in to the collection bins set up on the front porches of six homes in Arlington, in addition to a drop-off point at Nordstrom in Pentagon City. The money received will be used for Washington-Lee senior activities, with a portion also being donated to In Support of Children, an Arlington Public Schools fund set up for teachers to use for students in need.
JCCNV presents its ninth annual festival at several locations around the D.C. area.

Comedies, documentaries and dramas are just some of the genres of films that will be shown at the ninth annual Virginia International Jewish Film Festival, hosted by the Jewish Community Center of Northern Virginia. The festival, which runs from April 30 to May 14, will screen films at the JCC in Fairfax and McLean, as well as at the Arlington, Fairfax and McLean branches of the Virginia Holocaust Museum.

The festival features 20 film screenings and 64 drawings. The films, which hail from the U.S., Canada, Israel and Europe, were selected from over 150 entries. This year’s films include such features as "Noodle," the beginning of a trilogy that tells the story of "The Ballad of Lefty Frizzell," a biographical film on the life of the legendary country singer; and "The Shape of Things," a coming-of-age story about a young woman who finds herself living in a hotel with a collection of movie stars.

The film "Noodle" concerns a widowed flight attendant whose life is thrown for a loop when her Chinese housekeeper vanishes, leaving behind her little boy. The film "Lefty Frizzell" is a biographical film on the life of the legendary country singer; and "The Shape of Things," a coming-of-age story about a young woman who finds herself living in a hotel with a collection of movie stars. "The Shape of Things," a coming-of-age story about a young woman who finds herself living in a hotel with a collection of movie stars.

"Just like other film festivals, we bring the world to our community," said Karen Engels, the executive director of the Virginia International Jewish Film Festival. "It’s taken a long time but it is a wonderful effort and success," said Engels. "It’s well worth the while."

The festival’s 10th anniversary will be celebrated with a screening of the documentary "The Shape of Things," followed by a reception at the JCC in Fairfax. A special "Best of the Festival" screening will also be held, featuring films from all 10 years of the festival.

The festival’s ninth annual Jewish Film Festival Now Playing

BY LINDSAY CREGG

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Signature Theatre Receives the Regional Theater Tony Award

Signature Theatre in Arlington has been awarded the 2009 Regional Theater Tony Award. The Tony committee stated, "For 20 years, Signature has broadened and brightened the region’s cultural landscape with its bold productions of challenging new and established works…[Signature] has established a national reputation for giving some of the nation’s most talented artists a place to do their best work before appreciative, knowledgeable audiences." The award is given annually to one of the nation’s leading regional theaters and comes with a $25,000 prize from VISLA, USA.

Signature Theatre co-founder and Artistic Director Eric Schaeffer stated in a release, “We’re thrilled to bring a Tony Award to Washington, this great theater town. We share it with all the artists, donors, and audience members who continue to support our work. It’s been an amazing week with The Sondheim Award, our world premiere of Gi- ant, and now a Tony Award — it doesn’t get better than this!”

Signature’s Board Chair Sarah Valente stated, “Over the past 20 years, Signature has meant so much to so many artists and it’s been very exciting to watch Washington audiences marvel over what Eric Schaeffer has been able to create in this sandbox that is Signature Theatre.”

Under the leadership of Schaeffer and Managing Director Maggie Boal, Signature Theatre is a non-profit professional theater company dedicated to producing contemporary plays and musicals, reinvigorating classic shows, and developing new work. In the 19 years since the Theatre was founded, Signature has presented over 25 world premiere productions and has become renowned for bringing Broadway-quality productions with intimate playing spaces. In addition to the finest talent from the DC metropolitan area and New York, Signature has been a home to such theater luminaries as John Kander and Fred Ebb, Terrence McNally, and the company’s signature, Stephen Sondheim. Signature has received 276 Helen Hayes Award nominations and 69 Helen Hayes Awards for excellence in Washington, DC area professional theater.

Signature will celebrate its 20th anniversary later this year with a roster that includes “Dirty Blonde,” “Show Boat,” “I Am My Own Wife,” “Sweeney Todd,” and “Sycamore Trees.”
**SPORTS**

**Sports Briefs**

**Swine Flu Update**

While trepidation about the spread of swine flu (H1N1) has forced the cancellation of all high school sports in Texas and Alabama in the past week, the Virginia High School League (VHSL) released a statement this week saying, as of now, it is not planning to take such actions.

“The Virginia High School League (VHSL) is and has been in communication with the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) Health Services and is currently monitoring the latest updates from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) during this Swine flu (H1N1) outbreak,” said the statement released by VHSL communications manager, Mike McCall. “The VHSL, at this time, has not postponed any upcoming VHSL championships and/or regular season games based on the current Swine flu (H1N1) outbreak. The National Federation of State High School Associations (NFHS) Sports Medicine Advisory Committee is also monitoring the latest updates from the CDC on the H1N1 Virus. As of now right, the NFHS recommends that each state association follow the lead of its state and local health departments.”

As of Tuesday, there were two reported cases of swine flu in the state of Virginia, according to Governor Kaine, while Rockville High School in Maryland had to close Friday because of a potential outbreak.

The VHSL recommends checking the Virginia Department of Education Web site (www.doe.virginia.gov) or the CDC website (www.cdc.gov/swineflu) for more information.

**Lange Wins Boxing Title**

Northern Virginia boxer and Bishop O’Connell alum Jimmy Lange (30-3-2, 21 KOs) thrilled a crowd of 4,132 at the Patriot Center on Saturday night by defeating Frank Houghtaling (19-16-6, 4 KOs) via TKO for the vacant 154-lb. WBC USNBC Championship.

Senior Jordan LaBella pitched a one-hit shutout and seniors Ben Reifsnyder and Tom Brady blasted home runs as the Yorktown Patriots celebrated Senior Night May 1 with a 11-0 spanking of Falls Church. Yorktown is now 15-3 on the season, including 9-1 in the National District with two district games remaining against Stuart.

LaBella pitched a complete game for his second win of the season. He struck out 11 and walked four. The only ball hit out of the infield was a third inning grounder up the middle for a single. He worked himself out of a bases loaded, no outs jam in the fourth.

Centerfielder Brady hit the first homer of his career, a three-run blast to right center in the bottom of the first. Brady has been a steady performer for the Patriots all year and has raised his average to .347, fourth on the team. Catcher Reifsnyder connected on his first homer of the year in the third inning, a towering shot to left center.

Yorktown had only three other base knocks in the game. The hits were by the Patriots top three hitters — LaBella (.444 average, 26 RBIs), senior second baseman Kyle Toulouse (.415, 30 runs scored, 18 stolen bases) and shortstop Zach Madison (.365, 16 RBIs). All of those three had a pair of RBIs against Falls Church.

**LaCrosse Update**

Both the Yorktown and Washington-Lee boys’ and girls’ lacrosse teams advanced past the first round of the National District playoffs last Friday. As a result all four teams qualify for the Northern Region tournament, which begins play next week.

The Yorktown boys’ team travels to Mount Vernon, while W-L faces off at Falls Church in the semifinal round, with games scheduled for 6 p.m. Tuesday night, after the Connection’s deadline. The W-L girls’ will face the Yorktown girls in the semifinals, also on Tuesday night after the Connection’s deadline. Both championship games will take place Friday at Yorktown.

**Yorktown Baseball Wins Again**

Senior Jordan LaBella pitched a one-hit shutout and seniors BEN REIFSNYDER and Tom Brady blasted home runs as the Yorktown Patriots celebrated Senior Night May 1 with a 11-0 spanking of Falls Church. Yorktown is now 15-3 on the season, including 9-1 in the National District with two district games remaining against Stuart.

LaBella pitched a complete game for his second win of the season. He struck out 11 and walked four. The only ball hit out of the infield was a third inning grounder up the middle for a single. He worked himself out of a bases loaded, no outs jam in the fourth.

Centerfielder Brady hit the first homer of his career, a three-run blast to right center in the bottom of the first. Brady has been a steady performer for the Patriots all year and has raised his average to .347, fourth on the team. Catcher Reifsnyder connected on his first homer of the year in the third inning, a towering shot to left center.

Yorktown had only three other base knocks in the game. The hits were by the Patriots top three hitters — LaBella (.444 average, 26 RBIs), senior second baseman Kyle Toulouse (.415, 30 runs scored, 18 stolen bases) and shortstop Zach Madison (.365, 16 RBIs). All of those three had a pair of RBIs against Falls Church.

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Youth Is Served for Falle, O’Connell

Knights get revenge, beat National District champ Yorktown.

By Mark Giannotto
The Connection

O’Connell coach Tommy Orndorff gathered his team and had them all surround home plate at Yorktown High School’s home softball field last Saturday night. He was giving his Knight softball team a lesson on adjusting position within the batter’s box depending on how an umpire was calling a game.

“C’mon ladies, listen up, they’re gonna turn the lights out on us,” said Orndorff as the clock closed in on 9 o’clock.

Mind you, O’Connell had just finished a nail biting 1-0 win over Arlington County rival Yorktown, but for Orndorff there’s never a bad time for a teaching moment, especially this season with a lineup featuring five freshmen or sophomores.

Normally a team with this much youth is in for a rebuilding year, but not at O’Connell, where WCAC titles are the norm, not the goal. The Knights have won five-straight conference championships and 12 total since the WCAC started playing softball back in 1994.

And while those within the WCAC have wondered if this might be the year to dethrone O’Connell, that hasn’t stopped the Knights from compiling a gaudy 14-1 record within the conference this year, securing the No. 1 seed in the WCAC tournament beginning Thursday.

“They better beat us this year,” said Orndorff. “Because next year these girls are only gonna get better and we’ve got some more talented freshmen coming in.”

Getting past public school teams hasn’t been as easy, though. Last year against Yorktown, the Knights watched a 1-0 lead evaporate in the bottom of the seventh inning and then allowed the Patriots to take the lead and win in extra innings.

Saturday night it seemed as if it was déjà vu. After allowing just two baserunners through six innings, O’Connell sophomore pitcher Jilly Falle and her teammates began to feel the pressure of a tight game.

After two easy outs to start the final frame, an error allowed Yorktown’s Stephanie Severn to get on base. She promptly stole second base and moved over to third when center fielder Gretchen Schneider poked a single into right field.

“I was really nervous,” said Falle, “considering what happened last year.”

“I was thinking one little dink here and we lose this game,” said Orndorff. His young pitcher made sure that thought didn’t become reality, though, striking out Kimmie Oldham with four pitches to end any thought of late game heroics.

For the game, Falle gave up just three hits, striking out 13 batters, while allowing just one runner — Severn in the bottom of the seventh — to reach third base.

The righthander has now pitched 104.3 innings, given up just seven earned runs, and struck out 114 batters this season. But she’s just one of several talented youngsters for the emerging Knights, including sophomores Jessica Burk (.521 batting average) and Sophie Giaquinto (.400) and freshman...
Knights Beat Yorktown

FROM PAGE 14

Allison Grasmедер (472).

“This is where our youth shows up,” said Orndorff, whose team’s lone run was scored by Grasmедер courtesy of an RBI single by junior Jessica Eidt in the fifth inning. “The girls just aren’t used to playing in games like these. “This time of the year [1-0] is gonna be the score of games and we needed [Grasmeder] to finish and she did. She pitched a great game.”

The victory leaves O’Connell at 3-3 against Northern Region foes, with wins over contenders McLean and Centreville. The Knights are 16-4 overall. They start the WCAC tournament this Thursday.

AS FOR YORKTOWN, the loss proved that the Patriots have the talent to match up with just about anyone in the area. While pitcher Hannah Bauman had her shaky moments against O’Connell, her deceptive off-speed pitches kept the Knights at bay. She allowed five hits, one earned run, and struck out two batters. But it was a victory the day before against Falls Church that had coach Julie Fetter and the rest of the Patriots excited. The 5-1 win gave Yorktown the National District regular season title for the third-straight season. Now the team is focused on extending that streak into the postseason. “I think we’re really starting to pick it up,” said Fetter. “We’ve got the three-peat… but we’ll see what happens next week,” when the playoffs begin.

At T.C. Track Invitational

FROM PAGE 14

everything going on around the meet, athletes can get lost in the shuffle and forget to get the proper amount of warm up in. That didn’t seem to be a problem for the Yorktown girls, especially the long distance runners, who showed up for just the afternoon portion of the meet.

Led by junior Lindsey Hunt, who took fifth place in the 800-meters and second place in the 1600-meter run, the Patriot girls had their best showings of the day in the races that needed the most stamina.

In addition, junior Michelle Sutherland finished ninth in the grueling 3200-meter race. Senior LaNia Charity, a standout on the basketball team this winter, took seventh place in the discus throw and 10th place in the shot put.

“In track, I usually don’t think about it, I just do it,” said Charity. “In basketball, I have to be mentally prepared.”

ON THE BOYS’ side, Yorktown was led by Dylan McGowan’s fourth-place finish in the 1600-meter run. He was followed closely by teammate John Paparizas, who came in 10th place. Sophomores Thomas Milton and Junior Phillip Garretson finished side-by-side in the 800-meter run with ninth and 10th place showings, respectively. As a team, the boys finished in 19th place, while the girls came in 14th overall.

The National District championships begin next Tuesday at Edison.

Ending with a Flourish

By Annie Schweikert

In a weekend of semifinals and finals competitions, the Yorktown High School Winter Color Guard and Indoor Drumline took first and second place in their respective categories at the recent Atlantic Indoor Association (AIA) Circuit Championships.

The Yorktown Winter Color Guard finished their season by taking first place out of 31 other color guards at the circuit championships in Dumfries on March 29. The Winter Guard creates a show with dance, music, and equipment such as rifles and sabers. Yorktown’s show, “To Tame a Volcano,” took music from the movie “Hellboy II.” The guard was directed and coached by its staff leaders, Chris Rolando and Tara Blake.

The Yorktown High School Indoor Drumline took second place out of 22 competing drumlines at the circuit championships. The

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Who, Me?

By KENNETH B. LOURIE

Among the many words that I don’t know how to use in a sentence — or spell, either — is narcissistic; a word, a description that I’ve often heard, but usually not in a flattering way. So I’ve researched further. According to The American Heritage Dictionary, this definition of narcissistic is “excessive love of oneself.” The derivation of the word narcissistic is Greek mythology, specifically having to do with a youth named Narcissus who was so in love with himself and his own reflection in a pond that he died. This myth, specifically having to do with a youth named Narcissus who was so in love with himself and his own reflection in a pond that he died, is narcissistic; a word, a description, I’ve often heard, but usually not in a flattering way. So I’ve researched further. According to The American Heritage Dictionary, this definition of narcissistic is “excessive love of oneself.”
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