



A+

Education
Learning
Fun

Photo by Robbie Hammer/The Connection

Arlington Connection ● Camps & Schools

School Notes

Shanon Krause, a resident of Arlington, recently graduated from Holy Family University with a Master of Business Administration degree. The graduate was among 878 students who earned degrees from Holy Family University during the 2008-09 school year.

The following Arlington students enrolled at Virginia Tech were named to the dean's list for the spring 2009 semester. To qualify for the dean's list, students must attempt at least 12 credit hours graded on the A-F option and earn a 3.4 grade point average (on a 4.0 scale) during the semester.

● **Rachel A. Bare** is a junior majoring in public and urban affairs in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies.

● **Wade S. Duvall** is a senior majoring in physics in the College of Science.

● **Isabel A. Gomez** is a junior majoring in psychology in the College of Science.

● **Olivia N. Marshall** is a junior majoring in English in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Ellen S. Mendyk** is a senior majoring in international studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Ryan M. Probasco** is a senior majoring in political science in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Rawia A. Aly** is a freshman majoring in industrial and systems engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Maria J. Barreix** is a senior majoring in architecture in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies.

● **Michael V. Cangialosi** is a senior majoring in biology in the College of Science.

● **Michelle K. Walker** is a senior majoring in biochemistry in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

● **Kari D. Adkins** is a senior majoring in industrial and systems engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Alison S. Beale** is a senior majoring in psychology in the College of Science.

● **Blaire B. Buerigler** is a senior majoring in public and urban affairs in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies.

● **Keith A. DePew** is a junior majoring in geosciences in the College of Science.

● **Raymond J. DiNunzio** is a senior majoring in biology in the College of Science.

● **Aurora A. Martin** is a sophomore majoring in music in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Madeline H. Sharp** is a junior majoring in psychology in the College of Science.

● **Christopher J. Sherlock** is a freshman majoring in hospitality and tourism management in the Pamplin College of Business.

● **James E. Sherlock** is a junior majoring in business information technology in the Pamplin College of Business.

● **Victor E. Almeyda** is a freshman majoring in biology in the College of Science.

● **Rosemarie A. Bundoc** is a freshman majoring in university studies at Virginia Tech.

● **John T. Grantham** is a senior majoring in civil engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Christopher P. Gregerson** is a senior majoring in industrial and systems engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Ashley Landers** is a senior majoring in history in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Timothy A. Reese** is a sophomore majoring in political science in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Rebecca J. Wilson** is a junior majoring in biochemistry in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

● **David L. Bodner** is a junior majoring in political science in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Andreas P. Brooks** is a senior majoring in English in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Paul J. Campanella** is a junior majoring in chemical engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Michael J. Fraser** is a senior majoring in electrical engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Grace E. Golojuch** is a junior majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

● **Alison M. Hight** is a sophomore majoring in history in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Patrick J. Jaffke** is a junior majoring in theatre arts in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **John C. Lawrence** is a freshman majoring in forestry in the College of Natural Resources.

● **Janette E. Madera** is a freshman majoring in biology in the College of Science.

● **Monica Madera** is a freshman majoring in biology in the College of Science.

● **Michael T. Manger** is a junior majoring in aerospace engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **John S. McGuirk** is a junior majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Lincoln A. Nesbit** is a senior majoring in history in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Nathaniel L. Scott** is a sophomore majoring in finance in the Pamplin College of

Business.

● **Bryce W. Stucki** is a senior majoring in mathematics in the College of Science.

● **Adam C. Hickey** is a sophomore majoring in university studies at Virginia Tech.

● **Lea M. Westrick** is a sophomore majoring in biochemistry in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

● **Melissa M. Westrick** is a senior majoring in human nutrition, foods and exercise in the College of Agriculture and Life Sciences.

● **Lauren C. Ashley** is a junior majoring in interdisciplinary studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Michael P. Cassidy** is a senior majoring in history in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Daniel F. Caughran** is a senior majoring in electrical engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Matthew B. Clements** is a senior majoring in biochemistry in the College of Science.

● **Daniel E. Curaca Malito** is a sophomore majoring in general engineering in the College of Engineering.

● **Kirsten A. Dobson** is a junior majoring in environmental policy and planning in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies.

● **Sarah A. Haseltine** is a senior majoring in English in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Sergio J. Leon Gianella** is a senior majoring in economics in the Pamplin College of Business.


● **Mark G. Murray** is a junior majoring in accounting and information systems in the Pamplin College of Business.

● **Karoline A. Oldham** is a sophomore

See **School Notes**, Page 7

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NVCC

'Guarantees'

Community college graduates with certain GPA, courses, can win automatic acceptance.

By Julia O'Donoghue
The Connection

When Suzanne Spatz graduated from Woodson Secondary School in 2007, her family knew she wouldn't be able to attend a four-year college or university right away.

Even though she received excellent grades in high school, Spatz suffered from Lyme disease and was too sick to go away to college at the time. So the teenager opted to attend Northern Virginia Community College and live at home while her health stabilized.

"We never would have thought about it until she became ill," said Melody Spatz, about the decision to enroll her daughter, Suzanne, at a community college.

Both Melody Spatz and her husband had attended the University of Virginia and always assumed their children would enroll in traditional four-year undergraduate programs. Initially, Melody Spatz worried Suzanne would not be an attractive transfer applicant for selective four-year universities because she would be coming from a community college.

BUT Suzanne Spatz's time at Northern Virginia Community College helped, rather than hindered, her admission to one of the top public universities in the country.

The teenager was automatically accepted to the University of Virginia after meeting all the requirements laid out in a "guaranteed admissions" agreement between Northern Virginia Community College and the highly competitive state school in Charlottesville.

The arrangement allows the community college graduates to bypass the regular application process and ensure their transfer to the University of Virginia if they meet certain academic thresholds while earning their associate's degree.



Pre-med students Aisha Bashir and Rabia Aslam relax in the courtyard between classes on the Northern Virginia Community College Annandale campus.

Photo by Louise Krafft/Connection

Find Out More

For more information on Northern Virginia Community College's guaranteed admission program, see www.nvcc.edu/about-nova/directories-offices/administrative-offices/academic/guaranteed-adm/

Students like Spatz, who earn a grade-point average (GPA) of at least 3.4 on a 4.0 scale, can be assured a slot at the University of Virginia through the arrangement.

In addition to the GPA cut off, the students must earn at least a "C" or higher in all of their community college classes and a "B" or higher in two required English courses. They also have to take a certain number of community college credit hours in foreign language, social science, humanities and historical studies. They must enroll in at least one "non-

Western perspective" course.

"I am very happy that I did it. It was kind of nice to know I could guarantee my admissions somewhere," said Spatz.

IN ADDITION to the University of Virginia, about 38 other colleges and universities have signed "guaranteed admissions" agreements with Northern Virginia Community College over the last two years.

Some of the schools participating are among the state's most prestigious – including the College of William & Mary, Virginia Tech, James Madison University, George Mason University, The George Washington University and Georgetown University.

See **NVCC**, Page 6

Transfer, Guaranteed

Northern Virginia Community College students earning an associate's degree can earn guaranteed admission to many four-year colleges, including UVA and William and Mary, if they meet certain course requirements and earn a certain grade point average (GPA.)

Those who use the community college's "guaranteed admissions" program transfer into undergraduate programs as juniors because the credits earned for their associate's degree count toward their freshman and sophomore years of school.

The exact GPA and extra course requirements needed for automatic admission vary, depending on the university or college the student wishes to attend.

Here is a list of schools that will automatically accept Northern Virginia Community College graduates if certain requirements are met, including the following GPA threshold:

School	GPA Needed
Art Institute of Washington	None listed
Christopher Newport University	3.5
College of William & Mary	3.6
ECPI College of Technology	2.5
Emory & Henry College	2.5
Ferrum College	2.0
George Mason University	2.75
Georgetown University - Liberal Studies	3.0
The George Washington University	
– Pharmacogenomics	3.0
Hollins University	2.5
James Madison University	3.0
Liberty University	2.0
Longwood University	2.5
Lynchburg College	2.0 *
Mary Baldwin College	2.5
Marymount University	
– Business Administration	2.5
Marymount University	
– Interior Design	None listed
National-Louis University	2.5
Norfolk State University	2.0
Nyack College	2.0
Old Dominion University	None listed
Park University	None listed
Radford University	2.8
Randolph College	3.0
Regent University	2.0
Regis University	2.0
Strayer University	2.0
Sweet Briar College	2.5
Trinity University (Washington D.C.)	2.5
Troy University	2.0
United States Sports Academy	2.0
University of Mary Washington	3.25
University of Virginia	
– College of Arts and Sciences	3.4
University of Virginia's College at Wise	2.5
Virginia Commonwealth University	2.5 **
Virginia State University	2.0
Virginia Tech	3.4
Virginia Tech	
– College of Agriculture and Life Sciences	3.0
Virginia Tech – College of Engineering	3.0
Virginia Union University	2.0
Virginia Wesleyan College	2.5

*Community college students earning a 3.5 GPA or higher will automatically receive a \$10,000 scholarship to Lynchburg, students earning a 3.0 to 3.49 GPA will receive a \$7,500 scholarship to Lynchburg, students earning a 2.5 to 2.99 GPA will receive a \$5,000 scholarship to Lynchburg

**Community college students earning a 2.75 GPA or higher will be eligible to compete for a special scholarship at Virginia Commonwealth University

Beat the Heat With Hockey

Photos by Robbie Hammer
The Connection

Kettler Capitals Iceplex offers camps for children of all skating abilities.

By Mark Giannotto
The Connection

When the idea to put two ice rinks on top of the garage of Ballston Mall was hatched back in 1998, the main goal was to attract the Washington Capitals as lead tenants and make the rinks their practice home.

But when the team joined up with Arlington County in a public-private partnership, county officials made sure the facility would not be exclusive to elite hockey players, it's aim being to create more of a skating community center for the public to enjoy.

Eleven years later, Kettler Capitals Iceplex is not only home to the George Washington and Georgetown University hockey teams, but also the unofficial rink of choice of six area high schools, several youth leagues, and numerous skating programs.

So while some choose to escape the heat in the pool this summer, KCI and the Washington Capitals are offering a wide array of camps meant to supplement the skills of everyone from those just learning to skate to high schoolers attempting to make it to the elite levels of the hockey world.

"Kettler summer camps are a great way for kids to cool off, have fun, and learn a new skill this summer," said Iceplex marketing director Racquel Self.

"Cooling off from a deep playoff run, the Capitals have organized specialized summer camps to fit the needs of each camper."

THE ICEPLEX HAS four different camp opportunities for children ages 4-14. The Summer Fun Skating Camps are designed for beginning and intermediate skaters who aren't looking to gain any sort of competitive hockey edge. Campers are grouped by age and skill level, and at the end of the week each group performs an ice show. Themes for each week can be anything from "Caps Rookie Camp" to "High School Musicals Week" to "Rock & Roll."

Camp sessions are weekly and run from July 13-Sept. 4.

For those who know how to skate, but are looking to learn the finer skills of ice hockey, there's Slapshot's Hockey Fun Camp. With a daily visit from honorary camp director and Washington Capitals mascot "Slapshot," children ages 6-12 and of all skill levels are welcome to attend what Self calls "the highlight camp of the summer." Full hockey gear and some skating experience are required. There is just one session, from July 27-31.

If hockey is already in the blood, the Capitals are also offering the Capitals Elite Hockey Development Camp for children ages 7-14. The camp will

focus on a higher level of instruction to fine tune each player's game. Washington Capitals coach Bruce Boudreau and his staff will also be on hand to help give campers tips. The lone session takes place Aug. 17-21.

KCI will also play host to some non-Capital sponsored camps. On July 20-24 and Aug. 10-14, Jeff Serowik's Pro Ambitions Hockey, Inc. will come to Arlington. The company hosts camps throughout the United States and is aimed for children ages 6-18 and all skill levels. It is the official development program of the Division-I NCAA hockey conference America East, which features schools like Boston University, Boston College, and Vermont.



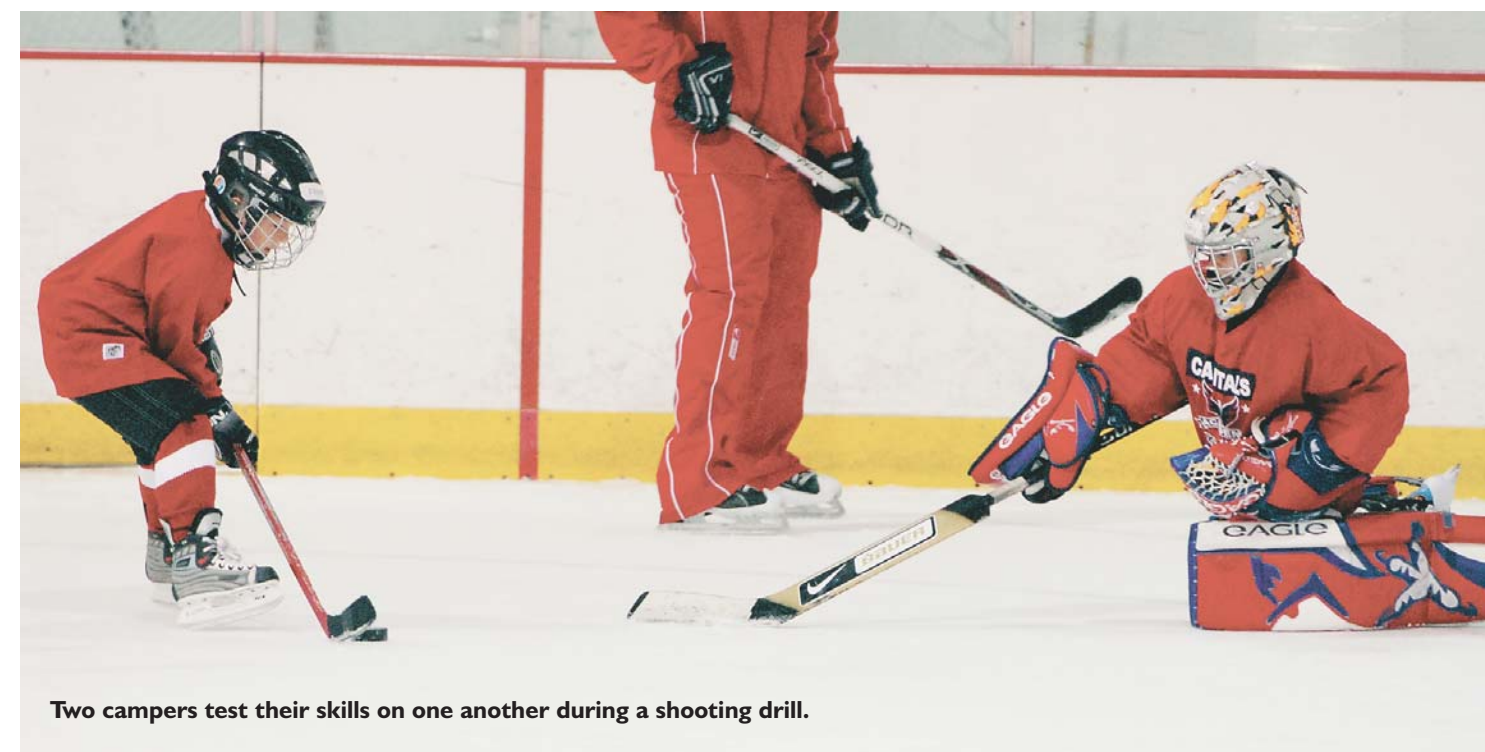
Parker Strand commutes from Pennsylvania every day with his father.



The Washington Capitals sponsor the Capitals Academy Camps each summer at the Kettler Iceplex in Arlington to teach youth hockey players the proper techniques and skills needed to be an effective hockey player.



Several young hockey players wait for their turn during a drills session of the Capitals Sniper School camp on July 8 in Arlington. During the Sniper School camp, campers learn the skills needed to be a go-to-goal scorer.



Two campers test their skills on one another during a shooting drill.



ALSO ON THE COVER: Area youth hockey players listen to tips from camp counselors at the Capitals Sniper School at the Kettler Capitals Iceplex in Arlington on July 8. The Washington Capitals Academy Camps offer a variety of camps for players of all ages and skills each summer.



Campers receive instructions from camp staff while participating in an annual Capitals Academy Hockey Camp at the Kettler Iceplex in Arlington last week.

NVCC 'Guarantees'

From Page 3

"The arrangement covers some private and virtually all the public institutions in Virginia, except for [Virginia Military Institute]," said Bob Templin, president of Northern Virginia Community College.

Required coursework and GPA cut offs for automatic acceptance vary, depending on which four-year college or university a student would like to attend. But all students are obligated to earn an associate's degree before taking advantage of the "guaranteed admissions" arrangement.

Students who take some community college classes but do not earn their associate's degree are not eligible for "guaranteed admissions" and have to use the traditional application process at all colleges and universities who participate in the program.

According to Templin, students who earn an associate's degree tend to perform better academically at four-year institutions.

"When you complete the degree program, your chances of doing well at the university are much better than if you come in and sample a few courses before transferring," said Templin.

AS THE PUBLIC hears more about the "guaranteed admissions" arrangements, Northern Virginia Community College will become more popular among students who have always intended to earn a bachelor's degree, said officials.

Competition to get into Virginia's top-tier state colleges and universities has grown so fierce among Northern Virginia high school students that even one of the South County Secondary School's recent valedictorians was not able to get into the University of Virginia.

"For students who are interested in going to some of the more selective universities in the state, this is a huge opportunity. For a lot of students, they find it difficult to get into these institutions from Northern Virginia," said Greg Schuckman, president of the Northern Virginia Community College's Board of Trustees.

Despite being a good student, Spatz said she is unsure she would have been accepted to the University of Virginia directly out of high school.

"If I had applied to UVA out of high school, I honestly probably wouldn't have gotten in. My grades were pretty good but my SAT scores were not very

good and I couldn't take as many [Advanced Placement] courses as I normally would have because of my health," said Spatz, who graduated from Northern Virginia Community College's honors program with almost a perfect 4.0 GPA.

STUDENTS WHO are accepted to four-year undergraduate programs could also save a lot of money by attending community college for two years and transferring to a four-year school for the second half of their undergraduate program.

Community college graduates who use the "guaranteed admissions" program are given the same academic standing as a regular junior when they transfer to their new school. They could graduate in the same amount of time as students who attended the four-year institution for their entire undergraduate career, thereby saving a lot of money.

"[Northern Virginia Community College] is cheaper than any other school in our area and it can save our students a ton of money. ... They pay less in tuition. They can stay at home and not pay room and board costs. And they can maintain their current job," said Joan Zanders, Northern Virginia Community College's director of financial aid.

"I am very happy that I did it. It was nice to know I could guarantee my admissions somewhere."

— Suzanne Spatz

The two-year school's tuition is approximately \$105 per credit hour compared to approximately \$573 per credit hour at George Mason, \$282 per credit hour at Virginia Tech and \$790 per credit hour at the University of Virginia, according to those school's Web sites.

"We are a good option for lots of folks who would normally go to a four-year school directly but are having a difficult time because of the economic crisis. ... You can still get the degree of your choice but, for two years, you will have much lower tuition." said George Gabriel, vice president for college

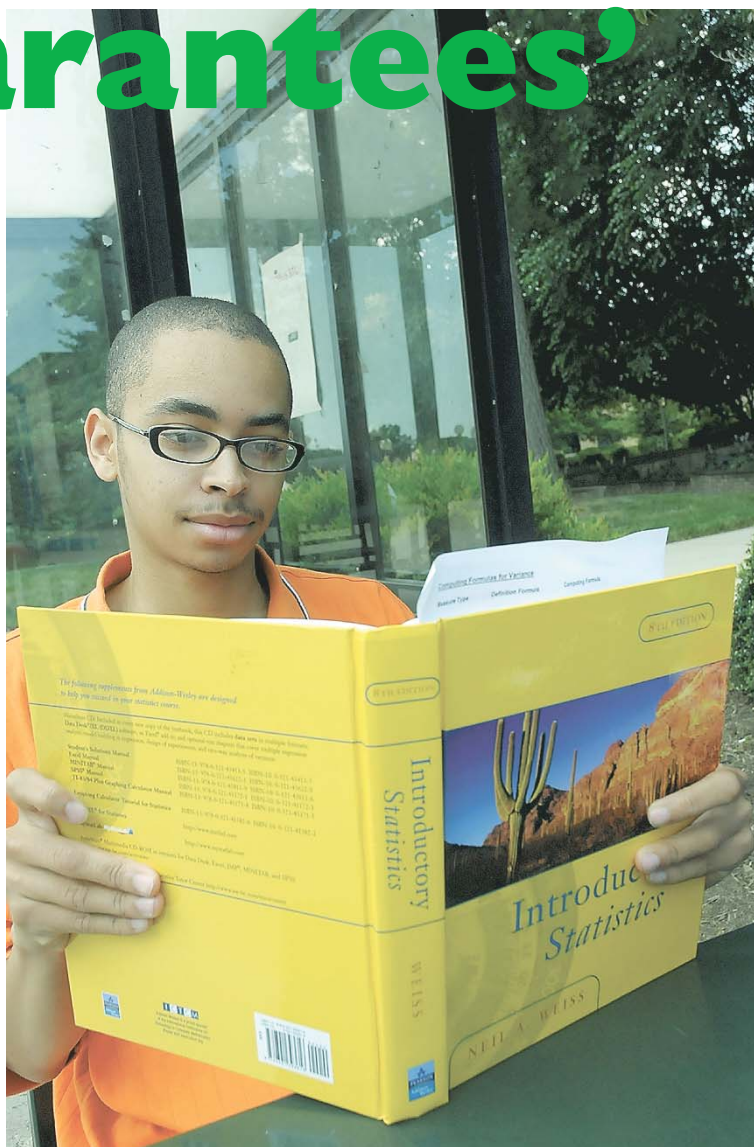


Photo by Louise Krafft/Connection

Kyle Hollis looks over his statistics textbook in between classes at Northern Virginia Community College.

advancement at Northern Virginia Community College.

NOT ONLY is it more affordable but students who perform well at Northern Virginia Community College tend to be very good pupils at four-year schools.

The University of Virginia found Northern Virginia Community College graduates who transferred to their programs achieved as much or more than those who came to the school directly from high school, said Schuckman.

George Mason University found similar results when it compared community college transfers to its other undergraduates, said Andrew Flagel, Mason's director of admissions.

"There is a pretty strong correlation between a student's GPA at a community college and a student's GPA at a four-year college. Actually, the indicators we have for student success from high school – their GPA and test scores – are very weak predictors of how they will do in college," said Flagel.

THERE IS some fine print to read as students navigate the guaranteed admissions program.

The guaranteed admissions arrangements do not always apply to specialized or highly competitive programs at a

particular college or university.

For example, McLean resident William Law was interested in using the guaranteed admissions arrangement at the University of Virginia, until he discovered it did not apply to the school's business program, the McIntire School of Commerce.

"Since I had my heart set on getting into McIntire, I did not want to make a binding agreement with any other college/program," said Law, who will attend the business school next fall, in an e-mail. "I think the [guaranteed admissions agreements] are an excellent tool and certainly a major selling point for those considering NVCC. When I talk to people about NVCC, that is generally one of the first things I mention."

But Melody Spatz said it can often be very difficult to keep up with all the

requirements and deadlines associated with the guaranteed admissions agreements. For example, students have to send a letter of intent to many schools – declaring that they will definitely attend that school if admitted by a certain deadline. If they are deciding between more than one school, students also must keep on top of the various course requirements that each college wants students using the guaranteed admissions arrangements to have completed.

"I think it is a good program but you have to be really well informed. We made flow charts with all of the deadlines on them. ... It is not an easy process. There are a lot of things you have to keep up with," said Spatz.

STILL, Northern Virginia Community College's enrollment numbers are up 15 percent from last year, when the total student population was approximately 67,000. Officials said there has been a surge particularly among younger students.

Northern Virginia high schools collectively graduated the largest class of seniors in the history of the region this year, said Schuckman, president of the NVCC's Board of Trustees. Among Fairfax County Public School students, Northern Virginia Community College is the most popular destination, he said.

School Notes

From Page 2

majoring in biology in the College of Science.

● **Lauren M. Panke** is a freshman majoring in international studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Linden E. Rock** is a sophomore majoring in communication in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Anastasia M. Snelling** is a freshman majoring in psychology in the College of Science.

● **Madeline E. Williams** is a sophomore majoring in university studies at Virginia Tech.

● **Martha H. Woldu** is a freshman majoring in international studies in the College of Liberal Arts and Human Sciences.

● **Christopher T. O'Keefe** is a senior majoring in business information technology in the Pamplin College of Business.

● **Devin J. McCue Emery** is a sophomore majoring in business in the Pamplin College of Business.

Arlington Mill librarian **Vera Stover** was among the 125 singers who performed at the "We Are One" Pre-Inaugural Event at the Lincoln Memorial on Jan. 18. The back-up choir sang with Bruce Springsteen and Beyoncé.

Kenmore's Shauna Dyer was featured in the January issue of the Phillips Collection newsletter. Dyer along with colleague Jeff Wilson was selected to participate in the Phillips Collection's mentor teacher program in September.

The **Wakefield** Orchestra, under the direction of **Gene Pohl**, has received grants from the Washington Performing Arts Society and the Wolf Trap Foundation. The Performing Arts Society grant will allow Pohl to provide a workshop for students with MarcOlivia, a professional string duo. The Wolf Trap grant will be used to bring in professional guest artists from local symphony orchestras to solo with the orchestra at the spring concert.

Yorktown High School placed first at the regional Virginia High School League (VHSL) One-Act Theatre Arts Festival on Jan. 31 with the student-performance of "The Imaginary Invalid." In addition to receiving top honors, judges named nine members of the cast as All-Stars. They were **Philip Baraoidan, Curt Gavin, Allison Ham, Avery Hitt, Paul Kenney, Muriel MacDonald, Elaine McCartin, Charlie Resnick, and Brooke Weber. MacDonald** was named Best Actress for the entire competition. **Weber and Kenney** were runners-up for best overall actress and actor respectively.

The following students from Arlington at Coastal Carolina University students earned dean's list status: **John W. Northington Jr. and Casey L. Rolla.**

Molly Patrician, a music education major from Arlington, was

named to the dean's list at Westminster Choir College of Rider University.

Harry Blackwood of Arlington, a sophomore at Cornell College, was recently elected Student Life Chair of the Cornell Student Senate.

The Washington Post has awarded an education grant to Jefferson teacher **Eleanor Dasenbrook** for her "Pathways to Service" project. Students in the Pathways program make activity bags to welcome new children in residence at Arlington's Sullivan House Shelter.

Karen Heathcock at Oakridge received two technology grants, totaling \$3,446. Heathcock received a \$3,000 Best Buy Teach Award to purchase technology for her classroom and the school. She also received an additional \$446 through the Northern Virginia Technology Educational Consortium (NOVATEC) to purchase eight digital voice recorders for her classroom. These portable, pocket-sized recorders have a variety of applications, but will be used primarily to improve student fluency.

Three Williamsburg teachers attended the annual conference of the Virginia Society for Technology in Education (VSTE) in Virginia Beach and presented two workshops. Sixth grade English teacher **Zell Rosenfelt** demonstrated how Skype software can be utilized to connect with students and teachers in classrooms throughout the community and internationally. The software also makes "video visits" and lessons possible with students at home and abroad. **Joan Empric** shared her expertise on combining English and a variety of technology skills to create a sixth grade autobiography project. ITC **Carolyn Grigione** provided the technical support for both presentations.

Justin McNeilly, class of 2010, is studying with the Freiburg (language and area studies) program in Germany. McNeilly majors in economics at Denison University.

The following Arlington students have been inducted into *Delta Epsilon Sigma* National Scholastic Honor Society at Marymount University: **Pauline Clark, Ariana Delgado, Jamesian Emmanuel, Alexandra Fitch, Allison Jordan, Karen McKeever, Charlotte Raich, Arshia Unk, Louine Wailes III, and Elizabeth Whitehill.**

Several young artists from area high schools and middle schools were recognized by the Arlington Artist's Academy. **Kate Fleming**, a junior from Washington-Lee High School and **Noah King**, an eighth grader from Swanson Middle School were awarded two-term scholarships for art classes in the Academy, and **Catherine Pearson**, a junior at Yorktown High School, was awarded a scholarship for one term. In addition to students awarded scholarships, several students received certificates of recognition

for their artwork. They are: **Dane Fitzmaurice** a junior at Washington-Lee High School who takes commercial art classes at the Arlington Career Center, received a Certificate of Highest Merit. **Elena Laswick**, a junior at Washington-Lee High School, **Ming Wong**, a commercial art student at the Arlington Career Center, **Mary Jaeger** from Swanson Middle School, and **Tida Saenghanh**, an eighth grader at Swanson Middle School, received Certificates of Special Artistic Achievement.

Wakefield senior **Katherine Williams** is one of 12 students nationally (six males, six females) admitted to Julliard's freshman class. Katherine is an accomplished dancer.

Yorktown High School senior **Melissa Vandenberg** has been awarded the Girl Scouts' highest award, the Gold Award, for her project addressing the proper disposal and recycling of compact fluorescent light bulbs.

Glebe music teacher **Kevin Carr** conducted the fifth grade All-City Colonial Chorus in Virginia Beach on March 21-22. The chorus was made up of fifth graders from across the state.

Outreach specialist **Ernesto Campos** and Randolph teacher **Sara Mulrooney** participated as accredited international observers in the March 16 presidential elections in El Salvador. Both were members of U.S. groups that met with government agencies, election officials and party leaders from both sides.

Tuckahoe fifth grade teacher **Michelle Jaeckel** and assistant principal **Colin Brown** presented at the fifth annual Teachers of Promise Institute at James Madison University. Their presentation provided tips and practical information for beginning teachers.

Arlington Public Schools students received recognition at the 24th annual Virginia State Science and Engineering Fair held at George Mason University. There were 250 students competing in 18 different categories. The following students placed at this year's fair:

● **Sarah Russo** – Yorktown High School, second place in environmental management.

● **David Patton** – Yorktown High School, second place in microbiology.

● **Haley Sanner** – H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program, third place in behavioral and social sciences.

● **Jessica Benson** – Yorktown High School, honorable mention in animal sciences.

● **Sonia Phene** – Washington-Lee High School, honorable mention in behavioral and social sciences.

● **Emilia Sens** – Washington-Lee High School, honorable mention in animal sciences.

● **Alicia Hamar** – H-B Woodlawn Secondary Program, Air Force Certificate of Achievement for an Outstanding Science or Engineering Fair Project.

Award-Winning Connection Newspapers

More Reasons the Connection Newspapers are the Best-Read Community Papers: Winners of more than 40 awards in the 2008 Virginia Press Association and Maryland-Delaware-D.C. Press Association Editorial Contests



Julia S. O'Donoghue

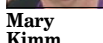
Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue
FIRST PLACE, Government writing, *Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection*

Mark Giannotto
FIRST PLACE, Sports writing portfolio, *Arlington Connection*



Mark Giannotto

Mary Kimm
FIRST PLACE, Editorial writing, *Fairfax Connection*



Mary Kimm

Robbie Hammer
FIRST PLACE,

Sports news photo, *Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection*, Subject: *Wrestling*



Robbie Hammer

Robbie Hammer
FIRST PLACE, Feature photo, *Springfield Connection*, Subject: *Synchro Swim Team*

Robbie Hammer
FIRST PLACE, Picture story or essay, *Springfield Connection*, Subject: *Lee HS Prom*

Michael Lee Pope
FIRST PLACE, Government Writing, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*



Michael Lee Pope

Michael Lee Pope
FIRST PLACE, In-depth or Investigative Reporting, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Michael Lee Pope
FIRST PLACE, Health, Science and Environmental Writing, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Michael Lee Pope
FIRST PLACE, Education Writing, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Mirza Kurspahic
FIRST PLACE, General news writing, *Oak Hill/Herndon Connection*, "Controversy in Herndon"



Mirza Kurspahic

Mark Giannotto
FIRST PLACE, Sports Writing Portfolio, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*



Rebecca Halik

Rebecca Halik, Greg Wyshynski
FIRST PLACE, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*



Greg Wyshynski



Louise Krafft

Louise Krafft, Michael Lee Pope, Mary Anne Weber, Chuck Hagee;
FIRST PLACE, Lifestyle/Entertainment pages; *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Louise Krafft
FIRST PLACE, Pictorial Photo, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Louise Krafft
FIRST PLACE, Picture Story/Essay, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Julia O'Donoghue
FIRST PLACE, In-depth or Investigative Reporting, *Mount Vernon Gazette*

Robbie Hammer
FIRST PLACE, General News Photo, *Potomac Almanac*, Subject: "Practice House Fire"

Aaron Stern
FIRST PLACE, Sports Feature, *Potomac Almanac*, Subject: "Pauline Betz Addies' 'Triumphant Return'"



Aaron Stern

Julia Sheehan O'Donoghue and Louise Krafft, SECOND PLACE, Combination picture and story, *McLean Connection*, Subject: *Feature on the home of Terry McAuliffe*

Jason Mackey
SECOND PLACE, Sports writing portfolio, *Fairfax Connection*

Robbie Hammer
SECOND PLACE, Feature photo, *Vienna/Oakton Connection*, Subject: *Family Support*

Robbie Hammer
SECOND PLACE, Sports feature photo, *Fairfax Connection*, Subject: *Soccer players in defeat*

Bonnie Hobbs
SECOND PLACE, Public safety writing, *Centre View Northern Edition*



Bonnie Hobbs

Bonnie Hobbs
SECOND PLACE, Feature series or continuing story, *Centre View*, Subject: *Immigration*

Jennifer Lesinski
SECOND PLACE, General news writing, *Ashburn Connection*, Subject: *Catholic Charities' food program*



Jennifer Lesinski

Jennifer Lesinski
SECOND PLACE, Personal service writing, *Ashburn Connection*, Subject: *Loudoun Interfaith Relief*

Nicholas M. Horrock
SECOND PLACE, Business and financial writing, *Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection*



Nicholas M. Horrock

Michael Lee Pope
SECOND PLACE, Public Safety Writing, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Michael Lee Pope
SECOND PLACE, Feature series or continuing story, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Louise Krafft
SECOND PLACE, General News Photo, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Louise Krafft
SECOND PLACE, Feature Photo, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Louise Krafft
SECOND PLACE, Personality or Portrait Photo, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Aaron Stern
SECOND PLACE, Public Service, *Potomac Almanac*, Subject: "Teens Go Online, Get Vicious"

Kenneth B. Lourie
SECOND PLACE, Sports Column, *Potomac Almanac*, Subject: "Fanatic but Not a Phillie"



Kenneth B. Lourie

David Schultz
THIRD PLACE, In-depth or investigative reporting, *Arlington Connection*, Subject: *Unscrupulous landlord evicts tenants*



David Schultz



Michael O'Connell

THIRD PLACE, Page design, *Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection*

Michael O'Connell, Lea Mae Rice, Paula Friedrich

THIRD PLACE, Lifestyle or entertainment pages, *Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection*



Lea Mae Rice

Jason Mackey
THIRD PLACE, Sports writing portfolio, *Springfield Connection*

Robbie Hammer
THIRD PLACE, Picture story or essay, *Fairfax Station/Laurel Hill Connection*, Subject: *Robinson HS Marching Band Camp*

Robbie Hammer
THIRD PLACE, General news photo, *Fairfax Connection*

Robbie Hammer
THIRD PLACE, Sports news photo, *Vienna/Oakton Connection*, Subject: *Lacrosse celebration*

Louise Krafft
THIRD PLACE, General News Photo, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Kenneth B. Lourie
THIRD PLACE, Column Writing, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Chuck Hagee
THIRD PLACE, Feature Writing Portfolio, *Alexandria Gazette Packet*

Rebecca Halik, Louise Krafft, Greg Wyshynski, Mary Anne Weber, Chuck Hagee, Michael Lee Pope

THIRD PLACE, Lifestyle/Entertainment pages, *Mount Vernon Gazette*



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