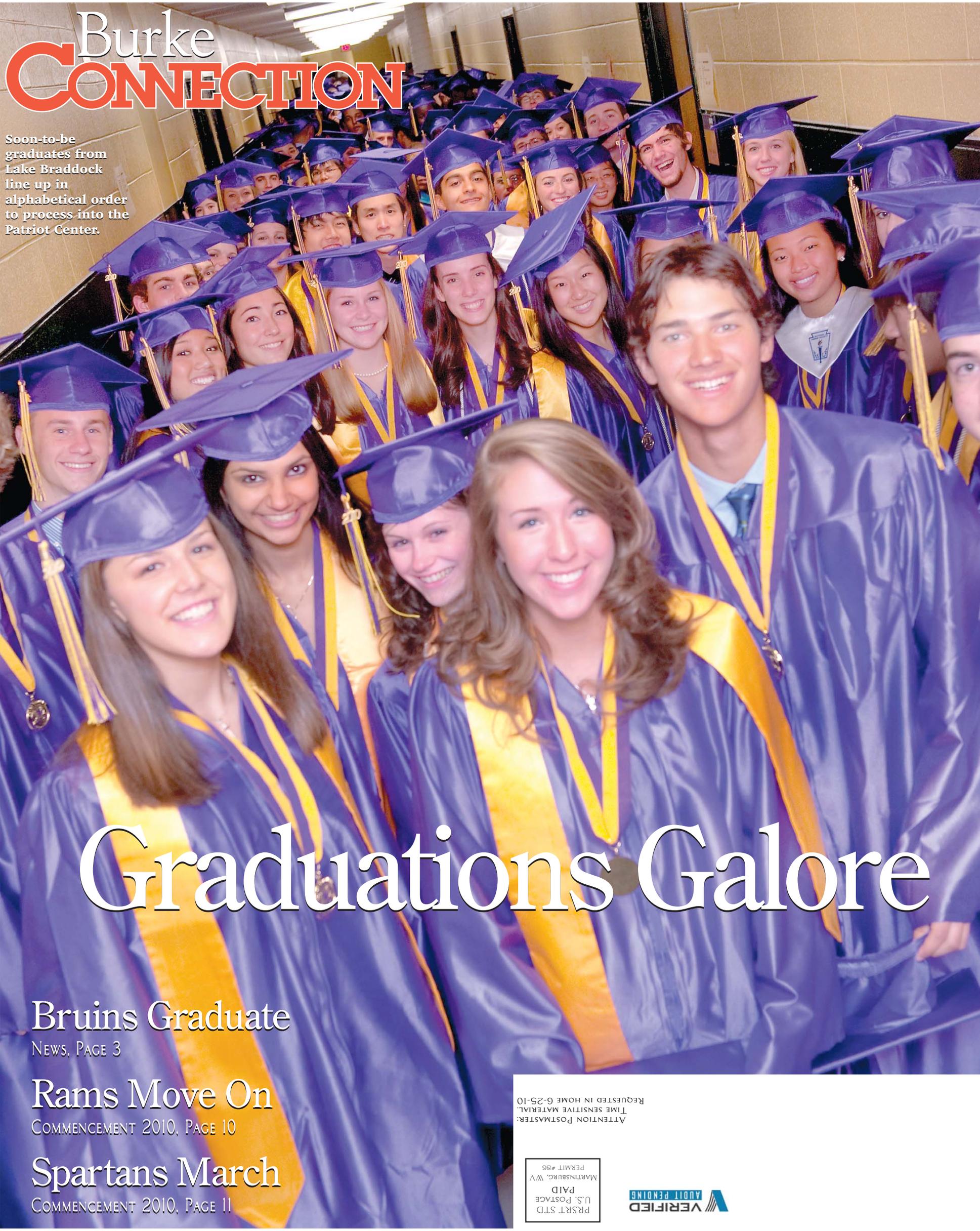


Burke CONNECTION

Soon-to-be graduates from Lake Braddock line up in alphabetical order to process into the Patriot Center.



Graduations Galore

Bruins Graduate

NEWS, PAGE 3

Rams Move On

COMMENCEMENT 2010, PAGE 10

Spartans March

COMMENCEMENT 2010, PAGE 11

CALENDAR, PAGE 8 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 12 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 16

PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION

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A Shredding Success

Fairfax Skate Fest 2010 draws more than 300 skateboarders for charity and competition.

BY JUSTIN FANIZZI
THE CONNECTION

The teens who gathered at Wakefield Park last weekend realized they had a rare opportunity at their feet and wasted no time seizing it.

Fairfax Skate Fest 2010, staged for the fourth year at Wakefield Skate Park, drew hundreds of local teenage skateboarders for a day of competition and charity Friday and Saturday, June 18 and 19. The riders, ranging in age from 10 to 19, grinded rails, ollied gaps and shredded half pipes not only to showcase their talents and win prizes, but also to raise money for the Children's National Medical Center.

"This event is something that I love to do," said Burke resident Chima Onyekwere, a two-year veteran of Skate Fest. "It gets everyone out here together, and it makes me want to skate more to get better.

The whole thing just gives me a great vibe."

The event began last Friday night with the preliminaries, where prospective competitors qualified for the following day's main events. Those who qualified returned Saturday at 3 p.m. for the competitions for the half pipe jam, best trick, park and street course and an open tryout for the Fairfax Surf Shop Skate Team. Before the skaters began riding, however, the dozens of skaters participating in the Sk8 for a Cause fund raiser began their event.

"Last year, I almost placed in the top three, so I'm back here to make it this time," said Brett Freeman, 16, who participated in the street and park course event. "I want to win, but it's so much fun skating with everyone else that that's the main reason I'm out here."

"The whole thing just gives me a great vibe."

— Chima Onyekwere, 15

IN ADDITION to the competition and fund-raising events, the Fairfax Surf Shop also set up portable ramps, quarter pipes and rails in the parking lot in front of the skate park. All skaters, event participants or not, were invited to use the equipment, and this alone brought hundreds of more

people out to the event. This feature, the skaters said, allowed riders to show off their best tricks and also provided a learning experience to those who felt their skills were not sharp enough for the main competi-

SEE SKATE FEST, PAGE 5



PHOTO BY JUSTIN FANIZZI/THE CONNECTION

Dominic Vincente, 20, warms up before the competition.

George Mason University Makes Use of Its Assets

Once a subsidiary of UVa., George Mason has come into its own as a university.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

A few years ago, professor Scott Martin had an idea. His employer, George Mason University, should launch a degree program in computer game design.

Martin, an assistant dean in Mason's College for the Performing Arts, talked to experts working in the game design industry who said colleges and universities were not producing exactly what they were looking for in a game engineer. Companies have to spend a lot of time and money training designers because they were either artists without the appropriate technological skills or computer science experts who did not understand what made a game most effective or attractive, he was told.

"Game engineers need to be visual artists that understand sound and music. They

need to have an understanding of how the human body moves," said Martin.

Martin also knew a new game design program would also respond to the needs of the Northern Virginia business community.

In addition to entertainment companies, several high tech firms and government contractors develop games to help tackle more serious matters like education, national defense and medical research. And no university in Virginia or the Mid-Atlantic region was offering such training, said Martin.

"The demand for qualified students in both the serious game industry and the entertainment game industry is immense. This is an emerging and exploding field," said the professor, who lives in Fairfax Station.

Mason's game design program opened last fall, just two years after Martin had initially started working on its development.

"This degree [in computer game design] would have been very difficult to launch at many universities."

— Scott Martin, GMU professor



PHOTO BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE/THE CONNECTION

This Center for Student Success, set to open in the spring of 2011, is one of many construction projects underway at fast-growing George Mason University.

Even in its first year, game design has been popular at Mason. The program enrolled 250 students in its inaugural class and will have close to 600 participants next fall.

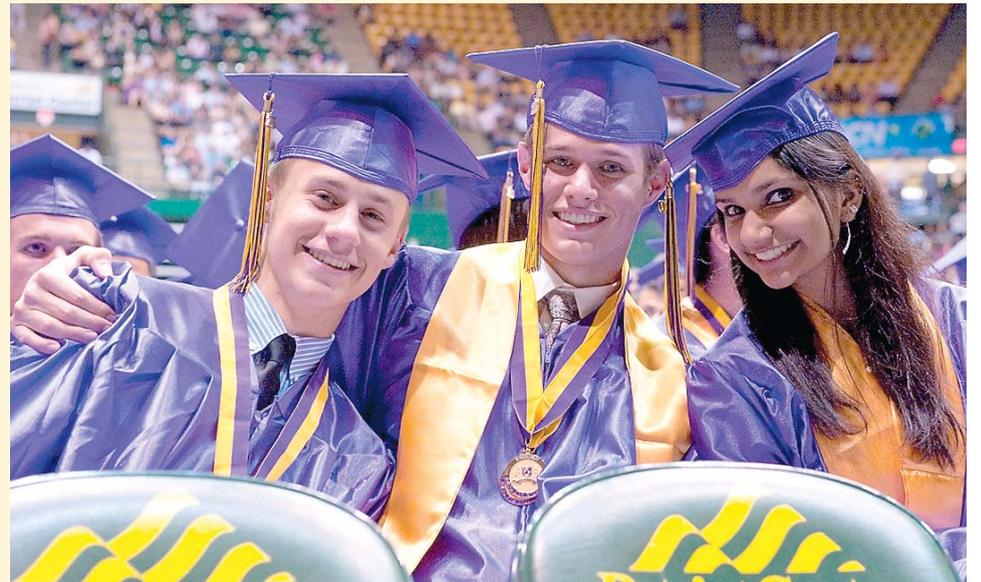
"This degree would have been very diffi-

cult to launch at many universities. But the environment within George Mason is entrepreneurial. It is much more dynamic and much more flexible than other places," said

SEE INNOVATION, PAGE 15



Guest speaker Ed Moses, a 2000 Olympian, is a 1998 Lake Braddock graduate. He says that 'young is a swagger that gets answers. ... It is an honor' to be asked to speak at commencement.



Honor graduates Daniel Buckrop, left, Jeff Blevins and Shivangi Bhatt wait patiently for their degrees to be bestowed upon them.

From Students to Alumni



Brittany Johnson and Brandon Johnson 'make do' in the hot, crowded hall of the Patriot Center. They are waiting for the commencement ceremony to begin.

Bruins march in June 21 commencement ceremony at Patriot Center.

On Monday, June 21, Lake Braddock Secondary School celebrated its commencement ceremony at the George Mason University Patriot Center. More than 550 students graduated.



Alexander Kaplan, Hanna Jorek and Melinda Johnson proudly display their diplomas. They are all honors graduates.



The moment has arrived — they are graduates of Lake Braddock Secondary.

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB

Portrait of an Artist As a Young Soldier

Burke soldier draws on artistic skills at latest assignment.

BY MASTER SGT. DUFF MCFADDEN

CONTINGENCY OPERATING SITE MAREZ, IRAQ – Whether it’s an M-4 rifle, night vision goggles or even a pair of combat boots, deploying U.S. forces must be familiar with all the equipment needed to successfully complete their mission.

However, one Burke native has found himself as much at home in Iraq with brushes and paint, as he does in a M-109A6 Paladin armored vehicle.

Pfc. Charles “Matt” Gildon, 20, a fire support specialist with the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 2nd “Spartan” Heavy Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, is currently deployed to Mosul, Iraq, as part of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

When his unit arrived in Kuwait for their final stage of mission training, their first sergeant asked for soldiers who could draw. After being “volunteered,” he embellished a T-wall barrier with the brigade crest representing the unit at Camp Buehring, Kuwait.

Since then, his Mosul artwork has included the 2nd HBCT logos on the T-wall just outside the entrance to the Tactical Operations Center, the Spartan mural in Conference Room #1 and the Rock of the Marne monument located in the TOC compound.

According to Gildon, it took him and graphic artist Spc. Gregory Gieske, HHC, 2HBCT, 3rd ID, four- to five-days to complete the Spartan mural in the Brigade Conference Room #1.

“Originally, they gave us the main part they wanted

drawn. They told us to fill in the excess areas with something. Gieske went through his computer and found some images and we filled it up,” he said.

According to Gieske, a 28-year old Sioux Falls, S.D., native, since the Brigade was known as the “Spartans,” Frank Miller’s “300” graphic novel images immediately came to mind.

“As we worked on the large wall mural, Pfc. Gildon displayed a lot of passion and I could see the results, from start to finish, of the progress he was making as an artist. Showing him the different types of brushes and how to correctly use them was just one area he grew in.

“I’ve seen the other murals he’s painted since then and he continues to impress me with his willingness to learn,” Gieske said.

His latest project was the Rock of the Marne monument located in the center of the TOC compound, representing all the military conflicts the 2HBCT has taken part in.

“The rock is a monument which everyone sees every day as they go to work,” said Gildon. “It’s something I take pride in.

“I just put my head phones on and let my mind go blank as I draw. If I get more worried about screwing something up, then I’m

more likely to get nervous and screw something up. So I like to be good and relaxed as I work,” he said.

Whether he’s listening to rock or heavy metal, the Rolling Stones or Slayer, once he begins the painting process, he’s very deliberate.

“I’ll take the initial design and then measure everything out. I’ll detail it in a rough sketch using a pencil to make sure it all fits. Once I know it fits, I’ll write down the measurements and then go for it.

“I wish I had a head full of ideas,” he said. “If someone gives me something they want done, it’ll turn out pretty good. Unless it’s something related to work

“I just put my head phones on and let my mind go blank as I draw.”

— Pfc. Charles “Matt” Gildon



PHOTO BY MASTER SGT. DUFF MCFADDEN

Applying the traditional Spartan red, white, and blue pigment to a T-wall with precision, Pfc. Charles ‘Matt’ Gildon, HHC, 2nd HBCT, 3ID, paints the 2nd Brigade Crest outside the Tactical Operations Center at Contingency Operating Site Marez, Iraq, Jan 18.

SEE SOLDIER, PAGE 5

COLLEGE NOTES

Virginia Tech graduate student **Emily Barry** of Burke has been awarded a Boren Fellowship for international study worth as much as \$30,000 selected by The National Security Education Program. Barry is pursuing a master’s degree at Virginia Tech in government and international affairs from the School of Public and International Affairs in the College of Architecture and Urban Studies. She also works as an international programs graduate assistant for the Virginia Tech Center for Student Engagement and Community Partnerships.

Ashley Lotfabadi of Burke was selected by Virginia Tech’s New Students Programs to be one of this summer’s Hokie Camp counselors. Lotfabadi is a sophomore majoring in chemistry in the College of Science.

James Greevy of Burke was named to the president’s list for the spring semester of the 2009-10 academic year at Mary Washington University. The president’s list recognizes outstanding academic achievement at the university by full-time students who attain a perfect 4.0 grade-point average. Greevy is a senior at the University of Mary Wash-



Emily Barry

ington.

Christine Corser of Burke was named to the spring 2010 dean’s list at Wilkes University. To be named to the dean’s list, students must obtain a minimum 3.4 GPA.



Me & My Dad

Anna Kate Halligan of Burke Centre fishes with her grandfather Bob Wilson of Fairfax Station at Lake Anna in May 2010.

NEWS

Soldier Uses Art Skills

FROM PAGE 4

or the military, I can't think of anything specific I'd draw." It was while serving as an office mechanic for a civilian firm that Gildon gained painting experience. He said one of the women taught him how to do edging, which is applying detail with a brush, and cutting, which is trying to make lines as straight as possible.

A 2007 graduate of Woodson High School, he joined the Army in August 2008. He established his work ethic at the age of 14 while working for his father's construction firm. After working as a mechanic, waiter, bus boy and shelf stocker, he sought out the military because he didn't want a job "just sitting behind a desk."

Gildon recently re-enlisted for another six years and plans to retire after 20 years of service. Upon his return to the U.S., he wants to become an explosive ordnance disposal specialist and upon retirement, looks to become a teacher.

He's currently engaged and looks forward to his pending marriage following this deployment. His fiancée, a Temecula, Calif., resident, is studying to become a registered nurse at Armstrong Atlantic State University in Savannah, Ga.

"We're trying to save up enough money to have kids. There are a lot of ups and downs with having kids in the military. At least one of the parents is deployed and spends lots of time away from home. But by being in the military, it's also more likely for the kids to be better disciplined and to gain more experiences," he said.

A self-professed adrenaline junkie and master scuba diver, Gildon said "I'll do anything I can to get the adrenaline flowing, whether it's skateboarding, snowboarding, rock climbing, mountain biking or even paint ball."

In the meantime, he'll be ready if another opportunity to paint arises.

Skate Fest at Wakefield

FROM PAGE 2

tion just yet.

"It's fun to come out and watch all of these great skaters," said Eyassu Yohannes, 15, of Annandale. "I see how they commit to their tricks and never back down. I've learned a lot here today."

As of press time, the total amount raised for Children's National Medical Center was unavailable, but with more than 300 registered riders, Skate Fest was bigger than ever. If the trend continues, the hospital can expect much more money in the future.



Arpan Patel of Burke met with Sen. Mark Warner on June 11 on Capitol Hill in Washington, D.C. Patel will attend the U.S. Air Force Academy this fall, after receiving a nomination from Warner.

COLLEGE NOTES

The following students from Burke are among the 646 students who have been named to the dean's list at the University of Mary Washington: **Ashley Jordan**, senior; **Hyun Joo**, senior; **Michael Ringwood**, senior; **Kari Evans**, senior; **Sarah Ball**, senior;

Hana Salih, senior; **Shion Chang**, senior; **Michaela Sands**, junior.

Sara Fry of Burke has been elected to the Iota Chapter of Phi Beta Kappa Society at Gettysburg College. Fry, is a member of the Class of 2010.

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OPINION

Support Chesapeake Bay Clean Water Act

Senators Webb and Warner should step up to support water quality.

BY STELLA KOCH
AUDUBON NATURALIST SOCIETY

The Chesapeake Clean Water Act, which will guide the protection and restoration of not just the Chesapeake Bay but the Potomac River and local streams in Northern Virginia, is expected to receive committee vote in the U.S. Senate in late June.

Our streams and the Potomac are the source of our drinking water. We canoe, fish, and swim in these waters and hike along side them. They also provide sustenance and a home for a myriad number of other creatures. They are the source of the waters of the Chesapeake.

By setting fair and equitable requirements throughout the Chesapeake Bay region for clean water in all streams, this bill will require both farmers and those living in towns and cities to do their fair share for clean water.

For decades, we have witnessed the degra-

ation of our local streams by polluted runoff. When rain from storms falls onto concrete roads, parking lots, and suburban yards, it picks up pollution. This runoff carries fertilizer, pesticides and other nasty pollutants after each and every storm into our local water. While stormwater management has controlled some of the runoff in recent years, it has not kept pace with the growing impacts of development.

GUEST EDITORIAL

Fairfax, along with the City of Alexandria have conducted careful studies of their streams and spent significant money and effort to implement stream restoration and protection programs.

But it has not been enough to stem the tide of degradation.

Our communities have spent money and time to improve their streams. The counties of Arlington and

too little affordable land in the area along Interstate 66. So they want to take the Clifton renovation money to build in cheaper areas and redistribute the students away from the congested areas.

LETTERS

To make this work, they must do a larger "boundary study" that affects everyone in the county. Thus children who live beyond the Interstate 66 corridor will get shifted to the next school further out to make room for students pushing out (domino style) from Clifton and the Interstate 66 corridor. This will have a terrible impact on our children as they get "redistributed" away from their friends and familiar surroundings. This is a short-sighted solution that does not solve the real problem.

Instead of busing children further and further from their homes, they should renovate Clifton and build more capacity where they need it. We all make careful decisions on where to live, and for those of us with school age children, housing decisions are driven by the schools our children will attend. For those without children, this is sure to affect the desirability of neighborhoods and property values as well. If the School Board follows this path, it will be because they have not properly planned and they are now looking for cheap and easy solutions. Such short-sighted decisions will up-end our lives and wreck havoc on the citizens of Fairfax County for many years to come.

Instead of closing Clifton and causing turmoil across the county they need to find the courage to make smart long-term decisions that address the real problems we face.

**Paul O'Leary
and Evelyn Ruelaz**
Clifton

Sidelined Politics?

To the Editor:

Those who listened to Keith Fimian (R) on WTOP's "The Politics Hour" on June 4 may have noticed that Fimian voiced his support for the repeal of the 17th amendment — a radical proposition that is being espoused by members of the Tea Party. Many listeners, like myself, were shocked that anybody, let alone a serious candidate, would be willing to support such a regressive change. The 17th Amendment, which allows citizens to vote for their U.S. senators, was a major victory for the democratic process. This freedom was considered so basic and uncontroversial that it even predates women's suffrage. To repeal it would be a leap backward to a time when a handful of powerful men could decide the direction of the country without the approval of citizens.

On the air, Fimian admitted to not even knowing why the amendment was passed or when. This should be a red flag to voters. One

We need to increase our efforts. Innovative, more effective stormwater management must be used. New pollution controls will need to be installed in sites that previously had none. Aging stormwater pipes and structures will need to be replaced. The public demands that wastewater from toilets, tubs and sinks in homes and businesses be treated to a high degree of cleanliness. Equal resources have to be committed to treating stormwater runoff if we are to have clean water in our streams, the Potomac and the Chesapeake Bay.

This proposed legislation takes the first step for this new collective effort. It sets attainable goals and requires that both new development and redevelopment control stormwater runoff.

The federal government through this legislation will provide \$1.5 billion to invest in our local communities for stormwater control and other clean water needs.

We need our U.S. Senators, Jim Webb and Mark Warner, to support the Chesapeake Clean Water Act, by doing so they will be choosing clean water for the Chesapeake Bay region.

Stella Koch is Virginia Conservation Associate, Audubon Naturalist Society.

cannot help but wonder whether his other policies are based on a similar lack of knowledge.

For a candidate who claims to cherish small government, Fimian certainly shows no qualms about giving more power to the legislature, and, worse, doing so by taking it directly out of the hands of voters. He does not trust the citizens of his state to choose their own representatives. Clearly, this is not an issue of party, but an issue of elitism. Fimian and the Tea Party movement wish to turn voters into spectators. Virginians do not wish to watch the political process from the sidelines. I know that this November I will be voting for a congressman who respects my constitutional rights, and especially my power to vote. I will be voting for U.S. Gerry Connolly (D-11).

John Charin
Fairfax

Independent Voice Needed

To the Editor:

When Republican candidate Keith Fimian debated Pat Herryty on WTOP's "The Politics Program," he stated that "there is merit" to the Tea Party's radical notion to repeal the 17th Amendment and rob the people of their vital choice to vote for U.S. senators. This statement was a blatant effort to

SEE LETTERS, PAGE 7

THE CONNECTION

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LETTERS

FROM PAGE 6

win the support of the Tea Party and politicians in Virginia's state legislature, and Fimian's subsequent defeat of Herrity in the 11th District GOP primary makes the choice in November even clearer. Fimian apparently sympathizes with the Tea Party proposition that the people cannot be trusted to speak for themselves. His belief that "there is merit" to repealing the 17th Amendment suggests he would rather listen to fellow politicians and not members of the public.

In his Gettysburg Address, Lincoln never spoke of a government of the politicians, by the politicians and for the politicians. In November, I will responsibly carry out my right to vote for Fimian's opponent, U.S. Rep. Gerry Connolly (D-11), to ensure that this government remains of the people, by the people, and for the people. We need an independent voice in Congress, one who speaks for our interests, not just another puppet of the Tea Party.

Douglas Englund
Colonel, U.S. Army Retired

Disparity Needs To Be Addressed

To the Editor:

The Connection's report on acceptance rates at Thomas Jefferson High School ("Diversity at TJ?", June 2-8) raises serious questions about the school's admission policies. Why are the fractions of students accepted from the pools of black applicants (4 out of 184) and hispanic applicants (13 out of 225) so much lower than the fractions of accepted white (166 out of 1,277) and asian (276 out of 1,243) applicants? Is the disparity a result of inadequate admission criteria? If not, is it the result of inadequate preparation of black and hispanic children by our elementary and middle schools? I hope the School Board will look into this matter, report its findings to the public, and promptly take any necessary or desirable remedial action.

William Shapiro
McLean

Write

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THURSDAY/JUNE 24

Natalie Cole. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$64-\$471. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

Movies Under the Moon: "Casablanca" (PG). Gates open 6:30 p.m., movies begin 8:30 p.m. at Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 703-776-2235 or www.moviesunderthemoon.org.

Meg Hutchinson and Devon Sproule. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 advance, \$13 day of show. jamminjava.com.

The Magic of Reading. 4:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Enjoy magic, comedy and fun with Jay Mattioli. Ages 6-12. Tickets distributed beginning 30 minutes before the event, first come, first served. 703-644-7333.

Future and Poor Man's Lobster. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jamminjava.com.

FRIDAY/JUNE 25

Chayanne. 9 p.m. at The George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. The Puerto Rican singer, actor and dancer returns to the stage after a two year hiatus. Tickets are \$61.50-\$101.50, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.patriotcenter.com.

Rain: The Beatles Experience. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road,

Vienna. \$45-\$500. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

Movies Under the Moon: "The Twilight Saga: New Moon" (PG-13). Gates open 6:30 p.m., movies begin 8:30 p.m. at Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 703-776-2235 or www.moviesunderthemoon.org.

Beatlegras. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$20. jamminjava.com.

The Blackjacks and Fight the Lion CD Release. 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jamminjava.com.

Mystic Warriors. 7:30 p.m. Royal Lake Park, 5344 Gainsborough Drive, Fairfax. Flutes, string and percussion instruments. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Brain Benders. 2:30 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. See everyday objects through scientific eyes. Presented by Maryland Science Center. Ages 6-12. 703-249-1520.

SATURDAY/JUNE 26

Rain: The Beatles Experience. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$45-\$500. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

Movies Under the Moon: "Avatar" (PG-13). Gates open 6:30 p.m., movies begin 8:30 p.m. at Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 703-776-2235 or www.moviesunderthemoon.org.

The Bigger Lights. 5:30 p.m. and 8:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. jamminjava.com.

Rocknoceros. 10 a.m. Burke Lake Park Amphitheater, 7315 Ox Road, Fairfax

Station. A power trio for children with Boogie Bennie, Coach Cotton and Williebob. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Fairfax Symphony Orchestra's OTO String Quartet. 10 a.m. Mason District Park Amphitheater, 6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Hear the instruments take on different roles in each selection, much like characters in a play. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Fairfax County Master Gardeners Association, Inc. 10 a.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Horticultural tips, techniques and advice. 703-293-6227.

Fishy Fun. 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Silly songs, stories, and poems with storyteller Gary Lloyd. All ages. 703-293-6227.

One-on-One Computer Tutoring. 10 a.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Learn to use a computer and navigate the Internet. Call to reserve. Adults. 703-249-1520.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 10 a.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Gardening tips and strategies. Adults. 703-978-5600.

Burke Farmers Market. 8 a.m.-12 noon at VRE parking lot, 5671 Roberts Parkway, Burke.

SUNDAY/JUNE 27

Historical Society of Fairfax County Meeting. 2 p.m. at Mount Vernon, the Robert H. and Clarice Smith Auditorium, 3200 Mount

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 9

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Burke United Methodist Church
6200 Burke Centre Parkway, Burke, VA 22015

See more details at: www.burkeumc.org

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 8

Vernon Memorial Highway, Mount Vernon. A free guided tour of Mount Vernon will follow a short meeting. Open to the public. Paul Herbert, pnh9202@verizon.net.

Gordon Lightfoot. 8 p.m. at Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1645 Trap Road, Vienna. \$58-\$314. 703-938-2404 or www.wolftrap.org.

Movies Under the Moon: "Cloudy with a Chance of Meatballs" (PG). Gates open 6:30 p.m., movies begin 8:30 p.m. at Van Dyck Park, 3720 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. 703-776-2235 or www.moviesunderthemoon.org.

Rosy Likes Red, Find Vienna and Corrin Campbell. 1:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10 in advance, \$13 at the door. jamminjava.com.

An Acoustic Storyteller Evening with Lloyd Dobler Effect. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$12. jamminjava.com.

City of Fairfax Concert Band. 7:30 p.m. Mason District Park Amphitheater, 6621 Columbia Pike, Annandale. Free. 703-324-7469 or www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/performances.

Puccini's "La Rondine." 7:30 p.m. at Providence Presbyterian Church, 9019 Little River Turnpike, Fairfax. A semi-staged performance of one of the composer's last works, in the original Italian with projected English surtitles. Free, donations accepted. www.RiverbendOpera.com.

Neighborhood Plant Clinic. 1 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Gardening tips and advice. Adults.

SEE CALENDAR, PAGE 13

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COMMENCEMENT 2010



Students await the start of the ceremony, anticipation in the air.



Catherine Oakley delivers the senior class address. She encourages her classmates to 'RACE: Remember, Attitude, Care, Endeavor' and escape their comfort zone. She will be attending the U.S. Naval Academy in the fall.

Rams Are Ready To Roll



Travis Michael Stalinsky is thrilled to have his diploma in hand.

PHOTOS BY DEB COBB

Robinson Class of 2010 marches to Commencement.

On Thursday, June 17, Robinson Secondary School celebrated its Class of 2010 commencement ceremony at the George Mason University Patriot Center.

With more than 650 graduates, the stadium was packed with family and friends marking the momentous event.

The class address was made by graduating senior, Catherine Oakley. Oakley will attend the U.S. Naval Academy in the fall. Guest speaker Keith Hall, eighth grade principal at Robinson Secondary School, gave the commencement address.

— DEB COBB



Phoebe Anim-Yankah, right, gives special recognition to Pam Hickenbotham, the subschool secretary.



Tyler Oishi is covered in leis brought to him from Hawaii by his grandparents and great-grandmother who flew in for the graduation. Tyler is the first grandson to graduate from high school. From left are grandmother Lei Oishi, great-grandmother Sadako Okata, grandfather Ronald Oishi, Tyler Oishi and father Davis Oishi.

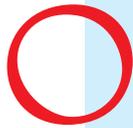
COMMENCEMENT 2010



West Springfield High School seniors file to their seats at the processional on Thursday, June 17. The students graduated from George Mason University's Patriot Center.

A New Path

Spartan seniors participate in graduation at Patriot Center.



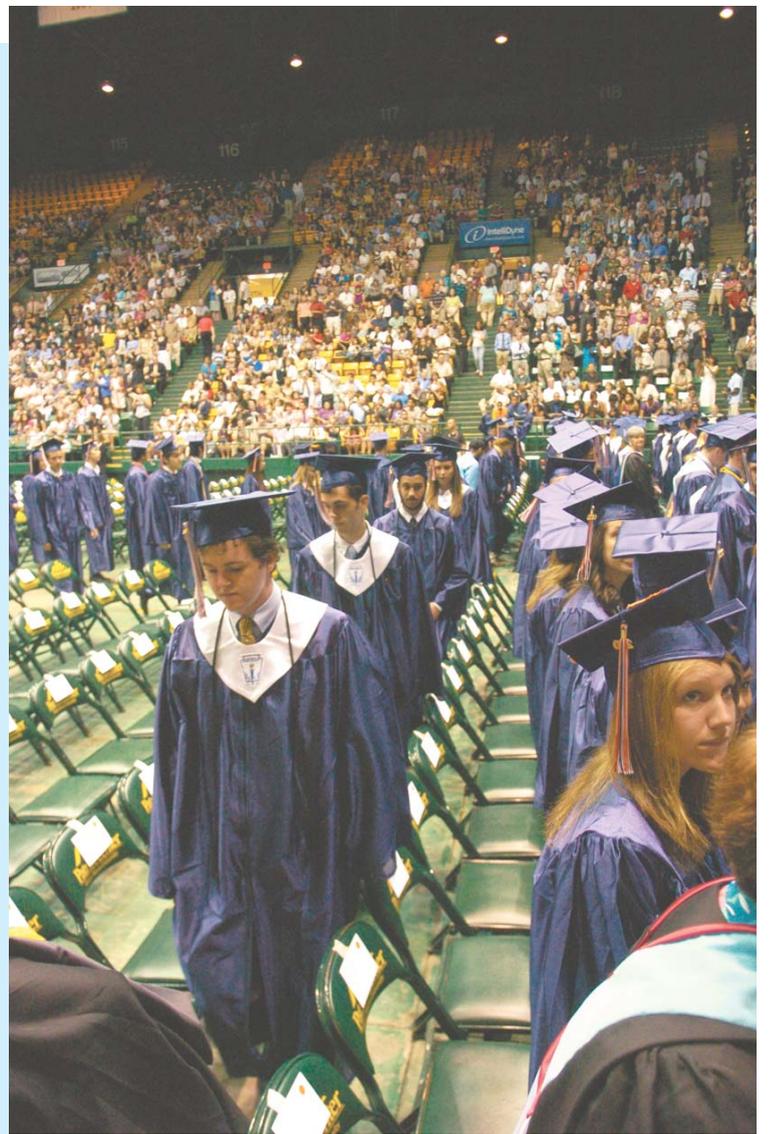
On Thursday, June 17, seniors at West Springfield High marched in the 2010 Commencement Ceremony at George Mason University's Patriot Center.

Siri Ingrid Benn gives a big smile as she is handed her diploma.

PHOTOS BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL



Honors graduate Emma Dettelbach receives her sheepskin.



The rows fill with the years of hard studying and the one final step unto the next.



Senior class treasurer Carli Perrin kicks off the introductions.



Graduates toss the ole mortarboard.



PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Lake Braddock wide receiver Brandon Johnson caught a pair of touchdown passes for the Northern Region during the 2010 Region Rumble All-Star Football Game on June 19 at South County Secondary School.

Patriot Rivals Act as Pass-Catch Combo

Woodon's Reilly, Lake Braddock's Johnson connect for pair of touchdowns.

BY JON ROETMAN
THE CONNECTION

Every athlete competing in the 2010 Region Rumble All-Star Football Game on Saturday, June 19 at South County Secondary School had a chance to prove his abilities. But as the battle between the Northern and Northwest Regions went into overtime, Lake Braddock wide receiver said enough is enough.

"Me and [Hayfield's] Antoine [McCallum] had been splitting time the whole game and I was getting a little bitter about it," Johnson said. "I told them, 'Look, put me in in overtime, let me run the corner [route] and I'm going to score.'"

The Northern Region coaching staff — Johnson's coaches from Lake Braddock — listened to the all-state wideout and let him run to the corner. The result: a 10-yard strike from quarterback Connor Reilly (Woodson) and the game-winning touchdown. After the Northwest Region kicked a field goal on the opening possession of the first overtime period, Reilly, on first down, found a diving Johnson for a 20-17 victory.

Reilly and Johnson were Patriot District opponents during the season, with Woodson

and Lake Braddock splitting their two meetings. But on this night, the two formed a pass-and-catch combo that produced a pair of touchdowns — the second leading to a celebratory Northern Region dogpile near the corner of the end zone.

"We were big rivals during the season," Johnson said, "but going into the overtime, first down, I told him, 'I'm going to get them

"I told [the coaching staff], 'Look, put me in in overtime, let me run the corner [route] and I'm going to score.'"

— Brandon Johnson, Lake Braddock and Northern Region All-Star receiver

on this corner [route] because that was my money all season long.' ... He threw a great pass and I just came down with it."

Reilly earned team offensive MVP honors, completing 21 of 43 passes for 231 yards and three touchdowns. The Temple University-bound signal caller said he knew immediately his throw to the corner was a game-winner.

"As soon as the safety turned his back," Reilly said, "it was wide open."

Johnson caught three passes for 35 yards

and two touchdowns. His first score — a 15-yard reception — gave the North a 14-6 lead with 11:53 remaining in the fourth quarter.

Lake Braddock also had two starters on the offensive line — Penn State-bound tackle Khamrone Kolb and guard Jack Phillips. Bruins defensive lineman Keli Doe and receiver/defensive back Ali Banihashemi also saw playing time for the Northern Region and all-state defensive back Thomas Strickford and receiver Peres Nubong were also on the roster.

Lake Braddock and Northern Region head coach Jim Poythress said it felt good to see one of his Bruins score the game-winning touchdown, adding a good-natured jab, as well.

"Those guys need to graduate," Poythress said. "My kids need to graduate. I've seen enough of them. They're all good boys but they need to graduate."

West Springfield's T.J. O'Connell caught seven passes for 85 yards. West Springfield linemen Maurice McKinney, Henry Dodge and James Lee, and receiver Daniel Collins were also on the roster.

Woodson linebackers Josh Hogan, an all-state selection, and James Johnson saw playing time for the Northern Region. Cavalier defensive backs Colin Dempsey and Charles Basil and running back/linebacker

SEE ALL-STAR, PAGE 18

WEEK IN SPORTS

The West Springfield High girls' basketball coaching staff will run a basketball camp for girls entering grades six through nine starting on June 28 and running until July 1. For more information, contact Spartans' coach Bill Gibson at: wrgibson@fcps.edu or call him at 703-913-8647.

The 2010 Virginia State AAA High School Baseball Team was recently announced. Selections included the following Northern Region players: Centreville High senior first baseman Cam Walter (second team); McLean High senior second baseman Chris Russo (Honorable Mention); Lake Braddock Secondary senior shortstop Ryan Lindemuth (First Team); Lake Braddock Secondary junior third baseman Kenny Towns (Honorable mention); West Springfield High senior designated-hitter Charlie Morgan (First Team); Lake Braddock Secondary senior utility player Patrick Harrington (First Team); McLean High senior outfielder Riley Beiro (First Team); T.C. Williams senior outfielder Matt Kilby (Second Team); Centreville High senior outfielder Connor Bach (Honorable Mention); West Springfield High senior pitcher Bobby Wahl (First Team); and McLean High senior pitcher Sean Fitzgerald (Honorable Mention). The Virginia State AAA Player of the Year was Charlie Morgan of West Springfield High. The Virginia State AAA Coach of the Year was John James of West Springfield High.

Live professional boxing will take center stage at the Patriot Center on Saturday, July 10 when world title contender and hometown favorite Jimmy Lange (Great Falls) returns to headline his 10th fight against Jimmy LeBlanc. The 10-round headliner is part of "No Excuses," a Ice Promotions event presented by Valcourt Building Services featuring nine professional boxing bouts. Doors will open at 6:30 p.m., with the first bout at 7:30. Tickets can be purchased at all Ticketmaster outlets, including the Patriot Center box office.

Arguably the sports' No. 1 attraction in the region, Lange, who grew up in Arlington and Great Falls, has headlined all nine boxing shows at the George Mason University venue dating back to 2005. The July 10 card will showcase many of the area's top prospects and future contenders.

Lange will enter the fight with a 31-4-2 record with 21 knockouts.

SEE WEEK IN SPORTS, PAGE 16

CALENDAR

FROM PAGE 9

703-644-7333.

Rocknoceros. 2:30 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Join Coach Cotton, Williebob, and Boogie Woogie Bennie for a rockin' good time. Preschool. 703-644-7333.

Choir of the World A Cappella Concert. 2 p.m. at George Mason University Performing Arts Center, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Quartets performing will include the Alexandria Harmonizers, the Westminster Chorus, the Musical Island Boys, Sweden's Ringmasters, OC Times, Maxx Factor, Masterpiece, the Crush, the Edge, Old School and

more.

www.alexandriaharmonizerspresent.com.

MONDAY/JUNE 28

Mikey Wax, Nick Howard and Rachel Platten. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. \$10. jamminjava.com.

Inova Blood Drive. 1 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Photo ID required. Make appointments at 1-866-256-6372.

Lullabies at Bedtime. 7 p.m. Pohick Regional Library, 6450 Sydenstricker Road, Burke. Stories, join in with activities about lullabies and sleep. Pajamas optional. Ages 3-6 years

with adult. 703-644-7333.

TUESDAY/JUNE 29

Wolftrap Children's Theatre in the Woods. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. 10 a.m. Dinorock: The Great Dinosaur Mystery, 11:15 a.m. Hayes Greenfield's Jazz-a-Ma-Tazz. Free workshops follow the 10 a.m. performance; reservations required at 703-255-1824. \$8-\$10. www.wolftrap.org.

Dig Those Dinosaurs. 2:30 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Beale Street Puppets, prehistoric performers that bring the past alive. 703-293-6227.

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 4672 LUXBERRY DR \$499,000 Sun. 1-4 Mary Hovland Long & Foster (703) 425-8000
 10725 Norman Ave \$500,000 Sun. 1-4 Ron Fowler Weichert 703-691-0555
 9020 DENISE LN \$549,999 Sat. 1-4 & Sun. 12-3 Mandy Book Long & Foster (703) 573-2600
 11807 DECOUR CT \$625,000 Sun. 1-4 Cristina Dougherty Long & Foster (703) 968-7000
 3 TILTON VALLEY DR \$1,650,000 7/11, 1-4 Maureen Amendola Long & Foster (703) 437-3800

Centreville

6703 BAY VALLEY LN \$550,000 Sun. 1-4 Kim Muffler Long & Foster (703) 282-7739
 5132 Pleasant Forest Drive \$1,198,000 Sun. 1-4 Diana LeFrancois Century 21 703-930-6682

Chantilly

4628 SUTTON OAKS DR \$785,000 Sun. 1-4 Leslie Thurman Long & Foster (703) 904-3700

To add your Realtor represented Open House to these weekly listings, please call Steve Hogan at 703-778-9418 or E-Mail the info to shogan@connectionnewspapers.com All listings due by Tuesday at 3 pm.

HOME SALES

May 2010
 \$800,000 ~ \$275,000

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
9478 HARROWHILL LN	5	5	1		BURKE	\$800,000	Detached	0.25		WESTON HILLS
5413 MOUNT GREENWICH CT	4	2	1		BURKE	\$674,000	Detached	0.23		SIGNAL HILL
9153 FORT FISHER CT	4	2	1		BURKE	\$655,000	Detached	0.21		SIGNAL HILL
10421 HERITAGE LANDING RD	5	3	1		BURKE	\$629,900	Detached	0.61		BURKE CENTRE
9864 NATICK RD	4	2	1		BURKE	\$615,000	Detached	0.25		BURKE CENTRE
6236 WILMETTE DR	5	3	1		BURKE	\$600,000	Detached	0.19		BURKE CENTRE
5233 CAPON HILL PL	4	3	1		BURKE	\$595,000	Detached	0.21		CARRLEIGH
9920 NATICK RD	4	2	1		BURKE	\$580,000	Detached	0.23		BURKE CENTRE
6519 RAFFELIS RD	4	3	1		BURKE	\$575,000	Detached	0.22		CHERRY RUN
6040 RIDGE FORD DR	4	2	1		BURKE	\$574,000	Detached	0.27		BURKE STATION SQUARE
7008 VEERING LN	4	2	1		BURKE	\$550,000	Detached	0.25		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
9640 IRONMASTER DR	5	3	0		BURKE	\$550,000	Detached	0.21		CHERRY RUN
5619 MOUNT BURNSIDE WAY	4	3	1		BURKE	\$535,000	Detached	0.24		SIGNAL HILL
9078 BROOK FORD RD	4	3	1		BURKE	\$525,000	Detached	0.22		BURKE STATION SQUARE
6615 SADDLEHORN CT	5	2	1		BURKE	\$520,000	Detached	0.30		ORANGE HUNT WEST
9708 ROSSETTI CT	4	2	1		BURKE	\$515,000	Detached	0.21		CHERRY RUN
10507 ERIK CHARLES CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$513,500	Townhouse	0.06		OAK LEATHER TOWNHOMES
5974 BURNSIDE LANDING DR	4	2	2		BURKE	\$509,500	Detached	0.21		BURKE CENTRE
5712 WOOD DUCK CT	4	2	1		BURKE	\$500,000	Detached	0.27		BURKE CENTRE
9002 DIGORY CT	4	3	1		BURKE	\$500,000	Detached	0.22		MEADOWS OF NARNIA
9709 IRONMASTER DR	3	2	1		BURKE	\$470,000	Detached	0.22		CHERRY RUN
6308 SKINNER DR	4	2	1		BURKE	\$448,000	Detached	0.22		BURKE CENTRE
9521 WATERLINE DR	4	3	1		BURKE	\$440,000	Detached	0.19		LONGWOOD KNOLLS
9001 ANDROMEDA DR	5	2	1		BURKE	\$422,000	Detached	0.27		ROLLING VALLEY WEST
9610 CHAPEL HILL DR	5	3	1		BURKE	\$420,000	Detached	0.21		LEE CHAPEL WOODS
9510 GATECROSS PL	3	3	1		BURKE	\$400,000	Townhouse	0.05		OLD STONE MILL
10005 BEACON POND LN	3	3	1		BURKE	\$390,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE CENTRE
6141 WINDWARD DR	4	2	0		BURKE	\$380,000	Detached	0.14		BURKE CENTRE
10641 LAKESIDE OAK COURT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$370,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE CENTRE
9512 DRAYCOTT CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$367,000	Townhouse	0.04		CARDINAL GLEN
5610 CASTLEBURY CT	3	3	1		BURKE	\$364,000	Townhouse	0.06		CROWNLEIGH
6005 HEATHWICK CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$361,000	Townhouse	0.04		CARDINAL GLEN
5604 SUTHERLAND CT	3	2	1		BURKE	\$355,000	Townhouse	0.04		CROWNLEIGH
9986 HEMLOCK WOODS LN	3	3	0		BURKE	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.10		BURKE CENTRE
5909 ROBERT'S COMMON CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$340,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE CENTRE
5952 POWELLS LANDING RD	3	3	1		BURKE	\$339,900	Townhouse	0.07		BURKE CENTRE
6125 MARTINS LANDING CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.05		BURKE CENTRE
6200 GEMINI CT	3	1	1		BURKE	\$333,000	Detached	0.24		ROLLING VALLEY WEST
6035 BONNIE BERN CT	3	2	2		BURKE	\$329,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE STATION SQUARE
9751 HIGH WATER CT	4	2	2		BURKE	\$320,000	Townhouse	0.05		LAKEPOINTE
5902 KARA PL	3	2	1		BURKE	\$310,000	Townhouse	0.04		BURKE STATION SQUARE
5466 STAVENDISH ST	3	3	1		BURKE	\$285,000	Townhouse	0.05		HILLSDALE
5049 HARFORD LN	3	2	1		BURKE	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.03		LAKE BRADDOCK
5012 TIBBITT LN	3	1	1		BURKE	\$275,000	Townhouse	0.03		LAKE BRADDOCK

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Burke/Longwood Knolls \$564,950
Open Sunday 6/27 1-4

Premium cul-de-sac lot backing to wooded common area w/ remodeled eat-in kit w/ corian cntrs, huge sun-room w/ cathedral clngs & walls of windows, deck, pond, fenced yard, 5 large BR, fin walkout bsmt, replaced roof, siding, garage drs & HVAC, new carpet, all neutral decor & more.



Burke/Burke Centre \$339,950
Remodeled Top to Bottom

Gorgeous TH w/ remodeled kit w/ granite cntrs & new cabinets, fin walkout bsmt w/ new carpet, lovely hrdwd flrs, amazing remodeled baths w/ granite & porcelain, deck, fenced yard, replaced roof, siding, windows, sliders, & heat pump, walk to pool & tot lot & more.



Fairfax Station \$924,950
1 Acre Overlooking Parkland

Impressive South Run Colonial w/5 BR, 5.5 BA, 2 dramatic Sunrooms, remodeled baths, maple hrdwd flrs, fin walkout bsmt, huge deck & stone patio, lux MBA w/ double sinks & sep tub & shower, loaded w/elegant moldings, fresh paint, premium cul-de-sac lot, 1 acre overlooking parkland, comm pool & walk to Park.



Fairfax Station \$649,950
Walk to Burke Lake Park

Immac home on Cul-de-sac w/ almost 3/4 wooded acres w/ 4BR, 3.5BA, eat-in kit w/ granite, granite in baths, sunny fmlyrm w/ gas frplc & custom built-ins, fin bsmt w/ bar & lots of storage, fresh paint, MBR w/ dramatic cathedral clngs & walk-in clst & comm pool.



Burke \$2,400
Quiet Cul-de-sac

Spacious colonial w/ large yard w/ 4BR, 3.5BA, huge deck, eat-in kit, sunny fin walkout basement, MBR w/ walk-in closet, frplc, large DR w/ elegant moldings, walk to elementary school & Old Keene Mill Swim. Pets case by case. Available July 8.

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EDUCATION

Innovation Helps Mason To Establish Its Reputation

FROM PAGE 3

Martin.

"The process and hurdles to get a new program approved [at a university] are usually much more complex," he added.

Started as an outpost of the University of Virginia in the late 1950s, Mason has increased significantly in size and stature since it became an independent institution in 1972.

U.S. News and World Report asked experts who respond to the new organization's annual higher education survey to identify schools and universities that had "made striking improvements and innovations" and "schools that everyone should be watching." Mason ranked second on the list of "national universities" in 2010 and first in 2008.

"The school gives out a message that this is a place that is continuing to evolve. We have an image of being place that is really on the move," said Dan Walsch, executive director of Mason's media relations.

Over the last decade, the school has also seen an increase in both the number of applications it receives and an uptick in the competitiveness of the students applying, according to Andrew Flagel, the school's director of admissions.

Mason saw double digit increases in the volume of students applying every year

from 2000 to 2005. And in 2006, following the school's appearance in the semi-finals of a national college basketball tournament, the number of applications surged by 24 percent, said Flagel.

"Both inside and outside Virginia, there is no doubt Mason's reputation has grown explosively," he wrote in an email.

A YOUNG UNIVERSITY like Mason could have had problems distinguishing itself, especially in Virginia, which has one of the most competitive public higher education systems in the country.

The University of Virginia ranked second and the College of William & Mary ranked sixth on U.S. News and World Report's list of top public colleges and universities in 2010.

Additionally, Virginia Tech has one of the top 10 programs in the nation when it comes to aerospace, civil and industrial engineering. Virginia Commonwealth University has the fourth best graduate school for the fine arts, public or private, according to U.S. News and World Report.

"I think a lot of people have been pleasantly surprised that George Mason came so far so quickly. I think the stronger our schools are individually, the stronger it makes the system as whole," said Del. Tom Rust (R-86), who serves as the higher education subcommittee chair in the Virginia

General Assembly's House of Delegates.

When compared to other universities and colleges in Virginia, Mason has been particularly aggressive in setting up new academic programs.

Mason will be home to six of the seven new bachelor's and master's degrees the State Council of High Education for Virginia approved at their May meeting, according to the minutes of the meeting. The council – which must sign off on all academic programs at the commonwealth's colleges and universities – also discussed Mason's proposal for a new doctoral degree in nursing, which would be the only program of its kind offered in Virginia.

The school is also rapidly expanding when it comes to academic buildings and facilities.

Just this month, Mason opened a new alumni center and hotel on its Fairfax campus and a new biomedical research laboratory on its Prince William County campus.

"GMU has spent a lot of time in Richmond getting money for buildings and upgrading their facilities. If you go over there, the place is just a bee hive of building activity and construction," said Rust, who served on the governing boards of Virginia Tech and Longwood University before he was elected.

"It took some more established universities decades to get alumni centers," he added.

The rapid growth in programs and facilities is, in part, a response to the needs of the local business community.

Starting in the early 1980s, Mason made a conscious decision to develop its academic priorities around the employment demands of the local industries. The school strived to fill the gaps in academic training that local companies saw when they are hiring, said Walsch.

"The school decided to focus on meeting the needs of the region and developed strong programs in the areas of high tech, public policy and the arts. We wanted to address the needs of our primary public, and that is Northern Virginia," he said.

At 38 years of age, Mason is also more nimble and more willing to take risks on areas of study than several older academic institutions, said several observers.

"That is one of the advantage of being young, you have some flexibility that traditional schools don't have. That has proved to be a real strength for us," said Walsch.

"Our traditional has essentially become our flexibility," he added.

Martin echoed that sentiment, saying the Mason is unusually for its openness to new ideas and experimentation.

"New ideas and innovation are embraced by the faculty and provosts here more so than almost any other institution that I have ever come in contact with," said Martin.

FAITH NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday. Dated announcements should be submitted at least two weeks prior to the event.

Kirkwood Presbyterian Church, 8336 Carrleigh Parkway, Springfield, is hosting a free Sunday Sundae Summer Movie Supper on Sunday, July 25, at 4 p.m. There will be a light supper, The Disney movie "Cars" and a sundae bar with all the toppings. ejdowning@cox.net.

The Valley Forge Christian College Choir, "Chosen" will present a free concert on Sunday, June 27, at the 8:45 a.m. and 11 a.m. services, at Jubilee Christian Center, 4650 Shirley Gate Road, Fairfax. 703-383-1170, www.jccag.org or www.vfcc.edu.

Vacation Bible Sensation: Galactic Blast. 9 a.m.-12 p.m. June 28-July 2 at Cranford United Methodist Church, 9912 Old Colchester Road, Lorton. Singing, dancing, arts and crafts, recreation, science and discovery, snack and story time for ages preschool-6th grade. \$20 per child for the first family member, discounts for additional family members. 703-339-5382 or www.cranfordumc.org.

Franconia United Methodist Church, 6037 Franconia Road, Alexandria, welcomes the community to several events this summer. Contact 703-971-5151 or admin@franconiaumc.org.

Phoenix Rising Meal Program Volunteers Needed. Help prepare meals for the homeless along the Route 1 corridor 6:30 p.m. Thursday, June 24, and deliver the bags 5:30 p.m. Friday, June 25.

COMMUNITIES OF WORSHIP



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www.BurkePresChurch.org

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Worship Service
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Preservation of Zion Fellowship
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Church of the Nativity
703-455-2400

Christian Reformed
Grace Christian Reformed Church
703-323-8033

Episcopal
Church of the Good Shepherd
703-323-5400

St. Andrew's Episcopal Church
703-455-2500

Lutheran
Abiding Presence Lutheran Church
703-455-7500

Methodist
Burke United Methodist Church
703-250-6100

St. Stephen's United Methodist Church
03-978-8724

Non-Denominational
Burke Community Church
703-425-0205

Calvary Christian Church
703-455-7041

Knollwood Community Church
703-425-2068



To Advertise Your Community of Worship, Call 703-778-9418

SPORTS

FROM PAGE 12

LeBlanc, of Weymouth, Mass., will enter with a record of 12-16-4, with four knockouts.

In undercard bouts on the evening, a trio of undefeated Northern Virginia fighters — Juan Rodriguez (4-0, 4 KOs) of Haymarket; Todd "White Lighting" Wilson (7-0, 1 KO) of Falls Church; and Zain "The Tiger" Shah (2-0, 2 KOs) of Chantilly will be featured. Other undercard fights will include Lawrence Jones (3-2-1, 1 KO) of Reston and Brandon Quarles, making his pro debut, of Alexandria.

Annandale United is looking for rising U-11 players born on or after Aug. 1, 1999. The team is looking for committed players who want to grow and develop their skills to become elite players. The team will play in various tournaments across the state and train over the winter. (Annandale United trains two days a week

WEEK IN SPORTS

Soccer Club).

The team is coached by Chris Pearson, who holds a USSF C license and a NSCAA Goalkeeping license. He is a coach for VYSA State and Northern district teams. Ongoing tryouts will be held over the summer. For more information, visit the club website at www.Abgsoccer.com, or contact Chris Pearson at pearsonsoc@aol.com or call 703-209-0098.

DC United will run a week-long soccer camp at the Burke School as part of the club's 2010 Summer Camp schedule. The camp, intended for players of all skill levels ages 7 through 14, is available in both half day and full day sessions and runs from July 12-16. The Half Day session will run Monday-through-Friday from 9 a.m. to noon, and the Full Day session will last from 9 a.m. until 3 p.m. The Full Day camp includes a guest instructional and autograph session with D.C. United coach and former-player Ben Olsen on July 13.

In addition, participants in all camp programs will receive an Official D.C. United camp ball, an official camp T-shirt, a ticket voucher to a D.C. United regular season home match with other camp participants, and discount offers on D.C. United ticket packages.

Fees for the Camp will be \$295 for the Full Day Program, and \$195 for the Half Day Program. For more information regarding camp registration or curriculum, visit the D.C. United Summer Camp page at www.dcunited.com/camps/summer-camps or contact Greg Steininger at 202-587-5468.

In addition, the D.C. United Academy will be offering an Elite Residential Soccer Camp, designed for the area's top players, at Sandy Spring Friends School in Maryland from July 21-25. Space will be limited to 64 individuals ages 13 to 16. There will also be a group for commuters ages 11-14. Fees for the Residential Camp will be \$595; and \$395 for commuters.

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EMPLOYMENT

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Chapel Valley Landscape Co. is seeking an organized individual with strong communication skills for an **Assistant Supervisor (Foreman)** position for the Alexandria office. Min. 1 year landscape maintenance experience, valid DL and clean driving record. Able to operate all maintenance equipment, basic knowledge of horticulture and landscape practices. Bring copy of driving record to interview. Contact Carmen at 703-406-0802 or Terri at 301-924-5400. EOE. Substance-free workplace.

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21 Announcements

21 Announcements

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PHOTO BY CRAIG STERBUTZEL/THE CONNECTION

Woodson quarterback Connor Reilly earned team offensive MVP honors for the Northern Region in the 2010 Region Rumble All-Star Football Game on June 19 at South County Secondary School.

All-Star Performance

FROM PAGE 12

Bertrand Ngampa were also on the roster.

The host team, South County, had three players on the roster — defensive backs Andre Simmons and Alhaji Koroma and lineman Anthony Carabali.

The game was a defensive struggle for the most part as the teams combined for seven turnovers. Each team finished with less than 40 yards on the ground, due in part to players having only one week to practice with one another. Defenses were hitting hard and emotions were running hot.

"There was a lot of chatter between the two sides," North starting left tackle Matt Cunningham (West Potomac) said. "We were definitely talking to each other. It was getting pretty intense."

The Northern Region took a 7-0 lead when Reilly connected with Edison wide receiver Christian Washington for a 21-yard touchdown with 3:24 to play in the first half. The Northwest Region responded on its ensuing possession with an eight-play, 67-yard drive that used only 2 minutes and 20 seconds. Quarterback Bo Revell (Battlefield) ended the march with a 3-yard touchdown keeper, but the Northwest continued to trail as Woodson's Johnson blocked the extra point.

The Northern Region extended its lead to 14-6 when Reilly found Johnson in the end zone with 11:53 to play in the fourth quarter. The Northwest Region drove deep into North territory minutes later, but was turned away when North cornerback Kentrick Barnes (T.C. Williams) tackled receiver Christian Ocasto (Potomac) at the 5 on fourth-and-goal.

A 21-yard punt on the North's ensuing possession set up the Northwest at the North 32-yard line. After Revell was sacked by the North's Andrew Embree (Madison) on first down, Revell launched a 39-yard touchdown pass to Jared Johnson (Forest Park) with 6:54 remaining in the fourth. Thomas Keith (Osborn) lined up at quarterback and scored on a keeper during the ensuing two-point conversion attempt to tie the game at 14.

Yorktown safety C.J. Bartholomew earned team defensive MVP honors, snagging a pair of interceptions. The Northern Region Defensive Player of the Year also handed kicking duties, connecting on a pair of extra points.

"When I got out on the field I was like, 'I'm with the best players in the region, I've got to prove myself right here,'" Bartholomew said. "Honestly, I just came out with a sense of emotion where I've just got to be the best player I can be and prove myself in front of all the best players."

SCHOOL NOTES

Send notes to the Connection at south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416. Deadline is Friday.

Jaе Jong, Nathan Williams and Derek McMahon of Irving Middle School won second place in Leadership Strategies Level I at the recently competed in the Virginia Technology Student Association (TSA) State Leadership Conference.

Sarah Ummen and Vic McGowen of

West Springfield High School won third place in On Demand Video Level II at the recently competed in the Virginia Technology Student Association (TSA) State Leadership Conference.

Dominic Fritz, Exus Altimus and Matt Bishop of Robinson Secondary School won third place in System Control Technology Level I at the recently competed in the Virginia Technology Student Association (TSA) State Leadership Conference.

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