



Jim McGough, wig and makeup designer and first chair Makeup Artist pins up Melissa Citro's hair in preparation for her wig.



Melissa Citro waits for the glue adhering artificial eyelashes to her face to dry.



Artists Eric Nelson Werner and Kelly Cae Hogan review fight scene choreography an hour before the curtain call.



On average, artists spend about 30 minutes in the hair and makeup chair. Melissa Citro 'looks up' and waits for her artificial eyelashes to be applied with an adhesive. In the background is a traveling case filled with wigs and other hair and makeup items for the production.

Backstage Pass

'Valkyrie' flies at GMU's Center for the Arts.

Connection photographer Deb Cobb peeked behind the scenes at George Mason University's Center for the Arts last weekend as the Virginia Opera prepared for performances of Richard Wagner's "The Valkyrie."

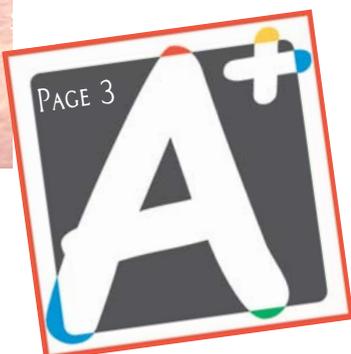
"An opera is like the perfect collaboration between the Arts," said Jessica D'Angelo, production manager of the George Mason University Center for the Arts, because it involves large, often complicated sets, complex lighting and electrical designs, actors, singers and an orchestra.



Valkyrie Sarah Williams has a 'fixer' sprayed onto her face by Associate Wig and Makeup Manager Becky Scott



Artist Kelly Cae Hogan, who plays Brünnhilde, shares a laugh with Virginia Opera Wig and Makeup Manager Jim McGough.



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PHOTO BY DEB COBB/THE CONNECTION ENTERTAINMENT, PAGE 9 ♦ SPORTS, PAGE 10 ♦ CLASSIFIED, PAGE 13

Victoria's Secret? Homemade Taste

Victoria's Cakery to unveil new flavors at 20th annual Chocolate Lover's Festival.

BY VICTORIA ROSS
THE CONNECTION

The Devil Made Me Do It." For Michael Hensley, owner of Victoria's Cakery in Old Town Fairfax, that's not an excuse. It's one of the signature cakes and cupcakes he and his cakery bakery staff are whipping up for the annual Chocolate Lover's Festival in Fairfax the first weekend of March.

"We use every kind of chocolate in that cake," Hensley said. "It has layers of chocolate truffle and candy, brownies, a white chocolate layer and then it's covered in ganache with dark chocolate shavings on top. It's pretty rich and sinful if you love chocolate."

Victoria's Cakery is the only City of Fairfax vendor participating in the popular two-day festival, which features dozens of bakers and chocolatiers from the region who bake, frost, compete and showcase their chocolate confections. Victoria's, which opened in 1984 on Main Street, has been part of the festival since it started in 1992.

Hensley said he and his six bakers have been busy since January working on the nearly 3,000 cakes and

cupcakes they will feature at the festival. This year, he is debuting a new cake, in honor of his 3-month-old daughter, Lyla.

"Lyla's cake is a velvety chocolate cake with cream-cheese icing," he said.

Most of the cakes at Victoria's are named after friends and family. There's Erica's Heaven (peanut butter and chocolate), Katie's Razz Matazz and Barb's Peppermint, among others. But it's Jan's Mother's Friend's Carrot Cake with cream cheese frosting that launched Victoria's.

"My mom, who is named Victoria, was always baking," Hensley said. "She started by selling Jan's Mother's Friend's Carrot Cake at markets and other small shops, and it was so popular that she decided to open this business in 1984."

Hensley, who took over the business in 1991, loved to bake, but went to college to become an Industrial Designer. "I've always been good at baking, and it's what I still love to do. You have to have a passion for it, because it's long hours." Hensley added that a good cake baker needs to have a sophisticated palate. "It's not just having a sweet tooth, you have to be able to taste different layers of flavors and know what will work with customers," he said.

Hensley carried on his mother's tradition of personally naming cakes. There's Rhy's Red Velvet cake, named for his 4-year-old son, and Reagan's Spice

"It's pretty rich and sinful if you love chocolate."

— Michael Hensley

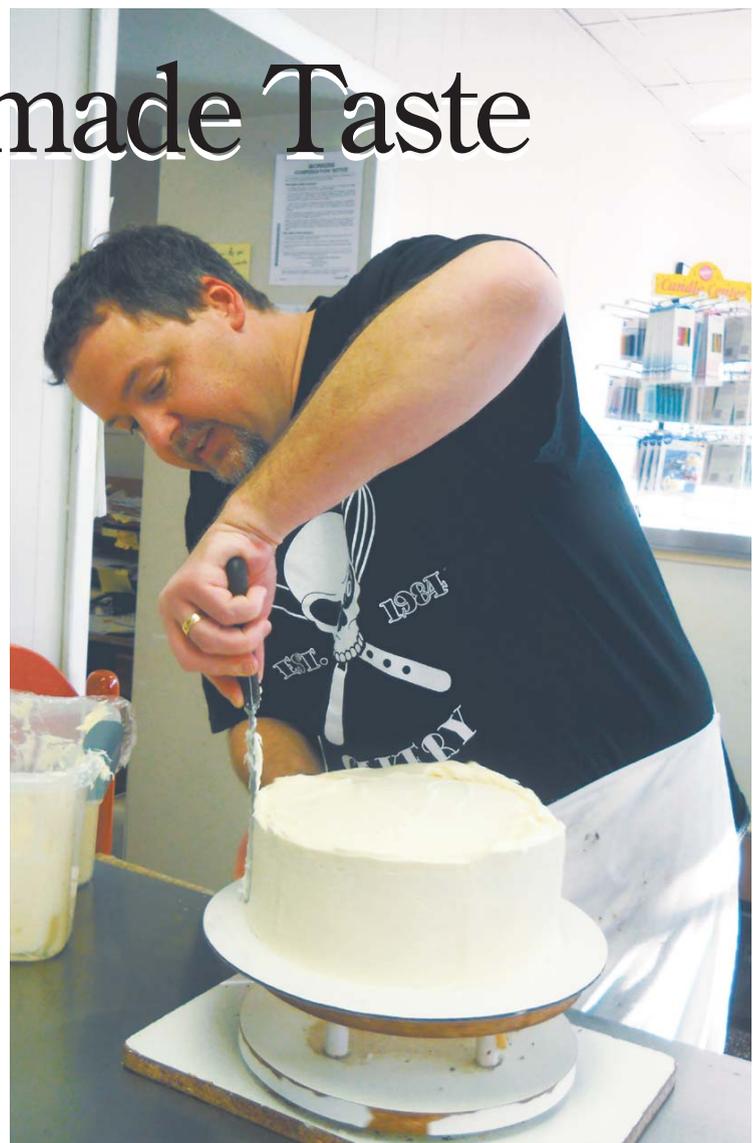


PHOTO BY VICTORIA ROSS/THE CONNECTION

Michael Hensley, owner and president of Victoria's Cakery in Old Town Fairfax, frosts one of his white chocolate cakes.

SEE CHOCOLATE, PAGE 4

County Executive Proposes \$3.38 Billion Budget

Does not include raises for county employees, cuts funds for school raises.

BY NICHOLAS M. HORROCK

THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County Executive Anthony H. Griffin proposed a \$3.38 billion budget to the Board of Supervisors Tuesday which if adopted would bar pay raises for county employees and school teachers for another year and could cost an average home owner some \$110 a year in increased real estate taxes.

Griffin told the supervisors that the budget still has a shortfall of some \$50 million, but this far less than the \$350 million shortfall in the current 2011 budget and was designed to maintain "the quality of life" in Fairfax County, he said.

The board voted Tuesday to "advertise" the tax rate at \$1.09 in the 2012 budget, beginning on July 1, which on a home valued at \$443,511 (the mean assessed value in the county) would cost the tax payer an additional \$110 a year.

Three members of the board refused to back the \$1.09 figure, offering an amend-

ment to advertise a figure of \$1.065, which would further tighten the amount of money the county would have to spend.

The board's three Republican supervisors John Cook (Braddock), Michael R. Frey (Sully) and Pat Herrity of the Springfield District said the lower rate would force cuts in services rather than an actual increase in county revenue. Herrity said it was time to drop the tax rate. "We doubled people's taxes between 2000 and 2007, and its past time we give them some relief."

But Supervisor Jeff McKay (D-Lee) said the \$1.09 figure gives the people of Fairfax a chance to present their ideas of what programs they want in public hearings and budget meetings over the next two months. "The lower figure looks like we have already decided," he said.

When the Board votes to advertise a rate, it can lower the rate in the final adopted budget, but it cannot raise the tax rate without starting all over. Board chairwoman Sharon Bulova (D-At-large) and Supervisors McKay, John W. Foust (D-Dranesville), Catherine M. Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill),

Penelope Gross (D-Mason) and Linda Q. Smyth (D-Providence) voted to advertise the \$1.09 rate. The Board may still vote to lower it on April 12.

The total recommended 2012 budget of all funds is \$6.1 billion.

Fairfax County can anticipate less money from Richmond. Staff analysis showed that the Virginia Senate might approve a package with a \$6.9 million loss for fiscal 2012 and that the House of Delegates version could mean a \$10.2 million reduction.

Though the Board of Supervisors does not control the school budgets, it can effectively veto increases the school board seeks. The Fairfax County Public Schools has sought a county "transfer" of \$1,659 million, an increase of \$48.8 million, and most of which would go to increase school salaries. But Griffin said that the county cannot have school employees getting an increase when county employees are not and he has proposed \$1.61 billion for schools.

Griffin said his budget plan results in an "available balance" of \$30 million, which the board of supervisors can utilize in several ways including pay increases for county employees or a reduction in the real estate tax rate. Griffin said it could be "saved" for the "critical needs" in 2013.

Both Griffin and Bulova see continued bleak economic times in Fairfax. Though the average price of homes sold through the Multiple Listing Service increased 8.9 percent in 2010, the number of homes sold declined some 7.8 percent to 14,100. Foreclosures in Fairfax totaled 842 in December 2010, a 5.8 per cent increase over December 2009.

Even though the Department of Defense transfer of some 19,000 workers to Fairfax in 2011 will increase revenues and investment, several members of the Board see budget tightening in Washington as ominous for Fairfax.

Gross said the county will have to learn more about a crisis in Virginia's ancient system of institutional care for people with mental or developmental disabilities.

The Department of Justice found Virginia needlessly institutionalizes many people with intellectual disabilities and provides too little community based care. The state has 40 days to address the Justice Department report.

Gross wants to find out whether Fairfax and other counties will be called upon to provide community based care. The Board of Supervisors will hold public hearings on the budget in March.

Robinson Presents 'Funny as a Crutch'

Nine humorous sketches show disabilities in a new light.

BY BONNIE HOBBS
THE CONNECTION

Robinson Secondary thespians will perform their latest show, "Funny as a Crutch," this summer, in New York and at Scotland's Fringe Festival. First, though, they'll premiere it in the school theater, Friday, March 4, at 8 p.m.

This performance is a fund raiser to help offset the \$4,000 per person cost of the Scotland trip. Tickets are \$20 in advance for early seating, via www.robinsondrama.org, or people may pay what they like at the door.

"Funny as a Crutch" is a series of nine, totally accessible comedy sketches," said Director Chip Rome. "It's about people with disabilities trying to make their way through their world, despite the rest of us."

RAMbunctious Theatre is the group of 14 students producing the show and, afterward, the actors will do a talkback with audience members to get their feedback and reaction.

"This is a wonderful combination of humor for any audience about issues much of the public seems to shy away from," said Rome. "This show brings them

to the forefront in a humorous vein, reduces the tension and makes the audience more comfortable about people with disabilities. It also makes them more aware of their own attitudes; it's been an education for our cast."

Written by Rich Orloff, "Funny as a Crutch" presents the world as seen by those with disabilities. The sketches include:

"Our drama booster president, Jane Rath, works on disability issues professionally, so she's been a terrific resource," said Rome. "We've also had consultants — Melody Goodspeed, a former teacher who's now blind, and Ben Spangenberg, who's been in a wheelchair his whole life. They were upbeat and candid about answering a wide range of questions from the cast."

In "Cripperella," sophomore Hannah Bunting portrays an ugly stepsister, along with Carys Meyer. "We're constantly fighting with each other and make fun of Cripperella for her disability," said Bunting. "We're wild and nasty, and it's fun to play something you're not. I've learned that there's so much depth to a person besides a disability. And it's not the end of the world for them. They learn

about their own character from facing their challenges, and most of them have a good sense of hu

SEE NEXT STOP, PAGE 12

Jackson Viccora, as the prince, is about to dance with 'Cripperella,' portrayed by Allison Poms

"This is a wonderful combination of humor for any audience about issues much of the public seems to shy away from."

— Chip Rome



PHOTO BY BONNIE HOBBS/THE CONNECTION

Fairfax County School Discipline: Broken or Perfect?

Jack Dale criticizes concerns linking recent teen suicides to suspensions.

BY JULIA O'DONOGHUE
THE CONNECTION

In the last 22 months, two Fairfax County students have died of suicide while coping with their removal from their local high school for disciplinary matters.

When the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Feb. 8 to "make outreach efforts" to the local school system about student disciplinary tactics," members hoped to begin a friendly and ongoing discussion about possible reforms to the schools' current system.

"I want us to come together and ask 'Can we find a better way to do this?'" said Supervisor Cathy Hudgins (D-Hunter Mill), one of two sponsors of the county measure.

Hudgins is concerned that the school's current disciplinary process may have caused these students to feel more isolated and could have contributed to their deaths.

"Many parents and students are asking

whether the Zero Tolerance disciplinary policy of FCPS lacks the ability to recognize the emotional difficulties students experience," she said in a written statement.

Supervisors plan to invite the Fairfax Partnership for Youth and parent groups to put together a forum about student discipline, including how expulsions and suspensions are handled, for both county and school system officials.

THREE DAYS LATER,

Fairfax County Superintendent Jack Dale made it clear he had no intention of discussing the disciplinary system with the county. Dale said in a statement that Hudgins' resolution demonstrated a "serious misunderstanding" among the supervisors of the school system's current disciplinary policies.

Instead, he suggested a broader approach

of tackling teen depression in general.

"I believe our efforts would be far more productive if we focused on the incidence of depression among our county youth and how our agencies can work together to tackle this problem," wrote Dale in his statement.

Dale said Fairfax County schools do not have a "zero tolerance" approach to discipline and consider every proposal for ex-

"I strongly recommend that all members of the Board of Supervisors learn more about FCPS' practices and policies ..."

— FCPS Superintendent Jack Dale

pulsion or suspension on an individual basis.

"I strongly recommend that all members of the Board of Supervisors learn more about FCPS' practices and policies before making public statements that are misinformed and damaging to our students, families and community," wrote Dale.

Dale also objected in strong language to

Hudgins' link of two teenage suicides to the school disciplinary process.

"For Supervisor Hudgins to link the two tragic student deaths to their disciplinary processes for the purpose of furthering a falsehood is unconscionable and a blow to those who have already suffered great pain and loss," wrote Dale.

Dale and Hudgins did not speak to each other directly; each issued public statements.

Last month, sophomore Nick Stuban died a few weeks after he had been forced to leave Woodson High School for Fairfax High School because of an infraction. In 2009, South Lakes High School junior Josh Anderson took his life a few hours before he expected to be

expelled from the entire Fairfax County school system at disciplinary hearing.

According to last year's Fairfax County Youth Survey, 14 percent of local students had considered suicide and 3.6 percent had attempted suicide at least once. The youth survey shows that students who report abus

SEE FCPS, PAGE 5

Stringfellow, Monument Ramps To Open Feb. 28

On Monday, Feb. 28, the westbound Interstate 66 exit ramps to Monument Drive and Stringfellow Road will open to all traffic — HOV as well as non-HOV — on weekends and during off-peak hours beginning at 10 a.m. New overhead digital message signs will alert drivers as to when the exit ramps are “open,” “closed” or “HOV-only.” Traffic signs and signals at the top of the exit ramps have been upgraded, and traffic signals near the interchanges will be retimed to accommodate traffic.

“Opening the ramps will be of great benefit to those in the Fair Lakes and Fairfax Corner area, and result in reduced drive time and congestion” said Supervisor Pat Herrity (R-Springfield). “The ramps are critical transportation infrastructure that went unused most of the day.° This is a commonsense, low- cost solution that will reduce trip time and improve air quality.”

For more information about the ramp openings, contact the Virginia Department of Transportation at 1-800-FOR-ROAD.

Wish List for Bibliophiles

The library is usually a place to borrow books, but the Fairfax County Library Foundation wants book-lovers to consider donating books as well as borrowing them. “Cleopatra: A Life” by Stacy Schiff; “Cutting for Stone” by Abraham Vorphese; “True Grit” by Charles Portis; “Little Princes; Explorers: Tales of Endurance and Exploration;” and “Diary of a Wimpy Kid: The Ugly Truth” are just a handful of the books on the library’s Wish List.

Sponsored by the Fairfax Library Foundation, the Amazon.com Wish List allows library supporters to purchase specific books. These are books that are in high demand and additional copies could reduce hold times for fellow customers. The site www.amazon.com/wish allows you to see how many copies the library wants, and how many have been purchased so far. Books can be directly delivered to the appropriate location. For more information on this, or other library programs, go to www.fairfaxcounty.gov/library/fcplease.htm.

Chamber, Schools Team Up

The Fairfax Chamber of Commerce and Fairfax County Public Schools have teamed up to launch a new non-profit foundation that supports initiatives to help students acquire 21st century skills. All donations go directly to the foundation, a 501(c)(3) organization, and are tax deductible. Among the opportunities for donations are programs in elementary, middle and high school that prepare underrepresented students for college; teacher grants and training; and support of an all-electronic learning environment, including 24/7 Internet access, for all students.

For more information about the Foundation for Fairfax County Public Schools or to make a donation, go to <http://www.fcps.edu/DIT/educationfoundation/index.html>.

BULLETIN BOARD

SATURDAY/FEB. 26

Fairfax County School Board FY 2012 Budget Forum. 9 a.m. Falls Church High School, 7521 Jaguar Trail, Falls Church. With four breakout sessions on employee compensation and benefits, the budget’s impact on programs, how central office staff supports teaching and learning, and state funding challenges. www.surveymonkey.com/s/fy2012budgetforum or 571-423-1075.

Leadership Institute. The Braddock District Community Engagement Initiative offers a Leadership Institute,” from 9 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at the Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Thee Institute is targeted for those who are, or wish to be, officers and directors of civic and homeowners’ associations and community-based volunteer and non-profit organizations. The program includes lunch. Spots are limited. Contact Ann Sharp at 703-425-9300 to sign up.

Chocolate Lovers Festival

FROM PAGE 2

Cake, for his 19-month-old daughter. There’s also the unexpected hit cake, Dez’s Chocolate Chipper, which Hensley created by accident.

“Desiree is my wife’s name, and, let me add, she’s the love of my life,” he said. “The cake was born when we messed up a batch of vanilla pound cake. So we threw in chocolate chips, and then added buttercream frosting and a chocolate glaze on top. It turned out to be great.”

Victoria’s secret to a thriving cakery is not flashy cakes — like the 6-foot tall wedding cakes on a Food Network throw down. It’s pure homemade taste, Hensley said.

“We are known for our homemade cakes. We don’t do a lot of complicated designs. We will write on the cake, and tie it with a ribbon, but we let the cakes do the talking here.”

“It’s a quality homemade product,” said Angela Wijas, who has been decorating cakes for 12 years at Victoria’s. “What nice is that Michael makes the atmosphere here like a close-knit family, and we treat our customers like family too.”

Longtime customer Jane Owens of Fairfax agreed. “The cakes here are wonderful, and they do have that homemade taste.” Owens said she frequently picks up cakes for birthdays, anniversaries and other family celebrations.

“The Huggs cake is one of our favorites,” Owens said. Huggs mixes white and dark chocolate.

In addition to the cakes, many of which are offered in the trendy cupcake size, Victoria’s has scones, tea breads, cheesecakes and cookies. Much of their business is wedding cakes, but they also do a brisk weekday business for “snackers,” Hensley said.

“We sell a lot of cake slices, cupcakes and cookies to what I call ‘snackers,’ during the week; and then the weekend is usually about the event cakes,” he said.

“Victoria’s Cakery has a great reputation,” said

Beverly Myers, chairman of Friends of Fairfax and long-time organizer of the Chocolate Lover’s Festival. “In year’s past, they have sold out of all their cakes on the first day of the festival. I know people are really fond of their Heaven cake, with the raspberry filling and white chocolate frosting.”

Hensley said the Heaven cake accounts for nearly 50 percent of their sales, and plenty slices of Heaven will be available at the Chocolate Lover’s Festival, a virtuous option to the decadent The Devil Made Me Do It cake.

For more information on Victoria’s Cakery, visit www.VictoriasCakeryInc.com or call 703-273-0800.

For the Love of Chocolate

The Chocolate Lovers Festival is a two-day event that takes place each year in Old Town Fairfax. This year’s event is Saturday, March 5, from 8 a.m.-5 p.m., and Sunday, March 6, from 12-4 p.m.

A family-friendly favorite, events this year include the Taste of Chocolate, featuring chocolate vendors selling anything and everything chocolate; the Chocolate Challenge, an arts extravaganza where pros and amateurs compete for prizes; the Kiwanis Pancake Breakfast featuring chocolate chip pancakes; historic re-enactments; children’s activities; open houses at historic buildings; and much more.

According to Beverly Myers, chairman of Friends of Fairfax and long-time organizer of the festival, donated cakes and other items will be open for silent auction bidding. Celebrity judges for this event include Warren Brown of CakeLove; Norman R. Davis and Zane Beg of The Sweet Life Cakery in Annandale, who have appeared on multiple Food Network challenges; and City of Fairfax Mayor Robert F. Lederer.

“What’s really neat this year is the Valentine collectible,” Myers said, adding that the valentine heralds the festival’s 20th anniversary and the 50th anniversary of the city’s incorporation.

This year’s valentine includes a matted sketch of the Old Town Hall drawn by Jackie Liedl of Local Color and a coupon redeemable for five taste pogs (or tickets.) The limited edition valentine costs \$5. If supplies last, valentines will be sold during the festival at the Taste of Chocolate in Old Town Hall. Valentines are currently available at City Hall, 10455 Armstrong Street and the Fairfax Museum and Visitor Center, 10209 Main St.

For more information, go to www.chocolatefestival.net

Weekend Workshop Raises \$2,000 for Assistance League

Assistance League of Northern Virginia hosted a workshop for Operation School Bell Weekend Food for Kids on Jan. 17, in conjunction with Martin Luther King Jr. day of service. Community volunteers joined members to pack 1,000 bags of food for three Title 1 schools in Fairfax and Prince William counties. Before the event David Eakin, director service projects, Rotary Club of Dunn-Loring Merrifield

presented Beth Maline, president of Assistance League with a check for \$2,000 to be used for Weekend Food for Kids. To learn more about this program and how to help go to www.northernvirginia.assistanceleague.org.



FCPS Disciplinary Policies

FROM PAGE 3

ing substances also tend to report considering suicide and attempting suicide at a higher rate, according to Dale.

"There is no link between the tragic suicides that we have had and the disciplinary process. ... I have knowledge of both cases that I can't share with you and there is zero evidence to support that. None," said Dale in an interview.

JOSH'S PARENTS disagree with Dale's assessment.

"Honestly, the superintendent's response was very mystifying to me," said Tim Anderson, Josh's father. "To say there is nothing that connects the suicide and depression to the disciplinary procedure, we believe it is unconscionable to say that. We believe it is unconscionable to not look [at the disciplinary process]."

Tim Anderson said his family and other people close to Josh believe the emotional strain of the disciplinary hearing and facing expulsion from all Fairfax schools contributed to the teenager's death.

"Obviously it happened on the eve of his second hearing. Whether it was the number one cause or the number five cause, I don't know. But it got him closer than he needed to be to that place. I don't think it is by coincidence that it happened the day before his second hearing," said Tim Anderson in an interview Feb. 15.

The Andersons wonder how Dale might have acquired enough "knowledge" about their son to make any conclusion about the impact of the disciplinary process on Josh's suicide.

"No one from Fairfax County [schools] has ever talked to us about Josh's death. No one from the superintendent's office has ever discussed it with us. If you are really concerned about kids and families in Fairfax County, wouldn't it be the right thing to at least send a condolence card in these cases?" said Tim Anderson.

He added that Dale appears to be more concerned with protecting the school system from liability or a class action lawsuit than addressing the shortfalls of the disciplinary process.

The Andersons' limited contact with the county board on this issue has been a much more positive experience. Hudgins contacted the family before she made her proposal to the county board, asking for input on the issue from Tim Anderson and to make sure he was comfortable with a reference to Josh's death in her written statement.

"Cathy Hudgins — I really appreciate all the things she said. I don't appreciate the approach that Jack Dale took," said Tim Anderson.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBER Tina Hone (At-large) started pushing for a detailed examination of the process last October.

Hone said it is difficult for her to even deduce what problems might exist in the current system because the administration has never provided her with comprehensive data related to student suspensions and expulsions. Other school board members have also been reluctant to spend time looking potential reforms until they have more information about the effectiveness of the current system, she said.

"We need to see the data. But what I have gotten is stonewalling and stalling on this [from school staff]," said Hone.

Hone first started focusing on disciplinary policies and procedures when a parent contacted her to say that her son had been removed from his base school and placed on "long-term suspension" at an alternative high school for over 400 days.

"That student wasn't suspended. He was reassigned to a new school. He received the exact same penalty he would have gotten if he had been expelled from his base school. ... I had hoped to achieve an agreement that no child would be reassigned to one of our alternative high schools for more than 365 days unless he had been expelled from his base school," said Hone.

Among the data that Hone requested was a count how many students receive five-day suspensions, 10-day suspensions, and longer-term suspensions. She also wanted to know what, if any, the suspensions had on students' academic achievement when they returned to class.

Hone also wants evidence that transferring a student from one general education high school to another, which is done often for minor drug offenses, has any discernable positive effects.

"Kids get shuffled a lot and we have no idea what it does for them. We don't know what it does for their base school. It might even be better to have the student come back. We don't know," said Hone.

Technically, many students who are expelled are able to reapply and potentially attend their original school the following year, though Hone knows of no cases anecdotally where this has occurred.

Hone would also like to videotape or otherwise monitor disciplinary hearings, which are conducted by special hearing officers. A few families have complained to Hone and others about hearing officers badgering students.

The Andersons said their son was traumatized during his first hearing and extremely upset about having to go through the process a second time. They have talked to other parents whose children were also emotionally beaten down by aggressive questioning and lectures from the school system's staff. One student they know sobbed for hours after the hearing concluded, said Tim Anderson.

Hone said she has personally witnessed disciplinary officers engaging in unbecoming behavior.

"I have impeded on hearing officers in front of kids. ... Once [a hearing officer] was just banging into a kid's head what a rotten person he was," said Hone.



FCPS Superintendent Jack Dale

FILE PHOTO

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COLLEGE NOTES

Kasey Drew Stanton, a resident of Fairfax, was awarded dean's list honors for academic achievement during the

Fall 2010 semester at St. Mary's College of Maryland. Dean's list honors are awarded to full-time students at St.

Mary's who earn a semester grade-point average of 3.5 or better on 12 or more graded credits.

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COLLEGE

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.

Wing Yip of Fairfax was named to the dean's list at the University of Charleston School of Pharmacy for the fall 2010 semester. The dean's list recognizes students who maintain a grade point average of 3.5 or higher. Wing is a first-year student in the UC pharmacy program.

Amy Smarr of Fairfax received a master of public administration degree in public administration and public af-

fairs from the College of Architecture and Urban Studies at Virginia Tech.

Laurie Wright of Fairfax received a master of business administration degree in business administration from the Pamplin College of Business at Virginia Tech.

Ozana Kalman of Fairfax was named to the University of Albany's spring 2010 dean's list for outstanding academic achievement.

Jamie Carter of Fairfax graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy on May 29. He received the President's Award for Academic Achievement at an end-of-

year awards ceremony. Carter plans to attend Arizona State University in the fall.

Mariet Kurtz of Fairfax chose to join 93 other students from around the world to form the ninth freshmen class at the highly selective Franklin W. Olin College of Engineering in Needham, Mass.

Kurt Krenz of Fairfax graduated from Randolph-Macon Academy on May 29. At the end-of-year awards ceremony, Krenz was presented the President's Award for Academic

SEE COLLEGE, PAGE 7

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Summer Web Internships Available

Educational internships available for enthusiastic college students to join our new website launch team. This is an exciting opportunity to help develop content and sections for our new website, due to launch in late Spring. Throughout the summer, we'll be adding specifics to our entertainment and events sections, creating special projects and content, and exploring new media. Internships are unpaid, but offer an unusual chance to work with award-winning editors while developing first-rate online presence. Internships require a commitment of at least six weeks, 16-40 hours a week. Please email a statement of interest and a resume to internship@connectionnewspapers.com.

THE CONNECTION
NEWSPAPERS

COLLEGE

FROM PAGE 6

Achievement and the German Medal. He was regularly named to the president's list for maintaining a GPA above 4.0. Krenz plans to attend Eckerd College in the fall. He was offered \$60,000 in scholarships.

Fairfax resident **Lisa Damerell** made the academic deans' list at Azusa Pacific University. Damerell is honored for a spring semester 2010 academic standing of a 3.5 or better grade-point average. Damerell is a cinematic arts major, who is joined by nearly 1,500 other students receiving the same honor.

Kelly F. Benedict, a 2000 graduate of Fairfax High School, received her Ph.D. in biomedical engineering from the University of Virginia on May 23. She will complete her post-doctoral work at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology.

Kirk C. Benedict was commissioned as a second lieutenant by his grandfather Maj. Gen. Calvert P. Benedict at a ceremony at Davidson University on May 16. Kirk Benedict will be assigned to Fort Bliss, Texas. U.S. Air Force

Rebecca S. Friedman, a 2010 graduate of Thomas Jefferson High

School, recently received a \$2,000 scholarship from the Financial Service Centers of America (FiSCA). She will be attending George Washington University in Washington, DC in the fall. Friedman is one of 31 students from across the country that each received cash grants of \$2,000 to use toward their college expenses.

Lt. Autumn Benedict, a 2003 Fairfax High graduate, was deployed to Afghanistan on Aug. 19.

Daniel G. McCray recently graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) Leader's Training Course at Fort Knox, Ky. He is the

son of Greg G. McCray of Maple Trace Circle, Fairfax. McCray graduated in 2008 from W.T. Woodson High School.

Army Pfc. Christopher L. Hollar graduated from the Direct Fire Infantryman One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Columbus, Ga. Hollar is the son of Steve and Patricia Hollar of Leehigh Drive, Fairfax. The private is a 2004 graduate of Fairfax High School.

Kristin Herzog of Fairfax has been awarded a fellowship by the Virginia Center for the Creative Arts (VCCA). Herzog will be among the approximately 25 fellows focusing on their own creative projects at this working retreat

for visual artists, writers and composers.

Brandon Vara of Fairfax received a bachelor of science degree in chemistry from James Madison University during May commencement ceremonies. He is continuing his studies pursuing a doctorate in organic chemistry at Vanderbilt University in Nashville.

Thomas C. Frank has graduated from the Army ROTC (Reserve Officers' Training Corps) Leader's Training Course at Fort Knox, Ky. The cadet is a student at the University of Maryland, College Park. He is the son of Brian K. Frank of Ashmeade Drive, Fairfax. Frank is a 2008 graduate of Paul VI High.

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Time to Talk about 'Discipline'

Schools need to consider the best interests of the student.

Our hearts go out to the parents of Nick Stuben, a student at Woodson who died of suicide last month after an ordeal of navigating a suspension and disciplinary process that clearly has gone awry.

Nick was not the first local student to suffer from the process. In March 2009, Josh Anderson, then a junior at South Lakes High School, died of suicide the day before he was to face expulsion from the Fairfax County school system at a disciplinary hearing.

It is true that a teenage suicide never has only one cause; the students' deaths are not the "fault" of disciplinary policies. But no one can deny that the disciplinary process contributed to the unhappiness that these two students experienced.

We have heard now from many parents whose teenagers (and even younger children) have suffered through an inflexible and adversarial process that separates students from support systems and healthy activities and even schoolwork at exactly the moment that they need them the most.

Students who have not been in serious trouble before suddenly find themselves isolated at home, unable to participate in sports or clubs, unable to interact with peers or teachers on a regular basis. The results have been

devastating for many families.

Many people are seeking a dialogue to understand and hopefully modify the current approach.

Del. Kaye Kory introduced legislation in the Virginia House of Delegates that would have required schools to notify parents if their student was in trouble that might lead to suspension. The bill failed, but the idea that such legislation might be needed is eye-opening. Fairfax schools opposed it.

Caroline Hemenway founded Fairfax Zero Tolerance Reform, a community group that advocates for changes to Fairfax's approach to disciplinary matters, years ago after her family's ordeal with suspension years ago.

School board member Tina Hone (At-large) has been asking for data about suspensions and expulsions from schools staff, but reports that she has been unable to get good answers, leaving open questions about minority students being over-represented in students who have been suspended, among other issues.

The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors voted unanimously Feb. 8 to "make outreach efforts" to the local school system about student disciplinary tactics, hoping to begin a friendly and ongoing discussion about possible reforms to the schools' current system.

Fairfax County Superintendent Jack Dale made it clear he had no intention of discussing the disciplinary system with the county. Dale said in a statement that the resolution demonstrated a "serious misunderstanding" of the school system's current disciplinary policies.

Note that this exchange involved dueling

walkers and oxygen tanks when traveling in the community.

When we talk about the economics of this fare increase, it bears repeating that it is important to understand those who will be impacted by the policy. Seventy percent of people with disabilities are unemployed, which means many of these individuals live on incomes of \$674 a month. People who are aging and not working rely on an income made up of Social Security and whatever savings they

have put away. The new proposed fare increases could cost an individual \$434 a month. If a person took one trip a day every day of the month, the individual would be left with \$240 for living expenses.

"We understand that WMATA can't operate with a deficit," reports Jill Egle, co-executive director for The Arc of Northern Virginia. "I use MetroAccess, because I live on a road that is dangerous and nowhere near a bus line. MetroAccess has allowed me to have A Life Like Yours in the community." Jill Egle, also a woman

with an intellectual disability, can afford to pay a fare increase, but as an advocate for people with disabilities she thinks WMATA should slow down and look at other ways to build in budget savings rather than taking from the pockets of those who are the most "vulnerable."

One way that WMATA could maximize the cost efficiency of their MetroAccess program, would be to "really make it a shared ride program." Many MetroAccess riders have routine rides set up each day. "We would like to propose WMATA pool the ridership in clusters where the same driver and riders share trips.

This sounds like a simple proposal, but it is something that does not happen routinely. If you could get four to six people on a van you would cut the cost of the ride almost in half. Not to mention the amount of drive time and gasoline WMATA would save," reports Jill Egle.

SPARC, a club for people with disabilities relies on MetroAccess, many of whom are wheelchair users. The SPARC members would

Read On

SCHOOL DISCIPLINE: BROKEN OR PERFECT?

Jack Dale criticizes concerns linking teen suicides to suspensions.

MONDAY, FEB. 21, 2011

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=348482&paper=72&cat=104>

MANTUA TEENAGER REMEMBERED

Nick Stuben, 15, participated in Woodson football, Boy Scouts.

THURSDAY, JAN. 27, 2011

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=347811&paper=63&cat=104>

ONE STRIKE, THEY'RE OUT

Some families call the school system's policies on marijuana punitive and ineffective.

FRIDAY, SEPT. 17, 2010

<http://www.connectionnewspapers.com/article.asp?article=344330&paper=82&cat=104>

"statements," not discussion.

Dale is correct when he suggests a broader approach of tackling teen depression in general, but this must be in addition to grappling with the challenges in the disciplinary process.

"I believe our efforts would be far more productive if we focused on the incidence of depression among our county youth and how our agencies can work together to tackle this problem," wrote Dale in his statement.

In the meantime, if you have a teenager in your family, it might be worth letting him or her know that they shouldn't sign any statements admitting they've done anything wrong at school without having the school call you first.

—MARY KIMM,

MKIMM@CONNECTIONNEWSPAPERS.COM

What's the Matta With WMATA?

To the Editor:

On Feb. 27, MetroAccess paratransit fares will double in cost. Metro Access is a shared-ride paratransit system that was created to provide people with disabilities and the elderly access to the Washington Metropolitan public transportation system and the community. Metro Access is not a luxury taxicab service, it is a lifeline to the community for 70,000 riders. The proposed fare increases up to \$7 a ride one way, will ensure these citizens will be further isolated from their communities.

It is important to understand who MetroAccess serves. MetroAccess serves individuals who do not have access to the public transportation system or who would be deemed "vulnerable" taking public transportation. These are individuals who benefit from door to door service, live in areas where there are no bus stops and may require extra equipment and support such as wheelchairs,

LETTERS

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The Arc of Northern Virginia

ENTERTAINMENT

To have community events listed, send to south@connectionnewspapers.com or call 703-778-9416 with questions. Deadline for calendar listings is two weeks prior to event.

THURSDAY/FEB. 24

Brendan James and Matt White. 8 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

Our Daily Bread Empty Bowls Fundraiser. 6:30 p.m. Stacy C. Sherwood Community Center, 3740 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. A meal of soup and bread, with live music by the Fairfax Saxophone Quartet, a silent auction and raffles. Purchase a hand-crafted bowl for a donation of \$25 and up. Families welcome, \$10 per child or \$20 for two or more children (bowl not included). Proceeds benefit Our Daily Bread, a non-profit that provides aid to working families in Fairfax County. www.our-daily-bread.org or 703-273-8829.

Little House Studio Recital with the Morrison Brothers. 7:30 p.m. Bangkok Blues, 926 West Broad St., Falls Church. Music from Beatles and bluegrass to Natalie MacMaster and Green Day, performed by Little House Studio students under the guidance of director Larry Rice. Pop/country/rock recording artists Truman and Willie Morrison of The Morrison Brothers Band will be joined by Larry Rice on fiddle. Free admission. 703-534-0095 or www.LarryRiceMusic.com/lessons.html.

How to Hire a Home Contractor. 7 p.m. Kings Park Library, 9000 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Wil Slaughter, Consumer Affairs, offers tips on hiring a contractor, what should be included in a contract and information on laws related to home improvement. 703-978-5600.

Friends of Burke Centre Blizzard of Books Sale. 3 p.m. Burke Centre Library, 5935 Freds Oak Road, Burke. Chase away cabin fever and stock up on great books. 703-249-1520.

Chinese Scrolls from the Dr. Chi Wang Collection. Mason Hall Alumni Atrium Gallery at George Mason University, 4400 University Drive in Fairfax. Panel discussion at 5 p.m., and Opening Reception 6-8 p.m. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

World-music Violin Ensemble Barrage. 8 p.m. Wolf Trap Foundation for the Performing Arts, 1624 Trap Road, Vienna. Dancing, traditional and modern songs. \$27. www.wolftrap.org.

FRIDAY/FEB. 25

Cypress String Quartet. 8 p.m. The Barns at Wolf Trap, 1635 Trap Road, Vienna. A multimedia collaboration with author Jacob Needleman and film producer Michael Schwarz. \$35. www.wolftrap.org.

Marshall Crenshaw at 7:30 p.m. and Griffin House and Charlie Mars at 10 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

"Oklahoma!" 7:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Advance tickets \$8, at the door \$10. www.fxplayers.org.

Lake Braddock Chorus Sock Hop & Silent Auction. 7 p.m. Lake Braddock Secondary School Cafeteria, 9200 Burke Lake Road, Burke. Family fun with live music by the Rivers Rockabilly Trio and the combined Lake Braddock choruses, dance contests, silent auction and more. \$8 in advance, \$10 at the door. teachingkat@gmail.com.

"Gianni Schicchi." 8 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The GMU School of Music presents the Mason Opera & Chamber Orchestra performing Giacomo Puccini's satirical one-act opera. Tickets are

\$20 adults, \$15 students/seniors, and a limited number of tickets are free for students with a valid Mason ID. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

SATURDAY/FEB. 26

Movie Mania. 8 p.m. at W.T. Woodson High School, 9525 Main St., Fairfax. The City of Fairfax Band presents a concert of music from Hollywood classics including Chicken Run, Titanic, Catch Me If You Can, The Red Pony, Avatar, Hunchback of Notre Dame and E.T. \$15 adults, \$9 seniors, free ages 18 and younger. www.fairfaxband.org or 703-757-0220.

TobyMac Winter Wonder Slam Tour. 7 p.m. at the George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Circle, Fairfax. With Brandon Heath and House of Heroes. Tickets \$15-\$50, available through www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT.

Civil War Authors Book Mart. 2 p.m. The Civil War Interpretive

United Methodist Church, 9203 Braddock Road, Burke. All proceeds benefit the Lamb Center. 703-691-3178.

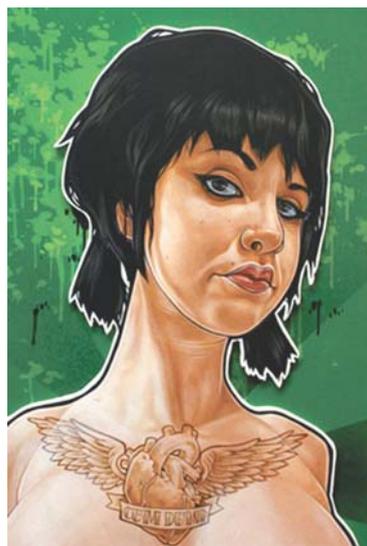
SUNDAY/FEB. 27

Disney Live! presents Mickey's Magic Show. 12:30 p.m. and 3:30 p.m. at George Mason University Patriot Center, 4500 Patriot Drive, Fairfax. Featuring magic from legendary Disney films. Cinderella's rags turn into a beautiful ball gown in a split second, Aladdin's Princess Jasmine levitates into the air and the enchanted dancing brooms in Fantasia help sweep Minnie off of her feet. Mickey Mouse performs illusions along with Cinderella's Fairy Godmother, Alice in Wonderland's Mad Hatter and professional illusionist Brad Ross. Tickets \$22-\$50, available at www.ticketmaster.com or 703-573-SEAT. www.disneylive.com.

Jay Nash CD Release, Natalia Zukerman and Garrison Starr. 7 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave.

Experience Art of the Motorcycle

The opening reception for the Live Fast-Harley Inspired Art Show will be on Saturday, Feb. 26 from 5-8 p.m. at Patriot Harley-Davidson, 9739 Fairfax Blvd. in Fairfax, with a guest appearance by the artist Letterfly demonstrating traditional "old school" pinstriping. Live Fast will feature art inspired by the gasoline, oil, and freedom that power American Harley-Davidsons, including custom Harley tanks painted especially for this show as well as other pieces the hand-picked stable of artists created for this event. The art exhibit will also be open to the public on Sunday, Feb. 27 from 11 a.m.-5 p.m. The reception is free, but reservations are required for entrance and cocktails at Livefast@artwhino.com.



Graffiti-style artwork by Mr. Christopher

Center at Historic Blenheim, 3610 Old Lee Highway, Fairfax. Authors of Civil War fiction and non-fiction will discuss and sign their latest books and guides. Proceeds will benefit the restoration of Blenheim. Free. 703-591-0560.

"Oklahoma!" 7:30 p.m. Fairfax High School, 3501 Rebel Run, Fairfax. Advance tickets \$8, at the door \$10. www.fxplayers.org.

Opening Reception for the "Live Fast-Harley Inspired Art Show." 5-8 p.m. Patriot Harley-Davidson, 9739 Fairfax Blvd., Fairfax. Artist Letterfly will demonstrate traditional "old school" pinstriping, art inspired by Harley-Davidsons and custom Harley tanks painted for this show. The reception is free, but reservations are required for entrance and cocktails at Livefast@artwhino.com.

"Gianni Schicchi." 8 p.m. George Mason University Harris Theatre, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. The GMU School of Music presents the Mason Opera & Chamber Orchestra performing Giacomo Puccini's satirical one-act opera. Tickets are \$20 adults, \$15 students/seniors, and a limited number of tickets are free for students with a valid Mason ID. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

The "Five Star" Robinson Gives Back Concert. 7 p.m. St. Stephens

E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.
Drumline Live. 7 p.m. George Mason University Center for the Arts, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. A 39-member cast in a percussion-driven performance. \$23-\$46, youth through grade 12 half-price when accompanied by adult. A pre-performance discussion, free to ticket holders, begins 45 minutes prior to the performance on the Center's Grand Tier III. 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

MONDAY/FEB. 28

Tales to Tails. 4 p.m. City of Fairfax Regional Library, 10360 North St., Fairfax. Sign up to read to the dog. Age 6-12 with adult. 703-293-6227.

WEDNESDAY/MARCH 2

Ian Axel and Sub-Radio Standard. 7:30 p.m. Jammin' Java, 227 Maple Ave. E., Vienna. jamminjava.com.

THURSDAY/MARCH 3

Peter Shaffer's "Equus." 8 p.m. George Mason University TheaterSpace, 4400 University Drive, Fairfax. Production contains explicit scenes and nudity. \$12 adults, \$8 students, seniors and groups. Charge at 888-945-2468 or cfa.gmu.edu.

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Robinson Wrestling Rolls to State Title

Rams, for first time since 1985, take possession of the state AAA crown.

BY RICH SANDERS
THE CONNECTION

Throughout the postseason, the Robinson Secondary wrestling team has had one prevailing thought in mind — to capture the program's first state title since 1985. The Rams, under longtime head coach and former Robinson standout wrestler Bryan Hazard, realized all season long that they had the talent, experience and desire to achieve such heights. Following Concorde District and Northern Region team championships in recent weeks, all that was left for the team to accomplish was its original goal of taking the title at states.

Last weekend, Robinson left no room for question as to who is the best team in the state as the Rams, in typical dominant fashion, captured first place running away at the Virginia State AAA championships. Making the team title extra special was the fact that the two-day postseason meet, on Feb. 25-26, took place at Robinson's own Henry M. Smith Field House.

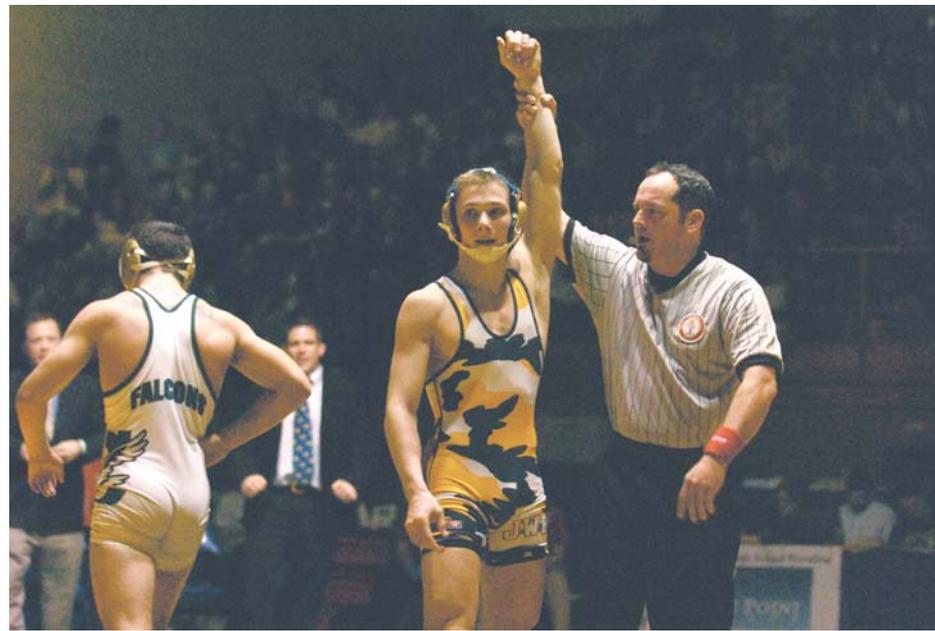
"Now we get to put a 2011 [state championship] banner in our gym," said a joyful Hazard, during Robinson's celebratory moments following Saturday's championship round matches. "Our kids worked so hard and believed. To win a tournament like this you have to believe it."

During post meet ceremonies, former Robinson head coach — John Epperly, of whom Robinson's wrestling room is named after — was the individual who presented the state championship trophy to the Rams.

"It was amazing that Coach Epperly gave us the trophy," said Hazard, a 1991 Robinson graduate who was a part of the Rams' region title winning team that same year. "He's my mentor."

Under Epperly, Robinson won state titles in both 1981 and 1985. The 1985 state crown marked the last time before this year that a team from the Northern Region won the team championship. Over the years, state high school wrestling has, for the most part, been dominated by schools from around the Tidewater/Virginia Beach area.

THERE WAS LITTLE suspense going into Saturday night's championship finals matches regarding who would win the team title. Robinson, over the most part of the two days of tournament wrestling up to that point, had easily had the most success. So for the five Robinson wrestlers who were competing in the finals, the pressure of having to win in order to boost the teams' chances was a non-factor. The Rams, they realized, had first place clinched and could



Robinson's Brooks Martino has the look of a state champion after his 135-weight class wrestling finals win over Cox High School's CJ Jablonski last Saturday night.

focus on garnering some individual championships.

Robinson's individual state champions were Brooks Martino (135-division) and Jake Smith (119). Rams who reached the finals before losing were Dallas Smith (112), Jack Bass (125), and Jake Pinkston (heavyweight).

Robinson won the team title with 155.5 points, besting runner-up Cox High (125) of Virginia Beach and third place Colonial Forge (98.5) of Stafford. Forest Park (76) of Woodbridge took fourth place and Westfield High (69) from the Northern Region was fifth. Annandale High, also from the Northern Region, finished 11th place at the 20-team meet.

Some of the evening's most drama came at the 119 finals where Jake Smith, in overtime, defeated Jerelle McCabe of Bayside High (Virginia Beach), 6-5. Smith (43-6) led 3-0 after two periods and held a 5-0 advantage following a take down at the edge of the mat with 1 minute, 18 seconds remaining in the third period. But, following a one-point escape point that got McCabe within 5-1 with 20 seconds left, things fell apart for Smith in the closing seconds when his opponent got him onto his back and scored four points. Incredibly when the buzzer sounded, the match was tied at 5-5 and headed into overtime.

"I was wrestling a perfect match until the last couple of seconds," said Smith. "I went in shock [after he tied it] because I thought I'd had the match won. I was a little surprised and flustered going into overtime and tried to keep my head."

The score remained tied following the first 1-minute overtime. In the second OT, Smith, beginning the session in the down position, earned an escape point to take a 6-5 lead with 50 seconds left. Moments later, it appeared McCabe had scored points when he momentarily got Smith onto his

back. But no points were given and Smith still led. Over the final 20 seconds, Smith was on top of McCabe, who nearly got away from the Robinson wrestlers grip as time ran out.

In the end, Smith had held on and gotten the dramatic win.

"I'm just glad I was able to fight it out and win," said Smith. "I fought hard and did what I needed to do. [Winning the title] means everything to me. And winning at

"I'm so happy for coach Hazard. The championship shows how hard we've worked. And to win it at home, I love it."

— Robinson Wrestler Brooks Martino

home is an even greater feeling. I couldn't have done it without coach Hazard."

In the moments following the 119 match, a loud, large contingent of beach area fans, frustrated that McCabe had not been awarded overtime points earlier in the second OT, vehemently booed the officials and, seemingly, Smith, whose arm had been raised by an official as the winning wrestler.

Later, Smith would be booed again as he took the medal stand. He took it in stride, smiling as he walked up to his first place standing at the podium.

Of course, the numerous partisan Robinson fans were trying to drown out the boo birds with loud cheers for their champion.

"It was kind of poor for the [beach] fans to boo like that, but a win's a win. I'm real glad I have a state title," said Smith.

He went on to say there was a fairly large part of the close-to-capacity crowd, made up of fans from all across the state that

wanted to see the Rams falter because of their dominance throughout the weekend.

"Everyone is going to want to see the No. 1 team lose," said Smith. "I was ranked No. 1 [going into states] so [that same group] wanted to see me lose."

Smith made it to the finals with wins over Brian Lee of Norview (Chesapeake) by pin; Connor Mairena of Colonia Forge (Stafford), 1-0; and Austin Hurst of Great Bridge (Chesapeake), 5-0.

Martino, at 135, was Robinson's other champion, winning his finals match, 8-4, over CJ Jablonski of Cox High. The Robinson junior trailed in the championship match 4-3 with 48 seconds remaining in the second period before, moments later, earning reverse points to go ahead, 5-4. Early in the third period, Martino got an escape point for a 6-4 advantage. Jablonski, a junior with 130 career wins, required a blood timeout with 1:31 remaining. Thereafter, when the match resumed, Martino was in control of the action. Two late points in the final seconds wrapped up the win and title. At the final buzzer, Martino triumphantly raised his arms into the air.

"It was a tough match," said Martino (43-6). "He came out hard and started very strong. [Late in the match] when I looked at the clock with one second left I just felt joy. Individually, it's such a great feeling."

Of the Rams winning the team title, Martino was even more thrilled.

"Any state championship is huge," he said. "I'm so happy for coach Hazard. The championship shows how hard we've worked. And to win it at home, I love it."

Martino opened the state tournament with a second round pin win over Stuart Jefferson of Matoaca High (Chesapeake) on Friday afternoon. That evening, he was also a pin winner over Timmy Antonelli of Kellam High (Virginia Beach). That advanced Martino into an early Saturday afternoon semifinals match and a 7-1 win over Gabe LaVey of Hanover (Mechanicsville).

One of the best matches of the finals came at heavyweight where Robinson freshmen Jake Pinkston pushed bigger opponent Taylor Horner, a senior from Franklin County (Rocky Mount), to the final seconds before being pinned with three seconds remaining in the match.

Pinkston, the sensational underclassman who, in his first high school postseason, captured both Concorde District and Northern Region titles, made a great showing in the state finals. Following a scoreless first period, Horner (51-5) earned an escape point for a 1-0 lead early in the second period. On two occasions throughout the second period, it appeared Pinkston was going to earn take down points. But the action, during both sequences, led to the wrestlers falling out of bounds and Pinkston still trailed after two periods.

SEE ROBINSON, PAGE 13

HOME SALES

In January 2011, 40 Fairfax homes sold between \$830,000-\$96,900.

Address	BR	FB	HB	Postal	City	Sold Price	Type	Lot	AC	Subdivision
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10808 SECOND ST	4	4	0		FAIRFAX	\$650,000	Detached	0.17		FAIRFAX HEIGHTS
12103 LOYOLA LN	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$625,000	Townhouse	0.03		CENTERPOINTE
12101 LOYOLA LN	4	4	1		FAIRFAX	\$600,000	Townhouse	0.04		CENTERPOINTE III
3504 WINSTON PL	5	3	0		FAIRFAX	\$585,000	Detached	0.50		COBBDALE
3577 UNIVERSITY DR	8	5	0		FAIRFAX	\$565,000	Detached	0.34		LORD FAIRFAX ESTATES
13214 CORALBERRY DR	4	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$535,000	Detached	0.31		FRANKLIN GLEN
12805 MITCHELL CT	4	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$520,000	Detached	0.34		GENE P MITCHELL
12314 WASHINGTON BRICE RD	5	3	0		FAIRFAX	\$480,000	Detached	0.00		FAIR OAKS ESTATES
3207 PLANTATION PKWY	5	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$435,000	Detached	0.22		MOSBY WOODS
12530 SWEET LEAF TER	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$405,000	Townhouse	0.04		FAIR WOODS
12806 MADELEY CT	4	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$400,000	Detached	0.22		GREENBRIAR
3801 THAYER CT	4	3	0		FAIRFAX	\$385,000	Detached	0.38		FAIRCHESTER
3233 DUNSTER CT	3	2	2		FAIRFAX	\$380,000	Townhouse	0.09		CAMBRIDGE STATION
3867 WILCOXSON DR	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$375,750	Townhouse	0.06		COMSTOCK
4490 MARKET COMMONS DR#410	2	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$372,500	Hi-Rise 9+ Floors			ELAN AT EAST MARKET
3926 BRADWATER ST	3	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$365,000	Townhouse	0.06		COMSTOCK
4423B BEECHSTONE LN	3	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$360,000	Townhouse			EAST MARKET II
10310 SHILOH ST	4	2	1		FAIRFAX	\$355,000	Detached	0.26		MOSBY WOODS
3897 CHAIN BRIDGE ROAD	3	3	0		FAIRFAX	\$350,000	Townhouse	0.04		LAYTON COURT (MEWS)
10816 WOODHAVEN DR	4	2	0		FAIRFAX	\$345,000	Detached	0.26		FAIRCHESTER
3718 FARMLAND DR	3	3	1		FAIRFAX	\$335,000	Townhouse	0.03		FOXFIELD
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4249 ALLISON CIR	3	1	1		FAIRFAX	\$210,000	Duplex	0.17		ARDMORE
10570 MAIN #312	2	1	0		FAIRFAX	\$164,000	Mid-Rise 5-8 Floors			MAIN STREET GREEN
10570 MAIN ST #521	2	1	0		FAIRFAX	\$152,000	Other			MAIN STREET GREEN
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7007 Veering La	\$569,950	Sun 1-4	Kathleen Quintarelli	Weichert	703-862-8808

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Next Stop: Off-Broadway

FROM PAGE 3

mor about it.”
 Calling people with disabilities “heroes,” Bunting said everyone has disabilities, to some extent, so “people who are ‘normal’ shouldn’t think they’re better than others and shouldn’t judge them by their disabilities.”

The actors play several roles, and junior Allison Poms plays Cripplerella and also the girl’s mother in “Toes.” Her character is over-protective of her only child and wants the best husband possible for her. “But her fiancé only has nine toes, and that’s unacceptable because I want him to be perfect,” said Poms. “But it’s ironic because I’m in a wheelchair and my husband is blind.”

She said the show’s content is important because “it’s out of our comfort zone and is almost glossed over in everyday life. We’re taught not to point and stare at people with disabilities, and now we’re playing them. I have so much more empathy and respect now for people in wheelchairs. And after meeting the consultants, we see people with disabilities as more human — cool, normal people we can relate to and feel comfortable around.”

In “The New Land,” sophomore Jackson Viccora portrays Uriah, who’s sailed to 1600s America as a settler and clashes with other settlers not as physically able as him. “These characters aren’t very nice to people with disabilities, so it’s important to raise awareness about how they’re treated,” said Viccora.

“I have so much more empathy and respect now for people in wheelchairs.”

— Allison Poms

“Doing it with humor is a good way to show that. I’ve learned a lot. At school, I’d notice disabled students for a second and go back to my life, but I never thought about how they felt.”

He’s also in “Just One of Those Things,” about a disabled man in a job interview. “He’s qualified for the job, but external factors that shouldn’t influence the interviewer’s impression of him, do,” said Viccora. “It’s probably the most abstract of the sketches, but also one of the most relatable because it lets the audience know how someone with a disability feels when he’s slighted like that.”

Chris Keihl operates Mr. Puppet in “Nellie,” and his character ridicules other puppets with disabilities. “But the puppeteer, himself, is in a wheelchair, so he’s hypocritical,” said Keihl. “He wants to be loved and hates being in a wheelchair, so he’s happy when a young girl talks to him. Instead of pitying or avoiding someone who’s disabled, this sketch makes people think of them as a person and consider what they want.”

The cast’s next stop will be off-Broadway, in late July, and Scotland in August. “Our show has subject matter we don’t usually tackle,” said Rome.

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SPORTS

Robinson Wins State

FROM PAGE 10

However, he earned an escape point early in the third period to make it 1-1. From that point on, both wrestlers, as they had done much of the match, competed head to head on their feet, looking for chances to score. Horner finally got the big move late in the match when he scored a takedown with 15 seconds left. Moments later, he got the pin — the first pin win of the finals matches that evening.

Following the match, the Robinson faithful gave Pinkston a rousing ovation. He had gotten to the finals with Friday wins over Dominique Hannibal of Deep Creek (Chesapeake) and Keenan Hughes of Patrick Henry, and then a Saturday semifinals match win over Marcus Matthews of Osbourn High (Manassas), 9-3.

Robinson's other two finalists were Dallas Smith (112) and Bass (125). Smith (30-6) won matches over Sawyer Barksdale of Lee-Davis (Mechanicsville); Dieguito Pritchett of Phoebus (Hampton); and Cam Tomok of Hermitage (Richmond) to reach the finals. In the title match, he lost to Cody Stageberg of Cox High, 9-7.

Smith opened the finals match with an early two-point takedown. The score was tied at 3-3 after one period. Late in the second period, Stageberg, trailing 4-3, scored a takedown to go ahead 5-4. His lead increased to 9-4 in the third period before Smith rallied, getting a reversal with one minute remaining to get within 9-6. In the final seconds, Smith was awarded a stall point to get within 9-7. That's how the match ended.

Bass, in his 125 finals match, lost a 4-1 decision to Annandale's Dane Harlowe. The match was tied at 1-1 before Harlowe (33-5), from the ground, scored a takedown to go up, 3-1, with 1:30 left in the second period. He went on to win the match and garner the state title after finishing second at states last year. Bass, a freshman, finished the season 41-7. His three wins leading up to the finals came over Christian Olanowski of First Colonial (Virginia Beach), 6-4; Donte Henderson of Stafford, 21-5; and Zach Isenhour of Kempsville (Virginia Beach), 2-1.

Other Robinson wrestlers to place at states were: Tim Fitzpatrick (eighth place at 171); Wes Jones (third at 160); Zaq Depasquale (eighth at 145); and Santiago Valdez (third at 130) of Robinson.

MILITARY NOTES

Navy Seaman Recruit Joyce K. Sowa, daughter of Thomas P. Sowa, of Fairfax, recently completed U.S. Navy basic training at Recruit Training Command, Great Lakes, Ill. Sowa is a 2004 graduate of T. C. Williams High School of Alexandria.

Army 2nd Lt. Kirk C. Benedict graduated from the Armor Officer Basic Course at Fort Knox, Ky. Benedict, a platoon leader, is assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 16th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Knox, Ky. He is the son of Craig F. and Diohn D. Benedict of Ashleigh Road, Fairfax.

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ABC LICENSE
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above establishment is applying
to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a
catering and mixed beverage
license to sell or manufacture
alcoholic beverages. Michael
Juliano, Owner

ABC LICENSE
Pablo E. Perez trading as
Pablito's, 10901 Main Street,
Fairfax, VA 22030. The above
establishment is applying to
the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
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Hunan Deli, 7200-V Telegraph
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22079. The above establishment
is applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF
ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a Beer & Wine
on and off premises license to
sell or manufacture alcoholic
beverages. Hyun-Jung Yi,
Vice President

ABC LICENSE
Tess, LLC trading as Tess,
LLC, 7203 Little River Turn-
pike, Annandale, VA 22003.
The above establishment is
applying to the VIRGINIA DEPARTMENT OF ALCOHOLIC BEVERAGE CONTROL for a
wine and beer on premises,
mixed beverages on premises
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alcoholic beverages. Thomas
Chay, member

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21 Announcements

Public Notice
Availability of Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft
Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for Implementation
of the Privatization of Army Lodging Program at Fort
Belvoir, Virginia

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District,
has prepared an EA that considers the proposed implementa-
tion of the Privatization of Army Lodging (PAL) program at Fort
Belvoir, Virginia. Implementation of the proposed action to
transfer ownership and operation of Fort Belvoir's lodging facilities
and to lease the land underlying the existing facilities, as
well as other previously developed land where new lodging facilities
will be constructed, to a private-sector development
company is not expected to result in significant adverse environmental
impacts. Therefore, in accordance with the National
Environmental Policy Act, preparation of an environmental impact
statement is not required. Copies of the EA and draft
FNSI are available for review and comment at the Fort Belvoir
Van Noy Library and the following Fairfax County, Virginia libraries:
City of Fairfax Regional Branch, John Marshall Branch,
Kingstowne Branch, Lorton Branch, and Sherwood Regional
Branch, and have been posted on the Fort Belvoir website:
<http://www.belvoir.army.mil>. Comments on the EA and draft
FNSI should be submitted to: Mr. Patrick McLaughlin, Chief of
Environmental and Natural Resources Division, Directorate of
Public Work, 9430 Jackson Loop Suite 200, Fort Belvoir, VA
22060-5116 (or by e-mail to environmental-fb-dpw@conus.army.mil). Comments must be received no later than 30 days after
publication of this Notice of Availability. Subject to review
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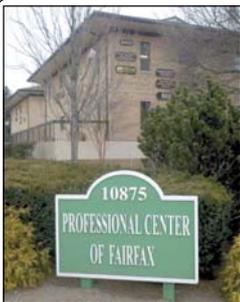
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