

The LCA Times

Volume 1, Issue 4

May 2009

Upcoming Dates:

- **May 19: SGA Elections**
- **May 19: Spring Sports Banquet, 6:30 p.m.**
- **Ma 20: SGA Reception for New Officers**
- **May 21: Last Day of School for K3, K4, K-5**
- **May 22 : K-5 Graduation, 7 p.m.**
- **May 25: No School (Memorial Day)**
- **May 28: Half Day of School**
- **May 29: Awards Chapel, 9 a.m.**
- **May 29: High School Graduation, 7 p.m.**
- **SUMMER VACATION BEGINS**

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Photo by Alina Basabe

All the Bells and Whistles...

LCA students will have a new place to play when school begins next fall. The long-awaited playground equipment arrived last week and is currently being installed. Principal Duncan Edge said the entire project, including the "Bells and Whistles" design play set, cost about \$20,000. School financial secretary Mrs. Shanna Nadeau said the majority of the funds for the project were earned through the diner card sales/Fall Bazaar (\$14,785.50) and the school mall fundraiser (\$1,878.69). A new 6-foot chain link fence was also set up around the playground area. Additional landscaping is required to make sure the equipment is safe for the children. Special thanks to Linda McNeill and Crystal Gwin for getting this project off the ground.

Fine Arts contest yields winners

by Anna Treese, Staff Writer

After weeks of anticipation and preparation, the students of Liberty Christian Academy have completed this year's Fine Arts competition. Considering that this is only the second year that the program has been at LCA, students have done quite well.

Two LCA students won State recognition for their artistic talents in the Junior High division: Anjana Biju, third place,

crafts; and Maurice Edwards, second place, woodworking.

In the Senior High division, Maxie Strickland won first place in Black and White Photography, Seth Swanson won second place in Digital Photography, and Anna Treese won second place in Watercolor Painting and Polychromatic Drawing. Also, the High School choir won third place in their competition. Maxie Strickland advanced to the next level of competition, representing

North Carolina at the national competition at Bob Jones University in Greenville, SC, on April 14-16.

"Fine Arts is essential to the development of young people and their talents.," said Mrs. Swanson, Fine Arts director at LCA. "We want our young people to develop their talents to be used for the Lord, not only in competition, but also in a local

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VIEWPOINTS

SGA elections around the bend

by David Sawyer, Staff Writer

As the year winds down, students at LCA have more on their mind than just summer vacation. The 2009- 2010 SGA elections are just around the bend, and the students are now looking to see who will be running in the elections.

The applications for SGA elections were made available on May 4 and must be turned in by May 8. Campaigning starts on May 11 and ends May 14, and candidates will present speeches.

This year's elections will have a twist though. The teachers will also have a vote in the elections. The school counselor Mrs. Renee Gibbs, the high school guidance counselor and SGA sponsor, and the high school principal Mr. Houghton are currently discussing how to



put that vote into action.

Amendments to the requirements to run for an office are also being discussed. Mrs. Gibbs mentioned that the biggest reason for the changes to the requirements and the voting are to increase the value the students place on the organization. She also stressed what she called the three "C's": consistency, commitment, and character.

This year, she said, about 30 students were elected as SGA representatives and officers. Yet only a third of those elected actually attended the meetings.

Mrs. Gibbs also said she would prefer a small association that was committed to accomplishing its goals than a large group that does nothing. On top of this, Mrs. Gibbs stressed consistent effort and par-

ticipation by the SGA representatives as well as parental support.

The SGA has great potential and is a good avenue for students to learn leadership and responsibility. The organization presents opportunities for forming character and leadership.

But election to the SGA is about more than holding office. The point of SGA is to improve the school. Those elected to office should be more concerned about serving the school and representing their peers, not on holding a title. Our SGA officers and representatives must exemplify biblical leadership which is based on serving others rather than self.

The SGA is an excellent way to build character and leadership skills, but our representatives must be committed to completing their work.

Flat Stanley visits first grade class

by Alina Basabe, Staff Writer

After reading the book *Flat Stanley* by Jeff Brown, first-grade students in Ms. Stegall's classroom have been working throughout the year on what is called "The Flat Stanley Project."

For those who aren't familiar with the concept, *Flat Stanley* is about a young boy named Stanley Lambchop and his younger brother, Arthur. In the story, Stanley and his brother are given a big bulletin board by their Dad for displaying their pictures and posters. Stanley's dad hangs the bulletin board on the wall over Stanley's bed; but the board falls from the wall during the night, flattening Stanley in his sleep. Stanley survives and discovers he can now be mailed to his friends around the world in an envelope.

"The Flat Stanley Project helps children make connections with students in other schools," Mrs. Stegall said. Students begin by reading the book and becoming familiar with the story. Then they make

their own paper Flat Stanleys. They take their Flat Stanleys with them to events and special places, often taking pictures of their Flat Stanley in his new surroundings. Students also keep a journal for a few days, documenting the places and activities in which Flat Stanley is involved.

The Flat Stanley and the journal are mailed to other people who are asked to dress Flat Stanley according to their customs and traditions, and then return them both after a period of time.

Currently Mrs. Stegall's first graders have mailed out four Flat Stanleys. They were sent to Texas, Wisconsin, Florida, and one was sent to the Golden Knights Army parachuting school. Most of the class

is still anxiously awaiting for their Stanleys to return, Mrs. Stegall said.

Mrs. Stegall also plans to send a couple of Flat Stanleys out with students who are going on vacation over the summer. The students will hopefully return next year with pictures and posters of the activities they had taken part in over the summer.

For next year's class, Mrs. Stegall also plans to send a Flat Stanley out with a soldier who will be heading to Iraq.

Although the students may not actually be able to visit some of these places, the Flat Stanley Project gives them an opportunity to learn about different people in different places.



Q&A: Agape project keeps up outreach

Editor's Note: LCA Times reporter and sophomore Christina Parisi asked third-grade teacher Mrs. Shawn Smith about her involvement with the second-semester service project known as the Agape Project. LCA recently donated more than \$1,200 as well as gifts and supplies to this local crisis pregnancy center.

LCA Times: Instead of the Agape project being a one-time thing, it has become a monthly activity. Why is this?

Mrs. Smith: When we went down there for the first time, we saw the needs. There is so much that needs to be accomplished. The Lord is definitely at work at the Agape House.

Times: What are the times that you and

others go to the Agape Center? Is anyone allowed to go and help?

Mrs. Smith: We are planning to go on the first Thursday of every month from 4:30 until about 8:00. Anyone is allowed to go. They are always in need of help. If you can't make it down there to help they ask that you pray for the ministry... Also, any money donated goes directly to the needs of the house... Everyone that works at the Agape house are volunteers, they do not receive pay for what they do.

Times: What are the most needed items to be donated?

Mrs. Smith: The needs right now are non-perishable (canned) food items, toiletries, and any baby items such as diapers, wipes, diaper bags, bibs, blankets, car seats, bottles, and maternity clothes... Summer baby clothes sized 0-3 months are another immediate need, and volunteers are always needed.

Times: What is the response that you are getting from the center?

Mrs. Smith: The people at the Agape House are so very grateful for any help they get. They are very appreciative.



High school science lab makes debut at LCA

by Mrs. Conkle, Times editor

While the students have been awaiting their opportunity to tackle science "hands-on," making the lab a reality has been a personal victory for the high school science teacher Nancy Godwin.

Building a science laboratory from scratch is no easy task, especially on a small budget. Godwin said she has spent months scouring a stack of catalogs in an effort to ensure the essentials were purchased at the best possible price.

Nearly one-third of the \$3,000 budget went to buying a chemical storage cabinet. The expense was necessary, however, to protect students from accidental spills — and to fulfill insurance requirements for the school.

In addition to the shiny new butane burners (the room is not equipped with gas lines for Bunsen burners), microscopes, and hotplates, the laboratory



includes a number of safety features: goggles, gloves, an eyewash station, and a fire extinguisher designed to combat chemical fires.

But the shopping for the lab is not yet completed, Godwin said. More chemicals and glassware for conducting experiments are still needed before the laboratory can be considered fully stocked.

Biology students will initiate the science lab next week with the "forensic dissection of fetal pigs," said Godwin. The arrival of the eight preserved pig specimens caused a bit of a stir, but Godwin said most of the students are looking forward to investigating the pigs for themselves.

"Pig anatomy closely follows human anatomy," Godwin explained. "I'm super-excited for the kids."

Godwin said although the laboratory is in its infancy, she is confident LCA students will now have the opportunity to learn basic lab procedures and techniques which will help them as they pursue further studies in the sciences.

REMEMBER!!



Science fair names winners

by Jimmy Baker, Staff Writer

The fifth and sixth grade winners were first place, Billy Staschak; second place, Mariah Green; and third place, Andrew Biddix. Honorable mentions were awarded to Taylor Tillman, Haley Brown, Jessica Fredrick, Meghan Mitchell, Meghan Vest, Dakota Parker, Juan Mortilla, Stephanie Hall, Zac Parker, Lance Mortinez, Emmalia Atherton, Ireland Sawyer, and Aurora Bolton.

Jesus Tavera and Jazmin Madrigal shared first place honors in the seventh-through eleventh-grade division. Second place was awarded to Brandon Nolen, and Jonathan Kellberg won third place. Honorable Mention winners were Ronald Blasini, Nick Williams, Josh Voiles, Mary Beasley, Mat Wolfe, Cody Young, Maxie Strickland, Emily Young, Jadon Ormond, Joey Treese, Jordan Beuch, Anna Treese, Matthew Jackson, Jordan Jackson, Cierra Hart, and Christian Taniela.

Second baseball season draws to close

by *Brian Mainor, Staff Writer*

Knights baseball enjoyed a successful second season this year, ending the season with a 3-8 record. This was the baseball program's second year, and the team improved on last year's 0-14 inaugural season.

During the season, the baseball team posted wins against Columbus Christian Academy of Whiteville, Berean Baptist Academy of Fayetteville, and Temple Baptist Academy from Rockingham.

This was the Knights' first season in the Coastal Carolina Athletic Association Conference. In addition, the Knights suffered losses to Village Christian Academy, North Myrtle Beach Christian, Northwood Temple Academy, Scotland Christian Academy, and to Antioch Christian Academy.

The team roster consisted of juniors Kyle Boudreau, Cameron Seals, Jesus Tavera, and Cody Snapp; freshmen Austin Bunch and Stephen Mearing; eighth

grader Micheal Kontio; seventh graders Jordan Jackson, Matthew Wright, Justin Oldham, and David Metzger; and sixth graders Hanson Conkle, Zac Parker, and Ryan Hickman.

The older players responded positively when asked about the number of younger players on the team. They said they don't mind because it gives them more subs and a better selection of players. After asking about what they believed has helped them win their games, they replied that eighth grader Michael Kontio has been a very valuable part of the team.

Last, on April 30, the baseball team entered the 2009 CCAA tournament with a game against the Columbus Christian Academy Pacers. After 4 innings and a score 14-16 the game was called due to darkness, ending the Knights' season with a heartbreaking loss. Columbus advanced to the next round.



Photo courtesy of lcknights.com

Knights baseball

Junior Cameron Seals takes a turn at bat against the North Myrtle Stallions.

Ladies' soccer team scores win in season opener

by *Samantha Armstrong, Staff Writer*

Because the CCAA Conference does not host a ladies spring soccer season, LCA fielded an independent ladies' soccer team so the girls had a chance to play.

The first Lady Knights soccer game, played against the Home School Crusaders, was a major success. The final score for the game was 7-0.

The Lady Knights then played Village Christian; it was a very close and intense game, but the Lady Knights lost 2-1. The Lady Knights played the Home School Crusaders again on April 7, and the Lady Knights pulled out a 3-1 win.

Most recently, the Lady Knights took on the girls from Berean Baptist Academy. During the first half, the Lady Knights held off the Berean Bulldogs with a score of 1-0. But Liberty's lack of substitutes left the team tired and winded, setting the stage for Berean's 3-1 win.



Top Row From Left to Right: Maxi Strickland, Samantha Armstrong, Coach Brad Smith, Mary Beasley, Devaney Seymour, Melanie Lovely, Coach Roger Gafken, and Lauren Kru-son. Bottom Row From Left to Right: Shelby Coleman, Suzanne Beasley, Danielle Boisse, Katherine Smith, Corin Serfass, Ruth Torres, and Goalie Brittany Nalls.

Record number enjoy Jr. Knights b-ball

by **Cody Young, Staff Writer**

The Junior Knights is a recreational program at LCA designed to help develop an interest in sports. Currently, about 50 young athletes are participating in the Junior Knights basketball season which began in March.

"I'm excited for the years to come," says athletic director Bruce Bowstring. "Junior Knights is a way for kids to have fun, gain experience, and start playing at a young age."

This year's Junior Knights basketball program is a big success. According to Bowstring, there are 50 athletes and Bowstring had to split the players into eight evenly matched teams; last year's Junior Knights program had only four teams which were co-ed. This year, there are

four boys' teams and four girls' teams, with seven players per team. The boys' teams practice on Mondays, and the girls' teams practice on Fridays. The practices are led by the team captains. Games consist of four, 8 -minute quarters with a time-out every 4 minutes to allow for player substitutions. Each player has to sit out at least four minutes per game to make sure athletes are getting a fair amount of playing time.

Bowstring says the competition level is higher than expected, with close contests forcing three overtime games and one double-overtime games. The 2009 Junior Knights basketball champions will be determined this week. Girls will play

Tuesday, and the boys will play on Thursday. Games begin at 3:30 p.m. each day.

Teams are coached by Mr. Derek Parker and student volunteers such as Meagan Noblin, Emily Young, Christina Parisi, and Chelsea Hallock.

Sixth-grader Ian Blasini said he has enjoyed the competition and connecting to teammates despite the lack of enough practices.

Although the basketball program was a big success, the soccer program did not generate the same level of interest this spring. The planned season was canceled due to lack of participation, but coaches plan to offer Junior Knights soccer again in the fall.



LCA students chosen for leadership conference

by **Alina Basabe, Staff Writer**

Several LCA students received word recently that they had been nominated to attend the National Young Leadership Conference. These students were nominated for demonstrating leadership potential and academic achievements, said LCA guidance counselor Renee Gibbs. Nominated were juniors Ronald Blasini, Jazmin Madrigal, Kaylee McNeill, and Amanda Knowles; sophomores Brandon Nolen, Ashley Oldham, and Anna Treese;

and freshmen Brian Mainor and Cody Young.

The "National Young Leaders Conference" is an independent organization with members of both the U.S. Senate and House of Representatives on its advisory board. In other words, the National Young Leadership conference is a very educational leadership program which gives students an opportunity to examine the concept of leadership in the context of national and global issues.

Tuition for each student attending the six-day conference is \$1,480. There will be fundraising events to help pay the cost of tuition for this program. The cost includes housing, materials, breakfasts, dinners, and private motor coach transportation within the Washington D.C. area. All students who choose to attend the conference will stay at the national 4-H Youth Conference Center located in the Washington D.C. metropolitan area. Students will be closely supervised from the moment they arrive.

Fine Arts students display talent in spring concert

(Continued from page 1)

church ministry."

LCA principal Mr. Edge agrees.

"Kids need to be exposed to more culture," he said. "They really need to be able to participate in more than just choir and the usual electives. I think the program especially benefits the individual and not just the



collective group."

And while Mr. Edge acknowledges that competing against schools with more established fine arts programs can be challenging, he said he is encouraged by the successes — and increased interest — of LCA students and parents.

The elementary grades also competed in the fine arts April 23-24 in Wilmington. In addition to

the choir competition, LCA students also competed in poetry, piano, vocal music, spelling bee, sword drill, and art.

The LCA Fine Arts program was held in the sanctuary of Stoney Point Baptist Church on May 7. The students displayed their competition pieces for the audience.

The program also featured performances by the beginner band, advanced band, and guitar under the direction of Mr. Eric Newsom.

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LIBERTY CHRISTIAN ACADEMY

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Photo by Samantha Armstrong

Field Trip to Medieval Times

The seventh- and tenth-grade classes gained a glimpse into the past during a recent field trip to Medieval Times in Myrtle Beach, S.C. Students witnessed live jousting, sword fighting, and trick animals. They also enjoyed a medieval-style meal which they ate without using "modern" utensils like silverware. Above, a horse and its trainer demonstrate their skills to the crowd.



"National Day of Prayer" t-shirt sales generated a \$750 donation to support an upcoming mission trip being taken by LCA alumni Chris Biddix, '07. More than 150 shirts were sold and then worn by LCA students, staff members and parents on the National Day of Prayer, May 7.

A Night to Remember

by Katherine Smith, Staff Writer

The annual Junior and Senior Banquet was held Friday, May 1, giving the junior and the senior classes an opportunity to share dinner and create lasting memories.

Mrs. Hooks, high school English instructor and ninth grade homeroom teacher, coordinated the banquet this year, and she said the theme of this year's banquet was "A Moment in Time."

The banquet was held at the Gates Four Country Club. Attendees wore formal attire for the banquet, and it was a very elegant occasion.

"It only happens once a year," said junior Candace Langston. "It's something that we will always remember for the rest of our lives."