

The MLWGS Jabberwock

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The Seniors Graduate from Their Four Years

Members of Class of 2004 Say Their Final Farewell to GSGIS

Michael Douglass
Jabberwock Staff Reporters

Many events were planned this year to help the graduating senior class ease into their new role next year as college students, among them the senior trip, the On My Own assembly, senior awards night, Baccalaureate and Graduation.

For their trip this year, the seniors traveled to New York from Friday, May 28 to Sunday, May 30.



This once bubbling Senior Commons is now abandoned except for Caitlin Narum ('04). Photo by Sohini Sircar.

"[The trip gave] the students a lot of time and independence to do the things they wanted to do," said Mr.

Ed Slipeck, the senior class sponsor, teacher of senior architecture and art history.

The seniors stayed in a

hotel a few blocks from Carnegie Hall and Central Park. They visited a number of places, including Time Square; Ground Zero; Wall Street and the Financial District; the Empire State Building; the Statue of Liberty; and Little Italy. Also, several seniors went to see the Broadway musical "Gypsy", and Ashley Joost was interviewed on the CBS morning show on Saturday.

A few students ran into Sean Penn, a recent academy award winner. The notoriously camera-shy Penn growled at them as they took a picture of him.

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Junior Book Awards

Sohini Sircar
Jabberwock Staff Reporters

Sixteen students received awards at the Junior Book Awards assembly on Wednesday, May 26, 2004.

Miju Han and Helen Han were the two sophomore recipients. Megan Field, Carolyn West, Ranjan Khan, Emmett Swartz, David Tatum, Christopher Boswell, Aileen Zhang, Trevor Buckley, Lori Ha, Meredith Elliott, Ashlee Sawyer, Conor Wakeman and Eric Burcham were the thirteen junior award recipients.

Alex Oliver Kalata was given an award by his

friends and family, which was created in his name, the "A.O.K" award. It was organized by sophomores Caitlin High, Michael Rohman, Morgan McCall, Jackie Laundon, and Michael Crowe.

"[The A.O.K. award was created] basically to preserve the memory of Alex and to keep his qualities alive in our school forever," said High.

The local alumni chapters approach the school and offer the award. The universities do not have a say in which student will get their award, but they do get to set the specific criteria in selecting the students.



Alex O. Kalata. Photo Courtesy of Caitlin High.

Selected students can receive books, certificates and medals. They are often invited to alumni gatherings and can be eligible for

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MLWGS Students Excel at VJAS

Lucy Sprague
Jabberwock Staff Reporters

MLWGS Students Bring Home Fifteen Awards from the 2004 VJAS Competition

Last week, MLWGS students attended the Virginia Junior Academy of Science (VJAS) to present their research papers. This year VJAS was held at the Virginia Commonwealth University.

Honorable mentions were Alex Burke ('05) in Math, Lauren Catlett ('06) in Environmental Science, Lisa Bowman ('06) in Psychology- Social, Mark Stagg ('06) in Environmental Science, Rachel Savoy ('06) in Psychology L&P, Steven Li ('06) in Math, and Tracy Jennings ('06) in Medicine and Health.

Third place winners were Helen

Han ('06) in Medicine and Health, Jamie Lahvic ('06) in Psychology- Social, and Sohini Sircar ('07) in Genetics.

Second place winners were David Nyczepir ('06) in Animals Behavior, Katie Good ('06) in Med/Health, and Rebecca Bandy ('06) in Botany.

First place winners were Roger Arnold ('06) in Botany and Shaily Pandey ('05) in Medicine and Health.

Special award winners were Lyric Doshi ('04), who received first place in the Intel Science Award; Sohini Sircar ('07), who received the Cellular Biology Award; and Shaily Pandey ('05), who received second place in the Cancer Research Award.

Helen Han ('06) was elected the 2004-2005 VJAS President by the teachers who attended VJAS. Bandy and Arnold were asked to present their papers to the Virginia Academy of Science (VAS).



Helen Han ('06) elected VJAS President. Photo by Sohini Sircar.

VJAS is a program that allows students to share new discoveries and studies they have made in science. Stu-

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The Graduating Class

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It was fleet week in New York, meaning that over a dozen Navy vessels came into port and disgorged their huge crews of sailors.

Mr. Slipeck was "pleased that students seemed so comfortable in the crowds and the subways." He believes that being able to negotiate cities is an important skill, especially as many of the seniors will be going to colleges in big cities.

The On My Own assembly for the seniors was all day June 2. Mrs. Clare Trow and Mrs. Julie Bruner coordinated the assembly, which focused on life skills for

surviving the freshman year of college, and according to Mrs. Trow, a "transition to independent life."

Barry Bradberry, the Associate Dean of Admissions and Financial Planning at Elon University, made an hour-long presentation on "Making the Most of your College Minutes."

The senior class then split into two groups, rotating between two other speeches. One of these was "Month to Month," by Dianna Clouse, who is the Branch Manager at Virginia Credit Union, Inc. This presentation was focused on finance and credit cards. The other presentation, "The NASCAR Approach

to College Success," about college athletics, was taught by Dr. R. Kelly Crace, the director of the College Counseling Center at William and Mary.

Special awards were handed out at Senior Awards Night, and several students performed. Veronica Rohmoser danced ballet before Wren Elhai and Jimmy Hoke sang accompanied by Chris Dunaway playing guitar.

As seniors were called up, a little was read about them including where they will attend next year, their planned major(s) and career, what they are most proud of, most special GSGIS moment, and most distin-

guished award and scholarships.

"[Senior Awards Night was] just a time to think a little about each person and where they're going," said Linda Westrick ('04). She added that it was a "nice time to have with your friends."

The Baccalaureate will occur at Ginter Park Presbyterian Church at 6:30 pm on Thursday, June 10.

"[Baccalaureate is a] non-denominational spiritual celebration," said Mrs. Trow. Speakers will talk about the accomplishments of the seniors for the past four years at GSGIS.

Graduation will begin at

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Goodbye and Hello

As the year comes to a close, yet another senior class leaves MLWGS with an exceptional education and a solid foundation for life. However, this farewell is a little different. This farewell does not only say goodbye to another MLWGS class but to the last MLWGS class to experience Thomas Jefferson High School. The humbling experience at Thomas Jefferson gave all of those classes a different attitude than the current classes here at MLWGS. The class of '04 endured the reality of neglect, where their desires were sometimes put second to the needs of TJ students. In addition, these seniors were able to teach all of us here what it's like to shrug off minute dilemmas and to not sweat the little stuff.

With the end of the "TJ" era comes the beginning of a new era where students are no longer hindered by the needs of another student body. The stability that comes with our own building transcends into stability in students' everyday actions. The question now is not whether students have the tools to propel the school into a new era, but rather the question is what will this era look like? With all of the brilliant minds in this building, amazing tasks can be accomplished. It is up to these coming classes to achieve their wishes and create an even more outstanding institution than already present. A solid foundation has been laid. Where do we go from here?

—NDB

**Have a great
summer and
enjoy the last
issue of the
Jabberwock of
the school
year!**
-Yours Truly
The Jabberwock Staff

The MLWGS Jabberwock

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Letters to the Editor

Dear Editor,

This has been a great year! I would like to thank all of you involved in this publication. Your literary prowess uplifts my soul once every other week.

When I need to know stuff, you guys deliver the goods (if you know what I mean). Whether it's Nick with sports, Guzman with the weather, Carolyn with movies, or Nathan and his satirical wit, I love it all.

In fact, I just can't get enough. If anyone would like to consider a summer publication, you would have my vote. Seriously guys, I love it.

Unfortunately, my pen is running dry, and I must bid you adieu. Farewell my fellow warriors. This is Captain Gilbert saying, "Peace Up, A-Town Down!"

— Luke Gill, 11th Grade

Stop Hogging the Networks

For the last several days, I have felt like watching a good movie, but there weren't any on. The only thing on TV

Opinion by...

Jeremy New

was Ronald Wilson Reagan. All of the networks and most cable news channels devoted nearly four solid hours to President Reagan's casket being carried up the stairs and his beautiful brown leather riding boots.

Although there is no doubt he was an excellent President, there are only so many times I can stand to hear Dutch say, "Mr. Gorbachev, tear down this wall," or see his casket being drawn through Washington at a speed of 1.5

miles per hour. The television coverage of President Reagan's death continues to harp upon his many great attributes: his sunny disposition, his passion for horses, and his miraculous ability to bring his torn family together.

Even news anchors Tom Brokaw and Dan Rather admit to over-blowing the event. At first this was a welcome change from all of the other bad news. But now I would even prefer to hear about the war in Iraq, Scott Peterson, or John Kerry.

The same situation exists in the mainstream radio and newspapers. In Sunday's Richmond Times Dispatch the only page I could find without Reagan stories was the Sports page. The New York Times printed over 60 articles dealing with Ronald Reagan.

The Reagan hysteria has even gone

far enough that there is talk in Washington of replacing Alexander Hamilton on the ten-dollar bill with Ronald Reagan.

I understand that Reagan did some good things: he brought about the col-

Television networks don't need to replay every second of his eight years in office.

lapse of the Soviet Union, he helped bring down the Berlin Wall, and he helped America's economy recover from steep inflation. But television networks don't need to replay every second of his eight years in office, or I'll never be able to watch a movie on TV again.

Food for Thought, Candy for Votes

Campaigning was several weeks ago. You can tell because the average voter started weighing more than the average whale. All the candidates seemed to be more intent on giving us food than the issues. The winning campaign for the 2004 sophomore class election boils down to: "We made good cookies. We're like Jennifer Lopez. Vote for us."

However, who am I to complain? Who am I to argue with free food and such well-rounded teams in return for a

I will contribute the same amount of effort to the SCA that I did this year, which is to say, none.

measly check mark on a piece of paper? In fact, because of some of the great promises made by our candidates

throughout the campaigns and speeches, I am glad to say that I will contribute the same amount of effort to the SCA that I did this year, which is to say, none.

Because I've never taken any remote interest in it, I'm not even sure what SCA stands for, let alone does. I was almost sure that it was the Satanist Cult of America. With the popularity some of my previous officers had achieved, surely they had to have made some sort of covenant that sold their souls to the devil. Nonetheless, this year my theory was broken because instead of the winners being incredibly popular, they were incredibly good at giving us food.

Food giving is a dangerous action, as all Americans think not through their brains but through their stomachs, and they will revert to any means possible to fill them. Most of MLWGS has experienced this raw zeal during campaigning week, and if I were not almost

always in the middle of the fracas, I would find it extremely amusing to see one student viciously throwing his 80 pound backpack on another student, crushing all of his vertebrae, in order to get the last chocolate chip cookie.

Opinion by...

Kevin Chen

Anyway, campaigning has dropped to an all-time low. Instead of making great promises that they'll never be able to achieve (like no homework, recess, nice toilet paper) the candidates make no promises at all and rely on pulling us in by our stomachs. After all, there is no one who can resist chocolate.

In conclusion, to those of you hopeful candidates, who knows? If you've got the cooking skills, you could be the next president of the Society of Culinary Arts.

The Freedom to Be Lazy

Summer break. These are two words synonymous with hope, relaxation, relief and freedom. And yet, by

Opinion by...

Shana Arias

switching only one word, this phrase has a whole new meaning. Summer project. *These* are two words synonymous with procrastination, frustration and indescribable dullness.

It is understandable that teachers worry their students will become brain dead over the summer. For many, summer is a time to “veg out” completely, stay up to the wee hours of the night and wake up in the late hours of the afternoon. This state of vegetation, however, is essential for every high school student to function properly

come September.

As much as we like to believe we will spread our summer work consistently throughout our break, it rarely ever happens. The majority of students start their projects the week, if not the night, before school begins. Often, this results in loss of sleep, a loss of anticipation for the coming school year, and sometimes, a loss of sanity. Thus, the summer projects designed to keep us thinking for the three months we are out of our teachers’ clutches, really only start us thinking a week or so before we return.

In many cases, the reason students don’t start earlier on their projects is because they are simply too busy. For MLWGS students much of the summer is spent at summer jobs, academic or athletic camps, community service or just visiting friends. Our schedules are

so packed during the school year that it is hard to fit many of these activities in, and they must be done during summer break. We dedicate three-fourths of our year to schoolwork. Isn’t it only fair that the one-fourth we have left to our-

[We] are more than deserving of a three month hiatus.

selves remains untouched?

MLWGS students and high school students nationwide work tremendously hard throughout the school year. They are more than deserving of a three-month hiatus. After all, as the old saying goes, all work and no play makes Jack a very dull boy.

Abu Ghraib: A Political Nightmare

Imagine sitting in a cold, dark cell, isolated from everything you once knew. Suddenly, men and women wearing desert camouflage storm into your prison cell. They strip you of your clothing and pile you on top of your comrades and best friends, all naked as well. Pictures are taken of this humiliating event while light-skinned men and women laugh and make obscene gestures. You lift up your eyes to see that on the sleeves of these camouflaged persons are the American flags.

Prisoner abuse suspects have testified that orders were given to extract information from prisoners in any way possible. The soldiers were later praised for their successes in interrogating prisoners and were encouraged to keep doing whatever they were doing, no questions asked.

An internal Army document, re-

cently released to the public, noted a number of the abuses that Iraqi prisoners suffered at Abu Ghraib Prison. These include the stripping of prisoners, raping of female detainees, sodomizing prisoners with chemical lights and broomsticks, and taking photographs of these happenings.

So what was done once the prisoner abuse had become evident? Well, the first instinct of the American political system is to cover it up. Officers and enlisted soldiers who had partaken in the abuse were quietly reprimanded and assigned to other posts by a military commission.

The media eventually attained the photos and aired them, spurring great public outrage, especially from the international community. The Bush administration and the Department of Defense now had a public relations crisis on their hands. Rumsfeld was reprimanded for not informing the President of the abuse allegations, and fingers were pointed.

Several enlisted soldiers are currently being court marshaled for the

abuse, and things seem to be returning to normal. But a number of high-ranking officers knew about the abuse. They failed to bring the situation to light. American soldiers are supposed to be liberators and peacemakers, but instead they cover up prisoner abuse.

Though the prisoner abuse situation was handled very well by the Bush administration, more could have been done to punish those involved with the scandal and those who kept the scandal under wraps.

Opinion by...

Alex Guzman

MLWGS Running Star Ritchie Vaughan

Carolyn West

Jabberwock Staff Reporter

MLWGS junior Ritchie Vaughan is an outstanding distance runner. She has earned quite a few awards during her career, despite injuries along the way.

“She never stops running,” said fellow junior Amy Givler. Vaughan’s dedication to her sport is clear; she gives huge amounts of time to her training and meets.

“One of the quotes that inspires me in my training is ‘Right now someone is training while you are not...one day you will race him and he will beat you,’” said Vaughan.

In the past two years alone, Vaughan has racked up eight first place rankings in Districts. During the last

Cross Country season, Vaughan set the course record at Pole Green Park in the 5000-meter race with a time of 19:08. Last year she was given the Nelson-Headley Award, which is comparable to an MVP award, such as she won this year. She won first place in the two-mile race at Districts as well.

“Then none could say you compromised, could they? If something inside you just snapped,” reads an excerpt from one of Vaughan’s favorite books, “Once a Runner” by John Parker. It is just how Vaughan feels when she’s injured, as though she’s given all she can.

Vaughan has the misfortune of incurring many injuries. In the past few years she has had recurring problems with her IT band, a tendon that runs from the hip to the knee. Most recently she has developed a stress fracture in



Vaughan (right) poses with Emily Wauford ('05) and Stella Askin ('05). Photo courtesy of Ritchie Vaughan.

her left foot, which has kept her from running much at all. However, none of this has curbed her desire to run in subsequent seasons.

Storybook Season Comes To A Close

Boys' Varsity Soccer Team Falls To James River in Quarterfinal

Nick Eilerson

Jabberwock Staff Reporter

The MLWGS boys' varsity soccer team lost to James River at Mills Godwin High School last Tuesday night. It was the Central Region tournament quarterfinal match, and the loss meant that it was the final game of the season for the Colonial District's number one team.

James River, the Dominion District runner-up, improved its overall record to 14 wins and 2 losses. They would go on to lose to Thomas Dale in the semifinal.

MLWGS, the Colonial District champion, finished the year with 13 wins, 2 losses, and 2 ties, making it one of the most successful seasons in the history of Governor's School athletics.

“We were a good family together,” said MLWGS captain and Colonial District Player of the Year Walter Diaz.

James River	3
MLWGS	0

James River forward James Booden was the key player of Tuesday's match. He scored 2 of his team's 3 goals and created plenty of problems for the MLWGS defense.

The first half of the match was hard fought by both teams, and possession of the ball was about equal. Shane Booden opened

things up in the 14th minute of the game when he knocked a shot past goalkeeper Harsha Dante after fending off defender Nathan Lautzenheiser on his way to the goal. James River struck again in the 19th minute when forward Forsan Asad received a nice pass from Eric Schul and booted a shot past Dante's fingertips.

The Green Dragons struggled significantly in the second half, as James River maintained most of the possession of the ball and had ten shots on goal as compared to the Dragons' one.

“We couldn't attack,” said MLWGS captain Luke Hostetter. “We couldn't connect passes. We worked hard, though.”

After MLWGS captain Albert Ottati injured his leg in the 55th minute, the ten-

sion between the two teams began to heat up. A yellow card was issued to a James River player in the 62nd minute, and MLWGS defender Dan Knott was thrown out of the game for taking down Eric Schul in the 76th minute. Ottati soon returned to the game, but it was clear that he was struggling. Booden scored his second goal in the final minute of the match for James River.

Despite the loss, the team will never forget when they tallied 13 wins, became district champs, and beat Godwin.

“We got effort out of every single player on this team,” said MLWGS Coach Dan Park. “Everybody on the team really worked hard and contributed to the team.”

Germany vs. America

German Exchange Student Examines Similarities and Differences Between School Cultures

Julia Romberg

Jabberwock Staff Reporter

As an exchange student from Germany, I have found it very interesting to experience the American school system, and I must say that it is very different from the German school system.

The biggest difference is the organization of the school systems. While American students go to elementary, middle and high school, German kids all go to elementary school until about age 10, when they graduate from 4th grade. Their teachers then decide whether the students should go to a Hauptschule, a Realschule or a Gymnasium. These three types of “weiterführenden Schulen” (further-going schools) differ in three things: the amount of education, the length of schooling and the possibilities of career opportunities they provide.

At the Hauptschule and the Realschule, students complete school after 9th grade (Hauptschule) or 10th grade (Realschule) and then can get work as masons, workers in factories, kindergarten teachers or mechanics etc.

The Gymnasium is the type of school that (supposedly) provides the most education. Students

attend school until the 13th grade and then hopefully graduate. After graduating from Gymnasium students can go to a university to become judges, doctors, teachers, or basically anything. Another major difference is that in Germany, universities are free.

Then there are some differences in choosing classes. At the German Gymnasium, there are only three times in the school career when pupils are given a choice in classes. In 7th grade students have to take either Latin or French. Then, in 9th grade students choose among Spanish, environmental science, and political and economical science. All of the other subjects are chosen for the students until the 11th

grade, when students enter the “Oberstufe” (upper level). In the following three years, students can choose

In Germany, the summer vacation is only six weeks long and starts in late July.

almost all of their subjects.

Because most of the subjects are already set, pupils have almost all their classes with the same people for 5 years, until they enter the higher status. So that means students really get to know their classmates very well.

There are many differences in how a school day runs, too. In Germany, pu-

pils have five to nine different classes each day. School starts at about 8 am and ends at around 2 pm.

At MLWGS, in the morning students recite the Pledge of Allegiance after the morning announcements. In Germany, schools do not have any morning announcements. If a class was to recite the Pledge of Allegiance or display the German flag, the school’s principal might be accused of being too patriotic. In general, patriotism is not shown and felt in Germany in the same way as in America. Because of the German history, it is even a little bit taboo. Students in Germany, unlike the students in America, must stand up and say good morning to the teacher before every lesson.

Of course, what both German and American students (and teachers) like best about school is vacation. In Germany, vacation occurs differently. Unlike American students, German pupils have shorter vacations, but they occur more often. In Germany, the summer vacation is only six weeks long and starts in late July. The fall, spring, and Christmas breaks, on the other hand, are two weeks long. Several days are also taken off between Easter and summer for Ascension Day, Pentecost and Corpus Christi.

Every school system has its advantages and disadvantages. I don’t think that one is better than the other, but I am very happy that I have had the chance to get to know both!



Students of my class in Germany say hello to MLWGS.

Photo by Valerie Foppen.

All Around All-Star

Heriberto Vazquez II
Jabberwock Staff Reporter

“I used to do a lot and not focus on one thing,” said Anthony Roberts. “I think that if I focus on one thing, the others will suffer. It’s all a matter of managing my time. I’ve done okay so far. If I am not doing something, I am being idle and useless.”

Even more of an adrenaline rush is dunking for the first time. Many athletes spend there whole athletic career attempting to achieve this goal.

Among his many focuses, basketball consumes most of Roberts’ time.

Roberts has been playing basketball since he was eight years old. Roberts

started playing for the Chamberlain Recreation League at a young age, but he claims to only have attained greatness since the 8th grade. In 9th grade Roberts became a starter for the team.

“[To start is an] adrenaline rush,” said Roberts. “All eyes are on you.”

Even more of an adrenaline rush is dunking for the first time. Many athletes spend their whole athletic career attempting to achieve this goal. Once they have they never forget their first time.

“January 23, 2002 was my first dunk,” said Roberts. “It was like a taste of true excellence.”

Once an athlete hones his skills as much as Roberts, he has to keep them together. That is why the MLWGS Summer Basketball League was started. The Summer Basketball League allows MLWGS students to play students from other schools.

“Last year was [the summer league’s] first year,”

said Roberts. “A couple of the ballers got together, and we decided we needed to do something to keep our skills sharp.”

With most of MLWGS’ star varsity line up graduating and new blood joining the squad, there are worries of its future.

“We are going to miss Pete [Goergen], but we can still do it without him,” said Roberts. “[The team] has the potential to aspire to great heights or plummet into a downward spiral. We can do some damage in the district. I think we can use



Anthony Roberts poses for a picture. Photo courtesy of MLWGS Yearbook.

“I don’t know why so many people like me,” said Roberts. “Maybe because I’m a laid-back guy.”

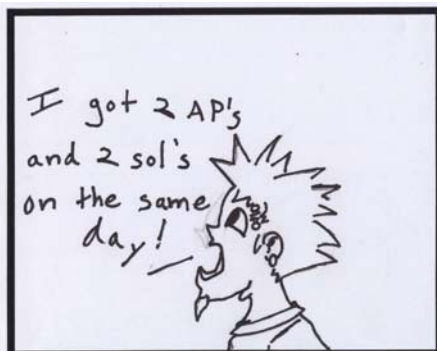
some new bodies and some new energy. We might get accustomed to it. New people will push us in practice forcing us to become better

overall.”

Outside of school Roberts is just another well-liked guy. He goes with his old friends on the weekends to the driving range, basketball courts, or simply to the mall.

“I don’t know why so many people like me,” said Roberts. “Maybe because I’m a laid-back guy. I’m friendly. I don’t start stuff with people, and I treat everyone with respect. Most of all, I just be myself.”

Weekly Blues by Herb and Carolyn



Music Department Holds Spring Concert

Band, Chorus and Strings Students Played in Honor of Spring on May 27 at MLWGS

Ellen Hart

Jabberwock Staff Reporter

On Thursday, May 27 at 7 pm the Music Department held a successful Spring Concert in the MLWGS Auditorium.

"[The concert went] very well...extremely well," said Mr. Edward McClellan, the orchestra, jazz, and band director at MLWGS.

"All the groups did an excellent job on stage. It is hard to compare [the groups] because they all had strong performances. Some parents came up to me and told me that it was the best

concert they had ever heard. Each group on stage went really well and very smoothly," added Mr. McClellan.

The concert began with the Chorus performing a series of Motown songs, to which one noticed many of the parents in the audience tapping their toes. Anthony Roberts contributed a solo in the song, "I Heard it Through the Grapevine," and Jimmy Hoke also sang a solo.

"I really liked this concert a lot more than the other concerts we've had this year. It was a lot more informal," said Christa Coaker ('05), a member of the MLWGS chorus.

"[The chorus] didn't have to wear black pants and a white shirt and just stare out into the audience.



Freshman participants of the Spring Concert pose for the camera. (From left: Menaka Nayar, Alex Hanson, Vinson Pierce, Geoff Ramsdell, Cameron Williams, Tommy Nicholas, Trevor Helderman, Joey Accordino, Stacey Jefferson, and Joanna Wu.) Photo by Sohini Sircar.

We got to wear street clothes, so it was fun," added Coaker.

Coaker also said that there was choreography to some songs that they were not able to do because they had not practiced enough, so the chorus just stood in a line across the stage, swaying and dancing a little as they sang.

"The whole concert was very enjoyable. I think all the bands did really well," said Chorus member Jamie Lahvic ('06).

A large part of the concert was made up of the jazz performances such as Jazz Ensemble I, Jazz Ensemble II, Jazz Improv, Jazz Orchestra and the combined Jazz Ensemble. Almost all of the members of the Jazz Improv did a solo of their particular instrument in the

concert.

"A lot of people showed up and it was lot of fun for everyone playing and watching," said Amit Jain ('07). Jain is a drummer in Jazz Ensemble I.

"It went very well...as smooth as a banana on ice," said R. W. Enoch ('05), who played a number of particularly impressive solos on the Tenor Sax.

Mr. McClellan will be leaving us next year to finish a PhD in music. He hopes that the interim director will keep the spirit and enthusiasm high in the school for the year.

Billy Dye, the MLWGS Choral Director., holds a degree in Music Education from the Shenandoah University Conservatory of Music. He also directs the Richmond Boys Choir.

VJAS

Continued from page 2

dents research a field of science and perform an experiment based on their research. They then write a paper on the results of their experiment. The best of these papers are chosen to present before judges at VJAS.

At VJAS, the students are placed in different categories based on the field of science their experiment is in. In each category, judges choose first, second and third place winner, along with several honorable mention winners.

Students from all over the state of Virginia are chosen to participate in VJAS. MLWGS had many students asked to present at VJAS this year. Most of the MLWGS students were sophomores, although students from any grade are allowed to submit their papers.

Dragons Abroad

Maggie Walker Students and Faculty Take Off to Italy, Russia, and Germany

Jay Parrish

Jabberwock Staff Reporter

Students and faculty alike look forward with anticipation to a variety of international trips that have been planned for the summer of 2004.

"I am hoping that this trip is going to be less about the history we have learned in the classroom sessions we have had, and more about today's culture in Italy, and of course, spending time on the beach," said Erika Parker ('07).

"Mythology and Religion"

is the theme of this year's Italy trip. The trip is headed by Mr. Steve Ross and Ms. Susan Hefty. They, along with 35 MLWGS students, will depart for Italy on Saturday, June 12.

The students will explore the religious beliefs and customs of various traditional Italian ethnic groups, such as the Etruscans, Greeks and Romans. Also, religions that have been introduced in Italy, such as Islam, will be studied. The trip will focus on Sicily and the southern part of Italy.

Mr. Ross and his students are particularly excited about visiting a festival which takes place in a mountain village in Sicily every 24 years.

"Though it does have some Christian roots, it is

really an ancient, pagan fertility festival," said Mr. Ross.

The Russian trip departs on Tuesday, June 22, and the German trip departs on Sunday, June 12. Mr. Michael White will lead the Russian trip. He plans to visit many culturally important Russian sites, as well as give students a chance to stay with Russian families.

"I wish I could have gone on the Russian trip," said Erik Larsen ('07). "I don't take the language, but it still would have been fun to go."

The faculty and students have a varied plan for this year's trips. Mr. Ross' words accurately portray the feelings of all participants:

"We plan to study hard, but have fun too," said Mr. Ross, with a smile.

Seniors

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3 pm on Saturday, June 11 at the Landmark Theater.

Stephen Goldberg, senior class treasurer, will introduce the Honorable Timothy M. Kaine, Lieutenant Governor of Virginia, and Dr. Lloyd E. Jackson Jr., the chair of the MLWGS School board.

All performers will be seniors. Patrick McMenamin (piano) and Andrew Stegmaier (cello) will perform "Elegy" by Gabriel Faure. "Closing Time," by Nick Desai, Chris Dunaway, Allen Huang, Mica Swyers, Ben Wisegarver, and Samuel Zhao, will be sung by the entire class. Ashley Joost and Sam Zhao will wrap up by reading the farewell remarks shortly before Mr. Hunt confers diplomas and the graduates toss their hats.

Book Awards Continued

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scholarships with the institution.

The process for selecting the students started in early April. Teachers did not know who would get the awards until a week or two before the actual assembly. The parents of the selected students are notified before the assembly.

To choose the students nominations are taken from the faculty and staff. Then the sophomore and junior teams meet to narrow down the list and add more names if needed. The teachers look at G.P.A., the rigor of courses, transcripts and leadership, along with many other factors.

"My advice would be not to do anything with the goal of getting an award [. . .] There is nothing wrong in setting goals, but they should be set around genuine interests," said Mr. Karl Zweerink, the sophomore and junior counselor.

SCA/Class Officers

SCA

Co-Presidents: Harsha Dante and Carlton Forbes
 Secretary: Amanda Tedesco
 Treasurer: Trevor Buckley

Senior Class Officers

Co-Presidents: Carly Levenson and Dale Swartz
 Secretary: Joseph Addison
 Treasurer: David Goode
 Historian: Kendall Mills

Junior Class Officers

Co-Presidents: Mike Althoff and Kelley Walton
 Secretary: Melissa Prestosa
 Treasurer: Emory Dabney
 Historian: Khiem Tran

Sophomore Class Officers

Co-Presidents: Susie Brock and Cameron Williams
 Secretary: Jamie Marr
 Treasurer: Wayne Ngai
 Historian: K'Shelle Waller