

CHALKMARKS

A Weekly Newsletter for DCS Family & Friends

Vol. 22, Feb. 22 – 28, 2006

Voice Of Democracy Winners

Each year, numbers of Damascus Christian High School students enter The Voice of Democracy essay contest sponsored by the Veterans of Foreign Wars and Ladies Auxiliary. This is an opportunity for our students to express their patriotism through the written and spoken word. The theme for this year's contest was "How Do I Demonstrate My Freedom?"

We are pleased to announce that two of our students won Post awards with one gaining a first at District level. Amy Y. took second place at the Post level while Erin H. placed first at Post and first at District which qualified her to travel to Salem on February 4th, to compete at the State level. Each girl received plaques and cash awards. Congratulations!

Erin's essay – "A red, white, and blue banner rises solemnly up the pole, rippling in the gentle breeze – its colors a stark contrast to the pristine azure background behind it. When it reaches the top, it stops, and for a moment, time stands still. In this minute pause, countless instances of past freedoms demonstrated swirl together in a wild collage of memories dancing on the wind. Then just as quickly as they appeared, they vanish, swallowed up in the silent standard; for the flag of the United States of America is no ordinary emblem; its three distinct colors represent the essence of its country's freedom, and its bold design is used in myriad manners across the nation to demonstrate liberty today. However, multiple other means of portraying independence exist, and though I will occasionally use the patriotic hues of our flag to show my freedom, I also display this foundational principle of America by participating in regular and open worship, remaining involved in understanding the country's issues, and pursuing an education that will allow me to become a strong, involved working-class citizen.

Prominently placed on a concrete wall inside the FDR Memorial reside these words: "Freedom of Speech, Freedom of Worship, Freedom from Want, Freedom from Fear." Out of these four stone phrases, I hold freedom of worship most dearly. Every Sunday, I am allowed to attend the church of my choosing. I can worship and praise God in whatever manner I choose, and I possess the freedom of speech to openly proclaim my beliefs and worldview. In other countries, such religious freedoms are expressly forbidden, and breaches of the laws are punishable by imprisonment or death. In America, however, I demonstrate my freedom of worship by taking advantage of the opportunities presented me.

... **Continued in Next Weeks Edition**



AUCTION ACTION

~Touch a Heart with Art~

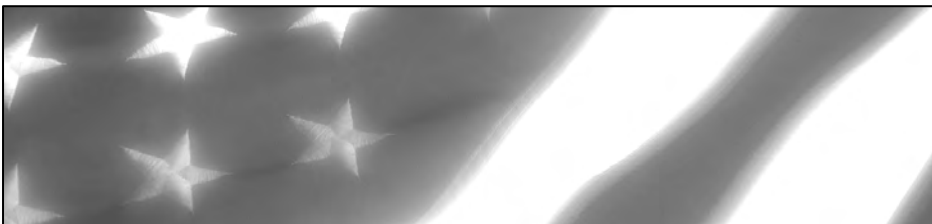
Part of what makes for a great auction is the food. Needless to say, the organizers of this year's auction have taken that into account and have put together a wonderful menu for this premier school event. You and your friends will have the indescribable joy of dining on such things as: cucumber, Feta, red onion salad, apple-walnut green leaf salad, Orzo wild rice pilaf, seasonal vegetables, rolls, Salmon Newport with crab and shrimp and sauce béarnaise, Ginger Marmalade Chicken, cheese cake, and Double Chocolate Brownies all catered by Dave Clark, *A Simple Elegance*.

Imagine ALL of that for ONLY \$17.50, PLUS you receive your Auction number so you can bid on some of the wonderful items we have mentioned in other Auction Action articles!! You will want to hurry and purchase your tickets because they are going very fast. Call the DCS school office right away.

Let me whet your appetite for bidding by telling you of a few more incredible items which have been donated that you will not want to pass up that evening. We now have such things as: Two guided fishing trips, a birthday party for eight little girls, a Condo in Maui for 5 days (you provide your own airfare), a one hour plane ride, and, yes, again this year there will be another DCS Eagle who will be Principal for the Day!!!

These items are just too good to miss!!! I'm actually salivating as I type these words. Also, if you are able to lend a helping hand please call Dorian Forrar at DCS and let him know.

Now, please join me in giving a huge Eagle thank you for our main sponsor: PYRAMID HEATING AND COOLING, owned and operated by Gary Phyllis one of our DCS parents!!!



A Measure of Success

In this Olympic season all eyes are on how high, how far, how fast or how soon. The gold standard is the measure of success and the victors will relish their memories. We may marvel at their perfection, be astonished at their endurance, revel in their artistry and know that we will never come close to their level of performance.

Nevertheless, there is an endeavor, both light and serious, where the playing field is level for all who participate. To compete one need but read. The victorious enjoy knowledge, insight, flights of fancy, humor, reflections and a myriad of emotions. Golden moments abound and can be relived at will. The venue is of ones own choosing, but the best equipped among us are known to frequent the library.

And so it seems our library is having its own measure of success. By the judges' count, we now have 550 registered patrons who checked out 991 books just in the month of January. That averages to nearly two books per patron per month. Now the question is, are you on track to finish your two books this month? If not, you may come to the end of the month and find you missed some real joys, maybe even an Olympic moment.



Visit our website at

www.damascuschristianschool.org

or email us at

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SPORTS

One Step Closer To State

Last Friday, our girls and boys varsity basketball teams took another step in their quest for a trip to Baker City and the Oregon 1-A State Basketball Championship Tournament by defeating their opponents, Perrydale and Life Christian, respectively. Saturday games determined which teams were seeded #1 for State. Our boys defeated Columbia Christian and became the #1 seed while our girls fell to St. Paul and thus settled for the #2 seed.

This Friday, our girls will face Lowell at 7 PM, while on Saturday, the boys play Ione at 5:30 PM., both games at our gym. A loss in either game means the season is over. A win means a ticket to the championship tournament in Baker City. Both Lowell and Ione plan to bring hundreds to route for their teams. Let's pack out the gym with Eagle supporters and cheer our teams on to victory!! Admission will be adults - \$6 and \$4 for students. The only passes accepted will be gold cards, OSAA VIP and OSAA Media passes. *Go Eagles!!!*

Congratulations!!

Conference Awards 05/06

Congratulations to Stephen D. and Matt B. for making 1st team All-Conference in Casco North this season. Stephen Dennis was also voted MVP of the league. In addition, congratulations to Joe R. on making 2nd team All-Conference, and Ryan C. and Ben W. for received honorable mentions awards. We also would like to thank and congratulate Coach Mai, and his coaching team, for receiving "Coach of the Year" as they led the boy's to a District Championship. The team also received the sportsmanship award in their conference, and "Dairy Farmers" for the highest team GPA in the state!

On the girls team, Amanda M. and Naomi P. also received 1st team All-Conference honors, with Amanda being voted league MVP. Emily B. played solid all year to earn 2nd team All-Conference, and Emily H. received honorable mention. The DCS girls added to their winning ways with class and character, receiving the sportsmanship award, and Coach Wakefield added to his already impressive list of "Coach of the Year" awards.

Great job this year guys and girls. You have made us proud. Now let's get one more win and then on to Baker City.