

# Guilford Day School

## Challenger

Volume 3

Issue 2

an independent not-for-profit school providing a positive educational environment for children with learning disabilities and/or attention deficit disorder

### Directors Corner

#### Upcoming Events

August 13th & 14th  
Strategic Instruction  
Workshops

August 20th  
New Student Orientation  
& Parent Open House

August 22nd  
First Day of School

September 6th  
Parent Faculty Association  
Family Picnic



Laura Mlatac  
Head of School

*What a year full of celebrations - acknowledging 20 years of successfully educating students with learning differences! One of the first questions I am asked about the school is how do we do it, and I believe those of us who are here every day find this question very easy to answer. When families come to the school, they are looking for a different educational setting for their child and more often than not, we are what they are looking for. With this being said, we have supportive families, students craving to learn, and committed faculty members*

*who choose to teach at Guilford Day. These key ingredients have allowed us to successfully carry out our traditions and never stray from our mission.*

*I invite you to take a few moments to read through this issue of The Challenger. I promise you that your heart will fill with excitement as you feel our commitment to students shine through on every page, and in everything we do. Enjoy!*

Laura Mlatac

### Watch Us Grow!

*Questions have risen over the past few months about expanding our current facility at Guilford Day School as we have continued to welcome new students into our family. We continue to experience unprecedented growth and plan to open the doors in August with over 130 students! That will be a 42% increase over the fall of 2005. Many factors have contributed to our success over the past two years including, but not limited to, continued outstanding work by our faculty and staff, a controlled but aggressive marketing effort, and general conversation in the community confirming the exciting "goings on" here at 3310 Horse Pen Creek Road.*

*Our growth in the primary area (grades 1-3) has been consistent and we will start the year at capacity once again. It is wonderful to watch our youngest begin to experience enjoyment in learning after experiencing more difficult times elsewhere. The high school is returning to full strength as well, which is also a wel-*

*come sight. We should be approaching 60 students (grades 9-12) when school starts which will bode well for our classes as well as for our extra curricular activities such as athletics and the arts. Grades 4-8 will be full as well and have always been the solid foundation that supports the enrollment at our school.*

*Obviously the optimism is running high as we continue to grow and watch our students reach new heights academically. We have rekindled discussions within the Administration and with the Board of Trustees addressing the future needs and what new construction should be undertaken to meet these needs. These are truly exciting times at Guilford Day School as we embark on a path of excellence in the academic growth of our students and the physical growth of our campus. Hold on tight and enjoy the ride!*

Tim Montgomery

*The Complete Educational Experience*  
[www.guilfordday.org](http://www.guilfordday.org)

## Reflections of Our Fifteen Years at Guilford Day

By Clare Abel and Susan Hughes

Our initial entrance to the new Guilford Day School fifteen years ago was short-lived. We, along with the other 10 full-time teachers, could not enter the building since the fire marshall had not given his okay. Instead, we all got back in cars and went the short distance to Kay Wilkins' house, President of the Board of Trustees and generous donor of the land on which the school was built. By the next day, we were in the brand new building getting ready for our students' arrival. There was much excitement among the staff, especially for the founders of the school, Ginger Parnell and Rita Ledford. After all, prior to August 1992, Guilford Day School classes took place in an office building!

Our school opened that year with 68 students in grades 3-12. From the beginning, the school's atmosphere was family oriented. The triangle among student, parent, and teacher was in place and this triangle continues to make Guilford Day a strong unit today. We began many traditions then that have flourished through the years, like our wonderful graduation luncheon and ceremony.

Although the staff was thrilled with the brand new building, almost immediately we began making a wish list for a media center and extra space for art. During the 1993-94 school year, additional property was purchased north of school, including a house which eventually became classroom space. By 1995, our school's enrollment had doubled, and we had run out of classroom space. Two new upper school classrooms were added. In addition, our wish came true for a media center and the icing on the cake was the two new computer labs adjacent to the media center. With more students, we found out that we needed to be flexible with our repertoire of courses: Clare, a middle school English teacher, found out she could teach third grade social studies, and Susan, a high school English teacher, discovered that she could also teach Algebra I!

Although we knew we were making a difference in students' lives, we wanted to "prove" it, so in April of 1996 GDS applied to the Secondary Commission of the Southern Association of Accreditation (SACS) and received full accreditation in 1998. In the same year,



Pictured from left to right: Donna Barrier, Clare Abel, Laura Mlatac, Susan Hughes and JoAnn Caligiuri at the GDS 20th Anniversary Celebration.

acquired a quaint log cabin which we were able to use for our art classes. Then at the beginning of 1999-2000 school year, we purchased a modular unit for additional space for our middle school.

Also in the fall of 1999 a high school basketball team was formed, bringing a new dimension to our school. Our hearts were warmed to see our guys on the court, knowing they might not have played a sport if they had gone to a larger school. In the same year, we purchased a track of land and began planning a collaboration with the YMCA, who were already investigating the area for a new facility. This collaboration led to providing a gym and athletic fields for our students.

By 2002-03, we again met the standards of accreditation with no deficiencies. Also in that year, our drama department was born. Since that time, we have been winners in one high school and two middle school competitions.

In 2003-04, we had our largest graduating class of 21 students - triple that of the first class who graduated from this building! The next year, 2004-05, brought more good times for students and teachers alike. Continuing one of our favorite traditions, the entire GDS family dressed up for our Halloween costume contest, with the upper school faculty all the characters from *The Wizard of Oz*.

By the time the 2005-06 school year began, our ranks had grown to 31 staff members and we had every course and specialty that we have dreamed of, except music. This year that changed, with the addition of music in grades 1-5. By the end of the year, not only were our lower school students singing up a storm, they also were doing a lot of dancing as well.

And what an appropriate way to end our reflection on all our years at GDS; we, too, feel like we have sung and danced our way through 15 great new beginnings each August, 15 proud graduating classes, 15 years of welcoming new teachers and students alike into the family, 15 years of growth and progress, 15 years of commitment to a place that's become our second home!

## Another Reason to Celebrate... Scholarship Endowments on the Rise!

As the Board of Trustees looked to the future of the School it became crystal clear that as the School begins to grow and become a true community resource, it is imperative that the School commit to increasing the need-based scholarship. This would allow the School to be more accessible to those who need and want to attend Guilford Day School.

During the 2006-2007 school year, the School established three new named endowments: The Guilford Day School Anonymous Scholarship Endowment Fund, The Marian A. Smith Scholarship Endowment Fund, and The Guilford Day School Scholarship Endowment Fund in Honor of Clare R. Abel. These endowment funds plus additional gifts have allowed the School to increase our scholarship endowments to \$1.5 million. With 100% participation from the Board of Trustees and the faculty/staff, the endowment campaign, Foundation for the Future, will be a schoolwide focus for the 2007-2008 school year as we embark on the home stretch to reach our \$2 million goal.

Additional information about the campaign, Foundation for the Future, is available and will be given out to our entire School family during the 2007-2008 school year. If you have questions, suggestions, or would like to make a donation or pledge, please contact Laura Mlatac, Head of School. This campaign is truly a building block for the future of Guilford Day School.

Guilford Day School would like to thank the following individuals, corporations, and foundations for their support:

### Leadership Gifts (Gold Level \$100,000+)

The Anonymous Fund  
Mackey McDonald  
Marian A. Smith

### Leadership Gifts (Silver Level \$50,000+)

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Margaret Shelton

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### Pages

Duane and Madeleine Dasson - in memory of Rolland Warrick

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J.C. and R.H. Jenkins, Jr. - in memory of Rolland Warrick

Joann Warrick - in memory of Rolland Warrick

Kenneth and Jean Ripley - in memory of Rolland Warrick

Toni Zirker - in memory of Rolland Warrick

Tony and Mary Branson - in memory of Rolland Warrick

## News from the Lower and Middle Schools

### Harvesting Knowledge

This spring, Primary science students began a garden project. Students brought in seeds and planted a variety of flower and vegetable seeds following Spring Break. By the end of school, students were harvesting spinach, radishes, carrots, lettuce, cilantro, thyme, and basil. The zinnias, nasturtiums, and marigolds were blooming and the sunflower plants were 5 feet tall and still growing. Tiny green tomatoes will be growing to maturity for those around the school this summer. Primary students enjoyed tending the garden and tasting the vegetables they grew themselves.  
Kay McMurphy



Primary school's Garden of Learning

### Lower and Middle School Field Trips

Although a lot of learning goes on in the classroom at Guilford Day School, we also take the time for field trips that allow for experiential learning. One of the favorite field trips for the fourth through eighth graders (and the upper school, too) was to the Renaissance Fair, near Charlotte. Although it was a long ride, there was a LOT to see and do! Students and teachers alike got to see what life may have been like in Europe during the 16th century. There were a lot of entertainment, rides, food, and crafts to enjoy that day. Other out of town field trips this year included Old Salem, the Morehead Planetarium at UNC-Chapel Hill, and the NC Zoo. By staying close to home,

we were able to explore our local attractions, such as the newly renovated Natural Science Center and strawberry picking at a local farm.

Since all of our lower and middle school students are involved in drama each year, *Sonja Kelley* always makes sure to plan several field trips to see plays. This year our students saw *The Diary of Anne Frank* at Triad Stage, *Seussical the Musical* at UNCG, and a dramatic representation of five short stories by a traveling acting troupe at the Carolina Theater. Our drama students really benefit from being exposed to such a high level of acting.

Jennifer Aceves

### Field Day 2007

Erin Sheaks and Lynne Melton headed up the challenge of planning and carrying out Field Day for our lower and middle school students. The chosen day was one of the very hottest of the whole year, but water games, popsicles, and frequent breaks in the shade made it much more bearable. Some of the more memorable events at Field Day included the teacher sled race, the three-legged race, the water balloon toss, the sack race, and the sponge race. Despite the heat, all of our students had a really fun time and were very grateful to Erin and Lynne for organizing this event, and to all the parents who lent or donated supplies.

### Never Without Drama!

Through the year, GDS was quite full of drama! *Sonja Kelley* wrote a total of 12 plays for the lower school students, who gladly helped create the characters and plot ideas and enjoyed performing them for their parents.

Middle school drama did four productions this year. One of them, "Beauty and the Beast", they took to competition in Chapel Hill. Through their great efforts, they came home with a 2nd and 3rd place award.

**Hats off to Sonja and her troupe of actors**

Jennifer Aceves

## 8th Grade Trip

On May 30-June 1, Sterling Miller and I took ten 8th graders on a trip to Wilmington. The trip had a tight schedule with hopes of seeing some history, beauty, and fun in this wonderful North Carolina city. The five hour drive went fairly quickly; the youth entertained themselves with I-pods, books (actually only 2 read), and even a DVD player showing a comedy, as we could tell from the uproariously, intermittent laughter from the kids.

DAY 1- This afternoon involved fish, horseshoe crabs and students separating themselves as far away from the teachers as possible... the aquarium. We found it mesmerizing to gaze at the sea and amphibian life. After reminders from Jared about the Civil War fort next door, we headed to Fort Fisher. Instead of being disappointed when the "fort" was now a statue closed for the day, we found the massive boulders bordering the Great Atlantic where, if we balanced on them and got close enough, we could get a spray of cool water. We placed bets on the height and timing of the waves; nearly 45 minutes later, our "fish stories" began: "Did you see that last one? I bet I swallowed a gallon of water; did you see me? It was like I was controlling the waves." With our grinning faces and salty lips, we headed back for the bus. Riley got the prize for getting the wettest.

DAY 2- Hotel continental breakfast, then off to kayaking. First, we had to have a "training" in how to

hold the paddle (!) and how NOT to get away from the guides, though some of us who will remain nameless (David and James) did. Keith enjoyed his first swim of the trip, even though he didn't plan it! We paddled by oyster colonies and learned the history of the Inter-coastal Waterway. Guiding ourselves in our kayaks through the tight path of the marsh was taxing, indeed. The vessel was just not listening when we said "left!" or "straight!"

Day 3- U.S.S. Battleship! Though I would have bet my house that all the boys in the group could have spent hours on this enormous, war-machine with bunkers, controller rooms, gun-stands, flags, and football field-sized deck, five out of the ten were sitting at the food court after ½ an hour. But the rest of us, wow, what an experience. Dalton, Bryan, and Will were at the turrets steering the guns that would careen through the waters to the enemy. It is a cool site all North Carolinians need to visit.

We also walked on the boardwalk and took a ghost tour, among other exciting things. All in all, the students had a great time and were glad they came. And all in all, the most important thing is, Sterling and I survived!

-Patty Goodman Kiley



Students gather together for a fun filled day in Wilmington

## Music in the Air by Kay McMurphy

The first music concert was presented to a packed multipurpose room on October 26. Students used boomwhackers for two songs: Meet the Boomwhackers and Island Whackers. Other songs, which included singing and movement, were Wake Me, Shake Me, Chester, Okkitokiunga, and Little Tommy Tinker. The finale, You're a Grand Old Flag, was sung with enthusiasm and waving of flags and streamers.

The Happy Holidays music concert was held December 14. Students sang many traditional favorites, including Ring, Ring, Ring the Bells, Santa Claus is Coming, Up on the Housetop, Do you Hear what I Hear?, Silver Bells, O Hanukkah, and We Wish You a Merry Christmas. Students were introduced to several new carols, including All Through the Night and Ding Dong Merrily on High. 4th and 5th graders made their debut performance on recorders, playing Jolly Old Saint Nicholas.

The 3rd quarter music performance highlighted students' ability to dance folk dances. Primary and 4th/5th grade level gave separate performances on March 29 and 30. With parents and guests sitting on the platform, the main floor was open for dance routines. Students performed Chimes of Dunkirk, Alabama Gal, Heel and Toe, and Virginia Reel. An added highlight at the primary level was when parents were invited to dance Chimes of Dunkirk with their child. Many parents took to the floor and quickly learned the lively steps and movements. The finale for the primary level was the Philadelphia Chickens dance choreographed by Sonja Kelley. 4th/5th grade level also performed four songs on recorders: Sanctus, Bouffons, Ode to Joy and Renaissance Round.

The final music and dance program for the year was May 10. Students sang and played rhythm instruments for Welcome to Music and If You're Happy and You Know It. Students performed "The Guilford Day School Song", written especially for the occasion by Kay McMurphy. Two African songs from Ghana, West Africa, Tue Tue and Obwisana, were sung to the accompaniment of drums, sticks, and cabasas. 4th/5th grade level played two songs with recorders: From the New World and Morning. The dance portion of the program, choreographed and directed by Sonja Kelley, had the boys marching to Busy, Busy, Busy and girls snuggled in for Pajama Time.

Lower school students dancing up a storm!



## Awards, Awards!

One quality that makes Guilford Day School students so special is the variety of areas in which they excel. Anyone who attended any of the three Lower and Middle School awards ceremonies couldn't possibly disagree with that statement! The Middle School athletic awards ceremony was held on Friday, May 25. The four middle school sports at Guilford Day are co-ed, do not require try-outs, and are open to all students in grades 5-8. It is a truly special moment to see an experienced athlete patiently working with a fellow teammate who is trying the sport out for the first time. Many of our athletes play their sport on leagues outside of Guilford Day, but others are just out there to have fun and learn a new skill! As each sport was called up to the stage at the awards ceremony, athletes received a medal to wear around their necks. By the end of the hour, an estimated 85 to 90% of our 5th through 8th graders were wearing at least one medal! That is a staggering percentage of participation. Another neat thing to see was how many athletes were wearing three or even four medals! It takes a lot of dedication and good time management to be a successful student as well as a committed athlete. Dalton Collins (8th) was the proud recipient of the coveted "Athlete of the Year" award. Dalton has been a dedicated basketball and volleyball player over the past few years, and always exhibits a high level of sportsmanship, dedication, and leadership. He always sets a wonderful example for his peers, both in the classroom and in the athletic arena. He was very deserving of this honor. Way to

go, Dalton!

The last day of school is a wonderful time to look back at the trials, tribulations, and successes of the whole school year. This year, we had many lower and middle school parents in attendance to help us celebrate how much our students have accomplished this year. The lower school combined their final drama performance with their awards ceremony. Each student was recognized for one of their many strengths. Students were excited for their teachers to brag about them and to be able to come up on stage to receive their award. There were even some tears shed, as parents and teachers reflected on how far the students have come since August.

The middle school changed their awards ceremony this year, from giving quarterly awards that didn't include parents, to one big ceremony on the last day of school. Many parents were able to be in attendance at this ceremony, complete with music and spotlights! Similar to the lower school awards, each middle school student was given a unique award based on a strength. The 41 awards that were presented that day definitely gave proof that all of our students are so unique, special, and talented! Many adults in the audience were touched to see so many middle school students (yes, even the boys!) wrap their teachers in great big bear hugs. Even though we witness our students' progress every day of the year, the end of the year awards ceremonies provided a wonderful time for reflection of how great our students really are!



## ***Congratulations, One and All***

On May 30, the Upper School held its annual End of Year Awards Ceremony. The morning began with a delicious breakfast for the upper school students and faculty, put together and served by our wonderful PFA. Shortly thereafter, parents began arriving for the Awards Ceremony, which is an exciting time of recognition for year-long student achievements, set to music and lights and great fanfare! Many students were individually recognized by their teachers during the two-hour program. One of the most common but cherished awards given by the faculty was the "Most Improved Award." Students who received this recognition included Heather Martin and Anthony Schiffman in Spanish, Cody McGraw and Alexander Parker in History, Alexander Parker, Paul Gabriel, Cameron Raynor, and Anthony Schiffman in Science, Rebekah Collins, Jenny Gossage, Brooke Ellis, and Win Johns in English, Chandler Burnette, Jim Barnhill, and Matt Zirker in Math, and Patrick McDonough in Art. Students named as the "Most Outstanding" in each subject included Rebekah Collins in Technology and



*Susan Hughes and Deirdre Kearney present awards to the Upper School*

Geography, Sam Holt in Spanish, Jim Barnhill and Matthew Poole in History, Sara Moorefield, Matthew Poole and Will Rains in English, Traci Case, Charlie Allen and Will Rains in Math and Justin Pollock in Art. Charlie Allen received "Rookie of the Year" in P.E., Will Rains received "Player of the Year," Ben Breitenstein received "Will to Win Award," and Luke Phillips received "The Rock Award." Many other students received recognition for having the best attitudes, being the most inquisitive, and giving the best year-long effort. To close the program, Phil Warrick, the Board of Trustees Chair, announced that Matthew Poole would be the recipient of the 2007 GDS Scholarship; Tim Montgomery had the honor of awarding the Student of the Year Award, chosen by the Upper School faculty and Administration, to Marc Nelles; and Laura Mlatac had the pleasure of recognizing Paul Gabriel as the winner of the Founders Award, also voted on by the Upper School Faculty and Administration. Parents departed proudly, students departed excitedly, and teachers departed with great satisfaction that so many students worked so hard all year long.

## **"Talking the Talk, Walking the Walk"...Graduation, 2007**

One of the most special events at Guilford Day School every year is graduation. Not only does this important ceremony mark the conclusion of a great deal of effort and commitment from the senior class members, but it is a time to celebrate their accomplishments, acknowledge their parents' tremendous support, and highlight each of the graduates individually as the unique people they are. After being picked up by a limousine, the seniors were transported to a graduation luncheon with 158 guests at Embassy Suites, and the ceremony followed. It has become our tradition to create a graduation "theme" each year that attempts to capture the different personalities in the graduating class as well as represent the "soul" of the class itself; this year's theme was "On the Road Again," and along those lines, each senior was recognized by a different faculty member as being amazingly similar to a particular automobile, sharing its qualities and appeal. Each graduate was awarded a license plate containing their initials followed by the numbers "2007" and were reminded to look in their rear view mirrors every now and again so as not to forget where they began their life's journey, and how far they have come. The GDS 2007 graduates include: Chris Dorier, Paul Gabriel, Steven Lineberger, Chad Martin, Marc Nelles, Justin Pollock, Will Rains, and Matt Zirker.

Susan Hughes



*Guilford Day School  
Class of 2007*

## Upper School Updates

### SERVICE WITH A SMILE...AND A PIE AND A COAT AND A TOY!

By Susan Hughes, Service Club Co-Advisor



Service club 2006-07: Back row-Luke Phillips, Susan Hughes, Sam Holt, Rebekah Collins, Front row- Chandler Burnette, Chris Dorier, Brooke Ellis, Heather Martin and Traci Case

The Service Club did an outstanding job in 2006-2007. The eight members decided early in the year to designate St. Jude's Children's Research Hospital as the recipient of all the monies they would raise throughout the year. The beginning, and extremely popular, fund-raiser was a contest to see which teachers would be chosen to receive pies in their face! All willing teachers were given a huge jar with their name on it, in which students could place money over a ten-week period; the money counted as "votes" for each teacher to win the prize: a luscious, whipped cream-topped pie to be thrown in their face by the student of their choice. This fun and suspenseful project raised almost \$600.00.

We were delighted to gain Vicki Payne as a co-advisor to the club for the second semester. Vicki, who was named as a runner-up for Guilford County's 2006-2007 "Rookie Teacher of the Year," brought a new enthusiasm and lots of additional ideas to the club for extra momentum as we headed into the second half of the year.

Our next project was a walk-a-thon around the school's soccer field for two miles during school one day, and students who par-

anticipated had to collect a minimum of \$10.00 to sponsor their walking. This project raised an additional \$350.00. In the Spring, jars were placed again in classrooms for each grade level to contribute money; the class that contributed the most money was taken out to an extended lunch the week before exams. The Freshman class, under the guidance of Rebekah Collins, contributed almost \$400.00, with Beka canvassing her neighborhood for contributions to help the cause. By the end of the year, the Service Club very proudly sent a check for \$1313.69 to St. Jude's.

In addition to fund-raising, the Service Club led school-wide drives that resulted in giving 46 coats to A Cleaner World for their "Give a Kid A Coat" campaign, 16 filled shoeboxes to Samaritan's Purse to be sent to children in Third World countries, 37 gently used or new toys to the Greensboro Youth Council for their annual toy drive and a huge box full of new and fun school supplies to Peck Elementary School. Thanks to all our generous and community-minded families for responding so graciously to all the drives, and kudos to the Service Club for their year-long enthusiasm and commitment to helping others less fortunate than they are.



Vicki gets the votes and the pie!

# Building Skills, Block by Block

## Nine Weeks Projects...

Guilford Day School's skill building course is an integral part of teaching our students how to learn. Throughout the year, Upper School students are taught strategies in time management, organization, team work, project implemen-



Freshmen work on bird houses.

tation and study skills. As a culminating experience, class projects are a large part of Guilford Day's skill building program. The Upper School values class projects as a tool for self-education, individual expression and self-development for students using the skills they have learned in skill building. Although each grade is assigned a theme, the projects provide educational opportunities for students based on their abilities and interest.



Patrick Edgerton and Chris Anderson work on a new entrance to the tennis courts.

This year, the freshmen project was "service to the community" oriented. Being a group project, our freshmen designed, built and installed a wildlife area for the neighborhood. Students researched birds that were native to the region, built houses suitable for those species and

arranged the houses in a wooded area to attract the birds.

Sophomore projects were completed in teams of two and emphasized "service to the school." Each pair had to research their problem, develop an action plan and implement their project. Some of the outstanding sophomore projects included a plan for a new cross country trail, a video about GDS from the students' perspective and a new brick entrance to the tennis courts.

"Service to self" was the theme for junior projects. Individual juniors had to choose an area where they would like to personally develop. One of our students researched publishing requirements, submitted his own original work and had one



Ryan McDougal and Jim Barnhill cleaned the outdoor classroom and added a new bench

of his poems published. Another student investigated interior design, interviewed a designer and created her own design plan. Additionally, one student used his love and knowledge of games to develop a video walk through for new players.

As is apparent from the diversity of this year's projects, each student was able to choose an area of study that they found interesting. These projects demonstrated the students' ability to devise, plan, undertake, complete and publicly present a substantial project. Students set out and met a significant challenge, one that required them to make a considerable advance in already-existing capacities learned in skill building.



Buckets of water at Country Park

## "The Amazing Race the GDS Way"...

Each year the Upper School sets aside one week of school in the spring to devote to skills that have been focused on in our Skill Building classes. This year the theme was based on the television show

"The Amazing Race." Students and teachers were divided into groups for the week and visited a variety of locations. At each location the groups had tasks to complete, similar to a scavenger hunt.

The week started at Guilford Technical Community College where students had a brief presentation on the programs and disability services offered on that campus. From there the groups departed in different directions and answered questions or took pictures at various locations across the campus. This helped the students to become familiar with the size of the campus, the various buildings there, and what majors are offered. For team building in the afternoon the students participated in a low ropes course offered through UNC Greensboro.

Other events throughout the week included a trip to the Virginia Museum of Natural History in Martinsville. Students observed a number of exhibits and then participated in dissecting an actual owl pellet. Part of a day was spent at Forest Lawn Cemetery. While that might not sound exciting for a group of high school students, it was amazing to see the amount of information that can be obtained from headstones. Students began to ask questions such as why would there be so many

infant deaths in a certain year. Groups were asked to complete questions on a scavenger hunt, complete charcoal drawings at times, or take pictures as their proof of completing the tasks.



"Please let us in..."

Two parks were visited and many activities were incorporated there.

Students had to use team cooperation, decision making, and time management skills to complete their tasks. And, while doing so, they became more familiar with County Park as

well as the Guilford Battleground Park. Groups could be seen hiding footballs for other groups to find or locating golf balls (for points) that he been previously hidden there, or running with a kite and timing the task to see how long they could keep the kite in the air.

The week finished with a day at the NC Zoo in Asheboro. The day began with a presentation by park employees using actual animals that have been rescued there at the zoo. The students then again divided into groups and spent the day working out a series of clever riddles about the animals and the exhibits.

Points were kept throughout the week for each team. The winning team received a cash prize. However, the real reward was seeing the students using a variety of skills as they worked together while having a great time as they participated.



Climbing the "web" at the Zoo

## Senior Internships...



Paul Gabriel plays his guitar to students at Greensboro Montessori.

Our seniors have the great opportunity to spend three and a half weeks each spring away from school in an internship program.

Their senior advisors begin working with them in the fall

to identify possible career interests and then places of employment that would represent those interests. Each senior is responsible for obtaining at least two possible internships by early winter. Once they have chosen where they will intern, the seniors are anxious to get started! During the weeks of the internships, they do not report to school at all, but put in the same amount of hours they would at school at their place of internship. Their advisors visit each senior "on the job" during the three and a half week period and receive a "grand tour" of the location and all that the students have been learning and doing. When the seniors return to school, they each give a ten minute presentation of their experience to the rest of the Upper School students, faculty, and parents.

Chris Dorier spent his internship at Carr

Industries, where he enjoyed working on top of the line cars; Paul Gabriel helped supervise kids on the playground and in the classrooms of the Greensboro Montessori School; Steven Lineberger



Marc Nelles works out at Gold's Gym.

learned the ins and outs of rehabilitation therapy at Wake Forest University Baptist Medical Center Sports Medicine; Chad Martin experienced the uptown atmosphere and glitz of Schiffman's Jewelry; Marc Nelles buffed up while demonstrating and teaching the use of various exercise equipment at Gold's Gym; Justin Pollock participated in a newly formed trucking business, Linx Logistics, Inc.; Will Rains enjoyed filling prescriptions through the "Robot" at the family owned Archdale Drug; Matt Zirker fine-tuned his notetaking skills and observation abilities through the Center of Creative Leadership.

Every year some of the seniors are offered jobs because of their great efforts during the internship, and this year was no exception.



Justin Pollock presents his internship experience to the Upper School



Brooke Ellis, Matthew Poole, Heather Martin and Luke Phillips with their coaster Jungle Fever.

## What a Roller Coaster Ride!!

By Vicki Payne, Upper School Science teacher

What are the forces behind fun? Students in Physical Science and AFM found out this year. We recently attended an event where students learned to apply the concepts of acceleration, velocity, magnetism and centripetal force. Education Day at Carowinds was a valuable educational experience for our students; at the same time it was a lot of fun and provided incentive for students to develop a further interest in science and math. For instance, it is much easier to get students excited to think about the physics of roller coasters than about the traditional, but very dry, example of carts on an inclined plane.



Steven Lineberger, Paul Gabriel, Justin Pollock and Marc Nelles with their coaster the "DTC" otherwise know as the duct tape coaster.

Our classes designed and built their own roller coasters in order to participate in a competition at Carowinds. Students were encouraged to let their imaginations run wild as they created loops, turns, and lifts for their coaster. During construction of the coasters the one major, yet simple principle students had to remember was gravity. Because none of our coasters were battery powered, momentum generated by drops had to propel the coaster through loops and turns and back to the passenger platform. It was a wonderful sight to see our students compute how high their lift hill needed to be in order to move their car through their coaster. After much calculating, building, recalculating and rebuilding, three roller coasters were taken to competition.

At Carowinds, the coasters were judged on the dynamics of the coaster, creativity, use of materials, and the theme of the coaster. There were 40 roller coaster entrants at the competition and our coasters drew much attention. The "Duct Tape Coaster" (DTC) was built by Steven Lineberger, Justin Pollock, Paul Gabriel and Marc Nelles. "Jungle Fever" was built by Brooke Ellis, Heather Martin, Luke Phillips and Matthew Poole. "Down the Drain" was built by Sam Holt, Alexander Parker, and Patrick McDonough. All of our students should be proud of their accomplishment in completing and competing in the roller coaster challenge.

## Mini-College Fair

by JoAnn Caligiuri, Upper School Counselor

On January 16, 2007, the second "Mini-College Fair" was held at Guilford Day School in the evening. The target audience for the college fair is the sophomore and junior classes. However, other grade levels are also highly encouraged to attend. For example, if a senior has not yet made a final decision about where they intend to enroll, they would benefit from attending. Our goal is to have the sophomores and juniors thinking ahead to their college choices and to begin having conversations with both admission and disability services representatives.

A number of colleges and universities were in attendance at the college fair and we greatly appreciate their time and effort in traveling to our school. They represented community colleges, two-year colleges, and both public and private four-year colleges. Guilford Technical Community College provided the students with many alternatives and a variety of programs to choose from. Louisburg College is the last remaining two-year college in the state. They provide associate degrees and help students to transition on to a four-year institution if the student so desires. In addition, they have a wonderful program for students with disabilities called "Learning Partners". The private four-colleges represented during this evening were St. Andrews Presbyterian, Guilford College, Catawba College, Greensboro College, The Art Institute of Charlotte, High Point University, and Elon University. We were also fortunate to have three public institutions in attendance. They were UNC Pembroke, UNC Greensboro, and NC A & T University.

Our students were able to not only pick up information about a variety of options across the state but to have personal conversation with the representatives. Students gained insight into the admission process, a variety of majors they had not previously thought about, and information about other activities and programs available at the various schools. In addition, materials about financing and paying for college were available from College Foundation.

# 11th Annual Golf Tournament a Success

Starmount Forest Country Club was again the site on May 7th 2007 and our wonderful friends at SunTrust Bank served as hosts as Guilford Day School supporters and friends enjoyed a glorious day of golf. Seventy-two golfers comprising eighteen teams enjoyed the sunshine and a day away from the office in support of this annual event that goes to support the Annual Fund for Guilford Day School. This year the team representing Pegram West took first place honors. Team members were: Ronny Jones, Mickey Cook, Mike Gill, and Jim Coghill. Taking home the second place prize was the team representing the Alex Spears YMCA with team members Jerry Clapp, Pete Baker, Rick Pinto, and Neil Kennedy. Guilford Day was well represented in the winner's circle as well. High School Spanish teacher Frank Freeman won the longest drive competition and rising senior and golf team member Cameron Raynor won the closest to the pin competition.



GDS student Cameron Raynor won the "closest to the pin" competition at this year's tournament.

We would like to offer a special thank you to Pat Caffey and I.H. Caffey Distributing Company for graciously supplying the beverages for our golfers to enjoy as they played and to those listed below who sponsored holes or teams for the event. Your generosity is greatly appreciated, and please know that your donations helped make this event one that will not soon be forgotten.

This year's tournament was used as a kick-off for our 20th Anniversary Celebration Week which culminated with a wonderful dinner/dance back at Starmount Forest Country Club on Saturday May 12th. The benefits from this whole event for our students are immeasurable, so from the entire Guilford Day School family let me send a resounding thank you to all who participated in any way to make this event possible.

## Hole Sponsors

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## Team Sponsors

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Alex Spears YMCA  
Laureimor-Ginn Company  
C.B. Development  
Harley-Davidson of Greensboro  
Horizon Tool, Inc.  
J. Butler's Bar and Grille  
RBC Centur  
Lexair Electronics

## **Middle School cross country** had its best year ever this year!

Thanks to the enthusiasm of Coach Frank Freeman, the team hosted a record number of runners. As evidenced by the lower numbers of athletes that run (compared to our other three sports), cross country running is not easy! It is largely an independent sport that requires a lot of motivation and self-discipline. While all of our runners pushed themselves to improve over the course of the season, one name worth mentioning is eighth grader Alex Amick. Alex won a couple of meets, and placed second or third in his other races. He is a naturally fast runner and was an inspiration to his teammates.

Jennifer Aceves



GDS Middle School Cross Country Team

## Speaking of Sports:

### **Middle School soccer and basketball**

*In early September, 2006, sixteen very enthusiastic GDS students stepped onto the soccer practice field to begin the middle school soccer season. Their goal was to better their skills, enjoy both the practices and the games, and - in their own words - to possibly score more goals than the previous year. All of them practiced with intense enthusiasm as they anticipated their first game against Greensboro Montessori. When they took the field, they did so with great pride in themselves and their school, and they played with grit and heart against a team with many more players. They scored three goals in a game which saw the score at the conclusion in favor of GMS 5-3, but no one who saw this game could suggest that it was a losing effort on the part of the GDS players. The team went on to score a number of goals as they played out the rest of their schedule. I wish I could say that they won some of those games, but I cannot! However, I can say that this group is one of the greatest that I have ever coached, and I am extremely proud of their efforts and their tremendous sportsmanship. Thanks, team, from the GDS community and your coach! Many thanks as well to all the parents who were so attentive to our team's needs for all the games and for all the support at the games.*

*In early January of 2007, approximately 25 youngsters from the fifth through eighth grades arrived at the first of many middle school basketball practices.*

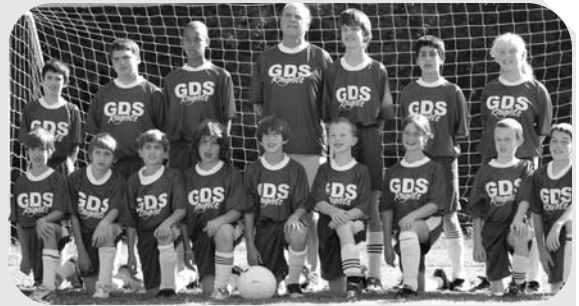
*Because of these good numbers, Guilford Day School was able to field a fifth/sixth grade team*

*as well as a seventh/eighth grade team. Both teams showed tremendous energy and talent during the practices which helped keep the scores very close during the regular season. The playoffs were a different story for our young and talented athletes.*

*In the first set of games, the fifth/sixth team stunned their opponents by defeating them and ending up in the championship game playing for first place. Despite a hard-fought game, the team ended up in second place. The seventh/eighth team had a difficult time in their opening round of the playoffs, and ended up playing for third place in the second series. Very happily, they played in stellar fashion and earned a resounding victory to end the season in third place.*

*As a coach, I could not have asked for more from this fine group of students. Thanks!*

*Sterling Miller*



GDS Middle School Soccer Team 2006

### **Upper School Knight Time!**

**W**hat a year in sports the Upper School Knights have had in 2006 and 2007. Our athletes put together great seasons this school year and we could not be prouder of all they have achieved. Our cross country and soccer teams started the year off right in August 2006 and had some great finishes. Marc Nelles led the cross country team with outstanding support from Anthony Schiffman, Sam Holt, and Luke Phillips. The soccer team also did well with Sam in goal and winning our "Rookie of the Year" award. Impressive leadership came from Chris Dorier, who played his way into the "Most Valuable Player." Will Woolen won our "Best Defensive Player" award and Sara Moorefield was chosen for the "Coach's Award."

Basketball had a rollercoaster year with plenty of ups and downs. We had great games against Calvary Baptists and Wesleyan and victories over New Garden Friends and the North Carolina School for the Deaf. Sam Holt led the way and was our "Most Valuable Player" with plenty of support from Chris Jones, who won our "Most Improved Player" award. Our "Rookie of the Year" in basketball went to Will Woolen, and Jacob Jefferson won our "Coach's Award."

Springtime found the tennis team off to a good start with a varsity and junior varsity team and a victory over Oak Ridge Military Academy. Anthony Schiffman played #1 for us this year and Will Woolen was named "Most Valuable Player." Ben Breitenstein was named "Most Valuable Player" for tennis and Cody McGraw won the "Coach's Award."

The golf team had a special year this year, progressing from never having won a match to winning 4 out of 10 golf matches! Marc Nelles, Cameron Raynor, David Sharpe, and Will Rains carried themselves and the team to new heights. Our four golfers consistently bested teams of six golfers and should be very proud. 2006-2007 had some remarkable moments for our athletes and we know the upcoming year will be even better. Cross country and soccer will get early starts in August and we are looking for all of our student athletes to get involved in as many sports as they can. Interested players: look for sports packages in the mail over the summer, get those physicals, and we will see you in early August!

Doug Long, Athletic Director

## Accreditation 2008

Next spring, Guilford Day School will complete its five year re-accreditation process. In April 2006, the North Central Association Commission on Accreditation and School Improvement (NCA CASI), the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools Council on Accreditation and School Improvement (SACS CASI), and the National Study of School Evaluation (NSSE) came together to form one organization under the name AdvancED.

As we complete our five year cycle and prepare for the visiting team, we will be focusing on the seven standards (Vision and Purpose, Governance and Leadership, Teaching and Learning, Documenting and Using Results, Resources and Support Systems, Stakeholder Communication and Relationships, and Commitment To Continuous Results) which are represented in each of the three core tasks (Ensure Desired Results, Improve Teaching and Learning, and Foster A Culture of Improvement).

During the past school year, our four SACS CASI focus areas (Assessment, Community Building, Learning to Learn, and Thinking and Reasoning) met monthly.

The Assessment committee determined that all their goals had been accomplished in the 2005-06 school year, so they focused on analyzing some of the testing data and interpreting the new Woodcock Johnson test.

Community Building along with the PFA sponsored a fall clean-up day. That committee also sponsored five socials throughout the year and for the second year, they headed up the Fun and Fitness event.

Learning to Learn's biggest accomplishment, the Academic Armor (tool book), made its debut at the end of the year and was distributed to the seniors to use in college. The rest of the strategy books will be given to students in the fall. Student surveys were

administered in the fall and the spring and administrators completed technology observations among the faculty. Staff development was comprehensive with faculty attending diverse workshops. Some of the conferences teachers participated in were the Gurian Institute, Wilson Level II training, Hill Center workshops, technology workshops, a book study on Boys and Girls Learn Differently, a dyslexia conference, a sensory integration workshop, a diversity conference, an Orton-Gillingham national conference, and a conference with Russell Barkley on ADHD in children and adolescents.

The Thinking and Reasoning committee was in its second year of meeting. Several committee members from the other three committees joined this committee. The group did a comprehensive study of the Goal Statements, Evaluation Methods, and Action Steps developed by the previous year's committee. They also led a professional development workshop where they used an outline of Bloom's Taxonomy of Thinking skills to help teachers present higher order thinking skills to their students. At the end of the year, they sponsored a sharing session of strategies that worked for teachers.

In the fall and spring of the year the School Improvement team (made up of the chairmen of the four committees, the chairman of the Board of Trustees, the PFA president, the Head and Assistant Heads of School and the president of the student council) met to review the progress of the SACS CASI committees and the current status of the school. Faculty and administration feel confident that all this hard work will result in another high evaluation for GDS's continued accreditation.

by Clare Abel, Academic Dean

## Essay Contest Winners



Pictured above are James (rising 9th grader) and Eileen Campbell, Anthony (rising 8th grader) and Jeanne Omisore and Hayden (rising 8th grader) and Meg Boyles. The boys were winners of the Youth First sponsored essay contest on "Why My Mother is the Best Mother." The boys treated their mothers to dinner with the gift certificates they received from area restaurants.

## Take a New Look!

### Media Center Updates...

The entrance to our Media Center is getting a face lift. When students and teachers return in the fall they will find a new sign out desk for the library. We were fortunate to have a donation from Mike Caligiuri of Pine Creek Cabinets of Winston-Salem. Thank you to Mike for his generosity and time in building and installing the reception desk.



New media center desk donated by Mike Caligiuri



Summer student Connor enjoys the new pillows and book.

In April the Junior League of Greensboro awarded the media center at Guilford Day School a grant in the amount of \$450.00. This money was used to purchase floor pillows and a set of books for young readers, A to Z Mysteries. The pillows provide a popular and comfortable reading area for students of all ages. We were very excited and honored to receive this grant. Thanks to Debbie Blackwood, our Media Specialist, who submitted the grant.

### Parent Faculty Association's Support Appreciated!

As we all know, our fabulous PFA very enthusiastically and successfully raises money all year to support the work and play of Guilford Day School. Out of the more than \$18,000.00 the PFA contributed to the school, some of the "high ticket" items included \$5000.00 toward the new WYNN Wizard computer program, \$1000.00 toward graduation, \$2050.00 toward student socials, \$2500.00 "spending money" for teachers' classroom needs, \$2500.00 for continuing education, and \$1177.00 toward the newest addition to the playground. If you have taken a stroll around the side of the school, you surely noticed a brand new "mini" basketball court between the playground and tennis courts. Almost before the cement had time to dry in May, students young and old were on the court shooting hoops. This new goal offers students (and some faculty members as well) the opportunity to practice their lay-ups and free throws during recess, lunch break, and after school.



GDS' new basketball goal. Students of all ages love the addition to our school.

Thank you, PFA, for all the wonderful things you do for GDS!

**20th Anniversary Celebrations**  
**Thank you for joining us!**



*Lower School Music Program*



*Lower School Play*



*Mackey McDonald, Honorary Chair, announcing his matching participation gift at the Faculty Scholarship Endowment Celebration*



*Faculty Scholarship Endowment Celebration*



*20th Anniversary Gala*



*Laura Mlatac, Head of School, Ginger Parnell, Co-Founder, and Clare Abel, Academic Dean*



*Keith Isley and his grandfather at Special Persons Day*



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