

MEDIA RELEASE

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Science Students from Virginia High Schools Compete in 18th Annual Regional Ocean Science Bowl

On Saturday, February 7, top science students from ten Virginia high schools faced off at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point for the **18th Annual Blue Crab Bowl**. The **Blue Crab Bowl** is the Virginia regional competition of the National Ocean Science Bowl (NOSB[®]). Sixteen teams came from across of the Commonwealth, from Manassas to Virginia Beach, Warrenton in the west to Exmore on the Eastern Shore. The nearly 80 students spent the day in heated tournament competition focused on the marine sciences.

After a challenging day of both round robin and double elimination matches – 46 matches in all - **Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School's Team A**, from Virginia Beach, remained undefeated and took First Place for a record eighth year. In Second Place was **Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Glenns/Warsaw Team B**. **Seton School**, from Manassas, took Third Place; and **Broadwater Academy's Team B** placed Fourth.

The **Blue Crab Bowl** is a cooperative effort between the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, and Old Dominion University's Department of Ocean, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences. Over 70 scientists, including faculty, graduate students and staff from both institutions and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, donated many hours of their time to ensure the success of this exciting event.

Virginia's **Blue Crab Bowl** was among the inaugural NOSB competitions in 1998. Designed to inspire and challenge high school students, NOSB contests like the Blue Crab Bowl test the competitors' knowledge of the marine sciences, covering the breadth of oceanography and maritime disciplines. **To date, the Blue Crab Bowl has involved over 1,450 of the Commonwealth's brightest science students from 52 public and private schools across Virginia.**

Using questions designed by marine scientists and educators, the contest tested students' knowledge of oceanography, geology, biology, maritime history and policy. Guided by their teacher coaches, students broadened their awareness and understanding of the oceans as they prepared for the competition. The Bowl provides a forum for students who excel in math and science to receive regional and national recognition for their diligence and talent. During Saturday's event, the competition started with a field of sixteen teams, with four emerging as top contenders by late afternoon.

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Competing 2015 teams included:

Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – Team A, Virginia Beach
Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – Team B, Virginia Beach
Broadwater Academy – Team A, Exmore
Broadwater Academy – Team B, Exmore
Chesapeake Bay Governor’s School – Team A, Glenss & Warsaw
Chesapeake Bay Governor’s School – Team B, Glenss & Warsaw
Churchland High School, Portsmouth
Fauquier High School – Team A, Warrenton
Fauquier High School – Team B, Warrenton
Governor’s School for Science & Technology – Team A, Hampton
Governor’s School for Science & Technology – Team B, Hampton
Isle of Wight Academy – Team A, Isle of Wight
Isle of Wight Academy – Team B, Isle of Wight
Patrick Henry High School, Ashland
Seton School – Team A, Manassas
Seton School – Team B, Manassas

At the end of the grueling day, all teams were recognized during the Awards Ceremony by Bowl Coordinators **Dr. Carol Hopper Brill** from VIMS and **Dr. Victoria Hill** from ODU. Prizes were presented by **Dr. Mark Luckenbach**, Associate Dean of Research & Advisory Services at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science and **Dr. Roger Harvey**, Chair of ODU’s Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. The students were applauded for their accomplishments and encouraged to continue their studies in interdisciplinary marine sciences.

The winning team will represent Virginia in the national competition, facing other regional champions at the National finals, April 24-26, in Ocean Springs, Mississippi. The National Ocean Science Bowl is a program of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership in Washington, DC. NOSB seeks to interest students in ocean science as a college major and potential career. Through 25 regional competitions across the nation, NOSB provides an educational forum intended to: generate student interest in the ocean sciences; improve awareness of our oceans, coasts and Great Lakes; and create an “ocean literate” society that can meet the ocean challenges of the future. During 2015, an expected 2,000 students from over 300 high schools from around the country will participate in this 18th annual event.

The Blue Crab Bowl wouldn’t be possible without the generous support of national, regional and local sponsors. The local sponsors are: the Virginia Institute of Marine Science; ODU’s Department of Ocean Earth & Atmospheric Sciences; VIMS the Marine Advisory Program; the Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association and National Marine Educators Association; Comfort Suites-Airport, Newport News; Pizza Hut, Gloucester Point. For a list of the national and regional sponsors, visit the NOSB website at www.nosb.org/.

For further information, please contact or **Dr. Carol Hopper Brill**, phone 804-684-7735, email chopper@vims.edu or **Dr. Victoria Hill** via phone at 757-683-4911 or e-mail vhill@odu.edu. Information about **Blue Crab Bowl** is also available at www.vims.edu/bcb . For information on other competitions around the country and the National Ocean Science Bowl, visit www.nosb.org/.

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BLUE CRAB BOWL 2015 WINNING TEAMS



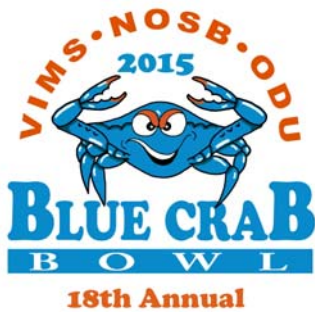
1st Place:

Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – Team A
Coach Bill Dunn

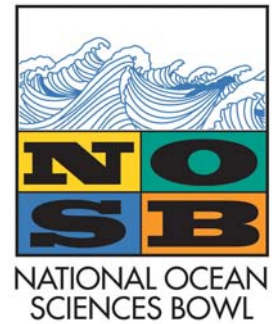


First Place: Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – Team A,
Virginia Beach, VA

For the eighth year in a row, students from **Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School's Team A** took **First Place in the Blue Crab Bowl**. The 18th Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science on February 7. Coached by **science teacher Bill Dunn** (far left, back), team members include (left to right): **Team Captain Patrick West** (junior); **Gerry Fernandez** (freshman); **Iggy Liberto** (sophomore); **Dominic Gentlesk** (freshman); and **Ryan Remias** (junior). Not pictured is **Assistant Coach Dr. Carol Stapanowich**. Photo by Jacklyn Cravey, Virginia Sea Grant Photo Intern.



BLUE CRAB BOWL 2015 WINNING TEAMS



2nd Place:

Chesapeake Bay Governor's Schools, Glens & Warsaw - Team B
Coach Sara Beam

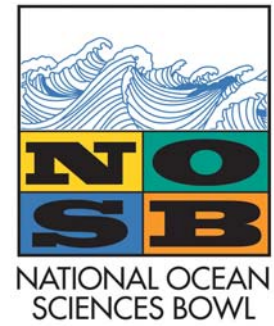


Second Place: Chesapeake Bay Governor's School – Team B, Glens & Warsaw, VA

Chesapeake Bay Governor's School Campus -Team B, took **Second Place** at the **2015 Blue Crab Bowl**. The 18th Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science on February 7. The combined team from Glens and Warsaw campuses was headed by **Lead Coach, science teacher Sara Beam** (third from left) and **Assistant Coach Gregory Dorsey** (second from right). Team members included (left to right): **Hallie Maass** (senior at New Kent High School); **Sam Jasinski** (senior, Mathews High); **David Bushhouse** (senior, New Kent High); **Robin Thady** (junior, Lancaster High school) and **John Richardson** (junior, Lancaster High).
Photo by Jacklyn Cravey, Virginia Sea Grant Photo Intern.



BLUE CRAB BOWL 2015 WINNING TEAMS



3rd Place:
Seton School, Manassas
Coach Patricia von Reyn

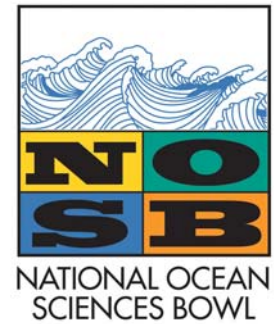


Third Place: Seton School, **Manassas, VA**

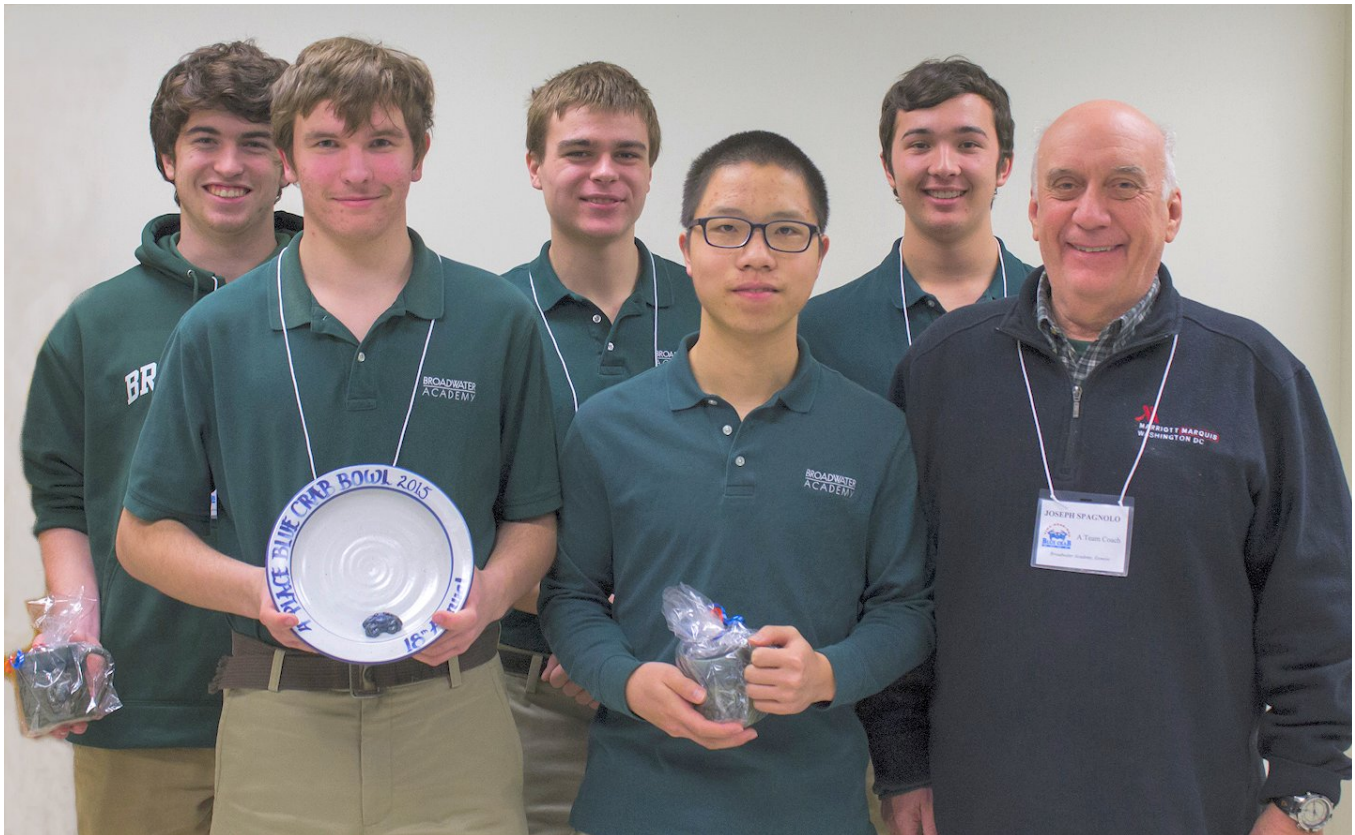
The team from **Seton School** captured **Third Place** in the 2015 Blue Crab Bowl. The 18th Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science on February 7. Coached by **Patricia von Reyn** (second from right), team members include (left to right): **Team Co-Captain Drew Marchesseault** (senior); **Nate Lewandowski** (senior); **Regina Terreri** (freshman); **Andrew Bishop** (senior); **Team Co-Captain Vinnie Terreri** (senior). Not pictured is **Assistant Coach John von Reyn**. Photo by Jacklyn Cravey, Virginia Sea Grant Photo Intern.



BLUE CRAB BOWL 2015 WINNING TEAMS



4th Place:
Broadwater Academy – Team A
Coach Joe Spagnolo



Fourth Place: Broadwater Academy – Team A, Exmore, VA

Team A from **Broadwater Academy**, coached by science teacher **Joseph Spagnolo** (far right) received **Fourth Place** honors in the 2015 Blue Crab Bowl. The 18th Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science on February 7. The Broadwater team members include (left to right): **Tristan Mariner (junior)**; **Team Captain Jordan Long (senior)**; **John Gordon (junior)**; **Luke Lai (junior)**; and **Benjamin Mabalot (junior)**. Not pictured is **Assistant Coach Airlia Gustafson**. Photo by Jacklyn Cravey, Virginia Sea Grant Photo Intern.