

PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release
March 8, 2010

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Top Students from Sixteen Virginia High Schools Compete in 13th Annual Regional Ocean Science Bowl

Sixteen teams, representing Virginia high schools from across the Commonwealth, faced off on Saturday, March 6, at the **13th Annual Blue Crab Bowl**. The academic contest, held this year at the Old Dominion University campus in Norfolk, tested the students' knowledge of the oceans. Eighty students, 26 science teachers, more than 30 supporters, and over 70 volunteers gathered for this Virginia Regional competition of the **National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB[®])**.

Competing teams included:

Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School, Virginia Beach
Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw Campus, Tappahannock
Churchland High School, Portsmouth
Fauquier High School, Warrenton
Fredericksburg Academy, Fredericksburg
Gloucester High School, Gloucester
Governor's School for Science & Technology – New Horizons, Hampton
Grafton High School, Yorktown
Isle of Wight Academy, Isle of Wight
Louisa County High School, Mineral
Maury High School, Norfolk
Patrick Henry High School, Ashland
Piedmont Governor's School for Math, Science & Technology, Collinsville
Richmond Christian School, Chesterfield
Saint Christopher's School, Richmond
Seton School, Manassas

Winning **First Place** for the third year in a row was **Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School**. Taking **Second Place** was **Grafton High School**. In **Third Place** was **Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw Campus** and **Fourth Place** went to **St. Christopher's School**. Photos of the top four teams follow.

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The **Blue Crab Bowl** is a cooperative effort of Old Dominion University's Department of Ocean, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences, the Virginia Institute of Marine Science (VIMS), College of William and Mary, and Virginia Sea Grant Marine Advisory Program at VIMS. Faculty, staff and graduate students from both institutions donated many hours of their time to ensure the success of this exciting event. Additional support came from: Virginia Sea Grant; ODU's Office of University Events; the Chesapeake Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve in Virginia; Virginia Aquarium and Marine Science Center; VIMS Gift Shop; Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association; the National Marine Educators Association, and Hampton Inn-Naval Base.

Using questions designed by marine scientists and educators, the contest tested the students' knowledge of oceanography, geology, biology, and maritime history. 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.

The winning team will represent Virginia in the national competition, facing 24 other regional champions at the **National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB[®])**, April 23-25, in St. Petersburg, Florida. NOSB 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 also 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 2010, an expected 2,000 students from nearly 400 high schools from around the country will participate in this twelfth annual event.

For further information, please contact Dr. Carol Hopper Brill via phone at 804-684-7735, e-mail chopper@vims.edu. Information about the **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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Photo Captions:

First Place: Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School, Virginia Beach

Coached by science teacher **William Dunn** (far left) and Assistant Coach **Carol Stapanowich** (far right), the Bishop Sullivan team members included (in front, left to right): **Mary Chang** (junior) and Team Captain **Christine Chesley** (senior). In back (left to right): **Kyle Bankes** (senior); **Jack Hall** (senior); and **Nathan Taylor** (junior).

Second Place: Grafton High School, Yorktown

Taking **Second Place** was Yorktown's Grafton High. Team members include, from left to right: Assistant Coach **Brian Dunn**; Coach **Jane Dodge** (far left); Team Captain **Fangdi Sun** (senior), **Britt Sorensen** (junior), **Ryan Gestwich** (senior), and **Ian Van Der Hoven**. (senior). Not pictured Bobby Donze (senior).

Third Place: Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Glenns Campus

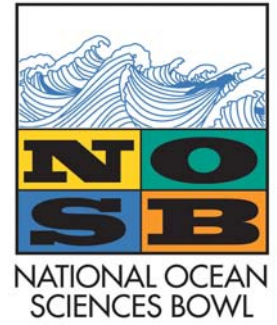
In **Third Place** was Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw Campus with Coach **James Beam** (far right). Team members included: Team Captain **Patrick Keyser** (senior); **Grace Perkins** (junior); **Cody Reed** (senior); **Nathan Brown** (senior), and **Brittany McKenney** (senior).

Fourth Place: Saint Christopher's School, Richmond

Coached by science teacher **William McGuire**, St. Christopher's team received **Fourth Place**. The team includes (left to right): **Will Vaughn** (senior); **Si Wofford** (senior); **Joey Thompson** (senior); and **Coach William McGuire**. Not pictured: Team Captain **William Bannard** (senior).



BLUE CRAB BOWL 2010 WINNING TEAMS



1st Place:
Bishop Sullivan Catholic High
Coach Bill Dunn &
Assistant Coach Carol Stapanowich

2nd Place:
Grafton High School
Coach Jane Dodge &
Assistant Coach Brian Dunn

3rd Place: **Chesapeake Bay**
Governor's School – Warsaw
Coach James Beam



4th Place: **St. Christopher's School**
Coach William McGuire

