



---

## PRESS RELEASE

**For Immediate Release**  
**February 28, 2011**

Contact: Carol Hopper Brill  
804-684-7735 <chopper@vims.edu>

### **Top Science Students from Virginia High Schools Compete in 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Ocean Science Bowl**

Sixteen teams, representing thirteen Virginia high schools, faced off on Saturday, February 26, at the **14<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Crab Bowl**. The academic contest, held this year at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point, tested the students' knowledge of the oceans. The **Blue Crab Bowl** is the Virginia regional competition of the National Ocean Science Bowl (NOSB<sup>®</sup>). Eighty students spent the day in heated tournament competition focused on the marine sciences. Teams came from all corners of the Commonwealth, from Fredericksburg to Virginia Beach, Warrenton in the west to Exmore on the Eastern Shore.

For a record fourth year in row, **Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School** walked away with the top honors. In second place was **Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Glenns Campus**; third went to **Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw**; **Broadwater Academy** (Exmore) placed fourth.

The **Blue Crab Bowl** is a cooperative effort between the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary and the Old Dominion University's Department of Ocean, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences. Over eighty volunteers, including faculty, staff and graduate students from both institutions, as well scientists from the US Navy and 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 1150 of the Commonwealth's brightest science students from 51 public and private schools across Virginia.**

~MORE~

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 16 teams, with four emerging as top contenders by late afternoon.

Competing teams included:

**Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – A Team**, Virginia Beach  
**Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – B Team**, Virginia Beach  
**Broadwater Academy**, Exmore  
**Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Glenns Campus**, Glenns  
**Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw Campus**, Warsaw  
**Churchland High School**, Portsmouth  
**Fauquier High School**, Warrenton  
**Fredericksburg Academy**, Fredericksburg  
**Isle of Wight Academy**, Isle of Wight  
**Louisa County High School**, Mineral  
**Maury High School**, Norfolk  
**Patrick Henry High School – A Team**, Ashland  
**Patrick Henry High School – B Team**, Ashland  
**Saint Christopher's School**, Richmond  
**Seton School – A Team**, Manassas  
**Seton School – B Team**, Manassas

During the Awards Ceremony, all teams were recognized with awards presented by the leaders of the competitions two host institutions: **Dr. John Wells, Dean/Director of the Virginia Institute of Marine Science** and **Dr. Roger Harvey, Chair of ODU's Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Science**. They addressed the audience of 200, applauded the students' accomplishments and encouraged their continued studies in marine sciences.

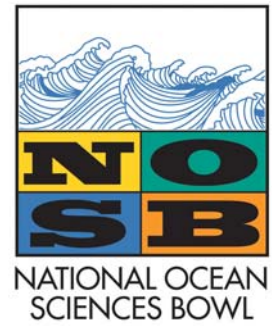
The winning team will represent Virginia in the national competition, facing 24 other regional champions at the **National Ocean Sciences Bowl (NOSB®)**, April 29-May 1, in Galveston, Texas. NOSB is a program of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership in Washington, DC. NOSB seeks to interest students in 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 2011, an expected 2,000 students from nearly 400 high schools from around the country will participate in this this fourteenth annual event.

The Blue Crab Bowl wouldn't be possible without the generous support of national, regional and local sponsors. Among them are Virginia Institute of Marine Science's Dean & Directors Office, The Mariners' Museum, Pizza Hut-Gloucester Point, Comfort Suites-Airport, Newport News, the VIMS Gift Shop, Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association and National Marine Educators Association.

For further information, please contact Dr. Carol Hopper Brill via phone at 804-684-7735, e-mail [chopper@vims.edu](mailto:chopper@vims.edu). Information about the **Blue Crab Bowl** is also available at [www.vims.edu/bcb](http://www.vims.edu/bcb). For information on other competitions around the country and the National Ocean Science Bowl, visit [www.nosb.org/](http://www.nosb.org/).



## BLUE CRAB BOWL 2011 WINNING TEAMS



**1<sup>st</sup> Place:**  
**Bishop Sullivan Catholic High**  
**Coach Bill Dunn**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Place:**  
**Chesapeake Bay Governor's**  
**School - Glens**  
**Coach Sherry Pettyjohn**

**3<sup>rd</sup> Place:**  
**Chesapeake Bay Governor's**  
**School - Warsaw**  
**Coach James Beam**



**4<sup>th</sup> Place: Broadwater Academy**  
**Coach Joseph Spagnolo**



## **Photo Captions:**

### **First Place: Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School, Virginia Beach**

For the fourth year in a row, students from **Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School** took **First Place** in the Blue Crab Bowl. The 14<sup>th</sup> Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Sciences on Saturday, February 26. Coached by **science teacher William Dunn** (back row, right), team members include (from left to right): **Walker Olson** (junior); **Cameron Forren** (freshman); Team Captain **Mary Chang** (senior); **Nathon Taylor** (senior); and (back row, right) **Joe Bridenstine** (senior).

### **Second Place: Chesapeake Bay Governor's School – Glens Campus**

**The Chesapeake Bay Governor's School - Glens** team captured **Second Place**. Science teacher **Coach Sherry Pettyjohn** (standing), has a winning history at the Bowl. This year's team members include: **Emma Marie Hepworth** (junior), **Rachel Corrigan** (senior), Team Captain **Rebecca Walker** (senior), and **Henry Banks** (senior).

### **Third Place: Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw Campus**

**The Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw Campus** team, coached by **science teacher James Beam** (back row, right), took **Third Place**. Team members include: **LeighAnna Morris** (senior, back row, left); front row (left to right) **Paige Trivett** (senior); **Hannah Wallace** (senior), Team Captain **Emma Hollowell** (senior), and **Anne Self** (senior).

### **Fourth Place: Broadwater Academy, Exmore**

The team from **Broadwater Academy**, coached by **science teacher Joe Spagnolo** (back row, center) received **Fourth Place** honors. The team includes, in the back row: Team Captain **Colin Parker** (senior) on left and **Dylan Ward** (junior) on right. In the front row: **Anna White** (senior); **Rachel Seaman** (senior); **Paige McManus** (senior); and team supporter **Natalie Tomlinson**.

###