

GMHS Wins Record Six State Championships

In no other school year has George Mason High School won more Virginia state championships than 2009-2010. But adding another 6 titles and a bunch of new trophies to the case is only half the story of success for a year that is one for the history books.

"More than half of our athletes maintained a 3.5 grade point average or better during their season," adds FCCPS Athletic Director Tom Horn. "Winning is outside of our control, but excellence is not."

When the final whistle blew on the 2010 VHSL Spring Jubilee Sunday, not only had the Mustang boys soccer team repeated as state champions in a 2-1 win over Radford, it put a cap on the most decorated season in GMHS history. The day before, the Mustang girls soccer team won its third consecutive state title, and the boys tennis team picked up a 6th title in 10 years. This past winter, the girls basketball team won its second consecutive championship and the



The championship banner in Mustang Gym awaits another six entries this year.

Scholastic Bowl team picked up its fourth championship title. George Mason's championship year all started in the fall when the girls cross country team brought home the state title, which was the second ever for the team.

"Still success has nothing to do with trophies," Horn said. "Next year we want to increase participation numbers, advance our skill sets, improve our off-season training opportunities, and our in-season strength and conditioning. We will also create opportunities for student-athletes to learn and demonstrate leadership, character and maturity, and develop a comprehensive student-athlete academic advisory program."

No Recession at TJ on Market Day

You would be hard pressed to find signs of any kind of a recession during Thomas Jefferson Elementary Market Day last week.

Students, whose pockets were burning with all the "Tiger Bucks" they had earned for various achievements and good behavior all year, went on a big shopping spree in the stores of their 4th grade entrepreneurs!

From baked goods and origami to homemade candy and magnetic buttons, the elder Tigers put all their math, economic and oral speaking skills to work to move their merchandise. The TJ Market Day has become an annual year end activity that students love.



Fourth graders Angela Dilas (left) and Grace Johnson show off their homemade baked goods at "A.G.'s" store.

FCC-TV Spotlight: 2010 GMHS Commencement

Tune in to Falls Church Community Television (FCC-TV) to watch the 2010 George Mason High School Commencement. This year's ceremony takes place at DAR Constitution Hall and features commencement speaker Congressman Jim Moran. You can also see speeches and performances by members of the graduating class.



The program airs on FCC-TV at the following times:

- Friday, June 18th at 4:30 p.m.
- Saturday, June 19th at 3:00 p.m.
- Sunday, June 20th at 5:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 21st at 12:00 p.m.
- Wednesday, June 23rd at 12:00 p.m.

You can now see FCC-TV programming live at www.fcctv.net anywhere in the world! FCC-TV also airs in the greater Falls Church area on Cox Channel 12, Verizon Channel 35 and RCN Channel 2.



BIE Partner of the Week

Rosemary Winchester and Shakia Branch
Essential Health Care

School involvement: During Staff Appreciation Week, spent several days at Thomas Jefferson Elementary and Mary Ellen Henderson Middle School providing chair massages and spinal evaluations.



Why Rosemary & Shakia are BIE partners: "Sometimes people don't realize how stressed they are until they sit down in that massage chair and relax. Teachers work so hard, taking care of others. It's a treat to be able to take care of them for a few minutes of their busy day."

For more information about sharing your expertise through the BIE Partnership, visit www.fccps.org or contact Marybeth Connelly at connellym@fccps.org.

Foundation Footnotes



Online registration for
Run for the Schools now open

The 5th Annual Run for the Schools 5K Race and 1 Mile Family Fun Run/Walk will be held on Sunday, September 12th at 8 a.m. The event includes a chip-timed, certified 5K race throughout the tree-lined streets of Falls Church City and a post-race awards ceremony featuring cash and equipment prizes. The event also features a one-mile family fun run/walk. To register, visit www.fcedf.org and click on 2010 Run for the Schools. Proceeds will benefit Falls Church Education Foundation programs and operations.

The Falls Church Education Foundation is a registered 501(c)3 tax-exempt organization.

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GMHS Spirit Wall Getting Face Lift

After five years, the wall which greets everyone to the main entrance of George Mason High School is getting a face lift this summer.

"It is one of the first things people see and we want it to always look nice," said facility use coordinator Seve Padilla.



Photo by Joy Nystrom

The spirit wall contains the painting of five running mustangs through the words "Mason Spirit" and includes the George Mason quote, "All men are by nature born equally free and independent."

There will be no change in the design of the wall, just fresh paint. Prep work began on June 1st and the project is expected to be completed by the end of summer. Teachers Pam Spicer, Janet Weber and Maria Shields are coordinating students to help paint the wall. The project is open to everyone.

Calendar for June 17-July 6, 2010

Testing	
Now - 6/18	GMHS Exams
7/12 - 7/15	SOL Writing (GM)
7/21 - 7/23	SOL Non-Writing (GM)
8/4 - 8/5	SOL Non-Writing Part 2 (GM)

June	
17	Early Release Day (All Schools) 5:00 p.m. GMHS Graduation (Constitution Hall)
18	Last Day of School - Early Release Day (All Schools)
21	Professional Day Summer Camp Begins - Day Care 8:00 a.m. Band Booster Meeting
22	6:30 p.m. School Board Work Session (City Hall) 8:00 p.m. School Board Regular Meeting (City Hall)

July	
1	7:00 a.m. School Board organizational meeting (City Hall)
6	Summer School Begins (All Schools)

For more calendar information, visit www.fccps.org/calendar.

(MD) Mt. Daniel School (TJ) Thomas Jefferson Elementary
(MEH) Mary Ellen Henderson Middle
(GM) George Mason High (CO) Central Office



SCHOOLS

