

## November Calendar

- Nov. 2-4 Book Fair, 8 am-4 pm
- Nov. 2 MS Masks & Puppets, 9:50 am
- Nov. 3 7<sup>th</sup> Gr. Play, 9:50 am
- Nov. 5 6<sup>th</sup> Gr. to TOY Theater-9:30 am-12:30 pm  
Family Skating Night-7:00-9:00 pm
- Nov. 6 SAT/II-7:45 am  
Young Writers' Workshop-8:45 am
- Nov. 8 Parent Assoc. General Mtg.-4 pm
- Nov. 10 MS Parent Book Club-Jacobs Libr, 8:15 am  
US Fall Sports Ass'ly, 10:00 am  
Sr. Class Ice Cream Social, 2:50 pm
- Nov. 11 Veterans' Day-No Classes for MS & US students  
US Parent/Teacher Conferences, 8 am-4 pm
- Nov. 12 End of MS Fall Trimester
- Nov. 12-13 US Fall Play, 7pm
- Nov. 17 "See Us in Action"-Gr. 9-12, 8:30am  
College Workshop for Seniors-3 pm
- Nov. 18 8<sup>th</sup> Gr. leaves for NYC, 5 am  
US Parent/Teacher Conferences-4-8 pm
- Nov. 19 School Community Service Day (students and faculty are required to be here on this day).
- Nov. 20 8<sup>th</sup> Gr. returns from NYC-9:30pm
- Nov. 24-28 Thanksgiving
- Nov. 29 School resumes
- Nov. 29-Dec. 3 Freedom From Chemical Dependency
- Dec. 1 Grade Reps Meeting 4pm
- Dec. 3 Family Skating Night, 6-7:30 pm
- Dec. 4 Admissions Test (Gr. 5-12) 8:45 am  
SAT/II, 7:45 am

## Change + Innovation = Progress

by Rick Bryan, Headmaster

In September, as part of our continuing professional development, I accompanied four Nichols trustees to a workshop at Allendale-Columbia School in Rochester. The leaders were Fred Calder, the Executive Director of New York State Association of Independent Schools and Pat Bassett, President of National Association of Independent Schools.

One of the presentations was entitled "Hot Topics in Independent Schools." Pat Bassett presented the major areas that school heads around the country had identified as the current strategic agenda for independent schools.

They included:

- Financing the Affordable School
- 3 R's of Faculty: Recruitment, Retention, and Rewarding
- Managing Technology
- Creating a 21st Century Curriculum and Program
- Diverse and Inclusive Communities
- Communicating With Parents

At Nichols School, all six of these items are included in our strategic plan, and in addition to the campus planning effort, we are developing many varied strategies in each of these areas.

One important area to explore is how we are going about creating a 21<sup>st</sup> century curriculum and program. The mark of a great school is continually exploring best practices and making changes to

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## FCD RETURNS TO NICHOLS

by Tim McCarthy, US Dean of Students

The first week of December will be Freedom from Chemical Dependency week in the Middle and Upper School Wellness Program. FCD will mark its fifth year of offering their nationally recognized program to the eighth and tenth grade students at Nichols.

Freedom from Chemical Dependency (FCD) is a non-profit organization based outside Boston, Massachusetts that provides alcohol, tobacco and other drug education to schools and colleges throughout the United States. FCD presents the most up-to-date information available on the physiological and psychological effects of various drugs and provides a forum for discussing all sorts of social, cultural and personal issues that relate to the choices people make.

One thing that makes FCD unique is that all FCD teachers have achieved long term recovery from alcohol and/or drug addiction. Most FCD teachers started their own drinking and drug use during their junior or senior high school years. FCD instructors have experienced the pressures, personal issues and social situations teenagers face with regard to alcohol and other drug use. They also have first-hand knowledge of the

destructive aspects of drug use and how occasional use, in their case, led to addiction. This unique "I've been there" perspective not only enhances the credibility of their message, but provides students with role models for happy, healthy and drug-free living.

Nichols is fortunate to

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# Parent Association

## EVENTS

### General Meeting:

Monday, November 8, 4:00 p.m., Rand Dining Room

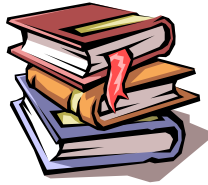
*All parents are welcome!*

### Grade Reps. Meeting:

Wednesday, December 1, 4:00 p.m.

Middle School - Mitchell Conf. Rm.

Upper School - Rand Dining Rm.



### Book Fair

**November 2-4, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.**

Nichols will be holding its annual Book Fair on Tuesday, November 2 through Thursday, November 4 in the Boocock Reading Room, Albright Hall. Barnes & Noble will again be supplying the books and gift items.

On Thursday, November 4, we will have local author, Jan Siebold, present for a book signing. Jan is the author of two books, *Doing Time Online* and *Rope Burn*, which both are appropriate for our Middle School students. We will have copies of John Munro's recommended reads for adults, so be sure to visit. Titles appropriate for the college-bound set are also for sale. Don't miss it -- this is a great way to get a jump on holiday shopping!!!

Katie Kenney, Andrea Ferin and Barb Riedel - co chairs

## DERBY DAY AUCTION 2005

**THE AUCTION STARTING GATE IS OPEN!**

**SAVE THE DATE!!!**

**MAY 7, 2005**

\* \* \* \* \*

**\* MARK YOUR CALENDERS \***

**DERBY DAY ROUND-UP  
THURSDAY, JANUARY 27, 2005**

*Date may change!*

*Please watch for  
further announcements.*

### National College Fair Seeking Sponsors

The National Association of College Admission Counselors (NACAC) is hosting a spring college fair for WNY's high school students and their parents at the Buffalo Convention Center on May 24-25, 2005. The Local Arrangements Committee is seeking corporate sponsorship for transportation assistance for needy schools, hospitality, technology (telephone and computer hook-ups), and T-shirts for student volunteers. Please contact Chris Writer (ext. 219) if you or your company is interested.

# College Connection

## Important Dates:

**College Financial Aid Night** –  
(open to all Upper School parents)  
Thursday, December 2, 7 p.m.,  
Mitchell Hall Conference Room



### 2004-05 SAT I/II ([www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com))

December 4 (late registration due November 10)

January 22 (registration due December 20)

March 12\* + (registration due February 7)

May 7\* (registration due March 25)

June 4\* (registration due April 29)

\*The new SAT I test with writing component takes effect with the March 12, 2005 exam. Juniors are encouraged to take the old SAT I on December 4 and the SAT II: Writing subject test on January 22 if they have not previously done so. They will also be encouraged to take the new SAT I in May and at least two other subject tests in June. Parents, please call the College Office (ext. 215 or 219) if you have questions.

### 2004-05 ACT + ([www.act.org](http://www.act.org))

December 11 (registration due November 5)

February 12 (registration due January 7)

April 9 (registration due March 4)

June 11 (registration due May 6)

+ Tests are not offered at Nichols.

## Help! What's Due?

This fall, as we've been speaking with senior parents, many have voiced a similar concern. What's due? What's the timeline for getting in materials? At this point in the semester, all seniors should have

- 1) completed and submitted their brag sheet to the College Office,
- 2) asked 2 teachers for recommendations,
- 3) written a first draft of their college essay (see Common Application for topics),
- 4) composed a general list of colleges to apply to,
- 5) registered for a final set of SAT or ACT exams (if necessary),
- 6) registered for the NCAA Clearinghouse if they are looking to play Division I or II sports.

For those seniors applying Early Action or Early Decision with November 1-December 1 deadlines, their transcript release forms (available in the College Office) with their college's secondary (high) school report forms are overdue to their college counselor. If applying for financial aid, please check the college's website to ascertain what forms are needed for early applications. The FAFSA, available after January 1, will also be required.

And a reminder... Parents, if you have not met with your child's college counselor, please call us for an appointment.

Thank you! Jim Kramer, ext. 215

Chris Writer, ext. 219



# In Service to Our Community

In conjunction with Upper School Spirit Week, the first major community service effort of the year was launched by our new Upper School coordinator, Monika Nagy. The morning of October 15 began with a speaker from Friends of the Night People and followed with a community awareness information fair in the Gerard Gymnasium. Students and advisors had time to explore a variety of community service initiatives in Western New York. Advisor groups met to participate in a hands-on effort, such as making sandwiches for Friends of the Night People or park and neighborhood clean up. November 19 is designated as Community Service Day and advisor groups will be participating in a myriad of volunteer experiences throughout the Buffalo-area community.

In the Middle School, Tim Fulton of Olmsted Parks spoke at an afternoon assembly about the relationship between the organization and the M.S. community service project. On October 6, advisor groups (180 students) planted over 1500 bulbs in Delaware Park from Colvin Avenue to Parkside. They were closely supervised by members of the Olmsted Parks Conservancy and the Botanical Society.

For all Senior Parent Verdian information, including submissions, advertising, and due dates, please consult <http://verdian.nicholsschool.org>, the official web page of the Verdian.

# Viking Sports

## Golf Team Earns League Title

In early October, the Nichols Golf Team traveled to Hudson, OH for the IPSL tournament at Silver Lake CC. Nichols placed its name on the trophy for the first time with a 13-stroke victory over defending champion, Shadyside Academy. Nichols was led by captain Chris Covelli '05, who was a medalist with a 73 (39/34). Andrew Stegemann '05 added a score of 79, Joe Livsey '07 scored 80, and Willie Edge '06 added 81 for a winning team score of 313. Nichols finished their season 8-3 and will defend their NYSAIS championship title in the spring.

## Boys Soccer Goalkeeper, Super-7 Athlete of Week

Senior Bob Shuttleworth was recognized on October 21 as WKBW-TV's Super-7 Athlete of the Week. Earlier that week, Bob recorded his 43<sup>rd</sup> career shutout to break the Western New York record of 42. The Nichols boys team also won the IPSL (Independent Private School League) cup for winning the regular season title and placed second in the IPSL tournament, held in Hudson, OH on October 22-23. As league champions, Nichols named four players to the All-League squad. They were seniors Bob Shuttleworth, Kyle Winnick, and Joe Walter and junior, Rocky Rockwell.

## Nichols Varsity Teams Hopeful for NYSAIS Bids

The boys and girls soccer teams, the field hockey team, and the cross country teams are keeping their fingers crossed that they will receive bids in early November to travel to the NYSAIS championships held in metropolitan New York City. The soccer and field hockey tournaments will be held November 4-6; the cross country championships are held the following week. The Nichols boys soccer team is defending champion; both the girls soccer and field hockey teams were runner-up in 2003. Last year, the boys cross country team placed first in the Independent Division.

## Football Qualifies for League Tourney

The Varsity Football team scored 29 unanswered points in the first half against Niagara Catholic on October 23 to win their first league game 36-12. The win qualifies them to compete in the Msgr. Martin League championships that begin October 30.

## Winter Sports Begin

Tryouts for the Upper School junior varsity and varsity teams begin Monday, November 1. Middle School winter sports also begin on November 1. Please make sure fall sports uniforms and equipment have been returned to Jan Zasowski, the equipment manager in the Scully Athletic Center (ext. 128).



## Lost & Found

A round, green tablecloth was found in the baseball dug-outs. It might have been left at last spring's girls lacrosse tournament. Please contact Chris Writer (ext. 219) if it is yours!

## LAST CALL—

A huge pile of sneakers, cleats, and dress shoes left in the locker rooms are being donated soon to local charities and the Nicaraguan Fund. Please check to see if you are missing any of these items and have your child reclaim immediately!



For the safety of our students, please drive slowly through our campus and do not enter through the Colvin gates!



# What is Character Education?<sup>1</sup>

As a parent, you are your child's most important teacher and play an important role in the character development of your child. You may not call it by that name, but you certainly do teach your children about character everyday; it is how you talk to them, provide discipline for unacceptable behavior, reward "good" acts, or encourage their learning. A parent is the key role model for character in a child's life.

"Having character" usually means people are inclined to act according to values and do what's right. Most of us agree on the essential values that comprise good character. We recognize the importance of showing respect and caring for others, of being responsible and practicing good citizenship. We appreciate the importance of honesty and trustworthiness. We are sensitive to the need for justice and fairness. This is not to deny that people have different values and that sometimes these differences clash.

Can you teach your children to have good character? Yes, you can, in virtually any situation. Teaching character isn't merely about preaching or lecturing. It is about providing guidance to your child and encouraging him/her to act according to those beliefs and values. Children learn values from television, the Internet, popular music, their peers, as well as their family and their school. The challenge for parents is to become more active in determining what values their children learn and how this should be done.

## **What parents can do:**

- Supervise TV watching, game playing
- Use content of TV shows as jumping off points for conversations
- Limit TV viewing time
- Limit Internet time for non-academic purposes
- Work with Internet provider to limit/remove adult-oriented or inappropriate websites
- Discuss email messages received from unknown persons
- Pay attention to lyrics in music that may conflict with family's values
- Use lyrics and behaviors of celebrities as examples of good & bad behavior
- Affirm and reward examples of good character in daily decisions and behaviors

## **Current Events**

The Middle School is continuing with a character education curriculum initiated last year. The program depends upon a successful school/parent partnership. Wendy Amato is the Middle School coordinator. Different programs and ways in which to implement a Character

Education program in the Upper School are being researched. With Wendy Amato, Heather Jenkins, Assistant Librarian and Diversity Coordinator, is exploring the best options for the Nichol's community. Upper School parents wishing to participate on a Parents Committee, please contact Wendy Amato (876-3500 ext. 122).

## **MIDDLE SCHOOL**

On October 21, the first Parents Committee meeting of the school year was held in the Jacobs Library. Parents came in early to hear Kenton Muscato '05 speak about his experiences living with a physical disability. After his inspirational talk, an update was given on the Nichols Middle School Character Education program -- the Nichols "Four"est, Word of the Week, quotes on the wall, SecondStep, Kids Helping Kids and our parent newsletter. Those of you who drive your children to school have

probably noticed the addition of "trees" in the Middle School foyer. As Dean Tom Franz so succinctly introduced the trees to the students, the trees are there to "catch the students doing something right." Every time a student goes "above and beyond" what is expected of them, a leaf goes on the tree that corresponds with their grade. Take a moment to read the leaves and see all of the great things your children are doing. Every week another word

of value or character is chosen as the "Word of the Week." Faculty and advisors have been encouraged to incorporate the word of the week into the lessons for that week. Walls are being decorated with quotes to make the students think about their behavior, beliefs and how they relate to the world around them. The Middle School is continuing to use the SecondStep program created by the Committee for Children. Each lesson is taught by the student's advisor during an advisory period. Lastly, the "Kids Helping Kids" community service project that was developed by last year's Parents' Committee is getting off of the ground. This program collects school supplies, which will be donated to Buffalo families by way of the Buffalo City School District. The Committee is asking families to donate any school supplies (encourage your children to come up with creative ways of buying these supplies, for example one week's allowance, pop bottle returns, etc.).



The donations can be brought into the Main office, attention Wendy Amato. The Student Life Committees are also working out ways in which the students can help support this project. Heather Williams and Valerie Zingapan have graciously agreed to co-chair the "Kids Helping Kids" program.

Also discussed was combining John Munro's Book Club meetings with a theme related parenting discussion/activity. The first Book Club meeting is on Wednesday, November 10 from 8:15-9:30. The book selection is *Family Matters: How Schools Cope with the Crisis in Childrearing* by Robert Evans.

### What's Up With SecondStep?

In November the Middle School will be participating in lessons surrounding the theme of Empathy. Specifically, your child will explore different ways to express emotions, interpreting others emotions, communication styles, accepting differences, and learning about different perspectives. Empathy is a generic term that relates to how we show another person concern for them. The old Native American proverb to "walk a mile in one's moccasins," basically summarizes the ideals of showing empathy to one another.

### November's Words of the Week:

- Tolerant** - willing to accept persons and opinions that are different from your own
- Resourceful** - able to think of creative ways to do things
- Perseverance** - sticking to a purpose or aim
- Thankful** - feeling and expressing gratitude

### Parent's Ask

Q-"My child often comes home and tells me stories about other classmates teasing and making fun of her. What should I tell her to do?"

A-Bullying is unfortunately a common problem among the Middle School age group, and one that has been around throughout history. Having said this, your child needs to know that bullying is never acceptable nor will it be tolerated. There are many things you, as a parent, can do to help your child handle these stressful situations. First, compliment them on their bravery in coming to you and sharing this often embarrassing experience in their life. Second, remind them that no matter what, bullying is not acceptable or ever asked for on the part of the victim. Third, spend some time working with your child on possible defense strategies to help ward off the bully's attacks. Teaching children to respond in an unexpected way or with humor is often very successful. You and your child can role play different strategies, taking turns at being the bully and being your child. Fourth, encourage your child to tell a teacher, or let you tell a teacher. As risky as this is, it is the only way to truly solve the problem. When the school knows about the problem two things can happen. One, teachers can watch more closely and catch the bully in the act, and two, teachers can work with your child to help develop defense strategies that might work with the particular bully in question. Also, do not be afraid to involve the School Social Worker. Not directly involved with discipline, the School Social Worker can often provide a neutral person to help your child. Lastly, remind

your child that the best defense is to show that you are not hurt or bothered by the bully's actions, and to not lower themselves to the same level as the bully. Help your child to live well and feel good about themselves at home and around their friends, and the negative comments will just roll off their backs.

Warm weather fosters growth; cold weather destroys it. Thus a man with an unsympathetic temperament has a scant joy; but a man with a warm and friendly heart overflowing blessings. And his beneficence will extend to posterity.

-Hung T zu-Cheng

### Calling All Volunteers!

If you are able and willing to lend an occasional helping hand to one of your child's teachers, or other faculty member, please complete the following and send it back to school. Indicate days and times that you are available. Also indicate if you are willing, but unable to help during the school day and would be able to help after school.

Please Return to Wendy Amato, M.S.

- Name:
- Child's grade:
- E-mail:
- Phone:
- Monday:
- Tuesday:
- Wednesday:
- Thursday:
- Friday:
- Other:

Cont. from page 1: Progress ensure the finest education for its students. Educator Howard Gardner notes, "If schools do not change rapidly they are likely to be replaced by other more responsive institutions." At independent schools like Nichols, our positive track record may be the greatest impediment to change. It's not always easy to institute change when a school has been enjoying decades of peace and prosperity. So why advocate change?

Studies show that the public increasingly identifies high quality schools with innovativeness, but least identifies innovativeness with independent schools. Also, in some parts of the country, charter schools are viewed as the most dynamic and innovative of schools. The message for Nichols: change is required and so is innovation.

In the past year, we have evaluated our program on several levels. We have begun a multi-year survey of Nichols graduates who have been away from the school for five years, asking their assessment of the curriculum and teachers, exploring how prepared they felt for the rigors of college and university study and life, learning which majors students graduated in and where their first job has taken them. In addition, last year we surveyed over thirty admissions directors at leading colleges and universities asking them about their relationship with Nichols, and how well prepared our students were entering their freshmen year. Under the direction of librarian Susan Allen, we have begun a thorough curriculum mapping

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(Cont. from page 5: Progress)

project, examining not just content, but skills and themes in each course. We are nearly complete with the Middle School, and will begin in earnest to talk with each Upper School teacher this year. In all three evaluations, the results have been quite positive and affirming.

This summer, as many of you are aware we hired an architectural firm to undertake an eight-month campus planning exercise to help assess our current facilities, look at ways to integrate the newly acquired 6.5 acres, and equally important, to look at Nichols School in benchmark with other leading independent schools. Initially, what we have learned is that our Upper School library is not viewed as a place for students to gather, and it is not conducive to studying and researching. We also learned that many leading independent schools have developed math, science, and technology buildings that have areas for student projects and independent research, and emphasize the inter-relationship between the science disciplines.

It has become increasingly clear that in addition to funding our faculty to obtain advanced degrees in their disciplines, we need to send our teachers to other leading independent schools to view best practices in curriculum, program, and facilities. Later this fall, members of our US science department are doing just that, hoping to visit three or four innovative programs. Peter Fayroian is arranging for our department chairs to possibly spending a day at an Ivy League university, seeking the perspective of what skills 21<sup>st</sup> century high school graduates need in order to be successful. We will keep you posted on our progress.

### Hallmarks of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Schools:

1. Proficiency: We need young people proficient in literacy, numbers, and technology, as demonstrated in various forms of assessments: tests and papers certainly, but increasingly electronic portfolios and demonstrations.

2. Performance: In the fine and performing arts and athletics as demonstrated by recitals, exhibitions, and competitions. This is an area we are already strong in so many ways.

3. Innovation: We need to find ways for young people to explore and be inventive particularly in the sciences, math, and technology. Seek internships with colleges and universities, hospitals and research labs and look for creative, collaborative opportunities for our students.

4. Multicultural Literacy: We need our young people to be familiar not only with their own language, geography, and ecologies, but also with at least one other place. For example, it is significant to note that the Hispanic population is the fastest growing among school age children in the USA, and that China may be the most important economy in the next three decades.

### WANTED/NEEDED

US Student Interns who are willing to help in the Alumni Office. Jobs would include making phone calls, organizing data, and helping with administrative tasks. This position is considered "Service" to your Nichols Community! There are several openings; some group jobs. Please visit the Development Office .



## 2004-05 Admissions Calendar

October 30 .....	Admissions Test, 8:45 a.m., Grades 5-12
November 6 .....	Young Writers' Workshop
November 11 .....	EFS Admissions Test, Grade 9
November 17 .....	Upper School Parents' "See Us in Action" Open House, 8:30 a.m., Grades 9-12
December 4 .....	Admissions Test, 8:45 a.m., Grades 5-12
December 7 .....	Nichols 8th Grade Visit
December 15 .....	Tuition Assistance Paperwork due
December 15 .....	Nichols' 8th Grade Parents' "See Us in Action" Open House, 8:30 a.m.
January 12 .....	Upper School Parents' "See Us in Action" Open House, 8:30 a.m., Grades 9-12
January 22 .....	Admissions Test, 8:45 a.m., Grades 5-12
January 30 .....	Middle School Open House, 1 p.m., Grades 5-8
February 16 .....	Middle School Parents' "See Us in Action" 8:30 a.m., Grades 5-8
February 26 .....	Admissions Test, 8:45 a.m., Grades 5-12
March 16 .....	Middle School Parents' "See Us in Action" 8:30 a.m., Grades 5-8
May 9 .....	Class of 2008 Parent Orientation
May 13 .....	Class of 2008 Student Orientation
June 14 .....	Middle School New Parent Orientation

Please call 332-6325 to register for testing and visit days or to "See Us in Action."



(Continued from page 1: FCD)

have Mr. Chris Kelly and Ms. Gretchen Hackenbush return for a second year as our FCD educators. Students and parents alike found that the insights and clear messages these two experienced professionals provided were informative as well as had practical applications to real life family situations.

The FCD teachers will host a parent workshop while at Nichols to offer parents support and guidance in helping their children enjoy a drug free adolescence. **This workshop is scheduled for Wednesday, December 1 at 7:30 p.m. in the Regan Hall Pond area.**

We encourage you to take advantage of this opportunity to pose questions or concerns you may have to experts in the substance prevention field. This program also represents a perfect opportunity for discussing drug related issues with your children. Encourage them to talk with you about what they have learned during their time with the FCD teachers.

Parental involvement is crucial to our efforts to reduce the risks teenagers face. We want our students to hear from both school and home that we are concerned about alcohol, tobacco and other drug use by adolescents, and that we are committed to keeping our children safe.

# Salutes

## Faculty News:

★ Michael Salmon, sixth grade teacher, gave a presentation, "Creating characters from Canadian provinces," at the New York Geographic Alliance GEOFEST on October 16 in Victor, NY. Geography and social studies teachers from all over the state had the chance to learn in a variety of workshops during this daylong event.

★ Nichols Dance faculty Elaine Gardner has been invited by the renowned American choreographer, Donald Byrd, to perform as a guest soloist at a benefit concert for his Seattle-based company, Spectrum Dance on November 8 at the Intiman Theater in Seattle, WA. Ms. Gardner was the vehicle for the creation of some of his early works.

★ Kevin Costa, Senior Dean/English, returned to his undergraduate alma mater, Rhode Island College, to co-present a literary paper at the school's October 2004 lecture series, Engaging the Speculum: Film/Video/Media.

★ Kristen Kelley is performing the role of Gloria Clandon in *You Never Can Tell* by Bernard Shaw at the Irish Classical Theater, October 29-November 28.

## Student News:

★ Chosen to represent New York State through the American High School Theater Festival, Upper School Theater students will perform *Hush: An Interview with America*, by James Still at the Edinburgh Fringe Festival in Scotland in August 2005. Joining Ms. Kristen Tripp Kelley and Mr. Kevin Costa in Scotland are: **Brooke McAdam '05, Dan McAdam '08, Liz Vogel '05, Lexie Hare '06, Nora Williams '07, Aayush Chandan '07, Shane Bogden '06, Drew Keim '06, Torre Franz '06, Mike Angelakos '05, John Barlog '05, Dan Wiedenaupt '06, Paul Salamon '06, Max Yellen '07, Lourdes Vera '08, Ben Sorgi '08, Brian Arnold '05.**

★ **Kristen Via '09** organized "Denim Day" on October 8 at the Middle School. The students donated \$5 and wore jeans to school to show their support in the fight against breast cancer. Ms. Wendy Castiglia Amato '86, School Social Worker and Character Education Coordinator, spoke to the students about her personal experience with breast cancer. A total of \$950 was raised for the Susan B. Koman Breast Cancer Foundation.

★ Senior **Mercedes Carota** was a member of a West Side Rowing Club shell that finished 13/52 and 4<sup>th</sup> in the high school division at the Head of the Charles regatta on October 23-24.

★ Congratulations to **Angelica Harris '06**, chosen as State finalist for the title of Miss New York Teen USA.

## National Merit Scholarship Program Awards

Based on results from the PSAT/NMSQT exam taken in October 2003, nine Nichols seniors were chosen as Commended Scholars. Placing among the top five percent of 1.3 million test takers are:



**John Barlog, Jon Brummer, Liz Demakos, Peter Edge, Pierre Islam, Brooke McAdam, Maddie McQueeney, Timur Sherif, and Sam Walsh.** Four members of the Class of 2005, **Will Olena, Shannan Scarselletta, Ashley Schachter, and Sam Yellen** qualified as Semifinalists. Representing less than one percent of each state's high school seniors, Semifinalists are the highest-scoring program entrants and are the only participants who have an opportunity to advance in the competition for Merit Scholarship awards to be offered next spring.

## Model UN

By Kellie Stanchak '05  
Nichols School Model United Nations Club attended the Canisius Conference on October 21. Our group was very successful and enjoyed an educational day discussing current events. Representing nine different countries from around the world, over twenty Nichols Upper School students debated issues in the Middle East. The two topics on the day's agenda were the Israeli-Palestinian situation and the upcoming elections in Iraq.

The nine countries that Nichols School Model UN represented were a very diverse group of nations, all with different policies and ideals. We represented Angola, Romania, United Kingdom, China and Algeria. Nichols also had the difficult task of representing the United States, Israel, Iraq and the Palestinian Authority. These four were very important countries because the issues of the conference were directly related to these countries and the implications of their actions.

Nichols students were not just by-standers at the Canisius Conference; they spoke about their countries' policies and were recognized for their excellent job. Three Nichols delegations received awards for their extraordinary participation at the conference. The Iraq Delegation, represented by **Pat Hanley '05** and **Sam Walsh '05**, received "Best Invited Delegation." An Honorable Mention award was given to **Chrissy Lundquist '06, John Arcadi '06, and Chris Nolan '07** who represented Algeria. The United States Delegation, made up of **Ashley Tibollo '06, John Ginther '06** and **Meghan Rochester '06**, won "Best Overall Delegation."

The Canisius Conference was a huge success. The Nichols Model UN team performed well, revealing hard work and thorough preparation. We're looking forward to an exciting trip on October 30 when we travel to the Vanderbilt University Model UN Conference.

## Wish List for Donations



Are you able to provide any of the following? Please contact Elizabeth Gurney in the Development Office. Thank you!

- 35mm SLR cameras and lenses (with manual exposure and aperture settings) are needed for students in the photography classes.
- Mini digital video camera needed for the film making/digital video class
- Squash ball machine
- Top hat stand (for cymbals)



# making connections

**Marcy Dandes & Bev Caffery,**  
Annual Fund Parent Division Co-Chairs,  
are pleased to announce the 2004-2005 Parent Committee

Class of 2005—Peter Angelakos  
Class of 2006—Mary Jo Arena  
Class of 2007—Karen Leeds  
Class of 2008—Moiria Moldenhauer  
Class of 2009—Anne Bingham  
Class of 2010—Louise Schoene  
Class of 2011—Sharon Coverdale  
Class of 2012—Wendy Schutte

**Volunteers:**

Jane Arnold	Letty Milito
Mary Ellen Burke	Cynthia Pegado
Tina Colaizzo-Anas	Barbara Riedel
MaryAnn Fenton	Rachel Stenclik
Maria Hejna	Linda Todd
Katie Phillips Kenney	Cindi Winter
Heather Kosinski	

We will kick off this year's parent drive with a continental breakfast  
on November 9 at 8 a.m. in the Conference Room.

Enjoy good company and delicious treats while supporting our Nichols students.

If you would like to help, please contact Marcy, Bev or Joyce Angert in the Development Office at 876-3450.

**Your participation makes the difference. We can't do it without you!**



**NICHOLS TODAY**  
1250 Amherst St.  
Buffalo, NY 14216-3698

Address Service Requested

**SEE YOU AT THE GIRLS' EARLY BIRD  
HOCKEY TOURNAMENT  
NOVEMBER 26, 27, 28  
DANN MEMORIAL RINK**



