Girard Names its First SeaPerch ROV Competition Team

Faculty member Stephanie Greer recently announced an exciting, new technology team. 15 fifth- and sixth-grade students make up Girard's new Sea Perch ROV (remotely operated vehicle) team and plan to enter the city-wide ROV competition at Drexel University on April 16. In this competition, they will present research and compete in an underwater ROV contest simulating challenges faced during the recent Gulf oil spill.

Of the over forty students who were eligible to apply, Greer received applications from 26 students; 17 students were selected based on grade eligibility, originality and relevance of answers on the application, and evidence of specific interest in robotics, math, science or engineering.

Members of this new team will meet from 6:30-8:00 p.m. on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, initially in the science lab of the elementary school and eventually at the pool for ROV testing.

A mentor from Drexel University and a visiting “scienteer” will assist Greer in running this program.

This exciting opportunity is funded by sponsors of National Robotics Week who provided free materials and arranged for the college mentor.

Congratulations go out to the following students who will make up the first SeaPerch ROV competition team here at Girard!

- Sameese S.
- Tianna W.
- Azjan R.
- Irene B.
- Semaj C.
- Juan R.
- Leroy S.
- Atalyah P.
- Jada B.
- Randi Y.
- Brandon S.
- Tahji E.
- Remiah H.
- Sean P.
- Daequan B.

Check out the week one and two slide shows. All photos were taken by our students.

http://www.schooltube.com/video/916e81ca552060bcf34a/SeaPerch-Meeting-1
http://www.schooltube.com/video/73440cde43b2982d3113/SeaPerch-Week-2-Pictures
### March-April

#### Menu
For breakfast, lunch and dinner menus, please refer to the food service spreadsheet on our Web site under "Staff."

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>SPORTS in blue:</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>B = Baseball</td>
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<tr>
<td>OT = Outdoor Track</td>
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<tr>
<td>S = Softball</td>
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<td>T = Boys Tennis</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Looking Ahead
- April 22 & 25: No Classes (Easter)
- April 25: Parent-Teacher Conferences
- May 6: US Prom
- May 9: Students' Monday Return
- May 21: Founder’s Day
- May 24-25: LS Play "Aladdin"
- May 30: No Classes (Memorial Day)

#### Week 5 on the Web Menu
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>20</th>
<th>21</th>
<th>22</th>
<th>23</th>
<th>24</th>
<th>25</th>
<th>26</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Winter Sports Pep Rally</td>
<td>10th-grade trip departs for Monticello T @ Barrack</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>10th-grade trip returns</td>
<td>3:00 p.m.</td>
<td>OT Father Jerome Relays, A</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Association meeting, library</td>
<td>T @ Barrack</td>
<td>Lower School talent show, LS auditorium</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

#### Week 1 on the Web Menu
- April 22 & 25: No Classes (Easter)
- April 25: Parent-Teacher Conferences
- May 6: US Prom
- May 9: Students' Monday Return
- May 21: Founder’s Day
- May 24-25: LS Play "Aladdin"
- May 30: No Classes (Memorial Day)

#### Week 2 on the Web Menu
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>27</th>
<th>28</th>
<th>29</th>
<th>30</th>
<th>31</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>Winter Sports Pep Rally</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
<td>7:00 p.m.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Family Association meeting, library</td>
<td>Winter Sports Pep Rally</td>
<td>Winter Sports Pep Rally</td>
<td>Winter Sports Pep Rally</td>
<td>Winter Sports Pep Rally</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

#### Week 3 on the Web Menu
- April 22 & 25: No Classes (Easter)
- April 25: Parent-Teacher Conferences
- May 6: US Prom
- May 9: Students' Monday Return
- May 21: Founder’s Day
- May 24-25: LS Play "Aladdin"
- May 30: No Classes (Memorial Day)

#### Week 4 on the Web Menu
- April 22 & 25: No Classes (Easter)
- April 25: Parent-Teacher Conferences
- May 6: US Prom
- May 9: Students' Monday Return
- May 21: Founder’s Day
- May 24-25: LS Play "Aladdin"
- May 30: No Classes (Memorial Day)

### Farm to Families
2:30 to 5:30 p.m.

#### Future Deliveries
Order & Pay in Development Office:
- March 25, April 8

Pick-up at the Armory:
- March 18, April 1

### Family Association Meeting
Sunday March 20
7:00 p.m. Girard College Library

All current Girard parents/guardians are members of the Family Association. You are all encouraged to attend Sunday’s March meeting in the library after you drop off your child or children. President Graves will be there to address programming changes for the 2011-12 school year. Please come!
The 2011 “Good Friends” Gala Raised Funds for Girard

Billed as THE Party with a Purpose, the 2011 “Good Friends” Gala was an enormous success. 335 alumni and friends of Girard came out to enjoy a festive evening on Friday, March 4, in beautiful Founder's Hall, including gourmet hors doeuvres and dinner, a brief program and dancing. But they also came to Girard to support our mission, our programs and our students. The numbers are not final yet, but we estimate that the Gala raised about $250,000 through sponsorships, ticket sales, program book ad sales and auction income.

Although this year's Gala was held in March instead of December, the Gala has been a nearly annual event for 10 years, building relationships and raising funds for Girard College.

We were delighted to have Renée Chenault-Fattah, newscaster from NBC10, as the mistress of ceremonies for our program during which President Graves presented the Corinthian award to Willie F. Johnson, local businessman and community leader. The Corinthian award honors individuals who make extraordinary contributions to society in the same spirit as Stephen Girard.

Girard students played a significant role during the event, serving as ushers and dinner companions. They also worked with Girard staff and our partners at The Greater Philadelphia Film Makers to produce a brief film in which current students and alumni shared their stories of “What Girard Means to Me.” (http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=uT3db-TV1OA) The video had a profound effect on the audience, whether remembering their own Girard story or hearing about Girard for the first time.

All in all, it was a great evening for the current Girard community and for our future.

Support the Fashion Show

Friday April 8    7:30-9:00 p.m.
Girard College Armory

Proceeds will support the Student Activity Fund

The members of the Fashion Club are holding this event for the third year to raise money for Girard student activities. The members are: Andrea C., Shanae D., Malik R., Aquil R., Chantel S. and Nygeema W.

One member, Malik R. ’11, is orchestrating the event as part of his participation in the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award program, which is a program of the Queen's Jubilee Education Foundation, a fund of The Philadelphia Foundation.

Contact members of the fashion club for tickets and sponsorship opportunities.

NHS Feted at Dinner

On Monday February 14, eleventh- and twelfth-grade RAs Mrs. Bennett-Wiggins and Ms. O’Neill hosted a celebratory dinner for the National Honor Society inductees and advisor Ed Gallagher.
Second Grade holds Annual International Day

The second grade has started researching different countries to prepare for the second annual International Day!

Over the next few weeks the children will be working in small cooperative groups to conduct research about the geography, history, music, art, food, celebrations and traditions of their chosen countries. The second grade team (Smirga/Slocumb) are working with the assistance of librarian (Mrs. Rosenberg), art teacher (Mr. Kauffman) and teacher's assistant (Mrs. Le) to guide the children to resources that will make the presentations informative and exciting.

The groups will be required to present some sort of costume, artifact, instrument, dance or art that helps to tell the story of the people they have studied. Each group will present their findings to the rest of the second grade class, and will teach us different things about the countries they have explored on this special day, which is planned for some time in early March.

As a part of the project, each group will also cook a traditional food they have learned about and will share it with the class on International Day. Last year's event was a big success. We expect this year to be just as tasty and informative! Stay tuned for further developments.

Senior French Students Visit New York

C'était un voyage superbe!

Our twelfth-grade French class (Jamila F., Malik R., Jennyfer D., Ciara C., Chalisia M., Chantel S., Ola L., Kanesha B., Shanea D., Jade M., Breanna J., and Robert W.) was in NYC for two days (February 2-3, 2011) with Madame Cohen and Madame Gaillard.

They saw a French play – “Le Misanthrope” – and had a guided tour of the United Nations.

Their lunch with Pete Scotese ’37 at his apartment was a delight. Mr. Scotese talked to our students about his 11 years at Girard College. Later he spoke of his life during the depression and during World War II. He also gave a tour in his apartment to show us his art collection.

Thank you to Ms. Kymelle Clark and to Ms. Odalys Alcivar for making this trip possible.

Upper School Dancers Communicate with Teachers in Cambodia

Amanda and Tobin, Miro dancers and Girard artists-in-residence who work with our students twice a week, traveled to Cambodia recently to teach members of the Khmer Arts Ensemble and to learn traditional Cambodian dances. Amanda has found the time to answer questions submitted to her by our students on her blog. To read the students’ questions and Amanda's answers, go to the blog at http://www.mirodancetheatre.org/category/latest-news/.

Congratulations to Junior, Labrina B., who was offered an afterschool internship with CIGNA Corporation. Labrina will be providing clerical support in the Legal and Public affairs division.

Thanks goes out to Kim Benjet who let us know about the opportunity.
**Student Jumps to New Heights**

Jumping 6’8” at a track meet in February, Hiree P. set the school record at The Pennsylvania State Track and Field Championship at Penn State University in February! He and coach Leek believe that he may surpass this mark during the upcoming outdoor season.

Now ranked 16th in the country, Hiree was also recently named to the Indoor All-State Track and Field Team. Hiree hopes to be one of 20 jumpers from the United States and Caribbean to compete at next months Penn Relays.

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**Third Grade is Building Bridges**

In honor of National Engineering Week, the third grade learned about different types of bridges from all over the world, and worked with Ms. Greer to build bridges of their own.

Ms. Greer showed the children a few examples of bridges that she had constructed. Their task was to create the bridge that held the most pennies. The students worked with a partner to engineer the strongest bridge that they could using only index cards, glue and scissors. Tazzmeire R. and Kailah O. were the winners of the contest. Their bridge held an amazing 250 pennies! All of the third graders had fun learning about engineering bridges.

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**Girard Basketball Players Reach for the Top!**

In District I play-off competition in the B.A.L. League, Girard’s boys team lost a game by only 3 points vs. Philmont Christian Academy.

The girls fell in the second round of the state play-offs Wednesday, March 16 to Line Mountain.

Both teams worked hard to make it into the post-season games, and we congratulate them. Go Cavaliers!
Laurent Judges at National History Day Event

On March 10, 2011 Girard's Elizabeth Laurent was a judge for the Senior Division of the 2011 Philadelphia Region's National History Day, sponsored by the Mid-Atlantic Office of the National Archives at the National Constitution Center. Over one hundred adult historians judged the projects of over 700 Philadelphia students in grades 9-12 competing on the topic of “American Debate and Diplomacy: Successes, Failures and Consequences” in five categories of papers, exhibits, Web sites, performances and documentaries. Laurent reports the event offered her the “truly awesome experience of observing our city’s teenagers grappling with some of the most difficult topics of the American past.”

Pictured, from left to right: Elizabeth Laurent, Director of Historic Resources, Girard College; Jim DeWalt, Head of Social Service and History Department, Free Library of Philadelphia; Ken Winneg, Managing Director of Survey Research, Annenberg Public Policy Center, University of Penn.

Grief Support Group

The Upper School Office of Family Services is sponsoring a peer-support group for students in seventh through twelfth grades who are grieving the loss of a parent, sibling and/or primary care-provider – no matter how long ago the death occurred. This eight-week group began recently. If you have questions, are interested in receiving more information about the group, or finding out if your child might benefit from this supportive service, contact Anthony Morelli, social work intern at 215-787-2600 Ext. 3442 or e-mail him at: amorelli@girardcollege.com.

Visitor Jillian Urrutia came to Ms. Alvarez-Spychalski's classroom to teach her Spanish students a little Latin Dancing. They did an excellent job and were able to participate in a part of Hispanic Culture.
Students Visit State Capitol

On February 24 a select group of 12th- and 6th-grade students toured the Pennsylvania State Capitol Building and rubbed elbows with special people. The long journey began early in the a.m. After our arrival we were treated to a delightful tour of the Grand Pennsylvania State Capitol Building. Following the tour, Malcolm Green Haynes ’04 spoke to the students about the legislative process here in Pennsylvania. Malcolm works for the Pennsylvania State Senate Urban Affairs Committee as a research staff member providing background information and statistics for bills that come before that committee. Malcolm graduated from Temple in 2008 and will receive his master’s degree from Penn State this May.

The sixth grade had the pleasure of meeting our governor, Tom Corbett. Mr. Corbett greeted our students as he was exiting the Capitol cafeteria. He even stopped for a picture with the lads. We had a wonderful day in Central Pa.

Girard Junior Reaches out to Senior Citizens

One of our Duke of Edinburgh silver candidates completed the service requirement for her silver project this weekend. Haneefah E. (junior) created an exercise program for senior citizens and March 6 marked her first in her neighborhood. She will be teaching these classes for three weeks. Each silver medalist has to reach out to the community to make a difference.

Edmunds is orchestrating this event as part of her participation in the Duke of Edinburgh’s Award program, which is a program of the Queen’s Jubilee Education Foundation, a fund of The Philadelphia Foundation. The Award, established in the United Kingdom in 1956, is a global success in youth development operating in more than 125 countries and now in 15 states in the U.S. Students are encouraged to set attainable and personal goals in areas of skills, physical recreation, community service and outdoor adventure. Donors to QuJEF support 100% of the expenses of the Duke program for students 14-25 years of age participating in Philadelphia. The Foundation has had a partnership with Girard College since 2009, and the Girard College students were the first 10 Bronze medalists in Pa.

Korean Pancakes Hit the Spot!

Ahn nyong ha sae yo!

In Korean Club, the students took a test on the Korean alphabet. Ms. Kim, our sun seng nim (that’s teacher in Korean) told the students that, if everyone scored an 85% or better, the class would make Korean pancakes. Needless to say, the students met that goal. (Yes, even Mr. Sowers passed!) So last week we made some delicious treats in the Hum kitchen. They differ from regular pancakes in a couple of ways. First, they are made with a brown sugar mixture inside. This turns to syrup when cooked. And second, they are fried in oil which gives them a crispy, juicy flavor. Mmmmm; success is sweet!

Students Recognized for Chess Skills

On March 10, three Girard students received Outstanding Achievement awards and Century Club membership at the Chess League finals at Citizens Bank Park. They are Shaquan A. (junior), Andre D. (8th-grader) and Aleem B. (7th-grader). Out of the many thousands of chess players throughout the city, they are three of the top players!