

### Principal's Letter

Dear Parents/Guardians, Teachers, and Students,

January has been a very busy month at TJ as we closed out the first semester in the midst of delays and cancellations due to weather and power outages. The students have enjoyed the extra rest and time to finish projects and study for their exams. Even though we have had obstacles to instructional time, we have not lost our focus on celebrating student success and continuing our commitment to develop the school's vision.

In mid-January, 14 TJ students were recognized by the Intel Science Talent Search for their extraordinary scientific research. Only 300 students in the country achieve such an honor, where TJ had the greatest number of recipients across high schools in the country. Each student received a \$1000 scholarship jumbo check from Intel, and TJ received a \$14,000 matching donation to support future opportunities in its research program. The students' research would not have been possible without the outstanding support of TJ and external mentors, and scientific institutions with equipment and resources not available at the school. Special recognition goes to TJ mentors Bob Latham, Lee Ann Hennig, Fred Lampazzi, Larry Gaudreault, Jean Stevens, and Brian Kennedy, and external support from mentors at GMU, NIH, RSI, Mitre, WRAIR, NRL, and UKAEA. Our partnerships demonstrate the adage "It takes a village to raise a child" in order to foster student success in our research program.

In February, the TJ Task Force will be presenting a report to the FCPS School Board with a vision of its future curriculum. The Task Force, a committee consisting of participants from many different stakeholder groups, was created to respond to the aging conditions of the building and a need to identify future student values and skills, and potential supporting school programs. The Task Force has created a report to the FCPS School Board after a series of public surveys, data analyses, brainstorming sessions, and strategic planning sessions in the first semester of the school year. I believe the report reflects well upon the TJ community, and will chart a future course of action that all stakeholders can get behind. A copy of the report will

be available to the PTSA after it has been presented to the School Board.

I appreciate the support from our entire community to respond to surveys and offer suggestions in an effort to prioritize future student outcomes, create program ideas, and develop a rationale for a new facility. Our progress would not be as thorough and reflective without the contributions from parents, teachers, students, and the broader professional community. In March, the school district will be administering a survey to a random sample of TJ parents across all grade levels to obtain feedback about our program. If you do not receive the survey, please give feedback to your PTSA representative or me at [Evan.Glazer at fcps.edu](mailto:Evan.Glazer@fcps.edu) if you have ideas or suggestions to make TJ a better place for learning and growing. Thank you for your efforts!

Sincerely,  
Evan Glazer  
TJ Principal

### President's Message

January has been a fairly active month for the TJ PTSA.

I was invited to a supper hosted by the Safe Community Coalition in honor of our former principal, Elizabeth Lodal, to recognize her for her work.

I am very grateful to TJ parent, Jim Swoboda, and Student Government President, Sylvia Chen, who attended with me the FCPS annual Capital Improvement Plan public hearing on January 16. We all made presentations to the school board on behalf of TJ reminding the board of our concerns about our facility and whether it is up to the challenge of TJ's unique curriculum and mission. I am hopeful there will be some suggestions for a resolution of these issues once the task force process comes to an end.

Another event I attended was a meeting with Dr. Dale, Superintendent of FCPS, who was invited to speak at the annual meeting of the McLean Citizens Association. I was glad to see some TJ parents in the audience as Dr. Dale did address a number of questions regarding TJ, including the building and overcrowding, as well as a wide range of other issues.

Turning to upcoming programs, did you know that automobile deaths are the leading cause of death for children and teenagers? Did you know your chance of dying in an automobile crash is one in 84 over your lifetime, according to the Washington Post, December 27, 2006? In comparison, it pointed out that your chances of winning the Mega Millions lottery are just one in 175 million. I've heard that on evenings of big school celebrations like homecoming and prom, there are more teenagers involved in car accidents than on any other evening. With statistics like this, we thought the next PTSA education program should focus on our students and driving.

I am pleased to announce that our guest speaker for the Teens and Driving education program on Thursday, March 8, will be the Honorable Teena D. Grodner, Chief Judge of the Juvenile and Domestic Relations District Court for Fairfax County. She has many years experience in speaking to the community about this issue and others concerning young people. On our panel for discussion of the issue as it applies to TJ will be Mark Harrington, Ph.D., our current school resource officer, and Mary Stetson and Barry Potoker, Driver's Ed and Behind the Wheel instructors at TJ. The program will begin promptly at 7 p.m. in the auditorium. Light refreshments will be available in the Aud Lob from 6:30 p.m. Please make a note to join us for this important education program – students are welcome to attend also.

The next meeting of the TJ PTSA will be held on **Monday, February 12, 2007, at 7:30 p.m. in the library at TJ.** Please arrive early for light refreshments and networking with your fellow parents.

Bernadette Saperstein  
President, TJ PTSA  
[ptsa.president at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.president@tjhsst.edu)

## Vice President's Report

At the request of Dr. Glazer, I attended an FCPS meeting as TJ representative on January 11 to discuss the topic "Communication with Language Minority Parents." I was elated to find that much of what our Cultural Liaison program at TJ is already doing is strongly endorsed by FCPS through this new initiative. This core group is now working on establishing a mission statement for FCPS regarding this issue and will formulate system-wide strategies to promote this initiative. I will keep you informed of its progress.

Meanwhile, in terms of our own school, I'd like to thank Lan Ge Chen, Jennifer Qin, Peter and Ju Shin, and Limin Zhao, for translating our *Tech cetera* excerpts this month. Translations are expertly coordinated by Mindy Cheng and Jean Lee, and supported by our web

manager, Vicky Linnell, and previous web manager, Qi Wang.

On February 14 at 7:30 p.m. TJ will host "**Culturally Diverse Parent Workshop II: Understanding Summer Internships and College Application Resources**" at the Career Center, with a snow date of February 21, same time. Mrs. Laurie Kobick will go over the resources available at the Career Center such as summer opportunities and college application resources. A Korean interpreter has been requested for this event, based on parents' requests. Additionally, a TJ student has volunteered to be on hand to answer any questions that culturally diverse parents may have. Light refreshments will be provided. The deadline for requesting interpreters for other languages is January 30. Questions? Contact Esther Yook at [eyook at umw.edu](mailto:eyook@umw.edu).

## PTSA Update

### *Highlights from the January 8, 2007 PTSA Meeting*

- President Bernadette Saperstein reported that the letter and resolution sent to the Fairfax County court on the timing of swearing-in ceremonies for new drivers have been forwarded to the Chief of the Juvenile Court for her consideration. The Juvenile Court Chief Judge has also been asked to address the March 8 Parents Forum.
- The School Board held hearings on the Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) on January 16 at Luther Jackson Middle School. Several TJ parents spoke at the meeting.
- A Nominating Committee will be formed this winter to develop a slate of PTSA officers for the 2007-08 school year. Interested PTSA members should contact Bernadette Saperstein at [ptsa.president at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.president@tjhsst.edu).
- The Treasurer reported income of \$1,990.87 and expenses of \$3,382.22 since December 11. There are now 1,290 PTSA members.
- Culturally diverse parents will meet at 7:30 p.m. on February 14 in the Career Center to hear Mrs. Laurie Kobick, TJ's Career Resource Specialist, discuss the college application process.
- Principal Evan Glazer called attention to the redesign of the main school lobby as a result of a generous grant to the Jefferson Partnership Fund by the Reinsch-Pierce Family Foundation. He also indicated that approximately 20 parents have responded to safety director Bob McCormack's appeal for volunteers to help during the hours of after-school activities. Parent volunteers are also needed on Mondays and Wednesdays from 4:00-6:30 p.m. in the Library so students may have greater access to the library's resources.

- The next PTSA board meeting is scheduled for February 12, 7:30 p.m., in the school library.

## Serving the TJ Community

### Volunteers

**Landscaping** is looking for help. Anyone can do it. If you're a student, we are talking about *community services hours*. Our first opportunities are Saturday, February 10 and 24, from 9:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m. Bring gloves and gardening tools, if you have them. We will be requesting specific perennials later this spring. Please contact Michele Pitler, PTSA Landscaping Co-chair at [Mb1955 at aol.com](mailto:Mb1955@aol.com).

After school **library** volunteers are needed. Ever noticed all the students sitting on the floor of the Aud Lob after school and wondered why they couldn't study in the library? Well, they could if we had parent chaperones!

The PTSA is looking for parents willing to sit in the library Mondays and Wednesdays from 4 to 6:30 p.m. (when the late buses leave). We are hoping for two parents each of those days. If you can help, please contact Vicky Linnell ([ptsa.webmaster at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.webmaster@tjhsst.edu)), giving her your time commitment and how often you could do this. Thank you.

**Calling on an archivist!** Want a job where you can set your own hours? Look no further! You would be responsible for organizing, preserving, and storing various paper and photographic records of life at TJ. Be creative! If interested, email us at [ptsa.volunteers at tjhsst.edu](mailto:ptsa.volunteers@tjhsst.edu). Pat Groves in the front office is also available to provide more information ([pat.groves at fcps.edu](mailto:pat.groves@fcps.edu) or 703-750-8315)

### ANGP

ANGP provides an alcohol- and drug-free venue for TJ graduates to celebrate their accomplishments in style and enjoy a memorable and fun-filled evening with friends. ANGP will take place immediately following graduation on Saturday, June 16, 2007. Visit the ANGP website at [www.tjhsst-angp.org](http://www.tjhsst-angp.org) for more information.

Ticket sales: 175 seniors have purchased tickets. From past experience, we know almost all seniors will attend ANGP. Please help us out and purchase your ticket as soon as possible. Funds are needed now to place deposits and cover advance costs for many activities. Remember, tickets must be purchased prior to ANGP; they cannot be purchased at the door. Ticket order forms are available by the Senior Bulletin Board, in the Front Office, and on line at [www.tjhsst-angp.org](http://www.tjhsst-angp.org). Not

sure if you have a ticket? Check the list posted by the Senior Bulletin Board or email Susan Pehrsson, Ticket Chair, at [spehrsson at cox.net](mailto:spehrsson@cox.net).

ANGP tickets cost \$90.00 and include admission, plenty of food, entertainment, and prizes. It's a deal for such an awesome event. However, \$90.00 is still a lot of money. Some very generous parents (underclass parents as well as senior parents!) made donations to cover ticket costs for students who may not be able to afford one. Wow! Not every family can afford to make a financial contribution, and the ANGP Committee appreciates the generosity and support of those families who are fortunate enough to be able to do so. No graduating senior is denied a ticket due to financial hardship.

**Volunteers needed for decorations:** If you are creative, like to plan parties, and can envision TJ's halls transformed with color, lights, and decorations, then this is the perfect job for you! There are plenty of decorations from prior years, as well as layouts and designs used by previous Decoration Committees. Please contact Susan Cameron, Decorations Chair, at [soozc at cox.net](mailto:soozc@cox.net), if you can help. Susan and her team have some great ideas, but they need volunteers to implement them. Please help out if you can.

"Have a Heart for the Class of 2007!" Students, parents, teachers and friends, please show your support for our seniors by purchasing a blinking heart pin during the month of February. Cost is \$3.00, and all proceeds go to ANGP. Heart pins can be purchased in the front office and during several upcoming events.

ANGP meetings are held the third Tuesday of every month. Parents of all grades are invited. The next meeting will be Tuesday, February 20, at 7:00 p.m. in the College Career Center. Questions? Contact Bob Hobart, ANGP Chair, at [vanative11 at msn.com](mailto:vanative11@msn.com), or visit the ANGP website at [www.tjhsst-angp.org](http://www.tjhsst-angp.org).

"Not a single grad has been killed or injured in an alcohol-related accident on graduation night since the all night grad celebrations began." --Northern Virginia Graduation Project

## Academic News

### Spanish News

The Spanish Honor Society had a very interesting presentation by its president, Jeewon Kim, on Spain's director, Pedro Almodovar. **We nos divertimos mucho** en the Foreign Language Society Volleyball Game sponsored by the Russian Honor Society. Our club came in second place. On Valentine's Day, February 14, we will have a professional teacher teach us salsa and some

other Latin bailes. Don't forget our Bulería, Friday, March 2. Siempre de fiesta!

### ***French News***

The TJ French students are ready to celebrate *La Chandeleur*, an old-fashioned holiday when it is traditional to make *crêpes*. One can try to flip the *crêpe* while holding a coin in the left hand. When this is successfully done, it is a good omen for the coming year. On February 7, the French Honor Society will organize a fun activity during 8<sup>th</sup> period and everyone is invited to make (flip) and enjoy French *crêpes*.

French students at TJ have two exciting events coming soon in March. On March 13, during second period, they will take the *National French Contest*. This is a national assessment taken by more than 100,000 students across the nation. On March 10, selected students can represent TJHSST at the *Modern Foreign Language Tournament*, which will be held from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. at George Mason High School. Students will register for this event in their French classes.

### ***Russian News***

#### **From Russia with love**

In November, nearly every student in the TJ Russian program competed in the American Council of Teachers of Russian's (ACTR) National Russian Essay Contest. Students wrote an original composition responding to a prompt to compete for Gold, Silver, and Bronze medals.

During International Education Week, the Russian Honor Society (SLAVA) hosted its first-ever Russian Language Education Information Evening.

Four senior members of SLAVA were invited to present at the American Association of Teachers of Slavic and Eastern European Languages (AATSEEL) conference December 27-30 in Philadelphia.

Students are planning for TJ's biannual trip to Russia. They will travel to St. Petersburg, Moscow, and Pskov, where they will visit with students at the Pskov Pedagogical University and continue with the TJ-Pskov Partnership program. Last year's visit from the Pskov students initiated a joint project, an online Russian language guide for novice level learners, which was written by last year's level one class at TJ, reviewed by Russian Honor Society members, and sent to the students at Pskov to be edited.

TJ Russian students are forming a new partnership with students in the advanced level of Russian at Staten Island Technical High School.

Finally, SLAVA will be hosting this year's performance of **The Capitol Steps** at TJ on **Sunday, February 25**, at

**7:00 p.m.** Tickets are only \$25 and are available pre-order or at the door. All profits will go toward helping the TJ Russian program fund projects such as trips to Russia, and the TJ-Pskov Partnership. This is a popular TJ event, so we recommend reserving in advance. For more information about ticketing, please email Will Clark at [TJRussian at gmail.com](mailto:TJRussian@gmail.com) or call 703-750-8300. Thanks for your support!

### **Class News**

#### ***2007 – Seniors***

Congratulations seniors! Only one semester to go! This means prom and graduation are drawing closer. We want these events to be as memorable as possible, but to do that we need to raise as much money as possible.

You can help out by doing what you already do: eat at Fuddrucker's before basketball games. **Friday, February 9** (also senior night for the men's basketball team), a portion of your bill for your Fuddrucker's meal will go to the senior class. Remember to pick up a flyer from the auditorium lobby, or your meal will not count.

Need a Valentine's Day present for that special someone? Well then, keep an eye out for information about our jewelry fundraiser in the next few weeks.

The annual school-wide **talent show** is officially scheduled for **Friday, March 16**. The talent of the TJ student body is well known. Now see it in action! If you have an act that you think is worthy of the TJ talent show, keep an eye out for announcements with audition information in the coming days. Auditions will be held in mid-February.

#### ***2008 – Juniors***

Hello 2008 families! We hope that the second semester of junior year finds you well, even through all the schoolwork and college preparation. The main upcoming event of concern is Mr. Colonial, which will take place at 7 p.m. on February 23, in the auditorium. Perhaps more importantly for parents is the Sochop that follows the competition from 9-11 p.m. We are seeking 8-10 parents to chaperone the Sochop; please contact our parent liaison Robin Wilson at [robinwilson123 at gmail.com](mailto:robinwilson123@gmail.com) to volunteer. We can always use parents' help to make our event successful! Looking further down the line this year, we will need parent and student involvement for both Spring Formal (May 5) and Junior Campout (May 18) this spring.

#### ***2009 – Sophomores***

Sophomore class vice president, Molly Patterson, will represent Thomas Jefferson at the Hugh O'Brian (HOBY) State Leadership Conference for high school

sophomores. The conference will be held at Christopher Newport University in May 2007.

## 2010 – Freshmen

100 Chaperones Needed! Sign up today to join the Class of 2010 at the annual Freshman Lock-In on Friday, April 13, 7 p.m. to 7 a.m. (tentative times). We will need 3 groups of about 30 parents to work the following shifts: 7 p.m. – 11 p.m., 11 p.m. – 3 a.m., and 3 a.m. – 7 a.m. (tentative times). In addition, we will need a few parents to help out before the Lock-In starts (5 p.m. – 7 p.m.) and to help clean up (7 a.m. – 8 a.m.). If you are ready to commit to a shift, please contact Ellen Ranard at: [ESRanard at aol.com](mailto:ESRanard@aol.com). We will also be asking all parents to help by donating food for the event and will provide you details in March.

## News Round-Up and Awards

### STUDENTS

▪ **Fourteen Students Named Intel Science Talent Search Semifinalists.** Fourteen students from Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) have been named semifinalists in the Intel Science Talent Search. The semifinalists, all students at Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology (TJHSST), are Caroline Bogdan, Peter Bojo, Raillan Brooks, Andrew Li, Sarah Marzen, Soumya Nettiimi, Aanchal Raj, Karthik Seethatram, Joel Shor, Peiyu Wang, Danyi Wu, Jianzhou Xiao, William Zeng, and Victor Zhu.

The 300 semifinalists were chosen from among more than 1,705 entrants and will receive matching awards of \$1,000 along with their schools. Forty finalists will be announced on January 31; finalists will attend the Intel Science Institute and compete for college scholarships. Finalists will also receive an Intel® CentrinoT mobile technology-based notebook computer.

Intel has sponsored the Science Talent Search since 1998 and provides \$1,250,000 in awards and scholarships to contestants. More information about the competition can be found at <http://www.intel.com/education/sts/>  
[http://www.fcps.edu/suptapps/newsreleases/newsrelease\\_print.cfm?newsid=550](http://www.fcps.edu/suptapps/newsreleases/newsrelease_print.cfm?newsid=550)  
<http://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-dyn/content/article/2007/01/17/AR2007011701772.html>

Additional congratulations go to their proud mentors: Bob Latham, Jean Stevens, Lee Ann Hennig, Fred Lampazzi, Larry Gaudreault, and Brian Kennedy, and the tremendous external mentorship and facility support from GMU, NIH, RSI, Mitre, WRAIR, NRL, and UKAEA.

▪ Five TJ Students, Rachel Cackler, Jacob Kohn, Andrew Parthum, Sarah Peterson, and Andrew Smith, were selected by Maestro Haza to play in the American Youth Philharmonic holiday recital in collaboration with The Choral Arts Society of Washington in December where they performed at the Kennedy Center Concert Hall and the Music Center at Strathmore.

▪ **20<sup>th</sup> Annual Invitational Festival of Winds, Brass and Percussion:** Karen Bullen, Tim Carey, and Lauren Groskaufmanis recently represented TJ at Virginia Commonwealth University. The Festival offers students an opportunity to perform in ensembles of like-instruments under the direction of artists from VCU's Wind & Percussion Faculty.

## TJHSST Partnership Fund

### Partnership Fund Supports Student Research

*Congratulations to the 28 TJ students who have been awarded grants from the "2007 Epstein Becker & Green Fund for Excellence in Health Care and Life Sciences Research."*

In 2006 the TJ Partnership Fund and the law firm of Epstein Becker & Green established the "**Epstein Becker & Green Fund for Excellence in Health Care and Life Sciences Research**" to provide modest grants to students in support of their research activities. The EBG Grant targets research in Bioinformatics, Biomedical Engineering, Biometrics, Botany, Environment, Forensics, Genetics, Imaging, Medicine, Nanotechnology, Neurosciences, Oceanography, and Pharmacology in Jefferson's laboratories and classrooms.

Awards are made on a competitive basis by the Health Care and Life Sciences Grant Review Committee. The TJHSST Partnership Fund serves as grant program manager and fiduciary agent. The Partnership Fund thanks **Dr. Barbara Wood** for managing the award process.

In this second award cycle, the EBG Fund provided grants ranging from \$165 - \$980 to the following TJ students:

**Aiden McHugh** - *The Effect of Arbuscular Mycorrhizal Fungi on the Bioremediation Capabilities of Two Native Wetland Plants* (Lisa Wu); **Alex Kim** - *Agnostic Interaction and Competitive Exclusion between Invasive Australian Redclaw Crayfish, *Cherax quadricarinatus* (von Martens, 1868), and New World Freshwater Prawns, *Macrobrachium carcinus* (Linnaeus, 1758)* (Lisa Wu); **Allie Shea, Mimi Yen** - *Mechanism of Malignant Transformation of Lung Cells by Constitutive Activation*

of the p38 Mitogen-Activated Kinase Pathway and Resulting Overproduction of Activation Protein-1 (Larry Gaudreault); **Andrew Struckmeyer, Jon Seidman, Griff Almy** - *The Effect of Food Substances on the Feed Conversion Ratio (FCR) of Queen Conch (Strombus gigas)* (Lisa Wu); **Anh-Thao Lam, Victoria Marcos** - *Recognition of Burrow Ownership in the Crayfish Cambarus Diogenes* (Lisa Wu); **Arjun Khanna, Meliha Skaljic, Rachana Haliyur** - *Exploring the Individual and Synergistic Effects of Curcumin and Docosahexaenoic Acid on Inhibition and Disaggregation of  $\beta$ -amyloid Plaques in Transgenic Caenorhabditis elegans* (Paul Cammer); **Daniel Klayton** - *Detection and Isolation of Neural Event-Related Potentials* (Paul Cammer); **Heather Burrell, Jennifer Lampen** - *The Effect of Curcumin on Angiogenesis in Mouse Hemangioendothelioma Cells* (Larry Gaudreault); **Jennifer Callahan, Diane Lee** - *The Effect of Canopy Coverage on Escherichia coli Levels in Northern Virginia Streams* (Lisa Wu); **Josh Cho, Min Kim** - *The Effects of Ghrelin Treatment on Invertebrates* (Larry Gaudreault); **Katherine Ramsey** - *The Effect of Extended Polyglutamine Chains on Touch Sensitivity in Neurons of a Huntington's Disease Model of C. elegans* (Larry Gaudreault); **Komal Karnik, Preethi Sundararaman** - *Effect of Curcumin (Curcuma longa) Activity on the Accumulation of  $\beta$ -amyloid in Transgenic Caenorhabditis elegans* (Larry Gaudreault); **Lauren Groskaufmanis, Ali Ruth** - *The Effect of Environmental Stressors on Entrainment of Circadian Rhythms in Camponotus Ants* (Paul Cammer); **Nitin Malik** - *The Effect of Telomerase-Targeted siRNA in Human Cancer Cells* (Larry Gaudreault); **Ravi Pidatala** - *The Effect of Selenium on Growth of Brassica rapa for Use in Phytoremediation* (Larry Gaudreault); **Sylvia Chen, Krisel Lantin** - *A Comparison of Petite Mutation Induction Saccharomyces cerevisiae by Ethidium Bromide and 5-Fluorouracil* (Larry Gaudreault).

To learn more about opportunities to fund Jefferson student research, contact the Jefferson Partnership Fund office at (703) 750-8316.

Thanks to all parents who are continuing to donate! TJ appreciates your support!

## TJHSST Boosters

### Academic Boosters

**TJ's distinguished academic teams begin the Year 2007 with remarkable wins. To be specific:**

***It's Academic:*** On January 6, The *It's Academic* quiz bowl team won their 1st round in the NBC4 *It's Academic* TV show, defeating Wooton and Sherwood High Schools. The TJ team consisted of Evan Silberman, Allan Fan, and Keshav Pillai. The show will be aired

10:00 a.m. on February 10. On January 20, another team, led by Captains Michael Romais and Evan Silberman, won the VHSL Liberty District and Northern Region championships in a convincing fashion as they went undefeated throughout the tournament. Other participating team members included Phil Graves, Abhi Kapuria, and Jacob Kohn. They will travel to Williamsburg in February, along with fellow team members Allan Fan, Bo Fan, and Keshav Pillai, to compete in the state tournament.



*"It's Academic" team: Jacob Kohn, Evan Silberman, Phil Graves, Michael Romais, and Abhi Kapuria*



*Allan Fan, Evan Silberman, and Keshav Pillai representing TJ on "It's Academic"*

**Model United Nations:** The club had yet another very successful conference at Chantilly High School on January 5-6. It was again the recipient of the Secretary-General's Award for Large School as the top school at the conference. The club's members won more than two-thirds of the Best Delegate awards. Winners of those awards were: Aditya Palepu and Sumit Malik; Marina Arnold and Arjun Khanna; Naren Tallapragada; Aras Jizan; Blake Reed; Will Clark; and Michael Romais. The club was scheduled to attend the University of Pennsylvania's ILMUNC conference at press time.

**Chess Team:** On December 30, 2006, the chess team, consisting of Atul Kannan, Emma Pierson, Eddie Lu, Jacob Steinhardt, and Bharat Ponnaluri, won the Pan-American Scholarship Chess Championship. In addition, Emma Pierson won 4th place individual; Eddie Lu won 3rd place individual; and Jacob Steinhardt won top under 1600!

Congratulations to our teams and their faculty sponsors and coaches! Thanks to TJ families that supported our teams' endeavors through **Academic Boosters membership and donations**. We encourage more families to follow suit so that TJ's academic teams can sustain their successes in 2007.

### ***Band Boosters***

All-District Bands: Mercedes Taylor, Gina Kim, Jacob Kohn, Tim Carey, Karen Hamrick, Sarah Peterson, Stephen Houck, Kennan Murphy-Sierra, Danielle Murashige, Jean He, Han Kim, Peter Westman, Alex Spalding, Seth Wadell, Lauren Houck, Jamie Johnston, Jimmy Clark, Em Feeney, Emily Wetzell, Vanessa Miller, Hannah Clark, Eric Westman, Adam Christian, Hanwen Xu, Joseph Muldoon, Katie Reinsel, Rebecca Corey, Renee Lipari, Karen Bullen, Mike Gold, Brian Terrill, Mike Malinowski, Brett Anders, Justin Etkin, Dorothy Lineer, Teddy Elkins, Brian Schwenk, and Greg Gates will represent TJ in these selective ensembles February 1 - 2, and perform on February 3, at 2 p.m., in a concert at West Potomac HS. The highlighted students qualify to audition for the All-Virginia Band on February 24, at James Madison University.

**Winter Showcase, February 17, 2007:** TJ will host the Winter Showcase, a spectacular competition featuring many Winter Guard units. Participants come from throughout the region. The TJ Drum Line will perform in exhibition. Spectators are welcome. Admission is \$8. Volunteers needed throughout the day, contact: [ReinselT at msn.com](mailto:ReinselT@msn.com).

**Delicious Florida Citrus** – Purchase the freshest, juiciest **Honey Murcott tangerines, Temple oranges** and **Ruby Red grapefruit** available. Orders due February 17, delivered on February 24. Fruit can be delivered to your door, contact: [tjcitrus at hotmail.com](mailto:tjcitrus@hotmail.com), or call (703) 765-4380.

**Special Thanks to Teachers and Staff!** The TJ Bands Book Fair at Barnes & Noble was a success!

**Support Band Fundraisers:** Scrip – Gift Cards – [kaycorey at cox.net](mailto:kaycorey@cox.net); TJ License Plate Frames – \$18 – [Sylvie at wrtc.org](mailto:Sylvie@wrtc.org); Innisbrook Wraps, Gifts, and Chocolates – Order online [www.innisbrook.com](http://www.innisbrook.com) (school number 110170).

Information is available at <http://www.toward.com/tjbandboosters/>.

### ***Colonial Athletic Boosters***

TJ **wrestling** won the Stuart Invitational. Mike Howard was named Outstanding Wrestler and twelve TJ wrestlers brought home medals.

*Mike Howard with Outstanding Wrestler Award*



*Wrestling team with First Place Award*

The **gymnastics** team took 1st place at Oakton. Caroline Grady placed 1st on floor, vault, bars, and All Around. Chrissy Franzel and Gabbie Names also placed. At the W-L Invitational, TJ teams took 1st and 4th places. Grady placed 1st on floor, bars, beam, and AA. Names, Kelly Watson, Amanda Gilbert, and Emily Wetzell also placed.



In **track**, the 4 x 800 meter relay team of Paul Norland, Ben Treweek, James Komen and Taylor Bostick won North Carolina's Eastern High School Challenge. Richard Prevost missed first in the 3200 by .01 seconds.

**Swim and Dive** ended their season with the Boys 7-0 and the Girls 4-3. Shane Miller, Marc Lipman, Kelly Dietz, and Christina Wallin were top scoring divers. Team bests and top finishes from last 2 meets: Frani Hess 200 free, Catherine Kim 500 free, Laura Williams 100 breast and 200 IM, Sarah Catlow 100 breast, Chris Lee 50 free and 100 back, Frank Olechnowicz 200 and 500 free, Jonathan Christensen 100 and 500 free, Ben Tuben 500 free and 100 back, Max Gustafson 100 breast, and Brian Wong 200 free.



*Swim and Dive seniors*

Against Stone Bridge, **Freshman boys' basketball** went on a 14-0 run to start the 4th quarter to pull within one point, before losing by only three. Center Alan Allworth had 14 rebounds. Jeff Pontell sank 10 points.

The next Booster meeting is Wednesday, February 7, at 7 p.m. in the library.

Visit our website <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/boosters/> and <http://www.tjgear.com/>.

### ***Crew Boosters***

TJ Crew will be completing winter training and will start practice on the Occoquan the end of February. The rowers have been working hard with this important conditioning. The work ethic of TJ rowers goes well beyond their competition and should ensure the "Winning Tradition" of TJ Crew continues this year.

The **All-Family Crew Meeting** will be held on Tuesday, February 13, in the TJ Cafeteria and is the kick-off for the new season, so please don't miss it. Starting at **7 p.m.**, parents and rowers will be able to

take care of all of their registration requirements, sign up for volunteer jobs, get nutrition information, buy crew clothing, and earn money points with grocery gift cards, etc. We will also have pizza slices and water/sodas for sale. The **General Session** is at **8 p.m.** for all rowers and their families, with **2 Special Sessions** at **7:30 p.m.** One session is for novice and prospective rowers and their parents, and the other session is for sophomore and junior parents who are interested in receiving information on rowing in college.

There are still opportunities for interested students to join this year's Crew. Experience and year in school are not factors—anyone can join TJ Crew—most who join have never rowed before. If you have any questions, contact Head Coach Matt Shoop at [shoop2 at cox.net](mailto:shoop2@cox.net).

If you have any general questions about the team or the TJ Crew Booster organization, please visit <http://sports.tjhsst.edu/crew/> or contact Leslie Norko, Crew Booster President, at [lnorko at gmail.com](mailto:lnorko@gmail.com).



### ***Chorus/Choir Boosters***

The Jefferson Chorus, under the direction of Luke Frels, held their Winter Benefit Concert on January 23, 2007. Accompanied by members of the TJ orchestra, the chorus performed Mozart's "Coronation Mass" and Britten's "A Ceremony of Carols." This concert was a fundraiser for the Martin Luther King, Jr., Memorial Foundation. Approximately 30 TJ choir members will be working on their music for District Chorus this year. Districts will be held February 8 through February 10. Your next opportunity to hear TJ's vocal ensembles is on March 20 at 7:00 p.m., as they preview their selections for this year's Festival held on March 24. It's not all work and no play, as our choir travels to New York on March 2, 3, 4 to sing, take in a couple of shows, and participate in some workshop activities. The TJ Choral Booster Board certainly appreciates the sacrifices our parents and students have made in order to make the Jefferson

Chorus what it is today. Just a reminder that ALL choral parents are always welcome to attend our board meetings held on the third Thursday of the month at TJ. We will be losing quite a few senior parents next year, whose contributions to the booster organization have been significant. To our newer parents, please think about ways in which you can contribute to keep this wonderful outlet available to our students.

### ***Orchestra Boosters***

A number of our students were selected to accompany the TJ choir in a performance of Mozart's Coronation Mass on January 23. Many thanks to the following performers for a spectacular effort: Violin I: Eunju Park, Sarah Rizor, Eli Chen, Yu Suo, Andrew Lam. Violin II: Jenny Jones, Alec Smalley, Biqi Zhang, Tyler Brobst. Cello: Yang Jao, Andrew Menke.

The focus over the next month will be the preparation for the Festival competition. This is always an exciting venue where the students get a chance to shine in a highly competitive environment. March will be a very busy month accordingly. Additionally, the next edition of the Viennese Ball will be Friday March 9 and our Festival concert will be at TJ on the evening of March 13. Please mark those days and consider volunteering one of those evenings. We have a small cadre of dedicated folk but are always looking for new friends! We will be serving dinner from Quiznos as usual for those students desiring to participate. Finally, we will depart for Orlando on April 26 for this year's Orchestra Field Trip. This will be my second year as a chaperone and I'm very much looking forward to the weekend.

Good luck to our students who are auditioning for the All-State Orchestra on February 24! Our next Booster Meeting is at 7:30 p.m. on Tuesday, February 13, in the Principal's Conference Room. Please contact Larry Jones at [lawrencemjones at aol.com](mailto:lawrencemjones@aol.com) if you have any questions, suggestions or would like to attend. Thanks!

### ***Theater Boosters***

**Drama Club:** The Drama Club is proud to present its ***20th Annual Knight of One Axe*** on February 1 at 7:00 p.m., and February 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. For an evening of great variety and entertainment mark your calendars for the student directed one-act plays:

***Invisible Man***, directed by Lauren Hoy and Suzanne Reed – a "dramedy" in which a mute hobo helps people in a Metro station deal with their lives.

***From the Mouths of Babes***, directed by Jeewon Kim and Lauren Ruth – a comedy in which three preschoolers plot to kill their teacher.

***Hello Out There***, directed by Allie Shea and Brad Wergley – a drama in which a man falsely accused of rape falls in love with the prison cook.

***Foreplay, or the Art of the Fugue***, directed by Nora Diamond and Cara Dickason – a comedy in which three couples embark on dates at a mini-golf course.

Rehearsals for the spring musical, *On The Town*, will begin in February. For more information please visit the Theatre Boosters website <http://arts.tjhsst.edu/theatreboosters/>.

### **Shakespeare Troupe**

On January 11 and 13, directors Jeewon Kim and Macs Smith made good on their promise to "break the mold" and deliver *All's Well That Ends Well* in a fresh, new way. In spite of an unexpected power outage that caused cancellation of the Friday show, cast, crew and audience were in high spirits for performances of what is often called one of Shakespeare's "problem plays." *All's Well* is loaded with high drama, laugh-out-loud comedy, and endless twists and turns.

The cast, led by Emily Salpini as the heroine Helena, Will McGarey as her true love Bertram, Julian DePhillips as Parolles, and Michael Gold in a memorable role as Lord Lafew, delivered outstanding performances that had the audience laughing out loud and on the edge of its seat in turns. Congratulations to Jeewon, Macs, and the entire cast and crew. Many thanks to the Shakespeare Troupe's faculty sponsor, Mrs. Bello, and to the Theatre Boosters for their support of the production.

Next up for the Troupe is *The Merchant of Venice* on May 2, 3, and 4. Mark your calendars!

## **Performances**

**Drama Club:** *Knight of One Axe* (an evening of one-act plays selected, cast, and directed by students) February 1 at 7 p.m.; February 2 and 3 at 7:30 p.m. *On The Town* (musical) April 15 at 2 p.m.; April 19 at 7 p.m.; and April 20 and 21 at 7:30 p.m.

**Shakespeare Troupe:** *The Merchant of Venice* – May 2, 3 and 4.

**Curricular Bands Concert:** Tuesday, February 27, at 7 p.m. Admission is free; donations to support the TJ Band Programs are greatly appreciated. Refreshments provided by band families will be served following the performance. **First-round qualifiers for class of 2011** are encouraged to attend and enjoy our award-winning band program.

## Announcements and Information

### *Going, going gone!*

In an effort to clean up the school and provide a safe environment for all, students are requested not to leave items (clothing, books, etc.) on top of lockers at the end of the day. Staff has been instructed to collect any items that have been "forgotten" and left inadvertently on top of lockers. If your students are missing any items that they think they have left on top of a locker somewhere, please tell them to check the lost and found outside the Safety and Security office (books/notebooks can also be found in a lost and found area in the library). There are bags and bags of clothing that have been left behind. Students may pick up lost items across from the Safety and Security office between Monday, January 29, and Wednesday, January 31. They will be on display for pick up in the aud lob during the morning on Thursday, February 1. After that time, the items will be donated to charity.

### *Directories*

Just a reminder that TJ Directories continue to be on sale in the office for \$10 each.

### *FCPS Summer Programs*

Summer Program Information Available at <http://www.fcps.k12.va.us/index.shtml>

### *TJHSST Science and Engineering Fair*

The 2007 TJHSST Science and Engineering Fair will be held in the cafeteria on Saturday, February 3 (snow date of February 10). Though the fair is closed to visitors during the judging, it will be open to all who are interested beginning at 12:30 p.m. There will be an awards ceremony in the cafeteria at 2:00 p.m. Twenty-two projects will be chosen to go on to the Regional Fair at Robinson Secondary School, March 16 -18.

### *Millennium Courtyard Orders*

Orders must be received by March 15 (Go to <http://publications.tjhsst.edu/tjtoday/2000/article.phtml?ed=December%202006&i=1428>)



## Noteworthy Dates:

<p><b>February</b></p> <p>1 Drama Club performance <i>Knight of One Axe</i> -- 7:00 p.m.</p> <p>1 Pickup lost and found items in the Aud Lob</p> <p>1-3 All-District Band -- West Potomac HS</p> <p>2 Drama Club performance <i>Knight of One Axe</i> -- 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>3 Science and Engineering Fair, cafeteria (Snow date of 2/10) Awards ceremony in the cafeteria -- 2:00 p.m.</p> <p>3 Drama Club performance <i>Knight of One Axe</i> -- 7:30 p.m.</p> <p>6 Coffee with the Principal -- 6-7:30 p.m., TJ Cafeteria</p> <p>6 Band Booster Meeting -- 6:30 p.m., Principal's Conference Room</p> <p>7 Athletic Booster Meeting -- 7:00 p.m., TJ Library</p> <p>7 Curriculum Advisory Committee Meeting -- 7:30 p.m., Career Center (Note room change)</p> <p>12 PTSA Meeting -- 7:30 p.m., TJ Library</p> <p>13 TJ Crew All Family Meeting -- 7:00 p.m., Cafeteria</p> <p>13 Diversity Committee Meeting -- 7:30 p.m., Career Center</p> <p>14 Culturally Diverse Parent Workshop II: Understanding Summer Internship and College Application Resources -- 7:30 p.m., Career Center (Snow date 2/21)</p>	<p>16 Winter Chill-Out</p> <p>17 Winter Guard Showcase, TJ Gym I</p> <p>19 Washington's Birthday Holiday</p> <p>20 ANGP Committee Meeting -- 7:00 p.m., Career Center</p> <p>21 Newsletter Submission Deadline</p> <p>25 <i>Capitol Steps</i> political satire-- 7:00 p.m., TJ Auditorium</p> <p>26 Winter Sports Banquet/Awards</p> <p>27 Curricular Bands Concert -- 7:00 p.m., TJ Auditorium</p> <p><b>March</b></p> <p>6 Band Boosters Meeting -- 6:30 p.m., Principal's Conference Room</p> <p>8 Teens and Driving Program -- 7-8:30 p.m., TJ Auditorium (Snow date March 15)</p> <p>15 Millennium Courtyard Orders Due</p> <p>16 Annual School Talent Show, Auditions held in mid-February</p> <p>30 Student Holiday</p> <p><b>April</b> 2-6 Spring Vacation</p> <p><b>May</b> 28 Memorial Day Holiday</p>
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Thomas Jefferson High School for Science and Technology  
**All Night Grad Party – Ticket Order Form**  
**Saturday, June 16 2007**  
(Following the Graduation Ceremony)

PLEASE COMPLETE FULLY AND PRINT CLEARLY

Student Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Name: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Parent's email: \_\_\_\_\_

**TICKET PRICE \$ 90 \$** \_\_\_\_\_

(includes 1 Senior Highlights Video & 1 engraved Jefferson Cup)

**Make Checks Payable to “TJHSST Grad Party”.** Your cancelled check is your receipt. No paper tickets will be issued. A list of those who have paid for tickets will be posted on the website.

**Return to:** “Grad Party” mailbox in front office OR mail to

Susan Pehrsson  
10008 Rough Run Ct.  
Fairfax Station, VA 22039

**Ticket Questions?** Contact Susan Pehrsson  
703-282-6574; email: [spehrsson@cox.net](mailto:spehrsson@cox.net)

**Visit our website for more information:**  
[www.tjhsst-angp.org](http://www.tjhsst-angp.org)

This form, including the **emergency information**, must be completed by Parent/Guardian and received by the Committee by **June 1<sup>st</sup>, 2007**

**EMERGENCY INFORMATION**

Phone # during party hours: \_\_\_\_\_

Allergies/Reactions: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Medications: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Parent/Guardian Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Name Signature

By signing this document, I give my permission for the TJHSST All Night Graduation Party Executive Committee to seek medical attention for my child in the event that I cannot be reached during an emergency.

**PARENTAL AUTHORIZATION & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RISK**

I understand that participation in the All Night Graduation Party, (ANGP), involves public property, and that neither the All Night Graduation Committee, nor its parent volunteers, will have any responsibility for the condition of this property. I have been made aware of the purpose of the ANGP, and that its activities include physical games, and agree that, to the best of my knowledge, my child is physically able to safely participate in this Celebration. Also, I have had an opportunity to have all my questions concerning the All Night Graduation Party answered to my satisfaction and I understand that my child will abide by all restrictions and procedures set forth by the Graduation Party Committee.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student Name (Print) Date

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Name (Print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent/Guardian Signature

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#### Check List

- Principal's Coffee, February 6, 6-7:30 p.m., Cafeteria
- PTSA Meeting, February 12, 7:30 p.m. in the library
- Capitol Steps*, February 25, 7:00 p.m., TJ Auditorium -- Buy your tickets!!
- Teens and Driving Program, March 8, 7-8:30 p.m., TJ Auditorium
- Seniors: Buy your tickets to ANGP!!