



# THE COURIER

THE GENEVA  
SCHOOL  
NEWSLETTER  
MARCH 10, 2006

## March 2006

**Mar 13 - 17:** Spring Break Holiday

**Mar 20 - 25:** Senior Trip

**Mar 24:** End of 3rd Marking Period. Early Dismissal

**Mar 27:** Prospective Parent Open House

**Mar 28 - Apr 1:** Dialectic Trip to Boston

**Mar 31:** Report Cards Sent Home

**Apr 10:** GPA Meeting

**Apr 14 - 17:** NO SCHOOL - Easter Holiday

## Prospective Parent Open House

*Monday, March 27*  
*7:00 - 8:30 p.m.*

(Optional tours will be given from 6:30 - 7:00 p.m.)

Please RSVP to Nicole Incinelli

[nkincinelli@genevaschool.org](mailto:nkincinelli@genevaschool.org)/407-332-6363 ext 201

## Moms in Touch

Led by Julie Tressler, a group of dedicated moms meets every Monday at 8:15 am for approximately one hour to pray for The Geneva School students, parents, teachers, staff and Board. Come as you are to the office at Cascades (across the street from the School) after you drop off your children.

## The Geneva School

2025 State Road 436  
Winter Park, FL 32792  
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[www.genevaschool.org](http://www.genevaschool.org)

## Twelfth Annual Auction Gala ~ A Great Success ~

The Twelfth Annual Spring Auction Gala on Saturday, March 4, 2006, was a great success. When Jill Kahli took on the responsibility of 2006 Auction Chair she was given the high goal of raising \$400,000 through sponsorships and auction sales. That figure was indeed reached. The final exact figures are still being tallied as we go to print, but we are confident that this year's auction has raised over \$400,000.

We wish to thank everyone for their generosity. This money will go a long way in bridging the gap between income and expenses and will help to underwrite many Geneva scholarships.

We are indebted to so many people - our sponsors, our auction item donors, our donors of gifts/services in kind, our auction buyers, our faculty and staff, and our parents. Many thanks to Auction Chair Jill Kahli, the many volunteers, and our faithful Board of Governors, who gave so tirelessly of their time and talents.



# "Plato on a Pommel Horse"

Introduction by Academic Dean Michael Eatmon

A couple of weeks ago, I enjoyed listening in on Christological heresy trials staged by our 9th-graders. Students made their best cases for and against once commonly held beliefs concerning the person, nature, and work of Jesus Christ. Some of the teams, those representing early heresies (such as Apollonarianism, Arianism, Gnosticism, and Nestorianism), defined Christ's deity in such a way as to obviate His full humanity or His humanity in such a wise as to truncate His full deity. Only the orthodox parties of the mock trials could affirm and maintain what the Ecumenical Council of Chalcedon promulgated in 451: the consummate union of a fully divine nature and a nature wholly human in the God-Man, Jesus Christ. The answer to the question "God or man?" proved, finally, to be *yes*.

Nor are Christological controversies the only ones sometimes soluble with *yes*, *both*, and *and*. Take, for example, a common misunderstanding of the role of athletics in classical education. Many today deem the academy and the playing field as irreconcilable as oil and water, their aspirations and ideals as disparate as day and night. For the ancient Greeks and Romans, which was more important, the disciplining of the mind or of the body? Where would one more likely find the Athenian philosopher, debating in the market or cheering at a footrace? The posing of these questions seems facile, their answering foregone.

The following article, adapted from an essay published in *Verso* (Fall 2004), challenges this common misunderstanding (among the university set, at least), and its author, Dr. Ian McNeely, Associate Professor of History at the University of Oregon, suggests the correction to be a *yes*, *both*, and *and*.

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The ancient Greeks exercised naked: discus and javelin throws, footraces, and even wrestling matches all took place in the nude. Our word "gymnasium" derives from the Greek word "gymnos," which means naked. For the ancients, a healthy body was nothing to be ashamed of, and bodily exercise was just as important to them as mental cultivation. Working out came first, in fact. What we now regard as centers of Greek higher learning originated, in many cases, as appendages of exercise facilities. Two of Athens' most famous scholarly institutions were housed in gymnasiums: Plato's Academy and Aristotle's Lyceum.

During the past two millennia, however, the unity of the academy and the playing field, of the mind and the body, bifurcated. The Greek ideal of the sound mind in the sound body began to disintegrate. Today, athletes have gone one

way and scholars another. Each has retained a kernel of the Greek ideal while abandoning its central emphasis on an integrated mind and body. Few people now see athletics as central to a well-rounded education, even though athletics have come to occupy an enormous space in American high schools and universities. This has become increasingly problematic over the last few decades, at the college level especially. Athletic department budgets have ballooned, and universities now compete with each other in fierce "arms races" for the hottest recruits, the biggest stadiums, and the richest donors and supporters. Meanwhile, those who work in the academic departments of the university often feel threatened by the values big-time college sports seem to represent: commercialism, profitability, excess competition, and distraction from intellectual pursuits.

One can hardly call for a wholesale return to Greek ways to remedy this situation, but understanding how the values we attach to sports have changed since ancient times at least helps to explain why academics and athletics have grown so far apart. Greek gymnastics always favored individual competition, like the modern-day track and field events they inspired. By contrast today's most popular sports, like football and basketball, all revolve around teamwork. Only in academic life does the stress on individual achievement reign supreme. In the classroom students compete for grades based on their own work, and "teamwork" counts as plagiarism as often as not. On game day, however, group effort and school spirit carry the day.

Greek gymnastics also emphasized a strong bond between students and teachers, young and old. Plato learned from Socrates, and his own students carried on the Academy. Yet while the contemporary "academia" of the university is only a metaphor for the Platonic tradition, the athletic world has kept a more faithful link to the ancient spirit. Coaches, who provide not just physical instruction but moral guidance, are unique to athletics. Not only do they provide models of leadership, but they often keep close tabs on their athletes' personal and emotional lives. College professors, by contrast, remain relatively aloof. Even when they take an intense interest in their students, their livelihoods depend little on the success of their charges, and their responsibilities center on their own research as much as on teaching others.

Perhaps the most telling difference between us and the ancients is that athletes used to share a common culture with scholars. There was no real divide between geeks and jocks. Today, scholars with elbow patches are liable to look disdainfully on athletes with shoulder guards, and vice versa. Most

## *"Plato on a Pommel Horse" continued....*

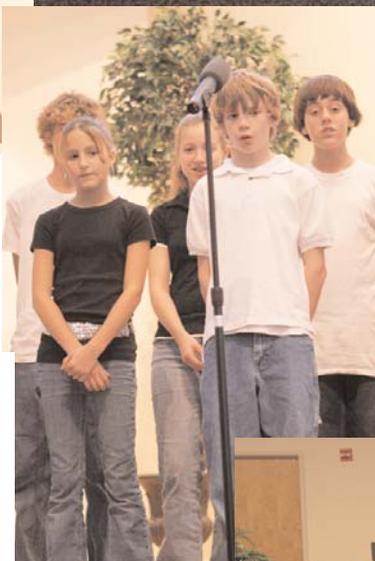
of the frictions between these groups have as much to do with cultural stereotypes as any real grievances between them, but they play a significant role in poisoning collective debate about the proper role of sports in the educational life.

On the positive side, today's universities, in both their academic and athletic functions, still promote national cultural unity. In modern America, sports revolve around rituals of physical competition, and, with no real violence, can promote bonds of friendly competition among the fifty states. In a subtler but equally profound way, America's universities can provide access to a common high culture. Professors, much more so than doctors and lawyers, circulate around the nation looking for open teaching positions; unlike other profession-

als, they have little or no control over where they live. For students, the biggest rite of passage into adulthood is moving off to college. For both groups, being uprooted from their places of origin makes studying Plato and all the rest of the humanities a unifying experience, and this is how universities knit the nation together.

Here is where the Greek legacy is perhaps strongest. The ancient Olympics were a time when people from all of Greece's warring city states put down their weapons and came together to compete. Modern America has the luxury of having already attained both a national unity and the wherewithal to celebrate it in academic and athletic spheres alike. If more of us recognized this common ground, perhaps the gaps between geeks and jocks would look a lot smaller.

## *Dialectic and Rhetoric Celebration of Learning*



On the afternoon of February 26, 2006, the faculty and students of the Dialectic and Rhetoric School hosted a "Celebration of Learning." This annual event drew approximately 250 guests to St. Paul's Presbyterian Church to see first-hand the fruits of a Geneva education in grades 7-12. From the angelic voices of the Rhetoric Choir to the sound of the 7th- and 8th-grade English classes presenting famous poetry; from the presentation of winsomely-written papers on the environment and the church to a live debate and French students' dramatic presentations of New Testament parables, attendees experienced a rich sampling of the learning that occurs on a day-to-day basis in the Christian classical classroom. In addition to a formal program, students, parents, friends, and grandparents had the opportunity to browse through numerous displays of photography, artwork, class projects, and much more. Thank you to all who made this event a success, most especially our Dialectic and Rhetoric students.

**Girls' Varsity Basketball:** The Lady Knights finished the regular season 12-7 with a tough schedule that included Winter Springs High School among their opponents. They played well throughout the season and fought for the number 2 seed for the District Tournament all the way to the last week. The team was lead by All-District First Team player Jordan Kong who averaged 16 points a game and 6 rebounds, 5 assists, and 5 steals. Fran Cloke was the team's leading rebounder at 9.2 per game. Rachel Maynard led the defense with great intensity and effort. Abbie Beates provided great all-around play and continues to improve daily. Liz Schutz provided needed senior leadership throughout the season. Becky Lopdrup continues to improve rapidly and looks to be a force in the future. Katie O'Driscoll and Caroline Mitchell were two newcomers to the team and were vital to the team's success. The girls' team concluded their first season in FHSAA District 5 with a 9-5 district record which seeded them fourth of eight teams in the District Tournament. The Lady Knights were upset in the first round of the District Tournament although they fought hard to overcome their opponent Deltona Trinity Christian.



The team and Coach Ledbetter have high expectations for next year, although the senior leadership of Rachel Maynard and Liz Schutz will surely be missed. The Lady Knights have become a District contender and will take the step to becoming a State contender in the very near future. However, more importantly, they have represented God and their school at the highest level and maintained their academic integrity with a team GPA near a 4.0. A special thanks to all the parents for their help and support for a wonderful season.

**Boys' Varsity Basketball:** Coached by James Bolar and assistant coach David Delk, this was the first season in Geneva's history that the Varsity Boys Basketball team competed in districts. By playing at this higher level the team learned a lot, and it was a year of solid improvement for all the boys. Chris Randazzo was a solid three-point shooter and ball handler and a talented decision maker on the court. Luis Perez is an outstanding shooter and ball handler and one of the team's best defenders. Jonathan Fronczek is a good shooter and a great defender. He took on some of the best offensive players this year and held them below their average. We are expecting big things from "Fronz" next year. Corbin Clinkscale may be small in stature but not in heart. He was our most consistent player in both practice and games. Corbin started as power forward this year and will probably extend his game to the perimeter next year. Freshman Kyle Barker is an exceptional ball handler and finisher, and he brought so much to the team. Ryan Delk is a player who has a high basketball IQ for someone his age and is a strong defender and team player. At 6' 4" and 200 lbs, Calvin



# Round-Up

Meyer can play with the big boys! He has shown remarkable improvement on his offensive game and court awareness, and his strength and athleticism makes him an all-around valuable player. Jonathan Phaneuf is also one of Geneva's tall guys at 6' 3" and 250 lbs. He really played tough inside this year, rebounded well, and defended some of the best big guys in the district. Seniors Lee Sanford and Daniel Stevens added strength, skill, and leadership to the team and will be greatly missed next year. Lee, the team captain, was an outstanding jump shooter and defender. Daniel was the team's most fundamentally sound big man this year. He has a high basketball IQ and always seemed to know what the coach wanted before he asked.



The coaches and team are very thankful for the support of many parents and staff, and they look forward to next year and plan to go far. The team's goal is to be the best defensive team in the district and to give God the glory!



**Junior High Boys' Basketball:** Coached by Laurel Socha, this team was comprised of exceptional young men, eager to learn about basketball. The guys learned quickly and loved a good competition. As they grew as players and as a team, the games became closer in score and more fun to watch. They all learned that every person makes a difference whether in the game or out, and although the season resulted in only one win, by the end the games were down to the wire and the boys played with great teamwork. Coach Socha recently moved to Charlotte N.C.; and we thank her for her commitment to the boys this season.

**Team:** Andrew Allen, Davis Anderson, Alex Boyd, Steve Candeto, Aaron Clements, Taylor Heinsch, Austin Hutto, Adam Johnson, Cody Leiffer, Neil Patel, Sunny Patel, Chris Roberts, Austin Tucker, and Austin Wardian.



**Girls' Varsity Soccer:** Coached by Mike McAvoy, the Lady Knights' first season in the School's history was an extremely successful one from the very beginning with a resounding 6 - 3 victory over the Brevard HEAT! While playing mostly against opponents from bigger schools, the team's overall record for the season ended at a respectable 4-8-2 and saw leading goal scorers Victoria Robinson (6 goals/5 assists), Leah Heinsch (6/4), and Kara Jones (6/4) finding the back of the net consistently. Anchoring a solid defense were standouts Amanda Rowdon, Cassie Shriner, Samantha Cowan, Kendall Rowdon, and Veronika Nyberg who helped stifle the opposition in front of goalkeepers Hanna Ludwig and Melissa Gunter.



Co-Captain Amanda McPhail stated, "This was such an enjoyable experience for everyone, and to be a part of the first team in Geneva's history was a wonderful honor!" As the squad will be graduating only three seniors, the future for the 2006-07 team looks extremely bright!

**Soccer Team:** Emilee Arnold, Samantha Cowan, Bethany Cyr, Maddie Francis, Melissa Gunter, Leah Heinsch, Kara Jones, Hanna Ludwig, Amanda McPhail, Veronika Nyberg, Kirsten Peterson, Anya Phillips, Erin Phillips, Victoria Robinson, Amanda Rowdon, Kendall Rowdon, Cassandra Shriner, and Julia Swanson.



# Students vs. Faculty Basketball Games

February 24, 2006



A large poster in the gym read "Rock the Faculty," and so they did. The youngsters really took it to the old-timers in the seventh annual Students vs. Faculty basketball games. The Varsity girls jumped all over their elders early in the game and were never really challenged. Sophomores Jordan Kong and Abbie Beates led the way as the 2005/2006 Lady Knights toppled the class of '56, '68, '74, '83, and '99 by a final score of 38 - 16. "It was a massacre out there tonight, it's a miracle we didn't need the defibrillator," said one young fan after the game.

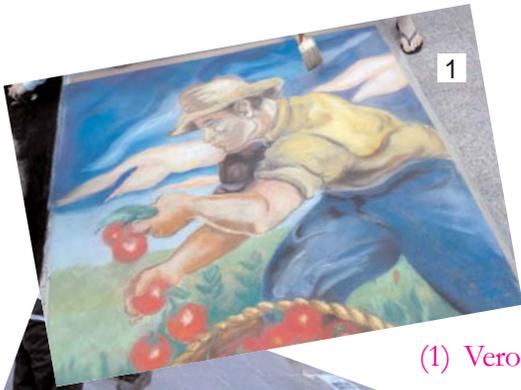
The boys' game was a different story. This one was a real nail-biter. The varsity boys did eventually emerge victorious, but only by a score of 45-40. The Knights fought off a late rally by the Geneva Geriatrics thanks to outstanding team defense and clutch shooting down the stretch. Chris Randazzo hit a three-pointer with less than a minute remaining to nail the coffin shut.....very nearly literally.



THANK YOU to Chrissie Schutz for organizing the event and to John Rivers for providing all the food. Thanks also to all the many volunteers who pitched in to help.



# Rotary Fest 2006 Sidewalk Chalk Art Saturday, March 4



(1) Veronika Nyberg, Shelly Bradon and Dale Wayne;



(2) Lexi and Devon Fulmer (Honorable Mention High School);



(3) Kelsi Gumpert and Sophie Meyer (Honorable Mention);



(4) Melissa Spilman and Cassie Shriner (Honorable Mention President's Award);

(5) Steve Candeto;

(6) Geneva Graduate Heather Wayne and college buddies;



(7) James Wayne;

(8) Geneva Graduate Danielle Wayne and college buddies (Best Reproduction of a Masterpiece).



## Kirsten Peterson competes in the United States Fencing Association Junior Olympics

Kirsten Peterson, an eleventh grade student at Geneva, recently participated in the United States Fencing Association Junior Olympics in Hartford, Connecticut. Because she has already competed in several national and international tournaments, the competition was not entirely new territory for Kirsten. However, it was still a challenge and a great learning experience. Her coach was recently involved in an automobile accident and was unable to travel, so Kirsten had to rely on her own judgment as well as the advice of her friends.



Because there are so few fencers in the United States, each local competition consists of generally the same fencers who live throughout Florida. Whenever Kirsten is able to compete in a national tournament, such as the Junior Olympics, it gives her a wider range of competitors, so she is able to learn to defend against different styles of fencing and is challenged by opponents of higher levels.

Congratulations, Kirsten!

## The Geneva School

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### Alumni News

## Geneva Graduate Heather Wayne

2003 Geneva Graduate Heather Wayne recently presented a paper on *Tess of the D'Urbervilles* by Thomas Hardy (a novel she first fell in love with in her literature classes at Geneva) at the Fourth Annual British Studies Student Symposium at Hendrix College in Conway, Arkansas. She was one of seven students whose entries were chosen to be published in the annual publication *The Furman Humanities Review*. Heather was also honored for her cartooning, receiving third place for cartoons or humorous illustrations in the South Carolina Press Association's annual collegiate competition.

Heather will spend part of the summer in Santa Fe as an intern at the prestigious Edgar Peters gallery. Her responsibilities will include researching and writing artists' biographies for a publication and exhibition of historical Santa Fe artists.



## Seventh Annual Geneva School Sports Banquet

Friday, May 5

6:00 p.m. in the Gym

Students who participated in Middle School, Junior High, Junior Varsity, and Varsity teams will be honored.

**\$5 ~ students (K - 6), athletes and coaches**  
**\$10 ~ adults and non-athlete students (7 - 12)**  
**Free ~ children under 5**

All students must be accompanied by an adult.

**Dress Code: Smart Casual (no jeans, t-shirts or flip-flops)**

## Geneva Parents Association

Monday, April 10 ~ 7:00 pm  
Music Room

### What's in a Name?

Who we are...

Why we are here...

How we began...

Where we are going...