



MEDIA RELEASE

For Immediate Release
February 22, 2017

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Chesapeake Bay Governor School-Warsaw Campus Competes in the 20th Annual Regional Ocean Science Bowl

Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw Campus sent two teams to compete in the 20th Annual Blue Crab Bowl, held February 18 at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point. The day-long academic tournament is the Virginia regional contest for the National Ocean Science Bowl (NOSB®). Fifteen teams came from across of the Commonwealth, from Manassas to Virginia Beach, Warrenton in the west to Exmore, on the Eastern Shore. The nearly 80 students spent the day in heated tournament competition focused on the marine sciences.

The Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Warsaw Campus Team A, coached by science teacher James Beam, included: Team Captain Patrick McKenny (Northumberland High School); Abigail Kiss (Northumberland High); Ian Lewis (Rappahannock High); and Victoria Nutt (Colonial Beach High School). Additional team member Denzel Mitchell (Northumberland High) was unable to attend. The CBGS-Warsaw Team B, prepared by science teacher Kim Olsen, included: Team Captain Hallie Grace Taylor (Washington and Lee High); Roman Cutler (Lancaster High); Rain Eguiguren (Northumberland High); Erin McClain (from Lancaster High School); and Lucinda Wigfield (Northumberland High).

After a challenging day of both round robin and double elimination matches – 46 matches in all – just two schools dominated the top four slots. Bishop Sullivan Catholic High (Virginia Beach) captured First and Third Place with their two teams. Seton School (Manassas), also with two teams, took Second and Fourth Place.

The Blue Crab Bowl is a cooperative effort between the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William and Mary, and Old Dominion University's Department of Ocean, Earth, and Atmospheric Sciences. Over 75 scientists, including faculty, graduate students and staff from both institutions and the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, donated many hours of their time to ensure the success of this exciting event.

Virginia's Blue Crab Bowl was among the inaugural NOSB competitions in 1998. Designed to inspire and challenge high school students, NOSB contests like the Blue Crab Bowl test the competitors' knowledge of the marine sciences, covering the breadth of oceanography and maritime disciplines. To date, the Blue Crab Bowl has involved over 1,620 of the Commonwealth's brightest science students from 53 public and private schools across Virginia.

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Using questions designed by marine scientists and educators, the contest tested students' knowledge of oceanography, geology, biology, maritime history and policy. Guided by their teacher coaches, students broadened their awareness and understanding of the oceans as they prepared for the competition. The Bowl provides a forum for students who excel in math and science to receive regional and national recognition for their diligence and talent. During Saturday's event, the competition started with a field of fifteen teams, with four emerging as top contenders by late afternoon.

Competing 2017 teams included:

Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – Team A, Virginia Beach
Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – Team B, Virginia Beach
Broadwater Academy – Team A, Exmore
Broadwater Academy – Team B, Exmore
Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Glens Campus, Glens
Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Warsaw Campus – Team A, Warsaw
Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Warsaw Campus – Team B, Warsaw
Churchland High School, Portsmouth
Fauquier High School, Warrenton
Governor's School for Science & Technology –New Horizons, Hampton
Isle of Wight Academy, Isle of Wight
Patrick Henry High School- Team A, Ashland
Patrick Henry High School- Team B, Ashland
Seton School – Team A, Manassas
Seton School – Team B, Manassas

At the end of the grueling day, all teams were recognized during the Awards Ceremony by Bowl Coordinators **Dr. Carol Hopper Brill** from VIMS and **Dr. Victoria Hill** from ODU. Prizes were presented by President and CEO of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership, **Rear Admiral Jonathan White** and **Dr. Mark Luckenbach**, Associate Dean of Research & Advisory Services at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. The students were applauded for their accomplishments and encouraged to continue their studies in interdisciplinary marine sciences.

The winning team will represent Virginia in the national competition, facing other regional champions at the National finals, April 20-23, in Corvallis, Oregon. The National Ocean Science Bowl is a program of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership in Washington, DC. NOSB seeks to interest students in ocean science as a college major and potential career. Through 25 regional competitions across the nation, NOSB provides an educational forum intended to: generate student interest in the ocean sciences; improve awareness of our oceans, coasts and Great Lakes; and create an "ocean literate" society that can meet the ocean challenges of the future. During 2017, an expected 2,000 students from over 300 high schools from around the country will participate in this 20th annual event.

The Blue Crab Bowl wouldn't be possible without the generous support of national, regional and local sponsors. The local sponsors are: the Virginia Institute of Marine Science; ODU's Department of Ocean Earth & Atmospheric Sciences; VIMS Marine Advisory Program; the Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association and National Marine Educators Association; Leave Only Bubbles/What If Scientific; Comfort Suites-Airport, Newport News; Pizza Hut, Gloucester Point. For a list of the national and regional sponsors, visit the NOSB website at www.nosb.org/.

For further information, please contact or **Dr. Carol Hopper Brill**, phone 804-684-7735, email chopper@vims.edu or **Dr. Victoria Hill** via phone at 757-683-4911 or e-mail vhill@odu.edu. Information about **Blue Crab Bowl** is also available at www.vims.edu/bcb. For information on other competitions around the country and the National Ocean Science Bowl, visit www.nosb.org/.



BLUE CRAB BOWL 2017 PARTICIPATING TEAM



Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Warsaw Campus – Team A Coach: James Beam



Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Warsaw Campus - Team A Warsaw, VA

Students from the **Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Warsaw Campus –Team A** participated in the 20th Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. The all-day academic event was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point on February 18. Coached by **science teacher James Beam** (far right), team members included (left to right): **Victoria Nutt** (from Colonial Beach High School); **Ian Lewis** (Rappahannock High); **Team Captain Patrick McKenny**; and **Abigail Kiss** (both from Northumberland High). Additional team member **Denzel Mitchell** (Northumberland High) was unable to attend. Photo by Dennis Quigley, Virginia Sea Grant Photo Intern.



BLUE CRAB BOWL 2017 PARTICIPATING TEAM



Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Warsaw Campus – Team B Coach: Kim Olsen



Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Warsaw Campus - Team B Warsaw, VA

Students from the **Chesapeake Bay Governor's School, Warsaw Campus –Team B** participated in the 20th Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. The all-day academic event was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point on February 18. **Science teacher Kim Olsen** (far left) prepared the team for competition. Team members included (left to right): **Erin McClain** (from Lancaster High School); **Rain Eguiguren** (Northumberland High); **Roman Cutler** (Lancaster High); **Team Captain Hallie Grace Taylor** (Washington and Lee High); and **Lucinda Wigfield** (Northumberland High). Photo by Dennis Quigley, Virginia Sea Grant Photo Intern.