

DAMASCUS CHRISTIAN SCHOOL  
CHALKMARKS  
HOME OF THE EAGLES



The Heart Of Education is Education of the Heart

*DCS Boys Win Second-in-a-Row Valley  
10 Championship in Double Overtime!*



High school 1-A boys' basketball. Two top teams facing each other. In their two earlier meetings, a two-time winner, and two loses in the matchup. The winner of this game? The Valley 10 League champs. The loser – second place. But remember, it's only a game. Right...

From the moment you walked into Multnomah's gym Saturday night, you sensed several things. The heat! Excitement. Partisanship to the max. School colors. Good natured bantering. Serious speculation. Lots of hype and anticipation. And the outstanding DCS pep band!

Damascus Christian vs. Columbia Christian. A great rivalry that goes back years. From tip-off to the final buzzer(s), it was intense. Both teams excellently coached. Both teams with the heart and horsepower to win. Just what a championship game should be.

And what a game it was. Back and forth, up and down, gaining and losing ground. End of regulation time – a tied game. Overtime – 4 minutes of intense hustle and team work. Still tied. Second overtime – another 4 minutes to determine the league champions and a first-round bye on the road to Baker City and the 1-A State Basketball Championship games. Our Eagles rallied from five-points down in the final minute to gain a three-point lead which they refused to give up. Final buzzer – DCS 47, CCS – 44!

Outstanding basketball for both teams. Our DCS boys now face either Perrydale or McKenzie at our gym this Saturday, 7 PM, to see who goes on to Baker City and who stays home. Coach **Terry Calhoun** and assistant **Steve Bueller** have done a tremendous job with our guys. Our hats are off to them. *Go Eagles!!*

At the conclusion of the game, DCS was awarded the Valley 10 League championship trophy. In addition, **Michael G.** was named to the All-League Second Team and **Matt Y.** was selected for the All-

League First Team. Congratulations!

*DCS Girls Lose by 3.  
Host Perrydale Tuesday*



So close and yet so far. In spite of our *Lady Eagles* leading most of the game, they came up short in the final few minutes to lose to Portland Waldorf 32-29, and had to settle for second place in the Valley 10 League championship game. That means our girls have *two more games to win* in order to move on to Baker City and the 1-A girls State Championship tourney. We host the Perrydale girls this Tuesday. A win moves us to travel to play Mohawk this Friday; a loss means the end of their season.

At the conclusion of the girls' game, three of our girls were honored by being placed on the League All-Star teams. **Tori S.** and **Samy W.** were selected by the league coaches to the Honorable Mention team. **Katie M.** was placed on the Valley 10 All-Star First Team. In addition, our *Lady Eagles* received the league Sportsmanship Trophy. Congratulations!

As with our boys coaches, head coach **Dave Wakefield** and assistant **Steve Lierman** have done a wonderful job in preparing our girls to reach this point in Oregon 1-A basketball. When you consider there are approximately 82 1-A schools in the state, with only 16 making it to the sub-State play-offs, our teams have done an incredible job. And to think that we have the possibility of taking *two* teams to State! That is indeed remarkable. *Go Eagles!!*

*If Our Team(s) Go To State...*

Historically and traditionally, when any of our high school basketball teams have qualified for the State Basketball Tournament in Baker City, we have closed down school for three days to encourage as many families as possible to go to support our players and coaches. Many of our families have

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SPECIAL POINTS OF INTEREST ON NEXT PAGE

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CARPE AETERNITAS ~ Seize Eternity

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done just that, including those with elementary children. Numbers of our teachers, elementary through high school, have also gone. It has been a wonderful outreach experience and most would say, well worth the time and expense.

Serious consideration has been given to dismissing only the 7<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders from school during the March 3<sup>rd</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> play dates, continuing school with the kindergarten through sixth graders. After much discussion and weighing the pros and cons, it was decided to close the entire school down for the State games in order to encourage those with children in the lower grades to come support our Eagles.

Achieving this milestone of participating at Baker City is an honor few schools reach. Out of the approximately 82 1-A schools in Oregon, only 8 make it to the championship games. We want to honor our **teams**, their **parents**, and **coaches** for this outstanding accomplishment. There has been some concern expressed about losing academic time; in fact, with our earlier-than-usual start date last September and no snow days, we have a longer school year than in the past, thus, our academic goals will be reached.

So if our *Eagles* reach the State Finals, we want to encourage as many as possible to make reservations (more information on that later), pack up the car, and head to Baker City for the 2010 1-A State Basketball Championship games. You will not regret it!

**Be a Reading Olympian**

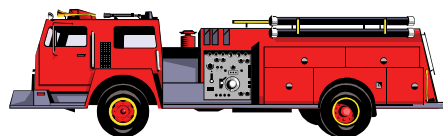
Last week, grades K-6 received a challenge to become Reading Olympians. They each have a record sheet where they keep track of their free reading. Prizes are given as they reach the Bronze, Silver and Gold medal squares. Parents, please encourage your children to read and return their sheets to the library. The program ends March 1, the day after the Olympic Closing Ceremonies. Let's see how many Gold Medal Reading Olympians we can get in our school!!



**An Unexpected Kudo**

Last week we had an unplanned fire drill. One of the smoke detectors in the upper hallway of the gym inadvertently went off, just as students were being dropped off to begin the school day. Our very efficient Damascus Fire Department responded with a big red

truck, flashing lights, and a swarm of firemen. And something wonderful happened.



As we worked with the fire department to determine the cause of the alarm, the staff and students did what they have been trained to do – line up away from the building. A parent of a DCS second grader noticed the orderly evacuation and sent the following email: "Dear **Mr. Oakley**, I would like to commend your staff for their actions this morning as they dealt with the mid-drop-off fire alarm situation. The staff members with whom I interacted with this morning (**Miss Walker, Mrs. Thompson, and Mrs. Rankin**) showed nothing but a calm, collected and professional manner in the midst of what I assume was an unusual and unexpected situation. I was impressed with the way the entire situation was handled. When I asked Mrs. Thompson if there was a procedure in place for this situation and she told me no, that it had never happened before, I was amazed because everything seemed to be flowing so well as if it had been planned and staged. In a situation that could easily have deteriorated into chaos, your staff rose to the occasion and established and maintained control. Kudos **DCS staff** for a job very well done!! Sincerely, a 2<sup>nd</sup> grader's Mom."

**Fine Arts Fair Simplified To An Open House Affair**



Last year our Fine Arts Fair morphed into a multi-faceted affair with a wonderful display of our students' artistic offerings, comedian Tim Hawkins, and an over-the-top bring-your-own-dessert-and-decorate-your-own table format.

This year, in light of the economy and the possibility of going to Baker City, we are simplifying the Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30-8:30 PM, DCS Fine Arts Fair. What to expect? Delicious hors d'oeuvres created and served by **Mrs. McEnany's** high school Home Skills class, living history dioramas from **Mrs. Urbanowski's** Unique and Uncommon history classes, **Mr. Bolton's** Bodacious Band, beautiful hand-created quilts from **Mrs. M's** Quintessential Quilt Class, *Halel* with its Heavenly Harmonies under the direction of **Mrs. Joham, Mrs. Schmidt** and her Astounding, Artistic Art class offerings, Rambunctious Robots from **Miss Kemple's** robotics class, plus much, much more! Reserve the date – Saturday, March 13<sup>th</sup>, 6:30 – 8:30 DCS Fine Arts Open House.