

WRMS Annual Terry Fox Run

By Brittany C.

On Friday September 12, the students of the W. Ross Macdonald school held their annual Terry Fox run. According to an interview with Mrs. Fox, the weather was perfect. This year, the students raised a total of \$1608, part of it raised by the annual costume competition. This year's winner was Mr. Zinger. The overall reception of this year's winner was extremely popular. In various interviews, the students said that they were quite pleased with the results.

One of the other contenders in the running this year was Mr. McNally, the new vice



principal, but because he was new, the students decided that they should wait a while before voting for him to win.

Once again, the leadership class put their "all" into the event, and Mrs. Fox said in a later interview that it was a op-

portunity to work as a team. All in all, the Terry Fox run, according to Mrs. Fox, was a great success.

Brandon Carries Olympic Flame

By Brandon V.

Just before Christmas, I carried the Olympic flame through Paris Ontario. It was an exciting experience as I was the first runner in Paris early on the morning of December 22.

The night before, I couldn't sleep. I was still up at 1 a.m. so I went on the computer till 1:30 when I went to bed in order to be up at 4 a.m. to eat breakfast. We left at 5:30 for the torch run.

(Continued on page 2)

INSIDE THIS ISSUE

- **A WRMS student named Miss Teen Canada last summer has stepped down. See why on page 2.**
- **Plenty has been happening at Wilkes Hall over the past few months. See pages 2 and 3.**
- **Our students did very well in an international goalball tournament in Florida. Check out the article on page 3.**
- **The annual fall football classic, the Silver Cup, offered fierce gridiron action. See page 4.**
- **The WRMS Cross-country team had a great season. Read a full report on page 4.**

(Continued from page 1)

We arrived at our collection point (Council Chambers in Paris) at 6:10 a.m. I boarded the bus when more torchbearers arrived while my mother waited in the car for us to start. We left for our collection point at 7:30.

When I got out, I had a bunch of people congratulating me, and wanting pictures. The media asked me questions as the flame was approaching. When the flame was approaching, I held up the torch, and waited so people could get pictures of me before I left on my once in a lifetime experience.

I held the flame up high and started a light jog for 300 metres. Just when I was done, my arm was getting sore so I held it with two hands then passed the flame to the next person. I got on the bus out of breath and so pumped that I got to carry the torch part of the way to Vancouver.

Molly Steps Down as Miss Teen Canada

The first visually impaired person to win the Miss Teen Canada title has relinquished it in a contract dispute with pageant organizers. But Molly B., a Grade 10 student at the W. Ross Macdonald School, isn't letting that hold her back.

She continues to volun-

teer in her home town of Oakville and took part in the Torch Relay for the 2010 Winter Paralympics on March 5. She was also recently recognized for her community involvement on behalf of the blind and visually impaired. In November, she was awarded the 2009 Peace Medal by the YMCA of Oakville.

A media release from the YMCA noted that Molly "has a unique resume that made her nomination stand out," and that she is "an accomplished fundraiser and role model for people with disabilities."

As well as attending WRMS, Molly has been a goodwill ambassador for the Foundation Fighting Blindness. The 15-year-old turned her last birthday into a fund raiser for the foundation which resulted in almost \$30,000 in donations.

During her campaign to be Miss Teen Canada, she managed to collect more than 4,000 teddy bears to send to orphans in Uganda and \$8,000 in cash to pay for them to be shipped there.

In a recent article in the "WRMS has Character" newsletter, she explained that "service is my way of contributing to making stronger communities, to building awareness and acceptance for blind people and most importantly to demonstrate my abilities, not my disability."

Molly has been overcoming her physical limitations since the age of four when she was diagnosed with a genetic, degenerative eye condition known as Retinitis Pigmentosa.

WRMS Welcomes New Students

By Brittany C.

This year, as in every other year that the W. Ross Macdonald school had been opened, many new students have walked through the doors for the first time. This year, W. Ross warmly welcomed admissions such as Andrew H., Mike Y., Adriano F., Zeeshan M., Anthony B., Matt D., Caroline B., Gabrielle L., Jill H., Jeri O., Cody Wa., Sam B., Matt B., and Juston B. W. Ross is proud and pleased to welcome these new admissions.

Wilkes Hall Annual Corn Roast

By Brittany G.

On Thursday, September 17, Mr. Ferras of Wilkes Hall hosted the annual welcome-back Corn Roast. All of Wilkes Hall attended. At the Corn Roast, delicious hot dogs and corn were served, and all who attended were treated to the DJ stylings of John A. The Corn Roast began at 7 p.m. and lasted until 9. The weather couldn't have been much better. All the students agreed that it was a good corn roast.

(Continued on page 3)

(Continued from page 2)

Wilkes Hall Residence Round-Up

By Brittany C and Brittany G.

The fall season was a busy one for the students of Wilkes Hall. A big push was on to prepare for the annual craft sale held December 10. They made things such as dog poles, dog biscuits, gift bags, Braille Christmas cards and chocolates.

Near Halloween, they hosted students from the David A. Neill residence for an evening of trick-or-treating. The Wilkes Hall hosts provided such things as spooky music by Kara S., pumpkin bowling with Stephanie A. and Theresa F. Caroline B. was at the door in her witch costume, cackling greetings as the costume-clad students entered by way of the elevator.

As well, various other clubs have been running such as the book club and the cooking club. In sports, there was a floor hockey league featuring three teams: the Rynos, the Fish Farmers and the Red Hot Flames.

In addition, there was the SIP goalball league, which featured such teams as the Mama Mias, the Trucks, and the Worry Warts.

Overall, it has been a busy fall and winter season at Wilkes Hall.

Students Enjoy Welcome Back Dance

By James R.

The annual W. Ross Macdonald School Welcome Back Dance held on September 29 in the Students' Centre was well attended. Students seemed to enjoy themselves and there was a good mix of music provided by DJs Brandon S. and Dylan J.

This dance was not like others because at most there are usually at least five slow songs throughout the dance but this time there were only two and they were at the end. The snacks provided were very good. It would be nicer if the staff would join in the dancing a little more.

Florida Goalball Trip Memorable

The W. Ross Macdonald School Goalball teams recently travelled to St. Augustine, Florida to participate in the U.S. National Youth Goalball Championships.

The girls' team of Cassie O., Sarah H., Brooke P., Jillian M., and coaches Kristina Tremblay and Jennifer McMillan completed the tournament with three wins and one loss. They defeated teams from Washington State, Pennsyl-

vania, and Georgia, and loss to the host Florida team in their first game. The girls team scored 29 goals and only had eight scored against them.

The boys' team which included Brandon K., Dylan J., Aaron P., Anthony F., and coaches Bob Mannen and Mike Breuls finished undefeated at 6-0. They defeated teams from New York State (twice), Michigan, Arizona, Pennsylvania, and Florida. During the tournament the team scored an incredible 55 goals while allowing only 11 in six games.

The boys and girls teams were applauded for the way they carried themselves and the display of goalball excellence throughout the tournament.

Special thanks go to Donovan L., Justin L., Sean S., Arvin C., and Julia F. for training with both teams to make them better before they left.

As well thanks go to coach Mannen for all his extra time in the gym training both teams, Mr. Ferras for his excellent technical support, and to Mrs. Noble for preparing the paperwork to send everyone to Florida. It was truly a special trip that the students will never forget.

(Continued on page 4)

(Continued from page 3)

Argos Down Bills 14-7 in Silver Cup

By Skyler R.

On a cool, clear October afternoon the 2009 edition of the Silver Cup served up excellent defense, timely offense and a close 14-7 win by the Argos over the Bills. The Argos built up a 14 point lead on touchdowns. Then the Bills came back with one touchdown Tony B.

The Bills were coached by Mr. Russell and Mrs. Russell; Mr. Bruels and Mrs. Ottowell coached the winning Argos.

In an interview after the game, Mr Russell said that he was proud of his players and they would do better next time. He said in his pep talk to the team that the graduating students have a choice: either they leave in defeat on their backs or on their feet.

All in all the game was a big success and, I am sure next year's will be even better.

It's a Great Cross-Country Season

By Mohammed E.

What a terrific season!

This year's Cross-Country Team was one of the largest that we have had in some time. Our sole Midget girl member was: Stephanie Mc. while the Midget Boys team consisted of: Brad D., Darren M., Brandon V., Jonathan K., Mike Y. and Kelly M. Our Junior boys team was: Joel N., Justin L., Tyler J., Jamie K., and Arvin C. Many of our Senior Girls Cross-country team were also members of our international goalball team. They were: Jillian Mac., Brooke P., Cassie O. and Sarah H. And finally, Tony F., Nick W., Ryan R., Brandon K., Aaron P., Donovan L. and myself, Mohammed E. represented the

Senior Boys Team.

We participated in many meets which were held throughout Southwestern Ontario. Christie Lake in Flamborough began the Competition Schedule. Two Adrenaline meets and also the BCSSAA were held here at WRMS. Others were at Churchill Park in Hamilton, and the final CWOSSA at "Buck's Crossing" in Hanover.

Honourable mention goes to Sarah H., Stephanie M., Julia F., Adriano F. and Courtney J. who were unable to complete the whole season.

In tradition, we ended the season with our over-night party at Mr. Howe's cottage, eating pizza, the great MacDonald's breakfast and for some of us, a brief swim in the lake, rewarded by Mr. Rollings free coffee.

Many thanks goes to our gym teachers and all our volunteers for making the season so successful.

It's my last cross-country season here at WRMS. It's been a blast.