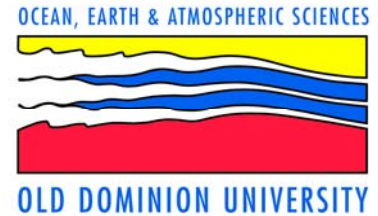
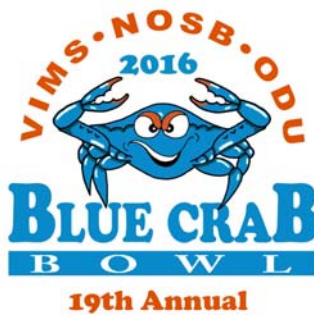




NATIONAL OCEAN  
SCIENCES BOWL



## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Chesapeake Bay Governor's School Wins a Strong Second Place at the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Regional Ocean Science Bowl

**Chesapeake Bay Governor's School** sent three teams to the 19<sup>th</sup> Annual Blue Crab Bowl, held at the Old Dominion University in Norfolk on Saturday, February 6. After a hotly contested final round, the **Warsaw Campus Team A won a very close Second Place**. The Blue Crab Bowl is Virginia's regional competition of the National Ocean Science Bowl (NOSB®). Sixteen teams came from across the Commonwealth, from Manassas to Virginia Beach, Warrenton in the west to Exmore on the Eastern Shore. Eighty students spent the day in heated tournament competition focused on the marine sciences.

After a grueling day of both round robin and double elimination matches – over 45 matches in all – **Chesapeake Bay Governor's School's Warsaw Team A** lost only one match to take **Second Place** honors. The winning team was **coached by science teacher Bethany Smith**. Team members included: **Team Captain John Richardson** (senior, Lancaster High School); **Elizabeth Ellis** (senior, Essex High); **Hannah Gross** (senior, Essex High); **Michael Johnson** (senior, Washington & Lee High); and **Stephen Parker** (senior, Northumberland High).

**Chesapeake Bay Governor's School -Warsaw** also fielded a Team B, coached by James Beam and including Team Captain Libby Hipple; Maeve Collins; Abby Kiss; Ian Lewis; and Patrick McKenney. The team from **Chesapeake Bay Governor's School-Glenns Campus**, coached by Sara Beam, included: Team Captain Nicholas Mann, Sam Gale, Zach Kaylor, Justin Mitchell and Vivian Sanchez.

**Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School's Team A**, from Virginia Beach, remained undefeated and dominated in **First Place** for a record ninth year. **Broadwater Academy Teams A and B** from Exmore swept Third and Fourth places.

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 70 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 1,500 of the Commonwealth's brightest science students from 52 public and private schools across Virginia.**

The contest tests students' knowledge of oceanography, geology, biology, maritime history and policy. The theme of the 2016 National Ocean Sciences Bowl and its local competitions is "Our Changing Ocean:

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Science for Strong Coastal Communities,” a timely and relevant topic given that escalating populations, erosion, more frequent flooding, development, storm impacts, and pollution are among the stressors that impact the protection, economic revenue, security, food, and healthy recreational opportunities provided by our nation’s coasts. 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 sixteen teams, with four emerging as top contenders by late afternoon.

Competing 2016 teams included:

**Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – Team A**, Virginia Beach, VA  
**Bishop Sullivan Catholic High School – Team B**, Virginia Beach, VA  
**Broadwater Academy – Team A**, Exmore, VA  
**Broadwater Academy – Team B**, Exmore, VA  
**Chesapeake Bay Governor’s School, Glens Campus**, Glens, VA  
**Chesapeake Bay Governor’s School, Warsaw Campus– Team A**, Warsaw, VA  
**Chesapeake Bay Governor’s School, Warsaw Campus– Team B**, Warsaw, VA  
**Churchland High School**, Portsmouth  
**Culpeper County High School – Team A**, Culpeper, VA  
**Culpeper County High School – Team B**, Culpeper, VA  
**Fauquier High School**, Warrenton, VA  
**Governor’s School for Science & Technology – Team A**, Hampton, VA  
**Governor’s School for Science & Technology – Team B**, Hampton, VA  
**Isle of Wight Academy**, Isle of Wight, VA  
**Seton School – Team A**, Manassas, VA  
**Seton School – Team B**, Manassas, VA

At the end of the grueling day, all teams were recognized during the Awards Ceremony by Bowl Coordinators **Dr. Victoria Hill** from ODU and **Dr. Carol Hopper Brill** from VIMS. Prizes – including custom-made trophies for the top four teams – were presented by **Ms. Emily Hein**, representing the Office of Research and Advisory Services at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science. The students received prizes and were applauded for their accomplishments and encouraged to continue their studies in interdisciplinary marine sciences. Coaches received science teaching resources and memberships in the Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association.

The winning team will represent Virginia in the national competition, facing other regional champions at the National finals, April 21-24, in Morehead City, North Carolina. 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 2016, an expected 2,000 students from over 300 high schools from around the country will participate in this 19th annual event.

The Blue Crab Bowl wouldn’t be possible without the generous support of national, regional and local sponsors. In 2016, we are grateful to regional sponsors and local including: The Edward T. Bedford Foundation; the Virginia Institute of Marine Science; ODU’s Department of Ocean Earth & Atmospheric Sciences; VIMS Marine Advisory Services; the Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association and National Marine Educators Association; Wells Fargo and Hampton Inn-Norfolk Naval Base. For a list of the Consortium for Ocean Leadership’s national sponsors, visit the NOSB website at [www.nosb.org/](http://www.nosb.org/).

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