

VOL. 15, ISSUE 2

June 2004

DIMENSIONS

WESTBURY CHRISTIAN SCHOOL

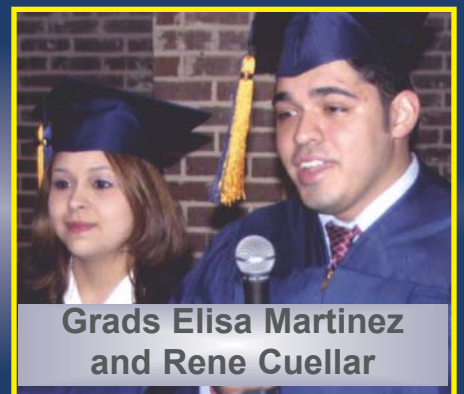
Emphasizing spirituality, academics and student activities since 1975



**Miss WCS
Nancy Barrera**



**JiSook (Lora) Yoo
Salutatorian**



**Grads Elisa Martinez
and Rene Cuellar**

DIMENSIONS

FROM THE EXECUTIVE ADMINISTRATOR

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On the cover:

Jung Kim, Valedictorian;
Graduate Danny Wilson;
and, Graduate Joanna
Laman share a moment
together.

A Proverb



"A good man leaves an inheritance for his children's children." (Prov. 13:22A)

When my eyes came across this verse during a recent study, my mind raced to apply it to the duty believers have to promote and support Christian education. This verse is not alluding to a physical inheritance, but rather the building of a legacy for righteous living! In Deuteronomy 6:4-9,

Moses is much more pointed in his instructions to the Israelites about the rearing of their children.

Westbury Christian School is a Proverb in action! The good people who labor at WCS are passing on their inheritance to young people by providing them daily Christian instruction and guidance. That statement may seem trite and hollow to people who are passive to the existence of Christian schools. But, to those who have seen God's hand move in the life of a child, a parent, or even an employee, it is obvious WCS is fulfilling the wishes of the Holy Spirit to nurture the Christian faith.

I stand in awe of the accomplishments God has encouraged at WCS. Due to His caring, the facilities are wonderful, the programs continue to strengthen, the staff is diligent and young lives continue to be changed. Through faith, we envision those changed lives changing the tomorrows of their children. Believers are duty bound to pass their faith forward.

I want to thank the friends who have, or who will support WCS; I want to thank the hired servants, both past and present for laboring to build WCS; thank you God, for giving us resources to ensure the future of our children's children.

Robert O. McCloy

Distinguished Board of Directors

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Polly Farrar

Rickey Dorriety

Jack Gray

Leallen Smith

Wendle Smith

SPIRITUAL

DIMENSIONS

WCS Honored by Honduran Orphanage

For several years the WCS student body has donated funds for the construction of a dormitory at the Jovenes en Camino Children's Home in Tegucigalpa, Honduras. Mr. Steve Hawley, who is a Bible teacher at WCS, started this project when he was a teacher and coach at Friendship Christian School in Lebanon, TN several years ago. Together the students from the two schools have managed to raise nearly \$100,000 for the home.



The generosity of the students from these two schools have touched the lives of children who they have never seen. Mr. Steve Davidson, President of the orphanage, recently announced that the new building when completed would have a plaque placed on it bearing the name "The Friendship Westbury Home" in honor of the two schools. The new dormitory will house thirty-two children in a safe, Christian environment.

Parents Boost Teacher Morale

An experienced school administrator will tell you that sustaining a Parent's Organization (PO) in any school is a difficult task. The WCS Parent Organization has sputtered and sometimes stalled over the years, but the '03-'04 school year provided a well organized, congenial group that really got things done.

A tip of the hat goes to this group of (mostly) WCS Moms who added a touch of caring class to our school. From August to March these good ladies planned and executed events and treats for the faculty and WCS employees. There were so many parent volunteers that some had to be turned away. WCS teachers have never enjoyed such strong support from parents. The leaders of the Parent Organization were Princess Aschermann, Debbie Luquette, Kathy Carrow, Kelly Braun, Keryl Morgan, Vanessa Garza, Althea Gibson, Loni LeMaster, Diana Rathjen, and many other parent volunteers.



Their motto for the '04 -'05 is, "Just wait 'til next year!"

Spiritual Renewal Day

Bob Smiley, a Christian standup comedian, was guest speaker for the Spiritual Renewal Day at WCS. Smiley rocked the students with his animated and energetic high school humor. Yet, in the midst of the roaring laughter, Bob Smiley used the characters in his humor to remind his audience of Jesus Christ. Mike White, director of Campus Spiritual Life, set the theme for the day from Romans 12:2, *"Do not conform any longer to the pattern of this world, but be transformed by the renewing of your mind."*

Spiritual Renewal Day came as a complete surprise for the students! Mike White said, "We wanted the students to be surprised by the day's format." After two assemblies and several small group sessions, students responded with "Wow! This is different!"; "Bob Smiley was outstanding"; "We liked Bob Smiley - he had a good point." It was an inspirational day.

Twenty-first Graduating Class

On May 28th, the class of 2004 became the twenty-first to graduate from WCS. Thirty-eight seniors walked to receive their diplomas. Relatives and friends from Korea and across the country watched and applauded in turn as their graduate was honored. Mr. Rick Fyffe, Minister of the West University church of Christ of Houston, challenged the seniors and audience to face the future with optimism, confidence, persistence, and trust in God.



Mr. Rick Fyffe, Minister

The graduation ceremony was very colorful with the graduates in their blue caps with gold tassels, blue gowns and honors sashes; the faculty in caps and gowns with their colorful hoods depicting the colleges from which they graduated; plus the gymnasium/stage decorated for the event and finally the décor of the reception of cake and punch. There are several traditions honored at WCS graduations. A couple of these include the graduates passing among the audience to honor their mothers with a floral bouquet, and

the introduction of all the grandparents in attendance. This year we even honored the great-grandparents who were present.

During the reception that followed the ceremony, tears, hugs, and handshakes greeted parents and students alike. Cameras of all kinds were humming, as pictures were made of every school relationship possible. The future is NOW for these graduates: Amanda Adwers, Nancy Barrera, Terrance Brown, Zachery Brown, Miles Carlson, Michael Caudle, Niesha Chaney, Young Choi, Rene Cuellar, Katherine Davies, Sean Devine, Emily Edge, Patricia Estrada, Mark Goode, Jr., Brett Hart, Kayla Hart, Kelley Hernandez, Christa Ingram, Ryan Ivy, Melanie Jackson, Chesare' Johnson, Ashely Kim, Jung Kim, Joanna Laman, Alan Liu, Ashley Long, Cortney Mackey, Ian Maddison, William Mann, Elisa Martinez, Hina Rizvi, Cecylia Sadikin, Brandon Spencer, Michelle Stryker, Resha Thomas, Kevin Wang, Danny Wilson and Lora Yoo.



Advanced Placement Courses Added

Advanced Placement (AP) courses are in demand by most good students and their parents who are concerned about college readiness. Until the 2001-'02 school year, WCS had not offered AP courses to its students. That initial offering consisted of five classes and the program has continued to grow in the number of students taking the courses and the number of AP courses offered.

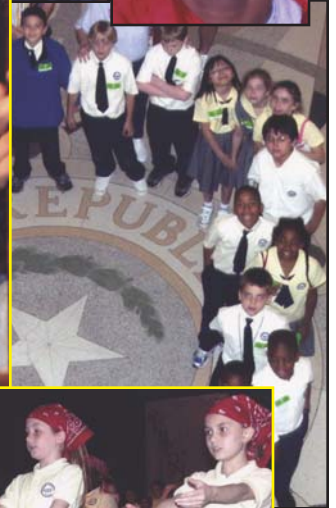
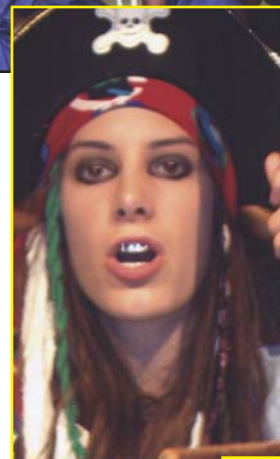
One of the problems WCS faced in the past was not having the teachers who were AP certified to teach their respective subject. That has since changed with the school administration focusing on getting the teachers certified in the subject areas where there was student demand. During the current school year, WCS offered thirteen AP classes to forty-seven students who collectively took ninety-four final exams. Depending on circumstances, students passing the AP exams may be awarded college credit. Worse case, all who qualify to take AP courses are better prepared for the academic rigors of the college experience. WCS is planning to expand the AP offerings further for the next school year.

ACTIVITY

DIMENSIONS

Around Campus

There is a never-ending supply of activities in which WCS students, faculty and staff are involved. We are very proud of the accomplishments of many of our individual students as well as student groups. The **Boys Basketball** team won the State Championship for the 12th time in the last 14 years; the Lady 'Cats **Softball** team advanced to the Regional Finals; senior **Zach Brown** won 1st place in the State **Swim Meet** setting a new time record for the 50 & 100 meter freestyle. His times are good enough for him to receive honorable mention All-American and to be invited to the Olympic trials this summer. Freshman **Trackster, Ijeoma Waturuocha** won 1st place in the 200 meter event at the State Track Meet; **Spring Football** practice was the most successful in school history, with about 40 boys participating, WCS had its first ever inter-squad game, **Head Coach Stan Caffey** and his staff are doing a great job! The **Fine Arts** department is not to be out done in its efforts to produce top performers in Drama, Band and Choral events. **Big Blue Band**, under the direction of **Mr. Bill Ward** received a Superior (1) rating in two Brass Quintets, three Flute Trios, and a Trombone Trio at State competition. Senior, **Mark Goode** received a Superior in Trumpet Solo. The following groups received Excellent ratings: Jazz Band, Concert Band, and the Saxophone Ensemble. The **Vocal Ensemble**, led by **Miss Susan Stumne**, had a Superior (1) rating in the Sacred Ensemble category of State Competition, the first Superior rating WCS has received in vocal music in six years; the **Drama** department under the direction of **Miss Andrea Kelley** has been very busy producing the play "Treasure Island." Due to the shortage of males, the cast boasted several girls playing the parts of pirates..."Long John Silver," played by junior **Lillian Graham**, stole the show! The Lower School **Music** department led by **Miss Andrea Reed** has also been very busy; the Intermediate grades highlighted "Character Counts" in song and verse; the Primary grades ended their year by presenting "The Three Piggy Opera!" What fun!! **Fourth** graders, who study Texas History, recently enjoyed a field trip to Austin visiting the State Capital and San Antonio to visit the "Alamo."



DEVELOPMENT

Jog-A-Thon A Success!

At this writing, the annual Jog-a-thon has all the earmarks of being one of our best ever. With many contributions still to come in, the count currently stands near the \$25,000 mark.

Many parent volunteers worked hard to compliment the planning and organization that was so well executed by the WCS development team. We



want to thank all the students for their "Jogging," the parents



for "supporting" their students, and all of their friends and relatives for "giving" contributions.

The Jog proceeds will be used to make scheduled facility improvements.



Renovation of the high school wing, new stair treads on the main stairwells, plus a drainage system for the newly installed playground will be made during the summer months.

Fondren Foundation Grant

At the June meeting of the Fondren Foundation located in Houston, its Board voted to give Westbury Christian School a grant in support of the capital funds campaign for Phase I of the Three Phase expansion program. School administration is determined to have Phase I completely debt free before moving forward with Phase II of the project. After applying the Fondren grant, approximately \$150,000 will still be owed to a local bank.

The Fondren Foundation is the third major local foundation to make a gift to Phase I. Earlier in the capital campaign The Hamman Foundation and The Scurlock Foundation also contributed grants. It is an encouragement to everyone at WCS to know that foundations with such great philanthropic legacies recognize the value that WCS brings to the Houston community.

Don't Pay Too Much!

According to a recent IRS-based study completed by the NewTithing Group of U.S. income tax filers, average "upper middle class" and "middle rich" filers donated a lower percentage of their investment asset wealth to charity than did average filers in any other category. If the "upper middle class-middle rich" had donated as high a percentage in 2001 as did average filers in the lower wealth groups, total individual contributions to charity would have been an estimated \$41.6 billion HIGHER!

By selling appreciated assets for taxable gains while donating cash to charity, the "middle rich" and the "super rich" paid over half a billion dollars in avoidable capital gains taxes. Had they planned more carefully, they could have kept or donated to charity an additional \$659 million. NOTE: Instead of paying too much in taxes, make a gift to Westbury Christian School. THANKS!

DONORS: For more information on NewTithing Group go to: general@newtithing.org

MEMORIALS

In Memory of:

Don Daniel

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Weller

Cleveland Fowler

*Ms. Ione Cox
Mr. & Mrs. Bill Ferguson
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Northcutt*

Helen James Johnson

*Mr. & Mrs. Arthur Holley
Mr. & Mrs. Louis Kaiser
Mr. & Mrs. Paul Pinkston
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Weller*

Lenard Mathes, Jr.

*Mr. & Mrs. Robert McCloy
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Weller*

W.R. & Opal Pickle

The Pickle Family

Frank Richardson

*Mr. & Mrs. Bill Avery
Mr. & Mrs. Richard J. Brown
Ms. Mary Fischer
Mr. & Mrs. Harold Northcutt
Mr. & Mrs. Mitchell Ward
Mr. & Mrs. Norman Weller*

Elizabeth Runge

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Weller

Martha Svrcek

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Weller

Maxine Traverso

Mr. & Mrs. Robert Farrar

Betty Jean Weller

Mr. & Mrs. Norman Weller

ALUMNI

ALUMNI, WE WOULD LIKE TO KNOW ABOUT YOU!

We invite all of our alumni to share your life with WCS and your ex-classmates. Please send information about weddings, births, college graduations, accomplishments, job changes, promotions, etc. Send pictures suitable for printing and they will be published with your news. Send updates to alumninews@westburycristian.org

❖ 1984 ❖

Judi (Ewing) Cochran: Email: Kenyacochran@hotmail.com.

❖ 1986 ❖

Tonya (McDaniel) Vaughan: Looking for fellow classmates from the first four graduating classes of WCS to plan a reunion. Address: 6402 Moccasin Bend, Spring, TX 77379. Email: tvaughan@simulis.com.

❖ 1987 ❖

Christine (Smith) Babineaux New address: 14803 Cantor Circle, Houston, TX 77084. Email: CHRISTINE007@aol.com.

❖ 1989 ❖

Amy (McCloy) Sain: Email: amysain@yahoo.com.
Amy (Fortenberry) Lippincott: Email: lippys@sbcglobal.net.

❖ 1995 ❖

Jason Boeker: Graduated from Texas A&M University December 2002 with a BS in Construction Science. Played on A&M's basketball team. Currently lives in the San Francisco

Bay Area working as a Senior Project Engineer for Swinerton Builders. Jason and wife Tracy have their first child Jacob (Jake) born July 2003. Address: 1221 Henrietta, Martinez, CA 94553; phone: 925.372.6434. Email: jboeker@swinerton.com.

❖ 1997 ❖

Tonna Weeks: Working on a Doctorate in Clinical Psychology. New address: 15678 Knoll Trail #4201, Dallas, TX 75248. Email: taurustw@hotmail.com.

❖ 2001 ❖

Jennifer Cubelli: Recently inducted into Lambda Phi Eta National Honor Society for Communications at the University of St. Thomas in Houston. Email: jenncubelli@houston.rr.com.

❖ 2002 ❖

Sarah Mahall: Currently lives in Kerrville, TX and works at the Bank of America in Fredricksburg, TX. She attends Austin Community College. Email: princessmahall@hotmail.com.

Bridget Baeder: Plans are being made for a wedding August 7 at the Westbury Church of Christ. Welcomes her fellow students and teachers to attend. Email: emogirl02@yahoo.com.

Westbury Christian School
10420 Hillcroft
Houston, TX 77096-4796

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