

September 2005

Glenda Atkinson (A-G)

Kern Hairston (H-N)

Nadine Askins (O-Z)

As Raleigh Charter High School begins its seventh year, we welcome back to college counseling, Nadine Askins. Mrs. Askins initiated the first college counseling program at Raleigh Charter High School in our second year. She has many years experience in student services with Wake County schools and is excited to be working with our students once again. Mrs. Askins will work with students whose last names begin with the letters O through Z, just as Mrs. Lachance did. Mrs. Lachance is continuing her graduate degree and although we will miss her, we wish her well.

The list of colleges coming to visit our school grows daily. We are very excited about the colleges and universities that have contacted us wanting to learn more about Raleigh Charter and to meet our students. We hope that you will take advantage of the opportunity to learn more about these schools and to welcome our visitors. They are usually very impressed with both the school and the students. Please check the College Counseling display wall and Naviance for upcoming visits and events as well as the College Counseling page of the website and the school announcements.

We encourage you to check the website often for updates and useful information. We will post the newsletter and scholarship notices there. Also available on the website is the list of upcoming events.

COLLEGE TIDBITS

Hollins University announces a new major in Environmental Studies. Would you like to study the coastal ecology of Mexico? Research game management in Kenya? Investigate green architecture? Or study Hollin's own wildlife-rich habitat? Let your imagination take flight and take a look at the new interdisciplinary program in environmental studies. Contact Hollins for more information at 1-800-456-9595 or come to the college representative visit at RCHS on September 28.

UNC-Asheville and NC State University College of Engineering are working together to provide opportunities for students to pursue careers in engineering in Western North Carolina. These opportunities include: **The Two- Plus -Two Engineering Program** which allows a student to begin an engineering degree on the small liberal arts campus of UNCA and complete the degree at NC State in Raleigh. **The Bachelor of Science in Engineering with a Mechatronics Concentration** – a joint degree of UNC-Asheville and NC State University College of Engineering which allows a UNCA engineering student to complete a four-year engineering degree in the unique and growing area of Mechatronics. More information is available at http://www.unca.edu/ncsu_engr/

George Mason University was recently ranked among the top values in education in the country. As the number of online applications increases, George Mason allows students to save money by applying in this manner - \$40 for online applications as opposed to \$60 for paper applications.

Rhodes College in Memphis, Tennessee, is a coeducational, undergraduate college of the liberal arts and sciences founded in 1848. Considered one of the most beautiful college campuses in the nation, Rhodes is home to 1,600 students from 44 states and 11 foreign countries. With an average class size of 16 students, Rhodes offers 24 major areas of study and 8 interdisciplinary majors leading to the B.A. and B.S. degrees, and its metropolitan location provides a wide range of internship and job opportunities. Joining the online application movement, Rhodes will waive the \$45 application fee for students using either the online application or the Common App Online.

Beginning in 2006, **UNC-Greensboro's** International Honors College will offer talented students a unique academic experience with an international focus such as study abroad, an internship with an international company in the U.S. or a service learning project with one of the many international communities in North Carolina. According to UNCG, their Study Abroad program is one of the largest and most affordable student exchange programs in the Southeast with students having the opportunity to study in more than forty foreign countries.

McDaniel College (formerly known as Western Maryland College) was created in 1867 as a "creative and innovative liberal arts college. Since it was the first coeducational college south of the Mason-Dixon Line, and one of the few anywhere in the nation open to all, regardless of sex, color, race, religion, or ethnic origin, it lived up to the description. In recent decades the college has been one of the top 50 producers of future Ph.D.s in the sciences as well as in its seniors' scores on the Medical College Aptitude Test. The lovely 160 acre campus is just 31 miles from Baltimore and 56 from Washington, DC. On a recent visit there I was told by a student that he chose McDaniel because of the library. It is an amazing structure with stunning architecture and cozy little reading nooks. According to Dr. Loren Pope in the book *Colleges that Change Lives*, "This is another college that can boast of take "B" and "C" students and making them success stories." Students say McDaniel is for anyone who's interested in learning, gaining self confidence, and developing his or her abilities and powers. Come learn more from the representative who will be at RCHS on September 15.

TESTING ADVICE

Register for the in-house SAT workshop. Dr. Humble and Mr. Felder will hold an in-house SAT preparation workshop. The critical reading session will be held September 21 at 3:00 in room 207. The math portion will be held October 3 at 3:00 in room 316. Please register with Mrs. Atkinson in college counseling.

Test Taking Strategies

Test-taking skills can be learned through practice. Try a few of these strategies to improve your performance on standardized tests.

- Take the practice test in the materials you receive from the SAT or ACT.
- Find practice tests online or in books (check the college counseling resource room or library).
- After taking a practice test, look carefully at the questions you get wrong. Read the explanations of the right answers.
- If you find that certain types of questions or certain topics stump you, get some help from a teacher in those areas.
- Learn from every test you take. Take the opportunity to see the answers for the questions you got wrong, if the testing service offers this service. Don't just study the answers themselves – look at the reasoning behind each answer. Then, if you decide to take the test again, you'll be better prepared.

SCHOLARSHIPS

AXA Achievement Scholarship – The AXA Foundation, in association with U.S. News & World Report, sponsors this scholarship that will award \$10,000 state scholarships to 52 students (one from each state, Washington, D.C. and Puerto Rico) and \$15,000 additional scholarships to 10 national recipients. To qualify, students should be well rounded, determined to succeed and have demonstrated achievement – at a job, sport or extracurricular activity. Applicants must demonstrate: ambition and drive, determination to set and reach goals, respect for self, family and community, and ability to succeed in college. Visit www.axa-achievement.com to learn more and download an application. Deadline for application is **December 15**.

Coca-Cola Scholars Program – Seniors who are US citizens, planning to pursue a degree at an accredited U.S. post secondary institution and who have a minimum 3.00 GPA may be eligible to compete for the Coca Cola Scholarship. Applicants are evaluated on the following: demonstrated leadership, commitment to community, academic achievement, and employment. All requirements as well as the application are located at www.coca-colascholars.org. If you have questions about completing the application (which must be done online), please see Mrs. Atkinson. The deadline for application is **October 31**.

Davidson College's John Montgomery Belk Scholarship - RCHS may nominate one student to be considered for the Belk scholarship. The program honors students with demonstrated intellectual and personal success and significant leadership in their high school. The award is an annual renewable scholarship equivalent to the College's comprehensive fees and two summer stipends to pursue further enrichment opportunities. Belk Scholars represent the finest attributes of the Davidson College experience: integrity, intellectual enthusiasm, global awareness and leadership potential. Please let Mrs. Atkinson know by **September 12** if you wish to be considered for this nomination.

Davidson College's Bryan Scholars program – This program honors scholar athletes who have the potential to be strong leaders, both in the classroom and as athletes through their Davidson years. Two Bryan Scholars are chosen in every incoming class and each student receives a \$30,000 scholarship that is renewable for four years. If you have an exceptional academic record, exhibit outstanding leadership abilities, and are rated a high impact athlete by a Davidson College coach, you may qualify for consideration. RCHS may nominate 3 students who must complete their admission applications by **September 20** and must be nominated by the appropriate Davidson coach.

E. B. Kennedy Scholarship Program of Erskine College – If you would like to be nominated for this scholarship program, please see Mrs. Atkinson in College Counseling. The value of the scholarship currently exceeds \$90,000 over four years. The criteria for selection are: Christian commitment, leadership potential, scholastic achievement, and vigorous outlook. Deadline to contact Mrs. Atkinson is **September 30**.

Horatio Alger Scholarship – The association seeks to assist students who have demonstrated integrity, perseverance in overcoming adversity, strength of character, financial need, a good academic record, commitment to pursue a college education, and a desire to contribute to society. The eligibility criteria to be considered for National Scholarships, National Scholarship Finalist Awards, And Horatio Alger State Scholarship Programs are as follows: enrolled full time as a high school senior, progressing normally toward graduation in 2006 with plans to enter college no later than the fall following graduation; intend to pursue a bachelor's degree at an accredited institution (students may start their studies at a two-year institution and then transfer to a four-year institution); critical financial need (\$50,000 or less adjusted gross income per family is preferred, if higher explanation must be provided); involvement in co-curricular and community activities; a minimum grade point average (GPA) of 2.0 ; and United States citizenship (or be in the process of obtaining U.S. citizenship). Students must reside in the U.S. or attend a Department of Defense or Department of State school. To apply students may submit one of the following: an online application at www.horatioalger.org/scholarships or you may complete the downloadable application form from the website. All paper applications must be typed on the computer. All applicants must submit a copy of the front page of their parent/guardian's individual tax return for either 2004 or 2003 in order to verify income stated on application and online applicants must download the certification page and forward the completed form to the Association by **October 15**.

North Carolina State University Park Scholarship - For information see www.ncsu.edu/park_scholarships/. There will be two students nominated from RCHS but you may self nominate directly to the program.

North Carolina Teaching Fellows - Teaching Fellows award recipients receive a state grant of \$6,500 per year for four years paid to the college. Teaching Fellows winners who accept the award must agree to teach in North Carolina for four years. For more information see www.teachingfellows.org. Let Mrs. Atkinson know if you wish to be considered for this scholarship by **September 19**.

Rhodes College Walter D. Bellingrath Scholarship - recognizes high school seniors who represent exceptional academic achievement and distinctive personal accomplishment. The scholarships provide full tuition, fees, room and board at Rhodes – an estimated \$140,000 over four years. RCHS can nominate seniors with outstanding academic and leadership records, character and personality, and personal achievement who are considering attending Rhodes. Please let Mrs. Atkinson know if you are interested by **September 29**.

University of North Carolina Morehead Scholarship - Information available at www.themorehead.org. There will be two students nominated from RCHS. However, you may self nominate.

University of North Carolina Thomas Wolfe Scholarship - Full four year financial support will be awarded to one incoming freshman. Manuscripts and applications will be accepted until **November 1**. Complete information is available at <http://english.unc.edu/creative/tws>.

Washington University in St. Louis Danforth Scholars Program – RCHS may nominate students who have exhibited a capacity for service and leadership, as well as academic excellence, and who will embrace the challenges of a rigorous academic curriculum. Of special interest are students who stand out among their peers for their maturity, strong moral character, selflessness, and commitment to community. Please see Mrs. Atkinson by **September 12** if you are interested in being nominated.

Youth Harbor Nana Fund Scholarship – Youth Harbor, a children's benevolence foundation, was founded for the sole purpose of making a positive impact on youth. The Nana Fund Scholarship Program seeks to recognize outstanding young people who have exemplified unselfish service to mankind and have strived to make a positive impact on their community. Applicants must have a GPA of 2.5 and must submit an essay and letter of support from 2 individuals. Application available in college counseling and the deadline for submission is **March 15, 2006**.

OPPORTUNITIES TO LEARN MORE ABOUT COLLEGES

Autumn Visits to Colleges

Randolph Macon Woman's College

September Saturday	September 25
Riding Center Open House	October 10
Autumn Overnight Program	October 10-11
Autumn Visit Day	November 6

Converse College

September 18

Winston Salem State University

October 15

The Raleigh-Wake Alumni Chapter of WSSU is sponsoring a college visitation day open to all high school sophomores, juniors, and seniors with at least a 2.0 GPA. The trip will be free for all students and \$25.00 per adult. This includes transportation, lunch and a ticket to the WSSU vs. North Carolina Central University football game. For more information please contact Mr. Luther Johnson AT 870-4145 OR LJOHNSON2@WCPSS.NET. Deadline for registration and payment is Friday, September 30.

Open Houses

September 17
September 16, September 30, October 10,
October 28 & November 11
September 18 & October 17
October 9 and November 11
October 10, November 7, & April 29
October 10 and November 19
October 16
October 22 and November 12
November 12

Appalachian State University

Wake Forest University – See www.wfu.edu/admissions to plan your visit

Davidson College (Discover Davidson) RSVP required

Converse College.

Goucher College Register at ww.goucher.edu.

Rhodes College Make reservations at www.Rhodes.edu/admissionsprograms.

North Carolina State University - 9:30 am – 1:00 pm

UNC-Greensboro

George Mason University

Information Sessions

Grinnell College in Grinnell, Iowa is seeking students for the Grinnell Diversity Leaders program. The program offers selected multicultural and/or first-generation college going students the opportunity to visit the Grinnell College Camps. Participants will visit classes, interview with an admission representative, be hosted overnight by current students and participate in leadership development opportunities. Transportation to and from student's homes, housing, and meals are provided by Grinnell College for the weekend visit, November 10-13. Applications must be postmarked by **September 30**. See Mrs. Atkinson for more information. You may visit with an admissions representative from Grinnell on October 17 in the college counseling conference room.

Admission Receptions

September 11
September 12

Columbia University (For location and to RSVP, visit <http://www.studentaffairs.columbia.edu/admissions/events/>

Claremont McKenna College, Colorado College, Connecticut College, Grinnell College Haverford College, Kenyon College, Macalester College, Sarah Lawrence College will be at the Hilton Raleigh-Durham Airport at 6:30 p.m. Please RSVP to Macalester College

September 12
September 29

Yale University information session at William G. Enloe High School Auditorium at 7:00 p.m.

Stanford University information session for prospective applicants and parents will be held at The Durham Arts Council, PSI Theatre, 120 Morris Street from 7:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.

New York University, Sheraton Durham, a4700 Emperor Boulevard at 7:30 p.m. Reserve your space online at admissions.nyu.edu/receptions or call 212-998-4524

October 5
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Vanderbilt University – Cary Academy Fine Arts Building Lecture Hall from 7:00 – 8:30 PM

Washington University in St. Louis – Hilton Raleigh Durham from 7:00 -8:30 p.m. For additional information, call 800-38-0700

College Visits to RCHS

September 6	Salem College
September 7	University of North Carolina
September 8	Randolph Macon
September 12	Yale University Haverford
September 13	Samford
September 14	Vassar
September 15	Furman Mount Holyoke McDaniel
September 19	Sweet Briar College
September 21	Claremont McKenna College
September 22	Oberlin Florida Institute of Technology Davidson Brandeis Pomona
September 26	Harvey Mudd
September 27	UNC – Pembroke Guilford
September 28	American George Washington University
September 29	New York University
September 30	Elon University Swarthmore
October 4	Mary Washington Washington University in St. Louis
October 5	Vanderbilt
October 7	St. John's
October 12	Earlham
October 17	Carnegie Mellon Grinnell College
October 18	Hampden-Sydney Connecticut College
October 19	Northeastern
October 24	Randolph Macon Women's College
October 28	Middlebury
November 1	Xavier Olin

College Fairs

September 18	NCSU's McKimmon Center – 2:00 – 4:30 p.m.
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