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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### Seton School Science Students Compete in 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Regional Ocean Science Bowl

Two teams from **Seton School**, in Manassas, faced-off against students from other Virginia schools at the **22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Blue Crab Bowl**. Held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point on February 16, this **Virginia Regional Competition of the National Ocean Science Bowl (NOSB<sup>®</sup>)** hosted sixteen teams from across the Commonwealth - from Manassas and Warrenton to Hampton Roads and the Eastern Shore. The nearly 80 students spent the day in heated tournament competition focused on the marine sciences.

**Team Coaches Hank Konstanty and Tricia Kellogg** coordinated and prepared the two teams. **Seton School's Team A** was headed by **Team Captain Liam Kellogg**, with team members **Victoria Baker, John Moore and Vincent Verrocchio**. **Seton School's Team B** included **Team Captain Justin Orr**, and team members **Elizabeth Dwane, Deborah Johnson and John Konstanty**.

Ten rounds of challenging competition included both round robin and double elimination matches – over 45 contests in all. The day included twists and turns, and surprises from a team new to the competition! **First Place was earned by the team from Norfolk Collegiate School**, first-time competitors this year. **Broadwater Academy Team A from Exmore swept-up Second Place. Third Place went to Chesapeake Bay Governor's School – Warsaw Campus.** And, **Fourth Place was captured by Fauquier High School** from Warrenton.

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 seventy-five scientists, including faculty, graduate students and staff from both institutions, and other organizations, 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 1,700 of the Commonwealth's brightest science students from 54 public and private schools across Virginia.**

Using questions designed by marine scientists and educators, the contest tested students' knowledge of oceanography, geology, biology, maritime history and policy. The theme of the 2019 National Ocean Sciences Bowl and its regional competitions is "Observe the Ocean; Secure the Future," a timely and relevant topic. 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.

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Competing 2019 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 for Marine & Environmental Science, Warsaw Campus**, Warsaw, VA  
**Churchland High School**, Portsmouth, VA  
**Fauquier High School**, Warrenton, VA  
**Governor’s School for Science & Technology – New Horizons**, Hampton, VA  
**Isle of Wight Academy – Team A**, Isle of Wight, VA  
**Isle of Wight Academy – Team B**, Isle of Wight, VA  
**Maury High School**, Norfolk, VA  
**Norfolk Collegiate School**, Norfolk, VA  
**Seton School – Team A**, Manassas, VA  
**Seton School – Team B**, Manassas, VA  
**York High School**, Yorktown, VA

At the end of the long and grueling day, all teams were recognized during the Awards Ceremony by Bowl Coordinators Dr. Carol Hopper Brill from VIMS and Bill Dunn from ODU. Prizes – including custom-made ceramic trophies for the top four teams – were presented by Dr. David Rudders, representing VIMS Marine Advisory Program, and Dr. Fred Dobbs, representing Old Dominion University’s Department of Ocean, Earth and Atmospheric Sciences. All students received prizes, 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 NOSB finals, April 11-14, in Washington, D.C.** 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 2019, nearly 2,000 students from 300 high schools around the country will participate in this 22<sup>nd</sup> annual event.

The Blue Crab Bowl wouldn’t be possible without the generous support of national, regional and local sponsors. In 2019, we are grateful to regional and local sponsors including: the Virginia Institute of Marine Science, College of William & Mary; ODU’s Department of Ocean Earth & Atmospheric Sciences; VIMS Marine Advisory Program and VIMS Advancement Department; Virginia Sea Grant; Hampton Inn-Gloucester; the Poddery in Mathews; the Mid-Atlantic Marine Education Association; and Leave Only Bubbles/What If Scientific. 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 at VIMS** via email [chopper@vims.edu](mailto:chopper@vims.edu) or phone 804-684-7735; or **Bill Dunn at ODU** via e-mail at [wdunn@odu.edu](mailto:wdunn@odu.edu) or phone at 757-390-0750. Information about **Blue Crab Bowl** is also available at [www.vims.edu/bcb](http://www.vims.edu/bcb) and on Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/Blue-Crab-Bowl-382574499609/?ref=ts>. For information on other competitions around the country and the National Ocean Science Bowl, visit [www.nosb.org/](http://www.nosb.org/).

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## **BLUE CRAB BOWL 2019 PARTICIPATING TEAM**



### **SETON SCHOOL – TEAM A Coach Hank Konstanty**



### **Seton School – Team A Manassas, VA**

Students from Seton School participated in Blue Crab Bowl 2019, the 22nd Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. The all-day academic event was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point on February 16. Seton School's Team A included (left to right): Coach Hank Konstanty; Victoria Baker; John Moore; Team Captain Liam Kellogg; and Vincent Verrocchio. Photo by Aileen Devlin | Virginia Sea Grant.



## **BLUE CRAB BOWL 2019 PARTICIPATING TEAM**



### **SETON SCHOOL – TEAM B Coach Tricia Kellogg**



### **Seton School – Team B Manassas, VA**

Students from Seton School participated in Blue Crab Bowl 2019, the 22nd Annual Virginia Regional competition of the National Ocean Sciences Bowl. The all-day academic event was held at the Virginia Institute of Marine Science in Gloucester Point on February 16. Seton School's Team B included (left to right): Coach Tricia Kellogg; Elizabeth Dwane; John Konstanty; Team Captain Justin Orr; and Deborah Johnson. Photo by Aileen Devlin | Virginia Sea Grant.