

**CONSTRUCTION CAREER DAY**  
By G. Crimm

On October 8, 2008, the ACCESS Center, PRIDE of St. Louis and other industry leaders sponsored the Sixth Annual Construction Career Day at Washington University North campus. The program is designed for high school juniors and seniors to explore careers in construction.

As students arrived they were greeted with "goodie bags" from construction industry partners. The day was filled with industry organizations providing hands-on with tools and information about



L-R: Kelvin Carter, CCC instructor, Shirlyn Myles, MoDOT, students Byron Dyer, Brandon Dyer, Jerome Sims and Joshua Wright

training schools and union employment opportunities within the construction industry. Industry partners brought out large equipment for students to operate such as the "bucket" that elevates you to work on power lines or trees. CCC Quiz Bowl Team brought home First Place in the Sixth Annual Construction Career Day Quiz Bowl. This year's attendance was over 500 students from 24 schools. All participants were treated to a complimentary boxed lunch as they boarded buses to return to school.

**BIG BROTHERS/BIG SISTERS MENTORING**  
By M. Bode

The CCC program has been matching Bigs in the Construction industry with Littles for over 5 years. This has been a wonderful opportunity for high school students to receive the guidance and care that a mentor can provide. Here are just a few of successes the program has achieved: an average length of match of 14 months (12 months is goal), 12 seniors graduated from CCC and all but one is pursuing a career in construction, and Kim Staats from Castle Contracting was matched with her Little Sister Deloris for over 3 years! The students at CCC have improved in many areas. They have improved their academic performance by 52%, their ability to make decisions by 59% and their ability to show trust by 67%.

Mentors often go above and beyond the call of duty. Big Sister Stacey Madsen of Tarlton spent several months working with her Little Sister Dominique when her Biology grade fell. She spent her time tutoring her Little Sister. Thanks to her efforts, Little Sister Dominique finished the semester with an A in Biology and earned a 4.0 grade point average.



Scott Wilson, SM Wilson, and scholarship recipient Gabrielle Fields participate in the BB/BS program

**FROM THE PRINCIPAL**



Gina Washington

**Respect, Responsibility and Safety!**

The beginning of this year has started off GREAT! We believe that if students show respect, responsibility, and safety at all times, they will be successful. Every day at CCC is a unique opportunity to prepare students for the construction industry and/or higher education. Attendance is a very important step toward student success, and we appreciate the parents who make sure their students are present and on time to school on a daily basis.

I am pleased to announce CCC's before and after-school programs to offer extra academic assistance. The before-school academic program begins at 6:45a.m., Monday through Thursday, and the after-school Title I program meets 2:05p.m. to 3:05p.m., Monday through Thursday. These programs offer a unique opportunity for students to receive extra academic assistance in different subject areas.

As this school year moves on, please feel encouraged to contact me for any questions you may have. Thanks for your continued support!

**OSHA PARTNERSHIP**  
By T. Eivins

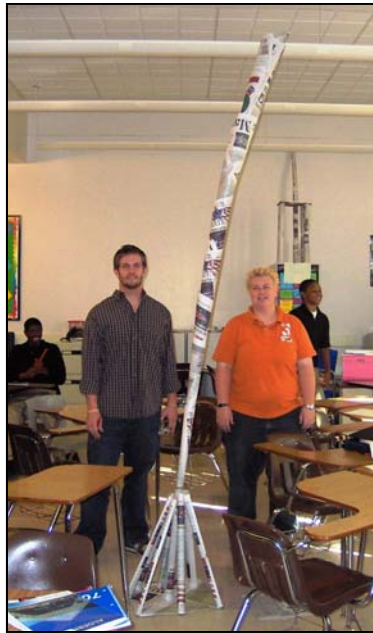
William McDonald, Area Director of the St. Louis Area Office of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), met with the Construction Careers Center Board of Education on October 20, 2008 to renew their alliance with the school. OSHA and the school have agreed to work together to ensure students learn about personal workplace safety and that students meet the requirements of the OSHA Ten Hour Safety course. The OSHA Ten Hour Certification is a basic requirement for entry level employees in the construction industry.



Seated L-R: Rich Ledbetter, Chairman, CCC Board of Education, William McDonald, Area Director, St. Louis Area OSHA Standing L-R: Gina Washington, Aaron Butler, Vice Principal

## ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENT

By A. Butler, PhD



L-R: Jeff Mitchell and Elisabeth Reeder

The 2008-2009 school year marks the third year Construction Careers Center faculty will team up with Washington University through the National Science Foundation's GK-12 Fellowship. This program presents an opportunity for graduate fellows in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) disciplines to bring their expertise and creativity into high school classrooms and provide students with a unique opportunity to acquire additional skills that will broadly prepare them for construction and engineering careers. The teaching modules are designed to educate and motivate students to pursue STEM careers in an exciting way such as a recent tower building contest where students competed to build the tallest structure using only newspapers and tape. Ms. Elisabeth Reeder, a member of the mathematics department at CCC, has been a leader in developing and strengthening this mutually beneficial partnership, and is excited about the opportunity to bring real world, hands-on applications into her Algebra classes.

## HONOR ROLL/STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT

By G. Washington

Student achievement continues to be a top priority at Construction Careers Center Charter High School. Our team of instructors is dedicated to ensuring that every student has an opportunity to achieve academically. At the end of each term, students who earn a grade point average of 3.00 or better, receive special recognition at an honor roll celebration. This year students who remain on honor roll for 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> semester will be recognized in January. Students who remain on honor roll all year will be recognized at the annual awards day held in June. A new "Student of the Month" program has been implemented through the Positive Behavior Support Team (a group of teachers who focus on positive reinforcement for student behaviors). One of the highlights of this new program honors students who have been nominated by their teachers as the student of the month. So far the following students have been recognized: Miguel Johnson for August 2008 and Victoria White for September 2008.



L-R: Faxdi Mohamed, Maya Evans, Tevin Bassett

## NEW TEACHERS

By G. Washington

One of CCC's strategic goals is to recruit first-rate faculty and staff who are committed to student achievement, professional growth and a high performance learning culture. A major step towards reaching that goal has already been met. This year, CCC welcomes seven new teachers to its team.

- Steve Amrein did his student teaching at CCC and currently teaches Finance and Computer Applications
- Adam Gutschenritter teaches History
- Ryan Kamp is with the Teach for America program and teaches Chemistry and also serves as an athletic coach
- Tyler Linder teaches Health/PE and serves as the girl's basketball coach
- Michelle Oyola is with the Teach for America program and teaches Literacy Composition
- Melinda Rotramel teaches Applied Communications I

- Kelsey Willems is with the Teach for America program and teaches Applied Communications II  
We welcome each new member to CCC's family of caring and respected teachers who make the commitment to continue student learning and growth.



Front Row: Steve Amrein and Ryan Kamp Back Row: Adam Gutschenritter, Michelle Oyola, Kelsey Willems, Melinda Rotramel, Tyler Linder

## SPORTS

By M. Meehan



L-R: Jermaine Johnson and Titus Mayo

**Go Bobcats!!**

The CCC boy's basketball team is looking forward to the start of the new season. The Bobcats believe that team work is the best work. This year, with the departure of Barry Robinson now attending Mid-America Nazarene on full athletic scholarship, the Bobcats will strive for a balanced yet highly effective offensive which will be fueled by intense defense. The Bobcats will be led by a group made up of mostly sophomores and juniors but will have the senior leadership of Robert Gregory and Reumont Farmer. They hope to make this the most successful season yet and play with pride and passion every night.

The Bobcats will be competing in the highly competitive Tournament of Champions in Springfield, Missouri on January 22-24, 2009 as well as take on Class 4A McCluer-South Berkeley in a special game to be played on December 12, 2008 at Harris-Stowe State University.