

Dr. Keller's Blog
Monday, June 22, 2009

The Talent Show on Friday evening was fabulous as always. There were nine acts, and they were all good. What is heart-warming to me is that the students showed tremendous support to all of the performers, even in past years when some weren't so talented. Emily Thompson won the competition with a clogging performance, Catherine Thompson was second playing the guitar and singing, and Ethan Owens was third singing and playing the saxophone, oboe, and piano. I normally ask the first and second place finishers to perform at the closing ceremony, but they won't allow clogging on that floor, so I've asked Jessica Annonio and Catherine Thompson to perform. Ethan will be taking part in the Arts Experience offering.

On Saturday, we decided not to go to Oak Mountain State Park. The predicted 98 temperature and 104 degree heat index were major factors. We went to the McWane Science Center instead. Exhibits included dinosaurs of the southeast, the World of Water, a simulated weather broadcast, and various kinetic elements. After the McWane Center, the students went bowling.

On Saturday evening, the students participated in the AGS Olympics. I was unable to attend, but I understand the events went smoothly, and the students showed considerable skill in events such as the egg toss, the sponge race, and the dizzy bat race. The temperature was a little more moderate after dinner than it was earlier in the day, so the students didn't suffer too much.

After the Olympics, the Astronomy students went to Chandler Mountain Observatory for a star party. They were able to see vast portions of the Milky Way and were easily able to identify the constellations they had seen in the planetarium. Don't be surprised if they ask for telescopes for Christmas or their next birthday.

On Sunday, students had the option of attending church at Covenant Presbyterian Church, which is almost across the street from Samford. They then attended a movie on Sunday afternoon.