

Charlotte Christian celebrates 50 graduating classes

By Marty Minchin

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Charlotte Christian School recently graduated its 50th class.

That class accumulated more than \$4.7 million in scholarships and includes 19 commitments to play college sports.

“It’s been a wonderful class because it includes students who are very talented in fine arts, accomplished athletes, students who have done an amazing job of being computer programmers, and the list goes on and on,” said head of school Barry Giller, whose oldest daughter Maggie is one of the 83 graduating seniors.

Charlotte Christian School opened in 1950, but didn’t have a senior class until the 1963-64 school year. Seven students graduated with that first class. Since 2004, the size of the senior class has ranged from 80 to 107.

This year’s class valedictorian, Michael Good, will study biochemical engineering at Johns Hopkins University. Salutatorian Ashley Richardson will attend the University of Alabama on a full scholarship.

The school will also send graduates to the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill, Duke University, Dartmouth College, Georgetown University and Virginia Tech.

Some notable seniors include Gigi Bailey, who will play basketball at Harvard; Adrian Robinson, who will play football at Colorado State University; Carson Kowar and Beth Richter, who earned National Scholastic Silver Medals for their senior arts portfolios; and Adam Burnam and Marta Case, who were nominated for Blumenthal Performing Arts High School Theater Awards.

Twenty-eight seniors graduated with honors and were recognized for maintaining a GPA of 4.5 or higher during high school.

Charlotte Christian is commemorating its graduating class in several ways, including adding special seals to graduates’ diplomas and hanging a portrait of the class in a school building.

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Twenty-two members of the class are “lifers,” or students who have attended Charlotte Christian School since at least first grade.

“When you have that large number of lifers, they understand who we are as a community and our mission as a school,” Giller said. “You do see the blessings that we’re enjoying with the senior class because of their (and their families’) longevity and commitment to the school.”

Marty Minchin is a freelance writer. Have a story idea for Marty? Email her at martyminchin@gmail.com.



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