

Center Academy holds commencement ceremony



CORRESPONDENT PHOTO BY KELLY J. STIGLIANO

2008 Center Academy Orange Park graduates l to r: Mark McLeod, Leann Sabatini, Nicholas Hernandez, Mariah Stone, Tom McDowell, Leandra Cochran and Cassidy Albertini.

By Kelly J. Stigliano,
Correspondent

ORANGE PARK-Center Academy opened its doors to their Orange Park campus in 2005 offering grades 6-12. On Friday, May 23, they presented their 2008 graduates. The commencement ceremony was held at the University of North Florida's University Center in Jacksonville.

Joining the Orange Park graduates were the graduates from the Center Academies in Mandarin and Jacksonville. Andrew Hicks, Ph.D., CEO of the Center Academy Corporation thanked the parents for the sacrifices they had made which allowed their children to attend the schools.

Addressing the students, he commended them for the wise choices they'd made that brought them to that special day.

The high school teachers read letters of thanks that the graduates had previously written while students presented to their parents Certificates of Appreciation for their support, and roses to the mothers.

Jim Shultz, Director of the Center Academy Jacksonville campus encouraged the students with a fun reading of Dr. Seuss's *Oh, the Places You'll Go!*

After the graduates received their diplomas, were acknowledged and filed out into the halls, the capacity crowd united in a roar of congratulations.