

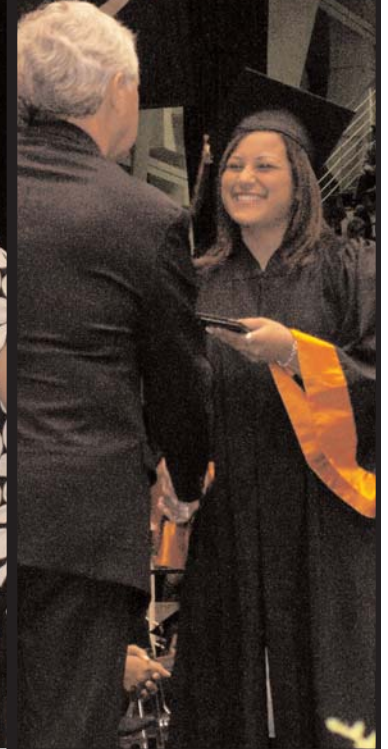
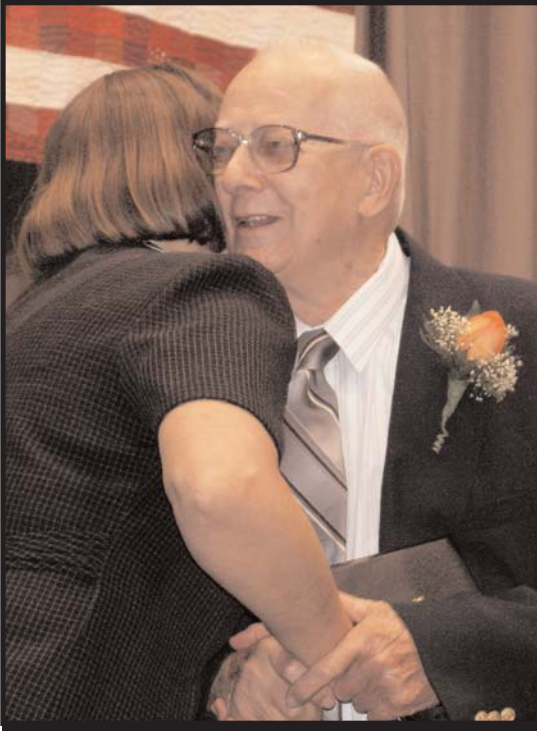


# Paw Prints



*News and Information from  
Community High School District 128*

Summer 2006



Best Wishes  
to the  
District 128  
Class of 2006!

**Administrative Offices**

940 W. Park Ave.  
Libertyville, Illinois 60048  
847-367-3159

**Libertyville High School**

708 W. Park Ave.  
Libertyville, Illinois 60048  
847-327-7000

**Vernon Hills High School**

145 N. Lakeview Parkway  
Vernon Hills, Illinois 60061  
847-932-2000

<http://www.d128.org>

**Board of Education**

Anne Landgraf, President  
Judy Sugarman, Vice President  
Jan Foreman, Secretary  
Judy Berliant  
Pat Groody  
Ellen Mauer  
Dennis Ryan

**Student Representatives**

Irene Ginakakis, VHHS  
Elliott Issac, LHS

**Administration****District**

Dr. David L. Clough, Superintendent  
Prentiss Lea, Associate Superintendent  
Yasmine Dada, CPA, Asst. Superintendent for Business  
Deborah Larson, Director of Curriculum and Instruction  
Mary Todoric, Director of Communications

**Libertyville High School**

Brad Swanson, Principal  
Eric Maroscher, Assistant Principal  
Diane Phillips, Assistant Principal  
Ron Bjurstrom, Director of Student Support Services

**Vernon Hills High School**

Dr. Ellen Cwick, Principal  
Jean Aucutt, Assistant Principal  
Jon Guillaume, Assistant Principal  
Sue Butler, Director of Guidance

**Community Education Program**

Dr. Lester "Buzz" Perry, Director of Community Education and Grants

*Paw Prints* is published quarterly during the school year for District 128 families. Questions and concerns should be addressed to *Paw Prints* Editor Mary Todoric, Director of Communications at 847-327-7186.

*Superintendent's Message***District 128 students outperform**

We in District 128 know that our students do a great job in school, athletics and activities. Knowing that your students are doing a great job is a wonderful feeling, but having it validated by an outside organization is even more satisfying. This year, District 128 schools were recognized with a new distinction--the Standard and Poor's **Outperformer Award**. This new honor was given to only 69 Illinois school districts, and you can read more about the specifics on p. 5.

District 128 also was honored to receive several other distinctions this year that are a reflection of the high standards held by our students and staff. District 128 received the **8th Annual Bright A+ Award for Academic Excellence in**

**Education, the 12th Annual Bright Red Apple Award, and the 15th Annual What Parents Want Award.** Libertyville High School and Vernon Hills High School were also recognized in *Newsweek Magazine* as being among the top 1,000 high schools in America.

As you read this edition of *Paw Prints*, you'll find it brimming with student achievements that were earned during the 2005-06 school year. We are pleased to have students recognized on the local, state and national levels for academic, athletic and extracurricular achievements.

We are also proud of the number of service projects initiated annually by our students. During the 2005-06 school year, District 128 students helped local charities and food pantries through the collection of funds, food and other needed items. LHS and VHHS also sponsored the annual Adopt-A-Family program. Many student organizations at both schools worked to send needed money and supplies to the survivors of the hurricane disasters, while others participated in the first Relay for Life for GLMV Youth organized and hosted by LHS.

Our students and staff have accomplished many wonderful things on many levels during this school year. They have truly earned the title "outperformer!" I wish you a happy and safe summer break, and look forward to seeing you for the beginning of another successful school year in August!

David L. Clough, Ph.D.  
Superintendent

**Board recognizes contributions of outgoing student board representatives**

At its May 22 meeting, the Community High School District 128 Board of Education thanked 2005-06 Student Board Representatives **Jeff Boucher** of VHHS and **Tom Engstrom** of LHS for their service to the Board. The two received plaques from Board President **Anne Landgraf**.

## Board of Education approves tentative budget for 2007

by Yasmine Dada, CPA, Assistant Superintendent for Business

On June 26, 2006, the Community High School District 128 Board of Education approved the tentative budget for Fiscal Year 2007 in the amount of \$69,700,000. The fiscal year for District 128 starts July 1, 2006 and ends June 30, 2007. The tentative budget is on display at the Administration Building located at 940 W. Park Ave., Libertyville, and is also available on the District web site (<http://www.d128.org>).

Tax caps continue to hold District revenues to the Consumer Price Index for Urban areas (CPI-U). Funding from the state of Illinois is projected to be unchanged. Although Governor Blagojevich approved an increase in the Foundation level for students in Illinois, District 128 will not benefit from this increase due to the Hold Harmless Offset. Increase in expenditures is primarily due to student membership growth, compensation increases reflecting contractual agreements, increase in cost of benefits and increases in accounts due to current market conditions, inflation and the cost of continuing existing services. The rising costs of utilities and transportation can be attributed to the increases in energy costs. A synopsis of the tentative budget is presented below.

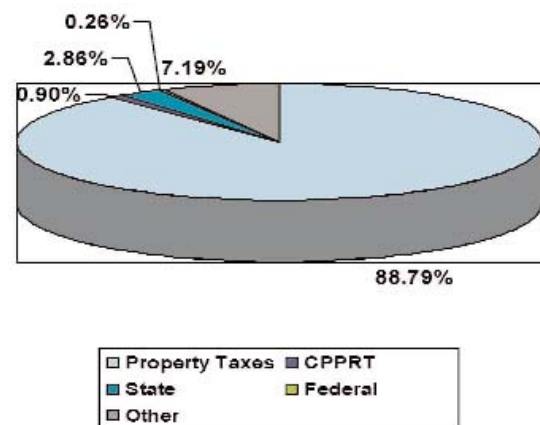
The final budget will be adopted by the Board of Education at its August meeting. A public hearing on the budget will be held in August. For dates, times and locations of these meetings, visit the District 128 web site, [www.d128.org](http://www.d128.org).

## Revenue Highlights

Where it comes from . . .

### FY 2007 Proposed Revenue Sources

- Property Taxes-real estate taxes
- State Aid – includes general state aid, grants and categorical reimbursements
- Federal Aid – includes IDEA and categorical grants
- Other – includes student fees, interest income and food service
- CPPRT – Corporate Personal Property Replacement Taxes

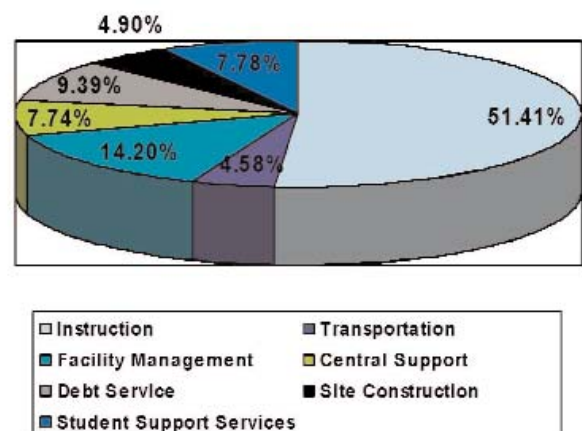


## Expenditure Highlights

Where it goes . . .

### FY 2007 Proposed Expenditures

- Instruction: Includes cost associated with providing instructional programs
- Transportation: Includes cost of buses for regular, special education, vocational programs and after school events
- Facility Management: Includes cost related to the operation and maintenance of school buildings and equipment
- Central Support: Includes cost associated with support services for finance, personnel, data processing, purchasing, security and central administration
- Debt Service: Includes costs for interest and principal payments for school construction
- Site Construction: Includes cost of additions to existing facilities
- Student Support Services: Includes cost for counselors, deans, nurses, social workers and media services



## Dispelling myths about the District 128 revised codes of conduct

by Prentiss Lea, Associate Superintendent and Mary Todoric, Director of Communications

Several revisions were made to the student codes of conduct during a recent review. A review team comprised of parents, students, teachers, coaches, advisors and administrators met for months to review the existing code and make recommendations for improvements. But, it was one simple sentence that made headlines worldwide when the Board of Education approved the revisions at its May 22 meeting. The sentence that rocked the media world, prompted interest from school districts and police departments across the nation, and became a topic of radio and Internet debates for more than two weeks was simply this:

"Maintaining or being identified on a blog site which depicts illegal or inappropriate behavior will be considered a violation of this code."

As the Board of Education discussed the revisions, camera crews from all five Chicago TV news stations, ABC World News Tonight, Good Morning America, as well as reporters from National Public Radio, The Chicago Tribune, Daily Herald, Pioneer Press and the News-Sun encircled the Board members, poised to record the history-making action.

By many accounts, District 128 is likely the first school district in the nation to add language regarding blogs to its codes. Many school districts-including District 128-have considered illegal/inappropriate content on student blogs an area to examine when such information was brought to their attention. It's no different than learning about student athletes participating in a weekend drinking party or members of a student club conducting hazing rituals. The difference is that District 128 had the proactive foresight to put it into writing.

### Through its new code revisions, District 128 IS:

- ☑ Stressing the importance of Internet safety for students
- ☑ Stressing to students that the Internet is not private or temporary-it is worldwide and does not forget
- ☑ Further illustrating to parents and students that participation in athletics, fine arts and student activities is a privilege, not a right and students participating in these groups represent their school outside the school day.

### In spite of international news reports, District 128 IS NOT:

- ☑ Restricting free speech of students
- ☑ Hiring someone to monitor student blogs
- ☑ Punishing students for writing negative things about the schools on their blogs
- ☑ Trying to control students outside the school day
- ☑ Prohibiting students from having blogs
- ☑ Attempting to tell parents how their children should behave in their homes

On a broader scale, District 128 provided resources and hosted programs throughout the 2005-06 school year to educate parents, students and staff about Internet safety and blogs. District 128 Educational Technology Director **Mick**

**Torres** continues to present awareness programs both in District 128 feeder schools and in neighboring communities. In addition to safety, the programs also stressed that illegal/inappropriate Internet postings can impact a student's future job opportunities and college acceptances.

Clearly this is a complex issue that could be discussed in much further detail. Individuals wishing more information about the code revisions may visit the District 128 web site, <http://www.d128.org>, and click on the link to "Communications."

## District 128 students named to Tribune Academic Team

Libertyville High School senior **Tracy Branding** and Vernon Hills High School senior **Anjalika Gandhi** were named to the *Chicago Tribune* 2006 All-State Academic Team. Seventy finalists were selected from nominations statewide. The top 10 finalists will each receive a \$2,000 college scholarship. Winners were chosen based on academic achievement, test scores, leadership, community involvement and composition of an essay.

Tracy plans to attend Vanderbilt University on an academic scholarship and major in one of the sciences. Anjalika plans to study medicine at either the University of Pittsburgh, Northwestern, Duke, University of Illinois at Urbana, or University of Illinois at Chicago.

## Frounfelter named teacher of the year by Sam's Club



District 128 Latin Teacher **Donalee Frounfelter** was named Teacher of the Year by Sam's Club. She is pictured above (second from left) with LHS Principal **Brad Swanson** as she received a check for \$1,000 from representatives of Sam's Club in Vernon Hills.

## District retirees honored at end-of-the-year brunch



District 128 staff honored this year's retiring staff members at a brunch held June 9 at Vernon Hills High School. This year's 23 retirees represent more than 463 years of experience in education. The 2006 retirees pictured above at the brunch are (front row) **Sharon Arbiture** (English, VHHS), **Sally Hauck** (Dean, LHS), **Dee Bizer** (Library Aide, LHS), **Sharon Losacco** (Librarian, LHS), **Patricia Sharp** (Science, LHS), **Mary Price** (Social Studies, LHS), **Marie Brausam** (Security, LHS), **Leasha Carp** (English, LHS), **Linda Engfer** (Mathematics, LHS), **Sandra Gerbasi** (Family and Consumer Sciences, VHHS), (back row) **Janet Forster** (Library Aide, VHHS), **Karen Gibbs** (English, LHS), **Larry Grubb** (Social Worker, LHS), **Ethel Pechulis** (Security, LHS), **Karl Jennrich** (Physical Welfare, LHS), **Cynthia Macdonald** (English, LHS), **Linda Long** (Mathematics, LHS). Not pictured: **Ernesto Garcia** (International Languages, LHS), **Kathy Haan** (LST Secretary, LHS), **Rosie Kick** (LST Secretary, LHS), **Kathie Stelzner** (Fine Arts Secretary, VHHS), **Frank Underbrink** (Social Studies, VHHS), **Libby Victoria** (IRC Aide, LHS). (photo by M. Todoric)

## District receives Standard & Poor's Academic Outperformer designation

Community High School District 128 is pleased to announce that it is one of only 69 Illinois school districts to be recognized as an academic "outperformer" by Standard & Poor's School Evaluation Services. To be identified as an outperformer by Standard & Poor's, school districts, over the course of two consecutive school years (2003-04 and 2004-05), must show a significantly higher percentage of students that scored proficient or above on the state's reading and math tests when compared to other school districts with similar levels of economically disadvantaged students.

Academic achievement levels are compared with the percentage of economically disadvantaged students because educators and researchers have found that there is often a strong correlation between the two indicators.

The 69 outperforming districts include 34 unified or K-12 districts, 23 elementary or K-8 districts and 12 high school districts. Only districts that test the same grades were compared to one another.

Standard & Poor's developed the analysis used to identify outperforming school districts as a way to highlight outstanding academic performance, and to help educators in school districts with similar characteristics identify appropriate benchmarks to guide their own improvements.

## Give Ground Committee receives honor from INSPRA



The LHS Give Ground Committee received an award of merit in the annual Distinguished Service Awards program sponsored by the Illinois Chapter of the National School Public Relations Association. The program recognizes individuals and groups who spread the good word about schools or enhance the image of education and reputation of a school district through their actions. The Give Ground Committee was instrumental in bringing a multipurpose field to LHS that increased the use of the field by all students. Representatives of the Committee received the award at a luncheon on May 19. Pictured above at the presentation are **Bill Saxelby**, **Greg Pritchard**, **Dave Barnett**, and INSPRA President **Melea Smith**. (photo by M. Todoric)

## Nee receives Moleman Award

LHS sophomore **Julia Nee** was the 2006 recipient of the Moleman Award. The award is given annually to the school's highest achieving chemistry student. Sophomores **Sarah Garren** and **Sarah Pfluger** were also commended for their high achievements in chemistry.

## VHHS SAP Update

by Margaret Pither, VHHS SAP Coordinator



Members of the Countryside Fire Department take apart a car to remove victims of a car crash during a crash re-enactment at Vernon Hills High School. The pre-prom assembly is presented to demonstrate the tragic results that can occur when people drink and drive. (photo by M. Todoric)

### Pre-prom Crash Re-enactment

On Friday, May 19, Vernon Hills High School presented a program to junior and senior students that demonstrated the tragic results that can occur when a person drives after using alcohol or other drugs. The crash re-enactment was a coordinated effort of the **Vernon Hills Police Department, Countryside Fire Department, Condell Medical Center, the Lake County Coroner's Office,** and VHHS students and staff. Student actors **Drew Aichele, Bob Groody, Katie Guglielmi, Lauren Hansen, Craig McGrath,** and **Caitlin Natsch** participated. **Judge Mary Schostok** spoke to the students about the legal consequences of drinking, and **Chet and Cathy Stanley** told about the death of their daughter due to a drunk driver, and how their lives have been affected. The assembly brought home the message that indulging in risky behaviors can produce senseless tragedy.

### Cougar Class Act Award Winners

Quarterly, VHHS students are honored for bringing "that something extra" to the classroom. The fourth quarter *Cougar Class Act* awards breakfast was held May 18. The following students were nominated by staff members for making a difference and going above and beyond expectations: **Kaitlin Donelon, Jeff Epner, Erika Farias, Karla Filian, Robbie Harris, Brittany Johnson, Tiffany Lee, Greg Maher, Craig McGrath, Joe Nierstheimer, Melanie Pine, Pat Quinn, Ken Rideout,** and **Stacey Sabu.**

### VIP Performs at Hawthorn Junior High

Approximately six times a year, student actors from VIP (Voices in Prevention) present skits and facilitate discussions at Hawthorn Middle School North and South on topics pertinent to teen life. One of the primary functions of VIP is to bridge the gap for junior high students approaching high school life, and to give a positive message regarding lifestyle decisions. The final performance of the year was held May 12. VIP members **Lindsay Abbassian, Alex Brodsky, Vanessa Ceballos, Adam Corrado, Tierney Darden, Kelsey Guglielmi, Colleen McDonnell, Kate Milligan, Michelle Moss, Bailey Muller, Tracy Pettersen, Jessica Thiel-Cygan,** and **Hillary Timlin** presented skits to seventh grade students dealing with bullying, Internet safety, and drug and alcohol prevention. Eighth graders saw skits and heard a panel discussion by **Kevin Adelman, Drew Aichele, Erin Fine, Maggie Fischer, Rachel Rose, Danny Sherling,** and **Marc Tiojanco** on the myths and realities of high school life.

## Highly selective admissions

by Ole Stevens, LHS College Counselor

*"I am a dynamic figure, often seen scaling walls and crushing ice. I have been known to remodel train stations on my lunch breaks, making them more efficient in the area of heat retention. I am an expert in stucco, a veteran in love, and an outlaw in Peru. On Wednesdays, after school, I repair electrical appliances free of charge. I bat .400. My deft floral arrangements have earned me fame in international botany circles. Children trust me. While on vacation in Canada, I successfully negotiated with a group of terrorists who had seized a small bakery. The laws of physics do not apply to me."*

Have you ever wondered what it would take for a superhuman to get admitted into an elite university? Recently **Vic Capron** and I attended a breakfast hosted by Duke, Harvard, Georgetown and Penn. The purpose of this meeting was to find out how their recruiting year went, talk about trends and find out, yet again, what it takes to get into elite schools. Here are some highlights of this meeting:

**Academically, the majority of applicants look the same.** This is hard to grasp for seniors who have worked so hard to have the opportunity to apply to a highly selective school, but it's the truth. At this level, in the search for the Holy Grail of colleges, everyone has exceptional GPA's, test scores and experiences. The appli-

cants who can set themselves apart from the rest stand a better chance for admission.

**The application process should be a process of self-discovery.** It is very important for an applicant to have a great sense of self. You don't need to have all of the answers, but you need to be aware of your particular strengths and weaknesses. Applying to elite schools should be as much about the journey as it is in getting there. Elite colleges are impressed by seniors who can take charge of this journey.

**Present yourself with integrity.** Be yourself as you really are. Include your "rough edges" because that shows honesty and a character that admissions people can identify with.

**Do not do resume builders.** I have heard this several times! Highly selective admission personnel are always on the lookout for applicants who do things more to pad their application than to be truly giving and genuine. If you are going to get involved in a charity (or any other activity), do so because you are truly interested in that activity. Also make sure that you don't just start activities your junior year. That is a sure sign that you are padding your resume. You should have a sound track record of involvement.

**Follow your heart.** Do what you love and be genuinely engaged.

**Don't play the transfer game.** Meaning, if you can't get in straight away, don't count on attending elsewhere and then transferring in later. Generally, it is just as hard to get in that way.

For further reading on this topic, I would recommend the following books which can be found in your CRC. **The Hidden Ivies** by Howard and Matthew Greene, has a great introduction and is followed by two strong chapters on the value of a liberal arts education and "what makes an Ivy an Ivy." The back of the book also has several words of wisdom for getting into a "hidden Ivy." Another book that is one of my favorites is, **Looking Beyond the Ivy League: Finding the College That's Right for You** by Loren Pope. This is a must read in the search for the college Holy Grail. Finally, I would recommend **America's Elite Colleges** by Princeton Review.

*"I have won bullfights in San Juan, cliff-diving competitions in Sri Lanka, and spelling bees at the Kremlin. I have played Hamlet, I have performed open-heart surgery, and I have spoken with Elvis. But I have not yet gone to an elite college."*

## Students use "Family Connections by Naviance" to plan for college

by Vic Capron, VHHS College Career Counselor

This past year, most VHHS freshmen and juniors were activated to use Family Connections by Naviance. All sophomore families will receive a letter this summer with directions about how to access Naviance. Because it is our first year using this program, many of you may be wondering what Naviance is and how can it help students make better college decisions.

Naviance is a web-based college research tool which will help families analyze the most up-to-date college application trends. Data was collected from the VHHS class of 2006 indicating what schools our seniors applied to and where they were accepted or denied. By combining the admission decisions with the students' ACT and GPA profiles, families will now have at their disposal information as to the academic profiles of students who were admitted or denied to a multitude of colleges.

Scattergrams of colleges are available for viewing which plot out where a potential applicant is in comparison to the previous year's applicants. The data will give students a more realistic idea of what kind of grades and test scores are needed to be admitted to a specific university. For example, a scattergram will show the GPA's and ACT scores of VHHS students who were accepted or

denied to the University of Illinois as well as many other schools. The information Naviance provides will be much more meaningful and insightful because it represents how colleges are accepting/denying VHHS students and not based on national data found in the large college reference books or on some of the popular college web sites.

Another of the many facets of Naviance is the powerful College Search engine which uses data from the Princeton Review. Families can search by type of school, size, location, majors, sports, and more. As students find colleges that meet their criteria, they should save those schools under My Colleges.

Students and parents, when you have some free time this summer, take advantage of this great resource. To activate Naviance, go to the CRC web link on the left margin, click on the blue Naviance tab at the top of the screen, enter your complete e-mail address and your password is v plus your student id number. For sophomores who are not activated, follow the instructions in the letter mailed home. If you encounter any difficulty, please email vic.capron@d128.org.

## VHHS Wind Ensemble named 2006 SuperState champions



Members of the VHHS Wind Ensemble were joined by District 128 Superintendent **Dr. David Clough** (left) and Wind Ensemble Director **Randy Sundell** as they received the banner announcing their state championship honor. The banner was presented at an all-school assembly honoring the Wind Ensemble in May. (photo by M. Todoric)

## Seniors enjoy picnic and *Wicked*



To recognize and thank the graduating senior members of band, orchestra and choir for four years of dedication and service, the VHHS Fine Arts Department treated the seniors to a picnic in Chicago followed by an evening performance of *Wicked*. Students are seen here at their picnic by the Millennium Park "Bean." (photo by F. Lestina)

## Student artists receive honors

Spring is art show season, and student artists at LHS and VHHS received numerous accolades at many shows and competitions this season. Congratulations to the following students:

NSC Art Festival award winners: (LHS) **Siena Baldi, Erica Johnston, Andrea Bologeorges, Austin Causey, Zack Salerno, Amanda Scharfenberg, Nina Marqui, Roseanne Overton, Carley Trout, Jimmy Zimmerman,** (VHHS) **Domina Chan, Kate Leaver, Natalia Bulsza, Dave Jensen, Nick Duncan, Jeremy Vavrik, Cody Meltzer, Anna Gajcy, Hajin Lee, Jingyu Lee**

LISA Show Best of Show Winners: (LHS) **Samantha Shultz, Jackie Hamlin, Hannah Supanich-Winter, Lindsey Snell, Zach Salerno,** (VHHS) **Kate Leaver, Natalia Bulsza, David Jensen, Jeff Fujii, Vlada Mashkovich**

4x5 Art Exhibition award winners: (LHS) **Cody Simmons, Billy Saxelby, Marlie Pykelny, Kelsey Schmitz, Roseanne Overton, Nicole Coton, Samantha Bordinon, Ben Bueltmann, Kara Moore, Jeff Hendricks, Samantha Shultz** (VHHS) **Nick Duncan, Amy Palace, Becky Wolff, David Jensen, Domina Chan, Natalia Bulsza**

In addition, seniors received the following art scholarships: **Domina Chan** placed third in the Gallaudet University National Essay and Art Contest for Deaf and Hard of Hearing Students. Her work will be published in *Celebrate*, a new publication showcasing achievements of deaf and hard of hearing students, and she will receive a monetary award. **Kate Leaver** received a \$14,000 scholarship to attend Parsons School of Design in New York, as well as \$2,000 for her winning sculpture at the Best of the Best Show. **Jeff Fujii** received a grant to attend the Millwaukee Institute of Art. **Natalia Bulsza** received a \$2,000 scholarship for her winning entry in last year's Best of the Best Show. **Nick Duncan** received a \$200 scholarship to attend Illinois State University.

## *From the Principal's Desk . . .*

*by Brad Swanson, Libertyville High School*

As I reflect on the past school year, I am overcome with the positive images of a truly amazing school community. I remember . . .

- meeting the freshman class of 2009 and connecting with them about all of us being freshmen in our first year at LHS
- planning the "Elvis dance" for the Homecoming Assembly with the members of Student Council
- riding in the homecoming parade with my kids and being warmly welcomed by the town
- sitting and talking with students in the cafeteria just to get to know them and their thoughts about our school
- meeting and planning efforts with Parent CATS members
- visiting with staff members at our Friday morning breakfasts
- serving hot chocolate and doughnuts to our students on freezing cold Fridays in December
- attending the state production of "Pippin" and being so proud of the cast and crew (and even learning how to pack some gear with the tech crew after the show)
- visiting all of the period 3 classrooms to answer student questions and to find out their concerns
- observing teachers connecting with and challenging their students every day in the classrooms
- cheering on many of our students competing in all of our athletic contests
- listening to the beautiful music performed by our choirs, bands and orchestras
- witnessing the generosity of our student body as they collect tremendous donations for a variety of charitable efforts
- participating in the District's strategic planning process as we helped set the direction for future efforts and successes
- staying up all night in a packed field house with Relay for Life
- celebrating and honoring the numerous successes of our students in academics, fine arts, and athletics
- enjoying the beautiful weather and playing games at the senior picnic
- and congratulating the Class of 2006 at graduation.

The events above represent only a fraction of the wonderful memories that I will treasure from this past year. It has been a magical first year for me at LHS, and I offer a heartfelt thank you to everyone - student, parents, faculty and staff - for welcoming and supporting me.

We started this year with a focus on building a stronger sense of community for all those involved at Libertyville High School. We are proud to say that we have accomplished much in this area. We believe that all members of a healthy community have a well-defined and important role, and that they are valued, respected, and appreciated. We have tried to emphasize these ideas with all members of the LHS community throughout the year. Even so, a community must always be nurtured as it is constantly changing and evolving, and I excitedly anticipate the new challenges and opportunities that the LHS community will offer in the 2006-07 school year.

Enjoy your summer as you may relax, vacation, try new things, and make those wonderful "summer memories."

I am looking forward to spending more time with family and friends this summer as I re-energize for my sophomore year at LHS.

Happy summer and Go CATS!!

## **LHS March, April and May Students of the Month**

Congratulations to the following students who were named students of the month for March, April and May:

March:

**Benjamin Julia, Neil Thomas, Johanna Hansen, Steven Jones, Kimberly Ackley, Margaret McCall, Leah Buchaklian, Allison Cacich, Steven Turchi, Mary Bliss, Kelly Peel, Julia Nee, Doug Ardito**

April:

**Katie Loksa, Kelly Canning, David Bedell, Shannon Wealthier, James Dicello, Shane Ostman, Patrick Gore, Kristy Treven, Amy Drehobl, Adam Hill, Marlie Pykelny, Ashley White, Lauren Moosman, Lauren Gal, Kendall Covek, Charlotte Gubbins, Melanie Renton, Elliott Issac**

May:

**Kelly Yamamoto, Mary Kloss, Annelise Freyman, Christopher Kayser, Elizabeth Davis, Cassandra Herman, Bethany Kelvington, Gina Schostok, Natalie Kaminski, Eleanor Webber, Samantha Shultz, Joseph Cozza, Peter Horgan, Evan Luscher, Aleksey Nepochatov, Nicholas Snow, Jennie Choi**

## Student activities update

by Diane Phillips, Assistant Principal

**Academic Bowl --** The JV Academic Bowl Team placed seventh in the state in the KnowledgeMaster Open.

The Student Academic Bowl Team defeated the Faculty Team at their annual match-up.

**Accounting Competition --** On April 18, the top accounting students at LHS competed in the annual Lake County Accounting Competition at CLC. As a team, LHS came in third out of 11 schools. Junior **Brian Wendt** led the charge with an eighth-place finish and **Elliott Isaac** placed 11th. For finishing in the top 10, Brian received a monetary scholarship from Abbott Labs and was honored at Abbott on May 16. Other participants at the Accounting Competition were seniors **Ryan Deimler, Jeff Obenland and Alex Ripchik**, juniors **Max Bellmore, Matt Clark, Mike Davidsen, Mick Grunert, Brian Johns, Dan Kaiser, Adam Mowery** and **Tanner Schmidt**, and sophomore **Jon Maher**. **Billy Pitcher** accompanied the students.

**Best Buddies --** Best Buddies raised over \$100 for the Relay for Life effort through two bake sales. Their year ended with the end-of-the-year picnic at Old School Forest Preserve.

**Consumer Education Classes --** Consumer Education students at LHS recently completed a stock market simulation as part of a unit on saving and investing. **Wendy Mills'** students learned about stocks and stock exchanges, how to research companies, and how to read stock quotes. Each student was then given \$50,000 in simulated money to purchase shares in five companies.

For four weeks, students tracked the closing price of each of their stocks and computed their total daily gains or losses. To conclude the project, they used word processing and spreadsheet software to prepare a detailed final report of their stock market experience.

**Harris Bank** in Libertyville supported the project by providing prizes to the students who reported the biggest gains

on their investments.

### 1st Period Class

1st Place - **Scott White** - \$8,505.30 - received a \$50 gift card from Harris Bank; 2nd Place - **Calvin Jarosz** - \$6,001.75 - received a Harris Bank calculator.

### 7th Period Class

1st Place - **Chris Haak** - \$10,419.13 - received a \$50 gift card from Harris Bank; 2nd Place - **Abdel-aziz Seifeldin** - \$2,618.50 - received a Harris Bank calculator.

**DOI --** Several writers for the school newspaper, *Drops of Ink*, were awarded the following from the Northern Illinois Student Press Association: Paper - **Golden Eagle Best In Class Award**; **Liz Gortz** - Blue Ribbon for News Writing; **Katie Klimusko** - Blue Ribbon for Graphics; **Ted Strychalski** - Honorable Mention for Photography; **Ellen Renfroe** - Honorable Mention for Review Writing; **Stephen Di Benedetto** - Honorable Mention for Column Writing; **Evan Johnson** - Honorable Mention for Individual In-Depth.

DOI is sponsored by **Sara Hake**.

**Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) --** LHS Future Business Leaders of America members and their advisor, **Wendy Mills**, attended the Fifty-Seventh Illinois FBLA State Leadership Conference in Decatur March 31-April 1. Over 900 members and advisors from 63 Illinois FBLA chapters were in attendance. The two-day state conference included activities in personal development, business and leadership training, election of 2006-2007 state officers, and competitive events. During the awards program at the conference, LHS team members competed in 14 different individual and team events and received 11 awards. The following won awards:

1st - **Andrea Hail** - Word Processing II; 1st - **Jackson Lai** - Economics; 2nd - **Stephen Woldridge** - Banking and Financial Systems; 2nd - **Eric Spanton** - Java; 3rd - **Derek Kaiser** - Business Calculations; 4th - **Malcolm**

**Vandrevala** - International Business; 5th - **Travis Jordan, David Deka, Spencer Yetman** - Multi Media Presentation; 7th - **Amanda Rupsch** - Business Law; 7th - **Najeed Baig, Fahad Shahab, Joe Doss** - Entrepreneurship; 8th - **Joju Varghese** - Business Communications; 8th - **Ryan Steel** - Public Speaking I.

Other members in attendance were **Priya Mehra, Mehdi Syed, Josh Kincaid** and **Thomas Michaelson**. **Jackson Lai** was elected as the FBLA State Treasurer for the 2006-2007 school year. This is the first time since the club has been created in 2002 that an LHS student has been elected a state officer.

**Andrea Hail, Jackson Lai, Stephen Woldridge** and **Eric Spanton** will participate in the FBLA National Conference in Nashville June 29 through July 2.

### INTERACT

INTERACT held its Band Jam Book Drive event. Local and student bands played, and attendees brought books as an entrance fee. A general book drive within the school and community also took place. The books that were collected were given to schools and libraries that are working to rebuild in the aftermath of Hurricane Katrina. Over 2,000 books were collected.

INTERACT will sponsor several children from inner city areas to attend Camp Jörn in the summer. This sponsorship gives these children a chance to participate in an otherwise financially impossible experience.

INTERACT and its advisors would like to extend gracious thanks to the Libertyville Rotarians who have been so supportive of our projects, and we look forward to continued and increased coordination of our efforts.

### LEAF

The big cats from the Turpentine Creek Wildlife Refuge in Arkansas made their annual visit to LHS.

*cont. on p. 11*

*cont. from p. 10*

Students met the tigers, learned about the rescue mission of the refuge and greeted the people who care for the creatures.

**Math Team --** The LHS Math Team has completed another successful season. After placing second at the Regional competition in February, the team qualified for the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics (ICTM) State meet held at the University of Illinois in Champaign on April 22. The team brought home the third-place state trophy in Division 3AA. The highlight of the meet was a first-place finish for the Calculator team. State champions on the Calculator team included **Jeff Goldman, Frank Yan, Jackson Lai, Nader Awani, and Jason Kontny**. Oralist **Irvin Wang**, assisted by freshman **Rohan Taneja**, earned the third-place state trophy in the oral competition. State results may be viewed at <http://www.ictm.org/links/contest.html>.

On May 23, the team held its annual awards evening at which many students received ribbons, medals, trophies, and other awards. At Honors Night, the math team scholarships were awarded to six students: **Nader Awani, Jonathan Lo, Kevin Ma, Jennifer Nichols, Nick Snow, and Irvin Wang**.

Math Team is coached by **Wanda Gongol, Amanda Warfield, and Rick Brenner**.

**Model United Nations -- Mike Ding, Meg MacNair, and Lindsay Schwartz** won the award of Verbal Commendation at the Model UN competition held at University of Illinois. The team is sponsored by **Matt Thompson**.

**Peer Mediation --** Peer Mediation has expanded its services to include an online email advice column. It is a confidential site handled by the Peer Mediators themselves. Students can write to the email address about any concerns that they have regarding peers, family, and LHS. Peer Mediation invites incoming freshmen from to send emails to our site with any questions they may have about entering high school. Since students answer all the emails, they will get a peer's perspec-

tive rather than an adult's view on their concerns. The email address can be accessed through the LHS web site under student organizations or use the address: [lhspeermediation@d128.org](mailto:lhspeermediation@d128.org)

**Physics Bowl --** All AP Physics B and AP Physics C students take the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) Physics Bowl test in April. The test is a 40-question multiple-choice exam. The top four scores in the school comprise the school score.

Approximately 6,100 students from over 280 schools nationwide took the exam this year. The schools are divided into fifteen geographic regions. Libertyville competes in the region consisting of all participating schools in Illinois and Iowa.

On the 2006 test, our Physics B students (who compete in Division I-first-year students) received first place in our region. The Physics C students (who compete in Division II-second-year students) received first place in our region and fifth place in the nation. The school will receive certificates honoring both finishes and two \$100 gift certificates to Frey Scientific.

In addition, prizes are awarded to individual students who perform well on the test. The top four students from the winning school in each region received T-shirts. The top-scoring student in each region received a TI-83 Plus Silver Edition Calculator. Senior **Irvin Wang** placed first in our region for Division II students.

The four students who contributed to the school score in each division were: Division I: **Karen Li, Vivek Raman, Stacey Fields, and Michael Tremmel**; Division II: **Irvin Wang, Michael Ding, Robert Leu, and Joyce Fan**.

**Physics Team --** Each year, Northern Illinois University hosts a Physics Olympics Challenge. Participating schools may bring up to three teams with a maximum of five students per team. This year's event, held April 1, consisted of seven events. Eleven teams competed, with LHS sending three teams composed of students from the AP Physics C class.

**Team A: Brent Kalman, Rob Leu, Jon Lo, Evan Luscher, Irvin Wang**

1st Place: Black Box Circuits & Energy Independence; 2nd Place: Paper Pinnacle; 3rd Place: Mini Rube Goldberg & Physics Problem Solving; **1st Place Overall**

**Team B: John Friestedt, Nick Snow, Ming Fei Su**

1st Place: Physics Problem Solving; 3rd Place: Phloating Physics & Black Box Circuits; **4th Place Overall**

**Team C: Amy Kao, Jennifer Nichols, Eric Rentsch, Mike Soo, Hongyan Wang**

1st Place: Paper Pinnacle; 2nd Place: Physics Problem Solving; 3rd Place: Pringles Postal Challenge; **3rd Place Overall**

**Robotics Team --** On April 26, eight members of the Robotics Team traveled to Miami to compete in the 5th Annual BattleBots IQ™ National Robotics Championship. The team is coached by Chemistry Teacher **Sherri Rukes, Jason Rukes, and engineer Deven Patel**. This year's robot was named **DBC IV** and is the fourth generation of DBC (Death By Committee). Each generation is a continuing improvement of the design from the previous year. Members of the traveling team were **Alex Schmaling, Robert Harger, Sam Waldie, Andy Katz, Caroline Lichtenberger, John Hayden, Matt Rasmussen, and Michael Spanton**. Additional team members include **Eric Michel, Monica Quimby, Vicki Vepari and Joe Schmaling**.

The BattleBots IQ National Competition included more than 120 teams from across the nation. The LHS team competed in the large (120 pound) class for high schools, which included 56 other teams. With two wins and two losses, LHS was officially out of the tournament, but not before placing in the top 16 out of more than 50 teams. That's quite an accomplishment considering so many good teams got knocked out before us.

This was a strong year for the team, in terms of achieving goals. This was the first year for many members, which means the team should be very strong for the next few years. The team is motivated and eager to get back in the shop to make improvements to DBC as well as work on other robots. This

*cont. on p. 12*

## Student activities *continued from page 11*

summer, the team will be working on new designs including some possible 15 pound robots. Going to the 15 pound class is less expensive, meaning the team can build more robots and go to more competitions.

**Science Olympiad--** The Science Olympiad Team competed at the state competition on April 29 at University of Illinois-Champaign. The team consisted of 15 official team members and three alternates who competed in 23 events. LHS finished ninth in Division AA and ninth in the overall ranking of all 35 high schools.

LHS medal winners at the state competition were: 2nd place Astronomy, **Karen Li & Vivek Raman**; 2nd place Circuit Lab, **Evan Luscher & Vivek Raman**; 3rd place Food Science, **Karen Li & Candice Swift**; 1st place Forensics, **Candice Swift & Gloria Yen**; 3rd place Rocks & Minerals, **Debbie Shi & Maggie Sledd**; 4th place Write It, Do It, **Sarah Cheng & Debbie Shi**.

**SKILLS USA -- Rob Leu** placed first in the state at the SkillsUSA Automotive Service Technology competition in Springfield. Rob will represent Illinois and LHS at the national contest in June in Kansas City, Missouri. **Mike Gierczyk** placed 7th in the Automotive Service Technology competition and **Aaron Martin** placed 6th in the Automotive Demonstration contest.

**Special Olympics --** The Special Olympics Team competed in Track and Powerlifting and in the area Bocce Tournament. Fourteen of our athletes competed for the right to represent our area at the upcoming State Summer Games, and compiled one of their most successful weeks in District 128 Special Olympics history, winning **26 gold, eight silver, five bronze medals and 11 ribbons!** Twelve athletes will be going to the State Summer Games.

Congratulations to **Sue Wallis** for her outstanding achievement at the Special Olympics where she won two gold medals, one in the 800 meter race-walk and one in shot put.

**Student Council --** Student Council

elected officials for 2006-07:

**Student Council Executive Board**  
 President - **Stephanie Janczak**  
 Vice President - **Elliott Isaac**  
 Corresponding Secretary - **Amanda Wine**  
 Recording Secretary - **Michelle Kim**  
 Treasurer - **Aubrey Landers**  
 Advisor Assistants - **Blake Dahmer, Dan Schneider, Pat Fischl**

**Senior Class Officers**  
 President - **Nicco Terry**  
 Vice President- **Jessica Norman**  
 Secretary - **Perry Landers**  
 Treasurer - **Adam Hill**

**Junior Class Officers**  
 President - **Elizabeth Henderson**  
 Vice President - **Kevin Thomas**  
 Secretary - **Ankush Jain**  
 Treasurer - **Steven Turchi**

**Sophomore Class Officers**  
 President - **Maureen O'Connor**  
 Vice President - **Ben Grozier**  
 Secretary - **Lauren Peacock**  
 Treasurer - **Eric Bialek**

**Mr. LHS Contest** was held April 7. **Matt Dasher, Brad Dick, Neel Patel, Josh Swenson, Nicco Terry, Jonathan Wepler, and Chris Whaley** competed in four events which included: casual wear and interview, beach wear, talent and formalwear and interview. Mr. LHS – 2006 was awarded to **Chris Whaley**. Special thanks to the judges for the event: **Emily David, Amanda Dayton, Mrs. Gongol, Kelley Nordin** and **Jeff Thomas** (Mr. LHS – 2005).

**Prom 2006 “Oh What a Night”** was a true success. Prom was held May 20 at the Pfister Hotel in Milwaukee. There were 483 attendees and 38 adult chaperones.

**Wildcat Guard --** Wildcat Guard members helped lifeguard for over 350 hours of community swimming programs this year. These programs include public swim hours, Special Olympics Swim Team, Masters Swim Team, and continuing education aqua aerobics class. Additionally, they taught swimming lessons to over 300 children from the District 128 community.

## Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering (WYSE) National



### Competition

It was announced on April 24 that the LHS WYSE Team that competed at Milwaukee School of Engineering in a competition sponsored by the National Junior Engineering Technical Society won first place nationally in both the varsity and junior varsity positions for Division 7. Capturing first place nationally in both the varsity and JV divisions is unbelievable!

The first-place Division 7 National Varsity team members were seniors: **Emily Alexander, Nader Awni, Tracy Branding, Joyce Fan, Mike Soo, Eric Spanton, Hongyan Wang, and Irvin Wang**. The first-place winners in the Junior Varsity Division 7 were juniors: **Jackson Lai, Karen Li, Joo Lee, Jessica Norman, Vivek Raman, Stephanie Sliwa, Mike Tremmel, and Zach Yordy**.

In addition to national honors, the WYSE Team also captured 4th in state at the Academic Challenge competition held at the University of Illinois in Champaign April 6. In addition to LHS bringing home a huge trophy, students won the following individual medals: Physics: **Irvin Wang** – 2nd, **Tracy Branding** – 3rd, **Ming Fei Su** – 4th; Chemistry: **Vivek Raman** – 3rd, **Karen Li** – 6th; Math: **Ming Fei Su** – 6th; English: **Monica Quimby** – 6th

Other members contributing to the state finish were: **Nader Awni, George Kaliyadan, Jackson Lai, Joo Lee, Xiao Mai, Jennifer Nichols, Candice Swift** and **Frank Yan**.

The team is coached by **Patricia Sharp** who is retiring after 24 years as a chemistry teacher at LHS.

## Special thanks to party contributors

The Senior Graduation Party Committee of Libertyville High School would like to recognize and give a huge thanks to the following local businesses/families that were so generous in providing products that made this year's party an overwhelming success and fantastic time for the Class of 2006! In addition, the committee truly appreciates the additional cash donations made by numerous seniors' families. In the event that we did miss a business at the time this goes to press, we apologize, but extend our gratitude and thanks.

Affiliated Dental Specialists LTD	Hair's 2 U
Aguilar Family	Harris Bank
American Legion	Hawthorn Lanes
Ann's Hallmark	Hong Kong Chop Suey
Dr. Arpino/Dr. Wollney	Jenny Sweeney Designs
Austin's Saloon & Eatery	Jewel-Osco Libertyville
Auto Expo Detailing, Inc.	Jimmy's Charhouse
Bavaro Hair	Juice Zone
Berry Tire & Auto	KaBloom
Bill's Pizza and Pub, Inc.	Kakenmaster & Associates
Dr. Brochu	LA Tan
Dr. Burkey	Dr. James Lehman
Burnett-Dane Funeral Home LTD	LHS Fine Arts
Car Spa	Liberty Auto Center
Caribou Coffee Company Inc.	Liberty Barber Shop
Catwalk	Liberty Food Mart
CDW	Libertyville Bank and Trust
Centre Club	Libertyville Bicycle Shop
Charles Minerva Boutique	Libertyville Boat Club
Cheryl's Hair Services	Libertyville Dental
Coca-Cola Bottling Company	Libertyville High School
Container Store	Libertyville Insurance Agency
Dr. Copeland	Dr. David Lloyd
Cousins Subs	Local Roofing
Crisswell Insurance Agency	Lori Friend Hair Studio
Culver's	Marble Slab Creamery
Cuneo Museum Gardens	Market Financial Group
Curtis Frame Back Alley	McDonald's Libertyville
Dan the Key Man	McMurrough Funeral Chapel LTD
Dominick's	Mickey Finn's
Domino's	Motif
John East Family	My Girlfriend's Closet
Employer's Claim Service	Ray Nierstheimer Ins Agency, Inc.
Engstrom Family	Gordon Nishimoto/State Farm
Eschbach Family	Panera Bread
Eve Nails	Parkview Gourmet
Fodrak's	Paula's Deli/Liberty Food Market
Fred's Barber Shop	Peterson Family
Freyman Family	Pizza Italia
Gale Street Inn	Plato's Closet
Geib & Company	Quizno's
Gino's East	Rierden Chemical & Trading Company
GNC Sunset Mall	Rolland's Jewelry
Greenleaf Orthopedic Assoc.	Rosati's Pizza
Grill 21	Cary Salm State Farm Ins.,
Guerra Family	Sandi's Florist
Gymnastic Spot	
Hair Concept	

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## Students and staff you should know

### Students:

**American Cancer Society's "Relay for Life for GLMV Youth"** raised over \$56,000. Thanks to everyone who participated and donated.

**Nicholas Gaulin** was named "Student of the Quarter" at the Technology Campus for his work in the Game/C++/Java.

**Joyce Fan, Laura Mohs and Irvin Wang** were named 2006 Presidential Scholars candidates.

**Scott Bakshis** was selected principal bassist for the Honors Orchestra at the Illinois Music Educators Association Conference.

**Kevin Higley** was a recipient of the Lake County Character Matters Award.

**Best of Show** winners from the North Suburban Conference Art Show: **Siena Baldi** – Oil Painting, **Erica Johnston** – Mixed Media, **Andrea Bologeorges** – Pastel, **Austin Causey** – Ceramic, **Zack Salerno** – Computer Graphics, **Amanda Scharfenberg** – Charcoal, **Nina Marqui** – Jewelry, **Roseanne Overton** – Photography, **Carley Trout** – Acrylic Painting, **Jimmy Zimmerman** – Mixed Media.

**Fahrenheit 451 Art Contest Winners:** **Amanda Morgan** (1st place), **Ashley Porter** (2nd place), **Samantha Shultz** and **Angela Pan** (honorable mentions).

**Amanda Dayton** is one of 100 winners, out of 1,600 applicants, of the 2006 Golden Apple Scholarship.

### Staff:

**Cameron Traut** passed the National Board Certification Exam for School Nursing.

**Sherri Rukes** will be conducting research at Northwestern University this summer through the Research Experience for Teachers (RET) Program in the area of Characterization of Elastomer / Nanotube Composites.

**Alice Leafblad** was named the First Class Coordinator.

**Jennifer Paul** was named the Student Activities Director.

*News from the Hills*

**Principal's Report**

by Dr. Ellen Cwick

The 2005-2006 school year proved to be a very exciting and successful one. The Class of 2006 graduated in a dignified and respectful manner, enjoying three major events at the end of the school year: Senior Breakfast and Honor's Day Assembly on June 2, Graduation on June 8, and Senior Party on June 9. At graduation, **Anjalika Gandhi**, class valedictorian, and **Ken Mooney** gave the keynote student speeches. Teachers **Sharon Arbiture** and **Charles Mann** read the names of the graduates.

Parents and VHHS staff put a tremendous amount of time, passion and energy into each of these major events to ensure that they were well-organized and enjoyed by all. I am truly amazed by the numbers of people who came together and worked together throughout these events. Parents, buildings and grounds staff, teachers and support staff- the list could go

on and on— but a sincere thanks to all who participated! We all will miss the Untouchable Class of 2006 and wish them the best!

Construction Update

We have two major construction projects underway this summer. Work has already begun on varsity girls' dugouts and 10 tennis courts at the Vernon Hills Athletic Complex. Both projects should be completed by Aug. 10, 2006.

Lastly, don't forget two important dates- Freshman Orientation, Aug. 17 and the first day of school for students- Half Day, Aug. 23. The 2006-07 school year will be here before we know it!

**Vernon Hills High School 2006 Senior Honors**

Awards for Excellence in Department I  
Applied Technology Award  
Business Education Award  
Family and Consumer Sciences Award

**Kenneth Walus**  
**Julie Trione**  
**Natalie Plotkin**

Awards for Excellence in English  
Bill Weber English Scholar Award  
English as a Foreign Language Award  
**Lopez**

**Kristen Meylor**  
**Maria de la luz**

Awards for Excellence in Fine Arts

Art Award  
Band Award  
Choral Award  
Orchestra Award  
Theater Award

**Natalia Bulsza, Meiyu Chan**  
**Michael Lador**  
**Shaina Farwell**  
**Heidi Gosen**  
**Kristen Meylor**

Awards for Excellence in International Language

French Award  
German Award  
Latin Award  
Spanish Award

**Katharine Kleinhample**  
**Sarah Romberg**  
**Bryan Reid**  
**Kristen Meylor**

Award for Excellence in Mathematics

**Anjalika Gandhi**

Award for Excellence in Physical Welfare

**Bridget Matsunaga, Mitchell Koziol**

Award for Excellence in Science

**Anjalika Gandhi**

Award for Excellence in Social Studies

**Zeeshan Ali & Sara Stiles**

Continuum Yearbook Award

**Jessica Feld**

Scratching Post Award

**Mellissa Gonzalez, Lauren Hansen**

Production Services Award

**Christine Nadrowski**

TV Club Award

**Devon Kondziela**

Orchesis Award

**Anjalika Gandhi**

The Cast Fine Arts Award

**Cersten Brusenbach, Heidi Gosen, Sandy Kim, Katharine Leaver and Kristen Meylor**

Teachers' Choice Award for Mathematics **Neel Bhat**

Illinois Science Teachers' Association Award

**Paul Kornbluh**

Illinois State Scholars

**Jafar Abbas, Kevin Adelman, Zeeshan Ali, Bernadette Baba, Neel Bhat, Jacob Block, Jeffrey Boucher, Alex Brown, Brian Choi, Brian Chrysler, Hope Citron, Azam Farooqui, Shaina Farwell, Jessica Feld, Michael Fijalkiewicz, Laura Fine, Tim Fong, Eugene Galinovskiy, Anjalika Gandhi, Marc Gibson, Amanda Goldberg, Heidi Gosen, Lauren Hansen, Taia Hartman, Paul Kornbluh, Vyacheslav Kremerman, Carly Krizmanich, Michael Lador, Elizabeth Macy, Chelsea Magary, Michael Mazza, Craig McGrath, Kristen Meylor, Jason Mitchell, Amy Palace, Alayna Puccinelli, Goli Rahimi, Adam Ralph, Bryan Reid, Sarah Romberg, John Short, Zina Shulman, David Sievers, Eric Solomonson, Melinda Thommes, Anthony Ugaste, Elisa Visick, Rebecca Wolff, Kaitlyn Yule**

Outstanding First Class Leader Award

**Melba Campos, Kathryn Fisher**

National Honor Society Scholarship Award

**Natalia Bulsza, Yelena Khavkhalyuk, Caitlin Natsch, Sarah Romberg**

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## Student activities update

by Deb Beagle, VHHS Student Activities Coordinator

**Academic Bowl:** (Advisors: **Paul Kemp, Megan Geltner**) Varsity Academic Bowl had a 17-1 record, the best record in the North Suburban Conference. VHHS also won the IHSA Regional Championship.

**Anime Club:** (Advisor: **Monica Tolva**) Anime club ended the year with a Dance Dance Revolution contest. It was a great year, we look forward to seeing you in August.

**Art:** (Advisors: **Jim Savage, Stephanie Dahlstrom**) The following art students received blue ribbons at the NSC Art Festival at Round Lake High School: **Domina Chan, Kate Leaver, Natalia Bulsza, Nick Duncan, Cody Meltzer, Dave Jensen, Anna Gajcy, Jingyu Lee, Hajin Lee, and Jeremy Vavrik.**

The following art students participated in the 7th Annual Chicago Area 4x5 Art Exhibition at Fremd High School. Honorable Mention awards were won by **Nick Duncan, Amy Palace, Becky Wolff** and **David Jensen.** **Domina Chan** took first place in printmaking, first place in sculpture and first place in painting. **Natalia Bulsza** received Best in Show for her drawing. VHHS students took top honors in four of the five categories entered. This is the second year in a row that VHHS art students have received the highest honor for their work competing against over 40 different schools.

Congratulations to **Kate Leaver** for winning first place in sculpture and to **Vlada Mashkovich** for winning third place in graphic design at the Best of the Best art show! The Best of the Best show is a competition of 27 Chicago area schools.

**DECA:** (Advisor: **Sheryl Olson**) The following VHHS DECA members earned awards at the 2006 DECA Career Development Conference in Dallas: **Matt Kroes** and **Michael Stone** earned National Finalist Medallions placing them in the top 20 in the nation in the Hospitality & Recreation Marketing Research Event. **Tommy Bahnick, Max Friedenber,**

and **Rajee Harris** competed in the Entrepreneurship Promotion Plan Event and **Cody Meltzer** competed in the Entrepreneurship Participating - Independent Event, and all earned awards of excellence placing them in the top 25% at the conference! Illinois DECA State President **Max Friedenber** represented Illinois in the grand opening session, and conducted two Illinois State meetings during the conference. Congratulations!

**First Class:** (Advisor: **Tom Chinske**) First Class teamed up with the Student Assistance Program (SAP Coordinator **Margaret Pither**) for the VHHS Unity Fair, "Building Unity Through Diversity," held April 20. Students attended the fair during lunch and study periods. It took a lot of cooperation from many individuals and groups (clubs, activities, departments and community agencies) to make it all happen. The Fair was a wonderful celebration of diversity at VHHS.

**Interact:** (Advisor: **Kate Wicklander**) Interact planned the Senior Citizen Prom which was held on Tuesday, May 23 at The Park Retirement Community.

**Math Team:** (Advisors: **Cheryl Ballenger, Jim Locascio, Steve Korney**) The Math Team placed 7th overall in the state at the competition held at the University of Illinois. Special congratulations to **Liza Xu** who placed second in the state on the Algebra I test. Also, congratulations to the Algebra I team for placing second in the state, the Frosh/Soph 8-Person team for placing third, the Junior/Senior 8-Person team for placing 6th and the Geometry team for placing 7th. The Junior/Senior 2-Person team of **Anjalika Gandhi** and **Shaun Fernandes** placed 6th in the state and the Frosh/Soph Relay team of **Binet Lee, Max Candocia, Diana Chen** and **Evan Kozil** also placed 6th.

**Model United Nations:** (Advisor: **Frank Underbrink**) **Ryan Hamilton** won the Best Delegate award at the Model United Nations competition at St. Ignatius High School in Chicago. At the Model United Nations competition at the University of Illinois, **Filip Zucek** and **Nathaniel Olson** won the

highest awards given: Best Delegates and Outstanding Participation. **Ryan Hamilton** and **David Sievers** won the awards of Honorable Mention/Distinguished Participation.

**NHS:** (Advisor: **Wendy Meister-Louria**) NHS had a cell phone drive. The funds collected from old cell phones were donated to local charities and given as scholarships.

**Orchesis:** (Instructor: **Eryn Smith**) The Orchesis Dance Company held its 2006 Orchesis Performance, "Positive Space," on May 18 in the VHHS Auditorium. This performance featured jazz, tap, ballet, modern, hip-hop and Indian dance.

**Robotics Team:** (Advisor: **Jay Walgren**) The VHHS Robotics Team took first place in the final championship competition on March 18 at Abbott Laboratories against 11 teams! The Vernon Hills robotic engineers for the champion robot were juniors **Alan Xu, Dan Cho, Shaun Fernandes, Leo Serebryanny** and **Nisha Sutaria.** Congratulations to Varsity Robotics engineer **John Krippinger** for taking second place in the final championship competition of Abbott's pilot advanced robotics program.

**SPARK:** (Advisor: **Margaret Pither**) This spring, VHHS students and staff enjoyed red tulips in the courtyard outside the cafeteria that SPARK planted last year in honor of those affected by tobacco-related illnesses, and to spread the tobacco-free message. A Step Out Against Tobacco walk to honor those who have been the victims of tobacco-related illness took place Saturday, May 20 at Independence Grove.

### Student Council:

**Freshman Class Council:** (Advisors: **Rebecca Bellito, Carrie Jarvis**) On Friday, April 7, Student Council sponsored Hats On Day to support the Foundation for Children with Cancer. Students who bought stickers were able to wear their stickers and hats to school. The proceeds from the sticker sales went towards cancer research.

**Senior Class Council:** (Advisor: **Leslie Nardini**) *cont. on p. 16*

## Student activities *continued from page 15*

The fifth annual Mr. Cougar Contest was held on Saturday, April 22. Student Council Assistant **Peggy Cope** played a key role in organizing this event. The 10 contestants were **Neel Bhat, Vadim Glozman, Devon Kondziela, Josh Kurth, Jack Marshall, Craig McGrath, Grant Perkins, Jake Short, Tim Swiatowiec, and Travis Wohlrab**. Congratulations to **Jake Short** on being crowned Mr. Cougar 2006. Proceeds from this event contributed towards the senior class gift of letters on the press box, "*Home of the Cougars.*"

On Saturday, April 8, Student Council participated in Teen Relay For Life. Led by Senior **Kristen Adachi**, the Student Council team was able to raise \$1,400 for cancer research. Participants were **Kristen Adachi, Laura Fine, Kelsey Kind, Michelle Krueger, Scott Venus, Kim Klages, Maddie Silverstein, Maddie Kleinhample, Kayla Kiram, Ariel Block and A.K. Kalantzis**. Other VHHS teams and students were also there including girls' varsity soccer and NHS. At least one member from our team walked between 7pm-7am. It was remarkable to see these students work together for a common cause.

### Special Olympics: (Advisor: **Andy Compton**)

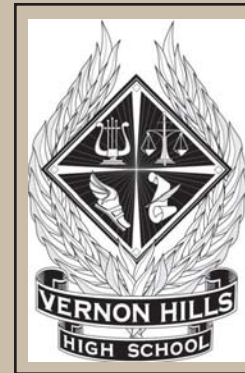
Congratulations to the Special Olympics Basketball Team members who walked away with the bronze medal from the state basketball tournament in Bloomington. Team members included **Katie Ulwelling, Ashley Telling, Anne Jennings, Doug Ardito and Robert Borgula** from LHS and **Mitchell Koziol** from VHHS. Also, **Francis Padoan** of VHHS placed 5th in the Individual Skills Contest. Our Special Olympics Team competed in track and powerlifting at the Area Games on Sunday, April 23, at North Central College in Naperville and in our Area Bocce Tournament on the following Saturday in Batavia. Fourteen of our athletes competed against the best in our area for the right to represent our area and District 128 at the upcoming State Summer Games. As a result, our athletes compiled one of their most successful weeks in District 128 Special Olympics history, winning 26 gold, eight silver, five bronze medals and 11 ribbons. A record 12 athletes will participate in the State Summer Games, in Bloomington. Special congratulations to VHHS students **Mitchell Koziol** and **Francis Padoan**. Mitchell took a gold in each of the following and qualified for state: bench press, deadlift, combined deadlift and bench press, and unified bocce. Francis took 4th place in singles bocce. We are extremely proud of both of them.

**VH<sub>2</sub>O (Environmental Club):** (Advisors: **Kedric Greenawalt, Pat Nora, Lynne Shenk**) VH<sub>2</sub>O sponsored its second annual campus clean-up on Saturday, April 29. Members picked up trash, weeded and refreshed mulch around the school. VH<sub>2</sub>O members **Angela Keena, Anjali Patel, Amy Shen, Claire Snyder and Sara Thome** placed 2nd in Lake County at the Northeastern Illinois Envirothon on April 7. The Envirothon is sponsored by nine Illinois counties' Soil and Water Conservation Districts. Students competed in four events: Water Stewardship, Forestry, Soil and Wildlife. This was the club's *cont. on p. 17*

## Spotlight clubs donates to LaCASA



Members of the VHHS Spotlight Club presented a check for \$1,500 to LaCASA. The money was raised during its annual fashion show. Club members and advisors are seen above at the check presentation. (photo by M. Todoric)



## Attention VHHS Class of 2010

Mark your calendars for  
**Freshman Orientation**

Thursday, August 17, 2006

8:00 a.m. to 10:00 a.m.

(Buses will be provided)

Presentation Entertainment Tours

More information regarding Freshman Orientation will follow in the August mailing. Questions? Call **Marla Pierce** at 847.932.2002

## Student activities *continued from page 16*

first opportunity to participate. VH<sub>2</sub>O has been able to increase the amount of material VHHS recycles throughout this past school year. The success of this can be contributed to a team effort of the VHHS students, staff, members of VH<sub>2</sub>O and VHHS Building and Grounds Department. Thank you for supporting our recycling program.

**WYSE:** (Advisor: **Josh Ravenscraft**) The WYSE team captured the third place state trophy at the University of Illinois Academic Challenge. The team competed against 15 other varsity teams as well as individual students from 28 different high schools. Taking home individual medals are **Paul Kornbluh**, 2nd place math and 4th place physics; **Elisa Visick**, 5th place English; **Jacob Block**, 4th place physics and 6th place computer science; **Andrey Dolinko**, 2nd place biology; and **Omar Hassan**, 4th place biology.

### Additional News . . .

#### Character Matters in Lake County 2005-2006 Excellence in

**Character Award:** Congratulations to **Andrea Liu!** Andrea is the VHHS recipient of the Character Matters in Lake County 2005-2006 Excellence in Character Award, sponsored by the Lake County Regional Office of Education.

#### Sociology Class – (Pam Dircks) “Cleaning out and Chipping in”

The VHHS sociology classes, led by teacher Pam Dircks, organized a donation drive for the Vernon Area Pantry to help students in our community. They organized a collection of new or lightly used binders, spirals, backpacks and folders as well as hundreds of pens, pencils and other school items.

**Cody the Cougar** – Look to see Cody the Cougar at the Vernon Hills 4th of July Parade. **Jeff Sas**, graduate of the recent Class of 2006, will help make this happen.

## ESP staff awards scholarships

The VHHS ESP staff were pleased to award two scholarships to members of the class of 2006. **Zeeshan Ali** and **Natalia Bulsza** were recipients of the VHHS ESP Social Committee Scholarships that were given at the annual VHHS Honors Assembly.

## Special thanks to 2006 senior party contributors

The 2005-2006 Senior Party Committee would like to take this opportunity to thank our VHHS Senior Party Supporters. Your donations helped us to host the best party ever! The students and committee members agree that the following people and places deserve to be recognized for their help:

Abboreno Family	Ron Celnik	Franks for the Memories	Libertyville Bank & Trust
Ace Hardware	Centre Club	Garden Fresh	Libertyville Florist
ADIO Chiropractic	Chase Bank	The Gift Connection	Libertyville Mem. Post#8741
Affiliated Dental Specialists	Chicago Rush	Ginakakis Family	Lincolnshire Marriott Theatre
Agony of DeFeet	Chicago Street Pizza	Goduco Family Dentistry	Mabis Healthcare
Allstate Insurance	Chipotle	Glacier Ice Arena	Ellen Macy
American Hotel Register	Circuit City	Grill 21	Maldonado Family
Angelo's	Katherine Clark	Harris Bank	Mambo Italiano
Anna's Hallmark	Peggy Cope	Taia Hartman	Matsunaga Family
Sharon Arbiture	Complete Orthopaedic	Hawthorn Lanes	Mazza Family
Artistic Hair Design	Container Store	Hawthorn Suites Ltd.	McDonald's
Bagels by the Book	Costume Shop of Waukegan	Sandy Hayward	Memories
Bavaro Hair	Cougar Parent Connection	Hooters	Pam Meylor
Baxter Credit Union	Countryside Fire Dept.	Hunan Chinese	Debbie Milarski
Bed, Bath, & Beyond	Creative Centerpieces	IHOP	Mitsubishi Electric Automation
Best Buy	Cub Foods	Al Janulis/VHHS Athletics	My Girlfriend's Closet
Bill's Pizza & Pub	Cuneo Museum	Journey's End	Nail Art
Ewa Blizniak	Monika Czechak	Kaisers	Nikko's
Bob Chinn's	Dominick's	Kerosotes Theatres	OPA Estiatorio
Boucher Family	Dover Straits	Kim's Korean Food	Philly G's
Dr. Scott Brenner	Duh Family	Kraft	Power Family
Buffalo Wild Wings	Edible Arrangements	Krispy Kreme	Quizno's
Dr. Paul Burkey	EMS Real Estate	Kubacki Family	Joy Ralph/
Capasso Family	Ernie's Wrecker Service	LaRosa	Mary Kay Cosmetics
Caribou Coffee	ETA Cuisenaire	LA Tan	Reilly Family
CDW	Fast Frame	Lehman Family	

*cont. on p. 24*

## Senior honors *continued from page 14*

- Student Council Outstanding Service Award  
**Kristen Adachi, Caitlin Natsch**
- Cougar Pride Coaches' Award  
**Kelsey Anderson, Michael Mazza**
- Senior Scholar-Athlete Award  
**Michael Fijalkiewicz, Alayna Puccinelli**
- Outstanding Senior Athlete Award  
**Vincent DeFrancesco, Alyssa Wilson**
- American Association of University Women Award for Academic Excellence  
**Lauren Hansen**
- Century 21 Kreuser & Seiler Award  
**Natalia Bulsza**
- Chick Evans Caddie Scholarship  
**Vyacheslav Kremerman**
- CLC Superintendent's Scholarship  
**Michael Gabriel, Maria de la luz Lopez**
- Erwin Einhorn Student Council Award  
**Sara Stiles**
- Illinois General Assembly Legislative Scholarship 30th District  
**Ashley Amidei, Alayna Puccinelli**
- Mundelein/Vernon Hills Rotary Scholarship  
**Donna Goldshteyn**
- VFW Americanism Award  
**Jeffrey Boucher**
- Chicago Tribune* Academic Team      **Anjalika Gandhi**
- Daily Herald* 2006 Academic Team      **Anjalika Gandhi**
- Daily Herald* 2005-06 Leadership Team      **Kristen Meylor**

## General Scholarships

- VHHS ESP Social Committee Scholarship **Zeeshan Ali, Natalia Bulsza**
- District 128 Federation of Teachers VHHS Future Teacher Scholarship  
**Kristen Meylor**
- Joyce Kolton Scholarship Award for Academic Excellence Community Service and Leadership  
**Caitlin Natsch**
- James R. Whittington Principal's Leadership Award  
**Caitlin Natsch**

National Merit Scholarship Finalists:  
Commended:

**Anjalika Gandhi  
Elisa Visick  
Marc Gibson**

Honors Graduates:

**Zeeshan Ali, Neel Bhat, Jeffrey Boucher, Brian Chrysler, Hope Citron, Michael Fijalkiewicz, Laura Fine, Timothy Fong, Anjalika Gandhi, Lauren Hansen, Paul Kornbluh, Elizabeth Macy, Michael Mazza, Craig McGrath, Kristen Meylor, Amy Palace, Alayna Puccinelli, Goli Rahimi, Sarah Romberg, Zina Shulman, Eric Solomonson, Elisa Visick**

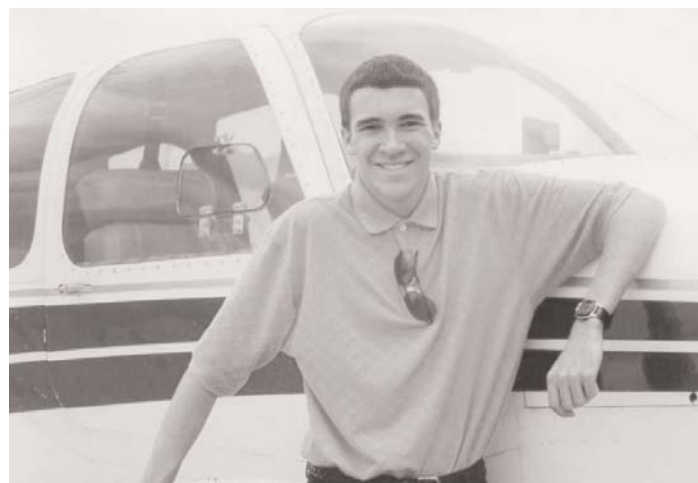
Salutatorian

**Goli Rahimi**

Valedictorian

**Anjalika Gandhi**

## VHHS grad earns flight instructor license on first attempt



When **Marc Gibson** left VHHS in January of 2006 as an early graduate, he had one goal in mind. Marc achieved his goal on March 26 when he earned his commercial pilot license and on April 19 when he earned his flight instructor license. While many people pass a flight exam, it is rare to pass it on a first attempt. Rarer yet, is to pass the rigorous exam at such an early age. Marc is estimated as being one of the youngest licensed flight instructors in the country.

Marc currently is giving flight lessons at Palwaukee Airport in Wheeling. He will begin classes at Lake Forest College in the fall, and after earning his bachelor's degree plans to become a commercial airline pilot.

Since he was 8 years old, Marc had an interest in computer flight simulators. He flew a plane for the first time at 11 when he went up in a plane owned by a family friend. "That was when the bug really bit," said his mom, **Lynn Gibson**. Marc is pictured above posing in front of the airplane used to earn his flight instructor license shortly after learning that he passed his exam. (*photo courtesy of L. Gibson*)

## Athletic Director's Corner

by *Tim Albers, LHS Athletic Director*

The Newsom Award is one of the most prestigious athletic awards that is presented to our outstanding senior male and female athletes. The award was first given in 1928 by Mr. Newsom. Mr. Newsom was the owner of the local lumber company, civic chairman of the homecoming parade and a person who had a love for the high school and especially the athletic programs. The award is based not only on athletic accomplishments, but also on leadership, character and loyalty as well as academic success in the classroom.

LHS head coaches nominate individuals for the award. All assistant coaches receive the nomination list and are asked to provide information as well. A seven-member committee is formed and is responsible for gathering as much information in the school and out of the school about the nominees. The committee meets on several occasions to discuss the candidates and then eventually votes on them.

The two outstanding athletes receive a plaque and a framed letter detailing their accomplishments. They also will have their pictures mounted across from the athletic office with all of the former Newsom Award winners to remain as a part of the school's athletic history.

This year's female award winner, **Casey Herman**, was a three-sport athlete for four years, was a state qualifier in track and in diving, and also participated in gymnastics. She was an All-State diver her senior year. Here is what her coaches say about her:

Gymnastics Coach **Curt Austin** stated, "Her tremendous work ethic provided excellent leadership for our team. She inspired a high level of sportsmanship and teamwork in the gym."

Swimming Coach **Maggie Casteleyn** had this to say, "She helped to ensure continuity and cohesiveness with the entire swimming and diving team."

Track Coach **Harry Carlson** stated, "She is as hard a worker as we have had who has progressed very well into an outstanding athlete, leader and pole vaulter. She has demonstrated leadership skills as a captain in three different sports."

The male Newsom Award winner, **Michael Culberson-Fehling**, was a two-sport athlete for four years, participating in football and basketball. He was the captain of the football team and an All-Conference football player, earning a scholarship to Bowling Green University. He also was an NSC All-Conference Honorable Mention player in basketball. He has served as a North Suburban Conference leader and also an NSC student facilitator for the annual athletic leadership conference attended by over 500 athletes.

Football Coach **Randy Kuceyeski** said of him, "He has been a solid performer on our varsity football team for the past two years. He is a hard working individual who rarely left the field in 2005. He is a player we could trust on and off the field and never took a play off during practice or during our games. He played wherever we asked him to play without questions. He is extremely coachable."

Basketball Coach **Scott Bogumil** stated, "He is a good leader and role model both on and off the field. He always gives you 100% effort and makes those around him better. He is the consummate teammate. He was a pleasure to coach and could be trusted. He was respected by all of his teammates and players with whom he competed against. He is very, very deserving of the award."

## Wildcat three-sport athletes for 2005-06

Seniors: **John Danilkowicz, Vincent Sapienza, Spencer Yetman, Tracy Branding, Casey Herman, Nicole Notaro**

Juniors: **Robert Boatman, Steven Clow, Joshua Johnson, Ryan Kennedy, Justin Martin, Nicholas Wilcox, Kimberly Bruett, Katherine Chickey, Lauren Heimert, Carolynne Kruckman, Mary Therese Lee, Milena Savatic, Allyn Yarc**

Sophomores: **Joseph Aiello, James Babowice, Richard Danilkowicz, Zachary Fowler, Leland Gough, Robert Griffiths, Jacob Hogan, Blake Indart, Jordan Kincaid, Joshua Kincaid, Karl Mamat, Reed McCann, James Palac, Geoffrey Revis, Alexander Rhind, Brandon Rhoades, Christopher Risley, Zachary Sesterhenn, Amanda Adams, Brooke Beres, Lisa Branding, Leigha Bystol, Kimberly Curschman, Casey Dugan, Alissa Haws, Brittany Laine, Kaitlin Larson, Carissa Notaro, Kathryn Peterson, Taylor Potts, Hannah Rodbro, Kristen Schmitt, Amanda Sheaffer, Alexandra Swanson, Megan Wood,**

Freshmen: **John Andrews, Michael Barbosa-Gomez, Thomas Behringer, Joshua Bricker, Patrick Callan, Ashton Coulson, Jonathon Darling, Matthew Easton, Michael Jensen, Kevin Johns, Blake Lawrence, Daniel Lemm, Kyle Manolovic, Adam Quinn, Michael Rinella, Campbell Stemper, Michael Styler, Eric Tassler, Brian Taylor, Joshua Trees, Diego Vega, Yuriy Velichkin, Kevin Wolf, Gregory Wood, Angelica Barbosa-Gomez, Julie Gilkison, Christina Janczak, Jessica LaRoi, Elizabeth MacNair, Alexis Mientus, Maureen O'Connor, Mary Stewart, Katherine Tunncliff, Callan Turner, Haley Walton, Hannah Walton, Lucille White, Katherine Woldridge, Mackenzie Yukus.**

## Varsity teams receive IHSA Academic Achievement Award

The IHSA gives a Varsity Team Academic Achievement Award for any IHSA varsity athletic team that has a cumulative grade point average of 3.0 or better on a 4.0 scale. The team average must include all varsity team members grade point averages. Seven out of 12 LHS spring teams achieved this award in 2006. They are:

Girls' Track	3.76 GPA
Girls' Soccer	3.33 GPA
Baseball	3.02 GPA
Boys' Volleyball	3.07 GPA
Boys' Tennis	3.229 GPA
Girls' Water Polo	3.38 GPA
Softball	3.18 GPA

## NSC Spring All-Academic Athletes

Baseball: **Joe Bowens, Mike Boyle, Matt Dittman, Brian Whartnaby, David Woodbridge**

Boys' Gymnastics: **Aaron Austin, Justin Martin, Sean Somers, Brendan Steffens, Joshua Swenson**

Boys' Lacrosse: **Perry Landers, Kyle Weiland**

Girls' Lacrosse: **Kayla Baker, Kelli Bosak, Erica Johnston, Patricia Marra, Roseanne Overton, Shannon Wealthier, Janna Werley**

Softball: **Kristen Bosak, Lauren Formica, Kari Guarnaccio, Carolynne Kruckman**

Girls' Soccer: **Hanna Kruckman, Brittney Larsen, Emily Mayer, Ashley Wagener**

Boys' Tennis: **John Friestedt, Wook Hur, Taylor Kraemer, Jackson Lai, Ketan Nadkarni, Vivek Raman, Jay Schneider,**

Boys' Track: **Steven Branham, Ryan Castle, Lee Elrod, Tyler Haws, John Howard, Brent Kalman, Josh Schweigert**

Girls' Track: **Mae Armer, Tracy Branding, Kellie Donoghue, Elise Fletcher, Kristi Ganz, Sarah Green, Jackie Hamlin, Casey Herman, Katherine Jarosz, Lena Michel, Emily Peterson, Colleen Ross, Karen Sesterhenn, Casey Splinter, Nicole Szulc-Cieplicki, Emma Telling**

Boys' Volleyball: **Ryan Everding, Jeffrey Hendricks, Charles Huse, Robert Leu, Elliott San**

Boys' Water Polo: **Ben Leboza**

Girls' Water Polo: **Nicole Coton, Catherine Eschbach, Stephanie Handcock, Julie Margolis, Milena Savatic, Rachel Sparks, Kristy Treven**

## Wildcats earn athletic scholarships

Three LHS student athletes recently received college athletic scholarships. **Matt Dittman** has signed to play baseball at the University of Illinois. **Ben Leboza** will swim and play water polo at University of Bucknell in Pennsylvania. **Josh Schweigert** will run cross country and track at Indiana Wesleyan University.

## Spring NSC All-Conference Athletes

Baseball: **Josh Albers** – All-Area Honorable Mention; **Chris Andrews** – All-Area Honorable Mention; **Matt Dittman** – All-Area, All-State

Boys' Gymnastics: *Boys' gymnastics is not recognized as an NSC sport. You must have at least half of the teams in the conference competing to be considered all conference. Currently, only three teams in the NSC compete in boys' gymnastics.*

**Aaron Austin** – All-State Vault; **Erich Schmitz** – All-State Vault

Boys' Lacrosse: **Perry Landers, Curt Pritchard**

Girls' Lacrosse: **Kayla Baker** – All-State Honorable Mention; **Katie Lazar; Mary Therese Lee; Pauline Ripchik; Janna Werley**

Girls' Soccer: **Brenna Bohl** – All-Area, All-Sectional Honorable Mention; **Brittney Larsen** – All-Area, All-Sectional Honorable Mention; **Ana Herbert** – All-Area, All-Sectional

Softball: **Gina DeMarco**

Boys' Volleyball: **Chris Jacobson, Dan Priest**

Boys' Water Polo: **Ben Leboza, Danny LeJeune**

Girls' Water Polo: **Nicole Coton** – 2nd Team All-Sectional; **Rachel Sparks** – 2nd Team All-Sectional

**NSC All-Conference Honorable Mention Athletes**  
Baseball: **Ryan Kennedy**

Softball: **Katie Larson, Katy Pfund**

Girls' Soccer: **Kim Bruett** – All-Area Honorable Mention; **Ally Yarc** – All-Area Honorable Mention

Boys' Volleyball: **Elliott San**

Boys' Water Polo: **Chris Whaley**

Girls' Water Polo: **Catherine Eschbach** – Honorable Mention All-Sectional

*cont. on p. 24*

## VHHS Spring Sports Individual Awards 2006

### Baseball

**Vince DeFrancesco** All-North Suburban Conference  
**Steve Gorski** All-North Suburban Conference  
**Nick Morreale** All-North Suburban Conference  
**Travis Wohlrab** All-North Suburban Conference  
 Honorable Mention

### Girls' Lacrosse

**Kelsey Anderson** All-Conference, All-State  
**Katie Griffin** All-Conference

### Girls' Soccer

**Cori Beard** All-North Suburban Conference, All-Sectional Selection, All-Area Selection,  
*Daily Herald*

**Lauren Clatch** All-North Suburban Conference  
 Honorable Mention

**Kristen Contos** All-Area Honorable Mention, *Daily Herald*

**Katherine Guglielmi** All-North Suburban Conference  
 Honorable Mention, All-Area Honorable Mention, *Daily Herald*

**Laura Nardini** All-North Suburban Conference, All-Sectional, All-Area Selection,  
*Daily Herald*

**Lauren Redig** All-North Suburban Conference,  
 All-Area Honorable Mention,  
*Daily Herald*

**Michelle Thorstad** All-North Suburban Conference, All-Sectional Honorable Mention, All-Area,  
*Daily Herald*

**Kaitlyn Yule** All-North Suburban Conference, All-Area Honorable Mention, *Daily Herald*

### Girls' Water Polo

**Jessica Feld** All-North Suburban Conference  
 Honorable Mention, All-Sectional -2nd Team

**Melanie Lecaroz** All-Sectional Honorable Mention  
**Kelly Steininger** All-Sectional Honorable Mention

### Boys' Water Polo

**Junaid Basadien** All-North Suburban Conference  
 Honorable Mention, All-Sectional -2nd Team

**Ryan McKeown** All-Sectional Honorable Mention  
**Robert Wood** All-Sectional Honorable Mention

### Boys' Track & Field

**Mahmoud Bahrani** All-North Suburban Conference 4th Place Medalist (1600 M Run), All-Sectional 4th Place Medalist (3200 Run)  
**Eric Fettner** All-North Suburban Conference 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Medalist (Pole Vault), All-North Suburban Conference 5th Place Medalist (110M Hurdles), All-Sectional 2nd Place Medalist (Pole Vault)

**Wes Sheldon** All-Sectional 2nd Place Medalist (800M Run)

**Zach Wheeler** All-North Suburban Conference 6th

Place Medalist (Pole Vault), All-Sectional 5th Place Medalist (Pole Vault)

### Girls' Track & Field

**Danielle Dickman** All-North Suburban Conference  
 Champion (3200 Run), All-North Suburban Conference 5th Place Medalist (1600 Run), All-Sectional 4th Place Medalist (3200 Run)

**Jessica Price** All-North Suburban Conference 4th Place Medalist (100M Dash), All-North Suburban Conference 2nd Place Medalist (200M Dash), All-Sectional 5th Place Medalist (100M Dash)

**Lauren Rucks** All-North Suburban Conference 4th Place Medalist (Shot Put), IHSA Sectional 5th Place Medalist (Shot Put)

### Boys' Tennis

**Jingyu Lee** All-North Suburban Conference 4th Place Medalist (3rd Doubles)

**Nate Tano** All-North Suburban Conference 4th Place Medalist (3rd Doubles)

### Softball

**Jackie Allen** All-North Suburban Conference  
 Honorable Mention

**Heather Gray** All-North Suburban Conference,  
 All-Area, *Daily Herald*

**Bridget Matsunaga** All-North Suburban Conference  
 All-Area, *Daily Herald*

**Anne Unterfenger** All-North Suburban Conference  
**Alyssa Wilson** All-North Suburban Conference, All-Area, *Daily Herald*

### Boys' Volleyball

**Alex Blizniak** All-North Suburban Conference  
 Honorable Mention, All-Area Honorable Mention, *Daily Herald*  
**Bob Coy** All-North Suburban Conference, All-Area, *Daily Herald*

**Scott Golden** All-North Suburban Conference, All-Area, *Daily Herald* All-State Honorable Mention, *Chicago Tribune*

**David Isaacson** All-North Suburban Conference, All-Area Honorable Mention, *Daily Herald*

**Herman Lynn** All-Area Honorable Mention,  
*Daily Herald*

## Cougar featured athletes: Cougars for a Cure

by Alan Janulis, Athletic Director

The spring of 2006 was very successful for the athletic program, with our Cougar sport teams finishing an unofficial fifth out of the 14 North Suburban Conference schools in terms of overall successes. Selecting a featured athlete for this issue proved to be difficult; All-Stater **Nick Morreale's** being viewed as a major league baseball prospect (in late May he was drafted in the 46th round by the Philadelphia Phillies); **Wes Sheldon** placing in the Boys' State Final 800 meter run two consecutive years; the tremendous accomplishments of **Alyssa Wilson** over her tenure at VHHS in three sports in addition to her helping in her spare time by working in the training room; our entire girls' softball program, the freshman team going 22-1, the JV's with a winning record, and the varsity team capturing the Prairie Division, as well as the North Suburban Conference Championship title, accumulating a season record of 23-7.

The successes of our current student body on the spring athletic fields of competition don't tell the whole story, however. As Dr. Cwick told the Cougar class of 2006 when they left the building for the last time as high school students, "Remember, you will always be a Cougar. May the blue and silver of the Cougars be embodied in your soul and be a part of your life." Our school community extends far beyond the current student body. We first look in one direction at our Vernon Hills Cougar Youth Athletic Association with its foot-

ball, basketball, baseball, cheerleading and softball feeder programs all sporting the Cougar blue and silver to see what we can anticipate in the next few years, then in the other direction at our adult community to look at other Cougar successes.

Perhaps the most successful spring initiative was completed neither by the current student body, nor by the soon-to-be-Cougars, but by the adult Cougar community. Ten Cougar moms just a few weekends ago donned their *Cougars for a Cure* game jerseys and participated in Chicago's Avon Walk for Breast Cancer, a two-day event through the city, with each team member walking 39.3 miles (that's a marathon and a half). Members of the winning team included **Susan Corrado, Marci Baruch, Judie Paar, Nancy Redig-Baker, Kathy Peterson, Cindy Mazza, Ivy Winston, Kathy Catanzaro, Judy Gorski, and Lora DeMasi**. The Cougar team alone exceeded their goal and all together raised over \$26,000 in pledges for their labors. The 3,600 participants in total raised over \$8.2 million for this cause. Team Captain **Susan Corrado** first became involved four years ago and completed her first event when honoring a close friend's mother. Preparing for this year's event, she wrote to other friends, "I've joined with a team of women to encourage one another and support this cause – we are 'Cougars for a Cure.' The statistics conservatively state that 1 in 8 women will get breast cancer. In these past few years, I have come to meet more and more women who have battled this disease – some successfully and others not. I have come to ask myself, as I look around a gathering of my family, my friends, even moms on my kids' teams – who's next? These thoughts overwhelm me."

"Preparation for the two-day walking event was very different than training for the marathon," cites veteran marathoner **Kathy Catanzaro**. "Walking is more time consuming than running and after completing a full marathon on Saturday, we needed to be prepared to walk another 13.1 on Sunday. Because of this, we needed to do long mileage on back-to-back days during our training. This monopolized many of our weekends during the month of May (*I am trying to convince my teammates that they would enjoy doing a marathon and completing the race in less than 6 hours. I am willing to hook them up with the charity of their choice but I have no takers to date! As the Chicago marathon is closed for 2006, they have time to think about it!*)."

The level of commitment, energy, perseverance and training required to enlist and complete such a worthwhile challenge itself speaks to the character of this team. The fact that the team chose "*Cougars for a Cure*" makes us all proud. Every member of each of our student athletic teams would be well served to emulate the model set by their elders whenever they wear the Cougar colors. Congratulations on a job well done!



The Cougars for a Cure team pauses for a photo in Chicago. Team members are (back row) **Judie Paar, Cindy Mazza, Susan Corrado, Nancy Redig-Baker, Kathy Catanzaro, Judy Gorski, Lora DeMasi,** (front row) **Ivy Winston, Marci Baruch, Kathy Peterson** (photo courtesy of *Cougars for the Cure*)

## LHS Spring team accomplishments

The athletic department congratulates the spring athletes and coaches on a very successful season. It has been an exciting sports season, with over 650 participants in our 12 spring athletic programs. Just a few of the many accomplishments included:

- 70 athletes named NSC All-Academic
- 20 athletes named NSC All-Conference
- 8 athletes named NSC All-Conference Honorable Mention
- 33 athletes were NSC Medalists
- 14 Individual State Qualifiers
- 8 athletes earned All-State Honors
- 1 athlete earned All-State Honorable Mention
- 2 teams were IHSA Sectional Champions – Boys' Gymnastics & Boys' Track
- 1 team placed at State – Boys Gymnastics / 3rd place
- 93 Three-Sport Individual Athletes

## Spring 2006 Sports Team Summary

**Baseball:** 5th Place NSC Lake; **Matt Dittman** – All-Area & All-State Catcher; **Josh Albers** – All-Area Honorable Mention; **Chris Andrews** – All-Area Honorable Mention

**Boys' Gymnastics:** Independent Conference Champions; IHSA Sectional Champions; IHSA State Tournament – 3rd-place Finish; **Aaron Austin** – All-State Vault; **Erich Schmitz** – All-State Vault

**Boys' Lacrosse:** Won 1st round play-off game

**Girls' Lacrosse:** 3rd place GLX Conference

**Girls' Soccer:** 6th NSC Conference; **Brenna Bohl** – All-Area; **Brittney Larsen** – All Area; **Ana Herbert** – All-Area; **Kim Bruett** – All-Area Honorable Mention; **Ally Yarc** – All-Area Honorable Mention

**Softball:** Regional Finalist

**Boys' Tennis:** 2nd NSC Conference; **Nick Boulieris** – NSC Conference Champion, State Qualifier, All State

**Boys' Track:** Sectional Champions; 4 x 800 Relay Team – 7th Place All-State (**Justin Hansen, Jack Howard, Tim Taylor, Josh Schweigert**); **Ryan Castle** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier; **Baggio Husidic** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier; **Logan Meyer** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier; **Nicco Terry** – State Qualifier

**Girls' Track:** 5th Place NSC

**Boys' Volleyball:** 7th Place NSC

**Boys' Water Polo:** 3rd Place NSC

**Girls' Water Polo:** 3rd Place NSC

**Special Olympics:** Our athletes have competed in bowling, snowshoeing, basketball and track. A record 15 athletes qualified for the state summer games held at the University of Illinois. We will be competing in swimming, bocce, power lifting and track. A record nine athletes qualified for the state Winter Games held at Galena, Ill. where 17 of the 21 District 128 athletes qualified for state events. We will lose a few of our wonderful athletes to graduation this year, but we do have many talented young individuals returning to us.

## LHS Poms announce new coach and squad members for 2006-07



Libertyville High School has announced its 2006-07 varsity poms squad. The squad members are **Jessica LaRoi, Karyn LaRoi** (captain), **Alex Bowles, Nicole Richardson, Lauren Johnson, Grace Douglass, Kathryn Windmuller, Lauren Primrose, McKenzie Kramer, Megan Wales, Kelsey Burke, Ali Witucki, Lisa Branding, Meghan Copeland, Brittany Wunsch** (captain), **Stephanie Marsh, Allison Hudson, Sarah Janousek, Amy Cacich** and **Casey Dugan** (co-captain). The squad is coached by **Brenda Romito**. Coach Romito is an LHS graduate and holds a BA in dance from Columbia College. She has choreographed and coached competitive dance teams for more than five years. This is her first year coaching the LHS squad. (photo courtesy of the LHS Poms)

## New VHHS 2006-07 Poms prepare for a busy season



Members of the 2006-07 VHHS Pom Pon Squad gathered on June 11 for a family barbecue prior to their first practice on June 12. The squad will practice throughout June, July, and August to prepare for the Vernon Hills 4th of July parade, summer camp, and the football season. The squad will practice and perform through March 2007, after completion of the boys' basketball season and the state pom competition. Members of the squad are **Brooke Davis, Amanda Baittie, Danielle Squires, Michelle Jozwiak, Courtney Cummings, Cassidy Blair, Meredith Barack, Tara Jennings, Lauren Redig, Jessica Handy, Tierney Darden, Lexi Hernandez, Melissa Jozwiak, Jamie Michel, Brooke Ericksen, Danielle Rizzo, Ashton Blair, Briana Spinell, Vanessa Nagel, Samantha Wagner**. The team is coached by **Brittany Henley**. Coach Henley, in her second year of coaching the squad, will be teaching mathematics at both LHS and VHHS this fall. She was a member of the LHS pom squad and is a University of Illinois graduate. (photo by A. Galatte)

## LHS Spring All-Conference Athletes *cont. from p. 20*

### LHS NSC Conference Medal Winners Spring 2006

**Boys' Tennis:** **Nick Boulieris** – #1 Singles / 1st / All-State; **Ketan Nadkarni** - #2 Singles / 2nd; **Vivek Raman & Jimmy Zimmerman** - #1 Doubles / 5th; **Chris Lou & Taylor Kraemer** - #2 Doubles / 3rd

**Boys' Track:** **Max Bellmore; Ryan Castle** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier; **Jack Howard** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier, All-State 4 x 800 Relay; **Justin Hansen** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier, All-State 4 x 800 Relay; **Lee Terry-Hemphill; Baggio Husidic** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier; **Ben Heupel; Ross Johnson; Brent Kalman; Logan Meyer** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier; **Josh Schweigert** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier, All-State 4 x 800 Relay; **Tim Taylor** – Sectional Champion, State Qualifier, All-State 4 x 800 Relay; **Nicco Terry** – State Qualifier; **Doug True**

**Girls' Track:** **Lisa Branding** – 3200 & 1600; **MaryAnn Buttitta** – 800 Relay; **Alyssa Corrigan** – 3200 Relay; **Katherine Filippo** – 800; **Jackie Hamlin** – 800 Medley; **Casey Herman** – Pole Vault; **Katie Jarosz** – Shot Put; **Maureen Jones**, 800 Relay & 800 Medley; **Monika Kaechele** – 800 Relay & 800 Medley; **Clea Marsh** – High Jump; **Hannah Reilly** – 3200 Relay; **Anne Strychalski** – 3200 Relay; **Nicole Szulc-Cieplicki** – 800 Relay & 800 Medley

## LHS Party Contributors *cont. from p. 13*

Saxelby Family, Semmelman & Semmelman, William Shannon, Shear Attitude, Simpson Granite Works, Slender Lady Tanning, Starbucks, Studio West, Sunset Foods - Libertyville, Supercuts, T&S Enterprise, Tavern on the Town, Touche Hair Salon, Tripoli's (Butcher Shop), Mr. and Mrs. Ron Turner, VFW - Libertyville, Viccino's, Whaley Family, David and Marilyn Whiting, Wa-Pa-Ghetti's, Washington National Bank, Wendy's, Terry Wepler, Wild Bird Center Libertyville Red Top, Wildberry, YaYa's Boutique, Zengeler Cleaners

## VHHS Party Contributors *cont. from p. 17*

RHD Construction, State Rep. Kathy Ryg, Sam's Club, Silk Mandarin, Smoothie On Over, Spice Bazaar, Sports 11, Sports Authority, Jeff Steingart, STS Consultants, Sunset Foods, T.G.I. Friday's, Susan Thoennes, Ulta, VHPD-Laschen Comm. Center, Village of Vernon Hills, Wa-Pa-Ghetti's, Westfield Shoppingtown Mall, WhirlyBall, Wild Bird Center, Rob Will, Greg Yonan/Coldwell Banker, Yummy's, Zaczek Family, Zizic & Salata Cosmetic Dentistry

**Front Cover:** (clockwise from upper left) World War II Veteran **Jim Zale** receives congratulations from Board of Education President **Anne Landgraf** after receiving his honorary diploma from LHS and VHHS; The LHS Valedictorian addresses her fellow graduates; A VHHS graduate speaks at the graduation ceremony; An LHS graduate proudly receives her diploma from Board of Education member Dennis Ryan; VHHS seniors pose for a photo at the VHHS honors assembly; VHHS teacher **Leslie Nardini** pauses for a photo with a graduate before the June 8 graduation ceremony. (*photos by M. Todoric*)



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