

HILLTOPPER HIGHLIGHTS

2004-2005 Achievement and Excellence

Westmont Hilltop Education Association Top Ten Awards

Students who rank academically in the Top Ten of their graduating class are acknowledged with an individual plaque courtesy of the school district's teachers through the Westmont Hilltop Education Association. Each student will also receive a Board of Education Treasurer's Award, a \$100 savings bond. This award was initiated by Mrs. Karen Azer, supported by Dr. Robert Zellers, and sustained by Dr. Daniel Meenan, present treasurer. The names of the following students will be inscribed on a plaque on permanent display in the lobby.

Lauren Grey Borsa
April Michele Bukoski
Sara Ann Burnheimer
Francis Russell Eanes
Sander Barkley Frank
Jenna Marie Lusk
Priya Narahari
Justin Matthew Orlosky
Katelyn Jo Polantz
Danielle Christine Pozun

Congratulations to Justin Orlosky for his acceptance to Harvard University where he will begin his studies in the fall. Those of us in the educational community of Westmont Hilltop who have known

Class of 2005 Top Ten



Row 1: Lauren Grey Borsa, April Michele Bukoski, Priya Narahari, Danielle Christine Pozun, Jenna Marie Lusk. Row 2: Sara Ann Burnheimer, Sander Barkley Frank, Justin Matthew Orlosky, Francis Russell Eanes, Katelyn Jo Polantz.

Justin since kindergarten do not recall even one sentence ever uttered by him in protest or complaint where his studies were concerned. Justin simply loves learning. When asked to write a brief biography for the Hilltopper Highlights in acknowledgement of his

continued on page 2

You Are Invited...

See the special invitation on page 18 to the entire community to attend our First Annual Hilltopper Homecoming Event for the Benefit of the Westmont Hilltop School District Endowment.

The 2005 Hilltopper Highlights Achievement and Excellence, now entering its sixth summer of publication, is a special summer edition of the Hilltop School News dedicated to recognition of the outstanding individual accomplishments of our students within their school and community.

This edition features the accomplishments of Westmont Hilltop School District students in academic excellence, foreign language achievement, community service, academic competitions, sports achievement, publication, performance, and the arts.

Academic Honors & Awards

Academic 'Letter' Awards, Class of 2005

Seniors who have demonstrated a high level of academic excellence as indicated by a 3.0 average or better are awarded the academic letter.

Megan N. Baxter
Lauren G. Borsa
Darin B. Brownlee
April M. Bukoski
Sara A. Burnheimer
James A. Camut
Laura M. Chirillo
Christine J. Cliatt
Ryan W. Coyle
Jonathan DeSantis
Brittany A. Duncan
Francis R. Eanes
Aubrey A. Erdley
Sander B. Frank
James M. Garguilo
Alan Gore

Christopher J. Hartland
Scooter Bob Hovanec
Amy A. Hrzic
Kirstin R. Janssen
Marissa J. Katzenstein
Larissa K. Keiser
Taryn M. Kimel
Benjamin J. Koval
Cathryn J. Litvin
Madeleine J. Lovette
Jenna M. Lusk
Meghan K. Machella
Melissa A. Marlowe
Kristen S. Maurer
Elyse N. Mendelson
Luke C. Miller

Kristina A. Nagy
Priya Narahari
Brian M. Nikonow
Lara R. Null
Justin M. Orlosky
Joseph J. Ozbold
Amanda R. Partsch
Luke R. Patton
Nicole L. Patton
Katelyn J. Polantz
Hannah M. Portser
Cara T. Pozun
Danielle C. Pozun
Jennifer E. Price
Allison J. Rametta
Deanna M. Roberts

Grant P. Rozich
Andrew S. Rudnik
Heather A. Ryan
Nicholas J. Rys
Jessica M. Sadvari
Michael G. Sargent
Melanie A. Seback
Stephanie P. Seitz
Stephen D. Shunk
Amy L. Simpson
Bradley R. Strack
Kaitlin L. Urban
Nicole L. Waligora
Katlyn C. Watkins
David W. Wilkinson II

Recognition of Students

These additional honors and awards for the 2004-2005 school year were announced at an assembly on June 1, 2005.

United States Air Force Academy Appointment
Danielle Christine Pozun

Dante Commission Sons of Italy Scholarship
Laura Marie Chirillo

Westmont Hilltop Student Memorial
Scholarship Awards

Justin Matthew Orlosky
Cara Therese Pozun
Westmont Peace Award
Grant Patrick Rozich

Westmont Hilltop Educational Association
Scholarship Award
Brittany Anne Duncan

Big 33 Nursing Scholarship
Jessica Marie Sadvari

Johnstown Rotary Club Scholarship
Justin Matthew Orlosky

Metz & Associates Scholarship
Deanna Marie Roberts

American Red Cross Scholarship
Katelyn Jo Polantz

Class of 1947 Westmont/Upper Yoder
Endowment Fund
Francis Russell Eanes

Key Club Awards
Katelyn Jo Polantz

Michael J. Rudnac Scholarship
Patrick Elliot Krumenacker

Hilltopper Awards
Joseph James Ozbold
Nicole Lynn Waligora

Catherine Hubbard Memorial Award
Jessica Marie Sadvari

The Challenge Program Award for
Best Overall GPA
Justin Matthew Orlosky

The Challenge Program Award for
Community Service
Katelyn Jo Polantz
William Lusk
Christopher Lee

The Challenge Program Award for
Most Improved in Grade
Daniel James Anderson
Corey Crocco
Jordan Coyne

The Challenge Program Award for Attendance
Melanie Ann Seback
Elizabeth Povich
Michael Post

West End Lions Club Scholastic Awards
Lauren Grey Borsa
Justin Matthew Orlosky

Principal's Leadership Award
Grant Patrick Rozich

Rachel Carson Book Award
Maria Gorka

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association,
District 6
Aubrey Alayne Erdley

Pennsylvania Music Educators Association
All-State Chorus
Christopher William Shadid

National School Choral Awards
Aubrey Alayne Erdley
Elyse Nan Mendelson

National School Orchestra Award
Aubrey Alayne Erdley

National Occupational Competency
Testing Institute

Mandy Katherine Dick – Advanced Level in
Child Development Education
Heather Marie Goggin – Advanced Level in
Child Development Education

Top Ten Awards

continued from page 1

accomplishment, Justin responded instead by crediting others. He sends this important message to all underclassmen.

"The dedicated teachers at Westmont were invaluable to my success. Each day of school they inspired, challenged, and guided me. My parents, moreover, continuously supported me and taught me the value of hard work. I encourage the underclassmen at Westmont to stay motivated, work hard, and avoid procrastination in order to succeed. Although my concentration is uncertain, I am tentatively considering both chemistry and economics."

Academic Honors & Awards

President's Awards for Educational Excellence

The President's Award recognizes students for substantial academic success. At both the middle school and high school levels, students must maintain a high level of academic accomplishment over the duration of their schooling in order to be eligible for this award. Recipients of this award at the high school for 2004-2005 were: Megan Nicole Baxter, April Michele Bukoski, Christina Joy Cliatt, Ryan William Coyle, Francis Russell Eanes, Aubrey, Alayne Erdley, Sander Barkley Frank, Alan Gore, Taryn McKenna Kimel, Priya Narahari, Justin Matthew Orlosky, Katelyn Jo Polantz, Danielle Christine Pozun and David William Wilkinson II.

Middle School Recipients are Neil Abrams, Aaron Brennsteiner, Joshua Bumbernick, Travis Cramer, Nicholas DePriest, Alexa Eplett, Andrew Forman, John Fornwalt, Stephanie Frank, Kaitlyn Garbarino, Amanda Good, Luke Helsel, Shauna Hetrick, Samantha Hippler, Abigail Hoover, Kira Hovanec, Thaddeus Keklak, Christopher Kessler, Lauren Kyger, Julianne Legath, Brynne Machella, Jeffrey Matevish, Kirsten Meenan, Elizabeth Menna, Alexis Miller, Cassandra Miller, Kaley Miller, Andrew Molchany, Brittany Moore, Rebecca Morbito, Abigail Motley, Mary Mulhollen, Joseph Nagy, Emily Null, Lindsey Pavlikowski, Natalie Portser, Andrew Pozun, Luke Romesberg, Ryan Rovidia, Benjamin Sakmar, Lauren Simmons, Kelsey Stringent, Tracy Tabib, Sarah Teich, Daniel Thompson, and Christopher Wharton.

Academic "Best" Awards

The Academic "Best" Awards were presented at the June 7 Awards Assembly at the middle school. These awards are presented to 8th grade students who are chosen to represent the academic "best" in particular subject areas. Selection is always difficult, since so many students represent their own high standards of academic best. A \$100 Savings Bond was awarded to the "Best" in several curricular categories. We acknowledge Abe Beerman for generously funding this award. Recipients of the awards for 2004-2005 are:

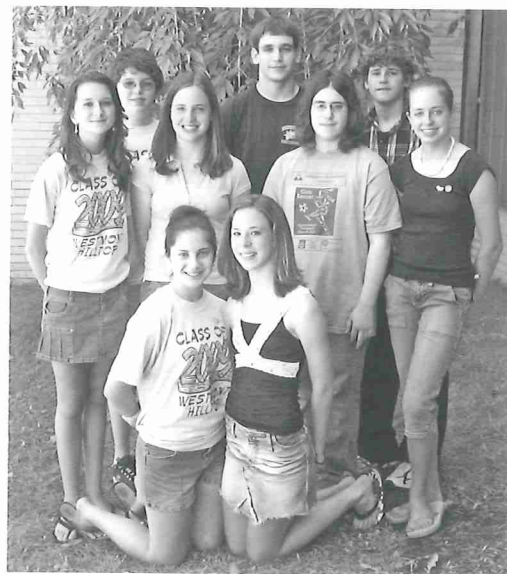
English: The student representing the academic "best" in this category must demonstrate scholarship, leadership, a positive attitude, class participation, responsibility, accountability, dependability, and initiative.

Math: The student must participate in the PACE program; consideration is given to both aptitude and achievement test scores; classroom performance will be evaluated; outcomes of any appropriate contests will be considered.

Science: The student must have an "A" average for three quarters; participate in all aspects of class (lectures, labs, question/answer, discussions); demonstrate leadership, respect for others, responsibility, reliability, and a mature attitude.

Civics: The student must demonstrate scholastic high achievement; citizenship as demonstrated through school and community service; and must show initiative through class participation.

Art: The selected student must display good citizenship and class participation; have a positive effect on peers; exhibit a high level of cre-



Row 1: Rebecca Morbito, Alexa Eplett. Row 2: Lindsey Pavlikowski, Julia Asel, Tracy Tabib, Shauna Hetrick. Row 3: Neil Abrams, Michael Valcheff, Thomas Rohrabach.

ativity, and demonstrate a significant level of improvement/achievement.

Foreign Language: The academic best in this category must achieve 95% in each of three quarters; demonstrate excellent class participation and a positive classroom attitude; and demonstrate classroom leadership and reliability.

Music: Participation in at least one ensemble is required for this award, along with superior grades in general music class; the student must possess leadership, responsibility, a positive attitude, and dependability.

Physical Education: The student selected in this category must display a positive attitude toward physical education; participate to the best of ability in all activities at all times; score, at the least, the average requirement on the National Physical Fitness Test for Fitness; maintain a sense of game; and demonstrate responsible, respectful behavior as a team player.

Academic Honors and Awards

National Merit Scholarship Corporation

The following students received Letters of Commendation from the National Merit Scholarship Corporation: Francis Eanes, Priya Narahari, and Justin Orlosky.

Attending PA Governor's Schools of Excellence in 2005

Devon I. Dill – Arts

Sarah L. Sahlaney – International Studies

Theresa E. Teofilak – Information Technology

Principal's Excellence Award

The "Principal's Excellence Award" was established to recognize eighth grade students who have exemplified the highest standard of excellence and who have earned straight "A" averages throughout their fifth, sixth, seventh, and eighth grade years at Westmont Hilltop Middle School. Congratulations to the following eighth graders who were honored at the middle school awards assembly for this accomplishment:

Neil Abrams, Nicholas DePriest, Alexa Eplett, Shauna Hetrick, Christopher Kessler, Lauren Kyger, Kirsten Meenan, Alexis Miller, Cassandra Miller, Kaley Miller, Abigail Motley, Lauren Simmons, Tracy Tabib, and Daniel Thompson.

Middle School Students Earn Mathematics Honors

In UPJ MATHCOUNTS, our middle school placed first in our region this year. The team consisted of **Daniel Thompson** (3rd place), **Norman Sivi** (10th place), **Shauna Hetrick** (15th place), and **Nicholas DePriest** (17th place). The team went on to compete at the state level.

Westmont Hilltop Middle School math teams also distinguished themselves through the 24 Math Challenge. Results of the May Competition at IUP were as follows:

Grade 8:

Travis Cramer (1st year competitor)—silver medal in Platinum Masters Division

Andrew Pozun—silver medal in Platinum Masters' Division

Grade 6:

Kim Carney—gold and silver medals.*

Grade 5:

Jonathan Findish (1st year competitor)—gold and silver medals.*

Brad Carney (1st year competitor)—silver medal

***Kim Carney** and **Jonathan Findish** qualified for State level 24 Math Challenge competition in Harrisburg in June of 2005.

Continental Math League Awards

Students earning medals for their cumulative scores from November through March include:

Grade 5

2nd Place - Pythagorean Division
Jonathan Findish

Grade 6

2nd Place - Pythagorean Division
Christina Atterbury

Grade 7

1st Place - Euclidean Division
Desiree Lindley

2nd Place - Euclidean Division
Matthew Rizzo

1st place - Pythagorean Division
Juliana Bukoski

2nd Place - Pythagorean Division
Sara Rogerson

Grade 8

1st Place - Euclidean Division
Nicholas DePriest



Elementary students in training as mathematicians of the future are, Top: Jenna Becker, Daniel Durham, Grant Bernstein
Bottom: Kyleigh Smith, Alex Roper, Kyle Geibig (Medal), Rex Cosgrove

2nd Place - Euclidean Division
Tracy Tabib

1st Place - Pythagorean Division
Daniel Thompson

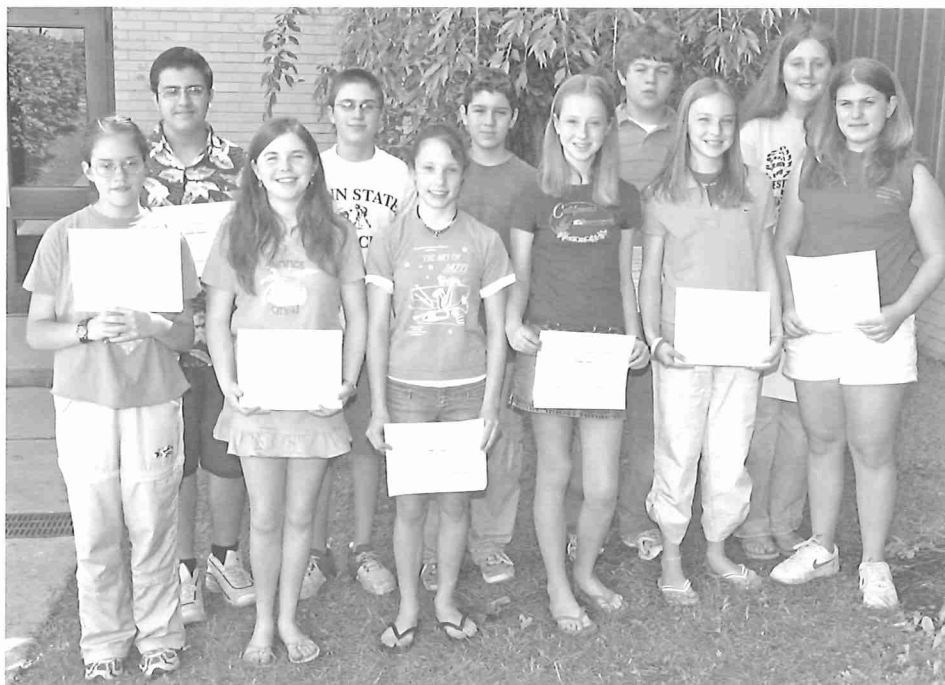
2nd Place - Pythagorean Division
Shauna Hetrick

Academic Honors & Awards

Middle School Reading Teams Compete

Six teams from Westmont Hilltop Middle School competed this year among 63 teams at the competition. The Wintergreen seventh grade team, pictured at right, received the highest score of any of the 63 teams at the competition. Their 72 point total was the highest ever received by any Westmont reading team and allowed the team to receive the overall trophy. Great job to all reading teams for all your months of hard work!

Receiving the SCHOOL RECORD SCORE in READING COMPETITION and winning the Overall Trophy were Ashley Irwin, Kelsey Layton, Megan Mulrooney, Giancarlo Scuderi, Kerollos Shaker, Aaron Stonecypher, Desiree Lindley, Matthew Ponzurick, and Aubrey Varner.



Row 1: Juliana Bukoski, Megan Mulrooney, Kelsey Layton, Ashley Irwin, Aubrey Varner, Michelle Raneri. Row 2: Kerollos Shaker, Matthew Ponzurick, Giancarlo Scuderi, Aaron Stonecypher, Desiree Lindley.

Scholastic Quiz Team

The Scholastic Quiz Team provided excellent representation of our district and made us proud! The team was few in number but mighty, qualifying for the Great Eight in Scholastic Scrimmage. Members were: Jillian Schroeder (Team Captain), Utsav Bhat, Aram Kolesar, Dan Gore, Michael Sargent, and Andrew Schroeder. We look forward to a strong team in the fall.

Grade 8	Grade 8	Grade 7	Grade 6
Alexa Eplett Andrew Forman Ashley Gilbert Shauna Hetrick Andrew Molchany Brittany Moore Rebecca Morbito Mary Mulhollen Lauren Simmons Daniel Thompson	Marissa Agypt Amanda Good Abigail Hoover Jordan Hudson Lauren Kyger Brynne Machella Cassandra Miller Kristi Mitchell Abigail Motley	Margaret Atterbury Benjamin Bukoski Rosemary Clark Michael Gorzelsky Julie Mercik Nathan McHugh Kyle Molchany Michael Rudnac Anne Rummell Brittany Strelnik Nadin Suler Kelsey Suppes Christine Weidner	Christina Atterbury Kasey Azar Benjamin Bukoski Zachary Drennen Raymond Burke Gleason Sarah Godish Luke Gonzalez Tanner Hough Jamie Hudson Andrew Kilpatrick Lauren Matevich Maggie McNamara Kyle Molchany Brooke Padula Summer Reitter Stephanie Shelhammer Carly Stump Keegan Terek Eleanor Wells Daniel Wolfe April Yanko

Academic Honors & Awards

WordMasters Challenge

WordMasters challenge is a national language arts competition entered by over 240,000 students annually, which consists of three separate meets held at intervals throughout the school year. The WordMasters challenge has been administered for the past 18 years and is dedicated to inspiring high achievement in American schools. The process involves exercises in critical thinking with the goal of developing vocabulary and higher level thinking simultaneously. Whereas most vocabulary and analogy-solving activities have been created for high school students, the WordMasters Challenge is designed for students in grades three through eight. Our students consistently rise to the challenges of learning new words and solving logical puzzles.

This year, fourth grader **Mariel Kramer** received a medal for her outstanding efforts. Mrs. Morgan's eighth grades tied for 11th place in the nation in the year-end cumulative standings among 306 school teams participating at the difficult Blue Division of the WordMasters Challenge.

Excelling in Grade 8: **Calvin Yahn, Daniel Thompson, and Tracy Tabib.**

Other students who excelled in this year's final meet include:

Grade 5 **Blake Bernstein (20/20)**
Mitch Scarsella (19/20)

Grade 7 **Juliana Bukoski (19/20)**
Julie Mercik (19/20)
Maggie Atterbury
Norman Sivi
Megan Mulrooney(20/20)
Christine Weidner
Sara Rogerson
Annie Rummell
Zachary Ryan

This year's fourth graders also participated in Current Events League competition.

The Current Events program encourages the students to use a variety of media to learn what is making news around the world. The National Current Events League consists of four meets, or contests, held at each participating school during the school year. Each meet consists of 30 multiple choice questions and is based on current events from a specified time frame. General News, Arts and Entertainment, Science and Health, Business and Finance, and Sports questions are all part of each meet. The students are given 35 minutes to complete the 30 questions in each meet.

Middle School National Current Events Team

The grades 7 and 8 National Current Events League team finished 3rd nationally out of 139 teams.

Elementary WordMasters Top Ten



Top: Angela Sutt, Mariel Kramer, Ryan Koul, Seth Ray, Daniel Durham. Bottom: Stephanie Hetrick, Kirsten Coyle, Stacey Glass, Shannon Marko, Victoria Parlock

Elementary Current Events Top Ten



Top: Mariel Kramer, Lindy Kyger, Leah Mercik, Libby Atterbury, Ryan Koul. Bottom: Brennan Love, Stacey Glass, Jill Clark, Stephanie Hetrick, Kirsten Coyle

The grades 5 and 6 National Current Events League team finished 8th nationally out of 136 teams. The grades 5 and 6 team this year was the largest ever – 34 students!

Zachary Drennan was the Top Scoring Student of the Year in National Current Events League for the WHSD!

Achieving a perfect 30 on a National Current Events League Test were **Christopher Kessler, Lauren Simmons, Christine Weidner, Rachel Wozniak, and Michael Young.**

Distinguished Scorers in National Current Events League in Grades 7 and 8 were **Elizabeth Atterbury, Margaret Atterbury, Kasey Azar, Juliana Bukoski, Zachary Drennan, Joseph Glennon, Shauna Hetrick, Luke Gonzalez, Santino Jaber, Christopher Kessler, Andrew Kilpatrick, Julie Mercik, Megan Mulrooney, David Pepley, Keegan Terek, Lauren Simmons, Aaron Stonecypher, Daniel Thompson, Lida Thompson, Forest (Penn) Whitlow, Daniel Wolfe, and Calvin Yahn.**

Elementary School Achievement

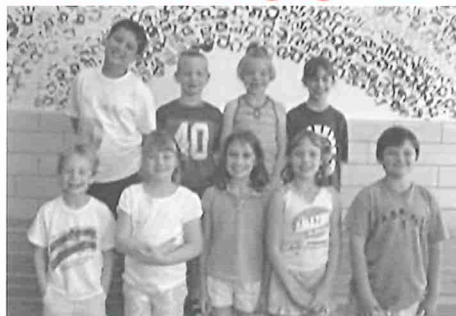
Language Arts and Science Olympiads

Students in grades 2, 3 and 4 once again participated in the Language Arts and Science Olympiads. Both of these contests are based on multiple-choice questions, which are administered to grade level groups. Each contest has a time limit of 35 minutes. There is no limit to the number of students who may participate. Nearly 200 students participated in the Language Arts Olympiad and 170 in the Science Olympiad this year! The sum of the top ten scores for each competition is the school's team score. Questions for the Language Arts Olympiad are based on the following topics: spelling, vocabulary, reading comprehension, analogies and grammar. Science Olympiad questions are based on factual knowledge as well as students' understanding of scientific processes. The following students, pictured at right, placed in the top ten in their grade levels.

This year, Science Olympiad medals were earned by second grader **John Williams**, third grader **Matt Wehner**, and fourth grader, **Ryan Koul**.

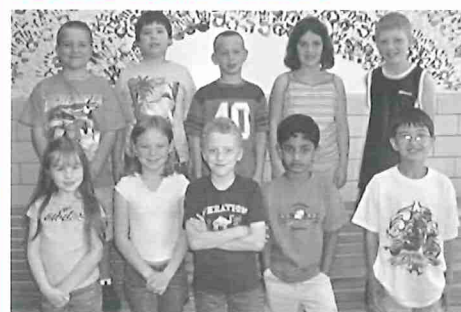
Second graders **Alexa Davis**, **Bridget Moyer**, and fourth grader **Elizabeth Atterbury** had perfect scores in the Language Arts Olympiad! Each girl received two medals, one for the top score in her grade and one for a perfect score on the Olympiad.

Second Grade Language Arts



Top: Tyler Azar, Kyle Geibig, Kyleigh Smith, Bridget Moyer/Perfect Paper. Bottom: Aidan Winterscheidt, Alexis Davis/Perfect Paper, Elise Helmick, Emily Mayket, Cameron Nulton. Not pictured: Truman Welsh.

Second Grade Science



Top: Tristan Aiken, John Williams (Medal), Kyle Geibig, Baylee Bortz, Alex Roper. Bottom: Colleen Mulrooney, Sadie Carney, John Minnick, Tejiti Pothuraju, Peter Carnevali.

Third Grade Language Arts



Top: Nicolas Shorto, Matthew Wehner, Brianne Krieger, Chelsea Balon/Medal, Carli Huber. Bottom: Lewis Buchkovich, Ruby Whorl, Tim Smith, Rex Cosgrove, Rachelmae Pulliam.

Third Grade Science



Top: Andy Miller, James Miller, Matthew Wehner (Medal), Rex Cosgrove, Zachary Yonko. Bottom: Zachary Jones, Christi Faucher, Connor Katarski, Alex Hockensmith, Logan Blackburn.

Fourth Grade Language Arts



Top: Mariel Kramer, Leah Mercik, Elizabeth Atterbury (Medal), Daniel Durham. Bottom: Sarah Marley, Tara Fritz, Angela Sutt, Shannon Marko. Not Pictured: Michael Vliet, Cade Richardson.

Fourth Grade Science



Top: Leah Mercik, Elizabeth Atterbury, Victoria Parlock, Ryan Koul (Medal), Seth Ray. Bottom: Kirsten Coyle, Angela Sutt, Daniel Durham, Dante Horvath, Alec Koontz.

Foreign Languages

World Language Achievement at the High School

Hosted by UPJ, the APPLES (Appalachian Language Educators' Society) Foreign Language Festival provides an annual opportunity for our students to demonstrate their significant capacity in foreign language. The competition involves over 400 students from more than a dozen area school districts. The following students participated in this year's APPLES Foreign Language Festival at UPJ:

FRENCH/Academic Competition			
Student	Place	Level	Category
April Bukoski	1st	5	Listening Comprehension
	1st	5	Reading Comprehension
	3rd	5	Composition
Jenna Lusk	2nd	5	Listening Comprehension
	2nd	5	Reading Comprehension
	3rd	Advanced	Composition
Laura Muchesko	3rd	4	Reading Comprehension
Utsav Bhat	1st	4	Listening Comprehension
	1st	3	Listening Comprehension
	1st	3	Reading Comprehension
	1st	3	Composition
	1st	3	Speaking Proficiency
Sadia Rharbite	3rd	3	Reading Comprehension
Joseph Green	2nd	2	Speaking Proficiency
	3rd	2	Literary Recitations
Hannah Long	1st	2	Literary Recitation

SPANISH/Academic Competition			
Student	Place	Level	Category
Amanda Stampis	1st	Advanced	Composition
Justin Orlosky	2nd	Advanced	Composition
	1st	5	Listening Comprehension
	2nd	5	Reading Comprehension
	1st	5	Speaking Proficiency
Sander Frank	1st	5	Listening Comprehension
	1st	5	Reading Comprehension
	2nd	5	Speaking Proficiency
Daniel Gore	2nd	4	Listening Comprehension
Rebecca Hirsch	3rd	3	Composition
	2nd	3	Literary Recitation
Robert Leary	1st	3	Listening Comprehension
	2nd	3	Reading Comprehension
Adam Santichen	1st	3	Speaking Proficiency

SPANISH/Academic Competition, continued			
Student	Place	Level	Category
Jill Schroeder	3rd	3	Reading Comprehension
	2nd	3	Composition
Mariam Shaker	2nd	3	Listening Comprehension
	1st	3	Composition
	3rd	3	Speaking Proficiency
	1st	3	Literary Recitation
Nikhita Dharbhamulla	3rd	3	Speaking Proficiency
Wennie Tabib	1st		Listening Comprehension Reading Comprehension Composition Speaking Proficiency
	2		
	3rd	2	
	3rd	2	
Kelly Cernetich	2nd	2	Speaking Proficiency
	1st	2	Speaking Proficiency
Sadia Rharbite	2nd	2	Listening Comprehension

Non-Academic Competition			
Student	Place	Level	Category
Robert Leary	1st	Sr High	Music-Vocal
Christopher Shadid	1st	Sr High	Music-Vocal
Giles Eanes	3rd	Sr High	Model Design
Leah Bambino	3rd	Sr High	Art Reproduction
Hannah Long	1st	Jr High	Model Design
Michael Volkar	1st	Jr High	Art Original
Katelyn Rossi	2nd	Jr High	Tee Shirt Design
Wennie Tabib	3rd	Jr High	Music-Instrumental
Samantha Johns	3rd	Jr High	Art Reproduction
Christine Novelli	3rd	Jr High	Art Original

Citizenship & Community Recognition

American Legion Awards

This award is presented by the American Legion Auxiliary to one 8th grade boy and one 8th grade girl. The criteria used to select the recipients are listed and defined as follows:

Honor: Strength and stability of character, high standards of conduct, keen sense of what is right, adherence to truth and conscience, and devotion to duty.

Scholarship: Scholastic attainment, evidence of industry, and application in studies.

Recipients of the American Legion Awards for the 2004-2005 school year. are pictured below:



Elizabeth Menna



Thomas Rohrabough

Meritorious Attitude and Effort

Each year, Meritorious Attitude and Effort Awards are given to several students in all middle school grades. This award is given to students who demonstrate a positive attitude and give continuous effort in their educational endeavors, thereby demonstrating outstanding study skills and persistence.

Service: Kindness, unselfishness, willingness to lend a helping hand, protection to the weak, and concern for the interests and welfare of associates – without hope of personal reward.

Americanism: Active interest in promotion of love of country, as may be expressed in formal exercises, respect to the flag, knowledge of the National Anthem, the flag salute, adherence to the country's highest ideals, and worthy citizenship.

Leadership: Ability to perform the duties of leadership assigned to one as exemplified in holding of office, committees, etc., and exhibition of good team play.

Courage: Moral courage to stand up for what is right, and physical courage in games and play.



Row 1: Brittany Carney, Allison Henry, Annabeth Faucher, Emma Thomson. Row 2: Kim Carney, Rebecca Shark, Christopher Gnagey, John Nobiletti.



Row 1: Christine Weidner, Natalie Smith, Marissa Horrell, Jonathan Kindya. Row 2: Casey Eckenrod, Rebecca Barron, Kelsey Mills.

Citizenship and Community Recognition

Perfect Attendance

It's an outstanding feat when a student earns an annual perfect attendance certificate. The following students attended the elementary school every day of the 2004-2005 school year. (We also had 165 students who attained outstanding attendance of three absences or less.)

Lewis Buchkovich
Erin Casale
Jill Clark
Michelle Concannon
Rex Cosgrove
Toni Costa
Patrick Dailey
Kevin Dailey
Austin DeGrange
Nicholas Democko
Andre Eanes
Robert Elston
Sarah Elston
Jillian Foster
Sam Gagan
Maranda Gindlesperger
Maura Glennon
Alonzo Hilario
Alex Hockensmith
Leah Hockensmith
Charles Jones
Isaac Joseph
Sara Kimmell
Megan Krisay
Kathryn Lynch
Aaron Marko
Shannon Marko
Sarah Marley
Maura Milligan
Lauren Moran
Seth Ray
Alex Roper
Rachel Roper
Sydney Ruis
Donald Shovestull
Taylor Somerville
Alana Somerville
Leah Steinbring
Eric Trevorow
Sara Trio
Meredith Trio
Tyler Troyer
Kayla Vizza
Erika vonSchrenkel
Tessa Weeks
Michael Weinzierl
Truman Welsh
Aiden Winterscheidt
Samantha Yarris
Zachary Zentkovich

Pictured below are the middle school attendance awardees.



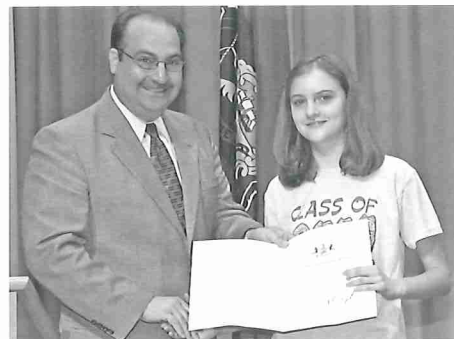
Grades 5 & 6, from left to right: Joseph Seigh, Marissa Miller, Aaron Seigh, Jamie Kessler, Christopher Gnagey, Rebecca Seigh, and Eric Stem.



Grades 7 & 8, from left to right: Casey Eckenrod, Samuel Moehler, Megan Walker, Ashley Gilbert.

Senatorial "Good Citizenship Award"

The Senatorial "Good Citizenship Award" this year, giving special recognition to the student who best met the following criteria: superior academic achievement, leadership abilities, consistent work habits, good self image, and ability to get along well with others was awarded to Lauren Simmons.



Lauren Simmons is awarded the Senatorial Good Citizenship Award.

Tsunami Relief Efforts

We recognize the following elementary school students for their efforts in their "Caring With Coffee and Cocoa" Fundraiser for Tsunami Victims.

Nicole Barnhart
Grant Bernstein
Grant Gagnon
Benjamin Katz
Matthew Wehner

Tsunami relief projects were conducted at the elementary, middle school, and high school levels. We extend a special thanks to Dr. Matthew Masiello for sharing his first-hand experience with our middle schoolers and high school Honors Banquet attendees.

Citizenship & Community Recognition

Operation Recognition

Thanks to the efforts of senior Cara Pozun, and her project called Operation Recognition, the graduating class of 2005 included six World War II Veterans who waited 60 years to receive the high school diplomas that they forfeited to preserve the freedom of America. Mr. Clarence Gates, class of 1944, was awarded his diploma posthumously. It was accepted by his son, Mr. Douglass



Cara Pozun awards diplomas to veterans.

Gates. Mr. Curtis Kennison Hamel was a member of the class of 1946. His grandson, Nathan, graduated the same night with the class of 2005, and was honored to present his grandfather with his high school diploma. Mr. Norman Krumenacker, Jr., from the class of 1942, was awarded his diploma posthumously. Two of his grandchildren, Patrick Krumenacker and Bradley Strack of the class of 2005 accepted their grandfather's diploma. Mr. William Labuda is from the class of 1937. His diploma was presented to him by his grandson, Brian Nikonow, also a member of the class of 2005. Mr. Donald Lewis Merritts, a member of the class of 1946 and Mr. Charles Tilley, from the class of 1947, received diplomas on stage and joined in the pre- and post-festivities with the class of 2005.



Cara Pozun reflected, "It seems as though the word 'hero' is used to describe anyone from Oscar winning celebrities to NBA athletes. I think that the true heroes are the six gentlemen whom we have honored. They are the ones we have to thank for their duty and commitment to

America. They serve as an inspiration to us all."

We thank our veteran graduates. Cara has served as an inspiration as well, and we thank her for her very special contribution to Commencement 2005.

Where is the Class of 2005?

The Class of 2005 will attend the following colleges and universities:

Allegheny College
Barnard College
Baylor University
Bloomsburg University of Pennsylvania
Carnegie Mellon University
Clarion University of Pennsylvania
Cleveland State University
College of William and Mary
Columbus College of Art and Design
Community College of Allegheny County
Conemaugh School of Nursing
Duquesne University
Fashion Institute of Technology
Harrisburg Area Community College
Harvard University
Indiana University of Pennsylvania
ITT
James Madison University
Juniata College
Kent State University
Kiski Prep
Lebanon Valley College
Lock Haven University of Pennsylvania
Marietta College
Marymount Manhattan Messiah College
Mount Aloysius College
New Mexico Military Institute
Pennsylvania Academy of Cosmetology
Penn College of Technology

Penn Highlands Community College
Pennsylvania State University
Pittsburgh Technical Institute
Point Park College
Robert Morris University
Saint Francis University
Salisbury University
Shippensburg University of Pennsylvania
Skidmore College
Slippery Rock University of Pennsylvania
Susquehanna University
United States Air Force Academy
University of Cincinnati
University of Colorado
University of Delaware
University of Maryland
University of New Haven
University of Pittsburgh
University of Pittsburgh at Johnstown
University of Rochester
Valley Forge Military Academy
Villanova University
Virginia Tech
West Chester University of Pennsylvania
West Virginia University
Westminster College
Westmoreland County Community College
York College

Citizenship and Community Recognition

Student Council Activities Provide Leadership Opportunities

by Mrs. Toni Callahan, Advisor

The 2004-2005 school year was a busy one for the WHHS Student Council. After attending leadership training at PASC Summer Leadership Workshops, the officers held a reorganization meeting in August to plan for the 2004-2005 year. Leading Student Council this year were **President Grant Rozich, Vice President Allison Virus, Secretary Elyse Mendelson, Recording Secretary Kieran Layton, and Treasurer Jillian Schroeder.**

The year's activities provided many opportunities for our students to learn and grow in leadership capability. They included the following:

- Homecoming (Elections, Spirit Week, Dance, Alumni Tent)
- Blood Drives in November and May
- Assistance with Laurelwood's Christmas party
- A carnation sale to raise funds for expenses
- "Anti-Apathy Week" with Spring Spirit Days
- Spring Charity Dance
- Operation Recognition (A World War II veteran's graduation program.)
- Rock garden clean up and replanting with Art Club
- Leadership Banquet
- Donations to charities and other causes (\$2,320)

Student Council sent members to the PASC State and District Conferences. They brought home new ideas from the various conferences that helped inspire them to do a better job and provided information for future projects. Representation in

regional organizations also provided members with opportunities that have an impact on our community. Westmont is the Cambria County representative on the PASC District Board of Directors and a member of the Cambria County Youth Advisory Council. In May, new officers began the reorganization process for the next school year.

Student Council offers many opportunities for students to learn planning, organization, service, leadership, and communication skills. Its activities enhance the quality of life at the high school as well as the community. These valuable lessons further the mission of our school and provide a unique learning experience for our students.

Unsung Heroes

Christopher Hartland and Melanie Ann Seback won Unsung Hero's recognition at the high school. This award, created by the Watson family, is self-explanatory for the student who contributes without thought of personal recognition or reward. Let us also recognize a group of unsung heroes at the middle school. Mrs. Denise Cunningham sponsors Westy's Angels, a group of service and community oriented students. The group is often assisted by Mrs. Barbara Miltenberger and other middle school supporters. Special thanks are extended to nine students in the eighth grade this year who have worked in a myriad of ways to make this world a better place by:

- Donating time and effort in community service
- Extending support and encouragement to life-skills students as they participated in track and field day
- Becoming role models of outstanding citizenship while learning the intrinsic rewards associated with a variety of philanthropic endeavors
- Giving without the expectation of reward

For outstanding contribution in community service at the middle school, we recognize **Sara Kirby, Ashley Ayre, Kelsey Kohler, Lindsey Pavlikowski, Brynne Machella, Ty Gaffney, Sarah Teich, Natalie Portser, and Casey Miller.**

Westy's Angels

Westy's Angels received a plaque from the American Cancer Society for second highest sales (\$1655.60) in Cambria County in 2005. Recognized were: **Marissa Agypt, Ashley Ayre, Lydia Bruce, Alexa Eplett, Stephanie Frank, Ty Gaffney, Amanda Good, Katie Heider, Shauna Hetrick, Samantha Hippler, Marissa Horrell, Kira Hovanec, Maggie Kessler, Sara Kirby, Kelsey Kohler, Lauren Kyger, Julianne Legath, Brynne Machella, Kirsten Meenan, Liz Menna, Cassandra Miller, Alexis Miller, Brittany Moore, Rebecca Morbito, Mary Mulhollen, Emily Null, Lindsey Pavlikowski, Natalie Portser, Amber Saade, Lauren Simmons, Kelsey Stringent, Sarah Teich, Tiffany Trotz, Ashley Troyer, and Amanda Yaworski.**

Continued on page 13

Citizenship & Community Recognition

Unsung Heroes

Continued from page 12

Rock Garden

The Rock Garden at the high school was refurbished this year under the direction of Mrs. Colleen Goerlich, advisor, Mrs. Charmaine Aurandt (Mr. Aurandt's mother and artistic advisor), Mrs. Toni Callihan, Dr. Robert Callihan, Mr. Rodney Montgomery, and Mr. Walter Rudnik. Thanks are extended to the Art Club, Coffee House, Student Council, Language Club, and Theatre Club for funding this project.

We acknowledge the following young men and women who gave up time on Friday afternoons and evenings to assist with this project: Alex Bonini, Ryan Coyle, Heidi DeMarco, Devon Dill, Mark Ellenberger, Matt Fregley, Philip Lewis, Hannah Long, Jordan Long, David Mancinelli, Amana Miller, Alex Muncert, Brian Nikonow, Renee Parseghian, Stefanie Rigsby, Grant Rozich, Scott Swick, Brad Strack, Stephan Struwe (foreign exchange student), Lydia Wolfe, and Joshua Young.

Plans for the 2005-2006 school year include the addition of a water garden and four benches to be built by our industrial technology students.

Hilltopper Eagle Scouts

Citizenship training, character development, and personal fitness are among the goals of scouting. Only about 4 percent of all Boy Scouts earn the Eagle Scout Award. Earning the Eagle Scout Award this year were:

Christopher Lee
Eric Lee
William Lusk



This is a bird's eye view of the newly developing Rock Garden.

MS Read-A-Thon 2005

For the fifth year in a row, the elementary school students were given the opportunity to participate in the national Read-A-Thon for Multiple Sclerosis, which is designed to promote reading and raise funds to

find a cure for M.S. Congratulations to all these special readers: Dylan Sutt, Devon Gilbert, John Minnick, Sarah Minnick, Kirsten Coyle, Chelsea Balon, Donald Shovestull, Jenna Rutledge, Sarah Pitkins, Angela Sutt, and Stacey Glass.

St. Jude Math-A-Thon Results

This year, nearly 50 students in first through fourth grades participated in the St. Jude Hospital's Math-a-Thon program. Children complete a booklet of math problems and ask for pledges based on the number of problems solved.

In the first year of participation for the Westmont Hilltop Middle School, Mrs. Kinback's Math students raised \$2,443.00 for St. Jude's Children's Hospital research efforts by earning money for the hospital by earning an amount for each problem they were able to do correctly. As an added bonus for the students and their teacher, the problems provided review prior to the PSSA.

Contribution and Service to the Westmont Hilltop School District

We acknowledge Scott Thomas's contribution to the new design and creative look of our website. Scott generously shared his talent with the community through his dedication of time and effort. Since the work will ultimately benefit the Westmont Hilltop School District Endowment Fund, Scott's work will serve us well in perpetuity. View his artistic endeavors at www.whsd.org/endowment.

Participation in the Arts

District Instrumental and Vocal Performers Shine

Westmont Hilltop students continued a long tradition of excellence in Performing Arts Competitions throughout the 2004- 2005 school year. Among the most notable accomplishments are the following:

Westmont Hilltop took second place in the madrigal competition at the Pennsylvania Renaissance Fair! This was our first attempt and a second place out of 15 competing schools, some with huge budgets and groups, is truly remarkable and a testament to the dedication of this year's Chamber Singers. Because of PMEA quotas, Ms. Good was only able to send the best 18 of those 35 to the auditions. Qualifying for District Chorus were: **Jason Catanese**, **Katie Drummey**, **Aubrey Erdley** (fourth chair, soprano 2); **Lauren Fisher** (second chair, soprano 1); **Jeff Howanek** (fourth chair, tenor 2); **Taryn Kimel** (fourth chair, alto); **Nick Kirkstadt**, **Robert Leary**, and **Elyse Mendelson** (FIRST CHAIR, alto 2); **Libby Povich** (FIRST CHAIR, soprano 2) **Nick Rys** and **Chris Shadid** (second chair, bass); **Karlee Smith** (third chair, soprano 1); **Jade Stager** (fourth chair, alto 2) and **Matt Wilson**.

Regional Chorus

Christopher Shadid: Selection for PMEA All-State Honor Choir and Placing 2nd in Regional Chorus

Aubrey Erdley: 5th place in Regional Chorus

Elizabeth Povich: 6th Place in Regional Chorus

Lauren Fisher: 5th Place in Regional Chorus

Regional Orchestra

Elizabeth Povich
Kali Antolik

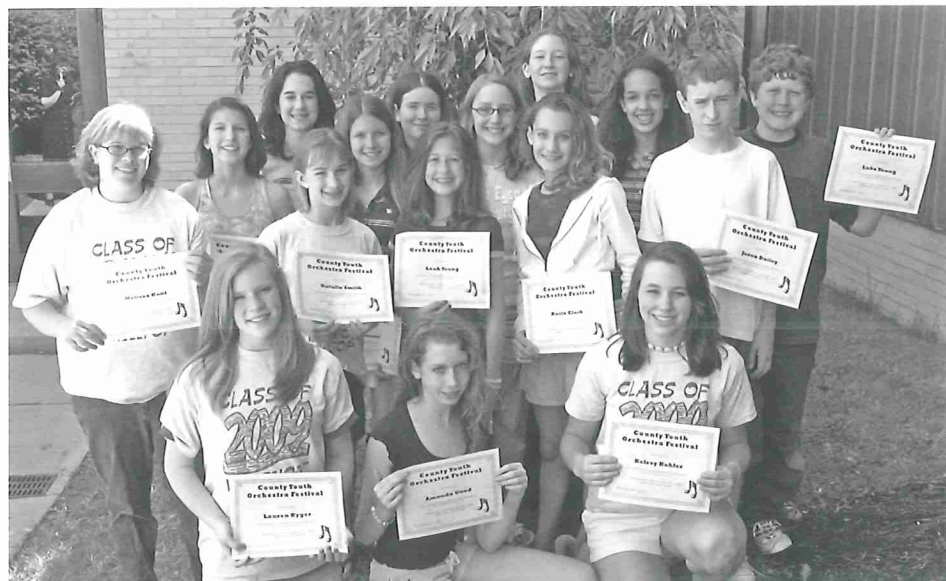
Commencement

We extend a special thanks to **Aubrey Erdley**, **Madeleine Lovette**, **Elyse Mendelson**, and **Stephen Shunk** for their truly inspiring performances at Baccalaureate and Commencement 2005.

Band

We are particularly proud of and grateful to the group of patriotic band members who agreed to provide representation for the Westmont Hilltop School District at the Memorial Day parade that began at the Middle School and concluded at Grandview.

County Youth Orchestra Participants



Row 1: Lauren Kyger, Amanda Good, Kelsey Kohler. Row 2: Melissa Hunt, Natalie Smith, Leah Young, Rosemary Clark, Jason Dailey. Row 3: Julie Mercik, Andrea Ghezzi, Anne Rummel, Brittany Strelnik, Luke Young. Row 4: Margaret Atterbury, Abigail Hoover, Leslie Buchan.

Celebration of Young Poets!

Student poets who had their poetry chosen this year for publication in the anthology, *A Celebration of Young Poets* are as follows:

Fall Publication

Shauna Hetrick
Kristi Mitchell
Lauren Simmons
Nicole Tomlyanovich

Spring Publication

Megan Mulrooney

Note: Megan was one of the top 10 finishers in the nation for her poem entitled *Lullabies!*

Selection for Publication in *Crick-et Magazine*: **Trenten Boback**, **Parag Dharbhamulla**, **Alyson Forman**, **Ryan Glover**, **Sarah Godish**, **Evan Good**, **Mustafa Hammudi**, **Katie Jones**, **Josh Kepple**, **Sarah Layton**, **Britney Smith**, **Stephen Wise**, and **Tasha Yarris**.

Participation in the Arts

Proud Artists Display Their Work!

Each year, the Elementary School's PTO funds a special program which enables art work from selected students to be framed and displayed at the school's main entrance. When the students leave the elementary school to move on to the middle school, their framed art work accompanies them. Pictured at right are the fourth grade artists displaying their framed pieces.



Top: Cassandra Hershberger, Lindy Kyger, Hannah Mills, Amber Oberdorf, Jeremy Nestor. Bottom: Rachel Roper, Taylor Davis, Sarah Marley, Madeline Sanford, Erin Rodgers. Not Pictured: Cade Richardson

Mrs. La Monaca's Quilt

A culminating activity for Mrs. LaMonaca's second grade was to write a research paper on birds of Pennsylvania. After completing the research the children each created a quilt patch of the bird. Pictured is Mrs. LaMonaca with her second grade. The quilt will be on display during the 2005-2006 school year in the elementary school's library. Also, the children will be invited to share their reports at the September, 2005 PTO meeting.



Young Artists Exhibition

Receiving honors and recognition in the Greater Johnstown Young Artists Exhibition, jointly sponsored by the Community Arts Center and the Allied Artists of Johnstown, were the following:

Achievement Awards:

Matthew Bambino (Grade 6); Kyle Kunkle, Megan Mulrooney, and Kelsey Suppes (Grade 7); and Kira Hovanec (Grade 8).

Merit Awards:

Samantha Johns (Grade 9); and Shannon Shaffer (Grade 12)

Volunteer Award:

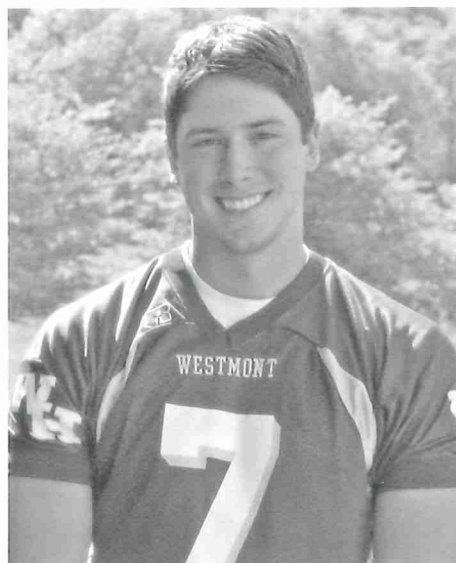
Amanda Kirkstadt (Grade 12)
Amanda Kirkstadt and Allison Rametta both won Community Arts Scholarships

Sports Achievement

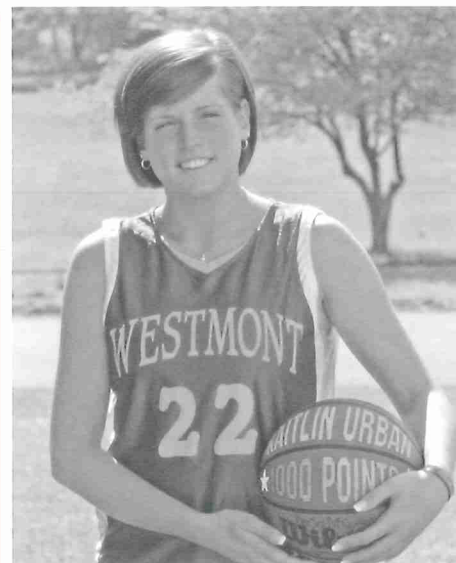
2004-2005 Individual Excellency Awards

Outstanding Male Athlete Joseph Ozbold

Joseph Ozbold was awarded the Outstanding Male Athlete Award at the Athletic Awards Assembly. Joe earned nine varsity letters during his career at Westmont Hilltop – three each in football, basketball, and baseball. During his senior season, Joe was chosen by his teammates as the Most Valuable Player and was also named as Westmont Hilltop's recipient of the Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference Offensive Most Valuable Player Award. During the fall season, Joe completed 61 passes for 934 yards (4th in the conference) and 9 touchdowns. During this year's basketball season, Joe averaged 9.5 points and 6.5 rebounds per game. In the spring, Joe was the starting first baseman on the Hilltopper baseball team. Joe was a member of the National Honor Society and will continue his education at the University of Pittsburgh.



Joseph Ozbold



Kaitlin Urban

University of Maryland where she was awarded an athletic scholarship to play golf.

Kaitlin Urban earned nine varsity letters as a student-athlete at Westmont Hilltop – three each in cross country, basketball, and track. In cross country, Kaitlin was a member of the district championship and state-qualifying team. In basketball, she eclipsed the 1000-point total during her senior year while helping to lead the Lady Hilltoppers to a second-place finish in the state. Other basketball accomplishments include 306 points during her senior year – with a team-leading 39 successful three-point shots and a 67% free throw percentage. In track, Kaitlin owns three state medals in the 800-meter run. She also now holds individual school records in the 400-meter and 800-meter runs, as well as participating on the school record 1600 and 3200 relay teams. Kaitlin received a basketball scholarship to Bloomsburg University, where she will continue her education as well as her athletic career.

2004-2005 Outstanding Female Athletic Awards Co-winners: Madeleine Lovette and Kaitlin Urban

Madeleine Lovette and Kaitlin Urban were named co-winners of the Outstanding Female Athlete Award at the Athletic Awards Assembly.

Madeleine Lovette earned eight varsity letters as a student-athlete at Westmont Hilltop – four in golf and four in track. Her unprecedented run during her golf career was culminated by back-to-back PIAA State Championships during her junior and senior years. She also placed 4th as a sophomore and 11th as a freshman. Among her other accomplishments as a golfer are four years as



Madeleine Lovette

the District 6 Golf Champion, three-time USGA qualifier and three Top Ten finishes in the AJGA, and a 4th place finish in the Wheeling Tournament. During her career in track, Madeleine was a four-time District 6 qualifier in both the 200-meter dash and the 400-meter relay. Madeleine was a member of Westmont Hilltop's National Honor Society and will continue her education at the

Sports Achievement

Athletic Awards Day Award Recipients

David Coulson Award - Outstanding Football Player - **Joseph Ozbold**

Herdman-Dailey Award - Outstanding Girls' Track - **Heather Ryan/Kaitlyn Urban**

Herdman-Dailey Award - Outstanding Boys' Track - **Brad Kanuch**

Lori Blackburn Memorial Award - Track Team Dedication- **Kelly Britcher/David Wilkinson**

Dr. Michael Sewak Award - Outstanding Girls' Basketball Player - **Kaitlin Urban**

Skip Pristow Award - Outstanding Boys' Basketball Player - **Joseph Ozbold/Andrew Rudnik**

William Askey Award - Outstanding Volleyball Player - **Kali Antolik**

Ellwood Ailes Award - Outstanding Baseball Player - **Nicholas McKolosky**

John P. Harty Award - Outstanding Softball Players - **Amy Simpson/Nicki Waligora**

Claycomb Coach's Award - Outstanding Wrestler - **Kyle Patton**

Ken Null Memorial Award - Most Falls **Quinten Cameron**

Jerry Griffith Award - Most Dedicated - **Michael Brant/Drew Golias/Shawn O'Donnell/Vince O'Donnell/T.J. Polacek/Kyle Patton/Luke Patton/Andy Slobozien**

J.P. Conway Award - Most Improved Wrestler **Luke Patton**

Milt Lantz Scholarship Award - **Daniel Golias**

David J. Murphy Award - Outstanding Hockey Player - **Anthony DeMarco/Patrick Krumenacker**

James Cardiff Award - Unsung Hero **Bradley Strack**

Clayton C. Dovey III - Player's Player **Bradley Strack**

John Stewart Memorial Awards:
Outstanding Offensive Hockey Player **Kevin Gleason**

Outstanding Defensive Hockey Player **Nicholas McKolosky**

Most Improved Hockey Player **Bradley Strack**

Cheerleading Awards - **Kirsten Janssen/Cathryn Litvin**

Outstanding Boys' Cross Country Runner **Francis Eanes**

Outstanding Girls' Cross Country Runner **Danielle Pozun/Deanna Roberts**

Herdman Scholarship Outstanding Runner **Francis Eanes**

Corona & Grady Coaches' Award - Outstanding Boys' Soccer Player - **Brian Nikonow**

John Saracena Coach's Award - Outstanding

Girls' Soccer Player - **Katie Lintner**

Outstanding Boys' Swimmer - **David Mancinelli**

Outstanding Girls' Swimmer - **Jennifer Price**

Dr. William J. Hargreaves Award - Outstanding Male Golfer - **Ben Wolfe**

Outstanding Female Golfer - **Madeleine Lovette**

Robert A. Gleason Award - Outstanding Boys' Tennis Players - **Utsav Bhat/Luke Miller**

Adele Dovey Award - Outstanding Girls' Tennis Player - **Priya Narahari**

Fall Sports



Row 1: Outstanding Girls' Cross Country Runners: Danielle Pozun, Deanna Roberts; Outstanding Girls' Tennis Player: Priya Narahari. Row 2: Outstanding Boys' Golfer: Benjamin Wolfe; Outstanding Girls' Golfer: Madeleine Lovette; Outstanding Boys' Cross Country Runner: Francis Eanes. Row 3: Outstanding Football Player: Joseph Ozbold; Outstanding Boys' Soccer Player: Brian Nikonow; Outstanding Girls' Soccer Player: Katie Lintner.

Sports Highlights

FALL SPORTS

Boys' Cross Country - Laurel Highlands Conference Champions

Frank Eanes - District 6 Champion and State Medal Winner in Cross Country

Travis Dean - State Medal Winner

Girls' Cross Country - District 6 Champions Cross Country and Sportsmanship

Girls' Soccer Team - Laurel Highlands Conference Championship and District 6 Championship

Boys' Soccer - Winning season and qualified for the District 6 playoffs.

Winter Sports



Row 1: Outstanding Girls' Basketball Player: Kaitlin Urban; Outstanding Girls' Swimmer: Jennifer Price. Row 2: Outstanding Wrestler: Kyle Patton; Outstanding Boys' Swimmer: David Mancinelli. Row 3: Outstanding Hockey Players: Anthony DeMarco, Patrick Krumenacker. Row 4: Outstanding Boys' Basketball Players: Andrew Rudnik, Joseph Ozbold; Outstanding Volleyball Player: Kali Antolik.

Spring Sports



Row 1: Outstanding Boys' Tennis Players: Luke Miller, Utsav Bhat. Row 2: Outstanding Baseball Player: Nicholas McKolosky; Outstanding Softball Players: Amy Simpson, Nicole Waligora.

Girls' Tennis - Laurel Highlands Conference Champions

Priya Narahari - District 6 Singles Champion

Golf - Madeleine Lovette - State Championship in Golf for the SECOND YEAR in a row!

Girls' Volleyball - Laurel Highlands Conference Champions

WINTER SPORTS

Girls' Varsity Basketball - Second Place at PIAA State Basketball Tournament in Hershey
Kelly Britcher - Selection to the Second Team All-State Basketball Team

continued on page 18

Sports Achievement

Sports Highlights

Continued from page 17

The Lady Hilltoppers were honored with a citation from the House of Representatives and a certificate of congratulations from the Senate of Pennsylvania. An excerpt from the citation follows: *Whereas, The Lady Hilltoppers finished their stellar season with an undefeated conference record on 16 wins, and they had an overall record of 30 wins and three losses, to their great credit, they captured the Hilltopper Classic Tournament, the Holiday Classic Tournament, and also won their second consecutive Laurel Highlands Athletic Conference Championship. In addition, the team represented District VI in the PIAA State playoffs, where they won a silver trophy. Under the expert guidance of Head Coach Jodi Hillegass, Assistant Coach Jen LaCount, and Volunteer Coaches Gene Slabodnick and Scott Livingston, the team was comprised of Deanna Roberts, Kristen Maurer, Kaitlin Urban, Nicki Waligora, Alison Battaglia, Alison Buchan, Gina Cassat, Amy Hartland, Katie Lintner, Kelly Britcher, Cayla Cramer, Karlee McQuillen, Chelsea Meenan, and Natalie Sheehan.*

Now therefore, the House of Representatives of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania heartily congratulates the members and coaches of the Westmont Hilltop Girls' Basketball Team, as well as all those who assisted them, upon their stellar season and championship victories...

First place finish at the Hilltopper Classic; **Kaitlin Urban** was chosen as MVP for the Hilltopper Classic. **Kelly Britcher** and **Alison Buchan** were named to the Hilltopper Classic All-Tournament Team. First Place Finish at the Wyomissing Christmas Tournament. **Kaitlin Urban** is recognized for scoring 1000 career points.

Boys' Varsity Basketball Team - District 6 AA Runner-Up and Representation in PIAA Tournament. First place finish at the Hilltopper Classic. **Joseph Ozbold** and **Michael Thompson** were named to the Hilltopper Classic All-Tournament Team. **Andrew Rudnik** was chosen as MVP for the Classic.

Hockey - PIHL North Division Champions. Named to the PIHL All-Star Team - **Anthony DeMarco, Kevin Gleason, Patrick Krumenacker, Bradley Strack, Nathaniel Williams.**

Girls' Swimming - Central Western Conference Champions. District Champions, Girls' 400 Yard Freestyle Relay - **Jennifer Price, Kristina Nagy, Sarah Sahlaney, and Caitlin Motley**

Jen Price - District Champion, 200 Freestyle. **Jen Price** - District Champion, 500 Freestyle. **Caitlin Motley** - District Champion, 200 Intermediate. First Place Finish at the Somerset Invitational Meet.

Join Us for an All-community Homecoming Event!

Our homecoming game vs. Richland will be Saturday, October 15, 2005 beginning at 1:00 p.m. Invite your friends and classmates. On Friday evening at 6:30 p.m., a gala event will be held at Sunnehanna Country Club for the benefit of the Westmont Hilltop School District Endowment. The cost of tickets will be \$75.00. To send in your RSVP and to acquire a ticket for the evening, either 1) write to sja@whsd.org with Endowment Homecoming in the subject line; 2) mail your R.S.V.P. Attention: Mr. Gregory Sanford to 827 Diamond Boulevard, Johnstown, PA 15905; or 3) log on to our website at <http://www.whsd.org/endowment> and follow the links to R.S.V.P. Please include your full name and contact information. If you are a graduate of the WHSD and wish to appear on our class roster of attendees, please include your year of graduation as well.

What is the Endowment?

The establishment of a permanent endowment fund will give the school district a new way to support the students and the school community. Donations can be made in recognition of the accomplishments and needs that donors identify as important to them and to our community. The endowment provides an opportunity to contribute something of great value to

our school. For more information via the Internet visit this address: www.whsd.org/endowment. Office personnel will also be available to mail information to you. Call 255-6751.

How does an Endowment Fund Work?

An endowment is funded by tax deductible donations that are invested to earn interest. Only the growth of the investment is used; the initial donation is held permanently.

Who decides where my contribution goes?

Typically, people who donate to the endowment fund have the option of directing what they would like to support or leaving that to the discretion of the Endowment advisors.

How to contribute

The Westmont Hilltop School District Endowment Fund is being held at the Community Foundation for the Alleghenies. Donations can be addressed to: Westmont Hilltop School District Endowment Fund
c/o Community Foundation for the Alleghenies
116 Market St., Suite 4
Johnstown, PA 15901

Donations may also be placed online at www.cfalleghenies.org.

Caitlin Motley - 7th in the 200-Yard Freestyle and Earning All-State Honors. 16th in the 200-Yard Individual Medley Earning All-State Honorable Mention.

Jennifer Price - 7th in the 200-Yard Freestyle and 9th Place in 500-Yard Freestyle and Earning All-State Honors

Boys' Swim Team - District Champion: Boys' 400 Yard Freestyle Relay - **Kelly Dorian, Lucas Staib, Kieran Layton, Mark Malec.** Second Place Finish at the Somerset Invitational Meet. **Kieran Layton** placed 18th in the 500-Yard Freestyle at State Level Competition.

Pennsylvania Junior Wrestling - Competing at State Level were **Logan Blackburn, Tanner Hough, Trevor Kushner, T.J. Keklak, Zac Bennett, and T.J. Polacek.**

SPRING SPORTS

Boys' Track - District 6 Team Champions. PIAA State Class AA Runner-up. District 6 Individual Champions: **Brad Kanuch** - 100M, 200M, Triple Jump, Long Jump. **Frank Eanes** - 3200M. State Champion - **Brad Kanuch** - Triple Jump, 200M. State Runner-up - **Brad Kanuch** - Long Jump, 100M. 4th Place States - **Frank Eanes** 3200M.

Girls' Track - District 6 Individual Champion: **Karlee McQuillen** - Shot Put. State Runner-up - **Karlee McQuillen** - Javelin. Discus - **Kelly Britcher** broke the school record!

Boys' Tennis - Laurel Highlands Conference Champions. District 6 Champions.

Softball - All-American Scholar Athlete in Softball were as follows: **Lauren Bors, Jennifer Broach, Mindi Dorian, Attie Horner, Katherine Lohr, Amanda Ponzurick, Amy Simpson, and Nicole Waligora.**

High School sophomore **Karlee McQuillen** won the 2005 National Punt, Pass, and Kick Championship at Heinz Field. Karlee was featured in the premier issue of the *Johnstown Magazine* in a feature entitled, *What Makes Johnstown Great?* She was quoted in that publication as follows: "When Dick Enberg from CBS Sports announced that I was from Johnstown, Pa., a huge ovation came from the crowd at Heinz Field. It seemed everyone knew Johnstown! Living in Johnstown means that people will celebrate your accomplishments, even if they don't know you." Karlee's representation of our school district, and insights so succinctly articulated by a high school student, are clearly part of what makes Johnstown great.

Excerpt from *Johnstown Magazine's* Premiere Issue, April 2005, p. 8.

**Notice of Proposed Settlement of Class Action Lawsuit
Gaskin v. Pennsylvania Department of Education**

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
FOR THE EASTERN DISTRICT OF PENNSYLVANIA**

TO: The parents of all students who are eligible for special education and who have been denied the opportunity to receive a free appropriate education in regular classrooms with individualized supportive services OR have been placed in regular education classrooms without the supportive services, individualized instruction, and accommodations they need to succeed in the regular classroom.

This notice describes a proposed Settlement Agreement between students with disabilities and the Pennsylvania Department of Education and all other defendants. This Notice tells you what the parties have agreed to do, how to get more information, and how to object to the proposed Settlement Agreement if you think it is not fair.

PROPOSED SETTLEMENT

This case was filed on June 30, 1994 by twelve students with disabilities and eleven disability organizations, collectively known as the plaintiffs, against officials of the Pennsylvania Department of Education (PDE) and the State Board of Education. The plaintiffs' claims arose under the Individuals with Disabilities Act (IDEA) and related federal statutes. The plaintiffs alleged that PDE had failed to assure that students with disabilities are included in regular education classroom to the maximum extent appropriate and that students receive appropriate supplementary aids and services in regular classrooms. The settlement obligates PDE to undertake a series of reforms of its systems for exercising general supervision over special education throughout Pennsylvania. The goal of those reforms is that local school districts increase their capacity to provide the supplementary aids and services in regular education classrooms that students with disabilities need to receive a meaningful benefit from education. The parties have agreed to the following undertakings:

1. PDE policies will require Individual Education Programs (IEP) teams to consider, and school districts to provide, the full range of supplementary aids and services in regular classrooms to all students with disabilities, including those with significant disabilities, who can benefit from education in regular education classes with such services.
2. PDE will establish the Special Education Bureau Director's Advisory Panel on Least Restrictive Environment (the "Panel") to review system-wide progress in the delivery of individualized specially designed instruction in regular education classrooms, to report on the status of implementation of this agreement, and advise PDE on implementation. Nine of the Panel's fifteen members will be parents of children with disabilities; twelve will be selected by the organizational plaintiffs in this case.
3. PDE will modify its IEP format to assure that IEP teams consider the provision of supplementary aids and services in regular education classes before removing students from the regular education environment.
4. PDE will conduct a new form of compliance monitoring called Least Restrictive Environment (LRE) monitoring, in which PDE will identify the school districts most in need of systemic LRE-related changes, provide appropriate intervention to bring about those changes, and exercise continued oversight, including sanctions if needed, to determine whether intervention is effective. Each year, school districts will be assigned a data-based LRE Index Score according to which the districts will be identified for intervention. These scores will be included in publicly available school district report cards. In the districts most in need of intervention, PDE will examine a representative sample of Individualized Education Programs to determine whether the district is satisfying its obligation to provide a free, appropriate public education in the least restrictive environment. PDE will require specific staff training for district personnel to target the particular violations found.
5. PDE will investigate all complaints submitted by a parent or student, without exception, and each time a violation of a student's right to receive supplementary aids and services in a regular education classroom is identified in a complaint resolution or due process hearing, will monitor whether the school district has corrected the violation for all similarly situated students.
6. PDE will synchronize the special education planning cycle with its compliance monitoring cycle and will require school districts' special education plans to include appropriate corrective action when monitoring finds a failure to provide meaningful education benefit to students with disabilities in regular education classes and neighborhood schools.
7. PDE will provide on-site training and technical assistance to school districts to build capacity in the provision of supplementary aids and services in regular education classrooms. Training and technical assistance will be based on a needs assessment to identify the assistance needed to implement research-based practices.
8. PDE will support a grant proposal submitted by the plaintiffs to an external funding source to support advocacy and advocacy training on issues relating to the provision of supplementary aids and services in regular education classrooms.
9. PDE will provide of total of \$350,000 to the individual plaintiffs to resolve their claims for compensatory education and other relief. PDE will pay the plaintiffs' counsel the sum of \$1,825,000 for attorney fees and costs.
10. The Settlement Agreement will be enforceable for five years from the date of its approval by the Court. Throughout the life of the agreement, PDE will send regular written certifications concerning its compliance with the agreement. The parties will seek to resolve disputes by informal means and mediation before petitioning the Court for enforcement.

In honor of the request of the Pennsylvania Department of Education that each school district distribute this notice and settlement in a variety of forums, the district has posted a copy of the notice on a bulletin board in each school building. A copy of the same will be mailed to the parents of special education students in our district. To access copies of the notice and proposed settlement agreement, and for more information, access the Pennsylvania Department of Education posting at:

http://www.pde.state.pa.us/special_edu/cwp/view.asp?a=177&Q=109539 and/or the Public Interest Law Center of Philadelphia at <http://www.pilcop.org>.

Both addresses will also be linked to our district website at <http://www.whsd.org>.

Westmont Hilltop School District Board Of Education

Mr. Mitchell G. Azar: President

Mr. George P. Wolfe: Vice-President

Dr. Daniel R. Meenan: Treasurer

Mr. Ronald P. Carnevali, Sr., Mrs. Marian F. Feath, Mr. John M. Khuri

Mr. Thomas R. Kirby, Mrs. Diana L. Schroeder, Mr. Scott D. Watson

Mr. Gregory T. Sanford: Secretary (non-member)

District Administrative Staff 2004-2005

Dr. Susan J. Anderson, *Superintendent*

Mr. Steven D. McGee, *Director of Education and Student Support Services*

Mr. Gregory T. Sanford, *Business Manager*

Building Administrative Staff 2004-2005

Mrs. Margaret McDonald, *Elementary Principal*

Mrs. Carole Kakabar, *Middle School Principal*

Mrs. Nicole Kuzmiak, *Middle School Assistant Principal*

Mr. William Marshall, *High School Principal*

Mr. Matthew Thomas, *High School Dean of Students*

Administrative Offices

827 Diamond Boulevard • Johnstown, PA 15905

Phone: 814-255-6751 • Fax: 814-255-7735

Email: sja@whsd.org

Mission Statement

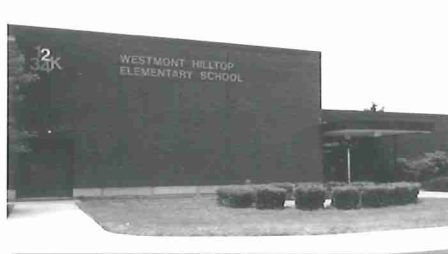
The mission of the WHSD, in partnership with our community, is to prepare each student to be an informed, ethical, responsible adult in a changing and competitive global society through high expectations and a challenging educational program offering knowledge and skills within a safe, nurturing environment.

Civil Rights Statement

The Westmont Hilltop School District, an equal opportunity employer, will not discriminate in employment, educational programs or activities, based on race, color, religion, national origin, gender, age, ancestry or disability. Publication of this policy in this document is in accordance with state and federal laws including: The Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title IV, Title VI, Title VII, Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, Sections 503 & 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the American Disabilities Act of 1992.



Printed on recycled paper



Elementary School



Middle School



High School

U.S. Postage
PAID
Non-Profit Org.
Permit No. 142
Johnstown, PA

WESTMONT HILLTOP SCHOOL DISTRICT
827 Diamond Boulevard • Johnstown, PA 15905