

# “The Navigator”

## Principal’s Newsletter



St. Charles North High School

Vol. IV No. 3

March 2003

255 Red Gate Road / St. Charles, Illinois 60175 / Phone 630/443-5700

We value feedback from the District 303 community. Write or call us. Your response is always appreciated.

Mr. Frank Kesman, Principal

e-mail: [mringsby@d303.org](mailto:mringsby@d303.org)

### North Students Participate in Mock Trial Tournament

On Saturday, February 1<sup>st</sup>, St. Charles North, in a cooperative effort with St. Charles East, hosted the Fifth Annual Mock Trial Tournament. The tournament is designed to help students prepare for the Illinois State Bar Association Mock Trial Tournament to be held in Springfield on March 21-22. This year's case is State of Illinois v. Willie Trailor. In this case, the state has brought first-degree murder charges against a Springfield man. The case is based on a real criminal action from the mid-1800's involving Abraham Lincoln, who was a prominent area attorney at the time.

The high schools that participated in the tournament included: St. Charles North, St. Charles East, Mundelein, Evanston, Timothy Christian, York, Larkin and Maine South. Teams were given the opportunity to litigate both the prosecution and defense side of the case against the defense and prosecution sides presented by another high school. Timothy Christian placed first with York, last year's champions, finishing second. St. Charles East took third place.

Students from St. Charles North participating in the tournament included Seniors Alex Bradley and Christina Warren, Juniors Heather Dague, Jessica Riess, Elyse Dankoski, Tim Timberlake, Karen Wilbur and Tim Timberlake and Freshman Grace Harriett.

The event took place at the Kane County Judicial Center with four judges, the Honorable Donald C. Hudson, Patricia Piper Golden, Timothy Q. Sheldon and Robert L. Janes, presiding over the case and eight attorneys evaluating the performance of the high schools.

Mock trial provides the students with the opportunity to learn what it is really like to prepare and present a legal case before the Illinois courts.



MOCK TRIAL participants (Right to Left): Alex Bradley, Tim Timberlake, and Doug Wampnar serve as defense attorneys.



DEFENSE ATTORNEY, Doug Wampnar, approaches the bench.

### Referendum Information Meeting

Please join us for an informational meeting about the upcoming referendum election. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 5<sup>th</sup> from 7-9 PM in the North HS LRC. This meeting is open to anyone in our community. Bring your questions and concerns.

## *"Pen of the Principal"*

*The first semester is behind us, the third quarter is well under way, and staff members at St. Charles North are busy preparing for the 2003-04 school year. This preparation takes the form of course selection by students as well as the staffing and budget preparations necessary to be ready for next fall. We expect an enrollment of 1,950 next September which represents an increase of nearly 125 students. Maintaining a student-centered atmosphere in spite of increasing enrollment will be a focus of our efforts next year.*

*As you work with your son or daughter in preparation for next year, I would encourage you to take the perspective that decisions are multi-year in purpose. Simply selecting courses for next year diminishes the breadth of our curriculum and may limit the actual opportunities that our students enjoy. Develop a four-year plan, write down classes from previous schedules and make informed choices based upon future plans.*

*In the latter days of April, our juniors will be involved in the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE). This exam is mandated by the state of Illinois and includes an ACT component as well as testing designed to measure student achievement in comparison with State Standards. This test **is important and the results are included on student transcripts**. I ask parents to convey to their children the importance of individual effort and taking this process seriously. The results reflect on each individual student and on our school as a whole.*

*On June 1<sup>st</sup>, we will conduct our first Commencement program. The senior class should be proud of their accomplishments over the last three years. Along with the class of 2004, their place in the history of our school is unique. Traditions have been established, models of leadership have been identified, and the future of our school is bright. The partnership established between student, parent and school continues to grow and will provide a solid foundation for future improvement.*

*Recently, I have seen in print that the ACT composite score for North High students for 2002 was 19.8. This is incorrect. In fact, our April/May 2002 PSAE/ACT report for North High School identifies our core composite as 22.8 and our overall composite (ALL students, not only college bound) as 21.4. ACT scores are reported in a number of ways, and it is important that numbers are reflected accurately.*

*Finally, I have been asked many times about the upcoming referendum. The Board of Education continues to work to resolve the financial difficulties of our District and remains committed to a balanced budget. Potential reductions of services and programs for our students are a reality. I encourage each person to make themselves aware of the facts and to vote on April 1<sup>st</sup>. Additional information is contained elsewhere in this newsletter. If you have any questions regarding the referendum, please feel free to contact me directly.*

*Frank A. Kesman  
Principal*



## Are You A Registered Voter?

Are you new to the area? Are you unsure where to go to register to vote?

Parents, guardians and students, now is the time to make your voice heard! We are encouraging everyone to become a registered voter. It is very easy to do. Just bring two forms of I.D., one with your current mailing address on it, to a certified registrar. Mrs. Tina Zucker, our secretary at SCN, is a certified registrar. Thompson Middle School and St. Charles East also have registrars on staff there as well. You can also go to [www.d303excellence.org](http://www.d303excellence.org) and select "register to vote" for more information.

Be a terrific example to your children and show them how important it is to vote. Our country was built on the idea that everyone has a voice. It's time your voice was heard.

## Absentee Voting

Please note that the upcoming election is scheduled for April 1<sup>st</sup>, which falls during our Spring Break. We urge everyone 18 and over to please vote. If you will not be in town during the election, you may "absentee vote". It is very easy and can be done before you leave on your vacation. Follow these simple steps.

~ Obtain an application for an absentee ballot. You can do this by phone (630.232.5950), online ([www.co.kane.il.us/Election/absform.htm](http://www.co.kane.il.us/Election/absform.htm)), or by mail or in person:

Kane County Clerk  
719 S. Batavia Ave.  
P.O. Box 70  
Geneva, IL 60134

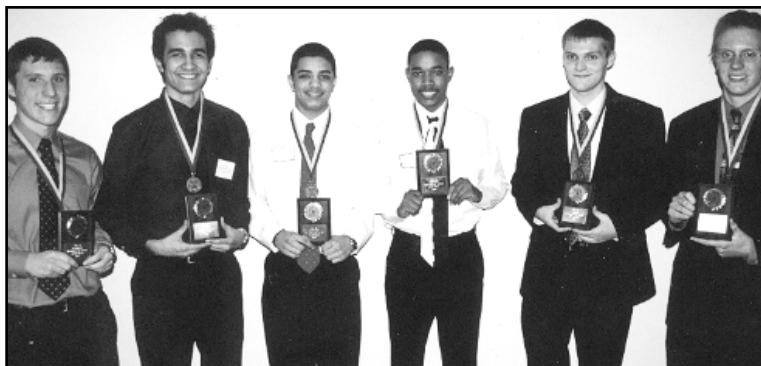
~ Once you fill out your application, you may mail it or deliver it personally to the County Clerk's office.

- If you deliver the application personally, you can vote on the premises immediately!
- If you mail your application in, a ballot will be sent to you. You simply vote (secretly) and mail it to the County Clerk's office in the envelope provided or return it personally.

It really is as simple as that! For more a more detailed outline of absentee voting procedures, go to [www.d303excellence.org](http://www.d303excellence.org).

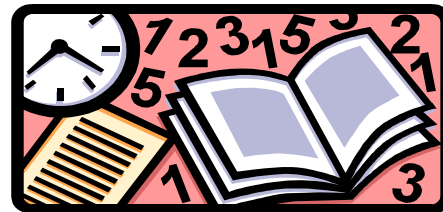
## **DECA Members Experience Success at Area Competition**

On January 28<sup>th</sup>, 25 St. Charles North students headed over to Charlestowne Mall to compete in this year's Area 20 DECA Competition. The Area 20 DECA Competition allows students to display their marketing and management skills in a competitive setting. The area consists of schools from Naperville, Elgin, Downers Grove, and many of the neighboring west suburbs. Over 500 area students attended this year's competition. Our students representing North High School competed in a variety of contests such as Sports and Entertainment Marketing, Food Marketing, and Travel and Tourism Marketing to name a few. Students completed a math test, a written communication, a product knowledge test, and a role-play scenario during the 5-hour competition. The SCN students did an excellent job representing our high school at the competition. Twenty of our SCN DECA members received awards for placing in the Top 10 in their respective events. Three North students took home first place honors, Mark Figura in Vehicles and Petroleum Marketing and Mo Thompson and Vijay Shah in E-Commerce Management Team. Greg Stinton and Katie Kurtz placed third in the Hospitality Marketing Team event. All 25 of the students who participated in the Area 20 DECA competition did an excellent job representing St. Charles North High School. On March 6 -8, 20 students will be taking part in the State DECA competition held in Decatur, IL. Our students will be competing among 500 of Illinois best and brightest marketing and management students in the state.



DECA COMPETITORS, Vijay Shah and Maurice Thompson (center of photo), both North HS sophomores, placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the E-Commerce Management Team Event.

# CURRICULUM CORNER



## *School Improvement Planning at North*

### SCN Target Areas

**Affective:** Responsibility

**Cognitive:** Thinking & Communicating

### SCN Goal Statements

- All students will improve their ability to identify responsibilities and develop the habit of meeting obligations they place upon themselves and those placed upon them by others.
- All students will increase their ability to think and communicate with clarity and precision across the curriculum and in a variety of settings.

### NCA Accreditation

The North Central Association is an organization that governs the school improvement and accreditation processes for K-12 schools in fourteen states. St. Charles North High School has successfully completed the first year of the five-year cycle.

### **COMPLETE SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT PROFILE DATA AVAILABLE ON STC NORTH WEB SITE**

Visit the North HS web site to view the complete data set compiled for the school profile including results from the satisfaction survey, one year of PSAE, ACT, and SAT scores, substance use/student attitude data, and more...

### **New textbook adoption process**

The instructional leaders from North and East High Schools have developed a new collaborative process in which teams of teachers to work together to research, analyze, and recommend text and support materials for use by students at both high schools to the school board. The process is being used by eight different course teams this spring.

### Year One: Setting Goals (Dec 2001—Dec 2002)

- Belief Statements ratified by NHS staff
- Mission Statement was developed by a team of students, parents, and staff
- School Profile constructed— a variety of data was collected and analyzed including student achievement data, student/parent/staff satisfaction survey, school records and data, and community data.
- Consensus was reached among the staff to focus on student responsibility and thinking and communicating with clarity and precision.
- Student Performance Goals were written based on data from the School Profile.

### Year Two: Developing the Improvement Plan (Dec 2002- Dec 2003)

- Assessment tools will be selected and/or designed to document baseline performance and growth over time in each of the student performance goals.
- Interventions (new skills and knowledge students will need to improve their performance) identified for each student performance goal.
- An action plan is written that includes staff development, specific timelines, resources required, and persons responsible for each task.
- Teachers receive initial training in each target area.

### Years Three and Four: Implementing the Plan (Dec 2003 - Dec 2004)

- Continue teacher training - align new approaches to every discipline and facet of the school community.
- Continue implementation of plan, modify the logistics of plan as needed to make them effective in improving and documenting student performance.

### Year Five: Analyze Data and Document Improvements in Student Performance (Dec 2004—Dec 2005)

- Compare baseline data to current student performance data
- Create a document to summarize amount of improvement in student performance
- Use the data obtained to guide the start of the next school improvement cycle.

**NOTES FROM PUPIL PERSONNEL SERVICE (PPS)**

We have completed a productive first semester; and, we have our second semester as a complete high school off to an excellent start! The challenge to our seniors is to maintain their focus and effort. Our seniors need to meet the academic challenges of second semester while wrapping up their post-high school, college and career plans. Seniors, you must finish strong and keep your eyes on the prize! The challenge to our juniors, sophomores, and freshmen is to finish the second semester strong while putting together the plans necessary to make next year a productive one. The freshmen, sophomores and juniors are off to a good start with their timely course selections. The 8<sup>th</sup> graders, our future North Stars, have already begun their positive tradition by doing an outstanding job in their own course selection process.

This semester brings to us the completion of the process for selecting courses for next year, the Fox Valley College Fair, the PSAE's for juniors, AP exams, ACT and SAT exams, and our very first St. Charles North High School graduation. This second semester will be an exciting, high-energy time in which a lot will be accomplished by our students. The information provided below is designed to help you through this active time of year. In PPS we look forward to continuing to help our students. If you have any questions or need assistance, please do not hesitate to call or e-mail us.

Dr. Bruce A. Lane  
Assistant Principal for PPS  
[blane@d303.org](mailto:blane@d303.org)  
443-5668

**Course Selection Process Comes to a Successful Conclusion**

We want to thank all of our students and parents for doing an outstanding job during the course selection process this year. This year the process was accelerated to allow ample time for the careful consideration of student needs while building a master schedule on a tight budget. The cooperation of students, parents, and teachers was outstanding!

On January 21<sup>st</sup> students received their Course Offering Books and received informal guidance from their teachers during the Curriculum Day activities. On Friday January 24<sup>th</sup> each class met with counselors in the auditorium to review the process for course selection, to receive additional course information and to have their course selection questions answered. Then from January 28<sup>th</sup> to February 4<sup>th</sup> the counselors met individually with students from their American History, Sophomore English, or Freshman P.E. classes to answer any final questions and get the student's course requests into the computers. Throughout the process the vast majority of students were well prepared, cooperative and ready to make solid course requests. Those students who were absent when their classes were brought down were seen by counselors from February 5<sup>th</sup> to February 13<sup>th</sup>. The course selections of over 1923 students were entered into the computer by Valentine's Day. Counselors then worked with students who had requested courses that had insufficient enrollment to be taught. These students were helped to make alternative course selections.

On February 24<sup>th</sup> course verification letters were sent to all students and their parents. Students and their parents were encouraged to review their course request list and to contact their counselors immediately if there were any errors in the list or changes that needed to be made. Counselors may be contacted at:

A-Dep	Mr. Kirby	443-5717	<a href="mailto:mkirby@d303.org">mkirby@d303.org</a>
Deq-Fo	Mrs. Vining	587-7135	<a href="mailto:svining@d303.org">svining@d303.org</a>
Fp-Kn	Mrs. Munro-Krusz	443-5715	<a href="mailto:kmunro-krusz@d303.org">kmunro-krusz@d303.org</a>
Ko-Nep	Mrs. Shouba	443-5714	<a href="mailto:gshouba@d303.org">gshouba@d303.org</a>
Neq-Sha	Mr. Nothnagel	587-7146	<a href="mailto:lnothnagel@d303.org">lnothnagel@d303.org</a>
Shb-Z	Mrs. James	443-5638	<a href="mailto:jjames@d303.org">jjames@d303.org</a>

**The deadline for requesting a correction to the courses requested was announced as March 14<sup>th</sup>.** No course changes will be made after March 14<sup>th</sup>, unless a clerical error has occurred, a course is dropped, or there is an irresolvable conflict in a student's schedule.

During April and May, counselors will contact students who have irresolvable schedule conflicts (e.g. a student who has requested two courses that are only offered during the same period). In July students will receive fee sheets requesting payment for the courses that will be included on their schedule. Students will receive their official schedule in August during materials processing.

<b>NOTES FROM PPS (Cont'd)</b>
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### Sophomores and Juniors Will Want to Attend the April 2<sup>nd</sup> College Fair

The Fox Valley College Fair is being held at *St. Charles East High School's* Main Gymnasium on Wednesday, April 16, 2003 from 7:00 - 9:00pm. Over 150 colleges from more than seventeen states have been invited to answer student and parent questions and provide important information about their colleges and universities. This fair offers an excellent opportunity for all students and parents to become familiar with the wide range of colleges and universities that are available. These nights offer a great opportunity to gather the information and materials that will help narrow the field of choices.

### COLLEGE TESTING INFORMATION

#### Juniors: ACT and SAT National Test Dates

The ACT Test will be administered at St. Charles North High School on Saturday April 12, 2003. Registration packets can be picked up in the Guidance Office. The deadline for regular registration is March 7, 2003. Late registration is from March 8<sup>th</sup> to March 21. A \$15.00 additional late fee is charged for late registration.

St. Charles North *will not* conduct a national administration of the ACT on June 14, 2003. Students interested in taking the test on that date should check the ACT registration packet for the closest Illinois Test Administration site for that date.

Students interested in ACT test preparation information can check out <http://www.act.org>. This site provides good test preparation for the ACT. It has free test questions and review materials. Software can also be purchased from this site.

#### Juniors: SAT National Test Dates

The SAT I will be offered at St. Charles North High School on June 7, 2003. Registration packets can be picked up in the Guidance Office. The regular registration deadline for this test is May 2, 2003. Late Registration is from May 3<sup>rd</sup> to May 14<sup>th</sup>.

Students interested in SAT test preparation information can check out <http://www.collegeboard.org>. It provides good sample SAT questions; and, a mini-SAT to analyze strengths and weaknesses. Like the ACT site, software can be purchased from this site.

College Power Prep at <http://www.powerprep.com> also offers SAT and ACT test preparation. The site offers free software for review programs. It is an excellent resource for review and preparation for college entrance exams.

Students who wish to prepare for these tests are also encouraged to check in the Learning Resource Center for available test preparation materials and CDs.

### Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE) Scheduled for April 23<sup>rd</sup> & 24<sup>th</sup>

On April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> all juniors throughout Illinois and at St. Charles North High School will take the Prairie State Achievement Exam (PSAE). Students who miss all or part of the two days of testing are required by the State to makeup the tests on May 7<sup>th</sup> and 8<sup>th</sup>. The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) requires that all schools give the PSAE to their juniors in order to:

- Assess the extent to which students in the eleventh grade are meeting the Illinois Learning Standards, that is, the specific knowledge and skills that students should learn in Illinois public schools,
- Provide for school accountability, and
- Recognize the achievement of individual students in meeting the learning standards.

The PSAE Test include the following components:

- Day 1: ACT Assessment English – 45 minutes (75 questions)  
 ACT Assessment Mathematics – 60 minutes (60 questions)  
 15 minute break  
 ACT Assessment Reading – 35 minutes (40 questions)  
 ACT Assessment Science Reasoning – 35 minutes (40 Questions)
- Day 2: ISBE-Developed Writing – 40 minutes (one writing prompt)  
 ISBE-Developed Science – 40 minutes (40 questions)  
 15-minute break  
 Work Keys Applied Mathematics – 45 minutes (33 questions)  
 Work Keys Reading for Information – 60 minutes (60 questions)  
 15 to 60 minute break  
 ISBE-Developed Social Science – 60 minutes (65 questions)

Information regarding preparing for the test was distributed to students and staff members the week of February 17<sup>th</sup>. Test preparation materials designed to help students prepare to do their best on the test are available in the Learning Resource Center. Many teachers will provide their students helpful test preparation tips.

The requirements for conducting the PSAE will make April 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> unique days for all students and staff at St. Charles North. During these two days there will be a number of adjustments in the normal operations of the school. Information regarding these adjustments will be provided to students, parents, and staff in early March.

It is very important that each junior does his or her very best on this exam. The individual scores from each of the five PSAE subjects are listed on the student's transcript. Students have the opportunity to earned Prairie State Achievement Awards and to have those awards listed on their transcript. ACT Assessment scores from the PSAE can be listed on a student's transcript and can be used by colleges for admissions and the Illinois Student Assistance Commission to determine financial aid. Each year thousands of Illinois students who normally would not have considered taking college entrances tests achieved scores on the ACT Assessment portion of the PSAE that would allow them to be accepted by colleges.

## Senior Information

During the senior meeting on January 21<sup>st</sup> a number of important reminders were provided to seniors regarding their last semester of high school. This information included:

- Seniors will receive a "Final Transcript" in May at the "Senior Good-bye."
- Student athletes should be certain that they fill out the NCAA Clearing House information if they have not done so already.
- Seniors should pay careful attention to the announcements and review the PPS bulletin boards for scholarship announcements and deadlines. Be sure to get applications in on time.
- When completing college applications or requesting transcripts, please allow the proper amount of time for the request to be processed. The Guidance Office cannot guarantee applications turned in at the eleventh hours will be able to be processed.
- Students applying to selective schools should make sure they requested that their mid-year reports have been sent.
- If a senior is receiving a scholarship and wish to be recognized at the Awards night, they are to notify Mrs. Porter in the Guidance Office.
- Seniors taking correspondence course work should be very aware of deadlines and be sure they are completed on time. See counselor if you have any problems.
- Seniors need to finish strong and do their absolute best work in the final homestretch of their high school career.

## Spring Information for Juniors

During spring semester counselors will be meeting with juniors to share important information on career and college planning. Spring is the time that juniors begin making the final shift toward post high school planning. During the spring it is recommended that juniors:

- Continue to work hard in each of their classes to maximize their achievement.
- Review the courses they have taken and plan to take to make sure that they have the courses they will need when applying for college or career opportunities. The minimum admission requirements for most universities includes 4 years of English, 3 years of Social Studies, 3 years of Laboratory Science, 3 years of Mathematics, and 2 years of Fine Arts (e.g. Foreign Language, Music, Art, Vocational Education, or Family & Consumer Science).
- Attend the Fox Valley College Fair April 16<sup>th</sup> to gather information on the colleges or training schools of interest.
- Take at least one college entrance exam (e.g. ACT, SAT, or PSAT) if planning to go to college. (Note that the NCAA will not accept the PSAT ACT score for its application.)
- Continue to use high school on-line resources such as the COIN or Career Cruising programs to search for colleges and careers.
- Seek first hand career exploration opportunities like job shadowing or career treks through the Career Specialist, Mrs. Gloss in the Guidance Office.
- Begin creating a college search strategy that defines what you are looking for in a college (e.g. programs, size, location, costs, activities, facilities and other factors of importance to you).
- Review college admissions information in the College and Career Resource Center in the Guidance Office.
- Talk to the representatives of colleges when they visit North campus and plan select college visits to help you narrow your decisions.
- If you plan to be a college athlete, complete the NCAA Clearinghouse application at the end of your junior year.
- Prepare for the college application process by developing your own "Application Materials File" that organizes all the information you will need to complete any college application. Be sure to keep a list of the steps and deadlines you must follow in order for the high school to complete your application. Add to your file when you encounter requests for new kinds of information.
- Visit the College and Career Resource Center in the guidance office to review the scholarships notebook. Begin thinking about the potential scholarships for which you might apply. Begin building a "Scholarship Application Materials File", similar to the Application Materials File in which you can keep the information you might need to apply to a variety of scholarships.

By beginning to organize and plan during the spring of your junior year, you should enter your senior year ready to meet the challenges of applying to colleges and other training opportunities.

**“EVERYTHING YOU EVER WANTED TO KNOW ABOUT  
(and maybe a little more...)  
NCAA INITIAL ELIGIBILITY CLEARINGHOUSE  
AND BECOMING A COLLEGE ATHLETE”**



In November Bobbie Cesarek, NCAA Compliance Director of Northern Illinois University, presented a comprehensive overview of the NCAA Initial Eligibility Clearinghouse requirements to a small group of students and staff from several local high schools. She explained to students the initial eligibility requirements that they must meet if they wish to compete at the college level. NCAA requires that college athletes: 1) *graduate from high school*; 2) *successfully complete a core curriculum of at least 13 academic course units as follows: English - 4 years, Mathematics at the level of Algebra I or above – 2 years, Natural or physical science including at least one laboratory course – 2 years, Social Science – 2 years; additional courses in English, mathematics or natural or physical sciences – 1 year, additional courses meeting specific academic criteria – 2 years*; 3) *have a sufficient core-course grade-point average and a combined score on the SAT verbal and math sections or a sum score on the ACT based on the qualifier index scale.*

Coach Cesarek spoke to students from her over 20 years as a veteran coach who has accumulated over 260 collegiate wins. She gave students and parents a practical and clear understanding of the NCAA guidelines that control college recruitment activities. She also described the kinds of experiences that young athletes can expect as they move into college athletics.

### New School Mascot

North Star spirit was elevated to a new level with the unveiling of the school's new mascot in January. Perhaps more than any other star in the sky, the North Star, or Polaris, in Latin, is regarded as the most important star in the heavens. Ancient Chinese astronomers regarded Polaris (the North Star) as the emperor star and Pawnee Indians referred to it as the chief star, because it represented leadership qualities known throughout all the chiefs in the galaxy. The North Star embodies the integrity and excellence of our students, our school and our athletic teams. What many people do not know is that the North Star is located directly over the North Pole and is the end-star in the tail of Ursa Minor, a mythical northern bear in the sky. For this reason, Polaris, The Bear, represents the

North Star and was the reason it was chosen as a symbolic representation at St. Charles North High School.



POLARIS, the new St. Charles North High School Mascot





## Breakfast with the Stars



The *Breakfast with the Stars* program honors individual stars within our school community. Some of the individuals nominated are out there for all of us to see and congratulate. Others are behind the scenes or who, in their quiet way, demonstrate a level of excellence through service, academics, competition, or simple kindness. Some of these students give of their special talents on a day-to-day basis in the classroom and some of them excel in our extra and co-curricular activities. Each student is unique and special in the way they share and develop our school community.

We congratulate each and every parent for providing the foundation and support at home that is so necessary to help their student achieve and realize their potential.

### STARS for the Month of December, 2002:

<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
Ms. Robin Sell	Brien Funk
Mrs. Barbv Schmit	Greg Stinton
	Katie Kurtz
Mrs. Audra Christenson	Joe Dornan
Mr. Ryan Colton	Nik Rubicz
Mr. Steve Mahoney	Chris Kus
Mrs. Janice Young	Sarah van Oss
Mr. Kevin Scotellaro	Diane Schnell
Dr. Bruce Lane	Angela Giudice
Mrs. Carolyn Roys	Bill Britton
	Jennifer Ringsby

### STARS for the Month of February, 2003:

<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
Mr. Brian Wegley	Kirk Joss
Mrs. Marsha Brown	Brett Wilson
Ms. Amy Wheeler	Mike St. John
Mr. Eric Bostrand	Rob Bremer
Ms. Dana Whisler	Andrew Elke
Mrs. Debby Scully	Laura Henderson
Mrs. Susan Terronez	Gina Sainati
Mrs. Geri Shouba	
Ms. Kirsten Pemberton	Candace DeWitt
Mrs. Kristin Williams	Susan Cholewa
Mrs. Carolyn Roys	Daniel DeNicolo
	Nicholas Hassan
	Phillip Speare
	Philip Falesch
	John Jancik
	Adrian Mancilla
	Jack Mokrousov
	Adam Werda

### STARS for the Month of January, 2003:

<u>Presenter</u>	<u>Recipient</u>
Mrs. Jennifer Shoaf	Courtney Ellis & Gwen Shales
Mr. Brian Maloney	Christina Picchi
Ms. Dawn Hall	Dominick Manusos
Dr. Natalie Nelson	Morgan Darrah
Mr. Brian Quentin	Mike Magnetta
Ms. Esther Weininger	Clare Haviar
Mr. Frank Kesman	Todd Hewell
Mrs. Carolyn Roys	Ellen McNamara
	Alex Villwock
Ms. Katie Sauber	Joseph Giudice
Mr. Matt Kirby	Kari Arnet

### THANK YOU PTO!!!

We would like to thank the PTO moms who came to the school in December and decorated the main entrance and the main entrance atrium area for the holiday season. The festive look was enjoyed by all who visited the school during the month of December.

Thank you for your time and all your hard work!

## North Star PTO News

Greetings!

This cold weather and gray scenery can only mean one thing – Spring Break is fast approaching! In the meantime, there is much that needs to be done by students, teachers and of course the PTO.

The winter months bring many events. The Winter Blast dance, sponsored by NHS and VICA, was a great kick-off to February. Our hospitality committee provided treats and volunteers for this event.

The Student Activities office has put a little excitement into our school during the lunch hours. The annual Ping-Pong Tournament is underway. Students compete and show-off their skill and talent during the lunchtime tournaments. This is ongoing through the month of February. Liza Elliott-Manser, Maryann Pelizza and Jane Meyer have been busy organizing the volunteers needed everyday for this event. Thank you to the parents who agreed to help out with this winter blues-breaking event.

The PSAE is fast approaching for our eager juniors. No, they are not eager to take this grueling two-day exam, but rather for the delicious and nutritious treats our hospitality committee provides. The PTO is happy to provide these snacks to help enable our students to do their very best on this exam.

The post prom committee continues to meet regularly in order to provide a safe and entertaining event for our students. This year the theme is "Are You Game?" We offer this at an affordable cost so all juniors and seniors are able to attend, therefore we need to offset the costs. Look for information on future fundraisers. Donations are also welcome and appreciated. Please send your donation to "SCNHS PTO" attn: Christine Krog. Parents of juniors and seniors will be receiving a letter soon with more information about the post-prom event.

Parent Resource Network has a very informative and interesting meeting planned. Our topic is "College Application Process". We have speakers discussing college admissions and giving parents tips on what colleges look for. This event is open to all community members. We invite parents of freshman (no, it's NOT too early), sophomores, and juniors to join us and bring your questions! We will meet from 7-9 p.m. at the Administration Building on Tuesday, March 18<sup>th</sup>.

As we have all read in the newspapers, the referendum is coming up for a vote on April 1<sup>st</sup>. We urge all residents of District 303 to please vote. SCN students 18 and over may register to vote in the school office with Mrs. Zucker. They may do so Monday through Friday from 7:20 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. They must bring two forms of identification with them. We also invite parents and community members to register to vote at our school.

In regards to the election date, please note that April 1<sup>st</sup> happens to fall during Spring Break. Please keep that in mind and absentee vote. You can vote absentee at the County Clerk's office. The phone number at the County Clerk's office is 232-5992 for an application. The entire process can be done by mail!

Anyone interested in helping with the referendum is invited to visit the Excellence in Education website at [www.d303Excellence.org](http://www.d303Excellence.org). Any help you can give is appreciated - even putting a sign in your yard is a terrific contribution.

On Wednesday, March 5, we will host an informational meeting about the referendum. We urge all concerned residents to attend this meeting with your questions. Everyone from the community is invited. Join us in the LRC from 7-9 p.m. for this important school and community issue.

We have been busy working on the PTO by-laws. Copies of the revised by-laws will be in the main office soon. We encourage PTO members to pick up a copy and review it before we vote on the changes.

Respectfully,

Kim Cook        PTO President  
Jan Stark        PTO Vice-President

**Please note the following changes and corrections for your directory:**

Giamberdina, Tony and Donna	student: Gina	630-513-7941
Kowal, Bill and Rose	student: David	630- 377- 6377
Krog, Christine (parent)	email change:	<a href="mailto:christinekrog@sbc.global.net">christinekrog@sbc.global.net</a>

**PARENT RESOURCE NETWORK**

Parent Resource Network continues to offer quality presentations and opportunity for discussion with the final two programs of the season.

**Topic: College Applications and Admissions**

Tuesday, March 18, 2003 7-9 PM  
St. Charles Administration Building

Our speakers are former admissions officers that will be available to answer questions and give us a look at the admission process. Students are welcome and encouraged to attend.

**Topic: Teen Driving – Fact or Fiction?**

Tuesday, April 15, 2003 7-9 PM  
St. Charles Administration Building

Informal discussion with parents and students.

**Future Teacher Speaks at FEA Luncheon**

Melissa Orr, President of the Future Educators of America at St. Charles North High School, was amongst other student speakers at the 5th annual Future Educators partnership luncheon at Aurora University on January 30, 2003.

The program featured the students individually detailing FEA activities at their home schools and involvement at the local and national level. Topics included the summer 2002 FEA conference; “Me and My Shadow”, a job shadowing experience held at Aurora University; the FEA National Conferences and local chapter “Doings”. The event was held at the University Banquet Hall.

Representing 12 school districts over 100 students, faculty sponsors, principals, school board presidents; regional office of education representatives, education foundation chairmen, education association and teacher’s union presidents, and AU faculty attended. Recognition was given to those groups who have generously supported the program – Phi Delta Kappa Chapter 0100; Karen Ryder and Scott Kiner, 3M Regional Office; and Richard Hawks, Board of Trustees of Aurora University. Jeannie Hastert, retired teacher and wife of Dennis Hastert, Speaker of the House, was also recognized as a special guest.



Top row: Vanessa Perez, President of FEA at STCE; Martha Feddern, advisor STCE; Clem Mejia, Superintendent of Kane County Regional Office of Education; Colleen Fasbender, advisor SCN  
Bottom row: Dr. Char Peterson, President SCEA; Dr. Carol Viola, Program Advisor of Initial certification Programs at Aurora University; Frank Kesman, Principal of SCN; Melissa Orr, President of FEA at SCN



## **STUDENT ACTIVITIES**



### **Lazarus House Toiletry Drive**

North Star Council and Key Club members will be collecting toiletry items for the Lazarus House in St. Charles. Volunteers will be located at the Dominick's and Jewel food stores located on Route 38 from 8:00 am - 5:00 pm on Saturday, March 1<sup>st</sup>, 2003.

### **NCD Spring Convention**

Twenty students will be attending the North Central District's Student Council Spring Convention on March 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> in Rockford, Illinois. Members will meet with other area schools, share ideas, discuss leadership skills, and vote on the members of the NCD executive board for the 2003-2004 school year.

### **Northern Illinois Food Bank**

St. Charles North High School has sponsored the third Saturday of the month for food sorting at the Northern Illinois Food Bank in St. Charles. Volunteering is from 8:30 am - 12:00 pm. The remaining dates for the year are March 15, April 19 & May 17. This is a great opportunity for students to earn service hours and meet new students. A sign-up list is located in the Student Activities Office. For more information visit the Food Bank website at [www.northernilfoodbank.org](http://www.northernilfoodbank.org).

### **Sadie Hawkins Dance**

The Sadie Hawkins Dance will be on March 15<sup>th</sup>, from 8:00-11:00 pm. Tickets will be available for purchase during the week of March 10<sup>th</sup>. Tickets are \$8 per person with advanced purchase and \$10 per person if purchased at the door. Sadies 80's is a great time for students to socialize in a less formal setting.

### **LEAD Conference**

Morgan Andrews, Dipika Cherala, Jessica Cohen, Alissa DePue, and Rachel Eliasek will be representing St. Charles North at the LEAD Conference in New Orleans from March 21-23. They will have the opportunity to meet leaders from other schools, share ideas and discuss their school environments.

### **Mr. SCN**

The 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Mr. St. Charles North (Mr. SCN) will be held on Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> in the auditorium. Time TBA. Junior and Senior males will compete to be crowned Mr. SCN. This event starts the Prom excitement and is used as a fundraiser to supplement prom costs.

### **PTO Pasta Dinner**

The PTO Pasta Dinner will be held on May 3<sup>rd</sup> preceding the Spring Musical. Funds raised will go towards the May 10<sup>th</sup> Post Prom Activities at Gameworks. More details to follow.

### **Prom**

Our 2<sup>nd</sup> prom, "A Mid Summer's Night Dream", will be held from 8:00-10:30 pm on Saturday, May 10<sup>th</sup> at the Pheasant Run Resort in St. Charles. Theme colors for the dance are purple, green and gold.

### **School Beautification Project**

The School Beautification Committee will be hosting a plethora o' planting on May 17<sup>th</sup>. Refreshments will be served. More details to follow.

### **Reminder**

You can check out all of our activities at the Student Council Web page linked off of Activities. Included is a calendar of activities and events. Please send questions or comments to [NSC@d303.org](mailto:NSC@d303.org).

## *Principal's Newsletter*

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March 2003

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### **“BETWEEN THE LINES”**



As we conclude the winter season and prepare for the spring season there are a few “housekeeping” details that all perspective North Star athletes and their families should be aware of.

Tryouts for all spring sports always start on the first day of the season. In general, if there will be cuts, (as determined by the number of participants reporting and the “slots” available) tryouts for each team will encompass the first 3 to 5 days of practice. It is imperative that all athletes attend all the tryout sessions. Coach’s decisions are based on athletic performance during the tryout period, and not what local club or traveling team they train with.

In order to facilitate the start of each season, it is required that all athletes participating in a sport (this includes tryouts) must have a physical and parent permission form on file in the Athletic Office prior to any participation. Physicals are good for one calendar year only. Parents, please help your athlete make sure this requirement is met prior to the season start.

Lastly, the spring is a time of unpredictable weather which reeks havoc with the daily athletic schedule. Contests are rescheduled due to weather as close to 2:00 p.m. as possible by agreement of all athletic programs. Please check the Athletic Section of the school website, under Days’ Events for the most up-to-date information. This site is the first change made by our office and will provide everyone with the most current status. Please note you can also get directions and maps to any school in the state at this web address as well.

If the performance of the fall and winter athletes is any indication, look for lots of excitement and success from our Spring North Star athletes. Even if you do not have a student/athlete in your home, the North Stars (and the Saints) exhibit all the best there is in High School athletics. Come to a game and enjoy the excitement.

**GO NORTH STARS!**

**SCN Web Site**

**[www.d303.org/schools/scn](http://www.d303.org/schools/scn)**

**Click “Athletics”**

**Spring Starting Dates**

Girls: Badminton, Softball	3-03-03
Boys: Baseball, Tennis	3-03-03
Girls: Soccer	3-10-03
Boys: Volleyball	3-10-03
Boys’ & Girls’ Track	1-13-03





**CALENDAR DATES TO REMEMBER**

- ✓ **Mar 11:** NHS Choral & 8<sup>th</sup> Gr. Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **Mar 13:** Orchestra & 8<sup>th</sup> Grade Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **Mar 15:** Sadie Hawkins Dance; NHS; 8:00 PM-11:00 PM
- ✓ **Mar 17:** Spanish Nat'l Honor Soc. Induction Ceremony
- ✓ **Mar 17:** PTO Meeting; LRC; 7:00 PM
- ✓ **Mar 20:** Band Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **Mar 21:** End of Third Quarter
- ✓ **Mar 31-Apr 4:** Spring Break
- ✓ **Apr 7:** School Resumes
- ✓ **Apr 12:** ACT Testing; 6:00 AM-1:00 PM
- ✓ **Apr 15:** Mr. North Star Show, Auditorium, TBA
- ✓ **Apr 17:** Band Concert; Auditorium/7:30 PM
- ✓ **Apr 18:** NO SCHOOL - Teacher's Institute Day
- ✓ **Apr 21:** PTO Meeting; LRC; 7:00 PM
- ✓ **Apr 22:** SAT Class (Huntington); Rms 432-435; 5:00 PM-9:30 PM
- ✓ **Apr 29:** SAT Class (Huntington); Rms 432-435; 5:00 PM - 9:30 PM
- ✓ **May 1-3:** Spring Musical (Fiddler on the Roof); Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **May 5-6:** AP Testing; TBA
- ✓
- ✓ **May 6:** Variety Show; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **May 7-9:** AP Testing; TBA
- ✓ **May 8:** Jazz Choir Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **May 12-16:** AP Testing; TBA
- ✓ **May 13:** Academic Teams Banquet; Cafeteria; 6:00 PM
- ✓ **May 14:** Student Council Banquet; Cafeteria; TBA
- ✓ **May 15:** Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **May 15:** Honors Night; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **May 19:** Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **May 19:** PTO Meeting; LRC; 7:00 PM
- ✓ **May 20:** Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **May 23-24:** One Act Plays; Auditorium;
- ✓ **May 26:** NO SCHOOL - Memorial Day
- ✓ **May 27:** Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:30 PM
- ✓ **May 29:** Underclassmen Music Concert; Auditorium; 7:00 PM
- ✓ **May 29:** Sr. Sunset BBQ
- ✓ **May 30:** Sr. Breakfast/Practice for Graduation
- ✓ **June 1:** **GRADUATION!!!! 3:30 PM**
- ✓ **June 4:** Last Day of School (if no snow days)
- ✓ **June 7:** SAT Testing; 1<sup>st</sup> Floor Classrooms; 6:00 AM
- ✓ **June 9:** Summer School Begins





**A community dedicated to achievement and growth through  
discovery, cooperation, preparation, and inspiration.**