

SPORTS BOOSTERS
Board Members

President
Greg Jackman (interim)

Vice-President
Ed Kane (interim)

Secretary
Kara Gaffino

Treasurer
Kathy Jackman

Finance
Roger Curless

Athletic Director
Jason Buckley

Principal
Chuck Hiscock

Faculty Representative
Chris Ranallo

Communications
Donna Olson, chair
Tom Herget

Concessions
Greg Davis, co-chair
Michelle Sak, co-chair
Sara Davis

Membership
John Lehman, chair
(interim)
Diane Thomas

Merchandise
Bella Love, chair
Kim DesJardine

Projects
Joe Kosner, Chair
Bill Corbin, 50/50 & yard signs
Scott Voris, golf outing
Mike Poppen, golf outing
Ray Roos, programs
Fay Griffin
Mark Theis

Social Activities
Rhonda Mont, chair
Jill Muth

Volunteers
Kathy Baumann, chair
(interim)

Members at Large
Linda Barber
Harry Koth
Neal Ormond
John Sudges

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Fellow Blackhawk Families, Friends, and Fans,

As we conclude another school year we say goodbye to our Senior Athletes and wish the well in their future. Supporting our student athletes and sharing their accomplishments is what makes the West Aurora Blackhawks program so successful. The West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters have been supporting our athletes and teams since 1970, and we have contributed well over a million dollars to date.

As of the June Board meeting we have introduced the new Blackhawk Sports Boosters Board for the 2014-15 school year, who are listed in this newsletter. The Blackhawk Sports Boosters look forward to your continued support in helping out all the athletic programs. In addition to your financial help by becoming a Sports Booster Member, why not join the fun and volunteer your time through a variety of positions. We will continue producing and publishing our own programs for the fall, winter, and spring seasons which we are hopeful will become an annual revenue stream in supporting our student athletes.

The Athletic Department and the Sports Boosters have done the "Wish List" for all sports at the high school, further information regarding the capital items will be in in the fall newsletter.

Again, thank you for your continued support for the West Aurora Blackhawks. Your generosity means a great deal to our athletes and community.

Roll on, you Blackhawks Roll...

John Sudges
(outgoing) President, Blackhawk Sports Boosters

FOUNDED IN 1970,
The West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters is the official athletics fundraising organization of West Aurora High School. Since its inception, the Boosters have raised more than one million dollars toward support of athletic scholarships, equipment and supplies. This year, thanks to your contribution, the Boosters have proudly provided more than \$65,000 to support our coaches' 'Wish List' requests!

The West Aurora Sports Boosters Newsletter is now electronic on the district website at westhigh.sd129.org—Athletics & Activities—
Blackhawk Sports Boosters

If you still wish to receive a paper copy, please contact Donna Olson at 630-892-7299 or at BlackhawkSportsBoosters@gmail.com

Save These Dates

August 13
First Day of Athletics

August 20
First Day of School

August 22
Fall Sports Jamboree
5:30-8:30 PM

August 29
Football vs. Geneva
Soph 5:00 PM
Varsity 7:30 PM

Sept. 22-26
Homecoming Week

October 24
Fall Sports Senior Night

If you are going to achieve excellence in big things, you develop the habit in little matters. Excellence is not an exception, it is a prevailing attitude. —Colin Powell

Check out the WAHS athletic website at: <http://il.8to18.com/westaurora>

BOOSTERS GRANT WISHES



Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors

PLATINUM

A+ Foundation
Aurora Dental Group Dr. Anthony
Glorioso

GOLD

Dart Container
Dreyer, Foote, Streit, Furgason,
& Slocum, P.A.
Dreyer Sports Medicine
Kirhofer's Sports
Lincolnway Dental Center
Old Second Bank
Sure Smile Dental - Dr Scott Sommers

SILVER

American Family Insurance - Joe Kosner
Bancroft Family Dental
Cordogan Clark & Associates
Country Financial - Stan Butler
Innovative Periodontics c/o Don Flynn DDS,
PC
Jimmy John's
Lindstrom Chiropractic Clinic
North Aurora Landscaping & Lawn Services
Waubensee Community College

BRONZE

Dave Deisher Plumbing
HAWK'EM
Healy Chapel
Nedrow Decorating, Inc
Northwest Pool Service, Inc
Photography by Feltes
State Farm Insurance - Rodrigo Menendez
Van's Lock & Key Inc.

Chalk Talk

A Lap with Lopez

On the beat with Ray, West's badminton coach

By Tom Herget

One of Aurora's finest leads West's badminton teams. While a full time police officer, Ray finds the time and the interest to lead our ladies in this physically demanding and intense sport.

Ray grew up on the other side of the Fox, where he attended Brady, Simmons and East High. As a Tomcat athlete, Ray played football and baseball and wrestled. The wrestling coach suggested badminton as a conditioner. A doubting Ray was soon converted after an exhausting ten-minute match.

Badminton is a spring sport, commencing at the end of February and concluding in May. Ray runs a three week summer program for the girls, with two hours for middle schoolers and two hours for current Blackhawks. Ray has two assistants to help him with the three levels, frosh, jayvee and varsity.

Coach Lopez' undergraduate work was kinesiology and health, studying at Waubensee and at NIU. In 1994, Ray became a police officer. He currently is a patrolman on the west side, presumably doing more than scouring the streets for future badminton candidates.

Ray has many interests. He was a nationally ranked martial arts expert. He has run a judo clinic, a sport in which he holds a black belt. He has appeared in many drama/musical/theatre productions.

Ray enjoys spending time with youth. Fulfilling his need to give to the community, charging his student athletes to do well and showing kids how things might be in the future give him an inner gratification. He advises them to lighten up at times; he enjoys his role as mentor. Coaching at this level keeps him young.

Ray's wife Elizabeth, a piano major, is a bilingual teacher at Krug. Together they have son Evan, a confirmed gym rat. J

Ray has six years under his belt as our coach. He has done well protecting our court and serving the youth. We hope he stays on patrol with us for many years to come.

Spring Scholar Athletes

Congratulations to the almost 200 athletes who earned a grade point of 3.5 or higher!



BASEBALL

Alexandrou, George
Catalano, Nicholas
Hartigan, Blake
Palmbly, Connor
Zimmerman, Taylor
Argueta, Jaime
Arsenault, Jacob
Butcher, Zachary
Hannan, Trevor
Kauffmann, Brett
Wyeth, Cody
Andalcio, Jacob
Liebelt, Jared
Love, Logan
Palmbly, Seth
Rundle, Cole
Shliff, Tyler
Tunney, James
Walden, Kyle

SOCCER

Flores, Jocelyn
Malczyk, Brianna
Ortiz Porcayo, Jessica
Palacios Ferrer, Mylene
Quade, Rachel
Reyes, Yarely
Torres, Evelyn
Chavez, Jacqueline
Guzman, Andrea
Jamieson, Jadae
Lehman, Jillian
Rojas, Anna
Shropshire, Ashley
Smith, Malley
Hix, Carli

Kulakowski, Reilly
Mejia, Jasmine
Pealstrom, Hannah
Rotolo, Alicia
Stephens, Katharine
Torres, Karla
Truckenbrod, Taylor
Zeitz, Abriya
Zeitz, Mariyah
Ziman, Bailey

TENNIS

Castillo, David
Kropp, Charles
Lannefeld, William
Castillo, Evan
Chaidez, Meliton
Lathan, Adam
Quach, Ariq
Resko, Joseph
Sodetz, Kenneth
Stanton, Rordan
Isiminger, William
La, Brandon
Mc Carney, Shawn
Merluzzi, Julian
Rodriguez, Christopher
Spooner, Adam

SOFTBALL

Butler, Sydney
Chuk, Vanessa
Gallagher, Caiti
Garcia, Melanie
Getz, Alyssa
Gramly, Kaylee
Hansen, Sarah
Ortlieb, Bridgette
Pawlak, Megan
Swayze, Savannah
Erickson, Claire
Kantola, Emaily
Fidler, Melissa
McArdle, Julie
McCreedy, Jamie
Rundle, Kallie
Bailey, Margaret
Beatus, Hannah
Frauenhoff, Carley
Hayton, Kaylee
Hunger, Victoria
Jimenez, Cara
Kovanic, Laura
McCreedy, Corey
Mikyska, Jessica
Podschweit, Kendall
Podschweit, Taylor

**SPECIAL
SHOUT-
OUT
TO
VARSITY
SOFTBALL
WITH A
3.92
OVERALL
GPA!!!**



VOLLEYBALL

Delgado, Noah
Hanson, Ryan
Little, Matthew
Locke, Spencer
Azem, Noah
Erickson, Tyler
Plain, John
Wellington, Jordan
Evans, Taylor
Garcia, Tommy
Golembeck, Ryan
Kilmer, Chase
Lavery, Dean
Spooner, William
Thwaits, William
Catania, Nicholas
Chaurize, Jacob
Fitzgerald, Adam
Haverkate, Erik
Reynolds, Justin
Roggeman, James
Franco, Kate
Greenwood, Alison
Poss, Emily
Thayer, Emmalee

GIRLS TRACK & FIELD

Aguilar, Jennifer
Barry, Carmen
Bishop, Courtney
Blunt, Qianna
Dunah, Kardia
Garcia, Daniela
Hatcher, Amber
McCleary, Kara
Moreno, Candelaria
Muth, Lindsay
Pryer, Mabrianne
Sanderfoot, Alexandra
Simms, Lauryn
Aguilar, Gabriela
Gollwitzer, Miranda
Hunt, Samya
Marion, Maya
McClendon, Jemya
Rachow, Leah
Rayford, Tamia
Santos, Theresa
Siler, Jade
Smith, Jessica
Spagnola, Emma
Walton, Kyla

BADMINTON

Aguirre, Anahi
Hussaini, Nabaa
Jones, Reilly
Klokova, Alexandra
Leifheit, Kendyll
Melendez, Angelise
Rady, Shayla
Rico, Selica
Hussaini, Sarah
Johnsen, Alissa
LaFond, Annabelle
Laurx, Joanna
Pratomo, Devinta
Tovar, Rosa
Townsend, Kelly
Vongphakdy, Khaunsavan
Dumba, Christin
Garcia, Mayra
Moenkemier, Amber
Olson, Kerri
Poppen, Jordyn
Saucedo, Cynthia
Shahid, Hiba
Sutarik, Mary
Moser, KaiLoni

BOYS TRACK & FIELD

Gonzalez, Oscar
Komes, Bradley
Baleegh, Mohammud
Cavender, Luke
Zak, Jason
Puga, Jessica
Avila, Frank
Barbush, Jacob
Boland, Graeme
Bradford, John Ross
Brown, Corey
Carpentier, Kyle
Cavender, Noah
Chavez, Enrique
Churchill, Andrew
DeBolt, Alex
Gebremichael, Nahom
Herrera, Jonathan
Martinez, Francisco
Berg, Michael
Dray, Benjamin
Esposito, Luke
Golembeck, Randy
Huynh, Phuc
Murray, Alec



Girls Track 2014



West Aurora girl's track and field had a very successful showing this 2014 season. The girls won every invite they competed in. Our season started with the Hononegah Indoor Invite that consisted of 28 schools. We had many outstanding performances and Emma Spagnola was voted MVP for the running events. The DVC Indoor meet brought great excitement in that we had many great performances like our 4 x 800 relay placing third which consisted of a group of girls that had only run this event once prior to the DVC. We also had Elisa Zinn stunned the crowd by her phenomenal performance of cutting a deficit of 12 meters and passing the opposing team right at the finish line. She later returned to claim the 200 meter title. The 1600 meter relay closed the door of any hopes that Naperville Central had of claiming the Indoor Championship when Kyla Walton, Joslyn Noel, Jade Siler, and Tamia Rayford captured the title for that event, which put the team ahead by 2 points and clinched the Indoor DVC Championship.

The Outdoor season was yet another exciting adventure in that the team captured the Downers Grove Invite title for the 2nd straight year and Emma Spagnola won 4 individual titles and Kyla Walton ran the 300 hurdles for her 1st invite showing in State qualifying time. The team went on to capture five more titles. The Lockport Invite where Nadine Dunsing was crown queen of pole vault and SaMya Hunt threw 126'11" in the discus to capture the title. The Kane County Invite was another title and Emma Spagnola broke the 300 m hurdles record and Rajiah Andrews had an outstanding performance in the triple jump and 100 m dash. Outdoor DVC is where Maya Marion captured 2 individual titles in the shot put and the discus, Emma Spagnola captured 4 titles in the long jump, 100m dash, and the 100 and 300 m hurdles title, the 400 m relay, that consisted of Tatyana Skokan, Tamia Rayford, Rajiah Andrews, and Elisa Zinn unexpectedly captured that title and to top it all Tamia Rayford stole the 400 m dash title from Simeon Carr who was the DVC all - time champion 7 times in that event. Tamia took the lead as soon as the gun fired and she never relinquished her lead. She ran her best time of the season of 57.76 which is .30 off of the school record. The girls went on to capture the Sectional Title with seven girls plus four alternates qualifying for the State Meet. Emma Spagnola led the way by winning the Long jump with her best leap of the year of 19'1.75" and the 100 m hurdles in record time with a time of 13.83. She also won the 300 m hurdles and the anchor leg of the 1600 m relay. Other qualifiers were Elisa Zinn in the 100 m dash, Maya Marion- shot, SaMya Hunt – discus, Kyla Walton – long jump and 300 m hurdles, and Rebecca Moore – pole vault and Tamia Rayford (the only freshman) in the 400 m dash.

The season ended with the girls' performance at the State track meet. The girls took 2nd in the State as Emma Spagnola led the way again placing third in the long jump and capturing two State titles in the 100 and 300 m hurdles. Maya Marian took 7th in the shot put with a new record of 42'6" and Tamia Rayford placing 8th in the 400 m dash. The 1600 m relay was the last event and the girls' took 3rd place and it consisted of Elisa Zinn, Kyla Walton, Tamia Rayford and Emma Spagnola with a new record time of 3:50.06. Emma Spagnola is a candidate for the Gatorade Player of the Year.



Boys Baseball 2014



The 2013 Blackhawks finished the season 8-22 overall and 6-15 in the DVC. The Blackhawks lost in the Regional Quarterfinal to conference foe Naperville North 3-0. 2 players were named All-Conference: Senior Outfielder D.J. Varney and Senior Shortstop Mike Golich. 2 Blackhawks were named Honorable Mention All-Conference: Senior Second baseman Jacob Andalcio and Junior Catcher Seth Palmby. Team Captains were D.J. Varney and Jacob Andalcio and the MVP was D.J. Varney for the second year in a row. The Baseball team continues play this summer at both the Varsity and Sophomore levels. Also, the baseball program held its 5th annual summer camp from June 9th - June 12th for 6th, 7th, 8th & 9th graders. This year marked the highest involvement in the camp so far.



Girls Softball 2014

The Softball Team finished with an overall record of 16-15, going 5-9 in DVC Conference play (6th place finish). Impressive wins included a double header sweep of St. Charles East (2nd place in state in 2013) and one of the top three teams in the area when we played them, as well as wins over Bolingbrook and DeKalb. The team won its first regional game 6-4 over Plainfield East before falling in the regional championship game to Downers Grove South.

Cara Jimenez (so.) and Kaylee Hayton (sr.) were selected as first team all DVC and Gianna Drager (sr.) and Taylor Podshweit (jr.) were selected as honorable mention all DVC. Jimenez was the leading hitter finishing with a .437 average, 4 home runs, 25 runs scored and 30 RBI's. Hayton was 10-10 on the mound, with a 2.35 E.R.A. with 134 strikeouts in 125 innings pitched. Freshman Hannah Beatus was 6-5 on the mound, with a 2.31 E.R.A. and 94 strikeouts in 88 innings pitched.

Podschweit, the starting shortstop, was hitting .442 with 2 home-runs, 12 RBI's, and 14 runs scored before suffering a broken leg at Glenbard East to end her season prematurely. Drager, a three year varsity starter, hit .309 with 20 runs scored, while playing outstanding defense in center field for the Blackhawks.

Cheerleading



Over the course of the 2013-2014 school year the West Aurora cheerleaders have achieved many accomplishments, pushed themselves to grow as individuals and as teams and have had a fun-filled experience along the way.

Being away at a Universal Cheerleading Association summer camp hosted by The University of Illinois was something refreshing for the beginning of the season that brought new skills to the surface and allowed the girls to start the team bonding process. There, they were able to learn and master their extreme routine which was featured here at Wests' Homecoming half-time show. Not only were both the varsity and JV squads successful in attaining rankings for their various skills at camp, but three of our very own varsity cheerleaders, Shalesa Hetherington, Morgan Poppen and Emma Scatterday, proved to be worthy of The All American Cheerleader title.

Some highlights of long Fall and Winter season include having the opportunity to work with a private tumbling instructor over the course of a total of three and half months. During this time, the girls were able to work on perfecting their existing skills while acquiring new, higher-level skills too. All season long they strived to improve flexibility, build strength and raise their standards to keep reaching personal bests.

This season they also attended a competition in Rolling Meadows that acted as a means for the DVC cheerleading teams to perform for each other in placement of the Spirit Spectacular. All the hard work, persistence and dedication these teams contributed in preparation for this event showed as a final result. The varsity squad showed leaps and bounds of improvement from day one and certainly matured in each category that included motions/dance, jumps, tumbling and stunting. The JV squad took home their first victory of 3rd place in the medium junior varsity division. Hopefully in the future this program will have many more like it.

There is no way of justifying in a short summary how proud Coach Bannack and Coach Ropeter are of all of these young ladies. Each one unique in their own way, yet all display exquisite character, sportsmanship, drive, commitment, confidence, leadership skills, overall raw talent and an extraordinary amount of heart. They are a prime example of why West is best. Looking back on all of the success and memories created throughout the season; it's very obvious that the teams in years to come will have some very big shoes to fill.



Chalk Talk

No Rough at this Diamond

Meet John Reeves, West's baseball coach
By Tom Herget

West is happy to boast one of its own as the Blackhawk's baseball coach. John Reeves is a member of the class of '96 and enjoyed over 70 wins in his career as a West High baseball player.

John got his start in T-ball, playing for the North Aurora firemen. John is very glad his mom forced him to participate, as he enjoyed his subsequent days in North Aurora baseball with Old Second, Chemlawn (they always had the best infield) and Bennett Dry Wall.

At West, the baseball season starts in January with open gym. The spring season goes from March to May and the summer squad plays from June to July. About 20 boys make the squad. Selecting those 20 from the 35 or so who try out is John's most difficult task of the year.

John hosts a middle school baseball camp in June. This attracts incoming freshmen as well as aspiring seventh and eighth graders. John's season is significantly enhanced by the performance of six assistant coaches as well as four volunteer coaches. This instruction is invaluable to the five squads (varsity, junior varsity, sophomore, freshman A and freshman B) under Coach Reeves' umbrella.

Speaking of umbrellas, 2013 was a tough year as so many games were rained out. And 2014 wasn't much better, as Old Man Winter gave the early season the cold shoulder.

John is an Aurora guy. Born here, he attended Goodwin elementary school and Washington middle school. He didn't stray far as he went to Aurora University. There the catcher excelled on the Spartan's baseball squad. AU was a top 25 team every year John was there. John holds AU's record for most times hit by pitch, both career and season. We hope he was wearing a quality batting helmet.

At AU, John majored in history and secondary education. He applies this knowledge as a history teacher at West, where he has been since 2001. It was there that he met Taylor Peterson, a biology teacher. You may recall that Taylor was a star softball pitcher at West and played at Syracuse and Aurora. This couple has more than one diamond in common, as they are now happily married, as their dogs Kodiak and Gabby will attest.

We won't balk at saying that John's love for the game as well as love for the students is a positive attribute for our school and community.



Boys Volleyball 2014

Boys volleyball capped an 8-27 campaign this Spring Season. Notables were Justin Reynolds achieving All-Conference accolades, as a sophomore. Young squad with a very high ceiling. We only graduated two players, returning six starters, including freshmen Thomas Kovanic. We are expecting a strong team in 2015 and 2016.

West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters Support Hope Wall School

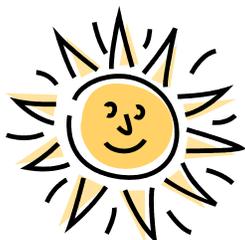
Thanks to the support received from our membership and those who support the Blackhawk Sports Boosters, a request from Hope Wall School for a portable electronic scoreboard for their athletic events was fulfilled this summer. Hope Wall is a part of the West Aurora School District and offers athletic opportunities for its students. For some time they have been using a manual system. The request as made for a contribution to help fund the purchase of a portable, electronic score board that could be used for multiple sporting events. The Blackhawk Booster Board agreed to make the complete purchase and the scoreboard was secured this summer. Thanks again to all who support the Blackhawk Sports Boosters for making this donation to the students at Hope Wall School possible.





Spring Sports State Competitors

DaVion Cross (tr)
 Samya Hunt (tr)
 Maya Marion (tr)
 Braeden McCue (tr)
 Connor McCue (tr)
 Rebecca Moore (tr)
 Tamia Rayford (tr)
 Emma Spagnola (tr)
 Christopher Walker (tr)
 Kyla Walton (tr)
 Elisa Zinn (tr)



IHSA State Medalists

1st Place – 100 M Hurdles – Emma Spagnola
 1st Place – 300 M Low Hurdles – Emma Spagnola
 2nd Place – Triple Jump – Christopher Walker
 3rd Place – Long Jump – Emma Spagnola
 3rd Place – 4x400 M Relay - Elisa Zinn, Kyla Walton, Tamia Rayford & Emma Spagnola
 7th Place – Shot Put - Maya Marion
 8th Place – 400 M Dash - Tamia Rayford

School Records/Milestones

Girls Tennis	Emily Stefancic - 100 career wins
Girls Diving	Shannon Sullivan - 11 Dive – 417.10
Boys Basketball	Jontrell Walker - 1772 points - All time leading scorer Jontrell Walker - 842 points – DVC - All time leading scorer
Track (Girls)	Emma Spagnola - DVC Indoor - 55 M Hurdles – 8.02 Emma Spagnola - DVC Indoor – Long Jump – 19’-00.0” Emma Spagnola - 13.83 – 100 M Hurdles Emma Spagnola – 42:45 – 300 M L Hurdles Emma Spagnola - Long Jump – 19’-1.5” Maya Marion – 42’6 – Shot Put 4x400 M Relay - Elisa Zinn, Kyla Walton, Tamia Rayford and Emma Spagnola – 3:50.06



Be a
PART

•of
it!

West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters
2112 West Galena Blvd., Suite 8-187
Aurora, Illinois 60506

Address Service Requested

Spring 2014 NEWSLETTER
Chalk Talk with Coach Ray Lopez
& Coach John Reeves
Spring Sports Updates

Check out our webpage at westhigh.sd129.org—Athletics
& Activities—Blackhawk Sports Boosters
Membership for the 14-15 school year will begin in July.
Online membership registration is available.

DATES TO REMEMBER:

- July 1**—Online registration open for Fall Sports at <http://il.8to18.com/westaurora>—Registration Link
- July 1**—Join the Sports Boosters for 2014-2015 sports season! Go to westhigh.sd129.org—Athletics & Activities—
Blackhawk Sports Boosters—Resources—Membership Registration available online and by mail.
- August 21** (Thurs) – G Golf vs SE/BAR/SWD – Valley Green & Orchard
- August 23** (Sat) - Fall Athlete Picture Day - 8am to 12pm
- August 26** (Tues)- G Volleyball vs Oswego East 4:30/5:30pm – Main Gym
- August 26** (Tues) – B Soccer vs West Chicago 4:30/6:30pm – Stadium
- August 28** (Thurs) – B Golf vs East Aurora 4pm – Bliss Creek & Orchard
- August 30** (Sat) – G Tennis V & JV Invite – WAHS Tennis Courts 8am
- September 4** (Thurs) – WAHS Open House – 6 to 8pm
- September 9** (Tues) – G Swim vs Plainfield Coop @ IMSA 5pm
- October 11** (Sat) – G & B Cross Country Stampede Invite @ Stuart Sports Complex 8:30am