

**SPORTS BOOSTERS**  
Board Members

- President**  
John Sudges
- Vice-President**  
Kathy Baumann
- Secretary**  
Kara Gaffino
- Treasurer**  
Kathy Jackman
- Finance**  
Roger Curless
- Athletic Director**  
Jason Buckley
- Principal**  
Chuck Hiscock
- Faculty Representative**  
Nate Eimer
- Communications**  
Donna Olson, chair  
Tom Herget
- Concessions**  
Greg Davis, co-chair  
Michelle Sak, co-chair  
Sara Davis
- Membership**  
John Lehman, chair  
Diane Thomas  
Jen Hayden
- Merchandise**  
Bella Love, chair  
Kim DesJardine  
Fay Griffin  
Vicki Rachow
- Projects**  
Harry Koth, co-chair  
Kristi Laurx, co-chair  
Bill Corbin, 50/50  
Scott Voris, golf outing  
Mike Poppen, golf outing  
Ray Roos, programs  
Mark Theis  
Aaron Hayden
- Social Activities**  
Rhonda Mont, chair  
Jill Muth
- Team Parent Co-Chairs**  
Ken Palmbly  
Jena Palmbly
- Volunteers**  
Trent Lange
- Members at Large**  
Linda Barber  
Ed Kane  
Greg Jackman  
Neal Ormond

**A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT**

Dear Fellow Blackhawk Families, Friends, and Fans,

As we conclude another Winter Sports season and look forward to the spring the West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters will continue fundraising to support Athletics. 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.

We are at the beginning stages with nominations for the Blackhawk Sports Boosters Board for the 2014-15 academic school years. 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. As always if you are interested in serving or just volunteering with the Board please feel free to contact us. Like in years past I am very excited with the enthusiasm, dedication, and the support this Board brings to the table each year.

The Athletic Department and the Sports Boosters have been busy fulfilling the "Wish List" for all sports at the high school and middle schools, further information regarding the capital items will be on the website. Make your plans now to attend the Annual West Aurora Blackhawk Golf outing on Friday, June 13th.

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

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!

**Save These Dates**

**April 19**

**Boys Track**  
John Bell Invite  
10:00 AM

**April 22**

**Girls Track**  
vs. Glenbard North & Glenbard East  
4:30 PM

**April 24**

**Girls Badminton**  
Senior Night vs. Naperville North  
4:30 PM

**May 7**

**Girls Soccer**  
Senior Night vs. Naperville North  
6:30 PM

**May 12**

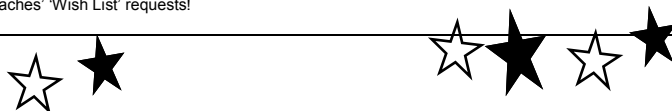
**Boys Tennis**  
Senior Night vs. Batavia  
4:00 PM

Success is where preparation and opportunity meet.

—Bobby Unser

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

**BOOSTERS GRANT WISHES**





You can still be a part of the West Aurora Sports Boosters!

To print a membership application, copy this link and go to:

[http://westhigh.sd129.org/www/ud00/2/2857474694a1471a8e932e8aedfdc00/Personal\\_Documents/Sports%20Boosters%20Membership%20Form.pdf](http://westhigh.sd129.org/www/ud00/2/2857474694a1471a8e932e8aedfdc00/Personal_Documents/Sports%20Boosters%20Membership%20Form.pdf)

To join online, copy this link and go to:

<http://sd129.revtrak.net/tek9.asp?pg=products&grp=57>

To visit our Sports Boosters website, copy this link and go to:

<http://westhigh.sd129.org>

Then go to ATHLETICS and ACTIVITIES  
then go to SPORTS BOOSTERS

**It's  
not  
too  
late...**

# Chalk Talk

## Play Ball with Paul

### Meet West's Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach Kieffer

By Tom Herget

College hoops has Brandon Paul, the NBA has Chris Paul, but West Aurora has its own Paul, Paul Kieffer.

While not quite in the hoops stratosphere as these namesakes, our Paul is a hallmark of the Blackhawks' basketball program. Coach Kieffer has been toting clipboard and whistle for 19 years.

After participating in football, basketball and track at Galena High School, Paul went to Augustana where he earned his BA in History. He also lost a bachelorhood though, as there he met his future wife Heather.

The two came to Aurora in 1995. Heather, in addition to being a homemaker, has worked in sales, now for the shipping company K-Line. Paul immediately started teaching history at West. Subsequently, he earned his MA in Educational Leadership at Aurora University.

Paul, who teaches five classes a day, is interested in the different eras of American history. There is always something new to learn. The students stay motivated as there are enough interesting times in history; there is always an era of intrigue in the curriculum.

Paul and Heather live in Montgomery where they enjoy watching their two boys compete in basketball, golf and football. Paul's parents visit frequently from Galena to enjoy their grandsons' games.

During the summer, Paul enjoys golf with other West High coaches; but he can't keep up with Heather, who is a serious marathoner. In order to fuel the cry for calories for these athletic endeavors, the Kieffers enjoy dining at Yorkville's Millhurst Alehouse or Sugar Grove's Fireside.

Paul has served as freshman, sophomore and assistant varsity basketball coach. Paul reports he can always learn something new working with our esteemed head coach Gordy. Paul gets a special thrill out of coaching in the West High gym, with its wooden bleachers, blaring band, orchestrated poms to say nothing of the fabled players and teams.

It is only appropriate that Paul is anchored to these wooden bleachers, as "Kieffer" means "pine" in the German language. We do pine for Paul's continued participation in the program and the classroom; he has benefited so many students.

### **UPCOMING MEETINGS:**

Monday April 14

Monday May 12  
(Open Meeting-all are invited)

All meetings (unless otherwise noted) are held at 7:00 PM in WAHS Room B140

### **SHOP FOR YOU OR YOUR FAVORITE ATHLETE:**

Visit our online store for spiritwear at:

[http://www.8to18lockershop.com/Booster-Store\\_c44.htm](http://www.8to18lockershop.com/Booster-Store_c44.htm)

### **ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:**

**Friday June 13th  
Bliss Creek Golf Club**

Shotgun starts at 7:00 AM and 1:00 PM. Dinner will be served afterward.

To register:  
[http://westhigh.sd129.org/www/ud00/9/9d4e375beb8d49b2a720f064a46a61bc/Personal\\_Documents/2014%20Golf%20Outing%20registration%20form.pdf](http://westhigh.sd129.org/www/ud00/9/9d4e375beb8d49b2a720f064a46a61bc/Personal_Documents/2014%20Golf%20Outing%20registration%20form.pdf)



# Winter Scholar Athletes

**Congrats to our 113 athletes!**

Antwan Ahmed, George Alexandrou, Rylee Ashman, Nicole Baldwin, Arturo Ballines, David Ballines, Hesiquio Ballines, Jacob Barbush, Hannah Beatus, Allison Beckett, Chandler Behrens, Qianna Blunt, Hailee Brauer, Kristen Butler, Sydney Butler,

June Castro, Nicholas Catalano, Noah Cavender, Enrique Chavez, Sariah Compton, Haley Darukhanavala, Olivia Daylor, Mary Degaetano, Natalee Dejohnette, Erikah Diaz, Gabriela Diaz, Dawnyel Eddy, Claire Erickson, Luke Esposito, Jeremiah Evans, Jonathan Evans,

Brandon Farias, Zoe Farrow, Melissa Fidler, Grace Fisher, Rose Fitzgerald, Carley Fraenhoff, Melanie Garcia, Teryn Griffin, Alexander Halterman, Sarah Hansen, Elizabeth Herbert, Sarah Hinckley, Jazmin Hubbard, Samya Hunt, Phuc Huynh, James Iglesias, Emily Isaacson,

Taylor Jacobsen, Isaac Jacquez, Matthew Johnson, Reilly Jones, Tori Joray, Emaily Kantola, Thomas Koth, Savannah Kral, Paytynn Kuhns, Stephanie Lawrence, Jillian Lehman, Riley Lemaire, Spencer Locke, Sydney Lundell,

Juan Martinez, Roberto Martinez, Selene Martinez, Rachel Maxson, Kelly Mccaffery, Jemya McClendon, Corey Mccreedy, Jamie Mccreedy, Eric McLaren, Melissa Medellin, Josie Mercado, Anali Munoz, Jessica Nguyen, Erik Olson, Haley Olson,

Connor Palmby, Rebecca Pearson, Alexis Perez, John Plain, Morgan Poppen, Ariq Quach, Lauren Rieder, Ashlie Rifkin, Ariana Rodriguez, Cole Rundle,

Jose Salgado, Theresa Santos, Emma Scatterday, Hannah Schaschwary, Eleanor Sheldon, Lauryn Simms, Ryan Simpson, Angela Sims, Elizabeth Skaggs, Malley Smith, Greer Snyder, Rordan Stanton, Jovan Suvira, Savannah Swayze, Stone Swayze,

Kimiya Vatani, Megan Voris, Ethan Wahl, Jordan Wellington, Emma Wilson, Grace Winton, Brandon Wyeth, Cody Wyeth, Abriya Zeitz, Bailey Ziman, Taylor Zimmerman



## Girls Basketball 2013-14

**Record – 19-9**

**Conference 3<sup>rd</sup> Place Finish**  
Regional 2<sup>nd</sup>

JV- 2<sup>nd</sup> Place

Sophomores- 1<sup>st</sup> Place

Freshman- 8<sup>th</sup> Place

**Coaching Staff:**

Head Coach – Connie Siljendahl  
Assistant Varsity – Steve John  
Assistant Varsity – Neal Ormond  
Junior Varsity – Andrea DiDonato  
Sophomore – Teresa Waldinger  
Freshmen A – Anna Gonzales  
Freshman B- Kevin Burke

**Varsity Team Goals 2013-14:** The girls collaborated to develop a number of goals for their Basketball season. The top three were 1. Top rebounding team --each game.  
2. DVC Conference Champs 3.Regional Champs 4. Twenty Wins

**Comments:** "If You WANT What You've never had... You Have to DO What You've Never Done!" The goals listed above were not accomplished, 1. The girls' were the top rebounding team in 95% of our games.  
2. Placed 3<sup>rd</sup> Place in the DVC. 3. Placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in our Regional 4. Nineteen Wins and 5 players developed great leadership skills.

**School Records:** Ending their West Aurora Career  
Abriya Zeitz: 879 Points, 698 Rebounds, 167 Assists, 193 Steals.  
Liz Skaggs: 789 Points, 862 Rebounds, 101 Assists, 177 Steals

**Fund Raising:** The program conducted its 4th Shoot-a-thon at the beginning of the season. The players raised money for their individual team clothes, team dinners, and summer tournaments.

**Team Building:** The Varsity and JV team took their annual trip to "Wisconsin" – The team participated in a team camp at the U of Wisconsin for 3 days. Then off to the Siljendahl Cabin for some fun in the sun and team bonding. At "The Cabin" the teams take part in team building exercises. The girls enjoy getting to know each other and participate in tubing and fishing. Teamwork, problem solving, trust, communication, goal setting and overall support were at the forefront of these experiences. Many of the girls started last year's season as strangers – because of this experience our team quickly learned how to work with each other and become friends. I believe this experience helped to influence our winning season.

**Tournament Highlights: 2<sup>nd</sup> Place in Warhawk**  
6<sup>th</sup> place finish in the Christmas Wheaton North Tournament:  
All Tournament-Warhawk – Alexis Wiggins

**Team Traditions Kept Alive:**

1. Big Sis/Lil Sis – Each Senior and junior was assigned at least one sophomore and/or freshmen to be a lil'sis. They bought drinks and made posters for each other, and generally provided support for their team sibling.  
Girls Basketball teams sponsors several families in the district during Christmas with gifts and meals.

## Girls Basketball (continued):

**Special Awards Given:**

- All-Conf – Abriya Zeitz --, Alexis Wiggins and Liz Skaggs (Special Mention)
  - All-Academic – Abriya Zietz, Liz Skaggs, Taylor Jacobsen, Erin Jacobson
  - Daily Herald Player of the Week– Abriya Zeitz
  - MVP – Abriya Zeitz
  - MIP – Taylor Jacobsen
  - Top Rebounder: Liz Skaggs 9.8 per game
  - Top Free Throw Shooter Lexis Wiggins
- State: Erin Jacobsen for 3 point contest

Thank you for your support.



## Boys Swimming

The boys winter swim season wrapped up with a successful season. The divers by the conference meet were diving 11 dives and did a wonderful job representing West Aurora High School at the conference meet. The junior varsity swimmers finished up with a great conference meet and had huge time drops after their taper. The varsity boys were ready to go at sectionals and had 100% time drops including the relays. On the junior varsity level: MVP- Jovan Suvira and Varsity MVP- Martin Ambre. These two individuals did a great job this season stepping up and leading the groups!

During the season we had successful dual meets and continued to have personal best times as we went further into our season. While we lose a few seniors next season we keep a lot of our core group together, which should help with our success even more.



### 2013 Girls' Volleyball Season Recap

Overall, 2013 was a good year for the Blackhawk Volleyball program!

This was a rebuilding year for our varsity team. We had three returning letter winners in Abriya Zeitz, Demi Heiss, and Mallory Jones. We finished the season 9-27-1 and fifth in the DVC. We played some phenomenal games against Glenbard East, Glenbard North, and Lake Park, and had some close losses against Naperville Central, Wheaton Warrenville South, and Wheaton North. We also had success at our own West Aurora Varsity Tournament, finishing 1<sup>st</sup> in the Silver Medal round. Overall, our program had some of their best finishes in the DVC this year:

- JV finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the DVC!
- Sophomore finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the DVC!!
- Freshmen A finished 2<sup>nd</sup> in the DVC!
- Freshmen B finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the DVC!

With the success of our lower level teams in our program, we are VERY excited about the future of our program and what is to come! Stayed tuned for the 2014 season!

Not only did our teams do well, but we also had some of our individual players recognized:

- Demi Heiss:
  - DVC All Conference Team
- Abriya Zeitz:
  - DVC Special Mention All-Conference
- Kristen Fick
  - DVC Special Mention All-Conference
- Jordynn Poppen
  - All-Tournament Team – Plano Tournament

One event that our program participated in this season was a Volley 4 a Cure match. We again teamed up with Wheaton North on October 17, 2012. This really was a wonderful night of charity and volleyball! We raised close to \$4,920.00 (we are still waiting to hear how much Wheaton North made with their t-shirt sales). This has been a great season for our program! Looking forward to the 2014 season!



### 2013-2014 Bowling season wrap-up

JV finished the season with 1 win and 5 losses. JV took 1<sup>st</sup> place at the Elgin Invite.

Varsity finished with a 7 wins 3 losses in matches. Varsity took 3<sup>rd</sup> place at the Blackhawk Invite and 4<sup>th</sup> place at the Minooka Invite. Varsity finished in 5<sup>th</sup> place in their Regional. Sophomore Jamie McCreedy finished 2<sup>nd</sup>, Freshman Paytynn Kuhns finished 19<sup>th</sup>, and Junior Angela Sims finished 24<sup>th</sup> at the Regional tournament. All three individuals qualified to move on to the Sectional tournament.

At Sectionals, McCreedy placed 4<sup>th</sup> and qualified for the State tournament, where she came in 15<sup>th</sup> place. Kuhns came in 48<sup>th</sup> place and Sims came in 52<sup>nd</sup> place at Sectionals.

#### Individual Highlights

Most improved from last year: Sydney Lundell: +24 pin average

Most Valuable Freshman: Paytynn Kuhns: 183 average

Most Valuable Player: Jamie McCreedy: 206 average



### West Aurora Dance Team 2013-2014

We started our season with summer practices and Universal Dance Association (UDA) camp. The routines learned at camp were performed at the Fall Jamboree and at the Homecoming Pep Assembly. At UDA camp, three Varsity dancers earned the title of All-American dancer. A huge congratulation to the following dancers for their accomplishment:



- Gabrielle Daylor- Senior
- Tori Joray- Junior
- Katie Gilpin- Sophomore

The team is especially busy during the fall season with homecoming activities! In addition to participating in homecoming activities, the team participated in several community service opportunities including: Mutual Ground's Walk for Hope and Volley for a Cure. The team always enjoys giving back to the Aurora community.

The Varsity team competed for the first time ever with IHSA. They competed at three competitions hosted by the following schools: Fremd, Lake Zurich, and Wheaton North. Our sectional competition was hosted at Stagg High School. With a lot of hard work and persistence, the team placed 10<sup>th</sup> at the sectional competition. From our first to our last competition, our routine's score increased by 16.46 points. CONGRATS to all Blackhawk dancers! We are proud of you!



Congratulations to our winter sports  
state competitors!

Wrestling: Isaac Jacquez

Bowling: Jamie McCreedy

## Chalk Talk

### Jamming with John

Meet Steve John, West's assistant girls' basketball coach  
By Tom Herget

Steve John is a valuable asset to the west side schools. Steve's academic resume and athletic talents are applied to lead many students in the right direction.

The Morton East graduate earned his psychology degree from the University of Illinois in 2004. He then headed to Aurora where he worked for AID (Association for Individual Development) for three years, where he supervised a residential facility for 30 adults diagnosed with chronic mental illness. He earned his Master's in Counseling at National- Louis, logging several hundred internship hours at West Aurora and Plainfield South. Steve earned a second Master's in Education Leadership from American College of Education.

Steve came to West High in 2006. Here he counsels students whose last names start between M and O'C. Isn't it ironic for a man with two first names having his work bounded by two last names? J Steve enjoys the diversity of issues he faces with many different students each day with concerns ranging from performance to careers and from discipline to participation.

At the end of the day, Steve values the consistency he encounters in the girls' basketball program. He enjoys the many legacy names that venture onto the hardcourt and being a part of a vibrant, important program. Coaching basketball is great, watching how much kids overcome in a four month season while trying to maintain excellent grades.

Steve's favorite hobbies are golf, golf and golf. During down daytime moments, Steve dreams of converting one of the courtyards near his office into a 18 hole miniature golf course. The fees he will charge students will go towards his next Master's degree. J

Steve's wife is also in education. Jessica teaches math at Naperville North. The couple enjoys traveling to destinations such as Cancun and Las Vegas. Steve gears up for the Nevada trip by driving his 2001 Monte Carlo every day. It's an American classic no longer being made; he preserves it as a historical landmark.

Steve demonstrates his acclimation to Aurora by announcing Harner's his favorite bakery. The June Blackhawk Booster golf outing is at the top of his list too.

Jessica and Steve's favorite restaurant is Biaggi's for seared pork. (Seared pork is also what Steve's defenders look like after Tuesday morning pick-up basketball.)

West likes having Steve in our house and on our team. Stop by and get to know Steve John.

**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  
Waubonsee 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.





**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 Coaches Paul Kieffer  
and Steve John**

**Winter Sports Wrap-Ups**

## **SAVE THE DATE:**

**April 26 Boys Baseball 10:00 AM  
Vs. Naperville Central**

**May 20 Boys Volleyball 6:00 PM  
Vs. Naperville North (Senior  
Night)**

**May 21 Girls Softball 4:30 PM  
Vs. Lake Park (Senior Night)**

## **PLEASE NOTE:**

The West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters is a designated 501(c)3 charitable organization and all gifts through donation or membership are tax deductible to the fullest extent of the law. This does not apply to purchased items or purchased advertising.