



Be a **PART** of it!

Supporting District 129 Athletes for almost 45 years!

www.BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

Fall 2015 ~ Page 1

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A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

Dear Blackhawk Alumni, Families, Friends, and Fans,

Welcome back to another exciting winter season here at West High. The beginning of a new season is always very exciting. Following up the playoff football team will be a hard act to follow, but I am sure the winter sport athletes and coaches are up to the challenge. Congrats to Coach Eimer and his staff for a great football season. The Sports Boosters and all of the Blackhawk Nation are extremely proud of you and your team's accomplishments. The Blackhawk Sports Boosters are in our 45th year as an organization, and we have contributed \$1.6 million dollars back to the athletic teams in that time. We are extremely proud of this accomplishment and look to add many more dollars in the years to come.

At the beginning of 2016, we will be looking for nominations for the 2016/2017 Sports Booster Board. If you are at all interested in joining our board, please seek out one of our board members. We are always looking for volunteers to help out in any number of ways. Any one of us would be more than happy to discuss what we do on the board.

And finally the Athletic Department and the Sports Booster board would like to thank you all for your continued support to the West Aurora Sports Boosters and the Athletic teams here at West High. Your generosity and volunteering your time and talents means a great deal to our athletes and our whole community.

Thanks again,

Greg Jackman
President, Blackhawk Sports Boosters



Save These Dates

December 4

Wrestling vs. EA

Frosh/JV 5:30
Varsity 6:30



December 11

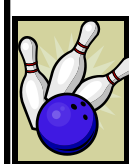


Basketball vs. EA

Girls Varsity 5:30
Boys Varsity 7:00

December 15

Boys Swimming & Diving
5:00 @ IMSA
vs. Plainfield
Co-op



December 19
Bowling
Blackhawk Invite
9 AM @ Funway

January 23

BBB vs.
Lockport 7:00
Hall of Fame

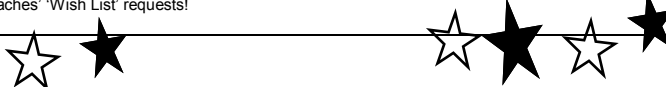


The five S's of sports training are: stamina, speed, strength, skill and spirit; but the greatest of these is spirit." —Ken Doherty (Olympic decathlete)

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

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!



BOOSTERS
GRANT
WISHES



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

You can still be a part of the West Aurora Sports Boosters! Visit our website at www.BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

To register online go to: [Online Membership](#)
For a membership form, go to: [Form](#)

Yard signs are available for athletes!
To order online go to: [Online Yard Sign](#)
For an order form, go to: [Form](#)

Volunteers needed for 50/50-Programs, membership, concessions & volunteer coordinator
Go to: www.BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org
Click on: "I want to...Volunteer"
Or email us at info@BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

Do some Holiday shopping & donate...

We are now a part of Amazon Smile!

When you shop at Amazon via Amazon Smile, a portion of your purchases is donated to the West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters. Here's how to do it:

You can use this if you have an Amazon.com account or you can create a new Amazon.com account.

- Go to smile.amazon.com
- Sign in using your email address and Amazon password
- If you do not have an Amazon.com account, follow the prompts and create an account
- Enter "West Aurora Blackhawk Sportsboosters" into box when prompted to pick a charitable organization
- After list of organizations appears, click "Select" in the West Aurora Blackhawk Sportsboosters entry
- Then feel free to shop! Thank you for your support.



Wally



West lost one of its faithful followers last month. Wally Smith succumbed to an auto accident on the tollway while bringing home bagels for breakfast. Wally was a health and PE teacher and coach at many schools during his 35 year career in district #129. He instructed at Hill (where he attended), Jefferson and Washington. He taught at IMSA for one year. One of Wally's proudest moments was coaching an undefeated 8th grade boys' basketball team to the city championship while at Jefferson.

Wally was a popular person with his students and peers. Wally himself was a West Aurora graduate. His best sport was basketball, where the forward's team won 44 games during his two years on varsity. Wally played under coach Mac and was on the first team to battle the newly-arrived cross-town

Kivistos.

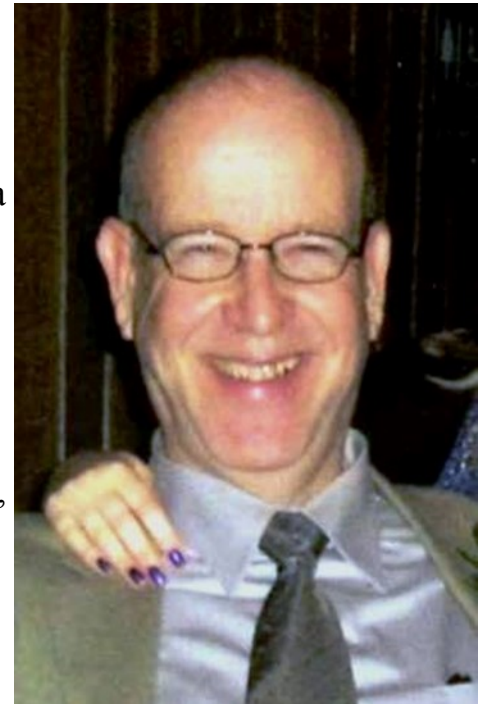
Wally excelled in vocals and instrumentals (French horn and piano).

This author's earliest recollection of Wally occurred in fifth grade. Wally was a starter on Nancy Hill's basketball team. Your author anchored the fifth string (seriously) for visiting Freeman's squad. With three minutes to go in the half, Wally took a hook shot from mid-court. Their coach called a time-out and Wally was soon on the bench.

From a 1968 "Today's Top Teen" column from the *Aurora Beacon News*, the former junior class president was quoted "I consider being a West High student an honor. High school is a time for finding out what you want to do in your adult life. I say get into as many activities as you can. Only in this way can you find what interests you and where your aptitudes are."

Wally is survived by Miriam (Mim) and children Sam, Ben and Laura, all Blackhawks as well. We'll miss Wally.

Written by Tom Herget





2015 Football

- All 3 levels (Freshman, Sophomore, Varsity) had a winning regular season for the first time since 2004
- Varsity had a winning regular season for the first time since 2004
- First playoff berth since 1994
- Perfect home record (4-0)
- 8 All-Conference players
 - Joey Griffin
 - Drake Spears
 - DaQuan Cross
 - DaVion Cross
 - Sam Deisher
 - Leo Colon
 - Alex Debolt
 - Taylor Zimmerman

Drake Spears was the defensive player of the year for the Upstate 8 Conference

Drake was also named to the IHSA All-State Team ,1st team football player.

First WA player to be named since 1998.



Chalk Talk

Touch Base with Jordan Tokarz

WAHS Head Sophomore Baseball Coach

By Tom Herget

Naperville native and Neuqua Valley graduate Jordan Tokarz has been a plus to the West Aurora staff since 2012. This multi-talented teacher and athlete has been a significant contributor to the advancement of students for 4 years now.

Jordan's college days were spent at Elgin Community College and Eastern Illinois University, where on the diamond he excelled in the infield, primarily second base. His major was Kinesiology. After college, Jordan worked first at Lake Park and then at Hampshire. At West Aurora, Jordan taught drivers' education for two years and is now in the field house teaching PE.

Even PE is using high technology. No, you can't get an app to do calisthenics for you, but you can strap on a heart monitor that beams results to an iPad. Jordan can individually monitor the exertion levels of all 40 students in the class. What a way to keep a pulse on the kids.

Jordan has coached in a variety of situations: boys and girls, baseball and basketball. Now he starts his first year as head sophomore baseball coach.

Jordan expects 30 to 35 boys to try out for the team; 16 to 18 will make the final squad. The first games start in March, Old Man Winter permitting.

What does Jordan do in his spare time? Well, he has none, especially due to the arrival of son Dean in June. Wife Felicia is a kindergarten teacher. They live in Carpentersville, from where Jordan commutes daily. He must run the Randall Road gauntlet, passing 3 Chipotles, 4 McDonalds, 2 Portillos and a Chick Filet twice a day.

He enjoys golf (Dean can't caddy yet) and going to White Sox games. He enjoys obstacle runs, which is why he can withstand those Randall Road lures. Jordan could live off of pizza, which would make Lou Malnotti happy.

Jordan enjoys the positive impact and influence he has on his students, both in the classroom and on the field. Jordan would like to be a head varsity baseball coach someday but doesn't want to leave the classroom. We are glad to have this aspiring individual impacting our students' lives here at West Aurora.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Monday December 14

Monday January 11

Monday February 8

All meetings (unless otherwise noted) are held at 7:00 PM in WAHS Room B140 on the 2nd Monday of each month.

SHOP FOR YOU OR YOUR FAVORITE ATHLETE:

Visit our home boys basketball games for merchandise

Online store is under construction-
Check on **Boosters Info** tab on BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED:

For concessions during winter season events.

Please contact Ed Kane at ejkiv@comcast.net

A small amount of your time can make a big difference for our athletes!!



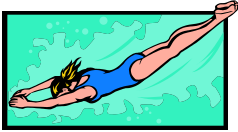
2015 Girls Volleyball

Participated in Volley for A Cure
Jordyn Poppen named All-Area VB by Daily Herald
Upstate Eight Valley Conference champions
(no coach report submitted)



2015 Boys Soccer

Won regional quarterfinal match vs. Oswego 2-0. Lost regional semifinal match vs. Naperville North.
(no coach report submitted)



2015 Girls Swimming & Diving

2nd place at Elk Grove Invitational
2nd place at IMSA Invitational
School record by Gina Jenkins for 500-yard freestyle
(no coach report submitted)



2015 Girls Golf

Girls Golf Team finished 4th place in the Regional Competition.
(no coach report submitted)



2015 Boys & Girls Cross Country

Riley McCabe and David Castillo represented WA at the sectional meet.
Connor McCue won the Upstate Eight Conference meet (both divisions)
(no coach report submitted)



2015 Boys Golf

The West Aurora Boys golf team won both the regular season and the conference tournament for the UEC Valley Division.

We finished the conference undefeated with a 5-0 record and our overall record for the season was 8-1.

Freshman Ryan Vanderway was voted the Conference Player of the Year. Along with Ryan, senior Dean Lavery was named all-conference.

We had a great season and along with Ryan and Dean, the following players had terrific seasons: Kerry Taylor, Myles Whiting, Sam Lawless, Aaron Medlin, and Zach Butcher. These young men represented West High in exemplary fashion both on and off the golf course.



2015 Girls Tennis

- 1st place finish in the UEC
- Undefeated in the UEC
- 13-6 overall record
- Liz Stefancic (sophomore) qualified for the state tennis tournament
- UEC Coach of the Year: Erin Angelo
- All-Conference players: Taylor Truckenbrod, Caiti Gallagher, Carley Frauenhoff, Liz Stefancic
- All-Conference Honorable Mention players: Marisa Silva, Annabelle LaFond, Joey Laurx, Meredith Nelson, Daniela Martinez, Teryn Griffin, Jasmin Serna

Chalk Talk

A Lob to Rob

Meet Rob Brennan, West's new freshman boys' basketball coach

By Tom Herget

Rob Brennan is an Aurora native. He grew up in the Sans Souci neighborhood; how appropriate, as his life has surely been without boredom.*

Rob went to Holy Angels grade school then followed his buddies to Marmion, where he graduated in 1995. He excelled in football and basketball. Rob went to Loras College and graduated in 2000 with a degree in Communications and Public Relations.

He returned to the Aurora area to start work. Rob's family still lives here: sisters Jessica and Laura are WA grads and live nearby; parents Hillary and Tim are well-known in the community. Tim was a floor broker in the cattle pit at the Merc and Hillary is active with Aurora University, the Dunham Fund and the Aurora Food Pantry.

Rob stretched his comfort zone and moved into Chicago. There he is a futures trader specializing in commodities, stock futures, currencies and helps cattle and grain farmers manage risk through hedging. He works for himself, so his office is wherever he is.

And where is one of his favorite places to be? On the hardcourt at WAHS. Four years ago, Rob heard about and applied for the volunteer sophomore assistant coaching position. Coach Ulrich didn't skip a beat and hired Rob. After three years at the sophomore level, Rob has been rewarded for his talents and will now display his skills with the boys' freshman team.

When Rob isn't commuting from Chicago to Aurora, what does he do with his free time? There's music – everything from classic rock to Motown. For dining, everything from home-cooked chicken sausage ratatouille to the Bristol Tap. But most of all, it's keeping in shape – actually superior shape. Rob participates in basketball, personal training, and boxing.

What's the best part of being a coach? It's helping and mentoring the kids. And being part of the West Aurora program adds an aura that can't be replicated anywhere else. What might the prophets say about the future? Rob loves this job. Maybe someday Rob can run a successful varsity program of his own. We are glad he is getting his start here.

*Readers need to find a first year French student to fully appreciate this play on words



Volunteers wanted for
50/50 & program sales for
winter season.
Contact Joe Kosner
(jkosner@amfam.com)
if interested.

Fall Varsity Scholar Athletes (GPA of 3.5 or higher)

FOOTBALL

Chandler Behrens
Kyle Carpentier
Cionte Carter
Nicholas Catalano
Noah Cavender
Garrett Corbin
Alex DeBolt
Noah Delgado
Jacob Elkins
Eddie Fowler
Fabian Guerrero
Brenden Harvey
Spencer Locke
James Roggeman
Darryl Watkins
Steven Weathersby

BOYS CROSS COUNTRY

Jacob Barbush
Graeme Boland
David Castillo
Evan Castillo
Enrique Chavez
Andrew Churchill
Nahom Gebremichael
Francisco Martinez
EJ McLaren
Juan Zamudio

GOLF BOYS

Zach Butcher
Taylor Evans
Brett Kauffmann
Dean Lavery
Cody Wyeth
Kevin Denovellis
Benjamin Laurx
Luke Reimers
Michael Walker
Lauren Deliman

GIRLS GOLF

Alyssa Getz
Colleen Hogan
Katherine Hogan
Sienna Rucka

Emmalee Thayer
Melissa Fidler
Samantha Hall
Jessica Livingston
Brianna Robertson
Diana Padilla

CHEERLEADING

Sydney Butler
Katlynn Davis
Grace Fisher
Jennifer Fregoso
Reilly Jones
Ethan Isaacson
Jami Puga
Stephanie Lawrence
Jillian Lehman
Samantha Rhodes

GIRLS CROSS COUNTRY

Jennifer Aguilar
Carmen Barry
Julia Connelly
Daniela Garcia
Daniella Aguilar
Karina Antunez
Estefania Garcia
Melanie Garcia
Graciela Garcia
Angeles Godoy
Madeline Gonzales
Riley McCabe
Kara McCleary

GIRLS VOLLEYBALL

Alison Greenwood
Emma Hicks
Gillian Jones
Michaela LeMaire
Jordyn Poppen
Cristina Stinson
Kelly Townsend
Elizabeth Wiet
Emma Boland
Kendall Grewer
Sofia Partida
Allison Riggs

Brittney Sanchez
Kelly Wordlaw
Kallie Rundle
Cynthia Martinez
Vanessa Chuk

SOCCER BOYS

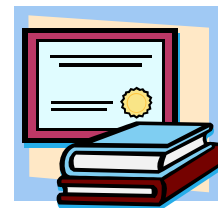
Cristobal Duran
Gloire Lokombe
Kyle Olson
Riley Roos
Jovan Suvira
Alejandro Torres
Jesus Tapia
Murray Grube
Jose Marquez

TENNIS GIRLS

Carley Frauenhoff
Kaiti Gallagher
Teryn Griffin
Annabelle Lafond
Joanna Laurx
Elizabeth Stefancic
Taylor Truckenbrod
Peyton Figueroa
Angelise Melendez
Brooke Nichols
Rachel Quade
Ana Rangel
Maria Zamudio
Shelby Balduff

GIRLS SWIMMING & DIVING

(list not available at time of printing)



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Be a
PART

• **of it!**

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

Address Service Requested

FALL 2015 NEWSLETTER

**Chalk Talk with Coaches Jordan
Tokarz and Rob Brennan**

Wrap-up from all Fall Sports

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.

www.BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org