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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 1.6 million dollars to date.

We are considering nominations for the Blackhawk Sports Boosters Board for the 2016-17 academic school year. 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. I am very excited with the enthusiasm, dedication, and the support this Board brings to the table each year, and look forward to new Board members joining us.

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 5th.

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...

Save These Dates

April 16
Boys Track
John Bell Invite
10:00 AM

April 18
Girls Track
vs. SCE, Bartlett
4:30 PM

April 20
Badminton
vs. Glenbard E
4:30 PM

April 30
Boys Tennis
Blackhawk
Varsity Tour.
8:30 AM

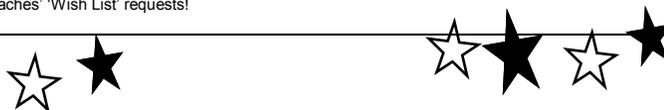
May 5
Girls Soccer
vs. SC North
4:30 PM

"There may be people that have more talent than you, but there's no excuse for anyone to work harder than you do."
- Derek Jeter

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

BOOSTERS
GRANT
WISHES

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!





You can still be a part of the West Aurora Blackhawk Sports Boosters or plan ahead for next year!

Visit our webpage at:

www.BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

To print a membership application or to join online, click on the **Boosters Info** section

We have our next meeting on **Monday April 11 at 7 PM**. Come “be a part of it” and meet our board and other members!

Questions? Contact us at

Info@BlackhawkSportsBoosters.org

We have opportunities to volunteer your time and talents to support West Aurora athletics.

You can give a couple of hours, or as many hours as you would like. The student-athletes and coaches appreciate your support by donating your time, talent and financial gifts.

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

Chalk Talk

A Moment in the Sun with Sonnefeldt

Keep your springs working with trainer April's TLC

By Tom Herget

April Sonnefeldt has been West High's athletic trainer since 1991. She's been a familiar face to hundreds if not thousands of athletes since then.

A Hoosier native, April was a four-year gymnast and senior year track team member in high school. For college, she attended Ball State and Indiana Purdue Fort Wayne before completing her undergraduate education at Purdue. She was an Athletic Training / Health Education major with a Biology minor. She and her husband moved to the western suburbs where April's first (and only) job was at West Aurora.

April helped start the Health Career Academy in 1994. This curriculum attracts students heading for a career in all the health practices. Future doctors, nurses, paramedics and physical therapists enroll in this academy. The sophomores, juniors and seniors learn terminology, nutrition, anatomy and infection control. April teaches five classes a day.

After the academic school day concludes, April heads to the gym and field houses. There she rotates among all the teams that are practicing, ready to address and dress injuries. In the fall and winter, April appears at all home games, ready to deal with owies and injuries for both Blackhawks and our distinguished guests. During football season, because of the roster size, she serves at all the away games as well.

April and husband Paul, a free-lance writer, reside in Lisle. Their two sons, Steven and Drew, both athletes, keep their free time occupied. When April does find a few moments, she enjoys quilting. You can find her at the grill too, perfecting her barbequed ribs. For music, she'll find the country station. For movies, nothing beats the oldies like *Wizard of Oz* and *Gone with the Wind*.

April's maiden name is Rademacher. For those non-German scholars, this means maker of wheels. April's married name is Sonnefeldt. For those needing Teutonic tongue translation, this means sunny field. Thus, it is pretty obvious that April was predestined to be a trainer, making athlete's wheels whole under the sunny skies of the athletic fields. The many kids she has learned to know appreciate April's love of their sport and interest in their future.

UPCOMING MEETINGS:

Monday April 11 (all Boosters are invited)

Monday May 9
(Open Meeting-all are invited)

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

ANNUAL GOLF OUTING:

Friday June 3rd
Bliss Creek Golf Club

Shotgun starts at 7:30 AM available.
Dinner will be served after the afternoon round.

To register go to:

www.blackhawksportsboosters.org/fundraising/golf-outing/



Winter Scholar Athletes

Congrats to our varsity athletes!

Basketball

Kabir Anass
Michael Walker
JaQuan Buchanan
Adonis Cameron
Davaris Cheeks
Alex Diaz
Tajh Griffin

Girls Basketball

Maritza Barbosa
Jacey Emory
Mary Emory
Peyton Figueroa
Faith Pokryfke
Diana Padilla

Bowling (entire varsity team!!)

Emma Wilson
Jamie McCreedy
Corey McCreedy
Paytynn Kuhns
Sydney Lundell
Kayla Jeffries
Jordyn Liebelt
Grace Winton

Wrestling

Oscar Acevedo
Arturo Ballines
Enrique Chavez
Erik Olson
Reece Corbin
Anthony Chavez
Benjamin Cuga
Eddie Fowler
Michael Hunger
Reid Medlin
Joshua Mickelson
Brandon Snead



Boys Swimming & Diving

Elliot Barbel
Chris Cortez
Charles Griswold
EJ McLaren
Tyler McLaren
Joe Ochenschlager
Luke Reimers
Jovan Suvira
Alec Wahl
Ethan Wahl
Owen Zant
Evher Aponte
Rameel Arshad
Jacob Barbush
Noah Cavender
Logan Conway
Noah Cavender
Derek Dodson
Caden LaFond
Benjamin Laurx
Logan Love
Jerry Rivera

2015-2016 Cheerleading



The 2015-2016 West Aurora cheerleading season has been filled with many fun and exciting experiences, as well as some noteworthy team accomplishments. Over the course of both the Fall and Winter seasons, our squads have been very busy reaching out to the younger generations by helping our community cheerleaders grow as people and as athletes. The Blackhawks hosted a total of three clinics, one devoted to our middle school cheerleaders, one to our elementary cheerleaders, and one encompassing all ages (K – 8).

In addition to cheering on our football team in the fall, and our basketball team in the winter, our JV and varsity squads joined the competitive movement and participated in four competitions this year. The entire season, starting from June until March, the Blackhawk cheerleaders worked hard and pushed themselves to learn advanced tumbling skills and elite stunts that took their abilities to the next level. Our JV squad impressed with placing in 1st at the Rockford-Guilford invite and varsity placed 4th overall in conference. This year was also the very first time that our varsity squad competed at sectionals.

As a result from our placement at the UECC, four varsity cheerleaders were awarded the title of All-Conference. Based on their overall athletic performance, passion, motivation, persistence, display of commitment, academic scholarship, and sportsmanlike conduct, Stephanie Lawrence Vatsana Vongkorad, Jillian Lehman, and Savannah Swayze were recognized as top athletes from our program. These four young women really do represent our program in a way that makes all of us proud.

Looking back on all of the success and memories created throughout the season, it's obvious that our growing program has a progressive vision that will only strive to overcome the biggest and the best obstacles now and in the future. The same goes for this year's seniors, Stephanie Lawrence, Vatsana Vongkorad, Jillian Lehman, Baylee Hayden, Katie Shields, Emily Patrick, and Katie Gray. Ladies, we wish you the best of luck and success on all your future endeavors.



2015-16 Girls' Basketball

Thank you for supporting the Girls' Basketball team and your generous donation. We were able to purchase basketballs and pass our old ones to the sophomore and freshman teams.

Our West Aurora girls' basketball team was led by seniors Ashley Williams and Carley Frauenhoff both receiving All-Conference along with sophomore point guard Skylar Doby who was awarded All-Conference Honorable Mention. This team showed great growth by closing the gap to compete with some very challenging teams in the season. We were still a young team starting two sophomores, one Junior and two seniors which leaves us with several young athletic players returning. We are looking forward to next season and have a lot of summer tournaments and camps our players will be participating in.

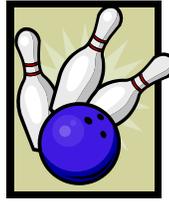
We had 11 players and managers with a GPA of 3.5 and higher.

Carley Frauenhoff, senior guard holds two school records for boys and girls: 89 3 pointers made in one season and 147 career 3 pointers.

Ashley Williams was all- tournament for the War-hawk.



2016 Girls Bowling



The West Aurora Girls Bowling Team continued on with their success from last year!

Varsity stats...12:1 overall match wins/losses
(61:0 Undefeated in the Upstate Eight Conference;
Points given per game)

JV stats...6:5 overall match wins/losses
(45-11 Upstate Eight Conference; Points given per
game)

Both Varsity and JV finished 1st in the Upstate Eight Conference.

The Upstate Eight All- Conference team included all 5 of our Varsity bowlers.

- 1st place Jamie McCreedy 205.5 average
- 2nd place Paytynn Kuhns 204.8 average
- 3rd place Corey McCreedy 201.0 average
- 5th place Sydney Lundell 189.6 average
- 6th place Emma Wilson 185.9 average

During Regionals, West Aurora place 3rd, advancing the team to Sectionals. All of West's bowlers placed in the top 26!

- Paytynn Kuhns placed 4th with 213 average
- Corey McCreedy placed 8th with 211 average
- Jamie McCreedy placed 9th with 210 average
- Sydney Lundell placed 19th with 194 average
- Emma Wilson placed 26th with 183 average

During Sectionals, West placed 2nd, advancing the entire team to the State Competition. As in Regionals, West's bowlers were all in the top 26.

- Jamie McCreedy placed 3rd with 228 average
- Paytynn Kuhns placed 4th with 215 average
- Sydney Lundell placed 9th with 207 average
- Emma Wilson placed 25th with 190.3 average
- Corey McCreedy placed 26th with 190.2 average

At the State Competition, West Aurora came in 6th place with a score of 12,175 (202.6 overall team average).

- Jamie McCreedy placed 8th with 218.7 average.
- Paytynn Kuhns placed 24th with 212.6 average.
- Corey McCreedy placed 25th with 210.9 average.

Four out of the five starters will be graduating at the end of this year. Even though the team is losing our seniors, we plan on working hard during the season so that we can return to the State Competition next year and bring home a trophy!



2016 Boys' Swimming and Diving

The boys swimming and diving team had quite the successful season this year! The varsity finished their regular dual meet schedule with a 5-3 record!

Our divers finished 5th and 6th at the UEC meet at St. Charles East High School towards the end of the season. At the UEC meet all of our rested swimmers had personal best times and swam very well!

After conference is where the boys really excelled and had a great sectional meet. Everyone that swam at the sectional meet had personal best times and it was the first time in 10 years that we qualified a swimmer (Tyler McLaren) for the state swimming meet at Evanston. While we are losing some great seniors this program has come a long way and is only going to continue to get faster!



2015-2016 Boys Basketball Wrap-Up



The boys' basketball program would like to thank the Boosters, West Aurora student body, administration, faculty, staff, cheerleaders, poms, step team, the coaches and sponsors of all of these programs, and the community for its support throughout the basketball season. Your involvement in our program and contests is a major ingredient to what makes West Aurora a great place. Our players and coaches could not be more appreciative.

Each level had different successes throughout the season. Our freshmen A team finished the season with an overall record of 14-10 and went 7-3 in the conference. The B team had an overall record of 8-11. This season for the freshmen as a whole was one of the better seasons in the past number of years.

Our sophomore team finished with an excellent overall record of 17-10, and they were 7-3 in the conference. The B team also did well finishing the season with a 6-2 record.

The varsity team showed development throughout the entire season. I received an encouraging letter during the early part of the year that stated: "through life there will be bumps in the road." That letter was symbolic of our season. The great aspect about this group of varsity players is that they never gave up and were committed to improving which we did as a team throughout the course of the season.

Our schedule was littered with outstanding competition. We faced seven teams on our schedule that were rated in the Top 25 for the Chicagoland area or in the states AP top 10. Five of those opponents competed in a sectional final and two of them are currently competing for a chance to go downstate. Our players never backed down and put forth their best effort against all of the teams on our schedule.

The highlights of the season on the court are two wins against East Aurora, the Senior Night victory against Glenbard East, and victories against Bartlett and South Elgin at home. I was also very proud of how we competed against Benet at the Batavia Night of Hoops.

The varsity finished the season with an overall record of 8-18. We finished 4th in the Upstate Eight Conference – Valley Division with a 5-5 record. Camron Donatlan was selected to the Rock Island Turkey Tournament All-Tournament team. Additionally, he was a unanimous selection to the UEC – Valley Division All-Conference team and was named to the All-Area teams for the *Daily Herald* and *Beacon*.

Caleb Siler was named to the UEC-Valley Division All-Conference Honorable Mention team. He was also named to the All-Area Honorable Mention team for the *Daily Herald* and *Beacon*.

Most importantly, the biggest highlight of our season came when the sophomores and varsity teams volunteered at the Special Olympics' basketball event. During that day, our players interacted with the athletes, officiated games, announced the names of the players on the championship teams, handed out medals, reported scores, and ran the scorer's table. The players carried themselves in a manner that should make the school and community proud.

One last thank you goes to our three seniors, Jordan Pitts, Sam Kolb, and Jalen Clark. They showed up to practices and games with a selfless attitude and a quiet leadership that the coaches and players respected immensely. They will be missed, but never forgotten. We wish them the best of luck with their future endeavors. Jordan, Sam and Jalen will always have a home with the West Aurora basketball program.

Brian Johnson
West Aurora Head Boys Basketball Coach

2016 Wrestling

The Blackhawk wrestling team wrapped up our season with an 11-10 dual meet record. Our young men fought hard all year, and in January clinched the Upstate Eight Valley Conference Title. The team took 3rd place in the Upstate Eight Conference tournament with three individual champions. Erik Olson (145 lbs), Alex Gonzalez (160 lbs), and Devin Moore (285 lbs) all came away as champions.

Runners up at the conference tournament included Alex Roldan (132 lbs) and Josh Mayhew (195 lbs). Xavier Bijarro (113 lbs), and Joe Griffin (170 lbs) took 3rd place, and Cory Bunnetto (138 lbs) took 4th place respectively. Top three place winners at the conference tournament earned All Conference status.

Johnny Acevedo (132) also earned All Conference honors by defeating the conference champion two times in one day at the regional tournament along with qualifying for the sectional tournament. Steven Norman (182 lbs) also qualified for the sectional tournament by placing third at regionals. Steven had a strong performance at sectionals and was one match away from qualifying for the state tournament.

This year's Most Outstanding Wrestler was Isaac Jacquez who not only showed leadership with his on mat performance, but also in the practice room with his infectious work habits. Isaac was a regional champion, sectional runner up, and the lone Blackhawk state qualifier this season. Isaac is now a three time state qualifier. He also earned over 30 wins for the 3rd straight season. There was lots of exciting wrestling this season, and tons of success for Blackhawk wrestlers to build on for next year!



Dance Team 2015-2016

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, five Varsity dancers and 3 Junior Varsity dancers earned the title of All-American dancer. Congratulations to the following dancers for their accomplishment:

Junior Varsity

Jasmine Alexander- Sophomore
Hannah Brauer- Sophomore
Morgan Braxton- Junior

Varsity

Alyssa Arocho- Senior
Olivia Daylor- Senior
Madeline Flynn- Senior
Kaitlyn Prentiss- Senior
Lauren Rieder- Senior

The team is especially busy during the fall season with homecoming activities! In addition to participating in homecoming activities, the team also volunteered at Mutual Ground's Walk for Hope. The team always enjoys giving back to the Aurora community.

The Varsity team competed with IHSA this season. They competed at five competitions hosted by the following schools: Wheaton North, Batavia, Waubonsie Valley, and St. Charles East (Conference). Our sectional competition was hosted at Andrew High School.

With a lot of hard work and persistence, the team placed 3rd in the Upstate Eight Valley Division. The following dancers were recognized as Upstate Eight All Conference Athletes: Olivia Daylor, Madeline Flynn, Lauren Rieder, Hannah Schaschwary, and Ellie Sheldon

CONGRATS to all Blackhawk dancers! We are proud of you!

Congratulations to our winter sports state competitors!

Bowling: Team 6th place in state
Jamie McCreedy placed 8th with a 218.7 average.
Paytynn Kuhns placed 24th with a 212.6 average.
Corey McCreedy placed 25th with a 210.9 average.

Wrestling: Isaac Jacquez



Chalk Talk

Lock in with Mortlock

Meet Kevin, Girls' Volleyball Coach

By Tom Herget

Kevin Mortlock has netted the position of new Girls' Volleyball coach. Kevin starts his first year as a varsity head coach in the fall of 2015.

Kevin is a Ram. No, not the astrological sign but the type from Glenbard East. The Glendale Heights native graduated from there in 2003 and then stretched his comfort zone by going to Naperville to attend North Central College. He graduated from there in 2007 with a degree in Education and History. He advanced further from home by starting work in Plainfield; two years later he completed his westward trek by landing at West Aurora.

Kevin teaches special education, focusing on English and Resource, a year-long class specializing in future planning and organization. He teaches five different classes a day, dealing with students with learning deficits from every background. He addresses reading and writing deficiencies including some challenges with behavioral issues. He advances his students by giving clear directions, instructing from written outlines and providing rubrics. The desired outcome of his efforts is to get kids functioning at the next level so they can go on to a community college or a trade school.

After work, Kevin focuses on his favorite activity, volleyball, the sport he has been playing and coaching most of his life. The high school season really starts in the spring with open gyms. Summer sees the girls play in summer league and beach tournaments as well as summer camp. Come fall, the season starts. There may be over 100 girls trying to land 60 positions on five levels of competition.

Kevin is blessed by his Dad and Mom's constant interest. Mr. and/or Mrs. Mortlock are at every game, always ready to provide support for the program and new ideas for their son.

At home, Kevin is coached by wife Nikki. J Nikki is a Carthage graduate and teaches second grade at Schneider Elementary. The couple lives in North Aurora.

Kevin's favorite pastime is fishing. He's a Muskie man, angling from his cabin in Minoqua, Wisconsin. Kevin likes it for the thrill of the hunt, always releasing the Pisces after capture. Kevin and Nikki have a fish and ski boat which supports their water ski and tubing activities as well.

Closer to Chicago, the Bears and White Sox receive Kevin's adulations.

Kevin sets team individual and team improvement goals at the start of the season and constantly shares progress evaluation. Overall, Kevin holds students accountable, advances them towards their goals and helps them move forward in life. He pushes them to achieve more than the goals they have set. He'll inquire, "Where do you see yourself in five years, ten years? So, how will you get there?"

We are fortunate to have a professional like Kevin on the court, in the halls and in the classroom at West.

Thanks to our Corporate Sponsors

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2016 Blackhawk Scramble Golf Outing - Corporate Donations Still Accepted! Friday, June 3rd - Bliss Creek, Sugar Grove, IL

We would like to “thank you” as a valued partner of our community and District 129. Whether you have participated in the past or not, this fundraiser is an important part of the West High Sports Boosters and our ability to help fund our Athletic Departments throughout the district.

The West High School Athletics program is a great source of pride and fellowship for our community. Our student athletes’ accomplishments both on and off the field is our focus. All of our efforts result each year in numerous college scholarships, help to run our sporting events, provide equipment and services for our athletes, and result in a much richer and fuller high school experience. There are numerous ways to support our efforts.

- Play Golf.** Join us for golf or recruit others to participate in the event. If you have relationships with individuals or companies affiliated with District 129 or our community, please share those with us. Donations benefit our athletes directly.
- Non-cash Donations.** If you have the ability to donate items to be auctioned or raffled off, please let us know.
- \$50 Memorial Sign.** We have many great memories, both past and present. This year, you can purchase a Memorial Sign in memory of all our West High supporters and loved ones who we’ve lost. As a tribute to them and their families, this sign will be placed on the first hole.
- \$100 Hole Sponsorship.** Advertise your business and/or your partnership with our community and District 129 by sponsoring one or more holes. A sign with your name will be placed on the T-boxes throughout the course.
- \$225 Keg or \$300 Lunch Sponsorship.** Help us pay for some of the costs associated with this event. You and/or your company’s information would be displayed on the event banner.
- \$500 - \$1000 Corporate Sponsorship.** Include your name in a prominent location on the event banner and receive a hole sponsorship sign. We will include entry into our Corporate Section of our Quarterly Newsletter.
- \$2,000 - \$5,000 Event Sponsorship.** Thank you! These donations make a big, big difference. It includes everything that comes with a Corporate Sponsorship. In addition, we would like to discuss with you any special requests and or interests, within the Athletic Departments, that we can support with a portion of these funds.

Thank you for making this a success each and every year. Hope to see you on the course!

Register to golf on our website at: <http://www.blackhawksportsboosters.org/fund-raising/golf-outing/>

For corporate sponsorship, please contact Mike Poppen (mike.poppen@binghamflexoservices.com) or Scott Voris at (svoris@kelmscott.com)



**Be a
PART**

**•of
it!**

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

Address Service Requested

SPRING 2016 NEWSLETTER

**Chalk Talk with Coach Kevin Mortlock
and Trainer April Sonnefeldt**

Winter Sports Wrap-Ups

SAVE THE DATE:

**May 10 Girls Softball 4:30 PM
vs. South Elgin**

**April 21 Boys Volleyball 6:00 PM
vs. Glenbard North**

**April 23 Boys Baseball 10:00 AM
vs. Streamwood**

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.