

# High Point Regional High School

## *An Inside Look*

March 2008

### **STUDENT STARS**

- ★ Please congratulate **Ruben Mieses** and **JD** for earning first place at the FBLA State Leadership Conference in Edison this past week. Their category was Business Ethics. They did a great job and have earned a spot at nationals this summer.
- ★ On Saturday, March 29, 2008, **Janice Hennings**, along with two Business students, attended the 43rd Annual Business Education Awards Program, sponsored by Berkeley College. This year's winners were **Samantha Klosterhoff**, who received the award for Outstanding Achievement for a Business student, and **Ruben Meises**, who received the Perseverance Award for a Business student.
- ★ Please congratulate **Samantha Brummell** as the recipient of the Superintendent's Roundtable Award. Sam is an outstanding student with impeccable credentials. She just received word that she was accepted by Cornell and is in line for a significant scholarship.
- ★ The following students were nominated to participate in the Robert C. Byrd Honors Scholarship: **HK, Katie Brenzel, Will Porter, and Sam Brummell.**
- ★ **Theresa Mobilio** was selected as our Raoul Wahlenberg Honors Program nominee for students demonstrating passion and courage.
- ★ **MG** was the Branchville Rotary Student of the Month.
- ★ The Art students listed here were selected by judges at the Teen Arts Festival in March as the best-of-the-best that Sussex County schools have to offer. Thirty students had their artistic accomplishments selected to go to the festival this year. Nineteen were recognized again by being selected to exhibit their work in a variety of locations. Congratulations to all! And a big "congratulations" and "thank you" to all their teachers as well! The following students had their artwork selected for exhibition at the **SCCC Gallery** from now until April 16, 2008: Visual Art – **Dilek Baykara, LC, Lizz Ciccarella, Jackie Daniels, Eric Decker, Lynsday Hoffmann, Lauren Klaus, AL, SL, Katie Mills, JM, GN, LP(3), JR, Caitlin Stephens, and Aubrey Swanson.** The following students had their **Teen Arts logos** published in the 2008 program: **MP, Brittney Derin, Mackenzie Forbeck, Katie Genetelli, Hannah Lindeblad, and Tom Spring.** The following students are exhibiting at the **Newton Courthouse Public Gallery** from April 8 – May 27: **Dilek Baykara, TD, Lacey Liptak, LP, and AS.** The following four students have been selected to exhibit their artwork to represent Sussex County at the **State Teen Arts Festival** in May: **AC, Jackie Daniels, Danielle Demarest, and LP.** **Peter's Valley Scholarship** candidates are as follows: **Lauren Klaus (3-D) and LP (2-D).**
- ★ Senior art exhibits displayed in the cafeteria annex began the week of March 31 with works by **Tracy Hunter** and **MS** and will run through the end of May.
- ★ Fifteen visual arts students selected by their teachers exhibited at the Youth Art Month Exhibit at the Newton Courthouse. This is sponsored by the Sussex County Arts and Heritage Council and the NJ Art Educators.
- ★ Six performing arts students auditioned for the All State Choir.
- ★ The Jazz Ensemble performed at the One Book-One Community event in our media center on March 14.
- ★ Fifty-five performing arts students are involved in the cast of the spring musical *Damn Yankees*.
- ★ Fifteen performing arts students are participating in the Tech Crew for *Damn Yankees*.
- ★ On Monday, March 31, 2008, the English department sponsored a trip to Brookdale Community College in Lincroft, NJ, to attend a program entitled "Conflict in the Middle East - Conversations about Living Peacefully." The program centered on the experiences of eleven Rutgers University women, from a variety of cultures and religions, who are living in the Middle East Coexistence House on the Douglass Campus of Rutgers. Twenty-nine High Point students took the long bus ride to the program and were rewarded with intriguing, open, and honest dialogue among the Jewish, Muslim, Hindu, and Christian women about learning to see the similarities in each other and improving relations between people of different faiths and cultures. **Mary Hassenplug, Heather Strout, and Carolyn Acker** chaperoned the trip.
- ★ **RF** won an Outstanding House Delegate award at New Jersey Model Congress. The conference, in which twenty schools participated, was held at The College of New Jersey on March 13 and 14. The following students also had their legislation passed at the committee level: **Dilek Baykara, Samantha Fonseca, RF, and SB.**

**STUDENT STARS (CONTINUED)**

- ★ Thirty-five Creative Writing students attended this year's Teen Arts Festival. They participated in a variety of activities, including an open poetry jam hosted by High Point's Creative Writing teacher **Heather Strout**.
- ★ Congratulations to **John Theese**. John scored a perfect 800 on the mathematics section of the latest administration of the SAT. John joins seven other current students at High Point with scores of 700 or above.
- ★ The **Mild Cognitively Impaired Class'** Make a Difference Day project, "Letters and Phone Cards for Soldiers," was chosen from all the nationally submitted projects (3 million people participated in Make a Difference Day 2007) to receive one of ten \$10,000 prizes that were awarded nation-wide. The project included 1700 letters to soldiers written by both High Point and Frankford students, artwork from our High Point students, and over \$3300.00 that was raised through fund raising efforts and solicitations of local civic organizations. With the \$3300.00, we purchased prepaid phone cards for soldiers and along with 200 cards that were donated by AT&T, we were able to send 380 phone cards to soldiers in Iraq. All the letters and phone cards were sent to LT General Raymond Odierno, who was kind enough to distribute them to the troops. The \$10,000 prize was provided by Paul Newman with the stipulation that it be donated to a charity of the winner's choice. The MCI class chose the Intrepid Fallen Heroes Fund as the recipient of their \$10,000. The Fund provides financial and medical support for soldiers and their families. LT Gen. Odierno visited High Point on March 25 for a photo shoot with the MCI class for *USA Weekend*. He expressed his gratitude and appreciation to the class and school for their support of our troops. One of the pictures taken will be featured in the April 27 edition of *USA Weekend*, carried locally by the *Daily Record*.
- ★ Congratulations to **TM** on his receiving the Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute Medal. The Medal recognizes the superlative academic achievement of high school students interested in careers in science, engineering, and technology.
- ★ **Multiply Disabled Program students** have made \$200 from their homemade dog biscuits sale. They are donating the money to charity.
- ★ The International Club sponsored a Darfur Awareness Week and raised more than \$1500.00.
- ★ The Academic Bowl team under **Scott Ripley** finished 1<sup>st</sup> in the Tri-state Academic Bowl League. Team members included **TM (capt.)**, **Dave Smith**, **JM**, **RF**, **Munroe Graham**, **Shannon Southard**, **Cody Weber**, and **JR**.
- ★ The **Mild Cognitively Impaired** class celebrated Read Across America Day by inviting regular education English students to come and read to them. Several students from Ms. White's and Ms. Porter's classes volunteered to read.

**ATHLETICS**

- ★ High Point's ski team made history once again. **Tyler Bartz** totally dominated the State Championship Slalom and Giant Slalom races which ended March 1 at Mountain Creek. Tyler literally blew away the competition from all around the state to take both the giant slalom and slalom titles, and winning the title as overall New Jersey State Champion for 2008. Tyler was joined by the fantastic efforts of teammates **Greg Aromando** (6<sup>th</sup> overall in the slalom), **Fehmi Yasin** (11<sup>th</sup> in the slalom and 15<sup>th</sup> overall), **Andy VandenHeuval**, and freshman **AH**. The boys' team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in the slalom, missing first place by just over 2 seconds. For the girls, captain **HK** showed why she is one of the best in the state with finishes of 10<sup>th</sup> in the giant slalom, 11<sup>th</sup> in the slalom, and an overall 9<sup>th</sup> place finish for the title. Teammates **JE** and **DC** finished 13<sup>th</sup> and 28<sup>th</sup> respectively, giving the Wildcats three racers in the State's top 30. **Julianne Kattermann**, **Krystina Kattermann**, and **LM** rounded out the finishers for the girls, who missed out on a combined trophy by just three-tenths of a second! **Tyler**, **Greg**, and **H** have all been named to the All-State team and have been invited to compete in the prestigious Eastern Regional Race in two weeks in New Hampshire.
- ★ High Point swimmer **Steve Vealey** finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the state championships for 50 meter freestyle and 10<sup>th</sup> for 100 meter freestyle.
- ★ In Wrestling, six of our athletes qualified for individual state championships in Atlantic City on the first weekend in March. **Nick Francavilla (103)**, **Billy Gould (112)**, **Gavin Tarsa (145)** were all named Region 1 champs. **Joe Donahue (189)**, **Joe Gaccione (135)**, and **TF (125)** also qualified for Atlantic City. High Point was named Region 1 Team of the Year, and congratulations also go out to **John Gardner**, for the honor of being named Coach of the Year.
- ★ Please congratulate **Jess Lain** on her selection to the All State 3<sup>rd</sup> team for girls' basketball. This award recognizes her as one of the top 15 players in the state! In addition, she was named to the All West Jersey 1<sup>st</sup> team and named player of the year for West Jersey.
- ★ Please congratulate the following girls' basketball players on their selection to the following teams: All League - **Jessie Lain** and **Nicole Armstrong**; Honorable Mention - **Alayna Donadio**.
- ★ Please congratulate **Alex Decker** and **ZP** for being selected to the Basketball All League Honorable Mention team for this past season. Also congratulate **Alex Decker** for being selected to the Sussex-Morris All Star Game against Hopatcong.
- ★ Please congratulate the following girls' basketball players on their accomplishments: **NJ Herald All Area First Team** - **Jessie Lain**; **Second Team** - **Alayna Donadio** and **Nicole Armstrong**. Special Congratulations to **Jess Lain** on being selected Player of the Year. In addition, Jess will play in the North/South All Star game at the Ritacco Center in Toms River. She is the first player from High Point selected to play in the game.

**STELLAR STAFF**

- ★ Three High Point teachers are being recognized at the seventh annual SCCC Inspiring Teachers Award Ceremony on April 17. Former graduates from High Point nominated their most inspiring teachers in a written essay. This year's outstanding recipients are **Mike Hingston, Karen Kozlowski, and Nancy White**.
- ★ **Lance Sorchik's** "Artist's Profile" was published in The Rodder's Journal.
- ★ **Diane** and **Lance Sorchik** participated in the Youth Art Month faculty exhibit at the Newton Courthouse.
- ★ **Diane** and **Lance Sorchik** are performing with the cast of *Damn Yankees*.
- ★ **Joy Carter** was named the Teacher of the Year for High Point for 2007-2008. Congratulations to Joy and her family.
- ★ **Linda Smith** was named the Sussex County Counselor of the Year. She has been contacted by *The Star Ledger*; the paper wants to write an article about her.
- ★ **Carla Mancuso** is being inducted into the College of New Jersey (Trenton State) Alumni Athletic Hall of Fame. She was a member of the 1983 women's softball team that has been selected as a Team of Distinction. The ceremony will be held May 5 at the college.
- ★ High Point Technology Education Teacher **Stephen Peltier** has been selected to participate as a lead teacher for the Systems and Global Engineering Project (SAGE) sponsored by the Stevens Institute of Technology. During the next three years, Mr. Peltier will plan to produce model instructional materials designed to introduce teachers and students to exciting concepts in systems and global engineering.

**PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- ★ **Gene Emering** will attend the "Ultimate Supervisor" workshop on May 1. The workshop is being held in Poughkeepsie.
- ★ **Anna Cuneo** and **Susan Moss** will be attending the "Cognitive Tutor" Algebra II workshop at County College of Morris on April 17. The workshop is sponsored by Carnegie Learning and will focus on linear and non-linear functions by exploring the mathematical modeling of real-world situations.
- ★ **Liana Heller, Tom Costello, and Donna Lembo** attended an after school workshop with Steve Goldman from the State Department of Education. He presented information regarding the End of Course Biology Assessment.
- ★ **Jon Tallamy** and **Erik Carlson** attended the 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual NJECC Technology Conference at Montclair State University.
- ★ **Seamus Campbell** attended an I&RS workshop in Kenilworth, NJ.
- ★ **Marti Eidam** completed an on-line course on Reading Comprehension Strategies during the March In-Service day.
- ★ The entire **special services department** participated in committee activity during the March In-Service day in order to improve the services provided by the Department. The committee topics were as follows: New Courses, Transitioning, LLD Program Review and Revision, and Tools/Strategies - Developing Universal Department Strategies.

**MEDIA RECOGNITION**

**The New Jersey Herald, March 31, 2008: "K has bright future"**

**Advertiser-News North, March 20, 2008: "Tech studies at High Point first to earn five-star status twice"**

**The New Jersey Herald, March 17, 2008: "High Point's Lain leaves legacy"**

**The New Jersey Herald, March 17, 2008: "Never satisfied – High Point's determination brought them to victory"**

**The New Jersey Herald, March 13, 2008: "They skied to the top"**

**The New Jersey Herald, March 13, 2008: "High Point makes quantum leap"**

**The New Jersey Herald, March 7, 2008: "High Point on a mission"**

**The New Jersey Herald, March 5, 2008: "Tarsa leads state's top-ranked team"**

**WHAT'S NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY (CURRICULUM AND PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT)**

- ★ **Joanne Koch** attended the SUNY College Counselor Fair and the Stevens' Encouraging Students Towards STEM and IT Careers seminar.
- ★ The math department has recently updated its screening tests for ninth and tenth grade students. The tests are used to assess students' potential proficiency on the HSPA.
- ★ The Algebra 2B curriculum has been streamlined and modified to include a more comprehensive HSPA review.
- ★ The science league team placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in Bio II and Physics II, and 3<sup>rd</sup> in Chemistry I and Physics I. Their last test is in April.

- ★ **Art Mina** underwent major reconstructive shoulder surgery and is home recuperating. His classes are being maintained through the exceptional teamwork of the science department (notably **Stacey Zaremba** and **Tim Merrill**) and **Nora Swanson**, the substitute teacher. Nora has gone above and beyond the call of duty to provide continuity and support, while fostering a scholastic atmosphere within all the classes.

#### **WHAT'S NEWS AND NOTEWORTHY (CONTINUED)**

- ★ **Curtis Raye**, a former High Point graduate who is a lobbyist working for Hillary Clinton, spoke to **Mr. Campbell's** AP Government class.
- ★ Eric DeGerso, an Executive VP of the Fuel Merchants Association of New Jersey, spoke to **Mr. Campbell's** AP Government class.

#### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

- ★ **Project Self Sufficiency** will hold their annual Taste of Talent event at Perona Farms on Monday April 7. The cost is a \$100 donation. Please contact **Marty Eidam** or **Linda Abrams** if you have any questions.
- ★ On Thursday, May 1, High Point will be hosting the first ever county-wide high school writing workshop. The event will take place in the library from 9am-2pm. Students will be engaged in a variety of learning experiences that focus on various types of creative expression, including poetry, prose, and song-writing. Featured presenters include **Laraine Reedy**, **Lisa Hodgins**, **Erin Meyers**, and High Point graduates **Maria Adelmann** ('03) and **Joseph Tisler** ('04). **Heather Strout** is coordinating this exciting opportunity for our county's young writers.
- ★ The Local Screening Test in math will be administered to selected ninth and tenth grade students on April 9 and 10.
- ★ The science department will be participating in the Merck State Science Day testing on May 20.
- ★ The End Of Course Assessment for Biology will take place on Monday, May 19, and Tuesday, May 20. Over 300 students will participate in this DOE test.
- ★ Fifty 9<sup>th</sup> and 10<sup>th</sup> grade students will participate in the 10<sup>th</sup> annual Whale Watch Trip to Cape Cod, May 2,3, and 4.
- ★ The annual **International Foods Day** celebration will take place on Friday, April 18.
- ★ **Mickey Thomas'** Street Law classes will be visiting East Jersey State Prison on May 9 and May 14.
- ★ **Jackie Sutton** is organizing a class trip for the World Studies classes to attend the Yom Hashoah Commemoration Program on April 30 at Drew University.
- ★ **MH, Munroe Graham, Jamie McCloskey**, and **HK** will be attending Sussex County Youth in Government Day sponsored by the Sussex County Freeholders.
- ★ Several members of the social studies department will be in the production of *Damn Yankees*.
- ★ Due to the work of the New Courses Committee, the special services department will be looking to work with other departments to create even more new classes for the 2009-2010 school year.