



**Awarded the INSPRA
2006 Award of
Excellence**

Bears vs. Knights in State Semifinals

Cover Photos: The LZHS Bears held the Rockford Boylan Titans to only 20 points during their 24-20 win in the state quarterfinal playoff game Nov. 11. Thanks to the Bears' defense, it was the fewest points scored by the Titans this season. (Cover photos by Megan Jennings, 13)

The Lake Zurich High School (LZHS) Bears Varsity Football Team (11-1) will play the Prospect High School Knights



(11-1) in the IHSA Class 7A state semifinals at home on Mel Eide Field on Saturday, November 18, beginning at 1 p.m. Tickets for the game went on sale November 14 for only \$6 and no passes will be accepted.

The winner of the semifinal game will play in the 7A state championship game on November 25 at the University of Illinois.

LZHS Athletic Director **Rolly Vazquez** is expecting a standing room only

crowd.

The Bears advanced to the semifinal game by beating the Boylan Titans of Rockford 24-20 on November 11 before a capacity crowd at Mel Eide Field. Although the Bears have been in the playoffs every year since 2002, by advancing to the semifinal game, the Bears now tie the 2002 team for the furthest playoff advancement in the school's history.

Show Your Bears Spirit!

Lake Zurich High School is also asking that area businesses, schools, churches, government organizations, service clubs and other groups show their support for the LZHS Bears by putting up "Go Bears!" and "Good Luck LZ Bears" on their marquees and other display signs, as well as in their store windows this week.

Parking/Shuttles

Because the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) Jazz Festival is also being held all day on November 18, the parking lot in front of the

Performing Arts Center (PAC) at Lake Zurich High School will be by permit for that event only.

In order to try and accommodate the expected standing room only capacity crowd, the school district—with the help of its community partners—has arranged for parking for the playoff game at the following locations: St. Peters Church; District 95 Annex (formerly old Middle School North);



May Whitney School; Lake Zurich High School parking lots (other than the PAC lot); Alpine Chapel; World-wide Transmission (Briggs); Echo Incorporated, and St. Francis de Sales Church.

In addition, a bus shuttle will run between the parking lots of Alpine Chapel, Echo Incorporated, and St. Francis de Sales Church parking lots before and after the game.

Since area practice fields may be saturated due to expected rain, parking will not be allowed on the practice field by the LZHS tennis courts, or on the field next to May Whitney School.

For more information about the game, contact the Lake Zurich High School Athletic Office, (847) 540-4104.



The mission of Lake Zurich Community Unit School District 95 is to inspire all students to be passionate, continuous learners and to prepare them with the skills to achieve their goals and flourish as responsible, caring citizens in a global community.

The Sinclair Family
(Photo by Jack
VanNoord.)

Jazz Up Your Weekend

Do you love good Jazz? If you do then you need to head to Lake Zurich High School's (LZHS) Performing Arts Center (PAC) tomorrow, November 18, for the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) District VII Jazz Festival. While student musicians will be enhancing their skills beginning in the early morning, the big Jazz Concert will be held at 1:15 p.m., in the PAC. At a cost of only \$3, it's an entertainment value that cannot be beat.

According to LZHS Band Director **Josh Thompson**, The IMEA District 7 jazz Festival at Lake Zurich High School is the culmination of a process that began with a day full of auditions in October at Niles North High School involving students from about 40 of the high school bands from all around the North shore, McHenry and Lake Counties. From those auditions, the top 100 High school jazz instrumentalists, 24 high school Jazz vocalists and 50 junior high Jazz instrumentalists were selected to rehearse with top educators in the field to produce Saturday's concert in the PAC.

Six of these incredibly talented musicians are from Community Unit School District 95. They include: **Tom Drury**-alto sax, Jazz Band 1; **Christine Evans**-trombone, Jazz band 2; **Dan Tribley**-trumpet, Jazz band 2; **Brad Repplinger**-trumpet, Jazz band 2; **Cary Fox**-tenor sax, Jazz band 2; and **Aaron Sue**-bass trombone, Jazz band 3.

The concert will consist of four high school big bands, two middle school/junior high school big bands, and the Vocal Jazz Ensemble. Students will be selected on the basis of this performance for participation at the All-State Conference in Peoria in January. This is the first time Lake Zurich has hosted this prestigious festival.



Above and right: LZHS Bear Pride can be found all over town as the LZHS Bears prepare for their state semifinal football game against the Prospect High School Knights.



Join an Action Team



Community Unit School District 95 is still seeking staff, parents, students and interested community

member volunteers to serve on action teams which will develop the necessary steps for successfully implementing the five strategies of the district's strategic plan. The plan was renewed last spring and approved by the Board of Education on May 25. The five action teams include:

- Staff Commitment**
- Community Commitment**
- Trust & Collaboration**
- Recruitment/Retention**
- Curriculum & Learning Opportunities**

Action teams will begin meeting soon with their final product due next spring.

The finished action plans will then be reviewed by the Strategic Planning Steering Committee before being submitted to the school district and its Board of Education.

If you are willing to participate on an Action Team, simply call the district's Office of Communications, (847) 540-5489. For more information, visit the district's strategic plan web site at www.lz95.org/strategic.

Finding College Aid

Lake Zurich High School juniors and seniors and their parents can learn the ins and outs of college financial aid during Lake Zurich High School's Financial Aid Night on Thursday, December 7, beginning at 7 p.m., in the school's Performing Arts Center.

Jerry Cebrzynski, Director of Financial Aid at Lake Forest College, will be the guest speaker for the evening. He will explain the financial aid process in general and discuss the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) form in particular. The FAFSA is the form that is used by every college and university to calculate need. Parents will need to calculate their tax information and submit the FAFSA online as soon as possible after January 1 of their student's senior year. Junior and senior students and their parents should attend.

For more information, contact **Sue Althoff**, chair of the Guidance Dept. at LZHS, (847) 540-4111, or email her at sue.althoff@lz95.org.

"Celebrity" Readers Make Reading and Learning Fun



As part of American Education Week, many schools held family and celebrity reading events to help get students and their families enthused about reading.

Family Reading Week at Seth Paine School was a great success with Seth Paine families participating in some fun reading at home each evening. They also had guest "celebrity" readers come to the schools to read to the students.

Celebrity readers included Superintendent **Dr. Brian Knutson**; **Dr. Beverly Smith**, Assistant Superintendent Teaching and Learning; **Laura Gammons**, Principal of Seth Paine School; **Kim Kolze**, Assistant Principal, LZHS; **Rolly Vazquez**, LZHS Athletic Director; school district bus drivers **Rob Blass**, **Barney**

Shultz, and **Louis Bundy Bryan Stortz**; and LZHS Varsity Football Coach **Bryan Stortz**.

Once students learned that Coach Stortz was in the building, the students made an announcement over the school's PA system and students and teachers poured out of their classrooms to cheer "Go Bears" and "Good Luck Bears" as he walked down the hallways.

There were also a host of guest readers from Lake Zurich High School, including: **Josh Khosbin**, **Kristen Boden**, **Greta Brauer**, **Sabah Saeed**, **Ryan Metzler**, **Christina Woloshyn**, **Bobby Barbaglia**, **Alex Matzinger**, and **Dave Antczak**.

Other special guests included LZHS varsity cheerleading coach **Beth Kuklinski** and the following LZHS Varsity Cheerleaders: **Allie Zimmerman**, **Sammy Schumacher**, **Lizz Kessel**, **Caitlin Flaherty**, **Charlie Hess**, **Lauren Gilbert**, **Trisha Skarb**, **Britany Bailey**, **Kaeley McNerney**, **Amy Drake**, **Carrie Haney**, and **Allie Holden**.

The students at Sarah Adams School also had guest readers who came and read their favorite books to classrooms full of students. In addition to reading, guest readers shared personal stories about their love of books, and why the book selection meant so much to them.



Left Coach **Bryan Stortz** reads to students at Seth Paine School.

Below Left: Coach Stortz is greeted by cheering students as he walks through the hallways at Seth Paine School. (Photos by **Diana Christ**.)

Catch *Bye, Bye Birdie*

Lovers of the theater, and musicals in particular, are encouraged to see the Middle School South production of *Bye, Bye Birdie* before it flies away! After a strong performance on Thursday night, the cast and crew are looking forward to the bright lights and a full house. The remaining performance dates, times, and location include:

- **Friday, November 17 at 7:00 p.m., MSS**
- **Saturday, November 18 at 7:00 p.m., MSS**

Tickets at the door will be only \$6 for adults and only \$5 for students and children. Middle School South is located at 435 West Cuba Rd.



MW's First Thanksgiving



The students in **Megan Guerrero's** second grade class turned back time as they put on their play about the first Thanksgiving celebration between the Pilgrims and Native Americans. After the play, the students performed Thanksgiving themed songs. The play was watched by a room full of appreciative staff, parents and other family members.

Get Ready for Popular Saturday Scholars Program

Registration begins on December 6 for the Community Unit School District 95 Saturday Scholars program for highly motivated students who are currently in the second through eighth grade and want to engage in higher level thinking, intellectual growth and creative exploration. Again this year, is an adult component for those seeking to expand their educational horizons.

With such interesting titles as *Talking Without Making a Sound*; *Fractured Fairytales & Trickster Tales*; *Art You Glad It's Winter*; *Kitchen Science*; *Making Books 101*; *Walk Like an Egyptian*, and *Mystery, Madness and Mayhem*, this innovative learning program will run for five Saturdays from January 27 through February 24, at Lake Zurich Middle School North, 95 Hubbard Lane, Hawthorn Woods.

Participating District 95 students will be able to choose two classes and attend both sessions, which will be held from 9-10:30 a.m., and 10:30 a.m. to Noon. Students will be taught by professionals in the specialized subject areas. Registration for the program begins December 4 and ends December 21. No applications will be accepted before December 4. Families will be responsible for their child's transportation to and from the Saturday Scholars program.

The fee for two classes for the five-week program is only \$70 and classes will be filled on a first come, first serve basis per arrival of registration form to:

Mrs. Gail Drake
C/o PDC
66 Church St.
Lake Zurich, IL 60047

Each registration is numbered as it is received and as many students as possible will be placed in their first two choices. As classes fill, it may become necessary to consider one or more of the student's other selections. Also, a class may be canceled if enrollment is not at a sufficient level.

Adult Technology Classes

Again this year, parents and interested community members can also participate in the Saturday Scholars program. A number of technology classes are being offered for adults on the same Saturdays and MSN location as the student program. Adults can choose from such classes as Digital Photography; Movie Maker; Microsoft Word; Microsoft Excel; Microsoft PowerPoint, and Internet Safety for Kids. Like with the student program, classes will be filled on a first come, first serve basis. The fee for each class is only \$25, with checks made payable to CUSD 95. The registration timeline and requirements are the same for the adult classes.

Please note that for both the student and adult programs that classes canceled due to inclement weather and/or other emergencies will not be rescheduled. Registration fees will not be refunded due to missed classes.

For more information, visit the Saturday Scholars website: www.lz95.org/Info/SaturdayScholars, or contact **Sandra Burvikovs**, (847) 540-3930, or **Gail Drake** (registration), (847) 540-3400.

Are You in the Know?

Get in the know about your public schools by joining the Community Unit School District 95 **Key Communicator Network** (KeyCom).

Our KeyCom program is a network of community residents, leaders, opinion shapers and watchdogs whose opinions are well respected by friends, colleagues and neighbors. We are not looking for cheerleaders, but people who care about our schools and want to be kept informed and are then willing to share that information with others.

As a Key Communicator, you will receive timely, factual information via a regular newsletter e-mailed to you about the work we're doing and



the issues affecting your school district and your schools.

Because this is designed to be a two-way communications network, we encourage you to give us your input and share your opinions. As a KeyCom member, your responsibility will be to share the information with friends, neighbors and colleagues.

To become a Key Communicator, simply call,

email or fax:

**Community Unit School District 95
Communications & Community Relations
400 S. Old Rand Road
Lake Zurich, IL 60047-2459
Phone: (847) 540-5489
Fax: (847) 438-6702
jim.jennings@lz95.org**

THRIVE in 95 is produced by the Community Unit School District 95 Office of Communications & Community Relations for staff and interested community members. Story submissions are greatly encouraged.

Annette Jacobsen,
Editor
Jim Jennings,
Publisher
(847) 540-5489
jim.jennings@lz95.org
www.lz95.org