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2006 Award of
Excellence**

TITLE TIME FOR THE BEARS!

LZHS Bears to Play St. Rita Mustangs for 7A State Championship on Nov. 25

Right: The LZHS Bears celebrate after holding the Prospect Knights to only 3 points during their 17-3 win in the state semifinal playoff game Nov. 18.

The Lake Zurich High School (LZHS) Bears Varsity Football Team (12-1) will play the St. Rita High School Mustangs (12-1) in the Bears' first ever IHSA Class 7A state championship game on Saturday, November 25, beginning at 7 p.m.,



at Memorial Field located on the University of Illinois campus in Champaign, IL. All tickets are \$10 and no passes will be accepted.

The Bears advanced to their first ever state championship football game by defeating the Prospect High School Knights 17-3 on November 18 before a capacity crowd at Lake Zurich's Mel Eide Field. Although the Bears have been in the playoffs every year since 2002, by advancing to the championship game this Bears' team has

advanced further than any other varsity football team in the school's history.

A total of 1,500 tickets for the game went on sale at the LZHS Athletic Office earlier this week and tickets can also be purchased at the Univ. of Illinois' Memorial stadium the evening of the game.

Get On the Bus

To make it easier for the fans to attend the championship game, there will also be a Bears' fan bus making the trip from Lake Zurich. Tickets for the chartered bus are only \$30 each, which does not include a ticket to the game. Bears' fan bus tickets can also be purchased through the LZHS Athletic Office.

In addition, five adults-only buses take fans to the game in Champaign, courtesy of the Lake Zurich High School Quarterback Club. Seats are only \$25, and the price does not include a game ticket. Buses will leave the school's north

parking lot starting at 11 a.m. Saturday. To reserve a seat, go to the athletic office or call the Quarterback Club's **Jim Weinrauch** at (847) 340-2626.

Show Your LZHS Bear Spirit!

Regardless of the outcome of the game, there



will be a community parade and celebration on Sunday, November 26, beginning at 1 p.m. The parade will begin at the CUSD 95 Annex (formerly old Middle School North) and proceed

down Midlothian Road and up into Lake Zurich High School. The entire community is encouraged to attend both the game in Champaign and greet their Bears at the parade and celebration on Sunday.

Businesses, churches, village buildings and homes throughout the Lake Zurich area are showing their support for the LZHS Bears by putting up "Go Bears!" and "Good Luck Bears!" on marqueses and in their yards and windows.

Below: Head Coach **Bryan Stortz** gets a standing ovation during the LZHS pep assembly.



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.

MSN Scores at IMEA Fest

Last month, Middle School North (MSN) was well represented at the Illinois Music Educators Association (IMEA) Festival as six MSN students performed with their groups in front of a crowd of 2,000. To make it into these prestigious groups, band and orchestra students from Northern Illinois participated in a rigorous audition process and earned themselves a spot in their respective groups. For the band, about 450 students from Northern Illinois auditioned for 125 places and in orchestra about 200 students auditioned for 125 places. Middle School North Students who were selected included; **Patrick Juras**, **Molly Murrin**, and **Vidhee Shah** from the MSN Band, and **Ensam Lee**, **Melinda Tom** and **Jessica Wang** from the MSN Orchestra. Congratulations to these fine student musicians!

According to **Steve Stenzel**, MSN Band Director, the groups sounded great as some of the best student musicians from northern Illinois got the chance to play together. Since the students are not usually together there was much work to do on the day of the festival. Every student had prepared their music ahead of time on their own, but the long rehearsals on that day were the first time they had all played in their group. All the hard work, the years of practicing and the hours of exhausting rehearsal paid off.

Anyone who heard the concert was amazed at the ability of these competent students. They played difficult music at a level usually only heard in high school.

Breakfast From Teacher



The Isaac Fox PTO held a silent auction to raise money for the school and these eight students (above) bid on breakfast with their teacher. **Bryan Spencer**, **Liz Staackmann**, **Kerri Matras**, and **Carol Layton** all donned aprons and whipped up some delicious homemade Belgian waffles for their generous students. Toppings included whipped cream, chocolate chips, berries, and syrup. No one left hungry.

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.

Right: Teachers and their young breakfast patrons. (Photo provided by Liz Staackman.)

Coming Soon: 'Saturday Scholars' Registration

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 time line 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.

Orchesis Fund Raisers

Orchesis, the Lake Zurich High School dance company, is raising funds for their February 8, 9, 10 2007, show through the following fund raisers:

- Selling Culver's cakes until January 15.
- A book fund raiser at *Barnes and Noble* on Sunday December 3, from 9am-11pm. You must present a *Barnes and Noble* voucher with your purchase that day for it to benefit the Orchesis dance company.
- A 10 percent restaurant day at Culver's all day on Thursday, December 14. You need to present a flier with your purchase that day in order to donate money to Orchesis.
- The Orchesis' will hold their annual Dance Workshop on January 21 and 28 at the High School for first through eighth graders. The deadline for registration for the dance workshop is December 1.

If you are interested in helping Orchesis out, please email **Michelle Riportella** at mommyrip@comcast.net for more information.

SL 3G Solves *Mysteries*

The third graders at Spencer Loomis Elementary wrapped up their mystery unit with their third annual *A to Z Fair*. For the past three years, third graders at Spencer Loomis Elementary have been solving mysteries by figuring out who or what the clues are, detectives, villains, victim, red herring, solution, etc...

After reading several mysteries in class and after many discussions on the different types of mystery elements, each third grader is assigned a book from the wonderful *A to Z Mysteries*, written by **Ron Roy**. After reading their book, each child has to display all the elements on the letter that goes along with their title. This is a great opportunity for students to use their imagination and artistic talents to represent their knowledge of their book. The *A to Z Mystery* series is a wonderful series for third graders to really jump into these books and become a detective.

Two years ago author **Ron Roy** visited and talked to the student at Spencer Loomis which helped make this project even more meaningful to the students and staff.



5 Young Artists Honored



CUSD 95 students were well represented at the Illinois Art Education Conference held recently at the Holiday Inn Mart Plaza in Chicago. The judges selected 40 works for the show based on grade level, use of media, basic skill and technique as well as composition and creativity. Five works were selected from District 95 students out of the more than 600 works submitted for consideration.

The honored student artists included **Melissa Uhl, Katie Grady, Ashley Balda, Mark Schwartz** and **Karina Smolyar**.

According to **Tracy Albert**, May Whitney art teacher, the artworks will travel to several locations during the school year and will be returned to the students by August, 2007. Over 600 works were submitted.

Honoring Those Who Serve



(Photo courtesy of Sheila Wells.)

Above: Second LT. Morrissey from the Illinois National Guard recently talked to the students at Sarah Adams School about the importance of being a good citizen and developing and maintaining good character.

Far left: **Tracy Albert**, students **Melissa Uhl, Katie Grady, Ashley Balda, Mark Schwartz**, and **Karen Harwood**. Not pictured: **Karina Smolyar**. (Photo provided by **Tracy Albert**.)

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.

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