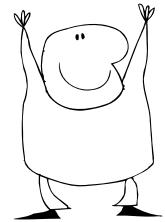


# GOOD NEWS



## From the West Irondequoit School District for February 2010

- IHS seniors Joel Carini and Justin Owen have been named **Finalists by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation** making them eligible for National Merit Scholarships. Out of 1.5 million entrants, only 15,000 students advance to this level.
- IHS art students Emily Dengel (junior), Amy Thompson (junior) and Alyssa Moseley (senior) volunteered to be roving photographers for the Hickok Center 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Auction Gala. Two of Emily's photos were **published** in the January 22 edition of the Rochester Business Journal.
- The IHS Diversity, Discrimination and Dignity class organized an awareness week to highlight the problem of AIDS and transmission of AIDS to newborn babies during birth. They made very popular braided bracelets and sold them in the commons, raising \$145 for the **PEDAIDS Foundation**.
- A team of twelve students from Iroquois Middle School competed against thousands of students across the country and students in Germany, Hong Kong and Singapore in the **Knowledge Bowl Open** held on January 20<sup>th</sup> in the Iroquois Computer Lab. Knowledge Bowl is a computerized contest held twice a year, consisting of 100 multiple choice questions that require higher level thinking skills, covering thirteen curriculum areas.

The students placed 2<sup>nd</sup> in New York State and 88<sup>th</sup> overall in a group of 283 schools that participated in the competition. Participants were:

Annie Brennan, Trevor Carney, Matt Clements, Gina DiPaola, Sydney Miller, Dan Ornelas, Elena Rohr, Ethan Smith, Leighton Temple, Taylor Thompson, Natalie Weckesser and Jack Weisensel. Their advisor is Mrs. Sue Smith.

- Brendan Cole, a fifth grade student at Iroquois Middle School, wrote a review of the book *Two Hot Dogs with Everything* by Paul Haven that was **published** in the February 3<sup>rd</sup> edition of the Democrat and Chronicle.
- The West Irondequoit Central PTSA presented **Honorary Life Memberships** to Charlotte Craig (Listwood teacher), Vandy Humphries (Helmer Nature Center volunteer and former IHS teacher) and Laura Wambach (Rogers Middle School teacher) on Tuesday, February 9. This award is given to those who have shown outstanding service to children and youth.
- Dake students have declared February **Operation Haiti** month. A committee of students has planned fundraising activities to be held throughout the month to help the relief effort. All proceeds will be sent to the American Red Cross and UNICEF.

Seventh grade students created approximately 250 water color paintings as they studied abstract landscapes in art class. The paintings were displayed at school and sold to parents, students and staff. Penny wars are being held to see which student group can collect the most loose change and a raffle is in the works. All proceeds from a student dance at the end of the month will also be donated to the relief effort.