



The Scribe

Spring/Summer
Report

2016



Deer Lakes

School District

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**The Official Student-Achievement
Biannual of the Deer Lakes School District**

East Deer

Frazer

West Deer



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Individual Athletics Recognition

Deer Lakes Board of School Directors are (from left): Clara Salvi, Louis W. Buck, Jodi L. Banyas-Galecki (Vice President), Gary W. Torick, Lisa E. Merlo (President), William A. Lupone, Jr., and Leanna Shurina. Fellow board members James F. McCaskey, and Phillip Ziendarski are not pictured.



Most of the content seen within this magazine is the work of James T. Cromie, Deer Lakes Communications Specialist. If you have any questions or wish to offer feedback, please call 724-265-5300 Ext. 2131 or email jcromie@dlsd.k12.pa.us.

Message from the **SUPERINTENDENT**

Dear Friends,

It is truly an exciting time for our school district. Our focus continues to be on increasing educational opportunities for our students and providing staff with professional development opportunities based on the very best instructional practices. We believe in the extraordinary potential of each of our students and remain committed to making all of our decisions based on their needs. Our work together requires teamwork, dedication and a collaboration that extends beyond our school district staff and students throughout the entire Deer Lakes community.



This school year the district embarked on a very thorough curriculum writing process in both language arts and mathematics, each of which focuses on rigor, problem solving and communication. Teachers and staff engaged in extensive professional development that produced a curriculum that is aligned with the state's standards and more importantly, which meets the needs of 21st Century learners.

We live in an increasingly complex, interconnected, and changing world and our priority continues to be on preparing our graduates to excel in the face of those challenges. Our focus is on providing STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts and Mathematics) opportunities for students in grades K-12 in the next school year. We have deployed teams of district personnel to other area school districts to observe what is occurring at those schools and we hope to emulate some of the best practices we have uncovered. We have also written grants and developed partnerships with other school districts, universities and industries to implement as many STEAM opportunities as possible for our students.

At the primary level, our teachers were introduced to a program which integrates language method and phonics techniques and develops young writers by teaching students how to write independently, be creative, and to read. We have also created a student-centered master schedule for our high school students that is rich in acceleration and opportunities for engagement in all areas of electives.

Parental support is key to any child's success and we believe it is essential to develop strong lines of communication between the school district and its homes throughout the year. This newsletter, in addition to our Skyward Student-Parent Portal, social media efforts, website and other communication tools are valuable resources containing information for parents to stay connected and informed with their child's school and his/her individual academic progress. They are also excellent ways for taxpayers, many of whom don't have children in our schools, to measure how efficiently and effectively we are utilizing our resources. We invite parents to remain actively involved in their children's education and we extend an invitation to the entire community to join us at school activities and events as often as your schedule permits. We value your talent, ideas, involvement, engagement and support for learning.

We are very proud of the accomplishments of our students and staff, and with the help and support of our community, we look forward to creating new levels of excellence going forward.

With extreme gratitude to serve,

A blue ink signature of Janell Logue-Belden, Ed.D.

JANELL LOGUE-BELDEN, ED.D
Superintendent, Deer Lakes School District

Tower Garden



Academic & Community News

From Around the Deer Lakes School District

Tower Garden

Deer Lakes' Lancer Parent Educator Partnership (LPEP) has been awarded a \$10,000 Grant from Seeds of Change to purchase Tower Garden aeroponic growing systems for the school district's students in grades K-8.

Deer Lakes' bid was one of more than 500 applications submitted for the grant and it qualified for the top 50 based on a strong online voting response from the Deer Lakes community. From there, the application was chosen based on LPEP's thorough and thoughtful response.

LPEP plans to spend the money by purchasing nine Tower Garden systems, which will be distributed in time for next school year among Deer Lakes Middle School, East Union Intermediate Center and Curtisville Primary Center; the latter of which already has one Tower Garden, which it has used to harvest arugula for its students.

In addition to the Curtisville Tower Garden, the new Tower Gardens will give the district the growing capacity to simultaneously produce up to 280 heads of lettuce – or a variety of 280 fruits and vegetable plants – year round.

Eagle Scouts

Deer Lakes High School juniors (from left) Dan Bauer and Jacob Lavrich; and sophomore Frank Wilbert V have attained a status not many do, as they each recently became Eagle Scouts.

The young men, who serve as patrol leaders for Troop No. 169, worked on their respective projects for months and have completed each of them throughout the school year.

To earn his Eagle Scout rank, Lavrich, who also earned the prestigious Order of the Arrow, refurbished the playground at Deer Creek Preschool. He sanded and painted the structure, repaired broken parts, added benches, and replaced the ground with safety mulch, bringing the playground up to state code. Bauer's Eagle project was to create a prayer garden and pedestal for the Virgin Mary at Transfiguration Church, where he is a member. The small garden faces McKrell Road and is one of the first things visitors see as they enter church property.



Wilbert V, whose father, Frank Wilbert IV serves as the troop's Scoutmaster, earned his Eagle Scout rank by constructing four wooden benches that were placed throughout the grounds of First Presbyterian Church of Bakerstown. He said his project was personally gratifying. "To have the opportunity to earn Eagle Scout and help out the church I have belonged to for my entire life was quite a thrill," said Wilbert V, who also earned the Order of the Arrow and the God and Church medal for religious study.

To achieve Eagle Scout – the highest rank possible in the Boy Scout program – each young man had to complete a 100-hour service project that they thought up and facilitated. The performance-based award remains difficult to achieve. In fact, since 1912, when it was first introduced, only five percent of the Boy Scouts' total membership have earned the Eagle Scout rank. That makes it all the more remarkable that three members of the 11-member Troop 169 earned their Eagles in the same year.

Academic & Community News

From Around the Deer Lakes School District



National History Day Winners

The Deer Lakes Middle School trio of (from left) Katie Smagala, Jessica Windows and Abby Smagala took first place in the Junior Division Group Exhibit at the National History Day (NHD) competition held earlier in the spring at the Heinz History Center.

Their exhibit, titled *Mercy Heritage: Ireland to Pittsburgh & Beyond*, focused on the historical contributions of Sisters Catherine McAuley and Frances Warde. As part of their presentation, the young ladies built a church-like structure with lighted stained glass windows for their exhibit.

The seventh grade students, who placed third in last year's competition with a project called *Juliette Gordon Low: Founder of Girl Scouts*, agree that experience helped them this year and estimate that they put in more than 60 hours of work on the project including every Wednesday after school and many weekends. As division winners, they will also receive a cash prize which will be provided by the King Family Awards.

Energy Consortium

Deer Lakes remains actively involved in the Electric Consortium committee and that membership is projected to net the district nearly \$30,000 in savings next year after realizing approximately a \$50,000 savings this past school year.

The goal of the Western Pennsylvania Natural Gas & Electric Consortium (WPNG&EC) committees is to provide a competitive price to its participants from a reliable supplier. The committee consists of business managers and other school officials from the Allegheny Intermediate Unit (AIU3) and nine area school districts including Deer Lakes as well as North Allegheny, Fox Chapel, Upper St. Clair and West Jefferson Hills among others.

Deer Lakes has participated in both consortia for nearly two decades. Last fiscal year alone, the consortium savings analysis performed by an independent third party showed that the school district had saved \$4,904 on natural gas and \$44,507 on electricity.

Grease earns Gene Kelly Awards Nomination

The music pit of "Grease" was nominated for a Gene Kelly Award, "Best All Student Orchestra." Pit members include:

- » Natalie Merlinia
- » Barb Matthews
- » Geoff Matthews
- » Ben Stewart
- » Josh Bechtold
- » Steve Yarussi
- » Ryan Ziegler
- » George Curry
- » Natalie King
- » Madison Kemp
- » Matt Derby (director)



DEER LAKES SCHOOL DISTRICT

Notable Achievements

From Around the Deer Lakes School District



Jake McCaskey

Sophomore

Deer Lakes High School sophomore Jake McCaskey has been selected to participate in the Pennsylvania-West chapter (Region B) of the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership Training Program in June at Washington & Jefferson College in Washington, Pa.

Annual HOBY programs are conducted throughout the United States and serve local and international high school students with the goal of inspiring and developing young leaders to become adults committed to a life dedicated to volunteerism, leadership, service and innovation.

Dr. Mann successfully defended her dissertation and earned her doctorate in Professional Leadership and Development from Duquesne University.

The West Deer resident and veteran teacher studied for the degree on a full-time basis – including evenings, weekends and summers – for more than three-and-a-half years, researching throughout toward her final dissertation, which focused on social justice issues, both real and perceived.



Dr. Jennifer Mann

Teacher, Deer Lakes High School



Dan Greer

Senior

Deer Lakes High School senior Dan Greer earned the Gold-level award from the President's Volunteer Service program.

Over the summer, Greer completed the Hugh O'Brian Youth (HOBY) Leadership for Service (L4S) + Hours Challenge. Greer completed an outstanding 250.75 hours of service in one year's time. Approximately 95 percent of those community service hours came outside of school-related community service work. In the fall, Greer received a letter from President Barack Obama congratulating him on his work to help the community.



Jackie Jaros

Guidance Counsellor, Student Council Advisor, Deer Lakes Middle School

Miss Jackie Jaros was named the 2015 National Middle Level Advisor of the Year by the National Association of Student Councils (NASC) and given the prestigious Warren E. Shull award during its annual national convention in Albuquerque, N.M.

Jaros had previously been named the Pennsylvania and Mid-Atlantic Advisor of the Year

A Deer Lakes alumna ('88), Jaros cofounded the PASC Deer Lakes chapter in 2000 and has developed it into one of the strongest student leadership organizations in the state of Pennsylvania.



Distinguished Alumni

Deer Lakes recently announced its *Distinguished Alumni Class of 2016*. The five newest members of this esteemed group are (from left:) Dr. Robert W. Kelly (represented above by his son, Rob), Mr. Michael O'Hare, Mrs. Susan Palmer Oliver, Miss Melinda Roeder and Mrs. Deborah Stanko Zacherl.

The purpose of the Distinguished Alumni Award is to identify, recognize, celebrate, and honor those alumni who have distinguished themselves in academics, the arts, public service, professional contributions, or athletics at the collegiate or professional level and who, in so doing, have contributed to the pride and prestige of the Deer Lakes School District.

Earlier this year, the district circulated nomination forms asking East Deer, Frazer, and West Deer residents to nominate a graduate from the former East Deer–Frazer, West Deer and Deer Lakes School Districts who had graduated at least a decade ago and whom they felt deserved to be recognized. A panel of six judges, comprising administrators, individuals from the community at-large, former inductees, school board members, and the senior class president, selected five honorees from more than a dozen nominations. The honorees were selected on the basis of outstanding contributions made in their chosen professions.

The Deer Lakes School District Distinguished Alumni Hall of Honor recognized five graduates who

have gained recognition for outstanding accomplishments in their fields of endeavor.

The 2016 inductees include Dr. Robert W. Kelly ('64), Michael O'Hare ('70), Susan Palmer Oliver ('76), Melinda Roeder ('93) and Deborah Stanko Zacherl ('69).

The induction ceremony and banquet were held in April at Deer Lakes High School.

Dr. Robert W. Kelly, '64



The late Dr. Kelly enjoyed a long and extremely successful career as a surgeon at Allegheny Valley, Allegheny General and West Penn

Hospitals as part of the Allegheny Health Network. A retired Colonel in the United States Army Reserves, Dr. Kelly also spent time in Georgia and Hawaii working as a surgeon.

A letter winner and class salutatorian at Deer Lakes, Dr. Kelly was also a graduate of Allegheny College and the Bowman Gray School of Medicine at Wake Forest University in Winston-Salem, N.C. He also served as a school and team physician for the Lower Burrell School District.

Mr. Michael O'Hare, '70



Mr. O'Hare was a member of Deer Lakes High School's first ever graduating

class. He served as the emcee of the Varsity Club Variety Show and was also a member of the boys' volleyball, football and baseball teams.

Upon his 1974 graduation of what was then known as Slippery Rock State College, O'Hare set off on an immensely successful 35-year career in the consumer products industry representing brands such as Coca-Cola, A&W Root Beer, Frito-Lay, and, most notably, as Vice President of Snyder's of Hanover. During O'Hare's tenure, the pretzel manufacturer grew from an \$80 million regional snack food supplier to an internationally distributed company worth \$1.7 billion annually.

O'Hare sponsors a scholarship for Slippery Rock-bound Deer Lakes alums, and has awarded more than \$80,000 in scholarship money since 2004.

Mrs. Susan Palmer Oliver, '76



Mrs. Palmer Oliver has dedicated most of her life to serving the Deer Lakes community, including

the past 25 plus years as an English teacher and guidance counselor in the school district.

The daughter of the local pharmacist, Palmer Oliver has forged her own professional path and is locally renowned for her dedication to her students and her willingness to consistently go that extra mile to make sure that they are giving themselves the best chance to succeed. She has played a key role in the success of many Deer Lakes alums.

Palmer Oliver is also the sponsor of Deer Lakes' National Honor Society, which has partnered with the West Deer Alumni and community to sponsor four senior citizen proms.

In April, Michael O'Hare (Deer Lakes High School, '70) announced that he was donating \$20,000 to the 10 Deer Lakes graduates attending Slippery Rock University in the fall to honor his late mother and father, Dody and Stel O'Hare.

"My parents led by example and raised a happy family built on some very simple principles," said O'Hare. "They believed in love of family, integrity, faith, and zest for life, hard work and generosity. This scholarship is a perfect way to honor each of those principles."

O'Hare has donated \$80,000 in scholarship money to Deer Lakes alums since 2004.

Miss Melinda Roeder, '93



Miss Roeder has enjoyed a very successful career as a broadcast journalist, earning seven Edward R. Murrow Awards, 26 Emmy nominations, 13 Regional Emmy Awards, and 21 Associated Press Regional Broadcasting Awards, among others.

She was worked for TV stations in Atlanta, Baltimore, Lexington, Ky., Evansville, Ind., Sioux Falls, S.D., and Pittsburgh. She most recently worked for WGCL-CBS46 in Atlanta before moving back to Pittsburgh earlier this year. Roeder now teaches broadcast journalism at Waynesburg University and works as a freelance reporter for WESA (90.5 FM) where she produces a weekly Technology Report. She is also heavily involved locally and nationally with the National Academy of Television Arts & Sciences (NATAS).

Mrs. Deborah Stanko Zacherl, '69



Mrs. Stanko Zacherl has been an educator since the early 70s, serving as a teacher in

the Deer Lakes School District for 11 years before moving to Virginia in the mid-1980's.

For the past 14 years, Zacherl has worked as a second grade teacher at The Nysmith School for the Gifted and is best known by her colleagues and students alike for her incredible ability to inspire and motivate her students to take on advanced mathematics through a series of approaches including kinesthetic, auditory, tactile and visual approaches for each math concept, often making up rhymes, songs or physical activities to help further drive home the concept.



Notable Achievements

From Around the Deer Lakes School District



Maureen Hutchinson

Senior

In the fall, Maureen Hutchinson was named the 2015 Deer Lakes Homecoming Queen.

In the spring, Hutchinson was selected as a national finalist in the America's Homecoming Queen competition.

Hutchinson was selected from 10 finalists in the statewide competition in Lancaster and will now have the opportunity to represent Pennsylvania at the national competition this July in Nashville, Tenn.



Kelly Dvorsky

Senior

Kelly Dvorsky was chosen for the Extra Effort Award, presented by KDKA-TV and Allegheny Health Network.

Dvorsky is a 4.0 student while enrolled exclusively in AP and advanced courses and is No. 2 in her class of 173 students. The senior cocaptain of the girls' volleyball team is a three-year letter winner.

Dvorsky also earned recognition as the *Pittsburgh Post-Gazette's North Athlete of the Week*.



Ron Nichols

Teacher, Curtisville Primary Center

Ron Nichols was named the 2015 Elementary Physical Education Teacher of the Year by the Pennsylvania State Association for Health, Physical Education, Recreation and Dance.

The seventh year teacher believes that his holistic approach to wellness is a major part of his success.

"I concentrate on teaching my students not only the athletic skills they'll need to succeed but I also spend a lot of time educating them on why they are learning various skills and how they can use those tools and that information to be healthy and active for the rest of their lives."



Casey Nicholson & Madison Smail

Seniors

Deer Lakes senior Casey Nicholson (Early Childhood Education) was named the AW Beattie Career Center's 2016 class valedictorian.

Madison Smail (Automotive Collision Technology) was named Beattie's 2016 co-salutatorian.



Tail Waggin' Tutors

It really shouldn't come as much of a surprise to learn that man's best friend is a really good listener. However, that is exactly what some of the third grade students at East Union Intermediate Center are finding out as part of a program called *Tail Waggin' Tutors*.

Teacher Suzan Hensel introduced the idea and said she was inspired to bring the program to East Union after a discussion with her daughter, a reading specialist at another school. "My hope was to help – in some small way – to instill a love of reading and encourage my students to read even more at home with their own pets," she said.

Hensel then contacted local dog trainer Jamie Robinson to gauge her interest in participating in the program. Robinson's dogs are certified by Therapy Dogs International, a volunteer group organized to provide qualified handlers and their therapy dogs for visitations to hospitals, schools, libraries and other institutions where their services are needed.

"Dogs are just amazing animals and the relationship between us and our dogs is incredible," said Robinson. "I knew

pretty much right away that we wanted to be involved with this program and I think everyone has really enjoyed it."

Twice per month for the past two years, Robinson and her friend, Sue Guenther, have been bringing in two therapy dogs — Stewart, a nine year-old male golden retriever, owned by DeDe Fink; and Bailie, Robinson's own 10 year-old male Yorkie/Maltese mix — to East Union to serve as the designated listeners.



According to Hensel, the feedback she has received from parents has been overwhelmingly positive. "What our parents are finding is that their children's reading ability is improving greatly with the additional practice with an attentive but non-judgmental audience," she said. "What a great way for them to practice reading!"

Robinson said she loves the looks on the kids' faces when they first see the dogs. "Any nervousness or anxiety the kids may be feeling going in usually goes away within a few seconds and you can see their whole demeanor change," she said. "Watching them let their guard down and gaining confidence is truly something to behold."

According to Hensel, there is something special and comforting about reading to a four-legged friend. "We can see the happiness reflected on the students' faces when they see Bailie and Stewart enter the building every other week," she said. "Even though it is a small time that is spent together, I believe it leaves a lasting impact on our students."



National Math + Science Initiative



Deer Lakes students and staff are taking advantage of new opportunities being offered through the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI)

A new program at Deer Lakes High School is helping students on their way to receive college credit while still in high school.

Earlier this school year, Deer Lakes enrolled in the National Math and Science Initiative (NMSI) college readiness grant program which funds all teacher and student supports for Advanced Placement (AP) classes, standardized high school courses, followed by an exam in that subject, which can earn them college credit and jump-start their higher education journey.

According to Jackie Castma, college readiness program manager for southwestern Pennsylvania, the program's initiative is not only to increase AP course participation, but to vastly improve their success when they take the test that guarantees college credits for those who receive at least a score of 3 out of 5.

The national average is a 15.4 percent passing rate for both juniors and seniors who scored a 3 or better on a math, science or English exam last year.

"AP is a vehicle to college readiness," Castma said. "They need to have AP experience in high school."

Based on data from the College Board, which administers the AP exams, the first-year increase in qualifying math, science and English exam scores among NMSI partner schools is 68 percent — more than 10 times the national average of 6.6 percent.

Success of the NMSI College Readiness program is twofold — mentoring AP teachers and providing peer study groups through collaboration with other schools. Deer Lakes will be working with teachers and students from Pittsburgh Public Schools as well as Chartiers Valley, Peters Township, West Allegheny and Ringgold school districts.

Dr. Janell Logue-Belden, Deer Lakes School District superintendent, said school officials are thrilled with how the program is working so far and its growth potential going forward.

"NMSI offers both our students and teachers opportunities to excel through rigorous course work, collaborative study groups and teacher mentoring," she said. "We look forward to celebrating our successes with the community."

NMSI provides teacher mentoring during the summer and teacher training and student study sessions throughout the year.

According to Castma, a number of North Hills and Alle-Kiski Valley schools are also seriously considering joining the program, which would cut down on student and teacher travel.

The program is designed to make AP courses accessible to more students. "We want AP open to students who are serious about attending college," Castma said. "We support students already taking AP courses, but also want to empower schools to identify students who will be successful through AP classes."

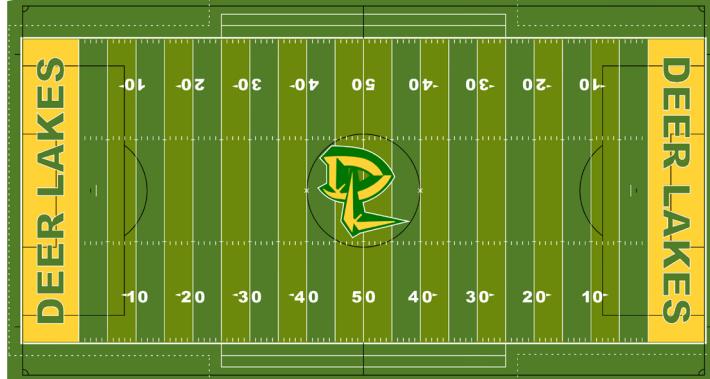
NMSI was formed in 2007 by leaders in education and industry who identified gaps in STEM education. The Dallas-based nonprofit, backed by Lockheed Martin and ExxonMobil, currently partners with approximately 725 schools across 25 states and Washington, D.C. It amounts to a \$535,000 grant for the district and is designed to raise scores in Advanced Placement exams. It also allows the district to offer more AP and pre-AP courses for students in grades 6-12.

"We celebrate the threes, fours and fives," Castma said, noting the passing scores on AP tests. "But we also celebrate the students who take AP courses as well. The true success lies in their experience."



Lancer Stadium turf, track to be replaced

Deer Lakes' Lancer Stadium will be closed for the summer while crews install a new artificial surface and track. The stadium is scheduled to close on June 13, following the Class of 2016's commencement ceremony, and it will reopen in time for the 2016 fall sports season.



Earlier this spring, the district's board of school directors approved the \$625,000 resurfacing project with ProGrass LLC slated to handle the field and ATT Sports Inc. tabbed to renovate the track.

ProGrass was the lowest of eight bidders for the field project with a price of \$438,000. ATT Sports bid \$187,000 to do the track, also the lowest out of three bids Deer Lakes received.

Money to pay for the projects will come from the district's capital reserve fund.

Deer Lakes director of buildings and grounds, Garry Dixson, who is overseeing the project, said that while the project is certainly costly, it is absolutely necessary and something the district has been planning for some time.

"These surfaces typically last somewhere between 8-10 years and our current surface is 12 years-old and really beginning to show its age," he said. "It is well past time we replaced it."

According to Dixson, student safety is the primary consideration. "As a school district we have a deeply held responsibility, not only to our students but also to the young men and women against whom they compete, to maintain a safe playing surface for in all sports and this project allows us to do that."

Angeloni Honored

In March, Deer Lakes honored former district teacher and guidance counselor Daniel A. Angeloni.

Angeloni, a 1948 graduate of West Deer High School, later served as a teacher and guidance counsellor for his alma mater and what eventually became Deer Lakes School District.

During his distinguished 37-year career, Angeloni touched the lives of so many district families. He also worked tirelessly as an archivist, photographer and historian for Deer Lakes to make sure that the district and communities that comprise it retained their history.

School Board vice president Jodi Banyas-Galecki presented Angeloni with a plaque that will forever hang in the high school guidance office.





One for the thumb

The Deer Lakes varsity softball team recently clinched its fifth consecutive WPIAL-AA Section 3 championship



Deer Lakes' varsity sports teams enjoyed a wildly year.

In addition to the successes profiled in this magazine, the varsity boys volleyball team won Section 2-AA, earning the Lancers (12-3) the No. 3 seed and a bye in the first round of the 2016 WPIAL boys volleyball playoffs.

It was the 12th section title for that program, but the first since its state championship 2011 season.

The football team got off to its best start in school history and made the playoffs for just the second time in school history. The girls volleyball team also qualified for the postseason for the first time in 14 years.

Perhaps Deer Lakes' most successful fall sports team this year was the golf team, which went a perfect 12-0 in section play and qualified for the 2015 WPIAL Golf Championships.

After a mid-season stumble that saw the Deer Lakes varsity softball team drop two straight section games — a rarity in recent years — the Lancers (15-4) rebounded down the stretch to win eight of their final nine games, many by double-figure margins, including a 10-run-rule win over Class AAA Indiana, earning them their fifth consecutive Section 3 championship and the No. 2 seed in this year's WPIAL-AA softball playoffs.

Deer Lakes lost just two players from last year's state runners-up team but those losses proved significant and forced the Lancers to make some major adjustments as the season wore along.

Junior Shae Robson has taken over the primary pitching duties that had been handled by all-star Tiffany Edwards, now

a freshman at Seton Hill (Pa.). Robson has also stepped up at the plate. Sophomore Danielle Huffman has taken over for Katie Gozzard (now at Penn State-Behrend) at shortstop and she too has played well for the Lancers, leading the team in runs batted in. Senior Maria Taliani leads the team with three home runs and Stephanie Drapela has also been an offensive catalyst for Deer Lakes.

Performing well down the stretch is nothing new for Deer Lakes. The team's past five playoff seeds during this dominant run: 2, 1, 2, 1 and 4.

Deer Lakes, the defending WPIAL-AA champion, also won the championship in 2012 and has played in the finals at Cal (Pa.) the past four years.

Marzolf qualifies for state swimming championships

Deer Lakes junior Mallory Marzolf enjoyed a remarkably successful swimming season.

Marzolf finished second in the 200 meter freestyle event at the 2016 WPIAL swimming championships at Pitt's Trees Hall, posting a personal-best time of 1:55.22. She followed up that performance by taking third in the 500 free.

Those times allowed her to qualify for the state swimming championships at Bucknell University in Lewisburg.



Homecoming 2016



Deer Lakes School District invites all members of the communities of East Deer, Frazer and West Deer townships to join us in celebrating the 2016 Homecoming festivities, including the annual Homecoming parade, football game and coronation, all of which will take place on Friday, Sept. 30, 2016. This year's Homecoming theme will be announced in June.

As in years past, parade participants will assemble at the Deer Lakes Middle School parking lot by no later than 5 p.m. on the day of the event. The parade

QUICK FACTS:

Date: Friday, Sept. 30, 2016
Parade Starts: 6 p.m.
Football Game Kicks Off: 7:30 p.m.

will begin promptly at 6 p.m. and will again follow East Union Road from the Middle School to the Deer Lakes High School. The entire length of the route is approximately 1.2 miles.

After the parade, all participants are encouraged to cheer on the Lancers varsity football team as they take on Brentwood at 7:30 p.m.

Last year's Homecoming parade, which was themed "Seasons of the Year," featured 30 different student and community groups and attracted more than 2,000 spectators. Escorted by Derek Drane, Maureen Hutchinson was crowned Homecoming Queen and the Lancers pounded East Allegheny, 41-0.

School or community groups and organizations wishing to participate in this year's parade should contact the district. No group will be registered for the event prior to July 1, 2016.

Individual Recognition

Girls Soccer

Emma Gozzard, Sr., M/F: All-Section 2-AA

Boys Soccer

Ryan Stanga, Sr., D: All-Section 2-AA
Jarec Sutter, Sr., MF: All-Section 2-AA

Football

Mark Brenner, Sr., DL: Second Team, All-Section 2-AA
Hunter Burns, Sr., KR: First Team, All-Section 2-AA
Cody Edwards, Sr., OT: Second Team, All-Section 2-AA
Geoff Matthews, Sr., C: Second Team, All-Section 2-AA
Nathan Morrissey, Sr., G/DL: First Team, All-Section 2-AA
Billy Palmerie, Jr., G: Second Team, All-Section 2-AA
Bandon Zilavy, Sr., OT: First Team, All-Section 2-AA, Most Valuable Offensive Lineman

Girls Volleyball

Jenna Dvorsky, Sr., OH: First Team, All-Section 4-AA, Section 4-AA All Star
Kelly Dvorsky, Sr., S: First Team, All-Section 4-AA
Jessica Philistine, Sr., MH: Third Team, All Section 4-AA
Maria Taliani, Sr., OH: Second Team, All Section 4-AA

Girls Basketball

Jessica Philistine, Sr., F: Second Team, All Section 2-AA

* The Spring sports honors have not yet been released.



Coach Honored

Deer Lakes varsity football coach Steve Sciullo had quite a year.

In addition to leading Deer Lakes to just its second ever playoff appearance, the Pittsburgh Steelers chose him as their Week 4 High School Coach of the Week, recognizing him on the field for their Oct. 1 game versus the Baltimore Ravens.

The former NFL player was also presented with a prestigious golden football to commemorate his having participated in one of the first 50 Super Bowls.



Deer Lakes School District

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