



# Hawk's Eye



Volume 4, Issue 1

May 2008

Spread the News to  
Prospective Students!!

**INTERESTED IN A TOUR OF VINAL?**

**LAST TOUR DATE**

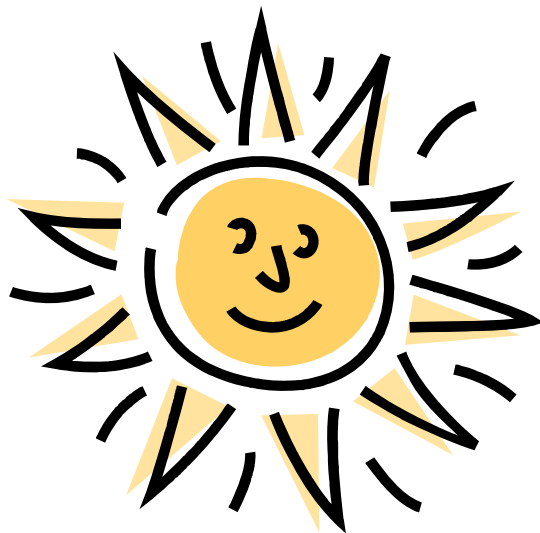
***Wednesday, June 11, 2008***

Technology Tours and Program Information Available For  
Interested Students and Parents

To Make a Tour Reservation Call (860) 344-7100 Ext. 313

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**HAVE A GREAT SUMMER!**



## **PRINCIPAL'S MESSAGE**

As we approach the final days of this school year, it is important for students to continue making their best effort and to remain focused. Maintaining good study habits, including completing assignments and homework on time, effective time management, attending extra help, coming to class prepared to learn, and getting a good night's sleep, remains important. Parents can help by continuing to monitor their child's progress and communicating with teachers when a concern arises.

The third marking period ends on June 20<sup>th</sup> and report cards will be mailed home shortly thereafter. A summer parent letter will be sent to preview the starting dates for next school year. Students will be receiving a summer reading assignment prior to the end of school which will be sent home with the report cards and posted on our Vinal main page. Important upcoming dates include final exams on June 3<sup>rd</sup> and June 4<sup>th</sup> for freshmen and seniors, and June 12<sup>th</sup> and June 13<sup>th</sup> for sophomores and juniors. To celebrate student achievement, Senior Awards Night will be held June 3<sup>rd</sup> for seniors and their parents. A recognition assembly will be held for students only on June 5<sup>th</sup> for freshmen and on June 19<sup>th</sup> for sophomores and juniors. We congratulate all of our outstanding students for their accomplishments.

A final thank you to teachers, parents, secretarial and custodial staff and the Vinal Parent Faculty Organization for a successful school year.

Sheila Fredson, *Principal*

**Please visit our school website  
at: [www.cttech.org/vinal](http://www.cttech.org/vinal)**

**For more information and  
updates during the summer!**

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## FORENSICS PRESENTATION TO MRS. NICHOLSON'S 10<sup>TH</sup> GRADE ENGLISH CLASSES

English teacher, Mrs. Nicholson, invited the Central District Major Crime Squad to make a presentation about forensic practices to her sophomore classes after they had read the short story, "Lamb to the Slaughter" by Roald Dahl. Detectives Bill Guida, Chris Sadock, Scott Wisner, and Sergeant Gabianelli presented an excellent program that engaged our students to use critical thinking and problem solving skills to participate in the interactive PowerPoint presentation. Students were taught the importance of detailed documentation writing and teamwork skills. After the presentation, students wrote a critique of the presentation, and documented how much they learned from the experience.

## MOCK CRASH

On Friday, May 2, 2008 Vinal junior and senior students witnessed a mock car crash. The mock crash is an event that brings community members together to show students the effects of drinking and driving. Students witnessed a dramatization of the events that actually occur at the site of a drinking and driving scene.

## SURVIVE THE DRIVE

The timing could not have been better! A few days before the Junior and Senior Proms, guest speaker Robert Green, from the *Survive the Drive* organization came to speak to the junior and senior students about driver safety. When an individual with Mr. Green's credentials and enthusiasm delivers a strong message of safety and responsibility it helps it to sink in a little further. With his own unique approach, Mr. Green stressed the importance of responsible driving while using the physics of a car crash and some very candid examples to help the students become mindful of weather conditions, understand how to avoid an object in the road, and become aware of why cars, including tires, should be well-maintained. We thank the junior and senior class for sponsoring this event.

## ACADEMIC NEWS

### **General Education**

Ms. Lombardo, who teaches a junior English elective on Drama, will be taking her Drama Club students to the Goodspeed Opera House on May 21<sup>st</sup> to see the musical "Happy Days." Vinal students will take an educational tour of their facilities and learn about the history of the Goodspeed. They will also learn about the technical aspects of the theatre. Ms. Lombardo hopes that the field trip and tour will further her students' understanding of production stage and the artistic components of "live theatre."

On April 9, 2008 Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Casey took twenty students from the Civics classes on a trip to Hartford where they toured the State Capital, Supreme Court and Museum of Connecticut History. The students met with Senator Doyle, Rep. Serra and Rep. Morin to briefly discuss the law making process. Top on the list was teen drivers licensing requirements. At the court there was a lecture and tour of the historic courtroom. The students even had the opportunity to sit in the judges' chairs.

### **Related Education**

Vinal's mathematics department was represented this year in the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Technical High School Math League competition which was held on May 8, 2008 at Norwich Tech. The full day was devoted to individual and team competition in solving mathematical problems. There were thirteen technical schools represented. In a first-time effort against technical schools which had competed for years, Vinal Tech's team did well. As a team, Vinal Tech finished 5<sup>th</sup> overall. For 12<sup>th</sup> grade individuals, Sam Harvey finished second in the state and for 11<sup>th</sup> grade individuals, Ray Ramirez finished second and Rachel Gibbs finished third. Well done for a first year effort!

The team for Vinal Tech comprised of seniors Dan Varricchio, Matt Murray, Sam Harvey, Tom Walczak, Andrew Radbeck, Jeff Roy and Ashlee Royea. Juniors were represented by Jeff Tomaszewski, Ray Ramirez, Rachel Gibbs, and Victoria Trowbridge. The sophomore class competitors were Lauren Bradley, Stephanie Robinson, Anthony Russo and Craig Kaeser and rounding out the competitors were freshman Matt McBriarty and William Drotar.

## ZACK WEEKS – IMPAC SEMI-FINALIST

Junior CADD student Zack Weeks was selected as a Middlesex County semi-finalist in the IMPAC (Connecticut State University System Literary Awards for Young Writers). General Education Department Head, Mr. Bestor, nominated Zack for this outstanding honor and accomplishment. Zack now has an opportunity to be selected to receive the \$1,000 county award between New Haven and Middlesex County semi-finalists. If chosen as a final award recipient, he may be considered for the statewide award which is a trip to Ireland with a parent to attend the International IMPAC Dublin Literary Award. Good luck Zack!

## ATHLETIC NEWS

For the 2007/2008 school year seniors Amber Henderson and Dan Varricchio have been selected as the CIAC Scholar Athletes. Congratulations Amber and Dan.

Seniors Gunnar Steinle and Matt Murray received All-State Honorable Mention for their performance on the Rifle Team this year.

The baseball team is gearing up for the state tournament. The CSC league tournament starts on Monday, May 19, 2008 @ ECSU where they will take on Windham Tech. Good luck!

The softball team is 2<sup>nd</sup> in the Central Division and will take on O'Brien Tech on Monday, May 19, 2008 for the league championship. Good luck girls!

The golf team is gearing up for the CSC championships on May 29, 2008. The team will be teeing up at Tunxis Plantation at 9:15 a.m.

Track and Field under first year coach Jay Coleman is peaking at the right time for the CSC championships at New Britain Veterans' Stadium. Starting time is 1 p.m.

Football season kicks off with spring practice on May 27, 2008

The Vinal Tech Spring Athletics Award's Night is being held on June 4, 2008 in the cafeteria. We look forward to having all the athletes and parents attend. Refreshments will be served after the ceremony.

## CULINARY ARTS DEPARTMENT

Congratulations to the students of the Culinary Arts Department for preparing an extraordinary dinner for the Technical Advisory Board members on May 6, 2008. Chef Marinelli and Chef Barnes taught the students to prepare an outstanding meal with hors'd'oeuvres, a carving station and a fabulous dessert table. The dinner was a wonderful way for our school to express appreciation to our partners in business and industry while showcasing the skills of our culinary students and their teachers.

## CALENDAR UPDATES

MAY 2008

MAY 21, 2008 – SHORTENED DAY – 12:11 P.M. DISMISSAL

MAY 26, 2008 – NO SCHOOL – MEMORIAL DAY

MAY 30, 2008 – SENIOR CLASS DAY TRIP – HOLIDAY HILL

LOOKING AHEAD TO JUNE

JUNE 3 & 4, 2008 – FINAL EXAMS – GRADES 9 & 12

JUNE 3 – SENIOR AWARDS NIGHT – 6 P.M.

JUNE 5, 2008 – 9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE AWARDS

JUNE 11, 2008 – FIELD DAY

JUNE 12 & 13, 2008 – FINAL EXAMS – GRADES 10 & 11

JUNE 16, 17, & 18, 2008 – GRADUATION REHEARSAL

JUNE 18, 2008 – GRADUATION – CROWNE PLAZA IN CROMWELL

JUNE 19, 2008 – 10<sup>TH</sup> AND 11<sup>TH</sup> GRADE AWARDS

JUNE 20, 2008 – LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

## PHOTO HIGHLIGHTS



10<sup>th</sup> grade students with Mrs. Lee and Mrs. Casey at the State Capitol



Mock car crash presentation  
May 2, 2008



Vinal Tech Math League busy at work at the  
8<sup>th</sup> Annual Math League competition at  
Norwich Tech



Culinary students who worked hard  
on the TTAC Committee dinner held  
on May 6, 2008

## SKILLSUSA NEWS

Nineteen SkillsUSA State Champions will be making their way to Kansas City on June 22, 2008 to compete at the National SkillsUSA Leadership and Skills Conference against other students from all over the country. The champions will be competing in leadership events such as Opening and Closing Ceremonies, Quiz Bowl and Community Service and trade events such as Robotics and Automation and Collision Repair and Refinishing. The state champions are already ranked in the top 2% in the country of students who are enrolled in technical education. That simply means they are "the best of the best" going into the national contest. The only dilemma we face is raising the money to get them there. Please consider attending the events scheduled and support our Champions at Work!

### Opening and Closing State Champions

Joseph Meehan, Raymond Ramirez, Fredrik Jones, Christian Cox, Matthew Kimball, Walter Kenney, Jonathan Rodriguez

### Quiz Bowl State Champions

Ashley Brand, Amber Henderson, Matthew Murray, Daniel Coe, Rachel Gibbs

### Community Service State Champions

Ashley Culbert, Holly Dettore and Travis Newell

### Robotics and Automation State Champions

Daniel Varricchio and Tomasz Walczak

### Collision Repair and Refinishing State Champion

Brandon Woolley

### National SkillsUSA Voting Delegate

Micheil McLeod



## SKILLSUSA EVENTS TO SUPPORT THE STATE CHAMPIONS

**Thursday, May 22, 2008 – Annual SkillsUSA Cruise Night - 5 p.m. to 8 p.m. - \$10.00 registration fee for ALL show cars –**

**Spectators free! – Firehouse Chili Cook-off – 2<sup>nd</sup> Annual Art Show also taking place – People's Choice Judging and Awards – Come enjoy an evening of music, food and fun!!**

**Saturday, May 31, 2008 – Car Wash – Computer Tune & Lube – Washington Street, Middletown – 9 a.m. to 2 p.m. – Cars \$7.00 – Trucks and SUV's \$10.00**

To contact the SkillsUSA advisors for questions or for more information about our upcoming events please email at:

Michele Leahy – [michele.leahy@ct.gov](mailto:michele.leahy@ct.gov)

William Balch – [william.balch@ct.gov](mailto:william.balch@ct.gov)



Vinal Tech SkillsUSA State Champions  
Kansas City bound!



The pasta dinner for the SkillsUSA State Champions held on Thursday, May 8, 2008 – Thanks to all who attended and gave their support to SkillsUSA!



# Vinal Technical High School Honor Roll

## 2<sup>nd</sup> Trimester



### Grade 09 High Honors:

Kyle B Abbott  
Adalberto Alicea  
Jennifer Alvarado  
Rachel E Basso  
Gino A Cardella  
Travis A Cozzi  
Leanne M DellaCamera  
William R Drotar  
William R Ellam  
Rebecca J Farrall  
Alexandra L Fillmore  
Samantha M Fillmore  
Aaron Gant  
Raymond T Giannotti  
Amanda A Godwin  
Scott A Hale  
Jonathan P Holmes  
Shamar D Howard  
Charles C Jennings  
Cassandra P Kelly  
Lindsay T Kmietek  
Colby L Landeen  
Matthew J McBriarty  
Devon M Messier  
James S Moore  
Richard A Parker  
Ryan J Percy  
Eric E Quinones  
Ryan P Rusk  
Jacob G Sattler  
Abigail L Sattler  
Jacquelyn M Sattler  
Donald R Scranton  
Jazmin L Smola  
Ryan D Stabell  
Tyler J Stoutamyer  
Joseph A Vitelli  
Andrew R Zajack  
Meris Zilkic

### Grade 10 High Honors:

Sarah J Boehm  
Kyle A Boutin  
Courtney A Braccioforte  
Lauren M Bradley  
Tyler J Brancifort  
Nicholas J Cardinale  
Mary-Lynn P Clark  
John C Didato  
Felisha Gaerner  
Dylan R Gervais  
Matthew P Glidden  
Steven J Gullitti  
Sha-Dae L Hutley  
Kristina M Kusiak  
Maryann E Long  
Timothy J McCain  
Rebecca A Michaud  
Carl S Monarca  
Margarita T Morales  
Stefano Pugliares  
Samantha C Rossitto  
Anthony Russo

Joseph C Salwocki  
Elizabeth A St. Paul  
Ashley N Stebbins  
Cody N Stevens  
Nichole M Szymaszek  
Richard Toolan  
Michael L Varkonda  
Richard J Wall  
Brian J Wheeler  
Eric J Winzer  
Andrew J Ziobron

### Grade 11 High Honors:

Rachael M Barta  
Edward T Bonviso  
Brandon Cloutier  
Holly A Dettore  
Rachel L Gibbs  
Kyle D Gilmore  
Wilbert-Michael A Lawrence  
Stephen J Maggi  
Micheil J McLeod  
Daniel E Pabst  
Elliot J Pratt  
Raymond P Ramirez  
Megan A Sexton  
Alexander D Sprague  
Thomas J Tetrault  
Jeffrey A Tomaszewski  
Shanae Q Tyler  
Zachary V Weeks  
Heather L Whiles  
Thomas N Zimmitti

### Grade 12 High Honors:

Ange N Amichia  
Victoria N Booth  
Ashley M Brand  
Ashley N Culbert  
Jeffrey D DiMattia  
Brian A Gomez  
Thomas A Hunsicker  
Valerie N Mahar  
Christopher M Russell  
Kevin A Sibley  
Ashlee R Simpson-Royea  
Gunnar R Steinle  
Jeromy C Strickland  
Daniel T Varricchio  
Tomasz J Walczak  
Nathan R Woolley

### Grade 09 Honors:

Zackery K Askew  
Brendan C Barnett  
Khalan A Bazemore  
Jeffrey R Berube  
Devin R Bickmore  
Tyler J Blasko  
Lena S Boudah  
Christopher D Burdick  
Amanda M Call  
Alfonso G Caturano  
Mead A Close  
Amanda L Comnesso

Jason W Culbert  
Amanda L Demoranville  
Brian H Dettore  
Anthony A Domenico  
Sarah M Dotson  
Zachary J Durand  
Bryan J Faber  
Joseph A Fazzino  
Benjamin M Foisie  
Nicholas W Gerzabek  
Amanda M Gionfriddo  
Derek J Klick  
John S Lombardi  
Jorge I Machado  
Philip A Masotta  
Allesandra E Mazzotta  
Alexander M McGrath  
Dennis A McKenney  
Sheena A McMiller  
Miles A McRoberts  
Jillian L Northrip  
Joseph G Novelli  
Steven D Pastuszak  
Daniel M Pedalino  
Joshua M Rhoades  
Steven M Stender  
Kersten M Sunderland  
Joseph J Tanasi  
Jeremy C Tetrault  
Robert C Traceski  
Mitchell A Unghire  
Nathan T Varricchio  
Kyle A Vivolo  
Bryan J Wilson

### Grade 10 Honors:

Alexander M Archer  
Briana R Ayala  
Shanae D Bell  
Nicholas R Bertrand  
Amanda K Bevington  
Christopher M Bill  
Jacob J Bogdanski  
Terri L Bressler  
Alexander G Brousaides  
Johnathan F Chamberlain  
Jeffrey M Charlebois  
Devon R Clark  
Michael S Costa  
Daniel D Cretens  
Christopher J Daniels  
Erica S Fitzpatrick  
Victoria Flippen  
Christopher S Gasior  
Nicholas J Gotta  
Ciara J Harris  
Craig W Kaeser  
Christopher J Lord  
Chellsie A Lorusso  
Thea C Mayorga  
Eloy C Melendez  
Michael J Misorski  
Craig A Radican  
Kevin E Ringrose  
Joseph E Riordan  
Stephanie M Robinson  
Erica K Ruitto

Samantha L Sexton  
Jamie L Tafuto  
Faith A Valli  
Kylie L Whiles

### Grade 11 Honors:

Jaliell Bailey  
Shelby D Baker  
Stephen A Baltas  
Matthew R Brechlin  
Scott P Buschendorf  
Dakota J Butler  
John J Cahill  
Daniel J Coe  
Kirsten R Cotrona  
Christopher M Dickinson  
Eugene J Faipler  
Patrick D Finley  
Erin E Foreman  
Chelsea A Fremut  
Ralph A Holloman  
Andrew W Houle  
Derek A Hunt  
John-Philip T Hynes  
Suzanna C Marano  
Joshua E Meeske  
David J Muise  
Shaina S Owens  
Matthew D Picard  
Anthony M Ruitto  
Elizabeth N Santos  
Charles P Schwab  
Michael K Skomro  
Raymond T Stebbins  
Alysia B Warzecha  
Ryan M Weckesser  
Chase A White  
Peter G Yashura

### Grade 12 Honors:

Brittany E Bair  
Jennifer E Bordonaro  
Anthony G Canzoni  
Giancarlo A Cefalu  
Heather N Conklin  
Thomas J Cook-Doran  
Christian M Cox  
Stephanie R Fitzgerald  
Ryan W Hajek  
Amber J Henderson  
Courtney E Johnson  
Fredrik G Jones  
Gregory R LaFlamme  
Tyler G LaMontagne  
Sebastian Marino  
Larissa L Orlich  
Christopher R Paprocki  
Matthew S Santangelo  
Collin D Smith  
Dana Jeffrey St. Amand  
Michael L Tashash  
Andrew P Tomasello  
Gregory Traugh  
Brittney A Vice