Olean High School Principal, Barbara I. Lias, announces the Valedictorian and Salutatorian for the Class of 2006:

Michelle Spears has been named **Valedictorian** of Olean High School’s graduating Class of 2006 with an average of 98.37. She is receiving a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors (Regents average of 90% or higher). Michelle takes a very demanding course load including college courses and the New Visions - Health Professions program through Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES. She is the daughter of Susan Spears and Jeff Spears. Michelle will be attending a dual degree program at St. Bonaventure University and George Washington University for a pre-medical program. Michelle has been guaranteed a seat in the George Washington University Medical School. Michelle has received the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence, the St. Bonaventure University Presidential Scholarship, and the Enchanted Mountain Scholarship. Michelle has also received Exchange Club Youth of the Month, Hugh O’Brien Youth Leadership Ambassador, Channel 4 Scholar-Athlete, 2006 All Western NY Scholar-Athlete, 2006 Big 30 All Star, 2006 CCAC Division I, 2nd Team All-Star, 2005 All-Western NY Scholar-Athlete, and 2005 All Western NY First Team All-Star to name a few. Michelle has been active in Basketball, Volleyball, Model United Nations, Knowledge Masters (Secretary General and Secretary), National Honor Society (President), and French Club.

Colleen Kelly has been named **Salutatorian** of Olean High School’s graduating Class of 2006 with an average of 96.41. She is receiving a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking a very demanding course schedule including college credit courses. She is the daughter of Shelly Flicker and Thomas Kelly. Colleen will be attending St. Bonaventure University for Political Science/Pre-Law. Colleen has received the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence, and the St. Bonaventure University Presidential Scholarship. Colleen has been active in the Student Activities Council (President), Model United Nations (Deputy Secretary General), National Honor Society, Up All Night, Homeless Huskies, and has played an active role in political campaigns. Colleen is also a member of the Varsity Bowling Team and was named a part of the 2005-2006 Winter All-Sportmanship Team.
Samuel Georgian

Samuel Georgian is ranked 6th in his class with a 94.70 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking challenging courses which include college credit classes. Sam is the son of Linda and Ted Georgian. Sam plans on attending Hobart College and will major in Biology. Sam has been awarded the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence and has received a Hobart College Faculty Scholarship. Sam has also been awarded the Sportsmanship Award and a Merit Letter of Commendation. Sam is an active member of Model United Nations, National Honor Society, Knowledge Masters, Soccer, and Tennis.

Molly McKeown

Molly McKeown is ranked 4th with a 95.01 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking challenging college credit courses. Molly is the daughter of Paul and Amy McKeown. Molly will attend Niagara University in the fall. Molly participates in many school sports and activities including Homeless Huskies, Up All Night, Student Activities Council, Track, Soccer, Basketball, National Honor Society. Molly has also been the recipient of the 20 point award, the Clarkson Scholarship Award, and the National Honor Society Distinguished Service Award.

Erin Gustason

Erin Gustason is ranked 5th in her class with a 94.74 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking a rigorous course schedule including college credit courses and the New Visions - Health Professions program through Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES. Erin is the daughter of Bruce and Donna Gustason. Erin plans to attend Daemen College in the fall for Physical Therapy. Erin has been awarded the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Clarkson Leadership Award, the 20 point award, and scholar-athlete. Erin also participates in Model United Nations, French Club (President), Interact Club (Co-Vice President), SADD, National Honor Society, Soccer and Basketball. Erin is also the Senior Class Treasurer.

Lucas Groth

Lucas Groth is ranked 3rd with a 95.28 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking a rigorous course schedule, including college credit courses. He is the son of Richard and Pamela Groth. Lucas will attend SUNY Geneseo for International Relations. Lucas has been awarded the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence and the Exchange Club Youth of the Month. Lucas is active in Model United Nations (Library/Archivist), SADD, Ski Club, French Club, Homeless Huskies, Art Club, Interact Club, Bel Canto (Honor Choir), National Honor Society (Secretary), All County Chorus, Area All-State Choir, All-State Choir, and Select Chorus (President). Lucas is also very active in the Olean Theatre Workshop.

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Erin Gustason is ranked 5th in her class with a 94.74 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking a rigorous course schedule including college credit courses and the New Visions - Health Professions program through Cattaraugus-Allegany BOCES. Erin is the daughter of Bruce and Donna Gustason. Erin plans to attend Daemen College in the fall for Physical Therapy. Erin has been awarded the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence, Clarkson Leadership Award, the 20 point award, and scholar-athlete. Erin also participates in Model United Nations, French Club (President), Interact Club (Co-Vice President), SADD, National Honor Society, Soccer and Basketball. Erin is also the Senior Class Treasurer.

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Teresa Ross

Teresa Ross is ranked 7th in her class with a 94.69 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Teresa takes a demanding course schedule which includes college credit and AP courses. Teresa is the daughter of Timothy and Joanne Ross. Teresa plans on attending Medaille College in the fall for Creative Writing. Teresa has been awarded the Medalle College Academic Scholarship and an Excellence in Science award. Teresa is a member of the Select Choir and Art Club.

Alexandra Kaduc

Alexandra Kaduc is ranked 8th in her class with a 94.58 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking a very rigorous course schedule including college credit courses. Alexandra is the daughter of Mary Collins-Kaduc and Paul Kaduc. Alexandra plans on attending East Carolina University for a BSN in Nursing. She is an active participant in Homeless Huskies, Ski Club, Up All Night, Spanish Club, Peer Helpers, and National Honor Society and dance. Alex has been a member of the Track and Soccer teams and has been her Class Secretary for two years.

Thomas Mehmel

Thomas Mehmel is ranked 9th in his class with a 94.46 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Thomas maintains a challenging course schedule including college credit courses. Thomas plans to attend University of Rochester in the fall. Thomas is the son of Thomas and Emma Mehmel. Thomas has been awarded the Clarkson Leadership Scholarship, the gold medal for the National Myth Exam, and the bronze, silver, and gold medal for the Medusa Exam. Thomas has also participated in National Honor Society, Soccer, and has served as Class Treasurer.

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Charles Massaro

Charles Massaro is ranked 10th in his graduating class and holds a 94.19 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Charles takes a demanding course schedule which includes college credit courses. He plans on attending SUNY Purchase in the fall for Dramatic Writing. Charles is the son of Charles and Susan Massaro. Charles is an active participant in SAC (Vice-President), Homeless Huskies, Up All Night, Spanish Club (President), and National Honor Society. Charles has also served as a junior year class officer.

(continued on page 4)
Alex Palmquist is ranked 15th in his class and has a 93.21 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Alex plans on attending SUNY Fredonia for History and Education in the fall. Alex is the son of Carl and Ruth Palmquist. Alex has been awarded the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence. Alex has also participated in Homeless Huskies, Yearbook, Football, Basketball, and National Honor Society.

Katharine Lapennas is ranked 14th in her class and has a 93.50 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Katie is taking a challenging course schedule which includes several college credit courses. Katie is the daughter of Patricia Parsley and George Lapennas. Katie plans on attending Goucher College in the fall and has been awarded the Global Citizens Scholarship. Katie has been a member of National Honor Society, Track, Tennis, chorus, and has volunteered her time for political campaigns.

Amanda Jones is ranked 13th in her class and has a 93.59 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Amanda continues to take challenging courses which include several college credit courses. Amanda is the daughter of Lori and Donald Jones. Amanda plans on attending SUNY Brockport for International Business. Amanda has been involved in many activities including Ski Club, Homeless Huskies, Spanish Club, E-Team, Track, Rotary International Youth Exchange, and Rotary International.

Aaron Hahn is ranked 11th in his class and has a 93.84 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Aaron continues to take a demanding course schedule with college credit courses. Aaron is the son of Anne and Russell Hahn. Aaron has been awarded the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence. Aaron has also participated in Homeless Huskies, Yearbook, Foot- ball, Basketball, and National Honor Society.

John Postl is ranked 12th in his class and holds a 93.81 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking a full course schedule including Computer Systems Technology. He is the son of Maureen and Dan Hirt. John plans on attending Alfred State College for Computer Technology. John has been awarded the NYS Scholarship for Academic Excellence.

Amanda Chandler is ranked 9th in her class and has a 93.36 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors. Amanda plans on attending SUNY Brockport for International Business. Amanda has been involved in many activities including Ski Club, Homeless Huskies, Spanish Club, E-Team, Track, Rotary International Youth Exchange, and Rotary International.

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Alex Palmquist is ranked 15th in his class and has a 93.21 average and will receive a NYS Advanced Regents Diploma with Honors while taking a demanding course schedule including college credit courses. Alex is the son of Carl and Ruth Palmquist. Alex plans on attending SUNY Fredonia for History and Education in the fall. Alex has been a member of First Priority, Spanish Club, Science Club, Swim Team, Track, and National Honor Society. Alex has been awarded the Fredonia Achievement Scholarship, the National Honor Society Betty Pappas Scholarship, Good News Youth Award (Olean Chamber of Commerce), Youth of the Week (Cattaraugus County Youth Bureau), and Olean High School Athlete of the Season.
Every year the New York State Lottery has a scholarship competition that seniors compete in based on leadership, citizenship, community service and academics. This year we are proud to announce that Natalie Pelton is the recipient of the New York State Leaders of Tomorrow Scholarship.

Each student was required to submit an essay describing an “Investment in Community Happiness” as well as an application to a local school scholarship committee. The committee selected two candidates to be submitted to New York State Lottery scholarship committee which then chooses the recipient.

This award winner receives a $4,000 scholarship, paid annually in $1,000 increments to be applied toward the cost of attendance at an accredited New York college, university or trade school.

Honor Society members recognized at banquet

By Mary A. Yates

The Cattaraugus County National Honor Society held its 35th Annual Awards Banquet on May 3 at the Knights’ of Columbus in Olean. It was attended by 405 students, Advisors, Principals, Superintendents, and BOE Presidents from all 12 schools.

Three categories of awards are given. The Distinguished Service Award is given to a senior from each school selected for exemplary service. Our recipient was Molly McKeown. The second award is for the member who best exemplifies the four characteristics of the NHS in each school. Selection is done by the seniors themselves. Michelle Spears was selected. The last award is a competitive writing scholarship and is only given to five students. A senior is selected by the Advisors to write an impromptu essay which is anonymously evaluated by a SBU Committee.

This year Olean High had a winner - Alex Palmquist. All scholarships and monetary awards are funded by the superintendents’ pool.

Seniors from Olean High School who are members of the National Honor Society are: Matt DiRiso, Samuel Georgian, Lucas Groth, Erin Gustason, Aaron Hahn, Alexandra Kaduc, Colleen Kelly, Katharine Lapennas, Brittany Lollier, Charles Massaro, Molly McKeown, Thomas Mehmel, Alexander Palmquist, Natalie Pelton, Stephanie Rockwood, Michelle Spears, Selena Steiner, Richard Strickler, Teresa Ross and Sherry Steiner.

Shown in front (l-r) are Molly McKeown, High School Principal Barbara Lias, Michelle Spears and (back) Alex Palmquist.

National Technical Honor Society Inductions

Congratulations to four Olean High School Students for their induction into the National Technical Honor Society this spring for their accomplishments at the Olean Career and Technical Education Center. These students were chosen according to strict guidelines put forth by the NTHS as honest and responsible student-citizens who qualify based on an 85% average in their home school and a 90% or higher average for six quarters in the student’s technical program with staff recommendations and active involvement service organizations.

These students have excelled among the nation’s students in their technical program. Congratulations to (pictured l-r) Ashlee Case - Cosmetology, Bobby Dandrea - Media Communications Technology, Timothy Isaman Jr. - Drafting/Computer Aided Design, and Casey Belsam - Media Communications Technology.

Exam Schedule: June 2006

<table>
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<tr>
<th>June 14 Wednesday</th>
<th>June 15 Thursday</th>
<th>June 16 Friday</th>
<th>June 19 Monday</th>
<th>June 20 Tuesday</th>
<th>June 21 Wednesday</th>
<th>June 22 Thursday</th>
<th>June 23 Friday</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>8:15 a.m. Comprehensive English: Session One</td>
<td>8:15 a.m. Comprehensive English: Session Two</td>
<td>8:15 a.m. Second Language Proficiency Exams: French &amp; Spanish</td>
<td>8:15 a.m. Physical Setting/ Earth Science</td>
<td>8:15 a.m. Living Environment</td>
<td>8:15 a.m. Physical Setting/ Physics</td>
<td>RCT in Science*</td>
<td>RCT in U.S. History &amp; Govt.</td>
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<td>12:15 p.m. Regents in Global History &amp; Geography</td>
<td>12:15 p.m. Mathematics A</td>
<td>12:15 p.m. Regents Exams: French &amp; Spanish</td>
<td>12:15 p.m. RCT in Writing</td>
<td>12:15 p.m. Regents in U.S. History &amp; Government</td>
<td>12:15 p.m. Physical Setting/ Chemistry</td>
<td>RCT in Mathematics*</td>
<td>RCT in Global Studies*</td>
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* Available in Restricted Form only. Each copy of a restricted test is numbered and sealed in its own envelope and must be returned, used or unused, to the Department at the end of the examination period.

Retirement Honorees

Congratulations to these Olean City School District employees who are retiring. Thanks for your service and best wishes in your new endeavors!

Martha Altmire
Elizabeth Stayer
Margaret Ulasewicz
Richard Ulasewicz
Judith VanHouette
Raymond VanHouette
Theresa Wilte

Donna Bunce
Jeanne Geller
Gladyis Hnat
Carol Howard
Anthony Kopko
Joseph Mahur
Benjamin Schwabenuer
Theresa Skolnik

ING Global History & Geography

RCT in Reading

Session Two
My name is Ali Kane and I am a SAC co-secretary. Throughout the year I have been fortunate enough to participate in many school activities and functions. The best part of SAC was being able to raise money in order to benefit the less fortunate in our community.

My name is Sarah Rhinehart and I am a SAC co-vice president. SAC was an honor to be a part of. Not only was it rewarding but also a lot of fun. SAC gave me the opportunity to experience different roles of leadership. I’m very pleased to be a part of this wonderful group of students and staff.

My name is Rachel Askey and I am a SAC co-treasurer. My favorite aspect of being a member of SAC was being able to participate in planning school activities such as assemblies and Homeless Huskies as well as making commercials to advertise school activities. SAC has taught me the importance of helping others and it will be an experience that I will always fondly remember.

What SAC Means to Me ...

SAC was an incredible experience because it made me realize how part of our community is less fortunate and it got me involved in helping them out. Being a SAC co-treasurer has made a life long impact on me that I will remember for the rest of my life.

- Whitney Foskit

My name is Molly McKeown and I am a SAC co-secretary. What I liked the most about SAC was being able to be “behind the scenes” for school activities and being able to raise money for the less fortunate in our community.

Being SAC Co-President has opened my eyes to community events that I was previously unaware of. Raising money for the homeless and sponsoring a family at Christmastime were two of the most rewarding parts of SAC. Planning and orchestrating school functions were also high points of being a member of the Student Activities Council.

- Colleen Kelly

It is such a privilege to represent Olean High School as Student Activities Council Co-President. I really enjoyed taking part in major activities such as Class Competitions, Homeless Huskies, and the Up-All-Night. It felt so good to raise money for families at Christmas, and to donate to families in need around the community. I will always remember this awesome opportunity.

- Natalie Pelton

My name is Pat Massaro and I am SAC Co-Vice President. Throughout the year, we run events at Olean High School, but the things I enjoy the most are the assemblies. Several times Sac controls the stage and puts on a show that is entertaining for everyone. This year’s assemblies were Homecoming, Winter Weekend, and a gathering for spring sports and other pre-Prom activities.

- Whitney Foskit

Pictured are Student Activities Council (SAC) officers (front, l-r) Colleen Kelly, Molly McKeown, Sarah Rhinehart, Rachel Askey, and (back, l-r) Natalie Pelton, Ali Kane, Pat Massaro and Whitney Foskit.
Middle School students sweep short story contest

When the winners of the annual Friends of the Olean Library short story contest were announced, Olean Middle school could not be more proud of their students! In grades six through eight, the Middle School had eight students place out 491 students who entered the contest. Even more impressive in the sixth and seventh grades, the top three places went to only Olean Middle school students.

In the sixth grade, honorable mention when to Kassandra Essuchen, second place went to Brittany Highy and first place went to Samuel Muse. In the seventh grade, honorable mention went to Steve Capitani and Heather Trasser while first place went to Lauren Bowser. Finally, in the eighth grade, Greg Pilon received an honorable mention and JD Olson was awarded second place. The staff at Olean Middle school could not be more proud of our writers. Way to go!

OMS Knowledge Masters compete

On Tuesday, April 25, sixteen ambitious OMS students donned their thinking caps, dug deep into their cranial cavities and harnessed their cerebral powers to tackle the spring Knowledge Master Open. They did their best to come up with the correct answer to 200 challenging questions encompassing many academic categories as well as a little trivia. The team accumulated 1,206 points out of a possible 2,000. This score placed them 3rd in New York State and in the top 50 percent of more than 800 schools nationwide.

Congratulations to team members: Angelina Finch, Todd Hansen, Amanda Laskey, Michael Liu, Jason Mahar, JD Olson, Heather Reed, John Samuelson, Amanda Seaward, Brad Nemo, Taylor Bold, Matt Witte, Rebecca Laskey, Zaneid Marra, Nicholas Sova and Abby Stavish.

First District Health Fair deemed a success

Over 38 area agencies, organizations and businesses participated in the first annual Olean City School District Health Fair on Tuesday, May 9, at the Middle School. The fair provided the public with a variety of free screenings, profiles, samples and health wellness advice.

Melody Jones, program chairperson and lead nurse for the Olean City Schools said, “The cooperation and participation among area agencies has been simply overwhelming. We never expected our first major try at this to be so successful.”

Also at the fair was a Community Blood Bank Drive with area businesses putting out a challenge to each other (with a revolving plaque to be awarded to the winner). Visitors had an opportunity to participate in a variety of tests and screenings that included the following: blood pressure, hearing, postural, pulse oximetry, blood sugar, body mass index, bone density, and scoliosis.

There was also information covering the following areas: stroke education, dental information, Olean recreational opportunities, health care professions, diabetes, natural foods, chiropractic nutrition, food stamps, information concerning breast and cervical cancer causes, domestic violence, massage therapy, pH testing, nutritional analysis, vitamin profile, meal replacements, skin and body care, vitamins, child safety, AED demo and a Driving While Intoxicated (DWI) scooter demo.

“We believe it is important as an educational institution to encourage and promote health education to our employees as well as the Olean community. This Health Fair provided us an opportunity to bring many different health providers together at one location and offer the public a smorgasbord of options to pick and choose from,” said District Superintendent Mark Ward.

“Historically, people in general invest a limited amount of time and money on their own personal health. We tend to make changes when we have to, rather than being proactive about our own personal health,” Mr. Ward added. “We plan to expand the program next year to include all of the District’s students.”

Spanish Club ventures on unforgettable trip

10,430 miles, 24 students, 12 days, 5 take-offs and landings, 4 airports, 2 stamps in our passports and 1 unforgettable trip!

Members of the Olean High School Spanish Club took the ultimate in educational field trips during the April spring break. The group arrived in Barcelona, Spain on April 10th, and arrived back in Olean at the wee hours of Friday, April 21st. In between those two dates, we visited Barcelona, Madrid and Paris, with side trips to Gerona, Toledo, Versailles and the Loire Valley. Favorite moments of the trip? Most of our travelers would protest that they could not choose just one. We saw world-famous paintings and sculptures at both the Prado and the Louvre Museums, stood in magnificent cathedrals, and the Louvre Museums, stood in magnificent cathedrals, walked where Spanish kings had walked, took a moonlit boat ride on the Seine River while enjoying the night view of Paris, and soaked up centuries of Spanish and French culture. Among all of those memories, students told their own stories - stories of using the languages they had learned for the very first time.

OHS Spanish Club Advisor Carol Shannon has a trip planned to the Yucatan peninsula in Mexico during next year’s spring break.
Seventh-graders do the ‘Wild Thing’

Seventh-graders from the Olean Middle School were treated to a day of wild adventure shows. In the morning, Johneta Wilson, from “Wild Thing” Wildlife Rehabilitation Inc., presented information on the rehabilitation of disabled animals.

The Wildlife Rehabilitation Inc. specializes in the care of “song birds, birds of prey, game birds, and some mammals.” She gave helpful tips for good stewardship of the animals and their environment. For example, people should cut the plastic rings on pop bottles, which could get caught around animals’ necks. A big problem in the area is discarding fishing line along the stream. People should put it into their pockets so birds and other animals don’t get entangled.

At the conclusion of the program, Jordan Thompson and Serah Paar presented Mrs. Wilson with a donation raised from their middle school dance. Mrs. Wilson can be contacted at Jwilson15@stny.rr.com.

The afternoon program for the 7th grade “Wild Adventure Day,” was Bwana Jim’s Wildlife Shows. Bwana Jim is an animal handler with over 25 years of experience. He specializes in reptiles such as alligators, snakes, and turtles. Jim’s lively nature kept the students on the edge of their seats.

The students enjoyed the opportunity to pet the exotic animals that they don’t normally have a chance to see in real life. If you are interested in more information about Bwana Jim, he can be contacted at www.bwanajim.com. A special thanks goes to the people at the City of Olean’s Youth Bureau for providing the grant to make this day possible.

M.S. club searches for whales, history and fun

From May 4 to May 6, the Olean Middle School Whale Watch Club headed for Boston, Massachusetts. While in Boston, the students were able to watch as the Boston Red Sox defeated the Toronto Blue Jays at the infamous Fenway Park. The club then toured Boston amphibiously via World War II Duck Boats. The boats traveled the city of Boston and then headed off-road into the Charles River.

The weather was perfect for the occasion. The highlight of the trip, the whale watching excursion, caught most of our students off guard which ended up in many upset stomachs. Fortunately through, the whale sightings were phenomenal! The ship’s naturalist stated that our excursion reaped the most sightings she had seen in a while. We spotted whales for more than an hour, feeding and playing right of the deck. What an impressive event!

The club then toured Boston by foot with a Revolutionary period actor, Ebenezer Macintosh posing as Paul Revere’s cohort in the Revolution. The eighth graders put their knowledge of science to the test exploring the Boston Museum of Science. All in all, the Whale Watch Club got what they went for, whales, history and the freedom to have fun!
Raising their voices in song

Spring was in the air as the children at North Hill Elementary School busily prepared for their Spring Concert. Mr. Bill Huey, music teacher, presented the third, fourth, and fifth grades on stage with a series of patriotic songs. Mrs. Howden’s students (pictured above) also were busy decorating flags and doing some last-minute rehearsing in their classroom. They were anxious to impress their parents and the community with their very best voices.