



All high schools in the Iowa and Illinois counties served by the Quad-City Times were invited to nominate graduating seniors for Salute to Academics & Achievements recognition.

Students were selected in each category by their schools. Information was submitted by high school

counselors. Students also were asked to write short essays about the changes they expect to see in the world in the next 10 years.

Nominees will be saluted on special pages in the Q-C Area section on Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays.

# Assumption High School

**ASSUMPTION HIGH SCHOOL**, Davenport, has selected these outstanding seniors from its class of 94 students:

## Academics

**FRANK AGNOLI**, son of Frank Agnoli and Marianne Agnoli of Davenport, plans to major in international film and media studies at Loyola University, Chicago.

### Top achievements:

- Ranked 1st in class
- National Merit Commended Scholar
- Acceptance into Loyola University's interdisciplinary honors program

"In the future, I expect to see dependence on fossil fuels decrease as we turn to alternative power sources. Conflicts in Africa will gain greater significance on the world stage. Finally, the United States will need to re-examine and amend its policies regarding Africa, the Middle East, China and Mexico."

**BRIANNA SIMPSON**, daughter of Dave and Carol Simpson of Davenport, plans to major in forensic science at Pennsylvania State University, State College.

### Top achievements:

- Valedictorian
- National Honor Society
- ACT score of 33

"In the last 10 years technology has improved so much. I expect that in the next 10 years this will continue, especially in the medical field. New advancements will be made in labeling genes and using this information to find the cause and cure to some diseases."

## The Arts

**KATHLEEN HOIL**, daughter of Tim Hoil and Teresa Hoil of Davenport, plans to major in theater at Iowa State University, Ames.

### Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- MAC All-Academic, cross country
- Junior Rotarian

"In 10 years, I see a world where people are environmentally conscious. Alternative fuels will power vehicles and factories, and exhaustible energy resources will no longer be as much of a commodity. Styrofoam and plastic will be used sparingly, and businesses will utilize more environmentally friendly products."

**THOMAS RIEFE**, son of Daniel and Patricia Riefe of Davenport, plans to major in visual arts at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

### Top achievements:

- Honor Roll, 4 years
- MAC All-Academic, football



Francis Agnoli, Brianna Simpson, Kathleen Hoil, Thomas Riefe, Amanda Banas, Stephanie Blaser, Brady Frieden



Jordan Verdi, Brannon Fells, Thomas Harris, Margaret Carlin, Aubrey Crowley, Jessica Elizondo, Mark Rushek

## CLASS OF 2009

Peter Adams, Jacob Aldrich, Hannah Ambrose, Matthew Becker, Carolyn Bennie, Luke Bisher, Melanie Blazevic, Mary Brandtner, Benjamin Burke, Andrew Bush, Elizabeth Bush, Colleen Garrill, Adam Clements, Ethan Connors, Katherine Daniel, William Davidson, Rachel Decker, Kenzie Gassen, Ashley Giganti, Kelsoy Gilchrist, Gregory Giudici, Jonathan Golden, Eleena

Gradert, Brady Graufe, Brittany Gripp, Dan Hall, Christopher Hansen, Chrystel Heuer, Emily Hill, Chase Hollmer, Kimberly Hurst, Daniel Jacobs, Benjamin Jones, William Jones, Elizabeth Kadavy, Jeffrey Karick, Thomas Kirk, Ryan Kopatch, Nicholas Lawrence, Matthew Mack, Mathias Magnusson, Sara Mainey, Jacob McAllister, Jared McIntosh, Michael Millen, Alex Miller, Holly Miller, Ian Miller, Ann Motto, Jane Nagle, Emily Neubauer, Korie Nickels,

Brendan O'Brien, Kolin O'Day, John O'Donnell, Jacob O'Rourke, Mary Jo Paar, Cashin Pengum, Jordan Paxton, Morgan Phillips, Chelsey Piana, Olivia Quedstedt, Stephanie Quinn, Bailey Randone, Elizabeth Rodl, Shelby Sandoval, Aaron Sandry, Joshua Schloemer, Drew Sheeder, Tyler Smith, Connor Stevens, Brittany Stume, Ann Taylor, Bronson Volk, Kevin Walsh, Jacqueline Warner, Jeremiah Watson, Devin Weber, Ashley Wetherman and Ryan Zettel.

■ MAC All-Academic, wrestling  
"In 10 years I plan to have graduated from college with a degree in fine arts with an emphasis on the visual arts. With this degree I plan on working for a business as a graphic designer or continuing my education to become a professor."

## Humanities

**AMANDA BANAS**, daughter of John and Kerry Banas of Bettendorf, plans to major in nursing and psychology at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis.

### Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
  - Knight Beacon editor
  - Red Cross Club president
- "Ten years from now, schools will have continued to improve their technology in order to keep up with the vast amount of resources essential to education. Also, secondary languages will be heavily incorporated into both elementary and high schools to provide students with cultural connections and worldliness necessary for success."

**STEPHANIE BLASER**, daughter of Mark and Nancy Blaser of Bettendorf, plans to major in food science at Iowa State University, Ames.

### Top achievements:

- National Honor Society secretary
- Davenport Junior Rotarian
- 2008 Iowa All-State Band member

"Ten years from now, the world will be nearing the end of this

economic crisis. By what this unstable economy will force us to endure, I foresee a change in the mindset of many people. The hard times will remind us to reconsider our priorities and set more selfless goals."

## Leadership

**BRADY FRIEDEN**, son of Michael and Bridget Frieden of Davenport, plans to attend Truman State University, Kirksville, Mo.

### Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- MAC All-Academic, football
- First Honors

"Ten years from now I see myself smiling and enjoying life. Technology will have advanced to benefit humankind rather than causing its destruction. The plentiful nations will use their resources to assist countries and citizens in poverty. Finally, tomorrow's students will have seen these changes and foresee more to come."

**JORDAN VERDI**, daughter of Joe and Laurie Verdi of Davenport, plans to major in pre-dentistry at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

### Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- Student Council president
- Junior Rotarian

"I expect advances in technology will provide interactive high school classrooms, featuring students with personal laptops and other devices. These advances bring about limitless possibili-

ties, such as downloadable textbooks, lectures, notes and immediate feedback from teachers."

## Math/The Sciences

**BRANNON FELLS**, son of April Fells and Brett Fells of Davenport, plans to major in instrumental music education at the University of Northern Iowa, Cedar Falls.

### Top achievements:

- National Honor Society vice president
- Assumption High School drum major
- All-State Band

"First and foremost, I believe that technology and science will continue to progress in leaps and bounds. A prime example would be that the science community will develop new ways to treat diseases that we see as severe and life-threatening today."

**THOMAS HARRIS**, son of John and Ann Harris of Davenport, plans to attend Augustana College, Rock Island.

### Top achievements:

- Academic All State, cross country
- National Honor Society
- Wendy's High School Heisman Award

"In the coming decade, I foresee a nation that will be more diverse than ever. Though it may be difficult at times, I feel our country will become more unified through its diversity. I also envision a much closer international community due to the growing impact of technology and communications."

## Vocational Education

**MARGARET CARLIN**, daughter of Patrick and Linda Carlin of Davenport, plans to major in community and regional planning at Iowa State University, Ames.

### Top achievements:

- 4.0 GPA
  - National Honor Society
  - MAC All-Academic, softball
- "In my lifetime, many changes have taken place in the world. I expect that technology and medical advances will continue to change dramatically. Also, I think communities will persist in going green and becoming eco-friendly."

**AUBREY CROWLEY**, daughter of Michael and Maureen Crowley of Davenport, plans to major in exercise science (pre-med).

### Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- DAR Good Citizen Award
- 1st Honors

"I expect to see people and families return to the basics of life, especially with today's struggling economy. I hope to see people slow the pace of their lives to allow appreciation of the world."

## Young Journalist

**JESSICA ELIZONDO**, daughter of Sue and Dave Elizondo of Bettendorf, plans to major in communications at Elon (N.C.) University.

### Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- First Honors/4.5 GPA
- Junior Rotarian

"Within 10 years, countries will be more unified. People will learn problem-solving techniques and ways of handling global situations. Technology will also play a vital role in this advancement process. The world gets smaller every day, allowing more opportunity. People everywhere will grow and learn having the Internet and entire universe at their fingertips."

**MARK RUSHEK**, son of Carl and Karla Rushek of Bettendorf, plans to major in finance at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.

### Top achievements:

- Ranked 4th in class
- National Honor Society
- Student Council

"Although the iPod will likely be the size of a dime, the most significant advancement will be the nation's development of a conscientious outlook on the world and its resources. After years of probing, individuals will finally understand the dangers of the environmental issues and work to cease their hazardous effects."

# Kimberly Center

**KIMBERLY CENTER**, Davenport, has selected these outstanding graduates from its class of 49 students.

## Academics

**JESSICA WESTON**, daughter of Brent and Amy Woodside of Davenport, plans to continue her education in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.

### Top achievements:

- Academic excellence
  - First and second honors
  - Business volunteer award
- "Ten years from now I envision an economically strong America with many high quality jobs and peace around the globe to uplift all people and bring respect for all countries. President Obama is a positive force to make these things happen. For me personally that means a family, a nice home, and pursuing my dream of social work."

## The Arts

**DEARIS BARBER**, of Davenport, plans to major in business at Scott Community College, Bettendorf.

### Top achievements:

- Student of the Week
- Honor Roll
- Perfect attendance, kindergarten-eighth grade

"I am glad to have graduated. Currently, the economy is pretty bad. It is hard to say how the economy will be in 10 years, but I think education will be even more



Jessica Weston, Dearis Barber, Desiree Skelley, Andrea Thompson, Arvis Quinn, Crystal Wendell, April Hull

## CLASS OF 2009

Brandon Agan, Eric Anderson, Christina Bak, Dearis Barber, Jamie Brown, Noel Collins, Chelsea Eastwood, Dustin Eastwood, Shawnda Edwards, Scott Penn, Cody Fischlein, Tilleasha Florence, Colin Genter, Gar-

los Gleize, Demila Henderson, Ashley Hofstender, April Hill, Chevonda Jarrett, Annie Jennings, Jared Kelly, Tiffany Kirk, Troy Leske, Michael Linehan, Brittany Manley, Tad Martin, John Mason, Clarence McNeal, Heather McNeal, Josh Meier, Jessica Nolas, Arvis Quinn, Rachel Roberts, Erica

Rupp, Desiree Skelley, Katrell Smith, Kim Strawacker, Justin Stroupe, Mercedes Svetich, Jessica Sweeney, Kevin Tague, Garrett Taylor, Davis Terrell, Andrea Thompson, Siranthony Thornton, Ashley Vegter, Mitt Voss, Crystal Wendell, Jessica Weston and Levi Young.

important and it will be even more important for people to stay in school."

## Humanities

**DESIREE SKELLETT**, daughter of Patricia Skelley and Jeannette Skelley of Davenport, plans to major in nursing at Scott Community College, Davenport.

### Top achievements:

- First Honors
  - Student of the Week
- "I'm looking forward to the future. I'm sure that I will achieve the goals I set for myself. The future is what you make it."

## Leadership

**ANDREA THOMPSON**, daughter of Beverly Boyd and

William Thompson of Davenport, plans to major in informational technology at Kaplan University, Davenport.

### Top achievements:

- Student of the Week
  - Academic Honors
- "The world has changed dramatically since I've been in school. Kids are being pushed harder and are facing more requirements to graduate. When I was younger school seemed less stressful. Today the economy may look bad but if you work hard to graduate you will be closer to success. I believe President Obama will pull the country together again. Ten years from now, I believe we will be a strong and thriving country once again. I'm looking forward to a bright future."

## Math/The Sciences

**ARVIS QUINN**, daughter of Danielle Howard and Bobby Quinn Sr. of Davenport, plans to major in nursing at Scott Community College, Davenport.

### Top achievements:

- Student of the Week
  - Honor Roll
  - Graduating at the top of my class
- "I remember when I was in elementary and junior high school, it was fun and not as stressful. As I grow older and move forward in high school, I realized that it's very important to work hard. The next 10 years are going to be challenging for me, but I really look forward to the future and to succeeding my goals."

## Vocational Education

**CRYSTAL WENDELL**, daughter of Tim Wendell and Melissa Newsom of Walcott, Iowa, plans to attend Scott Community College, Bettendorf.

### Top achievements:

- Graduating early
- Being able to support my son
- Having a job

"In 10 years I hope to see smaller class sizes so students can receive more individualized attention. That is what I would like for my son. I also believe that 10 years from now a college education will be even more needed in order to obtain employment."

## Young Journalist

**APRIL HULL**, daughter of Bruce and Christine Hull of Davenport, plans to major in business at Scott Community College, Bettendorf.

### Top achievements:

- Principal's award
  - First Honors
  - Art work published
- "Changes I would like to see in the next 10 years would be safer schools. Shootings, fights, people using drugs - these things are not right! This happens every day in our schools. We need to wake up and do something about it. We need to rethink how safe our schools really are."