



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 for each category by their schools. Information was submitted by high school counselors. Stu-

dents 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.

Coming Wednesday: Clinton High School, Andrew Community School.

Geneseo High School

GENESEO (Ill.) High School has selected these outstanding seniors from its class of 227 students:

Academics

CHRISTOPHER BISOM, son of Sherry Holmstrom and Tim Holmstrom of Atkinson.

Top achievements:

- Putting effort and creativity into my work
- Maintaining an optimistic and curious attitude in class
- Using imagination to solve problems

"The world is constantly changing in ways that I cannot see. Thus, if I tried to predict the future today, I would be no better off than having tried to predict the future upon first entering school. Things will undoubtedly change, but I won't know how until these changes occur."

LISA CATHELIN, daughter of Vern and Karen Cathelyn of Geneseo, plans to major in political science/international relations and affairs.

Top achievements:

- 2008 Borlaug-Ruan intern, Chennai, India
- All-State musician, oboe
- 6 AP classes: U.S. History, Biology, Calculus AB, English Language, Spanish Language, English Literature

"I hope to see the poverty rate cut in half over the next 10 years. Additionally, I would like to be a part of improved diplomatic relations between countries who strive to maintain peace and preserve our planet."

The Arts

LAUREL DONALDSON, daughter of Chuck and Marie Donaldson of Geneseo, plans to major in speech-language pathology at Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind.

Top achievements:

- Drum major
- 8 AP classes
- All-State Honors band

"Ten years from now, with new technologies and means of communication, I hope that the world develops a mission to aid the suffering and to take on a 'love thy neighbor' attitude. With this mindset, help could be found for those enduring poverty, hunger, terrorism and an array of issues."

PATRICK LILLIS, son of Marie Lillis and Kevin Lillis of Geneseo, plans to major in engineering.

Top achievements:

- ACT score of 35
- National Merit Scholarship finalist
- All-State Honors chorus

"In 10 years, the world will be either an economic or cultural wasteland, or a utopia of beauty and freedom. Everything hinges on the decisions that are made in the immediate future. We hold the power to change our destiny. But will it be for better or for worse?"

Humanities

ADAM SHELEY, son of Rich and Linda Sheley of Geneseo,



CLASS OF 2009

Tyler Adam, Ian Adams, Randall Alexander, Brittany Anderson, Brooke Anderson, Jamie Anderson, Justin Anderson, Joseph Angelo, Andrew Anselmi, Jonathan Aper, Travis Ashley, Nicholas Bain, Jacob Ballegeer, Robert Barton, Patrisha Berry, Christopher Bisom, Lindsey Blakley, Drew Bogen, Tanae Boggs, Cameron Bowers, Whitney Bowton, Colton Boyles, Ryan Brandmeyer, Kristina Breidenstein, Christy Brewer, Katherine Bristol, Ashley Brooks, Danielle Brown, Amanda Bruce, Blake Buck, Brendan Buettner, Christopher Byrne, Christoffer Campbell, Andrew Campos, Macauley Carroll, Jon Carter, Nicholas Castaneda, Molly Cathcart, Lisa Cathelyn, James Cheak, Zachary Cornell, Brandon Craig, Samantha Cravens, Lauren DeBuyers, Joseph DeClerk, Jessica DeFauw, Timothy Denys, John Depppe, Anthony DeReu, Darin DeRiemacker, Eilyn Despain, Rachael Diericks, Laurel Donaldson, Erik Dornfeld, James Douglass, Gabrielle Dye, Anthony Dykema, Joseph Eaker, Kaitlyn Ebarb, Eric Flaker, Cameron Fleming, Blake Foehrkolb, Brennan Fox, Shannon Fox, Nina Frohling, Kyle Ganson, Rebekah Geffert, Taylor Gilbraith, Anthony Golden, Sean Goodrich, Derek Griffin, Natasha

Gustafson, Matthew Hamilton, Elizabeth Hanford, Garrett Harris, Kelly Hathaway, Max Haverland, Adam Haviland, Brooke Hemmingson, Anne Hiebert, Thomas Hiebert, Coliin Hoefle, Nathan Hogue, Emily Horton, Erin Hultman, Zachery Hungate, Jacob Irish, Curtis Jensen, Alexis Jodts, Brett Johnson, Brianna Johnson, Dylan Johnson, Melissa Johnson, Veronica Juchinski, Alexander Kellogg, Stephanie Kennet, Taylor Kilmartin, Bryton Kincaid, Peter Kincaid, Caleb King, Jacob King, Brandon Klavine, Matthew Koenig, Christopher Lang, Kate Langdon, Mason Lanphere, Austyn Larimer, Amber Larson, Katie Larson, Travis Lassman, Allison Lee, Kaitlyn LeGros, Andrea Lenz, Kelsey Lieving, Patrick Lillis, Felicia Lindsey, Jason Locke, Joshua Lodge, Breanna Loebach, Lucas Loitz, Andrea Lyman, Arianna Magana, Robert Maier, Jacob Martens, Dustin McDonald, Kyla McElroy, Taylor McGee, Natasha McKeag, Nathan McKeag, Cameron McNeil, Hai-ley McVetty, Nicholas Menozi, Bradley Miller, Matthew Miller, Michael Miller, Samantha Miller, Blake Minnaert, Damon Mitchell, Victoria Montgomery, Mark Morey, Marley Morris, Brandon Morse, Tyler Morton, Misty Mrosko, Mariah Munson, Bobby Murray, Andrew Nelson, Katherine Nelson, Hayley Neuleib, Brooke Nienhaus, Zachary

Ogle, Mason O'Mara, Rachel Orton, Kristine Painter, Kevin Parker, Alyssa Patterson, Logan Patton, Mary Pearl, Melanie Piekos, Michael Possin, Sarah Prater, Hayley Pratt, Joshua Rahn, Jacob Rathman, Carolyn Reese, Jonathan Reese, Joshua Reeves, Katrina Repass, Joshua Rice, Andrew Richardson, Aaron Roberts, Marcela Roberts, Jordan Ropp, Stephan Rossell, Mason Salmon, Kelsey Sanders, Stefanie Sandoval, Jacob Schindwein, Lauren Schroeder, Cortney Scott, Franklin Seible, Cody Sheffer, Adam Sheley, Ryan Shipman, Nicholas Sletten, Joseph Snyder, Scott Sowers, Danielle Springer, Justin Steiner, Emily Stetter, Alex Stice, Kristen Stradt, Megan Summy, Austin Swanson, Rebecca Swanson, Kelsey Taets, Johanna Teague, Hannah Thomas, Nathaniel Thompson, Matthew Ulner, Melanie VanBavel, Kammie VanOpdorp, Codi Verheye, Adrienne Viane, Jordan Wagner, Grant Wahlheim, Aaron Waller, Michael Ward, Sarah Ward, Nicholas Watkins, Brendon Welch, Caleb Westad, Meghan Wethington, Alyssa Wheeler, Danielle Whipple, Josette White, Dalton Whittington, Claire Wiese, Josie Williams, Emily Wisdom, Larissa Wolfe, Derek Woodruff, Sarah Woolley, Stacie Wright, Megan Wyffels, Austin Yeater and Sarah Zaderaka.

plans to major in history.

Top achievements:

- Illinois State Scholar
- National Honor Society
- Academic Letters

"Ten years from now, I expect to see the world find a solution to the energy problem. We are doing so much research into alternative fuels that it is only a matter of time until someone makes a breakthrough."

MEGHAN WETHINGTON, daughter of Jim and Sherilyn Wethington of Geneseo, plans to major in communication sciences and disorders at Augustana College, Rock Island.

Top achievements:

- Illinois State Scholar
- National Honor Society
- NCIC All-Academic, tennis, basketball, soccer

"In 10 years, I expect to see a total shift toward going green and energy conservation, as the dangers of global warming become a reality. I think there will be a demand for solar and wind energy as well as an increased use of hybrid cars."

Leadership

MARIAH MUNSON, daughter of Marty and Krista Munson of

Geneseo, plans to major in secondary education at Illinois State University, Normal.

Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- Key Club president
- Academic Letters

"The question isn't so much what I expect to see, but what I hope to see 10 years from now. In 10 years I hope to see the U.S. economy in a steady rebuild and the confidence in American's restored. I also hope to see the war in Iraq over with, and I hope the people over there will be living with a better sense of democracy and peace. I hope that the world finds many more advancements in medicine and in fighting starvation and poverty among people."

MICHAEL POSSIN, son of Marc and Mary Possin of Geneseo, plans to major in political science at the University of Notre Dame, South Bend, Ind.

Top achievements:

- Top 2 percent
- ACT score of 34
- Illinois State Scholar

"With advances in science and medicine, in cooperation with a shift toward a more humanitarian society, the world in 10 years will focus more on leveling social dynamics, making the world a

more benevolent environment in which to live."

Math/The Sciences

SAMANTHA CRAVENS, daughter of Kevin and Suzette Cravens of Geneseo, plans to major in biological sciences at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- Illinois State Scholar
- Multiple AP classes

"Ten years from now, I expect the world to be even more dependent on technology, and to be far more technologically advanced. I see the world becoming more politically synonymous, and I hope that the people of the world can come together to save the natural beauty of our planet."

JACOB SCHLINDWEIN, son of Jack and Carrie Schindwein of Geneseo, plans to major in biology/pre-dentistry at Marquette University, Milwaukee, Wis.

Top achievements:

- Illinois State Scholar
- National Honor Society
- NCIC All-Academic, football, baseball

"From the beginning of my freshman year, many technological advances have been made

throughout the world. Ten years from now, the technology boom will have an even greater impact. I expect to be able to get wireless Internet virtually everywhere, as well as have cell phone use world-wide."

Vocational Education

MOLLY CATHCART, daughter of Sue and Lance Cathcart of Geneseo, plans to major in graphic design at Columbia College, Chicago.

Top achievements:

- National Technical Honor Society
- Student of the Quarter nominee
- 1st place, 3-D design, Stark County art show

"Ten years from now I expect to see people riding around in high-tech cars that hover through the air using electricity and gravity as their power source."

ANDREW NELSON, son of Ronald and Rita Nelson of Geneseo, plans to major in law enforcement and ag mechanics at Western Illinois University, Macomb.

Top achievements:

- Illinois State Scholar
- National Technical Honor Society
- National Honor Society

"I expect to see projectors in and overheads out. Every classroom will be equipped with SMART boards and the chalk-board and whiteboards will cease to exist. Every student will have a Kindle and download their textbooks in order to save paper. Technology is the foundation of future education."

Young Journalist

BRANDON CRAIG, son of Kim McHugh and Steve Craig of Geneseo, plans to major in biomedical engineering at the University of Iowa, Iowa City.

Top achievements:

- Old Gold Scholarship
- 7 AP classes

"Technology has increased enormously, and with it, the number of opportunities has grown. So many companies are exploring new technology (with renewable energy, biomedical devices and general consumer products) that if students work hard, there will be scholarships and jobs out there."

ALEXIS JODTS, daughter of Bob and Deanna Jodts of Geneseo, plans to major in accounting at Black Hawk College, Moline.

Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- Student of the Quarter nominee
- Academic Letters

"Since the beginning of my career as a student, technology has expanded greatly to areas that previously never existed, creating new jobs and opportunities for students. At the speed that the world is developing I think there will be even more dramatic jumps in technology in the next 10 years."

Unity Christian High School

UNITY CHRISTIAN High School, Fulton, Ill., has selected these outstanding seniors from its class of 16 students:

Academics

KENDRA MEURS, daughter of Alan and Michelle Meurs of Morrison, Ill., plans to major in secondary education at Sauk Valley Community College, Dixon, Ill.

Top achievements:

- Illinois State Scholar
- National Honor Society
- President's Academic Excellence Award, 3 years

"In these hard economic times, every graduating senior is hoping that things start to look up in the next several years. Unemployment rates will hopefully drop, so that when we enter the job force, we will be able to use the degrees we received from the college we attended."

The Arts

ERIN SKIPPER, daughter of Vernon and Regina Skipper of Cordova, Ill., plans to major in pre-law/political science.

Top achievements:

- Illinois State Scholar
- National Honor Society



CLASS OF 2009

Katy Abbott, Ahren Blake, Keshia Bottruff, Selena Dykstra, Erika Hansen, Jessica Kammerer, Jesse Lawson, Chad Medenblik, Dan Meinema, Kendra Meurs, Stacia Mills, Brianna Montgomery, Erin Skipper, Ben Smith, Adam VenHuizen and Adam Wickes.

■ Creative Writing Award
"The class of 2009 is graduating during uncertain times. However, I believe we can look forward to the future with a sense of excitement and adventure. America has always stood strong. I hope that over the next 10 years, my generation remembers this and what we as Americans stand for."

Humanities

SELENA DYKSTRA, daughter of Ernie and Paula Dykstra of Thomson, Ill., plans to major in education at Clinton (Iowa) Community College.

Top achievements:

- National Honor Society
- 3.5 Club
- Top 25 percent

"Since I have started school, many things have changed. Ten years from now I expect the world to keep progressing, especially

advancing in technology. At first, everyone will find the new technology to be ridiculous, but it will eventually be accepted and people will find it hard to live without that technology. The world may be in for economic distress, but we will find a solution, continue advancing technology, and make life more efficient."

Leadership

JESSE LAWSON, son of Jerry and Patt Lawson of Sabula, Iowa, plans to major in business management at Clinton (Iowa) Community College.

Top achievements:

- Honor Roll
- Student Council president
- Class president, 2 years

"Over the past 10 years we have experienced extreme highs and lows in our economy and government. In the next 10 years I expect

a comeback in our economy and to have a government that has learned from its mistakes to make America even greater."

Math/The Sciences

CHAD MEDENBLIK, son of Jim and Renae Medenblik of Fulton, plans to major in physical therapy at Calvin College, Grand Rapids Mich.

Top achievements:

- 3.5 club
- National Honor Society
- Top 25 percent

"I think the world will change in that everything will be run by computers and machines. Many jobs will be only to make sure all these things are working properly."

Vocational Education

ADAM VenHUIZEN, son of Kevin and Jody VenHuizen of Albany, Ill., plans to major in

accounting at Clinton (Iowa) Community College.

Top achievements:

- President's Education Award
- 3.5 Club
- Honor Roll

"I expect to see people become more dependent on computers and technology."

Young Journalist

JESSICA KAMMERER, daughter of Terry and Jackie Kammerer of Camanche, Iowa, plans to major in accounting at Clinton (Iowa) Community College.

Top achievements:

- Honor Roll
- Ten years from now I see our world being full of technology and scientific discoveries. I believe we'll have access to a wealth of knowledge and all students will have even more resources available to allow them more possibilities for the rest of their lives."