



Newsletter ABOUT YOUR SCHOOLS

JHS Student Nabil Shaikh Earns Two County Titles

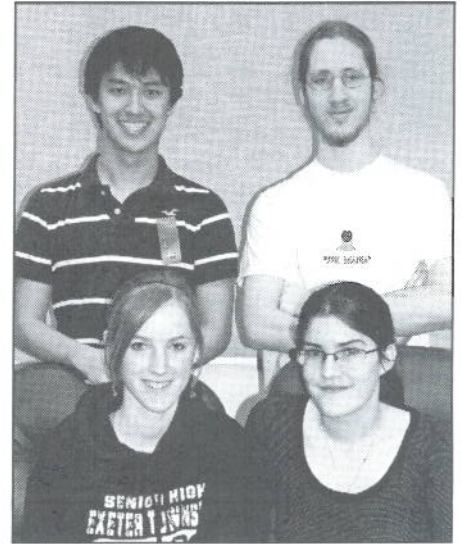
Seventh grader Nabil Shaikh has the unique distinction of being named Berks County champion of not only one competition, but two! In February Nabil swept the competition, not missing a single question in all four rounds, of the "You Be the Chemist" (YBTC) Challenge to earn the title of "County Champ" and in March he earned the title of Berks County Spelling Bee Champion. In this competition, he needed to spell "bollard," "xanadu," and "proficient" to win. Nabil is the son of Hanif Shaikh and Nikhat Yasmeen.

For the YBTC championship, Nabil received a laser engraved crystal trophy plus a savings bond and gift card. He will also have the honor of representing Pennsylvania in the National YBTC Challenge to be held in Philadelphia this June with a chance to become the national champion. The YBTC Challenge is in its 20th year of providing an exciting and fun opportu-

nity for middle school students to get involved with science.

The prize for being named county spelling bee champ includes Nabil and his family spending a week in Washington, D.C. this May. During two days of the visit, Nabil will compete with 280 students from around the country for a chance to be named the national champ.

Nabil is extremely busy preparing for both competitions while completing all his regular school work. He is studying word roots and using *Webster's Third International Unabridged Dictionary*, which contains 500,000 words, to practice for the spelling bee. Nabil estimates that he spends no less than two hours each day, including weekends, preparing for both competitions. Best wishes to Nabil.



National Merit Scholarship Commended Students

*Clockwise from top left
Daniel Li, Nathan Kiefer,
Jacquelyn Heim & Stephanie Forbes
See article on page 2*



Nabil Shaikh

Academic and Athletic Halls of Fame Inductees

Three new members have been inducted into the Academic Hall of Fame (HoF) this month and seven persons were added to the Athletic HoF this winter. This is the fourth year of Exeter's Academic Hall, while the Athletic Hall was initiated in 1990.

The three newest inductees in the Academic HoF are Joann Burak, Betsy King, and Mary Fay Weaver, M.D. Joann Burak was a teacher in the science department at the senior high school for 21 years prior to her death this past July. She taught advanced placement chemistry classes and was responsible for organizing the district and county science olympiads. Students respected and admired her and many made sure to visit her classroom

when they returned to the area.

Betsy King (Class of 1973), best known as a professional golfer and member of the LPGA Hall of Fame, was an inductee into the inaugural ETSD Athletic HoF in 1990. This year she was inducted into the Academic Hall due to her outstanding charitable work for Habitat for Humanity, orphan relief efforts in Romania, and numerous charities in Berks County. While a student at the senior high, she was a top-ten academic student and was active in NHS, Brotherhood Club, Y-Teens, band, and athletics.

Mary Fay Weaver, M.D. was honored for her dedicated volunteer efforts in the district. She faithfully served on

(Continued on page 3)



From the Desk of Dr. Beverly Martin, Superintendent “Introducing the Exeter Community Education Foundation”

As superintendent, the School Board and I continually struggle with very difficult decisions to balance educational needs with soaring costs and increasing governmental mandates. We want to provide a top quality education for our students in the most economical way. While we are proud of the programs we provide, we are not able to fund nearly all of the educational opportunities we would like to offer our students to prepare them to successfully take on the challenges of the 21st century. During the last year we pursued identifying another funding source for those expenditures that don't always fit into an ever-tightening budget, but that can enhance overall quality education.

We are not alone in our desire to seek supplemental sources of revenue to provide enhancements to the curricular and co-curricular programs that simply cannot be covered by state, federal and local revenue sources. Our solution, and one that numerous other public school districts have turned to, is the education foundation which provides a viable means to increase revenues targeted to directly benefit children. This year members of our community, in collaboration with the school board and district personnel, have created The Exeter Community Education Foundation for just that purpose.

The mission of the Foundation is to secure resources for our students to support programs for which sufficient

funds are not available. These programs will promote excellence in learning and mobilize community support for enhancing the quality of education in the Exeter Township School District.

Some of our goals are as follows:

- To obtain financial and other resources on behalf of the students of the Exeter Township School District.
- To provide scholarship funds to assist students in post-secondary education.
- To develop an endowment fund that will sustain the mission of the Foundation.
- To better inform the community about the strengths and innovative programs of the public schools.
- To encourage community and business involvement in the public schools in a positive and supportive manner.

Our Foundation, while still in its infancy, has a number of dedicated and talented volunteers who are passionate about its mission and willing to work hard to achieve it. We have planned a number of events over the course of the next year. We have established a Board of Directors and have applied for non-profit status so that we can accept charitable donations from individuals and businesses and commit ourselves to raising funds. We are planning our first major fundraiser, a golf outing, to be held at the Reading Country Club on Friday, August 15. We'll provide more information specific to this event in the next newsletter. Please check out our newly-developed website, which is linked to our district webpage, or can be accessed directly at www.exetereducationfoundation.org. We have a very active Alumni committee that has a lot of exciting things planned for those community members who are proud Exeter graduates.

Some of the initiatives we would like to fund in the future for our students are Smart Boards and LCD pro-

jectors, classroom mini-grants, scholarships for deserving college-bound students, artist-in-residence programs, distance learning equipment, software programs, programs for gifted and talented students, and virtual field trips, just to name a few.

If you would like to add your name to our growing group of community members committed to enhancing the education of our youth, please contact us at 610-779-0700 (ext 1022) for more information about the Exeter Community Education Foundation.

National Merit Scholarship Program Honors Four Seniors

Four seniors are being recognized by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation in the 2008 Scholarship Program. Named as “Commended Students” are: Stephanie Forbes, daughter of Michael and Mary Forbes; Jacquelyn Heim, daughter of Paul and Anne Heim; Nathan Kiefer, son of Steven and Diane Kiefer; and Daniel Li, son of Jin Xu and Lin Li. These students are being recognized for the exceptional academic promise demonstrated by their outstanding performance on the qualifying test used for program entry. Commended students placed among the top five percent of more than 1.4 million students who entered the 2008 competition by taking the 2006 Preliminary SAT/National Merit Scholarship Qualifying Test (PSAT/NMSQT).

A spokesperson for NMSC said, “The young people named Commended Students in the 2008 National Merit Scholarship Program are distinguished by their strong academic performance in this rigorous competition.”

Hall of Fame Inductions

(continued from page 1)

the school board for eight years, two as vice president, while practicing medicine and raising four children. Dr. Weaver served on numerous long-range-planning committees, the community advisory council, and as a classroom volunteer.

The seven persons who were inducted into the Athletic HoF are:

Sara Hoeffer, a teacher in the district from 1952 to 1963, was inducted posthumously. She coached girls' field hockey and basketball, and for one year - boys' golf. She was a constant advocate for girls' athletics and was an exemplary role model for students.

Sandra Loeper (Class of 1987) was an outstanding high school athlete who played field hockey, basketball, and softball. She received a scholarship to play field hockey at Ohio State and after earning a degree in exercise physiology, coached field hockey at Ohio Wesleyan.

Greg Metz (Class of 1988) was an outstanding basketball player, scoring

1,065 career points. He held two Berks' records including the most points in one game of 48 and the top scorer with a 23 point average. Greg was named the Most Outstanding Athlete in 1988 and later played varsity basketball at Columbia University, where he earned a degree. He also was awarded a Master's degree from Lehigh University.

Terry McElhattan, a retired district math teacher, coached five different sports. "Mac," as he is known, coached junior high football for six years, junior high track for two years, and baseball for one year. He started coaching basketball in 1970 and became the varsity coach in 1980, which he continued until 1993. Mac also served as the golf coach for 27 years.

Russell "Skip" Rudy (Class of 1964) earned nine varsity letters in football, basketball, and baseball. He later played football at Bloomsburg University and was named to the All-Conference Team as an honorable mention. He served as the head football coach at Holy Name High School

for eight years and taught math in the Wilson District for 35 years.

The Courageous Award was presented to Pete Shollenberger who played baseball for ETSHS in 1997 and 1998. He was an outstanding pitcher, demonstrating superb speed and control on the mound. Pete was seriously injured in an auto accident which ended his baseball career. Through determination and intensive rehabilitation, he fought through many obstacles and learned to walk. Since then he served as a volunteer baseball coach and works as an instructional aide at Lorane Elementary.

Dr. Joe Scornavacchi (Class of 1964) was given the Distinguished Award. While in high school, Joe was a standout quarterback who led the Eagles to the first two winning seasons (1962 and 1963) in school history. He graduated from Harvard, earned a medical degree at Temple University, and has been an orthopedic surgeon for over 30 years. Dr. Scornavacchi is a clinical assistant professor in orthopedic surgery at Temple University.

Talking Technology

District Launches New Website

Scott Schaeffer - Educational Technology Specialist

The Exeter Township School District revealed the completely redesigned website in early April. We have partnered with a web design company called Schoolwires to provide us with the tools necessary to provide our community with an exciting new communication portal that is both informative and easy to navigate.

As a parent or member of the community, you are able to use this site to keep current on the happenings that take place in your schools. District calendars are available and you are able to customize them to highlight the events that are important to you and your family! In addition, the homepage displays events for the day, as well as important "headlines" that we want to call to your attention.

The website also provides easy navigation to each of our buildings, as well as other services within our school district, such as lunch menus and meal account information, employment opportunities, and other helpful online resources. Our Alumni Association, Education Foundation, and other community groups also have a presence on the new website.

When visiting the site for a school within the district, you will find information specific to that building. Current news, special events, and even forms that are important to you will be found on these pages. Also, every staff member will have a webpage, which will provide you with information about the teacher and the learning that takes place in your child's classroom.

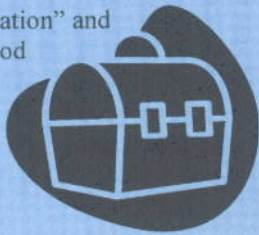
We encourage you to visit us at <http://www.exeter.k12.pa.us>. When visiting the site, you are invited to register. By registering you will have the option of subscribing to a particular area of interest for which you desire to be notified when updates are made. Additionally, the district has the capability of posting information to the site that only registered users may preview and access. Registration instructions are located under the "shortcuts" section on the homepage.

Until next time...Happy Computing!
Exeter Technology Team

Check Your Child's Meal Account with LunchBox

Gloria Clay
Food Service Supervisor

The LunchBox Internet Parent/Student account access system is the easiest and fastest way to access your child's meal (breakfast and/or lunch) account. All of this can now be done conveniently using your home computer. You can check your child's meal account balance and review purchases once the Login account is created. As an additional convenience if you choose, E-Funds for Schools is also available for electronic payment of a student's meal account. You can use a credit card or check to deposit money in your child's account! (There is a nominal charge from the third-party provider for this service.) Instructions for the LunchBox system are located on the district website. Go to "Administration" and click on Food Services.



Musical Arts Are Alive and Thriving In ETSD

James Seidel, Music Department Chairperson



Springtime brings a wealth of activities around the campus of the Exeter Schools and music is no exception. Take a moment to look over the school calendar for the month of May and you will find all types of musical concerts at all of our schools. Whether you have a student in a program or not, these programs are all free of charge and we welcome our community members to enjoy the fine music that all of our students produce.

In addition to the scheduled events, there are three very special programs added to this year's schedule which should be of interest to many. The first will occur on May 1, 2008 at 7:30 p.m. in the Senior High Auditorium and will be an evening of Jazz. This program will feature all of the secondary jazz ensembles, along with some vocal selections to give listeners a wide variety of styles.

The second in this series of new concerts is aimed at the fourth grade students and their parents. On Tuesday, May 20, a select group of the senior high band will present a concert in the Reiffton School at 6:30 p.m. It will feature a variety of selections to meet the tastes of everyone. Our hope is that everyone will leave whistling a tune from the evening. When Exeter students reach fourth grade, they and their parents can choose to get in-

involved in our outstanding band program and this is a golden opportunity to see it in operation. Following the concert, students interested in learning to play a band instrument will have the opportunity to try different ones to see which is best for them.

Finally, on Thursday May 29 at 7:30 in Don Thomas Stadium will be the final 2007-08 performance of our award winning Exeter Township High School Marching Band. This will be an opportunity for parents to grab some last photos, incoming band members to give marching a try, and families of current and future band members to interact with one another. But WAIT, there is more! All of our bands, grades 5-12, will assemble on the field for a massed band presentation. That should feature no less than 500 students on the field at one time! Don't miss it!

The students put in a great amount of time to bring some wonderful entertainment to our community. Please take time to mark your calendars for these free entertaining programs featuring the great young people of the Exeter Schools.

PRE-SCHOOL CHILDREN CENSUS REPORT

Please assist the district in planning for your child's education by supplying the following information. This will help us predict future enrollment, staffing and facility needs. Your assistance in completing this survey is appreciated. **If you submitted this information in a previous year, it is not necessary to resubmit it.**

CHILDREN IN THE HOUSEHOLD - BIRTH TO AGE 5				
Last name	First name	M/F	Date of Birth	Address

The child(ren) listed above will attend: (check one) public school private school.

Please return this form to
Thelo Thomas, Exeter Township School District, 3650 Perkiomen Ave., Reading, PA 19606 OR e-mail this information to: thomas@exeter.k12.pa.us

Summer School Options for Enrichment and Remediation/Support

Dr. Warren Mata, Assistant Superintendent

Once again, our school district is pleased to offer a wide variety of summer programs for our students. We will be offering both remedial classes and enrichment classes this summer.

ENRICHMENT

A number of fun enrichment classes for students from kindergarten through eighth grade are currently being developed. Examples include world languages, chess, arts and crafts, guitar, jewelry making, Kung Fu, etc. These classes vary in duration and are scheduled between June 16 and July 11. They will be held at the Jacksonwald Elementary School. Final brochures with more detail will be sent home with students in early May. Additionally, brochures will be available at the Administration Building, the school offices, and on our district website...www.exeter.k12.pa.us.

REMEDIAL

Remedial/support programs designed to strengthen the academic skills and knowledge of our students have also been scheduled.

Kdg through 6th Grade Program held at Jacksonwald

Dates: June 16 – July 11 Program Contact: Mrs. Kathleen Harris

7th – 8th Grade Program held at the Junior High School

Dates: June 23 – July 18 Program Contact: JHS Guidance Office

9th – 12th Grade Program held at the Senior High School

Dates: June 16 – July 25 Program Contact: SHS Guidance Office

There is a nominal charge for all summer school offerings. Transportation is also available to and from the Elementary Remedial/Support Program for a nominal charge.

Chess Team Captures First in PA Championship



Members of the Exeter Senior High School Chess Team who captured first place in the K-12 under 1300 PA Scholastic Chess Championship include (seated, from left) senior Michael El-Rayes, junior Abel Jacoby, and freshman Terell Bennett; (standing, from left) asst. coach Bill Rhoads, senior Mike Sorg, coach Michael Deibert, senior Jim Dormer, and asst. coach Brian Rhoads. Missing from the photo are sophomore Matt Berman and junior Kody Blouch. The Exeter team earned 13.5 points, finishing ahead of 14 other scholastic teams to win the division.

Mark Your Calendar

**Exeter Community
Education Foundation
Golf Tournament**

**Friday, August 15
RCC**

**For more information
contact: Joe Staub @
610-823-9781**



Looking Ahead to the 2008-09 School Calendar



The board approved the school calendar for the 2008-2009 school term. School will again begin the week before Labor Day. These are the beginning and ending dates for the term and dates when school will not be in session for students. The complete Activities Calendar, including early dismissals, will be mailed to households in August.

Aug 26	First student day
Aug 29- Sept 1	Labor Day vacation for students
Oct 6	Inservice - schools closed
Nov 26 - Dec 1	Thanksgiving vacation for students
Dec 22 - Jan. 2	Winter Holiday
Jan 19	Martin Luther King Holiday
Feb 13	Inservice - schools closed
Feb 16	Presidents' Holiday
April 9-13	Spring vacation for students
May 25	Memorial Day Holiday
June 9	Last student day

April 9^{*1}, June 10^{*2}, June 11^{*3}, June 12^{*4} are days that could be used as inclement weather make-up days if needed. The small subscript number to the right of the * indicates the order in which the make-up days will be used.

Exeter's May Days May 16th & 17th Exeter Senior High Grounds



Food, Fun, Games, Rides, & Lots of Entertainment
Fri., May 16 & Sat., May 17 3-10 p.m.
Fireworks on Saturday night

For more information, contact Parks & Rec Superintendent Joe Seltzer at 610-406-0263. Proceeds benefit the ETSD Associations of Parents and Teachers, Exeter Township, and local community groups.

May Fine Arts Happenings

7th Grade Concert	May 6
Jacksonwald Art Show	May 7
Lorane Art Show	May 8
Reiffton Art Show	May 8
Reiffton Grade 5 Concert	May 13
SHS Band/Orchestra Concert	May 14
Reiffton Grade 6 Concert	May 15
Lausch Art Show	May 15
8th Grade Concert	May 15
SHS Vocal Concert	May 21
JHS Art Show	May 22

Please Note!

Due to the need to cancel school three days for inclement weather this winter, the last student day of the 2007-08 term is **Tuesday, June 10.**

The NEWSLETTER is the official publication of the
Exeter Township School District
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Beverly A. Martin, Ed.D., Superintendent
Warren Mata, Ed.D., Assistant Superintendent

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Questions, suggestions, and/or information concerning the NEWSLETTER should be directed to Don W. Cramer, Editor, in the Instructional Support Services Office.

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