Hawks honored for big season

The Silverado High School football team made school history last week, becoming the first Hawks team to play in a CIF-Southern Section football championship game.

And though the season ended with a loss to Valley Christian/Cerritos in the title game on Dec. 3, the Hawks racked up plenty of accolades along the way.

Wide receiver Trevon Clark and offensive lineman Tyson Pauling were named to the SD vs. IE All-Star Game, a regional matchup that will pit the best of the Inland Empire against the

Jackrabbits give back

VVHS culinary department feeds thousands at banquet

Victor Valley High School culinary arts students fed roughly 1,500 people recently as they collaborated with the Victor Valley Rescue Mission for the annual Thanksgiving Banquet and Turkey Giveaway held at the high school on Nov. 22.

VVHS culinary arts teacher Kelli Valencia said 30 students helped prepare enough food to serve

Rand earns regional teaching award

Katherine Rand has been teaching for more than two decades, but when she talks about education she still has the enthusiasm of a college freshman.

That enthusiasm inspires Rand's Cobalt Institute of Math and Science colleagues, who nominated her for the Inland Empire Council for the Social Studies Teacher of Excellence award she recently won.

Though appreciative of the
VVUHSD IN THE NEWS


COMMUNITY

Rotary mini-grants

Seven Victor Valley Union High School District teachers were awarded mini-grants by the Victorville Rotary Club this week. The $300 grants will be used for classroom projects and programs to enhance students’ educational experience. VVUHSD is one of the sponsors of the program, which rewards local teachers for innovative ideas to engage students.

TOP: Hook Junior High School teacher Erica Moeller, second from right, with Victorville Rotary Club President Dwight Johnson, left, Hook Principal Carlos Cerna and VVUHSD Superintendent Dr. Ron Williams, far right.

LEFT: Johnson and Dr. Williams with University Preparatory School Teacher Manuel Colon, second from right, and UP Principal Valerie Hatcher.

BOTTOM: Johnson and Dr. Williams with Cobalt Institute of Math and Science teachers (from left) Antonia Vignocchi, Bonnie Vigil, Angela Powers and Henry Citarella Jr. CIMS teacher Amanda Ballard, not pictured, was also awarded a mini-grant by the Rotary Club of Victorville.

WHO WE ARE

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STUDENT OF THE MONTH

Tyson Pauling
Silverado High School

Silverado senior Tyson Pauling helped lead Silverado to its first CIF-Southern Section football title game, but school staff members say his excellence goes beyond the gridiron.

“He’s just an all-around great kid,” Silverado Principal Heather Conkle said. “Good athletically, good in the classroom, and just nice. Being kind goes a long way. He’s humble, loyal, all of it. And he takes ‘student-athlete’ seriously.”

Pauling was selected as the Victor Valley Union High School District Student of the Month for November. In addition to helping lead the Hawks to the Dec. 3 title game against Valley Christian as a dominant left tackle, Pauling has maintained a 3.02 GPA and is a standout citizen on campus.

A team captain, he was one of three Silverado players selected to represent the school at the CIF Southern Section championship luncheon in Long Beach last week. Pauling, who stands 6-foot-5 and weighs 325 pounds, is being recruited by several universities, Conkle said.

UNIVERSITY PREP

UP performs for chamber: University Prep Orchestra students, led by teacher Matthew Orane, left, delighted the crowd at the Victor Valley Chamber Accolade Awards this week. (Photo by McKenzie Tarango)

LAKEVIEW LEADERSHIP ACADEMY

Hill earns master’s

Lakeview Leadership Academy Campus Security Assistant Oshale Hill recently earned a master’s degree in Juvenile Law Justice Studies from Grand Canyon University. Hill, pictured at left, is a 14-year employee of the Victor Valley Union High School District. Her coworkers at LLA threw her a celebration with a cake, pictured below. (Photos and information submitted by Marla Nye)
Student logo design contest reopens; new deadline Jan. 13

The Mountain Desert Regional Career and Occupational Pathways Logo Design Contest has been reopened!

Students in districts across the High Desert, including the Victor Valley Union High School District, are eligible to enter their designs (one entry per student).

The new deadline for entries is Jan. 13, 2017.

The winning design will be used in numerous electronic and print materials for the Mountain Desert Regional Career and Occupational Pathways JPA.

Please read the rules carefully and use the official entry form to enter.

Follow these links for more info:


Entry Form: http://www.vvuhsd.org/UserFiles/Servers/Server_14464/File/Logo%20Contest%20Official%20Entry%20Form.pdf

Central Enrollment Center is now accepting donations for its Annual Holiday Food Drive benefitting our homeless students and their families who are living in motels and hotels throughout the High Desert.

If you would like to donate non-perishable foods, please drop them off at CEC or send them to us!

All items that are collected will be distributed during the week of December 19.

Time is limited, so please donate to help a needy family enjoy the holidays today!

Thank you in advance for your donations!

NOTE: The Central Enrollment Center is located on at 16350 Mojave Drive, Building 8. Hours are 7:30 a.m. to 4 p.m. The general public may drop off items during business hours. District employees may drop off items or deliver them via intraoffice mail. Donate and help the less fortunate this holiday season!

Hawks from Page 1

best of the San Diego area. The game will be played at 7 p.m. on Dec. 30 at San Diego Mesa College. Clark and Pauling were also among the Silverado players named to the All-Desert Sky League football team as the Hawks captured the league championship.
Valencia said the menu consisted of 250 turkeys, 500 pounds of potatoes, stuffing, green bean casserole, yams, dinner rolls and pumpkin pie. “It is really a great experience for the students to come and work with me over their Thanksgiving break,” Valencia said. “My students and I put in 30-plus hours during our Thanksgiving break. It is such a great feeling that I have so many caring students that give up their fall break so they can help other people.” About 1,500 people showed up for the free meal, Valencia said, and the leftovers went to a local homeless shelter, the fairgrounds warming shelter, a men’s recovery home, and guests who attended the meal. “The event was wonderful,” Valencia said. “Students did a great job. I look forward to doing this event every year. This was our fourth year doing the event, and every year it gets larger and larger and becomes more successful. It is such a great feeling helping people in need.”

award, which will join the many plaques and certificates hanging above her desk, Rand says “the best reward I’ve gotten in teaching is the feedback from my students.” Some of those students contact her years later to let her know how they’re doing. “I look at my success as their success,” Rand says.

Rand, who currently teaches government and U.S. history at CIMS, has taught in the Victor Valley Union High School District since 1994 and graduated from Victor Valley High School in the 1980s. She credits her teachers at VVHS for inspiring her to enter the profession. “It’s their fault that I do this,” she said with a laugh.

In particular, she mentioned former VVHS teacher George Stuebing, saying she “loved the excitement he had every day for being in the classroom.” While still in high school, she was already taking community college classes with the aim of becoming a teacher, and she told school staff at the time that she would return to Victorville to teach at her alma mater. After attending the University of San Diego (with graduate work at San Diego State and Chapman), she did just that. “I thought it was important to give back to my community,” Rand said. “I was going to give back four years, and I never left. I had family connections here and it was a good place to raise my son.”

Rand has taught at VVHS, University Prep, Cobalt Middle School and now CIMS. Her fellow CIMS social studies teachers Antonia Vignocchi and Angela Powers nominated her for the award from the IECSS, a professional organization for social studies educators in San Bernardino, Riverside and eastern Los Angeles counties.

Powers, who has taught in the district for two years and has been a teacher for six years, marvels at Rand’s work ethic and dedication to her craft. “Katherine is usually here before everybody else and leaves after everybody else,” Powers said. “She’s always looking for new ways to authentically engage the students.” Rand feels the same about her colleagues — and she relishes the opportunity not only to teach, but to learn. “I feel absolutely fortunate to get to work with the teachers I see every day,” Rand said. “We learn things from each other. I feel really fortunate that I’ve been able to do that.”