



Saint Viator Reports Twice as Many AP Scholars

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Richard Hutyra '10

Now that Saint Viator officials require students in Advanced Placement classes to sit for the AP exams, they are starting to see big results: This year, more than twice as many students were named AP Scholars as last year.

A whopping 68 students earned the prestigious honor, which recognizes their exceptional achievement on AP exams and in rigorous college-level courses. Overall, 65 percent of Saint Viator's upperclassmen scored a 3 or higher on their AP Exams last spring.

"We're thrilled," said Principal Eileen Manno. "This confirms what we've known all along, that rigorous coursework stretched across a student's four years results in solid academic performance and readiness for college."

Officials with the College Board, who develop and score AP Exams, say only 18 percent of the more than 1.8 million students worldwide who took AP exams performed at a level to merit an AP Scholar Award.

For the second straight year, Saint Viator had a student named a National AP Scholar. Richard Hutyra '10 of Arlington Heights earned the rare distinction. To earn the title, he had to score an average of 4 or better on a minimum of eight AP exams over the course of his junior and senior years.

Hutyra was last year's salutatorian, who now is studying at the U.S. Naval Academy as a midshipman. Along with taking eight AP courses, Hutyra ran cross-country and track, while participating in Student Council, Scholastic Bowl and peer counseling. He hopes to major in naval architecture or aerospace engineering at Annapolis.

Another 20 students were named AP Scholars with Distinction for having earned an average score of at least 3.5 on all AP Exams, and scores of 3 or higher on five or more exams.

They included 2010 graduates: Bradley Ackerlund and Rebecca Moynihan of Schaumburg; Janice Guzon of Hoffman Estates; Jose Carlo Aguilar of Des Plaines; Thomas Allen, Theresa Callero, Daniel Donohue, Clare Dussman, John Etchingham, Richard Hutyra, Connor Ptacin, Joseph Semkiu and Mary Tomasik, all of Arlington Heights; Ryan Gilmore of North Barrington; James Jensen of Mount Prospect; John Koehler of Rolling Meadows; Anthony Quagliano of Barrington; Molly Schuld of Inverness; Melanie Slawny of Palatine; and current senior Edward Zahrebelski of Hoffman Estates.

A total of 12 students earned the title of AP Scholars with Honor, for having earned an average score of at least 3.25 on all AP Exams, and scores of 3 or higher on four or more of these exams.

They included 2010 graduates: Alan Aboona of Wheeling; Zachary Bublitz of Roselle; Clare Burke of Lake Barrington; Joseph Giovannetti, Claire Hoffman, Tyler Stanley and Matthew Zitkus of Arlington Heights; Soonbum Kwon of Algonquin; Kelsey Pace of Barrington;

Savina Setze of Palatine; Katherine Sullivan of Inverness; and current senior Dana Franceschini of Park Ridge.

The biggest group was the 36 students who earned the AP Scholar Award, by completing three or more AP Exams and earning scores of 3 or higher.

They included 2010 graduates: Emily Benas and Martha Ryzner of Rolling Meadows; Mark Bernacchi and Kyleigh Owens of Barrington; Taylor Blaney of Barrington Hills; Christina Brinkman of Palatine; Timothy Brinkmann of Glenview; Matthew Colaprete, Matthew Grzeszczak, Amanda Presslak and Christina Sweeney of Elk Grove; Rachel Cote of Palatine; Robert Gentile of Lake Zurich; Carolyn Jones and Margaret Lakowske of Inverness; Maureen Lamick, Steven Patzke, Stephanie Reiter, William Rittmeyer and Maura Wolfe, all of Arlington Heights; Soowhan Park and Emily Saban of Schaumburg; Christopher Rossi of Prospect Heights; and Jacob Scheitz of Roselle.

Current senior AP Scholars included: Nicholas Baur of Palatine; Daniel Cortese, Anthony Pensa, Madeline Wimberly and Kevin Young, all of Arlington Heights; Danielle Di Silvestro Jillian Haworth and Gregory Perkowski of Inverness; John Kim of Bartlett; Nina Marshall of Barrington; and Rachel Ruddick of Des Plaines.

Only one current junior was named an AP Scholar. Joseph Park of Buffalo Grove earned an average score of 5 on the AP courses he already had taken as a sophomore.