



## **Saint Viator Student Named National Achievement Semi-Finalist**

October 4, 2011



William Klinkenberg.

William Klinkenberg, a Saint Viator senior from Barrington, was named a semifinalist by the National Merit Scholarship Corporation in its National Achievement Scholarship Program.

The announcement recognizes him as one of 1,600 promising Black American high school seniors, whose PSAT scores earned him the national recognition and potential for earning National Achievement Scholarships.

He follows in the footsteps of his brother, Brendan, a 2009 Saint Viator graduate, who was named a National Achievement Scholarship finalist.

Klinkenberg was named a semifinalist from the more than 160,000 high school juniors nationwide that requested consideration in the 2012 National Achievement Scholarship Program when they took 2010 PSATs.

“This makes him even more desirable to colleges,” says Principal Eileen Manno says, “who are seeking this kind of well

rounded student.”

The National Merit Scholarship Program already offers privately funded scholarships to academically talented students across the country, but its officials designed National Achievement Scholarships in 1964 to recognize outstanding black students.

Besides his academics, Klinkenberg participates in a number of different activities at Saint Viator. He plays on the junior varsity soccer and varsity tennis teams, while in his off season he performs on stage in the school musical.

Manno adds that Klinkenberg is the type of student who becomes engrossed in a topic and he likes to explore things deeply.

One of those topics he explored in his college essays was a trip he took last summer with his father and grandfather back to their roots, to the country of Suriname in the Northeast corner of South America, formerly known as Dutch Guiana.

“It was so interesting,” Klinkenberg says. “I learned so much about where my family came from and about my past.”