



The *Daily Herald* Recognizes two Saint Viator Seniors



D.J. Horstmann (left) and Andrew Leja.

A pair of Saint Viator seniors joined an elite group this month when they were named to the *Daily Herald* Leadership Team.

D.J. Horstmann was among 10 high school seniors chosen for the team from across the Northwest suburbs, while Andrew Leja was named an honorable mention.

Both students will be profiled in the *Daily Herald's* special section, dedicated to showcasing teens making a difference in their communities, set to

run Feb. 9 in all of its Northwest suburban editions.

A photo of the Leadership Team will run on the paper's front page, as editorial board members strive to "recognize students who excel in volunteerism and community service."

City Editor Renee Trappe commended both seniors for their "outstanding work with volunteer and community organizations" and for their leadership shown in those endeavors. She added that a panel of independent judges selected the team from a large number of high school students in the region.

Principal Eileen Manno described each senior as making significant contributions as leaders in their school community.

"D.J. demonstrates daily and discernible leadership at school," Manno says. "His energy and enthusiasm stimulates others to join him in his pursuit of excellence."

She had equally high praise for Leja, who has organized a book collection drive this year for students at the Viatorian mission in Belize.

"Andrew is quiet on the surface, but once he opens up, one is struck by his maturity, poise and insight," Manno says.

Both D.J. and Andrew are Eagle Scouts and are active in student government and as retreat leaders. D.J. anchors the percussion section of the band, playing in its symphonic, jazz and pep bands, while Andrew participated in the Peacebuilders Initiative through the Catholic Theological Union. Both also served as delegates to the Viatorian Youth Congress.