

DECA gains momentum on its way to state

by Blake Sammann

Each Thursday, upwards of thirty students pack room M-180 or the EPI Center. Some talk loudly, some sit quietly on their phones, and some just relax. Some are sophomores, some are juniors, and some are seniors.

All await the events of the meeting, whether it be a lecture by the CEO and founder of Skinny Pop, an economics talk led by Mr. Kansler, or a role play led by Mr. Bollweg.

Welcome to New Trier's business club, DECA, (Distributive Education Clubs of America). The club began in 1946 as an international business program comprised of both collegiate and high school members. Since then it has only grown, especially at New Trier.

The students who make up DECA come from different backgrounds and interests, which has caused steady growth, according to faculty sponsor Melissa Duffy, "We are seeing sixty students a week now. We actually had to move from our old meeting room to the EPI Center to accommodate everyone. We have seen steady growth for the past five years."

Executive officer Corey Schwartz adds, "This is the first year we have had to cut people from the state competition because teams

are only allowed to bring forty. Up until now forty kids have not wanted to come, but this year I believe we had forty seven, so we had to unfortunately cut some kids."

What actually attracts participants to DECA? Executive officer Tamara Villalon's story of coming to DECA is representative of what draws most DECA members.

"After taking the introduction to business class with Mr. Bollweg I wanted to delve further into business and see all the different areas like marketing and finance so I got involved with DECA."

Most DECA participants would agree that the most exciting part of DECA comes from the intense competition.

There are three main competitions in which New Trier DECA takes part: the area competition, the state competition and the international competition held in Orlando, Florida.

Everyone competes in the state competition, but only the top three individuals or teams from each event have the privilege of competing in the international competition.

Executive officer Clay Lesniak is confident in his club's chances at the state meet, judging by their strong performance at the area competition held in Rosemont this past weekend.



DECA members (from left to right) Ray Lemaine, Will Portnoy, John Haboush, Matthew Noskin, Claire Baisley, and Audrey Gordon at a DECA meet | Duffy

"This year as a club, we did the best we have ever done. We had a lot of people medaling, which was great to see. We actually had some first year members medal in their first competition, which is very rare."

The Trevian DECA side had many contestants finish number one in their event. Tamara Villalon finished first in Exam, role play #1, and overall (Marketing Management).

Dylan McGuire finished first in role play #1 (Principles of Marketing). Michelle Buyer finished first in role play #2 (Principles of Marketing). John Haboush finished first in Exam (Sports & Entertainment Marketing). JJ Jaggaard finished first in Exam (Sports & Entertainment Marketing). Nitika Satish finished first in Exam (Buying & Merchandising).

New Trier finished strong in

the team events as well. Kerstin Hellstrom and Nikita Satish finished first for Buying and Merchandising Team. Other results for both team and individual rankings are listed below.

With such results, it appears that DECA will be hungry to take on the state competition in Decatur, IL come March.

DECA Rosemont Area competition rankings

Individual Events:

Tamara Villalon – 3rd place in role play #2
Ray Lemaine – 2nd place Exam (Sports & Entertainment Marketing)

Team Events:

Corey Schwartz & Clay Lesniak – 2nd place (Financial Analysis Team)
Emma Cavalier & Nicole Mozolewski – 3rd place (Marketing Communications Team)
Asher Bond & Nick Endre – 2nd place (Marketing Communications Team)
Grant Smith & Drew Kepes – 2nd place (Sports & Entertainment Marketing)
John Haboush & Will Portnoy – 3rd place (Sports & Entertainment Marketing)
Brandon Koch & Jack Cadden – 2nd place (Buying & Merchandising)

U of I is a top choice for NT students



UIUC has attracted over 200 NT students from 2012-2014 | illinois.edu

by Adam Sheffield

On Feb. 13, many students' lives were changed forever. It was decision day for the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign.

Illinois has consistently been the most applied to school by New Trier students. From 2012 to 2014, 970 New Trier students applied to the U of I, and of those 970 kids, 644 were admitted, and 234 enrolled.

"The University of Illinois is the Flagship University of the State," said Jim Conroy, the post high school counseling department chair at New Trier. "Money helps attract kids, because the in-state tuition makes it a much better bargain than other Big Ten schools."

"It's not the most expensive school in the Big Ten, and it's very reasonable compared to many other schools," explained Daniel Rogan, a post high school counselor at New Trier.

In-state tuition for UIUC can

range anywhere from \$12,000-15,000. In comparison, out of state tuition at the University of Michigan costs around \$40,000, and out of state at the University of Wisconsin costs around \$25,000.

The average University of Illinois acceptee had a 4.17 GPA and an average of 30 on their ACT.

"Illinois uses a sliding scale, which means you can get a lower score on your ACT, but still get in if you have a higher than average GPA, and visa-versa," stated Conroy.

US News, which each year ranks all the colleges in the U.S. in a variety of categories, ranked UIUC as the 42nd best college in America.

The UIUC undergraduate engineering program, which has consistently been among the nation's best, ranked sixth in the nation. US News also said that UIUC had the number one accounting program in the nation. "You need a 31-35 on your ACT to get into the engineering program," Conroy said, "UIUC

is very conscious of its programs and makes sure its students are academically ready."

"For Chicago people, Illinois is top tier. The engineering program is the strongest in the Big Ten, and it helps attract a number of students from overseas, especially from Asian countries, according to the university website.

Despite U of I's academic success, there are some flaws. "There are no big cities around, and it doesn't win the award for the best college town.

Michigan and Wisconsin are consistently ranked better," said Conroy.

Champaign is around two and a half hours from New Trier. While only a short distance, the feel of UIUC's campus is very different from the New Trier district, according to Rogan.

"Champaign is not the quintessential college town. If you drive too far in one direction, you could end up in a cornfield. It's a different feel from a school like Minnesota. People don't go to Illinois because they are in love with the town, people go because they are in love with the school," said Rogan.

Illinois popularity among New Trier students could stem from home. Rogan explained, "Lots of New Trier parents went to Illinois, so the family roots are strong in this area.

Also, the school is big enough so that you can do a ton of different things. You will always have stuff to do."

With decision day looming last week, many students awaited the results nervously. But there are other ways to get into the University besides the traditional route.

"There are back door ways to get in to the University," said Conroy, "you can try to go to a community college, or get into Illinois for a lesser known major than business or engineering.

That process is not always successful, but it offers some hope to kids who don't get in."

Spring construction to cause "minimal chaos"

by Camille Baer

Incoming sophomores and upperclassmen feel apprehensive about the construction beginning in early April this year.

According to several art teachers and administrators, the referendum will not change much to the building outside of those classes held in the parts being renovated. Those classes will be relocated to mobile classrooms.

The mobile classrooms will be located on the north side of the building, outside the N17 entrance. These classrooms will be referred to as the North Annex according to Principle Denise Dubravec.

"The project will make the whole campus accessible for students, staff, and visitors with disabilities – something that is a huge challenge in the current buildings."

- Denise Dubravec

"It's funny to say but the temporary spaces will have more square footage, higher internet/Intranet speed, air conditioning, proper climate control and have exhaust, ventilation, and vacuum systems that are up to code," stated Head of Department of Applied Arts, Jason Boumstein.

The classes from the T-wing that will be placed in the mobile classrooms are Wood and Metal Design, Furniture Making and Design, Architecture, Introduction to Engineering Design (Project Lead the Way), CAD Lab, Drawing and Painting, Ceramics, AP Art and Sculpture.

"Glass Art will be relocated in the existing building," said Principal Dubravec, as well as the automotive

classes that "will use G009 as a classroom. When they work on vehicles they will use a garage space in the existing building off the northeast side of the campus."

The book store will relocate to the scrounge where the Girls Club room used to be, according to store manager Khrysstophor Holland. "I think this will be a little more accessible, and overall a little bit of a bigger space for the store. The T-wing is always a pain to get to, yet everyone knows where the scrounge is," said Holland.

The Glass art teacher, Monique Boyd, said that "we [the glass art class] will have to put some things into long term storage, but we're lucky we won't have to miss a beat."

Dubravec said she is looking forward to the many benefits of this major project. "The building will have 26 new core academic classrooms for subjects like English, math, social studies, languages, and business. We will also add three new science labs, since lab space is currently over-scheduled," she said. These changes open up a lot more opportunities for teachers and students to have the space to work on things that weren't necessarily an option before, she said.

According to Dubravec, the Applied Arts program will also get new engineering and technology labs, and the Music, Theatre, and Art programs will have new spaces that better suit students' needs.

There are bonuses to the construction. "The project will make the whole campus accessible for students, staff, and visitors with disabilities – something that is a huge challenge in the current buildings," explained Dubravec.

The project schedule is designed so that students and staff can move into the new Cafeteria, new Library, and some new classrooms after the first year of construction.