Champlain Valley
UNION HIGH SCHOOL

CVU Points of Pride
January 2024

Matthew Servin was awarded the 2022-23 Gatorade Vermont Boys Cross Country Player of the Year! As one of the most prestigious awards in high school sports, the Gatorade Player of the Year award honors the most elite high school student athletes in 12 varsity sports for their athletic excellence, academic achievement and exemplary character.

Congrats, **Jack Sumner**, on winning Gatorade Player of the Year!

Corey Wemple, as an individual, placed 2nd in the Brain Bee neuroscience competition at the UVM School of Medicine in February 2023

CVU hosted the annual Vermont FIRST Tech Challenge Robotics Championship February 2023 . There were 19 robotics teams from all over Vermont and this is the second year that CVU has entered TWO teams into the tournament--the varsity squad RoboHawks and JV squad RoboRedhawks. You may recall that last year the RoboHawks qualified for the World Championship...well this year both teams were outstanding! **This year CVU will be sending not one team to the World Championship, but BOTH teams!**

A special shout out this week to our students who organized, donated, and ran our annual blood drive. We collected 63 units of blood, each with the potential to save three lives! Over half of these donations were first time donors. Thank you to everyone for supporting this event, and making it a successful day!

The Spectrum SleepOut was a huge success! Forty CVU students braved the cold and slept outside in solidarity with unhoused youth in our community. Our CVU team raised $4,500.

Mira Novak competed in the state semifinals for Poetry Out Loud at the Barre Opera House. She qualified for finals! Mira will represent CVU at state finals, competing against nine other finalists from across Vermont.

In March 2023, CVU Penguin Plungers finally made it to the icy waters at Shelburne Beach in support of Special Olympics. CVU raised over $16,000 and registered over 100 plungers. This

plunge was in response to the canceled event at the Burlington waterfront due to inclement weather. CVU found a way - promises made, promises kept!

Tamie-Jo Dickinson won FBLA Advisor of the Year and was honored in a ceremony last Friday.

CVU's Scholars Bowl team finished its 22-23 season as a semi-finalist in the State tournament playoffs, in April. CVU started as the 6th seed. CVU's Scholars Bowl has now reached the "Final Four" of the State tournament playoffs 16 times in the past 21 years, more than any other Vermont school.

Congratulations to **Deaglan Searson**, who has won a National Scholastic Art gold medal for their work, "Subway Ride." Quite an honor!

Several CVU students entered work in the 2nd Annual Vermont Wildlife Education Fund Student Art Competition. **Sonia Prada** received 1st Place in the contest while **Eva Fewell** received an Honorable Mention. **Morgan Ackerly, Aren Eisenman, Lily Gruber**, and **Yvonne Miceler** also participated in the contest this year. You can view their entries on the Vermont Wildlife Education website.

Congratulations to the following CVU/BTC students for being nominated for the National Technical Honor Society: **Adrian Statkevicus, Riley Normand, Jack Huikku, Kailey Bruce, Kennedy Desautels, Molly Dubois** and **Harlie Durgin.**

In May, three CVU students were recognized and honored as winners of the annual UVM High School Prize Examination in Mathematics at UVM's Math Day. CVU had three students place in the top 10 statewide this year, they were **Jacob G** and **Keaton S. Elias L**.

Congratulations to **Dave Trevithick** for being named the 2022 Non-certified Volunteer of the Year by Vermont Fish & Wildlife for his work supporting students in hunter safety and conservation ethics.

Congratulations to CVU/BTC Health Sciences Academy student, **Kennedy Desautels**, who has been chosen as the Vermont HOSA Future Health Professionals Vice President of Operations for 23-24. Kennedy traveled to Dallas, Texas with BTC last spring representing Vermont in the international HOSA conference and competition.

We are proud to honor **Jen Bickel-Hayes** and **Mili McCoy** recipients of the Outstanding Educator of the Year Award for all they give to our students and community. Congratulations, Hannah and Seth!

Eight student-athletes attended the statewide Athletic Leadership Conference in Burlington in November. Seniors **Grace** and **Jack**, juniors **Billy, Rose, Alice,** and **Abby**, and sophomores **Dylan** and **Cooper** participated in the 2-day conference that focused on leadership, communication, teamwork and gratitude.

CVU's Scholars Bowl team scored a major victory in December 2023 by winning both brackets of the Pre-Holiday Academic Tournament (aka PHAT) at Essex High School. The PHAT is the

most attended event of our Scholars Bowl season, this year drawing 24 teams from 3 states. CVU's varsity A team ran its record to 27-0 by winning all 7 matches and defeating runner-up Hanover to win the PHAT varsity bracket for the second consecutive season.