

May 2006 Teen of the Month



Veronica Topolewski Lake Orion H.S

I have known Veronica for the past two years, and she has proven to be one of my most exemplary students.

I first met her when she was inducted to the National Honor Society.

I was impressed with Veronica's hard work and dedication to NHS. She consistently volunteered for the numerous events, and I was thrilled when she was elected Vice President of the organization for her senior year.

As a junior, she was selected as the Editor in Chief of the school newspaper, a tremendous accomplishment — the first time this honor had been given to a non-senior member of the newspaper.

This year, I was finally able to work with her in class. She is a very strong member of my Advanced Placement English class and has consistently maintained an A average.

She prides herself in her work ethic, and it shows in her 3.95 grade point average. Never afraid of a challenge, she fills her class schedule with honors, AP, and other demanding courses in which she excels. She looks forward to her future and the challenges college will bring, and I know that she will succeed.

Veronica understands the responsibility of giving back to the community. Lake Orion has a community service requirement of 40 hours to be completed by graduation. Veronica has gone above this requirement by completing over 300 hours in her four years of high school.

A few of her projects include a freshman mentoring program, organizing a 30 hour famine for World Vision, working at a local soup kitchen, and Project SHALOM, greatly reflect the caring, spirited individual of Veronica.

Veronica Topolewski is indisputably not only one of the best students, but one of the best persons I have met not only in my teaching career, but also in my life.

As her teacher, I look forward to hearing about her successes in life, because Veronica will have many.

— Wendy Baeckeroot

English/Language Arts Teacher Lake Orion High School

June 2006 Teen of the Month

Stephanie Donelko Avondale H.S



I am thrilled to be able to nominate Stephanie Donelko, from Avondale High School, as the Rochester Elks Lodge "Teen of the Month" for June, 2006.

Stephanie's counselor, Mrs. Julie Gritzinger, speaks very highly of Stephanie and her accomplishments. She says Stephanie's strengths are her positive attitude, her energy and her ability to lead her peers.

She is Avondale's Student Government President, and in that capacity has helped develop a curriculum for a Student Leadership Class that has become the backbone of Avondale's Student Activity program.

Stephanie organized and managed a variety of events at school including the Homecoming and the Caring and Sharing Week.

As part of the Michigan Association of Student Councils, she has received four leadership awards.

With a GPA of 4.058, Stephanie is a top scholar. She is also a peer mediator, yearbook section editor, the captain of the Varsity Cheerleading squad, and a member of the Senior Class Board.

Stephanie will attend Michigan State University in the fall and will major in math and secondary education.

— Nancy Fischer LPC
Avondale High School

