



## Hickory Public Schools

# Week in Review

May 13, 2016

*"A snapshot of HPS good news"*

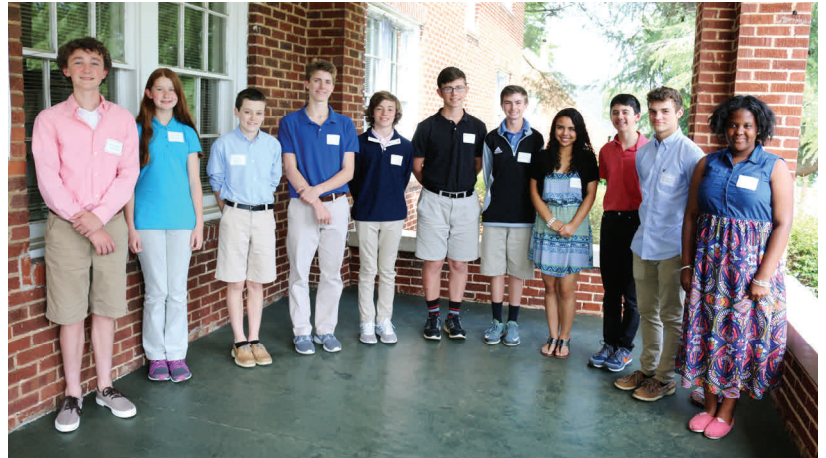
## Proctors Needed for End-of-Year Testing

Hickory Schools will begin end-of-year testing on May 26, 2016 for elementary and middle, and on June 3, 2016 for high schools. We need volunteers to help us proctor assessments that will be administered to students.

Many schools do not have the personnel to both administer and proctor end-of-year assessments, thus we need your help. Please help us by recruiting your friends, Sunday School classmates, etc.

Proctors must be at least 18 years of age and not a student of Hickory Public Schools. Proctors may not proctor in the room of their relative, neighbor or a student they know well. If you schedule allows, please contact the school test coordinator below. Thank you for your willingness to serve.

Contact the individual schools test coordinators to volunteer.  
Thank you!



### Meet the new Leadership 2000 team!

Michael Seddon, Caylan Hagood, Jonathan DeWitt, Lane Logan, Zane McPherson, Christopher Propst, Brooks White, Ariana Farley, Thomas Dufour, Warren Daniels, Lauran Surratt

## HPS Produces New Video!

Enjoy the video about Hickory Public Schools!

*"Together, we can make a difference!"*

Turn up your volume/click the link below:

<http://bit.ly/hpstogether>



Congrats to Janet Derr-Littman and her many students who have achieved excellence with their professional certifications! This is incredible news!

### Microsoft Office Specialist Certifications

Certifications	Fall 2015	Spring 2016	Total
Excel®	13	21	34
Excel® Expert	0	2	2
Access	13	19	32
Word	38	31	69
Word Expert	0	3	3
PowerPoint®	43	31	74
Outlook	9	2	11
OneNote	0	1	1
Total	116	108	226

226 MOS Certifications  
8 perfect scores  
5 MOS Experts  
2 MOS Masters

"I'm so proud of all my students for their determination, hard work, and focus in class. Thank you for a fabulous year!"  
- CTE Teacher Ms. Derr-Littman

Data from Ms. Derr-Littman's Microsoft Imagine Academy Classes



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# PAY ATTENTION

“Nobody should be texting while driving or talking on the phone or doing anything that they shouldn't be doing, just common sense. It's sad to see that many people don't have that nowadays.”

Daniel Arguello



TOP: Distracted driving video contest winners at Hickory Career and Arts Magnet High (HCAM) Christopher Torres, Chase Auton, Kiely Chambers and Daniel Arguello prepare to leave in a limo for the Olive Garden. BOTTOM: The students display their video on smartphones.

## HCAM students' winning video warns against distracted driving

BY JOHN BAILEY  
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**HICKORY**  
There are so many dumb ways to crash, according to the Hickory Career and Arts Magnet School students in Natasha Stiles' Digital Media class.

They took that message to the

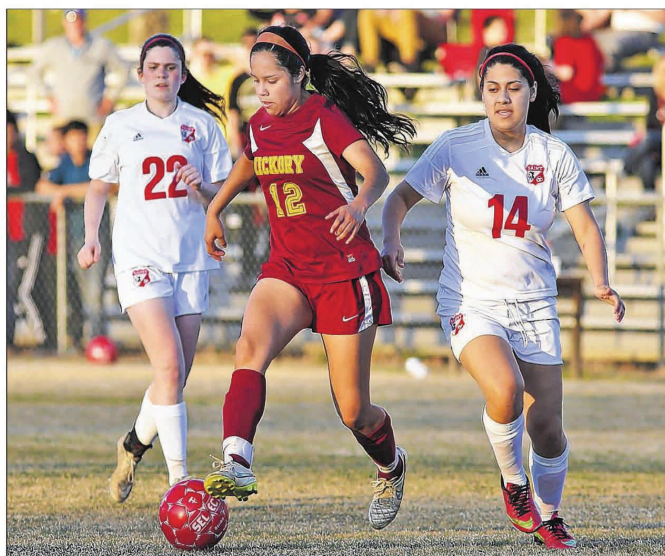
masses recently, competing in the annual Council on Adolescents of Catawba County's Distracted Driving video competition. The HCAM class filmed in March, submitted it at the end of the month, and on April 18 the school was awarded first place overall at the SALT Block Auditorium.

This was the sixth year for the contest and its open to all schools in

the county with five different schools submitting 20 videos. With a win this year, the HCAM team won \$400 for their school and a limo ride and lunch at Olive Garden on Monday for four members of the class. The concept was to show all the simple ways that a driver could be distracted in a

See VIDEO, Page 10A

## HIGH SCHOOL PLAYOFFS



Hickory High's Jovana Sanchez (12) controls the ball against Landon Gimlet (22) and Crystal Martinez (14) of St. Stephens during a regular-season match this season. The Red Tornadoes continue their pursuit of a state 3A title on Friday night at home, facing Hickory Ridge at 6:30 p.m.

# THERE'S NO CHOICE

## Wins only way area teams can stay alive

From staff reports

### MORE INSIDE

» High school scoreboard: 3B

A home soccer match for the Hickory girls highlights the Friday schedule for area high school teams still alive in the spring sports state championships.

There are also games on Saturday for area teams, including South Caldwell's baseball team trying to run its win streak to 15 straight.

On Friday at 6:30 p.m., the fifth-seeded Red Tornadoes (16-1-5) battle No. 12 seed Hickory Ridge (17-5-1) in the second round of the girls' soccer playoffs.

They're playing for a spot in the third round next week, with the winner advancing to meet No. 13 seed Cuthbertson or No. 4 seed Forestview next.

On Saturday at 7 p.m., South Caldwell (26-1) plays a second-round 4A baseball game against No. 17 West Forsyth (19-2), which has won two straight after back-to-back losses when it was 17-0.

The top-seeded Spartans are vying for a third-round home game next week against No. 9 Lake Norman or No. 8 Independence.

Here's a look, by sport, at other area schools still playing:

### BASEBALL

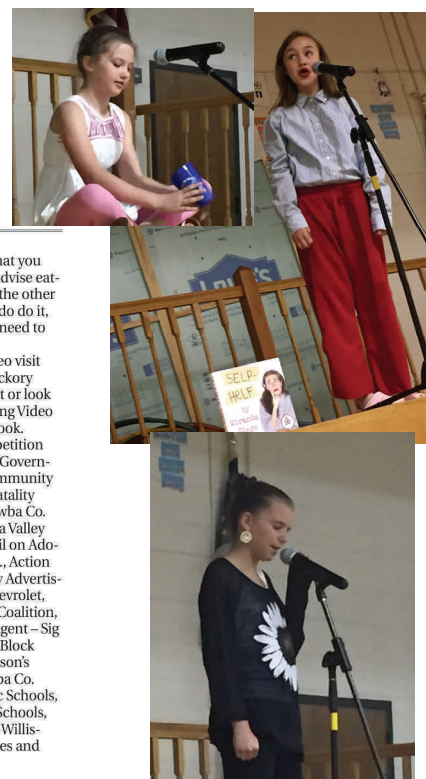
» 2A: Maiden (17-10), seeded No. 13 in 2A, is going to No. 4 Parkwood (20-7) for a second-round game on Saturday at 7 p.m.

If the Blue Devils win, they'll next

See PLAYOFFS, Page 3B

## Southwest students perform at school talent show!

### Way to go!



## Video

From Page 1A

60-second video.

The project started out as a break for the students from Web design every Friday, but Stiles saw it as another kind of learning moment for her class of 13.

"The message itself is really important, especially these guys are getting ready to start driving," she said.

Sophomore Daniel Arguello and freshman Christopher Torres developed the overall concept of the video — shots of the students demonstrating distracted driving while a song played with lyrics the entire class helped write.

Arguello was in two car accidents when he was younger. There were no serious injuries, but he could certainly relate to what happens because of distracted driving.

"The second (crash) someone was texting on their phone," he said. "It's not smart or fun for anybody to know that somebody

died because of another person's dumb mistake.

"Nobody should be texting while driving or talking on the phone or doing anything that they shouldn't be doing, just common sense. It's sad to see that many people don't have that nowadays."

Sophomore Kiely Chambers was the student who sang the song for the video, and she was more than nervous but happy to play her part in getting the message out.

"I think it's not something that's taken as seriously as it should be, cause I mean people talk about drunk driving all the time and that's it," Chambers said. "They don't consider other factors that can cause accidents, and I think a lot of the factors that we talk about, even if our scenarios were silly, they still had a basis in reality people need to pay attention to."

The HCAM video showed students talking or texting on their phones, eating, changing stations on the radio and paying

too much attention to passengers in the car.

According to reports by the U.S. Department of Transportation, 10 percent of all drivers 15 to 19 years old involved in fatal crashes were reported as distracted at the time of the crashes. This age group has the largest proportion of drivers who were distracted at the time of the crashes.

Overall, the percentage of drivers text-messaging or visibly manipulating handheld devices increased from 1.7 percent in 2013 to 2.2 percent in 2014 and taking your eyes off the road for just five seconds to text while traveling 55 mph would allow you to cover the length of a football field.

HCAM has won the Distracted Drivers Video competition four out of five times and won the Viewer's Choice one year, but the message is always at the forefront of every contest.

For Torres, it was a great experience overall for the class and a good chance for everyone to

work together on a project. While everyone had fun collaborating, making the video taught Torres the importance of keeping his eyes on the road when he starts driving.

"I think it's important because (the message) helps people make less mistakes than they already do," Torres said. "They realize that other people's lives matter as much as yours does."

Freshman Chase Auton helped to shoot the video and acted in one of the scenes. He hopes viewers learn the idea of patience from it.

"If you get a message you want to check it," Auton said. "It's just kind of a force of habit nowadays, so it's kind of easy to get distracted by other people too because you know when you first get your license all your friends are going to get in the car and they're going to be rowdy sometimes."

"If you're going to eat or something, just wait till you get home or wait till you're supposed to be going or just stop the car into a

parking spot and do what you need to do. I wouldn't advise eating or talking or any of the other distractions, but if you do it, just wait. That's all you need to do."

To see the HCAM video visit the school's website, hickorycam.hickoryschools.net or look for the Distracted Driving Video Contest page on Facebook.

Sponsors of the competition included: Catawba Co. Government, Catawba Co. Community Child Protection and Fatality Prevention Team, Catawba Co. Youth Council, Catawba Valley Medical Center, Council on Adolescents of Catawba Co., Action Limousine, Allen Finley Advertising, Dale Earnhardt Chevrolet, Safe Kids Catawba Co. Coalition, State Farm Insurance Agent — Sig Holcomb III, The SALT Block Foundation, Mike Johnson's Hickory Toyota, Catawba Co. Schools, Hickory Public Schools, Newton-Conover City Schools, United Way and Drum-Willis-Reynolds Funeral Homes and Crematory.