

Carroll names top scholars

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

The Class of 2009 at Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School has five valedictorians and one salutatorian.

Sharing the valedictorian honor are Ashley Bordner, Kevin Knaus, Travis Martin, Carson Spesard, and Malena Zook. Salutatorian is Seth Larimore. They were recognized last Saturday at Carroll's commencement.

Bordner is the daughter of Jay and Kim Bordner of Bringham. Her school activities included National Honor Society, Key Club treasurer, yearbook editor, RISE, and mentor. She also ran cross country and track, and was team captain for track. Community

activities include 4-H, Cutler Volunteer Fire Dept., and Crossroads Community Christian Church and youth group. She plans to attend Anderson University to run cross country and track and study pre-med.

Knaus is the son of Merl and Janice Knaus of Flora. He was National Honor Society president, Student Council treasurer, Historian Club president, Spanish Club president, a member of Key Club and Pep Club, and was a mentor. He plans to attend Butler

University for pharmacy with a minor in Spanish.



Bordner



Knaus



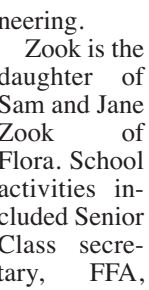
Martin



Spesard



Zook



Larimore

University for pharmacy with a minor in Spanish.

Martin is the son of Mark and Karen Martin of Logansport. His school activities were FFA (president), Student Council, Senior Class vice president, National Honor Society, mentoring, and Pep Club. He also played football and ran track. His community activities are 4-H and Junior Leaders.

He plans to attend Purdue University to study agricultural economics and management.

Spesard is the son of Lonnie and Jennifer Spesard of Flora. He was a member of National Honor Society and played football, basketball, and baseball. He's also in 4-H and youth group.

He plans to attend Purdue University and study engi-

neering. Zook is the daughter of Sam and Jane Zook of Flora. School activities included Senior Class secretary, FFA, National Honor Society, Student Council, and Pep Club. She also was on the Technology Committee and girls golf team. She's in 4-H and Junior Leaders.

She plans to attend Indiana University and major in information technology.

Larimore is the son of Randy and Teri Larimore of Flora. He was a member of National Honor Society, Stu-

dent Council, Historians, Spanish Club, and Pep Club. His sports included cross country, swimming, and track. Community memberships are 4-H, Junior Leaders, and Flora First Christian Church. He also has been involved with Helping Homeless Hoosier Veterans and Families.

He plans to attend Norwich University in Northfield, Vt., to study computer and electrical engineering and to participate in the Corps of Cadets, Air Force ROTC, and cross country.

Awards received by these students and others are listed in the special graduation supplement included in this week's *Comet*.

Four siblings in Carroll graduating class

By Jennifer Archibald
Staff writer

From the day their quadruplets were born, Sam and Jane Zook have kept them out of the limelight.

"We wanted them to be thought of as individuals, not as a group," Jane said.

The community has always been interested in them, but has respected their individuality and privacy," added Sam.

The four quads - John, Lucia, Malena, and Primmer - are 18 now and just graduated from high school last Saturday. Although the Zooks would not point this out themselves, their children are the first quads to graduate from Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School.

Since the kids are all grown up and about to go their separate ways, Mom and Dad are a little more willing now to tell what it's been like to raise four children the same age.

When the Zooks think back to all the stages of raising their quads, from babies to young adults, they said no stage was any harder, or any easier, than the rest.

"They were just different," Jane said.

The two boys and two girls entered the world on Feb. 12, 1991.

"They were born a month to the day, before the ice storm," Sam said.

This could have been quite a challenge, since the power was out for a week, but luckily the Zooks had a generator.



Zook quadruplets

The Zook quads (l-r), Primmer, Malena, John, and Lucia, graduated from Carroll Jr.-Sr. High School May 23. Photo provided

"Jane kept a notebook to keep track of when the kids needed changed and fed," Sam recalls.

The Zooks are thankful for all the help they had during the first year.

They said their older son, Jordan, was a big help. He was 10 when his siblings were born.

For six months, Jane's mother, Virginia Bush Simison, made sure the parents got some sleep at night.

"She came from midnight till 6 a.m.," Sam said. "She was also school nurse at the time. She came home from school and slept till midnight."

From the start, Jane chose to not dress the quads alike.

The only exception, she said, was once when they were little, their great-grandmother bought them matching outfits to have their pictures taken.

Having four children the same

age necessitated four cribs, four car seats, two double strollers, and a mini van.

How the years sped by. From the father's perspective, Sam said it started with four pairs of shoes, then braces, cell phones, cars, and now college.

"The tooth fairy was busy at our house," Jane said, "and there were lots of visits to the orthodontist."

"We tried to foster sharing at an early age," Jane said.

Sometimes the kids took that too far. They all had chicken pox at the same time.

The children had a chore chart when they were young and still had one in high school. Whether it was taking care of the trash, recycling, chicken, cats, or kitchen duties, they all had to do their share.

Jane said they've also had a weekly activities schedule. Each child has been expected to list his or her activities for the week. If two children were in different sports events the same night, Mom went to one and Dad went to the other.

Growing up on a farm (near Flora) led all four to become active in FFA.

"They're also all 10-year 4-H members," Sam said.

John worked for Orem Farms during high school. He's going to attend Ivy Tech and major in Ag business management, as well as work on his family's farm. He has already started his own business endeavor, raising and selling show pigs, and he said he will continue to do that.

See *Siblings* page 5A

Stolen and relocated 'Road Closed' signs present public safety hazard

Vandals cost county additional dollars

By Debbie Lowe
Staff writer

Carroll County Highway Department workers spent time Friday dumping loads of crushed stone on the Crooked Road to Flora/Delphi to prevent drivers, unaware the road is washed out and closed, from driving off the edge of the asphalt. The measure is necessary because vandals have removed barricades across the road.

According to county highway engineer Paul Coutts, one

of two barricades, positioned at the worst section of County Road 200N, was tossed in the ditch after a connecting chain was cut away. He said other "road closed" signs have disappeared.

Coutts said signs are missing in various locations throughout the county. He said without sufficient warning drivers may not be aware of the conditions of the roads and may suffer significant damage to their vehicles and may also be injured.

Crooked Road resident Steve Ashby said he found a "road closed" sign, positioned before the barricades to warn motorists of the road condition, in the ditch more than once since the washout on May 15. He said he replaced it each time it was moved.

JoAnna Haan, who lives next to the missing section of the road, said chunks of asphalt and dirt continue to become dislodged and fall off since the initial flood washed away the road. She said she witnessed sightseers jump on the edge of the already cracked asphalt to test its

strength.

The cost to the county highway department continues to mount as workers repair or replace signs and barricades. Coutts said Tuesday there would be costs for a temporary fix just to get the road open and then additional costs to permanently repair the road.

"It's not going to be cheap," he said. "The pipe for the Crooked Road itself is going to cost at least \$25,000 to replace."

"That price doesn't include pipe installation or a new road," he continued. "We will need roughly 2,000 cubic yards of dirt to go in there."

Coutts said overtime costs will also factor into the total the county will be required to fund for the disaster. He said he is working closely with Carroll County Emergency Management Director Dave McDowell to document storm damage to submit to FEMA for federal disaster reimbursement.

McDowell said Tuesday reports continue to trickle in about damage which occurred. See *Hazard* page 5A



Stone barriers for safety

Crooked Road resident JoAnna Haan with dog "Jesse" and highway department workers, l-r, Keith Barnes, Bob Lawrie and Bob Bogan, stand in front of crushed stone barriers unloaded on CR 200N to prevent drivers from driving off the edge of the missing road. The stone barriers were necessary because county road barriers on damaged roadways have been removed and/or stolen by vandals. Comet photo by Debbie Lowe



The deep hole

County highway workers Keith Barnes, left, and Bob Lawrie assess the depth of the washout Friday on CR 200N, also known as the Crooked Road to Delphi/Flora. Comet photo by Debbie Lowe



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