



Valedictorian Regan Fessenden, (above) posed with her parents Chuck and Jennifer Fessenden after she received her diploma. Mandi Redeker, (top left) Alasia Eagleburger and Cassandra Stupka anxiously waited outside the gymnasium as classmates line up during commencement ceremonies held Saturday.



The 2004 Northern Valley graduates (above) received congratulations from family, friends, and all those who attended the commencement ceremony on Saturday afternoon in the high school gymnasium in Almena. Senior Sylvia Holmes (right) received an emotional hug from her mother Jo during the parent recognition portion of the graduation ceremony.

Pomp, circumstances with tears and smiles

(Continued from Page 1)

teacher I realized there is a point when we must all become a responsible member of society. I remind you that everything you do will represent who you are.”

Mr. Griffith then had three points of advice for graduates.

“The first bit of advice is to learn from your experiences, and never be afraid to follow your dreams,” he said. “Don’t put those dreams off either, as life goes fast.”

His second point was to take chances by removing the phrase “I can’t” from their vocabulary.

“Instead, substitute the words I’ll try,” he said. “For trying and

failing is more honorable than failing to try.”

“The third point I’d like to bring up is that we all learn from disappointments in life. If we only had positive experiences in life, we wouldn’t grow and mature.”

The class viewed a video that displayed pictures and chronicled their years in school together.

High school counselor Monica Wilson announced the scholarships and future plans of each graduate. She reported that over \$33,000 in scholarships were earned by the class.

Regan Fessenden was valedictorian and Alasia Eagleburger sa-

lutatorian.

Mr. Lowry presented the class and School Board Vice President Drake Gebhard helped pass out diplomas to Randal Dean Conner, Miss Eagleburger, Donald Weldon Eggleston, Miss Fessenden, Garth Drake Gebhard, Sylvia Lynn Holmes, Steven Randall Husted, Zackary Allen Charles King, Mandi Janell Redeker, Ryan Michael Shearer and Cassandra Lynn Stupka.

After the recessional, the Rev. Kirk Kasson gave the closing remarks and graduates received congratulations.

