



# Husky News

*Elk Point-Jefferson School District*

Volume 4, Issue 2

December 2003

## Showing Pride . . . Taking Action

### **We are Lucky . . .** *by Brian Shanks, Superintendent*

We often are asked, "What makes for a good school?" We always give the same answer, "Good students, good teachers, and good parents." It is really that simple. You can have all the innovative programs and up-to-date technology, but without those three ingredients you can not have consistent success. It is our belief that creating a positive learning environment is our utmost responsibility, and we have the leadership and staff in place to accomplish that goal. If you walk into our school and do not sense a positive environment, then we have failed. I have walked into many schools in my life, and I can tell a successful school after five minutes in the building. I think that we have that positive atmosphere in our school.

I am going on my fourth year as the superintendent of our school district, and I am impressed with the involvement of our parents. This was evident at parent/teacher conferences when we had an unbelievable rate of participation from our parents in the 7-12 grade levels. I have witnessed schools where the level of attendance at these events drops off drastically in the upper grade levels. Our parents don't quit caring for their kids after sixth grade.

We are also very fortunate to have a teaching staff that really cares about kids. Teaching is not just a job, it is a profession and a passion. Our staff is always talking about kids and how they can best succeed. They try not to dwell on their shortcomings, but to search for ways for them to succeed. They understand that all kids don't learn the same way and at the same rate. They will go out of their way to help them find success. We are also blessed with two very good principals, who don't give up on kids and communicate frequently with parents of kids who are struggling.

We have students who are willing to help others. We have seen that in some very unfortunate situations in our school where kids were truly willing to comfort others in their time of need. We have high school kids who go down to the elementary to help kids who struggle, and even a few who take their time to read to the younger students. If you walk our halls, you don't hear negative comments from our kids and for the most part, they are very respectful to the teachers and others.

And finally, we have a school board that is committed to having a good school and works within the limits set by the state of South Dakota to provide the leadership and resources it takes to be successful.

We are indeed, Lucky.

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### **Donnelly Named to SD Class B All-State Team**

*by Justin Clercx, PDC Mentor/H.S. Social Studies*

Congratulations to Jason Donnelly for being named the kicker for the 2003 South Dakota Class B All-State football team. Jason, a junior from Elk Point, helped lead the Huskies to their best record in school history and first ever playoff berth. Along the way he accumulated some amazing stats. Not only was Jason the kicker, but he also returned kicks and punts, played a running back on the offense and defensive back on the defense. On offense Jason scored eleven touchdowns (nine rushing and two receiving) and posted 509 yards rushing and 147 yards receiving on the year. Defensively, Jason had four fumble recoveries, and five interceptions (one was returned ninety-four yards for a touchdown). He set a school record for takeaways in a game against McCook Central with five and posted forty-five tackles on the season. However, it was Jason's kicking that earned him a spot on the All-State team. On the season Jason had 14 kick-offs for touchbacks, which is a kick through the opponent's end zone that does not allow them to return the kick. Also, Jason was three for three on onside kicks that set up the Huskies for a scoring drive on a short field. Along with being named to the All-State team, Jason was voted to the BSC All-Conference First Team, Huskies team MVP and Offensive Player of the Year.

Congratulations Jason Donnelly, keep up the good work.

### **Joyce Staum Retires**

*by Patty Skinner*

After ten and a half years as head cook, Joyce Staum is retiring from our kitchen staff. Before coming to the school, Staum worked at the kitchen of Prairie Estates Care Center.

The best part of her job, according to Staum, is cooking for the kids and also working with a great bunch of kitchen ladies. Of course, the down side was having to rise so early in the morning.

Staum's three children all graduated from Elk Point High School. Her oldest son Tim is an attorney in St. Paul, Minnesota. Her daughter Sandy is a nurse in Omaha, Nebraska. Her youngest son Todd is an X-ray technologist in Bluffton, Indiana.

She has four grandchildren. They are Emily and Casey Staum of St. Paul and Will and Cole O'Kane of Omaha.

Her immediate plans after retirement are to enjoy the holidays with her children and grandchildren.

What she will miss most about working at the school is being around the kids, the school activities and her co-workers.

Everyone at EPJ wishes Staum a long, happy retirement.



## Health News

by Lisa McInerney, School Nurse

The common cold is really a minor illness that results from infection by any one of the almost 200 different viruses. Usually a common cold or head cold is confined to the nose and throat and sometimes the lungs. To some extent, the symptoms depend on which virus is responsible for the cold. The major symptoms include runny nose, sneezing, watering eyes, sore throat, hoarseness and coughing. You may also have a headache and fever. A very high temperature and general body aches are likely to be symptoms of influenza, or flu.



All of us get colds. The frequency of colds increase during the early school years, because the school environment contains new types of viruses. Most people acquire more immunity as they grow older and catch fewer and less severe colds. An ordinary cold often clears up in 3 to 4 days. Even with a bacterial infection, a head cold should not last longer than a week. Some symptoms should send you to your doctor promptly. They include earache, pain in the face or forehead, a temp above 102 and a combination of persistent hoarseness or sore throat, shortness of breath and wheeziness, and a dry, painful cough.

If your child has a cold, should you send him/her to school? As a rule, they should stay at home if they have a fever or a severe cough.

There is no effective drug treatment for a common cold. But some advise is worth following:

1. Encourage fluids-water and juices.
2. Cover your mouth with a Kleenex when you cough or sneeze.
3. Wash hands frequently throughout the day.
4. Tylenol for discomfort
5. Do not drink from the same glass or share water bottles.
6. Consult your doctor if symptoms do not improve in 3 to 4 days or if more serious symptoms arise.

Some complications that have been noted in our school have been strep throat and mononucleosis (mono). It is impossible to distinguish between a sore throat caused by strep from that caused by a virus infection without seeing your doctor. Both the bacterial and virus infections are common in children between the ages of 5 and 15. If the tonsils are significantly enlarged and fiery red, strep throat is likely. A simple test in the doctors office can determine if it is strep throat. Mononucleosis is a virus with similar symptoms of the flu. These include fever, chills, headache, sore throat and a profound feeling of illness and weakness. You may also develop painful, swollen glands in your neck, armpits, and/or groin. Some may experience extreme fatigue, wanting to stay in bed for days. A blood test is needed to determine if a person has mono. Mono usually goes away without much of a problem. Less frequently, complications can arise such as problems relating to your spleen. You will need to follow your doctors advise on when you can return to school or participate in extra-curricular activities. The same steps listed above should be followed for strep and mono as they are for the common cold.

## Library News

by Carmen Wilcox, School Librarian

Tuesday and Thursday nights, 5:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M. have been designated as study nights. A quiet study-like atmosphere will be strictly enforced during these hours. Computer usage will be restricted to adult and student research only. Stop by and get your homework done.

The Library continues to purchase new DVD titles for public use. In addition to new titles, we have also acquired a new DVD player. The player will allow us to check all DVDs after patron use. The DVDs are available upon request from the check out desk. A one-week borrowing period is allowed. Students must be in the fourth grade or older to borrow without a parent.

Students and others have recently enjoyed the "Color and Light" exhibit, which was on loan from the Discovery Center in Pierre. Classes visited the exhibit to learn more about color and light through experimentation. The exhibit was returned over the Thanksgiving weekend.

On Friday, December 5, the students in grades kindergarten through sixth participated in Scholastic Read 2004 reading campaign. Jean Rounds, wife of Governor Mike Rounds, joined all first ladies across the nation in encouraging all schools to set aside a specific time for their students to be read to or to read to themselves. Mrs. Rounds also made public a list of favorite stories from the first family of South Dakota. Many of these titles were read to the students at Elk Point-Jefferson by a select group of eighth graders from Mrs. Skinner's reading class. A big thank you goes out to the students of Mrs. Skinner's reading class for sharing their time reading to the younger students.

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### LIBRARY HOURS FOR HOLIDAYS

December 24 .....	1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.
December 25, 26 .....	CLOSED
December 27 .....	9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.
December 29, 30 .....	1:00 P.M.-8:00 P.M.
December 31 .....	1:00 P.M.-3:00 P.M.
January 1, 2 .....	CLOSED
January 3 .....	9:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.

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## Parent Power

by Kelly Jones, Guidance Department

Five ways parents can reduce teen risk for substance abuse:

1. Be sensitive to the stress in your children's lives and help them cope.
2. Understand when and why your children are bored and help relieve their boredom.
3. Limit the amount of money your children have to spend and monitor how that money is spent.
4. Know your children's friends.
5. Be involved in your children's lives. Help them with homework, attend events in which they participate, make time for family activities – and talk, talk, talk to them about drugs and your expectations for their behavior.

Source: CASA: from the Helping Hand newsletter.

## Random Access Memory . . . by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

Random access memory (RAM) is often the most inexpensive means of improving system performance. RAM prices, although not at their historic low, are still very reasonable. I can recall paying \$200 for four, one megabyte SIMMs. These were installed in one of my home computers; I had all of the speed I could ever need (I thought) with eight megabytes of RAM. Today, that same \$200 would buy three 256 megabyte DIMMS (768 megabytes total) and leave enough money for lunch.

Choosing and installing RAM is relatively simple. If you can use a screwdriver to remove the cover from your computer, you can install RAM. How much RAM do you need? The answer to that question depends on what type of computer user you are. Anyone who does graphics intensive work or plays high-end games would benefit from additional RAM.

Answers to the preceding questions, as well as a good deal of additional information on RAM can be found at: <http://computer.howstuffworks.com/ram.htm>.

## The New Homework

by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

Jamie McKenzie, the editor of *From Now On - The Education Technology Journal*, has authored an article entitled The New Homework. McKenzie has an impressive set of educational credentials, having earned an M.A. from Columbia and an Ed.D. from Rutgers. He has worked as a teacher, superintendent and Director of Libraries and Media.

The New Homework contains a dozen activities that parents can participate in to help teach their children information literacy skills. As McKenzie points out, much of the content on web pages is designed to convince, not inform. For that reason, he has designed the activities to help students become critical consumers of information. The complete article can be found at <http://www.fno.org/nov03/newhomework.pdf>. It is available in PDF format, for those of us who would prefer not to read eleven pages of text from our monitors.

*From Now On - The Education Technology Journal* is a free Web-based "Zine." Anyone can request a subscription at <http://www.fno.org/index.html>.

## Financial Aid Information Night

by Kelly Jones, Guidance Department

Elk Point-Jefferson High School is hosting a Financial Aid Information Night on January 5, 2004. This event will be held from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. on January 5.

The presentation will cover:

- The types of financial aid
- How and when to apply for financial aid
- Where to go for help with the financial aid process
- And much more!

Time will be made available for questions and answers following the presentation.

The Financial Aid Information Night will be an interactive presentation using the Dakota Digital Network (DDN). The DDN allows face-to-face video conference ability across the state of South Dakota.

This event is sponsored by Education Assistance Corporation in Aberdeen and is provided at no cost, and it is open to the public.

## Taking an Active Role in the School . . . by Doug Brusseau, Elementary Principal

The Elk Point-Jefferson School District has identified some ways for parents and community members to take an active role in the school that does not require students going door-to-door selling items and does not cost them money. Following is a list of some of those programs:

1. **Target Take Charge of Education** is one of the easiest fundraising programs the school has encountered. To participate in this program, all you have to do is shop at Target, using your Target Guest Card and 1% of the purchases will be donated to the school. If you have not designated the Elk Point-Jefferson School District to receive 1% of the purchases before, you can do this by informing the cashier at the time you use your Target Guest Card. To date over two hundred families in the school district participate in the program.
2. **General Mills Box Tops for Education** is another fundraising program. All you need to do is clip the Box Top for Education logos from participating General Mills products and send them to school with your children. The school gets ten cents for each Box Top collected. They also have a web site with other ways to support our school. Please log on to [Boxtops4education.com](http://Boxtops4education.com) to check it out.
3. **Recycling empty inkjet printer cartridges.** The school district is participating in a recycling program this year for inkjet cartridges and toner cartridges for laser printers. This program is based on the premise that our students can earn money for our school and help recycle at the same time. We will collect these cartridges throughout the entire year. When students bring them to school, it is recommended that the empty cartridges be put in a Ziploc bag to prevent any possible leakage on their hands, clothes, etc. When we receive 100 or more empty cartridges, we will send them off.
4. **Tyson A+ Symbol.** Just clip the A+ symbol from any Tyson products.
5. **Campbell Soup Labels.** The school district is again participating in the Campbell's labels for education program. Just save the labels from any of the hundreds of varieties of Campbell's products. Trim the label so it shows the front section with the ounces listed. Some of the products eligible for redemption in the program include: Campbell Soups, Franco-American Spaghetti O's, Prego Sauces, Swanson Dinners, Pace sauces, V8 juices, and Pepperidge Farm products.

The School District would like to thank you for your participation in the programs listed above. The redemption items may be dropped off at the elementary office area. The money earned through the various programs pays for the incentives for the Reading Counts program and after state required tests. The Campbell Soup Labels were used to purchase a DVD player for this school year.



## FROM THE DESK of Doug Brusseau, K-6 Principal

### \*\* Report Cards, Tests and Weather \*\*

Many things are happening in school during the late fall and winter months. Some of the things people may become interested in are school report cards, tests and especially weather related announcements.

This past year all schools in South Dakota have begun to implement the requirements of the No Child Left Behind Act (NCLB). Many of you have been reading about the impact of this legislation in the paper and in news items on TV and radio. The Elk Point-Jefferson School District students in grades three through eight and eleventh grade exceeded the standards in math, reading and attendance as established by the Department of Education for the 2002-03 school year. If you are interested in seeing the Elk Point-Jefferson School District report card for grades three through eight and eleventh grade, visit the SD Department of Education, NCLB Report Card site at <https://sis.ddncampus.net:8081/nclb/portal/portal.xml>. At the report card site, you will notice each of the school districts are listed on the left hand side of the page along with Elk Point-Jefferson School District. If you click on EPJ you will be able to see each of the grades.

This year the Elk Point-Jefferson School District along with other school districts in South Dakota participated in the NAEP for the first time which compared students from South Dakota and the rest of the United States. The students from South Dakota did extremely well in math and reading. You may also review the results on the Department of Education web site.

The Elk Point-Jefferson School District is asking for your assistance in helping to keep students safe this winter during severe weather. When a storm is forecast, Mr. Shanks and the bus company are out and talking by 3:00 A.M. in the morning. Many times they are out driving to certain parts of the District and are in contact with individuals to assist them in making the decision to have school or cancel school for the day. Mr. Shanks attempts to make that decision by 6:00 A.M. to allow time to contact radio station WNAX in Yankton, KELO and KSFY in Sioux Falls, each of the TV and radio stations in Sioux City and finally to put the announcement on the District Web Page at [www.epj.k12.sd.us](http://www.epj.k12.sd.us).

Early dismissals will occur only under extreme circumstances when powerful storms move in during the day. In that event, the District will contact each of the TV and radio stations listed earlier giving a time school will be dismissing. In addition, an e-mail message will be sent to all individuals the District has an e-mail address for letting you know the time of dismissal. If you are not sure the District has your e-mail address or it has changed, please contact Norma.

Parents should make sure students know where to go if school is dismissed early. Having a plan will reduce the worry for each of the students. The District will attempt to contact parents with students in kindergarten through third grade to make sure students know where they are to go. The District would appreciate if individuals would e-mail Norma at [Norma.Ferdig@k12.sd.us](mailto:Norma.Ferdig@k12.sd.us) with any special directions for your children. During this time we would appreciate it if you would not call the district or school offices for this purpose as it will tie up the telephone lines that are needed.

Remember regardless of closing or dismissal announcements parents have the right to keep children home or pick them up early if they feel weather conditions merit it.

On behalf of the elementary staff, we wish you a safe and joyful holiday season.

## A Really Big Show and Tell

by Rachel Foltz, Second Grade

C.J. Geary brought a giant-sized carrot to share in Mrs. Foltz's second grade classroom. The carrot was at least 15 inches long and weighed more than four pounds. It was grown locally by C.J.'s family. He believed its next stop, after show and tell, was to his family's dinner table!

## First Graders Read 100 Books

by Marilyn McNeil, First Grade



Early in October, first graders started a reading project which also earned books for children in need. The class goal was to read 100 books. The students kept a running record of the number of books read on a poster in their classroom. Everyone was very excited when the goal was reached at the end of November. The project results were reported to Scholastic Books who has pledged to give 100 books to children who need them. Scholastic provides the books while several charities such as *Save the Children* and "*I Have a Dream Foundation*" will distribute the books. It is estimated that over two million books will be given to kids in need. During the holiday season with its message of caring and giving, this was a great project for the first graders!

Wearing their turkey masks, second graders visit the Elk Point nursing home to sing songs to the residents.



### Reminder -- Call if Absent

If your child is going to be absent for the day, don't forget to call the appropriate office by 9:00 A.M. to notify the staff.

Elementary Office ..... 356-5800

High School Office ..... 356-5900



Mrs. Hanson's third grade vocal students practice for their Christmas concert.

## Students Participate in 2003 Job Olympics

by Kim Kramer, Resource Room

Three middle school students participated in the 2003 Job Olympics on November 14, 2003. This competition was held at the South Sioux City High School. Job Olympics is a competition where students perform job-related tasks, and then they are evaluated to learn from their performances.

The events that the students participated in were Happy Meal assembly, feeding a baby, setting and clearing a table, silverware wrapping, making a bed, and changing a baby.

The three seventh-grade students that participated in the 2003 Job Olympics were Alicia Bosse, Brendan Steckelberg and John Piper. These students received all the points in every event, and were each awarded a prize at the conclusion of the competition.



## Sixth Grade Students Create Web Pages

by Todd Dvoracek, Sixth Grade

Mr. Dvoracek's sixth grade Literature/Reading class created a Web site on child labor in the early 1900s. The students were all instructed to read the book, *Kids at Work: Lewis Hine and the Crusade Against Child Labor*, by Russell Freedman. The project was designed for the students to discover and relate to the times of the early 1900s and the Child Labor Laws. The class was divided into eight groups. The eight groups were responsible for researching and obtaining information from an outside source as well as the related reading material. They also worked together to create all of their props and where to take a picture of themselves as children working in the child labor industry. The class experienced many different technology features as well as building a web page for others to view. For many of these students it was the first time they have constructed a web page.

To view the sites go to [http://www.epj.k12.sd.us/assignments/Dvoracek\\_Assignment/kids\\_at\\_work\\_files/kids\\_at\\_work.htm](http://www.epj.k12.sd.us/assignments/Dvoracek_Assignment/kids_at_work_files/kids_at_work.htm).

## Reading is Giving!

by Chris Nearman, Third Grade

This fall, reading meant more to the students in Mrs. Chris Nearman's third grade than ever before. That is because every book they read helped them give books to children who do not have books of their own. They participated in ClassroomsCare, a donation program run by Scholastic Book Clubs.

All the children had to do was read a class total of 100 books by December 31, 2003. They reached their goal early in November. Now Scholastic Book Clubs will donate 100 books in honor of the class to the charity partners: **First Book, I Have a Dream Foundation, Reach Out and Read, and Save the Children**. All four charities work directly with children in need, so they will make sure the books get to the children who need them the most. Over two million books will be delivered.

Our class name is now listed on the "ClassroomsCare Readers' Hall of Fame" list on the official ClassroomsCare Web site at [www.scholastic.com/classroomscare/](http://www.scholastic.com/classroomscare/)

## EPJ Students Chosen for SD State Elementary Honors Chorus

By Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal



SD State Elementary Honors Chorus members.

The fifth annual South Dakota Elementary Honors Chorus will sing in concert on Thursday, February 12, 2004, on the SDSU campus in Brookings, SD. The chorus will be under the direction of Barbara Sletto, the founder and conductor of the Heartland Youth Choir, a civic organization that serves over 150 Central Iowa singers. Sletto has a Masters of Arts degree in Music Education with a Kodaly emphasis from the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. She is a frequent clinician and composer for music educators throughout the United States.

The chorus consists of 122 students from across the state in grades 4, 5, and 6 who were selected through taped auditions, which were recorded and sent in by their directors at the local level. The tapes were numbered, so no names or schools names were known to the state panel judges.

Elk Point-Jefferson sixth graders Zach Corio and Colby Person, and fifth grader Elizabeth Schuh have been chosen to perform with this state chorus.

The sponsor of this event is the South Dakota Music Educators Association. The state association of the Music Educators National Conference is committed to providing quality, sequential music instruction to all students in South Dakota schools.



## Holiday Concerts Spread Good Cheer . . . by Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal

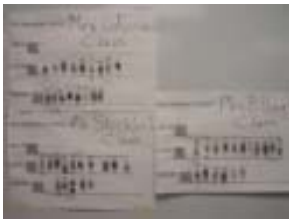
The students in grades 5-12 have been singing and dancing to the holiday beat the last few weeks in November and December. The 5<sup>th</sup>-8<sup>th</sup> graders performed "Santa's Rockin' Christmas Eve," a 50's style television program complete with a serious announcer, Bobby Trudeau and a flashy comedic showman, Adrian Ries. Other narrators included Molly Shanks, Kirsten Schaffer, Hannah Wilkinson, Myles Larsen, Kirstin Hanson, Allyson Murphy, Bailey Johns, Ross Rosenbaum, Ali Truhe, Cheyenne Hare, Adam Trudeau, Shelby Larsen, Colby Person, Elizabeth Schuh, Emilie Erickson, and Tyler Hall. Stage crew and Santa's helpers included Andrew Rosenbaum, Josh Curry, Colton McCreary, Chris Hasenbank, Mary Nebelsick, Anna Erickson, Annie Staum, Leah Barnes, Ethan Pace, Justin Montagne, Taylor Targonski, and Jenna Donnelly.

The High School Choir students performed some holiday selections at the KMEG television studios on December 4. Area high school choirs will be featured on Christmas Day during public service announcements. Watch for them! They performed these same selections at their holiday concert on December 11. Volunteers from the group also provided entertainment at the Sharks "Breakfast with Santa."



## What does CSI and fifth grade math have in common?

by Donna LaFerrier, Fifth Grade



Collecting fingerprints, organizing fingerprints, and analyzing fingerprints was a part of an introductory lesson on graphing. Each student made a print of his/her thumb by rubbing it on a graphite pad which they made. Students then put a piece of Scotch tape on their darkened finger and made a print. They had just gathered a piece of information that was going to be used to make a pictograph. Next, they determined which of three categories- arch, loop, or whorl- their fingerprints fit into. Organizing data is very important when making a graph. Finally, the students studied the results of their graphs and analyzed their results.

In Mr. Steckler's class, 10 out of 15 students or about 67% had Loop fingerprints and 5 out of 15 or about 33% of the students had Whorl fingerprints. There were no Arch fingerprints. In Mrs. Billings's class, 11 out of 17 students or about 65% had Loop fingerprints and 6 out of 17 or about 35% of the students had Whorl fingerprints. There were no Arch fingerprints. In Mrs. LaFerrier's class, 9 out of 17 or about 53% of the students had Loop fingerprints and 8 out of 17 or about 47% of the students had Whorl fingerprints. There were no Arch fingerprints. Combining all the fifth grade classes, 61% of the students had Loop fingerprints and 39% of the students had Whorl fingerprints.

Nationally 60-65% of the people have Loop fingerprints, 30-35% have Whorl fingerprints, and about 5% have Arch fingerprints. Fifth graders concluded that they were average since their results nearly matched the national results. They added, "We had a great time investigating and discussing the results."



## Sixth Graders Visit Spirit Mound . . . by Dan Swatek, Sixth Grade

The second nine weeks in the EPJ sixth grade science classes have been full of excitement. The sixth grade students are learning how GPS units are being used in everyday life. They spent the first week learning how to plot points and how to find a certain point on the GPS. To practice these skills the students had a scavenger hunt in the city park, where they were to find plotted points in the park. They then researched different uses for the GPS on the wireless lab, and wrote a paper on the many uses. Once they mastered the skills of the GPS we ventured out to Spirit Mound, which is located north of Vermillion. Our purpose in going to Spirit Mound was to plot points using a GPS unit to show the different elevations. When we returned to the class, the students learned how to download their points onto the computers. After printing out copies of their plotted points the students were able to draw their own topographic map, which shows change in elevation. However, the unit was not all about using the GPS units. The students also learned about the different glacial periods, the types of soils at Spirit Mound, and when Lewis and Clark visited Spirit Mound. They even got to write a creative writing paper on what it would be like to be a glacier. This unit was a great learning experience for the sixth grade science class, and they would like to thank Mr. Brusseau for giving them the opportunity to go to Spirit Mound.



## FROM THE DESK of Travis Aslesen, 7-12 Principal

### **\*\*School Safety\*\***

School safety is one of the most important issues facing schools across the nation. At Elk Point-Jefferson the administration and staff takes student safety at school and within our communities with extreme seriousness. The fact that our school is a place where students and community members feel welcome, appreciated, and safe is a characteristic that we strive to protect. One of the most effective ways to protect this characteristic is by being proactive to situations and occurrences before they become issues of extreme duress. It must be understood that situations, which some may deem as insignificant, can grow to have a huge impact upon school climate and safety. These small situations are exactly the ones which we, as a school, attempt to isolate and apply interventions to. Issues such as students not doing their homework to interpersonal conflicts can all wear away at the fabric that binds a school together. Once again, it is a philosophy that paying attention to the frustrations which concern all schools and striving to deal with those frustrations in a positive manner, will allow our school to meet the needs of our students in a more productive and successful manner.

One of Elk Point-Jefferson's commitments to our communities is to help guide students to acceptable ways of dealing with frustrations. Discipline is more than being upset and raising your voice. Effective discipline goes beyond confrontation. It is focused on meeting the needs of all involved participants at a level that is most beneficial to the situation. Effective discipline is difficult, time-consuming work. It is not to be taken lightly or with little regard. It is this administrator's belief that discipline must involve many different resources to be truly effective. Parents, school personnel, community leaders, and law enforcement all have a place in ensuring that our students are protected, while also assisting our students in helping them to establish the difference between acceptable and unacceptable behavior. It is only through a collaborative approach that we will continue to cultivate and integrate responsible citizens into our communities.

We are very fortunate at Elk Point-Jefferson to have an outstanding staff which strives to model effective character for the benefit of our student body. We are even more fortunate to have an outstanding collection of parents and community members who support and value the education which our children receive. It is through this support and mutual respect for the importance of all members of our communities which allows education to flourish and thrive.

### **Siouxland Humane Society Visits**

*by Patty Skinner, 7-8 Language Arts*

Lynn Barteck, one of the board of directors of the Siouxland Humane Society, visited with seventh and eighth grade students at an assembly during the 2003 Mini Courses.

She explained to students the services that the Siouxland Humane Society provides to the three-state area. Annually, approximately three thousand animals, mainly dogs and cats, are brought to the humane society in Sioux City. About 79 per cent of these are adopted while the other 21 per cent are euthanized.

As pet owners and future pet owners, she encouraged students to have their pets spayed or neutered to help reduce the animal overpopulation.

Hannah Wilkinson, middle school council president, presented Barteck with a check for the humane society in appreciation of the organization's efforts.

### **Seventh Graders Participate in Tree Census**

*by Daryl Fletcher, 7-8 Science*

The seventh grade life science class taught by Mr. Daryl Fletcher recently had the opportunity to participate in a tree census activity with the South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks forestry division, and fifteen students from South Dakota State University. On October 23, this class got the chance to determine the diameter of trees, the condition, the estimated age, the height, and the species of several trees here in the city of Elk Point. Also, they were taught how to determine how many trees could be planted in a given space. The students walked several blocks in the process of trying the different techniques taught to them by the SDSU and Game, Fish, and Parks personnel. Upon completion of the two hour in-the-field activity, all the students, EPJ and SDSU as well, broke for dinner provided by the Elk Point-Jefferson School District. This proved to be a very worthwhile activity and the students enjoyed it very much.

### **JH Quiz Bowl . . .** *by Selene Van Wyk, Coordinator/Advisor*

On Friday, November 14<sup>th</sup> twenty-four junior high teams participated in the Annual EPJ JH Quiz Bowl. The twenty-four teams consisting of four students per team participated in three preliminary rounds. The top three scoring teams advanced on to the final rounds. The following teams advanced on:

Team 17 – Nettie Brown, Melanie Engeldinger, Alex Pedersen, Theresa Grupp

Team 21 – Corey Kastning, Nick Bottger, Kyle Limoges, Josh Gross

Team 24 – Myles Larson, Bob Trudeau, Sam Turner, John Frankl

After a round robin of play, Team 21 placed third with 390 points, Team 24 placed second with 400 points, and Team 17 answered the most questions correctly scoring 440 points. Congratulations Team 17!



Winners of the JH Quiz Bowl.

## Grades 5-8 Complete Science Fair Projects . . . by Daryl Fletcher; 7-8 Science

The Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School Science Fair was held on Tuesday, November 26, in the middle school gymnasium. This year's fair consisted of approximately 189 exhibits. Awards were given to the top four place winners in biological science, earth science, and physical science. Students in grades 7-8 can enter an individual project or a project with a partner. The top four projects in each grade and division will advance to the Regional Science Fair in Brookings, April 2, 2004.

The Grand Prize winner in grades 5-6 was Emily Zeller with runner-up honors going to Ben Staum. In grades 7-8, the top award went to Kale Nelson with Chelsey Borchardt winning second place. Each of these award winners will receive \$25 from the Elk Point-Jefferson Education Association.

The science fair is coordinated through the efforts of Gwen Billings, Dan Swatek, and Daryl Fletcher. Approximately 20 people helped with the judging of this year's science fair. The judging took place in the afternoon with the projects open to public viewing in the evening.

*Below are this year's local award winners.*

<b>Grade 5:</b>	<b>Biological Science</b>	<b>Earth Science</b>	<b>Physical Science</b>
<i>1st Place</i>	Emily Zeller	Casson Dennison	Annie Peasley
<i>2nd Place</i>	Drake Zeller	Brian Leitru	Kelly Reed
<i>3rd Place</i>	Kasey Portz	Gavin Lee	Taylor Targonski
<i>4th Place</i>	Scott Shanks	Jenna Donnelly	Ashley Westlund
<b>Grade 6:</b>	<b>Biological Science</b>	<b>Earth Science</b>	<b>Physical Science</b>
<i>1st Place</i>	Ben Staum	Allyson Murphy	Lydia Gille
<i>2nd Place</i>	Courtney Whitlock	Ross Rosenbaum	Adam Trudeau
<i>3rd Place</i>	Bobbie Backer	Zach Corio	Ali Truhe
<i>4th Place</i>	Reid Steckelberg	Caleb Lara	Caitlin Thorpe
<b>Grade 7:</b>	<b>Biological Science</b>	<b>Earth Science</b>	<b>Physical Science</b>
<i>1st Place</i>	Jerry Curry/Luke Frankl	Molly Hammitt/Devan Penfield	Chelsey Borchardt
<i>2nd Place</i>	Nathan Harding/Drew Mast	Amanda Chicoine/Shaua Hilbrands	Emily Connelly/Ashley Zeller
<i>3rd Place</i>	Kirsten Hanson	Travis Jerred/Brandon Webb	Andrew Rosenbaum
<i>4th Place</i>	Thomas Rarrat	Cody Braun/Philip Portz	Jennifer Engeldinger/Lanie Florke
<b>Grade 8:</b>	<b>Biological Science</b>	<b>Earth Science</b>	<b>Physical Science</b>
<i>1st Place</i>	Hope Metzgar/Cathy Stalvig	Carrie Hinds	Kale Nelson
<i>2nd Place</i>	Kim Wurtz	Paige Norton/Kirsten Schaffer	Amanda Connelly/Sara Peasley
<i>3rd Place</i>	John Frankl/Bobby Trudeau	Jalisa Keegan/Katie Weis	Jacob Renken/Garrett Thompson
<i>4th Place</i>	Aaron Gill/Mike Strassburg	Molly Donnelly/Tommy Bottger	Manny Langstraat/Brian Reed

## Band Room Notes . . . by Jeremy Schutter; 5-12 Band

The EPJ Band members have been busy since the start of the school year. We have performed in three parades, and we have performed at about a dozen sporting events so far. Our concert season is upon us which we are ready to perform for our communities. Hopefully, you were able to attend the High School Concert, Thursday, December 11, and the Middle School Concert, Tuesday, December 16 in the Middle School Gym.

Throughout the school year, there are several Honor Bands in which band members from EPJ can participate. We have had two such events so far. The Augustana College Band Festival was held in mid-November. EPJ was represented by Whitney Karpen, percussion, Genevieve Stalvig, flute, Anne Rosenbaum, clarinet, and Robert Curry, trombone. During this two day event, these students worked with guest directors and performed in a festival ending concert. Right before Thanksgiving, the Region 1 Honor Band was held. This is composed of students who successfully audition into the band. The band is comprised of the best musicians from the Region (Southeast SD). EPJ was represented by Nicola Obeney, clarinet, Whitney Karpen, percussion, and Robert Curry, trombone. A congratulations goes to Robert for he sat 1<sup>st</sup> chair 1<sup>st</sup> trombone. This festival was held at the Summit Center in Yankton.

Looking ahead to the second half of the school year, the band will be even busier. We will not only be playing at more EPJ sporting events, but we will be preparing for concerts and contests. Our solo small ensemble contest is March 3<sup>rd</sup> in Vermillion and our Large Group Contest is April 7<sup>th</sup>. The Jazz Band will be participating at the USD Coyote Jazz Festival on March 16<sup>th</sup>, and on March 30<sup>th</sup> the Jazz Band will perform at the Northeast Jazz Festival in Norfolk, NE.

Please note the Northeast Jazz Festival date, this is a change. Also, another changed date is the All-Band Concert. This was originally scheduled for March 15, but due to conflicts in the schedule, it has been rescheduled for March 29<sup>th</sup> at 7:00 P.M.

Lastly, the EPJ Band and school district is pursuing new band uniforms. If you would like to see the sample uniforms, please stop by the band room to see them or look for them at our Holiday Concerts. I thank you for your continued support and commitment to the EPJ Band Program.



## Math and Journal Writing

by Angie Langle, 7-8 Math

The eighth grade Algebra class has implemented journal writing into their curriculum. The students were to write a story about their favorite animal using as many mathematical terms as possible. A student submitted the following story.

### Dogs are number one

Five years ago, when I was **eight**, my mom and dad brought home a new puppy. She was **half** black and **half** tan, but **100 percent** dog. We got her when she was **nine** weeks old. We named her Paige.

It was uncertain what the **length** of her stay with us would be. She had a **massive problem** that **multiplied** daily. She puked all the **time**. Unfortunately, I was the **one** who had to clean up her **exponents**. She puked **at least three times** a day, for the **first seven** days we had her.

She whined with the **equivalence** of a baby's cry. Would she stop? I didn't think so. I **estimated** she needed comfort. Mom and Dad **evaluated** the situation and decided to **divide** the dog sitting duties **between** the **five** of us. We **graphed** out a **chart** to follow whose turn it was. That **solution minimized** our frustrations. After **one** week or so, she seemed to **adjust** well to our schedule. We **concluded** that she would be a nice **addition** to our family, and we kept her.

Dad always said that the deciding **factor** was her becoming familiar with our daily routine, but I look at it from a different **angle**. I've **summed** it all up. He couldn't resist her from the **first** time he saw her. She is the cutest dog in the **whole** world. I **predict** she will be with us for a long **time**.

## EPJ's NEW Dance Team

by Kelly Jones, Dance Coach

EPJ has a new activity on the calendar! A dance team has been created comprised of 7-12 grade girls. The girls tried out for the team in October and began practicing December 3<sup>rd</sup> at 6:30 in the morning! The girls on the team are Tommi Hanson, Brooke Turkleson, Brittany Glover, Maxine Harding, Molly Donnelly, Kirsten Schaffer, Jalisa Keegan, Laura Staum, and Molly Shanks. Olivia Matthys and Emily Rosenbaum have been chosen as team captains. The duty as a captain is to choreograph the dance and teach it to the team as well as be leaders for the team. Coaches for the team are Miss Laura Froelich, Mrs. Melissa Shanks and Mrs. Kelly Jones. Look for us in January during the half time of the basketball games!

## 7C Homeroom Earns Honors

by Patty Skinner, 7-8 Language Arts

Mr. Dan Swatek's 7C Homeroom earned both the Best Grade Average and Best Attendance awards for the first quarter. Their overall GPA was 86.64% while their attendance average was 95%.

For their efforts, they earned two traveling plaques and two candy bars each. These quarter awards are sponsored by the EPJ Middle School Student Council.

## Science News From Mrs. Stabe

by Karlene Stabe, H.S. Science

### Biology:

"Yuck, what are those bacteria doing in my yogurt?" The biology students are now studying viruses and bacteria. They will be learning about what type of diseases viruses cause, and which types bacteria cause. We took an in-depth look at Mad Cows Disease, AIDS, and the Hantavirus outbreak that occurred in the four corners states. They will also hypothesize where they believe an area that has a high amount of bacteria will appear and then use aseptic technique to collect the bacteria. We will then incubate their cultures to see the different areas that have many bacteria.

In addition to searching for bacteria, each student will research one bacterial disease and create a "Wanted Poster" for this culprit who has caused this disease, sharing important information with us about that disease.

At the end of the chapter, we are going to have a **Microbiology Picnic**. The students will bring in tablecloths, utensils and different foods made with bacteria, and we will have a picnic in the classroom. Bon Appetit!

### Anatomy:

The anatomy students are finishing a skeletal unit. They did an intensive study over all of the bones of the body and now have a good idea of where all of them are. These students also completed an Interactive Body Book project where they made an oversized book over the body systems appropriate for the fifth grade level. Their creative juices really shined through, and they did an excellent job with them. We will now be meeting with each individual fifth grade class to share the books with them, and give them some insight to their own bodies.

### Advanced Life Science:

These students have taken an in-depth look into the trillions of cells that make up our bodies. They looked at their own cheek cells, and did a lab experiment with eggs and diffusion. The students placed the eggs in different types of solutions: isotonic, hypotonic, or hypertonic. They really had a fun, educational, time seeing the changes in the egg cell when placed in these different solutions. The students completed the unit with a cell poster where they had to find everyday items out of a magazine that would represent the functions of each of the organelles within the cell. They really did a great job with these posters, and they are posted outside my classroom if you would like to look at them.

## Thank You

The Construction class would like to thank Todd Larsen for moving the sheds we built to their new owners. His support for school programs is greatly appreciated.



## What is Mole Day? . . . by Melanie Norris, H.S. Science

Celebrated annually on October 23 from 6:02 A.M. to 6:02 P.M., Mole Day commemorates Avogadro's Number ( $6.02 \times 10^{23}$ ), which is a basic measuring unit in chemistry. Mole Day was created as a way to foster interest in chemistry. Schools throughout the United States and around the world celebrate Mole Day with various activities related to chemistry and/or moles.

At EPJ, students in Mrs. Norris' (Suter) classroom celebrated Mole Day in great fashion. Spread out over two days, October 22 and 23, students were able to put down their books and celebrate science. The seniors in Advanced Chemistry took part in the 1<sup>st</sup> Annual Husky Mole-a-thon. They competed in a balloon race, water contest and Jell-O slurping competition. Juniors in Chemistry created moles of their own using tin foil and were judged based on comparisons to the real mole. Even the freshmen were able to participate. They completed an on-line chemistry scavenger hunt.

Both the students and their teacher were pleased with how the day turned out and are eagerly anticipating Mole Day 2004. There is talk of a breakfast at 6:02 A.M. and even a mole camping party. We can hardly wait!



## National Honor Society Induction Held

by Rita Ahmann, NHS Advisor

The annual induction ceremony for the Husky Chapter of the National Honor Society was held on Thursday, December 4, in the High School Commons. The officers for the current year were installed in addition to pledging the new members.

The new inductees were Sandy Bouck, Katie Buom, Robert Curry, Jason Donnelly, Debbie Gray, Jed McInerney, Jennifer Mead, Bethany Peter, Anne Rosenbaum, Justin Schmidt and Brooke Turkleson.

Officers for this year are Lisa Scott, president; Julia Matthys, vice president; Ryan Larsen, secretary; and Bobby Truhe, treasurer. Other members are Whitney Karpen and Brandi Turkleson.

Students are eligible for membership based on their cumulative grade point average. Other criteria considered are leadership, character, and service.

## Experience an Ambulance Call First-Hand

by Lisa McInerney, School Nurse

The administration of Elk Point-Jefferson School, along with the Elk Point Ambulance staff, would like to offer EPJ students an opportunity to "Ride Along" in its ambulance. This is a program offered to any junior or senior student who might be interested in the health care field. It is just one area of health care, but will offer an excellent experience in seeing what our ambulance crew does on a call. The students will be observers, they will not be expected to perform any hands-on care of a patient. The students are also required to keep all patient information confidential.

A student will be given a pager that they can keep with them. They will be responsible for getting to the ambulance building on their own. Each student will be required to provide written permission from their parent, and the student will be required to sign a confidentiality statement, ensuring that all patient information will be kept confidential.

## A Haunting Experience . . . by Dale Pearson, Industrial Technology



On Halloween kids like to be scared a little. Parents want their kids to have fun, but to be safe. To meet those objectives Ms. Baagoe and Mr. Pearson made it a class project to build and run a haunted house at the community Halloween celebration.

The haunted house was built on the stage mostly by Ms. Baagoe's and Mr. Pearson's first period classes, although other classes and individuals made important contributions as well. An entire week was used for this purpose. The haunted house started at "Shanksville Funeral Home" where a not quite dead body had a habit of sitting up in his coffin and grabbing

people. Tim Card was wonderful at being not quite dead. Then it was on to see a bloody headless body. The head was sitting on a table next to the body, and this head would surprise kids by asking where his body was. The Butrous boys took turns being the head. Kids and parents were then guided through "Shanksville Cemetery" complete with gravestones and rats, through a hallway with spider webs and ghosts that moved up and down, past a skeleton, and finally had a chance to touch brains and guts and blood. Guides Anna Hinds, Karley Sieverding, Alisha Hummel, Maxine Harding, Vanessa Nelson, Nicole Spencer, Sarah Klasey, and Erin Hasenbank did a great job of setting the scenes. The haunted house was a success.

One of our main purposes at EPJ is to help our students become good citizens. A project such as this encourages cooperation and creativity, gives students practice at working with tight budgets and time constraints, and above all gives students a chance to give something back to the community. That makes it worth a week of class time.



## 2003 All State Chorus & Orchestra, 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration

by Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal

Eight students from the EPJ high school choir attended the 50<sup>th</sup> Annual All State Chorus and Orchestra practices and performance from Thursday, November 6, through Saturday, November 8. This South Dakota High School Activities Association event is sponsored by the South Dakota Music Educator's Association.

As in years past, the students put in 11 hour days of rehearsal, with approximately 1,000 other students from across the state. This year, as an added bonus, there was a specially commissioned piece written just for the anniversary event. The composer of the piece was also the chorus director, Z. Randall Stroope. As an added treat, the composer of another one of the selections, Kyrie, a Caribbean mass with wild steel drums and Latin percussion music, was in attendance and played with the choir. Kenny Putnam, a famous South Dakotan who has played with the "Little River Band," also played along with the choir on his fiddle.

Music instructor Mary Schuh commented, "It was definitely an outstanding performance. The students worked so hard preparing for the trip, that I think they will remember this special 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary celebration fondly. I can tell that they all grew musically from the experience, and that they brought back that maturity to help their own choir."



2003-04 Elk Point-Jefferson All State Chorus members.

## Students Challenged by Knowledge Master . . . by Selene Van Wyk, Advisor

Two teams, one junior high team (7-9) and one high school team (10-12), from Elk Point-Jefferson School participated in the December 2 Knowledge Master Open competition. The competing high school team scored 948 out of a possible 2,000 points. They placed 10<sup>th</sup> out of 12 SD schools with the first place team being Aberdeen Central scoring 1310. The junior high division placed first with 1349 out of the possible 2,000 points. They were followed by Redfield with 1297 and Castlewood with 1031.

The 15 student's participating on the junior high team were 7<sup>th</sup> grade – Chelsey Borchardt, Nick Bottger, Luke Frankl, Chris Hasenbank, Molly Hammitt, and Andrew Rosenbaum; 8<sup>th</sup> grade – Michael Brandt, John Frankl, Myles Larsen, Alex Pedersen, and Adrian Ries; and 9<sup>th</sup> grade – Eric Brandt, Doug Dailey, Kyle Hanson and Darin Schmidt.

Student's on the high school team were 10<sup>th</sup> grade – Joe Frankl, Daschle Larsen, and Michael Nebelsick; 11<sup>th</sup> grade – Jason Donnelly, Brooke Turkleson, and Ross Wilcox; and 12<sup>th</sup> grade – Whitney Karpen, Ryan Larsen, Bobby Truhe, and Brandi Turkleson.

The Knowledge Master Open was designed to stimulate enthusiasm for learning and recognition for academic accomplishment. The contest runs on classroom computers to allow all schools the opportunity to compete in a large academic event without the expense of traveling to a central site. Results of the contest are tabulated into overall, state and enrollment-size rankings by Academic Hallmarks, a Colorado publishing firm that hosts the event. Contest results and example questions are available at [www.greatauk.com](http://www.greatauk.com).

## Students Get Up on Technology

by Sandy Mockler, 7-12 Computer

Did you see students wandering around the park on a cold, blustery October morning? If so, they were students from the Computer Applications class using a global positioning system (GPS) to locate items that were hidden in the park. This year the students in Computer Applications were exposed to the uses of the GPS and geographical information system (GIS) software. The students used the GPS to mark points around Elk Point. Later the information from the GPS was transferred to GIS software where the points and track were embedded on a map of Elk Point. In addition, several middle school and high school students volunteered to use a GPS to mark the bus route points for the five EPJ routes. This information was transferred to a Union County map where the students could easily see the distance and number of stops per route. The students enjoyed using the GPS units and being exposed to new technology.

## Oral Interpers Finish Season

by Lori Hawley, H.S. English

EPJ Local Oral Interpretation Contest was held on Wednesday, October 22. Twelve students advanced to the Region 1 Oral Interpretation Contest in Vermillion on November 27. Competing in the oratory category was Julia Matthys, reading her selection entitled "Pride and Prejudices." In the poetry category, Genevieve Stalvig read "Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs." Competing in dramatic prose category was Tommi Hanson, who read "In the Cemetery Where Al Jolson is Buried." In dramatic plays category, Autumn Barnes performed "Bronte." Whitney Karpen read her selection "The Grrl Genius Guide to Life" in the humorous category. In duet interpretation category, Kaila Hughes and Stephanie Reed performed "The Odd Couple." Performing a selection entitled "Inside/Out," the reader's theater group consisted of Jason Donnelly, James Leasure, Amber Merryman, Anne Rosenbaum, Karley Sieverding, and Genevieve Stalvig.



## EPJ Football Season Comes to a Close . . . by Rahn Bertram, Head Football Coach

The EPJ football team ended a very good year with a 6-2 regular season before coming up on the short end of the stick to a very talented Parker/Hurley squad. The program is definitely headed in the right direction after getting things turned around this year. For the first time in school history, the team made the playoffs as well as recorded the best regular season record in school history. We will return all but three starters on offense and defense next year. We have set some lofty goals for ourselves for next year, and I am confident we can achieve those goals.

The Huskies averaged 237.8 total yards on offense while holding their opponents to 210.1 yards per game. We outscored our opponents 185-133.

Leading the Huskies on offense were Jason Donnelly, 509 yards rushing and 147 yards receiving with eleven touchdowns; Curt Truhe, 519 yards rushing 85 yards receiving and six touchdowns; Daschle Larsen, 227 yards rushing 65 yards receiving with 1 touchdown; and Michael Nebelsick 25 yards rushing including two touchdowns, 265 yards passing with 2 touchdowns. Ryan Larsen led all passing with 453 yards and four touchdown passes. Jason Donnelly led the team in all-purpose yards with 1,193 yards.

Defensively the Huskies were led in tackles by Taylor Forsling, 117; Curt Truhe 84; Dallas Mitchell 65; and Brian Schmitz with 61. Leading the Huskies in interceptions was Jason Donnelly with 5, including 3 against McCook Central. Jason returned 1 interception 94 yards for a touchdown against the Cougars. Daschle Larsen added 4 interceptions. Taylor Forsling, Ross Wilcox, and Curt Truhe also added 1 interception respectively. Also, Jed McInerney led all defensive backs in tackles with 55.

The Husky offensive and defensive lines played extremely well this season. These young men are the unsung heroes of football and do their job in a quiet but devastating manner. Teammates in the trenches were Bobby Truhe, Brian Schmitz, Mark Donnelly, Tim Jastram, Dallas Mitchell, Justin Kyte, Jacob Limoges, Joseph Frankl, and Sam McInerney. These guys didn't get the stats or the glory, but they were the heart and soul of this football team and their teammates knew it.

As a team this year, we broke nine school records and eleven individual records. These can be found at our school web site by clicking on the Football link.

Jason Donnelly earned 1<sup>st</sup> Team All-State honors this year as a kicker as well as Elite 45 Honorable Mention. Jason was 1/3 in field goals including a 37 yarder, 12/16 extra points and most impressively 28 kickoffs out of 33 for touchbacks. It's a great start on defense when the opponent must always start at their own 20 yard line. Jason is the first football player from EPJ to earn 1<sup>st</sup> team All-State Honors. Congratulations Jason!

Bobby Truhe, Jason Donnelly, Brian Schmitz, and Tim Jastram were selected to the Big Sioux All-Conference team while Mark Donnelly, Taylor Forsling, and Ross Wilcox were chosen as Honorable Mention. The Huskies finished 3<sup>rd</sup> in the Big Sioux Conference; the best finish in school history.

I am tremendously proud of the hard work and dedication these young men put in throughout the year. They have dedicated themselves to a winning tradition, and I have no doubt they will uphold that tradition. I would also like to thank all of our assistant coaches: Rob Lewis, David Dohn, Justin Clercx, Gary Nebelsick, and Todd Dvoracek for all their hard work and commitment. These guys did a fantastic job!

Last but not least, this team proved that hard work does pay off and that tough times never last, but tough people do. These young men are a tough bunch of boys! We hope to continue and build upon this past season's success next year.

## Local Singer Chosen for the Regional Honors Choir

by Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal

The North Central Division of the American Choral Director's Association has chosen an honors choir from a six state region in the Midwest. The chorus will be under the direction of Mr. Rollo Dilworth.

The choir consists of approximately 50 students from grades 7, 8 and 9 who were selected through taped auditions, which were recorded and then sent in by their directors at the local level. The tapes were numbered, so no names or schools were known to the region panel judges.

Elk Point-Jefferson ninth grader, Kyle Hanson, was selected to represent EPJ as a Bass. The Husky Booster and Music Booster organizations will help sponsor this event by covering the entry fees.

## Community Education Classes

-- REMINDER --

### Modern Western Square Dancing

The Community Education square dancing class will be starting on January 3rd. For details visit the EPJ Home Page at [www.epj.k12.sd.us](http://www.epj.k12.sd.us) and click on the Community Education link. It is not too late to sign-up. To register call Jerry Klumper at 356-5990 or send an e-mail to [Jerry.Klumper@k12.sd.us](mailto:Jerry.Klumper@k12.sd.us).

# EPJ Middle School 2003 Mini Courses



## EPJMS Students Say "Thanks!"

The EPJ middle school students would like to thank the following people for their time and efforts in making the 2003 Mini Courses a success:

*Renae Begnoche  
 Dennis Ferdig  
 Rhonda Weidner  
 Gary Nebelsick  
 Mary Ellen Staum  
 Doug Talbott  
 Travis Aslesen  
 Brian Shanks  
 Angie Langle  
 Curry Seed Company  
 Daryl Fletcher  
 Pat Schurdevin  
 Delores Vondrak  
 Cammy Abbey  
 Dale Pearson  
 Mona Fennel*

*Phil Breed  
 Todd Dvoracek  
 Angela Peirce  
 Lisa McInerney  
 Dena Donnelly  
 Ryan Brandt  
 Diane Larson  
 Chris Tow  
 Andy Grupp  
 Doug Dailey  
 Randy Bertram  
 Glen Bosse  
 Steve Hofland  
 Brenda Truhe  
 Ray LaFleur*





## Influenza

by Lisa McInerney, School Nurse

**Influenza**, or **flu**, is a viral illness of the throat, lungs, and nose. There are two types of the virus: A and B. Each type has many different strains, and the strains tend to change each year.

Influenza is very contagious and is easily passed through contact with droplets from the throat and nose of an infected person who is sneezing and coughing. A person with the flu coughs or sneezes, and another person will inhale the droplets.

**Flu symptoms** include fever (above 100 degrees), chills, headache, sore throat, cough and body aches. Stomachache, nausea, and vomiting are not typical symptoms of true influenza. Typically most people are ill for only a few days. People with chronic illnesses, the elderly, and those with weakened immune systems are more susceptible to complications that can result from the flu, such as pneumonia.

Symptoms may occur within 1 to 3 days after exposure to an infected person. A person who has the flu is contagious from a day before the symptoms start and extend for a week.

The **best treatment** for the flu is rest, and plenty of fluids. If a person does go to a doctor, they may diagnose the flu with a nasal swab that will test for Influenza A or B. Positive tests are reported to the South Dakota Dept. of Public Health. As of December 4, 2003, seven cases have been cultured and confirmed by laboratory tests.

There are some prescription anti-viral drugs that may decrease the severity of the flu, if started within 48 hours of onset. Recommendations for these drugs vary with age, so their use should be discussed with the patients doctor.

We can help **control and prevent** the spread of the flu by covering our nose and mouth when we sneeze and cough. Washing hands before touching your nose, eyes or mouth or shaking hands with others will also help stop the spread of influenza.

If you do get the flu, **stay home, get plenty of rest, and drink lots of fluids.**

## Notes from the Music Boosters . . . by Deb Karpen, Music Boosters

The Music Boosters had a busy fall supporting music enrichment activities in the school and in the community.

We sponsored a concert on October 5th by the Offutt Brass, a brass ensemble from the Heartland of America Air Force Band. This group is based in Omaha and tours around a seven state area. The Christmas show is being held on December 12, 13 and 14 in Omaha. It is a wonderful event and is provided free of charge. You can visit their website at [www.offutt.af.mil/Assoc\\_Units/Band](http://www.offutt.af.mil/Assoc_Units/Band).

We sponsored the Cake Walk recently at the Halloween carnival. A contest was held for the best cake decorated by a music student in grades 7-12. The students and their parents baked and decorated a total of 74 cakes for the event. Congratulations to 1st place winner, Nick Johnson (popcorn man) and 2nd place winner, Ashley Geary (spider). You can see some of the cakes at the following site: <http://www.shutterstock.com/si.jsp?i=67b0de21b358c02825bc>.

We recently concluded our Annual Fund Raiser. This year the students sold soup, pies and candles. The students raised nearly \$4,000 for their individual Music Booster accounts. The credits in these accounts can be used for registration at summer music camps, music trips held every other year and for other special events sponsored by the Music Boosters. This Spring, we will be sponsoring a trip to the Sioux City Orpheum for Grease. The students will be able to use these credits to buy tickets.

Thank you for your support of the Music Boosters and the students by your patronage of the concession stand at home athletic events. The concession stand is staffed by volunteer parents of music students and is the main fund raising activity for the Music Boosters to provide special event concerts for the community, scholarships, camp matching fees, etc. If your student is interested in attending summer music camps, please have him/her see Mr. Schutter or Mrs. Schuh - scholarships are available.

If you are looking for something for the kids to do during the holidays or on a snowy day, introduce him/her to orchestra music by visiting the website of the San Francisco Symphony. There is a special section for kids that will introduce them to each of the instruments, their placement in the orchestra and the sound that they make. You can also use the "Composerizer" to make your own music, or listen to various orchestral pieces on the Symphony Radio. The site is [www.sfkids.org](http://www.sfkids.org).

Mark your calendars for these upcoming events -

Jan. 26 - Quad State Honors Band U.S.D. @ Vermillion

Feb. 11 - Vocal Solo & Ensemble Contest @ Yankton

Mar. 3 - Band Solo & Ensemble Contest @ Vermillion

Mar. 16 - Coyote Jazz Festival U.S.D. @ Vermillion

Mar. 25, 26 - All State Band

Mar. 29 - All Band Concert (5-12)

Mar. 30 - NE Community Jazz Festival @ Norfolk, NE

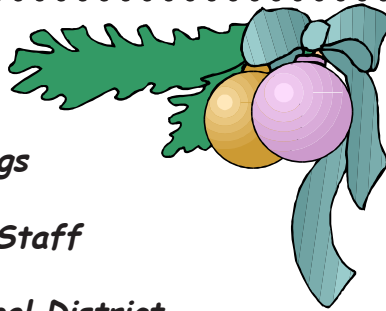
If you want to be on the email list for Music Booster Meeting reminders, send an email to Deb Karpen at [accordionlady@hotmail.com](mailto:accordionlady@hotmail.com).







*Seasons Greetings  
from the  
Administration and Staff  
of the  
Elk Point-Jefferson School District*



*Have a Safe and Happy Holiday!*

**Kindergarten Pre-Registration**

If you have a child who will be five years of age by September 1, 2004, please call 356-5800 to notify the elementary office.



**School Postponements or Cancellations**

--Please Note--  
emergency closings will be posted with the following sources:

--TV Stations--  
KELO, KSFY, KCAU, KTIV & KMEG

--Radio Station--  
WNAX, Yankton

--Web Site--  
<http://closings.siouxland.com>

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