



Husky News

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March 2005

Elk Point-Jefferson School District 61-7

Showing Pride . . . Taking Action

www.epj.k12.sd.us

A Positive School Culture... *by Brian Shanks, Superintendent*

It has been said that you can sense how positive a school is within five minutes of entering. I agree with that statement, and I think there are several qualities that determine if a school has a positive culture.

Before you even enter a positive school, it has clean, well-kept grounds with limited litter. The school is not cluttered with trash, and the halls are swept. The bathrooms are clean, and graffiti is scarce. As you walk down the halls, kids and staff are picking up paper and gum wrappers because in a positive school culture they take pride in their school and how it looks.

Within five minutes, you should see staff and kids smiling and relaxed around the building. Grimness is not a quality of a good school. The days of the teachers and administrators walking around with threatening grimaces on their faces are long gone. I remember when I was in high school (a long, long, long time ago); it seemed the principals never smiled much and certainly not the superintendent. I don't think I even knew who the superintendent was in high school!

In the first five minutes, you can tell that teachers respect the kids

as they are talking to them about something important or just taking the time to chat about nothing at all. In a positive school culture, staff members walk the halls and say good morning or hello to peers and students alike.

The students are clean and neat, with appropriate clothing that adheres to an enforced common-sense dress code. The students take advantage of privileges such as honor study hall but do not abuse it by being loud or unruly.

In a positive school, you can sense that good things are happening, and often times it is hard to explain why you sense that, but you do. I have been in many schools in my career, and I could always tell in the first five minutes if I was in a positive place. We have been told we are such a school, and that makes us feel very good!

Wrestlers' Season Full of Successes . . . *by Rob Lewis, Head Wrestling Coach*

The Elk Point-Jefferson wrestling team concluded another successful wrestling season by finishing third in the state wrestling tournament.

The 2004-05 season was full of success including six first place team finishes in regular season tournaments, a fourth consecutive Big Sioux Conference Dual and Tournament Championship, and a second place finish at the South Dakota Duals. Once the post-season hit, the wrestlers continued to add to their resumes by finishing second in the district tournament while qualifying ten wrestlers for the region tournament. At the region tournament, the Huskies were able to qualify eight wrestlers for the state meet and captured their fourth straight regional crown.

February 25-26, eight of the Husky wrestlers traveled to Aberdeen to take part in the state tournament. All of these wrestlers were able to earn a medal. Individual results included Tyler Stark - 5th at 103, Jay Gable - 4th at 112, Tyler Chicoine - 3rd at 119, Danny Hutcheson - 2nd at 125, Jacob Butrous - 5th at 130, Josh Butrous - 7th at 135, Mark Donnelly - 2nd at 171, and Justin Kyte - 2nd at HWT. As a team the Huskies finished third behind teams from Webster and Parkston.

With the end of a season comes a time to say goodbye to the graduating seniors. Our squad will lose eight seniors that have helped develop the EPJ wrestling program into one of the elite programs in the state. Without their hard work and dedication to the team, we would not have been able to have the success that we have had in recent years. The coaches would like to thank the eight seniors (Grayson Pirner, Mark Donnelly, Andrew Trudeau, Andy Bottger, Josh Butrous, Jacob Butrous, Jay Gable, and Jacob Limoges) for what they have done and wish them the best of luck in their future endeavors. For the rest of the team, next season started on March 1.

The coaching staff would also like to thank all of the fans that offered their support to the team throughout the entire season.

(See additional tournament pictures on page 20)



Breakfast at School

by Kathi Johnson, Food Service Director

Mornings can be really crazy! The alarm doesn't go off, the kids don't want to get up, there's no time to eat breakfast before the bus comes, or they're just not ready to eat. Maybe your teenager grabs a can of soda and a candy bar on the way to school. If this sounds like your house, we have good news for you.

Breakfast is available at school! Take advantage of this option to ensure your child eats a nutritious breakfast. Recent studies show a link between nutrition and learning. A nutritious breakfast helps students be more alert so they can actively participate in class. Breakfast has vitamins and nutrients for a strong and healthy body.

Breakfast at school is affordable, too! A full breakfast costs less than convenience store items. If you qualify for free and reduced price meals, you also qualify for the breakfast program, with no additional paperwork. If you must pay, you'll find that breakfast is only about a dollar. Nowhere else will you find a balanced breakfast at such a low cost.

So take advantage of this opportunity to start the day on the right foot. Your child will find breakfast at school provides not only a nutritious meal but also a relaxed atmosphere for socializing with friends and siblings.

DID YOU KNOW??

- That breakfast should provide one-fourth of a child's daily requirement of calories and nutrients? (No, a handful of chips does not count!)
- That on any given day, 51% of kids go to school without breakfast?
- Those students who receive D's and F's are twice as likely as A students to skip breakfast frequently?
- That National School Breakfast Week is a whole week devoted to school breakfast? It's true! This annual event is held in early spring and is celebrated in schools across the nation.

LOOKING FORWARD

A new law goes into effect for school year 2006-07 that requires schools/agencies that participate in USDA meal programs to have a local wellness policy. USDA has put a lot of information about the requirement and what must be included in the policy on its TEAM nutrition web site. In addition, you can visit their web site directly at www.fns.usda.gov/tn/. Once there, click on "Local Wellness Policy." Here is a quote from the web site:

Schools must set goals for nutrition education, physical activity and other school based activities designed to promote student wellness. Schools must also establish nutrition standards for all foods that are available on each school campus during the school day, with the objective of promoting student health and reducing childhood obesity. Schools are required to measure the implementation of the wellness policy and to involve a broad group of individuals in its development.

Think about joining a group to help develop these goals.

Common Sense Parenting Classes

by Christine McMeekin, Guidance Department

When: Monday evenings, 6:30 - 8:30 P.M.
March 14 - May 2, 2005 (total of 6 classes)

Place: Elk Point-Jefferson High School

You will learn to: reduce family stress, support success in school, diminish yelling and fighting, reduce problem behavior, enrich your relationship with your child, and increase your confidence as well as your child's confidence.

Topics: parents as teachers, positive/negative consequences, what is behavior, effective praise, preventive teaching, corrective teaching, staying calm, teaching self-control, family meetings, and what is discipline.

Contact: Ann Engen or Karen Abbott at 605-665-4811 to register.

**Child care will be provided so parents can attend.*

***Attendees can receive CEU's through Girls and Boys Town Workshop and graduate credit through Bellevue University.*

Library News

by Carmen Wilcox, School Librarian

Read Across America Day, Wednesday, March 2. Now in its eighth year, NEA's Read Across America Day is a nationwide event to focus the country's attention on how important it is to motivate children to read and to introduce them to the joys of reading. This annual celebration takes place on Dr. Seuss's March 2 birthday in honor and recognition of the author who epitomizes reading fun. Last year, close to 50 million children, adults, and celebrities shared books together at reading parties, in classrooms, libraries, bookstores, hospitals, community centers, theaters, parks, and museums.

All EPJ students in kindergarten through sixth grade will be enjoying a morning of reading. The annual tradition at EPJ is to bring a sleeping bag, pillow, and some great books to enjoy. The first order of the day will be to stretch out, get comfortable, and participate in the great pastime of reading. Guest readers will be visiting the classroom in grades K-3. In addition to guest readers, K-2 will enjoy a *Green Eggs and Ham* and *Cat in the Hat* presentation hosted by the South Dakota Education Association.

Elk Point High School and Jefferson High School Yearbook Search. The library is searching for copies of old yearbooks from both Elk Point and Jefferson schools. If you are willing to donate any old yearbooks, please call the library at 356-

National School Breakfast Week



March 7-11, 2005

Come eat breakfast
at school with your
child or grandchild!

Tips on Completing College & Scholarship Applications . . . *by Christine McMeekin, Guidance Department*

The following information is from the Completing College & Scholarship Applications workshop delivered at EPJ on Monday, December 13, 2005. The presenter was Susan Hackemer, the Associate Director of the Honors Program at USD.

Classes/Transcript Information

- Always include current coursework, even if the application does not ask for it. Committee members will be looking to see if you are taking challenging courses or “slack” courses.
- Make sure you communicate the information listed below in any way you can. You may have to be creative about how you work it in, but make sure you communicate it.
 - Somewhere on the application or transcript, note if the class you are taking is DDN or online. These classes tend to be harder, and colleges know this.
 - In all cases, let colleges know if you are taking the highest level of courses available (if they don’t already ask this on the application).
 - If you can’t take a class like physics or calculus because you have to or want to take another class, then explain this as well. However, make sure it is a legitimate excuse. Colleges will not think highly of students who took “office assistant” instead of physics. However, if you really like music, have been in band or vocal for 3-4 years, and plan to have a major or minor in music, then taking band/vocal over some other class may be legitimate.
 - If there was an illness or some extreme circumstances that had an impact on your grades, then it is to your advantage to explain that. One way to communicate this is to have one of your references write about what happened and explain the impact it had on you and your grades.
 - If you couldn’t take certain classes because you transferred from another school and had some backtracking to do, then make sure you explain this as well.

Leadership Positions/Extracurricular Activities

- Even if you did not hold an official office or position, there were probably events or activities you participated in and contributed to in a meaningful way. Make up a title for your role and explain your contribution. For example, if you were involved with the blood drive for three years in a row and you were the one that organized it, then you could say you were “Blood Drive Coordinator.” Give yourself credit for the contributions you made, even if you didn’t have an official title.

Make Your Application Stand Out

- Who is your competition? In all cases, think about the other students applying for the scholarship or college you are applying for. You need to figure out a way for your application to stand out. Think of these things in terms of how to stand out.
- Make your essay memorable by using some kind of story. One person wrote about how his life was like the sock that always got lost in the dryer. Another person wrote about how his life was like the subway token that he wore around his neck.
- Ask others how they would answer the personal essay questions. If they have the same ideas that you had, then pick a different angle.
- In essays, give depth – not just surface information.

Community Service/Activities

- When listing community service, identify things that you have done for a long period of time. Listing the one-time events is good, especially if that is all you have, but the ones that show your commitment are better.
- Try not to stretch one activity too thin, unless you have to. For example, don’t talk about Girl Scouts in terms of activities, leadership positions, and community service.
- If you have been involved in a number of activities, think about listing the ones that you liked the most, tell the most about you, and show a significant time commitment. Select ones that show you have a diverse background of interests and experiences. Select at least one that is going to stick out in the minds of the committee members reading your application. For example, one student had done something with frogs. The committee members remembered him!!
- Even if you are applying for an academic scholarship, don’t just list academic activities. List a variety of activities to show your diversity.

Work Experience

- Don’t leave the summer work section blank. Include information on summer classes, work around the house/farm, projects, or other things you did. Keeping busy during the summer looks good.

Letters of Recommendation

- Give your resume to the people writing your letters so they do not re-list the things that you have already talked about or written about in the application and essay.
- Ask people to write about a specific event or situation that illustrates your character. It is acceptable to tell them what to write about. They will probably welcome the help!
- You may want to select someone who can write about some extenuating circumstances that may have impacted you or your grades.

Visit the Guidance Department web site at www.epj.k12.sd.us to find further information regarding available scholarships.
Also, click on the Student Bulletin link to read the article on “Understanding Your Financial Aid Award Letter.”

PLAN Test . . . by Christine McMeekin, Guidance Department

The results of the PLAN test (a pre-ACT test) that the sophomores took in October are in! The sophomores have received their results, a PLAN booklet which explains the results and their usages, and their question booklet (which the student can use to look over the answers). The PLAN has multiple functions, but this article will briefly cover three: comparison among other sophomores in the nation, estimating the student's ACT scores, and career planning. Please note, PLAN is designed to measure what students have learned thus far in their secondary education.

The front page of the results shows your student's results. On the left are the subjects that were tested, English, mathematics, reading, and science, and your student's score. The subject score will fall in the range 1-32 and the sub-scores 1-16. The composite (average) score is below the subjects score. On pages 7-10 in the PLAN booklet, there is a thorough explanation of the scores. On the right of the subject scores is a graph that shows the percentile score. This tells how the student compares to all 10th graders nationwide that took the test in December of 2004. If your son or daughter placed in the 75th percentile, this means he/she scored as well as or better than 75% of the students that took the test. The number at the end of the graph is the percentile for the student compared to 10th graders who plan on attending college. Again, if the percentile score is 65, then your student scored as well as or better than 65% of those 10th graders who took the test and said they plan on going to college.

The PLAN is able to estimate the range the student's ACT score may fall in. This is found below the composite score. Please note this score is an estimation based on the student's current level of academic achievement; therefore, the student's ACT score may be higher or lower when he/she takes the ACT.

The back page of the results is to help your student with choosing a career. This page is based on what your student answered for his/her likes or dislikes. The highlighted jobs on the right side of the page are examples of jobs that match your student's interests. Starting on page 13 of the PLAN booklet, there are helpful ways for students to identify and research possible careers.

If you or your student has any questions, please contact either Mrs. Christine McMeekin or Anthony Raaphorst (Counseling Intern) at 356-5871.

Childrens Health Insurance Program

by Lisa McInerney, RN, School Nurse

South Dakota children are eligible for **FREE** health insurance through the Department of Social Services if they are under age 19 and income eligible. The program is **CHIPS** (Children's Health Insurance Program). CHIPS covers doctor appointments, hospital stays, dental and vision services, prescription drugs, mental health, rehabilitation, and other medical services. If a child with private health insurance is determined eligible, this FREE medical program will pay the deductibles, co-payments and medical services that may not be covered by the policy.

If you are interested in finding out more about this program, contact, Lisa McInerney, RN, School Nurse at 356-5806, or you may call the Department of Social Services directly at 356-

March Is Music Month

by Jeanne Hanson, K-4 Vocal



During the month of March, the K-4 music classes celebrate music. Students are encouraged to invite family members and friends to the classroom to share their talents. Students are able to invite older siblings as well. In the past, we have had everything from a harp to an accordion! The students love to see the different ways music enriches our lives.

The students will be receiving a sign-up sheet to take home. This sheet will indicate each class's meeting time so that you will know when your child has music class. If you have not been asked to visit but would be willing to share your musical talent with a class during March, you may call Mrs. Jeanne Hanson at 356-5893 to sign up for a time that is good for you.

Food Drive Sets New Record

by Patty Skinner, 7-8 Language Arts

The Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School Council sponsored its annual "Have a Heart" Food Drive February 9-16. Students and staff collected 1,700 items, a new record, for the local food pantry.

The council sponsored a pop and chip party for the homerooms that collected the most non-perishable items. The winners are as follows:

Division I (K-2) Mrs. McNeil's first grade 114 items

Division II (3-5)..... Mrs. Billings's fifth grade 70 items

Division III (6-8) ... Mr. Fletcher's eighth grade 197 items

The council would like to thank students, teachers, and parents for their continued support in its annual project.



Students pack items collected in the 2005 "Have a Heart" Food Drive.

Home Access for EPJ Online Resources . . . by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

The Elk Point-Jefferson School District has enabled student home access to a number of online resources. These resources include the following:

SIRS Knowledge Source includes:

- Today's News - The top national and global headline news stories are updated and delivered hourly
- World Almanac
- Current Events Links
- Spotlight of the Month
- Maps of the World – Political and physical maps for all nations and regions. State and provincial maps are available for the United States and Canada.
- Keyword searches can be conducted through the SIRS database of thousands of full text magazine and newspaper articles.
- Two online texts are available: SIRS Interactive Citizenship and What Citizens Need to Know About World Affairs

SIRS Discoverer Deluxe on the Web is written with younger students in mind. It contains many of the features of SIRS Knowledge Source, plus:

- Funk and Wagnall's New Encyclopedia
- Thousands of full text articles
- Merriam-Webster Dictionary and Thesaurus
- Maps of the World
- Biographies
- The World Almanac for Kids
- Current Events
- Suggested Research Topics
- Activities
- Fiction
- Country Facts
- Photo Essay
- And many others!

Login Information for SIRS Knowledge Source and SIRS Discover on the Web was sent to parents during early February. Parents of Elk Point-Jefferson students who have misplaced this information can get an electronic copy by sending an email to Jerry.Klumper@k12.sd.us.

The **inet library** is an Internet portal that offers educator reviewed web sites. Search results are educationally useful and rated to appropriate grade level. As an example, a Google search for "Hertz" returned approximately 5,860,000 hits. An inet library search for "Hertz" returned four educationally appropriate hits. Power search options are available, which enable broader searches. Other resources, such as online newspapers, periodicals, books, etc. are neatly organized, allowing quick, efficient searches.

The **eLibrary** is a searchable database consisting of 250 newspapers, 1,623 magazine, 296 books, 14 map sources, 22 picture sources, 16 audio/video sources and 150 TV/radio transcripts. It also contains the following:

- American Heritage Dictionary, 4th Edition
- Webster's New World Thesaurus, Third Edition
- Nineteen Encyclopedia Sources
- The World Almanac Sources
- Thirteen Atlas Sources

Students can also search for topics, ranging from "Art Projects and Activities" to "World History - Special Subjects." An online dictionary, thesaurus, encyclopedias, almanac, and atlases are also available.

Information on the **inet library** and **eLibrary** will be distributed with third quarter report cards. Questions can be directed to [Jerry](mailto:Jerry.Klumper@k12.sd.us).

Upcoming High School Student Art Exhibits . . . by Brenda Kunkel, 6-12 Art

The Sioux Empire Arts Council (SEAC) and the Sioux Falls Artist League will host the Fifth Annual High School Art Exhibit at the Horse Barn Art Center located in Falls Park during the entire month of March. Students from the region will be displaying their finest works and competing for prizes. A professional artist will judge the exhibit entries. In addition, a Visitor's Choice Award will be presented at the end of the exhibit to that student receiving the most votes from the general public. Students exhibiting from Elk Point-Jefferson School are Debbie Gray, Amanda Connelly, Dan Hutcheson, Katie Buum, and Kaila Hughes. The exhibit opens Wednesday, March 2 and closes Sunday, April 3. The public is invited to attend the closing reception Sunday, April 3, 1:00-3:00 at Falls Park, Sioux Falls. Many of the artists will be on hand to discuss their works, and refreshments will be served.



The Third Annual High School Art Exhibition at USD will open Friday, March 4 and close Wednesday, March 23. Sophomores, juniors, and seniors from South Dakota and within a 120-mile radius of Vermillion in the neighboring states of Nebraska, Iowa, and Minnesota will display art. Ten students will be representing Elk Point-Jefferson School at the USD Area High School Art Exhibition: Chondra Stark, Debbie Gray, Kaila Hughes, Alyssa Steckelberg, Erin Hasenbank, Maria Fowler, Dan Hutcheson, Maxine Harding, Daschle Larsen, and Michael Nebelsick.

Kelsey Mapstone placed third at the 9th grade level for the Sioux City Art Center's 16th Annual High School Juried Art Exhibition and will be representing Elk Point-Jefferson with her piece entitled *Music*, a linoleum block print. The exhibit opens Saturday, February 26 and closes Sunday, April 10. The opening reception will be Sunday, February 27, from 2:00-3:30. Other students from EPJ who

A Brief Look at the Future . . . by Doug Brusseau, K-6 Principal

Schools tend to reflect the societies in which they are embedded. In America before the Civil War, little book learning was needed to manage what was, for most people, still an agrarian life. School started relatively late in the day and ended early to leave time for chores. In summer, school let out entirely so children could help their parents in the fields. Education was narrow in scope, controlled largely by the teacher, and focused predominantly on basic skills. In that world, the one-room schoolhouse was sufficient. Teachers taught reading, writing, and elementary mathematics to complement the skills students learned outside school.

By the end of the 19th century, more and more of the population began settling in cities and going to work. The basic skills students needed to learn to work in a new society changed. Schools changed from the one-room school house and became a large building with many classrooms where students sat in neat rows with the teacher in front. Students learned the skills needed to work in an industrial society.

Today's student is still learning the basic skills. However, when many of them graduate from high school or college, jobs will be different from today. The student in the schools today will be entering a society in which information-analysis will be the focus of his/her life.

Students of tomorrow will be held to a higher standard of learning because everyone will have to be prepared to think for a living, and everyone will have to be capable of learning many new skills over the course of a lifetime. Student learning will be in different forms in the future. Classroom resources will be available to students twenty-four hours a day within the home.

To provide an experience into the future, students in kindergarten to fifth grade, along with their parents, may go online to the school web site at www.epj.k12.sd.us; after the web site comes up, click on "Online Resources," click on "McGraw-Hill Math," and on the right side, click on "Enter a Class Code." Go to the box on the right side and type in the teacher name with a zero and the grade (i.e. zeller04) to view the math book students are using in the classroom. The online math book is the same textbook students use in the classroom. Parents, if you would like, you could ask your child what page they are working on in math. Type in the page, and you will be able to view what was done in math today.

The online math textbook will be demonstrated during parent-teacher conferences in the elementary computer lab.

Kindergartners Keep Busy with February Celebrations . . . by Toni Hall, Kindergarten



February is a month full of special events. The kindergartners have experienced many activities to enhance their understanding of these celebrated events. The month began with the anticipation of whether or not Punxsutawney Phil would see his shadow. We made a mask that looked like a groundhog and experimented with shadows using flashlights.

Valentine's Day is a big celebration. We had a special snack of ice cream sundaes with a variety of toppings. We made a graph of colored candy hearts and even hunted for hearts hidden around the room.

We made a special tribute to our nation's presidents which included a log cabin made out of milk cartons, chocolate frosting, and pretzels. All of the kindergartners' heads were adorned with

hats that they created to look like George Washington and Abraham Lincoln. They learned many interesting facts about these two famous presidents.

Mrs. McInerney, the school nurse, talked with the students about taking care of their teeth. Each kindergartner got a new toothbrush

Happy Hearts . . . by Shirley Rosenbaum, First Grade

What makes a "happy heart"? The Elk Point-Jefferson first graders joined several other first grade classes across the state in an interactive distant learning program that helps to promote a healthy heart early in life.

Using paper hearts, Warren B. Karp (Dr. Bill), Professor at The Medical College of Georgia, familiarized the children with the location and purpose of the heart in the body. Then Dr. Bill and the students discussed what makes a heart happy and sad. Throughout the program, Dr. Bill used sing-a-longs, poetry, stories, and movement to help reinforce the importance of exercising, eating the right foods for cardiovascular health, and never using tobacco. At the conclusion of the program, students had an opportunity to ask Dr. Bill questions about their hearts.



Elementary Students Earn Singing Honors . . . by Jeanne Hanson, K-4 Vocal



Elk Point-Jefferson students from the fourth, fifth, and sixth grades were given the opportunity to audition for the South Dakota Elementary Honor Choir. The choir is sponsored by the South Dakota Music Educators Association. Students in grades four through six are eligible to compete. EPJ had eight students qualify for a spot in the choir. They were as follows: Sixth - Liz Schuh, Taylor Targonski, Abbey Langstraat; Fifth - Ashlee Stepp, Katie Hargadine; Fourth - Haylee Erickson, Kelsey Abbey; Taylor Donnelly.

Audition tapes were sent in for soprano or alto positions. Forty-eight schools qualified students after hundreds of tapes were judged. EPJ had the most students qualify, along with one other school. This includes all the Sioux Falls schools and larger communities across the state.

It was noted that only two students at the concert had attended all three years of eligibility. It is quite difficult for fourth graders to compete against the older students. We are very excited about the excellent talent here at EPJ. A special thanks goes to the EPJ Music Boosters for helping support this project.

First Graders Write to Pen Pals . . . by Marilyn McNeil, First Grade

The first graders in Mrs. McNeil's class have made new friends in another South Dakota school district. They have been writing to a first grade class in Warner, South Dakota. This class has several interesting connections to the EPJ first grade class. Mrs. Kelli Helms, the Warner teacher, is the aunt of EPJ first grader Alicia Nelson. Mrs. McNeil, the EPJ teacher, is the grandmother of Warner first grader Dawson McNeil.

The EPJ first graders sent the first letters at the end of January. They put a lot of thought and effort into creating interesting letters for their pen pals. After the letters were mailed, they waited with mounting anticipation for the replies from the Warner class. They didn't have long to wait. The Warner class replied promptly, sending each EPJ student a Valentine letter. The letters were read and reread, shared and shared again, with a great deal of enjoyment. Then the first graders got down to work and sent off a batch of Valentine letters to Warner. Once again, the Warner first graders replied promptly.

It is anticipated that this project will continue until the end of the semester. It's an exciting project for both classes. It has added an element of fun to learning letter-writing skills.



First Graders Learn Sign Language . . . by Gail Schmitz, First Grade

Have your first graders been coming home waving their hands to talk? Maybe they have been to first grade sign club. First graders from Mrs. Schmitz's, Mrs. Rosenbaum's and Mrs. McNeil's classes have been meeting on Tuesday and Thursday mornings from 7:50 – 8:10 A.M. in the library to learn sign language. They are learning sign language in order to communicate with one of their classmates who is deaf. The kids are having fun and learning at the same time. What better equation for education! Interpreter Jennie Claus, along with Chris Haines and Connor Henze, teaches the signs.



The World of William Joyce . . . by Gwen Billings, Fifth Grade



As an enrichment activity from our reading series, the fifth grade students illustrated and wrote a storybook. It was a response activity with the story "The World of William Joyce." This is an autobiography of William Joyce, who writes and illustrates his own storybooks. The famous author tells about his childhood and about growing up and beginning his career. Then he describes how he plans and develops a book. Taking his suggestions, the fifth graders wrote and illustrated their own storybooks. They completed this activity by reading their books to the second grade classes.



Fire Safety for EPJ . . . by Jeff Zeller, Elementary Guidance Counselor



Jason Welch, a volunteer firefighter with the Elk Point Fire Department, in cooperation with 15 area businesses, presented a "Fire Safety for Kids" program to the third grade students at Elk Point-Jefferson. Jason presented a lesson with the goal of showing kids how important it is to have a plan to deal with a fire emergency. Books were given out that gave a wide range of information about fire and fire safety. Jason presented lessons to Mrs. Jane Allard, Mrs. Chris Nearman, and Mrs. Deb Dyrssen third grade classes. The students were encouraged to take the books home and do

some very essential things with their families:

1. Go over the information in the book.
2. Do a family escape plan.
3. Take a fire safety quiz.
4. Write a letter about fire safety, telling about what they learned, how they plan to use this information, and why they think this is important for kids to know. With this letter, there is a prize for the best letter in the nation. In addition, the Elk Point Fire Department is sponsoring prize for the best letter from the third graders here at EPJ.

Elk Point-Jefferson sends a big thank you to Jason Welch and the Elk Point Fire Department for giving our kids this valuable information, and we would like to thank the 15 area businesses who donated money to buy the "Fire Safety for Kids" books.

Those businesses include Curry Seed Company, Eastside Service, Los Amigos, Rubida Insurance Agency, Terex Load King, Thermo Bond Buildings, Inc., Elk Point Community Health Clinic, Hammitt's Service, Hoffman's Interstate, Jones' Food Center, K & K Storage, Ollie's Drive Inn, Pioneer Drug, Quam & Berglin CPA's and Stickney and Groe



Fourth Grade Studies South Dakota . . . by Tama Zeller, Fourth Grade



Mrs. Nearman's class displays their scrapbooks.

Mrs. Zeller's social studies classes each worked hard the third quarter completing scrapbooks of South Dakota. Students put a tremendous amount of time and effort into producing their own unique binders of their state. This included information on state symbols, famous landmarks, historical figures, time lines, interesting facts, government, wildlife, plant life, sports, weather, industries, vacation spots, cities, and the town they live in. One interesting page in their scrapbooks was the interview each child completed of a special person of their choice who has lived in South Dakota. They had to describe some of the changes that have taken place throughout the history of that person's life. The children also read a book titled "South Dakota A Journey Through Time," which also taught them a great deal of information about their state.



Ms. Wipf's class displays their scrapbooks.

Mrs. Jan Baagoe's high school Foods II class did a cross-curriculum sharing during South Dakota adventure time. They prepared a piece of apple kuchen, South Dakota's state dessert, for all the fourth graders and invited them to the high school commons to enjoy a taste. The older students served the dessert with milk, South Dakota's state drink.



Mrs. Zeller's students displays their scrapbooks.

2006 East Coast Tour Planned . . . by Patty Skinner, 7-8 Language Arts

Parents and middle school students met February 11 for an informational meeting on the 2006 East Coast Tour. The trip includes stops in Boston, New York City, Philadelphia and Washington, D.C., on the seven-day and six-night tour May 31-June 6, 2006.

Students must register by March 15 to receive a \$50.00 deduction from the trip price. Those who pay in full receive another \$50 deduction. If participants wait until April 30, they will still receive a \$25 deduction. After June 16 the new price increase will take effect. To find the total number interested, May 6 has been set as a deadline.

If you did not receive information and your child will be in grades 6-10 next year, please contact Patty Skinner at 605-356-2674 (home) or 605-356-5861 (school) or e-mail patty.skinner@k12.sd.us for trip packets. Call also if you have questions about the trip.

EPJ Students Prepare for Scheduling

by Travis Aslesen, 7-12 Principal

Staff and students at EPJ have been working hard over the last few weeks preparing for next year's schedule. Throughout the month of February and into the first few weeks of March, students have and will continue to select classes for the 2005-2006 school year. After this selection, the high school schedule is built using the current year as a template for next year's schedule. Below are the new curriculum offerings advertised to students during the scheduling process:

- Clay and Sculpture
- Art Appreciation

New state requirements have also challenged the staff at Elk Point-Jefferson to begin discussing our current offerings and the level of expectation which the state has for graduates, beginning with the graduating class of 2010. The requirements which the state has set forth are very much in line with the expectations which already exist at Elk Point-Jefferson High School. One of the few modifications is in requiring a course in World History for all students. In being proactive in meeting our students' needs, all freshmen will be required to take World History as a graduation requirement. This class will also contain a component of South Dakota history to help encourage students to celebrate their South Dakota heritage as they grow up in two of the most historical communities in our entire state.

We are also very fortunate at Elk Point-Jefferson to offer classes through the Digital Dakota Network (DDN). The DDN allows us to offer classes which we do not have the resources within our district to support. The classes are taught electronically through Northern State University in Aberdeen, South Dakota. Students and teachers communicate visually and auditorily through the technology provided. Below are the classes currently being advertised to our students:

- Advanced Placement Calculus
- College Preparatory Physics
- Advanced Placement American Literature
- Advanced Placement American History
- Astronomy
- French I

You can find the curriculum guide for 2005-2006 on our web site at <http://www.epj.k12.sd.us>. Select the "School Info" link followed by "Curriculum Guide 05-06."

South Dakota's Top Youth Volunteers Selected in 10th Annual National Awards Program

by Travis Aslesen, 7-12 Principal

Kirstin Hanson of Elk Point, an eighth-grader at Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School, has been selected as a Distinguished Finalist for 2005 by The Prudential Spirit of Community Awards, a nationwide program honoring young people for outstanding acts of volunteerism. Kirstin was selected for her numerous volunteer projects within her community. In addition to collecting donations for local veterans, she helps collect food for the disadvantaged, raises money for a local cancer fund, and is an active participant in her local 4-H group.

The awards program, now in its 10th year, is conducted by Prudential Financial in partnership with the National Association of Secondary School Principals (NASSP). More than 20,000 high school and middle level students submitted applications for this year's program.

"Over the past 10 years, we've seen an incredible number of young Americans who have selflessly devoted their time and energy to helping others in their communities," said Arthur F. Ryan, chairman and CEO of Prudential Financial. "The volunteer work of this year's honorees is as inspiring as any we've seen, and we are honored to recognize the amazing contributions they've made to their neighborhoods, their cities and our nation."

"Year after year I am amazed and humbled by the selfless leadership and generosity demonstrated by these young people," said Gerald N. Tirozzi, executive director of the National Association of Secondary School Principals. "We are proud to recognize young people who fully understand the importance of helping others in need."

In addition to Kirstin's Distinguished Finalist status, she has also been honored with the President's Volunteer Service Award. Kirstin is among the nearly 3,500 honorees to receive this award on behalf of the President's Council on Service and Civic Participation.

For more information on all of this year's Prudential Spirit of Community State Honorees and Distinguished Finalists, visit www.prudential.com/spirit, or www.principals.org/awards/prudential.cfm.

Students Celebrate "Winter Meltdown" Day

by Patty Skinner, 7-8 Language Arts

Sixth through eighth grade students showed their restlessness with the long winter and their longing for summer by celebrating "Winter Meltdown" day February 14.

They came to school dressed in their favorite summer clothing, plus sunglasses and hats to keep away the sunrays. During the afternoon they headed for the middle school gym for beach games. They competed in volleyball, frisbee, putting, and limbo. For their efforts, students could win pop and candy.

Winners of the limbo contest were Emily Norton and T.J. North (seventh grade) and Kaitlyn Rosenbaum and Riley Braun (sixth grade). Unfortunately, the eighth graders ran out of time before the winners could be determined.

The EPJMS Council sponsors this annual event for the middle school students.



Students celebrate "Winter Meltdown" day February 14.

Luke Frankl Wins Geography Bee . . . by Selene Van Wyk, Academic Advisor

Do you know which Canadian province Alaska borders or which ocean is the world's largest and deepest? (answers below) Luke Frankl, an eighth grade student at Elk Point-Jefferson, does. Luke won the school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee and a chance at a \$25,000 college scholarship. The school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the 17th annual National Geographic Bee. The Bee is sponsored by the National Geographic Society.

The kickoff for this year's Bee was the week of November 15, with thousands of schools around the United States and in the five U.S. territories participating. EPJ conducted its homeroom contests prior to the start of Christmas break. After winning, Luke took a written test which will determine if he will compete in the state competition on April 1.

The National Geographic Society will provide an all-expense-paid trip to Washington, D.C., for state champions and teacher-escorts to participate in the National Geographic Bee national championship on May 24 and 25. The first-place national winner will receive a \$25,000 college scholarship and a lifetime membership in the society.

Thirteen Elk Point-Jefferson students won their homeroom competitions. The winners were as follows: Fourth grade – Kiera Kintigh, Megan Pollard, Cody Gregg; Fifth grade – Corey Chicoine, Tony Metzgar, Stephanie Watkins; Sixth grade – Kelly Reed, Josh Curry, Billy Wiseman; Seventh grade – Collin Viereck, Ryan Brandt; Eighth grade – Curtis Brown, Luke Frankl, Tyler Hudelson.

(Answers from above: British Columbia; Pacific Ocean)

Student Advances to Argus Leader Spelldown . . . by Selene Van Wyk, Academic Advisor

Do you know how to spell conquistador or procrastinate? How about chrysanthemum or siesta? Recently, all the fifth-eighth grade students got to show off their spelling skills by participating in a written spelldown. Eleven students then advanced to an oral spelldown anticipating a win and chance to attend the Argus Leader Spelldown. After several elimination rounds, the top speller proved to be Allison Lawler, an eighth grade student; however, due to other commitments, Allison has declined the chance to attend. She has handed the chance over to second place speller Malisa Phrommany.

Malisa will participate in the Argus Leader Spelldown on March 5 in the Gilbert Science Center on the campus of Augustana College in Sioux Falls. Students from the tri-state area are allowed to participate; however, only the top SD speller will advance to the State Spelling Bee to be held in Mitchell on March 12. From there, the state winner will go on to compete in the Scripps Howard National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C., May 31–June 2, 2005.

The students who participated in the EPJ oral spelldown were as follows: Christoffer Dyrssen, 5A; Danielle Gille, 5B; Aleka Heilman, 5C; Billy Wiseman, 6A; Nick Ramos, 6B; Tyler Hall, 6C; Malisa Phrommany, 7A; Megan Weidner, 7B; Chelsea Borchardt, 8A; Shauna Hilbrands, 8B; and Allison Lawler, 8C.

Look for Malisa and other participant photos in the spelling contest ad of the March 2 issue of the Argus Leader.

Middle School Goes Downhill . . . by Patty Skinner, 7-8 Language Arts

Downhill skiing that is. Yes, the seventh and eighth graders hit the slopes of Great Bear Ski Resort February 11 for their annual ski trip. The sunny weather was great for the spirit but created slushy snow for the skier.

The more experienced skiers headed for the big hill right away while the novices and less experienced opted for the ski lessons. Students spent time skiing but would rest in the ski lodge and refuel at the snack bar.

A big thank you goes to the following chaperones that day: Jorrie Brandhagen, Justin Clercx, Daryl Fletcher, Kim Kramer, Angie Langle, Lisa McInerney, Delores Vondrak, Sheryl Elkins, Mike Norton, Patty Rarrat, Eileen Shedd, and Steve Weidner.

The ski trip is considered part of the exploratory curriculum of the middle school. Students not only have fun but also develop a life-long skill.

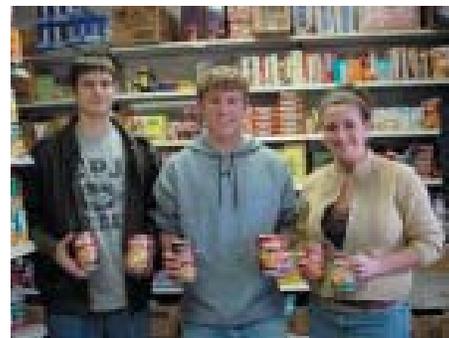


National Honor Society Notes . . . *by Rita Ahmann, National Honor Society Advisor*

On January 14, National Honor Society members, their adult guests, and advisor Rita Ahmann were hosted by Beth and Daniel Rosenbaum at a breakfast held at Cody's Homestead Cafe. With this breakfast, the Rosenbaums honored the achievements of those students in the National Honor Society. Remarks were provided by Patty Fullenkamp Larsen, who was a member of the National Honor Society while she attended Vermillion High School.

Members collected food for the local food pantry at the Jefferson and Elk Point churches on the weekend of February 5 and 6. "Soup-er Bowl Sunday" corresponded with Super Bowl Sunday. This is a national program intended to replenish food pantries across the country. On a day when parties and food are plentiful in many of our homes, we are reminded that this is not the case for all families. Students delivered 285 items to the food pantry.

The Siouxland Blood Bank held a blood collection drive on Tuesday, February 15, in the Elk Point-Jefferson School Commons. The National Honor Society students set up the area and provided juice boxes and treats for those donating blood. Between 50 and 60 people registered to give blood that day. Watch for the



Katie Boom Honored

by Lori Hawley, One-Act Play Advisor

Katie Boom earned an Outstanding Actor medal at Region 1-Act Play contest in Yankton, South Dakota, on Tuesday, January 25. Actors are selected by nomination of at least two of the three judges evaluating the contest. Katie was selected for her enthusiastic portrayal of the lead character "Girl" in the play "Check Please," written by Jonathan Rand.

All-School Play Tryouts Scheduled

by Lori Hawley, All-School Play Advisor

Spring play tryouts will be held during the last week of February, with rehearsals scheduled to begin on Friday, March 4, for John Patrick's classic comedy "The Teahouse of the August Moon." The play centers around the American occupation of Okinawa during WWII, where an inexperienced Captain Fisby is assigned to bring the local Japanese population in line with Western culture and to make it prosper. The dinner theater and play will be held on Friday, April 22, 2005, in the middle school

Arts Night 2005 . . . *by Brenda Kunkel, 6-12 Art*



EPJ students grades six through twelve displayed their artistic talents during the Arts Night Reception on Thursday, February 17. Students displayed visual art of many mediums ranging from clay masks and contest entries to pencil drawings and watercolors as well as a mural proposal

for the city of Jefferson. The high school vocal and instrumental departments provided listening entertainment for the public with contest selections, and the dance team performed to a '90s remix. The night ended with the one-act play cast performing their contest piece *Check Please*.



Lucille Fowler-Rothenbuehler

Library Book Fund

An Investment Opportunity
in Our Future

The Lucille Fowler-Rothenbuehler family has started a perpetual fund that will be used for the purchase of books at the Elk Point-Jefferson School/Elk Point Community Library. The funds will be invested in the University of South Dakota Scholarship Foundation, and contributions are being sought to help this very worthy fund grow and become a steady source of revenue to purchase books for our kids.

If you are interested

Please send your contribution to:

Superintendent Brian Shanks
Elk Point-Jefferson School District
Box 578
Elk Point, SD 57025

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

On the morning of Friday, February 11, 112 high school students participated in the annual EPJ HS Quiz Bowl. The twenty-eight teams consisting of four students per team participated in three preliminary rounds. The top three scoring teams advanced to the final rounds. The teams advancing were as follows:

Team 9: Brittany Glover, Tiffani Pirner, Michael Nebelsick, Viktor Sundleaf

Team 14: Alex Pedersen, Nettie Brown, Mike Brandt, Melanie Engeldinger

Team 15: Robert Curry, Ross Wilcox, Doug Dailey, Anthony Roark

After a round robin of play, the final scores were Team 9–250 points; Team 14–240 points; and Team 15–290. Congratulations team 15!



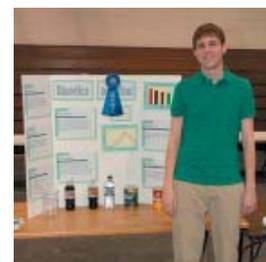
Team 15 Quiz Bowl winners

EPJ High School Science Fair a Success!! . . . *by Melanie Suter, H.S. Science*



Second place Overall Grand Prize winners.

On Monday, February 7, approximately 124 projects filled the middle school gym. Every student in the high school who was enrolled in a science class created and presented a science fair project during the morning judging. With only eight students in the high school not currently in a science course, the gym was packed. Those students who received awards for their projects are eligible to attend the state science fair at SDSU on April 1. Fourth and fifth places received a certificate. First through third places won a ribbon and certificate. The overall winners received a cash prize and certificate. Winners were as follows:



First place Overall Grand Prize winner.

Overall Grand Prize Winners

- 2. Darin Schmidt and Doug Dailey
- 1. Robert Curry

Chemistry

- 4. Jessica Dodds and Jennifer Mead
- 3. Jason Donnelly and Justin Schmidt
- 2. Kale Nelson
- 1. Michael Nebelsick and Cody Trometer

Medicine and Health

- 5. Carly Rubida
- 4. Nicola Obeney and Genevieve Stalvig
- 3. Hannah Wilkinson and Kelsey Mapstone
- 2. Kyle Hanson
- 1. Robert Curry

Behavioral and Social Science

- 4. Jessica Hudelson
- 3. David Stamp and John Engeldinger
- 2. Josh Viereck
- 1. Hope Metzgar and Ashlie Hughes

Environmental Science

- 4. Kira Gill and Olivia Matthys
- 3. Emily Rosenbaum and Alex Staum
- 2. Karley Sieverding
- 1. Lana Honomichl

Microbiology

- 4. Josh Butrous
- 3. Keshia Densberger and Bethany Peter
- 2. Annie Staum and Jalisa Keegan
- 1. Tommi Hanson and Alisha Limoges

Biology

- 5. Marty Pierce
- 4. Vanessa Nelson and Dawn Dodds
- 3. Grayson Pirner and Andrew Trudeau
- 2. Katie Langel
- 1. Doug Dailey and Darin Schmidt

Math/Earth and Space Science

- 3. Autumn Barnes
- 2. Erin Hasenbank and Tiffani Pirner
- 1. Chris Tow and Kayla McInerney

Physics

- 3. Josh Rupp and Casey DeBuhr
- 2. Sara Peasley
- 1. Anne Rosenbaum

Drawing Class Reads to Elementary Students . . . *by Brenda Kunkel, 6-12 Art*



After writing and illustrating their own children's books, students in last semester's high school drawing class read their developed stories to Mrs. Schmitz's first grade and Mrs. Nearman's and Mrs. Dyrssen's third grade classes. After researching an illustrator's style such as Maurice Sendak, Chris Van Allsburg, and Suzanne Duranceau, drawing students developed their books from scratch, even choosing a specific binding technique for the pages. Then, by planning with storyboards and sketches, students developed a story following an assigned theme. Both high school and elementary students enjoyed the experience.



Students Fare Well at High School Vocal Contest . . . by Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal

One hundred vocal music students attended the region solo and ensemble contest at Yankton High School on Wednesday, February 9. The group, as a whole, received outstanding ratings, with a grand total of 17 excellent (2) ratings, 22 superior (1) ratings, 11 superior solo medals, and 77 superior ensemble medals!

The following groups and individuals received excellent (2) ratings:

- One small girls group of Bethany Peter, Amanda Carroll, Kendra Carroll, and Ashlie Hughes
- Two duets of Tommi Hanson & Abby Davis and Genevieve Stalvig & Anne Rosenbaum
- Three large mixed groups consisting of Paige Norton, Melanie Engeldinger, Molly Shanks, Kirsten Schaffer, Molly Donnelly, Mary Nebelsick, Cathy Stalvig, Linley McInerney, Sam Massey, Anna Erickson, Garrett Thompson, Alex Pedersen, James Joffer, Sam Turner, Chris Steeg, Jordan Patnaude, Brittany Glover, Olivia Matthys, Lauren Limoges, Brooke Turkleson, Dawn Dodds, Tiffany Pirner, Kira Gill, Vanessa Nelson, Shantel Piper, Danny Hutcheson, Josh Rupp, Taylor Forsling, Sam McInerney, Joe Frankl, Nick Lindsey, Daschle Larson, Robert Curry, Doug Dailey, Kyle Hanson, Darin Schmidt, Jim Leasure, Ross Wilcox, Jessica Dodds, Maria Fowler, Erica Peter, Lea Mathison, Anne Rosenbaum, Jennifer Mead, Carly Rubida and Bethany Peter
- One large boys group consisting of Zach Trisler, Jesse Hoffland, Jordan Patnaude, Daniel Hollis, Marty Pierce, Chris Steeg, Alex Pedersen, Jacob Renken, Jerry Renken, Jacob Limoges, Jason Donnelly, James Chicoine, Aaron Gill, Daschle Larsen, Michael Nebelsick, Josh Butrous, and Jake Butrous
- Soloists: Sara Peasley, Nettie Brown, Darin Schmidt, Viktor Sundleaf, Lea Mathison, Molly Shanks, and Autumn Barnes

These groups and individuals received superior (1) ratings:

- Five duets: Carly Rubida & Maria Fowler, Tommi Hanson & Jennifer Mead, Brooke Turkleson & Molly Shanks, Jennifer Mead & Casey DeBuhr, and Jacob Butrous & Josh Butrous
- One small mixed group of Adrian Ries, Hannah Wilkinson, and Amanda Connelly
- Two small boys ensembles of Chris Tow, Doug Dailey, Robert Curry, Casey DeBuhr, Kyle Hanson, Darin Schmidt, and Adrian Ries
- Two large girls groups consisting of Kayla McInerney, Leafia Jensen, Valli Turnbaugh, Paige Pollard, Tommi Hanson, Abby Davis, Carly Rubida, Alex Staum, Keisha Densberger, Emily Rosenbaum, Heidi Erickson, Kaitlin Forsling, Katie Buum, Hali Hutcheson, Alesha Hummel, Autumn Barnes, Lana Honomichl, Sara Peasley, Hope Metzgar, Hannah Wilkinson, Tamara Beck, Jalisa Keegan, Kelsey Mapstone, Kelsie Pace, Genevieve Stalvig, Annie Staum, Kristen Marshall, and Erica Peter
- One large boys group consisting of Kyle Hanson, Doug Dailey, Darin Schmidt, Cody Whitlock, Viktor Sundleaf, Victor Contreras, Josh Viereck, Curt Truhe, Jason Donnelly, Taylor Forsling, Jim Leasure, Ross Wilcox, Adrian Ries, and Josh Butrous
- Soloists: Casey DeBuhr, Adrian Ries, Doug Dailey, Robert Curry, Kyle Hanson, Brooke Turkleson, Josh Butrous, Hannah Wilkinson, Maria Fowler, Carly Rubida, and Jennifer Mead

Pictures of the High School Choir Participants



Parents

**** Update your E-mail Address ****

If you have changed your e-mail address or have currently obtained an e-mail address, please forward this information to Jerry Klumper at Jerry.Klumper@k12.sd.us.

Teachers and administration use this form of communication to keep you informed of happenings in the classroom or at the school.

Music Booster News . . . *by Kathy Lawler, Co-Chair EPJ Music Boosters*

USAF Concert Band Performs at EPJ

The United States Air Force Heartland of America Concert Band wowed the Elk Point community Friday, February 25, at the Elk Point-Jefferson School. The 40-member unit based out of Offutt Air Force Base in Bellvue, Nebraska, performed its first-ever concert for a huge crowd, conducted by Major A. Phillip Waite.

Special guest performers were five members of the Elk Point-Jefferson High school band: Anne Rosenbaum on clarinet, Nick Erickson on saxophone, Josh Reed on trumpet, Sarah Peasley on flute, and Adrian Ries on percussion.

This performance was supported by EPJ Music Boosters and the Leader-Courier. Special thanks to these groups and to Cody's Homestead for providing a pre-concert meal to the USAF band and crew.



Spring Fundraiser

The EPJ Music Booster's spring fundraiser will get underway on March 7 and continue through March 21. A new variety of foods is available including pizza, burritos, mini tacos, pizza bread, egg rolls, and cookie dough. The popular dishcloths will again be available. Items ordered will be available for delivery on April 11. Over forty of our band/vocal students are registered for the spring trip to the Minneapolis area. Credits earned from this venture will help defray expenses of their trip. Other students are earning credits to attend band and vocal camps or to purchase new instruments. The students greatly appreciate the community's continued support of our fundraisers.

Music Booster Web Site

If you haven't already checked it out, please visit our new web site at www.EPJMusicBoosters.com. The site was designed and is maintained by Music Booster Cindy Marshall. Please access this valuable web site to receive information about upcoming band/vocal

African Adventure . . . *by Laura Froehlich, PDC Mentor*



Miss Wipf is currently teaching fourth grade through the PDC program. After completing her Masters of Arts as a reading specialist this summer, she will pack her belongings and head to Sudan at the beginning of August. She will not only experience the culture and lifestyle of the Sudanese people, she will be interacting with children from around the globe. Miss Wipf will be teaching third grade for the next two years at the Khartoum American School (KAS) in Sudan, Africa. The school serves students from twenty-nine different nations, most of whom are children of ambassadors or nongovernmental organization workers.

Miss Wipf heard of the job through the Overseas Teacher Placement Fair held by the University of Northern Iowa. Her original intent was to join the Peace Corps once she finished school. She thought teaching at an American school would be less of a culture shock but would give her an opportunity to see another part of the world. During the job fair, she was able to speak with two teachers that are currently teaching at KAS. They answered several questions concerning the classroom and living conditions.

The school calendar and curriculum are very similar to many schools in the United States. However, the average class size is seven to ten students. The school has five giant land tortoises that roam freely on campus. Filtering and boiling drinking water will be part of her daily routine. Computers and the Internet are available to teachers and students. Therefore, Miss Wipf will be able to keep in touch with family and friends.

We congratulate Miss Wipf and wish her the best of luck on her new adventure!

Kindergarten Registration
2005-06 School Year



Anyone with a child who will be five years of age by September 1, 2005, please register your child by calling Norma at the Elementary Office (356-5800), or sending an e-mail message to Norma.Ferdig@k12.sd.us with the following information: child's name, birthdate, and parent's name, address, and phone number.

Mark Your Calendar for Upcoming School Events



- March 7 & 10Parent/Teacher Conferences, 4:00-8:00 P.M.
- March 11No School
- March 15 All Band Concert, 7:00 P.M.
- March 25 & 28 Easter Break, No School
- April 18 & 19 Spring Break, No School
- April 22 All-School Play Dinner Theatre, 6:00 P.M.
- April 25 Teacher In-Service, Dismissal 12:45 P.M.
- April 29K-4 Spring Concert, 7:00 P.M.
- May 5 5-8 Spring Concert, 7:00 P.M.
- May 9 9-12 Spring Concert, 7:00 P.M.
- May 10 M.S. Regional Vocal Contest @ EPJ

EPJ Activities Boosters

March

www.epjboosters.com

2005

~The Salt Drive Cometh~

We are planning our spring salt drive, and we will be sending out order forms soon! Be thinking of how much salt you will need for the year, and we will deliver it directly to your basement—or wherever you want it. We will be using the same high-quality salt as last year, and you will have the option of ordering regular or rust inhibitor varieties.

If you would like to volunteer your time or equipment (trailers, pickups) for the delivery, contact Rahn Bertram.

WE NEED BOOSTER OFFICERS!

We will be looking for boosters for the position of secretary/treasurer and vice-president for next year. If you are interested, please contact one of the people listed below. This is a great way to get involved!

BOOSTERS OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

- ◆ Lora TrudeauPresident
- ◆ Leslie Erickson.....Vice-President
- ◆ Kristi Lehman Sec/Treasurer
- ◆ Kevin Connelly Board Member
- ◆ Katy Forsling Board Member
- ◆ Barb Wurtz Board Member

Concessions Volunteers Appreciated

We would like to thank all those who volunteered and helped staff the concession stand at the volleyball and basketball games. This turned out to be a great fundraiser, and remember that all those funds go back to our students and the programs in which they are involved. For those who volunteered, we will be drawing soon for the jacket.

We will also need volunteers for track concessions. We will have the dates on which we need help posted on the web site, so please go to our web site at www.epjboosters.com and find a date that will work for you.

Thanks again to those who have already

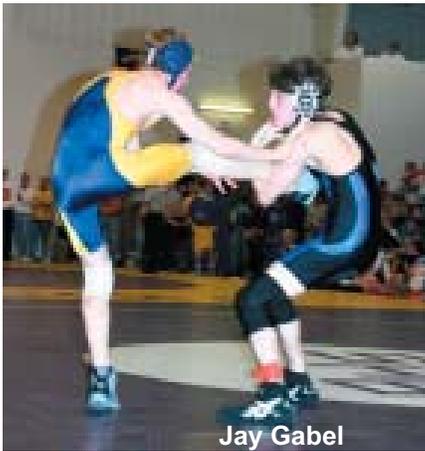
Upcoming Events

- Parents' night for boys and girls
- basketball was held last month, and both
- parents and players were recognized for
- their contributions. Parents' night for track
- and golf are upcoming. Be sure and attend
- those events to celebrate the athletes.
- At Fine Arts night, our band, chorus,
- dance team, and acting students provided
- excellent entertainment and showed
- their stuff. This event was also a good
- opportunity to see some of the artwork,
- crafts, and woodworking projects our
- students are creating. There was a good
- turnout, and if you missed it this year, be
- sure to put it on your calendar for next year.

**Congratulations to the
Wrestlers for Winning
3rd in State!**

**We are so Proud of
You!
Go**

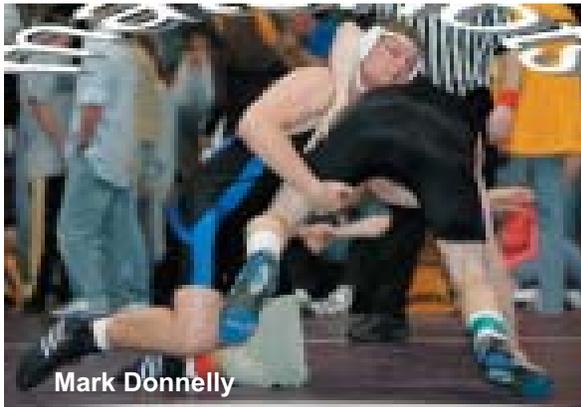
Tournament Wrestling Highlights 2005



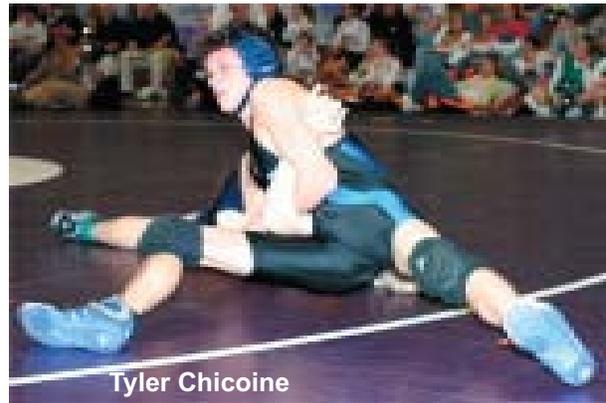
Jay Gabel



2005 State Qualifiers



Mark Donnelly



Tyler Chicoine

Elk Point-Jefferson School District
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Elk Point, SD 57025

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