



Husky News

Elk Point-Jefferson School District

Volume 6, Issue 2

December 2005

Showing Pride . . . Taking Action

Snow Days . . . *by Brian Shanks, Superintendent*

I have been asked, "How do you make your decisions to postpone or cancel school?" That should be a fairly simple question to answer, but it really isn't. There are a lot of factors that determine whether we will or will not have school. It isn't just the amount of snow, the temperature, the wind, or because Vermillion called it off (just kidding). It is always a combination of factors that determines the decision that we make.

Rarely have I ever called off school just because of the amount of snow. I do remember one instance, in a previous school, where we had two 30-inch snowfalls within a period of a week. It was in April, and the snow was heavy and wet with the temperatures right around the freezing mark. Even this occurrence had a side issue that made it impossible to have school, and that was the waterlogged gravel roads.

It is always at least a combination of two factors that leads to the decision. Those factors are temperature (wind chill factor), the wind (visibility), road conditions, amount of snow, how early in the season, freezing rain or drizzle, and ice. Any dangerous combination of two or more of these factors affects the decision to have school or not. Our primary concern is the safety of the students and not subjecting them to conditions that are potentially hazardous. That is usually the main component of the decision that causes the most aggravation. It is a subjective decision, and not everyone will agree on what are reasonable conditions and what is a dangerous situation. The idea of a kid getting hurt because of a decision we make is a heavy burden I do not relish.

Usually the whole process starts days ahead when I see that there is pending bad weather in the forecast, and we must start assuming that some type of bad weather might lie ahead. It is interesting that in today's media the weather personalities basically create a feeling of pending doom and anticipation that we never had thirty years ago. It used to be that they could forecast the movement of fronts but never had the ability to forecast seven days in advance. This is a good thing and a bad thing, as sometimes nothing comes of it, and a marginal storm can be perceived as more than it is.

We never cancel school because of what might come (winter storm warning) but instead try to stay ahead of the pending

weather by using technology (Internet). If a storm is in process, we make a decision based on current conditions. We sometimes use a late start to gauge the seriousness of a storm and to observe a storm that is just moving in. Technology also allows us to determine when we might need to release students early because we will not release kids in the midst of a storm.

The decision to cancel school is a difficult one, and we try to base our decision on input we receive from several different sources. I usually drive a couple different directions to try to get a feeling for what is out there. Some storms are obvious and take very little consideration, but many are less obvious, and a good decision requires input from others and consideration of the various factors. This district is a very small and flat school district when compared to most in South Dakota, with the exception of the northernmost part of the district; thus some of the factors don't weigh as heavily as districts that have a different topography. The distance we travel and the density of population does cut out some of the risk as far as getting stranded or having to walk long distances if you get in some trouble.

The worst combination of factors is high wind and frigid temperatures with any amount of snow. People don't last long exposed to these types of weather conditions. Ice is always a dangerous factor, and it is difficult to get students to slow down when they drive. We usually work with local officials to find out if the roads are sanded or when they will be. Sometimes a late start is prudent during these conditions. I could go on and on describing the different types of conditions that could occur and what we might do, but I don't have enough room to do so in this article.

Regardless, we usually get more input in these types of decisions than anything else we do, and I understand that. Sometimes the input is negative, and I also understand that as our kids are the most important things in our lives. Please just remember that I understand that, and I don't try to make reckless decisions based on "bravado." We can always make up the days, so if I have real reservations, we will not have school.

Thanks for listening.

EPJ High School Band Invited to the 2006-07 Liberty Bowl . . . *by Jeremy Schutter, 5-12 Band Director*

This fall, the EPJ high school band was officially invited by Bowl Games of America to perform at the Liberty Bowl in Memphis, TN, in December of 2006. This is both an honor and a privilege for the EPJ high school band to have the opportunity to perform before thousands of people, to receive national exposure, and to meet and perform with other bands from across the United States. This is exciting exposure for our whole school district.

As we begin the details of organizing this trip to Memphis, it is estimated that the trip will cost approximately \$30,000. To date, we began the fundraising process by selling dessert items from Red Wheel Fundraising in October and Southern Hills Mall discount tickets in November. Your support and generosity is very much appreciated. The EPJ Music Boosters have stepped up to the plate and pledged \$10,000 towards this event. I must extend my heartfelt thanks to the Music Boosters for this support and all of the support they give to the
(continued page 2)

EPJ High School Band Invited to the 2006-07 Liberty Bowl (continued)

music department. Of course, we will be doing more fundraising in the near future. Some of the fundraising events being planned are a spaghetti feed before the All Band Concert in March, concessions at home athletic events, and silent auctions.

In early January 2006, there will be a meeting to discuss the trip with all parents and band students who are currently in grades 8-11. Please watch for materials to come home from the school concerning this meeting before winter break begins.

If anybody has any questions, please feel free to contact me at 356-5890 or by email at Jeremy.Schutter@k12.sd.us. This is very exciting for our students. I think this is an opportunity missed if we do not work together to send the EPJ high school band to the Liberty Bowl in 2006.



HOLIDAY LIBRARY HOURS

Friday, December 23	1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
Saturday and Monday, December 24 and 26	CLOSED
Tuesday – Thursday, December 27-29	1:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
Friday, December 30	1:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M.
Saturday, December 31	9:00 A.M. – Noon
Monday, January 2	CLOSED
Tuesday, January 3	1:00 P.M. – 8:00 P.M.
Wednesday, January 4	Regular Hours Begin



Library News

by *Laura Grashoff, City Librarian*

Popcorn Book Club – Fifth and sixth grade students meet after school on Tuesdays. They have been reading, “A View From Saturday.” The group meets to discuss a few chapters each week, enjoy one another’s company, and snack on popcorn. The club voted on the novel they will read next semester. Their choice will be “Bridge to Terabithia.” Any fifth or sixth grade student who wishes to join the book club next semester may do so by contacting the library to register. A \$5.00 fee will be assessed for the cost of the book.



Laura Grashoff, City Librarian

Dinostories Science Exhibit - A traveling, hands-on exhibit from HOP (Hands-On Partnership for Science, Literature and Art in South Dakota, A Partnership of South Dakota State School of Mines, South Dakota Discovery Center & Aquarium, Dahl Arts Center, South Dakota State Library, and Rawlins Municipal Library) will be housed in the EPJ Library during the month of March. There will be no charge for viewing the exhibit. Visitors will be met by the “terrible lizards” – with reading chairs the size of real dinosaur heads and a dinosaur nest children can actually climb into. The display includes a matching dinosaur name game, dinosaur skeleton puzzles, a fossil dig, dinosaur head chairs, a dinosaur nest, and a dinosaur rubbing table.

Vision Screenings

by *Lisa McInerney, RN, School Nurse*

On November 22, 2005, Dr. Ryan Arlt, Optometrist at Vision Solutions, came to EPJ school to provide vision screenings for students in kindergarten, second, fourth, and sixth grade.

Every year vision screenings are provided for even grades, K-12, and for any child that is referred by his/her parent or teacher. A little over two hundred students in kindergarten, second, fourth, and sixth grades were screened by Dr. Arlt, with fifteen students requiring follow up. Dr. Arlt stresses that this is a quick screening; if a student is sent a referral letter, it is just indicating that the student may need a more thorough exam.

I am in the process now of screening junior high (8th grade) and high school (10th and 12th grade). If a student has contacts or glasses and recently had a vision screening by an eye doctor, he/she does not have to go through the screening. I am using a machine that is borrowed from the Rehabilitation Center for the Blind. It is an instrument that is designed for rapid and precise measurement of visual performance. The test results show accurately how well eyes perform but does not show the cause of low or unsatisfactory results. As with the screening done by Dr. Arlt, this is only a screening; if the child is referred for follow up, it is just indicating that a more thorough exam may be needed.

Dr. Arlt has an office in Beresford and is at the Community Health Clinic on Tuesday and Friday afternoons.

If you have any questions or concerns about your child’s vision or would like more information regarding screenings, please call 356-5806 or stop by my office.

Kindergarten Pre-Registration

The EPJ School District is trying to establish the approximate number of students for the 2006-07 kindergarten class. If you have a child who will be 5 years of age by September 1, 2006, please call the elementary office at 356-5800 or e-mail: norma.ferdig@k12.sd.us. Please provide your child’s name, birth date, parent name, address, and phone number.



Kelly Reed Wins Local Lions International Peace Poster Contest

by Pat Schurdevin, Lions Peace Poster Contest Chairperson

Kelly Reed, a seventh grader at Elk Point-Jefferson School, has won the local peace poster contest sponsored by the Elk Point Lions Club. Lions International is sponsoring the contest to emphasize the importance of world peace to young people everywhere. Reed's poster will advance through the district and international rounds of competition.

The posters were judged on originality, artistic merit, and portrayal of the contest theme "Peace Without Borders."

Locally, Reed and five other EPJ students entered the contest. Ms. Turner, EPJ art instructor, was very helpful in coordinating the peace poster contest for the Lions Club. Internationally, one grand prize winner is awarded \$2,500 cash plus a trip for the winner and two family members to New York City for an awards ceremony in February or March of 2006.

Reed is the daughter of Bret and Monique Reed.

Thirteen Vocalists to Attend the 2006 Elementary Festival Chorus . . . by Jeanne Hanson, K-4 Vocal Director

The South Dakota Music Educators' Association has announced the 2006 Elementary Festival Chorus participants for the state convention. Elk Point-Jefferson will send thirteen vocalists to the convention. They are fourth graders Ely Buehner, Jade Rosenbaum, and Catherine Mikkelson; fifth graders Noah Rubida, Tony Metzgar, Caitlin Davis, Kelsey Abbey, Taylor Donnelly, and Haylee Erickson; and sixth graders Victoria Zamzow, Ashlee Stepp, Kaitlyn Hargadine, and Morgan Bertrand.

Students selected for the Elementary Festival Chorus in Brookings on February 9, 2006, will have the privilege of working with Angela Broeker. Angela is the Director of Choral Studies at the University of St. Thomas in St. Paul, Minnesota. She comes highly recommended for her work with singers of this age. Students will practice during the day on Thursday, February 9, and culminate the festival with a concert at the SDMEA convention at 4:00 P.M. that day.

Music for the festival chosen by Angela Broeker includes *I Will Sing New Songs* by Dvorak, *Aweigh*, *Santy Ano* by Cyndee Giebler, *The Wind* by Susan Brumfield, *Johnson Boys* by Jay Broeker, *Bought Me A Cat* by Copland, and *Jordan's Angels* by Rollo Dillworth.

Jeanne Hanson and Mary Schuh are music instructors for the 4-6 general music program. Both commented on the number of children represented from EPJ. Mrs. Schuh commented, "We again have one of the largest representations from around the state. It shows the kind of

talent our community has!"



2005-06 PDC Staff Members . . . by Dan Swatek, PDC Mentor

The PDC program is a program that creates a partnership between the University of South Dakota and local school districts. This partnership pairs first-year teachers (PDC teacher) with veteran teachers (PDC mentor) for a mentoring experience with no extra cost to the local district. This yearlong process allows the PDC teacher to take control of the PDC mentor's classroom on a full-time basis. The PDC mentor provides guidance and support throughout the year to the PDC teacher; this guidance allows the PDC teacher to gain valuable insight and practical experience in the teaching profession. During the school year, the PDC mentor splits his/her time between mentoring the PDC teacher and working on school projects aimed at enhancing the learning experience of current and future students. As part of the program, all participants work towards an advanced degree in the field of education.

The program benefits the school district and students by providing a collaborative approach between the PDC mentor, PDC teacher, EPJ staff, and USD. The teachers participating in the program this year are Dan Swatek, Steve Miles (sixth grade), and Kayla Erickson (kindergarten).

Steve Miles, born and raised in Mill Valley, CA, moved to SD in 1986 where he owned and operated a floor cleaning business for fifteen years. In 2001, Steve decided to go back to school and pursue a career in education. A graduate of the USD education program in December of 2004, Steve is now working on his reading specialist degree. Welcome to EPJ, Steve!

Kayla Erickson comes to EPJ from Sisseton, SD, where she graduated in 2001. From Sisseton, Kayla traveled south to Vermillion to attend USD and pursue a degree in elementary education with an emphasis in early childhood. While going through the PDC program, Kayla is working on her school counseling degree. Welcome, Kayla!



Your Future is in Your Past . . . by Doug Brusseau, K-6 Principal

It is never too early to begin planning for life after your child has completed the twelfth grade. Students will have different paths they can take for the rest of their life, such as college, vocational school, the military, becoming employed, public service through programs like the Peace Corp, or just staying home. Many of these paths will change as the economy changes.

Hopefully, the current generation of students has high expectations of themselves and has begun to develop goals to match what they have established for the future.

These high expectations will transcend all barriers students will have in life. High expectations for all students will allow each student to develop the skills needed to be successful in school and in life such as study skills, life skills, accepting responsibility, making good decisions, being assertive, anger management, computer skills, attendance, and a mind set for achievement.

- Responsibility acceptance: Students learn to take responsibility for all actions and consequences, good or bad, with statements like, "I failed the test because I . . .," "I got in trouble because I . . .," or "I earned an 'A' on the test because I . . ."
- Assertiveness: Many students do not ask questions or participate in activities in school and within the community. Students must learn that they are in charge of their learning and success and must be actively involved in the setting they are in.
- Anger management: Students don't realize that anger and aggression causes them to lose what they want most--to appear smart, to appear strong, and to have control of their feelings.
- Life skills: Not all students automatically know the meaning or the importance of such qualities as integrity, initiative flexibility, perseverance, sense of humor, and patience. Many people never know that kids who get A's have to study.
- Technology: Not since the introduction of the blackboard has the world seen the variety of ways we present information. The computer is changing the skills all individuals will need in the future to go to school, work, and communication and live in our own homes. The skills students will need to be aware of include keyboarding, word processing skills, spreadsheet skills, electronic presentation skills, web navigation skills, email skills, video conferencing skills, and computer security skills.
- Mind set for achievement: Students need to have a positive attitude about learning. They need to consider using the following statements: "I deserve to be successful," "I am an individual with my own learning style," "I am responsible for my own education," and "I can make tomorrow's assignment easier with preparation." Students, as they move through the grades, should be taking classes that are a challenge.
- Attendance: Students need to develop the skill of being in school each day of the school year. In the past, if a potential employer calls concerning an individual, the first question concerns the attendance record of the person.

Students and parents need to begin to plan for the future, even in the elementary school. Parents and students should begin to identify skills that are needed such as those listed above.

Second Graders Are Busy as Bees! . . . by Melissa Shanks, Second Grade

The second graders participated in a pollination activity entitled "Buzzy, Buzzy Bee" on November 21. Each student had a part in the activity by playing the role of the apple orchard manager, a honeybee, or an apple tree. This was an extension of our reading story "From Seed to Plant" that we had been studying all week. After the students reviewed the terminology and the process, they were able to act out the process and then understand pollination better.

Mrs. Foltz's class had a "normal" growing season. Each bee used popcorn for pollen and visited as many trees as they could in one minute by dropping their "pollen" at another tree. Results were tallied. Mrs. Donnelly's orchard had a bad ice storm in which half the trees were damaged so only half of the trees were able to pollinate. Results were counted after one minute. Mrs. Shanks' orchard had strong winds which slowed the bees down considerably in the pollination process. Again, results were counted after one minute. The students discussed the three different growing seasons and predicted the outcome of each class's growing season. The results were graphed and discussed. We enjoyed the popcorn afterwards. This activity was one of many worthwhile activities at the SD Ag in the Classroom summer class that Mrs. Vicki Nearman, Mrs. Chris Nearman, and Mrs. Melissa Shanks attended last summer in Brookings.



Mrs. Foltz's second grade class.



Mrs. Donnelly's second grade class.



Mrs. Shanks' second grade class.

Living On-Line . . . by T.A. Aslesen, HS/MS Principal

Wow, what a different world young people are growing up in today! Sure, there are many similarities all of us can draw with today's youth regardless of our age, but it is a fact that they live in a different world. For example, take communication.

One of the most distinguishable differences is all of the "stuff" they have at their disposal to gain, communicate, and digest information. Speaking from my own experience, I can recall when the first personal computer came out. As a young person, I was left scratching my head trying to figure out what the thing was worth. For us it was a glorified typewriter on which we didn't have to worry about making so many frustrating typing errors. The computer was good for one thing, writing papers. My, my, my how things have changed. Don't even get me talking about cell phones. It still blows me away that someone can drive down the road and talk to someone else! The concept of sending someone pictures I have taken through my phone rattles my limited mental ability. How can it happen without the wires?

Of course, I am being a little facetious, but if you would stop in to any dorm room on any campus throughout the United States you could witness to what extent this generation "lives on-line." I get confused just thinking about it. Imagine witnessing a young person watching a DVD, listening to her MP3 player through her headphones, instant messaging with a friend, researching information for a ten-page term paper, while juggling incoming calls on her cell phone, all in the comfy leisure of her dorm room. Don't believe it? It is reality. To some it still sounds like a bunch of "whatever" or a quick ticket to high blood pressure. What I force myself to understand is that this is their life. This is how young people are learning to relate to others, educate themselves, and expect the world around them to function. While I would much rather have a face-to-face cup of coffee conversation, young people today think of communication in a whole different aspect and think nothing of it.

The implications for schools are anything but simple. Currently, colleges and some high schools throughout the nation are experimenting with complete on-line curriculum. In fact, some colleges have gone so far as to hold complete on-line coursework. In other words, the students don't even go to class! They complete all of their work in any setting they wish. I am a little skeptical, as I imagine you are, too. You might ask yourself, "How can you talk about economics without even taking your fuzzy, blue slippers off?" However, we are forced to open our minds and examine the possibilities along with the consequences of the changing ways which we have developed to communicate with each other and collect information. I have taken a few on-line courses myself. There is a potential there. As anything of this nature, the effectiveness boils down to the training, work ethic, and imagination of the instructor using the tool. That is really what technology is—new tools which promote efficiency.

There are many ideas and concepts floating around in our global society about the effective use of technology/computers in school. The true potential of technology in schools is just beginning to be recognized. It is the challenge for schools to consider how the technology we currently offer to students is utilized, how we can utilize it better, and what must be set into place to ensure that we have prepared students for the next step. As more members of our society who have or are in the process of learning how to "live on-line" continue to open their minds and imagine the possibilities, this potential will become reality. It will be a truly impressive process to be a part of. By the way, there is still room for the coffee maker, even though that has been known to give a little high blood pressure, too.

Holiday Concerts Spread Good Cheer

by Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal Director

The students in grades 5-12 have been singing and dancing to the holiday beat the last few weeks in November and December. The fifth-eighth graders performed "Elfis and the SleighRiders," a holiday musical, on Thursday, December 15. Featured character parts were played by Riley Braun, Adam Trudeau, Michelle Corio, Ethan Pace, Colton McCreary, Drake Zeller, Bailey Johns, Shelby Larsen, Taylor Pollard, Emily Norton, Liz Schuh, Taylor Targonski, Allyson Murphy, Mackenzie Klinkhammer, Megan Weidner, Tyler Hall, Ethan Sundleaf, and Scott Shanks. Speakers for the fifth and sixth grade classes were Danielle Gille, Josh Umpress, Halle Kaye, Christoffer Dyrssen, Victoria Zamzow, Morgan Bertram, Tony Metzgar, Ryan Donnelly, Hannah Klinkhammer, Kristen Rarrat, Taylor Donnelly, Kelsey Abbey, Kody Wagner, Anna Chicoine, Cody Strassburg, Sam Viereck, Katie Zeller, Joey Howe, Bryce Kelly, Keira Kintigh, Jared Limoges, Jessica Gates, and Dakota Navrkal.

The high school choir performed their holiday selections at the KMEG television studios on Friday, December 9. Watch for them during the holiday season. They also performed at their holiday concert on Monday, December 12. Special soloists for two of their tunes were juniors Tommi Hanson and Doug Dailey. Volunteers from the young men's barbershop quartet, Kyle Hanson, Darin Schmidt, Chris Tow, and Adrian Ries, have been performing at various community functions throughout the season.



Featured characters of the middle school *Elfis and the SleighRiders* holiday musical.

Eighth Grader Will Sing with SD Junior Honor Choir

by Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal Director

Zach Corio, an eighth grader at EPJ, has been chosen to sing with the South Dakota Junior Honor Choir. He will be representing our school and community in Sioux Falls on Friday, January 20 and 21. Ryan Peter, freshman, was chosen as the first alternate. If any young man cannot attend the event, Ryan will be picked first to join the honor choir.

The Junior Honor Choir consists of ninety-six of the best seventh, eighth, and ninth grade singers from across the state. Zach and Ryan, along with fifteen other EPJ students, auditioned by tape in October.

The EPJ Music and Activities Booster Clubs support these special select choirs by paying all costs for our students to attend events like this.



Building Going on in Industrial Tech Classes

by Terry Gardner, Industrial Technology

We are having a great year in industrial tech, building several projects in each of the classes. Woods students have started building small projects of their choice, while Mod Tech is working with marine transportation, and Construction is currently learning about house wiring. The construction class has completed its playhouse project and the houses are now ready for auction. The class has decided to sell the playhouses by silent auction. One house will be on display in the commons, while the second will be kept in the construction lab. These playhouses will make a terrific gift for any home with small children. Please come and take a look at the playhouses; our students have put a lot of hard work into constructing them. Happy Holidays.

English Department Works on Vocabulary Development

by Patty Skinner, 7-8 Language Arts

To further strengthen EPJ 7-12 students' vocabulary skills, the English Department, Lori Hawley, Deb Limoges and Patty Skinner, is adding more emphasis on structural analysis to the English curriculum. Structural analysis is using prefixes, roots, and suffixes to infer word meanings. According to Margret Trauernicht, Zaaner-Bloser National Consultant, "It is the most systematic and efficient way to build vocabulary."

After pretesting students on prefixes, roots, and suffixes according to grade level, students will receive more intensive instruction in these areas. At the end of the instruction, students will be tested to see the effectiveness of the instruction.

Junior High Quiz Bowl . . . by Nick Hovden, Advisor

Eighteen teams, consisting of seventh and eighth graders, participated in the Junior High Quiz Bowl on Friday, November 4. After three preliminary rounds were completed, the three teams with the highest cumulative scores then advanced to the final round. The top three teams were Team 10 - Stephanie Teply, Mackenzie Klinkhammer, Annie Peasley, Reanna Bertram; Team 2 - Hayley Zamzow, Josh Hummel, Bailey Johns, Chris Pierce; and Team 11 - Billy Wiseman, Rayce Monahan, Liz Schuh, Courtney Thorpe. After the round robin finals, Team 10 proved itself victorious and was crowned the 2005 Junior High Quiz Bowl Champion. Team 11 came in second, and Team 2 finished in third.

Congratulations to Stephanie, Mackenzie, Annie, and Reanna for scoring 180 points and finishing in first place! A big thank you to all the volunteers who donated their time to make this contest possible.

High School Band Members Attend Festivals

by Jeremy Schutter, 5-12 Band Director

During second quarter, some members of the high school band have had the opportunity to participate in honor band festivals.

The first festival was the Augustana College Band Festival. This festival was held Friday, November 11 and Saturday, November 12. EPJ was fortunate to have eight members selected to the festival by director nomination. These students were Stephanie Reed—horn, Genevieve Stalvig—flute, Viktor Sundleaf—tuba, Josh Reed—trumpet, Chris Tow—alto saxophone, Sara Peasley—flute, Hope Metzgar—clarinet, and Adrian Ries—percussion.

The students participated in two festival honor bands called the Blue Band and the Gold Band. Dr. Quincy Hilliard of the University of Louisiana, Lafayette, conducted the Gold Band. Dr. Hilliard is also a very good composer of band literature. The Gold Band played two of his compositions. Mr. Robert Jorgensen conducted the Blue Band. Mr. Jorgensen is the Director of Bands at the University of Akron.

On Monday, November 21, five members of the EPJ High School Band participated in the Region 1 Honor Band. To make it into this group, a band member must prepare an audition tape consisting of a chromatic scale, major scale, melodic minor scale, and a small etude. This group was guest directed by Mr. Dean Rettedal. Mr. Rettedal is the Director of Bands at Mount Marty College in Yankton. The students who represented EPJ were Stephanie Reed—horn, Viktor Sundleaf—tuba, Sara Peasley—flute/piccolo, Hope Metzgar—clarinet, and Adrian Ries—percussion.

Congratulations to these fine musicians on their accomplishments to this point of the school year, and best of luck to each of them in their upcoming endeavors.



Thanks for the Mini Courses!

The Elk Point-Jefferson middle school students would like to thank the following people for sharing their time and talents during the 2005 Mini Courses:

- Darci Raker Candy Making
- Dennis Ferdig Autobody Repair
- Jennifer Kahler Skin Care
- Beth Rosenbaum Fireworks
- Cathy Teply Recovering Your Life
- John Gille Biotechnology
- George Waldenberger Skyscrapers/Geology
- Stephanie Teply People to People Tour
- Delores Vondrak Candy Making
- Chris Driver Scrapbooking
- Lisa McInerney Babysitter's First Aid
- Linda Talbott Crochet and Cross Stitch
- Travis Aslesen Hearts
- Cammy Abbey Massage
- Glen Bosse Taxidermy
- Brenda Truhe Hair Care
- Steve Hofland Taekwondo
- Andy Grupp Guitar
- Angie Langle Holiday Coasters
- Bill Busker Tucker Car
- Curry Staff Curry Tour
- Ryan Brandt Chess

Family Living Students Get Into the Spirit of Giving

by Jan Baagoe, FACS

Family Living class has been busy this past semester making frosted sugar cookies and brownies to sell in the vending machine in addition to other treats we sell to the student body to earn money for our "Secret Santa" project. This year we have an all time high of forty children from the EPJ district to purchase clothes for this Christmas. Our plans are to go shopping December 14 and then sort and wrap all of the presents to give to the families in time for the holidays.

This is a project that started the year we reorganized with Jefferson and has grown over the years. For Family Living students, it is the highlight and reward of their hard work. Students learn budgeting and shopping strategies by trying to get what they think each child will really enjoy in addition to understanding what it is to make the holidays brighter for those in need of assistance. In addition to shopping for EPJ families, we will also buy items for the Council on Sexual Abuse and Domestic Violence in Sioux City.



Life Skills Students Get On the Job Experience

by Anne Fehr, 9-12 Resource Room

The students involved in the Life Skills class at Elk Point-Jefferson spend part of their day working in the community. In the next several newsletters, we will feature articles about various people in the community who help out with job training in their particular business.



Sandy Trometer, who works at Jones' Food Center, is one of the employees that help the students gain valuable on-site job experience. The students recently interviewed Sandy about her job and found out that she has worked nine years at Jones' Food Center. She likes her job very much and is presently a produce manager along with helping throughout the store. She is a full-time employee. Skills that she helps students learn are facing, stocking, bagging, and carrying out groceries.

Destination Imagination Starts New Year

by Selene Van Wyk, DI Coordinator

Destination Imagination had their annual kick-off meeting in October. Many interested students and their parents attended the meeting to learn more about what DI is and how they can become involved in the competition. After an informative session, individuals signed up and began reviewing this year's problems. Eight teams signed up for this year's competition consisting of one primary team (K-2), three elementary level teams (3-5), one middle level team (6-8), and three high school teams (9-12).

Students also started their annual candy bar sale. The candy bars are made by the World's Finest Chocolate Company. The DI students earn one-half of all the profits for expenses. This profit is used to help pay registration fees, material fees, and travel to competition. Students earn prizes for their sales.

What is DI? Destination Imagination is one of the world's largest creativity and problem-solving programs for youth of all ages, with thousands of participants in forty-seven U.S. states, fifteen countries, and Canadian provinces participating annually. The Destination Imagination program helps kids build important lifelong skills such as problem-solving, teamwork and divergent thinking. The teams solve two types of challenges within the program year. The Central Team Challenge involves structural, technical or theatrical-oriented challenges and takes several months to solve. Throughout that time the teams also practice improvisational Instant Challenges, which stimulate the team's ability to think quickly and creatively with only minutes to prepare solutions. When tournament time rolls around, each team's score reflects its Central Team Challenge performance plus its response to an Instant Challenge.

If you are interested in being on a team (1-12) or being a team manager, please call 356-5862.

Singers Selected for Six-State Region Honor Choir in Omaha

by Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal Director

Senior Casey DeBuhr, junior Chris Tow, and seventh grader Liz Schuh will represent EPJ in Omaha, Nebraska, in March at two regional Honor Choirs.

Casey and Chris will be singing with the four-part high school men's group. Liz will sing with the junior high group. Students from across a six-state area were chosen for this honor to be held in conjunction with the American Choral Director's Association Regional Convention. These three EPJ students, along with twenty-five other Huskies, auditioned for these groups by tape in October.

The EPJ Music and Activities Booster Clubs support these special select choirs by paying all costs for our students to attend events like this.



Middle School Science Fair 2005 . . . by Daryl Fletcher, 7-8 Science

The Middle School Science Fair was held November 22 in the middle school gymnasium with fifth through eighth graders participating. The science fair is under the direction and guidance of science teachers Gwen Billings, Steve Miles, and Daryl Fletcher. There were 160 projects in the fair. The students set up their projects in the morning and were evaluated by a panel of judges in the afternoon. In the evening, the projects were open to public viewing with the award ceremony starting at 7:15 P.M.

The students that finished in one of the top four places of the three different divisions earned a trip to the South Dakota Regional Science Fair in Brookings on the campus of SDSU. This competition will be held on Friday, March 24, 2006.

In fifth and sixth grades, the two overall winners were Toffer Dyrssen and Anna Chicoine. In the seventh and eighth grade competition, Kelly Reed and the partnership of Michelle Corio and Emily Zeller were the overall winners. The local teacher's association, EPJEA, recognized the award winners with a \$25 prize to each winner. Below are this year's local award winners.

Grade 5: Biological Science

- 1st Place Anna Chicoine
- 2nd Place Katie Zeller
- 3rd Place Kristen Rarrat
- 4th Place Taylor Donnelly

Grade 6: Biological Science

- 1st Place Danielle Gille
- 2nd Place Mike Wurtz
- 3rd Place Sarah Tow
- 4th Place Ryan Donnelly

Grade 7: Biological Science

- 1st Place Jenna Donnelly/Stephanie Tepy
- 2nd Place Liz Schuh/Courtney Thorpe
- 3rd Place Abbey Langstraat
- 4th Place Reanna Bertram/Emilie Erickson

Grade 8: Biological Science

- 1st Place Courtney Whitlock
- 2nd Place Shelby Larsen
- 3rd Place Chris Pierce

Earth Science

- Jessica Gates
- Noah Rubida
- Hannah Klinkhammer
- Kelsey Abbey

Earth Science

- Victoria Zamzow
- Brendan Kelly
- Morgan Hueser
- Michael Hart

Earth Science

- Brittany Paulsen/Cassie Hilbrands
- Haley Bosse/Martha Contreras
- Mackenzie Klinkhammer
- Taylor Targonski

Earth Science

- Zach Corio
- Ross Rosenbaum
- Adam Trudeau

Physical Science

- DJ Borchardt
- Caitlin Davis
- Dakota Navrkal
- Matthew Lehman

Physical Science

- Toffer Dyrssen
- Tory McCreary
- Corey Chicoine
- Nick Oliver

Physical Science

- Kelly Reed
- Emily Zeller/Michelle Corio
- Annie Peasley
- Ashley Geary/Bobbie McLaury

Physical Science

- Megan Weidner
- Alex Elkins
- Allyson Murphy

Pictures from the 2005 Middle School Science Fair



National Honor Society Activities . . . by Rita Ahmann, NHS Advisor



The Husky Chapter of the National Honor Society began the year with eight returning members: Casey DeBuhr, Joseph Frankl, Brittany Glover, Erin Hasenbank, Daschle Larsen, Olivia Matthys, Michael Nebelsick, and Stephanie Reed. New officers were selected for the year. They are President Erin Hasenbank, Vice-President Casey DeBuhr, Secretary Brittany Glover, and Treasurer Olivia Matthys.

Students provided childcare for parents attending the parenting class on six Tuesday evenings in October and November. In addition to the members, non-members Autumn Barnes, Alisha Limoges, Linley McInerney, Hope Metzgar, and Chrissy Stamp helped.

The NHS sponsored the community blood drive at the school on Tuesday, October 25. Members were responsible for disseminating the publicity for the drive as well as furnishing cookies and juice for donors. Many members were first-time or repeat blood donors.

Tuesday, November 15, was the date of the induction ceremony. Due to poor weather conditions that night, the event was postponed until Thursday, November 17. New members inducted at that time were Genevieve Stalvig, David Stamp, Autumn Barnes, Doug Dailey, Abby Davis, Maria Fowler, Kyle Hanson, Tommi Hanson, Erica Peter, Darin Schmidt, Alex Staum, Chris Tow, and Curt Truhe. Current members conducted the ceremony, describing the four characteristics of the NHS and introducing the new members.



A Day Just for Moles!?!?

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 (6.02×10^{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' classroom celebrated Mole Day in great fashion. Since Mole Day occurred while Mrs. Norris was on maternity leave, students celebrated Thursday, November 17. The seniors in Advanced Chemistry took part in the Avogadro Cup. They competed in a water contest, mole-in-one golf, a basketmole shoot out and Mole Stroll. The Mole Stroll had students pushing a ball down a hallway with just their noses, and the mole-in-one-golf took no actual golf skill, as our male golf students were humbled by the non-golfers. Juniors in Chemistry created moles of their own using tin foil and participated in the 3rd Annual Husky Mole-a-thon. The freshmen were even able to participate in the Avogadro Cup. The day was made complete with a few Mole Day snacks such as Donut Moles, Mole Juice, and Ani-mole Crackers. The students would like to thank the EPJ Booster Club for providing funding for this great day.

Dietician Interns Share Their Knowledge

by Jan Baagoe, FACS



EPJ has had the fortune of having two dietician interns working with the district this past semester. Jessica Herr and Christine Kayl have been participating in classroom activities and working with the hot lunch program as part of their internship through USD.

After an in-depth study of nutrition in Mrs. Baagoe's Foods I class, Jessica taught lessons on the amount of sugars and fats in different foods. She had test-tube models to show the amounts of sugars and fats in various foods such as pop, jello, hot dogs, pizza, and potato chips. She also taught a lesson on the anatomy of a food label by explaining the different symbols, the nutrition information, and the required information that must be on all labels. Together Jessica and Christine presented a lesson on careers, focusing on physical and occupational therapy and dietician work and informing the students of classes they should be taking, projected salaries, and education required for the different areas.

With issues of an overweight and obese society, we can only hope that the students can realize what they eat today can make all the difference in their lives in the future. Understanding what is a portion, knowing healthy ways of preparing foods, and making the right choices can greatly reduce the epidemic of health issues that can occur due to being overweight or obese.

Jessica is a graduate of Iowa State University and Christine is a graduate of University of Nebraska - Lincoln (UNL). They both are planning to go to UNL and pursue a masters degree in food science.

Local Oral Interpretation Winners Compete at Region and State Level

by Lori Hawley, Oral Interpretation Advisor

Winners of the Elk Point-Jefferson Local Oral Interpretation Contest competed at the Region I Oral Interpretation Contest in Vermillion on November 15. Competition among the eleven schools in the region involved students from Elk Point-Jefferson, Beresford, Canton, Sioux Falls Christian, Vermillion, Lennox, Harrisburg, West Central, Parker, Alcester-Hudson, and Tea. Students from Elk Point-Jefferson competing at regional level were Karley Sieverding, Tommi Hanson, Maria Fowler, Doug Dailey, Kyle Hanson, Autumn Barnes, and Kaila Hughes. Maria Fowler placed in the poetry category and read her poetry selection entitled "Music Swims Back to Me" at the State Oral Interpretation Festival held December 2 and 3 at Yankton High School.

Art Projects Wrap Up for the Holidays . . . by Katie Turner, 6-12 Art



Here we are already, enjoying the festive holiday season and wondering where the time has gone. It is hard to believe that I am so close to the end of my first semester of classes. We have journeyed through art's timeline from Egyptian hieroglyphics to the modern era of Expressionism in Art Appreciation. Art I has worked on skills ranging from realistic portraiture and mathematical perspective to abstract distortion and Cubist planes. Sixth and seventh graders have used art tools from pencil and paintbrushes to shaving cream and oil pastels. It has certainly been an interesting and diversified semester! As we near the end, the students will have a chance to take what they have

enjoyed and present further research to the rest of their classmates. These research-based projects not only allow students to explore their own interests, but allow all of us exposure to multiple viewpoints and some of the many facets of art throughout history and society in a short amount of time. Happy Holidays!



EPJ Music Booster News . . . by Kathy Lawler, EPJ Music Booster



As the seasons change, so does the direction of the EPJ Music Boosters. Having accomplished a successful fundraising season in our football concession stand and fall fundraiser with Red Wheel, the Music Boosters were able to make some significant purchases for the music department at EPJ from their general fund.

Supertech recording equipment was purchased for joint use by the band and vocal departments. This will enable Mr. Schutter and Mrs. Schuh to record student demos on CD for forwarding to schools for contests and auditions. This equipment will offer much greater clarity than the previous tapes used and will better represent the students' talents.

A new laptop computer was purchased for the Music Booster Board, specifically to record the fundraising activities of our students. The previous system of ledger pages had become antiquated and difficult to reconcile. We would like to extend special thanks to Mr. Mike Schuh for his hours of work helping our treasurer, Mary Beth Peter, set up the new bookkeeping system. The laptop will also be a great benefit as the treasurer's position transitions through the years.

The board also approved the financing of a choreographer for the EPJ Show Choir. Mrs. Schuh has hired a student from USD to assist her in this endeavor. New men's shirts and alterations of the women's show choir dresses have also been taken care of by the Music Boosters this year.

The Music Boosters have also committed to covering half the cost of the South Dakota Children's Theatre which will again be presented with our own EPJ talent in late spring 2006. Mrs. Jeanne Hansen, elementary music instructor, is credited with bringing this opportunity to our students.

Several EPJ students attended the Augustana Band Festival this fall. We were happy to cover the cost of hotel rooms for these students.

The Music Boosters hope many of you had the opportunity to purchase discount shopping tickets for the Friends and Family Shopping Day at Southern Hills Mall on December 4. One hundred percent of the \$10 ticket cost went directly to the EPJ band to help fund the Memphis, Tennessee, Liberty Bowl trip planned one year from now. This is a huge undertaking for our group; we appreciate your support in our effort to get our kids to Memphis! Please continue to support our musical causes.

Zach Corio, eighth grader, will represent EPJ at the SD Junior Honor Choir in Sioux Falls on January 21-22. Ryan Peter, freshman, was picked as first alternate. The EPJ Music Boosters and Activity Boosters have taken care of all fees for this select choir.

As this newsletter brings us into the Christmas season, we hope you take the time to listen to the EPJ students, K-12 vocal and instrumental, perform their holiday best for you at their upcoming concerts. They have worked hard, and they are ready to perform for you!



Another Successful EPJ Football Season . . . by *Rahn Bertram, Head Football Coach*

The EPJ football team ended a tremendous year with a 7-1 regular season and hosted the first two rounds of the South Dakota 11B playoffs at EPJ. The Huskies defeated Tri-Valley in the first round 41-7 and avenged their only loss of the season to Bon Homme, defeating the Cavaliers 40-7 for the Region 2 Championship. The EPJ Huskies made the playoffs for the third consecutive season and captured their first ever region championship as well as recording the most single-season wins in school history (9). We have gotten one step closer each of the past three seasons to playing in the state championship. We have only one more step to take next year, and hopefully with a strong off-season in the weight room, we can take that next step.

We will return fifteen letter winners next year, including eight players who started or saw significant playing time either on offense, defense, or special teams during the year. We have some very talented young athletes coming up who will have to step up and fill some big shoes next year, and I am confident they can rise to the challenge!

The Huskies averaged 299.6 total yards per game on offense while holding their opponents to 167.8 yards. We outscored our opponents 300-88, averaging 27.2 points per game while holding our opponents to only 8 points per game. The Huskies also forced an amazing 37 turnovers while only committing eight turnovers (2 fumbles and 6 interceptions) all year for a +29 turnover ratio. Over the past two seasons, the Huskies have only turned the ball over on fumbles six times. Some teams commit that many fumbles in one game! This just shows how committed these boys are to doing all the little things right.

Leading the Huskies on offense was Curt Truhe with 1,304 yards rushing on 216 carries, 51 yards receiving and 15 touchdowns; Daschle Larsen with 417 yards rushing on 97 carries, 406 yards receiving, and 11 touchdowns; Michael Nebelsick with 127 yards rushing including 10 touchdowns, 791 yards passing with 9 touchdowns; and Cody Trometer with 357 rushing yards and 2 touchdowns. Joe Frankl caught 5 passes for 47 yards and 2 touchdowns, and Nick Erickson caught 11 passes for 224 yards. Daschle Larsen led the team in all-purpose yards with 1,271 yards and 95 points scored. Curt Truhe followed closely with 92 points scored. These young men also did an incredible job blocking for each other when not carrying the ball.

Defensively the Huskies were led in tackles by Taylor Forsling with 112, Curt Truhe with 84, Nick Erickson with 53, Joe Frankl with 61 including 11 QB sacks, Josh Rupp with 51 tackles, Justin Kyte with 39 tackles, and Sam McInerney with 43 tackles. Leading the Huskies in interceptions was Daschle Larsen with 8, Michael Nebelsick added 5 interceptions, and Curt Truhe with 4 interceptions. Cody Trometer and Nick Erickson added 2 interceptions respectively, and Sam Turner had 1 interception. The Husky offensive and defensive lines played extremely well this season and were the foundation for an offense that gained 3,296 yards of total offense. These young men are the unsung heroes of our football team and do their job in a quiet but devastating manner. EPJ had a reputation throughout the state this year as a smash mouth run team that was extremely physical up front. Teammates in the trenches are Taylor Forsling, Justin Kyte, Sam McInerney, Sam Turner, Joseph Frankl, Devin Hummel, Jimmy Leasure, and Nick Larson. These guys don't get the stats or the glory, but they are the heart and soul of this football team.

As a team this year, we broke five school records and fifteen individual records. These can be found on our school website under football.

The postseason awards for EPJ have been a reflection of the accomplishments the Huskies attained on the field as a team this season. Three EPJ Huskies were named to the SDFBCA All-State Team this year: Daschle Larsen – DB, Taylor Forsling – LB, and Curt Truhe – FB. Daschle Larsen was also chosen as the class 11B All-American for South Dakota this year for his efforts as a running back, defensive back, punter, and punt returner. Daschle, Curt, and Taylor were also named to the Argus Leader Elite 45 All-State Team as well. Daschle and Curt were chosen for the first time, while Taylor has been chosen the past two seasons.

Continued page 13

Another Successful EPJ Football Season (continued)

Daschle Larsen, Michael Nebelsick, Taylor Forsling, Joe Frankl, and Curt Truhe were selected to the Big Sioux All-Conference team while Nick Erickson, Sam McInerney, Cody Trometer, and Josh Rupp were chosen as Honorable Mention. The Huskies finished third in the Big Sioux Conference for the third year in a row.

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: David Dohn, Scott Bruning, Justin Clercx, Gary Nebelsick, Randy Bertram, Troy McCreary, and Erik Johnson for all their time, hard work, and commitment. These guys did a fantastic job this year! Thank you.

This team proved that hard work does pay off and that tough times never last, but tough people do. We certainly “finished” this season as a team, and these young men will have memories and stories that will last a lifetime. They are a tough bunch of boys! We hope to continue to build upon this past season’s success next year.

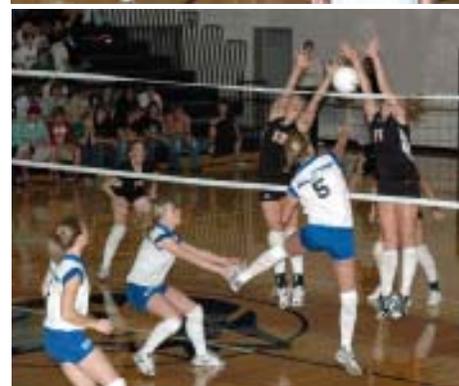
Last but certainly not least, I want to thank the parents of these wonderful young men. The time and effort that you have put into them throughout the years certainly shows up in everything they do on and off the field and in the classroom. I am truly fortunate to have been a part of their lives.

Volleyball Team Completes Successful Season . . . by Jeff Zeller, Head Volleyball Coach

The Elk Point-Jefferson Huskies volleyball team recently completed its season. The Huskies finished with a 10-14 record that included advancing to the District 8A championship match on Friday, November 4.

The team this year was made up of nineteen freshmen, twelve sophomores, three juniors, and one senior. The team fought through some early struggles and finished the season strong. The girls really played hustling defense and played with determination, and that spirit helped them to win six of their last eight matches and gain valuable momentum going into the post season. In the District 8A Tournament, hosted at Elk Point-Jefferson, EPJ defeated the Vermillion Tanagers 3-1 in first round action. In the championship match of District 8A, the Huskies fell to Dakota Valley in an intense, hard-fought match.

Coaches this year were Jeff Zeller, Jodi Zeller, and Nick Hovden. Coach Zeller commented: “This year’s team was exciting to coach. They had a great desire to improve, and it showed in how they practiced and improved throughout the season. I am pleased that we got better at all levels this year, and I feel that our late-season surge will motivate us to work hard in the off season and start off next year playing intense and confident team volleyball.” Team members of the 2005 Husky volleyball team include freshmen Ashley Zeller, Amanda Chicoine, Emily Connelly, Jennifer Engeldinger, Molly Hammitt, Kirstin Hanson, Shauna Hilbrands, Carlie Hoffman, Ashley Meadows, Jenna Norton, Maddie Pace, Kelsie Paulsen, Devan Penfield, Caitlin Rosenbaum, Marica Rupp, Ashley Schwaller, Allison Steckelberg, Rachael Tow, Lacey Tuttle; sophomores Anna Erickson, Linley McInerney, Mary Nebelsick, Kelsie Pace, Annie Staum, Hannah Wilkinson, Kim Wurtz, Amanda Connelly, Melanie Engeldinger, Kristin Marshall, Paige Norton, Katie Weis; juniors Abby Davis, Alex Staum, Heidi Erickson, Carly Rubida; and senior Erin Hasenbank.



Fall Activities Awards

On Monday, December 5, EPJ held its fall activities awards night. A dinner was held before the presentation of the awards. Jeff Zeller served as master of ceremonies. Members of the All State Chorus entertained with selections from their program.

Academic letters for the 2004-2005 school year were presented to Eric Buehner, Joe Frankl, Brittany Glover, Erin Hasenbank, Kaila Hughes, Daschle Larsen, Olivia Matthys, Michael Nebelsick, Nicola Obeney, Tiffani Pirner, Stephanie Reed, Genevieve Stalvig, David Stamp, Alyssa Steckelberg, Doug Dailey, Maria Fowler, Kyle Hanson, Tommi Hanson, Hali Hutcheson, Kayla McInerney, Carly Rubida, Darin Schmidt, Alex Staum, Curt Truhe, Josh Viereck, Anna Erickson, John Frankl, Jalisa Keegan, Myles Larsen, Kristin Marshall, Sam Massey, Hope Metzgar, Mary Nebelsick, Paige Norton, Kelsie Pace, Sara Peasley, Adrian Ries, Molly Shanks, Cathy Stalvig, Katie Weis, and Kim Wurtz. Criteria for this award was a 3.5 or better cumulative grade point for the 2004-05 school year.

Cross country coach Maggie Grassel presented athletic letters to Nick Bottger, Jessica Hudelson, Allison Lawler, Haley Bosse, and Bobbie McLaury.

Rita Ahmann, advisor for the National Honor Society, presented certificates to Casey DeBuhr, Joe Frankl, Brittany Glover, Erin Hasenbank, Daschle Larsen, Olivia Matthys, Michael Nebelsick, Stephanie Reed, Genevieve Stalvig, David Stamp, Autumn Barnes, Doug Dailey, Abby Davis, Maria Fowler, Kyle Hanson, Tommi Hanson, Erica Peter, Darin Schmidt, Alex Staum, Chris Tow, and Curt Truhe.

Golf letter winners, presented by Daryl Fletcher, included Casey DeBuhr, Viktor Sundleaf, John Frankl, Myles Larsen, Jeremiah Curry, Luke Frankl, and Mike Strassburg. Casey DeBuhr was presented with the MVP award for both fall golf and spring golf of 2005. Kayla McInerney was presented the MVP award for girls' spring golf of 2005.

Mary Schuh, vocal director, introduced members of the All State Chorus and their alternates. All State Chorus participants were Maria Fowler, Tommi Hanson, Chris Tow, Casey DeBuhr, Sara Peasley, Erica Peter, Adrian Ries, and Doug Dailey. Alternates were Genevieve Stalvig, Kirstin Hanson, Kyle Hanson, and Darin Schmidt.

Softball letter winners included Beth Knutson, Shelby Penfield, Erin Hasenbank, Kaila Hughes, Stephanie Reed, Ashley Begnoche, Abby Davis, Heidi Erickson, Anna Erickson, Sam Massey, Linley McInerney, and Kelsie Pace. These awards were presented by head coach Lance Penfield and assistant coach Renee Begnoche.

Todd Larsen, coach for the American Legion high school baseball, presented letters to James Chicoine, Nick Erickson, Taylor Forsling, Daschle Larsen, Sam McInerney, Michael Nebelsick, Josh Rupp, Curt Truhe, and Tyler Chicoine. Don Truhe and Steve Fejfar served as assistant coaches.

Marjo Johnson, football cheerleading advisor, presented letters to Lana Honomichl, Kaitlin Forsling, Alisha Limoges, Jalisa Keegan, and Molly Shanks.

Football letter winners included Nick Cox (mgr), Nick Erickson, Taylor Forsling, Joe Frankl, Devin Hummel, Danny Hutcheson, Justin Kyte, Daschle Larsen, Nick Lindsey, Daniel Massey, Sam McInerney, Michael Nebelsick, Josh Rupp, Cody Trometer, Jacob Hudelson, Nick Larson, Jimmy Leasure, Marty Pierce, Darin Schmidt, Curt Truhe, Josh Viereck, Cody Whitlock, Aaron Gill, Chris Hasenbank, Jordan Patnaude, Bobby Trudeau, Troy Turkleson, Sam Turner, and Kyle Limoges.

Special football awards included Team MVP – Daschle Larsen; Most Valuable Defensive Lineman – Joe Frankl; Most Valuable Offensive Lineman – Justin Kyte and Sam McInerney; Rookie of the Year – Kyle Limoges; Most Improved – Nick Erickson and Sam Turner; Offensive Player of the Year – Curt Truhe; Defensive Player of the Year – Taylor Forsling; Heart of a Champion – Daniel Massey; and Captains – Daschle Larsen, Taylor Forsling, Joe Frankl, Cody Trometer, and Michael Nebelsick.

Other football awards included the All Big Sioux Conference Team – Daschle Larsen, Curt Truhe, Michael Nebelsick, Joe Frankl, and Taylor Forsling; Honorable Mention All Conference – Sam McInerney, Nick Erickson, Cody Trometer, and Josh Rupp; All State – Daschle Larsen (defensive back), Taylor Forsling (linebacker), and Curt Truhe (fullback); Academic All State – Daschle Larsen, Joe Frankl, and Michael Nebelsick; All American – Daschle Larsen (voted as the top player in Class 11B); and the *Argus Leader* Elite 45 – Curt Truhe, Daschle Larsen, and Taylor Forsling (honorable mention).

Rahn Bertram was the head football coach and Scott Bruning, David Dohn, Justin Clercx, Gary Nebelsick, Randy Bertram, Troy McCreary, and Dr. Erik Johnson were assistant coaches.

Volleyball letter winners included Erin Hasenbank, Abby Davis, Carly Rubida (mgr), Alex Staum, Anna Erickson, Linley McInerney, Mary Nebelsick, Kelsie Pace, Annie Staum, Hannah Wilkinson, Kim Wurtz, and Ashley Zeller.

Special volleyball awards include Captains – Erin Hasenbank, Alex Staum, and Abby Davis; Academic All State – Erin Hasenbank; All Big Sioux Conference Team – Hannah Wilkinson; All Region 4A Team – Hannah Wilkinson (1st team) and Mary Nebelsick (2nd team); 90% Serving Award – Erin Hasenbank, Hannah Wilkinson, and Abby Davis; Leading Defender Award – Mary Nebelsick (368 digs and 47 blocks); “The Finisher” Award – Hannah Wilkinson (229 kills, 98 blocks, and 16 ace serves); Most Improved – Kim Wurtz; and WRO (Wade Robert Olson) Award – Kelsie Pace.

Jeff Zeller was the head volleyball coach. Jodi Zeller and Nick Hovden were the assistant volleyball coaches. *(See photos of some of the award winners on page 15.)*



Academic Letterwinners – Criteria: 3.5 GPA for the 2004-05 school year.



2005-06 Football Letterwinners.



2005-06 Football Cheerleading Letterwinners.



2005 Softball Letterwinners.



2005-06 Golf Letterwinners.



2005 American Legion Baseball Letterwinners.



2005-06 Volleyball Letterwinners.



2005-06 Cross Country Letterwinners.

Tech Tip from Jerry . . . by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

The Clear Type effect is a Windows display setting that smoothes the jagged edges of onscreen fonts. I was very pleased with the increased quality after turning on Clear Type; it reduces the eyestrain that may occur when reading onscreen documents. Turn on Clear Type by right-clicking on the desktop, choose properties, click on the advanced tab, and click on the effects button. A checkbox and drop-down menu is provided to activate Clear Type.

The Aztec and Mayan Day of the Dead Beliefs

by Jane Patnaude, Spanish

Our Latino neighbors to the south have a great attitude concerning death. They believe that their souls continue to exist after death, resting not for judgment or resurrection, but for the day each year when they can return home to visit their loved ones. The act of preparing an altar by placing photographs, flowers, candles, favorite foods, and drink for the loved one provides a special time to remember and to transform grief into acceptance. The living invite the spirits of the family to return home for a few hours of laughter, tears, and memories. The three Spanish II classes researched and prepared a place of honor by erecting altars with tablecloths, candles, incense, water, salt, bread, streamers, flowers, crosses, pictures, wreaths, favorite foods, and their daily necessities (see picture of Mr. Rogers' altar). They selected Christopher Reeves, Mr. Rogers, and Rosa Parks to honor. The altars were judged by Carmen Wilcox, Jerry Klumper, and Katherine Turner. Culturally, the students encountered a new view of death as a transition of life—a natural progression, not an ending.



A Brief Review of “10+ Things You Should Know About Troubleshooting a Slow PC”

by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

1. Is your computer infected with spyware and/or viruses?
Spyware can bring a computer to its knees. Earlier this week, I removed 210 instances of spyware from a staff member's personal computer, resulting in an outstanding performance increase. Checking for spyware and viruses is my first step when checking out a slow PC.
2. Is your processor overheating?
This is often caused by dust trapped inside the computer case. Dust has very good insulating properties; it is good practice to regularly (at least annually) open your computer case and use canned air to blow out any accumulated dust. This will also extend the life of the components housed inside the case. A bad fan is another possible cause of processor overheating. Processors run very hot. A malfunctioning fan will allow a processor to quickly overheat. Fans can and do go bad—usually accompanied by an irritating rattle or vibration.
3. Do you have bad RAM?
This problem would be most prevalent with RAM that has been added by the user. RAM (random access memory) can be mismatched, contain flaws, or overheat. It may be necessary to test your RAM or install a separate cooling fan.
4. Is your hard disk about to fail?
A noisy drive, unexplained computer crashes, or boot failures may indicate that your hard disk is not long for this world. CHKDSK is a utility that is built into the Windows 2000 and XP operating systems. Running CHKDSK is not difficult; Go to Start, Help, and Type CHKDSK into the search field for instructions on its use.
5. Are your BIOS (Basic Input Output System) settings incorrect?
(A word of caution—incorrect BIOS settings can leave your PC dead in the water.) An Internet search or call to technical support will verify your BIOS.
6. Is your hard disk fragmented?
A fragmented hard disk is not nearly as serious as it sounds. It simply means that files are located in nonadjacent areas of the hard disk, which results in longer read times, ultimately slowing down your PC. The Windows XP operating system has a disk defragmenter utility, which is found in the system tools folder.
7. Are there unnecessary applications running in the background?
I find myself guilty of this “infraction.” Rather than closing programs, I will simply minimize them. Slow performance can also be caused by programs that are launched when Windows initially starts. Instant messaging programs are a good example of programs that, by default, launch when Windows is started.

Please note that the original article (Copyright ©2005 CNET Networks, Inc.) had 11 strategies for dealing with a slow PC. The complete text of this article can be found at <http://techrepublic.com>.



January 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
1	2 JV Wrestling Tourney @ Parker— 5:30 NO SCHOOL	3 GBB w/Alcaster/ Hudson 6:15 WR Quad @ DV 5:00 NO SCHOOL	4 Teacher In- Service NO SCHOOL	5 Classes Resume BBB Conf. Tourney @ Harrisburg 8:00	6 Boys BB Conf. Tourney @ Harris- burg 6:30/8:00	7 AAU Wr. Tourney @ EPJ—9:00 BBB Conf. Tourney @ Tri-Valley—2:00
8	9 GBB (Fr/JV) w/ Hinton; BBB (Fr/JV) @ Hinton (both 6:30) JHBB @ Beres. 4:00; JH/JVWr. @ Wagner	10 WR Triangular @ Sgt. Bluff/Luton 6:30 BBB w/Alcaster- Hudson 6:15	11	12 GBB Conf. Tour- ney @ SFC 6:30 JHBB w/Dakota Valley—4:00	13 GBB Conference Tourney @ SFC— 6:30/8:00	14 WR @ Tri-Valley 10:00; JVWR @ Canton 4:15; GBB Conf. @ DV—2:00 All State Band Aud.
15	16 JHBB w/Canton 4:00 NO SCHOOL Martin Luther King	17 G & BBB @ Ver- million—4:00	18	19 JHBB w/SFC 4:00 BBB w/Parker 5:00	20 JHBB @ Lennox 4:00 JH Honor Choir— Sioux Falls	21 Conf. WR @ DV 10:00; BBB Classic @ Mitchell; GBB Classic @ Verm. JH Honor Choir
22	23 JHBB w/ Harrisburg 4:00	24 WR Quad @ Canton 5:00; G & BB w/Akron/West. 4:00; JHBB @ Al- cester 4:00	25	26 GBB @ Harting- ton Cedar Catholic 5:00	27 G & BB w/ Canton 4:30	28 SD WR Duals @ Wagner 12:00 BBB @ Lennox 4:45 Wayne State College Honor Band
29	30 JH/JV Wr. @ MOC-FV 4:45; JHBB w/Vermillion 4:00; USD Quad State Honor Band	31 WR Dual w/ Lennox 6:00; BBB w/Harrisburg 5:00 Continue → → → →	31 continued JHBB @ DV 1st Rd. Conference 4:00 JV WR w/Lennox 6:00			



February 2006



Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 Food Drive Begins	2 WR. Quad @ Wagner 5:00 GBB @ Lennox 5:00	3 G & BBB @ Dakota Valley 4:00	4 JV WR Tourney @ Tyndall 10:00 JH BBB Conf. 9:00 Beresford /AH
5	6 JV Wr. w/ Kingsley IA (H) 4:00 High School Science Fair	7 JV WR Tourney 4:30 @ Yankton G & BBB @ Homer 5:00	8 Food Drive Ends Region Vocal Solo/ Ensemble Contest @ Yankton	9 GBB @ Tea 5:00 Elem. Honors Choir @ Brookings	10 G & BBB @ Beresford 4:00 JH Ski Trip	11 WR. Districts @ Alcester 10:00 JV G & BBB @ Akron 10:00
12	13 Board of Ed. Mtg.	14 JH BBB @ Vermillion 4:00	15	16 ARTS Night - 7:00 MS Gym	17 BBB w/ Harris- burg 5:00 NO SCHOOL	18 WR Regions @ Tea 10:00; 9th G & BBB Tourney 9:00 Boys @ Beresford, Girls @ Lennox
19	20 NO SCHOOL	21 GBB Districts @ Alcester 6:00/7:45	22	23 GBB Districts @ Yankton Summit Center	24 BBB w/Bon Homme 5:00 STATE SIOUX	25 WRESTLING FALLS
26	27	28 GBB Regions 7:30 @ Mount Marty-Cimpl Area				

EPJ Activities Boosters

December

www.epjboosters.com

2005

Fall Activities Banquet a Success

The fall activities banquet was held Monday, December 5. Approximately 150 students, parents, faculty, and staff attended, and 120 dinners were served. The event was catered by Kathi Johnson and the EPJ kitchen.

Drawings were held between every activity, and we awarded fifty door prizes. Numerous activity awards and letters were handed out to participants in volleyball, football, baseball, softball, boys golf, vocal, cheerleading, and honor society. The new category of Academic Letter was awarded to forty-one students who had at least a 3.5 cumulative grade point average last year.

Be sure to congratulate all of the recipients and stop by the EPJ cafeteria and tell Kathi what a nice job she did catering.

LET US KNOW HOW WE'RE DOING

If you have any questions, concerns, or suggestions, please feel free to contact any of the following officers or directors. Also, our meetings are the first Wednesday of every month, and Booster members are welcome to attend.

BOOSTERS OFFICERS & BOARD MEMBERS

- ◆ Leslie Erickson President
- ◆ Katy Forsling Vice-President
- ◆ Deb McCreary Sec/Treasurer
- ◆ Kevin Connelly Board Member
- ◆ Barb Wurtz Board Member
- ◆ Melissa Shanks Board Member
- ◆ Lora Trudeau Board Member

Concessions Manned with Students and Faculty

We have tried a new idea this year, and it has been very successful. Coaches and other activity directors have signed up to staff the concessions, and students involved in those activities have worked the events. Because of this, we have only needed a few member volunteers, allowing more time for you, our members, to enjoy the games!

We would like to thank all the students, staff, and member volunteers who have worked so far and would like to thank those who will be working in the spring. Because of your time, we can further assist our students in their activities and endeavors.

Upcoming Events

The new semester will bring parents' nights for boys and girls basketball, track, and golf. Be sure to attend those events to celebrate the athletes.

Fine Arts Night will be held this spring, and band and chorus students provide excellent entertainment at the event. This event is also a good opportunity to see some of the artwork our students are creating.

Watch our announcements for other upcoming events.

GO HUSKIES!

SPIRIT BUS HAULS FANS TO AWAY GAMES

This fall we tried a new experiment to get more fans to our away football games. We hired a bus to haul fans to Wagner, Flandreau, and Rapid City so more of our students and community members were able to attend those games.

We filled the bus each time, and the football team knew how much they were supported! Watch for future Spirit Bus announcements.

~~ Parents of Seniors ~~

Check out the Guidance Department website (go to the EPJ homepage and select Guidance Dept). You will find information on the following topics:

- Complete listing of regional/national scholarships,
- Schedule of college recruiters visiting EPJ, and
- Information on FAFSA on the Web.

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, 570 AM, Yankton

---Web Sites---

<http://www.epj.k12.sd.us>



Seasons Greetings

from the

Administration and Staff

of the

Elk Point-Jefferson School District

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday!



Elk Point-Jefferson School District
402 S. Douglas, P.O. Box 578
Elk Point, SD 57025

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