



Husky News

Elk Point-Jefferson School District

Volume 8, Issue 2

December 2007

Showing Pride . . . Taking Action

A Foggy Crystal Ball . . . *by Brian Shanks, Superintendent*

I have been approached by people and asked the most common question in Union County. What do you think of the “Gorilla Project”? How would this affect the school? What plan is the school board making concerning the influx of new students? I answer simply that it is the role of our school to take care of any students that walk through our door and want an education. The district will face and solve any challenges as they arise. Right now we are waiting like many of you to see how this thing “washes out.” We understand that “mega projects” like this will involve the school making decisions that will involve “mega effort” and “mega dollars.” We are also hoping that with a large (large seems to be an understatement) project like the Hyperion Refinery, there will be a fair and equitable amount of taxable valuation to help expand our facility if needed and hopefully the time to consider our options.

If this project were to move forward, we would face the prospect of many transient workers to build the facility. How many transient students could we expect? We have no idea. Many of the workers could come from existing area families, some from specialized workers who are in and out, some from people who travel here during the week and return home for the weekends, and some long-term workers who move their families here. How many will be in each category, no one knows. It is just a challenge we will have to face if it comes about. With every challenge, there is an opportunity to meet the challenge and prosper.

What would be the long-term effects on the school district? It is difficult to say; there are several fine communities and school districts within easy driving distance of the proposed site. I will not risk listing all of them because there are many great places to live within 50 minutes of traveling time and several others within basically the same distance as Elk Point, give or take a few minutes. We predict that there will be a period of time that we have to experience some growing pains until things begin to settle down and people make decisions about where they want to live. There might be some temporary things that would have to be done to ease into this stage of unknown district growth. Would it be easy? No, but not many big changes are.

I do predict that this process of determining whether or not this project will move forward in Union County will be difficult. There will be a lot of serious discussion on whether or not it is good for Union County. There are many factors to weigh and discuss. There is much we don’t know, and we must seek out answers to these unknown questions. I just hope that we can all listen, discuss, and examine the issue in a civil way and avoid tearing the area apart in a less than civil manner.

Let’s listen, analyze, and come up with what is best for our part of the world. The Elk Point-Jefferson School District will be listening carefully.

National Honor Society Notes

by Rita Ahmann, NHS Advisor

The annual induction of new members to the National Honor Society was held on Tuesday, November 13, at 7:00 P.M. in the band room. A record twenty-three new members were pledged into the Husky Chapter. They were seniors Amanda Connelly, John Frankl, Jalisa Keegan, Myles Larsen, Sam Massey, Hope Metzgar, and Mary Nebelsick; and juniors Chelsey Borchardt, Nick Bottger, Amanda Chicoine, Emily Connelly, Jeremiah Curry, Luke Frankl, Josh Gross, Molly Hammitt, Kirstin Hanson, Carlie Hoffman, Allison Lawler, Kyle Limoges, Maddie Pace, Devan Penfield, Andrew Rosenbaum, and Rachael Tow. Ashley Zeller was inducted as an honorary member. Current members reviewed the characteristics of scholarship, leadership, character, and service, according to which the new members were selected. Then a short listing of each new member’s activities was read. The new members recited the National Honor Society pledge. They were presented with a membership pin and card by an adult of their choosing. The officers of the local chapter were also installed at the ceremony. This year’s president is Kelsie Pace. The vice president/treasurer is Kim Wurtz. Kristin Marshall is the secretary. Other members of the National Honor Society inducted last year are Sara Peasley and Adrian Ries.

One service activity in which the NHS members participated this fall was providing child care for the children of parents attending the Boys’ Town Model parenting classes. On six Monday evenings in October and November, students cared for four to eight children. A second service that students performed was helping at the holiday open house at Jones’ Food Center. Students staffed sample tables, greeting customers and distributing samples of various food items. Upcoming projects for the group include recognition of semester honor roll students and collecting food for the local food pantry.



Volleyball Season Highlights . . . by Jamie Wiebelhaus, Head Volleyball Coach



PLAY FOR HER... The 2007 Husky season was filled with its share of the usual ups and downs any sport brings through wins and losses. However, this team experienced a loss this year that changed each individual forever. Losing teammate and friend Ashley Zeller broke the heart of each person that knew her. Although broken, the team held on tight to each other and found that although stepping back on the volleyball court would never be the same, it was possible. AZ made her impact early in the year, helping her team to an impressive undefeated 4-0 start on the season. Her varsity teammates only built on this great, unselfish play Ashley exemplified. Together with #9 in their hearts, they continued to experience great success as a team "playing for her."

TEAMWORK... Along with a first place trophy in the West Sioux Invite, a second place finish in the SE Area Classic, and another second place regular season finish in an elite Big Sioux Conference, the Huskies earned the honor of being District 8A Champions for the second year in a row. Behind a large group of very supportive fans, the Huskies went to five games vs. a tough Harrisburg team in region play but fell just short of their goal of a repeat state tournament appearance. Although not the finish the team had hoped, this stellar 24-6 season is far from disappointing when you look at all this team has accomplished. This record-setting season was attained through hard-working and unselfish efforts, and it earned this 2007 Husky team many honors and individual achievements.

WORK... Five girls received All-Conference Honors for the 2007 season. Mary Nebelsick and Hannah Wilkinson were named to the All-Conference team, while Kelsie Pace, Molly Hammitt, and Chrissy Strassburg received Honorable Mention.

BELIEVE... The Husky team was led by All-Region 4A Player of the Year Hannah Wilkinson this season with her consistent offensive threat at the net. Joining her on the first team was Mary Nebelsick, while Kelsie Pace earned a spot on the second team.

FINISH... Two Huskies finished the season among the eighteen best volleyball players in the state. South Dakota All-State Volleyball Honors went to Hannah Wilkinson and Mary Nebelsick. Hannah hit herself a spot on the All-State second team, while Mary battled with some of the best outside hitters in the state to earn a spot on the All-State Honorable Mention list.

SMART... This year's squad proved to be much more than a group of talented volleyball players, as they also found success in the classroom. Three ladies from this year's varsity squad were recognized as SD All-State Academic athletes. Kim Wurtz, Kelsie Pace, and Mary Nebelsick have all maintained a GPA above a 3.5 throughout their high school academic and athletic careers. These three, along with their teammates, were also recognized for their team GPA, an impressive 3.4, with an All-State Academic Team Honor.

APPRECIATION... The eight seniors, Anna Erickson, Linley McInerney, Mary Nebelsick, Kelsie Pace, Annie Staum, Hannah Wilkinson, Kim Wurtz, and manager Melanie Engeldinger, have certainly left their mark on this program. An endless thank you goes to these special young women who have left their teammates with an excellent example of dedication and work ethic that should carry them into the coming season. This senior class has set a new, higher mark of expectations for next year's squad and the future of EPJ volleyball.

BUILDING... The varsity squad was not the only Husky team experiencing success in volleyball this year, as the Junior Varsity team posted a standout 16-1 season. The "C" squad also had a stellar year posting a 13-3 mark. Coach Bryan, Coach Zeller, and Coach Wiebelhaus could not be happier with the combined Husky squad record of 54-10, ousting last year's team mark of 53-18 and adding to their hopes of a program with promising potential.

LEAVING A LEGACY... Mary Nebelsick finishes her career with her name in the record books three times. Along with her previous mark of most kills in a match with 22, she is now also the leader in the ace serve department. Early in the season, she replaced her teammates Alex Staum and Linley McInerney's eight service aces in a single match when she bombed nine points off of her jump serve vs. Tri-Valley. Finishing the season just as strong, Mary also now holds the record for most ace serves in a season with 85, taking the place of her older sister Leslie who previously set the mark at 78. Senior teammates that join Mary on the record board are Kelsie Pace with most points scored in a season and Hannah Wilkinson with most solo blocks in a match and season.

When Should I Keep my Child Home from School?

by Lisa McInerney, School Nurse

Your child gets up in the morning saying he doesn't "feel good," and he doesn't want to go to school. What do you do?

First, you should check his temperature using a thermometer. If it is over 100 degrees, he should not go to school.

If he is complaining of his stomach hurting, he should try eating something for breakfast--toast, cereal, fruit, juice, or milk. Usually, if he has a stomach virus, breakfast won't sit very well, and that should indicate to you that he should stay home.

If he is complaining of a headache, again, check for a temperature. Does he have head congestion, a stuffy nose, or a cough? If he does, but there is no fever, he can still go to school. You may want to send a note authorizing the school nurse to give him Tylenol, cold medicine, or cough drops.

Second, have there been other members of the family that have been sick? If not, it may be that your child truly doesn't want to go to school. Ask your child if there is something that is bothering him at school. Is he feeling overwhelmed with schoolwork? Is he getting along with his friends? You may want to talk to his teacher and find out if he is keeping up with his homework, or if there have been any problems in the classroom. We want kids to come to school. It has been documented that kids who eat a healthy breakfast and get plenty of rest at night perform much better in all aspects of school.

So, if your child truly is sick with a fever or vomiting, please keep him home from school. If not, send him to school with a good breakfast, plenty of rest, and prepared for the day.

Preparing for the Flu Season

by Lisa McInerney, School Nurse

With the flu season quickly approaching, we, as parents, are becoming increasingly concerned that our children may get the flu (influenza).

Hopefully, your child has received the influenza shot. Governor Rounds did approve giving the flu shot to all 6 month through 18 year olds. If you haven't already done this, you should strongly consider having your child get the flu shot. You can call the Union County Health Nurse office at 356-2644 for more information on receiving the flu shot.

If your child has nausea, vomiting, or diarrhea, that is a stomach virus, not the flu. If he becomes sick with a fever (over 100 degrees), body aches, chills, headache, and cough, he may have true influenza. If you contact your physician within the first 48 hours, he may prescribe a medication to help hasten the flu symptoms.

The flu is highly contagious and is easily transmitted through contact with droplets from the nose and throat of an infected person who is coughing and sneezing. A child is contagious up to two days before the symptoms begin, and contagion extends for a week. You should let the school know if your child does have influenza as other students at school may have been affected.

At school, we encourage students to cover their coughs and sneezes with their arm, wash their hands frequently with soap and water, or use a hand sanitizer if unable to get to a sink.

If your child does get the flu, the best treatment is to stay at home and get plenty of rest and liquids.

Library News . . . by Carmen Wilcox, School Librarian

Merry Christmas and Happy New Year from the EPJ Library staff. The library has been festively decorated for the holidays. The adult as well as the high school and elementary Christmas books have been pulled, creating special displays for holiday reading. Old favorites such as *A Christmas Carol*, *Baboushka and the Three Kings*, *The Gift of the Magi*, *The Best Christmas Pageant Ever*, *The Polar Express*, *How the Grinch Stole Christmas*, and *The Christmas Box* are on display and ready for reading. Stop by the library to check one out.

Preschool storytime has been set for Thursdays from 1:55 P.M. – 2:10 P.M. The public is invited to bring their preschoolers during this time.

Following are the new winter hours for the library:

Monday-Thursday 7:45 A.M. - 7:00 P.M.

Friday 7:45 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

Saturday 9:00 A.M. - Noon

Holiday hours will begin on Monday, December 24, through Friday, January 4. Due to no school during Christmas break, the library will not open until 1:00 P.M. We will be closed on December 24, 25, 31, and January 1, for the holidays.

Recycle Your Electronics

by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

New electronic "toys" are the norm at Christmas, and along with everyone else, I love my "toys"—but what does one do with the e-waste? Old computers and peripherals, video game consoles, cell phones, and other such items should definitely not end up in the landfill.

Locally, the EPJ Elementary School recycles used cell phones. They can be brought to the elementary office. In addition, Best Buy has in-store recycling kiosks which accept rechargeable batteries and cell phones. The company maintains the following website that describes corporate efforts to assist consumer recycling--<http://communications.bestbuy.com/communityrelations/recycling.asp>.

Staples also has a recycling program that accepts a variety of items--<http://www.staples.com/sbd/content/about/soul/recycling.html>. The United States EPA has a website that provides links to a number of "eCycling" opportunities--<http://www.epa.gov/epaoswer/hazwaste/recycle/ecycling/donate.htm#cell>.

Brave New Kids' World . . . *by Doug Brusseau, K-6 Principal*

The toy business is getting out of toys. Toy manufacturers and retailers think kids want tech devices, not toys, because they want to emulate Mom and Dad with the real thing, not “fake” phones, music players, and computers. You can see for yourself when you look at the ‘hottest toys’ list on Amazon.com which includes the Smart Cycle, an exercise bike connected to a video game.

The cell phone is a good example of one of the new toys for kids and has become very accessible to young kids today. Recently a parent was visiting a class in the elementary school when a beep was heard by the class. A student reacted by informing the visitor his cell phone battery was low. Without looking at the message on the cell phone, the student was correct. Another time a parent received a text message and the students knew the appropriate signal. The teacher then asked the students how many of them had their own cell phone. Almost half the class indicated they had their own cell phone. With more and more students having cell phones, we need to ensure proper etiquette with young cell phone users on the best ways and places to use the mobile phones. The proper etiquette of mobile phone usage that students need to know includes where to talk and when to talk. These are all behaviors we grownup cell phone users are setting for them. Here are a couple more pointers parents could add to the list:

1. Know when and how much your child is using his/her cell phone - for talking *and* text messaging (the latter being silent, so harder to get a handle on) - and establish boundaries.
2. Know what else the cell phone is being used for (photo-sharing? video-uploading?) and talk about the implications in what’s being shared.

With the advent of the iPhone and the mobile phone industry shifting its emphasis to the Internet, cell phones are becoming access points to the Internet. This means that parents will need to apply rules and “parental controls” to more devices and will need to increasingly help young people develop their own internal filters for online behavior.

The Internet can be a wonderful resource for students. They can use it to research school reports, communicate with teachers, parents, and other kids, and play interactive games. Any child who is old enough to punch in a few letters on the keyboard can literally have access to the world.

But that access can also pose hazards to your children. For example, your eight-year-old might log on to a search engine and type in the word “Lego.” But with just one missed keystroke, he or she might enter the word “Legs” instead, and be directed to thousands of websites with a focus on legs - some of which may contain pornographic material.

That’s why it’s important to be aware of what your child sees and hears on the Internet, who they meet, and what they share about themselves online.

Just like any safety issue, it’s a good idea to talk with your kids about your concerns, take advantage of resources to protect them from potential dangers, and keep a close eye on their activities.

Here are some of the warning signs that you should be aware of if your child may be using the Internet inappropriately. 1) Your child may be spending long hours online, especially at night. 2) If there are phone calls from people you don’t know or unsolicited gifts arriving in the mail, it’s a good idea to ask your child about any Internet contacts. 3) If your child suddenly turns off the computer when you walk into the room, ask why and monitor computer time more closely. 4) Withdrawal from family life and reluctance to discuss online activities are other signs that you need to look more closely at what your child is doing online.

By taking an active role in your child’s Internet and cell phone activities, you’ll be ensuring that he or she can benefit from the wealth of valuable information the new technologies have to offer and minimize being exposed to any potential dangers.

With parents working longer hours and children being home alone with access to the Internet, it’s a good idea for parents to take an active role in protecting their children. Here are some steps that can help you do that:

- Become computer literate and learn how to block objectionable material.
- Keep the computer in a common area where you can monitor Internet access, not in individual bedrooms.
- Bookmark your child’s favorite sites for easy access.
- Spend time online together to teach your child appropriate online behavior.

Parents should discuss with their children about entering private chat rooms or block them with safety features provided by your Internet service provider or with special filtering software. Be aware that posting messages to chat rooms reveals your child’s e-mail address to others.

There are online tools that you can use to control your child’s access to adult material and help protect your child from Internet predators. However, no option is going to guarantee that your child will be kept away from 100% of the risks on the Internet or through cell phones. So it’s important that you be aware of your child’s Internet and mobile communication activity and educate your child about the risks.

Parents may want to develop an Internet and mobile communication agreement with their children that includes one or more of the following areas:

1. I will not give out personal information such as my address, telephone number, parents’ work address/telephone number, or the name and location of my school without my parents’ permission.
2. I will tell my parents right away if I come across any information that makes me feel uncomfortable.
3. I will never agree to get together with someone I “meet” online without first checking with my parents. If my parents agree to the meeting, I will be sure that it is in a public place and bring my mother or father along.

Brave New Kids' World (Continued from page 4)

4. I will never send a person my picture or anything else without first checking with my parents.
5. I will not respond to any messages that are mean or in any way make me feel uncomfortable. It is not my fault if I get a message like that. If I do, I will tell my parents right away so that they can contact the service provider.
6. I will talk with my parents so that we can set up rules for going online. We will decide upon the time of day that I can be online, the length of time I can be online, and appropriate areas for me to visit. I will not access other areas or break these rules without their permission.
7. I will not give out my Internet password to anyone (even my best friends) other than my parents.
8. I will check with my parents before downloading or installing software or doing anything that could possibly hurt our computer or jeopardize my family's privacy.
9. I will be a good online citizen and not do anything that hurts other people or is against the law.
10. I will help my parents understand how to have fun and learn things online and teach them things about the Internet, computers and other technology.

Through communication and development of Internet and cell phone usage agreements, you and your children will be developing a safe environment using the technology of today and the future.

Have a safe and enjoyable holiday season.



Elementary Students Earn Singing Honors

by Jeanne Hanson, K-4 Vocal Director

Elk Point-Jefferson students from the 4th, 5th, and 6th grades were given the opportunity to audition for the South Dakota Elementary Honor Choir. The choir is sponsored by the state music organization South Dakota Music Educators Association. Students in grades 4 through 6 are eligible to compete. EPJ had twelve students qualify for a spot in the choir. They were 6th graders Jade Rosenbaum, Elysia Beuhner, Jacob Sample, and Haley Jurgensen; 5th graders Hannah McLean, Samantha Merkle, Allison Targonski, John Schuh, and Katherine Mickelson; and 4th graders Lauren Dossall, Victoria Johnson, and Ariana Acevedo.

Jade Rosenbaum and Elysia Beuhner will be attending for the third time and will be recognized for this accomplishment. Only two students at the concert last year had attended all three years of eligibility.

Audition tapes were sent in for soprano or alto position. Forty-eight schools qualified students after 560 tapes were judged. EPJ had the most students qualify, along with one other school. This includes all schools and communities across the state.

Mary Schuh and Jeanne Hanson are the music educators at EPJ. We are very excited about the excellent talent here at EPJ. A special thank you goes to the EPJ Music Boosters for helping support this project.

Fourth Graders Learn the Importance of Healthy Eating . . . by Vicki Nearman, Fourth Grade



The 4th graders have been studying the digestive and circulatory systems in science. They learned the problems these systems can have and the importance of a healthy diet, not doing drugs, and exercise to avoid some of these problems.

The school nurse, Mrs. Lisa McInerney, was invited to talk to the students as a follow up to these lessons. Mrs. McInerney talked about the heart and blood vessels and their part of the circulatory system. She discussed problems such as high blood pressure and atherosclerosis (fatty build-up in the arteries). Mrs. McInerney had test tubes that showed the amounts of sugars, fats,

and salt contained in certain foods and drinks. Some examples were french fries, hot dogs, hamburgers, a piece of apple pie, and soft drinks. The students were amazed at the amounts of fats, salt, and sugar present in these foods and drinks.

Mrs. McInerney explained the importance of eating healthy and limiting the quantity of some foods. Mrs. McInerney concluded by answering questions.



Second Graders Perform at Prairie Estates Care Center . . . by Melissa Shanks, Second Grade

On November 21, the second graders entertained the local nursing home residents with their turkey songs.



Technology Tip

by Jerry Klumper, Technology Director

Did you know that you can use the F11 key to toggle between normal view and full-screen view when using Internet Explorer or Mozilla Firefox?

1. Open a web page in Internet Explorer.
2. Tap the F11 key and wait a couple of seconds.
3. All of the toolbars are removed from view - although you can continue to use your mouse and keyboard to navigate pages and to input information.
4. The F11 key brings back your toolbars as well.

This works especially well when viewing photographs or other graphics.

Thank You for Your Support

by Sandy Mockler, EPJEA President

The Elk Point-Jefferson Education Association would like to thank the communities of Elk Point and Jefferson for attending and supporting the Ashley Zeller Memorial Scholarship Fundraiser. In addition, we would like to thank the following who made contributions to this event: John Morrell, Sara Lee Bakery, Thermo Bond, the Elk Point-Jefferson Booster Club, Deb Dyrrsen for the hand-made afghan, and the EPJ staff who donated food and/or worked at the chili feed. A total of \$2,701 was raised from the chili feed and afghan raffle.

Myranda Rosenbaum Wins Lions Poster Contest

by Pat Schurdevin, Lions Peace Poster Contest Chairperson

Myranda Rosenbaum, a seventh grader at Elk Point-Jefferson School, has won the local peace poster competition sponsored by the Elk Point Lions Club. Lions International is sponsoring the contest to emphasize the importance of world peace to young people everywhere. Myranda's poster will advance through the district, multiple district, and international levels. The posters were judged on originality, artistic merit, and portrayal of the contest theme, "Peace around the World."

Locally, Myranda and fifteen other EPJ students entered the contest. Mrs. Fesler, EPJ art instructor, was very helpful in coordinating the peace poster contest for the Lions Club. Myranda will receive a \$50 savings bond for being the local winner. Internationally, one grand prize winner and 23 merit award winners will be selected. The grand prize includes a cash award of \$2,500 plus a trip for the winner and two family members to New York City for an awards ceremony at Lions Day with the United Nations.

Rosenbaum and fifteen other EPJ students will be honored for their participation in the Lions Peace Poster contest at the EPJ School in mid-December.

Myranda is the daughter of Shane and Tina Rosenbaum.

Dates Set for Sesqui-Centennial . . . by Patty Skinner

Mark your calendars for June 27, 28, and 29, 2009, to help Elk Point celebrate its 150th birthday, sesqui-centennial.

A steering committee of community members has been meeting to make plans for the event. Some preliminary plans include a parade, community barbecue, all-school reunion for Elk Point and Elk Point-Jefferson graduates, golf tournament, street dance, fun and games for the kids, a community worship service, and reunion baseball game.

More ideas are in the works. Anyone wishing more information or wishing to volunteer can contact Dawn Glover at 356-2141 or gloverep@iw.net or Barb Wurtz at 356-3336 or barbwur@hotmail.com. Eventually, there will be a link on the Elk Point City website.

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 2007 Mini Courses:

Dennis Ferdig	Autobody Repair	Steve Hofland	Taekwondo
Darlys Davidson	Snacks	Angie Langle	Garden Name Decor
Pat Schurdevin	Snacks	Bill Busker	Tucker Car
Maggie Grassel	Scrapbook Board	Curry Staff	Curry Tour
Lisa McInerney	Babysitter's First Aid	Beth Rosenbaum	Fireworks
Linda Talbott	Cross Stitch	Ryan Brandt	Chess
Travis Aslesen	Ice Fishing	Rhonda Weidner	Dips
Cammy Abbey	Massage Therapy	Katie Buum	Hair Care
Glen Bosse	Taxidermy	Micah Fesler	Physical Video
Nicki Swatek	Skin and Hand Care	Susie Herrity	Cake Decorating
Aaladin Staff	Aaladin Tour	Jerry Stroup	Sioux City Humane Society



EPJ 7th, 8th, and 9th Graders Sing with Junior Honor Choirs

by Mary Schuh, 5-12 Vocal Director



Ninth graders Abbey Langstraat and Liz Schuh; 8th graders Justin Boulware, Danielle Gille, and Lexie Branson; and 7th grader Taylor Donnelly have been chosen to sing with the South Dakota Junior Honors Choir. They will be representing our school and communities in Sioux Falls on Friday, January 18 and 19.

The Junior Honor Choir consists of 120 of the best 7th, 8th, and 9th grade singers from across the state. These students, along with twenty other EPJ students, auditioned by CD in October.

In addition, 8th grader Justin Boulware has been chosen to sing with an elite six-state Junior Honors Choir. He will be representing our school and communities in Fargo, North Dakota, on March 4-6. This choir consists of 100 of the best 7th, 8th, and 9th grade singers from across the six-state region.

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 2007 . . . by Nicole Schutter, M.S. Science

After several weeks of preparation, students in grades 5-8 competed in the annual EPJ Middle School Science Fair on Tuesday, November 20. The students set up their projects in the morning; judging began around one o'clock in the afternoon. The public was invited to an Open House beginning at 6:00 P.M., with awards starting at 7:00. With this year being the first year for our 5th graders participating, many of them were nervous but excited! The 6th graders felt a little more comfortable with the process this year compared to last year, and the 7th graders were extremely excited that they could participate with partners this year. The 8th graders had the option of competing this year.

Students can enter a science fair project in one of three categories (the three main branches of science): Earth Science, Physical Science, and Life Science. Students in grades 6-8 placing fourth or higher in their category will be taking their projects to the State Science Fair this spring. The 5th grade winners will travel with everyone to the State Science Fair but will not participate. Overall winners for the two main categories (5th/6th and 7th/8th) also won a \$25 savings bond from the EPJEA.

The following is a list of winners for each category:

Life Science

	1st Place	2nd Place	3rd Place	4th Place
Grade 5	Blake Bertrand	Mikki Fortna	Cody Davis	Maria Corio
Grade 6	Skylore Curry	Emma McInerney	Elysia Buehner	Ian Grassel
Grade 7	Nathan Ambrose	Caitlin Davis/Taylor Donnelly	Anna Chicoine/Audrey Truhe	Haylee Erickson
Grade 8	Corey Chicoine	Halle Kay/Shiloh Hudelson	Ellie Dailey	Danielle Gille

Earth Science

Grade 5	Payton Kay	Ulrike Hovland	Tyanne Vanderlinde	AJ Boulware
Grade 6	Nick Kraayenbrink	CJ Geary	Cheyenne Steemken	Hope Erickson
Grade 7	Kristen Rarrat	Ashley Gylfe/Nicole Rupp	Jessica Gates/Rebecca Smith	Veronica Claussen
Grade 8	Christoffer Dyrssen			

Physical Science

Grade 5	Bryce Hedman	Conner Martin	Hannah McLean	Miranda Stabe
Grade 6	Cody Reed	Hunter Welch	Stacie McLaury	Avery Desy
Grade 7	Seth Petra/Noah Rubida	Josh Dossdall	Matt Lehman/Cole Moyle	Joseph Lyon/Cody Strassburg
Grade 8	Keegan Welch/Nick Murphy	Sarah Tow/Stephanie Watkins	Tyler Lynch/Ryan Schaeffer	Seth Cloud

5th/6th Grade Overall Winner: Cody Reed
5th/6th Grade Overall Runner-Up: Payton Kay

7th/8th Grade Overall Winner: Seth Petra and Noah Rubida
7th/8th Grade Overall Runner-Up: Christoffer Dyrssen



EPJ Students Prepare for One-Act Play

by Micah Fesler, *One-Act Play Director*

The Elk Point-Jefferson Theater Department is excited to announce the cast and crew for the 2007-2008 One-Act Play competition. This year's selection was written by Ed Monk. It is a short drama entitled **Booby Trap**. Regional competition will be at Mount Marty College in Yankton on January 22, 2008. Congratulations to the cast!

This year's cast members include Annie Peasley—Student Director, Mel Engeldinger—Lead Tech, Michael Brandt—Set Design, Ryan Brandt—Asst. Tech, Eric Van Roekel—the Soldier, Natasha Minor—Caitlyn, Adrian Ries—Major Harris, Chelsey Borchardt—Captain Gruss, Tyler Hall—Tom, Rachael Tow—Cathy, Kelsey Mapstone—the Lieutenant, Megan Weidner—the Drill Instructor, Hope Metzgar—Caitlyn's Mother, Nathan Harding—the Corporal, Bailey Johns—the Professor, Amanda Connelly—Sister Anne, Jessica DeBuhr—Abby, Lanie Florke—Molly, Ryan Peter—Mark, Kirstin Hanson—Stephanie, and Molly Shanks—the Soldier's Mother.

Family Living Class Fills Santa's Orders for EPJ Students

by Jan Baagoe, *Family and Consumer Science*

The EPJ family living class continues its ongoing project to help families who need a little assistance by providing clothing items for Christmas. On December 12, Mrs. Baagoe, with the assistance of Mrs. Wilcox and 13 family living students, ventured to Sioux City and power shopped for the day to fill the orders for 42 young people.

In the middle of November, a wish list was sent home with all preschool through 8th grade students. All slips that were returned to school were then used to shop from. The students had a budget to work with and had to make choices from the list they were given. After returning from shopping, the students spent the next several class periods wrapping and getting the gifts ready for the parent to pick up.

Funds raised for this project come primarily from profits of the snack vending machine that Chesterman's lets us use in the high school and from some private donations. The family living class would like to thank all students for supporting the vending machine and those who gave private donations. Without you this would not be possible.



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 5th-8th graders performed "Santa's Rockin' Christmas Eve," a holiday musical, on Thursday, December 13. Featured character parts were played by Stephanie Davis, Halle Kaye, Ryan Donnelly, Seth Cloud, Jessica Minor, Nick Murphy, Skylore Curry, Keely Bertram, Ian Grassel, Alex McLaury, Jessica Fejfar, and Jami Johnson. Soloists for the 5th and 6th grade classes were Tyanne Vanderlinde, Allison Targonski, Jenny Dailey, John Schuh, Bryce Taylor, Jimmy Smith, C.J. Geary, Jacob Sample, Jade Rosenbaum, and Jessica Cox.

The high school choir performed at their holiday concert on Monday, December 10. Volunteers from the choir have been performing at various community functions.

Middle School Quiz Bowl or Could You Repeat the Question Please?

by Travis Aslesen, *Middle/High School Principal*

The Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School student body, along with staff and volunteers, recently completed the annual Middle School Quiz Bowl on Friday, November 2, in conjunction with our mini-courses activities. The quiz bowl began with three grueling preliminary rounds through which each team collected points in the hopes of being one of the top three teams at the conclusion of said rounds. The top three teams then advanced to the final rounds which consisted of three head-to-head rounds matching each team against the other. The mental exhaustion of the day met with a glorious end as the winning team of Sam Viereck, D.J. Borchardt, Blake Donnelly, and Brock Zeller came away as the Middle School Quiz Bowl Champions of 2007. The winning team will advance to the conference quiz bowl held in March.

The Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School would like to thank the students, staff, and volunteers for your participation and effort for making our day a successful one. It is greatly appreciated.

Winter School Late Starts and Cancellations

Notice to the public of closing of school due to emergency conditions, such as inclement weather, will be made by way of WNAX radio in Yankton, and the following television stations: KCAU (Ch. 9), KTIV (Ch. 4), KMEG (Ch. 14), all in Sioux City, Iowa, and KELO (Ch. 11) and KSFY (Ch. 13), both in Sioux Falls. Parents whose email addresses are registered at school will receive immediate notification of late starts or cancellations via e-mail. For the quickest update, visit the EPJ website at www.epj.k12.sd.us (remember to hit the refresh button).

Note from the Band Room . . . by Jeremy Schutter, 5-12 Band Director

During the second nine weeks of school, the EPJ band program has had several students participate in different festival events throughout the area. Beginning with All-State Orchestra in late October, Adrian Ries represented EPJ as a member of the orchestra. This is a huge accomplishment because they only take five percussionists from across the state. Adrian won the mallet portion of the audition, and he was the orchestra's mallet player. To my knowledge, Adrian is the first official EPJ student since consolidation to represent EPJ at All-State Orchestra. Congratulations, Adrian!!

Friday, November 9, and Saturday, November 10, several students participated in the 50th Annual Augustana College Band Festival. Representing EPJ in the Honor Band were Adrian Ries—percussion, Hope Metzgar—clarinet, and Sara Peasley—flute. This was their second year sitting in the top band of this festival. In the Gold Honor Band, Ross Rosenbaum was a member of the trumpet section, and Zach Corio was a member of the trombone section. Jeremiah Curry was a member of the Blue Honor Band's trombone section. These band members are selected by director recommendation.

Then at the end of November, there were several students who successfully auditioned into the Region 1 High School and the newly formed Region 1 Middle School Honor Bands. Christoffer Dyrssen—alto saxophone, Tony Metzgar—trombone, Danielle Gille—percussion, and Sarah Tow—clarinet were members of the Middle School Honor Band. Hope Metzgar—clarinet, Kelsie Pace—baritone saxophone, Jeremiah Curry—trombone, Zach Corio—trombone, Adrian Ries—percussion, Kirstin Hanson—percussion, and Hayley Zamzow—percussion were all members of the High School Region 1 Honor Band. This festival is hosted at Yankton High School's Summit Auditorium.

Since we are speaking of honor bands, we are awaiting results from the Wayne State College Junior High Honor Band auditions. This festival will take place the last Saturday in January. On the last Monday of January, the USD Quad State Honor Band Festival will be held, and we are still waiting to hear results from this festival, too.

Happy holidays to all!

Oral Interpretation Students Perform Well . . . by Nicole Schutter, Oral Interpretation Advisor



Many students enter high school with a fear of public speaking. They are absolutely terrified of standing up in front of a classroom full of other students their age and making themselves vulnerable in any way. The only thing stopping those students from getting over that fear is the opportunity to practice public speaking skills. Oral Interpretation is a great way for students to work on losing that fear, especially before sophomore speech class!

Students participating in Oral Interpretation are able to choose a category in which they feel comfortable and select a piece of literature that they enjoy. They practice the piece several times, attempting to perfect the characterization and author's voice within the piece.

This year, the EPJ Oral Interpretation Team had a great year! We had several entries in the local contest held in the EPJ High School study hall on Tuesday, October 16. We had three entries in the Humorous category: Adrian Ries, "Driving Mr. Crazy" (winner of category); Lanie Florke, "Blue-Bellied Lizards"; and Jenna Donnelly, "Woman and Man Started Even." We had one entry in the Duet Interpretation category. Rachel Fehr and Megan Weidner performed "DMV Tyrant." In the Readers' Theater category, we had two groups perform. "The Lorax" was performed by Megan Weidner, Courtney Thorpe, Caitlin Thorpe, Leslie Shedd, Abbey Langstraat, and Lanie Florke. "The Hypochondriacs Guide to Life and Death" was performed by Courtney Thorpe, Leslie Shedd, Abbey Langstraat, and Jordon Flynn (winner of category).

The winners from the local contest moved on to regional contest at USD in Vermillion, on Tuesday, November 13. Megan Weidner also performed a Poetry piece, "The Meewho with an Exactlywhatt," and Lanie Florke performed a Non-Original Oratory piece, "World House." While no participants moved on to the state contest, we definitely considered it a successful year.

Oral Interpretation seems to be a little-known activity around schools. Please encourage your high school student to find out more about it! I'm looking forward to another great year next year!

New Art and Technology Class . . . by Katie Fesler, 6-12 Art

In accordance with the standards and goals of our district in providing students with diversified learning opportunities, we are introducing a new class into the Visual Arts curriculum. *Art and Technology* will be approached as an opportunity for students to utilize more modern techniques of art through the application of technology. Students will be required to have taken an introductory computer class (*web design*) so that they are familiar with the basic functions of computer application. Projects will include multiple Photoshop applications, a variety of graphic design projects, photomontage, digital collage, optical art, fractals, and possibly animation/game design. Each project will include historical aspects, cultural and societal contexting, concepts geared towards the elements and principles of design, and an understanding of the application's place in real-world business. Outside of class research will be required frequently. Assessment will include the rubric-based projects, class presentations and discussions, quizzes, and daily assignments. PC Tablets will be utilized heavily, and students enrolled must have continuous access to a personal camera for use outside of school, as all Photoshop images must be student originals. This class will be offered second semester and every other year, starting with the 2008-09 school year.

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 on Tuesday, October 23. The seniors in Advanced Chemistry took part in the Avogadro Cup. They competed in Moling, a Mole Toss, Mole-in-One Golf, a Basketmole Shoot Out, and the Mole Stroll. The Mole Stroll had students racing blind-folded on a skate board and Moling involved a bowling ball and Styrofoam cups. We were even able to crown a Mole Day King and Queen. Chosen from the 3rd period Advanced Chemistry class were John Frankl and Kelsie Pace and from 4th period, Kale Nelson and Linley McInerney. Congratulations to all!

Juniors in Chemistry class participated in the 5th Annual Husky Mole-a-thon. They were able to compete in a 22.4 mL water race, a Mole Stroll of their very own, Mole-in-One Golf, and the Basketmole Shoot Out. The freshmen were able to participate in various activities as well. 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.

Science News . . . by Adam Benson, H.S. Science

Happy holiday season to everyone! My name is Mr. Benson, and I'm Mrs. Stabe's student teacher this semester. I'm a senior biology major from the University of South Dakota and have been with Mrs. Stabe's classes over the last couple of months. I have really enjoyed my time here at EPJ and look forward to my future career as an educator. It's been a busy couple of months in the science classroom, and we've covered a lot of interesting material.

The sophomore biology class has been an especially busy group. We just finished a long unit on the cell and are moving into plant photosynthesis and respiration. We've had the opportunity to work in a lot of lab activities recently, and I think the students have enjoyed that. In the cell chapter, we spent one day observing and comparing plant cells from an onion with animal cells from the inner cheeks of the students. We dyed the cells using a couple of different lab chemicals and were able to observe things like cell walls and nucleuses. The students also had a large, week-long project that they were assigned during the cell chapter. They were given the task of building a three dimensional model of either a plant or animal cell using only random household junk to represent organelles. The projects are in and graded, and the creativity of the students was very impressive.

In anatomy, we've spent our time covering the eye, the ear, and now the skeletal system. The skeletal system chapter is an exceptionally large one and will round out the semester. The students have gotten a chance to do some labs exploring bone growth and different ratios of bone length in their bodies in some of the labs we've done. During the chapter covering the human eye, the students were exposed to an entirely new dissection – the cow eye. Each group of two students got their own cow eye, and we spent a couple periods dissecting, identifying, and discussing its structure and function. In addition to the lab activities, the students have seen a few guest speakers discussing such topics as organ donation and medical service careers, and in the near future they will be visiting with an eye doctor about what his job entails.

Ecology students have spent their time covering several smaller chapters. We've discussed geologic layers of the Earth, the atmosphere, water systems, ecosystems, evolution, and the six kingdoms. Recently, we began work on a new chapter covering the population explosion of humans on Earth. Through the chapters, we've tried to balance lecture with different activities to keep the students engaged. One of these recent activities was a microscope lab where we observed three types of protists: paramecium, amoeba, and euglena. The students have also spent time designing ecosystems and even designing a new, well-adapted species of fish that is being displayed in the hallway.

Saluting Those Who Served . . . by Roger Smith, H.S. Social Science



On Monday, November 12, members of the senior class presented a Veterans Day assembly to the junior high and high school students. The theme of the program was "Saluting Those Who Served."

Members of the senior class honored the veterans of America's many wars, as well as veterans who served during non-combat times. Candles were lit and poppies were placed in honor of those who have served their country. Senior members of the All-State Chorus led the audience in singing the National Anthem, and the Pledge of Allegiance was performed.

Members of the senior class who took part in this program were Kim Wurtz, Adrian Ries, Amanda Connelly, Tommy Bottger, Hannah Wilkinson, Kristin Marshall, Jalisa Keegan, Annie Staum, Jacob Renken, Michael Strassburg, Jordan Patnaude, Sam Massey, Rusty Langel, Katie Weis, Anna Erickson, Mary Nebelsick, Molly Shanks, Amanda Connelly, John Frankl, Myles Larsen, Paige Norton, Kelsie Pace, Jessica Hudelson, Hope Metzgar, Mike Brandt, Kreighton Stokely, Sam Turner, Linley McInerney, Melanie Engeldinger, Rachel Fehr, Haley Hanson, Sara Peasley, Jenna Petersen, and Molly Donnelly.



Construction Class

by Mike Satter, Industrial Technology

In construction class this year, we are building small wall sections to simulate actual building construction. The idea is to keep the costs down but yet give each student experiences and skills necessary for basic construction. Some of the skills completed are framing, shingling, wiring, installing sheetrock, plumbing, tiling the floor, trimming, and installing fascia and soffit. Throughout the semester, the students used a variety of tools and applied measuring and cutting to assemble their wall frames.

Students were divided into groups of two. This enabled all students to work equally on the projects. Members of the class were Brent Baker, Alan Groethe, Jesse Hofland, Josh Hummel, Jordan Johnson, Matt Keister, Zach Raker, Jake Renken, and Jerry Renken. Garrett Thompson served as our teacher assistant.



EPJ Music Boosters . . . by Kathy Lawler, Music Booster Member

As you read this issue of the Husky newsletter, I hope many of you are enjoying the delicious fruit the vocal and band students offered during the fall fundraiser. Grapefruit, oranges, apples, pears, as well as string cheese and meat sticks, were offered through the MinTex company. Maybe the fruit will help offset the rest of the sugar ratio of the season! Thanks to students and parents who helped prepare for the delivery on December 3, and a special thank you to those who supported our sale with their purchase.

The students are working at replenishing their fund accounts as well as the General Fund of the Music Boosters at EPJ after coming off of the Liberty Bowl trip in December/January of this past year. With the shortened home football schedule of three games instead of four, our concession stand income was reduced. We continue to brainstorm new ideas for fundraising.

The vocal department is in the early planning stages of a trip next year. The Music Boosters continue to aid both the vocal and band departments at EPJ financially with helping to cover fees for contests, providing scholarships for summer band camp, offering scholarships for graduating seniors, making equipment purchases, and providing other special musical events.

Cathy Teply is again leading the EPJ Music Boosters as president this year. She is doing a fantastic job leading this group with innovative ideas. Cathy is the one to thank for new food ideas, organization, and preparations in the football concession stand. She is assisted by vice-president Sonja Swanson; secretary, Teresa Geary; and treasurer, Rhonda Weidner. Our EPJ website is designed and maintained by Cindy Marshall. Many thanks to outgoing treasurer Mary Beth Peter for her dedication to the group. She undertook the huge job of converting our previous ledger system of student/general fund accounts onto a new laptop computer this past year.

Be sure to take advantage of EPJ's holiday concerts this month; they are sure to help put you in the holiday spirit. Tap your foot and sing along. Merry Christmas to all.

2007 Cross Country Season . . . by Maggie Grassel, Head Cross Country Coach

The 2007 cross country team included returning letterwinners Jessica Hudelson, Hope Metzgar, Allison Lawler, Derrick DeBuhr, Haley Bosse, Jenna Donnelly, Bobbie McLaury, and Jordyn Hudelson. The newcomers included Rachel Fehr, Robyn McLaury, Mackenzie Klinkhammer, Annie Peasley, and Taylor Donnelly.

This season, the girls team set out to make a name for themselves, and that's exactly what they did. The girls team captured six championship titles this year. DeBuhr represented the Huskies well throughout the season, as a complete boys team was unable to be filled.

EPJ belongs to the tough and competitive Big Sioux Conference. Prior to the conference meet, the Huskies were the ones to beat. Since the conference meet was hosted by EPJ, the pressure to perform was on. Not only did the Huskies meet the challenge by an outstanding performance, but the highlight came at the finish line of the girls varsity race. Jenna Donnelly and Bobbie McLaury had a photo finish, tying for first place. This helped the lady Huskies win the conference meet.

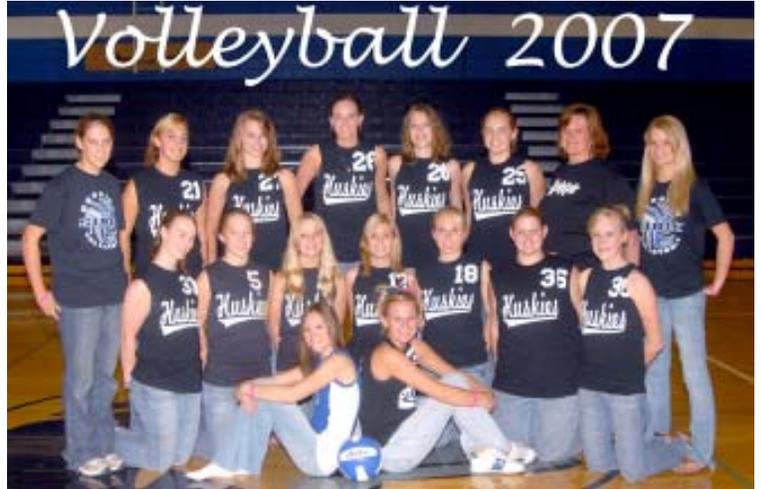
Another highlight came during the region meet at Beresford. The girls team achieved their goal of winning regions and advancing to the state meet in Huron. The EPJ Huskies earned a first place finish, winning by only two points over West Central. Bobbie McLaury led the Huskies with a 2nd place finish, followed by Jenna Donnelly and Jordyn Hudelson placing 4th and 11th, respectively. Others placing were Mackenzie Klinkhammer (25), Taylor Donnelly (28), and Robyn McLaury (29).

At the State Meet in Huron, the Huskies were led by medalist Bobbie McLaury who placed 11th out of 133 runners. Other finishers were Jenna Donnelly (26), Jordyn Hudelson (56), Taylor Donnelly (77), Robyn McLaury (84) and Mackenzie Klinkhammer (117). As a team, the Huskies earned a fifth place finish.

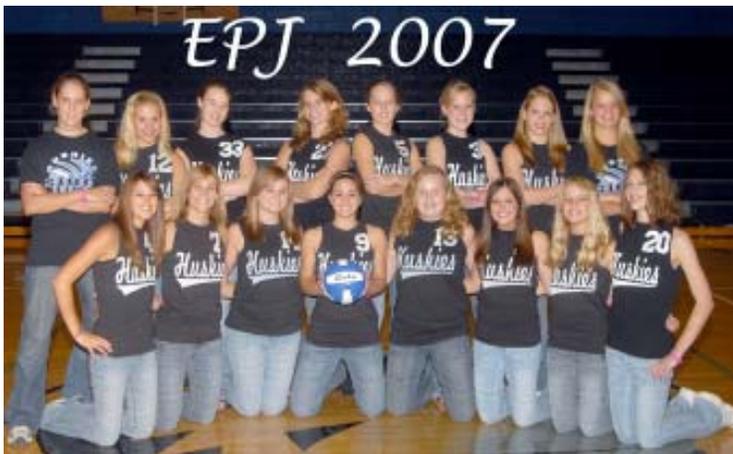
The 2007 season contained numerous highlights for this dedicated and motivated team. Not only were they the team to watch in 2007, but they'll be the ones to watch in 2008.

JV Volleyball Highlights . . . by Jodi Zeller, JV Volleyball Coach

The JV Husky team finished the 2007 season with a notable 16-1 record. In arriving at that finish, we went through many lineup transitions and lost many of our players to the varsity lineup. Due to our constantly changing lineup, we had many different players step up to be leaders, and they did that playing many different positions. We finished our season with 178 service aces as a team. Leading that effort was Ali Truhe with 39, followed by Maddie Pace with 31, Marica Rupp with 26, and Reanna Bertram with 22. We had a great hitting season, compiling 376 total kills as well as putting up a threatening block 23 times. Maddie Pace found the floor for 73 kills, while Emily Zeller had 60 kills and 7 ace blocks, Ali Truhe had 52 kills, Kelly Reed had 38 kills to go along with her 6 ace blocks, and Devan Penfield put down 32 kills and added 4 ace blocks. We had a total team effort when it came to feeding the ball to these hitters. Our assist leader was Reanna Bertram with 102; helping in the effort were Ali Truhe with 90, Molly Hammitt with 44, and Shelby Larsen with 35. This talented JV team also refused to let the ball hit the floor on our side of the court and in doing so dug up 770 balls that the opponents hit our way. Saving 180 of those balls was Marica Rupp. Maddie Pace joined that effort with 105 digs, Ali Truhe had 96 digs, Carlie Hoffman had 71 digs, and Cayla Hilbrands picked up 52 digs. Great job, JV players, on a very successful season and we, the coaches, cannot wait until next year to continue with the Husky tradition you have all helped set.



C Team Volleyball Highlights . . . by Heidi Bryan, C Team Volleyball Coach



The Husky C team finished the season with not only an impressive 13-3 record, but also a sense of excitement for the future of Husky volleyball. They are without a doubt an extremely talented group of young volleyball players.

This Husky team kept their opponents on the defense with their aggressive serving and net play. The team served 180 aces and had 252 kills in the season. The offensive effort was led by Reanna Bertram (46 kills) and Emily Zeller (41 kills). Kelly Reed put the ball to the floor for 33 kills, and Brittany Paulsen gave the team 32 kills. Reanna Bertram, the team's primary setter throughout the year, racked up 123 assists along with 41 ace serves. Cayla Hilbrands contributed 36 aces, and Allyson Murphy and Emilie Erickson both threw in 25 aces.

The most improved part of the team's game was their defense. Many of the girls made huge gains in this area to improve the team's overall threat. As a team they dug up 716 balls. Leading the way in this department was Cayla Hilbrands with 100 digs. Not far behind her were Kelly Reed and Allyson Murphy with 89 and 87 digs respectively. Rounding out the defense were Emily Zeller and Reanna Bertram, both with 86 digs, and Emilie Erickson with 80.

Boys Golf Season Comes to an End . . . by Lee Clark, Head Boys Golf Coach

The 2007 boys golf team consisted of 12 members comprised of seven seniors, two juniors, one sophomore, and two seventh graders. Earning letters for this year's senior-dominated team are John Frankl, Michael Strassburg, Myles Larsen, Zeb Irwin, Jesse Hofland, Allan Groethe, and James Joffer. Included in this group are juniors Jeremiah Curry and Luke Frankl. Other Husky members are sophomore Steven Gross, and 7th graders Sam Viereck and Ryan Rosenbaum.

Awards were voted on by the individual members and handed out at the team's end of season meeting. John earned the Most Valuable Golfer award and was a SD State Golf participant. During the year, he averaged a nine hole score of 42 for the EPJ golf squad with a low score of 37 on the back nine at Vermillion. Steven received both the Rookie of the Year and Most Valuable JV Golfer honors, and Ryan took home the Most Improved citation. Zeb finished the awards round by receiving the Coach's Award for his dedication to the team and for his admirable actions during the year. His highlight came at Beresford where he recorded an 82 for the varsity, shooting a 39 and a 43 respectively.

Rounded averages for the team this year were John-42, Mike-43 (state golf participant), Jerry-44, Luke-45, Zeb and Myles-46, Jesse and James-47, Sam-48, Allan-49, Steven-50, and Ryan-58.

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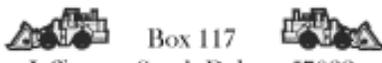
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