



THE HUSKY

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Singing All the Way to Rapid



All-State Chorus delegates and alternates back row (L-R) Katherine Giorgio, Jade Rosenbaum, John Schuh, Nathan Ambrose, Bryce Taylor. Front (L-R) Charlie Nearman, Kelsey Abbey, Katherine Mickelson, Gabriela Perez, Taylor Donnelly.

By: Heaven Zevenbergen

Every year, music judges from South Dakota travel to surrounding schools to find students to sing in South Dakota's All-State Chorus. For the past month, nineteen EPJ choir students have been practicing the choral music for their All-State auditions in hopes of being selected for the prestigious choir. The auditions consisted of singing two songs, *The Star Spangled Banner* and *Festival Sanctus*.

This year's judges were vocal directors from Beresford High School and Canton High School. Vocalists were judged on a scale of 50 for each song. For each of the four vocal parts, the two students with the highest scores were chosen to be the delegates.

This year's All-State delegates are sopranos Kelsey Abbey and Gabriela Perez, altos Katherine Giorgio and Katherine Mickelson, tenors John Schuh and Charlie Nearman, and basses Nathan

Ambrose and Bryce Taylor. The alternates are the students who are chosen to practice with the group and may go to All-State if a delegate cannot perform. The alternates chosen were Taylor Donnelly and Jade Rosenbaum. EPJ high school vocal director Mr. Dustin Rusche says, "I am very proud of all students that auditioned and put in much time and effort in preparation for the All-State auditions. Each audition opportunity is unique and gives students a chance to show off their instrument while also conquering their nerves."

Now that the delegates and alternates are chosen, the students will practice every Monday night in Beresford, readying the seven chosen songs for the concert. The concert will be held at the Rushmore Plaza Civic Center in Rapid City on October 26 and 27. All of the students involved in All-State work hard to prepare themselves for this upcoming event, and it is sure to be an exciting concert.

EPJ Continues Backpack Program

By: Alex Lawler

Although the school year is now in full swing, there are some students who do not receive proper nutrition to help them focus in class and go about their day. The EPJ Weekend Backpack Project is a community-based program that provides help for this problem.

The Weekend Backpack program gives a bag of ready-made and easy-to-prepare meals and snacks to any children who may need additional food over the weekend. The program started at the elementary level, and volunteers hope that it will grow into a K-12 program. The Weekend Backpack program is free of charge, and any student enrolled at EPJ can be registered at any time throughout the school year.

Many community members, including people from local churches and other community organizations, help provide this service, which runs completely

on donations. Every Friday, children enrolled in the program are discreetly given a bag of food as an additional source of nutrition for the weekend. In the case of a holiday, food will be given in a bag on the last day before break.

The program began during the 2011-2012 school year, distributing 322 bags of food in four months of that year. The number has more than doubled this school year. Program organizers are looking for volunteers who are willing or interested in packing bags. Anyone interested in volunteering or making a donation can write to EPJ Weekend Backpack, P.O. Box 155, Elk Point, SD 57025. You can also email program coordinator Amy Merkley at Amy.Merkley@k12.sd.us or call 356-5806 for any additional information. Additionally, you can "like" the EPJ Weekend Backpack Project on Facebook. Donations may also count as a tax deduction.

Congrats to the Cast

Elk Point-Jefferson Drama Department is kicking off the season with its own version of the musical comedy *Once Upon a Mattress*. Based upon the classic fairy tale *The Princess and the Pea*, the story relates Prince Dauntless's search for the bride of his dreams.

Tryouts for the cast were held on Tuesday, September 4, and Wednesday, September 5, from 7 P.M. - 8:30 P.M. Cast members were notified of their roles on Friday, September 7.

The cast consists of Nathan Ambrose, Leona Rodenkirchen, Kelley Jorgensen, Taylor Donnelly, Rebecca Smith, Charlie Nearman, Seth Petra, Ian Grassel, Jordan Brandon, Jared Mau,

Alex Lawler, Alex McLaury, Keegan Mahin, Simone Bernard, Chelsea Weidner, Heaven Zevenbergen, Bryce Taylor, Gabi Perez, Jade Rosenbaum, Meghan Schenck, Kelsey Abbey, Lauren Dossdall, Arianna Hines, Ulrike Hovland, Lindsay Johnson, Kerry Jorgensen, Denielle Minor, Angelica Perez, Jasmine Rosenbaum, Nicole Rupp, Peyton Swanson, Briley Weidner, and Irene Williams.

The tech crew is made up of Jalisna Connors, Shannon Hennessen, Joshua Dossdall, Amy Zeller, and Stacie McLaury. The show is directed by Mrs. Kirsten Colt. The play will be performed on November 9 and 10 at 7:30 P.M. in the middle school gym.

Senior Spotlights

This week our spotlights shine on Katie Alyssa Zeller and Brock Andrew Zeller. Katie and Brock are two of the 65 talented seniors who will graduate this May. EPJ wishes both Katie and Brock a bright future filled with opportunities.



Katie Zeller

Parents: Jeff and Jodi Zeller
Siblings: Drake and Brock
Birthday: May 21, 1994
Future Plans: enter the medical field
HS Activities: volleyball, golf, National Honor Society, student council

Little-known Facts about Me: I'm a twin; my fingers and toes are almost skeleton-like.

Famous-person Crush: Justin Bieber

Role Model: my grandma Audrey

Age I'd Love to be Forever: 17 --then I would get to stay young and my parents would still pay for me

Advice for Underclassmen: Don't procrastinate, listen, do what is asked of you, and cherish every moment that you have because it flies by VERY fast.

FAVORITES:
Quote: "Laugh often, love unconditionally, and live the life that YOU want to live."

School Memory: all of the boys vs. girls football games during elementary recess

Superhero: Spiderman
Movies: *Billy Madison*; *Bridesmaids*

TV Show: *Pretty Little Liars*
Food: everything momma Jodi makes. It is all so good.

School Lunch: chili
Color: pink

Artist: Shania Twain
Song: "Wannabe" - Spice Girls

Brock Zeller

Parents: Jeff and Jodi Zeller
Siblings: Drake and Katie
Birthday: May 21, 1994
Future Plans: attend college. I hope to be a businessman.

HS Activities: football, basketball, track, baseball, vocal

Little-known Fact about Me: I am obsessed with the number 4.

Famous-person Crush: Megan Fox

Role Model: my dad, Jeff Zeller -- he is always positive.

Age I'd Love to be Forever: I would be 18. I love high school, and I could stay here forever. It is really easy with Mom and Dad right there.

A Place I'd Love to Visit: California

Advice for Underclassmen: Stay in there, do what you do, and live it up.

FAVORITES:
Quote: "You just havetuh play better." - Eddie Lowery

School Memory: hanging out with the boys

Superhero: Spiderman
Movie: *Billy Madison*, *Happy Gilmore*, *Caddyshack*

TV Show: *Animal Planet*
Food: hot wings

School Lunch: chicken fried steak

Sports Team: Denver Broncos
Song/Artists: Blake Shelton, Lil Wayne
Color: Blue

Husky Spirit, Can You Hear It?

By: Denielle Minor

During every home football game, the football cheerleaders give away a spirit award to those who support and help cheer for the Husky football team. The award's main goal is to get the crowd cheering and roaring with excitement when the players are on the field.

Cheerleading coach Jean McLaury and the football cheerleaders look for fans in the bleachers who are loud, energetic, happy, confident, and cheerful throughout the whole game. The spirit award also has a special meaning to the cheerleaders themselves. It helps them do their job by encouraging an exciting attitude for the team and the fans, which promotes Husky Spirit.

A Cut for a Cause

By: Taylor Donnelly

Ashley Gylfe, a senior at EPJ, recently cut and donated thirty inches of hair to the organization Locks of Love. Locks of Love is a program in which people can donate at least ten inches of hair which is used to make hairpieces for disadvantaged children who have lost their hair due to medical treatment.

Gylfe first heard about the program from her friend Hannah Klinkhammer in sixth grade, but she wasn't ready to cut it back then. This past year, though, Gylfe decided she wanted to cut her hair short. Then one Friday night, she made a spur-of-the-moment decision to get it cut. With hair that reached down to her lower back, Ashley knew that the haircut would be different, but she did not expect it to be such a dramatic experience.

She brought along a support group that consisted of her mom, sister, grandma, grandpa, aunt, and four of her closest friends. "It was really special because my ninety-year-old grandpa cut it for me. It was a very uneven cut, but the hairdresser fixed that later," she explained with a smile. Gylfe also commented that some of the friends that she brought with her started to cry from seeing

her hair cut off, which also caused her to start crying, too.

She wasn't sad about donating her hair, though, because she knew it was for a good cause. When asked if she was glad that she cut it, Gylfe responded, "Yes! I'm so happy! I don't have to brush my hair for an hour before school anymore!"

Gylfe advises anyone who is considering donating hair to just do it because it will grow back. She also plans to donate again once hers grows out. Ashley Gylfe has done a wonderful deed by helping children who are in need, and she is a proud role model for the students of EPJ.



Ashley Gylfe holds up the locks she recently donated to Locks of Love.

Husky Events This Week

- Thursday (9/27): JV Football at Bon Homme 5:00
Volleyball with Sioux Falls Christian 5:00
7/8 Football with Beresford 4:00
- Friday (9/28): Menno Marching Band Performance
Cross Country at Lennox 4:00
School Pictures
- Saturday (9/29): Marching Band at Trojan Days in Madison
- Monday (10/1): 7/8 Volleyball with Vermillion 4:00
7/8 Football at Dakota Valley 4:00
JV Football with Akron-Westfield 4:00
State Golf at Spearfish
- Tuesday (10/2): 7/8 Volleyball with SF Christian 4:00
Volleyball with Harrisburg 5:00
Dig for the Cure Night
State Golf at Spearfish

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