



THE HUSKY

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Heigh Ho Heigh Ho, It's Off to Orlando We Go



Choir members Angelica Perez (L) and Heaven Zevenbergen (R) pose with Disney's Ariel during their Orlando tour.

By: Stacie McLauri

During the Christmas break from January 2-7, the Elk Point-Jefferson High School Choir took a trip to Orlando, Florida, for the opportunity to perform at Downtown Disney. They left at 12:30 A.M. on January 2 by coach bus and traveled for over 24 hours.

When the choir first arrived in Florida, they prepared for a performance at Ron John's Surf Shop. After their performance, they headed to Cocoa Beach for a cook-out and some swimming time. After spending a few hours on the beach, it was finally time to check in to their hotel rooms.

On the morning of the 4th, the choir started the day off with their workshop at the Disney Performing Arts Studio. There they were able to make different sound effects that were applied to Disney's *The Lion King*. They

recorded the songs "Can You Feel the Love Tonight" and "The Circle of Life." A private showing of *The Lion King* was then held for the group in which the sound effects and songs created by the choir were dubbed in to replace the original soundtrack. The choir then headed off to Disney's Epcot Center where they spent the rest of the day looking at the different countries represented there. They ended the day at Epcot with a fireworks show before heading back to the hotel.

The next day began with an early trip to Downtown Disney. The choir was able to sightsee before they went to Disney's Performing Arts Studio to warm up for their performance later that morning. They performed on an outdoor stage in Downtown Disney. When the concert was finished, the choir was able to relax and have some fun at Disney's Magic Kingdom. At the end of the day, there was a presentation projected on Cinderella's Castle showing popular Disney movies such as *Tarzan*, *Peter Pan*, and *Cinderella*. The ten-minute presentation was followed by a fireworks show behind the castle. When that was finished, they returned to the hotel to end another day on the trip.

The final day at Orlando began by packing up the bus and heading to Disney's Animal Kingdom. The students went on a safari to see the different animals on site. Choir members also enjoyed roller coasters and water rides. At 2 P.M. the choir assembled for its final destination, Disney's Hollywood Studios. At 6:30 P.M. they experienced "Fantasmic," a show in which everyone's favorite characters all work

together to defeat the classic Disney villains. At the end of the show, everyone was required to return to the entrance of the park where they gathered to travel home. The trip came to an end as the bus arrived at the Elk Point-Jefferson School parking lot at 10:30 that night. The Disney trip was a magical experience for the vocalists, and it inspired them to pursue their dreams as well as their singing careers.



EPJ choir members Bryce Taylor (L), Taylor Donnelly (C), and Angelica Perez work with Disney musicians to polish their performance skills.

"Good Samaritan" Coaches Go Barefoot for a Cause

The South Dakota Basketball Coaches Association (SDBBCA) elected to sponsor the charity program called Samaritans' Feet for the 2012-13 basketball season. Their purpose is to help provide shoes for children around the world. The charity entailed basketball coaches around the state to coach a basketball game barefoot.

Gary Nebelsick, head coach of the girls basketball team, has been on the SDBBCA for eight years and is a former president. Nebelsick heard about SDSU coach Scott Nagy, who was the first to coach a barefoot game in South Dakota. This year Scott Nagy will coach his fifth barefoot game. He sent out the word to other basketball coaches and challenged them to join him in this charity.

On Saturday, January 12, the assistants and head coaches of eight different schools around the area coached barefoot at the Girls Basketball Big Sioux Conference Tournament in Dell Rapids. Among these schools were Elk Point-Jefferson, Dakota Valley, Canton, Beresford, Dell Rapids, Tri-Valley, Tea, and Sioux Falls Christian. At the end of the third quarter of each game, members from each team gathered donations from spectators. The Elk Point-Jefferson team even wore the charity's wrist bands to warm up and then threw them into the crowd at the beginning of the game. The team enjoyed raising donations for Samaritans' Feet; assistant coach Adam Tim-

mins even went so far as to let some members of the team paint his toenails for the occasion.

At the end of the day, a total of \$1,300 was donated. Samaritans' Feet will take the money raised and buy shoes and socks for children around the world who have never owned a pair previously. If you were unable to attend the game and would still like to donate, you can go to <https://samaritansfeet.myetap.org/fundraiser/grahamswalk/team.do?participationRef=3214.0.19889904> and click on *Make a Donation*.

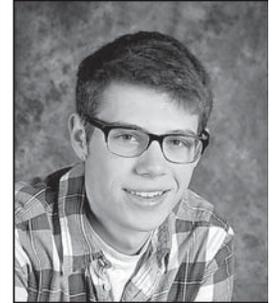
Coach Nebelsick stated that he was very pleased at the participation of all the schools and the support each community gave at their game. He ended saying, "We try to teach the girls we coach that being successful in life means being able to touch others' lives, and through this project, we will touch many children's lives by giving them their first pair of socks and shoes."



Coaches Jim Rosenbaum, Adam Timmins, and Gary Nebelsick bare their feet for a good cause.

Senior Spotlights

This week our spotlights shine on Theodore Curtis Zweber Murray and Jessica Lynn Gates. T.C. and Jessica are two of the 65 talented seniors who will graduate this May. EPJ wishes both T.C. and Jessica a bright future filled with opportunities.



Jessica Gates T.C. Murray

Parents: Todd Gates and Deb Gates

Birthday: March 27, 1995

Future Plans: living in Sioux Falls and going to Stewarts Cosmetology School

HS Activities: Destination Imagination

Little-known Fact about Me: I've been to DI Globals 3 times.

Famous-person Crush: Tyrese Gibson

Role Model: my aunts, Rene and Aura

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Mexico!

Age I'd Love to be Forever: 24, no more school, but not "old"

Advice for Underclassmen: Get your homework done--on time!

Hobbies: DI, shopping, being with friends

FAVORITES:

Quote: "To be great is to be misunderstood." - Ralph Waldo Emerson

School Memory: Prom 2012

Superhero: My mom!

Movie: *The Little Mermaid*

TV Show: *Supernatural*

Book/Author: "In Ecstasy" by Kate McCaffrey

Food: Oreos

HS Class: English II speeches

Song/Artist: "Pay Phone" by Alex G

School Lunch: Chili

Holiday: Easter

Color: Purple

Parents: Peter and Mary Murray

Birthday: September 27, 1994

Future Plans: go to college and start a successful career

Famous-person Crush: Rihanna

Role Model: Tyler Gregory Okonma

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Rome or Venice

Age I'd Love to be Forever: 20, because that's the perfect age for college parties

Advice for Underclassmen: Be very good with computers.

Hobby: listening to music

FAVORITES:

Quote: "I'm a let you finish, but Beyonce had one of the best videos of all time." - Kanye West

School Memory: any day we got to leave school early for a snow day

Superhero: Batman

Movie: *The Dark Knight*

TV Show: Tosh.O

Food: pizza and chicken alfredo

Song/Artist: Kanye West

Sports Team: New England Patriots

School Lunch: chicken fried steak

Holiday: Christmas or Halloween

Color: Sky blue

Erickson Named December Student of the Month



By: Cheyenne Steemken

Recently, high school senior Haylee Erickson was named the December Student of the Month. Haylee is an active senior who is involved in many extracurricular activities. She has participated in basketball, volleyball, softball, and track throughout her high school career. She has also participated in Acceleration and the school talent show, and she actively serves on the EPJ Student Council and the National Honor Society.

Haylee consistently brings a positive and enthusiastic attitude to whatever she does. This helps her perform as the Drum Major for the school Marching Band.

In the past, Haylee has participated in the local science fair and made her way to State Science Fair to compete with other state-wide projects.

Throughout her high school career, Haylee has earned many honors, including lettering in band, basketball, track, softball, and volleyball. She was selected for Homecoming Royalty as well. She has had a very successful basketball career which includes being chosen for Second and Third Team All Conference her sophomore and junior years. Additionally, she won the team MVP award in her junior year.

Haylee gives her time to help coach the Little Huskies Camp, and she has dressed as "Hero" the Husky, the school's mascot, at home football games. As busy as she is, she finds time to study and has maintained a spot on the A Honor Roll all four years of high school.

The Student of the Month award is given to Haylee because she works hard at everything she does and inspires others to do the same. To reward her efforts, she will have exclusive use of the reserved parking spot for the month of January as well as her picture on display in the commons trophy case. Congratulations, Haylee, for being honored as December's Student of the Month.

Husky Events This Week

- Thursday (1/24): 5-8 Science Fair at 6:00 in MS Gym
- Friday (1/25): Teacher In-Service - Dismiss at 12:30
GBB and BBB with Tri-Valley at 4:00
- Saturday (1/26): 7/8 Boys Basketball at Canton at 9:00
Wrestling at Wagner at 9:00
C Team GBB with Sioux City North 10:30
C Team BBB with Sioux City North 12:00
- Monday (1/28): 7/8 Boys Basketball at Vermillion at 4:00
JV Wrestling at MOC-FV at 4:45
Little Huskies GBB 6:30-8:00
- Tuesday (1/29): BBB at Harrisburg at 5:00

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