



Heckathorn takes Top Honors at Middle School Science Fair



Science Fair overall winners (L-R) Presston Kollbaum, Logan Donelan, Matthew Ambrose, Daniel Petra, and Mariah Heckathorn.

By: Alex Lawler

The Elk Point-Jefferson Middle School Science Fair on Thursday, January 25, provided a great display of new and old scientific theories and tests. Fifth through eighth grade students displayed their ideas in the categories of Earth Science, Physical Science, or Biological Science. From 5:30-7:00 P.M., students, parents, siblings, and community members walked through the gym and marveled at the students' displays.

Examples of the interesting exhibits include Brooklyn Boulware's research on how common are different types of finger prints or Maddy Dillon's re-creation of a Skittle. Winners were awarded ribbons corresponding to their placing. They will attend the State Science Fair at South Dakota State University in Brookings on March 12.

In fifth grade, Justin Judla took first place in Earth Science, Brice Moore won first place in Physical Science, and Cindy Bosque took

first place for Biological Science.

In sixth grade, Hannah VanKirk won first place in Earth Science, Caden Stabe won first for Biological Science, and Connor Taylor was awarded first in Physical Science. For seventh grade, the team of Addison Ludwig and Taylor Trudeau won Earth Science, Jessica Huber and Elsie Aslesen won Biological Science, and Presston Kollbaum and Logan Donelan won Physical Science. In eighth grade, Mariah Heckathorn took first place for Earth Science, with Bradie Timmins and Elena Giorgio in first for Biological Science, and Daniel Petra and Matt Ambrose in first for Physical Science.

For the overall award, Preston Kollbaum and Logan Donelan took third, Daniel Petra and Matt Ambrose were awarded second, and Mariah Heckathorn earned the prize for first place overall.

This year's science fair was organized by Mrs. Pierce and Mr. Kalda, and considering the turnout of spectators and the excellent projects, it was a huge success.

Junior Honor Choir: Celebrating 20 Years

EPJ middle school student Katelyn Richards traveled to Rapid City to perform in South Dakota Junior Honor Choir January 18-19. Performing in this year's event was a special honor considering it was the 20th anniversary of the annual event.

Junior Honor Choir is made of a select group of junior high students from the state of South Dakota who practice and perform in order to broaden their musical abilities and performance skills. Each year, South Dakota students audition for a chance to be chosen for the Mixed Junior Choir or Women's Junior Honor Choir.

In October, twelve students from the Elk Point-Jefferson Junior High auditioned. Katelyn Richards, an eighth grader at EPJ, was chosen to be a part of the Mixed Junior Honor Choir

for the second year in a row. Two alternates, Emily Mickelson and Emily Peirce, were also selected. The total number of delegates for the Junior Honor Choir was approximately 175 students.

All delegates practiced in Rapid City on the evening of January 18th, with a performance during the following afternoon. Music teacher Mr. Dustin Rusche commented on the experience: "SD Junior Honor Choir gives the exceptional singers of our state an outstanding opportunity to showcase their musical talents with others that share the same gifts."

EPJ is proud of all of its musicians. Through opportunities such as Junior Honor Choir, young vocalists gain an excellent opportunity to work with acclaimed guest conductors and expand their musical knowledge.

Ambrose and Timmins Named MS Citizens of the Month



Each month, two students are chosen from the middle school to be named the Middle School Citizens of the Month. For the month of December, that honor went to Matthew Ambrose and Bradie Timmins.

Matthew Ambrose is the son of Jon Ambrose and Angie Ambrose. His siblings are Caleb, Nathan, and Sarah. When he is not in school, Caleb enjoys football, baseball, track and wrestling. Matthew goes to Dalesburg Baptist Church and participates in Youth Group at the Youth Center in Beresford. His favorite sport is wrestling, but he also loves snowboarding.

Matthew roguers corn in the summer for Scott Hansen when he's not out having fun in the sun. Matthew's role models are Tony Hawk, Sean White, and all the teachers of EPJ. His favorite thing about EPJ Middle School

is the great activities, recreational and educational, that the school provides for the students.

The second Citizen of the Month is Bradie Timmins, daughter of Adam and Shannon Timmins and sister of Carson Timmins. Some school activities she enjoys are setting for the junior high volleyball team, playing guard for the girls basketball team, and junior high track.

Bradie attends St. Joseph and St. Peters CCD on Wednesdays. Outside of school, she is involved with the traveling volleyball team and traveling basketball team. Some of her hobbies include soccer, reading, and writing. She also works occasionally as a babysitter.

Bradie's father is her role model because he has a lot of determination and really encourages and believes in her. What Bradie loves most about EPJ is all of the teachers and their enthusiasm for teaching and helping the students learn.

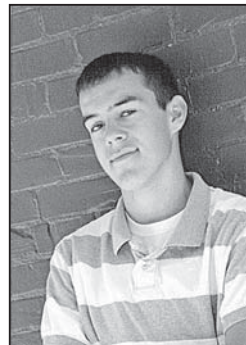
Bradie and Matthew were selected as Citizens of the Month, but other Citizens of the Week for December were also honored and are pictured below. Congratulations to all the students honored during the month of December!



Citizens of the Week honored during the month of December are pictured above. Back row (L-R) Taylor Branson, Aaron Koupal, Karlee Shatswell, Taylor Welch. Front row (L-R) Matthew Ambrose, Alyssa Hurley, Bradie Timmins, Elyssa Collins.

Senior Spotlights

This week our spotlights shine on Alexander Robert Dawdy and Carter James Herrity. Alex and Carter are two of the 65 talented seniors who will graduate this May. EPJ wishes both Alex and Carter a bright future filled with opportunities.



Alex Dawdy

Parents: Dan Dawdy and Lynn Klunder

Siblings: Emma Dawdy, Lynsey Klunder, and Ben Klunder

Birthday: October 26, 1994

Future Plans: study criminal justice

HS Activities: cross country, basketball, and track and field

Role Model: Rajon Rondo

Hobbies: watching movies and reading books

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Denver, Colorado

Advice for Underclassmen: Listen to your teachers.

FAVORITES:

Quote: "True knowledge exists in knowing that you know nothing." - Socrates

Movies: *Lord of the Rings* trilogy

TV Shows: *Revolution*, *Prison Break*

Books: *The Hunger Games* trilogy

Food: meatball marinera on Italian herb and cheese bread with mozzarella cheese

HS Class: any class with Mrs. Baagoe

Song/Artist: "Madness" - Muse

Sports Team: Denver Broncos, Boston Celtics, Boston Red Sox, and Boston Bruins

Color: Blue

Holiday: Christmas



Carter Herrity

Parents: Mitchell Herrity and Charity Herrity

Siblings: Jacob Herrity and Miles Herrity

Birthday: May 9, 1995

HS Activities: playing sports

Hobbies: playing dunkball

Little-known Fact about Me: I am a pretty decent procrastinator.

Famous-person Crush: Anne Hathaway

Role Model: Clint Eastwood

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Hogwarts

Age I'd Love to be Forever: 35 -- so I can run for President

Advice for Underclassmen: Learn how to "speedwalk" without getting caught. If not, you will be at the back of the lunch line all year.

FAVORITES:

Quote: "A bird in the hand is worth two in the bush."

Movies: *Back to the Future I, II, and III*

TV Show: *Lost*

Book/Author: *Hatchet*

Food: pepperoni pizza

HS Class: Anatomy

Artist: Fleetwood Mac

Sports Team: Kansas City Chiefs

Holiday: Presidents' Day

Superhero: Aquaman

School Lunch: beef tips

Seniors Benefit from Community Commitment College Fund

The Community Commitment Fund (CCF) gives scholarships to all seniors who will attend a post-secondary school in the fall. Last year, each senior who applied received \$300. In order to raise more money this year, the committee has held fundraisers such as a tailgate supper and concession stand. These fundraisers, along with individual and organizational donations, will help this year's seniors pay for their future education.

EPJ would like to thank the Lions Club, MidAmerican Energy, Dorris L. Pace, John Guenther, Mr. and Mrs. Russel M. Hall, Mark and Stephanie Turner, and Don and Mary Abraham for their donations into this fund.

The committee has also put together a Community Commitment Fund Endowment. Committee members hope that the interest earned on this fund will be

used to fund CCF scholarships for future graduating classes. It will also minimize the need for other fundraising efforts. EPJ would like to recognize the City of Elk Point in Memory of Jim Kooiman, Dave and Dori Hilbrands, Richard Peasley, Sonja Swanson, Donna Mau, Brian Wells TuDogs Computing, Cliff and Chris Haines, Chuck and Lori Donnelly, George and Diane Donnelly, and Sioux Fertilizer for their generous donations to this endowment.

Upcoming fundraisers include the Chili Cup and the Dinner Theatre at the All School Play performance. The Chili Cup will be held in Bump N Sam's basement on April 5 at 6:30. Any individual or organization who would like to donate to either fund can contact Christine McMeekin at Christine.McMeekin@k12.sd.us or call 356-5871.

Husky Events This Week

- Thursday (1/31): Girls Basketball with Lennox 5:00
Wrestling Quad 5:00
- Friday (2/1): GBB and BBB with Dakota Valley 4:00
7/8 Wrestling Quad at Akron 4:00
- Saturday (2/2): 7th BSC BBB Tourney at Canton 9:00
8th BSC BBB Tourney at SFC 9:00
Little Huskies GBB 9:00-11:00
Grades 3-6
- Monday (2/4): Jazz and Show Choir Concert 7:00
- Tuesday (2/5): GBB and BBB with Homer 4:00
MS Wrestling Tourney at Yankton 4:15
Little Huskies Dance Camp 3:30-5:00
Grades JK-5
- Wednesday (2/6): Region I Vocal Solo/Ensemble Contest at Yankton