



EPJ Staff Selects April and May Students of the Month

Gabi Perez



April's Student of the Month is Gabriela Perez. Selected by the faculty, Gabi is a very involved senior who has participated in many extracurricular activities during her high school years. Gabi has been in chorus throughout her high school career, earning a spot at All State Chorus this past fall. Gabi has also starred in many of the school plays and musicals in the past four years. During her senior year, she participated in the

EPJ show choir and the flag team for the marching band. She was also chosen for Prom Royalty. In her junior year, she won the Big Sioux Conference Quiz Bowl with her teammates Matthew Lehman, Joseph Lyon, and Seth Petra.

Gabi displays her generosity through a variety of community service experiences. Since her freshman year, Gabi has helped out at her church's Thanksgiving turkey dinner, visited residents at the Prairie Estates Nursing Home, and tutored students. Gabi is a very talented and generous person whose drive to succeed and outgoing personality made her a natural choice for Student of the Month.

As Student of the Month, Gabi gets exclusive use of a front parking spot and has her picture on display in the commons trophy case. EPJ staff and students offer Gabi sincere congratulations and wish her the best of luck.

Kelsey Abbey



Kelsey Abbey was recently honored with the prestigious award of May Student of the Month. During her high school career, Kelsey has participated in choir, band, show choir, volleyball, National Honor Society, student council, jazz band, drama, and oral interpretation.

She has earned many music awards and honors including attending All State Choir her junior and

senior years and Augustana Honor Band her junior year.

She consistently earns a spot on the honor roll, and she was named Homecoming Queen this past fall.

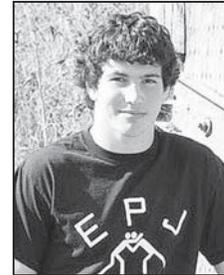
In sports, she has won several varsity volleyball letters and played at the Junior National Olympic Volleyball Tournament her freshman year. Additionally, she has played club volleyball, soccer, and golf.

Kelsey participates in various volunteer activities as well, including Church Band, Friends' Feast, and Church Cantor. She also helped with volleyball camp and played keyboard for show choir.

Congratulations to Kelsey Abbey for being named May Student of the Month. For this award, Kelsey earns a front parking spot and has her picture displayed in the commons trophy case. EPJ staff and students wish Kelsey the best of luck in her future. Congratulations, Kelsey!

Senior Spotlights

This week our spotlights shine on Michael Lee Johnson, Jennifer Dafney Finkle and Nicholas Henry Weis. Michael, Jennifer, and Nicholas are three of the 64 talented seniors who will graduate this May. EPJ wishes each of them a bright future filled with opportunities.



Nick Weis

Parents: Louis and Cindy Weis

Siblings: Joseph and Katie
Birthday: May 21, 1995

Future Plans: go to college

HS Activities: football, wrestling, student council, play, and oral interpretation

Hobby: reading

Role Model: Nick Jonas and Neil DeGrasse Tyson

Advice for Underclassmen: Don't take school too seriously.

FAVORITES:

Quote: "The good thing about science is that it's true whether or not you believe in it."

-Neil DeGrasse Tyson

Superhero: Goku

Movie: *La Soga*

TV Shows: *Dragon Ball Z; Workaholics*

Food: shrimp alfredo

HS Class: AP Literature

Song/Artist: Childish Gambino

School Lunch: chicken fried steak

Color: green



Michael Johnson

Parents: Steve Johnson and Lori Johnson

Sibling: Steven
Birthday: January 17, 1995

Future Plans: go to college for auto mechanics

Hobbies: working on cars and bikes

Little-known Fact about Me: I am good with engines.

I've Always Wanted to Visit: the autobahn in Germany (no speed limit)

FAVORITES:

Quote: "In order to succeed, your desire for success should be greater than your fear of failure."

-Bill Cosby

TV Show: *SpongeBob*

Book/Author: Walter Dean Myers

Food: cheesecake

HS Class: P.E.

Song/Artist: Five Finger Death Punch

Sports Team: Green Bay Packers

Holiday: my birthday

Color: green

East Coast Deadline Nears

May 10 is the deadline for sign-up for the 2014 East Coast Trip. Current prices are guaranteed until then. Once again, the trip is open to current sixth, seventh, and eighth graders plus any high school students who missed previous trips as well as interested adults. The trip is May 31-June 6, 2014. The group will visit Washington, D.C., Philadelphia, and New York City, hitting highlights of each city. For further information, contact Patty Skinner at muppet@iw.net or telephone 356-2674.

Husky Events This Week

- Thursday (5/2): Girls Golf at SFC 9:00
K-4 Spring Concert 7:00
- Friday (5/3): Girls Golf with Canton 4:00
Track Sioux Falls Howard Wood 4:00
- Saturday (5/4): Track Sioux Falls Howard Wood 9:00
- Monday (5/6): BSC Girls Golf at Dakota Valley 9:00
Academic Awards Night 7:00
- Tuesday (5/7): 7/8 BSC Track at SFC 1:30
HS Spring Concert 7:00

EPJ says Farewell to the Finest

Mona Fennel



After eighteen years working for Elk Point-Jefferson School as the high school secretary, Mona Fennel has decided to retire after this year. It is going to be a big change for everyone in the school, especially the students and staff who have never known any secretary but Mona.

While her job is a high school secretary, Mona has always done so much more than that. She has been involved in many of the big events our

school hosted, as either a participant or volunteer. Prior to her position as school secretary, she served as a substitute teacher for several years while her children were young.

Principal Travis Aslesen was asked if he could share any favorite memories from Mona's time as school secretary. He replied that these moments are "too numerous to mention just one. Mona has always been such a bright spot for all of us. Her smile and laugh have always had such a positive impact on our school."

In addition to her helpfulness and positive attitude, staff and teachers alike know that Mona works hard to keep the school running efficiently. She says, "The thing I'll miss most is the students. It's been amazing watching them grow up." Surely everyone could agree that it's been amazing growing up with Mona Fennel helping us through the high school experience. Students and staff wish her all the best in her retirement.

Jan Baagoe



High school FACS teacher Mrs. Jan Baagoe is one of several teachers who are retiring this year. Mrs. Baagoe has dedicated twenty-nine years of her life to teaching students; twenty-seven of those years were spent in Elk Point.

This year, she has decided that it's time to move to the next stage of her life. When asked her reason for retiring, she joked, "I'm old, it's getting time to quit and have some 'me' time."

Mrs. Baagoe says that she adored and idolized her home economics teacher when she was in high school. As she began college, she decided that she wanted to be an elementary teacher, but ultimately she decided to follow in her former teacher's footsteps and become a home economics teacher instead.

When asked about her favorite teaching story, Mrs. Baagoe replied, "Once, a student got her hair caught in an electric mixer. We had to cut her hair out of the beaters, and the whole class erupted in laughter!"

Now that Mrs. Baagoe will have a bit more spare time, she is going to spend it preparing for her daughter's wedding. After the wedding, she hopes to find a fun part-time job with minimal responsibilities so that she will be able to fully enjoy her Iowa State Cyclones. Mrs. Baagoe will be greatly missed here at Elk Point-Jefferson. Staff and students wish her all the best.



Jennifer Finkle

Parents: Vanet and Randy Jensen

Siblings: Darius and Jesse

Birthday: January 17, 1995

Future Plans: keep learning

HS Activities: Special Olympics

Little-known Fact about Me: I never give up.

Favorite Celebrity: Carrie Underwood

Role Model: my teachers
I've Always Wanted to Visit: Disneyland
Age I'd Love to be Forever: 18 --because I would be an adult

Advice for Underclassmen: Be kind, and just be yourself.

FAVORITES:

Quote: "Everything has beauty, but not everyone sees it."
-Confucius

School Memory: dances

Superhero: Wonder Woman

Movie: *Harry Potter and the Goblet of Fire*

TV Show: *Phineas and Ferb*

Book/Author: J.K. Rowling

Food: cheese pizza

HS Class: art

Song/Artist: Jump 5

Holiday: Christmas

Color: lime green and orange

School Lunch: chicken and noodles

Favorite Celebrity Chef: Guy Fieri