



THE HUSKY

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Homecoming Royalty Announced



EPJ Homecoming Royalty Candidates (front L-R) Keely Bertram, Amy Zeller, Hope Erickson, Brittany Hanson, (back L-R) Ian Grassel, Cody Reed, Alex McLaury, Adam Shanks.

The votes are in, and the 2013 Homecoming senior royalty has been announced! Nominees for king include Ian Grassel, son of Todd and Maggie Grassel; Alex McLaury, son of Kim and Jean McLaury; Cody Reed, son of Bret and Monique Reed; and Adam Shanks, son of Brian and Melissa Shanks.

Candidates for queen include Keely Bertram, daughter of Rahn and Maria Bertram; Hope Erickson, daughter of Randy Erickson and Trisha Kindt; Brittany Hanson, daughter of Brian Hanson and Char Schaefer; and Amy Zeller, daughter of Tim and Tammy Zeller.

Before the king and queen take their thrones on coronation night September 26, it is fitting that both students and community get to know their royalty a bit better. Since this "Off the Record" homecoming

will feature music and loud beats, what better way to start than by finding out the nominees' favorite music? When Ian, Cody, and Adam aren't playing football for the Huskies, they jam to songs such as "Like the Rain" by Clint Black and "Nilla Waffer Top Hat Time" by Rhett and Link, which Cody says he could be caught singing when no one is home. While Adam's pump-up songs include "The Climb" by Miley Cyrus and "Beauty and a Beat" by Justin Bieber, Alex gets fired up for cross country after listening to "Cruise" by Florida Georgia Line.

Likewise, the locker room before a volleyball game is bursting with energy as the candidates for queen prepare to play by dancing to "Roar" by Katy Perry, both Keely and Brittany's favorite choice for music, and any

song by Eminem, as preferred by Hope and Amy.

In keeping with the "record" theme, the candidates were asked which world record they would want to set. Hope answered, "Most chocolate milk consumed in a lifetime!" Also having food on the mind, Keely and Amy wanted to break the records for most food eaten in a day and most marshmallows stuffed into one's mouth. Even Adam strives to eat the greatest number of pancakes ever consumed in one hour. Ian warned Usaine Bolt to watch out, because he plans to break the fastest time for the 100 meter dash, and Brittany is currently working to become the world's greatest athlete. While Alex hopes to become the richest man on earth, Cody wishes to break the record for the most money ever won on Jeopardy.

Mrs. Schmeling Welcomed at EPJ



With so many new teachers at EPJ this fall, it's hard for students to get to know each one. In the music department, Mrs. Kristen Schmeling is the new high school choir director. She joins her husband, band director Aaron Schmeling, in the department.

Graduating from Mitchell High School, Mrs. Schmeling attended Concordia College at Moorhead, Minnesota, earning a Bachelor of Music degree. After college, she taught at Marshall, Minnesota, and then moved to South Dakota, teaching at

Vermillion, Centerville, and now Elk Point-Jefferson.

As a music major, Schmeling had to learn all the instruments in order to graduate; however, piano is the instrument she plays most frequently. As for her music interests, she likes to listen to musicals, top 40, and alternative rock. She names Imagine Dragons as one of her top bands, especially before "Radioactive" and "It's Time." Listening to the radio, she loves to sing any type of music. Schmeling mentioned that when she's sad, if she can just sit down at the piano, play, and sing, that makes her feel better.

Her leisure activities include reading, playing piano, watching TV (especially *Burn Notice*), and hanging out with her dog, Walker, and cat, Diva (who really is a diva.) EPJ hopes she enjoys being here as much as we like having her here!

Husky Events This Week

Thursday (9/19):
7/8 Football with A-W 4:30
Volleyball with Tea Area 5:00
7/8 Volleyball at A-W 4:00

Friday (9/20):
Boys Golf at EPJ 9:00
Tailgate 5:00
Friday Night Fundamentals 4:00-5:45
Football with DV 7:00

Monday (9/23):
Boys Golf at Hartford 9:00
Cross Country at Alcester 4:00
JV FB at Lawton-Bronson 6:30
Volleyball with A-H 5:00

Tuesday (9/24):
7/8 Football at DV 4:30
Volleyball at Beresford 5:00
7/8 Volleyball at Beresford 4:30

New Year, New Twelve

By: Cody Reed

At the start of the 2013-2014 school year, Elk Point-Jefferson began competing in the newly-formed Dakota XII Conference. The conference will encompass eleven school activities throughout the year, ranging from athletics to the Academic Bowl.

The conference, which includes twelve Class "A" schools in southeastern South Dakota, was formed from the eight former members of the Big Sioux Conference and the four remaining members of the Big 8 Conference.

The twelve member schools of the Dakota XII Conference include: Beresford, Canton, Dakota Valley, Dell Rapids, Elk Point-Jefferson, Len-

nox, Madison, Sioux Falls Christian, Tea, Tri-Valley, Vermillion, and West Central.

The idea for the conference started at an athletic scheduling meeting in the fall of 2011. At that time, it was known that Harrisburg would be moving to Class AA in 2013, which left only Lennox, Madison, Vermillion, and West Central remaining in the Big 8 Conference. These schools requested to join the Big Sioux Conference to create a big, twelve-team conference.

By a vote, the BSC schools decided to dissolve the Big Sioux Conference and make the new Dakota XII Conference. A committee of superintendents, principals, and athletic directors was then formed to decide on the new rules for the confer-

ence. When asked what he was most looking forward to in the new conference, Elk Point-Jefferson Activities Director Jeff Zeller said, "I am excited for the conference events. Now, the wrestling and volleyball tournaments, the cross country and track & field meets, and the boys and girls golf tournaments will move from eight schools to twelve. This will add a lot of excitement to these events and make it a very worthwhile and earned conference championship if a team or individual wins or places highly."

The first Dakota XII Conference event will occur on Monday, September 23, in Hartford, when golfers from all twelve schools compete for the Boys Golf Dakota XII Conference crown.

Summer Vacation, Husky Style

Flynn Gone Fishin'



By: Cheyenne Steemken

Andrew Flynn, a senior at Elk Point-Jefferson, has been enjoying some pretty chilly summers for the past four years. Every summer, from the end of June through the end of July, Flynn travels to Alaska with his step dad, John

Herrity. While in Alaska, they commercial fish, catching sockeye and king salmon.

This past summer, they fished at Bristol Bay, in the Kvichak River. The river was near a small town called Naknek.

When Flynn was first given the opportunity a few years ago, he says he knew that the job would be tough, but he wanted to try it out. It has proven to be a great experience.

This past summer, the weather there was definitely colder than here in South Dakota. The typical temperature during June and July is cool, ranging from 40 or 50 degrees and sometimes up to the 70's.

It was also quite windy, which can make it feel much colder than the actual temperature.

Despite the cold weather and the hard work involved on the boat, Flynn had some fun while he was in Alaska. He says, "This year was my favorite year. We went to Katmai National Park. There are more than 2,000 wild grizzly bears living there, and I saw about 30 of them. I got to sport fish for salmon and even got chased by a sow grizzly!"

Needless to say, this is not the typical summer job for most EPJ students, but Flynn is glad to have had the experience.

Huskies on a Mission

This past summer, several of our high school students went on a mission trip to New Orleans for the Jesus Project Ministry. They stayed for a week and had a variety of life-changing experiences. These students were Karlee Shatswell, Dalton Croy, Briley Weidner, Alicia Gregg, Alyssa Gregg, Tori Johnson, and EPJ graduate Chelsea Weidner. Freshman Karlee Shatswell said, "It was a very humbling experience that changed my outlook on everything."

When it came to their favorite part of the trip, most agreed: the best part was connecting with the neighborhood children and giving them something to look forward to.

"A mission trip is something everyone should do to reconfirm their faith," said junior Dalton Croy. This mis-



Student volunteers for the Jesus Project Ministry include (L-R) Briley Weidner, Chelsea Weidner, Dalton Croy, Alyssa Gregg, Karlee Shatswell, Alicia Gregg, and Tori Johnson.

sion trip seemed to change these girls quite a bit. They reported changes ranging from being more grateful for what they have to strengthening their religious beliefs.

Most of the trip was enjoyable, but they were a bit surprised by one thing. Unlike the small town of Elk Point, the neighborhood they stayed in was a bit scary, especially

during the night time. On one of the days they were there, a car was even stolen right in front of the parish in broad daylight. The experience was a bit surreal, like being on the set of a scary movie. The girls agreed that the neighborhood was just in bad shape overall. In the end, though, the whole trip was a great experience, something never to be forgotten.

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