



Brandon Named Student of the Month



EPJ student Jordan Brandon was recently awarded the honor of Student of the Month for November. With his mind on school and his heart in sports, he works hard to earn his good grades as well as his spot on the field, court, and track.

Throughout all of his four years, he has been involved in football, basketball, track, and band. In his junior year, he was accepted into National Honor Society, and in his senior year he joined student council.

He has been honored and awarded for a variety of achievements including Honor Roll, Honor Study Hall, and Most Improved in football. He has also participated in the USD Math Competition three years in a row.

Brandon has given a good amount of time to community service as well, helping with the Friends Feast, Little Huskies Basketball Camp, St. Paul Lutheran Lutefisk Supper, Punt Pass Kick Competition, conces-

sions, salt drive, and EPJ Little Huskies Track Meet.

Brandon has put a great deal of time and effort into his high school career and is very deserving of the honor of Student of the Month. He will have the privilege of parking in the front row of the parking lot during the month of December and will receive class memorabilia at Awards Night in the spring. Congratulations to Jordan Brandon for being November's Student of the Month.

Senior Spotlights

This week our spotlights shine on Hope Jade Erickson and Victoria Grace Navarro. Hope and Victoria are two of the 47 talented seniors who will graduate this May. EPJ wishes both Hope and Victoria a bright future filled with opportunities.



Hope Erickson

Parents: Randy Erickson; Trisha Kindt

Siblings: Heidi Schoellerman and Haylee Erickson

Birthday: November 30, 1995

Future Plans: attend South Dakota State University

HS Activities: volleyball, basketball, band, National Honor Society, and drum line

Little-known Fact about Me: I love shopping for shoes and Buckle Jeans.

Famous-person Crush: Luke Bryan

Hobbies: sports, golf, spending time with family

Role Model: my dad, Randy, because he has taught me to work hard and always be kind to others

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Italy because I love pizza and pasta

Age I'd Love to be Forever: 16, because sophomore year is the easiest, I could drive, and I wouldn't have to think about growing up

Advice for Underclassmen: Make each year count, especially your junior year as colleges begin to look at you.

FAVORITES:

Quote: "When you are content to be simply yourself and don't compare or compete, everyone will respect you." - Lao Tzu, Tao Te Ching

School Memory: going to state volleyball with my teammates

Movie: Identity Theft

TV Show: Duck Dynasty

Food: strawberries; mac and cheese

School Lunch: macaroni and cheese or nachos

Holiday: Christmas

everyone was very supportive and helped calm her down during all of the stress. Even though she only had a few months of experience at that time, she felt she was still just another archer, regardless of age or experience.

Victoria Navarro

Parents: Grace and Nick Benson; Alex and Yanexis Navarro

Siblings: Emily and Alex Navarro; Nicholas and Isabella Benson

Birthday: October 2, 1995

Future Plans: I plan to study journalism and/or school counseling

HS Activities: vocal

Little-known Fact about Me: In the fifth grade, I was given a trophy for my writing.

Famous-person Crush: Johnny Knoxville

Hobbies: writing, drawing

Role Model: my mom-not only is she my best friend, but she never seems to be wrong

I've Always Wanted to Visit: Dubai's underwater hotel, London, and Australia

Age I'd Love to be Forever: 21, no limitation and young forever; or 30, flirty, and thriving

Advice for Underclassmen: Branch out of the cliques and get to know people better. Remain open minded.

FAVORITES:

Quote: "To be yourself in a world that's constantly trying to make you something else is the greatest accomplishment." - R. W. Emerson

School Memory: reaching senior year

Superhero: Captain America

Movies: The Breakfast Club, The Goonies, Star Wars, The Great Gatsby (original)

TV Shows: Law & Order SVU, Wilfred, Workaholics

Book: Looking for Alaska; Speechless

Author: John Green

Food: spaghetti

HS Classes: English and art

Music Genre: Indie, pop-punk, and some rap

Favorite Bands: Man Overboard, Beastie Boys, and many more

Holidays: Halloween and the 4th of July

Huskies Help for the Holidays

With Thanksgiving coming late in November this year, the giving season began before Thanksgiving break with the assembly of the annual Angel Tree. This yearly giving opportunity assists families in obtaining articles of clothing and other necessities for children.

Those who wish to give to the Angel Tree simply remove a paper "angel" from among the many hanging on the Angel Tree located in the high school commons. This angel indicates the age, gender, and size of an anonymous child and specifies what items are being requested. The benefactor then purchases items listed on the angel. Once the items are purchased, they should be dropped off at the high school office. The event will run until Wednesday, December 4.

Last winter, over 50 children were assisted by the Angel Tree. Led by guidance counselor Mrs. Christine McMeekin and FACS teacher Mrs. Terri Trumble, students and volunteers run



Stacie McLaury and Amy Zeller decorate the Angel Tree.

the program. Funding comes from the vending machine and community donations.

This event has occurred annually since 1992. Community members can get involved by shopping for an angel or contributing a monetary donation. Items must be dropped off by the end of the day on December 4. Monetary donations can be cash or check made out to EPJ School.

More information can be obtained by calling Christine McMeekin at 356-5871.

American Education Week at EPJ

EPJ school celebrated American Education Week from November 18-22. Initiated by the National Education Association in 1919, American Education Week has been an important event in schools across the nation for over 90 years.

In celebration of the week, middle school students at EPJ participated in a guessing game set up by the middle school faculty. Students were challenged with posters containing baby pictures of famous adults. At the beginning of the week, students were given a ballot on which

to write their guesses, and then they had an entire week to guess the identity of the famous babies. At the end of the week, answers were revealed and winners identified.

In the high school, the week was celebrated with students taking time to write a brief thank you note or two to teachers or support staff personnel who have made a difference to them throughout their school career. Thank you notes were distributed on Thursday to teachers and staff-member recipients who appreciated the sentiment.

EPJ Student Shoots for the Stars



By: Jenny Dailey

At Elk Point-Jefferson, the main sports are offered to the students in high school; however, there are students who participate in sports outside of EPJ. Kerrey Jorgensen is one of those students.

Jorgensen participates in competitive archery in Yankton, SD. It all started with a father-daughter bonding activity. Jorgensen said she and her dad have a lot in common, but not a lot of time, so they both are spending time together while gaining a fun life skill.

When asked what she loves most about archery, Jorgensen said it is definitely the feeling of getting an X or a bullseye, also known as a perfect shot, because it's exciting to know that she has ac-

complished something great.

In every sport, there are awards for accomplishing goals. In archery, pins are won for getting an X at each distance, which becomes more challenging as it goes on. Only having been in archery for a little over a year, Jorgensen has been awarded four outdoor pins and three indoor pins so far.

One of Jorgensen's best moments in archery was competing in the World Archery Competition in Yankton last summer with people from all around the world. The competition lasted for three days; there were 600 arrows shot, and a possible 1,800 points on the line. Jorgensen got to shoot arrows with people from South Africa, Beijing, Ireland, and Europe. She said

Students Selected for Honor Band

By: Cody Reed

On Monday, November 18, eight Elk Point-Jefferson band members traveled to Yankton High School to participate in the Region One Honor Band Festival. In order to be selected for the honor band, each musician had to submit an audition tape that was judged by music personnel from across the region.

The selected musicians included Lynsey Klunder, Emily Pierce, Matthew Ambrose, Elena Giorgio, Meghan Schenk, Jarod Mau, Cody Reed, and one middle school musician, Brianna Chicoine. Every year, guest directors are

brought in to conduct the High School and Middle School bands. This year Dale Nelson of Hills, Minnesota, led the High School Honor Band, while Jason Rygg of Sioux Falls, South Dakota, led the Middle School Honor Band.

Throughout the day, the students practiced and prepared their music for the upcoming concert with musicians from fourteen schools around the region. During a morning break, they watched a special performance by the University of South Dakota Brass Choir. That night, the musicians performed a fantastic final concert for parents and the public to enjoy.