



Giorgio Named Student of the Month



By: Bradie Timmins

Elk Point-Jefferson's student of the month for the month of November is Elena Giorgio. Elena was chosen by the EPJ high school staff as an exceptional representation of a high school student who is involved and excels in school. Her academic accomplishments include honor roll, honors study hall, and academic letters all throughout high school. Elena is involved in multiple activities throughout her school and takes leadership roles in them also. She is an editor for her school newspaper and was a writer for the first three years of her high school career.

Elena is also very musically involved. She participates in drum line, band, jazz band, show choir, choir, All State Choir for two years, and the school musicals. She was vice-president of her show choir team last year and is president this year. She attended USD's Quad State Honor Band and Region 1 honor band for four years. Outside of music, Elena competed on the school's volleyball team for three years and ran track her freshmen year. Elena was chosen as a natural helper for the senior class and also mentors and tutors underclassmen. Elena's leadership skills shine in both student council and National

Honor Society. She has been in student council all four years of high school and is the treasurer of the student body this year. She was inducted into the National Honor Society her junior year and this year was voted to be the vice president and treasurer. Elena has also been very accomplished in state science fair. She placed first in her division her sophomore year and second in her division her junior year, allowing her to attend the international science fair. On top of all these activities Elena was also chosen to be a part of homecoming royalty her freshmen and senior year.

Outside of school Elena plays a very important role in her community. She works at the local soda fountain, Edgar's, and has helped with multiple friends feasts, backpack programs, and at the local soup kitchen. She is also involved with her church as a part of her Y-Disciple program and a leader in her church band.

Elena is an excellent student who shows what a hardworking high school student is all about. She will receive an award at senior night as well as a parking spot at the front of the parking lot for the month of November. Her picture will also be displayed in the commons trophy case as a reminder of her hard work.

Y Disciple Gives Back

By: Alyssa Hurley

Youth Disciple is a discipleship focused youth ministry faith formation program at St. Peter's and St. Joseph for ninth through twelve grade students. The churches started the program last year with juniors and seniors and have now added freshmen and sophomores to this style of faith formation. Seventh and eighth graders attend a monthly large group as well.

Y Disciple's focus is on answering the questions and concerns teens have, whether it is about the church, life, or helping others. This is done in the context of small same-sex groups because girls and boys have different questions, concerns and needs. Within same-sex groups, the needs of each gender are better met, especially through the use of mentors. Each group has two adult mentors of the same gender to best help walk the members through the faith and life development journey. These leaders typically stay with the same small group throughout their time in high school.

The teens and mentors decide how and when they want to tap into the four areas of formation. Sometimes it is more important for one group to go to the park for a disc golf tournament while another group learns about different ways to pray. There is a lot of freedom with this type of program because it addresses

the unique needs of the group.

The whole group gathers together each month. This year, Casson Dennison, an EPJ graduate and a USD law student, and Arianne Aasen, a USD student teacher at St. Agnes, lead the large group, which always includes Eucharistic Adoration and some type of witness talk or activity that relates to teens. They also gather for mass at least once a month. Casson and Arianne also lead a separate large group for the 7th and 8th graders once a month.

Y Disciple is very involved in the community. The junior boys played Bingo at Wel-Cov, and the senior boys helped with yard work. The senior girls made fall decorations for the church and helped at the nursing home fall dinner. Junior girls went to the House of Mary Shrine in Yankton. Sophomore and freshmen boys, who combined groups due to small numbers, learned about the process of becoming of saint. The sophomore girls served at the nursing home harvest dinner and plan to make packages to send to college students. The freshmen girls wrote inspirational chalk quotes on the sidewalk at church.

Y Disciple wouldn't be happening without Father Joe's support. The EPJ members of Y Disciple would like to thank him and all of the other leaders for their help and encouragement.

EPJ Honors Veterans

By: Will Suing

November 11, 2016 is a special day for many people as we celebrate the people that have served our country to protect us. Elk Point-Jefferson holds an assembly annually to honor local veterans and veterans nationwide. This year, Matthew Dossdall lead the assembly and honored both his platoon and everyone who has previously served or is currently serving. At the assembly, the winners of the middle school veteran's paper were announced. This year the winners were Abigail Olson in third place, Bailey Berghult in second, and Julie

Sundheim in first. Sundheim will get to compete in the state level and possibly the national level. Daniel Petra, a senior at Elk Point-Jefferson, also spoke about his Eagle Scout project that he worked on with the help of Mr. Dossdall. His project consisted of marking all the unmarked veteran's graves so that the public can be aware of what rank they held, what war they served in, and when they served our country. As a school, EPJ is very grateful for Matthew Dossdall and all the other veterans who came out and spoke to the middle and high school students about Veterans Day.

National Honor Society Induction

By: Alyssa Hurley

On Tuesday, November 8, 2016, the annual National Honor Society Induction took place.

The Induction ceremony was led by National Honor Society President Dylan Colt. Elena Giorgio, vice president, and Emily Pierce, secretary, also helped in leading the ceremony. Raquel Rosenbaum, Emily Mickelson, and Emily Pierce each read biographies of the new inductees written by NHS members.

The four traditional candles, which represent scholarship, leadership, service, and character, were

lit by NHS member to pass the flame to the new inductees. Each student that was inducted clearly represents these four symbols throughout the school and community. Each inductee was also required to have a special person in their lives award them with their NHS pin.

The new inductees include Alyssa Hurley, Erin Weightman, Jill Donnelly, Morgan Swanson, Elsie Aslesen, Caleb Hanson, Preston Fejfar, Eric Nelson, Matthew Noteboom, Jordan VonSeggern, and Noah VonSeggern.

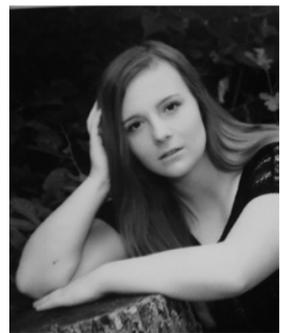
Congratulations to the new National Honor Society inductees.

Senior Spotlights

This week our spotlights shine on Collin Edward Elkins and Emma Lee Dawdy. Collin and Emma are 2 of the 45 talented seniors who will graduate this May. EPJ wishes both Collin and Emma a bright future filled with opportunities.



Collin Elkins



Emma Dawdy

Parents: Gale Ferdig and Sheryl Elkins
Siblings: Alex, Brody, and Cassie Elkins

Birthday: August 6, 1998

Future plans: Become a personal trainer

Activities: Baseball and football

Hobbies: Lifting

Role model: Parents

A fun fact about me: I am a twin

Famous-person crush: Megan Fox

Kindergarten BFF: Dylan DeBuhr

A place I have always wanted to visit: Colorado

The best thing about EPJ: The teachers

If I could change one thing about EPJ: Breakfast, because we aren't given enough

If I could be any age forever: 25, it just seems like a good age

FAVORITES: Quote: "You don't have to be great to start. But you do have to start to be great."

School memory: Messing around with friends everyday

Superhero: Superman

Movie: Homefront

Song/musician: Tyler Farr

Favorite team: New York Jets

Food/school lunch: Pizza

Holiday: Christmas

Class: Physical Education

TV show: The Walking Dead

Parents: Linda Rupp and Dan Dawdy

Siblings: Josh, Marica, Jason, Alex, Mason, and Hayden

Birthday: September 21, 1998

Future plans: Major in elementary education or accounting, and play softball at Briar Cliff University

Activities: Band, choir, show choir, volleyball, golf, spring baseball, and softball

Hobbies: Read, write poetry, sing, hangout with friends

Role model: my sister

A fun fact about me: I can quote all the Harry Potter movies word for word

First crush: I think it was my imaginary friend Max.

Famous-person crush: Channing Tatum

Kindergarten BFF: Daniel Petra

Pet peeve: People saying my last name wrong

A place I always wanted to visit: Greece

The best thing about EPJ: Graduating

If I could be any age forever: 24

FAVORITES: Quote: "Don't let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game"

School memory: Probably when I fell down the ramp and rolled to the bottom

Superhero: Dead Pool

Book/author: J.K. Rowling and the Harry Potter books

Movie: Harry Potter series

Song/musician: "Closer," by the Chainsmokers

Team: Twins

Food/school lunch: Buffalo Chicken Pizza

Holiday: Christmas

Class: Choir

TV show: Ridiculousness, Vampire Diaries

Making DSU "Rich"ards



By: Kylee Donnelly

One of EPJ's senior athletes has made a big decision about her future.

On Sunday, November 6, Katelyn Richards signed to play volleyball with Dakota State University.

Richards, a right side hitter, has been an active varsity team member since her sophomore year. She started every game her junior year and received an Honorable Mention award from the Dakota XII Conference. She has made 108 kills, 20 blocks, 32 digs and 13 assists this season alone. Her game record for kills is 11 kills against Madison this year. The team recently finished the post season with a tough loss in the Sweet 16. #13 EPJ lost to #4

Bon Homme in four sets last Thursday. Richards and her teammates fought to the end in their final game of the year.

Katelyn chose Dakota State University for its close knit, family-like environment. The athletic program really attracted her and she found the coaches to be very encouraging as well. While at DSU, Katelyn plans on majoring in exercise science to pursue a career as an athletic trainer. When asked about her decision Richards said, "I'm very excited and nervous at the same time but I'm happy I get to pursue my love for volleyball while attending college." EPJ wishes Katelyn the best as she furthers her academic and athletic career next fall at DSU.

Husky Happenings

Thursday, Nov. 17:

7/8 Girls basketball with Vermillion- 4:30
State A volleyball at Watertown

Friday, Nov. 18:

State A volleyball at Watertown

Saturday, Nov. 19:

State A volleyball at Watertown

Tuesday, Nov. 22:

7/8 Girls basketball at Irene-Wakonda-Centerville- 4:30
JV/MS wrestling at Canton- 4:30

Wednesday, Nov. 23:

Early Dismissal- 1:45

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