



EAGLE UPDATE


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Volume XXII, Issue 8


March, 2007

DATES TO REMEMBER

 **March 2**
End of 3rd quarter

 **March 8**
School Board Mtg.
7:30 p.m. in
ITV room

 **March 9**
NO SCHOOL
Spring Break

 **March 14**
Spring School
Pictures

NHS Induction
ceremony 2:00 p.m.

 **March 21**
Late Start
10:00 a.m.



YEARBOOK/WEBPAGE STUDENTS HAVE BUSY AGENDA



Yearbook students this year are: Michelle Oppliger, Allie Schiltmeyer, Becki Schindler, Wes Prater, Meghan Schindler, Jonathan Gunderson, Billie Beckman, Danny Henn, and Brandon Anderson.

The Yearbook/Web students continue to work on their James Bond pages for the yearbook. In addition they have created several photo slide shows for the web page. To create a slide show the students choose 10-30 photos from our collection of several thousand photos. These photos are named according to section, event, person and action. An example would be "BBB-Verd-Brandon-fit". This translates to Brandon shooting a free throw at the Verdigre, boys basketball game. All photos that we might use for the yearbook, web or sell to students is named in this manner. That's quite a job all by itself!

After choosing their photos, the students email them to Mrs. Heithoff to shrink from 3000x2000 pixels to the web size of 640x400 pixels. By shrinking the photos, they download quickly and you can see the entire picture at once. Mrs. Heithoff saves the photos to the students' web files and the students may begin creating their slide shows. After they have uploaded their photos into a slide show, the slide show is entered into an article. The article is submitted to Mrs. Heithoff for final approval and posted to the web page under "Pictures". We have academic, activities and sports slide shows and will be adding more as the year progresses.

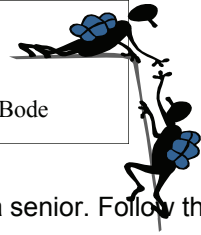
The students are also sorting photos for individual, student folders. Each high school student has a folder that we save photos of them in throughout the year. This includes sports, activities, academic, group and team photos. We save any photo that highlights the student and we think they would like. The students may bring in a CD and download this folder at the end of the year for \$10.00. The only limit on photos is how many the CD will hold. These photos are the original 3000x2000 pixels format and may be printed at home or at any digital photo printing center such as Walmart.

EPS PEP BAND WINS MVP AWARD

The Elgin Public School Pep Band was selected as the US92 - Heartland Physical Therapy MVP. The award is presented to anyone on a team or behind the scenes who "goes beyond the call of duty" during winter sports activities. The pep band, under the direction of Mrs. Deb Jones, was nominated during the month of February for their musical entertainment during basketball games and pep rallies. The pep band will receive a t-shirt and certificate. Congratulations to Mrs. Jones and the pep band, on a job well done!

Counselor's Corner

by Mrs. Barb Bode



Juniors: It's time to start looking at colleges

Start looking at colleges your junior year so you can narrow your choices by the time you're a senior. Follow these tips for successful campus visits.

- Visit your top colleges while the schools are in session. You won't get the true flavor during breaks or finals week.
- Schedule your visits at least two weeks in advance. Ask for appointments with an admissions representative, financial aid counselor and a faculty member in your area of interest.
- Talk to a faculty member about upper-level classes in your anticipated major. Many students change majors because they didn't realize the degree of difficulty.
- Ask the financial aid counselor how the college may offset tuition costs and about college-based scholarship applications and deadlines.
- Attend a freshman-level class. Notice how students interact with the professor, and how the class is structured. You may prefer a large college with lecture style classes, or a small setting with one-on-one contact.
- If possible, stay overnight in a residence hall and eat the cafeteria food. Ask about the personality of each hall so you can request one that suits you.
- If you can't visit a college, check out the school's website. You'll find admission requirements, academic and social information, and campus photos or a virtual tour.

Web resources to help with your college search

Find information about Midwest colleges in the *College Profiles* section at www.educationquest.org. Detailed information about Nebraska colleges is available in *Educational Opportunities Beyond High School in Nebraska* at <http://edweblab.unl.edu/edopportunities/intro.html>.

Seniors: What happens after you submit the FAFSA?

By now, you have probably submitted the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). Here's what happens next.

Expect your SAR and Award Letter

You'll receive a Student Aid Report (SAR) after you submit the FAFSA. This acknowledges that your form was processed and can be used to make corrections to your FAFSA. You'll need the Personal Identification Number you used to file the FAFSA to make electronic corrections. The colleges you listed on the FAFSA will send you a financial aid award letter detailing the assistance they're offering. They may offer a combination of scholarships, grants, work-study and student loans. Compare award letters from the colleges. Some may offer more in scholarships and grants, while others rely on student loans. Calculate your out-of-pocket expenses for each school to get the whole financial picture. Use our [Award Letter Comparison Calculator](#) to determine which school offers the best deal. Sign and return the award letters.

Keep looking for scholarships!

Many local, state and national scholarships have deadlines in March, April and May. Talk to your guidance counselor about scholarships that meet your criteria. Visit free scholarship search sites such as *ScholarshipQuest* at www.educationquest.org, www.fastweb.com and www.srnexpress.com.

New grants available for low-income students

Two new federal grant programs are available for low-income students — the Academic Competitiveness Grant (ACG) and the National Science and Mathematics Access to Retain Talent Grant (National SMART).

The ACG is available for first and second year college students who qualify for Pell Grant and have completed a rigorous high school curriculum. For details, visit www.educationquest.org/acgrant.asp.

The National SMART Grant is available during the third and fourth years of undergraduate study for full-time students who qualify for Pell Grant and major in specific areas. For details, visit www.educationquest.org/smartgrant.asp.

March "To Do" List

Seniors

- ___ Expect your Student Aid Report – use it to make corrections to the FAFSA
- ___ Expect college acceptance letters during March and April
- ___ Continue applying for scholarships

Juniors

- ___ Register by March 9 for April 14 ACT
- ___ Register by March 29 for May 5 SAT
- ___ Schedule campus visits





Elgin FCCLA wishes to thank everyone who purchased candygrams for Valentine's Day! You made our sales successful!

ACHIEVEMENT TESTS IN MARCH

The CTBS tests will be given at Elgin Public between March 12th - March 30th. As time approaches, parents and students will be notified of exact dates.

Here are some test-taking tips to help students do their best on the tests:

1. Get a good night's sleep before the test.
2. Have a nutritious breakfast.
3. Dress comfortably.
4. Bring all materials you need, such as pencils and erasers.
5. Relax....take slow, deep breaths.
6. Follow directions carefully.
7. Read each question.
8. Answer the easy questions first.
9. Move on if you don't know an answer.
10. Mark answers neatly. If you must erase, do so completely.
11. Review to make sure you've answered every question.
12. Don't change any answers unless you're sure they're wrong-your first answer is more likely correct.



GOOD LUCK ON YOUR TESTS!



WRESTLING WRAP-UP

The Clearwater/Elgin wrestling recently concluded their season with a trip to the state tournament in Omaha. The team was represented by Austin Stamp. Austin qualified by placing 2nd in the D-2 district. Austin won one match and lost two while competing.

The team has shown improvement throughout the season. We worked to improve technique and our knowledge of the sport. We will be losing one member of this years squad to graduation and the entire team is already looking forward to next year with great anticipation.

Here is this years members and their records: Tad Henkenius 12-18, Justin Kallhoff 4-18, Eric Kruger 18-17, Jacob Powell 2-23, Eric Shoemaker 3-13, Austin Stamp 30-8, and Miles VanUden 5-24

FIFTH GRADE ATTENDS H₂O DAZE

The 5th graders traveled to Norfolk for the H₂O Daze on February 15th. They learned many different things from groundwater to how the water gets polluted everyday. The students also learned many different strategies that they can use to help save our drinking water. Each student participated in different activities during the day which helped them grasp the information that they were taught. All students had a wonderful time and know a little bit more on how to conserve our water.



ANATOMY CLASS VIEWS CADAVER

Despite some blowing snow, last Wednesday, February 7, 2007 the Anatomy & Physiology class traveled to Briar Cliff University in Sioux City, IA to view the college's cadaver. Before entering, students are given a quick overview by Dr. Bob Olsen, Professor of Biology. He described to the students whom and how the cadaver is dissected; they were also exposed to the computer program A.D.A.M., which assists dissecting students as they separate and identify the parts of the body.

Students then were able to enter the dissecting room. Dr. Olsen introduced the students to Curtis, the 84-year old cadaver. The first item of discussion was the body's first line of protection—the skin. He passed the skin around and asked the students to try to tear it. The students were amazed that such a thin layer of tissue would be physically impossible to tear with the human hands. Dr. Olsen then moved on to the muscular system, describing many of the visible muscles and their functions. He demonstrated how the contraction of muscles allowed for certain movements. Students were also able to see and feel a dissected knee. They saw the patella, meniscus, ACL, MCL, and other knee parts. One could feel the smoothness of the joint, but also the rough spots due to normal wear and tear.

As Dr. Olsen entered the abdominal cavity, students were able to view the body's internal organs. Although pictures may be clear, the students agreed that they are nowhere close to seeing the 'real thing.' One of the highlights for the students was the opportunity to hold various organs of the body, including the heart, lungs, and brain.

According to many students, one of the most interesting parts of the visit was identifying all the problems that Curtis had had in his lifetime. The students saw evidence of two hernia surgeries, a rotator cuff surgery, diverticulitis, a kidney that was half the normal and housed numerous cysts, triple by-pass surgery, heart disease, emphysema, slight cirrhosis of the liver, and the absence of his appendix. It was an eye opener to actually see firsthand how both life choices and the aging process affect the body.

Although initially hesitant of the unknown, all the students agreed that the cadaver visit was a very educational and eye opening experience. They stated that Dr. Olsen's hilarious sense of humor put them at ease and made the experience very enjoyable! The visit ended with a tour of the Briar Cliff campus.



EIGHTH GRADE MEETS ANCIENT INSTRUMENTS

The 8th grade music class ventured to Vermillion, SD to visit the NATIONAL MUSEUM OF MUSIC on Monday, February 20. It was an interesting trip for everyone. Each student had researched an instrument from the Renaissance period for a presentation to the class. While at the museum, we got to see the real instruments, not just a picture on the internet! From the harpsichords and organs to the cornettos and lutes, we saw first hand what they looked like and actually sounded like in some cases. We ended the tour with a room full of Asian instruments in which the curator, Dr. Reeves, let the students each play a Tibetan Gong. They enjoyed that! It's one of those days that you actually learned while having fun!!! Thank you to Dr. Reeves for making our day and Joanne Anderson for being a sponsor.

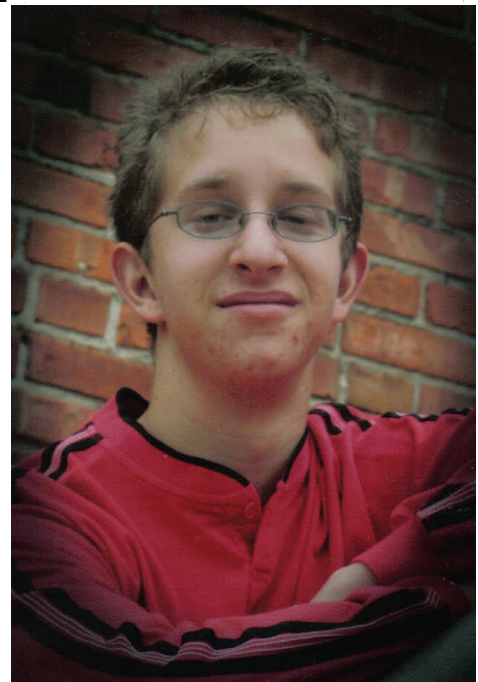
Senior Closeups . . .



Billie Beckman

Full Name: Billie Olivia-Irene Beckman
Parents: Jim & Elaine Beckman
Brothers: Galen
Favorite School Subject: History
School activities: Volleyball, basketball, track, one-act, PALS, band, chorus, student council
Greatest Honor during school: Honorable mention for volleyball
Favorite School Activity : Being a part of high school sports because its a great feeling being out there with your team and you also learn a lot from each other.
Most educational experience: coming to school at Elgin Public
Most inspirational person: my brother
Favorite color: purple
Favorite thing to do in spare time: being with friends and playing sports
Pet peeve: people that act very immature
If I could go back in time I would go: to elementary school
Favorite saying: Get-R-Done
Favorite movie: National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation
Dream car: Monte Carlo SS
Favorite Food: pizza
Favorite School lunch: sloppy Joes
Favorite Pop: Dr. Pepper
Favorite TV Show: CSI
Favorite type of music: country, rock ,and some rap
Future plans after graduation: attending college but not sure about my major

Full Name: Adam Michael Grosserode
Parents: Howard Grosserode and Lori Monley
Sisters: Ashley, Keelin
Favorite School Subject: woods
Favorite Teacher: Mr. Jones
Greatest Honor during school: playing basketball
Most educational experience: lab tests
Most inspirational person: my dad
Favorite color: red
Favorite thing to do in spare time: play Playstation
Pet peeve: People who talk big and don't do anything to back it up.
If I could go back in time I would go: World War I
Favorite saying: For Show
Something most people don't know about me: I love playing backyard football
Favorite movie: Rudy
Dream car: 1967 Corvette Stingray
Favorite Food: fried chicken
Favorite School lunch: chicken fried steak
Favorite Pop: Dr. Pepper
Favorite TV Show: Family Guy
Favorite type of music: rap/hiphop
Future plans after graduation: attend Northeast Community College to pursue drafting career



Adam Grosserode

Senior Closeups . . .



Ben Beckman

Full Name: Ben Walker Beckman
Parents: Scott and Deb Beckman
Brothers: Grant
Pets: cat (Mini & KitKat)
Favorite School Subject: Ag classes
Favorite Teacher: Mr. Simpson
School activities: FFA, FCA, Acadeca, Football, basketball (freshman), track, choir, band, National Honor Society, class officer, one-act, speech, PALS
Greatest Honor during school: Being Pres. of FFA Chapter
Favorite School Activity : FFA because its such a great organization. There is so much you can do in FFA from Leadership workshops, to speaking events, to judging animals. Friends you meet are some of the best kids around.
Most educational experience: When I stuck my tongue on a cold metal pole after my dad told me not to. I learned that listening to my dad was usually a good idea, lichens don't taste good, and no one can fix a booboo like grandma can.
Most inspirational person: probably my dad
Favorite color: red
Favorite thing to do in spare time: read, work on the computer, help dad, or be with my friends or little brother
Pet peeve: People who say one thing and do another
If I could go back in time I would go: back to the old west. Life was a lot simpler back then. Not so many deadlines.
Favorite saying: "The important thing is not to stop questioning." Albert Einstein
Something most people don't know about me: I enjoy cooking especially grilling
Favorite movie: Lord of the Ring series, band of Brothers, Flags of our Fathers, The Rookie, For Love of the Game, Sandlot (1 & 2), Field of Dreams
Dream car: Chevy Corvette
Favorite Food: anything my mom makes is good but sauteed mushrooms and prime rib
Favorite School lunch: Thanksgiving dinner and tater tot casserole
Favorite Pop: Mountain Dew
Favorite TV Show: Anything on CMT especially Duke of Hazzard
Favorite type of music: country
Future plans after graduation: go to college for a career in agriculture

Full Name: Nathaniel Scott Codr
Parents: Michael and Beverly Codr
Brothers: Michael
Sisters: Stephanie
Pets: dogs (Loco, Curly, Cooper, & Taylor)
Favorite School Subject: Ag mechanics
Favorite Teacher: I like them all but the top 2 are Mrs. Newcomb & Mr. Simpson
School activities: Acadeca, Speech, FFA, FCA, Band, Choir, Football, & Track
Greatest Honor during school: honor roll, Lifter of the Year and 2nd team all-district noseguard
Favorite School Activity : Football just because it is fun to play and you are more than just a team; you become a family.
Most educational experience: 7th grade music class
Most inspirational person: Mr. Wells and Mr. Simpson
Favorite color: red
Favorite thing to do in spare time: fish, Playstation 2, lift weights
Pet peeve: when there is a rumor and about 10 different people tell you their version of it
If I could go back in time I would go: to when my parents were in high school
Favorite saying: "Life's too short not to smile."
Something most people don't know about me: I am very sensitive.
Favorite movie: Jig Time Bassin' (a fishing movie)
Dream car: 2006 Mustang
Favorite Food: steak and potatoes
Favorite School lunch: tator tot casserole
Favorite Pop: Mountain Dew
Favorite TV Show: Angling Edge (a fishing show)
Favorite type of music: rock and country
Future plans after graduation: going to college and hopefully playing football



Nathan Codr



Elgin FFA Chapter State Degree Interviews & Proficiency Review

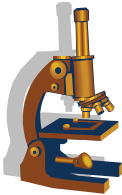
Tuesday February 6th nine members of the Elgin FFA Chapter ventured to Stuart to participate in State Degree interviews. The individuals were interviewed on the Supervised Agricultural Experience record books and had to complete a general knowledge test on the FFA. The students attending were Ben Beckman, Brandon Anderson, Paige Redding, Travis Sprout, Steven Bartak, Brandon Grosserode, Luke Beckman, Wes Prater and Jake Bode. All nine students qualified for their state degree which will be awarded during NE FFA state convention in April

Paige Redding and Steven Bartak were selected to represent the District X FFA chapter as Stars in Production. Paige operates her own flock of ewes and has grown the project over the past four years. Steven's SAE project involves purchasing and growing feeder cattle on their family farm. Both of these applications will be judged on the state level and will have the opportunity to represent Nebraska on the national level if they advance through state.

The District X Proficiency review was held on Tuesday February 6th. The Elgin FFA Chapter had five Proficiency applications submitted. Proficiencies are awards based off of a students record books and their Supervised Agricultural Experience Program. There are 47 recognized Proficiency Areas in the National FFA Organization. Proficiency areas can either be in Production where they are responsible for the financial obligations of their project or Placement where they work for an individual. The first and second Gold's in each Proficiency Area at Districts are selected to go on to State. If they are one of the top Proficiency applications on the State level they will be judged on the National level.

The following are the award areas and placing received by Elgin FFA students. Paige Redding and Ben Beckman Sheep Production. Paige received the 1st Gold in the area and Ben the 2nd Gold. Travis Sprout - Diversified Crop Production - Placement - 2nd Gold Jake Bode - Emerging Technology in Agriculture - Placement - 2nd Gold and Tyler Reestman Ag Mechanics Design and Fabrication - Placement - 2nd Gold.

Science News



Students have now begun the science fair process and are already making hypotheses, testing ideas, and collecting data. This year the science fair date has been moved to an earlier date, March 26 from 7-9 pm. Many students are testing the health and abilities of mice based on various diets. Others are testing to see where the most bacteria live—both around school and in restaurants. Still other groups are completing experiments with dry ice, horses, memory, blood pressure, and many other topics. Be sure to mark your calendar to come check out their hard work and learn a little more about the world around you!

New at Elgin Public this year, the eighth-graders are each completing an individual project for the National Junior Academy of Science. This is a statewide science fair competition; our regional meet will be held on March 15 at Wayne State College. Winners of the regional meet may attend the state competition then possibly move on to the national competition. This may possibly be an option for all students 7-12 in upcoming years. And as in past years, eight-graders may also have the option of taking their project to the regional Health Science Meet held in Norfolk. If chosen, these students may attend the 3-day state meet during the summer in which they participate in hands-on health science activities.



ELEMENTARY ART NEWS

The Elementary Art students are starting 2007 off with a new unit on portrait drawing. The students are using handouts in their purple binders that show how to use a grid to draw a face. The handouts also show the students how to draw all of the features and shade them to make the face look 3-D. Hair is added to the portrait after the face is completed. The last step is shading in the background.

Students start off by sketching for several class periods until they have the facial proportions correct. After that they will draw their face on white drawing paper with an H pencil. The older students will shade their drawing with a B pencil and blending stump while the younger students will color their drawing with crayons. The most important thing to remember is not to draw dark outlines! Outlines cannot be blended out and give the portrait a "coloring book" look.

The 4th Grade has a slideshow of their work in progress on the school webpage under "Academics-Art".

OPTION ENROLLMENT DEADLINE

Are you interested in sending your students to Elgin Public School? If you live outside of District 18 and would like to enroll for the fall semester 2007-2008, you must file the option enrollment application before March 15th. If you file after that date your resident school district determines whether they will allow you to opt out of their district. For further information or to request an option enrollment application, please contact the school office 843-2455.

Elgin Youth Basketball



The Elgin Youth Basketball Program has been a part of EPS for several years now. We hold Saturday Morning Basketball for all kids in grades 1-8 during the basketball season. The high school players along with coaches help teach the kids the fundamentals of basketball. They receive an Eagle T-shirt that they can wear to home games and get in for free, and they also get a basketball as well. Elgin Youth Basketball is a program that benefits both the elementary students as well as the high school students. We just concluded our 7th annual Youth Basketball Tournament that we hold jointly with Friends of St. Boniface. We also held our annual alumni tournament as well.

Over the course of the years, Elgin Youth Basketball has contributed to the kids and community as well. Funds from this program pay for summer leagues and team camps for the high school teams. They also pay for the jerseys and tournament fees for our youth teams that participate in tournaments. We have purchased The Gun, a shooting machine that all kids can use to work on their shots. This year, we purchased 2 portable, and adjustable hoops for our younger kids to use. We've also contributed to the fund to purchase the marquee sign for our school. This year, we will also award an Elgin Youth Basketball Scholarship to a senior from EHS.

None of this could be done without the help of our high school players, and the parents of the youth of our school. All the help is greatly appreciated!

Coach Heithoff and Coach Eisenhauer



Noteworthy News

To be chosen for Class D All-State Band is a distinct honor for a band student. There are two different performance bands: the Symphonic Band and the Wind Ensemble. Three of the students here at Elgin Public have been chosen to participate in the top band, the Wind Ensemble. Eric Shoemaker, a sophomore, was chosen as the top auditionee in the percussion section with junior Jonathan Gunderson coming in a very close second. Both will be participating in the Wind Ensemble. Senior, Dana Uhrenholdt, was also chosen for the Wind Ensemble as the second best flute auditionee in Class D. This is the third year of participation for Dana and the first for Jonathan and Eric. Both Eric and Dana will be receiving medals at the concert for their rankings!

This year, there were students from 34 high schools from all four corners of the state accepted. The clinic will be held on Saturday, March 17, 2007 at the University of Nebraska at Kearney. Rehearsals will be during the day with the final concert starting at 6:30 p.m. The concert will be held in the Fine Arts Center on the UNK campus. Tickets for the event may be purchased at the door. I'm sure it will be an excellent concert and a memorable experience for each one of us!



SCIENCE JOB SHADOW DAY

Laprosopic surgery. LifeNet. Critical thinking in a medical situation. These, plus many more, were topics discussed at this year's Groundhog Shadow event, held in Norfolk on January 31. During the morning, students traveled to sessions involving various health care topics and activities. They became part of the action in mock situations, talked to health care professionals and RHOP students, and even used medical equipment, such as the laprosopic tools.

In the afternoon students traveled to various sites around Norfolk to shadow in a chosen career choice. Shadowing opportunities included: dentistry, occupational therapy, nursing, veterinarian, medical lab, and audiology. They all had a great deal of new information to talk about after their two-hour shadowing experiences.

The students agreed that it was a great event. They were able to be exposed to many situations and experiences that they would normally not have had the opportunity to take part in.

Students that attended were AlishaAnderson, Jenna Schindler, Suzanne Hoefer, Jennifer Bush, Kayla Hoffart, Jessica Morrison, and Dominika Kun.

Is there money in your lunch account?



Please call the school 843-2455 or e-mail the lunch account bookkeeper, Pat Beckman or school secretary, Paula Jensen (jensenp@esu8.org) if you would like to find out. Please keep you account current

Elgin Public PASS System



Parents and students can access

student's current grades through the EPS website:

<http://teachers.esu8.org/elginpublic>

Click on Schoolmaster and enter the student ID number and PIN. If you have questions, please call the school.



Smile, it's contagious!

High School Portraits



The High School Art students have recently completed their portrait drawings in pencil. The students start off the lesson by looking at several handouts that break the face down into the various parts such as the eyes and nose. The students spent time practicing how to draw the features with an H pencil before starting the face itself. They use a grid on the face to make sure the facial features are placed correctly. They start with the eyes which go in the middle of the face. The nose is half way between the eyes and chin. The mouth is half way between the nose and chin. When the features have been properly placed, the student draws in details such as eyebrows and hair.

The students are ready to begin adding value to their drawing by shading it with a B pencil and a blending stump. They choose which way the light is coming from in their drawing. This determines where the shadows in the drawing will be. Shadows are opposite the light source. Shadows are also cause by one object overlapping another. Students start with their darkest areas and blend out toward the lightest or highlights. Some of the students chose to work from a magazine photo and some worked from a photo of themselves.

Students have a few specialized tools that include H and B pencils and a blending stump to complete a drawing. The B pencil has a soft lead that smears easily allowing it to be blended across the drawing. A blending stump is tightly rolled paper that looks something like a pencil. The students use this tool to blend out the B pencil. An H pencil is a pencil with a hard, compressed lead that draws lightly allowing it to be easily erased. An H pencil is used for sketching because it can draw lightly and be erased without leaving a mark.

Check out their sketches on our website -- www.elgineagles.org. Click on Academics>Art



The CADCA Forum

Valentine's Day was spent in Washington D.C. No, the students and I didn't get a limousine ride or a special dinner but we did get to see the premiere of the upcoming HBO series, *Addiction*. This series takes one into the emergency room of a Dallas, Texas hospital and shows in graphic detail the physical price people are paying when under the influence of alcohol or drugs. Another section of the series deals with a young lady addicted to drugs and the fight the family and she have waged to free her from this dependency. There is a selection that deals with the brain research that clearly shows the effect some drugs have on the human brain. Finally, a selection deals with the research and medication that is currently being used to treat people that are suffering from an addictive habit. *Addiction* will air for the first time March 15-18th on HBO. Anyone with cable access will be able to view the programs during this time frame because the company has made the decision to allow viewing across the United States without a subscription to HBO during this time frame. I found the pieces I watched to be both moving and disturbing. I hope you will take the time to watch the series and let me know what you think about it.

CADCA (Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America) had an action packed week for both adults and youth. The youth sessions were designed for the young leaders of today and tomorrow. I attended one afternoon session with the two youth E & E Endeavors sponsored. The leader of the session was teaching the youth about blogging and how to use it to send an anti-drug message and for people to communicate with one another and build a team of supporters from not only the individual communities but from across the country.

I also had the opportunity to listen to some very politically powerful people (senators and congressmen) discuss the budget battle and the importance of coalitions across the country in the battle against drugs and underage drinking. The most powerful speaker, however, was William Moyers, the son of Bill Moyers (the journalist). William Moyers spoke with great passion concerning his battle with drugs. He pointed out that he was raised in a good Christian home and had very loving parents who provided well for him. However, something was missing, and he was sucked into alcohol and illicit drugs. He went through treatment FIVE times before he was able to break away from these destructive elements in his life. Today, he is the director of a program in Minnesota that works with drug addicts and intervenes to help them change their lives. He has a recently published book, *Broken*, that tells his life story.

When it comes to drugs and alcohol, we are the people on the front lines. We can ask (and did on Tuesday, February 13th) our congressmen to help us by funding anti-drug coalition work, spending on promising research, and providing money for safe and drug free schools. Congress has in the past given such money. But Congress can't fight the fight that is needed in our communities. We have to be the foot soldiers; people willing to work to make our communities better places for our neighbors and ourselves to live in.

We must be compassionate toward those who have been sucked into alcoholism or drug abuse and work to return those individuals towards "wholeness". But as foot soldiers, our job is to keep people, young people in particular, from being sucked in by alcohol and drugs. We must continue this fight.

KNEN QUIZ BOWL RESULTS

The Elgin High School Quiz Bowl Team met with early success in the KNEN quiz bowl with wins over Niobrara, Verdigre, and Norfolk Sr. High. The winning streak was stopped by West Point/Beemer in an overtime match.

Fifty school teams from northeast Nebraska were entered in the quiz bowl this year. The Eagles made the final eight of the competition.

This year members include Ben Beckman, Paige Redding, Dana Uhrenholdt, Lindsay Bode, and Michael Miller. The Quiz Bowl sponsor is Mr. Doug Jones. The team will compete again in April in the ESU #8 quiz bowl.

*"The only way to have a friend
is to be one."*

Ralph Waldo Emerson



Don't Throw Away That Empty Printer Cartridge! Bring it to school!

Empty inkjet cartridges can be recycled and remanufactured. Our school will receive \$2.00 for each cartridge turned in. Bring in your empty cartridges (use a Ziploc bag to avoid ink spills) to the office recycle bin.

F

rom the Principal's desk . . .

Mr. Corey Fisher
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As I sit here writing this month's article, I do so with a heavy heart. The elementary principal from back in my days as an elementary student passed on last week. She was 81 years old and while I swear she was that old when I was in school, she definitely lived a long and fulfilling life. She was one that was dedicated to the community and school and touched the lives of so many in her career. Since hearing the news of her passing, I have reflected as to the MANY discussions she and I had had over the years I was a student under her rule. Most of those discussions were in her principal's office as I, for some reason I can't really put a finger on, seemed to spend a lot of quality time there. I always remember my dad stating how things were when he was in elementary school as she was also his elementary principal. One thing is for sure; she was one that ruled the hallways with an iron fist/newspaper. I can still remember her daily passing in the hallways with that day's Omaha World Herald newspaper very tightly rolled up in her hands. I can still see those black ink stained fingers from the newspaper, as she quite often would shake her finger in my direction. I always wondered if she actually read the paper or simply used it as her weapon of choice as occasionally you would hear through the backchannels of the lengthy hallway of some kid being given the business and it usually included reports of a kid being struck by the newspaper when things were real bad. Now, I never reached the extreme of having to actually see the newspaper in action, and I am not sure of anyone who could confirm it but the legend that was passed from one generation to another was that you certainly did not want to be a participant in that discussion. I know I will never read the Omaha World Herald as most others do. I always view the paper as containing a much higher education than most give it credit for having.

Miss Kanost was in all ways a true educator in every sense of the word. She was like what Miss Betty Kamphaus was to Elgin Public Schools. Miss Kanost reveled in seeing kids succeed. She, while being a strict disciplinarian, was very passionate about her job. Most would agree that educators from that time period were committed to the academic part of education but were also masters of developing kids so that they were capable of handling real life experiences when they graduated from high school. They included integrity and character building without really realizing they were doing it. The general belief was that if a student misbehaved at school, there would be consequences and that when the news reached home, there would be supportive consequences. I know that to be true, as on the rare occasion (tongue in cheek) that I would slightly misbehave, once the news reached home of this ever so minor event, my parents were not interested in my side of the story and consequences were sure to follow. I always knew that to mess up at school would only bring consequences at home.

While I do not believe that I am viewed as one who rules with an iron fist, I do feel it is important to educate kids so that they can handle the pressures and stresses that society will offer to them. I am proud of how our teachers here at Elgin Public Schools are aware of what kids need to succeed once their time here has ended. While capitol punishment has long been eliminated from schools, the ability to teach kids to do what is right is something the staff here at Elgin Public Schools does well. I was recently asked why a detention here is such a big issue. My comment is simply that we do not do favors to kids in allowing them to ignore responsibilities. As adults, they will have responsibilities of all kinds. Paying bills, raising kids, holding a job, being trusted to be leaders and being contributors to the communities in which they choose to live in are a few of those responsibilities. They must know how to succeed in all of those areas if they are to be successful. There has been a great amount of talk at the national and state levels as to schools making a strong effort to work with parents of the students in their schools. I am pleased about the work that is currently being done by both the teachers here at our EPS and the parents of the students we teach every day. It must continue.

I hope you all take the time to pay special attention to what your kids are doing in school. Be involved in their education and support their teachers. If there is one thing I learned from Miss Kanost, it is that all people, young and old, will have at least two choices in everything they do. Sometimes it is difficult to see the outcome and sometimes the challenge is great, but the kind of person you are will allow you to grow even in times when you are least successful. I believe that is what drove Miss Kanost everyday. Was she intimidating? Yes. Strict? Yes. One of my favorites? No. One of the best? Without question...Yes!

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