



HEADS UP

E UFAULA P UBLIC S CHOOLS

"Expect the Best"

Volume 3 - Issue 2 - December, 2002

COL HAROLD PINNEY HONORED

Eufaula Public School Board Vice-President, Colonel Harold Pinney, was recognized on Veteran's Day for his lifelong dedication to this nation.



Colonel Pinney has spent his entire life in service to our country in one form or another. He continues to give his energy, time, and leadership in serving on a number of local and civic organizations and serves tirelessly as part of the War Veterans Commission in representing the veterans of this country. With the courage, humility, discipline, and wisdom of a true patriot, Colonel Pinney personifies the meaning of the word *Veteran*.

Awarded the Silver Star Medal,

Legion of Merit Award with Three Oak Leaf Clusters, Bronze Star Medal with One Oak Leaf Cluster, Air Medal

Award with Fifteen Oak Leaf Clusters, Commendation Medal with One Oak Leaf Cluster, Combat Infantry Badge, two awards (WWII and Vietnam) and the Belgian Fourragere. *The Bronze and Silver Star Medals* are awarded to those who distinguished themselves for acts of heroism and achievement while participating against an armed enemy. *The Oak Leaf Clusters* represent Subsequent Awards;

The Commendation Medal is awarded for Extraordinary Achievement and acts of Valor; *The Legion of Merit Award* is the highest peacetime award given by the U.S. Army in recognition of distinguished service to the United States; *The Belgium Fourragere* (four ra gere)

is an ornamental braided cord looped around the left shoulder of a uniform. It was awarded for the efforts made by our troops in liberating Belgium. *"May the American Troops, unanimously esteemed and honored here, remember occasionally the dark but glorious days lived in this small, friendly and bruised Belgium, who cry a vibrant*

"Thank You" for having restored its most previous possession, "Liberty." In gratitude shown to our American troops, they too, understand the meaning in Mayor Bill Day's tribute to our Veterans, *"For those who Fight for It, Life has a Flavor the Protected Never Know.* Because of the difference Colonel Pinney made in the battles he fought for the

freedoms we enjoy, the War Veterans Commission and Governor Keating have recognized this highly decorated war hero, and have declared a section of the War Veterans Highway be named the "Colonel Harold D. Pinney U.S. Army Highway," in recognition, in honor, and in thanks to this very special hero. The highway will forever commemorate Colonel Pinney's service to our country, as it will forever express the admiration and respect so deserving of our *Officer and Gentleman*, Colonel Harold Pinney.

CLASSROOM ADDITION

Once again another new educational facility for the students attending Eufaula Schools will soon be open. The additional classroom complex for students in grades 9-12 will be finalized, furnished, and ready for students to begin attending classes the second semester of this school year. This addition is another result of the 2000 bond issue and the Board of Education's Facility Improvement Plan. The freshman year of high school sets the stage for the last three years of a child's education. If freshmen have a successful year in maintaining good grades, they have a much better chance at successfully completing high school, entering college, the military or the workforce. This new structure will provide the atmosphere that will help our students remain focused on their responsibilities and on their future goals.

OKLAHOMA PUBLIC EDUCATION BUDGET CUTS

Another simple e-mail message from the State Dept. of Education to Oklahoma superintendents across the state, briefly informs them to expect additional cuts in their school budgets. Cuts have affected Eufaula Public Schools in the amount of over \$500,000 to date, with more cuts expected later this year. Our school's financial foundation, at this moment, remains secure, as our district has maintained an \$820,000 carry over, but that is threatened with each projected cut. The momentum that was driving this district into a brighter day has been immobilized as we have been thrust into the bleakest days of Oklahoma public education. Our hopes are that the legislature will reconvene and make adjustments to ensure the future of our state wide educational system.

MARCH ACHIEVEMENT TESTS - A CHALLENGE FOR EVERYONE

Each spring students in grades 3 through grade 8 take an Achievement Test as part of a nation wide Student Assessment Program. This program sets standards for skills and information that students should know and be able to do at various points in their school career. These guidelines, objectives, and standards are to be used as maps for teachers to reference when preparing lesson plans and activities. With this map, teachers lead their students through their curriculum, making sure the Student Assessment Program's objectives have been incorporated into their regular, ongoing instructional activities. This approach balances the scales between legitimate teaching and inappropriate *Teaching the Test*. Currently, the Criterion Reference Test results ranks Eufaula last among area schools, including Checotah, Stigler, Hartshorne and Wilburton. This result is non-reflective of the teaching or the learning that occurs in our classrooms. Historically, we have approached this Achievement Tests with indifference toward the test and its results. With that in mind, a new approach to achievement testing and their results must be embraced by parents, students, teachers, and administrators of this school district if we are to improve. Our test results must improve, and it will take everyone's effort to make those improvements. *Parents, please do everything possible to make sure your child is in attendance every day of the testing period, and ask them to give their very best effort to ensure their test results truly reflect their accomplishments.*

The district's Achievement Test dates are set for March 3 through March 6th.

MAKING HISTORY - EUFAULA MARCHING BAND

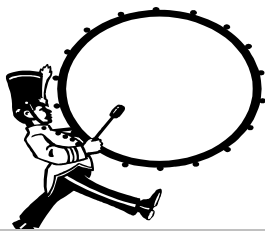
Eufaula has historically had such an outstanding band that we sometimes forget just how difficult it is to have the kind of success our band enjoys year after year. It is not easy to be State Champions in any competition, but the students that make up the Eufaula Marching Band and members of our Color Guard expect nothing less than State Championship presentations. The energy and effort seen in their performances are the result of hours of practice and a dedication for their common goal. Band members, directors Glen Sizemore and his assistants Ken and Jennifer Self, and Color Guard members and instructor Debi Jones, remain focused on excellence. The results of this commitment has gained the admiration and respect of band members and directors from across the state, regardless of class size. As we have grown to expect, the 2002-03 Eufaula Marching Band is enjoying another exceptional year:

1st Place in Class 2A in the State-Wide Invitational Competition at Catoosa.

1st Place in Class 1A State-Wide Invitational Competition at Pryor.

*Making School History by winning the OBA Grand Champion Honors
State Marching Championship*

OBA State Contest High Music Performance Award



ALTERNATIVE EDUCATION JOURNAL



Editors & Publishers of the *Alternative Education Journal*,
Juniors David Martin and Amy Funburg.

Ms. Debby Anderson's students are putting their communication and computer skills to work this year in producing the first, "*Alternative Education Journal*."

The Journal includes student highlights, it includes a sports section, and it covers topics that the students have discussed in class. Ms. Anderson is hopeful that her students will be able to create an Alternative Web Site as a second semester class project.

Mr. Austin Cox, Alternative Academy Director

"I am proud to say that our alternative students are taking the extra steps toward a successful future. They are demonstrating this not only by earning their academic credits, but through extra work as well. Their homecoming float was a huge success. The entire project was organized, scheduled, established, and completed by the students. Words cannot describe how proud I am of our students."

Homecoming Queen

Krystina Luna was crowned Homecoming Queen in the pre-game ceremony against Roland Friday, October 11th. Her Court included flower girl, Victoria Salcedo, crown bearer Bo

Banfield, sophomores Michelle Whetstone and Jered Jones, juniors

Lindsey Speligene and Cody Cox, and seniors Nicole Franklin and Justin Jones. Krystina's escort and Homecoming King was senior Javon Shine. "The Queen"

Krystina, is the daughter of Kay and Leonard Luna. She has attended Eufaula Public Schools her entire school career.

Krystina is a two-year member of the National Honor Society and she has been voted Who's Who Among American High



Krystina Luna

School Students in several academic and athletic areas. Krystina has been a cheerleader for six years and is presently Captain of the EHS Cheerleading Squad. Krystina is a UCA All-Star Cheerleader and will participate in the Macy's Day Parade in New York City this Thanksgiving. Krystina is an All-Conference Lady Ironhead Basketball Player. Her Senior Class voted her Most Popular and Best All Around. Krystina's future plans are to attend the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond and pursue a degree in Psychology. With that degree she would like to further her education at Sam Houston University in Houston, Texas. Krystina's goal is to become a Forensic Psychologist or Criminologist.

SOMETHING IS MISSING!

The new elementary school is missing something very important and every student that attends classes there has noticed! It is a Big Toy for the playground. Students at the elementary have been busy taking part in a fund raiser for new playground equipment. Daylon Parker, Makayla Clayton, Garrett Gilley, Avree Yearton, Drew Swadley, Keanna Dixon, Travis Pratt, Cody McGuire, Lauren Belyeu, Kinzie Daniels, and Kirstin Doyle sold over 40 items during the fund raiser. In recognition of their hard work, they will enjoy a Limousine Ride! The fund raiser was a great success, but if you did not have the privilege to participate in this fund raiser, donations are appreciated. Call the elementary school at 918-689-2682 and ask about donating to the playground fund and help our students reach their goal.

PARENTS MADE IT POSSIBLE

Eufaula Elementary Students dressed as their favorite Storybook Character

Returned Once More to Dixie Elementary

Tammy McDaniel organized a group of parents and together they provided Quite a Party for Eufaula elementary students.

The Fall Festival, complete with games for the students, a costume contest, and a hospitality room for the teachers,

brought to life characters from a variety of children's

books. First place winner, Lauren Belyeu, dressed as the Scarecrow from the Wizard of Oz. Second

Place was Teresa Porter, dressed as the Headless Horseman. Third Place

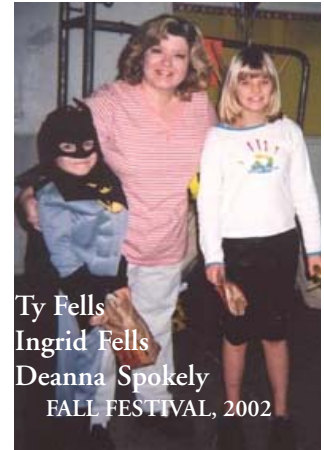
winner was Rachel Goodwin, dressed as Cruella from 101

Dalmations, and Makayla Clayton, dressed as Charlotte from Charlotte's

Web. Fourth Place winners

were Ryan Steel as the Headless Horseman, Savannah Gilley as Little Bo Peep, and Dalton Buckley as a Knight from King

Arthur's Court. Thanks, Parents!



**Ty Fells
Ingrid Fells
Deanna Spokely
FALL FESTIVAL, 2002**

IT'S A FACT

- * When parents volunteer in their school, students exhibit more positive attitudes and behavior;
- * Students whose parents are involved in their education have higher graduation rates and greater enrollment in post-secondary education;
- * The more extensive the parent involvement, the higher the student achievement;
- * Students behavior, such as alcohol use, violence and antisocial behavior decrease with parent involvement;
- * Schools that work well with parent volunteers have improved teacher morale.

FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM~AUTOMATION CONTINUES

District Registrars, Wenonah Caruthers, Carolyn Harjo, Janice Linnens, and Food Services Director, Phyllis Bedford, have recently made the transition from managing the district's cafeteria program using paper and pencil to that of computer technology. Daily reports pertaining to free and reduced lunch applications, bank deposits, and daily statistics are now communicated in real time to and from both cafeterias to the centralized server. After the initial editing has been completed, the registrars will be virtually free of the daily time-consuming paper and pencil tallying and reporting, resulting in a more effective and efficient cafeteria data management system. *Horizon* cafeteria software is a Microsoft Certified Partner and a leader in software development for the food-service industry.



First Down, Ironheads!

IRONHEADS FINISH A WINNING SEASON

Good Luck In the Playoffs

Sept 06	Miami	Home	Ironheads 34-14
Sept 13	Beggs	Away	Ironheads 31-07
Sept 20	Muldrow	Away	Ironheads 27-06
Sept 27	Checotah	Home	Ironheads 36-14
Oct 04	Hilldale	Away	Ironheads 34-0
Oct 11	Roland	Here	Ironheads 34-14
Oct 17	Vinita	Away	Vinita 12-17
Oct 25	Inola	Home	Ironheads 46-0
Nov 01	Stigler	Away	Ironheads 43-14
Nov 08	Locust Grove	Home	Ironheads 44-0

First Round in State Playoffs:
Cleveland 13 - Ironheads 33

The credit belongs to the person who is actually in the arena, whose face is marred by dust and sweat and blood. Who knows the great enthusiasms, the great devotions, and spends their life in a worthy cause; who, at best, if they win, know the thrill of high achievement, and if they fail, at least fail daring greatly so that their place shall never be with those cold and timid souls who know neither victory nor defeat - JFK on Theorore Roosevelt, NYC, Dec. 5, 1961 quoted by Willliam Manchester in The Last Lion Winston Spencer Churchill, Visions of Glory 1874-1932.



Basketball Schedule

Tues	Dec 10	Ft. Gibson	There
Fri	Dec 13	Locust Grove	There
Tues	Dec 17	Checotah	There
Fri	Dec 20	Morris	Here
Fri	Jan 03	Chouteau	Here
Wed-Fri	Jan 8-10	Preston Tournament	
Tues	Jan 14	Wagoner	Here
Thur	Jan 16	Stigler	There
Fri	Jan 17	Hilldale	There
Mon-Sat	Jan 20-25	Ft. Gibson Tournament	
Tues	Jan 28	Chouteau	There
Fri	Jan 31	Ft. Gibson	Here
Tues	Feb 04	Locust Grove	Here
Fri	Feb 07	Checotah	Here
Sat	Feb 08	Morris	There
Thur	Feb 13	Stigler	Here
Fri	Feb 14	Wagoner	There
Tues	Feb 18	Hilldale	Here

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