



# HEADS UP

Volume 5, Issue 1, August 2004

EUFULA PUBLIC SCHOOLS

## No One Loses In Vo-Tech De-Annexation Debate

members of their respective Boards, the debate over deannexation has been resolved.

With years of experience and a mutual respect between the two superintendents, sessions began in an effort to determine a course of action regarding deannexation. Through those sessions, the two superintendents carefully and precisely devised a plan that would benefit both the Kiamichi Career Tech District and students attending Eufaula Public Schools.

The agreement states that Eufaula Schools will remain a member of the Kiamichi Career Tech District and that vocational classes will be offered on the Eufaula High School campus. In return, Kiamichi Career Tech will compensate Eufaula Public Schools for rental of classroom space, computer equipment, and related costs.

Corrective Action to ensure a balance between the number of students attending Career Tech classes and the burden on tax payers to provide those classes was long overdue. The sense of a healthy balance has now been resolved along with the question of deannexation from Kiamichi Career Tech District.

The outcome of the agreement between Eufaula Schools and Kiamichi Career Tech has set into motion a number of opportunities that include:

- Full rights for Eufaula students to attend all classes offered at the McAlester Career Tech Center;
- Full rights for Eufaula students to attend Career Tech classes offered at the Eufaula High School campus;
- Kiamichi Career Tech will provide funding to Eufaula Schools for On-Site costs that will offset the cost of constructing a new middle school.

**B**alance between the Cost & Demand to provide vocational classes for Eufaula students has been reached. In an agreement between Greg Winters, Superintendent of Kiamichi Career Tech District and Bill Wilson, Superintendent of Eufaula Public Schools, and



for orientation and staff development sessions in the High School auditorium. Students new to the district must provide an original birth certificate, two documents for proof of residence (Water, Gas or Electric Bill) and an up to date immunization record. For more details about immunization requirements, check the district website at [www.eufaula.k12.ok.us](http://www.eufaula.k12.ok.us), contact the McIntosh County Health Department (689-7774) or contact the OK State Department of Health (405-271-2073). Back to School Supply Lists are available at the school sites, and the district website.

Classes will begin Thursday August 12, 2004! All school staff members will return to work Monday, August 9

## ACCOMPLISHMENTS - CHALLENGES FOR A NEW YEAR

Information provided by Steve Butcher, Principal

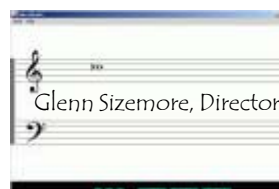
Each year, the Oklahoma Foundation For Excellence honors 100 of Oklahoma's top graduating seniors. This year, Eufaula senior, Kelly Brunkhorst, was included in the Foundation's Top 100 Seniors and selected for Academic All-State.

Three Eufaula High School Seniors were recognized as Academic Scholars. Elizabeth Hurley, Renee Engle, and Kelly Brunkhorst received this honor for their overall academic performance.

The purpose of the Oklahoma Academic Scholar program is to recognize the outstanding academic achievement of graduating seniors in compliance with State law which became effective in 1986. Requirements include:

- Accumulate over Grades 9, 10, 11 and the first semester of grade 12, a minimum grade point average of 3.7 on a 4.0 scale or in the top 10% of their class.
- Complete (or will complete) the curricular requirements for a standard diploma.
- Achieve a 27 composite score on the ACT or 1220 combined score on the SAT 1. The ACT or SAT 1 must have been taken on a national test date.

Our seniors contributed to the significant growth in our State Academic Performance Index. During the years these students have attended Eufaula High School, our State Academic Performance Index has risen from 7th to 2nd place among neighboring schools, with only Ft. Gibson Schools scoring slightly higher.



The Eufaula Marching Maroon Band achieved their **Sixth Consecutive State Sweepstakes win**, the equivalent of a State Championship in Music. Matt Magreevy earned All-State on the trumpet. The Vocal Music department earned several superior ratings at state contest. Michelle Williams & Erica Reynolds earned a Superior rating on their solo.

EHS Business Professionals of America sponsored by Allison Aday, participated in state-wide competition. Our students won the following honors: Top Ten in Administrative Support: Brandy Collard, Megan Oxford, & Chesilea Walker. Top Ten in Administrative Support Concepts, 2nd in Advanced Word Processing, and 4th in Financial Math & Analysis: Kelly Brunkhorst. Top Ten in Advanced Office Systems & Procedures: Lacy Sparks. Integrated Office Applications: 3rd place James Michael Combes. Fundamental Word Processing: 3rd place Deborah Hamilton. Basic Office Systems & Procedures: 1st place Elizabeth Hurley. Mrs. Aday's Desktop Publishing class also produced the programs for all school events.

**"YEARBOOK YEARBOOK" Recognition**

Eufaula High School Yearbook received special recognition for having an Outstanding Yearbook in Taylor Publishing's "Yearbook Yearbook" magazine. *Allison Aday, Sponsor*

Mrs. Applegate's English students have once again demonstrated their outstanding communication skills by entering & winning a number of contests this year. Each year the VFW sponsors the Voice of Democracy Speech Contest. Eufaula's local post always awards large cash prizes to the top three students who record their speeches. Dedicated members of our community judge these recordings, and the winner's recording advances to the next level of competition in this national contest. This year, Jayson Hill, a junior, won first in the local contest and first in the region for a total of \$700.00 in cash awards. Michelle Whetstone, a junior, won second place in the local contest, and Dan Fisher, a senior, won third place.

In addition to these exceptional students, Chaney Robertson wrote a winning essay for the East Central Electric Cooperative Youth Tour Contest. His 500 word essay was over this year's topic, "Year 2104: Exploring an Electric Universe and How Your Electric Cooperative Made it Possible." Chaney was awarded an expense paid trip to Washington, D.C. for six days. This trip is worth several thousand dollars, but the real value will be the unforgettable memories he will possess when he returns from our nation's capitol.

The winners of the 2004 Eastern Oklahoma Writing Contest were announced by the Muskogee Phoenix. First Place in the Youth Division for Poetry is Miranda Masters, entry entitled, "Battle of Honey Springs." Sydniann Fourshey won second place and \$50.00 for her poem entitled, "My Home." Shalah Deere and Jennifer Hurley were recognized with honorable mention in the poetry division. These students will have their works included in the anthology published by the Muskogee Public Library. These students entered the contest as a writing assignments in Mrs. Applegate's Creative Writing Class. Over eighty submissions were sent to the contest in the adult and youth divisions. *Gale Applegate, EHS English*

The Student Council had a Banner Year as well. The students were involved in a number of community projects and provided leadership to the student body.

EHS Academic Team, sponsored by Emily Scott, won 1st at Conference, 1st at District, and 2nd at Regionals ending their season with a 46 - 23 record.



Darrell Blackman, Eufaula School's FFA Instructor for the past nineteen years, continues to provide his students with information, encouragement, and leadership in making sure his students have every opportunity to achieve their goals. Our FFA Chapter had Three Senior State Farmer Degree winners in Cody Cox, Elizabeth Parker, and Dan Fisher.

Success continues to be the common thread that historically runs throughout the Eufaula Athletic Programs. Tray Bowie achieved the 4-A State Champion Title in Long Jump and the First Eufaula State Champion in that field Since 1976. Tray was named the 2004 Muskogee Phoenix Male Track Athlete of the Year and the 2004 Muskogee Phoenix Male Athlete of the Year. Sonya Vote qualified for State for the *Fourth Consecutive Year*. Sonya also won the Sue Ann Salsman Award.

**Ironhead Football Sets Standard for EHS Athletics**

Our 2003-2004 Ironhead Football Team Goes Undeclared with a 10-0 record in the regular season, breaking a record set in 1967. Another Record Breaking Ironhead Accomplishment was winning the District Championship, breaking a 1984 record. Cody Cox was selected to the Large School All State Football Team. Cody was also the Junior Golding Award winner. T. J. Benson was named the District Defensive Player of the Year as well as the McAlester Democrat's Defensive Player of the Year. Josh Tootill was named Defensive Lineman of the Year. Tray Bowie was named Offensive Player of the Year by the Muskogee Phoenix and Player of the Year by the McAlester Democrat. Travis Burkholter was named Newcomer of the Year by the Muskogee Phoenix and Newcomer of the Year by the McAlester Democrat. Head Coach Kerry Roberts and his assistant coaches continue to develop our students into exceptional athletes. Coach Roberts' ability to instill high expectations and high standards of conduct in his student athletes on and off the field has not gone unnoticed. Coach Roberts was honored this year with the following awards: District Coach of the Year - Muskogee Phoenix Coach of the Year - McAlester Democrat Coach of the Year and the OCA Region 3 Coach of the Year. Ironhead Baseball enjoyed a successful year with a 500 season for both Middle School and High School Teams. Keith Michael Creekmore was named the Kiamichi All-Star. Victor Salcedo EMS coach, Stacey Helms, EHS Coach.

Our boys basketball, Head Coach Bradley Campbell, enjoyed a Winning Season. David Martin made the Three Rivers All Conference Team, the McAlester News All-Area and the Super Five Team. Travis Burkhalter made the Three Rivers All Conference Team and the McAlester News All Area Team.

Summer Brown made the Three Rivers All Conference Basketball Team. Head Coach Shasti James

Both Boys and Girls Golf Teams improved this year. Malaicha Williams, Hallie Pyle, and Kelly Brunkhorst all qualified for State Competition.

Co-Captains of the 2003-2004 Cheerleading Squad, Favor Boss and Elizabeth Dew earned UCA All-Star Cheerleading Awards this year.



National History Day is a year-long Education Program that engages students in grades 6-12 in the process of discovery and interpretation of historical topics. Students produce dramatic performances, imaginative exhibits, multimedia documentaries and research papers based on research papers related to an

annual theme. The annual theme is provided by the National History Day Foundation. Student projects are then evaluated at local, state, and national competitions. The Program serves as a vehicle to teach students important literacy skills and to engage them in the use and understanding of library and museum resources. The program inspires students to study local history, and then challenges them to expand their thinking by applying this knowledge of local events to the national scene.

**Parents:** The support of parents is one of the most important factors in the success of students participating in the History Day program. Parents who encourage and facilitate students in their History Day project often benefit as much from the process as do their children. The true benefits from participating in National History Day go beyond a certificate or medal. The program teaches kids the writing, analytical understanding, and reading comprehension skills that will make them a success in life, no matter what their career.

Through the Combined Effort of our Middle School Principal, Chris Whelan, Sixth Grade Teacher Debi Jones, and Media Specialist, Joy Salcedo, the National History Day Program will be presented to the sixth grade students and faculty this fall.

"We are anxious to provide 6th grade parents with detailed information about the 2004-2005 National History Day theme and the step by step process their children will be taking this fall as our

sixth grade students begin their History Day journey. Classroom instruction followed by media center activities will provide students with important materials and information as well as time to decide on a history day topic that relates to the National History Day theme. The students must then narrow that topic down to one basic, manageable idea. Many times, selecting a topic and narrowing it to one idea is a difficult skill for students to understand. Even with ample teacher instruction covering each step of the research process and with time scheduled for students to study the national theme topic in the media center, parental involvement is crucial in making sure each child moves through the steps to meet deadline dates that are set for each step in this research program.”

*Chris Whelan, Principal*

**Teachers:** The Sixth Grade Middle School Teachers will be the backbone of the History Day program. They will serve as mentors for students and are encouraged to integrate the History Day program into their classroom curriculum.

**NHD Coordinators:** Middle School Media Specialist Joy Salcedo, and Sixth Grade Teacher Debi Jones, will work with the students to help them understand and gather the required *Primary* and *Secondary* sources required for their history day project. Documenting those sources properly will be another step in developing the required research paper each student must create, regardless of their chosen project.

A creation station in the media center for student access to a scanner, digital camera, computer, and a copier is the hope of media specialist, Joy Salcedo. Using the media center’s online card catalog, online magazine databases, and accessing web sites provided and suggested by the National History Foundation will supply a wealth of information for our students to learn and enjoy history while discovering the art of research.

“Our school has the technology to develop an outstanding research skills based curriculum. This curriculum will give our students a foundation for analytical and critical thinking skills essential in each student’s educational and professional endeavor. Teachers from across the nations say that because their schools have incorporated this program, interest in history is increasing, students have improved their thinking skills, and they have become much more analytical. I am looking forward to bringing history to life through different means of expression that will include videography, technology, music, and drama while at the same time enhancing our students’ research and communication skills. With parental involvement, this will be a great School to Home experience. I am looking forward for the opportunity to work jointly with the 04-05 sixth grade parents, teachers, & students in making sure our National History Day program is a success.”

*Debi Jones, NHD coordinator*



*Literacy, in the Age of Information, is the ability to Access, Process, Manipulate, and Evaluate Information Quickly and Effectively.* The National History Day Program teaches students to become Literate by today’s standards with its required use of computer and internet research methods, and the use of technologically advanced applications in presenting their NHD Projects.

The Middle School Academic Team, sponsored by Sherri Flud, Made it To State in 03-04. The team enjoyed a successful year in winning a number of tournaments and contests.

Rachel Breon Placed 3rd in Science and 7th in Language Arts in state-wide competition. Mr. Gary Asher was Rachel’s Language Arts Teacher and Mr. Mitch King was Rachel’s Science Teacher this year.

## Something Was Missing



While parents focused on the construction of a new elementary facility a few years ago, and as teachers planned and organized their new classrooms, Students Knew

Something was Missing.

As the media center, the art room, and the computer labs were all coming to life with new equipment and furnishings, and while people were buzzing about the “safe rooms” the nice classrooms, and new student lockers, little voices up and down the hallways were quietly whispering, “Something is Missing.”

Now, Thanks to Arvest Bank for their \$ 4,000 donation, and to parents, faculty & staff who Support the Yearly Elementary Fund Raiser, Principals Linda Tharp and Jerry Farmer were able to make their students’ dreams come true with the purchase of a \$13,000 “Big Toy.”

Now, sounds of Laughter & Fun have replaced those quiet whispers of disappointment, as the students’ new playground equipment far exceeds their dreams.

Thank You, Arvest Bank, for your Generous Donation! Thank You, Mr. Farmer, in providing our children such a wonderful addition to their playground & for using your Talent and your Time in Assembling this Big Toy , and

Thank You, Ms. Tharp, for Hearing Those Whispers & making the purchase of this Big Toy a priority!



Pictured left to right: June Newman, Eufaula Branch Manager; Bonita Warren, Treasurer, Eufaula Public Schools; Gene Walker, Arvest Bank President; Paula Freeman, Assistant Branch Manager; Bill Wilson, Eufaula Superintendent of Schools

In addition to providing funds to help purchase the elementary playground equipment, Arvest Bank, on behalf of the Walton Family Foundation, recently presented Eufaula Public Schools another check for \$4,000.00. This donation will provide a 25 Second Clock for the Ironhead Football program.



## Art Students Set New Record

Sadie Scott, Baylee Curtis, Kanandis James, Ty Weiher Maressa Franklin & Art Teacher, Ms. Miskovsky



Discovering the Hidden Artists in our Elementary Students, Ms. Susan Miskovsky and her students brought Home Top Awards from the McIntosh County Art Contest.

### Grades K-2 Division

1st Place - Baylee Curtis

2nd Place - Kanandis James

3rd Place - Ty Weiher

### Grades 3-5 Division

1st Place - Maressa Franklin

3rd Place - Sadie Scott

## Long-Time EPS Employees Retire

Carol Conatser, BEACON

Carolyn Grayson, ES Teacher

Bridgie Jackson, ES Teacher

Lana Peterson, ES Teacher

Sherri Flud, MS Teacher

Sherry Hooten, MS Teacher

Linda McIntosh, ES Teacher

Sherrye Satterfield, HS Teacher

Mary Thurman, MS Secretary

May Retirement bring the Freedom to Follow your Heart

The Time to Realize New Interests

And a Passion to Explore them.

Thank You, Retirees, for a lifetime of contributions.

## Welcome, New Faculty & Staff

Stanley Leas - Bus Driver

Tamra Davis - Elem Teacher

Lori Curtis - Elem Teacher

Cassandra Dan - MS Math

Michael Palmer - Asst. Band

Doris Cochran - Child Nutrition

Darrell Ray - HS Math

Christy Richards - MS Math

Kristi Colbert - Elem SPED Asst

Lisa Butcher - EHS Secretary

Andy Campbell - Elem Teacher

Delicia White - Elem Teacher

Nancy Breon - Asst Music/Band

Jeff Hogue - HS Science

Terri Dunn - MS Art

Cecilia Ray - SPED Secretary

Laura Gragg - HS Math

Vanessa Gilley - Elem Teacher

## 2004-2005 School Calendar

### 1st Quarter:

August 09 New Teacher In Service/Professional Day

August 10 Professional Day

August 11 Professional Day

August 12 Classes Begin

September 06 Labor Day Holiday

September 23-24 Parent/Teacher Conferences

October 08 End of First Nine Weeks

### 2nd Quarter:

October 21 Professional Day/State OEA Convention

October 22 Student/Faculty Holiday

November 22-26 Fall Break

December 17 End of Second Nine Weeks

Dec. 20- Dec. 31 Christmas Holiday

### 3rd Quarter:

January 03, 2005 Classes Resume

January 17 Professional Day

February 17-18 Parent/Teacher Conferences

February 21 Presidents' Day Holiday

March 04 End of Third Nine Weeks

### 4th Quarter:

March 14-18 Spring Break

March 25 Easter Holiday

May 18 Last Day of Classes

May 19 Teacher Workday/Parent Teacher Conferences

May 20 Report Card Day

### PARENT/TEACHER CONFERENCES:

Thursdays (September 23 & February 17)

3:30 - 6:30 p.m.

Fridays (September 24 & February 18)

9:00 a.m. - 12:00 NOON

Eufaula

Public

Schools

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HEADS UP

Bill Wilson, Superintendent

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