



# HEADS UP

EXPECT THE BEST

## Eufaula Public Schools

volume 9 Issue 2 June, 2009

### SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

The Eufaula School District wishes to recognize the long and valued service of two long-time board members who resigned from the School Board this year. Both members served over ten years and were involved in the decisions that produced the changes that were needed to reshape and redirect the Eufaula School District.



These two members, Dr. Mike Dew and Mrs. Dian Dawson, are to be commended for their dedication to the Eufaula School District. With the help of fellow board members, Charles Perry, Margaret Dobbs, and Chuck Boss, and the direction of Superintendent Bill Wilson, Eufaula Schools experienced a period of unparalleled growth.

Their effort and the community's desire for change led to the construction of a new elementary and middle school, a ninth grade center, dramatic improvement in academics, and exemplary improvements in achievement test scores. While Dr. Dew and Mrs. Dawson's experience and leadership will be missed, two outstanding citizens have stepped forward to accept the challenges that face our school district. The new board members are Dr. Jeff Pippenger and Mrs. Shirley Breedlove and are both outstanding citizens with close ties to Eufaula Schools. We are confident in their ability to carry on the good work.



### CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Before I make the following report, I want to preface it by making the following caveat. The School Board and former superintendent Wilson did exactly what they should have done when all bond and building fund monies over the last eight to nine years were invested in the new elementary and middle schools. These projects were, by far, the most desperate and pressing needs of Eufaula Schools. However, during that time, and by necessity, little was invested in the athletic, vo-ag, high school band, or high school cafeteria facilities. I feel that we now need to continue to upgrade those facilities. I realize that classrooms are the most important investment for our students. However, much of the public's perception of the school comes through its observations at extracurricular events, i.e. vo-ag, sports, band, etc. Please keep these factors in mind while reading the following superintendent's report.

The new softball field is only partially complete. However, we are at a stage of construction where it can be completed relatively quickly. At present, the dirt work is mostly completed, the concrete stem walls have been constructed and the metal sides and roof on the dugouts have been installed. We are now ready to: install the plumbing for the players' restrooms—which will be located in each dugout, erect the metal bracing for the backstop netting, pour concrete floors in both dugouts and on the spectator seating areas, install the chain link fence around the outfield, install a wireless scoreboard, install a sprinkler system in the outfield, and erect and connect the light poles and lights. NOTE: The 50 foot poles have been delivered.

The high school gymnasium floor was in terrible shape before a water leak further damaged it last fall. After the water leak, the west end of the floor was almost unusable. In addition, the bleachers and public restrooms, lobby, and concession stand were in disrepair and becoming less and less functional. Complaints from the public were constant in regards to the condition of the restrooms. Therefore, based on these problems, the following steps have been taken. The old floor was removed at no cost to the district, and the new floor has been delivered. The bleachers have been taken out and are in the process of being cleaned, repaired, and will soon be painted and reinstalled, and the public restrooms and concession stand have been stripped down to the walls—and will be totally remodeled within the next six to eight weeks.

If funding allows, I would like to install lights at the baseball field in the near future. This year we were allowed to host a Regional Tournament due to our team being rated so highly. Checotah Schools was gracious enough to allow us to use their baseball field so that we could at least have an assimilation of a home field advantage. The Secondary Association did express misgivings about our using another school's facilities.

## NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR



Chelsea Burris has recently been notified that she is Officially a *National Merit Scholar*. Chelsea is accepting a four year *Chancellor's Scholarship* from the University of Arkansas. The scholarship will pay eight thousand dollars per year for four years for Chelsea's University expenses, as well as a seven hundred and fifty dollar stipend each year for four years. Chelsea is the daughter of Robyn Burris, Eufaula Elementary Media Specialist, and Randy Burris, OSU Educator Eufaula's Academic

Team won the District, Regional and Area Contests and participated in the State competition with a team consisting entirely of underclassman. Members of the team are Tusa Beaver, Eric Breon, Kolin Coats, Shelby Franklin, Ashley Kapoor, and Cody McGuire. Rachel Wallace placed in OK's top twelve in interview skills with the BPA Veterans of Foreign Wars "Voice of Democracy" speech contest. Megan Day won \$300 for 1<sup>st</sup> place, Rachel Goodwin won \$200 for 2<sup>nd</sup> place, and Rachel Winner won 3<sup>rd</sup> place for a cash prize of \$150. Sixty-one Eufaula High School sophomores have been named "OK EPAS Scholars." This indicates that all 61 sophomores scored at, or above, the College Readiness Benchmark on the PLAN test. Art students have been honored this year for their outstanding work. Hector Longoria-Ortega was awarded a \$1,400 Savings Bond for winning the 2009 Downey Publishing Company Award for the McIntosh County Phone Book Cover Art Contest. Matt Helms and Halley Gilley were awarded \$500.00 for winning 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> place in the contest. Eighty seven Eufaula Students are enrolled in the OK Promise Program. Upon successfully completing the program, their college tuition will be paid at any OK State college or University.



**STATE GOLF  
CARSON DANIELS**

## BOYS GOLF TEAM MAKES SCHOOL HISTORY

The boys golf team led by Carson Daniels made school history in qualifying for the State Golf Tournament. After winning the conference tournament the boys golf team finished twelfth in state tournament action. Golf team members were Carson Daniels, Micah White, Kendall Tarwater, Kase Shotwell and Danny Stearman. Carson Daniels was selected as a 2009 All-State Golfer.

## GIRLS GOLF TEAM STATE RUNNER UP

The girls golf team led by Amy Aday, Dannah Whelan, Courtney Singleton, Jessica Gawf, & Lauren Belyeu won the Conference Championship, the Regional Championship and were State-Runners Up. Amy Aday finished Seventh Low Individual and Dannah Whelan finished Ninth Low Individual. Amy was selected as a 2009 All-State Golfer and has accepted a golf scholarship with Rogers State



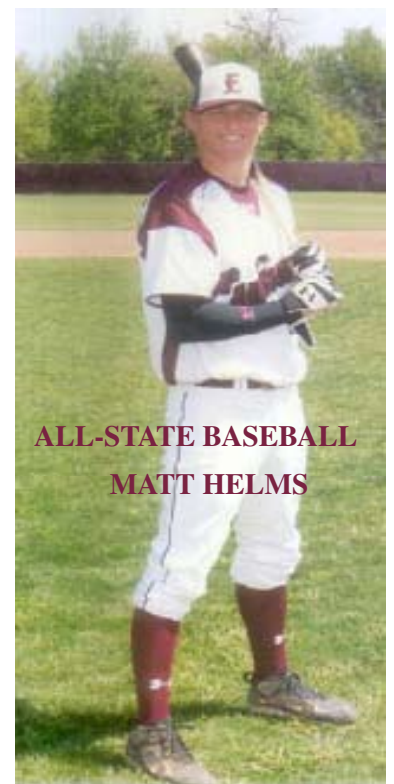
**ALL STATE GOLF**

**AMY ADAY**

College. Both Golf All-Staters, Amy Aday and Carson Daniels, will compete in the Summer All-State Games July 27th, in Tulsa. Both Golf Teams are coached by Bill Bumgarner.

## BASEBALL TEAM

The Ironhead baseball team, coached by Stacey Helms, qualified for the state baseball tournament. The team was eliminated in the semifinals ending the season with a 26-10 record. Matt Helms was selected as a 2009 All-State baseball player and will compete in the summer All-State baseball game. Matt was also Tulsa World Honorable Mention All State and Muskogee Phoenix All Star. Matt has signed to play with Seminole Junior College. Ryan Helms has signed to play for Coffeyville Junior College, and Trevor Walch signed to play for OK State University.



**ALL-STATE BASEBALL  
MATT HELMS**





## ALL STATE FOOTBALL

Ethan Sharp was selected as a 2009 Football All-Stater and will compete in the summer All-State games. Ethan was named OCA All-State, Tulsa World Honorable Mention All-State, and Muskogee Phoenix Most Valuable Player of the Year. Ethan has accepted a scholarship to play for the University of Central Oklahoma in Edmond.

Carson Daniels was named OCA All-State and Tulsa World Honorable Mention All-State. Sharp and Daniels were also named Co-Offensive and Co-Defensive players of the year, respectively. Justin Burns was named Tulsa World Honorable Mention All State and Muskogee Phoenix All Star. The following players were also named to the All-District Team: Ethan Sharp, Carson Daniels, Matt Helms, Justin Burns, Trevor Walch, Matt Andrews, Devin Oxford, and Caleb Sanders. Ironhead Football, coached by Johnny Bohannon, ended the season with a 9-3 record, second in district play and made their way to the state quarter finals.

## CHEERLEADERS

Two Outstanding Eufaula Cheerleaders, Ciara Smelser and Rachel Goodwin, are *Off to Hawaii* for College Prep Cheer Instruction after recently qualifying for the Hawaii Camp.



## MARCHING BAND STATE CHAMPS 3RD CONSECUTIVE YEAR

by Assistant Music Director Chrisie Burns



The Eufaula High School Marching Band under directors Glenn Sizemore and Michael Palmer have had a season full of great achievements and awards. Contest season started Sept. 29<sup>th</sup> at SOSU's John Parnell Memorial Marching Contest in Durant where the band won 1<sup>st</sup> place in class 2A and 5<sup>th</sup> place overall. At the Konawa Band Daze Marching Contest on Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> they were awarded 1<sup>st</sup> place in Large Class 3A, Outstanding Drum Line, Outstanding Color Guard, High Music Score, and Outstanding Overall Class 3A. They moved on to OBA, which was held at Moore High School. Here they achieved 1<sup>st</sup> place 2A, High Music Score, High Visual Score, and High General Effect, which put them into the finals where they took home 2<sup>nd</sup> place Overall and were announced as the 2A State Champion Marching Band. Rounding out the marching season at Regional Marching Contest in McAlester they received Superior

ratings from each of the three judges Marching Band becomes Concert Band in the spring and they competed at District Contest on March 4<sup>th</sup> in SOSU in Durant where they received a Superior rating from all the judges. This qualified them to attend State Contest, which was held April 21<sup>st</sup> at OSU in Stillwater. Here, the band again received a Superior rating on stage and in the Sight-Reading Room. The Superior ratings at Regional Marching Contest, Stage Performance, and Sight-Reading were enough to give them the Sweepstakes award. The highest award a band can achieve in a year. This is the third year in a row the band has been given this award. Eric Breon was selected as a member of the OMEA All-State Band. Members of the OSSBDA Small School All-State are Eric Breon, Jessy Williams, Zach Myers, and Kodi Evans. Congratulations band members and directors on a superior season!

## CHOIR - STATE COMPETITION AND SUPERIOR RATINGS



Eufaula High School Choir had a rewarding season. In September, an audition process selected six of its students to be members of the Eastern District Honor Choir. One student, Cody McGuire, was selected to be a member of the OMEA All-State Chorus. The EHS Choir traveled to ECU in Ada Feb. 18<sup>th</sup> for District Contest where the Choir, Men's Ensemble, Women's Ensemble, and a solo by Cody McGuire, all received a Superior rating and qualified for State. On Apr. 23<sup>rd</sup>, they competed in the State Choir Contest at OBU in Shawnee where they were granted a Superior rating on stage. Both Ensembles and Cody McGuire's solo received Superior ratings. Congratulations to the choir members and directors for achieving many awards this season.



***Faculty and Staff  
Honored at End of School Luncheon***

- David Johnson, Middle School Teacher of the Year  
 Gale Applegate, High School Teacher of the Year  
 Redia Doyle, Elementary School and District  
 Teacher of the Year - Retiring after 43 years of service  
 Penny Pratt, Support Employee of the Year  
 Mark Gideon, Transportation Director  
 Retiring after 28 years of service  
 Leonard Luna, Support Employee of the Year

***EUFULA FFA PROGRAM***

***David Turner, FFA Instructor***

The Eufaula FFA Program under the leadership of David Turner has sparked a renewed interest with membership increasing from 55 members to 106 members this year. With this new interest in the FFA program, the 8th grade Agricultural Explorations/Orientation Program has been reinstated. The members and the Chapter have earned a number of awards and recognition over this school year that

*The Opening and Closing Ceremonies Team won Area Competition and the only team of 24 teams to qualify for State.*

*Eighteen Eufaula FFA Members attended the Made for Excellence Conference.*

*Eufaula FFA Members attended 8 Livestock Shows on the Local, County, Area, Regional, District and State Levels.*

*Thirty-Five Eufaula FFA Members are Registered to attend the OK FFA Alumni Leadership Camp this summer.*

*Members attended seven speech contests, qualifying three members for Area, two members for District and one member for State*

*The Local Livestock Premium Sale grossed \$39,130.00 this year.*

*The Eufaula FFA Program hosted Jackpot Show for Area Chapters.*

*Twenty-Four Members earned the right to attend the Oklahoma FFA State Convention.*

*The Eufaula FFA Chapter was the Top Selling "Single-Teacher" Chapter with the Blue and Gold Sausage Sales.*

***2009-2010 School Calendar***

August 3	Prepare Rooms
August 4	Professional Day
August 5	Professional Day
August 6	Classes Begin
September 7	No School /Labor Day
September 17 & 18	Parent/Teacher Conf
October 9	End of 1st Nine Weeks
October 15	OEA Conference/No School
October 16	Student/Faculty Holiday
November 23 -27	Thanksgiving Break
December 18,	End of 1st Semester
Dec 21, 2009 to Jan 1	Christmas Break
January 4	Professional Day
January 5	Classes Resume
January 18	Professional Day
February 15	President's Day
February 18 & 19	Parent/ Teacher Conf
March 12	End of 3rd Nine Weeks
March 15 to March 19	Spring Break
April 2 & 5	Good Friday/Easter Holiday

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**Heads Up**

**Board of Education**

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 Ms. Margaret Dobbs, Vice-President  
 Ms. Shirley Breedlove, Clerk  
 Mr. Chuck Boss, Member  
 Dr. Jeff Pippenger, Member