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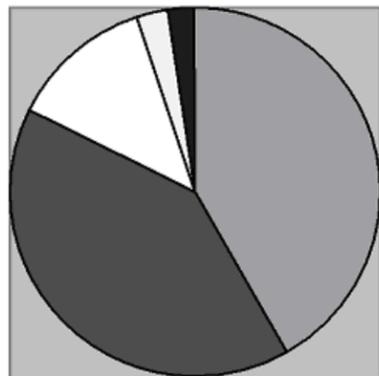
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THE Lightning PRESS



VOLUME 8, ISSUE 3

Eastview Poll shows dead heat between Bush and Kerry



■ Kerry	41.8%
■ Bush	40.4%
□ Undecided	12.9%
□ Refuse to vote	2.7%
■ Nader	2.2%

This is the percentage breakdown of responses to the question, "Which candidate would you vote for or are you undecided?" This poll solicited responses from a mix of honors and non-honors social studies and English sections in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 on October 18. While 225 students were polled, this was not a scientific poll. The margins closely correlate to present Minnesota opinion polls.

Students Polarized as Election Nears

Race between Bush and Kerry set for photo finish

by James P. Hohmann
Editor-in-Chief

Eastview students are polarized and divided between John Kerry and George Bush as the race moves into its final week, a survey of 225 students has found. The Eastview poll, conducted last week, finds an almost even split between Bush and Kerry with a strong block of undecided students. The Eastview poll found a slight edge (definitely within the margin of error) for Kerry.

While not able to all vote, ninth through twelfth graders are strongly committed to their choice for president.

Supporters of Senator John Kerry tend to be motivated more by a dislike for George Bush than a support for Kerry. Elections with an incumbent often become this kind of referendum on the incumbent. Josh Allen calls Kerry "the lesser of two evils."

Most Kerry supporters have been convinced that their candidate has a better plan to deal with issues in Iraq abroad, and health care, the economy, and education at home. There is an overlap in the issues important to Democrats and Republicans in this race. Senior Sarah Krauthem says, "I feel Bush has been incredibly irresponsible with the war in Iraq, both fiscally and socially. John Kerry has a more planned out idea for the situation. Krauthem, while using Iraq as a strong justification for a Kerry vote, names equal rights issues like "abortion/ gay marriage/ etc." as most important.



WHAT WILL MAKE THE DIFFERENCE? Appearance and stereotypes define candidates. These photos represent America's differing perceptions of each candidate. (All photos from patriotblog.com)

Bush attacks on Kerry seem to be working though, as even Kerry supporters in the poll surprisingly were apt to label their choice as 'cocky,' 'arrogant,' 'confusing,' or a 'flip-flopper.' The decision to still support Kerry demonstrates an even stronger dislike for the President.

George Bush supporters feel their man is the right choice to handle the challenges surrounding terrorism and the war in Iraq and generally have a more positive view of their candidate. Bush supporters tended to express a belief that John Kerry does not have what it takes to be president. Sophomore Alee Schimke supports Bush because she says, "he is a stable presi-

dent and knows how best to defend our country."

Many Bush supporters say they want to stay the course in the war on terror and finish the job in Iraq. Lauren Rauchwarter fears that "the transition of power in the middle of war could be hard." Megan Hall thinks Bush "should be able to finish up everything he started in Iraq."

The President was described as 'religious' by more than 35 students but only one student described 'religious' as the first adjective to come to mind for describing Kerry. Religious voters are concerned about a swath of issues from credibility/trust to gay marriage to **SURVEY continues on page 2**

Teen Gambling at Eastview on the Rise

by Grace Welter
Entertainment Editor

Eastview Gamblers Raise Stakes; Faculty Eyebrows

Most students are aware of the fact that card-playing and gambling are forbidden at EVHS. Repeated gambling offenses can lead to expulsion. Technically, gambling is "playing a game of chance for stakes." Thanks to recent cultural developments such as Celebrity Poker and World Poker Tour coverage, gambling has gained popularity at EVHS. Teen gambling has also increased due to the internet--online casinos are incredibly accessible to anyone with a credit card and the means to set up an account.

Students in all grades play cards not only at home on most weekends, but at school in study halls. "People play in study halls on credit," said one junior, who asked to be quoted anonymously, "The money's not in front of them, so lots of guys are down hundreds of dollars. Everybody knows

who they are, because everybody keeps track of who's up or down."

In an unscientific survey of 60 EVHS students, 35% of them admitted to gambling with cards for money. 40% said they were making a profit, but sophomore Zach Goldbach said, "Everybody says that they're up, and lies about losing." 63% of all males surveyed said they gamble, a percentage far stronger than the amount of female gamblers.

Why are so many more gamblers male? Speculation amongst those polled is that males "take more risks" than girls, and that females "are not as competitive." Just 7% of the girls gamble at all, and 50% are winners. Some girls are unsure of what constitutes gambling. When asked if she was a gambler, Caitlin Boon said, "If betting a Chipotle burrito on a little

boys' soccer game is gambling, then yes, I gamble."

According to Mr. Percival, EVHS administrators deal with card-playing and things that lead to gambling far more frequently than money actually changing hands. "I can count the number of times we've had to deal with true gambling on one hand," he said.

A gambler's profile is not set in stone. Often, gamblers who lose are victims of upperclassmen gamblers taking advantage of underclassmen. Gamblers can be A to F students, can be wealthy or poor, and can be involved in activities at Eastview.

But most student gamblers have one thing in common: they say they gamble for entertainment. Winning is exhilarating; it's as simple as that. They love the challenge of gambling. Others, like Mike Urbanski, say: "It's

an easy way to hang out with friends, and a chance to make some extra money."

A few students said they held poker tournaments on weekends. Whether or not parents are home is not mentioned, and supposedly these tournaments are open to anyone willing to come and play. One tournament was reported to have been as long as 72 hours.

The most popular card games played are no limit Texas and Omaha hold 'em. No limit means that at any time in a hand, a player can bet everything he has. Less popular games are 7 card stud, 7 card stud high low, Omaha high low, draw poker, and a variation of 7 card stud called razz, where the lowest hand wins. Texas hold 'em is most often played during school hours at Eastview.

NEWS FEATURE

“You may take the field in competition!”

Elective Marching Band Seen as a Success

by Mike Graves
Staff Writer

Aided by the tapping of a snare drum, the marching band takes the field for another halftime performance. But something about this year's band is different than bands in previous years. Unlike in previous years, marching band is now an elective class. No longer will students in grades 10-12 be forced to participate in marching band if they wish to continue in the normal band track. This change was brought about by band directors Bill Henry, Frank Pasquerella, and Don Donais.

Last year's overall disappointing year caused the directors to re-evaluate the band program. Rosemount High School successfully transitioned to an all-volunteer marching band two years ago. Their new-found top standing was an example for Eastview directors who noticed apathy from those at practice.

Armed with a new attitude and unofficial slogan (“You Chose This”), the band hoped that having only students who chose to participate would help routines flow smoother. The students were not allowed to forget that the band was now ‘their band.’ Everyday, the directors remind anyone complaining that they chose marching band voluntarily.

At first, the new idea seemed to have little effect. By the time of the first com-

band eventually performed better. The scores that Eastview received showed improvement and became the highest scores that an Eastview band has earned in eight years.

It appears that the decision to make marching band an elective had a positive affect on the program. Spirits are high. Underclass students are already talking about next season. The directors are certainly pleased of student accomplishments. Mr. Pasquerella confessed to me at the start of the season, “All I know is that if we can catch people doing the right thing, then we can pull off something incredible this year. But if people don't put forth the effort that they said they would when they signed up for this, then you're all going to be a bunch of disappointed kids and I'd hate to be standing by you when those scores come.”

The team shaped up after a disappointing start and became the best band Eastview has fielded in its history. The final competition of the season in Ankeny, Iowa brings out perennial powerhouses. The Lightning left with a surprising third place finish.

Eastview Marching Band 2004- “Faces of American Music”-Season Overview

- Four pieces of music: “Pieces of Eight: Steve's Pulse” by Steven Reiche; “Caravan” by Duke Ellington; “Promise of the Living” by Aaron Copland; and “On the Waterfront” by Leonard Bernstein.
- State Fair performance in August
- 9th grade orientation in September
- Two home football games in September (3, 10) and two in October (8, 20)
- 7th place finish at Champlin Park show-September 11
- Host to Eastview show-September 25
- 2nd place finish at Anoka show-October 2
- 3rd place finish at Rosemount show-October 10
- 3rd place finish at Mid-Iowa Marching Band Championships at Ankeny, Iowa-October 16

petition, the final show was not even completed. The band stood and played the last piece of music, and spirits were low all around when scores were announced. But the band slowly grew used to having more efficient practices. The

SURVEY Continued from page one

abortion to faith in public life. Jenny Wesser supports the president, she says, because “Bush represents my Christian beliefs.”

At Eastview, a sizable 13% of students polled have been unimpressed with either candidate and remain undecided. Undecided voters are a smaller part of national opinion polls than in the Eastview poll. This might be because most students polled will not need to vote on November 2 and do not feel pressure to make up their minds. Most of the undecided surveyed express a dislike for President Bush but are unconvinced by John Kerry.

Summing up Bush as an airhead but Kerry as indecisive, Brittany Sawyer laments that “I think Bush is a terrible president, but I'm not sure Kerry would do a much better job.”

In an election where both candidates have an almost equally strong level of support, how the undecided break in the last two weeks will make the difference. The undecided traditionally split towards the challenger because they want a fresh start. It is thought though that many undecided will rally behind the Commander-in-Chief this election cycle because they do not want to change course during the War on Terror and in Iraq. A

majority of Americans believe that the US is currently fighting a war, and no president in US history has ever been defeated during wartime. Others undecided by Election Day will likely not vote at all.



DEBATE: Millions of voters (including the EV students pictured) tuned in to watch the presidential debates. The debates play a key role for swing voters.

Undecided voters largely found something they liked and did not like about the candidates during the presidential debates. Many at Eastview said they watched the debate when asked. National opinion polls showed that Kerry gained some

traction during the debates among swing voters by dispelling the caricature painted by Team Bush that Kerry could not take a firm standing on the issues. In another way, the debate only reinforced previously held views of the candidates and fired up the base.

Senior Allen Chung supports Bush on domestic issues but has serious concerns about his economic trade policies. He says, “I hate outsourcing and would vote for Kerry on that issue, but I like what Bush is doing about education.”

Alexa Larsen is undecided, she says, because “I don't really like Bush's plan for the economy, but I don't think Kerry is prepared [to be Commander-in-Chief].”

An unseen event (October surprise) in the final week of the campaign could make the difference and change the course of the election and history. What will the headlines be when we wake up on November 3rd?

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The Lightning Press is an open forum for student expression. This paper is dedicated to the free expression of the thoughts and opinions of the students of Eastview High School. However, the articles and opinions of the bylined author(s) do not necessarily reflect the opinions of Independent School District 196, the administration of Eastview High School or all members of the Editorial Board. All information is current as of October 20, 2004. Our mission as the Editorial Board of the Lightning Press is to provide a quality publication for Eastview High School that reflects the thoughts and opinions of the students currently attending EVHS. Extra attention has been given to the election because the Lightning Press Editorial Board believes this is an issue worth covering and debating. An effort has been made to provide objective, fair, balanced, and honest information and opinions about both candidates, their views, and the views of the voters.

ENTERTAINMENT

Regal Regales Audiences; Can Carmike Compete?

by Jennifer Henderson
Lightning Reporter

Though the summer rush of new movies has passed, it doesn't mean Hollywood hasn't got anything up its sleeve. With the recent opening of big blockbusters like *Shark Tale* and *Ladder 49*, and not to mention new movies just around the bend, the familiar question arises, "Which theater to go to?" To make that decision a little easier, I've put the two big theaters in the area in a head-to-head match, the Regal in Eagan versus the Carmike in Apple Valley.

SEATING: Both theaters are generally new, so there is no surprise that both are equipped with stadium seating, a blessing for those who are stuck behind that really tall person. As for screens, the Regal has two giant screens, compared to Carmike's single giant screen. Because of this, the edge in this category goes to: **Regal.**

PRICES: With movie prices constantly on the rise, a cheap movie can be hard to find. Both theaters have \$8.00 adult ticket prices in the evening, with the Regal giving students a break, with a student ticket costing \$6.50. To

avoid long lines and shelling out eight bucks, many choose to go early to catch a matinee showing. Regal charges \$6.00 for its matinee showings, while Carmike charges only \$5.25, with a "super-bargain matinee" (the last showing before 6 p.m.) costing only \$3.75. Since the closing of the Marcus theater in Apple Valley (does anyone remember \$1.00 Tuesdays?), Carmike's last matinee is arguably the best deal in town. **Edge: Carmike.**

MOVIES: As expected, both theaters offer a variety of the newest and most popular films. If you're searching for *Taxi*, *Wimbledon*, or *Sky Captain and the World of Tomorrow*, you'll have no trouble finding them at either theater. For

the independent movie fans out there, your search may be a little more difficult. Granted, the best place to catch an independent, smaller budget film is Minneapolis; locally your best bet is the Regal, which will usually reserve one or two screens for those smaller scale movies.

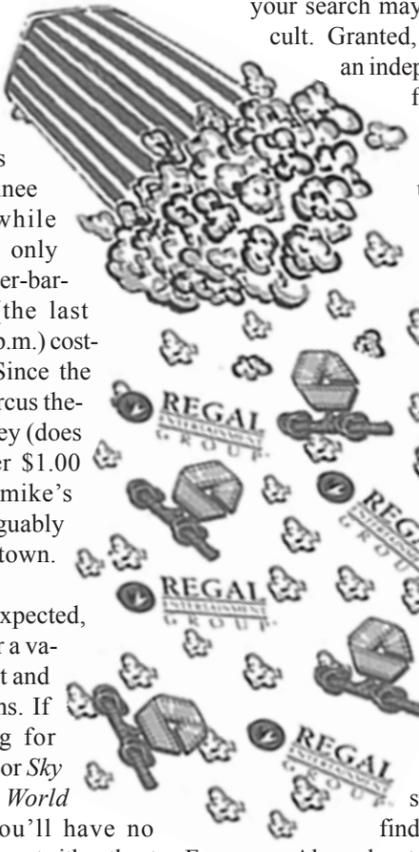
Currently, you can catch critic favorites such as *Napoleon Dynamite*, *Shaun of the Dead*, and *Hero*. With its mix of big blockbusters and lesser know films, the edge is awarded to: **Regal.**

SERVICE AND OTHER FACTORS: In the interest of convenience and giving customers a steady supply of cash, you can find ATMs in both theaters. Also, when trying to get popular tick-

ets, both theaters use the services of Fandango, a no-wait way to get tickets. With that extra cash and extra time, both theaters offer a comparable concession stand, with nothing considerably out of the ordinary in either. For those lucky enough to already own a "Regalator," refills of the giant cup are only a dollar. Before driving over to the Carmike, keep in mind that its parking lot tends to fill up fast and on opening night, so be ready to park in the nearby transit station. Regal's spacious lot usually has spots open, though some may be many closer to Taco Bell than the theater. **Edge: Tie.**

Overall, both theaters are good choices. For those pinching every penny, a drive down to the Carmike in Apple Valley is just the ticket for you. If you don't mind spending a bit more, the Regal is sufficient to catch a variety of movies, perhaps even on the giant screen. Whichever you choose for your next movie, it's sure to be a great decision.

Graphic: Britta Nicholson



Bands Offhand

Getting started on some local bands



by Jen Ortendahl
Lightning Reporter

Pretty much every band dreams of making it big, but obviously they don't start out famous. New bands form all the time and more kids are getting involved. Not too long ago the bands everyone know and loved were playing at their local venues for crowds smaller than the number of students surrounding you in your classroom.

So who could be the next big thing? Allies in Chaos recently played at Cheap Thrills in St. Cloud. They could be described as alternative rock with a bit of screamo, but bassist Zach Roth says to see for yourself because, "We move and we'll get you to move. Come for a rockin' good time."

Four Letter Lie was the first of two bands playing in the Ascot Room at The Quest. According to the lead vocalist, Brian Nagan, "People should come see our show for one reason and one reason only. We love the music we play and we put 150 percent into everything we do." In a live show, that definitely makes a difference. If the band you're seeing is into it that much, it's almost impossible to not have a good time.

As great as Four Letter Lie was, the last band would rock anyone's socks. Maybe you've heard of The Semester since two of the members go to Burnsville High School. The Semester

formed in fall of 2003. The group is made up of four guys from Minneapolis, and they released their first 4-song EP in early 2004. The EP can be picked up at any of their shows. The Semester's last show, was last week at the Enigma on October 22. They're probably going to be touring all of next summer, which would be a great chance for everyone to go see them.

Making a band isn't easy. "It's hard finding the right mix of people, and it doesn't matter how good of musicians you have in your band if you don't have the right chemistry," says Pat Brown of The Semester. "It won't work, no matter what."

The average audience size for these bands is around 30-50 people. The Garage in Burnsville is a great place to see local teen bands as well as the Toy Box in Inver Grove Heights.

The great thing about local shows is how intimate it is. The band is right there, you can interact with them before and after the show, and you don't have to deal with the mass amount of fans you think aren't worthy of being there. No matter what type of music you're into, you can find someone in your area who's passionate enough to get more involved with their kind of music. To find information on any of these bands or to find a band you might like, try www.purevolume.com.

Hidden Talent

Pit orchestra an integral part of musical

by Sarah Gustafson
Lightning Reporter

Year after year, audiences are amazed by the amount of talent in school musicals. Each production is comprised of dance, onstage banter, and music. Vocalists and instrumentalists alike agree that every member of the musical is vitally important to making a great show.

But one group is often overlooked, mainly because they are not positioned directly onstage with the rest of the cast. This is, of course, the pit orchestra. Being

musical by nature, the production depends on the pit orchestra to set the mood for each act, scene, and song. This is precisely why the group's director, Mr. Frank Pasquerella says that "The pit orchestra is a central part...you can have the chorus and leads, but without the pit orchestra, you just have piano." Every person, whether it be a brass player or percussionist, has a huge responsibility to make each performance his or her best.

Considering the tremendously large impact the instrumental music has on a production, each member of the pit orchestra is expected to be familiar with

their individual parts before collaborating with the whole ensemble. Eventually, they collaborate with the full cast. Each member is given two weeks to learn their parts independently. By the third week, the chorus and leads get together with the pit orchestra to hear how parts fit together.

Once everyone gets a feel for how everything should sound, the pit orchestra moves into the theatre two weeks before opening night. Everyone's hard work and dedication definitely pay off in the end,

when they shock the crowds with an exciting new show.

So what can an audience member expect from this year's show, **Into The Woods**? The story is a mixture of classic fairy tales, all with a twist. It showcases characters like a rapping witch, an ambivalent Cinderella, a Prince Charming with a roving eye, and a bloodthirsty Little Red Ridinghood. Big numbers include "Giants in the Sky" and "It Takes Two." Most of the music is classical, unlike last year's jazz-oriented musical, **Anything Goes**. The pit orchestra will be smaller than previous years, but they are sure to astonish audiences with their musical talents.

Come check out *Into The Woods*, on December 11, 16, 17, and 18 at 7:30 p.m. or December 12 at 2 pm. Tickets are \$9 for adults, \$7 for senior citizens, and \$5 for students.

FEATURE

New Clubs Abound at Eastview

Sign Language and Book Clubs offer students more ways to get involved

by Kelsey Boeff
Lightning Reporter

When Amanda Smith came to EVHS this year, there were many students that realized there was a difference between themselves and Amanda. The difference was not in the color of her skin, the way she wore her hair, but by the way Amanda expresses herself through sign language.

The newly formed sign language club has 20 members and was created out of a suggestion from Amanda's friends, thinking that many others may be interested in learning how to sign. Right now Amanda and a couple of interpreters lead the group, and according to them it only takes a few months to learn the basics.

Amanda would recommend joining this club because "it is fun to communicate with your hands." And because there are many deaf people living in this area it "would be nice if more people would know how to communicate with them". This group meets every Wednesday after school. To join or get more information, please contact Amanda Smith, Ms. Schaeffer (B229) or the school interpreters.

For those of you with a creative side, this next club is for you. Quilting club meets every Monday from 2:30-4:30 in C 139. This is a group that will accept the true beginner in the craft as well as the seasoned quilter.

Each member is involved with making a quilt of their own. The actual design is the same for everyone, yet these quilts have the individual quilter's personal touch.

These colorful designs involve many steps to create. From cutting fabric to adding decorative stitching these quilts are as unique as the quilters. Other items the club spends time working on are wall

hangings and scarves. The scarves that the group creates are given to charity for Christmas.

If you are into creating really unique presents for a birthday, Mother's day or just enjoy beautiful crafts for yourself, then the quilting club at EVHS is something you should join.

Contact Ms. Newell with any questions, you can find her in the

guidance area or stop by at any of the meetings, and enjoy all the colorful creations.

If you enjoy snuggling in on a cold

winter night in front of a fireplace with a good book, then Eastview's book club is for you.

The club has 26 current members. According to Ms. Donais they "try to vary the styles and genre of the books as much as possible". All the recommendations come from the students, advisors, and

staff at Barnes & Noble. The books chosen represent the majority interest in the club. The first book to be read this year is Bram Stoker's "Dracula". This book was chosen because of Halloween. Ms. Strey feels this will be "an exciting read because the book is written in the form of journal entries." Discussions will be of interest when the book is compared to the movie which some individuals have already

seen. If there is enough member interest they may have a movie day feature with "Dracula".

Kate Peterson and Nathan Clay both have been members for more than 2 years and unanimously agree that book club is great way to read a variety of books. They have enjoyed many of the books they would not otherwise read.

Most of the members also belong to other organizations but say Book Club is different from the other activities they participate in because as Kate says "it is easy going." You do not have to read the book to attend the discussion. "You can just go and hang out with the other members."

Advisors Ms Donais would like all of you to know "even though this is a book club run by two English teachers, we do not give quizzes on the books, nor do we expect every student who comes to Book Club meetings has to have memorized the book's content."

The club generally reads 5-6 books a year. There is a discussion get together with food every 4-6 weeks. Their meetings are at the Apple Valley Barnes and Noble.

So if you are looking to meet some new people, have great conversations and share some laughter and food, check out the EVHS book club. For more information contact: Ms Strey A308 or Ms. Donais C230.



Photo: Kelsey Boeff

GETTING INVOLVED: New student Amanda Smith helps teach Sign Language

Wear the New Shoes for the Marathon: Homecoming 2004

by McKenna Ewen
Lightning Reporter

When asking that ideal date to Homecoming, it is universally accepted that you do something original and sentimental. Yet, is it really as crucial as everyone talks it up to be? Sure, the rose petal serenades, flower bouquets, and painted cars are wonderful, but is that what is truly most important about the weekend?

With the anxiety of Homecoming being built up in the previous weeks, the majority of guys along with some of Eastview's boldest girls stressed out about how to ask that special someone to this year's dance. However, we have learned that the way you ask is not necessarily the most important thing contrary to popular belief. The main concern for many of Eastview's beloved teens is simply TO GO! Given that the way you do ask does affect the mood of the evening itself, many kids spend much more time worrying about how to ask then it actually deserves. When our parents were growing up, asking a girl to a formal dance consisted of some quivering knees and a little conversation. But now, guys have to make mad dashes to Flowerama so they can fill their special someone's room up with 10,000 flowers each symbolizing the way the sun reflects off the beautiful color of their eyes.

Now ladies, don't get me wrong, I am not trying to let your guys get off

easy. Here is the deal, while the guys focus all their ideas on the way they ask, where is your bouquet of flowers on Homecoming night? It is like a secret trap, where you tempt the girls with roses, get them to commit, then Homecoming night they want to know where the rose guy went. It is truly unfair. Personally, wouldn't it make more sense to buy or make something equally romantic for the night itself? It is almost as if you're training for a marathon with brand new shoes, but then once the real thing comes you wear your shoes from 2 years ago. C'mon guys, pull out the new shoes for the marathon.

Maybe it is just me being silly, but more of the creativity should be put towards the dance itself. If you're going to go all out on the way you ask, shouldn't you go all out for the whole thing? I'm not talking baby blue suits, I'm referring to making your date a card, burning a CD, opening doors, and things of that sort for the night of the dance.

With all of this being said, the annual Sadie Hawkins dance will be coming up shortly. It is a chance for all those girls out there to show up the guys for the whole night, not just a couple minutes. So just remember, if you going to tempt the guys with candy, hugs, and smooches, there better be lots of candy, hugs, and smooches for the night itself.

Flashing Colors in Marching Band: The Colorguard

by Ally Huang
Lightning Reporter

If you pay attention to the halftime shows at the football games, you probably have heard the marching band play. Have you noticed the people dancing among the band members, waving those huge flags? Those people are the proud members of the Colorguard. This year, there are seventeen guard members, ranging from freshman to seniors. Their captain for this year is Shannon Russell, a junior.

The role of Colorguard in marching band is to provide visual effects to accompany the music played by the band. They accomplish this by using various props, ranging from multi-colored flags to wooden rifles. "The hardest flag to use and spin is the last flag of show. We refer to it as 'The Bed Sheet' because it's so big," says Megan Rosenau, a junior guard member. The easiest flag for most of them is called the ballad flag because it's smaller and lighter than the other flags.

This year, Colorguard has added another prop to their show: 8 foot tall red metal poles. According to some members, this has added some difficulty in their already-challenging routine. For most of the Colorguard, the hardest thing about Colorguard is remembering all of the moves and choreography, being able to do them, and then getting them in sync out on

the field. The easiest? "Meeting people and making new friends!" says freshman member, Ruthie Pottratz. Most of the other members would agree that this is true and is also the best thing about Colorguard.

On an average, the Colorguard practices two or three times a week though they have to practice four times the last week of the season. A normal practice for the Colorguard would consist of going over all of the steps and moves they have already learned and learn any new ones that need to be learned. The director, Marie Prebonich, comes up with the choreography.

Learning the routine, as mentioned before, is one of the hardest things about Colorguard. First, they learn the choreography and movements, and after they have mastered that, they work on putting it all in sync. Like band members, they also have to count while performing their routine, so as to stay with the rest of the guard and the band.

So far this year, the Colorguard has performed with the marching band in several competitions around the area and halftime at football games.

If Colorguard sounds interesting to you, or you just want to be in marching band but you don't play an instrument, the current members of the Colorguard encourage anyone and everyone to join next year. It's very fun and an easy way to get exercise!

FEATURE

S.O.S: Seniors = Overly Stressed

Organized College Apps Reduce Senior Stress

by Becca Habegger
Lightning Reporter

Well, it's *that* time of year again: Party City is dealing with its annual staff melt down as the Halloween rush peaks, students are realizing that 1st quarter is almost over and that perhaps they should start worrying about that C- in science class, and seniors succumb to super-stress-season (oh, the beauty of alliteration) with college applications.

Now, seniors, if you're anything like me, you found that there was a lot more to those applications than you originally thought. At this point, however, I'm pretty sure that we're all at different stages of the application process. But no matter how far along you are, you're bound to be stressed, (unless you're superhuman or a comatose vegetable). I set out to find a couple tips to help ease the burden – both firsthand *and* from the experts – so here are the fruits of my labor:

College applications can be broken down into three distinct areas: teacher/counselor recommendations, essays/

personal statements, and “the facts” (academic record, demographic information, school involvement/awards, etc). If you know what you're doing, all these aspects of the application process can be completed with a minimal amount of stress.

1) To Organize (for your own sanity): Get onto the website of every school you are applying to and write down:

- A) when their application deadline is,
- B) the address of their admissions office, and
- C) what kind of application they accept: their own, the “common application” (if you don't what that is, log onto commonapp.org and find out – it could save you a lot of work!), or either.

Put all this information into a word document and you'll have a nice, organized-by-school sheet of essential info that will come in *very* handy later on. According to Ed Hollinger, a

guidance counselor and writer for Campus Life Magazine, “Good organization saves time, avoids frustration and keeps you from missing all-important deadlines.” Oh, and keep in good touch with your counselor – they want to see you succeed as much as *you* do!

2) Teacher/Counselor Recommendations: Get the “how-to-ask-teachers-for-letters-of-recommendation” packet from the guidance office – the checklist and guiding examples in it will be lifesavers! Be sure you have a teacher recommendation form from *each* of the schools you're applying to, (unless more than one school accepts the common application, in which case copies are perfectly acceptable).

3) Essays/Personal Statements: Just be *you*. According to Ruth Senter, writer for Campus Life Magazine, “An essay gives [the admission panel] a picture of you they'd have a hard time getting any other way. More than just sharing information about you [and

getting a feel for how well you write], an essay shows the admission staff how you think... Above all, be positive and personal. Write as though you're having a conversation with someone. When admission counselors finish your essay, they should feel like they know you.” So be original and have some fun!

4) “The Facts”: Pretty simple; Just organize. Make sure you have all the blanks filled in and that you're not leaving out any activity you've participated in or award you've received – nothing is really too small to include if it shows off your involvement/accomplishments. Oh, and colleges love to see leadership!

So between my personal experience and Campus Life Magazine, you're covered! Follow the simple tips above and, hopefully, you can spare yourself some agony. And throughout all the stress remember: this is supposed to be an exciting time – you're planning for your bright and wonderful future!

by Jon Friedman
Staff Columnist

Canned Spam

Hey, everybody! Welcome again to Canned Spam. Let's see, should I beat a dead horse and talk about homecoming? Maybe I won't for now. Besides, I'd be attacked by PETA again for the whole horse thing.

I would like to mention though that in response to recent events, it's come to my attention that after this year, I will have graduated (fingers crossed) and no longer writing this article. What does that mean? Perhaps some other aspiring writer would care to take over for me.

If you are interested, I'm taking ideas for questions to ask in later Canned Spam issues, to see if someone is capable of coming up with stupid enough questions. E-mail ideas to me, friedmje1@hotmail.com and we'll talk!

I guess I better get to the questions before you guys start an angry mob.

- 1) What took your breath away during homecoming week?
- 2) Why do birds suddenly appear every time you're near?
- 3) Who's cooler: Zapp or the Pillsbury Doughboy, and why?
- 4) What is your favorite smell during the fall?

5) Quote.
Freshman – Paul Houser

- 1) “Don Donais.”
- 2) “I have birdseed in my ears.”
- 3) “Pillsbury Doughboy, because Zapp has knee-high socks.”



4) “I love the smell of burning pumpkins.”

5) “The toughest time in anyone's life is when you have to kill a loved one just because they're the devil.”
Sophomore – David Pachuta

1) “Connor Mack.”
2) “Because I'm cool like that.”

3) “Doughboy, because you can poke him in the stomach, and he makes a funny noise.”

4) “Bonfires smell good.”
5) “Popcorn is the best food in the world.”

Junior – Sarah Gustafson
1) “Jon Friedman being the king,

of course!”

2) “Apparently birds are attracted to me.”

3) “The Pillsbury Doughboy because he has a squeaky voice... Zapp never talks.”

4) “My mom's apple pie!”
5) “Anyone who thinks sunshine is happiness has never danced in the rain.”

Senior – Becca Habegger
1) “Mono. I had respiratory problems.”

2) “Because I smell like worms.”
3) “Mutated version of the Pillsbury Zappboy.”

4) “The smell of carving pumpkins.”
5) “If being late is fashionable, then I'm Louis Vuitton.”

Registration Fees Rising

by Becky Griffith
Staff Writer

The cost of registration fees for sports and speech activities have risen over recent years because of reduced funding from the district and state government. Booster clubs are increasing the number of required fundraisers to reduce cost for students.

The result, however, is that students' families still pay a lot for their involvement. The softball program this year is requiring all JV and Varsity players to sell or pay \$300 in poinsettias or Twins tickets. The money will go towards their spring training trip to Florida, plus the annual cost of buses, tournament fees, and facility use.

Some boosters offer discounts for families in the program. Tennis participants, for example, have to buy their own uniforms and a portion of the purchase goes to the boosters.

Mr. Miller in the Main Office is the person to see about financial difficulties. A payment plan, the most commonly used method for those in need, can be worked out with him, or if a student receives free or reduced price lunch, they get another deal. The \$70 for freshmen activities, and the \$90 for the other grades is waived for that student, but he or she is accountable for all other fees associated with the activity unless they talk with the advisor.

There are options available to all students to raise money outside of school. One way is to write letters to family or friends asking for donate.

Not being able to afford the entry fee for an activity is no excuse for a student at Eastview to not participate. People are here to help those who need; all they need to do is ask.

German Club Celebrates Oktober Fest



Photo: Kate Peterson

SPRACHEN SIE DEUTSCH? The German Club convened to celebrate Oktober Fest late last month. A variety of German and non-German speakers enjoyed authentic *Essen* and *Trinken*. The German Club has grown over the past few years, and veteran members said they were impressed by the large turnout at last month's activity. German Club is organizing a November activity. Mrs. Sonnenberg in B226 is advising the club this year and welcomes new members.

ELECTION 2004 OPINION

A New Hope vs. Seasoned Leadership

Politically polarized students Mark Payne and Erik Didrikson support their candidates in this battle of words

John Kerry '04

by Mark Payne
Lightning Reporter

There is going to be a lot at stake on November 2nd. We cannot afford four more years of bad leadership.

There is a widespread belief that President Bush is keeping our country safe. The opposite is true. President Bush failed to capture bin Laden when he was cornered in Afghanistan because he was

gearing up to attack Iraq. Yet, Iraq had nothing to do with 9/11. There was no connection between Iraq and Al Qaeda and many people feel the invasion of Iraq was not

warranted. In fact, there were no weapons of mass destruction even though Bush disagreed, and more than 800 soldiers have been killed after Bush declared, "Mission Accomplished".

Even though the Iraq War is a big issue in this campaign, more people are becoming concerned with economic issues. In his presidency, over 45 million Americans still remain without health insurance, and Medicare premiums are up.

According to the Economic Policy Institute, we are in the worst job slump since the great depression. If the unemployment rate keeps rising, Bush will become the first president since Herbert Hoover to lose jobs in his term in office. Why is that? Maybe it's because Bush keeps giving tax breaks

to large corporations that ship our jobs overseas, including outsourcing high paying American jobs to countries like India. The cost of living for working families is skyrocketing, and many Americans cannot afford the basic necessities of life.

John Kerry has a better plan for America. His plan includes lowering healthcare premiums by \$1,000 for some families, cutting taxes for the

middle class, and something very important for us students; making college more affordable with a new 50 billion dollar a year "College Opportunity Tax Credit".

Bush, however, does

not have a good plan for education. He under funded the "No Child Left Behind Act" by 28 billion dollars. He even cut 100 million dollars from the Perkins loan programs that help students pay for college.

John Kerry is also committed to helping Iraq by securing the support of our allies so they can share the burden of rebuilding that country, and Kerry will see that Iraqi security forces are trained better and faster, so they can take the place of our armed forces.

Bush has made a lot of enemies invading Iraq, which is obvious from the lack of support we have gotten from our allies. John Kerry is committed to building an America that is stronger at home and respected in the world. America cannot afford four more years of Bush.



Source: Reuters

George Bush '04

by Erik Didrikson
Lightning Reporter

America was attacked on September 11th, and President Bush has shown himself to be the right man in these tough three years by not only valiantly safeguarding the American homeland but also by building a stronger economy and improving programs for children and retirees.

President Bush stood with a bullhorn at Ground Zero on September 14, 2004, and he declared, "I hear you. America hears you. And pretty soon, the people who did this are going to hear us all." Hear us they have. America has wiped out Al Qaeda's safe haven in Afghanistan. Two-thirds of Al Qaeda leadership has been killed or captured. Their money

supply has been severely crimped, and they struggle to find new recruits. America took the war to rogue states who threaten America as well. President Bush saw a threat in Iraq and he acted. America is safer now with Saddam in a prison, and the nation is on track towards democracy. On the home front, Bush pursued the largest reorganization in the federal government in fifty years when he created the Department of Homeland Security. The post 9-11 leadership of George Bush is almost unrivalled in history.

President Bush has also shown political leadership by acting on issues that have been ignored for decades by a reluctant and bickering congress. George Bush proved himself to be a uniter on education when he passed

the greatest reform in federal education policy ever. He challenged the soft bigotry of low expectations, and he challenged students and teachers to perform. As a result, schools are improving. President Bush finally passed a prescription drug benefit for Medicare so that seniors can get essential medical care previously denied to them.

This President inherited a recession from his predecessor, and he fought for some of the most significant tax relief packages in American history. As a result of the Bush tax cuts, home ownership is at an all time high and the economy is strong. 1.9 million jobs have been created in the last twelve months alone.

Even if you do not like George Bush and you disagree with some of what he has done, the most important factor to consider is that this he is the best candidate in a race between George Bush and John Forbes Kerry, the most liberal US senator. America can not afford John Kerry. The senator from Tax-achusetts wants to increase spending (and invariably your taxes) by \$2.1 trillion. This is a man who shifts with the political winds and has as many positions on each issue as his wife's ketchup company has varieties. Kerry has to 'google' his own name to find out where he stands on the issues.

George Bush will not let America drift towards tragedy on his watch. Bush will create an America both stronger and wealthier at home and more respected in the world.



Photo: James Hohmann

An Amendment to Protect our Flag

Guest Commentary on Respecting America

by Robert Hambrock
Staff Writer

The flag. A symbol of American democracy, military might, and diplomacy worldwide. Revered across the world for its power and as the symbol of the great nation it represents. Disrespected across the world by insurgents and nationalists great and small. In protests domestic and foreign, this great symbol is disgraced and defaced time and again in the name of free speech, protest, and assembly. A new resolution is currently in the US Senate to ban the desecration of the American flag as an amendment to the Constitution.

Historically, this subject has been sensitive for years. The Supreme Court has ruled twice, in 5-4 decisions in both *Texas v. Johnson* and *U.S. v. Eichman* that flag desecration is protected by the first amendment

as freedom of speech. Congress has tried to legislate this in the 1989 Flag Protection Act, which the Supreme Court failed to recognize in its second decision on the matter. This token measure

to protect the flag with a statute was only proved inadequate and serves to justify the need for a constitution amendment.

The current resolution is not the first time an amendment has been proposed. Four different flag protection amendments have been proposed, all passing the House, only to be rejected, ignored, or avoided in the Senate. Why the Senate avoids the issue when the House overwhelmingly passes these measures suggests one thing:

senators are afraid of the consequences of submitting a wildly popular amendment to be ratified.

All 50 states have sent letters to Congress showing their overwhelming support and wish to have it submitted to a vote for ratification. The American public supports the proposed amendment and respect. Yet, some senators wish to downgrade the resolution to another statute which already failed once.

Bipartisan support in both houses and the support of constituents across the nation, coupled with no budgetary needs make this resolution very attractive to lawmakers and laypeople alike, if the legislature will only let it happen.



Source: MIT.edu

ELECTION 2004 NEWS

*Teaching the three R's**A look at the Candidates' Plans for our Education*

by Stephen Edwards
Lightning Reporter

Of course both John Kerry and George Bush give the promise of improved schools and education, but no presidential candidate would dare say otherwise, at least not directly. So it is therefore not their broadly stated goals on this matter that should be taken into consideration, but the specific actions on which they intend to take to get us there. Both agree on a few of the more general things, like more funding for the educational system in general, and the introducing and encouraging of programs like No Child Left Behind. But otherwise their viewpoints, and the aspects on which their main focuses lay, differ greatly.

Bush is concentrated more towards the earlier years of child education, his main focus being that of programs working towards greater literacy capabilities in the youth of America. His plans are mostly made up of efforts to begin literacy programs in pre-kindergarten and kindergarten environments, making certain aspects requirements to be met by the curriculum. He also wants to push parents towards taking a more active role in helping their young ones to learn to

read, and hopes to greatly enlarge the distribution of information on programs such as Head Start, and booklets such as Grow Smart, that will allow parents to better do just that. And for slightly older students, on their journey through elementary school, he is planning on funding the development of more effective curriculum in the areas of teaching literacy and math skills. As for the educational system as a whole, he wishes to increase outreach efforts to

minority families, and to provide parents with the skills they need to advance their children's development. However, he does not state in what ways he intends to do either the former or the latter, or even what these "skills" he has guaranteed to provide, are.

Kerry on the other hand, is directed towards helping not only a more specific area of schools, or a specific age group, but the educational field as a whole. The education side of Kerry's campaign

has to do with more funding. By far the biggest facet of this has to be his plan to establish a National Education Trust Fund, which would provide financial aid to any schools in need of it. He will also put money towards initiating after-school programs in those schools which cannot at the moment offer that opportunity to their students, and to add additional programs to those that can. And last but not least he will give aid to colleges in order to put in place a nationwide college opportunity tax credit of up to four thousand dollars per year of college taken. As for the

educational programs that are now in place he will continue to make sure they stay effective by rewarding schools that meet higher standards, or that begin to improve. He is also planning on offering teachers better training and better pay in troubled schools, and hopes this will improve the abilities of our youngest generation.

There are few here at Eastview that can vote, and probably even fewer that do. But it is still important to know how these presidential candidates are preparing to change something like school that, whether we like it or not, is a big part of our lives.

Cartoon Commentary

William Meiklejohn



THE DRAFT: A Debate with No Issue

402-2 Vote against House bill shows bipartisan lack of interest in draft

by Grant Anderson
Managing Editor

Both Kerry and Bush are clear – there will be no draft during their possible tenure as President. Yet the word *draft* often floats in conversations amongst both high school and college students. The reasons for the talk about the draft, which has not occurred since 1973, are hardly murky.

Last year Democratic Congressman Charles Rangel of New York introduced a draft bill with the hopes of ensuring that the affluent were actually forced to support the war in combat.

On October 5th the House of Representatives voted against the bill 402-2, showing the obvious lack of support for a draft.

The two that voted for the draft, both Democrats, gave rise to House Majority Leader Tom DeLay's statement, "This campaign [for the possibility of a draft] is a baseless, malevolent concoction of the Democratic Party and everyone in this chamber knows it."

That campaign, is being spread via an e-mail that states, "Mandatory draft for boys and girls (ages 18-26) starting June 15, 2005, is something that everyone should know about... There is pending legislation in the House and Senate... so the draft can begin as early as spring 2005, just after the 2004 presidential election."

This highly misleading e-mail was addressed by President Bush personally in the October 8th presidential debate. "I hear there's rumors on the Internet that



Source: New York Times

"We're not going to have a draft, period." –

President Bush, October 8th, 2004

of the administration re-instituting the draft, "Nonsense."

Former chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff for the military and current Secretary of State Colin Powell has also

we're going to have a draft... Forget all this talk about a draft. We're not going to have a draft so long as I'm the President."

Other high-ranking officials have backed up President Bush's statement. Not one to mince words, Defense Secretary Donald Rumsfeld has called the idea

said that he doesn't expect a resumption of the draft even though questions have arisen about the number of troops needed to deal with the War of Terror.

The draft will probably not be needed because the wars of today will be fought with a more productive, dedicated, and technologically equipped fighting force.

More soldiers are not needed to create such an army which President Bush makes clear, saying, "The all-volunteer Army works."

But uninformed students just hear the word draft and become concerned.

An unnamed Eastview student showed her strong feelings on the issue, "I'm voting for Kerry because I have a brother, and I don't want Bush to re-institute the draft and send him to war."

She can now cast her vote based on other issues as the possibility that either President Bush, ("We're not going to have a draft, period.") or Senator Kerry, ("I don't support a draft.") will re-institute the draft remain as likely as a bill to get rid of homework.

LIGHTNING SPORTS

Sports
Shortsby Tim DeBord
Staff WriterLosing record doesn't
do team justice

The girls' soccer team finished their conference schedule on October 7th with a 2-3-4 record against their opponents, good enough for seventh place in the standings. The girls' losing record is misleading; the Lightning was rarely blown out of a game and its four ties could have easily been victories. The girls ended regular season play on a high note, tying 3rd ranked Eagan 0-0 in their second-to-last game of the season. It was a strong effort by all players and it became clear that the girls' program has the talent to compete for the conference title in years to come.

The Section tournament was no easy road for the Lightning. The girls participate in the viciously demanding 6AA section, a bracket in which Lake Conference teams are assigned seven of the nine seeds. Ranked #6, the team was matched up with fifth place conference finisher and #3 seed Bloomington Jefferson on October 12th. The team played hard but lost 1-0, ending their season. Congratulations, girls, on a year well played!

Tennis girls go 8-1 in
Lake Conference

The girls' tennis regular season has ended and there have been many new developments with the team since the last edition of the Lightning Press.

The girls put the finishing touches on the conference schedule with a strong win over cross-town rival Apple Valley to bring their final Lake Conference record to 8-1. Though unable to win back to back titles, the girls' strong finish served notice to future section opponents that these girls play to win.

Section play began on October 4th and the girls left nothing to doubt, dismantling Faribault 7-0. Owatonna came to the Eastview courts on October 7th only to watch a brilliant Lightning singles lineup sweep their matches and carry the team in a 4-3 win. Their section semifinal and final matches occurred on October 12th in Rochester against the Century and Mayo High schools. They defeated Century in the semifinal but their season was ended in the final against a strong Mayo team. The final score was 4-3. Following team sections were individual sections, which started on October 14th. Each school team is allowed to enter two singles players and two doubles teams. Representing Eastview this year will be singles players **Lisa Nguyen** and **Meghan Williams** and doubles teams **Dawn Olsen-Kelsie Allen** and **Thuy Trinh-Alyssa Frazee**.

Eastview Teams Hurt by
Sections Loaded with Talent

MSHSL has taken away fair competition for the state tournament

by Tim DeBord
Staff Writer

It seems politics have descended upon the Minnesota State High School League (MSHSL). Gerrymandering is re-districting an area to favor one party over another, a common enough idea in the thick of the political season. I thought such an idea was limited to politics, only to be shocked at the fact that it is present where very few of us expect to find it: our own high school athletics. It appears the MSHSL has taken to grouping schools with stronger athletic programs together in section brackets while leaving no or very few good teams in others. All teams qualify for sectional tournaments, but only one can advance per section to the state tournament, the ultimate goal for all high school athletes. If large numbers of quality teams are placed together, they must eliminate each other to reach the state play-off competition. This inequity has reached into Eastview athletics this fall.

Two Eastview teams recently had direct incidents with the loaded bracket problem. Both the girls' and boys' soccer teams play in Section 6AA, a section affected by the High School League's approach to equitable competition. The Lake Conference is a consistent force to be reckoned with in all sports, and soccer is no exception. In

accordance with their policy, the MSHSL ignored parity by placing seven out of ten Lake teams in one section, Section 6AA. Included in the section are Eden Prairie, Eastview, Apple Valley, Chaska, Burnsville, Bloomington Kennedy, Bloomington Jefferson, Edina, and Prior Lake. On October 12th, the Star Tribune rated both the girls' and boys' teams from Eden Prairie and Bloomington Jefferson in their respective top 10 rankings. The Apple Valley teams, the Edina girls and Burnsville girls have cracked the list throughout the season as well. With

schools, while amassing impressive records, do not play the consistently highly competitive teams often seen in the Lake Conference and seldom compete well with the suburban schools. Included in Section 1AA are two co-operatives, a group of two or three schools mixing players in order to field a team. For instance, Winona High School has a co-op with Lewiston-Altura High School in order to compete at the AA level. Rosemount, if in Section 6AA, would be the 8th or 9th seed. In 1AA, they're seeded 2nd behind Lakeville, the third place team in the Lake Conference. Lakeville has already beaten the Irish once and unless the bus takes a wrong turn the Panthers seem to be a lock for the section title.

A different perspective is seen in Section 5AA, where no ranked teams will compete for the section title. Cretin-Derham Hall is a recognized name that never managed to crack the top ten and Minneapolis South has a good record at the expense of inferior competition. A team from that section will be in the state tournament, taking the place of a highly ranked Section 6AA team.

It is important that every high school athlete be given the chance to fairly compete for their highest prize, the state tournament. However, the point of section play is to determine the best teams, not to give weaker teams an easier road to state competition. The Minnesota State High School League should abandon their policy of artificial parity and allow the best teams in the state to compete on an equal footing.

These schools [participants in Section 1AA], while amassing impressive records, do not play the consistently highly competitive teams often seen in the Lake Conference and seldom compete well with the suburban schools.

these teams, Section 6AA is dramatically top-heavy, making it harder for a number of strong teams to play out their seasons consistent with their demonstrated level of play. This creation of a loaded section has an effect on other sections as well.

The Rosemount Irish Girls' Soccer team finished the season with a Lake Conference record of 1-8-0 and an overall record of 8-8-0. Rosemount participates in Section 1AA, which includes out-state teams like Winona, Owatonna, and Rochester high schools. These

Alumni part of something bigger at the U of M

by Rachel Lee
Lightning Reporter

In just seven years of existence, Eastview High School has already been a quality provider to a football program founded in 1882 at the University of Minnesota. Carrying the pride of Eastview at the U are Rhys Lloyd and John "Chevy" Shevlin, and it wasn't easy for either of them to get to where they are today.

"Rhys Lloyd has made a major contribution to the U of M with punts, kickoffs, extra points and field goals" said U of M offensive coordinator Mitch Browning. University of Minnesota kicker Rhys Lloyd is a 2001 Eastview graduate.

Browning finds that Lloyd is not the only Eastview graduate they are impressed with. "John Shevlin has contributed up to this point as a demo player and a special team player, but... his play-

ing time will increase over the next few years."

Coaches are allowed to let a player take part in the football season four years and sit one year using a process called red-shirting. John Shevlin was red-

Eastview Alumni **John Shevlin** (46), and **Rhys Lloyd** (16)

shirted last year, giving him a chance to play an extra year of football as a fifth year senior. He has already started to impress the coaches this year with his hard work attitude and his ability to work through problems.

Browning believes "just because a guy is a good football player doesn't mean he is the right guy for this program." He points out it is not only the player's ability, but "his attitude, his character, his academic background, work ethic and whether or not he can handle adversity - hang in there when times are tough."

There's a fine line between athletics and academics and Gopher football players work on balancing both of them. Head coach Glen Mason says "academics are just as important as athletics. Accountability and effort are important for the student athlete."

Both Lloyd and Shevlin have succeeded due to good attitudes and their work both on the field and off it.

Despite its youth, Eastview High School has begun to make a difference in the storied, long standing tradition of golden gopher football at the University of Minnesota.

Source: Gophersports.com