

Lightning

PRESS

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SERVING THE EASTVIEW HIGH SCHOOL COMMUNITY SINCE 1997

DECEMBER 21, 2004

Target Says Goodbye to Salvation Army

TARGET CORPORATION BEGINS ENFORCING ITS "NO SOLICITING" POLICY

by Sarah Gustafson
Lightning Reporter

The holiday season comes with many familiarities, customs, and traditions: spending time with family and friends, caroling, tubing at Trapp Farm, and watching "National Lampoon's Christmas Vacation" are among EVHS students' favorites. But this year, one seasonal icon will be silenced. The Target Corporation has begun to enforce its "no soliciting" policy and as a result, the Salvation Army is no longer able to position its bell-ringing volunteers outside Target stores.

A whopping \$756,000 was collected from Twin Cities Target locations last year. In Minnesota and North Dakota alone, \$1.3 million was collected. The loss of these funds this holiday season is a huge blow to the Salvation Army.

Using its long-standing "no solicitation" policy at all stores, Target justified the decision by pointing out that "if we continue to allow the Salvation Army to solicit, then it opens the door to



HOPE AND HEALING: Cub Foods stays with the proud tradition of the Salvation Army, opting not to go Target's route

any other groups that wish to solicit our guests."

Year after year, Target has proven to be the most profitable location, bringing in almost twice the amount of money from other stores, such as JC Penney, K-Mart, and Wal Mart.

However, financial losses are not the only thing the volunteers and Target shoppers are concerned about.

The jingling of the bells has become a social icon over the years. Customers expect to see the volunteers singing and shuffling around in the snow and to hear the bells throughout the parking lot as they exit and enter the store. Some believe this will mean less holiday cheer which will bring a mood change among shoppers. With all of the vain consumerism in American society, a little charity work makes people feel good about themselves, not to mention the tremendous amount of aid the Salvation Army gets from it. People from all walks of life are bound to be affected by the change this holiday season.

Some Eastview students reminisce about the holiday cheer they will now be missing.

BELLS continues on page 2



Bon Voyage to Pen & Paper

THE RISING POPULARITY
OF ONLINE JOURNALS MAKES
TRADITIONAL WRITING TOOLS
OBSOLETE

by Grant Anderson
Managing Editor

The lock appears to have clicked for the last time on the paperbound journals. A growing number of teenagers are sharing the most intimate details of their lives with the world via their online journals.

The homepage of online journaling portal LiveJournal.com boasts that they have more than five million members who post 200 times a minute.

Eastview students are taking advantage of this popular technology. On Xanga.com, another journaling site, the "Eastview High School Students and Alumni" blogging (network of journals) boasts 112 journals. This network of Eastview students is something senior **Elizabeth Blum** finds helpful. "It [Xanga] helps me stay involved with friends who I don't see very often or those who went to college."

Reasons for this sudden outburst of public thought and emotion are varied. Eastview student **Hannah Paulson** said, "Letting out steam is good for everyone. When it's online you have the chance to get sympathy from others, or at least get a reaction." She also feels that it can be boiled down to one simple idea, "It's nice not to have to tell everyone your problems."

An Eastview student that uses the pseudonym Christine has a Xanga journal that demonstrates the kind of venting that goes on in this new corner of cyberspace. "...my mother's upset with my B+'s apparently those aren't good enough, I should have straight A's and since I don't I must be doing something wrong, and apparently I just sit here all night and just PRETEND to do homework and don't actually do it or something. She has no idea. [sic]"

JOURNALING Continued on page 2

Good Riddance: No More 1,600

A CHANGED ENEMY: THE NEW SAT FORCES STUDENTS TO ADJUST STRATEGIES

by Britta Nicholson
Staff Writer

In March of 2005, students will be nervously herded to testing sites to confront a changed enemy: The new SAT. The class of 2006 will be the first group of students to encounter the most recent changes to this familiar test. So what has been changed? The answer to this question is multi-faceted; each section has undergone quite the facelift.

According to the College Board's Website, "the short essay measures your ability to: Organize and express ideas clearly, develop and support the main idea, and use appropriate word choice and sentence structure. The essay will be scored by trained high school and college teachers. Each reader will give the essay a score from 1 to 6 (6 is the highest score) based on the overall quality of the essay and

your demonstration of writing competence."

In addition to this new essay, students will have to answer multiple choice questions that test their ability to distinguish between proper and improper uses of grammar. This portion is very similar to parts of the verbal section on the old SAT, but they have merely been relocated.

The critical reading section and the analogies have been eliminated. Students will no longer have to struggle to form a relationship between words that seem completely unrelated at first glance. However, in addition to the long excerpts that students have to read and respond to, some shorter passages have been added as well.

The biggest change is the elimination of quantitative comparisons. But

whenever something gets the axe, something else rises to fill the gap. In this case, it's the introduction of topics from third-year college preparatory math. This includes things like exponential growth, absolute value and functional notation. According to the College Board, it will also place greater emphasis on other topics such as linear functions, manipulations with exponents, and properties of tangent lines.

The College Board offers many helpful resources at their website, along with insight into these numerous changes. They also claim that the new SAT isn't any harder or easier than the old version. Just more time consuming. At first glance, it seems like the introduction of an essay and the expansion of math topics would only complicate the test, but everyone will find out in March.

Turn to Page 2 for a new Sample Essay Question

"Each section has undergone quite the facelift."

NEWS

23rd Time is the Charm

After 23 alcohol-related driving offenses Apple Valley resident Raymond J. Sherman is finally going to prison.

by Grant Anderson
Managing Editor

Local resident Raymond J. Sherman drank heavily the night of June 24th and began to drive home through Eagan. He was later pulled over by police who discovered that this was Sherman's 23rd arrest for drunk driving.

Minnesota lawmakers, lead by Governor Tim Pawlenty, created the first felony-level DWI charge in 2002. This law allowed prosecutors to charge those who had four or more DWI charges with a federal offense that mandates criminal penalties. The license of an offender is usually revoked after their first offense.

Under this new law, Hennepin County District Judge Harry Crump sentenced

Sherman to five years and three months in jail. Sherman will also have extensive, and mandatory treatment for alcoholism before he will be eligible for parole.

SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions) member **Jessica Fields** is happy with the sentence. "I feel much safer with Sherman off the streets... I agree with prison time for drunk drivers. For Sherman, having his license taken away didn't stop him from driving. More drastic measures need to be taken to punish those who drink and drive."

...a 0.08 limit will save 70 lives a year in Minnesota.

Hennepin County Attorney Amy Klobuchar is an active supporter of the new felony charge. She said that her office has charged more than 400 people with it.

Governor Pawlenty is taking an active stance against drunk driving. Pawlenty recently signed a bill that lowered Minnesota's legal limit from 0.1 to 0.08. Previously Minnesota had been one of the only two states in the country with the 0.1 limit. With the signing of this bill Governor Pawlenty said, "Drunk drivers are public enemy number one on our roads, and people who threaten our public safety by driving impaired will feel the impact of this law."

The numbers back Pawlenty. In 2002, there were 239 traffic fatalities related to alcohol. The Minnesota Department of Public Safety Office of Traffic Safety (OTS) estimates a 0.08 limit will save 70 lives a year in Minnesota.

Fields supports this new law, "Yes, every little bit helps, however, I think that any amount [of alcohol] is too much to drive."

SAMPLE OF A NEW SAT

ENGLISH QUESTION

How would you fare if you had to respond to this prompt. The new 60-minute writing test will comprise two parts: a 25-minute essay and a 35-minute multiple-choice section. This hour portion of the test will contribute an added 800 points to the total score:

Think carefully about the issue presented in the following excerpt and assignment below:

A sense of happiness and fulfillment, not personal gain, is the best motivation and reward for one's achievements. Expecting a reward of wealth or recognition for achieving a goal can lead to disappointment and frustration. If we want to be happy in what we do in life, we should not seek achievement for the sake of winning wealth and fame. The personal satisfaction of a job well done is its own reward.

Assignment: Are people motivated to achieve by personal satisfaction rather than by money or fame? Plan and write an essay in which you develop your point of view on this issue. Support your position with reasoning and examples taken from your reading, studies, experience, or observations.

BELLS continued from page one

Eastview student **Aimee Grosso**, a former Salvation Army bell ringer, feels that the loss of the bells this year is "sad, because it gives money to a good cause, and people need to give money to charities, especially during Christmas."

Eastview Junior **Kelly Barry** agrees, asserting that: "The amount of money Target makes will drop, because the bell ringers bring in more [people who want to get into the holiday spirit.]"

Not only is this affecting shoppers, but Target employees as well, as Target employee **Emily Bullis** explains, "I work at Target, and, while I wouldn't normally consider the Salvation Army as a solicitor, Target has a policy and it has to do every necessary thing to enforce it." Despite her understanding of the necessity, Bullis will still be thinking about the bell ringers. "I will miss the sounds of ringing bells at Christmas time; I think that's a Christmas classic."

JOURNALING continued from page one

This opportunity to vent is something that Eastview guidance counselor Mary Hanson finds important, "I think journaling is good for kids, and people in general. It helps them to clarify and understand their thoughts and feelings, and can help in decision making."

Hanson, however, is surprised at the growing popularity of these online journals. "This is unique to the youth culture. I, personally, would not want others reading my most private thoughts."

Even some of the students on the cutting edge of technology share this hesitance. Senior **Dan Leeman** thinks that too many details are being shared using online journals. He says, "I fear that there could be a large security threat."

Mike Lindsay points out another concern, "It sounds like a good idea, but you could offend people who don't

want their names published." He notes the lack of editing, "No one is looking at these words before they're shared with the world."

Most parents – who are supposed to be supervising their kids and keeping them safe - don't even know these online journals exist. While parents generally knew about instant messaging they rarely know about students' journals.

This complete lack of supervision becomes worrisome when students are posting names and ages. Fears arise that predators and pedophiles can track students down based on the information that they have shared in their journals. However, with millions of others journaling, the idea of being stalked seems remote to most students.

The other concern raised by Mary Hanson about online journaling is that "Social skills are changing. Students are

not getting the interaction with others with the onset of new technology."

Leeman sees the opposite. "Web journals are a great way to keep people updated on the personal details of one's life." He argues that this promotes interaction between peers, who are now able to better relate to their friends. He cites an example of a post that created discussion, "I remember one posting about a peer's plan to move to Canada if Bush won the presidential election."

Clearly there are concerns with teenagers sharing their thoughts on such a large platform – where teachers, friends and even strangers have access to their every word – but just as strong a case can be made that the chance to voice opinions and work on writing will be good preparation for life. Unless, of course, it's a life in the snowy tundra of Canada.

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The Lightning Press has renovated its online content offering. Check out the Lightning Press Online: <http://www.district196.org/evhs/activities/finearts/newspaper/>



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 December 14, 2004. Our mission as the Editorial Board of the Lightning Press is to provide a quality publication for Eastview High School that reflects thoughts and opinions of students attending EVHS.

ENTERTAINMENT

Moviegoers Abuzz About Computer Animation

by Britta Nicolson
Lightning Reporter

The mention of movies such as *The Little Mermaid*, *Aladdin*, and *The Lion King*, often incite a flurry of “aaaw”s from teenage students who fondly remember these animated films as staples of their childhood. But the next generation of movie-goers has a whole new family of characters to admire. Instead of going crazy over Ariel, Belle and Simba, these kids will be looking up to Shrek, Nemo, and Buzz Lightyear.

Hand-drawn animated movies are fading into the background, and computer generated films are taking the lead. At first it seemed that this new technology would be a short-lived fad, but it has proven to have endurance, all the way from *Toy Story* to Pixar’s latest endeavor, *The Incredibles*.

According to the LA Times of July 22nd, 2004, “Hollywood has largely abandoned hand-drawn animation as moviegoers have declared their preference for the computer-generated fare’s fresher look and edgier scripts.” This has become evident in the employment sectors of production studios. Currently, DreamWorks Animation employs 1,200 people; while by comparison, Disney’s animated division now employs only about 650.

The box office has also been hit hard by this trend. *Shrek 2* grossed more than \$436 million at the US box office, and *Finding Nemo* made \$340 million. The last hand-drawn film to even come close to those figures was Disney’s 1994 *The Lion King*, which grossed \$313 million in theaters domestically. By contrast, Disney’s most recent 2-D feature was *Home on the Range*, which came out last

April and grossed a depressing \$50 million at the box office. Before *Home on the Range* bombed, there were flops like *Treasure Planet* and *Brother Bear*. While the company will put out another traditionally animated film in February, *Pooh’s Heffalump Movie*, its next big animated film, *Chicken Little*, due out next summer, will be computer generated.

So the question arises: Why are



FROM PIXAR

computer generated films so popular? One possibility is that people are fascinated by the new technology. When audiences saw *Toy Story* for the first time, they were amazed by how realistic the characters looked. But after the novelty of this new technology wore off, how did they remain so popular? Competition between rival studios may be the answer. There are three main studios that produce computer generated films. The first is Pixar, which created such hits as *Finding Nemo*, *Toy Story*, *Toy Story 2*,

Monsters Inc., and *A Bug’s Life*. It just released *The Incredibles* and *Cars* will make its debut in theatres next year.

The second main studio is DreamWorks, which produced such successes as *Shrek*, *Shrek 2*, *Antz*, *Chicken Run*, and *Shark Tale*. One of the co-founders of DreamWorks was forced out of the Disney Company by Michael

next spring. This relatively unknown studio managed to draw the voices of superstars Robin Williams, Ewan McGregor, Halle Berry, Greg Kinnear, Mel Brooks, Drew Carey, and Amanda Bynes for their latest feature.

The fate of hand-drawn movies is still uncertain. Some experts believe that the future for 2-D animation looks bright. Ron Diamond, co-publisher of the online Animation World Network, says that the focus on computer generated animation “is very much Hollywood hype, and I think that we are going to swing back to the 2-D arena.”

And technology can even get in the way. *The Polar Express*, which opened in November, transforms Tom Hanks and illustrations from Chris Van Allsburg’s popular 1985 book into computer generated images. The movie has a wondrous look, but its “motion capture” technique can’t fully animate characters’ eyes. Writing in *Variety*, David Rooney found the movie “visually impressive yet emotionally frigid.”

The contest between classic and cutting-edge animation looks like a toss-up. It’s possible that the excitement of computer generated movies will wear off, and movie-goers will find themselves longing for the “good old days” of 2-D animation. But it’s also possible that the competition will heat up, leading to technology that will continue to advance and amaze audiences for generations to come.

Creature Feature

by Ally Huang
Lightning Reporter

Students at Eastview High School have a variety of pets. **Jake Neutz**, a tenth grader, has piranhas. These South-American fish eat scales and fins of other fish in the wild, and must be fed a diverse diet. This diet can include everything from freeze dried foods to spinach and zucchini. Piranhas are omnivorous and can eat anything, but they still require careful maintenance. Jake declares that “Cleaning, taking, and feeding the piranhas is the worst thing about having them,” but also says that his pets are interesting to watch.

Jeremiah Schraeder breeds his many pet fish. The sophomore says this is difficult to do because he must regulate the surroundings and temperature according to the kind of fish. “They keep me entertained when I have nothing better to do,” he says.

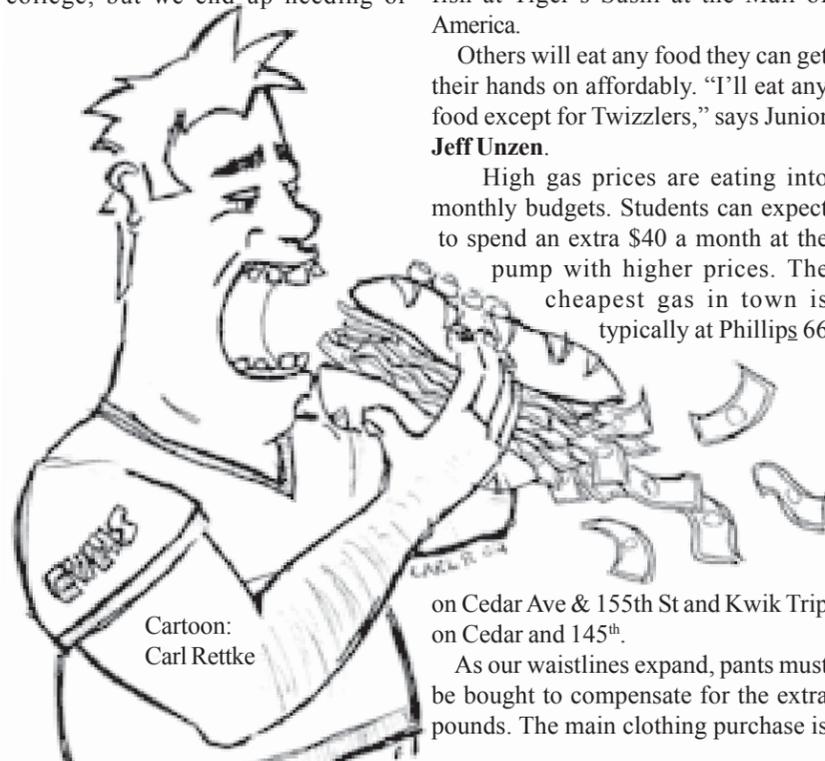
Other pets can do cool tricks. A junior, **Sean Steichen**, has a four-month-old puppy named Daisy, and she can walk on her two hind legs. **Ashley Peitso**, another junior, has a kitten who does flips every time he gets excited.

Eastview pets can be amusing, but need a lot of love and care. Although dogs and other animals may show no visible signs of illness when they eat chocolate, play it safe and keep them away from sweets in the holiday season.

Eastview Spending Goes to Waist

by Mark Payne
Lightning Reporter

Getting an allowance or cashing a paycheck gives us all a warm feeling deep inside. With the green glare of Washington and Lincoln, money seems to burn a hole in our pockets. Everyone resolves to put some money aside for college, but we end up needing or



Cartoon:
Carl Rettke

wanting to spend it. Students seem to spend an average of \$20-\$120 a month

Our parents buy the staples like bread and butter, and we’re left to spend our money on tasty snacks. Senior **Alex Wagner**’s favorite spot is the fast food chain Subway where he orders a sandwich with turkey and ham. Senior **Jack Thurnblad** recommends Meguro fish at Tiger’s Sushi at the Mall of America.

Others will eat any food they can get their hands on affordably. “I’ll eat any food except for Twizzlers,” says Junior **Jeff Unzen**.

High gas prices are eating into monthly budgets. Students can expect to spend an extra \$40 a month at the pump with higher prices. The cheapest gas in town is typically at Phillips 66

on Cedar Ave & 155th St and Kwik Trip on Cedar and 145th.

As our waistlines expand, pants must be bought to compensate for the extra pounds. The main clothing purchase is

without doubt jeans, and with popular brand names such as Silver and BKE no one can go wrong.

Electronics are expensive, and that takes up the rest of our budgets. Students use parent’s credit cards to shop online and downloading music. Some students say that internet purchases can be of less quality, particularly shoes. Buying clothes online is always a risk, considering the fit or feel of certain items. DVDs and blank CDs are in and VHS is out.

Video games will always be in, and the most popular kinds of games are role-play and action. The most popular games this season are Grand Theft Auto: San Andreas and Halo 2.

Students spend a surprising amount of money on coffee. Caribou and Starbucks are always full of Eastview coffee aficionados. From hot cocoa to a steaming latte, Caribou seems to be more popular because of excellent atmosphere and delicious ‘reindeer drinks.’

A lot of money passes hands at Eastview. Students everywhere are spending their cash on all the staples of life: food, clothes, gas, and video games.

FEATURE

Online Report Card turns Tables on Teachers

by Blake Hanson
Lightning Reporter

RatemyTeachers.com is a great way for students to critique any teachers past or present. Teachers have the ability to check the website and view ratings and comments from students. They can provide insight to make learning more enjoyable. Teachers also will be able to know if their style of teaching is fun for the students.

Past students can comment on how their teacher helped them be successful in that area after they completed the class. Students however are not the only ones who can rate teachers. There is a separate parent section so parents can give feedback on how they felt as their student progressed throughout that class.

Students rate teachers on easiness, helpfulness, clarity and popularity, and can indicate if the teacher is still teaching in the building. High schools are not the only schools rated. Middle schools are also in there such as Falcon Ridge, Scott Highlands, Blackhawk and many more. Some teachers and schools use RatemyTeachers.com enough that they include the website on their class syllabus. More than 50,000 teachers, students and parents log on to the site each day in the United States and Canada. Eastview currently has 105

ratings and is rapidly rising, as more students get involved in rating and commenting on their teachers.

More than 370 parents, students and teachers have visited the Eastview Ratemyteachers site since it opened. Over 5.8 million ratings have been cast on the website. More than 30,000 schools are in the site and more than 580,000 teachers have been rated. The website is being classified as an online report card for the teachers instead of the students. More than 4,000 ratings occur each day which is amazing considering RatemyTeachers.com has a zero dollar advertising budget.

“Students rate teachers on easiness, helpfulness, clarity and popularity...”

“I think it is just a waste of time because people could just be lying to be funny,” says freshman **Mike Swartz**. Currently we have a local student as a moderator who supervises and edits comments and ratings. The moderator can edit or delete any inappropriate comments before they are posted. “It’s ok, but people shouldn’t depend on other peoples opinions, they should meet the teacher on their own first,” says sophomore **Amy Guenther**. Most teachers around the U.S. and Canada think it is beneficial to be evaluated by the people that they are teaching. At times, students mistake the toughness of the class with the performance of the teachers. Math and English teachers tend to have lower

ratings but both are considered the toughest classes. Between 60-80 percent of teachers are rated positively.

The question is, will teachers actually refer to the site? Spanish teacher Diane Telshaw says she wouldn’t because it is

nerve racking to go onto a site and see if you are rated poorly. Many school districts have blocked the site because administrators and board members do not believe that teachers deserve the scrutiny.

Activity Highlight: *Voices*

by Kelsey Boeff
Lightning Reporter

Voices isn’t some chorale group; instead it’s the Eastview literary arts magazine that last year won national acclaim with the Columbia Press Association Gold Crown Award and the National High School Press Association All American Award. The publication is a culmination of the best poetry, prose and artwork that Eastview students have to offer.

Submissions are accepted through February 1 and are strongly encouraged. Grant Anderson, an Editor-In-Chief of *Voices* shares why, “If you have any aptitude for writing or artwork and want to share

your work with the world, *Voices* is the perfect place. The copy that you buy at the end of the year with your published work is something you can have for a lifetime.”

Submissions can be dropped off in

the folders located in the English rooms or can be brought to C334. If you have any further questions you can contact your English teacher



Submitted Photo

VOICING OPINIONS: Editors Laura Dayo and Molly Cedarberg look over *Voices* submissions.

or check the *Voices* website, located off the main Eastview website, under Arts & Activities, then Fine Arts.

Nalgene: the Favored Water Bottle

by Irina Vaynerman
Lightning Reporter

It’s second hour and your teacher is in the middle of a lecture but you can no longer suppress your dire need of water. You are dehydrated and have entered the state in which your brain stops functioning unless you supply your body with more liquid immediately. Where can you turn? You are not allowed to leave class to go to the drinking fountain...but then you remember your loyal friend that has served you well, your Nalgene.

Nalgene has taken over the water bottle industry across America, including our very own Eastview High School. They are trendy, hydrate friendly, easy to carry, and come in a variety of colors, shapes, and sizes.

However, their most distinguishable quality is their indestructibility. Nalgene are made of a unique line of polyethylene, or everyday plastic, that has been practically perfected. The water bottles have even been reported to not break when run over by a car. This stain resistant water bottle doesn’t even retain odor.

Yet another amazing characteristic of a Nalgene is that it is dishwasher friendly. Experts say that regular plastic bottles should not be reused more than once because of bacteria build up. This problem is easily solved with the avail-

ability of the Nalgene. It is understandable that, due to the numerous great qualities that Nalgene encompass, they have swept our school by storm. If you take a look around, you will notice that



Photo: Grant Anderson

QUENCHED: Eastview student Krista Strobel drinks from Eastview favorite, the Nalgene.

Nalgene are everywhere; sitting on desks, swung back and forth from backpacks in the hallway, teachers are even starting to catch onto the water bottle sensation. Nalgene have become an entity that many cannot resist; even those that pride themselves on individuality succumb to the perfection known as the Nalgene.

It’s clear that this sensation did not originate within a high school class-

room. In fact, the Nalgene Company was started in 1949 by chemist Emanuel Goldberg in Rochester, New York. After a troop of Boy Scouts experienced a successful camping trip with the lightweight and sturdy drinking device, Goldberg hoped the water bottle use would spread to hikers and other outdoor enthusiasts.

Today, the Nalgene craze has permeated the outdoors crowd and has entered the high school scene.

However, the Eddie Bauer water bottle and other similar replicas are now rivaling the Nalgene. Although a number of students feel that the only difference between the assorted variations is price, other students vigorously support the original Nalgene. “Nalgene are invincible,”

Junior **Angie Trygg** says, “the others are just imposters.” There seems to be an equal distribution of Eddie Bauer and Nalgene water bottles throughout Eastview; neither brand appears to hold a monopoly.

The 32-ounce bottle of joy has arrived at Eastview and has been welcomed with open arms and parched mouths. Students are now decorating their Nalgene with bumper stickers and other accessories. By personalizing their water

bottles they develop a true emotional attachment to their Nalgene.

Once a Nalgene has been lost, various degrees of hydration withdrawal may occur, so be prepared. It’s up to you to decide whether or not this water bottle craze holds any water, but the undeniable fact that Nalgene have inundated the Eastview community still stands.

MYTH:
You will get a case of new Nalgene if you are able to break your own.

Quick Q & A:
How do I deal with the inevitable spill that occurs when I take a sip from my Nalgene?
- *Splash guards have been manufactured specifically to solve this dilemma, they prevent you from spilling.*

Will carrying a Nalgene make me look trendy and cool?
- *Yes, yes it will.*

FEATURE

Generously Giving a Helping Hand

by Hannah Newman
Lightning Reporter

Are you making a list? Are you checking it twice? Check it again and think about adding a special gift to help someone stuck in severe poverty. If not for your own list, maybe for someone special in your life. By giving a financial gift to charity, you are making a big difference in the life of a family or an individual somewhere around the world.

Many organizations offer to send a gift card to those whose name the gift is given to honor. The Heifer Foundation works with communities around the world to help end hunger and poverty. You may purchase a whole or a share of an animal such as heifers, llamas, buffalo, goats, chicks, bees, rabbits, and sheep. Your gift multiplies. The first baby from your animal is passed on to another family. That family agrees to pass on an animal of equal value. This goes on.

For only \$20, you may buy a chick. After six months of age, the chick can lay up to 600 eggs a year. This is a reliable source of protein for children. The additional eggs can be sold to pay for school, clothes and medicine. A share of a rabbit is worth \$10. They can be raised on a back porch or even in the

kitchen. They have up to 40 offspring a year, which provides the family with steady sources of protein and income.



Photo: Grant Anderson

DONATE: Carly Torborg, Briana Hewitt, and an unidentified student count ‘Toys for Tots’ money.

A share of buffalo is \$25. Buffalo can plow through mud that would stop a tractor. They are able to take narrow trails on steep mountains without difficulty

and “can pull cartloads of crops to market with ease”.

Episcopal Relief and Development (ERD) helps people in need every day. \$15 feeds a family for a week. \$20 supplies training materials for an AIDS education workshop for one person. \$25 provides medicine and a mosquito bed net for one child or a pregnant mother. Malaria, carried by mosquitoes, kills up to three million children annually. \$35 provides tools or seeds for one family, which is greatly needed in places of drought.

In Honduras, the ERD has set up a medical clinic which cares for about 100 patients per month. They also provide a primary education school for 370 children. A housing project made for 120 families left homeless by a hurricane in 1998, is being equipped with roads, electricity, running

water and sewage treatment. In Tanzania, 60 farmers have been trained in improved farming methods, business skills and commodity selling. Six hundred families benefit from this. In addition, Tanzania has a supported program called “training of trainers.” It teaches 40 people to give HIV/AIDS education in their communities.

The Salvation Army and the American Red Cross. A financial donation to the American Red Cross helps provide shelter, food, medicine, counseling and other needed assistances. The St. Jude Research Hospital is for leukemia victims and their families. They accept financial donations of any size from \$10 to \$100 to \$1000. Even \$10 or \$25 will give help and hope to patients.

There are many gifts to choose from for everyone important in your life. Maybe this year it is time to give something that will not sit on a shelf or in a closet collecting dust. Giving to any one of these organizations fills somebody’s holiday with more joy. The direct recipient will be glad to have helped someone struggling. You will be giving both happiness to someone close to you and a helping hand to someone around the world.

Canned Spam!

by Jon Friedman
Staff Columnist

Ahoy and welcome to the winter edition of Canned Spam! This winter season, I’ve come down with a case of sarcasm. I’ve seen it wipe out entire nations before, so I’m trying to be careful with what I say. It seems that a lot of people are catching it with the upcoming winter break, and it will soon be relieved by a week and a half of doing whatever it is they like to do.

So rather than ask students about what they think, I’ve decided to make this canned spam the **TEACHER’S EDITION!** That means I’ve asked four teachers what they think about some things, and you get to enjoy what your teachers have had to say! Plus, the Pillsbury Doughboy won a significant battle against Zapp, so this time he returns to go against Frosty!



There are important choices in life, like what to do over winter break or whether to go with Gandalf to the Grey Havens. One of those choices is when to start the questions in this article. I choose now.

Questions:

- 1) What is your least favorite snow activity?
- 2) Where were you when the dinosaurs became extinct?
- 3) If you were to teach any other subject, what would it be?
- 4) Who’s cooler – The Pillsbury Doughboy, or Frosty the Snowman?
- 5) The quote.

Mr. Tollefson, Physics Teacher

All photos: Tim DeBord

by Jennifer Henderson
Lightning Reporter

Teachers may say, if they weren’t teaching at Eastview, they wouldn’t be teaching at all. When Ms. Kinney of the English department says that, she means it, literally. A native of St. Paul, Ms. Kinney went to St. Olaf College to major in religion. She also chose to major in English and become certified in teaching “just in case it didn’t work out.” While there, she either had to choose to student-teach at a Minneapolis high school or a relatively new school in the suburbs. Her teacher told her she would love the school in the suburbs, but at that time, Ms. Kinney wasn’t planning on becoming a teacher and said, “Put me wherever you want.” When she arrived at Eastview to begin her

student-teaching period, she instantly fell in love with the school and the students. However, when she graduated from St. Olaf, she received an academic scholarship to further her religious studies at Seminary. Though while at Seminary, she decided that she was going to change her plans and become a teacher, with only one condition: she had to teach at Eastview.

Luckily, there was an opening and Ms. Kinney got her wish. You can now see Kinney roaming the halls pushing her squeaky cart from room to room. She teaches 11th grade Literature of the Americas, Mythology, and her favorite, British Literature. After school, Ms. Kinney is a familiar face in the A3 cluster as a debate and speech coach.

Ms. Kinney FEATURE TEACHER



What the teachers have to say



- 1) Shoveling
 - 2) Still in elementary school.
 - 3) History, because it’d be fun.
 - 4) Well, Frosty’s a lot “cooler.”
 - 5) Beware of Lightning near water.
- Ms. Strandquist, English Teacher



- 1) Snowboarding
 - 2) I was an undergraduate
 - 3) It’d have to be FST
 - 4) The Pillsbury Doughboy
 - 5) Nothing is neither good nor bad, but thinking makes it so.
- Ms. Carberry, History Teacher



- 1) Snow-mobiling, it’s so loud.
 - 2) Down in the valley.
 - 3) I’d have to say English
 - 4) The Doughboy, because Frosty melts.
 - 5) Can you give me five minutes, and I’ll get it done? (and it always does get done)
- Mr. Haugh, Math Teacher



- 1) Walking through snow and seeing snow.
- 2) Standing there with my shotgun.
- 3) Psychology
- 4) I gotta go with Frosty.
- 5) Why do you have to hate?

LIGHTNING SPORTS

Sports
ShortsDakota Hawks:
2x State
Champsby Lyle Newman
Sports Editor

Dakota United Hawks adapted soccer team has amazingly won yet another State title. This year, they played their final game against undefeated South Suburban and won 8 to 0; this was their fifth shutout game of the season. The team set many goals for the season, and by playing hard every game, they finished the season undefeated for the second year in a row!

The team was led by returning captain **Eric Engstrom**. Other Eastview students who are on the team include **Kyle Brendalen**, who was the #1 defender in the State, **Chris Flynn**, **Chris June**, and **B.J. East**.

Engstrom identifies going undefeated in the season and winning back-to-back State Championships as the top goals accomplished this season. As he led the Hawks to victory, **Engstrom**, always humble in victory says, "Thank you for all the support from the students and staff, it means more than you'll ever know."

JV LDT

by Ryan Trudeau
Lightning Reporter

With the Junior Varsity Danceline getting ready to kick off their winter season, they are hoping to repeat their 2003-2004 undefeated season. "Keep It Rollin'", this year's motto, shows that these girls are ready to repeat last year's incredible performance.

The JV Lightning Dance Team is led by Captains **Justine Lentz**, **Becca Condon**, and **Nikki Lee**. This year's team is made up of twelve Juniors, eight Sophomores, and eleven Freshman. The team has changed slightly from last year, because only 15 dancers out of 31 of the dancers are returning from last year. **Justine Lentz**, captain of the LDT, says, "Our team this year is very dedicated and passionate about what we do."

Many people do not realize what it takes to be a dancer. Becoming an official sport two years ago, dance takes a lot of time and hard work. The team puts in a lot of effort and dedication to get ready for their winter season. These girls practice three hours a day Monday through Friday and have an Invitational or a four hour practice on Saturday's. **Heather Jensen**, a Sophomore on the team, says, "We work really hard and everyone is really close on the team." Despite all the hard work these girls put in, they still love to have fun.

The JV Dance team took first in both High Kick and Jazz at the Eastview Dance Invitational on December eleventh. The team won the overall Grand Championship sweepstakes award at the competition.

Swimming Finishes Strong with
Success at State Meetby Tim DeBord
Staff Columnist

The fall athletic season has officially ended at Eastview and the Girls' Swimming and Diving team has put the finishing touches on another successful season. As a sport that focuses on both individual and team efforts, Captains **Brianna Hewitt**, **Nicole Litzner**, and **Danielle Rux** set goals at the beginning of the season to encourage both elements of their sport. Their approach to the season has led to results that continue the Lightning tradition of excellence in girls' swimming.

The girls decided to place an emphasis on their individual times this year as a way to improve the team as a whole. Before the season started, all the girls went through time trials to identify their best events and, based on these times, set personal goals for the times they wanted to achieve by the end of the season. The team believed that if each member contributed by making progress toward her own individual goal, a second place finish at their Section meet would be a reasonable showing. The team demonstrated the effectiveness of their season strategy over the course of their conference and invitational tournament schedule.

The swimming and diving schedule consists of two types of meets: conference dual meets and larger, multi-team invitational tournaments. Their two in-

vitational meets both yielded strong finishes. They came in second at Rosemount and dominated the competition at Hastings, scoring 454 points compared to runner-up Hastings' 336. According to their captains, the girls used their conference meets as stepping stones to achieve their goals for later in the season. As the season wound down, it became obvious that their strategy had paid off. In their last regular season meet, the girls surprisingly defeated conference contender Chaska 101-85, catapulting them into the postseason on a wave of momentum.

The team competed in the Section 3AA meet on November 15th. All girls swam strong races but came up short of their season goal, finishing in a very respectable fourth place. Eight girls finished with strong enough times or scores to qualify for the state meet at the University of Minnesota. The 200 Medley Relay team of **Leslie Strobel**, **Kelly Barry**, **Whitney Flohr**, and **Alyssa Lewandowski** finished third and the 400 freestyle team of **Danielle Rux**, **Ashley Leschyshyn**, **Strobel**, and **Rachael Anderson** finished fifth. Eastview also boasts impressive sprinters, evidenced

by **Rux's** third place finish in both the 50 and 100 freestyle races and **Flohr's** third place finish in the 100 butterfly. Rounding out the team's all-around strength were the divers. **Paige Hanegraaf** finished fourth at sections, losing only to three very strong Woodbury divers.

The state meet was held on November 22nd and 24th. Eastview swimmers and



Source: MSHSL.com

divers placed well in all of their events. **Hanegraaf** finished 11th in 1 meter diving, **Flohr** finished as consolation champ (9th place overall), and **Rux** sprinted to a fifth place finish in the 50 yard freestyle and a sixth place finish in the 100 yard freestyle. There were mixed results among the relay teams with the 200 Medley team finishing 11th while the 400 Freestyle team barely missed the cut in the preliminary heats.

On the Box and in the Pipe
Local Ski Areas Cater to Snowboarders this Winter with
Newly Designed Terrain Parks and Big Competitionsby Ryan Trudeau
Lightning Reporter

As the depths of winter are approaching, snowboarders are counting down the days until they can hit some of this year's revised terrain parks. The sport of snowboarding has gone mainstream with the addition of snowboarding at the Olympic level. Brad Larsen, with marketing at Welch Village, said, "Boarding is completely mainstream... lots of different people ride now." There are so many new snowboarders every year. As snowboarding slowly takes over skiing as the most popular winter sport, the local ski hills have been modifying their runs to satisfy the snowboarders desire for big air and smooth grinds.

This year there are big changes for boarders at Welch Village. The most obvious it that the terrain park has moved to a bigger run. And to supplement the different terrain, Welch hired Planet Snow Tools, who built the half pipe for the Olympics in Park City and has made Welch some new boxes that range from a 20 foot rainbow box up to a 35 foot dragon tail. Planet Snow Tools has also

helped Welch to design new jumps and much more.

For all boarders looking to enter a competition, check out Next X Snow Search on January 30th. Finalist will have



Photo: Lyle Newman

Grind It Up: Fun boxes and rails are the new favorite among snowboarders at local ski hills like Buck Hill

the opportunity to compete in Keystone, Colorado which will be televised on NBC. Welch is hoping to be fully open by winter break. Welch, however, is only one of the many places for boarders in Minnesota.

Only a couple hours away, Spirit Mountain has two full size half pipes, rails and different sized jumps. Spirit offers one of Minnesota's biggest terrain parks. With their newly expanded terrain

park, Spirit Mt. offers huge table tops, kickers, boxes, and jumps. Spirit also provides a new beginner 'terrain garden' for less experienced boarders. Spirit Mt. has three big competitions this year: Next X Snow Search on January 8th, Volcom Rail Jam on March 5th, and the Duluth Snowboarding Competition on March 26th.

Buck Hill is only minutes away for those looking close to home. Buck Hill has teamed up with Railbuilders to provide boarders of all experience levels with a new and improved freestyle terrain park. With this year's new 24 foot rainbow box and a pair of dueling "C-boxes", Buck has many things to offer for all boarders. Buck also has a mini and full size half pipe for boarders of all experiences. Buck Hill has also scheduled many competitions this season.

Whether you are looking for somewhere close to home or somewhere to get away for the weekend, all these places provide boarders with jumps, rails, and much more.

LIGHTNING SPORTS

What makes a sport a sport?

The age old question of what is truly a sport is finally tackled

by Tim DeBord
Staff Columnist

Cheerleaders are a fixture at our sporting events. They're one group of fans you can count on to be very vocal in their support for Eastview's athletic teams while keeping it clean enough to avoid the reproving glances of a tall, roving administrator.

Sport cheerleaders, however, are only the most visible part of the cheerleading program. The second, often less recognized team of cheerleaders is the competition cheerleaders. These girls travel the state and country to various competitions with a routine jammed with high-speed tumbling passes and towering human structures. There is disagreement, however, on whether it qualifies as an actual sport. Once all the facts about this team are known, there should be no doubt about its legitimacy as a sport.

Cheerleading originated right here in Minnesota. In 1898, six male "yellers" took to the field to support the University of Minnesota football team. Females, in fact, were not allowed to join cheerleading squads until 1923 and did not gain a majority until the Second World War. The 1950's and 60's were the boom days for female cheerleaders that involved little more than creative cheers and fan entertainment. The period firmly ingrained the stereotypical cheerleader into the country's head.

Competitive cheerleading of the 21st century is an entirely different matter. This new form of cheerleading has caught on with young girls in the United States. Of the 49,360 girls who participated in high school athletics for the first time in 2003, 16,556 of them were cheerleaders joining their competitive spirit squads. Administrations across the nation recognized the demand for such squads and responded by founding 399 new high school squads. Over 111,000 girls currently participate in competitive cheering, placing it ahead of golf and in place to bypass swimming, tennis, and cross country within the decade.

In general, the definition of a sport stipulates physical exertion. While a different kind of physical exertion than what happens on a football field,

soccer and basketball participants, but cheerleaders are more likely to suffer far more serious injuries. Paralysis and even

overlook efforts to keep cheerleaders safe. In these states, new squads often do not have access to knowledgeable coaches and trainers that understand the safety risks involved. If cheerleading was recognized as a sport nationwide, a national association could be founded that would have the power to codify safety regulations.

Sadly, the main obstacle girls face in their attempts to qualify cheerleading as a sport is the stereotype. The origins of cheerleading reinforce the notion that

a woman's role in sports is a supporting role and not a leading one. This problem is compounded by the immoral promotion of cheerleaders by professional teams as sex objects. While girls' sports such as basketball and softball have thrived with the increasing acceptance of females' ability to be athletes, cheerleading's historical stigma has continued. The image of the "scantly clad cheerleader" has kept cheerleading from gaining the respect that it deserves, and until this unfair perception of cheerleaders is permanently erased, cheerleading faces an uphill battle in the struggle for athletic equity.



Photo: Grace Welter

GRAVITY-DEFYING: Eastview's competition cheerleaders practice their award winning routine for the year.

Cheerleading has become a flash point in the heated national debate about what is classified as a sport

competitive cheerleading requires the highest degree of athleticism. Routines involve freestanding flips, lifting maneuvers, and all sorts of moves that demand flexibility, strength, and endurance.

Many consider the hallmark of sport to be the physical contact or potential for injury. Torn and sprained knee ligaments have always victimized girls'

death are very real consequences for a stunt gone wrong, and more cheerleaders have been affected by these horrific events than any other athletes. With cheerleaders visiting the emergency room over 25,000 times per year, the possibility of catastrophic injury is the same as any major sport.

Today 31 states do not recognize cheerleading as a sport and often

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HOLIDAY FEATURE

In a Flight of Fancy, Becca Dreams of a Winter With (gasp) Snow

by Becca Habegger
Lighting Reporter

Oh, the weather is outside is frightful, but my big, red thinking chair is so delightful. (Yes, I definitely *do* have a thinking chair). As I sit here pondering the deep mysteries of life, my eyes and mind wander to the crystalline blanket of snow that covers my back porch. I begin contemplating my favorite wintery activity – one that has held a dear place in my heart for many years: sledding. The more I reflect upon my favorite holiday-break pastime, the more ways I find to structure this article so I'm not just repeating common knowledge.

I have lived in Minnesota my entire life, so I was pretty much born on a sled. Granted, the birthing experience was rather painful for my mother, but nature is just cruel like that sometimes. For as long as I can remember, I've hit the neighborhood snow pile (which we affectionately dubbed "Bulger") or local sledding hill every winter. I was almost deterred from my snowy escapades one year when I

met a girl at art camp who had sledded into a tree and incurred slight brain damage because of it. My love for the sled, however, was much more powerful than my newly acquired

of Orthopedic Surgeons (joint-bone-and-muscle doctors), thousands of adults and children, alike, are injured in a sledding-related accidents annually, but "most of these injuries are preventable."

This website provides a wealth of useful information for potential sledders this season:

"Sledders should wear layers of clothing for protection from injuries and cold," *opposed to sledding naked.*

"Plastic sheets or other materials that can be pierced by objects on the ground should not be used for sledding," *so no more runs down the hill in that garbage bag, okay?*

"Young children should wear a fitted helmet while sledding," *although all your friends will point and laugh at you.*

As helpful as this website is, I prefer to trust my experiences as my guide [sidebar].

So go hit the hills, my compadres! I hope to see you over at Long Lake or Hagemester Parks (both have great hills). Enjoy your break and get out to enjoy the weather!



Photo: Grant Anderson

SNOWLESS: As this mid-December photo shows, sledding is rarely successful without the one essential requirement: Snow, snow, and more snow.

wariness for twigs. I did, though, take away from the situation the importance of sledding safety.

Practicing healthy sledding habits: According to the American Academy

SLEDDING

Top five things I have learned from sledding that *you* should take into consideration too:

Sled with a buddy. Not only is it safer, but you also have double the pleasure, double the fun!

Don't stay out for *too* long. No matter how warm you are dressed, snow *will* find its way into little crevices of your body that you never knew existed, and you *will* get chilly and wet in unpleasant areas, catch a cold and die.

Go for the jumps. If the 10-year-olds who dominated the hill the day before haven't already made a jump, pack in the snow and create one for yourself. Not only do you get some sweet air, but also your speed increases tenfold!

Look out for stray trees. Don't end up like my artsy buddy.

End the day with hot chocolate. Nothing warms the tummy like some cocoa that is yummy! (yea, cheesy-schmeezy)

Christmas Carols and Credit Cards

The only way to survive this holiday

by McKenna Ewen
Lighting Reporter

The rush of Christmas shopping gives us images of lines out the door at six in the morning, moms fighting over turbo men, and children with Christmas lists longer than their math assignments. We've all seen girls hounding friends about gifts for other people, guys searching Google for last minute ideas, and the cheap relatives with gift cards. Our grandparents buy blank cassette tapes instead of CDs and our siblings buy gifts for others that they intend to use themselves. Oh, the holidays are beautiful.

Maybe it's about time for someone to be a Scrooge. If you think about the holiday season, the average American family spends around 450 dollars. With the typical high school wage of eight dollars an hour, those presents should be paid off in about 56 hours of work. Basically, if you're not putting your 56 hours towards presents, you are not keeping up with the American trend.

Does that sound a little ridiculous to anyone?

The day after Thanksgiving has traditionally been the biggest shopping day of the year. This year was no different. With people anxious to get their hands on this year's door busters, Best Buy's line started to form at 9:00 P.M. the night before. In fact, at five-thirty the next morning, the line started at the front door, stretched across Office Max, curved around the stoplight, continued down the road, and crossed the street ending just on the other side. Without any exaggeration, the line for check out was easily three hours with over 15 registers going. If you ask me, anyone waiting that long should have all his or her holiday expenses paid, along with a personal shopper.

Here's a proposal, we should have a Christmas Remix 2005. I understand that

it's too late for this year, but next year everyone's gift to each other should be not giving them. If you take that 450 dollar average, you can buy a very nice gift for yourself. It wouldn't be considered selfish either because the people you gave gifts too would be



happier with the gifts they picked out for themselves. It's sad, but true.

However, I'm not saying eliminate the gift process entirely. If there's a special someone in your life, go to their front yard and shovel something romantic in the snow. If you want a cheap gift for your parents, get your family together and take them sledding. For grandparents, volunteer your time to hang out with them and put Christmas decorations up in their yard.

You can't equate how much you care for someone with a dollar amount—it's

impossible. If that was true, your purchase of a \$300 necklace instead of the \$3,000 one would mean you only love them 1/10 of the possible amount. If you give them that necklace, they may slap you and wonder who's getting the other 9/10ths of the love.

So next year, how about waiting outside Best Buy the night before with blankets and chairs? Each hour that passes, write a note to them saying how much you care for them. Then, when the doors open at six, walk into the store and buy a pack of batteries. Give them that pack of batteries on Christmas with each note and show them how much you care for them—without the dollar sign.

It's about time we turn the Christmas spirit around. From this year on, dollar signs mean nothing. I think Santa Claus had the right idea when he started handing out coal to the naughty children. With millions of other better-behaved children out there, he went out of his way to show that he cares—without the price tag. From this year on, do what you can to make Christmas priceless.