

The Graphos

New Ulm Senior High School

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Psych Club & Operation Outreach Make Difference

By Greg Laffrenzen

For Mike Neveln, Mondays are a special day. Every Monday during his study hall, Mike visits the Jefferson Elementary School. While there, he goes to Mrs. Jones' second grade class. Mike is member of Operation Outreach, and he helps students who need outside aid. Neveln helps out kids who may have a problem at home, or are a little slower than the other kids. He generally works one on one with a student, but sometimes, Mrs. Jones wants him to work with a small group.

Operation Reach out was founded by Michelle Hillesheim. Her idea of helping elementary students and Mr. Bute's help created Operation Outreach. Michelle was the president of the Psychology club at the time, and Outreach has always been a sort of extension of the Psych club. But you do not need to be a member of it to join Outreach.

The goals of Operation Outreach are rather simple. One goal is to provide younger children with an

older influence to help them in school. The older student helps his or her younger student with things like reading, playing number games, or getting their homework ready take home. The other main one is to show high school students what children's problems are and what problems they may face if they pursue a career in child education. Operation Reach out is not to provide a teacher with a "special helper," as some people believe. The high school students usually work one on one with a younger child.

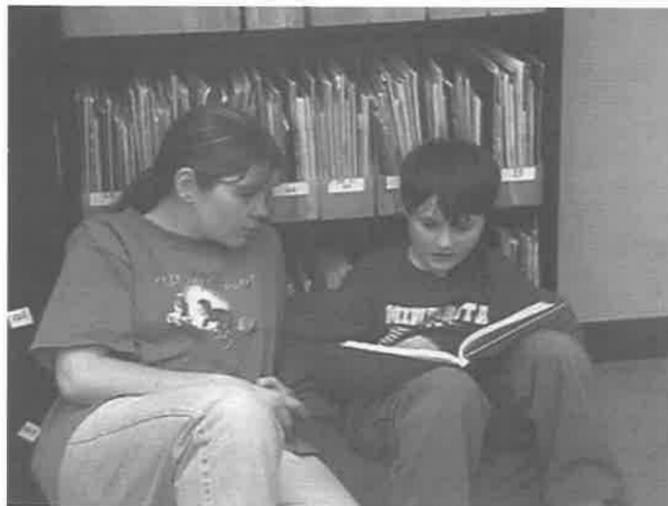
To join Operation Outreach, a student must fill out an application, and pass an interview with the psychology club. They must also promise to complete 12 weeks of Operation Outreach, and every student must commit one hour per week to meet with their younger student. He or she must also obey all Minnesota State High School League Rules and maintain at least a C average.

The younger students often

have a problem at home. Another reason for a elementary student to be in Operation Outreach is because they are a little slower than the other kids in a certain subject, so a teacher requests that a high school student comes to help a student with reading or another

subject.

For a second year organization Operation Outreach runs efficiently and is a success. It is a wonderful program that helps out students of all ages and spectrums.



Andrea Davis works with a student in the Operation Reach Out program

Remembering a Friend

By Tim Hellendrung

Jason Waldner was a friend to all. Jason was born on January 1, 1984, to Gail Gilman Waldner and Scott Waldner. As many of you saw, he was such a cutie back then and grew to be a great person.

Jason was involved in so many things throughout the course of his life. Hockey, Boy Scouts (Cub Scouts), fastpitch softball, baseball (back in his youth), and football were just the basis of what Jason was. Excuse me if I have forgotten something, because I am sure I have. Jason loved music not doubt about it. He listened to everything from Slipknot, Fear Factory, and System of a Down, to Jimi Hendrix and The Doors, there were so many. Jason was also a hunter and always told me he loved to hunt because it gave him time to spend with

his family. Let's not forget about his artwork. I was in his advanced drawing class and was blown away by the pieces he did. He drew everything from people to stuffed animals to graffiti.

Jason also preached peace and was a friend to so many people. He knew everyone and everyone knew him. They all knew him by different names too. Whether it's Jason, Goose (Al), Waldo, Waldner, JW, husband (Jessica), or bud, it was all the same person in the end. Whether you were best friends or casual jokers in class, we all loved him. He wasn't an angel all the time and he had his moments, but doesn't everyone?

I ask you, don't forget him, I know I won't. Jason Scott Waldner, rest in peace.

Thanks to the Fans

By Ryan Galvin

The fan support at the volleyball games has been great. There are plenty of fans there chanting many different cheers. I am sure the other team has trouble with the crowd noise. Some cheers are very unique; all are very loud. One unique cheer started during the match against the St. Peter Saints. The Eagles were about to clinch the match. The fans yelled, "Warm up the bus! Warm up the bus!"

Senior player Lisa Tauer comments, "The fan support is great. Knowing that the fans believe in us helps give us an extra push to win games."

Assistant coach Ms. Otte remarks, "The fan support is awesome, and makes it a fun atmosphere for the girls to play in."

"It is great to see the students get involved," added fan Scott Stueber.

These comments are evidence of the great fan support. I think it is quite nice to hear those comments, especially as a fan. I have attended many of the home games this year and have noticed the great fan support. The games have been exciting and there has been a lot of people in the stands. Hopefully, the fan support will continue through the season into the next year.



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Opinion

The following is a poem written by Dale Miller in remembrance of his best friend, Jason Waldner. (January 1, 1984 - November 7, 1999)

MY FRIEND

*I scream out but there's nobody there;
 No longer the laughter, the loving, the care.
 I yelled once again where do you hide,
 Only this time the silence brings pain deep inside.
 I ask what of the promise that we had once made,
 That our friendship would grow and never would fade.
 Only this time the silence was too great to be real,
 And the immense pain in my heart was all I could feel.
 My friend is now gone and I am alone,
 Yet the love that you gave me will always be shown.
 I think of the past when you were still here,
 When we once lived with not but one fear.
 The fear that one day we must say good-bye,
 And one of us would stand with a tear in our eye.
 Now I am the one who must take the pain,
 As my tears fall down like the shudder of rain.
 I now watch you leave this place you have known,
 The same place you had once come to call home.
 To you my friend I give my love,
 As you watch over us from heaven above.
 You shall live in the memory of the times we have had,
 And the love we have shared through the good and the bad.
 To you my friend I shed a tear from my eye,
 As I say to you forever, my
 friend Jason,
 Good-bye.*



Homecoming 1999



Michael Larson bangs his drums during halftime entertainment on a snowy Homecoming.



Homecoming Royalty, Pete Zangl and Jessica Paulson promenade after Coronation.



Kayla Puhlman and Scott Saari are looking precious during a Danceline performance.



A group of hip looking guys go all out on retro day during Homecoming Week.

FBI



Spencer

Features

Foreigners: Not Just A Band

By Nikki Dauer

Have you ever imagined going to live in a foreign country? You would have to learn a foreign language and how to speak it fluently, while getting used to living with a new family, trying to meet new people and make new friends, and experiencing a new culture and a new way of life. To me, this would be very difficult, and would take a lot of courage. For this article I interviewed three individuals who took that challenge, became AFS students, and came to experience America here in New Ulm, and are in attendance here at our school.

I first interviewed Valentina Carletti, a senior from Verona, Italy. Valentina has adapted to a lot of differences between her school in Italy and our school. She is taking classes such as art, chemistry, keyboarding, math analysis, biology, and physics, and is especially enjoying her classes taught by Ms. Filzen and by Mr. Debban, although she has no true favorite teacher. Some of the differences between school in Italy and school in New Ulm include being done with school at 1:00 in the afternoon, and never eating lunch at school. She went to school from 7:50 a.m. until 1:15 p.m., every day of the week except for Sunday. The weekends seem like an especially long break for Valentina. Her classes, like ours, were 50 minutes long, but even classes were very different. In Italy, you stay with the same class and change teachers yearly, and instead of having a test maybe once every week or two weeks, there is a big test about once a month, and oral tests given in class once every week. School includes much more reading and studying in Italy, and not nearly as many labs or field trips, Valentina said. Another aspect of school in Italy that I found particularly

interesting was that after five years of elementary school and three years of secondary school, students must decide approximately what they want to do in life, and choose a school, such as artistic, musical, classical, scientific school, etc. Valentina went to the scientific school in Italy, and is interested in science, especially astronomy. Valentina seems to be getting along well in school, she says the work in Italy is more difficult, but the language makes school somewhat challenging here. In Italy, students learn English as a second language at a very young age.

Besides school, Valentina and I talked about her hobbies back in Italy, where, by the way, there are no school-sponsored sports. During the summer Valentina enjoyed swimming, jogging, volleyball and tennis, and was a fan of skiing during the winter. Here, she likes to play soccer after school, and plans on being in track during the spring. Although her opinion may change this winter, since there is warm weather in all parts of Italy, Valentina seems to like living in America. She says people are generally nice, but to her New Ulm is a very small town, and there is more to do in Italy. Verona is where Romeo and Juliet is to have taken place and there are many museums and cultural things to do in Verona, but there also is a lot of planned, exciting things to do in here in New Ulm, says Valentina.

Next I interviewed Claudia Berges, a junior from Friedrichroda, Germany. Claudia's school seems to be slightly more similar to ours, but I'm sure Claudia has had to deal with plenty of changes. She is taking classes like biology, design, advanced drawing, gym, pottery and sculpture, zoology, and computer applications. She likes all of her classes, especially those taught by Mrs. Anderson and

Ms. Filzen. In Germany, Claudia went to school from 7:30 a.m. until 3:30 p.m. with a lunch break and a ten-minute break to go outside or converse with friends. Her classes were 45 minutes long. Claudia also said that here we do more practical work and experiments, where in Germany there is more information to learn and they have very long, hard tests. After twelve years of school in Germany, you have to take an examination and then apply to colleges. I think school here is pretty easy for Claudia; she says she understands all of her teachers and the English language well, which is obvious by the rapid rate at which she talks. In her school, Claudia learned British English though, which caused her a few problems when first speaking to Americans, because the languages, and the connotations of certain words are quite different. Claudia also said school in Germany is more difficult than school here. They take approximately five years of English in school, and Claudia says the language comes with practice.

In Germany, Claudia's hobbies included table tennis, jogging, diving, and karate-but only for defense, she says. She loves sports, and here she likes to go biking, jogging, plans on ice skating and also likes basketball and gymnastics. After high school, Claudia wants to go into marine biology and has ambitious plans to form her own whale searching project. While in America, she has plans to visit Chicago, the Grand Canyon, Los Angeles, and Canada. Her hometown is even smaller than New Ulm, she says, and her school has only 600 people. She truly seems to love it in America, commenting on how everyone is very social, and she wants to come back soon after she leaves in July. The last thing I asked Claudia about was whether or not New Ulm was an authentic German town, and she really had a good point when she said that it is goofy that we mix American articles (a, the) with German words to form titles of stores, such as The Backeri or The Christmas Haus. So, New Ulm may not be as genuinely German as we think we are.

Lastly, I heard from Julie Wenkel, a senior from Neukamperfeh, East Frisia, Germany, which is located about two hours from Hamburg. Julie is taking band, geometry, pottery, physical education, keyboarding, contemporary issues, and choir. She likes all of her classes and teachers. The school system in Germany is different in different states, Julie explained. In her area of Germany, all children go to school together from the first to the fourth grade. In fifth and sixth grade you go

to a special school where they test how "good" you are and then give you a "hint" as to which school you should go to. There are three different schools. In the first, you graduate after ninth grade, and it is harder to find a job because students who are not very smart go there. In the second school you graduate after tenth grade and the test they write in this school are similar to New Ulm High School, Julie says. Lastly, there is a school for the "smarter" students, where you graduate after thirteenth grade. This is the only school where you are allowed to go to college afterward. You are in classes of about twenty students in your grade, and the teachers come to the classes, except for subjects like biology. Some other differences include being able to carry backpacks, smoke in the school area, and the doors to Julie's school are only locked in the evenings, so everyone can go in and out. Her school day begins at 7:45 and ends at 1:00. They have six classes during the day, and every day is different. They have twelve different subjects per week for two to four hours apiece. Each class is 45 minutes long. After second and fourth hour, the students at Julie's school have 15 to 20 minutes to eat or talk, but no lunches are served in school. I find these differences fascinating, and Julie seems to have adjusted well. She says school in Germany is more difficult. She has learned English since the fifth grade, and although the first few days in school were hard, things are getting better each day.

There are no school teams at Julie's school, the only extracurriculars are band, orchestra, and choir. Julie likes to horseback ride every day, and play volleyball. Back in Germany, she was in orchestra, and also something similar to student council. Some trips Julie plans to take are to Ohio and Las Vegas. She likes New Ulm very much, although we don't have as many possibilities to go out on the weekends to places comparable to pubs or discos in Germany. Her hometown is a little bigger than New Ulm. Julie seems to be making friends well here at school, and says she would like to come back to America to visit her host families and friends she has made after leaving this summer.

In conclusion, I felt that these three individuals were extremely pleasant and friendly. I had amiable conversations with each of them, and I encourage other students to get to know them. It takes incredible courage and a strong spirit to do what they have done. I have a deep respect for these students, they seem to be wonderful people who are gaining lifelong experiences here in America.

Hawkins vs. Maki

By Nicholas Johnson

It is hard to compare Mr. Maki and Mr. Hawkins because their styles differ so much. The differences are types of music, how the choir practices, and performance tactics.

The first noticeable difference between the two conductors is the type of music the choir sings. Hawkins had the choir singing more complicated arrangements. The choir was singing mostly eight-part harmony, much of which was college level. On the other hand, Maki has the choir singing mostly four-part music that is not very complicated. Also, for Payne Street Singers, Maki has chosen many songs that Pops Choir sang in the Junior High.

Another main difference is the way they conduct practice. When Hawkins was the director, he was much more strict about such things as

excess talking and tardies. On the other hand, Maki is lenient. However, Maki is also fairly rigid about tardies.

The other difference between them is the performance style of the Payne Street Singers. Last year, with Hawkins, there was less movement involved. But now Payne Street has added choreography to many of their numbers. Maki is treating the Payne Street Singers much like the Pops Choir from Junior High, but most of the people in the group don't mind doing this, rather than just standing around.

So, in conclusion, it will be interesting to see how the choirs will do this year. Choir doesn't have the expectations as last year because this year is considered transitional.



Claudia Berger, Julie Wenkel, and Valentina Carletti pose for a casual picture under the canopy.

Sports

New Beginnings, New Outlook

By Christina Smith

Back to school- a phrase that sends a chill down every high school student's spine. However, along with the beginning of school comes a new year of sports. As for new beginnings, the New Ulm High School volleyball team has a different, but experienced, head coaching staff and a brighter outlook on their season. Paul Meyer, with assistant coaches Rebekah Otte and Rita Hamann, has led the Eagles to, but can't take all credit for, a (10-13) season. It doesn't seem all that impressive, but the Eagles have faced some tough competition, including many state ranked teams. They have, however, long surpassed last year's record of (5-19).

The team has eight returning varsity players, seven of them seniors, and two more players with some varsity experience. Senior co-captain, **Molly Babel** (#2) is the Eagles' setter, with **Jill Heitzman** (#1) as a back-up and also as a back row specialist.

Jessica Schaetzke (#10), the other senior co-captain, and **Allison Boddy** (#3) hit from the outside. Filling in the positions of middle and right-side hitters are **Britta Rieke** (#11) and **Erin Pickus** (#12). **Jodi Schmidt** (#13) primarily plays back row, with a little bit of middle hitting and **Lisa Tauer** (#6) and **Bethany Carlson** (#8) are the backrow specialists. Playing both middle and outside are **Tiffany Altmann** (#14) and **Christina Smith** (#9).

The Eagles varsity would like to thank some people who have really made a difference. First off, any of you loyal fans should have noticed the new sleeveless uniforms. Esther Babel did each and every one of those. Kathy Carlson made personalized towels for the whole team, too. Last, but definitely not least, the volleyball team would like to mention all the support from the fans. Keep it up!

Defense Leads Eagles

By Colin Haley

The New Ulm Eagles football team has had a fantastic season, despite their loss to the Worthington Trojans in the second round of playoff competition.

The Eagles record of 5-3 in seasonal play came

along with wins from St. James, USC, Fairmont, Waseca, and Redwood Valley. In those wins, the stellar Eagle defense posed three shutouts while the offense made big plays. The three losses the Eagles suffered were from the hands of Blue Earth, Luverne, and St. Peter.

Unfortunately, one of those losses turned out to be the Homecoming game which always seems to elude them. The St. Peter Saints came out with a 6-2 win in conditions that can only be described as blizzard-like. (see picture) In spite of the loss, that game is one that won't be forgotten.



After the regular season was completed, the Eagles had the opportunity to best the Fairmont Cardinals

for the second time in two weeks. Something that had been unheard of for the past few years. But the Eagles took

the invitation eagerly. In an absolutely spell-binding first playoff game, New Ulm snatched up the tally with a 13-10 win. Along with records being broken, and nearly Coach Bunkers' body and Coach VanRoekels' voice, the Eagles have earned practice time for at least another week for the first time in history.

Thanks to a hard-nosed defense and an offense that had the power to score points the Eagles had a great season. The "young" Eagles have accomplished things that many doubted was attainable. That is, of course, except those on the team.

Netters 2AA Runner-up

By Amber Ahl

The best way to tell you about the Eagles tennis team is by describing them as a family. They are hardworking, strong-minded women who are dedicated to the game. From the middle of August through the middle of October they strove for success. The Eagles proved that with their 14-2 record season play. The Eagle netters made it to the final four and played at the Swanson Tennis Center in St. Peter. There they advanced to the championship round against Litchfield. The #1 singles player, captain **Amy Hildebrandt**, pulled off one singles win. The #1 doubles team of captain **Alisha Witt** and **Meghan Reedy**, along with the #2 doubles duo of **Shannon Gorres** and **Brittany Gorres**, were the other wins. The netters lost 3-4 to Litchfield to earn the second place 2AA trophy. In



Senior co-captain Amber Ahl gives the ball a little pop over the net.

individual play, Hildebrandt advanced to the State Tournament but unfortunately lost in a tight match in the first round. The Eagle netters had a terrific season this year, with ups and downs in the family. The Eagles are looking forward to a strong season next year, losing only two graduating seniors, Amy Hildebrandt and captain Amber Ahl.

Run for Fun Scream for Your Team

By Janel Budenski and Tori Filzen

Have you made fun of someone for being in Cross Country? Or maybe you've said, "Why run for fun and pay for it?" Well there are many reasons for running. First of all, we all don't run for fun. Some of us believe in supporting the extracurricular activities department at the senior high. "YOU CAN'T COACH DESIRE," as **Kyle Schwartz** would put it. "It doesn't seem like Cross Country would be hard, all you do is run, how could that be hard," this is also what we are asked. Like other sports we have "workouts". Not just anyone can come to our practices and survive. It takes dedication and commitment.

A lot of people don't know how our teams are doing so we'll fill you in. The Girl's Varsity Team, this year, has the ability to be the best it has been in five years. At conference this year we have a good chance at finishing in the top three. The Girl's Team consists of Amanda Beranek, **Janel Budenski**, **Tori Filzen**, **Ashley Hauge**, **Katie Smith**, **Erin Smith**, and **Cassie Bandow**.

On the Boy's Varsity Team there is also a lot of potential. The gaps between runners are getting closer and closer. In conference the race for #1 is between New Ulm, Fairmont, and USC. If they run their very best they can win it. Their team consists of **Jordan Budenski**, **Karl Sieve**, **Gary Wurtzberger**, **Frank Dickinson**, **John Witt**, **Joe Boyle**, **Kyle Schwartz**, **Bryan Christenson**, **Nick Baumgart**, **Greg Wachmann**, **Dan Besser**, and **Luke Howk**.

"Many people run a race to see who's the fastest. We run races to see who has the most guts." This is a quote from a famous American 1972 Olympic runner, Steve Prefontaine.

As you walk through the auditorium wing look in the show case by the metals power lab. There you will find our goals as well as our accomplishments. The next time you see us running, don't stop and stare. If you are interested in staring, come and stare at us at Section 2AA meet on October 28 at 3:30 at the New Ulm Country Club.

By Nicole Jensen

Cheerleading at New Ulm Senior High has come a long way in the past four months. The fall squad grew to a whopping twelve girls, compared to last year's eight. The junior varsity this year has six girls, almost as many as last year's varsity. Both squads cheer at football and volleyball games. Having as many girls as we do, it means more stunting, which in my opinion is the highlight of cheerleading. A mixture of elevators, single shoulder stands, double shoulder stands, shoulder sits, cradle catches, pop up splits, and the occasional full, make cheering a whole lot more exciting. This year we've been trying to get every person to fly (be on top of the stunt); the more variety, the better. Perfecting these stunts takes a lot of practice however. During the week of homecoming you would have been able to find the cheerleaders in the wrestling room from seven a.m. until the beginning of school and then after school until six o'clock at night. It got to be long, but it was all worth it in the end. Even though it was snowing and freezing temperatures at the game, we all put on a couple of layers of clothes, mittens and hats, and kept cheering. It was a game we will never forget.

The varsity cheerleading squad consists of three captains: **Nicole Brinkman**, **Crystal Hughes**, and **Christina Rempfer**. **Amber Backous**, **April Ibberson**, **Nicole Jensen**, **Patrice Kahler**, **Missy Martens**, **Megan Melzer**, **Katie Neigebauer**, **Emily Pawelk**, and **Sara Schmit** make up the rest of the squad. The junior varsity team is made up of **Marinda Batzlaff**, **Ashley Eischens**, **Danielle Forstner**, **Carley Peterson**, **Holly Schwichtenberg**, and **Nikina Smith**.

GO EAGLES!

All-Conference at NUHS

Football- Kevin Cumberland, Charles Ganske, Robby Geistfeld, Colin Haley, Gus Martens, Micah Neidecker, Drew Waibel

Tennis- Brittany Gorres, Shannon Gorres, Amy Hildebrandt, Meghan Reedy, Alisha Witt

Volleyball- Molly Babel, Jessica Schaetzke

CONGRATULATIONS!