



The Soldier's Sword

QUARTER 4
EDITION
MAY 2019

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THIS ISSUE OF
THE
SOLDIER'S
SWORD
WAS WRITTEN AND
PRODUCED BY THE
LANGUAGE ARTS
STUDENTS OF
ESKDALE
HIGH
SCHOOL

MYRTLE BEACH CHOIR TRIP 2019

On May 9th, the EskDale High School students and chaperones began the Myrtle Beach trip by driving to Salt Lake City. They stayed the night at a hotel that was right near the airport. At 4:15 am the next morning they left to get on their first flight from Salt Lake City to Dallas Fort Worth, Texas. After arriving in Dallas Fort Worth, they were forced to stay on the plane because another plane was boarding at their gate. After finally getting off the first plane, they barely made it to their second plane in time to board. However, once boarded, they couldn't leave because the plane's air conditioning wasn't working. After sitting in extreme heat for about 20 minutes, they were finally able take off and fly to Charleston, South Carolina.

From Charleston, they drove on the beautiful new tour bus for two hours to get Myrtle Beach, South Carolina. They went straight to the Alabama Theatre for their first performance. They sang Dry Bones, Charlie is My Darlin', Toccata for Voices, Freedom Train, and Count the Stars.

They did very well, and many people at the theatre were very surprised by their talent. After they performed the preshow, they watched the show which included singing and dancing of all genres. The employees at the theatre were nice enough to give the students free drinks and popcorn, which was nice because they hadn't eaten practically all day. After the show they finally got to eat at Steak and Shake where they sang for the employees who enjoyed it very much. After eating, the group went to their hotel for the night.

The next morning, May 11, was BEACH DAY! For many students, this was their first time at a beach. They headed down to the beach at 9:00 A.M., after breakfast at the hotel. Most of the kids got into the water and rode the waves, while others sat on the beach sunbathing. After a nice relaxing morning at the beach, the students went back to their room to get ready for lunch at K&W Cafeteria. Next up was

Broadway at the Beach, where the students spent some time browsing before heading to Dave and Buster's Arcade where the kids and adults had a few hours to play games and win tickets. With their tickets, many students got prizes. For example, Carlos got an inflatable hammer and red sunglasses, which later got stuck at the bottom of the 9ft pool.

After dinner at Dave and Buster's they headed to the Carolina Opry and got ready to perform for the pre-show. After performing several songs (Freedom Train, Rain Come Down, Dry Bones, Cantate Domino, Charlie is my Darlin', Melanie's vocal solo, and Dallas' piano solo), they watched the two hour Carolina Opry Show. The show was really well done and filled with talented singers and musicians. After the show the school headed back to the hotel where many kids decided to swim in the hotel pool and order pizza.

On the third day, May 12th, the students spent the morning at Broadway on the Beach. They went to many different shops and did many different activities. For lunch, most students ate at Johnny Rockets. After Johnny Rockets, they left to go to Family Kingdom, an amusement park. They got to the amusement park, and a few people went on one ride. Then it started to rain. The rides were shut down, and everyone moved into the garage-like arcade to escape the rain and lightning. It was starting to rain harder, and there was lots of thunder. Out of nowhere, a huge lightning strike hit one of the rides right out the door of the arcade! The lightning made a huge cracking noise and sparks of fire flew. At that point, the park closed for the day, and everyone was forced to leave. It was a little scary since lightning had just stuck where the exit path was. Students ran to the bus in the pouring rain and then decided to go the Ripley's Aquarium.

The aquarium was full of different species. There were sharks, sting rays, jellyfish, piranhas, lionfish, crabs, frogs, water snakes, and lizards. The aquarium let visitors pet stingrays, jellyfish, and crabs. Some people were even able to ride on a boat above the sharks. After the



aquarium, the sun came out for a bit so they went back to the beach and swam. After the beach they went to the hotel and swam some more. For supper, some people went to Olive Garden, and some people stayed at the hotel and ordered pizza. After supper, the student went to their hotel rooms for the night to pack because they next day they had to leave.

On the morning of Monday, May 13, the kids got up bright and early so they could depart on the two hour drive to Charleston. They arrived at one of the Charleston museums where they picked up Linda, a tour guide. Linda guided the bus through downtown Charleston while telling all about the history of Charleston. The kids also got the opportunity to look out into Charleston Bay. In the distance they saw Fort Sumter, where the first shots of the Civil War were fired. After they dropped off Linda they headed to the airport. The first plane ride went very smoothly, and they were able to land in Dallas right on time. The next plane they were going to board was unfortunately having mechanical problems and the flight was delayed.

The group was supposed to leave Dallas at 6:45 pm but didn't end up leaving until around 9:00 pm. However, they finally landed in Salt Lake and were able to begin the 4 hour drive home. The students, teachers, and chaperones finally reached EskDale at about 3:15 am, and the Myrtle Beach trip was officially over. Everyone had such a fun time on the trip and it was a great experience for all. ■

BY KARA & JENNA CONRAD



SOLO ENSEMBLE AND DRAMA STATE

On April 27th, the EskDale High School students went to Provo High School for Solo Ensemble State. When we got there, we went to the Gymnasium to start practicing with the whole orchestra. Then the school went over to see Melanie perform her vocal solo. She sang "O Del Mio Dolce Ardor".

After that, Kara, Danielle, and Dallas performed their piano solos. Kara played "Romance" by Sibelius. Danielle played "Fantasia" by Mozart.

Dallas played "Etude in G minor" by Chopin. Then the Women's Ensemble sang "Charlie is My Darlin'" a Scottish Folk tune. Melanie and Danielle did their duet "Skye Boat Song". Then the Mixed Ensemble sang "Count the Stars" by Andy Beck. Finally, everyone went over to play in the orchestra where they played The Barber of Seville. All of the EHS performances earned superior or excellent ratings.

On April 5th, Kara Conrad, Sam Roberts, and Melanie Heckethorn went to

Drama State. Sam and Kara acted a scene from the play Skid Marks.

Melanie did a vocal solo called "Think of Me" from Phantom of the Opera. The night they got there, they watched the one act play performances. Then it was time for Melanie to perform, but she didn't make it to the medal round. They stayed overnight, and went to a dance that they were having. Then on the next day, Sam and Kara performed three time and made it to the medal round and performed one more time. Then they went to the Award ceremony round, and they all got medals because they got all Superior ratings. Sam and Kara got another medal for getting third place overall. But they all had fun and did great. ■

BY CARLOS SAUCEDO

THOUGHTS ON MYRTLE BEACH TRIP

WHAT WAS YOUR FAVORITE PART OF THE WHOLE TRIP?

Carlos: The Alabama Theatre was my favorite part. The comedian there was way funnier than in the Opry.

Jenna: The beach was my favorite part.

Jorge: Coming back.

Kara: Singing at the Steak 'N Shake.

Sam: Probably the aquarium.

Melanie: Sharon and I singing on the beach with my ukulele.

WHAT WAS YOUR LEAST FAVORITE PART?

Carlos: There was dirty silverware in our room. And our toaster had a bunch of crumbs in it.

Jorge: Getting hit with a pillow by Cody every morning.

Jenna: Probably when we were waiting at the airport for forever.

Kara: The food. The whole time the food was sketch. It was all fried food.

Danielle: Going through security at the airport.

Andrea: My least favorite was the flight there. 'Cause I felt awful because I was sick.

Melanie: The rain the second day.

Kayli: My least favorite part was the travel and all the plane delays.

FUNNIEST MEMORY?

Carlos: Mr. Tree was my favorite.

Kayli: When Sam, Kara, and Larissa were trying to balance on the inner tubes at the pool, and kept falling into the water.

Jenna: When Carlos was trying to get his glasses from the bottom of the pool, and he couldn't.

Kara: When we were getting our baggage at the airport, because we just couldn't stop laughing.

Daisy: Ordering Domino's for like three hours at night. ■

BY KAYLI BAKER

SPRING CONCERT / YEAR END RECITAL

This years Spring Concert was on May 6th, where the EskDale High School combined with Baker Elementary School to play some songs with the orchestra. The songs that they played together were "School Spirit", "Sword Dance" "Sourwood Mountain" and "Perpetual Rock Motion". Their final song with Baker School was "Swashbuckler Saga".

After playing with Baker School, EskDale's orchestra performed some of their pieces, including "Mantras" and "Mosaics". The choir also did some of their songs including, "Old Joe Clark", "Toccata for Voices", "Rain Come

Down", "Dry Bones", "Charlie Is my Darlin'", "Count the Stars" and "Freedom Train". They all played very well, and we are happy that Baker School was able to play with the orchestra.

The Year End Recital was on May 19th where solos and duets were performed. It started off with Britton Faber, Ella Faber, and Aidan Faber who each did their own piano solos. Then Larissa Crouch did a viola Irish Fiddle Tune solo. After Larissa, we enjoyed a American Folk Tune duet by Rylee Elmer and Yudnelly Avelar on their violins. Next Yudnelly did her own solo, a song of Secret Garden on the violin.

Then, Larissa did an American Folk Tune vocal solo accompanied by her grandma on the piano.

Kara Conrad did a piano solo, "Spanish Dance No. 5" by Moszkowski. Jorge Saucedo, Kara, and Lois Faber did a string trio, Canon in D, by Pachelbel. The guitar class (Jenna Conrad, Danielle Hayward) then played several guitar tunes with their teacher Lois. Danielle then did a piano solo, "Gnosssienne" by Satie. Melanie also sang "Think of Me" by Weber, which she sang at Drama region and Region state. Finally, Dallas did his piano solo, "Besaid". Everyone did very well with their performances and we thank anyone who came to support us and our school. ■

BY DAISY TORRES



MACBETH

On April 12th, some of the EHS English students attended a performance of Macbeth at Delta High School. It was a traveling production, performed by six performers of the Utah Shakespeare Festival.

It was not an official field trip, so only students who wanted to go went. Jorge, Kara, Kayli, Jenna, Sam, Megan, Melanie and Dallas went, along with Sharon, Teresa, Brandi Roberts and Lois

The production did not have

typical costuming or a normal set, instead choosing to go for a punk rock/post-apocalyptic look. This was accompanied in the music selection, which featured such songs as AC/DC's "Thunderstruck."

The reactions to the play were many and varied. Some of them follow:

Jenna Conrad - "I liked the guy who played Macduff, but I didn't really like their costumes."

Jorge Saucedo - "I liked it."

Megan Baker - "It was fun to go see. It

was interesting to see a different interpretation of the costuming and set. The woman who played Lady Macbeth was particularly impressive."

Sharon Conrad - "I thought it was impressive, especially with such a small cast. It was little difficult to differentiate between roles some times, but I always enjoy live theater."

All in all, this performance of Macbeth, though hampered somewhat by its small cast, was still very good, and received fairly well by the audience. ■

BY SAM ROBERTS

TOPAZ

On March 22, 2019, at 8:00 in the morning, a school bus came to pick up students to go to Delta for a delightful trip! When we made it to Delta, we were early so we had some time.

We went to this park and had a few pictures in front of a glorious waterfall. When it was time, we went to the Topaz museum and a

nice woman named Jane Beckwith welcomed us and explained she was our guide. She first showed us a movie about Topaz and after asking some questions, went into a gallery filled with quotes, artifacts, and rooms that were related to Topaz.

It was amazing! After several hours in the museum, we then separated to go eat at McDonald's and Subway. The people that ate at McDonald's took pretty long eating so the people at

Subway went shopping at Dollar General.

We all then followed Jane's car to the actual site of where Topaz was! It was a bit far, but we made it! But it was really rainy and muddy so we couldn't take a walk on the grounds there. Then we went back home. Considering that we couldn't walk and take a tour in Topaz, it was still really cool to learn about Topaz! ■

BY FABIAN GOMEZ



4TH QUARTER PE FUN

This Quarter for P.E. like every other quarter, we go running on Mondays so that we can get our bodies prepared for the sport that we will do that week. Every week we start running on Monday for about 30 minutes.

On Tuesday we decide what we get to play or either the teacher gets to decide for the rest of that week. On Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, we

practice and on Friday, it is Game Day which is the day when we play a game of that

chosen sport.

This quarter we played football, soccer, basketball, volleyball, and kickball.

WHAT SPORT DID YOU ENJOY THIS QUARTER?

Fabian: Kickball

Yudnelly: Basketball

Cody: Basketball

Carlos: Soccer

Burklie: Volleyball

Daisy: Soccer

As you can see, people have decided different sports for the one they enjoyed most this quarter. ■

BY DIEGO HUERTA

SUMMER PLANS

The school year is almost over, and people are ready for summer. I got together with some people and asked them their plans:

WHAT ARE YOUR SUMMER PLANS?

Daisy - "Work"

Kara - "Working at the park and

hopefully going to Missouri"

Andrea - "Work"

Melanie - "I'm doing a horse training internship in California for the month of June. Then I have a week long leadership camp in July. Other than that, I'm hopefully going to do a lot of riding and a lot of hiking."

Burklie - "To do whatever I want"

Fabian - "Playing games all day"

Sam - "Nothing specific, just working at T&D's"

We all have had a good school year, and we all have plans for the summer. I hope everyone has a good summer! ■

BY DANIELLE HAYWARD



THE COLD WAR IN A COFFEE SHOP

This year the class of US History 11th-12th grade performed a play about the Cold War, but they did it as a coffee shop war theme, with one side as the Soviet Union and the other side as The United States. Since they had so few kids they had to bring in some acting support from the 10th grade.

I interviewed some people on what they thought of the Cold War in the

Coffee Shop production and here are their thoughts:

• **Daisy**: that was so good! It was very unique, and Teresa was the best actress.

• **Burklie**: ummmm... it was good, but I didn't know what was going on so it was kind of confusing.

• **Diego**: well, it was fun to watch, and I even kind of understood some of it.

• **Larissa**: It was funny!

The play was a good experience for the history class, and it was also very entertaining and informational to those of us who haven't learned about the Cold War. If anyone wants to see the Cold War in a Coffee Shop play, just go to the EskDale High School YouTube Channel to find the video. ■

BY YUDNELY AVELAR

TESTING

Near the end of every school year, there is always one thing that marks the coming of summer break. Testing. Every year, 7th through 10th grade students have to be tested on the subjects that they have been studying all year. 11th and 12th grade

students take different forms of testing at different times. Testing takes up a few hours every day for four days. The subjects that the students are tested on are English Language Arts, Math, Science, and Writing/Reading. The 11th and 12th graders take ACT testing which tests them on the same subjects. ACT testing is something that they have to take before

going on to college. 7th through 10th grade students are tested so that the people on the school board know that the students are learning something from their teachers. Sometimes it seems the testing is more to test the teachers than it is to test the students. It is probably for the best that we have testing, but we are all very glad when it is over. ■

BY BURKLIE WRIGHT

FEATURED TEACHER: SHARON CONRAD



I was lucky enough to be able to ask Sharon Conrad, our amazing teacher, some questions I have been wanting to ask her all year. Thank you so much for teaching all of us and being so kind to all of us, even though we are annoying sometimes.

When in the summer do you start looking forward to the next school year?

I try not to think about school too much until the end of June. But I have summer classes I have to write lesson plans in so it's kind of inevitable.

Do you feel like this was a successful school year?

Of course I do!

What is your favorite class to teach? (Besides English!)

This was my first year teaching high school Biology, and I really enjoyed teaching it.

How long do you plan on teaching?

Until I die.

What is your favorite Shakespeare play?

Oh, too many! I love Macbeth but I also love Twelfth Night and Much Ado About Nothing. I don't know, I love them all.

Who/what inspired you to teach?

When I was in high school I thought I wanted teach. But when I graduated, I didn't think I liked kids and decided I would never teach. But teaching runs in my family, and my love for teaching was apparently inevitable as well as genetic.

Why teach at EskDale?

I love this valley. I knew that whatever I did, I wanted to do it here. This is my home. I am just lucky to have my dream job, doing what I love where I love to be.

Was English always your favorite class?

My favorite classes in high school were the music ones actually. But I have always loved to read and write.

Have you ever had second thoughts on teaching?

No.

Did you go to college for teaching?

Yes and no, my Bachelor's degree is not in education at all. But when I decided to go into teaching, I went back to earn the equivalent of a second Bachelor's in English education. And this summer, I will complete both my science and biology endorsements.

How did your first year of teaching go?

My first year of teaching was perfect for me because I started in April—at the end of the year, after testing—so I got to ease into teaching with a summer break so soon after to plan and prepare for the first full year. The hardest thing was finding out what worked and didn't work for my own teaching style.

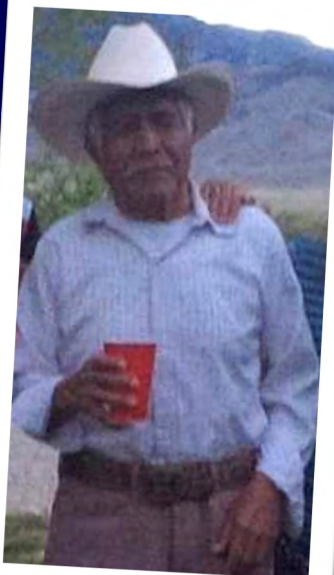
How old were you when you started teaching?

I was 28, although I started subbing five years before that in 2009. Now I have been teaching for five years.

Thank you Sharon, for being a great teacher. and an even better friend to all of us. We all hope you continue teaching for a long, long time. ■

BY LARISSA CROUCH

EVERYONE HAS A STORY — GREGORIO VILLARREAL TORRES



My grandfather is 72 years old. He lives in Apozol, Zacatecas, Mexico. He has glaucoma and is completely blind. He turned blind 15 years ago when he was 57 years old. I decided to ask him a few questions because I thought he had an interesting and one-of-a-kind story.

How did you feel as you began to turn blind?

A mix of emotions. I was really depressed.

What was the hardest challenge you had to overcome when you began

turning blind?

A lot of sadness, stress, and desperation because I had a lot of needs and had lost my job because of my condition.

What helped you through this hard obstacle in your life?

A cane really helped me, and I began feeling useful again.

Has being blind kept you from doing things you wish you could do?

It has kept me from going alone to places to play music for others.

Have your other senses heightened since you've become blind?

Definitely. I really depend on them. My

memory has bettered also.

What do you wish people knew about a blind person?

I wish they knew I have rebuilt myself, and I can do things on my own.

What are your hobbies?

Housework and playing instruments such as the guitar, accordion, and bass. They entertain me. I love singing as well; it relaxes me.

Any last words for our readers?

Take care of your vision, it's very important. Use glasses, they're very useful. And even for those who are blind, keep taking care of your vision, don't give up! Be persistent and move on. Life is precious. ■

BY ANDREA GOMEZ

YEAR IN REVIEW

It has been a great year! Full of accomplishments, triumphs, and great fun. Some of the accomplishments made this year were The Top Team GPA earned by the Cross Country and Track and Field Team. The Choir had superior ratings and the opportunity to go to State but couldn't, due to the trip. Kayli Baker also made it to State in Track and Field and represented the school there on May 17-18. We have made so many accomplishments together and not together. The Girl's

Basketball Team made it to State this year, both Melanie and Dallas have received scholarships, and we have welcomed many newcomers too.

We will be sad to see the seniors leave this year - we will miss them. They have all been such great listeners, friends, and role models. We wish them the best and hope they achieve all their goals.

Some of the thoughts on this year and favorite parts were as follows:

Burklie: "It has been a good year, my favorite part was probably the trip."

Sharon: "It has been a really good year. I don't really have one favorite part."

Yudnelly: "It has been an okay year, I

loved the trip, especially when my roommates, and I spent almost 20 minutes yelling at the guy on the phone from Domino's"

Kath: "I have had a lot of fun this year, But one of my favorite events from this year was the region choir festival."

Daisy: "This year was a lot harder than Jr High, I also feel like I'm more hated this year. But love that....My favorite part was leaving behind old friendships and discovering new ones.
#HighKeyLowKeySalty"

It has been a great year!!!! We are all looking forward to next year! ■

BY RYLEE ELMER

SENIOR SPOTLIGHTS

Every year, we go through the same old process of losing the older few students and bringing in a fresh new batch of children. This year we are having to say goodbye to five of the students at EskDale High School.

Among these five there is Carson Wright and Dallas Hayward. Carson will be going to Snow College in Richfield to become a diesel mechanic, and Dallas will be going off to further his career in piano performance at the University of Utah in Salt Lake City. They both have a few things to say before they leave and will definitely miss this place and their fellow students as they leave.

Favorite memory throughout all of high school?

Carson: *Probably High school rodeo, it was always fun.*

Dallas: *Don't have one.*

How do you feel about

graduating?

Carson: *I'm excited.*

Dallas: *Mostly indifferent.*

Any advice for any future seniors?

Carson: *Don't over-stress too much*

Dallas: *Don't act like school's over until they hand you the diploma.*

What kind of Senior do you think that you are?

Carson: *The laid back kind*

Dallas: *The senior kind*

Do you miss being a freshman?

Carson: *Not at all*

Dallas: *No*

How do you feel about college and being a freshman one more time?

Carson: *It should be interesting*

Dallas: *It'll be interesting.*

Where do you see yourself in 10

years?

Carson: *Hopefully with a great job*

Dallas: *Dying in poverty*

What kind of Freshman do you think you were?

Carson: *I'm not really sure*

Dallas: *A good one*

What was your favorite year of high school?

Carson: *Senior year*

Dallas: *Sophomore*

Why did you choose your university?:

Carson: *It seemed to fit my needs best*

Dallas: *Because it's my best option*

for piano performance. ■

BY JORGE SAUCEDO



TRACK SEASON RECAP



Another track season has come and gone already. This year's team was

Kayli Baker, Kara Conrad, and Jenna Conrad. Kayli Baker competed in the 800m and qualified for state where she got her best time of the season. Kara Conrad competed in three events, 300m hurdles, 100m sprint, and 200m sprint. Jenna Conrad competed in shot put and the 100m sprint.

This year was Coach Janille Baker's last year as coach at EskDale High School. She has coached 5 seasons of both track and cross

country. The athletes would like to thank her for her time, dedication, wisdom, and help throughout the seasons, and they will miss her next year.

Next year there will be a region realignment. Because of the region realignment, some of the schools in our region will be different. Good luck to the athletes of Eskdale High school next year. ■

BY CARSON WRIGHT

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SUMMER IS UPON US!

HERE ARE SOME UPCOMING EVENTS TO LOOK FORWARD TO.

- **May 23, 2019**

Megan Baker, Dallas Hayward, Melanie Heckethorn, Jorge Saucedo, and Carson Wright—the EHS Class of 2019—graduate from EskDale High School, 7 pm, EskDale Auditorium

- **June 7-9, 2019**

Come have fun at the Snake Valley Festival! Food, music, parade, games, water fight, auctions, yard sale, booths, trail run, and much more!

- **July 4, 2019**

Fourth of July Celebration in EskDale.

6:30 pm, EskDale Plaza—Food available for purchase

8:30 pm, EskDale Amphitheater—Concert

10 pm—Fireworks!

- **August 9, 2019**

Registration for the new school year

- **August 14, 2019**

2019-2020 school year commences!

