

WOKSAPE

Environmental Science Students Take Field Trips

BY
CHARISSA LIVINGSTON

Spring has sprung, which means more field trips and learning outside for many classes. One in particular, Environmental Science, has taken a few recent field trips.

Environmental Science has been offered to students of Yankton High School for around fifteen years now, according to Mr. Randy Gross, YHS Science teacher. Logan Ulmer, a senior, said that he took environmental science as an elective this semester, because it was the last science class on his list to take. Heide Blagg, a senior, took environmental science last year. She said, "I like science and I want to go into science fields in the future."

One of the most recent field trips that the environmental science classes have taken was to the fish hatchery. According to Gross, "Most students have been out to the fish aquarium near the lake, but not the fish hatchery."

Students have either been going on a trip to the fish hatchery or the aquarium for many years now. "The fish hatchery shows the students how they raise fish, such as walleye and trout. They also learn how these fish are used to stock lakes and other bodies

of water throughout the region, and explain to the students their Endangered Species Project which involves the Pallid Sturgeon." Gross explained.

Ulmer explained, "My favorite part about going to the fish hatchery was looking at all the different kinds of fish. The most interesting part was seeing the sturgeon fish, because they were really big."

Blagg also explained, "My favorite part about going to the fish hatchery was feeding the fish and seeing all of the fish. The most interesting part was how old the largest fish were."

Going to the fish hatchery and aquarium is not all that environmental science students get to do. They also do a series of water testing. "They test surface water from in and around Yankton. The water the students get to test comes from the Jim River, Missouri River, Marne Creek, and Westside Pond," explained Gross. The students did tests such as pH, hardness, and dissolved oxygen.

Ulmer said that while water testing, he learned that there are many different things in our water.

There is a great reason why the environmental science classes take field trips. Gross explained, "I decided to go on field trips during Environmental Science class because I think it gives the students a

chance to experience things in the real world. Some students actually don't know where water from the faucet comes from. That is why we go to the Water Treatment Plant. Some students really don't know where 'stuff' goes when you flush your toilet. That's why we go to the Waste Water Treatment Plant. Some students don't know where your trash goes after the garbage truck picks it up. That's why we go to the Transfer Station. Hopefully the students learn a great deal from the field trips we take and will use this knowledge to become good stewards on the environment and our community."

The students get a hands-on experience on field trips, but when they are not on a field trip, they are learning useful things in the classroom. They do various projects and presentations throughout the semester. According to Gross, "Some of these projects and presentations involve biomes from around the world, creating their own community in a project called Dragonfly Pond, and our Recycling Project in which we recycle all of the paper from the high school and Summit Center."

Regardless of what the project or field trip is, environmental science students get to learn a lot about taking care of the environment.

A Last Look Back

Four years have come and gone quicker than I could have imagined. As this will be my last editorial for the *Woksape*, I feel it is only appropriate to share my advice that I have learned over the years.

As a freshman, I can remember being terrified to start high school. If I could go back, I would have stopped worrying about the little things and all of the drama throughout the year. It's important to focus on school. I know it doesn't seem like it, but every class will matter in the long run when applying for colleges and scholarships.

My sophomore year, I began to get the hang of high school. Looking back, I would advise everyone to get involved with at least one activity. Over the years I took part in band activities, Student Council, *Woksape*, and National Honor Society. Without the involvement in these activities I know I wouldn't have come as far as I have.

Juniors, take at least one AP class. During my junior year I didn't take AP Biology or AP History. I certainly wish I would have signed up for at least one of them. Although the work load seems terrifying at first, getting ahead early will only benefit you.

Last but not least, I would like to say a few words to the current seniors and the ones filling our shoes next year.

To the graduating class of 2011, I would like to congratulate all of you for persevering and graduating. It's been an amazing four years with all of you. Many memories and lasting friendships have been made during this short period of time. I look forward to checking my Facebook and seeing all of your successes and updates in the near future. You will all do incredible things with your lives, and this is just the beginning.

To the up and coming seniors, I would advise that you enjoy every moment of your last year of high school. This is the last year you will be able to see everyone in your graduating class all together. Take advantage of every event such as the basketball games, homecoming and prom. I know graduation won't feel that close in the beginning of next year, but make sure to enjoy every moment you have left. Don't stress over the silly things, but also make sure not to let senioritis kick in. Stay strong to the end and everything will pay off when you begin applying for college and scholarships. Speaking of scholarships, apply for as many as you can! You'll be surprised at how much of your college tuition your scholarships will cover!

In Our
Opinion



YHS Retirees Share Memories and Advice

Several people whose faces have become familiar at Yankton High School will be retiring following this school year. We asked them to share some favorite memories, what they will miss the most, and any advice for those individuals who will be called upon to fill their shoes.

Mrs. Maxine Hughes, YHS Administrative Assistant



PHOTO BY STEVEN MARLOW

Favorite memory while working at YHS:

"The most humorous memory I have is when 1,000 box elder bugs got turned loose on a van on the way to a debate trip. My other favorite memories are when students come back to visit and say thank you."

How he will spend his free time:

I won't have any free time. I will be working. I don't know where I will work yet, because I haven't decided what I want to be when I grow up.

His advice for students and staff members:

"For the students, take your education seriously- it's the last time you'll get it for free. To the faculty and staff, you are the best of the best- stay that way. For the new teachers, you are coming into the best- make sure you will be."

Mrs. Deborah Welter, YHS Finance Instructor



PHOTO BY STEVEN MARLOW

What he has enjoyed the most:

Barron will miss "getting to work with the preschoolers," he says they "never fail to make a bad day brighter with their extremely blunt and honest outlook on life."

What he will do in his free time:

"I'll find a job or a hobby, I can't not work." Barron is also an avid motorcycle rider, so he will be making plenty of time for that!

His advice for someone filling his shoes:

"Use your eyes and ears more than your mouth—learn about the kids, see what they are having trouble with."

What she will do in her spare time:

Max says she plans to spend time with her grandchildren Kaden and Daylee. She also plans to play golf and more bridge as well as more travelling.

What she will miss the most:

"There are times when I am sad and think how much I will miss coming to YHS. I will definitely miss the people that I have worked with and getting to know the students."

Her favorite memories:

"Seeing the excitement of the kids and the float decorating as well as coronation and the parade for homecoming has always been fun."

Mr. Paul Harens, YHS English Instructor

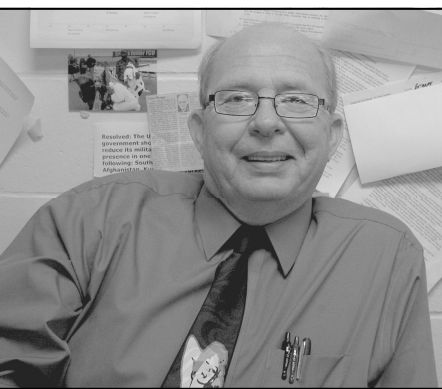


PHOTO BY EMILY NIEBRUGGE

What she has enjoyed the most:

"I wouldn't have stayed for 32 years if I didn't enjoy what I am doing. The teachers, administration, and students are wonderful."

What she will miss the most:

"I will miss being with the students and teachers. I will miss lecturing and telling my stories to a captivated audience too."

What she will do in her free time:

Everything that I want to do; who knows? I'll start my bucket list.

Mr. Charlie Barron, YSD School Psychologist



PHOTO BY TERRY HUBER

Yankton High School Track Teams Hoping to Finish the Season Well



BY
TORY GROSS

With the state track meet quickly approaching, the Yankton Bucks and Gazelles have wasted no time in leaving their marks for qualify or improvement.

Their already qualifying scores got them to the state meet last Thursday at William's Field. The event included 12 teams and over 972 athletes.

It was the perfect weather for a track meet, and the team could obviously feel it. Although first place or a runner-up finish was unnecessary, it did not stop the Bucks and Gazelles from earning those titles.

Yankton took first in five events, and combined for five runner-up finishes as well.

In the distance group, Jenna Grossenburg claimed herself a runner-up spot in the 1600, losing only by a few seconds, and taking the title in the 3200.

"Winning the 3200 and qualifying was obviously an accomplishment for me, but I definitely wish I could have won the 1600," she explained. "I just wish I could have had a stronger finish. I mean, I stuck with the leader all the way and felt good at the end of the race, and I know I could have pushed harder to get the title."

For the boys, Ryan Olson was

second in the 1600 and Kipp Kinsley not only set a personal record, but improved his previous time in the 3200 by nearly 40 seconds.

For the Gazelles, Angie Dvorak was second in the 100 hurdles (15.7) and Emily Anderson was second in the triple jump (34-4.25).

Yankton also took second in the 800 relay.

Freshman Jordan Hejna easily qualified provisionally. Hejna set the school record for fresh-

men in the high jump with a mark of 6-3.25.

The Bucks also snagged two victories in the competition, one from Justin Lillie in the 110 hurdles and the other from an 11-9 mark in the pole vault from A.J. Larson.

The Yankton Bucks and Gazelles will travel to Sioux Falls on May 6th and 7th to the Howard Wood Dakota Relays, and will be working hard in preparing for State, coming up on May 27th and 28th.

HOW TO: PROCRASTINATE WISELY



BY
ALLISON KATHOL

1) Go outside. With Spring in full bloom, nobody wants to stay inside. Head outdoors and take in the evening sun when taking a walk, riding your bike, or going to the park.

2) Go online. Check your Facebook at least 3 times to stall starting your homework. And if there's nothing new on Facebook, log onto stumbleupon.com and don't plan on doing anything for at least an hour.

3) Watch a movie. Check out the Redbox or Mr. Movie and rent an oldie or one of this year's Oscar winning movies. Not feeling a whole movie? Watch a quick episode of a show on television or on hulu.com.

4) Sleep. Take a nap to avoid doing anything. Who knows, maybe you'll be motivated to do something after you are all rested!

5) Do anything besides what you actually need to do. I would have thought of more things, but...

GRADUATION PARTY HEADQUARTERS

Class of 2011 Parents:
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2100 Broadway, Yankton, SD

Graduation Party Checklist:

- Cake, cupcakes & buns from Hy-Vee Bakery
- Floral centerpieces & balloons from Hy-Vee Floral
- Fresh salads, smokies, chicken wings & BBQ pork or beef from Hy-Vee Kitchen
- Meat & cheese trays, party subs, cocktail sandwiches & taco trays from Hy-Vee Delicatessen
- Fruit/veggie trays & pizzas, watermelon boats & dips from Hy-Vee Produce/Salad Bar
- Napkins, plates, silverware, table covers from Hy-Vee