NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLAR-SHIP FINALIST.....1 & 2



Nationa

Merit



ECHS VISION......TO CREATE A CULTURE OF EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE FOR EACH STUDENT.

EAST CENTRAL HIGH SCHOOL PROUDLY ANNOUNCES SEMIFINALISTS IN THE 2015 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM



Pictured (L-R) James Brand and Logan Brashear, ECHS National Merit Semifinalists See full story on page 2



October

ISSUE 2

Spanish Students Return from IU Honors Study Abroad Program



very year, level 3 and 4 foreign language students are encouraged to participate in the Indiana University Study Abroad Program. This summer, two Spanish students represented East Central High School in this program. Seniors Paul Elliott and Alexis Schoenefeld studied for 7 weeks in Leon and Ciudad Real, Spain. While in their prospective cities, they took an oath to speak no English for 7 weeks. All forms of communication (including Facebook, Twitter, music and television) were restricted to Spanish. Students find themselves in a classroom situation learning a variety of communications skills, culture and history. In the afternoons and during the week-ends, students have opportunities to practice their class-

PHYSICAL EDUCATION IS NOT YOUR MOM AND DAD'S PE CLASS ANYMORE!

iss Shively's Advanced Fitness class and Mr. Foster's Lifetime Fitness class traveled to Eagle Creek Park in Indianapolis on September 25 to "Go Ape"! Go Ape is an obstacle course in the tree tops with ziplining at the end of each obstacle. The students and chaperones (Mrs. Tanner, Mrs. Crank, and Mrs. Debbie Price) survived the course on a beautiful day. After a thorough session on the instructions and safety rules, learning important terms like "Always Stay Connected", the groups were sent out to the course.

The participants were challenged both mentally and physically. Other students saw the value of this as an educational and social experience. In her essay on the field trip Sierra Preston wrote: "I enjoyed the small boards that were posted at the base of each starting tree that gave climbers information about various primates. I was able to learn interesting information about the different species and facts about them that I had never heard. I learned chimpanzees can live from forty to sixty years and weigh up to one hundred and twenty pounds. These boards also pointed out that many, if not all, the species were endangered and need to be protected. In conclusion, I thoroughly enjoyed my day at



ECHS 2015 NATIONAL MERIT SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM FINALIST

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B ast Central High School is proud to announce James Brand and Logan Brashear as National Merit Scholarship Semifinalists. James is the son of Jeff and Lisa Brand of Lawrenceburg, and Logan is the son of Becky and Brian Brashear of Sunman. Both are seniors at East Central and have excelled in the classroom and participated in many other extra-curricular activities.

Officials of National Merit Scholarship Corporation (NMSC) announced the names of approximately 16,000 Semifinalists in the 60th annual National Merit Scholarship Program. These academically talented high school seniors have an opportunity to continue in the competition for some 7,600 National Merit Scholarships worth about \$33 million that will be offered next spring. To be considered for a Merit Scholarship award, Semifinalists must fulfill several requirements to advance to the Finalist level of the competition. About 90 percent of the Semifinalists are expected to attain Finalist standing, and more than half of the Finalists will win a National Merit Scholarship, earning the Merit Scholar title.

NMSC, a not-for-profit organiza-

tion that operates without government assistance, was established in 1955 specifically to conduct the annual National Merit Scholarship Program. Scholarships are underwritten by NMSC with its own funds and by approximately 440 business organizations and higher education institutions that share NMSC's goals of honoring the nation's scholastic champions and encouraging the pursuit of academic excellence.

PHYSICAL EDUCATION GOES APE

(Continued from page 2)

Go Ape and hope to return in the near future for more "ape"tastic climbing." The students had an excellent experience and learned many lessons. Not only did they get a great physical workout but mental and social skills were expanded. Many students conquered a fear of heights.

If you would like to see more pictures from the trip go to http:// www.schoolrack.com/ echspe/photos/go-ape-2014-2015-1/. To learn more about Go Ape you can view their website at www.goape.com.



East Central High School Students Jump For BPA!

he Business Professionals of America student organization at East Central High School has jumped in to the new year with a real sense of enthusiasm and excitement.

The organization is up two members this year going from 50 last year to 52 this year. Elections were held and the newly appointed officers are: Abby Ashton, President; Lindsey Altum, Vice President of Events; Cai Fox, Vice President of Communications; Kaleb Guess, Vice President of Enrollment; Logan Kelly, Vice President of Fundraising; Devin Mitts, Vice President of Finance .

After officer elections were held, the BPA students set their sights on upcoming activities, fundraising projects and conferences.

On October 4, 2014, twenty Business Professionals of America Students traveled to Muncie, Indiana to attend the Indiana's Business Professionals of America's Fall Leadership Conference



hosted by Ball State's Miller College of Business located in the Whitinger Business Building. Dr. Rod Davis, Interim Chairperson of the Department of Management, Ball State University, opened the conference by addressing the students. He told all of the students that organizations can not exist without adding value to people's lives and that Business Professionals of America has been in an existence for 50 years. They have been contributing and adding to the lives of students and have done it successfully for a very long time.

During the course of the morning, the Indiana BPA State Office Leadership Team held various work sessions on the following topics:

- How to Work Together as a Team
- Torch Awards/BPA Cares
- Dress to Impress
- Time Management
- Public Speaking
- Social Media Do's and Don'ts



Dr. Rodney Davis, Ball State University, Interim Chairperson of the Department of Management

 $(Continued \ on \ page \ 5)$

BPA HEADS TO BALL STATE!

(Continued from page 4)

• How to Run for State Office

The students were split into mixed groups and were to pick four of the above sessions to attend and participate in.

The BPA members attended lunch at Ball State's Atrium Food Court, and then went on a campus walking tour of Ball State University.

The day ended with closing sessions in the Arts & Journalism Building, and then a two hour bus ride home. Thanks to Mr. Tom Beck, our bus driver, for the safe ride up and back!













room instruction through spontaneous conversations at the markets, restaurants and touring excursions.

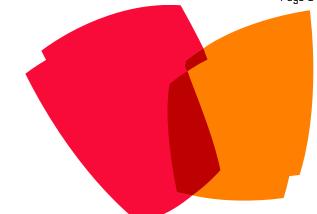
Although the first two weeks of the adventure were sometimes stressful, little by little students began to communicate in Spanish. They found themselves understanding complete conversations and even dreaming in Spanish. Paul commented that upon his arrival home he struggled remembering basic words in English. To his surprise, he was not ready for the American fast paced lifestyle and missed the long coffee breaks and meal times in Spain. Paul

was so glad to have had the experience to study abroad. He felt the experience "grew him up" and caused him to think and respond more independently.



He confessed that he was unsure of his decision to go even when he was entering the plane to leave. Once there, however, he fell in love with the language, culture and people. Alexis shared similar feelings and added that she has enjoyed learning to speak Spanish so much that she finds herself wanting to converse in Spanish rather than English.

IU Honors Study Abroad Program is currently looking for current Spanish or French students that would like to take the no English challenge for 7 weeks during the summer of 2015. The initial deadline for student registration is September 29. Interested students can contact Mrs. Amy Roth for further information @ aroth@sunmandearborn.k12.in.us.



County-wide competition brought to you and funded by AIM - Young Professionals of Greater Dearborn County



Do you have a great idea and want to see it turned into reality? High School age students are eligible to participate.

Up to \$2,000 Cash Prize (local competition)

Up to \$10,000 Cash Prize (regional competition)

The competition aims to further develop the innovative spirit in Dearborn County by reaching out to high school students and showing them viable career opportunities through entrepreneurship. Registration is open through September 19th on the Maverick website. Get started on your plan NOW!

www.maverickchallenge.com

East Central High School: Tina Waechter, 812-576-4811, tjwaechter@sunmandearborn.k12.in.us Lawrenceburg High School: Bill Snyder, 812-537-7129, bsnyder@lburg.k12.in.us South Dearborn High School: Lisa Tupper 812-926-3772, lisa.tupper@sdcsc.k12.in.us

AIM Contact: Hollie Stoops (513) 284-3350 or hos@landconsul.com



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