


School Notebook

Special Basketball Game

by Tom Nolan, teacher, *Ellenville Middle School*

For six weeks, members of the *Ellenville Boys Varsity Basketball Team* have coached and served as mentors for the community's up-and-coming basketball players. Local children from the 4th through 6th grades in the *Ellenville Central School* have attended a Saturday morning clinic organized by varsity head coach Bryan Bonitz. At these clinics, children were divided by age group and led through basic skill drills by the varsity basketball players. Once through the important building blocks, the children were provided the opportunity to play in games coached and refereed by the varsity team. More than 80 students participated in the program with their loving parents and guardians welcomed to sit and watch.

Many of the varsity players and their campers have developed a respectful bond. Some of the campers are following the varsity players' seasons, cheering loudly at the last home game victory over Coleman. Through the efforts of varsity basketball players Leon Aguirre, Bryan Alexander, Joshua Brooks, Matthew Burns, Juan Cruz, Bryan Karow, Frankie Maldonado, Will Mirrer, Robert Owsinski, Michael Richardson, Frankie Rodriguez, Andrew Rogers, David Valdez, and Jacob Valdez, these young people are developing a love of the game as well as a bond of friendship which will last a long time.


While many of us won't have the chance to make the shot to end the game on a national stage, it was fun to watch Ellenville's future perform on Ellenville's own Big Court in the *Ellenville High School* gym at the December 23rd Championship game, as the Knicks (Preston Bazemore, Danny Colon, Justin Farrenkopf, Tyler Fitzgerald, Jason Gambino, John Paulsen, Stephen Pike, Justin Rodriguez, Justin Rose, and Michael Ryman) won the game against the Mavericks (Lasaun Brown, Luis Colon, Ramon Felix, Dominick Jahrling, Guy Meyer, Bobby Mobley, Kevin Nixon, Andres Rojas, Isiah Stevens, and Tyler Torres). 



Front from left: Brittney Green, Women's Choir; Edward Hubbert, Symphonic Band; Celia Barry, Mixed Choir. Back from left: Victoria Cohen, Women's Choir; Katie Stoeckeler, Mixed Choir; Richelle Blauvelt, Mixed Choir; Amanda Zweck, Mixed Choir. Photo by Joan Beck.

EHS Students Selected for All-State

Ellenville High School's Performing Arts Academy students were selected for Area All-State performing ensembles including Mixed Choir, Women's Choir, and Symphonic Band. Students auditioned and were selected as the best in the New York State Music Association's Zone 9 (Rockland, Orange, Ulster, Sullivan, and Green counties).

Other honors included the selection (from more than 2,000 students statewide) of third-year members of the *EHS Performing Arts Academy* for the All-State ensembles for performances held in December at the Eastman Theater in Rochester, NY. Edward Hubbert, a clarinet student of Laurie Worden, was chosen for the All-State Concert Band. Celia Barry, a voice student of Robert Oehme and a member of last year's All-State Mixed Choir, was chosen for the All-State Women's Choir. Richelle Blauvelt, a theater student of Roger Haener, was selected as an alternate for the All-State Mixed Choir. At auditions held in May, the students performed a level 6 (technically most difficult) work and a work they had never seen before, receiving a grade of A+. 



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