

NAMS Gifted News

Nazareth Area Middle School

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NAMS Competes in Chess Tournament

Inside this issue:

Chess Tournament	1
Eagles Nest Web Site	1
Podcasting	2
Andoranian Air Race	2
Junior Honor Society	2
Facts and Factoids	2

Special points of interest:

- Please check the Middle School Gifted Ed. Website for updated information. This can be accessed by going to the NAMS site, click on teams, specialists, then Mr. Smith's website. Or click: <http://teachweb.com/PA/NASD/bsmith/h0.stm>
- This edition's recommended website: <http://www.grc.nasa.gov/WWW/K-12/airplane/index.html>



Nathan DeRaymond
2nd place winner

Several Nazareth Area Middle School students participated in the 6th Annual Horizons For Youth Chess Tournament held at

Northampton Community College on Saturday, November 10. The day-long competition event consisted of two separate competitions-a "rated" one for those who are members of the United States Chess Federation (USCF) and one for non-member, non-rated individuals. Our students, 8th grader Matt Rohn, 7th grade student Colin Henderson, and 6th grade Nathan DeRaymond, all took part in the non-rated competition.

Each student played a minimum of five matches, scoring one point for a win, one half point for a draw and zero points for a loss. There were also separated brackets determined by age. Although all three Nazareth players were able to win some of their

matches, Nathan DeRaymond ended the day with a second place metal in the 6th grade age category. Tournament Director, Scott Zrinski, remarked that although the number of competitors had declined somewhat from previous competitions, the level of play was very high in the non-rated competition. Rules for the rated and non-rated are similar, with the only differences being that players in the rated section were each given 30 minutes to make all their moves using a chess clock, and each player was required to write down game moves using chess notation. Otherwise, both tournaments required the contestants to use the "touch" rule, which forces a player to move a piece once it has been touched. Another tournament is scheduled for the spring.



Colin contemplates his next move.



Eagles Nest-Nazareth Area Middle School Podcast & Multimedia Center

As of the beginning of the 07-08 school year, Nazareth Gifted students have a website to showcase their projects. The *Eagles Nest-Nazareth Area Middle School Podcast and Multimedia Center*, which can be viewed

New Web Site Showcases Gifted Projects!

at <http://www.nazeaglesnest.us> has pages for various types of media such as podcasts, video, multimedia such as MS PowerPoint, and digital art images. There's also a page of general information about Nazareth Middle School, and a page for digital resources. Viewers

can also sign up for the RSS feed which allows for automatic downloads of newly added podcast content. The website offers many projects from last year's gifted exploratory classes, and also includes some new material from this year.



Gifted Exploratory Students Create Podcasts



With the number of Podcasts on the web increasing exponentially, for example, one internet podcast service feedburner.com, facilitates nearly 160,000 podcasts, and thousands of podcasts listed on the popular iTunes website, a lot of people are starting to take notice of this new media.

A podcast is an mp3 audio file which provides information. The file often incorporates voice, music and special effects. Also, like a magazine subscription, a person can subscribe to a podcast feed, and receive each new podcast automatically via a web browser or through a site such as iTunes. Last year,

NAMS students started podcasting and produced several excellent broadcasts including a series on alternative energies, and one on the fundamentals of Islam. This year, we're continuing to produce new material. Our first marking period 8th grade exploratory class created three podcasts that relate to one of their study units: Exploration. Each cast looks at a different topic. You can visit our new website, the Eaglesnest, and download and listen to these productions. For example, one podcast is an interview with Columbus, and another provides information on Myths and Legends of the Sea.

Columbus



By Rachel, Carrie, Adam, Katie

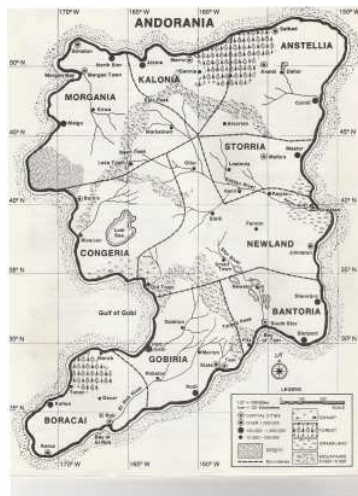
The Great Andoranian Air Race!

The Great Andoranian Air Race has begun! In the mythical land of Andorania, the citizens continue the tradition of air racing which became popular several generations ago. Contestants start at the city of Karuz, located in the southwest part of the country in the state of Boracai, and race to capital of Morgania, Morgan Town.

Our 7th grade exploratory group is currently engaged in this "simulation" race. To get to the finish, they must create daily flight plans and get them approved, keep a detailed, accurate flight log, and

make difficult decisions regarding situations that occur during the race. Each flight team is comprised of three students, a pilot, co-pilot, and navigator. Teams select their planes, and must takeoff, land and negotiate a number of obstacles along the race route using a computer flight simulation program.

Good luck to all teams, and may they all arrive safely in Morgan Town.



Junior Honor Society Members



Congratulations to all the students who were accepted into the National Junior Honor Society! The following gifted ed. students were approved: Erin

Adams, Shelby Does, Carrie Eager, Zach Esposito, Katie Fritchman, Leah Giralico, Tess Hamsher, William Haunstein, Elizabeth Ibarra, Olivia Migliori, Kaitlin Penzes, Taylore Roth, Grant Searfoss, Spencer Thomas, and

Phoebe Wang. A large measure of thanks to Ms. Justice who organized our local chapter and serves as the advisor. What's the purpose of the NJHS? The following is the purpose and mission which was taken from the NAMS NJHS website: "The purpose of NJHS is to build character and leadership ability in students who display academic excellence. Students provide service in the community and act as possible role models for other students, both older and younger. It is the mission of this chapter to make a difference one small step at a time."



Columbus's flagship, the Santa Maria, sank on Christmas Eve in 1492 after she ran aground.

You are eligible for a student pilot's certificate at age 16 and must be 17 to get a private pilot's certificate.

The National Junior Honor Society was established in 1929. Chapters are located in all 50 United States States.