Then and Now: The Alumni Corner

by Susan Siebert

After graduating from Cottonwood School in 2001, Katie Elder attended Bosque School where she distinguished herself early on by receiving the sixth grade Character Award. She received many more awards while at Bosque School including the Salman Award for Medieval History in tenth grade; Spanish Honor Society; twelfth grade soccer team captain and all state player honors. In her senior year she met with continued recognition when she won Best Student Poster at the 41st Annual Joint AZ-NM American Fisheries Society and Wildlife Society Chapter Meeting. The poster was entitled, "North American porcupine live capture technique and the effectiveness of using the sedative Domitor and the antagonist Antiseden to facilitate handling." (How's that for an impressive high school undertaking?) She also received the "Aldo Leopold's Legacy Award" as the graduating senior who best exemplified Leopold's legacy of scholarship and action throughout her years at Bosque School. She graduated with honors in 2008.

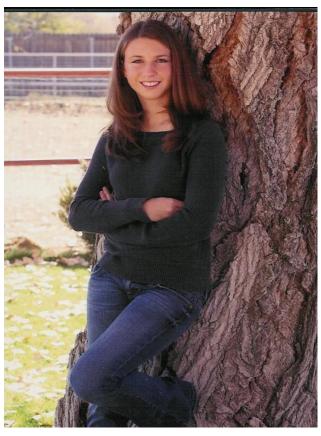
Katie is currently a sophomore at Humboldt State University in Arcata, California where she is majoring in both Marine Biology and Wildlife Sciences. In her freshman year her English Portfolio was awarded an exemplary rating given to the top 2% of the students at the university.

This past summer she worked for the Bosque Ecosystem Monitoring Program investigating and researching wildlife issues throughout the state of New Mexico. This involved contact with biologists from across the US as well as close work with the Black Institute for Environmental Studies, the University of New Mexico and the New Mexico Dept. of Game and Fish.

Katie's mom, Gileen Elder, believes that "Cottonwood School built her confidence. It gave her a broad outlook on life and the world."

Katie received many awards throughout her childhood, but perhaps none so sweet as the "Best Dressed Couple" at the Girl Scout Father/Daughter Dance when she was in third grade. (Of course! Our own Mr. Dick Elder is her very proud dad!)

Katie aspires to be a physician and intends to apply to medical school after graduation.



Katie Elder
Cottonwood School Class of 2001
Bosque School Class of 2008
Humboldt State University