

# One in a *Ver* Million

## Meet Tedd Schaffer

By David Lias

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Tedd Schaffer has aspirations to become an Eagle Scout.

His ambitions, it turns out, will do more than simply help him reach a personal goal. The entire Vermillion community is benefiting from his desire for success.

Tedd, who will turn 18 later this month, is a senior at Vermillion High School. For most of his lifetime, he's been involved in Boy Scouts.

"I started as a Tiger Scout, which is as low as it goes with rank. When I was young, it was just sort of a fun thing to do, and as I got older, I stayed in it for my mom, because she had brothers

who had been in Scouting, and it was important to her," he said.

This past year, the city of Vermillion has been busy with the planning and construction of a new ice rink and skateboard facility in Barstow Park.

During that time, Tedd has been just as busy as he works to obtain the Eagle Scout rank.

He has been planning, making contacts, and successfully convincing local businesses and individuals to donate time and materials to make the placement of a new sign at the park a reality.

"What I take out of Scouting, and my project, is just the sense of being proud of everything that's been done," Tedd said.

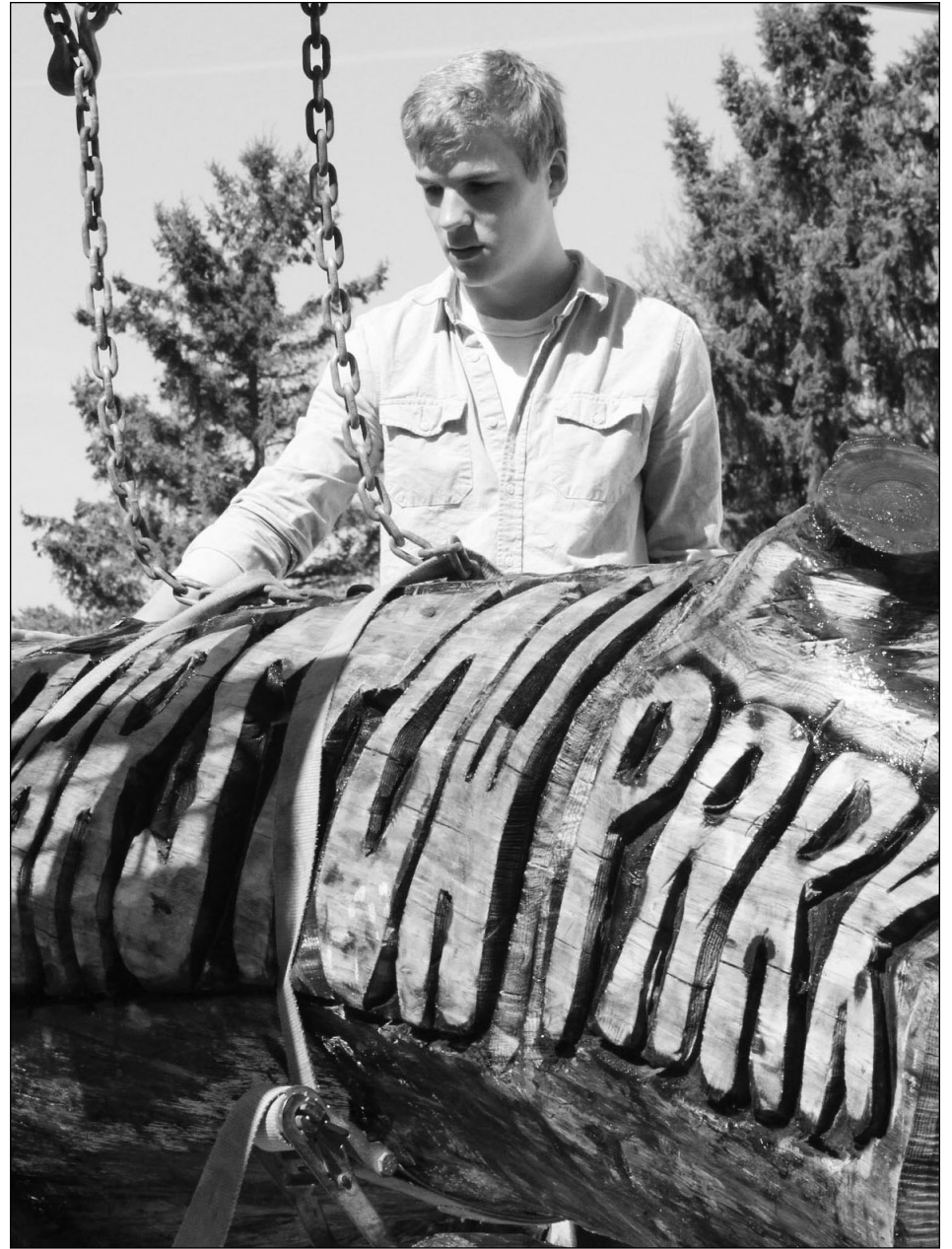
"And, I hope my project will inspire other kids to get involved in Scouting."

The new sign was put in place near the site of the ice rink/skateboard facility on March 31.

Last weekend, Tedd attended an Eagle Board of Review in Huron. If his project is approved, he will likely become an Eagle Scout at an awards ceremony this summer in Vermillion.

"The board will want to see that I have all sorts of paperwork that shows how I planned my project," he said. "They will want that, and photos that help document everything. I need to show them how I carried it (the Eagle project) out, and how I was a leader throughout the project and was in control."

Tedd admits that even if he wasn't pursuing the goal of becoming an Eagle Scout, he'd be left



TEDD SCHAFFER

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with a pretty good feeling just knowing that he was able to accomplish something that benefits the Vermillion community.

"I'm really proud of the sign, and I think it will be a good contribution to the park," he said. "I think it looks

nice, and I'm sure people will like it when they see it."

Tedd will graduate from Vermillion High School in May, and plans to study engineering at South Dakota State University. He believes his entire experience with the Boy Scouts, and especially his efforts this last year, will help give him an edge as he pursues higher education.

"I think it (Scouting) has definitely made me more responsible," he

said. "Having to be organized and in charge of a big project like this meant I had to have all sorts of paperwork all neatly placed in binders. "Normally, I'm not that organized," Tedd said, laughing. "But when you have to do a big project, you just have to do it and be thorough about it. I think that will definitely help me in college."

Read more about Tedd's Eagle Scout project in this week's Plain Talk.

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