

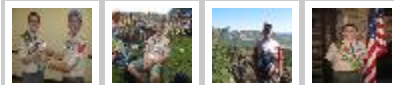
Eagle Scout Soars to New Heights

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Todd Christian, 18 Eagle Scout and Huntsville High School Senior was given an award Sunday for earning all possible 137 merit badges.

Larry Fusaro, Scoutmaster of Troop 114 said he and all of Christian's fellow Eagle Scouts were extremely proud of him.

"It's an extraordinary feat that very few scouts are able or willing to accomplish," said Fusaro.

Fusaro said normally, Eagle Scouts are able to earn 133 merit badges, but during an Anniversary year, Eagle Scouts have the chance to earn an additional four badges.

Fusaro has been a Scoutmaster for 26 years and Christian is his only Eagle Scout to earn 137 merit badges. Fusaro said he was also an Eagle Scout growing up, which calculates to 40 years in the brotherhood. Fusaro said he met a leader in the 1980's who also earned 137 merit badges, which conveys the difficulty and rarity of this accomplishment.

Fusaro said some badges can take months to earn, such as a Personal Management merit badge, which takes at least three months. While obtaining his Climbing merit badge, Fusaro said Christian had to overcome his fear of heights.

Fusaro expressed his excitement for his boys, as he said the various badges and tasks enabled Eagle Scouts to sample various careers before attending college; everything from plumbing, farm mechanics, photography to computer science.

Fusaro said Christian plans on attending Texas A&M University in the fall.

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