

THE TROJOURNAL

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Freshmen Elissa Stein and Chelsie Green pose with the CPR training dummies on April 27. The freshman class spent all day working toward their CPR certification. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Around The Halls

What is your biggest fear after graduation?

Good-bye, seniors. You will be missed. Good luck in your future.



Seth Stanley, sr. -The things that worry me the most with graduating are having all the responsibility and leaving behind all of my old friends."



Ashley Houchin, sr. - "I am very worried that the first time I get sick, I won't have my mom to make me feel better and to take care of me."



Ian Hughes, sr. - "I am most scared of living on my own and having to cook my own food."



Lacy Bruggeman, sr. - "My greatest fear is leaving behind all of my great memories from high school- plays, forensics, and drama- but most of all, leaving Mr. Anderson."



Southeast of Saline

THE TROJOURNAL

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Letters should be 300 words or less

Student copes with sad goodbyes

By Jessica Conway

The days of high school are ending, and as they do, the excitement of freedom fades away to fear. The decisions have been made, college is on its way, but college means moving away from home, starting anew in our own lives, saying goodbye to the friends we've had for nearly 13 years and looking nervously to the ones we will make in the future.

What will happen to us as we travel out on our own and spread our wings to fly? Will we soar like an eagle or crash to the ground with a broken wing? These questions and many more have come upon us like the plague, and if it hasn't hit you yet, it soon will. So what is the cure?

Remember the dreams that you've been planning since before you were old enough to have a conscious comprehension of them and make plans. Don't think of going to college as a new life; think of it as an extension to your old one. You're not going to be leaving the ones you love behind; you'll just be expanding on what you already have.

Just because you'll be making new friends doesn't mean that you have to forget the old ones. After all, isn't that why

cell phones have room for over fifty-two phone numbers?

As you're remembering who you've had in your past, remember the lessons they've taught you. College will bring up a whole new level of life; it will teach you lessons that could never be learned in high school because you'll be maturing in age, but don't forget the lessons you've learned before and continue to pass them on. You're the big dogs now; teach these lessons to the ones around you.

Some of the best lessons that we have learned over the past four years have come from our beloved educators and friends. For those nights when you're remembering that you have a huge final the next day but you've just been invited to the party of the century, remember what Mr. Wagner would tell us: "Procrastination is your enemy!"

Then, of course, there is Mr. Gies' favorite word to brighten up those lonely nights when you're feeling stressed. Everything is "luscious," and if you ever go out to eat but you can't read the menu, just remember, as Mrs. Cordill has taught us, not to order the "Escargot." College is

(See "Memories..." on page 3)

Parents praise school community for helping raise

Letter to the editor
child

Dear Editor,
They say it takes a village to raise a child. In our case that village is the SES community. My daughter is a high school graduate this year, finally eighteen, and without SES, we couldn't have gotten her here.

There are so many people, and we're sure we will forget a few, that we need to thank. A lot of good teachers are taken for granted and never given the credit they are due.

Some of the teachers we feel have

made a difference in our daughter's life rank all the way back to second grade including Mrs. Medley, who took the time to notice personality changes that even I wasn't aware of, Mr. Edwards, just for being Mr. Edwards, Mr. Kolzow and Mr. Sauber, who we never would have made it through math without, Mr. Wagner, who pushed her to meet the full potential that he saw, despite resistance, Mr. McClure, who got her into journalism and shaped the basis of her future

career, Mrs. White, whose dedication does not compare, and last but not least, not a teacher, but an all around great person, a custodian of all things, who has been more like a third parent offering the same advice from a teenage point of view, Joshua Massey.

Thanks to all of these people and many more for helping our daughter become the teenager she is and the woman she will one day become.

Sincerely,

Charlene and Ed Conway

Favorite movies bring 20 favored quotes

By Chelsea Thorne

There are some people who you always remember not by their looks but by some of the things that they say in everyday life or in the movies. For example, Mr. Gies will walk into the room and to no one in particular say "You.

Detention. Now." So thank you Mr. Gies for giving me my last column idea for this year. Here is my list of 20 favorite off the wall things that people have said in movies.

Maybe Mr. Gies will have to borrow a few.



20. "This isn't flying! This is falling, with style!" Tim Allen as Buzz Lightyear in "Toy Story"

19. "...Dinosaurs eat man; women inherit the earth." Laura Dern as Dr. Ellie Sattler in "Jurassic Park"

18. "Mi scusi. Mi scusi." Fred Arminsen as the Creepy Italian Guy in "Eurotrip"

17. "My first day as a woman, and I'm already having hot flashes!" Robin Williams as Mrs. Doubtfire in "Mrs. Doubtfire"

16. "...and in the morning, I'm makin' waffles!" Eddie Murphy as Donkey in Shrek

15. "What is it with men and asking directions?" Ellen DeGeneres as Dory in Finding Nemo

14. "Tina! Come and get your breakfast!" Jon Heder as Napoleon Dynamite in "Napoleon Dynamite"

13. "I will be watching you, and if I find out that you are trying to corrupt my first born child, I will bring you down, baby. I will bring you down to China Town!" Robert De Niro as Jack Barnes in "Meet the Parents"

12. "...Coconut is a natural laxative. That's something Gilligan never told us." Tom Hanks as Chuck Noland in "Castaway"

11. "Oh, no, no, no, no! Dead girl off the table!" Mike Myers as Shrek in "Shrek"

10. "Oh yeah, people get out of Mount Rose all the time. Hockey scholarships, prison..." Kirsten Dunst as Amber Atkins in "Drop Dead Gorgeous"

9. "You have a hole in the side of your house." Chris Evens as Jake Wyler in "Not another Teen Movie"

8. "You, lighten up. You, *big* trouble. You, get in the car." Brendan Fraser as Rick O'Connell in "The Mummy Returns"

7. "Lemme see your badge! Oh! Uh...lemme see that again!" Chris Tucker as Detective James Carter in "Rush Hour 2"

6. "Which woman? Andie or Princess Sophia?" Adam Goldberg as Tony in "How to Lose a Guy in 10 Days"

5. "The problem with my dad is he's 40, looks like he's 30, talks like he's 20, and acts like he's 10. He's fun to play board games with." Hillary Wolf as Laura Chartoff in "Big Girls Don't Cry...They Get Even"

4. "I gotta do WHAT?!" Rachel MacAdams as Jessica Spencer and Clive Maxtone in "Hot Chick"

3. "No, David. Nobody is happy in a poodle skirt and a sweater set." Reese Witherspoon as Jennifer Wagner and Mary Sue Parker in "Pleasantville"

2. "Well, the church doesn't allow marriage between two men." Jay Hernandez as Keith Perez in "Ladder 49"

1. "Man, I just gave your momma a piggyback ride, and she weighs twice as much as I do!" Ethan Suplee as Louie Lastik in "Remember the Titans"

•Memories make up for moving on

(continued from page 2)

sure to bring late night studying which is sure to lead to mistakes, but when you make a dumb one just remember Mr. Sauber and his greatest stress reliever as the genius speaks "I'm so stupid," which of course will bring you a good laugh and

a light-hearted attitude. These lessons don't even begin to start on what we could have, should have, and may have learned from the various special people in our lives over the last thirteen years, but the future is coming whether we are ready or not, and the best way to cope is to remem-

ber the lessons that have come from those special people in our lives. And just because we're farther away now doesn't mean we can't still visit or talk. Just remember to ask your cell phone provider to add a fifty-third slot so you'll never lose touch with any of the ones you love.

Say it to Sam

By Samantha Elsasser

Dear Sam,

I need a good stress buster. Right now, with school almost over, I'm getting flustered. I'm behind in my homework, and it keeps on coming. I'm getting more tests, more quizzes and homework. Help me calm down.

Stressed



Dear stressed,

Well, I'm also having the same problem that you are going through, so you

might try some of the stress relieving techniques that have worked for me. First, try using all useless time for homework. Second, take a hot bubble bath and relax for a little while. Finally, remember that the time is short. Just think after you get done with this school year, you don't have to worry about it anymore.

Sam

Dear Sam,

You know that summer is coming soon, and I need activities to keep me busy. I'm going to go nuts with boredom. I was wondering if you could give me some hints to keep my summer fun and exciting.

Boredom

Dear Boredom,

Well, I was thinking about the same thing, and these are some of the ideas I have

been thinking about. You know it's going to be really hot during summer, so what's nice and wonderful on a hot summer day? A swim in the pool. Try swimming; it's a good way to spend the afternoon.

This next one I do every summer. If you have older brothers or sisters who would like to go camping at the lake, you guys could spend time together. If you want and you still like to act like a kid, you could have a sleepover with all your best friends. If you want to make some money, you can sell stuff you don't use anymore in a garage sale.

If you don't have anyone to stay with or anyone to do things with, you could go to a camp that you really would like to go to. The faster you start finding out what you want to do to alleviate the boredom, the faster your next year of school will start, and the sooner you will see all your friends.

Sam

Columnist reflects on the past school year

By Kelsey Colby

From Mr. G's made-up songs to the witty hanging of the greens, the school year of 2004-2005 has been full of creative fun. This year has gone super fast, and it feels like just yesterday, we were gathering back together for the first day of school. The school year has been filled with so many neat memories that will stay with the SES students for the rest of their lives.



* Let's start at the beginning.

Football, volleyball, cheerleading, dance team, and cross country began their seasons. For all you football players out there, don't you remember making it to bi-district! The whole team worked so hard, and it was fun for the fans to be able to attend games and show off school spirit. The Sparklers danced the night away at half-time, and the cheerleaders were there through ice and rain to root on the Trojans. The school also showed spirit for the cross country teams. The girls' and boys' teams

were given a "good luck" rally before their state competition in Wamego. Not only did the football and cross country teams continue into postseason play, but the volleyball team also made it to sub-state.

* The Eiffel Tower at this year's homecoming provided atmosphere and won over the students in attendance. The dance was definitely "A Night in Paris." Chantay Seim and Seth Stanley were crowned as Southeast's royal king and queen, and the football boys kicked butt against Ellsworth.

* Next came the Christmas season. A lot of the SES clubs/organizations worked together, and they donated time, money, and gifts to the needy. NHS worked at the Salvation Army, and FCCLA sent items to the troops in Iraq, just to name a few.

Oh, and we can't forget the hanging of the greens. Ha! Seeing Mr. Anderson dressed as a Chinese person was priceless. The students' vacation around the world was a nice getaway from their eight block classes and seminar! Christmas break and New Years rolled around and the students enjoyed a nice winter break.

* The basketball season came and went just as fast as football season. The boys and girls did awesome! The guys quickly acclimated to the styles of their

new coach, Mr. Mike Davert. The girls' basketball team got second at the SES invitational, and the guys' basketball team was awarded fourth at the SIT.

* The Christmas season and New Years rolled by fast and spring finally sprung. The track, baseball, softball, and golf seasons all started. I'm sure that all the teams are hoping to make it to the state levels in competition. Track has been doing well, with many participants achieving personal records. The softball team is working hard, and the baseball team is doing very well. We all can't forget about Mr. Garretson's hit song at the year-end assembly that made a few baseball players turn red. His goofy singing got the crowd laughing with his witty joke about how "Rollins hits too!"

* In March, the small city of Salina made a part in history as the Global Flyer made its goal of flying around the world without stopping. Steve Fossett succeeded and finally put Salina on the map. The day Fossett got back, the school population was sparse. Many students left to witness the drama, and the ones that were still here were watching it on CNN.

So there it is: the goofy moments, the serious moments, and all of the above. This year has been an enjoyable one and it has been filled with memories and cher-

Boy achieves dream through paintball

By Klint Spiller

Touring the world, meeting professional athletes, and playing paintball. It seems like a dream come true to many students at Southeast of Saline, but only one is able to say he has done this . . . and on a weekly basis.

Sophomore Jacob Dickson, now an amateur paintball player, has been playing paintball for seven years, but it wasn't until his eighth grade year that he began playing competitively.

"We set up a woods-ball course in my backyard and played on it," Dickson said.

Dickson began playing at the age of nine after being introduced to the world of paintball by friends Klay and Klint Spiller.

In eighth grade, Dickson formed his own paintball team called Bio-Hazard, which consisted of six other students from around Salina. They played all around Kansas, Nebraska, and Texas at Young Gun tournaments, which are tournaments with age restrictions.

"We just wanted to try it and see how fun it was," Dickson said.

Bio-Hazard had immediate success, winning their first two tournaments and placing at several others. The team even went to San Antonio, Texas, to participate in the large Bunkerfest tournament, where they didn't place but still had a lot of fun.

"It was a good tournament," Dickson said. "We played pretty well, but the refs were really bad."

Eventually, Bio-Hazard broke up, and Dickson was the only one who continued paintballing competitively. For the next two years, he played with three different teams: Freestyle (a Novice team), Pinky's Army (a Division-3 X-Ball team), and the Ninjaz (an Amateur team).

"The majority of them didn't want to play paintball that much so that's why I ended up moving on and being

between teams so much," Dickson said.

Dickson's latest team, the Ninjaz, is a seven-man amateur team that plays in the National Professional Paintball

League (NPPL). He was asked to join the team by team captain Alex Poorman after Poorman watched Dickson play with Pinky's Army. Currently, the team is ranked 14th out of 75 amateur teams in the NPPL, and Dickson is pleased to have the opportunity to play with them.

"We have a lot of fun," Dickson said. "We are all about the same age, so we hang out a lot together."

The members of the Ninjaz live throughout the Midwest so Dickson has to constantly travel for paintball practice. Accompanied by his parents, Dickson travels to Nebraska, Iowa, Oklahoma, Missouri, Colorado, and Kansas. The tournaments and practice are usually on weekends so one of his parents are usually able to get off work.

"It's awesome," Dickson said. "I get to see a lot of places I have never been before."

The cost of being a competitive paintball player is extremely high, and

players wouldn't be able to afford the tournaments by themselves. Teams are helped financially by sponsors that pay for paintball markers, paintballs, uniforms, masks, gloves, pads, and travel expenses, including a motel room for Dickson and his parents. The Ninjaz are currently sponsored by Warped Sports and Proto, two paintball companies. Dickson, a player that spends a lot of money paintballing, said that this is really helpful for him.

"I use about 1,000-2,000 paintballs in a round," he said, "So sponsorship comes in really handy."

Dickson said he enjoys paintball so much that he

actually has half-ownership of Ren-



Sophomore Jacob Dickson, a member of Freestyle at the time, aims for his opponents at a paintball tournament at the Edge paintball course in Wichita.. (Photo provided by Jo Dickson)

Six teachers to explore new horizons

As the seniors move on to experience new horizons at the end of the school year, six teachers will do the same. Some are retiring, some are moving to other schools and one is pursuing a dream outside of education.

Teacher thanks Southeast for years of support

By Klint Spiller

After 28 ½ years teaching at Southeast of Saline, Ellen Meyer has decided that it is time for her to retire.

Meyer began teaching at Southeast for three and a half years in Assaria, and when the smaller schools consolidated to form Southeast, she began substitute teaching for 12 ½ years. In 1980, she returned to Southeast and taught for another 25 years.



Currently teaching the sixth grade, Meyer has taught throughout the elementary school and has enjoyed watching her students grow up through the years.

"I really have enjoyed seeing students learn, mature and develop into good citizens," Meyer said.

During her career at Southeast, Meyer has had to face many challenges, such as the death of her husband and her fight with cancer, and she thanks Southeast for helping her through her difficult trials in life.

"I would just like to thank the entire SES family for the assistance through my fight with cancer and the death of my husband," Meyer said.

Upon her retirement, Meyer intends to travel, play bridge, volunteer, and continue working at Earth Care.

Wagner makes choice to stay closer to home

By Jessica Conway

After dedicating half of his life to the Southeast of Saline Community, Don Wagner has decided it's time to move on. As of the 2005-2006 school year Wagner will be transferring to Bennington High School, his home town.

Wagner said that his job description

won't be changing much.

"I will be teaching seniors and sophomores, both college and non-college classes, and publishing a student magazine. They are not on a block schedule so I will meet with six classes a day," he said.



So if his job description is the same, what is it that draws Wagner to Bennington? He has several reasons, including family.

"My daughter is entering high school. I want to be a part of her life. One of my goals as a teacher is to teach all of my children. If I don't move now I won't meet that goal."

Wagner also said that he will be glad to quit the long commute.

"I'll get off the highway. I can walk to work rather than driving seventy miles a day," he said. "I find myself driving faster and faster every day. Plus my parents are older and need more care, and I've started several projects in the Bennington community that I need more time to work on."

Wagner said that he will miss SES. "I like the staff, administration, and facilities here. It has been a great place to teach. There are a lot of special people, and the support from the communities has been strong," he said.

There are benefits besides family at Bennington as well.

"Bennington is on a strong growth kick right now, and I already know most of the faculty. I will also be working with Richard Harland again. He is the superintendent of that district."

Wagner said that he will miss the faculty and the students at SES the most.

"It's been a privilege to be able to work with people like Dr. Bob and Mrs. White. I've really enjoyed getting to know and teaching many of the students here. There are some really good young people out here. I am honored and humbled to be a part of their lives," he said. "This school and the kids here have taught me more than I have taught them."

SES teacher leaves to pursue lifelong dream

By Samantha Elsasser

COLA teacher Mrs. Melinda Smith is

leaving. After eight years at SES, she feels that its time to expand her own business . . . Balance and Harmony.

Smith has run the organizing side of her business for the last two years but graduated from the Western School of Feng Shui in San Diego last summer. Feng Shui is about finding balance and harmony in our environment.

According to Smith, "I'm not getting any younger, and it's now or never. I don't want to wake up one morning and feel as though I have missed my opportunity."

Running her own business has been a long term goal for many years and was what she studied in college. She team taught Entrepreneurship with Mr. Dwight Lilly and team taught Life Balance with Mrs. Juanelle Garretson this year. Both classes utilized her business skills.

She will miss many things about Southeast.

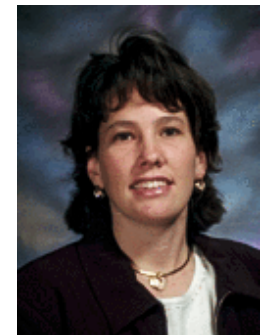
"The benefits of working at Southeast

includes the invaluable experience, family atmosphere, special bonds with the students, and friendships formed with several of the teachers and staff members," she said.

Smith's favorite memories are her student success stories, students who made it against the odds, students who did things they didn't think they could accomplish and the students who walked across the stage at graduation.

Her job at school utilized her organizational skills but so will her future business. She plans to be a professional organizer and Feng Shui consultant, continuing to teach in a different setting.

King hangs up his SES Trojan shield, picks up Russell's



(See "King..." on page 7)

After 35 years of teaching, Cordill bids SES farewell

By Sadie Myers

Au Revoir, adios, goodbye. Regardless of the language she chooses, foreign language teacher Mrs. Cathy Cordill will be bidding Southeast of Saline farewell at the end of this school year.

Cordill has been teaching for over 35 years and has been working at Southeast of Saline for most of that time. She started teaching foreign language in January of 1973 at Southeast.

"When I moved back from Topeka, I took a job at Sears because there wasn't an opening at USD 305. I knew nothing about Southeast then. One day I heard that the French teacher at Southeast was resigning. I called the district office and asked for an interview. I guess you can figure I got the job," Cordill said.



Going into college, all Cordill knew was she didn't want to be a teacher, but she wanted to study a foreign language.

"As I thought about what I could do with a French major, I decided to teach. My high school years had been fun, and I seemed to be able to explain things to other student, so I thought I would try teaching. And I loved it!"

After 32 years of teaching hundreds of students Spanish and French, Cordill has made the decision to retire of her teaching duties.

"I could have retired a couple of years ago, but I wasn't ready. I decided to teach until my certificate expired, which is this May. After I made the decision, I was at peace with it. I'm ready," Cordill said.

Although Cordill will miss Southeast, she is looking forward to retirement and plans on visiting family.

"I look forward to not being on a schedule. I have kids and a grandkid that I can visit whenever I want and stay and not worry about getting snowed in and missing work! I can also visit my

mother in Las Vegas during the cooler times of the year.

Cordill would also like to broaden her horizons after this school year ends.

"I love to read and plan to keep the path hot between my house and the public library. During the NCAA tournament next year, I can watch all the games all day long in that opening round. I would like to volunteer for the Red Cross, and I would love to go with the (Red Cross) international teams," she said.

Over the years, Cordill has become a big part of Southeast, and she says she will miss it.

"This place is my second home. The faculty and staff are my second family. I'm sure I will miss being a more integral part of the fun victories and celebrations that those entail, seeing the players everyday in class and celebrating with them."

Cordill has been at Southeast for 32 years and believes the staff here will continue to teach life lessons to all the students.

"I just want to be remembered as someone who was a good colleague.

And as the teacher who did her job

•King reveals favorite embarrassing memory

(Continued from page 6)

Bronco saddle

By Chelsea Thorne

Biology/chemistry teacher Mr. David King is leaving SES to transfer to Russell.

There, he will be a biology teacher.

King has been teaching here at SES for two years, and he won the 2005 Kansas Horizon Award for first year teachers.

King said he will miss the staff and students here at Southeast the most, but he said he won't miss being in a room without windows.

"I have gone days without seeing sunlight," King said.

After help from his seventh hour class, King decided that his favorite embarrassing memory would have to be when the overhead



Mr. Don Wagner and Mrs. Cathy Cordill laugh and enjoy themselves as seniors Colby Stephenson, April Ptacek, and Dani Weese recite a poem dedicated to them on awards night. Awards Night was held on May 9. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Number of teen runaways steadily increases

By John Henry and Brent Sweany

The number of teenage runaways in the United States has steadily increased in the last decade.

So what exactly is a “runaway”? A runaway youth is a person under 18 who absents himself or herself from home or place of legal residence without the permission of parents or legal guardians.

Kids from every economic group will run away from home. Running away is not limited to spoiled little rich kids or mistreated, undernourished poor children. One of every seven youth will run away at least once before the age of 18.

If youths or children are ever in trouble out on the street, at home, or any place, they can call the Covenant House NINELINE. The NINELINE is a hotline for runaway and homeless youth in America.

Runaways are the product of many statistics and studies. One organization, The Children’s Defense Fund, has made many studies. The Children’s Defense Fund cites approximately 1200 youth in the U.S. run away each day. An estimated 2.8 million youth living

in the United States reported a runaway experience during the prior year.

Most teens don’t take off in search of fun and adventure. They leave to escape abusive families or a situation they feel they can’t take anymore, according to the non-profit Covenant House.

About 60 to 70 percent of the youth who show up at the Covenant House facility are “pushaways,” who were evicted by their families. Sometimes there’s not enough room at home, and an 18-year-old is expected to be independent. Sometimes girls get kicked out because they’re pregnant, or boys because they got in trouble with the law. Others dropped out of school and their parents gave them an ultimatum: get a job or get out.

Youth and children can run away for many reasons. Some reasons are small and petty; others are big and may cause emotional or physical damage. These statistics show percentages of runaway children and youth in America.

- Teenage males represent 55 percent of homeless youth.
- Teenage females represent only 45 percent of homeless youth.

- Fifty-six percent of the homeless and 66 percent of runaways come from two- parent households.

- Thirty-six percent of the homeless and 31 percent of the runaways come from one-parent households.

- Eighty-six percent of teenage runaways are between 14-17 years old.

- Sixty-four percent of teenage calls to the NINELINE come from runaways.

- Thirty-five percent of all runaway youths had run before.

- Nationally, 40% of all runaway youth cross state lines.

The information in this article was found at <http://www.menstuff.org/issues/byissue/runaways.html>

‘Runaway’ realizes there’s no place like home

Opinion

By Amanda Harding

What would it be like to run away from home? Have you ever run from home? I did over the weekend and found that it was very exciting, for a little while.

When I got back from the track meet on Friday, April 29, I got a ride

from a close friend and went to my cousin’s house. The adrenaline was running as I rode into town, ate supper, and went to my cousin’s house.

When I arrived, the first thing she said was, “What are you doing here?”

I continued to explain to her that I had run away and didn’t want to go home. She was so surprised — me, the good girl of the family, ran away? Little did she know that it had all been previously planned. I had already made plans with my mom that I was going to



be running away.

But there was a problem: I had forgotten to tell her when. When I called her later that night, she was furious.

“Where are you? Are you okay? Why didn’t you call me?”

“Umm, well, I ran away,” I told her.

I explained to her that I was at Lauren’s (my cousin’s) house and that I was staying the night. With a sigh, she started to protest. She then realized that she didn’t want to come get me, and I didn’t have a way home. You know most parents would have been really worried, but mine weren’t. It could have been that they were glad that I was gone so that they didn’t have to feed me, but I think the real reason was that they knew where I was. I know my parents love me, and that’s why I had to call and tell them where I was.

When I got off the phone with her, I realized that I didn’t even feel like I was running away. The excitement of not having to go home and getting to hang out with my cousin soon wore off. Most kids that are running away have a

reason, and I didn’t.

My life was great. Why did I run away? Oh yeah, because it was homework. How cool is that? I guess the thing I found out was that it’s really hard for someone to “pretend” to run away. The best reason I had was that I didn’t want to go home and do my laundry. However, unlike a real runaway, I knew all along that I would have to go home sooner or later to do my laundry.

I can’t even begin to imagine what it would feel like to really run away. I mean, running away from my nice, warm, and cozy bed to sleep on my cousin’s couch. Why would I do that? Leaving my dad’s home cooking and my mom’s constant smiles would be really stupid. Oh, I can’t forget my brothers, who are annoying, yet entertaining.

I mean I had a lot of fun hanging out with my cousin and her family, but my family is a lot more exciting. Even though I didn’t get a real runaway feeling from this homework assignment, I did learn that Dorothy in the Wizard of Oz was right when she said, “There’s no

Runaway learns ways of street

Opinion

By *Samantha Elsasser*

While most kids were staying at home in their comfortable beds and watching television, I was running the streets and doing whatever I wanted to do. I was learning the ways of the streets and making a way of life as a teenage runaway.

The first time I ran away from home, I took my cell phone with me and it died, so I was going door to door trying to find a phone so I could call for a ride somewhere.

After a while, I got so hungry that I went home. My mom called the police and



told them I was home, so they stopped looking for me.

However, I wasn't done running. I told myself that I would get myself more ready so that I could be free from my mother's yelling but after awhile I stopped listening to her. The reason I ran away all the time was because I didn't get along with my parents or my little brother.

One night it happened: My mom and I got into a fight. I left my house and went to a party, got drunk, and then came back to my house. She had locked the doors, and I called her some dirty words.

Then, I sneaked in through my window and took my clothes, money, and cell phone and left. I stayed at my boyfriend's house for about two or three weeks. Then, I finally went home.

After the fourth or fifth time that I ran away, I got into bigger trouble and I was on probation for a year. I finally got

sick of everything and I ran again. When I ran away I, like most runaways, didn't think of what was going to happen. That's why kids just keep on running — because that seems to be the safest way to get away from problems.

When they finally caught me, I was sent to jail for a while then I had to start on probation again. Basically, even though I didn't have a beeping ankle monitor, I was stuck at home until I got into another fight with my mom or anyone else.

Not even a month later, I got into a fight, and I ran away to a drug house. Well, as you are probably thinking, I was into drugs. The reason I was doing drugs was because I needed to get all my thought and problems out of my way.

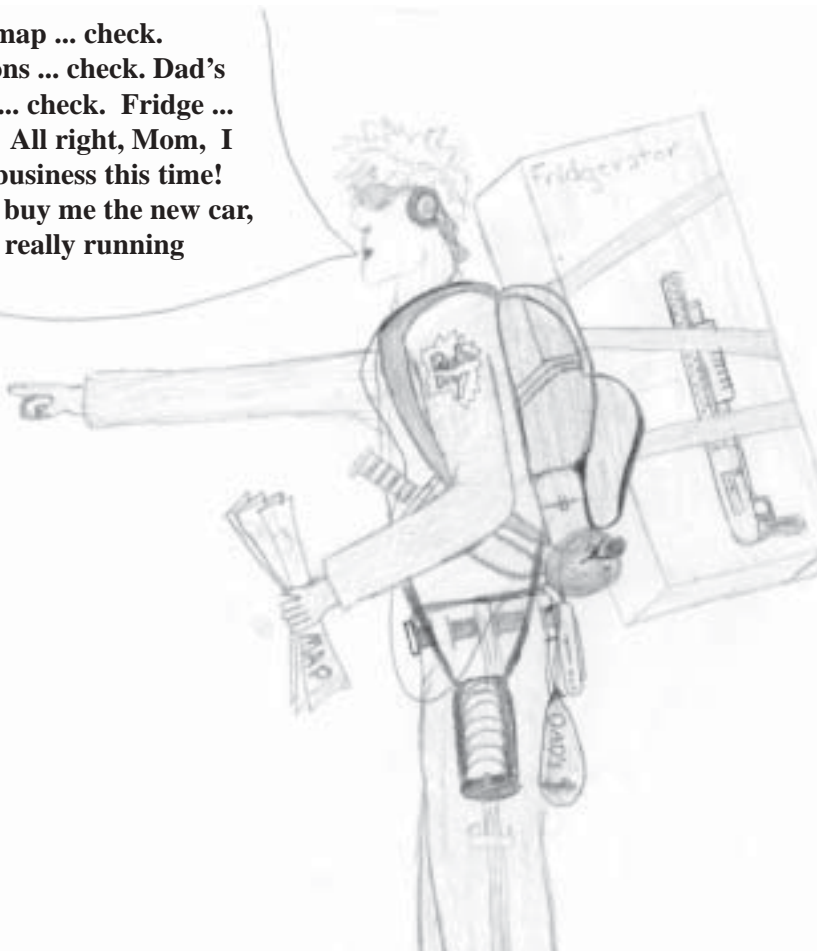
Well, eventually, I went back to my house skinnier than ever. I was doing any drugs I could get my hands onto. I wasn't home for long before I was taken back to the juvenile detention center for about a couple of months so I could get my head straight, but all it did was make me mad because I wanted out. I was losing my mind. All I wanted was to be out of jail.

Well, I wanted to break out and other kids did too, and we talked about doing it but we never did. I wish we had, though, because I got sick of seeing so much white, and the food was terrible. Well, after two or three weeks, they finally released me into the custody of my adoptive dad.

Well, this all went wrong, and it wasn't good. I left the house, and I got back kind of late one night, and he had locked me out and I had nowhere to stay the night. It was raining and snowing and I was cold, so I ran again. Soon my drug habit came back, and I left home and went to the place where I knew I could have all the fun I wanted to have — the drug house. It's a place where drugs are made and sold to people who want them or to small sellers who bring the money back to the house.

Eventually, I got caught and was sent to a girls' home where I stayed there for 120 days and then came home. I haven't touched a single drug since I have been home. Everywhere I go, I meet someone new. That's what I have been

**O.K., map ... check.
Weapons ... check. Dad's
money... check. Fridge ...
check. All right, Mom, I
mean business this time!
Either buy me the new car,
or I'm really running
away!**





Seniors of Troy



Ashley

1) This senior has an interesting hobby. Her family raises peacocks!

2) This senior has an interest in the culinary arts and wants to be a chef.



Coy

3) Since this senior wrecked her car, she has shared one with her younger brother.

4) This stylish senior owns over 100 pairs of high heeled shoes.



Lacey

5) This senior plans on being on the dance team at Hutchinson next year!

6) This senior is rarely without his book "The Hitchhikers Guide to the Galaxy."



Austin

7) This senior went to state wrestling every year of high school.

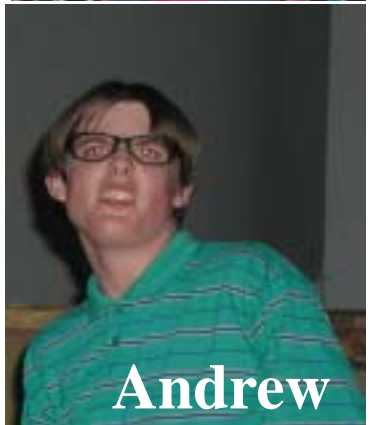
8) This senior's van has been driven to SES by both him and his brother!



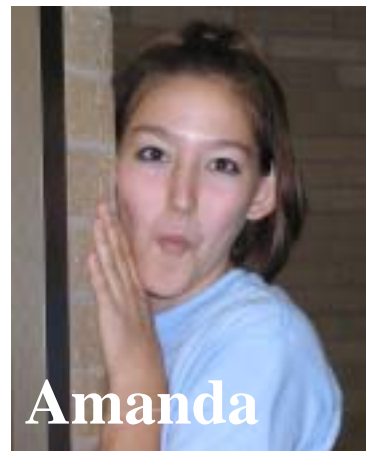
Bridgette



Seth



Andrew



Amanda

FCCLA ends year with officer elections

By Shannon Wilson

This meeting of the Southeast of Saline Chapter of Family Career and Community Leaders of America will now come to order, because the 2005-2006 officer team has been chosen.



Alex Earles performs a humorous skit to create laughs before the FCCLA banquet.

The officer team consists of an executive council that consists of six student officers. There are also three committee chairs that will head up the Family, Career, and Community committees.

The newly elected executive council consists of sophomore Alex Earles, president; junior Chelsey Muller, vice president; sophomore Andrea Everhart, secretary; freshman Elissa Stein, treasurer; freshman Shannon Wilson, VP of Public Relations; and eighth grader Trell Peterson, freshmen representative.

The committee chairs are sophomores RanDee Platt, family; Miranda Everhart, community; and Lindsey Bolte, career.

The officer's for next year will have the chance to do all their work in a classroom rather than working after school. It is now required that all officers, with exception to the Freshmen Repre-

sentative, must be enrolled in Leadership 101.

Leadership 101 is a class designed for FCCLA officers and members. They will have time to hold meetings, work on STAR events, and participate in other national programs, all things that they would normally do outside of school. In addition to this, students will learn to set goals and work towards accomplishing them.

The officer team is set up very differently than in the past years. Last year, the team consisted of 13 members. Next year, there will be a considerably smaller team.

Even with the new format and requirements for the team, FCCLA adviser Juanelle Garretson believes that the new officer team will do a fine job.

"I don't think that the size is that big of a difference but, that we get to meet in a classroom environment will be so much better. We have to adjust to the new curriculum so we have time to fit FCCLA into the kid's busy schedules," Garretson said.

Seniors, others take in awards, scholarships

By Jessica Conway

The Southeast of Saline students were really bringing in the awards Monday night, including a whole lot of dough for the juniors and seniors.

Following are a list of the people and the scholarships that they won.

William BallouDane Hansen Voc. \$1,500
Austin Barnes.....Dominic Sparacino, \$500
Matt Breen.....Gypsum Lions Club, \$100
Jesica Brown.....Dodge City Technical Grant for Equine Studies for books and tuition
Katie Chapel.....Kansas Wesleyan Scholarship
Andrew CliffordCargill Award, Big Brothers Big Sisters Scholarship Dane Hansen, Volunteer Connection, totaling \$42,000
Coy CoxCargill Award \$1,000
Justin Dupes.....Paul and Irma Spellman Scholarship, Dylan Everhart Memorial Scholarship totaling: \$750
Andrew Gies.Dane Hansen Scholarship

\$2,000

Kayla Griffin.....Saline County Farm Bureau, Dane Hansen Vocational, Kansas Board of Regents Vocational Scholar totaling: \$3,750

Shelly Hillyard....Cargill Award, Big Brothers Big Sisters Scholarship, Voice of Democracy, McDonalds Ray Kroc Award, Cara Everhart Scholarship, Legacy Award, totaling: \$2,000

Ashley Houchin.....Big Brothers Big Sisters Scholarship, M.L. Karber Family Dance Team Scholarship, totaling: \$450

Gracia JohnsonLegacy Award \$50

Corey KragerDane Hansen Vocational Scholarship \$1,500

Janet LamerKansas Wesleyan

Lisa Lawson.....Gypsum Lions Club \$100

Devin Long.....Technical Grant for Cosmetology for books and tuition

Garett Mugler.....Kipp Presbyterian Church Scholarship \$500

Matt Myer...David Heublein Scholarship \$200 and Coffeyville Books and Tuition

Jeremy Plymell.....Topeka Community Foundation Scholarship, John R. Show Sr. Memorial Scholarship, \$200

April Ptacek....Friends University Presidential Renewable, Earl Bane Renewable, totaling \$44,000

Amdanda Repp.....Nan and August Krauss Scholarship, \$500

Joe Rollins..Big Brothers Big Sisters Scholarship, David Heublin Scholarship totaling \$400

Christopher Roggee.....Kansas Board of Regents Vocational Scholar, and Dane Hansen Vocational Scholarship, totaling \$2,000

Chantay Seim..Saline County Water District # 2, Wendy's Heisman Award, Cloud County Presidential Renewable and books and tuition, totaling \$5,750

Shayla SeimLegacy Award, \$50

Matt Short....Oliver Hagg Scholarship, Cargill Award, Robert Short Memorial, Saline County Farm Bureau, and Kansas Board of Regents Scholar, totaling \$3,350

Andrew SimmonsKansas Wesleyan

Eva Spare.....Volunteer Connection \$1,000

Lukas Spare.....Saline County Farm Bureau, Dane Hansen Vocational, 4-H Scholarship, Kansas Board of Regents, totaling: \$3,250

Brady SrnaLegacy Award

SES nearly sweeps IDA state competition

By Sadie Myers and Chelsie Green

The SES Improvised Duet Acting (IDA) teams left little room for other team's contestants to place at the forensics 3A State Championships in Wichita on Saturday, May 7.

Three of the six IDA finalists were from Southeast. The three finalist teams finished with Christina Sparacino and Taylor Garretson in second, Sadie Myers and Shannon Wilson in third, and Alex Earles and Ryan Unruh in sixth.

Lacey Bruggeman and Britten O'Banan, the NCAA league champions, also placed at the state tournament. They received a fourth place medal for their duet acting.

Other students who participated at the state level had to place first or second at any invitational meet. They were: Calvin Roesner (Poetry), Lacy Bruggeman (Serious Solo), Kassie Bethe (Serious Solo), Coy Cox and Ashley Petitjean (IDA), Brent Sweany and Chelsie Green (IDA), Taylor Garretson (Humorous Solo), Alex Earles and Amanda Repp (Duet), Britten O'Banan (Prose), and RanDee Platt (Prose).

Kaleb Feist also traveled along with the team to compete at the state festival. The festival

is a one time performance where you are given a rating of I, II, III, or IV. Kaleb performed his prose and got a medal for receiving a I.



The future is so bright we need glasses! Freshman Brent Sweany poses for the camera in glasses and his forensics hat. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

The forensics season is now over and the Southeast of Saline forensics team will lose some very important competitors. Graduating seniors are Lacy Bruggeman, Coy Cox, and Amanda Repp.

"They have all been outstanding SES representatives. We'll miss them," Mr. Terry Anderson, the forensics coach, said of the seniors.

Although there are seniors leaving, Anderson has high hopes for next year's team. This year, there were around 14 underclassmen that participated at forensic meets.

"Just look at the number of freshmen and sophomores we have! With Taylor and Christina to lead us next year, we have an enormous amount of potential," Anderson said.

The '05 Southeast of Saline forensics team ended their season with an 8th place finish out of 44 schools at the state tournament. The team also placed higher than all schools in our league, even with only 14 events.

"What started out as a slow season ended with a bang!" Anderson said.

Seim claims second in state journalism contest

By Kelsey Colby

Senior Chantay Seim showed off her wit and talents at the 2005 State Journalism Contest and was awarded second for newspaper photography. The competition was held May 7 in Lawrence at the KU student union. Besides Seim, three other students from SES also competed.

Sophomore Klint Spiller, freshman Chelsea Thorne, and sophomore Skylar Nosker attended the competition, while freshman Sadie Meyers participated in the newspaper photography carry-in contest. Spiller competed in news writing, Thorne competed in editorial writing, and Nosker competed in sports writing.

Although Seim was the only one from SES to place at State, advisor Gary McClure said it was an accomplishment just to get there. A student had to place in regional competition to get to state competition.

"These guys did very well. The competition is stiff, especially in 4A, and our competition combines 3A and 4A. The SES students were competing against 1,054 other students, so it was tough," he said.

Freshman Chelsie Green and John Henry also qualified for state but could not attend. Green and Henry both qualified for editorial cartoons.

Green did not attend due to the state forensics competition that was held the same day, and Henry did not attend because of his work schedule.

"The competition was very difficult, but we learned a lot from it," Spiller said. "If I go next year, with the experience that I have obtained in this competition, I know I would do a lot better."

State music contestants earn all I's, II's

By John Christie

Of the 15 SES performances at the State Music Contest hosted here at Southeast on April 30, all received I's and II's.

Six performances received I's.

Four of the performances were from the vocal department. Andrew Gies and Chris Weller were

the two soloists receiving I's. The Men's Ensemble and Madrigal singers received I's as well.

Two band numbers also received I's — the Brass Ensemble, consisting of Kaleb Feist, Clinton MacDonald, Alex Mutschler and Eva Spare — and Kaleb Feist for his Tuba solo.

There were a total of nine other performances, all of which earned II's. Vocal acquired four of these while band collected the other five.

The four for vocal were solos Ashley Houchin, Ashley Petitjean, and Mark McClure and then the Girls' Ensemble.

The band had four II ratings



Principal Monte Couchman holds one of the balloons that filled his office after a recent senior prank. The balloons extended from the floor to the top of his desk and covered all work surfaces. (Photo by Mr. Gary McClure)

Baseball extends winning streak to 12

By Skylar Nosker

It is now May, and things have been heating up for the SES baseball team.

They are pushing towards the best win-loss record in the 14 years of baseball at this school. The best win-loss record was posted by the 2002 team with a record of 19-4.

The Trojans, currently, have extended their winning streak to 12 games last Thursday against Herington here at Southeast. It was senior recognition night and some went out with a bang.

Senior Garrett Mugler went 5-6 with two home runs and 11 RBIs in two games, while senior Joe Rollins went 3-5 with four RBIs.

Senior David Gray went 1-1 with two walks, a home run, and four RBIs. The rest of the seniors, Austin Barnes, Matt Myers, Justin Dupes and Scott Sauber, went 3-13 with 11 runs and two RBI.

The underclassmen combined

for 7-17 with seven runs and three RBIs, including junior Travis Sheets who went 4-5 with two walks and four runs.

The Trojans outscored the

Railers 35-6 in both games, winning the first 13-3 and the second 22-3.

The Trojans host the class 3A Regional on Monday, May 16



Sophomore Kyle Schmid slides into home in a game against Abilene. The Trojans won both games, 14-6 and 13-0. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Golf coach reflects on season

By Brian Dow

When golf coach Zach Harris thinks about highlights from the golf season, the three medals that the teams have earned come to his mind.

During the season, the 14-member golf team has accumulated six medals for best score as a team. The team won three 3rd place medals, one 4th place medal, and two 6th place medals. Individual placings included sophomore John Christie, who got 13th place at the SES tournament and senior Scott Wolford, who got 10th at Marion.

"There was very good competition. The (level of) competition varies from meet to meet, but overall, they have done a good job," SES golf coach Zach Harris commented.

Harris said he was not surprised by much this season, but this was because he wasn't sure what to expect.

There will be one last golf meet this season, except for regionals and state. The League golf meet will be held this upcoming Monday, May 16 at Minneapolis.

As for next school year's golf season, there may be a different coach, Harris said. At the time of the next golf season, current SES golf coach Zach Harris will have a newborn baby and a three-year-old boy. Harris will be stretched thin next year between his family and his teaching career.

When asked whether he will be returning next year to coach another season, Harris said, "I haven't decided."

Harris said that if he does return, he would like to improve on a few aspects of practice.

"I would make more structured practices and include more golfing games and drills," he said.



Sophomore Brian Dow rears back for his second shot. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Track earns 12 golds at Ellinwood

By Klint Spiller

The Southeast of Saline track team went to Ellinwood on May 6, bringing home a team title and several individual medals.

At this eight-team track meet, the boys finished with first place, scoring 128 team points, while the girls earned second with 89 points.

"I was really happy with things, considering the weather," Haxton said. "The wind was blowing 20-25 mph."

The boys were led by six individual first place finishes.

Junior James Hemphill ran the 400m in 52.71 seconds, and junior Micheal Lacy earned the gold in the 300m hurdles with a time of 42.59. Also, junior Jimmy McDowell won the 110m hurdles in 16.26 seconds.

Sophomore Clinton MacDonald finished the 1600m in a time of 4:56, and sophomore Colby Douglas won the 100m in 11.21 seconds. Freshman Tony Kirkbride also jumped 6'0" in the high jump, claiming first.

Other individual placings among the boys was senior Ian Hughes in the 800m, where he finished second with a time of 2:08, and MacDonald in the 3200m, earning second with a time of 10:47.

Third place finishes included senior Matt Short, running the 800m in 2:11, and sophomore Kent Windholz, jumping 37'02" in the triple jump.

The relay teams also all claimed medals. The 4x800m relay won their race with a time of 8:36. The 4x400m relay

and the 4x100m relay both received silver medals with times of 3:32 and 45.73 seconds respectfully.

"The field events got us a lot of points that we didn't expect to get," MacDonald said.

The girls were led by juniors Brooke Kent's and Brandi Pounds' individual victories. Kent won the 100m, finishing in 12.59 seconds, and the triple jump, with a mark of 36'6 1/4". Pounds ran in the 200m, winning in a time of 27.67 seconds.

Junior Joni Heimer finished second in the 3200m with a time of 13:06.

Placing third was junior Holly Henry, running the 400m in a time of 1:07, and freshman Taylor Sly, finishing the 300m hurdles in a time of 51.94 seconds.

The girls relay teams earned two victories and a third place finish. Both the 4x100m relay and the 4x400m relay won their races with times of 52.22 seconds and 4:21 respectfully. The 4x800m relay earned a bronze, running their race in a time of 11:10.

"I felt that everybody did an outstanding job and everyone gave their best effort," Kent said.

The Trojans will next head to the NCAA League meet that will be held tonight in Ellsworth at 3:30 p.m. Haxton believes that both teams have a good chance for the league championship.

"I think in the girls it will be between us and Ellsworth for League," Haxton said. "The boys have as good of a shot as anyone. It's pretty equal on the boys' side."

Girls sweep Concordia Panthers

By Amanda Harding

As the school year comes to an end, the Southeast of Saline softball girls are still going strong.

On Wednesday, May 11, the Lady Trojans went to Concordia to play their game that was rescheduled from April 29.

The girls played a double header, beating the Panthers in both games. The first game score was 6-1, and the second game score was 12-2.

Kylee Anderson, Southeast's lead pitcher, had eight strikeouts, eight hits, and one walk. She hit 5-8 for the day.

April Ptacek had her fourth homerun of the season last night, smacking one out of the park. She was also 4-7 hitting, and in addition to the homer, she had one double.

Dani Weese was 1-7; Shelly Hillyard was 5-7, with both a double and a triple.

Ashley Petitjean was 2-7 with a double, and Shayla Seim was 2-6.

Erica Stein ended the game 5-8 with a double and a triple, while her younger sister, Elissa Stein, was 5-6.

The varsity girls play Chapman today at 3:30 at SES. Senior recognition will occur between the games.

Sports Box

By Skylar Nosker and Klint Spiller

Baseball

Mar. 29	@ Smoky Valley	13-5, 12-17
Apr. 7	Wilson	18-3, 18-4
Apr. 12	Sacred Heart	4-3, 2-5
Apr. 15	Clay Center	23-12, 15-5
Apr. 19	@ Chapman	18-0, 12-0
Apr. 22	Beloit	15-4, 13-1
Apr. 29	@ Concordia	10-3, 5-3
May 3	Abilene	14-6, 13-0
May 5	@ Herington	13-3, 22-3

Record 16-2

Upcoming Games:

May 12	@ Russell
May 16-19	Regionals
May 27-28	State @ Manhattan

Softball

Mar. 29	@ Smoky Valley	21-7, 21-2
Mar. 31	Belleville	7-0, 11-1
Apr. 8	@ Rock Creek	1-2, 2-3
Apr. 12	Sacred Heart	2-12, 7-9
Apr. 22	Abilene	
Apr. 26	Beloit	7-6, 6-3
Apr. 29	@ Concordia	6-1, 12-2
May 3	Clay Center	8-6, 0-10
May 6	@ Russel	1-2, 2-3

Record 11-7 Upcoming Games:

May 13	Chapman
May 16-19	Regionals @ Hillsboro
May 27-28	State @ Manhattan

Track

		Boys	Girls
Guys			
Apr. 8	SES Inv.	3rd	1st
Apr. 12	@ Ellsworth	1st	5th
Apr. 15	@ Smoky Valley	3rd	5th
Apr. 22	@ Halstead	1st	3rd
Apr. 29	@ Beloit Relays	4th	3rd
May 3	@ Minneapolis	5th	3rd
May 6	@ Ellinwood	1st	2nd

Upcoming Meets:

May 13	League @ Ellsworth
May 20	Regionals @ Minneapolis
May 27-28	State @ Wichita

Golf (4-man placings)

Apr. 5	@ Herington Inv.	3rd
Apr. 12	@ Minneapolis	7th
Apr. 19	Belleville	3rd
Apr. 21	@ Beloit Inv.	N/A
Apr. 26	@ Bennington	N/A
Apr. 28	@ Heston	N/A
May 2	SES Inv.	6th
May 3	@ Marion	3rd
May 6	@ Marion/Hillsboro	9th
May 12	@ Minneapolis (league)	4th

Upcoming Meets:

May 16	Regionals @ Cheney
May 23	State @ Hays

Piano brings exchange student memories of home

By John Christie

In Austria, there are no chocolate chip cookies, baseball, football or basketball, but there is one thing that's the same between America and Austria, and that's piano. For Sebastian Leitinger, the piano is one thing that hits close to home.

Leitinger learned to play the piano in the first grade. His mom was the driving force in getting him started, and he wasn't at all enthused about learning to play in the beginning.

"It took my mom standing over my shoulder to get me to practice," Leitinger said of his mom's influence on getting him started. "She was there daily making me practice until finally, I enjoyed playing."

A couple of factors helped to make the piano finally click. The first was his brother becoming a professional reggae pianist. His brother's accomplishment made the work seem worthwhile. The other was when he finally began to feel like he was making progress playing.

Leitinger played through eighth grade in Austria but got away from it during the two and a half years he spent at an engineering school in the city. Luckily for him, piano stuck with him and when he came to America four months ago, and he remembered how it was done.

"I saw the piano at the Spare's house and I tried to play. I really enjoyed it," said Leitinger. "Then I got the opportunity to play in jazz band."

He jumped at this opportunity because he enjoys playing jazz style music. Leitinger also enjoys blues and rock and roll music. He



Sebastian Leitinger, Austrian foreign exchange student, plays piano with the jazz band at Tuesday's concert. Intense engineering training over the past two years left little time for the piano, but Leitinger rekindled his interest while living in the U.S. (Photo by Mr. Gary McClure)

Band, vocal journey to Washington

By John Christie

The Smithsonian, the National Archives, Washington Monument and Lincoln Memorial are all sites on the music department's summer trip to Washington DC. The group will consist of both band and vocal students. They will be leaving on May 31 and returning on June 5.

In total, there will be 124 people on the trip, 101 of whom are students. The other 23 are spon-

sors. Among the sponsors are a nurse and an EMT as well as a Southeast teacher.

They will meet at the school at about 7:30 a.m. and will intend to leave the school at 8:30 a.m. The estimated time of arrival in Washington will be about noon on June 1.

The group has planned to perform at these locations: the Basilica of the National Shrine of the Immaculate Conception (choir only), World War II Memorial (band only), and the Jefferson Memorial. They are also still arranging to perform at either Bridgette's aunt, Kristin Blomquist is an alumni of the first graduating class at Southeast of Saline High School in 1978. The trip will cost \$450 for all students and sponsors. The rest of the money required to fund the trip has been made through various fundraisers. Following the vocal performance, Mrs. Judy White will recognize the honor students. Colby Stephenson and Joe Rollins will be issuing the class challenge. After the diplomas and flowers are

Graduation to take place on Sunday

On Sunday, the Seniors of Southeast of Saline will meet in the gymnasium one last time. The senior graduation will be held in the gymnasium and it will start at 2:30 pm.

"Pomp and Circumstance" and "To Challenge the Skies and Heavens Above" will be performed by the band.

Bridgette Blomquist will