

# THE TROJOURNAL

March 17, 2006 Southeast of Saline, 5056 E. K-4 Highway, Gypsum KS 67448, Vol. XXXI, No. 7  
See The Trojournal on-line and in color at <http://www.usd306.k12.ks.us>



*Ryan Unruh (Harry Pate) and Shelby Meyer (Etta Greenleaf) share their excitement when Dr. Einstein assures them Harry's curse can be lifted. Meyer and Unruh starred in this year's winter play, "The Werewolf's Curse or Hair Today, Gone Tomorrow." For additional photos, see pages 8-9. (Photo by Skylar Nosker)*

# Around the Halls

## Would you want to be a bus driver?



*Shawna Caldwell, Soph.  
“Yes, even though the bus would be hard to drive, I would want to yell at the kids and give them bus reports.”*



*Jacob Felman, Soph.  
“Yes, even though I have wrecked two vehicles in the past two years, I would do it for the money, and i’m used to driving bus loads of people.”*



*Andrea Everhart, Jr.  
“No, because I would have to deal with little kids and I don’t want to do that!!!”*



*Trask Engel, Fr.  
“No, because I would probably get arrested for beating up the little kids!”*



### Southeast of Saline

#### THE TROJOURNAL

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THE TROJOURNAL is the official newspaper of Southeast of Saline High School and is published monthly by the journalism staff.

Writers’ editorial opinions expressed through this publication do not necessarily reflect the opinion of the entire staff, the advisor, or the administration.

Letters should be 300 words or less and must be signed. Editors reserve the right to edit for punctuation, spelling, and usage.

## Are students’ loads too heavy?

By Klint Spiller

Thirty-six hours of school, 10 hours of sports, 20 hours of work at an after-school job, 56 hours of sleep, eight hours of homework, nine hours of eating, seven hours of getting ready, and four hours of driving. Leisure time left to spend during a week? 18 hours. This is the average week for an involved high school student. As you can see, this can pile up to be a load of stress with very little relief.



Though high school is supposed to be a transition period from childhood to adulthood, this change can sometimes be too great. With a student’s added responsibilities of jobs and sports, students often want to keep their free time that they had open before their employment or activities began. This often causes students to forsake other important tasks that weigh on their time, such as homework and sleep.

The question is how much can students handle before this weight is too much for them and they break, losing their commitment to school and their own health?

The answer to this question depends on the work ethic of the teen who is attempting to

balance these great responsibilities. If a student is clearly not keeping up his grades, then a parent must step in and help the student decide which responsibilities are the most important to them and what responsibilities the student needs to lose.

Now parents, I am not trying to say that you should step in and make changes to your teen’s lifestyle. That is only a last resort.

It is important that students are allowed to budget their time, because in a few years, they will be on their own and have to make their own decisions. Students must decide what is more important to them and base their decisions accordingly. In doing this, the student must be aware that there will be sacrifice. I just suggest that they don’t choose to sacrifice something that will hinder them later in life.

Students need a healthy balance of responsibility and recreation to be able to survive the rigorous years of high school. If a student has 18 hours of leisure time and spends 12 of it during the weekend, the student has roughly an hour and 10 minutes to unwind after a long day of school, sports, and work during the weekdays.

For some students, this is enough, but for others, they need to remember to set their priorities so that sleep and homework do not come last.

# Ways to keep your prom budget skinny and your wallet fat

By Chelsea Thorne

One of the most expensive nights of the year is coming up: Prom. The cost of this single night can be up in the hundreds of dollars. Here are some ways to make paying for prom a little less stressful for you and your wallet.



**1. Have your mom do your hair-**Most girls go to the salon to have their hair done by a professional. Instead of spending \$45 on hair, have your mom do it for you. Find a style that you like and have your mom practice it on you. It may not look exactly like it does in the pictures, but it can turn out to be a bonding experience with your mother.

**2. Give yourself a manicure-**Buy nail polish that matches your dress and have your friend do your manicure. Then, do her nails. Not only do you save money, you get to hang out with your friends. Don't forget to put a clear topcoat on so they don't chip!

**3. Borrow a dress, or buy one early on-**If your older sister went to prom last year, ask if you can borrow her dress to wear this

year. Or, if you want your own dress, shop for a prom dress earlier on in the year when they are on sale or right after prom season is over, when you can buy a beautiful dress for next year for only \$20 instead of \$200.

**4. Do your own alterations-**Instead of taking your dress or tux to an expensive professional to do alterations; do them yourself! If you can't sew, ask your mom or a friend's mom who knows how to sew to do them for you for a small fee.

**5. Buy a damaged dress-**If you buy a dress that has a broken zipper or other damages, you can get a good discount on it. If they are repairs you could easily fix yourself, it could end up being a good bargain.

**6. Don't buy new shoes-**If at all possible, wear shoes that you already own! They may be a little more scuffed up, but it is definitely much cheaper than buying a pair of new shoes that you will only be wearing for a single night.

**7. Car pool-**If you can, carpool with friends, or you can pool your money for a limo. It is silly for a group of friends who will be hanging out at prom to all take separate cars. If you carpool, make sure you pitch in for gas and a car wash too.

**8. Make your own corsages/boutonnieres-**You can easily spend \$20-\$30 on a

corsage/boutonniere for your date, or you can let your creativity flow and you can make your own. Buy some silk flowers, elastic, ribbon, and anything else you want to put on the corsage/boutonniere and glue it together. Not only will your flower never die, it is a cheaper alternative to buying real flowers.

**9. Bring your own camera-**Instead of paying for posed pictures; why not bring your own camera to take pictures with? Not only will your memories be better represented by the candid photos taken by you and your friends, you don't have to wait in line!

**10. Borrow jewelry from your mom or grandma-**Ask mom or grandma if they have any jewelry that will match your dress. If they are willing to part with it for a single night, ask if you can borrow it. But make sure you give them collateral in case something goes wrong and you lose it or it breaks. (Not saying you will, but just to be on the safe side!)

Prom is a night when you are supposed to have fun, so worrying about how you are going to pay for it is not going to be fun. Use these tips to make paying for prom less stressful. Be safe and have fun!



Cartoon by Jacob Simmons

# The wheels on the bus go round and round

By Chelsi Hemphill

Screaming kids, bumpy roads, and the comfort of being inside of the big yellow walls. Those are just a few of the things that our SES bus drivers get to experience every day. However, with many of our drivers reaching retirement age, these are things that some may not be enjoying much longer.

It's not easy being a bus driver; just ask head of transportation, Judy Hall.

There are many qualifications a person must have to drive busloads of kids to school everyday, including: having a Certified Driver's License (CDL), knowing First Aid, having a physical on file, and completing defensive driving.

Not only does Hall have to find qualified bus drivers worthy of driving for her everyday, but on occasion, she has to scramble to find substitute bus drivers too.

"Substitute bus drivers are not as easy to come by as you would think, because of all the requirements they have to have to become a driver. So to find them, I usually have to go out and recruit," Hall said.

With many of the school's bus drivers reaching retirement age, Hall is keeping her cool.

"I'm not worried, but I am concerned. Especially if they all retire more than one or two per year," Hall said.

Whenever most of the bus drivers have retired, Hall hopes to get some younger drivers to drive the buses.

"I would like to try to get some young drivers that don't have full time jobs. Part-time driving won't supply enough income to support a family," Hall said.

## Rowena Montgomery

By Klint Spiller

The year is 1966. Lyndon B. Johnson is entering his third year of office as President, the Vietnam War is seven years short from coming to a close, and Rowena Montgomery begins driving buses.

Still driving today, Montgomery is currently the longest employed person at USD 306, but has 40 years at the steering wheel made her lose her love for it?

"I still like it. Especially in the morning, I love the morning trip," Montgomery said. "I like getting up early and having a reason to do so."

Montgomery first started driving after her eldest son, Keith Montgomery, died in a tragic car accident.

"(I started driving) because we lost our oldest son in a car accident. It was either that or go crazy," she said.

Though the initial reason for driving buses was to keep her mind off her son's death, she says she has really developed a deep attachment for it.

"I get to be around all these kids," Montgomery said. "I love it."

Montgomery said that she rarely has discipline problems on the bus, but when she does, all she normally has to do is slow the bus down and look at them in the mirror and they quit.

"I generally don't have to say anything," she said.



Montgomery believes that director of transportation, Judy Hall, will not have trouble finding replacements for the large crop of bus drivers approaching retirement age.

As Montgomery looks ahead to her retirement, she is unsure of what is to come.

"That's my problem," Montgomery said laughing.

## Dale Johnson

By Klint Spiller

It is commonly said that the best career is the one that you will enjoy going to everyday, and for bus driver Dale Johnson, he believes he is in the right career.

Currently the third longest employed person at Southeast of Saline, Johnson says he has hauled up to three different generations of students during his 30 year career, and he says that he truly enjoys it.

"I enjoy being around kids for one thing," Johnson said. "It makes a good part-time job. You're kind of your own boss in a sense."

Driving buses since the fall of 1975, Johnson has not had a lot of discipline problems on his bus, but he stressed the importance of being firm but not losing his friendship with the students.

"You have to be firm with them, let them know that you're still a friend to them. You can be a little unhappy with them, and next time they get on the bus, they know they can come back and talk to you for any reason," Johnson said.

When he makes his decision to retire from bussing, he said that he hopes to travel more and continue helping out on the farm.



## Mary Jo Meyer

By Chelsi Hemphill

Mary Jo Meyer has been driving the bus for 25 years. She enjoys driving a bus because it works well with her schedule, and she enjoys the kids.

Although she is at retirement age now, she continues driving.

"I haven't retired yet, because I love driving and watching the ball games," Meyer said.

In addition to driving, she also cleans homes for elderly people who wouldn't normally be able to do it themselves.

After retiring, Meyer plans on doing things that she hasn't yet had the chance to do. She also looks forward to working in her garden.

Meyer's greatest reward as a bus driver is whenever kids who have graduated come back and visit with her.

"I really like it when graduates come back and say hi to me. It makes me feel good," Meyer said.



(See "Bus drivers..." on pg. 5.)

# •Bus drivers reflect upon lengthy careers in transportation

(Continued from page 4.)

## Vernon Tinkler

By Chelsi Hemphill

Vernon Tinkler has been driving a bus on and off for many years now. He drives a bus mainly because he enjoys it but also because of the income.

Tinkler has continued driving past retirement age to keep himself from getting bored.

"I wouldn't know what to do if I didn't have something to do," Tinkler said.

After retiring, Tinkler plans to spend his time fishing, hunting, and woodworking.

Tinkler's greatest reward as a bus driver is being able to get kids to the school and back home safely. He sometimes is required to enforce discipline on these trips.

"I have a strict policy for students to stay in their seats, otherwise they have to sit in the front seat, behind me, for 20 trips," Tinkler said.



## Kathy Tinkler

By Chelsi Hemphill

Kathy Tinkler has also been driving a bus on and off for many years now.

She doesn't have another job at the time, so she drives a bus to make money.

Tinkler's greatest reward as a bus driver has been the kids, and she continues driving a bus past retirement age so that she has something to do.

Tinkler doesn't have any big plans for after her retirement.

"After I'm retired, I'm going to do nothing," Tinkler said.



# Duo dominates in Improvised Duet Acting

By Andrew Bauer

"These horses have babies in their pouches!"

This is a quote from Taylor Garretson in an improvised duet with Christina Sparacino. The duo were portraying valley girls that were trying to find an escape from a prison in Australia by riding kangaroos. This is just one of the many bizarre situations that arise from Improvised Duet Acting (IDA), a forensics competition in which Garretson and Sparacino are among the top in the state.

Southeast of Saline has experienced success in IDA in recent years- a tradition that Garretson and Sparacino have continued. In the past two years they have brought home a State Championship plaque and a State Runner-up plaque.

"Southeast has always been strong in IDA, but I'm not exactly sure why," said forensics coach, Terry Anderson. "As long as we've been going to State, the only thing we've ever gotten first in is IDA."

IDA is a competition in which three characters, three settings, and three situations are drawn by each partner group. Each team is then given 30 minutes to prepare a skit using two of the characters drawn, as well as one of the settings and one situation. The skit must have a central conflict and find a resolution. This can lead to some extremely creative skits, especially when such characters as "pop star" and "little boy" are drawn at the same time.

"We did a really, really risky Michael Jackson skit one time," said Sparacino. "I thought maybe we'd gone too far, but when we came out of the room we found out that the crowd was so loud that some people from outside could hear the audience laughing from really far off."

Garretson and Sparacino first teamed up two years ago as sophomores. Although Garretson had done IDA in the past, it was Sparacino's first year.

"Taylor pretty much showed me the ropes when I started out," said Sparacino. "We were also really good friends, so that helped out a lot."

Sparacino's love of acting can be traced back to when she watched her older brother, Nick, compete in forensics, although she had another inspiration before that.

"I always wanted to be on SNL," said Sparacino. "I've always watched it and I looked up to (Nick) who used to be in forensics and got second in Duet Acting."

In IDA, it is almost impossible to ever see the same skit twice; however, many teams find situations that serve them well and find themselves returning to it. Garretson and Sparacino often try escape acts with two mismatched characters.

"We like to twist what we draw into something different," said Garretson. "We try to create a conflict and resolve it. We'll be stuck in prison or something and start out hating each other and then end up helping one another to get out."

Garretson can pinpoint her first experience in acting to when she played an elf in first grade with one line: "Like, elves?"

Since then, Garretson has increased her thirst for acting from sources close to home.

"My sister did IDA in high school and I watched her win state," said Garretson. "Since then I've always wanted to do it."

Last year, the two earned State Runner-ups to a team from Lyons. However, Sparacino considers that a victory in itself.

"I had strep throat and had to kind of fight through it," said Sparacino, "But it's kind of cool because to place at State with strep throat is still pretty good."

This has set up a rematch to try and reclaim their position as State Champs. However, Anderson is confident in their abilities.

"(Christina and Taylor) are very theatrical people," said Terry Anderson. "They know theater. Both of them love improv and they're in a competition where you have to be good at story-telling, and both of them are good story-tellers."



Taylor Garretson and Christina Sparacino perform their "Michael Jackson" IDA at the Abilene forensics meet last year. (Photo by Sadie Myers)



## Forensics finishes third despite inconsistency, Anderson says

By Chelsea Thorne

The SES forensicators brought home a third place trophy from the March 4 tournament at the Peabody-Burns meet. They had a little trouble, but managed to qualify some more events.

"Either our judging was inconsistent or our performances were inconsistent. We would have a one ranking in one round and follow it up with a seven," said forensics coach Terry Anderson.

Despite the challenges, juniors Alex Earles and Meaghan Ryan took first in improvised duet acting (IDA).

"We were totally unprepared; basically we came up with our IDA as we walked in the door. We knew we were doing Legos but that was about it. Surprisingly, we took first," said Ryan.

Seniors Taylor Garretson and Christina Sparacino took third in IDA, sophomore Shannon Wilson took fifth in Humorous Solo Acting (HSA), and Earles took seventh in poetry.

By Cassie Schlesener

The results are in and there is now a new face from Southeast of Saline on the Kansas State FCCLA Officer Team.

RanDee Platt was chosen to be the new State Vice-President of Recognition. Platt was one of eight students selected on Monday, March 6 by the State Officer Selection Committee to serve 6000 FCCLA members in Kansas.

Also elected for office were sophomores Elissa Stein and Cierha Berry. Stein was retired and reselected to serve again

By Rachel Nicholson

Attention 9<sup>th</sup> through 11<sup>th</sup> graders! You're getting new lockers...and soon! During spring break SES will be getting rid of all the lockers, except the ones in the senior lounge, and getting new lockers put in. The lockers were purchased from Indoff, a commercial furniture company and they will cost a total \$41,982.27. They will be paid for out of last year's budget.

"The main reason we're getting the new lockers is because so many of our current lockers are unusable. They're falling apart,"

At the March 11 Herrington meet, the SES forensics team did equally well, bringing home another third place trophy. Ryan Unruh and Sadie Myers qualified their duet for the state tournament with a first place medal, and Wilson received first in HSA. Other Herrington finalists include:

Cierha Berry- Poetry 6<sup>th</sup> place, Prose 5<sup>th</sup> place

Kaleb Fiest- HSA 4<sup>th</sup> place

Britten O'Banon- Serious Solo Acting (SSA) 4<sup>th</sup> place

Shannon Wilson- HSA 2<sup>nd</sup> place, Duet 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Brent Sweany- IDA 1<sup>st</sup> place, Duet 2<sup>nd</sup> place

Chelsie Green- Poetry 4<sup>th</sup> place, IDA 4<sup>th</sup> place

Sadie Myers- Duet 1<sup>st</sup> place, IDA 4<sup>th</sup> place

Ryan Unruh- Duet 1<sup>st</sup> place, IDA 1<sup>st</sup> place

place

Heidi Mauersberger- Poetry 2<sup>nd</sup> place



Ryan Unruh and Sadie Myers practice their duet entitled "The Diary of Anne Frank." The duo received first place at the Herrington meet on March 11. (Photo by Klint Spiller)

for Kansas Peer Education on the Community Service Team. Berry will be accompanying Stein as they take their state leadership roles next school year.

With all these new faces in the crowd, we don't want to forget some people who have retired from their positions. Junior Alex Earles has retired from serving as a state officer last year. Retiring from the working on the Peer Education Team is senior Chelsey Mueller.

Principal Monte Couchman said.

The new lockers will look like the ones in the senior lounge, only skinnier. That means no more struggling with the person next to you to get into the top compartments. The new lockers should be easier to open too, say goodbye to hurt fingers after trying to get the lock to open.

"The new lockers should be more user-friendly and will be much easier to access," Mr. Couchman said.

# “The Werewolf’s Curse”



1.



2.

1. Queen Tootiefruitee (Bria Sweany), Pearl Joiner (Meaghan Ryan), and Opal Joiner (Kim Rousseau) wince at the smell of the village idiot, Olaf Doppelganger. (Christina Sparacino)
2. Dr. Einstein (Taylor Garretson) and Professor Wonder (Brent Sweany) laugh maliciously at their evil plan to turn Harry into a werewolf.
3. Baron Biterondeneck (Calvin Roesner) tells Dianne Needles (Skylar Bosco) he should have flown ahead to find Dr. Einstein’s castle.
4. Nick Gillette (Kaleb Feist) threatens to kill Professor Wonder (Brent Sweany) for lying to his carnival troupe.
5. Madam Clara Voyant (Heidi Mauersberger), the carnival troupe’s fortune teller, goes into a trance.
6. Siamese twins joined at the pinkie, Opal (Meaghan Ryan) and Pearl (Kim Rousseau) are amazed by Giganticus’ (Alex Earles) strong muscles while Bella (Chelsie Green) stands in awe.
7. The whole carnival troupe surround Etta Greenleaf (Shelby Meyer) to see why she was so scared.
8. Meet the Doppelganger’s (left to right): Hans (the local constable), Freida (the castle tea-toter), Heidi (the castle maid), Fredrick (the castle butler), and Otto (the local farmer). All parts were played by Christina Sparacino. (Not pictured--Brunhilda Doppelganger (the castle cook) (All photos by Skylar Nosker)

# leaves audience howling



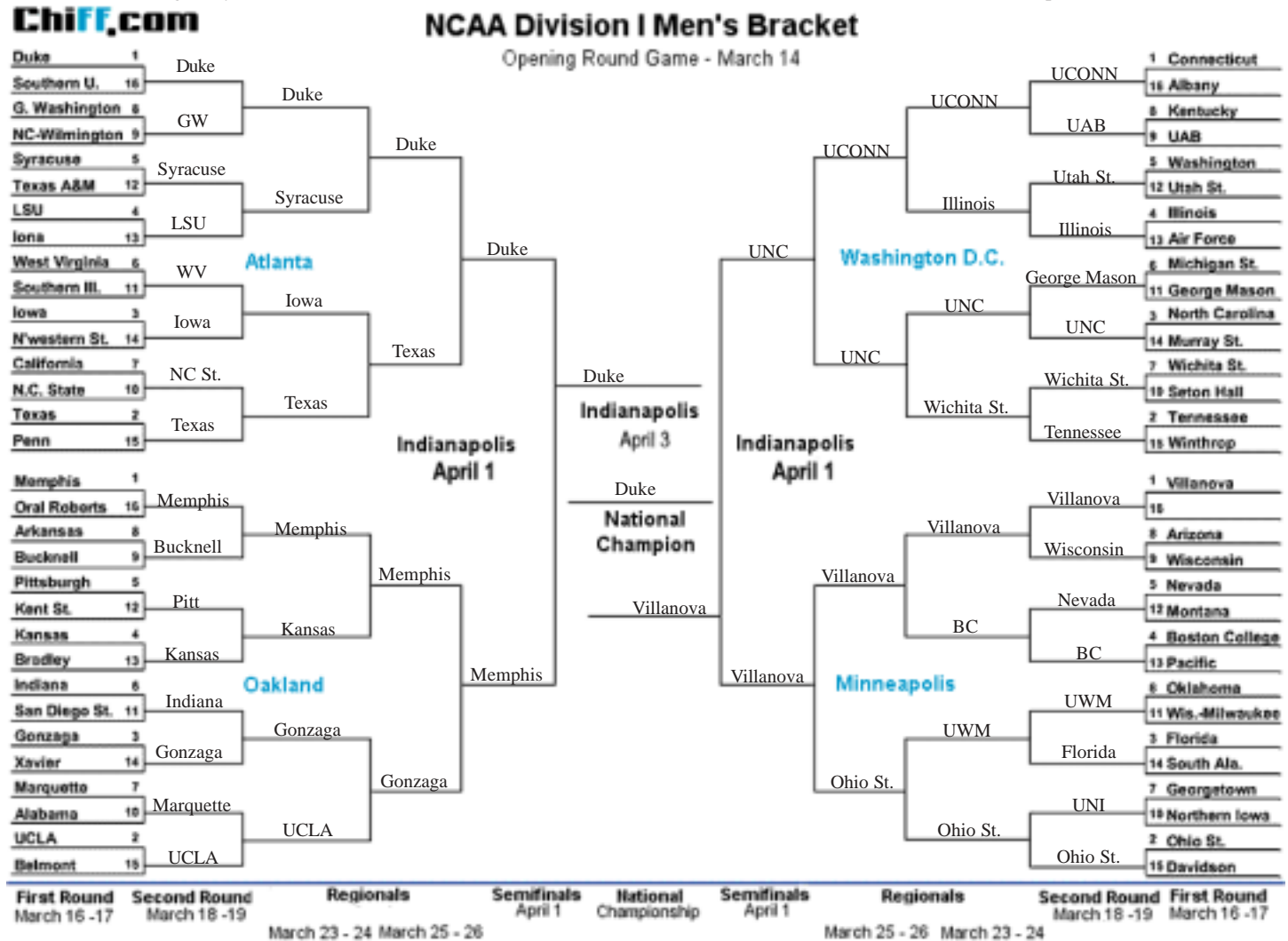
# Sports editor breaks down the field of 64

## Sports Opinion

By Skylar Nosker

Every college sports fan loves this time of year. Sixty-four teams fight to keep their season alive. It's exactly what it's called, March Madness.

The following is my bracket. This is



# Flax breaks career-points record with 1001 points

By Max McClure

In the last game of the season against Northern Heights, junior Bryson Flax broke the career-points record, scoring 1001 points. Dan Stutterheim held the record before Flax with 991 points, but Flax said he wasn't concerned about the record during the game.

"I didn't really worry about how much it took to get (the record). I just played the game. If it came about, that's good, but if it didn't, that's okay too," Flax said.

Dan Stutterheim set the record 20 years ago in 1986 with 991 points.

"I think he went to Baylor after high school," Flax said.

Stutterheim was six foot and two inches--three inches taller than Flax-- and played small

forward in high school. Stutterheim set the record his senior year while Flax has one more year to increase the record. Stutterheim did go to Baylor and played basketball, but it wasn't what he thought it would be.

"I made the team but found I was a little out of my league. Jene Iba, my coach, told me that not only in the games was he going to sit me, but also in practice, I was going to be on the sidelines and that was a pretty strong blow," Stutterheim said.

Stutterheim averaged about 16 points a game while Flax averaged about 17 points a game. Flax's highest scoring game was 30 points against Ellsworth which he said was his favorite game.

"The Ellsworth game was fun because I was on fire with all of those threes. We got some

guys some experience, and it was fun to play basketball with them," Flax said.

The Ellsworth game brought him even closer to the record with all the points he scored. Flax has started in almost all of the games in his high school career to gain this record.

"There were three or four games that I came off the bench my freshman year," Flax said.

Stutterheim started one varsity game before he came down with an injury his freshman year.

Flax also said he can't remember a time that he wasn't playing basketball when he was younger.

"Ever since I could remember, I played basketball, but I started playing organized ball in second grade," Flax said.

# Trojans strong season ends dramatically

By Robert Graham

The Southeast of Saline boys' basketball team ended a strong season in disappointing fashion with a 56-58 loss to Northern Heights on Feb. 27. The Trojans ended their season with an overall record of 13-8 and a 7-5 record in the NCAA.

The loss to Northern Heights came in the first round of a sub-state in which Southeast was seeded fourth. Northern Heights was seeded fifth and entered the game with the same record as the Trojans.

Southeast started out strong and took a 15-13 lead at the end of the first quarter, but by halftime, Northern Heights had taken a 29-26 lead. That three point advantage was extended to seven at the end of the third quarter and was as high as 11 points early in the fourth quarter at 51-40.

That was when the Trojans began to battle back. Five points by senior Jimmy McDowell tied the game at 56-

56 with 24 seconds left, but Southeast couldn't hold on as Northern Heights' J.W. Roeder hit a jump shot with eleven seconds left to give the Wildcats a 58-



Senior Justin Schropp defends a Northern Heights player on Feb. 27. The Trojans lost the game 56-58. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

56 win.

It was a disappointing end, but head coach Mike Davert thought his team fought hard.

"I was proud that when we got down 11 in the fourth quarter, we fought back," Davert said of his team's effort. "I thought that if we could get the game into overtime we would win, but we just ran out of time."

Junior Bryson Flax and senior Justin Schropp led Southeast with 15 points and McDowell added 12. Derek Parks led Northern Heights with 19 points and Rick Hobson chipped in 16 more.

Flax's effort was not quite good enough to win the game, but it was good enough to make him Southeast's career scoring leader. His 1001 points put him ahead of Dan Stutterheim's mark of 991.

Davert was impressed that Flax could break the record in his junior year, but he thought the most impressive part was the way Flax broke the record.

"Bryson doesn't shoot 30 shots a game. He gets his shots within the offense," Davert said. "Bryson makes his teammates better. He loves getting an assist as much as making a basket."

The loss to Northern Heights was somewhat bittersweet for a Trojan team that played well for most of the season. Southeast began with a 5-1 record, finished third in the Salina Invitational Tournament (their best finish in 8 years), and at one point had a record as good as 12-4. At that point, the Trojans hit the wall, losing four of their last five games. Davert felt this was a product of fatigue.

"We did a good job of getting better every week," Davert said. "The last two weeks, the guys were just worn out mentally and physically."

Even with the poor finish, Davert thought his team had a successful season.

"When we were playing well, I thought we could beat anyone in 3A," Davert said. "(The loss to Northern Heights) was a disappointing end to a real good season."

## Girls lose heartbreaker

By Stephanie Frost

The Southeast of Saline Lady Trojans' season came to an end Friday, March 3 after a second round loss in sub-state to the Hesston Swathers.

The Trojans, who finished the season with a record of 7-15, fell behind early as they were down by 10 at the end of the first quarter. Southeast came back to within four points late in the fourth quarter, but the comeback was thrashed by the lady Swathers as they defeated the Trojans 52-44.

Hesston made 7 of 10 free throws in the fourth quarter to preserve their lead, outscoring the Trojans 12-7 from the foul line in the course of the game.

"I thought we played our best and truly had an opportunity to win that ball game. The girls never gave up and fought till the end," Coach Wayne Sager said.

Senior Brooke Kent led the Tro-

jans in scoring with 21 points. She outscored the nearest Trojan by 13.

Sophomores Shayla Seim and Elissa Stein were the next highest scorers with 8 points and 7 points respec-



Senior Brooke Kent controls the offense during a Sub-State game against Hesston. The Trojans lost the game 44-52. (Photo by Andrew Bauer)

# Haxton foresees successful track season

By Max McClure

Head track coach Pat Haxton expects his track team, like the football team, to show the state their talent in track.

The start of March means track season for Haxton. The team returns many runners from last year.

"All three girls' relays made it to state. Two of the three boys' team relays made it. We have a lot of returning runners from those relays," Haxton said.

With these returning runners, Haxton sees an opening in 3A for relays

"Relays are down a little bit in 3A and 4A this year, and we are doing well in them. We usually work hard in our early season meets without break, but I will give them some cool down time before the Beloit relays. But really we gear everything toward regionals and state," Haxton said.



Haxton is not only excited for the relays but also the athletes in the individual races.

"Clinton (MacDonald) made it in the 1600 and the 800. Brooke (Kent) was third in the 100," Haxton said.

Haxton is looking towards the first track meets of the season. The varsity's first meet is April 7 at the SES Invitational. The junior varsity's first meet is April 4 at Clay Center.

In this coming season, Haxton said he will miss the seniors from last year. Last year's senior runners included Ian Hughes, who ran the 800 and the 4x800, Jessica MacDonald, who was an 800 runner, and Andrew Gies earned points in the sprints.

"We don't lose a lot but those runners were great leaders so that is kind of hard to replace," Haxton said.

As Haxton looks toward the coming track season, he said that it would take some hard work to achieve the goals the team has set for itself.

"If we can run hard every day in

practice and if we believe we can have a chance, then I think we can accomplish the goal of getting better every day," Haxton said.

## Trojan Track at a glance



**Coach:** Pat Haxton

**Key Losses:** Ian Hughes, Jessica MacDonald, Andrew Gies

**Returning Seniors:** Brooke Kent, Brandi Pounds, James Hemphill, Chris Weller, Alex Bungler,

**Key Returners:** Clinton McDonald, Bryson Flax,

**Promising Additions:** Shayla Seim

# Golfers learn from two coaches in '06

By John Christie

Southeast of Saline's golfers have begun the 2006 season without a head coach but instead, two assistant coaches. In the past, Southeast golf has always been a one coach team, but this year, a second coach has been added. Mr. Quentin Breese and Mr. Bill Gies are splitting the coaching duties.

Last year the team was coached by Mr. Zach Harris. Harris had many other commitments this year and chose not to coach this season.

Gies is returning to coach the golf team after taking last year off from the position.

"(I am) rejuvenated and ready to go. I'm excited to get back out there and see how much better the players can get," said Gies.

This is the first time Breese has coached golf at SES. The two coaches are splitting the responsibilities this season.

"Since I have had the experience with it, I am trying to do the paper work side. Mr. Breese does mostly on-course coaching. We will come



Breese



Gies

together to choose the varsity squad," Gies said.

The team has many newcomers this season. Some are freshman but a couple of juniors are out for the first time this year. Juniors Zach Bradrick and Aaron Plymell are in their first season of Southeast golf. Freshmen Tyler Herrington, Kylee Losey, Shane Martin, Shawn Martinez, Kirk Nelson, Nick Otsmeyer, and Thomas Patry are all out for golf for the first time.

Five golfers graduated from last year's squad; Coy Cox, Cory Krager, Alex Mutschler, Nicolai Robertson, and Scott Wolford. There are only six golfers back from last year's team. Seniors Zach Tanner, Brad Sleek, David Hoeffner, and Kyle Maine are returning this year. Two juniors are back again this season; John Christie and Ryan Unruh. This season also marks the return of two golfers from past years. Senior Dylan Helvey and junior Kyle Lawson did not compete last year but have come back out this season.

The two coaches currently believe the juniors and seniors will be competing for the varsity spots.

"The freshmen are learning quick but are still lacking the experience needed to compete at the varsity level," said Gies.

This season, all of the practice courses are again available to the team. Golfers will practice Tuesday and Thursday at the Salina Municipal Golf Course. On Monday, they will be at the Salina Country Club, and on Wednesday, they will practice at the Salina Elks Country Club. On

Fridays, they will play at the Riverbend Golf Course.

"I want to place in the top half at the league meet and compete in every tournament we participate in. I also want to have some team representation at the State meet," said Gies.

The first meet will tee off on April 4 at Herrington.

## Trojan Golfers at a glance



**Coaches:** Bill Gies, Quentin Breese

**Key Losses:** Coy Cox, Cory Krager, Alex Mutschler, Nicolai Robertson, and Scott Wolford

**Returning Seniors:** Zach Tanner, Brad Sleek, David Hoeffner, and Kyle Maine

**Key Returners:** John Christie and Ryan Unruh

**Promising Additions:** Zach Bradrick, Aaron Plymell, Dylan Helvey, and Kyle Lawson

# Players oil up their gloves for new baseball season

By Robert Graham

Southeast of Saline's baseball team is heading into this season with high expectations. The Trojans, who finished last year with a 19-3 record, will try to continue those winning ways this season.

Despite losing seven seniors from last year's squad, head coach Mike Garretson is not worried about being inexperienced.

"Even though we had a big senior class last year, I feel we'll put some experienced players on the field," Garretson said.

The Trojans only return four seniors; Travis Sheets, Robert Graham, Brady Srna, and Joey Frazier. Sheets is the only one of those four who started last year, but there are several juniors who saw playing time last season; including Nick

Hardesty, Tim Nicholson, Joel Pengra, Jordan Pengra, and Kyle Schmid. Ross Terry also returns from last year's varsity roster and Doug Beaton joins the team after moving in from Scott City.

Garretson feels that Southeast will be able to score runs. He believes that the key to this season lies with the Trojans' pitching.

"We'll score runs and play pretty good defense," Garretson said. "Our pitchers need to be consistent and be able to avoid walks."

Even with these challenges, SES has high hopes for this season and expects to play well.

"I expect us to be very competitive with everyone on our schedule," Garretson said. "I expect to have a really successful year."

## Trojan Baseball at a glance



**Coach:** Mike Garretson

**Key Losses:** Matt Myers, Austin Barnes, Garrett Mugler, Justin Dupes, Joe Rollins, David Gray, and Scott Sauber

**Returning Seniors:** Travis Sheets, Robert Graham, Brady Srna, and Joey Frazier

**Key Returners:** Nick Hardesty, Tim Nicholson, Joel Pengra, Jordan Pengra, and Kyle Schmid

**Promising Additions:** Doug Beaton

# Softball team set sights on maintaining prestige

By Skylar Nosker

The Southeast of Saline softball program carries very high prestige. The Lady Trojans have been crowned regional champions eight times but have never won State. This year's team looks forward to try to capture a greater glory.

The Lady Trojans return some experience, especially with the pitcher and catcher. Seniors Kylee Anderson and Chelsey Mueller return at the positions where it's most important to keep an understanding of each other.

"Especially in softball, the pitcher and catcher play an enormous role," said Coach Peshia Ptacek.

The Trojans come into this season having lost six seniors from last year's squad. April Ptacek, Chantay Seim, Erica Stein, Shelly Hillard and Dani Weese all played a huge role in the Trojans 12-8 season. In fact, with the loss of Shayla Seim to track, the Trojans lost their entire starting infield. Still, Coach Ptacek has high expectations for the season.

"I think we should do very well. We should have a really good record. We'll be solid on defense and we will generate a large number of runs also," said Coach Ptacek.

The team returns five seniors—Anderson, Mueller, Carissa Kruse, Ashley Petitjean, and Sam Hargadine—who don't mind taking over the leadership responsibilities.

"The senior class are great leaders. They are upbeat and really love to play the game and I think that attitude will be contagious with a lot of the younger girls," said Coach Ptacek.

The Trojans are going to battle for the chance to be regional champions with a competitive schedule.

"(The competition is) very comparable to the past. We have some strong teams in our league and we have added some tough

teams to our schedule so that we are challenged early in the season," said Coach Ptacek.

Other key returnees include—Kelcy Berry, Katelyn Cyphers, Kelsey Brown, Christina Platter, and Danielle Abrams.

The season begins Mar. 28<sup>th</sup> at home against Smoky Valley.



Senior Kylee Anderson catches the softball at practice on March 7th. The first game is March 28 against Smoky Valley (Photo by Skylar Nosker)

## Trojan Softball at a glance



**Coach:** Peshia Ptacek

**Key Losses:** Shelly Hillard, April Ptacek, Chantay Seim, Erica Stein, Dani Weese and Shayla Seim

**Returning Seniors:** Kylee Anderson, Sam Hargadine, Carissa Kruse, Chelsey Mueller and Ashley Petitjean

**Key Returners:** Elissa Stein, Kelcy Berry, Katelyn Cyphers, Kelsey Brown, Christina Platter, and Danielle Abrams.

# Seniors superior at art contest

By Jacob Simmons

The Kansas Wesleyan High School Art Show was held from Feb. 1 up through Mar. 1 and seniors James Hemphill and Ashley Petitjean won blue ribbons. Hemphill received a blue ribbon for his work in photography called "Bus," and Petitjean was awarded a blue ribbon for her oil painting entitled "Bleeding Heart."

Many students from several different schools entered their works to try for the ultimate prize: The Gallery.

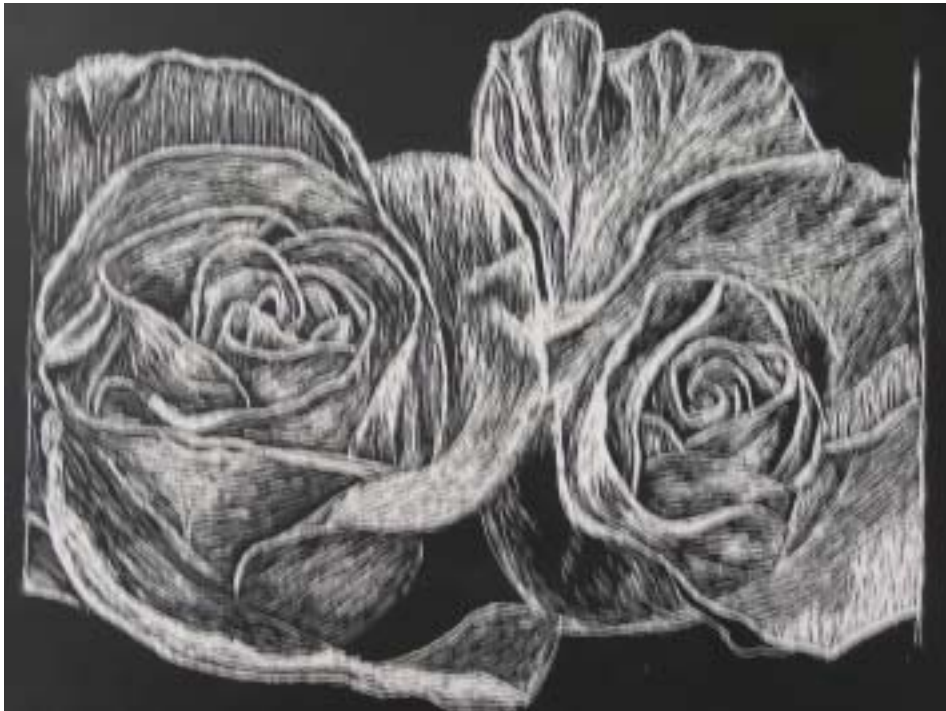
A lot of the pictures shown here are black and white but that doesn't mean that there weren't any color pictures. The show was restricted to only

two-dimensional medias, which, according to art teacher Kurt Krehbiel, put Southeast at a bit of a disadvantage.

"My students are predominantly best at wheel thrown ceramics and paintings," Krehbiel said.

Most of the paintings that were entered in the Kansas Wesleyan University art show are now being judged to be put on display in the Gerry Neustrom Art Show which is to be held in the Central Mall near the end of March in Salina.

"I entered most of the artworks into the Gerry Neustrom art show at the mall," said Krehbiel.



Pictures drawn by (clockwise from top) Rachel Pantle, Fr; Cierha Berry, So; Danielle Abrams, Jr. These pictures were all featured in the Art Contest at Kansas Wesleyan from Feb. 1 - Mar. 1. (Photos by Jacob Simmons)

## Prom theme: "Swing like Chicago"

By Chelsea Kelley

Southeast prom-goers will go retro on April Fool's day as they swing to a 1920s theme "Swing it Like Chicago."

The theme is based on Chicago in the roarin' twenties. It will be held on Saturday, April 1 from 7:30-11 p.m. at the Courtyard Marriot. The prom colors are red and black. Prom is free to any SES student and his or her date.

The after-prom will be held at All Star Lanes. The theme this year is "Beach Party". All students and dates must be there by 1:00 a.m. Once students are there, they are not allowed to leave the building until 4:00 a.m. If they do, parents will be notified.

There will be free event pictures, free food, free bowling, free games, and cash and door prizes. Students must be present to receive the prizes which consist of money this year.

Junior class sponsor Mrs. Dawn Rohrer urges all juniors to help decorate on Friday, March 31, starting at 5 pm.

"It will save the hustle and bustle of having to do it in a hurry on the day of prom," Rohrer said.

## Reno rewards HSH

By Ross Terry

Kyle Maine, Marshall Kohman, Christine Pauley, Stephanie Gantt and Clint Koffman left the prairie habitat of Kansas for the rugged desert of Nevada.

These five students went to Reno, Nevada because they were recognized for their contributions to High Schools for Habitats. While in Reno, the members were busy with many banquets and conferences.

"We went to the 'Friends of the Foundation' banquet as well as the volunteer and grand banquets," said Gantt.

The group also went to a luncheon, an auction, the Nevada Conference and Exhibition Center, and a hunting seminar.

On top of being recognized for his services, Clint Koffman also received the "Youth Conservation Award."

Maine, Kohman, Pauley, Gantt and Koffman are only a few of the many members in High Schools for Habitat. The club as a whole does many things to help the community by planting trees and grass for farmers and cutting wood for people that need it. The group also hosts fundraisers such as the trap shooting contest that they held to raise money.

"We basically just try to conserve nature since we're all hunters," said Gantt.