

THE TROJOURNAL

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The big, happy Vanderhof-Sycamore family (portrayed by SES high school actors and actresses) is made of a wide variety of interesting characters. They will star in the drama department's upcoming play, "You Can't Take It With You." (Photo illustration by Sadie Myers)

Around The Halls

What is love?



*Kendra Lawson-Fr.
"It's that special, warm feeling that makes you feel light-headed when you are with that person."*



*Thomas Patry- Jr.
"Expensive!"*



*Chelsie Green- Sr.
"Putting others above yourself."*



*Britten O'Banan-Sr.
"When you would rather die than be without someone."*



Southeast of Saline

THE TROJOURNAL

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

GenY celebrates Fortune Cookie Friday

By Sadie Myers

Guess what boys and girls...it's finally Friday. And you know what that means! Time to break out the fortune cookie and read today's Chinese proverb. Today's fortune cookie says: One generation plants the trees, and another gets the shade. Hmm...well, let's try and break this Chinese wisdom down.



Thousands of websites, books and articles are dedicated to research on generations and this information has proven to be pretty interesting. There are experts and specialists galore that analyze behavioral trends within an age group, then summarize all their information and give that generation a name. And what have they dubbed ours? "Generation Y."

This age group, which experts also call Millennials, iGeneration and Echo Boomers, includes everyone born from around 1975-1995. Naïve, self-centered, lazy, disloyal, high-maintenance and text-crazy are all labels researchers have stuck on our generation. But those Baby Boomers and GenX'ers need to recall today's fortune: remember who planted the trees.

We have grown up in a world with technology at the tip of our fingers, a Happy Meal around every corner and free education as easy as 1-2-3. There are reasons we are the way we are, so rather than shunning GenY, I propose the world should embrace our generation, and our generation should embrace the world.

It should be known that researchers haven't completely given up on finding some

good in our generation. In the working world, the first wave of GenY'ers has been making an impact with technology smarts and lofty prospects. They have discovered we know how to stand up for ourselves, because we believe in our own self-worth. They have also noted that in response to crises like 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina, we seem to want more self-fulfillment from living because we realize that life is short.

These positive attributes are true, but I'd like to draw attention to the other side, and also suggest some ways GenY can make a difference.

Narcissism (n. excessive self-love, vanity) is where we can start. The Y Generation has been branded a group of egocentrics. As GenY has grown up, our parents have wanted us to feel good about ourselves, and therefore frequently remind us that we "are so special." In sixth grade, we did an entire project called "All About Me." Our friends have told us to "just be yourself" on our first date. Before competing in that big game, our coaches tell us to "believe in yourself." Commercials on TV with songs like "I Want It All" and fast-food billboards that say "Treat Yourself" are everywhere. We live in a world that is centered on self.

A poll taken by Pew Research Center in 2006 showed 81 percent of GenY's members said becoming rich was their most important goal. What was the runner up? Becoming famous. These choices were favored over choices like helping others (30 percent) and being a leader (22 percent). These more recent results contrast with a similar poll taken in 1967 where 86 percent of the same age group thought it more important (See "Student talks" on pg.3)

Student talks of talents, troubles of generation

(Continued from pg. 2)

tant to “develop a philosophical meaning of life” over the 41 percent that wanted to be “well off financially.” This shows how young adults in the 21st century are more concerned about being rich and famous than finding happiness through other manners.

So, GenY, what should we do about it? Take care of yourself, and then take care of others. Don’t forget the second part of the formula. Yes, you need to think of yourself, but after you are done with that, go out and help someone else. The Y Generation can realize our self-worth and also make a difference in the world by being considerate.

This brings me to my next point. Last winter, a couple SES teachers decided to help out a fellow staff member by cutting and delivering wood to her home. As a Trojournal photographer, I was shocked when I showed up with my camera and was told to put it away. These teachers didn’t want anyone to be recognized for their act of kindness. I was taken aback by the thought, but after considering the idea, I completely understood. Why can’t members of the Y Generation volunteer to help another person without wanting some sort of recognition in return? Why are employers learning they must offer flexible schedules, vacation time and increased benefits to find workers from our generation?

“High-maintenance” is another word used to describe GenY, meaning we need an excessive amount of attention or rewards to perform well. Think of all those star charts in elementary, times we got candy for answering a question and scholarships we receive for volunteering. Like a dog’s owner, adults seem to think that we need a bone to perform well, and we respond to the stimulus.

So, GenY, what should we do about it? Here’s some more wisdom to remember, although it may not be Chinese: It is better to give than to receive. We need to remember why we work hard and why we volunteer. This all goes back to my first point. We should do volunteer work because it means helping others and feeling good about ourselves in the process. GenY shouldn’t work solely to get a raise or to earn recognition. We can still be high-quality without being high-maintenance.

Generation Y needs to stand up and show the world that we are different in a positive way. We can make a difference. There is really no other choice. We *have* to make a difference. We are growing up and moving out of our parents’ homes faster than you can say “Fortune Cookie Friday.” Our generation will soon be in leadership positions, inventing new technology and planting trees for Generation Z. If we want the world to be a better place, we should stay positive and prove those researchers wrong. It is time to get out from under the shade our parents provided and show the world what we can do under the sun.

High school not a fairy tale love story

Dearest Students,

It’s January. How about that? What a boring month. Here is a list of bad things about January: 1) We are dragged back to the horrors of school after having a sweet taste of freedom over Christmas break 2) It’s cold—not like fun, it’s-snowing, we-are-all-happy, let-go-outside-and-wear-cute-mittens cold—it’s just bitter, stinking cold! 3) It’s one of those 31 day months that feels more like a 31 thousand day month filled with physics tests, homework and other forms of cruel torture. 4) I am negative about January, therefore giving it the official title of Stinkiest-Month-of-the-Year-Other-Than-August (and yes, the hyphens are necessary!).

*Sincerely,
Shannon*



school love.

I would like to use the wise words of Nat King Cole to describe the way I feel about love, with a few of my own opinions thrown in there as well. (In case you don’t know what I’m talking about think, “L is for the way you *look* at me” sang in a very sultry deep old-time-sultry-deep-singer voice, and if you still don’t know what I’m talking about, then listen to some oldies, people.) Without further ado, I present L-O-V-E, high school version.

L, as sang by Nat King Cole, is for the way you look at me. For the high school version, I would say look is still a good way to describe it. L is for the way the girls look at the guys while they are sweating it up on the basketball court (Don’t act like you don’t do it, girls) and the way the boys agree with me in the fact that January stinks and would like to add a fifth reason—girls wear too much clothing (I hope I didn’t cross any lines with that one). Let’s face it, in high school “looks” are a big part of love.

O, in high school, is not for the only one I see. Instead I would like to suggest the word obsessive — as in over-obsessive amounts of PDA. As pointed out by the constant squeaking of Mr. Baird’s PDA whistle, we high school students just can’t get enough of love. We love touching each other. We love kissing for the world to see. We love walking through the hall with one hand in a lover’s back pocket. The more you touch each other and the more people you gross out, the more you love each other. Duh!

V is very, very extraordinary or, in my opinion, is for very many anniversaries (yeah, I know that one is a bit of a stretch!). In high school, one month is paper, two months is china, three months is silver, and six months (that’s the big one) is gold, silver, diamonds and promise rings!

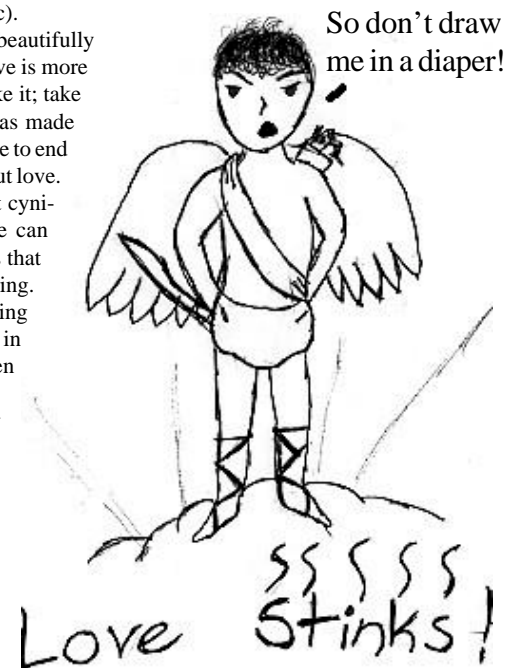
E, finally, according to Nat King Cole, is “even more than anyone that you adore.” And although those are some pretty words, in my version of the song, E is for end. I know that some people marry their high school sweethearts and I think that is adorable, but let’s face it, 90 percent of high school relationships eventually end. Normally these ends are quite sloppy and involve a lot of tears, hatred, back stabbing and death (I was totally kidding on the death part; I just thought it made it sound more dramatic).

Nat King Cole finishes his song by beautifully singing “Love is all that I can give to you. Love is more than just a game for two. Two in love can make it; take my heart but please don’t break it. LOVE was made for me and yooooouuuuu!” And I would also like to end my song with a summary about how I feel about love.

This article may make me sound a bit cynical, and maybe I am. I do believe that love can happen in high school. My point, however, is that we shouldn’t try to make that the focus of dating. High school relationships should be about having fun, not about finding your soul mate, and if in the process of having fun you find love—then good for yooooouuuu!

If I were actually singing it, I might try to make it rhyme or something, but that pretty much gets my point across. If anyone wants to record it, I will be willing to sell you the lyrics. Well, until next month, my dear student body keep the love alive and if you make it through the horrible month of January without freezing to death, then have a wonderful Valentine’s Day.

Sincerely,
Shannon



Sophomore Boy Scout travels the world with troop

By Elizabeth Reece

Many adults can tell you stories about their days as a Boy Scout or Girl Scout, but few students can. Sophomore Kellen Womochil is one of those students who can. He knows that Boy Scouts is about more than just popcorn and uniforms.

Womochil has been a part of Scouts since he was six years old. His mom was his inspiration to start.

“At that age, it was the only good club I could do,” Womochil said.

His mom continued to support him in Scouts by being a troop leader. His family accompanies him on family canoeing trips; his step-dad also goes on family trips. His step-dad and his brother were also in Scouts.

“(My favorite part of Boy Scouts is getting) to go to places that are once-in-a-life-time opportunities,” Womochil said.

Last summer, he went to England with his troop to attend the 20th World Scout jamboree for the 100th anniversary of Boy Scouts. He also got to tour London while he was there.

“(I had to help with) fundraisers so I could go. (I also) mowed yards and (did other) odd jobs to get money. (I even) applied for scholarships,” Womochil said.

Womochil is also planning on going to Philmont, a Boy

Scout Ranch in New Mexico, and will be going hiking with his troop this summer.

Going on big trips isn't the only thing Boy Scouts have to work for. Womochil is currently working on receiving an Eagle badge which is the highest rank possible to earn as a Scout.

“(I have to) complete a service project that requires 100 hours (for me to) complete 21 merit badges, and I have to show proper leadership,” he said.

Being as active as he is, Boy Scouts can get in the way of school.

“With practice and games and school, it's been hard to make time for it all,” Womochil said.

Still, Womochil makes time, he said, because he has high goals for his life.

“(I want) to have a successful career and be able to support myself,” Womochil said.

He thinks that Boy Scouts can help him reach his goal, which is part of the reason he continues to be involved in Scouts. He hopes it can continue to help him develop leadership and life skills.

“(The most important lesson I've learned is) how to survive in adverse conditions by using the right techniques,” Womochil said.



Left photo: Kellen Womochil (center) stands with a pair of Indonesian Boy Scouts at their Boy Scout campsite in England. Womochil went to celebrate Boy Scouts' 100th anniversary in Chelmsford, England this summer. Right photo: Womochil lies on the Prime Meridian while touring England with his troop. (Photos courtesy of Kellen Womochil)

Almaguer juggles Hispanic, American cultures

By Joslyn Wilcox

Have you ever gone somewhere and felt like you weren't part of the puzzle? Are you someone who goes one place and blends in, and then changes yourself a bit for another place? Freshman Vanessa Almaguer relates to these questions as she has to juggle her life between her social life and her Hispanic background.

Almaguer is Hispanic, but she doesn't speak Spanish as fluently as people often think she would.

"I speak Spanish when I visit my family in Mexico, but mainly I speak English," she said.

In Almaguer's family, they speak Spanish occasionally, but their main language is English. English is easier for Almaguer because she can understand it better and it makes her more comfortable when talking to others.

"Speaking in Spanish makes me feel like I sound weird around others and I feel out of place," Almaguer said.

Around her friends, she usually speaks English, but in some cases, with her Hispanic friends or family, she'll speak Spanish.

Her vocabulary of Spanish words is limited, but she's going to try to improve that by taking Spanish classes during high school.

"I enjoy knowing and speaking Spanish; I'm just not fully comfortable with it," Almaguer said.

In addition to speaking some Spanish, Almaguer also participates in some traditions of her culture. One of the traditions that she's planning to follow is to celebrate her 15th birthday with a



quinceañera. A quinceañera is a party celebrating a young girl's change into a woman and is a tradition in the Hispanic culture.

"They are really fun; I want to have a quinceañera, but I'm not fully positive if it will happen," Almaguer said.

A second tradition Almaguer follows is a dance called the danza. She's in the Virgin Mary group called The Matachenes, which she just joined this year. The group is meant to enable people to celebrate their birth and to learn traditions at the same time.

"It's very fun and active. I've loved this since forever," Almaguer said.



Vanessa Almaguer (second from left) performs the Danza, a traditional Hispanic dance, at Sacred Heart Elementary in Salina. She has been part of the group "The Matachenes" for a year. (Photo courtesy of Vanessa Almaguer)

Ziegler zips back after titanium rod surgery

By Rose Laflen

It was one year ago on Nov. 11, 2006, when senior Jeremy Ziegler had the car accident that left him with a broken leg, a severed pancreas and a lacerated spleen. But he was still dealing with one of the after effects of the accident just a month ago.

In early December 2007, Ziegler had an operation to remove the titanium support rod that had supported his broken leg. After the surgery, he spent only 23 hours in the hospital.

"There was only a severe hurting in my ankle. The stinging pain is the only thing that bothered me," Ziegler commented. "It doesn't feel any different to have it out of my leg," Ziegler said.

The doctors had not intended to keep the rod in the bone, but with the pains that Ziegler was experiencing, the removal date was pushed forward.

Removing the rod wasn't his only surgery to help Ziegler recover from his accident.

"(I) had to go through three surgeries to recover from the accident," Ziegler said.

The three surgeries were on his pancreas, spleen, and finally, his leg. In total, the surgeries have placed him in and out of the hospital for about six months.

Ziegler said he is ready for the ordeal to be over.

"Will there be any more surgeries? NO!" Ziegler said.

Ziegler's experiences have been traumatic for not only him, but his entire family. Kate Hart, Ziegler's little sister, explains her side of the experience.

"(It was) sad, frustrating and scary," she said. She is grateful for the recovery that her brother had.

Ziegler said he is grateful too, but not just to the doctors. He said he believes his recovery has been assisted by his peers at SES.

"I'm thankful for the students at Southeast. They've been my support," he said.



Jeremy Ziegler (left) walks out of the locker room with teammate Mitchell Mugler at the Salina Invitational Basketball Tournament. Ziegler recently underwent surgery to remove a titanium rod from his leg. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Forensics venture finds dramatists in the classroom

By Shannon Wilson

From a high school prom where Enrique and Helga find a unique romance to the attic where Anne Frank stayed in hiding during the Holocaust--every year Forensics sends students to places all around the world, and now for the first time, it is sending them to the classroom.

This year, Forensics is being offered as a semester credit. The class will allow the students school time to rehearse and memorize their dramatic readings. They will then be required to compete at Forensics meets on weekends and after school.

"They will use their time (in Forensics class) to work on their Forensics pieces and generally promote the Forensics program with help in running the three tournaments we will have this year (SES Invitational, League and Border Wars). Many of their points will be given based upon participation in tournaments outside of class," Forensics coach and teacher, Mr. Terry Anderson, explained.

Because many of the students involved in Forensics are also involved in other activities, in the past, it has been difficult for students to get the practice they need before competitions. Before the class was offered, members relied on seminars and weekends to practice their pieces. Although not every member of the

Forensics team is enrolled in the class, Anderson feels that it will be a big help in preparing for meets.

"Any additional time for students to practice is always a help," Anderson said.

The Forensics team will kick off their season tomorrow, Jan. 26 at Smoky Valley. Anderson foresees the season going well.

"I have strong seniors. If they can continue their leadership and devotion and not poop out, they will have a good year. I anticipate a new crop of freshmen who are just as enthusiastic as the seniors are," Anderson said.

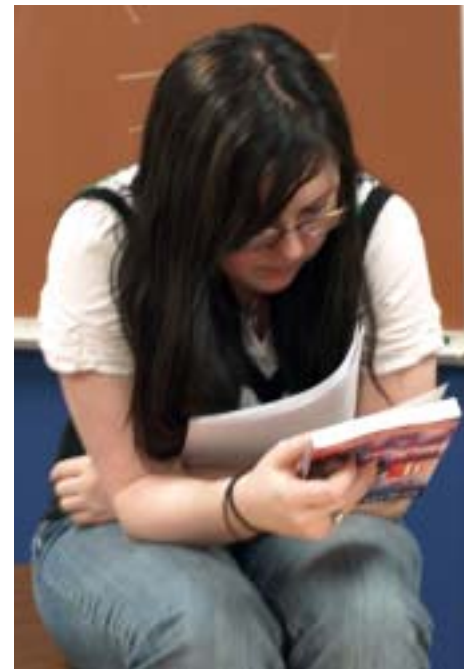
Last Forensics season ended at the State Championship in May, which resulted in two state placings. Chelsie Green and Shannon Wilson received fifth in Improvised Duet Acting and Britten O'Banan placed sixth in Serious Solo Acting. Other accomplishments of the season included a pair of league champions, O'Banan and Sadie Myers in Improvised Duet Acting, and three sweeps (the total of the entire team's scores) championship plaques.

In the upcoming year Anderson hopes to match that record.

"We are off to a slow start, but if it picks up and gets going, I think we have a good chance at State this year," Anderson said.

Team members are also excited to get started on the season.

"I'm excited about becoming a better actress," freshman team member, Taylor Peterson said.



Sophomore Megan Kincaid-Heidel looks through a book of poems to find a piece for Forensics competition. The Forensics team will travel to their first meet at Smoky Valley tomorrow. (Photo by Cierha Berry)

Students choose Peru over original Costa Rica

By Krisanna Graham

Adios, Costa Rica! Hola, Peru! Students going on the study abroad trip have changed their travel plans, and are going a little farther south.

Mr. Weston Moody said the destination was changed due to the students' opinions and cost.

"My parents weren't going to let me go because Costa Rica is more touristy. Peru has more history to learn about," Chelsea Hanks said.

The group is now going to Cusco located in southeastern Peru.

The group is doing a variety of fundraisers to help cover the cost of the trip. The trip is expected to cost approximately \$1,600 per student. Fundraisers include working various concession stands and catering school events.

FCCLA gears up for STAR Events

By Amanda Keeler

Southeast of Saline FCCLA is at work preparing for the District STAR (Students Taking Action with Recognition) Events Competition on Feb. 6 in Newton.

Thirteen teams and individuals from SES will be competing at the district STAR Events conference. The events that will be represented by our school are Senior Parliamentary Procedure, Sr. Interior Design, Sr. Chapter Showcase Manual and Display, Sr. Job Interview, Sr. Chapter Service Manual, Sr. Illustrated Talk, Sr. National Programs in Action, Jr. National Programs in Action, Jr. Chapter Showcase Manual, Jr. Chapter Service Manual,

Jr. Fashion Recycle and Design and Jr. Chapter Service Display.

"We always have quite a few teams participating in STAR events from our school," chapter adviser, Mrs. Juanelle Garretson, said.

The district officer elections will also be taking place on Feb. 6 at the district meeting. Joey Platt will be running for a district position and Megan Sauber will be seeking approval to run for a state office position.

On Feb. 23, SES FCCLA will be running the Special Olympics concession stand as a chapter fundraiser. The money raised will go toward funding future activities of the chapter.

Ag. Sales team qualifies for State FFA

By Tiffany Patrick

FFA members are kicking off the new year with plenty of activities. From multiple contests to National FFA Week in February, there's plenty going on.

On Jan. 16, seniors Brent Sweany, Sarah Anderes, Charley Staab, Jacob Fehlman and sophomores Amanda Wilson and Shannon Rogge attended the Speech, Ag. Sales and Ag. Communications contests. Sweany took sixth place at the event, making him the first alternate for state competition.

The Ag. Sales team (Anderes, Staab and Fehlman) took second place, with Anderes taking second place for individual and Staab with eighth place. Wilson placed eight in speech, along with Rogge in eleventh.

The Dairy Foods/Poultry Contest is scheduled for Jan. 31.

FFA officers are currently preparing for National FFA Week, which is held Feb. 17-23.

"National FFA Week is one of our biggest projects," Sweany, FFA president said.



Amanda Wilson, Brent Sweany and Shannon Rogge all competed at the North Central District Public Speaking Competition held in Abilene on Jan. 16. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Brandie Disberger)

Science Club attends annual Water Festival

By Sarah Reece

Beakers, flasks and petri dishes aren't what the Southeast of Salina Science Club is all about. On Jan. 8, 38 Science Club members traveled to Kansas Wesleyan University for the annual Water Festival. The event was hosted by Lakewood Discovery Center and Rolling Hills Zoo.

Students were either assigned to be a class room helper, a class leader, or a hall aid.

"I was a classroom helper. It was very interesting because I got to meet new kids, teachers and people. We played games. It was very fun," sophomore Joathan Rodriguez said.

Science Club hasn't finished its fun yet, though. On Jan. 29, they will be holding an elementary Science Olympiad for SES elementary students.

"Students will be participating in events like Metric Olympics and Tower Building," sponsor Mrs. Peshia Ptacek said.

Later this year, members will be competing in their own Science Olympiad held at Fort Hays State University.

NHS scavenger hunt rescheduled for Feb. 2

By Joslyn Wilcox

SES National Honors Society (NHS) is really putting the happy in "Happy New Year." Members spread the Christmas spirit throughout Salina in December and are looking to help fight hunger in February with a scavenger hunt.

The scavenger hunt will begin at counselor and NHS sponsor Mrs. Judy White's house on Feb. 2 at 3:00. Teams will spread out over Salina to collect non-perishable food items. The three teams who collect the most will receive prizes. All the supplies collected from the scavenger hunt will be donated to the local food bank. The items collected will also be used in the food drive challenge between Sacred Heart and SES.

"I'm looking forward to working with the NHS teams this year," White said. "In the end, helping the local food banks is rewarding."

On Dec. 20, families in need of help went to the Salvation Army where they were provided with food and toys for Christmas. The NHS students were the main work force for the Salvation Army Day as they helped carry food and toys out to the vehicles. The outstanding workers for the day, selected by the NHS officers were Rachel Pantle, Zach Short and Jeff Schwerdtfager.

"The students did an awesome job. It is not easy work," said Mrs. White.



Senior Cole Lilly stands with the toys during the Salvation Army Distribution Day. NHS members from SES helped needy families in Salina pick Christmas presents provided by the Salvation Army. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Judy White)

Living...



In the Dark

Students share their experiences while living in the aftermath of the recent ice storm.

Ice storm beats a costly path through Kansas

By Amanda Keeler

During the night hours of Monday, Dec. 10, while many people were sleeping, there were thousands of trees falling around the state of Kansas that citizens would eventually find to be the cause of their power outages.

When people awoke on Dec. 11, many discovered that they had no power. Some began digging out their battery powered radios, flashlights, clocks and other small, battery-powered appliances. Shopping centers soon had vacant shelves where flashlights, batteries, generators and chainsaws had previously occupied.

National Disaster Areas

Last month, over 40 counties in western Kansas were declared a national disaster by FEMA (Federal Emergency Management Agency) after the ice storms. These counties received some form of assistance in cleanup after the storm.

According to FEMA's official website, there has now been over \$362 billion dollars worth of damage in Kansas from the winter storm alone. This number is predicted to in-

crease after everything has melted. The results floods were expected to be severe because of the amount of snow and ice acquired in some areas.

Hitting Home

All of this damage caused many people to be without power. Some people were in the dark for just a few hours, or just a couple of days, but others, like sophomores Shannon Rogge and Breanna Spaeny were in the dark for longer.

"We did not have electricity for ten days. We went to my grandparents' house because our house got very cold. I also realized how boring life can really be without any TV," Rogge said.

The entertainment aspect of the power outage was another major conflict that many had to deal with. Some people resorted back to entertainment that didn't require electricity such as board games and learning a new skill such as crocheting, while others just listened.

"I got to hear a lot of new stories from my parents that I had never heard before the storm. I also did some reading and listened to music until I went to the Calahans' house to stay," Spaeny said.

Sophomore Jena Sauber, who was without power for over a week, learned a new skill while living without power.

"My mom showed me how to crochet, but I turned out not to be very good." Sauber said. "I quit when the power came back on."

Trojournal reporters conducted a survey to see just what SES students and staff missed the most while living in the dark. What did we miss the most? Heat tied with personal care items (curling iron, blow dryer, shower, etc.) for the top spot. Next came household lights, followed closely by the television and computer. In last place was the microwave, oven and other cooking devices.

For those who lost power, among possibly the few things that were enjoyable through the storm were time spent with family, the days out of school and the new learning experiences that this disaster brought to the state of Kansas.



In addition to a wide-spread power outage, the ice also caused damage to trees in the area. Broken tree limbs litter the yard of a downtown Salina building after the ice storm. (Photo by Amanda Keeler)

Final days of school in question after storm

By Krisanna Graham

SES students got almost a full week off of school because of freezing rain. There were very few students that thought about anything except sleeping in, hanging out and not doing homework. Now that we are back in school, however, it's time to ask if we have to make up the lost days.

Unlike some schools surrounding Southeast, the answer seems to be "no."

"At this point, everybody is still in good shape," Dr. Justin Henry, SES Superintendent, said.

Although they were called snow days, snow wasn't really the problem. There were many reasons why school was out.

"The first two days were cancelled because power was out everywhere. On Thursday during the midmorning, I met with the maintenance director, transportation director, principals, athletic directors, administrators and food service director to assess the damage," Henry said.

The group examined all of the things that would affect whether school should be in session.

"We went through and examined what was the food like, what damage was caused due to the ice, what the roads were like, etc. Although most areas had power again, it was still blinking. A lot of people were contacting the district and saying they still didn't have electricity. Some had already gone somewhere else for the weekend, hoping when they returned they would have power restored. After assessing all of that, we decided there was no point to have school Friday, also. There were still too many things unknown," Henry said.

With the ice storms past but winter weather still in our midst, the question that many students are asking is what happens if we have another snow day?

The state requires schools to provide 1,116 hours of class time per year. For seniors, the number is a smaller 1,086 hours of class time per year. These hours do not include lunch but do include passing periods from class to class.

Linemen restore electricity to Kansas homes

By Jena Sauber

When many of us were living in the dark during the December power outage, we didn't take for granted that we had a roof over our heads- no matter how cold it was underneath. However, for the linemen working to restore power after the storm, life meant working long days in the harshly cold and dangerous conditions.

Hershel Sanders, father of SES sophomore Sutton Sanders, is one of those linemen who took on extra hours to help restore power.

"I normally work nine hour days, five days a week. After the storm, I worked 16 hours days, seven days a week," Sanders said.

Sanders, who's worked as a Vegetation Management Supervisor at Westar Energy for the last eight years, said that crews started cleanup efforts as soon as the bad weather started.

"We started restoring power and fixing lines the evening the ice started form-

ing," Sanders said.

Approximately 50,000 people in Kansas were without power after the ice storm. To help with the immense amount of work to be done, crews from surrounding states came to work.

"Crews from Florida and Texas were the major groups. Crews came from as far away as the Carolinas, Tennessee, Michigan and even Canada," Sanders said. "Basically, wherever some place could give up a crew."

With so many people lending a helping hand, lots of food was needed, too.

"Breakfast was buffet style at a lodging house. Lunch was catered into buildings for supervisors and taken to crews in the field. Dinner was catered also," Sanders said. "We were also given snacks like candy and beef jerky when they couldn't make meals."

Even with so many extra workers, the work wasn't easy.

"We need to continue to evaluate. We will just keep figuring and refiguring until we feel comfortable with the numbers (of hours)," Henry said regarding what happens if we miss school again.

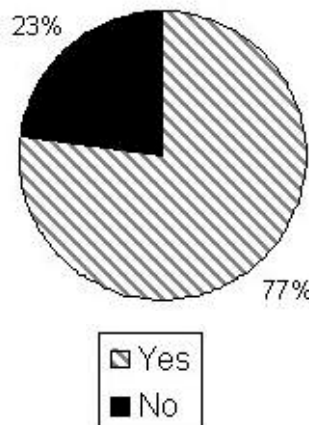
If we do have to make up days, Principal Monte Couchman said that most likely a day or two will just be added on to the end of the school year.

"Seniors will be impacted first. In the past, they got out a few days early. However, it may not happen if we do have to make up school days," Couchman said.

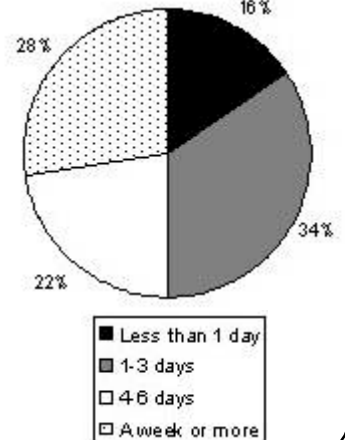
SES Power Poll

Seventy-five SES high school students and staff were polled about their experiences after the ice storm. The graph on the left shows the amount of people that lost power. The graph on the right shows how long those people were in the dark. (Note: Statistics may not be entirely accurate as multiple members from one family may have answered the survey.) By Jena Sauber and Amanda Keeler

In the Dark



Powerless Hours



"Trees were one of the biggest contributing factors to the outages everywhere," Sanders said. "As the heavy ice kept forming, even 14 foot branches snapped under the weight. Those branches fell onto houses, lines, and knocked over power poles. They even stopped transportation in a lot of places in cities."

Sanders has spent most of his time since the storm in Manhattan.

"Eighty percent of Manhattan was powerless for a week. That's where I spent most of my time away," Sanders said.

That time away includes four nights away from his family after the storm.

"I didn't have to work on Christmas, though," Sanders said.

Sanders said that the damage from the ice storm won't be seen, or felt, for much longer.

"Friday (today) is the predicted date for complete repairs to be done," Sanders said.

School's 30th year brings a blast from the past

By Jena Sauber

No, it's not actually going to be 1978, but tonight will be a blast from the past at the SES 30th Anniversary Party. The event, hosted by the SES Education Foundation, is meant to commemorate the first 30 years of the current Southeast of Saline building.

The evening will start out with cake and punch in the elementary cafeteria from 5-7. Attendees will have the opportunity to purchase old SES sports uniforms and order 2007-2008 "Every Now and Then" yearbooks. The yearbooks will cost \$50.00 a piece and feature pictures and information from past SES classes.

SES alumni will be admitted to the SES Girls Invitational Tournament for free. Former and current staff, special guests and past graduates will be recognized during the game. The alumni band and choir will also be showcased at the game with a performance of The National Anthem.

The Assaria & Gypsum Lions Clubs will have a chalupa supper in conjunction with this event, also.

Free t-shirts will be given to all current students and staff courtesy of the SES Education Foundation. Students and staff are then requested to wear the shirts to tonight's game.



Shelby Meyer folds old SES uniforms in preparation for the school's 30th Anniversary Party. Lots of activities have been planned for tonight in honor of Southeast's 30th year. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Scholars' season is coming to an end

By Patrick Eslick

The freshman-sophomore team finished their season with a first place triumph at the league tournament. Their record was 5-1, making their final record 31-13. The varsity team did not place with a record of 3-3, making their current record 35-41.

"There was a lot of tough competition at league this year," scholar's bowl coach, Bob Sauber said. "The freshman-sophomore team went out and did a great job, even if the varsity team didn't do as well."

With this performance at the league tournament, and only one meet left, it is unlikely that the varsity team will finish with a winning season. This will be the first time in 17 years for the team not to do so.

"We came to try our best, and that's what we did," Brent Sweany said. "There was a lot of tough competition and we didn't win, but that's OK."

SES, Sacred Heart join for a cause

By Krisanna Graham

SES organizations including Friends of Rachel (F.O.R.), FCCLA, NHS, the leadership class and Sacred Heart's StuCo, are holding a food drive event to help the Salina Emergency Aid/Food Bank starting next week. The schools decided to work together to achieve their goal to help the Food Bank, rather than having a school rivalry.

"The food drive is not really a competition (between schools), but a common goal," Mrs. Juanelle Garretson said. Principal Monte Couchman also agreed.

"This is really meant to be a cooperative, joint venture between the two student bodies...something the two schools can do together and both win," he said.

The Food Bank is running low and is in urgent need of non-perishable food

items, so SES organizations and Sacred Heart decided to take action.

"We were trying to come up with ideas to help and we thought this would be fun," senior Shayla Seim said.

The food drive will begin on Jan. 28 and end on Feb. 12. During that time period, students in grades 9-12 may bring non-perishable food items to their seminar.

The goal for the project is 3,000 items. The Food Bank has put together a priority list for most needed items.

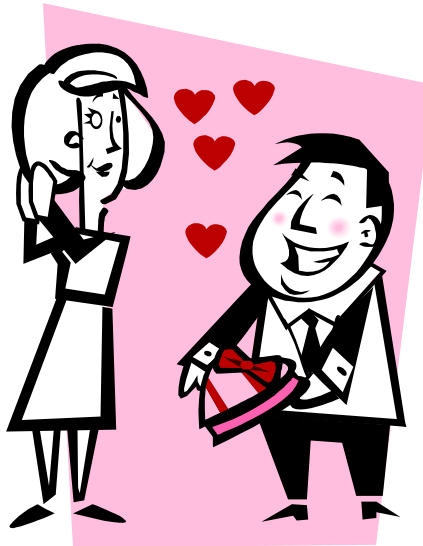
SES seminars will be competing against each other, also. Scoring will be the same as above. First place will be awarded a lunch of their choice within reasonable price. Second place will receive a cookie cake. Last, but not least, third place will be given ice cream.

♥ H A P P Y ♥

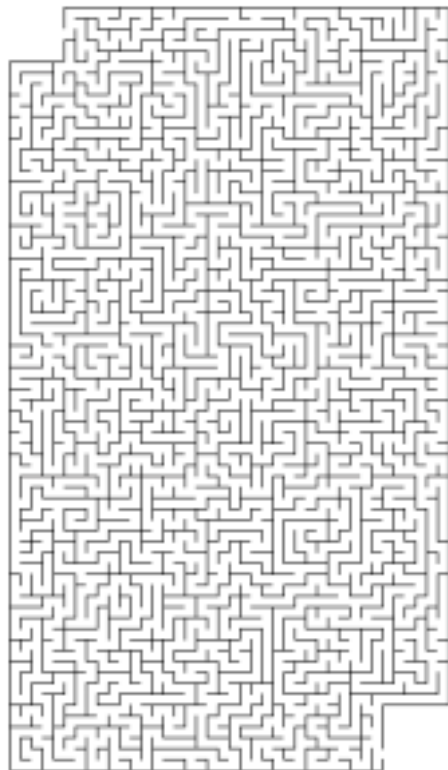
V A L E N T I N E S D A Y

K P T V V T C U G E Y S T K K
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CHOCOLATES ROSES
 CUPID SNUGLING
 DATES WHITE
 FEBRUARY
 HEARTS
 LOVE
 PINK
 PROMISES
 RED



Ladies, if you want a sweet Valentine's Day, tell the guys to read Max McClure's "Dating Corner"!



It's a maze...you know what to do.



♥ Dating Corner ♥

Dr. Max McClure's Opinions and Advice

Do's on a date:

1. Dress nicely (jeans and a cut off).
2. Get enough sleep. (Three hours will do.)
3. Laugh at jokes (in a fake annoying way).
4. Offer to pay for her meal (as long as it's on the dollar menu).
5. Take flowers. (Roses are nice... so pick some off her porch.)

Do not's on a date:

1. Invite her to participate in a belching contest with you and your buddies.
2. Forget to shower after your workout. (Enough said.)
3. Talk about your perfections and her flaws.
4. Talk about other hot girls you see.
5. Tell the "Purple Thing" joke. (If you have not had the pleasure of hearing that joke, see "Purple Thing" on page 17.)

Stein shines as a behind-the-scenes star

By Michael Bauer

Senior Elissa Stein may not have the most points on the Southeast girls' basketball team, but she has assisted many of the other players that do.

With over 40 assists this season, Stein leads the team. Her 40 have helped contribute to the team's more than 124 assists, as well as their 8-1 record.

Stein has been playing basketball for about 11 years. She spent her first five years playing for the YMCA league before playing her next six for SES.

She been a point guard for her entire high school basketball career but sometimes plays in another, different, position.

"I've played point guard my whole life, but sometimes I'm a post," Stein said. "If I'm going to play post, it usually depends on who is in the game, like if any of the taller girls are playing- then I'm a point guard," she said.

Stein likes playing point guard but she also likes the shooting guard position.

"I like to play the number two po-

sition of guard because you get to shoot more and have a better chance at scoring," Stein said.

Playing several positions, she has to face challenges and overcome some obstacles.

"Knowing all the plays for each spot can be tough," Stein said. "You also have to know what everybody else's position is and where they're at."

However, whatever difficulty she finds in the sport, it hasn't slowed her down. Stein's high assists attest to her success

"I have high assists because I know my team members and what positions they play at," Stein said.

With all her assists, she has helped the whole team rather than worrying how many baskets she makes.

"I don't think about how many points I have," Stein said, "just as long as we are up."

Coach Wayne Sager said Stein is a team player

"Elissa is not a main scorer for us," said Sager. "I think she takes a lot of

pride in the assists that she makes. She has been a point guard the last couple of years but this year we having been splitting the duties of the position. Elissa loves to make the team go; and I think that is something very special because number one, for her, is the team and it's not individual stats."

Sager commended Stein for being a behind-the-scenes player.

"She'll do anything she can for the team," Sager said. "That means taking on the other team's best player and let her be defense against that player. Or, if she has to work for an assist, or if she has to shoot those threes, or do anything else for the team, I think Elissa will do that. So if I could award her for anything, it would be a behind-the-scenes or maybe just a team award because she is definitely a team player."

Sager also added that Stein has improved as a basketball player.

"I'm very proud to be able to say that I have been able to coach Elissa over these years. I think she has come a long way as a basketball player and I'm proud of that."



(Left photo) Elissa Stein (center) stands with Shayla Seim and Mandy Harding during the pep rally earlier this month. All three girls are seniors on the basketball team this year. (Right photo) During the 2007 53-50 victory over Chapman, Stein goes to the line to shoot a technical foul in overtime. Now, as a senior, Stein has played basketball for about 12 years. (Photos by Sadie Myers)

Hahn, 8-2, bucks bales to train for wrestling

By Max McClure

He's a one sport man. The rest is training. That is Ryan Hahn who competes in wrestling at 119 pounds and has a record of 8-2. A few of those wins led him to two tournament victories, winning the 119 division. But he says getting there hasn't been easy.

"I've had two matches that were easy, but the rest have been tough," Hahn said.

He also said training was tough.

"Training is a lot of work. Live wrestling is hard because you're going 100 percent for six minutes," Hahn said.

His two losses were to opponents that had no more than one loss (7-0 and 13-1).

"In the match against the unbeaten guy, I lost by two points," Hahn said.

Hahn's record hasn't been easily won either; he's trained in a couple different ways.

"In the off season, I lift weights.

Then I farm for my dad, and it will get you in shape moving those hay bales," Hahn said.

Hahn says the training in practice can be fun.

"We play a game called 'king of the mat' where you're

inside the circle and you try to throw people out," Hahn said.

He says wrestling isn't all fun and games, though.

"First we jog a mile, then stretch, do 80 pushups, 100 situps, practice moves, then finish with live wrestling every day," he said

Hahn has wrestled for six or seven years and says he is accustomed to practice and dropping weight.

"This year, I had to drop about six pounds. I also had to drop five pounds freshman year to wrestle at the weight I wanted to," he said.

Wrestlers have many ways of dropping weight, but Hahn said he does a couple simple things to lose weight before weighing in.

"Sometimes, I wear a lot of clothes to practice or sit in a hot tub to sweat the weight off," Hahn said.

Hahn said staying in his weight class isn't easy.

"It wasn't easy to stay under the limit over Christmas break because my mom is a good cook," he said.



Ryan Hahn (left) prepares to wrestle with an opponent from Ellsworth in December. Hahn currently has a record of 8-2. (Photo by Chelsi Hemphill)

Wrestlers prepare for SES Tournament

By Chelsi Hemphill

The SES wrestling team wrestled only three times this month, and with only one more dual until their own invitational tournament, the team is practicing harder than ever trying to get ready to compete.

"I'm going to practice hard to get ready for (the SES Invitational). I don't really think about it though until it comes," Devin Huehl said.

The team placed 10th at the Ellsworth Invitational on Jan. 5 with 41 points. Individually, Hahn placed 2nd at 119 pounds, Short placed 3rd at 125 pounds, and Devin Huehl also placed 3rd at 130 pounds.

"My third place finish just proves that practice pays off if you actually work hard at it," Huehl said.

The Trojans placed 13th at the Halstead Invitational Tournament, on Jan. 11-12, with 74 points. The winning team was Smoky Valley with 152 points. Those placing 2nd in their weight class were Ryan Hahn at 119 pounds and Jason Prater at 160 pounds. Zach Short placed 4th at 125 pounds, and Braden Long placed 5th at 152 pounds.

The boys faced both Haven and Nickerson on Jan. 15. The team lost to Haven 48-21, but they were able to redeem themselves by winning against Nickerson 48-18. Individually, those who won against their Haven opponents were Hahn at 119 pounds, Short at 125 pounds, Long at 152 pounds, and Prater at 160 pounds. Those who won against their

Nickerson opponents were Hahn, at 119 pounds, Short at 125 pounds, Jordan Huggans at 135 pounds, Jason Hahn at 140 pounds, Matt Mortimer at 145 pounds, Long at 152 pounds, Prater at 160 pounds, and David Hoelting at 189 pounds.

"Wrestling the kid from Nickerson was a lot of hard work, but I got a win, so it was worth it," Hoelting said.

The team traveled to Hesston last night where they faced both Remington and Hesston. Results were too late for publication.

The team is holding their own invitational tournament here on Feb. 2 at 10 a.m.

Lady Trojans faced Fighting Irish Tuesday

By Michael Bauer

Last year, it took all season for the Southeast Lady Trojan basketball team to get ten wins.

This year, it has only taken 11 games.

On Monday, there was no luck for the Chapman Fighting Irish as they fell to the Trojans 65-48 in the first game of the SES invitational.

The win improved the Trojans' record to 10-1. They currently have their best record since their 2002-03 season.

"Our team record is pretty good," coach Wayne Sager said. "We have a stretch coming up where we play a lot of good ball clubs and Chapman was one of them. They are a good ball club and we played well."

In the first quarter, the Trojans had 15 points but after making adjustments, they had more than doubled their score by the end of the first half.

The closest the Irish were to having a chance on the Trojans was a lead that was no more than two points as both teams kept it close in the first quarter.

That all changed when senior Shayla Seim hit a three pointer that tied the game at 12, but then hit another right as the first quarter ended that gave the Trojans the lead for the rest of the night.

Sager explained that the contribution to the win was team play.

"I think we just played good team basketball with contributions from a whole lot of people," Sager said. "It's a good thing to have contributions all the way up and down our lineup."

Proving that SES plays "good team basketball," the Trojans had six different players score in the fourth quarter.

In the second half, the Irish ended up hurting themselves even more as they had 21 fouls total, most of them coming in the fourth quarter.

The Trojans turned those fouls into points as they were 11 of 13 from

the line, including freshman Christine Russell hitting six of six free throws.

The game was not the last time the Trojans will play the Irish. They will face them again on Feb. 1 at Chapman.

Sager believes Chapman will try to do better offensively.

"They might try to match us more



Senior Shayla Seim stands with Coach Wayne Sager after winning the "Shaving Cream Cheeto Toss" game at the pep rally on Jan. 18. The girls have been playing in the SES Invitational this week. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

on the boards," Sager said. "We did a very good job on the boards and I think that they've got to try to match that better."

Last night the Trojans took on the Concordia Panthers. Sager said before the game that he expected it to be anything but a walk in the park for the Trojans.

"They are going to be a tremendous challenge for us," Sager said. "They are a very quality basketball club and it will be good for us to play them."

He said one of the challenges that the Panthers would bring against the Trojans would be athletic ability, in which Sager anticipated that the Panthers would have the upper hand.

"I don't think that we can match them athletically. I like the team that I have, but I don't think athletically we can match up to them very well," he said.

"In order to stop the Panthers," Sager said, "strengths for the Trojans would be on the defensive side will be very important."

"I think we're going to have to do more zone defense and see if they can hit their shots from the outside," Sager said.

Senior Shayla Seim agreed.

"We are going to have to play good defense," she said. "They have some really good shooters."

Last year the Panthers defeated the Trojans in the semi-final of the SES Invitational. The loss kept the Trojans out of the championship. But as far as Sager and the team is concerned, that game a year ago is nothing but a memory.

"I don't think it will be a revenge game because last year is last year," Sager said. "We have a different team and what we have to do is work on getting better."

The results of that game were too late for publication, but a win would clinch a place in Friday's for championship game. Seim believes that the chances for that happening are good.

"We are a pretty good team but so are Concordia and Abilene," Seim said.

The Trojans' are still ranked in the top ten in the state with a current 10th place ranking in 3A, but Abilene is also ranked fifth in 4A.

"As far as being ranked, that's neat and good recognition for our school," Sager said, "but we want to be ready to play our best basketball at the end of the season."

Boys look to break Broncos

By Max McClure

Tuesday, the Southeast Trojan boys' basketball team will face Russell for the second time, hoping to tame the Broncos once again.

Their last meeting against Russell on Jan. 8 was a close game where the Trojans won by a small margin of three, 35-32. It was a physical game in which the Trojans did not take the lead until the final minutes.

"Russell can be a tough opponent," senior Mitch Mugler said.

Mugler said he would like to see the team in a better spot at the beginning of the game this time around.

"We didn't play well in the first half of the Russell game. We need to come out ready to play," he said.

Senior Cole Lilly said the team

might have to stay with what worked in their last meeting.

"In the fourth quarter, we pressured the ball and had some success. I think we'll do that more in the Russell game," Lilly said.

The Trojans also had success against Ellsworth Tuesday this week, completing their sweep, beating the Bearcats 48-33 on Jan. 22 and 50-37 in their first meeting on Dec. 18. In the most recent contest, the Trojans clamped down on defense in the fourth quarter, holding Ellsworth to five points.

Mugler led the team in scoring 16 points. Next was Lilly, scoring 11, including three treys. Others scorers were Greg Peterson (6), Jeff Schwerdtfager (5), Tristin Scheel (4), Corey Srna (3), Jordan Wyatt (2) and Cole VanBlaricon (1).



Seniors Jeff Schwerdtfager (left) and Tristin Scheel (right) fight for the rebound against Central Mustang at the Salina Invitational Tournament on Jan. 18. The Trojans lost 44-71. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Sports Box

By Krisanna Graham

Boys' Basketball

Nov. 30	@Centre	65-35	W
Dec. 3-7	Blue & Gold Classic		
	Ell-Saline	51-30	W
	Solomon	56-39	W
	Sacred Heart	40-43	L
Dec. 18	Ellsworth	50-37	W
Dec. 21	Beloit	42-45	L
Jan. 4	Minneapolis	58-48	W
Jan. 8	@Russell	35-32	W
Jan. 11	@Belleville	43-47	L
Jan. 12	Sacred Heart	47-44	W
Jan. 16-19	Salina Invitational		
	Smoky Valley	56-42	W
	Central	44-71	L
	Sacred Heart	46-48	L
Jan. 22	@Ellsworth	48-33	W
Upcoming Games:			
Jan. 29	Russell		
Feb. 1	@Chapman		

Record 9-5

Girls' Basketball

Nov. 30	@Centre	66-43	W
Dec. 3-7	Blue & Gold Classic		
	Ell-Saline	67-43	W
	Solomon	71-44	W
Dec. 18	Ellsworth	61-27	W
Dec. 21	Beloit	52-43	W
Jan. 4	Minneapolis	50-40	W
Jan. 8	@Russell	76-26	W
Jan. 11	@Belleville	57-53	W
Jan. 12	Sacred Heart	45-58	L
Jan. 15	@Ellsworth	62-33	W
Jan. 21-25	SES Invitational		
	Chapman	65-48	W
	Concordia		
Upcoming Games:			
Jan. 29	Russell		
Feb. 1	@Chapman		
Feb. 14	Sacred Heart (Blue and Gold)		

Record 9-1

Wrestling

Nov. 30	Ellsworth	23-33	L
Dec. 1	Lincoln Trny	2nd	
Dec. 6	Beloit Dual	60-9	W
Dec. 14	Minneapolis	6-72	L
Dec. 14	Republic County	42-24	W
Jan. 5	Ellsworth	10th (41 pts)	
Jan. 11-12	Halstead	13th (74 pts)	
Jan. 15	Haven		

Upcoming Duals:

Jan. 31 Belleville (H)

Dual Record 2-2

Anderson and crew work overtime on production

By Allison Dunn

An English teacher and play director who is paid for only one theatrical production per school year (but directs more) has come together with seniors who are swamped with activities, yet committed to the long hours, to produce this season's play, "You Can't Take It With You."

Sound familiar? Mr. Terry Anderson, who has been a play director at Southeast for 19 years and has directed 25 plays at Southeast, has a huge role in the SES drama department. Although this year he is directing three plays, he only gets paid for one. He simply enjoys directing enough to produce more than one. This season, he's enjoyed bringing "You Can't Take It With You" to the SES stage.

"I like directing plays. It also is a good activity for students; it keeps them busy and out of trouble," Anderson said.

The students do not fail to appreciate the time Mr. Anderson puts into extra plays, either.

"He is incredibly dedicated! I am so grateful that he puts on multiple productions each year – even though he doesn't get paid for all of them. Multiple productions means multiple fun!" senior Shannon Wilson said.

Senior Brent Sweany also applauded Anderson on his directing skills.

"He's wonderful. He always knows exactly how to put together a performance to make it the best that it can be. He always gives us 110 percent and is always busy," Sweany said.

Even though Anderson directs the plays, he is not the only one that has to make it happen. There are 19 cast members that are putting in lots of time into memorizing and practicing their parts.

"It gives me the chance to get to know people I don't usually hang out with. Also, (we) always have food! It's fun getting to almost adopt your character or another side of yourself," senior Chelsie Green said.

Senior actor Britten O'Banan and Sweany agreed that turning into a different character was one of the enjoyable aspects. O'Banan said that he enjoys "turning into someone else" and Sweany says his favorite thing about performing is "actually becoming my character, thinking, acting and being him."

There are ten seniors active in both the drama department and in this winter's production. When questioned on what compels them to be so active in the drama department, some of the seniors involved in "You Can't Take It With You" blamed it on their love of drama.

"I just love it. It's hard to describe, but it is just something I really love to do!" Wilson said.

Senior actress Cierha Berry says she loves the feeling of accomplishment.

"I just love acting and when a play is completed; it feels great," Berry said.

Although most of the seniors commented on their love for drama, senior Kody Lynn had a different opinion on why he does so much, saying he has "nothing better to do."

Not every aspect of the drama department is all roses, however. The hours and hours it takes to perfect a production is a down side for most of the seniors and for Anderson.

"It takes a lot of time to memorize and block everything. Then we only have two nights to perform what we worked on for months," senior Sadie Myers said.

Of course, rehearsing for the play is not completed in one practice, and the rehearsals are almost never short. Senior Kaleb Feist said that there are "long play practices" while Jeff Schwedtfager said the "late nights" are what he least enjoys.

A positive outcome of all the hard work, though, is that the younger cast members tend to look up to the senior thespians.

"(The seniors) inspire everyone," Anderson said.

Wilson is one who has noticed the effect the seniors have had on the underclassmen.

"I think the huge bunch of seniors that are dedicated to the drama department have shown a lot of people how fun drama can be and that has encouraged a lot of underclassmen to get involved," Wilson said.

Though they all agree that there is a lot of work that goes into producing a play, they all look forward to "You Can't Take It With You."

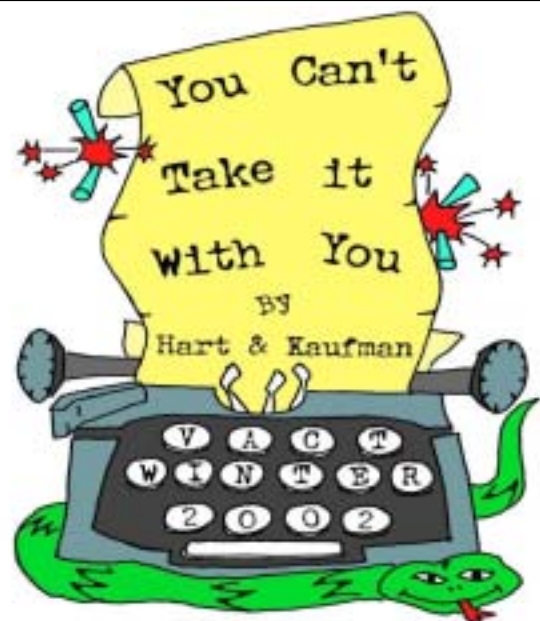
"The cast is great! The set is insane! The story is hilarious! Everyone should come!" Wilson said.

Aaron Breault, another senior actor, replied with a similar, simpler statement.

"Just go see it," he said.

Myers commented that the play will not be easily forgotten.

"Considering the story, the play will be out of the ordinary and exciting. It is a big cast so practices will be fun. We also have quality actors/actresses. I think it will be a play to remember!"



Saturday

February 23rd 7:30

—&—

A Sunday Matinee

February 24th 3:00

General Admission: \$6

(Call 536-4286 for tickets. \$5 tickets in advance!)