

THE TROJOURNAL

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Milly Pontipee (Shannon Wilson) and Adam Pontipee (Kody Lynn) reunite and look lovingly into each other's eyes as they sing "Love Never Goes Away." Both starred in this year's musical "Seven Brides for Seven Brothers" on Nov. 8 and 10. For more pictures, see pages 8-9. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Around The Halls

What is the grossest thing you have ever eaten?



Eric Hederstedt- Fr.
"Horse is a very tender meat when it's raw. I've tried it."



Shelby Thummel- So.
"Squid, it's all rubbery and discusting."



Måns Olsson- Jr.
"Fried Ants, it's normal to eat crazy stuff in Thailand."



Kevin Moyer- Sr.
"Some people think that cat food is gross, but I didn't think it was too bad!"



Southeast of Saline THE TROJOURNAL

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'Superbug' strikes Southeast

The community based MRSA "superbug" is sweeping high schools across the nation. Is it a reason to panic? Or just a reason to be alert?

By Sadie Myers

It's a bird! No, it's a plane! No, it's a...superbug? That's right; the methicillin-resistant Staphylococcus aureus (MRSA) "bug" has been popping up around the country and even in our school. And it's been turning some heads.

There have been recent cases of young adults in school communities obtaining MRSA and dying from this bacterium, causing a surge of Staph information, media hype and panic.

Last month, students at the Pike Central High School in Kentucky protested to get their school cleaned to help stop the spread of MRSA. They sat in the cafeteria hoping to persuade the school's administration to clean their school. Three of the picketers received two days out-of-school suspension and 30 others received one day of in-school suspension.

However, their scheme worked. Two weeks later over 10,000 students got a couple "MRSA Days" because the school officials decided they needed to mega-sanitize. Twenty-three schools were shut down because of one confirmed case of MRSA. (Our school has had four con-

firmed cases).

The protestors got what they wanted, but why did these students risk getting in trouble? They may have wanted to get a day off of school; but, in my opinion, they were scared. A high school senior from Virginia died from MRSA early in October, and there are plenty of other cases bouncing around the news.

Now MRSA has been showing up in our own small-town school in the middle of a cow pasture. Should students, staff and patrons be scared? No. Reasonably cautious? Yes. Hysterical? No. MRSA can be deadly, but according to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), it is usually fatal only in hospital settings where patients' immune systems are already vulnerable and wounds and punctures are common.

All the same, our school's administration has had a tough time dealing with this issue since September and they are managing it the best way they know how.

Meetings have been held with the best of the best health experts about MRSA. The school's administration is constantly receiving and sorting through new information about the superbug. Letters have been sent to athletes and students alike to raise awareness about the bug and the importance of keeping good hygiene and washing your hands.

The custodians are also a big part in preventing an outbreak of MRSA in our community. There have been extra items added to their list of duties including disinfecting every door handle in the school, cleaning the equipment in the weight room and washing/drying towels used by the P.E.

(see "reason" on page 3)



The truth is revealed about a beloved snack

By Shannon Wilson

Dear Trojan Pupils,

I just read the most disturbing thing in the entire world. OK, well maybe not in the entire world, but it is pretty darn freaky. I am not even going to tell you because it is going to gross you out so stinking much!

So, how was everyone's month? Mine was pretty good.

Just kidding! I wouldn't do that to you guys. I am going to tell you, but I think before I do I should say that nei-

ther I, nor the Trojournal, should be held responsible for any nausea, fainting, or death after hearing the following statement. Here it is (get ready)!

According to funny2.com, **THE AVERAGE CHOCOLATE BAR HAS EIGHT INSECT LEGS IN IT!**

*Sincerely,
Shannon*



•Reason to be alert

(Continued from page 2)

classes and athletic teams. (Next time you see a janitor in the hallway, give 'em a high five. They definitely deserve it!)

Through all this, our school officials have been trying to prevent more cases of MRSA from appearing. It would be nice to get a few "MRSA Days" off of school, but there is just no need to shut the school down to be disinfected when the bacteria can be brought back the second it's wiped away. The CDC says that staph can be found in approximately one-third of the populations' noses and skin, so there is really no way of knowing who is carrying it. Even if administrators quarantined those who tested positive for MRSA, should they also stop the 25% to 30% of us who carry the virus from coming to school? Should they invite county health nurses to bring nasal swabs to test all who enter the doors of SES? If that were done, should doctors prescribe antibiotics to kill the bug and risk increasing the speed with which MRSA becomes more resistant to the few antibiotics that currently kill it?

Our school's administration has taken the reported MRSA cases and reacted the best way they know how. Although the bacterium is serious and can be deadly, there is no need for hysteria because they are handling it promptly and with professionalism. For now, all eyes are on our school officials, but don't worry; because their eyes are on the superbug.

I know what you are thinking!- "Why? I don't understand! How do insect legs get into my delicious candy bars?" This fact makes me want to just curl up into a ball and die! Oh, the humanity!! (I don't really know what that means, but I have heard it before and I thought it seemed fitting when talking about insect legs in my chocolate!)

First off, for all you doubters, let me add some legitimacy to my statements. (Just to let you know, researching this was the most painfully revolting thing that has ever happened to me!) I know that this doesn't mean that it is true, but when I searched for "insect legs in chocolate bars" on Google, I got 430,000 results. Most of these were interesting or random fact sites, but I also found some further disturbing information on the topic. On Yahoo Answers, someone explained that the insect parts in chocolate are due to cockroaches in the cocoa beans used in making the chocolate bars that we know and love (Gross! Gross! Gross!). And, possibly the most disturbing thing of all was found on The Food and Drug Administration's "Food Defect Action Levels" which states the levels of foreign material allowed in certain foods. This document stated (no lies!), "average [of chocolate] is 60 or more insect fragments per 100 grams" AHHHHHHH!

Now, if you still don't believe it, then you're not alone. I still have my doubts. I just don't understand how in the world something as delicious as a chocolate bar could have something as disgusting as a bug leg in it! However, regardless of whether you completely believe it or not, just the thought of it IS freaky! You can't deny that, so let's get on with the article.

After reading this fact, I found myself becoming angry. How could chocolate bars, the thing I love so much, do this to me? Why, oh why, would something that I trusted hurt me like that? I felt so betrayed.

I'm sure all you chocolate bar lovers are feeling this way right now too, so, as a school, let's all take a moment of silence to grieve this horrible fact that I have just informed you of. (pause...deep breath) There, you should all feel a bit better now.

Now honestly, I know that not many of you are asking the usual question, "What is Shannon's oh-so-wise advice for the month?" because you are still too freaked out. However, I do indeed, have some oh-so-wise advice to go along with this tid-bit of information, because, well, I am just that wise.


So, after I learned about the insect legs in chocolate bars, I thought long and hard about whether I was going to continue eat-

ing chocolate bars. It was a hard decision. Chocolate bars and I had been together for a long time. We had a pretty solid relationship, and then, like a dirty rotten boyfriend, those delicious treats went and betrayed me. My heart felt ripped apart. I cried myself to sleep for several nights.

Yet, I still felt like I loved them. I mean, we really had something. It was hard to just let it go. So I decided to stick with them, forgive them, and keep on loving them just like I did before.

No, my advice is NOT to stick with a cheating boyfriend! Dump him! He is scum. However, my advice is to keep a positive outlook, focus on the good things, and don't let a few bug legs get in the way of the things you love.

Everything has something bad in it. For example, we practiced moving the set for hours each night at musical practice. It was pretty much the lamest thing that has ever happened to me, (Musical members, can I get an AMEN!?!?) but the rest of the musical was great fun. I live to act, and the singing was fun too, not to mention all the good times back stage! It would have been easy for me to be like, "Gee-wiz, practicing set changes for numerous hours a night is just not peachy-keen. This musical is not dandy at all. In fact, I really loathe set changes, and, in turn, I really don't think this musical is too fun in general," but I didn't. I kept a positive outlook. I looked past those bug legs (aka set change practices for those of you who aren't getting the metaphor) and enjoyed my chocolate (musical in general).

There you have it—another month, another piece of advice. Take it how you want to. I know most of you probably don't care that much because you are still thinking about how insect legs can get into a chocolate bar, but maybe when you have settled down,  read through the article you will get something out of it.

In closing, I would like to leave you with another fact from funny2.com. I hope this one makes you feel a little better than the first one did.

"Once a party boat filled with 60 men and women capsized in Texas after all the passengers rushed to one side as the boat passed a nude beach." :)

Sincerely,
Shannon

Sophomore says “Hoi” from foreign exchange experience

By Krisanna Graham

Sophomore Elizabeth Peuchen attended Southeast last year, but is currently about two months into her foreign exchange trip to Holland. Her dad is Dutch and Elizabeth has family who lives in Holland. The following is an interview from Peuchen.

Hoi! Hoe gaat het? (Hi! How are you?) I have answered these questions to give you a glimpse of my life. If you can not tell, my English is not very good anymore.

Trojournal: How’s your Dutch? Is it difficult to study in Dutch?

Peuchen: My Dutch is so much better. I can understand about 90% of what people say. I can also speak and answer questions. I still have a lot to learn about the language, but I am at the point that I can communicate and participate in school.

Trojournal: Is your experience positive enough at this point that you are considering taking advantage of Holland’s free higher education (college)?

Peuchen: My experience so far has been more than positive. I have considered higher education (college) here. It is funny that you ask, everyone here also asked the same question. Yes, the Dutch have a much cheaper way of getting an education.

Trojournal: Tell about your experiences getting to school.

Peuchen: I get to school by riding my bike about 7 minutes to the train station. Then, at the train station, I get on the train to Utrecht where I get on another train. After the second train I walk about 15 minutes to school. From the time I leave my house it takes about 65 minutes. To get to school on time I try to be up by 5:45am (or 10:45pm your time).

For everyone’s information, I missed the train the first day of school. I have also have missed it about five other times. So, I have been late by 35 minutes all those times. So you can figure that the train connections are not always great for me.

Trojournal: Have you made lots of friends in Holland?

Peuchen: I have made many friends here in Holland. Everyone is so friendly to me since I am the American. My classmates are very helpful and, if I have a question, the teachers are more than willing to help.

Trojournal: How does school there differ from school here?

Peuchen: School is much different here. First of all, I have 12 different classes, including two art classes. If you know me very well than you probably know art is not my strongpoint. I begin school at 8:05 and am done with school at about 4:45. This makes for a much longer day than you have. I have also found out that kids in Holland have much more to learn than what I had to learn in the United States. They must study for 12 classes, 8 classes per day.

Sports do not exist in the school in the Netherlands. School is for learning and that is about it. There are many sports clubs, especially soccer clubs that you can join though out of school.

Trojournal: Tell them about your English language class and your Dutch language class.

Peuchen: English class here is much different than English class in America. Because English is a second language, they approach it much different. In case you are wondering, they also have book reports. For my first book report, I was assigned to read the book Jane Eyre. It is a really long book of 542 pages. My teacher chose it for me because she knew I had very good English. Most kids in my class are reading books of about 50 pages. More focus is put on the pronunciation of the words and also the past, present and future tense of words.

Dutch class follows more of what the English class in America is like. They go over the verbs and read and discuss books. Pronunciation is also focused on here.

Trojournal: Are the Dutch really more liberal than we are?

Peuchen: That can be a very controversial question. Yes, they are more direct and express themselves very clearly. But at the same time they

are actually quite like us. You probably thought of this question, from what you know about Amsterdam.

Actually, to tell you the truth, I have not seen any major drug problems or needles. Modesty in Holland is viewed differently than in the States. In the States, we think you should not show a lot of stomach, as where in Holland, they think showing stomach is fine, but you should not wear short shorts.

Trojournal: What do you do for fun? Do you go out to pubs with the other kids?

Peuchen: No, I have not been to the pubs. In Holland you can drink legally at the age of 16, but you can not work for you drivers license until you are 18. For fun, I hang out with friends. Some activities we do are going to the movies, play games, talk and stuff like that. Dutch teenagers are very similar to American teenagers.

Trojournal: Are you getting a clearer understanding of your dad’s background? If so, do you find yourself appreciating him more?

Peuchen: Yes, I am learning about the culture and what my dad grew up with. It helps me really understand why he does some of the things he does. I have learned that people are not afraid to say what they think, they tell you and you are to accept that. There is no such thing as being politically correct here in Holland.

Trojournal: What Dutch customs seem (or, at first, seemed) really strange to you? (I know this isn’t your first experience with the culture, but I suspect there were still a few surprises.)

Peuchen: I thought I knew about the culture, but I have learned so much since I have got here. The strangest custom I have found is that when you greet someone you give them three kisses on the cheek. I am not a very kissing person, so I find this really strange. Another custom I have learned about is that you drink tea with everyone. I had not really liked tea before I came, but I have grown to like the taste.

Trojournal: Are you homesick for your family or your classmates?

Peuchen: Some days I have been more homesick than other. The first few days were really tough. Everyone wanted to see me and I really wanted some sleep. But now that I have started school, I have really come to love the place. There are some days that I feel so comfortable in the culture, that I forget that I am only here a year.

I hope that answers all your questions. Tot Ziens! (Good Bye!)



Elizabeth Peuchen rides on a scooter driven by one of her cousins she is staying with. Peuchen went to Holland as a foreign exchange student earlier in the school year and will continue to stay there early this summer. (Photo courtesy of the Peuchen family)

Students explore and experience culture south of the border

By Joslyn Wilcox

Imagine going to a different country where you weren't familiar with the culture, living arrangements or language. How would you communicate? What would you do in the unfamiliar environment? Juniors Max McClure and Greg Peterson, and freshman Elizabeth Reece got the chance to think through these questions on their mission trips to Mexico through their church programs this summer.

Peterson and Reece stayed in Tampico, Mexico from July 29 to Aug. 5.

The trip was sponsored by the Lindsborg Evangelical Covenant Church and was designed to help the Mexican people with the construction of three churches.

In Tampico, the people lived in very small houses that were made with very little materials.

"Several of the houses had part of the house outside," Reece said. "The people in Tampico aren't concerned about (material) stuff like we are."

The culture from Tampico to America was a big shift also.

The Mexican people didn't really care if they got things done; they just wanted to talk and get to know the missions group.

"They were also very family-oriented and worked a lot longer than the missions group did," Reece said.

Peterson and Reece also decided to not drink the water in Mexico.

"Our systems aren't used to it, and it could make you sick," Reece said.

Another thing that Peterson and Reece had to overcome while in Tampico was the language barrier. Neither knew Spanish very well before leaving for Tampico. One of the few things they knew how to say was "Dios le bendiga," which is "God bless you" and "Donde está el baño?", which is "Where is the bathroom?"

When their Spanish language knowledge fell short, they communicated by pointing to objects, speaking through their translators and using hand signals.

In addition to not knowing words to communicate, the missionaries also

made language mistakes by using the incorrect words in situations. They asked the kids to memorize "If we confess our sins with our mouths" in Spanish. What they didn't know was that the word sin with an "s" means "fish" in Spanish. In reality, they were saying "If we confess our fish with our mouths..."

"It was a funny moment, but we got it sorted out," said Reece.

Overall, Peterson said his favorite memory of the trip was when he slept-walked out of the hotel.

For Reece, her memorable experience was when people in Tampico asked her if she had Facebook.

"I thought it was funny that so many people in Tampico had Facebook," Reece said.

Peterson and Reece weren't the only ones traveling across the border this summer. Junior Max McClure also went to Mexico on a missions trip with his youth group from the First Covenant Salina Youth Group.

McClure went to Valle Hermoso, Mexico with about 25 other students from June 31 to Aug. 7. They worked on church construction and managed vacation bible school programs at two different indepen-

dent churches.

Cultural differences in Valle Hermoso are similar to the differences in Tampico. People's homes are small and made out of cement. There are also no air conditioners.

For the student missionaries, sleeping arrangements were not as luxurious as those of most Americans. Most of them slept on air mattresses to combat with the hard cement floors.

"It was hot at night and there weren't any air conditioners," McClure said. "All we had were a couple of fans."

McClure spoke very little Spanish before he went to Mexico. He mainly communicated through the translators.

"I didn't really try to speak Spanish while I was there," McClure stated.

McClure's most memorable moment happened while he was helping build the church.

"One of the Mexican people threw a bag of cement on the ground to get it to set, but when my youth pastor tried, the cement splattered everywhere," McClure said. "It got all over everyone."

"The trip had its fun times, I'm glad I went," stated McClure. "It was a good experience."



Members of the Evangelical Covenant Church from Lindsborg spent six days in Mexico helping build churches. Greg Peterson (back left) and Elizabeth Reece (not pictured) went to Tampico, Mexico on missions trips. Junior Max McClure also went on a mission trip to Mexico this summer. (Photo courtesy of lindsborgcov.org)

Female racer returns after serious accident

By Jena Sauber

On a Saturday night, most teenage girls are at a party, cruising around town or catching a movie with friends. For sophomore Shelbie Thummel, her weekends are filled with a different activity. From May to September, she spends her Saturday nights racing cars at the Minneapolis Raceway.

"It's amazing!" Thummel said.

Raised around the race track, Thummel said her upbringing played a big part in her decision to start racing.

"I also wanted to be the first girl in my family to race on a dirt track," Thummel said.

Not only was Thummel the first girl in her family to race on a dirt track, but she is also the first member of her family to get seriously injured on the track. On May 26, she rolled her car while racing.

"They thought I broke my arms, legs and neck," Thummel said. "I ended up with a severe concussion."

After the wreck, however, Thummel was back on the track within a month.

"I had to wait a month because of the severe concussion," Thummel said.

At the races, Thummel drives one of two cars that she shares with her dad.

"We drive Mosquito cars," Thummel said. "Basically, it's a four-cylinder car. We get old

ones and gut them out. Then we put a roll cage on them."

In general, Thummel said, most people put quite a bit of money in their cars.

"People have around \$3,000 in their cars usually," Thummel said.

According to Thummel, the average speed on the racetrack is about 65 miles per hour.

"I have to remember to keep the speed for the track, though, not for regular driving!" Thummel said.

Although Thummel has never won a trophy while racing, her dad, Jeff Thummel, has won first, second and third place trophies.

"He's gotten trophies before," Thummel said, "but he's been racing for seven years."

Thummel's dad isn't the only familiar face on the track either.

"Six of my friends race," she said.

Thummel's friends are also part of her personal pit crew.

"My pit crew is my dad, my mom, my friend Kenzie, and Eric Cross," Thummel said.

Not only does she have friends and family on the track, but, in a mostly male-dominated sport, she has some female companions. There are three girls in her racing class.

"(Even though we're girls), we all get treated equally on the track," Thummel said.

According to Thummel, the only less-than-

desirable thing about her racing experiences is the time spent waiting in the lineup area for her turn on the track.

"It's so hot!" Thummel said.

The heat and waiting aside, Thummel says that her racing experience is worth the work put into it.

"I love it!" Thummel said.



Thummel and her dad stand with the trophy that Thummel's dad won for placing 1st in a race this summer. Shelbie has been racing her own car since last May. (Photo courtesy of Shelbie Thummel)

Cheerleader strives for success with attitude

By Amanda Keeler

Sophomore Chelsea Hanks' love of cheerleading could possibly be linked to her upbeat personality, and her possession of a "non-stop positive attitude" that she has been known to radiate upon everyone around her.

Hanks is not always a happy person, but it seems as though she has a hard time staying angry when she actually is.

"I like to be upbeat and make other people happy. My mom is like that too," Hanks said.

Hanks' family, along with friends and other fun activities are the main things that keep her happy, but Hanks isn't always pleased.

"Guys and my sister are definitely the two big things that make me mad," she said.

One of the activities that does, however, keep Hanks happy is being an SES cheerleader since the eighth grade.

"I've always wanted to be a cheerleader since I can remember, and I just love it."

In junior high, Hanks became a cheerleader for the football season. For the past two years, she has been both a football and a basketball cheerleader. Her cheerleading season lasts much longer



than most regular activity seasons. Her season started in August with football and will end in March with basketball; a total of six months.

"My cheerleading season is very long, but it's worth it. It's usually a lot of fun being around the other cheerleaders," she said.

There are many things that Hanks says she enjoys about cheerleading, such as the exercise and the positive attitude, but her favorite part is the team relationship.

"My favorite part of cheerleading is definitely my relationship with the other girls. They are always there for me, and they put up with me even when I'm not so happy."

Hanks plans on sticking with the team and cheering her junior and senior years also.

Besides cheerleading, Hanks participates in softball during the spring and summer months. She also is involved in Madrigals, FCCLA, Science Club, Stuco and NHS.

Beyond high school, she plans on trying out for a college cheerleading squad when she decides on where she wants to attend school.

"I'm not sure where I want to go to college yet, but I've thought about maybe Bethany or Fort Hays State University," she said.

With her optimistic attitude, and desire for success in everything that she does, she is sure that she can accomplish her goals for the future.

"I'm sure that if I can keep a positive attitude about everything, than that will help me to do whatever I really want to do in the future."

New building trades class constructs new skills

By Rose Laflen

“Just imagine ten high school boys framing a wall with a nail gun. Disastrous,” Mr. Eric Deneault, Southeast of Saline’s new drafting teacher said.

Deneault’s comment is directed to his Building Trade Course class. Currently, the class’ project is building a 10’ x 12’ x 4’-6” shed.

“The size is not limited, but he keeps in mind the fact that we must be able to move it for the buyer.” Deneault states. But before people can buy it, the Building Trades class must build it. Seniors Kurtis Moyer, Tristin Scheel, Josh Tucker, Aaron Breault, juniors Tyler Herrington and Kirk Nelson, and sophomores Chase Driscoll, Justin Short, Zach Short and Trenton Collins are all enrolled in the class.

“Working in someone’s house would be fabulous. However, my students’ level of expertise when I started was unknown. So, I decided to start with a small project. What (is) better than a 10 x 12 shed?” Deneault said.

The shed is intended to sell for more than the amount of money needed for the project’s supplies. A rough estimate for the cost of the shed materials is between \$1500 and \$2000.

Deneault hopes that his class can build a few sheds a year.

“(Please) keep in mind that we should be able to build a few sheds each year. So if you miss out on the first, keep the second, third and fifteenth shed in mind,” said Deneault.

The administration has been considering having a silent auction to sell the sheds. Deneault is currently trying to work out a deal with a moving company that will move the sheds.

“Future projects will be determined by the quality and experience of my students. It’s hard to say what we will be ready to construct in the

future,” Deneault said.

Ultimately, his plan is to construct a house, or remodel a house within a close radius of SES. As soon as the students have mastered the art of building, he hopes that they can help with various projects within the community.

“I think the school feels as strongly as I do about broadening the students’ curriculum and content knowledge in as many areas as possible,” Deneault said.

According to Deneault, the program has many benefits: job placement after high school, advancement within the field, exciting careers, and opportunities to excel outside of our core content.

This isn’t the first year ever for Southeast to offer this class, but it is the first time for it to be offered in over two decades.

“I believe the last class was in 1973 or 1974,” Deneault said.

Clayton Short, father of current class member Justin Short, was in the original Building Trades class.

“It’s kind of odd. We tore down the shed that he built when he was here,” Justin Short commented. Short helps out the shed by helping with construction, but that’s not all.

“They are all assigned different tasks in the process of constructing our shed. The groups and task will be changed before construction of our next shed. This way everyone gets to see how the shed is constructed from scratch and not just an assembly worker.”

If you are interested in buying a shed from the Building Trade class, you can contact Deneault at 536-4346, Ext. 220, or email him at edeneault@usd306.com.

Active freshman overcomes difficult experiences

By Elizabeth Reece

Take a minute to talk to Presley Wilson—one minute is probably all you’ll get—and that minute will make you take a second glance at your own life. This teen has been through the loss of two parents, but she hasn’t let that slow her down. From taekwondo to guitar, singing to cheerleading, songs to Dexter, this teen is “walking the line.”

Wilson, 15, lost her mom due to cirrhosis of the liver when she was 10. Wilson had many special memories of her and her mother.

“We used to color eggs together and she would sing us to sleep,” Wilson said.

The “us” in her statement refers to Wilson and her sister, Alaska, age 13, who lives with her dad in Florida.

Wilson never knew her father.

“I don’t even know what he looks like, or if he knows that I even exist!” Wilson said. “I don’t know what happened to him, or if he’s even alive right now.”

Even though she doesn’t know much about her past, Wilson doesn’t let this slow her down. She is very involved in cheerleading and taekwondo, among other activities.

“(My favorite part of taekwondo is) when we learn how to get out of dangerous situations like when a stranger grabs us or something.”

With everything else going on, Wilson also finds time to play her guitar. She plays country and old bluegrass songs everyday. Wilson also likes to write songs. The inspiration for her songs

comes from her life failures.

“It’s easier to write songs when you fail at something than when you’re bored,” Wilson said. “My guitar teacher used to work here at Southeast, his name is Don Wagner.”

Wilson loves cheerleading, too. She cheered for volleyball, football, basketball and wrestling in seventh and eighth grade. This year, she will be cheering for basketball.

Wilson’s daschund, Dexter, is another thing that keeps her moving. She got Dexter when she was eight from her Aunt Doneal when she moved to Minnesota.

“She couldn’t take him with her to Minnesota so she gave him to us because she knew I wanted a dog,” Wilson said.

With all this going on, Wilson still has another love- to work on her appearance. She can often be found in the locker room doing her hair when she has spare time. Wilson has many outfits that she likes to wear, but she is not allowed to wear makeup and her clothes have to be dress code appropriate.

“My aunt just wants me to make good choices in my life,” Wilson said.

With all this going on, Wilson has been moving between Salina with her grandma, and Assaria with her aunt.

“I like living in Salina better than Assaria,” Wilson said.

She doesn’t mind moving back and forth if she can live in Salina part of the time. She cur-

rently lives in Salina.

Even though Wilson wants more stability, she finds pleasure in simple things too. She doesn’t mind sitting down, taking it slow, and just thinking about life.

“If I could change one thing about my life, I would have my mom and my sister back living with me,” Wilson said.



Presley takes some time out of her day to practice her guitar. She likes to play country and old bluegrass songs. (Photo courtesy of Presley Wilson)

Seven lonesome lumberjacks



kidnap seven lovesick brides



1. Benjamin Pontipee (Britten O'Banan) reluctantly gives Milly his winter underwear for washing.

2. Ruth (Megan Sauber) runs from Caleb Pontipee (Trask Engel) so she can stay at the farm.

3. Adam (Kody Lynn) and Milly Pontipee (Shannon Wilson) elope after meeting earlier that day.

4. Sarah (Abbey Wilson) and Zeke (Corey Srna) sneak an innocent kiss.

5. The brothers fight with one another after being introduced to Milly.

6. Suitors, Zeke and Carl (Dylan Howe), try to capture the brothers, Daniel (Jeremy Ziegler) and Ephraim (Max McClure) after they kidnapped the brides.

7. The brothers dance with the brides at the spring social.

Photos by Chelsi Hemphill and Sadie Myers

Cristian graduates from Colombian coffee to Starbucks

By Chelsi Hemphill

Imagine stepping off a plane into a country totally foreign to you. You are walking around the airport and have no idea where to go. You've been practicing the language you will be speaking, yet you can't understand anyone around you. This is the situation that junior Cristian Trimiño found himself in upon his arrival in Kansas in September.



"I thought that maybe I'd have problems with my English because I couldn't understand what people in the airport were saying. I had never talked to an American before," he said.

Trimiño hails from a small town in Colombia called Villavicencio. He lives there with his mother, father and two sisters, Carolina, 18, and Natalia, 13. Although Villavicencio is not a modern city itself, it is located near Bogota, the country's capitol, which is modern.

As far as having fun in his city goes, Trimiño insists that teenagers in Colombia participate in the same activities as teenagers in the United States do.

"We go to parties, discos (dances), we hang out with our friends, and I play lead guitar in a band," he said.

Trimiño has been learning English for about five months, and came to the United States so that he could further his experiences with the language. Trimiño currently resides with Marshall, Chelsey, and Cheney Kohman, their mother, Deb Moravek, and her husband Randy. For Trimiño, some of his favorite things to do with his host family are fishing and going to church on Sundays.

"I like my host family a lot, but sometimes I fight with Cheney," he said.

For Trimiño, SES is a lot more organized than his school in Colom-

bia. Schooling is also a lot more expensive in Colombia. Students don't have easy access to things like computers, clocks and projectors, as SES students do. In Colombia, the teachers are the ones that move around, and the students stay in the same room the whole time. He also adds that the schools here are cleaner than the ones back in Colombia, and that the teachers here don't yell as much.

"The teachers in Colombia scream all the time because we are annoying in the classroom," Trimiño said.

Another big difference between SES and Trimiño's school back in Colombia is that, in Colombia, you graduate when you are sixteen. Even though he has already graduated in Colombia, not all of his classes in the United States are coming easily to him.

"English and American History are hard for me because of my language. I have a big F in English. My classes with Mr. Moody are funny for me, though, because our Spanish is different. When I'm right on something and he is too, he tells me that I'm wrong," Trimiño said.

As far as sporting events go, Colombia doesn't vary much from the United States. In Colombia, Trimiño participated in basketball, tennis and soccer. In the United States, Trimiño has participated in football and is currently participating in basketball.

"I didn't get to play in any games because I had an infection, and then I had an ingrown toenail and couldn't run for two weeks," he said.

So far, Trimiño said, he is really enjoying the United States; he likes the school and the people. However, it is a lot smaller than he had pictured.

"On TV the cities here look so huge; then I got here and it was so little," he said.

Trimiño will head home at the end of May, and although he can't wait to see his family again, he will be sad to leave.

"The American people are so nice," he said.

South Korean moves from books to drumline

By Sarah Reece

School from eight in the morning to ten at night. Few students in America could imagine that, but foreign exchange student Jaehoon Jang went through that every day in his home country of South Korea.

After being in an American school for almost 100 days, Jae, whose host parents are Ron and Sandra Kinkelaar, said he still hasn't felt homesick.

"Sometimes, I miss my friends," Jae said. "(But) in Korea, we always do only study," he said.

Adjusting to life in a foreign country, Jae has had few problems.

"Before I came to America, I (would think) about America. (It turned out) the real America is very similar (to what I thought it was)," Jae said.

Some things, such as food, are not that different. Others, like the price of normal things, fashion, and table manners, are quite different.

"We don't use personal dishes," Jae said. "The oldest person starts to eat (first)."

Also in Korea, there are no school-sponsored sports to participate in. Despite the lack of extracurricular activities in South Korea, Jae has become involved at SES. He plays the cymbals for the drumline and enjoys playing basketball and watching movies like "National Treasure" and "Transformers."

He also hopes to participate in track and basketball, and he likes to write.

"(I like) to write poems and lyrics, and I still do that here," Jae said.

Jae has written about 70 songs and 20 poems.

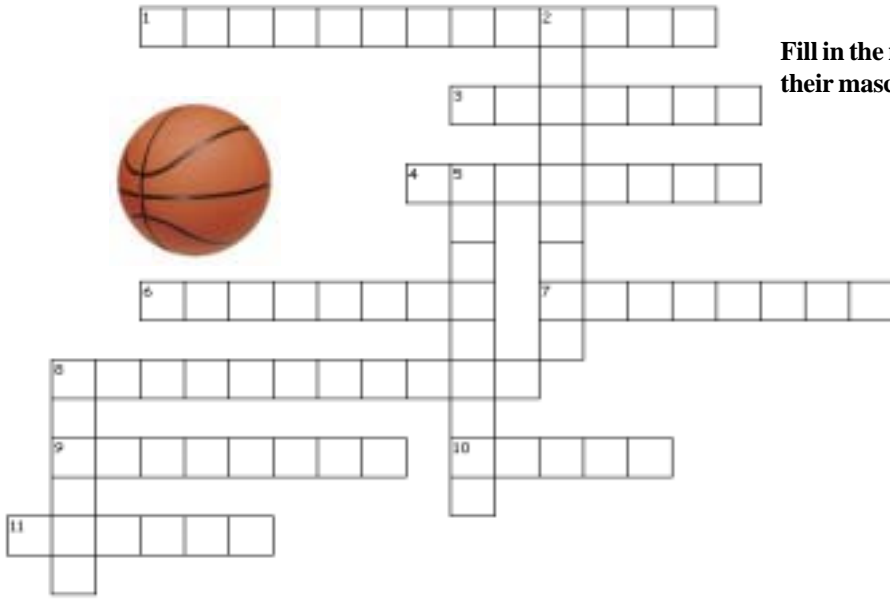
The biggest problem adjusting to life in America for Jae is the language barrier.

"If I was good at English, I might feel (school) here is easier," Jae said. "But I am not good at English, so I feel (school) here is harder than (school in) Korea."



Jae Jang plays with the SES drumline during a home football game. He is a foreign exchange student from South Korea. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Big 12 College Basketball Fun Page



Fill in the name of the team with the clue of their mascot in the crossword puzzle.

Across

- 1. _____ Cowboys
- 3. _____ Aggies
- 4. _____ Tigers
- 6. _____ Sooners
- 7. _____ Buffaloes
- 8. _____ Wildcats
- 9. _____ Cornhuskers
- 10. _____ Longhorns
- 11. _____ Bears

Down

- 2. _____ Red Raiders
- 5. _____ Cyclones
- 8. _____ Jayhawks



Answers: Across 1. Oklahoma State 3. Texas A&M 4. Missouri 6. Oklahoma 7. Colorado 8. Kansas State 9. Nebraska 10. Texas 11. Baylor Down 2. Texas Tech 5. Iowa State 8. Kansas



Associatedpress Top 25 (as of 11/12/2007)

- | | |
|---------------------|-------------------------|
| 1 North Carolina | 13 Duke |
| 2 Ucla | 14 Gonzaga |
| 3 Memphis | 15 texas |
| 4 Kansas | 16 texasa&m |
| 5 Georgetown | 17 arizona |
| 6 Louisville | 18 southern California |
| 7 Tennessee | 19 Arkansas |
| 8 Michigan state | 20 Kentucky |
| 9 Indiana | 21 north Carolina state |
| 10 Washington state | 22 Pittsburgh |
| 11 Marquette | 23 Stanford |
| 12 Oregon | 24 southern Illinois |
| | 25 Kansas state |

Can you make the basketball into the hoop?



Connect the dots to reveal the picture.



Have a great Thanksgiving Break!

MRSA bacteria creates nation-wide cleaning frenzy

By Jena Sauber

First officially recognized in 1961, *methicillin resistant Staphylococcus aureus*, MRSA, made a comeback this fall in communities across the nation. Southeast students haven't escaped the sweep either. Since August, the administration has been working to combat the infection through cleaning measures and education; however, some parents feel that what the administration is doing isn't enough to effectively prevent the spread of the infection.

What is MRSA?

Staph is a highly transferable bacterial infection that is normally transferred through direct contact of the skin. MRSA is a strand of Staph that is resistant to the most common antibiotics that have been used to treat Staph infections in the past (See National Scope). MRSA has been nicknamed the "superbug" because it has swept through many communities across the nation this fall. It has caused schools nation-wide to close their doors for mass-scale cleaning and has killed at least one high school student.

District Response

Some parents believe, however, that what is being done to prevent the spread of MRSA at Southeast is not enough.

Mrs. Carmen Bruggaman, mother of freshman Jarred Bruggaman, feels that the school should be taking more measures to combat the bacteria. Bruggaman said that multiple doctors had told her that Jared had MRSA about two months ago, but it was never cultured.

Mrs. Bruggaman feels that the extra cleaning measures should not just be in the weight and locker room, which is where she believes that her

son contracted the infection but also in the rest of the building.

"There needs to be more cleaning," Mrs. Bruggaman said. "Not just of the locker room and weight room, but of the entire school."

She also believes that each student should be checked individually for signs of staph.

"They (the administration) should pull every child and have the nurse check their arms and legs for MRSA so they can get to a doctor who can help," Mrs. Bruggaman said.

Mr. Pat Weller, Mrs. Colleen Weller, Mrs. Val Everhart and Mr. Eric Everhart also attended the September board meeting with concerns about the steps the administration is taking.

MRSA at Southeast

Henry says that our situation isn't a cause for panic, but it is a cause to pay attention to detail. According to nurse Mrs. Sandy Rogers, four cases have been confirmed since the beginning of school. In attempting to prevent other students from becoming infected, the administration has issued extra cleaning procedures. (See side bar)

Locker rooms are generally accepted as places of high risk for the spread of MRSA because of the increased levels of contact between surfaces and bare skin and the sharing of clothes, equipment, towels, etc. To help prevent the spread of MRSA in the locker rooms, the school board decided to purchase 500 towels for SES athletes' and PE students' use. The towels are available for students to use after showering at school but must be returned before the students leave the locker rooms.

"They (the school-supplied towels) will be available long term, not just until the MRSA clears

up," Dr. Henry said.

In addition to the towels, students will now be required to take showers after PE classes and sports practices to further prevent the spread of Staph.

"(Proper hygiene) is one of the main preventive measures which can be put in place to help reduce the spread of MRSA," Dr. Henry said.

Another thing changing in the locker room is the flooring. In October, the carpet was removed from the jr. and sr. high boys' locker rooms and the sr. high girls' locker room. It is also planned to remove the carpet from the jr. high girls' locker room.

"We are researching alternatives. We might put down some type of epoxy floor covering," Dr. Henry said. "It would be painted on, but not as slick as concrete."

The epoxy flooring would not trap moisture from deep cleanings like the carpet previously did.

Even with these additional cleaning policies in place, an important part of preventing the spread of MRSA comes from the actions of the student body.

"Hand washing is very important," Dr. Henry and SES substitute nurse Mrs. Arlene Dennison stressed.

Dr. Henry also said that students should keep good general hygiene, take athletic clothes home and wipe down any personal sports equipment. It is also important, if students think they have MRSA, that they get it cultured by a doctor. In addition to ensuring proper treatment, a cultured case of MRSA can help the school gauge how well they are controlling the infection.

"If it is cultured, and we know for a fact that it is MRSA, we can make better decisions for the school," Dr. Henry said.

Cartoon by Sarah Reece



Preventing MRSA

1. The rubber floor in the weight room is mopped daily.
2. Wall mounted liquid soap dispensers have been installed for shower use.
3. At this time, the carpet has been removed from both boys' locker rooms and one girls' locker room.
4. Every weekend, all clothing and equipment is removed from locker rooms and the locker cabinets are sprayed down with a disinfectant.
5. Custodial staff members have been educated about MRSA.
6. Disinfecting hand wipes have been made available throughout the building.
7. Hand sanitizer is available throughout the building.
8. Clorox wipes have been added to the weight room for continuous equipment cleaning.
9. Towels are available for high school athletes and PE students.
10. Officials continue to research new literature regarding MRSA.

Editors Note: This is not the complete list of preventative measures being taken.



And I thought my folks were weird when they said I couldn't use the school's showers.

• ‘Superbug’ to be exterminated

(Continued from page 12)

The Wider View

Not only is MRSA affecting Southeast of Saline students and staff, but it also has an effect on visitors to our school. During the sub-state volleyball tournament at SES on Oct. 20, the Sacred Heart team chose not to use our locker rooms in an effort to prevent any possible contact with the Staph bacteria.

“They put blankets down in the cafeteria to sit on,” SES volleyball coach Mrs. Kristy Rodriguez said. “The coaches stated that they were taking precautions because they didn’t want to risk any of their players coming to contact with the Staph.”

When the Sacred Heart football team traveled to Southeast for a football game on Oct. 19, they came already dressed in their uniforms and chose not to use SES locker rooms, also. “It was just a precaution,” athletic director Mr. Wayne Sager said. “(Sacred Heart) being only 15 miles away, it wasn’t really an issue.”

A rumor circulating that the Oct. 22 JV football game between Southeast and Sacred Heart was moved to a different location was false, according to Sager. It had been said that the administration at Kansas Wesleyan didn’t want our players, and potentially MRSA, in their locker room so the game was moved to the Sacred Heart practice field.

“We have always played on the practice field against Sacred Heart,” Sager said. “(Everything else) was just a rumor.”

National Scope

According to the November 11, 2007 60 minutes broadcast, MRSA was first seen as a community based infection (now referred to as CA-MRSA) about three-years ago. Now, an estimated 90,000 people in the United States get MRSA each year. Of those, an estimated 18,000 people die from it -- making its death toll in the United States slightly higher than that of AIDS. (Nov. 12 Salina Journal).

New research has uncovered a new antibiotic that is now being used as a last resort against very severe MRSA infections. MRSA is currently controlled by this new antibiotic, Vancomycin Hydrochloride, but, researchers warn, that it should not be overused to treat MRSA. If it is overused, MRSA may soon become resistant to it also.

Local Prevention

As far as long term prevention for SES goes, Dr. Henry feels that will be hard to measure.

“If one student gets MRSA in December, can we say that we didn’t do a good job of preventing it?” Henry said. “Maybe, if we hadn’t done what we did, we would have had 20 cases.”

For now, the custodians are performing extra cleaning duties, school-issued towels are available for athletes, alternative locker room flooring is being considered, and students and staff are encouraged to practice good hygiene to prevent the spread of Staph bacteria, including MRSA.

“The best thing to do is to use the best research available and implement the cleaning procedures to the best of our ability,” Dr. Henry said.

FCCLA hits the road for ‘Fall Leadership’

By Amanda Keeler

“It’s your time to shine!” That was the theme for the 2007-2008 District G Fall Leadership Academy (FLA) that 35 Southeast of Saline FCCLA members attended on Oct. 31 at Peabody-Burns High School.

“We were definitely the chapter with the most people in attendance at the FLA. That was neat,” Mrs. Juanelle Garretson, FCCLA sponsor, said.

As District G President, Megan Sauber led most of the event. The Peer Ed team, which consists of Elissa Stein, Caitlin Conley and Cierha Berry, also presented to students. Shannon Wilson, a state officer, gave her program, “Sharing the Gift.” SES graduate RanDee Platt was also there as part of the FCCLA alumni to present “How to Run for a State Office” to chapter advisors.

The event featured guest speaker Travis Dumond. He used stories from his past to tell about leadership and success in everyday life. He also showed a video with the story of a boy who had Cerebral Palsy to relate to inspiration and not giving up.

Members also participated in activities including “That’s Me,” an audience identification game, and a costume contest. The SES chapter took third in the costume contest when Joel Prater dressed up as “Super Woman.”

Several other chapter members including Aubrey Knox, Joey Platt, AnnMarie Sparacino, Ariel Douglas, Courtney Sager, Christine Russell and Joel Prater volunteered to take part in a skit where they rapped about the importance of traffic safety.

Awards were also given to the 2007 STAR

event participants, Power of One module completers and outstanding members.

On Nov. 3, FCCLA members had one of their biggest fundraisers of the year. They sold homemade pies and pumpkin rolls at the Prairie Patch Craft Show. They offered an assortment of pies; apple, peach, cherry, pumpkin, pecan and German chocolate. At the end of the day, there were approximately 13 of the original 140 pies that were made, and there were six pumpkin rolls left of the original 56. The total profit of the event came to around \$1,300. This money will go into the FCCLA account and can be used for future projects and STAR events.

“We had only a few items left that we sold a couple days later. Overall it was a very successful year,” Garretson said.

TRUST-all tied up



Kaley Rodriguez, a TRUST member, ties red ribbons to cars during Red Ribbon Week. (Photo by Patrick Eslick)

By Joslyn Wilcox

Safety was promoted throughout our school for Red Ribbon Week from Oct. 23-31. Supporting a drug and alcohol free lifestyle was the aim of the event.

Members of TRUST/SADD, along with sponsors, Mr. Terry Anderson and Mrs. Sandy Rogers, planned Red Ribbon Week for SES.

To launch the week, TRUST members, along with fourth grade students, tied red ribbons on cars in the parking lot. “Wear White Day” was Friday, Oct. 29; high school and junior high students were encouraged to wear white, and the seminar with the highest percentage of participants won a prize. Mr. Anderson’s and Mr. Gies’s seminars tied for wearing the most white in the high school.

Seminars also decorated their doors during red ribbon week and the seminar with the best door won. Mrs. Streit’s seminar won the door contest in the high school. There were also prize drawings held for all grades K-12 on Oct. 29 and 30.

Shining sparklers polish their dance moves

By Allison Dunn

You've seen their smiles at the football and basketball games, they perform in one of the few activities where teams cannot "win," and the girls on this team practice up to six hours for a two-minute performance. These girls are the SES Sparklers.

The Sparklers are not your average team. They have a limit of 12 girls that can join the team and currently have ten members. They do not have a coach, but instead, a sponsor- Tanya Srna.

Although there is no coach, or captain, have no fear; the three senior girls on the team have filled in the leadership roles.

"In the past, there have been conflicts with captain roles so I think its better this way," senior leader Chelsie Green said. "I don't really think there's a need for a captain because the senior girls on the team share the roles and (it's) not so much a dictatorship."

"We all decided that it will be better for the team to just have our 'senior leaders.' That way, no one can power trip," stated Sadie Myers, another senior leader.

"I like having senior leaders because that way, we all make the decisions instead of just one specific person," agreed Jessica Ward, a senior Sparkler.

Leadership roles are not only the options the girls have freedom over, but also in choosing their uniforms, within the dress code range.

"The people who make up the dance get to choose the uniforms, but normally they just acknowledge the rest of the groups' feelings on it too," Green said. "You have to wear black tights under anything that might show your stomach and the school board has been stricter about showing your shoulders."

The dress code part has become a problem with the girls.

"We have had a major problem with the 'dress code.' The administration has cracked down a lot on what uniforms we order," Myers said. "One of our bags was stolen before the season started last year, so we had to get all new uniforms. It was really hard because most of the stuff we picked out in the magazines was denied."

It turned out to be hard, but not impossible, to find appropriate uniforms.

"We found some appropriate things and it worked out," Myers said.

Of course, to show their new uniforms at a game, they need practice- up to six hours per presentation, sometimes even longer.

"It takes probably six hours to teach it. If we have to make it up and then teach it, (it takes) about eight to ten hours," Ward said.

"...it takes five to seven hours for the whole team. (That time doesn't include the person's time to learn the dance in the first place)," Myers said.

Through many hours of practice, the girls fill their time having someone learn the dance and teach it to the rest of the group, lead a "polish practice," and allow time for spacing on the field or court.

"We usually take about two practices to learn a dance and then the practice before we perform, we have a polish practice," Ward said.

The "polish practice" is the team's practice before the game.

"On the practice before a game, we polish and go over every count slowly so we make sure everyone is doing the same move," said Myers.

Another term used by the dance team is "spacing."

"The day of the game, we have 'spacing'. We go onto the field/court to find out where we are standing and go through the dance a few times. We also do the 'walk on' and 'walk off'," Myers said.

Deciding which dances to use, either from camp or one made up, is up to the girls, and those choices are just limited to the seniors.

"Sometimes we will get (the dances) from camp or other sources. Usually the older girls make up (the) dances, but really it is open to anyone on the team. The more experienced girls usually do it because they have been dancing longer," Myers said.

The girls not only get the opportunity to show their moves at games, but also at competition which they are hoping to attend this year.

"I hope (we're going to competition). We all decide what dances we are going to do and we spend several hours polishing and perfecting them," Ward said.

At competition, they will have to perform

multiple dances.

"I think you have to have two or three different dances. All of those dances have to be polished. And, normally, there's certain requirements for the dances," Green said.

Competition offers a chance for the Sparklers to get recognized for all of their work preparing their dances.

"It is a great way to get recognized for all our hard work. And it's not about winning, it's about learning and experiencing competition. It is a great opportunity, and I hope Tanya will continue to take the girls (next year)," Myers said.

The dance team faces different challenges than other SES teams, but they've learned to pull through each of them.

"It's not as physically challenging. It's more emotionally trying because there are only ten girls and so you tend to be closer which can result in conflicts," Green said. "It sometimes is better that way because you get to know the people more and end up having good memories and good times."

"I think sometimes people take us for granted. I know that it's not vital to the world--or our school--to have half-time entertainment, but I hope that if for some reason there wasn't a dance team, people would say 'Man, I miss those girls!' We just want to have fun and try to rub that off when we dance," Myers said.

Working side-by-side with each other for so many hours of practice, the girls say that they cannot help but have a feeling "togetherness."

"It's always been kind of a different world than most other 'sports.' Being with a small number of girls is always interesting. I love getting ready with all the girls too; that's a really special thing we can share together--primping and getting all 'did up'!" said Myers.

Green agrees that the dance team has a sense of "togetherness."

"Being so close with the girls, there's a lot of laughter and little inside jokes," Green said.

With all the hard work, laughter and time spent with each other, there is no wonder the SES dance team sparkles.

"We only have two minutes rather than nine innings, so you have to give it your all!" Green said.



The SES Sparklers, Sadie Myers, Chelsie Green, Trel Peterson, Shelby Meyer, Emmy Meyer, Teisha Rogers, Amanda Wilson, AnnMarie Sparacino, Olivia VanBlaricon, LaCrista Brightbill, Brittany Obermeyer and Jessica Ward, dance during halftime of the Homecoming game. This year, the team has a new style of leadership -- several senior leaders instead of captains. (Photo by Jena Sauber)

Wrestling outlook shows potential for season

By Sutton Sanders

Southeast of Saline High School wrestling coaches Travis Morris and Eric Deneault are bringing new opportunities to the mats this year for SES wrestlers. Because they are both seasoned wrestlers, they know what it takes to make it to the top.

Shortly after Deneault was hired as a new drafting teacher, he was presented with the opportunity to coach high school wrestling. He said he was offered the job because he has history in wrestling.

"I began (wrestling) at the age of five but had to sit out because of an ankle injury at eleven. I began again in seventh grade and wrestled throughout high school," Deneault said.

His wrestling record in high school gives him bragging rights. He won the

regional tournament two years in a row and placed twice at state. During his senior year, he ranked first at state.

"Passion, dedication, determination, and a winning attitude are the champion characteristics," Deneault said.

But first, the wrestlers must be a great team before they can be great individuals, Deneault said. He feels that every wrestler participating this year has great potential if they have the right attitude and dedication for the sport.

Deneault is looking forward to coaching alongside Morris. He is also excited to have the opportunity to combine his knowledge and love for the sport with Morris'.

"Doing that should enhance SES wrestling immensely. We would both like to hang another banner up in the gymna-

sium," Deneault said.

There will be 13 wrestlers out this year including last year's state wrestling competitor Jason Prater, as they feel that it's a good group of boys. The boys will stay healthy and fill as many weight classes as possible, promised Deneault.

SES Wrestlers at a glance



Coach: Travis Morris

Key Losses: Mat McGinty

Returning Seniors: None

Key Returners: Jason Prater, Zach Short, Ryan Hahn, Thomas

Patry, Matt Mortimer

Cross country men claim fourth at State

By Max McClure

Having been spiked, tripped and shoved, the Trojan men still managed to extend their top five state appearances to three in a row -- third in 2005, second in 2006 and fourth this year -- finishing with 141 points.

Juniors Max McClure and Trask Engel led the team with all-state finishes. McClure placed eighth in a time of 17:43. Engel came in 13 seconds later (17:56), placing 14th.

Next in for the Trojans, running at state for the first time in his career, was sophomore Michael Bauer placing 47th (19:04).

"It was a good experience, but the course felt like nothing but hills," Bauer said.

Sophomore Garrett Sager followed, crossing the finish line 13 seconds after Bauer (19:17), and ten places up (57th).

Next was sophomore Kellen Womochil placing 76th in 19:56 and senior Kody Lynn placing 90th in 20:37.

Junior Sadie Roesner represented the girls' team, placing 28th in 17:17. The girls' team missed qualifying for state by one place at Regionals.

"I was disappointed for the girls that

they didn't make it to state. I thought they ran very well even though they didn't qualify for state," head coach Wade Caselman said. "It was a very tough Regional with the teams that qualified placing second, third and fourth."

In the Regionals race, the girls' were led by Roesner who placed tenth in 16:58.

Next were freshmen Sierra Yianakopoulos, 14th (17:09), Tiffany Cleveland 20th (17:33) and Courtney Sager 23rd (17:42).

Senior Jessica Ward 40th (18:36) came in next for the Lady Trojans. Sixth and seventh runners were freshman Joey Platt, 57th (19:54) and Aubrey Knox, 80th (20:07).

The guys were led by McClure who placed second (16:57), and Engel fourth (17:53). Next were Bauer 22nd (18:53), Sager 34th (19:44), Womochil 45th (20:03), and Lynn 59th (21:13).

Although the guys' team didn't win the Regional competition, Bauer still has high hopes for next year.

"I think we're going to be really good next year because we have our top five runners returning. Everybody else that was at state loses some of their top runners," he said.



Junior Max McClure leads a pack of cross country runners at the state meet. Max had an all-state finish when he placed eighth. The SES boys' team finished in fourth place at the state meet. (Photo by Mr. Gary McClure)

Trojan gridiron momentum grinds to a stop

By Michael Bauer

Knocked out of a chance for the play-offs and unseated by the league champions as well as district champions, the Southeast of Saline football team closed out their 2007 football season without a postseason appearance. This was the first time in four years that the Trojans didn't advance to postseason play.

A week before their final game, the Trojans' chance for a play-off appearance was denied by the Sacred Heart Knights, the eventual league and district champions. The score was nearly reversed from the 40-6 victory for the Trojans last year to this year's 12-49 loss.

A week later, the Trojans traveled to Lyons for their last game of the season. The Trojans had a 14-point lead early in the game until the Lions returned in the second quarter to take over the lead. The Trojans lost the game 39-30.

Coach Pat Haxton thought that the game involved some momentum shifts.

"It was one of those games where momentum kept shifting between us and (Lyons)," Haxton said. "In the end, the team with the most momentum won."

Despite the record, Haxton still has a positive outlook on the season.

"I would classify it as a good season because they worked hard and got better all year. That's all I could ask for as a coach," Haxton said.

Going into next season, Haxton says that there will be some off-season training.

"We will be looking for a productive off-season," Haxton said. "They will have to be putting on more weight and work on getting stronger."



Sophomore football players Matt Butler and Taylor Haxton cheer on their teammates from the sidelines on Oct. 19. The Trojans finished the season 1-8. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Sports Box

By Krisanna Graham

Football

Aug. 31	Republic Co.	8-38	L
Sept. 7	@ Russell	20-22	L
Sept. 14	@ Centrailia	0-34	L
Sept. 21	Beloit	14-54	L
Sept. 28	@ TMP	38-6	W
Oct. 5	Minneapolis	14-27	L
Oct. 12	@ Ellsworth	40-12	L
Oct. 19	Sacred Heart	12-56	L
Oct. 25	@ Lyons	30-39	L

Record 1-8

Volleyball

Aug. 27-Quadrangular (@ Clay Center)

Clay Center	18-25, 23-25
Minneapolis	20-25, 19-25
Junction City	14-25, 18-25
Sept. 4-Russell	

25-16, 25-14
25-10, 25-16

Sept. 8-SES Inv. Trny.

Abilene	18-25, 15-25
Salina South	11-25, 6-25
Beloit	25-21, 25-21
Wichita Ind.	19-25, 16-25
Wellington	18-25, 25-17, 25-17

Sept. 11- @ Republic County

25-18, 25-21
26-24, 29-27,
25-12

Sept. 18- Minneapolis

28-26, 22-25, 25-16
13-25, 18-25

Sept. 22-Lyons Inv.

26-24, 21-25, 25-22
13-25, 17-25
27-29, 25-18, 17-25
25-20, 25-14
20-25, 25-18, 15-25

Sept. 25- Beloit (Sr. Rec)

25-21, 18-25, 20-25
25-19, 25-20

Sept. 29- @ Concordia

23-25, 23-25
20-25, 25-13, 21-25
22-25, 21-25
21-25, 6-25

Oct. 6- @ Council Grove

18-25, 20-25
25-16, 25-23
7-25, 13-25

Oct. 9- @ Ellsworth

25-20, 26-28, 22-25
25-22, 25-12

Oct. 16- @ Sacred Heart

24-26, 15-25
13-25, 13-25

Oct. 20- Sub-state

Ellsworth 25-15, 26-28, 25-21
Sacred Heart 25-22, 9-25, 10-25

Record 13-21

Cross Country

Boys:

Aug. 30	Abilene	2nd
Sept. 8	Wamego	2nd
Sept. 13	Clay Center	3rd
Sept. 18	SES Inv.	4th
Sept. 25	Lyons Inv.	2nd
Oct. 6	Riley County	2nd
Oct. 11	Downs	1st
Oct. 20	Regionals	2nd
Oct. 27	State	4th

Girls:

Aug. 30	Abilene	4th
Sept. 8	Wamego	2nd
Sept. 13	Clay Center	4th
Sept. 18	SES Inv.	3rd
Sept. 25	Lyons Inv.	1st
Oct. 6	Riley County	3rd
Oct. 11	Downs	1st
Oct. 20	Regionals	4th

Boys Basketball

Nov. 30	@ Centre
Dec. 3-8	SHHS Inv. Tourney
Dec. 14	Beloit

Girls Basketball

Nov. 30	@ Centre
Dec. 3-8	SHHS Inv. Tourney
Dec. 14	Beloit

Wrestling

Nov. 30	Ellsworth
Dec. 1	@ Lincoln Quad
Dec. 6	@ Beloit

Lady Trojans' chemistry improves

By Max McClure

After defeating Ellsworth in the first round of sub-state (25-15) (26-28) (25-21), the Lady Trojans continued their streak, beating third-ranked Sacred Heart 25-22 in the first game of the next match.

"It was kind of surprising at first, but I think they underestimated us. I think that was one of the reasons we beat them," junior Cassie Schlesener said.

But the Trojans couldn't complete the upset and fell short of going on to

the next level, losing their next two games 9-25 and 10-25.

Sacred Heart went on to compete in the state championship, finishing second to Silver Lake.

Although the team didn't make it to state, the players agreed they saw improvement from last year, winning 11 more games finishing with a record of 13-21.

"I thought the team had better chemistry this year," junior Stephanie Frost said.

Women starters return for a rebound

By Michael Bauer

Beginning the year with four returning starters -- Shayla Seim, Sadie Roesner, Elissa Stein and Stephanie Frost -- Coach Wayne Sager believes that Lady Trojans' basketball team has the cornerstone in place to have a good season.

"It'll be a great place to start the season," said Sager. "We are hoping for improvement, but they also need to understand that many other schools in our league will be doing the same."

With other NCAA league schools returning their starters, Sager anticipates that things will be tougher.

"League will be tremendously competitive. It is probably one of the best leagues in the state in 3A," Sager said.

Sacred Heart, Beloit, Republic County and Minneapolis are some of

the teams that Sager believes will be tough.

"They're going to be good because they have quality people from last year returning," Sager said.

With all that in mind, the basketball team, which fell to Hesston in 2007 during sub-state for the second straight year, won't just be returning four starters but will hopefully also be returning to last year's style of play.

"We hope to be more of a full-court team if we could develop more depth," Sager said.

The team will also be running a motion offense and will use a combination of zone and man-to-man defenses, which Sager says could be beneficial.

"We will use a motion offense so that the team will be able to read the opponent's defense and react to that," he said.

Defensively, the Trojans will be using manifold sets.

"We will use multiple defenses so that the team will try and make the opponent adapt to it," Sager said.

With all that in mind for the girls' basketball team, Sager says that they will have to practice hard in order to improve over the season.

The girls' team will kick off their 2007-2008 campaign with a visit to Lost Springs-Centre on Nov. 30. A tournament hosted by Sacred Heart will start on Dec. 3. The teams in the tournament will be announced later.



The girls basketball team 'learn the ropes' during practice. The lady Trojans first game will be at Centre. (Photo by Elizabeth Reece)

Trojan boys expect to excel with four new starters

By Max McClure

After going to the state tournament for the first time in 20 years and compiling an all-time school best 22-2 record, some transitions will be certain for the Southeast of Saline boys' basketball team this year.

New head coach Jeff Vogt,—who was the assistant coach in the past—four new varsity players making the jump from last year's JV team and a new style of play will be among the changes the team faces.

Vogt acknowledges that his team will play a different style than last year. He said that the team will be less of a freelance team and use more an inside-out attack.

"If the opportunity to run isn't there, we will play our half court game and pound it inside. With our size this year, we will definitely play an inside-out game," Vogt said.

The starting line up will also see a lot of change. The team last year had four se-

nior starters – Bryson Flax, Nick Hardesty, Ross Terry and Doug Beaton – and only returns one starter, Mitchell Mugler. But Vogt says the new team can be as capable as the last.

"I definitely think we can be as good as last year's team. We will have the same expectations and will work just as hard if not harder," he said.

He also expects to see the team excel at the end of the season.

"With our mix of size and quickness, I think we should be able to compete with anyone in the state," he said.

Senior guard Cole Lilly agreed.

"I think we have the ability to be good," Lilly said. "We don't have a whole lot of experience, but we have the talent. If we work hard I think we should have a good season," he said.

Trojan Girls at a glance



Coach: Wayne Sager

Key Losses: Kelsey Brown
Returning Seniors: Shayla Seim, Elissa Stein, Mandy Harding
Key Returners: Stephanie Frost, Sadie Roesner

Trojan Boys at a glance



Coach: Jeff Vogt

Key Losses: Bryson Flax, Nick Hardesty, Doug Beaton, Ross Terry, Zachary Bradrick
Returning Seniors: Mitchell Mugler, Corey Srna, Cole Lilly, Jeff Schwertdfager, Jeremy Ziegler, Tristin Scheel, Nick Puetz

Teacher added to SES 'formula'

By Tiffany Patrick and Amanda Keeler

In early November, it was announced that Mr. Mike Tufano would be taking the high school math position that opened up after Mr. Milt Larson resigned in September.



"I'm very excited about my new job. I don't think I have too much to worry about," Tufano said.

Superintendent Dr. Justin Henry, Principal Mr. Monte Couchman and math teachers Mr. Bob Sauber and Mrs. Tammy Streit were involved in the interviews for the two applicants who made it through the initial application process. On Nov. 8, the final decision was made.

"One of the reasons that we chose Mr. Tufano was because of his teaching experience," Mr. Couchman said. "He was also nice getting to know and seemed to have a fun personality."

Tufano graduated from Kansas State University (which he calls the greatest college in the world) with a degree in second-

ary education with an emphasis in math. He then went on to teach at Highland Park High School in Topeka for two years.

At Southeast of Saline, Tufano will be teaching part time -- only in the afternoons. He will be teaching Algebra 1A and Algebra 1B, and he will share the 31-student Algebra 2 class with Sauber. During the mornings, he will be available for substituting jobs at SES.

Working part time doesn't bother Tufano.

"It would be nice to be full time, but sleeping in is good too," Tufano said.

For the rest of the year, Tufano has one major goal.

"I want to prep our students for the next level math class, state assessments and college. I want them to learn to think, not to do," Tufano said.

When he is not busy, he likes working with the guitar and motorcycles. He likes K-State football and basketball. He also leads a church in Salina, but teaching is one of his favorite things.

"My favorite part of teaching is the interaction with the students, and I like to handle having fun with learning."

Scholars' bowl team places second, third

By Patrick Eslick

Despite a setback at their first two meets, going 2-3 at Beloit and 1-3 at Minneapolis, the scholars' bowl team has placed in the top three at four out of six total meets so far.

On Monday, the freshman-sophomore team of Spencer Baird, David Hoelting, Patrick Eslick, Megan-Kincaid-Heidel and Michael Bauer went 5-2 at the Republic County meet, placing second.

The next day, with three players returning for their second meet in two days, the scholars' bowl team won third place at the Concordia freshman-sophomore meet. They went 5-3. The third place win literally came down to the last second of the consolation finals when, down by five points, Krisanna Graham answered the year in review question to win the round.

"I wasn't sure if it was the right answer," Graham said. "I just took a chance and went for it anyway. Good thing I did!"

Chain of kindness a success for F.O.R.

By Krisanna Graham

PINK! At the halftime of every home football game this year, a chain on mostly pink, and all kindness, crossed the field. The school year is less than half-way over, and the Southeast of Saline Friends of Rachel (F.O.R) has already had a successful project: the Chain of Kindness for Chloe Watson.

Caring F.O.R. Chloe started when Mrs. Garretson's Life Dimensions class began brainstorming ideas for their class project. One student knew of a family with a daughter who had been diagnosed with an inoperable tumor. That little girl's name was Chloe Watson. In November of 2006, Chloe was diagnosed with a brainstem tumor. Her mom had to quit her job to take care of Chloe and Chloe's brother, Hunter. They tried radiation, but since the brain is programmed to block chemo and radiation, it didn't decrease the size of the tumor. When the Life Dimensions class met Chloe, her family wanted to try Vitamin C transfusions as a last resort.

Chloe's illness created expensive medical bills. During radiation, they had to drive to Kansas City every week; and during the Vitamin C transfusions, they drove Chloe to Wichita every day.

To help with the costs of her treatments, the Life Dimensions class decided to do several fundraisers. They purchased pink rubber bracelets with "Chloe" written on them to sell at school and school events, and they put on a bake sale at Wal-Mart. F.O.R also helped with the project, cre-

ating the Chain of Kindness. Three different colors of links were sold, pink for Chloe, blue for David Caselman, and purple for future SES FOR projects. Each link cost \$2. The goal of the Chain of Kindness was to reach from goal post to goal post of the football field. On Oct. 19, at the last home football game, the final presentation of the chain took place; the chain reached from goal post to goal post with plenty of slack.



SES Friends of Rachel presented Darrell Scott, Rachel Scott's father, with the Salina Journal article about the Chains of Kindness project. "Start a Chain Reaction" was one of Rachel Scott's goals. (Photo by Mrs. Garretson)

The total amount made was \$3,188. The pink links totaled \$2,400, the blue links for David totaled \$700, and the purple links totaled \$88.

A possible upcoming project for F.O.R. is a Rival Schools Food Drive. The food bank has a desperate need for food, so Sacred Heart and SES are considering going to compete in a competitive food drive. The school that brings the most food wins and the losers would have to wear the other school's colors to a sporting event.

F.O.R. members recently attended a conference in Concordia, where they discussed what projects they have done and swapped ideas with other F.O.R. groups. The guest speaker was Dustin Galyon.

Selected members also went to a Friends-to-Friends conference at Fort Hays State University, where they attended breakout sessions and listened to a keynote speaker. The keynote speaker was Darrell Scott, Rachel Scott's father.