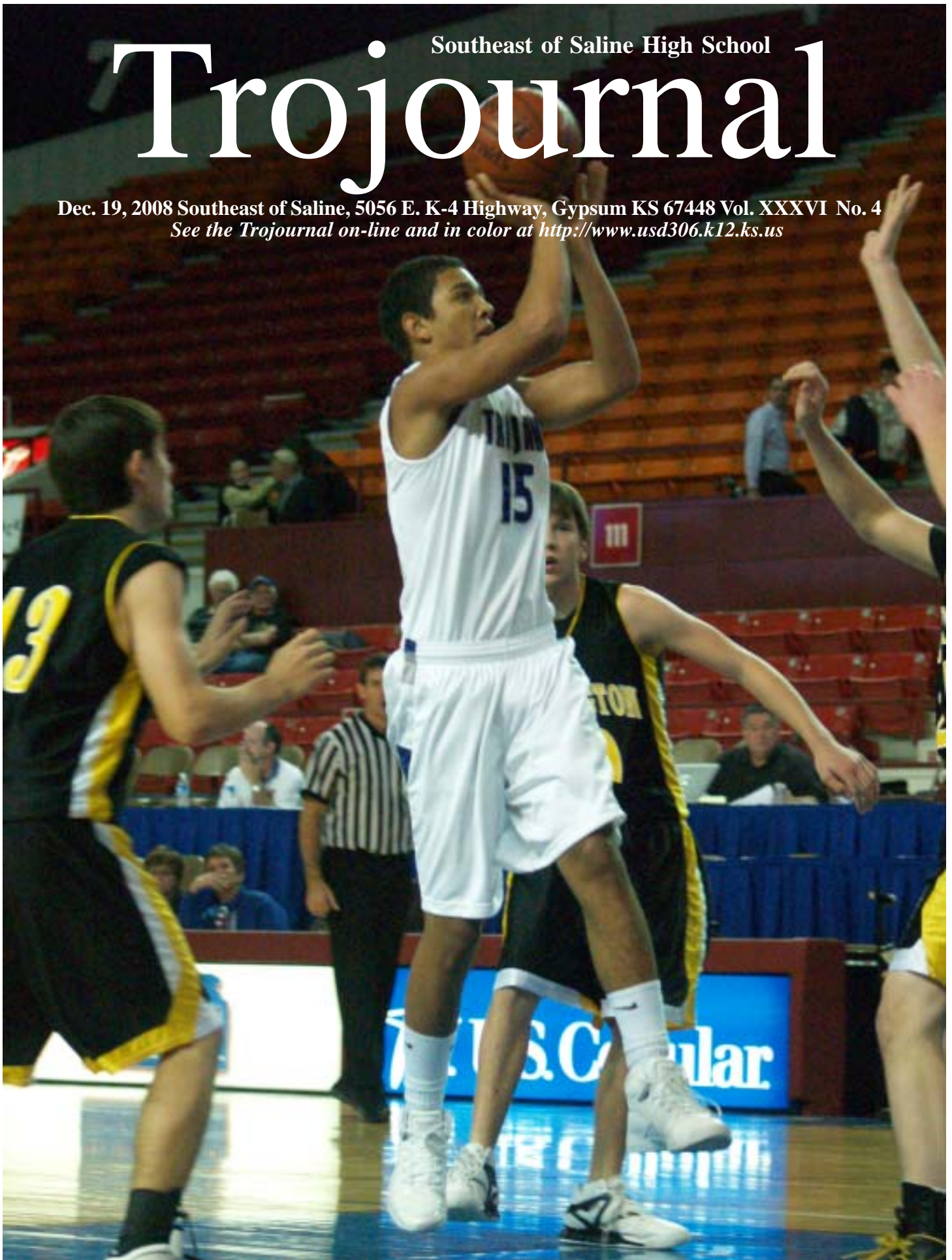


Southeast of Saline High School

Trojournal

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See the Trojournal on-line and in color at <http://www.usd306.k12.ks.us>



Editorial

Wikipedia misunderstood by teachers, students

By Patrick Eslick
Layout Editor

There is a certain trust that most people have come to place in books. They have raised books and, as a result, their authors, to almost infallible status. Recently, the internet encyclopedia Wikipedia has come under attack by educators for the simple reason that there is no one “infallible” author there to put his or her name on each article.



Wikipedia is founded on the “wiki” philosophy of group collaboration-- that millions of heads are better than one. The prospect of anyone being able to edit Wikipedia articles doesn’t sit well with “old-fashioned” educators, resulting in many bans of the internet encyclopedia as a resource in classrooms. These educators and administrators should think twice before instituting such a wide ultimatum on a resource that is significantly more reliable than most of them believe.

Clearly, the issue that worries most people is Wikipedia’s unmatched ability to be

edited by anyone. The common belief is that users of the web site will be misled by untrue statements inserted on purpose or otherwise. This does happen, but due to the complex system of editors and administrators that underlies Wikipedia, most incorrect statements are removed within a matter of seconds or minutes.

Most people do not understand how the administrative system of Wikipedia works. A Wikipedia contributor becomes an administrator by building up a portfolio of positive changes and additions to the project. Eventually, this person nominates himself on the basis of this portfolio. An “election” is then held, with each trusted administrator voting on whether or not to admit a new administrator. Administrators can also vote out their peers if they become destructive or harmful.

Once an editor or administrator is selected, it is his job to ensure that all changes made to the project are legitimate rather than acts of “vandalism.” Most of the vandalism is blatant. For example, an article on a prominent public figure called him a “big doo doo head.” Obviously this statement was vandalism, and was removed within seconds.

Even less obvious statements that are incorrect are corrected within minutes or hours. The bottom line here is that there are hundreds of thousands of administrators patrolling Wikipedia, just waiting for an inaccurate statement to appear so that they can go to work.

Wikipedia articles are required to cite outside stories. If they do not, the article is marked for deletion. While it is true that not all follow this guideline, there is a rule of thumb for *(continued on page 3)*



Southeast of Saline Trojournal

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

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

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

The Real Deal

Students weigh in on current student issues.

“Should students be allowed to use Wikipedia as a source for school assignments?”



“No, because it does not provide accurate information. It’s based on opinion rather than fact,”

-Myriah Jensen, fr.



“Yes, because the people who don’t know anything about the subject don’t care about putting info onto Wikipedia,”

- Eric Hederstedt, so.



“Probably not because people can change things on it and some things might not be true,”

- Krista Benda, so.



“Yes, because you’re going to get the same information from other sites. (Wikipedia) is easier; otherwise, you are wasting your time,”

- Matt Mortimer, jr.

Front Page: Junior Kaleb Lawrence shoots the ball during a game against Bennington in the Blue and Gold Classic tournament. Lawrence was picked for the All-Tournament team. For more sports coverage, see pages 12-15. (Photo by Jena Sauber)

∇ Editorial (continued)

● Wikipedia: reliable or liable?

(continued from page 2)

citing Wikipedia articles. If it doesn't cite, don't cite it.

Several studies have compared the quality of Wikipedia articles to the quality of articles in supposedly "more reputable" encyclopedias. One study by the scientific journal *Nature* compared the science content in Wikipedia to that in the oldest encyclopedia still in print, the *Encyclopedia Britannica*. *Nature* asked experts to compare articles from Wikipedia and Britannica side by side in a blind study (meaning that the "experts" did not know which was which). The study found that the quality of the articles was comparable: Wikipedia had an average of 3.86 mistakes per article, and Britannica had an average of 2.92. The study also found that fatal errors (complete misunderstandings of the subject) were rare in either encyclopedia.

There is another problem with conventional encyclopedias. They are extremely expensive. For example, a new set of *Encyclopedia Britannica* costs over a thousand dollars. For this reason, encyclopedias are rarely replaced and therefore rarely updated. The same encyclopedias may be used for thirty years or more, causing some information to be obviously incorrect and other information to become subtly incorrect. For example, the most recent encyclopedias in our library will tell you that the one of the buildings in the World Trade Center is 110 stories high, but not that it was destroyed in the most infamous terrorist attack in United States history. Likewise, the same encyclopedia will tell you that the country of Yugoslavia was formed in 1918. It won't tell you that Yugoslavia no longer exists.

The internet practically becomes a necessity in a changing world. Some might say that the internet is okay to use but Wikipedia is not because *anyone* can make and change a Wikipedia article. They overlook, however, the fact that *anyone* can create a web site! That's what makes the modern internet such a powerful tool. Anyone can put anything he wants on the internet, not just on Wikipedia.

Many of us have web sites. If we wanted to, we could make the assertion that the United States declared independence from China in the year 1592. Who could stop us? Certainly not one of the thousands of Wikipedia administrators. Many web sites have only one creator and are in no way subject to review, from anyone! If students can trust that type of web site, they should be able to trust Wikipedia a thousand fold.

∇ Opinion

Amidst crazy holiday rush, stop to remember real reason for season

By Amanda Keeler and Krisanna Graham

Columnists

It is clear that the Christmas season is now upon us. There are Christmas lights on almost every house, there has been lots of snow (like on Tuesday, which should have been a SNOW DAY), and you can't even go into Wal-Mart without having to maneuver your way through holiday shoppers with their carts parked in the middle of the aisle.



In order to provide adequate gifts for family members and friends, shoppers have begun going out of their way to find the perfect gifts and still stay on a budget. On Black Friday, the biggest shopping day of the year, thousands of shoppers around the country rose out of their Thanksgiving Day turkey-induced coma to stand in long, long lines and fight other crazy shoppers in the early morning hours just to get that perfect gift.

It is amazing how so many people will go so far to find that gift. This year, on Black Friday,

∇ Review Column

3eb produces digital preamble

By Patrick Eslick
Layout Editor

Red Star EP- Third Eye Blind

Writer's block has kept Third Eye Blind (3eb) from releasing new material for five years. *Red Star* is a three song EP that breaks the silence with a little bit of innovation. 3eb held a mixing



contest for fans. They recorded "Non-Dairy Creamer" and released the guitar, drum, vocal, bass and violin tracks via Facebook. The winner of the contest will perform live with 3eb and also had his mix released on this EP. The result is very good, which is not only a result of the contest. The songs themselves are very well written.

The EP opens with the very political "Non-Dairy Creamer." The song begins with a metronome-like bass and bass drum that continues throughout the song, giving it a very driving sound. The other instrumentation on the song is good as well. The guitar begins with a catchy and clean arpeggio and builds to the driving, lightly distorted chords that are typical of 3eb. The track also includes a violin, which although not impressive by itself, does add a lot

to the song. The lyrics really shine in this song, and involve a lot of interesting imagery. It eventually develops into a song that seems to advocate for gay rights through sarcasm ("*Two gay guys got married/and brought the family to its knees/how did they blow us to smithereens/just a couple of queens*").

The next song is more emotional and sounds a lot like "God of Wine," from the band's first album. The instruments on this song are well arranged and well executed but not really anything special. This song's strong point is really the lyrics. The song is about the oppression of free speech rights. It tells the story of a girl who speaks out against a totalitarian regime. ("*Dissent is now illegal/ she must pay the consequence/ In this thriller mystery baby/ you are my suspense*").

The final song is probably the weakest point of the EP. It's a live acoustic number. Aside from an amusing description preceding it, the song is good but not particularly notable. Although, once again, it shines in the lyrics, drawing numerous analogies between personal character and everyday objects.

This EP serves as a preamble to the 3eb's upcoming full album which will be entitled *Ursa Major*. The quality of this EP hopefully reflects upon the quality of the upcoming album.

While it is fun opening presents, keep in mind the true meaning and spirit of Christmas. We should make sure that our priorities are in order this season and remember to care for other people's safety and well-being, instead of being focused on our own materialistic desires.

We hope you have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

✓ Faculty Feature

Faculty members make life-style commitment to shed pounds

By Jena Sauber
Editor and Chief

According to the National Center for Health Statistics, approximately 62 percent of Americans over 20 years old are overweight or obese. Eight SES teachers, with the help of the Pound Plunge program, are attempting to avoid being part of that statistic. Mrs. Sandy Rogers, Mrs. Kim Clements, Mr. Monte Couchman, Mrs. Sharlene Ramsey, Mrs. Susan Baird, Mrs. Susan Wilson, Officer Linda Shea, and Mrs. Traci Sallman recently finished the Pound Plunge program in an effort to lose weight and improve their lives.

"I feel great (now that I've lost weight)," Clements said.

Clements, Couchman, Shea, Sallman, and Wilson served as Pound Plunge team leaders. Each team was made up of four people who were trying to lose weight. The team who lost the most weight by the end of the 12-week program won the grand prize. However, most of the SES participants said that the prize wasn't their motivation.

"I was in the overweight category for someone my height. I also had very high cholesterol levels and was hoping to lower them," Clements said.

Couchman also had health issues motivating his life change.

"I've had hypertension (high blood pressure) for three years and had taken medicine for it," Couchman, who lost 26 pounds through the program, said. "Now my energy level is better."

Wilson agreed that making better choices helped her physically.

"I know that better diet and more exercise are great for EVERYONE!" Wilson said. "Even if you don't need or want to lose weight, healthy food choices and staying active are valuable decisions."

Eating healthier, and less, food, and becoming more active were the keys to success for most of the SES participants.

"I have greatly changed my eating habits," Clements said. "I no longer drink soda. I also make sure I eat breakfast every day and have cut out all the sugary snacks."

Wilson, who has lost 15 pounds, agreed that eliminating sugary foods is important in order to lose weight.

"There are no magic pills like they advertise; you simply must eat less, especially of sugary and fried foods!"

Rogers, who has lost eight of her original 15-pound goal, agreed that dietary changes are key.

"I just watched what I ate. I tried to stay away from sweets and high carb foods, and I cut back on the quantity," Rogers said.

In addition to cutting out certain foods and eating less, exercise played a part in the process for some.

"I walked 45 minutes every day," Couchman said.

Making the substantial life changes was difficult at first, some said, but definitely not impossible.

"At first, it was hard to give up soda, but I no longer crave it," Clements said.

For Wilson, the challenge wasn't physically staying away from the food.

"It is more of a mental challenge than a physical one," Wilson said. "I had to just commit to giving up some things – like cookies and doughnuts and French fries."

Sallman agreed.

"It's a lifestyle change more than a diet. You just have to make healthy choices and stick with them," Sallman, who has lost 17 pounds to date, said.

Those healthy choices can create great results for many of the participants.

"(I feel great about it), especially when people notice the weight loss," Clements said.

Couchman agreed that his accomplishment being noticed was a positive feeling.

"A lot of people started noticing before Thanksgiving. (It's) helpful when you have people notice," Couchman said.

There may be more to notice in the future, too. Many of the participants have more long-term weight loss goals that they intend to continue working towards. Other participants hope to maintain their current weight.

"(In six months), I hope to have reached my goal," Rogers said.

"I hope that I will be able to maintain my new weight," Clements said.

Couchman is still working toward his ultimate goal, which he hopes to accomplish in the next six months.

"In six months, (I will have lost) hopefully 60 pounds," Couchman said.

And, while working toward his own weight goal, Couchman feels he

will gain something else.

"I'll feel really positive about things when I reach my goal," he said.

Going Solo

By Keva Jensen
Staff Writer/Cartoonist

However, the Pound Plunge program isn't the only method that SES teachers have used to shed extra pounds. PE teacher Pat Haxton lost weight on his own before the organized program was ever created.

"I lost 90 lbs. at one time," Haxton said.

Haxton said that he didn't have any "magic" solution to his weight loss.

"I changed my eating habits, worked out, and burned calories," Haxton said.

For Haxton, his change in diet wasn't extremely hard to adjust to. However, his old habits would be easy to return to.

"I'm a fast food junkie, so it wouldn't be hard to get back into my bad eating habits," Haxton said.

Haxton has no plans of returning to those habits right now. He continues trying to keep his weight down by eating less and

burning more calories. For him, making those sacrifices bring great rewards.

"[I feel] a lot better," said Haxton, "I have lots more energy."

Haxton is planning on keeping his weight down in the future. He has a goal of "never being as big" as he was before and to continue losing pounds. Although it may be difficult, Haxton has a positive outlook on his future weight loss.

"I'm the kind of guy that if I want to do it, I do it the best I can," Haxton said.



Coach Pat Haxton in 2006 before losing weight (above, left) and Haxton during a 2008 football game after his weight loss (above, right). (Pictures courtesy of Trojournal Archive and Jena Sauber)

✓ Student Organization Feature

FCCLA members kick up their heels at Dallas Cluster

By Garrett Sager
Sports Writer



FCCLA members traveled to Dallas for the 2008 Cluster meeting Nov. 21-23. At Cluster, members participated in meetings, heard guest speakers, went ice skating and toured the city. Sophomores Aubrey Knox, Ariel Douglas, Ann Marie Sparicino and Emmy Meyer; juniors Megan Kincaid-Heidel, LaCrista Brightbill and Amanda Wilson, sophomore Joey Platt, and freshmen Maggie Matteson, Raimie Platt, Kristin Conley (pictured above) attended the event. (Photo courtesy of Juanelle Garretson)

✓ Holiday Student Fun

John McCain in the White House? Is Santa Real? What is lutefisk?



Sutton Sanders



Nathan Peterson



Sara Hettenbach



Alicia Oard



Jessie Jensen



Eric Hederstedt



Shane Shields

By Marissa McClure
Features Editor

Find out this and more as SES students share their funny, wacky and unique Christmas memories!

What unique Christmas traditions does your family have?

Sutton Sanders (Jr.) - "On Christmas, we don't eat turkey. We always eat ham and sweet potatoes."

Nathan Peterson (Fr.) - "We eat Swedish food, like lutefisk. It's not very good, it's like fish."

Sara Hettenbach (So.) - "When we were little, my mom would put out a little stuffed elf on December 1st, and he would leave on Christmas Eve. He was like watching my brother and I to make sure we behaved. He moved every night and we couldn't touch him. We still do it, but we know that it's not like a real elf."

Alicia Oard (So.) - "My parents were downstairs getting Santa's gift, a Pop-A-Shot, ready and all of a sudden, the Pop-A-Shot started (playing the game's music) really loudly. I was upstairs sleeping, but I didn't even wake up. My parents always tell me that story."

Jessie Jensen (Fr.) - "My brother got a pineapple for Christmas last year, because he wouldn't tell anybody what he wanted. He ate it the next day."

Eric Hederstedt (So.) - "Every Christmas, we read the Best Christmas Pageant ever. Our book is from like the sixties, and it's like so worn out it's falling apart."

What was your most memorable Christmas?

Sarah Hettenbach (So.) - "The Christmas I got my cat. I thought that the cat meowing was my brother's cat so I yelled at him, but really it was my present."

Sutton Sanders (Jr.) - "We got Ginger, my dog, on Christmas of 2002. My dad ended up taping her inside a Christmas box we had left over and she was so freaked out in the dark that she started hitting the inside (of the box) with her nose. We watched the box scoot across the floor until she hit a wall. Then we let her out, and she just sat there. She kind of looked like a reindeer that had just hit the wall, her legs were splayed, and she kind of tilted over and just laid there for the rest of the evening."

Shane Shields (Fr.) - "One time, all of us (six people) had to sleep in the same bed. Yeah, it was quite the load."

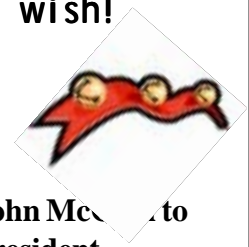
Hannah Mortimer (Fr.) - "I remember when I found out Santa wasn't real. I stayed up and waited and I saw my parents and I started yelling at them. I ruined it for Haley and told her and then she started crying. I kind of felt bad, but it was really funny afterward."

Match these students with their ultimate Christmas wish!

1.



Zach Blomquist (Fr)



A. John McCain to be president

2.



William Winship (Jr)

B. Fewer sisters



3.



Trask Engel (Sr)

C. My driver's license

Answers: 1-C, 2-B, 3-A

What do you think is the ideal way to spend your Christmas season?

Nathan Peterson (Fr.) - "I like the way we spend our Christmas's. We eat a lot of food, and get a lot of presents. I like it the way it is."

Courtney Sager (So.) - "I want to stay home, because we always go to my grandma's. It would be cool to just stay home and have all my five family members eat together."



Hannah Mortimer



Courtney Sager



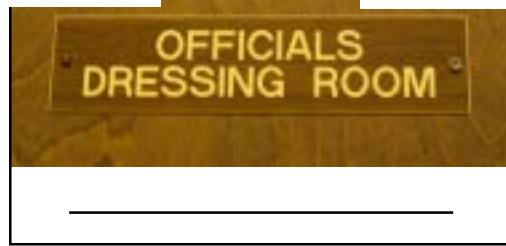
Student Fun Page

School c a v e Hunt g e r

Can you name where all these items are in the school? The first student to correctly identify (and write down) each item's location can turn in this page to Mr. McClure for a candy bar!



By Elizabeth Reec
Photo Editor



Student Economy Spotlight

You Can Have Whatever You Like or can you?

Will the economy cause students to feel the pocket-strain? Or is the crisis in our heads?

By Jena Sauber

Editor-in-Chief

Turn on a news program or open a newspaper and there will probably be at least one report or article about the fragile state of the economy. The falling stock market, company bailouts, high unemployment rates- sounds grim, but is it really affecting SES students?



"I still buy everything (that I used to)," junior LaCrista Brightbill said.

Brightbill works at Brooks' Tan in Craft Manor for 5-10 hours a week. She's worked there for about two years. However, she says that the fragile state of the economy hasn't affected her personally.

"I guess (it hasn't affected me), mostly because I don't earn that much money," Brightbill said. "But whatever I do earn, my mom makes me pay for gas."

That doesn't keep her from enjoying the extra green left over.

"If I do have money left over, I spend it on a movie," Brightbill said.

The crisis hasn't affected Brightbill yet, and she has little hope that it will make a lasting impression on her generation-sometimes casually nicknamed the "gimme generation" because of how often and readily material items are acquired.

"I don't think that people will continue to be conscious of what they buy and how much they spend once this is all over. I think we should, sure, but we won't," Brightbill said.

According to a survey conducted of 20 high school students, the economic crisis hasn't extended to the pockets of teenagers, yet. Trojournal staff members asked survey participants, "If you absolutely had to give up one luxury in life for a year because you could no longer afford it, what would you choose?" Check out the results below!



The (Not-So-Secret) Life of An American Teenager

How much do we really spend? One high school student records his/her own spending for a typical week.

Monday:
Drove to school- 15.6 miles
Drove to town- 20 miles
Tournament- \$3
Supper- \$7

Tuesday:
Drove to school- 15.6 miles

Wednesday:
Drove to school- 15.6 miles

Thursday:
Drove to school- 15.6 miles
Drove to town- 20 miles
Tournament- \$3
Supper- \$5

Friday:
Drove to school- 15.6 miles
Tournament- \$3
Supper- \$9

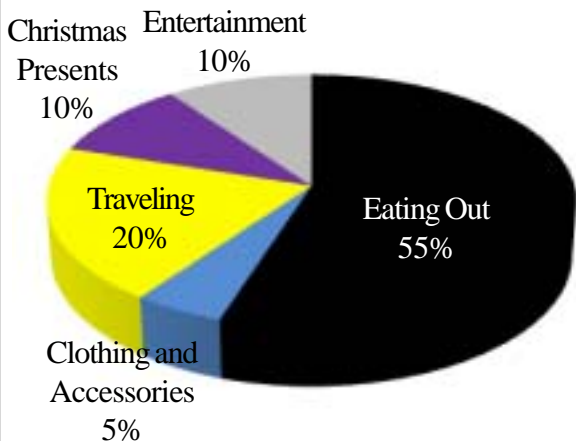
Saturday:
Drove to town- 20 miles
Lunch- \$5
Nitro Bowling- \$12.00

Sunday:
Drove to town- 20 miles

Total:
Gas: \$14.40
Other: \$47
Grand Total: \$61.40

That means...
In 1 month: \$245.60
In 1 year: \$2,947.20!!!

In The Number\$



Survey Options

Some of the options that survey participants had to choose from were not selected. Below is an entire list of the choices:

- Eating Out
- Clothing and Accessories
- Traveling
- Entertainment
- Cell Phone
- Own Car
- Christmas Presents

Of all the choices, giving up a cell phone for a year was the most complained about. "I would DIE without my cell phone!" was a common exclamation at the thought. Giving up a personal vehicle was met with similar disbelief.

Most students selected "eating out" as the item that they would give up if they had to. However, the adults that were surveyed had very different picks. Although eating out was high on the list, giving up cell phones was actually on the adults' lists (as opposed to the students who did not pick giving up their cell phone) and the entertainment percentage was much higher.

*Everything (ok, maybe not everything)
you'll need to know*

To Succeed In  **College**

The school year is half over! For some students, that means there is only a semester until they leave the halls of SES and lots to be before then—college visits, scholarships and ACTS to name a few. Other students are just beginning to think about post-secondary education. Check out what past SES graduates have to say about college, how the rising cost of colleges may affect us and college crime.

College Q & A

We asked three past SES graduates about their college life. See what they had to say!

*Brent Sweany, Shannon Wilson and
Chelsie Green
K-State Class of 2011
SES Class of 2008*

What is something you wish you had been told about college and college life before you headed to college?

BRENT: First off, I wish that someone had told me that you DON'T have to know what you want to do with your life. People are always asking you what you want to be when you grow up, or what you're going to do after college. It's great, and almost even essential, to have an idea but do not be firm set in that pursuit. Be willing to experiment and try new classes. You may just discover a new passion.

SHANNON: There are SO many career options that you don't even know are out there until you get here. Coming into college, you are 18! It is impossible to really be sure of what you want to do with the rest of your life.. I thought that I needed to know, but now I think the students that came in with an open mind are the ones who really had it figured out.

CHELSIE: You can't expect to meet and know everyone. It took years and years at SES to be acquainted, you can't expect it to be everyone's best friend in a month.

Don't lock your keys in your car the first night on campus.

What do you miss most about high school?

BRENT: The thing I miss most about high school is the connectivity of each and every person around you. I can go days in college without seeing a close friend or even someone I feel like I have any sort of connection with. People enjoy feeling connected, and the community of Southeast of Saline is unrivaled by any I have experienced since graduation.

SHANNON: I miss feeling really cared about. You may think it is obnoxious how everyone at SES knows your business, but they also know when you are sick or when something really bad is happening to you. It's something you take for granted, but I do miss walking down the halls of SES and knowing EVERYONE. I also miss feeling like my teachers care. Here, if you don't turn in a paper on time, you get a 0, end of question.

CHELSIE: I miss being involved and interacting with all the people. It's hard to leave the people you spend so many of your growing years with. These are the people that helped form who you are today. There are many chances to make friends in college; it's just sometimes a long process.

What advice would you give the class of 2009?

BRENT: I would advise the class of 2009 to try new things. You have no idea of the opportunities awaiting you beyond high school.

SHANNON: Enjoy the rest of your senior year. College is definitely something to look forward to, but don't wish you senior year away. Live life in the moment. You will probably never feel as "important" as you do when you are a senior at SES. College is full of changes, most of them good, but you will miss some things about high school so enjoy it while you are there.

CHELSIE: Please don't wish your senior year away. There will be moments of glory and moments with friends that you will never in your life experience again. College is fun, but I promise it will be here when that time comes; it's not going to run away. Also, college is not some dream world that 18-24 year olds live in; there is work and lots of studying. If you don't know how to manage your time...you're going to need to (something I'm still working on). Also to the class of 2000: Whether you like to admit it or not— you will miss your parents! You don't realize how much they do for you until they are miles away.

As you are reaching the end of your first semester at college, how do you feel about college as a whole?

BRENT: I absolutely love the whole college experience. Being responsible for myself, living on my own, studying when I need to and definitely not being in school for 8 hours a day! It's the greatest time of my life...so far!

SHANNON: I am loving it. The independence it amazing, I am taking classes that I am actually interested in, and I am experiencing so many new things. It took some getting used to at first, but I am really enjoying it.

CHELSIE: I really like it. It's teaching me to be true to myself and what I believe in, because at the end of the day, sometimes that's all you got...yourself.

Did You Know?

Top Ten Most Expensive Colleges (by tuition per semester only) in the U.S.:

Landmark College; Putney, VT: \$40,500

The Cooking and Hospitality Institute of Chicago; Chicago, IL: \$39,950

The George Washington University; Washington, DC: \$39,210

Bucknell University;

Lewisburg, PA: \$37,934

University of Richmond; Richmond, Virginia: \$37,610

<http://www.infoplease.com/edu/colleges/most-unique-colleges.html>

By Amanda Keeler
Copy Editor

Will rising price\$ cause students to Skip college?

Everyone has heard that college and technical school prices are on the rise, but how can students be expected to keep up with the rising financial cost of a higher education (which is quickly becoming a necessity for many careers around the world)?

Financial aid and scholarship money are two ways to help offset the rising cost of college. Did you know that, right now, there is over \$143 billion in scholarships and financial aid available (College Board)? That sounds like a huge sum. However, even if you get \$2,000 of that \$143 billion, and you plan on going to an average-priced public four year university, you will still have to pay approximately \$4,500 per semester. So, along with enrolling in classes as full time students, many college kids have to have jobs just to help pay for their other expenses like food, school supplies and entertainment.

www.collegerecruiter.com, today's college graduates have an average of \$25,760 in student loan debt. The cost of college in the United States accounts for part of the over \$10.6 trillion dollars in consumer debt that is currently burdening the United States in the current economic crisis (www.brillig.com).

Did You Know?
Deep Springs
College only has
26 students- all
boys!

According to www.collegeboard.com, the average sticker price of a public four year college or university for the 2008-2009 school year is \$6,585 per semester. That is an increase of 6.4% from last year. The average price of a private four-year college or university has risen to total \$12,571 per semester. The average price of a public two year college per semester has risen to \$2,402.

There is no possible way that most college students can pay for their tuition, books and room and board fees, etc. all in one year's time. Students now find it necessary to take out college loans to pay for a higher education. Most are in debt before they are even out of school and using their degrees. According to

Why should students have to pay such exorbitant amounts to better their education and plan for their future? We hear day after day that we are the leaders of tomorrow. However, if education costs do not become more affordable, some important people of our future may decide that they simply cannot afford the cost of an education.

To ensure the security of our nation's future, college prices must be lowered. If the cost of a higher education to does not become more affordable soon, there could be devastating consequences for our country and the citizens in it.

College crime on the decline

By Patrick Eslick
Layout Editor/ Columnist

Robbery, rape, murder. These things may sound like elements of a horror movie or a special on Court TV, but they are very real dangers that exist on almost every college campus. Those in college, and those about to enter college, should consider them. However, in this case, the reality may be less than what many believe it to be.

Over the last ten years, most types of campus crime have either decreased or remained relatively steady. For example, sexual offenses have been approximately the same over that period, and robbery has increased slightly but not appreciably. Although the murder rate fluctuates up and down, it has been decreasing overall for ten years.

In the chart below, a list of Kansas Colleges is arranged by crime rate in ascending order. The Kansas College with the lowest crime rate is Fort Hays State (0.4%); the college with the highest is the University of Kansas (3.1%). The crime rates were calculated by dividing the number of annual crimes on the campus by the total enrollment of the school. The statistics are based on the most recent data available, 2005.

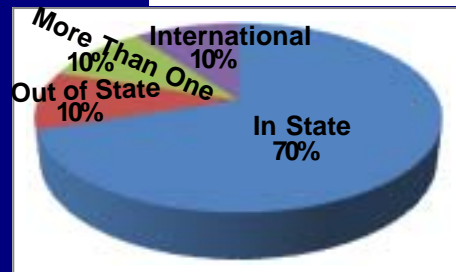
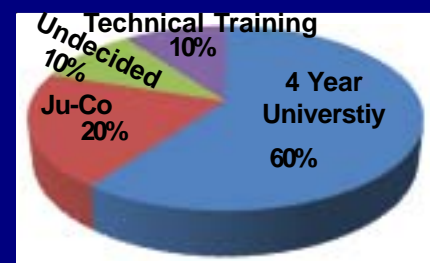
College Crime Rates	
Fort Hays	.4%
Emporia	1.6%
K-State	1.8%
Pittsburg State	2.3%
Washburn	2.6%
KU	3.1%

Did You Know?
At Evergreen State College, students don't get letter grades! Their teachers evaluate them at the end of the semester.

SES Student Stats

By Kendra Lawson
Student Information Rep.

We polled 20 SES seniors about their post-high school plans. See what kind of college they hope to attend in the future and where they hope to go!



One-hundred percent of the people we surveyed had plans to get some kind of post-secondary education. The national percentage of high school graduates seeking post- high school education is 76. 34%.

✓ Academic Feature

Senior ‘foremen’ return to unique trades class

By Keva Jensen

Staff Writer/Cartoonist

SES students build their vocabularies, muscles, and knowledge, but seniors Zach Short, Kirk Nelson and Tyler Herrington are building all that *and* more. These three leaders are building sheds and a house simulation in order to boost their building experiences.

After taking the Building Trades I class last year, these three returned to Building Trades II as foremen for the current Building Trades I class. The project that they have recently been working on is a section of a house.



The Building Construction class stands in front of their shed. Seniors Zach Short, Kirk Nelson and Tyler Herrington are all returning class members. (Photo courtesy of Eric Deneault)

“The boys are building an eight foot by eight foot section of a house. That includes everything from the ground up,” Eric Deneault, Building Trades instructor, said. “They’re working on the foundation, the plumbing, the electricity and everything else.”

When this project is finished, the simulation will be used as a final exam for the year.

“After the exam, we are going to tear it down, keep all the recyclable materials, and use it again for next year,” Deneault said.

In addition to their house simulation, the class also builds sheds.

“It takes about half of a year to build a shed,” Short said.

After they complete building the sheds, the class will sell them to anyone in the community who would like one.

“A shed usually runs from \$2,000-\$2,300,” Deneault said. “After we sell each shed, the money is sent to the businesses we buy from in order to pay for our bills (for materials). If there is any money left over, we put it into a building trades fund and the students get to decide what tools and machines that they would like to purchase for the class.”

Nelson said that although the boys do not get paid for building the sheds, the experience is still worth it to them.

“(With my experience), I will probably have a big part in building my house, or at least

a garage one day,” he said. “The more you can do, the less you will be paying someone else to do.”

As leaders for the class, Short, Nelson and Herrington help to teach the Building Trades I class. Along with the responsibility of leadership comes a struggle with each others’ opinions.

“Sometimes working together is a struggle because we all have our own strong opinion on how to do something while building,” Short said. “Sometimes it’s hard to come to an agreement.”

Despite the boys’ conflicting opinions, they all agree that they like the class. “[I like the class because] I’m not confined to a class lecture and I can have some freedom,” Nelson said.

Short agreed that the class offered a “hands on” experience.

“[What I like best about the class is] the hands-on and fun activities,” Short said. “It’s not like one of those boring classes where you sit and try to stay awake to listen to a teacher.”

Deneault agrees and recommends the class to both males and females.

“I recommend this class to everyone, boys and girls alike. It’s a class designed to hit every aspect of home maintenance, remodeling and design. It would be wonderful if Building Trades was a required class for all. There is much to be learned for both boys and girls that will someday own their own homes,” Deneault said.

✓ School Play News

SES actors ‘Get Smart’ for the winter play

By Kendra Lawson

Student Information Rep.

SES actors and actresses invite students and patrons to “Get Smart” this winter when the play cast brings Peter Segal’s *Get Smart* production to the Southeast of Saline stage on March 13 and 14.

Get Smart centers around scientist Maxwell Smart (Trask Engel) at an important university in Washington, D.C. in the 1960s. He is about to test a tiny scale model of a new instrument known as the “Inthermo”- an instrument so powerful it could alter the structure of world power. Its prime target is the International Organization of Evil. This plot throws the university into turmoil as the machine threatens to take over the world. Agent 99 (Shelby Meyer), Agent 44 (Michael Bauer) and Agent 13 (Matt Mortimer) help track down the “bad guys” so that control is restored for the safety and good of all people.

The mastermind behind this production is drama teacher Mr. Terry Anderson.

“I read *Get Smart* several years ago. I was going to do it in 2001, but that was the year of the September 11 attack,” Anderson said. *Get Smart* involves some violence so Anderson chose to postpone the production for a later year.

Since *Get Smart* is set in the 60s, Anderson has decided to bring back that decade and allow the characters to perform go-go dancing. The play consists of a lot of rookies, so the dancing should be a way to show off their talent.

Cast List

Maxwell Smart	Trask Engel	Shirley Wong	Ariel Douglas
Helen	Rose Laflen	Betsy Wong	Lynnsey Heimer
Myra.....	Ann Marie Sparacino	Irene Wong	Lindsey Lockhart
Jane	Courtney Sager	Mr. Big	Dylan Howe
Fred	Jameson Miller	Big Sister	Marci Forristal
Linda	Haley Mortimer	Little Sister	Charity Winship
Professor Dante	Caitlin Conley	Agent 99	Shelby Meyer
Professor Zalinka.....	Amanda Wilson	Agent 13	Matt Mortimer
Agent 44	Michael Bauer	Ann	Kolby Balthazor
Chief	Nick Ostmeyer	Jill	Sadie Roesner
Miss Finch	Bria Sweany	May	Kristi Hargadine
Hodgkins	Patrick Eslick	Laura	Megan Sauber
Man	Clayton Kuhn	Princess Ingrid	Sara Hettenbach
Woman	Christine Russell	Miss Swan	Taylor Peterson
Garth	Joel Prater	Waitress	Joey Platt
Mary Wong	Trell Peterson	Choreography	Teisha Rogers

“It (will) be a good experience for them,” Anderson said.

One student who won’t be a rookie in the drama department is senior Joel Prater.

“Joel just brightens my day,” Anderson said. “Matt (Butler) and Joel were hilarious last year in *You Can’t Take It With You*.”

Prater will be playing Garth in *Get Smart*.

Tickets will cost \$5 with a reservation or \$6 at the door. For more information, contact Anderson.

Student Activity News

Scholars' bowl team bounces back from previous year's losing season

By Jena Sauber
Editor and Chief

After finishing the 2007 season with a losing record, the varsity scholars' bowl team of '08 has bounced back with a winning season, so far.

"I am pleased with the progress that both teams have made this year," scholars' bowl coach Mr. Bob Sauber said.

The varsity team, which is made primarily of juniors and seniors, has a 25-14 record. The junior varsity team, made up of only freshmen and sophomores, has a record of 24-13.

"We have finished in the top four at seven of our eleven tournaments," Sauber said.

After the loss of several senior scholars' bowl competitors from last year, Sauber feels that the current members have filled those gaps.

"I feel that we are much stronger team this year," Sauber said. "Several students have stepped up into leadership positions and I am seeing a stronger team as a result."

With that stronger team, Sauber has high expectations.

"I am looking forward to the rest of the season and expect us to continue placing well at tournaments," he said.

Scholars' Bowl Results

Varsity Team

Oct. 28	Beloit Varsity	3 wins, 4 losses	4th
Nov. 6	Minneapolis	1 win, 3 losses	
Nov. 13	Moundridge	5 wins, 2 losses	2nd
Nov. 24	Solomon	6 wins, 1 loss	1st
Dec. 1	Ellsworth	6 wins, 1 loss	3rd
Dec. 4	Junction City	4 wins, 3 losses	4th
Dec. 15	Russell	2 wins, 4 losses	

Freshman/Sophomore Team

Nov. 10	Russell	7 wins, 2 losses	2nd
Nov. 17	Belleville	3 wins, 3 losses	
Nov. 18	Concordia	3 wins, 3 losses	
Dec. 1	Pike Valley	9 wins, 2 losses	2nd
Dec. 4	Salina South	2 wins, 3 losses	
Dec. 11	Clay Center	3 wins, 2 losses	

Upcoming Events

Trojan



Calendar

By RoiAnn Wellman
Staff Writer

Dec. 19- NOON DISMISAL

End of 2nd nine weeks

5:30 pm Wrestling @ SES

—**Jan 2- WINTER BREAK**



Jan. 5- Class Resumes

Jan. 6- 6 p.m. B-ball @ Sacred Heart

Jan. 8- 4 p.m. SES Scholars' Bowl

Jan. 19- NO SCHOOL

Jan. 20- 6 p.m. B-ball (Girls) @ Ellsworth

Jan. 21-Jan24- Salina Invitational Boys' B-ball Tournament

Jan. 26-Jan30- SES Girls' B-ball

Invitational



Jan 27- 6 p.m. Boys' B-ball @ Ellsworth

Jan 29- Wrestling @ SES

Jan 30- Chalupa Supper

Club

By Ryan Haxton
Staff Writer

O **Varsity Club-** Varsity club recently helped out to support the Wii for the Jensens in the Big Give. They purchased the Wii so that all profits from the NHS Wii project would go to the Jensen family.

n **FCCLA-** FCCLA worked with the Leadership class in the Salvation Army project for the Big Give. FCCLA tied with F.O.R, winning a free dinner catered by Martinelli's Restaurant. FCCLA sold Candy Grams — one for 75 cents or three for \$1.50. All proceeds go to the Salvation Army. They had an officer Christmas party on Wednesday, Dec. 17 at the Conley's' house. FCCLA is also working on STAR Events for their upcoming District competition. District competition will be in February at Haysville.

StuCo- For the second year, Student Council is putting on the Indoor Olympics and the annual Hanging of the Greens today.

Forensics- There was a Forensics informative meeting on Dec. 9. They will have a lock-in on the first Friday in January.

Trust- Trust recently applied for another grant for an anti-smoking activity. They will also be having a Christmas party.

FFA- Southeast of Saline FFA hosted the first Chapman FFA Exchange on Dec. 4 when seven Chapman students visited SES. On Dec. 8, FFA had Job Interview competitions. The FFA Kansas Beef Exposition took place on Dec. 12. FFA also hosted the "Battle of the Bands" and had their annual Christmas party.

BB/BS- Big Brothers Big Sisters had their Christmas Party Dec. 8 during seminar.

NHS- NHS finished their Wii Project for the Big Give contest. They received 2nd place at the Big Give assembly and will receive a pizza party in January. NHS also held a Bone Marrow transplant drive on Dec. 11.

F.O.R- F.O.R is still meeting every Wednesday morning. They are working hard for the Wish upon a Hero Stocking project, their part of the Big Give project. They filled a large stocking with gifts for the Wounded Soldier Project. They tied for first place with FCCLA and Leadership 101 and will share a dinner from Martinelli's Restaurant.



Eric Hederstedt, Chelsie Hanks and others toured KU Medical Center Dec. 3. (photo courtesy of Monica Davis)

Sports 'trio' simulates bowl games 08-09 By Michael Bauer, Max McClure and Garrett Sager

  <p>Jan. 8, 7:00 pm FOX</p> <p>Michael Garrett OU by 7</p>  <p>Max OU by 10 OU by 14</p>	<p>This game will feature the two best offenses in the nation. The Oklahoma Sooners have scored more than 50 points in nine games this season and are led by Sam Bradford. Florida also has an explosive offense, led by quarterback Tim Tebow. This game might be decided by which team has the better offense. This could be a high-scoring game for both teams. Florida has played well in big games. They beat Alabama, a previously ranked number 1 team in the SEC championship earlier this month.</p>
  <p>Jan. 5, 7:00 pm FOX</p> <p>Michael Garrett UT by 19</p>  <p>Max UT by 17 UT by 14</p>	<p>The Texas Longhorns will enter this game outraged after not playing in the Big 12 championship; which is why they'll be playing tough. Ohio State's defense ranks in the top 10, but the Longhorn offense will be too omnipotent to handle. Texas' defense leads the nation in sacks and ranks second in rushing yards allowed. They'll be challenged by Ohio State's offense, which averages 191.6 rushing yards-per-game. Look for Buckeye half-back Beanie Wells to run the ball alot in this match, because Ohio State ranks 104th in passing yards.</p>
  <p>Jan. 1, 7:00 pm FOX</p> <p>Michael Garrett CIN by 3</p>  <p>Max VT by 12 CIN by 7</p>	<p>Virginia Tech is begining to peak at the right time of the year, but the Cincinnati Bearcats have the thrid ranked scoring offense in the Big East and their defense leads the Big East in sacks. The Bearcats will likely throw the ball while the Hokies will might look to victory by going on the ground. Since the Hokies can run the ball, they can control the clock better, but Cincinnati might be the better team.</p>
  <p>Jan. 2, 7:00 pm FOX</p> <p>Michael Garrett Bama by 21</p>  <p>Max Utah by 3 Bama by 7</p>	<p>Look for the Alabama Crimson Tide to run the ball most for most of the game. The Utes rush defense is ranked 14th, but they'll have to face Crimson Tide half-back Glen Coffee, who is averaging 103.6 yards per game. Alabama is also coming off a loss that knocked them out of the National Title game, so expect for the Tide to come in with alot of momentum in this match-up.</p>
  <p>Jan. 1, 3:30 pm ABC</p> <p>Michael Garrett USC by 17</p>  <p>Max USC by 17 USC by 10</p>	<p>Once again, the USC Trojans are in the Rose Bowl. This is pratically a home game for the Trojans, but don't expect a blow-out like last year's Rose Bowl. Penn State is a better fit for the Trojans' level of play. However, neither teams' conferences are decent and by game time, Penn State will have gone a month-and-a-half without playing any football. This game could be just like the previous Rose Bowls; which means to expect a close score in first half, before USC pulls away in the second half.</p>
  <p>Jan. 2, 10:30 am FOX</p> <p>Michael Garrett TT by 31</p>  <p>Max TT by 24 TT by 21</p>	<p>Texas Tech has a dominating offense, led by quarterback Graham Herrell and Michael Crabtree at wid-reciever. Texas Tech has a much better offense than the Ole Miss Rebels. The Rebels only hope to stay up with the Red Raiders, is to run the ball. Ole Miss ranks 30th in rushing yards, while Tech is near the century mark at 96th. It won't matter though. This one will get ugly.</p>
  <p>Dec. 30, 7:00 pm ESPN</p> <p>Michael Garrett OSU by 5</p>  <p>Max ORE by 7 OSU by 10</p>	<p>Oklahoma State and Oregon are very similar. Both teams are 9-3 and the they both have averaged 41 points a game. Oregon will be better off trying to beat the Cowboys with their running game, since they rank ahead of the Cowboys in rushing yards. However, Oklahoma State has a much better passing offense and quarterback Zac Robinson is a prolific passer. Both teams should keep the scoreboard busy with their omnipotent offenses, so either Oregon or Oklahoma State are worthy enough of winning this one.</p>
  <p>Dec. 29, 7:00 pm ESPN</p> <p>Michael Garrett MU by 17</p>  <p>Max MU by 14 MU by 7</p>	<p>This is not the season Missouri's Tigers have hoped for. Beginning the year with championship hopes, Missouri is settling for an Alamo Bowl bid. Missouri has a good quarterback and wide-receiver in Chase Daniel and Jeremy Maclin. Look for Daniel to throw the ball to either recievers Maclin or Chase Coffman, while the Tiger defense corrupts a less-powerful Northwestern offense, in which their best option is to run the ball. Especially since Northwestern's starting quarterback, CJ Bacher, has a 59.7 completion rating.</p>
  <p>Jan. 1, 1:00 pm CBS</p> <p>Michael Garrett NEB by 24</p>  <p>Max NEB by 9 NEB by 3</p>	<p>The Nebraska Cornhuskers out-rank Clemson's Tigers in rushing yards, passing yards, total yards, and points scored. The only real advantage Clemson will have is by running the ball. Clemson's halfback James Davis has rushed for 725 yards with 159 carries Nebraska's halfback Roy Helu has more yards with less carries. Nevertheless, the Cornhuskers are the better team and should win.</p>
  <p>Dec. 31, 7:00 pm NFL Net.</p> <p>Michael Garrett KU by 16</p>  <p>Max KU by 6 KU 14</p>	<p>Minnesota has gone on a four game losing streak and in their last game they lost to Iowa 55-0. Iowa isn't ranked. KU is coming off an upset win over Missouri (40-37) and, if they stay on track, should have an easy victory. Also Minnesota lost to Michigan who has a record of 3-9 and is second to last in the standings of an unimpressive Big 10 conference this year.</p>

✓ Student Sports Feature

Concussion king steps back into the ring

By Max McClure
Sports Editor

The concussion king is back in the ring. Senior Zach Short has suffered five concussions over the last ten years, but that doesn't keep him out of the wrestling ring.

Nor does it keep him from success as a wrestler. He's 3-0 and has pinned all of his opponents, still, his season hangs on his ability to remain concussion-free, and that might not be easy. He has stumbled upon a myriad of ways to get a concussion.

"(I got them from a) four-wheeler wreck, (being) slammed on the mat during wrestling, falling while playing basketball, playing tackle football at recess and slipping on a wet rock," Short said.

Even though injuries have occurred he still enjoys participating in adrenaline laced and sometimes potentially dangerous activities.



Zach Short wrestles his opponent at a home wrestling meet in December. Short has suffered multiple concussions that could cause him to retire from the ring. (Photo by Krisanna Graham)

✓ Student Sports Feature

Student runner earns place on All-State team

By Garrett Sager
Sports Writer

Senior Trask Engel knows how to keep himself busy. He is the President of STUCO, Vice-President of NHS, a "big" in the Big Brothers/ Big Sisters program, in Forensics, Madrigals, school plays and he is a cross country runner. Yet with all of these activities going on, Engel was still able to earn a spot on the All-State Academic Cross Country team for the second straight year.

"It feels really cool to get it (the award) two years in a row because cross country is my biggest accomplishment in high school," Engel said.

In order to qualify for the All-State Academic cross country team, Engel had to place in the top 20 at the State 3A cross country meeting in November, and maintain at least a 3.75 GPA.

Engel finished 14th at the State meet.

During his cross country season, Engel was working on something else, too

– the school musical, "South Pacific." Engel got the part of Emile DeBecque, a lead role.

"I spent a lot of late nights at the school for rehearsal," he said.

However, there probably would have been even later nights, he said, if he hadn't used his time wisely.

"I just made sure to use my free time wisely so I didn't have to do any work at home," he said.

Engel plans to further his academic career but not his athletic career at Kansas State University. He plans to major in engineering.

Engel's success in the classroom might overshadow his success on the cross country course, but he said he felt the thing that overshadowed his accomplishment even more was the team's success.

"I'm more proud of about my team taking second at State and performing well than just me getting this individual reward," he said.

"I still really enjoy riding four-wheelers and wrestling," Short said.

Since it's wrestling season now, the wrestling injury is the one at the forefront of his mind now.

"It was at a tournament. I started in referee's position and stood up and my opponent pulled me down in an illegal hold and slammed me on the mat face first," Short said.

But that was two years ago and his brain has had time to heal after that injury.

"It happened in the Halstead tournament. The guy I was wrestling was ranked second in the state. I got pinned right away and when I stood up I was dizzy and everything was blurry," Short said.

Short didn't let the concussion stop him, however. Last year, he went 22-15 in his wrestling season and was one match away from making it to state. Short tries to think about his success and his potential as a wrestler rather than worry about whether there might someday be another concussion.

However, if another concussion were to occur, whether the injury occurred during a sport or not, Short explained that there can be serious effects of repeated blows to the head.

"The more (concussions) you get, the more dangerous it becomes. You can have memory loss or speech problems," Short said. "And if I get another one, I will have to quit wrestling and slow everything down and be more careful."

With that said, Short says he still loves contact sports.

"Wrestling is my favorite sport, because I love a sport where you can just go out and literally beat up your opponent," Short said.

Short's two favorite activities, wrestling and riding a four-wheeler, have caused two of his concussions.

"I was thrown off my four-wheeler when I was like nine years old. I hit a hole in a field and was bucked off. I had a helmet on but it fell off," Short said.



Senior Trask Engel leads fellow senior Max McClure in the State cross country race on Nov. 1 in Wamego. Engel's 14th place finish and his high GPA earned him a spot on the All-State Cross Country team for the second year in a row. (Photo by Jena Sauber)

✓ Student Sports Feature

Undermanned wrestling team drops close dual at Ellsworth

By Ryan Haxton
Reporter

With only 11 slots filled and three left open, the Trojan wrestling team is having a tough time finding victories. With two duals and two tournaments under their belt, the squad is getting ready to move on for their invitational.

The Trojans began the season with a dual match against the Ellsworth Bearcats. They lost by eight points.

"It's really tough to come out with a victory with low numbers, but the team still did great and we looked good," freshman Brock Long, who pinned his man in the dual against Ellsworth, said.

The Trojans had wins in seven weight classes: Jayson Gagna, 103; Ryan Hahn, 119; Zach Short, 125; Thomas Patry, 140; Brock Long, 145; Braden Long, 171; and Kyler Beshler, 285.

Next, the Trojans went to Lincoln for a tournament with Lincoln High and Stafford. The Trojans came out on top with a first place vic-

✓ Girls' Basketball

Lady Trojans denied tournament championship, look forward

By Michael Bauer
Sports Writer

Last year, the Southeast of Saline Lady Trojan basketball team fought their way through the Blue and Gold tournament, but lost to the Sacred Heart Knights in the championship game. This year, the team experienced déjà vu when they once again fell to Sacred Heart in the championship game of the Blue and Gold tournament.

After beating Sterling, 57-47, and knocking off Minneapolis, 72-61, the Lady Trojans lost to Sacred Heart 57-42 in the championship.

Coach Wayne Sager said he believed his team had a good learning experience with their tournament performance.

"I think overall we performed pretty well. We learned a lot about ourselves, about what kind of team we are, and what kind of team we can be," Sager said. "I think we can improve quite a bit. We have a lot of young girls in very important spots."

With all that to consider, what kind of team will the Lady Trojans be this year?

"We are a team with a mix of an outside – inside game," Sager said. "Sometimes, we do too much of one or the other, but as we progress along (through the season), we'll get much better working with each other. We're a good team, but we have the potential to be a better team."

In their Blue and Gold semi-finals match against Minneapolis, the Trojans were victorious

tory.

The first place finishers for the Trojans' victory were Short, Brock Long and Braden Long. Second place finishers were Hahn, Mikey Hurt and Beshler. Third place medalists were Patry and David Hoelting.

"It was a nice feeling to come up the tournament champion. It was good for the team to get the feeling that we can win," Beshler, the Trojans' Heavyweight wrestler, said.

The Trojans stayed at home on Dec. 11 to go up against their league rival, the Beloit Trojans. Southeast lost with a score of 28-51.

Gagna won by an open in weight class 103. Hahn won in a score of 11-2 against his opponent. Short and Hurt won by pinning their man, and Brock Long pinned his challenger.

On Dec. 13, the Trojans went to the Minneapolis Tournament to compete against Minneapolis, Osborne, Chapman and Ellis. The Trojans finished in fifth place.

Wrestler Kirk Smith received a fourth place finish in the 112 weight class. Hahn, Braden Long,

and Short came home with a third place finishes at Minneapolis. Beshler came home with a second place finish. Brock Long, in weight class 152, came home with the team's only first place victory.

The Trojans will host the invitational meet today, their last meet until after Christmas break.



Senior Ryan Hahn controls his opponent in the SES Invitational. (Photo by Krisanna Graham)

over the Lions, but one of the SES players did more than just succor the win for the team.

Senior Stephanie Frost scored 39 points with 20 rebounds, breaking the tournament record for the most points in a single game.

In last year's tournament, Frost tied the tournament record for the most points in a game when she scored 28 points. This year, she didn't have to settle for a tie.

"I was very happy for Stephanie. Not only did she have 39 points, but she had 20 rebounds. If you can have a quiet 39, then I think that was it," Sager said. "When I walked off the court, I had no idea she had 39 points. I'm very proud that she was able to set the tournament record and the school record as well. She does a very good job and we look forward to a lot more out of her."

Frost was also happy about her record-breaking performance.

"I felt pretty good (about my performance). I just went out there and did what Coach (Sager) told me to do," Frost said.

As a senior, Frost is one of the leaders of a very young team. Three of the five starters for the Trojans are underclassmen. So far, according to Sager, they still have some more to go before they start coming along.

"I don't know if they're starting to come along just yet, but as we practice more and more, throughout the year, we will," Sager said. "We're still learning the game of basketball; we have some good kids that want to learn how we do, so I'm very upbeat about what we can become."

On Tuesday this week, the Lady Trojans were supposed to take on the Beloit Trojans on the road. However, due to inclement weather, the game has been postponed. The postponed date has yet to be determined.

The Trojans won't have to wait long until for a rematch with their Salina rivals, though, as they will go on the road to take on Sacred Heart on Jan. 6.



Stephanie Frost, senior, goes up against a Minneapolis player during the second round of the Blue and Gold Classic tournament in Salina. The Lady Trojans lost to Sacred Heart in the championship game. (Photo by Jena Sauber)

Boys' Basketball

Trojans enter Christmas break with 2-2 record

By **Garrett Sager**
Sports Writer

When the Dec. 16 snow storm rolled in, it forced the Trojans to reschedule their Tuesday game, which was supposed to be at Beloit. So, instead of going into Christmas break playing five games, they will go into the break playing only four games, leaving their record at 2-2.

The Trojans opened the season with a hard fought win at home against the Centre Cougars 65-60 and would enter the Blue and Gold Classic at the Bi-Center with a 1-0 record.

Southeast's opening game at the tournament on Tuesday Dec. 9, was against the Sterling Black Bears who were fresh off of a 39-45 loss to Moundridge. It was another hard-fought, high-scoring game, but this time the Trojans were on the opposite side of it, losing 66-71.

"The team just started out too slow, just like the game against Centre, but this time we couldn't fight ourselves back," head coach Jeff Vogt said.

"We played great ball the last minute and a half of the game," senior starter Greg Peterson said. "We were the better



Senior Greg Peterson drives to the hoop splitting two defenders for a layup in the Trojans loss to Bennington 43-63. (Photo by Jena Sauber)

team; we just didn't play like it that night."

Peterson was the standout for the Trojans that night, scoring 23 points and hauling down 10 rebounds. With that loss the Trojans would play Thursday Dec. 11 against the loser of the Bennington/Minneapolis game.

For the second straight game, the Trojans would face a team who was looking for their first win of the season. This time they took the floor against the Bennington Bulldogs.

The Trojans quickly found themselves down by a large margin, 9-36 at one point.

"I told the kids that Bennington was going to throw the first punch and if we didn't respond and punch back it was going to be a long night," Vogt said.

Minus the first quarter, Southeast played pretty well and closed the second quarter on a ten-nothing run. From then on they won every quarter, but the deficit they suffered in the first quarter proved to be too much as the Bulldogs sent the Trojans losing streak to two games with a 63-43 victory. Once again, for the third straight game, Peterson led the scoring attack for the Trojans with 18 points.

The Trojans, now 1-2 were forced to play in the seventh place game in the Blue & Gold Classic after failing to pick up any victories in their first two games. Their opponent, yet another winless team, the Ell-Saline Cardinals have been getting blown out in every game they have played this year.

"We knew Ell-Saline wasn't that good," Peterson said, "but we weren't playing good ball either at the time".

After one quarter of play it was all knotted up at ten, but then the Trojans blew the door open and ran away to a 77-54 victory. This would be a game to remember for the Trojans. They broke the team scoring record in a game, which was previously 75 (It was broken the next game by Bennington who put up 79 against Solomon.) and all 12 varsity members scored in the game. Peterson was again the top scorers were 18. Sophomore Jordan Wyatt and junior Kaleb Lawrence each had 15. Junior Garrett Sager dropped in 9, and senior Cole Wil-

liams chipped in 5.

"Overall, we didn't play too terrible," said Coach Vogt. "I mean, we lost by five to a team that made it to the championship game." Vogt also added that he wanted to leave the Bi-Center with two wins but is glad they at least managed to pick up one victory.

The Trojans had one athlete, junior Kaleb Lawrence, who got his name called for All-Tourney. Lawrence averaged 14 points a game (42 total points) and 8.3 rebounds a game (25 total rebounds).

"It's awesome," said Lawrence. "It feels great to get All-Tourney."

Sports Box

By **Michael Bauer**
Sports Writer

Boys' Basketball

Dec. 5 Centre	W 65-60
Dec. 8-13 Sacred Heart Blue and Gold Tournament	
Dec. 9 Sterling	L 66-71
Dec. 11. Bennington	L 43-63
Dec. 13 Ell Saline	W 77-54
Dec. 16 @ Beloit	*Postponed*
Upcoming Games:	
Jan. 6 @ Sacred Heart	
Jan. 9. Minneapolis	
Jan. 13 Russell	

Record: 2-2

Girls' Basketball

Dec. 5 Centre	W 67-37
Dec. 8-13 Sacred Heart Blue and Gold Tournament	
Sterling	W 57-47
Minneapolis	W 72-61
Sacred Heart	L 42-57

Dec. 16 @ Beloit *Postponed*

Upcoming Games:	
Jan. 6 @ Sacred Heart	
Jan. 9 Minneapolis	
Jan. 13 Russell	

Record: 3-1

Wrestling

Dec. 5 @Ellsworth	L 39-31
Dec. 6 @ Lincoln Trny	1st
Dec. 11 Beloit	L 28-51
Dec. 13 @ Minneapolis	5th
Upcoming Meets:	
Dec. 19 Minneapolis, Republic County Dual	
Jan. 10 @Ellsworth Inv.	

Dual Record: 2-0

Student Organization News

SES organizations come together in “Big Give”

By Marissa McClure
Features Editor

One hundred and eighty-three students, \$9,209 dollars raised, 380 volunteer hours and 845 items collected. Sound impossible? Not for the participants of SES's Big Give Program!

Each organization involved in the Big Give gave a presentation about the group's activities during the Big Give assembly on Dec. 10. The SES Big Give was modeled off of talk show host Oprah Winfrey's "Oprah's Big Give." It was started by the Life Dimensions class as a way to encourage SES students and staff to make a difference in their community.

And they did make a difference, according to Mike Jensen, the recipient of one of the largest gifts. Jensen — the father of SES students Josh, Jessie, Jaley, and Justin — is fighting cancer and needs a bone marrow transplant.

"I'm not much of a speaker and I've got tears in my eyes, so I don't know what to say. I thank God for every one of you," Jensen said just after receiving a check for \$2,163 from NHS.

Seven groups participated in the program: Leadership 101 and FCCLA, Friends of Rachel, NHS, Life Dimensions, the Central Office staff, the baseball team and Crimestoppers.

Leadership 101 and FCCLA's projects benefited the Salvation Army the American Cancer Society and the Kay Pogue Hospice Center. They served as bell ringers and collected donated clothes to help support the Salvation Army. They held a Family WISH (Wishes Inspire SES to Help) night. Seventy-five people attended the family game night. Together, they raised approximately \$800 to help their three different charities and eight families.

"(Salvation Army officials) discovered that the dollar amount in the cans was greater when youth rang the bells," said LaCrista Brightbill, Leadership 101 member and FCCLA officer.

Friends of Rachel (F.O.R) created the Wish upon a Hero project. The project worked with The Wounded Soldier Relief organization from Fort Riley. Around Thanksgiving time, F.O.R. members created seven care packages to send to soldiers. They helped the Extreme Makeover Team with the Tutwiler's house in Chapman, because Mr. Tutwiler is in the Wounded Soldier Program. They also collected over 150 items for Christmas gifts to give to the 310 Fort Riley soldiers in The Wounded Soldier Program.

"Merry Christmas, Patty," said Trell Peterson as F.O.R presented their gifts to her and the wounded soldier program.

National Honor Society (NHS) held a raffle for a Wii in their "Wii Love the Jensens" project. They raised \$2,163, which will benefit the Mike Jensen family. At the Big Give assembly, Mike Jensen drew the winner for the Wii, SES sophomore Eric Schwerdtfager. NHS also presented the Jensens with a Wii for their own family.

Life Dimensions, in addition to organizing the program, had a project of their own. They made and sold Christmas cards to raise money for Relay for Life and The Kay Pogue Hospice center. Through this fundraiser, they made \$526.56.

The Central Office staff put on a holiday Parade of Homes on Dec. 7 to raise money for the Jensens. They had six homes on tour and raised \$5,740.

On a Sunday afternoon, the baseball team traveled to Assaria to rake leaves. Though they didn't make any money, they impacted the community by helping people who needed yard work done and weren't able to do it.

"Baa Baa black sheep only had three bags full (of leaves), but we slaughtered that record," said Mr. Mike Garretson, head baseball coach.

Crimestoppers are planning their Big Give project for next spring or

summer. They plan to have an old-fashioned fishing derby at the Bengtson's pond, which is about one mile directly north of the school. All the money raised by the admission fees will go to benefit the Saline County Crimestoppers.

State representative Josh Svaty, SES superintendent Justin Henry and Bill Weaver from the Salina United Way served as judges for the assembly. After all the presentations, the judges selected the Leadership 101/FCCLA group and the Friends of Rachel group as winners of SES's Big Give. Second place went to the NHS group.

"I knew we made a difference in people's lives. I'm happy that we won but I'm happy for the people mostly," Megan Meehleis, F.O.R. member said.



1. Jonathan and Andrew Peuchen prepare to participate in the pie-eating contest at FCCLA and Leadership 101's WISH Night on Dec.6. The event was part of the school-wide Big Give project. (Photo by Jena Sauber)

2. Seniors Meggan Meehleis, Kaley Rodriguez, Jamie Hitchcock and Mrs. Norma Bowman help carry supplies while helping at the Home Makeover:Extreme Edition project in Chapman. F.O.R's Big Give Project benefited wounded U.S. soldiers. (Photo by Jena Sauber)

3. Representatives from the participating organizations wait for Josh Svaty to announce the winners of the Big Give. (Photo by Elizabeth Reece)