

• Southeast of Saline High School

Trojournal

May 15, 2009 Southeast of Saline, 5056 E. K-4 Highway, Gypsum KS 67448 Vol. XXXVI No. 9

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Featuring the 2009 State award winning Trojournal staff



Editorial

Government should stay out of marriage business

By Patrick Eslick
Layout Editor

The words “gay marriage” are enough to start a heated conflict in just about any group of people. The issue has even sparked a movement not unlike the civil rights movement of the 1960s.



Debates on the issue have effectively stalled now, with neither side making a lot of progress. Even if pro-gay marriage activists have recently achieved a few victories in the states of Iowa and Vermont, they are still far from achieving the universal victory they seek. The fact is, both sides are wrong.

The United States government should not recognize marriage at all. This is not to say that the government should prohibit people from getting married. It’s

just that the government should stay out of it entirely.

Firstly, marriage is a sacred institution, and the government is supposed to be strictly secular.

Secondly, marriage means different things to different people. For example, throughout history, various groups have considered polygamy to be an acceptable practice. Many such groups have since rejected polygamy, but some still embrace it. Why should the government be able to tell these people that the way in which they practice a sacred sacrament is not acceptable? The bottom line is that by legally recognizing and indeed *regulating* marriage, the government is effectively legislating a purely religious institution.

The only conceivable reason that the government should recognize marriage is for tax reasons. Marriage, to the government, basically means one thing only—that the couple will be filing a joint tax

return. Even if the government did not recognize marriage, it could still recognize civil unions, for tax purposes only. Partners in a civil union would file a joint tax return. The government should make these available to any group of people who plan on living together and supporting each other financially.

Why should the government prohibit gay couples from filing a joint tax return? Is that immoral? Yes, the government does allow babies to be aborted by the thousands, but apparently allowing homosexuals to pay taxes together is just *way* too immoral.

The prohibition of gay marriage is likely due to prejudice on the part of government officials, but the whole debate would become a non-issue if the government stopped getting involved in a place that they don’t belong.

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.

Juniors Chelsey Kohman and LaCrista Brightbill push sophomore Josiah Frost in a shopping cart at the Relay for Life event in Salina on May 2. (Photo by Amanda Keeler)

The Real Deal

Students weigh in on current student issues.



“They should be able to do whatever they want; it’s not our place to tell them what to do.” -Marci Forristal, soph.



“Gay marriage is gay!” - Greg Peterson, sr.



“God intended for relationships between man and woman-- not man to man,” -Raena Cano, fresh.



“I think that guys should have the right to be united, but that they can’t call it marriage. Marriage is a Christian sacrament,” - David Pantle, soph.

∇ Review Column

Groups start off summer with major releases

By Patrick Eslick
Layout Editor

Third Eye Blind- Ursa Major

Third Eye Blind (3eb) is a band that has changed a great deal from the height of their popularity.

Their songs have become increasingly political since their eponymous debut which produced such mega-hits as "Semi-Charmed Life," "Jumper," and "Graduate." However, their music is political in a way that is not so much in-your-face as it is a simple declaration without too much pushiness.

If the EP the band released earlier this year is any indication, their album should be a gem. Ursa Major is due for release in June. It will be the band's first release in six years.

Sonic Youth – The Eternal

For those who are not familiar with the

band, Sonic Youth blends the punk genre with the so called "noise rock" genre. Mostly the band is an acquired taste, but once acquired, the band remains as a favorite. Their albums have always been edgy and noisy, but in more recent releases, the band has mellowed a bit, such as in their most recent *Rather Ripped* (although the mellowness of that album is due in part to the robbery of several 'modified' guitars which the band used to produce their unique sound). This album will be a return to the band's former style, but also an exploration of the styles the band has touched on in some of the mellow releases. Frontman Thurston Moore claimed that the band would "do more avant-garde rock and roll" on this album. *The Eternal* is due for release on June 9.

The Dead Weather – Horehound

This will be The Dead Weather's first release, but the band is far from amateur—

experimental, maybe, but definitely not amateur. The band could probably be called a super group. It brings together Jack White



The Dead Weather

(of The White Stripes and The Raconteurs), Jack Lawrence (also of The Raconteurs), Alison Mosshart

(of the Kills), and Queens of the Stone Age drummer Deon Fertita.

With a lineup like that, the band is sure to produce magic. This is supported by the quality of their pre-released single entitled "Hang You From the Heavens." Only time will tell if the band can live up to their reputations. *Horehound* will be released in June.

∇ Editorial Column

Looking for summer plans? Take this quiz!

By Amanda Keeler and Krisanna Graham
Columnists

You + 5 days = 12 weeks of SUMMER VACATION!

In just five days, the bell will ring at noon and you won't have to go to class until Aug. 17 (unless you are a senior and have already been out for three days). From summer jobs, to camps, and everything in between, summer is 12 out of 52 weeks in which teenagers are free to be teenagers and not have to worry about the $\cos 60^\circ$ or the stoichiometry of gases. (Have fun, incoming juniors.)



Often in the summer, people take vacations, whether it is just to the local lake or a cross-country trip. Going along with this typical summer event, we have made a quiz to determine what vacation destination is best for you.

When you have free time, what do you enjoy doing?

- A. Laying out in the sun enjoying a romance novel
- B. Rock climbing and hiking
- C. Reading about the latest science discovery in *Wired*

Which kind of weather do you most like?

- A. Sunny and hot
- B. Moderate: Slight chance of rain, low 70's

C. Air conditioning

Which is most like your ideal date?

- A. A romantic walk along the beach at sunset
- B. An outdoor picnic at a national park
- C. A trip to a Star Trek convention

Which is most like your favorite movie?

- A. *The Notebook*
- B. *Into the Wild*
- C. *Pi*

Which is most like your favorite color?

- A. Pink
- B. Green
- C. Yellow-green, which is different from Green-Yellow, which is also known as Chartreuse.

Which is your most visited website?

- A. www.facebook.com
- B. www.rei.com
- C. <http://slashdot.org>

What is most like your favorite living organism?

- A. Dolphin
- B. Bear
- C. Alien

What is most like your favorite type of shoe?

- A. Sandal
- B. Hiking Shoe
- C. Chuck Taylors

If you mainly answered "A" throughout the quiz, the vacation destination best for you is Myrtle Beach, SC. You will enjoy a relaxing walk, especially down by the beach. You are sensitive, and a helpless romantic.

If "B" was usually your choice, Yellowstone National Park is the place for you. You are adventurous and enjoy a challenge. Nature is your friend.

Picking "C" means you are an intellectual person (unless you were trying to beat the system and choose "C" because it is often the right answer on quizzes). You like to give your brain a work-out even though it is summer vacation. Museums, laboratories, and libraries are places you often like to go. The ideal trip for you is Washington D.C. The Smithsonian Institute in D.C. offers 19 museums and nine research centers to broaden your knowledge.

So, whether you will be getting some much needed rest and relaxation on the beach, hiking through the woods of a national park, or visiting the new exhibit at the Smithsonian Institute, hopefully you can make the most of your summer. Remember, it is the only 12 free weeks you have during the year.

School Countdown!

4.5 days left of school!

That's 32 hours, 5 minutes, or 1925 minutes, or 115,500 seconds. (Not counting the rest of today- sorry!)

Student Feature

Senior takes on home responsibilities to aid cousin

By Marissa McClure
Features Editor

Crying, screaming, and burping are now familiar sounds at the Snook household. Senior Megan Snook's family is trying to adopt Megan's six-month-old cousin, Hannah. The Snook family started the adoption process during the first semester of school, and now Snook says that Hannah is like family.

"I have a new sister, and daughter, and cousin all in one," Snook said.

This arrangement has caused Snook to take on a lot of responsibilities.

"(I babysit) pretty much every day after school until the evenings when my mom gets home, which can vary greatly," Snook said.

These new responsibilities may seem heavy, but Snook loves Hannah, even though Hannah can make it hard to sleep, study, and keep clothes clean.

"I love her, but she frustrates my studying, keeps me up at night, and burps up all over my clean clothing," Snook said.

According to Snook, one of the hardest parts of her family's trying to adopt Hannah is balancing her own responsibilities of caring for Hannah and doing her own school work.

"Basically, just trying to balance helping

with Hannah and school work (are some of the stresses)," Snook said.

For now, Hannah is not officially adopted by Snook's family. In an in-family-adoption, families don't have to go through the home study that the out-of-family adoptions must go through. But in-family adoptions are sometimes harder because the other family members must give up custody for the new family to gain custody in order to fully adopt the child.

In the Snook's situation, though, neither parent will give up custody because they don't want the other parent to gain full custody of Hannah. Though in-family adoptions cost a lot less than normal out-of-family adoptions, the custody battles tend to take a lot longer.

The Snooks are still trying to get full adoption rights, but for now all they have is the right to take Hannah to the doctor and to take care of other necessities. The Snooks are still working to get through some of the legal hoops of a full and final adoption.

"I'm not really sure (what a non-final adoption means). I just know I am supposed to take care of her," Snook said.

Snook hopes to see her family get full custody of Hannah so that she will have stable home.

"I hope to see my mom getting full custody of Hannah and not have to fret about if her biological mom wants her back," Snook said.



Megan Snook holds her cousin, Hannah. As her family continues try to adopt Hannah, Megan plays a large part in caring for the six-month-old. (Photo by Mr. Gary McClure)

Student Feature

Three senior girls bring in \$60,000 of college cash

By Elizabeth Reece
Photo Editor

College prices get higher and higher every year, but for three Southeast of Saline girls, paying their bill will be much easier with \$60,000 combined. Jamie Hitchcock, Rachel Pantle and Megan Sauber all received the Earl Bane scholarship and will each receive \$20,000 over a four year college time span.

In order to apply for the scholarship, the girls said they had to do multiple things, including filling out an application and writing essays.

"I had to fill out a form of basic information, my school activities and community involvement, estimated college expenses and brief financial information on my parents," Pantle said. "I also had to write two essays, one describing my goals and aspirations, and one describing an unusual circumstance in my past that affected my life or education."

After sending in their applications, the girls had to wait three months to hear if they had received the scholarship. However, when the girls went into Mrs. White's office, they knew something good had happened.

"Mrs. White called me into her office and I didn't think anything of it. When I walked into the room, she was in she had three ice cream bars laying on the table," Sauber said. "I know that when someone does something good, sometimes you get ice cream. I was thinking what I could have done."

Sauber didn't have to think long because directly after the girls were called into the office, Mrs. Norma Bowman and Mrs. Judy White announced that they had received the Earl Bane Scholarship.

"I was excited, but I had filled out so many scholarships that I couldn't remember how much it was worth," Sauber said. "I figured it was probably a couple thousand dollars at the most but then Mrs. White said something about \$60,000 among the three of us. It took me a moment, but I did the math and a couple seconds later, when I realized it was a \$20,000 scholarship, I jumped up and down and screamed!"

Sauber's reaction wasn't the only one. All of the girls said they were excited when they found out that they won. However, it wasn't automatic response for all of them.

"I was really shocked that I had gotten it," Hitchcock said. "It didn't really sink in until I was in my next class."

To keep the scholarship, the girls have to keep a 2.5 GPA throughout college. For now, the girls say the scholarship is a big honor for both them, and for the school.

"(I want to) thank Mrs. White for all her hard work and dedication she has towards furthering our education. I couldn't have done much without her," Pantle said. "I also want to congratulate the other two winners here at SES. I know for a fact it wasn't easy to win!"



Mrs. Judy White congratulates seniors Megan Sauber, Rachel Pantle and Jamie Hitchcock at the High School Awards Night for receiving the Earl Bane Scholarship. Each scholarship was worth \$20,000 over 4 years. (Photo by Janet Sauber)

Student Feature

Band director juggles job, family while seeking PhD

By Max McClure
Sports Editor

Secondary band director Mr. Quentin Breese and SES elementary teacher Mrs. Krystal Breese have been attending two different schools lately: SES and colleges. One school gives them a pay check, and the other school takes it.

"College is expensive," Mr. Breese said.

The Breese family has a laundry list of college expenses.

"My masters program cost, counting fuel, about \$7500 for a two-year program. The master's for principal and superintendent cost about \$11,000 and Crystal did her masters, which was another \$6,000. This year I've spent \$4,000 each season or \$16,000. And I still have my dissertation which is \$5,200," Mr. Breese said.

The numbers add up to about \$45,700 over the last few years. Not all of that cost, however, has come out of Breese's pockets. Mr. Breese received a \$500 grant from the American Association of Educators (AAE).

"Every little bit helps," Mr. Breese said.

Breese's education has been going for years to continue his schooling to become a principal or superintendent.

"I want to impact kids on a larger scale. As a band director, I only see a limited part of our student population. As an administrator, I think I would have the ability to impact not only students but teachers, patrons and staff, too," Mr. Breese said.

But this doesn't mean the SES band director will be moving on right away.

"The place and time has to be right," he said.

He also said there were other, slightly more humorous, reasons for continuing his own education.

"I want to save as much of my hearing as I can," he said.

Student Feature

McBride may be new to SES, but not to rodeo

By Kendra Lawson
Student Body Info. Rep

While sophomore Cody McBride is new to SES, he is definitely not new to his favorite sport—rodeo, bareback riding to be specific.

McBride's mother got a new job here so Cody and his family moved to Kipp, Kansas. Looking for a new house was an adventure, but the McBride's managed to find a house close to SES.

"My mom did most of the moving stuff, dealing with the money and arrangements. It was a frustrating task, but overall the search was pretty easy," McBride said.

Keeping in touch with his friends back home all the time helped McBride deal with the move. At first, McBride said that he was angry all the time and wasn't really interested in the idea of meeting new people. As time went on, though, he said he became more comfortable with his peers.

"I've made some friends at Southeast of Saline. Some of them are Alex Weller, Austin Mortimer, and Christian Muehlberg," McBride said.

Making new friends at Southeast really helped McBride become more comfortable with his new surroundings. McBride said that sophomore Alex Weller is well known as the class clown and his humor has helped Cody to have fun. Austin Mortimer has also made McBride's transformation a success.

"Austin is fun to hang out with. He always finds some way to make life interesting," McBride said.

Lower chessmen have also had a positive

impact on McBride. Muehlberg, a freshman, became a friend to McBride when he first started coming to Southeast. . Now, they even have a "special" handshake, McBride said.

"Christian is a funny guy and I have fun hanging out with him," McBride said.

Although he does have friends at Southeast, McBride said that the size change is a big difference for him. His previous school was much smaller than SES.

"I do miss my previous school. Lakin high school is where I was planning on graduating, but I guess plans change," McBride said.

Since the move, McBride has found ways to have fun. In his free time, he likes to hang out with his friends and participate in rodeo.

Some SES students share Cody's interest in Rodeo. For example, sophomore Morgan Belt is familiar with Rodeo.

While competing at rodeo, McBride is a bareback rider. Belt mostly does barrel racing.

"Barrel racing is an event only for girls so my passion is riding bare back," McBride said.

"I really like to watch my rodeo videos over and over again. I belong to organization known as Little Britches KPRA High School Rodeo," McBride said.

Stemming from his rodeo background, McBride said that the atmosphere at SES has helped him adjust.

"SES is a school has many farm kids so, yeah, I do like the atmosphere. (But) I'm more use to the rednecks, instead of the farm kids," McBride said.

In addition to the "farm kids," McBride has found some positive aspects of SES. One

And he also said he has enjoyed some of the schooling.

"I've always thought that I was a statistics guy, but now I'm doing Qualitative Methodology (research) and Experimental Design (statistics class), which I like," Mr. Breese said.

The qualitative methodology is what he prefers, currently.

"You go out and interview people and you discover. For example, you go out and ask teachers what they think of their administrators. Until this semester, I've enjoyed the statistics side until I got an 82 on the last test," he said.



Mr. Quentin Breese (shown here with his son Peyton at a 2008 football game) has been juggling directing the SES marching band, working on getting his doctorate and raising a family. (Photo by Jena Sauber)

positive that Cody mentioned was the teachers.

"I really like Mrs. Streit. I seem to understand her teaching methods better than my previous math teacher," McBride said.

However, with the positive, McBride does have a few negatives. McBride feels that there are too many people at SES.

"I don't usually talk to many people for the simple reason to avoid drama," McBride said.

Other than the nerves of being a new kid, McBride said he has enjoyed being a part of SES. He has found negative and positive aspects of the school, but overall he is happy with the move.

"A positive would have to be living in a town with no city restrictions. Overall, the move to SES has been a success," McBride said.



SES sophomore Cody McBride competes in a rodeo. McBride, who recently moved to Kipp with his family, says that "overall, (his) move to SES has been a success." (Photo courtesy of Cody McBride)

✓ Awards

Seniors rake in over \$123,000 in scholarships

By Amanda Keeler

Copy Editor

With a recession sweeping the nation, there have been worries everywhere about college scholarship money. However, the May 4 Awards Night ceremony showed that the SES seniors didn't have anything to worry about.

The seniors collected a total amount of over \$123,000 in scholarship money. Scholarships were awarded as follows:

Skylar Bosco- Bethany College vocal scholarship.

Caitlin Conley- Gypsum Lion's Club (\$100), Sunflower Community Ambassadors (\$250), Principal's Award (\$50), Robert Dole (\$1,000 renewable for four years), Hansen Foundation (\$3,000 renewable for two years) TOTAL: \$10,400 over four years.

Zach Downey- Bethany College sports scholarship, David Heublein (\$200) TOTAL: Over \$200.

Shelbey Edwards- Bethany College sports scholarship.

Trask Engel- Robert Dole (\$1,000 renewable for four years) Hansen Foundation (\$5,000

✓ State KSPA

renewable for four years) TOTAL: \$24,000 over four years.

Layton Everhart- Hansen Foundation (\$2,000) TOTAL: \$2,000.

Stephanie Frost- Kansas Wesleyan sports scholarship.

Stephanie Gantt- Hansen Foundation (\$2,000) TOTAL: \$2,000.

Ryan Hahn- Saline County Farm Bureau (\$1,000), Vocational scholarship (\$500 renewable for two years), Hutchinson Community College (\$600), Hansen Foundation (\$2,000) TOTAL: \$2,600 over 2 years.

Kristi Hargadine- Salina Rotary Club (\$1,000), Robert Dole (\$1,000 renewable for four years), Hansen Foundation (\$3,000 renewable for two years) TOTAL: \$11,000 over four years.

Lynnsey Heimer- Assaria Lion's Club (\$250), Vocational scholarship (\$500 renewable for two years), Colby Community College vocal scholarship TOTAL: \$1,250 over two years.

Tyler Herrington- Lowell Montgomery (\$500) TOTAL: \$500.

Jamie Hitchcock- 4-H

Award (\$500), Big Brothers/Big Sisters (\$135), Robert Dole (\$1,000 renewable for four years), McDonald's Ray Croc Award (\$250), Presbyterian Church of Kipp (\$200), Earl Bane (\$5,000 renewable for four years) TOTAL: \$26,085 over 4 years.

Jennifer Kirkhart- Vocational scholarship (\$500 renewable for two years), Hansen Foundation (\$2,000) TOTAL: \$2,500 over two years.

Rose Lafflen- Kansas Crime Stoppers Association (\$300), TOTAL: \$300.

Shane Martin- Vocational scholarship (\$500 renewable for two years) TOTAL: \$1,000 over two years.

Max McClure- Southwest Baptist University athletic and academic scholarships, Dr. Bob scholarship by Tom Rupp (\$1,000), College Goal Sunday Financial Aid Program (\$500) TOTAL: Over \$1,500.

Meggan Meehleis- Friends of Rachel (\$150), Optimist Club (\$25), Nan and August Krauss (\$500) TOTAL: \$675.

Shelby Meyer- Dickinson County Farm Bureau (\$500), Hilda Smith (\$750) TOTAL: \$1,250.

Kirk Nelson- College Goal Sunday Financial Aid Program (\$500) TOTAL: \$500.

Rachel Pantle- Earl Bane (\$5,000 renewable for four years), KU Jayhawk Leadership scholarship TOTAL: Over \$20,000 over four years.

Thomas Patry- Paul and Irma Spellman (\$250) TOTAL: \$250.

Greg Peterson- Big Brothers/Big Sisters (\$135), Saline County Water District #8 (\$500), K-State Agriculture (\$500), Agriculture Future of America (\$4,200), Salina Rotary Club (\$1,000), Mid Kansas Coop Association (\$500), Robert Dole (\$1,000 renewable for four years), Optimist Club (\$50), National Honor Society Recognition (\$100), Hansen Foundation (\$2,000 renewable for two years) TOTAL: \$12,985 over four years.

Trell Peterson- Big Brothers/Big Sisters (\$135) TOTAL: \$135.

Joel Prater- Fort Hays State University (\$500) TOTAL: \$500.

Kaley Rodriguez- Big Brothers/Big Sisters (\$135), Sunflower Community Ambassadors (\$250), David Heublein (\$200), Dylan Everhart Memorial (\$500), Make A Difference (\$1,000) TOTAL: \$2,085.

Cassie Schlessener- Cowley Community College sports scholarship.

Zach Short- Steve Roe Farm Bureau (\$1,500), Robert Short (\$500), Vocational scholarship (\$500 renewable for two years), Hutchinson Community College (\$600), Hansen Foundation (\$2,000) TOTAL: \$5,100 over 2 years.

Nathan Smith- Kansas Wesleyan academic scholarship.

Sadie Roesner- Big Brothers/Big Sisters (\$135) TOTAL: \$135

Bria Sweany- Butler Community College drama scholarship.

Abbey Wilson- Hansen Foundation (\$3,000 renewable for two years) TOTAL: \$6,000.

Journalists claim 3rd place, two claim three State Champ titles

By Ryan Haxton
Staff Reporter

For the third year in a row, the Southeast of Saline student journalists placed among the top three 3A schools in the state at the KSPA (Kansas Scholastics Press Association) contest. The group claimed the third place slot, placing behind Phillipsburg and Silver Lake in the competition which was held in Lawrence on May 2.

The Trojans took five competitors and four carry-in entries to the State competition. Senior Max McClure; juniors Jena Sauber, Patrick Eslick, Sarah Reece, and Garrett Sager; and sophomore Elizabeth Reece represented SES at the competition. Juniors Amanda Keeler (sports photography), Sager (info graphics), Eslick (newspaper design), and Keva Schlepp-Jensen (feature photography) represented SES with their carry-in entries.

Of the twelve entries, five received first-honorable mention awards. Eslick received first place in Newspaper Design. The win was made even more rewarding by the fact that he took a gamble when selecting his entry.

"I took a risk with my Newspaper Design. The usual more traditional design usually does better, but I took a risk by creating a more experimental design and I guess it just paid off," Eslick said.

In addition, Eslick placed third in the on-site editing competition.

Sauber came home with not one but two first places finishes. She placed first in Yearbook Copy Writing and Newspaper Feature Writing.

"I was surprised and pleased with the results. I'm proud of how well the team competed," Sauber said.

The team's youngest on-site competitor, sophomore Elizabeth Reece, came home with an Honorable Mention in News Writing.

"It was really exciting to place at State because last year I didn't even place in the easiest category possible—outline writing!" Reece said.

To qualify for the state level competition, students had to get top three or honorable mention at the Regional level. The team qualified for the state competition earlier this year at the regional competition in Manhattan.



Senior Zach Short receives a scholarship from Craig Stephenson in honor of Steve Roe during the Awards Night on May 4. Short was one of the many seniors who received scholarships that night. (Photo by Janet Sauber)

✓ 2009-10 Seminar Changes

2009-10 possible seminar changes announced

By **Jena Sauber**
Editor in Chief

With school almost out for the summer, next fall is far from many students' minds. However, SES administrators are already making plans for changes for the 2009-10 school year. One likely change will be the structure of seminar.

"Right now, we are still working on what we want to do for the seminar structure next year, but it will be different," Secondary Principal Mr. Monte Couchman said.

The Changes

As of now, the "difference" will include multiple changes. Couchman said that the new policy will consist of the following:

- Two "groups" from each the freshman and sophomore classes. Each "group" will have about 30 students and four teachers in it and be in separate rooms.

- A "group" for junior and senior students with four teachers in it. The group will be in one room. The library is being considered as a location.

- An "open privilege" seminar available to select students. This seminar will only be available to juniors and seniors who have grades above C's, have a good attendance record, and do not have office referrals, detentions, etc. Students in this seminar will have privileges such as being able to play basketball, talk with friends, listen to iPods, and relax. Special privileges such as being able to leave school at the start of seminar once a week are also being considered.

- Students who are on the ineligibility list will be moved to a "Structured Academic Assistance" seminar where they will be able to work with a teacher in a smaller group in an attempt to bring their grades up. They will remain in that seminar until the next eligibility list is created.

- Students who continue to struggle keeping off the ineligibility list may be moved to a "tutoring seminar" where they will work with a teacher and only one or two other students.

Why Change?

"For the past few years, we've been doing research through the Professional Learning Communication Concepts on to how to solve the problem of 'what to do when students aren't learning what they are supposed to,'" Couchman said. "This seminar structure is trying to achieve that."

According to Couchman, this new structure is designed to help those students be able to learn what they are supposed to learn, and hopefully to stay off the ineligibility list.

What about...? (FAQ)

However, this arrangement has prompted many questions among the student body. Some of them follow:

What about club meetings and activities that usually happen during seminar?

"For clubs that meet regularly, like FCCLA and FFA, they will have a specific date each month that they can meet during seminar. For clubs that

don't meet as regularly, like Foreign Language Club, they will have a scheduled meeting date once every two or three months," Couchman said. "Pep rallies, college representative visits and things like that will still be able to happen during seminar."

Will we still be able to move between seminars to talk to teachers and get help?

Students, except in one case,* will not be allowed to move between seminars. "There will be more teachers moving," Couchman said. "If students in one group need help from a teacher in another seminar, two teachers can trade places. Also, much of our staff is qualified to help students, even if they don't teach that specific class."

**What if I need to finish an art project in Mr. Krehbiel's, an Ag project for Mrs. Disberger, or an FCCLA project for Mrs. Garretson?*

Teachers will be allowed to "invite" students into their seminar once or twice a month to work on "lab" based projects. "Teachers will be able to give a limited number of passes to "invite" students into their classroom on that one or two days a month so they can get work done,"

✓ Opinion

The best solution? The simplest.

By **Patrick Eslick**

Layout Editor

The concept of seminar was introduced to Southeast of Saline in 1995. For 12 years, the system remained unchanged. Now, school administrators are changing the seminar system for the second time in two years, but not for the better. Newly proposed changes would prohibit student freedom and therefore, student productivity.

Most people would agree that the purpose of seminar is to give students an opportunity do homework, to get help on homework, to go to meetings and to work on projects. If school administrators and faculty agree that these are the purposes of seminar, then there is something wrong with their logic. Proposed seminar policies would severely limit student mobility and therefore make it much harder for students to get help, go to meetings, or work on projects.

In planning, administrators have tried to remedy this issue by allowing teachers and classes to have so-called "lab days" once a month. It is certainly not uncommon for students to require help from the same teacher every day for a week or two when the student is having a hard time with a specific concept or



Couchman said. "The students have to then stay in that room for the entire seminar."

If I am a junior or senior in good standing, do I have to be in the "open seminar?"

No. Students in good standing may stay in the 11th and 12th grade seminar and take advantages of the open seminar privileges if they wish to.

What Students Say

While Couchman stresses that everything is not yet set in stone, the rumors in the halls have still caused student reactions.

"I think it's the dumbest idea I have ever heard of in my life," sophomore Carley Melander said, "We're going to go crazy in the seminars. We will have absolutely no freedom at all. For the people who actually want to work during seminar, it's pretty much a punishment."

Fellow sophomore Teisha Rogers summed up the possible situation.

"Really, students hate school enough as it is. Don't make them hate it any more," Rogers said.

lesson or when the student is working on a large project. For example, once a month, or even several times a month would probably not be enough for woodworking, vocal solos, band solos, journalism or yearbook.

In addition, the proposed system is extraordinarily complex for what it is. I don't think a more convoluted and twisted plan could be imagined. After examining the new proposal for nearly half an hour, I still did not completely understand everything in the proposal. There is a principle called Occam's Razor. It states that the simplest solution is the best one. Policymakers should embrace this principle as they plan for next year's seminar system.

The best seminar plan would be the simplest one. The simplest plan I can imagine would be that of the first 12 years of seminar. Students should be allowed to pass freely from seminar to seminar. Nothing fancy—no elaborately complex multi-tiered seminar, just seminar. Those students who would not use seminar to its fullest potential in this system would probably not be well served by any system. The new plan seems to be designed for students who would rather not work during seminar.

It seems that policymakers are now flitting from system to system, each one worse than the one before. We need to settle on one system and stay there, always remembering that the simplest system is the best one.

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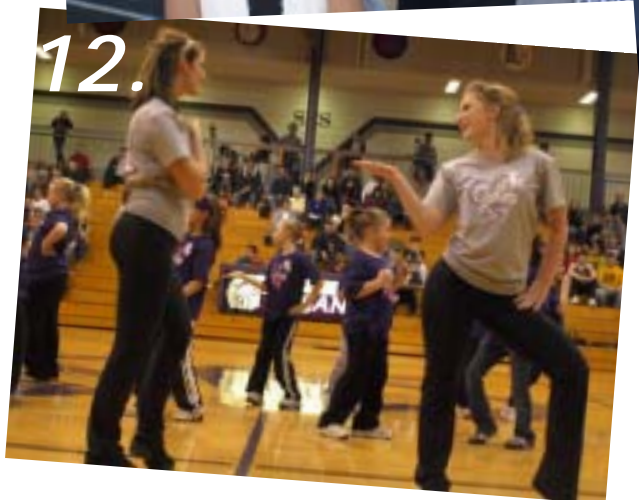




10.



11.



12.



13.



14.



15.

1. Sophomore Rachel Holzmeister warms up before singing in front of a judge at regional solo and ensemble contest on April 4. (Jena Sauber)
2. Junior Mandy, senior Saun, and freshman Shane Shields play a game with their uncle Vic Shields and cousin Gage Kirkbride at SES Family Wish night on Dec. 6. (Sauber)
3. Senior Kaley Rodriguez wraps Lady Trojans basketball coach Mr. Wayne Sager in plastic wrap at a pep rally. (Krisanna Graham)
4. Sophomores Dakota Reese, David Alexander, and David Pantle watch as guest Mr. Ed Foster shows the sophomore science class how to clean a fish. (Elizabeth Reece)
5. Sophomore Kendra Lawson competes while the rest of Mr. Terry Anderson's seminar watches at the Indoor Olympics. (Graham)
6. Senior Trell Peterson and Sophomore Emmy Meyer compete in a tug-of-war for the homecoming bonfire on Oct. 9. (Reece)
7. Freshman Brittany Beneke makes the final touches on her Rube Goldberg machine in Earth/Physical Science class. (Marissa McClure)
8. Senior Megan Sauber shows people at the Prairie Patch Craft Show on Nov. 8 how to play Wii to benefit the Big Give. (Sauber)
9. Junior Chloe Seim, freshman Rachel Peuchen, sophomore Tiffany Cleveland, and freshman Morgan Fritz enjoy dinner at Mrs. Judy White's house for a Friends of Rachel party. (Judy White)
10. Homecoming queen and king Shelby Meyer and Greg Peterson stand with their littles Sydney Charles and Avery Lefort after being crowned. (Amanda Keeler)
11. Madrigals, directed by Mr. Matt Hanson, sing Christmas songs for the elementary. (Graham)
12. Freshman Alexis Sterling and sophomore Teisha Rogers dance with second and third grade Little Sparklers at the Feb. 3 basketball game. (Ryan Haxton)
13. Seniors Meggan Meehleis and Jamie Hitchcock enjoy doughnuts and juice at FCA's "See You At The Pole" on Sept. 10. (Reece)
14. Musical cast-members playing "Sea-bees" play checkers for this year's musical "South Pacific" which debuted on Nov. 13. (Graham)
15. Cast members Bria Sweany, Shelby Meyer, and Amanda Wilson perform the play "Faith County" at a dress rehearsal. (Patrick Eslick)

√ State Music Festival

SES hosts State fest, receives seven I ratings

By Marissa McClure
Features Editor

Once again, musicians from all over the state entered SES's doors for the 3A State Music Festival on April 25, but this time there were far more entries than previous years due to a snow storm, and a great opportunity for SES's very own musicians.

Mr. Quentin Breese, band director, thought the kids did well, just like regionals.

"I thought the students preformed very well. It is unfortunate they didn't all receive the ratings they had hoped for, but I'm happy with their positive attitudes and work ethics," Breese said.

Mr. Matt Hanson, vocal music director, was also very impressed with his student's performance.

√ State Forensics

Forensics ends season with two State placers

By Jena Sauber
Editor in Chief

After months of rehearsing, memorizing and improving, ten SES thespians had a final chance to shine at the 2009 State Forensics Competition in Wichita on May 2.

Of the competitors, seniors Shelby Meyer and Trask Engel were the only two to place, placing fifth and second, respectively.

"I was really happy to place fifth," senior Shelby Meyer, one of the two state placers from SES said, "especially because we had three rounds, then semi-finals, then finals!"

Junior Jena Sauber also qualified for the state competition with her original oration, but was unable to compete at the state level due to scheduling conflicts.

State Forensics Results

State Placers

Trask Engel	Prose	2 nd
Shelby Meyer	Serious Solo	5 th

State Participants

Trask Engel	Duet
	IDA
Lynnsey Heimer	Duet
Cody Blaha	IDA
Bria Sweany	Duet
	IDA
Dylan Howe	Duet
	Poetry
Shelby Meyer	Prose
Amanda Wilson	IDA
	Humorous Solo
Caitlin Conley	Duet
Megan Sauber	Duet
Sarah Hettenbach	Poetry

"The kids did a wonderful job. We received 5 "I" ratings which is more than the school has had in a long time and maybe ever before," Hanson said.

Some students shared their satisfaction with their ratings.

"I was surprised to get a "I", but I was happy with it. I enjoyed contest this year," senior Max McClure, who sang a vocal solo at the festival, said.

Sophomore Sierra Yianakopulos was part of a band ensemble that got a "I" rating.

"It was a pretty average run through, and we didn't get that much time to practice but we did well," Yianakopulos said.

For a complete list of SES State competitor's results, see results box.

State Results

Sarah Reece	Saxophone Solo	III
Sierra Yianakopulos	Percussion Solo	II
Nathan Peterson	Trumpet Solo	II
Sutton Sanders	Bassoon Solo	II
Marissa McClure	Saxophone Solo	II
Marie Pinder	Oboe Solo	II
Jena Sauber	Flute Solo	II
Rachel Holzmeister	Vocal Solo	II
Brea Sly	Vocal Solo	II
Percussion Ensemble		I
Greg Peterson	Vocal Solo	I
Dylan Howe	Vocal Solo	I
Skylar Bosco	Vocal Solo	I
Sutton Sanders	Vocal Solo	I
Max McClure	Vocal Solo	I
Alica Oard	Flute Solo	I

√ Club Information

Club

By Ryan Haxton
Staff Reporter

C Crime stoppers- Crime stoppers selected officers May 7. The 2009-10 officers are Emmy Meyer, President; Ryan Haxton, Vice President; William Feist, Secretary; Dani Bradrick, Treasurer.

R FCCLA- FCCLA members are preparing and fundraising for the National competition July 11-16, 2009 in Nashville. They have done many different fundraisers like selling and making enchiladas, selling pies, having a bake sale for the teachers and much more.

n E.O.R.- Friends of Rachel had their final get together on May 6 with a meal at Carlos O' Kelley's and a showing of *Monsters and Aliens* at the Salina Dickinson Movie Theater.

e Spanish Club- Spanish Club held elections to decide on the 2009-10 Spanish Club board. The results were decided as followed: Krisanna Graham, president; Taylor Peterson, vice-president; Presley Wilson, Secretary; Elizabeth Reece, treasurer.

r Art Club- SES Art Club showed off their work at the NCAA League Art Exhibition May 6, at Ellsworth High School. The group received a total of 24 awards: seven gold medals and 17 Awards of Distinction. The results are as follows:

Chloe Seim-

- Pen and Ink- Gold
- Watercolor- Gold
- Printmaking- Gold

Pachel Pantle-

- Pen and Ink- Award of Distinction

Nick Ostmeyer-

- Stained Glass- Gold
- Sculpture- Award of Distinction
- Colored Pencil- Award of Distinction
- Colored Pencil- Award of Distinction

Jennifer Kirkhart-

- Wheel-thrown Ceramics- Award of Distinction

Sadie Roesner-

- Hand-built Ceramics- Award of Distinction

Brea Sweany-

- Wheel-thrown Ceramics- Gold
- Wheel-thrown Ceramics- Award of Distinction

Abbey Wilson-

- Jewelry- Award of Distinction

Trell Peterson-

- Fabric and Textile- Award of Distinction
- Jewelry- Award of Distinction

Meggan Meehleis-

- Graphic Arts- Gold
- Photography- Award of Distinction

Kirk Smith-

- Mixed Media- Award of Distinction
- Mixed Media- Award of Distinction

Sean Martinez-

- Wheel-thrown Ceramics- Award of Distinction
- Wheel-thrown Ceramics- Award of Distinction

Breanna Spaeny-

- Pen and Ink- Award of Distinction

Jordana Aguilar -

- Oil Painting- Award of Distinction

Tiffany Cleveland-

- Stained Glass- Gold

Taylor Peterson-

- Graphic Arts- Award of Distinction

✓ Swine Flu

Swine flu migrates to U.S., spreads through world

By **Amanda Keeler**
Copy Editor

When the first two cases of the H1N1 Swine Flu virus were discovered in Dickinson County, people around the state began to realize that they were in danger of catching the virus and that the Swine Flu was not just affecting Mexico.

In February 1976, one of the first cases of Swine Flu was discovered at Fort Dix. Private David Lewis died a mere 24 hours after telling his drill instructor that he felt tired and weak. Just two weeks later, health officials confirmed that the soldier had died from the Swine Flu virus. In the next few months, approximately 500 cases of Swine Flu were reported at Fort Dix.

In the past, the rare cases of the Swine Flu virus in humans were believed to have occurred in people who only had come into direct contact with pigs who had the flu virus. However, the current strain has been found in people who have never had contact with pigs. The new strain of the swine flu has changed in ways that now allow it to spread from person to person.

So far, young adults and older children

have been the primary victims of the Swine Flu in the United State. Recently, an elementary school child in Bennington was diagnosed with the illness.

Many of the symptoms of the Swine Flu are similar to those of the regular flu. Symptoms of the Swine Flu virus include fever, headaches, body aches, sore throat, cough, chills, fatigue, vomiting, and a runny nose.

While these symptoms may indicate a person is at risk for having the Swine Flu, they can also be caused by other health problems. CDC health officials recommend that people see a doctor if they have these symptoms or have been in an area where the H1N1 Swine Flu virus has been reported.

Swine Flu can be contracted just like the regular flu. People can get it through direct contact with an infected person, or by recently touching something that they have touched. The virus can spread germs through the air if people cough or sneeze without covering their mouth and nose.

To prevent catching the Swine Flu, the CDC recommends washing your hands with soap and water regularly, avoiding

touching your eyes, nose, or mouth, avoiding contact with sick people, and staying home if you feel ill.

While it can be a fatal illness, some of the myths circulating about the illness are a little less serious. One myth about the Swine Flu is that people should not eat pork, bacon, or other foods that come from pigs. However, that myth is false. The Swine Flu cannot be transferred from a dead animal to a person.

While it can't come from dead swine, Mexico has been the confirmed source of Swine Flu. "Patient zero" of this outbreak is Edgar Hernandez, a five year-old boy who lives in the Mexican town of La Gloria where about 450 of the 3,000 residents have contracted the virus.

Now, with approximately 20 confirmed cases in Kansas, the Swine Flu virus has become a threatening reality that many residents are afraid to face. The next few weeks and months will be critical in the world's recovery from the Swine Flu.

Sources: www.capitalcentury.com/1976.html and www.webmd.com

✓ Building Maintenance

'Hot and miserable' repairs part of ongoing project

By **RoiAnn Wellman**
Staff Reporter

Two weeks ago, things at SES got a little bit hotter, literally. For the week of April 27 to May 1, the central air conditioning was turned off for some maintenance— leaving some teachers and students asking why, and others still content and comfortable despite the heat.

"I don't think it was that big of a deal. I didn't really think it even got that hot," junior Kaleb Lawrence said.

Junior Taylor Haxton had a little bit different opinion.

"I hated having the air conditioning off. I though it was hot and miserable," Haxton said.

According to custodian John Kuhn, the system was being worked on simply to increase the efficiency of the cooling system. In order to do that, Kuhn, custodian Randy Beaumont, and the companies Tower Tec and Trane had to go through the cooling tower and clean it. New parts also needed to be installed in the tower.

This small portion of the bigger project only took four days to complete but cost \$42,000.

"This is actually a small portion of a larger project that will be completed by summer's end," Kuhn said.

The larger project that will be done over the summer consists of the following: new lighting building-wide, new control system for lighting and HVAC, the replacement of 27 heat pumps, the rebuilding of cooling towers, the upgrading of the well house, the installment of security cameras, and finally two new vestibules. A vestibule is a passage, hall, or antechamber between the outer door and the interior parts of a house or building.

"The total price of all projects is about \$1.4 million," Kuhn said.

✓ Graduation

Seniors prepare to say goodbye



Stephanie Frost, Cole Williams, Kolby Balthazor and Sadie Roesner wait for the food during the seniors' picnic on May 12. The seniors got out at noon. (Photo by Keva Jensen)

By **Keva Jensen**
Staff Writer/Cartoonist

May brings blooming flowers, brighter skies and final high school goodbyes. The class of '09 will be taking the final step of their 13-year walk this Sunday.

Graduation is on May 17 at 2:30 in the high school gymnasium. Mr. Terry Anderson, English and Drama teacher, will be the guest speaker.

Special honored students are those in the top 10 percent of their class and NHS members.

In addition to special guests, students, and speakers, there is also a special song and flower. "Wouldn't It Be Nice" by the Beach Boys, is the class song. The purple daisy is the class flower.

On May 12, the seniors held a BBQ to end their last day in the halls of SES. Trell Peterson's family donated all of the meat for the BBQ, but students contributed \$5 to attend.

"I pushed the shopping cart in Wal-mart in wedges (shoes) and it was overflowing with chips and pop. The cart was so heavy, it kept going all over the place. That was the hardest thing ever, but that was the most fun part of setting up the BBQ," Trell Peterson said.

√ Sports Opinion

What smart fans will do this summer

By Michael Bauer
Sports Writer

The school year is about to end and students are about to spend the next two-and-a-half months doing absolutely nothing. But if you are a true sports fan, you still have work to do. The following list is what smart fans are going to do over this summer. It includes activities from watching soccer, (Yes, soccer. You must love it in order to be a real sports lover) all the way to believing in the Kansas City Royals.

1. Watch the 2009 FIFA Confederations Cup

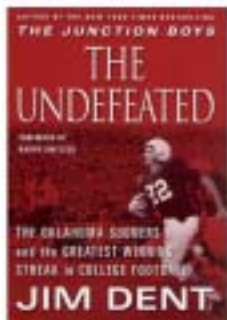
From June 14-28, eight teams will battle it out in the 2009 FIFA Confederations Cup in South Africa. The United States is in the same group as defending World Cup champions Italy, Egypt's ever so rising national team, and of course, the always-powerful Brazilians.

In other words, the Americans have a tough task if they are to make it out of the first round. Consider this tournament a warm-up for next summer's 2010 FIFA World Cup.



2. Read "The Undefeated."

Many of you probably didn't read "To Kill a Mockingbird," "The Hiding Place," or "The Water is Wide," but here's something that maybe you'll want to read over this summer. "The Undefeated" tells the true story of the Oklahoma Sooners and the greatest winning streak in college football. A record 47 straight games were won by the Sooners in a



four-year streak which lasted from 1953-1957. The book also goes behind the scenes, explaining the lives of the players and coaches of the Sooners over the four-year span.

3. Watch the 2009 UEFA Champions League Final.

Defending Champions League winners Manchester United will be playing against F.C.(Football Club) Barcelona in the 2009 Champions League final. The winner of this game will wear the honor of becoming the best team in Europe.

United has a golden opportunity to become the first team to win back-to-back Champions League finals since A.C. (Athletic Club) Milan in 1989 and 1990. Manchester defended off Arsenal 4-1 through aggregates in the semi-finals while Barcelona stole victory right from the palms of Chelsea F.C. with a little help from the referee. Look to see how Barcelona will stop United as they'll have to play without defenders Eric Abidal and Rafael Marquez due to a red card from Abidal and an injury for Marquez. The two contenders will take the field in Italy at Rome's Stadio Olimpico on May 27.



4. Root, root, root for the...Royals?

That's right. The Kansas City Royals, a team long regarded by experts as the lowest team in Major League Baseball, have so far reversed the fortunes of the past. The Royals are leading the American League Central Division with the succor of starting pitcher Zack Greinke. Even though the season just began a little over a month ago, there's plenty to be optimistic about concerning the Royals, thanks to their winning record.



√ Drafting Competition

Drafting students bring home hardware at first competition

By Jena Sauber
Editor in Chief

For the first time ever, twenty SES drafting students participated in the Western Kansas Technology Education Fair at Fort Hays University on May 1.

Participants captured 22 first place finishes and 14 grand champion awards among other honors at the competition. The results of the competition are as follows:

Freshman Award Winners

- Mark Roesner, Drafting- Blue Ribbon, Medallion and a Certificate
- Michael Swanson, Drafting- Blue Ribbon
- Brock Long, Open- Blue Ribbon
- Jayson Gagna, Drafting- Blue Ribbon
- Brittany Beneke, Open- Blue and Red Ribbon
- Cory Craver, Drafting- Blue Ribbon

Sophomore Award Winners

- Jason Hahn, Drafting- Blue Ribbon, Medallion and a Certificate
- Austin Mortimer, Drafting and Arts and Crafts- 2 Blue Ribbons, 2 Medallions, Certificate
- Eric Hederstedt, Drafting- 2 Blue Ribbons, Medallion
- Willie Muehlburg, Drafting- Blue Ribbon
- Austin Miller, Drafting - Red Ribbon

Junior Award Winners

- Spencer Baird, Drafting- Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Cole Henry, Drafting- Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Josh Jensen, Drafting- Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Joey Ramsey, Drafting- Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Bryant Beneke, Drafting- Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Jamie Hitchcock, Drafting - Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Kirk Nelson, Multi-Pupil- Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Zach Short, Multi-Pupil- Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Tyler Herrington, Multi-Pupil - Blue Ribbon, Medallion
- Joel Prater, Drafting - Blue Ribbon

SES also placed third in the Live Communications Contest. In the competition, medallions were awarded to the grand champion winner in each division and grade level, blue ribbons were awarded to the first place finisher in each division and grade level, red ribbons were awarded to the second place finisher in each division and grade level, and certificates were awarded to the "Best Project" of the competition in each division and grade level.

The class, taught by Mr. Eric Deneault, also received the Outstanding Technology Program of the Year award. It is the highest honor of the competition.

"Overall, it was a very successful day for those who competed," Deneault said. "This being our first year competing with projects, the students have set the bar very high for future competitors to come."

Track Feature

Junior returns to track after shoulder injury

By Max McClure
Sports Editor

In track, hurdling has its leaps and bounds... and sprained shoulders.

While junior Ryan McMichael recently won the hurdles at the Minneapolis meet, his path to success hasn't been easy, nor is he finished. As a developing hurdler during practice his freshman year, McMichael tumbled over a hurdle, spraining his shoulder and ending his season.

"I got up and tried again but when I was doing my form I couldn't really do it right because I could barely move my arm," McMichael said.

However, McMichael said it has been smooth sailing from then.

"I haven't fallen since," McMichael said.

McMichael said he has also been glad not to have any other injuries this year.

"If you hit your trail leg on the hurdle you can get some pretty good bruises but nothing too serious," he said.

According to McMichael, he takes hurdling seriously, but he doesn't get nervous.

"I used to (get nervous), but not anymore. I got used to it and I get out and go," he said.

The "get out and go" is a major part of the race, he explained.

"The hardest part is keeping your endurance and speed the same while you are going over the hurdle. You have to keep driving through each hurdle. You have to have complete focus on each hurdle," he said.

In addition to focus, McMichael says there are other important aspects to the hurdles.

"It takes practice, a good attitude, and a lot of strength and power," he said.

The height of the hurdle is also a challenge. The men's hurdles are 39" for the 110 meter hurdles and 36" for the 300 hurdles, while the women's hurdles are 36" in the 110 meter hurdles and 30" in the 300 hurdles.

Baseball Feature

Athlete bounces back from dislocated wrist to track, baseball

By Garrett Sager
Sports Writer

Junior Shane Schoenhofer loves baseball, but he was forced to miss the opening portion of the season due to a failed slam dunk attempt.

"I jumped off a guy's back in Wilson to dunk a basketball," Schoenhofer said. "After I dunked it, my landing wasn't a ten."

Due to the not-so-perfect landing, Schoenhofer dislocated his wrist. He was forced to be out of the baseball season for six games. To stay in shape until the doctor gave him the thumbs up, Schoenhofer worked out with the track team.

"I had an awesome time in track. I loved the workouts," Schoenhofer said.

To get back to his baseball form, Schoenhofer says he had to work really hard and go through Physical Therapy.

"Physical therapy really got me even more ready for baseball," Schoenhofer said.

Schoenhofer plays mostly three positions now for the Trojan baseball team – first base, pitcher, and catcher – but since he's been back he has mostly played JV.

"I've played second base for JV more since I have returned," Schoenhofer said.

Schoenhofer hasn't experienced pain since being back, but since the accident in Wilson, he hasn't been able to lift with his right arm.

"I probably clear each hurdle by less than an inch," he said.

The race can be rough physically taxing, but McMichael says he still enjoys racing.

"I enjoy the races and the challenge of the races," McMichael said.



Junior Ryan McMichael clears a hurdle at a home track meet. McMichael injured his shoulder during track his freshman year but is now back in action. (Photo by Kayla Katzenmeier)

"My wrist has been fine, but my right arm is pretty weak since I haven't been able to lift with it," said Schoenhofer.

Schoenhofer says another dunking stunt will probably not occur in the near future, but he thinks that he can come up with something even

better.

"I'm sure I can think of something even better to attempt," Schoenhofer said, "but let's hope it goes better this time."



Junior Shane Schoenhofer pitches the ball during a game versus Minneapolis. Schoenhofer started "getting in shape" with track earlier this season after he dislocated his wrist. After track, Schoenhofer switched to baseball. (Photo by Amanda Keeler)

✓ Track

Track takes first, second at Ellinwood, prepares for League

By Garrett Sager
Sports Writer

With the Trojans taking the trip to Beloit today for their league meet, they go in on positive performances a week ago at Ellinwood. The girls rode the wind to an easy victory while the boys came up just short taking second.

Sophomore Heather Hardesty started things off for the lady Trojans track team, taking third in the long jump with a jump of 15'1".

The 4x800 then took the track, and breezed through, winning by over 23 seconds (11:07.72). The 100m dash saw the presence of three Trojans in the top six.

In the 100m dash, they were led by senior Stephanie Frost, who ran 12.57, which earned her second overall. Senior teammate Sadie Roesner was right behind her with a 12.86 placing third and Hardesty fell into the sixth position (12.98).

Just like the 100m dash, the Trojans made a splash in the 1600m run, nabbing first, second and fifth in that event. Freshman Brooke Wells won her first meet on the year, running 6:03.03. Sophomore Tiffany Cleve-

land ran a 6:11.04 mile which got her the second spot and following her was another sophomore, Sierra Yianakopoulous (6.27.54).

Turning the tide to now a much shorter race, the 200m, three more Trojans placed in the top six. Roesner was the first Trojan in at second (26.66), Frost was after her at third (26.85), and Hardesty got sixth (28.39).

There was yet another event, the 3200m run, which saw three Trojans place. Cleveland led the charge with a second place finish (13:32.35), sophomore Marissa McClure got fifth (14:14.91), and sophomore Kendra Lawson got sixth (14.16.02). The Trojans 4x100 and 4x400 relays both found success too. The 4x100 team won the meet, while the 4x400 ran to a second place finish.

Junior Bryant Beneke began the Trojans' charge towards a second place overall finish by tying for first place with a jump of 6' even.

A newly-reordered 4x800 looked to make four straight meets, and for the fourth straight meet, the team came in third with the best time on the year, 9:14.57.

Senior Max McClure used a surge of

speed towards the end to reel in a first place finish in the 1600m run (4:46.24). McClure also won the 3200m run (10.34.77). Junior teammate Garrett Sager joined him in the top six, running a personal best, 10.58.58.

Senior Cole Williams placed in two events and was a part of two relays. Williams got second in the 400m (54.00) and fourth in the 200m (23.90). For his relays, the 4x100 got third and the 4x400 got fourth.

The 110m hurdles featured the McMichael brothers each placing in the top six. Older brother Ryan got second (16.21) and the younger McMichael, Josh, placed sixth (17.66). The older McMichael also placed third in the 300m hurdles (43.16).

The humorous part of the meet came when the Trojans threw together a weightmans relay. Starting off with sophomore Alex Weller, who handed off to freshman William Fiest, who ran to pass the baton off to junior Shane Schoenhofer, who gave it to the last leg, junior Josh Puetz. The team earned third place with a time of 54.13.

✓ Baseball

Trojans split with county rivals, prepare for Regionals

By Ryan Haxton
Staff Reporter

The SES Trojans baseball team went head to head with their rivals from Beloit on April 24, splitting with the opposing Trojans.

The first game was dominated by the SES Trojans winning in a score of 16-6. The second game of the double header was a slightly different story; the Beloit Trojans took the game in a close score of 15-16.

The Trojans played their senior recognition game against Minneapolis on April 28. The Trojans won both games in a score of 12-2 in the first game, and then 8-0 in the second game.

Next, on May 1 the Trojans weren't so lucky. They were defeated in both games by the Concordia Panthers. The Panthers won the first game 1-7 and in the nightcap, the Trojans came close to the Panthers in a close defeat of 2-3.

Despite the shutout of the Trojans by Concordia, the Trojans went to Ellsworth and rolled over the Bearcats. In the first game, the Trojans came out strong and defeated Ellsworth 11-7 then beat them 13-2 in the final game of the double header on May 5.

For the Trojans' game against the Russell Broncos in Russell on May 7, the Trojans split with Broncos, losing the

first game 6-11. The Trojans then came out strong and beat the Broncos, 10-6.

The Trojans traveled to Ellis to play the Railers last night on May 14. Results were too late for publication.



Jordan Huggans slides into home base during a home game against Abilene in late April. At the time of publication, the Trojans were 6-12. (Photo by Amanda Keeler)

✓ Golf

Seniors lead “rising” underclassmen

By Michael Bauer
Sports Writer

Last week's Southeast SES Invitational golf tournament was one to remember for a few of the seniors, and not only because it was senior recognition day either.

Senior Joel Prater led the team in scoring with an 86 and was followed by senior Nick Ostmeyer who shot a 95.

“We’ve had some pretty good success, especially by our seniors. Kylie Losey won the girls’ division at Hesston, and Joel (Prater) is starting to play better. Kirk Nelson and Nick Ostmeyer started out good. They’ve played both well and poorly, but they’ve been fighting with it. Some of the younger players have been coming along for us as well,” Coach Bill Gies said.

In showing that “some of the younger players have been coming along,” freshmen John Balthazar and Cole Brightbill were both third on the team’s scorecard as both golfers shot a 98.

“We have a good chance to place in the top three. Joel has to play well. If Joel needs to shoot an 85, John Balthazar can shoot a 94, and we have two other kids that can shoot in the low 90’s,” Geis said.

In the team’s most recent match at Marion, a young squad represented the Trojans as the team competed without their seniors.

Balthazar led the scoring by shooting a 90, while freshmen Hayden Sanders and Jayson Gagna came in next, both shooting 100 and 104 respectively. The team finished in ninth place.

Yesterday, the golf team competed at the NCAA League golf tournament. Gies believes his team can finish near the top out of the majority of the other teams.

“We have a good chance to place in the top three, (but) Joel (Prater) has to play well.

✓ Softball

Lady Trojans optimistic about Regionals

By Kendra Lawson
Student Information Rep.

With the Regional competition approaching, the Lady Trojans’ softball team is entering on a positive note.

On May 5, the team swept Ellsworth in the varsity game, 17-0, 11-3. The Trojans then went to Russell on May 7, where the junior varsity dominated and varsity won 9-8, 11-3.

With a fairly young team this year, the underclassmen were able to play a large part in the varsity win. During the Russell game, Kristin Conley had the opportunity to play first base.

“While in Ellsworth, underclassmen got the chance to experience playing a varsity game,” senior Kaley Rodriguez said.

Looking ahead, Coach Peshia Ptacek has high hopes for the Lady Trojans for

Joel needs to shoot an 85, John (Balthazar) can shoot a 94 and we have two other kids that can shoot in the low 90s,” Gies said.

Results were too late for publication.

On Monday, the team will compete at Regionals.

Individually, Prater does have an opportunity to qualify for state, Gies said.

“I think Joel has a chance, but he just needs to go out and have fun, not make it such a big deal. There are three good teams that will be there. Wichita Colligate can shoot a 308. They’re really good. And a couple of other good teams will be there too, but Joel’s got a good shot,” Gies said.



Senior Joel Prater golfs at a golf meet earlier in the season. “I think Joel had a chance (to qualify for State),” Coach Bill Geis said. (Photo by Tiffany Patrick)

Regional competition. The first round of Regionals will be against Herrington at Herrington.

“I really hope to win and make it to State,” Ptacek said.

According to Ptacek, team work has been, and will continue to be, a key element for the Lady Trojans.

“In order to be successful at Regionals, the girls have to work together,” Ptacek said. “Every member of the Lady Trojans had an important role, and they all contribute in some way.”

Rodriguez said she feels With each player contributing, the team has a chance at the State competition.

“We have a chance to go back to State. We have a strong defense and when we get our bats going, we are a good well rounded team,” Rodriguez said.

Sports Box

By Michael Bauer
Sports Writer

Baseball

Apr. 21 @ Chapman 10-11, 6-8
Apr. 24 Beloit 18-8, 13-15
Apr. 28 Minneapolis (Sr. Rec.) 10-5, 15-0

May 1 @ Concordia 4-0, 1-5
May 5 @ Ellsworth 11-7, 13-2
May 7 @ Russell 4-11, 10-6
May 14 @ Ellis

Upcoming Games:

May 18-21 Regionals

Record: 6-12

Softball

Apr. 9 @ Rock Creek 0-7, 0-2
Apr. 14 Sacred Heart 2-3, 4-8
Apr. 23 Abilene 0-5, 3-4
Apr. 24 Beloit 3-5, 4-5

Apr. 28 Minneapolis 10-2, 13-4
May 1 @ Concordia 4-0, 1-5
May 5 @ Ellsworth 17-0, 11-3
May 7 @ Russell 9-8, 13-1

May 14 Chapman (Sr. Rec.)

Upcoming Games:

May 18-21 Regionals

Record: 7-9

Track

Boys

Apr. 24 @ Halstead 5th
Apr. 28 @ Hoisington 2nd
May 1 @ Beloit 6th
May 5 @ Minneapolis 2nd
May 8 @ Ellinwood 2nd

Upcoming Meets:

May 15 League @ Beloit

May 22 Regionals @ Marion

Girls

Apr. 24 @ Halstead 7th
Apr. 28 @ Hoisington 1st
May 1 @ Beloit 9th
May 5 @ Minneapolis 1st
May 8 @ Ellinwood 1st

Upcoming Meets:

May 15 League @ Beloit

May 22 Regionals @ Marion

Golf

Apr. 14 @ Minneapolis

Team Score: 307

Apr. 21 @ Republic County

Two man: 195 5th, Four man: 421

10th, Six man: 616 6th

Apr. 28 @ Bennington

Team Score: 394

Apr. 30 @ Hesston

Team Score: 409

May 5 @ Marion

Team Score: 399

May 14 SES Inv. (Sr. Rec.)

Upcoming Meets:

May 18 Regionals

Mr. Cooper Retiring

Mr. Cooper says goodbye after 30 years of service

By **Krisanna Graham**
Managing Editor

It has taken 30 years, but Mr. Rex Cooper is finally “graduating” from Southeast of Saline. As he leaves the halls, students may recall memories involving Cooper’s and Mr. Todd Baird’s random opening of the wall to share jokes, their “We Care” speech, and Cooper’s placing students under the Enola Gay for years to come.

Aside from teaching, Cooper has also been very actively involved during his years at SES, including being the senior class sponsor, junior high and high school wrestling coach, and athletic director.

The following is an interview with Cooper recapping his introduction to teaching, his 30 years at SES, and plans after retirement.

When did you begin teaching?

I began teaching in 1973 at Smith Center.

Why did you become a teacher?

I majored in history. I loved the subject matter and loved being around people. One fit in with the other and it seemed right.

How long have you been teaching at SES, and why did you come here?

30 years. Smith Center was a ways away from anywhere. Believe it or not, Salina is rather fascinating. I knew people that were here and the school had an excellent reputation from the beginning.

How was the schedule different then than it is now?

The schedule was a six or seven hour day. Each class was 50 minutes. I can’t remember if there was seminar. If there was, it was after third hour for about 30 minutes. It was dramatically different.

How are the students different?

Today’s students are into immediate gratification. What you see, you want to get it done right now.

What are the most significant changes that you have seen since coming here?

Block scheduling has changed a lot. However, that is the nice thing about this school. It is very stable. What is going on now has often gone on before. In terms of technology, computers are undoubtedly the most significant. Before, there were no computers. You had to write and use typewriters. But basically, this is the same place as it was then.

What are your most amusing memories?

In general, the most amusing are some fun things between the teachers. We are known to play pranks. Also, once a student set up a popcorn machine outside of my classroom and sold tickets into my room.

With the economy, did you have any hesitation to continue your retirement plans?

No. I had made up my mind and knew basically what I had. The teacher retirement is not based on 401 K.

Why are you retiring?

I decided that I am at the age and am

healthy. I am eligible in regards to Social Security and the Kansas Retirement Program. I want to do it while I am healthy and am able to do something different.

Is your wife retiring at the same time?

No, she is going to work a few more years. I married a young girl who can continue to work. This is one reason why I can retire.

What will you do in your retirement?

I honestly don’t know. This is the first time I have had a change in life with no plans of what to do next. I might golf, fish a little, and honey do’s.

What will you miss the most about SES?

The people. The friends. Camaraderie. I don’t expect to disappear. I have come to this place every day for 30 years and enjoyed it every time.



Mr. Todd Baird reads a list of the Top 10 reasons that the students and staff will miss Mr. Rex Cooper when he retires at the end of this year. Mr. Cooper was presented with a plaque at the Awards Night ceremony in May, commemorating his 30 years of service to the school. (Photo by Mrs. Janet Sauber)

What Happens Next?

Budget crisis cuts positions

By **Patrick Eslick**
Layout Editor

Mr. Rex Cooper has been teaching at Southeast for 30 years, and he has become irreplaceable, literally. A new budget proposal by the Kansas State Legislature would make it practically impossible financially to fill his vacated position.

“It all hinges on the legislature,” Superintendent Justin Henry said. “We could lose a quarter of a million dollars out of the 2010 budget.”

With no simple replacement for Mr. Cooper’s position, Mrs. Judy White and Principal Monte Couchman have been working on next year’s schedule, trying to find enough teachers without hiring a full-time replacement.

“Trying to rearrange the schedule is very challenging,” Couchman said.

School administrators are considering a number of options. Although nothing is certain yet, the final solution will probably

include dividing Mr. Cooper’s classes among history teacher Mr. Todd Baird, Librarian Mr. Kendall Lynn and Mr. Ky Swisher.

“Each teacher is responsible for six classes,” Mr. Couchman said. “The problem is finding a way to provide for each vacated class.”

Administrators are also considering the creation of a part-time position—a teacher that would teach only one or two classes a day. They’re also considering a virtual option, but according to Dr. Henry, research is required, although only preliminary research has been conducted.

“There are virtual options,” Dr. Henry said. “We really need to do some in depth research into those.”

If nothing else, Dr. Henry says this predicament serves to demonstrate problems that arise from budget cuts and economic issues.

“This really shows how budget cuts can make it hard for schools,” he said.