

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>*



# Quick fix now won't solve ongoing problem

By Jena Sauber

Need to find graphic images during seminar for a school project? Good luck. Want some butter on your roll at lunch? Think again. Want to get help at a weekly study group during seminar? Only if you never go anywhere else.



Increasingly, everyday choices are being taken away from students, mostly by adults who feel that our generation isn't making the correct ones. Blocking internet sites keeps students from inappropriate sites. Removing butter and salt from lunch can slightly decrease our sodium and fat intake. Limiting our seminar travel can force us to avoid seeking help. However, if all these, and more, aspects are controlled for us five days a week, eight hours a day, how will we learn to make our own choices when there is no longer anyone there to do that for us?

Poor decision making skills are a problem that older generations see with the younger generation. However, taking the decision making out of the equation does not improve decision making skills. It only serves to make us more resentful and less content following authority.

We learn by doing- by trial and error. If we burn our hand touching a hot stove, we learn not to do it again. If we feel the natural consequences of bad choices, over time, we can learn to make good decisions. However, if these decisions are taken away, we won't be ready once we graduate and start life on our own.

The purpose of education is to give us the tools we need to be successful in life, but taking decisions away from us is not a way to help us become more successful adults. We know that many of the rules that we must follow are strictly for our own safety and health, but our parents, teachers, administrators and state lawmakers can't protect us from every-

thing forever.

In high school, we are still relatively safe; most of us still live at home and have many people who are there to help when we fail. Taking away our choices may prevent failure, but it won't encourage success.



Cartoon by Keva Schlepp

## 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.

Front page picture: Sophomore Austin Miller, junior Brant Weaver, junior Josh Puetz, senior Tyler Herrington, freshman Enoch Collins, freshman Hayden Sanders, team assistants, and David Hoelting watch from the sidelines during the soap scrimmage on August 29. (Photo by Krisanna Graham)

## The Real Deal

Students weigh in on current student issues.

***"If you could change one SES policy, what would it be and why?"***

*"Seminar. If you don't have anything to do, you shouldn't have to go."* - Abbey Wilson, sr.

*"We should be able to text in class,"* -Joathan Rodriguez, jr.

*"You shouldn't have a limited number of seminar passes. For example, if you need help in math everyday, you should be able to go,"* - LaCrista Brightbill, jr.

*"Have seminar announcements. Teachers during 5<sup>th</sup>/6<sup>th</sup> block usually forget to show the daily news, and then nobody knows if there are events after school or meetings during seminar,"* - Joey Platt, soph.

*"School days should start later in the day and end at like 4:00,"* - Addison Houchin, soph.

*"Lunch should be open. We should be allowed to go to Salina to eat,"* - Zach Blomquist, fr.

# What's Hot and What's Not

Are these summer releases worth your money?

By Patrick Eslick

## Consolers of the Lonely – The Raconteurs

When the Raconteurs released their first album *Broken Boy Soldiers*, I frequently referred to them as Jack White's "other band." However, with this most recent release, their music has become an entity of its own. And what an entity it is. The music on this album is unbelievably varied. It thrashes you around with the very up-tempo and very rock ("Salute Your Solution"), minutes later produces a slow, steady bluesy piano ballad ("You Don't Understand Me") and even includes a song that sounds like it could be the theme from an old western movie ("The Switch and the Spur"). Overall, the album is fantastic. Jack White blares fiery guitar solos that will sound familiar to fans of the White Stripes and the bass lines of Jack Lawrence sound like melodic chainsaws (which is a good thing in this instance). Highly recommended. ★★★★★



The Raconteurs:  
'Consolers of th  
Lonely'

## Beck: Mongolian Chop Squad

Before I talk in depth about this six DVD set, I probably should warn you that it is anime. Many people will be turned off for this reason alone, but I urge anyone who is a fan of music, or just a fan of great stories to give this a chance. It is hard to summarize the plot of such an epic story (In total, it lasts over nine and a half hours) but the story centers around Yukio Tanaka, a generally dull, bored and useless high school student. His life is changed when he meets an ugly dog and its owner Ryuuske. He quickly becomes interested in music and joins Ryuuske's band. Needless to say, he meets many other interesting characters along the way- including a love interest. The plot is interesting, but honestly not spectacular. Where *Beck* shines is in the character development and the music. I find it extraordinarily easy to relate to each of the characters. The music also is amazing. If the bands in *Beck* were real, I'm sure I would be a fan. I recommend these DVDs to anyone; however, with a price tag of just under \$63, it may not be for everyone. ★★★★★☆



Beck:  
Mongolian  
Chop Squad

# Columnists weigh in on goals for school year

By Amanda Keeler and Krisanna Graham

With the school year underway, some students may have set some goals for their upcoming academic year, while others haven't thought past lunchtime. For those of you who are still in the goal-setting process, here are some simple goals to help get your year started off the right way.



**Goal #1: Pass your classes.** That should be enough said for that particular goal, but in case it isn't, you should set a goal to excel in school. Acquiring a decent GPA may help you to get a little farther in your future...like to college, some other educational facility, or a job if that's the way you choose to go!

**Goal #2: Don't forget that passing your classes requires studying and doing your homework without procrastinating!!!** While many times it seems as though some teachers forget that we have seven other classes worth of projects, tests and homework, we don't think that all of our homework is going to suddenly go away anytime soon. We might as well complete our homework now, while we still have time.

**Goal #3: You are still a kid.** With all of the studying during school (a total of 35 hours and 25 minutes every week, not including homework time), you cannot forget that you are still a kid. There are some lessons you just can't learn in school. We're not telling you to skip school tomorrow or have a crazy, wild weekend, but you should have other activities to fill your life with. Whether that be sports, friends, music, community service or other things, help yourself continue to be a teenager.

**Goal #4: Don't lose your lunch card.** We all know who those bad kids are that stand off to the side of the lunch line to wait until they can finally go and sit down to eat their lunch. Well, this year, we (including both of us) should all try to improve our lunch-card-remembering skills so that we can eat our lunch while it is still hot. Oh yes, and when you accidentally dump your lunch card in the trash (Don't tell us you haven't done it before.), try to get it out before it is never to be found again under the piles of half eaten hamburgers, ketchup and whatever else may end up in that trash bin.

**Goal #5: Learn something new (and retain the information for longer than a week).** I know sometimes it may be hard to do, but in the future, learning something new may prove beneficial. What about when you are interviewing for that new job as a big time corporate executive and you use words like "ubiquitous" and "supplication." You might have just impressed a person with your amazing use of vocabulary words!

These are just a few simple goals that can be easily achieved (except maybe the lunch card goal) and that can help you to improve your 2008-2009 school year experience.

# New teachers, staff join SES family

After seeing many teachers retire at the end of last year, SES welcomed five new secondary staff members to the school.

## Mrs. Diane Reece, Library Aid

By Max McClure

After 16 years away from her job as a school librarian, Mrs. Diane Reece is back in school — serving as SES library aide.



Previously, she's worked as a school librarian aide at Fort Hays and more recently at her church.

"I worked at the library in Hays for five years so that is where I learned how to do what I do," Reece said.

She also worked at the Evangelical Covenant Church in Lindsborg.

"I was the librarian there for 12 years," Reece said.

Reece says she naturally fits in the library because she enjoys reading and people.

"I enjoy it very much," Reece said. "I think I have librarian in my blood."

Reece also likes to spend of her free time with books.

"My hobbies are reading, art projects and hanging out with my family," Reece said.

Reece's duties at Southeast are monitoring the computers, checking books in and out, processing new books and magazines, doing purchase orders and budget tracking.

## Mr. Brad Settle, Spanish

By Kendra Lawson

¡Hola everyone! Meet Mr. Brad Settle, he is here to spice up SES with Spanish.

Before joining the SES staff, Settle was a loan officer at a bank. He worked at Sunflower Bank in Salina and since some customers spoke Spanish that came into the bank, he had to use his Spanish skills to understand them.



Although he didn't have any teaching experience before taking the job at SES, he did have about 30 years of Spanish speaking experience. His wife, whom he has known for 15 year, is from Mexico and has been speaking Spanish all her life.

However, the Spanish-English language sharing goes both ways in the family. He teaches his wife English and she helps him with Spanish.

"My wife would tell you she doesn't speak English," Settle said. "I would say she is a very advanced student of English."

In order to learn more about teaching, Settle is participating in a program through Fort Hays called "Transition To Teaching." Southeast, Fort Hays and other supporting corporations offer this program to first-time teachers.

"I think I have many things to work on," Settle said. "I hope to spend my career looking for new ways to improve my teaching skills."

Although he thinks he has many things to work on as a teacher, Settle says that his job is enjoyable.

"I love this school and getting to know the students," Settle said. "SES has made my first year of teaching easier on me."

## Mr. Ky Swisher, Social Studies and Current Events

By Kendra Lawson

Meet Mr. Ky Swisher, the new high school current events and junior high social studies teacher.

As a new faculty member, Swisher finds SES enjoyable to work at.



"The administration and staff (at SES) have been great to work with and I've really enjoyed getting to know the students," Swisher said.

This is Swisher's third year of teaching. Before he came to SES,

Swisher worked as a teacher at Ellinwood High School. His passion for teaching comes from when he was a student himself.

"I decided to become a teacher because I had a lot of positive role models, my teachers," Swisher said. "My teachers made a difference in my life, and I hope I can do the same for someone else."

He said he chose to become a current events and social studies teacher because he is a self-proclaimed "news junkie."

"I enjoy keeping up with what's going on in the world," Swisher said.

Swisher also chose current events and social studies because of the experiences he has encountered. He has traveled all over the United States, including Washington, D.C. and Gettysburg, Pa. While in Washington, Swisher interned for a summer. He has also been to Mexico and Europe.

"In Washington, I interned at a political consulting firm," Swisher said.

In addition to teaching, Swisher has also taken on duties on the SES athletic field. He will be coaching three different sports at SES—football, basketball and track.

"I assist Coach Haxton in football this year and I love it because I like sports in general." Swisher said.

## Mr. Chance Ptacek, Math

By Marissa McClure

After eight years away, Assaria native Chance Ptacek has returned home.

Ptacek, who spent four years in college after graduating from SES in 1999 and four more as a Salina South math teacher returned this year to teach math at Southeast of Saline.



"The teachers and the administrators have changed, but the family-like feel has stayed the

same," he said.

Another part of the reason Ptacek feels so much at home is that his wife Peshia is also part of the faculty.

Ptacek says that working with his wife comes with a new set of challenges but it is mostly easy.

"(It's pretty easy except for) the fact that she almost makes us late to school every morning..." Ptacek joked.

Jokes aside, Ptacek said that he enjoys having more time with his family.

"I like hanging out with my daughter Brielle," Ptacek said.

In addition to family time and teaching, Ptacek also is very active in sports and was also active as a college athlete.

Although he started college at K-State, he graduated from Bethany, where he played short-stop on the baseball team. His team won our regionals and placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at state.

Currently, he coaches junior high football and basketball at SES, and in his free time, he also plays basketball, football, baseball and golf.

Just as Ptacek's athletic interests are varied, so are his academic interests. He said that before choosing to teach math he considered accounting and engineering.

"I chose to teach math so I could combine athletics and kids with teaching," Ptacek said.

Ptacek said that combination helps him relate to students.

"I want to make kids feel as comfortable as they can while still learning something," he said.

## Mrs. Amanda Denault, District Secretary

By Marissa McClure

Amanda Deneault, a Norton girl, 2007 Fort Hays graduate and current secretary for Superintendent Justin Henry, and the Secretary (See "Teachers" on Page 5)



# Junior gets chance to reign in the rain at county fair

By Krisanna Graham

As the first and second runner-ups' names were called, junior Jena Sauber's name wasn't read. At that point, Sauber didn't know what to think. Had she won or had she not gotten any title? However, she didn't have a reason to worry. On Aug. 6, Sauber's name was called and she was crowned 2008 Tri-Rivers Fair Queen.

The win came as a surprise to Sauber, mostly because it was her first time running.

"The more times you run, the more you know what to expect and how to conduct yourself, so you are more likely to win," Sauber said.

Another factor that added to her surprise was her age. Saline county 4-H'ers must be at least 14 by January 1 (called 4-H age) of that year to run. Sauber's 4-H age is 15.

"Older candidates are more likely to get it because they have had more experience and are more mature, usually," Sauber said.

After being crowned, Sauber took on many queenly duties. Immediately after the crowning ceremony, Sauber and the Tri-Rivers Fair King, Stetson Schmutz, were interviewed by KSAL and had their official picture taken. They were then pulled aside for a de-briefing.

"Before we could even realize that we'd won, we were handed a sheet of paper full of things we had to do in the next couple of days," Sauber said.

The list included attending the Beef, Lamb, Meat Goat, Swine, Rabbit and Horse Shows during the Tri-Rivers fair.

"Even though I've been to eight years worth of county fairs, it was only the second time I'd been in Ag. Hall and the barns," Sauber said.

At the shows, she had to hand out ribbons

and help the judges and announcers.

"It was a little intimidating to be in the show ring with so many animals," Sauber said. "The king runner-up who was there is just as much of a city person as I am. Neither of us knew what we were doing."

New experiences didn't stop in the show ring, either. In the evenings, Sauber was required to attend the demolition derbies, rodeos and draft horse shows. Sauber, and the rest of the royalty court, got in free to all the events, and even got seats close to the action.

"It was so muddy. We had to climb over, around and on cattle gates to get to the catwalk where we stood for each event," Sauber said. "It wasn't very graceful."

As Queen, Sauber also went to the Draft Horse shows on the Saturday and Sunday of the fair. She got to be in the arena and give the ribbons to the professional exhibitors who were showing two to six horse hitchers.

"It was kind of scary to be standing so close to a seven ton moving weight," Sauber said. "But I trusted that they knew what they were doing since they do it professionally."

While going to all of these events, Sauber also had to manage getting her 16 4-H projects judged. She had to be in the barns from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. every day and at the 4-H building sometimes as early as 6:30 a.m. Being at all the shows made it difficult to get her own exhibit judging done.

"It was kind of stressful to remember where I was supposed to be as Fair Queen, when I was supposed to get my own things judged and when I was supposed to be an Ambassador (another county

leadership position she had during the fair)," Sauber said.

However, she contributes getting through the fair to her club leaders and mom.

"They kept me on track and made sure that I was where I was supposed to be when I was supposed to be there," Sauber said.

Even with the hectic schedule, Sauber said her experience was worth it.

"It was a lot of fun," Sauber said. "Except for that it rained every day- things got canceled and the barns and rodeo arena were a slippery mess all the time!"



Fair Queen Jena Sauber and 2nd Runner-up King Curtis Pihl help sell items during the livestock auction during the county fair. It was one of their many duties during the fair. (Photo by Janet Sauber)

## • Teachers join staff, adjust to SES

(Continued from page 4)

for the board of Education, is well acquainted with change.

Deneault has changed her career aspirations, her marital status, her profession, and even her appearance in the past year.

With a criminal justice degree and a minor in sociology, Deneault planned to be a probation officer, but when she married Eric Deneault, SES drafting teacher, and the executive secretarial position opened after Nancy Persinger's retirement, she knew she was destined for a job change.

One change has led to another. For example, Deneault wore an eyebrow stud in her late high school and college days, but has traded her piercing for professional attire. At her previous job she worked at the city county building, where she worked with traffic fines. At her previous job, she had to dress up every day.

"I really appreciate dress down Fridays here," she said, but she didn't indicate she'd be adding the eyebrow piercing back to her accessories any time soon.

Deneault says the hardest part of her job is multitasking.

"I have so many things to do in one day...It's just the little thing, but it is just so many things I have to do every day," Deneault said.

Though multitasking is hard, so is not being able to tell her husband everything. Amanda Deneault is married to Mr. Eric Deneault. They were married Aug. 11 in 2007.

"It (marriage) just became a year August 11," Deneault said.

Because of her position as secretary for the Board of Education, she knows things that she just can't tell Mr. Deneault everything she hears. But Mrs. Deneault is a person who likes to keep work separate from her home. When asked about her future at SES Deneault said she would like to stay for a long time.

"I hope to be here as long as Nancy (Persinger) was if not longer."

## BB/BS gets year rolling with kick-off pizza party



"Bigs" sophomore Courtney Sager, junior Bryant Beneke and junior Matt Mortimer play the ice-breaker game with "Littles" during the Big Brothers/Big Sisters pizza party on Sept. 3. The party helped kick off the year and get everyone acquainted with the program and other members. (By Jena Sauber)

# Kober adds America to list of worldly travels

By Keva Schlepp

German foreign exchange student Lucie Kober's home city of Berlin, Germany boasts about a million more people than the whole state of Kansas, but she welcomes the change from her home in the city to her new home on the plains of Kansas.

One major area of change for Kober is school.

"(SES is) way different from Germany's school, but it's cool," Kober said.

In Germany, Lucie attended school about 10 km away from her house. To get there, she walked to the subway, and then rode the subway until she got off at a bus stop. From there, she rode that bus to her school.



Junior Lucie Kober's (center) experiences in America included attending a Styx concert in Sept. for her 17th birthday. Sophomore Sara Hettenbach, junior LaCrista Brightbill, junior Chelsey Kohman and freshman Cheney Kohman joined her. (Photo courtesy of Lucie Kober)

"The school day lasted eight hours," Kober said. "There was school on Saturdays."

Although the length of the school week is a change for Kober, the language spoken while at school isn't much of a change.

"My school in Germany is bilingual, so I'm used to English," Kober said. "Just the stuff in physics (here at SES) is hard language."

At SES, Kober said that her favorite class is chemistry.

"Chemistry is pretty interesting," Kober said.

While here in the U.S., Kober is staying with SES freshman Cheney and junior Chelsey Kohman and their parents, Randy and Deb Moravec.

"We all think she's wonderful. She is great," Deb Moravec said. "We can't say enough good things about her!"

America isn't the first foreign country Kober has visited, however.

"I have also visited Italy, Thailand, Cambodia, Morocco, Egypt, Spain and many other countries," Kober said. "Mainly while vacationing."

Kober chose America for her extended stay for several reasons.

"I think America is (a) beautiful country," Kober said. "I also came for the culture."

Part of culture is food, and Kober says she enjoys "American" food.

"I REALLY love the food!" Kober said. "In Germany, we don't eat as much fried stuff."

In all, Kober had just two words to describe her experience in America.

"It's amazing!" she said.

## Music department looks to bring classic to SES stage

By Elizabeth Reece

*South Pacific*, a musical by Richard Rodgers, Oscar Hammerstein II, and Joshua Logan, has been announced as the SES musical. It is based on James A. Michener's Pulitzer Prize winning book, *Tales of the South Pacific*.

In *South Pacific*, Nellie Forbush, a nurse on a small island in the South Pacific during WWII, falls madly in love with French man Emile de Becque who owns part of the island. Falling head over heels with Emile means she must come to accept the shocking truth that this middle-aged man has two Polynesian children. Suddenly, her world spirals out of control while she faces racism, love and war.

Aside from Nellie and Emile, supporting characters are Luther Billis, a Seabee who looks for all kinds of ways to gain money and women; Bloody Mary, a Tokenize women who sells her products to the Seabees and searches for the perfect man for her daughter;

Liat, Bloody Mary's young daughter; and Lieutenant Joe Cable, a young officer who catches Bloody Mary's eye as the perfect man for Liat.

When it comes to people who could possibly be playing these roles, Hanson knows exactly what he's looking for.

"(I am looking for) poise, hard work ethic and dedication," Hanson said.

Tryouts were on Sept. 15 but the cast list was unavailable for publication. A complete cast list will run in the Oct. Trojournal.

The show will debut on Nov. 13. Additional performances will be on Nov. 14 and 16. Tickets are \$4 for students and \$5 for adults.

*The playbill for Rodgers and Hammerstein's production of South Pacific. The production, based on James A. Michener's book Tales of the South Pacific, will debut on the SES stage in November.*



## Meet The People Behind The Paper



For the next nine months, 13 high school students will be interviewing, polling, writing, editing, designing and printing the monthly Trojournal for SES students, staff and parents. Get to know the writers behind the paper!

### Jena Sauber, junior, Editor in Chief:

This is Sauber's third year on the Trojournal staff. Sauber enjoys photography, clothing design and running. She is involved in cross country, BB/BS, Scholars' Bowl, NHS, F.O.R., 4-H, Yearbook and Band. After high school, Sauber plans to major in English and minor in Journalism and hopes to attend Emporia State University.



### Krisanna Graham, junior, Managing Editor/Columnist:

This is Graham's third year on the Trojournal staff, as well. Graham enjoys photography and spending time with her family and friends. She is involved in BB/BS, Scholars' Bowl, Yearbook, NHS, TRUST, F.O.R., FCCLA and Vocal. After high school, Graham plans on attending Pittsburg State University and majoring in elementary education.



### Patrick Eslick, junior, Layout Editor:

This is Eslick's third year on staff. Eslick enjoys backpacking, playing the guitar and bird watching. He participates in Scholars' Bowl.



### Amanda Keeler, junior, Copy Editor/Columnist:

This is Keeler's second year on the Trojournal staff. In her free time, Keeler enjoys photography, cooking and spending time outside. She is involved in cross country, BB/BS, cheerleading, NHS and Yearbook. In her future, Keeler would like to work in the criminal justice field.



### Elizabeth Reece, sophomore, Photo Editor:

This is Reece's second year on the staff. She enjoys hanging out with friends and



doing school activities. She is involved in Madrigals, sports management and Band. After high school, Reece would like to be either a nurse or a teacher.

### Max McClure, senior, Sports Editor:

McClure is a four year member of the newspaper staff. He enjoys music and sports. He is active in cross country, Jazz Band and Madrigals. In his future, McClure plans on attending college.



### Marissa McClure, freshman, Features Editor:



This is Marissa's first year on the Trojournal staff. She enjoys music, sports and crafts. She is active in cross country and Jazz Band. In her future, Marissa would like to be a dentist.

### Kendra Lawson, sophomore, Student Body Information Manager:

This is Lawon's first year on the staff. Lawson enjoys sports, writing poems and having fun. She also participates in cross country, cheerleading, Madrigals, softball, F.O.R. and YGMC. After high school, Lawson plans to become a social worker or psychologist.



### Michael Bauer, junior, Sports Writer:

This is Bauer's third year in journalism and first year in independent study. He enjoys running and watching sports. He is also active in cross country, track and FCA. After high school, he plans to run cross country in college and would like to possibly be a sports journalist.



### Garrett Sager, junior, Sports Writer:

This is Sager's first year as a writer for the Trojournal. In his free time, he enjoys running and watching television. He is active in cross country, basketball, track and NHS. In his future, he plans to get a degree in communications at either the University of Kansas or Fort Hays.



### Ryan Haxton, freshman, Reporter:

This is Haxton's first year on the staff. He enjoys sports. He is active in his church, football, track



and F.O.R. In his future, he wants to attend Oklahoma University.

### RoiAnn Wellman, junior, Reporter:

This is Wellman's third year in journalism but first year on the Trojournal staff. She enjoys hanging out with friends, playing sports and spending time with family. She is also active in softball, volleyball and basketball. After high school, Wellman plans to attend college.



### Keva Schlepp, junior, Cartoonist:

This is Schlepp's first year on the staff. In her free time, she enjoys reading and drawing. In her future, she wants to travel around the world.



### Opinion

## A note from Layout Editor concerning air guitar

By Patrick Eslick

I see you there, thrashing your arms about in a semi-rhythmic fashion. Well I've got news for you. Playing air-guitar makes you look ridiculous. It's a sad fact, but true. Sure, air guitar may be America's most fabulously nerdy pastime, but I request that everyone in the world will just stop doing it. Be honest, when you walk by someone who is air-guitaring to a David Bowie song, you cringe right? It would make for a 25% reduction in awkward moments.



It's doubtful that any of you will listen to my call to cease all future air-guitar activates. So let's go through some basics of how to make it look as un-ridiculous as possible.

1. When playing guitar, you strum with your right hand, not your left (unless you are left handed).
2. Either play air-drums or air-guitar. A combination of air-drums and air-guitar is completely out of the question.
3. Try to maintain your composure during solos. Avoid the common beginner mistake of flinging your arms around like some sort of dying T-rex.

With these three simple tips, you're well on your way to looking somewhat less ridiculous while playing air guitar.

# Students see, experience Peru culture

By Amanda Keeler

Ruins, markets and foreign languages are a few of the things that four sponsors and 11 SES Foreign Language Club students experienced while traveling to Peru for two weeks over the summer.

On May 30, foreign language club members left from the Kansas City International Airport for the first leg of their journey to Cusco, Peru.

The group first flew from Kansas City to Atlanta, Georgia and from Atlanta to Lima, Peru. There, they spent the night in the terminal on benches with complimentary Delta blankets and pillows, waiting for the last part of their flight from Lima to Cusco. In Cusco, their new host families picked them up from the airport and took them to the houses where they would live for the next two weeks.

"Everything was so different. They did everything by hand like laundry, dishes and all of the food was made from scratch," junior LaCrista Brightbill said.

Over the following week, the group studied Spanish classes with their first teacher. In these classes, there was absolutely no English spoken (because some of the teachers did not know English) unless there was an emergency. The second week, new teachers entered, and all students were required to give a speech to receive their diplomas of completion.

"I learned a lot in the classes even though it was hard to understand them," Brightbill said.

After classes were completed, the students shopped at various markets around the town, went to restaurants (Bembos was a favorite.),

played soccer with their teachers and classmates from around the world and went to a theater to watch native dances of Peru.

On their first Saturday there, the group toured Machu Picchu, one of the Seven Wonders of the World. Machu Picchu is one of the oldest ruins of the Incans, and it is the only complete ruin.

They also toured other ruins around Cusco such as Ollantaytambo, Pisac, Sacsayhuaman, and Korichancha, the Incan Temple of the Sun.

"It was amazing. Es muy bonita," Brightbill said.

After lots of tours, classes and shopping, it was time to return to Kansas. The trip had been nearly problem-free, but that was soon to change when their flight, along with about five others to Lima, was cancelled due to "bad weather." They waited in line for over an hour only to find out that there were no flights with 15 spaces available.

Needing to remain together, the group rented hotel rooms for the night and flew from Cusco to Lima on Saturday afternoon. The flight delay caused them to miss their connecting flights for Atlanta and Kansas City, and this led to more problems. Each participant could either pay over \$800 to fly out Sunday at midnight or they could wait until Monday at midnight and pay around \$250.

To make money for the trip, the team had managed many SES and Bicentennial Center concession stands, sold cookie dough, and served dinners before the school plays, but this cost

was beyond the scope of the fundraising. Each individual, therefore, paid the extra \$250 to get home.

They waited in the airport from 4 p.m. on Saturday until 12 a.m. on Monday- a total of about 32 hours. To pass time, students played UNO, slept and read.

On Saturday night, students slept in one of the hallways on the way to the terminal.

"It was really stressful in the airport. People were walking in and out and everyone kept staring, laughing and talking about us," junior Chelsey Kohman said.

After more than a 32-hour wait, they boarded their flight to Atlanta. They arrived in Kansas City, two days later than expected.

Although there were a few delays on the way home, most of the travelers agreed that their experiences were unforgettable and they got the chance of a lifetime.

"I loved Peru! Everything! The culture, the people, the language!" Kohman said. "I definitely left my heart in Peru! Viva el Peru!"

## SES installs new flooring to limit risk of MRSA

By Krisanna Graham

As students returned to school and sports, they noticed something new in the locker room. The boys' locker room carpet had been replaced with new Resinous flooring.

After last year's outbreak of MRSA, it was decided that the carpets needed to go. In order to help prevent the disease, new flooring was chosen.

"The new surface can be disinfected daily," Mr. John Kuhn, Director of Building and Grounds, said.

Also, the flooring will outlast carpet.

"I asked (how long it will last) the installer, and he said it would be here as long as the building was standing," Kuhn said.

Although it can be easily disinfected, some students feel that the smooth surface is a slipping hazard.

"They are cool and all, but I always slip," junior Jeffery Platter said.

However, Kuhn feels there is no need to worry.

"There is no more danger slipping on the locker room floor than on a bathroom floor of your own house. I think if one were to use a little common sense and don't run or horse around, they should be just fine," Kuhn said.

The cost of the new floor was \$45,229. It was installed between July 28 and Aug. 10.

As for the girls' locker room, the flooring is scheduled to be placed next summer.



Juniors Chelsea Hanks (left) and Amanda Keeler (right) stand in front of ruins at Machu Picchu during their visit to the historic site. (Photo courtesy of Amanda Keeler)

## Students beware: the computers have eyes

**Is your computer screen really as private as you might think? Probably not.**

By Patrick Eslick

Big Brother is always watching you. With the addition of the "SynchronEyes" computer program to the library and computer lab, that statement is truer to SES students than ever before. The program allows teachers to remotely monitor the computer usage of students.

"SynchronEyes is a tool that the staff can use in order to make classrooms more effective," Principal Monte Couchman said.

The program has obvious uses as a deterrent to the misuse of school computers. Some teachers and students say that their instructor doesn't even have to use the program to deter inappropriate activities. The mere knowledge that the program exists may be enough.

"Not knowing when you're being watched, and knowing that you can be watched without a teacher standing over your shoulder definitely serves to keep students on track," Librarian, Mrs. Diane Reece said.

Other features of the program include tools to facilitate computer demonstrations such as the ability to send messages and annotate (draw on) students' screens.

"I've used it to demonstrate by putting students' screens on the projector," Mr. Dwight Lilly, Computer Applications teacher, said. "It makes demonstrations pretty easy."

Many teachers agree that SynchronEyes can be a good tool, but some also contend that the program may infringe on the privacy rights of students in some situations.

"It's a school computer so most things won't be private," Mr. Bill Gies said. "However, a delicate situation may arise in which teachers need to realize that students will be students. In this situation, teachers need to exercise good judgment."

## Homecoming week boasts Batman theme

By Amanda Keeler

"An Evening in Gotham" is the theme that students and staff will experience during Homecoming week Oct. 6-11.

The homecoming coronation ceremony will take place on Oct. 10 at 6:30 p.m. before the football game against Ellsworth which will start around 7 p.m.

The Homecoming dance will be on Saturday, Oct. 11 from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. in the upper gym. Attire will be semi-formal. At the dance, there will be non-alcoholic bar where drinks will be served.

Then on the day of Homecoming, Oct. 10, the high school will be voting a final time to choose the king and queen for 2008.

During Homecoming week, there will

be an assembly on Thursday Oct. 9 where the parents of the elected candidates will be sharing stories about their children. Later that evening, there will be a bonfire put on by the SES cheerleaders to celebrate the upcoming football game, dance and coronation.

There will also be a hall decorating contest during homecoming week. Each of the classes will be assigned a Batman villain. The seniors have the Joker; the juniors have the Riddler; the sophomores have Two Face; the freshmen have Ivy. The winning class will receive a monetary reward from StuCo.

Voting for candidates will take place in seminar today.

## Club

By Ryan Haxton

**Big Brothers/Big Sisters:** BB/BS will have to find their way out of the maze at the Sunnyside Pumpkin Patch on Oct. 15. Their Kickoff Pizza Party was Sept 3. Officers are seniors Trask Engel, Abbey Wilson, Trel Peterson, Greg Peterson, and Megan Sauber, and junior Matt Mortimer.

**National Honor Society:** Officers are Greg Peterson, president; Trask Engel, vice-president; Rachel Pantle, secretary; and Megan Sauber, public relations officer. Recently, NHS helped out with the Chapman tornado relief efforts by moving over 20,000 books to the public library.

**Friends of Rachel:** A driveway movie to raise funds for SES families affected by the summer tornado was shown on Sept. 13. All F.O.R meetings are on Wednesday mornings at 7:45. Soon, Friends of Rachel will be designing and ordering T-shirts for all club members. The Friend to Friend Conference in Hays will be coming up in November.

**Science Club:** Science Club will be assisting with the Safari Ed-Venture Day at Rolling Hills Zoo on Friday, Oct. 3. The members will be showing elementary students around the zoo and helping to teach science concepts with the help of the zoo staff, community members and education students from area colleges.

**Varsity Club:** Varsity Club has not yet elected any officers. Their first meeting will take place on Oct. 1. Anyone interested in holding an office should see Mrs. Susan Baird.

**FCCLA:** The FCCLA Membership Party took place on Tuesday, Sept. 9. Senior Megan Sauber, Kansas State FCCLA president, and FCCLA advisor Mrs. Juanelle Garretson will be going to Washington D.C. Sept. 25-28 to take part in USA (Ultimate State Officer Academy) Training. Also, FCCLA will be hosting a tailgate party on Sept. 19 at the home football game.

**Foreign Language Club:** The first meeting will be Sept. 23. Trel Peterson is president with Bria Sweany as the vice-president, Krisit Hargadine is the Secretary and Sadie Roesener is the public relations officer. The Spanish Club is thinking of taking a trip to a Spanish-speaking country.

**FFA:** In August, FFA held a kick-off event that included a BBQ and dodge ball. FFA members Zach Short, Ryan Hahn and Kirk Nelson took Agricultural Mechanics projects to the State Fair and received blue ribbons. FFA also went to the State Fair to help at Agriland, an educational booth for elementary students to visit. In September, they will also be attending the District Land Judging Competition.

**STUCO:** Officers are Trask Engel, president; Caitlin Conley, vice-president; and Megan Sauber, secretary. At this time StuCo is planning for Homecoming. The theme is "A Night in Gotham." Also StuCo had a "Back to school Bash" after the football team's scrimmage on Sept. 29 and the movie *Drillbit Taylor* was shown.

**Trust:** Officers are Kaley Rodriguez, president; Jacob Matthews, Thomas Patry, Teisha Rogers, Jamie Hitchcock and Chloe Seim, vice-presidents. TRUST is designed to motivate and lead Kansas youth toward healthy, drug-free life styles. Their focus is on developing leadership skills, facilitating positive change and preventing problems with alcohol and other drugs.



FCCLA members participate in a game during the membership party on Sept. 9. (Photo by LaCrista Brightbill)

## Living in

# Tornado Alley



**Two SES families work to rebuild their lives in the aftermath of the June 11 tornadoes that hit the surrounding area. Fellow families, students and organizations also pitch in with relief effort.**

By Elizabeth Reece

In less than 5 minutes, tornadoes can ruin houses and change lives that take months or even years to restore. Two SES families know firsthand the effects that a natural disaster can have; sophomore Sara Hettenbach's family and senior Kylie Losey's family both were hit by the June 11 tornado.

"It happened really fast...it was really loud, our ears popped like really bad," Hettenbach said.

Hettenbach and her family were watching the radar when Sara's father, Larry Hettenbach, went outside to shut the garage doors against the rain.

"We turned off the weather radio because it was getting really annoying," Hettenbach said.

Hettenbach remembers hearing an increasingly louder "sucking noise" so she and her brother, Matt, ran to the back bathroom.

"(My) mom ran out to get Dad, and they were right under the roof that blew off," Hettenbach said. "They are really lucky to even be here,"

The morning light showed the real damage of the storm. They lost items in their shed and the garage, Christmas decorations, small items in the house, and their cars.

"Our two sheds were completely blown away, and the roofs of the garage, utility room, dining room and kitchen were blown off. The bedrooms were okay but the house was all like twisted up with holes and stuff so we have to tear it all down and start all over," Hettenbach said.



*The Hettenbach's house (pictured) suffered enough damage from the June 11 tornado that it had to be torn down. Construction on their new house is hoped to be completed by March. (Photo courtesy of Sara Hettenbach)*

The morning also brought many helpers.

"I was really amazed at how many people showed up the next day. I didn't even know half of them...that was the biggest part for me, just how many people showed up," Hettenbach said.

## Another Hit

The Losey family also experienced firsthand the destruction of a tornado. During the tornado, Kylie Losey took refuge under the stairs of her house.

"It really does sound like a train...and there was like a big cloud of dust," Losey said.

Their house suffered even more damage than the Hettenbach's.

"The whole upstairs and the roof were completely blown away," Losey said.

They lost many of their possessions to Mother Nature.

"There was a mantle above the TV with all of the stuff my grandma gave us when she passed away, that was all blown away," Losey said.

Although they lost their houses and many of the possessions, both families are already on the road to restoring their lives and homes.

"They are starting (to build our house) this week," Losey said last week, "they will hopefully be finished by March."

The Hettenbach's house will hopefully be finished by the end of March as well, Sarah said.



*The Losey's house (pictured) suffered extensive damage after the tornado. They lost their entire upstairs and roof in the natural disaster. (Photo courtesy of Losey family)*

# Students pitch in with relief effort

By Jena Sauber

When the Salina food bank needed supplies last year, SES students sprung into action. When an elementary student in Salina needed help, students didn't hesitate to help. In the aftermath of the June tornadoes, the SES students and staff responded the same: NHS members recently traveled to Chapman and Leadership and Friends of Rachel members hosted a "Driveway Movie Party" to help after the natural disaster.

"(NHS) had an officer meeting and decided that Greg (Peterson) would call to see if Chapman schools needed help," Mrs. Judy White, NHS sponsor, said.

Chapman invited the help, and, on Aug. 27, 30 SES National Honor Society members went to the town to help out. While in Chapman, they helped clean classrooms, move wrestling mats, pick up debris and load and unload boxes of text books.

"It was really cool to be able to go and help them when they needed it," junior LaCrista Brightbill said.

Immediately after the tornado, the books from the school library were packed up and gotten out of the debris. A lack of storage forced them to be stored in a building in Enterprise, a town a short distance from Chapman. NHS members loaded the boxes and piles of books into a horse trailer, and then unloaded them into a building on the Chapman school property.

"The NHS members represented SES in the highest degree by working so diligently that day to help load and unload over 20,000 library books," White said.

For one NHS member, the trip was especially emotional.

"I was born in Greensburg (a Kansas town hit in 2007) and lived there until I was three," Sarah Reece, junior, said. "My grandparents still lived there when the tornado hit. Fortunately, they were out of town when it hit because their house was ruined."

Even though she didn't live in Greensburg when the tornado hit, it still affected her.

"(The worst part) was that I didn't appreciate it enough when it was there and now it's gone and will never be the same," Reece said.

The trip also made some students look differently at their own lives.

"The craziest thing is that we know that it happened but that it didn't really affect us very much," Brightbill said. "They are living in trailers and rebuilding their whole



*National Honor Society members Shannon Rogge and Krisanna Graham, juniors, load a box of books onto the horse trailer while helping in Chapman on Aug. 27. Thirty NHS members went to the town to help clean up after the June tornado. (Photo by Jena Sauber)*

town and nothing here has really changed. We were lucky.

Reece agreed. "It makes me never take for granted what we do have."

## Close To Home

However, for some students, life did change dramatically after the tornado. Several families lost their homes to the storm (see opposite page), but SES students hosted a "Driveway Movie" to help those families.

"They (the families affected by the tornado) have helped us with Friends of Rachel projects, so now it was our turn to help them out," White, who is also the Friends of Rachel sponsor, said.

The event, held on Sept. 13, brought about 100 high school students to Mrs. White's driveway for a meal and showing of *The Sandlot*. Each ticket cost \$6. Two dollar tickets for three raffle baskets were also sold to help raise money. All the money went to help the Losey and Hettenbach families.

"It was great to see students come together to help our friends and their families who needed help," sophomore Carley Melander, F.O.R member, said.

## Did You Know?

-A tornado can strike at any time of the day, but normally occur between the hours of 3 p.m. to 9 p.m.

-Until dust and debris collect or a cloud forms in the funnel, a tornado may seem nearly transparent.

-Most tornadoes move Southwest to Northeast, but they are known to move in any direction.

-Tornadoes can reach a wind speed of up to 300 MPH.

-March through May is the tornado season for the southern states, while late spring through early summer is the season for the northern states.

-Tornadoes that form over water are called waterspouts.

-Every state in the U.S. is at some risk for a tornado.

-Tornadoes normally occur at the last edge of a thunderstorm.

- Most tornadoes last for less than 10 minutes, but some can last for many hours.

- Tornadoes can occur at any time of the year, but peak tornado season is between March and September

- Despite what people may say, tornadoes can strike anywhere: on April 16, 1998, an F3 tornado struck downtown Nashville, TN, injuring over 100 people and severely damaging several buildings, including the capitol building.

- Tornadoes are often spawned by hurricanes—this is why Florida sees more tornadoes per square mile than many states in Tornado Alley

- Average number of tornadoes per year (1950-1998) in U.S. : 816

- State with the highest number of tornadoes per year (1950-1994): Texas (avg. 125)

- Top 5 tornado states (based on avg. number of tornadoes per year (1950-1995): Texas (125), Oklahoma (52), Kansas (48), Florida (46), Nebraska (38)

- States with the lowest incidence of tornadoes (from 1950-1994): Alaska (1), Rhode Island (8), Hawaii (28), Vermont (32), Oregon (44)

- Most tornado deaths in one year: 519 (1953)

- Fewest tornado deaths in one year: 15 (1986)

<http://www.angelfire.com/nj4/tornadoes/page2.html>

(Compiled by Amanda Keeler & RoiAnn Wellman)

# Is 2008 the best year in the world of sports?

By Michael Bauer

Could 2008 be one of the best sports years? A majority of people believe this year could be, and I concur.

So far in the world of sports, almost every championship has featured some defining moment. Just look at what's happened in championships so far.

**Super Bowl 42:** The omnipotent New England Patriots came into the game after pillaging almost every team and carrying a perfect 18-0 record. They would've joined the Miami Dolphins as the only two teams with unbeaten records if not for one squad, the New York Giants. Meanwhile, the New York Giants struggled as the season started and barely entered the playoffs. That wasn't their only problem as they had to play every post-season game on the road. But the Giants, led by Eli Manning, came through when it mattered most and pulled off a 17-14 win in one of the biggest upsets in Super Bowl history. The game contained a sensational play which featured David Tyree using his helmet for succor to make an impossible catch to convert on third down late in the game.



**2008 NCAA Final Four:** No team has ever won 37 or more games in a season and won the national championship in college basketball. But had the Memphis Tigers held on for five more seconds, we would've seen history. Instead, we witnessed an improbable comeback by the Kansas Jayhawks. The Tigers led by nine points with 2:12 remaining in the game. They then led by three with 10 seconds on the clock. Then "Super" Mario Chalmers made what Kansas coach Bill Self called "The biggest shot in Kansas history." Chalmers' three-pointer saved Kansas and took the game into overtime, capping a last-second comeback by the Jayhawks. Kansas single handedly tamed the Tigers in overtime to win their third national title and first since the "Danny and the Miracles" team 20 years earlier in 1988.



**UEFA Champions League final:** What happens when you match the EPL (English Premier League) champion against the EPL runner-up in the UEFA Champions League final? You'd get a low scoring, nail biting encounter; and even some indignation between the players as Manchester United and Chelsea F.C. have bitter hatred towards each other. The two clubs have won four EPL titles in the last four years, but they were playing for more than just their country's trophy. The winner would wear the honor of being the best in all of Europe. After going 120 minutes with both teams tied 1-1, Manchester United won the Champions League 6-5 on penalty kicks, leaving Chelsea F.C. feeling just like their team colors – very blue.



**NBA Finals:** The 2008 NBA championship was a rivalry renewed, featuring the Boston Celtics and the Los Angeles Lakers. It was the eleventh time the two teams met in the NBA title game with

the Lakers beating the Celtics only twice the previous ten attempts.



By the end, it stayed that way with the Celtics – led by Kevin Garnett, Paul Pierce, and Ray Allen – finally winning their first NBA championship rings and bringing the trophy back to a town that hadn't seen it in 22 years.

**2008 Euro Cup:** The 2008 Euro cup soccer tournament showed sundry teams were worthy enough to win it all. Teams lived up to expectations by advancing to the second round and some went home disappointed. But one squad lived up to the expectation that its fans and country had set up for a long time. For 44 years, Spain had been dubbed as the famous underachieving country in soccer, failing to win any world cups and only winning the Euro cup once. But striker Fernando Torre's lone goal in the final against Germany rendered the end of a long wait and the Spaniards recompense was finally basking in the limelight of number one for the first time since the 1964 Euro finals.



**Wimbledon:** For the third year in a row, Roger Federer and Rafael Nadal went center stage to determine the champion at Wimbledon; and for the first time, Nadal won the tournament. Nadal ended Federer's five straight years' of Wimbledon titles in probably one of the greatest finals of all time.



**2008 Olympics:** Mark Spitz's 46 years of bragging rights for winning the most Olympic gold medals in swimming came to an end when Michael Phelps broke Spitz's record of seven gold medals by winning all of his race competitions and receiving eight gold's. The USA men's basketball team also won the gold medal for the first time since 2000, after disappointments plagued them in the 2002 FIBA Championships, 2004 Olympics, and the FIBA championships again in 2006.



So you see? Almost every sporting event has had some significance to it as well as the winner, and there may be more to watch out for in the next few months. But who knows what will happen. The following scenarios are possible.

Will the Tampa Bay Rays make it to the World Series after going from worst to first in their division? Probably. They do have the second best record in the MLB, after all.

Will the New England Revolution and the Houston Dynamo play each other in the 2008 MLS Cup for the third straight year in a row? Both teams are at the top of their conferences, so don't bet against it.

Will Darren McFadden break Adrian Peterson's one year old NFL record for most rushing yards in a season as a rookie? McFadden is potentially as good, so why not?

But here's something that I'm sure we'd all love to see: An NFL season where a team goes undefeated, just like we've been hoping to see in the recent seasons. But let's not hold our breath too much on that one, because we've been disappointed each time a team looks like they'll finish perfect and ends up not.

# 'Redeem team' claims gold in Beijing games

By Garrett Sager

The dream of the "Redeem Team" came true on the last day of the 2008 Olympic Games in Beijing, China when team USA outlasted the team from Spain for the second time in the Olympic Games. In the games leading up to Beijing, team USA steam rolled past their competitors by an average of 30 points a game. In those games there was an unfamiliar sight. The team was winning by defense and hustle, which is what needs to happen if you want to win at the international level. Compared to the NBA, international play is a little different. The 3-point line is three inches closer in, which threw team USA off a little, and it's faster pace. They actually play against people who hustle the whole game, which is uncommon in the NBA.

The magnificent opening ceremony took



place on Aug. 8. Team US wasn't scheduled to play until Aug. 10. Their first game was to be against China, the host country. This was a great night of Olympic basketball. Not only was China's big man, Yao Ming, playing in front of his country, but, so were the American athletes that were worshiped there. China started up 3-0, but it quickly changed as the Americans had the Chinese in shackles for the rest of the night winning 101-70. From there, they played Angola, Greece, Spain and Germany. All of those games were won pretty easily by Team USA as they rolled right into the quarterfinals

Team USA was to play Australia in the quarterfinal game. This was supposed to be the first true task. To sum it up, it wasn't. USA kept on driving that steam roller to a 116-85 victory. That victory sent them to the semifinals against Argentina. This game was actually a little contest of Team USA. It was the closest game that they had to that point. It was still a 20 point victory, but USA had to battle for a while.

Drum roll please, the "Redeem Team" was in the finals, going up against Spain. They'd al-

ready beaten then 119-82 in the Olympic Games. Team USA knew they couldn't just go off of game one against them. They knew that Spain, led by LA Laker Pau Gasol, would try to be a brick wall and stop Team USA's steam roller.

This situation set up a perfect gold medal game; each team fighting hard for their countries in hopes of bringing home the gold. The fourth quarter came around and Spain was right in there. That's when MVP Kobe Bryant, or as he is called in Beijing "the little flying warrior", took off. Bryant scored 13 of his 20 points in the final quarter to lock up the gold and prove Team USA to be omnipotent.

After the Olympics, Leborn James stated that this year will go down as the best Olympics ever. If you look at the drought Team USA went through leading up to these games, after the embarrassing performance at Athens in 2004 and failing to make the FIBA Finals since 2000, it looked as if the US was falling behind in the game of basketball. Then, 2008 came around and the "Dream Team" was re-born, which gave us a reason to cheer again for USA basketball.

## Track team makes state appearance, comes home with hardware

By Garrett Sager

Once the last bell in May rang, most students were out of the SES halls for the summer. However, for seven track runners, the work wasn't over yet.

Seniors Shayla Seim and Jessica Ward, juniors Stephanie Frost and Sadie Rosener, and freshman Heather Hardesty represented SES at the state track meet in Wichita on May 23-24, placing second in the 4X100 relay.



Heather Hardesty prepares for the 4X100 relay at the state track meet in Wichita. The team placed second in the event. (Photo courtesy of Garrett Sager)

"It was amazing to take second," Frost said of their finish.

Seim, Ward, Rosener and freshman Courtney Sager also competed at the state meet, running in the 4X800 relay. They placed ninth.

"It all worked out; our relay teams ran good and finished where they were supposed to," Coach Pat Haxton said.

Sadie Rosener also competed in the 200m.

"I felt like I could have done better than I did," Rosener said.

Frost also competed in the high jump, tying for seventh.

Another freshman ran at the state meet in Wichita- Aubrey Knox. Knox qualified in the 100 and 300 meter hurdles. She placed sixth in the 100 meter hurdles, despite hitting a hurdle during her race.

*Sports Fun*

## Test and compare your knowledge!

By Garrett Sager and Marissa McClure

Do you know what a libero (LEE'-beh-ro) is? That was the question that went around Southeast of Saline at lunch recently. There were some students who seemed like they knew what they were talking about, then there were some that weren't even close.

Some of the ideas that were off the mark a little were:

Megan Kincaid, junior: "It's Spanish for 'book'."

Shaun Shields, senior: "It's Spanish for kicking someone in the face."

Amanda Wilson, junior: "It's an inbred animal."

Presley Wilson, sophomore: "It's a big, old bear."

Chase Driscoll, junior: "Mix between a lion and a brontosaurus."

However, some students did get slightly closer to the correct meaning.

Chelsey Kohman, junior said, "It's a volleyball player who only plays on the back row and can sub in at anytime."

Brooke Copeland, sophomore said, "It's a volleyball player."

"It's the girl that wears white in the game," Cole VanBlaricon, senior, noted.

"Christine Russell!" Braden Long, junior said, correctly identifying Southeast's varsity libero.

So what is a libero? It is a volleyball player specialized in defensive skills. The libero must wear a contrasting jersey color from his or her teammates and cannot block or attack the ball when it is entirely above net height. When the ball is not in play, the libero can replace any back-row player, without prior notice to the officials.

Sophomore Christine Russell is SES's libero, as Long said.

"It is fun. I enjoy it, but it's a little difficult because I'm a little short," Russell said.

# Sports Box

By Michael Bauer

## Football

Sept. 5 @ Beloit 14-38 L

Sept. 12 Russell 30-6 W

Upcoming Games:

Sept. 19 Minneapolis

**Record 1-1**

## Volleyball

Sept. 2-Quadrangular

Clay Center 20-25, 25-17, 26-24

Herrington 25-14, 25-15

Minneapolis 9-25, 27-25, 25-11

Sept. 13-SES Tournament

Abilene 13-25, 12-25

Sacred Heart 13-25, 11-25

Wellington 20-25, 22-25

Salina South 17-25, 11-25

Wellington 25-21, 25-17

Sept. 16 Republic County

25-22, 10-25, 25-21

24-26, 23-25

Upcoming Games:

Sept. 23 @ Minneapolis

**Record 3-7**

## Cross Country

### Boys:

Sept. 4 Abilene 1st

Sept. 13 Wamego

Cancelled

### Girls:

Sept. 4 Abilene 1st

Sept. 13 Wamego

Cancelled

Upcoming events:

Sept. 18 Clay Center Inv.

Sept. 23 SES Inv. (Sr.

Rec.)

# Trojans win home opener

By Michael Bauer

Even a rain-drenched football field couldn't stop the Southeast Trojans from winning their first home game.

Amid rainy conditions, the Trojans avenged last year's 22-20 loss to Russell by running over the Broncos 30-6 Friday night. Junior quarterback Bryant Beneke had 344 total yards of offense for the Trojans, while the Broncos had only 121.

"Bryant is a great quarterback. Bryant has got tremendous speed, and he did a good job leading the offense," said coach Pat Haxton. "I was pretty happy with them (the offense). We blocked a lot better from the week before, and we also ran the ball better."

Beneke was also pleased with the offensive line's performance.

"The offensive line blocked really well and Layton (Everhart) was blocking well, and the holes just opened up. Even though it was wet out, I was able to get there pretty quick," Beneke said.

The game started out on the wrong note for the Trojans, however, as Russell's Ryan Zachman took the opening kickoff for 71 yards to the Southeast four yard line, scoring a few plays later on a four-yard run.

Things didn't get much easier for the Trojans, as they fumbled the ball on a turnover on their first offensive series.

"We talk to them (the players) all the time about the fact that after something bad happens - - and there's going to be something bad that does happen at every football game -- you've got to follow that up in a positive way. We did a really nice job of that," Haxton said. "They did a good job of turning a negative thing into a positive."

But the Broncos were unable to find the end-zone for the rest of the night, thanks to Southeast's omnipotent defense.

"Defensively, we hit people really hard, and people were doing their assignments we asked them to do. A lot of times that's just making plays and doing things they're supposed to do," Haxton said. "The main thing is that we ran to the ball really hard and with an attitude."

Both teams found their strengths in the rushing game. Southeast had 37 rushes for 228 yards, while the Broncos had 43 for 75.

Though 228 of Southeast's yards came from running the ball, it was a long pass from Beneke to junior wide-receiver Trenton Collins that helped succor the Trojans with great field position and set up their first touchdown a few plays later by Beneke on a 14 yard run.

Some of the players believed they were able to get some momentum going during that drive.

"When they (Russell) took that opening kickoff all the way down the field, there were some of us that were disappointed, but we came back, and everything started shifting our way," Beneke said.

After stopping Russell on a crucial fourth-and-four inside Trojan territory, and successfully bringing the ball down the field, Beneke connected with junior wide receiver Jordan Huggans on a 34-yard pass play in the end-zone. This time, the drive helped the momentum and featured the first time the Trojans tried a specific offense with two minutes in the half.

"That drive was huge, and it was huge for momentum," Haxton said. "It was so important that we go into halftime with a right frame of mind. It was the first time we ran our two-minute offense in a game this season, and our kids executed well and made some catches here and there and the play calling also helped in that two-minute span, and it made our players feel good about it going into halftime."

The Trojans went into halftime carrying a 14-6 lead, while the Broncos went in carrying an injured player.

Zachman, the true sophomore who has accumulated most of the Broncos' rushing yards this year, was hurt with a knee injury, making things more arduous for a struggling offense.

Southeast's offense continued to roll in the yards throughout the second half with Beneke running the ball in for a score on a 12-yard run in the third quarter, then adding six more points in the fourth on a run of 23 yards and capitalizing on both PAT's.

The Broncos had many situations that challenged the Trojans, which included a blocked Southeast punt that gave them good field position. But the Broncos were unable to capitalize on fourth downs.

We gave them (Russell) chances in the fourth quarter. We turned the ball over a few (See "Russell" on page 15)



Junior Matt Mortimer runs over a Russell player during the Sept. 12 game. The Trojans came out victorious over Russell, 30-6. (Photo by Elizabeth Reece)

# Guys, Girls XC teams sweep Abilene

By Max McClure

The SES cross country team competes at Clay Center today at 3:00. It will be their second meet of the season after the Wamego meet was cancelled due to the rain last Saturday, Sept. 13.

("Wamego would have been our first test but that got cancelled so we'll have the test on one of the hardest courses we run," Head Coach Wade Caselman said.)

For the first time in 10 years, the guys cross country team was ranked number one in the preseason polls.

At the Sept. 4 Abilene meet, their first meet of the year, both the guys (43 points) and girls (42 points) took first. First to cross the finish line for the guys was senior Max McClure (18:20). Next in were juniors Michael Bauer and Garrett Sager, placing fifth (18:54) and eighth (19:04) respectively. Senior Trask Engel was 10<sup>th</sup> (19:20) and sophomore Eric Hederstedt placed 19<sup>th</sup> (20:17). Runners six and seven for the men's team were junior Kellen Womochil 22<sup>nd</sup> (20:39) and senior Greg

Peterson, 23<sup>rd</sup> (20:40).

"Our overall positioning was good but our times weren't," Sager said.

The girls ran close together with 40 seconds between their five point-scoring runners.

First in on the girls team was freshman Brooke Wells in fifth place (16:38). Next were sophomore Tiffany Cleveland, seventh place, (16:55); freshman Marissa McClure, ninth place, (17:09); sophomore Sierra Yianakopulos, 10<sup>th</sup> place, (17:12); and senior Sadie Roesner, 11<sup>th</sup> place, (17:18). Six and seventh runners were sophomore Courtney Sager, 15<sup>th</sup> place (17:32); and freshman Raimie Platt, 26<sup>th</sup> place (19:10).

Other runners at the Abilene meet were Joel Prater (22:38), Briar Steward (23:08), Cole Brightbill (25:16), Mark Roesner (25:45), Elizabeth Peuchen (19:33), Aubrey Knox (20:04), Jena Sauber (20:16), Kayla Katzenmeier (20:19), Joey Platt (20:35), Shannon Rogge (20:41), Rachel Peuchen (23:49), Megan Sauber (23:59) and Amanda Keeler (24:11).



Senior Max McClure runs during the Sept. 4 Abilene meet. McClure placed first. Both teams, guys and girls, swept the meet finishing first. (Photo courtesy of Mr. Gary McClure)

## Volleyball team splits at home

By Elizabeth Reece

The SES Lady Trojan split Tuesday night in a series of close games against Republic County.

The Trojans took the first match after early jitters, 25-22, dropped the next match 10-25 and won the final match 25-21.

SES dropped the second game in two close matches, 24-26 and 23-25.

The Lady Trojans record is now 3-7.

"It's early and we are showing glimpses of greatness. We just need to have more consistency. Overall, our plays are directly related to passing. The better passes we have, the better we play," Head Coach Kristy Rodriguez said.

On Sept. 13, the Lady Trojans placed 7<sup>th</sup> in their home tournament.

In the first game, SES lost to Abilene, 13-25, 12-25.

SES then played Sacred Heart, falling 13-25, 11-25.

Next they lost to Wellington 20-25, 22-25.

In the following game against Salina South, SES lost 17-25, 11-25.

To finish off the tournament, SES defeated Wellington again 25-21, 25-17 to claim seventh in the tournament.



Senior Stephanie Frost sets the ball during the Sept. 16 volleyball game against Republic County. (Photo by Elizabeth Reece)

## • Trojans triumph over Russell, prepare to take on the Lions

(Continued from page 14)

times, and they blocked a punt on us and got the ball on the 15. We had about four or five fourth-down plays where we stopped them short, and those are big momentum plays too," said Haxton.

Russell's offense gained some momentum in the fourth quarter on a drive that went deep into Southeast territory. But a fumble, recovered by the Trojans, ended their hopes of a touchdown.

The Trojans are now 1-1 for the season and, tomorrow, they will take on a team that has yet to win a game.

The Minneapolis Lions are 0-2 after consecutive losses to Ellsworth and Valley Heights with the latter being the most recent.

Last year, the Lions beat the Trojans with their rushing game, but with their starting running back, Jake Eckert, injured, Haxton believes the Lions will be more of a throwing team.

"Minneapolis is going to spread it out and throw the ball. They've thrown the ball over 40 times the first two games and this week will be no different, so I think they're going to try and throw the ball a bunch," Haxton said.

Eckert's absence might also be a factor for the Lions' defense, as he is also a linebacker, who had 43 tackles last season as a freshman.

The two teams will take the field tomorrow at the Steve Fritz field at 7:00 p.m.

# New seminar policy strikes controversy

By Jena Sauber

When students returned in August, not only did they have to adjust to a new class schedule, but they also had to adjust to new seminar rules. According to Principal Mr. Monte Couchman, "misconduct" during seminar in the past has caused the secondary staff to "return to the core expectations" of the traditional study hall held after seventh and eighth hours Mondays through Thursday.

## Purpose of Seminar

According to Mr. Monte Couchman, secondary principal, seminar was initially designed to be an academic period that provided students with the opportunity to travel to meet with other teachers and participate in club meetings, assemblies and activities without taking up regular class time.

"The core expectations are for students to use seminar as a study hall with the added benefit of having the privilege to go meet with a specific teacher for assistance," Couchman said.

For student Shannon Rogge, seminar provided time to meet exactly those expectations.

"I used seminar for homework every day," Rogge, a junior, said. "It's when I get all my homework done!"

## The Problem

However, not all students used the seminar time the same way that Rogge did.

"We had had on-going problems with students who abused the seminar situation by forging signatures, passing from seminar to seminar with no purpose and not using the seminar period for academic purposes," Couchman said.

Sophomore Aaron Byarlay admits that he didn't always use seminar the way the staff intended it to be used.

"I went to the library a lot," Byarlay said, "but it was mostly just to waste time."

## The Solution?

These "on-going problems" caused the secondary staff to review the policy and rededicate themselves to supporting a climate or environment in each classroom that was consistent with the original core expectations or philosophy of seminar.

"The structure and philosophy of seminar did not change. Rather, the staff committed to returning to the core expectations of student behavior during this time of day," Couchman said.

Recommitting to those expectations did bring some changes into the seminar structure, however. Students are limited to one blue pass each nine weeks. The passes have 25 "In/Out" slots that students must fill out to travel during seminar time. Once the slots are filled on that sheet, the student isn't allowed to travel during seminar until the next quarter starts.

Although seminar teachers have had the ability to give marks to students who break seminar rules in the past, the number of marks a student can have were cut from five to three. Also, the consequences from each mark were tightened.

Couchman said that the new rules and guidelines are designed to help accomplish the secondary staff's goals.

"The new rules pertaining to the seminar passes are designed to allow students to continue to pass to teachers they have and receive assistance," Couchman said. "By limiting passing to only those teachers (who students have classes with), it will provide a better environment in all seminars."

According to Couchman, limiting the number of passes students can use will improve seminar's environment because it will eliminate situations where students show up in seminars and have no valid reason for being there.

"Limiting the number of trips also is designed to ensure that when a student leaves his/her home seminar, there is a valid reason for doing so," Couchman said.

Another change this year was the elimination of students choosing their own seminars. In the past, students have been able to write down their top three choices for seminar and a committee of teachers has made the final assignments. This year, students were assigned to seminars without any input themselves.

"Teachers saw situations where a student chose a seminar solely based on friendships or social reasons," Couchman said. "Teachers felt that seminar placement needed to be based on academic reasons, and it was clear from past years that students were generally not making those choices in placement."

## Problems with the Solution

The new solutions and "returning to the core expectations" have been met with mixed reactions.

"I don't like the limited passes. I used two or three passes each nine weeks last year," Rachel Pantle, senior, said. "It's harder to get my work done because I don't ask as many questions because I don't want to use up my passes."

Limiting the number of passes and the places students can go also creates problems for students in the journalism and yearbook classes who need to talk to students that aren't in the seminar of a teacher whose classes they have.

"It's going to take up way more of my time outside of school to get quotes and information from people in seminars that I'm not allowed to go to," yearbook staff member Tiffany Patrick, sophomore, said.

## A Solution To The Solution?

As scheduled, staff members met on Friday, Sept. 5 to go over the seminar rules and make any modifications they felt necessary.

"It was clear at the meeting that the staff affirmed their desire to maintain the higher level of expectations set this fall in seminar," Couchman said.

Couchman said that, as a whole, the seminar time seems to be being used more effectively by students and staff.

"There also seems to be a focus on the students' part to be sure any time they pass to another seminar that there is a true need to see that teacher," Couchman said.

However, the staff also agreed that the current passes need some modification to allow for more passing opportunities during the nine-week period.

"At some time fairly soon, there will be a modified pass created for the staff to review and approve," Couchman said.

Special passes are also being considered for students who are in yearbook and/or journalism, and for large class or club meetings.

"We are still working through some issue on how best to use those 'special passes'," Couchman said. "I would expect to again see some type of modification (for this)."

Although problems are still being worked out of the new system, Couchman feels that it is still a positive change.

"(It's) reinforcing life skills of time management, task prioritization and overall organization," he said.

## FCCLA brings gold home from Sunshine State



By Marissa McClure

Six graduating seniors proved themselves the best FCCLA parliamentary team in the nation when they competed at the National Convention in Orlando Florida on July 11-18.

Chelsie Green, Sadie Myers, Brent Sweeny, Shannon Wilson, Elisa Stein and Sarah Andres, received first place at the national level where they have competed for the past four years. The team had to win both district and state competitions to advance to Nationals. Others FCCLA members who attended the National Convention were Cierha Berry, Megan Kincaid-Heidel, Megan Sauber, Caitlin Conley, Trask Engel, Joey Platt.

Susan Wilson and Juanelle Garretson were the sponsors of the student group. Chris Sauber and Warren Myers also attended as parent delegates and chaperones.

"What an awesome way to exit FCCLA- with a National Title for this team who has represented SES and Kansas for the past 4 years!" Juanelle Garretson, Chapter Adviser, said.