

# THE TROJOURNAL

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Joe Sparacino and Haylie Colby, the 2002-2003 Homecoming King and Queen walk arm in arm down the track after being crowned before the game against Russell Oct. 4.(Photo courtesy of Mr. Gary McClure)

# What do you think of when you hear QPA?



*"Quittish Projected Athletes."*  
Ian Hughes, Soph.



*"Question Problem Answer."*  
Lukas Spare, Soph.



*"Cupid."*  
Mellisa McDowell, Sr.



*"Work."*  
Bill Tuzicka, QPA Co-chair

*Editor's note: To learn what QPA really means, see the story on page 9.*



## Southeast of Saline **THE TROJOURNAL**

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

# What's shakin', homies?

By Natalya Chornak

What's shakin', homies? How's it hangin'? Ya might wonder why this chic who came from Ukraine knows these words. Yo! Well, spending almost everyday among teens, you won't be able to survive among them without knowing "slanguage" that they are talking in.

If I hear words said in a funny way, it means only one thing – I'm in trouble; people are speaking in slang to me! I can't say that "it bugs me" (but it takes people half an hour to explain to me what they meant saying "What's shakin' in your crib, babe?" or "How's it hangin', home dog?"). Naaa, it doesn't bug me. In fact, every time when I'm in such situation "it cracks me up."

Isn't it hilarious how people make up words or phrases making them to sound funny and nonsensical? Isn't it interesting that almost each language has its own slang?

But why does it appear? Maybe 'cause we are too lazy to pronounce words correctly, or maybe we try to make our language not so formal and more funny.

In Ukraine I was taught only formal English, so almost in all cases, I understand people



who spoke only in a very direct way or I don't understand them at all.

First it was hard to understand when people were saying to me "That stinks!" Now I understand that it doesn't mean in particular that somebody/something needs deodorant; it just means that somebody just doesn't like the situation he/she is in.

When I hear "It's bad," it doesn't mean that something isn't good; it means "cool," but "cool" doesn't mean that somebody is cold; it means kind of "awesome or sweet"; but "sweet" doesn't have any connection with sugar; it means "great" or "hot"; but "hot" isn't connected with weather. And when people say "Trash!" it doesn't always mean a heap of things that are unusable; it means whatever you want it to mean.

Sounds confusing? Oh well, first it was "driving me nuts" but now I even don't realize that I started saying "Yeah" instead of "Yes" and using a lot of "whatevers" and "kinds ofs." What can I say? I'm getting used to "this stuff."

It isn't something new for me to hear slang words as in Ukraine we use a lot of slang words also. We speak sometimes in such slang that our parents can hardly understand us.

However, we need to know the situations where we can speak in slang and situations in which we need to be kind of, well, like, ya know, formal... peace out, homies.

# High school L-O-V-E equals D-I-S-A-S-T-E-R

By Tammi Verhoeff

Ahh...yes, high school sweethearts, the love of your life, the reason you come to school every day, the twinkle in your eye, the name written all over your notebooks, the one you're destined to be with forever and ever.

Umm...let's rethink this. Falling in love is the best feeling in the world, but teenagers need to consider the fact that they are in high school and they may merely think that they're in love. In reality, love comes in so many different forms: puppy love, infatuation and lust just to name a few. It's highly unlikely that in high school you're "in love."

Some students go to extremes with their relationships. They have an unhealthy ownership. It's a lot like a communist or unilateral government: There is one central ruler. The partners



needs signed consent forms from their significant other before they are allowed to walk to class/get a drink/talk to another student. They spend every breathing second around that person and when the fateful time comes when they must depart, they spend their free time thinking or writing about their love.

Another problem with high school love is just that: We're still in high school. We have four years of being old enough to be on our own yet young enough to be immature with a good excuse. In most relationships, the limited time we have in high school is spent on one person. We waste precious time that could be spent with our friends to be with our significant others. Soon enough, high school will be over, we will break up with our honey and we'll be stuck with the memory of our best friends' backsides as they walk away.

Students might feel more obligated to be with their boyfriend/girlfriend than a best friend.

Some relationship participants also find the word "marriage" and "future" popping up in

the vocabulary.

Those students' focus is generally wrong. Yes, relationships are great to have in high school. Dating is part of the territory, but marriage should be for later in our lives — when we've grown up and lived a little.

We all want to grow up, but we students try to speed up that process.

We shouldn't. We should be in a relationship, but we shouldn't spend all our time with our one true love (all six of them that we will encounter at various times throughout high school). We should go out with friends and double date and not seclude ourselves from the rest of the world.

Students don't seem to understand that love isn't something we find right away. We've all heard those classic "I married my high school sweetheart" stories, but it's not that easy; it doesn't always work out that way. There are so many other "fish in the sea." Kick back and enjoy the fun 'o fishin'.

# Chili Peppers maintain funk/punk relevance

By Kelsey Delker

Ever since they first ran out on stage — each only wearing a sock (not on their feet) — the Red Hot Chili Peppers have been famous for their wild behavior, raving funk rock music and extreme drug addictions.

Since 1984 the Peppers have faced many road blocks, tragedies, near fatal experiences and a few deaths. However, one of the greatest aspects that they possess is their ability to stay strong, supporting of each other and remain a stable band through changes in three drummers and six guitarists, along with several other major tragedies along the way.

Although the Red Hot Chili Peppers may have once been categorized as just another party band, their many life-changing experiences they faced in their earlier years brought them closer to themselves, their music and the world around them. They have matured greatly into the band they are today, the Red Hot Chili Peppers — sensitive, completely sober, caring, sweet, guys that even keep their pants on. (After all, they're all reaching the age of 40...)

These traits can all be strongly sensed on the Peppers' newest album release, "By The Way." "By The Way" is a shockingly bittersweet blend of rock, punk, ska, reggae, blues and yes, although many don't recognize it, the funk they had from the start is still there.

Genuine musical maturity is seen on this album since the Chilis try so many new musical styles, rhythms and instruments. It's truly amazing how far they have come and how they defined their own musical funk rock/punk style



that's fresh and ready for your enjoyment. Musical satisfaction, guaranteed by your personal music expert, Kelsey Delker.

*..Because of who we are, the way we live and what we do, we could be having dinner with the queen of England and still maintain our punk-rock relevance...We could drive in limos and private jets all day long, and we'd still be more punk rock than bands that call themselves punk rock today. All of our motivation is true and real, and that's more the essence of punk rock than people trying to sound like something that happened twenty years ago,"* said lead singer, Anthony Kiedis.

Although the album is just a recent summer release, there are already two singles released on the radio and music networks on television (MTV, VH1.) The first released single from the album takes the same name, "By The Way." The listener will experience at least three different musical styles in this catchy melody. The second newly released single is "The Zephyr Song." This is a beautiful melody of longing for love and an unrealistic paradise in "Zephyr-land." (Zephyr is the west wind.) These are just two examples of the Peppers in all their glory. The full album offers even greater songs such as "Can't Stop," and "Midnight."

Adding to the words of the songs, the band backs up each emotion expressed in the lyrics with perfect voice, stunning guitar riffs, precise bass rantings and the perfect rhythmic drum beat.

Kiedis sings with a voice so pure and sincere it relaxes the listener when the first note is hit.

Next to Kiedis, the bassist Flea (Michael Balzary) is the only other original Pepper in the band. Flea's unique bass antics and playing styles are some of the best in music history.

Backed by drummer Chad Smith and guitarist John Frusciante, musical critics have knighted the Peppers as having one of the greatest rhythm sections ever due to their precision to each other and extreme musical talent.

*"I wouldn't be able to make music with the band if we weren't all friends,"* Frusciante said. *"Being with each other and enjoying each other's presence is important for us to have a positive experience. We love each other, and that love comes out in the music."*

Not only are the Peppers famous in the United States, but "By The Way" also topped the charts, going Triple Platinum in Ireland, Double Platinum in Italy, Australia and Japan, Platinum in 13 other countries and Gold in eight countries. (For those of you who don't know much about record sales and all this "Platinum" stuff, let me translate: the Peppers are doing pretty darn great.) Currently the Peppers are touring Europe to sold-out arenas and extremely admiring fans.

From the top of the "underground" music world to the cover of "Spin," "Guitar World" and the "Rolling Stone" (along with all the other sane music magazines), the Red Hot Chili Peppers have grown into themselves to become the great band they are today. They finally traded in their sexual lyrics from the early albums ("Red Hot Chili Peppers," "Uplift Mofo Party Plan," "Freaky Styley," "Mother's Milk," "BloodSugarSexMagik" and "One Hot Minute") into beautiful celebrations of newly found love and joyous ventures of kicking old drug habits in their two newest albums ("Californication" and "By The Way.") I highly recommend the Red Hot Chili Peppers to anyone. Even though they have been around for over a decade, their musical career is truly just beginning.

# Differing hair styles interest Korean exchange

By Nataliya Chornak

There is no way you can spell her name in Korean; that's why she has an English name – Jessica Yum.

She has been here for two months already, but it wasn't a new experience for her as she had lived in California for two years when she was ten years old. However, California and Kansas are not the same, Yum said.

"Kansas has a lot of land it's not so crowded as California," she said. "It's like country here."

Yum said that she doesn't really prefer either state over the other, but simply appreciates the differences between Kansas and California.

She also appreciates the differences in the American people. She said the thing that will always be new and exciting for her no matter how many times she will be here is the variety of different colors of hair.

"It's so cool to see people with different types of hair: blond, dark brown, curly, wave, straight," she said. "In Korea, we have people only with black and straight hair."

Another pleasure for her is school here.

"Our school in Korea starts at 7:30 a.m. and ends at 10:30 p.m.," she said. And beside all these long hours of school, they have classes on Saturday also. They usually have 10 classes per day and self-study time (like our seminars). Since they spend their whole day in school, they have their lunch and supper at school.

"For lunch and supper we usually have rice, and after each meal, we go to brush our teeth," she said.



*Editors Note: Jessica Yum lives in South Korea in the general area circled on the above map.*

However, besides eating and brushing teeth, Yum said there isn't a lot of fun in Korean schools.

"School in Korea is pretty hard. We have a lot of pressure about going to college. Nobody wants to fail," she said. In Korea, Jessica attended a private school where every single student who has graduated from there has gone to college.

To make her stay here more similar to a Korean school, she decided to take a lot of hard subjects: chemistry, math and others.

"Teachers are very nice; they usually try to make you understand everything," she said, "In Korea they usually don't have enough time, so we need to spend a lot of time studying by ourselves."

Since she has some free time here, she decided to play volleyball. But she is not very patient with herself in developing volleyball skills.

"I'm a terrible player," she said.

Actually she is doing well for a new student who hasn't had any previous experience with sports at her school in Korea.

"Jessica is doing well in volleyball," said teammate Kayla Griffin.

"We don't have any sport teams at our school. They only force you to study and to prepare for college," she said.

Now that she is in the U.S., she is also planning to play golf.

"I want to learn how to play it — as my father in Korea plays it — so I'll be able to make him company," she said.

Besides golf, her father works as a government official. Her mother also worked as a government official, but she is retired. Jessica has one sibling, a younger brother. However, now she has two more siblings, her American sister Amber and brother Alex. She is staying with Pete and Robin Earles. She likes them very much.

"They are all very nice," she said.

She said they usually take her to the football games where she practically discovered a new game for herself.

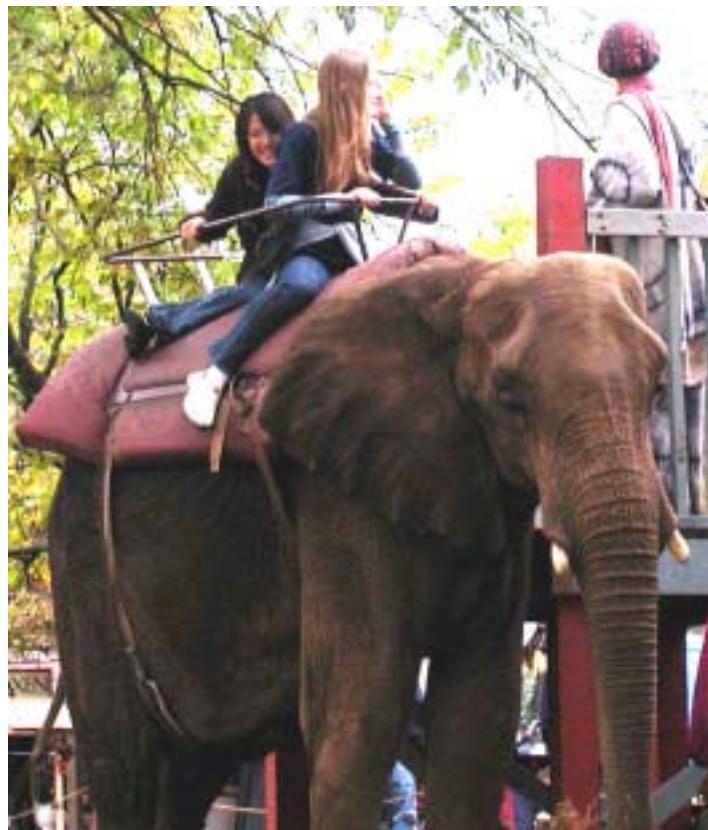
"I don't know a lot about rules of football, but it is still much fun (to watch) and I'm sure the Trojan football team is very good."

They don't have football games on Fridays in Korea, but they have a lot of other things to do. The only day that is free of school is Sunday, so they try to relax as much as possible. Like teenagers in U.S., they go out to eat, watch movies, and go shopping.

"It's a lot like here, but we aren't allowed to drive until we are 20 years old," she said.

Actually, they don't even need to be able to drive.

"Transportation in Korea is really good. (We have) local buses and subways," she said. Besides driving, almost nothing here is new for her. "I fit in here pretty well, and expect a lot of fun from this year," she said.



Nataliya Chornak and Jessica Yum enjoy an elephant ride at the Renaissance Festival, Oct. 12. They went there with the Care Group kick-off. Both recently joined the group. (Photo by Sarah Maine)

# Heavy Metal Cowgirl gets the best of both worlds

By Jessica Conway

Heavy Metal. Cowgirl. Who would ever think to put these two together in the same sentence? However, they both describe Devin Long.

Long has been riding horses since she was four years old when her brother bought her a Grand Champion plastic play horse.

"My brother bought me a thoroughbred Grand Champion horse when I was four," she said. "A couple of years later I added a baby and stable to it. I've been interested in horses ever since."

Long just recently moved to Southeast a year ago. Before coming here she was being home-schooled by her step-mom in Chapman. Since she has moved in with her mom and step-dad, she's gotten more chances to ride.

"I live with my step-dad, whose dad and brothers own a family company called TRG," she said. "They raise cattle and have several hundred acres."

Even so, Long doesn't get to ride near as often now as she used to.

"When I had my horse, I rode more often, but I don't want to get hurt by myself up there. One of their horses hasn't been broken yet, and one just needs an attitude adjustment," Long said.

Long has also had many chances to compete with her horses.

"My friend, who is also into horses, invited me to the Dickinson Country pre-fair-horse show, and I've also been to the Geary county fair to compete with my horse," she said. "In the Dickinson county pre-fair show, I entered in the barrels, poles, horsemanship, showmanship, and the flag race. In the Geary Country show, I entered in showmanship, kegs, barrels, flag race and lead back."

She even won some competitions.

"I won the trophy for best in my age group in the pre-fair show along with several ribbons," Long said. "I didn't do so well in the fair because there were more people in the classes I was entered in."

Long says she enjoys riding horses because it makes her feel free.

"I feel like I can get away from everything," she said. "It makes me feel like I can do anything and go anywhere."

Long also says her music can make her feel the same way.

"Music is a lot like riding," she said. "It kind of reflects my mood. If I'm listening to Eminem, I'm in an I'm-going-to-kick-your-

butt mood. If I'm listening to Blink 182, I'm in a punk mood."

Heavy Metal and Rap aren't the only types of music Long enjoys however.

"I enjoy lots of music," she said. "Some pop, some heavy metal, some Rock&Roll. I hate classical! I like Eminem, Blink 182 and Metallica. Not Britney Spears or N'Sync!"

Long also enjoys listening to some music that reflects back to her cowgirl side.

"Sometimes I like Shania Twain a little," she said.

There is even one song that she says has helped her with her horse-back riding.

"The song Unsinkable Ships has reminded me that I can teach my horse anything if I try hard enough," she said.

Long says that she sometimes wears clothes that reflect both her cowgirl attitude and her music-loving attitude.

"I like wearing my boots and spurs, but not my hat. It falls off too often!" she said. "I also like clothes that reflect my music. I think that if I could I'd probably go

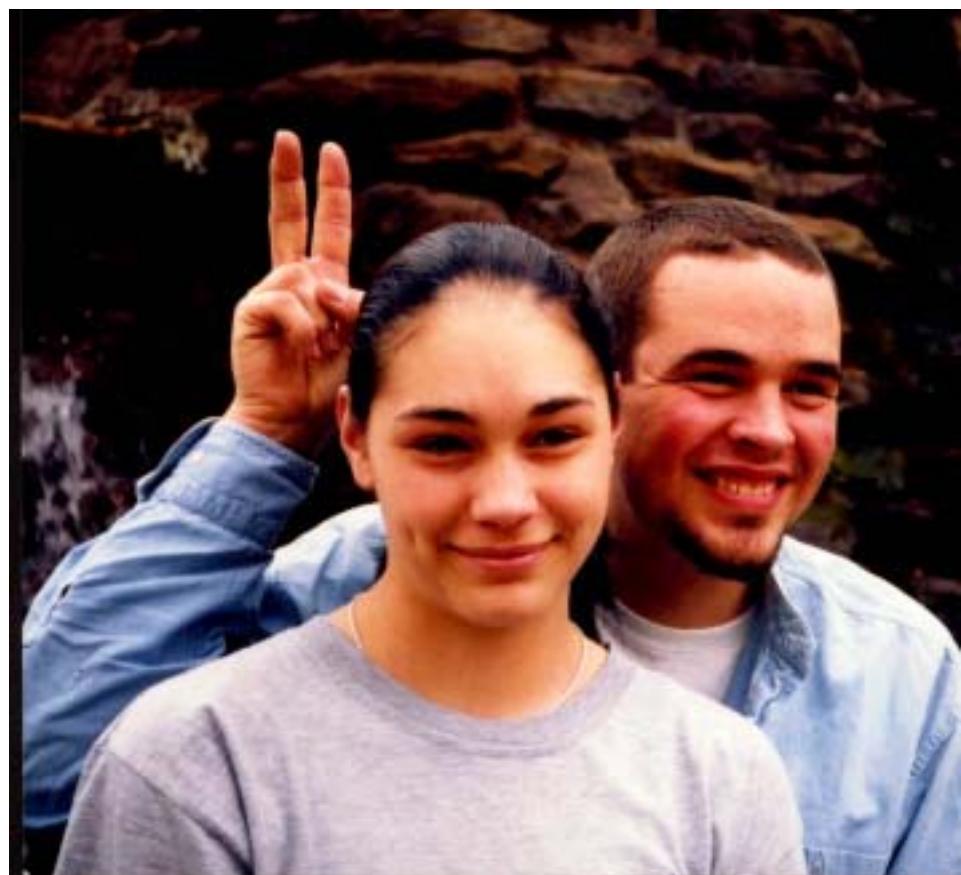
Gothic, but only if they wore all cotton! Sometimes I'm afraid (to wear those clothes) because someone would see me and tell my dad I'm worshiping the devil or something. I'm not, and I don't want to give that impression."

Long says that her parents are pretty supportive of both her habits, but her dad doesn't like her music.

"My mom is okay with both music and horse-back riding, and she even enjoys the same music I do," she said. "But my dad thinks differently. He hates the music I listen to. He's okay with the horses."

Although Long is interested in many things both dark (music) and light (horse-back riding), she would sum herself up with sunny.

"My mom says I'm a trip right to the Bahamas, and that I'm a character. My brother says I'm like a fresh fart on a spring day, but I would say I'm sunny. I'm smart-alecky, friendly, caring, outgoing, loveable, cuddly, ornery, a boy-magnet and many others," she said.



*Devin Long and her brother Colton Brown pose with bunny ears at Oakdale park, May 2001 as Colton takes his senior pictures.(Photo Courtesy of Devin Long)*



*Senior Jason Brady sits atop his 1996 Eclipse. Brady has spent over \$1,200 fixing up his car. He says it's just something he likes to do with his friends. (Photo by Janie Verhoeff)*

## Parking lot sports masterful machines and cheap heaps

By Janie Verhoeff

When you drive into the SES student parking lot, you see the usual Park Avenue, Buick Station Wagon and Ford Van. But what you wouldn't expect to see is a 1996 Eclipse.

Jason Brady spent \$7,000 on a 1996 Green Eclipse after his parents bought him a 1989 Dodge Daytona, which he still has but doesn't really drive. Right now Brady is working at Wendy's 25 hours a week to get the car bills paid.

"I used to work long hours this summer at Arctic Glacier from like 5 a.m. to 8 p.m. so I could get ahead on my car. But, I don't work late anymore," he said.

Brady said that school and cross country have taken a chunk of his time, but he still manages to put in enough hours to support his car hobby.

Brady has put about \$1,200 on new items for his Eclipse since he's bought it.

He said that the biggest joy of owning a nice car is modifying it.

"Mods! I have a short air intake, cat back exhaust, euro-style tail lights, an under-body green neon kit, and a whole bunch of little stuff on the engine to make it look good," he said.

What's the reason he does all this fancy stuff to his car?

"Just something I like to do. Me and all my friends in Salina — that's just what we do."

Brady doesn't just spend time work-

ing on his car. He spends a lot of time driving it, too.

"I spend three hours a day with my car," he said.

Not everyone loves a car the way Brady does. In the same parking lot just a few feet from Brady's beautiful green machine, you could find Kody Losey's muddy heap. While Brady spends as much time and money as possible on his car, Losey spends as little time and money as possible on his.

Losey spent \$2,000 on his 1992 white Isuzu truck after his bike got old.

"I got sick of riding my bike and decided to buy me a truck," he said.

New items on Losey's truck would be ... "tires." He'd like to get a new hood because a few trees have sneaked up on him,

but if he doesn't, he's not concerned.

"I like driving a vehicle that I can run into a tree and say 'oh, well,'" he said.

Losey said that he doesn't spend nearly as much time working on or with his truck as Brady spends on his car.

"I spend around 30 minutes driving it," he said.

He said the most work he puts into his truck is to change the oil every once in awhile.

"I change the oil every so often," he said. "But I don't care much about the rest."

Losey says he works to pay for the gas he puts in his truck.

He said he likes his truck.

"It gets me places without any problems...usually," he said.



*Senior Kody Losey shows off his 1992 Isuzu. "I like driving a vehicle that I can run into a tree and say 'oh, well,'" he said. (Photo by Janie Verhoeff)*

# Tailgaiting: SES' new sport

By Lindsay Zeller

On football game days, the smell of green grass, pigskin and steak hang in the air. Although tail-gating has occurred for the past two years at Southeast, the current group of tailgaters is raising the art to a new level.

A group of junior tailgating boys are on the go every home game, making sure that people are there, the play station is going and food is cooking.

"We're all friends that just came up with an idea," said Derek Kruse.

It was an idea that spread all throughout school, giving people a chance to hang out, eat good food and watch their favorite team.

"I never thought this little idea would become an every Friday night deal," said Kruse.

But it has. Now, there are couches, grills, and "the platform."

The platform being a truck bed that has been worked on to make a tailgating kings throne. Containing a couch, railing, tables, and an American flag hanging on the back.

Kruse said the group has acquired furniture that came from all over the place. Some of it they don't even know about.

"The couch on the platform came from the side of the road somewhere. Jeremy Will's dad found it cushion-less, so Bret Keeler's grandma donated cushions to us off of an old

couch she had. The chair is Tilden Crable's old chair from his house. As for the rest of the furniture, I have no clue," said Kruse.

"Now as for the food, we all just bring stuff. Kruse and I just tell people what to bring. If they do, that's good. If they don't, we make a trip into town," said Keeler.

So, who can come to this after-school fun?

"Anyone that we approve. We usually restrict it to junior guys and girls, but others can come only if we say so," he joked. "It helps if you bribe us with money."

Nothing dampens the spirit of these guys, not even tornadoes.

"WE ARE TROOPERS! We don't care what the weather is like wind, rain, hail, tornadoes, even acid rain," said Keeler.

Keeler said he hoped the tradition would continue even after the current tailgaters graduate, but he doesn't know who might take over organizing the event.

"We will hafta put a few individuals through a rigorous training program to see who can really fill the void that we are going to leave when we graduate."

But Kruse said that none of this would be as good as it is now if it wasn't for Pat Haxton and his amazing football team.

"Thanks, (Mr.) Haxton, for putting on a great show this year," he said.



*Genell Heimer flashes a smile at writing camp. The camp was an opportunity for young writers to explore writing. (Photo by Tammi Verhoeff)*

## Camp inspires poem

By Don Wagner

There's a sense of grace that comes in fall  
As the leaves turn golden brown;  
The night winds stir the prairie grasses—  
Frost bestows a crystal crown

Amid the Kansas landscape  
In the Flint Hills, surrounded by oaks,  
We hold a special school for writers—  
Young adults and other folks  
We gather at the Rock Springs Ranch  
To write, talk, read, and share,  
And for a time the world holds still  
For the few who have gathered there,  
'Prairie Winds' the event is called,  
And for these few brief hours,  
School takes on a whole new meaning—  
Education blooms and flowers.

Learning is much too valuable  
To be cloistered behind school doors,  
So blow, you prairie winds of thought—  
Let us reflect and learn some more.

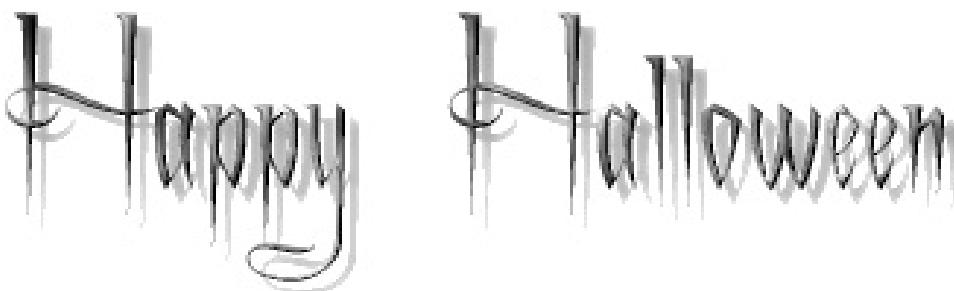
The times in life we allow ourselves  
The luxury of true learning  
Are special moments in our days  
Of dutiful discerning.  
The ability to write the thoughts we think  
In a way that's fresh and striking  
Is a skill we develop, polish, and hone  
Until the words are to our liking.  
So let us celebrate these moments  
When we can tarry on the prairie,  
And turn our thoughts into words of weight  
That our brains and souls can carry.

The days we have are numbered,  
So gather ye rosebuds while you can—  
Laugh and love, reflect and learn  
Of this human quintessence we call man.

*Editor's note: The poem above was written by Mr. Don Wagner for the Prairie Winds Writing Camp.*



*Mr. Don Wagner checks up on his wife at Prairie Winds writing camp, Oct. 16-19. Genell Heimer, Sarah Maine, Racheal Flax and Tammi Verhoeff all attended the camp. The camp was full of experienced writers, food, published authors, food, fishin' tales, food, writing, food, beautiful scenery and food. (Photo by Tammi Verhoeff)*



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BATS



GOBLINS



HALLOWEEN

TRICK

MUMMYS

OCTOBER

SKELETONS

SPIDERS

TREAT



## Creative Corner

### The Witch

by Rachael Moon



*She stands,  
tied to a stake.  
A fortress of wood,  
growing at her feet  
The milling crowd,  
angrily staring at her  
Enraged by her silence,  
a flaming torch makes its way  
through the people.  
Time stands still as the bundles catch  
fire,  
the reeking stench of burning flesh  
fills the air.  
My sister finally screams,  
As her head is engulfed in the flames.*

## Two freshmen publish in Young Kansas Writers

Mark McClure and Rachael Moon were recently published in *Young Kansas Writers*, a publication of the Kansas Association of Teachers of English (KATE).

McClure published a poem entitled "Roar or Bleat," and Moon published a short descriptive piece called "Meadow Rain."

A total of 10 stories and poems from Kansas eighth graders were published.

Both writings are on page 16 of the 65-page publication.

Taylor Garretson earned honorable mention for her poem entitled "Her."

The three students are freshmen this fall.

The poem that appears above is not Moon's published work, but it is a poem that fits the Halloween theme of this page.



# Teachers hope to make the grade

*By Tammi Verhoeff*

Test. The word that strikes fear in students' hearts all across the country. The word is responsible for sudden stomach aches and headaches.

Normally teachers are responsible for dishing out this torture, but on Oct. 30 the roles will be reversed – sort of.

Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) is the "big test" faculty members take every five years to ensure the public that our school is performing at the best of its ability.

"We assess student progress using UCIC (a math rubric), QAR (a reading model) and six trait writing (the writing model) along with other tests given to the students to evaluate their progress and to see if we have reached our goals,"

Principal Mr. Monte Couchman said.

A visiting team of three comes to Southeast every five years to go over test scores and to either recommend accreditation or not recommend accreditation. There are different cycles that schools go through. After each accreditation, a school is allowed to move on to the next cycle. Our second cycle started in 1998.

"The staff gets together at the beginning of each cycle to decide what performance goals we'd like to reach for the next cycle. We then try to find different teaching methods that will help us to achieve our goals," Couchman said.

The committee will be coming to Southeast on Oct. 30, and while students are sitting in their classes preparing for their next test, teachers will be sweating in their sweaters.

# TRUST promotes Red Ribbon Week

*By Lindsay Zeller*

Red Ribbon Week is back and the school is asking for your support. It will be a week-long celebration of the theme "Planting the Seeds for Tomorrow's Heroes."

Southeast TRUST students developed the theme as an offshoot of the national theme "Freedom is Drug-free: Plant the Promise."

On Tuesday, Oct. 22, TRUST had planned to host an assembly on the football field, where the students and faculty would have released balloons with "drug free" messages and the school's address. The event was postponed as Rogers is waiting for a "dry, sunny day."

Rogers said that she hopes the messages will be found and that those who find them will let someone at SES know they found them.

Yesterday, buttons were distributed to every student.

Throughout the next week, from Oct. 23-31, students who wear the buttons will be eligible to win one of the six or seven prizes that will be distributed daily. Randomly selected winners will hear their button number and be called to Mrs. Rogers' office to retrieve a prize.

Wednesday, Oct. 30, students are asked to show their support of being drug-free by wearing red.

# FCCLA plans to 'Stop the Violence'

*By Janie Verhoeff*

Five FCCLA members — Amber Earles, Ashley St. Clair, Bridgette Blomquist, Alyssa Pengra and Jessica Conway, along with sponsor Mrs. Juanelle Garretson — helped stop the violence on Sept. 31 and Oct. 1.

The five students and their sponsor learned how to predict and stop violence in their schools when they attended the Stop the Violence presentation in Salina.

They participated in many group activities, such as building a stop-the-violence machine and coming up with their own definition of violence.

They started off the day with statistics being read for each major violence act in the past and a candle being lit for each statistic. At the end, each student signed a promise to stop violence in their school, and applied for a grant to bring in money so they can present Stop The Violence in their own schools. Garretson will know Nov. 1 if SES receives grant money.

Conway said she learned a lot and enjoyed herself at the convention.

"I learned a lot about stopping violence and warning signs at the training. I never knew before the convention what kinds of little things can lead to major violent acts," Conway said. "It

was also a lot of fun to just go there and hang out."

The group presented the Stop the Violence information to the Salina PEO Chapter on Monday, Oct. 21. The SES chapter is the only FCCLA Chapter in Saline County involved in the program.

Another FCCLA activity will be coming soon. Fall Leadership Academy will be held Oct. 31 in McPherson.

Garretson is taking 45 members with her to McPherson, including three district officers — Jamie Wilcox, Erica Stein and Meladee Garst. They are establishing the itinerary, contacting the workshop workers and speakers, choosing the menu and making other plans for the Fall Leadership Academy.

"We hope that members take away valuable information not only about FCCLA but about important issues that facing teens today. We have a lot of outstanding community members presenting workshops on a wide range of topics from eating disorders to grief and dieing," Garretson said.

"Members will have also have the opportunity to have a lot of fun with the chapter costume contests and pumpkin carving contests as well!" Garst added.

# Southeast Shorts

## Care Group flies to conference

*By Nataliya Chornak*

Seven members out of last year's Care Group — Jesica Brown, Jessica Conway, Melissa McDowell, Erin Boyd, Whitney Cameron, Ryan Bartlett, and Shawn Lingo — will fly to Minneapolis, Minn. on Nov. 6 with sponsors Melinda Smith, Cathy Cordill, Sandy Rogers, Terry Anderson, and Bill Gies to attend the Healthy Communities/Healthy Youth Conference.

They will stay until Nov. 10.

The students received a grant and scholarships to attend. They have also been fundraising since last year.

Smith said that this conference provides an opportunity to gain skills that can strengthen asset-building. She added that the students would also learn from hundreds of youth and adult asset builders from diverse communities, backgrounds, and aspects of community life.

## Sparacino earns national merit

*By Jessica Conway*

In a period of ten years only six students have won the National Merit Commended Student honor at SES. This year we have added a seventh student to the list. Joe Sparacino has won the award.

The Commended Student Award is based on the scores of the National Test called the PSAT. The other six students who have won in the past were Matt Duran, 1992 -1993; Casey Jackson, 1995-1996; Ryan Kejr, 1996-1997; R.C. Harlan, 1996-1997; Aaron Pavkov, 1997-98; and Nick Sparacino 1999-2000.

Mrs. Judy White feels that this is a great honor not only to Joe but to the Sparacino family because Joe is following right after his brother Nick.

"The fact that Joe received this honor is extremely exciting for Southeast of Saline -- to have a student that is recognized through this program by being in the top five percent nationwide," she said. "Also it is 'extra-special' to the Sparacino family because Joe's brother Nick was the last student to receive this prestigious award, so it will be the first time that our school to have the names of brothers next to each other on the recognition board."

Joe was worried for awhile he didn't win but is happy he did and finds it cool to be in direct succession to his brother.

"I think it's neat. I thought I didn't win because Mrs. White said she wasn't sure, but I was happy to find out I did," he said. "I think it's cool that my brother and I got to be together in succession."

## FFA heads to Louisville

*By Janie Verhoeff*

FFA has a National Convention October 29 – November 1. Miss Brandi Rice is taking seven students plus herself to Louisville.

They will be receiving a National Chapter Award and attending a career workshop.

Emily Henry will be competing with her project "Medications and Their Effects on the Growth of Chicks." The six other students that are going are Samantha Abker, Breanna Kuhlman, Mandy Preston, Kyle Hawks, Jenna Hackney and Abby Staab.

# Southeast rumbles into district play

By Mitcher Barnes

Last Friday the Southeast of Saline Trojans bulldozed their way into district play with a 35-14 win over the Belleville Buffaloes to improve to 6-1 on the season.

The Trojans headed into district play with the best record since the Pat Haxton era began four years ago (5-1). They were also eager to erase their memories of the previous week's loss to Beloit.

Early in the game, the Trojans found themselves down after their punt was blocked and recovered by Belleville. Belleville capitalized on the turnover with a one-yard run by runningback Chance Mitchell.

That was Belleville's first and final lead of the game, though. The Trojans began utilizing their strengths by using their big offensive line to wear down the Buffaloes. By half time, senior tailback Adam Stephenson had two touchdowns including an amazing 51-yard run, and the Trojans were leading 21-14.

In the second half the Trojan defense put a stop to the Buffaloes scoring by not allowing a single point in the second half. The Trojans also extended their lead in the second half when Matt Garretson hit wide receiver Jordon Komp for a 30-yard touchdown pass to put the Trojans up 27-14. Stephenson also scorched the Buffalo defense for one last touchdown, a 32-yard run to seal the game 35-14.

The Trojan offense piled up 496 total yards. Stephenson had his best game of the year with 308 rushing yards on 29 carries and three touchdowns. The Trojan defense also shut down the Buffaloes, holding them to a measly 190 total yards.

This Friday the Trojans continue district play versus the Minneapolis Lions (3-4) who last week fell to Riley County 20-15.

"Since we've been in high school we've never beaten Minneapolis, whether it was a varsity, JV, or freshman game. So we're hungry for a victory over our rivals. Their record indicates a below-average season, but they've been playing solid football the last couple of weeks and they will present a tough challenge," said senior Jordon Komp

## Seniors reaping benefits of playing early

### Opinion

By Mitcher Barnes

There is an old saying "when it rains, it pours." Three years ago dark clouds settled over Southeast of Saline for Football and Cross Country. This year, however, both teams are starting to see the ray of sunlight from behind the clouds.



Two years ago both teams found themselves playing a majority of young, inexperienced sophomore players. Football head coach Pat Haxton was forced to assimilate a squad with a large number of sophomores such as Jordon Komp, Joe Sparacino, Jason

Korbelik, Brad Brack, Adam Stephenson, Ben Ryan and Roy Riffel. Korbelik was the only player who had varsity experience the previous year. Since the team was young, the mistakes came frequently and the end result was a 4-5 record.

In Cross Country Head Coach Wayne Sager also had a squad of mostly sophomores including his number one runner, Tucker Weese. The Trojans top five included three sophomores: Tucker Weese, Jason Brady and Mitcher Barnes. The previous year the Trojan Cross Country squad saw its 13-year straight state team appearances snapped by a fifth place finish at the regional meet.

This year, however, both teams are reaping the benefits of having played sophomores on the varsity level. The Trojan football squad has been the most visible; they've

compiled more than half the amount of wins than the previous three years combined. With one district game behind them the Trojans are 6-1 and they could be the first team in school history to advance to the state playoffs.

The Trojan Cross Country squad has also benefited from their deep experience this year. The Trojan boys' squad is placing higher than they've placed in three years. They've also beaten three state ranked 3A teams. The Trojans just might find themselves in Wamego Saturday, Nov. 2 at the state meet for the first time since 1998, and they just might restart the streak of state appearances that they broke three years earlier.

For both teams the dark clouds have passed and the sun is shining brightly over Southeast of Saline again as both teams try make their mark at the state level.



Running back Adam Stephenson rushes for a first down against a Russell Bronco linebacker during the first quarter. Southeast won their Homecoming game 25-21. (Photo by Nataliya Chornak)

# Volleyball wins league

By Erica Stein

The luck of the Irish rubbed off on the SES volleyball team this season, and they are league champions just two years after Miss Pesha Schwensen took over the reins as head volleyball coach.

Tuesday, SES hosted the Minneapolis Lions in a match that would determine the NCAA league champion. The Lions had a league record of 7-1 after splitting with Belleville. Southeast needed to win one of the matches and they got it, winning the first match 8-15, 15-11, 15-13.

In the second match, SES lost 9-15, 15-11, 12-15, but SES had already clinched the league title in the first match. Their record in league play is 9-1.

That night they recognized their four seniors — Emily Eilders, Haylie Colby, Mandy Preston and Laura Reed. Eilders is the team set-

ter, Colby plays back row middle, Preston specializes in the front row, and Reed is a strong side hitter who plays all around.

Coach Schwensen has always been a big fan of the Irish and insists that they bring good Luck. To keep the fighting Irish spirit alive amongst their team, Coach decorated team members' lockers with purple four leaf clovers.

Each clover had a lucky penny and their Irish nickname. For instance, on the court Colby is known as Mc'Colby, Eilders is Mc'Eilders, Preston is known as O'Preston and Reed is known as O'Reed.

Maybe it's the luck of the Irish, or maybe "They Just Win." Whatever the reason, they fought hard for the League Championship and hope to carry the momentum in sub-state Saturday.

## Heimer cruises to league title

By Mitcher Barnes

Last week the Southeast of Saline cross country team saw Joni Heimer win her first all-league title only to see three time all-leaguer Tucker Weese vying for his fourth forced out of the race because of injury.

Heimer, a freshman, captured not only all-league honors at the Downs NCAA league meet but the league title as well. She ran the two-mile course in a remarkable time of 13:00.

Heimer joins a host of previous SES girls to win the league title. The most recent was Australian exchange "Thunder from Down Under" Christine Banks-Smith who ran the same course in a time of 13:31.



Freshman Brooke Kent congratulates league champion Joni Heimer after her first place finish in Downs. (Photo by Mr. Gary McClure)

## Sports Box

By: Mitcher Barnes

### Football

Smoky Valley	27-23W
@Marion	21-6W
Concordia	34-28W
@Ellsworth	49-0W
Russell	25-21W
@Beliot	21-7L
@Belleville	35-14W

### Record 6-1

### Volleyball

Lincoln	15-6, 15-7
South	9-15, 0-15
Dodge City	7-15, 14-12, 11-15
Smoky Valley	15-12, 7-15, 12-15
	15-9, 13-15, 15-12

### S.E.S. Invitational (5th Place)

Salina South	11-15, 15-10, 11-5
Moundridge	15-12, 8-15, 9-15
Smoky Valley	15-8, 15-7
Russell	15-9, 15-6, 15-4, 15-2
Beloit	15-8, 15-10, 15-6, 12-15

### Minneapolis

Clay Center	8-15, 13-15
Marysville	9-15, 3-15
Beloit	15-12, 11-15, 10-15
Hillcrest	15-5, 15-8
Belleville	15-3, 16-14
Santa Fe Trail	15-13, 15-4, 15-12, 15-4
Northern Heights	11-15, 6-15
Sacred Heart	15-3, 15-6
Ellsworth	6-15, 6-15
Minneapolis	15-6, 15-8, 15-12, 15-4
	15-9, 15-11, 15-13, 9-7
	15-15, 11, 12-15

### Record 15-11

### Cross Country (Boys)

Abilene	4th
Hesston	6th
Clay Center	11th
SES Invitational	4th
Lyons	3rd
Ellsworth	5th
Downs (League)	3rd

### (Girls)

Abilene	4th
Hesston	15th
Clay Center	7th
S.E.S. Invitational	10th
Lyons	N/A
Ellsworth	6th
Downs (League)	N/A

The boys still managed to place third overall with the help of sophomore Ian Hughes who earned his first all-league honors by placing ninth, running the course in a time of 18:45. Jason Brady also helped fill the void for the Trojans by placing five seconds behind Hughes with a 10<sup>th</sup> place finish. For Brady this was the second time he had received all-league honors.

Both teams are looking for state berths as they head for regionals Saturday, Oct. 26. The top three teams at regionals advance to state on Nov. 2.

"We have already competed against many of the same teams that will be at our regionals. Most of the stronger teams are from our NCAA League," said Coach Sager.

The Trojan girls hope to upset some teams on Saturday as a dark horse. The Trojan boys will possibly have to go again without their number one runner if so it will yet again be another challenge for them to overcome. Weese is currently on crutches but hopes to run Saturday.

"We have a group of senior boys who have never been to state before. They have had a strong desire to go to state and that will improve our chances," said Coach Sager.

# Character cast play to debut Nov. 15

By Lindsay Zeller

A funny thing happened in the casting of "A Funny Thing Happened on the Way to the Forum." It seems that many of the characters were character cast.

Most of the leads of the play — Ben Ryan, Adam Stephenson, Rachael Flax, Mitcher Barnes, Joe Sparacino, Jason Korbelik and Shai Elliott — admit that they share some qualities with their characters.

For example, Adam Stephenson and Rachael Flax play Senex and Domina, husband and wife. In real life, they are boyfriend and girlfriend.

Stephenson says that he relates to his character because of this relationship.

"Yeah, I relate to my character. We are both whipped by our girlfriend/wife," Stephenson said. "I do anything she tells me to in both relationships."

Flax says that she relates to her character in being strong-willed and independent.

"I am strong-willed and independent," Flax said. "Domina is a very dominating character. Nobody else can get a word in."

However, she said there were also differences between her and Domina.

"The strangest part about playing husband and wife is that my character is so mean and demanding, and our relationship isn't like that," said Flax.

Besides Adam and Rachael's character resemblances, there is Ben Ryan and his character Pseudolus. Pseudolus is the slave trying to win his freedom from Hero (Mitcher Barnes).

"Pseudolus is a pretty goofy guy. I like to goof around my fair share. I'm sure Mrs. Hess can back me up on that," Ryan said. "He's also a con-man. I find it interesting trying to be conniving and sneaky."

Ryan isn't the only "sneaky" one. Barnes (Hero) tries to steal Philia's (Elliott's) love by using Ryan.

"I'm in love with Philia, and I send Pseudolus to get her

for me. In return I'll give him his freedom," Barnes said. "In real life I am shy but also mischievous. I am devious in life and in the play, and I have a close relationship with my mom."

Sparacino said that he was only partly character cast.

"In the play, I am a fruity slave who is always hysterical," he said. "I am not fruity. I am pretty chilled out most of the time," Sparacino said.

Barnes agrees that Sparacino was character-cast in the hysterical form.

"All of us know he is hysterical. He's a funny guy that we all like to talk to," Barnes said.

Elliott and Korbelik said they are just the opposite of the rest. They feel that they have not been character cast and are far removed from their character.

"I play Philia. She is a maiden who falls in love with Hero, but she's sold to the captain, Miles Gloriosus (Ja-

son). She's a dumb blonde!"

Although Elliott said she isn't character cast, she said that she has had a lot of experience playing the ditz.

"It's easy and fun for me to play her. I play a "ditz" a lot in Forensics (IDA)," she said. "Sometimes she can be funny, but she can be a complete airhead!"

Korbelik plays Miles Gloriosus, a Roman captain who buys a wife (Elliott) from Lycus (Henry).

"I'm not like my character. In real life I'm just like a little teddy bear," Korbelik said.

Tuzicka said that he didn't try to match the people personalities to the character personalities; he just wanted to make the people comfortable.

"I tried to put them in places that I know they will be comfortable," Tuzicka said.

The musical will be performed Friday, Nov. 15 and Saturday, Nov. 16. Tickets are \$3 each for seats on the outside aisles and \$5 each for the rest. All seats are reserved.



*Seniors Jason Korbelik, Brock Tanner, Ben Ryan and Adam Stephenson serenade Mrs. Judy Hall at the Renaissance Festival. Korbelik, Tanner, Ryan and Stepheson all hold leads in 'A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum' which debuts Friday, Nov. 15 and shows again Saturday, Nov. 16. Tickets are \$3-5.*