

THE TROJOURNAL

Dec. 20, 2004 Southeast of Saline, 5056 E. K-4 Highway, Gypsum KS 67448, Vol. XXIX, No. 4
See The Trojournal on-line and in color at <http://www.usd306.k12.ks.us>



Seniors Danielle Weese and Jessica Swanson are buried under the mountain of stuffed animals brought in by NHS students for Project Comfort which was done this month. For more information on the events of clubs these past few months, check out pages 3 and 8. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Judy White)

Around The Halls

Why is it important to give during the holidays?



Mrs White, Counselor
"It is better to give, than to receive and that is what the holiday season is all about."



Austin Barnes, Sr.
"Because some people like Michael Lacy need all the help you can give them."



Dani Weese, Sr.
"Tis the reason for the season."



Andrew Simmons, Sr.
"So you can get something in return."



Southeast of Saline

THE TROJOURNAL

- Editor Jessica Conway
- Managing Editor Clint Spiller
- Layout Editor John Christie
- Sports Editor Skylar Nosker
- Features Editor Kelsey Colby
- Copy Editor Brent Sweany
- Photo Editor Sadie Myers
- Reporters Brian Dow,
Chelsea Thorne,
Samantha Elsasser
- Graphic Artists Chelsie Green
- Sports Writers Amanda Harding,
John Henry
- Columnist Colby Stephenson
- Pr. Manager Shannon Wilson
- Advisor Mr. Gary McClure

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.

Students protest to keep Strowig

By Jessica Conway

Lots of yelling, sit-ins, chaining yourself to a tree—these are all things that we see as protest within the movies and sometimes even on the news, but rarely does it deal with high school students. Recently, protest was indeed something big at SES, but none of the above-mentioned issues were a problem, for the students acted with maturity, intelligence, and self-control.



The controversy was over resource office Jon Strowig. There was a lot of controversy when SES first got a resource officer three and a half years ago. People were arguing about whether or not we truly needed an officer at school, especially considering the money. The way that the Resource officer contract works was based off of a trial period of three years.

The first two years of this contract the money was supplied by a federal grant, and the last year and any following years were to be paid by the school and the sheriff's office. If either the sheriff's office or the school should back out during the first three years then they would be expected to pay back the federal funding for the first two years.

Since then the controversy has gone from "we don't need a cop" to "he has to stay".

The SES school board had made a decision that would dismiss Strowig after the Christmas season, because they weren't sure that the program was working the way they would have preferred. The students greatly disagreed. Not only did they disagree, but they took action.

Many of the students like Strowig, and they want to keep him around, but they immediately realized that marching up to Mr. Couchman and screaming would get them nowhere. Instead they started a petition. Signatures were gained and sent to the school board showing support for retaining Officer Strowig, and parental phone calls were made.

As a result, the Board voted to fund Strowig's contract through the end of the year at which point he will be evaluated and the decision for next year will be made.

Within the actions of these self-motivated students, a great value has been claimed. Not only did the SES students get what they wanted, but they acted with intelligence and maturity not often seen in high school students. We could all learn from them, not only in maturity, but in the proper ways to deal with authority.

Along with the great maturity shown by the students, the Board of Education members deserve a big pat on the back as well. Not only did they handle the situation well and actually take the students' opinions into consideration, but they also allowed the students a great lesson in civics.

Students get into giving spirit as Christmas draws near

By Kelsey Colby

Christmas is just around the corner, and if you go to Target, Wal-Mart, or even the local grocery store, you will notice Salvation Army volunteers ringing their little bells and standing out in the freezing cold air that the winter season has drug in. Ding, Ding, Ding, the sound echoes through your ears and reminds you of all the people who are homeless right now and living out in the cold. The ringing resounds in your head and teases you to just go and put even just a dollar in the red shiny can. Do you donate, or do you just walk right on by to save your dollar for yourself?



Many members of clubs at SES would donate. That's obvious when you look at the tables of goods collected this Christmas season. Many students have probably walked by the table filled with stuffed animals sitting by Mrs. White's office, wondering what they're all for. Yes, it's another club working on a charity event. The National Honor Society have been working on gathering stuffed animals and dolls for children of the U.S. Soldiers in Iraq.

On Saturday, Dec. 4, NHS hosted another charity event. The students went on a

scavenger hunt to gather items for local charities in Salina, like the Rescue Mission and the Ashby House. Students went door to door asking for small donations.

FCCLA is also doing a charity event. They are sponsoring a skating party at the Starlight Skating Rink in Salina. It is for both the members and their families. The price to get in is \$5, and participants are also supposed to bring an item for our troops. Students can bring books, puzzles, gum, beef jerky, etc. This project will be FCCLA's community service project for this year.

"We're trying to make it personal this year by getting names of soldiers from around this area and sending them the items that we collect. We also, being a family-based club, want to do many activities that will get families together in a place where they can relax and just have a good time," said FCCLA Advisor Mrs. Juanelle Garretson.

There are so many charities to contribute to during the Christmas season. The students who have helped at Southeast with contributions and donations have done an honorable thing. They know the good feeling of having helped others put presents under a tree.

There is a lesson here: Let the bounty of the bountiful provide for those that are needy. Read that sentence just one more time, and make sure you know what it means. Many Southeast students are doing a good job of participating in helping with the needs

of others this Christmas holiday, but we should always ask ourselves if we could do more.

You may not realize how much difference your giving will make in someone's life. Please help make a difference.



Holly Henry holds a small child while lending a hand at the Salvation Army Christmas drive. The NHS students helped carry food for the participants, and helped some of the parents pick out toys for their children throughout the day. For more information on the SES clubs see page 9 (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Judy White)

Trojournal staff prepares for Santa

By Colby Stephenson

The tree has been lit, our houses are aglow, and the presents are wrapped tightly under the tree awaiting Christmas morning. With all of this joy and excitement, I almost forgot the most important element... the Christmas list. That's right; children all around the world are making their list and checking it twice; they're going to find out if they've been naughty or nice because Santa Claus is coming to town.

This is an age-old tradition that has been practiced for years. Children sit down



weeks, some even months, before Christmas to write a list of wants to Ol' Saint Nick. This year instead of writing a Christmas list only for myself, I have decided to spread the joy and love of the season by composing a list for the Southeast of Saline Trojournal staff.

Sadie Myers - This year for Christmas I would like a six-month long break from school.

Klint Spiller - I want a wicked cool lab coat like my idol, Mr. King.

Brian Dow - I would like my own raku kiln to perfect the art and become better at it than Mr. Krehbiel. Mr. Krehbiel better watch out!

John Henry - I want an A-10 warthog, the modern fighter bomber used in Iraq.

Skylar Nosker - This year for Christmas I am asking for the world because then I would own everything.

Chelsie Green - I want a Lamborghini.

Jessica Conway - I would like Nick Lachey (hottie!) and a full ride scholarship to the University of Tulsa.

Chelsea Thorne - I want the Mall of America, Nick Lachey, and a penguin.

Kelsey Colby - I am asking for an ATM machine so that I never have to worry about money again.

Shannon Wilson - I would like a never-ending supply of pencils because I always lose mine.

Brent Sweany - An olive drab H2 Hummer.

John Christie - I would like Priest Holmes back on my Fantasy Football roster.

Samantha Elsasser - I want to turn into a Black Panther for Christmas this year.

Colby Stephenson - I would like a 2005 SL65 AMG Mercedes-Benz and lots and lots of diamonds.

Say it to Sam: Advice Column

By Samantha Elsasser

Dear Sam,

How do I get my boyfriend to put down the X-Box remote control and pay more attention to me?

Neglected girlfriend

Dear neglected,

Well, ask him to do something with you. You can ask him to go to the movie or something else he might like to do (other than X-Box).

If all else fails, you can start to hide the controllers, but be ready for a big fight if he catches you.

At some point, though, you'll probably have to tell him how you feel about his obsession with that game that he thinks is so important to him.



Dear Sam,

My older sister is in a really abusive relationship with her fiancée. She will come to our house with a ton of dark makeup and

Editor's Note: "Say it to Sam" is a new advice column written by freshman transfer student Samantha Elsasser, a newcomer to the Trojournal staff. If you would like to submit a question to "Say it to Sam," please e-mail it to the Trojournal at trojournal@usd306.k12.ks.us

glasses; and on her arms she has handprints and other bruises. I am worried that he has also started to beat my three-month-old niece "Miranda," because she had some bruises on her arms, stomach and legs. How can my family and I show her how bad he is treating her and "Miranda"?

A caring sister

Dear caring sister,

To start with, it is a really good idea to tell someone — maybe your parents — about this because you are probably scared, too.

After you've talked to someone to alleviate your own fears, you should talk to your sister about what is going on and tell her to open her eyes. She will most likely sit there and say no to everything that she knows is true, but you need to talk to her anyway. Most likely, she won't admit anything to you because she might be scared if she told someone that he might beat her even more than before.

If you can't get it through her head and you're really worried about all this, you should go to your local police department and tell them what is happening because they will know what to do about the abusive fiancée.

Student translates dress code into 'teen language'

By Chelsea Thorne

There has been a lot of hype recently about the dress code.

On Dec. 3, an announcement was made in seminar that the school would begin to enforce the dress code more completely.

Mr. Couchman left a paper listing the dress code with teachers, which was probably clear to teachers but unclear to the students. To help students understand, I decided to interpret it for all of you in simple teen language. Listed below is what Mr. Couchman wrote and what the dress code says, and below each item in italics is the teen translation.

The dress code states:

Standards of student dress will be enforced using the guidelines listed below. Students are expected to follow these guidelines during school hours as well as when attending or participating in a student activity. All Southeast of Saline staff is responsible for monitoring and enforcing these expectations.

This is the dress-code. Staff will enforce it.

Dress code: No article of clothing may be worn if it...

You can't wear it if it...

- Displays drug, alcohol or tobacco advertisements or innuendos whether in writing or graphics.

Tobacco is whacko, and getting ISS is my anti-drug. It should be yours, too.

- Displays sexual connotations or derogatory messages or innuendos whether in writing or graphics.

Leave the images of naked people and words about them at The Lions' Den.

- Displays offensive or derogatory messages directed at a particular gender, race, religion or minority whether in writing or graphic

Don't diss the males, Mexicans, Jews, people who are vertically challenged (like me), mentally handicapped or the rednecks.

- Hats may not be worn in the building during school hours (8:15 – 3:20) or at any time in the auditorium. Exceptions will be made when a hat must be worn for health/safety reasons as directed by a school official or during designated spirit days approved by school administration.

Don't wear hats during school hours unless you got a darn good reason.

- Acceptable shirts will cover the torso and shoulders completely and will have enough length to be tucked into pants/shorts/skirt when worn at normal waistline (halter tops/spaghetti straps/other off-shoulder shirts are not acceptable)

No butt, no gut.

- (You must) cover all undergarments at all time

Make sure your straps aren't hangin' out or showin'.

- Acceptable pants/skirts/shorts will be worn at the normal waistline at all times

Crack kills.

- (You cannot) have tears/rips/holes above the knee

If you have hole or rip above the knee, have your mom sew it.

- Cover all undergarments at all times

Keep you boxers, thongs, and any other kind of underwear covered.

We don't want to see them.

- (Skirts must) be worn so that the highest point is no more than one inch above the fingertip when arms are hanging straight down.

Your face cheeks should be rosy, but your booty cheeks should be hidden.

Consequences will include a verbal warning and request to change clothes on first instance of a problem. Further problems will result in disciplinary action including detention and In School Suspension assignments.

Follow these rules and Mr. Couchman won't bug you, and you will stay out of detention and ISS.

Mutschler left with no bruises, explanation, or remembrance of crash

By Chelsie Green

Senior Alex Mutschler's Dec. 5 auto accident was a crash he will never forget, nor remember, but he does see a few lessons for himself and others about using even more caution when driving.

The accident occurred in the early hours of the morning on Dec. 5, 2004. Mutschler was returning home



from a K-State Local Area Network (LAN) party at approximately 4:30 a.m. Jamming to his tunes, he came over a hill on East Cunningham Rd. He was driving toward Gypsum about a mile east of the school, and the next thing he knew, the air bag popped out, he was in the ditch, and there was a culvert sign through the windshield on the passenger side of his car.

"If I'd had a passenger, they would have been decapitated," he said.

A few days after the crash, Mutschler responded to a few questions from the Trojournal.

Trojournal: Do you remember anything from the accident?

Mutschler: I remember just sec-

onds before and seconds after, (but) not the actual crash.

Trojournal: Were you hurt at all?

Mutschler: Nope. No injuries, scrapes, bruises or soreness.

Trojournal: Did it total your car?

Mutschler: My car drove home from the accident. It was still running even right after the crash.

Trojournal: Have you driven at that hour of day before?

Mutschler: Yes, it's like the fifth or sixth time I have!

Trojournal: Who was the officer that came to the accident?

Mutschler: Officer (Brent) Melander.

Trojournal: Did he give you a ticket?

Mutschler: Nope. They ruled out me falling asleep; they couldn't explain it.

Trojournal: How do you think you wrecked?

Mutschler: The police said there was some ice on the road, but there is a disorder that runs in my family called hypoglycemia where your blood sugar all of a sudden goes high and you black out. I know I didn't fall asleep because I was

just listening to my music and wasn't even thinking about sleep.

Trojournal: What was unusual about the crash?

Mutschler: One of the factors that left the police confused was that the wreck didn't tear up any ground at all and left no tire tracks in the snow. Also, I hit the utility pole and sign on the right side of the road, but when I gained coherence, I was on the left side of the road, almost parallel to the post I hit. I was even facing the direction I was going.

Trojournal: What did you learn from the experience? Do you have any words of wisdom?

Mutschler: Pontiacs are tanks. When you're driving that early in the morning, sing to a CD; do something physical; don't just sit there. Tap your fingers on the wheel, anything, so you can stay awake.

Mutschler said he escaped the crash without a scratch on his body but a lot of others aren't that lucky.

Even though he believes he didn't fall asleep and that there is no explanation for the crash, he gives a few words of advice for drivers that may be driving at odd hours of the day or on icy roads.

"(Be alert.) You never know what to expect when you get behind the wheel," he said.

Shaw experiences "A Christmas Story" as reality

By Brent Sweany

"Ralphie, you'll shoot your eye out!" Many laugh at this popular quote from the movie, *A Christmas Story*, but freshman Andrew Shaw now takes it seriously.

On Nov. 10, Shaw didn't shoot out his eye, but he did shoot his hand.

It all started when Shaw took off with his .22 caliber J.C. Higgins rifle with the intent of shooting a rabbit. As Shaw was crossing a fence, he set down his rifle and it went off, straight into his hand.

"It felt just like someone was stabbing a pencil or an ink pen into you," he said, "At first I didn't know what had

happened . . . until I picked up my gun and saw there was blood all over it!"

The bullet entered Shaw's hand on the knuckle bone of the pinky of his right hand. The bullet broke his pinky finger, traveling diagonally to also break his middle finger and exit between his index and middle finger.

"If you look at it, it goes at an angle from the entry straight to the exit," he said.

Shaw first needed an X-ray, and the doctors thought that a fragment of the bullet was still in his hand. Dr. Pierson performed surgery on Shaw in Salina to retrieve the fragment. However, when

they found it, it wasn't a bullet fragment. It was a bone fragment.

Shaw had to stay in a soft cast for almost four weeks and is now in physical therapy to strengthen the muscles in his hand. He still retains full use of his right hand.

"I'm much more conscious of gun safety now," said Shaw, "My dad locked up all of the guns in our house, including my shotgun and rifle that I normally keep in my room."

Shaw adds some advice to other hunters.

"Every time you cross a fence, discharge your gun and keep the muzzle pointed in a safe direction," he said.

Families combine funds, fun in pep bus

By John Henry

Don't be surprised if on Christmas Eve a bus full of carolers pile out of a purple bus and head towards your house. This is only one use of the Hemphill's purple pep bus, which they bought in 2001 from the Solomon School District for \$869.

"We got the idea when we saw it in a newspaper ad," said Bethena Hemphill. "We thought it would be nice to take trips in since there are five people in our family and six in Rosetta Wiles' family."

Rosetta, Bethena's sister, and her family also pitched in to help pay for the bus.

The bus was said to have been in great condition, but it was bright yellow. Larry, Bethena, James, Ethan, and Alaura Hemphill all started painting along with the help of Rosetta, Gunnar, and Krislynn Wiles. When the job was done, they had spent about \$300 on paint.

The bus was a 32-passenger, but they have made room for storage areas and a couple lazy boy recliners.

"We take it to all the away football games," Bethena explained, "and sometimes even to birthday parties. My sister takes it to weekend softball tournaments, and we always take it on Christmas lights tours."

She said that they have even taken it

to Arkansas to go rafting.

"The average cost of a round trip (to a football game) is about \$75," Bethena said, "The top speed is 60 mph, so we get really excited when we pass someone on the highway. The driver usually yells 'stroke, stroke, stroke,' and everyone acts like they are rowing. We usually get some pretty strange looks from the other motorists."

The families have the bus tagged as an RV, but anyone who's not immediate family needs a note or permission from a parent to ride, Bethena said.

A new tradition was made this year. At every away game, they brought brownies, rice crispy treats, chicken noodles, sloppy-joes, and chili. The tradition was started after they fed the whole team after the Russell football game. From then on, they have fed the team after every game.

"We have a great time," Bethena said. "Sometimes the Weller's, Holzmeister's, and their kids ride with us. We'll be singing, listening to music, sounding the sirens, eating, and acting like maniacs!"

She said they will continue doing this until Rosetta Wiles' youngest child (who is three) graduates or until the bus dies.

When asked if the school helped out



with the bus financially, Bethena replied, "No, it's our own craziness!"

She said she and Larry asked James and Ethan's permission before buying the bus. Neither James or Ethan are embarrassed to be seen with the bus, but the family did embarrass their nephew once at a basketball game when they drove it to his game in McPherson.

However, that wasn't the strangest thing that they had used the bus for.

"The most unusual thing we've ever done was when we went Christmas caroling in it. Just imagine a busload of people showing up to sing loud and off-key at your house. We love our purple bus, if we could afford the gas we'd take it on every vacation!" said Bethena.



Above right: The Wiles and Hemphill families share meals and play games around a table as they travel down the road. Bottom: The Hemphill/Wiles bus is used to go to SES games and, when manageable, on family vacations. (Photos courtesy of Mrs. Rosetta Wiles)

Strowig will stay after tough decision

News

By Amanda Harding

After the school board voted 5-1 on Nov. 22, it was final: Officer Jon Strowig would be staying at the school instead of returning to patrol.

As the news spread of the final vote, a group of students, who had circulated a petition to retain Strowig, and parents, who had called in, felt that their efforts had been effective.

"I started the petition for Strowig because he is a good person who doesn't deserve to lose his job because of a contract that wasn't renewed," said Alex Mutschler, who organized the petition.



"I'm glad he gets to keep his job. It's more than a job; it's a good service he does for the school."

The reason there was a question about retaining the resource officer's position this year is because it was the end of the three-year trial, and the school board was debating whether to continue it or not. Strowig's paycheck comes from Saline County, but the school pays half the salary to the county, and then they give him one check.

The school's portion is approximately \$12,000 this year.

Strowig said that his job is personally important to him because he understands the need to keep a community safe. Being a resource officer brings back several personal memories from his childhood. He grew up in Rialto, California, where as a child he faced several problems. He was shot at twice, found a dead body in an alley, and on his first day of

school there was a drive by shooting. Strowig's only goal at Southeast of Saline School is to make it a safer place for all the kids to go to school.

"I remember the problems and drama that existed when I was young and I fear that too many people and policemen forget what it was like when they were in school. I want to improve the students' possibilities of today and tomorrow," Strowig said.

Strowig's highlight of working at the school is being able to "walk the beat" with everyone where he knows everyone and everyone knows him. Strowig feels that he can personally help the school in many ways.

"I am very grateful for the students and parents that helped me to be able to stay at the school. I feel that I can do a lot for the students and teachers," said Strowig.

Pablo spends time with extended family to experience America

By Chelsea Thorne

He isn't an illegal alien, a U.S. citizen, or a foreign exchange student. He is Pablo Schiaffino; and he is a student in the United States on a VISA. Schiaffino moved from



Guadalajara in Jalisco, Mexico, to live in America for a year with his aunt and uncle, Mario and Robyn Schiaffino in Bridgeport.

Schiaffino is here only until May of this year and then he is headed back home to Mexico.

"Even though I love it here, I am very anxious to go back home to my family," Schiaffino said.

He also said that after he is done with all of his schooling, he will return to America to visit the friends he has made here. When he returns to Mexico, he plans

on attending Tecnologico de Monterrey at the beginning of the new school year. Tecnologico de Monterrey is one of the most prestigious colleges in Northern Mexico.

He also said he doesn't want to do what most Mexican males do – move to America and send money to his family in Mexico. Although Schiaffino's father has been making a very respectable living at a Nissan car agency for the past 17 years, Pablo does not intend to follow in his father's footsteps. He wants to work with computers, and that means you have to be able to speak fluent English since the "insides" of computers are written in English, he said. That is part of the reason he decided to come to America.

"We learned how to speak Basic English in school, like 'Hello, my name is Pablo,' but that's about it," Schiaffino said.

Because he wanted to become proficient in English, he decided that he would teach himself. He did just that. By the time he arrived in the U.S. at the beginning of this school year, he could understand almost everything he heard, and he could

speak well, too.

He said that schools in Mexico are much different from schools here. In Mexico you go to three years of kindergarten, six years in elementary school, and three years in high school. The classrooms are pretty plain; they only have a teacher's desk and chair, pupils' desk and chairs, and a chalkboard.

On a much lighter subject, he said that currently he doesn't have a girlfriend. He and his ex-girlfriend broke up a few months before he came to America because of unrelated reasons. He said that even though he doesn't have a girlfriend, he isn't really looking for one in the U.S., either, although he did admit that he does like an SES girl. He even joked that he is attracted to blondes.

"Most Mexican men, including me, like blondes," he said.

He added, however, that even if what we described as "one of our brazen hussies" were to ask him to go out somewhere with them, he would have to decline.

"Um, not yet," he said.

Henry relieved to have farm accident behind him

By Samantha Elsasser

The moment that freshman John Henry injured his foot in a farm accident in August; he knew it was bad. He didn't imagine even in his wildest dreams that he might still be nursing the injury during Thanksgiving though.



In early August, while helping out on the family farm, Henry broke his foot. The incident occurred while he was helping his father unload a feed wagon.

While Henry was holding the hitch to the wagon, it slipped out of his hands, causing it to fall and break his foot.

Henry was immediately rushed to the hospital where they cast the foot in

preparation for surgery. Eight days later, he was sent into surgery, where doctors placed a titanium plate along with six screws into his broken foot. They would perform this surgery two more times. Henry spent four to five days in the hospital at a time.

He said he had to give up lots of things because of his accident. One of the first things he had to give up was football and other fall activities. He also had to postpone rebuilding his truck, and his hunting and trapping activities.

"I was rebuilding a '72 Chevy but my accident has postponed the project until just recently," he said.

He said it is very hard for him to stop doing the things he enjoys and rely on others to help him out with his basic needs.

"After about a week of being helped, it became annoying, even though I knew that I needed it," he said.

After Henry's first surgery, he spent the next nine weeks on crutches before doctors discovered an infection in his foot. He had to undergo two more surgeries and

had to stay on crutches for four more weeks.

After he was released from the hospital for his foot infection, Henry had to have a pick line in his arm for four weeks that gave him the antibiotics he needed. Finally, Henry was able to get rid of his crutches and begin to rely on his foot for support again, though still being aided by a walking cast.

After three weeks on the boot, Henry's term for his walking cast, he was about to throw it away.

"All in all, I was out of my regular activities for about 12 weeks," he said.

Henry said he still, occasionally, has to visit the doctor to examine his foot and take blood test to make sure everything is okay.

"I am glad my life is back to normal, and I am able to participate in my regular activities again," he said.

Weaver sets national record in weightlifting

By Shannon Wilson

For Chelsea Weaver, what started out as just a way to stay in shape for the summer has now turned into an American record. At a weightlifting competition on Nov. 27, Weaver set the American Record for girl's bench press in her age group.

Weaver's record places her top in all the girls in the high school Powerlifting Plus division, in the Natural Athletic Strength Association (NASA) weightlifting nationwide.

Her record of 137 pounds in the bench press surpassed the previous record of 134 set just last year.

The contest, which was held at the Red Coach Inn in Salina, was all boys but Weaver.

"It was kind of weird (to be the

only girl there), but all the guys were really supporting me. They weren't like 'Oh don't talk to her; she's a girl.'"

Weaver solely competes in bench press for NASA. She is trained by Troy Long, who has been coaching her since this summer.

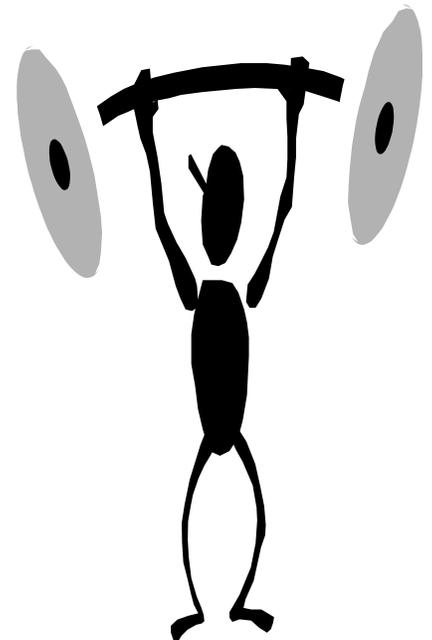
She started weightlifting with Coach Pat Haxton in the summer of 2003 to improve her in discus, but she says that she mostly lifts for fun. She plans on continuing to lift throughout high school.

"I like weightlifting. I think that it benefits my track and other things in my life," Weaver said.

Weaver wants to continually improve her record.

When asked how she felt about getting the record she said, "(I was) happy, but I had a chance to beat my own record

again and was disqualified, so I was disappointed."



~What's Going Down in the land of the Trojans?~

By Brian Dow and Jessica Conway

The SES clubs have been mighty busy over the Christmas season and it's not going to end. To save time and space we decided to coloborate everthing they're doing into one big calendar. Below are all the clubs and their activities.

FFA

Jan. 6-FFA will be helping take down Christmas lights for the city of Salina after school

FCCLA

- Dec. 19** - Skating Party
- Feb. 2** - 2004 Dist. G Elections & STAR Event Competition at Newton
- Feb. 4** - Deadline for Balloon Store orders for Valentine's Day
- Feb. 14** - FCCLA Balloon Store Delivers
- Feb. 26** - 2004 Special Olympics Winter Games at SES

Care Group

Jan. 1-14 - Care Group will be sponsoring a pledge drive for coats, mittens, and school supplies for needy children in our district with the remaining surplus going to charity in Salina.

High Schools for Habitat

High Schools for Habitat will be selling wood throughout the Christmas season and as long as supplies last.

Music Notes

Band:

District Honor Band Members Chosen:

Rachael Moon: First in Bari Sax Jazz Band

Kaleb Fiest: Third in Tuba in Concert Band

Carlie Krager: Thirteenth Flute in Concert Band

Shane Martin: First Tuba in jr. high Concert Band.

Rose Laeflen: First Horn in jr. high Concert Band.

Cole VanBlaricon: Fourth Tenor in jr. high Concert Band

Trell Peterson: Third Oboe in jr. high Concert Band

Jan. 14: First performance of "The Old Timer's Pep Band", a group Band Director Mr. Quentin Breeze is forming out of parents, alumni, faculty and staff, at the SES vs. Belleville game. For more information on this contact Breeze at School: (785)-536-4286, Home: (785)-667-4423, or Cell: (785)-227-5204.

Choir:

Nov. 22: Twenty-five SES students participated in NCAA League honor choir at the Stieffel Theatre.

Nov. 21: Madrigal Singers performed at the Thanksgiving ceremony at the Assaria Lutheran Church.

Nov. 28: Madrigal Singers performed at the Assaria Christmas Lighting.

Dec. 4: Madrigal Singers performed at the "Make a Wish" breakfast with Santa at Applebees.

Dec. 16: High school winter choir performance.

Big Brothers/Big Sisters

Jan. 29 – Bowl for Kids Sake

Science Club

Jan. 11:Regional Science Olympiad competition at K-State at Salina.

NHS

Nov. 30--NHS Induction

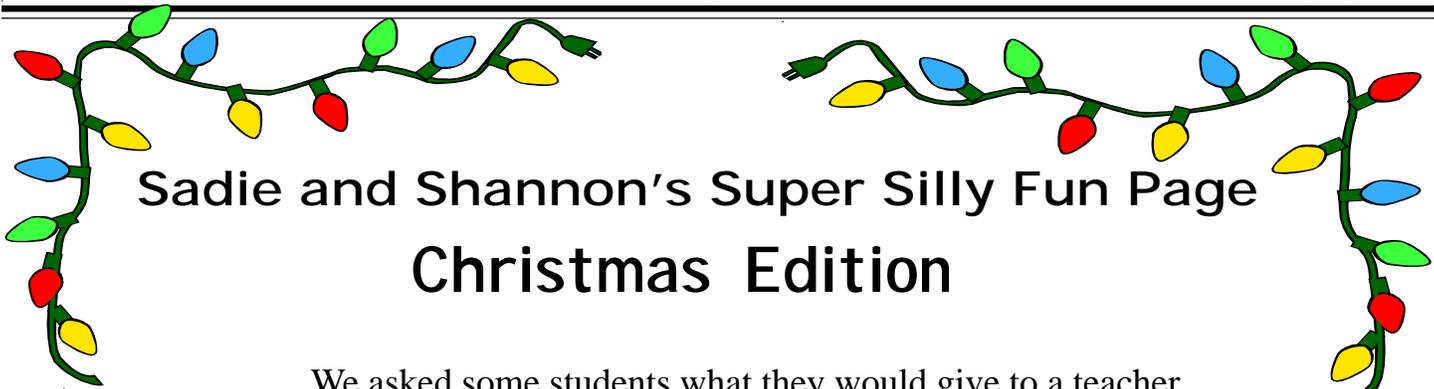
Dec 5--Scavenger Hunt at Mrs. White's house.

Dec. 15-- Salvation Army Distribution

For the month of Dec.--Project Comfort

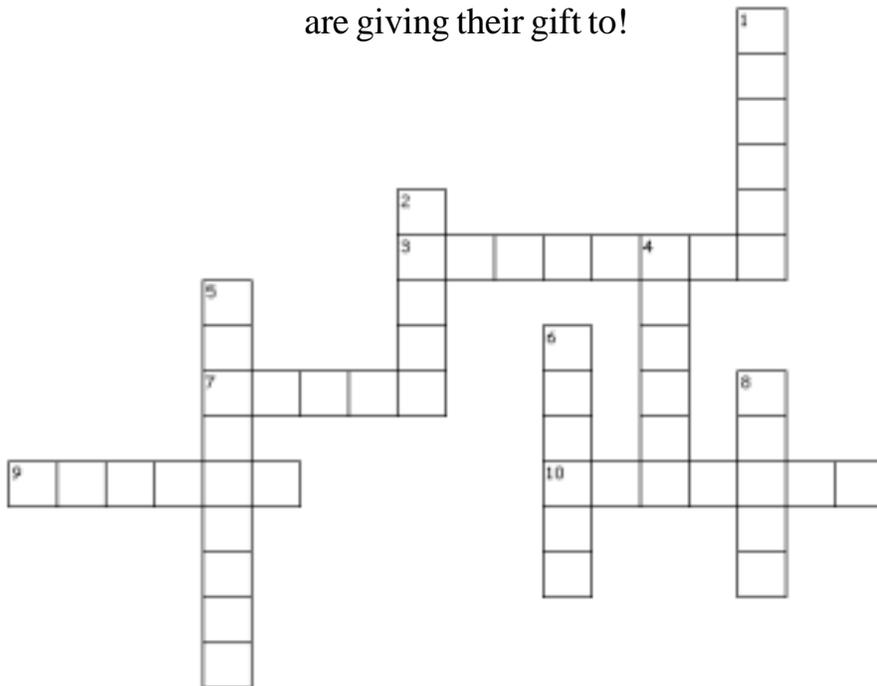
Art Club

Jan. – GFWC (General Federation of Women's Club) annual art exhibition at Kansas Wesleyan University during the month of January



Sadie and Shannon's Super Silly Fun Page Christmas Edition

We asked some students what they would give to a teacher for Christmas! Below are the presents and the students that suggested them. Try and guess which one of the teachers they are giving their gift to!



Puzzle made at puzzle maker.com

Across

- 3. Kim Rousseau- "A new red sweater"
- 7. Dani Weese and Jessica Swanson- "Head and Shoulders dandruff shampoo"
- 9. Alex Mutschler- "A whip"
- 10. Alex Earles- "A trip to Russia cause she can't speak Russian"

Down

- 1. Zach Bradrick- "A pair of pants"
- 2. Jeremy Ziegler- "A new tie"
- 4. Kelsey Brown- "A joke book"
- 5. Chelsey Mueller- "A fistulated cow" (a cow with a hole in its stomach for research)
- 6. April Ptacek- "All expense paid trip to Ireland"
- 8. Aaron Plymell and Joel Pengra- "A wax kit for his head"

Trojournalists cast their final picks in holiday showdown



NCAA Football

Bowl/Date/TV

Insight Bowl/Dec. 28/ESPN
 Notre Dame vs. Oregon State
 Independence Bowl/Dec. 28/ESPN
 Iowa State vs. Miami (OH)
 Houston Bowl/Dec. 29/ESPN
 UTEP vs. Colorado
 Alamo Bowl/Dec. 29/ESPN
 Ohio State vs. Oklahoma State
 Holiday Bowl/Dec. 30/ESPN
 Texas Tech vs. California
 Peach Bowl/Dec. 31/ESPN
 Miami (FL) vs. Florida
 Liberty Bowl/Dec. 31/ESPN
 Louisville vs. Boise State
 Outback Bowl/Jan. 1/ESPN
 Wisconsin vs. Georgia
 Cotton Bowl/Jan. 1/FOX
 Texas A&M vs. Tennessee
 Rose Bowl/Jan. 1/ABC
 Michigan vs. Texas
 Tostitos Fiesta Bowl/Jan. 1/ABC
 Pittsburgh vs. Utah
 Sugar Bowl/Jan. 3/ABC
 Auburn vs. Virginia Tech
 Orange Bowl/Jan. 4/ABC
 USC vs. Oklahoma

Skylar

Notre Dame
 Miami (OH)
 Colorado
 Ohio State
 Cal
 Miami (FL)
 Boise St.
 Georgia
 Texas A&M
 Texas
 Utah
 Auburn
 Oklahoma

John

Oregon St.
 Iowa St.
 Colorado
 Ok. State
 Cal
 Florida
 Louisville
 Georgia
 Tennessee
 Texas
 Utah
 Auburn
 Oklahoma

Klint

Oregon St.
 Miami (OH)
 Colorado
 Ok. State
 Cal
 Miami (FL)
 Boise St.
 Georgia
 Tennessee
 Texas
 Utah
 Auburn
 USC

NFL

Dec. 24 Green Bay vs. Minnesota
 Sat. Dec. 25 Oakland vs. Kansas City
 Sun. Dec. 26 New England vs. NY Jets
 Sun. Dec. 26 Washington vs. Dallas
 Sun. Jan. 2 Pittsburgh vs. Buffalo
 Sun. Jan. 2 NY Jets vs. St. Louis Rams

Minnesota
 Oakland
 New England
 Washington
 Pittsburgh
 St. Louis

Green Bay
 Kansas City
 New England
 Dallas
 Pittsburgh
 St. Louis

Minnesota
 Oakland
 New England
 Dallas
 Buffalo
 St. Louis

NBA

Dec. 25 Indiana vs. Detroit
 Dec. 25 LA Lakers vs. Miami

Detroit
 Miami

Detroit
 Miami

Detroit
 Miami

NCAA Basketball

Tues. Dec. 21 Texas Tech vs. Iowa
 Sat. Jan. 1 GT vs. Kansas
 Wed. Jan. 12 GT vs. North Carolina

Texas Tech
 Georgia Tech
 NC

Texas Tech
 Kansas
 NC

Texas Tech
 Kansas
 Georgia Tech

Overall Record

9-7

12-4

12-4

Lady Trojans fall to 4-2 after loss to Beloit

By Amanda Harding

The 4 -1 Southeast Saline Trojan girls' basketball team went head to head with the Beloit Trojan girls Friday hoping to notch another win, but it didn't turn out that way. The final score of the game was 46-64 with a Beloit win.

"I think we came out somewhat lethargic, and it was difficult when none of our shots were falling early," said Coach Wayne Sager.

April Ptacek led the team with 15 points, one assist, five defensive rebounds and four offensive rebounds.

Jessica Swanson, who got into foul trouble early, had 11 points, four assists, and eight defensive rebounds.

Brooke Kent finished the game with six points, two assists, and one offensive and one defensive rebound.

Dani Weese ended the game with two points and an offensive rebound.

Holly Henry had two points and one offensive rebound.

Erica Stein had three points, two assists, three offensive rebounds, and two defensive rebounds.

Chantay Seim finished the game with seven points, two assist, two defensive rebounds, and one offensive rebound.

Jessica MacDonald had one assist and one defensive rebound.

"I think the outcome was misleading. I think as our season progresses, our next match with them will be very close," Sager said.

The girls are now 4-2 and are planning to keep improving their record.



Chantay Seim fakes a pass left as she is double-teamed by her opponents at the Centre game. The Lady Trojans won with a score of 75-34. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

Lions devour sickness-wracked SES Trojan wrestlers

By Klint Spiller

The Minneapolis Lions roared to a one-sided 64-3 victory Friday against a sickness-worn Southeast Trojan team.

Sickness plagued the Trojans the week of the dual. The Trojans, who were



Senior Adam Spaeny bases up, hoping for an escape against his opponent at the Southeast meet against the Beloit Trojans. SES lost with a score of 15-54. (Photo by Klint Spiller)

missing six of their varsity wrestlers the day of the meet, were forced to ask Minneapolis to not count the dual as an NCAA League meet.

"I wasn't too worried about Minneapolis. I knew we didn't have a shot after being so far behind since we didn't have very many wrestlers," Head Coach Jeff Tanner said. "We'll start out fresh in January."

Senior William Ballou, 145, accounted for the team's entire three points after defeating his opponent.

However on Dec. 11, the Trojans competed at the Minneapolis Invitational at full strength, finishing fourth out of ten teams.

"The top three teams were loaded with very good wrestlers. We might have done a little better if we would have gotten more people in the consolation finals and maybe have had a couple more first place finishes. Other than that, I was very impressed," senior Adam Spaeny said.

The wrestlers were led by senior Coy Cox's first place finish in the 140 lb.

weight class. He defeated Ryan Driscoll of Russel 7-6 in the finals.

Spaeny ended the tournament second in the 125 lb. weight class, losing to David Williams from Russel 6-2. Junior Chris Weller, 130, also finished second, after getting pinned in the finals.

Senior Austin Barnes, 145, and junior Michael Lacy, 171, were the other two wrestlers to finish second. Barnes lost 4-2 to Jamie Smith of Minneapolis, and Lacy was pinned in the finals.

Senior Matt Breen finished fourth in the 160 lb. weight class, losing to a wrestler from Chapman after getting pinned in the consolation finals.

"We wrestled very well against good kids. We were in the right kind of shape to wrestle well in all three periods, but there were a few kids that couldn't overcome their sickness to win the matches we needed," Spaeny said.

The wrestling team are next competing at the Ellsworth Invitational on Saturday, Jan. 8. The tournament starts at 9 a.m.

Southeast boys fall short in close battle with Beloit

By Skylar Nosker

After clawing back within striking distance, the Southeast boys' basketball lost their fourth consecutive game in a close contest with Beloit Friday night, 61-66.

The Trojans led Beloit early on, but Beloit took the lead by halftime, 31-27. Southeast stayed within six at the end of the third but just couldn't take the lead and fell short by five.

Sophomores Bryson Flax and Nick

Hardesty combined for 47 points, Flax with 28 and Hardesty with 19. But their efforts couldn't produce a win after Beloit's Tyler Simmons scored 23 points and with support from D.J. Fullhage and Blaine Crawford, who scored 12 each.

The Trojans started off strong, though, winning their first two games. The first game was against Centre, where the Trojans held on to a 22-point lead to beat Centre for the first time with the final score, 56-34.

Solomon was the next game where it came down to sophomore Nick Hardesty draining a three to beat the buzzer for the win, 45-43.

Southeast then was handed three losses, falling short to Minneapolis, 37-45, losing to Sacred Heart, 41-61, and losing by 11 to Ellsworth, 39-51.

Southeast, 2-4 overall and 0-2 in NCAA, will look forward to the Christmas break as they don't play again till Jan. 4 against Russell.

Sports Box

Boys' Basketball

Dec. 3 Centre 56-34 W
 Dec. 6-11 Blue & Gold Classic 4th
 Solomon 45-
 43 W
 Minneapolis 37-45 L
 Sacred Heart 41-61 L
 Dec. 14 Ellsworth 39-
 51 L
 Dec. 19 @ Beloit 61-
 66 L
 Upcoming Games:
 Jan. 4 Russell
 Jan. 7 @ Minneapolis
 Jan. 14 Belleville

Record 2-4

Girls' Basketball

Dec. 3 Centre 75-34 W
 Dec. 6-11 Blue & Gold Classic 2nd
 Solomon 69-
 19 W Minneapolis
 52-36 W Sacred Heart
 40-51 L
 Dec. 14 Ellsworth 55-
 45 W
 Dec. 19 @ Beloit
 46-64 L
 Upcoming Games:
 Jan. 4 Russell
 Jan. 7 @ Minneapolis
 Jan. 14 Belleville

Record 4-2



Nick Hardesty goes for a shot against the Lost Springs-Centre team Dec. 3. The boys won with a score of 56-34. (Photo by Sadie Myers)

STUCO hosts Hanging of the Greens

By Kelsey Colby

Set yourself down, and grab some popcorn. Tomorrow's Hanging of the greens is going to be filled with many performances and surprises.

You may have heard that STUCO was cutting back this year due to the schedule changes in seminar, but you have heard wrong.

"This year we are cutting down on eighth block and we are starting the program at 2:00 so we can have enough time for a good show," said STUCO Vice-president Kelsey Losey.

The show's theme will be Mr./Mrs. Uni-

verse. Teachers will be asked amusing questions and judges will decide which teacher will be Mr./Mrs. Universe of Southeast of Saline.

The performers will include the Madrigal Singers, the Jazz Band, Mr. Don Wagner, Christina Sparacino, Mr. Bill Gies, and Mrs. Lorie Howe and her son, Dylan Howe. (They will be doing a duet together.)

Lacey Bruggeman will be doing a dramatic reading as well.

"There will also be a slide show showing pictures that students have brought in," said STUCO Adviser Mr. Terry Anderson.



Art Teacher Kurt Krehbiel lifts the lid on his outdoor kiln as students look on and prepare to grab the steaming pots from the fire. The kiln is used to fire Raku pots. Raku is a special form of Japanese pottery which requires that the pots be heated to high temperatures and then placed in saw-dust and covered with a can or lid of some sort that keeps the carbon inside. This gives the pots a special coloring unique to Raku pottery and to each pot. (Photo by Colby Stephenson)

FFA brings home the bronze

News Release from Brandi Disberger

The Southeast of Saline FFA Chapter participated in the Job Interview Contest on Monday evening at Minneapolis High School. The team received a third place plaque at the district competition. Coy Cox received third place and will represent the district at the state competition during the state conference in June, Hannah Zerbe (seventh) and Eva Spare (10th) also received medals for placing in the top 10 in the district.

Also, for those of you who enjoy the SES FFA Salsa, we are taking orders for those of you who need to stock up before the Christmas break, or it may make the perfect Christmas present, or treat for the holidays!!! Contact 536-4286 if you would like some salsa -- mild, medium, or hot. The cost is one for \$3 or two for \$5.



Coy Cox, Eva Spare, and Hannah Zerbe take a second to pose during a job interview that was part of a Career Development Event contest. The over-all FFA team placed third. (Photo courtesy of Mrs. Brandi Disberger)

Cast

Jill Palmer Lacey Bruggeman
 Arnold Wiggins .. Andrew Simmons
 Norman Bulanski Kaleb Feist
 Lucien P. Smith Coy Cox
 Barry Klemper Alex Earles
 Sheila Taylor Garretson
 Mrs. Fremus Chelsea Thorne
 Mr. Hedges Scott Sauber
 Senator Clarke Britten O' Banan
 Helen Megan Luthi
 Mrs. Warren To Be Announced
 Mr. Corbin Britten O' Banan
 Mr. Klemper Ryan Unruh
 Clara To Be Announced

SES play to debut March 11

By Chelsie Green

The cast is set and this year's high school play, "The Boys Next Door" by Tom Griffin is ready to get started.

The play will be held on March 11 and 12.

The story portrays the life of four special-needs adult males in a New England city and their increasingly "burned out" young social worker Jack.

Norman (Kaleb Feist), one of the special needs men works at a doughnut shop and has a great adoration of sweet pastries and intense pride in the large amount of keys on his belt.

Lucien P. Smith (Coy Cox), who has the mind of a five-year-old, imagines that he is able to read and comprehend the weighty books that he lugs about.

Arnold (Andrew Simmons) is the ring-leader of the group. He is a hyper-active chatter box with deep-seated insecurities and a persecution complex.

Barry (Alex Earles) is a brilliant schizophrenic devastated by the rejection of his un-emotional and brutal father. He fantasizes of being a golf pro.

The story goes through the daily lives of these four young men and tells of the "little things" that become monumental to them.

Director Mr. Terry Anderson, who once played the role of Norman at the Salina Community Theater, said this is one of his favorite plays and he believes the show will turn out great.

"It's a really good play. I really like this play a lot, so I believe that it will go really well," he said.

Tryouts were held on Dec. 14 and 15.