

Wrestlers grapple with success in post-season

By Ashley Flick

This wrestling season didn't go as well as intended for the Sayre Wrestling team, but two Sayre wrestlers put that all to the back of their minds and focused on making it to districts.

Andrew Jarvis made it to districts at 145 lbs. by capturing 2nd at sectionals. At districts Andrew took 6th place, one place away from advancing to regionals.

"I was one away," stated Jarvis. "I won two matches and lost three close ones, two of my matches were to state-ranked kids."

Going into a match at this level of competition can sometimes mess with your nerves. "I was really nervous and it showed," said Jarvis.

Although Jarvis didn't make it past districts, he's already setting his goals high for next season.

"I want to get my 100th career win, I'm only 31 away right now," responded Jarvis. "I also want to be a sectional champion, district champion, make it to the regional finals, and be a place winner in the state."

Kevin Orlandi Sayre's 171 pounder also made it to districts for the first time ever by placing 3rd at sectionals.

Kevin also had some nerves overpowering him as he went into his 1st district match. "I was really nervous, I thought I could beat him," he said.

For Kevin and all the other wrestlers that made it past the regular season, they had to deal with more intense and harder practices.

"The practices got harder but I got used to it and it felt good to wrestle different people," stated Orlandi.

Kevin, just like Andrew, has set goals for his upcoming wrestling season, too.

"My goals for next year are to not get pinned and to make it to states," said Orlandi.

Seniors lead the way in annual donkey basketball game

By Brianna Richardson

It was that time of the year again for the donkey basketball game.

The seniors squared off against the juniors, and the victors of that game would take on the school faculty. Riding on top of donkeys, struggling to get the ball and the donkey toward the basket, and dropping the ball in the process while your donkey either rolled around on the floor or kicked you, seemed to be a big deal for everybody!

When asked how she was feeling about riding a donkey for the first time in the sport of basketball before the big game, junior Jessica Meyer exclaimed, "I'm psyched!" Senior Caci Silkman expressed differently with, "I hope I don't get bucked!" and senior Lori Cole yelled, "We're gonna' rage!"

And so the game began after 5 starters of juniors and seniors would spring-kick up in the air with a "hee haw!" Not surprisingly, Andy Smith was the big scorer for the seniors with 12 points. Kristine Young, Nick Barnes, and Tasey Agnew also contributed to the seniors' win. For the juniors, Kelly Ammerman, Jackie Morse, Alicia Blackman, and Irma Brown scored. But they couldn't keep up with that donkey riding skill shown.

Even the faculty couldn't keep up as they suffered losing, too. But what about the donkeys? What recognition do they get? After all, they were the ones assisting...

SHS boys and girls ready for run at NTL track title

By Shannon Licata

The 2005 track season has finally kicked off. The team has over 60 students that are involved so far.

Coaches Felt, Card, Pettit and Bradley are coaching this year's team. Once again, sprinting, throwing, and jumping events will begin after conditioning practices followed the first two weeks.

"I have high expectations for this year's team, stated Coach Felt. "I feel they'll be successful and make us proud," stated Coach Felt.

Many seniors are returning for this year's season and several new freshmen are starting out.

"A lot of dedication and motivation will be needed to be successful this season, you just have to work hard and try your best," said Coach Felt.

Like last year, the track team will have their home meets at the Waverly track.

It is known that the girls team has won NTL's for the past seven years as well.

EXPRESS

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Dance benefits Mrs. Kepner

By Christina Webster

There have been many fundraisers that have taken place to donate to Mrs. Kepner, SHS custodian and cafeteria monitor, who recently became ill.

One event was the Valentine's Dance held by the ninth grade class. The idea was Mrs. Shoemaker's and the ninth grade class loved it.

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Mrs. Kepner

Three music teachers?

By Denis Cole

Over the past few months, many students may have heard about the dispute over the third music position being dissolved. This has enraged some people, as was seen in the *Morning Times*. Some people have gone to the school board and discussed this issue, but there seems to be no answer that pleases both sides.

In trying to shed light on the issue, administrators, music teachers and students were contacted for comment.

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Thinking of dropping out of school? Think again

By Kristin Vanderpool

There are many reasons a student may drop out of high school.

According to Mrs. Richmond, Sayre High School guidance counselor, some students drop out because they are behind in their academic work and don't expect to get enough credits; some may have personal issues that school may just make worse for them. They may also be under the influence of drugs or alcohol; they may become a parent; or, they may not just like school and need to get away.

At the age of 18, a student must have a parent's signature in order to drop out of school. If the student is 16, they must have proof that they have a full-time job.

After the school loses a child, there isn't much that they can do, said Mrs. Richmond. They may give them information on how to get a G.E.D. (an equivalency diploma) and at the end of the year they have to report it.

If a student misses ten days in a row without a valid excuse, they may be dropped from the rolls. Before dropping out, school officials try talking to the student about their options. They also tell them to think about their future and not just today, said Mrs. Richmond. They might explain how important education is to the student. They give the student resources for help if they are having personal problems or drug-related problems.

The school may also try to have a parent-teacher conference to establish an educational plan for success and stress the importance of parental involvement in their child's education.

Anyone who may feel like dropping out is encouraged to go see the guidance counselor first so they know what they are doing to themselves. Mrs. Richmond encourages students to "Stay in school and stick it out. It will be worth it in the end."

This year at Sayre, there were more boys that dropped out than girls. The school lost eight students for a variety of reasons, according to Mrs. Richmond.

Three music teachers?-----

(Continued from page one)

The response from administrators was from Mr. Houck; his response to questions were: "I'm sorry that I cannot answer your questions regarding the music situation. There is a contractual dispute being heard later this month. I will hopefully be able to discuss the situation after the dispute is settled."

On April 11, the board announced that it had denied a grievance filed by the Sayre Area Education Association (SAEA) on behalf of the music teachers in the district. The SAEA now has the option to challenge the denial or accept the decision.

Students were asked what they thought about what was going on with the music program.

In talking with several students involved with different areas of the music department, it was found they all had similar opinions. They said, over all, that the music teachers this year are "over-stretched" and, in their opinions, have very little, if any, time at all for individual lesson time for students.

Here are some of the responses:

Luke Skerpon

"I believe the music teachers this year are way, way over-stretched.

Theo Lentz

The third position needs to be filled and the board needs to stop talking about it and get it done.

Jon Palumbo

I think all three teachers should have their jobs: Mr. Zimmerman, Mrs. Kulikowski, and Mrs. Kinney.

Steven Polinski

I think all three teachers should have their jobs so the kids have more time with an instructor; Mrs. Kinney for chorus teacher, Mr. Zimmerman to teach the elementary students, and Mrs. Kulikowski to teach band at the high school.

Irma Brown

I think that having a third teacher would greatly benefit the program. We would have more time to work on district and county pieces. Mr. Zimmerman should teach the elementary children. Mrs. Kinney is a great choral teacher.

The two music teachers at Sayre were also contacted and given questions to answer. They did not respond. Mr. Zimmerman is currently on sabbatical leave.

The school board had decided to reduce the number of music teachers in the district from three to two following the retirement of Mrs. Hoffman last year. The move was made to reduce the district budget.

SHS Floor Hockey League marks ninth year

By Jon Palumbo

The Sayre Floor Hockey League has finally begun after a long-awaited arrival. This season's start was a little later than most of the years before, but that hasn't stopped these power hungry hockey beasts. The Sayre Floor Hockey League takes place every Saturday afternoon at 12:00 p.m., and kids from 7th grade and up are welcome to come and join the fun.

Science teacher and league commissioner Mr. Krall runs the program. This is his 9th year of running the program and kids are still showing up and playing the game. What is Floor Hockey you might ask? According to Mr. Krall, "It's similar to gym class hockey, except it's more like ice hockey with the exception of the fighting." Mr. Krall also says that "the best thing about Floor Hockey is the shared experiences and comradeship of the people who play."

In this year's Sayre Floor Hockey league, there are six teams broken up into two divisions. In the North Pole Division the teams are: The Frost Giants (Mr. Krall's unstoppable team), The Blizzard, and The Winter Wolves. While in the South Pole Division the teams are: The Sasquatches, The Specters, and The Frenzy.

Anyone interested in playing Floor Hockey should receive a permission slip from Mr. Krall as soon as possible. Any additional information about the Sayre Floor Hockey League can be found at the Sayre Floor Hockey website at home.cqservices.com/sfhl, and Mr. Krall would like everyone to remember, "The road to the cup, leads through Frost Giant Mountain!"

"The road to the cup leads through Frost Giant Mountain," said Mr. Krall.

Swimmers found success in the swimming pool this year

By Colleen Craig

Swimming, both boys and girls, have had a very successful year this winter season. Boys and girls together have bettered a total of six records just this year.

Matthew Nagar and sophomore Tiffany Douglas were just seconds within beating two more of the Sayre team records. Senior, Nick Barnes also grabbed three individual records for the 50 free, 100 free, and 200 free this year. The new record holders for the girls 200 freestyle relay are Kylie Mullen, Christine Young (seniors), Sarah Kendall (junior), and Tiffany Douglas (sophomore). They all swam under 30 seconds to better the record to a 56.1.

The boys team of Nick Barnes, Matt Nagar, Denis Cole (seniors) and Matt Reynolds (junior) bettered both the 200 yard freestyle relay and the 400 yard freestyle relay.

At the district competition every person both in the individual events and the relay teams did a career personal best. All three boys relay teams also got medaled for there outstanding performance.

As if that wasn't enough, Matt Nagar and Nick Barnes both medaled in all of there individual events.

Not only did they have a wonderful turn out in swimming, but also in diving. Senior Aaron Veilleux took third, junior Irma Brown and freshman Robert Walker also placed at diving districts.

The team's success, though, doesn't stop there. Senior Nick Barnes went on to state competition in the 100 yard freestyle individual event.

As for next year's team, it is looking to be as successful as this year's. The team is losing a lot of very valuable swimmers this year, but they have young swimmers on the rise to hopefully even better all the success this year's team has dished out.

Girls fielding several returnees in quest for victories

By Justin Donovan

The Sayre Redskins softball team is looking good so far this year. They have about 20 girls out for the junior varsity and varsity teams.

The team, under Coach Dana Twigg, is trying to get better day by day and focusing hard on fundamentals.

Returning seniors include: Chelsea Bloss, Kylie Mullen, Bobbi Hamblin, Bri Richardson, Caci Silkman, Melissa Silsbee, and Megan Brown. Returning juniors are: Ashley Flick and Sabrina Bleiler. Sophomore Kim Janosko is the other returning letter winner.

One of the team's goals this year is to make it to district competition. Tough teams this year will include Athens, Towanda and Canton.

Baseball team has strong returning lineup

By Megan Dekay

The baseball team is starting out strong this season losing only two seniors from last year. The team will expect leadership from returning seniors Jono Pack and Duane Struppler.

The seniors, however, are not all the team has, according to Pack.

"The team also has a group of talented young freshmen coming on board," he said.

"The team is trying to get better day-by-day and we are working on our fundamentals," said junior Justin Donovan.

Junior Matt Podolinski was asked who the toughest competition will be this year.

"It's hard to decide," he said. "Wyalusing and Athens are always hard competition but we have a good team and should be able to compete with both this year."

The team's goals are to win more than half their games and make it to districts," said Pack.

The team is looking forward to a competitive season.

"Wyalusing and Athens are always hard competition, but we have a good team and should be able to compete with both this year," said Matt Podolinski.

Sixth Annual Open Forest held at Litchfield Elementary School

By Morgan Campbell

On Saturday, March 5, the sixth annual Open Forest was held at Litchfield, and it was another huge success as it has been in the past.

There were hundreds of people that came out to enjoy the festivities at the environmental center behind the Litchfield Elementary School. There was maple syrup making demonstrations, atlatl throwing, an open fire for roasting marshmallows, wagon rides, guided tours of the many trails, a Chinese auction, and plenty of food.

Organizers also unveiled a new building, where they put in handicap accessible restrooms, and lots of "standing room."

Fifth grade teacher Amy Vargason was there with the polar husky that she brought back from a dog sledding expedition she had been on. She had tons of information and incite about the expedition. She will be going on another expedition near the Arctic Ocean.

The Open Forest always has something for all ages and everyone seems to enjoy themselves and just have fun.

School presents M*A*S*H to appreciative audiences

By Chelsea Tracy and Christina Webster

Sayre High School students recently presented the play M*A*S*H about a group of U.S. Army doctors and nurses during the Korean War. The play ran March 31 through April 2 in the high school auditorium.

The cast consisted of a variety of people from grades 9-12. Among the cast is sophomore, Max Bennett, who was especially looking forward to the play.

"I'm excited for being on stage with some of my best friends," said Max, who hopes to continue acting in upcoming plays at Sayre High.

Max played Lt. Colonel Henry Blake, the commanding officer of the M*A*S*H unit.

Another student participating in the play was Amanda Lyons, who played a Korean woman in the play.

What was her favorite part of the play?

"The ending (was my favorite part)," she said. Everybody was on stage together and saying goodbye." This was Amanda's first play.

The cast practiced every night with their play director, Alice Bennett.



Max Bennett portrayed Lt. Col. Henry Blake

Cast

Gen. Hamilton Hartington Hammond—Stephen Polinski
Lt. Colonel Henry Blake—Max Bennett
Private Boone—Dan Bustin
Captain Bridget McCarthy—Heather Speaker
Lt. Janice Fury—Ashley Houck
Sgt. Devine—Jon Palumbo
Lt. Louise Kimble—Kristy Westbrook
Major Frank Burns—Bill Bustin
Father John Patrick Mulcahy—Matt Reynolds
Captain Walter Waldowsky—Phil Husick
Captain John McIntyre "Trapper John"—Denis Cole
Captain John Black—Nick Barnes
Captain Benjamin Franklin Pierce "Hawkeye"—Joseph Polinski

(See "Cast" on page 5)

Benefits

(Continued from page one)

The total amount that went to Mrs. Kepner after paying all of the expenses was \$160, according to Mrs. Shoemaker.

Another fundraiser was a spaghetti dinner. "It was a group of staff that got together," said Mrs. Shoemaker. "Mrs. Keysaw (food services manager) helped out a lot, ordering the food and tablecloths. The cafeteria staff pitched in and all worked voluntarily at the dinner."

There was also a donation jar set out and even though people paid and ate, they also donated money, she added.

Mrs. Shoemaker stated that the donation jar surprised her with the amount of money that was given.

When asked if the spaghetti dinner was a good fundraiser, Mrs. Shoemaker said it was.

"It was a huge success," she said.

Some teachers are also donating their sick days to Mrs. Kepner.

"It took awhile but it all worked out," she said.

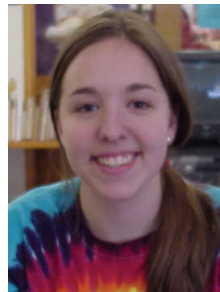
What do you like best about spring?

By Colin Durfee



Joel Bradley
10th grade

“I like spring because the snow is gone and I can exercise outside.”



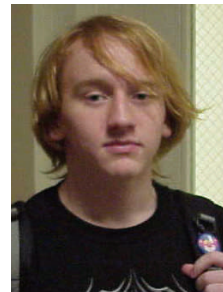
Ali Meyer
9th grade

“I like spring because that means school is almost over.”



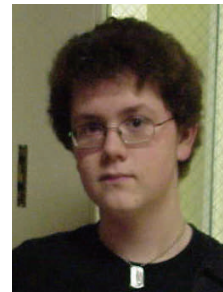
Theodore Lentz
11th grade

“I like spring because I get nasal infections.”



Justin Husick
10th grade

“I love spring because that means track season is here.”



Zach DeSisti
10th grade

“I dig spring because track season is here and I can hang out with my friends.”

School’s historical archives preserves district’s history

By Sarah Kendall

The archives have been nestled above the library for years, but many students are not aware what is inside.

There are items in the archives which date back to when the schools in the Sayre District first opened in 1882. Therefore, that are about 101 decades all in the tiny room.

The majority of the items in the archives are donated, but there are a rare few that were purchased at auctions. When asked which item was the most unique, Mrs. Husick and Mrs. House, the women who have helped organize the archives, agreed that it was a painting of all the presidents before the 20th century. This painting was hung in one of the older elementary schools that no longer exists.

The oldest items in the archives are a basketball and a football from the 1920’s. There is also an old aluminum box that used to be located in the office to hold receipts and important papers.

Mrs. Husick and Mrs. House were also asked why they wanted to become involved with the archives. Mrs. Husick said that she went to Sayre Schools, as did many generations of her family. Mrs. House also attended school in Sayre. She was also a secretary in the office for many years.

The archives help to keep records of events that have happened in the school and, if it’s needed, items and pictures can be borrowed for the use of class reunions.

The most interesting thing that I found out was that they have a file cabinet full of photographs of unidentified people from some of the earlier classes. Overall, the archives are a very interesting place to wander and see how the school used to be.



One of many displays of SHS history is on display in the archives room.

The Cast

(Continued from page three)

Captain Augustus Bedford Forrest "Duke" -Theo Lentz

Ho-Jon-Adam James

Private Lopez-Colin Durfee

Corporal Radar O'Reilly-Luke Skerpon

Major Margaret Houlihan-Megan Krench

Lt. Nancy Phillips-Meredith Rogers

Captain Oliver Wendell Holmes "Spearchucker"-Jeff Moyle

Major Ruth Haskell-Julianna Noone

The Bonwit Sisters-Irma Brown, Ann Velasquez, and Jackie Morse

Miss Randazzle-Kelly Ammerman

Congresswoman Goldfarb-Kim Janosko

Dean Mercy Lodge-Melissa Webster

Lt. Connie-Caitlin Walmsley

Korean Woman One-Betsy Decker

Korean Woman Two-Natalie Husick

Private Cicero-Jose Cicero

Private Hickey-Kyle Hickey

Extras:

Caitlin Walmsley, Betsy Decker, Amanda Lyons, Katie Allen, Meredith Rogers

Tech Crew

Dan Schrader, Stephen Secor, Travis Keir, Shane McCutcheon, Nate Call, Ryan Weaver

Director-Alice Bennett

Stage Manager-Cinda Nudge

Costumes/Advertising-Kristy Antonetti and Lee Shoemaker

Art Design-Dana Twigg & Art Classes

Set Building-Mike Bezotte & Shop Classes

Student Directors-Will Vogel and Ryan Kirtley

Military Advisor-Dan Polinski

THE 4-1-1 ON THE SENIOR TRIP

By Lindsay Mack

This year, the seniors will be venturing to Ocean City, Maryland for their class trip.

Mrs. Sindoni detailed the important information pertaining to the trip. The trip will take place on April 29 and will last until May 1. There are no academic standards, such as eligibility or the completion of a senior project, that can affect a senior’s chances of going on the trip.

“Only discipline”, said Mrs. Sindoni, can affect a senior’s chances.

While on the trip, such entertainment as Ripley’s Believe It Or Not, miniature golf, Assateague Island, laser tag, Six Flags, and the beach will be available to keep Sayre’s seniors occupied.

To completely cover the expenses of the trip, each student who is going was required to pay \$315. Although there was no particular amount specified, each student should bring extra money with them.

Senior Trip

Ocean City, Maryland

April 29 through May 1

Ripley’s Believe It or Not

Assateague Island

Six Flags

Miniature Golf

Laser tag

Beach