

Boys track team getting in shape for home opener on new track

By Shannon Licata

The boys track team will kick off their season on Wednesday, April 3 with a home meet in the new Lockhart Street Bowl.

"I'm so excited to finally be able to use the new track," said senior track member Stephen Polinski. "It has been years since anyone has used this track and I am excited I get to experience it while it is brand new."

The team began practicing on March 5. From 4 through 5:45 every day after school, the track team practices and tries to build up their intensity level for the upcoming track meets.

"The boys team is looking promising this year," said Polinski. "Hopefully, we have a lot of people make districts, or maybe even states."

The team is getting into the shape for the season. Within the next few weeks, the team should be in top shape and should be more than ready for their first meet, a tri-meet with Canton and Northeast Bradford.

Boys and girls swimmers looked strong at districts

By Ryan Jarvis

The boys and girls swimmers looked strong at districts on March 13 at Bucknell University. Sayre swimming sent nine boys and six girls to districts.

Max Bennett, Dan Bustin, Dan Schrader, Josiah Douglas, Doug Hickey, Mark Hickey, Jeff Moyle, Jon Polumbo, and Rob Walker all went for the boys. The girls sent Jill Ackley, Colleen Craig, Tiffany Douglas, Sarah Parsons, Esther Parsons, and Kate Schrader.

Everybody who attended districts performed their career bests. Unfortunately, no one went onto states. Tiffany Douglas, Dan Schrader, and the 200 Free Relay Team all fell just short of going onto the next level.

The boys finished this year with a record of 6-8-1 and the girls finished with a record of 2-11-1.

During the season, many records were broken. Tiffany Douglas broke the 500, 200, and 100 freestyle records. Dan Schrader broke the 500 free record with had been held for 30 years. Max Bennett broke the 50 free record. Tiffany Douglas, Colleen Craig, Mackenzie Gay and Sarah Parsons broke the 200 free relay record.

There were also many other individual records broken.

Team captain Max Bennett credited the swimmers who participated in the races but fell short of finishing in the top 3 places.

"We wouldn't have had as many team wins if it wasn't for our swimmers getting the 4th and 5th place points," said Bennett.

The swim team, under first year coach Jim Schrader, will lose six senior boys and two senior girls.

"I've enjoyed all the time we all spent together at practice, on the bus rides, and at meets," said Bennett. "I am going to miss swimming with all my friends."

Girls excited at track prospects

By Matthew Dunn

There are a number of girls returning to track this year including seniors Megan McClary and Sandra Sauer and juniors Shannon Licata and Katie Hedgeland.

The girls will be starting off the new season with a home meet, April 3, on the new track, against Canton and Northeast Bradford at 4 p.m.

The girls track team has many goals this year.

"We have a younger team this year, mostly sophomores," said Coach Pettitt. "We'd love to see them develop and keep the large number of people coming out for the team."

Sophomore Beth Walker broke both the 1600m and the 3300m records last year, and this year she is hoping to lower her time even further.

"We'd like to see several of the team members qualify for districts as well," says Coach Pettitt.

The new track has put smiles on all the coaches' faces.

"In past years we weren't able to run on the track until April because it was too wet," said Coach Pettitt. "We can actually run without the fear of twisting ankles. It's nice."

Along with the new track, this year the track team is also very excited to have received new pole vault mats along with the new long jump pit.

EYE SPY ANSWER: Scotty Nobles.

EXPRESS

Produced by the Sayre High School Journalism Class

Wednesday, April 4, 2007

SHS has high hopes for computer fair

By Juliana Noone

Members of the FLASH club and students enrolled in the Graphic Design will be taking projects to the regional competition of the Pennsylvania High School Computer Fair.

Students from Sayre will be demonstrating their application skills and computer knowledge in one of eight different categories: Animation, Computer Fair Logo, Curriculum-Based Web Page Design, Digital Movie, Graphic Design, Information-Based Web Page Design, Multimedia presentations, and text-Based Desktop Publishing.

"The computer fair is sponsored by the Pennsylvania Department of Education to provide opportunity to recognize the use of technology in public schools across the Commonwealth," said Mr. Twigg, the head of Sayre's FLASH club as well as art and graphic design teacher.

Sayre participates in an intermediate unit known as BLaST which covers Bradford, Lycoming, Sullivan, and Tioga counties.

Winners in each category will then move on to compete in the Pennsylvania state competition.

SHS students return to Nifty Fifties in school play



Stephen Polinski (Bob Stanley) speaks with Julie Noone (Gracie Stanley) discussing the appearance of the rock singer at the hippy-hop in *The Nifty Fifties*.

By Meredith Rogers

The 1950s were back in style as this year's school play swung into action, with its appropriate title of *The Nifty Fifties*.

The production included vintage-style wardrobes, old-fashioned rock and roll, and breezy songs right out of the 1950's. With characters that ranged from mean girls and rough necks, to the all-around 'good girl,' *The Nifty Fifties* was a quirky comedy that seemed to be a mixture of *Grease* and *Cry Baby*.

See NIFTY on page 4

CALENDAR

April 5-Give Back Snow Day

April 6-10-Easter Break

April 11-Give Back Snow Day

April 20-DUI Safety Bug Program

May 25-Give Back Snow Day

May 28-Memorial Day (No school)

On being a 'Good Buddy'

By Joshua Rich

This year, junior Chelsea Tracy is participating in the Big Buddy program at Sayre High School. Cheslea's "little buddy" is SHS seventh grader Megan Frey.

The program was created for younger students to match up with an older one who shares the same interests, helps them out, and serves as a role model.

Chelsea said her experience so far has been positive.

"The highlight of my Big Buddy experience so far has been meeting my little buddy," said Tracy.

Big Buddies are committed to helping out when they can and doing what is asked of them. Certain activities that the Big Buddy program has sponsored have been a bowl-a-thon, pizza party, and bake sale.

Chelsea said there are many attributes a Big Buddy should have to make the match a successful one.

"Qualifications a person participating in the program should have are a good personality, and a positive attitude," stated Tracy.

Profile

Megan Frey
Grade 7

Favorite show:

Danny Phantom

Hobbies:

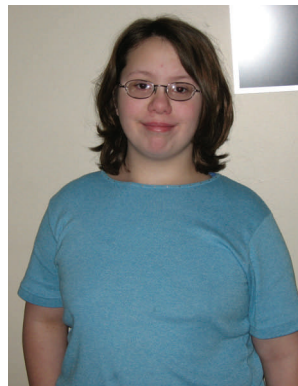
animals and computers

Food:

Ramen noodles

Activities done with

Chelsea: "She helps me with my homework. It's really helpful."



Megan Frey

EYE SPY



Can you guess who the SHS person is?

Hint: It isn't a student.

See answer on back page.

School blood drive deemed a 'success'

By Shannon Licata

During the first week of February, the annual blood drive took place in the Sayre High School Gymnasium. This was held because the November blood drive was postponed mid-way through the day.

Most of the time, the blood drives are very successful, thanks to all the hard work and preparation done by the National Honor Society. Usually about fifty students and faculty members sign up to give blood every time, and this year was no different.

"This blood drive was just as successful as previous blood drives," said Mr. Reilly, National Honor Society advisor.

When the Red Cross blood drive comes around to our school, students are required to be at least 17 years of age, be at least 105 pounds, and have no new tattoos or piercings.

"When the blood drive comes here, it is here from 9:30 in the morning until 4 o'clock that evening so that everyone that wants to can give blood anytime through out the day," said Reilly.

Students may think that giving blood is a scary thing, but what they may not think about is that giving blood could save someone's life. The process for giving blood takes about an hour once all the tests are run.

Girls post first-ever district win with more sure to follow

By Colleen Craig

The Sayre Lady Redskin basketball team was off to District 4 playoffs for the second time since 1989 and won their first district game ever against Liberty in Troy on a Saturday afternoon in February.



Sharpshooter Alison Meyer shoots in recent action.

The team needed to win twelve games to make it to the playoffs and, due to the hard work and dedication of the team, they got the wins out early in the season so they could focus on other goals.

The team had a 3rd seed place in the playoffs and in the first round they beat Liberty to guarantee them two more games. Seeds are set up by the overall record of a team and the girls having a 16-6 record after regular seasonal play got them a chance to be seeded quite high. After not making it to districts last year, many players were disappointed so they hope on making it a regular occurrence for the program to be sent to districts yearly.

The girls snagged their 12th win, advancing them to districts, during a home game against league rivals, the Towanda Black Knights.

"Walking off the court knowing we were district-bound is not a feeling I am ready to forget," said junior forward Megan DeKay.

After an injury to junior leading scorer and point guard Chelsea Tracy, the team looked like they were in for a short run at districts.

"After I went down, my natural reaction was sadness, but I knew the girls would do fine without me," explains Chelsea. The team agreed they weren't ready to give up without a fight.

The team went to Troy to play their first game against Liberty and won by three points. That placed them in a game against Montgomery at Mansfield University which ended with a loss. In the consolation game against Mansfield, they also had a tough loss, but they fought hard all the way to the end.

Club teams keeping SHS athletes in top form

By Dan Bustin

In recent years, club athletics all over the country have seen growing numbers of young people joining their teams for the sake of competition. Some people mistakenly believe that these opportunities aren't around our Valley, but they are.

No matter what sport you play, there's a team not too far away for you to play on. For example, Brian Pinkard, a junior here at Sayre, has been participating in club soccer since before he reached his teen years.

"It really benefits you as a player to be able to play your sport year-round against more advanced skill levels than high school sports alone can present," he said. Pinkard has participated on teams from Horseheads as well as the Stateline Soccer Club here in the Valley.

To some, however, there are drawbacks to playing these sports all year round, such as losing interest or conflicts with other sports you'd like to play.

"It takes a lot to commit yourself year-round to playing one sport; you tend to make sacrifices," said Pinkard. "What it really comes down to is deciding how into a sport you really are."

Soccer isn't the only sport with area club teams, however. Some students from our school also participate in WAAC, or Waverly Area Aquatics Club. One of these students is junior Rob Walker.

"I enjoy WAAC because it really helps me keep in shape when the school swim season is over, so it helps me keep improving through out the year," Walker said.

This is a common reason athletes give for playing year-round, because you don't lose your skills or conditioning in the off-season.

"It really is a nice way to hone your abilities, and the more players from a school team participating, the better the schools team will be," said Walker.

Other sports that you can compete in include open wrestling tournaments, AAU basketball, and a variety of baseball squads.

The encouragement of teens playing in these leagues greatly benefits the success of a sports team, which is the heart of all schools across the nation.

Seventh grader achieves national ski race honors

By Shannon Licata

As most students know, Sayre High School has some very promising athletes. Though there are some high quality athletes here at Sayre High, one you may not be aware of is a seventh grade student named Francis Magurno, who was also a National Ski Race competitor.

Magurno recently placed third nationally in downhill racing at the 2007 NASTAR National Competition in Steamboat Springs, Colorado.

Usually during the winter season, basketball, wrestling, and swimming are popular sports that are talked about non-stop. For Francis, he enjoys skiing at Greek Peak three times a week to get in shape for his races.

"I started racing because even after I learned how to ski in control I would always go right past the people slightly out of control. So my dad said I had to race on a race course. Plus, he got me racing lessons with Greg Brown, an instructor at Greek Peak, to increase my control at high speeds. Finally, to seal my fate as a ski racer, Greg convinced us to join the racing club," stated Francis.

Since Francis was eight, his father, a former ski racer, has been taking him all around to experience different slopes. Eventually, after mastering the basics, Francis went on to compete in Nationals and took 18th place, 9th place, 2nd place, and later a 1st place medal where he qualified for the Kandahar Championships.

Since winter is over, Francis will begin training for next year by running and keeping in shape by doing other exercises.



Francis Magurno

A-Pod, Tracy earn winter athlete of season awards

By Ryan Knowles

The season annual Sayre Sports Award Assembly was held in the auditorium on Thursday, March 15 as juniors Andy Podolinski and Chelsea Tracy took home the coveted Athlete of the Season Award. Both athletes selected were basketball players on the district playing teams. Other nominees were Tiffany Douglas, Tony Allen, Dan Schrader, and Janine Gorski.

A student-athlete was selected for each sport and an overall athlete was chosen, one for boys and one for girls.

The nominees were chosen by the head coaches of their sport and the coaches of each sport then voted on the overall winners.



Awards winners...Andy Podolinski and Chelsea Tracy.

HAND-BALL FUNDRAISER PROVES A SUCCESS

By Jon Palumbo

The Sayre High School Student Council held their biggest fundraiser of the year on Thursday, March 15th in the school's gymnasium. The fundraiser consisted of holding a hand-ball tournament for the students and faculty.

"This was one our best fundraisers," stated senior co-President Will Vogel, who was very pleased with the success of the tournament.

The game was first played in gym class, and it proved to be such a hit with the students that it seemed like a good fundraiser to hold, since participation levels would be substantial. Hand-ball is a mix of soccer and basketball, seeing as how the point of the game is to score a point by throwing a ball at a mat and getting it past the goalie. That's the soccer part; the basketball part comes into play with respect to being able to dribble the ball down the court.

The student council has held many successful fundraisers in the past, such as sumo-wrestling and human foosball, but this year they mixed things up by holding the hand-ball tournament. Teams of six people per team were allowed to join, and the cost was fifteen dollars per team. If you do the math, that's \$2.50 per person!

The hand-ball tournament ended up having a good turnout with twelve teams participating.

"Teams of all ages participated," stated Vogel.

The teams ranged from seventh-graders to faculty members. An all-senior team of Bruce Osborn, Galen Briggs, Anthony Villanti, Adam James, Brian Osborn, and Mike Ackley ended up becoming the hand-ball champions by the end of the night.

The Student Council made a total of around \$600, and according to Vogel, this fundraiser was "definitely a success."



The 2007 European Hand-Ball Champions from left to right: (back row) Bruce Osborn, Adam James, Anthony Villanti, Mike Ackley; (in front) Galen Briggs and Brian Osborn. Photo taken by Dan Polinski

Sayre forensics students head to Nationals

By Colin Durfee

During district forensics competition in Rochester on March 17th, five Sayre High students earned a trip to the National Forensics competition in Wichita, Kansas this June. The five Sayre students are juniors Robert Walker, Meredith Rogers, Bob Witmer and seniors Megan Cole and Juliana Noone. This is a major accomplishment and even surpasses last year's Sayre National qualifier number from two to five.

Rogers and Noone both qualified for the Dramatic Interpretation segments, which is very impressive to have two students from the same school reach Nationals in the same category. Walker entertained the judges with Humorous Interpretation while Witmer is contributing to Extemporaneous, which deals with national current events. Cole will speak on the political side with Student Congress.

The Sayre Forensics Chapter is coached by Mrs. Hickey and is open to all students freshman year and above. SHS also has a junior high forensics team which is coached by Mrs. Thornton.

During a forensics competition, students from different schools will compete with one another with story-telling and discussion.

Forensics is an opportunity to practice public speaking and learn how to debate opinions. Obviously, Sayre has no problem taking top place finishes in our events and sending participants to district and National levels.

There are over 30 schools competing at the district level, which extends up to Vermont.

Scenes from *The Nifty Fifties*



Cast members prepare for opening night at an assembly for students.



Senior Jon Palumbo (center) leads Jeff Moyle (left) and Mark Hedgeland (right) in an entertaining dance routine featuring folding chairs.



Senior Julie Noone and junior Meredith Rogers discuss the “hippity-hop” during a practice performance for students as part of the school presentation *Nifty Fifties*. The play was performed before appreciative audiences.

NIFTY

Continued from page one

Play rehearsals, held three to four times a week, were casual and fun.

“We have a lot of fun, we’re always laughing,” said play director Alice Bennett. “But, in the end, we always get the job done, and I’m always ecstatic.”

Helping with the play’s production this year is Sayre graduate David O’Dell and SHS teacher Mrs. Nudge.

The cast includes a wide variety of freshmen through seniors, who all auditioned for the play.

Auditions were crucial to matching the student with a challenging part.

“The auditions are always difficult, because all the kids have so much talent and potential,” she said. “We encourage that, even if their role is not large. Each and every person in this play has an important role.”

Floor hockey league receives upgraded gear

By Justin Husick

The Sayre Floor Hockey League recently received a well-needed upgrade. From several years of wear and tear, the goalie gear the league has been using has worn down considerably. Some of the gloves the players wear were broken in and still within good use, but the blockers gloves were very stiff from the many sweaty goalies playing out every game to their fullest, and some of the leg pads were splitting at the seams or had no padding left in the knee. Even the nets could have used a little touch up. Luckily, Sayre’s very own senior, Zach Desisti, decided to do something about it.

“I really wanted to do something about the deteriorating gear and having to stop a game just to fix the nets,” said Zach.

Zach made it his senior project to upgrade the Sayre Floor Hockey League. Zach purchased three hundred and fifty dollars worth of gloves, blockers, and leg pads. He also broke down the nets, gave them a good cleaning and put them back together. Zach got the money for the project by hosting a dance in the Sayre High School cafeteria and charging a three dollar admission.

On Saturday, March 3, 2007 the Sayre Floor Hockey League got the chance to use this newly acquired gear. Goalie and senior Josh Vought was one of the first players to experience the shiny new gear.

“The gear felt good and the straps on the back buckled on without a problem,” said Josh. “It’s nice to work with gear that isn’t falling apart. I think it was an awesome idea, and definitely worth the buy.”



Floor hockey ‘commissioner’ Richard Krall accepts part of the new gear from senior Zach DeSisti who donated the new gear as part of his senior project. (Photo by Justin Husick)

New advisors have plans for National Honor Society

By Chelsea Tracy

Every year, the National Honor Society admits a select group of juniors and seniors.

There are new advisors - Mrs. Mente and Mrs. Shoemaker – who are under the tutelage of current advisor Mr. Reilly for the remainder of the 2006-07 school year.

“Mr. Reilly has implemented everything for 2006-07,” said Mrs. Shoemaker. “Our official duties will begin in the fall of 2007.”

Both of the new advisors have past NHS experience. Mrs. Shoemaker was a NHS President and Mrs. Mente was a NHS Vice-President.

In order to be involved in National Honor Society, there are a few qualifications.

Candidates must excel in scholarship, leadership, community service, and character. In a nutshell, students must maintain a GPA of 3.0 or higher (scholarship), assume leadership roles in activities (leadership), be involved in the community (community service), and be a role model for other students (character). Once a student is selected, prospective members have to fill out an application. At this time, there are nine juniors and 19 seniors in the NHS.

Since there are few reasons for raising funds, the group at this time does not hold many fundraisers. However, Mrs. Shoemaker said a few are being planned for next year.

“We are looking forward to some wonderful community service projects that the organization has been approached to undertake,” she said.