



The Eagle Times

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Silver Lake Jr./Sr. High School

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TRADITION • SUCCESS • INNOVATION

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First late start proves successful

BY KYLIE BLEDSOE

USD 372 has recently issued a new late start program. The first late start of the school year was on Sept. 21, and the next one will be tomorrow, Oct. 19.

On the third Wednesday of each month, junior high and high school begins at 8:55 a.m. instead of 7:55 a.m. However, students should not arrive prior to 7:40 a.m. because staff members are in meetings. The grade school begins at 9 a.m.

Faculty and administrators use the late start time for curriculum and professional development.

"This gives our staff more opportunities to meet on a regular basis to discuss changes that will affect the students," Brad Womack, junior/senior high principal, said.

Many students said they felt that the first late start had both advantages and disadvantages. Senior Kyle Klucas expressed his thoughts about the pros and cons of this policy.

"I think that the late start program is a mix of a couple things. I really enjoyed sleeping in, but I do like to procrastinate my homework until seminar," Klucas said.

Freshman Riley Cobb explained how the new program affected him.

"The late start affected me because I had to get up really early to get ready because I had to go into my aunt's because my parents

couldn't take me earlier," Cobb said.

Womack said he felt that the first late start was successful but still needs some improvement.

"It was successful from the teacher and staff's point of view because we were able to get a lot of organizational things we had to get done for the school year, but for the students, it could have been better. I think a lot of that had to do with a lack of communication on our part to the students about whether or not we were going to have seminar. Some students still felt like they could come in and get help from teachers when they were in meetings. So from the students' stand point, there was some confusion, but it really wasn't specifically the students' fault but due to lack of communication," Womack said.

Ronda Pegram, elementary school principal, felt that the first late start was a success at the grade school as well.

"I think it was great for our faculty. They are always in need of time to work on specific topics. This is a time that has a specific purpose, and they have scheduled time to collaborate with their peers.

"K-5 teachers were able to collaborate and get the technology piece of our Everyday Math program going. Special educators were able to meet and discuss the needs of their students. Our sixth-grade teachers collaborated to



look at their data and talk about how they are meeting the individual needs of their students. Our preschool teachers worked on screening procedures and assigning the new roles people have with a change in personnel. Our rotation teachers were able to sit down together and discuss their programs and upcoming events. This gave everyone a chance to get input from one another and generate new ideas to be used in their classrooms," Pegram said.

Angie Broxterman, third-grade teacher, expressed how the late start affected the daily routine in her classroom.

"It affected class time by shortening up our math block and having to take out English for that day. I would say it affected the fifth and sixth grade more since they lost their rotation time. I think the late start time will be used beneficially by teachers to dissect data from the students and allowing us to further address any problem areas," Broxterman said.

Administration adopts new online education program

BY LOGAN BLEDSOE

The high school faculty and administration have recently started researching a new program called e2020. The program helps students redeem credits, take courses that the school does not offer, or make up a class if they experience a long-term absence.

Deb Howser, director of special services, said she feels the program will be advantageous for many students.

"I thought it was a good idea because sometimes our students who have not done well in a particular class need another opportunity to get their credit in that class. Right now, the only option they have is to go to New Directions during the summer. So, this is another way they could be able to go back and retake a class and focus on the skills and concepts that they missed in that class," Howser mentioned.

Brad Womack, principal, said the program would not only help credit recovery students but would also assist students who are looking

to expand their classes beyond what Silver Lake offers.

"e2020 offers an opportunity for advanced placement courses, and it also offers an opportunity for courses that we wouldn't have the staff to teach whether that be a different foreign language or maybe an advanced art history class. Just things that we wouldn't be able to teach here," Womack explained.

Howser said the reduction of staff brought about problems that the new program would help alleviate.

"With budget cuts and everything that has gone on, we have had to reduce some staff and that has trickled down to students and is having an impact on them because we don't have as many sections of a class that we can offer.

"If something is only offered, let's say, first block on a gold day, and they want to be in band, the only time you could do that is

first block. So, that ties their schedule down and they would have to make choices that they may not otherwise have to make. With e2020, they could take the class they wanted on-line and still participate in band," Howser said.

Behind all the opportunities and benefits, there are also some concerns. The new program would require an outside-of-school effort by the students.

"The biggest disadvantage that I see right now is that the majority of the time that you would need to spend on it is out-of-school. That is simply because at this time, we do not have an additional staff person who can facilitate the running of the class. So if I need to retake a geometry class, I might have to take it on my own with a computer to do it," Womack indicated.

Six high school teachers were recently trained on the e2020 program. Womack said he hopes to have e2020 ready for student use before the end of first semester.

A Week to Remember: Homecoming 2011

BY MACKENZIE FREEMAN

Homecoming proved to be a week to remember. Occurring from Sept. 12 to Sept. 16, Spirit Week included constant fun for the student body and staff members to enjoy.

The Student Council designated a theme for each day of the week in which the student body could participate. Students competed against one another by dressing up for the theme of that day. The staff chose a winner each day, who later received a gift card to a Topeka restaurant.

The theme on Monday was "Pirates vs. Ninjas." Freshman Codey Watson was announced the winner for his detailed pirate costume. Tuesday's theme was "Cowboys vs. Aliens." Junior Caitlin Renfro won for her cowgirl costume. The theme for Wednesday was "White Out vs. Black Out." Senior Matthew Athon was announced the winner for being dressed head to toe in one color.

Thursday's theme was "Smurfs vs. Oompa Loompas." Senior Caleb Howser won for his elaborate Smurf costume. Friday's theme, "Silver Lake vs. Atchison" was the final day of the spirit week festivi-



Hi-yah! Seniors Colby Haverkamp (left), Justin Watson (middle), and Jamie Stadler (right) kick off Spirit Week as Ninjas for the "Pirates vs. Ninjas" theme day. (Photo by Quinn Barker)

ties. Freshman Dylan Smith received first place for his maroon and gold pride.

Along with activities, students also selected a Homecoming court. The high school student body chose eight seniors as candidates, including Colby Haverkamp, Jesse Barnes, Garrett Kern, Tyler Warren, Josie Augustine, Holly Cokeley, Sadie McGough, and Jamie Pfannenstiel. The crowning ceremony was held on Sept. 16 before the football game.

Senior Garret Kern was crowned Homecoming king. Kern described his most memorable moments from the week.

"I enjoyed the time spent with the other candidates and the people that helped with Homecoming, whether it was shooting the video, riding in the parade, participating in the pep rally or the ceremony," Kern said.

For Kern, one aspect of the experience stood out the most.

"The actual ceremony was my favorite because I got the thrill of being recognized as the Homecoming king," Kern said.

Senior Sadie McGough was crowned Homecoming queen. Her initial reaction to hearing her name announced was one of shock.

"I was very surprised when I heard my name over the loud speakers because I thought all of the candidates had a great chance. All of them deserved it," she said.

McGough was also selected as the recipient of the 100th Anniversary Ronald Reagan coin. This year marks former President Ronald Reagan's 100th birthday. As part of the celebration, 32 NFL teams, 126 NCAA football teams,



A royal announcement. Seniors Garrett Kern and Sadie McGough enjoy the moment after being crowned the 2011 Homecoming King and Queen. (Photo by Karlee Fischer)

85 NAIA football teams, and nearly 15,000 high school teams were invited and encouraged to toss the Centennial coin at the start of each football game in memory of President Reagan.

Silver Lake teachers nominated seniors who they felt had the most leadership qualities. McGough received the most votes.

She said she was very appreciative for being chosen.

"Being the recipient of the 100th Anniversary Ronald Reagan coin is also a big honor. Being selected by the teachers for my academic accomplishments means a lot to me," McGough said.

(Coin information: <http://naia.cstv.com/sports/m-football/spec-rel/091411aaa.html>)

MOVIES

BY KYLIE BLEDSOE

BEST OUT OF 5



BRIDESMAIDS



"Bridesmaids" is the comical story of an oddball group of bridesmaids told by the maid of honor, Annie. Her best friend, Lillian, is getting married just as Annie's life is falling apart. She has recently lost her job, her boyfriend, and all of her savings when she is suddenly in charge of making all of Lillian's dreams and expectations come true. Through her own troubles, Annie manages to bluff her way through the traditional bridal rituals and eventually find her own true love and happiness.

I thought this movie was outrageously funny. My favorite character was no doubt Megan, played by Megan McCarthy. She was definitely the most humorous due to her genuinely open and honest way of looking at every situation, especially when she tries to expose the undercover air marshal she is seated next to on the plane ride to Las Vegas. I loved all the unique personalities of the girls and think it really captured the elements of the chaos of planning a wedding.

I loved the competition between the girls and think it really depicted the realistic, yet comical, aspects to the exhausting pre-wedding plans well.

RATING



"Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows: Part 2" is the final movie in the seven part "Harry Potter" film series. On July 15, people of all ages formed a lengthy line anxiously awaiting the sold-out midnight premiere; however, I had to wait until the following weekend to go see it.

In this exclusive finale, Harry, Ron, and Hermione continue their search to find Lord Voldemort's remaining Horcruxes, just as the battle of good and evil dramatically escalates. I think during this movie, Ron showed newfound bravery, and his character was very well developed. He especially showed leadership and courage when he destroyed one of the most valuable Horcruxes and saved Harry.

I would describe this movie as thrilling and action-packed and feel that dividing the book into two movies was beneficial and allowed many more important details to be included such as the drama between Snape and Harry. I think that despite all the hype and expectations, this movie definitely lived up to its potential. Along with many fans, I am sad to see this legendary series come to an end, but also consider this an epic way to conclude such a thrilling story.

RATING



"The Hangover Part II" is the sequel to the very popular original "Hangover." This movie takes place two years after the epic adventures in Las Vegas and now the wolf pack is on the prowl again. This time the gang travels to Thailand to celebrate Stu's wedding. Throughout their journey, they experience several unexplained problems amidst the confusion and chaos. In the end, however, the gang is reunited and the mysterious are revealed.

My favorite character is definitely Alan because I think his sarcastic attitude makes his character much more amusing and entertaining, particularly when he wakes up one morning to find his head completely shaven.

I also think that the "Hangover Part II" is a little more vulgar and offensive than the first, but if you enjoyed the original "Hangover" movie, you will definitely enjoy this one as well. Although this movie was incredibly funny, I feel that compared to its prequel, it was rather repetitive and predictable.

RATING



WHICH OF THESE MOVIES ABOVE IS YOUR FAVORITE?



"'Bridesmaids' because it was super funny. Megan is a HOOT and made me giggle the entire time." - Kaci Campbell, senior



"Definitely 'Harry Potter' because I'm jealous of him and wish I could do magic." - Rebecca Holder, senior



"'Hangover' because I wish those guys were my best friends." - Anthony Gifford, freshman

Underclassmen Tearin' It Up

BY COURTNEY PRIDDY

"Victory isn't defined by wins or losses. It is defined by effort." - Wolfgang Schadler.

Two underclassmen have recently been showing effort and accumulating impressive statistics. Freshman Alyssa Schultejans and Sophomore Trenton Smith have already been accepted as new members of their varsity teams.

Schultejans starts on the varsity volleyball team as the middle blocker/hitter. She became interested in volleyball during grade school and has been playing for eight years.

Playing volleyball at the high school level has helped her step up her game.

"I feel I've improved a lot this year already because there is more competition, and playing with upperclassmen makes you step up your game," she said.

Even though she thinks personal improvement is important, she also finds it essential to work as a team.

"My favorite part about volleyball is that it's a team sport and everyone has to contribute in order to succeed," she said.

This year, Schultejans has hit 131 attack kills, and 91 percent of her serves have been playable.

Schultejans' advice for someone wanting to succeed in volleyball is to keep trying, always have a positive attitude, and have a goal

to work toward.

Smith is tearing it up off the court on his varsity cross country team. Even though this is his first year competing, he has made a significant impact on the team.

"I feel my contribution to the team is my effort. I push myself to make sure I do the best I can for my team. My strongest ability is my competitiveness. I push myself harder than most," he said.

Kevin Brokaw, coach, agrees.

"Trenton is a very talented individual and a real competitor. He works hard in practice and doesn't like to get beat. His competitiveness has made our team better. He is also a very good teammate and encourages and supports others on the team," Brokaw said.

Smith has racked up many accomplishments this season, including placing fourth at Basehor-Linwood with a time of 18:30, achieving third at Wamego with a time of 18:30, medaling at McLouth with a time of 17:25, and finishing second at Alma with a time of 18:09.

He was also the lone varsity medalist at Osage City, placing second.

Smith took first in the Mid-East League meet, leading the boys' team to a league championship for the first time in school history.

The team competes at regionals this Saturday.



TOP RESULTS

FOOTBALL

SEPT 30 - SILVER LAKE DEFEATS ROCK CREEK 13-3. CJ HAMILTON BECOMES STATE'S ALL-TIME LEADER IN CAREER VICTORIES: 336.

VOLLEYBALL

OCT. 1 - LADY EAGLES' VARSITY TEAM WINS SILVER LAKE TOURNAMENT, DEFEATING ROSSVILLE DAWGS IN THE CHAMPIONSHIP.

CROSS COUNTRY

OCT.13 - BOYS' TEAM TAKES FIRST PLACE AT THE ALMA MID-EAST LEAGUE MEET, WITH TRENTON SMITH CAPTURING FIRST.

GIRL'S GOLF

OCT. 17 - SENIOR REBECCA HOLDER CROWNED STATE CHAMPION, LEADING TEAM TO THIRD PLACE & SCHOOL HISTORY.

TOP ENTERTAINMENT

BY STAFF

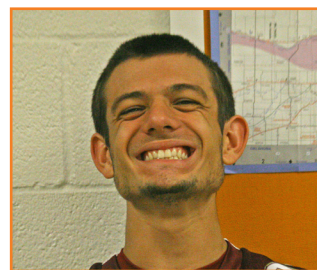
Television shows are very popular among high school students. Four of the most popular among local students are "Jersey Shore," "Pretty Little Liars," "American Idol," and "Family Guy."

"Jersey Shore" is a series about eight 20-year-olds living in the same house for a summer, and the many times their situations reflect and resemble high school lives. "Pretty Little Liars" is a TV show on ABC Family. This series is a mystery-thriller about four girls' lives that are drastically changed after the death of their friend. "American Idol" just wrapped up its 10th season and is a reality singing competition. The final popular show, "Family Guy," is an animated comedy, centered on a dysfunctional family and is in its 10th season.

What's your favorite TV show?



"My favorite episode on 'American Idol' is usually the finale, but my favorite is when the pants on the ground guy sang with William Hung." ~Logan Bledsoe, sophomore



"The reason people watch the show 'Jersey Shore' is because the characters act like teenagers and are funny." ~Justin Malloy, senior



"I like the show 'Pretty Little Liars' because it's a mystery and you never know what's really going to happen next. I like that genre and it also has teenage girls. I'm a teenage girl, so it's easier to relate to personal problems." ~Gabby Doebele, freshman



"Peter is my favorite character in the series 'Family Guy' because he gets himself into some crazy shenanigans." ~Garrett Wichman, junior



Facebook still hot for local students

BY SHAYLA MILLER

In the past few years, Facebook and Twitter have been two of the most popular websites among teenagers. Casey Kelly, Ashley Williams, Katlyn Kirkwood, Gracie Petrie and Dallas Maddox have all been using Facebook for a while and have some different opinions on the way Facebook is used.

Kelly is a junior and has been using Facebook as a resource to communicate with friends for over three years. She said she makes a status update at least once a day, normally about music. Kelly has approximately 350 friends and said she knows every single one of them. On her Facebook account, only her friends can see personal information, and no one else on Facebook is allowed to see her profile.

Linndy Frieden, social studies teacher, also uses Facebook. He said he started using Facebook to keep track of his former basketball players and to keep in touch with his adult friends. Frieden has about 250 friends, and he said he does know every one of them. He said that he does not accept anyone who does not have a high school diploma yet.

"I think Facebook is a little quicker and easier than using the telephone, although I still think calling people is okay," Frieden said.

He said he does not text, so using Facebook is a little like texting for him.

Williams, senior, found

out about Facebook through friends at school who were talking about it. Williams gets many friend requests from people she doesn't know very well, but she said she doesn't accept them. Just to be safe, Williams only accepts people she knows on a personal level and has about 200 friends. Restrictions on Facebook are important to Williams.

"Oh my gosh, I worry about them. I worry about what other people are seeing on their accounts, people they have no idea who they are, and what they are allowing them to see on their profiles," Williams said.

Kirkwood, freshman, said she found out about Facebook from friends as well. Kirkwood makes a status update at least three times a week, sometimes more if there is something funny that one of her friends said. She only accepts people she knows, such as family or personal friends.

"People who don't have any restrictions on their account are crazy!" Kirkwood said.

Having a Facebook account and being able to talk to people online made Kirkwood a little more nervous when talking to people face-to-face.

Petrie has a different perspective on what Facebook has to offer.



Like

"I really think it's a waste of time, and it just creates more drama and people have lost the way to communicate face-to-face," Petrie said.

Petrie also said that it doesn't really matter what people do online, whether they have restrictions or not. She said she thinks that if people put themselves on the Internet that they are going to have to deal with others looking at their profile and looking at their personal information no matter what restrictions they have.

Maddox, junior, said he doesn't use Facebook as much anymore. He said he is more



Dislike

into Twitter. One day during the summer, Maddox discovered Twitter and decided to try it.

"Personally it has allowed me to communicate with people I don't know, more or less like celebrities and stuff. It just helps you branch out with people you don't know, and sometimes people you do know. But it's a lot more public than Facebook is," Maddox said.

He said that there aren't a lot of people in Silver Lake who have a Twitter account. He follows famous celebrities and other friends he has at school.

TRENDS

twitter

hot or not?



"Twitter is definitely hot. It's a great way to communicate with your friends and stay in touch." ~ Karlee Fischer, junior

"I think Twitter is hot because I can talk to my friends and make up tweets; it's fun." ~ Caleb Kern, freshman



"I think Twitter is hot because I get to talk to my friends in Germany." ~ Ashlyn Lane, sophomore



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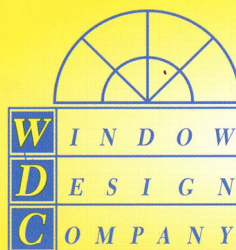


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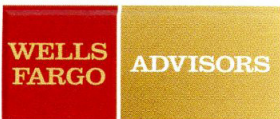
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