November 22, 2011

Silver Lake Jr./Sr. High School

Volume 1, Issue 2

TRADITION • SUCCESS • INNOVATION

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SOE results prove superior school-wide BY KYLIE BLEDSOE

The Kansas State Department of Education recently released the results of the State Assessments taken by grades third-12th last year. As a district, students," she said. Silver Lake received Standard of Excellence in 19 different areas. (see side bar will continue to impact the lives of the

Brad Womack, junior/senior high school principal, said he feels that the high expectations established by students and staff were significant in achieving these superior results.

"I think the most important aspect to these academic accomplishments is simply setting an expectation for future school," Womack said.

Ronda Pegram, elementary school principal, said that both the students and success will be more long term. The the staff played an important role.

"We have extremely high expectations. Our staff provides students with the educational tools and strategies to help them be successful. Our students work hard and take their education and the state assessments very seriously," she said.

Pegram also attributes this success to students will continue. the staff and community.

"We are fortunate to be in a community that supports our school. We

always have parents willing to come in and help out in our classrooms, and our faculty does a tremendous job with our

Womack said these achievements students beyond high school.

"Ultimately this success says a lot about the high level of preparation a student has when leaving SLHS. We have become known for our academic excellence, and the state assessments have helped make this more public," he said.

He said Kansas has recently adopted students that they are to do their best in a new set of standards for these tests that will be in place in the near future.

"Our main focus to continue this state of Kansas is transitioning to the Common Core Standards, and this will be a big change for students and staff in the 2013-2014 school year. So our main focus will be preparing for that," he said.

However, despite these changes, Womack said he is certain the hard work and diligent preparation from the

"When we first started recognizing these achievements it was about pride; now, it's tradition," he said.

READING

4th 7th 5th 8th

6th 11th

Elementary Building Wide JH/HS Building Wide

MATH

4th 7th 5th 8th 6th 11th

Elementary Building Wide JH/HS Building Wide

SCIENCE

11thJH/HS Building Wide

New members inducted into National Honor Society

BY CLAIRE GRANT

On Nov. 9, the Silver Lake Honor Club chapter of the National Honor Society inducted 24 new members in a ceremony in the Performing Arts Center. According to Alan Cunningham, NHS sponsor, there are four attributes for membership. They are character, scholarship, leadership, and service.

The minimum scholarship requirements are determined by a cumulative grade point average of 3.50 for juniors and 3.40 for seniors. The faculty then voted on the candidates. weighing each student's merit in the areas of character, leadership, and service.

The senior class inductees were Brandi Abrahams, Matt Athon, Rachel Brokaw, Dylan Holthaus, Annie Landis, and Kaily Tibbits. The junior class inductees were Tyler the organization.

Brown, Evan Burdiek, Kylee Dewey, Karlee Fischer, Mackenzie Freeman, Claire Grant, Matt Holder, Elizabeth Johnson, Jess Lewis, Megan Lockwood, Morgan Mahana, Peter Pfannenstiel, Courtney Priddy, Caitlin Renfro, Brock Swartz, Megan Warren, Ashley Webb, and Garrett Wichman.

The current NHS members are Daniel Adee, Josie Augustine, Quinn Barker, Gideon Battis, Kylie Bledsoe, Riley Callahan, Holly Cokeley, Colby Haverkamp, Rebecca Holder, Garrett Kern, Perry Krogman, Sadie McGough, Jamie Pfannenstiel, Jacob Schroeder, Kayla Shaughnessy, Jamie Stadler, Kayla Thayer, and Tyler Warren.

Shaughnessy has been an active member of

"We do a lot of volunteer work such as helping at the blood drives, and we've helped out with the Veterans Assembly for a few years," she said.

The ceremony involved a reading of the "Four Principles of NHS" by McGough, president; Schroeder, vice-president; Haverkamp, secretary; and Bledsoe, treasurer.

Cunningham read the "NHS Poem," and Principal Brad Womack led the "NHS Pledge."

Lockwood said she is proud to be a member of the organization.

"It means that I have received a very great honor. It has been what I have worked for my whole high school career. It means I have fulfilled all the obligations to be in National Honor Society," she said.

COMMENTARY BY COURTNEY PRIDDY & SHAYLA MILLER

We are huge fans of the "Twilight" saga. On the evening of Nov. 19, we went to see "Breaking Dawn: Part One." There were probably 100 people in the theatre, and they were Not too long after that the all very excited. We had to get there two hours early in order to get good seats. We were right in the middle for his wedding day. Again, toward the top, right where we wanted to sit.

Even though we arrived early, there were still a lot of people there. As we sat there and watched, more and more people came into the theatre. We could tell that everyone was very anxious waiting for the movie to start.

After waiting for what seemed like forever for the previews to end, the movie finally started. The movie started almost immediatly with Jacob Black taking his shirt off, which of course caused all the girls to scream, including us. other favorite star. Edward Cullen, was shown staring out the window, nervous everyone screamed.

Bella was getting ready for her wedding and was practicing walking around in her very tall high heels that Alice picked out for her.

Our favorite scene was the wedding. The decorations and wedding attire were gorgeous and Edward looked handsome. After the wedding, Edward and Bella went on their honeymoon.

It was on a secret island that was added to the movie Carlisle gave them as a gift. because it showed how much

Our least favorite scene was when Jacob's pack of werewolves went after Bella. It made us sad to see the people who were once her friends turn on her.

Overall, the movie was very satisfying and suspenseful. After waiting for a scarier than we thought she year for this movie to come out, we really didn't want to be disappointed, and let me recommend this movie to tell you, we weren't.

Compared to the books, the "Twilight Saga: Breaking Dawn" had very similar characteristics, but there were some aspects that were different, including the part ing Dawn: Part Two" to where Jacob stayed at the Cullens' house to help take care of Bella. We thought that was a good part that

Jacob really cared for Bella.

While reading the books, we didn't imagine how bad Bella would look when she was pregnant with Edward's baby. During her pregnancy, Bella was very pale, skinny, and weak. She looked way would.

We would definitely anyone, even guys. It's very heartwarming, suspenseful, and action packed, and we think a lot of people would enjoy watching it.

We can't wait for "Breakcome out next November. We think it will be worth the wait again because it sure was this time.







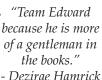




"Team Edward because I like the way his skin sparkles." - Cameron McGough



"Team Edward because he is better with Bella than Jacob is." - Jessica Williams





FEATURE

Give It Up For The Band

BY CLAIRE GRANT

"Give it up for the Screaming Eagles!"

The band is creating quite an impact in Silver Lake this year. With a new approach to their performances and with the help of Kirsten McManus, second year band director, the band has brought a new energy to their halftime show.

Kelsey Darling, senior saxophonist, shared what made her want to join band.

"Back when I was a little kid in grade school, music was always something I liked to do. So I thought why not do band because it seemed like fun, and it's what everyone else was wanting to do," she said.

McManus shared her favorite part about being the band teacher.

"I just like band. I like to play band all the time. One of my band directors would say that our job sure beats working for a living because we get to do what we love every day. I just love to play band, and I love what I do," she said.

Darling explained how McManus has motivated her.

"She is always there telling us it doesn't matter if you feel ridiculous. If you're having fun then people in the stands are going to have fun, too," she said.

Sophomore Codey Albers said that McManus has made marching much easier to understand.

Albers also said Mc-Manus motivates not only him but the whole band.

"Every day she gives us great little tidbits of advice that really apply to not only music but to your life," he said.

This year the band attended Central States Marching Festival at Kansas State University. It was the first time in recent history that the band has been to a competition like this. They were judged on general effect of their show, marching, music performance, and their percussion section. The band received a one rating on their marching and two ratings on all the other areas. They received an overall two rating, which is an excellent rating.

McManus reflected on the outcome of the competition.

"I was so very proud of them. They were super proud. It's the first time they've ever been critiqued like that and judged like that by college professors who flew in from all over the country and by grad. students at K-State. They had a blast doing it.

"After we were done with that, we stayed and were able to watch bigger schools and see their shows and what they've done and get some ideas for what we can do in the coming years," she said.

Darling explained how her interest in band has grown since McManus has become her teacher.



"It's definitely been fun because she inspires us. She makes it fun for everyone, and it's really cool to see people up in the stands getting excited for the band now," she said.

McManus shared how becoming a band teacher has changed her.

"I've learned a lot about what it takes to inspire students. You have to reach out with different students differently. You have to find what makes each person tick. Connecting with the students has been a real awesome bonus for me because I've been able to see personalities and then adapt to how they react to stuff. I just enjoy being able to interact with the kids."



Freshman Katlyn Kirkwood (left) and sophomore Ashton McMullen (right)



The marching band entertains the home crowd with upbeat music.



Freshman Cameron McGough

enior Sensations

BY CARNEY ZIEGLER

High school can be a stressful time for students, being involved in activities along with keeping up good grades. Two these activities for years and has had high school seniors have found ways to balance their schoolwork and extracurriculars. Kyle Klucas and Rebecca Holder are participating in two activities this fall and still manage to maintain 3.5 GPAs.

Klucas participates in debate and football. He's been playing football for six years and debating for a while longer.

"I guess I've been debating since I was a child, but the actual formal activity of debate, I truly began when I was a ninth grader under Mrs. Naylor," he

Klucas said he puts in 10 to 15 hours per week for football. He spends close to the same amount of time for debate.

"I probably put in the same to a little bit more time into debate because I find myself getting out of classes or taking time in seminar to work on debate, as well as spending time over the weekend to actually compete. I've committed a lot of my time to debate simply because I really feel it makes me a better person, just as football does," he said.

Klucas is determined to become better at what he does.

"I do football simply because I enjoy it. It's good exercise, and there's really no other place in the world in which competitors from other schools are forced to make you better.

"I love the fact that debate makes me better as someone who can argue and someone who can think critically. It really teaches me how to present myself in front of others," he said.

Klucas has been participating in encouragement from both of his leaders. He said he would not be where he is today if it weren't for his coaches.

"I've got two excellent coaches. C.J. Hamilton can make you run through a brick wall. He's one of the most intense and also one of the most caring people I've ever met. He's a great coach. On the field, C.J. has taught me to excel to a point physically and mentally at which I can no longer work, which is something that I think is really special.

"Mrs. Naylor has shown me how important work is and how important getting things right is and putting the time in is, to truly be successful," he said.

Time management is a skill he has learned and upholds.

"The hardest thing about being in both is the time management, which is ultimately something that is going to be necessary for me in the future," he said.

Sometimes, Klucas's activities not only interfere with his schoolwork but also with each other.

"It's hard being a high school student, having to choose between important debates and important football games. These missed opportunities always hurt me, not just because I miss the opportunity to start and play in football games, or I miss the opportunity to do well at debates, but also because of that feeling of compassion I have for my teammates on both sides of the field,"

However, Klucas said he believes See page 5



FOOTBALL

NOV. 18 - THE EAGLES EDGE OUT ROCK CREEK AT SUB-STATE. THEY AWAIT THE 3A STATE CHAMPIONSHIP GAME AGAINST CONWAY SPRINGS ON SATURDAY.

VOLLEYBALL

OCT. 22 - THE LADY EAGLES' VARSITY SQUAD ENDED THEIR SEASON WITH A RUNNER-UP FINISH AT THE SUB-STATE TOURNAMENT IN MARYSVILLE.

CROSS COUNTRY

OCT. 29 - THE BOYS' TEAM PLACED 11TH AT THE STATE MEET. TRENTON SMITH PLACED 43RD WITH A TIME OF 18:48.

SPORTS

being involved in both activities is positive.

"The most rewarding part would be that it really makes me a better person than I would be if I just did one activity, having to schedule and to understand why I care about things.

"There are things that make me love debate and things that make me love football. However, I think it would be impossible, or at least soul-wrenching for me to have to choose between the two," he said.

Both activities require teamwork, and he said uniting with others is important for success.

"The first relationship that's really important to me on both sides is, with football, the feeling of compassion I have for my teammates. Being a senior, it's been really special to be with a team like I've turned myself in to a fairly we have. I feel like we've come together as a football squad a lot more than some people expected, which brought us even closer. I certainly feel a very cohesive group in football, especially this year," he said.

Klucas's fellow debaters also feed off each other to excel.

"In debate, as time has progressed, the squads have gotten a bit closer. Although we haven't experienced total success at this point in the year, I think that we, as debaters, share a really close bond," he said.

He competed in the state foot-

ball game last year and numerous debate competitions throughout the pursued. year. He said the intensity level is the same but in different ways.

"In football, after a really tough win, that you've fought a whole game for, you'll find that it's been so physically straining that it's ultimately quite mentally straining because you've put so much of yourself into that. In the same sense, debate tournaments at higher are time-consuming activities. levels become so mentally straining that it's almost physically exhausting," he said.

He explained how he has improved over the many years he's participated in each activity. "I think I've excelled in how hard I try, how much I can lift and how hard I can work in football. Also, since my freshman year in debate, good debater, at least in my own opinion," he said.

Klucas said he will be debating in college but is uncertain what school he'll attend. He said he is leaning toward Kansas State University or Washburn University.

Holder is also looking to take her golf passion to the next level. She signed with Baker University on Nov. 9 to play golf next year. She said she began golfing when she was in fifth grade and drumming her junior year of high school. Holder has been an active said golf came to her by chance,

and drumming is an activity she

"I started playing golf because ly like spending time with him and wanted to do things he did. With drumming, I always liked the way that the marching quads sounded, and I always wanted to play them," she said.

For Holder, both golf and band

"I drum all the time on everything and with golf, I practice every day during the season," she said.

She admits there are both positives and negatives to being in two activities.

"The most difficult thing is trying to balance the activities and schoolwork and still having time to get everything done. The most rewarding thing is being able to excel in both," she said.

Holder is motivated by each of her activities. She said her golf coach and dad help her.

"My dad's always taught me that if you're going to do something, why not try and be the best at it? So, he kind of instilled that in me."

Though she's only been participating in band for two years, she said people have pushed her in this area as well.

"I practice a lot, and Miss McManus brought a lot of intensity member of the band ever since. She to it and makes us want to do well and excel," she said.

Holder has established relationships with people in band and golf.

"I've gotten to know and gotten my dad always played it, and I real- closer to a lot of people that I probably wouldn't have talked to if I wasn't in these activities," she said.

> Some season highlights for Holder include taking third place at the Piper Invitational, Sante Fe Trail Invitational, and Silver Lake Invitational; earning second place at DeSoto/Mill Valley Cat Classic and Hayden Invitational; and capturing the regional championship by firing

She topped off the season by taking first place at state, becoming the first individual state golf champion in school history. She shot an 87, which was eight strokes better than the next golfer.

She has also been part of band performances. She said both competitions were stressful for her.

"They're both pretty intense and nerve-racking. At state golf I was really nervous for the first couple holes. At central states, it was pretty nerve-racking, because you got to be with some of the best performers," she said.

She said music is her whole life, but golf is her favorite sport. She has worked hard and improved over the years.

"In golf, I've definitely improved in putting and trying to drive the ball straight. With drumming, I've started to read music more instead of just playing by ear," she said.

Annual fall athletic buffer week concludes

BY MACKENZIE FREEMAN

From Nov. 7 to Nov. 13, the Silver Lake school district enforced the rules of the annual Fall ing buffer week, but if someone Athletic Buffer Week. During this time period, students were not allowed to be in the gyms or weight room. Immediately following buffer week began the start of winter sports practices on Monday, Nov. 14.

Athletic director Warren Bledsoe said that the Silver Lake community was not be as limited under these restrictions.

anybody to use the facilities durfrom the community needed to use them, they could," Bledsoe

Dr. Randy Freeman, superintendent, said he feels that buffer week is beneficial to not only the students but also to family and staff members.

"Buffer week gives student athletes a break between the fall and winter seasons. It allows the

"Typically, we don't encourage kids to recuperate mentally and physically. It also gives them more time to spend with family, as well as focus on academics. Staff, especially coaches who a mental break.

> "Buffer week is also a good time to adjust our facilities, whether that be cleaning or setting up certain equipment for the upcoming winter sports," Freeman explained.

Other activities not allowed

during the week include: no postponed fall sport activities; no junior varsity football contests on Monday following the Friday varsity contest with that school; and no films coach a fall and winter sport, get shown to athletes outside of the exception of being shown during one conducted winter sport meeting.

Freeman said buffer week is an opportunity for students and faculty.

"We all need some time to readjust physically and mentally. Family and academics are also very important," Freeman said.

"There's An App For That"

Apple products intrigue students

By Courtney Priddy & Shayla Miller

Most students, even though they didn't know Steve Jobs, are still affected by his inventions every day. In the late 1970s, Jobs designed, developed, and marketed one of the first commercially successful lines of Apple computers. Jobs was the co-founder, chairman, and cheif executive officer of Apple and invented many of the Apple products students use today. Jobs passed away on Oct. 5, leaving behind his inventions for Apple to build on.

What's your favorite Apple product?



"I like using the Windows brand of computers because they are easier to take apart and fix than the Apple brand."

- Gideon Battis, senior





"I like the iPad 2 because it has better apps than the iPad 1"

- Kami Wymore, freshman



"My favorite Apple product would probably be the iPhone 4 because it has a lot of cool features."

- Braden Robinson, junior



"My favorite is the iPod Touch because it's newer, and you can listen to music wherever you go."

- Dylan Priddy, sophomore

Lunchroom changes affect student body

BY KYLIE BLEDSOE & MACKENZIE FREEMAN

The Silver Lake lunch staff has imposed recent changes to the lunch menu and lunch procedures that have caused some negative reactions from the student body. However, a lack of understanding of state and federal regulations may have caused these reactions from the uninformed students.

Tara Schooler, food service director, explained the recent changes that have been made in the lunchroom.

"At the end of the year last year I analyzed lunch counts for each menu item over the school year and replaced some of the less popular menus with more popular menus. I had planned to switch the hamburger buns and hot dog buns to whole wheat; however, I am rethinking that change and researching other possibilities, as many students do not like the whole-wheat buns that we were purchasing.

"Finally, we are using less Styrofoam and plastic containers and more reusable plates for salads and a' la carte. In addition, starting this school year, all schools in Kansas were asked to provide only skim and low fat (one percent) milk in the lunchroom and to provide water for the students," Schooler said.

Many students inadvertently assume that the lunch staff is punishing them with the newly added servings of fruits and vegetables; however, students may not understand the importance of the regulations that Schooler must follow when preparing each meal.

Senior Thomas Boyden expressed his thoughts on the changes.

"My only complaint is that the portions are a little too small. I wish they were bigger and more satisfying," Boyden said.

Schooler explained the new restrictions she must follow.

"Generally, the guidelines that I follow when planning lunches require each day's menu to meet a minimum and/or a maximum level of calories, total fat, saturated fat, protein, calcium, iron, Vitamin A, Vitamin C, fiber, sodium, and cholesterol.

"Most of the rules and regulations that govern school meal programs come down from the federal government, though schools have some flexibility in how their meals are run. My encouragement to the students is to try new things we offer and give us your honest, polite feedback. Several students have politely expressed their dissatisfaction with the change to whole wheat buns this year, and I am researching other options. This program exists for students, and we will do our best to provide foods that students want to eat." Schooler explained.

Several students are unhappy about the limited supply of lunches as well. Senior Alex Avila expressed his opinion on this issue.

"I think it is important that every students is fed. This problem can be easily avoided by maybe adding more sides to each meal," Avila said.

Schooler explained the reason for these shortages and how they can be prevented.

"We have had some problems this year with running out of food or not have enough entrees to make it through all lunches. Most of the counts we receive are too high or too low, and this forces us to guess what the count will actually be based on data from past lunches. My request is for students to please provide accurate counts to your teachers. This will help us make sure we prepare enough good to make it through all lunches without having a lot of waste," Schooler said.



PLANKING HOT or NOT?

Planking - to lay horizontally in a strange or unusual place.



"I think planking is funny, but I don't really understand it."

- Kelsey Kriss



"I think of planking as a pretty competitive sport."

- Peter Pfannenstiel



"Planking is a hobby that I like to do when I'm bored."

- Cole Trammel

NEWSPAPER STAFF

EDITORS: Kylie Bledsoe and Mackenzie Freeman

COURTNEY PRIDDY
SHAYLA MILLER
CLAIRE GRANT
CARNEY ZIEGLER

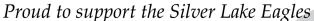
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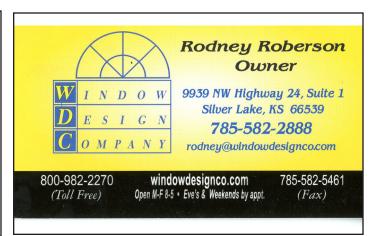




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