



THE TENDERFOOT Times

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Graduation location Larimer Gym appears to be top pick

Ashley Potts
Staff Reporter

Graduation is an event every high school student looks forward to, starting the second they walk in the door freshman year.

Graduation means freedom, going to college, meeting new people, and really starting life. For at least the past thirteen years, this exciting event has been held in Andreas Field House.

The class of 2012 will break that streak. Due to the construction of the new school, the field house will no longer be an option for graduation, nor will it be used for anything else. After the 2011-2012 basketball season, the field house will be taken down to make room for the new high school facilities.

There aren't many other options of a location for the ceremony. Most venues in Salida aren't big enough to hold the number of people usually attending graduation.

The Chaffee County Fairgrounds was one idea tossed around, but is not available on the date of graduation. In order to use that venue, the date of graduation would have to be pushed back.

So where are the seniors of Salida High going to graduate? It looks like Larimer Gym.

"Nothing has been finalized, but it's the most obvious place," said Principal Tami Thompson.

She went on to say that she thinks this venue will work out just fine. She will have to meet with Chief Don Taylor to organize safety, and aisle width in case of an emergency.

Senior advisor Brendan Cassidy wasn't worried, though.

"I think it will work perfectly, there's ample seating, good entrances, and people know where it's at," he said.

"It's a quick fix. There's bleachers, lots of floor space, and the sound system is way

better than the one in the field house."

Around 600 people fit in Larimer Gym's bleachers alone, and that's an estimate allowing for an abundance of personal space that isn't really needed. The gym floor will also be used for chairs, making the number of people able to fit in the gym even larger. The fairgrounds can only fit around 550 people.

This year's senior class is smaller than last year's, which will help a fair bit with space. There were more chairs at last year's graduation than needed.

This year, seating will be optimal. The amount of chairs put in the gym will be cut back, allowing more room for guests to wander about and find just the right seat.

Nothing has been finalized, but it's the most obvious place.

- Principal Tami Thompson

Overall, the feedback has been positive. Thompson has talked to a few parents and students. Some might be viewing this as negative, but Thompson is optimistic that this location will work out great.

"This is the last senior class to graduate from this building," she said.

"We're going to try to make it as commemorative as possible."

No matter which building the senior class of 2012 says their goodbyes from, they will be remembered, and they're going to remember it with smiles.



Photo by: Catie Wilken

THE CLASS OF 2013 decorates their float on Thurs. Oct. 20 for the Homecoming Parade. Each class chose a movie to be the theme of their float, with the Juniors selecting the horror movie Halloween. Here, Kayla Gobin spray paints a shack constructed on the float while, in the background, Matt Trueblood helps set a prop and Caitlin Batty paints a sign.

Standards switch on CO students

Ashlyn Stewart
Editor-in-Chief

For the first time in nearly ten years, the Colorado Department of Education has adopted new standards for Colorado education.

The total switch to new standards will occur next school year, but students might notice changes this school year, said Starr Hill, Director of Academic Affairs for the R-32-J district.

Language Arts standards focus more on research and presentation, said Hill, so students "may see more hands-on learning in those classes."

Another large change Hill expects students will notice is the introduction of "Personal Finance Literacy" into each grade level's standards. This focuses on "real-world understanding of finance," like credit cards and spending habits. There are now "expectations [of Economics] at each grade level," whereas before it was "never a large component of the standards."

Previously, sixth grade was considered Physical Sci-

ence, seventh Life Science, and eighth Earth Science. Now, each year of science will have students "learn a bit about each area."

The Colorado State Assessment Program test, known to students, parents, and teachers as the CSAP, will be replaced by the TCAP (Transitional Colorado Assessment Program) test for the 2011-2012 school year.

The test will look similar to the CSAP and will be taken just as seriously. The only difference is that the TCAP takes the transitional year into account, testing only "where the 'old' and 'new' standards match up," said Hill.

The state hopes to have a new test format and all the revised standards being tested for the 2012-2013 school year.

Changes to curriculum are made by teachers and "content or grade level teams," said Hill. Hill added that the process is overseen by principals and herself.

In the spring of 2011, each core group of teachers at the middle and high school levels met to review and, if necessary,

change their curriculum to fit the new Colorado Department of Education standards. For the elementary school, teachers met by grade level.

During the summer, voluntary teachers from all R-32-J buildings met to review standards for each subject. They met for two days in June and reviewed and revised the "curriculum maps" that had been designed during the earlier meetings.

English teacher Deb Bass said that this process gave her the chance to familiarize herself with the new standards.

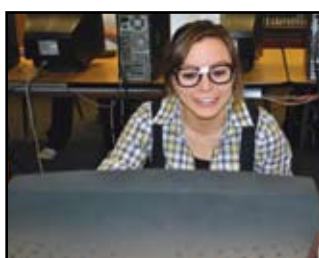
Hill said that teachers were already "meeting or exceeding" the revised standards in many areas because of their "high level of rigor for their students."

She continued, "some districts are still checking to see where they need to make changes to their curriculum; our teachers are already implementing the changes."

To see a more elaborate list of standard changes, visit www.cde.state.co.us/cdeassess/documents/csap/csap_frameworks.html.



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Putting me on track



Reh Vanatta
Copy Editor

"You're young. You have all the time in the world." Quite frankly, I'm sick of hearing this whenever I bring up the words "future" or "college." I'm seventeen years old but I'm not getting any younger. This is the here and now. We aren't too young to prepare ourselves for our futures.

Even when we were little, we were thinking about what the future would hold for us. When someone asked us what we wanted to be, we said an astronaut or princess.

We probably won't grow up to become these, but we were doing things each day that "prepared" us for the occupations. We were found dressing up and having tea parties, or reading books about space.

Maybe later on, we decided that we were going to become a doctor or a teacher. Why else did we carry around our little fake first aid kits and pretend like we could cure anything? Or all the times we played school and the "teacher" made up all these silly tests and worksheets for the "students" to complete.

Now that I'm a junior in high school, things aren't as easy as they used to be.

Instead of tea parties with my stuffed animals, and my sister, I'm having coffee with state senators to discuss bills affecting youth. Instead of playing the teacher, my role is now the student, and my silly tests have turned into hours of homework and ACT exams.

I've gone from innocent hop-scotch, to intense and competitive soccer games. I've advanced from skiing the bunny hill to skiing double black diamond cliff runs. I've improved my forward rolls into round off back tucks.

When I'm signing up for classes, I'm thinking about what is going to benefit me the most later on, as opposed to what's going to be fun at the time.

I'm taking the classes that are going to put me on track for my career so I'll be better prepared for when I'm taking the subjects at the collegiate level, even if that does mean taking the harder classes now.

Everything we do is subconsciously getting us ready for the days to come. Playing school prepared me for actual school and being a student. The tea parties gave me the manners and etiquette that I now use for important business meetings.

And conveniently, when I was practicing being a doctor, I didn't know that it wouldn't be too far from the occupation of physical therapy that I hope to pursue.

So yes, I do worry about the future and constantly do things that will help me, but whether we realize it or not, we all do. We can always be too late to prepare ourselves, but we can never start too early.

Free application month . . . not fun



Lexi Trujillo
Staff Reporter

October is free college application month. Thank you state colleges and universities for waiving your overwhelmingly expensive fee for one month, as if this will save me a fortune when it comes to college finances.

This going to college thing kind of (really) sucks. Who

honestly wants to spend an immense amount of time on next year? Um, most of the 2012 senior class, including me.

Deciding what to do in your life after high school is perhaps the most important decision in your life -- it's even ahead of choosing whether you pick ham or turkey at Subway. It. Is. BIG.

And no, it's not easy. In second grade I wanted to be an astronaut, slalom ski racer, and archaeologist. By sophomore year, a pastry chef. Today, a nurse. Am I sure? No.

This is the rest of my life. Everything can change by next week, and this is what I only think I want to do.

Some may be absolutely certain of what they want to do, and others may just live in the moment, not even caring to glance into the future. I don't blame them; it is scary.

My biggest fear right now? Essays. They are required for everything: resumes, entry/scholarship applications, etc. I want to make the best impression ever.

With hardly any confidence in my resume, however, essays are where impressions lie. I am not there. I am at home, trying to catch up with my senior year, and with college, but the more I race ahead, the farther I lag.

This isn't fun. Somewhere, though, I know I will make it. There is no option not to. College will be fun, and at the end of the day, all of the catching up, the essays, the immense amount of this year focused on next, and the rejections and acceptations will be worth it.

And guess who is taking advantage of the free application fee October? This lady.

Shopping woes: worth the trip?



Bailee Gardunio
Staff Reporter

The shine of the fluorescent lights, the smell of the overly perfumed shops, the fake smiles of the super-skinny, super-blond sales assistants.

Shopping. Most people joke about "retail therapy", but for me nothing is better than walking on the linoleum floor of a mall carrying various colored plastic bags. However, shop-

ping can have its moments when I say, "I'd rather be doing this online."

Sometimes while looking through a rack of clothes there's that certifiably crazy sales assistant, whose one goal in life is to make me uncomfortable. Sometimes she ends up following me.

I hide behind racks of dresses while a crazy lady decked out in Aeropostale is searching around for me with a pair of jeans that "Will make my butt look super perky!"

The once over. Every girl knows it: that moment when a prettier girl looks you over and mentally degrades your outfit, hair, make-up, life.

It's even worse when it's a guy... a non-straight guy. It's always awkward when there's a man better dressed than me looking me over thinking I'm a

case for "What Not to Wear."

Over the summer, I stepped out of a dressing room to find a 50 year-old woman twirling in front of the giant mirror. She was wearing a skin tight pencil skirt, and a Madonna-worthy, off-the-shoulder, baggy t-shirt. Clearly all of the teens in the dressing room felt weird.

To my embarrassment she asked, "Does this look good on me?" What am I to say? I say a quick yes and run.

I later see her buying the same outfit. I sincerely hope she never wears that atrocity. I should've told her to try another store; it's Forever 21, not Forever 51.

The rush of knowing everything purchased is all mine is the best feeling ever. But, I try to avoid age-challenged ladies, crazy salespeople, and well dressed, judgemental men.

Yay

-To school construction being on time!

-To Mrs. Coscarella guarding the bonfire all day!

-To Homecoming and alumni returning to Salida!

-To Spartans making it to state competitions!

-To travelling to BV for the football game!

-To Halloween!

-To last year's Tenderfoot Times winning the best in state for 3A!

Nay

-To couches being removed because they're "fire hazards."

-To no one showing up to decorate their cruisers before the bonfire.

-To Ashlyn not giving Ashley photo credit for that amazing soccer photo last issue.

-To leaky radiators in classrooms . . . gross.

-To being "too old" for trick-or-treating.

-To not having enough hours in a day.

Tenderfoot Times

STAFF

Editor-in-chief.....	Ashlyn Stewart
Editorial Staff.....	Ashlyn Stewart, Reh Vanatta
Layout and design.....	Ashlyn Stewart
Copy Editor.....	Reh Vanatta
Advertising Manager.....	Michaela Weber
Reporters.....	Daniel Archambeau, Riley Donovan, Danyel Enz, Orion Gamber, Isaac Stackonis, Bailee Gardunio, Reh Vanatta, Justin Giorno, Michael Ricci, Savannah Lee-Sobal, McKinnley Witty, Robin Petersen, Ashlyn Stewart, Ashley Potts, Lexi Trujillo, Michaela Weber, Demi Vanatta, Catie Wilken, Brooke Love
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Photographers.....	McKinnley Witty, Danyel Enz, Michael Ricci, Riley Donovan, Ashley Potts, Ashlyn Stewart, Catie Wilken, Robin Petersen
Graphic Designer.....	Ashlyn Stewart
Adviser.....	Deb Bass
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PUBLICATION

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Phenomenal fall colors bring beauty to Salida



Brooke Love
Staff Reporter

Seasons are how I keep track of the years that go by, and every season has its pros and cons, some more than others:

Winter is snowy and full of skiing and snowboarding, but the cold winds that take hours of staying indoors to recover from can get old after a while.

Spring is full of new things and of new life, but it also means that more work has to be done outside to reconcile

everything that had been damaged by the winter.

Summer is a great time for swimming, and absorbing the heat, but eventually, boredom and sunburns can drive one crazy.

Fall means getting that new-found cold, anticipating the holidays to come, and the perfect time to get in some exercise that isn't too hot or too cold, but is just right; just right for a cold glass of lemonade, or a hot mug of tea.

Above all of the seasons, though, in my opinion is fall, closely followed by spring. I figure that one can look at fall as either melancholy, or a joyful season. I guess fall could be melancholy for someone who dislikes school starting, and everything going dormant, but I choose to make fall the beginning, not the end.

I figure that in order to wake up in the morning, I must go

to sleep the night before. So it must be the same with everything else.

In order for the leafy trees of summer and spring to stay green and beautiful, and for the songs of birds to still bring the same awe and beauty every year, they must rest first. The more I think about it, the more I realize that without the dreary days of winter, I would not be able to truly appreciate the newness of spring, and the satisfying life of summer.

One can never forget the colors of fall either. The colors that are seen splattered all over the mountainsides of Colorado are phenomenal, and often times tourists can be seen taking pictures of the brightly colored trees that never cease to take my breath away every year.

The colors always make me imagine a giant paintbrush coming through the clouds,

and painting the trees, patches at a time.

Yet it's not just the colors of the trees that are impressive, but the sunrises, and sunsets that can only be found in fall. It is August through November when the most satisfying, picture-worthy sunsets and rises are found.

Especially here in Salida, where the bright orange, pink and yellow clouds are framed by the blue darkening peaks of the Rocky Mountains, are these scenic visuals truly inspirational.

The best way to completely indulge myself in the fall beauty it seems is to get outside.

Fall is the time when the temperature is just right. It's not quite cold yet, and not quite hot. Just warm. I often find myself, during a run, a bike ride, or even just riding in the car, staring at the trees and growing life that is almost unreal.

Haters aren't too terrible



Savannah Lee-Sobal
Staff Reporter

Recently, I was on Facebook scrolling through my Newsfeed, and I saw something that caught my eye.

Someone had posted "If you've got haters, you must be doing something right." I don't think I've ever agreed with a statement more. Usually having haters isn't a good thing. A hater is someone who hates, or dislikes something extremely.

But maybe that's not a bad thing.

Not everything in life should be for someone else. You should do things for yourself, because you want to do them.

If something makes you happy, go for it. In my opinion, you should not live your life for others' expectations. It's your life, so live it how you want to.

If we all lived our lives how other people wanted us to live them, they wouldn't really be ours. I'm not saying you should go about life not caring what other people think and disregarding their opinions completely, but perhaps we should all care a little less.

You can't make everyone happy. You have to do what you want in order to get where you want to go in life. I'm sure that the British didn't want Washington to cross the Delaware, but look where we'd be if he didn't.

Having haters might not be a bad thing. I learned in kindergarten that copying is the greatest flattery.

Maybe that's not true, maybe hating is the greatest flattery. After all, most people who hate you are jealous of you in one way or another. If everyone went through life agreeing with what other people said and having the exact same opinions as them, life would get pretty boring.

A little controversy is a good thing every once in a while. It adds excitement.

Life without haters, controversy, and different opinions would be like mashed potatoes without salt, butter, or sour cream. Boring.

Please return my phone calls . . . I need your help



Catie Wilkin
Staff Reporter

Three emails, one failed phone call. Two answering machine messages. Two emails, a number that has been disconnected. Four unanswered phone calls, one voicemail. One deadline to meet. "Hi, sorry to bother you again..."

Most of all, my first month on newspaper taught me that many people are not good at communication. At all.

In writing two articles, I con-

tacted over seventeen people regarding interviews. Around four of them got back to me within three times of contacting them. Three of them also called back within a week, and I want those people to know how much I appreciate them getting back to me.

Two of them told me I could call back with more questions if I needed to, and I felt like I could hug them. As for the other thirteen plus of them...eh.

I've never considered myself a "responsible" person (quite the opposite, actually), but after experiencing the communication skills of some working adults in this town, I felt my minimal returning phone calls skills could qualify me to be the national director of communications or something.

While it annoyed me to continue trying to get them to call me back, the most frustrat-

ing part was not being able to move on with writing until they did.

Even though it was such small things as a phone call or an article, I realized this correlated to many things in life.

Whether it be nagging parents, a brother who always makes you late, a partner who doesn't do their share in class, a teacher you agree with, people who don't do their job, or even those who don't return your emails or calls; there will always be little things that can hold someone back, even in the most insignificant ways.

While these are all super frustrating, I realized the least productive thing to do is to stay angry. There are a lot of situations that are inevitable or out of my control, but all I can do is get the initial anger over with, then figure out the best way to deal with it.

Sometimes there's a way

I can make the impact of obstacles or incompetent people less, like calling people earlier or threatening my brother.

Other times, there's nothing that can be changed. The only thing I can do is realize that sometimes I'm the person someone else is cursing in their head, or appreciate that those four out of seventeen plus people who are good at returning calls exist, and just do the best I can despite the obstacles these other people provide.

Dealing with people is a lot like setting up interviews -- I try, and try some more. If it doesn't work, I accept I can't do anything about it and plan better for next time. And keep in mind that next time a high schooler calls you for an interview, get back to them promptly. Otherwise they may write a column about you.

Sports trips aren't the same without senior pals



Ashley Potts
Staff Reporter

As an underclassman, the senior class is a little intimidating. I was honestly terrified of the whole lot of them for the first quarter of freshmen year. They aren't actually that scary, though, and I eventually warmed up to a few of them. Meeting them was the scariest part of our whole friendship.

During an overnight volleyball game, I was in a hotel room with, the one and only, Riley Johnson. She was very blunt

about breaking the ice, pulling out an 'interesting' iPod app as soon as we'd opened the door. Later, we both ordered ginger ale, which everyone but us said was disgusting.

We would eventually become friends and come across many similarities between us. We both hate Christmas music, like certain bands no one knows, and love Rupert Grint. She was my 'senior twin'.

Aside from our lovely twin moments, she taught me a good amount about high school. She told me where secret passageways are, which water fountains have the best water, and suggested clubs I should join.

She taught me enough about FBLA to get me to state as a freshman, and on a team that missed going to nationals by a point or two. She was in nearly every club, had good grades, was a three-sport varsity athlete, and gave the best

advice. My senior twin was actually my senior role model.

The day she chose to remind me it was her last day of high school, I truthfully did almost cry. I held myself together, though, just reminding her to keep in touch.

Another senior I miss is Madison Everett. She wasn't my senior triplet or anything, but was always a kind 'hello' in the hallway. To me, she was just a cool senior for a while, until she introduced me to team dinners before games, and Catchphrase on bus rides. I now can't imagine my sports life without the things Madison introduced to me.

I never realized just how sweet she was until the very last day of soccer season. At our end-of-the-season banquet, she gave everyone on the team a heartfelt letter, decorated with bright colorful markers that matched her personality. My letter is still

hanging on my bulletin board, despite the orange drink that spilled on it. She told me it would add character.

I learn new things from upperclassmen all the time. Silly things like "schulaffing", "the two-week-trap", and "booshing", along with serious things, like which classes are really helpful, which classes I'll need help from books "For Dummies" in order to pass, and that you have to pay to apply to colleges. I can only hope I'll be so helpful to underclassmen when I'm a senior.

I still don't know what I'll do without Riley to help me through FBLA, or enjoy twin moments. I miss the kind smiles I got from both her and Madison in the halls. Not seeing them everyday around the school is weird. Alas, they're both off at college, doing bigger and better things. Now they're my favorite freshmen, instead of the other way around.

Winter



Robin Petersen
Staff Reporter

I'm all for cute boots and comfy hoodies, but I don't like its accompanying weather. Skiing and snowboarding are great, but my love for snow stops there.

Walking outside and seeing two feet of snow in my yard makes me want to crawl back in to my warm bed with some hot chocolate and never go outside again.

Sometimes I wish humans could be like bears and hibernate during the winter months, or fly south like birds. It's not the snow that actually bothers me, just the freezing temperatures it brings with it. Over the next few weeks, the temperatures will continue to decline, and I will continue to hate the weather more and more.

Even though winter brings time off from school, family home for the holidays, and great food, I would like it a little more if it wasn't below thirty degrees most days.

I know that where we live has crazy weather, but I wish it wouldn't be so harsh sometimes, like having a heavy snowfall in May.

During summer, I love to sleep with my windows open. Recently, I woke up freezing and now have to sleep with my windows closed and about a million blankets on my bed. I hate it. I love the smell of fresh warm air right when I wake up in the morning and when I fall asleep.

In the winter, I feel claustrophobic and cramped in my house. Normally, I would just go outside, but when it is five degrees at 11:00 a.m. that isn't a very good idea unless you have a winter coat that is so puffy it practically doubles the size of you and gloves so thick you can't move your fingers.

Besides hoodies and Ugg-like boots, most winter wear is either so puffy you can't function or so weird-looking that you would rather stay inside than have to wear it.

This winter, like most, I plan to stay inside as much as possible and hope for summer to come as fast as it can. I miss it more than high schoolers miss nap time.



Home is where you are



Isaac Stackonis
Staff Reporter

They say that home is where the heart is, and I couldn't agree more. Home is a place of solitude, of zen, of peace. Home doesn't necessarily have to be "home," in the ideals of being a place to sleep and eat, because nativity doesn't jade me, I understand that many people don't have homes they like to show up in every night.

But, a home can be a garden, a mountain, a car, a place by the river. The Webster's definition states: 1. The place where one lives. Living is a final environment, the time when one feels comfortable, awake, and humbled.

Having a nice place to sleep is always a plus, but sleeping isn't exactly living. Living is when the energy of the Earth fills you solemnly, and there's nothing you can do about it. Being at home stays with you for a while. Because living is like a drug, it feels comfortable and can't be tossed out like trash.

Some people live by making jokes, playing sports, or sitting at home alone. These are the locations they feel best, where they feel that no one can penetrate their mind. Then someone does. Someone tells them that they must go outside, or they need to take a break from basketball, or they need to work a little more on their homework, or what they're doing sucks and they're worthless. These people have forgotten that how they live is different. No one lives the exact same way as another. Living exists in the sole heart of a human being, one grown from the seed of the Earth and the greatness of God.

Someone may tell another that it's a beautiful day out and they need to go outside as the other one is reading. The person reading feels happy and would rather not go outside. This is the way they live, and no matter how much someone may try to change that, they can't. It's like beating up someone who is different: beating them up is not going to make them any less different.

Living in home is when someone feels completely right. No one can change that place, no matter how hard they try. When a power tries to cancel one's way of living, of achieving life, it becomes cast out and perishes. Life is prana, and home, wherever that may be, is the prana jar, the containment of vital necessities, and cannot be changed.

ACTs too stressful

Colleges should focus less on one test



Ashlyn Stewart
Editor-in-Chief

Now that I'm a junior, not only are my classes harder, but I have a huge test looming over my head.

It's not the CSAP anymore, which had a big effect on the school, but not me personally. It's now the ACT.

This one test is supposed to determine how well I'll do in college, and is, therefore, what nearly all West Coast colleges take into account when weeding through thousands of applications. The SAT, for East Coast schools, is just as important.

I don't think I've wrapped my head around the fact I really am halfway through high school because I don't feel old enough or smart enough to take this test.

The score I receive will affect the rest of my life. Is this dramatic? Yes. Is this a hyperbole? No, not really.

If I do poorly, then I won't be accepted into the "top-

notch" schools, or maybe even my top pick. With more people entering the workforce, I might not get as good of a job with that degree.

All thanks to that one test score.

Thank goodness we can retake it. But even then, we have to retake the entire test, even if we did well on some parts of it. Seniors have told me that often times the retake scores don't yield much improvement compared to the first try.

There is all sorts of ACT prep available online or in massive workbooks, but when do juniors have time to do it? Between homework, sports, and friends, even the most dedicated students would struggle to work through a section a night to prepare.

"The score I receive will affect the rest of my life."

Colleges do take other parts of applications into account, like grades and school involvement, but I wish they put less stake into our ACT scores.

Here's to a friend who will always make me laugh



Demi Vanatta
Staff Reporter

Relationships are difficult to keep, but upholding a best friend is the most difficult task. People say you can't hold on to, or even have, a best friend. My best friend and I have proven that theory wrong.

My best friend and I have been BFF's for over nine years. She practically lives with me two weeks out of every month. We share every-

thing from bedrooms, clothes, to even moms. It's appropriate to say she is my sister.

She is this outgoing, funny, nice, but very blond girl. She is constantly making me laugh and always puts a smile on my face. Her personality is like nothing you have seen before (in a good way).

She is an amazing athlete, currently participating in volleyball, basketball, cheerleading, golf, and powder puff football. She is an outstanding student and, did I mention, the greatest friend I have ever had.

We are both smart, athletic, constantly hyper, and over dramatic (more her than me on the dramatic part).

This girl is the definition of crazy fun. She always has something in mind to do. I don't think I have ever been bored with her. She literally is the most fun person to be around.

She sends out this fun; happy energy to every one around her.

But, she learns from the best. Her mother is the sweetest grape on the vine. She is a kind, giving, loving woman. So I know why my friend is the way she is.

There are only good things about our relationship, no room, nor time for bad things because we are way too busy making each other laugh, so hard we get a more effective ab workout than Hip Hop Abs.

She never fails to make my day, but most of all she never fails to tell me she loves me, which proves just how much we care about each other. I often find myself bragging about her to anyone and everyone.

There is this saying "friends ask if they can get something to eat, best friends help themselves. . . Friends knock on the

door, best friends just let themselves in." It's true, it's part of being someone's best friend.

The best part of being someone's best friend is the amount of trust and love you receive. I can tell her anything, and I mean anything, and I can trust her to keep it between us.

Now the time we spend together and the giggles we shed are what I cherish the most.

We stay the night at each other's houses numerous times in a row, we are with each other at school, and after school for two or more hours. She is literally always by my side, and still we never get tired of each other.

So Kelsey, "here's to: the crap we talk, the guys we stalk, the way we shop, the laughs we can't stop, the gossip we spill, the looks that would kill, we'll stay together cause we're best friends for ever."

What do you expect?

Ashley Potts & Catie Wilken
Staff Reporters

As a youngster, freshman year seems a million years away. Kids fantasize about what the glamorous high school life will be like.

Between daydreaming about prom, joining the football team, and just being a "big kid," it seems like the perfect fantasy. But do the expectations always live up to reality?

Middle school students said they're excited for sports.

Chaz Golin, seventh grader, said he's looking forward to Foods and Nutrition. Fellow seventh grader Graham Price said he's excited for Woods and Auto.

Other students said they're looking forward to art classes and high school Band. "I definitely know that it's going to be fun," said fifth grader Clayton Church.

In the fifth grade hall, questions like "What grade is high school?" abound. Many don't know much about what to expect. "All I really know is that it's big and has long hallways. That's it," said Church.

Horror stories seem to stretch further than freshman PE, though, and some kids are content to wait.

"There will be a lot more responsibility. I know that," said fifth grader Ivy Best. "I'm not excited for high school at all, I'm really not..."

Many high school students find that although it's not as horror-film-scary as it seemed before, it's not really as teen-movie-glamorous either.

"I expected it to be really scary, with lots of big kids...but the kids really weren't that big, and it was pretty boring," said Ellie Gilmore, sophomore.

Surprises are around every corner of the big high school building, some pleasant, like math being more manageable than expected.

Others, such as getting thrown in classes with upperclassmen as a freshmen, provided a temporary shock.

Are planners obsolete?

Riley Donovan & Brooke Love
Staff Reporters

The average teenager's life has two basic speeds: busy, and super busy. They have to learn to get to classes on time, and learn how to balance out the social life and the homework life, while maybe working on sports, and still having room for family.

So how do these teens stay organized so that they can get to everything on time, and not leave anything out? Some may use the ever-handly planner.

Yet some students choose not to use this useful organization tool. Two out of every three students don't use or even own a planner. Do they help teenagers through the jungle of high school?

Many students thought the cliché middle school drama would subside, but they found that high school drama is stealing boyfriends, not best friends and favorite pencils.

"I expected high school to be where everyone was very mature, but that's not true," said high school sophomore Andrea Yesupatham.

Most agree that the best part of high school is freedom. Students are no longer required to walk in single file lines, and teachers are easier to talk to. Students feel like adults in response to usually being treated as such.

The work is a negative. Aspects such as transcripts, homework, finals, and responsibility were often missing in the high school daydreams.

High school students, who know what it's like to play in the big leagues, have some tips for kids coming onto the team.

I know...it's big and has long hallways. That's it.

-5th grader Clayton Church

Faking sick is a thing of the past unless you want an even bigger pile of make-up work. Advice is plentiful and usually accompanies a smile.

The bratty attitudes of underclassmen need to shape up, because older kids won't put up with it. They want respect, and high school students are old enough to know what that is.

All in all, make it fun. The work is hard, upperclassmen are scary, and finals are stressful, but it's worth enjoying. As Gilmore said, "Don't freak out about it, it's not that big of a deal."

Tris Golden, senior, said, "I have a planner, because I've used it all three years of high school, and thought it would be useful this year, but I just don't have a need for it."

There are many ways in which a planner can be hindering -- it takes a good chunk of time to flip through the pages of a planner, trying to find the right day, and write down the assignments.

"I use my planner to check the times when classes get over. . . [and] extra information. . . like the periodic table, to help me with my classes," junior Julaine Graves said.

Even though the teenagers life is busy and full of deadlines, sports, work, and social life, many students somehow successfully manage their time without the planner.

Being lady-like is not obsolete

Bailee Gardunio
Staff Reporter

"A dress should be tight enough to show you are a woman, but loose enough to show that you are a lady."

This concept of being a lady has almost no meaning to the current high school generation.

According to the dictionary definition, a lady is "a woman who is refined, polite, and well-spoken." While a woman is defined as quite literally, a female.

Kathy Tessitore, Family and Consumer Sciences teacher suggested that "A lady is one who is self-assured but gracious in what she says and does."

Fifty years ago being a lady, refine, polite, and well-spoken, was the only way for a woman to succeed in life, but now, class has gone by the wayside.

Contrary to popular belief, girls can still have class without acting, and dressing like someone from the 1950's. Women can still be extremely modern while being considered a lady.

"The importance of being a lady is proven when what she says and does influences the life of another in a positive way," Tessitore said.

A lady has the perfect balance of fashion sense, wit, street smarts, and knowing when to go for the new micro-mini skirt trend, or to add an inch or two to that hemline.

It would make students' great grandparents' hairs



Photo by: Michael Ricci

FRESHMEN BROOKE GOLDEN and Morgaan Walters-Schaler smile for the camera at the Homecoming dance.

stand on end if they could see how girls acted now. Why is it that girls don't care about having class anymore?

"I think being a lady means always doing the right thing," Mckenzie Everett sophomore said.

However being a lady doesn't mean always acting perfect. Every woman makes mistakes, but a lady knows how to admit to them. If a woman was perfect than there wouldn't be any such thing as a lady.

While a lady doesn't have to be perfect, there are some things that she simply must avoid. Lowering her standards is one thing a lady nev-

er does. Now being a snob isn't recommended, however no lady should ever have to lower herself to please someone else. It doesn't matter what kind of girl she is, she's better than that.

According to Everett, "A woman who doesn't care for others is not a lady," Everett said.

Now, one may know better, but how about proving to everyone else? It's all about how to carry oneself. If a girl carries herself like a lady, she tends to be treated like one.

Remember the golden rule of being a lady, keep your head, heels, and standards high.

Improve study skills with these tips

Reh Vanatta
Copy Editor

At times, studying can seem like an extremely daunting task.

Review notes

The only reason students take notes, is to use them to study, so it only makes sense to put them to use. It's always helpful to take good notes and circle, underline, or highlight specific main points.

Make note cards

This is especially helpful when learning new vocabulary words, reviewing for a Spanish or other foreign language test, or just practicing math. They allow you to practice efficiently and quickly.

Have someone quiz you

It's always great to have someone who can help you study. When you are reviewing out loud and you can't see the answer, it really tests your memory.

Write down the most important points

When you are going back through your notes, homework practice, and reviews

write down on a separate piece of paper all the most important things.

Write definitions, formulas, certain calculations, and other things that you will need to quickly remember.

Do extra problems out of the book

When studying for math or some science test, sometimes students just need a little extra practice. Doing extra practice problems out of the book or asking your teacher for an extra worksheet can help you greatly.

It is more work, but the more you practice, the better off you will be. When it comes to the test, you may not have those same exact problems, but the concepts and processes will be very familiar to you.

Study with a friend

Some people study best alone, but others find it beneficial to study with a partner. Sometimes you find that you can bounce ideas off each other and figure out the answers to harder problems.

Study right before you go to bed

It's a proven fact that if you

study before bed, you will remember it better the next day. You may subconsciously think about it in your sleep, or maybe even dream about the material you were studying.

Invent a creative way to remember something

Make up an acronym or a song. Be creative, even if it makes no sense to someone else, it will help you remember.

Research further

Sometimes getting extra information is vital to having a full understanding of the material. Knowing a little extra can help you make sense of the questions. Look on the Internet or read more information in the textbook.

Get a tutor

When all else fails, get a tutor. This extra one-on-one time with another person who knows the material well will help tremendously.

It's hard to get all your questions answered during class time, and a tutor can help you work through each problem and help you hear the material from a different perspective.

SHS Homecoming 2011



Photo by: Danyel Enz

FROM LEFT TO right, top to bottom: Homecoming Queen Nominees K.C. Shurbet, Michaela Weber, Dominica Alloy, and Lexi Trujillo stand with their escorts Jared McDonald, Justin Giorno, Brandon Smith, and Garrett Lundberg at the morning pep assembly on Thurs., Oct. 20. Salida's unofficial mascot, Doom, stands before he gives his motivational speech at the assembly. Kayla White, Peonie Wong, and Caitlin Batty, all juniors, model their Indian costumes for Cowboys and Indians spirit day on Wednesday, Oct. 19. Senior Stormy Roberts gives a thumbs-up to her purple & white day paint during float building Thursday afternoon. The Salida High School cheerleaders perform during half-time at the Homecoming game. Their dance featured a hip-hop song and they wore costumes to represent the social groups of jocks, nerds, and gangsters. Sophomore Andrea Yesupatham carries the ball towards a touchdown for the Sophomore/Senior team at the powderpuff game. Junior Rio Wintz attempts to grab her flag. Seniors Fabian McGlasson and Marissa Belmonte share a laugh while holding down balloons for the senior's "UP" -- a Disney Pixar movie -- inspired float.



Photo by: Catie Wilken



Photo by: Ashley Potts



Photo by: Catie Wilken

Awkward high school relationships

Lexi Trujillo & Michaela Weber
Staff Reporter & Advertising Manager

If you thought awkward middle school relationships end there, you may be surprised that they continue on to high school, and are as, if not more, awkward. Tom met Barbara via Facebook, and they fell in love, so they thought. But instead, they fell in awkward.

High school relationships are among the most awkward situations a person will encounter. The hallway, and the Homecoming dance, are a jungle of awkwardly placed hands and pointless conversations.

Barbara stands awkwardly by her locker while Tom tries to get a kiss, but instead Barbara turns her face and he plants one on her ear. Everyone passing by sees this fail and automatically, they feel awkward too.

This sort of malfunction happens at least five to seven times daily with multiple persons observing.

Among the most observant are the teachers who prowl the halls looking for inappropriate behavior. However, if the behavior is awkward, they let it go.

Besides the awkward kissing couple, there is the awkward silent couple.

You know the couple that sees each other in the hall and just pass by without even the slightest smile.

Let us refer to this couple as Jim and Sandy. It's not that Jim doesn't want to see Sandy, it's just that he thinks his friends believe Sandy is annoying.

It's not that Sandy doesn't want to see Jim, it's just that she hates his friends. So the only time they spend together are on Sunday afternoons after church.

There is also the couple who is normal until it's time to part ways, then it becomes awkward. They walk down the hall, hand in hand, smiling, laughing and not caring what other people think.

But now Molly has arrived at her destination, American History; Bobby has to take the few extra steps to English. So what time is it? Awkward fast spin movement hug time!

This encompasses a fast hug that is slightly embarrassing which ends with a spin out of arms and quickly both shuffle away not to be tardy for class.

Besides the similar age cou-

ple previously mentioned, there is the contrary awkward age difference couple -- let's call this couple Ted and Michelle.

Ted is waaay too old for Michelle, she is in high school. He is in college. He needs to get a life. If the age difference is greater than two to three years, this is awkward.

When he comes home for the weekend, who do they hang out with? His friends or her friends?

Try neither. They sit at home and do nothing while she is fantasizing about enjoying her high school years without him.

There is also the awkward high school break up. When a couple decides to part ways and it leaves the entire school feeling awkward.

You know, the couple who makes out in the hall all day every day, then one day, they suddenly stop.

The entire school is left wondering, but it only takes Facebook to find out the truth about the kissy-face couple.

After Homecoming, there are always plenty of new couples.

Perhaps after high school these awkward relationships end and awkward marriages begin.



Photo by: Robin Petersen



Photo by: Danyel Enz



Photo by: Robin Petersen

Powderpuff? More like pretty tough

Justin Giorno
Staff Reporter

This year's Homecoming committee, including members from J. Kyle Braid, the "S" Club, and Student Council, looked for ways to boost enthusiasm during the week. One tradition they decided to bring back for the festivities was powderpuff football, where the female students competed in a flag football game.

It was decided to have the game on Friday, Oct. 21 at 4 p.m. before the boys' football game. The committee was hoping to draw in more students and fans to the school, because there is not school on Fridays. Normally, the parade is on Friday before the game, but was on Thursday with the 4-day school week.

Several years before, powderpuff was a tradition at Salida High School, however, this year's graduating class has not been at SHS since they have had a game.

They capped the participation at 30 and had girls who signed up late enough they couldn't play.

The girls drew a crowd to White Field as the teams were split into gray, seniors and sophomores, versus purple, juniors and freshman.

The purple team was coached by math teacher, Fred Maxwell and the gray team by math teacher, Josh Bechtel, while alumni Donny Goucha ('11) and Clint Doren ('11) refereed.

Maxwell's team came out on top with three touchdowns to two touchdowns. Melia Golin

scored all three touchdowns for her team as she wove her way passed the opposing team.

Bechtel's team held in with two touchdowns both scored by Andrea Yesupatham as she sprinted through the defense.

"It was a lot harder than I had anticipated and I actually learned a lot about football. I now understand the game I cheer for," said Emily Dewberry, junior.

Angel Coffman, junior said she would like to play again next year. Due to the large interest from girls of all grades, it is likely next year will bring another powderpuff game.

After the game, the festivities continued with a tailgate party sponsored by Salida's Chapter of Young Life and a pizza eating contest sponsored by J. Kyle Braid.

Homecoming history

Where did the traditions originate?

Orion Gamber & Michael Ricci
Staff Reporter & Assistant Photo Editor

How did homecoming start? How did the tradition arrive in Salida?

The homecoming tradition spread like wildfire in the years after 1910. In 1930, C.F. Williams, a column, wrote that the homecoming idea throughout colleges was "contagious."

Many colleges like to think of themselves as the school that started the sensation across America.

The University of Illinois says the game was started as an annual event to let alumni cheer on their favorite team and evolved into additional student-oriented activities such as parades, dances and the crowning of the homecoming queen and, sometimes, king.

Randy Kapushion reminisces his senior homecoming against Louis Palmer High in 1979. The Spartans dominated that Saturday afternoon, the dance followed the game, that night.

"There is a lot of Salida alumni at homecoming, it's nice to see how they cheer on the team, and are still interested in their hometown," said Kapushion. The popular annual school event soon moved to high schools. But when did it finally arrive in Salida?

The hunt for the first Salida Homecoming started with looking in old yearbooks. One long row of yearbooks, in the archives. Their hardcovers turned to paperbacks after 1960. The older the books got, the weaker their condition was.

Homecoming Queens are in the 1951 yearbook and not in the 1921. With a gap of missing yearbooks between 1951 and 1921, it narrowed the first Salida homecoming between 1921 and 1951.

The hunt was over. The first homecoming in Salida took place in Nov. 1937. Almost one hundred years ago. But what was it like to be at the first Salida Spartan Homecoming?

The Football pads and helmets were leather. Kesner is the only part of Salida High that existed. The Football field was fifty percent mud, and was called the "Grid Iron."

So take a blast back from the past, and look forward to the future homecomings. Students and alumni can help make floats for the parade, and also cheer for their favorite team. So the new questions are, What's next for the homecoming tradition?

search continued. There were other leads to check the Salida Public Library's archives.

Jeff Donlan, library manager, searched high and low, the archive couldn't be located. However, there was a book that gave an important clue.

In the book, the first Homecoming Queen in Salida that was recorded, was in 1937, her name was Erma Shepherd. In the basement, stood a microfiche reader on top of a desk. Near the microfiche reader was the archive which had finally been found. Looking through the assortment of films, 1937 September through November, appeared.

An article in the Daily Mail (now known as the Mountain Mail), gave information about the first homecoming game in 1937. It said, "The plans which were being made for the homecoming game on Oct. 30 had to be changed due to the shift in the Walsenburg game. . . according to John Burgener, athletic manager."

Based on the Daily Mail's writing structure, cartoons, and articles, most people back then relied on the paper to get national news; local news wasn't covered as much.

High school news only came out in a half page "School News" article weekly. As the high school had to share the space with the middle and elementary schools.

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Salida vs. B.V. football game



Friday, Nov. 4
7 p.m. in Buena Vista

Come cheer the salida spartans

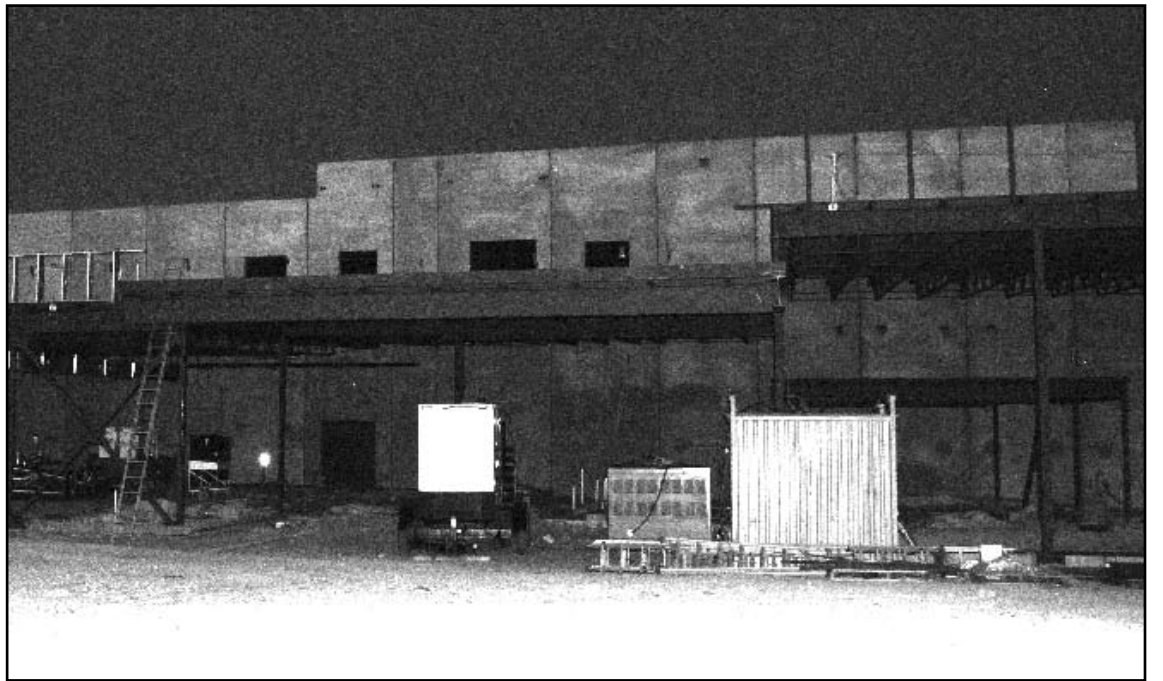
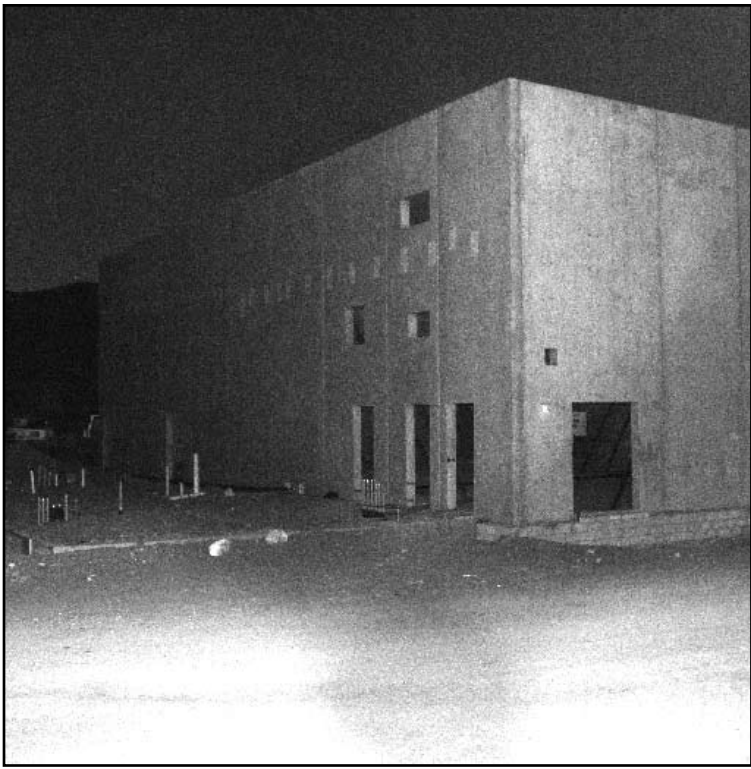


Photo by: Ashlyn Stewart

EARLY OCT. 24 marks the five-month anniversary of the ground-breaking ceremony of the new high school. Two main structures have been erected so far, but work is far from done.

Stewardship committee participates in state's pilot program

Bailee Gardunio & Robin Petersen
Staff Reporters

The Stewardship Committee, might not yet be a well-known name, but in the next few months it will be an important one to remember.

It is an organization that was formed last spring as part of a pilot program initiated by the Governor's Energy Office (GEO). The program was established to promote "environmental sustainability and community stewardship in K-12 education."

The committee consists of community members, from the County Commissioner to school principals to business owners, and even students. Jon Bailey, Salida High School math teacher, is heading the start of the committee. Blaze Perri, a junior, has been involved by creating an image that "defines stewardship" for the district.

Many of the school participating have received the

B.E.S.T. Grant, which Salida was awarded last November to build a new high school. Other pilot schools include: Summit, Manitou Springs, Monta Vista, and some Front Range schools.

The committee has created three goals for this year. First, they would like to establish a recycling operation throughout the district that the students manage.

Second, they want to have all teachers in the district review their curriculum and see where they are teaching about sustainability, and if they are practicing being environmentally sound in the classroom.

Third, they would like to share ideas for a greener curriculum with the staff who are willing to participate.

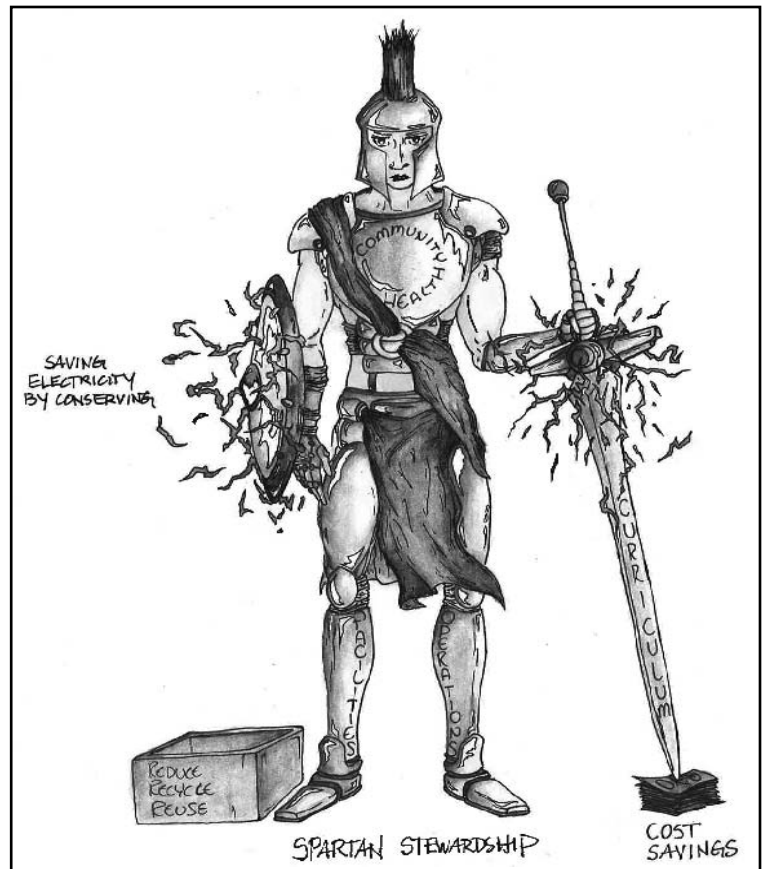
The desired outcomes for the district include cost-savings, community engagement, and student ownership.

Much of this year has been focused on the planning stages and getting people interested. They have been working on a management plan to present to the district. "After we get people interested, then we can work on our goals for the year," said Bailey.

There will be an unveiling of the Stewardship Committee's Management Plan at 11:30 a.m. on Friday, Nov. 11 in Salida High School's Larimer Gym. Starting this event, the Governor's Energy Office will give a presentation followed by Superintendent Darryl Webb. At noon, construction will stop at the new school and tours of the facility will begin.

Also beginning at noon a BBQ will be held in Larimer Gym. This entire event is open to the public.

If you are interested in joining the committee or have any questions, contact Jon Bailey or Darryl Webb. All e-mails are on the school website. (salida.k12.co.us)



R-32-J'S SUSTAINABILITY IMAGE, designed by Blaze Perri, Salida High Junior, will help visualize stewardship for the district. The image serves as a constant reminder of the role each participant plays in promoting the district's desired outcomes.

DAG committee currently focuses on interior of new school

Michael Ricci
Assistant Photo Editor

The plans have been drawn, the ground has been broken, and the landscape is changing, but do students know the "inside story?"

What's the furniture going to be like? what Major changes will there be? What new tech-

nologies will students see, if any?

In a recent meeting, Kate Clark, Salida High English teacher, attended, the Design Advisory Group discussed the possibilities of the new high school's technology over the

current technologies.

To start, the entire school will have wireless Internet (Wifi). This will be used to support the hope of every student having a laptop for typing essays and research projects.

The school will no have a built-in PA system. Instead school-wide communication will be done through the

phone system.

The classrooms lights will be environmentally efficient, being able to regulate themselves. For instance, when a lot of light is shining through the class window, they will turn off. "This means they are light sensitive, one half of the room can be lit by the sun, and the other by overhead lights," Clark said.

The window shades will also be somewhat futuristic as well, being translucent on the inside and opaque on the outside. This is used in the case of a lock down situation, but still

lets light in the classrooms.

The meeting also went over the nature of the current Smartboards and whether or not they will be used or replaced by LCD smart flat screens. These may be used in every classroom as well as the main commons.

Lastly, all current high school furniture will be donated to the other two schools as new furniture will be put into the new school. "The sample furniture will be here [available for view] in about two weeks or so," said Principal Tami Thompson.



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627 OAK STREET
SALIDA CO 81201
TEL: 719-539-0855
FAX: 719-539-0851
WWW.DISSLINSTRUCTURES.COM



When Asked: Do you think it's risky to text while driving?
93% of Salida High School students say ... Yes!

P.S. In Colorado, texting while driving is illegal for ALL drivers regardless of age. If you are under 18, using a cell phone while driving is also illegal. Drive Smart!

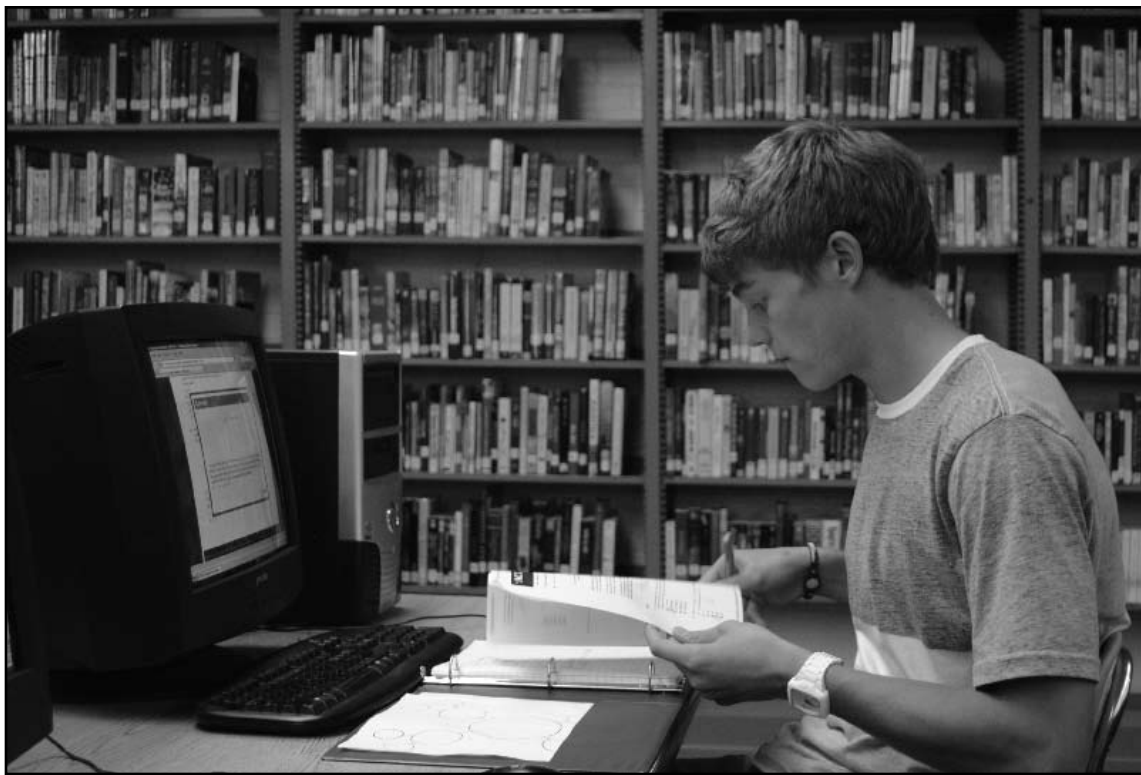


Photo by: Justin Giorno

SENIOR PRESTON LAGREE works on college applications and scholarships during Fred Maxwell's Math of Finance class. Open exclusively to seniors, the class allots time every Wednesday to work in the library on college preparation.

'11 alum interns to work on school

Daniel Archambeau
Staff Reporter

After graduating from Salida High School in May 2011, Tyler Fowler had the opportunity to learn about the new high school construction. He had an internship with Diesslin (DSI), an expert in building in Chaffee County. DSI offered two internships for students studying engineering.

Fowler said, "I didn't have any previous connections when I went to work for DSI."

As a freshman at Colorado School of Mines in Golden, Fowler has started his studies in engineering, which qualified him for the internship over the summer.

The job wasn't easy, but

Fowler jumped in full-force doing some important tasks in the building process of the school. He received the opportunity to apply his mathematical abilities working with drawn-up diagrams of the school's building layout. He also played the role of figuring out the amount of materials needed according to the dimensions of said material.

"He has a great work ethic," said Michael Rodriguez, DSI project manager. "When he wasn't doing things in the office for his eight hour work days, he would be in the field doing roofs."

The internship was paid,

but the skills that it developed are invaluable. It's a way DSI likes giving back to the community, and they are always looking for new, bright, hard working interns.

Fowler said he has plans to return possibly for several summers to come. He said, "It's a great learning opportunity with good people."

One surprise according to Fowler was that the building of the new school is considerable smaller than the current building. This was not a choice of DSI, but a restriction of the B.E.S.T. Grant that paid for 41 percent of the new building.

According to Fowler's co-workers, he showed a lot of determination and really hit the ground running.

Students start Salida High film club

Catie Wilken
Staff Reporter

A group of students have been working on organizing a school film club. The club is going to screen, discuss, and make films. The first meeting will be on Oct. 26 in Deb Bass's room, 108, at 7 p.m.

Although it's still in the planning stage, the group has created a mission statement: "to inspire global and diverse citizens through film viewing, dialouging, producing, and directing." They became a school club and have been working on applying for grants to obtain film equipment.

Annie Deveney, McKinnley Witty, Joe Coffman, Lexi Trujillo, Ashlyn Stewart, and Kyle Fowler are the students who attended the Telluride Film Festival in September and are now involved in organizing the club. Amy Moore and Bass accompanied the group on the trip and will be serving as advisors for the group.

"Students proposed it, and I was really excited about it. It seemed like a great way to carry on their experience from Telluride, continue thinking

SHS re-opens FCA Fellowship of Christian Athletes meets Mondays at lunch in drafting room

Riley Donovan
Staff Reporter

From golf to basketball and all sports in between, Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) is a way for competitive athletes to come together and build stronger relationships with each other and coaches in something not regularly offered in a school setting.

Drafting teacher Shawn Simpson said that FCA is, at its core, a Bible study. They meet on Mondays, during lunch, in the drafting room.

Last year, they tried to meet in the mornings, but it was moved to lunch so there would be less conflict with other activities, sports, and clubs. FCA has been active at SHS on and off for a long time and the group started up again this year.

So what does FCA do? FCA deals with issues in the school and challenges that need to be fixed or improved in the community.

They haven't done much more than meet, but they plan to help at the soup kitchen on Mondays and to assist shoppers to their cars with their bags.

Student Daniel Archambeau has been a part of FCA since eighth grade and went to an FCA camp between the summer of his eighth and ninth grades.

According to the FCA website, "camps are a time of 'inspiration and persperation' for athletes and coaches to reach their potential by offering

comprehensive athletic, spiritual, and spiritual training."

He stayed at the Colorado Country Club in Colorado Springs for a week and a half.

He said that FCA has greatly impacted his life and sports. He said that he has a totally new view on the world and the sports he plays. At the camp, mentors who influenced him and his outlook on his athletics as well as his life.

FCA started worldwide in 1954 and is now the largest Christian sports group in the country. Its duty is to challenge teens, athletes and coaches to make a difference in their community for the Christian faith.

Over the past year, the fellowship of Christian athletes has 350,000 students across 7,100 high school and college campuses. The organization has worked with 46,000 coaches and student athletes across the world.

One of FCA's camp ministry leaders, Dan Brittin, said that he can speak directly to athletes in a way that they understand and it lets them realize that athletics and religion can be one in the same and don't have to be separate.

This allows athletes who are passionate about both subjects to share a common connection.

FCA is an organization that helps and encourages athletes and coaches to make a difference in their society and to follow their religion so that they can have fun participating in sports and studying the Bible.

about film, and bringing that back to the school community," said Moore.

The students say the experience of seeing the films and filmmakers at the Telluride Film Festival inspired them to start their own group. There had been talk of starting a club before, but the students discussed it more seriously on the last day of Telluride, as the festival was coming to an end.

To inspire global and diverse citizens through film viewing, dialouging, producing and directing

- Mission Statement

Moore said the club will get the community involved

and allow her to see films she wouldn't normally watch.

"Hopefully we'll have some screenings that are of the interest to the community, so then the community could see what the students are doing and feel a connection to the school, and our students could have a connection to the community and feel good about serving the community. I feel like we're fulfilling a need there."

Deveney said she's excited to see the club bring different groups of the school together to pursue something they're all passionate about.

"It's a way to relate to people. People go to movies to escape reality and I'm one of the people that want to help people escape."

"We're going to watch films, which is really exciting, but I think making the films will get a new perspective and will be really fun," said Witty. All students are encouraged to join, whether they want to participate in making films or just watch and discuss them.

"I hope people can come and enjoy films in whatever way they want," said Deveney.

Melissa Lee-Sobal
Lic. Massage Therapist
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Tough games don't kill



Justin Giorno
Staff Reporter

We all have those games that we'll never forget. Some are good, but some are not so good.

Have you ever noticed that the good games really don't help us in life? The good ones are just like the filling inside the cake that we strive for.

The bad ones are the design and the shape the cake is made of. It is always the bad ones that create the people we are today. After all, Whatever doesn't kill you only makes you stronger.

This thought of what doesn't kill you makes you stronger is relevant in life, but more noticeable in the world of sports. For example, you see sports teams that get upset by an 'under-dog' team.

Being an athlete I know this is true, for it has happened to me.

A loss to a team that you should have killed, is demoralizing and embarrassing. You have two options though: you can let a single game affect how the rest of your season goes, or you can filter your anger and learn from the upset.

Now no one in life wants to feel this pain of losing and embarrassment, so you have to learn from your mistakes, and never have that feeling again.

In life your going to fail over 60 percent of the time. Now you're probably thinking I'm just blowing smoke, but I'm not.

Even the big shots like Bill Gates didn't always have things go right for them. They had to fall somewhere down the road. For Bill Gates, what didn't kill him, only made him more rich!!

When you have a bad game you tend to learn to produce more successful practices, and push yourself even harder each day.

You must do whatever it takes to not feel like you've let yourself down. So remember when life seems to have nothing going right for you, slap it in the face and tell it to find someone else because you aren't going down without a fight.

Giorno breaks school record at twenty-one goals

Savanah Lee Sobal
Staff Reporter

Green grass and white goals is the scene at the soccer field where the Salida High School Boy's soccer team dominates.

So far this season they've gone 6-2-1, until they played at St. Mary's on Sept. 30 and experienced a tough loss, 5-0.

The Spartans came home on Oct. 4 to destroy CSS 7-1, with senior Justin Giorno scoring five goals. Giorno described this as "totally sick" and said that he's "way pumped for the record breaking goal." The previous school record was set by Tyler Keidl (a player from Buena Vista) in 2004 with nineteen goals in a season.

Next, the boys took on The Classical Academy (TCA) on Oct. 6. The game was lost 3-1 with sophomore Ethan Coit scoring the only goal.

Oct. 11 CSCS arrived at Ben Oswald Park, where despite the Spartans losing 2-1, Giorno

scored his seventeenth goal, getting him one step closer to beating the school record.

The boys played their final home game against ECA where they won 4-0. Three of these goals were scored by Giorno who obliterated the school record in his last regular season home game. The other goal came from Kevin Scheidt, a BV player.

Coincidentally, this was also senior night where SHS said goodbye to seven boys who will no longer play with the team after this season. These boys included captain Giorno, Brandon Smith, exchange students Edoardo Brovero and Victor Weber, and Buena Vista student Jeremy Linza. A farewell was said to senior, managers Amanda Lewis and Kely Weber.

Post season play began on Saturday, Oct. 22 with a win at Rye, 5-1. Five different Spartans scored: senior Brovera, sophomores Evan Scherer,



Photo by: Savanah Lee Sobal

SENIOR EDOARDO BROVERO dribbles the ball down the field during a Salida home game at Ben Oswald Field.

Coit, Maynor Serrano, and BV's Carson Colegate.

The next playoff game is set for Wednesday, Oct. 26 at Jef-

erson High School in Denver. Salida is nineteenth out of thirty-two teams, while Jefferson's ranked fourteenth.

Young football team pushes through season



Photo by: Ashley Potts

STARTING QUARTERBACK ALEC Coscarella, sophomore, strategizes with Coach Randy Kapushion during Homecoming.

Bailee Gardunio
Staff Reporter

For a lot of the Salida students, the football game is just an excuse to hang out with friends on Friday nights. Everyone loves the energy that comes with the Friday night

lights. The football team's record is far from perfect, and are criticized for losing, but unless you're on the field you don't know that this season is much more than just winning and losing.

In a season where freshmen

out number all of the other classes, young, is an adjective that is often used to describe the football team. The team has had it's fair share of obstacles. From injuries, to losing key players, to playing the third ranked team in the state, they've had more than enough difficulties. "Wins and losses are not a true measure of a football team," said Coach Phil Gardunio.

Nine losses, one win. As far as football goes, that's not a good record. Fans can assume that the Spartan football team isn't going for the state title. The season started off bleak, with four consecutive losses. "There's not a team that I've ever coached that has learned the lessons that this team has learned," Gardunio said.

When Montezuma-Cortez traveled to Salida, the Spartans finally got the upper hand. After two touchdowns, Salida emerged victorious. Salida didn't celebrate for long, after a hard hit Alec Coscarella, the starting quarterback, was diagnosed with a concussion.

After a close game against Pagosa Springs, the team lost

yet another game. Then came the dreaded game against the Bayfield, Wolverines, the third ranked team in the state. Everyone knew the game was going to be rough, with the starting quarterback sitting out. The final score was 49 to zero. The Spartans then traveled to Alamosa, where they lost 61 to thirteen.

The homecoming game was next. The boys had a lot of pressure on them with alumni returning to watch. It was also the last home football game of the year and to ever to be played on White Field (the stadium will be torn down to make room for the new school). Despite a festive atmosphere the Spartan offense was unable to put more than six points on the board.

The Spartans will be playing long-time rivals the Buena Vista, Demons Nov. 4. The team hopes to come back with a win, but win or lose their school will be proud of them. "When the final buzzer sounds at the end of the season, I am proud to say that I coached 25 true Spartans," said Coach Gardunio.



Courtesy Photo

PRESTON LAGREE, SENIOR sets up his putt at the State tournament.

The tournament was Mon. Oct. 3 through Tues. Oct. 4 at Dos Rios Golf Course in Gunnison.

LaGree was the top finisher for the Spartans. Senior golfer Daniel Archambeau also made it to state, as did Cotopaxi golfer Mason Dotter. Archambeau is a returning state qualifier.

Golfers qualified for the state meet at regionals, held Sept. 20 at the Hollydot course in Colorado Springs.

The team is coached by Cory Smith, who also coaches spring girls' golf.

Both cross country teams earn spot at State



Photo by: Brooke Love

JUNIOR JACOB ADAMSON powers through a pack of Varsity runners at the league meet, held Oct. 14 in Florence.

Justin Giorno
Staff Reporter

Spartan Cross Country the beginning of the season paced themselves through and are now finishing the last

leg strongly. Runners recently ended their regular season meets on Oct. 1 at The Classical Academy (TCA). Spartans ran strong with almost everyone on the team setting a new personal record (PR).

"This race had good momentum going into our league meet because we all ran well and we keep running better, faster, stronger," said junior Brooke Love.

League meets were run on the Oct. 14 in Florence. There the whole Spartan army ran attempting to make regionals. The top eight runners on the team traveled to TCA for regionals.

For the lady Spartans that consisted of seniors Dominica Alloy, Kaiti Davis, Bethany Higgins, and Kendra Johnson. Also to following their footsteps, junior Brooke Love, Sophomore, Sammi Sharrar, and freshmen Lauren McDonald and Alison Lofton.

"The girls have been a force

to reckoned with since the start of the season but have yet to truly reveal the depth of our abilities and talents. I think we are going to shine at State," said Higgins, captain.

For the boys the top eight were seniors Eric Glovan, Michael Hoynoski, and Daniel Archambeau. junior Jacob Adamson (who placed sixth), sophomores Avery Martinez, Caleb Johnson, Kelly Canon and freshman Jake Schoenfeld.

Regionals were held on Friday, Oct. 21 at TCA, where runners attempted to qualify for state. The girls team took second place as the boys took fourth. Both teams qualified for a shot at the state title.

"The boys raced with heart at regionals and it's taking them to state against tough odds. I couldn't be more proud of the teams," said Higgins.

State Finals will be held on Oct. 29 at the Arapahoe County Fairgrounds.

Salida Racing goes into State race with big win

Daniel Archambeau
Staff Reporter

Elbert, Colo. hosted the Peaceful Valley Invitational High School Mountain Bike Race on Sunday, Oct. 16.

Salida showed that despite stacked numbers, they can compete. Garrett Lundberg, senior, was a dominating biker, pulling a big "W" in the Varsity boys race and bringing pride to Salida High School.

He wasn't the only one who managed to bring some hardware out of this race. Isaac Stackonis, junior, found himself standing atop the podium alongside the Lundberg with an incredible third place in the Varsity race; his highest finish this season.

He was a full minute ten seconds ahead of the fourth place competitor and just 51

seconds from catching the second place boy.

The winning didn't stop there. Down the line from Varsity to the freshmen race there was a group of Spartan athletes working hard and to represent Salida. Sophomore Jake Kastner had a victorious day. A consistent top racer for the Spartan sophomore boys, Kastner pulled a first place win in the sophomore boys category.

Behind him, Tye McAllister (14th), Jake DeKing (18th), Riley Donovan (19th), and Marc Smith (23rd) left it all on the track. The young team has fast riders to look forward to a strong future.

In the JV boys race, senior Travis Clark (24th) and junior

Marc Nickerson (32nd) got a glimpse at an intimidating Division I (DI) teams; they gave it their all to stay in the competition. In the end, the DI schools pulled out ahead in JV. The experience gained was invaluable for the guys.

Representing the SHS freshman class Jonah Byars (12th) and Sol Shepherd (31st) rode hard and have another race under their belts, furthering the SHS mountain bike team's future.

The lady Spartans had a great showing of their own. Despite our lower female numbers, they still go out looking to bring home wins. Sage Kitson is the girls' only current varsity racer.

She continues to go out strong and confident. Her success is only going to further as she goes from her now junior

year into being a senior.

On the other side, the girls had successful races. Sage Kitson, junior raced Varsity coming in fourth place. Following in her footsteps, Kelsay Lundberg, freshman had a winning day in the JV category taking first place. As a freshman, she has showed great success early in her racing career.

Fellow freshman racer Hannah Sites competed in the freshman girls race taking sixth place. Junior Annie Deveney (16th) the newest member to the mountain bike crew raced JV. Peaceful Valley Invitational race was a momentous day for the Spartan mountain bikers team. as they took first place overall.

Cheer on Salida Racing Oct. 30 at the Ridgeline Rally, State Championships in Castle Rock as they ride to win state.

Volleyball girls ends their season with a win

Ashley Potts
Staff Reporter

The Salida High volleyball season has come to a close. They've had a tough season, working hard, but fell short of expectations.

JV coach, Jane Johnson said, "From the JV perspective, we may not have had a winning season, but in many ways we had a very successful season. Majority of games we had five freshmen and a sophomore out on the court. Each and every game showed tremendous improvement."

The girls were optimistic and felt prepared for the home match with the CSCS Lions, on Sept. 29. Despite their optimistic attitudes, the Lions took the victory. The scores were 4-25, 10-25, and 14-25.

After this loss, the team decided to have a little fun, and

attended a college volleyball game. They watched the CU Buffs go up against the USC Trojans on Sept. 30. The Buffs lost in three games, but the girls had fun watching.

Coming back after the game in Boulder, Salida volleyball girls visited the TCA Titans in Colorado Springs. The Titans kept their ship afloat, but the Spartans were sunk. With scores of 8-25, 6-25, and 4-25.

Back on the home court on Oct. 6, the Spartans saddled up with the Manitou Mustangs. The Mustangs proved to be more of bucking broncos, and the Spartan's struggled to hold on. The ending score was 26-28, 7-25, and 13-25.

A few days later, on Oct. 11, the Spartans hosted the Florence Huskies. The Spartans fell to the Huskies scoring 20-25, 12-25, and 14-25.

The JV and C teams were also leashed by the Huskies.

The JV scored 25-18 (win), 16-25, 23-25 and the C team scored 25-22 (win), 23-25, and 25-27.

That same week the Buena Vista Demons visited Salida. This was the last home game of the season, and seniors Adele Ersepkova and Michaela Weber were recognized. The Demons raised hell, but the Spartans fought hard.

The game kept close until the end, and the Spartans fell into the fire. Scores ended at 13-25, 18-25, and 13-25. JV and C teams tried to rise above the flames, but ended up being engulfed.

JV scored 25-27 and 23-25 and C team scored 17-25, 25-22 (win), and 26-28.

In the last game of the regular season, the Spartans visited the CSCS Lions, for the second match between the two. The Lions held the reign they had in the first meeting. The var-

sity game ended at 7-25, 8-25, and 7-25.

JV and C teams lost as well. Scores ended at 13-25, 19-25 and 14-25, 25-21 (win), 12-25 respectively.

The Spartans then went up against Ellicot in a cross over game to end the season. Only varsity participated in the match, and finally got the win they'd been hoping for all season. They started off with a 15-25 loss, but then brought it back to win the next three 25-24, 25-21, and 25-20.

They fought a tough fight this season, but they're optimistic for next year. They will only be losing one varsity player, and are expected to acquire a number of new players.

Johnson said, "With the experience these young ladies have gained this season, it speaks volume as to what we have to look forward to in the future."

Kicker



McKinnley Witty
Photo Editor

The intensity from the stadium lights catches my eye. My whole body is numb and I distract my mind from anything but the ball. That is all I allow myself to look at, to think about, to picture going through those shining white posts. Not the 200 pound high school boys running at me, or the thought of my friends, family, or community in the stands. Two steps and, *whack*, my right foot strikes the football, pops it up, and through those glistening posts it goes.

Now is when my mind wanders, everyone in the stands going crazy. They aren't just ecstatic about that extra point; they are elated because not only am I the first girl to play or score on the Salida High School varsity football team.

When I was younger I would get into arguments with boys at school about how much better soccer is than football. Yet here I am, deep into my first season of football. Never did I expect to be playing my senior year of high school; it all just started out as a joke.

The football coach pulled me out of Economics class, and said he'd signed me up for spring training. I laughed and let it go. However, some of the players said that they really needed a kicker for the next year.

I stood outside on that warm May day, and kicked my first football. Stunned, I gawked at the football soaring through the air and realized it's pretty close to kicking a soccer ball.

Never have I been on a team like a high school boy's football team. They are a close knit family, and I didn't realize this until being amongst them. The coaches put so much time and effort into everything they do for the boys, and in return the boys play their hearts out every Friday night.

I would have never thought of myself as being the first and only girl on a varsity football team and accepted into their family. But now that I have, I wouldn't change my experiences for anything.

I have learned so much about myself and my teammates it amazes me. Now that I have, I will always remember and keep with me the qualities this team has given me.



EARTH SCIENCE STUDENTS in Avi Beaulieu's class built and launched rockets constructed of two-liter plastic bottles, manilla folders, and a whole lot of duct tape. Paraprofessional Jeffrey Shacklett and Christina Nason (holding Ralph the pug) watch the launch. Colton Donner, senior, controls the air for the launch pad while Jay Peterson, junior, prepares to pull the string that will release his rocket. Beaulieu held a contest within each class to see whose rocket could travel the furthest distance. Shelbie Cribari and Luke Rankin, juniors, won the fifth hour division and Angel Coffman and Dylan Adkisson, also juniors, won the second hour division.

Scraper Bikes founder visits Salida, holds student assembly

Isaac Stackonis
Staff Reporter

"Blue, yellow, orange with bling, Scraper Bikes is on the scene!" Scraper Bikes was started in Oakland, Calif. by Tyrone Stevenson, Jr., a.k.a Baybe Champ, the Scraper Bike King.

Champ came to Salida on Sept. 30 where he spoke to Salida Middle School and a handful of Salida High School students. In the evening, he spread his message at an event hosted by Subculture Cyclery.

Teachers and students were interested in the Scraper Bike idea. Not particularly the art form, but the culture and idealism of a mentor outlet.

The Scraper Bike idea is used as a mentor program for kids on the street, in poverty, or in trouble. Champ lived in a perfect place to use his idea as a mentoring system, because he lived in a not so "perfect" place.

He created the idea to represent a scraper car, which is a car that sits on bigger wheels

and scrapes against the back when in contact with bumps, has a bright colored paint job and a stereo system.

The bikes use the same idea, but are colored with spray paint, and decorated with colored duct tape on the spokes. Any sort of creative idea can be used for the bike and that's where much of the excitement begins.

Kids on the street who are used to dealing drugs and committing crimes can now use scraper bikes as an artistic outlet. Champ has mentored over 35 kids and the numbers are growing.

One of Champ's main goals is to keep kids in school and constantly working on maintaining a good grade point average. His standard is for kids to keep a 3.0 GPA or they are not allowed to work on their bikes with the team.

In the Oakland community, it's common to see violence and death. Champ is very intent on helping the kids in the community to push through the struggle to stay alive.

High School teacher Fred Maxwell took his students to the assembly after learning about Champ from Wade Simmons, owner of Subculture, who showed Maxwell an online documentary of The Scraper Bike King.

Maxwell is very interested in outlets for kids, and also for giving them a different perspective on life, such as Champ coming from inner city L.A. and living a life much different than students living in a mountain town. Maxwell stated Champ is "no different than us. He's passionate about [kids] staying in school."

Rob Adler, Salida High School sophomore, also heard Champ speak. He was curious about the different culture of Oakland and how life works there. He was able to meet Champ outside of the school environment as well and said that Champ was a cool guy.

Scraper Bikes is a fun outlet, but also a form of art. Their worldwide success began with the Oakland hip-hop group Trunk Boiz single, based on



Photo by: Riley Donovan

A SPARTAN-COLORED scraper bike, held by founder Babye Champ, is an example of the bikes Oakland students decorate. The Scraper Bike momevent helps keep kids out of trouble.

the Scraper Bikes idea, and was put on YouTube.

The bright colored, big wheeled, duct taped-out Scraper Bike team likes to have fun. They listen to Tupac when they ride, but when

it comes down to business the team does fundraisers.

Champ wanted to start the movement because he believes, "Life is invaluable. I didn't want to be a statistic, I wanted to create one."



Photo by: Catie Wilken

Reh Vanatta
Copy Editor

Middle and high school band teacher Rebecca Gillespie took a handful of Salida High School band members to tryout for the Tri Peaks Honor band on Oct. 5.

This is one of two live audi-

SALIDA JAZZ BAND accompanies the cheerleaders to the "fight song," one of SHS's school songs at the Homecoming pep assembly. In the photo, Brandon Smith, senior, and Jay Peterson, junior, play trumpet and Brooke Love, junior, plays the trombone. Love also plays bass clarinet, and received second chair for the Tri-Peaks Honor Band. The jazz band performs at school assemblies and home football games.

Salida High students selected to honor bands

tions that the students will be able to attend; the other one being the All-State audition.

During this live audition, students performed a harmonic scale, a minor scale, a major scale, and then the two assigned pieces.

Brooke Love, junior, received second chair in the bass clarinet section.

"It's really hard to do a live audition because it's a lot more pressure than just doing a recorded audition," said Love. Hannah Sites, freshman, also received second chair on the alto saxophone.

"It was kind of scary because

it was my first live audition," commented Sites.

Honor bands are for dedicated, hard working musicians, so making it as a freshman is something to be proud of.

"This is my first honor band, and I will probably try out for other honor bands in the future," said Sites. Freshman Kelsey Quick is an alternate on the alto saxophone.

Love and Sites will learn five new pieces of music for the concert before Nov. 7.

The concert will be held in Manitou Springs in the District Auditorium on Nov. 8.

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