

# THE HOOP PRINT

ROCK CREEK HIGH SCHOOL - 9355 FLUSH RD. - ST. GEORGE, KAN. - 785-494-8591  
DECEMBER 2008 - VOLUME 1 - ISSUE 3

## NEWS BRIEFS

By MEGAN NIDER

### Club hosts benefit for student

FCCLA hosted a benefit for junior Laurel Lauer on Dec. 6. The evening consisted of a meal, a silent auction and a live auction. More than 200 people showed up to provide their support. Out of 200 items donated for the auctions, \$13,322 was raised.

"I was totally blown away by people's support," Mary Siderewicz, FCCLA sponsor, said.

### Club holds food drive, goes caroling

The Rock Creek Business Professionals of America (BPA) held a food drive Dec. 1-12 to benefit local food pantries.

The seventh grade brought in a total of 34 cans, the eighth-grade class came in with eight, freshmen had 10, sophomores brought in 109, juniors had a total of 27 and seniors beat all with a total of 112 items. Overall, there were 252 items donated, and the seniors had an ice cream party in the cafeteria to celebrate their victory.

Also, BPA, along with National Honor Society members, went caroling at the Westmoreland Care Home on Dec. 15.

### Band, choir has an active month

On Dec. 2, the Rock Creek Jazz Band attended a festival in the Forum Hall at the K-State Union. The Jazz Band also performed on Dec. 5 in the cafeteria at Rock Creek. On Dec. 22, the Concert Band and Choir performed at 7:30 p.m. at Rock Creek for its holiday concert.

### All-state football players announced

The *Topeka Capital Journal* and The *Wichita Eagle* selected the following football players to the 4-A All-State teams: First team: senior Dustin Miner (running back); Honorable Mention: senior Andrew Wahlmeier (linebacker), senior Matt Gee (defensive back), junior Brad Duncan (offensive line) and junior Jared Hawkins (offensive line).

### Debate competes at tournaments

In the Concordia tournament on Dec. 6, Rock Creek debate took first place out of 21 schools and more than 60 entries. In the open division, freshman Ben Peterson and sophomore Mandi Blenn finished in third place with a 4-1 record. Sophomores Alyssa Donoho and Jackie Gonzalez went 3-2 and finished in second place. In the novice division, sophomore Jeran Fry and freshman Lane Fraizer finished in fifth place with a 4-1 record. Sophomore Skylar Meyers and freshman Cody Liming ended with a 3-2 record.

On Dec. 12-13, the team traveled to Marysville, where they competed in the National Catholic Forensics League Debate Qualifying Tournament. The team won the first-place sweepstakes trophy, and two of their teams qualified for the national tournament in June. Qualifying were juniors Sam Cott and Torrey Peterson, who went 5-0 and finished with first place. Blenn and Ben Peterson also qualified with a 4-1 record and second place. Sophomores Luke Goodenow and Donoho finished in seventh place.

On Dec. 19-20, the team will travel to Emporia to compete in the four-speaker regional tournament, in order to compete at state Jan. 23-24 at a location to be determined.

## Schools honored for state scores

By JESSICA JACK & SETH KUECKER

It is rare for a school to receive the Governor's Achievement Award, but it is even rarer occasion to have all three of the schools in the district to receive that award. On Dec. 10, it was announced that Rock Creek did just that.

"I think that's a great idea that they recognize schools for their excellence and achievement of the Kansas assessments," algebra teacher Shirley Vandahl said.

To be able to qualify for this award, schools must score in the top 5 percent of both reading and math assessments and receive the Standard of Excellence in both as well. When being tested at Rock Creek High School, grades 7, 8 and 11 compete in math and reading assessments each year. The Adequate Yearly Progress,

also known as AYP, has been very high since starting the assessment program. The past year's scores for reading was 97.8 percent, and the math score was 96.6 percent.

"Rock Creek has a great tradition of scoring high on the state assessments, which is a testament to how great this school is," special education teacher Tori Sieben said.

Both Westmoreland Elementary and St. George Elementary were also given the Governor's Award. Grades 3-6 were also tested in math and reading. Westmoreland received an AYP score of 100 percent in reading and 99 percent in math. St. George did just as well, with 98.5 percent in math and reading.

"It's really neat that our school got nominated for the prestigious award and the fact that Rock Creek and the other two elementary schools got the Governor's

Award," junior Courtney Brown said.

Agreeing with Brown, Rock Creek Principal Dennis Post said he believes that it is a rarity for all three schools in the school district to have the Governor's Award.

"I feel that this is an indication of how hard our students and faculty have worked to be successful in Kansas assessments," Post said.

Although teachers try throughout the year to prepare their students for information on the state assessments, sophomore English teacher Donna Hawkins said that she especially tries to prepare students in the weeks before the tests by drilling into the students' minds the prefixes, suffixes and root words that are tested. She also said that she encourages students by saying things like, "I know you can do well and score well."

The school board presented awards to the building principals at the December Board of Education meeting.

"The award is a tribute to our outstanding staff district wide from top to bottom," school board president Mark Kuecker said. "I am so proud of everyone."

In addition to the Governor's Award, Rock Creek has also been nominated for the national Blue Ribbon School Award. The Blue Ribbon Award is a very prestigious award, given only to a select few of schools in the nation. Rock Creek happens to be the only secondary school to be nominated for this award; the other four schools are elementary schools.

In order to complete the nomination, Post said he has to turn in a 25-30 page application. By September of 2009, the school should know whether it has won the award or not.

### Recent honors for USD 323

■ Awarded the State of Kansas Governor's Achievement Award based on 2007-2008 state assessment scores in math and reading

■ Nominated for the No Child Left Behind Blue Ribbon School Award for being in the top 10 percent of state scores

■ Earned bronze medal from *US News and World Report* for appearing on its America's Best High Schools list

## Rock Creek athlete, coach awarded for performances

By EMILY ZOELLER

When people think of the 2008 Rock Creek football team, they may think of one of the best in school history. This team was led by players who topped the All Midwest League and All Flint Hills team lists. There was one Mustang, however, that received one of the largest honors of all.

Senior running back/safety Dustin Miner was awarded the 2008 Flint Hills Player of the Year Award.

Miner had numerous accomplishments on his list for the year, featuring 1,652 rushing yards, 21 touchdowns and 7.4 average yards a carry. Miner is a three-year letter winner for the Mustangs and helped carry Rock Creek to the sectional game of the state playoffs.

"I was ecstatic," Miner said. "Immediately after I got done talking to the guy from *The Mercury*, I called coach

[Mike] Beam and told him I got player of the year, and he got coach of the year."

After learning that Rock Creek would be making their first 4A appearance in school history, many people were skeptical about how far the Mustangs would make it in the post-season. But, beating the odds, Rock Creek pushed deep into the post-season.

Miner said his overall reaction on the season was, "Best team I've ever played on. Even though we didn't win state, we will be remembered for many years."

Although Miner's high school career has come to a close, he plans on lacing his cleats up next year at the college level. Other than playing football, Miner plans to get a degree in landscape architecture. Miner's college destination is undecided at the moment, but he said it would probably be taking place at a Big 12 school, possibly Kansas State University.

Miner wasn't the only Mustang to get a huge honor. Head coach Mike Beam received the Flint Hills Coach of the Year award for the second time in his Rock Creek career.

"I was more excited that Dustin got his; an individual coaching award isn't that good," Beam said. "I'm not the only one coaching the team. It's more for all the coaches, not just me."

This isn't the first time Beam has received Coach of the Year; he was also honored in 2000 when his team went 11-1. When asked if the award was any better the second time around, he answered, "No difference. It's a nice award both times."

With a 9-3 season, Beam said that his take on this season was, "It was a great season, the guys with the change in schedule really played well. Take away the Riley game, and I'd say our guys played very well."

## Community assists with local Extreme Makeover home renovation

By TRAVIS HEIDEMAN

The horrific events that took place on the evening of June 11, 2008, left people's hopes hanging in the gutters. A tornado had surged through Chapman, Kan., then Manhattan, around 10 p.m., leaving hundreds of people homeless and all personal possessions destroyed.

The efforts that arose from the storm were nothing short of miraculous; thousands of volunteers from surrounding areas went to lend a hand for those whose homes had been damaged by the storm. Now, about six months later, the aftermath of the tornado is still a work in progress.

Chapman has been the home base for many soldiers who served in Iraq and Afghanistan, as being so close to the post in Fort Riley makes it easy access.

One particular family affected by the storm was the Tutwiler's, whose home was hit by the tornado. While serving in Iraq, Patrick Tutwiler was hit by a sniper in the neck. In order for the EMS to save his life they had to cut off a temporary flow of blood to his brain, causing trauma and brain damage. His wife had been diagnosed with cancer and was fighting the battle while her husband was in Iraq.

In the midst of the chaos, Tutwiler received something that would change his life forever: a call from ABC's "Extreme Makeover Home Edition's," Janelle Fiorito, asking the family if they would be willing to participate in the makeover. Without any hesitation, they accepted.

Host Ty Pennington tore through the family's home, along with CR Home Co. from Wichita. The house was to

the ground in minutes, and the rebuild immediately followed. All the companies that helped build the Tutwiler's their new home simply donated their time and supplies. Senior Courtney Stillwagon also volunteered time in the makeover.

"It was awesome seeing the bus move and the family's reaction, not to mention being VIP and getting free shirts," Stillwagon said.

The home looked immaculate when it was finished, with all new appliances donated by Sears and landscaping by Rothwell Landscapers. On Nov. 18, as the crowd chanted "Move that Bus," the Tutwiler's were in disbelief.

"I think that it was good to help one family, but it would have been nice to see them help the whole community that had been affected," principal Dennis Post said.

# OPINIONS

DECEMBER 2008 - PAGE 2

## Popular vampire flick, 'Twilight,' impresses staffer

What could possibly have every teenage girl all over the world rushing to the movie theaters over and over again? Two words: Edward Cullen. Author Stephenie Meyer's best-selling novel, "Twilight," hit theaters last month, dominating all other competition.

Seventeen-year-old Bella Swan (Kristen Stewart) enters the community of Forks, Wash., expecting things to be as gloomy and lame as the town itself. However, things turn around quite abruptly when she meets her new lab partner, the alluring Edward Cullen (Robert Pattinson).



KORTNEY CAMPBELL  
STAFF WRITER

Edward seems repulsed by Bella at first, but after some awkward events, he confesses how in love with her he is. The confusion overcomes Bella, as Edward doesn't seem just perfect; it is almost superhuman how perfect he is. After some investigating on the Cullen family and impatient inquiries, Edward finally admits to Bella that he is not your normal teenager. In fact, he is not a teenager at all. He is a 108-year-old vampire. However, the chemistry between the two is powerful enough for them to look past their unorthodox romance, because the Cullens are "vampire vegetarians," meaning they don't drink human blood. Unfortunately, a gang of bad vampires lurks around the small town, and Bella's life is thrown into danger.

This movie made more than \$30 million in its opening night; however, many "Twilight" readers were disappointed with parts from the book left out of the movie. On the contrary, Emily Christianson at [www.hollywood.com](http://www.hollywood.com) says that this movie is "the most epic romance since 'Titanic.'" I would have to agree with this critic, as this was, by far, the best romance movie I have ever seen lately. Plenty of girls around the world, including myself, would happily spend the ridiculous \$8.50 again, just to see this unheard-of love story. As for guys all over the world, well, good luck trying to live up to girls' expectations now. Edward Cullen obviously correctly answered the question, "When you can live forever, what do you live for?" because he chooses to live for love.



By LAUREL LAUER

## Holiday season brings presents, opportunities to help community

Christmas is the most popular holiday throughout the year, with the busiest shopping day the day after Thanksgiving, and the busiest weekend the weekend before Christmas.

This year has been a difficult one with the economy in a recession, but that does not mean that the good gifts are always the expensive ones. Looking up what the top Christmas gifts are on [www.gifts.com/christmas/top-christmas-gifts](http://www.gifts.com/christmas/top-christmas-gifts), there are some very creative gifts that won't break your bank. One that is very popular for teenagers is an alarm clock that is designated for the "morning impaired." It will roll away from you if you press the snooze button.

Another gift that is gaining in popularity is the "retro headset for cell phones." This headset looks like a regular phone that connects into the headset drive on the cell phone. This allows the user to have a comfortable experience talking on the phone with their cell phone in their jean pocket. Our favorite by far would have to be the iKaraoke for the iPod. This mini microphone plugs into your iPod.

But, while we are so wrapped up in what gifts we will be getting, many others won't be getting any. Please spend the time and the effort to give a little back to the people who need it most. During the week of Dec. 8-12, Business Professionals

of America (BPA) held a food drive to help the local food pantries. There was a competition between the classes to see who could collect the most food in the school. This was an excellent chance to help give to our surrounding communities. We had the chance compete for the grand prize of ice cream, and we also had the chance to give more to the food pantries at the time when they needed it most.

Another way people gave this season was at the Extreme Makeover Home Edition for Chapman, Kan. One family was in need, and thousands came together and helped.

If you are looking to help this season, one place that you could go would be the Salvation Army to be a bell ringer. You are not directly donating to the organization, but you are helping the organization out in many ways. We could all benefit from something like this. You could also give your old clothes to the Once and Again used clothing store on Hayes Drive, or to the Salvation Army, because many families in the Manhattan area need a little help this holiday season. Let us be that kind person who helps others. What we do doesn't have to be something big, but if we were to give to someone, it would make for a far better Christmas season for us and for the ones we are helping out.

**IF WE WERE TO GIVE TO SOMEONE, it would make for a far better Christmas for us and for the ones that we are helping out.**

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## EDITORIAL POLICY

The Hoof Prints is a monthly student-produced newspaper, published to inform and to entertain the Rock Creek Junior/Senior High School community and to educate Multimedia students. Each issue is produced with the guidance of a faculty adviser. Student staff members will be offered opportunities to inform, investigate, entertain, interpret and evaluate – all accepted functions of traditional American press. Included materials will be those of responsible journalism, including restraint by the students and adviser in matters such as libel, privacy, obscenity and copyright.

The staff chooses to reflect the mission of Rock Creek Junior/Senior High School, to serve the interests and the needs of the community and to provide fair, objective, accurate and truthful materials. Opinions do not necessarily reflect views of anyone other than The Hoof Prints student staff.

Digital photos have not been altered to manipulate reality. Photo illustrations are labeled to reflect any technical alterations.

Anonymity may be given in the following cases: the information is unable to be presented another way, the information warrants anonymity, the source's privacy and/or reputation requires protection and the source must be protected from damages.

Student or faculty member deaths during the coverage period will be covered with a short obituary and a mug shot photo if available.

If errors are negligently made, corrections will appear in the next issue.

Advertising must meet the same guidelines as editorial content. Acceptance of advertising does not constitute an endorsement by the school. Students pictured in advertising must sign a release and accept no monetary compensation. Advertising rates available on request. School club discounts are available.

Letters to the editor must also meet the same guidelines as editorial content, must be 150 words or less and must be signed. Baseless accusations, libelous statements, insults and unsigned letters will not be considered for publication. The staff reserves the right to edit or omit letters. Letters should be taken to Room 112 or mailed to the address below.

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## YOUR PRINT

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS MOVIE?

"Christmas Shoes." - senior Kallie Siderewicz

"A Christmas Story." - senior Logan Lauer

"How the Grinch Stole Christmas." - senior Cassie Allison

### WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE CHRISTMAS SONG?

"Deck the Halls." - junior Amanda Oakley

"Jingle Bells." - junior Jana Havens

"The 12 Days of Physics." - junior Josh Camacho

### WHAT DO YOU LOOK FORWARD TO MOST AT CHRISTMAS?

"Sleeping in and not going to school." - sophomore Carrie Andrade

"Waking up early on Christmas and waking my parents up." - sophomore Alex Hennigh

"Sleeping in and getting to hang out with my family." - sophomore Josh Rieck

### WHAT IS THE BEST GIFT YOU HAVE EVER RECEIVED?

"A split necklace that my sister and I got; one had 'big' on it, and the other had 'sisters.'" - freshman Haley Lenauer

"Game Cube with a 'Spiderman' game." - freshman Lane Frazier

"The Wii my parents got me." - freshman Caitlin Leiker

### DO YOU HAVE A YEARLY CHRISTMAS TRADITION?

"On Christmas Eve, my family and I first eat dinner then we go to church. Following church, we enjoy eating cheesecake." - strength teacher Mike Beam

"Every year, my family and I go to midnight mass, but before we leave, we have a tradition of eating waffles and sausage." - teacher Dick Dugan

By COURTNEY STILLWAGON



# FEATURES

DECEMBER 2008 - PAGE 3



## As the weather continues to get colder, gals and guys at Rock Creek share their everyday winter outfits

By KIM FAIRCHILD & LINDA OVERKAMP



Senior Kallie Siderewicz wears a brown button-down, off-the-shoulder sweater, a purple lace undershirt, jeans and purple jewelry that really complements and pulls together her entire outfit.

You can find a pair of jeans similar to what Siderewicz has on at the Buckle. You can also find the brown sweater from stores such as Hollister, Wet Seal, Aeropostale or Dillard's.

"I woke up and thought it was a very good day," Siderewicz said about why she decided to wear the cute outfit to school on Dec. 11.

### What is the one thing you really want for Christmas?

- "I really want a puppy!"  
- senior Ashley Garetson
- "A lot of love from Courtney!"  
- senior Logan Lauer
- "The book 'Halo Contract Harvest.'"  
- junior Justin Fronce
- "A cute boy!"  
- junior Danielle Area
- "Country CDs."  
- sophomore Chelsea Ebert
- "A laptop."  
- sophomore Dylan Treadwell
- "A teddy bear!"  
- freshman Samantha Reves
- "I really want boxer briefs and an Xbox."  
- freshman KJ Dobbins
- "A new mp3 player."  
- chemistry teacher Kellie Millner
- "A million dollars."  
- strength coach Mark Oberkrom



Junior Adam Kibodeaux wears an outfit seen around Rock Creek quite a lot: a simple T-shirt and big, black boy shorts. To top off his whole outfit, he finishes it with comfortable black socks and tan slippers.

You can find this relaxed and sporty look at Finish Line, Hibbits Sports and Ballard's in Manhattan. The slippers can be ordered from LL Bean stores.

"Wow... you should have caught me on a better day," Kibodeaux, who usually dresses in an "emo" style, said about his outfit on Dec. 11.



Substitute teacher Lacy Matzke wears medium-colored jeans, a light blue undershirt, a black turtleneck and a black and white striped vest. Matzke finishes with the black and gray boots.

You can get a similar vest at the Buckle or Wet Seal, and you can find a black turtleneck at Dillard's. The jeans, which are just simple, medium-colored jeans, can be found anywhere.

"I am always cold, so I decided to wear a turtleneck, and the vest also keeps me warm," Matzke said.

### What is the best Christmas gift you received as a kid?

- "A Game Boy."  
- senior Kallie Siderewicz
- "A new bike."  
- senior Devin Nelson
- "A walking cow."  
- junior Lora Blackwood
- "A pedal-pulled tractor with a wagon."  
- junior Pake Ebert
- "My quilts."  
- sophomore Chelsea Renner
- "My two front teeth!"  
- sophomore Justin Redding
- "A Slip-N-Slide."  
- freshman Jessi Snapp
- "A remote control car."  
- freshman Kyron Case
- "Stomper 4x4 trucks."  
- psychology teacher Richard Dugan
- "A bike."  
- media specialist Lou Ann Fike



Senior Andrew Wahlmeier wears another relaxed look: light blue jeans with holes in them, a faded blue Abercrombie T-shirt and white Puma tennis shoes.

You can find a similar shirt at Abercrombie & Fitch or Hollister, and you can find a similar pair of jeans with a distressed look at Hollister or the Buckle.

"You should have warned me, so I really would have dressed nice," Wahlmeier said about his laid-back, everyday style on Dec. 11.

# SPORTS

DECEMBER 2008 - PAGE 4

## Wrestlers begin season with weekend tournaments

By KORTNEY CAMPBELL

Mustang wrestling is definitely off to a booming start this year, claiming fourth place as a team in the Mission Valley tournament on Dec. 6.

Seniors Matt Unruh and Andrew Wahlmeier both brought home gold medals from the year's first tournament. Unruh, wrestling at 125-lbs., went 4-0 and racked up four pins. Wahlmeier, wrestling at 189-lbs., also had an undefeated day, getting himself three pins. Other placers include senior Colin Duncan (250-lbs.) at second, freshman Shane Shaake (112-lbs.) and senior Gabe Gomez (119-lbs.) at third and senior Justin Weers (145-lbs.) at fourth. Wrestlers in the "unattached" category at the tournament also did well, finishing with freshman Levi Anderson (125-lbs.) at second and junior Wesley Theirolf (160-lbs.) at fifth.

Keeping up the momentum, the team

placed sixth at the Clay Center tournament on Dec. 13. Wahlmeier brought home the gold, as well as three pins. Unruh placed second and snagged two more pins. Shaake, Duncan and sophomore Jeran Fry (285-lbs.) all placed third and had one pin each. Theirolf added to the team's total of nine pins with one of his own.

The Junior Varsity wrestlers also dominated on Dec. 13 in the Onaga Double Classic. Freshmen Trevor Sutton (160-lbs.) and Cody Liming (215-lbs.) both placed first, sophomore Josh Rieck (285-lbs.) placed third and junior Jace Bruce (171-lbs.) placed fourth.

The trend of victory seems to be among the senior wrestlers, but underestimating the underclassmen would be a bad idea, according to veteran wrestlers. Some sophomores and freshmen wrestle and have even placed at varsity tournaments, and the JV wrestlers are also taking care of business. This year is sophomore Josh

Unruh's first year of wrestling. He was put into the Clay Center tournament, and his first match was against weight class 152's 2008 state champion Cas Spangler of Beliot. He says that wrestling is hard, but that he's not scared, just nervous. He also says that he looks up to seniors Duncan and Wahlmeier.

When asked what tournaments would be the toughest this year, seniors Matt Unruh and Andrew Wahlmeier answered that Clay Center, Holton and Burlington would be their toughest meets. They also said that their regionals would not be very easy.

The wrestlers traveled to Council Grove Dec. 18 for the Council Grove Duals, for which results were not available at press time. The seniors said they believed this would be an easy meet to conquer. After break, however, is a different story as the team faces the Burlington tournament on Jan. 10.

## SPORTS SCOREBOARD

	RC	OPPONENT
<b>VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL</b>		
DICKINSON COUNTY TOURN. 3RD		
<b>FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE BOYS BASKETBALL</b>		
ABILENE (12/11)	53	63
ROYAL VALLEY (12/15)	51	57
<b>VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL</b>		
DICKINSON COUNTY TOURN. 1ST		
<b>FRESHMAN/SOPHOMORE GIRLS BASKETBALL</b>		
ABILENE (12/11)		
ROYAL VALLEY (12/15)	27	31
<b>WRESTLING</b>		
MISSION VALLEY (12/06) 4TH		
CLAY CENTER (12/13) 6TH		

By CHRIS WAHL

## Girls basketball takes tournament championship

By HANNAH COCKERILL

The undefeated Rock Creek Mustangs won the Dickinson County tournament, where three games would determine their place in the tournament, which began Dec. 8 at Abilene, Kan.

In the first game on Dec. 8, the Mustangs finished on top with a final score of 48-32 against Abilene at Abilene.

Senior Ashley Garetson said, "The first half went good, although we lost their intensity in the second half," and junior Taylor Ebert said, "It was decent for a first game."

As for improvements, Garetson and Ebert agreed that there could have been better shooting and a decrease in turnovers and fouling.

On Dec. 12, the girls played against El Dorado at Abilene and continued their winning streak with a score of 54-28. Their last game of the tournament against Chapman was successful with a score of 64-40. The Lady Mustangs ended up placing first place in the Dickinson County tournament and received medals and a plaque.

Garetson and Ebert both said that the Mustangs can make it to state, which will make Rock Creek girls basketball team history. To acquire these goals, Garetson said she wants to make more free throws and also increase her shooting range, and Ebert said she wants to have fewer turnovers and increase her average per game.

After break, the girls will face Riley County on Jan. 6 at Riley County.



IN THE DICKINSON COUNTY TOURNAMENT, senior Amy Yenser brings the ball in bounds against El Dorado on Dec. 12. The girls, who beat El Dorado 54-28, won the tournament. PHOTO BY HANNAH COCKERILL

## Boys basketball places third at Dickinson Co.

By MELANIE STUBBS

The boys basketball team started their season off Dec. 8 in Abilene. Although the Mustangs did not come out on top, they still put up a good fight, with a score of 48-61 against Abilene.

Senior Kegan Rawhouser said, "As a team we did OK, but we still have a lot to work on."

Junior Josh Camacho agreed with Rawhouser, saying, "We started off rough, but it was the first game of the season, and we will improve."

The game against El Dorado on Dec. 12 was successful, with a score of 66-55. It was a close game, but the Mustangs stayed strong. On Dec. 13, the Mustangs came out on top once again with the score of 51-36 against Chapman.

Overall, junior Harrison Newman said, "We played intense, we played well, we weren't selfish with the ball and we also worked as a team."

At the end of the tournament in Abilene, the boys took third overall. Camacho and senior Jacob Haverkamp were both named All Tournament in the Abilene tournament. Camacho also broke school records for points, with 36 points; for steals, with nine steals; for free throws made, with 20 free throws; and number of free throws attempted, with 26.

As for specific goals for the season, Rawhouser said he wants to "make it to state," and Camacho said he wanted to "beat Riley County and go to state."



AGAINST CHAPMAN, senior Kegan Rawhouser dribbles down the court, as senior Tyler Umscheid gets into position Dec. 13. The boys beat Chapman 51-36 and took third in the tournament. PHOTO BY HANNAH COCKERILL

## Staffers believe Snyder's return is best for KSU



BRAD KLEUSCH & ANTHONY REID

Bill Snyder, known for the "greatest turnaround in the history of college football," has been named the Wildcats' 34<sup>th</sup> head football coach. Snyder retired in November 2005

after 17 seasons as the head coach at Kansas State University and now returns to lead the Wildcats again.

We believe Snyder's return is a good thing for the Wildcats. Nobody knows KSU football like him. Many people believe that he is too old to coach, but we believe he is ready for his return. He told everybody he wasn't done and was taking a break, and is well-rested and ready to return.

We also believe he can get a coaching staff that can take these players and play them in the position that is best for the team. The problem Prince had was that his coaching staff wasn't as good as KSU needed. Out of Prince's whole staff, one of them is staying. Jeff W. Rodgers joined the KSU staff in 2008 as a special teams coordinator, and he will stay and work under Snyder. Other than that, Snyder has announced four other members of his coaching staff: Joe Bob Clements, defensive end coach; Chris Cosh, co-defensive coordinator and linebacker coach; Vic Koenning, co-defensive coordinator; and Marion "Mo" Latimore, defensive line coach. The old offensive and defensive coordinators were just not right for KSU football. We just don't believe that Ron Prince had enough experience in the field or recruiting experience. Kansas State was trying to go for some new blood, but picked one out that was not quite ripe enough.

Like we said, Snyder is the one and only person who knows KSU football in and out. We believe KSU will have winning seasons in the near future, and there will be bowl games coming, too. Snyder is going to turn the program around again and make KSU football a well-known program once more.

## Club holds Monster Volleyball

By BLAKE HINKLE & JAKE SCHROEDER

On Nov. 21, Rock Creek RC Club hosted its first Monster Volleyball tournament. Eight teams were chosen and competed in the tournament. The tournament consisted of all-male athletes and had volleyball players as coaches for each team. The teams were split up between freshmen through seniors, and the game was played like regular volleyball.

After the teams played it out for the championship, the team that won was Jeremy Lehning's team, which was made up of seniors, Colin Duncan, Luis Gonzalez, Doc Treadwell and Justin Weers, and coaches senior Ashley Garetson and junior Becca Snapp.

Coach Terrance Schmitz said, "I would like to see it again next year, but there are some things that we could change."



ON NOV. 21, senior Storm Tebbutt participates in Monster Volleyball in the Rock Creek gym. PHOTO BY JESSICA JACK

AT THE NET, senior Andrew Wahlmeier and sophomore Travis Briggs match up during Monster Volleyball. PHOTO BY JESSICA JACK