

THE HOOP PRINT

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JANUARY 2011 - VOLUME 3 - ISSUE 4

NEWS BRIEFS

By CODY LIMING

Debate places fourth at state

Seniors Mandi Blenn and Colten Smith, junior Ben Peterson, sophomores Dylan Meyer, Josh Roberts, Crystal Chitwood, Jacob Miller and Trey Basa represented Rock Creek at this year's state debate tournament on Jan. 14-15 at Blue Valley Northwest High School.

At the tournament, the Mustangs placed fourth overall. Meyer and Roberts went 4-3, Blenn and Peterson also were 4-3, Chitwood and Miller were 4-3 and Smith and Basa were 1-5.

Coach Keith Miller, "The competition was very close, and it all came down to the details, between a win and a loss."

Musicians selected to all-state band

Rock Creek band recently announced that it had four students make the prestigious all-state band.

Only 220 band students out of more than 23,000 in the state of Kansas were chosen to perform. Those students included senior Brenda Stevenson as first chair clarinet, sophomore Anna Jilka as first chair bassoon, senior DJ Denzien as second alternate trombone and sophomore Rachel Frank as second alternate flute. For Stevenson, this was her third time to be selected to the all-state band.

"They all worked very hard on their music and did a great job," band director Scott Bradley said of the four.

Renaissance holds semester rally

Rock Creek Renaissance Club hosted a "Minute to Win It"-themed academic assembly on Jan. 19.

Activities included several popular games, such as Magic Carpet, Face the Cookie and Chocolate Unicorn, and featured students who had made academic accomplishments. Sponsors from Kansas State Federal Credit Union and Hoffman's Pharmacy were also present. The sophomore class won the assembly overall and received donuts as a reward. The club also presented junior Patrick Arrow with a free class ring voucher, as part of its annual giveaway.

FCCLA hosts annual ski trip

Twenty-six students traveled to Weston, Mo., on Jan. 22 as part of the FCCLA ski trip. Students enjoyed a day of skiing from 5 p.m. until midnight that evening. Students left Rock Creek at 2:30 p.m. and did not return until 3:30 a.m. the next morning.

Sophomore Brandon Goehring said, "I had so much fun; I'm going to do it again next year."

Artist's work advances to nationals

Artwork from students in Pam Delay's art classes was sent to this year's Scholastic Art Awards in Wichita, Kan., recently. In the competition, sophomore Ashtin Lee won a gold medal; her work will now advance to the national competition to be held in St. Petersburg, Fla.

Forensics students begin season

The forensics season kicked off this January. On Jan. 29, Rock Creek hosted its tournament, for which results were not available at press time.

This year's squad consists of 45 students. The Mustangs are looking forward to another great season after taking home second place in state forensics last year.

Rule 52 places emphasis on sportsmanship

By THOMAS McANERNEY

Rival schools are tied with two minutes left in the game. Fans of both sides are really into the game. A player is at the foul line, and the crowd will not be silent. The first shot is an air ball, and the fans start chanting "air ball... air ball..." The next shot is a make, and the opposing crowd starts yelling "scoreboard." These three instances, the crowd not being silent and the two chants, are all violations of the Kansas State High School Activities Association's Rule 52.

Rule 52 was created in 1988 to control the crowd's actions at high school sporting events. It was revised in 2008 so that schools could better understand the rules, as well as assist the schools in enforcement. This rule is broken into six main points.

The first is to show courtesy to all, and that includes coaches, players, officials and fans. The next is to know and accept the rules. The third part is to win with character and lose with dignity. The fourth part is that fans should recognize good performance no matter the team. Another part is that fans should use self-control and positively promote themselves and others. The final part states that school should support sportsmanship in their school and at sporting events.

The punishments for violating these rules are that the person can be asked to leave that event, or he or she can

suspended from future events at the school. The schools are in charge of enforcing the rules and punishing the fans in their own stadiums.

Before the winter sports season, athletic director Scott Harshbarger explained what he expected from the student body. He said that he does this yearly to remind the students of Rule 52 since the students move indoors for the season. He said that as the crowd moves inside, the games can become more emotional, and students need to know how to show sportsmanship when they get into those emotional situations.

When asked about how the students at Rock Creek are cooperating with the rules at the games so far this season, Harshbarger said, "I think our kids are doing a fantastic job at displaying sportsmanship."

Assistant boys basketball coach Dick Dugan said Rule 52 does not affect the players greatly during the game, except he said that the crowd does affect the game, with an example of this being home-field advantage. Dugan stated that the crowd also affects the coaches by making them change how they communicate to players.

When asked how he feels when he sees Rule 52 being violated at other schools,

KANSAS STATE HIGH SCHOOL ACTIVITIES ASSOCIATION RULE 52

- Be courteous to all (participants, coaches, officials, staff and fans).
- Know the rules, abide by and respect the official's decisions.
- Win with character and lose with dignity.
- Display appreciation for good performance regardless of the team.
- Exercise self-control and reflect positively upon yourself, team and school.
- Permit only positive sportsmanlike behavior to reflect on your school or its activities.

INFORMATION FROM [HTTP://WWW.KSHSAA.ORG/PUBLIC/GENERAL/RULE52CITIZENSHIP.CFM](http://www.kshsaa.org/Public/General/RULE52CITIZENSHIP.CFM)

Dugan said, "I am disappointed in their administration for not confronting the problem and stopping the action."

KSHSAA promotes the sportsmanship "High Five." The "High Five" are guidelines to schools on ways that their student body can be fanatic fans. They want schools to be excited about their teams and to support them, but they want students to do this with control. "High Five" also gives examples of how the coaches should act during and after games in respect to the opposing team and states what the administration should do to enforce the rules.

When asked how Rule 52 affects the student body, senior wrestler Michael Wilson said, "The rule cleans up the character among the student body and the fan base."



THE AWARD-WINNING 2009-2010 MULTIMEDIA STAFF INCLUDED graduate Danielle Duncan, graduate Erica Smith, sophomore Mason Swenson, graduate Jessica Jack and graduate Sara Liming in the front row and junior Michael Parker, senior Tevin Matthews, senior Joseph Calmes, junior Thomas McAnerney and junior Devin Muir in the back row. Not pictured was graduate Anthony Reid. PHOTO BY JESSICA AUGUSTINE-STEGMAN

Yearbook earns top award again from Kansas press association

By ZAC SAUERESSIG

On May 7, Rock Creek Multimedia will be awarded the All-Kansas yearbook award from the Kansas Scholastic Press Association (KSPA). This award was only awarded to three other 3A schools and 20 other schools of all classes.

To earn the All-Kansas award, the yearbook must earn the top All-Kansas rating in three out of five of the judged areas. The 2010 yearbook met that requirement, earning All-Kansas for design, photography, reporting, and Award for Commendation for coverage and concept.

The staff included graduates Danielle Duncan, Jessica Jack, Sara Liming, Anthony Reid and Erica Smith, current seniors Joseph

Calmes and Tevin Matthews, this year's juniors Thomas McAnerney, Devin Muir and Michael Parker and sophomore Mason Swenson.

Muir said, "It's nice to see our hard work pay off."

Last year's theme was "Pause, Play, Relive," which was chosen by the staff as a whole. The staff got the idea from the iPod "ClickWheel," which has a pause/play button and a rewind button.

This year, Multimedia is going for the All-Kansas award for the third time in a row with the theme of "Not Just Black and White." "Not Just Black and White" emphasizes the new color, blue, added to the school colors.

Adviser Jessica Augustine-Stegman said, "I think we could win it again; it just depends on how hard the staff is willing to work."

Winter Homecoming activities kick off the second semester

By KATIE HODGES

Going back to school after winter break is not a joyous time for most students, but to the students at Rock Creek High School, it meant the beginning of Winter Homecoming. Students and even some teachers dressed in their tie-die/neon clothing on Monday, '80s apparel on Wednesday and wore black and white on Friday to show off their school spirit.

On Jan. 7, Friday afternoon, the entire school gathered in the gym for the pep rally, hosted by Student Council. Some of the school's organizations, such as FFA, Renaissance, RC Chefs and FCCLA, decorated shopping carts based around the theme of the '80s. FFA ended up winning the competition, with their General Lee design from the television show "Dukes of Hazzard."

Freshmen Nick Haverkamp said, "I liked FFA's cart; they even had [senior] TJ Minihi driving it."

Candidates, seniors Josh Unruh and Chelsea Renner, won the judges' votes for best singers and dancers when performing "Jessie's Girl" by Rick Springfield. The other candidates included seniors Chase Minihi and Linda Overkamp, Nick Cooper and Morgan Umscheid and Lucas Commerferd and Katie Good. Teachers Jeremy Lehning, Jeri Brummett and Kellie Milner also hit the spotlight performing "It's Tricky" by Run DMC.

Sophomore Jessie Niemeyer said, "They pretty much stole the show; they have amazing dance moves."

That night, the boys and girls basketball team played at home against the Silver Lake Eagles. During the varsity boys half time, Chase Minihi and Renner were crowned the king and queen of the 2011 Winter Homecoming.

Renner said, "It felt great to be crowned; you get a lot of congratulations."

After the game, Stuco sponsored the Winter Homecoming dance. The entire high school was invited to attend the semi-formal dance, which lasted until midnight. Students gathered in the cafeteria, after the game, to dance and party with friends after their crazy and eventful week.

OPINIONS

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IN REVIEW

By JUSTIN WARD **MOVIE**

"The Green Hornet" is a action-comedy about the son of a huge media producer, Britt Reid (Seth Rogen), whose father dies mysteriously, leaving Britt the media empire.

As Britt is mourning the loss of his dear father, he has a idea. He thinks with all these resources at his disposal, he should do something important with it. . . so he decides to become a villian. Britt doesn't become just any villian, but a villian who fights crime on the streets of Los Angeles. Britt decides to protect his local stores and fight for the people whose voices aren't being heard. He goes undercover, fights crime and makes a name for himself.

Britt is soon feared, but also respected, in all of L.A. Since he has all of his dad's money, he makes a lot of advanced weapons, but most important of all, he creates his indestructible car, The Black Beauty. This car comes with a lot of weapons and equipment he needs to beat all the crime lords and gangs in L.A.

In one instance, when Britt is defending a store, he finds out who killed his father, so he decides to find a crime lord named Benjamin Chudnofsky, who controls L.A from the inside out. If anyone defies Benjamin, they are never heard from again. Do you think he finds him, or better yet, does Britt avenge his father? You will have to see the movie to find out.

To me, at the start of the movie, it was very hard to understand, but as the movie went along, it got funnier and more understandable. It seems to be a great movie for the family, and it is funny, while still having action and adventure at the same time.

Overall, I left the movie theater with a smile on my face and a head full of adventure. To me, this is one of the best movies that I have watched recently. Even though it was a little confusing at the beginning, I love the way the plot of the movie bends around all the different sides to the story. Another reason it is interesting is because the entire movie is done in first person, so Britt leads you through his life and through his adventures as the Green Hornet.

This is one of my favorite movies that I've seen in a very long time. If you are looking for a good time and some good popcorn, head on down to the nearest movie theater and enjoy the movie!

By JUSTIN WARD **RESTAURANT**

Smashburger, more like smash my stomach. This burger place on Tuttle Creek at Bluemont on 501 3rd Place in Manhattan is very good.

If you need a big burger with a kick, you can try their Spicy Baja Smashburger, which is topped with jalapenos, pepper jack cheese and a chipotle bun, or maybe you are feeling a little original. You can get an Original Smashburger. Then there is the burger with the most vegetables on it, known as the Mushroom Swiss Smashburger. This burger has Swiss cheese, mushrooms and mayo on an egg bun. Then finally there is the BBQ & Bacon Cheese Smashburger, which has applewood smoked bacon, cheddar cheese and haystack onions.

These burgers come in two different sizes; there is 1/3 pound, which is \$4.99, and 1/2 pound which is \$5.99.

Now, say nothing on the menu appeals to your unique tastes, then just tell them you want to make your own Smashburger. They will let you choose your bun (classic, multigrain, chipotle or egg), your sauces (ketchup, mayo, mustard, ranch, smash sauce or chipotle sauce), your cheese (American, old Swiss, pepper jack or sharp cheddar), and finally they let you choose your toppings like lettuce, tomatoes, pickles, fresh jalapenos, grilled onions and red onion.

When I walked in on my recent visit to Smashburger, my nose was filled with the great smell of greasy burgers. As I ordered, I looked at what my burger looked like, and it was just slammed together and looked like it wasn't being prepared very well, but I soon forgot that because the burger itself tasted so good; every bite was filled with luscious flavor, and it had the right amount of seasoning and wasn't too salty or too bland. I left that place filled with delicious, grilled-to-perfection burger.

Overall, I felt that my encounter with Smashburger was quite a good one. I encourage all people who love a good burger and cheap prices to go to Smashburger. This is a place for a whole family with different food choices for everyone to get whatever they want. The menu has a wide variety of many, many burgers that you can choose from and taste.

STAFF EDITORIAL

Rule 52 reminds us that we should exhibit sportmanship

With the renewed emphasis on Rule 52 of the Kansas State High School Athletics Association, the rule pertaining to sportmanship and citizenship at their events, we believe you need to better know what the rule consists of, as well as why it is there.

Having six different subsections, this rule is very broad. However, it can be broken down as four parts. Be courteous to all and show respect

to everyone from players to coaches to cheerleaders to referees. Know and abide by them, don't yell at or criticize officials, politely hand the ball to officials and thank them after the game.

Represent your school well; don't lead people to believe that your school is anything but a stand-up place. Show appreciation to all performers; don't taunt your opponents, and if they have a great game, be sure to congratulate them.

Also if you do not fully understand the rules about a certain sport, you should not protest against a call that the referee made just because it goes against your team. Believe it or not, referees tend to do a good job most of the time. If a player from another team does something that is truly amazing, they should get recognition for what they did, even if they are on the opposing team.

This, by absolutely no means, is to

say we should treat our athletic events as emotionless as if we are watching paint dry. People should be afraid of playing at Rock Creek because of the deafening noise and supportive fans, not because of some obnoxious people. We should always win with class and lose with dignity. When people think of Rock Creek High School, they should think that it is a place full of great kids.

Usually, when someone breaks a rule, there is a punishment for the violation that they committed. We believe if schools are blatantly not following this rule, they should first be warned, and if they continually have repeat violations,

there should be some form of punishment handed down by KSHSAA to put this to an end. Rock Creek does an exceptional job with the way that they handle people who are not following the rules and not being good sportsman. They are not hesitant to ask someone to leave if they will not cooperate. It would be nice if other schools would follow our example.

People need to realize that there is a big difference between professional athletics and the sports that are played at the high school level. There are kids participating in these games that are still learning how to play the game. You should always be loud and having fun, but make sure you do not forget to do it with class.

People should be afraid of playing at Rock Creek because of the deafening noise and supportive fans, not because of some obnoxious people.

MY PRINT: SCHEDULING

"So guess who is out of school today?"

"Let me guess, Wamego."

"Guess who is in school today? Rock Creek."

This is an example of how students feel about our schedule compared to area schools. They have a right to feel that way, because Rock Creek goes longer than what is required.

There are 189 total planned days in the school year this year; this includes teacher in-services and parent/teacher conferences. There are only 177 days of student contact, which means how many days that the student body is in school. Included in this scheduling are five built-in snow days. Teacher in-services also count towards days, but they count



MASON SWENSON
STAFF MEMBER

as a half time, while teacher plan days don't count at all. But, parent/teacher conferences count as a whole time.

The State of Kansas says that schools need to be in service 1,116 hours or 66,960 minutes of the year. Rock Creek puts in about 380 minutes a day, so in total that is 67,260 minutes of student contact. Rock Creek started the year with 1,148 hours scheduled in, so we were already 32 hours over what the state requires. The extra hours include the extra snow days. Rock Creek can include passing periods and advisor as minutes and hours, but they cannot include lunch as minutes or hours, due to the fact that nothing is being taught. There are also seven and a half in-service days this year. The school can count that as half time, or for every two minutes that is equals one minute; in-services in total equal 1,425 minutes, so now we are up to 68,685 minutes. Parent/teacher conferences are whole time, so for every minute, we get a minute to count for our minutes. The conferences last four

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EDITORIAL POLICY

The Hoof Print is a monthly student-produced newspaper, published to inform and to entertain the Rock Creek High School community in an open forum and to educate Multimedia students.

The staff chooses to reflect the mission of Rock Creek 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 Print student staff member.

Letters to the editor 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 addresses below.

For the full editorial policy, please send a request to the e-mail address below or see the adviser in Room 112.

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YOUR PRINT By MICHAEL PARKER

WHAT CHANGES WOULD YOU MAKE TO THE SCHOOL SCHEDULE?

"I would have advisor at one time in the morning because no one does anything in the afternoon advisor."



AMY ESHELMAN
SENIOR

"I think we should have recess. We would be healthier, and it would help us be more focused."



ADAM SCHMITZ
JUNIOR

"I would rather go a little bit longer if it means that we could have more days off of school."



BEN COMMERFORD
SOPHOMORE

"I would rather start school 30 minutes later so people could get more sleep."



ISSAC CAMACHO
FRESHMAN

"I would prefer a four-day week because it adds one more day to my weekend."



RANAЕ MARTIN
FACULTY/STAFF

FEATURES

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a day in the life

By ANTHONY DULTMEIER & BRANDON HYDE

Staff members shadow four recognizable faces at Rock Creek and provide their opinions about their typical days



PRINCIPAL DENNIS POST

Most students know the faces of teachers, staff and students. But when in class, and those faces are not around, what are they doing?

Everyone knows principal Dennis Post as a strict disciplinarian, but there is something more that no one gets to see. During his day, Post helps out many people and always has the time to be considerate. From taking care of the ZAP program, to helping a student with their flat

tire in the cold, Post does it all. He is more than just a principal; he is also like a school counselor, there for students to help make the Rock Creek experience more enjoyable.

The list of tasks that Post does daily is almost endless. First, he updates web site work assigned by his boss, superintendent Darrell Stufflebeam. He also has to communicate through phone calls and e-mails to the state about

assessments, policies and more and to parents and other people with questions or problems, and all day long, he deals with ZAPs from students. After school, one will often find Post at activities, supervising for the evening. He has a busy schedule, and depending on the day, it doesn't slow down.

When asked what his hardest task was, he said, "The discipline and all the paperwork."

COUNSELOR KEVIN SULLIVAN

Students know counselor Kevin Sullivan as a "go-to" type of guy. Whether students need guidance with academics, scholarships, personal issues or their futures, Sullivan is on hand to help.

While he mainly handles academic issues, he is also a licensed counselor. Students who have issues, be it at home or school, can find time in his office to talk about them. Sullivan said his

door is always open to any problem. To do all of this, he follows what he calls the three C's.

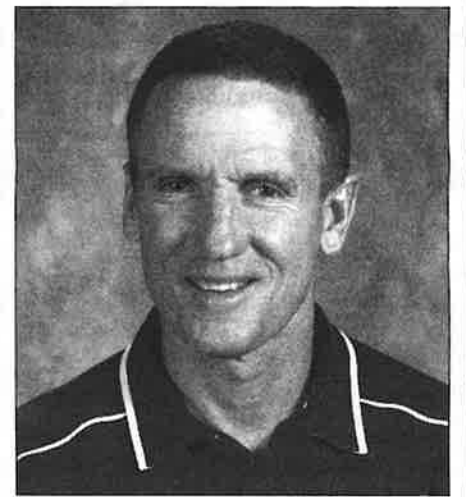
"Coordinating, collaborating and counseling are the three basic principles I follow to help students," Sullivan said.

Every year, he meets with every senior, junior and sophomore, and then tries to meet with freshmen when his schedule allows. Follow-up meetings are held with students so

their progress or problems can be addressed.

As if that were not enough, Sullivan handles conferences with other schools and colleges to talk about the future enrollment of Rock Creek students. Most could not handle so much responsibility, but Sullivan said he loves his job.

"Every day is unique and a new adventure," Sullivan said. "That's what I enjoy most about this job."



TEACHER CHRIS SCHMITZ

Social Science teacher Chris Schmitz is known by his students for being one of the funniest teachers at Rock Creek, but like other teachers at the school, he works hard to make his classes interesting for his students.

His teaching method is different, yet effective, which is why many students enjoy his classes. While students usually dread subjects such as history or government,

Schmitz uses a lot of large group discussion and even more jokes within his teaching methods, to make social science classes into enjoyable and productive hours for his students.

He tends to treat the students like equals and adults instead of just average students. Schmitz tries to discuss subjects and hear what the class thinks. He values the students' opinions instead of pretending to.

This keeps students feeling more involved, which pays off by making many students like his class.

Schmitz is also one of those teachers who has a more laid-back style. This can especially be seen when students are not in the room.

When asked what he does when students are not in his classes, he replied, "Grade papers, usually, but I do watch sports and look up scores on the Internet. I'll admit it."

"I'm here," Gonzalez said at the beginning of the day. "Your day can be better now."

Senior Jackie Gonzalez is one of the biggest pranksters in school, as her classmates know, often comparing senior Skyler Beam to a Sea Horse and making jokes in her classes.

Although the majority of people know Gonzalez as a very talkative and humorous person, she is also

a hard-working student as well. She said she has stress just like every other senior in high school; she worries about how she can get money for college and how she relates with her parents.

In her opinion, she is a free-spirited, logical, hard-working and positive girl. Gonzalez gets involved in most academic discussions in her senior Government and Advanced Placement Literature classes.

SENIOR JACKIE GONZALEZ

And, although she gets in trouble sometimes for being off subject – for example her "mad cow" discussion in Government – she always ends up redeeming herself with logical statements.

Gonzalez has friends she hangs out with every day. Whenever they hang out, they always end up finding themselves eating some sort of chicken product, Gonzalez said, claiming it is "almost a tradition."



SPORTS

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LOOKING FOR THE REFEREE'S CALL, junior wrestler Sam Wilson holds his position against his opponent from Minneapolis, Kan., at the Marion County tournament on Dec. 17. At the two-day tournament, the Rock Creek team placed third overall. PHOTO BY SARA LIMING

Wrestlers display strong performances

By AMANDA GROSS & STAFF

Building on their early season performances – placing fourth at Mission Valley on Dec. 4, getting 11th at a tough Clay Center meet on Dec. 11 and finishing third at the Marion County tournament Dec. 17-18 – the wrestling team members began the new year ready for action.

In the first week after winter break, the team traveled to Burlington Jan. 8, where the team placed fifth overall, behind Prairie View, then Burlington, Eureka and Holton.

Individually at the tournament, junior Trevor Sutton was the lone champion at 171-lbs. Placing second was freshman Marc Riess at 112-lbs., and getting third was junior Levi Anderson at 145-lbs. Others placing included junior Shane Schaake (fourth at 125-lbs.), senior Michael Wilson (fourth at 160-lbs.), junior Cody Liming (fourth at 215-lbs.), junior Sam Wilson (fifth at 135-lbs.) and sophomore JT Weers (seventh at 152-lbs.). Others participating, but not placing, were seniors Luke Goodenow and Josh Rieck.

"It was really fun," Sutton said about the tournament. "We all had a good time."

The following weekend, Jan. 14-15, the team traveled to St. Marys, where it placed sixth overall.

"Everyone tried their hardest and tried to have fun while doing it," Anderson said.

The wrestlers got a chance to stay home for the first time in the season, hosting the Pottawatomie County duals on Jan. 21. In the end, the Mustang wrestlers finished first overall.

Boys win mid-season tournament

By JACOB MILNAM

The boys basketball team had a decent start to the season, entering the new year with a two-game win streak and a record of 1-1 in league play. Every streak must come to an end, though.

Rock Creek's 2011 opener on Jan. 4 resulted in a loss to league rival Riley County, 54-44. Senior Travis Briggs scored 13 points, while senior Skyler Beam scored 10 points, to lead the Mustangs in the defeat.

The Winter Homecoming game against Silver Lake on Jan. 7 did not end how fans thought it would, either. The game was tight, and a 22-point game by junior Dillon Johnston was a bright spot, but in the end, the Eagles defeated the Mustangs, 45-41. So, instead of continuing the win streak, Rock Creek was 1-3 in the league.

"We hope to improve from this before Rossville," head basketball head coach Jim Johnston said after the Homecoming game.

Originally scheduled for Jan. 11, the Rossville game was postponed to Jan. 13 due to snow, but the Bulldogs came prepared to play, handing the Mustangs a 64-55 loss.

"The loss was disappointing," senior

Nelson Kawano said.

Rock Creek had two players foul out against Rossville, but as positive factors, sophomore Jacob Miller came off the bench to score in the double digits with 13 points, and junior Logan Miner recorded 14 points as the high scorer for the Mustangs.

The next day, Jan. 14, Rock Creek left Wabauunsee triumphant over the Chargers, with a score of 54-24. Senior Travis Briggs scored 19 points in the victory.

On Jan. 18, Rock Creek began play in the Canton-Galva tournament. The Mustangs first opponent was the hosting team, Canton-Galva, which the Mustangs soundly beat, 54-38, with Briggs leading scorers with 12 points. On Jan. 20, Rock Creek was victorious again over Sedgwick at the tournament, winning 47-43. With beating Canton-Galva and Sedgwick, Rock Creek advanced to the championship game of the tournament. Led by Briggs's 22 points, the Mustangs defeated the Douglass Bulldogs 65-51.

"These last three wins have been good to the team," junior Adam Schmitz said.

On Jan. 28, Rock Creek returned to league play, facing fellow Mid-East League member, St. Marys; results were not available at press time.

Girls begin Hiawatha tournament

By KAELEEN LAIRD & STAFF

Coming into the new year, the girls basketball team had a record of 4-2 from their December games; however, they were challenged in January with league match-ups.

On Jan. 4, Rock Creek travelled to Riley County to play the Falcons. The Falcons scored 54 points in the contest to beat the Mustangs 54-46. Later that week, on Jan. 7, the Mustangs hosted the Silver Lake Eagles for Winter Homecoming. Though it was a closer score, the Mustangs were defeated at home 43-35 to even their record to 4-4 overall.

The next week, the Mustangs matched up against Rossville on Jan. 13 in a game that was postponed due to snow on Jan. 11. In the match-up, the Mustangs got another league win, beating the Bulldogs 49-24 to leave the Bulldogs winless on their season. The next night, on Jan. 14, Rock Creek faced off against Wabauunsee in a rematch of their Dec. 14 game. On the road, the Mustangs defeated the Chargers 50-34, taking them to 6-4 on the season.

As the boys team started their mid-season tournament, the girls had the week

to prepare for the Jan. 21 game against St. Marys, and the preparation paid off, as the Mustangs defeated the Bears 45-31.

The girls then began play in the Hiawatha tournament, opening up against the host team, Hiawatha, on Jan. 25. While before the game, head coach Mike Zabel expressed some worry that Hiawatha would be a challenge, the Mustangs came out on top with a close 50-46 score. With the win in the first round, the Mustangs faced Falls City on Jan. 27 at the tournament; results for this game were not available at press deadline.

Although the Mustang ladies have a record to 8-4 (at press time), Zabel said that the girls still need to work on basic skills, such as free throw shooting and committing less turnovers. Zabel said that in the game against Silver Lake, the team committed 30 turnovers, so they need to fix those problems in order to be successful through the remainder of the season.

"The outcome of the season is determined on if the team can improve this year," Zabel said. "Hopefully, they will have a winning record and do their best."

SCOREBOARD By STAFF

	RC	OPPONENT
VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL		
Wabauunsee (12/14)	52	17
Centralia (12/17)	46	45
Riley Co. (01/04)	44	54
Silver Lake (01/07)	41	45
Rossville (01/13)	55	64
Wabauunsee (01/14)	54	24
Canton-Galva (01/17)	54	38
Sedgwick (01/18)	47	43
Douglass (01/20)	65	51
JUNIOR VARSITY BOYS BASKETBALL		
Wabauunsee (12/14)	48	15
Centralia (12/17)	48	44
Riley Co. (01/04)	59	32
Silver Lake (01/07)	49	52
Rossville (01/13)	56	44
Wabauunsee (01/14)	54	26
FRESHMAN BOYS BASKETBALL		
Abilene (12/13)	69	61
Wabauunsee (12/14)	51	34
Centralia (12/17)	29	57
Riley Co. (01/04)	45	40
Silver Lake (01/07)	37	44
Rossville (01/13)	37	46
Wabauunsee (01/14)	50	37
St. Marys (01/15)	33	22
Riley Co. (01/15)	49	26
VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL		
Wabauunsee (12/14)	55	41
Centralia (12/17)	45	46
Riley Co. (01/04)	46	54
Silver Lake (01/07)	35	43
Rossville (01/13)	49	24
Wabauunsee (01/14)	50	34
St. Marys (01/21)	45	31
Hiawatha (01/25)	50	46
JUNIOR VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL		
Wabauunsee (12/14)	39	18
Centralia (12/17)	51	48
Riley Co. (01/04)	14	54
Silver Lake (01/07)	22	53
Rossville (01/13)	27	29
Wabauunsee (01/14)	40	37
St. Marys (01/21)	47	25
FRESHMAN GIRLS BASKETBALL		
Rock Creek Tourn. (01/15)	2nd	
WRESTLING		
Marion Co. (12/17-18)	3rd	
Burlington (01/08)	5th	
Marysville JV (01/08)	N/A	
St. Marys (01/14-15)	6th	
Abilene JV (01/14)	N/A	
Pott Co. Duals (01/21)	1st	

ATHLETES OF THE MONTH

SENIOR SKYLER BEAM

This month for boys basketball, head coach Jim Johnston named senior Skyler Beam as the Athlete of the Month. Johnston said Beam has been a leader at games when the team was "down" or wasn't focused.

Q: What do you think you did to earn Athlete of the Month?
A: "I worked hard in practice."

Q: What do you think of being Athlete of the Month?
A: "It is cool; it is a nice honor."

Q: You received Athlete of the Month in football this year, too. Which is more rewarding to you?
A: "They are both equal because I think I tried hard in both."

Q: Do you think you deserve Athlete of the Month, or do you think there is someone else who deserves it, too?
A: "I think [sophomore] Jared Lovin deserves it for being my favorite manager."

By MEAGAN SMITH

JUNIOR LIZZ HERRS

Girls basketball head coach Mike Zabel selected junior Lizz Herrs as the Athlete of the Month for the team. Zabel said he named Herrs because she leads in scoring and rebounding for the team.

Q: What do you think of being Athlete of the Month?
A: "It is amazing because only a few get chosen to be Athlete of the Month."

Q: Why do you think you were named Athlete of the Month?
A: "Because I am a strong team player because I am willing to work hard with the team to get things done."

Q: Do you think you deserve Athlete of the Month, or is there someone else you would name?
A: "A lot of others on my team could have deserved it; I am just happy that it is me!"

JUNIOR TREVOR SUTTON

This month for wrestling, head coach Dan Pray selected junior Trevor Sutton as the Athlete of the Month. Pray said the reason why is because Sutton has had an 11-match win streak, has beaten two ranked wrestlers and is ranked sixth in the state at 171-lbs.

Q: What do you think of being the Athlete of the Month?
A: "It's cool because I got chosen over over people."

Q: Why do you think you are Athlete of the Month?
A: "[Because I] won a few matches."

Q: What is the hardest match you have gone to so far?
A: "The match in Burlington."

Q: Do you think you deserve to be Athlete of the Month, or do you think there is someone else who deserves it?
A: "There are others that could have gotten it. [Sophomore] Randall Thomas is one that could have gotten it too."

BOYS BASKETBALL

GIRLS BASKETBALL

WRESTLING