



# Mustang Express

Rock Creek Junior/Senior High School

January 2010

## Principal 9-12:

Dennis Post

## Assistant Principal 7-8:

Scott Harshbarger

## USD 323

### Superintendent:

Dr. Darrel Stufflebeam

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## Rock Creek Excels at State Debate

The Rock Creek debate team sent nine students to Goddard High School to compete in the state four-speaker and two-speaker debate tournaments.

For the third year in a row, the team finished second at state in four-speaker debate. *Torrey Peterson, Sam Cott, Ben Peterson, and Mandi Blenn*, along with alternate *Justin Fronce*, finished with an 11-3 overall record. Only 26-time state champion Moundridge was better, with a 12-2 record. Rock Creek was responsible for both of the losses for Moundridge.

This tournament marked the end of the careers of *Torrey Peterson* and *Sam Cott*. They went out with a bang, finishing the tournament with a perfect 7-0 record, the only team at the tournament to do so. Fortunately, Rock Creek will have the team of *Mandi Blenn* and *Ben Peterson* back. The two second-year students joined the four-speaker team and did a great job of battling debate powers Sacred Heart and Moundridge.

Rock Creek also sent four freshmen to the two-speaker competition. *Jacob Miller, Shane Adams, Dylan Meyer, and Josh Roberts* debated for the Mustangs. *Dylan* and *Josh* made the out rounds, eventually falling to a pair of seniors from Lyons. *Dylan* and *Josh* took fourth place as freshmen. *Jacob* and *Shane* did not make the out rounds, but did beat the Lyons team in the first round.

## Rock Creek Renaissance Pep Rally

Rock Creek Junior/Senior High School had their winter Renaissance pep rally on Thursday, January 21. They based it off of TV shows from TNT. *Jeremy Lehning* became host *Bill Engvall* for the day. Several games were played such as Jeopardy, Family Feud, and Sort It Out. In Jeopardy, class teams answered questions in various categories. It's amazing how much high school students know about old shows – even the theme songs. Two teams were in Family Feud – Brady Bunch Family and Addams Family. Both families consisted of a staff member, freshman, sophomore, junior and senior. They would go up against each other trying to name the top school lunches, sports, and candy bars. The Brady Bunch won. Sort It Out had class teams organizing lists from youngest to oldest, smallest to largest, etc. Students were very excited about these competitions – probably because they are experts in the area of television viewing.

The most important thing about a Renaissance pep rally is awarding students for their accomplishments. Highlights of the awards are always the selection of recipients for class rings and the parking passes. *Jostens* donates two class rings to be selected by the winners. *Josh Jones* and *Samantha Taylor* won their chance to design a free class ring. Parking passes allow students to park in designated parking places. *George Dille* and *Frances Nelson* will get reserved spots for the rest of the year.

The following students were recognized for getting 4.0: *Sara Altenhofen, Shannon Caffrey, Kinzi Collins, Cassandra Ebert, Keldon Fox, Jacy Johnston, Bailee Larson, Brooklyn Lohse, Chase Ridder, Shilo Schaake, Hayden Schlochtermeyer, Austin Sellers, Megan Thompson, McKenzy Umscheid, Katherine Culbertson, Larissa Eshelman, Macy Hawkins, Chance Maginness, Jackson Meyer, Brooke Minihan, Kelsey Parker, Kelsey Plummer, Heidi Prockish, Kerri Briggs, Crystal Chitwood, Kelsey Cook, Cheyenne Deyo, Tyler Dillon, Codi Ebert, Rachel Frank, Kynedee Hodges, Dylan Meyer, Jacob Miller, Shannon Oakley, Josh Roberts, Hanna Ruder, Samuel Wilcox, Katelyn Hodges, Logan Miner, Ben Peterson, Adam Schmitz, Jessie Snapp, Karl Thompson, Mandi Blenn, Travis Briggs, Lucas Commerford, Brady Quinn, Macy Umscheid, Katie Harrison, Lynette Bellinder, Nolan Fike, Tyler Gardner, Jana Havens, Kaitlyn Lohse, Cassie Marker, Dawn Nowakowski, Amanda Oakley, Becca Snapp, and William Trieb.*

Students raising their GPA .5 or more were *Dustin Harrison, Brittany Moore, Ryan Schneider, Josh Jones, Kyle Lake, Colton Leikam, Seth Lightfoot, Tyler Roark, Devin Stamm, Samantha Taylor, Shelby Adams, Trevor Clark, Nick Cooper, Tevin Matthews, Brady Quinn, Justin Redding, Alyssa Reeves, Trevor Andersen, Courtney Brown, Hannah Cockerill, Frances Nelson, Shanna Nelson, Patrick O'Connor, Leona Poeske, Erica Smith, and Lucas Swoyer.* The stretch award for students raising their GPA the most from each class was given to *Brittany Moore, Josh Jones, Samantha Taylor, Nick Cooper, and Frances Nelson.*

Students with perfect attendance were *Tyler Ahring, Travis Blenn, Josh Camacho, Katherine Culbertson, Lane Frazier, Heather Goodenow, Josh Jones, Kyle Lake, Rachel Nider, Amanda Oakley, Sheridan Reves, Ryan Schneider, and Sierra Webber.*

# Calendar of Events

| Date | Event   | Time                                 |
|------|---|--------------------------------------|
| 1/28 | HSBB Girls @ Hiawatha Tournament<br>JHBB @ Riley County<br>HSWR @ Horton with St. Marys                   | TBD<br>5:30 p.m.<br>6:00 p.m.        |
| 1/29 | Hutch Jazz Fest<br>HSWR @ Manhattan JV Tournament<br>HSBB Boys St. Marys                                  | All Day<br>4:00 p.m.<br>4:45 p.m.    |
| 1/30 | HSBB Girls @ Hiawatha Tournament<br>RC Forensics Tournament   | TBD<br>8:00 a.m.                     |
| 2/1  | HSBB @ Silver Lake<br>JHBB @ Silver Lake  | 4:45 p.m.<br>5:30 p.m.               |
| 2/4  | Regional Scholars Bowl<br>JHBB @ Rossville  | 3:00 p.m.<br>5:30 p.m.               |
| 2/5  | HSWR @ Onaga Duels<br>HSBB @ Riley County   | 4:00 p.m.<br>4:45 p.m.               |
| 2/6  | UMKC Jazz Festival  | TBD                                  |
| 2/8  | HSBB Freshmen @ Wamego Tournament<br>JHBB @ Mill Creek Valley   | TBD<br>4:30 p.m.                     |
| 2/9  | HSBB Marysville<br>HSWR @ Herington with Wabauunsee   | 4:45 p.m.<br>5:30 p.m.               |
| 2/10 | Board of Education Meeting  | 7:00 p.m.                            |
| 2/11 | HSBB Freshmen @ Wamego Tournament<br>JHBB @ St. Marys   | TBD<br>4:30 p.m.                     |
| 2/12 | HSWR MEL Tournament @ Rock Creek<br>HSBB @ St. Marys  | 4:00 p.m.<br>4:45 p.m.               |
| 2/13 | HSBB Freshmen @ Wamego Tournament<br>State Scholars Bowl<br>HSBB JV @ Royal Valley                        | TBD<br>TBD<br>2:00 p.m.              |
| 2/15 | JHBB Riley County   | 5:30 p.m.                            |
| 2/17 | Junction City Jazz Festival   | TBD                                  |
| 2/18 | BPA State Leadership Conference<br>JHBB @ Silver Lake   | TBD<br>5:30 p.m.                     |
| 2/19 | BPA State Leadership Conference<br>HSWR Regionals @ Rossville<br>HSBB Silver Lake<br>HS Renaissance Dance | TBD<br>TBD<br>4:45 p.m.<br>9:30 p.m. |
| 2/20 | BPA State Leadership Conference<br>HSWR Regionals @ Rossville<br>JHBB MEL @ St. Marys                     | TBD<br>TBD<br>TBD                    |
| 2/21 | Topeka Symphony Concert   | TBD                                  |
| 2/22 | FFA Labor Auction   | 6:30 p.m.                            |
| 2/23 | JHBB MEL Tournament @ St. Marys<br>HSBB @ Mission Valley  | TBD<br>4:45 p.m.                     |
| 2/24 | MEL HS Music<br>FFA Selection/Spring Area Meeting   | TBD<br>9:00 a.m.                     |
| 2/25 | JHBB MEL Tournament @ St. Marys<br>KMEA<br>HSBB Rossville   | TBD<br>TBD<br>4:45 p.m.              |
| 2/26 | No School PK-12<br>KMEA<br>HSWR State @ Hays  | TBD<br>TBD                           |
| 2/27 | KMEA<br>HSWR State @ Hays   | TBD<br>TBD                           |

## Topeka Symphony

The Rock Creek High School Band will be hosting the Topeka Symphony in a concert in the Rock Creek High School Gym on Sunday, February 21, at 3:00 p.m. The concert will feature the Brahms Violin Concerto and Symphonic Metamorphosis by Hindemith. Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$6 for students in advance and may be purchased at Dyers, Wamego Drug and both branches of Farmers State Bank. Information about the concert and ticket mail order forms may be found at [rockcreekschools.org](http://rockcreekschools.org). All profits from the concert benefit the high school band on its trip to Disney World.

## Junior High Cheerleading

This year's junior high cheerleaders are on a roll, having already completed football and girls' basketball seasons; they just started boys' basketball this week. The girls have a lineup of performances during the next two months. Their performances include: camp routine on January 21, dance on February 15, and a routine with the junior high squads from Rossville and Riley County at the MEL tournament on February 20. Please come out and support the teams and the cheerleaders!



Back row from left to right is Lyla Lenauer, McKenzy Umscheid, and Shannon Caffrey. Front row is Brooke Minihan, Macy Hawkins, Kelsey Plummer, and Kelsey Parker.

## Have a Heart! Donate Blood

Has someone in your family been in a hospital recently? One in ten people entering a hospital needs blood, so perhaps your family member benefited from a blood drive. People in car accidents suffer massive blood loss, so those victims also need the blood given at blood drives.

Mark your calendars for February 11, when National Honor Society will be coordinating a blood drive with the American Red Cross. Anyone 16 years or older is eligible to donate blood, and there will be sign-up sheets posted in the halls. On February 2, a Donor Recruitment Rep will present a short meeting during advisor to inform you and answer any questions you may have. If you are considering donating for the first time, this is a meeting you won't want to miss.

You'll love the feeling you get from knowing that you have helped save someone's life!

## RGHS Physics Activities

In November, the physics class built and tested "mini-pumpkin" catapults. These were catapults that had to fit inside a two-foot cube and their objective was to deliver pumpkins to front porches. The pumpkins being delivered were the candy corn variety and the mock front porches were shoe boxes turned on their side. The students earned extra credit by hitting the front porch and then points decreased if the pumpkins landed farther away. There was also a theme competition that day with Sam Cott and Spencer Klocke winning for their "Knights" costumes. Their next engineering task is Barbie hang gliders which will be flying next Friday!



## Counselor's Notes

| Deadline:       | Description:   |
|-----------------|--|
|                 | Students planning to complete the ACT exam next semester may register for <b>ACT Exam Prep</b> classes at Manhattan High School. The coordinator is Carolyn Devane at 586-2110 or e-mail <a href="mailto:CAROLYND@manhattan.k12.ks.us">CAROLYND@manhattan.k12.ks.us</a> .  |
|                 | Seniors may apply for various <b>2010 State American Legion Scholarships</b> . Numerous award categories and stipulations. Scholarship values are from \$250 - \$1,500.  |
|                 | Seniors pursuing art, dance, music, or theatre studies at Kansas State University may apply for the <b>2010 Fine Arts Scholarships</b> . See Mr. Sullivan for details and an application.  |
|                 | Grade 9-12 students planning to pursue careers as physicians may attend the <b>National Youth Leadership Forum on Medicine</b> . The 10-day summer sessions, which will be conducted in cities across the U.S., are dedicated to the early recognition and preparation of the nation's most promising future physicians. See Mr. Sullivan for more information and registration details. |
|                 | Girls in grades 9-12 who are considering engineering careers may want to participate in the annual <b>SWE Weekend of Engineering Program at the University of Kansas (March 6-7)</b> . See Mr. Sullivan for details and registration forms.  |
|                 | Juniors interested in University of Kansas may participate in <b>KU Junior Day</b> . Visit <a href="http://admissions.ku.edu/junior%20days">admissions.ku.edu/junior days</a> or see Mr. Sullivan.   |
|                 | Grade 7-12 students are eligible to participate in the annual <b>Images of Aging</b> photo contest sponsored by the University of Kansas Medical Center. Awards range in value from \$100 - \$300. See Mr. Sullivan for contest rules/more information or visit <a href="http://www2.kumc.edu/coa">www2.kumc.edu/coa</a> .   |
|                 | Grade 10-12 students may attend a <b>Summer Leadership Academy</b> at Dodge City Community College. Career academies include business, fire/rescue, nursing, teaching, law enforcement, and music. College credit is available. See Mr. Sullivan or visit <a href="http://222.dc3.edu/li">222.dc3.edu/li</a> .   |
|                 | Seniors may qualify for <b>free college tuition scholarships</b> and monthly \$1,000 awards by registering at <a href="http://nextSTEPmag.com">nextSTEPmag.com</a> .   |
|                 | Seniors currently or formerly involved in athletics may be interested in applying for the <b>Big Sun Scholarship (\$500)</b> . Visit <a href="http://www.bigsunathletics.com">www.bigsunathletics.com</a> for application details.   |
|                 | Students in grades 9-12 may be interested in the full year or summer <b>International Student Exchange Program</b> for 2010-11 school term. See Mr. Sullivan for information/application details.  |
|                 | Any junior boys interested in participating in the <b>2010 American Legion Boys State Program</b> should see Mr. Sullivan. The annual session will be conducted on the KSU campus from June 6-12, 2010. More information and applications are available.   |
| 2/01/10         | Senior boys may be interested in applying for the <b>2010 Acacia Leadership Scholarships</b> . Awards range in value from \$500 - \$1,000.   |
| 2/01/10         | Seniors interested in applying for the <b>2010 ESA Foundation Scholarships</b> should see Mr. Sullivan or visit <a href="http://www.esaintl.com/esaf">www.esaintl.com/esaf</a> . Qualifications vary, awards range in value from \$500 - \$1,000.  |
| 2/08/10-3/25/10 | Juniors or seniors planning to pursue teacher education studies/career may be interested in attending one of KSU's spring semester <b>Education Experience Days</b> on either March 1 or April 15. The event provides students an opportunity to shadow a KSU Education Ambassador. See Mr. Sullivan if interested.  |
| 2/10/10         | Seniors with a minimum 2.75 grade point average, who plan to pursue a bachelor's degree, may be interested in applying for the <b>2010 KFC Colonel's Scholarships</b> . Preference given to those applicants demonstrating financial need. Visit <a href="http://www.kfcscholars.org">www.kfcscholars.org</a> for more information/applications.   |
| 2/15/10         | <b>USA Funds Access to Education Scholarships</b> - based on economic need, attending any post secondary education institution (\$1,500), apply online at <a href="http://www.usafunds.org/scholarship">www.usafunds.org/scholarship</a> .   |
| 2/15/10         | <b>Best Buy Scholarships</b> for grade 9-12, academics, community service, work experience, \$100-1,000 awards, apply online at <a href="http://www.at15.com">www.at15.com</a>   |
| 2/17/10         | Seniors whose parents are active duty or retired service members (Army, Navy, Coast Guard, Marine Corps, or Air Force) are encouraged to apply for the <b>2010 Military Children Scholarship</b> . See Mr. Sullivan for applications or visit <a href="http://www.militaryscholar.org">www.militaryscholar.org</a> . Award amounts vary.   |
| 3/5/10          | Seniors are eligible to apply for <b>2010 "Scholar Athlete Milk Mustache of the Year" Scholarships</b> , 25/\$7,500 awards available. Visit <a href="http://bodybymilk.com">bodybymilk.com</a> for complete rules, information and applications.   |
| 3/12/10         | <b>KACRAO Scholarships</b> require minimum 3.25 cumulative, 22 ACT score, and record of leadership (4/\$500 awards), see Mr. Sullivan or visit <a href="http://www.kacrao.org">www.kacrao.org</a> .  |
| 3/12/10         | Seniors planning to pursue agronomy, crop science, agricultural engineering, or related fields of study may be interested in applying for the <b>2010 KARA Scholarships (\$500 - \$1,000 value)</b> . See Mr. Sullivan or visit <a href="http://www.KansasAg.org/KARA">www.KansasAg.org/KARA</a> .   |
| 3/12/10         | Seniors may be interested in applying for the <b>2010 KGFA Scholarships (\$500 - \$1,000 value)</b> . Academic achievement and community service considered. See Mr. Sullivan or visit <a href="http://www.KansasAg.org/KGFA">www.KansasAg.org/KGFA</a> .  |
| 3/12/10         | Seniors may apply for the <b>2010 Primo Scholarships</b> ; preference extended to marketing, public relations, or telecommunications studies. Three \$500 awards provided. Visit <a href="http://www.primomkt.com">www.primomkt.com</a> or see Mr. Sullivan.   |
| 4/2/10          | Seniors pursuing journalism, political science, or communications studies are encouraged to apply for the <b>2010 News Election Service Scholarships</b> . \$500 awards available. See Mr. Sullivan.   |

# The Rock Spotlight



## **Dickinson County Classic**

Rock Creek Girls, Champions

### **All-Tournament Team**

*Becky Lightfoot*

TOURNAMENT MVP

*Taylor Ebert*

*Josh Camacho*

## **Rock Creek Freshman Tournament**

*9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE BOYS*  
TOURNAMENT CHAMPIONS

*9<sup>TH</sup> GRADE GIRLS*  
2<sup>ND</sup> PLACE

## **State Band Qualifiers**

**2<sup>nd</sup> Alternate Trombone**  
*Brad Duncan*

**4<sup>th</sup> Chair Alto Sax**  
*Sam Cott*

**13<sup>th</sup> Chair Clarinet**  
*Brenda Stevenson*

**1<sup>st</sup> Chair Flute**  
*Jana Havens*

## **Topeka Capital Journal**

## **Area Athlete of the Week**

*Becky Lightfoot*

## **Regional Debate Tournament**

### **Rock Creek, 3<sup>rd</sup> Place**

Team: *Torrey Peterson, Sam Cott, Ben Peterson, Mandi Blenn,* and alternate *Justin Fronce*

### **State Debate Qualifiers**

Four Speaker: *Torrey Peterson, Sam Cott, Ben Peterson, Mandi Blenn,* alternate *Justin Fronce*

Two Speaker: *Dylan Meyer, Josh Roberts, Shane Adams, Jacob Miller*

## **State Scholastic's Art Competition**

### **Junior High General Category**

*Amanda Gross, "Pencil Whimsy"*  
*Katherine Culbertson, "Mythological Castle in Ink"*

### **Junior High Gold Key Winner**

*Larissa Eshelman, "Inked Plumes"*  
*Larissa Eshelman, "Lizard on a Thumb in Pencil Dreams"*

### **High School Honorable Mention**

*Angie Patrick, Mixed Media, "Everyday Music"*  
*Thomas Sheffield, Silversmithing "Unlock Love"*

### **High School Silver Key**

*Anthony Dultmeier, Pencil, "Fantasy in Graphite"*