

The Rock Bottom

September 1999

SCOTUS HIGH SCHOOL COLUMBUS, NE

New Faculty Join the Scotus Team

By Rhonda Marxsen

Many new teachers and faculty have joined us here at Scotus Central Catholic. There are four new faculty members for this school year.

Mrs. Becki Zanardi.
Mrs. Becki Zanardi teaches 8th and 12th grade English classes. She is also the Assistant Jr. High Track Coach. Mrs. Zanardi used to teach at McCool Junction D1 and Benedict, both in the York County area. She was a student teacher here at Scotus a while back and had been looking forward to returning to Columbus. Right now she is still trying to learn everyone's names.

Mrs. Zanardi is a big football fan and loves all movies with Meg Ryan, Tom Hanks, and Mel Gibson. "Mel Gibson is my favorite," she assures us. She also is into some running and lifting weights.

Mrs. Coralie Shonka
Mrs. Coralie Shonka is the new receptionist in the front office. Previous to this job she worked at SunMart foods and Platte County Farm Services Agency.

Mrs. Shonka grew up in Fremont, Nebraska, and attended Fremont Senior High. She is still getting used to the environment but says that the students and faculty have both been very kind. Although she is also still learning names, she hopes for a good year.

Mr. Nathan Arneal
Mr. Nathan Arneal is another new English teacher. He is teaching freshman and two sections of sophomore English in addition to one seventh grade P.E. class. Mr. Arneal is also an Assistant Varsity Football Coach, Assistant Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, and the Head Coach of boys' track.

Mr. Arneal grew up in North Bend and recently graduated from UNL. He completed his student teaching in Omaha previous to receiving the English position here.

Mr. Arneal believes that he didn't have to do much adjusting here at Scotus and feels that the faculty has been supportive and that the students are not too bad as well.

Mrs. Pam Weir
Mrs. Pam Weir, the new Jr. High Counselor, also may have been seen quite often by students here at Scotus. She also takes care of SYADA and is a sponsor for the Jr. High Student Council.

Previous to this job, Mrs. Weir worked at Platte College and was a secretary and a substitute at Columbus Public Schools and at Lakeview. She worked at Lakeview for 3 school years. She is involved in racketball and bike riding. She looks forward to being a part of the Scotus faculty.

As students of Scotus, we welcome the new teachers and faculty members to Scotus. We look forward to this school year and to the chance to get to know you all.

Dear Scotus Parents:

There have been many new "want list" and "for sale" listings on the uniform exchange site since school has started.

Check out:

<http://www.megavision.net/uniform>
or call 563-1069 for the latest used uniform lists.



Above: The Scotus High School Band combines new uniforms with great talent as they dazzle the crowd of people at the Columbus Days Parade. The combination won them 1st place over the other two area high schools.

Below: The Scotus Flag Corp joined the band at the Columbus Days Parade to help sinch the 1st place title. The Flag Corp squad is awaiting new uniforms that will match in color with the new Band-uniforms.

Photographs by: Mrs. Kelly Schaad

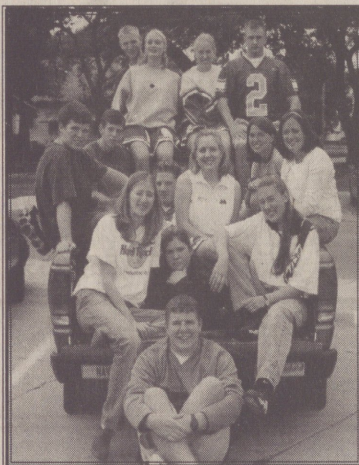
Getting to the Bottom (of the Rock Bottom)

By Amanda Sackett

The Scotus newspaper has come across many improvements over the summer. New technology and new staff members are just a few.

The first of two major technological advances was the new computer, a Gateway 2000 with programs included from the Gerhold Donations. Second, the Scotus Mother's Club provided a new printer. The newspaper also purchased a new computer desk to keep things organized and a new camera. These items will help better the accuracy of the newspaper.

A new staff will also impress you with their writing skills and creativity. The new staff includes: seniors Angie Shemek (Editorial Editor), Kristin Zach (Entertainment Editor), Michelle Moser (Sports Editor), Amanda Sackett (Front Page Editor), Ben Foreman, Drew Johnson, Nate Tenopir, Justin Avery, Matt O'Day, Lynn Wemhoff, and Lacey Wozny; juniors Tory Ketter, Rhonda Marxsen, and Megan Morris. The new staff also felt to start a new year the newspaper needed a new name and by a majority vote the staff chose **The Rock Bottom**. The name implies that our staff will give you the "bottom line" on what is happening at Scotus. Mrs. Kelly Schaad will continue as the newspaper sponsor.



The newspaper staff poses for a quick picture in the back of Tory Ketter's truck.

Photograph by Mrs. Kelly Schaad

Band Proves Size Doesn't Matter

by Matt O'Day

The Scotus band surprised the judges, their competition, and themselves by finishing first among the three high school bands competing in the Columbus Days parade. They upset heavy favorite Columbus High for their first win during Mrs. Kristen Cox's tenure as band director.

Mrs. Cox credits the win to early morning summer practices and to overconfidence on the part of the Columbus High Band, which has almost twice as many members as Scotus. Scotus focused on marching, changing their step styles from the previous years, and learning diagonals. They practiced longer and more often than usual so they could challenge their competition and it worked.

The band hopes to carry their momentum into their next competition at the Harvest of Harmony parade in Hastings on October 2nd and their first halftime show at the football game on October 8th.



Good Luck to the Band at Harvest of Harmony!

Studs & Duds

By Nate Tenopir

Studs

East Timor: Little Country no one has heard of gains independence from a big country no one cares about.

Bill Clinton: Dates his interns.

George W. Bush: He doesn't answer the questions.

Eric Crouch: He's a quarterback.

Cleveland Browns: 300lb. fat fan "Big Dawg" turns obsession of Browns into a career.

Duds

Northern Ireland: Little country everyone has heard of still battles country of cream puffs and tea-drinkers. Here's a little tip: try throwing their tea in the ocean.

Boris Yeltsin: Fires his interns.

Dan Quayle: Shouldn't answer the questions.

Bobby Newcome: He's not. Trust us Bobby you'll make much more money in the pros this way.

Cleveland Browns: They still stink.

2000 Field Full of Choices

By: Matt O'Day

The year 2000 brings more than the much debated Y2K Bug. It is also an election year, the first election in which this year's seniors can vote. Who will you vote for? The Rock Bottom has assembled profiles of the latest candidates fighting it out for the presidency.

Republicans

George W. Bush- Texas Governor and son of former President George Bush. George W. Bush is the clear front-runner in most polls. Rumors about possible cocaine use in his past have gotten more press coverage than his message of "compassionate conservatism."

Elizabeth "Lidy" Dole- Former President of the Red Cross and wife of 1996 Republican presidential candidate Bob Dole, Elizabeth Dole wowed many with her popular speech at the Republican National Convention in '96. She won over many more by coming out strongly in favor of gun control in wake of the Columbine High School shootings. This, and her stand against a pro-life constitutional amendment, may have cost her the support of the powerful conservative forces within the Republican party, but also may give her a broader, moderate appeal.

Pat Buchanan- Conservative columnist Pat Buchanan is no stranger to presidential campaigns. He launched unsuccessful bids for the Republican nomination in 1992 and 1996. He has been called the "conservative poster boy" because of his staunch anti-abortion and trade protectionist views. While his conservative ways have won over the more right-wing elements of the Republican party, his tendency to blame immigrants for America's problems tends to alienate many voters.

Steve Forbes- Multimillionaire Steve Forbes ran an unsuccessful bid in 1996 in which he spent \$40 million of his own money. His deep pockets allow him to finance his own campaign, which like 1996 is built around his flat tax plan. Unlike 1996, Forbes is also courting the religious right by taking strong stances against abortion, medicinal marijuana, and physician assisted suicide. His opposition of gay rights laws is surprising considering his late father was openly bisexual in his later years.

John McCain- John McCain an Arizona senator describes himself as pro-life, and Nancy Reagan was quoted as calling him "one of the two most electable candidates for 2000." He is a Vietnam veteran who spent five harrowing years in a Vietnamese P.O.W. camp. He is known for being extremely straightforward in answering questions directed to him regarding his stand on political issues. He is separated from the other Republican candidates by his stand on campaign finance reform.

Democrats

Al Gore - Gore is the Democratic front-runner in the early polls. He has the advantages of national name recognition, a powerful fund-raising machine, and history- sitting Vice Presidents have rarely failed to win the nomination. His commanding lead so far has allowed him to avoid serious discussions of issues, but Gore has historically supported environmental and technological issues as Vice President.

Bill Bradley- A former pro basketball player and former senator from New Jersey Bradley is the underdog in the democratic campaign. His style is seen as more cerebral, but less charismatic than Al Gore. Bradley feels we need to improve foreign relations and prohibit soft money contributions in campaign finance.

Too Hot To Handle?

By Angie Shemek

While the heat seems to be escaping the walls of Scotus for now, the memories of August weather are close at hand. Every year when we come back to school in late August sweltering heat causes many students and teachers to whimper and complain. In fact, some of the common phrases are so dramatic one would think a reference was being made to apocalyptic times. One such complaint is often, "I'm so hot, I'm gonna die." Another entertaining specimen is "Why aren't we on heat schedule?" Finally the third, and perhaps most entertaining complaint is "Why don't we get air conditioning?"

First and foremost, I would like to familiarize everyone with this little truth. We live in Nebraska. The heat has been a part of the climate for a long time. There should be no surprise, based on climatic reports of the last 100 years) that it is hot in August and May. So then, why do we act shocked when it is hot at school the first and last few weeks.

Next, I would like to offer some information to help explain why our grumbling cannot be eased by the simple remedy of heat schedule. This overly dramatic scenario is highly unlikely. In fact, the human body will not stop functioning until somewhere around 106 degrees. I do not think that any of us can claim to have body temperatures soaring in this range while sitting in the hot desks of Scotus. For those of you using death as a possibility to get yourself out of school, I wish you luck.

Concerning the second expostulation, I talked to Mr. Gannon. He informed me that to get out of school due to heat is not a decision that follows any kind of specific system. The principals from the three Catholic grade schools, Mr. Walding, and Mr. Gannon meet to make the decision. They look at long and short term weather patterns. A logical decision is then made. So the "It's 90, why aren't we out of school" excuse is not valid.

Finally, I must address the third common protest. Scotus, like any private school has a tighter budget than public schools. While the Gala provides many of our needs, air conditioning is not an immediate necessity. It is a luxury. Besides, not having air conditioning will make a great replacement for the overused, "I walked 20 miles to school in snow-uphill both ways," that many of us have heard from our parents and grandparents.

Not So Dear Abby

By: Ben Foreman

Dear Benny,

I am a 16 year old male and I enjoy Backstreet Boys and N'SYNC. All my friends pick on me for listening to it and my girlfriend is going to dump me if I don't stop listening to this "loser" music. How can I get my friends and girlfriend to like my music?

Dear Mr. "Loser" music,

Well son, the music has to be good for others to like it. Not many boys and some girls don't really like a bunch of older teens dancing and jumping around in spandex or is that just me. Mr. Loser music do you know who the New Kids on the Block were? Well, that is how these guys are going to turn out once they get facial hair and bellies. Mr. Loser music "You're tearing up my heart" so ditch the music and not your friends and the chic.

Dear Benny,

I am a 17 year old female and I'm in love with a man that wears bad cologne. He goes to a different school and anytime I see him I gag because his cologne is so bad. What should I do?

Dear Smelly Boyfriend,

This is simple my good friend. Don't be a cheap skate and buy him a bottle of cologne of your liking for a present.

Dear Benny,

I am a Junior girl and I really like this boy who I sit by in History class. The problem is, Ben, that he always cheats off of me during class, and I don't like it. If I don't let him cheat, I am afraid that he might not like me. Oh Benny, what should I do?

Dear In love with a cheater,

If he likes to cheat off of you in History class, what do you think it is going to be like when you guys go out with each other? Think about it. He is a cheater and you can do way better. There are a lot of great guys out there. Hint.Hint (I have no date for Homecoming.) This is Ben Foreman saying, "Good day."

He Said, She Said

By: Tory Ketter and Rhonda Marxen

Should students attending Catholic schools be forced to attend a mass once a week?

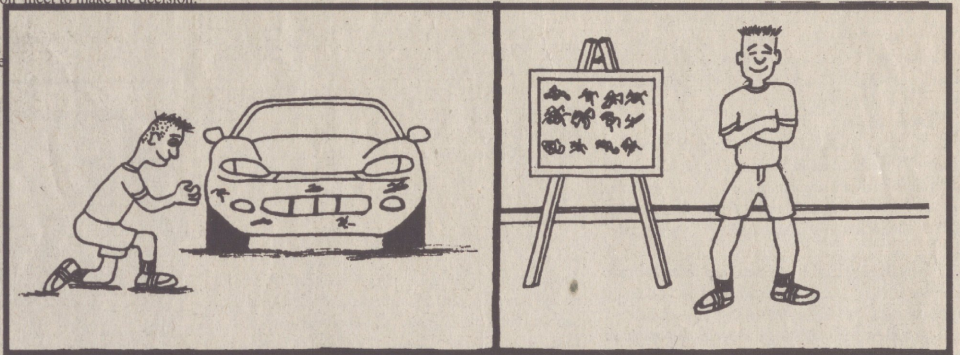
HE SAID- Based on my opinion, I think that students do not need to attend mass once a week. As my understanding of "theology" (thank you Fr.Steve), Sunday mass is our moral obligation.

Is there a problem going to mass during the week? I do not think so at all. In fact, if I didn't have so many other commitments, I would love to spend an extra Activity Period going to mass. I also think that we are very fortunate to have a mass during the school's Activity Period. That is just another incentive of attending Catholic school. Going to mass extra during the week is just in case you have some extra prayers and you need to help some others through prayer.

So, going to mass extra during the week is not necessary, based on my He Said. If we commit to the Lord on Sundays, then I think our moral obligation is good enough.

SHE SAID- The best thing about attending a Catholic school is that you can talk about your beliefs as Catholics openly and with ease. You can always find room for discussion in your Theology or Religion classes. Even though we attend mass as a school once a month, I will honestly say that I do not believe that Catholic students should be forced to attend a mass once a week.

Scotus students already have the option of attending a mass held daily during the Activity Period if they wish. Scotus, is preparation not only for college, but for our religious life after high school as well. Ultimately, we will be the ones making the decision on whether or not we want to attend mass. Therefore, if mass will be a decision for us to make when we are older, then why not start deciding now? No one can force us to attend mass, Scotus can only teach us the best they know how in our Catholic Religion and hope that from there we will make the right choice when it comes to our mass attendance.



Innovation in bug collecting

By Lynn Wemhoff

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Nine Scotus students, with others from Nebraska, enjoy the view in Paris. Photograph by: Casey Birkel

Stigmata Delivers With Story, Characters

By Matt O'Day

Moviegoers looking for a mindless thriller featuring cliched characters and a predictable plot will want to steer well clear of *Stigmata*, the new thriller starring Patricia Arquette and Gabriel Byrne. This film not only lives up to its billing (advertisements promise it will "Scare the hell into you."), but actually exceeds it. *Stigmata* doesn't stop at just scaring you; it goes out of its way to hook you.

The story opens by introducing us to Father Andrew Kiernan (Byrne), a priest and a scientist who is employed by the Vatican to investigate weeping statues and visions and then prove them false. This brings him across the path of Frankie Paige (Arquette), a 23 year old urban atheist who is into clubbing and body piercing, who has suddenly and unexplainably been receiving bizarre injuries, having seizures, hearing voices, and seeing disturbing visions. Father Andrew identifies these attacks as stigmata, wounds that resemble those Christ suffered during his crucifixion. To reveal much more would spoil the film, but expect speaking in tongues, levitation, and some truly terrifying possession scenes.

Even those who normally would not like horror movies will probably like this one. The characters are realistic and likeable, and the story is very involving. Which is not to say that hard-core horror fans will be disappointed. There are plenty of scenes that will make the hair stand up on the back of your neck, and the masterful handling of the possession scenes is almost oscar-worthy. All in all, *Stigmata* is a rarity and a must-see.

Bon Voyage and Back Again

By: Lacey Wozny

Nine Scotus Students spent half of this past July trying to take in the culture, people, and surroundings of seven European countries. Casey Birkel, Lynn Dolezal, Kayla Dowd, Keith McDermott, Zach Recek, Nikki Stachura, Amanda Trofholz, and Lacey Wozny, along with sponsor, Claudia Kiser, and three others were the Nebraska representatives on the EF tour.

Upon arrival in Amstredam, the Netherlands, they met their Scottish tour guide, Dominic, and about 30 other students and sponsors from the Olympia, Washington, and St. Louis, Missouri areas. From there, they visited Germany, Austria, Italy, Switzerland, France and England.

The fourteen day tour gave the group about two days in each country. Each day was packed full of tours and a million things to taste, touch, feel, hear, and see. Constantly being on the move was pretty exhausting and made them wish they'd packed lighter. Highlights of the trip included; seeing Anne Frank's house in Holland, the Heidelberg castle in Germany (which is still up and running by a high school on the East Coast who hosts prom there), the canal streets of Venice, the Capulet house, including Juliet's balcony from Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*, the majestic Alps, the Eiffel Tower, Westminster Abbey and even the infamous Red-Light district of Amsterdam. The trip not only gave them a well-rounded sense of European history and culture, but also created new friendships and memories to last throughout their entire lives.



Students gather for a picture before departing from their resort in New York State. Pictured from left to right in front row are: Keith McDermott, Katrina Landholm, Drew Brock, Kristin Zach, and Sara DeTurk. Second row: Jane Micek, Matt O'Day, Nate Tenopir, Jon Jakub, and Jeremiah Grell. Photograph by Kristin Zach

History Lesson for All

By: Kristin Zach

This summer ten Scotus students received a History lesson not soon to be forgotten. Mrs. Linda Kosch had been thinking of taking a trip to the East Coast during the summer for interested History students for a few years, but with so much interest last fall, she began making plans. Nine seniors, one alumni, and four adult chaperones made up the group, including Mrs. Linda Kosch, Patti McGuire, Kurt Tenopir, Mike O'Day, Keith McDermott, Jeremiah Grell, Drew Brock, Jane Micek, Matt O'Day, Nate Tenopir, Kristin Zach, Sara DeTurk, Jon Jakub, and Katrina Landholm.

The trip was intended to give the students and adults a better idea of how our country evolved into what it is today. They were given an up-close look at old Civil War Battle-grounds at Gettysburg, PA, along with historical landmarks in Lexington, VA, and Washington, D.C. The trip was concluded with a day in New York City. Many of the students said that Manhattan was their favorite part of the trip. Senior Jane Micek said "the trip was informational, and even overwhelming at times." Because the group covered five states in only ten days, it is understandable that they were overwhelmed, but "it was worth it", Micek added.

1999 NRLC Brews in Milwaukee

By Lacey Wozny

This June, seven members of the Columbus Area Teens for Life group attended the National Right to Life Convention in Milwaukee, Wisconsin. The Conference was held June 24th through the 27th. Attendees were Dawn Beran, Andrew Ingemansen, Kendra Kessler, Emily Kroenke, Josh Rickert, Amanda Trofholz and Lacey Wozny.

The Columbus chapter Teens for Life was started two years ago to help make teens aware of current issues and to give them a chance to act on their beliefs of putting an end to abortion. The conference included many speakers, workshops, and sessions. It provided the group with ideas for new ways to work for their cause and to involve more people. Also, it gave them confidence. Together with teens from around the country, they were able to interact and share with eachother in working for a common cause. Everyone was pleased when they got to meet and listen to two celebrities who spoke and then stayed to answer questions at the convention. First the Milwaukee Brewers pitcher, and then Corky from the hit TV show "Life Goes On" spoke and did a song and dance number. Senior and Teens for life co-president, Dawn Beran, said "getting to meet Corky made the whole trip worthwhile."

Shamrock Singers Rock Disney's World

By: Angie Shemek

Scotus Shamrock Singers lit up the stage at Epcot Center in Walt Disney World. The group had the opportunity to perform in Orlando after auditioning last fall for a spot in Disney's Magic Music Days. Shamrock Singers spent the past school year in preparation for the show in June. The music they selected was a medley of Disney music.

Throughout the school year performances of their show were given to many local community and civic organizations. The organizations then made a donation of at least \$25.00 to cover the costs of the group's trip. Another fundraising activity was a dance held at the YMCA for junior high students. The choir also had a pancake feed to defray expenses.

While in Disney World Shamrock Singers also had the opportunity to enjoy the sights and sounds of Disney. The group stayed at a Disney resort and had private busing to anywhere in Disney's Parks. They went to the Magic Kingdom, Epcot Center, Animal Kingdom, and MGM Studios. It was not only a fun trip but one that challenged them to perfecting their performance. Those who attended included: Director: Ms. Gardener, Kelli Hahn, Kerry Stephan, Molly McGuire, Sara Rief, Sara Naughtin, Casey Brikel, Angie Shemek, Lynn Dolezal, Sara Peterson, and Dawn Beran.

"Survey Says..."

by Megan Morris

Each year Scotus students become acquainted with one another and they learn new things about each other. At the beginning of the year several students were asked to fill out a surveys about themselves. Their answers are listed below. Let's take time to learn a little more about our student body, their dreams, pet peeves, and most embarrassing moments.

What is the biggest adjustment you have made at Scotus thus far?

- "Going from class to class and only having four minutes." - Haley Buel, 7th grade
- "Making time for all the speech homework." - Kelly Gablenz, 10th grade
- "Mainly going from trumpet to tuba in band." - Angie Boeding, 8th grade

If you were stranded on an island with just three things, what would they be?

- "Matches, charcoal, and a fishing pole." - Anthony Owens, grade 10
- "Chips, a couch, and t.v." - Kyle Fritz, grade 9
- "Cheetos, a bathtub, and a ball point pen." - Scott Prokapek, grade 12

What's your pet peeve?

- "People asking for geometry answers." - Michael Zadina, grade 9
- "My mom waking me up five minutes before my alarm clock goes off." - Tammy Laudenklos, grade 11
- "Little blobs of jelly in the peanut butter jar." - Josh Augustine, grade 11

What is your dream date and whom would it be with?

- "The girl from the Doritos commercial." - Matt Welker, grade 9
- "Ryan Tarnick." - Laura Dolezal and Kadie Marler, grade 8
- "Ghandi, temple, India." - Scott Morrison, grade 12

What's your most embarrassing moment at Scotus thus far?

- "Forgetting my uniform for school." - Jessi Ryan, grade 7
- "When a teacher called me Polly 'the pervert' Pillen because I detassled." - Polly Pillen, grade 8
- "The Hastings football game." - Cade Kudron, grade 11

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Shamrock Volleyball Off To Solid Start

By: Michelle Moser

The Scotus volleyball team, coached by John Petersen and Janet Tooley, is headed in the right direction through the first half of the season. The Rocks are 7-1 and improving everyday.

The Rocks' first three games of the season were in the Shamrock Invite on September 4. The Shamrocks and their fans didn't know what to expect out of the first games of the season. The Shamrocks faced Omaha Skutt in the season opener. Scotus defeated Skutt in straight sets, 15-2 and 15-9. In the second game of the Invite, the Rocks played Lincoln Christian. Scotus won with the end results of 15-2 and 15-9. The championship game was between the Shamrocks and the Class B pre-season #1 Lincoln Pius X Thunderbolts. The Rocks reigned as champions in two straight sets, 15-1 and 15-6.

The Shamrocks next test was against Grand Island Central Catholic on Thursday, September 9. The sets were very close, but at the end of each set GICC was able to pull away. GICC handed the Shamrocks their first loss in straight sets, 15-7 and 15-9. "The loss against GICC showed us the importance of improving to be able to play with the best. We are striving to reach our goal to get better and better," commented John Petersen when asked about the loss.

The Shamrocks' chance to redeem themselves presented itself at the North Bend Invite on September 11. The team's first chance came against the Schuyler Warriors. The Warriors were downed 15-8 and 15-1. The Rocks then met the North Bend Tigers in the championship match. The Shamrocks beat the Tigers in two sets with scores of 15-7 and 15-4.

The Shamrocks then faced David City Aquinas on Tuesday, September 14. The Rocks defeated the Monarchs 15-1 and 15-4. Scotus' strong performance was backed up by strong serving and solid blocking.

The most recent game was a rematch against Schuyler on Tuesday, September 21. The Shamrocks repeated and beat the Warriors 15-2 and 15-6. The Shamrocks showed many improvements in several areas of the game.

The hard working Shamrocks are presently preparing for the Grand Island North West Tournament this coming weekend. They are looking forward to facing GICC again for a rematch.



Sara Edison, a new member of the Cross Country Team, runs for the first time at the home course.

Photograph by: Kristin Zach

CC A.O.K.

By: Justin Avery

Both the boys and girls Cross Country teams have done very well so far this year. The girls team, led by junior Molly Engel, won first place in Albion, fifth at the Scotus Invite, and have consistently ran well in every meet. The girls have great senior leadership in Sara Peterson, Sara DeTurk, Katrina Landholm, Sara Edison, and Jenny Levos. They also have great potential in their younger runners.

The boy's team has also been very competitive this season. They have been improving their individual times each meet and are looking to get better as the season progresses. Led by seniors Sean O'Neil and freshman Jake Otte, the boys won first place at the Lakeview Dual and ran their personal best at the Scotus Invite, while getting fourth place. With their Senior leadership and potential to improve, the boys and girls should be very competitive as the season moves on.

New Varsity Tee Off To New Season

By: Lynn Wemhoff

On September 17, at 8:30 AM, the girls' golf team decided to stretch their necks out into the woods at the Blair Invite. The girls' team finished at fourth place, while Kristen Schumacher shot her personal best with a 97, for 12th place.

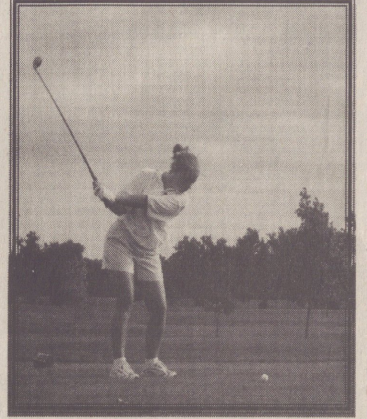
But that's not all. While the girls golf team was warming up before they played Stanton, Rachael Mimick decided to share, with the rest of the team, "Flabby arms help your golf swings." Mimick's piece of advice must have helped because they ended up beating Stanton by a long shot.

At Schuyler, the girls ended up winning by one point. "I didn't play as well as I wanted," expressed Fran Morrison. "But we won, and I'm satisfied with that." Jenni Morrison seemed to share the same idea with Fran. Jenni also admitted that she wasn't playing to her potential, and claimed that many people tell her that her negative attitude is bringing her down.

Lynn Dolezal and Nicole Schumacher ended up medaling individually, where as the team placed fourth against a dozen other teams at the Aurora Invite. Kristen Schumacher went home empty handed when she was only one stroke away from a medal. "I was teed off at the way I played," said Kristen. "But I hope to get back in the swing of things."

Spirits were lifted at the Lakeview, Scotus, and Albion Triangular. Varsity came in second, beating Albion. The Junior Varsity golfers won the JV division. "They are not quite as good as last year's golf team," says coach Niedbalski. "But they have the skill and potential to do as well."

Niedbalski describes how the team lost quite a few varsity players this year, and the girls in varsity now are not use to the challenge. But she believes that it is good for them to take their skills a step further. Nicole Schumacher, Lynn Dolezal, Lacey Wozny, and Abby Schornack believe that they will have a great season and that attitude is a little thing that makes a big difference. Rhonda Marxsen compares the team to dairy beverages. "We were once good, but then we went bad, like milk, I guess we kinda curdled." But there is no one stopping Megan Cimpl. "I can go the distance! I am Tiger Woods!"



Fran Morrison tees off at the Scotus vs. Stanton meet.

Photograph by: Lacey Wozny

Kosch Claims Record en route to Shamrock Victory

By: Nate Tenopir

A potent offense and a solid defense carried the Shamrocks Friday night as they cruised to a 68-14 win over the visiting Schuyler Warriors.

In the process, Junior running back Jeff Kosch broke Scotus' single game scoring record with a combined total of 34 points. Kosch racked up five touchdowns for the team and added four extra point kicks as well.

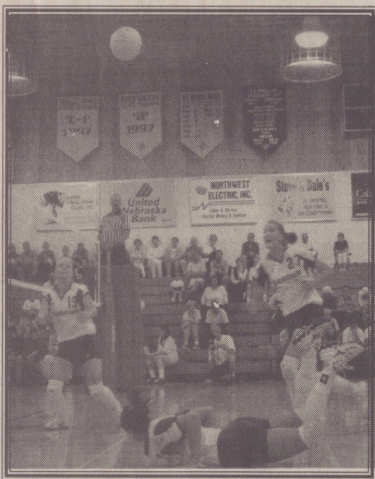
For the second straight week in a row, Scotus' offense dominated the game with 490 total yards. Much of which can be credited to an offensive line that led the Shamrocks to 439 rushing yards.

Scotus came out of the gate early with a 49 yard touchdown run by Ben Foreman on the first scrimmage play of the game. The Warriors, however, answered with a 53 yard touchdown run in the next series on a fluke play. The Rocks defense took over for the rest of the game and didn't allow another score until the fourth quarter. Within that run the offense rolled to 55 unanswered points.

"One of the worst nightmares a coach can have is when you play a mediocre team and you perform at their level," said head Scotus football coach Jim Puetz. "I felt that we played to the best of our abilities and made a positive step forward."

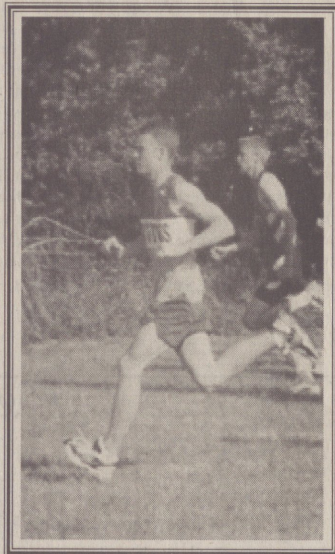
In addition to the touchdowns by Kosch and Foreman, Senior quarterback Eric Hinze connected with tight end Craig Mustard on a 24 yard touchdown pass, and Joe Citta had an 8 yard run for a score. The defense also added six points when Nick Korh intercepted a pass and returned it 16 yards for a touchdown in the third quarter.

"We've had a total offense of over 400 yards the last two weeks and a lot of the credit there has to go to our offensive line," said Puetz. "The greatest weapon we have is our offensive line and we hope to use that strength to make us successful." With the 54 point pounding of the Warriors, the Shamrocks improved their record to 2 and 1 on the year.



Amanda Sackett and Meghan Pile watch the ball after Heather VanAckeren makes a diving play.

Photograph by: Lynn Wemhoff



Sean O'Neill leads the pack of male runners at the Scotus Invite on Friday the 17th. Sean has continuously improved his times throughout the year and finished 13th. Photograph by Kristin Zach

Scotus Rocks Co-op Sports

By: Drew Johnson

Hold on to your knickers folks, fall sports are underway. However, there are two sports which don't receive as much recognition as others do. These are the two co-op sports in conjunction with Columbus High: Tennis, which includes junior Eric Spies, and seniors Ryan Tarnick and Timmy Fehringer from Scotus; and girls Softball which includes freshmen Amber Chatman, Crystal Kozak, Katie Swoboda, Molly Bolte, and Crystal Lux; sophomores Jennifer Kresha and Colleen McGuire; juniors Christa Buettner and Sarah Clonch; and our one and only senior, the infamous Melinda Henggeler.

The tennis team, so far, is doing rather well. The varsity team is 3-1, and the JV team is undefeated thanks to the help of Scotus' very own Timmy and Ryan. "Even though I'm worthless, it's still fun to participate with another school," replied Tim Fehringer on what he liked most about playing co-op tennis. The team is looking forward to district and possibly state competition in the future.

Along with tennis, the girls softball team is also looking forward to district and state competition. The varsity softball team has gone from a losing season last year to a 9-3 start on this season. Amber Chatman, member of the varsity team replied, "Since last year, the team has come a long way." The team is planning to continue their winning streak this coming week.

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The Rock Bottom

October 1999

Scotus Central Catholic Columbus, Nebraska



The 1999 Homecoming candidates are: (backrow left to right) Andrew Ingemansen, Sara Edison, Jeremiah Grell, Sara Peterson, Ben Foreman, Amanda Sackett, (front row) Robb Burbach, Heather VanAckeren, King Drew Brock, Queen Ceisha Kudron, Michelle Moser, and Joe Citta. Behind them is the scene the seniors used in their hallway for their theme "We built this city on rock and roll".

Photograph By: Lacey Wozny



Seniors Andy Ingemansen and Jeremy Cerny show how close they have become at the Senior Retreat. Photo courtesy of Jeremiah Grell.

Scotus Crowns Brock; Kudron 1999 Homecoming Royalty

By: Kristin Zach

After a nail-biting first half of the Shamrock's victory over the Grand Island Central Catholic Crusaders, the long-awaited 1999 Homecoming Coronation ceremonies began. Candidates Sara Edison, Drew Brock, Ceisha Kudron, Robb Burbach, Michelle Moser, Joe Citta, Sara Peterson, Ben Foreman, Amanda Sackett, Jeremiah Grell, Heather VanAckeren, and Andy Ingemansen took the field as seniors Angie Shemek and Amanda Trofholz narrated. The candidates for queen were escorted by seniors Matt Niedbalski, Travis Jarecki, Jeremy Cerny, Jon Jakub, David Gubbels, and Sean O'Neill. The girls, and even some of the guys, were wishing they were wearing something a bit warmer, as the temperature and wind chill were characteristic of a fall evening...very chilly. The shivering and waiting paid off for Ceisha Kudron and Drew Brock, as they were crowned this year's Homecoming Queen and King.

The Dance

By: Amanda Sackett

The 1999 Homecoming Dance is one that was made memorable by some new "firsts" for many. Students in grades nine through twelve and their dates filed into Scotus through the Memorial Hall doors and up the stairs into the gym. There, they were administered a breathalyzer test through the Columbus Police Department. As the students passed tests they made their way either to the picture line or downstairs to the cafeteria to get jiggy with the music provided by Complete Music. Some interesting photos were snapped by Goc's Photography including: Homecoming Queen Ceisha Kudron and her date, Tim Fehring's "hiking of the roses."

Students danced the night away to classic songs heard at all dances such as: *Fishin' in the Dark*, *Summer of '69*, and *Dancing Queen*. New additions to the song list included: senior girls' request for Britney Spears' *Drive Me Crazy* and one that very few could figure out how to dance to, *The Flying Dutchman*. Many variations of this dance were seen on October 15 in the Scotus Cafeteria. King, Drew Brock and queen Ceisha Kudron chose *Crash* by Dave Mathews Band as their royalty dance. Overall comments about the dance were positive, but several students missed the expertise of DJ Jay Kuecker in his absence from this year's Homecoming Dance.

Studs and Duds

By: Nate Tenipor

Dud: Pat Buchanan- Pat and his five supporters decided to switch to the Reform party.

Stud: Luxury boxes in Memorial Stadium. Money well spent for the state's best known quality.

Stud: Teacher in Ohio. Fights back after being bombarded by spitballs, throws several objects, injures seven.

Duds: Broncos and Falcons. Super Bowl teams are a combined one and nine.

Duds: Latin explosion. Do three people really count as an explosion. (Ricky Martin, Jennifer Lopez, Marc Anthony)

Stud: Jessie Ventura- Takes 'em all on in a steel cage match.

Dud: Platte River Archway- You can't play football on an arch.

Dud: Students- Teacher had a better arm.

Stud: Cleveland Browns- Score a touchdown and declare it a moral victory. Dump gatorade on the head coach.

Even More Duds: If that's a Latin explosion can we consider the Backstreet Boys, 98 degrees, and 'NSYNC a stupid white boy explosion.

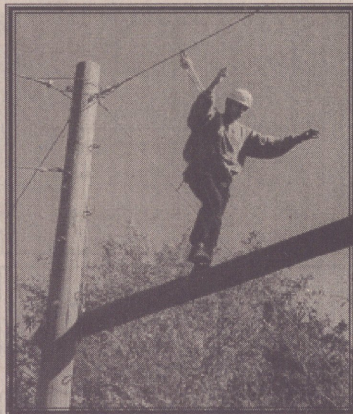
Teachers Bond At Timberlake

By: Megan Morris

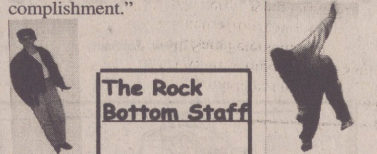
On Monday, October 4, Scotus students had the luxury of a day off of school to hang out with friends, sleep, or go shopping for homecoming. That same day teachers had a retreat at Timberlake, just south of Central City. Fr. Steve and Fr. Dave both took the responsibility of putting on the retreat. The teachers were told by Fr. Dave to go into the wilderness and think about how prayer affects them, where they like to pray, and whether or not prayer is something they do personally. They were also advised by Fr. Dave to include family and friends in their prayer rituals. The day was full of group activities and discussion, along with mass. Other activities included climbing a

power pole and walking on high ropes. Some teachers also geared up in cowboy boots and hard hats to go horseback riding along the Platte River. Can you imagine Mr. Jim Puetz in a hard hat and cowboy boots atop a horse?

Many teachers agreed that the retreat was fun and memorable. Mrs. Zanardi said the staff was supportive and the retreat was a great welcoming for the new teachers. She said it was a great way to start the year. When asked how it felt to be up on the high ropes, Mrs. Malicky claimed, "I couldn't put it into one sentence. It was like being up there for eternity. I was totally drained but had a big sense of accomplishment."



Mr. Lahm attacks the high ropes at the teacher retreat. Photograph by Mrs. Schaad



Front Page Editor: Amanda Sackett
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Tory Ketter, Megan Morris, and Rhonda Marxsen.

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Day "Teeters" on Bonding for Class of 2000

By: Kristin Zach

On Wednesday, September 29th at 7:30 a.m., 74 students boarded the Scotus busses and vans not knowing what they were getting themselves into. Sure, it would be fun to see someone climb a pole and jump off of it, but what were they going to be doing for some thirteen hours together in the middle of nowhere? In a word, bond.

Although Fr. Steve, Mrs. Schaad, and Mr. McGill kept the seniors busy with affirmation sheets, luminaria, and thank you letters, the Class of 2000 still found time to climb up a wall, "fall" in the lake, and play on the "fun thing." After some free time at the beginning of the day, the seniors gathered for a mass and class reconciliation. Senior Katie Nosal said that the mass "made us realize how much we all have in common. I could relate to many of the confessions." Senior Katrina Landholm agreed and added, "It put the day into perspective. It was a day to forget what kept us apart in the past and come together as a class."

Most of the afternoon was spent watching and encouraging classmates as they climbed the power pole, conquered the ropes course, and mastered the wall climb. A few strayed away to try out the canoes with Mr. McGill, but for some reason they weren't too sturdy and some ended up in the lake. The obstacle course, along with the canoes, made for some clothes changes before settling in for an "emotional" mass.

After mass, Fr. Steve read some letters addressed to the class from some parents. Earlier, most of the students read personal letters from their parents, another emotional moment for most.

The day ended with a bonfire started, and restarted, by Mr. McGill and Mrs. Schaad while the students were still at mass. As soon as the seniors were done with mass, they gathered around the fire and sang songs until it was time to go.

They returned somewhere around 10:00 p.m., tired, but full of energy and emotion. A day to be remembered.



Seniors Michelle Moser, Sara Naughtin, Amanda Sackett, Kendra Kessler, Sara Peterson, Kristin Zach, and Sara DeTurk take a stroll through the trees during free time at the retreat. Photo By: Angie Shemek

Decisions, Decisions

By: The Rock Bottom Staff

Over the years, there has been much controversy on the class flower and song. Many students find it amusing to make jokes about drugs and sexual references with the flowers and songs.

At this time of year, the seniors will be sorting through their options in preparing for graduation. Some feel that the song should be a sentimental anthem dedicated to the senior class. They also believe that it should represent memories shared and saying good-bye. Others feel that the song is part of graduation festivities and need not be so serious. Even a humorous approach could be taken.

The same could be used to describe the feelings about the class flower. Ideas thus far range from white tulips to poison ivy. Last year's class voted for the Venus Fly Trap to represent their class. It's good, some believe, to be original when choosing, but where do you draw the line?

The class seems to be fairly evenly split on deciding if it should be representative of the class with sentimental value, or a popular, but passing, fad.

Why Do You Show School Spirit?

By: Tory Ketter

Is dressing up for homecoming a way to show school spirit or just simply "uncool?" Well many people would have mixed comments about this issue. However, your opinion on this subject is your own personal belief.

Why do people dress up during homecoming week? Well, freshmen Diana Arp said, "Dressing up is a way to show school spirit." She also commented that she had boots that she was dieing to wear. Another student simply said, "It is just a lot of fun to dress up during homecoming week." Faculty member Ms. Miller said that she was dressing up to encourage school spirit among the students.

However, there are those students who don't care to dress up at all. Why is that? Junior Tom Gerhold stated that he didn't think he would look good in tight pants. Sophomore Lori Beller gave the excuse you hear all the time, "I didn't have anything to wear!" Some people think that it is a matter of being cool or not. I think if you want to dress-up and have fun then that is your choice, and people should respect your decision.

Homecoming week can be full of fun for many students who choose to show school spirit. For others who do not dress up, are they missing out? Maybe, but just as we respect the people who do dress up, we also have to respect the people who don't.

Here Kitty, Kitty,

By: Rhonda Marxsen

Chances are you have heard of the Scotus ghost. Most of the time it is just laughed off and many won't even think about it twice. What seems to be the real story behind the Scotus ghost? You may only hear bits and pieces of it at a time. First, we hear of it being a nun who died in a fire, but as far as we can go back, there is no evidence of this nun.

The more believable story seems to be that of Kitty Kavanough, short for Katherine. Back before our school was Scotus, it was St. Bonaventure's. Prior to that it was St. Francis Academy; that in which Kitty attended school during the late 1800's.

Kitty was born in 1880 and died on June 9, 1895, due to a flu epidemic going around at that time. She was the top of her senior class and was known for her talent in acting and in music. She would have been very young at the time of her death, only one week before her graduation at St. Francis Academy. I am taking into consideration that the age in which she would have graduated is correct for the time period in which she lived.

Now, going back into more recent years, we can examine some of the strange occurrences that have taken place throughout the years.

I found that one person at Scotus has seen the ghost early in the morning on the landing on the second floor. They described the ghost as a figure of a girl wearing a long dress, as if it has been dated back. They also mentioned that the girl had no face, almost as if it was shadowed over. One teacher who used to teach at Scotus was once trying to unlock a closet door and while doing so she felt something cold being pressed on her neck, but no one was there.

Some teachers have also claimed to hear unhuman sounds and other sounds coming from the intercoms. Sometimes they were from rooms that didn't have intercoms hooked up. Along with this a secretary who no longer works here claimed to have seen a lady in the teacher's lounge late one night. She did not know the lady, and when she returned from the office the lady was gone.

I have recently talked to a teacher who no longer works at Scotus. This person has told me some of the many stories about the Journalism room, which is now the old practice room. She told me about how pictures would disappear from the envelopes that were for the yearbook. Each day the Journalism room was locked up and there was no way anyone could get in. The next day though, the pictures would be back in their original place. I heard this exact same story from another source, but they included that one time the pictures appeared to be laid out in a pattern on the floor.

At one point several people were digging within the tunnels at Scotus trying to put in a new phone system. Several people would continue to see a lady, but it is said that they

(continued in 4th column)

were asked to keep things quiet. One of the reasons things may have been so "hush-hush" was because of a man from Wesleyan University who wanted to investigate the school for the ghost. The school officials would not allow him to do this, being as it may cause some problems.

Kitty was very much into acting and it makes us wonder if her spirit may have played a role in some of the props that have disappeared and reappeared during school plays.

A former priest had a man from Iowa check Scotus out for any spirits. The man had claimed that a spirit was within the building, but that it was not a bad spirit.

So I ask, do you believe in the Scotus ghost? A survey shows that 48% of the students that responded do believe in the Scotus ghost. Is there a connection between Kitty Kavanough and the strange occurrences that have taken place here at Scotus and is it possible for you to believe in the Scotus ghost without first seeing it?



Not So Dear Abby

By: Ben Foreman

Dear Benny,

I am a senior boy and really like this girl. The problem is after Pam Stenzel came and talked, I am scared. I am afraid, because I have heard some stories about her and some guys. Oh Benny, what should I do?

Dear In need of a girl,

Well my son, if she is a floozy and gets around she might not be the one for you. Just wait around a bit. A woman of your caliber will come around and sweep you off your feet. If you question anything dealing with that, don't take the chance.

Dear Benny,

I had a really great time at the dance. The problem is, my date that I went with was dancing rather close to me. I kind of backed off a little, but now I seem strange around him. My question is, why do guys act like this, I'm only a freshman!

Dear Dancing Queen,

Well, you really don't understand how exactly the guy feels here. First of all, a guy's hormones at this age are about 1 billion times stronger than females. Then on homecoming night you multiply that by ten and a guy will be out of control. I am not saying this is right, it is just the nature of males. If he is moving too fast, talk to him about it because communication is the key in all relationships. Next time just lay down the law with Chachi.

This is Ben Foreman saying "Good Day".



AFTER THE GINGERBREAD MAN RAN OUT OF CANDY, HE HAD TO RESORT TO PLAN B

BY: Drew Johnson

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“Building” Spirit He Says... She says

By: Angie Shemek

Spirit was building at Scotus the week of October 10-15 as students prepared for the 1999 Homecoming celebration. The week began Sunday with each class decorating their hallway for a specific theme. The freshman class chose the theme “The Haunted Hallway.” The sophomores turned heads with their theme, “Licensed to Drive.” The junior class heated things up with “We Didn’t Start the Fire.” Finally, the seniors provided a foundation with the theme, “We Built this City on Rock and Roll.”

Then, starting on Tuesday each day had a specific costume theme. On Tuesday we kicked off with cowboy day. On Wednesday students dressed as their favorite rock stars. Thursday took us back a decade to 80’s day. Friday was spirit day and the halls were filled with green and yellow attire. Each day winners were selected as to who had the best costumes for the day. Melissa Schmidt was our best cowboy. Nikki McPhillips was the best rock star. The 80’s day winner was Nate Tenopir. Drew Brock won best costume for spirit day.

On Thursday night the final preparations were in order when students, faculty, parents, and alumni celebrated mass and held a pep rally in the Activity Center. The band and choir provided the music for the event. The cheerleaders performed a dance routine to the Homecoming theme, “We Built this City on Rock and Roll.” Also at the pep rally the homecoming candidates tied their wrists and ankles together in pairs. Then each pair had to try kicking a football and hitting a volleyball through goal posts. While all candidates had a fair shot at the goal, the winners were Jeremiah Grell and Amanda Sackett.

By: Michelle Moser and Ben Forema
She says...

The movie, Double Jeopardy, utilized many clever ideas to provide for a very good plot and was supported by many good actors and actresses. It was about a woman who was convicted of murdering her husband who wasn’t even dead. The main part of the movie was of her plotting and awaiting her moment to reveal the truth.

The whole concept of Double Jeopardy was well played upon. Under the Fifth Amendment it is stated that an individual cannot be tried for the same crime more than once. This gave the wife the ability to seek revenge on her betraying husband without the fear of spending more time in jail.

I thought this movie was very good because of the fact that the plot was suspenseful and kept the audience guessing.

He says...

The movie, Double Jeopardy, was a movie that left me on the edge of my seat throughout the whole movie. The creativity and uniqueness of the plot made it an exciting ride.

The theme of Double Jeopardy was a great idea. It was used to create many sensations for its watchers. It was a new idea for the basis of a movie, therefore, I thought it was a must see flick for anyone.



“Survey Says...”

By: Lynn Wemhoff

Trick or treating time is here, Smell of candy is in the air. The truth is out lurking in the halls, While the students unbury their scariest time of all. So hold on to your masks, While we reveal the secrets of the past.

1. Do you honestly believe in the Scotus ghost? If so why?

“No, I have no reason to.” -Makayla Micek 10th

“No, because I have only heard stories.” -Gary Lux 7th

“No. I’ve been here by myself, in the dark halls, nearly till midnight, and I have yet to see any signs of a ghost.” -Mr. Arneal

2. What’s your favorite scary movie on Halloween?

The Haunting -Kathleen Ames 10th
All Dogs Go To Heaven 2 -Michael Mielack 8th

Home VIDEOS -Kristen Schumacher 12th

3. When is the last time you went trick or treating?

“Last year” -Jake Tooley 9th
“Two years ago” -Taylor Harsh 8th
“Fifth grade” -Ben Mlinar 7th

4. What’s your favorite candy?

“Hmm... I would have to say Pixi Stix and Peanut Butter M&M’s.” -Tasha Karsk 12th
“Green Skittles.” -Natalie Krings 10th
“Everything without coconut.” -Nathan Staroscik 7th

5. Today, what would you dress up as for Halloween?

“Scooby Doo of course.” -Travis Fry 11th
“A Powder Puff Girl.” -Meghan Bernt 10th
“The Pink Power Ranger.” -Ryan Zegar 9th

6. What’s your most memorable event on Halloween?

“Ryan Ames getting grounded for yelling at a ghost that happened to be his dad.” -Chad Trofhoz 8th

“When I was dressed as a polar bear, and my cousin fell out of my Dodge on the highway. I held up 2 blocks of traffic, but I took him to the hospital and he only had a scratch.” -Dawn Beran 12th

“When Dawn Beran’s Cousin fell out of the car.” -Megan Albers 11th

What Do Your Dreams Mean Part I

by: Nate Tenopir

Dreams. What are they? What do they mean? Well, in biblical times, humans regarded the act of dreaming as prophesizing about the future. During the Middle Ages, dreams were seen as possible messages from Satan. Dreams have been viewed as portals to the other side, messages from those who have gone before us, and even messages from ourselves. But no matter how you define dreams, you can’t deny that you have them.

Recently, I decided once and for all to figure out exactly what my dreams signify. Although there are several dream dictionaries out on the bookshelves of many stores, I decided to seek the wisdom of licensed psychologists who have written books on interpreting your dreams. Surprisingly, I found symbolism behind several dreams I’ve had in the past.

Falling and Flying Dreams

Have you ever dreamt about flying? How about falling? If you’re like the rest of us, you occasionally take to the skies or plummet to the depths. Flying dreams are generally associated with feeling “on top of the world,” an attempt to rise above problems, or a recent revelation that you’ve had about your life. If you feel scared while flying, you might be trying to tell yourself that you feel overburdened at school or even at home. If something interferes with your descent, it might be symbolizing that you are having trouble letting go of old issues or that there is a barrier between you and another person you’d really like to get to know.

As you probably could’ve guessed, falling dreams are generally associated with fear and unpleasantness. We might fear falling from a loved one’s good graces or from a position of power or happiness. If someone in your life has just achieved something spectacular, falling may mean you feel inferior to your more successful friends. The distance of our fall shows just how out of control we feel. However, if you do not find your falling dream terrifying, you may be trying to tell yourself to slow down and relax.

Success and Failure Dreams

How many times have you had a dream in which you failed some kind of test? Dreams like these are said to be mirrors of a situation in our real lives in which we feel we’re being criticized, examined, or tested. Often, dreams of this kind suggest we feel unprepared for the challenges life places before us. Dreams of this caliber also may be clues to ourselves that we feel afraid to succeed. If you find yourself trying to repeat something you did long ago, you may be telling yourself that you’re trying to do too much in your current life. (Stay tuned in the next couple issues for the conclusion success and failure dreams and many others.)



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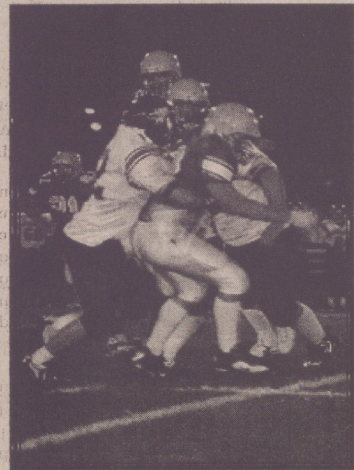
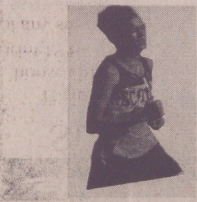
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Joe Citta tries to break through a tackle Friday night at the homecoming game.

Photo by: Angie Shemek

Scotus Girls Go To State; Boys End Season

By: Justin Avery

Many people who are not in cross country ask the question "Why... Why would you want to run five miles every day in practice and then run three miles at meets?" Here's what the senior cross country team had to say...

Travis VanDyke-"I thought it would be fun... I'm questioning my decision."

Katrina Landholm-"That's a good question."

Sara Deturk-"I didn't want to go out for volleyball anymore."

Sara Peterson-"I ran distance in Jr. High and I was good at it."

Jenny Levos-"I was sick of being volleyball manager."

Sara Edison-"I had nothing better to do."

Joe Euteneuer-"I don't know, but I wish I didn't."

Sean O'Neil-"I always wanted to."

Robb-"Uhh..."

The girls team placed 3rd in districts and are going to state in Kearney on Friday. The varsity team consists of senior Sara Peterson, junior Molly Engel, sophomore's Kathleen Ames, Sarah Karges, Cheryl Beierman and Brandi Olmer. Jake Otte and Sean O'Neill led the way for the boys placing 27th and 37th at districts.

Band Ends Season on High Note

By: Matt O'Day

The Scotus Band wrapped up its marching season with two strong showings at the Harvest of Harmony and Melody Round-Up Parades. These performances capped a banner year for the band, who received new uniforms and upset Columbus High at the Columbus Days Parade in August.

For the Harvest of Harmony Parade, the band was the second to perform. As such, they had to meet at 4:45 am on a perfectly good Saturday morning for a last-minute practice before the trip to Grand Island. Once there, they braved unseasonably cold morning temperatures. They received a two rating from the parades judges, the second highest possible.

One week later the band sacrificed another Saturday to compete in the Melody Round-Up Parade in Hastings. This was a special parade for band director Kristen Cox, a Hastings College Alumna. Many of her former classmates were on hand to visit a retiring music professor. "I was so proud," Mrs. Cox said. "They said I should have been marching with the [Hastings College] Alumni Band, the band did so well they could have done it without me!"

While the band has yet to be informed of the score they received from the Melody Round-Up judges, they are proud of their accomplishments this year and look forward to a great concert band season.



Robb Burbach pushes himself to finish strong in the Scotus Invite.

Photograph by: Kristin Zach

Finishing Up To Par

By: Lacey Wozny

The skill and potential that Coach Neidbalski believed this year's girl's golf team could display shined through as they finished off the season. A new team with little varsity experience was just one of the many obstacles they overcame this year.

Hard work, dedication and improvement were the key factors in the team's successful season. Their dedication in striving to beat Coach Neidbalski's goals drove them far and straight through September. This was cut short, though, due to the moving up of the State Tournament. Originally, it was scheduled for October 14th and 15th and was then moved to the 10th and 11th. So, after the Shamrock invite, where varsity placed 4th and junior varsity took 3rd, the junior varsity was finished.

The varsity golfers chipped right along to the Oakland Craig invite the following Saturday. There they had to battle wind and cold weather but still came out with a 420 for 3rd place. They knew that it would take even more than this if they wanted to do well in the post season.

They got their first chance to do this at the district competition in Wayne on the 5th. They had practiced the course before competing but still ended up with a 410 for another 3rd place finish. Their goal was still to break 400. This gave them motivation going into the State Tournaments. Lynn Dolezal said, "We knew we had to have faith in each other and in the end it turned out." It sure did. At the Grand Island Municipal Golf Course this past Monday and Tuesday, personal records were broken and team goals were fulfilled. Both Lynn and Megan shot personal bests, and led the team to an admirable 4th place finish overall. Cimpr shot a 94-92 and Dolezal shot a 91-89, tying for 11th place individually. Fran Morrison also had a personal best 93-97. Nicole Schumacher with a 95-101 and Kristen Schumacher with a 105-104 also helped out the team to a season-best total 373-379.

The whole team was quite happy that they'd finished strong and "up to par." Morrison said "The whole season went well and state was just the icing on the cake." Everyone was proud at what they had accomplished in the face of doubt. They're sad about leaving it all behind, though. The practices, the jokes, and the memories they had shared. Hopefully the new team next year will be able to carry on the legacy of girls golf that has merely just begun.

Shamrock Attack Proves Too Much for Crusaders

By: Nate Tenopir

Despite a little drama, the 'Rocks improved their record to 6 and 1 Friday night with a homecoming victory over visiting Grand Island Central Catholic. Scotus found themselves in a 6-0 deficit early when the first three offensive possessions of the game resulted in three turnovers.

The first offensive play of the game for the Shamrocks produced a costly interception. Five plays later, the Crusaders scored on a 31 yard halfback pass and led 6-0 until midway through the second quarter. "The turnovers really hurt because they ended some scoring drives for us early," said Shamrock coach Jim Puetz. Scotus however took the lead on a 32 yard touchdown pass from quarterback Eric Hinze to tight end Craig Mustard and led 7-6 at the half.

A muffed snap early in the third quarter gave GICC great field position and another scoring opportunity. On a crucial fourth and one, the Crusaders scored on a 6 yard run from halfback Andrew McCarty to regain the lead. The rest of the game though, the Shamrock defense dominated and GICC never even saw the end zone again.

A short time later, Junior end Joe Puetz caught a 29 yard touchdown pass from Hinze and the 'Rocks never looked back. Hinze also added another touchdown on an option play in the fourth quarter to increase the lead to 20-12. Jeff Kosch's 21 yard field goal late in the fourth quarter, sealed a hard fought homecoming victory for the 'Rocks.

"You have to give GICC a lot of credit," said Puetz. "They were the most talented and physical team we've played this year." "At the beginning of the year we expected them to be one of the toughest teams we would play because they were returning several starters and had many offensive weapons. We played a total team game and that was what won it for us."

The Shamrocks play their final game on Thursday in Wahoo against Wahoo Neumann. With a win, the 'Rocks can improve their record to 7-1 and be assured of a high seed in the playoffs and a first round home game.

Shamrock Volleyball Team Striving For Perfection

By: Michelle Moser

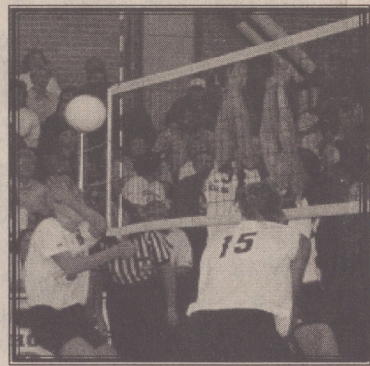
The Scotus Shamrock varsity volleyball team is currently 18-2, with both of their losses coming from age-old rival, Grand Island Central Catholic. The Shamrocks don't let the losses bother them. Instead, the 'Rocks took the losses as learning experiences to build and improve upon.

Soon after Scotus lost their first game of the season to GICC, the two teams knew they had the possibility of playing each other in the finals of the Grand Island North West Tournament. Sure enough, the Rocks and the Crusaders went head to head in a very close match. This time the Shamrocks sought revenge. The Rocks defeated GICC in two straight sets with scores of 15-13 and 15-8. "The victory over GICC gave us confidence that we can play with anyone in our class. It showed us that we have the opportunity to be a contender for the C-1 State Championship," stated head coach John Petersen.

The Shamrocks' next tests were Lakeview, Wahoo Neumann, York, Hastings St. Cecilia, Elkhorn, and a much improved Schuyler. The Shamrocks seemed to be on a roll until they faced GICC for the third time in the finals of the Conference Tournament. The Rocks were unable to get into their game soon enough to stop the GICC Crusaders. The Shamrocks were dealt their second loss with scores of 15-10, 15-10. "A loss is beneficial when you learn from it. We learned that our pre-game preparation was not very good, and we won't let it happen again," commented assistant coach Janet Tooley.

The Shamrocks' most recent conquest was a very spirited Lincoln Christian team. The Rocks definitely used their loss as a guide for improvement. The Shamrocks defeated Lincoln Christian 15-1, 15-1. "I think we played really well. We improved our blocking and serving which were two of our weaknesses," added starter Heather VanAckeren.

As the Shamrocks' regular season comes to an end, they hope to extend their season as much as possible. Every day the dedicated Shamrock Volleyball team and coaching staff are striving toward their peak performance for subdistricts, districts, and state.



Amanda Sackett and Kendra Schnieders team up to successfully block a Lakeview attacker.

Photograph by: Kristin Zach

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The Rock Bottom

November 1999

Scotus Central Catholic Columbus, Nebraska

30 Things to be thankful for this Thanksgiving

By Matt O'Day

Here are some things to remember if you have the holiday blues this Thanksgiving.

1. You do not have a spastic colon
2. No eccentric millionaires are hunting you for sport
3. As far as anyone knows, the creatures from the *Alien* movies are entirely fictional
4. Global warming may eventually result in the complete death of human civilization, but in the meantime the winters won't be so cold.
5. With the hole in the ozone layer, you can now get a tan fairly quickly in Antarctica.
6. Man-eating plants do not grow in the Columbus area.
7. Toilets can't talk.
8. It's still legal in America to stuff yourself full of candy until it makes you sick.
9. Even if your cat did want to kill you, it won't because it needs you to operate the can opener.
10. Hillary Clinton isn't running for Senate in Nebraska.
11. The Oscar Meyer Weinimobile is still fully-functional.
12. The odds are strongly against the making of a sequel to *Titanic*.
13. Saddam Hussein runs Iraq, not Nebraska
14. There is always a chance that the Backstreet Boys, N'Sync, 98 Degrees, and Britany Spears' tour buses will collide with each other in a horrible highway accident.
15. No one is following you around singing "The Song That Never Ends."
16. Even though terrorists could easily purchase nuclear arms from the former Soviet Union, they are just too expensive for them to waste one on Columbus.
17. People may make fun of your name, but at least it isn't Vercingetorix.
18. You are not stranded naked on Alaska's North Slope in a blizzard.
19. Your dog or cat won't neuter you back.
20. Scotus doesn't feed you to the lions if you fail math.
21. You have not been chosen to be a sacrifice to the volcano god of a small Pacific island.
22. Your boss is not likely to replace you with a trained gorilla because you work cheaper.
23. Oompa Lumpas don't deliver your mail or pick up your trash.
24. *Children of the Corn* is not a true story.
25. Neither is *The Brave Little Toaster*
26. The popularity of the Spice Girls is in decline.
27. Vanilla Ice recently admitted on MTV that he hates the song "Ice, Ice Baby" even more than the rest of us.
28. No matter how embarrassing your parents are, they aren't Bill and Hillary Clinton.
29. Lake North doesn't have a strong enough tide for the cattle to resurface.
30. There is a rule against wearing biker shorts to school on jeans days.



A Wish Come True

By Lacey Wozny

During National Make-A-Wish week, October 25-29, the Scotus Student Council's cries of "Help dying children" and "Give us your money," filled the classrooms and hallways of our school. Not only did Scotus play a big part in this effort, so did all other Nebraska Student Councils. It is a nationwide project, and Nebraska is one of its top contributors. This year's total reached over \$60,000! All the donations were given directly to the Make-A-Wish foundation.

Make-A-Wish was set up to benefit people who have been diagnosed with terminal diseases and incurable illnesses. Through the program these people are granted their last and often dying wishes. Some of the wishes granted by Make-A-Wish include trips to Hawaii, riding horses along the beach, trips to Disneyworld, and meeting famous athletes or movie stars.

The foundation gives hope to people who feel like they have lost everything. It fulfills some of the dreams they had thought unreachable. By providing the funding and setting up the arrangements for whatever trip or experience the person wishes, it allows them to do what they never thought possible. It makes limitations probabilities and dreams realities.

Last year Scotus participated in this fund drive in competition with North Bend by making paper chains. We came out on top last year with a chain almost twice as long as theirs. This year, at the football game on Thursday, October 28 against North Bend, North Bend raised about \$179 and Scotus had only come up with about \$136. This resulted in the Scotus StuCo. members having to do a cheer for the North Bend crowd during the game. At the end of the day on that Friday, though, after selling balloons at the game and collecting money during the day, we had a grand total of \$260.

So even though we got off to a slow start, we pulled it together in the end. All it really took was some persistence by the StuCo. members and our students and faculty reaching a little deeper into their pockets and coin purses. When I asked president Sara Peterson how she thought the week went overall she said, "I was really impressed by the generosity of people and pleased at how well it went."

What do you know?

By: Rhonda Marxsen

The Creative Writing students kept asking themselves this question when visitor Mike Knisely asked them to write down everything they knew to be true which others might not.

Mike Knisely has a major in English with an emphasis in poetry. At one point he taught in Arizona, and he currently teaches up to 5,000 students in English through independent classes offered at UNL. With this in mind, everyone in Creative Writing was anxious to listen to his words of wisdom. One of his activities included having the class come up with everything they knew.

Here is a list of what some of the students came up with.

- I know that trust is easily lost and hard to regain.
- I know that casts start to smell after a while.
- I know that I don't know everything.
- I know how to appreciate myself and others.
- I know that giving is better than receiving.
- I know that everyone is beautiful.
- I know that I am the only stable thing in my life that will remain throughout.
- I know that everyone has a story.
- I know that wisdom can only come through experience.
- I know how to make stuffed peppers.
- I know that if you look at someone close enough, you will see their beauty.
- I know that when I take risks I could get hurt.
- I know that I have to take risks to grow.
- I know that dogs and kids on bikes don't mix.
- I know that no matter how hard I try to stop it- time will keep ticking.
- I know that time doesn't exist except in the minds of mankind...time was a man-made invention.
- I know the fool is the most loyal friend on Earth.
- I know how amazing it is for us to learn to act human in such a short existence.
- It is safe to say that the Creative Writing Class can work together not only on the newspaper, but also on creating joint literary masterpieces.

Congrats on Your 5th State V-Ball C1 Championship

(Story on Page 4)

The Rock Bottom Staff

Front Page Editor: Amanda Sackett
Editorial Editor: Angie Shemek
Entertainment Editor: Kristin Zach
Sports Editor: Michelle Moser
Article Writers & Cartoonist: Lacey Wozny, Drew Johnson, Ben Foreman, Lynn Wennhoff, Nate Tenipor, Justin Avery, Matt O'Day,

Tory Ketter, Megan Morris, and Rhonda Marxsen.

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Studs and Duds

By: Nate Tenipor

Dud- Microsoft: Multi-billion dollar company slapped with a monopoly ruling.

Stud- 10 Year Anniversary of the destruction of the Berlin Wall.

Stud- David Hasselhoff: After eight years he discovered that *Baywatch* really had no plot and left the show.

Studs- Two Boys from Millard: Adolescents have the chance to appear on Letterman by creating music from their arm pits.

Studs- Payne Stewart and Walter Payton: Two of the greatest athletes ever, pass away as two of the most genuine nice guys ever.

Stud- Game Show, *Who Wants to be a Millionaire*: Goofy-looking people have the chance to make a million dollars in an hour. Just like Bill Gates.

Dud- Communism: Better luck next Cold War fellas.

Dud- David Hasselhoff: His singing career reminds me of the time I stepped on my cat.

Dud- David Hasselhoff: Sees an opportunity and hires the boys as backup musicians.

Duds- Overpaid Athletes: You can't take it with you when you go.

Little Things Make A Big Difference

By: Megan Morris:

The newspaper staff conducted a survey on events that happen in our school almost every day. We concluded that although these events are little things, they do make a big difference.

1. If you saw an underclassman being picked on would you say something to stick up for them?

YES -50% NO -50%

2. If you receive an assignment and you know the teacher won't grade it, is it wrong to copy it?

YES -61% NO -39%

3. Do you sing at school masses?

YES -46% NO -54%

4. Is taking more than two milks stealing?

YES -65% NO -35%

5. If you recognize that someone is having a bad day would you...

Avoid them? -29% or try to comfort them? -71%

6. Are your actions more motivated by...

What people will think of you? -41% or What you think is right? -59%

7. Do you give someone a compliment because...

You mean it? -90% or You want them to like you? -10%

8. If you are in class and had some piece of trash such as a gum wrapper, or notebook paper ruffles on your desk would you....

Keep it until class was over to throw it away? -34% or Brush it onto the floor when no one was looking? -66%

9. Do you see people do random acts of kindness at Scotus?

SOMETIMES -74% NO -15% YES -12%

10. If you found something like a ring, watch, or calculator sitting somewhere inconspicuous, would you.... Keep it? -13% or Hand into into the office? -87%

Does the cost of the item you found effect the decision? YES -41% NO -59%

11. Do you respect a teacher because.... they are strict? -34% or because they are your elder/teacher? -57%

Conclusion of survey Results

By: Angie Shemek

How often do we take for granted what a big difference the little things in life can make? Many times are we so caught up in our own busy lives that we fail to recognize what a dramatic or traumatic impact small and seemingly ordinary events play in shaping who we become and what we value. A smile to someone in the hall, a sincere compliment, respect for teachers, or simply cooperating with others can make the day easier. On the other end of the spectrum, a sarcastic comment, a sneer directed toward someone you do not like, or doing something simply because "no one will ever find out," can be equally important in who we become. These "little things," whether positive or negative, make the biggest difference of all in our lives.

It is often around this time of year that we are told to reflect on what we are thankful for. Perhaps, many of us would comment on things like our cars, nice homes, or our families. While these are all worthy of praise, if we could take a moment to reflect on the little things in life many of us would understand that we have so much more to be thankful for than we recognize. At the same time, we should also examine some of the less virtuous parts of our personality and reassess how these small gestures impact others.

An experience I once had with these so called "little things" was when a friend and I were having lunch in a local restaurant. As we sat eating our food, a group of handicapped people walked into the restaurant. They ordered their food and proceeded to fill their beverages at the self-serve soda machine. One of the girls in the group was only able to walk with the use of canes. Trying to be independent, she managed to carry her empty cup from the counter to the soda machine. But when she tried to let go of her canes to fill the cup, she struggled to remain standing let alone fill her soda. The person I was having lunch with stood up from her seat and walked over to help the girl. After she returned I thought about what she had done. In the simplest and most humble manner she helped the girl in a profound way.

You may be wondering why I would share such a seemingly small act of kindness. The reason is that is was one of those little things she did that day. While both the girl with the canes and my friend have probably forgotten the experience, it is one I will never forget. It had a lasting impact on me, and has inspired me to recognize the little things in life that make all the difference. Honesty, respect, kindness, and courtesy go much farther than we realize.

Not So Dear Abby

By: Ben Foreman

Dear Benny,

I am senior boy that gets made fun of for not showering at school, but I tell them that I like to shower at home better for sanitary reasons. They do not understand that I am not afraid to shower and continue to make fun of me. What should I do?

Dear Steelwool,

Maybe you should do research on the chemical composition of the water in the school's area. Then you can educate the others on the bacteria problems with showering at school. If this doesn't work, you will just have to invest some money in a good pair of flip-flops and a good anti-bacterial soap.

Dear Benny,

I am a senior girl and I have a boyfriend that I am ALWAYS with, doing things I would not normally do. Some things we do are rowing, scuba diving, and hunting with spears. My question to you, Ben, is: I love him so much, what should I do about the fear of college departure?

Dear Eddywool,

I do not find it a problem that you hang out with your boyfriend all the time in high school. Maybe it would be a good idea to start doing normal activities like hunting with guns, writing poetry, and spending quality time together. About college, you need to learn to balance your time between friends and your boyfriend. Don't lose sight of either one of them because they are both important in your life. Also, going to the same school is okay.

This is Ben Foreman saying, "Good Day".

Rock Returns in November

By Justin Avery

With the Christmas season approaching it would be a great gift idea to give your friend or relative a CD. They're fairly cheap and are easy presents to get. Here is a list of new releases and upcoming albums.

Rob Zombie American Made Music--My suggestion is to not waste your hard earned cash. This CD is another one of Rob Zombie's schemes to make money. All it is a bunch of remixes that probably took a couple hours to make.

Bush The Science of Things--If you like Bush then I'd suggest you buy their new released album. But if you're not a huge Bush fan then you probably won't like it. This CD doesn't have all the hit songs like you heard on 16 Stone but it does have the same heavy guitars, powerful vocals, and insightful lyrics you heard on Razorblade Suitcase.

Counting Crows This Desert Life-- This is a great album and appeals to people with all different music tastes. With songs like Colorblind, Hangin Around, and St. Robinson and his Cadillac Dream this is a must have CD.

Korn Issues --There's a lot of heavy metal fans who are waiting for November 16 to roll around. That's when Korn's 4th album will be coming out. The question everyone is asking is, "What will it sound like?" Will it be hard and heavy like their first album back in 1992? Will it have somewhat humorous lyrics like Life is Peachy? Or will Korn stick with their metal/rap approach like they did in Follow the Leader? It's hard to say. Korn changes their style of music every album they come out with. One thing is for certain, we will be amazed by the new tunes of Korn.

Metallica--The rumors are numerous about when this new album will be coming out. People are saying it could be coming out as soon as this month, as late as next January, or even that it will be some sort of Metallilennium that will celebrate Y2K. It is pretty much a guarantee that this album will go platinum in a short period of time. Metallica has never had an album that hasn't sold over a million copies. In fact, their three latest discs (Load, Reload, and Garage Inc.) have sold a combined total of over 10 million copies.

Other albums that have just come out are the End of Days Soundtrack, Mariah Carey, Foo Fighters, Rage Against the Machine, and Faith Hill.



Poor little Johnny knows now why his relatives always sleep after Thanksgiving dinner. Cartoon by: Lacey Wozny

FBLA Members Hunt for Food

While most teenagers were out celebrating Halloween on the 31st, FBLA members were out collecting cans of food for the local Simon House. About 30 students gathered to participate in a scavenger hunt where they were broken up into competitive teams.

Each team was responsible for trying to collect as much food as possible. The Simon House had given them a list of items that were needed most and then Mrs. Salyard and Mrs.

Matz gave these items point values. The team with the most points won. First place was given to Nate Tenipor, Lynn Dolezal, and Angie Shemek. Brad Balak won 2nd place and Katie Nosal and Mandy Beiermann received 3rd. The members collected \$45 cash and several hundred cans of food to benefit the needy.

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Seniors Dawn Beran and Amanda Trofholz act well thy part on opening night of the fall play of *Tish*. photo by: Kristin Zach

Tish Happens

By: Lynn Wemhoff

On October 29th & 30th at 7:30 p.m. in the Memorial Hall, Scotus presented the comical *Tish*, which was directed by Jamie Ferguson. For those of you who did not attend, *Tish* (Casey Birkel) is a middle-aged old maid who is very outgoing and adventure-seeking. *Tish* is determined to live a more exciting life, and decides to drag her two companions, Lizzie (Amanda Trofholz) and Aggie (Dawn Beran) along on her adventure across the U.S. While she about drove everyone insane with her outgoing achievements, *Tish* always found a way to get everybody in and out of problems.

The cast members all agreed that the play went extremely well. Through all the work of practicing and memorizing lines, there were times where everyone began to get frustrated. Meghan Berni (Betina Trent) explains that at times the cast would feel like giving up because they were getting tired of it. Other play members agreed that they were ready to throw the play book aside. "At some points it was 'Aggie' nizing," describes Dawn Beran. "But it was fun to be in costume, and watch Amanda in all that fluff!" It appears that once the cast were in their costumes it helped them get into their characters.

This year everyone enjoyed their character, and acting them out. Tasha Karsk (Sheriff Pike) admits that out of all the plays she has participated in, she likes this character the best. Jill Micek (Dorice Gaylord) also claims that she had fun with her part, and would be willing to play another character like it again. But Amanda Trofholz says, "Being that huge is definitely not my cup of tea!"

Overall the cast appreciated working with each other, and says that they all had fun. Amanda suggests that putting off learning lines until the week before opening night definitely made the play stressful. "However, getting to work with Dawn made it all worth it."

Other *Tish* cast members include: Amy Pemberton: Ellen Leighton
Angie Shemek: Charita
Sara Naughtin: Mrs. Hopkins
Jenny Krzycki: Calle Hopkins
Brad Balak: Charlie Sands
Dan Dvorak: Wesley Andrews
Lindsey Pritchard: Ms. Grimes

Macho Movie vs. Chick Flick

By: Amanda Sackett and Tory Ketter

She says...

The Bachelor is a romantic comedy satirically emphasizing a man's fear of commitment. Coming into the movie Jimmy (Chris O'Donnell) is seen breaking up with his current girlfriend, while just in the next booth Anne (Renee Zeleweger) is describing her recent break-up to her sister. As Jimmy's now ex-girlfriend and Anne's sister leave, Anne notices Jimmy. What evolves from this love-at-first-sight romance is a wonderful relationship. It is completely care-free and open.

After a few years Jimmy realizes that all of his friends are now married, and when he decides to pop the question he has a few slight problems. His grandfather leaves him a fortune, but he has to marry before his 30th birthday. His coworkers are busy trying to find him a wife, and after so many proposals, desperate measures find Jimmy in a church with hundreds of women. The whole while he keeps thinking about Anne.

As Anne is returning from her parents' house with her sister to talk to Jimmy she sees something she doesn't really enjoy. *The Bachelor* keeps you guessing what else could go wrong in this sticky situation and laughing at the satire of a man's failure to commit.

He says...

I strongly agree with Amanda on this one. Overall *The Bachelor* is a great movie. However, some would say it was simply a chick flick and not go see the show. I disagree with that statement. *The Bachelor* benefits both guys and gals. The movie portrays the unsureness of how Jimmy (played by Chris O'Donnell) wants to live the rest of his life. He second guesses himself throughout the entire movie until the end when he knows his love is for real.

We can all relate to this movie because our whole lives are based on second guesses. The movie is enjoyable to watch because of the good actors and actresses. The comedy is good and I kept watching until the very end.

So, from my opinion, *The Bachelor* is a must see. If you see it in the movie theatre or on video at home, you should be able to get the same fun out of it!

Survey Says...

By: Drew Johnson

Thanksgiving is approaching soon, so I thought it would be appropriate to ask a few questions about this glorious holiday. Here are the results:

1.) What's your favorite thanksgiving food and why?

"Cranberries, because they're shaped like the can."

Matt Niedbalski

"Mashed potatoes and gravy because they're so sloppy."

Ceisha Kudron

"Turkey because it's so fattening."

Jenna Hefti

2.) What's a cornucopia?

"A dinosaur."

Joe Michaelson

"A traditional Swedish dish consisting of potatoes, clams, and bratwurst on a sesame seed bun."

Travis Jarecki

"A citrus fruit relative to the tangerine."

Nikki VanAckeren

3.) Would you rather be an indian or a pilgrim and why?

"An indian because you get cool names and you can live off the land, but that makes me sound like a tree hugger, and really I'm not."

Mrs. Zanardi

"A pilgrim because of all the adventure you would experience."

Mr. Walding

"An indian because I could run around in a loin cloth and not get looked at funny."

Ben Foreman

4.) What are you most thankful for?

"A volleyball team that wears spandex."

Drew Brock

"A good education."

Nicole Frauendorfer

"A school that has Ceisha Kudron in it."

Joe Michaelson & Pat Schoecher

"My family. My health. What else can I say?"

Mr. Brockhaus

What Do Your Dreams Mean Part II

By: Nate Tenopir

Success and Failure Dreams (continued)

Dreams in which we do succeed, pass that test, achieve that goal, and receive little rewards might mean that we really feel unappreciated in our waking life. If we steal answers from someone next to us, or cheat in order to succeed, we may actually contain a lack of self-confidence in our real lives. However, when we do succeed in our dreams it generally means that we have a sense of relief from something that went on in our real life.

Dreams about the Body

Sometimes in our dreams we find ourselves dreaming about our body, parts of our body, or even being naked as a jaybird in a public place. If you dream about body parts, in particular ones you have injured before, you may be concerned that you will be hurt again in the near future. But this time it's likely to be an emotional hurt. If your dreams emphasize on your torso or abdomen, it generally means you have a fear that soon you will be hurt down to the very core of your being. Dreams in which we change size are attempts to tell ourselves that we feel defenseless and have trouble asserting ourselves in real life.

Losing parts of our body or not having the ability to use some, represent someone or some type of relationship we really want or truly need. If you're like myself and the rest of the population, you can often find yourself naked in strange places in your dreams. When we feel uncomfortable with our nudity when dreaming, we also may feel uncomfortable with our true selves and how others really see us. But, if we feel perfectly fine being naked in our dreams, we may be indicating to ourselves that we've just recently "shed" some attitude, negative situation, or behavior, in our waking life.

Miscellaneous

-Dreams about losing things are often metaphors for losing opportunities, relationships, or parts of ourselves.

-Dreams about being late highlight our inability to seize opportunities that we have in our waking lives.

-Dreams about water are often a symbol of our emotional life. If we find ourselves in deep, foreign, exciting waters it may mean that we have found our true love.

-Dreams about color, their meaning, and objects that may pop up as a result:

Red- passion, lust - blood, sports cars
Yellow- cowardice, distrust - the sun
Green- envy, abundance - money, nature
Blue- sadness, calm - water, the sky
Purple- passion - royalty, physical bruises
White- purity, hope - weddings, snow, virgins
Black- fear, peace - night, outer space
Gray- wisdom, confusion - clouds
Orange- assertive, lively - pumpkins, leaves
Brown- shame, comfort, nurturance - dirt

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Girls CC Prove Strength at State

By: Kristin Zach

This year's Girls Cross Country Team had no problem carrying the torch of a winning tradition at Scotus. But getting there wasn't easy. "We knew that it was going to be close. We would either qualify by a couple points or miss it by a couple points." Senior Sara Peterson commented on their close third finish at Districts. There was also the concern of possibly running without their number one competitor, junior Molly Engel. Throughout the season, Engel struggled with severe kidney problems which took her out of a few meets. She proved that she still had it, though, by placing 7th at the State Meet at the University of Nebraska at Kearney on October 22nd.

Engel was not the only member of the 1999 team who placed at UNK. Sophomore Sarah Karges finished 12th overall all. Sophomores Kathleen Ames and Cheryl Beiermann also placed by finishing 20th and 33rd respectively. The individual places and team effort helped the girls earn second place overall in Class C.



Junior Molly Engel runs her way to 7th place at the State Meet on October 22.

photo by: Kristin Zach.



Heather VanAckeren attacks a ball past a blocker in the championship game versus Syracuse as her other teammates run for coverage.

Photo by: Angie Shemek

A Weekend For The "Underdogs"

By: Michelle Moser

The Scotus Shamrocks once again proved that they belong among the best in the state on November 12 and 13. With the three victories, the Rocks captured their fifth consecutive State Championship title. The Shamrocks also gave Head Coach John Petersen a total of 498 wins in his coaching career at Scotus.

In the opening round of tournament play, the Shamrocks faced O'Neill. The Shamrocks defeated them in two straight sets, 15-0 and 15-9. The Rocks played a nearly flawless first set, but the second set was a little shaky. They committed a few blocking errors that cost them some points, but the Rocks pulled out the first victory of the tournament.

The second game of the day for the Shamrocks was against Grand Island Central Catholic, a long time rival. The Shamrocks, the underdogs, knew they would have to play one of their best matches of the season to beat GICC. The Rocks came out strong in the first set, which was more than they could say about their last meeting. They jumped out to a 8-0 start and finished strong to a 15-5 win. In the second set, GICC got up 10-0 when the Shamrocks put forth a come back. They came within three

points with the score 14-11 and sided GICC out numerous times until a GICC hitter put away set point. The run in the end of the second set gave Scotus the momentum to get right after GICC in the third and deciding set. The Shamrocks dominated the third set with great serving and passing. They showed great amounts of emotion while putting the GICC Crusaders away with a score of 15-5. Coach Petersen gave the girls two minutes to celebrate in the locker room, and then they needed to start focusing on the final game.

In the championship game, Scotus played number one seeded Syracuse. The Shamrocks were determined to remain number one and upset Syracuse 15-7, 15-8. The Shamrocks played excellent defense, served well, and improved their blocking. The sets were close at the beginning but the Shamrocks held them off to prove they were once again number one. "We played our best volleyball of the season at the State Tournament. Our goal was to peak at State, and I felt we did. I would like to thank our student body and fans for the support. The crowd was tremendous," commented Coach Petersen.

Shamrock Football Season Ends at the Hands of the Knights

By: Nate Tenpir

When you think of Norfolk Catholic football, you usually think of the pass. But the Knights used just the opposite to cruise to a 29-6 first round playoff victory over the visiting Shamrocks.

A solid ground game proved to be too much last Wednesday as the Rocks ended their season with a mark of 8-2.

"Our kids gave a great effort and lost to a state championship team," said Shamrock coach Jim Puetz. "Norfolk Catholic is a very good team and ending the season at 8 and 2 is nothing to be ashamed of," Puetz went on to add.

Things looked bright at first when Shamrock quarterback Eric Hinze took a fourth and two play from his own 38 down to the Knight one yard line. Joe Citta put the Rocks ahead 6-0 on the next play on a one yard touchdown run. The kick failed, and the Shamrock defense went to work.

Senior defensive end Aaron Krajicek stuffed a Knight's run for a five yard loss on second down the next series. An incomplete pass on third forced the Norfolk offense out in three plays and a punt on fourth down.

The Rocks, however, were forced out in three plays as well and handed the ball back over to the Knights. Soon after, Norfolk sustained a 68 yard scoring drive and ended the quarter with a 7-6 lead.

The Knights controlled the second quarter only allowing Scotus six offensive plays while adding 19 points to their lead. The game found its turning point with 8:39 left in the second when a Scotus reverse resulted in a fumble and a safety. From there on, Norfolk Catholic took a three point lead and never looked back.

Later in the quarter the Knights added a five yard TD run, a 14 yard TD pass, and converted on a 26 yard field goal just before the clock expired for halftime.

When play resumed the Shamrock defense tightened only allowing three points the whole second half. Scotus however, never saw the end zone again and finished the game with a 29-6 loss. The loss to the Knights was the second in a row and the second time Norfolk cut the Shamrock playoffs short.

"Although we didn't end up where we would've liked to, we're still very proud of our players," said Coach Puetz. "Everyone gave a great effort all season and the example set by our seniors can be a positive spring board towards next season."

With just 12 seniors, Scotus will be returning numerous players with much experience for next year. All signs point towards another successful year next season and another run in the playoffs.

I would just like to take the opportunity to thank the coaching staff at Scotus who put in relentless hours of work for the past three years that I have played football. Their determination and commitment to excellence can be rivaled by none another. I would also like to say thank you to all the fans for their support over the years and the parents who encouraged us along our journey through Scotus football. You have all made the Scotus football experience one in which the senior players will never forget.



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The Rock Bottom

December 1999

Scotus Central Catholic Columbus, Nebraska



Congratulations Scotus Band on a great performance at the Star City Parade in Lincoln.

Above Left: Mrs. Cox watches as the band and flag corps round the corner to perform in front of the judges. Above Right: Colleen McGuire and Gina Starzec march among other Columbus High and Lakeview High School band members Saturday, December 4th in Lincoln.

Photograph by: Mr. Cox

No Rest For Band During Christmas Season

by Matt O'Day

The Scotus Band has certainly kept busy this holiday season. In addition to the normal Christmas Party gigs and the annual Christmas concert, Columbus was the "Star City" of the annual Star City Parade in Lincoln, which took place on December 4. Scotus joined forces with in-town rivals Columbus High and Lakeview to form one "superband" of over 200 students to represent the Columbus schools. To prepare, the bands met for combined early-morning practices and also marched in unison to welcome Santa in a parade on Nov. 21.

The band members' hard work did not go unrewarded. Though Star City was a mostly non-competitive parade, the Columbus "superband" won the annual Spirit Award. One trophy was immediately presented to the band directors, with two more to be mailed to the other schools. Both the Columbus High and Lakeview bands agreed that Scotus should take the first trophy to recognize the hard work of the students and band director Mrs. Kristin Cox.

"To say these students are dedicated is an understatement," said Mrs. Cox.

The Star City preparations left the band with only six rehearsals to learn music for their annual Christmas concert on December 15. Much of the responsibility fell on the individual band members to learn their parts as well as section leaders to hold sectional practices before school.

"We have had some pretty intense practices," Mrs. Cox said, "which has made our band students work harder at achieving this goal."

Stud: Cuban Raft Boy- A lot of refugees take a raft from Cuba to America, but not all of them are cute little kids.

Stud: Christmas- Trees, presents, cookies, candy canes- need I say more.

Dud: Seattle Conference on World Trade- the only trading done there was a protest sign for a crowbar.

Dud: Mars Probe- Once again the guys at NASA spent a hundred billion dollars for a piece of machinery they can't find.

Stud: Santa Claus- He's fat, he's jolly, and he's got presents.

Dud: Cuba- There's no Pokemon in Cuba

Dud: January 4th- So school starts at eleven... right.

Stud: Star Trek Conventions- No Trekkie has yet been killed by phaser fire.

Stud: Martians- Just another collectible to put up on the mantle.

Duds: Elves- I think the Oompa-Loompas got a better deal.

Studs and Duds

By Nate Tenopir

It's A Boy!

By: Megan Morris

This Christmas season, Campus Ministry and Student Council are sponsoring a baby shower to "Shower Christ's Little Ones". The students and faculty are all asked to join in this exciting event. Fr. Steve and the President of Student Council, Sara Peterson, have worked long and hard in starting this activity in Scotus. It will run from December 6-20. Suggested gifts for this baby shower include bottles, rattles, sleepers, blankets, clothing (newborn-5 years), and formula. The gifts received will go to Pregnancy-Help Centers, Parishes, and Catholic Charities/Social Services. Points will be assigned for each item, and the forth period class that collects the most items will be rewarded with a pizza party. Let's all partake in the season of giving and make a sacrifice for those who really need these commodities, what better way to ring in the coming of the baby Jesus.

The Rock Bottom Staff

Front Page Editor: Amanda Sackett
 Editorial Editor: Angie Shemek
 Entertainment Editor: Kristin Zach
 Sports Editor: Michelle Moser
 Article Writers & Cartoonist:
 Lacey Wozny, Drew Johnson, Ben Foreman, Lynn Wemhoff, Nate Tenopir, Justin Avery, Matt O'Day
 Tory Ketter, Megan Morris, and Rhonda Marxsen.

In Depth With Saint Nick

By Matt O'Day

Now that Christmas is almost upon us we are surrounded by fat men in red suits. No, it's not the annual Kool-Aid Men of America conference, it's Christmas. Santa Claus' face appears on everything this time of year, yet we really know very little about this jolly holiday kingpin. So the Rock Bottom, in our continuing mission to bring you all the facts, sat down with Chris Cringle to shed some light on this mysterious figure.

The Rock Bottom: Thank for joining us today, Mr. Claus. I realize this is a very busy time for you.

Santa Claus: Ho, Ho, Ho! It's no trouble at all, and please, call me Santa.

The Rock Bottom: Santa, the one question that is on everyone's mind this year is, "What the heck is a Pokemon?" Can you shed any light on this?

Santa Claus: I'm not too sure myself, but all the little boys and girls sure do want them. If they're good, they might just wake up to find a Picachu in their stocking Christmas morning.

The Rock Bottom: Uh, Santa, this is a school newspaper. You might want to watch what you say.

Santa Claus: No, no! A Picachu! It's a kind of Pokemon.

The Rock Bottom: Okay Santa, I'll take your word for it but that brings us to an interesting point. Santa, you don't charge anything, and toys are quite expensive these days. How do you stay in business?

Santa Claus: Well, you see, before I got in to the toy business I made some very good investments. Financially speaking, they pay the costs for the toys. It's a good thing too, do you realize how expensive it is to shop for 6 Billion people?

The Rock Bottom: I see. But what about your other expenses?

Santa Claus: Other expenses?

The Rock Bottom: Elf salaries, reindeer food, sled repairs...

Santa Claus: Well, the reindeer pretty much eat what ever is handy. You know, leftovers, kitchen scraps, that kind of thing, and I've gotten pretty handy at fixing my own sled over the years. As for the elves, that's simple. I don't pay the elves anything!

The Rock Bottom: You don't?

Santa Claus: Of course not, why would an elf need money? They get all their food and board free. Besides, even if I did pay them, what good would it do them. We live at the North Pole! There is no shopping between here and Anchorage! Ho, Ho, Ho!





Y2K- Problem or Propaganda?

By: Angy Shemek

With the approaching of a new century and a new millennium, it is not surprising that there is some degree of concern about what could happen when the clock strikes twelve. We leave behind the not only the 1990's but, the "teens" of our calendar. We take with us two thousand years of experiences and intelligence. However, as the New Year's Eve approaches we seem to be forfeiting this knowledge and experience for hysteria and paranoia.

Some people are concerned with potential Y2K computer glitches, others are concerned with looting and chaos, while others fear the end time. Some justify their concern because of apocalyptic prophecies by Nostradamus and other prophets. Other people rationalize their concern because of all the media hype that has been presented to us. Many books have been published about possible circumstances as the clock strikes twelve. Some foretell looting, murder, and total anarchy. Recently Energizer Batteries distributed a pamphlet which encourages preparation for Y2K. It encourages some seemingly practical measures such as getting some extra food, or having an alternative heating source. In the end of the brochure of course it was stressed to buy your Energizer batteries. This little brochure seemed harmless enough, after all it was free. But as I thought about it more, I began to see the reality of what Energizer as well as hundreds of other businesses have done with Y2K. They have used the turn of the Century as a marketing tool. Obviously it has been not only easy but a success. Since no one knows exactly what will happen when we change from 1999 to 2000 an unrealistic fear has been instilled upon consumers and constituents. While each consumer may only buy a few extra batteries or other provisions, it is enough to increase sales for companies, thereby increasing their revenue through our manipulation.

One day when they thought the world was not watching retailers, advertisers, and the media had a huge meeting. During this conference people made plans on how to manipulate a large fraction of the six billion people on earth into believing that just because the calendar year is changing our lives will be either dramatically affected or ended. If we take a step back and look at the reality of the issue we can see that maybe its not such a big crisis after all. Instead it is hype which seems to be typical of any minor occurrence of this decade. We receive one fact, and hype it up to make it seem like the most interesting news ever told when in reality the fact is usually not all that newsworthy. Now I would like to present my contradictions and comments on the "Y2K Propaganda."

First of all we must look at the prophecies. If someone takes the time to read into these works, it can easily be seen just how sketchy they are. Some argue that people such as Nostradamus predicted wars and other worldly events.

(Cont. . . Column 2)

In actuality what he says in his prophecies supports these events, but does not literally predict them. As far as the Bible goes nothing of the world ending in the year 2000 at the stroke of midnight has been documented. Its message in fact contradicts this theory. The Bible clearly states in Mark Chapter 11 verses 32 and 33, "But of that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the FAther. Be Watchful! Be alert! You do not know when the time will come."

Another area I would like to criticize is the creative folks who have written many books to scare us. While these books are interesting, they should be kept in the horror or propaganda section of bookstores. They talk about drastic events such as looting, murder, rape, anarchy, and starvation.

Then of course there is the infamous media. Y2K has received a great deal of attention over the past year from the media around the world. Some talk about how we will lose all of our money, and the stock market will crash causing economic fallout. Others speak about electrical blackouts which would lead to death for those not equipped with wood for fire or generators. Even more of them discuss how gasoline will have the value of gold.

Perhaps instead of worrying so much about which of the dire scenarios are true, we should be spending some time thinking about what these people are saying and who we are believing. In case you have not noticed, some of the predictions are so far fetched that believing them really makes you seem gullible as well as ignorant. I know when Y2K Hysteria first began it was somewhat interesting, and I must admit I bought into it. Now though, it just seems ridiculous to think that because the calendar is changing and some computers may not work that the entire order of the earth and life as we know it will be disrupted. My message to you is enjoy the celebration of New Year's Eve! If you take my advice and I am wrong, you can contact me in my bomb shelter- I am open to rebuttal!

At This Day and Age

By: Rhonda Marxsen

On occasion you may hear of the parties that go on during the weekends. Some people see no problem with drinking, while others may take deep offence in the thought of youths drinking. Parents are always preaching about how the younger generation should not be drinking. It almost makes you wonder if their parents preached about the same things.

I am not trying to attack anyone or their way of life. What people do on the weekend is merely their own business. I am just trying to imagine the student body's parents when they were younger. My parents are almost complete opposites. My mother claims that she was always a decent child and would not want to upset her parents. Needless to say, she lived on a farm. My dad on the other hand has many stories to tell. I'll just leave it at that.

Not So Dear Abby

By: Ben Foreman

Dear Benny,

I am a junior boy and I'm going to Confession tomorrow. I've done a few things I'm not proud of when it comes to the opposite sex. Now the real question is, how do I tell the priest that I'm sorry for what I have done without sounding and feeling like a total idiot?

Dear Unchaste Confessions,

First of all you have to be sorry for what you have experienced in the first place. If you are truly sorry for how you have treated young ladies, you should be able to tell the priest. The priest doesn't look down upon you for confessing your sins but rather is proud of you confessing rather than holding it in.

Dear Benny,

I am a senior girl and the Christmas season is rapidly coming around the corner, and I don't know what to get my sweetie pie for Christmas. Do you have any ideas, considering you are a male?

Dear Honey Bun,

You need to consider a price range and your feelings toward this great man. Some things I recommend are a swatch with his favorite power ranger on it, their favorite Backstreet Boys or 'N SYNC CD, a pair of tight fitten jeans, or top it all off with a big bottle of Brut cologne. If you do get him anything I just said... you are an idiot. To shop for a guy is simple just get him a simple shirt or sweater. Happy Shopping! This is Ben Foreman, saying "Good Day." Have a Merry Christmas and a safe New Years.

I think that if we all examined our parents, we would be shocked to learn about some of the things they did when they were younger. I can honestly say that I don't believe much has changed since our parents were young. High school students are still drinking and doing the "bad things" that many have tried to control for years.

"I don't think that the values have changed at all," Derek Torczon responded when asked about the values of our parents when they were young compared to now. Perhaps it is just that we have more to worry about in this day and age. I obviously am not trying to promote drinking either. I am simply stating that while times change, the values of students may always remain the same. Having fun - no matter what they might associate that with.

No Wonder

By: Lacey Wozny

We all know that propaganda is what gets merchandise sold and that it is, was, and will continue to play a major role in our consumer society. Recently, there have been many advertisements done on various types of new 'wonder drugs'. These drugs are said to cure various types of ailments as well as prevent weight gain, enhance fertility, increase certain, necessary body nutrients, etc., simply by taking a pill. It certainly sounds too good to be true but maybe it's not, until you examine the side-effects.

You've seen them. The couple walking along the sand of a picturesque beach that is interrupted by a hopeful voice saying, "You can treat herpes with..." or "Its changed my life and it will change yours too." Maybe they need to clarify just how exactly their life was changed. Changes don't necessarily mean positive ones. They could be negative and unpleasant.

These advertisements, by law, all contain a short segment at the end of the commercial that spouts off the side effects. They are usually stated in a monotone, rushed voice that is nearly cut off by another advantage of using the product and then sometimes followed by another satisfied voice saying that they couldn't live without it. They really tend to contradict themselves within the commercial. Often the side effects that are listed would be worse than whatever problem the product is actually trying to solve. How much better can you really expect to feel knowing that even though 'Krilosec relieves heartburn for up to 24 hours...its biggest side effects include diarrhea and headaches.' Given the choice, I'd take heartburn. Other so-called 'wonder drugs' have even more serious related problems such as an increased risk of heart disease, impotency, migraines, and seizures.

In this month's issue of *Shape* magazine, one of its articles discussed the risks of taking certain natural supplements. It stated that last January the FDA (Food and Drug Administration) strongly warned against the herb gamma butyrolactone, a performance booster, relating it to 55 cases of serious health problems. In addition, it stated that Consumer's Union, editor of *Consumer Reports*, linked the herb found in ephedrine also called ma-huang, to 38 deaths. This makes power supplements look anything but supplementary.

You are also warned in such advertisements by the small note at the bottom of the page that blatantly states that 'This product has not been FDA approved.' This alone should be a red flag warning consumers of the risks they would be taking by using that product. So, maybe instead of trying out that new and improved fat-burning drug, you should consider what is more important to you: losing a few pounds by simply taking a couple pills every so often and enjoying your loss while suffering from nausea, abdominal pain, maybe, if you're lucky, even some oily discharge! Or you could shed some of that excess weight by exercising and eating healthier. It really is a wonder then why so many still try to take the easy way out with these new 'wonder drugs.' Isn't it?

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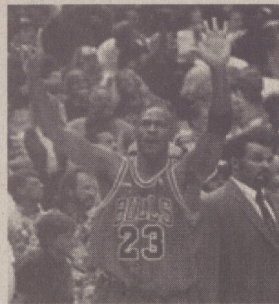
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8. Charles Manson
9. Gengis Khan
10. Benito Mussolini



Male Athlete

1. Michael Jordan
2. Muhammad Ali
3. Jim Thorpe
4. Pele
5. Wayne Gretzky
6. Babe Ruth
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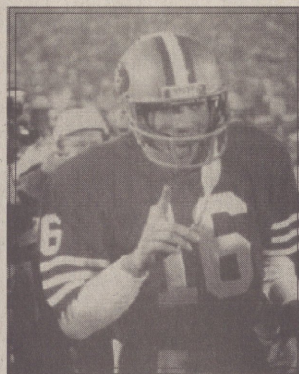


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6. TRAIN/CAR/AIRPLANE
7. RADIO
8. TELEVISION
9. MICROWAVE
10. COMPUTERS/INTERNET

Positive Influential People

1. Mother Theresa
2. Martin Luther King, Jr.
3. George Washington
4. Mahatma Ghandi
5. Princess Diana
6. JFK
7. Helen Keller
8. Sir Isaac Newton
9. Franklin D. Roosevelt
10. Albert Einstien



Female Athletes

1. Mary Lou Retton
2. Jackie Joyner-Kersey
3. Bonnie Blair
4. Garielle Reese
5. Billie Jean King
6. Mia Hamm
7. Nadia Comaneci
8. Picabo Street
9. Sheryl Swoopes
10. Martina Navritilova

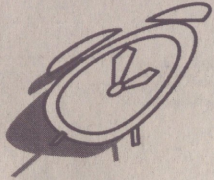


There's "snow" where to hide!

By: Lynn Wemhoff



More Millennium Choices From the Rock Bottom



Sitcoms of All Time

1. I Love Lucy
2. Wonder Years
3. Happy Days
4. Dukes of Hazard
5. Gilligans Island
6. Mash
7. SNL
8. Brady Bunch
9. Dynasty/
Knott's
Landing/
Dallas
10. Cheers

Rock Bottom: Sitcoms of Our Time

1. Seinfeld
2. Friends
3. 90210
4. Saved by
the Bell
5. Growing
Pains
6. The Cosby
Show
7. X-Files
8. Who's the
Boss
9. Charles' in
Charge
10. Frasier

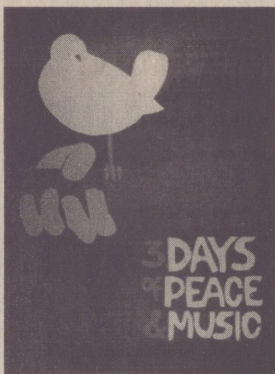


Cartoons of All Time

1. Looney Tunes
2. Simpsons
3. Flintstones
4. Scooby Doo
5. Muppet Babies
6. Jetsons
7. Fat Albert
8. Mickey Mouse
9. Smurfs
10. Inspector Gadget

Game Shows of All Time

1. Price is Right
2. Wheel of Fortune
3. Jeopardy
4. Family Feud
5. Double Dare
6. Love Connection
7. 25,000 Pyramid
8. Press Your Luck
9. Star Search
10. Who Wants to be a Millionaire



Events

1. Berlin Wall
2. Civil War, World War I, World War II, Vietnam
3. Columbine High School Shooting
4. Woodstock
5. Neil Armstrong walking on the moon
6. John F. Kennedy Shooting
7. Martin Luther King and the Civil Rights Movement
8. O.J. Simpson and his trial
9. Oklahoma City Bombing
10. Women Voting
11. Roe vs. Wade
12. Magna Carta
13. 1776
14. Railroad
15. Cold War

Movies of All Time

1. Wizard Of Oz
2. Star Wars
3. Grease
4. It's A Wonderful Life
5. E.T.
6. Rocky
7. The Shining
8. The Sound Of Music
9. Scar Face
10. Shawshank Redemption

Rock Bottom: Movies of Our Time

1. Dirty Dancing
2. Breakfast Club
3. Monty Python
4. Goonies
5. Billy Madison
6. Scream
7. Pretty Woman
8. Field Of Dreams
9. Animal House
10. Top Gun



Musicians

1. Beatles
2. Elvis Presley
3. Michael Jackson
4. Willie Nelson, Johnny Cash, Waylon Jennings
5. Madonna
6. KISS/ ACDC
7. Garth Brooks
8. Aretha Franklin
9. Frank Sinatra
10. The Doors
11. Elton John
12. John Denver
13. The Eagles
14. Led Zepplin
15. Nirvana

Fads of the Millennium:

Fashions-

1. Letter Jackets
2. Tye Dye
3. While Tee/Leather Jackets
4. Poodleskirts
5. Afros
6. Bell Bottoms/Polyester
7. Jean Jackets/Stonewash everything
8. Big Hair/Krimp/Mohawks
9. Doc Martens
10. Body Piercing

Toys-

1. Barbie
2. Hot Wheels/Tonka
3. GI Joes/Ninja Turtles
4. Tickle Me Elmo
5. Legos/Lincoln Logs
6. Care Bears
7. Atari/Rise of Video Games
8. Cabbage Patch
9. Beanie Babies
10. Pokemon



An Overview From The Aligning Stars

By Amanda Sackett
Capricorn(December 22-January 19)
Love: The summer months will be fun for you and that new significant other coming your way.

Money: Be careful with your income starting out this next year. January will be your spending month. Be cautious on what you're investing in.

Friends: Be careful who you trust. Re-evaluate your relationships early on to prevent having your secrets all over school.

Aquarius(January 20-February 19)
Love: Your slowly perishing relationship spices up with the warm summer months, but don't get too attached.

Money: Large sums will come your way, but don't be greedy you may need some charity in the end.

Friends: Trust those that have always been there for you, but give new friends a chance.

Pisces(February 20-March 20)
Love: You'll find a new love at work but don't let it interfere with your responsibilities.

Money: New Years will bring you a new raise with your growing relationship with your coworkers.

Friends: An old friend will rescue you late in the year from the hassles of your job with a big surprise.

Aries(March 21-April 19)
Love: Don't look forward to good things on your birthday, but take the time to resolve old problems to refresh your relationship.

Money: Save every penny at the beginning of the year, your attitude and motivation will be lacking later on.

Friends: Depend on them. When you need a break they will be there.

Taurus(April 20-May 20)
Love: A long time friend and old flame will rekindle your fire, but don't rush in you may lose everything you've gained over the years.

Money: Spend, spend, spend. You'll be rollin' in the dough this year.

Friends: Explore your intuitions about those new acquaintances. They may know just what you need.

Gemini(May 21-June 20)
Love: Look around, look eyes, and prey. You'll be searching for a new special someone after this New Years' party. Enjoy the hunt.

Money: Gifts will be flowing your way from a secret admirer which you won't discover until late in the year.

Friends: Problems may arise, and you may become irritated by old habits. Be patient and take a break.

Cancer(June 21-July 22)
Love: Several dates will lead to lust but wait for something more. You'll be happier with your choice.

Money: Save, spend, save a lot more. You'll want to save every penny early so you can later buy those items you just can't live without. Don't splurge too much though, you'll need to save up again before Christmas.

Friends: Start over with some old friends that have somehow disappeared from your life.

Libra(September 23-October 23)
Love: Look out you are the one to love this year. Everyone wants to be with you, but look at their motives before getting too involved.

Money: A raise will send you on a wild shopping spree. Don't spend all of it though you'll want something new just before the holidays.

Friends: You choose great friends, get in touch with those you've lost touch with before they disappear for good.

Scorpio(October 24-November 22)
Love: Your relationship flourishes throughout the year because both of you are under-

(Cont. . .Column 2)

Leo(July 23-August 22)
Love: It's in your department this year. Once you find that certain someone that completes you hold on tight and let him/her get to know everyone you care about. He/she is sure to love your family and friends.

Money: You'll feel generous between holidays which will make it difficult to buy for them. Don't be taken advantage of.

Friends: You'll question someone's friendship after a secret is spread. Get over it. It won't end up being a big deal.

Virgo(August 23-September 22)
Love: Learn to trust your instincts. You'll be between significant others but one will remain all year long-HINT-he/she is the one.

Money: Your family will always be there for a little boost with your cash flow but don't be too dependant. standing people.

Friends: Your boss sees your extra hard work, but he's just not convinced, yet. Sell yourself as a dependable employee.

Friends: Trust them with your problems. You'll be relieved to have shared them with someone who will give you good advice.

Sagittarius(November 23-December 21)
Love: Good things will come your way but don't miss out because of other commitments. You might end up losing in the end.

Money: Your money source may not be dependable this summer, but you'll get by with your hidden stash.

Friends: You'll have great times all year long if you unhitch from your other half for a few weeks.


MUSIC FOR THE MILLENIUM

By: Drew Johnson

If you're hoping for new music for the millennium, I suggest that you keep hoping. The end of 1999 is not promising when it comes to music, if you ask me. There is a new George Michael album coming out, not that anyone really cares. Juvenile, Mary J. Blige, DMX, Jay-Z, and Insane Clown Posse also all have new albums for the millennium.

However, post-new year albums are looking for the better. Pink Floyd is coming out with The Wall (Live version), Oasis is coming out with a new album (Standing On the Shoulders Of...), Smashing Pumpkins has a new album in the future, and last, but not least, Pearl Jam has a new album coming out after the new year. That I am looking forward to.

Finally, I would like to take a moment to talk about a few new releases that are both absolutely worth buying. First of all, I would like to recommend the new Counting Crows album, *This Desert Life*. This is one of the greatest albums I have heard in a long time. It combines vocals, rhythm, and essence into one package that will leave you drooling. Next on the list is the new Dave Matthews Band album, *Listener Supported*. It's a two-disc live album that is definitely worth your money. It doesn't get better than Dave Matthews first of all, and second of all, his live music is the most invigorating. This album combines the best of both worlds. Two thumbs up, if you ask me.

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Macho Movie vs. Chick Flick

By Justin Avery and Lacey Wozny

She says...
 If you're into mystery, suspense, horror or romance, you'll love *Sleepy Hollow*. It holds an element of intrigue because most have heard the story before but few remember all of it. This made many people curious about what this contemporary version of the story would entail. To me, this made it more appealing and also made me enjoy the movie more as a whole. Johnny Depp, who played Constable Ichabod Crane did a marvelous job of drawing in the audience and making you feel like you had a key role in solving the mystery of the headless horseman. The setting of the movie, early East Coast America, adds to the eerie aura of the movie and the realistic special effects. Personally, I was literally on the edge of my seat the entire time and was scared to walk out into the dark night.

In addition to the gory quality of the show, a romantic twist displays itself throughout. This doesn't make it any less of an action/horror flick, though. It, instead, adds to the suspense in the climax. Even though it doesn't exactly follow the original story line, it has a unique, creative plot that entrances its viewers. Overall, the this new flick ensures that the legend of *Sleepy Hollow* will live on in the years a head.

He says...
 If you're looking for a bone chilling, hair tingling, horror movie that will scare the living daylight out of you, you're looking in the wrong place. *Sleepy Hollow* has gory graphics and OK acting, but the plot could be better. The original version of the story is nothing like the movie and is a lot scarier. In the original version, written in the early 1800's, Constable Crane was a school teacher who didn't believe the legend. To prove everyone wrong, he stayed overnight at the bridge that was supposedly haunted. The town's people found him decapitated the next morning.

In the movie Constable Crane investigates the murders in the small town of Sleepy Hollow. He discovers they are being caused by a headless horseman. He then uses the process of elimination to narrow down the suspects in the town. I would recommend *Sleepy Hollow* if you're looking for an action-packed, exciting movie but not if you're looking for a horror flick.

Have a Safe and Happy Holiday Break!!!



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Will You Party Like It's 1999?

by: Kristin Zach

It seems to be the question on everyone's mind. What are you doing on New Year's Eve? With the end of the millennium rapidly approaching, the world is trying to decide what they want to be doing during that moment of transition. Whether that be hiding with their family in a bomb shelter with water and food to last a year or "partying like it's 1999" with friends, here's what a few Scotus students had to say about this year's New Year's Eve...

What do you plan on doing this New Year's Eve?

"Go to bed early so I can go to Basketball practice the next day at 7:00 a.m."
 Derek Torczon, junior

"Hiding in a bomb shelter so I can live past the year 2000."
 Molly Engel, junior

"Class party!"
 Anonymous Seniors

If you could be anywhere and do anything this New Year's Eve, where would you go and what would you do?

"I would go sky diving at 12:01 over town with my friends."
 Angie Boeding, 8th grade

"At Sugar Ray's New Year's Concert in Florida with front row seats and backstage passes."
 Amy Pemberton, senior

"The International Dateline, so I could be in two millenniums at once."
 Anonymous

"New York City!!!"
 62% of those surveyed

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Co-op Swimming Starts Off Strong

By: Michelle Moser

The SCC-CHS Swim Team started off their season strong in their dual competition against Fremont. The boys and girls both came home with victories. At their next dual, they faced Lincoln East. The boys and girls just couldn't hold on to capture their second win. The swim team's third dual was against Beatrice. Beatrice out-scored the SCC-CHS boys' and girls' swim teams to run away with a win.

The boys' and girls' teams have finished very strong at the invites they have competed in. At the Hastings Invite, nine schools battled against each other to accumulate the most points. The boys' swim team finished in fourth place, and the girls ended up in fifth place. At the Columbus Relays, the boys' team came home with first place, and the girls finished in fourth place. "We started off the season really well, with the exception of Lincoln East, and really kept it up," commented senior Brad Balak.

Many people from the swim team have already qualified for the state competition. Brad Balak qualified in the 200 and 400 free relay, and Katie Keller qualified in the diving event. The other Scotus swimmers are Jessica Chatman and Tim Sladdens. The managers include Kayla Dowd and Miriam Tworek-Hofstetter.

Co-op Sport Improving

By: Tory Ketter

The Scotus/Columbus High wrestling squad had compete in three duals thus far. They have competed at Grand Island, Hastings, and Lincoln Southeast.

The wrestlers this year include Junior Chris Hopkins, Sophomores Billy Brooks, Ryan Jarecki, Bob Soulliere, and Freshmen Nick Hall, Shane Kelly, Jason Avery, Nick Soulliere, Jerod Schademann, Ryan Jablonski, and Victor Tira.

Sophomore Billy Brooks attended the Kearney meet, playing on the varsity team and took 4th place. Junior varsity member Chris Hopkins has earned a 3rd place finish already this year.

Sophomore Bob Soulliere said that everyone on the team is working hard and staying tough so they can maintain a spot and hopefully compete on the varsity level.

Although they are a young team, there could be much potential ahead. If everyone can stay at their weight and maintain good health, they should be strong in the years to come.

Boys Open Season 2-1

By: Tory Ketter

Once again the Shamrock boys basketball season opened strong. They started with a win over Hastings St. Cecilia, 46-27 on Dec. 3rd. Senior Ryan Tarnick led the team with 12 points. Junior Derek Torczon finished with nine points and eight rebounds. A huge factor in this game was scoring 13 points in the 3rd quarter and holding Hastings S.C. to zero points. Head Coach Merlin Lahm noted that the rebounding of this game was very good.

Next for the Shamrocks was Omaha Boystown on Dec. 9th. The team out-scored Boystown in the 3rd and 4th quarters to cruise to a 51-34 victory. Top scorers for the Shamrocks were Derek Torczon, David Gubbles, and Ryan Tarnick. Once again, the team showed great rebounding skills to help in the win.

The most recent game, and the first loss for the Shamrocks, was against Grand Island Central Catholic. The Shamrocks played hard and rebounded well, but it was just not enough. The Shamrocks lost 41-47. The top scorer and rebounder for the Shamrocks was again junior Derek Torczon.

After three games, Coach Lahm commented that the team is really practicing and playing hard. Lahm also said that the Shamrocks need to improve their offense and score more points. Lahm was pleased to say he is happy with the team's defense. "Defense is our team's trademark," he commented.

Upcoming games for the Shamrocks include playing Pierce and York. The Shamrocks will also participate in the Holiday Basketball Tournament scheduled for December 27th and 28th.

Quite the Act

By: Angie Shemek and Lacey Wozy

This year the Scotus One Act cast had a successful season with their production of "The Window." They competed in three competitions this year and practiced mainly throughout second quarter. Mrs. Bernt coached the group of Theater students. This includes Scott Moersorn, Dawn Beran, Amy Pemberton, Tasha Karsk, Amanda Trofholz and Lynn Dolezal. Their first competition was in Silver Creek where they placed 2nd. Next, it was off to Omaha Christian where they brought in a 1st place victory. Districts were held in Wayne and the team was confident about taking first or second and therefore, making it to the state competition. However, things didn't quite work out as they had planned.

The show, they thought, was flawless. Mrs. Bernt agreed, and each of them felt it was their best performance yet. Dawn and Scott even received best actress and actor awards. But, when it came to the overall awards, they fell short placing third. The whole cast believed they could have had first place and gone on to do well at state due to their strong acting and unique play selection.

Nevertheless, the group will always remember their last high school one act performance as a positive experience that they will learn from and cherish. When looking back on the season, senior Amanda Trofholz said, "We performed well, and we all are satisfied knowing that we did have what it took to win."



Melissa Schmidt runs onto the court as her number and name are called as one of the starters on Varsity.

Photograph By: Amanda Sackett

Shamrocks Still Learning

By: Michelle Moser

The Scotus girls Varsity basketball team, under the coaching staff of Mr. Wickham, Mr. Arneal, and Mrs. Jarosz, started the season off against Lincoln Pius X. The two teams provided some entertainment for their fans. The game was neck-and-neck when the Pius Thunderbolts went ahead of the Shamrocks by three points with little time left in the fourth quarter. The Shamrocks had about three chances to tie the game but missed a few open ducks from the post area. The Shamrocks had only seconds to hit a three pointer. After a time out, the Shamrocks threw the ball in bounds and scrambled for a good look at the basket. With less than 10 seconds on the clock, Heather VanAckeren hit a three pointer from the baseline to send the game into overtime. The Shamrocks just didn't have it in them. The Pius Thunderbolts beat the Shamrocks 37-32.

Scotus' chance to redeem themselves was the following night against Hastings St. Cecilia. The Shamrocks came out shooting well and scored 14 points in the first quarter. Hastings gave it their best, but the Rocks denied them with their solid defense. The Shamrocks went to defeat Hastings handily with a final score of 47-24.

The Shamrocks' third game was at home against Central City. Central City gave the Rocks a run for their money with their quickness. The Shamrocks pulled through on the defensive end, while they shot only 25% from the field. The game went into overtime, but the Shamrocks used their mental toughness to beat Central City 32-28.

The Rocks' most recent game was against Seward. The Shamrocks were down by ten points at half time but fought to come within three of Seward in the fourth quarter. The Shamrocks executed their offense well at times but had a few breakdowns on the defensive end. Seward shot their way to a victory with a score of 34-28. "It's all a learning process. We are all still learning. We just need to stick together, and it will all fall into place," commented head coach Sean Wickham.

Speech Team Roars Into Competition

By: Lynn Wemhoff

The season has come where a sea of green sweatshirts, that say "Indubitably," take over the halls. Newcomers are biting their nails, not knowing what to expect. That doesn't leave out the others who sit and study in their little black binders. What is this when they decide to start carrying on a conversation with the wall? Don't forget the constant pacing back and forth trying to practice and memorize speeches. What kind of routine is this? It is called putting your heart and soul into what you are accomplishing.

So far the speech team is doing well. On November 14th the team placed second overall at the CHS meet. Some of the people that went home with medals that night were Amanda Trofholz, Emily Cleary, Nicole Schumacher, Lindsey Pritchard, and Angie Shemek. That is not all. The team also attended a second meet at Lincoln High placing third. Not to mention Dan Dvorak, Nicole Schumacher, Lynn Dolezal, Sara Naughtin, Casey Birkel, Jenny Krzycki, Angie Shemek, Meghan Bernt, Jill Micek, Kelly Gablenz, Amanda Trofholz, and Jon Balak walking away with medals in their hands.

The speech team seems to be satisfied with the year so far. "I felt that this year the team has a lot of potential," said Kristen Schumacher. "It is just up to us to make the best of the season." They are all full of team spirit and ready to face anyone who is willing to accept the challenge. Steve Ingemansen believes that sheep go to heaven, goats go elsewhere, they are the sheep, and the other teams are goats. Using his own unique way of describing the team, it does somewhat make sense. "Saying something is better than saying nothing," describes Caroline Luby.

Speech is not always easy and may be stressful at times. Abby Schornack explains that nobody is special. "I am nobody therefore I am special." If it is advice that you want, Melissa Wangler and Meghan Bernt say that you should be yourself not someone else. Speech can be fun and one of the best experiences you ever had. "If it wasn't for the bad times," said Rachael Mimick. "We would never appreciate the good times."

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The Rock Bottom

February 2000

Scotus Central Catholic Columbus, Nebraska



2000 Sweetheart Candidates from left to right (row 1) Katrina Landholm, Lacey Wozny, Angie Shemek, Queen Amanda Trofholz, King Andy Skarka, Lynn Dolezal, and Dawn Beran. (Row 2) Ryan Tarnick, Nate Tenopir, Tim Sleddens, Aaron Kobza, and Drew Johnson. Photograph By: Rhonda Marxsen

A Simulating Experience

By: Lacey Wozny

"Here comes the bride, all dressed in white..." Well, maybe not the "dressed in white" bit, but it is true that the senior class now contains 73 "brides." In Sacramental Theology, 3rd quarter is marriage quarter. Each student must find a consulting spouse. There were really no restrictions in this part of the project. Father Steve said it could be anyone, in class or out of town, any age, boyfriend or acquaintance. He even allows for make-believe husbands and wives and stated, "This is for your benefit. You'll get out of it only what you put in."

Due to the freedom of the project, as well as the natural inclination to procrastinate the proposal because of the fear of rejection, some interesting and rather unlikely couples were wed. Opposites do attract, though. For example, Jenny Levos is married to class president, Craig Mustard. As many of the couples are discovering, one of the spouses must take the initiative to ensure that the work gets done, that each person participates, and that the precious binder is taken care of. When I asked Jenny how her and Craig's marriage was going, she said, "I think he has forgotten my name, he now just refers to me as 'wife.' He has me do most of the writing and has called me once." May I add, she had a huge smile on her face as she told me about the status of their relationship.

As the couples deepen in their relationships, the binder each couple has been given fills up with wedding information, articles on marriage and relationships, and even ring and wedding dress designs. On the days that the actual marriage simulation is discussed, it is imperative that both spouses bring the binder and necessary information to his/her class period. Failure to do this, results in grade deduction of both partners. Some assignments require out of class work. This includes checking on prices and finding out how far arrangement and reservations need to be made. For this to work, good communication skills are vital. So, even in this way, the senior couples are learning the importance of communicating with members of the opposite sex and to deal with their differences.

Scotus Students Having the Time of Their Life

By: Rhonda Marxsen

As Scotus students gathered on February 11th to watch the Sweetheart coronation, tension grew as candidates for queen Dawn Beran, Lynn Dolezal, Katrina Landholm, Angie Shemek, Amanda Trofholz, and Lacey Wozny awaited for their names to be called. Drew Johnson, Aaron Kobza, Andy Skarka, Tim Sleddens, and Nate Tenopir also hoped for the sweet victory of being crowned king. Skarka and Trofholz rose above all, walking away with the crowns.

Following the coronation, students took their breath tests and made their way to the Scotus cafeteria for the Sweetheart dance. The cafeteria was decorated to the theme "The Time of Your Life" by the Scotus sophomores. This theme holds true for all those who attend Scotus dances.

When asked about his Sweetheart experience Skarka simply states, "It's good to be king."

The Rock Bottom Staff

Front Page Editor: Amanda Sackett
 Editorial Editor: Angie Shemek
 Entertainment Editor: Kristin Zach
 Sports Editor: Michelle Moser
 Article Writers & Cartoonist:
 Lacey Wozny, Drew Johnson, Ben Foreman, Lynn Wemhoff, Nate Tenopir, Justin Avery, Matt O'Day

Tory Ketter,
 Megan Morris,
 and Rhonda Marxsen.

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Studs and Duds

By: Nate Tenopir

Stud: John McCain- Unlikely candidate wins big in New Hampshire.

Dud: George W. Bush- uhhhh... Regis I think I'll use a lifeline.

Stud: Cheese- Advertising campaign assures that all of this year's candidates will love cheese.

Dud: Bob Dole- I think you're the doofus Mr. erectile dysfunction sponsor.

Stud: Aflac- Could there be a more catchy theme than a duck quacking "Aflac."

Dud: Jenny Craig featuring Monica Lewinsky- I didn't realize cows could speak.

Stud: Jesse "the mind" Ventura- Wises up and leaves the Reform Party.

Dud: Ross Perot- Reform party captain's ears kept him from seeing Jesse sneak out the back door.

Stud: Tiger Woods- Produces perhaps the greatest winning streak in the modern era.

Dud: L.A. Clippers- For some reason people actually show up and watch them play basketball once in a while.



Scotus Lights the Way

By: Kristin Zach

The week of January 31st through February 4th Scotus participated in Catholic Schools Week with the intention of "Lighting the Way to a New Century." Pride in Catholic Schools was celebrated across the nation, and Scotus filled the week with activities to make students and the community aware of the benefits of a Catholic school.

On Monday, the teachers and administration from all four Catholic schools in Columbus spent the day in retreat at the Benedictine Center in Schuyler. The theme throughout the day was fear. The teachers focused on reading scripture and meditating on how fear affects their personal lives.

On Tuesday when the students returned, the Student Council began snapping photographs of the student body and then displayed the pictures in the office windows at the end of the week. Wednesday was a faith-filled day with an all school mass in the morning and a speech by Governor Mike Johanns in the afternoon. Johanns spoke of the influence Catholic schools have had on his life. The Governor said that he is convinced he could not have been so successful without the background of a catholic education. Although the address was short, the very idea that the Governor made the trip to Scotus to speak of Catholic education made an impression upon the students of Scotus. Senior Sara Peterson, president of the Student Council, presented Governor Johanns with an SCC hat and commented that, "It was great that Governor Johanns took the time to speak to our student body. It really showed integrity."

The Bird has flown South

By: Tory Ketter

After nearly two months of practices, the production of Bye Bye Birdie is complete. Will the 80 students that made the production possible miss it? In some ways, people say no. However, there are those students that will truly miss the play.

Senior Sara Naughtin, who played Rose Alvarez commented, "The play was a dream come true experience for me and I will miss everyone who was in it."

The play took place on February 18th and 19th. A good size crowd came on both evenings. A taste of comedy and emotion was evident throughout the performance.

The play was directed and produces by Rose Braun and Jane Zach. Ms. E.J. Gardner and Junior Leslie Maul were the pianists for the two evenings.

A countless number of thank-you's need to go out to everyone who made Bye Bye Birdie, a truly great success.



Kim MacAfee, played by Heather Scribner talks to her father, Nate Tenopir, and mother, Angie Shemek, about Conrad Birdie. Photograph By: Amanda Sackett

Band Concert
 & Dinner
 Tuesday 29th
 Dinner 5:30
 Concert 7:30

Valentine's Day From Every Angle

By: Nate Tenopir

Valentine's Day, for most of us, evokes a whirlwind of emotions and an onslaught of feelings. All over you can see images of young lovers holding hands, flowers being delivered, and chocolate being consumed at alarming rates. If you're part of a relationship, especially guys, it can seem as though you're being pressured to express your love to that certain special someone. But, if like me, you find yourself single on this mesmerizing day, you probably dread getting up in the morning. Well my friends, worry no more. I have decided to compile a survival guide for all of us to get through February the fourteenth. I have theorized that on Valentine's Day there are three types of people: those with a significant other, those wishing to gain a significant other, and those who desire to stay single and really hate Valentine's Day. You should be able to find helpful hints on what to get your mate all the way to how to avoid being annoyed by the whole thing. I myself used to hate Valentine's Day because I got a lot of Valentine's from girls in my class. They always said, "Happy Valentine's Day, don't sit near me."

Those Fortunate Enough to Have A Boyfriend/Girlfriend

Ladies, Valentine's Day can be especially tough for you. What gift can you buy for a guy on a day filled with romance? Although I don't recommend candy or stuff like that, whatever you give should send a message about how much you value your relationship. There's no need for it to be elaborate or expensive but it should be thoughtful and caring. Guys, the same goes for you. However, you have the good fortune to give your mate flowers, candy, and all those usual gifts. But, you have to be careful when giving gifts because even candy can send the wrong message. I have created my own little list of do's and don'ts when giving your girlfriend a Valentine's Day gift. Do not buy one of those pre-packed candy boxes, it tells her she was just an afterthought. Do not send the "Valentine's Day Special" from 1-800 flowers. It says you have no imagination. If you want to send flowers, go to your local florist and have them create a special bouquet of her favorite flowers. Do not get a card from the drugstore featuring Leo the Lion declaring "I love you this much!" It's tacky and sends the message that you're not serious about the relationship. If she has a silver necklace, do buy her a silver bracelet that matches. She'll wear it and think of you when she does. **Those Wishing to Gain a Relationship on Valentine's Day**

If you're single on Valentine's Day and wish the tables could be turned, you can find the whole experience quite depressing. Around every corner there's lovers hanging on one another and they're all in a cheery mood. Without anyone to share this special day with, you could soon join the ranks of the "I hate Valentine's Day" people. So take a chance. Love obviously is in the air and on everyone's mind. Find that one you've been wishing on for the longest time and go for it.

If you're a doofus like I am, you might as well use a stupid pick-up line to let the person know you're fun to be with. But I've come up with an error free method of getting that special someone on Valentine's Day. First, light your hair on fire and place a live salmon in your vest pocket to attract them. You know you're in love when they can enjoy you're salmon. Then show your love by doing interpretive dancing with fluorescent lightbulbs, followed by splashing multicolored dayglow on you legs. Finally, go for dinner at McDonald's. You know they care when there's an absence of violence and lawsuits.

Those Who Hate Valentine's Day

Those of us who have a personal vendetta against Valentine's Day can find the whole thing infuriating. You can smell the flowers and candy when you wake up and your day is instantly ruined. Without any way out, you feel trapped. Well, be unhappy no longer my friends. Here's a couple suggestions to survive the hell on earth you call Valentine's Day. First, Valentine's Day is named after a saint, therefore it is not a Jewish holiday. Simply, convert. Second, you could always march down to your local Hallmark. Since they "created" this holiday, why not go directly to the source. Finally, if you come in contact with any couples in the halls, exclaim loudly to one of them, "Why didn't you call me! You told me our passionate love could never die. Who the heck is this loser? Don't you know he/she can never love you like I can? You're coming with me." Happy Valentine's Day to All!

Not So Dear Abby

By: Ben Foreman

Dear Benny,

I am a senior guy and I am stuck in an all girls' leisure activities class. The problem is I feel like they are questioning my masculinity. My other question is that I am not very coordinated with my racquetball skills and when I play other guys I feel inadequate. Oh Benny, what should I do?

Dear Girly Man,

I am sorry son this is a problem that even I cannot offer sound advice. Maybe this is an advantage to you for the reason of showing you are not a girly man and hooking up with one of the fine young ladies in the leisure course could be a great advantage for you. If racquetball is not your sport, don't play.

Dear Benny,

I am an underclassman and people say I am hard to be around because of my foul body odor. I tell them I shower, but in my own sweat. Wouldn't that count? I really don't know what to do.

Dear B.O. Boy,

This situation is easy as one, two, three. One, take a shower with water not your own sweat. Two, use a good lather of soap about your body and shampoo for your hair. Three, use deodorant and do all this on a daily basis. If this process is used you will be easy to be around and people will stop talking out your foul body odor. This is Ben Foreman saying, "Good Day!"

Life's a Dance

By: Angie Shemek

The other day while reminiscing over the years of high school with some friends I thought of how fast high school has gone. There were the good times, the bad times, and of course the big events, such as dances. When I was a freshman in 1996, I recall all the excitement of preparing for our first Homecoming and Sweetheart Dances. We spent time shopping for dresses, looking at jewelry, and dreaming of our dream date. Next, we had to decide how we would fix our hair and how we would get to the dance. I recall being so excited to be going to a high school dance. In most of our minds the idea of these dances was a fairy tale. We dreamed of a Homecoming dance similar to one we had seen on movies. We hoped to arrive in limousines wearing beautiful dresses with immaculate hair and have a perfect evening.

In the end most of us ended up wearing a dress that did not quite meet the criteria of the dream dress, and probably did not get to have our hair professionally fixed. As far as the dates, for those lucky enough to have a date it was still the same boy who sat by you in science class during fifth period instead of the hunk in the movies we hoped he would magically become. When we arrived at the dance we still found our trusty ole' Scotus cafeteria (with the addition of some crepe paper), but managed to have a good time nonetheless. The first high school dance turned out to be a memorable event, even though the smell of chili from that day's lunch lingered in the air. It was not the fantasy many of us hoped it would be, but isn't that the way that life works out to be sometimes?

As high school and life continue on, a lesson can be taken from the reality that begins to unfold. Life will always have its ups, downs, and big events. Life is simply not like it is in the movies. Just as many of us wanted that first Homecoming and Sweetheart dance to be a dream, we often hope that life will be a fantasy. We hope that what we know as every day life will transform into some magical world where every event goes perfectly and we will live in eternal bliss. Life could be that way if it took place in thirty minute intervals with commercial breaks in between. Since it doesn't I guess we just have to remember this. During high school, the weekends will only be as fun as you make them, and the classes will only be interesting if you get involved. After that, college will not be a perpetual party, and being an adult will bring about Fr. Steve's classic lesson: "With freedom comes responsibility." No one's life is a fantasy, but making the most of what you experience can make life interesting and fun. High school is an experience you have once in your life, and it is up to you to make it memorable. Life is something you can never live again, and it is up to you to choose how to spend what you have been given.

Rest In Peace, Charlie Brown

By: Matt O'Day

On the morning of Sunday, February 13 the world said good-bye both to the Peanuts comic strip and its creator, Charles Schultz. Schultz, who was 77 years old, had drawn the strip for nearly fifty years. He had announced his retirement from cartooning in December, after a long battle with colon cancer. He had planned to spend his remaining years with his family. Instead he passed away quietly during the early morning hours, just as much of the world awoke to the Peanuts farewell.

Schultz's estate is estimated to be worth hundreds of millions of dollars. Schultz was perhaps the most successful cartoonist ever. His family inherited the rights to the Peanuts name and characters, merchandise rights, the much beloved animated Peanuts specials, and royalties from Snoopy's appearances in Met Life Insurance commercials.

Schultz's legacy to the rest of us is far more valuable. During its half-century run Peanuts made us smile at Snoopy's wild fantasies as "The Famous World War One Flying Ace". It made us laugh at Linus waiting each year for the coming of the Great Pumpkin. It tugged on our heart strings while we watched Charlie Brown struggling to kick the football, and waiting desperately for a valentine from "the little redheaded girl". The last fifty years have seen tremendous change, but the trials of the Peanuts kids remained the same. Every year on Halloween Linus would be in the pumpkin patch, and every year he would be just as disappointed the day afterwards.

We can take comfort in the fact that he will for at least one more Halloween. Peanuts will finish the year reprinting old strips. It seems fitting that even the death of his creator could not keep Charlie Brown away from his mailbox the next morning. After all, that valentine might come this year, or maybe the next.

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Spending on Valentine's Day

Survey Says...

By: Amanda Sackett

Society has found yet another excuse for spending money to express one's love and affection toward another. Surveys seem to be taken for every other occasion, so here are the questions and responses from the freshman, sophomore, junior, and senior classes of Scotus.

1. What is the worst Valentine's Day gift you have ever received?

29% of those completing the survey said not receiving anything on the big day was the worst gift.

26% could not remember, aren't sure, or have not received a gift.

10% received bad candy.
4% said clothes and undergarments were the worst.

3% were given school materials (rulers, binders, etc.).

3% received flowers both dead and alive.

3% said they never received bad gifts.

2% got stuffed animals.

18% had various other responses.

A few suggestions of what not to get for that special someone this year or next year were:

"5 gallon bucket with a rubber ducky inside." Ryan Zegar

"A gift certificate from Shephard's Staff." Craig Pekny

"Socks in a Valentine's cup." Amy Bergland

"A He-man Valentine from a boy I hated, asking me to marry him in second grade." Heather Scribner

"An old shoe that had car fresheners in it." Travis Van Dyke

2. Who and when was your first kiss?
47% can't remember or just aren't telling who.

23% were first kissed by mom/dad, a relative, or a pet.

7% are still waiting.
23% other.

Here are a few notable first kisses.

"Elmo from Sesame Street Live after the show when I was five." Lauren Maul

"Ceisha K. - 7th grade" Drew Johnson

"Drew Johnson." Ceisha Kudron

3. How much money would you spend for Valentine's Day?

17% said, "It depends."
15% \$1-\$15

23% \$15-\$50
45% other

Girls, here is a clue who to date and who not to date.

Mark Patocka said, "As much as the girl wants me to."

Mike Schure said, "If I had a nickel in my pocket, I might consider keeping it."

Take your pick.

4. What would you do if your valentine surprised you in front of the whole school?

27% would be embarrassed.
22% would enjoy it.

7% would be angry
44% other.

"Obviously my Valentine would be my wife.

If she were to show up on Valentine's Day at school it would be one of two things: which kid(s) is sick and how bad and who wrecked the van." Mr. Pat Brockhaus

"I would like it! I would like to see it happen-actually I would probably be pretty embarrassed." Josh Rickert

"That would be an awkward start to a first date, but if it was at an assembly that we got out of school for, I'm all for it." Mr. Nathan Arneal

"Surprise them right back by kissing them in front of the whole school." David Gubbels

"I would go give him a kiss in front of the whole school." Karen Gubbels

Macho Movie Metallica... Live v.s. Chick Flick and Kickin'

By: Rhonda Marxsen and Drew Johnson

She Said:

In the movie *Girl, Interrupted* Susanna Kaysen, played by Winona Ryder, finds her life becoming too dense with decisions on what she wants to do in life. Most of Susanna's classmates are going off to college while she is not. The only thing she knows she wants to do in life is write. Stressed out by society, Susanna chases down a bottle of aspirin with a bottle of vodka and finds herself hospitalized for her failed attempt at suicide. Soon after this, her parents have her sign into Claymore, a mental institution not far away. The movie is basically about her experience at the institution and the other patients she befriends. Lisa, played by Angelina Jolie, is a patient who is more like a controlling leader for the rest of the patients and becomes best friends with Susanna. Susanna keeps a journal about her stay at Claymore. Her entries tell about life and express how her mind works. However, she seems to keep a level of humor in her entries.

I think that the title of the movie shows how Susanna is interrupted by the society that labels her insane. I'm not sure if I love this movie or if I hate it. Perhaps it just majorly confuses me. Watch it for yourself and you will understand what I mean. *Girl, Interrupted* is strange and frustrating but is definitely worth the money it costs to see it. I give it one thumb up and one thumb down.

He Said:

Well, to be honest with you, the movie *Girl, Interrupted* is really not that good. I don't understand the title of the movie because nothing really happens in the course of the movie that is somewhat interesting. There are a few good scenes that keep you interested, but for the most part it is rather boring. I could not figure out the plot of the story for my life, but it is definitely not worth the money. I give it two thumbs down.

By: Justin Avery

One of the most talked about issues in the music world today is the latest Metallica album labeled "S&M." It is composed of Metallica playing in front of a sell out crowd with the San Francisco orchestra. This album is a pure masterpiece. Metallica did something that most bands don't do; something different. How many times has a band just picked out a concert that they liked and made a "live" CD out of it? What is the point of having a "live" disc if it doesn't sound better than when it was recorded in the studio? Metallica is getting much deserved praise for putting on a great show by adding a brilliant symphony in the background. Something that has never been done by a hard rock band.

There have been other bands who have made extraordinary live albums. AC/DC made their best selling album with *AC/DC Live*. The band chose their favorite and most popular songs. They then went through recordings of all their concerts until they found the songs that really stuck out.

Nirvana has a very special live album *Unplugged in New York* which was the last concert they did before Kurt Cobain committed suicide. It was an extremely emotional and sad display by Cobain.

It's too often that a band will put a live disc out just to make money. They will put little or no effort in their work. For example, the latest Guns 'N Roses album, which is entitled "Live Era 87-93," is like most attempts at a live album; very poorly done. There is no point in buying this double-disc since the songs don't sound any different than when they were recorded in the studio, aside from the lack of high technology used in the studio to make Axl's voice sound smoother.

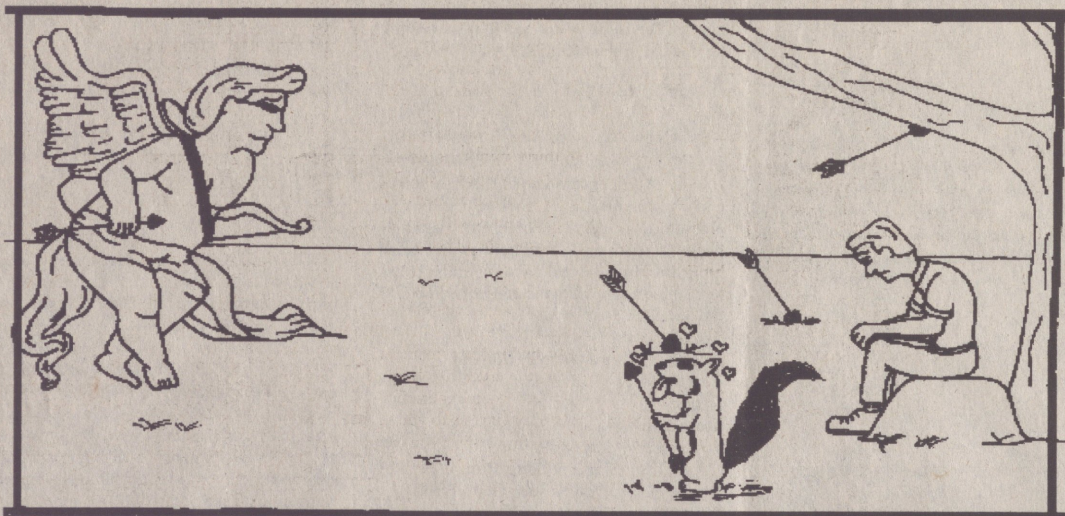
In other music news, Smashing Pumpkins will be coming out with their new CD on February 29th along with Oasis. The *Scream 3* Soundtrack will also be coming out soon, which will include tracks from Creed, Godsmack, Sevendust, Fuel, and others.

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By: Lynn Wemhoff

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Speaking Up

By: Lacey Wozny

What does stupidity, maggots, biker moms, playing cards and various irrelevant foreign affairs have in common? All of these things are examples of speech topics for members of the Scotus Speech Team. If you asked this question of Nate Tenopir, Nicole Schumacher, Emily Cleary or Lynn Dolezal, who are actually using them as their topics this year, they would probably tell you the same. Each of the above topics is for a different competitive category and is selected by the contestant after much creative thought. The thought process of the speaker varies, however.

In all but two categories, the topics are selected and scripts are prepared and memorized months or weeks ahead of time. Then the rest of the season is spent making the necessary adjustments and improvements to polish them so they are primed for districts and state. The poetry, duet and group oral interpretations of drama are categories that require the use of scripts. All others should be off script or have a notecard. Speech contests do pay special attention to those who would rather not have a prepared speech in advance and would instead like to use their sporadic, witty and quick-thinking skills to make up their speeches. Special categories are even set up for these people. These include extemporaneous speaking which allows for 1/2 to 1 hour preparation time and impromptu speaking which allows a five minute preparation time. SCC team members Dawn Beran, Dan Dvorak, Andrew Ingemansen, Sara Naughtin, Sean O'Neill, Nicole and Kristen Schumacher, and Chris Wachal excel in these categories and have medaled many times doing what they thrive off of and what most are deathly terrified of, thinking and speaking while on the spot.

Whether it is being put on the spot or three months of preparation that you prefer, speech meets have something for everyone. They are full of interesting topics, a plethora of different viewpoints, attractive and sometimes bizarre visual aids. For example, Tasha Karsk's humorous interpretation is about Dracula's bride, and Kristen Schumacher uses a paper plate scarecrow in her informative speech. In addition to this, speech meets always prove to be physically and mentally draining for the competitors, coaches and judges. Most find, though, that it is well worth the effort.

This past weekend at the Battle Creek Speech Invite, Scotus won the varsity and novice divisions. Both divisions included many Scotus speakers and novice speaker, Lauren Maul, medaled in all three of her events and received second place in the Triathlon competition. The team is now focusing in on the Conference Tournament set for February 26th at Mount Michael. Then the team will practice, practice, practice to earn a spot on the district team and speak their finest to advance to the State Competition in March.



The Varsity boys basketball team huddles up to get pumped up for a home game. This is part of their mental preparation.

Photograph By: Matt O'Day

Shamrock Girls on to State

By: Michelle Moser

The Scotus girls' basketball team is headed to the State Championship Tournament with a current record of 18-5. The Rocks finished off the regular season with stunning defense against tough opponents and carried that momentum with them into the post season.

The Shamrocks' first game of the post season was subdistrict play at Columbus High against David City Aquinas. The Rocks shut down the Monarchs with outstanding defense. The intense defense held the Monarchs to only 14 points, two points away from the school record. The Scotus girls advanced to the subdistrict final game by defeating the Monarchs 39-14.

The team's next challenge in their quest to qualify for the State Tournament was against the David City Scouts. The two teams never met in the regular season so the match up was questionable. The Shamrocks came out with the intensity from the first game of subdistrict play, but the Scouts never gave up. With minutes to go in the fourth quarter, the Shamrocks led, but the Scouts hit three pointer after three pointer to keep them within reach. The Shamrocks' answer...more intense defense. Scotus' tough defense came through once again and helped them win over the Scouts with a final score of 40-38.

The final test was upon the Shamrocks on Monday night at Lakeview High School. The Shamrocks were matched up against the Madison Dragons. The Shamrocks came out on fire and held the Dragons to only one point in the first quarter. The Rocks out-scored the Dragons in the first half 18-8, but the second half would prove to be different. The Dragons picked up momentum and reduced the margin to within four points with minutes to go in the fourth quarter. Yet again, the Shamrocks relied on their solid defense and good ball control to secure their ticket to State. Scotus acquired their 18th win over Madison with a score of 28-20.

The Shamrocks will be working hard in practice to fully prepare for the State Tournament. "We are playing very well right now. We are peaking at the right time, and I hope that continues on through the State Tournament," commented assistant coach Nathan Arneal.

Cross-town Rivals Collide

By: Tory Ketter

It was the battle of the free throws that sunk the Scotus Shamrocks on Saturday, February 12th. The Scotus boys basketball team took on the Vikings from Lakeview. A maximum capacity crowd witnessed the cross-town rivalry.

The Shamrocks shot just 12-36 from the field. They also shot poorly from the free throw line. Senior Ryan Tarnick led the Rocks with 18 points. Junior Derek Torczon followed with eight points. However, the post players for the Shamrocks just could not get a scoring drive going. A valid effort was shown by Junior Jeff Kosch and Senior Craig Mustard throughout the game.

Junior Derek Torczon said, "We played well to win but went through a scoring drought." He also commented that the team missed too many free throws to claim a win.

The Shamrocks kept up their rebounding skills by getting a total of 23 rebounds. Torczon led the team in rebounds with seven. However, the Vikings pulled down a few more rebounds to help in the victory.

Head Coach Merlin Lahm commented that the team played good defense to hold a good offensive team. "The team showed a great physical effort and intensity. We just couldn't get a scoring drive going at the end of the game," he commented.

The Rocks could very well be playing Lakeview again in subdistrict play. If so, it would be the third time the two teams would meet this year.

Scotus traveled to Central City on Thursday, February 17th, to take on the Bison. They turned around their play and won by 20 points. Ryan Tarnick led the team with 18 points and Torczon had 15 points. The team shot a very high percentage game to aid in the win.

Lahm commented that the team shot much better from the field against Central City than Lakeview. The Junior Varsity also claimed a commanding win against C.C.

The next game for the Shamrocks will be subdistrict play on Tuesday, February 22nd, against David City Aquinas. The game will be held at Columbus High School at 8:00pm.

I.B.A.

By: Drew Johnson, Ben Foreman, and Justin Avery

Another season of I.B.A. is upon us, and once again it is another year full of fun and seniors hogging the ball. Once again the game consists of nothing more than the seniors dribbling the ball up the court and missing a three point while the underclassmen ride the old pine.

The Top Awards go to:

3 Point % Award - Tim Ferhinger

Best Dressed- Brabus San Dyke and Phat Ragez

Most Assists- Kasey Bogus

Top Scorer- Andy McPhillips

MVP- Tom Gerhold (Getto Rump, Donkey, Donkey Lips, Don Key, or Getto Boody)

Most Steals- Kyle Kutros

Best F.G.%- Kasey Bogus

Darkest Skin on the basketball court- Aaron Mielak, Drew Gutierrez, and Brabus San Dyke

LVP (Least Valuable Player)- Eric Randy Hinze

Shamrock Swimmers Look to State

By: Nate Tenopir

With two weeks until state, the Shamrock swimmers find themselves down the right "lane." Three of the Rocks have already qualified for state and some in more than one event. Tim Sleddens has qualified in the 100 breaststroke, 200 medley relay, 200 freestyle relay, and the 400 freestyle relay. Another Scotus swimmer, Brad Balak has qualified in the 200 medley relay, 200 freestyle relay, and 400 freestyle relay. Last but not least, Shamrock diver Katie Keller has qualified for state championships in the diving competition.

When asked to comment on the position of the team Tim Sleddens said, "The team hopes to 'shave' off a lot of time in these next few weeks." To give you an idea of how well the team is doing this year, most of the competitors qualified for state after only two or three weeks of competing. Throughout the year, the team has either finished at the top or very near it in every invite, dual, or tournament they have competed in.

"The regiment of training we have been on will hopefully drop our times and prepare us for state. There's some really good competition this year," said swimmer Brad Balak. In preparation for state, Brad will be losing his massive head of hair in the next couple weeks. As if anyone hadn't noticed, Brad has a rather large mop lying on his head. For those of you who don't know, swimmers typically shave their legs as well. So if you see Tim or Brad in the hall ask them to lift up their pant leg and show you their silky smooth Nair legs.

The state swim meet begins on the 25th of this month and runs through the next day. If you're planning on attending, Sleddens said you should probably be down at Devaney early in the morning on Friday the 25th because a lot of tickets are already sold out. For those of you who have never attended a swim meet I encourage you to go to state. They're a lot of fun and I'm sure the team wouldn't mind the support.

Co-op Sport Ends

By: Megan Morris

The Scotus/Columbus High wrestling season has sadly come to an end for those who didn't make it to state. The team was proud of their accomplishments and is excited for next year. Though they have managed some setbacks, the players were rejuvenated and prepared for conference and districts. Their hard work and dedication seemed to show at the freshman conference where Nick Soulliere placed 3rd, Jason Avery, Nick Hall, and Shane Kelly placed 2nd, and Ryan Jablonski and Tony Schwank placed 1st. While a lot of players got hurt, it turned out to be a satisfying season. "Overall we improved," Bob Soulliere stated. Billy Brooks, who placed 4th, and Nick Hall also competed at conference on the varsity level.

On February 12, Billy Brooks and Nick Hall went to districts. They came out strong but ended with an upset. When asked how to describe wrestling, Ryan Jarecki commented, "It is a sport that only a few people ever try."

Melissa Schmidt makes the offensive opponent work hard to bring the ball up the court in a game at home.

Photograph By: Amanda Sackett



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Good Luck at State

The Rock Bottom

MAY 2000

Scotus Central Catholic Columbus, Nebraska

Bye, Bye, Bye to all the Seniors

By: Rhonda Marxsen and Ben Foreman

Prom...what a word! It brings several juniors and seniors to dish out cash in hopes of making it the perfect evening. We, personally, had a blast at Prom. How many times do you actually have an excuse to stay out until 6:00 in the morning?

The dinner and dance were held at New World Inn. It was great to be served dinner, rather than going through a buffet line like last year's Prom. Our dinner choices were between prime rib and chicken cordon bleu, and they both looked delicious. I would also like to add that the waitresses were patient and on the ball. Seth Labenz, junior class president, delivered a humorous Senior Roast after dinner (even though he forgot a couple people). The dance started at 8 pm and was over by 11. Some may think that the dance was over too early, but my feet and those of several other heel wearers would have to disagree.

Even though the dance was held at the hotel, it was actually really nice. There were not any children running around, and the pool only added to the beautiful dance environment. The D.J., Randy Drewel, was excellent. Although he was new to the Scotus students, he caught on to our taste really well.

Post Prom started at midnight and ended at 4:30. Several students had a great time bowling, playing games, and singing Karaoke. Towards the end of the evening the students listened to the comedian, Sparkman. He had quite a sense of humor, but some of his jokes could have been reevaluated.

Several people believe that Prom is highly overrated, but we must disagree. If you had a great time, then the large amount of money was well spent. Besides, it is not every day you see the guys in your class or your date dressed in tuxedos or your girlfriend with make-up and gorgeous dress. Prom is equivalent to your own little fantasy island.

The Rock Bottom wishes everyone a safe and relaxing summer.

Match Maker, Match Maker

By Angie Shemek

Scotus students were recently presented with the idea of finding their match with a Student Council sponsored activity. The activity, called Computer Fun, was a questionnaire that senior high students were asked to fill out. After everyone filled out the questionnaire in April, the answer sheets were sent to the Computer Fun Company where the results were calculated. Then students had the opportunity to purchase their best matches from Student Council members. Each sheet cost one dollar, and the proceeds were donated to the Make-A-Wish Foundation.

The questionnaire was designed in order to help students find out who they are most compatible or least compatible to be dating or have as friends. Some of the questions included what you like to do on the weekends, what subjects interest you in school, your concern with your health, your perception of yourself, and what are some things that are important to you.

Many students were surprised by some of the results that were found. Some people found that people they are friends with are actually considered their least compatible people to associate with. Others were surprised to learn that their current significant other is actually quite compatible with them. Whether or not students actually used the results to find a new date we do not know, but the match making game was fun for all students to find out just who they are compatible with in the school.

Swingin in to Spring With Music

By: Lynn Wemhoff

On Monday, May 8th, the vocal music performed their last concert of the year. The spring concert contained performances from the junior high music classes, High School Chorus, and the Shamrock Singers. The music performed was a combination of favorite songs from musicals and movies. The concert produced full fun entertainment and plenty of smiles. With all the costumes, singing, and dancing it made the vocal spring concert a complete success.

This year the Shamrock Singers performed a couple of jazz songs, and for their grand finale a few musical pieces from Sister Act. It was a very joyful, joyful experience when the audience hailed us with their applause, stated Dawn Beran. It made performing more fun as the audience followed and participated in our operation. The Shamrock Singers group agreed that they also had a good time, and that it was a good way to end the year. We can't help not to accept their gratitude, explained Dawn Beran. It still meant that we've got that swing!

The High School Chorus also used their talents and played a big part in the concert. They sang songs such as Candle on the Water, Something Old the Wild Geese, The Rose, and River Song. Junior High showed off their 40's and 50's attitude as they performed popular songs from Annie and Grease.

Fine Arts Week: Emotional End Performance

By: Matt O'Day

On May 8th and 9th Scotus celebrated fine arts week by showcasing its vocal and instrumental music programs as well as artwork by Scotus students.

Tuesday May 9th the band department held their annual Spring Concert in the Activity Center. Scotus bands grades 5 through 12 performed selections throughout the evening. It was an especially emotional night for Band Director Kristin Cox, who singled out the senior members of the band and their parents. When Mrs. Cox first came to Scotus six years ago, this year's seniors were the youngest members of her original band. Now that they are graduating, Mrs. Cox wanted to thank them and their parents for sticking with band, especially during the difficult early years. She also thanked parents for recognizing the importance of music education.

During both performances, as well as during the school day, students and fans could peruse a display of student artwork. Drawings, paintings, etchings and pottery from art students were on show in the Activity Center, with a special dedication display of the works of senior artists.

Sianara Seniors

By: Michelle Moser and Megan Morris

Just like the old saying "save the best for last", we dedicate the last newspaper to the best: the class of 2000. Here is the conducted survey in which advice, accomplishments, goals, and humiliating moments are shared from fellow seniors.

Where do you see yourself in 15 years?

- Married with children. Jnn Dolezal

- In Lincoln living in a one room apartment with Cade eating rice cakes and swimming in the baby pool. Ceisha Kudron compliments of Travis Van Dyke

Looking back at all of the classes you have taken, what was your favorite?

- Diversified occupations cause I got to leave 8th period and play with animals. Until I got kicked out of class for skipping. Melinda Henggeler

- Study Skills with Miss George. Jeremiah Grell

What would be your fantasy career?

- Mr Mahoney's job. Nick Behle

- Play for K.C. Chiefs or paint the end zone as Chiefs. Travis Van Dyke

What word of advice would you leave for Scotus generations to come?

- It gets better with seniority so just deal with it now. Maija German

- Everything is accomplishable, just never give up and give it your best. Jon Jakub

What was your most humiliating moment at Scotus?

- I wore my docs with shorts. Tim Sleddens

- When everybody found out that I busted my elbow at a friend's house. Tim Fehringer compliments of Heather Van Ackeren

The Rock Bottom Staff

Front Page Editor: Amanda Sackett

Editorial Editor: Angie Shemek

Entertainment Editor: Kristin Zach

Sports Editor: Michelle Moser

Article Writers & Cartoonist:

Lacey Wozny, Drew Johnson, Ben

Foreman, Lynn Wemhoff, Nate

Tenipor, Justin Avery, Matt O'Day

Tory Ketter, Megan Morris, and

Rhonda Marxsen.

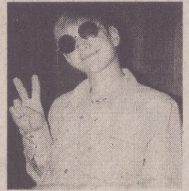
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Lacey Wozny, Lynn Dolezal, Dawn Beran, Megan Cimprich, Mandy Beiermann, Fran Morrison, and Amy Pemberton dance to "Bye, Bye, Bye" by their favorite boy band at Prom. Photograph by: Amanda Sackett



Seniors



A Fruitful Class

By, Lacey Wozny
And now for the million dollar burning question we've all been waiting for. If you could relate the senior class to a fruit, what would it be? Okay, so it is not your typical newspaper survey question, but it was one of the questions asked of all the teachers at Scotus regarding the senior class. Though the Rock Bottom did not exactly receive a bushel of responses, we did get a few golden apple answers.

I think it can be said that this year's seniors are well-rounded and deliciously display as much diversity and wide range of talent as any other pine, I mean, fine group of apples. One teacher said the seniors would be a mixed fruit salad because there are so many different personalities, they could never be one! Another teacher compared the class to a fruit pizza. This teacher stated, "If you take a sugar cookie base of knowledge, top it with a sweet cream cheese filling of teachers' nurturing, and creatively place selected fruit (each representing the different organizations and personalities) on it, you end up with a delicious masterpiece that represents the class of 2000."

If that much can be said about the bunch, I think the class speaks for itself. Although, one teacher who filled out the survey thought this question was asking for a seed too much creativity to answer. One said the class was like "a piece of watermelon because they have been as fun to be around as it is to eat watermelon in the summer, and we'll miss them when they are gone."

Also, I heard it through the grapevine that one teacher said the class was like an overripe banana, some really good parts with a few rotten brown spots. Another teacher commented that the seniors were like grapes, some turning sour, some turning into "whine" and some sweet. And, overall, I would have to agree with these two comparisons. The fruit basket of seniors does have a few downfalls and upsets do arise, as with any group, but overall, I think their contribution, involvement, and fun-loving attitude will be missed, like, perhaps the way one might miss strawberries when they are out of season.

Lifestyles of the Not so Rich and Famous

As graduation nears, questions of the future lives of our seniors run through everyone's mind. With such uncertainty the Rock Bottom Staff decided to shed a little light on the occupations of the Class of 2000.

Justin Avery- Considers himself a roadie for Guns in Roses but mysteriously gets arrested at every concert because he scares the band.
Brad Balak- Spokesman for Fruit of the Loom's new Bally Super Socks.

Nick Behle- Beaten up my Eminem who warned him to back off.

Mandy Beiermann- All we could think of is someday she'll probably marry Nate (Nate did not write this one).

Dawn Beran- Replaces Molly Shannon on SNL as the new Spartan Cheerleader.

Kelly Bierman- Triple A's best selling auto insurance agent of the year.

Casey Birkel- World reknown big game hunter in the African savannah.

Kasey Bogus- Lands a lead role as Obi-Wan in Star Wars Episode II.

Kelly Bonk- Joins Nikki McPhillips as the next generation of KIZZ

Drew Brock- Eats his restaurant Meatloaf City into bankruptcy.

Robb Burbach- Pursues a career in physics and masters the art of spontaneously combusting.

Jeremy Cerny- Left maimed by a foul ball to the head while being a spectator to a Kansas City Royal's game.

Jessica Chatman- Marches in Washington for female rights.

Joe Citta- Stays out hunting too long and is mistaken as a Sasquatch by the locals.

Derek Czapla- Starts a war with the Canadians.

Sara Deturk- Becomes an accountant for Microsoft and saves the corporation. But is later thrown in jail for tax fraud.

Lynn Dolezal- Runs Barbie out of business with the new adorable Lynn doll.

Dan Dvorak- Vows to never again buy a sporty car after the Eclipse is destroyed and rides a moped to NPPD everyday.

Sara Edison- Becomes a blush model because she embarrasses so easily.

Joe Euteneuer- Inspires the rebirth of the Q-Bert video game series.

Tim Fehringer- Inventor of the world's first reliable polygraph test.

Ben Foreman- Can't find work and becomes the world's first skinny Kool-Aid man.

Maija German- Goes to work for the Kleenex corporation and becomes a multimillionaire.

Jeremiah Grell- Sweats all day into a bottle and markets the world famous Juice-aide sports drink.

David Gubbels- Mistakenly hunted by Casey Birkel in Africa who thought he was a cheetah.

Melind Henggler- Opens an art studio and becomes a lucrative businesswoman painting other people's artwork.

Eric Hinze- Takes Tom Cruise's part in Cocktail part two.

Andrew Ingemansen- Wins a gold medal in the Olympics from drinking Juice-aide everyday.

Jon Jakob- Hacks into the national defense and unavails secret files.

Travis Jarecki- Brings Butler county into the 21st century with the introduction of the tele-

phone and drives a Monte Carlo.

Drew Johnson- Becomes the hottest teen idol as a member of the Backdoor Boys.

Tasha Karsk- Acquires lead role when NBC brings the tv show Alf back into existence.

Katie Keller- Hand model for the home shopping network.

Kendra Kessler- Takes Rosie O'Donnell's spot on tv as a talk show host.

Aaron Kobza- Eats too much of his popcorn, gets fat, and joins Roger Ebert as a movie critic.

Aaron Krajicek- Got lost on a bike ride in the woods and hasn't been heard from since.

Molly Kroenke- Takes her band all the way to number one as lead singer of "Malls Without Walls."

Ceisha Kudron- Remarkably makes it to the tv show Who Wants To Be A Millionaire and gets the first question wrong.

Katrina Landholm- Brought into the presidential cabinet as chief press secretary in charge of apologizing for the president.

Jenny Levos- Takes over the tennis world and cusses the ref out at every match in a very John McEnroe-like style.

Shanna Melliger- World's first female champion of the World's Toughest Rodeo.

Jane Micek- World champion Pokemon player.

Scott Moersen- Becomes a dangerous double agent for the British Secret Service, "Bond, Scott Bond."

Fran Morrison- Follows Drew wherever he goes and claims to be the number one fan of the Backdoor Boys.

Michelle Moser- Replaces Kathie Lee Gifford on the show to co-host Regis and Michelle Lynn.

Craig Mustard- Embarks on a career as an interpretative dancer on Broadway... with a bad knee.

Sara Naughtin- Fills Carnegie Hall every night singing her amazing rendition of Swan Lake.

Matt Niedbalski- Loses his eyesight, acquires some big glasses, and becomes a play-by-play announcer for the Cubs.

Katie Nosal- Becomes a weather girl who draws little smily suns on her stomach.

Matt O'Day- Bothers crowds across the nation as the San Diego Chicken.

Sean O'Neill- Revolts against the United Kingdom and becomes a leader of the movement to free Northern Ireland.

Amy Pemberton- Becomes one of those ladies in the malls who asks,

"Would you like to take a survey?"

Sara Peterson- Returns to Scotus to serve as the new Mrs. Tooley.

Scott Prokupek- Enjoys painting masterpieces in his van down by the river.

Amanda Sackett- No one has seen Amanda in ten years because her dad won't let her out of the house.

Kristen Schumacher- Kidnaps Martha Stewart and takes over the cooking industry.

Nicole Shumacher- Comes back after graduation from college to reign as mayor of Columbus.

Angie Shemek- Miss Hawaiian Tropic 2004.

Andy Skarka- Professional protester protesting against authority on the steps of the capitol.

Tim Sleddens- Wins the grand championship of the slick 50 Nascar racing league.

Katie Sobota- Creator of the world reknowned Bass Fishin' with Bota Show on public access.

Tina Soulliere- Lands a job with the FBI with a little help from Mrs. Matz.

Ryan Tarnick- Finds work as one of the first white Harlem Globetrotters.

Nate Tenopir- Commander of an aircraft carrier patrolling the waters of Lake Michigan.

Amanda Trofholz- Provides a life of faith to viewers who turn on her show, The Church Lady, on public access.

Heather VanAckeren- Works for the Mars corporation stamping M's on M&Ms.

Travis VanDyke- Breeds and shows dogs at the the Westminster dog show every year.

Lynn Wemhoff- Accepts a deal from the Cartoon Network as the voice of Scooby Doo.

Lacey Wozny- Turns the tiles on Wheel of Fortune and acquires a following as the hottest woman in the world.

Kristin Zach- Dances in Carnegie Hall where one evening she breaks her ankle performing to Sara Naughtin's amazing rendition of Swan Lake.

Scott Zegar- Becomes a kid's favorite as the new Pillsbury Doughboy.

Studs and Duds

(Sorry, this was supposed to be in last month's issue so they may be kind of out of date)

By: Nate Tenopir

Stud: Elian Gonzalez- Has a six year old ever captivated an entire nation like this before?

Stud: Mateem Cleaves- Passed up the NBA his senior year to stay in college and win a national championship.

Stud: OPEC- Oil countries play world economy like a puppet dictating gas prices.

Stud: Chief Investigator of Jon Bennet Ramsay Case- Releases daring new book accusing mother of killing her own daughter.

Stud: Vijay Singh- Masters Augusta for his first green jacket.

Dud: Al Gore- Favors the idea of keeping Elian in the U.S. But he also invented the Internet.

Dud: Bill Collier- Coach Nebraska basketball? What were you thinking buddy?

Dud: Uganda Cult Members- High gas prices force cult members to resort to giant magnifying glasses to start fires.

Dud: O.J.- Still working hard at finding the real killer.

Dud: Jack Nicklaus- Worst round 81 leaves Golden Bear looking more like the aluminum beaver.

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Senior Robb Burbach follows through on his shot at the Elks Country Club. Robb led the Shamrocks at Districts, missing the cut for State by four strokes.
Photograph by: Kristin Zach

Chicks dig the On To State

□ Long Ball □

By: Justin Avery

Once again, the Scotus golf team prevailed against their opponents as they crushed the other teams in their Conference. Eric Hall led a very talented team to a victory last Saturday as the Shamrocks took first place in their Conference.

Robb Burbach, Eric Hinze, Tony Bogus, and Matt Niedbalski all placed in the top 10 while Eric Hall took first place. This was only a mild stepping stone on the road to State. Districts is expected to be much tougher with high-caliber teams like Hastings, GINW, and GICC. At the District Meet Robb Burbach shot an 86 to lead the team, but that was 4 strokes short of the last qualifying score. Although they were not happy with their performances on this day, the overall season showed a lot of improvement.

The team has superb senior leadership which lies on the shoulders of Eric Hinze, Matt Niedbalski, and their #1 golfer Robb Burbach. So far they have led the team through an excellent season. That's all in the past now as they prepare for the challenges that are ahead. Matt Niedbalski, who is a senior captain, knows that districts will be tough so he is continuously telling his team "chicks dig the long ball". This seems to have motivated the team so far.

As the team continues to smack the ball around during practice, they are training under the fine coaching skills of Jim Puetz. Jim is a veteran of the sport and is known as one of the finer, all around coaches at Scotus.

42nd Annual Athletic Banquet a Real Feast

By: Kristin Zach

The 42nd Annual Shamrock Athletic Banquet, held on Tuesday, May 2nd, brought some surprises, as well as sentimental moments for the athletes, parents, and fans. This year John Schueth inducted four athletes and five boosters into the Shamrock Hall of Fame. Mike Cieloha, the master of ceremonies, presented the Shamrock Club Awards to David Gubbels and Amanda Sackett for the evening after all the lettermen in the various sports were recognized.

The award for Lifter of the Year was surprisingly given to four junior guys: Jesse Benda, Travis Fry, Jeff Kosch, and Joe Puetz, and senior Heather Van Ackeren. This year's Eleanor M. Loshbaugh Scholarship was awarded to junior Kristin Blair. In its second year, the Gene G. Witt Scholarship was given to Sara Peterson for both cross country and track, to Sean O'Neill for cross country and to David Gubbels for track. The Sertoma Athletes of the Year were awarded to Shanna Melliger and Jeremiah Grell. KLIR Athletes of the Year, which were actually announced prior to the banquet, were Heather Van Ackeren and Drew Brock. Michelle Moser, Robb Burbach, and Ryan Tarnick were all winners of the annual Babe Ruth Award this year.

In its first annual dedication, the Thomas L. Ketter Scholarship, presented by his son Tory Ketter, was awarded to senior Heather Van Ackeren for her outstanding efforts in soccer.

Finally, the most prestigious awards of Female and Male Athletes of the Year were given to Heather Van Ackeren and Jeremiah Grell. The Athlete of the Year is presented annually to outstanding athletes who show skill, leadership, and academic accomplishments.

By: Michelle Moser
The Scotus girls and boys track teams have had a lot of success among many injuries and other obstacles. The girls and boys all worked hard to make the best of this season. Both competed well against a lot of top quality teams, especially at Conference and Districts.

The girls finished in fifth place at the Conference meet. There were solid performances by a number of girls. Many girls finished in 7th or 8th missing a place. Others finished in 9th just out of finals for the field events. The team was on the road to physical recovery from some mid-season injuries. Molly Engel came back from a back injury and placed in all of her events.

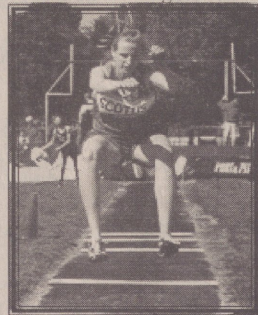
The boys Varsity team finished in 10th place. The boys only scored in three events but had strong performances all day long. The scorers were David Gubbels in the long jump, Jesse Benda in the discus, and the 4x100 meter relay team of Gubbels, Dana Torczon, Bob Soulliere, and Craig Pekny.

The freshmen boys team finished in first place, out-scoring the other teams by an extremely large margin. The freshmen had many boys score in multiple events including Tyler Roewert, Tony Bayer, Jake Tooley, Kyle Fritz, Josh Melliger, Jake Otte, and Mike Zadina. The freshmen had solid performances in every event. The 4x800 meter relay team of Melliger, Otte, Fritz, and Tooley broke the Conference meet record by nine seconds.

The District meet brought more tough competition. The girls finished in 5th place with many strong efforts once again. Eight girls qualified to compete in the State Meet. The 4x800 meter relay of Molly Engel, Cheryl Bierman, Sarah Karges, Lori Beller, and Kathleen Ames, Sara Peterson in the 400, Angela Fisher and Engel in the 3200, and Engel in the 1600. This was a very positive season despite the numerous injuries. I thought we competed well qualifying eight people for State. As a team, we finished competitively at all of the meets. We accomplished our season goal of scoring in every event at the Lakeview Invite. I am looking forward to working with the returning girls and will really miss the three great seniors for the leadership and enthusiasm they gave the team, commented head coach Janet Tooley.

The boys also competed well and had many people finish just out of qualifying for the State Meet. Only one person qualified to advance to State to represent the boys' team. Sophomore Ryan Jarecki finished in 4th place in the 200. It is kind of disappointing to know that we had a couple of people who were near misses, but I'm happy that Ryan qualified. Overall the team worked hard and I think the future of Scotus track is very promising, commented head coach Nathan Arneal.

The State Meet is held at the Omaha Burke Track on May 19th and 20th. Class B will have the morning session.



Junior Kristin Blair mentally realizes that the triple jump is not for her.
Photo by: Michelle Moser

Boys Return to State A Solid Rock Effort at State

By: Tory Ketter

The boys soccer team will be going to the State Soccer Tournament for the third year in a row.

In the game against York, the Rocks won with the score of 3-2. Cade Kudron, Drew Johnson, and Tyson Becher all had goals for the team. Becher scored to break the 2-all time and gave Scotus the victory.

The boys also had some trouble putting away Schuyler on May 6th. In fact, they were in the same situation as the girls soccer team. The boys had to win in a sudden death shoot-out. Johnson made the last shot, to carry the Rocks to the victory.

In the first round of the State Tournament, the Shamrock boys were eliminated. The Blair boys controlled the game and won with a score of 1-3. That game ended the season for the Rocks, but overall they had a pretty good year.

By: Tory Ketter

The girls soccer team attained their goal of the year at the beginning of the season, the team agreed on one main goal of the year, to make it to the State Tournament.

On May 5th, the girls took on York and were victorious with a 6-1 victory. Seniors Ceisha Kudron and Heather Van Ackeren scored for the Shamrocks. Sophomores Meghan Pile, Katie Korth, and Natasha Bender also aided the team in the scoring department. Freshman Taryn Ketter rounded out the scoring drive.

On May 6th, the girls had a little trouble putting away the Schuyler Warriors. The game was tied 1-1, with a goal coming from Van Ackeren at the end of regulation. The two over times remained scoreless, and the Shamrocks had to win in the second round of the sudden death shoot-out. A very likely candidate, Junior Melissa Schmidt, made the final shoot-out goal.

The girls will take on Omaha Skutt in the first round of the State Tournament on Saturday, May 13th. The first game of the season for the Shamrocks was against Skutt, with the score being 4-0 in favor of Skutt.

In the first round of the State Tournament, the girls soccer team surprised us all. Not only did they play one of their best games of the season, but they took a victory over the #2 rated Skutt Catholic with the score of 3-2.

The girls continued to play solid soccer and beat Pius X. The outcome was 1-0 in favor of the Rock, with lone goal coming from Natasha Bender.

For the third year in a row, the Rocks were playing in the Class B State final. The team was proud to bring home the Runner-Up trophy recently.

This year's team was one that didn't much credit at the beginning of the year. Regardless of the rumors, the team showed everyone that they could truly be one of the best teams in the state...again.

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