



THE

# TENDERFOOT

Times

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## New board members

Catie Wilken & Robin Petersen  
Staff Reporters

The school board provides communication between the community and the school district, votes on policies, engages and represents the public in district matters, deals with legal issues, hires the superintendent, and oversees the budget.

Members of the board attend workshops and monthly meetings, get training at a CASB (Colorado Association of School Boards) conference, organize the school's schedule and programming, and much more. In addition, each school board member serves on various committees.

"It gives the community a liaison. It's another place to find information, a place to go with questions...There's a chain of command . . . the board doesn't take care of everything first, but they're a tool for communication," said board secretary, Brandy Coscarella.

The current members of the school board are Rich Young, Cheri Schleicher, Beth Pack, Rusty Granzella, Lezlie Burkley, Dan Short, and Albert Lionelle.

Within the board, there are offices such as president, vice president, and treasurer, which are elected by board members every two years at an organizational meeting.

Many positions on the board are up for election in November, including Lezlie Burkley's presidency.

Members are appointed to the board through a lengthy process. After getting 50 signatures on a petition, they can be considered a candidate.

If running unopposed, they are automatically elected for the seat. The other option is filing an affidavit of intention to become a write-in candidate. They are elected for a maximum of two four-year terms.

Last May, Penny Wilken and Robin Nejame relinquished their seats after moving out of their districts and were replaced by Beth Pack and Richard Young. Because all candidates ran unopposed this year, they became members at the end of August. Schleicher will not be running for another term in November. Terry McCorkindale will take her seat.

For school board members, the work never seems to stop.

"They have to answer to the public wherever they are. If they're shopping, if they're working, they get questions... They can take those messages back to the school board. They can't make decisions just one on one, the whole board has to vote," said superintendent Darryl Webb.

The school board doesn't just have an impact on teachers and administrators. They take feedback from the community and review and create policies that define the education of all students in the district, including a four-day week and passing bonds.

"Those were big things, and the board did a really good job, we all did, of getting together to get the word out to the community...I think people were very happy with that process. I was very happy with that process," said Webb.

"I think one of our biggest accomplishments was passing the mill levy, which increased teacher's salaries. We had tried in the past and failed, so I was glad the community put value in our team," said Nejame.

**It gives the community a liason...a place to go with questions.**

**- Brandy Coscarella**

According to Coscarella and Webb, the largest issue facing the district is budget cuts. "It's trying to determine and prioritize what's the most important thing, and how does the board make sure that the money is distributed in the most effective way, which they've done a really good job of doing.

"We've been really lucky we haven't lost the teachers . . . They've been able to be creative," Coscarella said.

Webb, is the only hired and paid position. Board members, who are unpaid, are elected to each represent one of the district's seven areas.

"I enjoy being involved. It's a difficult job... I would say it's a rewarding experience and very much a learning experience," said Granzella.



Photo by: McKinnley Witty

**PAST SCHOOL BOARD** member Robin NeJame, president Lezlie Burkley, Albert Lionelle, Rusty Granzella, past member Penny Wilken, and Dan Short dig into the site of the new school at the ground-breaking ceremony on May 24. Also standing with the members are Burkley's son Ethan, current Salida High President Brandon Smith and Vice-President Gabby Filter.

## Sports signs banned from lockers

Ashley Potts  
Staff Reporter

Students at Salida High School may have noticed something different about the hallways this year. Where there used to be posters hanging from every other locker door, now there are none.

Locker posters were used to wish good luck to sports teams on game day, and up the school spirit.

Due to the damage left behind by tape and the game goodies being nabbed, the posters have been discontinued. This isn't a punishment; although that's how it may seem to some.

The posters aren't happening this year as a transition into the new school, where the posters won't be allowed. The new building will be under a year warranty, meaning we have to take extra care of it.

"I think it's dumb, because they're taking down the school anyway. [The posters] are a good way to show school spirit," said junior golfer and wrestler Matt Trueblood.

Sophomore soccer player John Michael Kreski said,

"They were kind of cool. They showed what you did and who you were going to play."

"They gave individualism. I didn't even know what locker I had until my sign was put up," said junior cheerleader Tim DeVos.

Chance Ogden, junior wrestler, felt the signs were one of the only ways SHS showed school spirit.

Some students didn't even realize we didn't have them this year. Sophomore Melissa Belmonte was among them. She did however keep many of hers from last year as did many other athletes.

The posters don't just plaster lockers, but also bulletin boards in homes of the kids who receive them.

The new school is also going to include 'self healing' walls where athletes can hang their posters instead. These walls are made of a fabric that takes well to thumb tacks, the holes disappear soon after the tack is removed. Self healing walls will take well to years and years of being plastered with posters.

The Booster Club, cheerleading team, and students are

working hard to come up with ideas for alternatives to posters on lockers.

Large team posters, bus ride goody bags, and big game run throughs are some things that have been suggested.

Athletes around the school have shared their opinion on how to keep up the school spirit this year, and how to keep it going in the new school.

Ideas such as spirit walls with team posters and candy pockets, or simply hanging posters with magnets instead of tape have been suggested.

Laminated locker covers, much like the ones used in previous years, only attached with magnets or other tape-like alternatives is another idea.

Other students have said still having individual posters, just attached to the self-healing walls near their lockers, would also be a nice option.

All in all, the posters aren't what give students their school spirit. "The students dictate how much spirit they want to have," said athletic director Jim Coscarella.

Posters or not, students will continue to bleed purple.



School progress  
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# Switching to vegetarian is the right decision



Catie Wilken  
Staff Reporter

How many people would sacrifice a dog for a good hamburger? Or kill a cat for a nice dinner? Repulsive, right? But is killing a dog or cat so different from eating a cow or chicken?

After fourteen years of eating meat, I looked down on my plate and realized that I didn't think it was. It dawned on me that I was eating the corpse of an animal, and I've never thought the same way since.

According to the Farm Animal Rights movement, approximately 58 billion animals are killed for human consumption a year. Many animals are treated brutally before death, kept in inhumane conditions, left barely any room to move their whole lives, and are sometimes gutted or skinned while still conscious.

Many people turn a blind eye to these circumstances for various reasons. Some say that they're "just animals," so they don't have the emotional or mental capacity to realize it or feel anything that's happening.

However, research has shown that cows have distinct personalities, can develop friendships over time, and have the ability to worry about the future. Similar studies show that

pigs are affectionate, smarter and friendlier than most dogs, and more intelligent than the average three year old child.

For being "just animals," they are surprisingly similar to the pets that we love so much, or even the people.

Others say that we have been eating meat for such a long time, so it obviously can't be wrong.

But what else did humans take part in for an extended period of time without considering the ethics of it? Sexism, racism, killing one another, and slavery are some examples that come to mind.

In my experience, the most common excuse has been simply, "I could never be a vegetarian, I like meat too much." And to that I say, just try it.

I'm sure some slave owners thought they liked their slaves too much to set them free. The cliché "what's right isn't always easy" may be applicable here. Sometimes we have to give up something we like for a good cause – in this case it's saving lives.

Not only is vegetarianism beneficial to animals and the environment, it's not all bad for the humans either. Over my year and a half without meat, I've found that the hunger that commonly results from going meatless can be manageable with other protein substances, I feel more awake, and I get sick less.

These are animals with families, thoughts, and feelings not so unlike our own. If billions of cats, dogs, or humans were being killed each year, would we stand by and let it happen? Would we spend money to support it? Would we let them be served on our dinner plates? I know I wouldn't.

# Students ecstatic: four-day week

Staff Editorial

Due to a large budget deficit, Salida School District officials approved the passing of a four-day school week last spring. The district was able to save enough money to preserve teachers by eliminating Fridays as a school day.

The reaction from the student body has been overwhelmingly positive.

For some, the extra half-hour was excruciatingly noticeable at the beginning of the term, but almost all agree the extra day off is well worth it.

Students are now able to work one day of the weekend

and still have two days for homework, sleeping, and fun.

Stormy Roberts, senior, always works on Sundays, but says she now still has a weekend for the rest of her homework and other activities.

Sports have also been taking advantage of the extra morning for practices. Andreas Field house can be found filled with football players, cheerleaders, and volleyball players nearly every week, with cross-country runners warming up outside.

One activity made possible by the four-day week was a relay run by the cross country team from Salida to Buena

Vista, culminating in a team visit to K's.

Dreaded orthodontist appointments, among others, that take place on Friday no longer result in having to miss class every month.

School days are now jam-packed with lessons, but the day off provides a breather that used to be taken during the five-day week.

Many parents were worried about how teens would fill their days off, but they are already bursting with extracurricular activities that weren't possible with a five-day week.

It seems hard to remember how Salida High tolerated a two-day weekend.

# Longer lunch for afternoon success



Daniel Archambeau  
Staff Reporter

It's 2:00 p.m. on a hot summer-like day. The trails are ripe for shredding with the fresh rubber of a mountain bike, fields lush with green grass just begging to feel the impact of a hard hit from a defensive lineman, and the golf course with its birdies to be drained is calling my name loud and clear.

I want with every fiber of my being to be there playing the game I love so much.

Alas, my passion and drive for the game is locked behind the doors of the Salida High

School.

I find myself yet again going through the motions of a mid-afternoon class period. But as the driven individual that I am, I have given myself another "don't give up" pep talk. The old you have to pass and have college just on your horizon pick me up.

My school coma sets in, my eyes grow groggy, and I can't help but gently drift into a blissful afternoon siesta. After all, it's nothing I can't make up later.

The class is in full swing, and my little rest has become fully passed out. As imagined this, just didn't fly with my hard-working teacher. She would have none of it. So in a last-ditch effort I splash some water on my face at the nearby water fountain. I shake my head vigorously and resume to class.

I later asked myself why this was becoming such a common occurrence for me. There could be any number

of reasons: lack of sleep the night before, malnourishment, or that the class is boring.

So, from these, I brainstormed what could be a solution to the said issues. It occurred to me that our lunch could be the culprit of much of the afternoon snore fest.

Forty minutes just isn't long enough to complete a solid lunch fuelling my day, while getting a good break to enjoy rest relaxation, or a fun game of lunch-time basketball to blow off steam. It's imperative for teenagers to get this time.

Fridays off is a luxury, and that time needs to be made up, but I would be happy to go even five, six and so far as eight minutes later in every class to ensure a solid lunch.

It's not that the students at SHS are lazy and just want to be out of class for a longer lunch. It's simply that the allotted time we're getting is too short to give us the energy or desire to perform at our mental peak in the afternoons.

## Yay

-To Jeff and William opening wi-fi to students!

-To walls up on our new school!

-To having a huge Tenderfoot staff!

-To the four-day week!

-To the new bulletin board outside our office!

-To homecoming shirts!

-To the football team winning!

-To pumpkins!

## Nay

-To field trip fees.

-To our super-short lunch "hour."

-To having multiple tests in one day.

-To fights.

-To significant figures and formulas.

-To being sick so early in the school year.

-To premature frost.

-To tiny lockers.

# Tenderfoot Times

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## Patriotism frees American citizens



Orion Gamber  
Staff Reporter

Freedom isn't free. The cost of freedom from Britain was huge, many great men sacrificed themselves, so that America could be independent.

Over the years, America clashed with itself and other countries all taking the lives of dedicated men. In present day we have declared a war on terror and have been fighting those who would take innocent lives and try to impose a non-equal reign.

Many are divided into two groups on the issue of the war on terror. The first side says that it doesn't want a war and for us to bring our troops home. I partially agree with this thinking, however, we decided that direct intervention with the Taliban and other terrorists was necessary.

The other side believes that war is the answer and they had it coming. I also partially agree with this think-

ing, but I believe war isn't the answer for every problem we face.

Regardless of people's position on the war on terror, our troops are flung into an increasing complex situation. Over the past decade, we have freed Iraq from Saddam Hussein, we've crippled Al Qaeda with Osama Bin Laden's death, yet the Taliban and Al Qaeda still fight.

We've lost many valiant soldiers to these extremist groups, and I appreciate that these brave men and women are fighting for us, in the Middle East. I have harbored a great respect for those who comprise our armed forces. This respect developed long ago, when I first realized what honor and compassion really mean to me.

Yet, many people haven't seemed to realize the importance of our soldiers, I frequently see; "Thank god for dead soldiers" bumper-stickers, and hear that everyone in the military is ignorant and incompetent, or brainwashed cronies.

All of these things and more cause a stimuli which causes me to be sick to my stomach.

Why, have some Americans begun to hate their protectors? Why, do they not see what our soldiers are doing and have done? What is their reason of thinking? Every time I ask people who have

this viewpoint, it's the same thing over and over again, they try to defend themselves with radical media, defending fallacies, and illogical thinking. Has our country become nothing but a cesspool of hate?

But my main question is, why do people hate those who defend our country? Our government doesn't brainwash people and force them to join the military. Individuals who serve, aren't ignorant and incompetent. They don't kill because they want to, but rather in training they are taught that the mission comes first.

These people are heroes, willing to sacrifice their well being, so that other Americans can enjoy their freedoms. They are compassionate, loving, and understanding, qualities that compose many Americans.

Do these people sound like the people to hate? Your thoughts are your own, however, dishonoring the brave men and women who protect our country is sickening!

Just remember the real enemies of America are the extremist groups who have killed thousands of innocent civilians and many soldiers not from just America, but almost every other country. I know with whom my loyalties lie, if you can't honor or even at the least bit respect soldiers, why are you still here?

## Enz encourages everyone to seek employment



Danyel Enz  
Staff Reporter

Twelve years old; that's how old my father was when he had his first taxpaying job. If you ask just about anyone in Salida what the average job-hunting age is, the majority would say fourteen, but here I am sixteen years old, and starting my first "real" job.

Through babysitting, I earned money but lacked the work experience I need for college and later jobs.

I spent an entire summer jumping at every job opportunity, putting in applications everywhere, and reading the newspaper's help wanted section.

In Lamont's English 12 class, one of our questions on the first day was: "Do you have a job?"

Ugh!

I answered, "No" and "You don't have a job!?" came from somewhere in the room. The tone was condescending,

even though I'm sure the student didn't mean it. I wonder if he was surprised to find out that several other classmates were also unemployed.

I started my new job the very next Monday! I appreciate my supervisor for hiring me, considering that he could have picked someone with more skills or experience.

The troubled economy is old news, but the effect it has on teens is now becoming apparent. According to the Employment Policies Institute, Colorado has a teen unemployment rate of 25.7%.

Teen jobs are particularly hard to find because the more experienced workers, adults, have also been out of work and take the positions teens would normally be hired for.

Jobs are a big responsibility and a major part of growing up. I don't mean to sound like Spider-Man, but in truth he's right. If we don't take responsibility it prevents us from becoming the best we can be.

I think that those who truly want to work will be hired with time and perseverance. For individuals without a job, keep trying because the hardest part is going to find the job. Especially for seniors who also have to think about college, cars, etc.; get out there. If the girl who has done nothing but babysit her whole career can get a job, so can you!

## Where do teens sit? At the adults' table? Or the kids' table?



Ashlyn Stewart  
Editor-in-Chief

I am stuck in the middle. It happens every time I am with a group of either my parents' or sister's friends. We all sit and eat a meal someone prepared

for the occasion. After dinner everyone splits into groups and the painstaking decision of where the misfit teen should go ensues.

On the right are my sister and her eighth-grade friends. Thankfully, we are now old enough to get along. However, all they talk about are people younger than me so I don't know who they are. All they listen to are the top 40...twenty...ten songs of the week. All they seem troubled by is having homework in more than one class.

On the left is the boring conversation, actually more of a complaining-session, about

politics, work, and/or old college stories. Call me naïve, but I actually enjoy my jobs and have no major qualms with the United States government. But the alternative with these adults is worse: "How's school? Are you still a cheerleader? Do you have a boyfriend? You know, when I was in high school..."

Teenagers are in a limbo: am I a kid or an adult?

I don't think teens are the only ones who haven't figured this out yet. Parents tell us to just be a kid and have fun in high school. Then they become frustrated if we don't have a job or are spending too

much time "goofing around."

Last year I was startled by how many moms still packed my friends' lunches. Now that we go off campus some still make us lunch. But these parents are also quick to punish if grades aren't up to par.

Trying to balance both being a kid and having adult-like responsibilities is one of the many struggles of high school. Plus what John Tesh calls "the adolescent years" have even more pressure than being either a kid or an adult.

Remember when getting ready consisted of an outfit your mom picked out and (maybe) brushing your hair?

From what I can tell, later in life, adults have either figured it out or just don't care.

But everyone can be judging in high school, even if not as much as in middle school. Kids are encouraged to do their own thing, again by adults, but our peers still think other students are weird if they are too different.

So where do we go? Do we sit at the "kids' table" or with the adults. Maybe families should put up a table halfway between for the teenagers at get-togethers, adding another reason to the list of why they have no idea what to do with us.

## Braces



Jessica Adamson  
Staff Reporter

I was in seventh grade when I got my braces. At the time it was an event I had been eagerly anticipating. Maybe it was the wires, colored bands, brackets or the trip each month to the orthodontist that excited me, but now these same four things make me believe the sooner I get my braces off the better.

The horror of braces begins each month when I walk into the dentist office. Waiting at the orthodontist is just about the most tedious thing to experience.

I walk in, sign my name on the sign-in sheet, sit down, and wait, and wait... and wait. The orthodontist is almost always running late.

Finally, my name is called and a lady wearing scrubs leads me to a dentist chair. Next to the chair on a sterilized tray is an arrangement of odd tools that will be used to make my life miserable for the next few days.

She then smiles and hands me a wheel that has the potential colors that I can choose for my bands.

When I first had my braces, this wheel seemed chocked full of endless colors, and patterns. Now, I sit in the chair spinning the wheel on my fingers to pass time. I haven't even pondered what color will be put on my teeth this month.

I really don't care; whatever I pick will end up looking ridiculous.

More time goes by and I am officially past the point of boredom. Eventually, the orthodontist enters the room.

He takes a quick look at my teeth, and begins his meticulous work that involves putting the wire in my mouth and taking it out again.

I suppose when I am older and no longer have braces, I will appreciate them. They are making my smile worthy of looking at.

As for now I will probably continue to dislike them, and my feelings towards them will remain that way until the day they are removed. I guess I have to deal with not being able to bite into apples for the next few years.

## Recognizing a tool, and not just a garden hose



Savannah Lee-Sobal  
Staff Reporter

Tool. Not a hammer or wrench, but a slang word used for "jerk" or "player"; a guy who girls should avoid. The signs are subtle, so here are ten tips to identifying a tool.

**1. Flat-brim Hats:** Hats are fine, but when a guy wears it constantly, it's a bit overboard. When trying to decipher whether someone is a tool or not without talking to him,

check for the hat -- common attire. If the hat is backwards the chances double that the hat-wearer is a major tool.

**2. Saggy Pants:** Guys now-a-days are very proud of their boxers. If a guy's pants are below his bottom, he's probably a tool.

**3. Jordan's:** A popular shoe brand found among tools. If someone who's wearing Jordan's doesn't even play basketball, you should probably stay away.

**4. 'Swag':** A guy who walks with a slight bounce in his step or 'swag' could be a tool. If a guy walks with his arms a few inches from his body because his muscles are just so big (or he wishes) you can guarantee he's a tool.

**5. Jewelry:** If a guy has his ears pierced, or even worse, gaged, there's a 99.99% chance he's a tool. Shiny bracelets, necklaces,

or any other kind of bling also contribute to his tool factor.

**6. Bro:** When a guy calls everyone "bro," "bra," or "dude" instead of taking the time to remember or use people's names, he's most likely a tool.

**7. Flashy Cars:** Cars are very important to a tool. The flashier the car, the bigger the tool. Nice cars are great, but when a car is totally tricked out, the guy inside probably isn't the nicest. Playing his music extremely loud means he's likely tool-ish. We can see your car coming sir, we don't need to hear it, too.

**8. Muscle Shirts & Gym Addicts:** Being in shape is great (what girl doesn't love abs?), but a guy who goes to the weight room constantly is pretty tooly. When said tool works out constantly, it usually results in muscle, which he loves to show off. He wears muscle shirts, shirts with rips

down the side, or tank tops. In some cases, the guy might just take his shirt off. Unless doing so at the pool, this guy is definitely a tool.

**9. Hair Products:** It's wonderful when a guy cares what he looks like. Hygiene is a good attribute, but too many hair products indicates that the guy is very self-centered. If a guy takes longer to do his hair than his girlfriend, he's a tool.

**10. Playing Girls:** 'Playing' as in messing with a girl's emotions. Flirting (often over text) while talking to other girls at the same time. If the flirting suddenly stops for no reason, you were talking to a tool.

If after reading this you notice these traits in a guy you're talking to, I'd advise extreme caution. Or, if after reading this, you notice these traits in yourself, you should probably seek immediate help.

## Treasure preschool and treasure high school



Lexi Trujillo  
Staff Reporter

From June until the beginning of school for three years now, I've witnessed lots of life. Moments that some people would never take in, I inhale deeply.

Daily, I am blessed to watch the children at Jelly Bean Day-care grow. Every day of sum-

mer, I find myself wondering, where did the time go? Days seem to be separated by weeks, but still, moments are not always caught. They are all oblivious -- like every other child -- to what moments they should treasure. They seldom realize the simplest seconds that contribute to my personal happiness.

These children make me happier than anything.

They make me angry, sometimes too, but I love and appreciate their innocence. Not to mention, their smiles, their unconditional love, their tears, their silliness, their everything. Their parents should be so very proud. I know that I am.

Life comes at us all unexpectedly, often revealing its presence too late or inconve-

niently. And unfortunately, one day each of these children may recognize that and wonder about their childhood and where it went.

High school goes like that. I wish no one comes to that point in time where they ask themselves, where did my high school years go? because it's depressingly filled with an answer that can only provide an "I don't know."

From the first day of school until June for the past four years now, I've witnessed lots of life. There is a fair share of proud, painful, and bittersweet high school moments circulating within these halls. When all is said and done, whether leaving consists of being infamous or famous -- we leave. But hopefully with every memory and moment intact.

To every freshman, remember every second of high school. If you take it by hours, it might be too short.

Everyone here has experienced missed opportunities (and lack thereof) and we all make mistakes -- I have a few I would take back in a heartbeat. But that's life. Inhale it, because once it's exhaled, it's gone.

To my daycare kids, remember every second of your life that you can -- good and bad. One day you will realize the impact that you are capable of having on others. You have already impacted my life immensely.

Freshmen, may these four years make you happier than anything. Oh, and welcome to the best, fastest, worst years of your life.

## World Cup from a Spartan goalie's perspective



Ashley Potts  
Staff Reporter

We all know what summer encompasses; no school, staying out late, sleeping in. Every four years it also brings the Women's World Cup. This year, the World Cup was held in Germany.

It's the biggest event in soccer, the ultimate goal, every soccer player's dream. I was glued to my TV, following the US Women's National Team intently.

I'd plop myself on the couch, and turn into the stereotypical old man yelling at the players on the screen.

This lasted about three weeks, through wins, losses, and heart-stopping penalty shoot-outs. The anniversary of the last US Women's World Cup victory was like *deja vu*. The game played out just as it had twelve years previously.

The tournament was full of twists and turns. The more I watched, the more entranced I became. Finally, the US and Japan came out on top.

The USWNT's success brought attention to soccer, which is sadly overlooked in the US. They broke the record for most tweets per second during the final game. The sport was getting a more respect and attention.

The World Cup finals is the biggest match in soccer. My only comparison is a big game against BV, multiplied by a thousand. Both teams have crazy amounts of pressure riding on the outcome.

I felt Japan was trying to give hope to their country, which months before had suffered disaster. They were inspired to

play the kind of soccer I, one day, hope to play. Surprisingly, the underdog had a bigger bite than their bark implied.

The US had names to live up to. No female soccer player takes Mia Hamm and Brandi Chastain lightly. People were expecting a repeat of the '99 World Cup success; no pressure.

Soccer is the most popular sport everywhere except for in the US. Majority of high school students attending soccer games are those on the team, while stands are filled at football games.

I was ecstatic that this team was showing our country why soccer is so popular. Never would our country rally on the success of a soccer team the way Japan did. We couldn't even get our soccer team to watch the game together.

The final World Cup game kept me on the edge of my seat. The game went to extra time and a penalty shoot-out. Japan held their ground, but the US seemed shaken.

Japan dominated, becoming the 2011 Women's World Cup champions.

Shocked, I tried to laugh it off, joking Ashton Kutcher would pop out any moment telling us we'd been Punk'd. I was upset until watching an interview with Abby Wambach. Shining with sweat and tears she said, "It just seemed like all of Japan suffered so much. It seemed like their country needed them to win more than ours." She was right.

The US didn't win the World Cup, but every game inspired me. I watched Hope Solo, examining every move so I might be able to repeat it one day. I imagined what it would look like if I was in Solo's place in goal.

I admired the class with which the team handled such an enormous loss and the sportsmanship it took to congratulate someone who got what you wanted. If the game of soccer can teach one fan that much without even winning, how can you not love it?

## Math instructor takes on new history class

*Filling the World History gap after the resignation of Nick Griffin*

Ashley Potts & Demi Vanatta  
Staff Reporters

Think taking multiple subjects is hard? Try teaching multiple subjects. This year, math teacher Fred Maxwell is taking on a class in a new subject; history.

Nick Griffin taught World History last year, but due to his resignation, Maxwell took over the responsibility.

Maxwell said he is "super-excited" about the chance to teach the new subject, because he has a background in history. He lived in Italy for about six months and took classes on Early European History as part of a college study abroad program.

He has also travelled the East Coast giving assemblies to inner-city kids about "pioneer living" and survival skills. He's taught Middle School history as well as Government, Geography, and Humanities at high school levels.

It's difficult for Maxwell to switch between teaching the two subjects because they have such different mindsets.

Math has exact answers and specific steps to get there,

while history is based on thoughts and has "no true answer."

Maxwell has a bigger workload with the extra class, mostly involving planning for World History. He needs to plan things that keep the class engaged. "I want to think outside the box," he said.

It's interesting for Maxwell to teach history because it's a snapshot of the whole world. He's not really a fan of the extra planning, or having to grade long essays rather than math homework.

His students say his history class isn't really all that different from his math class or Griffin's class, with the exception of a bit more discussion. Sophomore, Isaac Koelsch said, "Maxwell's class is less straight-forward than Griffin's [was]. He's more laid back."

Multiple students agree that Maxwell is a good teacher no matter what the subject.

Maxwell is a perfect example of a teacher who takes risks, and uses a lot of his own time to give his students a great education. He truly works hard to make his class both fun to take, and to teach.

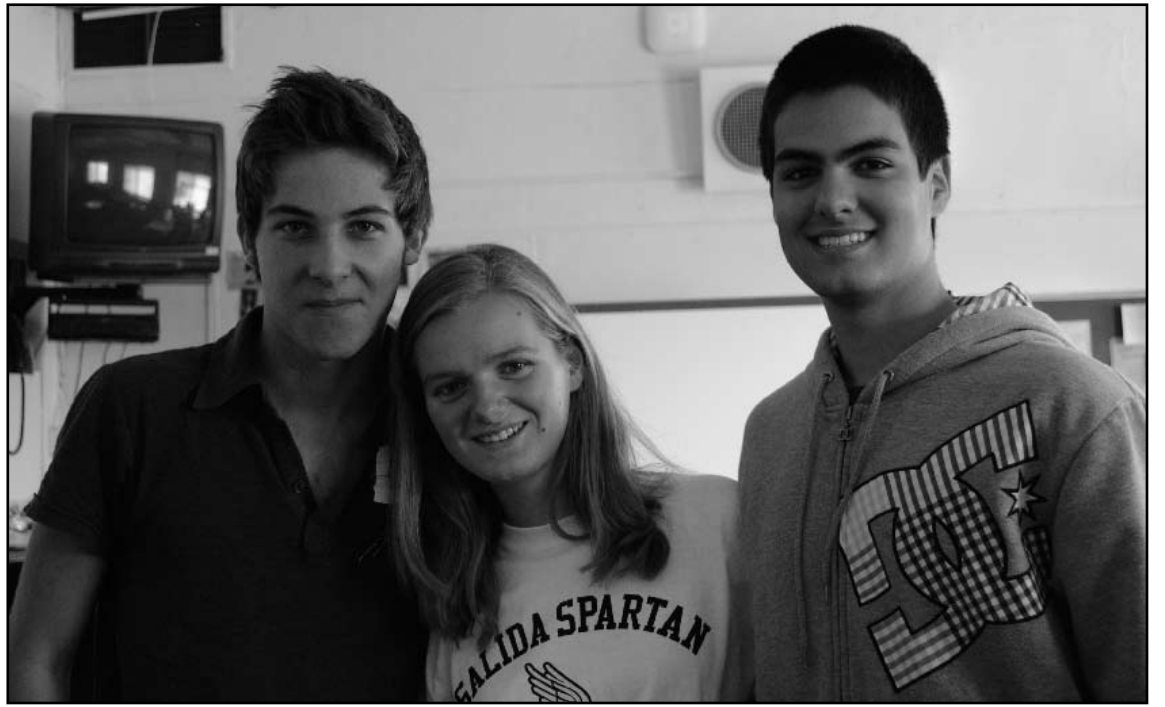


Photo by: McKinley Witty

**EDOARDO BROVERA, SENIOR, Antonia Seitz, Junior, and Victor Weber, Senior pose for a picture. Adele Erespkov, also a senior, is not pictured. The foreign exchange students have travelled from Italy, Germany, Czech Republic, and Brazil to Salida High School.**

## Meet SHS' four exchange students

Robin Petersen, Ashley Potts, Riley Donovan, & Savannah Lee-Sobal  
Staff Reporters

Every year, a few young adults get the opportunity to travel to a foreign place, live with a host family, and experience an entirely new culture.

**Adele Erespkov** travelled from Ostrava, Czech Republic.

A senior, Erespkov wanted to come to America to improve her language skills, learn about the culture, and meet new people. So far she likes Salida; "It is small so I can go almost anywhere without bothering someone to drive me."

At first she was scared that people wouldn't like her, but has made friends really fast.

While she is here, she is excited to go rafting. Erespkova also tried out the volleyball team. At her school in Czech Republic, there aren't school sports' teams.

One adjustment is in Czech, dinner is a small meal and lunch is prominent. She still finds herself adapting to our "weird" eating schedule.

She is also adapting to living with a host family. At home, she lives with only her dad since her two older sisters have moved out. She doesn't mind being around her host family, she said, it is just different than what she is used to.

The schedules are the biggest difference for Erespkova their changes can be confusing. "We don't get to choose the subjects we take, everyone does all of them. The only subject we do choose is language," she said.

One of the things she misses the most is the longer breaks in between classes to socialize with friends.

She hopes the exchange will bring her experiences that she couldn't earn any other way.

**Victor Weber** travelled from Curitiba, Brazil.

For his senior year, he's living with senior, Rich Mancuso's family.

"I'm constantly asking Vic-

tor questions about Brazil, how to say things in Portuguese, and many other things. He asks me questions too, so we are both learning about other places in the world," said Mancuso.

Weber wanted to do an exchange to see another culture, be independent, and learn another language.

America and Brazil are clearly very different, but the biggest difference Weber notices is the school. He says the classes are a little harder.

He anticipated making friends would be difficult, but found that it wasn't nearly as hard as he thought.

"At first I thought it would be awkward, but Victor fits right in. He isn't shy and jokes around all the time...I consider him my Brazilian brother," said Mancuso.

Weber misses his family most. He has two younger brothers, thirteen and fifteen.

While in Salida, Weber is participating in soccer. He said the team is good, and he has fun playing. He wants to earn a college scholarship before he leaves at the end of the year.

Mancuso also said, "Victor was supposed to stay with another family, but they were unable to....I had no idea he was going to stay with me until I found out he was pretty much 'homeless.' I'm glad we decided to have Victor."

**Edoardo Brovera**

travelled from Turin, Italy.

He came to work on English, explore America, and have fun.

He really didn't have any expectations of what Salida would be like because he found out where he was going a day before he arrived.

Brovera lives with the senior Justin Giorno's family. He said that the family structure is quite a bit different.

"In Italy it is more common to eat together as a family." He also said that people eat earlier in America, than in Italy.

So far his favorite "American" meal is burritos.

He plays on the soccer team and is also looking into football. He loves the soccer team and coaches. During winter he might ski.

Giorno said Brovera loves the TV show "How I Met Your Mother" and having him is "really no different because he is Italian, it's just like having any normal person with you."

**Antonia Seitz**

travelled from Hofheim, Germany.

She came to America because she wanted to know what it was like to live in a different country instead of just visiting. She also wants to improve her English and learn about American culture.

Her host family is the Adamson's -- Jacob, junior, and Jessica, freshman.

Unlike most exchange students, she knew her host family before she arrived. Karen Adamson, host mother became friends with Seitz's mother and Antonia and Jacob quickly became best friends when they were young.

Jacob said it is really fun having her here and that she is a great attribute to the cross country team.

Seitz said that the school system is a lot different here than in Germany, where classes are divided up into different days of the week so they can hold about twelve classes in a school year.

She feels it's nice to have the same classes all the time, but there aren't as many chances for other studies because we only have seven classes.

Regardless, her favorite thing about the school in all is how "small and close together everything is."

There is not as much nature largely due to how close Hofheim is to industrial Frankfurt, said Seitz. She appreciates Salida's amazing views and proximity with nature as well as civilization.

Seitz said misses her friends, family, and German bread.

## New Jones on the block

Tres to replace Kelley in life-skills classes

Orion Gamber  
Staff Reporter

Tres Jones is a new teacher at Salida High School. After Kelley Jones resigned last year, Tres was hired to replace her as the Life Skills teacher.

"I grew up in Texas, and I lived in Arizona for a couple years. I have taught in both of those states, and here in Chaffee County as well, for the past ten years.

"I always wanted to be a lawyer back in high school, but eventually I fell in with the life skills program and decided to become a special-ed teacher." Jones went on to graduate from the University of Texas.

He recently acquired his Master's degree in administration.

"When I was in school and still to this day, I learn visually. So, I use models and demonstrations to teach. I also like to keep my students engaged and I make the lessons fun as well," said Jones. "I try to make life skills fun and approachable," Jones said.

His approach on teaching helps the students learn skills they'll need in a fun, understandable way.

With his pug Ralph, he has joined two paraprofessionals, Terri Buck and Quinten Trollop in the Life Skills classroom



Photo by: Riley Donovan

who taught with Kelley the past several years..

Megan Nason, a student of Jones, said, "He has a different way of teaching than Mrs. Jones, but I seem to be learning more now. I've learned how to repair a bike, and that I can play other sports instead of just basketball..."

"I'm really grateful for the skills I have learned and will be learning. Hopefully, the right opportunity will arise, and I'll be able to go into trade school."

Jones plans to stay in our district. "I'm going to keep building life skills in our program, try harder to recycle and focus even more on the kids. I'm really excited to be here, and everyone has been really supportive," concluded Jones.

# Four months later: SHS from dirt to structures



Photos by: McKinnley Witty & Ashlyn Stewart

## School skyline switches

Michael Ricci & Kelly Canon  
Assistant Photo Editor & Contributor

The southern skyline of Salida High has quickly changed. The structures fit a different landscape than that of the original track and practice football field.

Construction of the new Salida High building began with a groundbreaking ceremony on May 24. The contractors, school board, students, teachers, and community members attended the ceremony. Tami Thompson, high school principal and Darryl Webb, district superintendent broke ground using a construction digger.

Since May, a foundation has been laid and the walls of the gym complex and auditorium have been erected.

The walls of the two structures are made of panels. Each panel was lifted into place by one of the 580,000 pound cranes. The panels are 36 feet tall but only stand 33 feet in height. The remaining three feet are buried to add support for the walls. Panels are used instead of blocks because of the tight schedule to complete the project.

"They went precast because it allows you to go a lot faster because the schedule's tight instead of having to mason the whole gym with blocks . . . it would take two months for them," John Diesslin said.

The construction is nearly on schedule, with a few delays in supplies.

After the football season is over the remaining field will be taken over by construction. Andres Field House will face the same fate after the basketball season.

The work will continue off of the current gym and auditorium complexes. A simple peek out of the doors of Larimer Gym shows the steel mainframe future locker rooms of the school.

The school will be habitable near the end of the 2012 summer, if everything goes to plan. The full grounds of the school such as the football field, track, and parking lots should be done near the beginning of the 2012-2013 school year, or a few months thereafter.

The construction team and school administration encourage teachers to use the construction site as a teaching tool.

**SCHOOL PROGRESS MARKED** by the 24th of each month starting with May on page six and June through Sept. left to right on page seven.



## Alum works construction

Catie Wilken, Bailee Gardunio, & Savanah Lee-Sobal  
Staff Reporters

The construction of the new high school takes many employees to complete, and several of these hard workers have graduated from Salida High School.

This summer, the Diesslin Structures Inc. (DSI) construction crew will tear down a part of the building that holds memories for many people, including some of those working to build the future school.

Joe Anderson is one of these people. He graduated from Salida High School in the class of 1994 and now works on the DSI construction crew. In high school, Anderson played golf, and his favorite memories were being on the newspaper and yearbook.

When he found out he'd be helping out with the project, Anderson said, "[I was] very excited. At the company we've definitely been wanting to be working on it, because we've grown up here, and it means a lot to us."

Anderson was qualified for the job in more ways than one. He was born and raised in Salida, and his dad was in the construction business as well.

"I guess I was around construction my whole life," he said. He now works as a project manager and helps with support work and ordering.

"Honestly, I think it's time for the old school to come down be-

cause of its condition...The new high school will be so much better than the old school," said Anderson.

When asked if he feels sad about the school he spent four years in being demolished, Anderson said, "From my point of view, it probably won't be emotional...I don't think the school really is going down. Kesner is staying, so that's very good. I just like the old, historical part of Kesner."

Although he didn't have input in making the design plans, Anderson approves of the layout. "I think the building's laid out very well...There's a lot of wasted space in the old school. The new school will be so much better as far as space usage."

Anderson said the construction of the new building is going very well, and he believes the new building should be on schedule.

"I think it's great. Every time I'm out there, something new is up. It's amazing. It's fun to see the school go up," said Anderson.

Getting to tear down your former high school is a pretty rare experience, but for Joe Anderson, it's all in a day's work.

If you're a SHS alumni involved in the construction of the new school, please contact us at catiewilken@gmail.com or baileegardunio@gmail.com.

## Students share demolition ideas

Reh & Demi Vanatta  
Copy Editor & Staff Reporter

At the end of last year, Salida started a two year adventure of building a new school. It began by taking down the soccer field and track -- the sight of the new building.

At the end of football season, the football field will disappear. The field house will proceed to be torn down when basketball season concludes.

Finally, at the end of this school year, we will see much of the current Salida High School being torn down.

There are so many memories such as many graduations, our first high school sports events, and much more that the students of Salida High School have made in this building.

During the assembly on the first day of school, the students were promised a chance to leave their mark on the school in some way when the time comes.

When asked what they wanted to do, the students had many great ideas in mind.

"I think we should paint a mural on a big wall of a timeline of special events that have happened at Salida High School."

-Derek Scott, Freshman

"I think we should have a big food fight throughout the

school."  
-Justin Parker, Sophomore

"I say we just paintball the school..."  
-Tony Gentile, Sophomore

"I think we should spray paint the inside and make it look all ghetto."  
-Ruth Bartel, Freshman

"I think it would be cool to get all the students in the school to sign a banner like the sports banner in the field house and hang it up in the new school."  
-Raymie Bess, Junior

"I would want to leave my mark by signing a wall or putting my handprint on a random ceiling..."  
"We are going to be the last freshman to go through this school so it would be cool to leave my mark on it somewhere, even if it is going to get torn down."  
-Ali Higgins, Freshman

"What if we went outside and gratified the walls of the part we are tearing down and graffiti it but only with Spartan spirit and inspiring quotes. We could even throw paint filled water balloons at it."  
-Mia Golin, Freshman

"I want to hit something with a hammer and I want to

plant a tree."  
-Harmony Hartranft, Freshman

"We should all take down a part of the school and then write our memories on the walls."  
-Fabian McGlasson, Senior

"Each student should have a little section of the school that they can call their own and mark on it however they choose."  
-Sage Kitson, Junior

"I think it would be rather wicked if someone took charge and went around and asked 50 students what their most sincere thoughts about the school are, whether they are good or bad, and got it on film with some neat instrumental music in the background."  
"It should just be some general thoughts about the school, with some scenery footage of the school and put it together in a quick document titled 'Salida High: the good, the bad, the memories.'"  
-Michael Procko, Sophomore

"It should be a fundraiser; they should give students sledge hammers, so, they can say they helped tear down their school."  
-Adri Claybrook, Junior



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# A.m. coffee dilemma

Brooke Love  
Staff Reporter

Coffee. To drink or not to drink? The question seems to come down to whether the cup full of hot liquid energy, used to jump-start a day or to stay awake for late night work, is benefiting your body, or hurting it. Is coffee good or bad for you?

Coffee can be controversial. Some think it's the eighth wonder of the world, and does good, and others dislike it, and believe that it can do harm.

"I drink coffee so that I can get going more quickly in the morning, and it is more of a daily routine for me, than an addiction. It's a ritual and symbol of the morning. I never drink coffee after noon," Brendan Cassidy, Spanish teacher said.

The jitters and shakes are a common side effect; along with stomach pains which make some wonder how it could possibly be healthy for your body if the side effects are so common.

"I don't drink coffee, because I think that the taste is disgusting, and it hurts my stomach every time I drink it," said Amy Moore, social studies teacher.

Stomach pains and aches. This is most likely caused by the chemicals, found both caffeinated and decaffeinated coffees, which are known to irritate the stomach lining, and can cause digestive disorders and stress.

"I drink tea in the morning instead of coffee," Moore said. "It still has a little caffeine in it, but not as much as coffee."

Some may not drink coffee because it makes the drinker contrive chronic "Coffee Breath," and stained teeth. Many people choose not to drink coffee for other reasons.

"Coffee can't be healthy for your body, because it eventually makes you have a dependence on caffeine and you will no longer be able to function without it. It also can affect sports performance," Kyle Fowler, junior, said. "I hear of people all the time that don't drink coffee the day of a race or test because it might affect their performance."

Surprisingly, coffee can have a positive effect. Someone who drinks coffee regularly is less likely to: contract type II diabetes; get Parkinson's Disease and dementia; are 20% less likely to have a stroke; and are often in a better mood.

"I'm not entirely sure if coffee is entirely healthy, but it sure makes me feel better when I hear how good the antioxidants and fiber in the coffee can be for you," Cassidy commented.

Coffee can affect the teens and children who drink it by causing attention problems.

"I don't drink coffee, because I don't want to get addicted. I know people who can't get out of bed without the encouragement of a cup of coffee. I don't want to be that guy," Fowler said.

Whether for or against coffee everyone has to make the decision to drink coffee, and risk the addiction and side effects, or to not drink coffee and sacrifice the speedy start to the day.

# Feathers, feathers everywhere

Michaela Weber and Robin Petersen  
Advertising Manager & Staff Reporter

They are everywhere. In short hair and in long hair. Some are bright colors, others are neutral. These are feather extensions. These multi-colored hair accessories had swept the nation practically overnight.

They come from real roosters that are genetically bred to produce long, colorful tail feathers. It takes about a year for a rooster to fully grow out its feathers. After that year, the birds are euthanized and their tail feathers are plucked and sold. Normally, these types of feathers would be sold to fishing supply stores and used for fly fishing.

Over the past year, farms have sold more feathers to salons so that they can color them and put them into people's hair. Some farms have had a difficult time keeping

up with the demands. In order to try, they have killed almost twice the number of roosters in the past year.

According to thegloss.com, a farm in western Colorado kills 1500 roosters a week; that is 6000 roosters per month!

It all started about a year ago. A British designer is said to have inspired this strange trend with his latest fashion line that included many pieces with ragged feathers and ripped clothing.

Celebrities were then spotted wearing them and that's where it all began. Pretty soon everyone had them, young and old, tall and short.

Now it's hard to walk down the street without seeing someone with bird feathers on her head. At first, advertising for feathers was by word of mouth. But now, there are ads

in newspapers, magazines, and T.V. commercials. None of these ads mention the way the feathers are made or how companies produce them.

Like the movies at our theater, trends like this don't usually come to a town our size until a couple months after they have faded out in big cities. This time, it was different. They appeared within a week of hearing about them.

"They're a part of a style now! They're really popular and are a fun way to change your look without damaging your hair," Sammi Leewayee, junior said. Leewayee has been a major advocate in the Salida feather craze by modeling the extensions for Tangles Salon.

So the next time you hear the phrase shake your tail feathers, think about the roosters' tail feathers that are on the head of the person next to you, and the way they came to be there.

# Where were you on Sept. 11, 2011?

Staff and students reflect on the fateful day of U.S. history

Danyel Enz & Michael Ricci  
Staff Reporter & Assistant Photo Editor

Where were you? What were you doing on that dismal and difficult Sept. 11 morning? The morning that the United States was attacked, and the New York skyline changed forever.

"I was at the Chevy garage, working," Autoshop teacher, Kevin Thonoff said. At first, like most Americans watching, Thonoff thought it was a horrible accident. He was also immediately angry when he found out it was a terrorist attack.

Most students at Salida High remember where they were and what they were doing.

Rich Mancuso, Senior, lived in New York at the time and said, "I was in the second grade at the time. Stony Point, New York, it's thirty miles North of the city. The teachers turned on the T.V.s in every room. Then school was let out early. I watched it [the news] at my grandparent's house after my grandpa picked me up."

Mancuso's father was meant to be at the 98th floor to fix a cabinet but it was back ordered. Mancuso thinks that day made the United States a more "United' States. New York turned into a big family," he said.

"I was in Lamar Gym during school," Shawn Simpson, drafting teacher, who taught in Lamar at the time, said. "It was scary not knowing how big the attack was, it was definitely a wake up call."

Simpson thinks 9/11 brought more people together in America. "People were more willing to help each other," he said.

Being ten years from the attack, Ground Zero in New York is now a Memorial Park, with a water fountain structure where the South Tower's foundation once was. The monument has the names of all who were lost.

"I was in Hayden, Idaho. My friend gave me a call and told me to turn on the T.V. I didn't think something like that could happen," said Jodi Francis, English teacher.

Francis believes America still has issues with division in America after the attack.

On the morning of the tenth anniversary, Salida held a memorial at Riverside Park. The memorial was not just to remember the people in the World Trade Center, but also the people who were killed in the Pentagon attack on the same day.

The fire truck on the F Street bridge sounded three times, a signal that means the area is not safe.

Presbyterian Church bell rang four times in five repetitions, the signal to lower all American flags to half mast in honor of fallen firefighters. The memorial concluded with bagpipes.

At the Pentagon Memorial Service for the tenth anniversary, Vice President Joe Biden said that the important thing is "We remember."

Even though Salida High School students were as young as four years old at the time of the attacks, the students and staff remember those who have fallen.

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## Boys and Girls Club to offer teen nights

Boys and Girls Club of Chaffee County will offer nights exclusively for youth ages thirteen through eighteen on Tuesday and Thursday nights from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m.

The nights are free, but teens must be a member of Boys and Girls club to participate. The

nights will feature food, X-BOX, music, programs, and a "place to relax and be with friends."

A kick-off party will be held on Oct. 6 aforementioned times. The party will have a dodgeball tournament in addition to the regular activities.

## Art club update

The Art Club meets after school every other Wednesday in Janine Frazee's room. Currently the group is designing and creating the posters for the Homecoming games and other festivities and the new sports posters.

The club will also work concessions Sept. 29 at the Salida vs. CSCS volleyball game.

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Courtesy Photo

**CITY LIGHTS STUDENTS, chaperones, and staff pose for a photo outside of Telluride's elementary school the final day of the festival. Six students from Salida High, six from Sargent-Monte Vista High, and four from Telluride attended the festival along with chaperones from each school. Joe Coffman, senior attendee, said that by the end of the festival the group was like "a big family."**

## City Lights provides enrichment

Lexi Trujillo & McKinnley Witty  
Staff Reporter & Photo Editor

The Telluride Film Festival City Lights program offered a once in a lifetime opportunity for high school students from Sept. 1 - 5, 2011.

Six Salida High School students along with two teachers were accepted into the program. These students were juniors, Annie Deveney, Kyle Fowler, and Ashlyn Stewart, and seniors, Joe Coffman, and us, Lexi Trujillo, and McKinnley Witty.

Deborah Bass, an English teacher, and Amy Moore, a social studies teacher, accompanied the us as chaperones. Nine other students from Telluride and Sargent-Monte Vista High School joined, plus two teachers from Sargent and one from Telluride.

"It was a great opportunity to get to know students better outside of the classroom setting," said Moore.

Before attending the festival, we were required to attend five classes to preview and discuss films that were provided by the City Lights

program.

For five days, we stayed in Telluride. The film festival officially started Friday afternoon, but we arrived early for orientation and a special screening of a silent movie -- The Artist.

We were given an assignment to complete before the actual festival began where we were divided into groups with the other City Lights' students and asked to familiarize ourselves with the town and where theatres were located. by making a comic book and

Through the course of the weekend, we watched over fifteen films, including silent films, foreign films, documentaries, and unreleased Hollywood films.

After viewing films, we met with directors to ask questions and discuss their work. Ken Burns (The National Parks), Werner Herzog (The Grizzly Man), Jon Shenk (Lost Boys of Sudan), Dr. Biju, Peter Sellars, and student filmmakers from NYU were among several

filmmakers we met.

A valuable quote we were able to take away from discussions came from Burns who said, "It's not that history repeats itself; it's that people don't change."

Discussions weren't only about films, but about life lessons and valuable experiences. We learned more about each other and ourselves through each discussion. We became very close to one another and took more than just the aspects of film making away from the trip.

Most days, we were expected to be at a meeting by seven. Throughout the day we walked back and forth from theatres to discussions. There were seven theatres, including one outdoor and one a gondola ride away.

Reflecting on the end of the trip, we have made lifelong friends and have learned a wealth of knowledge about the film industry and life itself.

Moore said that "The personal growth among students and for me was surprising, especially in such a short amount of time."

**THE U.S.A. PRO-CYCLING Challenge had a great start in Salida on Aug. 24. The race brought many people to the town to watch a great start to a fast and hard road cycling race that was about to ensue. Several students from the Salida High School who interviewed the riders, volunteered to help, got autographs and just watched the race. The end of the seven day race crowned Levi Leipheimer as winner.**

Photo by: McKinnley Witty



## Bright flips on students

Isaac Stackonis & Reh Vanatta  
Staff Reporter & Copy Editor

Many teachers take new approaches compared to the traditional curriculum styles.

Todd Bright, Chemistry, Physical Science and Physics teacher took up a new style this year that involves CALM (Computer Assisted Learning Method).

Also, lessons are now taught via video streaming at home and homework is done in class.

This "flipped" class "is good because you get to ask the teacher questions and fully understand the problems," Daniel McFarland, junior, said.

Bright is excited and believes that the system allows him to better help the students in class who are having trouble with the CALM problems.

He also believes it will help out with kids who may not be at school a day for sports or illness because they can get the same content of a normal lesson, but can get that content at any location with internet.

The main problem of the flipped class is that the location of Salida, in the mountains, causes trouble for students to find internet connections and technologies.

How the system works would be: students watch video PowerPoints that Bright has made, and then come into class the next day prepared to discuss the video and work on lessons Bright has prepared.

Tami Thompson, principal, believes the flipped class will work and is a good idea with the technologies that are at hand in this decade.

She said she liked it and was willing to work with it. Bright came to her last year and told her of teachers in Woodland Park using this new system. He attended a conference where they presented how the system works, and Bright believed that this would be a good, new way, although he misses the interaction while lecturing.

McFarland found some of the CALM questions hard because it is "picky about their answers." He believes that Bright is understanding because he too is partaking in these new changes.

This new flipped class style seems to be working well, for students, faculty, and the teacher. Bright also said that he is hoping that it works well, but if all of the students believe the new system isn't working, he'll easily go back to the old one.

## JKB from an insider

Reh Vanatta  
Copy Editor

This past summer, Mi-caela Lowe, my best friend, and I had the privilege of being selected for the J. Kyle Braid Leadership Foundation. Last year, sophomore year of high school, we went through a lengthy selection process to earn our visit to the ranch.

In 1994 Collene and Ken Braid started the ranch in memory of their son, Kyle Braid, who, as a result of a major mood swing caused by taking anabolic steroids, ended up taking his own life. "Instead of asking why do bad things happen to good people, I asked what do good people do when bad things happen to them," said Ken.

The ranch is meant to take great athletes and leaders, and help them further improve their skills. We learned different skills such as helping skills, negotiation skills, and refusal skills. We also learned a great deal of teamwork, trust, patience, and responsibility.

Whether it be in the ropes course, in the classroom, during an activity, or doing our chores, we were constantly applying what we were learning. Everything we did at the ranch was done for a reason, and with each new activity, we learned a little bit more.

Everything we did was meant to take us out of our

comfort zones. Between white water rafting, horse-back riding, paint balling, gun shooting, fly fishing, karaoke, square dancing, and even a few pranks, chances are we were going to be doing something new to us and maybe even a little scary.

My absolute favorite part about the ranch was the girls. Spending a week with 21 other girls from different parts of the country seemed a little daunting at first. From the second I stepped into the van that picked me up, I knew those girls would be life-long friends.

On night one, we all sat around the bon-fire and got to know each other very well. As time went on, we only got closer and started to realize how remarkably alike, yet very different, we all were. By the end of the week, we were truly family.

"I always wanted a twin sister, but I never thought I would get 21 of them," said Taylor Brooks of Woodhull, Illinois.

Simply put, the ranch is completely unexplainable. The experience is like no other thing in the world; the people are the best friends I will ever meet, and the classroom work will be applied to my everyday life forever. It was probably the longest week of my life, but despite homesickness and fear, it was the absolute best week of my life. I wouldn't have changed a thing.

## Spartan volleyball sets off with young team

Danyel Enz  
Staff Reporter

Spartans Lady's Volleyball fall to two more losses bringing their season up to 4-0. Within two weeks Spartans took to the court with TCA Titans and James Irwin's Jaguars.

On Thursday the Sept. 15 our Lady Spartans went toe to hairy toe with the Titans. The Titans tanked the Spartans as the lost momentum in each game. In the end, the scores stood 25-17, 25-11, and 25-5.

Senior Michaela Weber said, "Filling the varsity positions [is hard] because you need to get used to it and know what it's like to work with each other."

The team remains optimistic that they will get it down before their next home game. The JV and C Team kept the games close, with massive point recoveries; but in the end it wasn't enough. JV went down 25-17 and 25-22. C Team went down with games totaling 25-18 and 25-15.

Brianna Rose, junior, said, "We have improved since last year, but there is always room for improvement."

On Monday the 19th, our Spartans wrestled with James Irwin's Jaguars. Unfortunately, we were pounced. Varsity scores totaled 25-14, 25-19 and 25-9.

Morgan Holm, sophomore and starter on Varsity, said, "[Our] weakness is communicating, [but] our strength is team unity."

JV and C Team pulled through the Jaguar's jungle victorious. JV had three games, each intense and point by point. JV's scores were 25-23, 25-10(loss), and 25-20. C Team was equally solid even if their last match was a bit of a struggle. In the end they came out on top with 25-8 and 25-18.

Even though the Titans and Jaguars ran through them, the team will stop the Lions at the next home game on Sept. 29. That way Rio Wintz, junior, can look forward to more of those, "exciting blocks."



Photo by: Catie Wilken

**BASKET-TOSSES ARE LAUNCHED** by competition cheerleaders on Sept. 9 in Larimer Gym. On the left, sophomore Kaylin Garcia is thrown by Julaine Graves and Kento Marlow, juniors, and Harmony Hartranft and Demi Vanatta, freshmen. Sophomore Mellissa Rodriguez is tossed by Tim DeVos, Micaela Lowe, Emily Dewberry, and Michaela Medrano, juniors. In front, Bailee Gardunio, sophomore, Hayley McCoy and Kelsey Peter, freshmen, and Gabby Filter, senior, catch Ashlyn Stewart, junior. The cheerleaders had an all day practice with their choreographer, John Baran from Littleton, CO. Their first competition will be Nov. 5.

## Mountain bikers succeed at home

Daniel Archambeau  
Staff Reporter

One year ago Fred Maxwell, Salida High School math teacher, along with other Colorado schools joined NICA (the National Interscholastic Cycling Association) based out of California to start a Colorado league for competitive high school mountain bikers.

Maxwell has the team going determined and ready along with a plethora of coaches including math teachers Jon Bailey and Josh Bechtel; community members Heidi Slaymaker, Zach Moore, James Harmeyer, and many others who have come out to bike with the team.

In August, the week before school started, coaches ran a mountain bike camp Monday through Thursday to prep the team for the season. Bikers learned to service their bikes, became more aggressive riders, and raised team morale. The majority of riders who attended were in coming freshmen.

Nineteen bikers strong, the team has brought a new excitement to the little school of Salida, giving otherwise uncompetitive fall sport seasons, for most bikers, a reason to train hard and strive for competitive excellence.

Sunday, Sept. 18 the team opened in Nathrop with double the number of racers as the previous year.

Garrett Lundberg led the Spartan team taking a tough fourth place in the varsity race. Isaac Stackonis wasn't far behind taking eighth and creating a precedence of two



Photo by: Michael Ricci

**MOUNTAIN BIKER JONAH** Byars, freshman, leads a group of riders in the freshmen boys division up a sheer trail at Salida's home meet in Nathrop on Sept. 18. Byars ended with a 9th place finish in the category.

tough Salida racers. The Varsity and Junior Varsity racers had to complete three laps around the course, while sophomore and freshmen races completed two.

Even with seniors Lundberg and Travis Clark graduating, the team has a bright future with juniors Stackonis and Marc Nickerson. Nickerson and Clark competed in the junior varsity division.

Jake Kastner led the sophomore race getting a promising second place, followed by Cody Johnstone (8th), Jake DeKing (13th), Riley Donovan (14th), and Marc Smith.

Freshmen boys' race was led by Jonah Byars (9th), followed by Quenten Richards (13th), Dylan Murphy (23rd), and Sol Shepherd.

The girls team had a strong showing with three competitive racers. Junior Sage Kitson was Salida's only varsity girl; she took fifth in the race.

Kelsay Lundberg and Hannah Sites raced in the freshmen division, showing a lot of potential. Kelsay won the race and Sites showed that even for her first time racing, she would finish strong. It was a good first show for the Salida girls.

## Three golfers qualify for state meet

Justin Giorno  
Staff Reporter

The Salida golf team teed off their season on Aug. 11 at Pueblo West's Desert Hawk. The team graduated one senior last year, leaving them experience on the course.

There are returning four seniors, Daniel Archambeau, Preston LaGree, Cole Hiser, and Gabe Scanga. The team started their season a couple weeks before school, so this makes their season end in Oct. with their state tournament.

"It's a short season, but packed with so many tournaments," said Hiser.

The Spartans only have three league tournaments that determine who makes all conference or not. These tournaments consist of Hollydot, Florence, and CSCS.

Archambeau, ranked sixth in his league will place all-conference. There are a few golfers a few strokes shy of all-conference, but had a chance to place at Regionals.

"I wanted to shoot well at every tournament, but the game of golf is one of the most mentally frustrating activities you can do. My goal this year was to make state, and I am shooting my way towards that every tournament," LaGree said. Spartan golfers have had multiple varsity tournaments where the top four boys have travelled. Most of the tournaments were away, mainly in the Pueblo area.

However the boys have played in the Butch Braswell Tournament, a two-day tournament where the first round

is played in Buena Vista, and the second in Salida.

LaGree shot a 76 the first day and 79 the second day, resulting in a fifth place finish. This tournament was not just varsity; all the golfers on the Spartan team played.

"I like playing on the Salida course. I could definitely do both days in Salida, because I don't like Buena Vista's course. It is hard to play with junior varsity and varsity players," said Archambeau. On Sept. 20 four boys traveled down Hollydot in Pueblo.

**Golf is one of the most mentally frustrating activities you can do.**

**-Preston Lagree**

The golfers needed to shoot a 90 to guarantee a spot at state. Two golfers from Salida, Archambeau and LaGree made the cut.

They are joined by a Cotopaxi golfer, Mason Dodder, who also plays for the Spartans.

The boys will travel on Oct. 3 and 4 to Gunnison. There, the boys will not only drive for greens, but drive for the state title.