Newspaper Staff Out and About

On March 3, 2006, the newspaper staff was able to visit a couple of journalistic institutions in Syracuse. The first stop was at the Post Standard Newspaper facility where students were able to tour the process of creating a regionally syndicated paper. The next stop was at WSYR News Channel 9 for a tour. Students witnessed a live broadcast of the Noon Newscast. The final stop of the day was at the Spaghetti Warehouse for a delicious lunch.

A special thanks goes out to Taylor Asteff at the Post Standard, Jennifer Lewke at Channel 9, and especially Mrs. Mauer for making this trip possible.
How much do you really know about the foreign exchange students at SCCS? For starters, we have two: Ellen Oostenbrink, and Christian Kaiser. I sat down for some interviews with Chris and Ellen, and asked them a few questions to help everyone learn a bit more about them. Both students agreed that the most difficult part about living here is a lack of mobility.

“You need a car anytime you want to go somewhere” said Ellen. “I miss being able to just ride my bike to school.”

Ellen’s favorite part about living here is being able to be involved in all the different activities. She has enjoyed school activities such as Chorus, Band, French Club, Drama Club, and Volleyball while at SCCS. She has made friends, like Sarah Thompson, the Varsity Volleyball team, and the cast of the Drama Club, through her participation in extracurricular clubs. Many people have asked her about her culture back in Holland, and a lot of people ask her to speak Dutch for them.

I asked Ellen if she enjoyed the cafeteria food, and she replied, “Well, it’s school food you know, back home we just brought our lunches.”

Outside of school, Ellen likes to go shopping, watch movies, and attend church. She is staying with Audrey Phelps. Before she leaves she would like to see more of the country, outside of Sandy Creek. Ellen still keeps in touch with her family and friends back home by writing letters and using e-mail.

Like Ellen, Chris is also actively involved in the school’s extracurricular activities. Through his participation on the Soccer and Basketball teams, Chris has made a lot of friends. Many members of the Junior and Senior classes have gotten to know Chris very well.

“They are always asking me to say things in German.” Said Chris.

I asked Chris what he does out side of school and he replied, “I spend time at home watching TV, or playing on the computer. Sometimes I go to my friend’s houses. I’m not a total bum.”

Chris’s favorite part of living here is a lot of new friends, being able to speak English fluently, and most importantly, enjoying his opportunity to be an exchange student. Chris is staying with the Teachout family. Before he leaves Chris would like to visit New York City. Chris also keeps in touch with his parents and friends at home in Germany via e-mail.

Chris and Ellen have helped many members of the student body to learn about their cultures, and have brought a fresh perspective to our school. They have been a great attribute to SCCS and we have all enjoyed their presence.
Drama Club Production: HOMEFRONT by Elizabeth Lawrence

The casting has been done for the Drama Club production, *Homefront*. There are two complete casts this year, one for the production on Friday, March 17th and another for Saturday, March 18th. Parts were assigned as follows.

Friday night: Reverend Peter Farenkamp (the father)- Adam Wall; Anna Farenkamp (his wife)- Cindy Bacon; David Farenkamp (their 17 year old son)- Ken Gibbs, Ruth Ann "Ruthy" Dressler (the mail carrier)- Phyllicia Waggoner, Cleopha Curtis (an elderly neighbor)- Kelsey Tyrell, Louise Baxter (a 22 year old V-girl)- Caitlin Clark, Rita Baxter (a 20 year old V-girl, Louise's sister)- Elizabeth Lawrence, Sam (a friend of the V-girls)- Ellen Oostenbrink.


Both nights: Bernard Farenkamp (their 15 year old son)- Bobby Allen, Luana Farenkamp (their 9 year old daughter)- Sarah Bunnel, Emit Dressler (Ruthy's husband, an air raid warden)- Mike Wall, Patty (a friend of the V-girls)- Morgan McKenzie.

Tyffany Howlett was the stage manager for both nights. The Art Club, lead by Martin Scoville, completed the scenery for this production, and their hard work is much appreciated. Colleen Kiah, the director, says that “the play is went along great. We had a strong cast, and everybody was very enthusiastic.”

SCHOLASTIC ART AWARDS by Kelsey Tyrell

Scholastic Art Awards: where an art student’s hard work pays off. It’s a showcase of the best works for students from all around the country. The competition has a wide variety of categories for students to enter work in. In Scholastic’s, painting and drawing are not the only art forms on display. Other areas of art are also accepted. Scholastic features a broad range of art, from journalism and Drama script to ceramic and glass. All of the judges for this competition are professionals in their chosen field.

Each year, around 250,000 middle and high school students enter their artwork into the Scholastic Art Show, and about 50,000 receive awards and exhibition opportunities. National awards are presented to only 1,100 artists. Besides the prestige, the chance to win up to 10,000 dollars makes the contest very appealing to many.

Aubrey Agugiaro, Amanda Allen, Amanda Blount, Brent Crump, Nicci Kehoe, and Shane Donahue and Alyson Waring all entered the competition. Alyson Waring received a gold key at the national level and honorable mention for photography.

“A teacher affects eternity; he can never tell where his influence stops.”
-Hans Hoffman (painter)
Random Acts of Kindness by Karin Blanding

In the Elementary during the month of February they held a contest between grades 3, 4, and 5. This contest was called the “Random Act of Kindness.” For each end of the month would receive an award and banner from Mrs. Hammond and Mrs. Archibee. This banner was displayed outside the elementary cafeteria.

Middle School Spelling Bee by Kyanna Maloof

Every year the Middle School is involved in a spelling bee. Kids from grades five through eight try out by taking a written test to find out who the top spellers are. 14 students qualified for the bee (5 from 8th grade, 5 from 7th grade, 2 from 6th grade, and 2 from 5th). 8th grade participants were, Danny Allen for his third year, Frannie Felo for her third year, Ronnie Mullen and Megan Clark for their second time, and Sam Tedd for his first time. 7th grade participants were Steven Radford, Dylan Gilman, both on their second years, and on their first years were Steph Smith, Jona Maloof, and Jordan Lehman. The two 6th participants were Eloise Thibault. Last year’s first place winner, second year participant, and Elizabeth Houck, for her first time. Last but not least are the fifth graders, both their first year, Isabel Bray, and Kris Day.

The Spelling Bee was on the sixth of January, 2006. The second runner up was eighth grader Danny Allen. The first runner up was Frannie Felo, eighth grade, and the first place winner of the Middle School Spelling Bee was Jona Maloof, a seventh grader. The three top spellers of the Middle School had a chance of going on public television and be involved in a spelling bee on PBS. Unfortunately no one this year made it, but there’s always next year.

Congratulations to all the participants and keep it up.

New Technology in the Cafeteria by Rachel Freeman

For the rest of the 2005-2006 school year, the elementary, middle school, and high school will be using a new system for purchasing lunches in the cafeteria. Each student is given a four-digit pin number, that they will be responsible for memorizing. When going through the lunch line, students will have to punch their number into the keypad and enter, which will then bring up their account information. The biggest goal with using these new pin numbers are to make the lunch lines go faster, giving students more time to eat lunch. If they forget their pin numbers, the cafeteria staff will have a master book with everybody’s number in it. Picture school ID bar codes will no longer work once the new pin numbers take place.

Technology Tip of the Month by Rachael Hurd

Saving to a CD

1. Insert a blank CD in the drive (or a CD-RW disk that you’re ready to erase and over write.
2. Right-click a file or folder, or a selection of files or folders that you want to copy to a CD.
3. From the shortcut menu, choose Send To, CD Drive.
4. Repeat these steps for all the items that you want to copy.
New to our school this year is the Sandy Creek Book Club. The Book Club is open to middle or high school students that love to read or want to help the community. Meetings are held every two weeks to set goals, choose reading material, and hold group discussions on selected books. Some goals for this year include reading to elementary classes, and possibly performing short plays. During the week of February 28th thru March 2nd, the book club sponsored a book fair in the district board room. The book fair had a wide selection of materials for students K-12th, such as books, software, posters, and school supplies. Another addition that the Book Club has made to the school library is the Book Swap. Students can bring in any old or unwanted books in exchange for new ones to keep. The goal of the book exchange is to get the community more involved in reading and education. This feature offers free books and a way to keep old books alive. The Book Club urges everyone to try and participate in any way possible. All donations are greatly appreciated. To find our more about the Book Club or the Book Swap, stop by the library to get more information.

The Music department at SCCS has a busy spring ahead of them. It began with the Music in Our Schools concert that took place on March, 2nd 2006 at 7:00 p.m. This concert featured students ranging from the elementary to high school. The concert took place in the gym, and the performances included: A Disney Spectacular by the Select Choir, the recorders played by the third graders, and many other band and choral groups.

These groups also performed concerts over the past month. The concerts consisted of band members from grades 7-12. the pieces played included Mozart’s symphony number 40, Highlights from Star Wars Episode I; Phantom Menace, and John Williams Superman. The chorus concert will be held on May 16th and will include middle and high school choirs. May 16th is also the same day as the new budget vote, so community members, can vote on the new budget, then they can attend the concerts. The concert will include pieces like One Small Voice, Disney’s Movie Magic, Aladdin, Windseasons, I Fall to Pieces, the Mansions of the Lord, excerpts from Letters from Ireland, It Don’t mean a Thing, Banquet Fugue, and When I Fall in Love. Also, there will be seniors soloists during the spring concert. The soloists, include Joe Brennan, Rebecca Day, Bree Farina, and Ellen Oostenbrink.

The Junior and Senior High All County Chorus also held a concert on March 31st and April 1st. The concert was held on Saturday, April 1st at 2 p.m. Seven of our very own middle school and five of our high school students were invited to perform. On April 25th the sixth grade band held an exchange concert with the students from Mexico Middle School. Mexico will also be holding a similar exchange for our students in their auditorium. Later in the week our level I-IV soloists headed for Watertown High School, for the annual Solo-Festival. The level V and VI soloists will be going to Fulton Middle School on May 12th for their solo fest.

The last concert of the year will be on Wednesday June, 7th. This concert will be performed by the 5th and 6th grade band and chorus members. It will feature pieces from such as “But the Dog Really Did Eat my Homework”, “Concertschick”, Shrek and Shrek II.

The last performance of the year will be performed by the select chorus, and chorus seniors. They will be singing “We are the World”
Winter Sports Review by Joe Brennan, Jacque Moody, & Katie Oudekirk

Boys Basketball

The Varsity Boy’s Basketball team finished the season with a 10 and 11 overall record and an 8 and 9 league record. A couple successful points this season was winning the Thanksgiving Tournament against Pulaski by 19 points. Another season highlight was winning the Frontier League playoffs for the second year in a row, by beating Thousand Island 71 to 36. The All-Stars for the team were Andrew Mackenzie and Brad Shippee, while the Honorable Mention went to Cody Francis. This year’s team was also a Scholar Athlete Team. Players on the list were Kris Kaiser, Ken Gibbs, Greg Feeder, Joe Hallock, Andrew Mackenzie, Brent Crump, and Andrew Hovey.

The JV Basketball team had a 8 and 9 record this year. This was a team that was young, but really worked well together as a team. The majority of the games this season were close, especially the games lost. Players on the team were Brent Tredler, Paul Hallock, Taylor Oudekirk, Mike Elkin, Aaron Pittman, Jason Brennan, Bobby Allen, Koby Fowler, and Shane Conzone.

The 8th Grade Boy’s Modified Basketball team’s season has just begun. They have played two games. The first games produced a win over South Lewis 36-28. The games leading scorer with 14 points was Dustin Green, followed by Dylan Shiel with 8. The Comets played well throughout the game. The second game was a loss to Beaver River. The team played well and scored 39 points against a very good team. The team consists of two 7th graders Alex Howland, and Jarrett Luberto, and seven 8th graders Dylan Shiel, Chris Loran, Dustin Green, T.J. Crast, Matt Roberts, Jake Snedeker and Felix Bendzunes. The Comets are looking forward to the rest of the season.

The 7th Grade Boy’s Basketball team is off to a 2 and 3 start with more games to play. The roster consists of 11 players Matt Shirley, Justin Wallis, Jeremy Brennan, Corey Sprague, Shane Scullen, Ian Paddock, Chad Lyons, Dakota Everard, Ryan Hayward, Abe Robbins and Caleb Ward.

Girls Basketball

The Sandy Creek Girl’s Varsity Basketball team had a successful year. The team was comprised of several returning starters from last year and a mix of people who started at the Junior Varsity level last year as well. The season ended with a record of 11-9 on a 20 game campaign. A sectional loss to a tall Cooperstown team was the unfortunate culmination of the season. The highlight was earning the chance to play Beaver River in the first round of the play-offs in order to earn a spot in the championship game against Thousand Island, a team that the Comets had not beaten in two previous attempts. A focused hard playing team outplayed the Vikings in every aspect of the game to earn a 21 point victory and a playoff championship. Congratulations to all who were part of this successful season. The Girls JV Basketball Team finished the 2005-2006 season with a 7-9 record. Returning players Kelcie Cashel and Mercedes LaVeck provided great consistency and leadership to a promising group of up comers. Freshmen Fantasia Grossman, Tyffany Howlett, Mary Kate Blanding, Rachel Rice, and Courtney Claffin will be returning next year, along with 8th graders Karlie DeCarolis and Taylor Fravel. Great season ladies!!
Wrestling

Varsity Wrestling had a very good season this year. Some of the highlights were coming 2nd in the Frontier League “C” Division, getting 2nd place at the Onondaga Duals, and 5th place out of 16 teams at the Port Byron Invitational. They had a total of 10 wins this season, which was an improvement from a total of 2 wins in the 04-05 season. There was a total of 18 wrestlers on the JV/Varsity Team: Two seniors: Lance Kimball, and Brian Rios; Three juniors Kurt Prins, Mark Mariano, and Phil Hamlin. A total of six wrestlers qualified for sectionals Kris Shirley, Scott Luberto, Kevin Shirley, Lance Kimball, Zach Presley, and Logan McNitt by placing in the top 4 at the class tournament. Scott Luberto received 3rd place in sectionals with a record or 35-8, while Kris Shirley placed 4th with a record of 29-7.

Modified wrestling had a successful season as well. The wrestlers with the most successes were Matt Shirley, Jacob Halsey, and Andrew Blanding. The numbers this year were very good, with a total of 16 wrestlers in a 77 to 230 pound range. “This was a great group of guys to coach, and we had a lot of fun,” said Mr. Archibee. “They represented themselves, the school, and the entire wrestling program very well.” It sounds like the wrestling program is looking bright for the future.

Cheerleading

The Varsity Cheerleading team had a successful season placing 2nd in the winter Frontier League Competition and 3rd in the Section III Competition. Team captains were Ashley Trexler and Nicci Kehoe. Senior All-Stars were Nicci Kehoe and Bree Farina. This was the 3rd year of the JV Cheerleading squad. Ms. VanOrnumm took a JV squad for cheerleading and the young ladies did a great job cheering at games and performing an exhibition at the Frontier League. Captains were Tiffany Crandall and Nicole Tibbles.

Volleyball

The Varsity Volleyball Team finished the season with a 15-7 record and placing second in the Frontier League. Katelynn Fowler, Erica Henriksen, and Heather MacVean received All-Star awards while Lindsay Rowell and Lindsey Thomas received Honorable Mention. The team played very well in sectional competition, advancing to sectional finals for the first time. Heather MacVean was the first Sandy Creek All-Section Honors. Season highlights included great teams such as South Jeff., Westmoreland, and Cato-Meridian. A special thanks goes out to Ken Gibbs, volleyball fan of the year, for all his support.
Meet the Teacher: Mr. Ron Archibee by Katie Thomas

How long have you been teaching?
“33 years, 22 at Sandy Creek and 11 at Mexico”

Where did you go to college?
“SUNY Oswego”

Are you excited for retirement?
“Yeah I am looking forward to a new chapter in my life”

What do you think you’ll do when you retire?
“My answer to that question is to get up in the morning and choose what I can do”

Are you going to miss the kids?
“Oh I am going to miss the kids a bunch no question about it, I think contact with kids helps you keep the mind young”

Are you going to miss coaching baseball?
“I am very much going to miss coaching the baseball team”

What is your favorite baseball team?
“Sandy Creek Comets”

Do you have any good memories that you have had when teaching at Sandy Creek?

“Most of the memories at Sandy Creek are positive and put a smile on my face”

What do you do in your spare time?
“I like to hunt, fish, watch baseball, and I like to golf even though I am not very good at it”

Have you gotten close to any particular teachers?
“Yeah, we have a very close relationship in the social studies department”

Mr. Archibee we will truly miss you and we hope you enjoy your retirement, thanks for everything!

True Feelings
by Erik Thiel

If there was only one person on whom I relied
It’d be you I’d want by my side
I promise you that till the day I die
You will always have a shoulder on which to cry
I see you as beautiful as the sunset in the skies
I see the deepest oceans in your eyes
By your side, it feels like I must be gifted
One look, one touch and my heart is lifted
If you’re ever in trouble, any at all
Don’t hesitate, just give me a call
For you I would fight a thousand wars
Fight, till my eyes closed like forgotten doors
In you I would put my complete trust
With you my heart could never rust
To you I would forever remain loyal
I would treat you as if you were royal
I say this ‘cause you have captured my heart
Would you believe you’ve had it from the start?
I knew I never really stood a chance
I didn’t even believe it at first glance
You were too perfect to be real…
Well, now you know just how I feel…”