

## S-C wrestler Harris earns All-America status

By Jeffrey Goodson

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Becoming an All-American in their sport of choice is something that any high school athlete strives for. Recently, Smith-Cotton junior Tanner Harris fulfilled that dream after wrestling at the Adidas Nationals tournament April 7 in Independence.

"It truly was a dream come true," Harris said.

Harris had to win two matches at the tournament to be considered an "All-American," and finished with a record of 4-1, and a third place title in a weight division that consisted of 10 people.

The opportunity to not only become an All-American, but wrestle against other people who were worthy of the title "meant a great deal," Harris said. "It was a great experience and opportunity to wrestle against good competition." The opportunities that Harris

created for himself were monumental, according to one of his coaches, Joseph Hulsey.

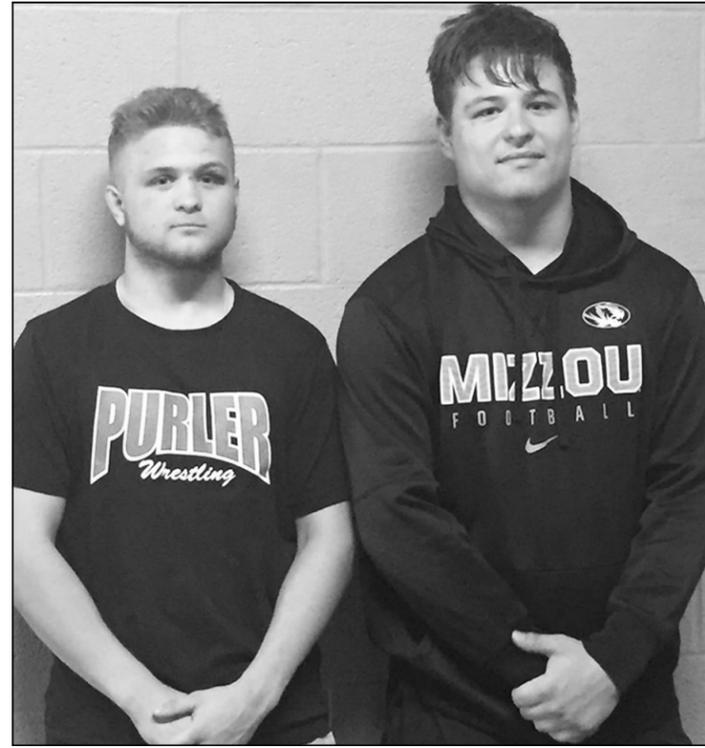
"It was a big opportunity for Tanner, which he took advantage of," Hulsey said. "The honor of becoming a high school wrestling All-American opened some doors for him after high school to potentially wrestle in college."

As far as Harris's wrestling future, he has a few goals he plans on working towards during his senior season.

"I want to try and be No. 1 ranked in my weight division. Another goal is to go undefeated, and the biggest one of them all is to try and win a state title," Harris said.

After high school, Harris would like to pursue a collegiate wrestling career, and is already looking at schools.

"Currently I'm looking at Central Methodist University, and Missouri Valley," Harris stated.



Smith-Cotton wrestler Tanner Harris, left finished in the top six in his weight class and teammate Jackson Hazel finished third at the Missouri-USA Wrestling Tournament.

## Annual Free Physical Night set for May 15

By Alexa Rowe

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Every year Smith-Cotton puts on a Free Physical Night to give athletes a chance to get their physicals done at no cost. This year's event is set for May 15.

Free Physical Night is an annual event in which several area doctors and nurses volunteer their time to give free examinations to any student between grades 7-12 who plan to participate in extracurricular athletic activities; often, students involved in show choir, marching band, cheerleading, dance, and JROTC also take advantage of the opportunity. There are about 150 to 250 students each year who attend the physical night.

"It's a service for our athletes, so they don't have to pay out of pocket," Activities Director Rob Davis said.

Another benefit for attending Free Physi-



Davis

cal Night is that it is scheduled several months before the start of fall activities, so athletes don't have to squeeze time into their schedule get their physical done, Davis said. Missouri State High School Activities Association requires participants in all athletic activities have a current physical on file before they start, to make sure that all athletes meet a health requirement to ensure their safety.

"From the time you are born to your time of death, it is recommended to have a yearly physical," Smith-Cotton school nurse Michelle Muths said.

Free Physical Night is 6-8 p.m., May 15 at Smith-Cotton Junior High School. Stu-

dents enter through the main doors, and then are put on a wait list, and are seen in the order that they arrived.

### DON'T FORGET FORM

All students taking part in Free Physical Night must bring with them the physical form with pages 1, 3, and 4 already filled out with all signatures and insurance information. Physical forms can be picked up in the main office at the high school.

"We could not make this possible without the wonderful physicians and nurses donating their time to help our district and community," Muths said.

"We want to thank the doctors and nurses for their time. We have never had trouble finding volunteers," Davis said.

# TIGER TIMES

Vol. 3, No. 18

Smith-Cotton Student Media

May 10, 2019



The Smith-Cotton High School Envirothon Black team, from left, Dylan Miller, Sarah Adams, Katelynn Montgomery, Edward Toderescu-Stavila and Katelin Frame, display their first place awards from the state competition held May 2.

## STATE CHAMPIONS

S-C Black team takes Envirothon title, moves on to international competition this summer in North Carolina

By Alexa Rowe

Smith-Cotton Student Media

The Smith-Cotton Black team took first place at the state Envirothon competition and is on its way to the international competition this summer in North Carolina.

The state competition was held May 2 at Lincoln University Carver Farm in Jefferson City. This is the first year that S-C's Envirothon program will go to the international competition.

The S-C Black team members are Katelynn Montgomery, Dylan Miller, Katelin Frame, Sarah Adams and Edward Toderescu-Stavila. One of the Black team members, Mackenzie Brines-Beach, was gone for the JROTC Drill Nationals meet, so she was replaced by Toderescu-Stavila, the team's alternate. The S-C Gold team also competed at state, but only had four members due to an illness, which resulted in

a 25 percent point deduction.

Each competition consists of six categories: Forest, Wildlife, Aquatics, Soils, Current Issue, and Oral Presentation. The Black team placed first in Forest and Oral presentation, and was second in Wildlife, soil, and Current Issue, and third in Aquatics.

The Gold Team placed 10th overall; their best event was Oral Presentation, in which they placed fifth.

"We are going to be the team to beat from Missouri," Envirothon advisor Mona McCormack said. Montgomery is excited to attend internationals.

"It's my senior year; it's the perfect time to go to internationals," she said.

"This is an amazing honor for Smith-Cotton and Sedalia. The community should be very proud of our students and their accomplishments," McCormack said.

The Envirothon International event is July 27- Aug. 3, in North Carolina.

## Seniors share tips for success on Grad Walks

By Natalie Adermann

Smith-Cotton Student Media

It's a special moment getting to walk across the stage at Commencement, but some Smith-Cotton seniors were able to walk somewhere else before the big day: their old elementary schools.

Grad Walk is an event where seniors dress in their caps and gowns and go back to their elementary schools to talk to the kids about their school experiences.

Sedalia 200 Communications Director Bob Satnan saw the idea for this online in 2016. At a small school, the seniors would walk through the hallways and give all the kids high fives. Satnan decided to bring up the idea to S-C Principal Wade Norton so they could put their own twist on it.

Satnan and Norton pick the seniors by sending out a survey at the beginning of second semester asking which elementary school seniors attended. They review the responses and come up with a good mix of seniors to participate in the Grad Walks. Satnan added that picking seniors can be hard, because they want each senior to be able to share their story. Another factor is making sure the seniors are comfortable in front of large crowds, especially ones with kids in them.

Some of the key points the seniors discuss at the Grad Walks are attendance, academics, being involved, and peer pressure, amongst other things. Senior Colby Edgar, who attended Skyline Elementary, told the students the importance of getting involved in good activities and with good people.

"Getting out of your shell will help quick," Edgar said.

Senior Marta Treuner, who attended Heber

## STUCO's new officers have change in mind

By Jeffrey Goodson

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Every year Smith-Cotton's student body re-elects a new group of Student Council officers for the upcoming school year. This year's elected candidates include, President Camden Gear, Vice President Envie Johnson, Secretary Maria Hernandez, and Treasurer Drake Peterson.

New Vice President Envie Johnson won, facing some challenges but ultimately ending in triumph, "The most challenging thing was coming up with ideas that people hadn't done before, and running against a friend (Karlie Franklin) for the same position," Johnson stated.

Johnson plans on getting more involvement from students next school year at multiple different events. "I plan on getting the student body more involved than ever this next school year with Homecoming and Courtwarming."

Student Council Sponsor and Smith-Cotton history teacher Greg Willson believes that this group of students has potential to do great things for their peers.

"It's a very strong slate of kids, and I believe all will do good in their position," Willson stated.

Johnson believes that the group of electees can accomplish things that others in the past haven't and looks forward to the challenges that being a student council officer brings.

"I look forward to seeing all of the exciting things we can accomplish, and I think that our new student council officers are going to bring some fun new traditions to Smith-Cotton," she stated.



S-C seniors, from left, Kyler Simoncic, Colby Edgar, Jenna Rapp, Akaycia Mather, Maria Aonzo and Ethan Beard offer high fives to Skyline Elementary School students after delivering their Grad Walk talks.

## SENIORS

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Hunt, adds that being pushed out of her comfort zone helped her make the most out of high school.

One point Satnan mentioned that was brought up this year is that friends change throughout the years, and that's OK. Interests change and so do people, but finding new friends isn't always a bad thing. Satnan still remembers a quote from Class of 2017 senior, Anastasio Jeronimo who attended Washington: "If you want to succeed in school, you have to be your own hero."

Treuner believes that building relationships with teachers and fellow students makes high school a little easier to get through.

Senior Hannah Coleman, who attended Horace Mann, told the kids "It's never too late to do something that excites you." Coleman has been involved in swimming and Envirothon for the first time this past year. Coleman adds that it is important to take your grades seriously.

"High school has shown me how much I can do with my life beyond this point right now," said Coleman.

Sharing their personal stories is a good way for seniors to reflect on how their years



Heber Hunt Grad Walk seniors Emma Sharp, Reagan Braverman and Marta Treuner were in teacher Dana White's mixed age classroom together.

of schooling has changed them. Sharing their message can inspire elementary students and help prepare seniors for the next level of school. "I went to my old classrooms and all the students didn't believe I was taught in the same room," Treuner said.

Edgar said that looking back at his high school career is "surreal," but he is thankful for his participation in sports and meeting some of his friends that he plans to have for the rest of his life. Edgar is also thankful for the opportunity that was given to him through Grad Walk and felt very lucky to get to share his knowledge with the kids.

## Academic Hall graced by 8 fresh faces

By Alexa Rowe

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Eight new students have banners hanging in Smith-Cotton's Academic Hall after the recent ACT results came in.

Those new faces are Will Hooton, Reagen Mullins, Christian Xavier Bates, Emily Beltran, Jacob Acklin, Morgan Spratley, Brett Grupe, Aaron Hughes, and Bryce McCullough.

To earn a banner, a student must have a score of 30 or higher on the ACT, or similar score on the SAT, or have been accepted into the National Merit Program.

"I like being recognized; I've never really been recognized before," said Mullins, a junior. She scored a 30 on her ACT.

This is the first year for the hallway, which is located right inside S-C's front doors. A couple years ago, a few teachers visited other area high schools and saw that they had an academic hall of fame, so it was brought up to S-C's ACT committee and they thought it was a great way to honor students who have achieved academic success.

"The banners look great, and it's great to honor those students," testing coordinator Ashley Raetz said.

"We want everyone to see these banners. Academics is why we are here," Principal Wade Norton said. "It always comes back to academics."

Junior Hunter Sparks took the ACT during her sophomore year and scored a 34.

"Academics is very important, it is my only chance to get scholarships," she said.

Every year after the juniors take the ACT, the seniors' posters may be taken down to make room for the juniors.

Sophomore Malacki Ehlers is the youngest person to have his poster hung up; he took the ACT his freshman year and scored a 31.

"A lot of people ... didn't know that you could take ACT freshman year," Ehlers said.

Norton has plans for the hallway to evolve, with not just ACT scores but with plaques and scholarships that have been awarded to students; this could motivate others.

"It shows that you worked hard, and that you are on the top of your class," Ehlers said.



## JROTC drill teams compete at Nationals

At the National High School Drill Team Championship in Daytona Beach, Fla., the Smith-Cotton JROTC Tiger Battalion cadets earned the following awards:

Mixed (Armed) Division: Inspection - 4th Place; Regulation - 5th Place; Color Guard - 5th Place; Squad Exhibition - 5th Place; Platoon Exhibition - 5th Place.

## Art project aims to rock Sedalia

By Faith Johnson

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Smith-Cotton art teacher Heather Sparks was on a mission to get the community involved. Sparks' art class painted rocks to hide around the school and community. The students were required to each paint a minimum of two rocks. As other S-C students found the rocks, they were able to keep it, or re-hide it and post the new hiding place to the Facebook page.

Students were required to paint two rocks with any design, pattern, character, or candy on them. Sparks said students had the choice to be as detailed as they wanted.

Sparks' student teacher, Rebecca Freund, saw the idea in other areas such as Warrensburg. Both Sparks and Freund saw it as something different for students to participate in.

As of May 6, no one had posted on the Facebook page with a new hiding place for one of the rocks. Freund has found rocks that are part of the Warrensburg rock hunt on the University of Central Missouri campus, and she hopes that



Shown are examples of the rocks that art teacher Heather Sparks' students designed and painted.

this project can grow like that for Smith-Cotton High students.

Also hoping the project grows is freshman Kendyl McCandless. She has had fun with the project and enjoyed making the rocks. She feels that it is going well but has the potential to grow bigger and better in the coming years.

"It's been cool for people to participate in and can possibly bring people together," said McCandless.



# TIGER TIMES

A publication of  
Smith-Cotton Student Media

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# Music is moving seniors to college bands

By Kali Butts

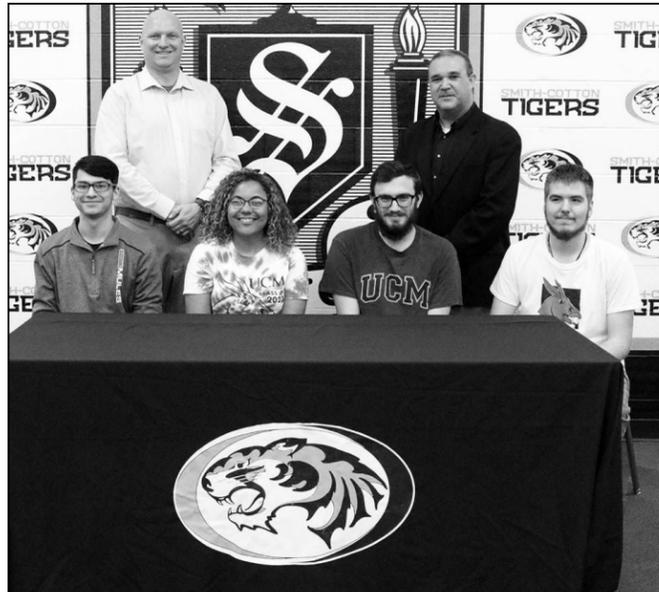
Smith-Cotton Student Media

It is getting closer to the end of the year, and seniors are trying to figure out what they want to do, or who they want to be. Some Smith-Cotton band students will be maintaining music as part of their college educations.

Senior Jove Labille is signing at University of Central Missouri, and said he chose UCM because it was a perfect fit for him. Labille's college plans are to study mechanical engineering, but he does have a goal to become better at the instrument he plays, saxophone.

"I chose to resume band because I did not want the eight years of doing band to go to waste and I want to learn more about playing the saxophone," he said.

Senior Sydney Kocsis is attending Missouri State University on a music scholarship. Kocsis chose MSU because she loves the campus and the music pro-



S-C band students, seated from left, Logan Grey, Michylah Hawkins, Logan Goodwin and Jove Labille, have accepted scholarships to perform with the University of Central Missouri bands. Behind them are S-C Director of Bands Grant Maledy and UCM Director of Bands Dr. Anthony Pursell.

gram. She is majoring in music education.

"I am doing this because I love music and its something I'm

very passionate about," she said.

Another senior who signed for band is Logan Grey, who is headed to the University of Central Missouri. Grey chose UCM because he went to band camps every year there and he likes the campus and said that the people are really nice. Grey plans to get his bachelor's degree in psychology and eventually get his master's. Grey has been in band since fifth grade and didn't want to stop just because he was graduating.

S-C Director of Bands Grant Maledy said Labille has been in both jazz and concert band for several years, Kocsis just started jazz band this year but has been in concert band for years. Maledy said Grey is an awesome kid who is an excellent leader and does a great job helping younger students achieve success.

"He is very soft-spoken and quiet in class but has a great sense of humor if you listen," Maledy said.

# DECA team learned a lot from trip to national finals

By Kali Butts

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Going to DECA Nationals is a big deal, and even though the S-C students who qualified didn't get the outcome they were looking for, they said the trip was a great experience.

Senior Reagan Braverman and junior Tyler Williams were two of the national qualifiers and both said the trip was great. All of the students who went had a written event, a 15-minute presentation, and some had a test. Since no one made it to the final round, they had a free day and got to spend it at the beach. They did many other activities, like going to Universal Studios, Magic Kingdom and just swimming in the pool.

Braverman said the competition was different because there were more than 15,000 competitors. Williams said the

competition was really cool to see because of the different ideas and the ways competitors decided to present their ideas to the judges.

Braverman's partner was senior McKenna Perusich, and Williams teamed with senior Hayden Ellis; sophomore Julianna Sonnik competed by herself, as well as junior Lauryn Caldwell. Braverman said, "My favorite part of the trip was getting to enjoy some of the sun and warmth of Florida by the pool and at the beach. Also, I enjoyed getting close with people I don't talk to every day like Julianna, Tyler and Hayden."

Williams said if he were to do anything differently, he would "study for the test so that we actually placed."

DECA sponsor Angela Howard said the trip was terrific and the students were great. She said Sonnik, Ellis and Williams competed with Integrated Marketing cam-

paigns for Sisters & Co. and The Center for Human Services. They had to write a paper, create pieces of a marking campaign, take a 100-question test and present their Integrated Marketing Campaign orally to a judge. Braverman and Perusich competed with a Business Services Operations Research Project for Axis Salon and they had to write a 20-page paper and explain their campaign, which included the "Cuts 4 Kids" event that provided free haircuts to Sedalia 200 students prior to school starting in August. They also had to present their project to a judge.

Caldwell took part in two days of leadership training.

Howard said, "To be more successful in the future, I will probably require additional practice prior to departure, as well as outside evaluations from volunteers to give advice and encouragement in the days before we leave."

"Emma was born to dance and her beginning starts now."

— Anna Crumley Nelson, Studio A Dance Conservatory

# Pettigrew thankful for N.Y. opportunity

By Victoria Wheat

Smith-Cotton Student Media

For the past seven years, Smith-Cotton sophomore Emma Pettigrew has put her heart and soul into every performance. Dance has allowed her to be herself and show who she is. Pettigrew has hopes to further her dancing career and is going to make an appearance in next year's Macy's Thanksgiving Parade.

It has always been one of her goals to dance at the parade, but she never knew how to get involved until she discussed the possibility with S-C High Voltage Coach Julie Willadsen. The two started looking into the application process. A big part of the process required Pettigrew to send in a video of her dancing. Willadsen knew Pettigrew would do well in this section and was confident in her entry. Once the entire application was filled out and the video was made, the two sent everything in and it was time for them to wait for a response.

Pettigrew had a feeling she wouldn't make the cut, but she refused to give up.

"It was a while before I got an answer and I was incredibly nervous," said Pettigrew.

In late March, she finally received an answer back. The response left Pettigrew in tears. She was excited that her application was accepted and is ecstatic to have the opportunity to dance in the parade.

Pettigrew has already started preparing and with the help of both Willadsen and her dance director at Studio A Dance Conservatory, Anna Crumley Nelson, who said she is confident Pettigrew will be ready in time for the parade.

Nelson has known Pettigrew since she started dancing at Studio A and has been able to see Pettigrew mature both as a dancer and a person. When Pettigrew first started dancing, Nelson said, she lacked confidence and struggled greatly to go outside her comfort zone. Now, she is very open and has gained that confidence needed in order to better her dance skills.

"She understands that to get better at your craft you must push yourself and your limits," said Nelson.

It is agreed by both Nelson and Willadsen



High Voltage dance team sophomore Emma Pettigrew performs at halftime of the S-C boys basketball game against Warrensburg. Pettigrew is set to perform in next year's Macy's Thanksgiving Day Parade.

that Pettigrew's love and desire to dance is clear. She always tries to live with the mindset of never giving up and wants to achieve what she sets her mind and heart

on. "Emma is a passionate, kind, and excellent student. She was born to dance and her beginning starts now," said Nelson.



**Prom 2019**

Smith-Cotton put on its finest for the 2019 Prom, held at The Venue in downtown Sedalia. Marta Treuner was named Prom queen, Dylan Cotereel was Prom king and Katelyn Beebe was princess.

