

# S-C trio ready to take a stand at state

By Jeffrey Goodson

Smith-Cotton Student Media

After thinking they were going to compete at sectionals in their own backyard Smith-Cotton seniors, Nia Hawkins, Nate McFail and Viktor Tsymbal were thrown a major curveball when the meet was moved to across the state on their most important day of high school yet, graduation day. Going into sectionals the trio had their sights set on the state meet. But getting there wasn't easy, literally or geographically. After four long years of hard work and dedication in the classroom and on the track, all three of the seniors S-C sent to sectionals that day qualified for the state meet -- McFail in the boys pole vault,

Hawkins in the girls long jump, and Tsymbal in the boys 300 hurdles -- and by that evening were walking across the stage receiving their diplomas. After four years, the coaches have had the chance to see these student athletes grow and progress. S-C Track Head Coach Brad Hagedorn has enjoyed that opportunity. "It's been a lot of fun, seeing them come in as freshmen and seeing them progress. After four seasons, coaches have had a lot of time and emotion invested in them and it's rewarding to see them do well," he said. Hagedorn added that the group has a passion for what they're doing and trying to accomplish, "They all have great ability. They want to work. They want to get better," he said.

"They care if they do well, and they all have passion for their sport." Although he advanced to the state meet in his event, McFail wasn't satisfied with his performance and is hungry to finish out his career strong. "Going in, I expected to do better than I did. I had to do what I had to do to get through, and shut it down once I made it to state," he said. McFail has goals that are sky high for the state meet, "My goal is to place somewhere in the top four, possibly even win it," he stated. McFail and Hawkins will compete on Saturday, May 25. Tsymbal will compete in a preliminary on Friday, May 24, and if he advances through that, he will again compete on Saturday.

# Hawkins carries on tradition of Lady Tigers track

By Faith Johnson

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Nia Hawkins is the most recent in a line of dominant female athletes on the Smith-Cotton track and field team in succession to Monique Grant and Mariona Ward. Hawkins competes in four events: the 100 meter, 200 meter, triple jump, and the long jump. Going into her senior season she set a goal to take first in the majority of the meets that she participated in. Hawkins said, "I have met that goal enough times to be satisfied."

S-C Track Head Coach Brad Hagadorn said, "She has been the youngest behind some awesome athletes and now this year it has been her turn in the spotlight."

He has enjoyed coaching her and watching her grow through high school and her time on the team.

"Nia continues to develop her physical abilities but what is most impressive is how her maturity level has grown," he said. "[She] Understands the process around developing her skills. Mostly, that her leader-

ship, teamwork and dedication will influence those around her." Hagadorn believes that while they all bring something different to the table, all three sprinters have the same drive to succeed. Hawkins said that it makes her feel very special, especially because her classmates before her were exceptionally good.

Hawkins along with Grant and Ward have helped improve the program at S-C.

"Colleges and other high school programs have begun to notice how well our teams have been," said Hagadorn. "Our staff has receive a lot of compliments concerning them over the last few years."

Hawkins is one of three S-C athletes who have advanced to the Class 5 state meet. She also has accepted a track scholarship to further her education and athletic career at William Woods University in Fulton.

**RIGHT:** Nia Hawkins wins the 200-meters in the S-C Quad meet earlier this season.



# TIGER TIMES

Vol. 3, No. 20

Smith-Cotton Student Media

May 24, 2019

# Seniors earn \$3.5 million in scholarships

By Alexa Rowe

Smith-Cotton Student Media

On May 8, Smith-Cotton's Class of 2019 was awarded over \$3.5 million in scholarships at the annual Senior Awards Night, an evening to recognize accomplishments and acknowledge scholarships and other monetary awards. "There were about 71 scholarships awarded and there were about 37 different seniors that received scholarships," Sedalia School District Foundation President Deidre Esquivel said. She also said only between 10 percent and 15 percent of the senior class ap-

plied for the scholarships. The foundation gave away over \$54,000 in scholarships. The S-C staff also nominated and voted on the Outstanding Senior Boy and Girl. This year's winners were Nate McFail and Michylah Hawkins. According to Principal Wade Norton, the staff focuses on academics, extra-curricular activities including sports and clubs, and leadership in the classroom in making their selections. "We are proud to call them Smith-Cotton Tigers," Norton said. Senior Counselor Carmen Brock said

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S-C High Principal Wade Norton presents the Outstanding Senior Boy award to Name McFail and Outstanding Senior Girl to Michylah Hawkins during Senior Awards Night on May 8.



## NHS project brings benches to courtyard

Vlad Husyev, left, and Ethan Beard, members of Smith-Cotton High School's Class of 2019, try out one of two benches made from recycled plastic bottle caps collected by S-C's National Honor Society chapter. Husyev and Beard led the community service project, which collected more than 400 pounds of plastic caps that were converted into the benches, which were placed in the courtyard adjacent to the S-C cafeteria.

# Teachers' filling summer with array of activities

By Natalie Adermann

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Not only is summer a break for students, but it can also be a break for teachers. Smith-Cotton Director of Bands Grant Maledy plans to fill his summer, at least what's not already filled with National Guard training, with camping. Maledy and his family have been working on camping at every Missouri state park together. They started their project after his daughter was born, and they are now at six of all 44 parks. Maledy will participate in two weeks of National Guard training, and just received news that he may have to do four weeks of National Guard school in June. FACS teacher Kathy O'Dell plans to spend

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SUMMER

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lots of time with her family, friends, and horses. O’Dell competes in trail and obstacle courses for horses in multiple competitions over the summer. She has some big events planned, but also some smaller, local shows. O’Dell competes in two organizations, CT2V (Country Tough Trails Versatility) and ETS (Equine Trails Sports). This summer will be her second year competing. “I wanted to improve my horsemanship and my horses’ abilities,” she said. She found local competitions to attend and grew from there, eventually becoming last year’s National Reserve Champion. English teacher Michael Kailus will be co-officiating his sister’s wedding with the help of his brother. Kailus is very excited to be a part of such a big milestone for his sister and help welcome her fiancé into their family. Although Kailus is not a justice of the peace or clergy, he titles himself as a human celebrant, someone who officiates a wedding for people who don’t necessarily want a religious ceremony. Teachers also spend some of their summer at school. Maledy runs band camp through the last week of July and beginning of August. He attends guard and percussion camp and then brings in the rest of the band. Band camp takes a break during the Missouri State Fair; the Tiger Pride Marching Band always marches in the fair’s opening day parade. Between spending time in the National Guard and with the band, Maledy doesn’t have a whole lot of summer left. “Summer is really only three

S-C staff plans for Summer 2019

**Kayla Manning:** Bartending at a family friend’s resort.

**Andrea Eppenauer:** I will teach at the Upward Bound Summer Academic Academy. We will focus on the history of Spain and learn basic Spanish phrases for 5 weeks on SFCC campus. Later in the summer my sister, Julie Willadsen, and I will take a group of S-C students to experience Spain for 10 days.

**Ali Cooper:** Traveling to Germany through June and part of July.

**Holli Goodrich:** Trip to Mount Rushmore with family.

**Eric McNeal:** We are hoping to visit Atlanta, Ga., so my grandmother can meet her youngest great-grandson and also meet my aunt and uncle. We are also hoping to visit my ancestral family farm in Pennsylvania and get those two branches of the family together for the first time in 100 years.

**John Lamar:** Going to Florida and possibly to The Netherlands.

**Stacy Curry:** I will work with S-C administration and staff to prepare for 1:1 initiative for the 2019-2020 school year. I also plan to spend quality time at the lake with family and friends.

**Melissa Lackey:** I will be a part of an EL Externship Grant which will allow me to represent our district and collaborate with content and ESOL teachers in an effort to better meet the needs

of ESOL students and their teachers. In addition, I will begin a summer job teaching for VIP-kid, an online ESOL teaching platform, in which American teachers help young Chinese students learn English via the web. Meanwhile, I will be settling into my new home.

**Caiti Alexander:** I am excited to spend the summer soaking up the sun, reworking lesson plans, and READING books that don't pertain to history!

**Teri Turner:** Preparing workshops for the Educational Theatre Association Theatre Education Advocacy Day, Leadership Summit, and Educational Theatre Association National Conference in September. We will be visiting Virginia and following my son's baseball team and children's swim team.

**Jad Mulgrew:** I plan on visiting my sister, brother-in-law, and niece in Idaho for a few days then going out on a back-country spring black bear hunt. My brother and I are going hike into the Sawtooth Mountains for a week and hopefully tag a bear. When I return, I'll be back to my summer normal, swinging a hammer working construction.

**Joseph Hulsey:** Watch lots of dirt track racing, visit family in Oklahoma, as well as run summer workouts and weights for the S-C wrestling team.

**Pam Reimund:** My siblings and I vacation together every summer. They live in Tennessee, Florida and Alabama. We are going to Charleston for four days. I also have 11 grandchildren and a new one due in July. None live in Sedalia, so I’ll spend time with them as I don’t get to much during the school year.

**Josh Heimsoth:** Going to spend most of July in my studio making awesome sculpture.

**Amanda Harvey:** I will be attending training for the new JAG (Jobs for America's Graduates) program that we are starting at S-C next year. The training institute is in Orlando, Fla., so my family will join me near the end of the week so we can extend our vacation and visit Disney World!

**Stacey Steinkuhler:** Going to Universal and Disney to see Harry Potter. Canvas Work Days. Working with my department to implement "The Writing Revolution" for next year. Spending countless hours at the POOL!

**Tyler Janke:** I have several professional development opportunities through the summer. As for jobs, I will spend the week of the 4th of July selling fireworks in Alabama. I am also a sub mail carrier and will mow with my brother who owns a large mowing business. My wife and I are expecting our first child on May 24, so plenty of family time, too.

or four weeks long for me,” he said. Another part of a typical teacher summer is conferences and professional development opportunities. Kailus plans to attend a conference to help students who are English language learners; he also will attend

Gencon in Indianapolis to get ideas for the chess and board game club, and will work on his thesis for his master’s degree. Kailus adds that conferences and PD days are important because it shows a teacher how to run their classroom better. Another important factor is that

the teachers are learning new things. Kailus claims that there is no teacher who knows everything, and that a teacher should constantly be learning new things. PD days can help teachers accomplish that. “It’s to help you model lifelong learning,” Kailus said.

New era to begin with new conference

By Jeffrey Goodson

Smith-Cotton Student Media

For 17 years, Smith-Cotton was a member of the West Central Conference. But, after the 2017-18 school year, S-C left the conference due to others deciding to leave the WCC. For the next two schools years, Smith-Cotton will be an independent school, meaning it will have no set conference. “In 2015-16, rumors started that the WCC could be in danger of collapsing,” said S-C Athletic Director Rob Davis. Because of that, several of the teams that were formerly members of the conference started to look for a new home. Eventually, S-C decided to team up with seven other schools and become one of the founders of the Central Missouri Activities Conference (CMAC). The members of the

new conference will be: Capital City High School, Helias High School and Jefferson City High School, all of Jefferson City; Rock Bridge High School, Hickman High School and Battle High School, all from Columbia; and Smith-Cotton High School. With a new conference comes new expectations and goals. S-C Baseball Head Coach Kyle Zimmerman is looking forward to the challenge. “I believe the new alignment will be



Davis

tremendous for the growth of our program. The saying goes, ‘If you want to be the best, you have to beat the best.’ This conference will put us with some of the best teams in the state and I believe that will

help us raise our level of competition,” he stated. Zimmerman believes that S-C is headed in the right direction and the new conference is only going to help S-C’s athletics situation. “There are a lot of exciting things happening throughout Smith-Cotton athletics. We have a great group of coaches in this school district that I believe will help all sports grow and succeed as we move into this new conference,” he stated. S-C will be seeing many new benefits as they move into the new conference, and officials are looking forward to them. They include easier scheduling, addition of All-Conference and Academic All-Conference Awards to provide more individual recognition. S-C will be an official member of the Central Missouri Activities Conference in the 2020-21 school year.

Summer workouts planned for sports, dance team

By Kali Butts

Smith-Cotton Student Media

For most students, summer is a sign of freedom away from school. For athletes, it’s just the beginning of their busy offseason filled with training and practices. Summer is right around the corner, and there are a lot of plans for Smith-Cotton sports programs to prepare for their upcoming seasons. Many sports are participating in summer weight lifting or some type of workout sessions. Basketball players will lift in the weight room to work on explosiveness and strength. They will also be having workouts to work on skills and team play. The team will be attending several shootouts and team camps with all of their programs from seventh grade through varsity. Players will have weights 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Monday and Wednesday and in the mornings on Fridays; they also will have practices Monday and Wednesday. To prepare, the new players coming in and those coming back for next season have talked about changing the culture of the program and having high expectations. Wrestling also has big summer plans to prepare for the upcoming season. The

coaches will run a camp at the beginning of June, and work Tuesdays and Thursdays on the mats and in the weight room. S-C Wrestling Head Coach Eric McNeal said, “We will continue to perfect technique and build functional strength.” McNeal’s goal is to expose new wrestlers to the mat and basics before the season starts. He also wants wrestlers to improve their core and grip strength as well as their functional strength. Girls soccer will be offering a team camp from 8 to 10 a.m. July 8-11 at Tiger Stadium. Players are also encouraged to attend a lifting session every Monday, Wednesday or Friday at the high school. Sessions take place at 7:30 a.m., 8:15 a.m., 9:00 a.m., 9:45 a.m., and 10 a.m.. S-C Girls Soccer Head Coach Meredith Brick is preparing the players by offering an intense four-day camp that will help improve soccer skills and have players work on their strength and agility at summer lifting sessions. Brick is hoping for an increase in strength, speed, and explosiveness as a result of consistent, purposeful offseason work. The Tigers football team will have multiple camps that players will put on and attend. They also will have the weight room open Monday, Wednesday and Friday.

Tigers Football Head Coach Charlie McFail will be focusing on lifting and individual technique. Football will be going all summer, and will officially start on Aug. 6. “I’m hoping to get students stronger, more confident, and hopefully stay healthy,” McFail said. High Voltage Dance Team practices twice a week, working on technique and choreography for performing season. The regular practices are closed but they do have a dance clinic planned for the week of July 4. Dates will be set by the end of school and updated on the summer dance clinic flyer, which will be posted on the team’s webpage and the sedalia200.org Athletics webpage with the other summer camps. High Voltage Head Coach Julie Willadsen said the girls will learn a lot of choreography and work really hard on dance technique, specifically kickline, which takes a lot of extra practice to look good on the field. High Voltage starts in August, and they perform August through February at home varsity football and basketball games, pep assemblies, and other various school activities. Their biggest team goals include acquiring technical skills, and getting the dancers in sync as a team.

# Long, tough road to success for graduate Rubio

By Kali Butts

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Juanito Rubio, now a high school graduate, has worked hard to earn that title and it is in no small effort to his extremely strong work ethic.

Rubio’s freshman year was very hard. When he came in to SCHS he knew very little English because he had forgotten a lot of what he had learned when he was younger. Trying to come to school with no English was a big challenge for him, and because of the language barrier he began to not care about his grades.

By his sophomore year, Juanito was still struggling and realized something was going to have to change. Second semester he switched his mindset and talked to ESOL teacher Melissa Lackey to come up with a plan. She told him that it was OK to try and make mistakes, but if he never tried to learn English he never would.

Rubio’s grades that semester began to get better and he started to earn more credits. By this time he was able to talk to teachers when he didn’t understand and advocated for himself. That’s when everything changed.

The summer before his junior year, Rubio moved to Mexico to be with his family. He attended school there for the entire year. However, his mom decided that he needed to move back to Sedalia without her to finish out his education so he could get the best opportunities possible.

When Rubio came back to S-C his senior year, he met with senior counselor Carmen Brock to see what it would take to graduate with his friends. Brock told him that they would put him in an alternative credit class where he would be able to work at his own pace using PLATO and would be able to complete as many credits as possible as long as he was dedicated to trying to graduate on track.

In order to complete this goal, Rubio had many people who motivated him to graduate, most of all, his mother.



Juanito Rubio accepts his diploma from Sedalia School District 200 Superintendent Steve Triplett during the Class of 2019’s Commencement on May 18 in the Mathewson Exhibition Center.

“She pushed me and told me I needed to go to school in Sedalia because she wanted so much better for me, even though I didn’t realize it at the time,” said Rubio. Rubio told his mom he would never leave her, so it was very hard for him to come back and understand how much she wanted for him and his future.

Another person who had a big impact on his life is Kathy Walkington, the PLATO teacher. When Rubio first had Walkington in class, he knew there was something different about her and she quickly became his favorite teacher. Over the many years Rubio has been in school, he’s never had a teacher like Walkington.

“She is more than just a teacher. She truly cares about all her students and wants them to do well in their lives,” Rubio said.

He also worked at Rose Acre Farms while balancing school. He always wanted to work as many hours as possible to help take care of his mom.

“Even on days where I would be very tired from school and work, I would just keep telling myself that I am this close to graduating and have to keep going,” said Rubio. “I am doing these things all for my mom to make her proud of me.”

Rubio says he couldn’t have graduated without Walkington. He needed to make up a lot of credits in his core classes, along with elective credits.

Now that he has graduated, Rubio plans to attend State Fair Community College for its welding program and to earn his certifications. Later, he wants to go into engineering and one day own his own business. He is also going to start working at Enersys in Warrensburg.

the counselor's office in early October and are available through late March.

“Class of 2019 was a very special class. They made huge accomplishments and definitely left their mark on S-C,” Brock said.

Both Brock and Esquivel agree that they would like to see an increase in the number of students applying for scholarships.

“I want every student to know that there are scholarships for every student. You don’t have to have a perfect GPA, or go to a four-year university, and you don’t have to be in a million clubs or activities. There is something for everyone,” Esquivel said.

## AWARDS

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that the lack of students who applied for scholarships is because a lot received in-house college scholarships based on merit, GPA, and ACT scores. Others received grants from their colleges.

Brock believes that students should start looking for scholarships before their senior year, then start applying for scholarships in the beginning of their senior year since scholarships come in

# Tiger Times reporters honored for work

The Tiger Times reporting staff was honored for its work over the 2018-19 school year and sophomore Natalie Adermann was named the Rookie Reporter of the Year during the annual Tiger Times Awards ceremony May 21.

Adermann was honored for her contributions to the Sedalia Democrat through the Rookie Reporter Program, in which S-C journalists provide stories about the school’s people, events and activities to be published in the local newspaper. So far this school year, Adermann has had 10 stories published in the Democrat.

“It makes me feel like I’ve accomplished something and that people really do care about my work,” she said of the award. “I always have so much to say so it’s really special to me that so many people are reading it and hearing it.”

Adermann also took first place in the Profile Writing category of the Tiger Times Awards for her story about teacher and coach Jeremiah Baruxen; she won second in Sports Writing for her story advancing the Smith-Cotton Athletic Hall of Fame inductions of Emily Webster, Warren Dey and Joseph Arbisi.

A different reporter took first in each of the award categories. Jeffrey Goodson won Sports Writing for his piece on volleyball and basketball player Haley Wiskur’s recovery from surgery; Faith Johnson won



Sedalia Democrat Editor Nicole Cooke, left, presents Smith-Cotton High School sophomore Natalie Adermann with the Rookie Reporter of the Year award. Adermann has had 10 of her stories published in the Democrat during the 2018-19 school year.

Feature Writing for her story about Bridget Young’s foreign exchange experience in Belgium; Victoria Wheat won New Writing for her explanation of the program that helps special needs students transition from school to work; and Kinzie Lamb was first in Commentary for her opinion piece headlined “Kids of single parents learn adulting fast.” Lamb’s commentary also was selected as the staff members’

favorite piece of the year.

Sedalia 200 Communications Director Bob Satnan, who co-advises Tiger Times with freshmen social studies teacher Caiti Alexander, said: "The fact that we had five different first place winners shows the breadth of talent among these reporters. Every member of this year's staff is a sophomore, so I am excited to see how much better they will get with more experience."

## Whittier was the right fit for Rogers

By Faith Johnson

Smith-Cotton Student Media

While going to Whittier High School Michelle Rogers gained more than an educational experience, she gained a lifetime of memories.

“Whittier showed me that there is more to high school than just assignments and tests. High school is a time in your life that you should live in the moment, make lots of memories, and have fun.” She said.

She originally had plans of graduating in 2020, however, she was part of Whittier's largest graduating class this spring. Rogers admits that she was nervous going into her final year of high school but she feels like it has been her best one yet.

“Whittier to me is a home away from home. No matter what kind of day I’m

having or what might be going on in my social life, I know that I will always have a place to go if I need someone to talk to,” said Rogers.

One challenge that she was faced with coming into high school was the fact that she was transferring from LaMonte, where she had attended her whole life. Rogers feels that the change helped her make new friends and challenge her comfort zone.

For Rogers, Whittier was a good fit for her for many reasons. “Every single person in that building cares about me and my journey throughout high school,” she said. “I think it works for me because I am in an environment where there is always someone to help me out if I need it.”

Teacher Jennie Guerrini describes Rogers as “a hard worker with a can-do attitude.” Guerrini hopes that Rogers continues to believe in herself and that she never loses



Michelle Rogers, right, and her mother, Merry, during Whittier’s Commencement.

her smile and inquisitiveness.

Rogers plans to further her education and become a dental hygienist, saying that dentistry fascinates her.

“I am beyond excited to start my college career! It’s going to be a very interesting experience I’m sure,” she said.

# CENTER STAGE

## S-C trio selected for All-State Show Choir

By Alexa Rowe

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Three Smith-Cotton students will perform in the Missouri All-State Show Choir this summer in Jefferson City. Selected for the choir are juniors Cora Sadler and Derrick Gilger, and sophomore Kaitlin Garrison. The Missouri All-State Show Choir is comprised of the top 60 vocal music students in the state of Missouri. To qualify, students submit a recorded audition to a committee of show choir professionals for review and selection. “It’s a huge honor to perform at the highest level that you can, especially for show choir,” said Anna Wooderson, S-C director of vocal music. All-State Show Choir is an experience that provides an environment for students to grow and reach excellence in performance, no matter where the student was before they arrived, she added. The students will spend three days learning the music and choreography, then on the fourth day perform to an audience.

Smith-Cotton has sent 12 show choir students to All-State Show Choir since the summer of 2016. Sadler was selected for the All- State Show Choir last summer, and she is really excited about attending it again this summer. “Attending all-state last year has really helped my confidence,” Sadler said. This is Garrison’s first year being selected and she is excited about attending. She hopes the experience will improve her skills for S-C’s next show choir season. “I’m hoping that I will be a better performer and improve my stage fright,” Garrison said. This also is Gilger’s first year attending, and he is excited to bring skills back from All-State to New Score and improve the group. “Attending is gonna make it possible for me to approach New Score in a different perspective,” he said. Gilger, Garrison, and Sadler are all grateful for Wooderson and are appreciative for the opportunity. “I just really want to thank Mrs. Wooderson; without her, I wouldn’t be where I



Cora Sadler performs at the close of the Senior Farewell Vocal Music Concert. Sadler has been selected to the All-State Show Choir for the second year in a row.

am today, Sadler added. “I’m really proud of Derrick, Cora, and Kaitlin, they’re great performers and are super talented,” Wooderson added.

# Barlett stayed in time on stage, behind the scenes

By Victoria Wheat

Smith-Cotton Student Media

For the past four years, Dalton Bartlett has devoted his life to singing and dancing under beaming spotlights, but has also been a dedicated performer behind the scenes, too. Bartlett has been involved in stage crew since his freshman year and has been the designated Student Stage Crew manager for the past three years. Show choir director Anna Wooderson has been able to see his passion for stage crew grow and isn’t sure where show choir would be without the help of Bartlett and the stage crew. “Dalton is the guy who will do whatever it takes to keep things running smoothly, safely, and effectively. He will do anything you ask him to do in the name of show choir and for the sake of the team,” said Wooderson. Bartlett has received the Mountain Mover award four times in a row. This award



Dalton Bartlett and Tyler Gerken at the Senior Farewell Vocal Music Concert.

needed. S-C Junior, Morgan Mckeon who received the Mountain Mover award for her involvement in show choir, also helps out the stage crew with her father and brother. Mckeon understands the importance of stage crew and applauds Bartlett’s dedication. “We couldn’t do what we love without the help of stage crew. Being involved in it is extremely important,” said Mckeon. Bartlett was also involved in all of the adult stage crew communications. He was in charge of carrying important information to students who were on the stage crew team and helping them if they needed it or if a problem occurred. “He is responsible, reliable, and sensible making him a very qualified leader of all students on stage crew,” Wooderson said. Even though Bartlett has left the halls of Smith-Cotton, he still plans to continue serving as a member of the adult stage crew.

# School store has solid year, room to grow

By Victoria Wheat

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Like kids in a candy store, students at Smith-Cotton have been mesmerized by the opening of the school store. The school store was brought to life by the DECA chapter at S-C. Missouri DECA chapters and marketing classes throughout the state are educated and encouraged to operate school stores within their schools. DECA instructor Angie Howard and her students had a desire to follow through with this opportunity and went to administration to start the process of opening the school store. S-C principal Wade Norton and other administrators supported the idea and decided to help with anything that would be needed. Before the store could be opened Howard and DECA officers had to discuss inventory, pricing, display, communications with staff and students, training staff, scheduling, and a variety of other tasks that are necessary to keep the store going. Along the way there weren’t many difficulties that stumped the group, but the DECA chapter had to find time during class to run



*“I truly hope it becomes more than a snack shop and more of a central hub for our school.”*

— Angie Howard

the store, work after hours to order inventory, and stock the store to prepare before it was open. After DECA got the hard part out of the way, they started discussing what they wanted to sell. The group had a variety of things they could choose from, but they had to keep in mind their target audience. In the end, with students in mind they decided to sell things such as snacks, drinks, school supplies, and spirit wear. Howard’s main goal for the store is to be able to provide a place for coaches, advisors, and teachers to utilize where students can go to look into signing up for certain activities, purchasing spirit wear and ap-

parel, and other important things they might need. “I truly hope it becomes more than a snack shop and more of a central hub for our school,” said Howard. For many teachers, it can be frustrating to have students fleeing to their desk to ask if they can go to the school store, but Howard hopes her plans for the 2019-2020 school year will help make things better. S-C history teacher Greg Willson doesn’t mind it when students ask to go to the store as long as his students don’t trash his classroom with wrappers and trash. “I have not had that problem this year and hopefully will not have it next year. I think the school store is a neat thing we have that other schools do not,” Willson said. The DECA chapter is looking forward to the future of the store and cannot wait for next year’s opening. “I feel like everyone involved has learned a lot about different aspects of operating a retail establishment, our school has enjoyed the easy and affordable access to snacks and drinks, and our staff has been extremely supportive and patient throughout the year,” said Howard.

# Recent grads offer advice for current S-C students

By Natalie Adermann

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Transitioning from high school to college can be tough for some, but a few Smith-Cotton graduates have offered their advice to those who are making the big change. Class of 2017 graduate Lexi Venable is currently majoring in accounting at Rockhurst University in Kansas City. She would definitely describe her experience transitioning to college as rough. Venable didn’t know anyone else who was going to Rockhurst and she had never been away from her family for very long. However, she found out that Rockhurst was very welcoming.

“They did a good job of making me feel like I should be there,” Venable said. Class of 2017 graduate Chaz Satnan is majoring in elementary education at Missouri Western State University in St. Joseph. When Satnan first started college he was playing football and noticed that the expectations for sports are a whole different world in college. “It’s actually more like a job,” Satnan said. He noticed that he was doing football eight hours a day, which included practice, film studies, and more. Satnan said that it taught him to be more proactive and more aware of staying on top of his studies. Although college may seem like a common path from high

school, it’s not for everyone. Class of 2016 graduate Elias Kemp finished a semester of college and decided to join the military. Kemp said joining the National Guard is the best decision of his life. He recently returned from his station in Fort Meade, Md. Kemp noticed that the military can help with college as well. Another plus side of the military for Kemp is the closeness he experienced with the instructors. “It’s a team type of thinking and you’ll always have someone to fall back on,” Kemp said. He is planning to return to the University of Central Missouri in the fall to major in some form of journalism. Kemp advises the graduates to

keep organized and always have a plan. He adds that it will keep you focused. “It’s easy to get distracted, but it’ll benefit you in the end,” Kemp said. Venable would advise graduates to take advantage of high school while they can. She admits that it is tough not seeing the same friends everyday. Although this may be difficult, Satnan states that it is important to not fear change. “You might be afraid of missing your friends and your family, I realized that there are so many things better than Sedalia,” Satnan said. Satnan noticed that getting to meet people from different backgrounds made him a better person and student.