

# Senior Night starts season with a win

By Natalie Adermann

Smith-Cotton Student Media

The Smith-Cotton football team started its season off right by taking a 21-14 win over Moberly and honoring its seniors.

Although Senior Night is traditionally the last home game, there were a few reasons for the change.

S-C football head coach Charlie McFail made Senior Night the season opener for two reasons: to highlight the seniors on the first game so fans could watch and recognize them throughout the season, and to get a bigger turnout. McFail has enjoyed seeing his seniors develop throughout their years as Tiger football players.

“One of the best things in coaching young kids is watching them mature physically, mentally and emotionally,” McFail said.

McFail believes that starting the season out with a win proves the hard work the team has put in.

“All of that work has already been seen in the way that they practice and the way that the team has bonded together,” he said.

Senior Nate McFail has noticed a difference in his senior season, but a lot of it is also the same.

“It feels the same as any other season because I am playing with the same boys I



Walker Tatum (75) leads fellow senior Brandon Neale (24) on a running play.

have been my entire life and we are going for the same goal we always have,” Nate said. However, he also said it is emotional knowing it could be his last year playing football.

Fellow senior Brody Kindel agrees, stating, “Just knowing that this will be the last season I ever step on a football field to play is crazy.”

Nate McFail uses his potential last year as

motivation.

“That just influences me to make it even better,” McFail said. McFail plans to attend college and study to be a veterinarian, and hopefully play football or track, and Kindle plans to play baseball at State Fair Community College.

All seniors on the team have helped their teammates work hard and come together to handle this season. Nate McFail’s advice to his underclassman teammates is to show up to as many things as possible so they can get ahead.

“Even if you’re not a part of football, you can do as much as you can to get better at what you do,” he said. Kindle also encourages the team to attend workouts, even though they might not be the most fun. Kindle offers another word of advice as well: “Be fearless on the field and smart in the classroom.”

Throughout the season Coach McFail wants his team to persevere through the hard schedule, and as always, continue in improving their skills and abilities.

As the seniors say goodbye to S-C, Coach McFail gives them a word of advice: always work for what you want.

“Do not rely on others to provide things for you, figure out what you want and go work for it,” McFail said.

## Palmer has Lady Tigers softball focused on improvement



Smith-Cotton Softball Head Coach Megan Palmer addresses the team between innings during Tuesday’s home game against Bolivar.

By Victoria Wheat

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Smith-Cotton’s Lady Tiger softball team is looking at things differently this year with new head coach Megan Palmer. Palmer’s main goal for this season is to work on the team’s fundamentals to become more confident, knowledgeable players.

“We are not focusing on the scoreboard but on building the program with our young players,” said Palmer.

Palmer played softball at her high school in Warsaw from 2008 to 2010. Her high school team won districts four times, conference once, and state once. After graduation, Palmer went to college at Park University for four years to play softball and

then went on to coach a 12-and-under competitive softball team out of Warsaw. She interviewed for the position at S-C at the end of May and was told she got the job just a few days before the team’s first summer game. Former Lady Tigers Head Coach Hilliary Owens, who now is a principal in La Monte, and S-C Athletic Director Rob Davis both helped Palmer prepare for the season, easing her transition.

This year’s team has only two returning varsity players from the previous season, so this is most of the players’ first varsity opportunities. Palmer is working on building their confidence and gaining game experience.

Jasmyrn Bayless is one of the two returning varsity players. Bayless is a senior this season

and played softball her freshman and junior years. This season she hopes the team will continue to improve and make the softball program better. When Bayless graduates she wants to leave knowing that the softball program is growing and stable.

“I want people to be interested in it and I want them to enjoy playing,” said Bayless.

The team started summer practices in the beginning of August and has continued to work hard. “Most girls do not have a lot of game experience so we are trying to learn the ins and outs,” Palmer said. “There is a lot of potential in this team and a lot of room to grow this season. I am looking forward to watching these young players learn the game and get more confident in their skills.”

# TIGER TIMES

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## DECA makes difference with haircuts

By Natalie Adermann

Smith-Cotton Student Media

As the time comes for everyone to go back to school, many students are concerned with looking their best. The Smith-Cotton High DECA chapter helped those students out by offering free haircuts.

On Monday, August 20, Smith-Cotton DECA hosted “Back 2

School Cuts 4 Kids” at Axis Salon and Spa from noon to 6 p.m. Free haircuts were provided to students ages 5 through 18 headed back to school. In total, 100 haircuts were given, and hygiene products were sent home with the kids. Community sponsors of DECA provided money for the products. In addition to the haircuts, Body-Works provided approximately

35 manicures. DECA vice president of leadership Reagan Braverman got the idea from an ad on TV similar to this project. Braverman wasted no time in sharing the idea, as she “jumped straight to McKenna” Perusich, vice president of finance, who became Braverman’s partner in the project. The two went straight to Axis

Salon after they had talked with their DECA advisor, Angie Howard, and started planning the event, which took about a month in total.

“I think this benefits the community of Sedalia,” said Braverman, who added that it had been a good experience for her and fellow DECA mem-

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### Tiger Pride on march

The Smith-Cotton Tiger Pride Marching Band prepared for its season with a preview for family and boosters on Aug. 23 in Tiger Stadium. The band played the S-C fight song and pieces from its 2018 show, and invited to crowd onto the field to try out some marching maneuvers.



## Cheerleaders earn honors at summer camp

By Faith Johnson

Smith-Cotton Student Media

Over the summer Smith-Cotton varsity and JV cheer squads attended the Universal Cheerleaders Association camp. The camp took place on June 3-6 in Lake of the Ozarks.

Going into the camp, S-C Cheerleading Coach Karmen Butler’s main goal was to get the squads to work better as a team. She also said she wanted the teams to learn some new routines to bring home. S-C varsity cheerleaders earned the trophy for best cheer and S-C junior varsity earned a trophy for most improved squad.

Teams get ribbons and trophies based on their game day routine and their rally routine

Many things take place at camp ranging from new sideline chants to get the crowd

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## Color Guard in KC

The Smith-Cotton JROTC Color Guard presented the National Colors on Aug. 9 at Arrowhead Stadium for the Kansas City Chiefs football game against the Houston Texans. Cadet Major Mackinzie Brines-Beach said, "I thought it was an amazing experience, and I am so thankful to be a part of a program that allows us to experience events like this. I am beyond grateful for the support we have received that allows us to do this."

## DECA

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bers.

Axis Salon owner Danielle Kendrick found out about the project through Braverman and Perusich and was excited to host it at her salon. Kendrick said that it had brought in more business than usual and Braverman and Perusich were very organized with setting everything up.

"I am so grateful to be a part of such a wonderful project for the community," Kendrick said.

Kendrick was not the only stylist helping out that day. Stylists and barbers from various salons

helped out..Joining Kendrick were Elaine Sparks, Cortnie Sanders, and Andrea Sanchez from Axis Salon; Lynette Diann, Meghan Defoe, and Megan Simpson of Salon and Spa of Sedalia; Brandon Wolf, Tim Keele, and Trevor Rialti of Wolfy's Barber Shop; Stephanie Hannah of Studio Vogue; and Susan Sheppard of Fringe. The DECA would also were grateful for the support from all of the sponsors that made the project possible.

Thanks to DECA and lots of help from the community, a lot of students are now ready to start the school year looking their best.

## CHEERLEADERS

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going to new tumbling and stunt-ing skills. Cheerleaders are also able to compete in a jump off and try out for All American Cheerleader status.

Junior Madison Lyles tried out and received All-America status. "Lyles is a super hard worker and very dedicated to our cheer team," Butler said. "In the years I have coached, I have never seen a male cheerleader try out for All American. He is exceptional in everything he does."

Lyles said he was very shocked when he received All-America status because it usually goes to seniors.

"I felt that other people were much sharper than me," he said. Lyles and Jasmine Sims were also awarded the Pin It Forward Award, which is awarded to people who are always working hard and giving it their all.

This camp helped better shape Smith-Cotton cheer.

"I had a few new cheerleaders on my varsity squad and a few girls that moved up from JV on the varsity squad, so I feel like they came together more as a team as they hadn't all worked together



Smith-Cotton High senior cheerleaders Madison Lyles, left, and Jasmine Sims were selected for the Pin It Forward award at the Universal Cheerleading Association camp at Lake of the Ozarks. Lyles also earned All-American Cheerleader recognition and Sims was selected to try out to be a UCA staff member.

before camp," Butler said. "JV was very new at camp and didn't really know what it was like to be on a cheer team so just learning how to be a part of a team for them was a big difference."

## Deadline today for fall SPIZ shirt orders

Applications for SPIZ, the Smith-Cotton Student Fan Section, are due today, Aug. 31, to Mr. Young or the front office. The \$30 dues payment gets you an all-sports athletic pass and a T-shirt, and since athletic passes are usually

\$25 you're basically just buying a \$5 fan section T-shirt. There will be two more order dates later, but get your payment in now to wear your shirt for fall sports.



# S-C chapter shines at HOSA conference

By Victoria Wheat

Smith-Cotton Student Media

The HOSA-Future Health Professionals chapter at Smith-Cotton High School participated in the HOSA International Leadership Conference from June 27-30 in Dallas.

As state president for HOSA, senior Edward Toderescu-Stavila helped run the annual state meeting at the ILC. He also participated in the Researched Persuasive Writing and Speaking competition. In his first round, he wrote a paper arguing that the world is too clean for children and that contributes to rising allergy rates. In the second round, he performed a speech over the same topic in front of three judges. Toderescu-Stavila placed seventh out of nearly 100 participants in the international event.

While at the conference he also spent time with other Missouri state officers to plan for the state meeting. One of his favorite things to do at the HO-

SA ILC was pin trading. Each state has a pin and the basic idea is to trade pins with other states and collect pins with the friends you make as mementos. As a whole, S-C HOSA participated in workshops and educational meetings.

Senior Grace Edgar found the event inspiring and eye-opening.

"It really showed me how many opportunities are in the medical field," said Edgar.

The conference allowed her and the other HOSA members to meet others from all over the world. Toderescu-Stavila found this chance to meet with others from around the nation "truly wonderful," and inspiring.

"Having the opportunity to attend the conference with thousands of other people as passionate about healthcare as I am is not an opportunity I would advise anyone to pass up," said Toderescu-Stavila.

The professional atmosphere helped both Edgar and Toderescu-Stavila get immersed into



The Smith-Cotton chapter of HOSA-Future Health Professionals earned Outstanding HOSA Chapter recognition at HOSA's International Leadership Conference June 27-30 in Dallas. S-C chapter members attending were, from left, Luis Resendiz, Grace Edgar, Edward Toderescu-Stavila, Taylor Burlingame, Alex Esquivel, Reagan Woolery, Raphael Barragan and Roam Morelos.

the projects and environment. Smith-Cotton was recognized as one of just few chapters from around the nation as receiving international level "Outstanding HOSA Chapter" designation.

Edgar and Toderescu-Stavila are both still in HOSA this year. Edgar hopes to go back to internationals to learn more and

be able to come back to share her knowledge with others. Toderescu-Stavila is looking forward to helping run the Fall Leadership and State Leadership conferences at a state level. He is most excited to attend the HOSA leadership academy in Washington, D.C., and bring back what he learns to S-C.

## POLL QUESTION

How are you looking to improve yourself this school year?



*"I am looking to improve who I am as a person in general so when I move on from this chapter of my life, I'm ready."*

— Syndey Kocsis, senior



*"Having more patience."*

— Stacey Steinkuhler, teacher



*"Get on a better sleep and homework schedule and give full effort."*

— Caleb Egbert, sophomore



*"I'm hoping to stay more organized and focused on school. I hope that if I stay focused and keep a positive mind about my classes maybe school will be easier."*

— Kiley Sawyer, junior



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