

# The Bluejay Post

Cimarron High School

Cimarron, Kansas 67835

October 2010

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## Who let the administrators out?

# School administrators teach higher level math

By Sierra Lucke

Administrators in the classroom? Who would've thought?

Due to the budget crunch, the 2010/2011 school year has one fewer math teacher, which in turn has led Superintendent Mike Waters and Principal Bill Brown to fill in the needed positions.

They have both benefited, yet made sacrifices doing so, and they feel prepared to take on this school year head-first.

As we all know, students face challenges every day, including impossible tests and quizzes, early deadlines, difficult situations, and even the bell, which we always feel rings one minute too soon.

Administrators have also faced these challenges. After all, they were students at one time, just like us.

Brown says, "I was a nerd's nerd. I was a socially backwards kid and really had very few friends.

Really, the most difficult thing I faced

during school was not fitting in."

Waters has even faced these "challenges" as well.

"Looking back on it," says Waters, "I didn't understand how important studying and getting good grades were until I took the ACT."

After facing these difficult challenges during school, they moved on and conquered their careers as successful school administrators, as well as enthusiastic teachers.

Waters says, "I taught mainly mathematics. I taught for three years at Plainville Junior High, and four years at Hays High School. I've taught seventh and eighth grade math, Geometry, Algebra I and II, and also College Algebra while I was a principal."

Waters wasn't the only one to become successful. Brown became a principal as well as a math teacher.

"By now, I've taught one year at middle school, ten years at high school, College Algebra, and also Trio Programs," says Brown. "I've just taught basically math, from beginning classes all the way through calculus."

As principal and superintendent, there are certain roles to be carried out every day.

"As principal, my job is to make sure the operation of the building is managed, as well as maintained," says Brown. "I have to uphold the structure of leadership."

Although one might think being superintendent and principal were a bit the same, it turns out they're not even close.

"As superintendent, the main role I have is the money. I make sure there's enough to pay teachers along with paying the bills," says Waters. "I also work with teachers and principals to make the school the best it can be in Athletics and Academics."

**2+2=4: Principal Bill Brown teaches Advanced Math to his first-hour students. Brown was a full-time math teacher before he became principal. (Lucke photo)**

Being a math teacher and a superintendent or principal can be challenging, but can also have benefits. With every obstacle we face, there's always a little of both.

"Being a math teacher along with being superintendent feels awesome, it's unbelievable," says Waters. "This is the definition of my dream job. I love it."

Along with Waters, Brown takes a positive approach to being a math teacher and a principal.

"I love it! Be-

ing in the office all day can be stressful, so the classroom really relaxes me," says Brown. "I actually look forward to first hour every day."

Juggling both professions can be challenging as well as hard work.

"The biggest challenge I face would probably be finding the time to grade assignments," says Brown. "I go home almost every night with two hours of 'homework' to do."

Waters feels he faces the same challenge.

"Time is definitely the biggest thing. I have to make sure I give enough time to students and to the class," says Waters. "Right as I walk out of the classroom, my role changes back to superintendent. I'm no longer seen as a teacher."

But on the bright side, Waters and Brown enjoy being back in the classroom with the students.

"What I enjoy most is watching the kids latch on to something, and when they finally get it the light comes on," says Brown. "I also enjoy telling the kids my stupid jokes and they all laugh."

Waters enjoys spending time with the students as well.

Waters says, "I absolutely truly enjoy

**$Y=MX+B$ : Superintendent Mike Waters demonstrates how to find the equation of a line. Waters uses Livescribe to share his daily lessons online. "I feel that using Livescribe gives students the confidence in doing problems," said Waters. (Lucke photo)**

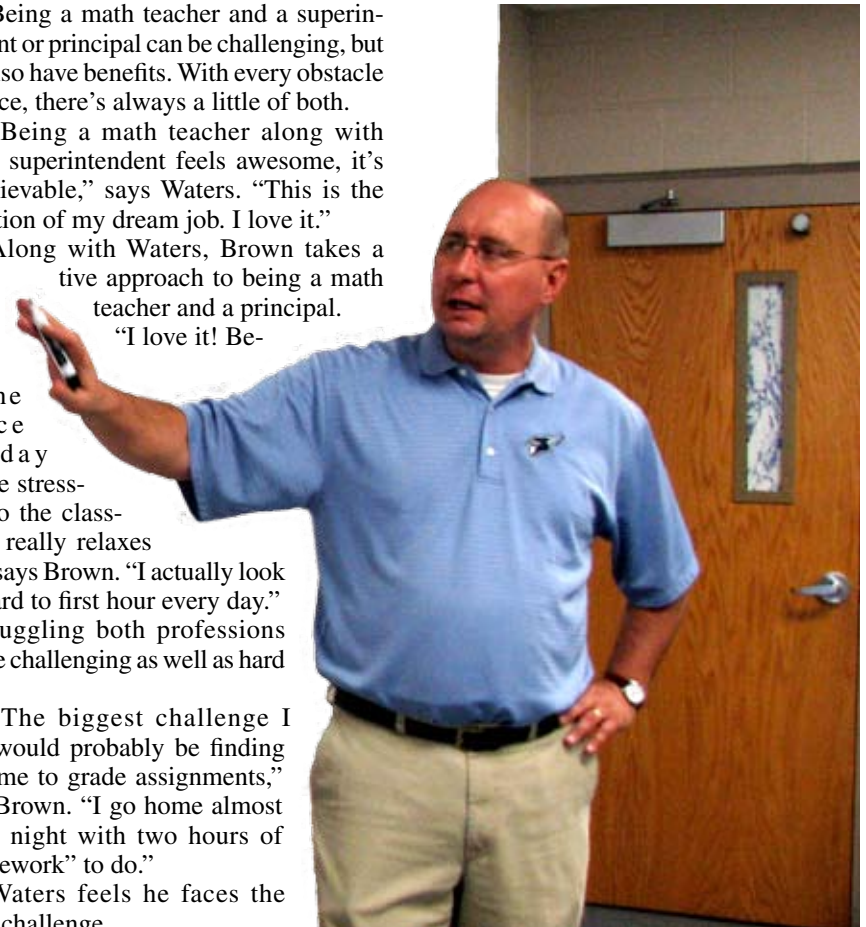
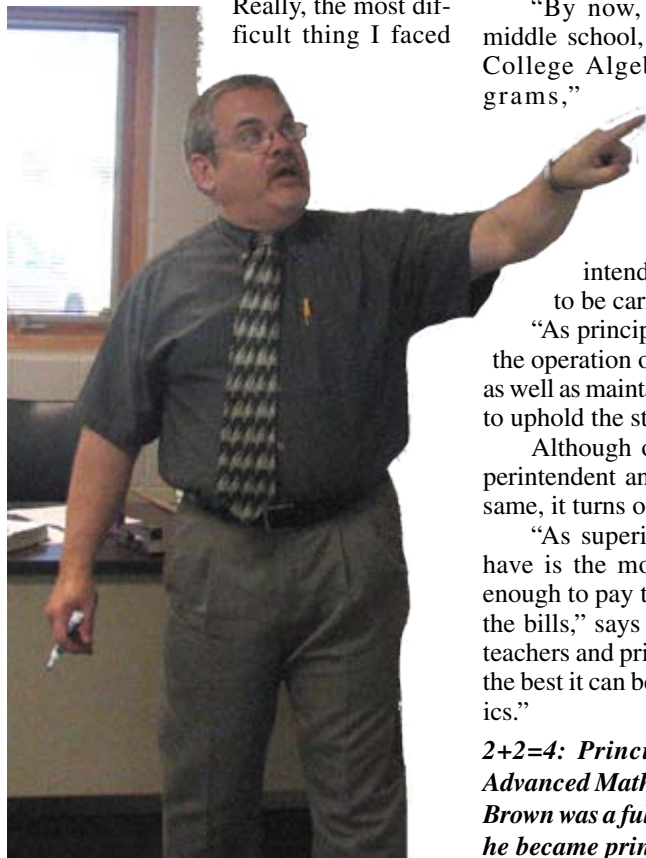
being with the students and bringing humor into the classroom."

Along with enjoying the students' presence, Waters and Brown have also noticed they develop a better relationship with the students after spending 53 minutes in the same room with them.

"I feel a lot closer to the students," says Waters, "and I think the students feel more comfortable around me also."

Brown has also become adapted to

See Math Teachers, page 5



## Where did everyone go? Enrollment down compared to recent years

By **Josaiah Kremer**

You walk through the doors of CHS; it's the first day of school. You see some friends, walk up to them, and start chatting about your summer. After describing how you did absolutely nothing for three months, you move on to your locker, stow your books, and head to class.

Stop.

Did you notice anything unusual? Was there something missing? Were all your friends there?

Chances are one of them wasn't.

Last year Cimarron High School and the junior high combined held 300 students. This year there are currently 266 students enrolled. So where did everyone go?

"Several students moved with their families," says CHS guidance counselor Karrie Millershaski. "Some students wanted what bigger schools offer."

This year 34 students who were here last year are not attending CHS. Many of these students decided the traditional learning environment (e.g., high school) was not for them.

"...Some students don't fit into the traditional learning environment and could be quite successful in an alternate setting," says Millershaski.

Places like the Cimarron Community Learning Center, where a diploma, which appears equivalent to one from CHS, can be obtained, are becoming popular settings for these people.

"Alternative schooling can help stu-

dents reach their goal, which is to graduate," says Millershaski.

With the decreased enrollment this year, one might wonder how CHS's state aid is affected.

Principal Bill Brown explained that the state gives public schools \$4,012 for each student. So because of the 34 students lost this year, \$136,408 was lost as well. Also, if any of those students happened to be in a "Special Education" program, another \$2,006 was lost, a staggering amount of money for a school with an already strict budget to lose.

Though it seems CHS is shrinking, the grade school has actually increased enrollment by 53 students in the last two years, which helps in balancing out the new students/lost students ratio.

Loss of students, cutbacks, an extended schedule... what's next? Switch to 2-A school?

A ruling, determining which division CHS will fall into, is said to be made on October 1 by the Kansas State High School Activities Association.

KSHSAA decides each year which schools will be in each division (6-A, 5-A, 4-A, etc.) on the basis of their population. Cimarron has been a 3-A school in the past.

So it's the end of your first day back from summer vacation, you're walking out the doors to the outside world. Are all your friends with you? Did they make it back for this year?

Did they move on to new places to test



their knowledge in a new environment?

Whether they did or they didn't, you're still here, so enjoy yourself.

**Editorial Board:** Although our editorials are written by individuals, the thoughts and ideas conveyed are those of The Bluejay Post editorial board: Josaiah Kremer and Sierra Lucke.

## Lengthy summer leaves many concerned

By **Tyler M. Siek**

As many students may have noticed, the school days are quite a bit longer at CHS this year.

The first and most important reason for the longer school days is budget cuts. There is a requirement among Kansas public schools for 1116 hours in the classroom each year. By increasing the length of our school days, we are able to have more days off.

This means an extended summer break. This break prevents the school from having to pay cooks and bus drivers. According to administration, the school board voted on this longer school day in order to save the money that would usually be paid out if we were in school.

This settlement has brought mixed emotions among staff members at CHS.

There is a concern that younger stu-

dents in primary grades are having too long a break: this last summer break was 108 days, and elementary teachers fear their young students have forgotten everything they learned over a summer.

In the high school, staff members think the shorter school year makes it hard for sports teams and organizations to be successful.

This spring school lets out on May 11. Most spring sports are not finishing their seasons until the end of May. Will this cause trouble for the coaches?

Organizations such as FCCLA, FFA, KAYS, NHS, TSA, and SADD did not get the start they wished for because club members did not come back to school at what is considered the normal time.

A few teachers have said that such a long summer, while definitely a good thing, leads to boredom. After all, their job is to

teach.

As a solution, our school board could consider revising our calendar to a four-day week for next year.

While going to a four-day week could mean adding even more time to our school day, it could also eliminate the need to pay help on either Monday or Friday every week, and it would allow students more free time for medical appointments or personal business on the weekend, rather than during class.

The summer break would go back to the traditional length, freeing our primary grades from the struggle of forgetfulness, but still allowing our school system to save money and have extra days off.

### Bluejay Post Staff

2010-2011

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## FFA attends State Fair, gets hands dirty soil judging

By Tyler Siek

The chance to see and experience Kansas agriculture is an interesting one. The local FFA chapter at CHS took a trip to Hutchinson to see the Kansas State Fair on September 14.

While the main purpose of the trip is to view exhibits and learn about agriculture, there are numerous other activities at the fair.

Some fun items at the Kansas State Fair included, "Fried Snickers and all the pretty women," said Senior Spence Byer.

For others, the carnival was the best part of the trip.

"I enjoy annoying the carnies, asking about the odds of the games they work," said Sophomore Aidan Shaughnessy.

According to FFA sponsor Ryan Miller, an entire charter bus of FFA members went on the one-day trip. The students also kept themselves busy at a recent soil judging contest.

**GREEN THUMBS:** Sophomore Cody Wendel, Freshman Thomas George, Senior Spence Byer, and Junior Jason Maddox judge soil at a recent FFA judging. The club has been very involved with judgings and attended the Kansas State Fair this past month. "We're a busy bunch," says Ryan Miller. (Courtesy photo)

## FCCLA group plans to attend fall leadership academy

By Sierra Lucke

FCCLA is an organization promoting personal growth and leadership development through Family and Consumer Sciences education.

FCCLA is holding a Fall Leadership Academy in Ness City on October 27. It's a great way to kick off the school year by preparing the officers for the upcoming FCCLA events and activities. It also provides them with the needed experience to succeed as an officer.

Paula Wehkamp, Cimarron's FCCLA advisor, expressed enthusiasm about the upcoming FCCLA year and

the events and fundraisers planned.

"We really have a good start with FCCLA; we've already had the cookie drive and the buckle-up drive with State Farm. I'm really looking forward to the rest of the school year," said Wehkamp.

Many of the FCCLA officers are also ready for the upcoming events. Vice President Tiana Schneider is preparing herself for a year full of fun, learning, and experience associated with the organization.

"I'm very excited to see what the year has in store for us," said Schneider, "interacting with the other schools in our district is always fun and exciting."

## Yearbook attends Josten's workshop

By Josaiah Kremer

On September 10 the CHS Yearbook class attended Josten's Yearbook Workshop at Dodge City Community College.

The workshop offered a fun contest, free food, and photo slideshows to demonstrate how to make a better yearbook.

"I learned you have to be very creative if you want your yearbook to stand out from the rest," said yearbook student Elgin Wespe.

Students were shown a wide array of yearbooks from all over the country to supply ideas on how a great yearbook looks.

"My favorite part was looking at some of the photos the speaker showed us, and, of course, going to Applebee's," said Damaris Herrera, senior yearbook student.



**EYES ON THE SCREEN:** Yearbook students Josaiah Kremer, Fernanda Cabrera, Damaris Herrera, Cassi Glaze, and Tess Trahern learn about page design at the Josten's workshop in September. (Courtesy photo)

### Organizations update

#### FCCLA

- Will be selling raffle tickets for Bluejay flags.
- There will be a surprise for FCCLA members at the meeting in October.

#### SADD

- This year's motto is "I Rock Drug Free."
- Guitars were designed by Sophomore Miguel Jimenez.

#### FFA

- Group will be hosting the District Dairy Cattle and Products contest in Cimarron on October 6.
- National Convention will be held during the week of October 19-23 in Indianapolis.

#### NHS

- Organization will be selling clothing starting October 11.

Dance with your heart

## Janet Smith teaches dancers for upcoming musical



teacher is just going and teaching it," Smith said. "The hardest is planning recitals."

Smith encourages everyone to take up dancing for several reasons. "It's good to help you get into shape," she said.

Though ballet has a soft spot in Smith's heart, she is willing to take on different dancing challenges.

"I would really like to learn how to ballroom dance," Smith said. "I've never learned how to do that."

**POINT YOUR TOES:** Dance choreographer Janet Smith goes through exercises with the dancers for the upcoming musical, *Oklahoma!* Smith has been a dance teacher for 26 years. She was inspired by someone very dear to her. "My mother taught me how to dance," Smith said. "She was my first dance teacher." (Marshall photo)

By Nicole Marshall

*Dancing with the feet is one thing, but dancing with the heart is another.* ~Author Unknown

The year has arrived and it's time for another musical. This year's musical production will be *Oklahoma!*

The musical offers a lot of singing, but it also features a forgotten art: dance. Musical director Lynn Unruh has summoned Janet Smith, local dance teacher from Dodge City, to choreograph various dance numbers for the musical.

Smith has been in the dancing business for 26 years. As she was learning the art, she was taught by someone special to her.

"My mother taught me how to dance," Smith said. "She was my first dance teacher."

Smith was trained in Wichita and now has her own dance studio at the Dodge City *Daily Globe*. She teaches various classes, but she offers private lessons as well.

"I have clients who make appointments with me if they want personal lessons," she said.

Smith teaches various types of dancing, such as jazz, gymnastics, and cheerleading. Her favorite type of dancing, however, is ballet.

Smith has heard a variety of different composers, but she has a personal favorite she likes to dance to.

"My favorite composer is Tchaikovsky," she said.

Smith enjoys taking on new challenges, but the difficulty is still present in her classes.

"With the girls I'm teaching, their abilities are on different levels, so it can be difficult," Smith said.

Though Smith has a busy schedule, she still finds time to help out with making the dances great.

"When there's something I enjoy doing, I make time for it," she said.

Unruh, vocal teacher, called Smith early in September to see if she would help with the musical choreography. Smith was excited and likes the different scenery.

"Teaching these dancers is a lot of fun," Smith said.

Dancing isn't always easy, but Smith has her own ways of incorporating her own ideas.

"I watch the DVD of *Oklahoma* and take ideas, then I add my own," she said.

The previous musical CHS hosted two years ago had as choreographer Rebecca (Unruh) Koehn. Smith is acquainted with Koehn through family, and Koehn was one of her first dance students.

There are many aspects of dance that are easy and many that are hard. For Smith, she has her easy situations as well as difficult ones.

"The easiest thing about being a dance



~Sierra's Secret Snapshot~

The photo above has been distorted in crazy, cool, and almost SCARY ways.

If YOU know what it is, report to MS. HEWES ROOM for a prize!  
You better hurry though! There will only be ONE lucky winner!  
GoOd LuCk! :)

## From law enforcement to tennis, Lee Jantz does it all

By Nicole Marshall

The school year has begun and so has the sports season. All sports have been practicing since August 16, and improvement is already showing for the tennis team.

Coach Lee Jantz has been coaching girls' and boys' tennis for the past five years at Cimarron High School. This year, however, there are lots of new faces on the tennis team.

"It's definitely a change because for me. We've had to slow things down a lot," Jantz said. "Normally this time of the season we're doing more complicated drills, but this year we're still working on the basics."

Jantz learned the game of tennis early on.

"I played tennis in high school at Haviland High," Jantz said.

Though Jantz didn't play tennis in college, his love for the game didn't diminish. He still enjoyed watching his favorite player, John McEnroe.

On the court, Jantz is a tennis coach. Off the court, Jantz is a motor carrier inspector for the Highway Patrol, which means he mainly takes care of semi trucks on the highway.

"I've been with the patrol for six years, and I've been in law enforcement for thirteen years," said Jantz.

Though coaching tennis is a large passion for Jantz, he's also had his fair share of interesting things that have happened to him while working as a motor inspector.

"I once pulled over a semi-truck and inside I found 500 pounds of marijuana. This is the most I've ever found in my entire career," Jantz said.

Being a motor patrol officer is something Jantz is as passionate about as coaching tennis. There are some things he incorporates into tennis practice that he practices at work.

"Just dealing with people in general is something I pass on to the team," Jantz said. "I try to keep being positive and treat people kind and fair as an example for the girls."

Even through the craziness of motor patrol and tennis, Jantz still finds time to be a family man.

"I have three daughters and a wife that is appreciative of my coaching tennis," said Jantz. "I have flexible work hours, so there isn't a conflict with coaching and spending time with my family."

Jantz has plans to keep coaching tennis

until his own girls are old enough to play.

"After I coach my girls, I may retire from coaching then," he said.

Through the short five years Jantz has been coaching at Cimarron, he's traveled near and far for tennis meets.

"The furthest place we've traveled is to Tabor College for state. It's in Hillsboro and it's about a three and a half hour drive," Jantz said.

In spite of his busy schedule, Jantz enjoys other hobbies outside of coaching.

"I like to hunt, do photography, golf, and spend time with my girls," he said.



**PRACTICE MAKES PERFECT:** Lee Jantz tells his tennis team how to return the perfect serve. Though coaching is time consuming, Jantz still has time for family. "I have three daughters and a wife that is appreciative of my coaching tennis," said Jantz. "I have flexible work hours, so there isn't a conflict with coaching and spending time with my family." (Marshall photo)

### MATH TEACHERS, continued from page 1

being back in the classroom and feels a growing bond with the students as well.

"I most certainly feel closer to the students. I feel like we've created a special bond," says Brown. "I really wish I could spend time with all the students in the school."

While both teachers feel that they have this closer bond with the students, good rapport is also important. Rapport is simply trusting; it's merely a closely bonded relationship between two people.

"As a teacher, I feel that building rapport is simply using humor and making students appreciate my humor," says Waters. "I let students know if they work hard, I'll work hard and persuade them to be the best that they can be."

Brown also feels that building rapport is important. Trust can get a person a long way.

Brown says, "I try to build rapport by knowing what's going on in their lives. I talk to them and treat them like adults. I

want students to walk out of the room with confidence, and for students to learn, they have to trust me."

Brown and Waters feel that with this bond, they can persuade a student not to give up when in doubt. They both have their own approach to handling situations like this.

Brown says, "In the past, I've contacted the kid and pre-taught him to better understand the curriculum. Sometimes the student just needs to realize that they already know the answer."

Like Brown, Waters also knows how to handle situations such as these.

"I think it does happen," says Waters. "Kids do give up on a class or a course because they feel like they're not good enough. I try to encourage them and let them know they are good enough and try to provide them with any help they made need."

With every math teacher comes new ideas and teaching methods. This year, Waters and Brown have taken advantage of a new program called Livescribe. It's an online program which talks students through each math problem and helps them understand.

"I absolutely believe the new program has helped my students," says Brown. "I am a big believer in it."

Waters also feels Livescribe has helped his students tremendously.

"Now, some college levels are using more technology. I wanted to be able to incorporate technology into the classroom to prepare them," says Waters. "I feel that using Livescribe gives students the confidence in doing problems. Most of the time, the students already know how to work the problems. It's triggering that key into solving them."

Along with every teacher having his or her own ideas and teaching methods, comes an educational philosophy. This is the own teacher's point of view on education.

"As a teacher, I believe that every single student is very important and demands my hard work," says Waters. "Everything that I talk about for the next 50 minutes is centered around my students."

Brown also has his own educational philosophy on life.

"I want to give the students the same freedom of choice that I have," says Brown. "I want them to be able to walk out of here

and do whatever they want to do."

And with every philosophy comes a great deal of wisdom and advice that every teacher harbors. Waters and Brown both have an interesting outlook on life, and the advice they gave is intended for every student. It's what they believe every student should follow.

Waters says, "High school is important. Students should take time to have fun with their friends and enjoy themselves. High school is a great time, and when you get out, everything changes. Students will eventually be on their own, in college, and living by themselves. It all changes. So, students, always remember to work hard and enjoy school."

Brown also gave a few words of advice as well.

Brown says, "Sometimes you may work hard now, and you may not get the payoffs until down the road. That's about how everything works, even education."

## Business as usual for new CHS coach Beebe set to bring success to Lady 'Jays Volleyball

By Tyler Siek

This year the Cimarron Lady 'Jays Volleyball team finds itself being led by a new and extremely busy coach, Coach Diana Beebe of Minneola.

Beebe grew up not far from Cimarron in Minneola. In fact, the reason Coach Beebe is back is to help out on the family farm run by her parents. Balancing farming with coaching is hard to do.

Being busy is nothing new for Beebe. She said, "I've been busy most of my life."

After graduation from Minneola High School, Beebe attended Emporia State University. While at Emporia, she kept herself busy.

While most think it is too hard to play one sport in college, Beebe played four and was also in the marching band. Beebe was on the volleyball, field hockey, basketball, and softball teams at Emporia, four of the most time-demanding activities students find themselves involved in.

"The seasons were quite a bit shorter back then," Beebe said to explain how she managed all the chaos of classes and extracurricular activities.

Beebe was also no slacker in the classroom. She has degrees in elementary and physical education, health, and instrumental music and, as if that weren't enough, she also received a master's degree.

Upon finishing graduate school, Beebe began coaching at her alma mater, Emporia State.

Coach Beebe now has 39 years of coaching experience. She has taken coaching jobs at virtually every level, coaching a multitude of different sports.

"I've been the head field hockey coach at KU," she said.

She assisted on the basketball and volleyball teams there as well. She has also coached at Spring Hill High School, Northwest Missouri State, Emporia State, and now CHS.

"When applying for a coaching position at CHS or any other school, the application process is similar to any other job," Coach Doug Minneman said.

First a letter of application accompanied by a resume must be sent in. Following the application, the applicant must wait to be contacted by the school. If the school calls, an interview is set up. During a coaching interview the applicant is usually asked about philosophies, experiences, and social skills.

"If the interview goes very well, there is a chance you can be hired on the spot," Minneman said.

Beebe won the job because of her experience and knowledge of the game. Beebe has showcased a vast knowledge of the game. Her players find themselves learning new things about the game every day.

Paula Wehkamp, assistant CHS volleyball coach, enjoys working with Beebe.

"She is like working with a volleyball encyclopedia," said Wehkamp. "She has a great amount of knowledge, and it is my privilege to work with her."

A great coach does not have favorites on the team. Coach Beebe does not show any favoritism, according to volleyball player Breanna Bryant.

"She has no problem setting someone



**DEFEND THE NET:** Coach Beebe talks to her players during a time-out. The team has practiced hard and is doing well. "She has no problem setting someone on the bench," said team member Breanna Bryant. (Courtesy photo)

on the bench if they aren't playing well; it doesn't matter who they are," said Bryant.

A first practice with a new coach can often cause mixed feelings. Some players might feel resentment that their old coach is no longer with them. Others might feel excitement at a chance to show a stranger their talents.

According to Bryant, "It was mostly just weird, doing all the new drills we had never seen before."

The team has gotten off to a decent start under their new coach, finishing with 2-1 records at each of their first two quads and placing fourth in Hugoton at their first tournament.

The team's motto is simple this year, stating, "Teamwork Makes the Dream Work."

Teamwork is a major component of Beebe's coaching, and it will lead to success.



**KEEP IT IN:** Junior Lindsay Wehkamp prepares to serve the ball over the net. The team is learning new drills at practice under Coach Beebe. "She is like working with a volleyball encyclopedia," said Coach Paula Wehkamp. (Courtesy photo)

**FINISHING = WINNING:** Senior Tayler Schartz runs down the course in recent cross country action. The team has competed at Meade, South Gray, Leoti, and Ulysses. The team gets along well and always has fun at practice and meets. (Courtesy photo)



**KILLER BACKHAND:** Freshman Taryn Valentine tries to return the serve of her opponent. The girls' tennis team has already competed in many events, and are doing quite well considering the overall young age of their team. The team has only one senior, and no juniors. The majority of the team are freshmen. (Siek photo)



**1. HE COULD GO ALL THE WAY:** Senior Nate Babulits makes a long run against the Meade Buffaloes. As a team the goals are high this year. The team's goals are to win at least six games and to make the playoffs. The 'Jays are off to a decent start with a record of 2-2. (Courtesy photo)

**2. YELL IT LOUD:** Seniors Whitney Boersma, Britney Boersma, Miranda Burns, Sophomore Kaitlin Flores, and Junior Lyndi Stokes pump up the crowd at a Bluejay football game. The girls are always loud and energetic at Bluejay sporting events. The squad attended a spirit spreader in Dodge City and learned new dances earlier this fall. (Courtesy photo)

**UPCOMING HOME  
EVENTS**

**October 4-** 6:00 pm JV Football vs. Larned

**October 8-** 7:00 pm HS Football vs. TMP

October 11- 6:00 pm JV Football vs. Meade

October 12- 5:00 pm HS Volleyball vs. Syracuse

October 18- 6:00 pm JV Football vs. Lakin

October 22- 7:00 pm HS Football vs. SWH

(senior recognition night)

## The Principal's Perspective

### The Lexus and the Olive Tree

This summer, I had the opportunity to read a book by Thomas Friedman titled *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*. Basically, the book discusses the topic of 'globalization' and how it affects all different aspects of society including education.

The title derives from an experience the author had while visiting the Lexus luxury car factory outside of Toyota City, which is south of Tokyo. He shares, "... the factory was producing 300 Lexus sedans each day, made by 66 human beings and 310 robots.

From what I could tell, the human beings were there mostly for quality control. Only a few of them were actually screwing in bolts or soldering parts together. The robots were doing all the work."

After touring the plant, he then boarded a bullet train and enjoyed a sushi box dinner while traveling 180 miles per hour. While riding the train, he began reading the *International Herald Tribune*. In this publication, he read a story about how "...state department spokeswoman Margaret D. Tutwiler had given a controversial interpretation of a 1948 United Nations resolution, relating to the right of return for Palestinian refugees to Israel."

Mr. Friedman adds, "...so there I was speeding along at 180 miles per hour on the most modern train in the world, reading this story about the oldest corner of the world. ... and the thought occurred to me that these Japanese, whose Lexus factory I had just visited and whose train I was riding, were building the greatest luxury car in the world with robots. And over here [in Israel], the people... were still fighting over who owned which olive tree."

The author then spends ample time discussing the different 'economies' that exist in the world and how they interact with one another. In short, he describes economies and countries that are 'progressive, global, and technology orientated' as well as those economies and countries that

are 'conservative, protectionist, and tradition orientated.'

In the final analysis, the author states that each country, economy, company, and entity needs a 'balance' on the three scales of 'progressive/conservative,' 'global/protectionist,' and 'technology/tradition.'

As I read *The Lexus and the Olive Tree*, I was constantly finding 'connections' between the book and our local community/school.

For example, even though we must teach progressive skills to our students that will allow them to participate in a global economy, we must still teach those 'traditional' values of honesty, integrity, industry, and fidelity.

Or, even though we must teach our students to be a full citizen of the United States and the world (to some extent), we must also communicate to them that living and working in Cimarron, USA, is an honorable endeavor as well.

Or, even though our students will need to be prepared to work in a 'dog-eat-dog' world economy, we must still instill values such as compassion for fellow man and altruistic values. In likewise manner, we must instill a view that humans are worthy and deserve the respect of all without crossing the line between this 'respect for humans' and humanism.

As you can see, we all (parents, family, churches, teachers, etc.) have a tremendous endeavor in educating our youth. And it should be recognized that not everyone will agree on how this 'education' should take place. In fact, I've noticed that ... the higher the calling the endeavor requires, the more controversy surrounds the endeavor.

And, without question, education is a high calling indeed.

*Mr. Brown*  
*CHS Principal*

## Counselor's Corner

Welcome to a new year! I hope everyone is back into the swing of things and enjoying much success already this year.

I had the wonderful experience of attending a Rachel's Challenge presentation with our seventh and eighth grade students on September 14 in Dodge City.

Rachel Scott was the first person killed at Columbine High School on April 20, 1999. She was an amazing, kind and compassionate young lady, who went out of her way to be nice to others. Rachel's family did not want her hopes and dreams to fade away so they began "Rachel's Challenge."

The message is to start a chain reaction of kindness and compassion. Rachel truly believed that a small act of kindness could change the world. Our junior high students were given five "challenges" to accept:

1. Eliminate prejudice by looking at the best in others.
2. Dare to dream: write down your goals and keep a journal.
4. Kind words, small acts of kindness = BIG impacts.
5. Start a chain reaction with family and friends.

Simply, Rachel believed that we should be kind to everyone! If you would like more information on Rachel's Challenge, go to [www.rachelschallenge.com](http://www.rachelschallenge.com).

As always, I have a few important dates for you to remember:

October 4	No School: Teacher Inservice
October 6	KU Honors Banquet : 7:00 at DCCC
October 7	PLAN test for 10th graders
October 13	PSAT test for 10th and 11th graders who sign up
October 22	No School: Teacher Workday
October 23	ACT
October 25-26	Parent/Teacher Conferences
October 29	No School

Please know my door is always open!

*Mrs. Millershaski, CHS counselor*

### IMPORTANT UPCOMING DATES

October 4th: No School (Teacher In-Service)

October 7th: PLAN test for all sophomores

October 22nd: No School (Teacher Work Day)

October 25th – 26th: Parent-Teacher Conferences. The high school conferences are from 5:00 to 8:00 each evening.

October 29th: No School

November 10th: Veteran's Day Celebration at 10:00 a.m. at the high school

November 12th – 13th: CHS Musical at 7:00 p.m.

## Welcome to the Bluejay Post!

Welcome to the 2010-2011 school year of the Bluejay Post. This year we have a limited staff with unlimited possibilities.

Our newspaper staff this year consists of Junior Tyler Siek, and Seniors Josiah Kremeier, Sierra Lucke, and me, Nicole Marshall.

We hope to keep you informed and up-to-date on each event that takes place at Cimarron High School.

This year we are taking on and putting to use new design techniques we have discovered through looking at

other newspapers as well as creating new design ideas of our own.

Also, we have ideas and design elements for our feature page to draw you in so you can enjoy the paper and the highlights put into it.

Be sure to check out our newspaper in color at the school website, [http://www.cimarronschools.net/Bluejay%20Post/post\\_index.html](http://www.cimarronschools.net/Bluejay%20Post/post_index.html).

Enjoy our paper as much as we enjoy writing it for you.

*Nicole Marshall*  
*Editor*