

THE MAVERICK MAYHEM

HONORING OUR VETERANS

On November 11th, the KCJH Current Events class put on a program to honor the veterans in Kiowa County. Students performed songs and read different passages honoring America. The program started with the local Boy Scouts troop bringing out the American and Kansas flags, and the audience said the Pledge of Allegiance while the first graders did the pledge in sign language. Then KCHS choir sang the "Star Spangled Banner", followed by some junior high students reading some articles to honor the veterans. After that, honored guest Mary Louise Tucker talked about her family's service and how successful they were in the military. Finally the high school choir sang "America (My Country Tis of Thee)". At the conclusion of the program, many students greeted the veterans, who were happy and touched by the students' kind words.

BY Sebastian Favela

Photos by Angela Walters

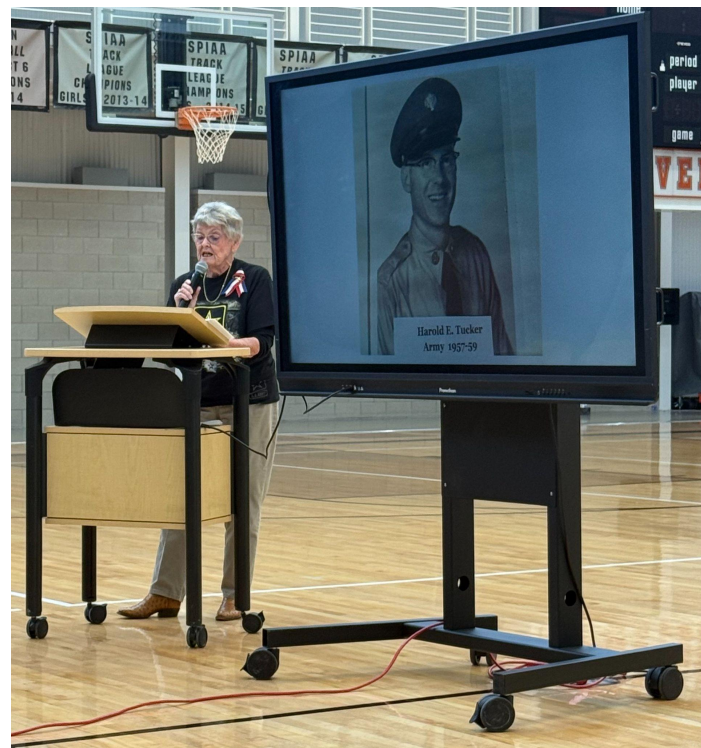


Above: KCJH Current Events class introducing themselves.



Left: Veterans being recognized during the program.

Bottom Right: Mary Louise Tucker sharing her family's story.



OUT SHOOTING THE COMPETITION

BASKETBALL IS STARTING OFF STRONG WITH THEIR NEW COACHES

BY Sebastian Favela

The KCJH boys basketball team is starting off strong with a record of 3-1. Their first game was against Kinsley on November 10th; the team played strong and beat the Coyotes by 16 points.

Next they played Bucklin on the 13th, and they did not hold back. They ended that game with a final score 54 for the Mavericks and 28 for the Deuces.

Then, they played Pawnee Heights on 20th, beating them by a whopping 39 points, giving every member of the roster plenty of playing time.

Sadly the boys team lost to Meade on the 25th with a final score of 37-50, but they tried their hardest and pushed through the game.

This year the JH boys basketball team has a new head coach, Thomas Derstein, and assistant coach, Bobby Waldschmidt. The new coaches join returning assistant coach, Shayna Lingafelter. Coach Derstein says "Our season is off to a good start. We had a tough loss at Meade, but it gave us a glimpse into some areas we need to get better. We have three games coming up where we can show off that improvement. Thankfully, this group of boys are hard workers and are up to the challenge."

They KCJH boys basketball team is off to a strong start and plays three more games in December.



Top: Brody Hoffman jumps for the ball. Photo by Abby Hoffman.

Bottom: Starters recognized before the game.



11/10 @ Kinsley

A Team (W):44-28
B Team (W):30-15
C Team (L):8-21

11/13 vs Bucklin

A Team (W):54-28
B Team (L):30-35
C Team (L):18-24

11/20 @ Pawnee Heights

A Team (W):53-14
B Team (W):49-14
C Team (L):5-8

11/25 @ Meade

A Team (L):37-50
B Team (L):22-33
C Team (L):12-43



SHOOTING FOR THE STARS

Photo By: Cherish Mitchell

BY GENTRY BALLARD

This season the Lady Mavs have started off strong with an extraordinary win against Kinsley. The Mavs have also played against Bucklin, Pawnee Heights, and Meade. The Lady Mavs are coming off with a record of 4-0.

This year the Mavs have a mighty team with only two 8th graders Natalie Koger and Melanie Sneed.

7th graders include Selah Lingenfelter, Gentry Ballard, Mya Hoffman, Khloe Gilkey, Mya Mitchell, Ashley Armendariz, Jessie Wirth, Isabella Ibarra, and Cheryl Rosenbaum.

And lastly the 6th graders on the roster include Gaige Ballard, Macy Bowman, Lilianna Torres, Selene Noble, Hadleigh Greenleaf, Briley Murray, and Elsie Brown



Right: Mya Mitchell shoots a free throw.

Left: Lady Mavericks huddle up during a time out.

Photo By: Cherish Mitchell



Current Record A team: 4-0

11/10 @ Kinsley

A Team (W): 41-19
B Team (W): 18-13
C Team (L): 0-2

11/13 vs Bucklin

A Team (W): 32-2
B Team (W): 24-2

11/20 @ Pawnee Heights

A Team (W): 52-5
B Team (W): 21-4

11/25 @ Meade

A Team (W): 27-21
B Team (L): 18-21
C Team (L): 2-8

KCJH girls
basketball
team.



THE BIG READ

COME READ ALL ABOUT IT BY ANGELA WALTERS

Kiowa County 8th graders joined junior high students from other schools in the SPIAA league for the Big Read culminating event on November 12. Students watched the movie *WALL-E* at the Twilight theater. Then, the KCJH students collaborated with their peers in small breakout groups. Students played games and explored the theme of dystopia in group discussion and activities. "It was fun to socialize with other people and meet other students that I wouldn't have met otherwise, because they don't play sports," said Elizabeth Brown, 8th grader.

For the last nine years, our league's English Language Arts teachers have collaborated on the SPIAA Big Read, a project that unites fellow schools in the pursuit of academic excellence. Each year, the Big Read highlights a shared literary theme designed to spark discussion, deepen understanding, and connect students across schools.

Next up the 8th graders will work on their creative projects and accompanying essays for the Big Read competition in January. Results of the competition will be announced at a KCJH basketball game.

Top: Ty Hatton stands on a paper in a game in the Rec. Gym.

Middle: The small groups work on a project.

Bottom: The 8th graders who participated in the Big Read pose for a photo.



SAVE THE DATES!

Impact's Block the Door (food drive):

- Bring non-perishable food to block the doors of the junior high teachers from **Monday, Dec. 8-Friday, Dec. 12.**
- If all of the doors are blocked by the 12th, students earn a free day on Dec. 18th.

Impact's Junior High Christmas dance:

- Dec. 12th - 7:30-9 PM at Rec. Gym

AR points(40 points) due Dec. 16th.

Impact's Secret Santa Gift Exchange:

- Draw a name of a student and buy a \$10 gift to exchange on December 18th.

HITTING ALL THE RIGHT NOTES

BY ELI COOPER

The KCJH choir and bands held a fall concert on November 18th. The concert began with the fifth grade band, which played five songs. Their performance was followed by the sixth grade band, which performed three songs. "I am very impressed with the sixth graders because they have progressed really well and performed well. Overall, I am very happy with the turn out, and everyone played fantastically," stated Mr. Alec Cowley, band director.

The seventh grade/eighth grade band played two songs. Mr. Alec Cowley, band director, stated, "The seventh/eighth grade band was very successful this semester, and I am very happy with how they performed." The concert, which is made of sixth, seventh, and eighth graders, ended with four songs performed by the junior high choir.

6th Grade Band

- "The Ranger Rocks" Arr. James Ployhar
- "Strike Force" by Michael Sweeney

7th/8th Grade Band

- "Daydreams" by Robert Sheldon
- "Appalachian Overture" by Robert W. Smith

JH Choir

- "In The Arms of an Oak" by Andy Beck
- "Didn't My Lord Deliver Daniel" Arr. by Roger Emerson
- "Ani Ma'amin (I Believe)" by John Leavitt
- "Shine Your Light" by Sherri Porterfield and Brandi K. Amos

Top: Mr. Cowley welcomes the crowd.

Middle: Junior High Choir

Bottom: Sixth Grade Band



THE WESTERLIES IN TOWN

BY RHETT HEINSON

The critically-acclaimed brass quartet, the Westerlies, came to Kiowa County School on Wednesday, November 19, and put on an incredible performance. The Westerlies started their day by putting on clinics for the 5th grade band, 6th grade band, the 7th/8th grade band, and the high school band. During the 7th and 8th grade band class, the group let 7th grader Khloe Gilkey conduct for the band and the Westerlies together. At the end of the class, the Westerlies joined Rhett Heinsohn playing "Jingle" Bells on the piano. At the end of the school day, the Westerlies put on a concert for the entire school and were joined by student conductors, Khloe Gilkey and 11th grader Isabella Dearden.

Be sure to watch the Grammy Awards to see the Westerlies win their nomination for their arrangement of the song "Fight On" from their album *Paradise*. This nomination is in the category of Best Arrangement, Instrumental or A Cappella for the 2026 Grammy Awards.

Bottom: Junior high students take a picture with the Westerlies.



FUN FACTS

WITH THE 8TH GRADERS

Article by
Sebastian Favela

SHELBY FULTON



Photo by Sebastian Favela

Shelby is striking a pose for the camera while looking striking.

Q: When is your birthday?

A: June 27th

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: I love to watch the show *Stranger Things*.

Q: How long have you gone to Kiowa County?

A: I've gone to Kiowa County for 10 years.

Q: What is your favorite food?

A: It is chicken alfredo.

Q: What is your favorite video game?

A: I love to play Mario Kart.

Q: What do you think is one interesting thing about you?

A: I can yodel.

SEBASTIAN FAVELA-CLAYTON



Photo by Sydney Taylor

Sebastian looking stunning at a cross country meet.

Q: When is your birthday?

A: October 31st

Q: How long have you gone to Kiowa County?

A: I have I have been going to Kiowa County for 9 years.

Q: What are your hobbies?

A: Some of my hobbies are running, crocheting, and hanging out.

Q: What are your favorite foods?

A: I love Chinese food, it's so good.

Q: What is your favorite color?

A: My favorite color is purple.

Q: What is your favorite video game?

A: I love to play Grow a Garden on Roblox.

Q: Finally, what do you think is one interesting thing about you?

A: I am a very talented runner.

MEET THE PUBLICATIONS TEAM



Sebastian Favela



Gentry Ballard



Rhett Heinson



Angela Walters

IN THE SPOTLIGHT

BY GENTRY BALLARD

DECEMBER CALENDAR

8th grader Sebastian Favela competed in Knoxville, Tennessee, at a national cross country-competition on November 22nd and got 88th place out of 231 runners. His team, which represented the state of Kansas, won the meet. To qualify for the national competition, Favela had to finish in the Top 20 at a tri-state cross-country meet in Emporia on November 9th. He got 5th place with a time of 14:59 in a 4k. Way to represent the Mavs nation!

ON THE BIG STAGE

8th grader Natalie Koger qualified for the State Honor Choir. She will sing at the Century II Performing Arts & Convention Center in Wichita in the end of February. Koger also will join three other Kiowa County students, Mya Hoffman, Evellyn Protho, and Rowdy Young, as part of the Junior High District Honor Choir. They will perform at the Dodge City Civic Center on January 24.

We are very proud of these students and wish them the best of luck.

To find upcoming events, information and more, go to usd422.org

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thur	Fri	Sat
	1	2	3	4	5	6
		K-2 Vocal Concert Inter-State Studios Winter Sports Pictures		KCJH BB vs. Satanta	KCHS BB @ South Barber 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 3:00pm: KCHS Girls WR @ Trego	District Honor Band/Choir Performance @ Dodge City 9:00am: KCJH BB B Team Tournament 10:00am: KCHS Boys WR @ Trego
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
	2:00pm: KCHS Scholars Bowl @ Pawnee Heights 8:00pm: USD 422 Board Meeting	5th Annual Kiowa County Shootout 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed		5th Annual Kiowa County Shootout KCJH BB @ Ashland 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed	Preschool Screening K-5 Art 2:30pm: Classes Dismissed 2:30pm: KCHS Girls WR @ Ulysses 7:30pm: KCJH IMPACT Dance	5th Annual Kiowa County Shootout ACT Test Date 9:30am: KCHS Boys WR @ Ulysses
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
	7:00pm: KCHS Band/Choir Concert @ Twilight Theatre	KCHS BB @ Meade	11:30am: SPIAA League Meeting	KCJH BB vs. Hodgeman County	KCHS BB vs. St. John End of 2nd 9-weeks 11:00am: Classes Dismissed	10:00am: KCHS WR @ Russell
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL KSHSAA Winter Moratorium	KSHSAA Winter Moratorium NO SCHOOL Christmas Eve	KSHSAA Winter Moratorium NO SCHOOL Christmas Day	KSHSAA Winter Moratorium NO SCHOOL	KSHSAA Winter Moratorium
28	29	30	31			
	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL	NO SCHOOL New Year's Eve			

(Photo from usd422.org web page)



Christmas

WORD SEARCH

I I J L L S D Y R J E I P J J C C V I P
W M V G K N S A V C M R L Z O A A B V J
G R H O G S X D T T D Z C K L K R O D J
B I A Q W L W I C H X K D P L R O I N I
V R I P R X W L T T X N R I Y X L J Q N
O S Q E P D O O M W R E A T H Q E E K G
F T B N E I C H R I S T M A S T R E E L
N G O Q A N N Q L E E X E D J N S O Y E
D A E R B R E G N I G N E L A C T F N B
K I C E N G S T P F G C A M V E Y G Z E
Z Q A N K A S H R A O Y W C L E Q K Y L
P Q L U W Q M G W R P O D T Y R S A A L
H L P C A Z T E A H N E S M Z D T K W S
W J E C D K R T N S Z I R E E D N I E R
O M R A H N I V H T M G U Y N D W A V M
J V I C O O A W P D S N W D O S K Q C S
U T F R N O B L D N O R T H P O L E A S
H L S S F L G M R K L U T H Z B L N Y E
C O B S G E F G U A M W D X Y D T L U D
W O B H B A K B H D G Z O H T A I F K L

JINGLE BELLS
BOW
CANDY CANE
CAROLERS
CHRISTMAS TREE
DECORATIONS
ELVES

FIREPLACE
GARLAND
GINGERBREAD
HOLIDAY
JOLLY
SANTA
MISTLETOE

NORTH POLE
ORNAMENTS
PRESENTS
REINDEER
SNOWMAN
WREATH
WRAPPING PAPER



JUST FOR FUN



Trunk-or-Treat

