By TIM LUISI
English Blend poetry slam opens new doors for expression

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“I think it went better than we could have hoped,” English Blend secretary Bri Dutton said visit weekends are very important to the enrollment process, as students who visit are much more likely to attend SC the following fall. The next visit weekend is scheduled for January 16 and 17.

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Vice President of Enrollment Dennis Dutton said he was very pleased with the turnout, noting that there has never been this large of a group for a visit weekend. In fact, the custom of a pizza party at the President’s house had to be moved to CrossPoint church to accommodate the nearly 120 people, admissions department and student ambassadors included, who were on campus.

Along with a pizza party, the students also went to Sunday chapel service and to a Kahvista night hosted by the Campus Activities Board.

“CAB’s leadership in the Kahvista was appreciated,” Dutton said. “That event went well.”

Though a handful of students came from out of state, the majority traveling from Kansas, Minnesota, Michigan, 39 of the visitors were from Missouri.

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Women’s basketball gearing up for home season

By KARINA NOAH

After last season’s loss to Northwestern in the second round of the playoffs, Sterling College’s women’s basketball team looks to bounce back with vengeance.

Sterling College will start the season off ranked top in the conference once again, and the team hopes that over the past two seasons they have been a dominate presence in the KCAC and the country at the level where they’ve been in the KCAC championship game four years in a row and in the national tournament the last four years.

Last year, Sterling beat Southwestern in a high scoring game to become conference champions for the second time in three years. They now start off this year looking for a second consecutive conference championship as well as go deeper into the national post season.

Sterling is counting on the leadership of all conference players junior forward Megan Patrick, senior forward Britney Casper and senior guard Erica Herman.

Aside from those notable women, the whole team is ready to contribute and bring home another championship.

“Our entire bench is ready to come in and keep the same intensity as the starters,” Herman said.

They know the talent is there and the title will not be easy and the women’s basketball team will have many challenges in coming.

Kansas Wesleyan is ranked inside the top 15 in the country along with Southwestern College and Beloit College, both of whom are right on the outside of the top 25.

“Immediately the competition is going to be hard so we can get out of our ourselves and just take one game at a time,” Herman said.

The coaches’ has put Sterling winning the championship this year in the women’s hands because they can do it.

“We just have to work hard and continue and build chemistry,” Herman said.

Currently the team has 3-1 record in pre-season play and will hopefully continue to win on into regular play.

The women’s basketball team plays this Friday against Southwestern Assemblies of God University and Saturday against the University of Science and Arts in this year’s Warrior Classic.

The volleyball team reflects on ‘rebuidling season’

By BYNATHAN WEST

The Sterling College volleyball team filled 0-3 in the first round of the KCAC tournament to Ottawa on Tuesday, November 9.

Coach John Harding explained that despite having no trouble with the beginning of the match, the team played well for about 2 hours.

“We did not have our best passing night,” Harding said. “In spite of the eight we continued to work hard and compete throughout the match.

Playing hard was something the team had been practicing all season.

“One of our goals from early on in the season was to play well in November as the season culminated,” Harding said.

The volleyball team is a fairly young team, and this said. Other pieces of advice included playing every game as if it was the last and one to always be strong and positive no matter what happens.

Younger players on the team, such as freshmen Kelli Schneider, each have favorite things from this season.

Upon finishing the season, Morris also spoke well of the individual contributions that seniors Kylee Yates, Emily Glosen, Yoga Garcia and Paige Farmer made for the team. In regards to next season, Morris knows there are a few things the team could build upon.

“We have some recruiting to do. We have to be a lot stronger and continue to improve our team speed,” Morris said.

With this being her favorite year on or off the court and shared some advice for next year’s group of seniors.

“Never forget the times you had and set the best example for your team. For these are the friendships you’ll never forget,” Yates said.

The Sterling volleyball team had made it to the semi-finals in the conference playoffs.

“Like our motto for this season was, ‘all in’,” Schneider said.

Above: The Warrior men’s defense traps a Hastings College player on the wrong side of the court during the first home game of the year last Tuesday.

Photo by Jon VanVeldzhuizen