

Showcasing organizations

By Blake Carter
Staff reporter

It's back for another round with some changes in store. At 8 p.m. tomorrow the cafeteria will open its doors for the annual activity showcase.

The showcase is a chance for campus organizations and outside businesses to show the school what they are all about.

For those unfamiliar with how the showcase works, it's fairly simple.

Organizations that have signed up in the Student Life office are allowed to set up a table in the cafeteria that shows students what they do.

Christie Boote, elementary education senior, said this time is very beneficial. "As a freshman the showcase helped me draw in and choose what I wanted to do."

Many returning students know the showcase involves

a poster sale, wax hands and various other activities. That isn't the case this year.

"We felt that the posters and all the other things took away from the showcase and became too distracting," said Sheleah Taylor, director of Student Life.

Those things will be from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday following the showcase.

There will be many organizations for students to get a closer look at this year. Tabatha McMullen, education junior, is president of Student Government Association.

She said that in the first week alone more than 20 groups had already signed up. "We just want to give a chance for all students to see what this school has to offer them."

Blake Carter is a junior majoring in communication. You may e-mail him at blake.carter@sckans.edu.

A dish of culture

By Alissa Sheppard
Staff reporter

Tantalizing tastes, aromatic smells and full stomachs is what they get when they come together for their monthly tasting of new foods. A group of 15 to 20 women have been getting together on the third Tuesday every month to experience different foods through ethnic cooking.

Ethnos is Greek for foreign. Founder Stephanie Humphries, graduate admissions counselor, proposed the idea for a cooking group.

Humphries was in a gourmet cooking group in Oregon. When she moved to Kansas she decided to bring one of her favorite things with her. "We pick a culture out of a hat and that's what we cook." Each member brings their dish to the designated house. "We have never had a double dish," said Humphries

The group has tried cultures from all over the world. Humphries said Thai and

Moroccan are her favorites. "Learning things outside of your box is what it takes to be in this club," said Humphries.

Kristina Harding, admissions administrative assistant, said she joined the club when Humphries, who is her co-worker, mentioned it to her. Harding loves to cook and eat. Her favorite cultures are Greek and German. Harding said she gets her ideas from the internet.

"It is fun because you are trying something you have never tried before," said Harding.

Stacy Townsley, registrar, is one of the newer members. Townsley has lived in Mexico and Spain where she took cooking classes. "I enjoy foods from all cultures, and being from Winfield there are not a lot of options for new foods," said Townsley.

Alissa Sheppard is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at alissa.sheppard@sckans.edu.

'Fair' chance to beat boredom

• Kansas State Fair ends Sept. 14

By Ryan Kane
Staff reporter

If you're looking to take a break from the books this weekend, the Kansas State Fair is midway through its annual run through Sept. 14. From Winfield you can arrive in Hutchinson within about two hours. If you're trying to save money, finding a group to travel with is a great idea.

Denny Stoeklein is the general manager for the Kansas State Fair. He said the fair is the single largest event in the State of Kansas, attracting roughly 350,000 people from all 105 Kansas counties and several other states. While it's not the highest portion, an estimated 14 percent of the attendees are in the 18-25-year-old age group.

There are more than 1,000 commercial exhibits with items such as homemade foods and desserts, hardware, electronics and more. There are competitive events that can be entered to win cash and prizes.

One of particular interest that anyone skilled at text messaging should enter is the text messaging contest sponsored by U.S. Cellular. This event tests your speed and accuracy against others. Registration can be done at 1:30 p.m. Sept. 14 at Lake

Talbot Stage. Cash prizes of \$1,000 and \$250 will go to the winners.

The fair also features more than 40 carnival rides and skill games. Tonight at 7:30 p.m. FreestyleMx Motocross will feature several ESPN X-Games competitors performing stunts as well as racing at the Sprint Grandstand.

As far as music entertainment, the State Fair will host live stage acts in addition to national acts performing at the Sprint Grandstand. On Sept. 11, the State Fair presents, Puddle of Mudd. Classic rock star Alice Cooper will also be in concert Sept. 12. On Sept. 13, country artists Joe Nichols, along with Jason Michael Carroll, will perform together. All concerts begin at 7:30 p.m. Tickets to each of these shows must be purchased separately from the ticket stand.

An opportunity to get out of town for the weekend can be refreshing after a fast paced week of work and study. If you have never experienced the Kansas State Fair, it's a diverse event that tries to offer entertainment for all ages.

Ryan Kane is a senior majoring in communication. You may e-mail him at rykane@cox.net.

Refreshing fountains

By Amelia Lutz
Staff reporter

The Coke machines are gone and the fountain machines in the Java Jinx and the cafeteria now dispense Pepsi. The contract with Coca Cola expired after a five-year term. Since the majority of students need pop to function, a panel was formed to determine whether Southwestern would renew their contract with Coke, or go in a new direction with Pepsi.

The chairperson of the committee was Paul Bean, vice president for institutional advancement. Bean gave some background on the selection process. Since Pepsi and Coke both make significant profits from the students, it was only natural that the two companies make bids for the rights of sale. Bean said the committee's job was to select only "the best contract to generate the most income for the college."

The committee decided to go with Pepsi. Bean said, "There weren't any hard feelings, and the relationship with Coke at the college was still in good terms."

Nearly 80 percent of students polled in a recent survey said Pepsi was their preferred choice of drink when compared with Coke. "Whenever you ask for Coke anymore at the restaurant, they always give you Pepsi anyway," said Anna Pruitt, early childhood education sophomore.

The college gets a percentage from the sales of Pepsi products. Another part of the contract is \$5,000 funded strictly for the athletic department for Mike Kirkland, director of athletics, to distribute as needed. Not only that, but an undisclosed amount goes to the college itself for inclined scholarships and different areas of interest.

For the other 20 percent who favor Coke, the best bet to find your beverage of choice would be off campus. Bean said he hoped no one was outraged by the decision and hoped they would understand that it was strictly an agreement on what was best for the college. Most students, however, are indifferent to both Pepsi and Coke itself.

"I really don't like either of the two," said Kevin Ja-



Photo illustration by Kenna Corley
Coke machines will be hard to find around campus, as they have been replaced by Pepsi.

ramillo, business freshman. "If anything, I usually will only drink Mountain Dew." *Amelia Lutz is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at amelia.lutz@sckans.edu.*

Book club in works

By Kevin Mnich
Staff reporter

For those who feel the need to just chill out and relax in a comfortable, easy going setting, taking a break from the daily hustle and bustle with a good book is an option.

The English department will be launching a book club this year. The club will provide students with a chance to relax and discuss a good book in a no-hassle atmosphere.

John Scaggs, professor of English, said the idea for a book club formed around an idea suggested by students.

"Well actually, it came

about last year from our English majors," Scaggs said. "One of them suggested that it would be nice to chat about books in a relaxed environment. We said, 'why don't we start a book club?'"

Scaggs said, "We haven't actually chosen any books yet, we're still in the organizational stage. In general I think we're going to look at literary fiction."

Most clubs or organizations, even student-led ones, have some criteria or rules. Scaggs said there won't be any set criteria. "Nothing other than we're going to choose books that people will enjoy, and obviously books that people will talk

about."

Scaggs enjoys crime fiction and historical fiction, so there may be a literary historical novel in there.

"I don't want people to come to the book club thinking everything is being dictated by the faculty. It's something for the students to enjoy."

The book club will benefit students by giving them an opportunity to socialize. "It will allow them to realize the importance of reading in everyday life as well."

Students have mixed reactions about a book club.

John Crosser, theatre junior, said, "I think that the chance to read for enjoyment

gets overlooked because of required reading."

Crosser would be interested in joining the club. "But sadly, I'm a theatre major with no soul and no time."

Kelcie Parrish, biology freshman, said that she was not aware of the existence of the book club. She said that she reads "lots of fantasy, horror and fiction."

Scaggs said, "The plan, at the moment is to meet Monday evenings, but we will figure out when faculty and students are free, and on which evenings."

Kevin Mnich is a junior majoring in theatre education. You may e-mail him at kevin.mnich@sckans.edu.

—Rush from page 1

For Mary Nichols, faculty assistant for the communication department, this is the sixth year to line up for the Land Rush.

"We were 202nd in line the first year about six years ago and we've moved up. We're probably about 150th this year. We come back every year because it's just so nuts."

Most campers, especially those from out of town, drop

their campers off in line and return home until the Land Rush.

Nancy Jollie of Wichita has been coming to the festival for 12 years. She is currently sixth in line.

"We still have to work. We go home and we come back on weekends during the pre-lineup. When we're gone, our killer Rottweiler stays here. As soon as the night before the Land Rush comes, then we're off. We stay until the end of the festival," said

Jollie. "We call this the pre-festival because we come down here and party on weekends."

The 39th annual Walnut Valley Festival will take place Sept. 17-21.

Tickets may be purchased in advance at the Walnut Valley Festival Headquarters, located at 918 East Main. They are open from 9 a.m. to noon Monday through Friday and 1 to 5 p.m. Saturday. Tickets may also be purchased at the festival

entrance gate. Full festival tickets are \$80 in advance and \$90 at the gate. Friday/Saturday tickets are \$60 in advance and \$70 at the gate. Single day passes may also be purchased for \$35. a ticket for Sunday is \$15. One-day tickets are valid from 6 a.m. to midnight and do not entitle you to stay overnight in the campgrounds.

Katie Gomez is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at kathryn.gomez@sckans.edu.

Laundry change leaves \$\$\$ for students

By Korie Hawkins
Staff reporter

Use your quarters for something else.

It was challenging to collect quarters for washing when you always came up short on that last load.

Lea McCraw, nursing freshman, said, "They told us as at camp washing is free."

Of course nothing in life is free. Washing this year is fee-based.

The school's contract with washers and dryers was from 1996, with exceptions of Warren Apartments and Cole Hall, which had recent models.

This summer 20 washers and 20 dryers were purchased.

Sarah Hallinan, director of residence life, said, "We needed new washers and dryers, but with that we had to decide if we would change to fee-based washing. Fee-

based allows the students to be charged through their housing fee. Just like electricity, cable and so forth. We haven't decided if it will be divided out separately or just a laundry fee. Overall it's better for the students. Now they can wash whenever they want to without looking for

quarters."

Some housing on campus has more washers and dryers than others, but that is not something the school can control right now. The building actually determines how many hookups it can have. Unfortunately Reid and Shriwise residents only have two of each.

The washers from 1996 used 23 gallons of water per load and were top load washers. The new washers use 14.8 gallons of water per load and are front load washers.

Josh Case, Broadhurst resident director, said, "I enjoy the new facility. You don't have to use as much detergent as last year, plus it's nicer. The time is cut shorter and it's energy sufficient."

This new system also brings concerns.

Denae Weber, undeclared sophomore, is a transfer student from Cloud County Community College. She said, "At the school I came from we had to put money on a card to use the laundry machine. Coming to Southwestern using the new laundry system is inconvenient with only one dryer working in Reid."

Hallinan said, "Be respectful to others. Get your stuff out. Don't leave it sitting for hours. Do your own laundry in your own building."

"My only issue about this new system are students that live off campus, I don't want them coming on campus to use the facility," said Hallinan. "I just hope people don't take advantage of this privilege."

Korie Hawkins is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at korie.hawkins@sckans.edu.



Photo illustration by Nate Jones