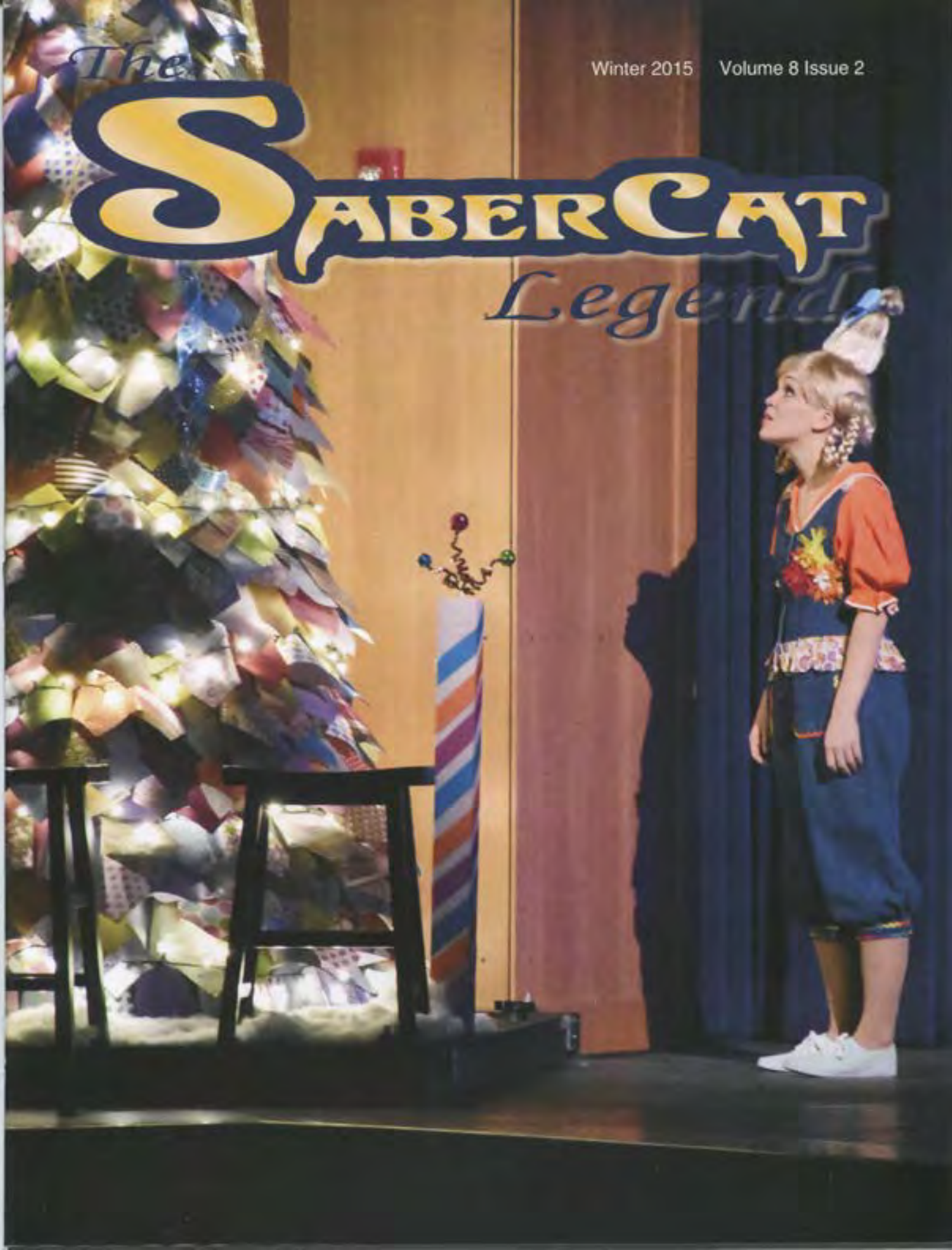


Winter 2015 Volume 8 Issue 2

The

SABERCAT

Legend



SuperCat Slam

The Southmoore Special Olympics Basketball Team annihilated the faculty team in this year's Annual SuperCat Slam! From lay-ups, three-pointers and fancy footwork to full court defensive press, the SuperCats showed off their winning skills. The faculty never stood a chance against the speed and determination of the SuperCat team.

Southmoore students were able to purchase tickets to watch this fun event. All tickets purchased will help the SuperCat basketball and cheer teams pay for future events and travel. We at Southmoore are very proud of our Special Olympics teams and can't wait to see what awaits them this spring!





Holiday Festivities

Holiday season has finally arrived and with it comes a variety of activities. Light shows, winter activities, and shopping are only a few of the many events around the state. Listed below are just a few of the festive occasions you can enjoy.

The **Annual Ceramics Sale** at Oklahoma Contemporary is an art festival where one can find many handmade ceramic crafts. Items are changed and restocked frequently to provide new merchandise for shoppers. The sale will last until December 23rd.

Another shopping opportunity is **Winter Shoppes**, one of the multiple events hosted by Myriad Botanical Gardens. Wander through the holiday decorations while browsing dozens of boutiques of personal vendors. Winter Shoppes will last until December 20th.

Until December 30th Midwest City will be hosting a free **Holiday Lights Spectacular** at Joe B. Barnes regional Park. The Light Spectacular features over a million lights and a 118-foot Christmas tree decorated with 9,000 lights.

Drive down Broadway from NW 4th to NW 10th to take part in their free **Automobile Alley Lights** program. It's open from sunset to sunrise and consists of 1,800 LED lights decorating the buildings. The opportunity will continue through January 1st.

Chisholm Trail Park hosts a free **Christmas in the Park** celebration. Through December 31st you can appreciate the over 100 acres of more than 125 holiday displays and four million lights. Don't forget about the drink and food offers as well as the train rides. Christmas in the Park will last until December 31st.

Known as one of the best light festivals in the country is Oklahoma's very own **Chickasha Festival of Light** held at Shannon Springs Park. Participate in carriage and camel rides, live animals, a live nativity scene, and the gift shops until December 31st.

The Celebration of Lights is a Chickasaw Cultural Center activity for everyone to enjoy. Nightly light displays that you can drive through. The Celebration of Lights will continue until the end of December.

An entire block of lights and displays set to music can be discovered for free at the **Lights on Markwell Avenue**. Donations of canned food are accepted for the food drive. This event will last until December 31st.

Merry & Bright at the Myriad Botanical Gardens is an evening event for every December Sunday from 6pm to 9pm. The Crystal Bridge at Myriad Gardens is a beautiful combination of plants and lights displays.

Journey to Harkins Cinemas to watch everyone's favorite holiday movies for their **Tuesday Night Holiday Movie** shows. It starts at 7pm and costs only \$5. Visit harkinstheaters.com for a list of the showing movies.

The Nutcracker theater production will be performed at the Civic Center Music Hall from December 12th to December 22nd. The production will be put on by the Oklahoma City Ballet. Special activities will also be available before and after the show.

The Devon Ice Rink is yet another Myriad Botanical Gardens activity. Throughout December, you can ice skate downtown for small price. Fridays and Saturdays feature themed skating night. Prices are reduced for groups of ten or more or anyone who brings their own skates. Ice skating at the Devon Ice Rink will continue until January 31st.

Another ice skating opportunity presents itself at the **Edmond Outdoor Ice Rink** held at Mitch Park. Ice skating is not the only option however, as there will also be food and holiday music to enjoy. Prices reduced for individuals who bring their own skates. The Edmond Outdoor Ice Rink will be open until January 10th.

Thanks to the Downtown Business Improvement District, you can take part in the **Holiday Water Taxi Rides**. Float down the festively adorned Bricktown canal for free any evening until December 24th.

The Boathouse district offers entertainment with **Santa's Adventures on the Oklahoma River** (ends January 3rd) which consists of holiday themed zip line rides, and rock wall climbing. On December 19th and 20th at 6pm the Boathouse District will celebrate the holidays with a free **Holiday River Parade**, which will feature a ski show, floating holiday displays, and a fireworks show.

Chickasaw Bricktown Ballpark continues its tradition of the **Snow Tubing Winter Festival**. Slide down either of the two enormous slopes as many times as you can in the 90 minute session. Sessions will continue through January 3rd.

Noah Cornell and Gina Pham

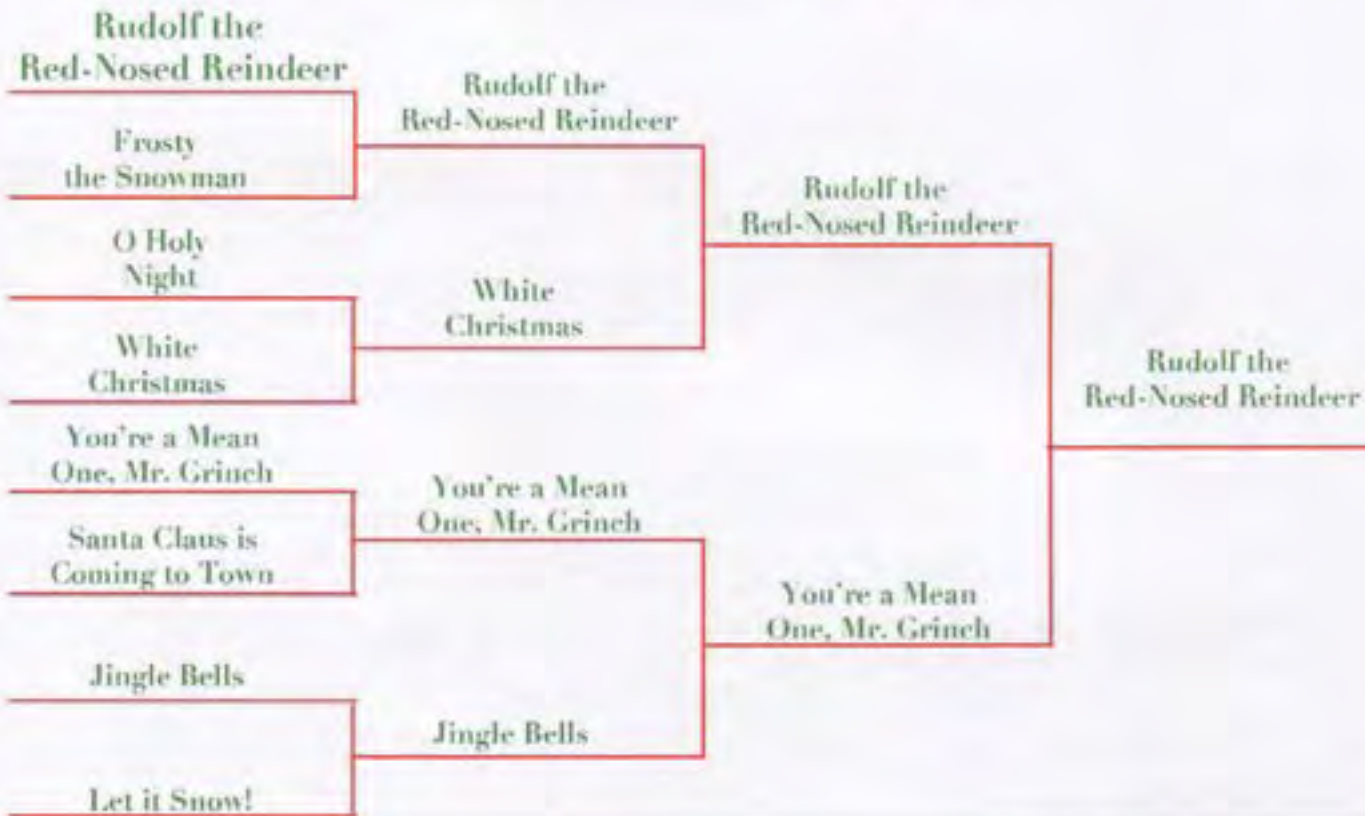
HOLIDAY SURPRISES

Holiday Surprises at Southmoore is an annual tradition held through first hour classes. During this time, each class is assigned a family to purchase gift for that might not otherwise be able to afford gifts. Families who have met certain requirements are able to create a wish list of items they need or would like. Items requested range from canned foods to small toys for children. Students and teachers rally around this special holiday tradition and make it a great time of giving back to those in need.

"I love being able to spread the spirit of giving and Christmas cheer through this donation program," Senior Kayla Hubbard said. "We love to gather the gifts and see the joy on the families faces when they come to pick up their presents."



Favorite Christmas Song Poll



Favorite Christmas MOVIE



The Grinch

The first of December was the start of Southmoore Drama club's winter production: The Grinch. It is a classic story that everyone has heard and our amazing theater students brought it to life on the Southmoore stage. Working for hours every day of the week, they painted sets, memorized lines, and designed unforgettable costumes. The Grinch had an amazing turn out for all performances. The students performed daily for four days. From Dec. 1 to Dec. 5. The Saturday evening show was their final run of the play. The money earned from the ticket sales will go toward the spring musical and other drama club fees.



Free Money!

Thousands of dollars worth of scholarships are given out every year. Despite this many students are drowned in student debt from attaining higher education. The average student debt in Oklahoma is just above \$20,000 with Oklahoma being one of the states with the lowest amount of student debt. Grants, scholarships, and loans all contribute to the amount of student debt one is left with after college.

Grants are financial aid that are often need-based, unlike scholarships which are won based on merit. The U.S. Department of Education offers a variety of grants based on whether a student chooses to go to a career school or any other form of higher education. To apply for grants students must first fill out the Free Application for Student Aid (FAFSA).

Student loans are a large part of student debt. With varying interest rates and large amounts of money being offered in loans, students should be aware of the terms and conditions of the loan. There are two major types of federal student loans direct loans and school-based loans.

Many scholarship opportunities and federal aid are offered each year, some more known than others. State scholarship programs and federal aid such as FAFSA are offered year round. The Oklahoma Promise is a state scholarship program for eighth through tenth graders that provides financial aid to students whose families have an income of \$50,000 or less and meet certain academic and conduct requirements. A variety of scholarships are available to students depending on any extra-curriculars students may be involved in. To find out more about scholarship opportunities students, should check outside of Ms. Harless's office in the counseling center.

Studentaid.gov is a website with lots of information on types of financial aid and their requirements.

Contrary to popular belief, students who go to universities that have a higher average cost than others tend to have less debt after graduating than others because higher costs universities will usually have more opportunities for financial aid.



Big Twelve Champs!

College football has many great rivalries: Michigan v. Michigan St.; Iowa v. Nebraska; Harvard v. Yale, but none greater than Oklahoma's Bedlam: The University of Oklahoma v. Oklahoma State Univeristy. This year's Bedlam, however, stakes were higher than they've ever been. Why? The winner receives a possible trip to the college football playoffs and even greater, the National Championship.



Coming into the game the Sooners boasted an all-time record of 84-18-7. This year the game was held in Stillwater and both teams entered ranked. History was on OU's side. ESPN's College Gameday was in Stillwater that week and the Sooners were 4-0 when Gameday was at Bedlam. Also the Sooners were 8-0 when both teams were ranked going into Bedlam.

OSU took an early 3-0 lead, but OU quickly fired back taking the score 7-3. It would be all OU from that point on as OU's offense went uncontested. The Sooners scored 44 points in the first half allowing only 13 to the Cowboys. It was all OU from there as the Sooners went on to win 58-23 notching their 85th win of the series and securing a spot in the College Football Playoffs.

Noah Cornell

Season Summary

The SaberCat football team had an amazing season this year as they went on to finish 9-2 losing in the first round to Edmond Santa Fe. This was the Cats' second consecutive year to make the playoffs. The Cats set several school offensive records. The Cats started off non-district play strong going 3-0 including a win against rival westmoore. They continued their momentum rolling into district play with some big wins. A win against Owasso solidified the SaberCats as a West power team and one to be reckoned with.

The Cats' week six matchup against Union High School resulted in their first loss. The Cats lost the bout and fell to 5-1 on the season but rebounded with a strong 52-14 win against Mustang. The Cats finished the regular season with a 38-35 win over Norman North earning them the #2 spot in the district and a state playoff first-round matchup against Edmond Santa Fe. The cats battled hard but ultimately fell short 62-50.

The Cats will only graduate nine seniors, however those nine are the majority on the offensive line. The SaberCats will look to improve on their 9-2 record next year.



Noah Cornell

Basketball Preview

Boys

Southmoore SaberCats boys basketball will tip off a new season Tuesday, Dec. 1, as they take on city rival Westmoore. Last year they went 11-14 but failed to make the state playoffs.

The SaberCats are a well-rounded team this year with players like Junior Dayne Taylor and seniors Tinsley Payne and Dalton Mason. The Cats will have new look this season with first year Head Coach James Lingo at the helm. His assistant coaches are Kely Walk and Wes Brown.

The boys seek to change the culture of Southmoore basketball by establishing presence on and off the court by domination at the five tournaments they are



Girls

The girls basketball team here at Southmoore is arguably one of the best in the state. They are led by Head Coach Brittany Kannady-Says and assistants Amanda Everett, Larry Littlejohn, and Holly Hackett. Last season the girls went competed in the State Semifinals after defeating Sapulpa Lady Cheiftains in the Quarterfinals with a score of 42-41. The girls ended up going 25-7 on the year with an impressive ten-game winning streak.

The Lady Cats are participating in three tournaments this year: the Yukon, Putnam City, and John Nobles tournaments.

Just like the boys, the girls tip off the season Dec. 1 at home against cross-town rival Westmoore. Last year, the girls made an incredible shot from halfcourt at the buzzer to win the game.

The girls finished fourth in 6A last year and were ranked accordingly by Maxprep's Preseason Girls Basketball Preview. They are ranked behind Westmoore, who is third in the Preseason Preview. The Lady Cats hope to improve on last year's impressive record.



participating in.

After being ranked No. 12 in class 6A in Maxprep's Preseason Basketball Preview, the Cats are bent on making the state tournament this year by running the tables and proving everybody wrong during the regular season.



Gina Pham

ACROSS THE POND

A very special opportunity has been presented to the Southmoore High School Marching Band. In 2013 the band was honored with an invitation to perform in London as part of 2016 New Year parade. In preparation for this once in a lifetime trip the band had to raise about four thousand dollars per student as well as all the hard work each member had to put in for this amazing trip. They will be leaving on the 28th and returning January 4th. We look forward to hearing stories of a successful trip!



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Membership Drive

Join PTSA for only \$5! Each month PTSA will have a prize drawing for members only. You can purchase your membership in the front office. Please email Heather Young at hly555wis@yahoo.com with any questions you may have.

Leave Your Mark



Forever be a part of SaberCat history by purchasing your own painted SaberCat head. Your legacy head will include your name and year of graduation. Saber heads can be purchased in room M102 with Mrs. Hill for \$25. Please see Mrs. Hill or Heather Young (hly555wis@yahoo.com) with any questions you may have.

SABERCAT LEGEND STAFF



Noah Cornell, sports editor; Gina Pham, copy editor; Tosha Powell, advisor; Maddie Pitt, photo editor; and McKenna Lindsay, senior editor