

The Skyhawk View

SAUK VALLEY COMMUNITY COLLEGE

Student Newspaper • November 2019

Volume 5 • Issue 2



Corn still grows on green stalks late into October has rains caused a late planting season.

by Kali Nave

With a very wet spring, hot summer, and now the threat of early frost, farmers everywhere have been working a stressful schedule this season to plant, maintain and harvest this year's crops.

In the Spring, farmers had a hard time getting crops planted, and most of what was planted, was flooded out by torrential rain falls. According to the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), by June 2nd only 67% of the Nation's corn acreage

was planted.

"A lot of ground didn't get planted and some stuff that did get flooded out," said Bo Goldman of Katsss Trucking, who works with area farmers. "This means late crops for what did get planted and not a very good crop in most places."

Harvest in the Sauk Valley not the cream of the crop in 2019

Chris Miller, an Energy Sales Support at Gold Star FS in Lyndon, delivers diesel fuel and propane to local farmers. "When there is bad weather coming farmers work as late as possible to get as much done before the rain comes, meaning long days for those involved."

"Propane powers the grain dryers to dry the corn and diesel is what powers tractors, combines, and semis," said Miller. "Without these fuels farmers can't do their jobs, and they're already having a hard time."

"The very wet, muddy conditions are going to be a chal-

lenge," said Goldman. In August, the USDA declared all 102 Illinois counties an "agricultural disaster" while Governor J.B. Pritzker declared more than 30 Illinois counties "state disaster areas" due to flooding. Even on the days that it wasn't raining and crops could be planted or harvested, most fields were too wet for heavy farm equipment to drive through.

Once the rains have passed, crops didn't have a chance to dry out before the threat of frost. Early October temperatures in the low 30's threatened green fields of corn that were planted late and now

are at a greater risk of being destroyed. All these events have effects on consumers.

"We will see a higher cost on pretty much everything as consumers," said Goldman. He also discussed how milk prices at Wal-mart have already increased from \$1.05 a gallon to \$1.86 a gallon as a result of increased grain prices due to supply and demand.

According to the USDA, Corn Harvested in October 2018 was ranked at 61% compared to 13% on the same date in 2019. Soybeans fell from 49% in 2018 to 11% in 2019.

Dixon's Bally Undefeated against Sycamore



Emma Russell, Left, No. 2 Singles competes against Sycamores Megan McConaughy. Riley Bally, Right, takes a win against Sycamore's Ella Sharp, continuing her 15-0 record.

by Kali Nave

On October 7th, The Dixon Duchesses took a 4-1 loss at the Emma Hubbs Tennis Courts against Sycamore.

No 2. Singles Junior Emma Russell lost in three sets to Megan McConaughy 6-4, 4-6, 10-6.

"It was a tough match and we both played hard," said Russell. "I was bummed I lost but I got to improve from my mistakes."

Junior Riley Bally, who has played varsity since she was a freshman, had Dixon's only win, a 6-0, 6-0 win against Ella Sharp at No. 1 singles.

"I've beat Sycamore in the past, so I wasn't really worried," said Bally. "I was pretty consistent, hitting hard, making sets go by fast."

Dixon Coach Steve Boll says the team is making a lot of improvements this season and the younger players are really stepping

up their game. Boll is also excited about the winning streak being held by Bally.

"Riley Bally is holding a 15-0 record for No.1 singles. That's a difficult thing to do but it's exciting to have a player be undefeated."

"I feel the pressure to keep the record going and to stay at the top of my game," said Bally.

On October 10th, Bally finished the regular season against Newman undefeated with a record of 16-0.

Pizza Pizza



by Madaline Vaessen

On October 2nd, with plates piled high with pizza, students nestled in for the school year's first Pizza with the Prez hosted by SGA.

The man of the hour, Dr. Dave Hellmich, kicked things off with a brief college update.

He was excited to share that Sauk will be receiving a 2 million dollar Title 3 grant. Dr. Helmich hopes this money can be used for hiring more academic advisors, improving Sauk's retention rate, and possibly implementing Starfish (a program to connect faculty, staff, and students to better support students and their academic success).

Also in the works is updating SVCC's Master Plan to prioritize projects around



Photos by Ana Salgado

campus. Students are encouraged to weigh in on their thoughts about what areas could use a little extra T.L.C. by taking the online survey.

Our Prez didn't shy away from the hard questions answering a speed round including hobbies (he's a biker)

to why he loves Sauk (the students).

The takeaway: study abroad now while you can, check out About Time on Netflix, and maybe listen to some Florence and the Machine during your next workout.

A Local Band Finds Their Home in Our Hearts



by Naomi Meeks

Finding Home is a family, a rock in roll band, and a voice for the silent. They formed their band about three years ago, when the musical Jacobs family decided that their love for music should be shared. The band consists of Molly (20) violinist and keys, Maddie (18) lead vocalist and guitarist, Max (15) drums, Marykate (14) vocalist, and Menter (12) bass. Their main goal is to take their beliefs out of the church and into the community. Finding Home has performed at several

events in our community including: Petunia Fest, Garden Stock, and Summer Splash just to name a few. In 2018 they released their debut album called “Here I Go.” Finding Home dreams to one day go on a world tour to share what they love most, their music. Maddie said “Music has always been my passion and I couldn’t help but share it with others. Music also has helped me form deep meaningful relationships that I would have never formed otherwise.”

Finding Home’s music and actions speak to their many fans including Brandon Lacroix and Devin Summers, current Sauk students. Brandon Lacroix stated “I see Finding Home having great potential in the near future.” Devin Summers testified “Their music is chill and pretty nice to listen to.” Devin and Brandon both hope that Finding Home will be invited to perform at Sauk for the many fans including themselves.

LSSI “Too Good for Violence” with new youth program in Whiteside County

by Kali Nave

Lutheran Social Services of Illinois is “too good for violence” as they gather committees to help youth put an end to bullying. In 2017 Lee and Ogle Counties established their Youth WORKS program through LSSI. Youth Wellness, Opportunities, and Resources for Key Services, is a program set to raise awareness and educate effective ways to prevent and reduce violence. The program serves youth 11-24 years old. This fiscal year, Whiteside and Carrol counties got on board and are working on getting established. Kaitlyn Blackburn is the prevention specialist in charge of the Whiteside County Youth WORKS program. She is responsible for putting together 2 committees with 14 sectors within each committee. Members of the committee come from media, schools, law enforcement, clergy, courts, or parents in the community that wish to be involved with the youth. “Everyone that sits on these boards support kids and want to take a proactive ap-



Kaitlyn Blackburn is the prevention specialist in charge of the Whiteside County Youth WORKS program

proach rather than a reactive approach after something happens,” Blackburn says. Once the committee discovers an issue in a particular area, Youth WORKS can set up a plan to resolve the issues. “We can go into schools,” says Blackburn. “We can use our ‘Too Good for Violence’ curriculum, create lunch information tables, hold presentations for staff, students and parents, create youth committees and hold small groups. We do a lot with self-awareness.” The “Too Good for Violence” curriculum is a 10 week in class program taught to be proactive against bullying. “The youth that are on the Youth Committee tell us what kinds of problems they are having, such as relationships, suicide, bullying,” says Blackburn. “Then we take these problems to our Area Project Board and Community Committee.” Those looking to help the youth in Whiteside County by joining Youth WORKS, can contact Kaitlyn Blackburn at (815)284-7796 EXT 4169 or email Kaitlyn.blackburn@lssi.org.

REVIEW: It’s a Whole New World in Live Action Aladdin

by Kali Nave

With Disney re-making all of its classic movies involving CGI Technology and new characters, Aladdin is one that fans are having the hardest time adjusting to. Beauty in the Beast as a live action was already a flop, having casted Emma Watson, who played Hermione Granger in all of the Harry Potter Movies, as Belle. It was hard to associate her as another character. This same issue occurred in Aladdin when many people could not and would not accept Will Smith as Robin Williams’ Genie. The use of CGI Technology really added to this rendition of Aladdin and adding to Genie’s character. Although Smith would never fill the shoes of Williams, he made his own version of Genie “Big Willie Style.” The problem is most people don’t remember that before Will

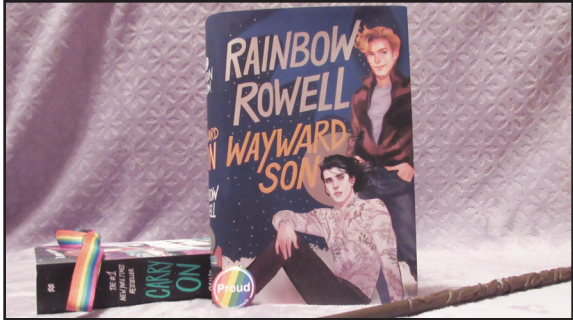
Smith killed his dog in I Am Legend, was a ‘Bad Boy’ or a ‘Man in Black,’ he was a Rapper. In “Friend like Me” Smith sings “I can sing, rap, dance if you give me the chance” and throughout the movie he does just that. Smith had no intentions of replacing the iconic Robin Williams but instead made Genie his own. Another change to the film is that Princess Jasmine has become a more powerful role, dreaming to one day become sultan. She also sings an encouraging song called “Speechless” about how she will not be held back, she is fearless and will not go “speechless.” This is a very empowering moment for women who are told to just sit back and accept their fate. Here, Jasmin decides she can do anything, including not marrying a prince and becoming ruler of her father’s kingdom.

At the end of the film, instead of Jafar turning into a giant snake, his parrot Iago turns into a Jurassic Park style bird, chasing Aladdin and Jasmine through Agrabah and destroying the city. Although this was not part of the classic, this moment is based on The Roc, Arabic Folklore’s bird of prey told from One Thousand and One Nights. Overall, Aladdin was filled with the same classic songs, moments and love story that we were used to. The difference is that in 27 years, times have changed. Technology has greatly improved this story and adding Jasmin as an empowering figure instead of a meek little princess drastically improved the story line. There is also an importance to family, loyalty and friendship. Don’t let change keep you away from this live action rendition, it will take you to a whole new world.

REVIEW: What happens after: a “Wayward Son” review

by Carolyn Graham

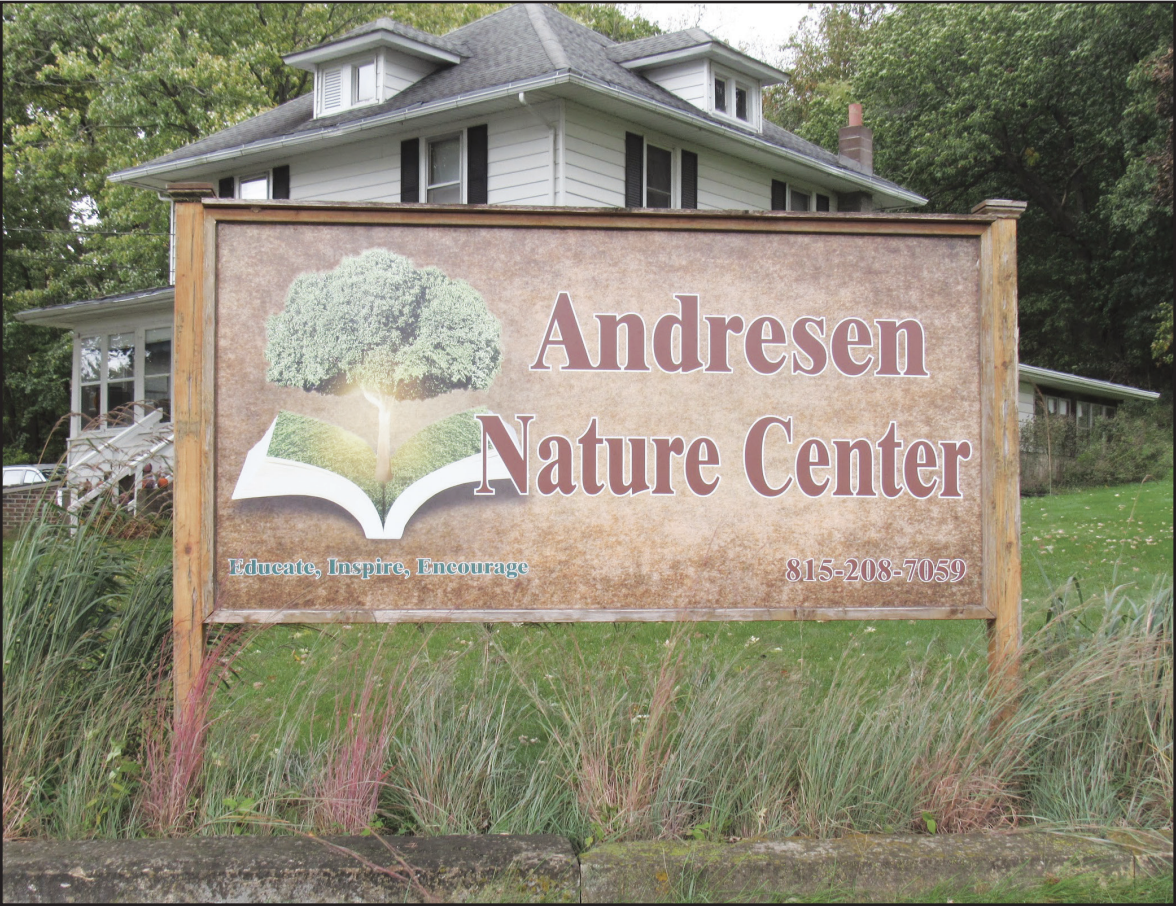
Have you ever wondered what happens to the Chosen One after he saves the day? “Wayward Son” by Rainbow Rowell is an astounding sequel to “Carry On” that showcases what life is like for a protagonist who has already defeated evil and fulfilled the prophecy. While most books stop at “and they lived happily ever after,” in “Wayward Son” readers join Simon Snow on his journey to find what comes next, and this journey is one for the ages. After defeating the villain and saving the magical world, Simon Snow along with his boyfriend Baz and best friend Penelope embark on a road trip across the American Midwest, taking on everything from vampire cults to relationship issues. While there is a problem to solve, unlike a lot of other stories “Way-



“Wayward Son” is the sequel to “Carry On” by Rainbow Rowell.

ward Son” addresses a lot the mental issues left behind after saving the day, not just launching the chosen one into another fight without explanation. With a wonderful balance of action and romance, it ensnares readers, making them truly care about the characters and what happens to them, whether they are in danger of being eaten by a dragon or experiencing heartache. Apart from the engrossing action and well-written fight scenes, Rowell also says she writes romance for people who are “more curious about the second kiss than the first” and shows this throughout the entire book. We follow Simon and Baz through ups and downs and tests of their love for each other, with struggles that feel so realistic that it may ruin “and they lived happily ever after” entirely. After all, why stop at the first kiss when there’s so much more to explore? With all of these unique elements, “Wayward Son” is one of the first of its kind, and one can only hope it starts a trend.

The Andresen Nature Center aims to educate, enspire, and encourage



The sign outside of the nature center.



Taxidermy found inside of the nature center.

by Carolyn Graham

The Andresen Nature Center, dedicated to “providing insight, information, appreciation, and conservation of our local natural resources,” introduces visitors to the natural world all around them. While the center has existed for several years, it is always expanding, adding new things for visitors to enjoy.

The center features a variety of ever-changing and growing exhibits, from taxidermy to beehives,

pollinator gardens, and prairies, as well as seasonal exhibits such as live monarch butterflies, and more.

Apart from these exhibits, the center also takes part in community events, such as the Christmas Walk, as well as hosting events such as beekeeping talks for adults and Science on Sunday’s events for middle school-age children.

Kyle Kopf, the center caretaker, describes the center as “very entertaining, anyone who comes here we try to engage them at the

level they’re interested in,” and says his job is to “keep my fingers on the pulse of science” to be as up to date as possible when educating visitors.

Mr. Kopf says that the center provides the community with “a place to get away from the day to day stresses,” as well as provides for people within the community to utilize the unique opportunities the center has to offer. Fulton High School frequently partners with the center to put on events, and local Boy Scout and Girl

Scout troops have carried out projects at the center in the past.

As of right now, the center does not have regular hours but welcomes anyone who would like to come to visit and tour the center, and Mr. Kopf says he would be happy to work with them to set up a time.

For more information or to set up a visit, contact Kyle Kopf at 815-208-7059 or AndresenNatureCenter@gmail.com.



The Skyhawk View wants to hear from you!

To provide *anonymous feedback* or to write letters to the editors, visit our website at

www.svcc.edu/skyhawk-view/feedback.html

EDITORIAL:**Enjoy fine art and community at Sauk Valley's Community College's Gallery Receptions****A scenes from the Robert Matter Gallery Reception.***by Carolyn Graham*

Attending a gallery reception is an opportunity to interact with the community and enjoy some of the finest art Sauk Valley Community College has to offer, with many chances to do so happening throughout the school year. These events are informative, fun and suitable for all kinds of people, that everyone should attend.

The most recent of these events, the Robert Matter Gallery Special Reception, was a prime example of this.

Visitors to the gallery were able to view the artwork of Robert Matter, a former professor at Sauk, as well as listen to the informative presentation given by Professor Bodish, the art director at SVCC, that he describes as “learning, but

still a fun time.” While these lectures do provide knowledge on the artists and their pieces, there are also some interesting stories to be heard as well that go beyond the art.

Before and after this presentation, visitors mingled about, discussing Matter’s work, the other work in the gallery, and just generally socializing.

This is what a relative-

ly typical art reception is like, with the exception that sometimes the artists themselves come in and talk about the work they are presenting. This gives visitors the opportunity to speak to the artist about their own work or art in general. This is a chance that isn’t available very often, getting to talk to a successful artist is a valuable experience, regardless of the field of study

a person is in.

Professor Bodish encourages people to attend, saying that its an opportunity to “gather as a community, with people who enjoy art, or who care about our community, or even those who want to learn more about art.”

While there are opening receptions throughout the school year, the next showing will start in Oc-

tober and go through January with the next artist, Natalie Jackson O’Neal, giving an evening lecture in January.

As Professor Bodish says “come out and enjoy each other, enjoy the art” and take some time to have some fun. Come out and give it a chance, and it may even be more enjoyable than expected.

Sauk Valley Volleyball 2019*by Lexi Greve*

The Skyhawks chances this year in volleyball are looking very promising so far.

This year’s volleyball team at Sauk is included of 4 sophomores; Jaida Dean from Rock Falls, Emily Shrimplin from Ashton-Franklin Center, Aleah Wight from Oregon, and Hannah Wilson from Newman. There are 7 incoming freshman who include Cassie Bushman from Polo, Madison Craft from Newman, Lexi Greve from Seneca, Shannon Lytle from Amboy, Hannah McCarty from Newman, Juliana Rotella from Dixon, and Jacie Sullivan from Fieldcrest.

Freshman Juliana Rotella says, “The responsibility change from high school to college volleyball is really noticeable. In high school, coaches were more lenient with players missing events because the player was paying to play that sport, but in college it’s a whole other story. The play-

ers aren’t paying to play anymore, in most cases the school is paying the player to play. You have higher expectations in college, and they expect you to uphold those. It adds more stress than high school athletics ever did. College sports are equivalent to having a job, the volleyball team spends around 13-14 hours a week practicing and that’s not even including games which are best 3/5. College volleyball makes high school volleyball a walk in the park with how much more responsibility and dedication an athlete has to put into it.”

The coach, Coach Howell, believes this team will be very successful this season and do some big things.

“This season started off pretty slow because we were all getting used to how each other plays on the court and communication was lacking,” said Howell. “We started our season with a rough tournament to help our skill level to play against bigger schools. It seemed to

take some confidence away from us but as soon as conference games came our confidence had boosted. We are now 13-10 and on a 6-game winning streak! We still have a lot of work to put into this season to get to the goals we made for ourselves.”

Emily Shrimplin, one of the team’s captains, stated “One highlight that was memorable for the team so far, this season would have to be our recent home game against Spoon River. We came out pretty strong, winning the first two sets of the match. The third and fourth sets turned around very quickly and we lost. What made this the most memorable, was the fifth set. We turned around the momentum and pulled off a win in five sets. In the beginning of the season, we tended to go to five sets a lot and end up losing the match. It is really cool to see how far our team has come together to be able to pull out wins in five set matches!”

SATIRE:**Recently arrested associates of Rudy Giuliani caught with suitcases full of illegal corn muffins***by James Hutchison*

Lev Parnas and Igor Fruman, known business associates of Rudy Giuliani, were arrested just days ago while trying to flee the country. The businessmen are charged with violating campaign finance laws and, surprisingly, trying to smuggle illegal corn muffins through airport security and back to Ukraine.

Corn, and by extension corn products, was outlawed in Ukraine when Leonid Kravchuk, the first president of Ukraine, developed an allergy to the grain. Since then, black market deals and clandestine operations have been the

only means to obtain corn for the near forty-five million Ukrainian residents.

Giuliani’s associates now face fairly severe penalties for avoiding congressional subpoenas; conspiring to “circumvent the federal laws against foreign influence by engaging in a scheme to funnel foreign money to candidates for federal and state office so that the defendants could buy potential influence with the candidates, campaigns, and the candidates’ governments” (The Washington Post); and illegally smuggling food products (corn muffins) through TSA checkpoints with the intent to illegally dis-

tribute in a foreign country.

So far, indictments do not directly connect Giuliani with the violations of campaign finance law but do allege direct involvement with the smuggling of corn muffins, as well as other corn products, out of country. According to the indictment; “Mr. Giuliani is believed to have smuggled corn products—which were apparently hidden within the lining of his suit—out of the country and into Ukraine for the better part of five years.”

It is, as yet, unknown if the illegal smuggling charges alone will land the men jail time.

Let us know how we are doing.www.svcc.edu/skyhawk-view/feedback.html