

# Voter registration ends Oct. 20

By Peg Williams  
News and opinion editor

Registering to vote is like making it to the top of the 77 on a Monday morning. It's not difficult. It just takes some effort to get it done.

The 2008 presidential elections are going to happen Nov 4. The last day to register to vote is Oct. 20. Time is running out for procrastinating students.

Karen Brooks, county clerk and election officer, said it is important to register to vote soon.

"You need to make sure

to register in enough time," said Brooks. "Obviously you need to mail everything. It has to be in the office on Oct. 20 or you can't vote."

If you're a student who considers Cowley County your home, the process begins with a trip to the public library, the county clerk's office, or by getting online and printing off a form at [www.kssos.org](http://www.kssos.org).

Then simply fill out the card. It will ask for your basic information such as your name, address and party affiliation, but also your drivers license number, so if

you're trying to get it done in a hurry, be sure to have that with you.

But not all students are from Kansas. If your residence is in a different county or state and you have a desire to be registered there instead of in Cowley County, you may either contact your county clerk and ask for a registration card or find your state registration application online.

The registration cards vary by state, so be sure you're printing of the appropriate application and that you enter your home address instead of your school address.

Some students choose to be registered in Cowley County for the four years they attend Southwestern. It allows them to vote during local elections in Cowley County. Then they change their registration information back to their home town after graduating.

"As a college student you really have the option as a voter to say, 'Yes, I want this to be my permanent residence,' and then you would vote in Cowley County," said Brooks. "If you're a student and you work here and stay here during the summer and consider this your permanent residence,

then you can register to vote here. It's up to each person. I'm not the police on it."

Brooks said it's important to vote because it brings about change America.

"You get to vote for president no matter where you live. You are voting people even in lower elections into very important positions.

Your vote does really count, especially if you get involved in the smaller races. At some point in time things can change, and the only way that things can change is for people to be involved and to vote."

She isn't the only one who

feels that the right to vote should be taken advantage of.

Tyler Lampert, physical education junior, has been registered to vote since 2004 and plans on voting on the absentee ballot in Georgia. He said that voting allows students to have a voice.

"It allows you to express your beliefs, and it is how our democratic society works. It's a tradition that we need to uphold and to take advantage of."

*Peg Williams is a junior majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at [peggy.williams@sckans.edu](mailto:peggy.williams@sckans.edu).*

## Democrats work to raise awareness before election

By Julie Miller  
Staff reporter

Americans only get one chance every four years to determine the leadership and fate of our nation.

The SC Democrats are taking advantage of this chance to make sure students are aware of both options and that they choose what fits them best.

Lisa Roth, history sophomore, is a first-time voter. "I'm excited to vote this year. I think it's going to be an important election," said Roth.

Taggart Wall, history and philosophy & religious studies sophomore, is co-president of SC Democrats. "This year is a rebuilding year. It's exciting that it happens once every four years. We have a lot more as far as events, forums, just overall information. It will be different than in years past. I really want to focus on getting students to vote

and involved, whether it be political or in the society."

Wall said the organization cares about supporting the Democratic presidential candidate, but they also want to help students become more informed and raise awareness of issues around them, not just directly from The White House.

Todd Moore, gift officer, sponsors SC Democrats. He said, "We get so tied up into labels. That doesn't mean I always vote for a Democrat. I would hope people look at the person, and the issues. You have to find what is important to you and decide where you stand on things like the war, foreign policy and tax cuts. It's about educating yourself about the issues versus the party."

Wall said apathetic students are encouraged to come to meetings and learn more about the organization and the Democratic presidential candidate. "I think a lot of apathy just

comes from not knowing. It's scary to talk about, especially if you don't know a lot of information. You just feel inferior," said Wall.

Moore agrees with having the resources to get your information and then making your decision. "The main thing is if you're going to vote, know why you're voting."

SC Democrats will be hosting a debate watching party and will also have student forums in the upcoming weeks.

The biggest push for the group right now is to get students registered.

Wall said, "I think a lot of people think, 'There are 300 million people. My vote's not going to matter.' If you look at election in 2004, the difference was 52 percent versus 48 percent. That's why you vote."

*Julie Miller is a sophomore majoring in theatre. You may e-mail her at [julie.miller@sckans.edu](mailto:julie.miller@sckans.edu).*

## Republicans plan to make door-to-door campaigning effort throughout Winfield

By Jessica Bernhardt  
Managing editor

In 2024 they plan to be running for president. But for the time being, they are president and vice president of SC Republicans.

Anna Macy, biology senior, was a starting member of the organization and is now president of the group. Macy said the reason for the organization is to promote awareness. "We promote awareness at the county through the national level on politics."

Vice president Cheryl Davis, music senior, joined the SC Republicans in 2007. "We want to inform people what we stand for."

Steve Ruggles, procurement and PC support specialist, is the adviser for SC Republicans. He said the organization used to be on

campus but then dwindled out. "I started it back up. Kids are usually dependent on Mom and Dad their first time voting. They can join [the group] to try and understand why and to give them some kind of direction."

There are several reasons to join any organization on campus. Macy said, "People should join to get a better understanding of politics so they can be better educated."

A meeting takes place every month with an attempt to bring a guest speaker in.

"We've had city officials and county representatives," said Macy. The group also participates in Kansas Day every January.

They will occasionally set up a booth outside of the cafeteria and have people vote on different issues.

This year, for the first time,

SC Republicans will be participating in homecoming. Something else new they will be doing will be walking around town passing out brochures for the national elections. "We'll be going door to door," said Macy.

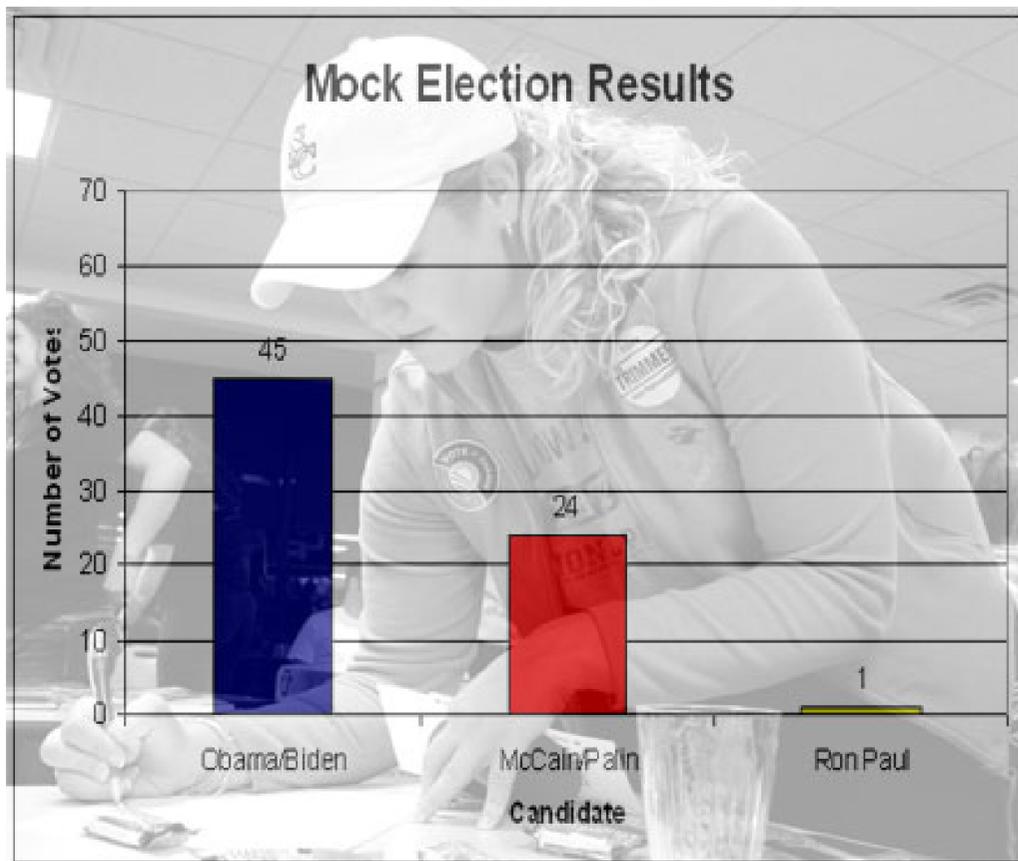
Currently there are approximately 25 people interested in joining the organization and Macy and Davis are hoping that the number increases.

A welcome back picnic will be at 6:30 p.m. Sept. 23 at the Welcome Center. It is a chance for students to come and see what the organization is all about.

"Just show up with no obligation," said Macy. "We're kind of a laid-back group."

*Jessica Bernhardt is a senior majoring in journalism. You may e-mail her at [jessica.bernhardt@sckans.edu](mailto:jessica.bernhardt@sckans.edu).*

## Results are in



Brian Nelson/Collegian photographer

A mock voting area was set up last Wednesday at the Activity Showcase between the SC Democrat and SC Republican booths. Seventy students were polled. Obama/Biden received 45 votes, McCain/Palin received 24 votes, and Ron Paul received one vote.

## Phi Deltas initiate new class

By Colin Baker  
Staff reporter

Phi Delta Theta plans to add more brothers to the fraternity in the next few months. They started an eight-week initiation class called the "Phikeia Class" on Sept. 14. If those who are in the class pass the class, they are then initiated into the fraternity.

"Phi Delta Theta was founded in 1948, in Oxford, Ohio by a group by the name of 'The Immortal Six.' They founded this fraternity because they wanted brotherhood that separated them from others. All of whom were religion majors and three of the six were ordained ministers."

Greg Jeffers, athletic training junior, said, "The chapter here on campus was founded by a group of 40 men."

Jeffers is the warden of the fraternity. "My job is to keep things in order and make sure all the rules are followed. I also make sure that everybody is in the sound learning order that the fraternity represents," Jeffers said.

"I assess different activities that the fraternity does and I make sure that it doesn't violate the insurance

contract."

"We are a non-alcoholic fraternity," said Tanner McNinch, biology pre-med junior. "Any activity that we put on will not have any alcohol whatsoever." McNinch is president. "Basically my job is to set up every event and activity that we do. We are a very social fraternity."

"We do a lot to help out the community," McNinch said. "We have the 12 Days of Christmas, where we provide a child with toys for 12 days. Then we supply three families with Thanksgiving turkeys so that they can have a nice meal on Thanksgiving Day."

Jordy Train, business marketing sophomore, is the vice-president. Train said, "Another thing we do is a poker tournament amongst our fraternity that benefits Lou Gehrig's disease. All the proceedings go to the ALS Foundation."

"As vice-president, I oversee all operations of the business side of the fraternity," Train said. "It is my duty to make sure all the other officers are on point with their activities."

*Colin Baker is a freshman majoring in communication. You may e-mail him at [colin.baker@sckans.edu](mailto:colin.baker@sckans.edu).*

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ture than I did the Indian."

For Caitlin Dyck, undecided sophomore, this will be her first time leaving the states.

"I'm excited about being able to speak Spanish with other people who are native to it and just seeing all of the different things from

the different cultures that I'm not used to," said Dyck. "I'm really hoping to gain a respect for other cultures and to know that people live their lives differently than Americans and that we have it easy compared to other countries."

Students going on the trip are also enrolled in the

Ecuador Cultures class. They meet Sundays and discuss their trip itinerary and learn about Ecuadorian customs. The class is full and is worth one credit.

*Katie Gomez is a sophomore majoring in communication. You may e-mail her at [kathryn.gomez@sckans.edu](mailto:kathryn.gomez@sckans.edu).*

## Ultimate Frisbee

Sunday @ 2 p.m.

Warren Lawn

**Be There or Be Round**