

Sterling College football struggles early against Avila Eagles

Sterling College football lost to Avila University 47-21 on Saturday at The “Z.” The Warriors were shut out before halftime, scoring all 21 of their points after halftime, including 14 in the fourth quarter.

Jordan McGowan’s 30-yard opening kickoff return gave Sterling the ball at its own 35, but a false start helped stall the first drive before James Henisey’s 43-yard punt.

Avila completed an 11-play, 81-yard scoring drive, but failed to connect on the extra-point. Sterling’s defense produced a response on Avila’s next series, with Carlos Lujan making a tackle for loss

and then combining with Sean Watson on a fourth-down stop that gave Sterling the ball at its 38. Ryan Morgan later converted fourth-and-2 with a 6-yard completion to Nicholas Trepton, and an Avila personal foul moved Sterling to the 31 before the quarter ended with Sterling facing fourth-and-9 at the 30 and trailing 6-0.

The second quarter began with Steven Werking completing a fourth-and-9 pass to Gabriel Argott for seven yards, leaving Sterling short of the marker before Avila drove for a touchdown at 10:20. After Sterling’s next possession ended with a punt, Turner Sampson stopped Patrick Anderson

Jr. for a loss and Lujan sacked Vick for an 8-yard loss to help force an Avila punt. Sterling’s offense later picked up gains from Stephenson Kennard, Morgan and Ty Goans but was slowed by a false start. Avila added touchdown two touchdown passes in the final two minutes of the half. Sterling moved late behind Werking runs of four and eight yards and a 17-yard completion to Trepton, reaching the Avila 45, but the quarter ended with Sterling trailing 27-0.

Avila opened the second half with a 64-yard touchdown run and a successful two-point pass to push the score to 35-0. Sterling responded with a

12-play, 82-yard touchdown drive, capped when Werking hit Noah Khokhar for a 32-yard score on fourth-and-7 and Emmanuel Roman added the extra point to make it 35-7. Sterling’s defense then limited Avila to 10 yards on the next series, with Dutton Taylor, Lujan and Messiah Ford involved in tackles for loss before a punt. After a Sterling interception, the defense again pushed Avila back with stops by Marques Zenon and Ford. Wyatt Newberry’s 13-yard punt return gave Sterling the ball at the Avila 32. The quarter ended with Sterling at the Avila 25, facing third-and-3 and trailing 35-7.

Sterling scored twice in the fourth quarter, getting two rushing touchdowns from Kennard, but Avila answered with two touchdowns of its own in a 47-21 final.

Kennard rushed 15 times for 65 yards and two touchdowns.

Werking completed 27 of 40 passes for 203 yards and one touchdown.

Hines posted team highs with seven receptions and 74 receiving yards.

Lujan led Sterling defensively with 10 tackles.

Sterling is 1-4 overall and will host Bethel (1-4) on Saturday, Oct. 3, at 1:30 p.m. for Homecoming.

Upcoming Sports Calendar

Friday, Oct. 2	SHS football	7 p.m.	at Halstead
	SC swimming	2 p.m.	at Topeka
	SC volleyball	7 p.m.	Avila (H)
Saturday, Oct. 3	SHS volleyball	8 a.m.	at Burrton
	SC women’s soccer	12 noon	at Avila
	SC football	1:30 p.m.	Bethel (Homecoming)
	SC men’s soccer	2:30 p.m.	at Avila
Monday, Oct. 5	SHS tennis	8 a.m.	at Wichita (League)
Tuesday, Oct. 6	SHS volleyball	4 p.m.	at Marion
Wed., Oct. 7	SC men’s soccer	1 p.m.	at York
	SC women’s soccer	3:30 p.m.	at York
	SC volleyball	7 p.m.	York (H)
Thursday, Oct. 8	SHS cross country	3:30 p.m.	home
	SJH volleyball	4 p.m.	at Trinity (Hutchinson)
	SJH football	6 p.m.	at Trinity (Hutchinson)
Friday, Oct. 9	SHS football	7 p.m.	Ellinwood (Homecoming)

Lady Warrior volleyball downs Southwestern

Sterling College defeated Southwestern College 3-0 on Saturday at Stewart Fieldhouse, winning by set scores of 26-24, 25-23 and 25-16. Sterling trailed 24-20 in the opening set before taking it 26-24. Sterling hit .359 for the match with 44 kills and held Southwestern to a .142 hitting percentage.

Aliya McClanahan supplied kills on Sterling’s first two points, but Southwestern used kills, blocks and two service aces to build leads of 12-6 and 17-10. Sterling worked back behind a Brooklyn Kuster ace, a Keala Wilson Brown block and three straight McClanahan kills assisted by Wilson Brown, cutting the margin to 20-18 before later getting within 21-20 on a Kaira Rodriguez kill. After Southwestern reached 24-20, Chloe Schmidt had a block on the sideout and later joined Wilson Brown on a block to tie the set at 24-24, Grace Battershell served the final five points, and Gracie Kirchhoff’s kill put Sterling ahead before a Southwestern attack error ended the set.

Sterling opened with points from a Southwestern attack error and a McClanahan kill, then added kills from Dru Lindsey, Rodriguez, Schmidt and Wilson Brown to stay in front. Lindsey’s serve helped carry Sterling from 11-5 to 15-5, including a service ace,

two Wilson Brown blocks on Southwestern attack errors and a Madison Western kill. Southwestern cut into the margin with service pressure and a late surge from 24-19 to 24-23, but a service error on set point gave Sterling the closing point.

After Southwestern tied the third set at 3-3, Sterling answered with a 7-0 run, including six straight service points from KcAnna Keiswetter and kills by Rodriguez, McClanahan and Gracie Kirchhoff. Sterling kept the pressure on after the run, moving ahead 14-4 as Kaleigh Bell served and blocks involving Rodriguez, Schmidt and Kirchhoff forced Southwestern attack errors. The Lady Warriors continued to side out through the middle of the set, with Lundeen, Kirchhoff and Schmidt adding kills to keep Sterling in control. Southwestern scored twice after Sterling reached 24-14, but Lundeen finished the set with a kill for a 25-16 Sterling win.

McClanahan led Sterling with 15 kills and 15.0 points while hitting .619.

Schmidt posted seven total blocks and added four kills on a .429 hitting percentage. Wilson Brown finished with 19 assists, five total blocks, four kills and one service ace.

Lundeen added eight kills and five digs.

Golf—

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start, shooting +7 in round one. However, his +1 and +3 performance in rounds two and three helped him place 10th in the field.

Finishing tied for 16th for Sterling was

Louis Delattre Mgnon who shot +4, +9 and +6 to end the tournament with a final score of +19. Just behind him was Andres Thomas Castelblanco Salamanca who remained consistent throughout the three rounds to finish tied for 18th. He shot a com-

bined +21 through three rounds with scores of +7, +6 and +8.

Axel Vogt rounded out the field for the Warriors, shooting +24 to place 23rd. Vogt shot +9 and +10 in the opening two rounds but came back strong with a +5 score in round three.

SC swim opens season with 9 personal bests

Sterling College swimming and diving opened the season at the Sam Freas Invite on Saturday, Sept. 26. The Warriors started of the season posting nine new personal bests, with Elise Warden posting three new personal bests in her debut as a Lady Warrior.

In the women’s 200-yard freestyle, Elli Hay swam a time of 2:14.80 to finish 22nd while Allison Reed was right behind her, finishing 23rd with a personal best time of 2:17.39. More personal bests were earned in the 100-yard backstroke as Elise Warden and Esme McAfee finished 19th and 25th with personal best times of 1:11.96 and 1:15.80, respectively. Also competing in the 100-yard backstroke were Bree Pickerell, 12th, 1:07.98 and Tenielle Kidd, 13th, 1:09.34.

In the 100-yard breaststroke, Lydia Nelson swam a time of 1:14.05 to place 14th while Hay placed 22nd with a time of 1:23.17.

Warden had another personal best time in the 50-yard freestyle where she placed 26th and a time of 27.57. Also competing were McAfee, 33rd, 28.51 and Campbell Elliott 35th, 29.00.

The trio of Hay, McAfee and Elliott competed in the 100-yeard freestyle finishing 21st, 24th and 25th with times of 1:02.39, 1:03.80 and 1:03.87, respectively.

Kidd competed in the 200-yard backstroke for the Lady Warriors where she placed 18th with a time of 2:32.25.

The Lady Warriors posted another personal best in the 500-yard freestyle as Reed swam a time of 6:18.83 to place 18th. Also competing in the 500-yard freestyle was Bree Pickerell who

finished 10th with a time of 5:42.77.

Warden had her third personal best swim of the meet in the 100-yard butterfly where she finished 19th with a time of 1:10.10. Elliott also competed in the event where she placed 21st with a time of 1:17.93.

In the 100-yard individual medley, Pickerell set a new personal best with a time of 1:09.12 to finish 17th. Just behind her, with another personal best performance was Nelson who finished 19th with a time of 1:09.58. Kidd also competed in the event where she swam a time of 1:13.30 to finish 24th.

In the relays, the team of Pickerell, Nelson, Elliott and Reed placed 18th in the 200-yard medley relay with a time of 2:06.95.

In the 400-yard freestyle relay, McAfee, Hay, Warden and Kidd came together to finish 19th with a time of 4:10.52.

For the men, Aiden Seagren started off the meet with a personal best time in the 200-yard freestyle where he swam a time of 2:03.77 to place 24th. Just behind him was Ian Esquivel who swam a time of 2:17.14 to finish 25th. Juwayne Silmon competed in the 100-yard backstroke where he placed 13th with a time of 1:10.68.

In the 100-yard breaststroke, Carter Josephson swam a time of 1:07.08 to finish 16th.

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Sterling Public Notices

ORDINANCE NO. 2596

AN ORDINANCE REPEALING SECTION 14-605, OF ARTICLE 6 OF CHAPTER XIV, TRAFFIC OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STERLING, KANSAS AND PROVIDING FOR A NEW SECTION 14-605.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Governing Body of the City of Sterling, Kansas finds that there is increasing use of electric-assisted scooters, as defined herein, on the streets and sidewalks and other public areas, and

WHEREAS, the Governing Body finds it necessary to adopt rules and regulations for the operation of said electric-assisted scooters and other motorized devices, as set forth herein, for the health, safety, and welfare of the operators, pedestrians, and the public at large.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF STERLING, KANSAS AS FOLLOWS:

- The Code of Ordinances of the City of Sterling, Kansas is hereby amended by repealing the present Section 14-605 of Article 6, Chapter XIV and replacing it with a new Section 14-605 of Article 6, Chapter XIV, which reads as follows:
 - Electric-assisted scooters for purposes herein shall mean: Every self-propelled vehicle, other than an electric assisted bicycle, that has at least two wheels in contact with the ground, an electric motor, handlebars, a brake, and a deck that is designed to be stood upon when riding. (K.S.A. 8-1498) For purposes herein electric-assisted scooters shall also include motorized skateboards, electric one-wheel boards, hover boards, and similar devices. It does not include motorized or electric wheelchairs.
- It shall be unlawful for any person under the age of 12 to operate an electric-assisted scooter.
- Electric-assisted scooters may not be operated in the following locations in the City of Sterling, Kansas:
 - Upon Broadway Street, between Jefferson Avenue and Van Buren Street (“the downtown corridor”) except to cross it by the most direct route.
 - Upon public sidewalks adjoining those streets and avenues where the operation of electric-assisted scooters is prohibited at paragraphs a. hereof.
 - Upon any tennis, basketball, pickleball, splashpad, or other grassed public park areas.
- No electric-assisted scooter shall be operated at a speed in excess of 20 miles per hour, except no electric-assisted scooter that is operated upon a public sidewalk shall be operated at a speed above 15 miles per hour.
- Every person under the age of 18 operating an electric-assisted

scooter shall wear an approved head protection device or helmet.

- Every electric-assisted scooter operated in the City of Sterling, Kansas shall obey all traffic laws applicable to bicycles.
- Every electric-assisted scooter operated upon public sidewalks shall yield the right-of-way to pedestrians. Upon overtaking pedestrians on a sidewalk, the operator of the electric-assisted scooter shall give an audible warning to the pedestrian and may only pass a pedestrian if it can be done in a safe manner.
- Every person operating an electric-assisted scooter shall do so in a safe manner and shall not operate the electric-assisted scooter in a careless or heedless manner or in a manner of disregard for safety of the operator or others. No electric-assisted scooter shall be operated while carrying more than one person.
- An electric-assisted scooter shall be parked in bicycle racks where possible. If no bicycle rack is available then on a hard surface in such a fashion that does not obstruct pedestrian travel and so as not to obstruct entrances and exits of public buildings, driveways, loading zones, or fire zones.
- An person violating any of the provisions of this Articles, upon a finding of guilty, shall be guilty of a traffic infraction and shall be subject to the following penalties:
 - Upon a first violation a fine of not more than \$25.00 shall be imposed and the parents/guardian of the violator, if under 18 years of age, may be notified of the violation.
 - Upon a second violation a fine of up to \$50.00 may be imposed and the parents/guardian of the violator, if under 18 years of age, shall be notified of such violation.
 - Upon a third or subsequent violation of this Article a fine of up to \$100.00 may be imposed and the electric-assisted scooter may be temporarily impounded for a period not exceeding 15 days and shall not be released to anyone other than the violator or his/her parent/guardian.
- This ordinance shall take effect upon its passage and publication of a summary thereof in the Sterling, Kansas Bulletin and posting of the full text of the ordinance on the City’s web-site, in compliance with K.S.A. 12-3007(b).

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the governing body of the City of Sterling, Kansas, this 21st day of September, 2026.

Brian Inwood
Mayor

ATTEST:
Candice Daley-Groth
Acting City Clerk

(Published in the Sterling Kansas Bulletin, Sterling, Rice County, Kansas, on October 1, 2026).

ORDINANCE NO. 2597

AN ORDINANCE AMENDING SECTION 2-201 OF ARTICLE 2 OF CHAPTER II OF THE CODE OF ORDINANCES OF THE CITY OF STERLING, KANSAS.

WITNESSETH:

WHEREAS, the Governing Body has determined that the first violation of Dog / Cat At Large regulation shall be penalized as a “pay-or-appear” citation wherein the individual in violation may either pay a flat fee dollar fine of \$35.00, or if the violating individual wishes to contest the fine, may appear in court, but need not to if they pay the established fine.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE GOVERNING BODY OF THE CITY OF STERLING, KANSAS, AS FOLLOWS:

SECTION 1. Section 2-201 of Article 2 of Chapter II of the Code of Ordinances of the City of Sterling, Kansas is hereby amended to read as follows:

- “2-201. Running at large; penalty.
 - Any person found guilty or who pleads guilty of violating this section shall be fined in an amount of \$35.00 as a pay-or-appear citation on the first conviction hereof; on the second conviction such person shall be fined in an amount not to exceed \$50.00; on the third or subsequent convictions such person shall be fined an amount not to exceed \$100.00. However, should there be

a period of four consecutive years from the last conviction, then the amount of the fine will revert to the first-time offense level. Additionally, on third or subsequent convictions hereof the municipal court may impose imprisonment not to exceed 30 days in the Rice County, Kansas jail. Further, on the third or subsequent conviction, should the municipal court find the animal to be a threat to the safety and welfare of the citizens of the city it may cause such animal to be destroyed.”

SECTION 2. This Ordinance shall be effective upon its passage and publication in the official city newspaper.

PASSED, APPROVED AND ADOPTED by the governing body of the City of Sterling, Kansas, this 21st day of September, 2026.

Brian Inwood
Mayor

ATTEST:
Candice Daley-Groth
Acting City Clerk

(Published in the Sterling Kansas Bulletin, Sterling, Rice County, Kansas, on October 1, 2026).