

**ehsrailroader**

**2006**

**the comeback tour**



In With  
**THE BAND!**

people

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BEHIND  
**THE**  
Scenes

Academics  
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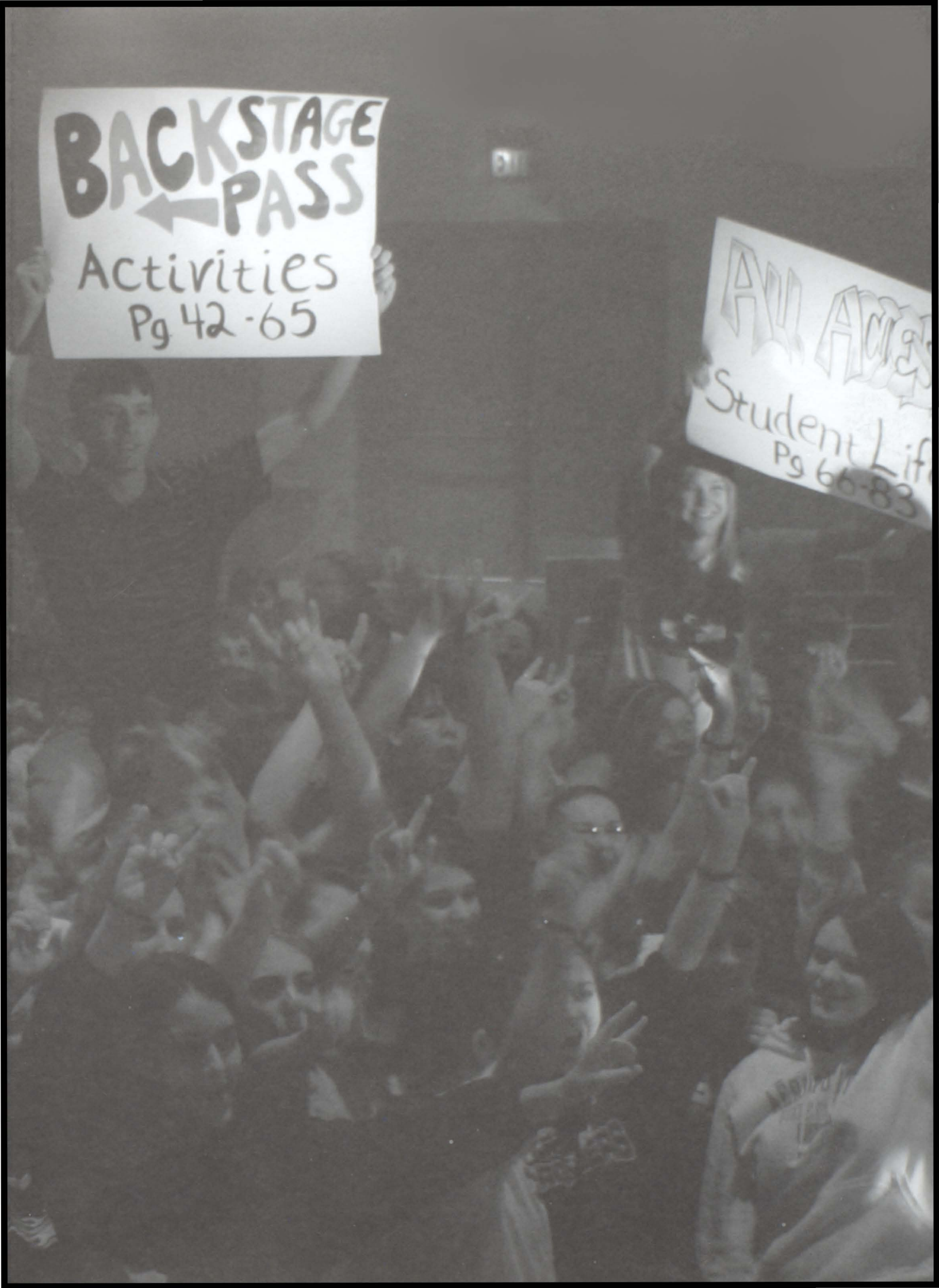


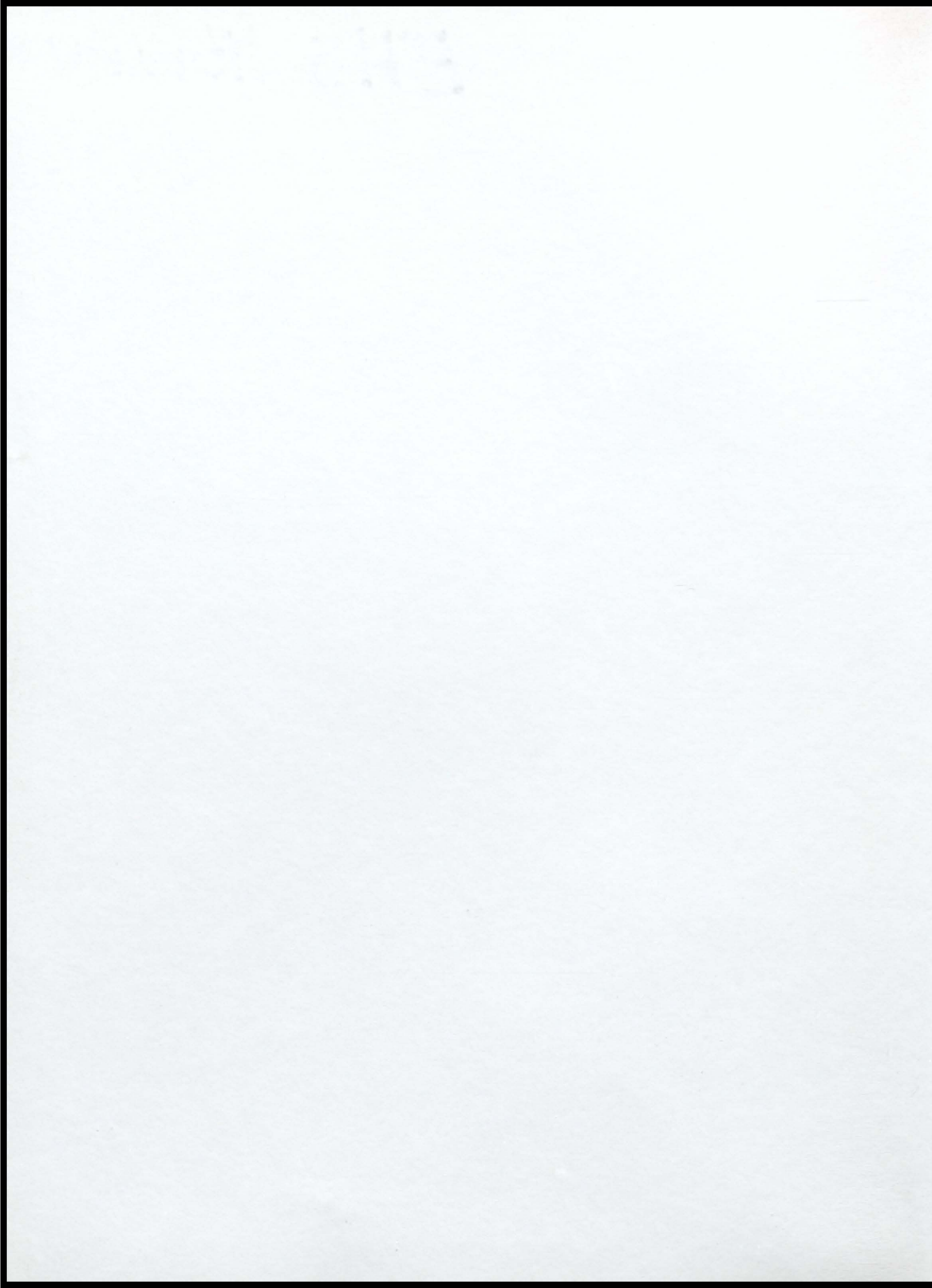


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# 2006

Students rally around the bonfire to get pumped up for the Homecoming football game. At the event, the cheerleaders performed bleacher beats and helped lead the crowd in chants. photo by Smoky Hill Photography

## the comeback tour



**ellis** high school  
**ellis, kansas 67637**  
**785-726-3151**  
**134 students enrolled**





# photos below

Students participate in a mock concert that was held in the auditorium. The journalism staff organized the concert to build excitement for the yearbook. To advance the theme of the book, the pictures of the mosh pit were used in the endsheets and in the opening spreads. photos by Cindy Hertel

**04** people  
i'm with the band



**32** academics  
behind the scenes



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all access





# 2006

## the comeback tour

As the cheerleaders led the first pep rally of the year, the crowd was silent. No one was cheering. No one dared to stand up. No one dared to risk a clap. The tension within the room was amplified by the sight of the lone cheerleaders, vainly trying to coax the crowd. As the fight song came to a close, a meager applause rang out from the students and then faded back to silence.

As the students nervously shifted in their chairs, footsteps rang out, breaking the silence. Mr. Kyle Hayden, the new school principal, walked slowly out to the middle of the gym. He turned to the crowd and said, "Now let's try that one more time, and this time I want to hear an APPLAUSE..." The fight song was played again, and at the end, everyone cheered. Everyone yelled. Everyone clapped.

That was the moment that you knew that the year was going to be different. At that moment the entire school changed. A new outlook. A new attitude. A new year. It was our year.

The 2005-2006 school year brought many changes to Ellis High School. Students and teachers alike had to adjust to the introduction of laptops within classrooms. New staff members were hired: Mr. Hayden, principal; Mrs. Connie Waldschmidt, secretary; Mr. Jeff Kohl, social studies teacher; Mr. Brandon Armbruster, at-risk teacher. Homecoming royalty requirements were changed. The lunch line location was moved. The introduction of late-start Wednesdays let students catch some extra sleep. Also, the inclusion of a dodgeball tournament and an *American Idol* knockoff during the at-risk days shook things up.

Besides all the structure changes, students experienced a whole new sense of freedom and vitality. This change incorporated a lot more fun into students' everyday lives. EHS seemed to be reinvigorated, inspired, and motivated. Like a band heading out on its revival tour, students, teachers, staff, and administration alike were ready to tackle the year head-on. There was a hunger, a thirst in everyone to experience every opportunity and succeed in every challenge.

You were the band coming together to prove that you still had it, that you could still rock. That was the year that EHS headlined its own tour. The year it all came back. You'll never forget **2006 the comeback tour.**





# i'm with the band





**Cheering at football games,**  
**competing in the FHSU math**  
**Relays, cooking breakfast in Mrs.**  
**Alber's class, complaining about**  
**journalism deadlines - each is**  
**an example of an experience**  
**or activity students participate in**  
**at Ellis High School.**

They are your memories, but that doesn't mean you experienced them alone because at EHS your friends were always right there in the mix.

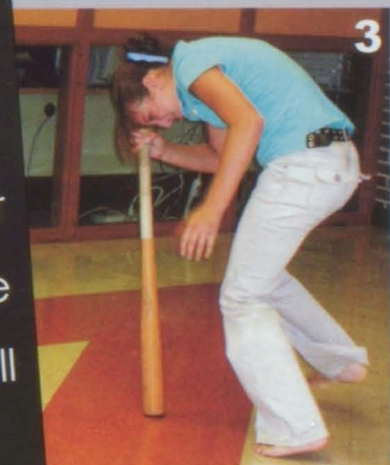
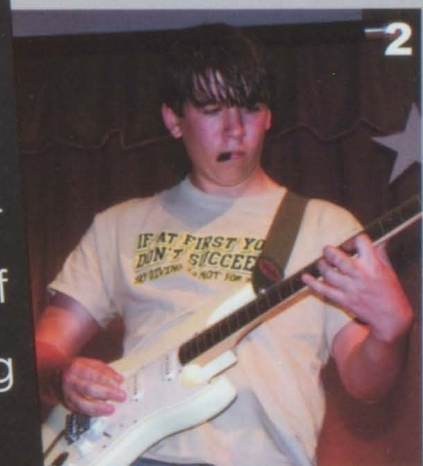
When you were jumping up and down, yelling and chanting as your team scored that winning basket, you knew that every person around you shared that same feeling, that same sense of pride, of joy, of excitement, that same feeling of belonging and friendship. You were connected.

Like a roadie on tour with your favorite band, you were a part of something bigger, something greater than yourself. No matter where you go, you'll always know you're a part of EHS. And if anyone asks, you'll just tell them, **"I'm with the band!"**

1. **Wewon! Whitney Lang<sup>'07</sup>** and Laura Augustine<sup>'07</sup> celebrate in the stands after a volleyball victory over Plainville. photo by Jennifer Jacques

2. **Rocking out on his guitar,** Michael Young<sup>'08</sup> rehearses for EHS Idol. The event was modeled after the popular ABC television show *American Idol*. photo by Heather Schuster

3. **Rotating around a bat,** Jordan Lang<sup>'09</sup> competes in one of the Freshman Fun Night competitions. Lang was one of 35 freshmen who participated in the FCCLA-sponsored event. photo by Rowdy Wichman





clay barton  
logan bittel  
justin brungardt  
casey carlisle  
breanna ellison  
sarah fischer



tyler fischer  
brandon geschwentner  
brooke graves  
kara hackney  
kyle hadley  
rachael hamel



justin henrickson  
alyssa herl  
ciara hespe  
monte honas  
chase king  
joey kitzman



# fun & disguise



## freshmen and fccla members enjoy night of games, food

Bursting into a freshman's bedroom at 1 a.m. is not something that every high school does. At Ellis High School the FCCLA holds Freshman Fun Night every year, helping to build the organization and jumpstart the freshman year.

"The Freshman Fun Night is a tradition that was started many years ago and is a way to recruit new members. It usually takes about

two weeks to prepare," Mrs. Sharla Albers, FCCLA sponsor, said.

Games played at the event included an Easter egg hunt, an obstacle course, a clothes-swapping game, and a contest to see which team had the items that were asked for. At the end, there was a water balloon fight.

"I loved the water balloon fight. I like getting wet

and nailing people in the back and listening to them scream because the water's cold," Debra Massier<sup>'09</sup> said.

The freshmen, Albers, and officers sang karaoke, following a skit, which outlined the club's activities. The skit was performed by President Meggie Patrick<sup>'07</sup>.

"My most memorable moment was seeing Mrs. Albers singing karaoke,"

Sarah Fischer<sup>'09</sup> said.

Being awakened at 1 a.m. doesn't sound like a whole lot of fun to most people, but the freshmen concluded that waking up that early was worth it. They all had a lot of fun.

"My advice to other freshmen would be that freshman fun night is a lot more fun if you don't know that it is coming," Heather Weber<sup>'09</sup> said.







jordan lang  
debra massier  
kendra mickelson  
cody ocamb  
katie parson  
jake reilly

kerry robb  
heath robins  
steven schmidt  
logan stanton  
whitney taylor  
tina unrein

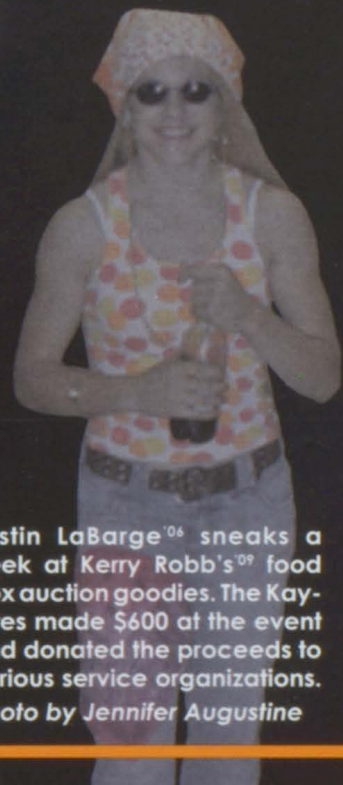
heather weber  
haley wolf  
cortney wright  
whitney wright  
eric zahn



Freshman girls enjoy pizza and nachos at Freshman Fun Night. "The water balloon fight was my favorite part, especially when we found more balloons months later," Tina Unrein<sup>09</sup> said. photo by Jessica Hadley



Justin LaBarge<sup>06</sup> sneaks a peek at Kerry Robb's<sup>09</sup> food box auction goodies. The Kayettes made \$600 at the event and donated the proceeds to various service organizations. photo by Jennifer Augustine



Who's the mummy now? Sarah Fischer<sup>09</sup> is wrapped in toilet paper during the class competition at the Homecoming pep rally. photo by Sheila Douglas



Kerry Robb<sup>09</sup> and Rachael Hamel<sup>09</sup> perform their IDA during speech class. "The part of speech I like the most is Mrs. Riedel," Rachael Hamel said. photo by Heather Schuster



Breathing in and out, Kyle Hadley<sup>09</sup> bench presses during freshman P.E. Each freshman was required to take P.E. and had to lift during the class's weight training unit. photo by Amber Honas



Snarfing down their food, the freshman boys enjoy pizza. The freshman class received an award of excellence in reading and social studies. photo by Cindy Hertel





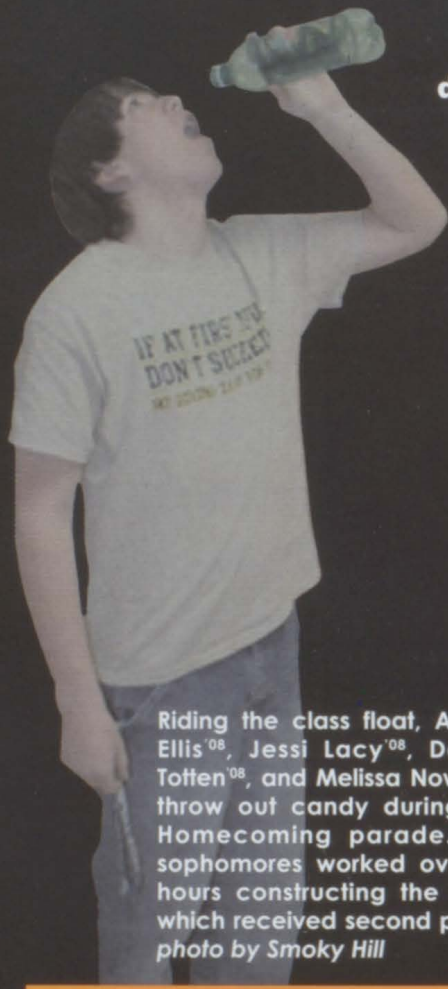
**ryan bittel  
kylor campbell  
daniel desaire  
bailey deutscher  
amber ellis**



**erick estrada  
todd flinn  
zachary gehring  
justin gnad  
daniel gottschalk**



**kayla hollern  
deana hunsicker  
scott hupka  
katelyn keller**



Keep on wheelin'! Erick Estrada<sup>'08</sup> shows off his car that he drives to school. "My car might be old, but it gets me where I am going," Estrada said. *photo by Ashley Hejny*



Riding the class float, Amber Ellis<sup>'08</sup>, Jessi Lacy<sup>'08</sup>, Denise Totten<sup>'08</sup>, and Melissa Nowlin<sup>'08</sup>, throw out candy during the Homecoming parade. The sophomores worked over 15 hours constructing the float, which received second place. *photo by Smoky Hill*



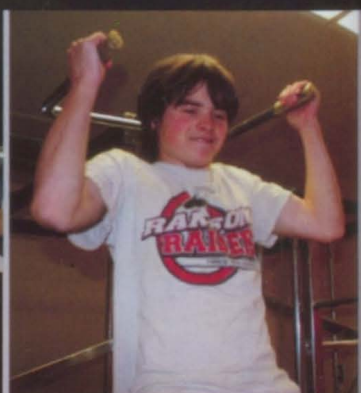
Kevin Urban<sup>'08</sup> welds on his live trap in Mr. Eldon Pfeifer's shop class. Urban<sup>'08</sup> spent most of his time in shop working on his traps to improve them and make them perfect for hunting. *photo by Amber Honas*



Pumping up the crowd, Kayla Hollern<sup>'08</sup> cheers at the Homecoming football game. "It's really fun to cheer during Homecoming because everyone is just really crazy," Hollern said. *photo by Amber Honas*



During some free time, Rachel Lantis<sup>'08</sup> colors at the MCL forensics meet in Norton. Lantis<sup>'08</sup> took home a fourth place medal for her extemporaneous speech at the meet. *photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler*



Kylor Campbell<sup>'08</sup> works on doing pull-ups during sophomore P.E. The class lifted weights for several weeks during first semester. *photo by Elexx Feyh*





**meredith keller  
jessi lacy  
rachel lantis  
vanessa north  
melissa nowlin**



**aaron pfannenstiel  
danielle pfeifer  
brian riedel  
denise totten  
tom totten**



**john tricks  
kevin urban  
lauren wheeler  
michael young**

**not pictured:  
theresa ashley  
lacy schroeder**



## **sophomores receive advice to slow down**

Without a lot of practice, the sophomores tore out of the ninth grade and rolled into another year of high school. Sophomores found getting their licenses and driving to be their main focus.

Erick Estrada<sup>08</sup> drove to school. Not only did he drive a few miles, he drove a 90 mile round trip.

"It's a 45 mile drive to school, so I get up around 5:30 and leave my house around 6 a.m.," Estrada<sup>08</sup> said. "I also spend like \$50 on gas a week

just coming to school."

Sophomores had many different reasons for driving.

"The most exciting thing about driving for me is that it gets me away from people, and I can just be with myself," Amber Ellis<sup>08</sup> said.

Kylor Campbell<sup>08</sup> liked driving for the thrill.

"I love to go driving," Campbell<sup>08</sup> said. "It gives me excitement, especially when I am speeding!"

With speeding in mind, most of the sophomores wanted

to forget those books and essays and just graduate high school.

"High school has gone so fast, I really haven't had a chance to go out and have fun," Theresa Ashley<sup>08</sup> said. "But I really can't wait 'till my senior year."

However, taking life too fast isn't always the smartest idea. So, sophomores were cautioned to slow down.

"High school is one of the easiest times we go through," Laura Redden<sup>06</sup> said. "After

we graduate, we have to deal with all the responsibilities of jobs and actually living on our own."

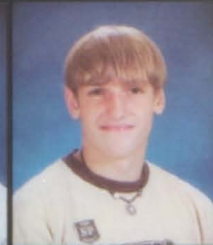
Mrs. Linda Riedel, language arts teacher, also had some guidance to give to the sophomores.

"Don't try to rush so quickly through high school," Riedel said. "Each year offers new opportunities and challenges that will help you become the person you are."





cory amrein  
adam augustine  
laura augustine  
monica befort  
andrew casey  
krista connelly



emily cox  
kassie day  
jared deutscher  
cole erbert  
ryan grogan  
scott gugler



randy hamel  
chris hazen  
aaron herl  
michael hiss  
samantha hook  
brian keller



# achieving at virtuous

## junior class faces many challenges during year

Junior class play, Prom, and ACTs. These are just a few of the activities students look forward to their junior year. Then there's chemistry; it strikes fear in the eyes of some juniors.

The junior class was never known to be afraid of anything, but when faced with the challenge of chemistry, some cringed with fear.

"I really wasn't nervous about my junior year, but when I started chemistry,

there was so much to learn and a lot of homework," Matea Lovato<sup>'07</sup>

Aaron Herl<sup>'07</sup> agreed that chemistry was stressful.

"I really liked my class schedule except for chemistry. I have never been very good at math, so it was a bit of a struggle," Herl said.

Chemistry is not all that bad, and most students found that labs are a better way to learn and make chemistry a lot more fun.

"I prefer working in the lab because it's not as boring as taking notes all hour," Megan Keller<sup>'07</sup>

Each year as a final lab for chemistry, students are split up into groups and do qualitative labs which last about nine weeks. Students are expected to identify unknown compounds given to them by Mr. David Wildeman.

"I leave the qualitative labs for my final assignment

because students have more information and knowledge," Wildeman said. "The labs are more hands-on and improve students' comprehension."

Scared or not, most students realized the importance of taking chemistry. They realized that by taking challenging classes like chemistry, the transition to college and life after high school would be that much easier.







**megan keller  
kelsy kinderknecht  
brittany kroeger  
leonard labarge  
glenn lacy  
whitney lang**

**jessie lonnberg  
matea lovato  
brett mickelson  
meggie patrick  
jaylen reed  
courtney schartz**

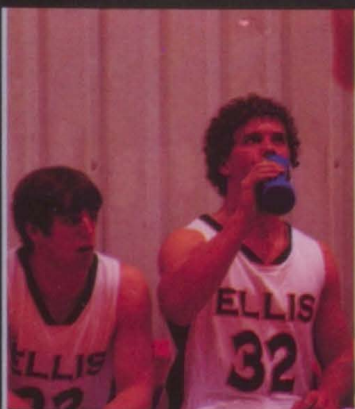
**jason schmidt  
keric smith  
stephanie spinelli  
rachel thomson  
dusty unrein  
kristen waldschmidt**

**not pictured:  
letisha elliott**

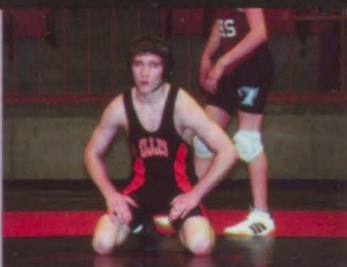
Megan Keller<sup>'07</sup> measures the solubility of a substance by heating it in chemistry. "I enjoy working on labs because they keep you more aware of what you're learning," Keller said. photo by Nicole Weigel



Throwing candy from the junior float, Matea Lovato<sup>'07</sup> and Stephanie Spinelli<sup>'07</sup> try to pump up the spectators watching the parade. The junior float won third place. photo by Smoky Hill



Drink up! Taking a break between games, Cole Erbert<sup>'07</sup> refreshes himself. Erbert started even though it was his first year. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler



After the first period of a match, Dusty Unrein<sup>'07</sup> takes a moment to rest before the ref signals and starts the next period. Unrein qualified for the 3-2-1A state tournament at Hays. He ended the season with a record of 10-10 photo by Elexx Feyh



During a home basketball game, Aaron Herl<sup>'07</sup> plays the trombone in pep band. "Playing in pep band, we get to play apart from the rest of the band," Herl said. photo by Jennifer Jacques



Performing at her best level, Meggie Patrick<sup>'07</sup> plays Lucy in the junior class play "Twin Desperados." Patrick began performing and acting while in forensics in 2004. photo by Ashley Hejny





# seniors2006

Like a band on the verge of its breakout success, the seniors of EHS were at the brink of their future. They paid their dues as the roadies (freshmen). They struggled through the year of starting their own band (sophomores). They waited in earnest while opening for the main acts

(juniors) and got a taste of stardom while headlining their own tour (seniors). The equipment was set up, the lights were burning down, and the crowd was waiting for the show to start. It was time to rock, and each senior's future was only one great hook away... *1*

Jen,  
We love you and are very proud of all your accomplishments. Continue to strive toward fulfilling all your dreams and meeting all your goals. We will support you all the way.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Joey

**jenniferaugustine**

*Jenny Augustine*



Alyson,  
You have given us so many reasons to be proud of you. Now, as you begin the next stage of your life, embrace your dreams, and they will lead you to a bright and happy future.

Love always,  
Mom, Dad,  
Preston, and Annie

**alysonbollig**

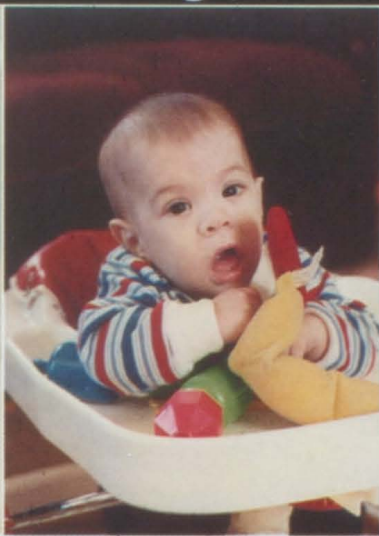
*Alyson Bollig*





Casey Cross

caseycross



Casey,  
You are a loving, caring person. You have a great personality, and you are always there to help people. You are your Grandpa Gerber's grandson, a man everyone loves. Follow your dreams. We are proud of you. We love you.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Dustin, Joshua, Grandma Gerber, and Grandma Cross

Sheila Douglas

sheiladouglas



Sheila,  
Strive to be the best, work hard at what you want, and go far.

Love,  
Dad, Matthew, Courtney, Devon, and Brody

Ellex Feyh

elexxfeyh



Lex,  
Never compromise yourself because you're all you've got. No matter what you do, have fun doing it. We're so very proud of you. Hope the world is ready for you!

Love you,  
Mom, Lyle, and Kade





## amandafischer

*Amanda Fischer*

Amanda,  
Congratulations! You can  
accomplish anything you  
set your mind to. Keep  
"thinking outside the box."  
We are proud of you and  
love you. May this next  
step in your life's journey  
be filled with everything  
you are striving for.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Sarah, Lyle,  
and Dell

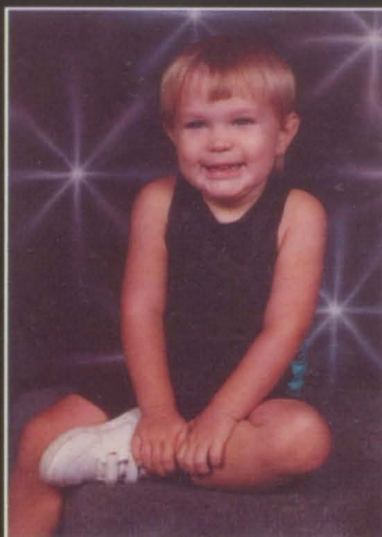


## austinfox

*Austin Fox*

Austin,  
Your shining personality  
will take you far.

We love you,  
Mom, Dad, Derek, and  
Kyle

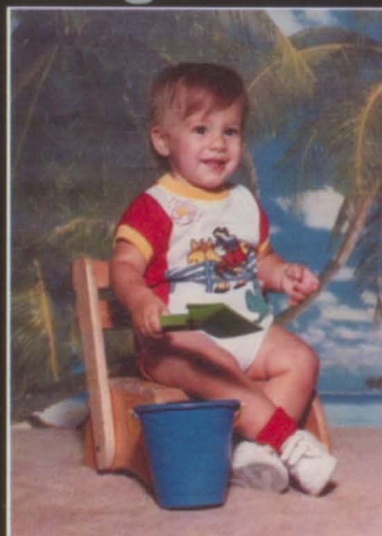


## ericgaschler

*Eric Gaschler*

Eric,  
We are very proud of you  
and your accomplish-  
ments. Best of luck in the  
future.

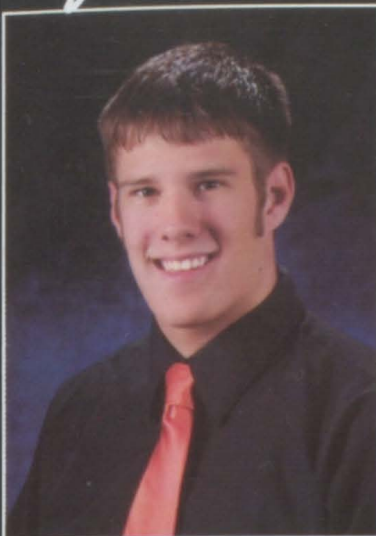
Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Lindsay





*M. J. Mignad*

**mjgnad**

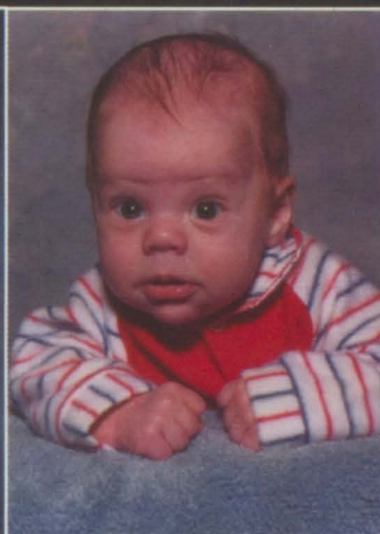
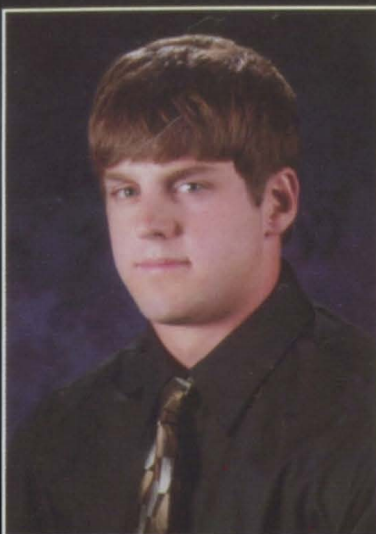


M.J.,  
You've climbed to the top.  
Now reach for the sky.  
You are a joy to all and an  
extraordinary man.

We love you,  
Mom, Justin, and Aaron

*Daren Haas*

**darenhaas**

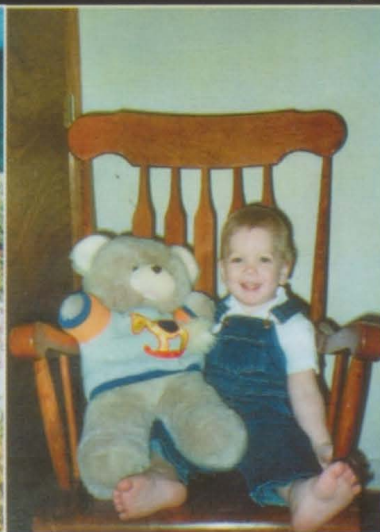
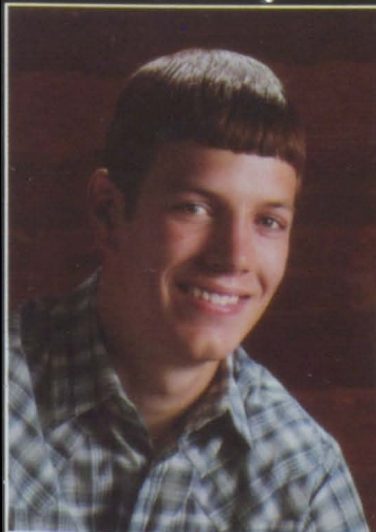


Daren,  
You have made us proud  
in so many ways. Your  
attitude, hard work, and  
determination will lead  
you to success. We love  
you and wish you a life of  
happiness.

Dad, Mom, Danny, and  
Dylan (your greatest fan)

*Slade Hackney*

**sladehackney**



Slade,  
Whatever is true, what-  
ever is honorable, what-  
ever is just, whatever is  
pure, whatever is love-  
able, whatever is kind  
and gracious, whatever is  
admirable. . .if anything is  
excellent or praiseworthy,  
think about such things.

-Phil 4:8

Love always and we're  
very proud of you,  
Mom, Kara, and Dan

**15 seniors**  
jaymi riedel





## jessicahadley

*Jessica Hadley*

Jessica,  
Congratulations! We're  
so proud of you and all  
your accomplishments.  
There's no limit with what  
you can do. You can go  
as far as your dreams will  
take you. Congratulations  
and good luck on your  
journey.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Kyle

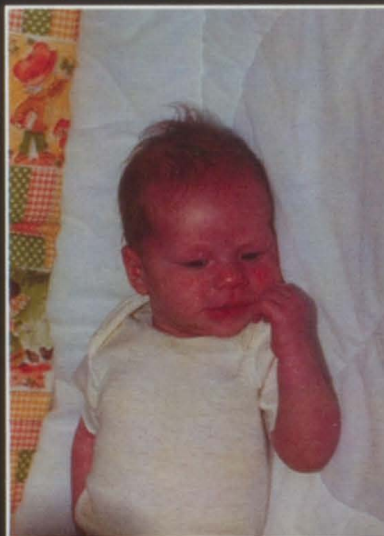


## billhankins

*Bill Hankins*

Bill,  
You have come so far in  
the last 18 years of your  
life. Remember, when  
you get knocked down,  
get right back up and  
try again. Your music will  
carry you through life. We  
are so proud of you!

Love,  
Mom, Rich, and the rest  
of the clan

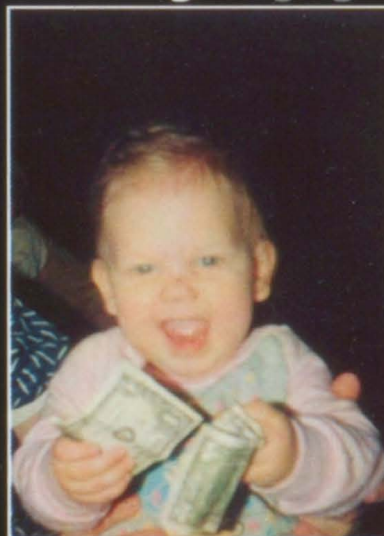


## ashleyhejny

*Ashley Hejny*

Ashley,  
Can't believe our little girl  
grew up so fast. Where  
have the years gone?  
We are so proud of you.  
Congratulations!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Jon





Amber Honas

amberhonas



Amber "Dauber",  
We will always cherish  
all of the fun memories  
we had with you in the  
past and look forward to  
those yet to come. Enjoy  
life. Keep smiling and  
good luck in everything  
you do.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Aaron, and  
Monte

Jennifer Jacques

jenniferjacques



Jennifer,  
You have made us so  
proud the last 18 years.  
With your personality,  
talent, and faith, you will  
be able to make all your  
dreams a reality.

We love you Gooksuls,  
Dad, Mom, and Kayla

Emily Keller

emilykeller



Emily,  
Best of luck in your  
future.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Laycie, and  
Katelyn



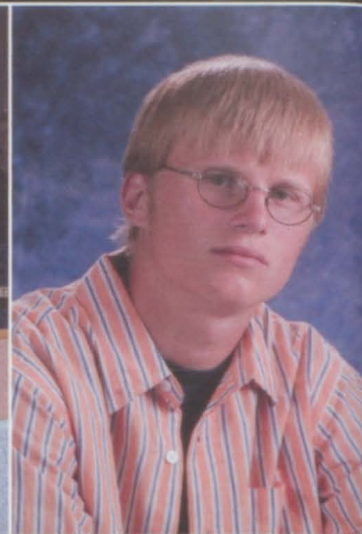


## justinlabarge

*Justin Labarge*

Justin,  
We've watched you grow  
from a baby into a young  
man. We've been through  
good times and bad times.  
You will now be entering a  
new and exciting time in  
your life. We wish you the  
best of luck.

We love you,  
Mom, Dad, Marty, Rhonda,  
Matt, Chris, Tressa, Jenny,  
and Jake



## dylanlang

*Dylan Lang*

Dylan,  
Congratulations! Work  
hard and set your goals  
high, and you can achieve  
anything. We're proud of  
you!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Brandi, and  
Whitney



## jordanmattheyer

*Jordan Mattheyer*

Jordan,  
We are blessed to have  
you as a son. You have  
many choices ahead of  
you, and we will always  
be here for you.

Love you,  
Mom, Dad, and Logan





*Austin Morton*

**austinmorton**

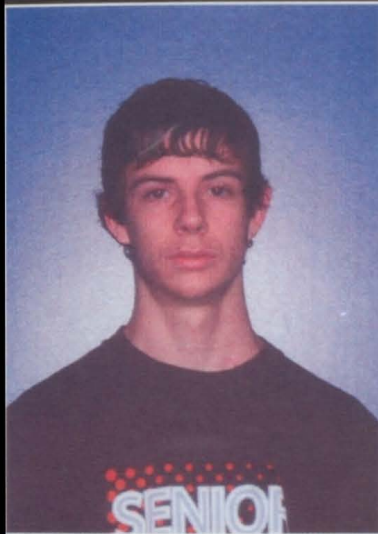


Austin,  
There is so much waiting  
for you out there in the  
"real" world... and bless-  
ings that God has in store  
that you can't even imag-  
ine yet. You know we will  
always love you!

Mom and Dad, and the  
rest of the crew

*Kevin Nowell*

**kevinnowell**



Kevin,  
Congratulations! We are  
so proud of you. We knew  
you could do it. We love  
you and wish you the best  
of luck.

*Laura Redden*

**lauraredden**



Laura Lynn,  
You've come a long way  
baby.

Love,  
Mom, Kris, and the crew





## jaymiriedel

Jaymi Bredel

Jaymi,  
The truth of the matter is  
that you always know the  
right thing to do. The hard  
part is doing it. Thanks for  
the memories. We love  
you.

Best of Luck!  
Mom, Dad, and Jessi



## kelsischoenthaler

Kelsi Schoenthaler

Angelfood cake for your  
birthdays . . . \$711.29  
Country cruisin' with the  
cousins . . . \$92.80 Get-  
ting you ready for cheer  
camp . . . \$511.54 Assum-  
ing parental custody. .  
. \$1209.52 Seeing you  
graduate from high school  
. . . PRICELESS

Love,  
Mom, Dad, John and  
Brad



## heatherschuster

Heather Schuster

Heather,  
Strive to do your best in  
life and always be proud  
of who you are, and you  
will succeed in all you do.  
We are proud of you.

Love,  
Dad, Mom, and Ashley



Don't tell me the sky's the limit. There's footprints on the moon. - David and Karla Schuster



*Kyle Urban*

**kyleurban**

Kyle,  
We are proud of you and  
all you've accomplished.  
We wish you all the best in  
your life, and the future is  
yours so give it your best  
shot.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Clint, and  
Kevin

*Kristen Weber*

**kristenweber**

Kristen,  
Way to go! You have  
accomplished so much,  
and we are proud of you.  
We love you and wish you  
success and happiness in  
everything you do.

Love,  
Dad, Mom, Megan,  
Heather, Danielle, and  
Kaleigh

*Cole Weigel*

**coleweigel**

Cole,  
As you start thinking about  
your future, remember  
your hopes and dreams:  
achieve them and never  
let anyone stand in your  
way. Remember, keep  
looking forward and don't  
look back.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Nikki



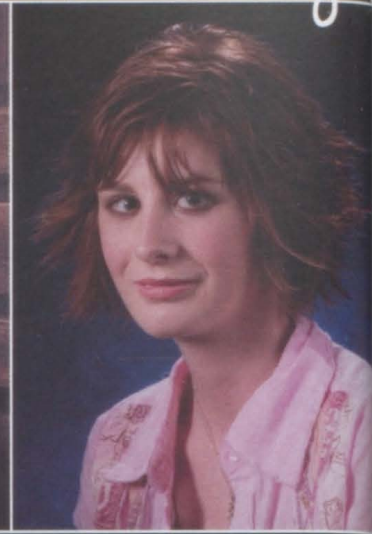
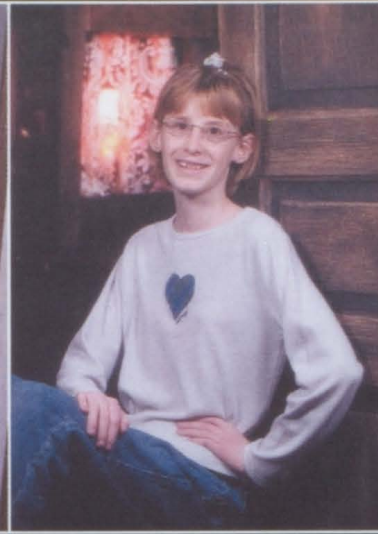


## nicoleweigel

Nicole Weigel

Nicole,  
As you enter into a new part of life, may your dreams bring you joy, happiness, peace, and love. As your name means Victorious, may each step you take into your future be just that...

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Linda, and Cole

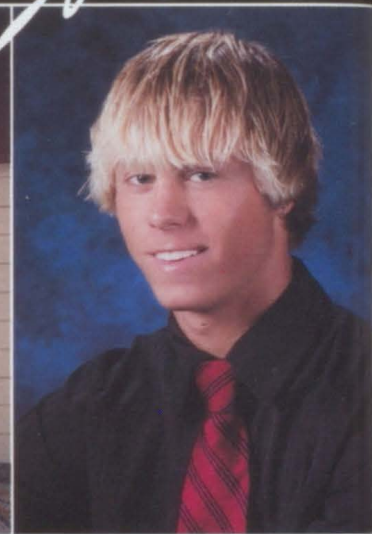


## rowdywichman

Rowdy Wichman

Rowdy,  
We are so proud of you and know you are ready for whatever life brings. Be true to yourself, help the less fortunate and always know how very much we love you.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Woody, and Rocko

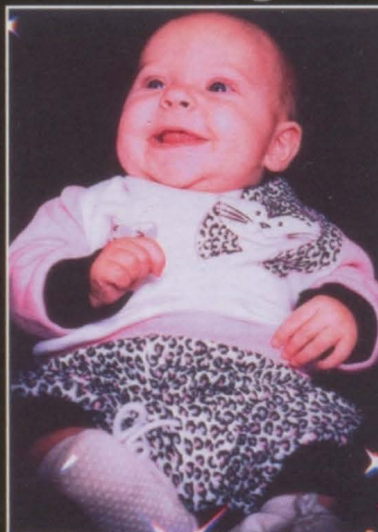


## amandayanda

Amanda Yanda

Amanda,  
You have made us so proud. Keep up the good work, and you can be anything you want to be.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Jessica, Jon, Dean, Grandma, and Uncle Bern





Katie Zahn

kathrynzahn

Katie,  
We are so proud of our  
Peg Leg. May you jump  
your way to your dreams.  
We love you.

Mom, Dad, Max, and  
Eric



Ashley Hupka

ashleyhupka

Congratulations, Ashley!



## homecoming2005

Front Row: Elexx Feyh, Amber Honas; Row 2: Sheila Douglas, Ashley Hupka, Ashley Henjy, Jaymi Riedel, Kelsi Shoenthaler, Amanda Yanda, Emily Keller, Jessica Hadley, Barbora Kalistova; Row 3: Katie Zahn, Kyle Urban, Casey Cross, Rowdy Wichman, Nicole Weigel, Jennifer Jacques, Amanda Fischer, Kristen Weber, Jennifer Augustine, Alyson Bollig, Heather Schuster, Camilla Cover, Laura Redden; Row 4: Austin Fox, Codey Carlisle, Kevin Nowell, Austin Morton, Cole Weigel, Bill Hankins, Daren Haas, Dylan Lang, Justin LaBarge, Slade Hackney, M.J. Gnad, Jordan Mattheyer, Eric Gaschler





# makin' count

Strive not to be equal, but to excel

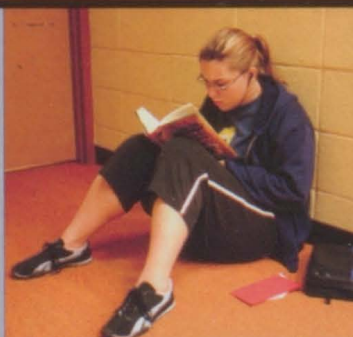
1. Bill Hankins plays guitar at the pregame of the girls varsity basketball game. Since the band did not play for pregame, Ryan Grogan<sup>07</sup>, Michael Young<sup>08</sup>, and Hankins played to pump up the girls. *photo by Elexx Feyh*

2. Dribbling down the court, Dylan Lang plays in his last Castle Rock Classic Tournament. The boys placed 4th in the tournament. *photo by Jennifer Jacques*

3. Before the Phillipsburg basketball game, Kelsi Schoenthaler and Jaymi Riedel get ready to cheer. "Cheerleading was my favorite thing during high school. I loved performing and cheering for fellow classmates," said Schoenthaler. *photo by Amber Honas*



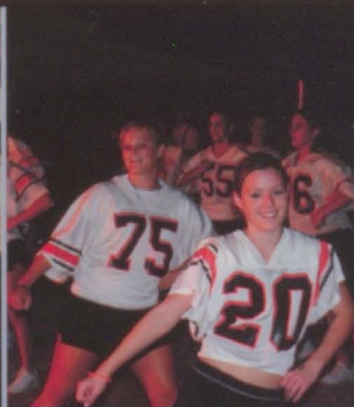
Sheila Douglas, carving a pumpkin, works on an idea for an activity in Mrs. Sharla Albers' class. "In family life, we learned how to do activities that involved our whole family." *photo by Ashley Hejny*



Laura Redden takes a break from choir to listen to her own music while she reads at the same time. Choir received free days in order for Railarries to practice during class time. *photo by Jaymi Riedel*



Jessica Hadley works on her math assignment. Hadley was enrolled in college algebra, receiving 3 credit hours for taking the class. *photo by Elexx Feyh*



Kelsi Schoenthaler and Emily Keller perform a dance at the Homecoming bonfire. Schoenthaler was named captain and Keller co-captain. *photo by Amber Honas*





1. Slade Hackney runs down his opponent in the Trego-Ellis match up. photo by Smoky Hill Photography 2. Cheering for the class, a group of senior boys participate in class competition during a pep rally. photo by Elexx Feyh 3. Amber Honas passes out balloons during the downtown Homecoming pep rally. photo by Sheila Douglas 4. Playing pep band, Jennifer Augustine plays the fight song for the cheerleaders during the pep rally. photo by Elexx Feyh 5. Amanda Yanda and Amanda Fischer cook in Mrs. Sharla Albers' class. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler 6. Offering kisses, Casey Cross wears his costume for Homecoming competition. photo by Cindy Hertel

1



2



6



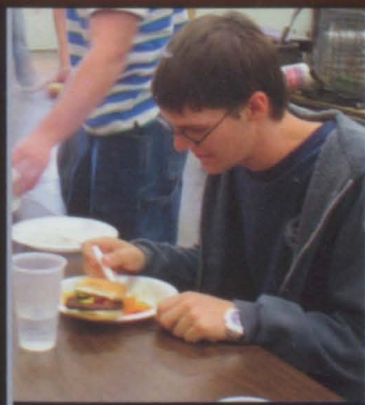
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4



3



Cole Weigel eats a hamburger during the FFA Barbecue. The barbecue was held to recruit new members and start the year. photo by Nicole Weigel



Running to the sideline, Austin Fox returns after completing a play. This was the first season Fox played football. photo by Jennifer Jacques



Rolling along, Jordan Mattheyer, rides a scooter during GPD. "GPD really helps me find my limits. It pushes me to strive for the best," said Mattheyer photo by Jaymi Riedel



Showing pride, M.J. Gnad wears his EHS cowboy hat. Eventually, Gnad painted the hat orange to go with school colors. photo by Alyson Bollig



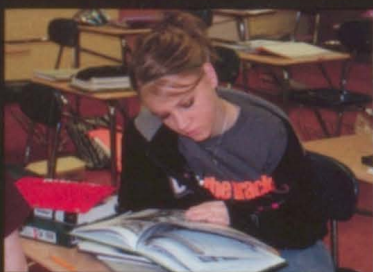
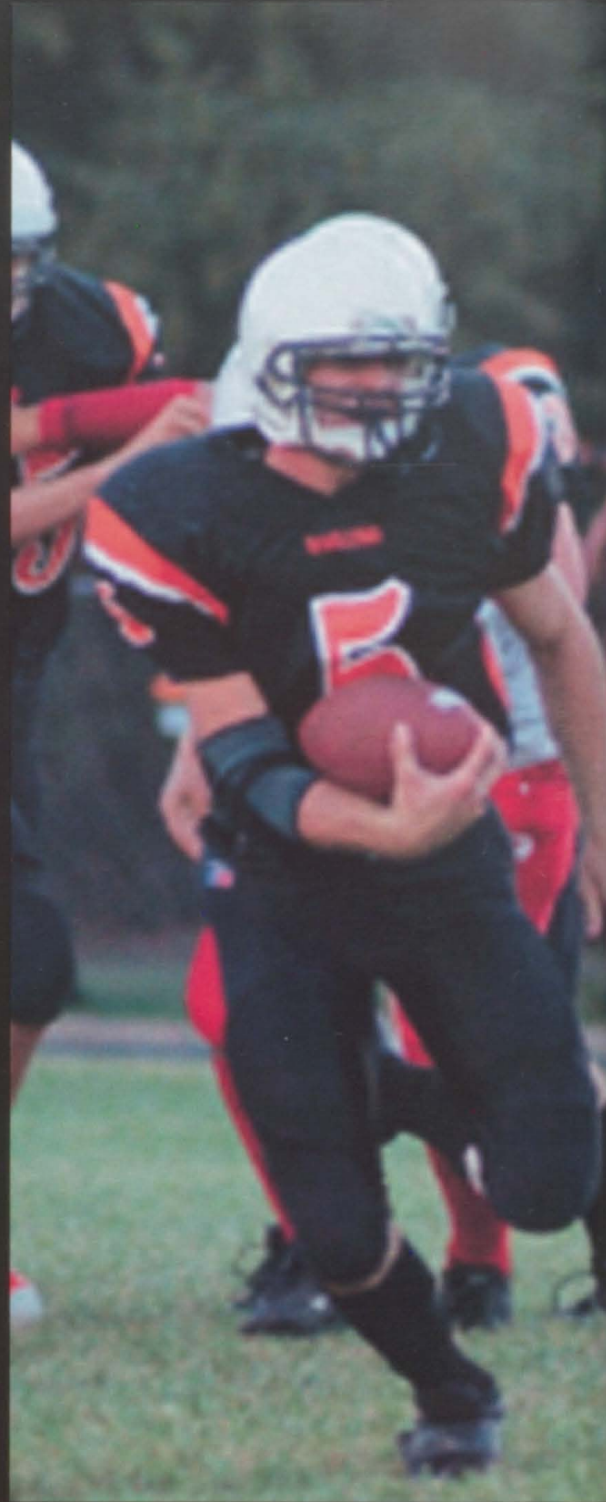
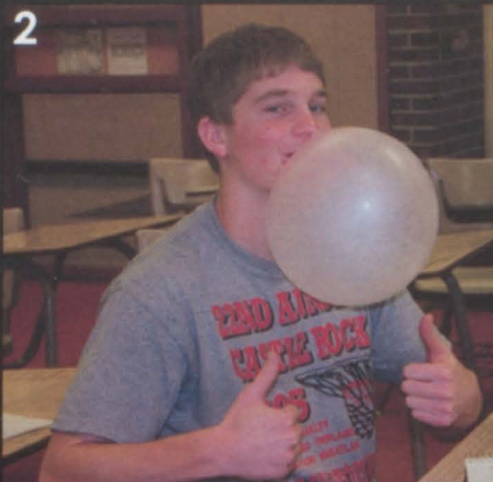


1. Searching for an opening, Daren Haas runs toward the end zone. Haas was selected as second-team running back and second-team line backer for the 2A all-state team. *photo by Smoky Hill Photography*

2. Dylan Lang shows his bubble gum blowing talent in calculus. Only four students were enrolled in the class, so they found interesting ways to pass time. *photo by Elexx Feyh*

3. Elexx Feyh holds Jennifer Jacques up at the Homecoming bonfire. The bonfire was held the night before the football game for the entire community. *photo by Amber Honas*

4. Watching the cheerleaders dance, Kevin Nowell, Austin Morton, and Kyle Urban attend the pep rally before the basketball league tournament. "We had a lot more pep rallies this year, and they were pretty awesome," Urban said. *photo by Elexx Feyh*



During journalism, Ashley Hejny looks for inspiration for her section in the year book. "Journalism is a lot of work, but we have fun while we are working on our layouts," Hejny said. *photo by Cindy Hertel*



Slade Hackney wrestles with Rowdy Wichman before a dual at Osborne. Hackney and Wichman both went 2-0 at the dual. *photo by Elexx Feyh*



Katie Zahn practices her volleyball skills during a free day in GPD. The GPD students occasionally got days set aside for games rather than weightlifting. *photo by Jaymi Riedel*

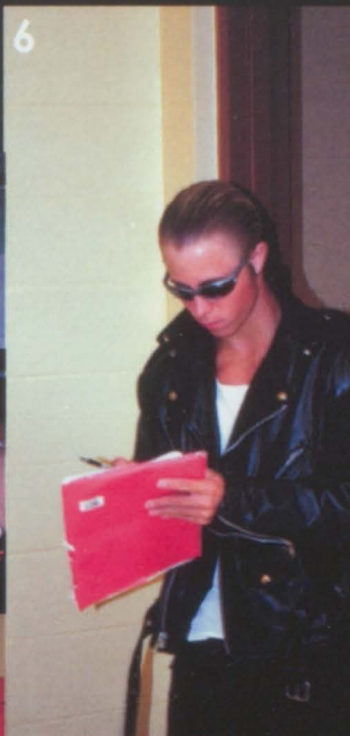


Expressing his hippie roots during Homecoming, Justin LaBarge gets his books before class. *photo by Cindy Hertel*





1. Nicole Weigel and Heather Schuster look for headlines in journalism. *photo by Elexx Feyh* 2. Waiting for a customer, Alyson Bollig works as cashier at Rich's IGA. *photo by Elexx Feyh* 3. Kristen Weber practices her speech at the MCL Forensics tournament. *photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler* 4. Participating in Homecoming, Austin Morton dresses up for "Retro Day." *photo by Cindy Hertel* 5. A group of senior girls rides home after a volleyball game. *photo by Heather Schuster* 6. Stuco President Rowdy Wichman tallies students dressed up during "Retro Day." *photo by Cindy Hertel*



President Heather Schuster gives an opening speech before NHS installment. *photo by Sheila Douglas*



Surfing the internet, Ashley Hupka tries to find information for her research paper at the FHSU Forsyth Library. "The term paper was extremely stressful," Hupka said. *photo by Ashley Hejny*



Eric Gaschler runs the ball. Gaschler was named MCL second-team defensive back and honorable mention running back. *photo by Smoky Hill Photography*



Mingling in the hallway, Alyson Bollig serves as a food vendor for Amanda Fischer, Jennifer Jacques, and Kristen Weber. *photo by Jaymi Riedel*







**jenniferaugustine** All A Honor Roll 1,2,4; Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; National Honor Society 4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 3,4; Math Relays 1,2,3,4; Journalism 4; State Journalism Qualifier 4; Regional Solo 1,2,3,4; Regional Small Ensemble 1,2,3,4; FCCLA 1,2,3,4; Forensics 1,2; Jr. Class Play 3; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Choir 1,2,3,4; Railairres 1,2,3,4; Band 1,2,3,4; SADD 3,4; Snoball Royalty 4



**alysonbollig** All A Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; National Honor Society 4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 3,4; Journalism 4; State Journalism Qualifier 4; Jr. Class Play 3; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Choir 1,2; Band 1,2; Math Relays 1,2,3,4; SADD 3,4; SADD President 4; Snoball Royalty 3,4



**caseycross** - Web Page 2; Wrestling 1; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; FFA Stuco Rep 3; Stuco 1,2,3; Class President 2



**sheiladouglas** Journalism 1,3,4; Volleyball 1; FCCLA Member 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play 3; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Choir 1,2,3



**elexxfeyh** All A Honor Roll 1,4; Honor Roll 2,3,4; National Society of High School Scholars 4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 3,4; Journalism 4; Journalism Section Manager 4; State Journalism Qualifier 4; Web Page 3,4; State Wrestling Web Team 3,4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3; Track 1; Wrestling Manager 4; Jr. Class Play 3; Stuco Class Rep 1; Stuco Secretary 3; Stuco Vice President 4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Kayette Board Member 4; Class Vice President 1,2,3,4; Prom Server 2; Math Relays 3; Homecoming Royalty 4



**amandafischer** Who's Who Among American High School Students 4; Journalism 3; Journalism Treasurer 3; Volleyball 1,2,3; Basketball 1; Forensics 1,2,3; Forensics State Festival 1; Jr. Class Play 3; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; SADD 4



**austinfox** Football 4; Cross Country 1; Basketball 3,4; Track 1; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play 3



**ericgaschler** Football 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Golf 1,2,3,4; All League Running Back Honorable Mention 3; All League 2nd Team Football Defensive Back 4; Honorable Mention Running Back 4; FFA Member 1,2,3; FCCLA Member 4; Jr. Class Play 3; Prom Server 2; Homecoming Royalty 4



**mjgnad** Perfect Attendance 3; Cross Country 1; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Golf 2; Track 1; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; FFA Reporter 3; FFA Sentinel 4; Jr. Class Play 3; Prom Server 2; Snoball Royalty 1,4



**darenhaas** Honor Roll 1,2; Football 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Track 1,2,4; MCL Honorable Mention Defensive Back 2; MCL 2nd Team Football Running Back, and Linebacker 4; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play 3; Prom Server 2; Homecoming Royalty 4



**sladehackney** Honor Roll 1,2; Who's Who Among American High School Students 4; Football 2,3,4; Cross Country 1; Track 1,2,3,4; Wrestling 1,4; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play 3; Snoball Royalty 2; Jr. Class Play 3; Prom Server 2; Homecoming Royalty 4



**jessicahadley** All A Honor Roll 2,3,4; Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; National Honor Society 3,4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 2,3,4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2; Track Manager 1,2,3; FCCLA Member 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Historian 4; FCCLA 3; Treasurer 2; Forensics 1,2,3,4; Forensics Informative League Placer 3; Forensics Dramatic Solo League Placer 3; Jr. Class Play 3; Stuco 4; Stuco At-Large 4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Kayette Secretary 3; Kayette Vice-President 4; Kayette Board Member 2,3,4; Choir 1,2,3,4; Band 1,2,3,4 Snoball Royalty 2; SADD 1,2,3,4; SADD Vice President 3,4



**billhankins** FCCLA Member 1,2,3,4; Forensics 4; Jr. Class Play 3; Choir 1,2,3,4; Band 1,2,3,4; Railairres 1,2,3,4; SADD 1,2,3,4



**ashleyhejny** Honor Roll 4; Journalism 4; State Journalism Qualifier 4; Web Page 2,3; Volleyball 1,2; Basketball 1; Track 1,2,3; FCCLA Member 3,4; Forensics 3; Jr. Class Play 3; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; SADD 1,2,3



**amberhonas** Who's Who Among American High School Students 3,4; Journalism 4; State Journalism Qualifier 4; Web Page 3,4; Web Page Runner Up in Cowley County Web Design Contest 3; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2; Track 1,2,3,4; Forensics 1; Forensics State Festival 1; Jr. Class Play 3; Cheerleading 2,3,4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Choir 1; Band 1; Snoball Royalty 4; Snoball Queen 4



**ashleyhupka** Honor Roll 4; Choir 4



**jenniferjacques** All A Honor Roll 3,4; Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; National Honor Society 4; Who's Who Among School Students 3,4; Journalism 4; Journalism Section Editor 4; State Journalism Qualifier 4; Webpage 3,4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Golf 3,4; Basketball Honorable Mention 2; FFA Member 4; Forensics 3; Jr. Class Play 3; Stuco 1,2,3,4; Stuco Secretary 4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Class President 1,3,4; Class Treasurer 2; Choir 1,2; Railairres 1,2; Prom Server 2; Math Relays 1,2,3; Homecoming Queen 4; State Wrestling Web Team 4







**emilykeller** Honor Roll 2,3,4; Perfect Attendance 1,2; Who's Who Among American High School Students 4; Volleyball 1,2,3; Jr. Class Play 3; Cheerleading 1,2,3,4; Flag Team 1,2,3,4; Cheerleading Co-Captain 4; Flag Team Captain 4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Choir 2,3,4; Band 1,2,3,4; Prom Server 2; SADD 1,2,3,4



**justinlabarge** Football 1,2,3,4; Track 1; Wrestling 1,2,3,4; State Wrestling 3,4; Football All-State 2nd Team Defensive End, 2nd Team Defensive Tight End 4; MCL Wrestling 4th Place 3; MCL Wrestling 2nd Place 4; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Member 4; Forensics 4; Jr. Class Play 3; Snoball Royalty 3



**dylanlang** Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Journalism 2; Webpage 3; Football 2,3,4; MCL Football 2nd Team Wide Receiver 3; Cross Country 1; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Track 1,4; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play 3; Prom Server 2

**jordanmattheyer** Cross Country 1; Basketball 1,2,4; Golf 3; Track 1; FFA Member 1,2,3,4



**austinmorton** Golf 2,3,4; Wrestling 1,2,3,4; FFA Member 4; Jr. Class Play 3; Choir 1, Railairres 1; Snoball Royalty 3

**kevinnowell** Golf 3; FFA Member 1,2,3



**lauraredden** Perfect Attendance 2; Volleyball 1,3; Track 1,2,4; MCL Forensics 2nd place 2; State Forensics 6th place 2; Forensics 2,3,4; Jr. Class Play 3; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Choir 1,2,3,4; Railairres 2,3



**jaymiriedel** Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Perfect Attendance 1; Who's Who Among American High School Students 3,4; Journalism 4; State Journalism Qualifier 4; Webpage 4; State Wrestling Web Team 4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Golf 3,4; Track 1,2; FCCLA 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Vice President 4; FCCLA Secretary 3; Forensics 1; Jr. Class Play 3; Cheerleading 1,3,4; Flag Team 3,4; Stuco 2,3,4; Stuco At-Large 3; Stuco Secretary 2; Stuco Treasurer 4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Kayette Treasurer 3; Kayette Board Member 3,4; Choir 1,2,3,4; Railairres 2; Band 1,2,3,4



**kelsischoenthaler** National Honor Society 4; All A Honor Roll 3; Honor Roll 1,2,4; Journalism 4; Journalism Section Manager 4; Web Page 2,4; Volleyball 1,2,3; Cross Country 4; Basketball 1,2; Track 1,2,3,4; Forensics 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play 3; Cheerleading 1,2,3,4; Cheerleading Captain 4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Kayette Board Member 2,3,4; Prom Server 2; Math Relays 3; Snoball Royalty 2; State Journalism Qualifier 4; State Wrestling Web Team 4



**heatherschuster** National Honor Society 3,4; National Honor Society President 4; Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Girls State 3; Who's Who Among American High School Students 1,2,3,4; Journalism 4; Volleyball Manager 2,3,4; Volleyball 1; Basketball 1,2,3; Track Manager 2,3,4; FCCLA Member 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Treasurer 3,4; Forensics 1,2; Jr. Class Play 3; Stuco 4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Kayette Board Member 4; Choir 1,2,3,4; Band 1,2,3; Snoball Royalty 1,3; SADD 1,2,3,4; SADD Treasurer 2; SADD STUCO Rep 3,4; State Journalism Qualifier 4



**kyleurban** Basketball 1,2,3,4; Golf 2,3; Track 1; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; Prom Server 2; Snoball Royalty 2



**kristenweber** National Honor Society 3,4; Honor Roll 1,2,3; Who's Who Among American High School Students 4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Forensics 1,2,3,4; MCL Forensics Placer 1,2,3,4; State Forensics Placer 6th IDA 3; Informative & IDA 2; Informative 1; Jr. Class Play 3; STUCO 3,4; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Kayette Officer 4; Kayette Board Member 3,4; Class Secretary 1; Class Treasurer and STUCO Rep 3, Class Secretary and Stuco Rep 4; Choir 1,2,3,4; Railairres 2,4; Band 1,2,3; Prom Server 2; Homecoming Royalty 4; Snoball Royalty 1; SADD 2,3,4; SADD Secretary 3,4



**coleweigel** Perfect Attendance 3; Track 1,2,3; FFA Member 1,2,3,4; Snoball Royalty 1,2



**nicoleweigel** Journalism 4; Track 1,2,3; FFA Member 2,3,4; FFA Secretary 3; FFA Vice President 4; FCCLA Member 1; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Snoball Royalty 3; State Journalism Qualifier 4



**rowdywichman** National Honor Society 4; All A Honor Roll 1; Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Perfect Attendance 1; Boys State 4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 4; Journalism 2,4; Journalism Editor 4; Webpage 2,3,4; State Wrestling Web Team 2,3,4; Webpage 3rd Place in Cowley College Design Contest 3; Cross Country 1; Basketball 1,2; Golf 1,2,3,4; Wrestling 3,4; Forensics 2; Jr. Class Play 3; Stuco 2,3,4; Stuco President 4; Class Stuco Rep 2,3; Prom Server 2; Math Relays 1,2,3,4; Homecoming Royalty 4; State Journalism Qualifier 2,4



**amandayanda** Honor Roll 4; Perfect Attendance 3; Volleyball Manager 1; Cross Country 4; Track 1; Wrestling Manager 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Member 4; Jr. Class Play 3; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Kayette Points Chairman 4; Kayette Board Member 3,4; Class Treasurer 1,4; Class Secretary 2,3; Prom Server 2; Snoball Royalty 1,2; Student Forum 3



**katiezahn** Journalism 3; Volleyball 2,3; Track 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play 3; Kayettes 1,2,3,4; Choir 4





sharla albers  
brandon armbruster  
kerry bittel  
joy chretien  
troy dale  
renetta dawson



casey dinkel  
steve erbert  
sherri faulkender  
stan faulkender  
jacqueline grogan  
kyle hayden



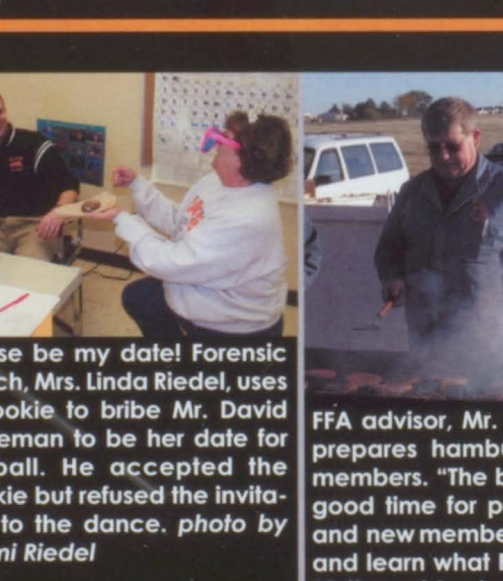
butch hayes  
randy herman  
janetta heronome  
cindy hertel  
gwen honas  
june howard



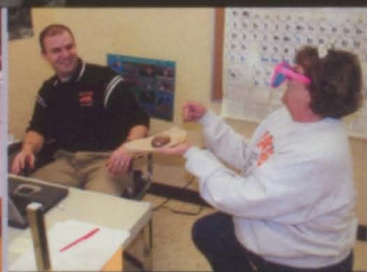
Mr. Butch Hayes, EHS math teacher, watches his 5-year-old son Mac put a puzzle together at his daycare. He picked his son up five times a week, and once they got home, they would play catch or basketball. photo by Jennifer Jacques



Leaving already? Mr. David Wildeman, EHS science teacher, carries his son Jaryn to the vehicle. "I probably spend two to four hours a night with my son reading or playing games," Wildeman said. photo by Jennifer Jacques



Mr. Randy Herman, EHS janitor, replaces a light bulb in the exit sign. Herman has been a janitor for two years. photo by Jennifer Jacques



Please be my date! Forensic coach, Mrs. Linda Riedel, uses a cookie to bribe Mr. David Wildeman to be her date for Snoball. He accepted the cookie but refused the invitation to the dance. photo by Jaymi Riedel



FFA advisor, Mr. Eldon Pfeifer, prepares hamburgers for 45 members. "The barbecue is a good time for past members and new members to have fun and learn what FFA is about," Pfeifer said. photo by Nicole Weigel



"There are more interruptions at this job than my last job at the district office," EHS secretary Mrs. Connie Waldschmidt said. photo by Jennifer Jacques





**jeff kohl**  
**melissa lewis**  
**don long**  
**karen madorin**  
**perry mick**  
**mary parke**



**eldon pfeifer**  
**linda riedel**  
**chris rorabaugh**  
**barb rupp**  
**randy sauer**  
**art schoenthaler**



**charlie waldschmidt**  
**connie waldschmidt**  
**bernard white**  
**david wildeman**  
**jack wolf**  
**bob young**



**terry zerfas**



# balancing it all

**finding time to make everything fit**

Being a teacher means working with kids all day, but what about their own kids at home? Many EHS teachers not only had to get themselves ready for school every day, but they had to get their kids ready as well. Teachers' main priority at school was preparing their students for the future, but they also had to get their own kids ready for the real world...and the day.

It took social science teacher Jeff Kohl 30-45 minutes to get his 1-year-old

daughter MaKenna ready in the morning.

During this time, he picked out her clothes, dressed her, and fed her before he left for work.

Having kids is a lot of work, but when you add a full-time job that requires working after-hours, schedules can become pretty hectic.

"My wife and I often have to work our schedules around our daughter's eating and nap times," Kohl said.

With these busy agendas,

teachers often find it hard to spend a lot of time with their kids every day.

"Sometimes my evenings are very busy, and I'm not able to give my kids as much attention as I should," Mick said.

Even with the daily hassles of getting kids ready, there is always one great benefit for teachers with kids: Once summer comes around, sunshine melts the thick ice of the job, and teachers are able to spend more time with

their kids.

Mick got more involved with his kids during the summer by coaching his kids' baseball and basketball teams.

"The time I get to spend with my kids during the summer is so valuable that I would never chose to do anything else for a living," Mick said.





# behind the scenes





Your **time** at school is **like** a whirl-  
**wind** - a **speeding** blur of hallway-  
**convos** in between **classes**, of  
**late** nights **on** the bus **coming** home-  
from **games**, of **preparing** for **Prom**  
and dancing the night **away**.

This is what everyone initially remembers about life at EHS. It seems to stick out and demand to be remembered.

But when you take away all the excess and "fun" time, you actually learned at school. You went to classes, you took notes, studied for tests. This all took place, though it wasn't always the most memorable.

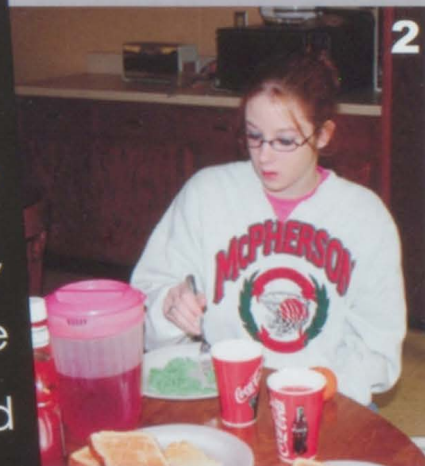
School is like a sold out rock concert where everyone remembers the loud music, the flashing lights, and the performing band, but doesn't even notice all the people who worked behind in the background to make it a success.

Academics may not have been the rock concert you wanted it to be, but without out them, you would have been left without a ticket to your next big show: your life. At EHS, this is what happened **behind the scenes.**

1. Rachel Thomson<sup>07</sup> and Stephanie Spinelli<sup>07</sup> search for information about titrations on a school laptop. The juniors studied titrations in chemistry. photo by Nicole Weigel

2. While in an Albers class, Ashley Hupka<sup>07</sup> eats eggs made by the students. The eggs were colored green in celebration of St. Patrick's Day. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler

3. Amanda Fischer<sup>07</sup> grabs a book from her locker. Classes ran 51 minutes with 3 minutes between them. photo by Jennifer Jacques





# in the classroom

## laptops change ways of learning

"May I go get a laptop?" is a sentence that teachers and students had not heard before. But it became more common when the school district purchased 145 laptops for students and teachers to use.

The introduction of laptops led to improvements for the school day. One improvement was that the students were more motivated to do their work since they were able to work at their own desk. Another improvement was that students were apt to work harder.

Mr. Butch Hayes, math teacher, said that the laptops made a difference in the way lessons were taught.

"I think it allows a different avenue in teaching and learning," Hayes said.

Although most teachers and students said that the laptops were helpful and handy to use, they caused some complications.

One major complication was that there were not enough laptops in the school for each student to use. Since there weren't enough laptops for each student, scheduling

conflicts sometimes arose.

The laptops were used in various classes. Students in math classes used Green Globes to learn how to graph equations, and students in calculus used Derive 5 to integrate equations. The laptops were also used for research in Mr. Kohl's classes.

Sammy Hook<sup>07</sup> thought the laptops were a great addition and were convenient to use in the classrooms.

"You're able to do other homework when your work for the class you are in was

finished," Hook said.

Students and teachers alike felt that it would be a lot easier if teachers had their own cart of laptops in the room to eliminate the conflicting schedules between teachers.

The laptops were not temporary. Over time, the district planned to replace most of the desktop computers with laptops.

Teachers will, no doubt, get used to the saying "May I go get a laptop?"

1. Doing a leg workout in freshman P.E., Jake Reilly<sup>09</sup> uses the weights down in the locker room. "I like to have a lifting section in my freshman P.E. class because I can teach the students what they need to know about impor" said teacher Mr. Don Long. *photo by Jaymi Riedel*

2. Highlighting information, Justin LaBarge<sup>06</sup> works in English IV on his term paper. Each senior had to finish a term paper to graduate. *photo by Amber Honas*

3. Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup> looks up information about government budget cut on a laptop in government class. "Laptops were very helpful when you were in a class that didn't have computers," said Riedel. *photo by Ashley Hejny*

4. Advanced composition students, Amber Honas<sup>06</sup>, Daren Haas<sup>06</sup>, Ellex Feyh<sup>06</sup>, and Kyle Urban<sup>06</sup> work in a group on their practice term paper. The paper helped students get an idea about how to write the actual term paper. *photo by Cindy Hertel*



# quickstats

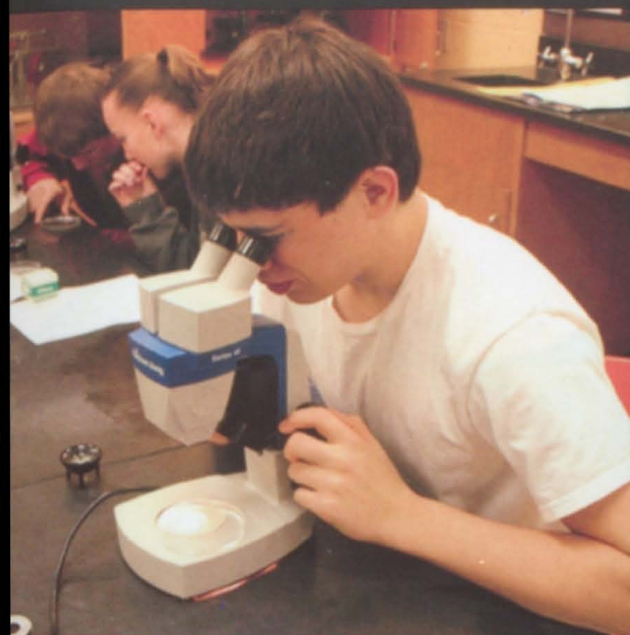
the school has **9.5** required courses

ehs graduation requires **24** credits



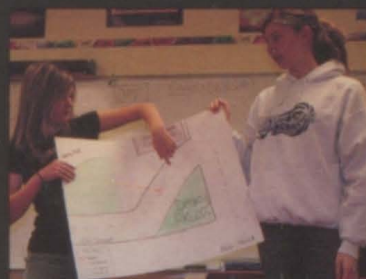
requires **34**  
ashley hejny





Looking through the microscope, John Tricks<sup>'08</sup> works in biology on an activity. "I don't like book work so doing activities get me motivated," Tricks said. photo by Jaymi Riedel

For their presentation, Brittany Kroger<sup>'07</sup> and Laura Augustine<sup>'07</sup> talk about the poster they made on JFK for their American history class. photo by Amber Honas



# shout out

kendramickelson'07



"Speech is a good required class since you get to use your imagination and have fun. Not every day you get to climb a mountain." photo by Heather Schuster



Kassie Day<sup>'07</sup> putts for a prize in English III. When students answered review questions correctly, they received a ticket to be in the weekly drawing. The student whose ticket was drawn had a chance to choose a prize. photo by Cindy Hertel.

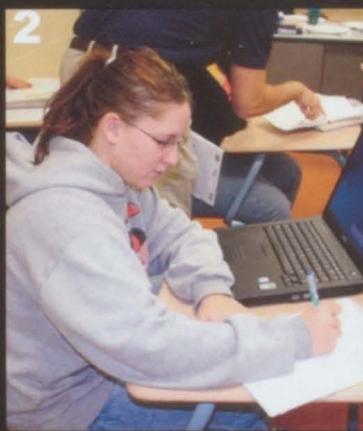
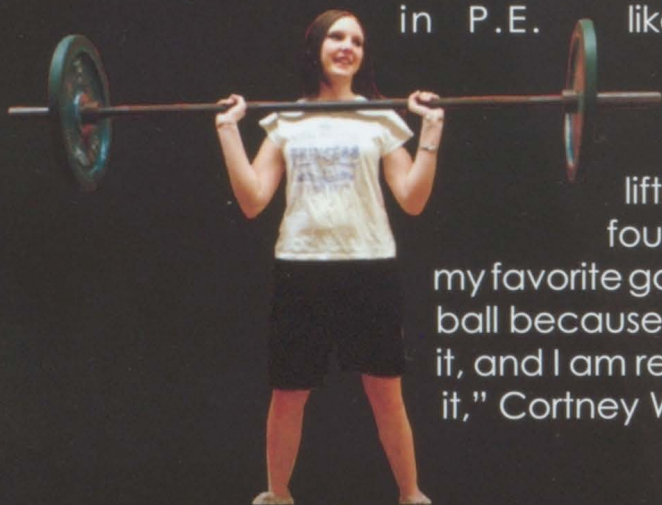
mr. kohl assigned **240** graphic organizers  
**134** students enrolled at ellis high





# inte

"We played a lot of fun games in P.E. like racket ball, dodgeball, tennis, golf, and lifted weights. I found out that my favorite game is racket ball because I like to play it, and I am really good at it," Cortney Wright '09

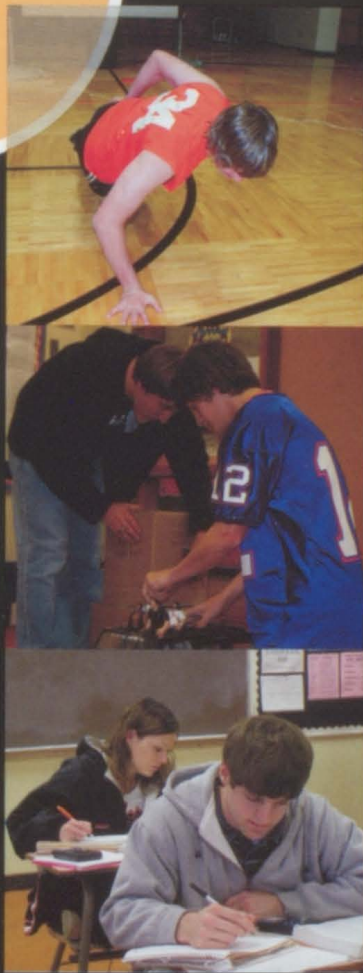


1. While watching "Lord of the Flies" in advanced comp, seniors kick back and relax on the couch. 2. Amber Honas '06 concentrates on writing her own bill in government. 3. Logan Bittel '09 blocks the sun from his eyes while he waits to see where his ball will land in P.E. 4. Sarah Fischer '09 lifts weights during freshman P.E. photos by Cindy Hertel, Jaymi Riedel, and Heather Schuster





# Journal



While completing part of his finals in P.E., Kyle Hadley<sup>09</sup> does a one handed pushup. Freshmen complete fitness tests for their final. *by Heather Schuster*

Scott Gugler<sup>07</sup> and Chris Hazen<sup>07</sup> reenact the shooting of President Kennedy in history class. "Reenacting the shooting of President Kennedy was really fun even though it took us about a day to do it." *photo by Jaymi Riedel.*

Emily Keller<sup>06</sup> and Daren Haas<sup>06</sup> complete their math assignments in advanced math. Students earned three college credit hours through Fort Hays State University if they chose to pay for the class. *photo by Elexx Feyh.*

"I love speech because Mrs. Riedel is really funny and makes the class exciting," Rachael Hamel'09





# student driven

students reach out with their electives

"Keep working hard, and your dreams will come true!" That's what most teachers strive to drill into their students, but sometimes students tend to focus on other activities besides school.

The EHS staff worked hard to provide a good education for the high school students by incorporating creative activity with their teaching to make school an exciting and memorable experience.

Jacqueline Grogan, EHS foreign language instructor, said, "I try to make my classes fun and interesting."

Michael Hiss<sup>'07</sup> reflected on the art class's trip to Logan, Kansas, where the students viewed different types of art.

"The trip was probably the most exciting thing we did all year," Hiss said. "We got to experience other people's artwork."

Grogan truly believed that kids would get a better taste of the subject they took if they enjoyed the content.

"I often give students the opportunity to make suggestions on what they would like to learn," Grogan said.

"It's easier for students to stay focused when they like what they are learning."

Students often times like to follow their own path. This is made possible in most of the elective classes that EHS offers.

Monte Honas<sup>'09</sup> commented on his favorite elective, Introduction to Agriculture.

"This class was awesome because I was able to build my own projects," Honas said.

EHS offered at least three elective classes for each grade, and students like

Hiss took advantage of this opportunity.

"I took art because there's little homework, and it's a good time to relax and reflect on life," Hiss said.

Grogan believed that a student's education in an elective class is equally as important to the education in a required class.

"Taking electives allows kids to become more multidimensional," Grogan explained. "It could be a motivator for college if they like the classes they take."

1. Freshmen Cody Ocamb<sup>'09</sup>, Steven Schmidt<sup>'09</sup> and Monte Honas<sup>'09</sup> work with the oxy-acetylene torch. "I have learned how to use a lot of new tools," Honas said. *photo by Jennifer Jacques*

2. Adam Augustine<sup>'07</sup>, Randy Hamel<sup>'07</sup>, Mrs. Linda Riedel, Cole Erbert<sup>'07</sup>, Aaron Pfannenstiel<sup>'08</sup>, Rowdy Wichman<sup>'06</sup>, Jennifer Jacques<sup>'06</sup>, Kelsey Kinderknecht<sup>'07</sup> and Scott Gugler<sup>'07</sup> pose for a quick picture before updating the state wrestling brackets at Fort Hays State University. *photo by Elexx Feyh*

3. So many choices! Kayla Hollern<sup>'08</sup> and Deana Hunsicker<sup>'08</sup> browse the menu at Jalisco's restaurant. All Spanish and French students participated in a Marangue dance class and went out to eat afterwards. *photo by Jennifer Jacques*

4. Mr. Terry Zerfas assists Logan Stanton<sup>'09</sup> with his screen printing project. Along with this project, mechanical drawing allowed students to draw up floor plans for imaginary houses. *photo by Jennifer Jacques*



## quickstats

it cost **30** dollars to take art

journalism ate **96** bags of pajéda's



electives **38**  
jennifer jacques





Showing off his skills, Erick Estrada<sup>'07</sup> dances with Rachael Lantis<sup>'07</sup> during a Spanish class trip. "It was something different that we all enjoyed," Lantis said. photo by Jennifer Jacques

John Begler, owner of Smoky Hill Photography, and Rowdy Wichman<sup>'06</sup> direct the EHS students for a Journalism picture. photo by Jennifer Jacques

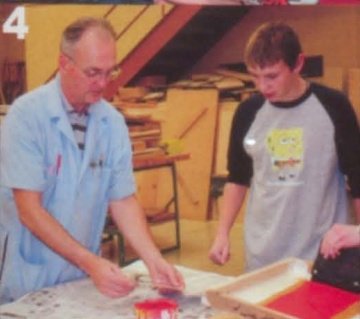


# shout out



kericsmith<sup>'07</sup>

"I wanted to have the wickedest bike in town, so in Mr. Pfeifer's, I extended the fork three feet to give it my own look." photo by Jennifer Jacques



Michael Hiss<sup>'07</sup> uses the pointillism technique to add character to his painting. "You really get to accentuate your feelings though your artwork," Hiss said. photo by Jennifer Jacques

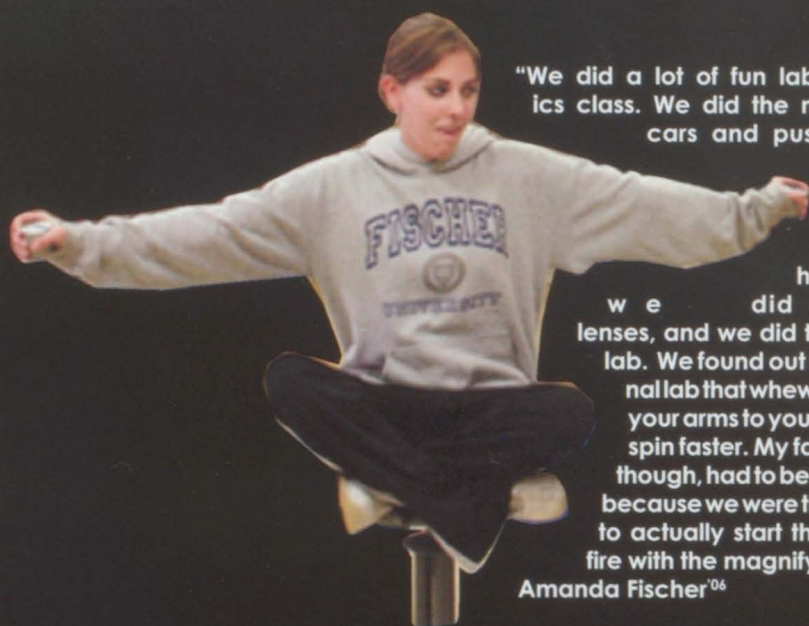
students did **35** labs in physics

there were **51** students on the honor roll



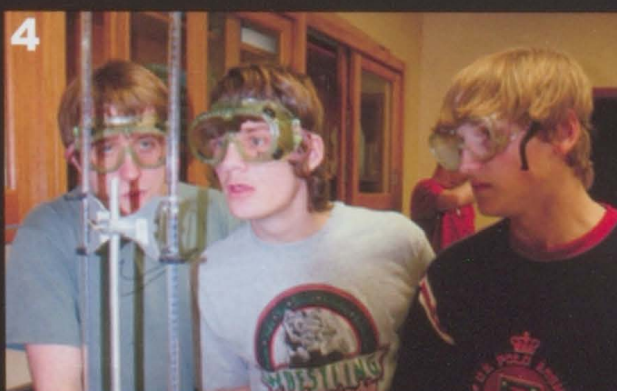
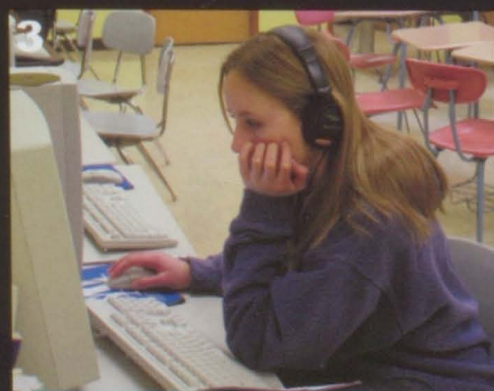


# disc



"We did a lot of fun labs in physics class. We did the mouse trap cars and pushed other students' vehicles, we did the hovercraft, we did a lab on lenses, and we did the rational lab. We found out in the rational lab that when you bring your arms to your body, you spin faster. My favorite one, though, had to be the lens lab because we were the first class to actually start the grass on fire with the magnifying glass."

Amanda Fischer<sup>'06</sup>



1. Physics class tries to see how far they can push a truck. 2. Ashley Hupka<sup>'06</sup> eats green eggs and ham first hour. Students in Mrs. Sharla Albers' class cooked breakfast every Friday. 3. Jennifer Jacques<sup>'06</sup> works in Web Page class on the slide show for graduation. 4. Scott Gugler<sup>'07</sup>, Chris Hazen<sup>'07</sup> and Andrew Casey<sup>'07</sup> discuss their titration in chemistry. photos by Elexx Feyh, Jaymi Riedel, Kelsey Kinderknecht, and Jennifer Jacques





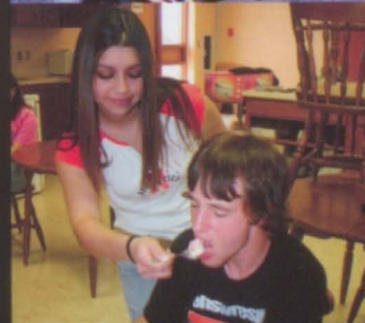
# over



Randy Hamel<sup>07</sup> works in the shop during his engines class. Mr. Eldon Pfeifer taught four classes that dealt with engines or agriculture. *photo by Jaymi Riedel*



Amanda Fischer<sup>06</sup>, and Emily Keller<sup>06</sup> work together in physics class to measure the distance that a truck was pushed. *photo by Rowdy Wichman*



Jaylen Reed<sup>07</sup> tries to feed Kevin Urban<sup>08</sup> in advanced food class. Food labs were conducted at least twice a week after learning about the type of food being cooked. *photo by Jaymi Riedel*

“Titrations were really fun because we got to learn about acids and bases,” Brittany Kroeger said. ”





# backstage pass





You **throw up basket** after **basket**, perfecting **YOUR shot**; you try **time and** again, making **sure** your set **is** just right, **you** drill **your takedown** one more time, always one **more** time. All this in **preparation** for **game** day - your chance to show it **all off**.

All the work you put in keeps you motivated, and helps you to overcome any obstacle and achieve every goal.

At EHS, athletics are something that students take part in, but in the end they're more than that. They're something bigger, something more meaningful. They help define you, keep you going and alive.

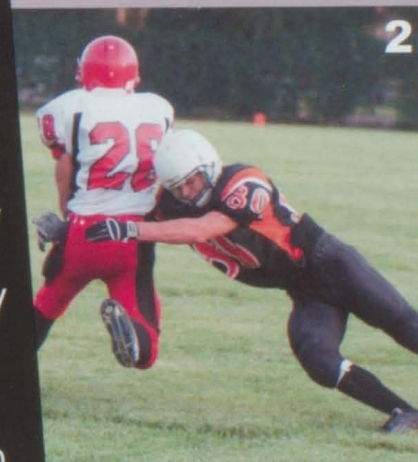
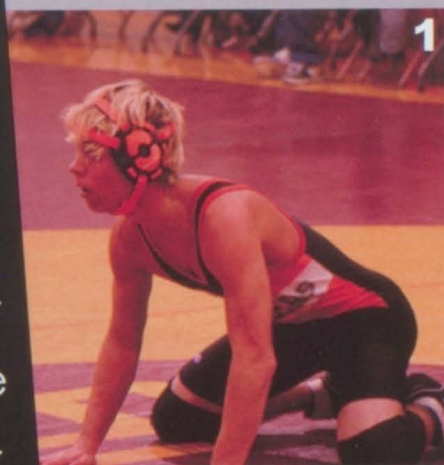
You get to see this every day, at every practice, at every game, every meet. They aren't just sports. They're a passion.

And you get to experience that passion, that motivation. Like fans with tickets to get backstage at a concert, you get to see the sound checks, the tuning, all the work that is required to achieve that goal, that perfect performance. This is your **backstage pass**.

**1. Rowdy Wichman<sup>06</sup>** readys for the next period during a match against Michael Baxter from Stockton. "It was tough trying to escape, but I finally got out and won in overtime." Wichman said. *photo by Elexx Feyh*

**2. Tackling his opponent**, Adam Augustine<sup>07</sup> attempts to stop the ball carrier during the game against Hill City. *photo by Smoky Hill*

**3. Katelyn Keller<sup>09</sup>** chips onto the green during golf practice. The girls' golf team placed first at the Ellis Women's Invitational. *photo by Jennifer Jacques*





# festivity

girls just wanna have fun

When life hands you lemons, you make lemonade. So when life handed head volleyball coach Kerry Bittel a group of struggling volleyball players, she made a team.

Rather than the usual routine of going to a movie or having sundae making contests to prepare for substate, Coach Bittel decided to take this team's fun to an extreme. Although the season record was 10-18, as individuals they got more out of the season than they ever imagined.

"We always try to do something fun," said Bittel. "But I was looking for something different because this was a really great group that had a rough year."

The week before substate, the volleyball players split into two teams, the orange team and the black team, and had competitions every day.

To start the week, the teams were

sent on a scavenger hunt which would eventually lead them to find the missing Lady Railer volleyball in the pig pen out at Bittel's farm.

"The scavenger hunt rocked the house! Everyone was breaking the speed limit and running like crazy," Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup> said.

Other activities included a dodge ball tournament that was cut short after Riedel was hurt early in the game.

Bittel adjusted the remaining practice schedules to allow time for thumb wars and arm wrestling competitions.

While most coaches might find this risky, Bittel found it necessary.

"We needed bonding at that point," said Bittel.

The team concluded the week with a hay rack ride to the farm for hot dogs with all the trimmings and a nice ride through the country.

The Friday before the big tournament, the girls hurried home from practice to get ready to go putt-putting at Precision Valley Miniature Golf Course. The team then went to Dairy Queen for ice cream and headed home to rest up for the big day.

"Playing putt-putt was my favorite," Jennifer Jacques<sup>06</sup> said. "It was fun to just go out with the team. We had really good bonding before substate, and it definitely worked!"

The girls may have left the tournament 1-1, but the activities worked because the girls played like champions.

"The games took away a lot of stress and relieved the pressure we had on us to make it to state. They helped us to bond and play well at substate," said Jaylen Reed<sup>07</sup>. "I hope it becomes a tradition for the years to come."

## scoreboard

	ehs	opp
Hill City	16,25,19	25,17,25
Palco	19,23	25,25
Plainville	25,25	23,14
Plainville	25,25	15,20
Otis-Bison	14,18	25,25
Kinsley	25,25	14,18
Lacrosse	25,15	15,13
Victoria	24,15	26,25
Victoria	13,18	25,25
Smith Center	23,20	25,25
Victoria	25,25	23,19
Trego	25,25,19	27,16,25
Ransom	16,18	25,25
Osborne	25,20,14	20,25,25
Phillipsburg	21,21	25,25
Palco	13,25,25	25,20,20
Plainville	25,25	22,20
Western Plains	18,23	25,25
Phillipsburg	20,24	25,26
Quinter	25,26,25	21,28,22
Western Plains	18,23	25,25
Natoma	25,25	14,10
Palco	25,19,17	7,25,25
Lakeside	25,25	20,20
Ell-Saline	20,22	25,25



1





Posing in the locker room, the Lady Railers celebrate after placing fourth at the Otis-Bison Invitational. Full Throttle energy drinks and pixie sticks helped the girls get fired up for tournaments. photo by Heather Schuster



The Lady Railers enjoy a hayrack ride through the country to Coach Bittel's farm. The team went to Bittel's for hot dogs with all the trimmings as part of their pre-substate activities. photo by Heather Schuster



Returning the ball to her opponents, Jennifer Jacques<sup>'06</sup> hits the ball over the net. Jacques, a 5'9 senior, played varsity all four years. photo by Amber Honas

Jaymi Riedel<sup>'06</sup>, Brittany Kroeger<sup>'07</sup>, and Danielle Pfeifer<sup>'08</sup> set up their defense for the serve. photo by Amber Honas



# go figure

31

235

7

Full Throttle  
energy drinks

89

consumed  
during season

24



1. Giving Coach Kerry Bittel a hug, the team thanks her for taking them to play put putt. The girls didn't keep score because they just wanted to play for fun. photo by Heather Schuster

2. Railer guys support the Lady Railers at substate. The guys made posters to hold up and cheered on the girls throughout the tournament. photo by Heather Schuster

3. Getting the girls fired up, C-team Coach Brandi Fink gives her team a pep talk before the game against Phillipsburg. photo by Laura Augustine

4. Kendra Mickelson<sup>'09</sup> leads her teammates in shaking the opponents' hands before the game. "JV was a lot of fun because it was more relaxed," Mickelson said. photo by Laura Augustine





Emily Cox<sup>'07</sup> and Whitney Taylor<sup>'07</sup> create a cross country sign to support the state runners. The student body supported the runners by cheering for them as they got ready to attend state. photo by Jennifer Jacques



Get set, go. Haley Wolf<sup>'09</sup> gets set and ready to start the race. "I normally got a very good start at meets, so that helped me out quite a bit," Wolf said. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler



# go figure

7

320

9

total miles ran

132

during the season

11

Tired but willing to do it again, Scott Gugler<sup>'07</sup> finishes his race. "You have to put your all into every meet in order to qualify for state," Gugler said. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler

Finishing the three-mile run, Keric Smith<sup>'07</sup> crosses the finish line. "It is a wonderful feeling after finishing a race," Smith said. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler



1. Almost there, Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>'06</sup> runs toward the finish line. "My only regret in cross country was waiting to go out until my senior year. It is a very mental sport, and I learned a lot of self-discipline from it." photo by Rowdy Wichman

2. The boys' team listens to Coach Dinkel's advice. "They always took my two-cent thoughts into consideration," Dinkel said. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler

3. Amazed by his great time, Scott Gugler<sup>'07</sup> congratulates Brian Keller<sup>'07</sup>. Keller ran well throughout the year, placing 48th at state. photo by Rowdy Wichman

4. State bound, Kylor Campbell<sup>'09</sup> leads the team to the suburban prior to leaving for Wamego. The team left Friday afternoon and competed on Saturday morning. photo by Jennifer Jacques





# persistence striving for the goal

12 miles a week X 11 weeks = 132 miles. This is what it took for the cross country team to meet their goal: going to state.

Although Haley Wolf<sup>09</sup> was the only female team member qualifying for state, the boys met their goal by qualifying the whole team for state.

"It was awesome to attend state as a freshman," Wolf said. "It was something that I worked very hard for and put all my effort into."

The boys and Wolf pushed themselves to the limit every meet to go to state.

"We worked extremely hard as a team to go to state," Scott Gugler<sup>07</sup> said. "It's different running at state though because you feel that you are already at the top of the ladder for just being there."

Team was the key word when it came time for state. It was the first time the boys' team went to state as a whole

since 1986.

"It was a lot more motivating training as a team for state than one person by myself," said Gugler, the only Ellis High School runner to attend state the previous season.

The student body also helped in motivating the boys for state. Before the runners left for state, the student body and staff held a state send-off.

"We strive to do whatever we can to get teams pumped up and ready to compete later that evening," Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>06</sup>, cross country runner and cheerleading captain, said. "The cross country state send-off was a new experience for us, but we helped the team members out as much as possible."

Coach Casey Dinkel also realized that the state send-off helped the runners out on their performance later that day.

"The state send-off had a big effect

on the runners attending state," Dinkel said. "It got them pumped up and ready to run and represent Ellis."

The boys also had much support from the members of the girls' cross country team who did not attend state.

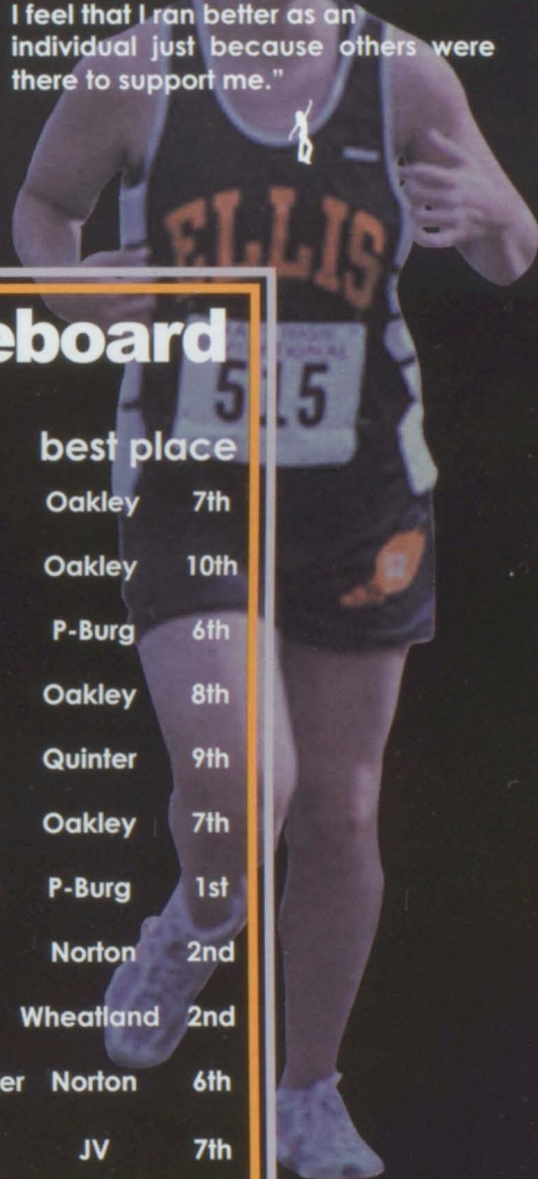
"It was fun to go to state and support the boys," Schoenthaler said. "We were with them all the way!"

The boys were glad that the girls were at state to support them.

"It feels better to attend state when you know that your other team members are there to support you," Gugler said. "There were not very many team members at state to support me in 2004. I feel that I ran better as an individual just because others were there to support me."

## scoreboard

	best place	
Scott Gugler	Oakley	7th
Keric Smith	Oakley	10th
Kevin Urban	P-Burg	6th
Brian Keller	Oakley	8th
Todd Flinn	Quinter	9th
Kylor Campbell	Oakley	7th
Rachel Thomson	P-Burg	1st
Krista Connelly	Norton	2nd
Haley Wolf	Wheatland	2nd
Kelsi Schoenthaler	Norton	6th
Amanda Yanda	JV	7th





# anxiety edge of triumph or tragedy

It was a perfect rivalry game... almost. There was suspense, sudden death, and lots of spirit, but one thing lacked: triumph over the Trego Golden Eagles.

Suspense was in full swing in the fourth quarter. With the clock winding down and pressure building up, Justin LaBarge<sup>06</sup> completed a touchdown pass thrown by Cole Erbert<sup>07</sup> to put the Railroaders down by two.

"The pressure was less about the overtime and more about going against WaKeeney," Erbert said.

The team's only choice, now, was to go for a two-point conversion to tie the game at 21. With the help of Daren Haas<sup>06</sup>, the two-point conversion was successful, forcing the game into overtime.

"It [the suspense] pumped me up, made me want to win more and made me want to play harder," Haas said of the conversion.

And playing harder was exactly what the Railroaders did. Despite their efforts, Trego completed a field goal to give them a three point lead.

Ellis wanted a field goal, but sometimes a team doesn't always get what they want. Losing by a score of 21-24 was something they hadn't planned; however, that's just what happened when the Railroader attempt at a sudden-death field goal failed.

It wasn't necessarily the perfect ending to a rivalry game. Suspense was killed, and sudden death ended well...in death.

The Railroaders went on to close the

season 5-5, with one of those wins coming in post-season over Osborne.

Once the season ended, the team faced empty roster spots due to six graduating seniors.

Despite those holes, Coach Art Schoenthaler's outlook was optimistic. He expected to coach a competitive team to many victories.

"Hopefully we'll have some young people that'll step up to fill the open positions," Schoenthaler said.

Daniel Gottschalk<sup>08</sup> had his own thoughts on the future of the Railroader football team.

"The seniors had a big impact on us," Gottschalk said. "It'll be different without them."

## scoreboard

	EHS	OPP
Hill City	43	7
Stockton	29	0
Phillipsburg	7	24
Quinter	26	19
Trego	21	24
Norton	7	34
Plainville	50	6
Smith Center	0	56
Osborne	41	28
Hoxie	12	34







Andrew Casey<sup>07</sup> attempts a play during the Trego game. "It was the biggest heartbreaker because we lost to WaKeeney," Casey said. "We should have won, and that's why it hurt the most." photo by Alyson Bollig



With the score tied at 21 at the end of regulation, Cole Erbert<sup>07</sup>, Brett Mickelson<sup>07</sup>, Eric Gaschler<sup>06</sup> and Daren Haas<sup>06</sup> meet with Trego's captains. Mickelson ended the night with one fumble recovery. photo by Smoky Hill



Caught up in the game, M.J. Gnad<sup>06</sup>, Brian Keller<sup>07</sup> and Rowdy Wichman<sup>06</sup> cheer for the team. "We stood up the whole time and kept the entire crowd going," Wichman said. photo by Smoky Hill

Determined to score, Daren Haas<sup>06</sup> outruns two Hill City players. Haas tied Eric Gaschler<sup>06</sup> with 112 yards gained in the 43-7 victory. photo by Smoky Hill



# go figure

3

831

72

total season

1821

rushing yards

40

2



1. Down, set, hut! The JV Railer defense is ready to attack the Stockton Tigers. The team clenched a victory with a score of 16-8. photo by Jennifer Jacques

2. Shaking off Bulldog Brice Kesler, Eric Gaschler<sup>06</sup> heads for a touchdown during the victory over Quinter. Gaschler earned the Homecoming King title and a touchdown. photo by Smoky Hill



3. Michael Hiss<sup>07</sup> blocks during a play against Quinter's Ashley Deaton. Hiss received honorable mention for all-league offensive tackle. photo by Amber Honas



4. There's no "I" in team. Justin LaBarge<sup>06</sup>, Cory Amrein<sup>07</sup> and Brett Mickelson<sup>07</sup> use teamwork to stop a Hill City player. "It was an honor to finally make an all-league team my senior year," LaBarge said. photo by Smoky Hill





Kevin Urban<sup>08</sup> tries to take down his opponent in the 119lb weight class to gain two points. "I always listen to music to get me pumped for my match," Urban said. photo by Elexx Feyh



Getting instructions from Coach Casey Dinkel, Slade Hackney<sup>06</sup> listens to tips on how to win his match. Hackney wrestled since his sixth grade year. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler



# go figure

1

235

3

minor injuries

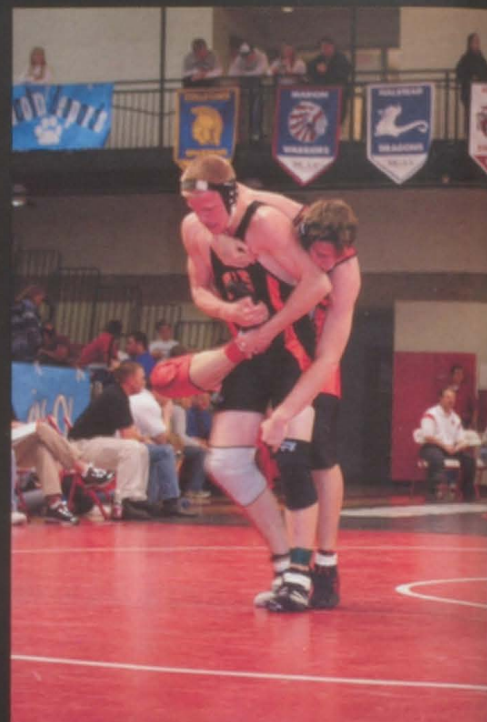
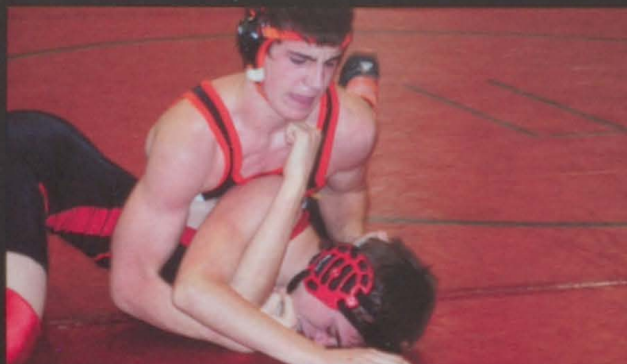
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during the season

24

Going for a take down, Justin LaBarge<sup>04</sup> fights to win his match during regional. LaBarge's season record was 14-4. photo by Elexx Feyh

Locked with his opponent, Chase King<sup>09</sup> tries for a pin. King was encouraged to wrestle by his four older brothers. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler

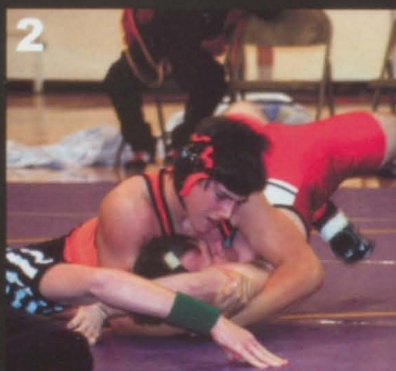


1. Justin Gnad<sup>08</sup> wrestles during MCL in Ellis. "I always feel good wrestling at home because we have a lot of supporters there," Gnad said. photo by Jaymi Riedel

2. Fighting for a pin, John Tricks<sup>08</sup> pushes himself to keep his opponent down. Tricks' season was almost cut short because of a possible case of whooping cough. photo by Elexx Feyh

3. Zach Gehring<sup>08</sup>, Dusty Unrein<sup>07</sup>, and Brian Keller<sup>07</sup> cheer on their team during regionals in Hoisington. Ellis placed ninth as a team out of 20. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler

4. Pushing himself up, Michael Hiss<sup>07</sup> tries to gain position. Hiss made it to state by placing fourth at regionals. photo by Elexx Feyh





# united

what it takes to win

**Bond\band\ n:** A binding, uniting force, or tie. Most people agree that successful teams have a bond. Some say wrestling is an individual sport, but to do well as a team bonding is not optional.

"Bonding time" for the wrestling team came in several forms. On typical days they would practice for two hours in the wrestling room at the old high school.

"Coach Dinkel worked us hard," Justin LaBarge<sup>06</sup> said. "It was so hot in the wrestling room, and the only time we got a break was for water."

Even on the days school was not in session, they had "bonding time." They shoveled snow during the November snow storm for Ellis resi-

dents. It was a project Coach Casey Dinkel implemented in 2002.

"I just started calling people up one day when we didn't have school," Dinkel said. "We all met up and started shoveling."

The tight bond helped the team make it through the smooth and rough times throughout the season.

The season started out exceptional with the wrestlers placing at meets, so when a possible case of whopping cough occurred later in the season, it upset many of the wrestlers. The team feared not being able to wrestle for two weeks and missing out on MCL. Fortunately, the test came back negative.

"The team didn't give up," Chase

King<sup>09</sup> said. "Thinking that we couldn't practice for two weeks made us work harder."

The team pushed each other in practices and this helped qualify three people for state: Dusty Unrein<sup>07</sup>, LaBarge and Michael Hiss<sup>07</sup>.

"When I won my last match to qualify for state, not only did I feel good, but the team did," Unrein said. "It was really nice being able to have your team support you after you did well."

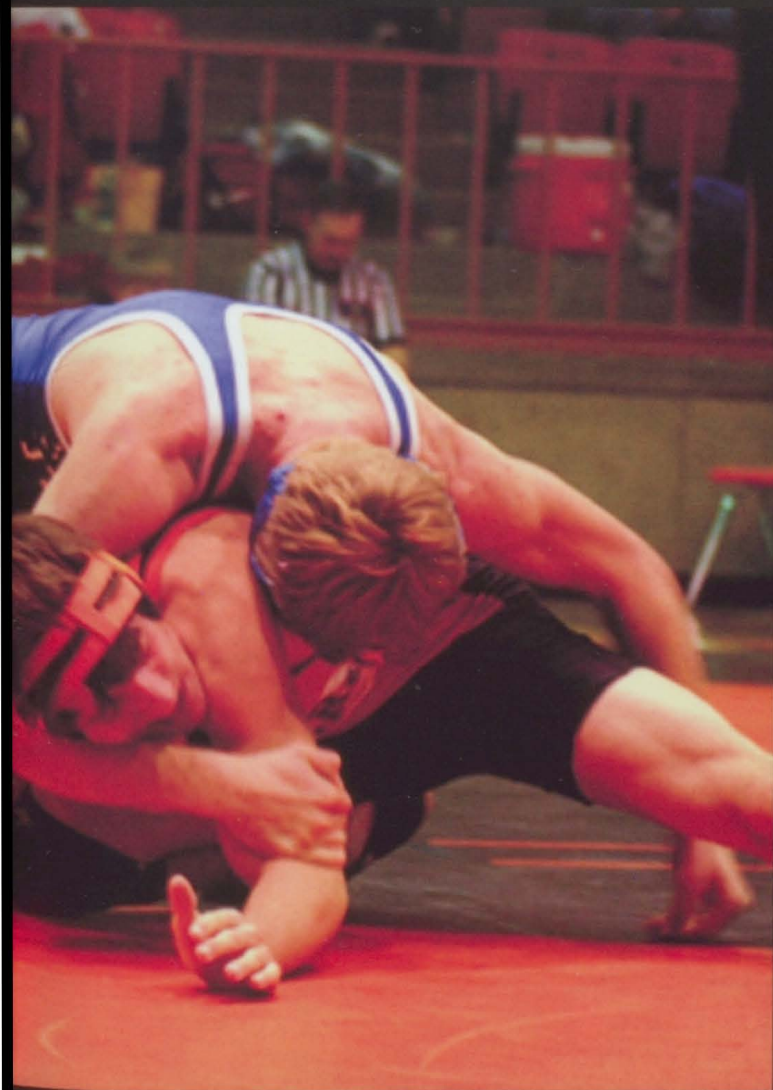
Unrein wasn't the only one who thought the team this season had a close bond.

"We treated each other like brothers," Austin Morton<sup>07</sup> said.



## scoreboard

Wrestler	Weight Class
Justin Henrickson	103
Dusty Unrein	112
Steven Schmidt	112
Kevin Urban	119
Austin Morton	125
Rowdy Wichman	130
Erick Estrada	130
Chase King	135
Brian Keller	140
Zach Gehring	145
Justin Gnad	152
Justin LaBarge	171
John Tricks	171
Slade Hackney	189
Glenn Lacy	189
Chris Hazen	189
Jake Reilly	215
Michael Hiss	Hwt
Daniel Desaire	Hwt





# success climbing to the top

The crowd is roaring. The girls gather to the center of the court to celebrate their success. Coach Perry Mick is all full of smiles for his girls' basketball team. They just won the MCL tournament of 2006.

"It was awesome winning MCL because the girls' basketball team has not won MCL for a long time," Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup> said.

This was a great boost of self esteem for the girls' team. By winning MCL early in the season, it gave them confidence to finish the year with a winning record. The girls' team almost made it to state, but lost in the second round. It was a heartbreaker for them, but they soon realized that this would be a year they would never forget.

Winning MCL was also a great way to pull the team together as one.

"We finally realized what was needed to play together and win games," Jenni-

fer Jacques<sup>06</sup> said. "It took confidence beating Norton in the finals. That game really helped build our confidence."

It was great for the seniors to see the team as one. The team was so close that they started some new traditions that they hope the remainder of the team continues throughout the years.

"We started eating at Arthur's as a team after school before our home games," Riedel said. "This was a way to get our team pumped up and ready for our home games. It was a great tradition to start, and I hope that the team continues it throughout the years."

There were other traditions started that affected the girls playing abilities as well.

"We started drinking certain kinds of energy drinks before the games as well," Jacques said. "Each girl always got the same drink before games, so it kind of turned into a tradition throughout

the season for us."

The freshmen commented throughout the year that graduation day for the seniors will be especially sad for them.

"It was a great experience to play on the varsity team as a freshman," Whitney Taylor<sup>09</sup> said. "Once they graduate, I will not be able to play basketball with them again. I got really close to them throughout the season, and it is going to be very hard to see them leave at graduation."

The freshman and the rest of the girls' team decided to keep up the tradition of winning MCL tournament.

"This will be our chance to show surrounding towns what Ellis is really made of," Kristen Waldschmidt<sup>09</sup> said. "They will not know what hit them if we attend MCL next year and win it."

## scoreboard

	EHS	Opp
Phillipsburg	63	46
Trego	54	47
Hoxie	57	73
Wheatland	59	54
Palco	69	34
Osborne	50	56
Stockton	56	26
Trego	54	44
Hill City	70	54
Plainville	55	32
Osborne	46	37
Norton	50	37
Victoria	45	60
Plainville	58	40
Quinter	66	54
Smith Center	68	35
Spearville	69	45
Norton	31	46
Saint John	44	69
Hill City	51	38
Atwood	49	51







Brittany Kroeger<sup>07</sup> dribbles towards the basket to get set for a shot during the Palco game at Ellis. Kroeger played both varsity and JV, helping lead the JV to an 9-3 record. *photo by Amber Honas*



Kristen Weber<sup>06</sup> guards a Hill City player during the Hill City game at Ellis. "Basketball was a fun experience because of how close the team was," Weber said. *photo by Alyson Bollig*



Danielle Pfeifer<sup>08</sup> focuses on putting up a free throw shot during the Hill City sub-state game at Ellis. *photo by Alyson Bollig*

Jennifer Jacques<sup>06</sup> looks to find a team member to pass to at MCL. "We really played as a team during MCL, determined and wanting to win," Jacques said. *photo by Cindy Hertel*



# go figure

12

938

17

practices in a

76

basketball season

21

2



1. Whitney Lang<sup>07</sup> follows through after making a shot. "It was easier to make shots because of the height that we had on the team," Lang said. *photo by Alyson Bollig*

3



2. Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup> puts up a shot during the Spearville game at Ellis. "Basketball was really fun this year. We all got along and had a blast wherever we went together," Riedel said. *photo by Heather Schuster*

3. Dribbling towards the basket, Whitney Taylor<sup>09</sup> passes the Hill City player down the court during the varsity game in Ellis. *photo by Alyson Bollig*

4



4. Kristen Waldschmidt<sup>07</sup> jumps over the Spearville girls to put a shot up. Waldschmidt was named to a Wichita Eagle all-state honorable mention 2A basketball team. *photo by Heather Schuster*





While being boxed out Brett Mickelson<sup>'07</sup> tries to get around Trego defender Tyler Ummel in the first round of sub-state play. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler



Monte Honas<sup>'09</sup> and Logan Bittel<sup>'05</sup> watch while the varsity plays against Plainville. "It's fun watching the varsity because we can learn a lot off of them," Honas said. photo by Jennifer Jacques



# go figure

Taking it in, Dylan Lang<sup>'06</sup> tries to score against Phillipsburg. "We should have won, but everything went wrong in the last minutes," Lang said. photo by Smoky Hill Photography

Way above his opponents, Daren Haas<sup>'06</sup> rebounds over Spearville Lancer defenders. Haas had 4 rebounds and 21 points that game. photo by Smoky Hill Photography

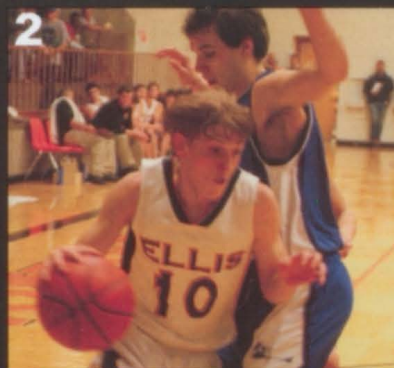


1. Get Out There! Coach Chris Rorabaugh yells from the bench at his players to get in their positions during the Plainville game. photo by Jennifer Jacques

2. Andrew Casey<sup>'07</sup> drives in while guarded by a Spearville opponent. Casey went on to have 8 points that game. photo by Smoky Hill Photography

3. Dylan Lang<sup>'06</sup> and Eric Gaschler<sup>'06</sup> get autographs from Kade Gottschalk while waiting to play against the Natoma Wildcats. photo by Jennifer Jacques

4. Daren Haas<sup>'06</sup> puts up a jump shot before Natoma opponent gets to him. Haas came out of the game third leading scorer with a total of 14 points. photo by Jennier Jacques



1  
235  
3  
Seniors Score  
614  
Points During The  
Season  
24





# seniority leading the way

With five seniors, and two returning starters from the 2004-2005 year, Coach Chris Rorabaugh had high hopes for the 2005-2006 season.

Having coached boys' basketball for 16 years at Ellis High School, Rorabaugh felt something different about this group of seniors.

"This group of boys is great, they were very dependable, and I knew that I could count on them every day to be there and be ready to go and get tough, especially two seniors Daren Haas<sup>'06</sup> and Dylan Lang<sup>'06</sup>," Rorabaugh said. "Haas was at practice every day with a bad ankle. Just looking at it while I taped it, I knew he was in pain, yet still seeing him out there and playing I knew that I could count on him. Lang was also there everyday with a bad knee, but he came through for us in the end."

Although the Ellis boys had a tough

season, ending with a record of 7-14, Coach Rorabaugh didn't expect that to be the case. Rorabaugh expected to be fourth in the league and be in the final four of the sub-state tournament, which was held in Ellis. However, in the first round, the Railroaders faced the Trego Eagles and lost 36-69. The Trego Eagles went on to later win the 2A State Championship title.

Throughout the season, the Railers fought even though they knew they were not on the winning end.

"Another quality of this group of seniors that I admired was the fact that they had the will, determination, and commitment. There were many times when they could have just given up and quit, but they didn't. They stayed in there and fought all the way until the last game," Rorabaugh said.

The final game that Ellis played at

home was against The Natoma Wildcats. The Ellis Railroaders went on to win that game, and prove that they were capable of winning when they all worked together.

"I think that the reason that we were so determined to keep going, is that we knew that it was our last year. We could have given up a long time ago, but we didn't just want to give up and end the season," Haas said.

The upcoming graduation of Haas and Lang who were leaders in points, will definitely leave a hole that will have to be filled. "With the loss of seniors in the 2006-2007 season, our underclassmen will have to step into bigger roles, and contribute in different areas," Adam Augustine<sup>'07</sup> said.

## scoreboard

	EHS	Opp
Phillipsburg	66	68
Wheatland	72	76
Quinter	45	59
Hoxie	59	61
Palco	48	39
Osborne	73	48
Stockton	53	24
Trego	35	52
Hill City	44	55
Trego	45	64
Phillipsburg	56	63
Stockton	61	48
Victoria	58	51
Plainville	46	55
Quinter	46	65
Smith Center	47	60
Spearville	53	67
Norton	41	53
Saint John	56	76
Trego	36	69





# foreman

new coach up to par

Sometimes when changes occur, they can throw everything off balance, but when student teacher Jason Crist was hired as the new golf coach after the retirement of John Kolacny, everything continued to run smoothly.

Crist, who played golf in college for Fort Hays State University, was student teaching at the time he applied for head golf coach.

"I approached Mr. Hayden about any openings as far as coaching when I found out I was student teaching at Ellis," Crist said. "He knew of the golf opening and of my past golf experience and offered me the job."

Another change this season was having enough girls out for an

actual girls' team. With a total of seven girls out for golf, they formed a team and held the first Ellis Women's Invitational, placing first.

"I liked having a girls' team a lot better because I didn't have to hang out with the guys all the time," said Kristen Waldschmidt<sup>'07</sup>, who had been on the golf team for two years. "I had a lot of fun trying to teach some of the less experienced ones, too."

Yet another achievement of the team was Adam Augustine<sup>'07</sup> and Brett Mickelson<sup>'07</sup> placing at regionals and participating at state.

"Conditions were tough," Augustine said, "but we still played all right."

Even though Crist enjoyed coaching, he knew he wouldn't be returning to Ellis, having accepted a teaching job in Maine.

"He was a really good coach because he was younger, so he understood us more," said Waldschmidt. "It stinks that he's leaving next year."

Crist kept high hopes for the future golfers even though he knew he wouldn't be joining them.

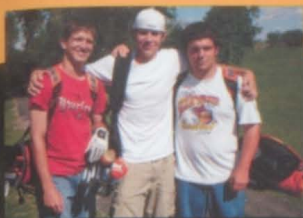
"I believe the whole team made a lot of progress in getting better, especially the underclassmen," Crist said. "They will definitely be able to build off of what they have done."

## scoreboard

		EHS
Ellis Invitational		2 <sup>nd</sup>
Plainville		4 <sup>th</sup>
Hill City		6 <sup>th</sup>
Trego	6-Man	4 <sup>th</sup>
	4-Man	5 <sup>th</sup>
	2-Man	3 <sup>rd</sup>
TMP	4-Man	10 <sup>th</sup>
Phillipsburg	6-Man	12 <sup>th</sup>
	4-Man	14 <sup>th</sup>
	2-Man	4 <sup>th</sup>
Ellis Women's		1 <sup>st</sup>
MCL	6-Man	5 <sup>th</sup>
	4-Man	6 <sup>th</sup>
	2-Man	3 <sup>rd</sup>
Regionals		6 <sup>th</sup>







Adam Augustine<sup>'07</sup> and Brett Mickelson<sup>'07</sup> take a break with John Tricks<sup>'08</sup>. Mickelson and Augustine were the only two to make it to state in Goodland. photo by Jennifer Jacques



Tina Unrein<sup>'09</sup> gets ready to tee off at golf practice. "My favorite part of golf was playing golf hockey during practice," Unrein said. photo by Jennifer Jacques



Eric Gaschler<sup>'06</sup> tees off on hole six. "Having a new coach my senior year was a big change, but it was still fun," said Gaschler. photo by Rowdy Wichman

Coach Jason Crist uses Laura Augustine's<sup>'07</sup> foot as a tee for driving practice. Crist played golf for Fort Hays State University all four years of college. photo by Jennifer Jacques



# go figure

51

486

0

girls on the

7

golf team

32

1. Kristen Waldschmidt<sup>'07</sup> practices teeing off. Waldschmidt had been on the golf team for two years and was the only girl on varsity. photo by Jennifer Jacques

2. John Tricks<sup>'08</sup> grabs a drink of water during practice. "Having a new coach was really different, but he made us work hard which helped us place at a lot of tournaments," Tricks<sup>'08</sup> said. photo by Jennifer Jacques

3. Coach Crist instructs golfers, Daniel Gottschalk<sup>'08</sup> and John Tricks<sup>'08</sup> on what to do during practice. photo by Alyson Bollig

4. Brett Mickelson<sup>'07</sup> practices his putting skills. Mickelson made it to state by shooting an 87 and placing fifteenth at regionals. photo by Rowdy Wichman





Whitney Lang<sup>07</sup> jumps 28'6.5" in triple jump to earn fourth place at the Victoria Invitational. The girls placed second as a team. photo by Ashley Hejny



Sophomore Theresa Ashley<sup>08</sup> prepares to run down the stretch of triple jump. Ashley had a personal record of 27'5". photo by Ashley Hejny



# go figure

1

235

3

inches Taylor beat

220

discus record by

24

Soaring through the air, Kara Hackney<sup>09</sup> leaps to 14'7" in long jump. Hackney placed second at the Freshman-Sophomore Trego Invitational. photo by Elexx Feyh

Junior Meggie Patrick<sup>07</sup> high jumps 5'4" to get first place and set a new meet record at the Victoria Invitational. Patrick placed second at state with 5'2". photo by Elexx Feyh



1. Freshman Whitney Taylor<sup>09</sup> leads the pack of Michelle Ummel and Vanessa Owings to the finish line in the 100. At the state, Taylor placed first in discus, second in the 100m, and second in the 200m. photo by Elexx Feyh

2. Brittany Kroeger<sup>07</sup> prepares to pole vault. "[The first time I tried pole vault], I was really nervous because I didn't think that the pole was going to actually get me onto the mat," Kroeger said. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler

3. Senior Amber Honas<sup>06</sup> throws the shot put 29'2" to gain sixth place at the Victoria Invitational. Honas's personal record was 31'8". photo by Elexx Feyh

4. Hailey Wolf<sup>09</sup> prepares for state track by running 1-3 miles. Wolf placed fourth in the 1600 and fourth in the 3200 at state. photo by Elexx Feyh





# youthful

## fresh powerhouse

Weekly newspaper headlines and record breaking performances are typical of any standout athlete. Accomplishments like those coming from a freshman make Whitney Taylor<sup>'09</sup> an extraordinary athlete.

"I didn't know what to expect really. I had pretty high hopes and expectations, but I wasn't expecting this sort of outcome," Taylor said.

The outcome broke the Ellis High School girls' discus record previously held by Mary Kuhn in 1978. Taylor threw 131'2" her first meet of the season to break the record.

"I think breaking the discus record definitely made me realize that I had a good thing going for me, and

I was really excited," Taylor said.

As the meets of the season came and went, Taylor also proved to be the best in the 100 and 200 meter dashes at all of the meets.

"The first time I medaled gold in three events, it was like a miracle," Taylor said.

She admits to feeling pressure from herself, coaches, and spectators to perform her best at every meet. However, going into the state meet might bring more pressure than just any other meet.

"Going into state, I feel pressure, but I just have to get over it," Taylor said.

Junior Meggie Patrick<sup>'07</sup> was also an extraordinary athlete her freshman year, as she broke the Ellis High

School girls' high jump record with a jump of 5'6". She also felt the pressure at her first state appearance her freshman year, but the pressure didn't get to her as she took second in high jump at the state meet.

"My advice for Miss Whitney is to just be confident and have fun! There's nothing better than knowing that if you push yourself just right, you're going to be awesome," Patrick said.

Other girls competing in state track were Patrick for her third time in high jump, Brittany Kroeger<sup>'07</sup> for her first time in pole vault, and for her first time in the 1600 and 3200 meter runs Haley Wolf<sup>'09</sup>. As a team the girls placed third at state.

## results

	EHS
Stockton	3rd
Plainville	3rd
Osborne	10th
Quinter	3rd
Victoria	2nd
Hill City	3rd
Norton MCL	3rd
Regionals	3rd
State	3rd





# drive

## the will to keep going

The old motto "great things sometimes come in little packages" is something that the Ellis boys' track team proved to be true.

While the numbers of boy trackers were small, the Ellis High School boys' track team overcame that problem and made something great out of it.

"The numbers were down four from the 2005 season. I had high expectations for the 2006 season because all of the returning lettermen," Coach Jack Wolf said.

Wolf was not disappointed.

Powerhouse Cole Erbert<sup>'07</sup> took four events to the regional competition, which was held in Hill City. He competed in the 4x1, shot put, discus, and the javelin. He broke

two meet records, and two school records throughout the year, reaching his personal records with throws of 166' in discus, 51'6" in shot put, and 158' in javelin.

However, Erbert was not the only one who traveled to Hill City. Twelve out of 18 boys got to experience what the regional competition was all about.

"I'm excited about regionals, I expect to take at least seven out of the twelve to state," Wolf said.

Wolf's expectations fell short by only one boy.

Andrew Casey<sup>'07</sup> qualified for the State competition in the long jump, 100m, 200m and the 4x1; Daren Haas<sup>'06</sup> in the 4x1; Slade Hackney<sup>'06</sup> in the 4x1; Logan Bittel<sup>'09</sup> as

an alternate in the 4x1; and Cole Erbert<sup>'07</sup> in the 4x1, shot put, discus, and the javelin.

The boys' 4x1 not only traveled to the state competition, but broke the school record with a time of 44.20 seconds, which put them third place at regionals.

"I am very proud and excited for those who are going to state. They have worked hard and are all competitors," Wolf said.

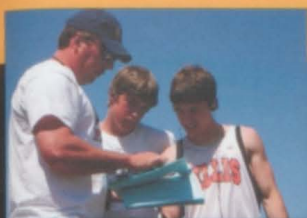
At state, Erbert placed first in discus, sixth in javelin, and fifth in shot put; Casey placed seventh in the 100m and third in the 200m; and the team of Hackney, Casey, Erbert, and Haas placed third in the 4x1.

### 2006 Schedule

	EHS
Stockton	1st
Plainville	4th
Osborne	10th
Quinter	4th
Victoria	2nd
Hill City	4th
Norton MCL	4th
Regionals	4th







Coach Butch Hayes shows Logan Bittel<sup>09</sup> and Monte Honas<sup>09</sup> the times they need to beat. "I really enjoy watching the athletes compete and how they achieve their personal goals," Hayes said. photo by Amber Honas



Andrew Casey<sup>07</sup> competes for first place in the long jump at the Hill City track meet. Casey jumped 21-2 which placed him second in the long jump. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler



With great form, Cole Erbert<sup>07</sup> practices discus. Erbert's practice paid off while he broke four records during the 2006 track season. photo by Elexx Feyh

Slade Hackney<sup>06</sup> tries to work his way into first place at Osborne. Hackney finished with a time of 24.28 seconds in the 200m dash. photo by Heather Schuster



# do figure

1

235

24

Boys Going

5

To State

17



1. Clearing the last hurdle, Monte Honas<sup>09</sup> tries to push his way into first. Honas came in second with a new personal record of 18.62 seconds. photo by Elexx Feyh



2. Scott Gugler<sup>07</sup> tries to beat out his opponents in the mile run at the MCL track meet. Gugler finished 4th with a time of 4:51.59. photo by Amber Honas



3. Cheering on Brittany Kroeger<sup>07</sup>, Justin Gnad<sup>08</sup>, Randy Hamel<sup>07</sup>, and Logan Bittel<sup>09</sup> watch as she attempts to clear 8-6. photo by Amber Honas

4. Brian Keller<sup>07</sup> tries to clear the bar at the Osborne track meet. Keller placed first with a vault of 12-6. photo by Amber Honas





Rachael Hamel and Kendra Mickelson walk with the student body, pumping them up for the basketball game. The hallway march was a new activity implemented by the cheerleaders. *photo by Cindy Hertel*



The crowd is brought to their feet during a bleacher beat the squad learned at cheer camp. Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>06</sup>, Emily Keller<sup>06</sup>, Kendra Mickelson<sup>09</sup>, and Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup>. *photo by Elexx Feyh*



# go figure

399

43

2

total number

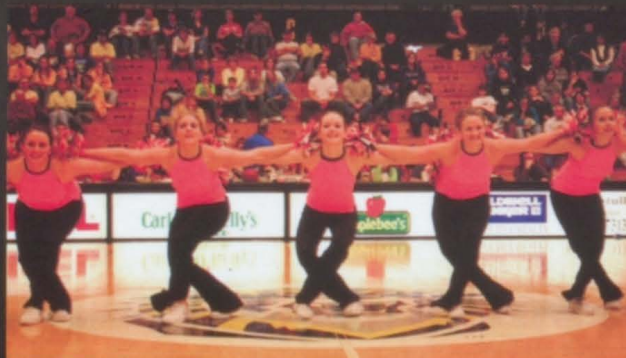
58

of practices

98

"Flying is fun especially during big dances because you feel so pressured and that helps you perform better," Emily Keller<sup>06</sup> said. *photo by Cindy Hertel*

The EHS cheerleaders dance during finals of the MCL tournament. They were selected to dance by Plainville, who was hosting the MCL tournament. *photo by Cindy Hertel*

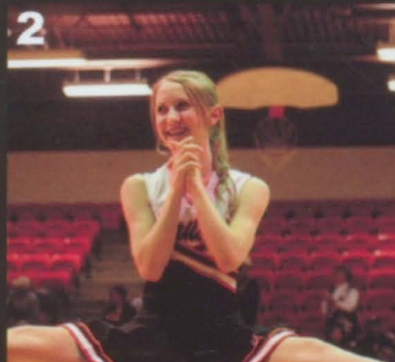


1. Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>06</sup> and Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup> assist a pee-wee cheerleader. The camp was held to promote spirit and to make money. *photo by Alyson Bollig*

2. In the air, Tina Unrein<sup>09</sup> cheers with the crowd. Unrein, who had been taking dance classes since she was three, was one of four fliers on the squad. *photo by Ashley Hejny*

3. The cheerleaders perform one of their new bleacher beats at the bonfire. At camp they learned four new beats that they used to help excite the crowd. *photo by Smoky Hill*

4. Spending time with cheer sponsor Nicole Bombach's son, the cheerleaders take care of him during a break. "Kellen was always. There he helped when things got tough," Amber Honas<sup>06</sup> said. *photo by Jaymi Riedel*





# devoted

keeping it together

"5, 6, 7, 8...." As Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>06</sup> and Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup> threw Emily Keller<sup>06</sup> into the air, they had to repeat this over and over again to make sure their stunt was just right.

Because stunts had to be executed perfectly to keep the flier safe, it was essential that the team established a close bond. Attending cheer camp in Manhattan helped build this bond.

"Going to cheer camp, the suburban rides were crazy. We spent almost 72 straight hours together, so it was really fun," Amber Honas<sup>06</sup> said.

The cheerleaders all said the same thing about cheer camp: it brought them closer.

"Cheer camp was the most memorable. Being with each other day in and day out, staying up all night talking, and then having to get up really early to help each other with cheers and dances, you have to get along with everyone and

trust them," Megan Keller<sup>07</sup> said.

At cheer camp, July 15 through July 17, all of the squad members were nominated for all-American cheerleader. However, only Brittany Kroeger<sup>07</sup> and Rachel Thomson<sup>07</sup> earned the distinction of all-American cheerleader.

"It made me feel really special to make all-American cheerleader because I felt like I could really accomplish things in cheerleading if I wanted to," Thomson said.

Cheer camp also helped the squad adjust to their new sponsors, Nicole Bombach and Denise Augustine.

"As captain, I had to work with sponsors a lot. At first I didn't know what to expect, but after spending more time with them at camp, I knew we were going to have a good year," Schoenthaler said.

They also had to adjust to having two new cheer sponsors instead of just

one. Bombach specialized in dancing, and Augustine helped them with cheering.

"At first I think all of the cheerleaders were a little iffy about getting new sponsors, but they are awesome. We dance more, and they really push us to do our best," Honas said.

In just two months, the cheerleaders performed seven times, which meant a lot of practicing. They practiced three to four times a week, not including cheering at games.

"It was hard because we had basketball games on Tuesday nights and then practice the next morning," Riedel said.

Although the cheerleaders would admit that being on the squad required lots of dedication, they would also say that 10 months of practice + 10 months of months of bonding = 10 months of great memories, ones to last forever.

## squad members

### seniors

kelsi schoenthaler - capt.  
emily keller - co-capt.  
amber honas  
jaymi riedel

### juniors

brittany kroeger  
rachel thomson  
meggie patrick  
megan keller

### sophomores

kayla hollern

### freshmen

kara hackney  
tina unrein  
rachael hamel  
kendra mickelson





# shocking the unexpected win

Being put in the spotlight and performing in front of a room full of people can make someone very nervous. It is best just to tell yourself to get up there and have a fun time during forensic competitions. Sometimes just having fun with something can turn out better than you expect, such as winning a state championship in Improvised Duet Acting.

Brittany Kroeger<sup>07</sup> and Meggie Patrick<sup>07</sup> were the first two individuals to earn a state forensic title since 1997 when Joe Shepherd won a state championship in prose.

"Winning champs at state speech in high school is equivalent to winning an Oscar at the academy awards," Mrs. Linda Riedel, forensic coach, said. "I couldn't have been more proud. The team as a whole even placed seventh out of 31 teams."

Before finals, Kroeger said she knew they had beat out a few teams because of the comments made by other team

members and the selections they drew to perform.

"Meggie and I were going into finals sitting in fourth place," Kroeger said. "Mrs. Riedel gave us a little pep talk telling us to relax and just to have fun because no matter what we had already placed at state."

It did not take much for the state champs to stay focused throughout the day of performing.

"We were very mentally prepared because we knew we'd have a long day ahead of us," Kroeger said. "We just wanted to attend state to have fun, and that is what we did with the bonus of coming home named state champs."

Kroeger and Patrick said they had the most fun while performing during the final rounds.

"Our adrenaline was pumping, and we were just more excited than we were nervous," Patrick said. "It was a full room

during the final round, mostly just filled with our team supporting us."

The reaction to the announcement of their winning state champs will be something that neither one of them will ever forget.

"Megs and I stood there dumbfounded and stared at each other like 'what just happened?'" Kroeger said. "When they started eliminating people and were down to the final two, we honestly were thinking 'Second place. That's awesome!' Then they called our name as being state champs, and we were so shocked!"

Other members of the team that qualified as state finalists were Kristen Weber<sup>06</sup> in original oration, Megan Keller<sup>07</sup> in original oration, and Rachel Thomson<sup>07</sup> in humorous solo acting.

## scoreboard

	EHS
Decatur	5th
Hill City	4th
Otis-Bison	2nd
Dighton	5th
MCL	1st
Colby	3rd
Smith Center	1st
Quinter	3rd
State Champs	7th

1



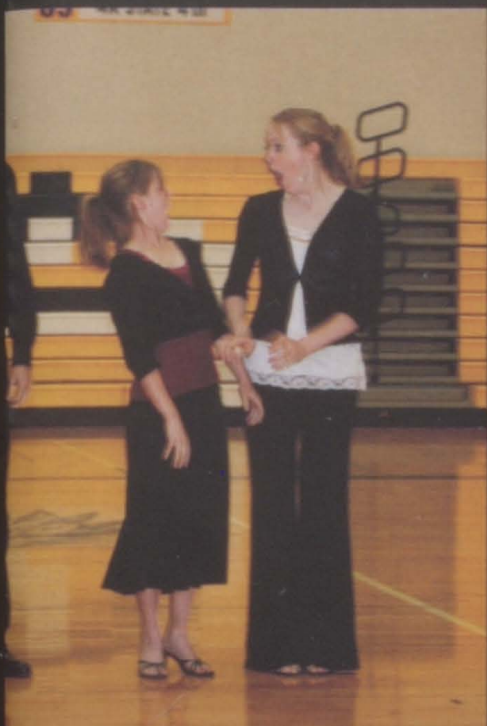




Kristen Weber<sup>06</sup> performs her prose during forensics night. "Forensics night is always a fun time for the members, and it is a good way for us to practice before our next tournament," Weber said. photo by Alyson Bollig



Kelsy Kinderknecht<sup>07</sup> practices her humorous solo with Brooke Graves<sup>09</sup> at the MCL tournament in Norton. Practicing helped her receive fourth place. photo by Kelsi Schoenthaler



Winning state champs in IDA, Brittany Kroeger<sup>07</sup> and Meggie Patrick<sup>07</sup> look at each other with ecstatic faces. "Winning state champs was a way to highlight our year and to make new goals for the next," Patrick said. photo by Linda Riedel

Kelsy Kinderknecht<sup>07</sup> and Krista Connelly<sup>07</sup> work at the check-in table at the Ellis forensic tournament. Coach Linda Riedel confirms that all the teams have arrived. photo by Jennifer Augustine



# do figure

16

5

33

minutes to

7

perform an IDA

9

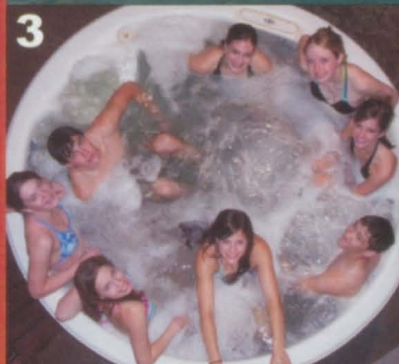
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1. Laughing with each other, Aaron Pfannenstiel<sup>08</sup> and Vanessa North<sup>08</sup> perform IDA on forensics night. Pfannenstiel qualified for state in extemporaneous speaking. photo by Alyson Bollig

2. Brian Keller<sup>07</sup> performs a crazy jump into the hotel pool. The state qualifiers had a night of fun in Hutchinson before attending state the next day at Andale High School. photo by Linda Riedel

3



3. Some state qualifiers pose the night before state in the hot tub. "Everyone told me that state was going to be a long day," Kara Hackney<sup>09</sup> said. "Because we kept busy and everyone performed great, the day went very fast." photo by Linda Riedel

4



4. Looking toward the audience to let them in on a secret, Rachel Thomson<sup>07</sup> performs her humorous solo during forensics night. photo by Alyson Bollig





# all access





School's **main** focus is **preparing** you **academically** to succeed **in the** world. You take tests. **You** write essays. You learn math **equations**. You are **constantly** working **to become** better.

But what else did you do? At EHS, students were doing far more than just traditional learning. They were involved with all kinds of activities, always interacting and having fun.

The life of a student took on a far greater aspect than just words and numbers. Homecoming, Prom, Snoball, the Junior Class Play, organization banquets, rallies, fundraisers, and more.

Being a student exposed you to everything. You were involved with all the events and experienced a lifetime of memories.

Like a fan with an exclusive ticket, you got to be there when it all went down. You were there for the preparation before the show, you got to meet the band, you surfed the crowd during the performance, you rocked out at the after-party. At EHS, your ticket read **all access**.

1. Whitney Taylor<sup>'09</sup> and Meggie Patrick<sup>'07</sup> laugh after a balloon popped during Snoball decorating. photo by Rowdy Wichman

2. While drinking a soda, Aaron Herl<sup>'07</sup> shows off his career day costume during Homecoming Spirit Week. Herl dressed up as a construction worker. photo by Cindy Hertel

3. Threatening the outlaws, Brittany Kroeger<sup>'07</sup> plays the role of Catastrophe Jane during the Junior Class Play. photo by Rowdy Wichman

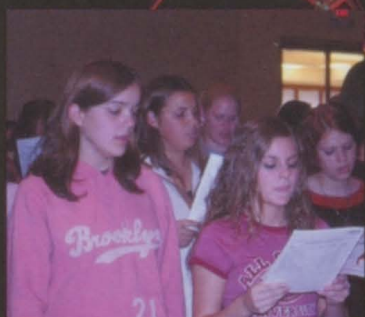






Costume changing, singing, practicing and handing out food were all a part of the Railairre Dinner Theatre. 1. Michael Young<sup>08</sup>, photo by Jennifer Augustine 2. Bill Hankins<sup>06</sup>, photo by Sheila Douglas 3. Kristen Weber<sup>06</sup>, Chris Hazen<sup>07</sup> and Kayla Hollern<sup>07</sup>, photo by Jennifer Augustine 4. Kayla Hollern<sup>08</sup>, photo by Sheila Douglas

Playing the bass drum, Rachel Lantis<sup>08</sup> keeps the rhythm going. The band practiced in the auditorium for State Music Contest at Fort Hays State University, where they received a I. Ellis was one of three schools who obtained a I the whole day. photo by Alyson Bollig

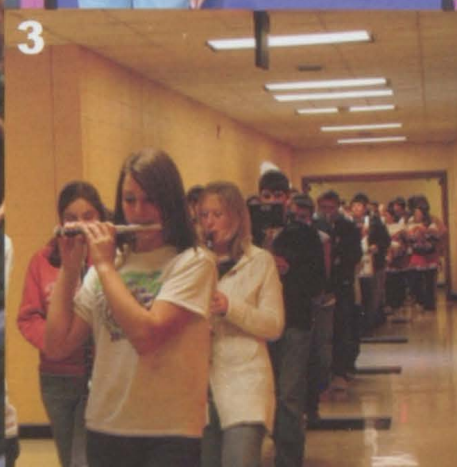
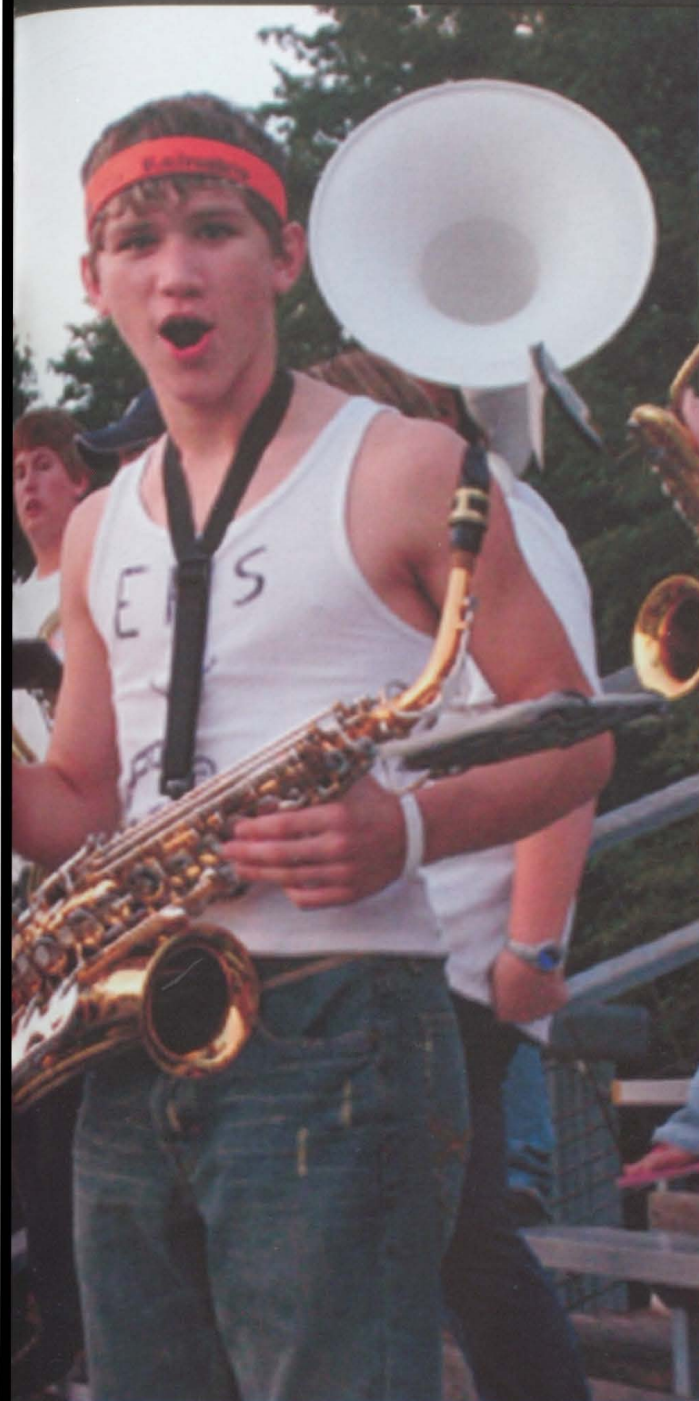


At MCL Choir Clinic, Brooke Graves<sup>09</sup> and Sarah Fischer<sup>09</sup> follow the music. "It was a great experience since I got to spend the day with friends," Graves said. photo by Sheila Douglas

Krista Connelly<sup>07</sup> peps the crowd after the Homecoming parade. Band uniforms weren't worn due to the heat. photo by Smoky Hill







1. Rock on! Dusty Unrein<sup>07</sup> participates in band while supporting the football players. "While I'm marching, I repeat the 'Eenie Meenie Miney Mo' song. It helps my marching," Unrein said. *photo by Elexx Feyh*

2. Checking her height, Emily Cox<sup>07</sup> confirms that she is tall enough for the rides at the Kansas State Fair. Each year the band begins the day with a marching competition and ends the day with fun at the fair. *photo by Jennifer Augustine*

3. Jordan Lang<sup>09</sup>, Alyssa Herl<sup>09</sup>, and Brooke Graves<sup>09</sup> march through the hall during a pep rally. The band rounded up students classroom by classroom for the assembly. *photo by Elexx Feyh*

4. Preparing for the Railairre Dinner Theatre, Jennifer Augustine<sup>06</sup> makes decorations to create the atmosphere. "We worked really well as a group because we had to cram in a lot in a small amount of time," Augustine said. *photo by Alyson Bollig*

## audition leads to state

# miss no note

Playing a trumpet doesn't come easy for many people, but for Krista Connelly<sup>07</sup>, it was something that came fairly easy, was enhanced with a little extra practice, and was rewarded with a trip to Wichita.

After three months of practicing the same musical piece repeatedly, Connelly's audition for State KMEA band arrived. Then after the nerve-racking audition, she did her usual routine: she threw her music on the ground and stepped on it—symbolizing the end of practicing a

piece. Now all that was left was to wait for word of acceptance.

"I was screaming in the car [when I found out]," Connelly said.

When she received her music, Connelly knew there would be many extra hours of practice since the music was challenging. Continuing with her lessons from Brad Dawson, a trumpet instructor at Fort Hays State University, she worked on the pieces for two weeks to be prepared for Wichita.

Being a member of State

KMEA band was a new venture for Connelly, but she had support from her parents, Brad Dawson, and band instructor Renetta Dawson.

"State KMEA really opened my eyes since I've never played in an orchestra before," Connelly said.

Honors to which she was no stranger included District Honor Band and District Jazz Band. For both, Connelly had to endure months of practicing for auditions—as well as ritual music stomping.

Although practicing the

same piece repetitively can get old, Connelly planned to audition for State KMEA Band again her senior year.

"Since I'm going into music, it will help a lot," Connelly said.

Throughout the year, Connelly kept busy with practicing her trumpet and auditions, but in the end it was all worth it. She ended up a member of three impressive bands and was rewarded with a trip to Wichita, something not everyone can accomplish.



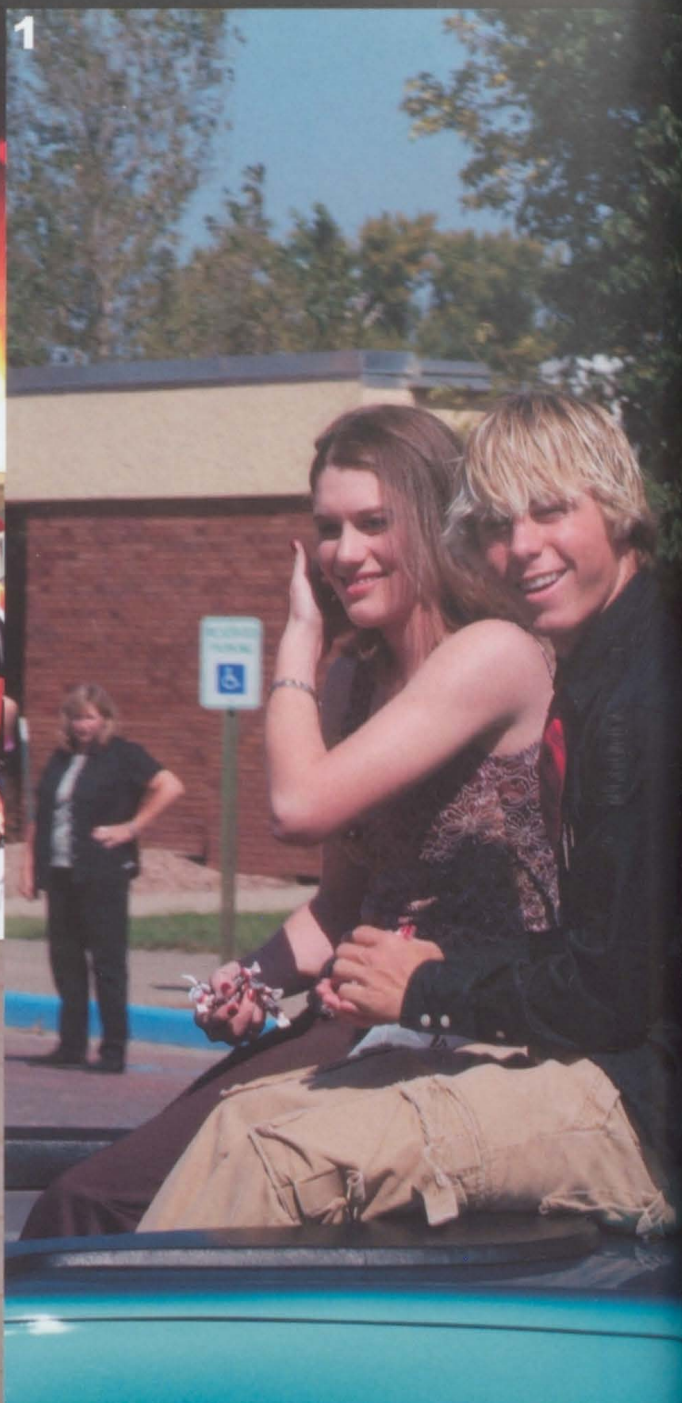
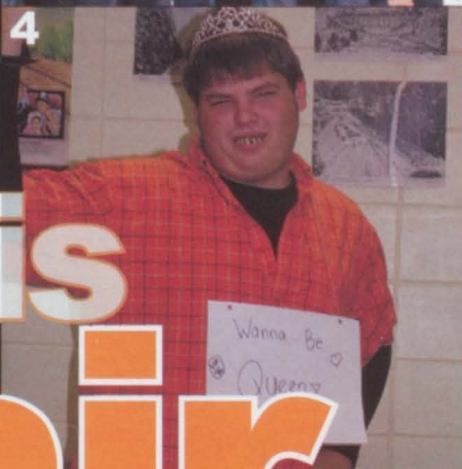
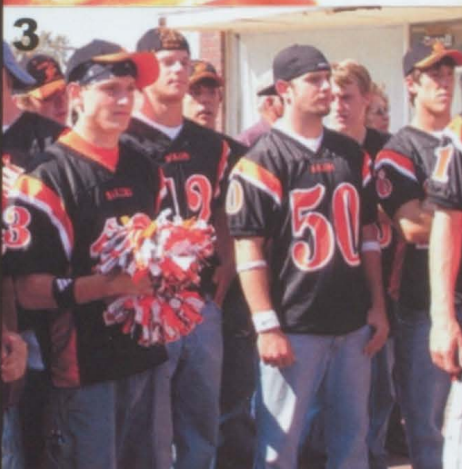


1. Riding in the parade, Kristen Weber<sup>06</sup> and Rowdy Wichman<sup>06</sup> ride in their royalty convertible. "Being royalty was a great way to end my last Homecoming," Weber said. *photo by Smoky Hill Photography*

2. EHS students gather at the bonfire. The bonfire was held the Thursday before the football game. *photo by Smoky Hill Photography*

3. Andrew Casey<sup>07</sup>, Cole Erbert<sup>07</sup>, Cory Amrein<sup>07</sup>, and Justin Gnad<sup>08</sup> attend the main street pep rally after the parade. "With the whole town at the pep rally, it got me more ready for the game than the normal pep rallies in the gym," Amrein said. *photo by Linda Riedel*

4. Wanna-be queen Danny Desaire<sup>08</sup> raises his hand in typing class. The sophomores took second in class competition points coming up short to the seniors. *photo by Linda Riedel*



# all is fair making royal revisions

Main street pep rallies, festive stadiums, and decorative parade pickups. With the help of Stuco and the EHS cheerleaders, the school and community experienced a few changes to help make Homecoming even more entertaining for everyone than before.

However, a new policy regarding Homecoming royalty was the most significant addition.

"Elexx Feyh<sup>06</sup>, Stuco vice president, and I basically

learned from other schools that their candidates did not need to be involved in an athletic activity during the year to be eligible, so we tried to implement the same thing at our school," Stuco President Rowdy Wichman<sup>06</sup> said.

Stuco unanimously voted for the changes.

"Everyone agreed. The decision led to a discussion with the Stuco officers about the proposal," Principal Kyle Hayden said.

Because only seniors participating in fall sports

were eligible for candidacy in previous years, the strict requirements were excluding a large portion of senior classes.

"The key for me was that Homecoming was going to be inclusionary compared to excluding a segment of the student population based upon involvement in fall sports," Hayden said.

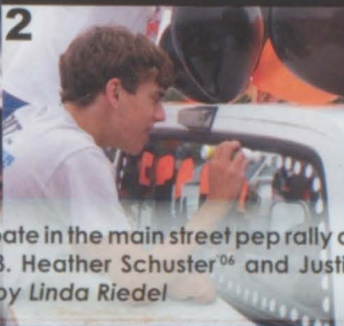
The new requirements allowed for 21 more seniors to be eligible for candidacy, but Wichman was the lone royalty member that the new policy affected.

"Being someone not involved in an athletic program during the fall, I felt that the old restrictions on eligibility created a very negative image within the school. Instead of removing or taking something away, as so many policy changes seem to do, it added something," Wichman said.

The additions to the Homecoming festivities added to the enthusiasm the school had during the week. It truly was an activity enjoyed by the entire student body.





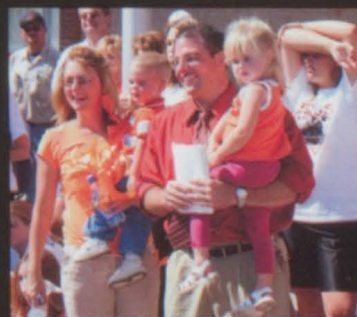


Students participate in the main street pep rally and decorate club pickups. 1. Kayla Hollern<sup>08</sup> 2. Ryan Bittel<sup>08</sup> 3. Heather Schuster<sup>06</sup> and Justin LaBarge<sup>06</sup> 4. Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup> and Whitney Taylor<sup>09</sup> photos by Linda Riedel



Getting ready for the parade, Monica Befort<sup>07</sup> shows a cardboard cheerleader she made for the junior class float. The junior's float

placed 3rd in the float competition. photo by Linda Riedel

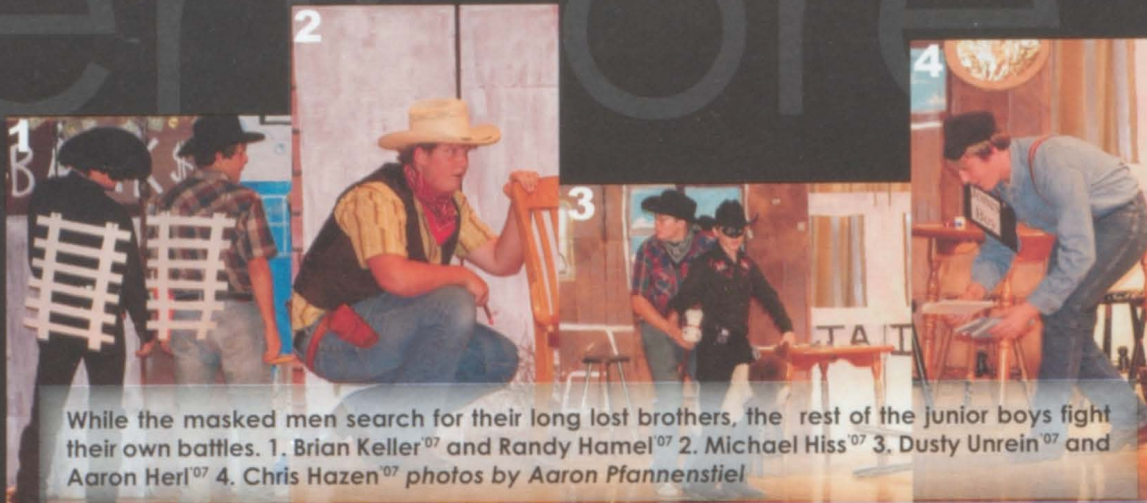


Principal Kyle Hayden and his family watch the games during the main street pep rally. The pep rally was held on Ninth St. photo by Linda Riedel

Front row: Elexx Feyh<sup>06</sup>, Kyrsten Frickey, Queen Jennifer Jacques<sup>06</sup>, Bryce Younger, and Kristen Weber<sup>06</sup>. Back row: Daren Haas<sup>06</sup>, King Eric Gaschler<sup>06</sup>, and Rowdy Wichman<sup>06</sup>. photo by Linda Riedel

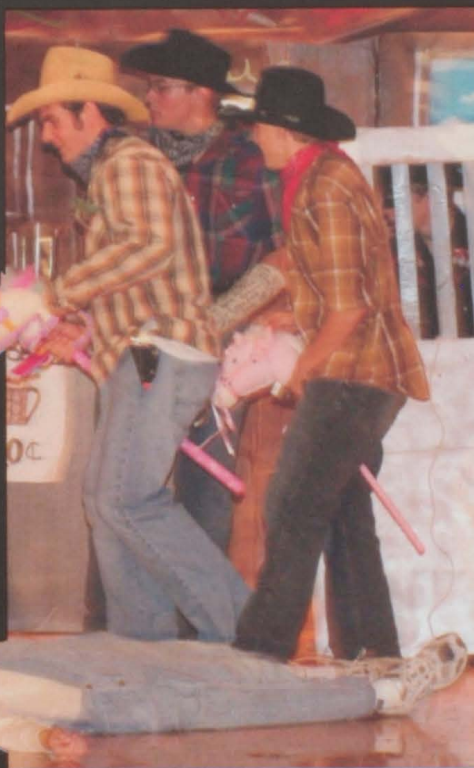






While the masked men search for their long lost brothers, the rest of the junior boys fight their own battles. 1. Brian Keller<sup>'07</sup> and Randy Hamel<sup>'07</sup> 2. Michael Hiss<sup>'07</sup> 3. Dusty Unrein<sup>'07</sup> and Aaron Herl<sup>'07</sup> 4. Chris Hazen<sup>'07</sup> photos by Aaron Pfannenstiel

Ride 'em cowboy! Aaron Herl<sup>'07</sup> directs local cowboys, Cory Amrein<sup>'07</sup>, and Andrew Casey<sup>'07</sup>, as they round up Scott Gugler<sup>'07</sup> with the help of their stick horses. The stick horses added comedy to the set and made for an entertaining prop. photo by Aaron Pfannenstiel

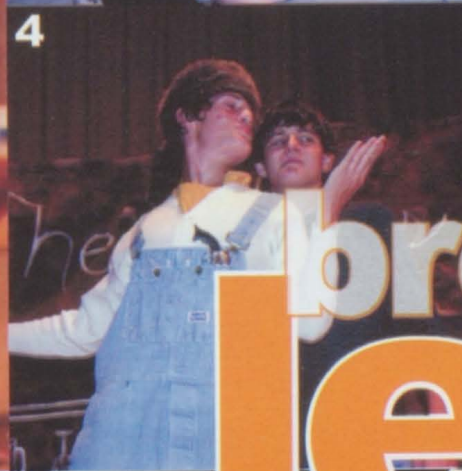
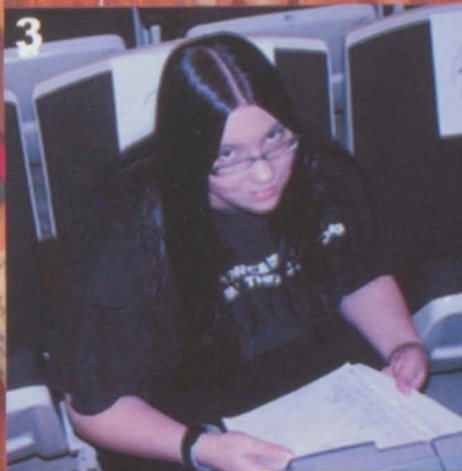
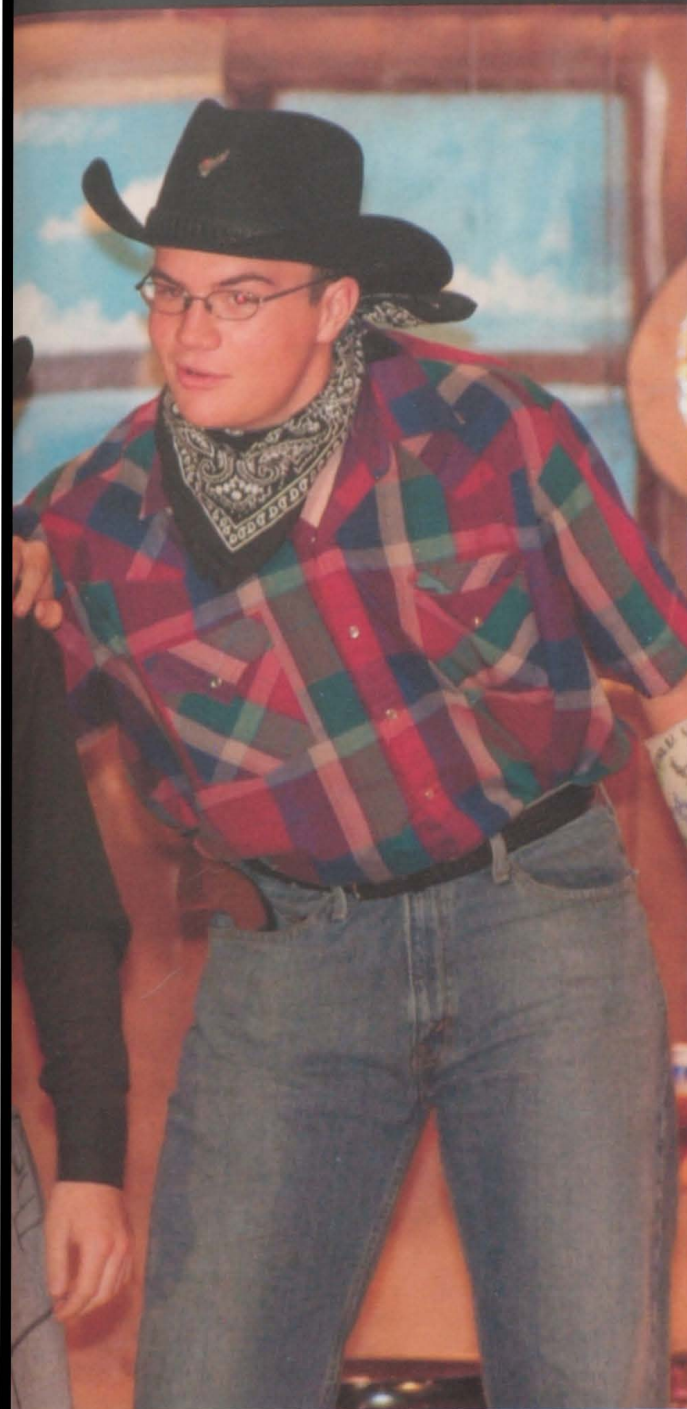


Krista Connelly<sup>'07</sup> does her best to woo her love interest Randy Hamel<sup>'07</sup> at the local laundromat. photo by Aaron Pfannenstiel

Monica Befort<sup>'07</sup> reprimands the old prospector, Keric Smith<sup>'07</sup>, while Cole Erbert<sup>'07</sup> and Andrew Casey<sup>'07</sup> keep a close eye on him. photo by Aaron Pfannenstiel







1. Aaron Herl<sup>'07</sup> advises the Masked Desperado, Dusty Unrein<sup>'07</sup>, before he goes looking for trouble. Having grown up on a farm, the role was not a hard one for Herl to play. *photo by Aaron Pfannenstiel*

2. Monica Befort<sup>'07</sup> and Whitney Lang<sup>'07</sup> clap and dance while Meggie Patrick<sup>'07</sup> sings. "We had to really dance around in the background because Meggie didn't want all eyes on her," Lang said. *photo by Aaron Pfannenstiel*

3. Letisha Elliott<sup>'07</sup> is in charge of the music and sound during the play. Elliott had a lot of experience acting and directing plays at her former school in Fritch, Texas. *photo by Jaymi Riedel*

4. Scott Gugler<sup>'07</sup> blows a kiss to Rachel Thomson<sup>'07</sup> while the Masked Avenger, Brian Keller<sup>'07</sup>, stands aside watching jealously. *photo by Jennifer Jacques*

## stepping it up a notch

# break a leg

Break a leg. That's what they say before you go on stage for good luck, but the junior class took it a little too seriously. The show must go on; however, it was almost postponed after a motorcycle accident nearly left them without two main characters.

Just two weeks before the premier of the play, "Twin Desperados", Randy Hamel<sup>'07</sup> and Aaron Herl<sup>'07</sup> collided on their motorcycles. They had multiple injuries but still managed to perform when it came time

for the play.

"Everyone was worried about the play getting moved back because of the accident," Krista Connelly<sup>'07</sup> said.

Hamel and Herl made the next couple practices very entertaining.

"They were on a lot of pain-killers," Meggie Patrick<sup>'07</sup> said. "Mrs. Riedel would have to make them sit down so they wouldn't hurt themselves."

The irony was that the two played the roles of twins, and in real life, they were both

hobbling around.

Even with all the setbacks, the play was a success. The class took the play very seriously and worked to make it a success.

"I felt like I was just there to open the doors," Riedel said. "They did the whole thing on their own."

Since everyone's lines were learned on time, ad-libbing was a lot easier. The class worked together and helped each other out whenever anyone was having problems.

The whole class helped

make the set, with Monica Befort<sup>'07</sup> doing most of the artwork. Not only did she construct most of the set, but she also played the role of two characters.

"The hard part was changing my outfits all the time," Befort said.

The show must go on, and that it did.

"I've never had a class work like this," Riedel said. "The script fit the class, and when you get a script that fits the class well, they give 110%."



1. During Mother Daughter Tea, Sheila Douglas<sup>06</sup>, Elexx Feyh<sup>06</sup>, and Emily Keller<sup>06</sup> compete against each other. For the senior skit, the senior girls became the Talls and the Smalls for a round of Kayette Family Feud. photo by Rowdy Wichman

2. To keep everyone updated, Laura Augustine<sup>07</sup> and Meggie Patrick<sup>07</sup> construct the Kayette bulletin board. Throughout the year, thank you cards, points earned and upcoming events were posted. photo by Cindy Hertel

3. Debra Massier<sup>07</sup> sorts canned food collected from Trick-or-Treat-So-Others-Can-Eat. "It turned out that some other girls took our road," Massier said of collecting canned food. photo by Jaymi Riedel

4. Taking a break from holding up the heart with Emily Keller<sup>06</sup>, Amanda Fischer<sup>06</sup> shows her strength. The Kayette girls worked until midnight to set up decorations for the dance. photo by Rowdy Wichman



# low on cash

## club relies on own resources

When money is tight, a person does whatever possible. Kristen Weber<sup>06</sup>, Kayette president, tried to make everything run smoothly during the Kayettes' financial hardship.

"It was stressful trying to make things run smoothly, but it taught me that not everyone will be happy with your leadership decisions," Weber said.

Money was needed for Snoball, Mother Daughter Tea refreshments, camp

fees and donations. To help alleviate the deficit, extra fund raisers were included like selling the Railer Pride bracelets and locker baskets filled with goodies, and picture frames for Snoball were eliminated.

Paying to attend Snoball was also required. If a girl didn't sell the required number of wreaths, the major fund raiser, she had to pay \$5 for each wreath she didn't sell.

"A lot of girls were extremely upset about having to sell

or pay for Snoball, but we all coped very well," Weber said.

As Snoball approached and stress levels soared, the girls wondered how Snoball would look. Without the funds to buy a kit, the girls were forced to rely on their own creativity and resources.

"We didn't spend one third of what we normally do for Snoball," Mrs. Karen Madorin, Kayette sponsor, said.

Even with a budget, the decorations turned

out excellent thanks to hard work, creativity, and dedication.

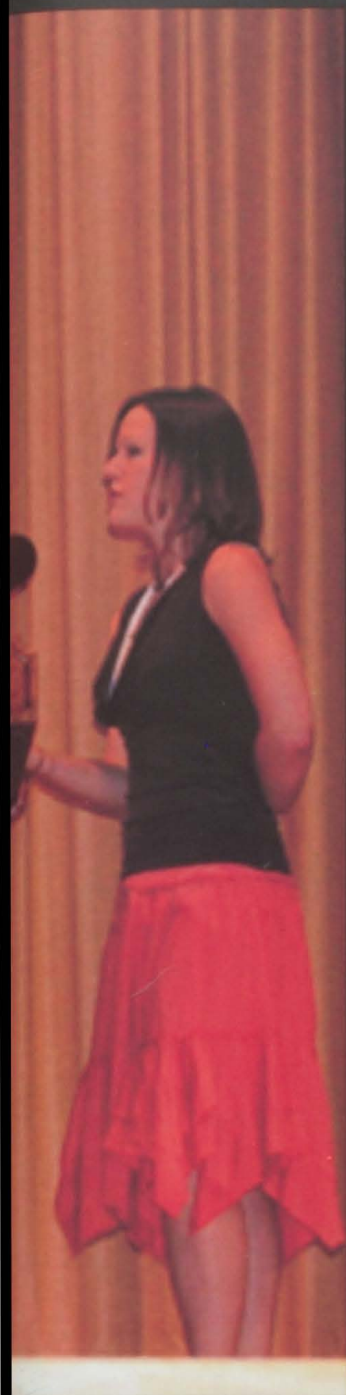
"It was surprising how we could do it cheaply and have it turn out pretty," Emily Cox<sup>07</sup> said.

Because the organization didn't have much money, more fund raisers were discussed to prevent a future shortage of money.

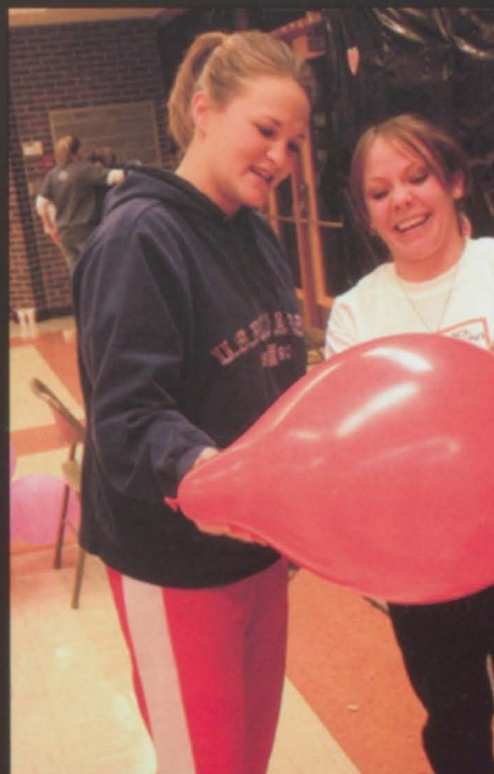
"We've got around \$1,400 to start next year. We're setting pretty good," Laura Augustine<sup>07</sup> said.







Students enjoy surprise boxes of baked goods during the Food Box Auction. 1. Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>06</sup> and Elexx Feyh<sup>06</sup>. 2. Jaymi Riedel<sup>06</sup>. 3. Ashley Hejny<sup>06</sup> and Sheila Douglas<sup>06</sup>. 4. Kerry Robb<sup>09</sup> and Justin LaBarge<sup>06</sup>. photos by Jennifer Augustine



Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>06</sup> and Amanda Yanda<sup>06</sup> laugh at the size of the balloon while they help decorate the lobby for Snoball. "The balloons were massive, so we kept blowing them up as big as we could," Schoenthaler said. photo by Rowdy Wichman

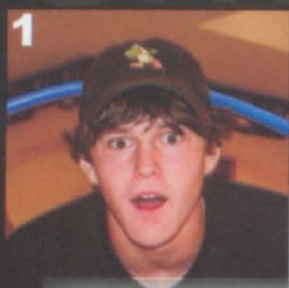


Dropping his cans into the bag, Bill Hankins<sup>06</sup> donates to Trick-Or-Treat-So-Others-Can-Eat. Kayettes collected 806 cans for the needy. photo by Jaymi Riedel

Dylan Lang<sup>06</sup> and Amber Honas<sup>06</sup> were elected King and Queen of Snoball. "Pictures were ridiculous because Dylan couldn't keep his eyes open," Honas said. photo by Jennifer Jacques

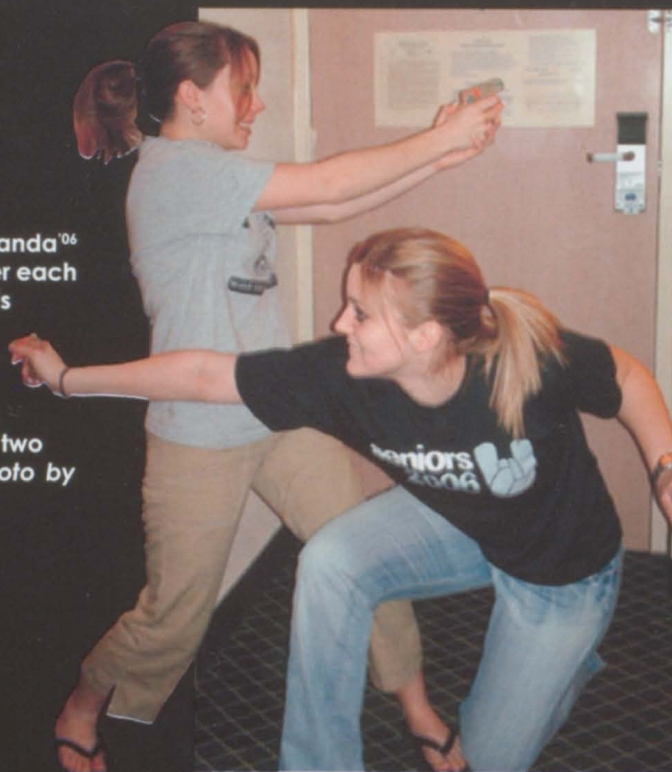






Students and staff enjoy themselves at Freshman Fun Night. The FCCLA board members planned the night to help recruit new members to FCCLA. 1. Brian Keller<sup>'07</sup> 2. Mrs. Sharla Albers 3. Meggie Patrick<sup>'07</sup> and Bill Hankins<sup>'06</sup> 4. Kerry Robb<sup>'09</sup> photos by Rowdy Wichman

Watch out! Amanda Yanda<sup>'06</sup> and Jaymi Riedel<sup>'06</sup> cover each other. Both of the girls were attending the state FCCLA Convention in Wichita. The group had a water gun fight that ended up on two different floor levels. photo by Ashley Hejny



Attending the FFA pizza party, Michael Hiss<sup>'07</sup> eats pizza at Arthur's Pizza and Mexican Food. Members could attend the pizza party if they had \$100 in sales. photo by Jennifer Jacques

Explaining the fruit sales, Mr. Eldon Pfeifer points out what he means to Aaron Herl<sup>'07</sup>, M.J. Gnad<sup>'06</sup>, and Justin Gnad<sup>'07</sup>. FFA earned \$2,200 with their fundraiser. photo by Nicole Weigel







1. Smiling with delight, Amanda Yanda<sup>06</sup> enjoys the FCCLA Breakfast. The club held the breakfast in completion of FCCLA week. The week was filled with different activities on each day. *photo by Elexx Feyh*

2. With a full stomach, Todd Flinn<sup>08</sup> looks at the magazine for fruit sales after eating at the FFA Barbecue. *photo by Nicole Weigel*

3. Cole Weigel<sup>06</sup> helps with unloading the truck for the fruit sales. Weigel sold \$350 dollars in sales. *photo by Nicole Weigel*

4. Taking part in FCCLA State Leadership convention, Laura Augustine, newly elected district officer works on finances for the upcoming events. *photo by Ashley Hejny*

# Follow the lead

## clubs had good year

The old saying goes "In with the new, and out with the old." It certainly applied to Family Career Community Leaders of America [FCCLA] and Future Farmers of America [FFA].

FCCLA and FFA had many great success, but there were some changes with the clubs. One had a gain, another a loss.

FCCLA acquired a new position that sponsor Mrs. Sharla Albers had never had during the five years of being FCCLA sponsor at Ellis High School. Laura Augustine<sup>06</sup> became a

district B officer. Augustine wanted to be more involved with FCCLA, and she chose to run as an officer to fulfill that aspiration. After winning over the voting delegates at the Feb. 15 elections, Augustine was voted vice president of finance.

With this new responsibility came extra work for Augustine.

"I have to help plan all district events and balance the district checking account. Those are the things I know I have to do as of now, but I'm sure I will gain more

responsibilities as the year progresses," she said.

As for FFA, they lost a long-time sponsor of 29 years, Mr. Eldon Pfeifer. Pfeifer was an FFA sponsor for a total of 35 years, six of those years being at Palco High school. Under Pfeifer's leadership, FFA accomplished many things. They placed second in the ag mechanics contest, second in the district crop judging contest, and third in livestock judging.

Pfeifer said he would not only miss being involved with his successful FFA chapter,

he would also miss the students.

"They are what make a club. If you have a good group of students, you will have a good year. Just be active in the school and don't be a bump on a log. Participate," Pfeifer said.

With a new FCCLA district officer and a new FFA sponsor, the clubs will face a lot of change.

"Mr. Pfeifer built a great program. Now it's up to the future to continue it," said Jennifer Jacques, FFA member.





1. Prom server Kayla Hollern<sup>08</sup> serves Amanda Yanda<sup>06</sup> fruitkabobs during the dance. The tiki bar set up outside the high school offered students fruit kabobs and strawberry daiquiris. photo Cindy Hertel

2. Having fun and feeling sophisticated, Austin Fox<sup>06</sup> pours a glass of Pepsi while riding in a limo. The 10-seated limo held 13 of Fox's friends. photo by Jennifer Jacques

3. Getting the best of their last Prom, Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>06</sup> and Amber Honas<sup>06</sup> sing to each other. "The highlight of my senior Prom would definitely have to be the limo ride before the dance," Honas said. photo by Cindy Hertel

4. Justin Gnad<sup>08</sup> takes a break to drink his strawberry daiquiri made by the EHS Students Against Destructive Decisions headed by sponsor Mrs. Karen Madorin. Students flocked to the tiki bar when Prom servers began serving them. photo by Jennifer Jacques



# bring it on

## juniors change scenes

Sunshine. No wind. With parts of the "Late Night Luau" theme being stationed outside, the perfect weather contributed a lot to the success of Prom.

Every class tries to make their Prom better than the classes before them by implementing changes. The juniors went to the extreme by literally creating a tropical atmosphere outdoors.

Upon arrival and before entering the school, students, teachers and special guests

were able to hear the Flatland Band.

"It was fun being able to perform for a younger crowd," said John Jacques, Jr., member of the Flatland Band. "I liked the enthusiasm in all the young faces and how they appreciated live music."

The students enjoyed the band during their downtime between pictures and dinner.

"Listening to music allowed some time before dinner to

socialize with everyone," Stephanie Spinelli<sup>07</sup> said.

The band interacted with the crowd by asking trivia questions and playing oldie surfer music to relate to the "Late Night Luau" Prom theme.

"No one has ever had a live band, so it was something new for everyone," Amanda Yanda<sup>06</sup> said

The theme was definitely one to remember, especially for the seniors.

"It was sad knowing that

it would be the last time we would dress up and be with our class at a school dance," Yanda said.

Cindy Hertel, Prom sponsor, said the seniors realized this was one of their last opportunities to be together, so they made the best of Prom by staying later.

"I think it will be something for people to remember our Prom by because it was something different," Spinelli said. ¶







Students show how it's not unusual for them to have fun when given a great opportunity. 1. Krista Connelly<sup>'07</sup> 2. Rowdy Wichman<sup>'06</sup>, Daniel Gottschalk<sup>'08</sup> 3. Chris Hazen<sup>'07</sup> 4. Amanda Fischer<sup>'06</sup>, Emily Keller<sup>'06</sup> *photos by Cindy Hertel*



John Jacques, jr. performs for the crowd with

his teeth to "Refugee" by Tom Petty and the Heartbreakers. "This song seems to be one of the favorites for the local people," Jacques said. *photo by Jennifer Jacques*

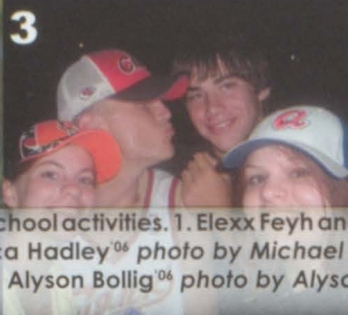


Aaron Pfannenstiel<sup>'08</sup> bites on a fruit-kabob offered to him at the tiki bar. "They brought out the fruit, and everyone's eyes lit up!" Mrs. Jacqueline Grogan said. *photo by Cindy Hertel*

Kendra Mickelson<sup>'09</sup> watches as Casey Cross<sup>'06</sup> takes the lead singing and dancing. Freshmen and sophomores were allowed to attend Prom if asked by an upperclassman. *photo by Cindy Hertel*







Students find fun beyond schoolwork and school activities. 1. Elexx Feyh and Mara Geschwenter photo by Lynelle Gottschalk 2. Jessica Hadley<sup>06</sup> photo by Michael Dietz 3. Kayla Hollern<sup>08</sup>, Justin LaBarge<sup>06</sup>, John Tricks<sup>08</sup>, and Alyson Bollig<sup>06</sup> photo by Alyson Bollig 4. Jennifer Augustine<sup>06</sup> photo by Alyson Bollig

While hunting, Harold Honas and his son, Monte Honas<sup>09</sup>, show off their buck. "Hunting is a nice way to get outdoors and get away from the real world of schoolwork and work," Harold said. photo by Aaron Honas

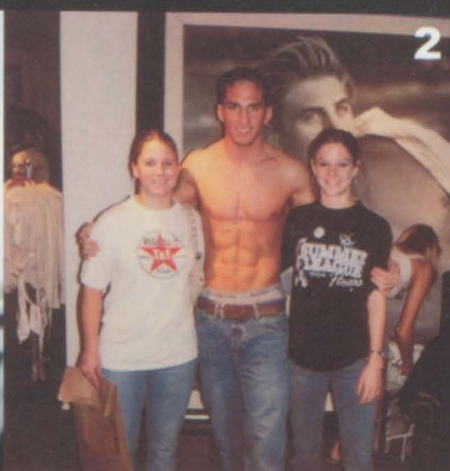
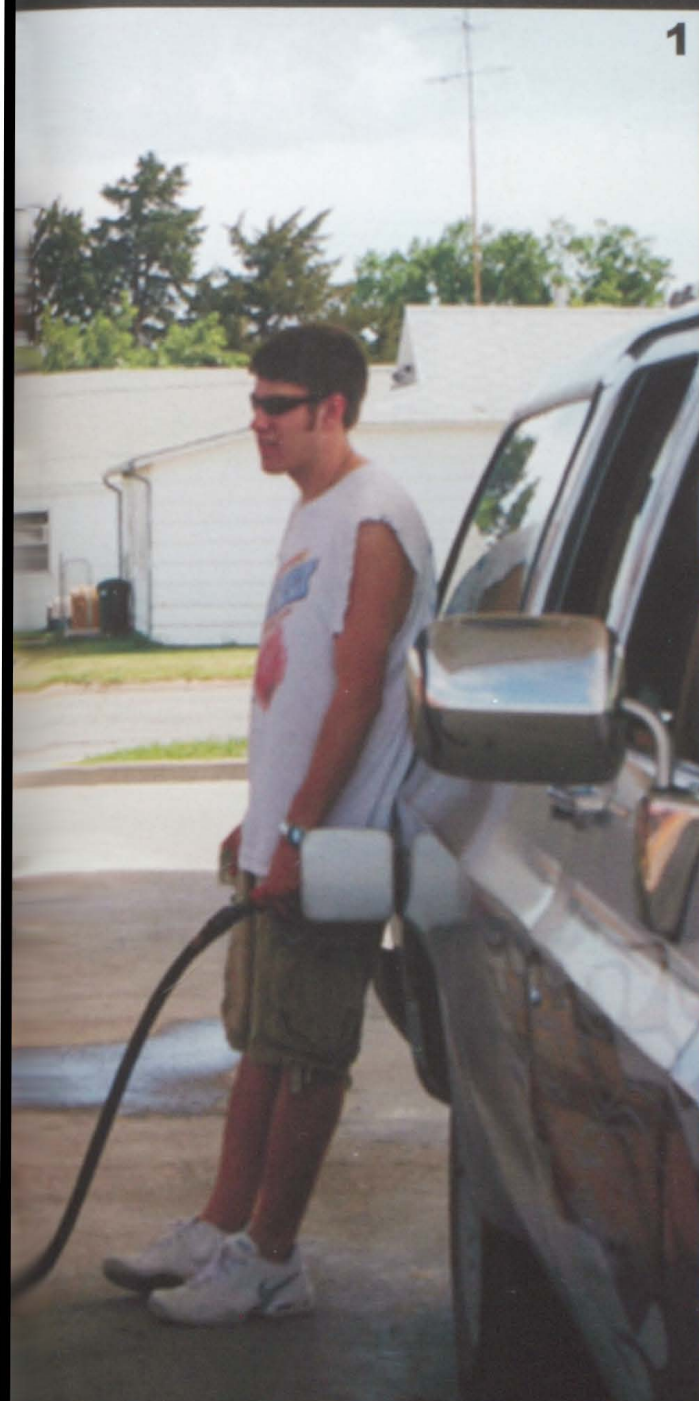


Aaron Herl<sup>07</sup> rides his four wheeler through the country. Herl and Randy Hamel<sup>07</sup> were injured in a motorcycle accident in November. photo by Alyssa Herl

Jessica Hadley<sup>06</sup> and Kelsi Schoenthaler<sup>06</sup> take a break from lifeguard training at Colby Community College. Hadley and Schoenthaler trained for 36 hours. photo by Vanessa Beilman







1. Watching the price, MJ Gnad<sup>07</sup> fills up his Suburban. Gnad's Suburban made an average 18 miles/gallon and cost an average of \$100 each fill-up. *photo by Elexx Feyh*

2. To help out needy children, Amber Honas<sup>06</sup> and Brittany Kroeger<sup>07</sup> donate money to take a picture with an Abercrombie model. "We were going to donate the money, but we didn't really want to take the picture. My mom shoved us up there and made us do it," Kroeger said. *courtesy photo*

3. Bill Hankins<sup>06</sup> participates in Th' Gathering. Th' Gathering is a Scottish festival held at Cedar Bluff Reservoir every year during the first weekend of May. *photo by Patricia Lovin*

4. Heather Schuster<sup>07</sup> and Jennifer Casey show the banners they hung around town for the Girl Scout Gold Award. "It was a lot of work putting the brackets together," Schuster said. *photo by Rhonda Hadley*

# on the side

## students keep busy out of school

The on-going war in Iraq. Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. High gas prices. Rising college tuition. These are the pressures and worries that clouded students' everyday lives.

"With less money available for grants and scholarships, it's going to be difficult to pay for college," Matea Lovato<sup>07</sup> said.

To alleviate those pressures, many students had or found an outlet: something to help them forget.

The community of Ellis offered several activities

within the city limits. Some got involved with the activities of the Ellis Recreation Center like coaching children's soccer teams whereas others got involved with Boy Scouts or Girl Scouts.

Many students held jobs at businesses like Trio, Kevy-Lee's Diner, Matt's Rib Shack, Arthur's Pizza and Mexican Food, the Good Samaritan Center, or Rich's Hometown Food Center, while some were employed in Hays.

"It's convenient working in town and not driving to Hays because I can walk to work

if I choose and not spend as much money on gas," Amber Ellis<sup>08</sup> said.

Driving around, dragging Washington Street, or congregating at Memorial Park was common among most of the students. A few could be found spending time at the batting cages, playing basketball at the old courts, or simply walking up and down Washington.

Beyond the city limits, students took part in riding four-wheelers, fishing, camping and participating in Th' Gathering, a fire festival

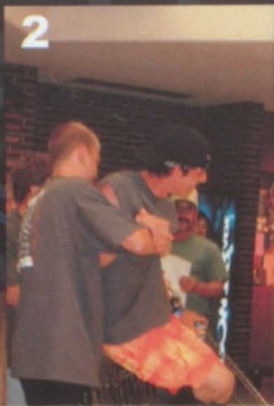
at Cedar Bluff Reservoir.

"The best part [of Th' Gathering] is seeing everyone gather to remember their family and clan," Bill Hankins<sup>06</sup> said. "They walk through the fire to burn off the old."

Despite Ellis' small size, it helped students overlook the outside world for a little while. Many outlets were found within and beyond its city limits.







Graduating students enjoy their day of celebration. 1. Amanda Yanda, Jessica Smith photo by Cindy Hertel 2. Austin Morton, Justin LaBarge photo by Donna Riedel 3. Jennifer Augustine, Alyson Bollig. photo by Cindy Hertel 4. Ashley Hejny photo by Rhonda Hadley

Jessica Hadley pushes Kelsi Schoenthaler through the wheelbarrow course during project graduation. The blindfolded driver had to weave through cones and over a ramp while the person in the wheelbarrow directed the driver where to go.  
photo by Rhonda Hadley

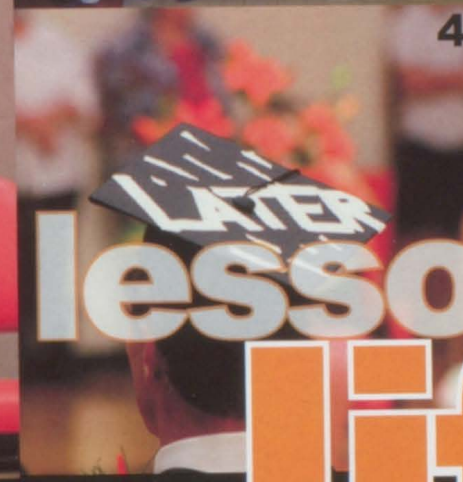
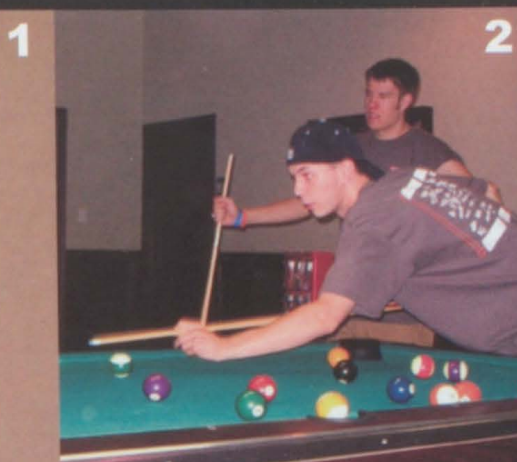
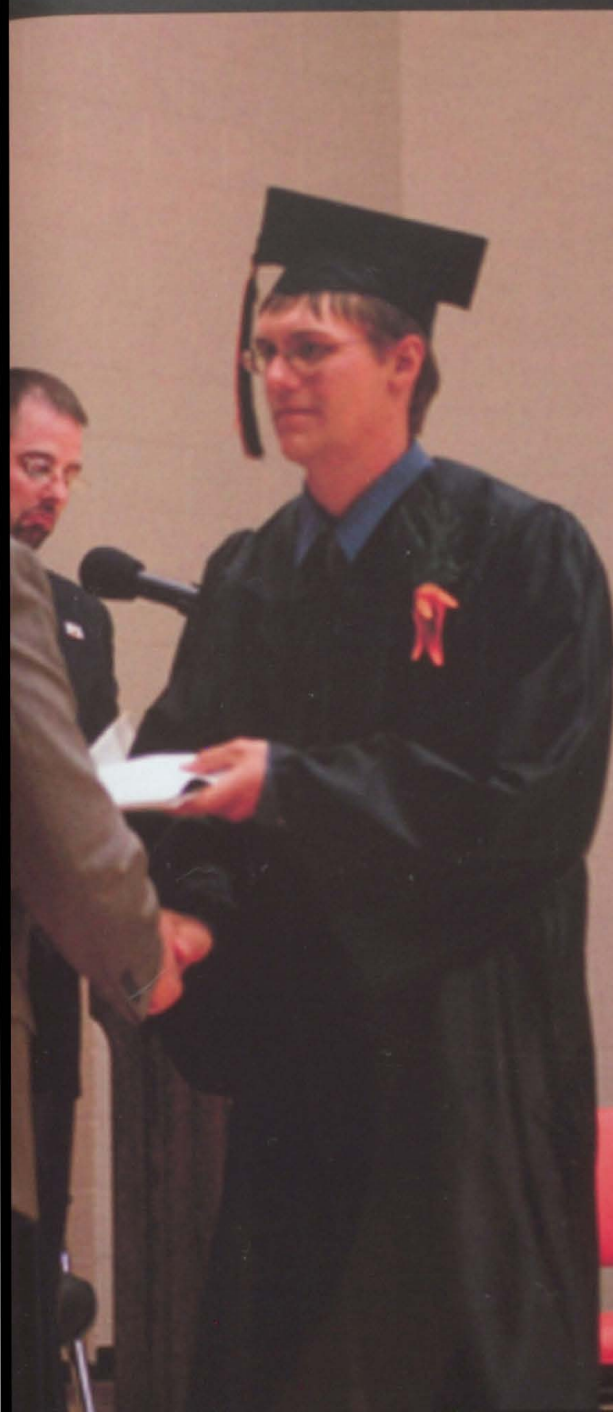


Fathers of the seniors tell them how they really feel by performing "Bye Bye Bye" at project graduation. Other performers were the Spice Girls and Kiss.  
photo by Jaymi Riedel

The senior girls get together one last time before the graduation ceremony. Most of the girls said what they would miss most would be their lunch table that they sat at all four years. photo by Cindy Hertel







1. Cole Weigel receives his diploma from superintendent Bernie White. White was an interim superintendent for the 2005-2006 school year. photo by Cindy Hertel

2. Austin Fox and MJ Gnad play pool at Precision Valley while waiting for others to finish playing miniature golf. Students could play pool, golf in the simulator, or putt-putt. photo by Rhonda Hadley

3. The Senior boys act tough while getting their group picture taken before the ceremony. Later the boys lost to the girls in the grocery-cart races at project graduation. photo by Cindy Hertel

4. Slade Hackney shows just how excited he is to graduate by writing it on his cap. Sayings on other caps included: "Chevy," "Tripod," and "WBC." photo by Cindy Hertel

# Lessons in life

## seniors reminisce about past

Throughout their four years of high school, teachers instructed the class of '06 in the standards required by the state. However, sometimes what the seniors remembered the most didn't come from classroom lessons, but from other experiences.

"I'll never forget crying on the phone with Kristen Weber and Whitney Taylor after we lost our semi-final basketball game. Also I'll never forget when Bill had his angina." – Jennifer Jacques

"I found out that it can be harmful to your grades and

a really bad idea to procrastinate." – Katie Zahn

"I learned from Mr. Kohl that we are a sponge, and if he keeps repeating, then we will absorb the information." – Jessica Hadley

"I'll never forget walking to Washington Grade School in below freezing weather with snow on the ground to learn about centripetal force on the merry-go-round in physics class." – Alyson Bollig

"My favorite moment was when Jennifer Jacques and I recited Chris Farley in Mrs. Madorin's class and got

kicked out the first day of school." – Amber Honas

"Never go ask a student that is in Mr. Kohl's class a question. Even though they might not be doing anything, you will get the biggest lecture about interrupting." – Jennifer Augustine

"I'll never forget or let Mr. Pfeifer forget when he locked the keys in the suburban at the crops and horticulture contest." – Nicole Weigel

"I'll always remember when Katie cut the tip of her finger off in Terry's class, and the rumor was that she cut her

entire hand off." – Austin Morton

"I learned that packing eight people in a Grand Am is not a safe thing to do underage." – Elexx Feyh

"Never put powdered donuts in your pants during freshman P.E. because they will fall out when you run, and Mr. Long will tell all the hot senior boys." – Kelsi Schoenthaler





# golf

Front Row: Tina Unrein, Katelyn Keller, Jennifer Jacques, Kristen Waldschmidt, Laura Augustine, Katie Parson, Sarah Fischer, Justin Henrickson, Row 2: Daniel Gottschalk, Eric Gaschler, Rowdy Wichman, Zack Gehring, Tom Totten, Aaron Pfannenstiel, Austin Morton, Logan Stanton, Coach Randy Herman, Row 3: Coach Jason Crist, Danny Desaire, Michael Young, John Tricks, Adam Augustine, Ryan Bittel, Scott Hupka, Chris Hazen, Brett Mickelson. *photo by Linda Riedel.*



# girls' track

Front row: Coach Randy Kohl, Whitney Lang, Emily Cox, Haley Wolf, Kara Hackney, Jesse Lonberg, Coach Jack Wolf, Row 2: Theresa Ashley, Kayla Hollern, Amber Honas, Kelsi Schoenthaler, Danielle Pfeiffer, Row 3: Deana Hunsicker, Brittany Kroeger, Meggie Patrick, Row 4: Coach Steve Erbert, Vanessa North, Whitney Taylor, Coach Butch Hayes, Row 5: Katie Zahn, Sammy Hook. *photo by Kelsy Kinderknecht.*



# boys' track

Front Row: Coach Steve Erbert, Coach Jack Wolf, Brian Keller, Keric Smith, Randy Hamel, Dusty Unrein, Andrew Casey, Logan Bittel, Scott Gugler, Monte Honas, Row 2: Todd Flinn, Daren Haas, Dylan Lang, Justin Gnad, Cole Erbert, Michael Hiss, Cory Amrein, Slade Hackney, Lenny LaBarge, Clay Barton, Coach Randy Kohl. *photo by Kelsy Kinderknecht.*





# cheer squad



Front Row: Kara Hackney, Rachael Hamel, Kendra Mickelson, Tina Unrein, Row 2: Jaymi Riedel, Kelsi Schoenthaler, Emily Keller, Amber Honas, Row 3: Kayla Hollern, Megan Keller, Meggie Patrick, Rachel Thomson, Brittany Kroeger. photo by Smoky Hill.

# band



Front Row: Brian Riedel, Michael Young, Ryan Bittel, Logan Stanton, Chris Hazen, Jordan Lang, Brooke Graves, Row 2: Brandon Geschwenter, Erick Estrada, Aaron Herl, Jennifer Augustine, Jaymi Riedel, Bill Hankins, Dusty Unrein, Brian Keller, Ryan Grogan, Row 3: Renetta Dawson, Breanna Ellison, Vanessa North, Rachel Lantis, Emily Cox, Danielle Pfeiffer, Whitney Taylor, Courtney Scharz, Krista Connelly, Laura Augustine, Row 4: Lauren Wheeler, Meredith Keller, Kayla Hollern, Emily Keller, Tina Unrein, Heather Weber, Rachael Hamel, Haley Wolf. photo by Cindy Hertel.

# choir



Front Row: Kayla Hollern, Heather Weber, Vanessa North, Katie Parson, Meredith Keller, Rachel Lantis, Row 2: Lauren Wheeler, Kristen Weber, Bailey Deutscher, Emily Keller, Jordan Lang, Kendra Mickelson, Kara Hackney, Sarah Fischer, Row 3: Breanna Ellison, Laura Redden, Katie Zahn, Megan Keller, Krista Connelly, Courtney Wright, Brooke Graves, Haley Wolf, Row 4: Justin Brungardt, Debra Massier, Danielle Pfeiffer, Deana Hunsicker, Heather Schuster, Brian Riedel, Bill Hankins, Randy Sauer, Row 5: Chris Hazen, Michael Young, Aaron Herl, Jaymi Riedel, Jessica Hadley, Jennifer Augustine, Courtney Scharz, Emily Cox. photo by Cindy Hertel.





# kayette board

Front Row: Meggie Patrick, Brittany Kroeger, Amanda Yanda, Kayla Hollern, Kristen Weber, Row 2: Heather Schuster, Jessica Hadley, Danielle Pfeifer, Emily Cox, Laura Augustine, Row 3: Elexx Feyh, Deana Hunsicker. not pictured: kelsi schoenthaler photo by Cindy Hertel.



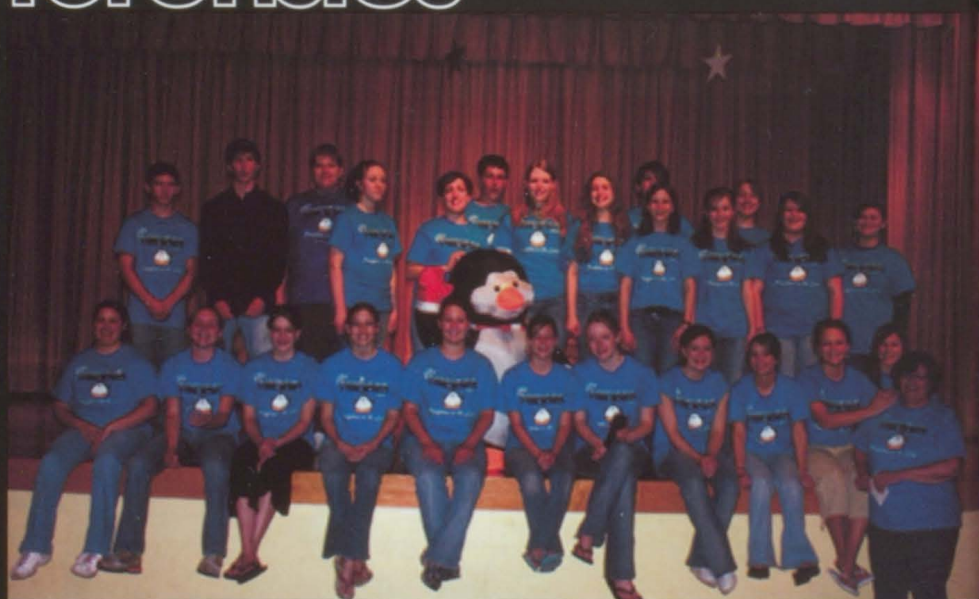
# nhs

Front Row: Kristen Weber, Heather Schuster, Jessica Hadley, Alyson Bollig, Row 2: Kelsi Schoenthaler, Jennifer Augustine, Jennifer Jacques, Laura Augustine, 3: Principal Kyle Hayden, Kelsy Kinderknecht, Rowdy Wichman, Brian Keller, Adam Augustine, Krista Connelly, Jenetta Heronome. photo by Linda Riedel



# forensics

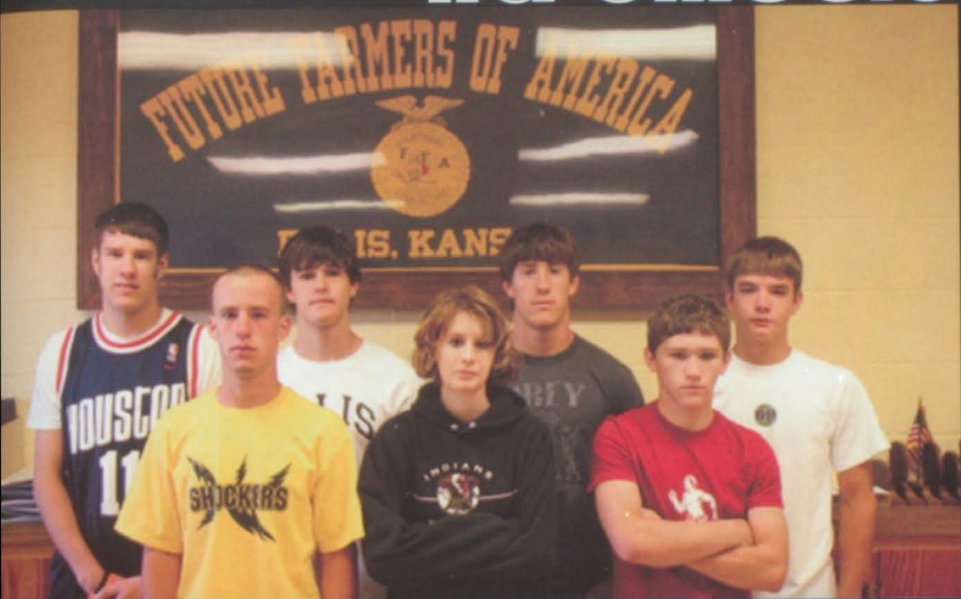
Front Row: Vanessa North, Whitney Taylor, Kristen Weber, Megan Keller, Jessica Hadley, Brittany Kroeger, Meggie Patrick, Rachel Thomson, Stephanie Spinelli, Kelsi Schoenthaler, Kara Hackney, Coach Linda Riedel, Row 2: Dusty Unrein, Brian Keller, Bill Hankins, Ciara Hespe, Krista Connelly, Aaron Pfannenstiel, Kelsy Kinderknecht, Rachel Lantis, Michael Young, Lauren Wheeler, Tina Unrein, Jordan Lang, Heather Weber, Whitney Wright. photo by Alyson Bollig





# ffa officers

Front Row: Kevin Urban, Nicole Weigel, Dusty Unrein, Row 2: MJ Gnad, Brian Keller, Justin Gnad, Daniel Gottschalk. photo by Cindy Hertel.



# fccla officers

Front Row: Brittany Kroeger, Stephanie Spinelli, Sheila Douglas, Row 2: Laura Augustine, Jessica Hadley, Heather Schuster, Jaymi Riedel, Meggie Patrick. photo by Cindy Hertel.



# stuco officers

Rowdy Wichman, Ellex Feyh, Jaymi Riedel, Jennifer Jacques. photo by Sheila Douglas





# volleyball

Front Row: Katie Parson, Whitney Taylor, Jordan Lang, Kendra Mickelson, Row 2: Kayla Hollern, Katelyn Keller, Jennifer Jacques, Jaymi Riedel, Kristen Weber, Jessica Hadley, Danielle Pfeifer, Deana Hunsicker, 3: Brittany Kroeger, Coach Kerry Bittel, Jaylen Reed, Megan Keller, Meggie Patrick, Laura Augustine, Whitney Lang, Emily Cox, Kristen Waldschmidt, Coach Perry Mick, Heather Weber, Coach Brandi Fink, not pictured Elexx Feyh, Amber Honas. photo by Smoky Hill Photography.



# cross country

Coach Casey Dinkel, Kylor Campbell, Haley Wolf, Kevin Urban, Rachel Thomson, Keric Smith, Kelsi Schoenthaler, Todd Flinn, Krista Connelly, Brian Keller, Amanda Yanda, Scott Gugler. photo by Smoky Hill Photography.



# football

Front Row: Steven Schmidt, Austin Fox, Kyle Hadley, Chase King, Jake Reilly, Glenn Lacy, Monte Honas, Logan Bittel, Brandon Geschwentner, Cody Ocamb, Row 2: Mgr. Aaron Pfannenstiel, Andrew Casey, Zack Gehring, Chris Hazen, Adam Augustine, Randy Hamel, Eric Gaschler, Brett Mickelson, John Tricks, Cory Amrein, Daniel Gottschalk, Logan Stanton, 3: Coach Troy Dale, Mgr. Kelsi Schoenthaler, Clay Barton, Justin Gnad, Daren Haas, Slade Hackney, Dylan Lang, Coach Art Schoenthaler, Justin LaBarge, Michael Hiss, Cole Erbert, Aaron Herl, Mgr. Elexx Feyh. photo by Smoky Hill Photography.



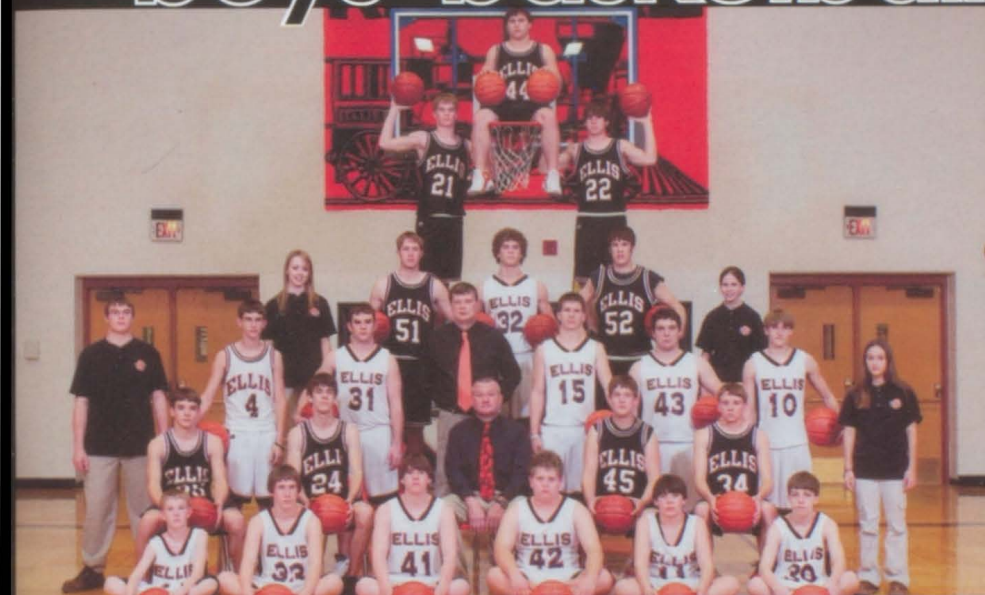


# girls' basketball



2006 MCL Tournament Champions

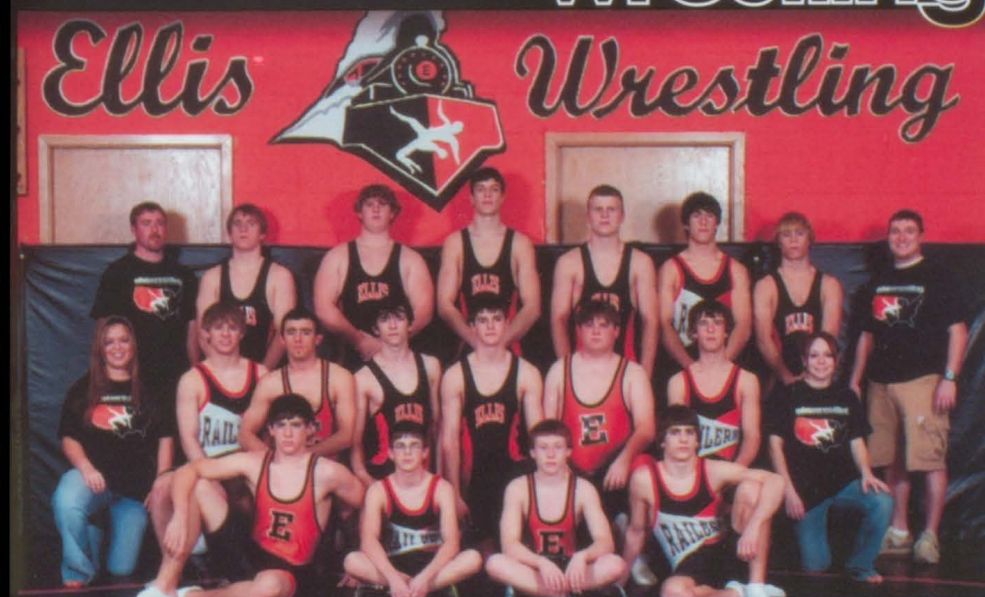
# boys' basketball



Front Row: Coach David Wildeman, Mgr. Lauren Wheeler, Heather Weber, Brittany Kroeger, Kayla Hollern, Haley Wolf, Coach Perry Mick Row 2: Kendra Mickelson, Katelyn Keller, Bailey Deutscher, Kristen Waldschmidt, Deana Hunsicker, Rachael Hamel, 3: Kristen Weber, Whitney Lang, Danielle Pfeifer, Laura Augustine, Jennifer Jacques, Jaymi Riedel, Whitney Taylor. photo by Smoky Hill Photography.

Front Row: Tyler Fischer, Kyle Hadley, Kerry Robb, Clay Barton, Joey Kitzman, Brandon Geschwentner, Row 2: Daniel Gottschalk, Justin Gnad, Coach Art Schoenthaler, Brian Riedel, Todd Flinn, Row 3: Mgr. Aaron Herl, Lenny LaBarge, Cory Amrein, Coach Chris Rorabaugh, Adam Augustine, Brett Mickelson, Andrew Casey, Mgr. Meredith Keller, Row 4: Mgr. Melissa Nowlin, Jordan Mattheyer, Cole Erbert, MJ Gnad, Mgr. Lauren Wheeler, Row 5: Dylan Lang, Daren Haas, Row 5: Eric Gaschler. photo by Smoky Hill Photography.

# wrestling



Front Row: John Tricks, Justin Henrickson, Justin Brungardt, Chase King, Row 2: Mgr. Elexx Feyh, Zack Gehring, Erick Estrada, Austin Morton, Brian Keller, Danny Desaire, Kevin Urban, Mgr. Amanda Yanda, 3: Coach Casey Dinkel, Chris Hazen, Michael Hiss, Slade Hackney, Justin LaBarge, Justin Gnad, Rowdy Wichman, Justin Schwartz. photo by Smoky Hill Photography.





# usd388

## mission statement

Believing in and encouraging the individual worth of each student, U.S.D. 388 will provide a safe and healthy environment in which all students can learn the necessary academic and social skills that will enable them to be contributing, self-sufficient members of society.

## usd388 district office

<b>Superintendent</b>	Bernie White
<b>Superintendent's Secretary</b>	Brandy Becker
<b>Treasurer</b>	Connie Waldschmidt (not pictured)

*photo by Rowdy Wichman*



## usd388 school board

USD 388 School Board met every third Monday of the month to discuss educational issues.

**Front:** Gail Brack, Cheryl Helget, and Linda Hunsicker.

**Back Row:** Gayla Wichman, Marty Hollern, and Art Honas.

**Not Pictured:** Mary Jo Walz.

*photo by Rowdy Wichman*



## usd388 transportation team

The transportation team drove buses to and from school and other activities.

**Left to Right:** Dennis Wolf, Joyce Gabel, Dan Gabel, Marvin Riedel, Royce Morton, Mike Schuster, and Kenny Herman.

**Not pictured:** Paulette Kroeger.

*photo by Rowdy Wichman*





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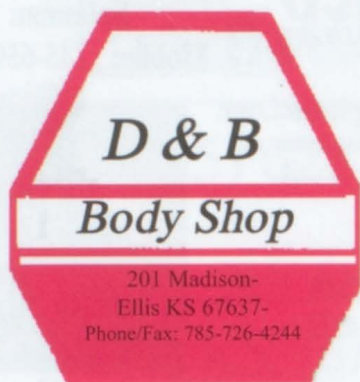
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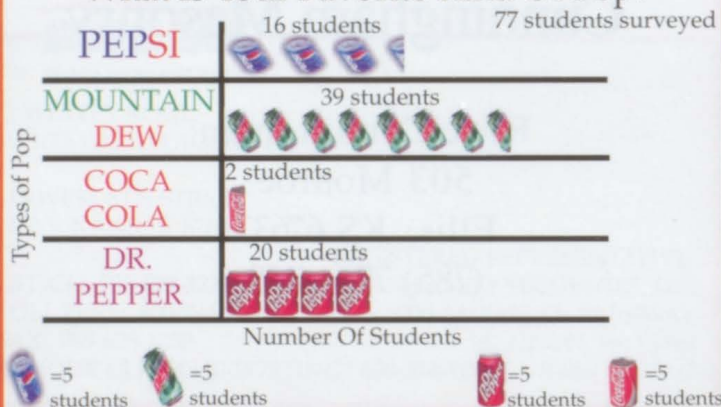
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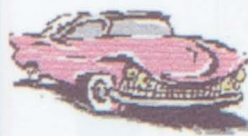


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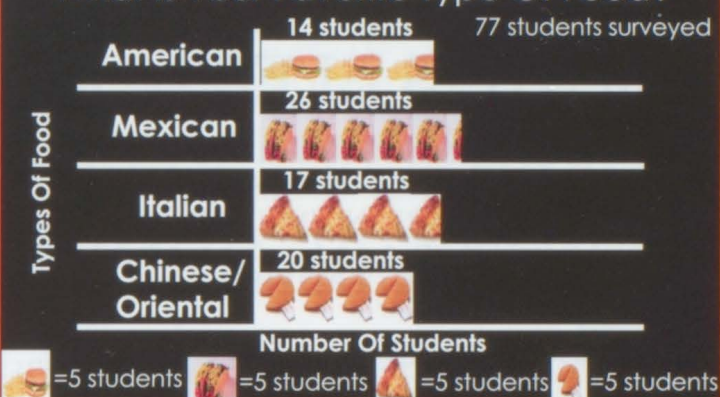


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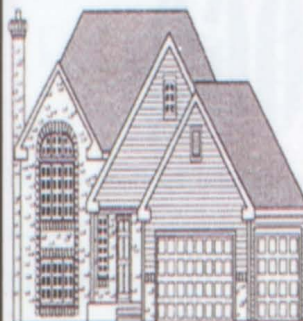


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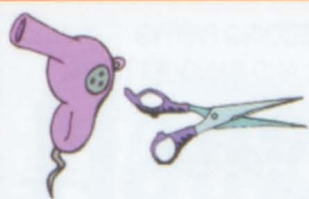
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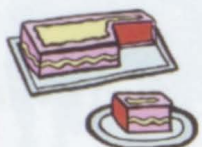
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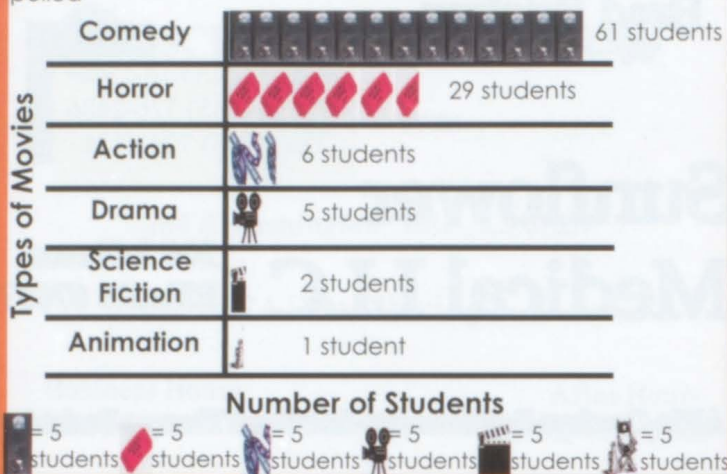
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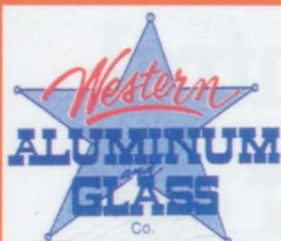
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**Amrein, Cory**<sup>07</sup> 10, 49, 70, 72, 88-89

**Armbruster, Brandon** (at-risk teacher) 30

**Ashley, Theresa**<sup>08</sup> 58

**Augustine, Adam**<sup>07</sup> 10, 39, 43, 54, 57, 84, 86, 88-89

**Augustine, Jennifer**<sup>06</sup> 12, 23, 25, 28, 36, 39, 69, 80, 85-86, 108

**Augustine, Laura**<sup>07</sup> 5, 10, 35, 52, 57, 74, 77, 84, 85-89

**Barton, Clay**<sup>09</sup> 6, 88-89

**Befort, Monica**<sup>07</sup> 10, 71-73

**Bittel, Kerry** (volleyball) 30, 44, 88

**Bittel, Logan**<sup>09</sup> 6, 36, 54, 61, 88

**Bittel, Ryan**<sup>08</sup> 8, 71, 84-85

**Bollig, Alyson**<sup>06</sup> 12, 23, 27, 28, 36, 40, 80, 86, 108

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**Carlisle, Casey**<sup>09</sup> 6

**Casey, Andrew**<sup>07</sup> 10, 41, 49, 54, 61, 70, 72, 88-89

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**Connelly, Krista**<sup>07</sup> 10, 65, 68, 72, 79, 85-86, 88

**Cox, Emily**<sup>07</sup> 10, 46, 69, 84-86, 88

**Crist, Jason** (golf) 57, 84

**Cross, Casey**<sup>06</sup> 13, 23, 25, 28, 79

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**Dinkel, Casey** (cross country/wrestling) 30, 46, 50, 88-89

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**Ellison, Breanna**<sup>09</sup> 6, 68, 85

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# 2006

## the comeback tour

The end of the school year marked the end of The Comeback Tour. Students exited through the doors of EHS and headed into summer, ready for the future. The year had been a milestone. A year to remember.

The school's tour had sold out and rocked the stage with a frenzied performance. In the end, it brought a 134 member band closer together than they had ever been before.

The year was one filled with opportunities, dreams, successes, failures, and challenges. As a band on tour cherishes all the exciting times, and deals with all the problems, the students at EHS took the year as a whole, good and bad.

All the hallway conversations, all the pep rallies. All the Homecoming memories, all sport wins. All the tests, all the homework assignments. All the teachers, friends, and inspirations. All the fans, the managers, the groupies, the crowd.... it all happened that year.

You got your ticket at the beginning of the year. You headed out and jumped on the stage. You were there. You experienced it. You lived it.

Now, the lights are off and the tour is over. Even though a new tour starts next year, it won't ever be quite the same. This was the first. The beginning. No matter where you go, you can always say that you were there when EHS went on its first tour. You were there when it went on: **2006 the comeback tour.**



### yearbookstaff06

Front Row: Kelsi Schoenthaler, assistant editor; Elexx Feyh, section manager; Jaymi Riedel; Amber Honas; Alyson Bollig, section manager. Row 2: Rowdy Wichman, editor; Ashley Hejny; Sheila Douglas; Jennifer Jacques, section manager; Jennifer Augustine, business manager; Nicole Weigel; Heather Schuster. Not pictured: Cindy Hertel, adviser. photo by June Howard









# 2006

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