

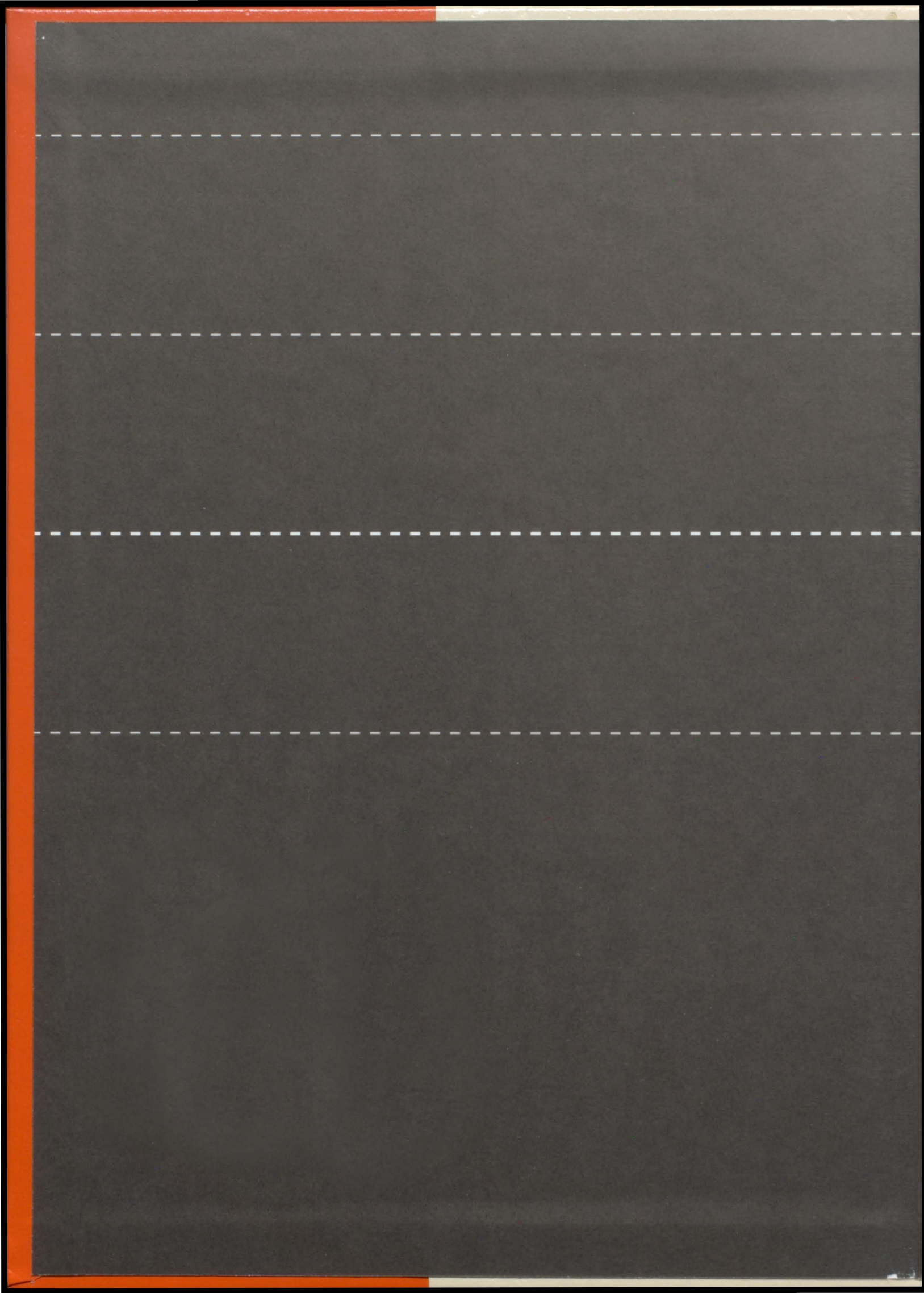
**RE**

*fueled*

*two thousand & seven*



**RAILROADER**





*Exposure* p. 4

People

*Rethink* p. 30

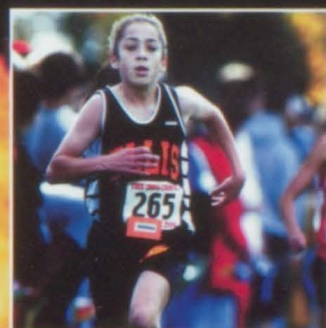
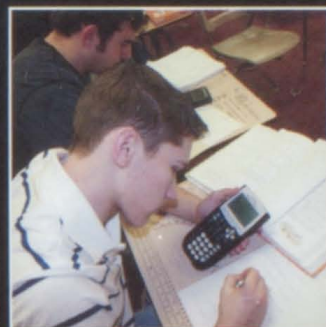
Academics

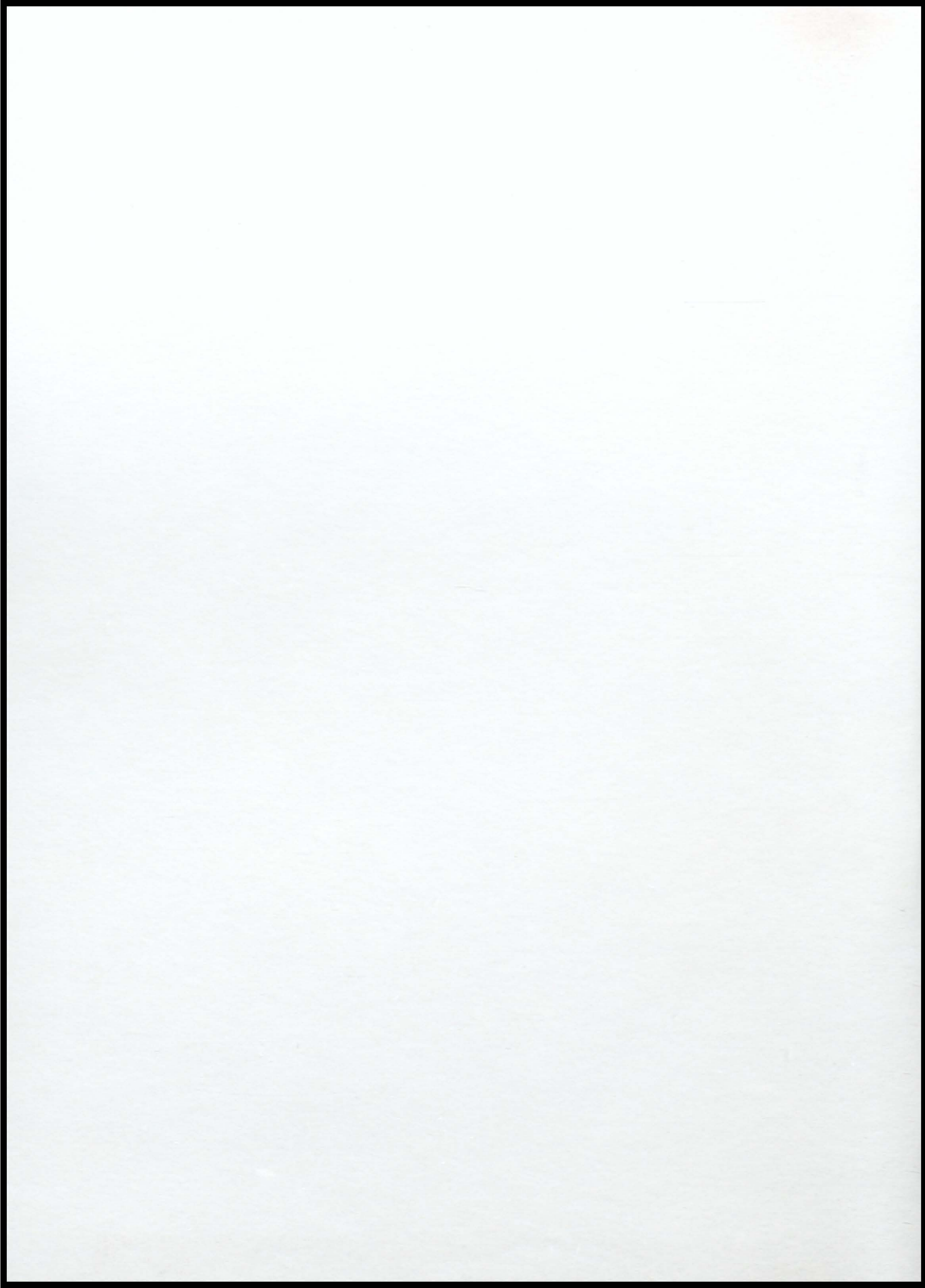
*Adventure* p. 40

Activities

*Reality* p. 64

Student Life







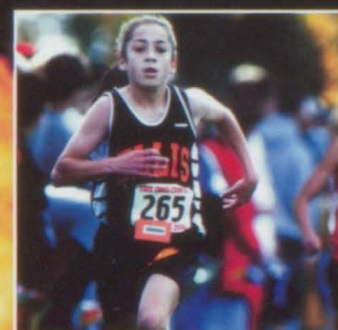
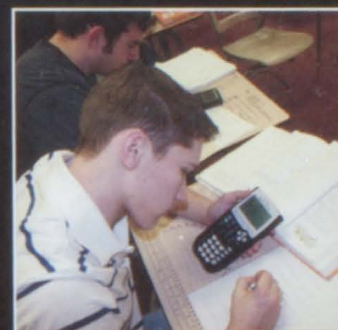
# Ellis High School

1706 South Monroe  
Ellis, Kansas 67637

785-726-3151

[www.usd388.k12.ks.us](http://www.usd388.k12.ks.us)

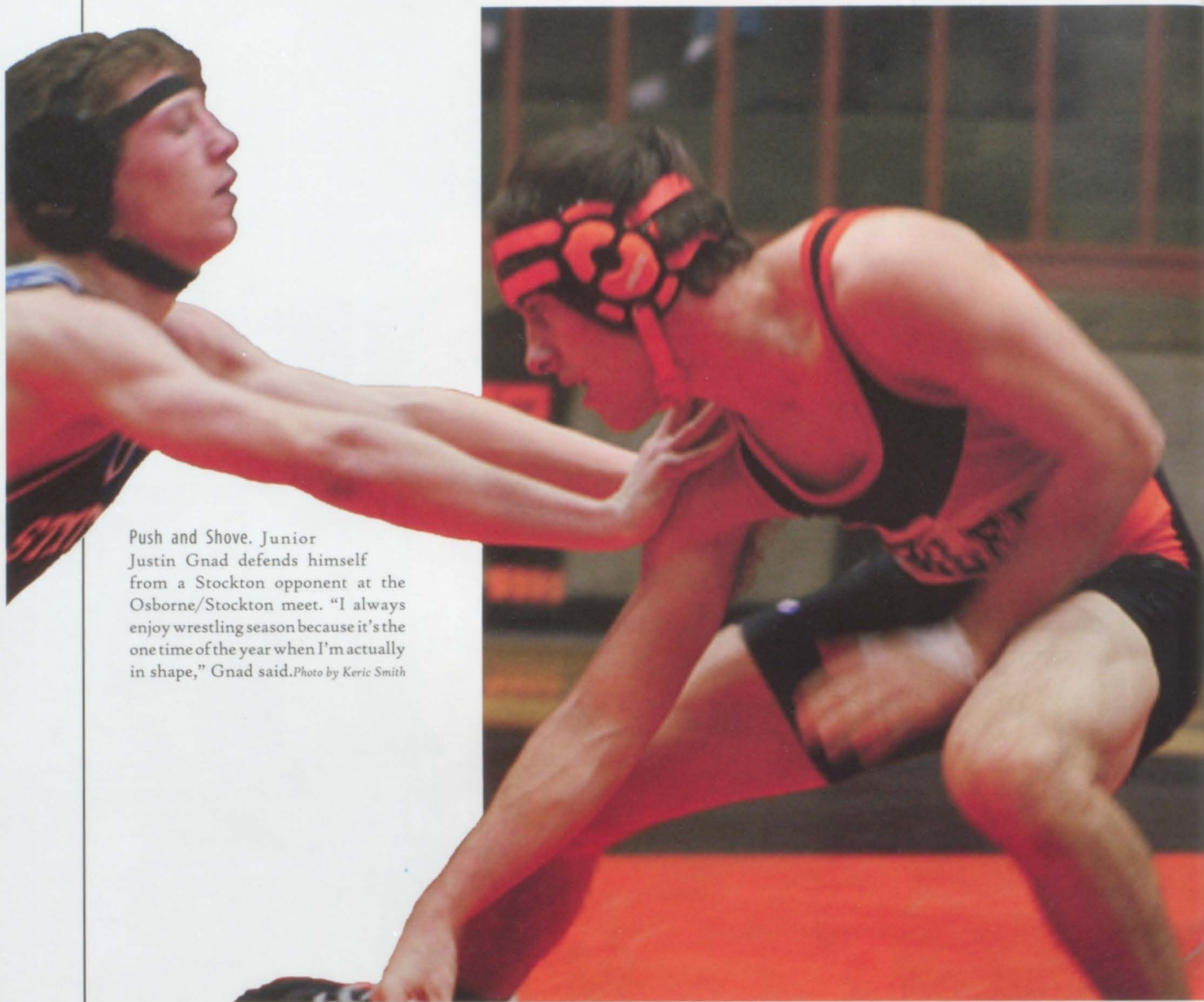
Class 2A  
146 students



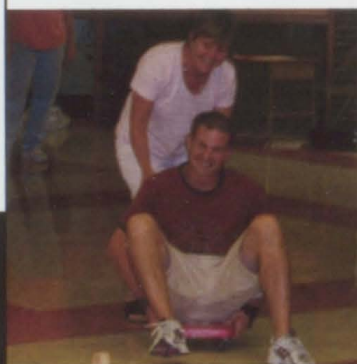
# REfueled



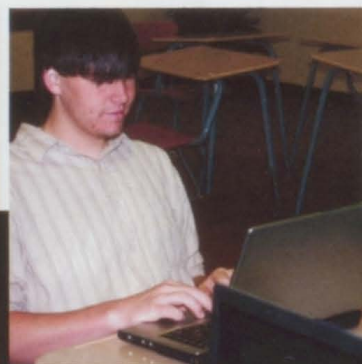




Push and Shove. Junior Justin Gnad defends himself from a Stockton opponent at the Osborne/Stockton meet. "I always enjoy wrestling season because it's the one time of the year when I'm actually in shape," Gnad said. Photo by Keric Smith



In order to beat the students, Mrs. Sharla Albers pushes Mr. Corey Burton down the hall on a scooter. Photo by Laura Augustine



With a new laptop, sophomore Kerry Robb writes his wisdom manual for "To Kill a Mockingbird." "I usually use the laptop to write brochures, powerpoints, and essays," Robb said. Photo by Krista Connelly



Overcome by plants, the dock near the old high school serves as a reminder of summer days at the creek. The drought was in full force at the beginning of the school year. Photo by Lauren Wheeler/Ellis Review



With Railer spirit, the Homecoming crowd holds up a sign to boost enthusiasm. The football stadium and field were decorated by the students during the school day. Photo by Monica Befor



# Refueled

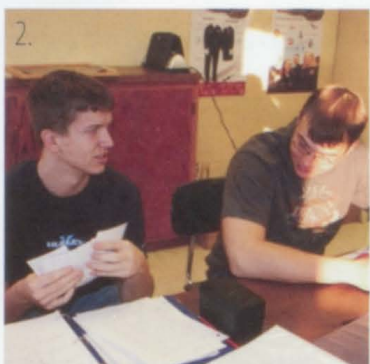
**A**fter the sweeping changes of the last school year, we began 2006-2007 with a momentum to move us forward: Mr. Corey Burton stepped onto the scene as the principal, as well as a host of new faculty and staff; the school purchased new laptops; the old carpet was ripped out and new installed; the pavement leading to the parking lot was redone.

*In the community, we saw Big Creek drying up to little more than a puddle, and talk of a sales tax increase for a water-treatment plant stirred the minds of voters.*

*Nationally, we still felt the pains of the war in Iraq. In October, North Korea tested a nuclear missile. Shortly after, the United States' population hit a new milestone of 300 million. The impending elections intensified the topic of global warming. In November, new Senators and Representatives presented a shift in majority to Democrats, and the first female Speaker of the House, Nancy Pelosi, was sworn in. At the close of 2006, Saddam Hussein, former leader of Iraq, was executed.*

*Despite the many emotions and events occurring throughout the nation and world, EHS stayed positive and pushed forward to a new year. We were **Refueled**.*





1. At KU Band Day, juniors Brian Riedel, Vanessa North, and Patrick Dreiling march in the parade. *Courtesy Photo* 2. With flashcards, seniors Adam Augustine and Aaron Herl study steak cuts. *Photo by Matea Lovato* 3. Singing along to background tracks, Brooke Graves, so., Kayla Jacques, fr., and Heather Weber, so., entertain themselves during choir. *Photo by Lauren Wheeler* 4. During an inservice, Mr. Jeff Kohl promotes teamwork while scrambling to get a candy bar. *Photo by Cindy Hertel*

# Exposure

It's whom you know

Being exposed is to be kept from shelter or covering. Around

friends, you are yourself. There is no shell, no hiding, no faking it. In school, some people try to retreat from their true selves, but those around them pry into that shell and get them out. At

Ellis, you can depend on everyone to share your experience with exposure.





Flaunting his four-year-old shoes, Brian Keller, sr., takes a break during advanced composition. The couch in Mrs. Cindy Hertel's room was a mainstay for the class. Photo by Krista Connelly



1. Intense concentration. Focusing on a mechanical drawing test, Matt Cunningham works. "I like the class because Mr. Zerfas keeps it interesting," Cunningham said. Photo by Matea Lovato

2. Heads up! Wearing a brightly feathered witch hat, Chantel Gabel puts her bookbag into her locker. The week of Homecoming brought out lots of unusual outfits. Photo by Monica Befort

3. Slurp... During lunch, Kiley Wayman eats her noodles. Most of the freshman girls ate at the same table during lunches. "The sauce is so good," Wayman said. Photo by Monica Befort

4. Story time. Erin Groff wrote and read a new version of "The Night Before Christmas" to grade schoolers in English. "It was fun interacting with the kids," Groff said. Photo by Laura Augustine



Jacob Begler



Caroline Beilman



Staci Bittel



Kayla Casey



Matt Cunningham



Patrick Dreiling



Jamie Durheim



Brittany Elliott



Matt Erbert



Jessica Estrada



Kyle Fox



Gideon Fuchs



Chantel Gabel



Kelsey Gehr



Aaron Gnad



Shelby Gottschalk



Erin Groff



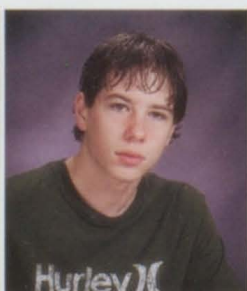
Randi Hook



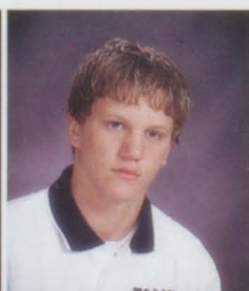
Heather Hupka



Kayla Jacques



Phoenix Jenkins



Dillon Kinderknecht



Jennifer Kinderknecht



Ethan LaBarge

## Chat with a Star

What famous person would you most like to dine with? (29 students polled)

A popular figure (actors, talk show hosts, sports heroes, singers, etc.)

78%

A cultured figure (a politician, an author, a historical figure, a saint, etc.)

22%



Alicia Lang



Chelsea Leiker



Kelsey Noble





# REquesting dinner

A full moon lights the sky and the aroma of fettuccine drifts upward; to cap off the scene is Rachel Ray's sparkling conversation.

That's the meal Shelby Gottschalk imagined anyway. She decided that if she had the chance, she'd dine with TV celebrity Ray because "she makes really good food," Gottschalk said.

Gottschalk was not the only freshman asked to dream up their idea of a perfect dinner for two, but many of the top picks were other celebrities besides TV personalities.

Although singers were a popular pick and many students chose artists such as Nelly or Eminem, others chose authors like Mary Higgins Clark, sports heroes like Kurt Hinrich, and pioneering politicians like Nancy Pelosi.

One student, Matt Erbert, chose another kind of important leader.

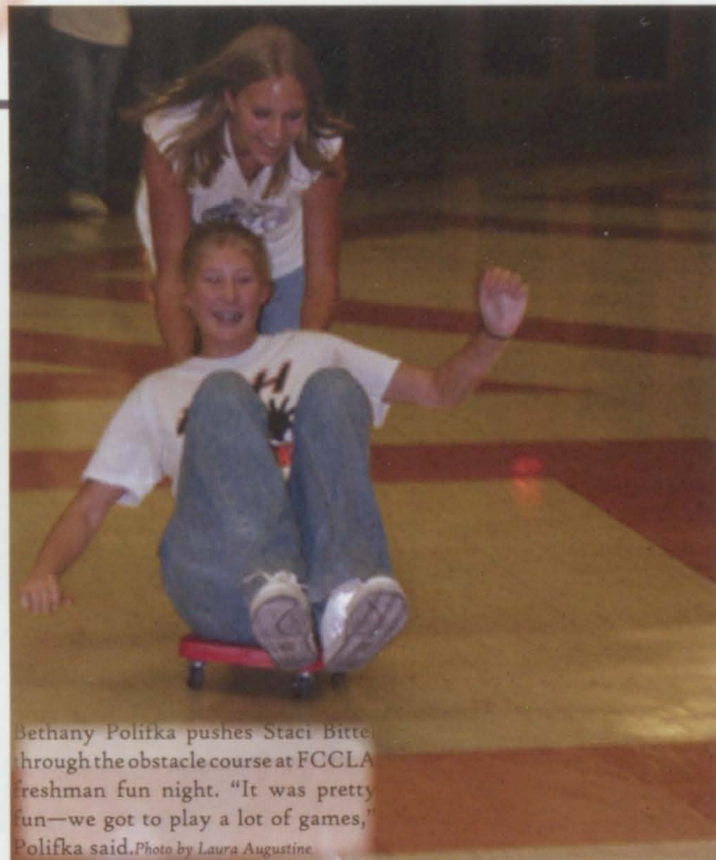
*class of '10*



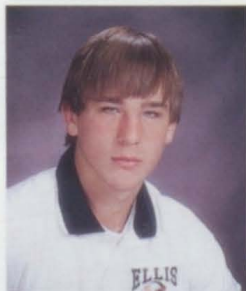
During an extreme foosball game, Shelby Gottschalk keeps score as Nicole Pfeifer battles her opponents. "I like Fifth Quarter because I get to hang out with my friends," Gottschalk said. Photo by Krista Connelly

Martin Luther King Jr. was his pick because of "his leadership in the African American community," Erbert said.

Erbert cited "courage" as the quality he most hoped to learn from a dinner with King.



Bethany Polifka pushes Staci Bitter through the obstacle course at FCCLA freshman fun night. "It was pretty fun—we got to play a lot of games," Polifka said. Photo by Laura Augustine



Dylan Pfeifer



Nicole Pfeifer



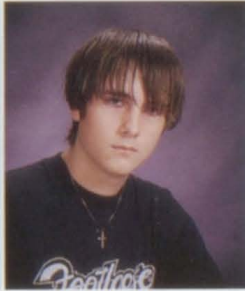
William Poland



Bethany Polifka



Paige Reilly



Roland Rummel



Ashley Schuster



Emily Thomson



Garret Vandenberg



Kiley Wayman



Danielle Weber



Ryan Weber



# REality at its best

Can you handle staring reality in the eyes? Sophomores can imagine themselves in the shoes of a reality star on their choice reality show.

"I would like to be on 'The Real World' because it would be interesting to meet new people and it'd be fun to see who would be easy to get along with," Debra Massier said.

"Fear Factor" was another popular pick for the sophomores.

"I like to push myself to the extreme and see how well I can handle it," Kerry Robb said.

Sophomore students had a wide range of choices for being on reality shows. The "Jamie Kennedy Experiment" was chosen too, straying from the other picks. "I would enjoy being on 'The Jamie Kennedy Experiment' because of the host. I also enjoy how the show is so

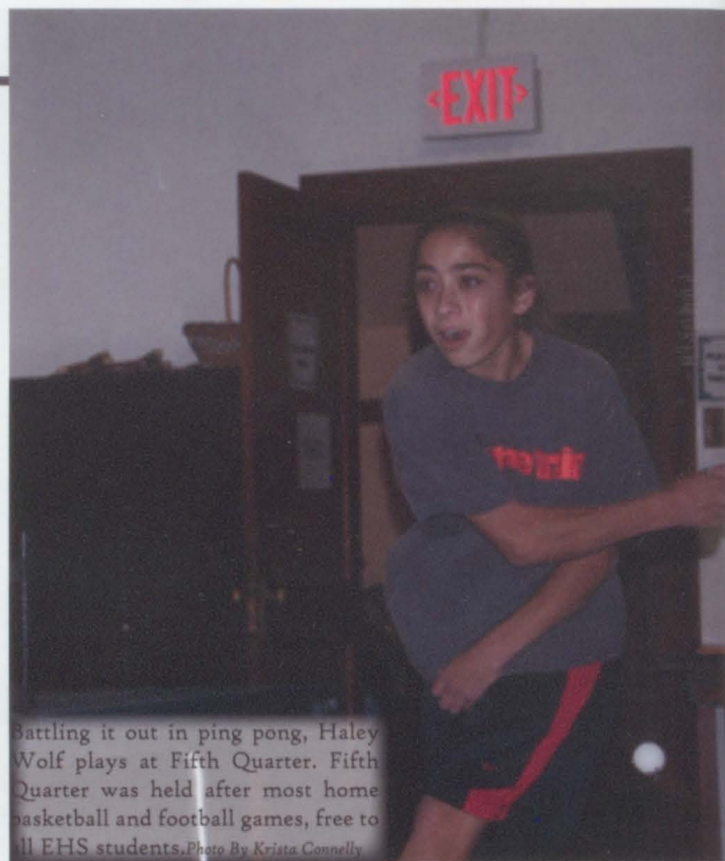
*class of '09*



Whitney Taylor pumps up the crowd at the pep rally, sponsored by Eagle Communications. The pep rally took place prior to the St. Francis football game. Photo by Monica Befort

unusual and not that many people watch it," Ciara Hespe said.

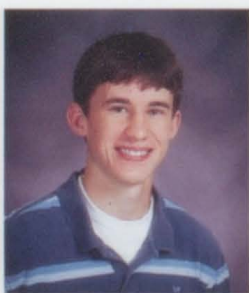
Other picks were "Survivor," a survival competition show and "Laguna Beach," a popular teen reality show, showing real life drama and real scenarios.



Battling it out in ping pong, Haley Wolf plays at Fifth Quarter. Fifth Quarter was held after most home basketball and football games, free to all EHS students. Photo By Krista Connelly



Clay Barton



Logan Bittel



Justin Brungardt



Breanna Ellison



Sarah Fischer



Tyler Fischer



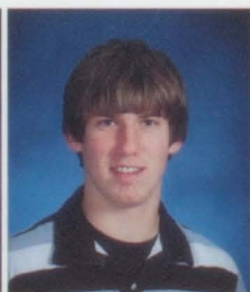
Brandon Geschwentner



Brooke Graves



Kara Hackney



Kyle Hadley



Rachael Hamel



Justin Henrickson



1. Torch 'Em! Showing her spirit, Debra Massier rides her class's float. "The best part of Homecoming was building the float and sticking with the theme," Massier said. Photo by Cindy Hertel

2. Go Fight Win! Kara Hackney cheers at the Phillipsburg basketball game. Cheerleaders went through many changes with new coaches and sporting new uniforms. Photo by Ryan Bittel

3. You scream I scream! Tina Unrein enjoys ice cream from Rachael Hamel's machine, bought from the local Arthur's Pizza who retired the favorite machine. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

4. He's the man! Working in wood shop class, Justin Henrickson works on his frame. "Woodshop class is fun because Mr. Zervas is an awesome guy," Henrickson said. Photo by Kerie Smith



Alyssa Herl



Clara Hespe



Monte Honas



Chase King



Joey Kitzman



Jordan Lang



Debra Massier



Kendra Mickelson



Cody Ocam



Katie Parson



Kerry Robb



Heath Robins



Steven Schmidt



Logan Stanton



Whitney Taylor



Tina Unrein



Heather Weber



Haley Wolf

## Popular Reality Shows

If you could star in any of these three reality TV shows, which would it be? (27 Students Polled)

33%

"The Real World"—People that don't know each other from all over the world live together to see if they can get along.

52%

"Fear Factor"—People are put to the test with multiple risky stunts to see if fear is a factor for them.

15%

"Survivor"—Random people are put on a stranded island to see who can survive. The one who does wins the cash.



Eric Zahn

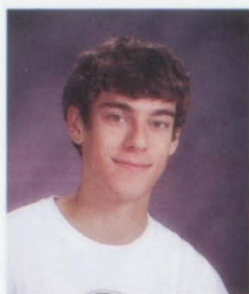


1. F-U-N Testing his spelling skills, Michael Young plays a game of Scrabble at 5th Quarter. The Methodist Church provided a place for students to celebrate after games. Photo by Krista Connelly

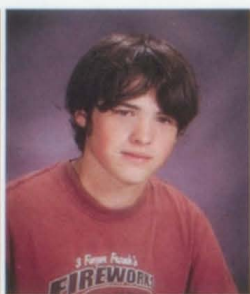
2. Let's go Rallies! Cheerleader Katelyn Keller gets the students pumped up at the bonfire. Torch the Titans was the theme, so strapped to the bonfire was a makeshift titan. Photo by Krista Connelly

3. Taking it easy. Erick Estrada takes advantage of the first few minutes of class. Students would race to Mrs. Cindy Hertel's classroom to be sure to get the couch first. Photo by Cindy Hertel

4. Bring on the Pie. Students eat a Thanksgiving meal on Nov. 21. "Thanksgiving is one of my favorite holidays because it brings the family together," Denise Totten said. Photo by Krista Connelly



Ryan Bittel



Kylor Campbell



Daniel Desaire



Bailey Deutscher



Amber Ellis



Erick Estrada



Khaled Fares



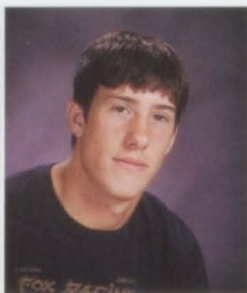
Todd Flinn



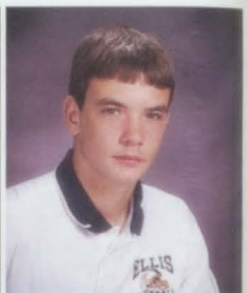
Cody Gehr



Zack Gehring



Justin Gnad



Daniel Gottschalk

## Educated Decisions

### What influences your career choice? (26 students polled)

#### Money

The average annual earnings of a surgeon in 2005 was \$181,850.

For a fast food cook, average annual earnings were \$15,230.

16%

#### Amount of schooling needed

It can take up to 16 years of school to become a heart surgeon.

No schooling is needed to become a fast food cook.

4%

#### It's interesting

"A heart surgeon would be an interesting job because people trust you with their life," Tom Totten said.

"I wouldn't want to be one, but I think that being a fast food cook would be interesting because it's something different," Amber Ellis said.

80%



Kayla Hollern



Deana Hunsicker



Katelyn Keller



Meredith Keller





# RE

# venue or happiness

The dream job. To some it's one that will bring in lots of money. To others it may be one that brings something as simple as happiness.

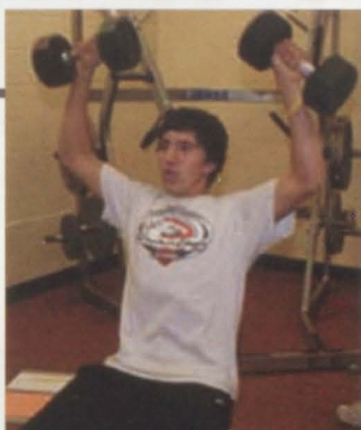
Justin Gnad, wanting to be rich, wished to be a "self-made business mogul," but Brian Riedel wanted to be a farmer so he can continue his family tradition.

For some students, their careers lie in the medical field. "If I could set schooling aside, I would like to be a pharmacist," Melissa Nowlin said, "because I would get to be in the medical field without the gore."

Education is no barrier for Danielle Pfeifer.

"I want to be in the medical field to make lots of money and also because it's interesting," Pfeifer said.

Also interested in the medical field, Bailey Deutscher hopes to be a psychologist.



"I enjoy GPD because it helps make you bigger, faster, and stronger," Cody Gehrer said. The health room was made into a weights room for GPD. This made weight-lifting easier for students. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

"I enjoy helping people solve problems, and would like to learn about how the mind works," Deutscher said.

The dream job. An oxymoron to some, but one juniors are willing to pursue.



Lack welding for Project Construction class, Brian Riedel prepares for a career in farming. Riedel kept busy with projects, such as building trailers. Photo by Monica Befort

class of '08



Jessi Lacy



Vanessa North



Melissa Nowlin



Aaron Pfannenstiel



Danielle Pfeifer



Brian Riedel



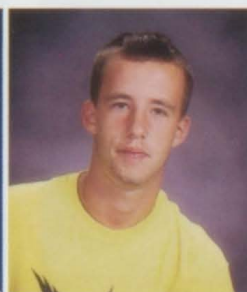
Denise Totten



Tom Totten



John Tricks



Kevin Urban



Lauren Wheeler



Michael Young



# RE

# living the years

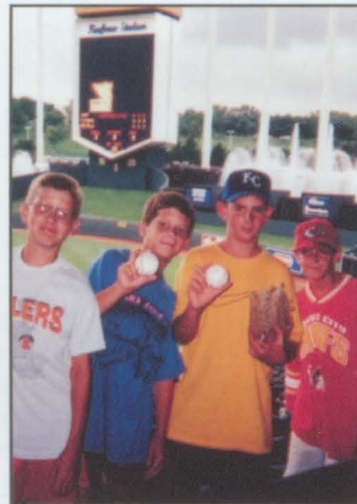
# 2007

# Seniors

What's your favorite memory?

**Cory James** *Amrein*

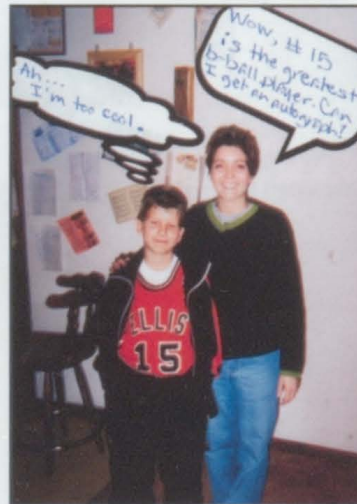
Congratulations!  
We are so proud of  
you.  
Love,  
Mom and Dad



--- "When we were beating Hill City in freezing rain and Artie called out the first team to do the wave during our punt."

**Adam David** *Augustine*

Congratulations!  
Best Wishes for a  
happy and successful  
future.  
Father, Mom, Staci,  
Wendy, David and  
Camden



--- "Seeing Randy and Aaron hopping around during the junior class play after their accident will be a lasting memory."



Laura Leigh *Augustine*



Reach for the stars.  
We're proud of you!  
Love,  
Mom and Dad

"The 6th grade sleepover. That night was crazy. We got to play tag in the halls, and Jared broke a light fixture with his head."

Monica Agnes *Befort*



Remember to always  
follow your dreams.  
We are so proud of you!  
Keep drawing those  
beautiful  
pictures. We love you  
very much!  
Mom, Dad and Melanie

"When Matea, Keric, Lenny, Jared and I would pile into Matea's mom's little Cougar to go anywhere, particularly the time we went to see the movie '8 Mile.'"

Andrew Michael *Casey*



Andrew,  
We sure will miss  
watching you in Ellis  
sports. We will always be  
proud of you in whatever  
you choose to do.  
Congrats and good luck  
in college and the future.  
All our Love

"I will never forget how great it was playing sports with all my friends and winning long jump at the state track meet my freshman year and seeing everyone's shocked faces as I stepped up on that first place podium."



**Krista Marie** *Connelly*

Krista,  
You are the music! We  
are so very proud of  
you and look forward  
to hearing your music!  
Congratulations!  
Love,  
Mom, Dad and Blake



—“On my 15th birthday, I had Matea, Monica, and Sammy over for a party. We ate as much cheese as we could—Cheez-its, Easy Cheese, crackers...you name it. It was gross, but it tasted wonderful at the time. Later, however, we got really sick.”

**Emily Elizabeth** *Cox*

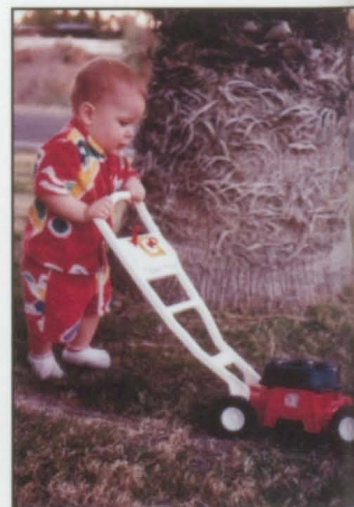
Em,  
You have given us so many reasons  
to be proud of you. Always be true  
to your faith and to yourself.  
If you see someone without a  
smile, share them one of yours.  
You must answer for the  
decisions you make, so choose  
wisely and may all your dreams  
become reality.  
Love you always,  
Mom, Dad and Ethan



—“When Rachel, Brittany, Whitney and I broke the 4x200 relay record at Wakeeney in 7th grade. The record still stands!”

**Jared Lee** *Deutscher*

Jared,  
We are very proud of you and  
wish you success in all you  
set out to do. Work hard and  
never short yourself. Whatever  
your goals, you can accomplish  
them. Good luck and best  
wishes for your future.  
Love,  
Mom, Dad and Bailey







Letisha Fay Elliott



Tish,  
We're so proud of you!  
You are a success at all  
you do. May your road  
ahead be paved with  
success as well.  
Love,  
Dad, Mom, Brittany and  
Logan

"During One-Act my sophomore year—we advanced to regionals and were constantly on the go. There were times when we had to sleep on the bus on the way to performances because we knew there was no time later. The cast and crew became very close, and it was probably the best time of my life."



Cole Erbert



Cole,  
You packed a lifetime  
of memories into four  
years, and we loved every  
minute.  
God Bless You,  
Mom, Pops and Dan

"I'll never forget when Brian and I got into trouble in 7th grade for putting glue on the bottom of our shoes during basketball practice to get better grip."



Ryan Michael Grogan



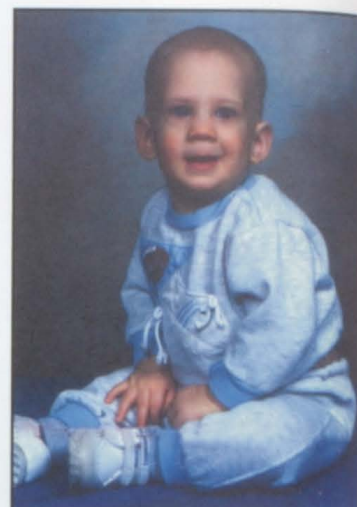
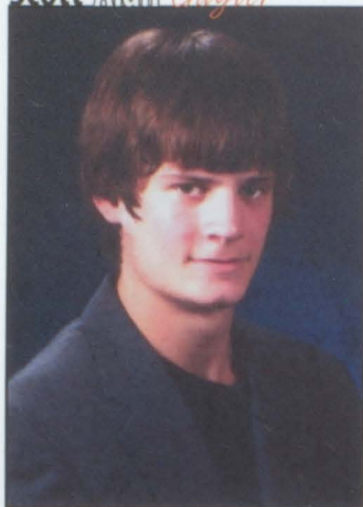
We will love you  
forever.  
Mom, Dad and Kevin

"Playing drums while Michael Young played the guitar during the girls' basketball games."



**Scott Alan** *Gugler*

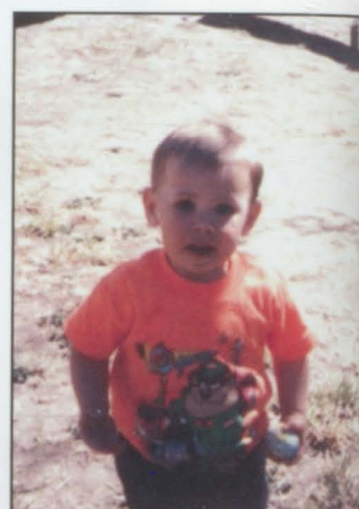
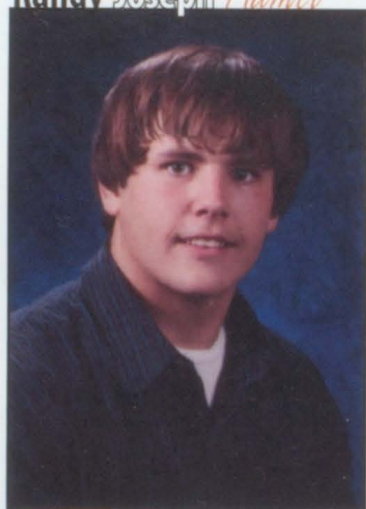
Scott,  
Congratulations!  
We are so proud of you.  
May your ambition take  
you where you want  
to go. Don't worry, be  
happy.  
Love,  
Ma, Pa and Tanner



— "Working with Randy Hamel and Aaron Herl in the junior class play after they had their accident was one of the most fun times in my life."

**Randy Joseph** *Hamel*

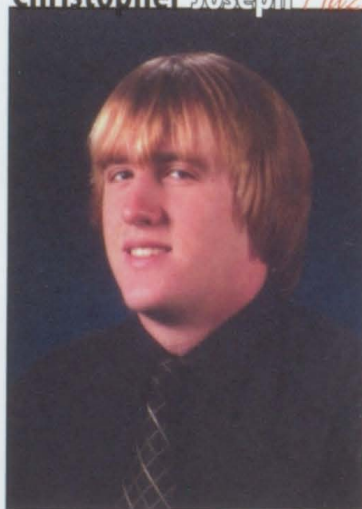
Way to go Randy!  
We are very  
proud of you.  
Love,  
Mom, Dad and Rachael



— "Brett and I used to sit in his crabapple tree and throw crabapples at cars when they drove by."

**Christopher Joseph** *Hazen*

Chris,  
Wow! How fast the years have  
gone by. We are so proud of you!  
Whatever path you choose in  
life, we know that you will do  
well. You have been everything a  
parent could ask for in a son and  
more. We will always be there for  
you—God willing.  
Love,  
Mom, Dad, Kristen and Skyler



— "During physics our senior year, Scott was celebrating our group's win in an experiment. He grabbed his shirt to pretend to rip it apart, and it actually did. Then Adam stapled it back together for him."



Aaron Wade *Herb*



Aaron,  
We wish you the best  
through the future ahead.  
You've been a great son  
and brother.  
Congratulations from  
Dad, Mom and Alyssa

"Getting to perform the junior class play with my wonderful class." — — —

Michael Andrew *Hiss*



Michael,  
Remember to reach for  
the stars and go for your  
dreams. We love you and  
can't wait to be a part of  
your exciting future.  
Love,  
Mom, Dad, Jacob and Leah

"Making it to the top 8 in the state this year in football." — — —

Samantha Janell *Hook*



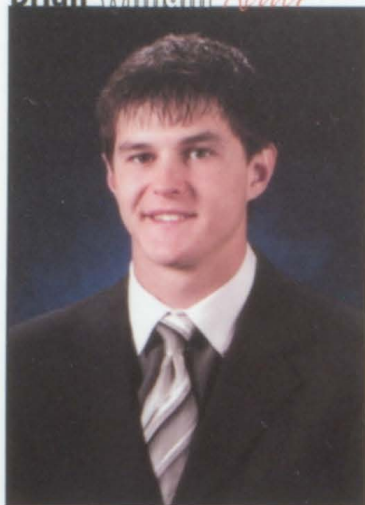
To our daughter,  
We love you and are  
very proud of who you  
have become.  
Love,  
Mom and Dad

"Krista, Monica, and I were at Krista's B-Day party! We had a competition on who could stuff a whole cupcake into their mouth! Monica and I did it and Krista tried, but couldn't eat it all." — — —



**Brian William** *Keller*

Brian,  
We are very proud of you and all  
your accomplishments. Whatever  
path you choose on your journey  
through life, we know you will  
succeed.  
Continue to have fun, be happy,  
and enjoy each day.  
Love,  
Mom, Dad, Nicholas and Kevin



— "The glue wasn't our idea..."

**Megan Renee** *Keller*

Megan,  
Keep doing your best  
and all your dreams are  
possible.  
Love,  
Mom and Dad



— "I'd have to say it is a tie between all the crazy rehearsals from the junior class play or homecoming week my junior year."

**Kelsy Danae** *Kinderknecht*

Kelsy,  
Dreams and dedication  
are a powerful  
combination. We are,  
and will continue to be,  
so very proud of you.  
Love,  
Dad, Mom, Cameryn,  
Molly and Ryan



— — "I always remember how much fun we had on the fishing trips in grade school, even though I didn't catch many fish."





**Brittany Ann** *Krueger*

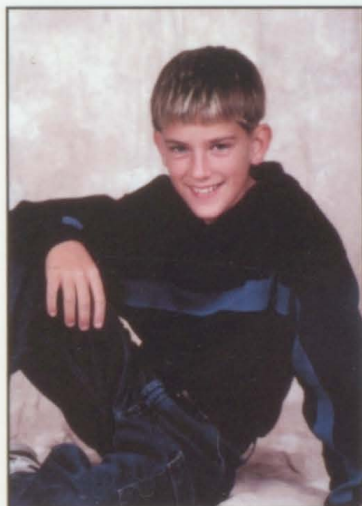


Brittany,  
Seems like yesterday you were just  
a baby!

Enjoy every minute life has to  
offer—it goes by fast.  
Always remember how proud we  
are of you and that we love you.  
You will always be our "Pumpkin."

Love,  
Dad, Mom and John

"When there was at least seven of us squeezed into a poncho walking around at a track meet because it was raining hard and freezing outside! The looks people were giving us were priceless!"



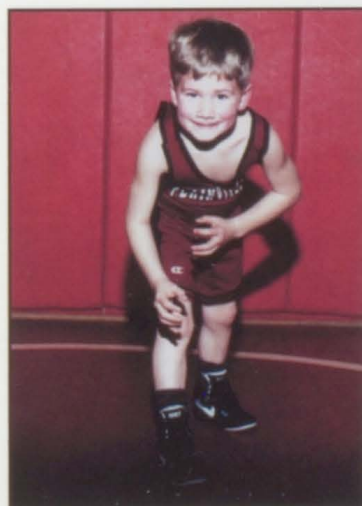
**Leonard Gene** *LaBarge, Jr.*



Lenny,  
We are so proud of you. It has  
been a blessing  
watching you grow from a  
little boy to a young man. We  
love you and wish you the best  
in everything you do.

Love and God Bless,  
Mom, Ethan, Dad and Trevor

"My favorite memory is hanging out with my classmates during our 8th grade graduation dance."



**Glenn Allen** *Lacy, Jr.*



Glenn,  
Your life is a gift. What you  
make of your life is your  
gift returned. So polish your  
talents, let your light shine,  
and your smile illuminate the  
world. And follow your dreams  
where they may lead you. We  
are so proud of you.

Love,  
Dad, Mom, Laura and Jessi

"My favorite memory was the 8th grade dance."



**Whitney Rae** *Lang*

Whitney,  
We are so proud of you,  
and we know with your  
hard work and  
determination you are  
sure to be a great success.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Brandi and  
Dylan



—“At a very, very hot track meet, all the other teams had fancy tents for shade. We, on the other hand, made a teepee out of javelins and blankets. It worked, but suddenly we heard, ‘Would the Ellis team please remove the javelins. We have an underground sprinkler system.’”

**Matea Rose** *Lovato*

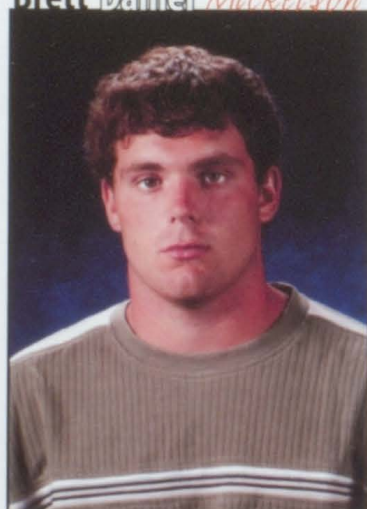
Matea Rose,  
You beautiful baby  
From the outside in.  
Chase your dreams but always  
know the road  
That’ll lead you home again.  
Go on take on this old world  
But to me you know you’ll  
always be  
My little girl.  
Love,  
Mom, Tom, Alex and Cody



—“Our freshman year, Monica and I decided to make a documentary of Ellis, and it turned out to be ridiculously funny because we rode around town blaring Spice Girls!”

**Brett Daniel** *Mickelson*

You’ve done it, Bud!  
You have a great class.  
Congratulations.  
Love,  
Mom, Dad, Kendra and  
Liz





Meggie Ann Patrick



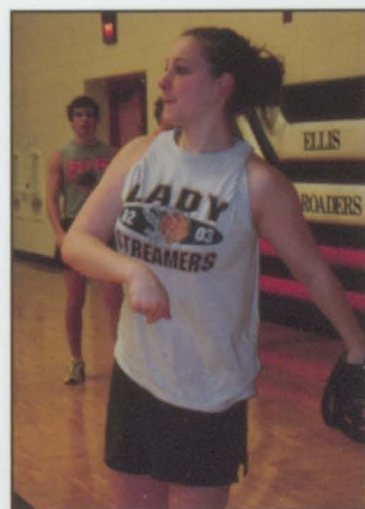
Meggie,  
Your light shines bright.  
Go make your mark on  
the future...and leave a  
blazing trail! We love  
you and are very proud  
of you.  
Mom, Mitch, Dad and  
Allison

"One very hot day my freshman year in P.E. class, Mr. Long had us go golfing back behind the school, and I was paired with Keric and Mike (Hiss). We got lost and ended up in the bushes. All of a sudden, Mike looks down at the snake he's standing on, hops, and makes the most hilarious facial expression I've ever seen. Keric then dives for the snake and tries to pull it out of the hole! I've never laughed so hard!"

Jaylen Reed



Jaylen,  
We have watched you  
grow into a beautiful,  
talented young woman,  
but you will always be  
our little girl. We are so  
proud of you.  
Love,  
Mom and Dad



Courtney Danielle Schartz

Congratulations,  
Courtney!  
Good luck in your  
future endeavors.

"In 3rd grade Mrs. A would let all of us girls print off pictures of Leonardo DeCaprio because we all had a crush on him because of Titanic."



Jason Michael *Schmidt*

Congratulations, Jason!  
Good luck in your future endeavors.

Love,  
Mom, Dad and Steven



—“Going camping in Canada for Boy Scouts my sophomore year.”

Keric James *Smith*

Keric,  
Life has never been dull since you came into our lives. With each new adventure together, our love for you grew stronger. With your love for life and your strong spirit we know you will go far in life. We are so proud of you, and remember your home is always here for you, with us. We wish you the best in the Marines and pray that God will always keep you safe. Never look back, look only to the future and look to God to find the answers in life and to keep you on the right path.

With all our love,  
Your family  
Mom, Dad, Felicity, Jason, Chasity, Tyler and Kylie



—“We used to sit in the boat outside during Ag class and sleep in the sun.”

Stephanie Lynn *Spinelli*

Stephanie,  
You've come a long way, Baby!  
Keep working hard to make your dreams come true.  
Mom, Dad, Jessica and Christen



—“Decorating for prom my junior year.”



Rachel Lynn Thomson

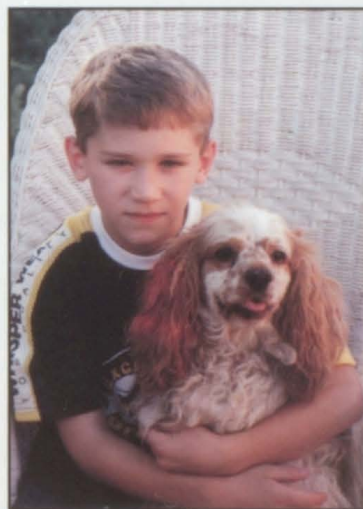


Rachel,  
We are very proud of you  
and we love you more than  
you will ever know.

Love,  
Mommy, Daddy, Emily,  
Joshua, Jacob, Abigail and  
Josiah

"Either the 6th grade sleepover or when the girls broke the 4x200 record in 7th grade."

Dusty James Unrein



Dusty,  
Always keep your sense of  
humor wherever you go and  
it'll all be good! We are so  
very proud of you.

All our love,  
Mom, Dad, Tina and Vicky

"The day that Scott and I dressed up like girls and beat the seniors in the air band competition singing  
'It's Raining Men.'"

Kristen Marie Waldschmidt



Kristen,  
Keep "shooting" for the  
stars and you will go far  
in whatever you do. We  
are proud to have you as  
our daughter and sister!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Courtney  
and Reese

"The time when we climbed on top of the school to hang our banner for homecoming week."



1. Piece by piece. Gluing his artwork together, Lenny LaBarge creates his project. Some of the assignments consisted of foil designs, 3-D art, and collage posters. Photo by Keric Smith

2. Dance Dance! Partying away, Stephanie Spinelli and Jaylen Reed dance at Snoball held by KAYS. "Snoball was a lot of fun even with all of the changes and new rules," Reed said. Photo by Monica Befort

3. Shh....Brittany Kroeger practices parenting skills during class. Though it wasn't required, each student could choose to take a baby home. Photo by Laura Augustine

4. Drum roll! Ryan Grogan marches with the band during the Homecoming parade. "We had wonderful weather that day, making the parade very nice," Mrs. Renetta Dawson said. Photo by Cindy Hertel

Brett Mickelson cuts a front-trim panel for his entertainment center on the bandsaw in advanced woods. Many seniors were in this, making personal items to keep. Photo by Matea Lovato



Showing off her school spirit, Monica Befort cheers on the team at a home football game. "Dressing up for football games is something I really love to do," Befort said. Photo by Krista Connelly

The senior class shows their enthusiasm during spirit week. Each year the senior class poses in front of the school on black and orange day to take a class picture. Photo by Cindy Hertel



Showing true style, Aaron Herl, Chris Hazen, and Dusty Unrein stand hip on oldies day. "I dressed up as Johnny Cash because he is one of my favorite singers," Herl said. Photo by Monica Befort

Routing his project, Scott Gugler works on his project in advanced woods. "Woods class is a great class if you know how to operate the machines well," Gugler said. Photo by Matea Lovato



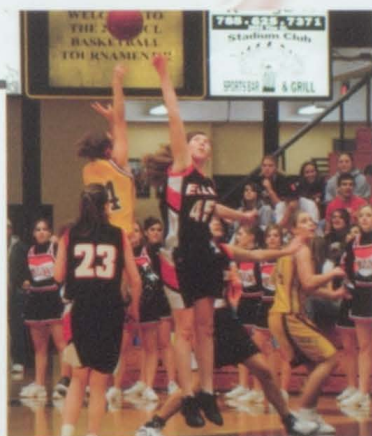
Courtney Schartz lifts during GPD class. When the health room was moved to the old chemistry lab, the GPD class was held in the old health room instead of at the old high school. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

Krista Connelly and Keric Smith perform at the kick-off assembly. "I figured adding a prosthetic leg would bring humor and encourage people to take journalism," Smith said. Photo by Cindy Hertel





# REminiscing the time



Going for the block, Laura Augustine tries to stop Janica Shultz from Osborne in the MCL championship game. "We made history by winning the championship game two years in a row," Augustine said. Photo by Cindy Hertel

Homecoming royalty Emily Cox and Cole Erbert cruise down Washington Street in the Homecoming parade. Cox was crowned queen during pregame festivities. Photo by Cindy Hertel

Remember, relive, and reminisce - all words to describe fun times and great memories. May 19, 2007. Even though many seniors anticipated this graduation date, they knew they would recall the good times at EHS.

"I'll always remember dancing with my group of friends all night and having a blast," Keric Smith said.

Aaron Herl, who had a four-wheeler accident prior to the junior play, made lemonade out of lemons.

"The only good thing that came out of the wreck was that it helped to make the junior class play a lot more entertaining," Herl said.

*class of '07*



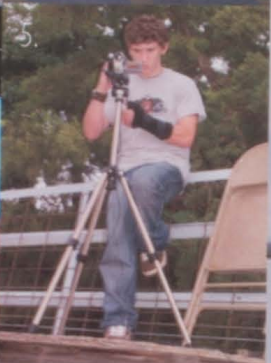
Preparing orders, Rachel Thomson works at Arthur's Pizza. "Working at Arthur's is always entertaining because so many wacky people work there," Thomson said. Photo by Monica Befort



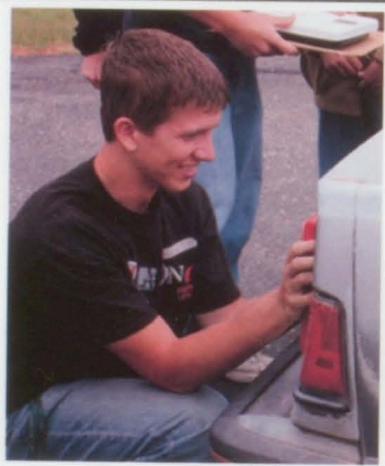
Enjoying the spare time before the substate volleyball games, Meggie Patrick and Brittany Kroeger bond by doing each other's hair. Photo by Laura Augustine

Showing unity on and off the field, the senior football boys eat together before the Homecoming football game. "The Homecoming barbecue got us all pumped up for the big game," Amrein said. Photo by Cindy Hertel





1. Jared Deutscher presents Mr. Corey Burton, principal, with a piece of cake that the foods class learned how to make during their healthy eating choices course. Photo by Laura Augustine  
 2. Emily Cox tells the school about all the people who died at Pearl Harbor. As part of KAYS, Cox chose National Pearl Harbor day for Support our Nation Week. Photo by Laura Augustine  
 3. Practicing during marching band, Brian Keller climbs the goal before the band gathers. The band practiced on the field behind the school as preparation for the games. Photo by Krista Connelly  
 4. Working for WW oil, Jared Deutscher throws the chain. During the school year, Deutscher worked weekends and days off from school. Courtesy Photo  
 5. Dusty Unrein tapes one of the football games after he broke his thumb. "It was still fun to be a part of the team even though I couldn't play," Unrein said. Photo by Lauren Wheeler



Adam Augustine pushes Whitney Lang's car with a scale during physics class. Students were learning about how much force it takes for an object to accelerate. Photo by Krista Connelly



Sewing in FACS class, Letisha Elliot pins her material together. "Thanks to the creative textiles class, I have learned many new sewing techniques," Elliot said. Photo by Monica Befort



During woodworking class, Keric Smith makes his marks to router his chair. "Since it's my second year of advanced woods, I've run out of projects so I fixed a chair for a grade school teacher," Smith said. Photo by Matea Lovato



1. Ha! Kristen Waldschmidt and Brittany Kroeger rest at substate. "Since it was Mrs. Bittel's last year, we really wanted to do well, and it brought us together," Waldschmidt said. Photo by Laura Augustine

2. Afroman! Glenn Lacy shows off his school spirit during Homecoming week. Many students dressed up, making it a close competition for all the classes. Photo by Cindy Hertel

3. Groovy! Sammy Hook shows off her style on oldies day during Homecoming week. The senior class took first during spirit week and second on the float competition. Photo by Monica Befort

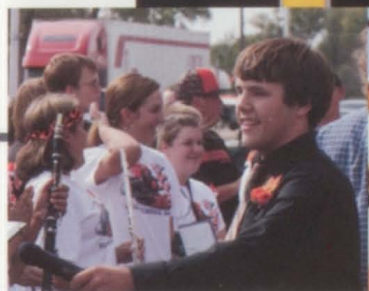
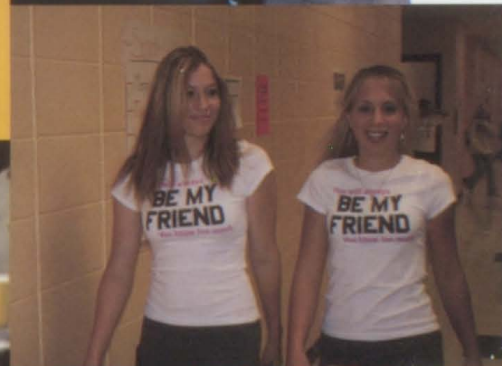
4. Zzz... On the way back from Senior Day in Hays, Cory Amrein and Dusty Unrein sleep on the bus. "It gave us opportunities to see what colleges there were," Unrein said. Photo by Kerie Smith

Crossing into the orange, Jaylen Reed and Whitney Lang ride teacher Mrs. Amy Kuppetz's Hummer during the Homecoming parade as support for the volleyball team. Photo by Cindy Hertel

On their way to the sectional game, Cole Erbert, Micheal Hiss, Cory Amrein, and Chris Hazen wave goodbye during the send-off. This was held by the Booster Club, which had many parents on its list. Photo by Sandy Amrein



Drawing a collage, Matea Lovato works during art class. "I enjoyed taking art because it was a stress reliever to be able to draw what you want," Lovato said. Photo by Monica Befort



Randy Hamel passes the microphone during the Homecoming pep rally, which was held on the city streets. The rally also included dances by cheerleaders and games for students. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

Risking it all, Kelsy Kinderknecht stacks Jenga blocks at Fifth Quarter. "I like going to Fifth Quarter because it's a great way to have fun after games," Kinderknecht said. Photo by Krista Connelly



Megan Keller and Jess Lonnberg walk side by side on twin day during spirit week. "Twin day is a fun spirit week day because you get to shop with your friends," Keller said. Photo by Matea Lovato

Going up for a bucket, Andrew Casey shoots over his opponent. The Railers had a close game against the Victoria Knights and lost 60-62. Photo by Laura Augustine



# RE

# visiting history

**K**nights crashing about on valiant horses; fearsome Aztecs hoarding their gold. History is full of excitement. Where would the faculty go? To Mr. Jeff Kohl, the 80s were prime time because the Kansas City Royals won the World Series. Mrs. June Howard liked the peace between the Vietnam War and Sept. 11, 2001.

Some, however, wanted to travel further back in time.

"I'd go back to colonial America where books were so highly valued because there were so few of them," Mrs. Sherri Faulkender said about her dream destination. "I would bring the library books and have the best library around."

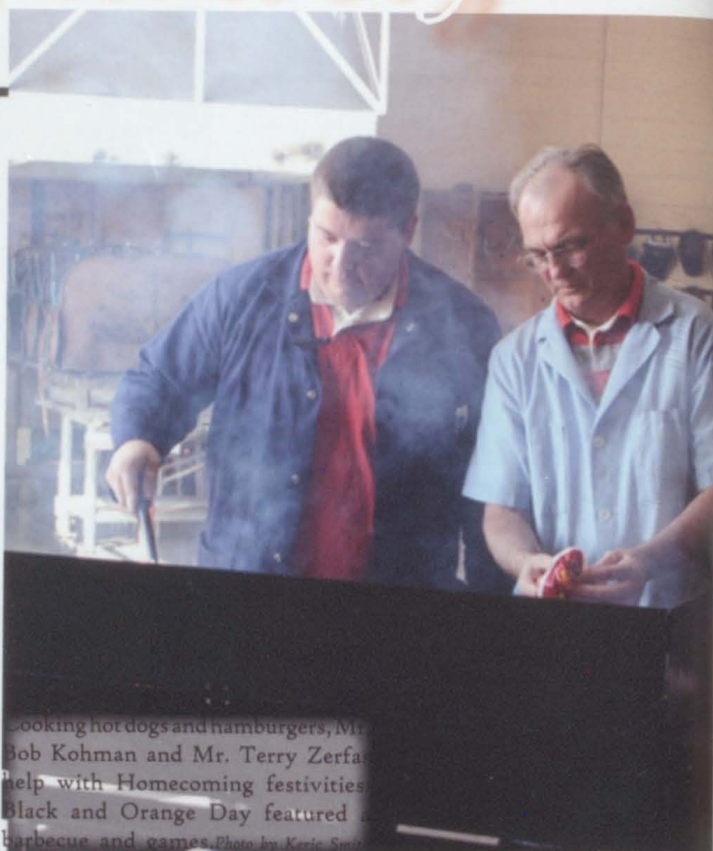
One faculty member picked a very ancient destination. He wanted to go back billions of years to experience the Ice Age.

*faculty*



"Be a sponge, absorb." Mr. Jeff Kohl explains American history to a class of juniors. His popular catch-phrases stress remembering exact facts. Photo by Krista Connelly

"I would carry a club and grunt a lot," Mr. Perry Mick said about his blast to the past. "My cave would have killer air conditioning, and I would keep a woolly mammoth in the back yard on my glacier."



Cooking hot dogs and hamburgers, Mr. Bob Kohman and Mr. Terry Zerfas help with Homecoming festivities. Black and Orange Day featured a barbecue and games. Photo by Kerie Smith



Sharla Albers  
FACS, FCCLA, SGA



Brandon Armbruster  
At-Risk, G.P.D.



Kerry Bittel  
Math, Volleyball



Corey Burton  
Principal



Joy Chretien  
Special Education, Para



Troy Dale  
Counselor, Football



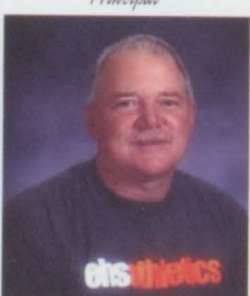
Renetta Dawson  
Instrumental Music



Casey Dinkel  
Cross Country, Wrestling



Amanda Drennon  
P.E., Health, At-Risk



Steve Erbert  
Track



Sherri Faulkender  
Librarian



Stan Faulkender  
Commercial Arts, Athletic Director



1. Dishing up excellence. Gearing everyone up for the break, Mrs. Julie Honas and Mr. Corey Burton serve the Thanksgiving meal. "Everyone seems to enjoy it," Honas said. Photo by Krista Connolly

2. How far? By figuring the area of town lawns, Mr. Perry Mick's calculus class helps the City Office figure mowing distance. They finished the task in three days. Photo by Matea Lovato

3. Ancient. The use of typewriters is still taught by Mrs. June Howard. Freshman learned this skill during the second semester with her supervision. Photo by Krista Connolly

4. Cooperative. With another half of the first nine weeks to go, Mr. Stan Faulkender arranges the foil designs students created. One masterpiece was created with all of the designs. Photo by Monica Befort



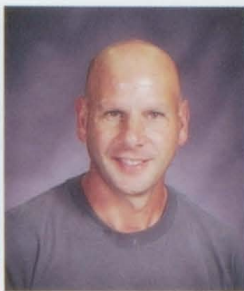
Jackie Grogan  
Language, Psych., Jr., SADD



Kyle Hayden  
Superintendent



Butch Hayes  
Math, Football, Track, Fr.



Randy Herman  
Custodian, Golf



Janetta Heroneme  
Special Education, NHS



Cindy Hertel  
English, Journalism, Jr.



Julie Honas  
Head Food Service



June Howard  
Computers, Technology, Sr.



Jeff Kohl  
History, Government, Stucco



Bob Kohman  
Vocational Agriculture, FFA



Melissa Lewis  
Assistant Librarian



Karen Madorin  
English, KAVS, Eco Team



Maria Mick  
Secretary



Perry Mick  
Math, Physics, Basketball, Volleyball



Mary Parke  
Nurse, Sex.



Linda Riedel  
Forensics, Webpage, English



Chris Rorabaugh  
Scholars' Bowl



Barb Rupp  
Food Service



Randy Sauer  
Choral Music



Art Schoenthaler  
Football, Basketball



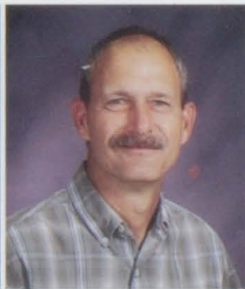
Michelle Swenson  
Special Education, Para



Charles Waldschmidt  
Custodian



David Wildeman  
Science, Chemistry Basketball



Jack Wolf  
Science, Track



Jill Wood  
IMPACT, Volleyball



Bob Young  
Curriculum, Technology, Golf



Terry Zervas  
Industrial Technology, Sr.

## Time Warp

If you could go back in history, what time period would you visit? (32 polled)

31%

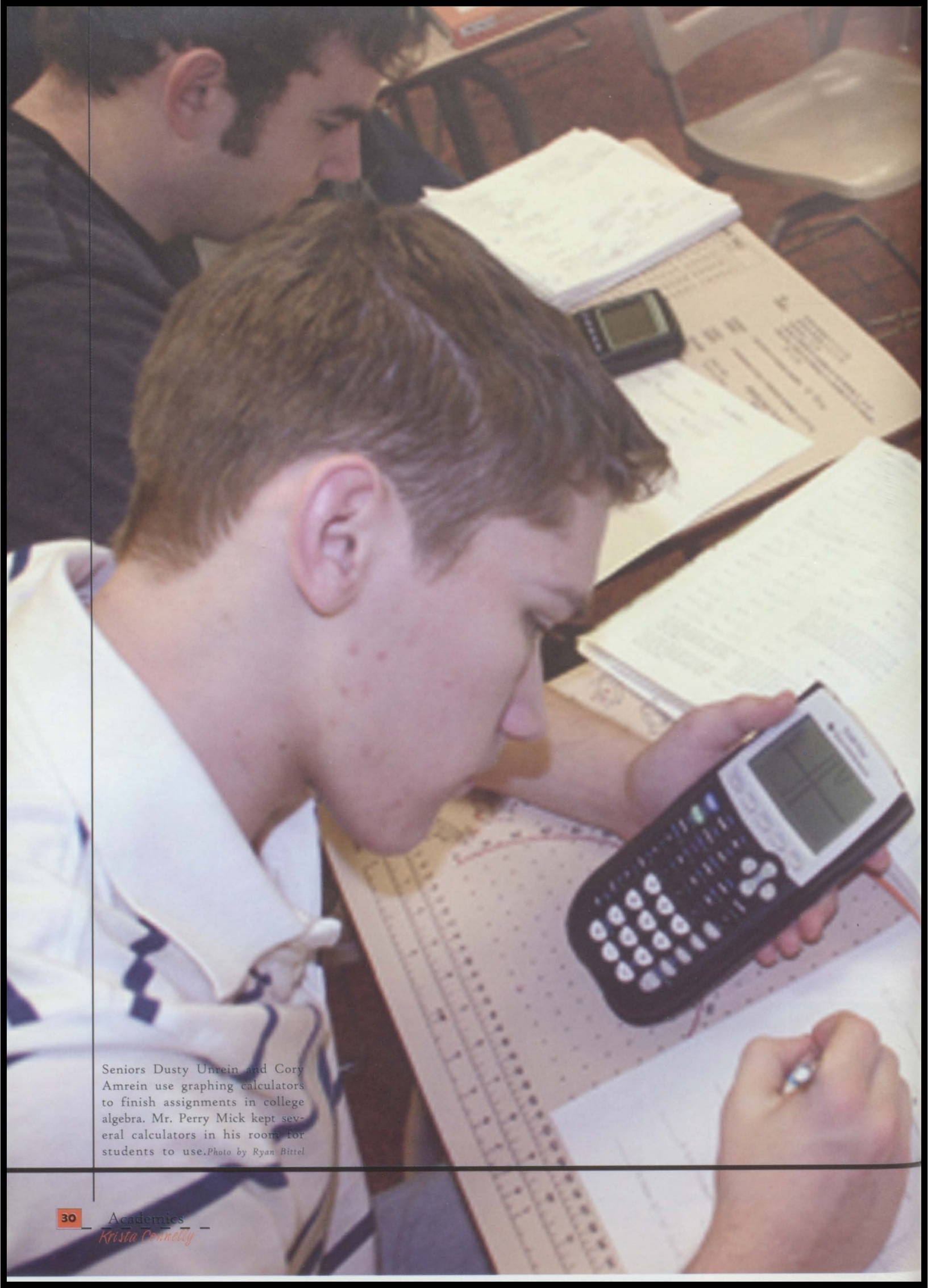
The 1950s, 70s, and 80s--Happiness, fun, and high school.

16%

The Civil War--just to observe.

53% Other periods not shown.





Seniors Dusty Unrein and Cory Amrein use graphing calculators to finish assignments in college algebra. Mr. Perry Mick kept several calculators in his room for students to use. Photo by Ryan Bittel



# Rethink

It's what you learn

Think again. To rethink is to reconsider. In class, rethink-

ing is a continual process. Your teacher

lectures, and you write down what is

said, all the while absorbing the infor-

mation and tossing the words about

in your head. Class debates turn into

games of riddles where the person with

the most wit wins. In Ellis, you always

have the opportunity to rethink.



1. In advanced woods, Keric Smith, sr., smooths the side of a quilt rack. Photo by Krista Connelly 2. With his Playstation portable, Ryan Bittel, jr., watches a movie with juniors Michael Young, John Tricks, Kayla Hollern, and Aaron Pfannenstiel. Photo by Cindy Hertel 3. In FACS, Mrs. Sharla Albers wrings a towel on sophomores Katie Parson, Rachael Hamel, and Tina Unrein. Photo by Keric Smith 4. Monica Befort, sr., paints with watercolors in art class. Photo by Krista Connelly



*English students embark on a journey to better their writing skills*

Hazardous materials. During chemistry, junior Khaled Fares mixes chemicals in a titration experiment. The lab was over acids and bases. "I like doing labs," Fares said. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

# Imagining things

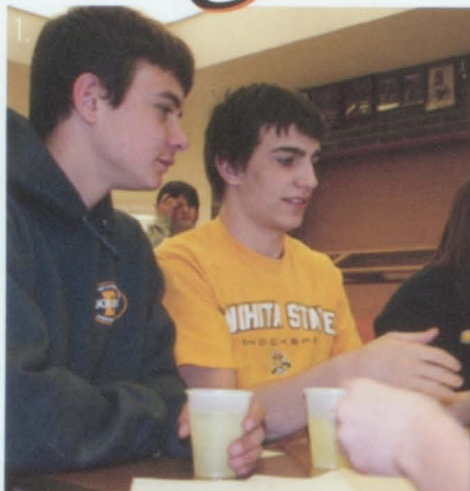
At a scenic camp facility in Rock Springs, four students found ideas for future writings.

Kayla Casey, fr., Ciara Hespe, so., Breanna Ellison, so., Michael Young, jr., and Mrs. Karen Madorin attended the Prairie Wind Young Writers and Artists Retreat to gain insight into the art of writing.

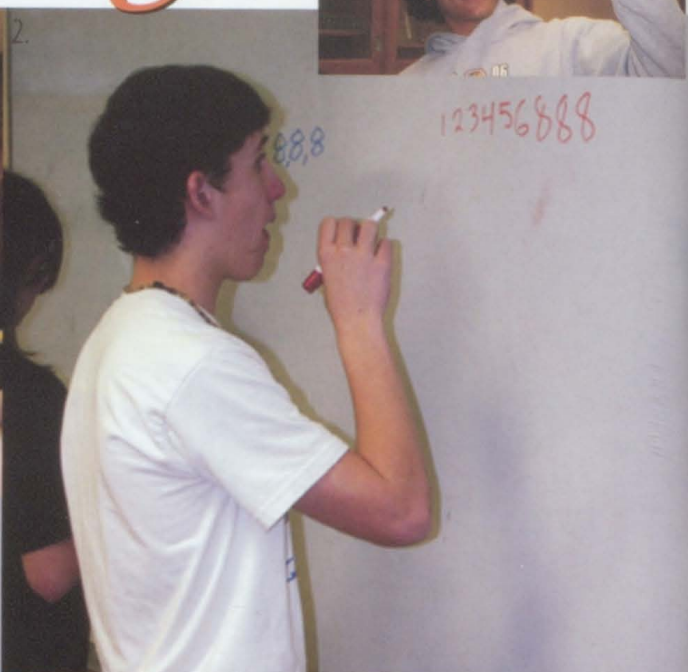
"I loved it," said Madorin. "It was an opportunity to work with writers on different levels."

Madorin taught classes on prose, and the students attended seminars and speakers.

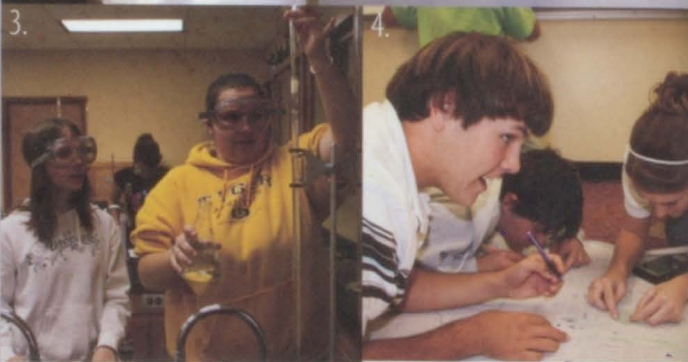
"At the end of classes we had to read in front of everybody," Casey said.



1. With cookies and lemonade at hand, Daniel Gottschalk, jr., and Chase King, so., read prose and poetry at the English literary tea. Photo by Cindy Hertel

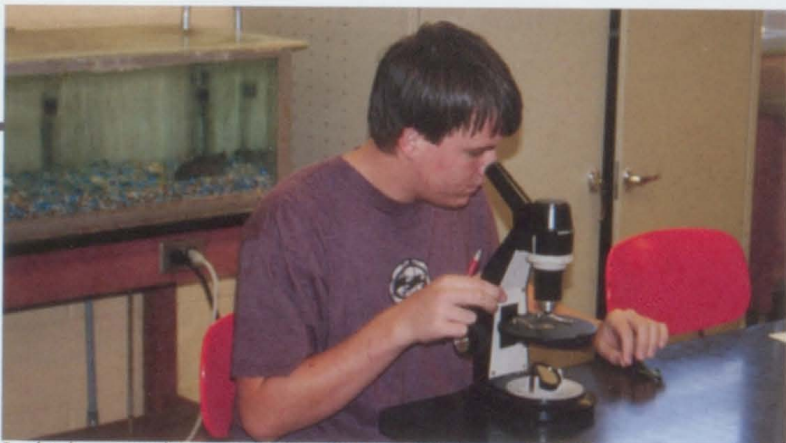


2. Freshman Matt Cunningham works on the white boards in Mr. Butch Hayes's math class. Many students preferred the white boards to the old chalkboards. Photo by Laura Augustine



3. To neutralize the chemicals, juniors Lauren Wheeler and Vanessa North mix acids and bases in chemistry. "It's fun doing titrations when everything breaks," North said. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

4. Seniors Randy Hamel, Brian Keller, and Whitney Lang find the area of city mowing lands for the Ellis City Office. Photo by Matea Lovato



In biology, sophomore Kerry Robb studies planaria under the microscope. Students took care of their own planaria during the 2006-2007 school year. They kept them in the biology cabinets because planaria thrive in dark places. Courtesy photo

Gliding on the hovercraft, Adam Augustine, sr., zooms down the hallway, pushed by seniors Cole Erbert and Scott Gugler. A few seconds later, he collided with the wall and caused an outburst of laughter from the physics class. Photo by Krista Connelly

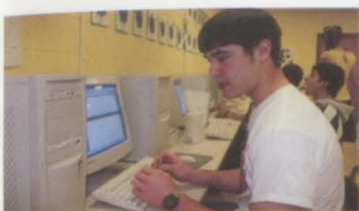




Español? Preparing for a speech, William Poland, fr., writes about Latino immigration. "I think immigrants should be required to pass an English exam before they can become citizens," Poland said. Photo by Krista Connelly

Sunny. Taking advantage of the weather, seniors Matea Lovato, Whitney Lang, Krista Connelly, Brian Keller, Randy Hamel, and Adam Augustine work on their practice test during calculus. Photo by Perry Mick

Color? By testing the printer, Ethan LaBarge, fr., is able to print Photoshop art in color. Freshmen completed many Photoshop projects in typing, including "the face" and "the stick man." Photo by Kerie Smith



To pass the time in forensics, Mrs. Linda Riedel and Nicole Pfeifer, fr., play puppets with some old socks. Pfeifer gave a short speech describing these socks before they turned into puppets. Photo by Krista Connelly

Describing various word roots, sophomores Joey Kitzman, Justin Hendrickson, and Tyler Fischer pass around a word ball. Mrs. Karen Madorin used this game to teach vocabulary in her classes. Photo by Lauren Wheeler

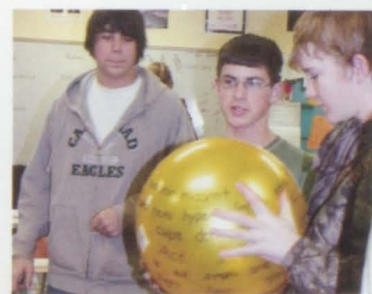
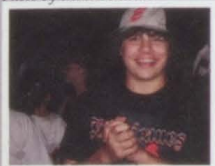


Photo by Matea Lovato



Joey Kitzman

- "I don't like the topics to write about. They don't interest me."
- "The thought that goes into it is difficult."
- "I forget to write papers in time. I don't pay attention to the teacher," Joey Kitzman, so., said.

**CON**

Should creative writing be required?

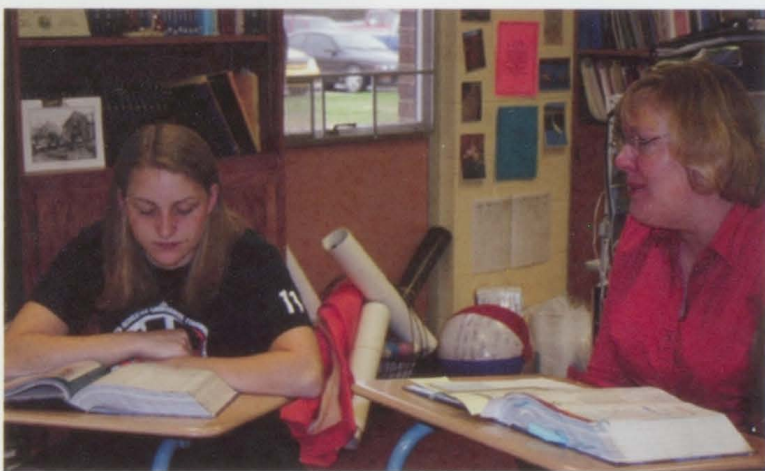
**PRO**

- "Writing is a lovely way to vent your emotion in a creative way."
- "It gives the characters in my head a chance to escape and live, which sounds psychotic, but it makes sense to me."
- "I can stun people with my expansively astonishing imaginative and impressive vocabulary," Ciara Hespe, so., said.

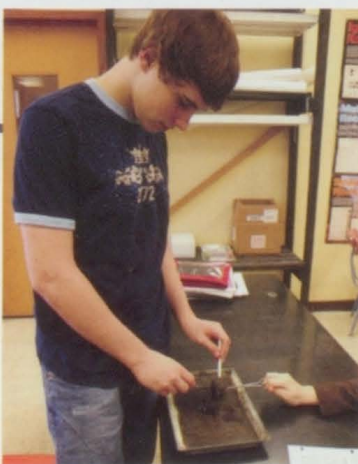
Ciara Hespe



Photo by Krista Connelly



To understand a story, Mrs. Karen Madorin and Whitney Taylor, so., discuss various aspects of it in class. "In English you get to read a lot of old stories, and they're fun to listen to," Taylor said. Photo by Krista Connelly



By dissecting a grasshopper, Cody Ocamb learns about the insect's internal functions. "The odor of the grasshopper was quite pungent," Ocamb said. Photo by Krista Connelly

**Dairy Queen**  
1226 E. 27th  
Hays, KS  
"The sweetest  
deal in town!"

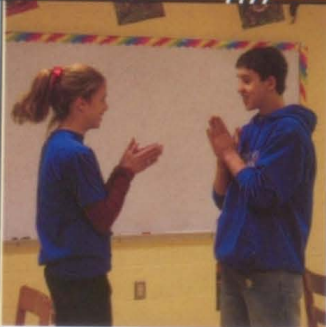


*Writ-ing: noun. 1: the act of one that writes; 2: something that is written or printed; 3: a style or form of composition; 4: the occupation of a writer.*

At the spring literary tea, Debra Massier, so., peruses other students' writings. Submitting prose and poetry entries to the Hays Arts Council competition was mandatory for freshmen and sophomores. Photo by Cindy Hertel



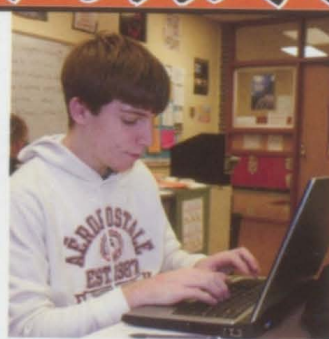
## *The foundation classes...*



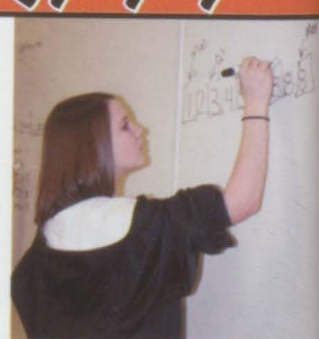
Jennifer Kinderknecht, fr., and Matt Cunningham, fr., play patty-cake in forensics. "IDA gives you a chance to be creative with your classmates," Kinderknecht said. Photo by Bailey Deutscher



Before the Ellis forensics tournament, seniors Kelsy Kinderknecht and Megan Keller prepare ballots and paperwork. Several forensics team members took forensics as a class. Photo by Krista Connelly



During English II Brandon Geschwentner, so., uses one of the new laptops to complete a project for class. The school had five carts of laptops available. Photo by Krista Connelly



Freshman Danielle Weber answers a statistics question in Mr. Hayes's geometry class. Students learned how numbers relate to each other in this section. Photo by Laura Augustine



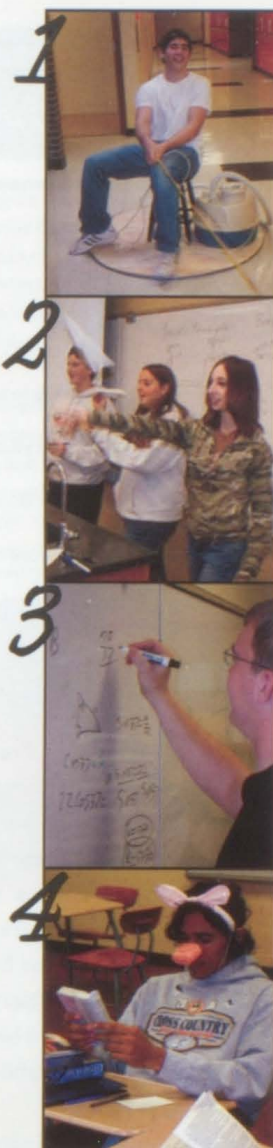
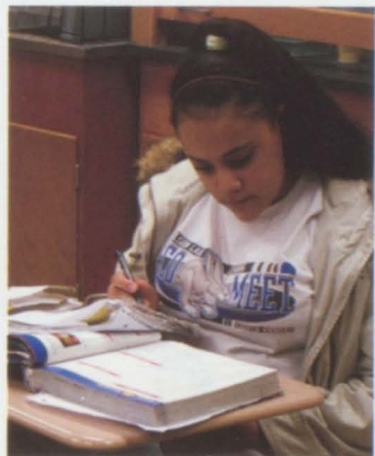
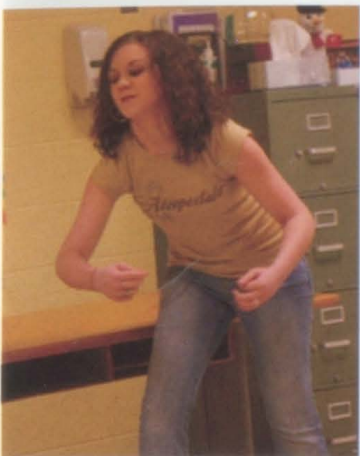
By measuring the distances between marks on the pavement, seniors Matea Lovato and Stephanie Spinelli calculate acceleration. "I really enjoyed physics, especially when I started a fire with a lens," Spinelli said. Photo by Krista Connelly



Junior Aaron Pfannenstiel puts a kilogram scale back together during physics. The scale broke when the class was pushing a car to test friction between the road and the car. Photo by Krista Connelly



During American history, Meredith Keller, jr., looks up entries in the index. The class learned about the civil rights movement in groups. "The March of Selma was interesting," Keller said. Photo by Krista Connelly



While at the North Pole, Ciara Hespe, so., builds a snowman in her Impromptu Duet Acting performance. "IDA helps you think on your feet, which benefits you later in life," Hespe said. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

In physical science, Jessica Estrada, fr., finishes a review assignment. The class was taught by Mr. Jack Wolf because more science classes were added to the schedule. Photo by Matea Lovato

By holding a tuning fork over a graduated cylinder of water, seniors Chris Hazen and Scott Gugler determine the speed of sound. Gugler proceeded to rip his shirt apart in triumph over the other physics group. Photo by Krista Connelly

1 In physics, John Tricks, jr., prepares for take-off. "The hovercraft was an excellent chance to learn and have fun at the same time," Tricks said. Photo by Matea Lovato

2 During Mr. Wolf's physical science class, freshmen Randi Hook, Kayla Casey and Paige Reilly compete in a paper airplane flying contest. Courtesy photo

3 Senior Aaron Herl finishes a trigonometry problem on a white board. "Algebra 2 was the most challenging class of my senior year," Herl said. Photo by Cindy Hertel

4 While reading "To Kill a Mockingbird," Khaled Fares, jr., sports a pig snout and ears. Mrs. Karen Madorin lent them to him for the hour. Photo by Krista Connelly



Completing an assignment, Rachel Thomson, sr., uses one of the school's calculators. After the winter break, the advanced math class switched to college algebra. Photo by Keric Smith

In order to "teach chicks," Alicia Lang, fr., and Logan Fuchs, fr., act out an IDA. Their characters, drawn at random, were an elephant trainer and a computer geek. Photo by Matea Lovato



*Foreign language skills give student international opportunities*

Hey! Senior Randy Hamel works on the senior movie for graduation in webpage class. The webpage class was responsible for keeping the webpage updated throughout the year. Photo by Kerie Smith

# Bon Voyage

Everyone dreams of going to a foreign country. The culture, the sites to see, and the food are all great incentives. For senior Kelsy Kinderknecht, that dream was a reality. She paid the fee for the trip and boarded a plane to France.

Kinderknecht took French all four years of high school, so she was excited to try out her skill in the real environment. Kinderknecht soon noticed that she had more to learn about French language and culture.

Foreign language teacher Mrs. Jacqueline Grogan thinks that the trip was very beneficial to her because it showed that it is very helpful to learn a foreign language.

While in France, Kinderknecht visited the Eiffel Tower, Notre Dame, and the Louvre Museum.

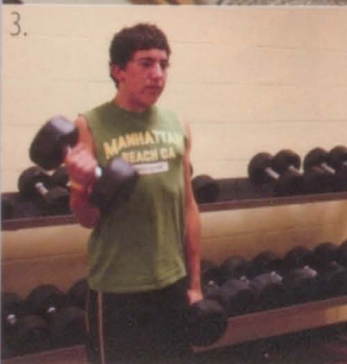
"I think the experience was a good start, but if I return, I would like to learn more about actual French culture rather than the tourist aspects of the country," Kinderknecht said.



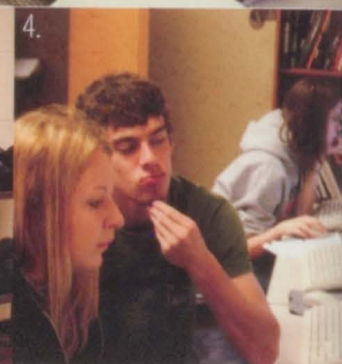
1. Getting ready to host Rotary, Meggie Patrick, sr., finishes off the strawberry shortcake with a dollop of whipped cream. Photo by Monica Befort



2. Working on her latch-hook project in art class, Letisha Elliott, sr., threads yarn into her grid. Photo by Krista Connolly



3. Cody Gehrer, jr., reps dumbbells in GPD class. "Free-weight lifting is the best workout you can do, I think, and dumbbells are the best workout for your arms," Gehrer said. Photo by Kerie Smith



4. Helping classmate Bailey Deutscher with her layout in journalism class, Ryan Bittel, jr., ponders the problem. The approximate cost of the yearbook was \$12,000. Photo by Kerie Smith



Working out in GPD class, Daniel Gottschalk, jr., grunts as he squats a heavy load while Cory Amrein, sr., spots him. "I took GPD class because I enjoy working out, and the class is fun," Gottschalk said. Photo by Kerie Smith

Raking rocks in front of the school, Glenn Lacy, sr., works on a landscaping project. The horticulture classes did landscaping projects in the front of the school and participated in FFA meets throughout the year. Photo by Kerie Smith





Hot! Not only can women sew and iron, but so can senior Scott Gugler. Gugler irons fabric for his quilt in FACS class. "I enjoy making stuff no matter what it is," Gugler said. Photo by Keric Smith

In a spin! Working on the lathe in woods class, Brian Keller, sr., uses chisels to carve a block of wood to roundness. "The lathe is a hard machine to use," Keller said, "but I wanted a challenge." Photo by Krista Connelly

Edit. Senior Krista Connelly proofs layouts of the yearbook in journalism class. The journalism class had to work twice as hard because of a smaller journalism staff. Photo by Cindy Hertal



Working on his grain cart in projects class, junior Brian Riedel takes a chain link out of a chain with a screw driver. Some projects took all year long, but most projects took only a couple of weeks. Photo by Laura Augustine

Senior Brett Mickelson preps his entertainment center for finishing by using a tack rag to remove the dust from the surface of his project. The class broke two blades and caught a router cord on fire during the year. Photo by Matea Lovato



Photo by Keric Smith



Kylor Campbell

- "I think we should not have to learn another language because we should not give in to immigration and speak their language."
- "If we moved to other countries, then we should have to learn their languages. It's the same way here. If they move here they should speak our language."
- "If we let immigrants live in America, they should respect Americans and speak English," Kylor Campbell, jr., said.

## CON

Should people be required to learn a second language?

## PRO

- "I study foreign languages because I am interested in other people, their culture and their history. I believe to understand others I have to be able to think in their language."
- "As an educator, my answer is more complex. Extensive research has proven there are cognitive, academic, and neurological benefits in learning another language."
- "In my opinion there are several excellent reasons to learn a foreign language. I see the benefits but most Americans do not," Mrs. Jacqueline Grogan said.

Mrs. Jacqueline Grogan



Photo by Keric Smith



"Mr. Faulkender wanted me to try a new style of art, so I painted Tupac [in a different style]," Monica Befort, sr., said. The art class attended the MCL art show where Befort took first in oil painting and second in color pencil. Photo by Laura Augustine

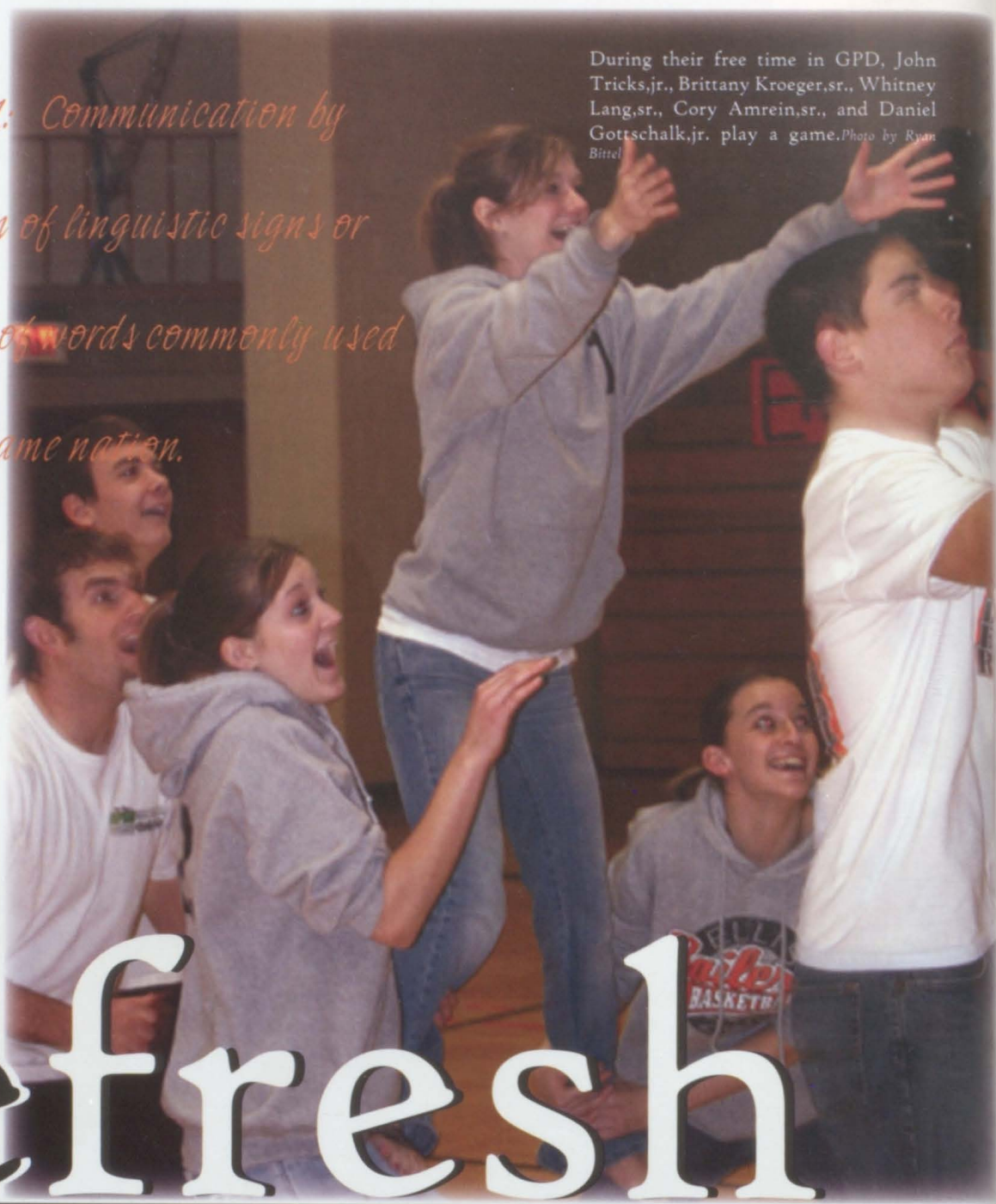
Sophomore Rachael Hamel sews in Mrs. Sharla Albers' FACS class. The FACS class made quilts and other small projects during second semester after learning how to sew. Photo by Matea Lovato

**Ellis Review**  
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Yearbook Staff.  
You keep student  
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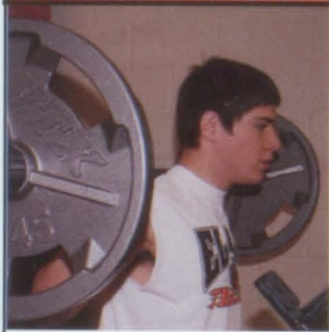
*Lan-guage: noun. 1: Communication by voice; 2: the system of linguistic signs or symbols; 3: A body of words commonly used with people of the same nation.*

During their free time in GPD, John Tricks, jr., Brittany Kroeger, sr., Whitney Lang, sr., Cory Amrein, sr., and Daniel Gottschalk, jr. play a game. Photo by Ryan Bittel

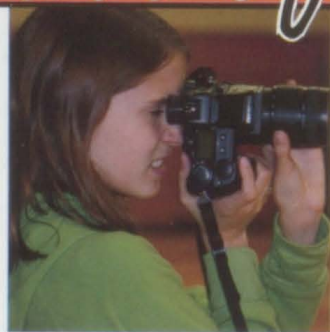


# Refresh

## *Takin' care of business...*



In GPD, John Tricks, jr., prepares to max out by starting easy. The GPD students have to max out at the end of each nine weeks by lifting as much weight as possible. Photo by Laura Augustine



Lauren Wheeler, jr., takes pictures at a home volleyball game. Journalism students were responsible for taking almost all of the pictures in the yearbook. Photo by Bailey Deutscher



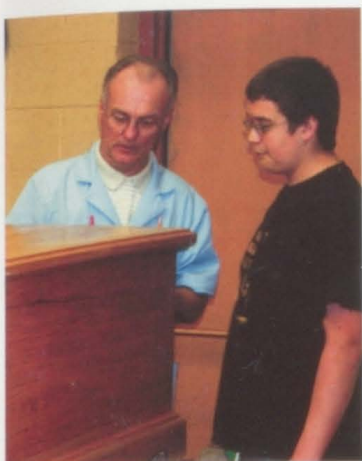
Andrew Casey, sr., measures a piece of wood, preparing to cut it for his project. In the second semester, the students used their skills and made pieces of furniture. Photo by Laura Augustine



Vanessa North, jr., prepares for the next forensics meet. Forensics II students were responsible for presenting and explaining different speeches to the freshman speech classes. Photo by Krista Connolly



Mr. Zervas gives Jason Schmidt, sr., some advice on his wood chest. "Mr. Zervas gives good advice on how to make our projects better and makes sure it's the best at the end of the year," Schmidt said. Photo by Laura Augustine



Justin Henrickson, so., welds on his trailer in project construction class. Students made various projects out of metal. "My favorite project has been building a panel trailer," Henrickson said. Photo by Krista Connelly



Helping in the hospitality room at the home forensics tournament, Mrs. Sharla Albers and Kelsey Gehringer, fr., cut pineapple. FACS students prepared donuts and other food items the day before in class. Photo by Matea Lovato



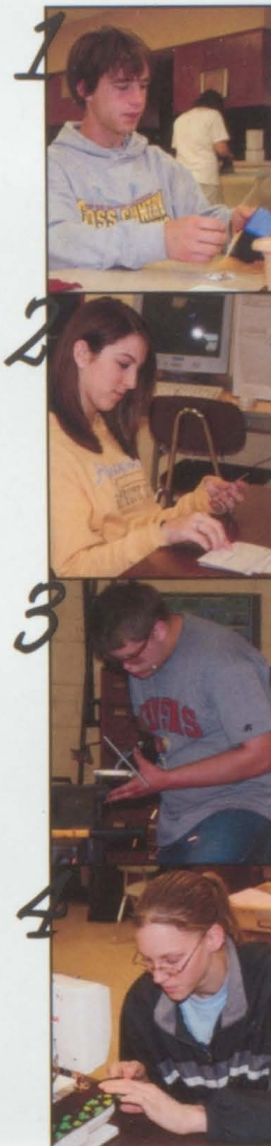
Melissa Nowlin, jr., works on adding color to her ceiling tile in art. "Art class is fun because you can be creative, there's never any homework, and it's stress free," Nowlin said. Photo by Krista Connelly



Cole Erbert, sr., mixes pancake batter to make breakfast for the class. "I like listening to one of Mrs. Albers's endless stories while enjoying a plate full of pancakes," Erbert said. Photo by Matea Lovato



Zack Gehring, jr., lifts weights during GPD. "My favorite exercise is the butt press, but Mr. Armbruster doesn't approve because he doesn't want us to strain ourselves," Gehring said. Photo by Matea Lovato

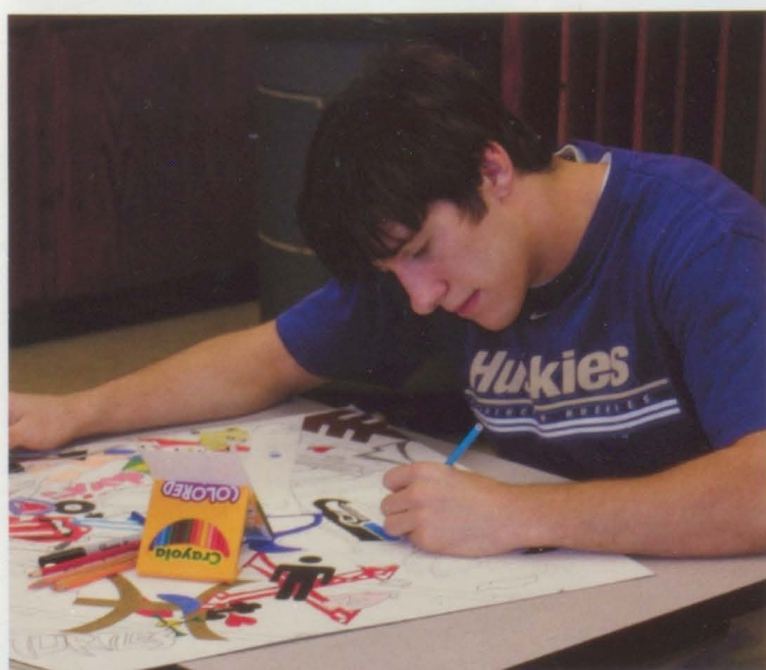


Kevin Urban, jr., pieces together material for his quilt. Students used their sewing skills to make a quilt of their own design. Photo by Matea Lovato

During horticulture, Jordan Lang, so., studies the different cuts of meat to prepare for an FFA competition. Photo by Monica Befort

Clay Barton, so., works on his project. "Ag class has helped me learn how to build things on my own," Barton said. Photo by Laura Augustine

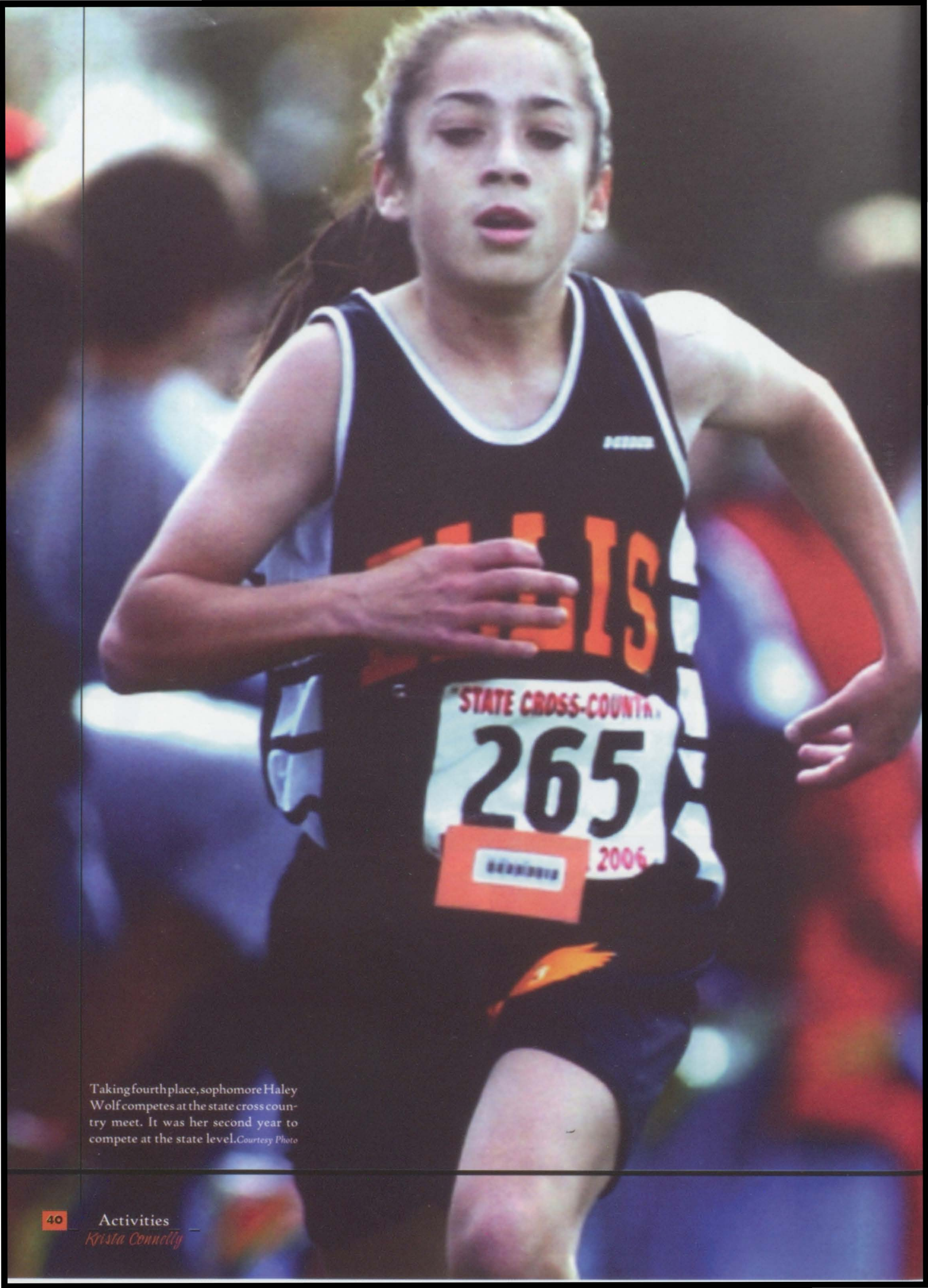
Sammy Hook, sr., works on her quilt in FACS class. "I like making a quilt because I can choose my own fabrics and color scheme," Hooksaid. Photo by Keric Smith



Logan Bittel, so., grinds on his trailer in project construction class. "It's cool to see how many good projects I can make with my own hands," Bittel said. Photo by Krista Connelly

Justin Gnad, jr., works on his ceiling tile for art. The art students designed a collage of at least 100 different items, and when it was complete, it was put on the ceiling. Photo by Laura Augustine





Taking fourth place, sophomore Haley Wolf competes at the state cross country meet. It was her second year to compete at the state level. *Courtesy Photo*

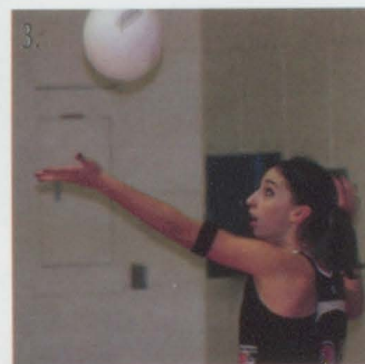
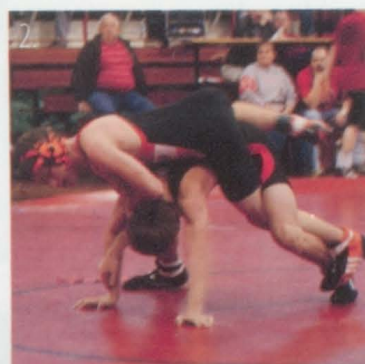


# Adventure

It's what you do

The act of an adventure includes risk and excitement.

When you sign up for activities, you know what to expect, but there is always a feeling of anticipation. New coaches show up with fresh ideas; different students go out for the sport. As you walk into the unknown, you know that no matter what, it is still an Ellis activity, full of pride and adventure.



1. At the Ellis invitational, junior Kevin Urban prepares to pole vault. Photo by Matea Lovato 2. Dusty Unrein, sr., wrestles his opponent at the Ellsworth tournament. Photo by Corey Burton 3. During the Phillipsburg/Russell game, Paige Reilly, fr., serves the volleyball. This match was for freshmen only. Photo by Bailey Deutscher 4. Senior Kristen Waldschmidt keeps the ball away from Phillipsburg opponents at the Feb. 20 home game. Photo by Matea Lovato



# Something Worth Remembering

"This season was the most amazing bonding experience ever. We spent a lot of free time together at tournaments and that made us get to know each other on different levels."

--Whitney Taylor, sr.  
Photo by Monica Befort



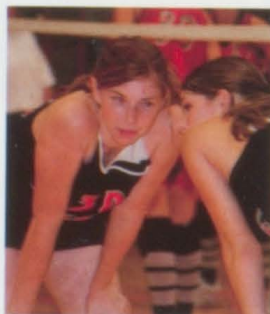
"Don't be discouraged by your past experiences with losing because with the right attitude you'll succeed in some way."

--Alicia Lang, fr.  
Photo by Bailey Deutscher



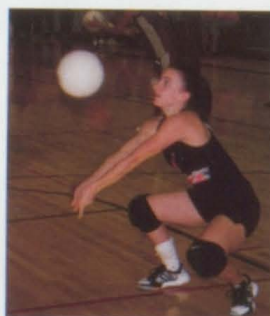
"One of my best memories from volleyball was winning the Ellis Invitational. It was one of the few times a team from Ellis has won their own invitational."

--Laura Augustine, sr.  
Photo by Monica Befort



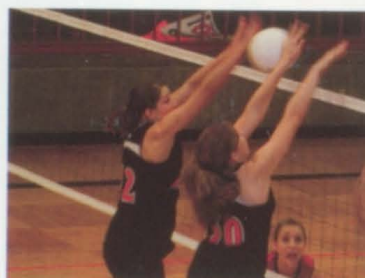
"My favorite part of the season is when we went searching for victory around town. This was a team bonding experience before sub-state."

--Kayla Hollern, jr.  
Photo by Laura Augustine



**Passing It Up**  
Jaylen Reed, sr., passes the ball up to her teammates, hoping for a big hit. Later in the season Reed hurt her knee and had to have surgery. She was unable to play the rest of the season.  
Photo by Monica Befort

**In Your Face**  
Seniors Whitney Lang and Laura Augustine block a spike against their opponents in the Ellis Invitational. The team won the tournament by defeating Western Plains in the championship match. Photo by Monica Befort



*"The girls have pride in themselves and the team."*

--Coach Kerry Bittel



# In Review

## Season Record: 20-10

	EHS	OPP
Hill City.....	25,19,23	18,25,25
Palco.....	23,25,25	25,15,14
Plainville.....	25,25	18,11
Plainville.....	25,25	18,18
Tri-Plains.....	25,25	16,21
Otis Bison.....	18,14	25,25
Claffin.....	15,25,15	25 1525
Victoria.....	25,25	20,19
Smith Center.....	21,28,25	25,26,20
Trego.....	26,25	24,9
Western Plains...	25,24,25	23,26,20
Osborne.....	23,25,23	25,21,25
Phillipsburg.....	23,15	25,25
Tri-Plains.....	25,25	17,20
Plainville.....	25,25	9,9
Western Plains...	25,17,22	25,16,13
Victoria.....	25,25	15,19
Western Plains...	22,25,25	25,26,13
Quinter.....	25,25	15,6
Western Plains...	17,25,25	25,20,21
Natoma.....	25,25	11,15
Palco.....	25,25	12,18
Trego.....	25,23,25	20,25,14
Norton.....	25,25	22,23
Osborne.....	9,22	25,25
Phillipsburg.....	11,19	25,25
Osborne.....	20,25,19	25,13,25
St. Francis.....	25,25	23,12
Hill City.....	25,28	17,26
Oakley.....	19,17	25,25

Get Pumped! Katelyn Keller, jr., and Kendra Mickelson, so., slap hands with their teammates to get prepared and pumped up before a JV game. The team did this before every game.

Photo by Laura Augustine

Close To a Win. The volleyball team poses for the camera with their second place plaque after the final game at sub-state. The team was the third team in the history of Ellis volleyball to win the second place title at sub-state. Courtesy photo



Seniors Meggie Patrick and Kristen Waldschmidt listen as Coach Kerry Bittel sits the team down to get focused in the final minutes of the championship game of the Ellis Invitational.

## Unified Got your back

They all stood there lined up in rows, the camera flashing and sparkling off some of their tears. The volleyball team stood tall and faced the injustices that surrounded them as they held the plaque for second place at the sub-state tournament.

"We were so close," Coach Kerry Bittel said.

Coach Bittel was yellow carded during the sub-state game while sticking up for the team after the referee made a "bogus" call against them. She says the referees can mess with her, but if they mess with her girls, she's not going to take it.

Referees were not a problem for the team

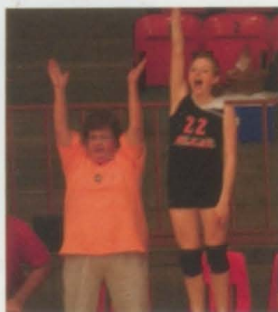
at the Ellis Invitational Tournament.

They won the tournament, only the second team in Ellis history to accomplish the feat. The championship was especially poignant for the seniors.

"It was sad because it was the last time for us seniors to play in our own gym, so winning the Ellis Invitational was really awesome," Brittany Kroeger, sr., said.

The game wasn't just about those on the court either. The bench backed the team with cheers any time they could.

"We get rowdy on the bench. These girls gave 150% during the season," said Coach Bittel.



Winners! Meggie Patrick, sr., and Coach Bittel cheer the winning point in the Ellis Invitational. Photo by Monica Befort



# In Review

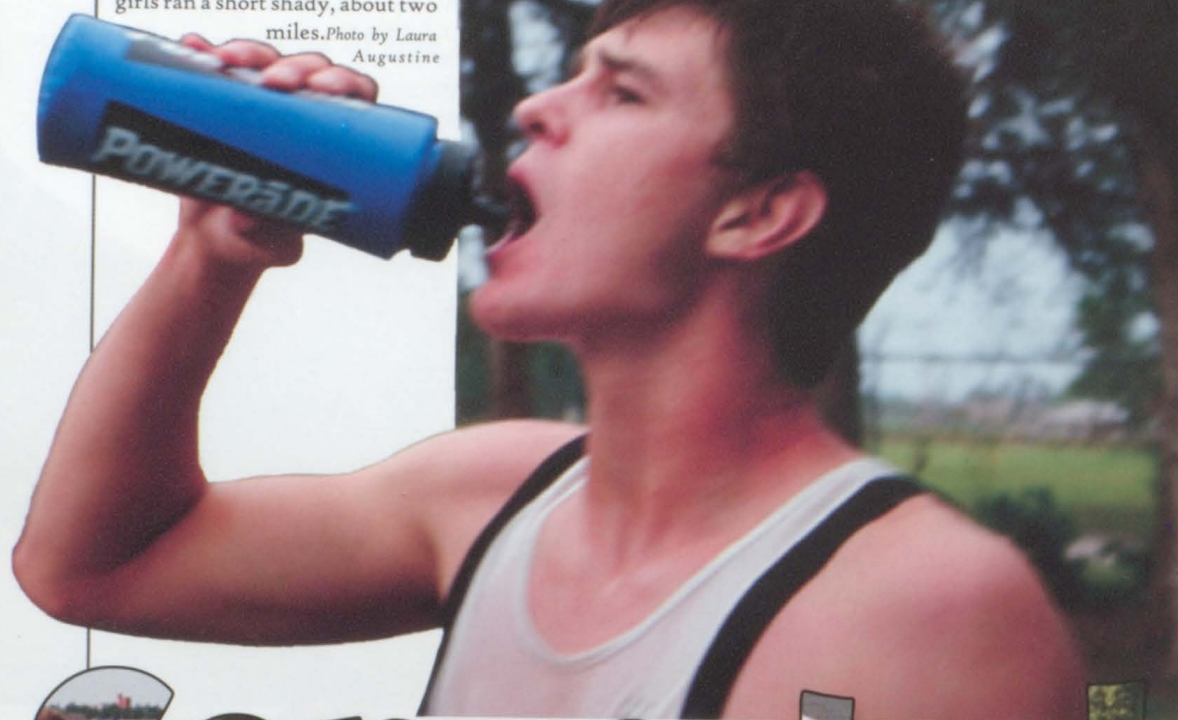
## Girls

Megan Keller.....	21:3
Jess Lonnberg ....	19:4
Rachel Thomson.	19:3
Danielle Pfeifer...	18:0
Nicole Pfeifer .....	24:48
Haley Wolf .....	15:32

## Boys

Scott Gugler .....	18:16
Khaled Fares .....	23:29
Kevin Urban .....	18:47
Brian Keller .....	20:00
Keric Smith .....	19:40
Ryan Weber .....	19:50
Todd Flinn .....	20:55
William Poland ..	22:13

Recovering after the run, Brian Keller, sr., rehydrates. At the Ellis cross country run, a pre-season event for cross country participants, the boys ran a long shady, about four miles, and the girls ran a short shady, about two miles. Photo by Laura Augustine



# Converted Sport-to-Sport

With the success of the team, some began to wonder where these runners came from.

Many of the cross country runners once participated in other fall sports. Danielle Pfeifer, jr., said she wouldn't change her decision if she had the chance.

"Cross country is fun and exciting," Pfeifer said.

Another student-athlete who switched to running cross country was Todd Flinn, jr. Responding to why he chose to convert, Flinn said it was competing in track that influenced his decision.

"Mr. Hayes placed me in the long

distance team in track. I liked running distance." Flinn said.



Run, Scott, Run! Haley Wolf, so., watches Scott Gugler, sr., lead the other runners. Photo by Cindy Hertel

Participating in cross country also prepares athletes for other sports.

"It gives me good endurance for wrestling," Brian Keller, a senior who previously played football, said.

The participation of these athletes translated into success for the cross country team. The season concluded at the state meet in Wamego.

Haley Wolf, so., placed fourth with a time of 15:32:36, and Scott Gugler, sr., placed 17th with a time of 18:34:29 in the boys' race. The boys' team placed 11<sup>th</sup> in the 2A team standings.

Preparation is key. To warm up for the run, all the members of the team take a jog around the track. The Ellis preseason cross country run took place on the same night as the football soap scrimmage and volleyball scrimmage. Photo by Ryan Bittel

Recording Improvement. Going over race results, runners Kevin Urban, jr., Todd Flinn, jr., and Brian Keller, sr., huddle around Coach Casey Dinkel and manager Staci Bittel to see their results. "I like watching them run," said Bittel, who kept stats for the runners. Photo by Cindy Hertel





#### Pace Yourself

Trekking up the hill, Danielle Pfeifer, jr., strides through the Quinter course. This was Pfeifer's first year running cross country after playing volleyball her freshman and sophomore years of high school. Photo by Cindy Hertel

#### Tough Competition

Although she thought it was difficult, Megan Keller, sr., looked at the Hays High meet in a positive light. "Hays is a good meet because we get to run against harder competition," Keller said. Photo by Matea Lovato



## Something Worth Remembering



"Running after school in the heat every day was hard. Even though it was a lot of work, I really enjoyed it."

--William Poland, jr.

Photo by Laura Augustine



"Cross country is fun, but I got nervous at the state meet. I feel good about coming in 4th with over 100 good runners."

--Haley Wolf, sr.

Photo by Matea Lovato



"Practice was tiring and I didn't like running through the pasture, but cross country was fun for me."

--Nicole Pfeifer, jr.

Photo by Matea Lovato



"Cross country was hard for me. I'd never done this before in Egypt. I think it was a good experience."

--Khaled Fares, jr.

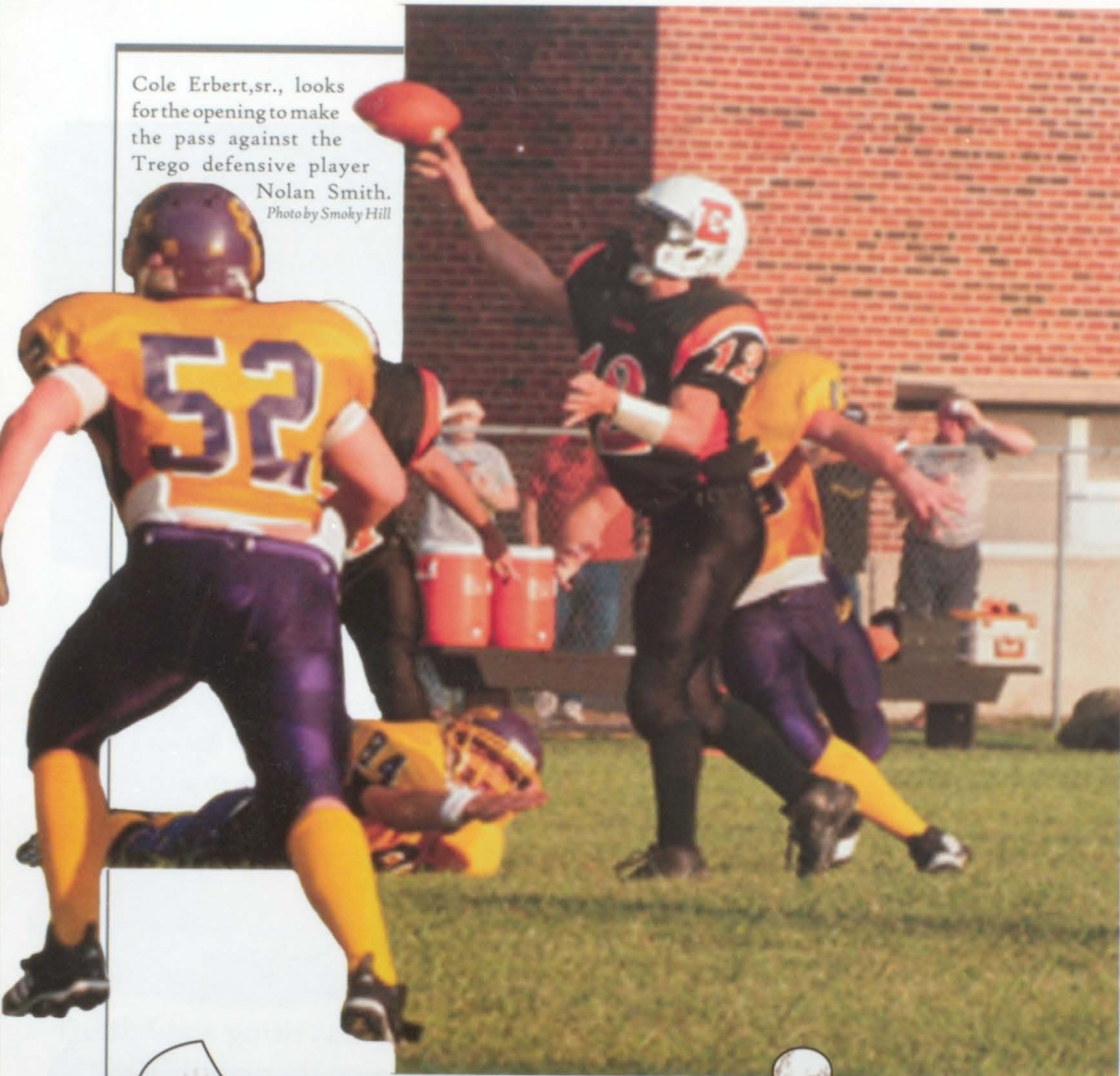
Photo by Cindy Hertel

*"Work put in at the beginning pays off in the end."*

--Scott Gugler, sr.



Cole Erbert, sr., looks for the opening to make the pass against the Trego defensive player Nolan Smith.  
Photo by Smoky Hill



# Superior

## Road to Glory

The stadium was packed, fans eagerly anticipating the kick-off.

Schoenthaler.

The Railers set a school record by being the first football team from Ellis to make it to the sectional game of the state playoffs.

The seniors on the team also realized that they needed to step up and be leaders for the others.

"Making it to sectionals let us set a high standard for future Ellis football teams that hopefully will be broke someday," said Justin Gnad, jr.

Every good team is led by good leaders. This team was no different.

Leadership and hard work from the seniors was one of reasons the season was so successful, said Coach Artie



Huddle Up! Team members break it down before a game. Unity was a major part of the season. Photo by Krista Connelly

playoffs.

The Railers finished the season with a 7-5 record.

"We helped by getting the younger players ready to play the extra games," said Brett Mickelson, sr.

The Railers started the season at home against the Trego Eagles with a win.

Following the win the Railers had a 4 game losing streak and a then a 6 game winning streak that led them into the sectional game of the state

## In Review

### Season Record: 7-5

Trego.....	27-13
Phillipsburg.....	2-44
Beaver, OK.....	6-30
Smith Center.....	12-47
Norton.....	6-27
Ness City/Dighton.....	32-8
Stockton.....	52-7
Plainville.....	48-8
Hill City.....	38-0
Lincoln.....	61-20
Moundridge.....	28-0
St. Francis.....	14-32

### Honors

#### MCL First Team

Brett Mickelson.....	OG & DT
Andrew Casey.....	WR

#### MCL Second Team

Cole Erbert.....	QB
Justin Gnad.....	RB
Randy Hamel.....	C & DE
Michael Hiss.....	T & DT
Chase King.....	DB
Daniel Gottschalk.....	K

#### MCL Honorable Mention

Justin Gnad.....	LB
Andrew Casey.....	KR

Down, Set, Hut! The defensive line gets set to stop the Ness City-Dighton Titan offensive line. The Railers defeated the Titans in the Friday night Homecoming game. Photo by Matea Lovato

All for one and one for all. The football team received the Bi-District Championship trophy after the Moundridge game. To build unity, the football team got together at 6 a.m. to lift weights every day of the week. Courtesy Photo



Celebrating a victory.

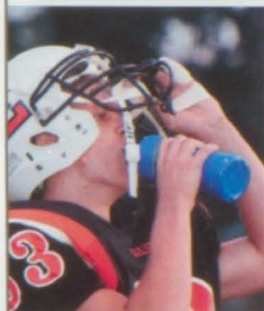
Chris Hazen, sr., celebrates with Dillon Kinderknecht, fr., after the Moundridge game. Football fever swept the halls when Booster Club decorated the halls with posters to pep up the football team. *Courtesy Photo.*

Pushing through.

The Trego Golden Eagles defensive line attempts to stop Justin Gnad, jr., during the season opener for the Railers. The Railers opened at home with a 27-13 victory over the Trego Golden Eagles. *Photo by Smoky Hill*



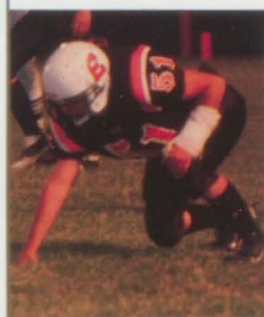
## Something Worth Remembering



"Being part of the team to make it the farthest ever in the playoffs was a great feeling."

--Adam Augustine, sr.

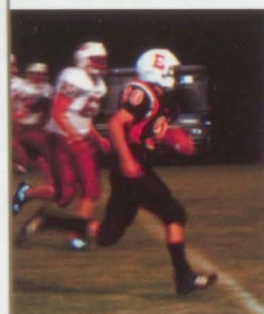
*Photo by Matea Lovato*



"The best part about this football season was being the first Ellis team to make it to the sectional game."

--Randy Hamel, sr.

*Photo by Matea Lovato*



"It was an honor to make the district team. I thought we should have gotten more votes from other teams in the district."

--Daniel Gottschalk, jr.

*Photo by Keric Smith*



"After having a long losing streak against Trego, it felt good to finally beat them."

--Monte Honas, sr.

*Photo by Lauren Wheeler*

*"This season was by far the most exciting one ever."*

--Cory Amrein, sr.



Recovery. After a tough foul, Whitney Taylor, so., is lifted to her feet by teammates Whitney Lang, sr., and Danielle Pfeifer, jr. Coach Perry Mick led the girls to win the MCL tournament for the second year in a row. "This is quite an accomplishment, and the girls have to be proud," Mick said.

Photo by Cindy Hertel



## A Shot to Remember

The shot arched through the air as the buzzer signaled the end of the sub-state final game. The whole gym paused as the shot wobbled downward toward the hoop. Grazing only a fraction of the iron, the ball fell through with a swish of cotton. Half of the gym exploded in cheers, and the other half gazed in disbelief.

"My thoughts were mostly with the girls," Coach Perry Mick said in reaction to the last second shot of the sub-state final that ended the season for the girls' basketball team.

After winning the MCL tournament for the second consecutive year, the girls

pushed their way to the sub-state final game against Oakley. The game was close until the final seconds, when an Oakley player put up a final attempt from the far corner of the sideline. The shot ballooned into the cylinder, breaking the tie game and the hopes of state basketball for the Ellis girls. Oakley went on to win the state title.



Listen to the Coach. Yelling instructions to the team, Coach Perry Mick calls a play. Photo by Cindy Hertel

"It feels good to get close, but it's disappointing that we were .9 seconds from taking them into overtime," Whitney Taylor, so., said.

Although the season ended with a difficult loss, the girls finished with a 14-8 record.

## In Review

Phillipsburg .....	60-66
Western Plains .....	55-35
Quinter .....	59-56
Oakley .....	56-60
Palco .....	69-46
Osborne .....	37-59
Stockton .....	52-21
Trego .....	67-51
Hill City .....	72-42
Phillipsburg .....	62-51
Smith Center .....	66-41
Osborne .....	56-51
Victoria .....	63-61
Plainville .....	63-49
Quinter .....	50-51
Smith Center .....	58-59
Spearville .....	67-51
Norton .....	55-65
St. John .....	41-54
St. Francis .....	65-41
Hoxie .....	75-65
Oakley .....	66-63

### Honors

MCL First Team  
Kristen Waldschmidt  
Danielle Pfeifer  
Whitney Taylor

Feel the Pressure. Whitney Taylor, so., dribbles through the opponent's press. To stay strong for the season, the girls lifted weights two days a week in the summer. Photo by Matea Lovato

Reach for the Ball. Extending her leg, Danielle Pfeifer, jr., goes to deflect a pass. Pfeifer said the team's success gave them motivation. "We were determined to get farther than last year," Pfeifer said. Photo by Smoky Hill



### Slash to the Hoop!

Dribbling down the court, Haley Wolf, so., drives her Victoria defender to the basket. As of 2005, Victoria is no longer a member of the MCL, but the team still plays Ellis every season. Photo by Ryan Bittel

### Rebound, Railers, Rebound!

Blocking out her opponent, Whitney Lang, sr., positions herself for the rebound. Lang led the team in rebounds and was awarded by Coach Mick at the team's basketball banquet. Photo by Ryan Bittel

## Something Worth Remembering

"We will be pretty good again next year. We have some strong players returning and have some young players that I think will step up and take the places of the seniors."

--Whitney Taylor, sr.

Photo by Krista Connolly

"It was really nice to get in the finals of every tournament this year, but it was disappointing that we got second place in two of the three tournaments."

--Laura Augustine, sr.

Photo by Cindy Heriel

"We had three guards that scored over three hundred points. We all got along well and didn't fight. That's why our team was successful."

--Kristen Waldschmidt, sr.

Photo by Keric Smith

"We had a great season this year. We got runner-up at sub-state and we were back-to-back champions for the MCL tournament."

--Kayla Hollern, jr.

Photo by Keric Smith

*"It was heartbreaking to have it end like that."*

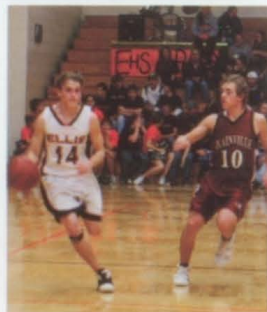
--Coach Perry Mick



# Something Worth Remembering

"Even though the season was tough, it was still just as fun hanging out with the guys and just playing some basketball."

--Andrew Casey, sr.  
Photo by Monica Befort



"The season wasn't exactly what we expected, but we still tried to enjoy ourselves and play hard."

--Daniel Gottschalk, jr.  
Photo by Keric Smith



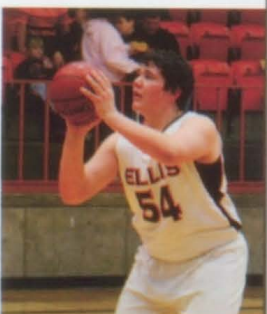
"This season was a fun experience. It was my first time to play basketball at high school. Even though we didn't win many games, we made the best of it."

--Aaron Gnad, fr.  
Photo by Monica Befort



"It was a rough season, but it was also a great opportunity for us to work together. We became better as a unit."

--Matt Erbert, fr.  
Photo by Keric Smith

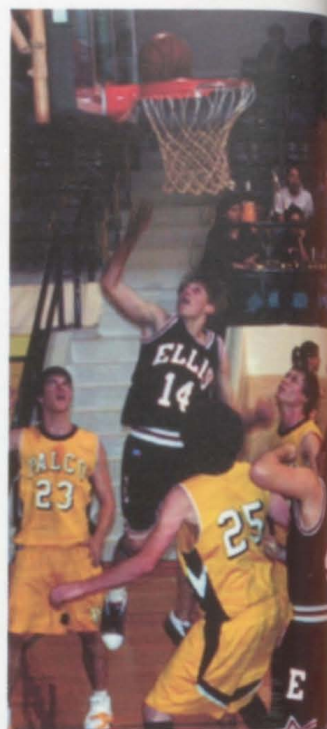


*"It was a long season to battle through."*--

Adam Augustine, sr.

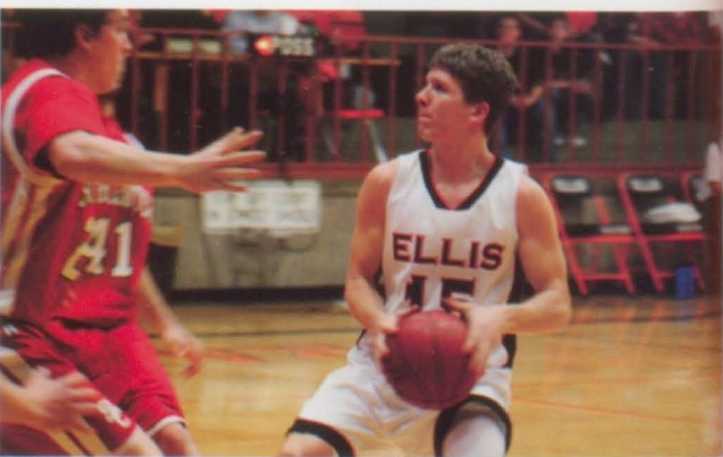
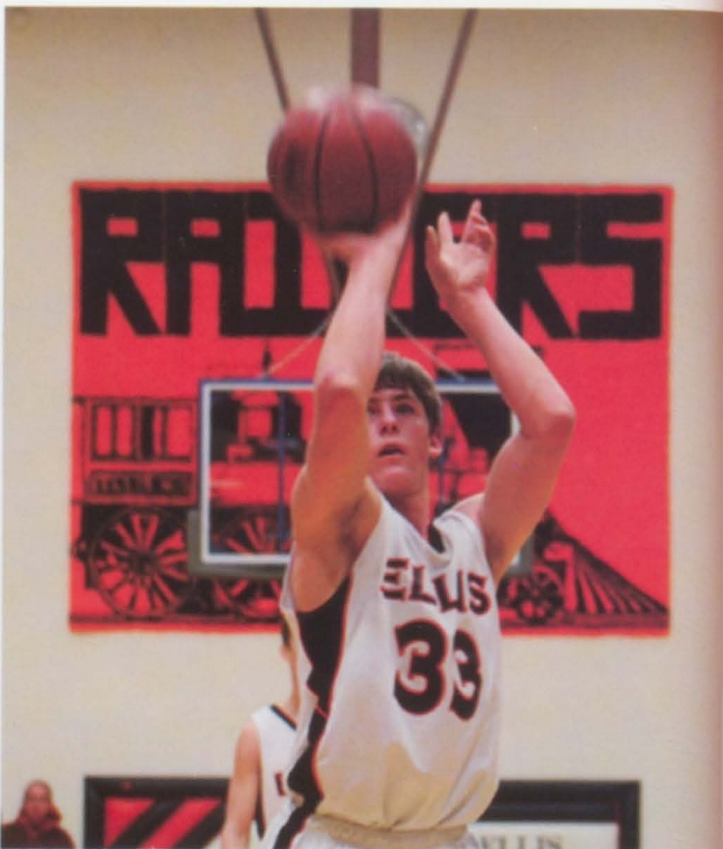
## Good For Two

Andrew Casey, sr., goes for two points with a sea of Palco players around him. The Railroaders traveled to Palco on Dec. 12 and came back with their second win of the season. Photo by Bailey Deutscher



## Avoid The "D!"

Looking for another teammate to pass to, freshman Gideon Fuchs keeps the ball away from his opponents so the team can stay out of trouble. Fuchs was one of the freshmen that played on varsity. Photo by Keric Smith





# In Review

Phillipsburg .....	64-68
Oakley .....	55-45
Palco .....	59-37
Osborne .....	43-46
Stockton .....	64-70
Trego .....	53-78
Hill City .....	51-54
Plainville .....	62-67
Victoria .....	60-62
Plainville .....	49-64
Quinter .....	38-73
Smith Center .....	55-68
Spearville .....	50-77
Norton .....	45-77
St. John .....	43-79
Hill City .....	49-68

MCL League  
Honorable Mention  
Daniel Gottschalk

Free Points! Sophomore Monte Honas tries to score a free throw point in the Railers home gymnasium. "I like playing in our home gym because we get a lot of support from Ellis fans there," Honas said. Photo by Keric Smith

Goin' for three. Senior Adam Augustine gets ready to go up for a three-pointer against Smith Center on Feb. 2. The Railers played a close game ending in a 55-68 loss to the Redmen. Photo by Keric Smith



Offensive Mind Set. Junior Ryan Bittel looks for a hole in the defense as he dribbles away from a Victoria opponent. "I like to school the opponent with my skills if they talk trash about us Railroaders," Bittel said.

## Determined Stepping Up

ELLIS HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

Rebuilding. This is the word that defined the boys' basketball season. Coach Cody Howland replaced Coach Chris Rorabaugh, who retired in 2006 after 16 years.

Adding the coaching change to the fact that the 14-member team consisted mainly of underclassmen meant that the team was definitely in rebuilding mode.

The team had a rocky start when they lost by three points against Phillipsburg.

"I think losing the first game of the season really took a lot out of us," Adam Augustine, sr., said.

At the end of the season the team had

beaten only Oakley and Palco.

"Even though we didn't have such a great season, we still had fun with it," Brett Mickelson, sr., said.

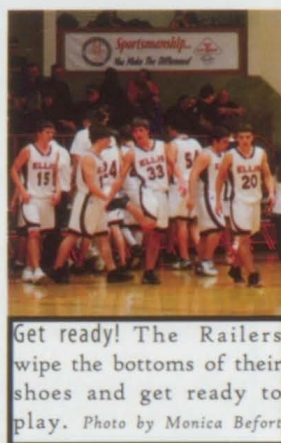
One benefit of the rebuilding season was that the freshmen on the team gained experience in varsity games.

"Playing on varsity gave me a great learning experience and opportunity to grow," Gideon Fuchs, fr., said.

The team had fun together despite their losses during the season, proving that

winning is not everything.

"Sometimes you learn more from your losses than your wins," Stan Faulkender, athletic director, said.



Get ready! The Railers wipe the bottoms of their shoes and get ready to play. Photo by Monica Befort



## Weight Class

Justin Henrickson	112
Dusty Unrein	119
Justin Brungardt	125
Kevin Urban	130
Brian Keller	140
Chase King	145
Dillon Kinderknecht	152
Justin Gnad	160
Zack Gehring	171
Chris Hazen	189
Jacob Begler	189
William Poland	189
John Tricks	215
Glenn Lacy	215
Danny Desaire	215
Michael Hiss	285

## State Qualifiers

Kevin Urban
Chase King
Dillon Kinderknecht
Michael Hiss

Determined to Get a Pin. Dusty Unrein, sr., prepares to make a move in on his opponent. At the MCL wrestling competition that was held in Hill City, the Ellis team placed fourth. Six individual wrestlers placed in the top four: Michael Hiss, sr., and Dillon Kinderknecht, fr., each placed second; Kevin Urban, jr., Brian Keller, sr., and Chase King, so., each placed third; Justin Gnad, jr., placed fourth.

# Divergence

## Levels of Leaders

Age doesn't matter on the quest for the top in wrestling. This season proved that no matter what grade you are in, achieving excellence is possible.

Michael Hiss, sr., said, "I pushed them to make them better, and I tried to be a good role model."

Hiss was the only senior to qualify for state wrestling. Kevin Urban, jr., Chase King, so., and Dillon Kinderknecht, fr., also qualified for state wrestling.

"I am very excited that I had one wrestler from each class go to state," Coach Casey Dinkel said.

In past years Dinkel has always had at least one wrestler make it to state, but having one from each class helped ensure leadership and potential in future seasons.

This season was also unique because many of the wrestlers who didn't make it to state showed up the week of state to help the four wrestlers that did need to prepare.

The display of leadership on and off the mat helped the team be successful with wrestling this season.

Zack Gehring, jr., said that the unity was felt by how all the wrestlers stayed and cheered each other on during the tournaments and duals.

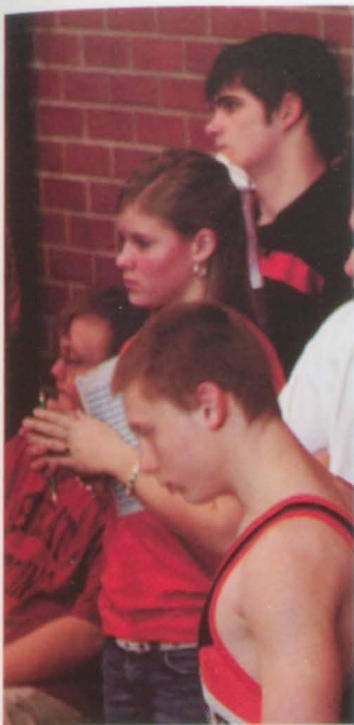


State Qualifiers. Chase King, Kevin Urban, Dillon Kinderknecht, and Michael Hiss. Photo by Web Team

Waiting to Shoot! Zack Gehring, jr., gets into position to take his opponent down. Gehring started the year at the 152 lb. weight class but moved up to the 171 lb. weight class for the regional tournament. Photo by Laura Augustine

Take Down for Two! Putting a move on his opponent, Chris Hazen, sr., attempts to score. To help get in shape for the wrestling season, the wrestlers trained by lifting weights during the summer. Photo by Corey Burton



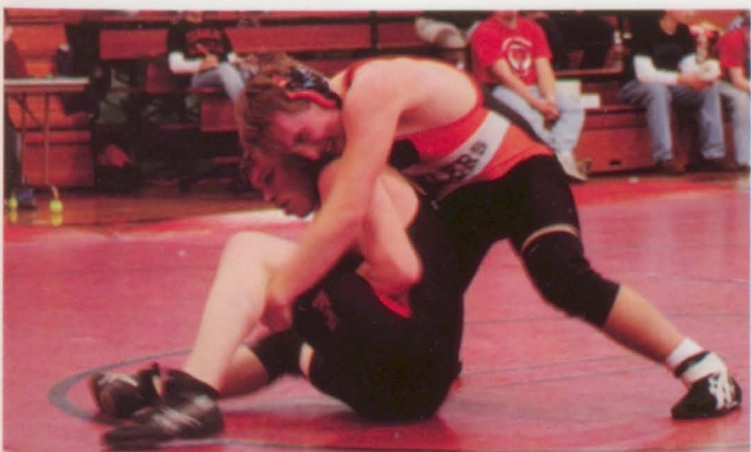
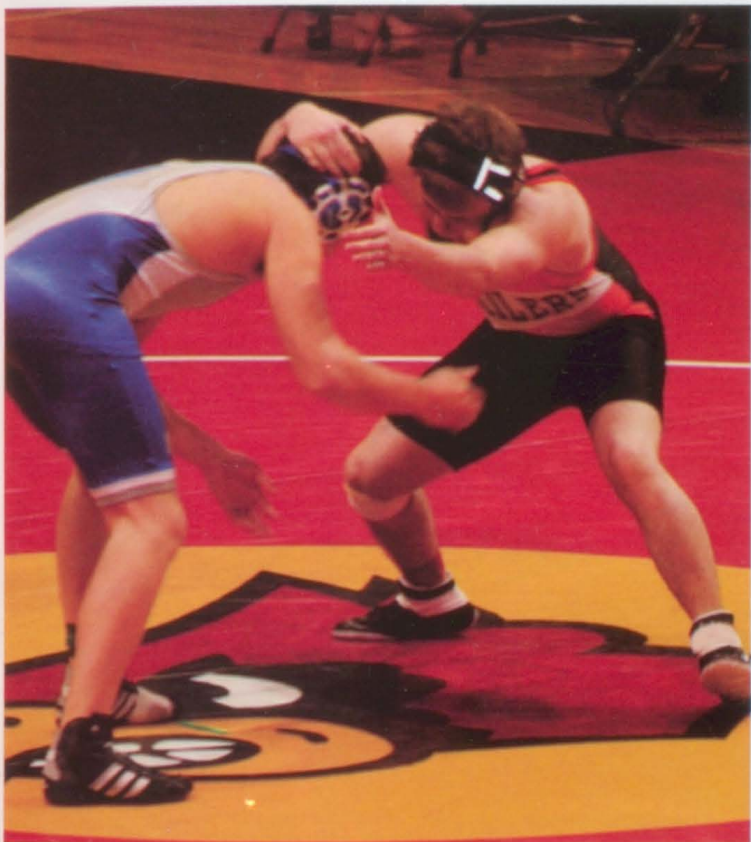
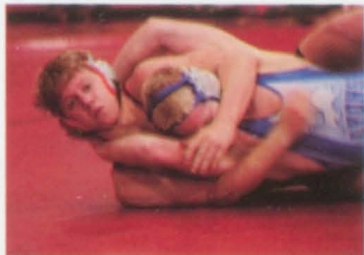


#### Get Organized.

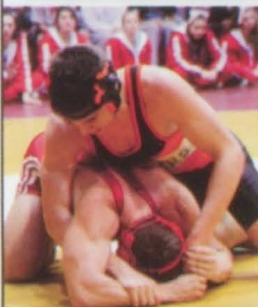
Deana Hunsicker, jr., and Justin Brungardt, so., prepare for a match during the Ellsworth wrestling meet. Hunsicker played basketball for two years but decided to be the wrestling manager her junior year. Photo by Corey Burton

#### Determination.

Dillon Kinderknecht, fr., refuses to let his opponent get free. Kinderknecht placed fourth at the regional meet in Hoisington, which allowed him to advance to the state competition. Photo by Smoky Hill



## Something Worth Remembering



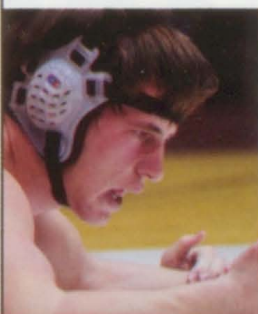
"Being able to have a wrestler from each class go to the state tournament was a really neat experience."

--John Tricks, jr.  
Photo by Danny Desaire



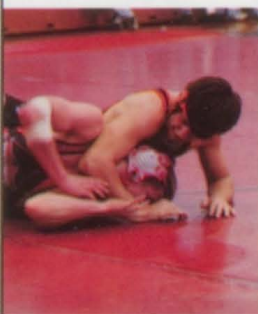
"He [Michael] taught me how to run the bear-hug correctly, and he helped improve my ability to wrestle."

--Jacob Begler, fr.  
Photo by Smoky Hill



"State was fun because it is different from tournaments since only the best wrestlers are there."

--Kevin Urban, jr.  
Photo by Danny Desaire



"It was really exciting to have six people, including me, place at Senior Prairie Classic in Hays."

--Justin Gnad, jr.  
Photo by Corey Burton

*"It not only tests your athleticism, it tests your intelligence."* --Brian Keller, sr.



# Something Worth Remembering

"This [the first race] was the first chance to see where I stood against the competition in the state. I was determined to make a strong showing in my first race of the season."

--*Hailey Wolf, so.*  
Photo by Matea Lovato



"I worked really hard this year in triple jump trying to improve my personal record. I got sixth place at the Ellis Invitational."

--*Chelsea Leiker, fr.*  
Photo by Matea Lovato



"Paige and I are always neck and neck. We usually are tenths or even hundredths of a second from each other in the 100-meter dash. She really pushes me in practice and at all of the meets."

--*Kara Hackney, so.*  
Photo by Matea Lovato



"We had a lot of fun doing the 4x800 relay at meets. Even though we never really did that well, we still enjoyed it."

--*Nicole Pfeifer, fr.*  
Photo by Matea Lovato



There's No I In Team!

Completing the 3200 relay, Jamie Durham, fr., runs the last leg. The relay placed 3rd at the Ellis Invitational. "I like this race because it's kind of short and easy," Durham said. Photo by Matea Lovato

Grrr!

Bethany Polifka, fr., throws discus at the Quinter track meet. Polifka threw 92-2, earning her a fifth place finish. "There's a lot of technique to learn to make sure your release is straight," Polifka said. Photo by Matea Lovato



*"I tried javelin, but it just wasn't my thing."*

--*Randi Hook, fr.*





# In Review

## Meet.....EHS

Ellis.....	1st
Stockton.....	2nd
Plainville.....	3rd
Osborne.....	2nd
Quinter.....	1st
Victoria.....	1st
Hill City.....	4th
MCL Osborne....	3rd

## State Qualifiers

Brittany Kroeger  
Meggie Patrick  
Whitney Taylor  
Bethany Polifka  
Erin Groff



Ready for Launch. Preparing herself to throw the javelin, Erin Groff, fr., competes at the Quinter Invitational. "Javelin is fun, but I

really wasn't that great. My best was about 69 feet," Groff said.  
*Photo by Matea Lovato*



## Keep On Trying

"Our greatest glory is not in never failing, but in rising up every time we fail." This famous quote by Ralph Waldo Emerson describes how the girls' track team approached their season. Not only did some students try things they'd never done, some even wanted to better themselves and worked very hard to do just that.

Freshman Kayla Jacques said she started running the 300-meter hurdles and learned she actually wanted to get better at it.

"It was good to have something to work for throughout the season," Jacques said.

More than one athlete learned that trying new events actually turned out

to be a benefit.

"I started doing the 1600-meter relay and at first, I didn't like it much, but I realized how much better shape I'm in and it's really not that bad," Kara Hackney, so., said.

Tina Unrein, so., experienced not only new events but also a whole new sport.

"Since it was my first year in track, everything I did was new. I tried the pole vault, the 200-meter dash, and as unfortunate as it was, Mr. Wolf made me run the 4x8 relay and it was not fun!"

Unrein said.

Failure. It's a word that never has a positive connotation. Ironically, it is from failing and trying again that we reach our best.



First Timer. Sammy Hook, sr., competes in the 4x800 at the Quinter Invitational. *Photo by Matea Lovato*

Soar To Extremes Rachael Hamel, so., pole vaults at the Quinter track meet. "I tried pole vault because it looked fun. It's really hard but I like the feel of flying," Hamel said. *Photo by Matea Lovato*

Neck And Neck Leaping over each hurdle, freshman Kayla Jacques participates in the 300-meter hurdles. Jacques placed fifth with a time of 52.31 seconds. "I liked doing the hurdles this year and did a lot to get better," Jacques said. *Photo by Matea Lovato*



Leap for the Finish Line. Brandon Geschwentner, so., competes in the 110-meter hurdles at the Quinter invitational. Geschwentner's best time for the hurdles was 19.09 seconds. "Hurdles are pretty tough because you don't want to trip and fall on your face and have everyone laugh at you," Geschwentner said. Photo by Matea Lovato



## In Review

### Meet.....EHS

Ellis.....	1st
Stockton.....	3rd
Plainville.....	4th
Osborne.....	2nd
Quinter.....	1st
Victoria.....	2nd
Hill City.....	2nd
Plainville.....	3rd
MCL Osborne.....	3rd

### State Qualifiers

Lenny LaBarge  
Brian Keller  
Scott Gugler  
Andrew Casey  
Cole Erbert  
Michael Hiss  
Khaled Fares  
Justin Gnad  
Logan Bittel

# Fortified!

## Record Breaking

Keeping track of athletic records has been a tradition for many years in Ellis High school, and for many track participants, their goal is to break or make a new record. Some didn't have a hard time achieving that goal, but for others, it seemed like they might never reach it.

In pole vault, Brian Keller, sr., was only two inches away from beating the school record height of 13-5. The record was set in 1974 by his coach, Jack Wolf.

State took place in Wichita, and it was Keller's last chance to meet or beat the record. Keller placed second with a height

of 13 feet.

For Cole Erbert, sr., throwing a record-breaking distance of 181-7 in discus was rather easy. Erbert was not only capable of breaking records in discus, but also in shot put, and he played a part in the boys' 400-meter relay team.

Along with Erbert, there were three others that aided in breaking the relay record. The team included Andrew Casey, sr., Khaled Fares, jr., and Logan Bittel, so.. They set a new school record with

a time of 43.75 seconds.

Nine team members qualified for state and took second with a heartbreaking one point loss to Minneapolis.

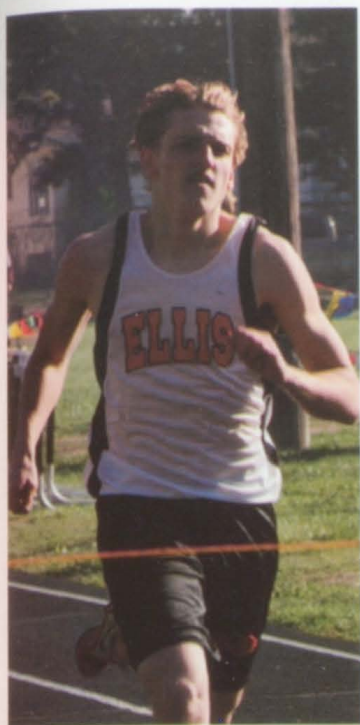


Reaching New Heights  
Brian Keller, sr., practices pole vault before regionals. Photo by Keric Smith

Up, Up, and Away! Justin Gnad, jr., participates in pole vault at the Quinter invitational. "It was my first year to be in pole vault, so a lot of my practice time went to learning how to do it," Gnad said. Photo by Matea Lovato

Good Luck! Aaron Herl, sr., and Scott Gugler, sr., talk to Kara Hackney, so., about her next event. "I like to get warmed up for my events, stop and talk to people, and wish them the best of luck," Herl said. Photo by Matea Lovato





**Break Through!**  
Andrew Casey, sr., breaks through the finish line after running the 100-meter dash at the Ellis Invitational. Casey's winning time was 11.5 seconds. Casey also competed in long jump and the 400-meter dash. Photo by Matea Lovato

**Spin, Spin, Throw!**  
At the first Quinter invitational, Cole Erbert, sr., throws discus. Erbert earned first place at the meet with a distance of 161-7 and went on to become a state champion with a throw of 168-7. Photo by Matea Lovato



## Something Worth Remembering



"It's cool to be able to compete in an event that not many people can do."

--Monte Honas, sr.  
Photo by Matea Lovato



"This was the first time I had been in long jump, and it was my favorite event. It was fun and a big experience for me."

--Khaled Fares, jr.  
Photo by Matea Lovato



"Throwing javelin has taught me some of the lessons of life. I won't mention my best throw because that's not what javelin is about."

--Randy Hamel, sr.  
Photo by Matea Lovato



"This being my first year in track, I found that high jump is a relaxed and enjoyable event to be in."

--John Tricks, jr.  
Photo by Matea Lovato

*"Track is fun, but it can take a lot of hard work to win."*--

Jacob Begler, fr.



# Something Worth Remembering

"Between Laura hitting two cars with one shot, Ethan arguing club selection and the J.V. singing on the way home from Norton, it's been a season to remember."

--Coach Randy Herman

Photo by Laura Augustine



"I like that you can be really serious about practicing and playing, but you also can have fun while you are there."

--Kristen Waldschmidt, sr.

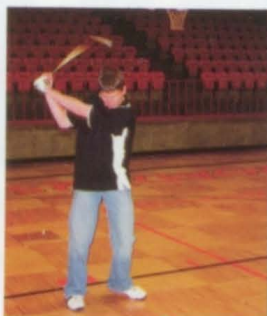
Photo by Laura Augustine



"It [indoor practice] gave the coaches a chance to analyze our swings in a controlled environment and help us correct our problems."

--Adam Augustine, sr.

Photo by Ryan Bittel



"I like to have fun with golf and enjoy challenging myself to get better every day. It can be frustrating at times, but it's worth it."

--Ryan Bittel, jr.

Photo by Krista Connelly



Practice Makes Perfect.

Danny Desaire, jr., works on his putting skills in the library. After the Ellis Golf Invitational was canceled due to stormy weather, the golf team practiced driving in the gym and putting in the library. Photo by Ryan Bittel



Shagging.

Brian Riedel, jr., and Ryan Weber, fr., shag balls after hitting off the driving range. Golf practices usually started off with working on putting on the putting green or practicing driving on the driving range. Photo by Krista Connelly



*"It's really a game against yourself and not others."*

--Ryan Weber, fr.





# In Review

## Season Team Results

Ellis.....	Canceled
Plainville.....	6th
Hill City.....	7th
Trego.....	5th
TMP.....	2nd
Phillipsburg.....	12th
MCL.....	5th
Regionals.....	DNP
State.....	DNP

## State Qualifier: Adam Augustine



Experience helps. Brian Riedel, jr., receives golf tips from Coach Bob Young. "They [the coaches] have taught me that practice makes perfect, and you will not get good in just an hour. It all takes time," Riedel said. Photo by Laura Augustine

# Dedicated

## Perseverance is key

With determination in mind, the golfers started the season. The goal on the mind of one golfer was a return trip to state. This task wouldn't be easy, but one golfer met this goal.

"You must practice year round and be willing to accept advice from others," Adam Augustine, sr., said.

The advice received from others not only helps out the game, but allows players to make new friends with other people who love the game of golf.

"It's a very social sport. I have a ton of new friends because of golf," Ryan Weber, fr., said.

Golf also is one sport where athletes can be happy for their opponents when they are doing well.

"Golf is cool because it is the only sport that you are allowed to cheer on your opponents," Michael Young said.

Perseverance paid off for Augustine, who made his second consecutive trip to the state golf meet.

"I felt that we had a successful year highlighted by Adam qualifying for the 2A state tournament. He worked hard

to achieve his goal of returning to state; I hope his efforts pass down to next year's golfers," Bob Young, coach, said.



Striving for Victory. Adam Augustine, sr., sinks a putt at the regional golf meet. Photo by Laura Augustine

Fore! Ethan LaBarge, fr., gets a tee out of his bag and prepares to tee-off. "Being a freshman my first year was a fun experience. I learned a lot of stuff to help me out with my game," LaBarge said. Photo by Laura Augustine

Reading the green. Sarah Fischer, so., concentrates on putting during after-school practice. "I joined golf because I wanted to try something I had never done before," Fischer said. Photo by Laura Augustine



## Seniors

Brittany Kroeger, capt.  
Meggie Patrick, co-capt.  
Rachel Thomson  
Megan Keller

## Juniors

Kayla Hollern  
Katelyn Keller

## Sophomores

Tina Unrein  
Rachael Hamel  
Kara Hackney

## Freshmen

Danielle Weber  
Emily Thomson  
Caroline Beilman  
Jennifer Kinderknecht

## All-American

Brittany Kroeger  
Emily Thomson

Tina Unrein, so., cheers at a timeout during a home basketball game. "Cheering during timeouts really helps pump up the crowd, which gets the cheerleaders fired up," Unrein said. Photo by Keric Smith



# Adapting Success at every level

Adapting to the changes from junior high cheering to high school cheering may not seem as big of a deal to some; however, to the cheerleaders, that wasn't the case. A big change the girls had to face before even officially being a cheerleader were the tryouts.

"Memorizing the cheer, fight song, and dance in two days for tryouts was slightly challenging," Jennifer Kinderknecht, fr., said.

Although freshmen cheerleaders thought tryouts were a little nerve-racking, they all agreed that tryouts

are necessary at the high school level. The toughest adaptation for the girls was that high school cheering was more time-consuming and more challenging.

Danielle Weber, fr., said that high school cheering is more complex with more games and more practices.

"High school cheerleading was tougher than grade school because the stunts, dances, and cheers were more difficult," Weber said.

The girls learned many valuable lessons when transferring from junior high to high school cheerleading that they will carry with them in the future.

"Always remember to get along with everyone in cheerleading because it will affect your performance," Weber said.



RAH! Kara Hackney so., and Danielle Weber, fr., dance at a basketball game against St. John. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

We've got spirit! The cheerleaders show off their routine at the pep rally prior to the Homecoming football game. Not only did the squad dance, but they held games and activities for students to participate in. Photo by Bailey Deutscher

Let's get fired up! Pumping up the crowd at the Homecoming pep rally, Kayla Hollern, jr., Brittany Kroeger, sr., and Meggie Patrick, sr., cheer in the city streets before the game. Photo by Bailey Deutscher



Bust a move!  
Dancing at the student kick off, Meggie Patrick, sr., and Emily Thomson, fr., show their routine. The assembly consisted of awards given to state qualifiers and an introduction to the new school year. *Photo by Cindy Hertel*

I am the man!  
Senior Keric Smith participates in the games planned by the cheerleaders at the kick off. The object of the game was to race to each end and grab a piece of the opposite gender's clothing and put it on the fastest. *Photo by Cindy Hertel*



## Something Worth Remembering



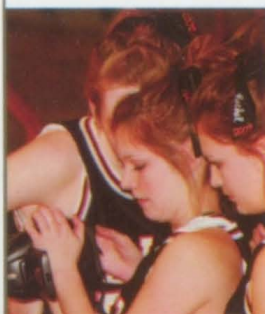
"The best part of being a cheerleader was that I always knew we were like one big happy family and that I could always trust them when I was in the air." --Emily Thomson, fr.

*Photo by Monica Befort*



"Pee Wee Cheer Camp was really fun, and the girls really liked to dance and play games with the older girls, and the cheerleaders had fun teaching them." --Meggie Patrick, sr.

*Photo by Monica Befort*



"I wish we would have danced a lot more, but we got to do a few dances throughout the season, and they were really fun."

--Brittany Kroeger, sr.

*Photo by Bailey Deutscher*



"Homecoming run-throughs are always fun because all of the fans and parents are down on the field cheering the team on and it really gets everyone fired up!" --Rachael Hamel, sr.

*Photo by Keric Smith*

*"Cheerleading helped me learn to be myself."*

--Rachel Thomson, sr.



# Something Worth Remembering

"The thing that I love to do the most in forensics is IDA because you get to be wild and crazy."--*Nicole Pfeifer, jr.*  
Courtesy Photo



"Forensics night is great. Where else do you get to run around in a Kleenex box?"  
 --*Brooke Graves, sr.*  
Courtesy Photo



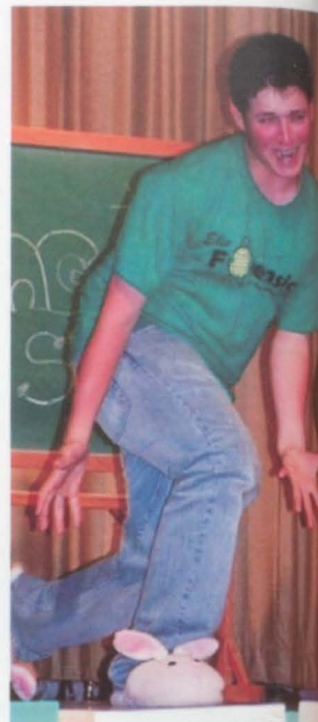
"My favorite thing to do in forensics would probably be going to meets and watching all the other people's performances."--*Vanessa North, jr.*  
Photo by Bailey Deutscher



"Being in forensics is a good way to express yourself and have loads of fun with your friends when you're not performing."--*Aaron Pfannenstiel, jr.*  
Photo by Cindy Hertel



High Performance.  
 Aaron Pfannenstiel, jr., does a humorous solo on Forensics Night. His piece was entitled "Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key." Pfannenstiel took fourth place at state forensics with the same piece.Courtesy Photo.



The Best Around.  
 The state forensics qualifiers pose for a group picture at Clearwater High School. The qualifiers went to Crown Uptown Theater to see the musical "Oklahoma" prior to the competition.Courtesy Photo.



*"Forensics helps build confidence."*--*Kelsy Kinderknecht, sr.*



## In Review

Decatur .....2nd  
Hill City .....3rd  
Norton .....6th  
Smith Center ....1st  
Colby .....3rd  
Smith Center ....1st  
Hays .....2nd  
Dighton .....5th  
Quinter .....2nd  
State @ Clearwater 6th

### State Qualifiers

Brian Keller  
Megan Keller  
Kelsy Kinderknecht  
Brittany Kroeger  
Meggie Patrick  
Rachel Thomson  
Dusty Unrein  
Kara Hackney  
Aaron Pfannenstiel

Fun and Games Seniors Dusty Unrein and Brian Keller do an IDA at Forensics Night. Keller portrayed the Sand Man and Unrein portrayed a male nurse. "Improvising is like hair. Either you have it or you don't," Unrein said. *Courtesy Photo*

What'cha Gonna Do, Brother? Chris Hazen and Scott Gugler, srs., attempt an IDA at The Gong Show, the theme of Forensics Night, but ended up getting "gonged" out of the show. Hazen and Gugler played WWF wrestlers. *Courtesy Photo*



All For Show. Showing the audience what a great performance looks like, Megan Keller and Rachel Thomson, srs., perform at the annual Forensics Night. *Photo by Bailey Deutcher*

## Forensics Saying Goodbye

The same happiness of a new season filled the air as forensics kicked off. The team had to make the best of this season because it would be the last of its kind. So many medals were gained, and yet something precious was lost. Forensics coach Linda Riedel announced that she would be leaving her job as teacher and forensics coach at Ellis High school.

Anyone can see how much Riedel loved her team and students as the tears rolled down her face on her last forensics night at Ellis High school.

"Leaving Ellis is so hard. It's very sad, but I have to move on. Ellis High school

is a very special group of people," Riedel said.

One of the traditions Riedel implemented at EHS was the team mascot and theme chosen by the team to energize them throughout the season. The team decided on turtles, and everyone had a turtle name. Riedel went by the name Tortitelli in honor of her Italian roots.

Senior Kelsy Kinderknecht described this forensics season as one of her best seasons.

"Everyone on the team had good energy, but we are all very sad that Mrs. Riedel is leaving," Kinderknecht said.



One Last Hug On her last forensics night, coach Linda Riedel hugs Kelsy Kinderknecht, sr. *Courtesy Photo*





1. During Freshman Fun Night, Gideon Fuchs, fr., and Matt Cunningham, fr., feed each other grapes and whipped cream. Photo by Laura Augustine 2. Performing "The Joint is Jumpin'," Heather Weber, so., and Brooke Graves, so., finish the Railairre Dinner Show. Photo by Ryan Bittel 3. Justin Henrickson, so., and Logan Bittel, so., help clean up the football field with Stuco. Photo by Emily Cox 4. At Subway, Logan Stanton, so., rings up an order. Photo by Keric Smith

# Reality

It's how you live

Reality is the quality or state of being real, the complete essence of real things and events. All around you, people are in different states of reality. Some of them know exactly what they want out of life, and others are just here for the ride.

Whichever state you are in, it does not matter in Ellis. You are part of the reality.





At the Homecoming dance, senior Keric Smith rocks out with an inflatable guitar. Mr. Randy Sauer provided the music and props for the dance. Photo by Monica Befort



# Out of The Ordinary

## A breath of air for Homecoming

As Homecoming came closer and closer, spirits got anxious. Everyone dressed up, enjoyed the free barbecue, and got their "groove thing on" at the dance. We saw who got Homecoming king and queen. You know, just the same old stuff.

But the 06-07 Homecoming held something different, something that gave more people a chance to be involved powderpuff football for the girls and volleyball games vs. the teachers for the guys.

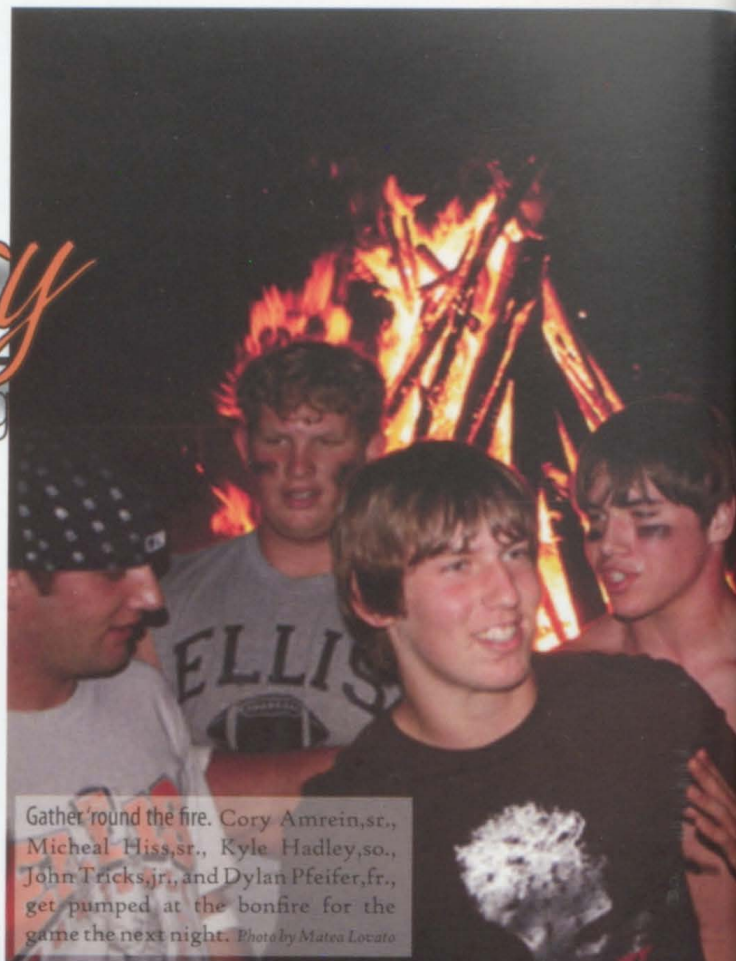
"Stuco added powderpuff football and the volleyball games to get people more excited about Homecoming and add some spice to spirit week," said Kelsy Kinderknecht, Stuco president.

The powderpuff football games were held at the football field right before the volleyball games. Laura Augustine, sr., suggested that Stuco add the powderpuff games to the Homecoming line-up.

After the football games everyone went to the old high school gym to watch the guys and the teachers duke it out in a volleyball game.

"I think the students were surprised that the staff had so much ability to play great volleyball," said Mrs. Janetta Heroneme.

Despite the teachers' effort, the students still prevailed, winning two out of the three volleyball matches played. The new additions to Homecoming proved to be a success at bringing students and teachers together.



Gather 'round the fire. Cory Amrein, sr., Micheal Hiss, sr., Kyle Hadley, so., John Tricks, jr., and Dylan Pfeifer, fr., get pumped at the bonfire for the game the next night. Photo by Matea Lovato



1. Step Aside. Ellis football players burst through the run-through to go play in the Homecoming game against Ness City/Dighton. Ellis won the game. Photo by Monica Befort 2. Creativity Counts. FFA decorated a golf cart to be driven in the Homecoming parade. Each club decorated a golf cart to promote themselves at the parade and to win best decorated. Photo by Keric Smith 3. Keep It Together. Juniors Ryan Bittel and Bailey Deutscher pass out candy and try to keep the junior class float together. "When we got our float out of the barn, the wind was blowing and everything started to fall apart. I had to help my classmates hold things up," Deutscher said. Photo by Cindy Hertel 4. Get Your Grub On. Lauren Wheeler, jr., gets some chips to go along with her hamburger at the homecoming barbeques sponsored by Stuco. Photo by Cindy Hertel

## Homecoming cost Stuco





## What activities were most exciting at Homecoming?

**"I enjoyed powderpuff football and watching the teachers play the guys at volleyball because they were very funny to watch."**—Laura Augustine, sr.

A night as royalty  
The crowning ceremony was held at 6:30 p.m. prior to the football game. Front Row: Brittany Kroeger, Crown Bearer Mac Hayes, Queen Emily Cox, Flower girl Cameron Kinderknecht, Meggie Patrick. Back Row: Cole Erbert, King Brian Keller and Randy Hamel.  
*Photo by Monica Befort*



Cheerleaders dance at Ellis Memorial Park after the Homecoming bonfire. It was the meet-up spot for EHS students. *Photo by Matea Lovato*



Sophomore Whitney Taylor dresses up as a detective during spirit week. The seniors won the spirit week competition. *Photo by Matea Lovato*



Kayla Jacques, fr., dresses up on career day. "I started watching the cooking channel and it inspired me," Jacques said. *Photo by Matea Lovato*



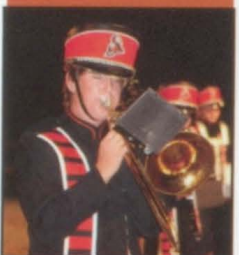
Senior Kristen Waldschmidt protects her flag at powderpuff football. The seniors played against the juniors. *Photo by Kerie Smith*

*approximately \$1,000.*





Krista Connelly, sr., sings "You're So Vain" during the Railairre Dinner Theater. The show's theme was EHS Top Hits. Photo by Ryan Bittel



Marching at halftime, Brian Riedel, jr., shows off the new, student-designed uniforms purchased by USD 388. Photo by Monica Befort



"I love music and being a part of something that plays with people's emotions," Jennifer Kinderknecht, fr., said. Photo by Lauren Wheeler



Aaron Herl, sr., performs "Folsom Prison Blues" by Johnny Cash. "Playing in front of the community and showing Johnny Cash's legacy was the best," Herl said. Photo by Laura Augustine



La la la. Singing "Sentimental Journey," the Railairres close the Friday dinner show. Pictured are Erick Estrada, jr., Brian Riedel, jr., and Jacob Begler, fr.. The choir did most of their rehearsing for the show days before they actually put on the production. Photo by Laura Augustine

What was the most exciting aspect of the **KMEA All-State Band?**

**"The most exciting aspect by far was getting to meet new people, especially those with ideas that contrasted with mine."** --Breanna Ellison, so.



*Band and choir took*



# Lawrence or Bust

## Marching at KU Band Day

Waking up early to make it to the school before the bus left them behind, band members took a road trip to Lawrence for KU Band Day.

The band showed off their new uniforms while marching in the KU parade along with 32 other high schools from all over Kansas. The 2006-2007 school year was the first year in decades that Ellis High School had attended the KU Band Day.

"It was funny when we were marching because a piece of my trumpet fell off and clinked down the street, so I had to stop and pick it up later down the street," Krista Connelly, sr., said.

After marching, all of the schools got together and had a rehearsal to prepare for their half-time performance at the KU-Appalachian State game. All 32 schools joined KU in a formation that nearly covered the whole football field.

"It was cool to see how quick 32 high school bands could cover the football field," Brian Keller, sr., said.

After their half-time performance, all the schools stayed to watch the rest of the game, which was the highlight for many. The undesirable part of the trip for most was the trip home.

"We hit the Manhattan traffic on the way back to Ellis, and we didn't get back until 2 a.m.,"

Grr. Whitney Taylor, so., has her game face on as she marches in the Homecoming parade. "I enjoyed marching in the parade because it's entertainment for the people that come to watch, and it's fun for the kids," Taylor said. Photo by Cindy Hertel

2.

3.

4.

1. Sing Your Heart Out! Brian Riedel, jr., Michael Young, jr., Jacob Begler, fr., and Erick Estrada, jr., sing karaoke. Mr. Randy Sauer let the students have fun while singing a number of different songs from his karaoke machine. Photo by Lauren Wheeler 2. Band Horns Up! Jordan Lang, so., plays the piccolo while marching in the Homecoming parade. Lang was happy that the band didn't have to wear their band uniforms during the parade due to the warm weather. Photo by Cindy Hertel 3. "Could I Have This Dance?" Emily Cox, sr., dresses up to fit her song from the '80s. Cox performed a song by Anne Murray at the Railairre Dinner Theater. Photo by Ryan Bittel 4. Practice Makes Perfect. Vanessa North, jr., gets a few minutes of practice in before the fall concert. "I enjoy going to the band competitions and meeting new people," North said. Photo by Lauren Wheeler.

*eleven groups to state.*



# Growing and Serving

## Sweeping changes to KAYS

**W**hen Emily Cox and Laura Augustine, srs., left for KAY camp, they had no idea they would bring a whole new club back with them.

When they left for camp, they represented the girls-only Kayettes. When they returned, they represented KAYS, a boys' and girls' club.

Cox said that she didn't see a huge outpouring of male interest in the club, but the general speculation was that more boys will join in the future.

"I couldn't see a lot of guys joining KAYS, especially if they got asked to Snoball already," Jaylen Reed, sr., said. But this year was different in that Snoball was open to any student wishing to attend.

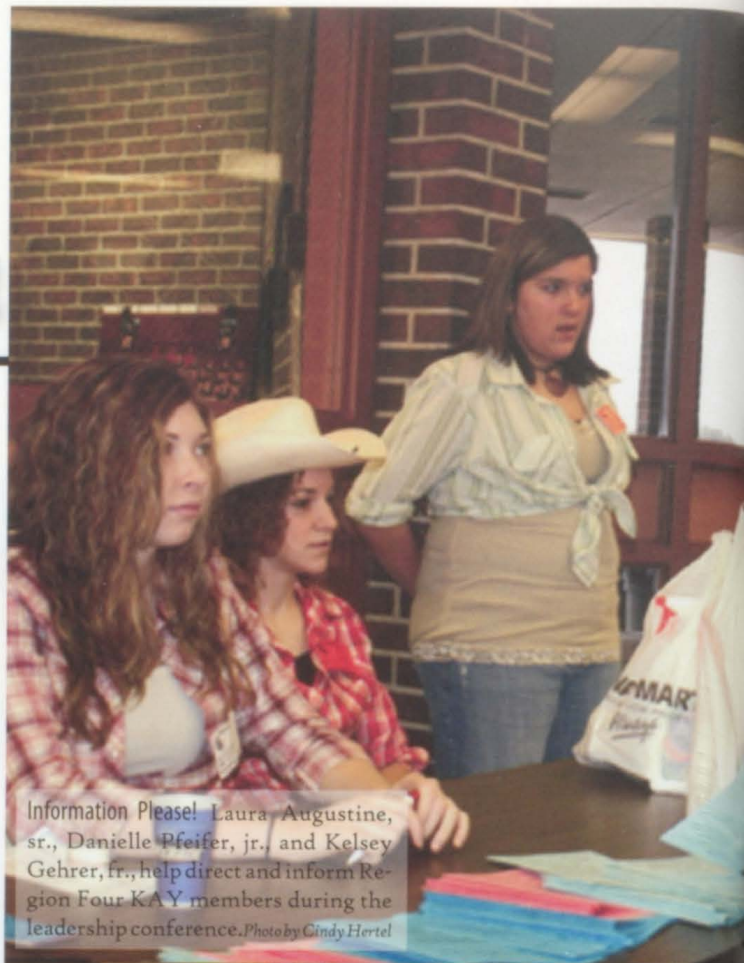
According to Kayla Hollern, KAY in charge of Snoball, the decision to make Snoball an open dance came from former principal Kyle Hayden. When Principal Corey Burton entered the district in July, he approved the decision.

KAY members who earned 20 or more points got into the dance free. The rest of the school paid \$20 a couple.

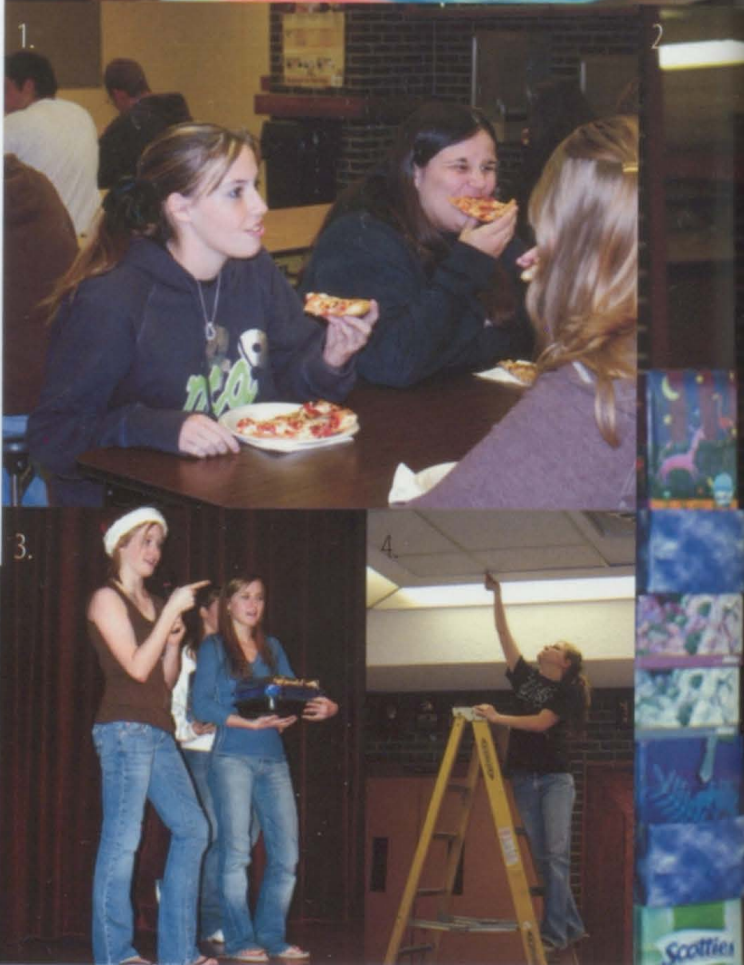
Admission was expensive because there needed to be some incentive for people to join and participate in KAYS.

Another change were the royalty elections. For a KAY member to qualify, he/she had to earn 30 points. There was only one winner from each class, regardless of gender.

1. Tasty! To conclude freshmen-senior week, Megan Keller and Monica Befort, srs., enjoy a pizza party. From Monday to Thursday the freshmen gave gifts to seniors, so on Friday, the seniors gave them gifts. *Photo by Lauren Wheeler* 2. Stacked. Watching her feet, Danielle Pfeifer, jr., carries some of the approximately 270 tissue boxes collected in the fall. *Photo by Cindy Hertel* 3. Sold! Meggie Patrick, sr., and Tina Unrein, so., auction food boxes just before Christmas break. The auction earned \$1054 for the KAYS with about 55 boxes donated by members. *Photo by Ryan Bittel* 4. Reach! Sarah Fischer, so., when to stick a snowflake on the ceiling. KAY members had to be careful when decorating for Snoball because the ceiling tiles contain asbestos. The strips that hold them, however, are not contaminated. *Photo by Kelsy Kinderknecht*



Information Please! Laura Augustine, sr., Danielle Pfeifer, jr., and Kelsey Gehrler, fr., help direct and inform Region Four KAY members during the leadership conference. *Photo by Cindy Hertel*



# KAYS donated \$1,000 to





Why did you volunteer to help decorate for **Snoball**?

**"I volunteered to help decorate for Snoball because if we wanted Snoball to be good, it had to have volunteers and people willing to work."**

—Vanessa North, jr.

Got the Goods? Brian Riedel, jr., looks over Erick Estrada's, jr., shoulder as Estrada opens his food box. Students did not know the contents of the boxes until after they had purchased them in the Nov. 30 food box auction. Photo by Ryan Bittel



"It is nice to give to upperclassmen because they'll give you something better back," Jacob Begler, fr., said. Photo by Lauren Wheeler



"Snoball provides an opportunity in which people can congregate in a formal setting," Breanna Ellison, so., said. Photo by Monica Befort



"I enjoyed spending time with my older classmates and helping the community," Chelsea Leiker, fr., said. Photo by Lauren Wheeler

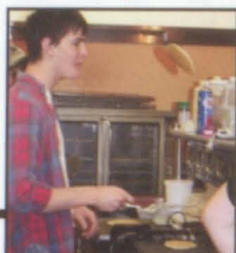


"Rodeo taught me skills I can use throughout life and I enjoyed speaking at the conference," Kara Hackney, so., said. Photo by Laura Augustine



non-profit organizations.





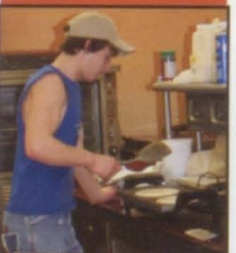
"It's important to pay attention to what's going on with the griddle. Pancakes are life," Brian Keller, sr., said. Photo by Lauren Wheeler



"The best part about Ag Mechanics was touring the college and seeing departments that I liked," Keric Smith, sr., said. Courtesy Photo



"The Ag Mechanics contest was fun; we took second for the second year in a row," Daniel Gottschalk, jr., said. Courtesy Photo



"The worst part of the FFA breakfast was being there at 6:30 a.m., but it was a pretty good time," Kevin Urban, jr., said. Photo by Lauren Wheeler

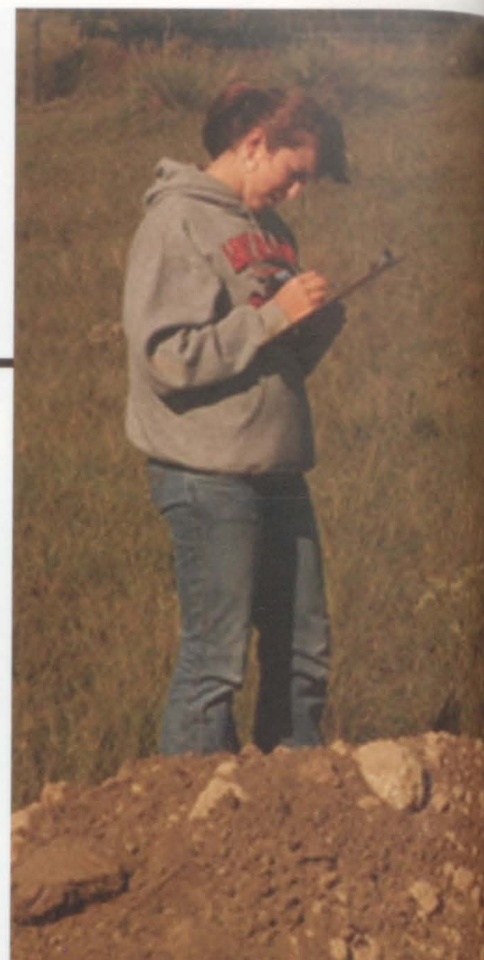


Wow, That's Far! Logan Stanton, so., looks down upon the city while inside the top of the St. Louis Arch during the national convention. "In the ever famous words of Mr. Kohman, it was a good time," Stanton said. Courtesy Photo

What was the FFA banquet like for you?

**"Being a freshman and going to my first FFA banquet was quite an experience for me."**

Ethan LaBarge, fr.



*FFA collected over 45,000*



# New And Expanded

## FFA welcomes new sponsor

Pop-tab collection, Xbox tournaments, national conventions, and school landscaping. These were only a few of the changes Ellis High School experienced with the arrival of Mr. Bob Kohman, ag teacher and FFA sponsor who kicked off several new activities including the pop-tab collection and the Xbox tournament.

Before coming to Ellis, Kohman graduated from Abilene High School and K-State and then student taught at Stockton High School.

"I was brought to Ellis because I wanted to stay in the northwest district and saw a lot of opportunity for this FFA chapter," Kohman said.

Not only was Kohman drawn to Ellis for the location, but he said EHS has very supportive administrators and high-achieving students. With such support and cooperation, Kohman accomplished a lot.

The FFA club started a pop-tab mania collection to help fund the Ronald McDonald house to help people with leukemia.

Kohman implemented the Xbox tournament to encourage participation among members.

Members also traveled to St. Louis to attend the national convention for the first time in EHS history.

"I'm most proud of our group going to the national convention and Kara Hackney, so., getting district vice-president," Kohman said.

Life's A Garden, Dig It! Jordan Lang, so., judges the soil at the land judging meet. "This was my first year, and I really enjoyed it because I learned a lot of new things," Lang said. *Courtesy Photo*



1. Congratulations! Sponsor Bob Kohman presents the Chapter Degree, which is the highest degree a local FFA chapter can give to its members. *Photo by Lauren Wheeler* 2. Oh No!!! Getting assistance with his tie, Logan Bittel, so., lets Kara Hackney, so., help him. Students prepared themselves before taking officer pictures for the yearbook. *Photo by Cindy Hertel* 3. It's Chow Time! FFA members Kendra Mickelson, so., and Kara Hackney, so., serve Principal Corey Burton at the FFA breakfast. "We had to get up early to cook, but we all had a good time," Mickelson said. *Photo by Ryan Bittel* 4. Who's A Chicken? Kara Hackney, so., judges poultry at the livestock judging meet. "I learned a lot judging chicken carcasses that I can use later in life," Hackney said. *Courtesy Photo*

pop tabs with EHS's help.



# Hosting the Party

## FCCLA hosts yearly conference

Justin Timberlake's hit single sings about "what goes around comes around." FCCLA found this to be true as well. In October they hosted the Fall Leadership Academy.

This event is held in a different school every year, and Ellis always attends. The schools in District B are on a rotation and 2006 marked Ellis's part of the rotation. There are eight other schools in the district, so Ellis only gets to host the event once every nine years.

Hosting the Fall Leadership Academy is not as much work as you might think. The District B officers plan the event and line up speakers. Ellis was responsible for "the decorations, mixers, registration and donuts and juice," said Mrs. Sharla Albers, FCCLA sponsor.

FCCLA members were assigned to committees to divide the hosting duties. All of the FCCLA members attended the event since they all helped prepare and since there were no transportation constraints.

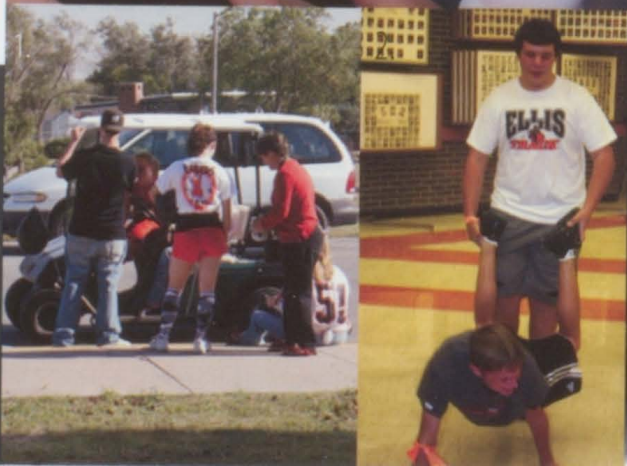
During the event, there were several speakers, but the most notable was the FCCLA national president, Michael Smith. Smith is from Goodland, so District B had him come and present.

"I can't imagine an 18-year-old having as much poise and charisma," Mrs. Albers said about Smith's presentation.

1. Dress-up! Several FCCLA members help decorate a golf cart. Sharla Albers, FCCLA sponsor, drove the cart in the Homecoming parade route. *Photo by Keric Smith* 2. Weave! During the popular obstacle course, Matt Erbert pushes Kyle Fox wheelbarrow style. The 2006 Freshman Fun Night was the first to invite guests instead of kidnap them. *Photo by Laura Augustine* 3. Wrestle Mania. Scott Gugler, sr., shows off his only purchase at state to Whitney Taylor, so. Gugler purchased "the Royal Rumble Complete Anthology, 20 years worth of wrestling. I'm a big fan of the Royal Rumble, and it's a collectors' edition," Gugler said. *Photo by Laura Augustine* 4. Wheee! Taking some time to have fun, Mrs. Albers goes down the slide inside of All-Star Sports. FCCLA members visited the business during their trip to state. *Photo by Laura Augustine*



Beautification. Meggie Patrick, Stephanie Spinelli and Brittany Kroeger, srs., get ready to go to All-Star Sports during FCCLA State. FCCLA members also went shopping. *Photo by Laura Augustine*



FCCLA collected approx-





Why did you decide to become  
FCCLA president?

**"Mrs Albers thought I should do it [become president] for the leadership experience, and it was a great time."**—Tina Unrein, so.

Fun and Games. A group of freshmen and FCCLA officers lie in a circle to play a clapping game Brittany Kroeger, sr., learned at cheer camp. The game involves pounding and slapping the ground in certain patterns. Photo by Laura Augustine



"It [freshman night] was fun because we played some fun games and got to sing karaoke," Ethan LaBarge, fr., said. Photo by Laura Augustine



"I don't play many sports so I wanted to join clubs [such as FCCLA] instead," Kelsey Noble, fr., said. Photo by Laura Augustine



"The conference was an inspirational event because it taught us about leadership," Shelby Gottschalk, fr., said. Photo by Bailey Deutscher



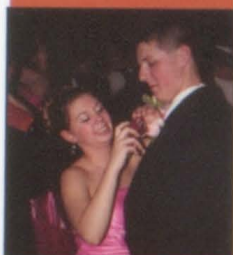
"It's a good chance to have fun with your class before high school; it's nice bonding time," Kayla Jacques, fr., said. Photo by Laura Augustine

*imately 150 cans of food.*





"I was hot and tired from all the dancing so I just sat on the floor and took a break," said Brook Graves, so. Photo by Cindy Hertel



"Prom was a blast, especially knowing that it was our class that made it so great," Aaron Pfannenstiel said. Photo by Cindy Hertel



"The memory of being with classmates for our last school dance together was a lot of fun," said Emily COX, sr. Photo by Cindy Hertel



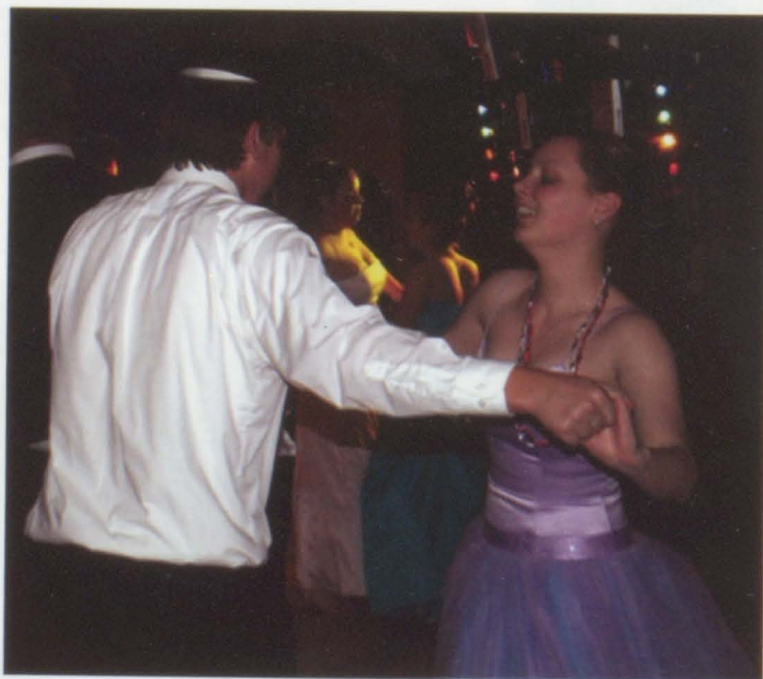
"I loved the grapes, cheese, and sparkling juice. They really added to the atmosphere," Kelsy Kinderknecht, sr., said. Photo by Cindy Hertel



Breaking it Down!  
Michael Young, jr., dances with classmate Denise Totten, jr. "Dancing with friends is easier. They just laugh when you say they look funny," Young said. Students danced to music by Midnight Productions. Photo by Cindy Hertel

What was your favorite memory from Prom?

**"I enjoyed watching all the people come together and mingle, and it was all done in formal wear which makes it that much better."**—Letisha Elliott, sr.



Prom used 15 pillars made



# Passport to Rome

## Juniors come together

A night in Rome. "La Vita e Bella," which means life is beautiful, was the Prom theme. Students were able to relax in an Mediterranean environment while being served by sophomores dressed in togas.

Since the junior class play had been canceled, many wondered if Prom would become a reality.

"We learned from our mistakes of the play and overcame them as a class to have a successful Prom," said Todd Flinn, junior class president.

The juniors worked during and after school to get all the decorations for Prom constructed and to set them up for the dance.

"I was proud of the juniors. I think they learned several important lessons this year, one being that if they work together, they can accomplish anything," said Mrs. Cindy Hertel, class sponsor.

The juniors created a Mediterranean environment that included wall-sized artwork of landscapes in Rome, a pond accentuated with white lights and leaves and pillars and arches with vines or gossamer entwined around them. In addition, grape juice, fruit and cheese skewers were offered to the guests.

"My favorite memory of Prom was when everybody sang happy birthday to Mr. Burton," said Randy Hamel, sr.

Enter the gates to Rome! The guests are served a salad, chicken parmesan, corn, noodles, dinner roll, and cheese-cake for dessert. The meal was prepared by EHS cooks. Photo by Cindy Hertel



1. Swinging. Twirling around, Meredith Keller and Lauren Wheeler, jrs., swing dance. "Prom was a blast dancing and hanging out with my friends. The dinner was awesome and so were the decorations," said Keller. Photo by Cindy Hertel 2. Toga! Toga! Clay Barton, so., dresses up for Prom. "Wearing a toga at Prom was a humbling experience. The best part about wearing a toga was my friends had to wear them too. This really made the night one to remember," Barton said. Photo by Cindy Hertel 3. Dealing Hands. "It's my tradition to bring cards to the dances to play with so the people who don't dance have something to do," Kristen Waldschmidt, sr., said. Photo by Cindy Hertel 4. Y-M-C-A Lenny LaBarge, sr., leads students in a dance. "I love doing the YMCA because everyone knows the dance, and it is fun to do. It is also cool to be the leader and have everyone follow you," LaBarge said. Photo by Cindy Hertel

of cardboard and tape.



# New Places bring *New Life*

## Re-energizing Opportunities

**N**ew places and opportunities popped up all over Ellis in 2007. From new housing developments to new businesses, 2007 was a year full of growth for the Ellis community.

The new Travel Plaza brought the convenience of fast food and multiple jobs for high school students to Ellis.

The first thought of a truck stop in Ellis made many residents concerned, but residents soon saw the benefits of the Travel Plaza.

"I like having Subway and Dairy Queen in town. It saves gas and time to go grab a sandwich or an ice cream cone. Plus, they are both [some] of my favorite fast food restaurants," Emily Cox, sr., said.

High school students were happy that the Travel Plaza offered jobs that are located in Ellis.

According to Brittany Kroeger, sr., Dairy Queen employee, having the travel plaza in Ellis allowed her to have a job located near her house and saved her from having to drive to Hays to work.

Another addition to Ellis in 2007 were the new housing developments.

"I think the housing has been a positive addition to Ellis. Families have moved to Ellis because of the new housing developments. With small Kansas schools losing enrollment, it is a big plus to be gaining new students," Mr. Perry Mick said.

1. Woof! Brooke Graves, so., grooms a dog at 4-Paws Pet Grooming Salon. Graves worked for her mom, Kelly Graves, who opened the Salon in 2007. Photo by Laura Augustine 2. Stop, Drop and Curl. Justin Henrickson, so., makes an ice cream cone while working at Dairy Queen. Hendrickson, who started work at Dairy Queen when it opened in March of 2007, was the first student to receive student of the month at Dairy Queen. Photo by Krista Connelly 3. Serving the People. Vanessa North, jr., prepares a sandwich for Patrick Dreiling, fr. "It's good to have a Subway. It gives us more of a choice for food," Dreiling said. Photo by Matea Lovato 4. Fun in the Sun. Kayla Casey, fr., enjoys the warm weather with fellow classmates when they decide to play tennis. Photo by Laura Augustine



Soaring through the Air. Monte Honas and Tyler Fischer, sos., enjoy a ride at Riverfest. "I like going [to Riverfest] because of the games and food," Fischer said. Photo by Lauren Wheeler/Ellis Review



*The Travel Plaza employed*





Is the Travel Plaza a good addition to Ellis?

**"I think it is because it brings more people into Ellis and we have more choices here."**

--Kiley Wayman, fr.

Fun in the Snow  
K r i s t a  
C o n n e l l y , s r . ,  
sleds down the  
hill by the swim-  
ming pool. EHS  
had one snow  
day in 2007 and  
one rain day.  
*Photo by Monica Befort*



"I enjoy sledding because it allows me to act like a kid again and just have fun," Monica Befort, sr., said. *Photo by Krista Connelly*



Rachel Thomson, sr., runs to stay in shape after school. Thomson decided to run on her own to relieve stress. *Photo by Laura Augustine*



"I helped a little girl riding a horse. When I was younger I loved horses, so it was fun for me," Bethany Polifka said. *Photo by Lauren Wheeler*



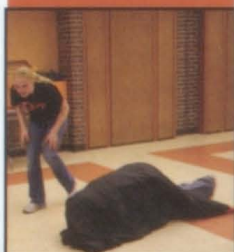
Whitney Lang, Kristen Waldschmidt, Brittany Kroeger, and Meggie Patrick, srs. cool off in the Memorial Fountain. *Photo by Laura Augustine*

19 High School Students.





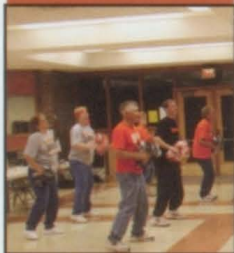
As co-valedictorians, Kelsy Kinderknecht and Brian Keller proceed into the gym. Each gave a brief speech to the class. Photo by Cindy Hertel



Racing to the finish line, Jaylen Reed crawls in a sleeping bag with Meggie Patrick's help at Project Graduation. Photo by Jay Connelly



Shaking hands with Marty Hollern, school board vice-president, Monica Befort is awarded her diploma. Photo by Cindy Hertel

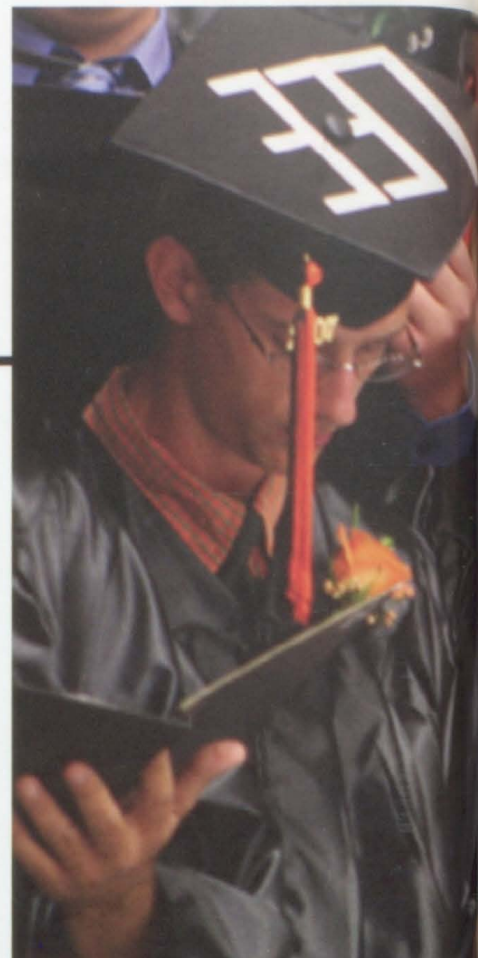


With choreographed moves, the parents at Project Graduation perform a cheer for the graduates. Photo by Jay Connelly



What inspired your graduation speech?

**"Two things. I knew I'd be emotional. I knew I'd need Kleenex. So I brought my own box. Randy was there for my support."**—Mrs. Linda Riedel



Project Graduation gave



# Dreams and Memories

## The dawn of a new adventure

**F**inally. High school ends, and the beginning of something new emerges.

Although the graduating seniors were glad high school was over, many of them said they would miss a part of the experience. Whether it was a sport, a class, or a teacher, many of the seniors left with unforgettable memories.

"I'll miss being in the student section going crazy during home basketball games," Cole Erbert said.

Others liked the academic side of school.

"I'm going to miss hearing Mr. Kohl's lectures all throughout the school," both Matea Lovato and Andrew Casey said.

Along with missing experiences from high school, the seniors also looked forward to a new future. Going to college, moving away from home, and getting a job were all mysteries that lay ahead.

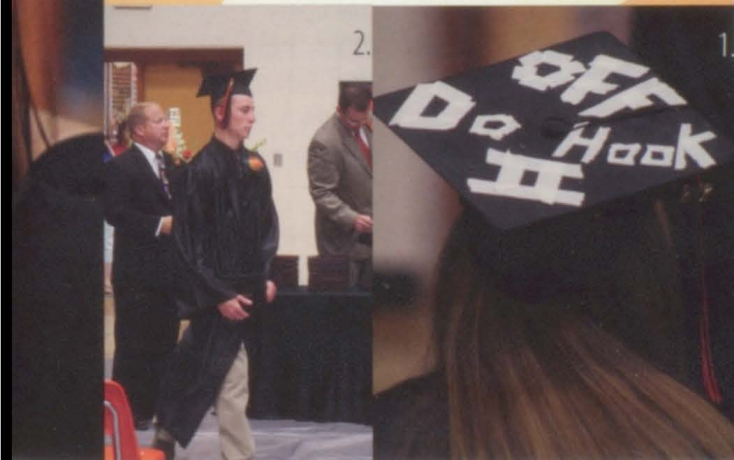
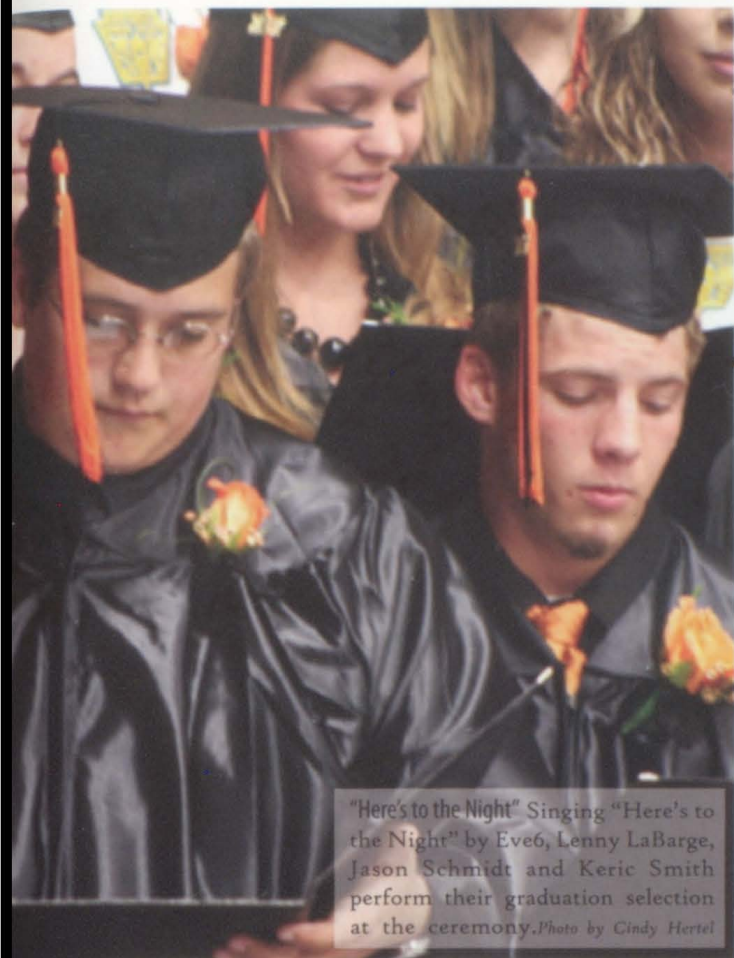
"I think I'm most excited about being on my own after high school. It'll be neat to 'grow up' and still have my family to fall back on," Meggie Patrick said.

To the seniors, the unknown was a thrilling prospect.

"I can't wait to discover all the new experiences waiting in college," Kelsy Kinderknecht said.

Looking back. Looking forward. The graduates of '07.

story by Ryan Bittel



2. It's Finally Come! After receiving his diploma, Jared Deutscher walks back to his seat. The class graduated 34 students, 17 girls and 17 boys. Photo by Cindy Hertel. 3. Bring it On... We're Bad To The Bone... Posing and showing off their strength, the senior boys take a moment out for a picture. Photo by Cindy Hertel. 4. I'm Going To Miss You! Courtney Schartz gives Mrs. Linda Riedel a hug after the graduation ceremony. Mrs. Riedel, who was leaving after 21 years at Ellis High School, was chosen by the class to give the graduation speech. Photo by Cindy Hertel

away over \$5,000 in prizes.



# Senior Activities

## *Excellence and Honors*

**Cory James Amrein** Football 1,2,3,4; Basketball 3; Track 2,3; Wrestling 2; FFA 1,2,3; FCCLA 4; Jr. Class Play

**Adam David Augustine** NHS 3,4; NHS President 4; Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 2,3,4; Football 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Golf 1,2,3,4; FFA 1,2,3,4; FCCLA 3,4; Forensics 1; Jr. Class Play; Webpage 2,3,4; State Wrestling Web Team 3,4

**Laura Leigh Augustine** NHS 3,4; Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Girls' State 3; Who's Who Among American High School Students 1,2,3,4; Journalism 4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Golf 3,4; Softball 2; FCCLA 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Chapter Points 3; FCCLA Chapter Membership 4; FCCLA District Vice President of Finance 4; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 3,4; Stuco Vice-President 4; KAYS 1,2,3,4; KAYS Board Member 3; KAYS Treasurer 4; Snoball Royalty 3,4; Choir 1; Band 1,2,3,4; SADD 2,3,4; SADD Treasurer 2

**Monica Agnes Befort** All-A Honor Roll 2; Honor Roll 1; Journalism 4; Volleyball 1,2,3; Softball 1,2,3; Forensics 2; Jr. Class Play; KAYS 1,2,3,4; Snoball Royalty 1; Webpage 3,4

**Andrew Michael Casey** Honor Roll 1; Perfect Attendance 1; Who's Who Among American High School Students 2,3,4; Football 1,2,3,4; 1st Team MCL Wide Receiver 3,4; Honorable Mention MCL Kick Returner 4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Track 1,2,3,4; 1st Place State Long Jump 1; FFA 1,2,3; Jr. Class Play; Prom Server; Snoball Royalty 1

**Krista Marie Connelly** NHS 3,4; Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 1,2,3,4; Journalism 4; Railroader Editor 4; Volleyball 1; Cross Country 2,3; Track 1,2; Forensics 1,2,3; Forensics State Festival 1,2; Forensics State Championships 3; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 3,4; Stuco Treasurer 4; KAYS 1,2,3,4; KAYS Board 2; KAYS Treasurer 3; Class Secretary 1; Choir 1,2,3,4; Railairres 1,2,3,4; Band 1,2,3,4; Band President 3; Band Librarian 4; KMEA Band 3,4; State Solo/Ensemble 1,2,3,4

**Emily Elizabeth Cox** Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1; Track 1,2,3,4; Forensics 1; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 2,3,4; KAYS 1,2,3,4; KAYS President 4; KAYS Board Member 3; Class Treasurer 3; Choir 1,2,3,4; State Solo 2,4; Choir Vice-President 3; Railairres 2,3,4; Band 1,2,3,4; Band Secretary/Treasurer 3; Band Vice-President 4; Prom Server; Homecoming Royalty 4; Snoball Royalty 2,4

**Jared Lee Deutscher** Football 1,2; Basketball 1,2; Track 1,2; FFA 1,2,3

**Letisha Fay Elliott** Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Journalism 2; Forensics 1; Jr. Class Play; One Act Play and Theatre 1,2; Webpage 4; Scholars' Bowl 4

**Cole Erbert** Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 2; Football 1,2,3,4; 2nd Team MCL Linebacker 4; 2nd Team MCL Quarterback 3,4; Basketball 3; Track 1,2,3,4; 1st Place Regional Discus 2,3; 1st Place State Discus 3; Wrestling 1,2; FFA 1,2,3; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 1,2,3; KAYS 4; Prom Server; Homecoming Royalty 4; Scholars' Bowl 4; Webpage 2,3,4; State Wrestling Web Team 2,3,4; 2nd Place Webpage Design Cowley Community College 3

**Scott Alan Gugler** Cross Country 1,2,3,4; Track 1,3,4; Wrestling 2; Forensics 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 1,2; Class President 1,2; Prom Server; Snoball Royalty 1

**Randy Joseph Hamel** Honor Roll 2,3,4; Football 1,2,3,4; Golf 1; Track 2,3,4; Wrestling 2; FFA 1,2,3; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 3,4; Class President 3,4; Prom Server; Math Relays 3; Homecoming Royalty 4; Webpage 2,3,4; State Wrestling Web Team 2,3,4; Scholars' Bowl 4

**Christopher Joseph Hazen** Honor Roll 1,2; Perfect Attendance 3; Who's Who Among American High School Students 2; Football 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1; Golf 1,2,3,4; Wrestling 2,3,4; FFA 1,2,3; Forensics 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 4; Choir 1,2,3,4; Railairres 1,2,3,4; Band 1,3,4

**Aaron Wade Herl** Perfect Attendance 2,4; Football 3,4; Basketball 1; Track 2,4; FFA 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play; KAYS 4; Choir 1,2,3,4; Railairres 1,2,3,4; Band 1,2,3,4

**Michael Andrew Hiss** Football 1,2,3,4; Honorable Mention MCL Offensive Line 3; 2nd Team MCL Offensive Tackle, Defensive Tackle 4; Track 1,2,3,4; Wrestling 2,3,4; FFA 1,2,3; Jr. Class Play; Snoball Royalty 3

**Samantha Janell Hook** Perfect Attendance 1,2,3,4; Volleyball 1,2; Track 1,2,3,4; FFA 4; FCCLA 1,2; KAYS 1,2,3,4

**Brian William Keller** NHS 3,4; All-A Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Boys' State 3; Football 2; Cross Country 3,4; Track 1,2,3,4; Wrestling 1,2,3,4; FFA 1,2,3,4; FFA Chapter President 3,4; FFA State Band 1,2,3,4; Forensics 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 2,3,4; Band 1,2,3,4; Prom Server; Math Relays 1,2,3; Homecoming Royalty



**Megan Renee Keller** Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 1,2,3,4; Volleyball 1,2,3; Cross Country 4; Track 1; FCCLA 1,2,3; Forensics 1,2,3,4; MCL League Forensics Oration Champion 3; State Qualifier 2,3; State Finalist 3; Jr. Class Play; Cheerleader 2,3,4; KAYS 1,2,3,4; Choir 1,3; Webpage 4

**Kelsy Danae Kinderknecht** NHS 3,4; NHS Treasurer 3; All-A Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 3,4; Volleyball 1,2; FCCLA 1,2,3,4; Forensics 1,2,3,4; State Forensics Championships 2,3,4; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 4; Stuco President 4; KAYS 1,2,3,4; KAYS Board 4; Snoball Royalty 3,4; Class Treasurer 2; Math Relays 1,2,3; SADD 3,4; Webpage 2,3,4; State Wrestling Web Team 2,3,4; Scholars' Bowl 4

**Brittany Ann Kroeger** Honor Roll 1,2,4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3; Track 1,2,3,4; FCCLA 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Points Chairman 2; FCCLA Chapter Secretary 3,4; Forensics 1,2,3,4; Forensics State Festival 2; IDA State Champion 3; Cheerleader 1,2,3,4; All-American Cheerleader 3,4; Stuco 2,3,4; KAYS 1,2,3,4; KAYS Board 2,3,4; KAYS Secretary 3,4; Class Vice-President 1,3; Prom Server; Homecoming Royalty; Webpage 2,3

**Leonard Gene LaBarge, Jr.** Perfect Attendance 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,3; Track 1,2,3,4; Snoball Royalty 2

**Glenn Allen Lacy, Jr.** Perfect Attendance 1,2; Football 1,2,3; Wrestling 1,2,3,4; FFA 1,2,3,4; Baseball 1,2,3,4

**Whitney Rae Lang** All-A Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; 2nd Team MCL Volleyball 3; 1st Team MCL Volleyball 4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Track 1,2,3,4; FCCLA 1,3,4; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 1; KAYS 1,2,3,4; Prom Server

**Matea Rose Lovato** All-A Honor Roll 1; Honor Roll 2,3,4; Perfect Attendance 3; Journalism 4; State Journalism 3rd Place 4; Softball 3; FCCLA 1; Jr. Class Play; KAYS 1,2,3,4; Snoball Royalty 1,2; Class Vice-President 4; Choir 1; Math Relays 2; SADD 4

**Brett Daniel Mickelson** Honor Roll 3,4; Football 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; Golf 2,3; 1st Team MCL Guard 4; 1st Team MCL Defensive Tackle 4; Honorable Mention MCL Guard 2,3; Honorable Mention MCL Defensive Tackle 3; FFA 1,2,3,4; Jr. Class Play

**Meggie Ann Patrick** All-A Honor Roll 3,4; Honor Roll 1,2; Who's Who Among American High School Students 1,2,3,4; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 1; Track 1,2,3,4; 1st Place MCL High Jump 1,3; 2nd Place MCL High Jump 2; 1st Place Regional High Jump 1; 2nd Place Regional High Jump 2,3; 2nd Place State High Jump 1,3; 3rd Place State High Jump 2; FCCLA 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Chapter Vice-President 2,4; FCCLA Chapter President 3; Forensics 1,2,3,4; IDA State Champion 3; State IDA 6th Place 2; 1st Place MCL Dramatic Solo 2; Jr. Class Play; Cheerleader 2,3,4; Cheer co-captain 4; KAYS 1,2,3,4; KAYS Board 2,3,4; Snoball Royalty 1,4; Class Secretary 4; Choir 1; Prom Server; Homecoming Royalty 4; SADD 2,3,4; SADD Secretary 4; Webpage 2,3

**Jaylen Reed** Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Basketball 2; Boys' Basketball Manager 1; Jr. Class Play; KAYS 1,2,3; Choir 1,2; Band 1; Softball 1,2,3

**Courtney Danielle Schartz** Basketball 2; Boys' Basketball Manager 1; Softball 2; FCCLA 1; KAYS 1,2,3,4; Choir 1,2,3; Band 1,2,3,4; State Band 1,2,3; State Solo/Ensemble 1,2,3

**Jason Michael Schmidt** Basketball 1; FFA 1,4; FCCLA 2,3

**Keric James Smith** Journalism 4; Cross Country 2,3,4; Track 2,3; FFA 3,4; Jr. Class Play; Choir 1

**Stephanie Lynn Spinelli** Honor Roll 1,2; Basketball Manager 1; FCCLA 1,2,3,4; FCCLA Points Chairman 4; Forensics 1,2,3; Forensics State Festival 2; Forensics State Championships 3; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 3,4; Stuco Secretary 4; KAYS 1,2,3,4; KAYS Board 4; Class Secretary 3,4; Prom Server; Webpage 2,3

**Rachel Lynn Thomson** Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Volleyball 1; Cross Country 2,3,4; Track 1,2; Forensics 1,2,3,4; State Championships 1,2,3,4; State IDA 5th Place Forensics 2; 7th Place State Forensics 3; MCL Forensics Champion 1,2,3; 1st Place MCL Dramatic Solo 3; Jr. Class Play; Cheerleader 1,2,3,4; All-American Cheerleader 2,3; KAYS 1

**Dustin James Unrein** Football 4; Track 1,2,3,4; Wrestling 1,2,3,4; FFA 2,3,4; FFA Chapter officer; Forensics 1,2,3,4; State IDA 5th Place Forensics 2; Jr. Class Play; Stuco 2,3,4; Choir 1,2; Railairres 1,2; Band 1,2,3,4; Prom Server; Snoball Royalty 1

**Kristen Marie Waldschmidt** Honor Roll 1,2,3,4; Who's Who Among American High School Students 1; Volleyball 1,2,3,4; Honorable Mention MCL Volleyball 4; Basketball 1,2,3,4; 1st Team MCL Basketball 3; Golf 2,3,4; Softball 1; FFA 1,2,3; Jr. Class Play; KAYS 1,2,3,4; Class Treasurer 1,4; Prom Server; Snoball Royalty 3

# Class of 2007



# Volleyball

Front Row: Mgr. Vanessa North, Mgr. Lauren Wheeler, Danielle Weber, Chantel Gabel, Paige Reilly, Kayla Casey, Emily Thomson, Mgr. Jamie Durheim Row 2: Mgr. Ashley Schuster, Kendra Mickelson, Chelsea Leiker, Kayla Hollern, Katelyn Keller, Deana Hunsicker, Caroline Beilman, Heather Weber, Coach Jill Wood Row 3: Kayla Jacques, Whitney Taylor, Shelby Gottschalk, Erin Groff, Randi Hook, Alicia Lang, Bethany Polifka, Katie Parson, Coach Kerry Bittel Row 4: Coach Perry Mick, Emily Cox, Jaylen Reed, Whitney Lang, Laura Augustine, Meggie Patrick, Kristen Waldschmidt, Brittany Kroeger.

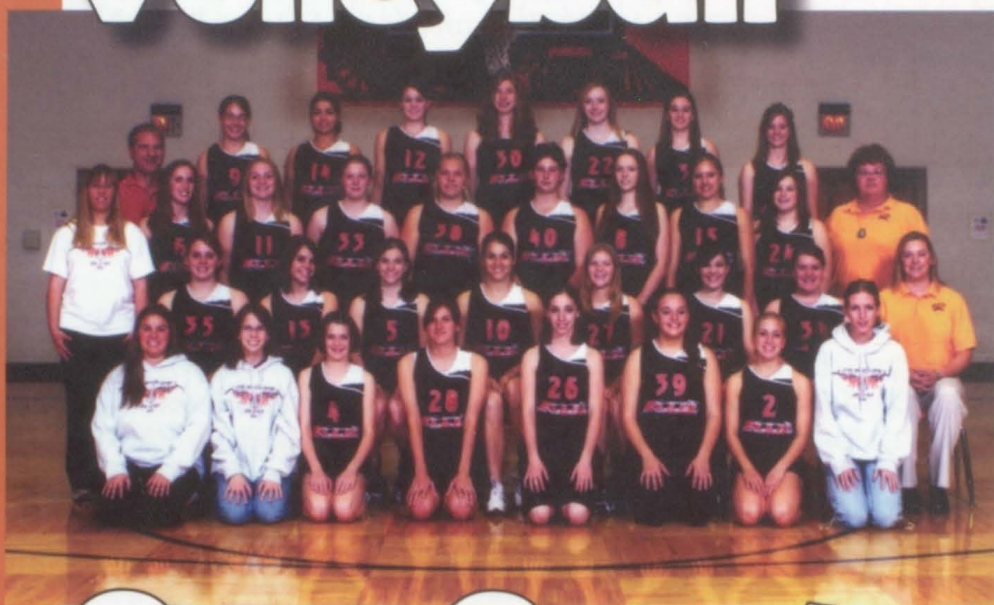


photo by Swocky Hill Photography

# Cross Country

Front Row: Haley Wolf, Nicole Pfeifer, Danielle Pfeifer, Megan Keller, Rachel Thomson, Jesse Lonnerberg Row 2: Kevin Urban, Scott Gugler, Todd Flinn, Khaled Fares, Ryan Weber, Brian Keller, Coach Casey Dinkel, Keric Smith.



photo by Swocky Hill Photography

# Football

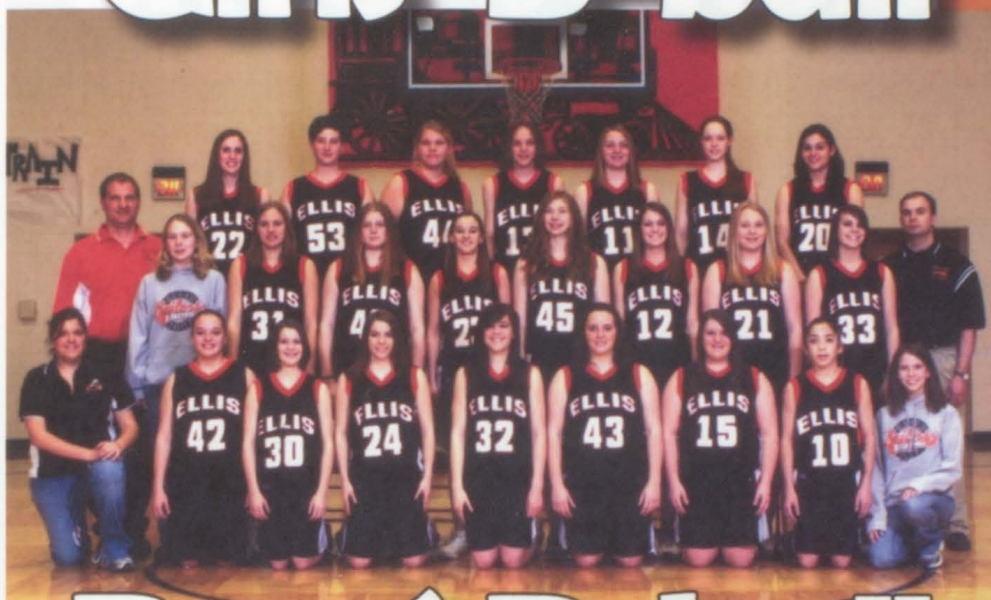
Front Row: Brandon Geschwentner, Justin Brungardt, Logan Bittel Row 2: Dillon Kinderknecht, Matt Cunningham, Dylan Pfeifer, Daniel Gottschalk, Kyle Hadley, Gideon Fuchs, Monte Honas, Chase King Row 3: Coach Troy Dale, Coach Art Schoenthaler, Jacob Begler, Clay Barton, John Tricks, Justin Gnad, Matt Erbert, Patrick Dreiling, Andrew Casey, Dusty Unrein Row 4: Randy Hamel, Aaron Herl, Adam Augustine, Michael Hiss, Cole Erbert, Cory Amrein, Chris Hazen, Brett Mickelson, Coach Butch Hayes.



photo by Swocky Hill Photography

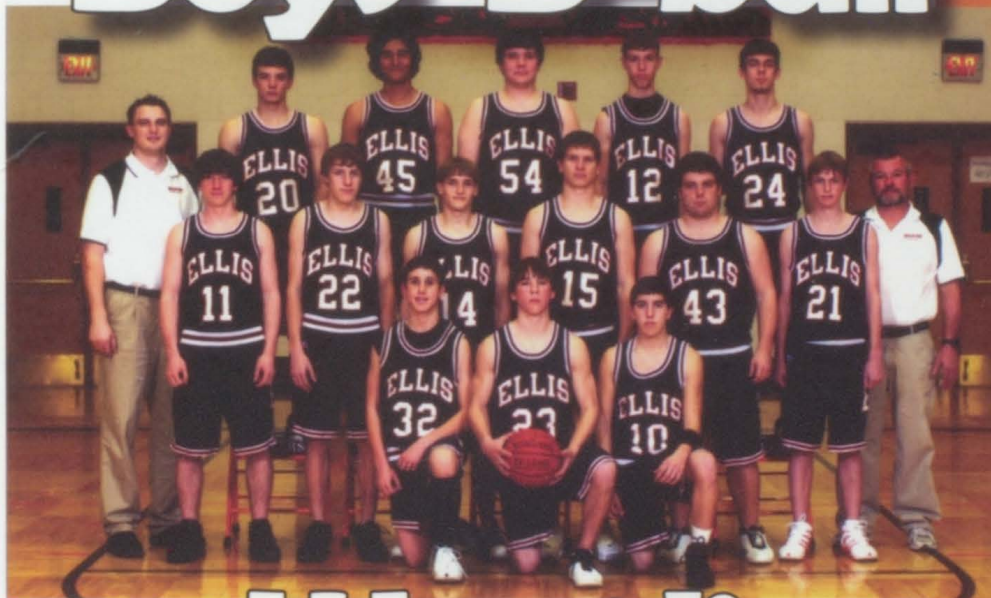


# Girls' B-ball



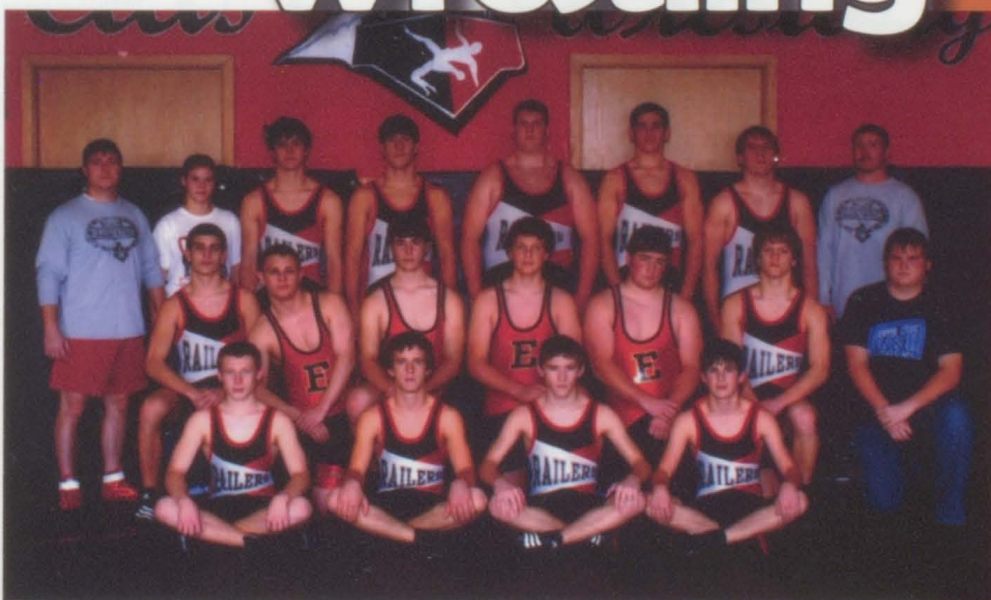
Front Row: Mgr. Kelsey Gehrler, Kayla Casey, Danielle Weber, Kayla Hollern, Caroline Beilman, Kendra Mickelson, Heather Weber, Haley Wolf, Mgr. Lauren Wheeler Row 2: Mgr. Alyssa Herl, Bethany Polifka, Shelby Gottschalk, Kristen Waldschmidt, Laura Augustine, Whitney Lang, Bailey Deutscher, Chelsea Leiker Row 3: Coach Perry Mick, Kayla Jacques, Randi Hook, Erin Groff, Danielle Pfeifer, Whitney Taylor, Alicia Lang, Katelyn Keller, Coach David Wildeman

# Boys' B-ball



Front Row: Matt Cunningham, Dylan Pfeifer, Cody Gehrler Row 2: Gideon Fuchs, Aaron Gnad, Andrew Casey, Adam Augustine, Brett Mickelson, Kyle Fox Row 3: Coach Cody Howland, Daniel Gottschalk, Khaled Fares, Matt Erbert, Ryan Weber, Ryan Bittel, Coach Art Schoenthaler Not Pictured: Monte Honas, Kyle Hadley

# Wrestling



Front Row: Justin Brungardt, Kevin Urban, Dusty Unrein, Justin Henrickson Row 2: Chase King, Zack Gehring, William Poland, Jacob Begler, Glenn Lacy, Dillon Kinderknecht, Danny Desaire Row 3: Coach Justin Schwartz, Mgr. Deana Hunsicker, Brian Keller, Justin Gnad, Michael Hiss, John Tricks, Chris Hazen, Coach Casey Dinkel



# Golf

Front Row: Ethan LaBarge, Kendra Mickelson, Sarah Fischer, Kristen Waldschmidt, Laura Augustine, Daniel Gottschalk Row 2: Coach Bob Young, Brian Riedel, Ryan Bittel, Ryan Weber, Adam Augustine, Michael Young, Danny Desaire, Chris Hazen, Coach Randy Herman



photo by Cindy Herrel

# Girls' Track

Front Row: Coach Butch Hayes, Jennifer Kinderknecht, Heather Hupka, Kayla Casey, Haley Wolf, Paige Reilly, Chelsea Leiker, Brittany Kroeger, Emily Cox, Kara Hackney, Rachael Hamel, Tina Unrein, Coach Jack Wolf Row 2: Mgr. Shelby Gottschalk, Coach Randy Kohl, Sammy Hook, Erin Groff, Bethany Polifka, Kayla Jacques, Nicole Pfeifer, Randi Hook, Jamie Durham, Meggie Patrick, Danielle Pfeifer, Whitney Taylor, Whitney Lang, Vanessa North, Deana Hunsicker, Coach Steve Erbert, Mgr. Alyssa Herl

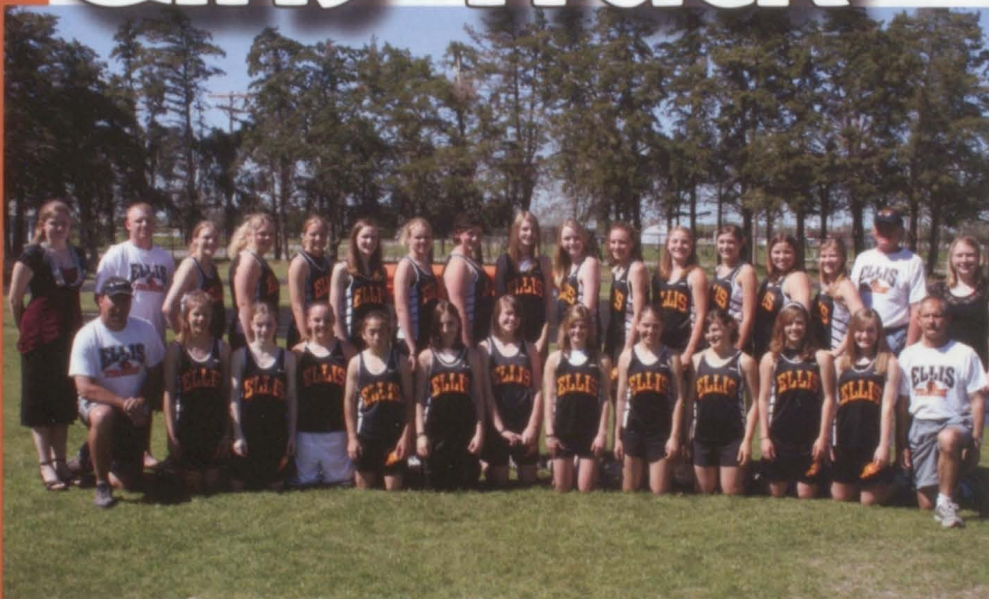


photo by Cindy Herrel

# Boys' Track

Front Row: Coach Randy Kohl, Lenny LaBarge, Scott Gugler, Gideon Fuchs, Justin Gnad, Randy Hamel, Dusty Unrein, Andrew Casey, Brandon Geschwentner, Logan Bittel, Coach Jack Wolf Row 2: Coach Butch Hayes, William Poland, Clay Barton, Brian Keller, John Tricks, Todd Flinn, Aaron Herl, Cole Erbert, Michael Hiss, Matt Erbert, Khaled Fares, Jacob Begler, Patrick Dreiling, Coach Steve Erbert



photo by Cindy Herrel



# Cheer Squad

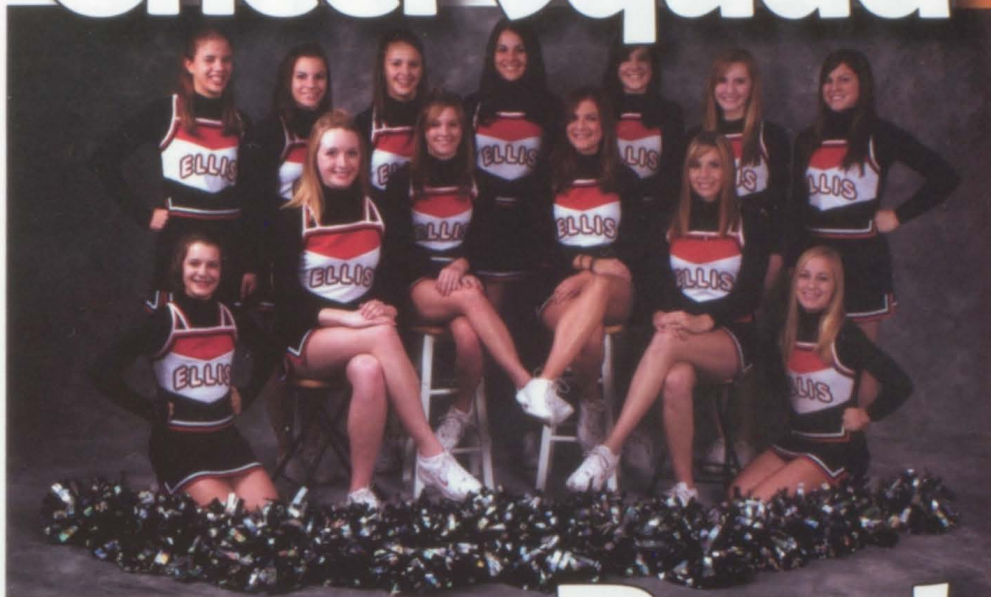


photo by Siney Hill Photography

Front Row: Danielle Weber, Meggie Patrick, Brittany Kroeger, Rachel Thomson, Megan Keller, Emily Thomson Row 2: Jennifer Kinderknecht, Kayla Hollern, Rachael Hamel, Katelyn Keller, Caroline Beilman, Tina Unrein, Kara Hackney

# Band



photo by Cindy Herd

Front Row: Krista Connelly, Jessica Estrada, Breanna Ellison, Brandon Geschwentner, Laura Augustine, Tina Unrein, Rachael Hamel, Heather Weber, Erin Groff, Kayla Jacques, Danielle Weber, Kayla Hollern, Deana Hunsicker, Kelsey Gehr, Staci Bittel, Haley Wolf, Alyssa Herl, Brooke Graves Row 3: Jennifer Kinderknecht, Vanessa North, Emily Cox, Whitney Taylor, Courtney Schartz, Shelby Gottschalk, Chantel Gabel, Jordan Lang, Mrs. Renetta Dawson Row 4: Michael Young, Brian Riedel, Patrick Dreiling, Chris Hazen, Aaron Herl, Brian Keller, Dusty Unrein

# Choir



photo by Cindy Herd

Front Row: Jessica Estrada, Kara Hackney, Emily Cox, Aaron Herl, Chris Hazen, Krista Connelly, Katie Parson, Sarah Fischer Row 2: Heather Weber, Kayla Jacques, Danielle Weber, Kayla Hollern, Deana Hunsicker, Vanessa North, Brooke Graves, Ashley Schuster, Mr. Randy Sauer Row 3: Michael Young, Brian Riedel, Jacob Begler, Erin Groff, Chelsea Leiker



# KAY Board

Front Row: Stephanie Spinelli, Emily Cox, Meggie Patrick, Laura Augustine, Kelsy Kinderknecht, Brittany Kroeger Row 2: Kayla Hollern, Tina Unrein, Alyssa Herl, Danielle Pfeifer, Vanessa North, Bailey Deutscher, Deana Hunsicker, Sarah Fischer



photo by Cindy Herold

# NHS

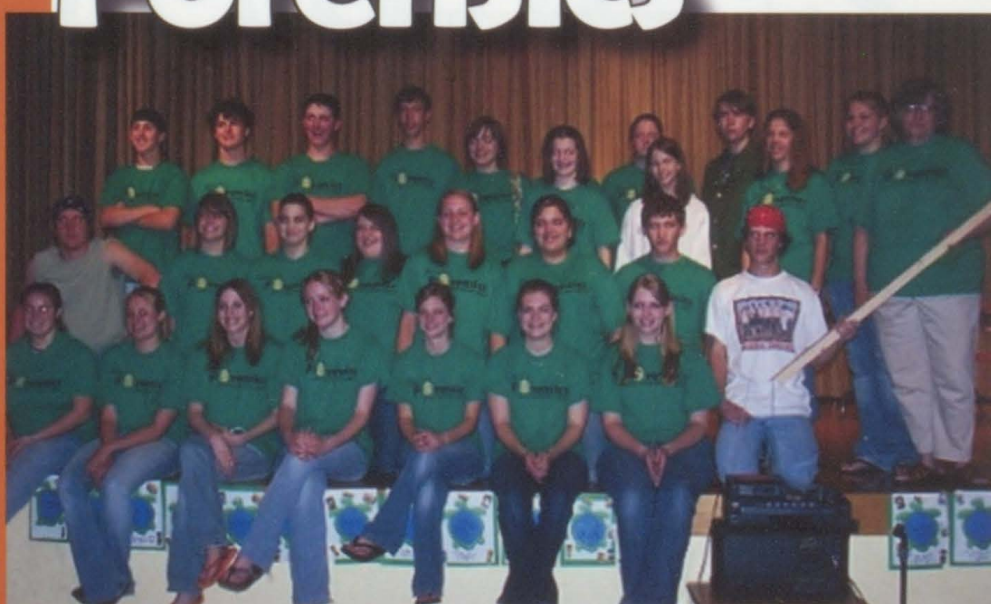
Front Row: Mrs. Janetta Heroneme, Kelsy Kinderknecht, Brian Keller, Adam Augustine, Laura Augustine, Krista Connelly, Principal Corey Burton Row 2: Justin Gnad, Todd Flinn, Danielle Pfeifer, Kayla Hollern, Michael Young



photo by Cindy Herold

# Forensics

Front Row: Vanessa North, Nicole Pfeifer, Megan Keller, Meggie Patrick, Brittany Kroeger, Rachel Thomson, Kelsy Kinderknecht Row 2: Chris Hazen, Chelsea Leiker, Kiley Wayman, Heather Weber, Whitney Taylor, Kelsey Gehrler, Dusty Unrein, Scott Gugler Row 3: Matt Cunningham, Brian Keller, Aaron Pfannenstiel, Ryan Weber, Brooke Graves, Danielle Weber, Shelby Gottschalk, Lauren Wheeler, Michael Young, Jennifer Kinderknecht, Erin Groff, Mrs. Linda Riedel



Courtesy Photo



# FFA Officers

photo by Smoke Hill Photography



Jordan Lang, Kevin Urban, Logan Bittel, Justin Henrickson, Brian Keller, Kara Hackney

# FCCLA Officers

photo by Cindy Herrel



Front Row: Brittany Kroeger, Meredith Keller, Stephanie Spinelli, Tina Unrein  
Row 2: Laura Augustine, Aaron Pfannenstiel, Meggie Patrick. Not Pictured: Rachael Hamel

# Stuco Officers

photo by Cindy Herrel



Kelsy Kinderknecht, Laura Augustine, Stephanie Spinelli, Aaron Pfannenstiel, Krista Connelly



# USD 388

## 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.

## USD 388 District Office

Superintendent Kyle Hayden

District Secretaries

Connie Waldschmidt, Brandy Becker



## USD 388 School Board

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

Front: Marty Hollern, Linda Hunsicker, and Art Honas Row 2: Gayla Wichman, Mary Jo Walz, Gail Brack, and Cheryl Helget



## USD388 Transportation

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

Front: Larry Cox, Dennis Wolf, Mick Gabel, Heather Wolf Row 2: Swede Swenson, Marvin Riedel, Danny Gabel, Paulette Kroeger, Kenny Herman, Eldon Pfeifer  
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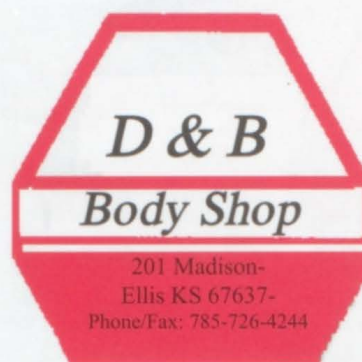
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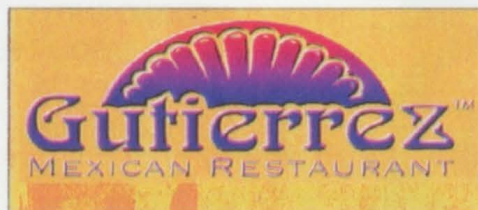


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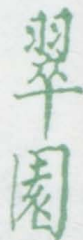
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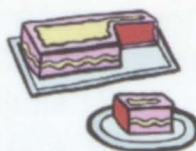
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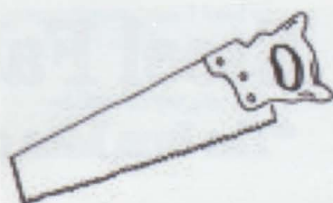
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**Revealed:** Ciara Hespe has a great voice. Since she had never enrolled in choir, few EHS students knew of her talent. Her voice was exposed at EHS Idol.



"My parents are both naturally very talented and I grew up singing along loudly with Barney and "Sesame Street." So, I kind of got an early start singing."

**-Ciara Hespe, so.**

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**A**lbers, Sharla 2, 28, 75

Amrein, Cory 12, 24-27, 30, 36, 47, 66, 81, 84

Armbruster, Brandon 28

Augustine, Adam 4, 12, 24, 26, 32-33, 47, 50-51, 58-59, 81, 84-86, 88

Augustine, Debbie 80

Augustine, Greg 80

Augustine, Laura 13, 24-25, 42, 49, 67, 70, 80, 84-89

**B**arton, Clay 8, 77, 84, 86

Becker, Brandy 90

Befort, Monica 13, 24, 37, 70, 76, 79-80

Befort, Paula 80

Begler, Jacob 6, 53, 57, 68-69, 71, 84-87

Beilman, Caroline 6, 84-85, 87

Bittel, Kerry 28, 84

Bittel, Logan 8, 64, 66, 73, 84, 86, 89

Bittel, Ryan 10, 31, 36, 51, 58, 66, 85-86

Bittel, Staci 6-7, 45, 87

Brack, Gail 90

Brungardt, Justin 8, 53, 84-85

Burton, Corey 2, 26, 28, 80, 88

**C**ampbell, Kylor 10, 37, 45, 66

Casey, Andrew 13, 24, 27, 47, 50, 57, 81, 84-86, 108

Casey, Kayla 6, 35, 79, 84-86

Chretien, Joy 28

Connelly, Krista 14, 24, 33, 37, 68, 76, 79-80, 87-89

Cox, Emily 14, 24-26, 42, 67, 69, 76, 80, 84, 86-88

Cox, Larry 90

Cunningham, Matt 6-7, 32, 34, 64, 84-85, 88

**D**ale, Troy 28, 84

Dawson, Renetta 28, 87

Desaire, Daniel 10, 58, 85-86

Deutscher, Bailey 10, 36, 66, 85, 88

Deutscher, Jared 14, 24, 26, 81

Dinkel, Casey 28, 84-85

Dreiling, Patrick 6, 75, 78, 84, 86-87

Drennon, Amanda 28

Durheim, Jamie 6, 54, 84, 86

**E**lliott, Letisha 15, 24, 26, 36, 76, 80

Elliott, Brittany 6

Ellis, Amber 10

Ellison, Breanna 8, 68, 71, 87

Erbert, Cole 15, 24-25, 27, 32, 46, 57, 67, 81, 86

Erbert, Matt 6, 50, 74, 84-86

Erbert, Steve 28, 86

Estrada, Erick 10-11, 68-69, 71

Estrada, Jessica 6, 87

**F**ares, Khaled 10, 32, 35, 45, 57, 84-86

Faulkender, Sherri 28

Faulkender, Stan 28

Fischer, Sarah 8, 58, 70, 86-88

Fischer, Tyler 8, 33, 78

Flinn, Todd 10, 45, 84, 86, 88

Fox, Kyle 6, 74, 85

Fuchs, Gideon 6, 35, 47, 50-51, 64, 84-86

**G**abel, Chantel 6-7, 75, 84, 87

Gabel, Danny 90

Gabel, Mick 90

Gehrer, Cody 10-11, 36, 85

Gehrer, Kelsey 6, 70, 85, 87-88

Gehring, Zack 10, 53, 85

Geschwentner, Brandon 8, 34, 56, 84, 86-87

Gnad, Aaron 6, 50, 85

Gnad, Justin 2, 10, 47, 53, 57, 84-86, 88

Gottschalk, Daniel 10, 32, 36, 47, 50-51, 72, 84-86

Gottschalk, Shelby 6-7, 75, 84-88

Graves, Brooke 4, 8, 62, 64, 76, 78, 87-88

Groff, Erin 6-7, 55, 84-88

Grogan, Jacqueline 29, 37

Grogan, Ryan 15, 24-25

Gugler, Scott 16, 24, 32, 35, 37, 44-45, 57, 62, 74, 81, 84, 86, 88

**H**ackney, Kara 8, 54, 60, 62, 71-73, 86-87, 89

Hadley, Kyle 8, 47, 66, 84, 102

Hamel, Rachael 8, 31, 37, 61, 67, 75, 77, 86-87

Hamel, Randy 16, 24-25, 27, 32-33, 36, 47, 57, 67, 81, 84, 86

Hayden, Kyle 29, 90

Hayes, Butch 29, 84, 86

Hazen, Christopher 16, 24, 27, 35, 47, 53, 62, 76, 81, 84-88

Helget, Cheryl 90

Henrickson, Justin 8, 33, 64, 73, 78, 85, 89

Herl, Aaron 4, 17, 24-25, 35, 57, 68, 81, 84, 86-87

Herl, Alyssa 9, 85-88

Hespe, Ciara 9, 33, 35, 103

Herman, Kenny 90

Herman, Randy 29, 58, 86

Heroneme, Janetta 29, 88

Hertel, Cindy 29

Hiss, Michael 17, 24-25, 27, 47, 52-53, 66, 81, 84-86

Hollern, Kayla 10, 31, 42, 49, 61, 74, 84-85, 87-88

Hollern, Marty 90

Honas, Art 90

Honas, Julie 28-29

Honas, Monte 9, 47, 50-51, 57, 78, 84

Hook, Randi 6, 35, 84-85, 104

Hook, Sammy 17, 24, 26, 55, 80-81, 86

Howard, June 28-29

Howland, Cody (Basketball) 85

Hunsicker, Deana 10, 53, 84-88

Hunsicker, Linda 90

Hupka, Heather 6, 86

**J**acques, Kayla 4, 6, 54, 67, 75, 84-87

Jenkins, Phoenix 6

The 2007 edition of the Ellis High School Railroader was published by the EHS yearbook staff and printed by Jostens of Topeka, Kan. Sales representative was Derius Mammen, and plant representative was Lori Wishert. Press run was 125 copies with 108 pages. The Railroader was printed with a trim size of 7. Body copy in the yearbook is High Tower Text, AYT Chelsea, Berlin Sans FB Demi and Myriad Pro.

The Railroader is a computer-generated book, and all work was done by the students using Adobe Indesign CS 3.0.1 and Photoshop 5.5 programs on IBM computers and a laser printer.



Keller, Brian 5, 18, 24, 26, 32-33, 37, 44-45, 56, 62, 67, 72, 80-81, 84-89

Keller, Katelyn 10-11, 42, 61, 67, 84-85, 87

Keller, Megan 18, 24, 27, 34, 45, 61-63, 70, 80, 84, 87-88

Keller, Meredith 10, 35, 77, 89

Kinderknecht, Dillon 6, 47, 52, 75, 84-85

Kinderknecht, Jennifer 6, 34, 68, 86-88

Kinderknecht, Kelsy 18, 24, 27, 34, 62-63, 76, 80, 88-89

King, Chase 9, 32, 52, 84-85

Kitzman, Joey 9, 33

Kohl, Jeff 4, 28-29

Kohl, Randy (Track) 86

Kohman, Bob 28-29, 73

Kroeger, Brittany 19, 24-26, 61-62, 67, 74-75, 79-80, 84, 86-89

Kroeger, Paulette 90

LaBarge, Ethan 6, 33, 72, 75, 58, 86

LaBarge, Lenny 19, 24, 25, 76, 81, 86

Lacy, Glenn 19, 24, 26, 36, 81, 85

Lacy, Jessi 11

Lang, Alicia 6, 35, 42, 84, 85

Lang, Jordan 9, 68, 72, 73, 87, 89

Lang, Whitney 20, 24, 27, 33, 42, 48, 49, 79, 80, 84, 85, 86

Leiker, Chelsea 6, 54, 62, 71, 75, 84-88

Lewis, Melissa 29

Lonnberg, Jessee 24, 27, 45, 84

Lovato, Matea 20, 24, 27, 33, 35, 80, 108

Madorin, Karen 29

Massier, Debra 8, 9, 34

Mick, Maria 29

Mick, Perry 28, 29, 48, 84, 85

Mickelson, Brett 20, 24, 37, 47, 51, 81, 84, 85

Mickelson, Kendra 9, 42, 73, 84-86

Noble, Kelsey 6, 85

North, Vanessa 4, 11, 32, 62, 66, 69, 71, 76, 78, 84, 86-88

Nowlin, Melissa 11

Ocamb, Cody 9, 33

Parke, Mary 29

Parson, Katie 9, 31, 42, 84, 87

Patrick, Meggie 21, 24, 25, 36, 42, 43, 61, 62, 67, 70, 79, 84, 86-89

Pfannenstiel, Aaron 11, 31, 35, 62, 74, 76, 88, 89

Pfeifer, Danielle 11, 45, 48, 49, 70, 71, 77, 84-86, 88

Pfeifer, Dylan 7, 66, 84, 85

Pfeifer, Eldon 90

Pfeifer, Nicole 7, 7, 33, 45, 54, 62, 75, 84, 86, 88

Poland, William 7, 33, 45, 85, 86

Polifka, Bethany 7, 7, 42, 54, 79, 84-86

Reed, Jaylen 21, 24-25, 27, 42, 80, 84

Reilly, Paige 7, 35, 41, 54, 84, 86

Riedel, Brian 4, 11, 11, 37, 58-59, 68-69, 71, 86-87

Riedel, Linda 29, 33, 62, 88

Riedel, Marvin 90

Robb, Kerry 2, 9, 32

Robbins, Heath 9

Rorabaugh, Chris 29

Rummel, Roland 7

Rupp, Barb 29

Sauer, Randy 29

Schartz, Courtney 21, 24, 80, 87

Schmidt, Jason 22, 24, 26, 81

Schmidt, Steven 9, 47

Schoenthaler, Art 29, 84-85

Schuster, Ashley 7, 84, 87

Schwartz, Justin (Wrestling) 85

Smith, Keric 22, 24, 26, 45, 61, 65, 72, 81, 84, 108

Spinelli, Stephanie 22, 24-25, 35, 74, 80, 88-89, 102

Stanton, Logan 9, 64, 72

Swenson, Michelle 29

Swenson, Swede 90

Taylor, Whitney 8, 9, 33, 42, 48, 49, 67, 69, 84-88

Thomson, Emily 7, 61, 84, 87

Thomson, Rachel 23-25, 35, 61-63, 79, 84, 87-88

Totten, Denise 11, 76

Totten, Thomas 11

Tricks, John 11, 31, 35, 53, 57, 66, 84-85, 89

Unrein, Tina 8-9, 31, 60-61, 67, 70, 75, 86-89

Unrein, Dusty 23-24, 26, 30, 41, 52, 62, 81, 84-88

Unrein, James 80

Urban, Kevin 11, 41, 45, 52-53, 72, 84-85, 89

Vandenberg, Garret 7

Waldschmidt, Charlie 29

Waldschmidt, Connie 80, 90

Waldschmidt, Kristen 23, 24, 26, 41-43, 49, 58, 67, 77, 79, 80, 84-86

Walz, Mary Jo 90

Wayman, Kiley 7, 7, 79, 88

Weber, Danielle 7, 34, 60, 75, 84-85, 87-88

Weber, Heather 4, 9, 64, 84-85, 87-88

Weber, Ryan 7, 45, 58, 84-86, 88

Wheeler, Lauren 11, 66, 77, 84-85, 88

Wichman, Gayla 90

Wildeman, David 29, 85

Wolf, Dennis 90

Wolf, Haley 8, 9, 40, 44-45, 49, 54, 84-87

Wolf, Heather 90

Wolf, Jack 29, 86

Wood, Jill 29, 84

Young, Bob 29, 59, 86

Young, Michael 11, 11, 31, 69, 76, 86-88

Zahn, Eric 9

Zerfas, Terry 28-29

The Railroader was financed through \$30 book sales, \$30 business ads, \$50 layout ads, and \$20 booster ads.

The yearbook staff would like to thank Mrs. Cindy Hertel for being an inspiring teacher and for all the donuts, candy, and words of wisdom--she will be truly missed; John Begler (Smoky Hill Photography) for your photos; the Ellis Review for your photos and the use of your camera; Derius, our Josten representative; Mr. Bob Young and Mrs. June Howard for helping us fix our computer problems; Mrs. Linda Riedel and webpage for sharing your pictures; and the faculty for letting us out of class to work on the yearbook and letting us take pictures during classes.





At the Ellis invitational, senior Andrew Casey performs in long jump. Casey placed first in long jump with a jump of 21-6 1/2. He also won the 100, 200, and 400 meter dashes. Photo by Matea Lovato

Revitalized from our success, we kept pushing ahead into the second semester. The doors were painted a new shade of orange, the driveway fence was removed, and students in horticulture classes helped landscape the front lawn.

A heavy freeze took over a large portion of Kansas and Colorado in January; many had no electricity or water for days. After this storm came many others, supplying the much-needed water for Big Creek. All the while, a new travel plaza gave truck drivers an oasis and students new jobs.

The war raged on in Iraq, and North Korea agreed to stop nuclear production. In

April, a mass shooting at Virginia Tech took the nation by surprise; weeks later, Greensburg, Kansas, was destroyed by an EF-5 tornado. Knowing a disaster like that could hit us, EHS raised money for them by having a "Penny War," donating \$1,527.51 total.

In this way we finished the year still feeling the intensity we started with, despite our completed finals and the absence of the seniors. It was an intensity that could only be called *Refueled*.



On the front lawn, Kerik Smith, Glenn Lacy, sr., and Kaylor Campbell, jr., dig up old bushes to add in new plants. The project was started a few weeks before school ended. Photo by Kerik Smith



The dam at the east end of Big Creek is rendered useless by the freeze at the beginning of the year. Some members of the community took the opportunity to ice skate on the frozen water. Photo by Ellis Review



Enjoying the full creek, senior Matea Lovato and her cousin Waydan Cox go boating during spring break. "We finally had a chance to put the paddle boat out on the water, and we got to go fishing," Lovato said. Courtesy Photo



At the Homecoming game, Victoria Unrein and Ashley Lopez, middle school students, cheer on the football team. The crowd came to support the players, many wearing the Stuco blackout shirts. Photo by Monica Befort







It started from one primary the  
1st kept pushing them into the  
second semester. The doors were  
painted a new shade of orange.  
The display fence was replaced  
and students in bow-tie shirts  
clerked behind the landscape the front  
lawn.

A heavy frost took over a large  
portion of Kansas and Colorado.  
A heavy frost had no electricity  
in water for days. After this was  
over many others, supplying the  
undiscovered water for Big Creek.  
All the while, a new travel plan  
gave stock of food on water and  
in the summer job.

The new water  
in Iraq and North  
Korea agreed to stop  
nuclear production in  
April, a small shortage of  
Virginia Tech took the nation  
by surprise.

By the way, the  
Greenburg  
the town was destroyed by a  
1977 tornado. Knowing a disaster  
was coming, the town had money to  
be saved by having a  
"Tornado Week," starting in 1977.

In the year we lived in the year of the  
disaster, the town had money to  
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