

2012



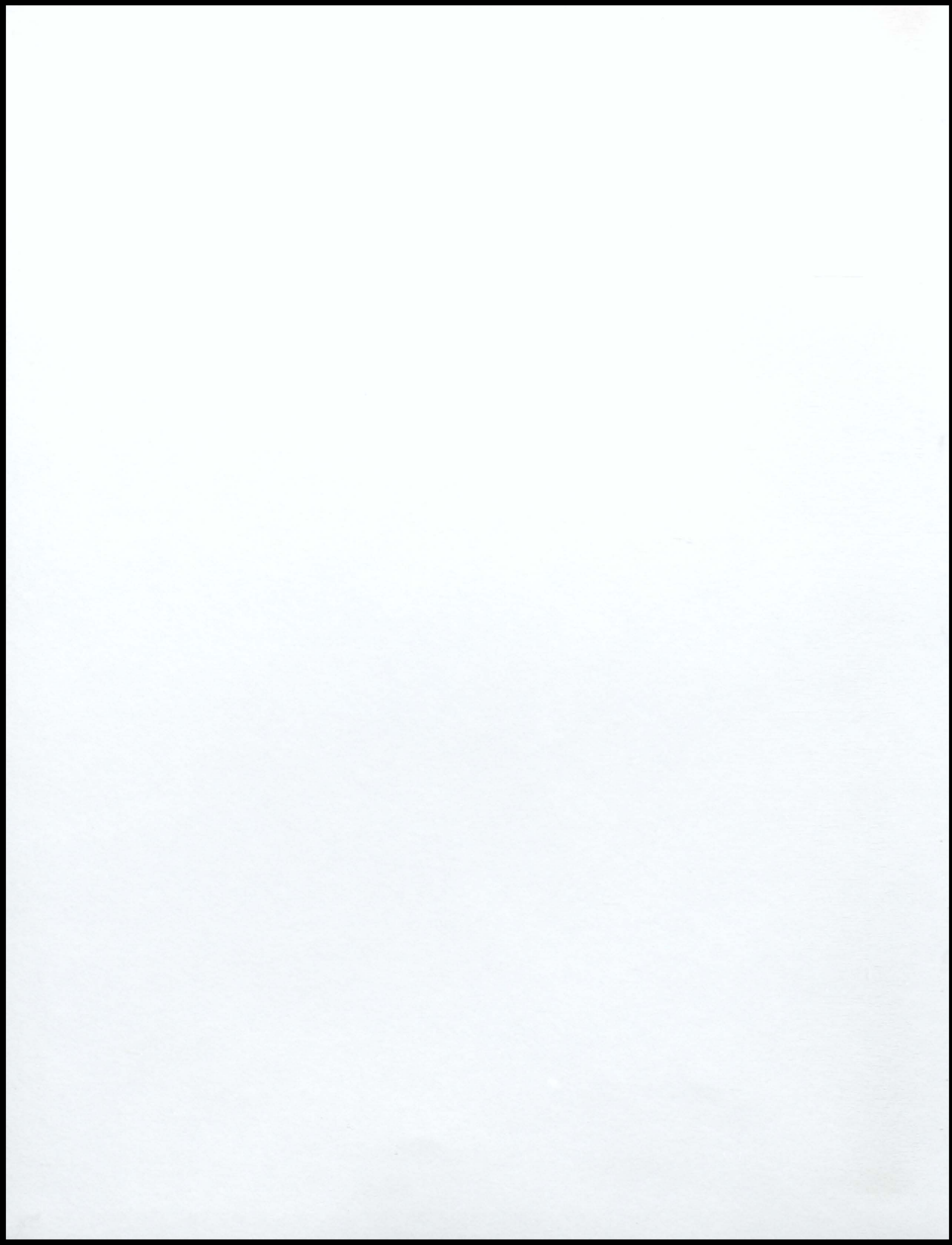
Your

Life

Ellis High School



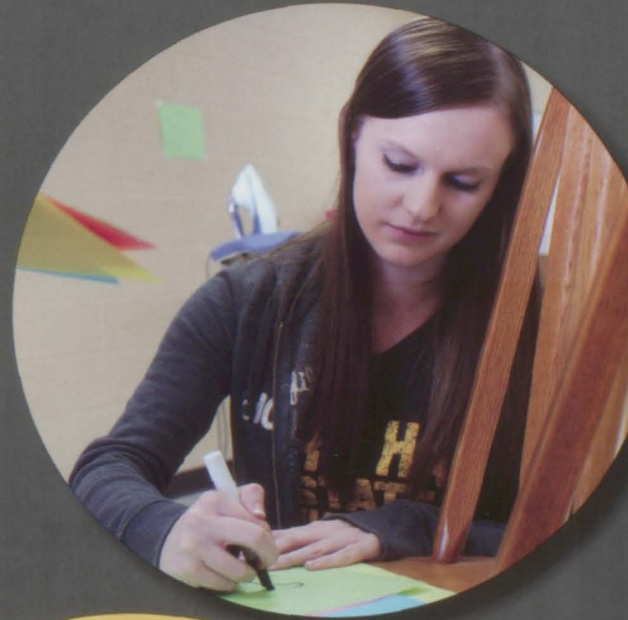




Live

Your

Life



Ellis High School

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Class 2A*120 Students



1 Title
Bernadette Frickey

December 21, 2012 is the day that the world is supposed to end, a belief that began to sweep the nation in 2011. According to the ancient Mayan calendar, the last date to ever be published was that date in December. People have taken this in many different ways. While some believe that this simply means that the Mayans ran out of ink, others believe it means that the apocalypse is going to come and the world will end.

Because of this growing 'end of the world' trend, many new songs, movies, and sayings came out. Jay Sean came out with the song "2012" featuring Nicki Minaj. "2012" the movie was directed by Roland Emmerich and was supposed to show the world what was going to happen on that dire day.

This school year, the students also adopted a new life motto: "You Only Live Once," or "YOLO." It made us take chances and try our best for each extracurricular as much as we could. You cannot go back and change your score or how much effort you gave, so always try your hardest. Don't get in a hurry—you only live once.

We proved to the world that we will live our lives to the fullest. We tried as hard as we could. Our athletes pushed through the extra workouts to make it to state. Our choir stayed up for late night practices to perfect that one passage of a song before Dessert Theater. The FFA Chapter studied sample after sample of soil to try and land the district title.

So dive right in, and watch yourself...

Live Your Life

2 Opening
Ashleigh Bunker



TUNNEL OF LUCK Senior Riley Hunsicker runs through a tunnel that was built during a special pep rally for Hunsicker and Gage Younger¹³ after they made it to state. Photo by Jerica Dinkel

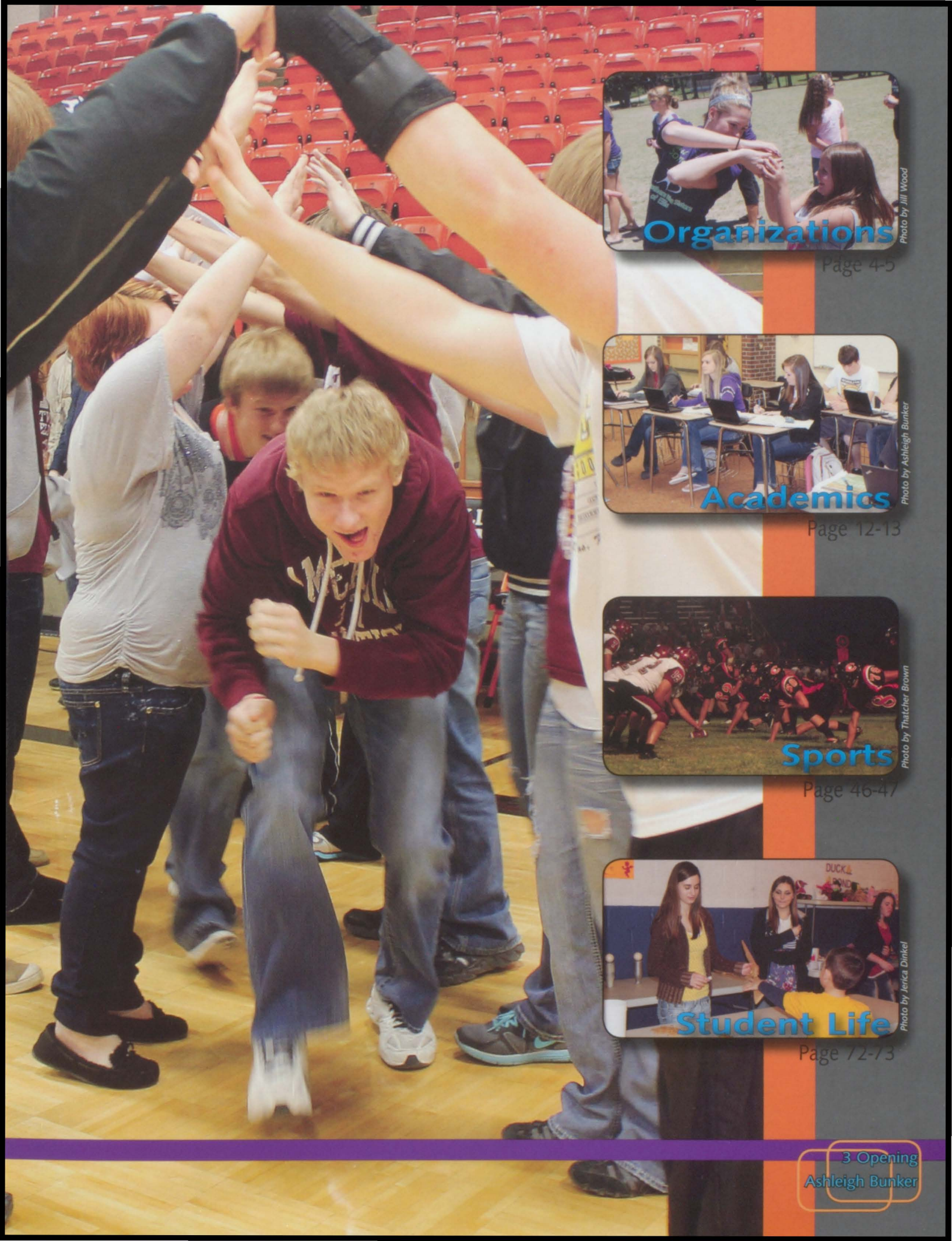


Photo by Jill Wood

Organizations

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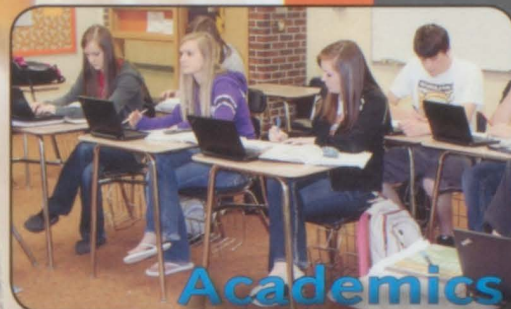


Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

Academics

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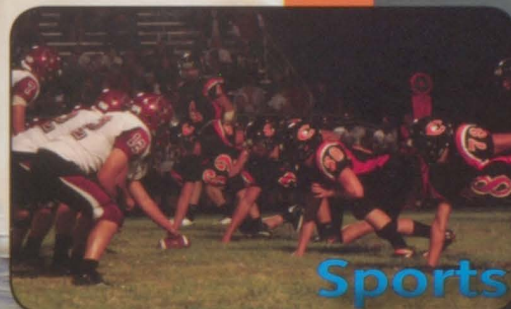


Photo by Thatcher Brown

Sports

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Photo by Jerica Dinkel

Student Life

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Do Your Thing

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COOKIE CONCENTRATION Stephanie Greenway¹⁹ balances a Oreo cookie on her forehead during the FCCLA Freshman Fun Night. The freshman had a race to see who could get the Oreo into their mouth first without dropping the cookie on the ground. They had to use their facial muscles to work the treat down their face. "I just kept thinking, don't let it fall off!" Greenway said. *Photo By Ashleigh Bunker*





Breanna Kroeger¹² and Bailey Hensley¹³

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



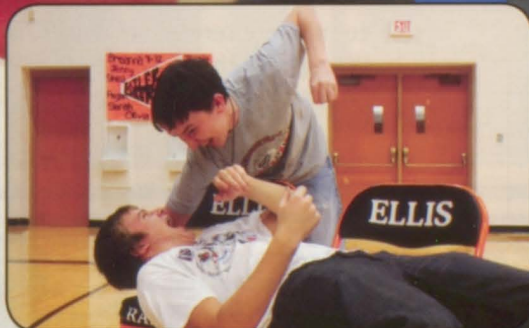
John Ramirez¹⁵, Sarah Henman¹⁵, and Shea Harper¹³

Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Kourtney Kaicy¹⁴

Photo by Bob Kohnman



Kelly Robb¹³ and Sam Polifka¹³

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Jared Mick¹³ and Scott Pfeifer¹⁴

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



Kori Clark¹⁵

"I like FCCLA because I get to help out in the community."



Samantha Graves¹⁴

"I like FFA because I get to be a role model to our younger members."



Taylor McClung¹³

"I like FCCLA because it's fun and you get to go places."



Ben Leiker¹²

"I like FFA because I get to make things I can take home."

Help a Life

STUDENTS SERVE THEIR COMMUNITY

While being a member of FFA or FCCLA, students are expected to help out in the community and set an example for others to follow. Many times throughout the year, both organizations do community service projects that the members take part in.

"Adopt-a-Highway and Food Boxes are our primary community service projects throughout the year. We clean up two miles of highway and

delivered an extraordinary amount of food to community members," Beth Augustine¹³ said.

Not only does FFA do the cleanup, but they also do other events like teaming up with the KAY organization to do Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat and the annual community appreciation breakfast.

"During the year we do several community activities from Up 'Till Dawn to Teacher

Appreciation Day," Scott Pfeifer¹⁴ said.

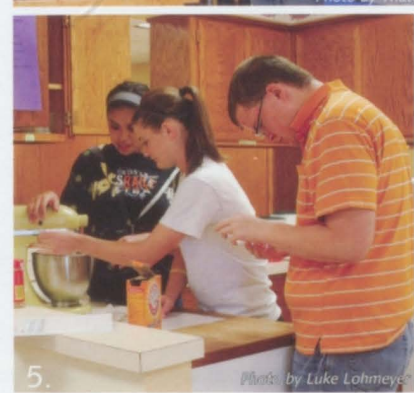
FCCLA also does events like bag sales to help out with fundraising for Big Brothers Big Sisters and also volunteering at the VFW.

"It's a really good feeling knowing that you're helping out other people and the community while still having fun in FCCLA," Alexis Rose¹³ said.

FIGHTING FOR LIFE Alexis Mattheyer¹⁵ avoids being pulled into a chair by fellow FFA members Dani Hausler¹⁵ and Scott Pfeifer¹⁴ at the FFA lock-in. The point of the game was to try to get people out by pulling them and making them touch the chair in the middle. "It was really hard to stay away from the chair and not touch it because everyone wanted to go a different way. It was a blast though," Mattheyer said. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*



6 FFA & FCCLA
Thatcher Brown



1. **BOTTLES UP** Heather Hollingshead¹² sorts bottles for a fundraising event where students could buy bottles for their crush.
2. **WAITING IN LINE** FFA members, Beth Augustine¹³ Rachel Keller¹⁴ Monica Towns¹⁴ and Alexis Mattheyer¹⁵ wait patiently at the FFA National Convention in Indianapolis for the first session to start. Seven members went along with Mr. Kohman for the trip.
3. **SHAKE AND BAKE** Rachelle Wynn¹³ works on mixing dough for the cookie bake sale that takes place every year as a fundraiser.
4. **"EGG" CITED ABOUT JUDGING** Josh Townley¹⁴ observes chickens in a cage at Hays High for a poultry contest.
5. **NO "I" IN TEAM** Terry Ables¹², Beth Augustine¹³, and Monica Towns¹⁴ work together while baking cookies for the FCCLA Cookie Bake Sale.
6. **HAVING A CRUSH** President of FCCLA, Nancy Dinges¹² works with Mrs. Nilhas to put ribbons on Crush bottles for a fundraiser.
7. **STUDY HARD** Rachel Keller¹⁴ concentrates while taking a quiz during a three-part poultry competition at Hays High.

SERVING, LEADING, DOING

More Than Just Cows & Cookies

1. **How I Serve...**
I was one of the six that started Big Brothers Big Sisters in the school.

2. **How I Lead...**
As treasurer I monitor and record FCCLA's deposits and expenses.

3. **What We Do...**
We go to meetings, go to contest, sell cookies, and learn about the community, families, and leadership.



Shelby Hollern¹⁴

1. **How I Serve...**
I helped with the food pantry and adopt-a-highway.

2. **How I Lead...**
I will be a officer next year and I will be helping with all community events.

3. **What We Do...**
We go to contests and do many community events throughout the year.



Braden Parke¹⁴

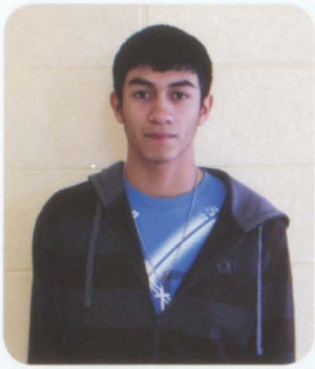


FIRE IT UP Dusty Bittel¹⁴ assists Cadyn McCoy¹³ with turning on the grill for a lunch to celebrate the new officers coming in. Bittel's and McCoy's job was to cook hamburgers for all of the FCCLA members in the school. "We had some really delicious hamburgers for some really amazing FCCLA members, all made by the best cook in EHS, me," McCoy said. Photo by Jerica Dinkel

THE NEXT TOP CHEF Scott Pfeifer¹⁴ serves up Mrs. Dawson with the help of Dani Hausler¹⁵ at the annual FFA Appreciation Breakfast. The breakfast is opened to all staff members and community members to give thanks for all the help they provide throughout the year. "It's a great event because the community gets something back for all of the help they give us through the year," Hausler said. Most of the FFA members helped out with the event and had to be at the school by 6 a.m. to start cooking. They made eggs, biscuits and gravy, and bacon. Photo by Thatcher Brown



7 FFA & FCCLA
Thatcher Brown



John Ramirez¹⁵

"My favorite part of Class Leadership was meeting Joe Coles and seeing and greeting new faces."



Kourtney Kaicy¹⁴

"My favorite part of KAY Food Box Auction was eating the food throughout the rest of the week."



Jared Mick¹³

"My favorite part about being STUCO Treasurer is it is very easy and fun."



Mikayla Gottschalk¹²

"My favorite part about being STUCO Vice-President is putting together all the activities for spirit week."

Live To Lead

STUDENTS SET EXAMPLES FOR OTHERS

According to the dictionary, to lead means "to go before or with to show the way." STUCO, CLASS Leadership, and KAYS are our organizations that have students leading students.

STUCO holds the blood drive and makes decisions about Homecoming and other school issues. One of the major changes that was discussed this year was students getting to check their cell phones in-between classes.

"I like the new cell phone policy

because it gave us more freedom to use our cell phones at school," Justin Esner¹⁵ said.

This is the second year for the CLASS Leadership program. The students meet three different times at different schools with presenter Joe Coles to go through activities to help them become better leaders. Students think it is a good way to find leadership skills and get to know students from other schools.

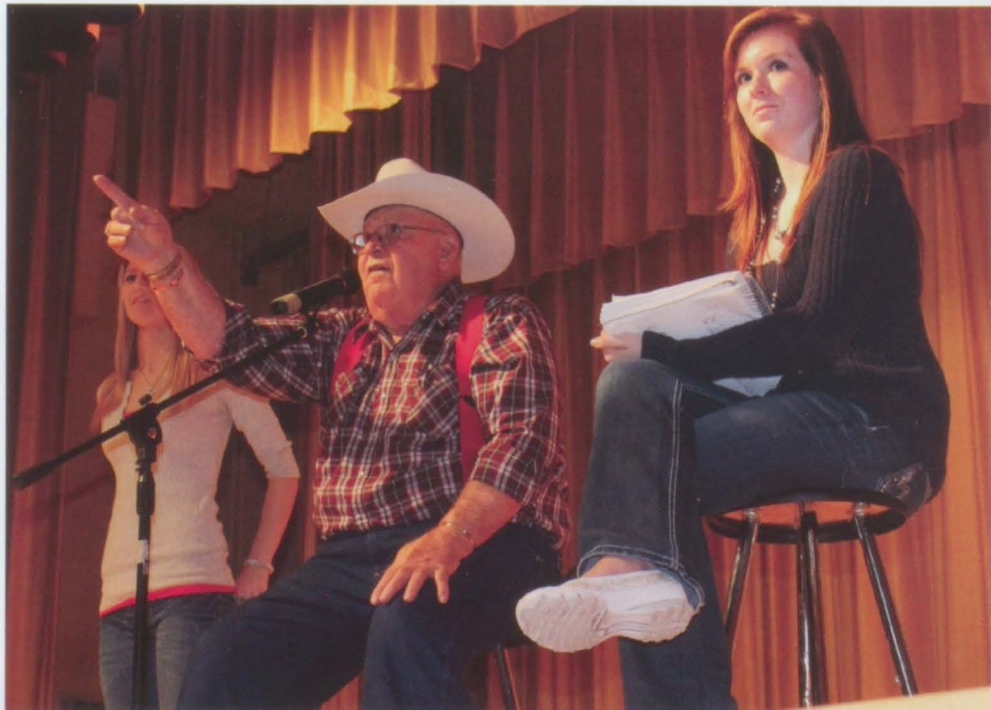
"It's awesome because we get

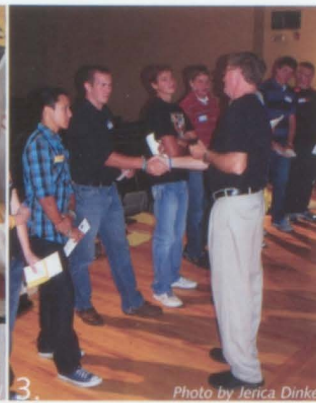
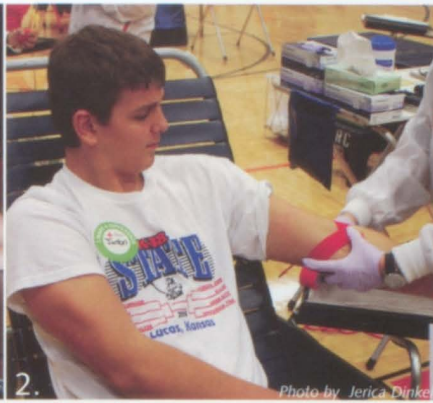
to figure out ways to help people in our school," Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴ said.

KAY is another organization that helps the community. They hold various drives to provide items to those who cannot afford to buy those items.

"We put on the Halloween dance and collected home care items for people at the Good Samaritan Center. Overall it was a successful year," President Bernadette Frickey¹² said.

HELPING HANDS Ashleigh Bunker¹² and Breanna Kroeger¹² help the auctioneer find the students bidding for the KAY Food Box Auction as they raise their hands to bid on a box. For the second year in a row an auctioneer was hired to do the bidding. "I thought the food box auction went great! The students really got involved to support our club and I think they enjoyed having a real auctioneer there," Kroeger said. Kroeger sat beside the auctioneer writing down names of the people who purchased a box and what the final bid was. Photo by Luke Lohmeyer





A DAY IN THE LIFE OF A LIFE SAVER

How our blood donors live their lives

1. Drink a Dr. Pepper every morning
2. Look on Nex-Tech Classifieds for any good bargains or deals
3. Try to out-smart Mr. Kohl



Lyle Fischer¹²

1. Brush my teeth
2. Laugh at Christen (Spinelli¹⁴)
3. Eat food, a lot of food



Brittany Dinkel¹⁴



1. **GIVING BACK** Bailey Hensley¹³ and Alicia Kroeger¹³ write down bids and take money at the annual Food Box Auction during "At Risk" day.

2. **MAKE A DIFFERENCE** Jordan Rohr¹³ watches as his arm gets wrapped after his first time donating blood.

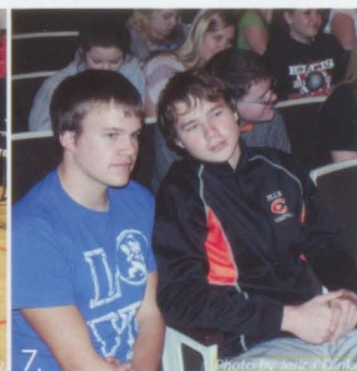
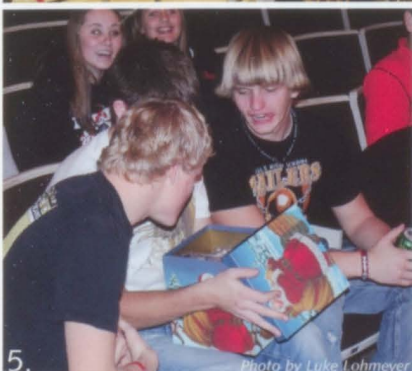
3. **LISTEN AND LEARN** Joe Coles demonstrates the proper way to give a handshake along with where a person's name tag should be during a CLASS Leadership training session.

4. **KEEPING A TRADITION** Mrs. Wood donates her 16th pint of blood making it her second gallon. She has been donating for about 20 years.

5. **SNEEK PEEK** Dylan Krause¹², Riley Hunsicker¹², and Harley Wright¹³ take a look to see what was in the box that Krause bought at the KAY Food Box Auction.

6. **LENDING A HAND** Bernadette Frickey¹² holds Lexi Feik's¹³ hand as she donates blood for her first time. "It was very nice of her to hold my hand so I could have someone to talk to while I donated," Feik¹³ said.

7. **STRATEGIZATION** Cole Pfeifer¹³ and Sam Polifka¹³ discuss a plan to get a food box that catches their eye.

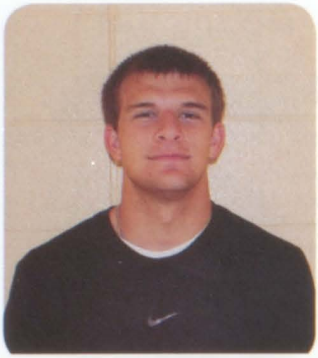


SENIOR OR TEACHER? STUCO representative Mr. Kohl joins the senior class float during the 2012 Homecoming Parade. This was his way of being involved in the parade instead of watching or walking. On the float this year was Jerica Dinkel, Shelby Hollern, Bernadette Frickey, Nancy Dinges, and Heather Hollingshead. Driving the float was Kyle Weber and Lyle Fischer. "Having Mr. Kohl on the float was interesting because all he did was eat candy and wave at people," Dinges¹² said. Seniors were allowed to use "smoke bombs" to make the illusion that smoke was coming from the smoke stack. Photo by Luke Lohmeyer

IN ACTION Senior Kyle Weber reads the daily afternoon announcements to the school. Being STUCO president, Weber has to read the announcements in the morning before classes start and also in the afternoon before classes are dismissed every day. To become STUCO president, Weber had to give a speech at the end of the school year last year in front of the student body during the class elections. "I like doing the morning and afternoon announcements because everybody gets to hear my voice whether they want to or not," Weber said. Photo by Jerica Dinkel



9 Leadership Organizations
Jerica Dinkel



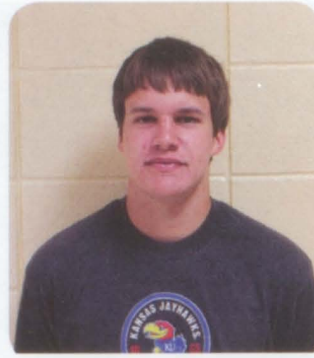
Jared Herl¹²

"My favorite part of Scholar's Bowl was it was a different kind of competition then what I am used to."



Cadyn McCoy¹³

"My favorite part of Scholar's Bowl was competing against other teams and testing my knowledge."



Sam Polifka¹³

"My favorite part of Scholar's Bowl was getting to meet new people at the meets."



Kelly Robb¹³

"My favorite part of Scholar's Bowl was getting to expand my knowledge against other teams."

Life on Our Level

STUDENTS DISPLAY BRAIN POWER

Dedication and smarts—these are two things necessary to rise above the rest. In National Honor Society, students are required to maintain an average GPA of 3.5, demonstrate leadership, and must display service and character to be eligible for NHS. To most students these requirements are too much, but for a certain few, they make the commitment to spend hours of their time doing community service and

maintaining good grades.

"To get my required 40 hours of community service, I did a large variety of activities such as being a leader for Vacation Bible School and volunteering for the state wrestling web page," Shelby Hollern¹² said.

In Scholar's Bowl, students show their brain power and smarts, answering questions and competing against teams from around the area. The questions come from many

categories including Science, Social Studies, English, Math, and Current Events. Students rack their brains trying to defeat the other team.

"Even though it is not an athletic sport there is still a lot of competition and hard work involved. Most kids don't really think of it as something 'cool' or anything like that, but we have to display our brain power to try and win matches," junior Robbie King said.

POOL THE MIND POWER Kelly Robb¹³, Jordan Rohr¹³, and Robbie King¹³ have a very animated and intense discussion over a question during a Scholar's Bowl match. "During this time we were pondering the answer to the question and trying our best to determine the best possible answer. Our record didn't show it, but we really did have brain power out there in the meets," said Rohr¹³. Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

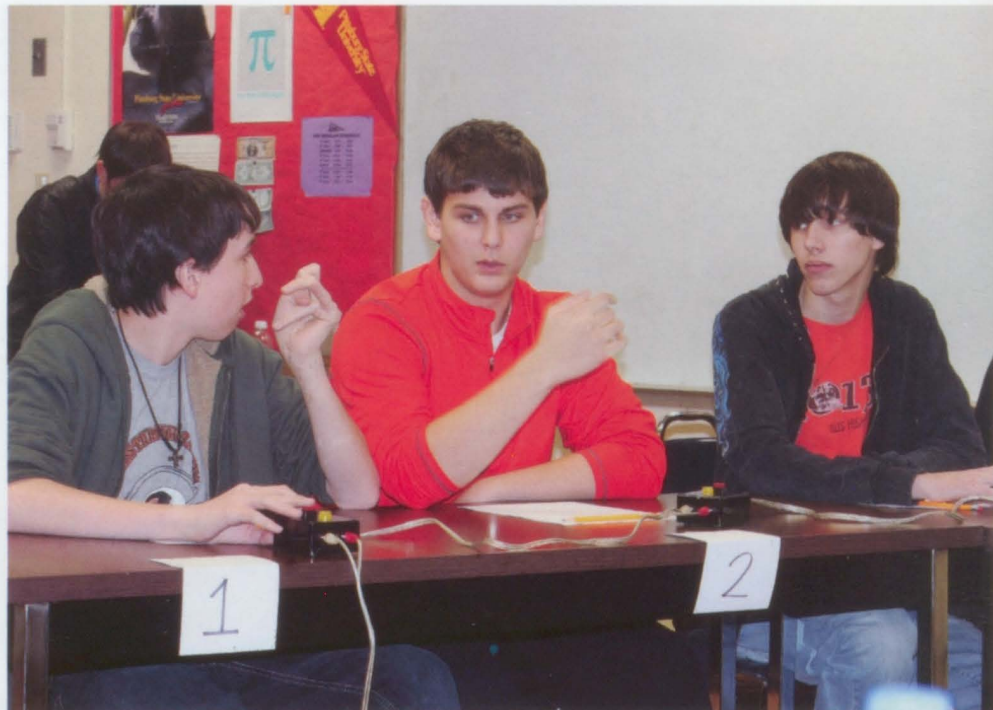




Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



2.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



3.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



4.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



5.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



6.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



7.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

1. FINGER ON THE TRIGGER Jacob Towns¹², Jordan Rohr¹³, Robbie King¹³, and Kelly Robb¹³ wait for the moderator to finish reading the question, their hands at the ready to buzz in and answer the question.
2. WRITE THIS DOWN Jordan Rohr¹³ writes his name on the score sheet after completing a match during Scholar's Bowl in Ellis.
3. ROLL CALL Mr. Shipley reads the name of National Honor Society inductees at the annual ceremony held in November.
4. PASSING THE LIGHT Jenny Hollern¹² and Shelby Hollern¹² light their candles during the NHS induction ceremony.
5. GET FIRED UP Mr. Shipley gives a pep talk to his Scholar's Bowl team as Jordan Rohr¹³, Robbie King¹³, Jacob Towns¹², and Dusty Bittel¹⁴ listen.
6. KEEPING TABS Sam Polifka writes down the score for the match.
7. STRATEGIZATION Kelly Robb rests his head on the desk as Dusty Bittel waits for the next question. Robb had just answered a question incorrectly in a close match.

National Honor Society & Scholar's Bowl in a MUTSHELL



determination
Perseverance
challenging social
Honorable prestigious
True Citizenship
Educational Hard-working
Knowledgeable Devotion
Community
Involvement fun



READ THE CREED During the annual National Honor Society induction ceremony, Breanna Kroeger¹², Shelby Hollern¹², Jenny Hollern¹², Mikayla Gottschalk¹², Kyle Weber¹², Bailey Hensley¹³, and Ashleigh Bunker¹², take part in reciting the NHS creed. "I had to maintain a 3.5 GPA and complete 40 hours of community service to get into NHS. Overall it's a great privilege to be involved in the group and organization," Hensley¹³ said. Photo by Jerica Dinkel

"PUNCH" ME Beth Augustine¹³ is handed refreshments after the National Honor Society induction ceremony. Every year after the ceremony, new and old members and their families get to enjoy cake and punch after the ceremony. "It feels good knowing that I am a part of something that can make a difference in our school," Augustine said. Photo by Jerica Dinkel



11 NHS & Scholar's Bowl
Luke Lohrmeyer

Blow Your Mind

Academics

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GRIMY GEARS Cody Grubb¹³ puts the valves on his engine during his Agriculture II class. Grubb has been in Agriculture classes for all three years of high school. "The hardest part of fixing the engine was trying to get the governor set," Grubb said. The governor controls the motor and keeps it from exploding. Grubb spent two weeks fixing the small engine. *Photo By Bernadette Frickey*





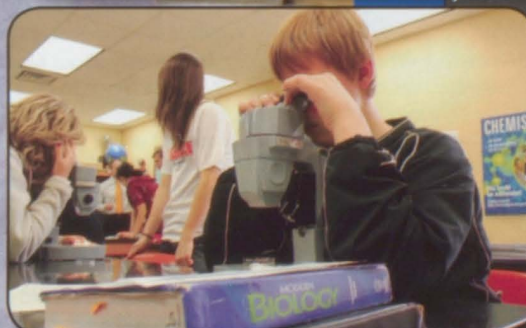
Chase Rutherford¹³

Photo by Thatcher Brown



Ashley Butler¹⁵

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Braden Parke¹⁴

Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Eli Lohrmeyer¹⁵

Photo by Thatcher Brown



Carson Rupp¹⁵ and Jared Pfeifer¹⁵

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Photo by Jerica Dinkel

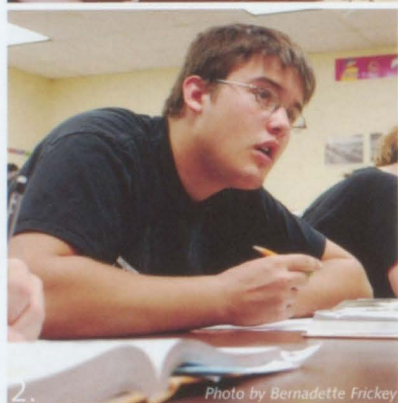


Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Photo by Thatcher Brown



Photo by Shea Harper

1. **THAT'S NOT A WORD!** Lyle Fischer¹² thinks deeply about his next move while Mrs. Dawson tries to help him out. "We were trying to beat Mrs. Dawson in Scrabble. I am excellent at Scrabble, probably the best on the face of the earth," said Fischer. "The biggest word I ever spelled would probably have to be Honorificabilitudinitatibus, which means *in the state of being honored*."

2. **A REWIND IN TIME** Brandon Keever¹³ takes notes for US History class. New for the junior class this year was taking quizzes over every section of the chapter. Mr. Kohl asks five questions from the chapter and the students answer them. They must get four of the questions right to pass.

3. **DUDE LOOKS LIKE A LADY** Sam Polifka¹³ tries to make his old-widow character more realistic by using a yard stick as a cane and a rag for a shawl. The junior class made their own scripts after reading *The Crucible* and acted out their scenes.

4. **DISCUSSION TIME** Josh Townley¹⁴ and Tanner Keithley¹⁴ discuss Ray Bradbury's *The Pedestrian* with their group in English II. They discuss questions they created to help them better understand the stories they're reading.

5. **2+2=WHAT?!** Tanner Fischer¹³ finishes his test during his Algebra II class. The class was learning about radical notations and polynomials, something new to the class.

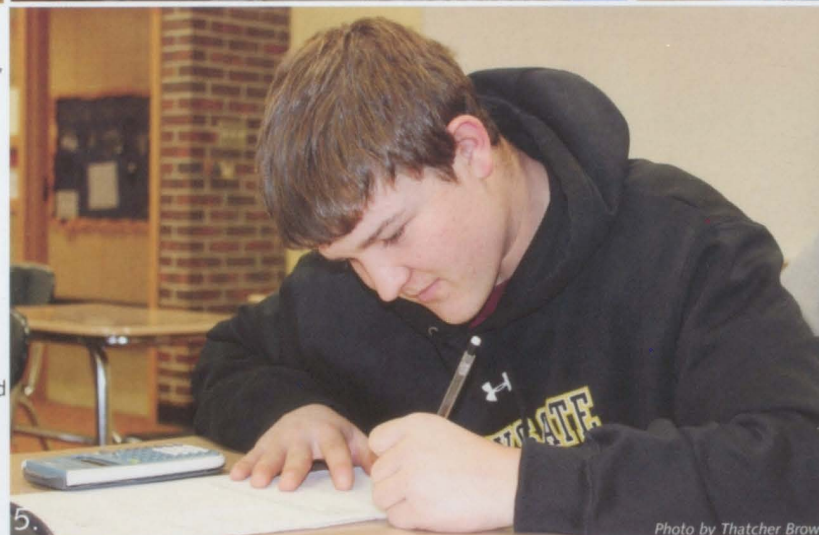


Photo by Thatcher Brown

THINKING TIME Autum Hellerud¹⁵ and Hailey Dinkel¹⁵ complete an assignment over exponents. "I like math because it's challenging, but I don't like homework very much. I'm in Algebra I, and next year I'm hoping to take Geometry and Algebra II in the same year. It's really nice we get choices in what math classes we want to take. Although Mr. Hayes is a great teacher, I'm excited to take other math classes with Mr. Mick!" Dinkel said. Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Life as a Student

KEEPIN' IT FRESH

English, math, history, and science. Ring a bell? They're all required classes for students. They may not be the classes students want to take, but they are doing more than just reading out of a book to help them learn.

"I'm always trying to come up with fun, fresh ideas for students," said Mrs. Wood, English I/II teacher. "This year for a research project, I had the sophomores pick a person from the past and create an iPod for them by creating apps that the

person would have used."

Although some classes may be able to keep things interesting with projects, other ones are fortunate enough to "sell themselves".

"I really like the way Mr. Mick explains a new chapter we're getting into," said Breanna Kroeger¹². "He shows us examples of how it's done, then sort of tells us why it's done that way. Then we get to go to the board and do problems. It's so much simpler that way."

Teachers have slightly different techniques to make learning easier.

"I try to provide an environment that is "student-centered". I encourage the students to solve problems individually or in groups," said Mr. Wildeman. "This strategy tends to make the content more meaningful to the student."

Whether it's trying out new projects, or applying a group effort, teachers always think outside the box to help students get excited about learning.

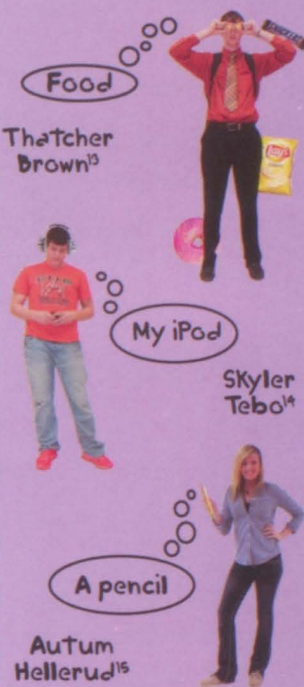


IT ALL COMES FALLING DOWN Freshman Danielle Hausler¹⁵ drops a coffee filter in Physical Science class as part of a lab. "We do lots of experiments in Physical Science," Hausler said. "We had to see which would fall faster, a coffee filter or a book. Then we had to graph the speed of the coffee filter and the book." All freshmen are required to take Physical Science their first year. *Photo by Ashleigh Bunker*

THROUGH MY EYES Sophomore Regan Krause¹⁴ looks at planaria during Biology through the microscope. "We got to name ours!" Krause said. "It's name was Squish, but it died after we split it the next day." Along with Biology, sophomores are required to take World History and English, making it a challenging year. *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*



Your Top Necessity For Class



Becca Aschenbrenner¹³



"My favorite class is math, because I love Mr. Mick!"

Jared Pfeifer¹⁵



"My least favorite class is English because I don't like to read."

15 Core Classes
Shea Harper

OUCH!

Student injuries during class

"I was injured by drilling a hole into my project and it slipped and went into my hand. It didn't hurt too bad but it did bleed quite a bit." -Chris Lee¹³



"I got injured while using the table saw. The board flew up and hit my arm and I had a bruise there for a week. I still have a scar from the incident."

-Tyler Walters¹³

Brayden Werth¹³



"These classes teach me how to build things on my own instead of buying them from a store."

Josh Reilly¹²



"These classes teach me about carpentry and electricity which will help me later on in my career."

16 Vocational Classes

Thatcher Brown

Living and Learning

PRACTICING LIFE LESSONS HANDS ON

There are the everyday classes like Math, Science, History, and English, but then there are ones that teach you life lessons.

In Mrs. Nilhas' FACS classes, students are taught things that others in the high school don't know how to do.

"I think learning how to cook and sew in class is important because most people don't learn it from their parents," Abby Hafliker¹⁴ said.

Mr. Kohman has agriculture classes that train students for jobs that they might get after their high school years.

"A number of students decide to take what they learn in their agriculture classes and go on to earn a degree in Agribusiness," Kohman said.

Woodworking classes are taught by Mr. Carroll. His classes consist of gluing, nailing, clamping, and cutting pieces of wood together and making

them into items of the student's choice.

In all three vocational areas, students learn tasks that may be helpful to them in life, whether it's a career or just chores around the house.

"In these classes, students learn valuable skills that they can take with them that they will never forget," KC Windholz¹⁴ said.

ON THE LINE Alexis Mattheyer¹⁵ gets ready to sew by setting the string on her sewing machine during her FACS class. "My favorite thing about sewing class is getting to make a quilt that I can take home," Mattheyer said. Photo by Thatcher Brown



SQUARED UP Jacob Callier¹⁴ sands the base of his end table before he attaches it to the rest of his project in his Cabinetmaking and Furniture Design class. "Woodshop can be hard at times, but I enjoy it because I get to build furniture that I can use at home," Callier said. Photo by Thatcher Brown





Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Photo by Thatcher Brown



Photo by Bernadette Frickey

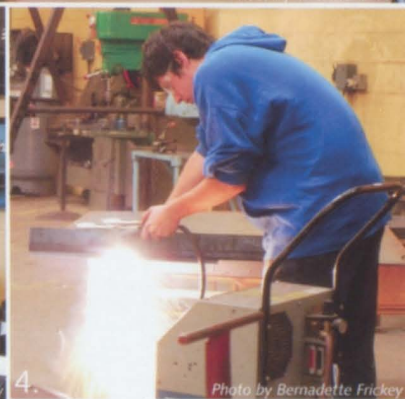


Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Photo by Thatcher Brown

1. **PRECISION** Tanner Fischer¹³ works carefully on piecing his lawn mower engine back together in Mr. Kohman's Small Gas Engines class.
2. **STITCHIN' TIME** Attempting to get his sewing machine ready for class, Brandon Bollig¹⁵ works at getting the string set in the needle. "I think that every man should know how to sew," Bollig said.
3. **HARD AT WORK** Ben Leiker¹² heats up a bike frame so that he can attach it to a mower to create a riding lawn mower. "If a mower engine ever breaks down, I'll know how to fix it because of this class," Leiker said.
4. **BURNING UP** Dru Stropes¹³ cuts a piece of metal for his grill in welding. "I decided to make a grill this year because I wanted to make something that most other people haven't made," Stropes said.
5. **Focus IN** Nick Gehring¹⁴ concentrates on cutting dovetail joints for a drawer on his end table in Mr. Carroll's Cabinetmaking and Furniture Design class. "I like Cabinetmaking because I get to build things that I can take home and enjoy at home. Also, Mr. Carroll sings a lot in there and his voice is so mysterious and magical. It soothes the soul of a thousand demons," Gehring said.



TEAMWORK Courtney Hollingshead¹³ and Dusty Bittel¹⁴ prepare a salad together during a cooking session in their FACS class. "I enjoy FACS because I get to learn how to cook and that is what I want to go into in college. Cooking is a pretty important thing in my life," Hollingshead said. In FACS, students learn how to cook, sew, and all about nutrition to prepare them for life after high school. Photo by Jerica Dinkel



1.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



2.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



3.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



4.

Photo by Bernadette Frickey

1. **BELT IT OUT** Ciara Garnett¹⁵, Mara Geschwentner¹⁴, and Alicia Kroeger¹³ sing during the fall concert. "I enjoyed doing it my first year in high school. My favorite part of being in the choir this year was being able to be a part of the Dessert Theater," Garnett said.

2. **DON'T MESS UP** Freshmen Ashley Butler and Stephanie Greenway act out their duet during league forensics in Hill City. "For my first time being in forensics it was really fun. I learned a lot about acting and speaking, and I met a lot of interesting people from different towns," Butler said.

3. **ALL TUNED UP** Freshmen Brianna LaBarge and Stephanie Greenway warm up their flutes before the concert. "Being able to just play for fun and not really being forced into anything is my favorite part of band," Greenway said.

4. **CAREFUL HANDS** Freshman Justin Esner works hard on one of the final art projects he has to do before the end of the school year. "It's been a fun year being in art. I've been able to express myself more than saying things with my words. Sometimes people don't understand me, but maybe they'll understand a part of me from my art work," Esner said.

5. **LET US HEAR YOU** Senior Isaac Henman jams out during one of the football games during the fall season. Henman is the only senior that has been involved with band for all four years.



5.

FUN FINISHING Brady Jacques starts spray painting his collage of different things put together during art class. During the first part of the year, Mr. White had a student teacher, Miss Rathert, who had new and cool ideas for the kids to try. "Miss Rathert is a sculptor. She works in 3D, whereas painting and drawing are my specialty. It was very exciting to be working with an artist who approached things from a completely different point of view," Mr. White said.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



18 Fine Arts

Bernadette Frickey

Life in Our Eyes

ARTISTS FOUND IN DIFFERENT AREAS

Being an artist doesn't mean you have to be in an art class. There are many different classes, such as vocal, band, and also forensics that allow students to show their artistic side. All these different artists have different opinions on why they like the type of artist they would like to be.

"I love being in art class because Mr. White allows us to personalize our own projects that he assigns. It gives us a chance to make something our own. It feels good expressing yourself in something other than words," Brandon Hall¹³ said.

This year the choir class held the annual Dessert Theater. They sang different songs from all of the different Disney movies.

"Dinner Theater turned out really good. We even made enough money to go on a trip! My favorite thing about it was probably when I dropped my ring and we all busted out laughing because it bounced like 10 times," Alicia Kroeger¹³ said.

Band had a new director this year, Mr. Shawn Shipley.

"I have enjoyed teaching the band students new things and showed them how to branch

out with themselves. Also, they learned how to put themselves into the music other than just playing some random song they can't put themselves into," Shipley said.

The forensics team had three students compete at state. Sam Polifka¹³ and Kelly Robb¹³ placed 11th out of 24 in duet acting.

"Competing at the state competition was a really cool experience. I was a little nervous when we first started our duet act, but after Sam and I got into it I was having a blast," Kelly Robb¹³ said.

SOOTHING SOUND Regan Krause¹⁴, Ashley Lopez¹³, Mara Geschwentner¹⁴, Alicia Kroeger¹³, and Jacob Towns¹² sing during the MCL Music Festival held here at Ellis High School. Krause sang a solo at MCL contest and recieved a 1 rating and advanced to state where she also recieved a 1. "It felt awesome getting a one on my solo! I never knew I was going to get that far in my singing. It took a lot of work but it definitely paid off," Krause said. Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

THROUGH MY EYES Sophomore Dusty Bittel and Junior Sam Polifka act out their IDA during the league forensics tournament held at Hill City. "IDA acting with Dusty gave me an opportunity to create my own story and improvise the plot," Polifka said. Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



I'm an Artist Because...

"I have always wanted to play the flute since I was a little girl and having my cousin play it too made me want to be just like her. When I got the chance to actually try it I was so excited and thought it was pretty cool!"



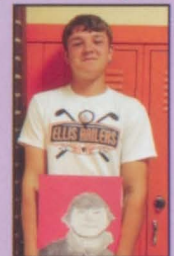
Bryanna LaBarge¹³



Cole Pfeiffer¹³

"I needed to improve my skills and also I needed a fine arts class. But after taking art I found out I was good at it."

Tanner Fischer¹³



"My favorite thing about art is being able to express myself in my artwork."

Rachelle Wynn¹³



"My favorite part about art is that we get to pick whatever we want to draw and in whatever medium we want."

"Video cameras, because it's much more fun to get moving action than just a still picture."
-Brandon Keever¹³



WHICH DO YOU PREFER?



"Digital camera, because I am interested in taking pictures and you can tell more of a story."
-Jerica Dinkel¹²

Robbie King¹³



"The thing I most enjoy about webpage is putting things up where the masses can see them."

Ashleigh Bunker¹²



"The thing I most enjoy about multimedia is running the TriCaster."

Life in the Media

STUDENTS USE ADVANCED SOFTWARE

When it comes to working with computers, most teenagers know the basics. However, the members of Journalism, Webpage, and Multimedia must learn more complex computer programs to deliver school and community news on a regular basis.

In Journalism, students strive to produce a creative yearbook each year. They use InDesign to create layouts that are uploaded

to the publisher's website.

"InDesign is easier this year than it was last year. As time goes on, it gets easier," Senior Jerica Dinkel said.

In Multimedia, students work with the TriCaster to produce the weekly USD 388 News. While the occasional mishap happened during shooting, the news usually went off without a hitch.

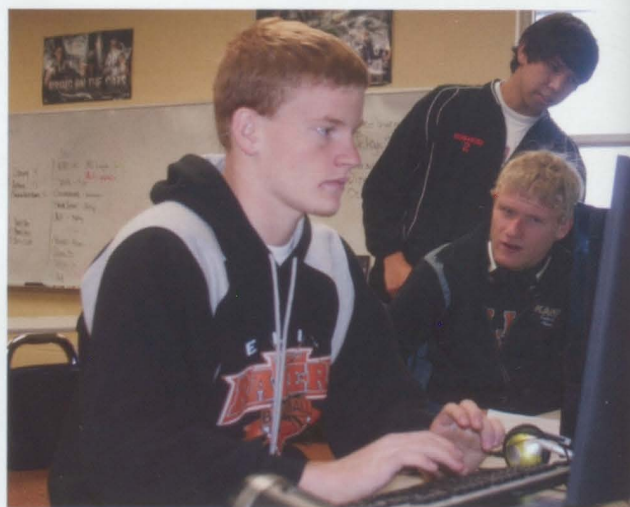
"The hardest part of

Multimedia is staying on top of things," said Junior Jordan Rohr.

The Webpage Development class, responsible for providing content and updating the school website, used Dreamweaver to create and edit pages. Students kept busy updating the website daily.

"Webpage is easy because I've done it since my junior year now," Senior Shelby Hollern said.

SEARCHING HIGH AND LOW Blake Hudson¹³ browses around on his computer for a clip for his segment, "YouTube Clip of the Week" which airs every week on the USD 388 News. "I really enjoyed Multimedia. It's a fun class," Hudson said. Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



BOOK TALK Co-Editors Bernadette Frickey¹² and Ashleigh Bunker¹² discuss the layout of this year's yearbook. Editors decide how many pictures to put on the pages, how long the story is, and what color schemes and fonts to use throughout the book. "Being an editor can be stressful at times, but once you figure out the things you need to change it's a load of stress taken off your shoulders," Frickey said. Photo by Jill Wood





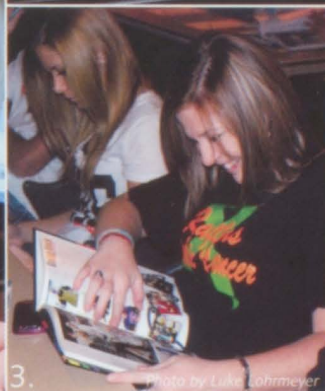
1.

Photo by Jill Wood



2.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



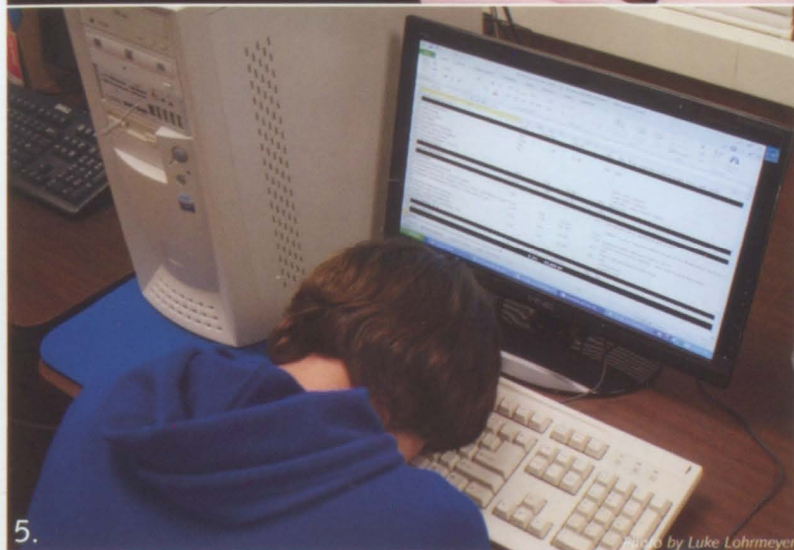
3.

Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer



4.

Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer



5.

Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer

1. **PHOTOSHOP MAGIC** Luke Lohrmeyer¹³ works in Photoshop to edit a potential photo for the yearbook.
2. **WORKING THE HOUR AWAY** Jenny Hollern¹² prepares a video on the computer for the weekly USD 388 newscast.
3. **LAUGHING IT UP** Jerica Dinkel¹² enjoys looking at another school's yearbook at the annual Jostens Fall Workshop. A tradition at the workshop is to swap yearbooks with other schools.
4. **LIGHTS, CAMERA, ACTION** Breanna Kroeger¹² reads over her script to prepare for the USD 388 newscast. Kroeger's role the past two years was news anchor. "Being one of the first anchors, I had to teach myself tips and tricks on what was easy to do. I've really enjoyed it and was glad I got to help teach the other anchors of our news segments what to do this year," Kroeger said.
5. **HEAD BANGING** Business Manager Robbie King¹³ rests his head on the computer keyboard as he works on the ads pages of the yearbook and updates the business list. "Sometimes the billing gets so stressful, you just have to rest it out," King said. As business manager he was in charge of collecting money from ad sales which is done to support and print the yearbook.

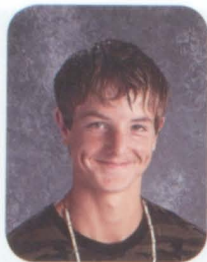


TEAMWORK Seniors Ashleigh Bunker and JJ Hernandez work together to man the TriCaster during the live recording of the USD 388 News. The TriCaster is a computer used to record the live newscast and change the green screen into a live studio. "She [TriCaster] was new and nothing like I have ever seen before. Her technology and ways were way past my abilities. After the TriCaster and I grew closer and formed a stronger bond, I found out that after awhile she was just another software that wowed me," Hernandez said.

Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer



Brandon Bollig



Chris Browning



Mollie Buchholz



Ashley Butler



Kori Clark



Hailey Dinkel



Justin Esner
STUCO Rep



Clara Garnett



Stephanie Greenway



Brandon Groff



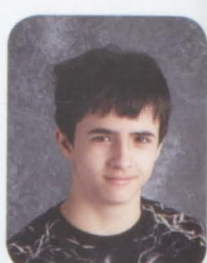
Danielle Hausler



Autum Hellerud



Sarah Henman



Josh Kreutzer



Brianna LaBarge



Eli Lohrmeyer



Alexis Mattheyer



Sarah Mick
Vice-President



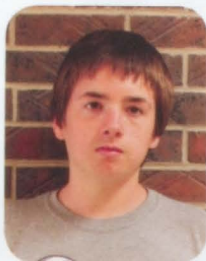
Jared Pfeifer
STUCO Rep.



John Ramirez
President



Olivia Reiter
Secretary



Nick Rose



Carson Rupp
Treasurer



Baylee Werth



Nicholas Wynn

What Have You Learned?

Freshmen reflect on lessons from their first year

- The importance of individuality. - John Ramirez
- To get your homework done on time - Josh Kreutzer
- Cheerleading is A LOT harder than it looks... so don't judge. - Sarah Henman
- That bullying can have a pretty big effect on a kid's life. - Brandon Groff



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

STARTING ANEW Kori Clark, Brianna LaBarge, and Alexis Mattheyer talk in the hallway before classes start on their first day of high school. "I felt kind of like I was in kindergarten again. I was excited but also scared of how I was going to like it. So far so good," Mattheyer said.

22 Freshmen

Bernadette Frickey



1. Photo by Jill Wood



2. Photo by Bernadette Frickey

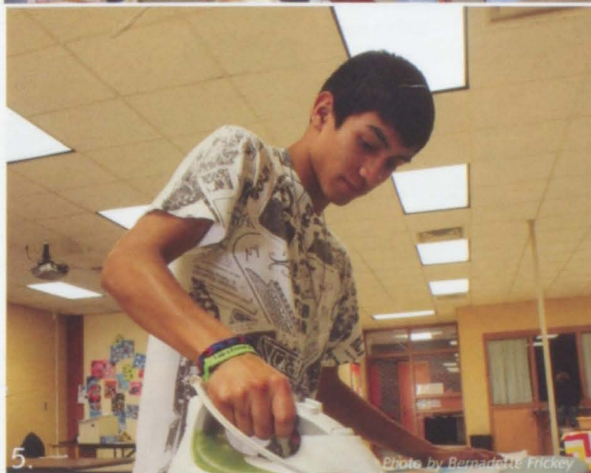


3. Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer

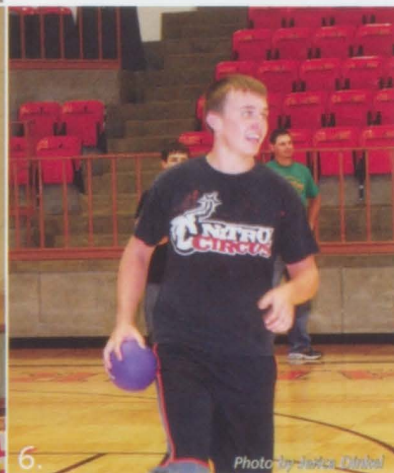


4. Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer

1. **DANCE IT OUT** Brianna LaBarge gets down on the dance floor at her first Homecoming dance. "My first dance of my freshman year went pretty good! It was fun. My favorite part of the dance would probably be hanging out with all my friends and dancing to the cool music," LaBarge said.
2. **CONCENTRATION** Brandon Bollig works hard on sewing the pieces of his quilt together during FACS class. "I like FACS class because it's pretty easy and I don't have to take homework home," Bollig said.
3. **CHIT-CHAT** Junior Bailey Hensley talks with Sarah Mick, Ciara Garnett, and Baylee Werth at Cocoa and Cram during a Link Crew meeting before finals week.
4. **GET EXCITED** Sarah Henman jumps up and down while playing the "Just Dance" game on Xbox Kinect at 5th Quarter.
5. **STEAMY SITUATION** John Ramirez irons the seams of his quilt during FACS class.
6. **COME AT ME BRO** Brandon Groff winds up to chuck the ball during a game of dodgeball against the sophomores.
7. **FOLLOW THE LEADER** Chris Browning and Jared Pfeifer hold on tight to the person in front of them during the Link Crew activity on the first day of school.



5. Photo by Bernadette Frickey



6. Photo by Jessica Dittmer



7. Photo by Bernadette Frickey

A Fresh Start to Life

FRESHMEN ANXIOUS TO SUCCEED

Twenty-three new faces joined our school this year for the first time. Nerves were on edge as they entered the school on the first day.

"Walking into the high school on my first day, I was really nervous, probably more nervous than I had ever been for a first day of school. I wasn't really sure what to expect and I was hoping I

could just be able to get to all my classes on time. It turned out to be pretty fun and it was great to be back with my friends," Ashley Butler said.

The Link Crew team pairs upperclassmen with freshmen to help their transition into high school. They have regular meetings to talk about various topics. The group has had a positive

impact on this year's freshman class.

"I have learned a lot of different things during the Link Crew activities. The most helpful was the activity we had before finals. It helped me to have different studying methods. They are also nice, because you get to know more about different people," Baylee Werth said.

23 Freshmen
Bernadette Frickey

1 Step Closer To...



"Becoming a welder"

Seth Fuller



"Starting my career"

Samantha Graves



"Graduating"

Brady Jaques



"Living my life"

Mara Geschwentner



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Photo by Bernadette Pichay

1. **BLAST TO THE PAST** The sophomores participate in a 1950s discussion panel for their English II class.
2. **STEADY, AIM, FIRE!** Brady Jaques aims at the other team during laser tag at the after-prom party. Jaques was a prom server and got to participate in all of the prom activities.
3. **CAN'T STOP THE POP** Joshua Townley puts on gloves before making popcorn while working concessions during a basketball game.
4. **DISHIN' IT OUT** Nick Gehring serves during the volleyball game against the teachers at Homecoming. The sophomores were the only class that beat the faculty this year.
5. **PRETTY LITTLE THINGS** Christen Spinelli admires her class ring for the first time. Spinelli got her birthstone put in her ring.
6. **MATH WIZ** Jacob Callier does his math homework during class. Some sophomores take both Geometry and Algebra II in one year.



Photo by Robbie King



Photo by Jerica Dinkel



Photo by Shea Harper

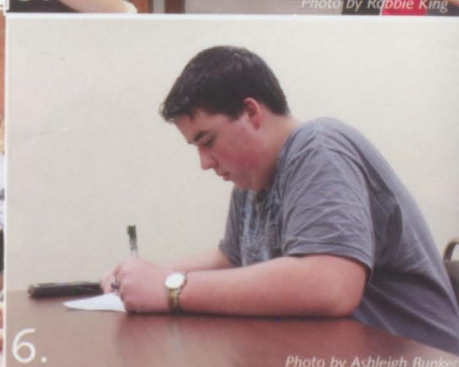


Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

Life in the Middle

ONE MORE STEP AHEAD

Not quite at the bottom, but getting closer to the top. That's sophomore year. During their second year in high school, the class had to raise money for prom by working concession stands at all home events and taking four Kansas Assessment tests, all while keeping up with their classes. A challenge this year was the increase in homework the teachers assigned for

each class.

"I don't like all the homework we get. It's way different from last year," Kaleigh Soneson said.

Some sophomores look forward to being an upperclassman because they get to go to prom, have more say in the organizations they are members of, and because they get to be a role model for other students, but

some anticipate being juniors for different reasons.

"I'm looking forward to being an upperclassman because I'll be able to do better in sports," Skyler Tebo said. "I'll also be one year closer to graduating."

They may be a small class, but they've done big things already in their second year in high school.



Allen Augustine



Dustin Bittel
Vice-President



Jacob Callier



Brittany Dinkel
STUCO Rep.



Seth Fuller



Nicholas Gehring



Mara Geschwentner



Sidney Gottschalk
STUCO Rep.



Samantha Graves



Abigail Haflinger



Brady Jacques



Kourtney Kaicy



Tanner Keithley



Rachel Keller



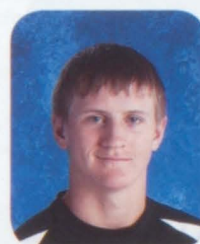
Regan Krause



Braden Parke



Kara Parson



Scott Pfeifer



Justin Schmidt



Kaleigh Soneson
President



Christen Spinelli



Skyler Tebo



Joshua Townley



Monica Towns
Treasurer



Joshua Tway



Alysha Werth
Secretary



Alan Wilson



Kathleen Windholz



Christina Wright



Landon Younger



POWER PLAYER Regan Krause runs for a catch during powder-puff football at Homecoming. "I wasn't very good at throwing or catching, but I was really good at tackling! Even though we didn't win, it was a lot of fun," Krause said.
Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

SPARKLY THINGS Alysha Werth gets her new sophomore class ring put on. "On one side of my ring, it has our train symbol," Werth said, "and on the other it had the track and volleyball symbols. The stone is purple for June, my birth-date." *Photo by Shea Harper*



Becca Aschenbrenner



Beth Augustine



Candace Bollig



Thatcher Brown



Ryan Downing



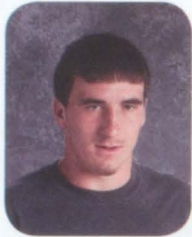
Austin Durant



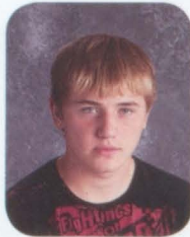
Alexis Feik



Tanner Fischer



Logan Fuchs



Cody Grubb



Brandon Hall



Shea Harper
Stuco Rep.



Isaiah Hearn



Bailey Hensley
Secretary



Katelyn Herl



Courtney
Hollingshead



Megan Honas



Blake Hudson



Brandon Kever



Robbie King



Alicia Kroeger



Christopher Lee



Luke Lohrmeyer



Ashley Lopez



Taylor McClung



Cadyn McCoy
Stuco Rep.



Austin McGann



Jared Mick
Vice-President



Cole Pfeifer
President



Samuel Polifka
Treasurer



Kelly Robb



Jordan Rohr



Alexis Rose



Chase Rutherford



Jasmine Slaughter



Kylie Waldschmidt



Tyler Walters



Brayden Werth



Harley Wright



Rachelle Wynn



Gage Younger



1.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



2.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



3.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



4.

Photo by Robbie King



5.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



6.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



7.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel

1. **SHOW ME THE LEAD** Blake Hudson helps his "little" be interviewed by Ashleigh Bunker¹² for the USD 388 News. Hudson is a participant in the new Bigs in Schools program. "I think the activities went really good. My favorite part is just being around my little," Hudson said.
2. **CATCH THE SWEET** Alexis Rose and Katelyn Herl throw candy during the Homecoming parade. "My favorite part about riding on the float was waving at people," Herl said.
3. **GET FOCUSED** First-year art student Austin McGann works on a self-portrait in art. "My favorite thing about art is we get to pick what we want to draw," McGann said.
4. **EYES ON THE PRIZE** Thatcher Brown shows off his juggling skills during Journalism class. Later on, Mrs. Wood joined in to give him a little competition. "I decided to learn how to juggle to set myself apart from everyone else," Brown said.
5. **WET PAINT** Brandon Hall samples the paint he mixed on an art project he was working on in Art II. All the art students created self-portraits at the same time.
6. **GLOVES ON** Austin Durant prepares to start welding by putting his safety equipment on.
7. **LINE IT UP** Courtney Hollingshead lines up her quilt to sew on another row. She made an "Around the World" quilt for her Advanced Quilting class.

Life as a Team

JUNIORS COOPERATE TO STAGE EVENTS

How do you get a class of many different personalities, strengths, and interests to cooperate? Give them something to accomplish together. For the juniors, this was a year of big events.

As is tradition, the Junior class puts on the school play. This year, 27 of the 41 students participated in it.

"I think the play went great. The majority of the

class tried out for a part in the play," Jasmine Slaughter.

After putting on the play, they had to focus on prom. Decorating for prom proved to be a challenge because most of the class was involved with softball, baseball, golf, and track activities that were scheduled for the evening before prom. For this reason, they got a full day to work on prom on Friday.

"Decorating all day helped us to work together to get everything done instead of one or two people doing all the work," Luke Lohrmeyer said.

They also held a couple of worknights the week of prom to begin putting decorations together.

"I think the decorating went very well. I helped with everything but the food and after prom," Lexi Feik said.

27 Juniors
Jerica Dinkel



Mikayla Gotschalk



Al Alexander, Ryan Tingle, Kyle Miller, Jesse Rodriguez



Isaac Henman, Josh Reilly, Gage Stropes



Jenica Denkel



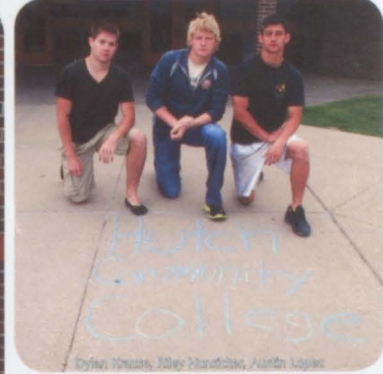
Alan Percy



Mike Tischer



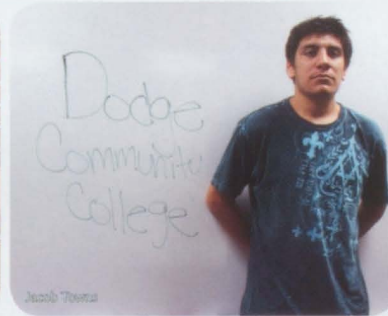
Heather Hollingshead, Shelby Hollern, Breanna Kroeger, Jessie Stanton, Terry Ables, Ben Leiker, Jared Herl



Dylan Thomas, Mike Hardsimon, Justin Logan



Jenny Hollern, Ashleigh Bunker



Jacob Thomas



Bernadette Frickey

Where Are You Going?

SHOW YOUR TRUE COLORS The senior class poses in front of the school for a class picture on orange and black day during spirit week. Every year the senior class poses in front of the school on orange and black day before the homecoming activities start. "I enjoy being with my class. Even though we have our ups and downs we are all friends in the end," Alan Percy said. *Photo by Jill Wood*



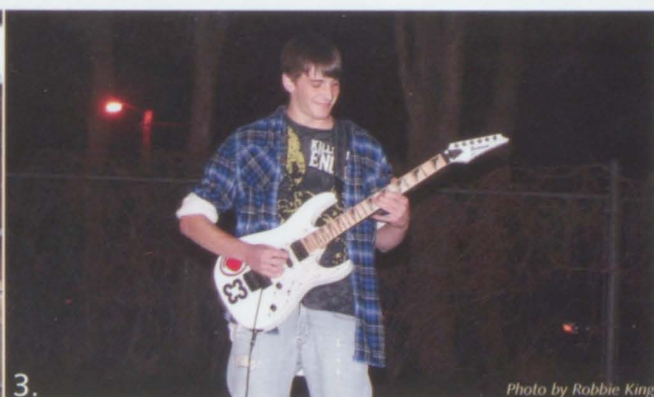
28 Seniors
Bernadette Frickey



1. *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*



2. *Photo by Ashleigh Bunker*



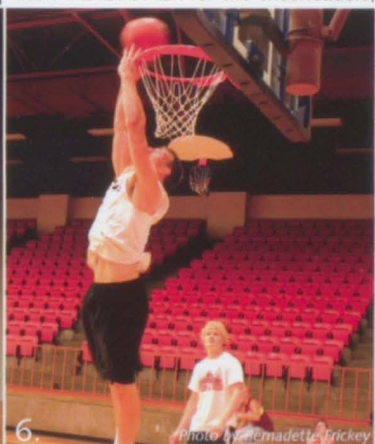
3. *Photo by Robbie King*



4. *Photo by Robbie King*



5. *Photo by Ashleigh Bunker*



6. *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*



7. *Photo by Ashleigh Bunker*

1. **CRAZY COOKIN'** Heather Hollingshead cuts up bacon with scissors during Advanced Foods class. "Being able to cook new food that I haven't had before and learning new cooking skills has helped me learn more about things in the kitchen," Hollingshead said.

2. **BURNIN' UP** Alan Percy paints the Ellis mascot onto the FHSU's metal melter. Students from FHSU came to help out the art students with a project.

3. **DON'T FRET** Ben Leiker rocks out on the guitar during a football game in the fall. "I enjoyed it because it was a good experience playing in front of a crowd," Leiker said.

4. **ROCK N' ROLL** Josh Reilly and Isaac Henman play in their band on the track during a football game.

5. **STUFFIN' STUDENTS** Shelby Hollern and Nancy Dinges place scavenger hunt clues in the envelopes for FCCLA's Freshman Fun Night.

6. **SCORE!** Jared Herl jumps up for the dunk during GPD class. "It's a pretty neat feeling to be able to dunk because it's nice to be to do something you see people on SportsCenter doing with ease. Nonetheless, it's fun and there's somewhat of a rush from it," Herl said.

7. **YELL LOUD AND PROUD** Jessie Stanton cheers for the Railers during a basketball game in Stockton. "I'm going to miss Homecoming the most. Planning for all of the activities during Homecoming week is a lot of fun for the cheerleaders, and it's very exciting," Stanton said.

On the Road To Life

UNITING TO BECOME ONE

Thirteen years of being in school, and now it has come to an end. All students dream of the day they graduate from high school, and now it's here and they are ready to go out into the real world. Although they all started in different schools, they've ended up here together.

"Coming from St. Mary's school was a little scary at first, but once we got to know the other students from the other school, we all became friends

and learned new things about each other. I've learned that our class has many personalities and that's the reason we get along so well," Jerica Dinkel said.

Every year, classes from St. Mary's and Washington Grade School combine to form a new class that starts junior high together.

"I was excited to meet new people that were different from how we were. I was also excited to know we would have a bigger class. The first day of

junior high I didn't know what to expect from the other students," Austin Lopez said.

Over the years, they lost a few students and gained new ones, leading to the class of 25 students they are today.

"It was weird coming to a smaller school with people I had never met before. It's been a great experience with all of them and I will hopefully stay friends with everyone I have become close to," Meny Rodriguez said.

Terry,
Congratulations!



Terry
Phillip
Ables, Jr. (Tj)



Ashleigh,
You are my brilliant,
beautiful, caring
daughter and I love
you very much! You
have grown from a
delicate, thoughtful,
little girl to a confident
and generous woman
capable of greatness.
Your creative talents
and genuine
willingness to give all
of yourself to
everything you do
shines brightly. I am
proud to be your
mother and look
forward to
watching your future
unfold for you.
Always yours,
Momma

30 Seniors
Bernadette Frickey

Ashleigh
Michelle
Bunker

Nancy,
Smile through the
good and bad life
sends your way. We
are so very
proud of you!

Love,
Mom and Dad

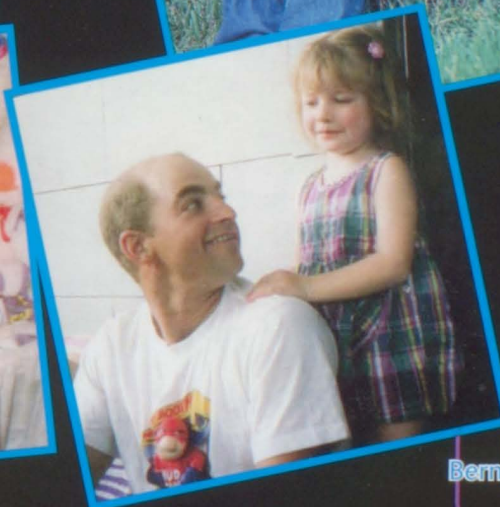
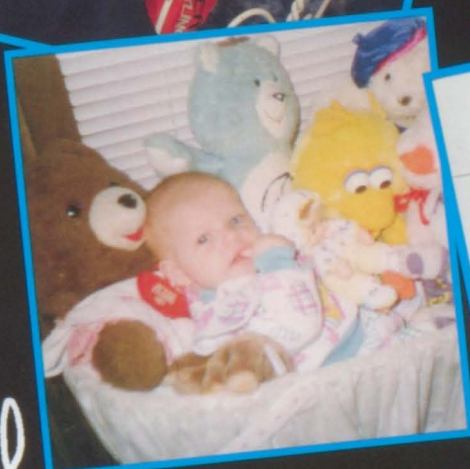
Nancy
Ann
Dinges

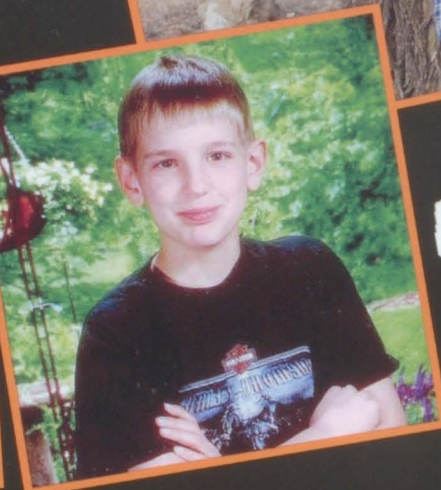
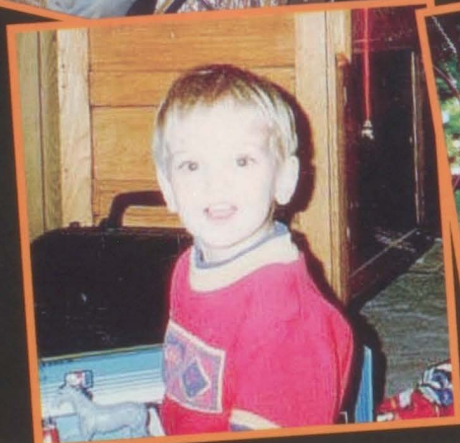
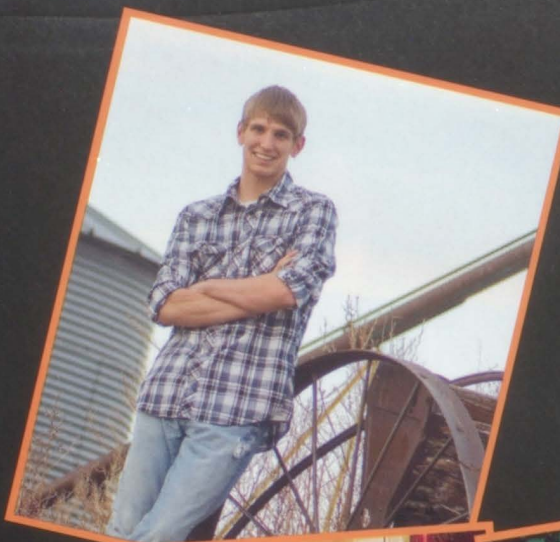


Jerica,
I have watched you
go from a little girl to
a young lady. Losing
your dad was a big
part of it, but you
have done a lot for
yourself. I know you
will go a long way in
life and be good at it.
I'm very proud of you
and wish everything
for you that you're
working for in life.

Love,
Mom, the late
Mike Dinkel, Daniel,
Sadi, Becca, Cody,
Brittany, and Hailey

Jerica
Denea
Dinkel



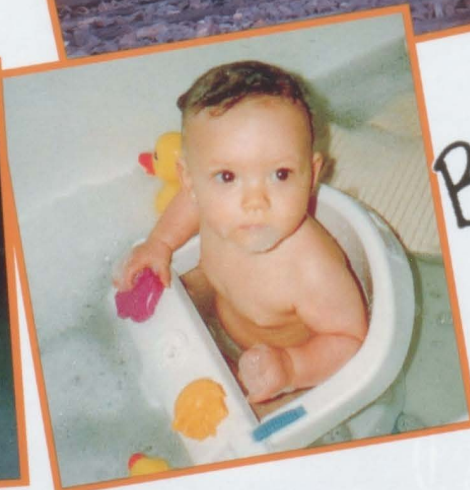
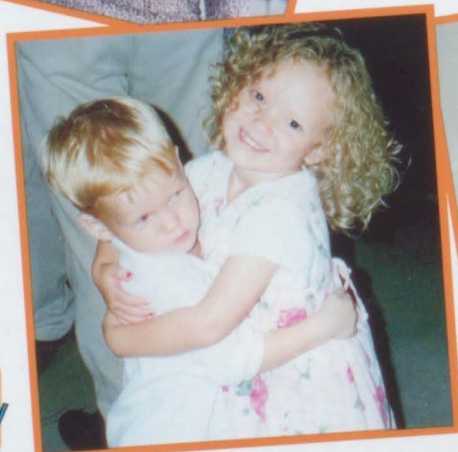


LYLE
Dean
FISCHER

Lyle,
How the time has
flown by! Thank you
for all the adventures
we have shared. We
are very proud of you.
You have grown into
a wonderful young
man. Keep dreaming
and telling your
wonderful stories.
We love you. Now is
your time to spread
your wings and take
the next exciting step
in this journey
called life.
Love, Mom, Dad,
Amanda, and Sarah



Bernadette,
Who you are is God's
gift to us. Who you
become is your
gift to God.
We're very proud of
you! Good luck in
your future.
Love,
Dad, Mom,
Allie, and Brady



Bernadette
Jean
Frickey

Mikayla,
We are very
proud of you!
May your life ahead
bring you
only the best.
Love you,
Mom, Dad, and Skylar

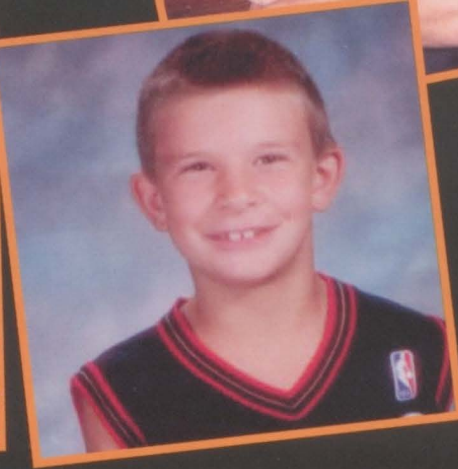
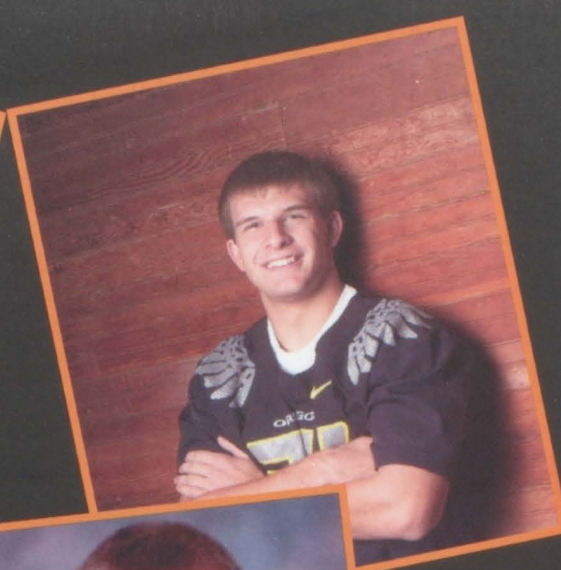


Mikayla
Marie
Dottschalet

Isaac,
"Fight the good fight,
Believe in your mission,
greet life with a cheer;
There's big work to do,
and that's why you are
here. Carry on!
Let the world be the
better for you."
"Too swift for those
who fear, but for those
who love -
Time is - Eternity."
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Sarah

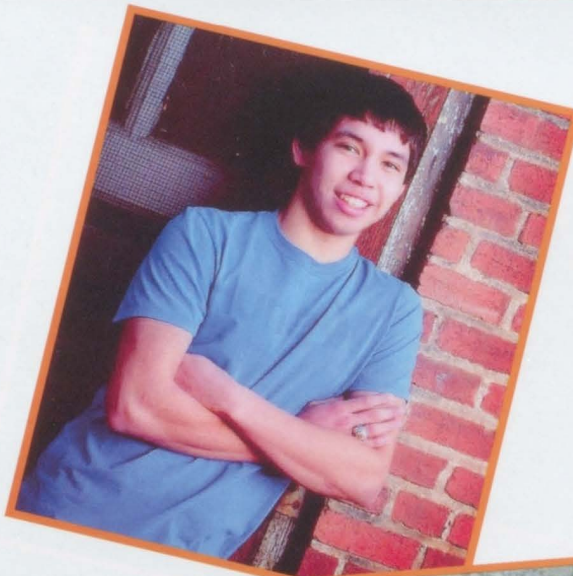


ISAAC
PERT
Henman

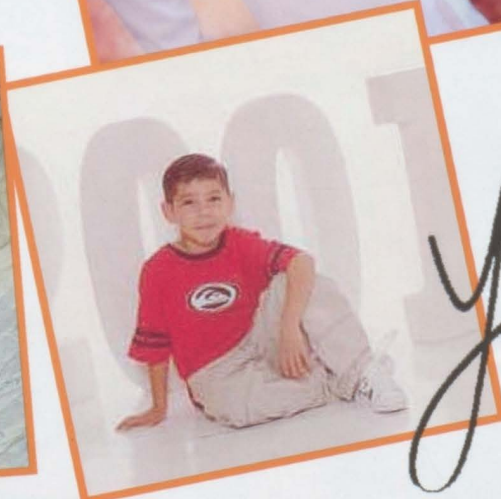
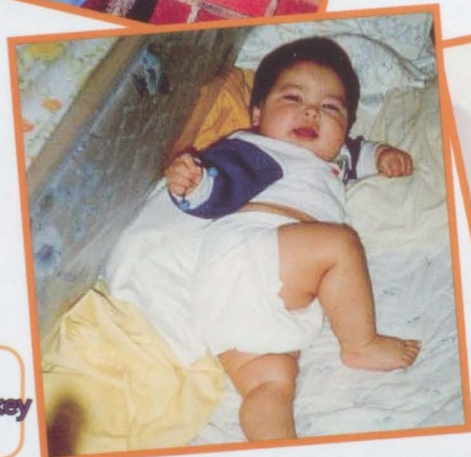


Jared,
It has been fun
watching you
grow and
become the young
man you are now. We
are very proud of you
and hope
all your dreams
come true.
Love,
Mom, Dad,
Katelyn, and Ryan

Jared
Kenneth Anthony
Herl



JJ,
Congratulations!
We are so proud of
everything you have
accomplished.
We wish you the
best in the future.
Thanks for
all the memories.
Love,
Mom, Dad,
Junior, Jasmyn,
and Sierra



YJ AH

Jenny,
You have made us
proud in so many
ways. Stay focused,
reach for the stars,
and you'll find all your
dreams can come true.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Kayla,
and Shelby

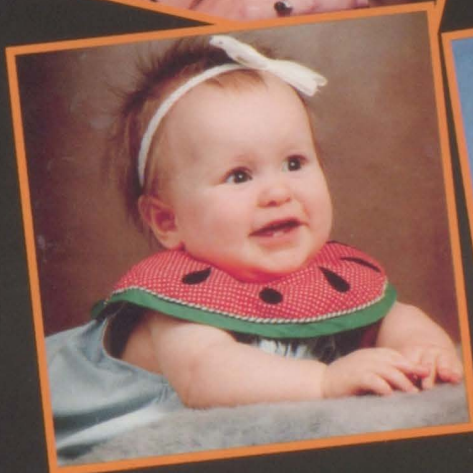
Jenny
Lea
Hollern



Shelby,
You have given us so
many reasons to be
proud of you. Follow
your dreams and enjoy
every minute life has
to offer.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Kayla,
and Jenny

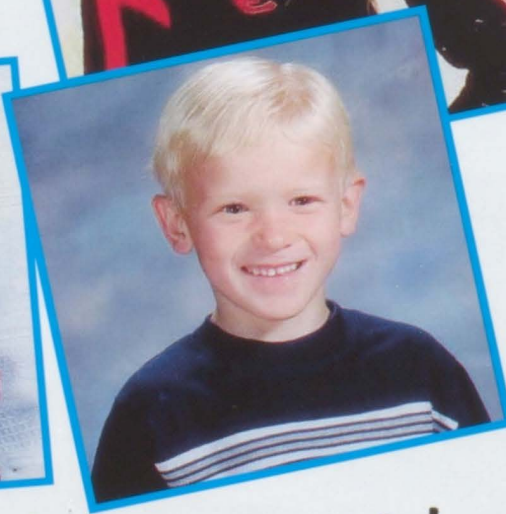
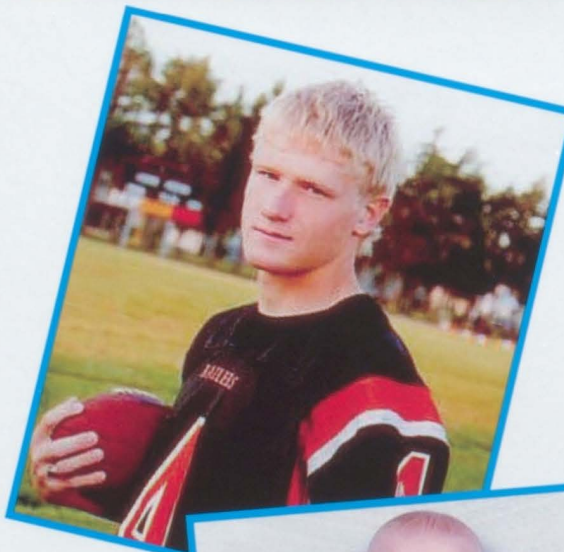
Shelby
Lynn
Hollern





Heather
Ann
Hollingshead

Heather,
Best of luck in all
your future goals!
God be with you!
Love ya lots,
Mom & Sisters



Riley Lane Hunsicker

Riley,
Where have the
years gone? You
have "grown" into
a fantastic son,
brother, and
yes - athlete,
that's given us
many hours of
enjoyment! You
have many more
things to
accomplish but
never forget we're
always here and
love you
very much.
GREAT JOB &
GOOD LUCK!
Love,
Mom and Deana

Dylan,
 You have been a
 joy to have in our
 lives and we are
 excited to see you
 reach you dreams.
 Always remember
 to stay true to
 yourself. You're a
 great young man.
 We love you!
 Mom, Dad,
 and Regan

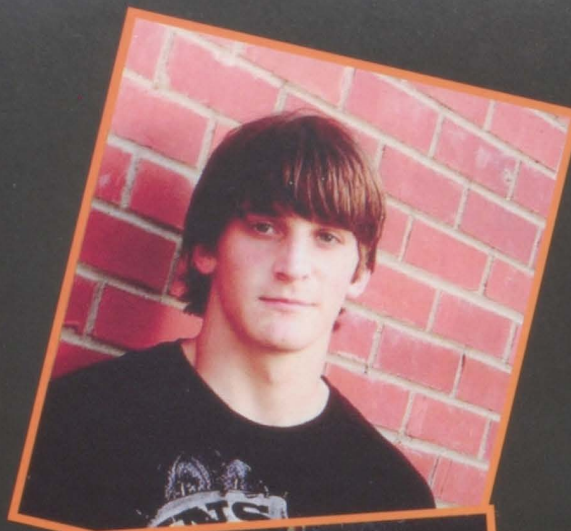


Dylan

Breanna,
 From New York to
 Ellis, like next door,
 we've lived with you
 every step of the way.
 We're proud of you
 and all your
 accomplishments.
 Love,
 Grandma &
 Grandpa Riegel, Mom,
 Dad, and Alicia



*Breanna
 Ashley
 Kroeger*



Ben,
We are going to
miss you. The
house will be
lonely and quiet
without you.

Love,
Mom and Dad

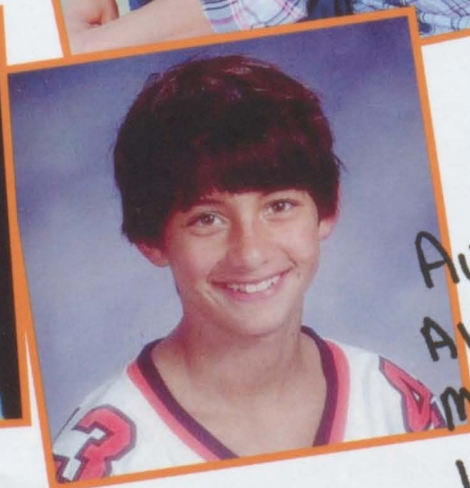
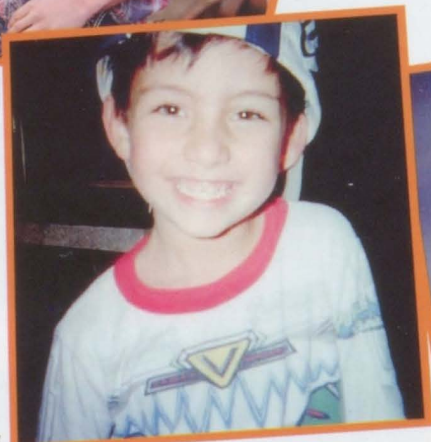


Ben
Joseph
Leiker



Austin,
Congratulations
on your
graduation. We
are so proud of
everything
you have
accomplished.

May all
your dreams
come true.
We love you!
Mom, Dad,
Jaylen, Jessica,
and Ashley

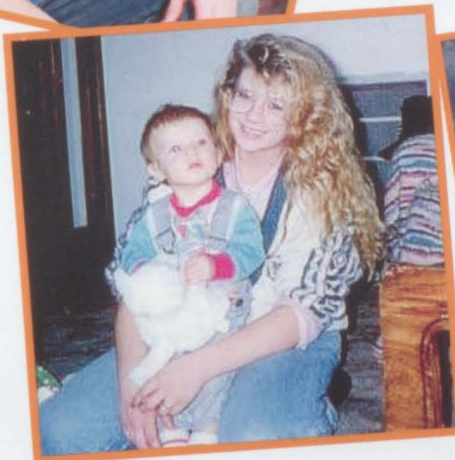


Austin
Alexander
Milton
Lopez

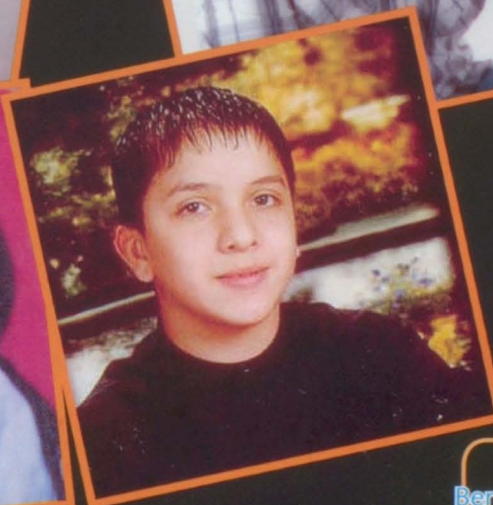
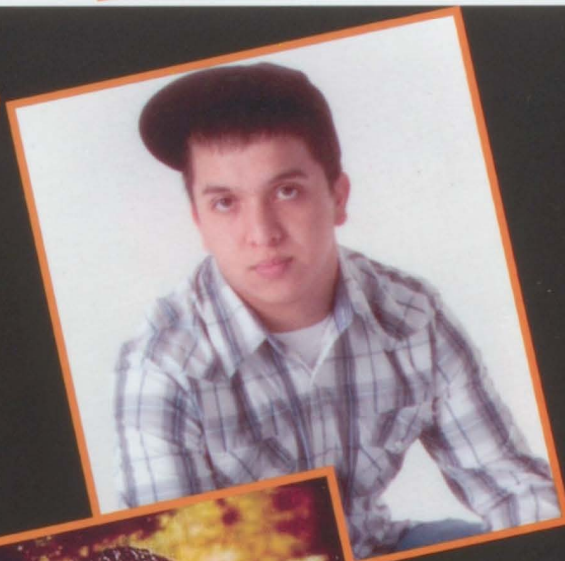
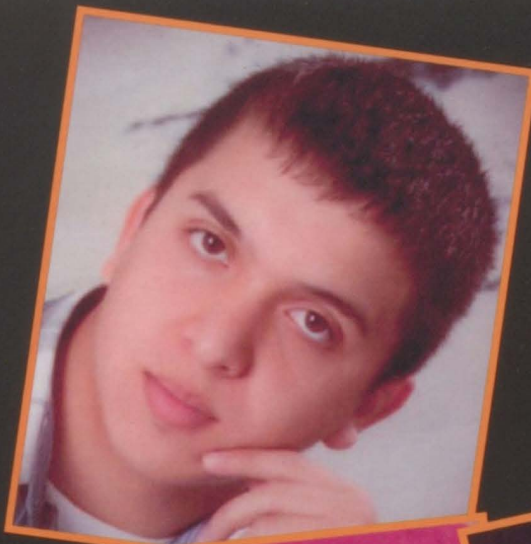
Alan,
Congratulations!



Alan
Joseph S.
Percy

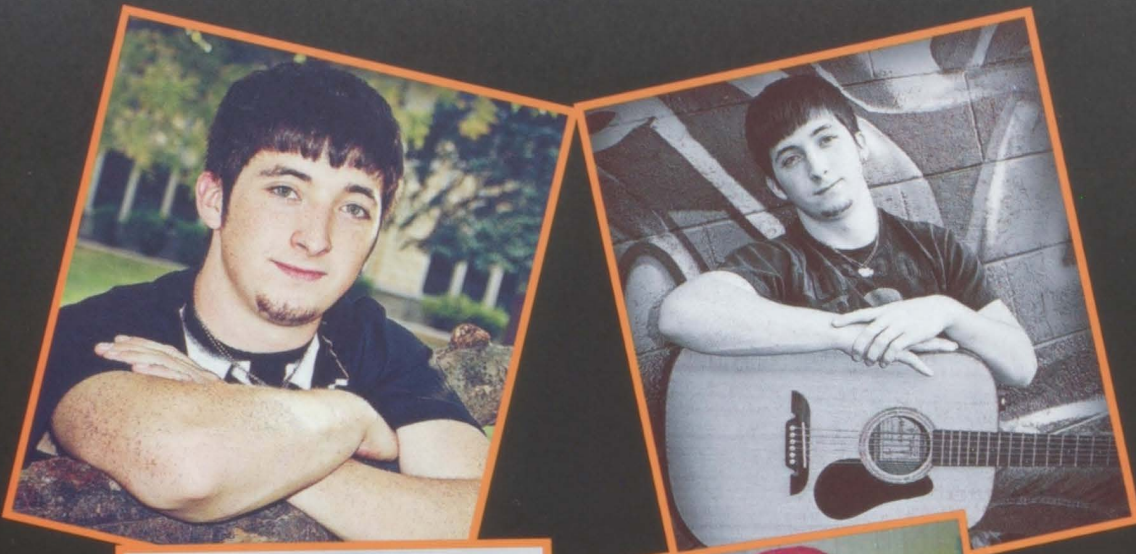


Meny,
Congratulations!



Jesus
Manuel
Rodriguez

Josh,
Congratulations!



Joshua
Paul
Reilly



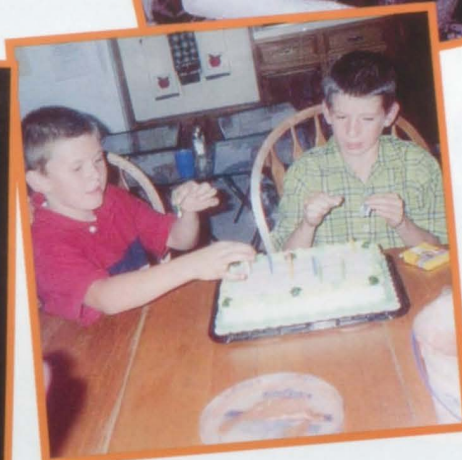
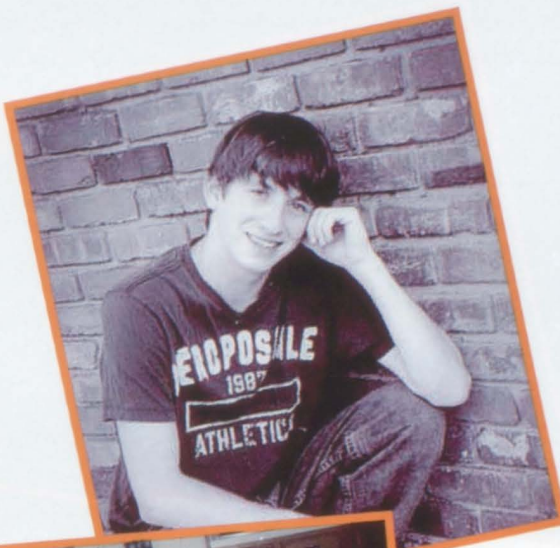
Jessie girl,
We are so blessed
to have been able to
watch you grow up
and are very proud of
the person you have
become. We wish you
much love, happiness,
and success in all
that you do!
Love,
Dad, Mom, and Logan



Nicole
Stanton

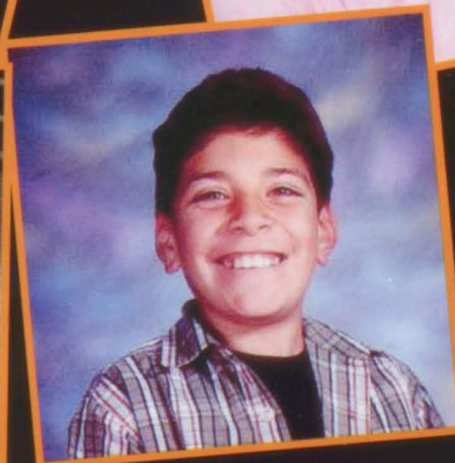
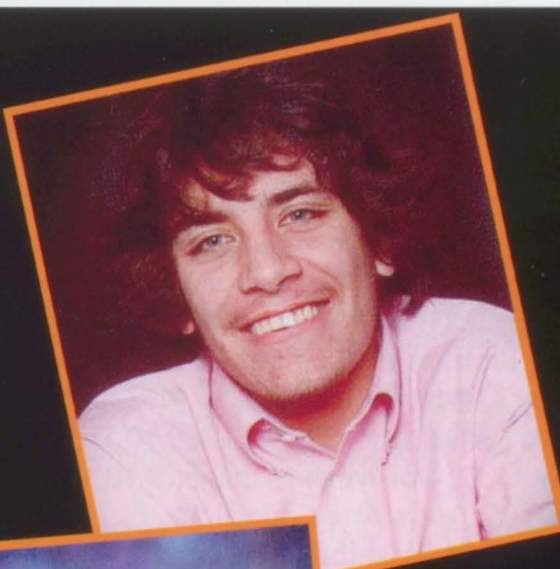
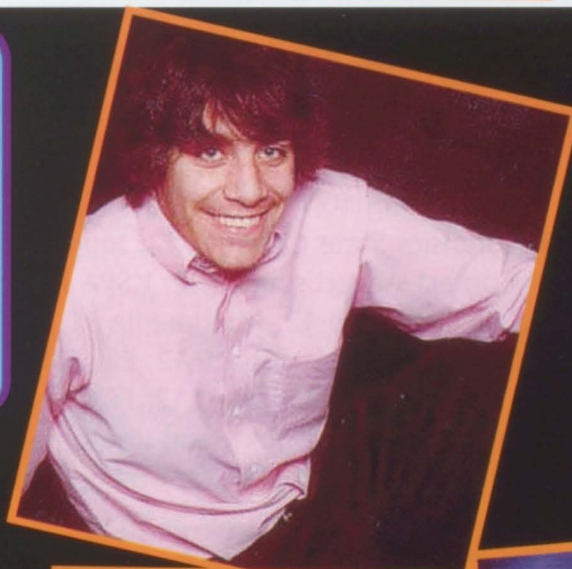
Gage,
Congratulations!

Gage
Allen
Stropes



Jacob,
Be true to your faith.
Be true to
your family.
Be true to yourself.
In God we trust.
Love,
Dad, Grandma, Mom,
and the kids

Jacob
Leo
Toombs





Kyle,
We are so proud of
you and your
accomplishments. We
wish you the absolute
best in the future.
All our love,
Dad, Mom, Ryan,
and Ali

Kyle
John
Weber

Senior Activities

Terry Ables FCCLA 12; National Honor Society 11; Academic Lettering 9,10,11; Honor Roll 9,10,11; Hobby Club 11

Ashleigh Bunker Baseball Manager 9,10,11,12; Cheerleading 10,11,12; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 10,11,12; FFA 9; Forensics 9,10,11,12; Forensics Team Captain 12; Forensics State Qualifier 12; Journalism 11,12; Yearbook Business Manager 11; Yearbook Editor 12; KSPA Regional Contest Advertising 11,12; KSPA Regional Contest Editing 12; KAYS 9,10,11,12; KAY Board Member 10; KAY Points Chairman 12; Multimedia 11,12; STUCO 11,12; Co-Founder of Big Brothers and Big Sisters 12; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12; Student Tutor 9,12; Ellis Site Council Award 11

Nancy Dinges Basketball 9,10,11; Choir 9,10; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 10,11,12; FCCLA President 12; Golf 12

Jerica Dinkel Choir 9; FCCLA 9,10,11,12; Journalism 11,12; Yearbook Head Photographer 12; KAYS 10,11,12; LINK Crew 11,12; Volleyball Manager 9,10,11,12; Wrestling Manager 9,10,11,12; Co-Founder of Big Brothers and Big Sisters 12; Hays Arts Council 11

Lyle Fischer Basketball 9; FFA 9,10,11,12; Forensics 9; Class President 9,12

Bernadette Frickey Baseball Manager 9; Choir 9,10; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 9,10,11; FCCLA STUCO Representative 10; Forensics 9; Journalism 11,12; Yearbook Editor 12; KAYS 9,10,11,12; KAY Board Member 9; KAY Co-Points 10; KAY Vice-President 11; KAY President 12; Multimedia 11,12; Railairres 9,10; Volleyball Manager 9; Office Aide 12

Mikayla Gottschalk Basketball 9,10,11,12; Basketball Honorable Mention; Choir 9; CLASS Leadership 11; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 9,10,11,12; KAYS 9,10,11,12; KAY Board Member 9,11,12; LINK Crew 11,12; National Honor Society 11,12; Softball 11,12; Track 9,10; Volleyball 9,10,11,12; 2nd Team All-League Volleyball; Spanish Club 9; KU Honor Scholar; STUCO 12; STUCO Vice-President 12

Isaac Henman Band 9,10,11,12; State Band 10; Cross Country 9; FCCLA 10; FFA 9,10,11,12; Football 10; Golf 9,10,11,12

42 Seniors

Bernadette Frickey

Jared Herl Basketball 9,10,11; CLASS Leadership 11; FFA 9; Football 9,10,11,12; Football 1st team All-League TE 9; All-State Honorable Mention TE 9; 2nd team All-League LB 9,10,11; All-

State Honorable Mention TE 12; KAYS 10,11; LINK Crew 11,12; Scholar's Bowl 12; STUCO 10,11; Track 12; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12

Joshua Hernandez Baseball 9,10,11,12; Basketball 9,10; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 9,10,11; FFA 9,12; Football 9,10; KAYS 9,10,11,12; LINK Crew 11; Multimedia 11,12; Web Team 11,12; Wrestling 11,12

Jenny Holtern Band 9; Basketball 9; Cheerleading 10,11,12; Choir 9; CLASS Leadership 11; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 9,10,11,12; FCCLA Vice-President 11,12; KAYS 9,10,11,12; KAY Board Member 12; LINK Crew 11; Multimedia 12; National Honor Society 11,12; STUCO 10; Track 9,10; Track Manager 11; Volleyball 9,10; Web Team 11,12; Spanish Club 9; Co-Founder of Big Brothers and Big Sisters 12; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12; Class Vice President 10; Class Treasurer 11,12; Site Council Award 11,12; Perfect Attendance 9,11

Shelby Holtern Band 9; Basketball 9; Choir 9; CLASS Leadership 11; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 9,10,11,12; FCCLA Treasurer 11,12; KAYS 9,10,11,12; KAY Board Member 11,12; LINK Crew 11; National Honor Society 11,12; National Honor Society President 12; Softball 9,10; STUCO 12; Volleyball 9,10; Web Team 11,12; Spanish Club 9; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12; Co-Founder of Big Brothers and Big Sisters 12; Class Treasurer 9,10; Class Vice-President 11,12; Site Council Service Award 11,12; Perfect Attendance 10,11; Kansas Honor Scholar 12

Heather Hollingshead Band 9; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 12; Perfect Attendance 9,10,11,12; Spanish Club 10; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12; Co-Founder of Big Brothers and Big Sisters 12

Riley Hunsicker Baseball 9; Jr. Class Play; FFA 9,10,11,12; Football 9,10,11,12; Football 2nd team Defensive Back MCL 11; Football All-Area Super 11 from Hays Daily News 12; 1st team Defensive Back and all-state recognition in the Topeka Capital-Journal and Wichita Eagle 12; Honorable Mention Quarterback in the Wichita Eagle 12; MCL 1st team Quarterback 12; MCL 2nd team Defensive Back 12; Voted Football Team MVP and Offensive MVP 12; Forensics 9; KAYS 11,12; LINK Crew 11,12; STUCO 12; Track 11,12; Wrestling 9,10,11,12; State Champion Wrestler at 170 pounds 12; Snoball King 11,12

Dylan Krause CLASS Leadership 11; FFA 9,10,11,12; Football 9,10,11,12; Track 9,10,11,12; State Track qualifier and medalist; Homecoming King; Eco-Team 9; Honor Roll 11,12; Class President 11; Perfect Attendance 9; Football Captain 12;

Breanna Kroeger Baseball Manager 9,10,11,12; Cheerleading 9,10,11,12; Cheerleading Captain 12; CLASS Leadership 11; Jr. Class Play; FCCLA 9,10,11; KAYS 9,10,11,12; KAY Board Member 9,10,11; KAY Secretary 12; LINK Crew 11; Multimedia 11,12; National Honor Society 11,12; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12; Spanish Club 9; Site Council Award 12; Snoball Princess 9,10,11; Snoball Queen 12; All-American Cheerleader 12

Ben Leiker Basketball 9,10; FFA 9,10,11,12; Golf 9,10,11,12

Austin Lopez FFA 9,12; Football 9,10,11,12; Golf 10,11,12; Track 9; Wrestling 9,10,11,12

Alan Percy Wrestling 10; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12

Josh Reilly Golf 9,10; Wrestling 9,10

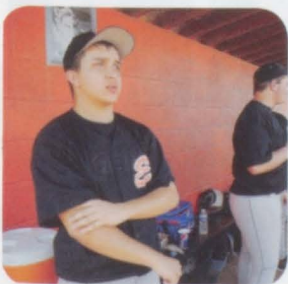
Meny Rodriguez Baseball 9,10,11,12; Jr. Class Play; FFA 9; Football 9,10,11,12; Football Honorable Mention Kicker 9,11,12; Football Honorable Mention Kicker in State 12; KAYS 12; Multimedia 11,12; Perfect Attendance 9,10,11,12; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12

Jessica Stanton Cheerleading 9,10,11,12; Cheerleading Co-Captain 12; Choir 9; FCCLA 9,10,11,12; FFA 9; KAYS 9,10,11,12; KAY Treasurer 12; STUCO 9,10,12; Volleyball Manager 10; Homecoming Queen; Honor Roll 9,10,11,12

Gage Strope No activities

Jacob Towns Basketball 9,10,11,12; Choir 12; Cross Country 10,11; FCCLA 9,10,11,12; FFA 9,10,11,12; Football 9,10,12; Forensics 9,10,11,12; KAYS 9,10,11,12; Scholar's Bowl 9,10,11,12; Track 9,10,11,12

Kyle Weber Basketball 9,10,11,12; Choir 9,10; Railairres 9,10; Jr. Class Play; Cross Country 9,10,12; FFA 9,10,11,12; Golf 10,11,12; National Honor Society 12; STUCO 9,12; STUCO President 12; Track 9; Honor Roll



Meny Rodriguez



Josh Reilly and Gage Strope



Jessica Dinkel, Jordan Rohr¹¹, and Cadyn McCoy¹¹



Bailey Hensley¹¹ and Bernadette Frickey



Craig Amrein
Webpage, Football,
Multimedia



Brandon Armbruster
GPD, P.E./Health, Athletic
Director



Vanessa Beilman
Volleyball



Kristi Bittel
Cheerleading, KAY Sponsor



Tracy Bohnert
KAY Sponsor



Jessica Bollig
Girls Basketball



Corey Burton
Principal



Matt Carroll
Industrial Technology, Golf



Rick Cunningham
Baseball



Troy Dale
Counselor, Football



Alyssa Dawson
English, Forensics



Justin Dawson
Para-Educator,
Sophomore Class Sponsor



Casey Dinkel
Wrestling



Ellen Dreyer
Volleyball



Steve Erbert
Track



Sherri Faulkender
Librarian



Natalie Gabel
Food Services



Paula Greenway
Para-Educator



Jacqueline Grogan
Spanish, Psychology, World
History, Sr. Class Sponsor



Butch Hayes
Math, Football, Basketball, Track



Randy Herman
Custodian



Steve Herrman
Technology Director



Gwen Honas
Food Services



Kate Howland
Volleyball



Katelyn Jurgensen
Softball



Jeff Kohl
History, Government,
STUCO Sponsor



Bob Kohman
Agricultural Education, FFA,
Jr. Class Sponsor



Kayla Metzger
Choir



Maria Mick
Secretary



Perry Mick
Math, Physics, Girls Basketball



Breanne Nilhas
FACS, FCCLA,
Junior Class Sponsor



Mary Parke
Nurse



Brandon Pfeifer
Wrestling



Mallory Shanahan
Softball



Shawn Shipley
Band, NHS Sponsor,
Scholar's Bowl



Sandy Shupe
Special Education



Charlie Waldschmidt
Custodian



Brian White
Art



David Wildeman
Science, Boys Basketball, Baseball



Jack Wolf
Science, Track, Cross Country



Rhonda Wolf
Office Assistant



Jill Wood
English, Journalism, IMPACT



Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Photo by Bernadette Frickey

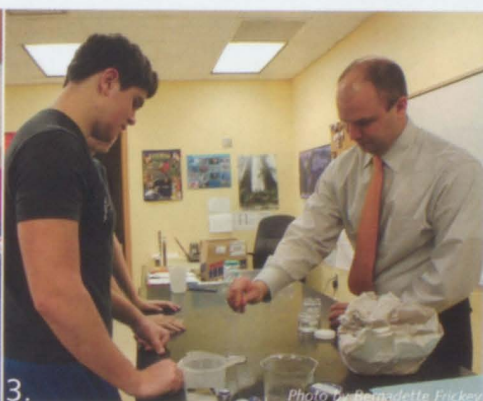


Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Photo by Bernadette Frickey

1. **LET'S FIGURE THIS OUT** Mr. Amrein helps out JJ Hernandez¹² with the senior video during one of his multimedia classes.

2. **MAYBE I CAN HELP** Mr. Dawson helps Alexis Rose¹³ figure out a math problem. This is Dawson's first year here as a paraprofessional.

3. **DON'T MESS UP** Mr. Wildeman gives Josh Townley more hydrazine for the biology experiment. "It's fun to watch my students do experiments and see what new things they're learning and are beginning to enjoy," Mr. Wildeman said.

4. **LISTEN UP** Mr. Carroll shows his class how to use a mortiser during his industrial technology class. "I want my students to develop a sense of pride in their work and also an understanding of how to work safely in a shop environment," Carroll said.

5. **BE PREPARED** Mrs. Dawson helps the junior class practice for the ACT tests by giving them practice tests.

6. **WHAT NOW?** Mrs. Faulkender asks the 7th grade reading class questions about what they're learning. "It's been a blast being able to teach again. It's been so long that things have changed and I've even had to learn some things all over again," Mrs. Faulkender said.

7. **NOW HERE IT SAYS...** Mrs. Grogan explains to her World History class about the different battles during World War II.



Photo by Bernadette Frickey

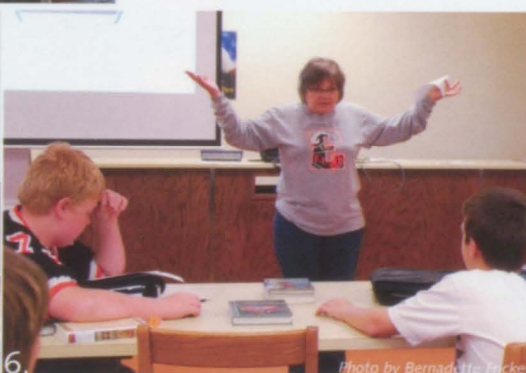


Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Photo by Bernadette Frickey

Life in the Teacher Zone

TEACHERS HELP STUDENTS ACHIEVE THEIR GOALS

School begins each year with faculty members who want to help kids further their education. This year started with a few new and old faces.

"I came in not knowing what to expect and, in some ways, I still don't know what's coming next. I've really enjoyed getting to know both the students and the other faculty, though I've found other teachers and staff to be very helpful when I have a question or need to work

together to get a student on the right track," choir director Kayla Metzger said.

Some teachers started teaching classes they normally didn't have to in past years. For instance, Mr. Mick's Algebra II classes were all full, so Mr. Hayes had the privilege to take on the class. Mr. Kohl switched from teaching World History to the sophomores to go down to the grade school and teach the 8th grade American History

class, therefore Mrs. Grogan was asked to teach the class since she had a BA in history.

"Many moons ago I graduated with a BA in History. It feels wonderful to once again be teaching a subject that I love so much. It's been an honor to be teaching these sophomores and I hope that they're getting good things out of what I have been encouraging them to learn this year," Grogan said.

Play Your Game

Sports

Volleyball

Page 48

Football

Page 50

Cross Country

Page 52

Wrestling

Page 54

Girls Basketball

Page 56

Boys Basketball

Page 58

Softball

Page 60

Baseball

Page 62

Golf

Page 64

Girls Track

Page 66

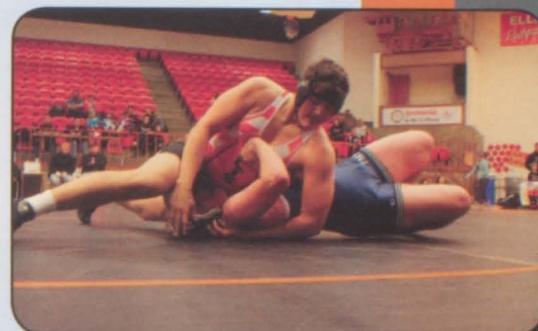
Boys Track

Page 68

Cheerleading

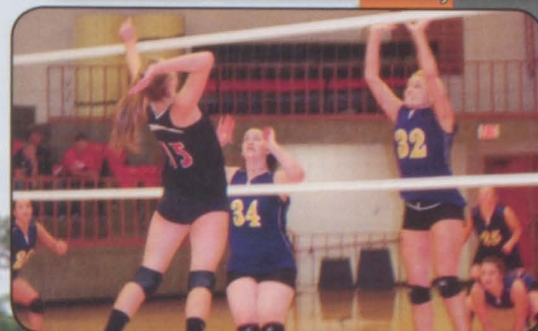
Page 70

Tough Toss Harley Wright¹³ winds up to throw the javelin as far as he possibly can at the Quinter Invitational. Wright has been a member of the track team for two years; however, this is his first year throwing javelin. "My first year throwing was interesting because I was way better than I thought I would be," Wright said. "I was born ready to throw," Wright said. *Photo By Jerica Dinkel*



Skyler Tebo¹⁴

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴

Photo by Shea Harper



Christen Spinelli¹⁴

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Autum Hellerud¹⁵, Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴, Becca Aschenbrenner¹³

Photo by Thatcher Brown



Tanner Keithley¹⁴

Photo by Matt Carroll

Scoreboard

Record 12-13

Hill City	L(12-25) (16-25)
Trego	W(25-22) (16-25) (25-16)
Kinsley	W(25-21) (28-30) (25-22)
LaCrosse	L(23-25) (25-13) (23-25)
Victoria	L(15-25) (11-25)
Smith Center	L(16-25) (11-25)
Victoria	L(21-25) (20-25)
TMP	L(19-25) (11-25)
Trego	W(25-16) (25-10)
Stockton	W(25-21) (25-21)
Philipsburg	L(14-25) (20-25)
Osborne	L(16-25) (23-25)
Western Plains	W(25-14) (25-21)
Northern Valley	W(25-15) (25-21)
Plainville	W(23-25) (25-18) (25-15)
Stockton	W(17-25) (25-23) (25-20)
Victoria	L(21-25) (21-25)
Natoma	L(25-23) (18-25) (23-25)
Palco	W(10-25) (25-18) (25-21)
Osborne	L(17-25) (9-25)
Hill City	L(7-25) (14-25)
Plainville	W(25-22) (21-25) (25-21)
LaCrosse	W(25-15) (25-23)
Central Plains	L(22-25) (14-25)
Plainville	L(25-14) (17-25) (21-25)
Atwood	W(15-25) (27-25) (25-17)
Hill City	L(12-25) (18-25)

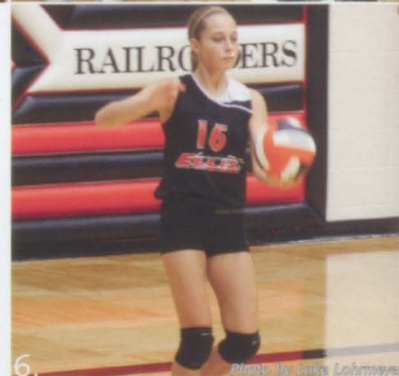
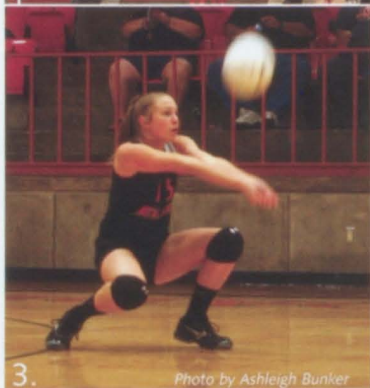
MCL All-League

2nd Team

Mikayla Gottschalk

Honorable Mention

Bailey Hensley



1. **GOT IT** Brittany Dinkel¹⁴ talks it up on the court. "It's necessary so that the team knows where the ball is and who is getting the ball," Dinkel said.
2. **THROW YOUR HANDS UP** Junior Ashley Lopez and Sophomore Kaleigh Soneson stare down their competition while waiting for the serve during a sub-state game in Ellis.
3. **UNDER THE BALL** Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴ goes for a ball during the Northern Valley game. The ladies won the match in two games.
4. **BRING IT IN** The team gathers in front of the net right before the first game of sub-state to get hyped up.
5. **MOVING ON** On Senior Day, the only senior volleyball player, Mikayla Gottschalk, was handed flowers by Senior cheerleader Ashleigh Bunker.
6. **SERVE'S UP** During the soap scrimmage Olivia Reiter¹⁵ serves the ball to the Junior Varsity team. This year there were 11 freshman out for the team.

The Game of Life

NEW PLAYERS START NEW TRADITIONS

It takes hard work, commitment, a strong work ethic, and heart to play volleyball. Players depend on each other during the game and season so they can be successful.

"We work our tails off every day in practice. There's always new things to learn," Beth Augustine¹³ said.

Volleyball requires a lot, but the Lady Railers have it all.

Graduating six seniors from

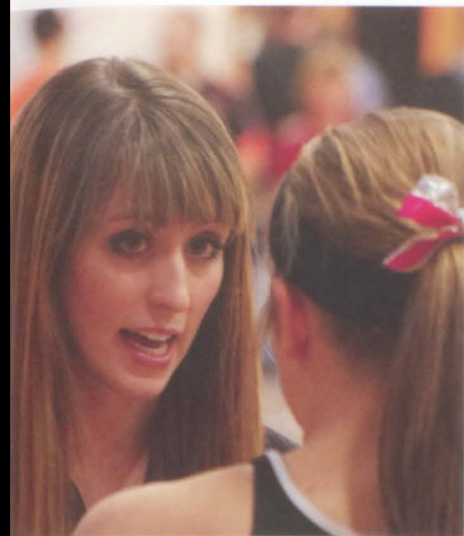
last year, the Ellis volleyball team had much to overcome. They had new starters, new players moving up to varsity, and a new style of play.

"At the beginning of the season it was a struggle having mostly all new players, but as the season progressed, we came together as a team," Mikayla Gottschalk¹² said.

Starting a new tradition is one of the ways they united. In October, the team got

together to dye their socks pink at Ashley Lopez's house. They also had pink bows and shirts to support breast cancer awareness.

"It was a really fun experience and good team bonding," Lopez said.



DELIVERY Bailey Hensley¹³ sets up the ball high in the air during the last game of the season for the varsity team against Hill City in the sub-state semi-finals. "My job as the setter this year was to be a positive leader and to deliver good sets for our hitters to get a kill," Hensley said. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*

LISTEN HERE Coach Ellen Dreyer instructs freshman Baylee Werth¹⁵ on the position she played during regionals at Ellis. After losing their first game to Atwood, the ladies turned it around, winning the next two games to win the match. They moved on to the semi-finals against Hill City, but the win was short-lived as the Ringnecks beat the Lady Railers the next match. *Photo by Jerica Dinkel*



Stephanie Greenway¹⁵
"I talked with the team, stretched, and just got myself ready every time before our games."



Becca Aschenbrenner¹³
"I always got ready by running around the school, screaming and chanting with my teammates before we played."



Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴
"To get ready I listened to music, stretched, then ran down the hall singing with the rest of the team."



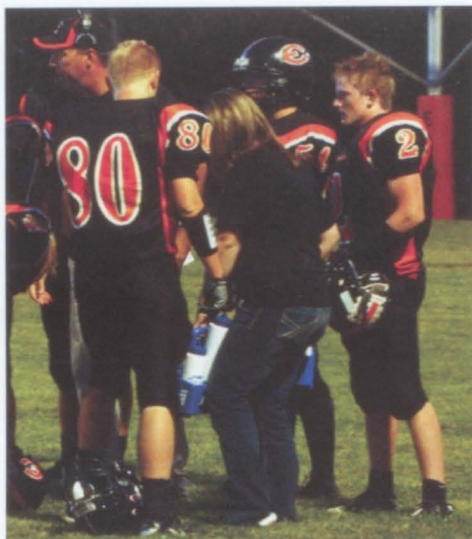
Candace Bollig¹³
"Before every game I put the same blue Hello Kitty Silly Band on my right shoe, then I put a penny in my left shoe."



HAND IN HAND During the first game of substate, Megan Honas¹³, Ashley Lopez¹³, Baylee Werth¹⁵, and Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴ react to Mikayla Gottschalk rolling her ankle. "I felt a huge concern for her and for the team, because it's Mikayla's senior year and she loves to play. I also felt concern for the team because Mikayla is a huge asset to the team and we really need her there," Lopez said. After her injury, the team came together and won the first game against Atwood. Then the team ran down to the nurse's office to go celebrate the win with Gottschalk. "Although I was in pain, it was a great feeling to see my teammates come out with a win," Gottschalk said. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*

A HELPING HAND Alicia Kroeger¹³ hands out water to Jared Mick¹³, Dylan Krause¹², and Gage Younger¹³ during a time-out. "It's fun being on the sidelines during the games. It's more intense than sitting in the stands with everyone else," Kroeger said. Kroeger has been one of the team's managers for two years. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*

SMACK DOWN Riley Hunsicker¹² clashes with his opponent to help the team get the ball closer to the end zone during the game against the Plainville Cardinals. The team will be losing six seniors this year. "The thing I will miss most about being on the team is going out to eat with them the day before a game and not being able to be on the field playing with them," Hunsicker said. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*



Dylan Krause¹²
"My favorite memory from football was dominating our district games."



Logan Fuchs¹³
"My favorite memory from football this year was barbequing the Buffalo during Homecoming week."



Scott Pfeifer¹⁴
"My favorite memory from this football season was the intensity during practice."



Eli Lohrmeyer¹⁵
"My favorite memory of this football season was winning the district championship."

MOVING UP Nick Gehring¹⁴ blocks the opponent while Riley Hunsicker¹² looks to see who he should pass to during the game against the Plainville Cardinals. Gehring was one of the players to move up and play varsity this year. "It's a really great feeling being able to play both offense line and defense line. At first it was nerve-racking, but after about the third game everything started becoming natural and my nerves were gone," Gehring said. *Photo by Robbie King*



Scoreboard

Record: 5-5

Team	Score
Norton	7-38 L
Plainville	6-42 L
Smith Center	14-60 L
Phillipsburg	6-34 L
Atwood*	40-19 W
Leoti*	44-0 W
St. Francis*	42-8 W
Oberlin*	41-0 W
Oakley*	27-19 W
Stanton Co.**	34-35 L
District*	

Regionals*

MCL All-League

1st Team

Riley Hunsicker QB
Austin Lopez WR

2nd Team

Jared Herl TE
Nick Gehring T
Riley Hunsicker DB
Blake Hudson DB
Jared Herl LB
Cadyn McCoy LB
Nick Gehring DL

Honorable Mention

Blake Hudson WR

All-State

1st Team

Riley Hunsicker DB

Honorable Mention

Jared Herl WR & LB
Meny Rodriguez K
Austin Lopez WR
Riley Hunsicker QB

Shrine Bowl

Jared Herl



Photo by Robbie King



Photo by Robbie King

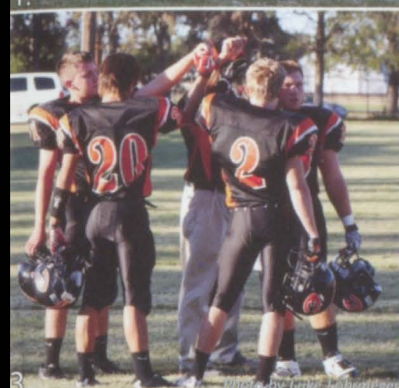


Photo by Robbie King



Photo by Thatcher Brown

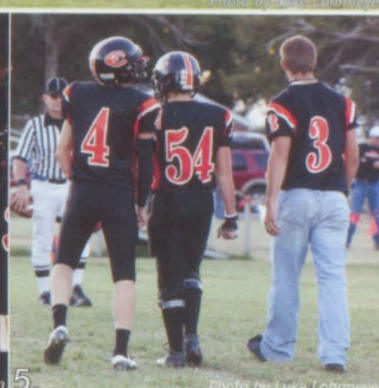


Photo by Luke Lehmeyer

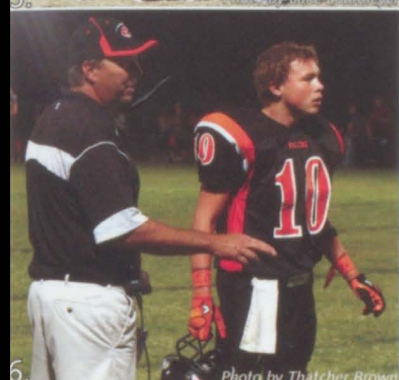


Photo by Thatcher Brown

1. **GO FOR THE GOLD** Blake Hudson¹³ runs to get to the end zone with Jordan Rohr¹³ ready to block the Plainville opponent. "As long as the crowd is cheering and into the game I'm usually excited," Hudson said.

2. **AND THEY'RE OFF** Meny Rodriguez¹² kicks an extra point while quarterback Riley Hunsicker holds the ball steady. "I'm going to miss the team overall because we had our ups and downs, but once we get pumped up we're all a team," Rodriguez said.

3. **LET'S DO THIS** Brandon Groff¹⁵, Austin Lopez¹², Cadyn McCoy¹³, and Gage Younger¹³ put their hands up in a huddle before the game to get pumped up.

4. **VICTORY IS OURS** The team celebrates their 6th district title after defeating Oakley, 27-19.

5. **"WE READY"** Captains Riley Hunsicker¹², Dylan Krause¹², and Jared Herl¹² come together before the Plainville game to wish the other team good luck.

6. **LISTEN UP** Coach Hayes and Cole Pfeifer try to figure out what call had been made during the game against the Plainville Cardinals.

Live for the Next Down

TEAM KEEPS WINNING TRADITION ALIVE

Teamwork.

A bond that is pulled together by determination and dedication. The football team started off with an inexperienced team, but by the end of the season were able to unite to play as a team.

"I'm proud of the team and how they overcame adversity early in the season to become district champions," 5th-year head coach Butch Hayes said.

They won against each of the five district teams, scoring over 40 points in each game and advancing to the regional game for the second year in a row. Their season ended with a close 34-35 loss to Stanton County.

"It was courageous how our players fought through the adversity of injuries to finish the season. I'm very proud of our players," Coach Amrein said.

After starting off the season losing the first four games, winning the district seemed unlikely.

"The team got considerably better each week and surprised a lot of people at the end of the year," Jared Herl¹² said.

The Railers ended their season 5-5 with seven different players receiving both league and state honors.

Scoreboard

Date	Location
Sept. 1	Norton
Sept. 8	Quinter
Sept. 15	Trego
Sept. 22	Hill City
Sept. 29	Ness City
Oct. 6	Phillipsburg
Oct. 13	Wheatland

Best Times

Kyle Weber - 21:44
@ Phillipsburg
@ Ness City

Thatcher Brown - 20:13
@ Quinter

Dusty Bittel - 22:08
@ Wheatland

Allen Augustine - 33:08
@ Trego



Photo courtesy of Troy Brown



Photo by Thatcher Brown



Photo by Luke Leiminger



Photo by Luke Leiminger

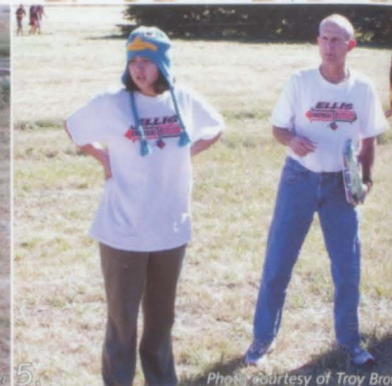


Photo courtesy of Troy Brown

1. **PULLING AHEAD** Kyle Weber¹² starts the race at Ness City in the front of the pack. Weber had his best time of the season during this meet.
2. **READY, SET, GO** Dusty Bittel¹⁴ and Allen Augustine¹³ focus on the run ahead of them. The runners walk the course before each meet so they know what to expect.
3. **SENIOR LEADER** Kyle Weber¹² advises Thatcher Brown¹³ about the course layout before getting ready to run an unfamiliar course.
4. **READY TO RUN** Thatcher Brown¹³ stretches out before the Trego meet. "I stretch so I won't pull any muscles and can run faster," Brown said.
5. **HELPING HAND** Manager Christina Wright¹⁴ watches the runners come up to the finish line. "My job was to refill water bottles and give them water as they were running," Wright said.
6. **KEEP ON GOING** Allen Augustine¹³ paces himself at the Trego County meet. "I actually ran a lot faster than I thought I was going to," Augustine said.



Photo by Luke Leiminger

Live for the Challenge

RUNNERS PUSH THEMSELVES DAILY

Four.

It's the number of quarters in a year, fingers on a hand, and the number of cross country members this year. They were an evenly balanced team with two returning runners and two new members. Kyle Weber¹² returned for his third and final year.

"It was different because I was the person being looked up to instead of looking up to other teammates," Weber said.

Having so few members, it was difficult for the runners to have the competition they needed to improve their times. Coach Wolf pushed for better times and varsity medals.

"The biggest challenge is for the runners to believe in themselves that they could run faster times and compete at the varsity level," Coach Wolf said.

Coach Wolf had the boys run around the track for speed

and down to Love's Travel Shop for distance. They got prepared by stretching their muscles and pumping each other up. Thatcher Brown¹³ plugged in his iPod and sang to "I Can't Stand It" by Never Shot Never.

"I would get motivated when Thatcher would sing before the meets while we were all stretching," Allen Augustine¹⁴ said.



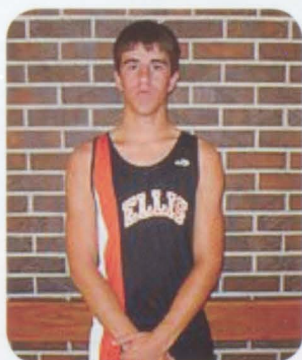
CROSSING THE LINE Thatcher Brown¹³ takes the last step during the race at the Trego County Golf Course. This is Brown's first year on the team. "I wanted to get into shape for basketball and I wanted to be more involved with the school," Brown said. His goal was to place in a varsity meet, which he received at the very last meet of the season. "I did better than I thought I would, but I think that everyone improved this year," Brown said. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*

LARGE STEPS FORWARD Dusty Bittel¹⁴ pushes himself during the Trego meet. Bittel was a returning runner this year, completing his second year on the team. "The hardest part of the season for me was trying to keep a steady pace while running," Bittel said. Bittel was able to finish the season with two new personal records. "I never focused on the people in front or behind me. I just tried to focus on finishing," Bittel said. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*



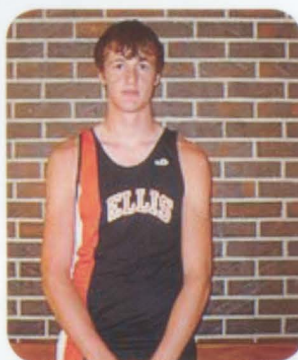
Allen Augustine¹⁴

"The best part of the season was the meet at Hill City, except for the giant gorge that we had to run through."



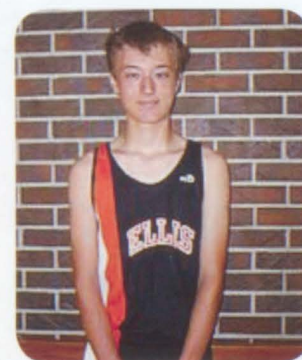
Kyle Weber¹²

"The best part of the season was watching me and my teammates receive medals at the various meets."



Thatcher Brown¹³

"The best part of the season was getting 15th place at Wheatland. Also that we got popsicles every day after practice."



Dusty Bittel¹⁴

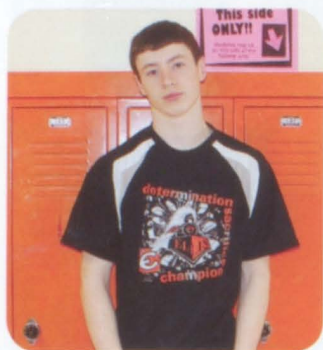
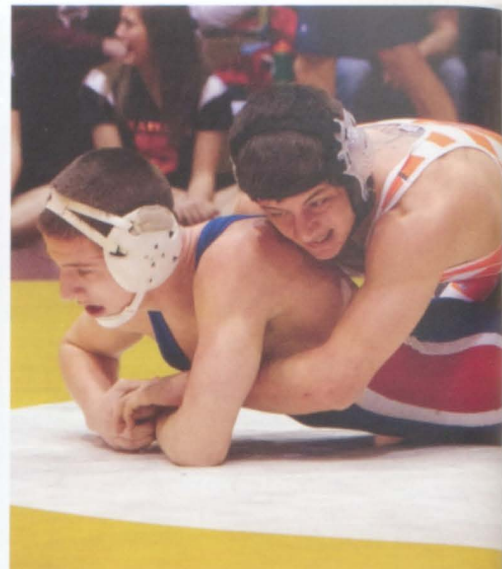
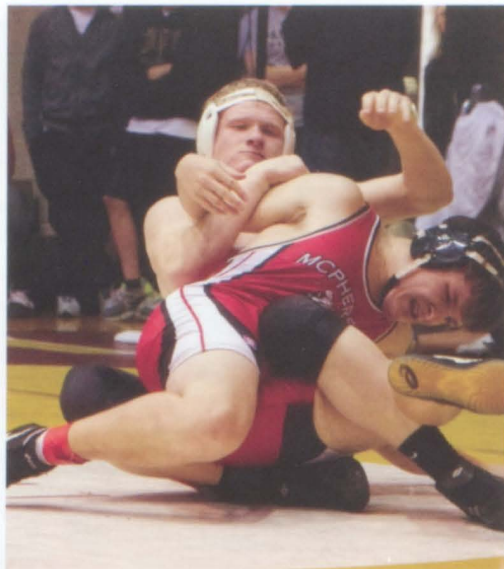
"The best part of the season was the meet at Wheatland because we all placed pretty well and did better on our times."



THE NICE GUY Dusty Bittel¹⁴ shakes hands with an opponent at the Phillipsburg MCL meet. After the race, the runners would have to line up to find out the medal placers. The placers would step forward for their medals and to get their pictures taken. Dusty would often go down the line and shake the hands of all the runners in his race. "I would shake their hands as a congratulations and to tell them good job," Bittel said. "We didn't have to, but I just thought it would be nice." There have been very few cross country runners in the past several years, and Bittel plans on being a part of the team in the years to come. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*

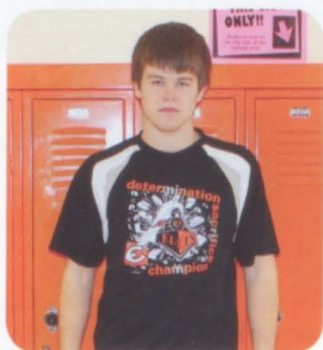
FEEL THE PAIN Riley Hunsicker¹² works his competitor on the second day of the Bob Kuhn Prairie Classic tournament. Hunsicker, Austin Lopez¹², and Gage Younger¹³ all came home with 3rd place medals. "My favorite part about Bob Kuhn [Prairie Classic] was probably getting to wrestle in a bigger tournament and watching the finals under the spotlight," Hunsicker said. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*

WORK IT Austin Lopez¹² focuses on rolling his opponent's hands in hoping for a move to open up at the Bob Kuhn Prairie Classic. This was Lopez's first week back after being out for two weeks due to sickness and injuries. "After being out I felt a little rusty, but I felt like I worked that out pretty fast," Lopez said. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*



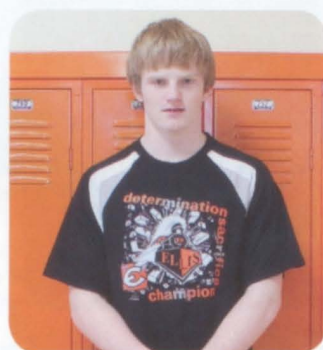
Jared Pfeifer¹⁵

"My favorite memory from wrestling season was winning Ellsworth Tournament because it was the first of my high school career."



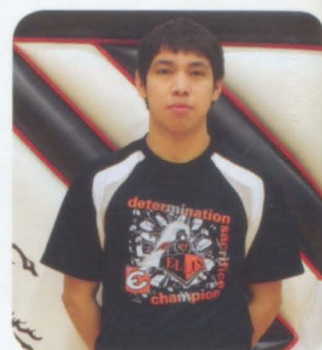
Landon Younger¹⁴

"My favorite memory from wrestling season was road trips with Pfeif because we talked about anything and everything."



Gage Younger¹³

"My favorite memory from wrestling season was coming from behind in my semi-finals match at Regionals and winning in overtime."



J.J. Hernandez¹²

"My favorite memory from wrestling season was getting the experience of wrestling guys twenty pounds heavier than me."

THE LAST "WON" Riley Hunsicker¹² holds up the number one on his fingers after winning his final match at the state tournament making him the state champion wrestler in the 170 pound weight class. The week of regionals, he moved up a weight class, so he was wrestling kids he hadn't seen before. "I felt good about my bracket. I didn't know anyone, but I was confident in myself and knew I could do it," Hunsicker said. He was in this same position his freshman year but ended up coming home with second place. "It was an awesome feeling. I couldn't stop thinking about how all the running and camps over the years paid off," Hunsicker said. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*



WRESTLING

Wrestlers	Weight	Record
Riley Hunsicker ¹²	160	28-4
	170	7-0
Austin Lopez ¹²	152	14-5
J.J. Hernandez ¹²	170	6-7
Gage Younger ¹³	145	30-6
Skyler Tebo ¹⁴	220	16-17
Landon Younger ¹⁴	138	20-14
Jared Pfeifer ¹⁵	126	20-13
Allen Augustine ¹⁵	160	6-6

State Qualifiers

Riley Hunsicker ¹²	170	1 st
Gage Younger ¹³	145	5 th

Coaches

Head Coach
Casey Dinkel
Assistant Coach
Brandon Pfeifer

Managers

Jerica Dinkel¹²
Hailey Dinkel¹⁵



Photo by Thatcher Brown

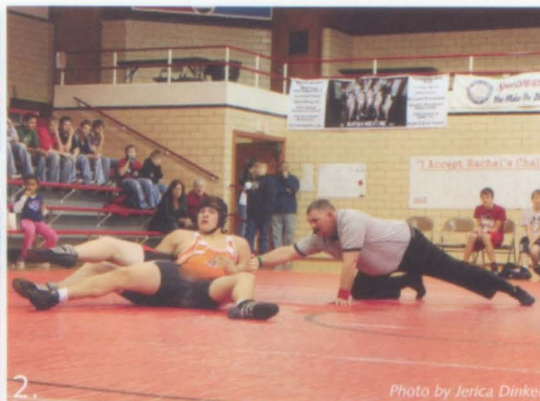


Photo by Jerica Dinkel



Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Photo by Bernadette Frickey

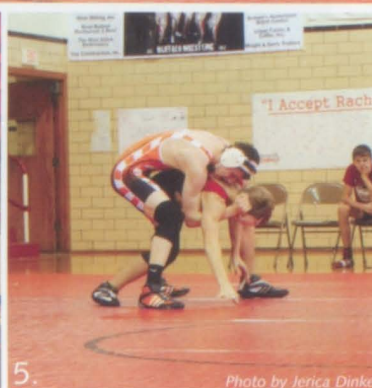
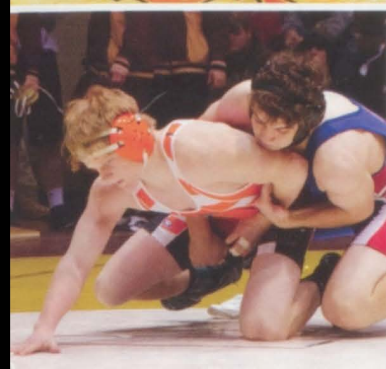


Photo by Jerica Dinkel



1. **CHINS DOWN** Landon Younger¹⁴ uses his chin to help him receive back points in the dual with Atwood.
2. **SIT OUT AND SQUEEZE** Skyler Tebo¹⁴ has his competitor locked and waiting for the pin in the dual with Atwood.
3. **THIS IS FOR YOU** J.J. Hernandez¹² hands his mom a flower during the senior night ceremony at the dual with TMP.
4. **SWITCH LEVELS** Allen Augustine¹⁴ lowers his stance to change it up a little bit for competition. "Making weight wasn't hard for me because I wrestled up a weight class," Augustine said.
5. **FIGHT FOR THE PIN** Jared Pfeifer¹⁵ works on breaking down his opponent for an option to score or pin him during the dual at Atwood.
6. **WORK UP** Gage Younger¹³ finds his way from the bottom to get a reversal for two points during the Bob Kuhn Prairie Classic. "I thought I wrestled good the second day so I was happy that I was able to recover from losing my semi-finals match," Younger said.

Living For the Mat

SMALL TEAM FACES BIG CHALLENGES

Competition is important to a team's growth, so being small in numbers meant less competition at practice. According to the coaches, this made practices challenging.

"The best thing about smaller teams is I get to know each one more and make a bigger impact on each one of their lives. It allows us to give more individual attention," Coach Casey Dinkel said.

Being a small team turned

out to be nothing compared to what the wrestlers faced at the end of the season. The three senior wrestlers contracted the skin disease impetigo, keeping them out for two weeks. Austin Lopez was the only senior able to come back for Senior Night held on their home mat.

"I was calm and wasn't too worried about what would happen," Austin Lopez¹² said.

After facing impetigo, Riley Hunsicker¹² came back two days

before regionals. Not being able to cut weight in time, he moved up a weight class. He placed first at regionals moving onto state. At state Hunsicker won every match, putting himself in the championship. He won his final match by a score of 8-4.

"The best part of my match was hearing all the people in the crowd yelling for me and there to help, supporting me to win," Hunsicker¹² said.

55 Wrestling
Jerica Dinkel

Scoreboard

Record 9-12

Team	Results
Phillipsburg	L 28-52
Word of Life	L 35-60
Wheatland-Grinnell	W 33-31
Dighton	L 36-37
Palco	W 51-28
Osborne	L 42-44
Stockton	W 40-33
Hill City	L 60-71
Norton	L 31-42
Plainville	W 59-24
Trego	L 41-59
Hill City	W 55-51
Victoria	L 37-52
Plainville	W 46-43
Quinter	L 34-38
Oakley	L 38-56
Smith Center	L 48-67
Natoma	W 72-36
Norton	W 38-26
Ness City	W 54-34
Hill City	L 57-70

MCL All-League

2ND TEAM

Bailey Hensley¹³

HONORABLE MENTION

Mikayla Gottschalk¹²



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

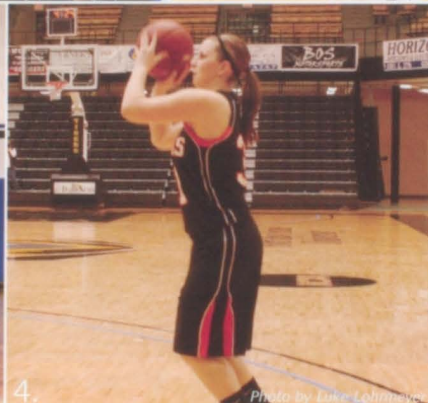


Photo by Luke Lohmeyer



Photo by Robbie King

1. **TIME TO TALK** Coach Perry Mick instructs his players during an intense game against the Stockton Tigers. "It's important to listen to Coach so you know what you're doing when you get out on the court," Rachel Keller¹⁴ said.

2. **BALLIN'** Brittany Dinkel¹⁴ dribbles around her defender to get a better passing angle to Megan Honas¹³.

3. **FOCUSED IN** Mikayla Gottschalk¹² stares up at the hoop before she gets ready to release the ball. "Free throws can make the difference at the end of the game, so they're pretty important," Gottschalk said.

4. **MONEY BALL** Megan Honas¹³ shoots a jumper during a blow-out game against the Plainville Cardinals in the MCL Tournament.

5. **ON THE LINE** Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴ prepares herself for the rebound as Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴ shoots her free throws.

6. **SQUARING UP** Becca Aschenbrenner¹³ faces the basket looking for a dump down to the low post in a game against Stockton.



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

Life in the Fast Lane

UNDERCLASSMEN STEP UP TO VARSITY

Normally a team has seniors to take the lead and many returning players to guide the younger players to victory, but that wasn't the case this year. With only one returning senior and three total starters from last year coming back, it was a struggle.

"At the beginning of the season we seemed a little divided because it was a whole new team, but as we went

on we started bonding and playing together more," Mikayla Gottschalk¹² said.

For the first half of the season the ladies won four out of their first eleven, but as the season progressed, so did their skill level and they ended the second half winning five out of ten games.

"The upperclassmen really helped me fix the minor things that I was doing wrong to

improve my game," Brittany Dinkel¹⁴ said.

The Junior Varsity team went undefeated this year winning a total of 16 games. It was the first undefeated season since Mr. Mick has been coaching.

"The older girls really helped us on J.V. to get better. They really helped us prepare for our games this year and that is why we did so good," Kourtney Kaicy¹⁴ said.



MAKING A MOVE Stephanie Greenway¹⁵ gets ready to drive to the basket at Gross Coliseum during the MCL Tournament. "I liked playing at FHSU because it was a bigger court and knowing that college athletes get to play there also. The atmosphere was pretty exciting there," Greenway said. The ladies got 7th place at the tournament by winning one out of their three games. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*

TEAM BALL The team huddles up during a timeout in the Stockton game. "We played really well together and and started to play as a true team," Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴ said. They pulled off a win against the Tigers with a score of 40-33. *Photo by Ashleigh Bunker*



Monica Towns¹⁴

"My most memorable part of the season was going to Mr. Mick's house for the annual Christmas party."



Megan Monas¹³

"My most memorable part of the season was when the J.V. team went undefeated."



Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴

"My most memorable part of the season was when we beat Hill City for the first time."



Sarah Mick¹⁵

"My most memorable part of the season was when we got to play at FHSU for the MCL Tournament."

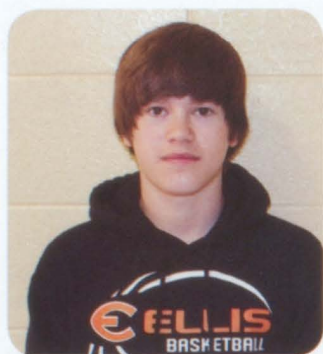


PENETRATION Bailey Hensley¹³ burns by her defender while playing Norton. "At the beginning of the year we lost to Norton, but during the middle of the season we started playing as a team better and we came out and beat them. It was a really exciting game and a good moment for our team," Hensley said. The Railers beat the Norton Blue Jays 38-26 after losing to them at the beginning of the season by eleven points. *Photo by Robbie King*

MAKING A MOVE Jacob Towns¹² dribbles down the court towards his defender as he prepares to make a move around the defense to get to the basket. Towns was one of only two seniors on the team this season. "One of the things I improved on this season was my ball handling skills. I became a better dribbler and when you look at the stats I think it shows," said Towns¹².
Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer



SMACK DOWN After driving hard to the basket, Jared Mick¹³ jumps to try and get his shot off, up and over his defender. "I drove to the lane to attempt to break down the defense and make a play. When I did this I would open myself up for a shot or I would open someone else up," Mick¹³ said. Photo by Robbie King



Brandon Bollig¹⁵

"My favorite part of the basketball season was watching Thatcher Brown dunk on my grandpa's basketball team when we played Plainville."



Tyler Walters¹³

"My favorite part of the basketball season was getting to play sub-state at our home court here in Ellis and having the crowd behind us."



Josh Tway¹⁴

"My favorite part of the basketball season was suiting up for the very first time at Gross Memorial Coliseum."



Jordan Rohr¹³

"My favorite part of the basketball season was when I was able to play with my teammates during the first part of the season."

CLOSING THE GAP Coach Wildeman talks to his team at a time out during the Stockton game as his assistant coach, Coach Hayes, sneaks a peak at the scoreboard. At this point in the game, the Railers were behind by double digits after coming out flat at the beginning of the game. After battling back during the first half, the Railers came out the second half and overcame the gap, ending the game on top with a final score of 57-42. Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Scoreboard

Record 13-9

Team	Team
Phillipsburg	L 37-45
Wheatland-Grinnell*	W 49-33
Word of Life*	L 42-64
Dighton*	W 48-41
Palco	W 62-33
Osborne	W 69-29
Stockton	W 57-42
Phillipsburg**	W 49-46
Plainville**	L 52-68
Hill City**	L 51-52
Trego	W 56-49
Hill City	L 45-49
Victoria	W 43-40
Plainville	L 51-59
Quinter	W 62-41
Oakley	W 57-43
Smith Center	L 44-53
Natoma	W 65-29
Norton	W 52-45
Ness City	L 38-53
Rawlins County***	W 59-50
Plainville***	L 38-63

*Castle Rock Classic

**MCL Tournament

***Sub-state

MCL All-League

HONORABLE MENTION

Thatcher Brown¹³

Luke Lohrmeyer¹³

Tyler Walters¹³

Living for the Dream

TEAM IMPROVEMENT WINS GAMES

It's no secret what the boys basketball team wanted from their basketball season—a state title.

In the past few years the juniors have had to step up and fill big shoes left by departing seniors. This year was no different with only two seniors on the team. Kyle Weber, Jacob Towns, and the remaining nine juniors had to improve their game.

"The most distinct improvement in this year's team was our defense," Coach Wildeman said.

The Railers went 6-2 before the MCL tournament, falling to a very strong Word of Life team at the Castle Rock Classic.

"Word of Life was a really talented team that was hard to play against, but we improved in that game," Thatcher Brown¹³ said.

The Railers finished off the season facing many opponents and playing until the final buzzer, almost pulling off upsets. They ended the season with a record of 13-9.

The J.V. team this year played many close games ending up with a record of 13-3.

"The Varsity guys helped us JV players out a lot during the season," said Chase Rutherford¹³.

59 Boys Basketball
Luke Lohrmeyer



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

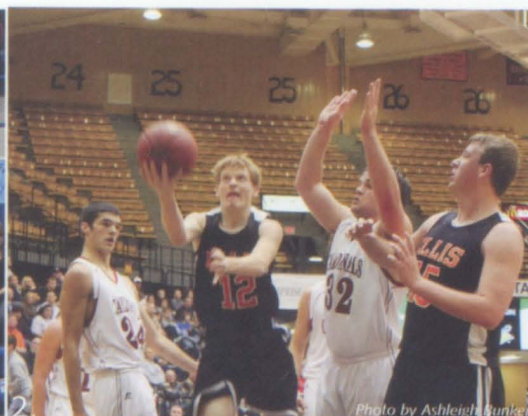


Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

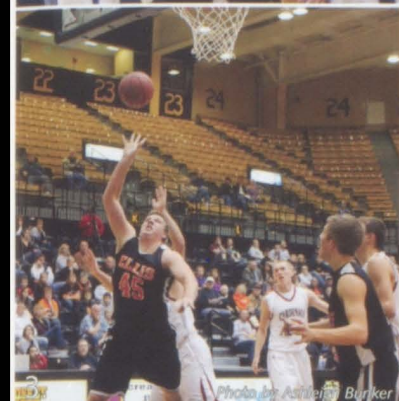


Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

1. **1. RISING ABOVE THE REST** Kyle Weber¹² puts up a jump shot as Luke Lohrmeyer¹³ gets into position for the rebound. Weber was the lone senior on the varsity team this year. Weber went on to finish the year with 58 total points and 42 total rebounds.
2. **2. INTO THE LANE** Making a quick sharp move to the hoop, Blake Hudson¹³ maneuvers around several defenders as he prepares for the layup. Hudson averaged 7.7 points per game during the season and led the Railers in free throw percentage with 70%.
3. **3. THAT'S A FOUL** Luke Lohrmeyer¹³ attempts to put up a shot as he gets pushed from behind by his defender. Lohrmeyer spent most of his season down low shooting 49% on the season and leading the team in scoring with 203 total points.
4. **4. MAKING THE CONNECTION** Eli Lohrmeyer¹⁵ makes a quick pass to fellow JV teammate Josh Tway¹⁴.
5. **5. SUSPENSE AT THE LINE** Shooting the front end of a 1-and-1, Cole Pfeifer¹³ prepares to put up his first free throw.
6. **6. JUMP FOR THE SKY** Thatcher Brown¹³ leaps for the tip as he starts off the first round of the MCL tournament against Phillipsburg. Brown led the team in total blocks with almost 100 blocked shots during the season.

Scoreboard

Record: 14-10

Plainville

(21-2) W, (13-3) W

Ellinwood

(13-7) W, (18-15) L

Colby

(0-15) L, (2-13) L

Natoma

(19-10) W, (15-14) W

Lincoln

(17-4) W, (16-5) W

Sylvan Grove

(13-3) W, (18-8) W

Plainville

(24-5) W, (26-4) W

Hoisington

(2-6) L, (2-8) L

Goodland

(2-3) L, (3-10) L

Ellsworth

(2-10) L, (11-18) L

Regionals

Lincoln

(12-1) W

Natoma

(6-5) W

State

Udall

(4-9) L



1. "HATS" ON Candace Bollig¹³, Bailey Hensley¹³, and Beth Augustine¹³ put their mitts on for a two out rally during the game against Udall at state. The team believes this gives them good luck to keep it going.

2. MITTS UP Mikayla Gottschalk¹² prepares for the throw from Becca Aschenbrenner¹³ in Plainville against Natoma.

3. WHEELS ON Brittany Dinkel¹⁴ listens to the coach as she tells her to steal home during the game against Sylvan Grove.

4. UP AND UNDER Lexi Feik¹³ slides home scoring the team a run against Sylvan Grove. "My favorite part about being able to slide and getting dirty," Feik said.

5. PITCH AT ME Olivia Reiter¹⁵ throws for a strike during the Natoma game at Plainville.

6. THE RUN'S ON Christen Spinelli¹⁴ rounds first base to look if she can go on to second against Natoma. The game got moved to Plainville because Natoma no longer had a field to play on.

Photos by Jerica Dinkel

Living for the Home Run

GIRLS ADJUST TO NEW COACHES

With change comes new expectations and a new way of doing things. Having two new coaches this year the team was not sure what to expect or where they would go.

"Practice started slow but we warmed up to each other. I like that we get to have fun in practice with our drills with slip-slide to practice our sliding," Bailey Hensley¹³ said.

With new coaches the girls had to get used to different

warm-ups, practices, and preparation for games.

"I wasn't looking forward to getting new coaches my senior year because it is hard to adjust to new coaches sometimes," Mikayla Gottschalk¹² said.

The Lady Railers went into the Sylvan Grove regional with a 14-9 regular season record. They defeated Lincoln and Natoma, sending the girls on their way to state.

"It felt good knowing that all

our hard work paid off. Being regional champs has been a goal for Ellis for many years," Beth Augustine¹³ said.

Ellis was seeded eighth at state, drawing the number one seed, undefeated Udall, for the first round. After a tough game, they ended their season with a 4-9 loss.

"Even though we didn't win, state was a great way to end the year. I'm going to miss my team," Gottschalk¹² said.



DUST OFF Mikayla Gottschalk¹² slides in to steal home as Sarah Mick¹⁵ tells her to slide. Gottschalk got two hits the first game and three the second. "I like hitting off other teams' pitchers because it makes them lose confidence every time you hit and you can score runs," Gottschalk said. The team won by ten points both games, 13-3 the first game and 18-8 the second. *Photo by Jerica Dinkel*

RIGHT TO THE MITT Becca Aschenbrenner¹³ pitches the ball while Lexi Feik¹³ prepares for the hit. Aschenbrenner started pitching for the team on the first game. However, since then several pitchers have emerged from the team. "The new coaches have helped improve my pitching tremendously. My favorite thing is to strike someone out with a change up," Aschenbrenner said. *Photo by Jerica Dinkel*



Alexis Mattheyer¹⁵

"My most memorable moment was when we found the dead snake and put it in Blake Hudson's car."



Alexis Rose¹³

"My most memorable moment was when I came to practice and all the girls were laughing because they found a dead snake on the field."



Beth Augustine¹³

"My most memorable moment was when we had a triple play against Ellinwood."



Autumn Hellerud¹⁵

"My most memorable moment is when we got the big white monkey and put it in Cadyn McCoy's car."



EYES ON THE PRIZE The Lady Rainers line up while the Udall softball players are announced. The girls had a record of 14-9 going into the state game. "We were still nervous because of the new field, but we were ready to go out and have fun cause we had nothing to lose," Brittany Dinkel¹⁴ said. They struggled to hit off the pitcher until the last inning, getting two triples from Candace Bollig¹³ and Mikayla Gottschalk¹². After a brief rally, Udall won the game 4-9, ending the team's hopes of bringing home a state title. *Photo by Jerica Dinkel*

ON TO HOME Meny Rodriguez¹² rounds third base to see if he can score during the game against Leoti. Rodriguez stole third and turned to go home, scoring the team a run. The Railers won the first game by a score of 18-3. "The team has many players that have the ability to steal bases to help advance the team," Rodriguez said. Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



SWING AWAY Cole Pfeifer¹³ winds up to throw a pitch during the game against Leoti. This is Pfeifer's third year playing baseball, but he has played with the majority of his teammates during summer league. "I have had my ups and downs. However, the most difficult part of baseball this year was matching the timing for slower pitchers while I was batting," Pfeifer said. Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Cadyn McCoy¹³

"My most memorable moment was going to Golden Corral before a game and buying chickens at Orscheln."



Jacob Callier¹⁴

"My most memorable moment was going to eat with the team before a game."



Brady Jacques¹⁴

"My most memorable moment was on the bus rides home the talks we had in the back."



Braden Parke¹⁴

"My most memorable moment was providing a home for Rick and Dave, our chickens."

BACK IT UP JJ Hernandez¹² prepares to find his pitch during the game against Leoti. Hernandez played many positions on the team. He was either the catcher, second baseman, or left fielder. Hernandez did not catch in the previous years because Cadyn McCoy¹³, who was injured this year, had been the main catcher. "I have done pretty well this year which has helped me be able to help the younger players," Hernandez said. Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



Scoreboard

Record: 8-11

Wilson

(2-4)L, (7-17)L

TMP

(4-24)L, (0-12)L

Larned

(7-13)L, (5-2)W

Leoti

(18-3)W, (24-0)W

Russell

(10-7)W, (6-18)L

Sylvan Grove

(9-3)W, (11-4)W

Natoma/Plainville

(5-19)L, (6-10)L

Hoisington

(5-19)L, (6-10)L

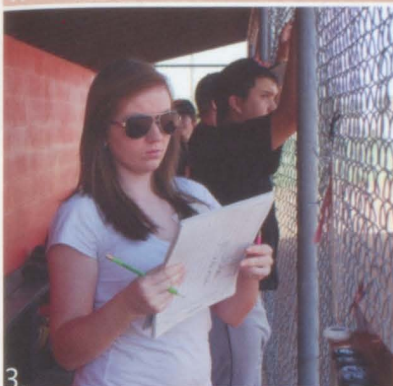
Minneola

(5-20)L, (6-13)L

Regionals

Canton-Galva

(5-8)L



1. **FLYING HIGH** Scott Pfeifer¹⁴ throws the pitch hoping to get a strike and to get the batter out against TMP. "I haven't been able to pitch a lot because of an elbow injury but I've been playing in the field more," Pfeifer said.

2. **DOWN AND READY** Jordan Rohr¹³ throws the ball to Chase Rutherford¹³ at first base to get a TMP player out.

3. **THE COOL WAY** Breanna Kroeger¹² writes down stats at a home baseball game. Ashleigh Bunker¹² and Breanna Kroeger have been the managers for all four years of high school.

4. **UP, UP AND AWAY** Blake Hudson¹³ swings at a pitch during the game against Leoti. "I went 9 for 9 this game, but our competition was pretty difficult," Hudson said.

5. **SWINGING' AWAY** Jared Mick¹³ hits a ball high into the air during a match up against the TMP Monarchs. Mick went 1-3 for the game.

6. **"YOU'RE GONE"** Landon Younger¹⁴ finds the pitch that he likes and swings during the game against Leoti. Younger was up seven times in each game and scored three runs for the team.

Photos by Ashleigh Bunker

Life in the Dirt

TEAM WORKS FOR A BETTER SEASON

Having two returning seniors is sometimes a challenge for teams because it means they will have a younger team and have to rebuild that season. That was the story for the baseball team this year.

"We are decent for having a pretty young team and four new players this year," Meny Rodriguez¹² said.

To get a little motivation, the team went out to eat before the first home game. After eating, they decided to go to

Orscheln and buy chickens. These chicks were used as "mascots" for the team.

The team struggled a little, starting off the season losing their first two doubleheaders and splitting the next. However, they improved since then.

"Physically this year our baseball team has played great, but mentally we have struggled," JJ Hernandez¹² said.

The team was also down one player because of an injury. Cadyn McCoy¹³ offered extra

support from the bench for his team. He was not able to play this season after tearing ligaments in his wrist, requiring surgery.

Ellis also had an interesting crew of players who seem to be a bit ambidextrous. Landon Younger¹⁴ can pitch left-handed, but bats right-handed. However, Scott Pfeifer¹⁴ is a right-handed pitcher and bats left-handed.

"I've been playing this way since Jim Pfeifer taught me in kindergarten," Younger said.

Scoreboard

Hoisington	2nd	345
Plainville	2nd	333
I-70 Classic	2nd	328
TMP	9th	371
Hill City	2nd	327
Phillipsburg	1st	296
MCL	2nd	313
Regionals	2nd	328
State	5th	335

State Placers

Austin Lopez	8th	76
Skyler Tebo	9th	76



- 1. GOLFING GURU** Gage Younger¹³ watches his group golf as he waits his turn at the TMP tournament. This is Younger's third year on the Golf team.
- 2. EYES ON THE BALL** Tyler Walters¹³ eyes his ball on the green as he tries to make the best putt to put it in the hole. This is Walter's third year on the Golf team.
- 3. PERFECT PUTT** Josh Tway¹⁴ putts his golfball at the JV Osborne tournament. Tway received medals at eight tournaments this season. This is Tway's second year in Golf.
- 4. ON THE GREEN** Tanner Fischer¹³ swings his putter in hopes of getting it in the hole at the Norton tournament.
- 5. LINE IT UP** Skyler Tebo¹⁴ bends down to get a better look at his putt. "I want to be an individual state champion as well as win the state championship," Tebo said.
- 6. LINE DRIVE** Cody Grubb¹³ lines himself up to hit the ball. "My goal is not to stink too bad, which is quite difficult for this guy," Grubb said.

All photos by Matt Carroll

Life on the Green

GOLFERS SWING PAST CHALLENGES

Golf in the past has been in the shadows during spring sports, but this year, the golfers have made great achievements. With a total of fifteen golfers, twelve of them returning, they're not such a small group anymore.

"The biggest thing that stands out is how much they love the game and how hard they work to get better," said Coach Carroll.

"It's the most challenging

sport to master. You can ruin your tournament by having one bad hole. I go out to the course and practice every day and sometimes stay until dark," Gage Younger¹³ said.

Even with the Ellis Country Club closing down right before the tournament, the golf team didn't let it get in their way.

"I think it was really dumb of them to back out the day before the tournament," said Skyler Tebo¹⁴. "And I also

think that with our team in contention, it should be motivation for them to keep it open."

Through all these challenges the team ended up 2nd in regionals and 5th at state.

"I've never seen a group of golfers who put in so much time on their own out of practice to get better. They know their potential and work hard to do their best each time out," said Coach Carroll.



SWINGING MACHINE Josh Townley¹⁴ gets set up to drive the golf ball across the course at the Norton JV tournament. This is Townley's second year of being on the golf team. He hopes to be on the Varsity team next year.
Photo by Matt Carroll

LOOKING ONWARD Austin Lopez¹² judges the angle he should hit the ball at the Spring Creek Golf Course in Seneca. Seneca hosted the State Tournament this year, where six members went to compete. "Golf this year was fun, having a great coach and teammates. I was glad I made it to state my senior year and placed," Lopez said.
Photo by Matt Carroll



Tanner Keithley¹⁴
"My favorite part of golf is winning."



Taylor McClung¹³
"My favorite part of golf is getting to golf at other courses."



Ryan Downing¹³
"My favorite part of golf is golfing with my friends because it keeps things interesting."



Nancy Dinges¹²
"My favorite part of golf is hanging out with friends and being outside and enjoying the environment."



AIMING FOR GOLD Senior Kyle Weber shoots for the green at the state golf tournament. The team had traveled to Belleville the week before to compete at Regionals. "I'm so proud of how we kept it together after a rough front nine," Coach Matt Carroll said. "We came up just two shots shy of winning [Regionals], but Belleville played tough on their home course." The team got second place and qualified to go to the state tournament in Seneca. The six varsity members were able to place 5th at state with Austin Lopez receiving 8th place and Skyler Tebo receiving 9th place. *Photo courtesy of Matt Carroll*

RELAYING INFORMATION Stephanie Greenway¹⁵ chats with two of her 4x100m relay teammates, Alysha Werth¹⁴ and Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴, as they prepare for the race at the MCL league track meet. The girls would go on to run a 56.07 and take home the fourth place medal from the meet. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*



COACHED UP Ashley Butler¹⁵ talks to Coach Erbert at the Hill City Invitational about her event. "Coach Erbert always gives me pointers on how to throw farther during the competition. He really helped me throughout the year to become a better thrower. I threw farther at the end of the year," Butler said. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*



Megan Monas¹³

"My favorite part of track was seeing everyone else improve, it's great to see people work hard to accomplish their goals."



Ashley Butler¹⁵

"My favorite part of track was hanging out at the track meets and getting better at throwing."



Hailey Dinkel¹⁵

"My favorite part of track was being at camp with the team and then running to Travel Plaza during practice."



Brianna LaBarge¹⁵

"My favorite part of track was when I got first place in triple jump and running through the sprinklers after practice."

HELPING HAND Alysha Werth¹⁴ sprints her final steps as she hands off the baton to Ashley Lopez¹³ for the last leg of the 4x100m relay. The girls 4x100m team also consisted of Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴ and Stephanie Greenway¹⁵. Their best time of the season was at Hill City with a time of 55.38 seconds. The girls took fourth place overall in the 4x100m relay at the Hill City track meet. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*





Photo by Thatcher Brown



Photo by Jerica Dinkel



Photo by Jerica Dinkel



Photo by Jerica Dinkel



Photo by Jerica Dinkel



Photo by Jerica Dinkel

1. **IN THE WIND UP** Rachel Keller¹⁴ is midway through her spin as she prepares to let the discus fly. Keller also threw the shot put for the team.
2. **NECK AND NECK** Ashley Lopez¹³ strains to gain a step on her Trego opponent as she races towards the finish line in the 200m dash.
3. **GETTING AIR** Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴ jumps at the Plainville track meet as she participates in triple jump. Gottschalk would go on to take fifth place overall at the meet with a jump of 28 feet 11 inches.
4. **FINISHING STRONG** Kori Clark¹⁵ runs her final few strides of the 800 meter run. Clark ended up running a total time of 3 minutes 27 seconds at the Ellis Invitational meet.
5. **UP AND OVER** Stephanie Greenway¹⁵ clears the hurdle in the 110 meter hurdle race. Greenway finished in the top six in most of the meets this year as a freshman. She also ran the 300m hurdles and competed in the triple jump.
6. **REACHING FOR THE WIN** Hailey Dinkel stretches for the finish line as she flies along the track in the 200m dash. Dinkel placed sixth with a time of 32.24 on her home track.



Megan Honas

YEAR: Junior

EVENTS: Discus, Javelin

MEDALS: 17

RECORDS: Javelin, 119-10

STATE EVENT: Discus

PLACE IN STATE: 5th, 118-7

INSPIRATION: Coach Erbert

THOUGHTS ABOUT PLACING

AT STATE: "I was just really happy because I finally got recognition for all my hard work this season."

Life on the Run

TEAM TAKES STEPS TOWARD IMPROVEMENT

In the past few years the girls track team has always had senior leadership, but this year many underclassman had to step in and fill those shoes.

In the throwing events, Megan Honas¹³ spearheaded the growth and success, along with sophomore Rachel Keller¹⁴ who improved on her past success in the discus.

"During the season I tried to get more reps in at practice and worked really hard to reach my

goals," Keller said.

In the running events, Ashley Lopez¹³ was forced to step up and take the lead on the track. Lopez participated in three running events this season with the 100m, 4x100m relay, and the 200m.

With only two seniors leading the team, the girls did all they could to get as many people as possible to the state track meet. In the end only one qualified, junior Megan Honas

in the discus.

Honas went to the state meet after throwing 108 feet 2 inches at the regional meet and placing third. Honas took fifth overall with a throw of 118 feet 7 inches, ending her season with a medal.

"I felt like all my hard work in practice finally paid off. I wasn't nervous at all since I had been to state before, so I just went out and threw," Honas said.

Scoreboard

Ellis Inv.	3rd
Stockton Inv.	5th
Plainville Inv.	4th
Osborne Inv.	4th
Quinter Inv.	7th
Victoria Inv.	5th
Hill City inv.	4th
MCL at Trego	9th

Regionals

Smith Center	6th
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State

4x100M RELAY

1ST 43.91

Jared Pfeifer

Riley Hunsicker

Dylan Krause

Jared Herl

POLE VAULT

Riley Hunsicker

3RD 13'6"

200M

Dylan Krause

300M HURDLES

Jared Pfeifer



1. **TAKE OFF** Freshman John Ramirez does a toe touch as he flies through the air in the Triple Jump.
2. **HELPING HAND** Dylan Krause¹² prepares for the 200m dash as Harley Wright¹³ holds his starting blocks. Krause ended up going to state in the 200m run with a time of 24.40 seconds.
3. **AHEAD OF THE REST** Harley Wright¹³ makes the dash for the finish line as he finishes out the 100m dash.
4. **BRING IT IN** Jared Pfeifer¹³ tries to pass his Plainville opponent as Sam Polifka follows close behind.
5. **MOVING ON** Jacob Towns finishes the 3200m run as he sprints for the finish line.
6. **LEARNING TO FLY** Sam Polifka¹³ gets ready to let the discus rip. Polifka would go on to beat his personal best at the Regional meet in Smith Center with a throw of 128' 7".



Time of Their Lives

BOYS SET RECORDS, MAKE STRIDES

They're lean, mean, and full of steam. The Ellis boys track team was a team on a mission this year, with the 4x100m relay team yearning to get back to state for the second year in a row and many other tracksters wanting to capitalize on recent improvements.

On the throwing side of things, incoming freshman Brandon Groff threw the javelin his best of 117 feet 1 inch while juniors Luke Lohrmeyer,

Sam Polifka, and Logan Fuchs hoped to improve their past marks and try to make it to the state track meet.

In running events the seniors were dominant with Dylan Krause running the 200 meter dash, while the 4x100m team was having another great year, hoping to make the state meet.

Over on the jumping side, senior Riley Hunsicker was a state contender in pole vault. Also, Ellis qualified for the state

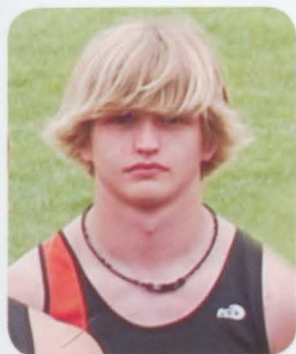
meet in three events with the 4x100m team, Riley Hunsicker, and Jared Pfeifer in the 300m hurdles.

The 4x100m team took gold at state and Hunsicker finished 3rd in pole vault but not before breaking the EHS record held by none other than his own coach, Jack Wolf, who had broken the record in 1974 with a height of 13 feet 5 inches. Hunsicker jumped 13 feet 6 inches at the state meet.



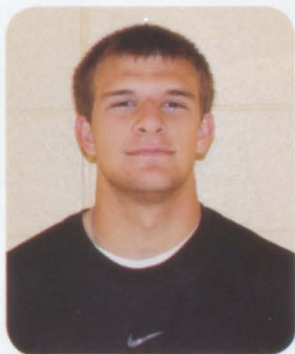
DETERMINATION Luke Lohrmeyer¹³ pulls through with his left arm as he prepares to let the shot put fly into the sector. Lohrmeyer threw his personal best at the Quinter Invitational with a throw of 44 feet 8 inches. Lohrmeyer also threw discus to help round out the boys field events team. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*

GOING UP Riley Hunsicker¹² vaults over the bar at Cessna Field during the state track meet where he placed 3rd with a school record jump of 13'6". Hunsicker advanced to state after jumping a height of 12 feet even at the regional track meet in Smith Center. *Photo by Deana Hunsicker*



Harley Wright¹³

"My favorite part of track season was throwing javelin and being able to be an alternate for the 4x100m."



Jared Herl¹²

"My favorite part of track season was being able to try and break records in the 4x100m."



Nick Gehring¹⁴

"My favorite part of track season was running through the sprinklers at practice when it was hot outside."



Eli Lohrmeyer¹⁵

"My favorite part of track season was getting to practice high jump with the other high jumpers."



BRINGING HOME THE GOLD Jared Pfeifer¹⁵, Riley Hunsicker¹², Dylan Krause¹², and Jared Herl¹² pose with their gold medals after taking first place in the State 2A Boys 4x100m race at Cessna Field in Wichita. The boys had been consistently running the race in 44 seconds all season and shattered their personal best with a time of 43.91 narrowly missing breaking the school record which was placed in 2007 with a time of 43.75. "The atmosphere was awesome, the stands are packed and all you can hear is the crowd roaring and the announcer saying your name as you hand off the baton," Krause said. *Photo by Sherri Krause*



1.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



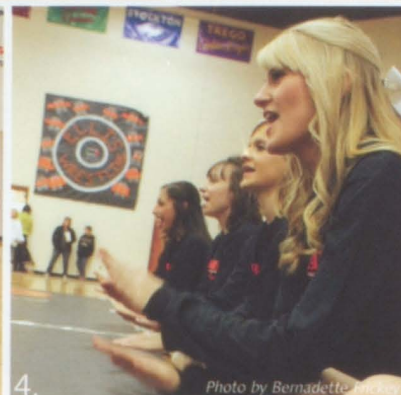
2.

Photo by Luke Lohmeyer



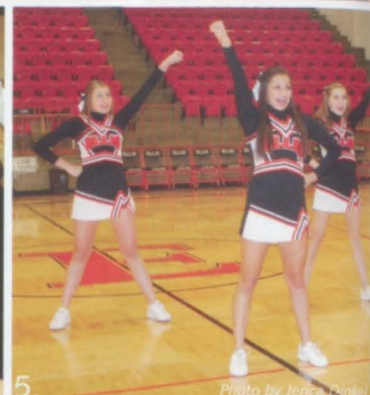
3.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel



4.

Photo by Bernadette Jockey



5.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel

1. **SHOW SOME SPIRIT** The cheerleaders show their pride on Pee Wee night by wearing the same shirts that the little girls wore. They performed a dance with the Pee Wee cheerleaders during the halftime of the football game against Plainville.

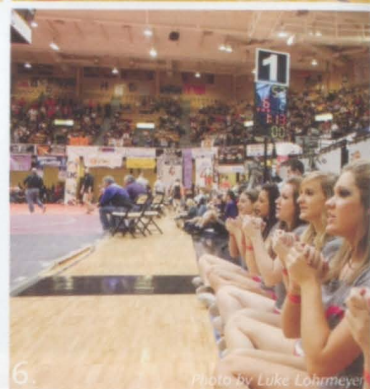
2. **HEART IN DANCE** The cheerleaders show their school spirit by performing during the community pep rally to get everyone pumped up for the game.

3. **GET PUMPED** Regan Krause¹⁴, Ashleigh Bunker¹², and Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴ show their pride in a cheer during the fall pep rally before the soap scrimmages.

4. **PIN HIM** Ashleigh Bunker¹², Jenny Hollern¹², Jessie Stanton¹², and Ashley Lopez¹³ cheer for Allen Augustine¹⁴ during a match at the home dual.

5. **GET WITH IT** Baylee Werth¹⁵, Ashley Lopez¹³, and Olivia Reiter¹⁵ chant a cheer during a pep rally before the first winter sports games in December.

6. **YELL IT** At the state wrestling tournament, the cheerleaders give some support for Gage Younger¹³ during his first match of the day.



6.

Photo by Luke Lohmeyer

Life Before the Crowd

SQUAD STRIVES FOR MORE SCHOOL SPIRIT

Who shows more school spirit than a cheerleader? At camp every year the squad chooses what goals they have for the year, and for this year they wanted more school spirit.

They chose to improve school spirit because they felt that the crowd could be more involved in cheering on the athletes.

"We wanted to do whatever we could to get

the crowd involved," senior captain Breanna Kroeger said.

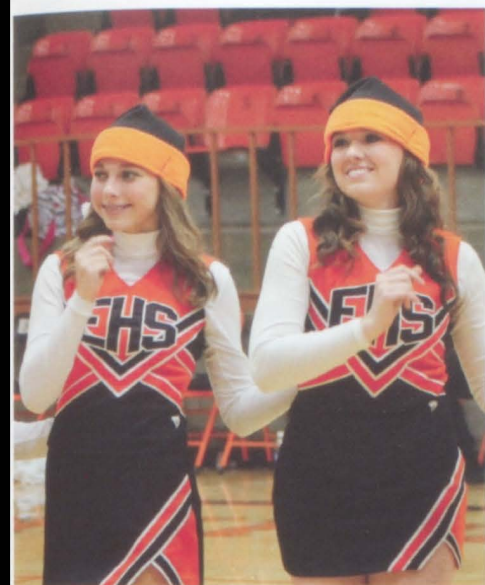
To achieve this goal they added theme nights to games, made more posters for the school, lockers, and yard signs, and longer pep rallies to get more students to participate.

"The students and faculty seemed to really like the posters. They seemed to get the school more excited for home games," senior Ashleigh

Bunker said.

The girls got these ideas from each other and online with other squads that had success with them. They have seen a lot more crowd interaction during the games.

"The theme nights were a very good idea. My favorite was the Cancer Awareness night. The cheerleaders got to wear different colored shirts and we raised money," senior co-captain Jessie Stanton said.



SANTA'S HELPERS Olivia Reiter¹⁵ and captain Breanna Kroeger¹² perform the Christmas routine during halftime of the boys' game against Palco. They had three weeks of practice to prepare for the dance which was more relaxed and fun-styled. "My favorite part of our dance was the kick line. I felt like all the hard work and time practiced paid off," Reiter said. *Photo by Robbie King*

LAST PERFORMANCE The cheerleaders danced at halftime of the boys' sub-state basketball games that were hosted by Ellis High School. The girls also performed the same dance at the 1A State Basketball tournament in Hays. "I think it went very well. We got a lot of compliments on it," Jessie Stanton¹² said. "I was excited to dance in Hays so our family could come watch if they missed it before." *Photo by Jerica Dinkel*



Sarah Henman¹⁵
"My favorite part of cheerleading was playing pranks on people during cheer camp and Olivia Reiter¹⁵ singing on long car rides."



Regan Krause¹⁴
"My favorite part of cheerleading was performing during Sub-State basketball."



Ashley Lopez¹³
"My favorite part of cheerleading was dancing at the town pep rally for Homecoming."



Jenny Hollern¹²
"My favorite part of cheerleading was the cheer battle with the Hill City cheerleaders during the 3rd and 4th game of the MCL Basketball Tournament."



SURF'S UP During the Pee-Wee cheer camp, the cheerleaders teach girls ages 3-5 the dance they will be performing at halftime of a football game. Shea Harper¹³ used "Surfin' USA" by the Beach Boys for the dance. This was Harper's first dance that she choreographed. "It was a good experience but a little stressful," Harper said. First she listened to the song a little bit, then looked on YouTube for easy and adorable moves that the girls could do. "I liked the dance! I thought it was really cute for the little girls," Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴ said. *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*

Speak Your Mind

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PEPPERMINT PARTNERS Juniors Tyler Walters and Jordan Rohr work together at the Homecoming pep rally to move a peppermint from the bottom of one straw to the top of the other straw without dropping the mint. Each class had three contestants. "After Jordan gave it to me, it was harder to give it to Lexi [Feik¹³] since we had already had so many mints fall off," Walters said. *Photo By Robbie King*





Photo by Jerica Dinkel

Kylie Waldschmidt¹³ and Cole Pfeifer¹³



Photo by Jill Wood

Abby Hatliger¹⁴, Kori Clark¹⁵, Brianna LaBarge¹⁵, and Ciara Garnett¹⁵



Photo by Shea Harper

Dylan Krause¹⁴, Kyle Weber¹², Breanna Kroeger¹², Heather Hollingshead¹², JJ Hernandez¹²



Photo by Jill Wood

Ryan Downing¹³ and Austin Lopez¹²



Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

Mr. and Mrs. Dawson, Kelly Robb¹³, and Sam Polikfa¹³



Photo by Jerica Dinsley

1. **STEADY STACKIN'** "We tried to stack three golfballs on top of each other," said Sarah Henman¹⁵. "I tried to put gum on the golf balls to make them stick to each other but it didn't work!"

2. **MAKING A SPLASH** Sarah Mick¹⁵ gets dropped against her will into the Memorial fountain by her friends. It's a tradition for students to go to Memorial Park after Thursday's bonfire and throw each other into the fountain.

3. **EVERYBODY DANCE NOW** Thatcher Brown¹³ and Ashley Lopez¹³ show their best moves at the Homecoming Dance. The duo were from the 70's. Other themes included in the game were Lady Gaga, the rock era, and the 80's era.

4. **RUN, SIDNEY, RUN** Sidney Gottschalk¹⁴ sprints to make a touchdown for her Sophomore team during Powderpuff football. The junior class won both of their games, winning the competition.

5. **CAREFUL CATCHING** Austin Lopez¹² tries to toss a ball into a bucket over Kyle Weber's head during a pep rally. I believe we would have won," Lopez said, "but we were not smart enough to empty the bucket."



Photo by Robbie King

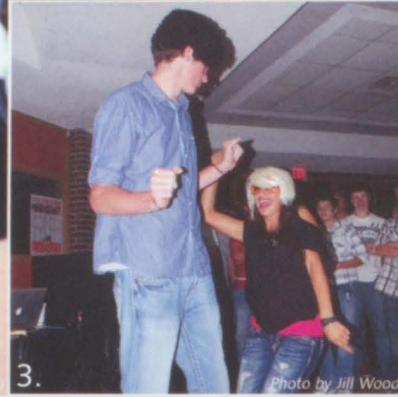


Photo by Jill Wood



Photo by Jerica Dinsley



Photo by Robbie King

Fight for Your Life

CLASSES CLASH DURING SPIRIT WEEK

Every year, classes take part in Homecoming festivities. Students decorate the town, showing school and class spirit.

This year, the junior class decided to go all out and decorate Ellis as much as possible. In their pursuit, they chalked the sidewalk outside the high school and window chalked as many businesses as they could. They also decided to put cups on the tennis court fence, spelling out the word "JUNIORS". Right after the juniors left the courts, the seniors tore down

all the cups.

"I helped put cups up on the fence just to have the seniors tear it down five minutes later," Bailey Hensley¹³ said. "When they tore it down I was super mad, but then thought it was funny because the only reason we did it was to make them mad, and we accomplished that goal obviously!"

One senior said it was all in self-defense.

"It happens every year. The underclassmen try to sabotage the Senior Hill. We weren't going to

have that," Lyle Fischer¹² said.

After seeing this on Facebook, the juniors saw this prank as the start of a "war". For the rest of the week, the upperclassmen began to fight for first place.

"I thought it was fun that the juniors fought against the seniors," Sam Polifka¹³ said. "They may have won officially, but I think we deserved it. Next year, we'll definitely take first place!"



RAILER ROYALTY Dylan Krause¹² and Jessie Stanton¹² pose for pictures after being crowned Homecoming King and Queen. "I felt really lucky to even be standing there," said Stanton. "My grandma from the nursing home came to see the crowning. She was really excited and it was neat to see her smile! It was a very nice surprise to actually get queen!" *Photo by Jerica Dinkel*

SWING DANCERS Brayden Werth¹³ and Bailey Hensley¹³ twirl each other around at the dance. "I like swing dancing with Bailey because she actually knows how dance. The joy of swing dancing is that if they stink, you can just let them go," Werth said. *Photo by Jill Wood*



SHOW ME THE MOVES The cheerleaders demonstrate how to win the Wheelbarrow Race at the pep rally. The girls took the challenge of putting together a pep rally that included games, coach's speeches, and dance numbers. "Cheerleading as a freshman is very exciting and was very good experience for me! Homecoming was a very stressful but exciting week," said Baylee Werth¹⁵. "As a cheerleader, Homecoming was fun, but we also put a lot of work into it!" *Photo by Robbie King*

WOULD YOU RATHER...

...watch Mr. Mick do the WOP or watch Mr. Kohl Cat Daddy?



...have to dance with someone who sneezes on you the whole time or dances horribly?

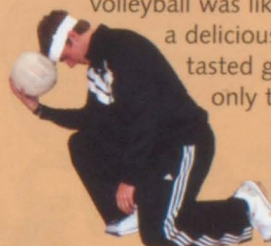


...listen to polka or Justin Beiber songs the whole dance?



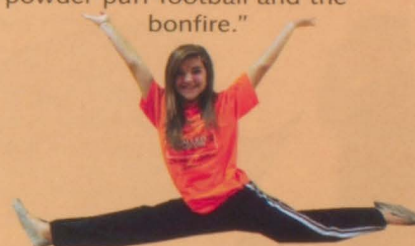
Nick Gehring¹⁴

"Winning against the teachers in volleyball was like biting into a delicious Snickers...it tasted great but was only temporary."



Hailey Dinkel¹⁵

"My first Homecoming was exciting! The best parts of Homecoming were powder-puff football and the bonfire."



Cast and Crew of "You Can't Take It With You"

Martin Vanderhof.....	Cole Pfeifer
Penelope Sycamore.....	Kylie Waldschmidt
Paul Sycamore.....	Blake Hudson
Essie Carmichael.....	Alicia Kroeger
Ed Carmichael.....	Kelly Robb
Mr. De Pinna.....	Sam Polifka
Rheba.....	Bailey Hensley
Donald.....	Robbie King
Alice Sycamore.....	Shea Harper
Tony Kirby.....	Thatcher Brown
Boris Kohlenkhov.....	Brandon Keever
Henderson, G-man.....	Cadyn McCoy
Gay Wellington.....	Lexi Feik
Mr. Kirby.....	Logan Fuchs
Mrs. Kirby.....	Ashley Lopez
The Man.....	Gage Younger
G-man Mac.....	Candace Bollig
G-man Jim.....	Jared Mick
G-man.....	Jordan Rohr
Olga Katrina.....	Alexis Rose

Chase Rutherford.....	Stage Manager/Lights
Luke Lohrmeyer.....	Sound
Taylor McClung.....	Stagehand/Make-up
Jasmine Slaughter.....	Stagehand/Make-up
Beth Augustine.....	Make-up/Hair
Becca Aschenbrenner.....	Usher/Make-up/Hair
Megan Honas.....	Usher
Breanna Kroeger ¹²	Hair/Make-up

OH DON'T GO Shea Harper tries to get Thatcher Brown to stay a little longer. In the play there was a scene where they were supposed to kiss, however the two ended up faking a kiss/hug. "I didn't want to kiss anyone, especially Thatcher, in front of my family. It was embarrassing enough just embracing," Harper said.

Photo by Jerica Dinkel

HAIR AND MAKE-UP Alexis Rose gets her hair done by Taylor McClung, Beth Augustine, and Becca Aschenbrenner before the matinee performance. Rose played Grand Duchess Olga Katrina. "When I was getting my hair done I was wondering if it would ever end. I felt like my part was kind of odd at first, but I only missed a few lines," Rose said. *Photo by Jerica Dinkel*

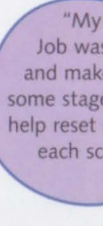


What's Your Calling?



Luke Lohrmeyer

"I was auto-tech. I had to research and download sound effects and edit them to fit the play."



Jasmine Slaughter

"My job was hair and make up, I did some stage hand stuff, I help reset stage after each scene."



Chase Rutherford

"I was stage manager. I made sure everyone was in their correct spots, and I ran the lights during the performance."

WHAT IS THE MEANING OF THIS Cole Pfeifer asks Gage Younger why he and his men stormed into the house. They explained that they had been following Kelly Robb as he delivered Alicia Kroeger's candies that had his circulars in them.

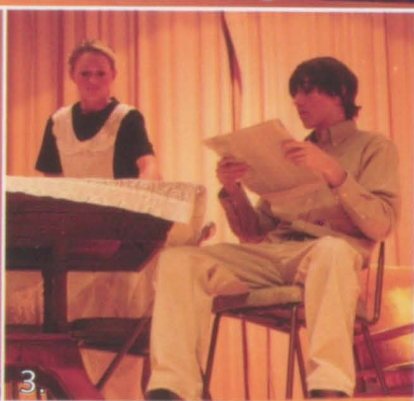




1.



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1. **TIME TO DANCE** Alicia Kroeger comes down for her dance lesson with Brandon Keever while Lexi Feik "sleeps one off" on the couch.
2. **GOT FIREWORKS** Sam Polifka hands Blake Hudson one of the fireworks they've been working on.
3. **TO THE NEWS** Robbie King reads the review over the arrest from the previous night to Bailey Hensley.
4. **WHAT A JOKE** Cole Pfeifer explains to Cadyn McCoy that he doesn't believe in income tax so he doesn't pay them. "I was demanding that Cole (Grandpa) pay his taxes," McCoy said. "I thought it was fun but it took a lot of time," Pfeifer said.
5. **GAME TIME** Kylie Waldschmidt reads off Logan Fuch's answers while playing a game during the play. Waldschmidt would read a word and they would write down the first word that came to mind. She was trying to hint that Shea and Thatcher should get married.

All photos by Jerica Dinkel

Life As An Actor

NEW DIRECTOR "PAYS" OFF

For the second year in a row there was a new director for the Junior Class Play. Alyssa Dawson, the Junior/Senior English teacher, directed her first play this year. She previously was in several plays in high school and college. Being her first play, she wasn't sure what to expect.

"I was so proud of the Juniors for taking on this classic comedy, and I was impressed with their work ethic," Dawson

said.

Each week Mrs. Dawson had on her board what acts needed to be memorized. When the Juniors missed a line during practice they would have to pay anywhere from ten cents up to five dollars a night. The money collected would go to the cast party. If they had enough, it would pay for the party, but if not, Dawson would. She believed this would motivate

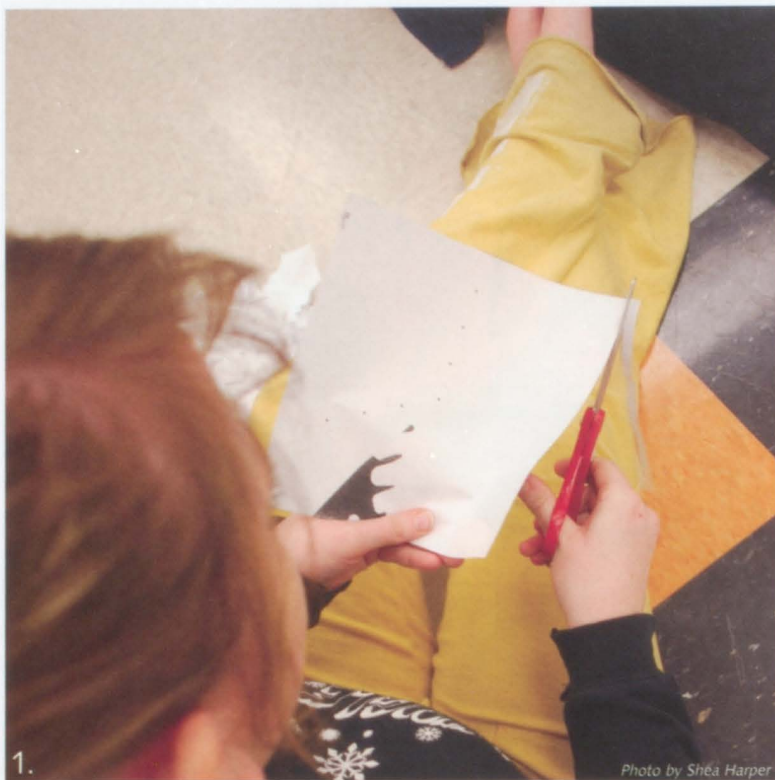
the kids to memorize their lines so they wouldn't have to pay.

"I believe paying for the missed lines helped us learn them better," Hensley said.

There were a few challenges for the actors and actresses during the performances. The play came together without any major problems for the actors.

"The biggest challenge I had during the play was acting like I was drunk," Lexi Feik¹³ said.

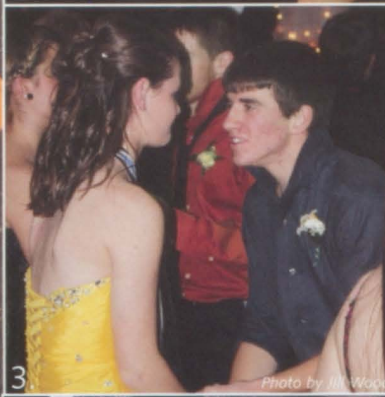
77 Junior Class Play
Jerica Dinkel



1. Photo by Shea Harper



2. Photo by Shea Harper



3. Photo by Jill Wood



4. Photo by Jill Wood

1. **SCISSOR-HANDS** Alicia Kroeger¹³ carefully cuts out a snowflake as part of decorations for the Snoball dance the next day. "Even though I had ACT in the morning, I still went to help out for a little bit," Kroeger said. "It was actually pretty fun!"

2. **SUPER SNOWFLAKES** Alicia Kroeger¹³ and Regan Krause¹⁴ pose with their cut out snowflakes while decorating for the Snoball dance. "I wasn't very good at hanging stuff up, or putting up lights, or anything else, but me and Alicia made some awesome snowflakes!" Krause said.

3. **COME DANCE WITH ME** Kyle Weber¹² talks Beth Augustine¹³ into slow dancing with him. "I danced with her for almost every song," Weber said. "She probably got a little tired of me after awhile."

4. **SOLID GOLD** Sam Polifka¹³ shows off his best dance moves to Kelly Robb¹³ and his date. "Kelly and I are pretty awesome dancers," Polifka said. "I'm sure everybody's jealous."

5. **DANCE THE NIGHT AWAY** Brayden Werth¹³, Riley Hunsicker¹², Brittanny Dinkel¹⁴, and Baylee Werth¹⁵ dance to *Copperhead Road* during the Snoball dance.



5. Photo by Jill Wood

Live To Dance

WALKING IN A WINTER WONDERLAND

This year for Snoball, it was cold outside AND inside. Everywhere you looked was covered with snowflakes and blue tinsel, resembling a Winter Wonderland. There were a lot of people and couples that went together in groups. Everybody did something a little different this year.

"I went in a pretty big group this year," Lexi Feik¹³ said. "We all went out to eat at Thirsty's. My favorite part of Snoball was probably the limo ride in the Hummer with all of my friends!

There were lights and the music was so amazing. After the dance, I went out with some of my friends."

While some people went out to eat, others decided to stay in.

"I took my girlfriend Hannah. We went in a group with Kyle Weber¹² and Beth Augustine¹³, Devin Jacques and Shelby Hollern¹², Austin Bittel and Becca Aschenbrenner¹³, and Luke Lohrmeyer¹³ and his date, Katie," Dylan Krause¹² said. "Before the dance we all had

hors d'oeuvres at my house then drove around in a limo."

Another option was going to the Good Samaritan Center to visit the residents.

"Before the dance, we ate and went to the Good Sam to parade around and show the residents how attractive we looked," Cody Grubb¹³ said.

After the dinners, limo rides, and visits to the Good Sam, all of the groups eventually ended up at the high school to dance and have fun with the rest of their friends.



Photo by Jill Wood

SLOWING IT DOWN Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴ and Nick Gehring¹⁴ slow dance to a country song. "We've gone to every dance together since Snoball last year," Gehring said.

DANCING QUEENS Ashley Lopez¹³, Alicia Kroeger¹³, Shea Harper¹³, and Baylee Werth¹⁵ lead the crowd in *The Cupid Shuffle*. When the cheerleaders were at cheer camp, they discovered a new way to do the dance. Instead of moving their feet to the sides, they step and pose while yelling E-H-S. "I think the new dance we brought back went over awesome and everybody was doing it and yelling with us!" Ashley Lopez¹³ said.



Photo by Jill Wood

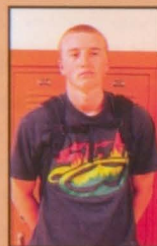


Alexis Mattheyer¹⁵



"My first Snoball...was awesome. I had so much fun with my friends!"

Isaac Henman¹²



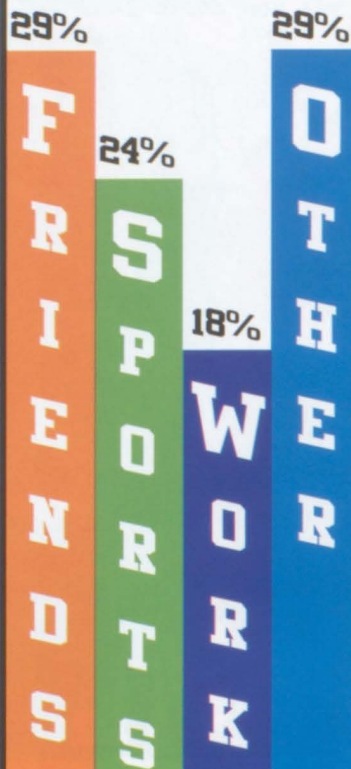
"My last Snoball...was grand because it was the second one I spent with my girlfriend."



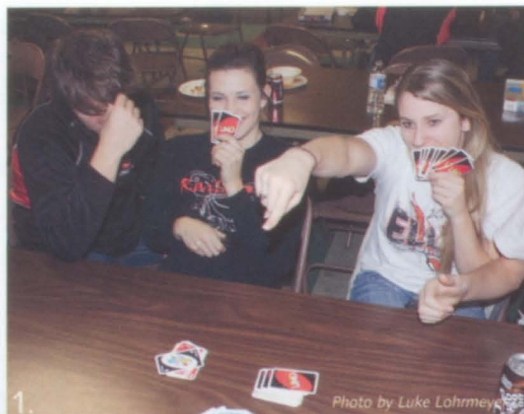
Photo by Jill Wood

WINTER WONDERLAND ROYALTY This year's royalty pose for a picture together. "I was excited to get royalty my freshman year. I had no idea I was going to get it," said Sarah Mick¹⁵. Breanna Kroeger¹² has been Snoball Royalty all four years of her high school career. "I was so lucky to be nominated every year," Kroeger said.

How Students Spend Their Time



Source: Poll of 40 students



1.

Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer



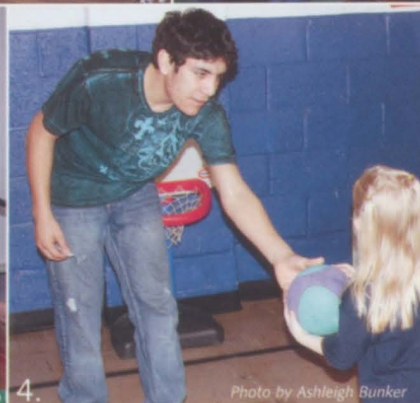
2.

Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer



3.

Courtesy Photo



4.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker



5.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

1. **POKER FACE** Nick Gehring¹⁴, Kaleigh Soneson¹⁴, and Alysha Werth¹⁴ get involved in an intense game of Uno.
2. **BLOCKING THE GOAL** Rachelle Wynn¹³ and Taylor McClung¹³ go at each other in a game of air hockey as Jasmine Slaughter¹³ and Isaiah Hearn¹³ wait their turn.
3. **LOUD AND CLEAR** Stephanie Greenway¹⁵ volunteers to help with Bingo at the Good Samaritan Center by reading off the numbers and letters.
4. **HELPING HAND** Jacob Towns¹² helps out at the St. Mary's Carnival by working the mini-basketball game.
5. **STRATEGIC MOVE** Playing a game of Connect 4 at 5th Quarter, Megan Honas¹³ goes for the win.
6. **STEADY WORK** Alexis Rose¹³ paints the face of a child at the St. Mary's Carnival. Many students volunteered their time to work in the kitchen or work at a game booth.



6.

Photo by Ashleigh Bunker

Life on the Outside

STUDENTS ACTIVE AWAY FROM SCHOOL

For many students, there is more to life than just school. 5th quarter, jobs, and other activities occupy their time outside of the walls of the high school.

5th quarter is held after home football and basketball games throughout the year. It is a great place to relax, eat, get free prizes, and hang out with friends.

"I like eating the food that is always provided at 5th quarter. Also, getting to win the usually awesome prizes is also very fun," sophomore Seth Fuller said.

Most students have a source of income and that mainly comes from jobs. Many students work after school at places such as Trio Home Center and Spielen's in Ellis. But

some also work in Hays and have to drive back and forth for their job.

"Driving back and forth from Hays is a hassle at times, but it's hard to find a job here in Ellis because there aren't many places for high schoolers to work. In the end I'm making money and that's what counts," Bernadette Frickey¹² said.

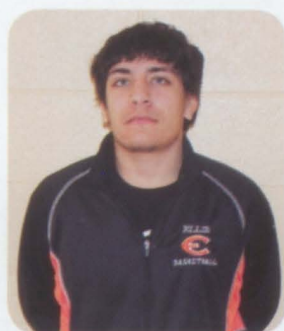


MAGICIAN AT WORK Abby Haflinger¹⁴ helps a young child pick out a stuffed animal at the St. Mary's Carnival. Kids won a stuffed animal by picking winning ducks from a pond. "I worked the duck pond for an hour and had loads of fun. Then I worked the tin can alley which I also had a lot of fun working at," said Haflinger. *Photo by Ashleigh Bunker*

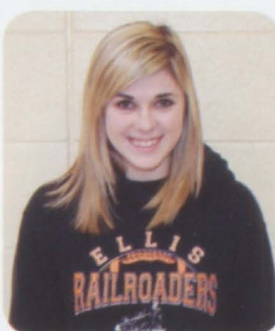
MAKING THE CUT Cody Grubb¹³ goes to work cutting a piece of wood at his after school job, working at Trio Home Center in Ellis. "I've worked at Trio for a year and a half. Doing deliveries with the trucks is one of the best parts of the job. Working for Trio has taught me to have responsibilities and also how to manage my time," said junior Cody Grubb. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*



Ciara Garnett¹⁵
"My favorite part of 5th quarter is getting to hang with my friends and play games."



Jacob Towns¹²
"My favorite part of 5th quarter is eating the awesome food and playing table soccer."



Rachelle Wynn¹³
"My favorite part of 5th quarter is getting to see my friends and getting to spend the night at someplace warm."



Rachel Keller¹⁴
"My favorite part of 5th quarter is getting to play the new Xbox dancing game and spending time with my classmates."



DARTING FOR THE LEAD Chris Browning¹⁵ concentrates on throwing a dart at the board as his opponent, Chase Rutherford¹³, waits his turn, hoping that the dart falls short. "I wasn't very good at first, but as the game went on, I improved. By the end of the night, I was winning games and starting to really pick up the game. I look forward to playing more games of darts at 5th quarter with my friends in the future," freshman Chris Browning said. *Photo by Luke Lohrmeyer*

ELLIS HIGH SCHOOL LIBRARY

81 Outside EHS
Luke Lohrmeyer



Photo by Bernadette Frickey



Photo by Jerica Dinkel

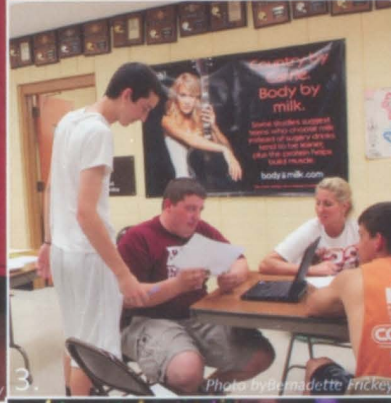


Photo by Bernadette Frickey

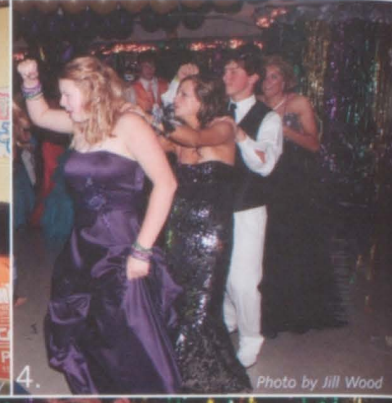


Photo by Jill Wood

1. **GIVING A HAND** Brayden Werth¹³ helps Blake Hudson¹³ during laser tag. This year the juniors got laser tag for the after-prom party. "We had laser tag for an FFA event and it was a huge success, so we thought we'd give it a try," Mr. Kohman said.

2. **GET TA STEPPIN'** Brayden Werth¹³ hot glues the stairs together for the portrait backdrop. "It was difficult putting it together when it didn't match," Werth said.

3. **PERFECT MATCH** Josh Tway¹⁴ gets his BINGO card checked by Mr. Kohman. Students were able to compete on an inflatable obstacle course, play video games, watch a movie, or play BINGO for a chance to win \$10 during the after-prom activities.

4. **FOLLOW ME** Alexis Rose¹² leads a group of students in a train that went outside and around the tables. Rose lost the person in front of her so they were running and trying to keep up with the others.

5. **SHOW ME SOME MOVES** Nancy Dinges¹² and Abby Hafliker¹⁴ dance to the YMCA. The majority of the songs played were theme songs that people could dance to. "My favorite part of dancing with Nancy was when you point and shake your hips in the YMCA," Hafliker said.



Photo by Jill Wood

Living Behind the Mask

STUDENTS HAVE A BALL AT MARDI GRAS

Busy, busy, busy. For weeks before prom, the juniors had meetings with the class sponsors to decide on a theme and decorations.

"It was challenging figuring out what was needed and ordering it, but I think it turned out great," Mrs. Nilhas said.

To help cut down the work, the juniors worked on the props that they could during the week. This freed people up to help on other things.

"I think they [decorations] turned out just how we wanted them to," Candace Bollig¹³ said.

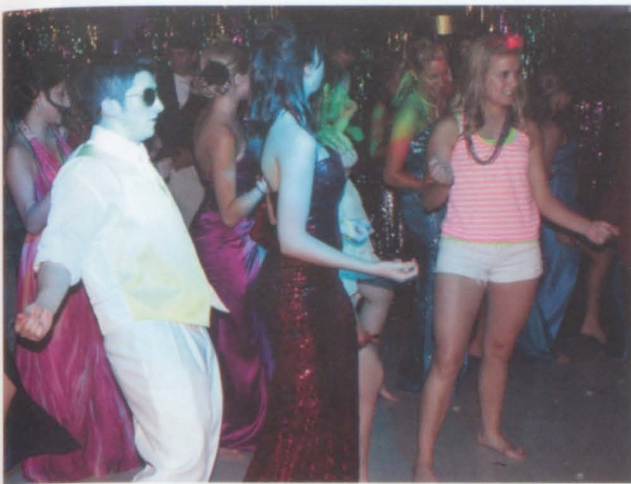
The theme that was chosen was Mardi Gras Masquerade. They had beads and masks to hand out to people as they walked in the doors. Some people decided to bring their own masks or ones that matched what they were wearing.

"My mask was white and brown with feathers.

Jasmine [Slaughter¹³], Taylor [McClung¹³], and I went to Salina to get them," Nancy Dinges¹² said.

A new activity this year for after-prom was laser tag. The students were really excited to try something new and different.

"I liked watching Kyle Weber¹² jump over tables. He would either trip himself and fall or just hurt himself somehow," Gage Stropes¹² said.



TO THE FRONT Josh Reilly¹², Brittany Dinkel¹⁴, and Jaci Diehl dance to "Crack That" by Soulja Boy. Diehl told Reilly they needed to go to the front for the dance. "I wasn't sure what to do, so I followed Brittany and Jaci because they knew what they were doing," Reilly said. *Photo by Jill Wood*

LAST HURRAH Kyle Weber¹² and Dylan Krause¹² sing to "Oh What A Night" by Frankie Valley and the Four Seasons. They have done this at dances since their freshman year, and it has become a tradition. The students circled up around them and clap while they dance and sing. "It was probably the best one because everyone knows it's mine and Krause's song," Weber said. "It was fun like always, but it was bittersweet since it was the last time," Krause said. *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*



THREE MUSKETEERS Brittany Dinkel¹⁴ and Christen Spinelli¹⁴ lift up JJ Hernandez¹² while dancing. During a slow dance, they all danced together as JJ tried to dip them. "I mainly danced with Christen Spinelli because she is amazing. We did our signature dance move which is the dip," Hernandez said. He tried dipping the girls and couldn't, so they picked him up to dip him. *Photo by Jill Wood*

Under the Mask

Can you guess who these masked girls are guys are?



My tux was black with a black vest and a light purple tie because my date had a light purple dress.

My dress was a very colorful high-low with animal print on the top and feathers at the bottom.



My tux was white with a red vest and a white tie because Jenny (Hollern¹²) had on a red dress.

My dress was long and navy blue with ruffles and some gems on the top.



Jerica Dinkel¹²



"My favorite memory from Prom was when Mrs. Wood was taking pictures while my boyfriend and I were dancing. He kept asking why she was taking pictures."

Heather Hollingshead¹²



"My favorite memory from Prom was running and hiding in the bathroom. I also liked laser tag because it was something new."

Remember That Time...

"Austin Lopez and Heather Hollingshed got 'arrested' and we all sat on the curb with our hands behind our backs."

"Dylan Krause and Kyle Weber sang December 1963 at every dance."

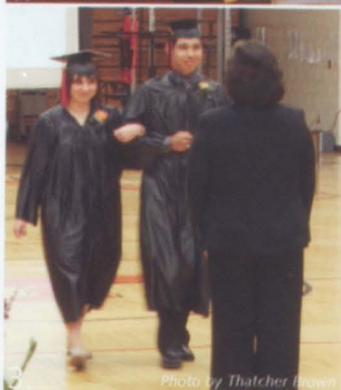
"JJ Hernandez did Double Js Challenge on the school news and made a fool out of everybody."



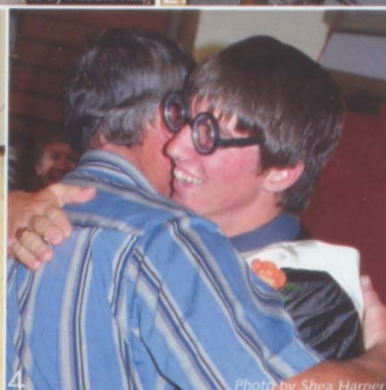
1. *Photo by Robbie King*



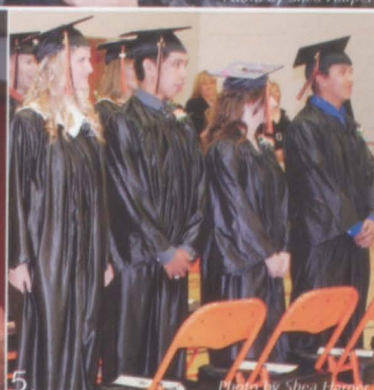
2. *Photo by Shea Harper*



3. *Photo by Thatcher Brown*



4. *Photo by Shea Harper*



5. *Photo by Shea Harper*

1. **PIANO MAN** Jared Herl accompanies the seniors as they sing the graduation song "Right Now." Herl practiced after lunch in the days leading up to graduation to perfect the song.

2. **DRUMMING AWAY** Isaac Henman plays as part of the senior's graduation song. Henman plays drums in a band during his spare time.

3. **ARM IN ARM** Jessie Stanton and JJ Hernandez walk together down the aisle to become part of the graduating class of 2012.

4. **IT RUNS IN THE FAMILY** Kyle Weber hugs his family members wearing fake glasses as part of a family joke. "I wore those glasses because my uncle dared me to," Weber said.

5. **ALL STAND** Ashleigh Bunker, JJ Hernandez, Heather Hollingshead, and Meny Rodriguez wait for their other classmates before the graduation ceremony.

6. **FINALLY DONE** Gage Stropes receives his diploma from Superintendent Robert Young during the graduation ceremony.



6. *Photo by Shea Harper*

Starting a New Life

SENIORS READY TO TAKE FLIGHT

Graduation—a day seniors look forward to for years—finally came in mid-May. Although the seniors have individually accomplished some goals, there are many more they plan to achieve.

"My plans are to attend Barton Community College, get an associate degree in geology, then transfer to Manhattan to get a

master's degree in Petroleum Geology," said JJ Hernandez.

While some seniors are thinking about the future, some recall their first days at EHS.

"I'm a lot more outgoing than I was as a freshman! I think that's because I was intimidated by the seniors, but I'm more talkative than I ever was," Jenny Hollern said.

As the senior class

graduates and start living a whole new life, they will always remember their memories together.

"It's definitely going to be a big change going from being together every day to being separated across the state. We've been together so long that we've made some interesting but lasting memories, ones we'll never forget," Breanna Kroeger said.

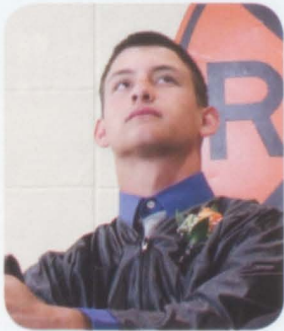


MAGICIAN AT WORK Ben Leiker plays his guitar during the senior's graduation song. During his spare time, Leiker plays guitar in a band. This is the first time a class has had multiple instruments played by their classmates during the senior song. "It was fun playing with the band at graduation to show people that we actually can come together and create something good out of it," Leiker said.

Photo by Robbie King

BACK FOR THE LAST HURRAH Breanna Kroeger hugs Mrs. Madorin, who was the seniors' English teacher for the first three years of their high school career. "It was nice to see Mrs. Madorin again, and I was very excited when I heard she was going to be our speaker for graduation," Kroeger said.

Photo by Thatcher Brown



Austin Lopez

"I'm going to miss sports and games."



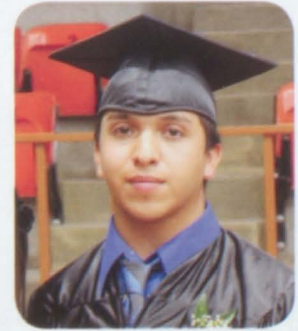
Jessie Stanton

"I'm going to miss cheering and all of my friends."



JJ Hernandez

"What I'm going to miss the most is Mr. Kohl."



Meny Rodriguez

"I'm going to miss seeing my friends everyday."



"CATCH THAT MAGIC MOMENT" The seniors sing *Right Now* by Van Halen as their graduation song. Adding to the song this year, Jared Herl played the piano, Isaac Henman played the drums, Ben Leiker played the guitar, and Kyle Weber played bass.

"It took us a long time to actually sing the song without anybody getting into fights," Jenny Hollern said. "And the instruments were so much louder than us! But it all worked out pretty good in the end. I think everyone was impressed by the boys' playing." *Photo by Robbie King*

Band



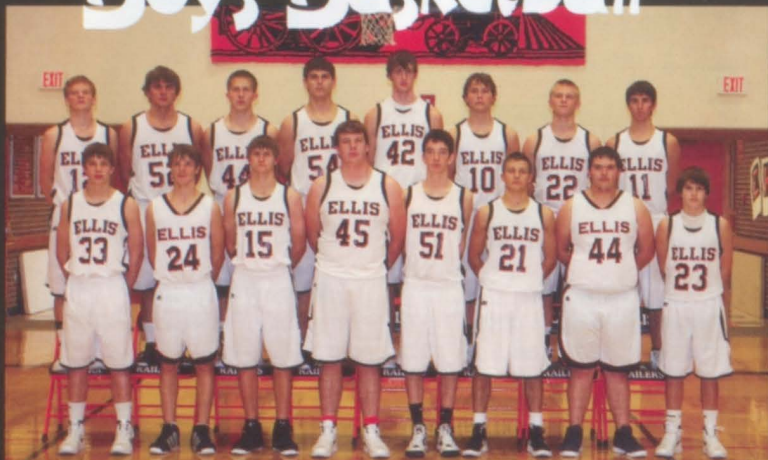
Front Row: Olivia Reiter, Ashley Butler, and Sarah Henman **Second Row:** Brianna LaBarge, Stephanie Greenway, and Baylee Werth **Third Row:** Isaac Henman, Dusty Bittel, Jared Pfeifer, and Alan Wilson *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*

Baseball



Front Row: Braden Parke, Brandon Bollig, Scott Pfeifer, Landon Younger, Brady Jacques, Jacob Callier **Second Row:** Asst. Coach Wildeman, Chase Rutherford, Jared Mick, JJ Hernandez, Meny Rodriguez, Cole Pfeifer, Jordan Rohr, Blake Hudson, and Coach Cunningham *Photo by Jill Wood*

Boys Basketball



Front Row: Eli Lohrmeyer, Chris Browning, Scott Pfeifer, Luke Lohrmeyer, Josh Tway, Brayden Werth, Chase Rutherford, and Brandon Bollig **Second Row:** Blake Hudson, Nick Gehring, Tyler Walters, Jordan Rohr, Thatcher Brown, Cole Pfeifer, Jared Mick, and Kyle Weber *Photo by Jill Wood*

Girls Basketball



Front Row: Megan Honas, Stephanie Greenway, Rachel Keller, Brittany Dinkel, Becca Aschenbrenner, Bailey Hensley, and Sarah Mick **Second Row:** Kourtney Kaicy, Baylee Werth, Autum Hellerud, Mikayla Gottschalk, Kaleigh Soneson, Monica Towns, Sidney Gottschalk *Photo by Jill Wood*

Choir



Ciara Garnett, Jacob Towns, Ashley Lopez, Regan Krause, Alicia Kroeger, and Mara Geschwentner *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*

Cheerleading



Front Row: Baylee Werth, Sarah Henman, Olivia Reiter, and Stephanie Greenway **Second Row:** Jenny Hollern, Ashleigh Bunker, Breanna Kroeger, Jessie Stanton, and Shea Harper **Third Row:** Regan Krause, Kaleigh Soneson, Brittany Dinkel, and Ashley Lopez *Photo by Sherri Krause*

Class Leadership



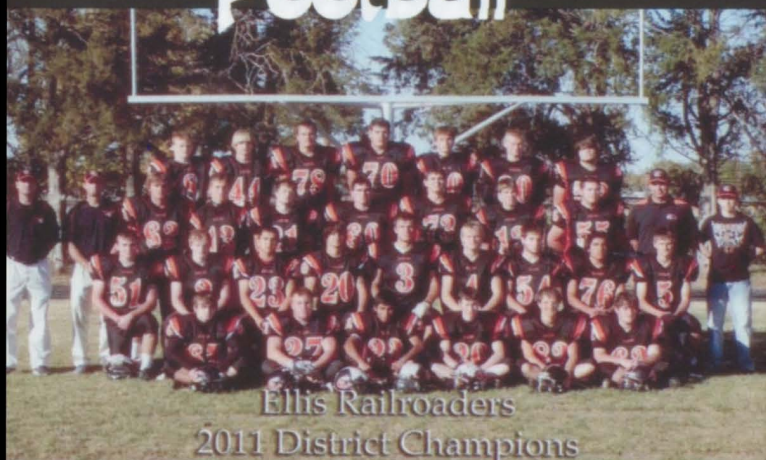
Front Row: Olivia Reiter, Hailey Dinkel, Shea Harper, and Sarah Mick **Second Row:** Sydney Gottschalk, Kaleigh Soneson, Jared Pfeifer, and John Ramirez **Third Row:** Jared Mick, Cole Pfeifer, Nick Gehring, and Dusty Bittel **Not Pictured:** Sam Polifka, Cole Pfeifer, and Robbie King *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*

FCCLA Officers



Front Row: Nancy Dinges, Jenny Hollern, and Shelby Hollern **Second Row:** Alexis Dinges, Taylor McClung, Dusty Bittel, Cadyn McCoy and Rachelle Wynn *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*

Football



Front Row: Seth Fuller, Cadyn McCoy, John Ramirez, Jared Pfeifer, Chris Browning, and Alan Wilson **Second Row:** Brandon Groff, Gage Younger, Meny Rodriguez, Justin Lopez, Jared Herl, Riley Hunsicker, Dylan Krause, Jacob Towns, and Scott Pfeifer **Third Row:** Coach Troy Dale, Coach Craig Amrein, Nick Gehring, Tyler Walters, Landon Younger, Logan Fuchs, Jordan Rohr, Eli Lohrmeyer, Chase Lutterford, Coach Hayes, and Kelly Robb **Fourth Row:** Blake Hudson, Harley Wright, Sam Polifka, Skyler Tebo, Cole Pfeifer, Jared Mick, and Austin McGann *Courtesy of Smoky Hill Photography*

Cross Country



Allen Augustine, Kyle Weber, Thatcher Brown, and Dusty Bittel
Photo by Bernadette Frickey

FFA Officers



Front Row: Abigail Hafliager, Beth Augustine, and Kourtney Kaicy **Second Row:** Monica Towns, Kyle Weber, Scott Pfeifer, Samantha Graves, and Mr. Kohman *Photo by Thatcher Brown*

Forensics



Front Row: Alexis Mattheyer, Olivia Reiter, Abigail Hafliager, Ashley Butler, and Sarah Mick **Second Row:** Alyssa Dawson, John Ramirez, Ashleigh Bunker, Stephanie Greenway, and Justin Dawson **Third Row:** Kelly Robb, Brandon Keever, Sam Polifka, Dusty Bittel, Jacob Towns, and Danielle Hausler. *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*

Golf



Front Row: Tanner Fischer, Taylor McClung, and Nancy Dinges **Second Row:** Isaac Henman, Kyle Weber, Ben Leiker, Gage Younger, Ryan Downing, and Austin Lopez **Third Row:** Tanner Keithley, Josh Townley, Josh Tway, Cody Grubb, Tyler Walters and Skyler Tebo *Photo by Matt Carroll*

KAY Officers



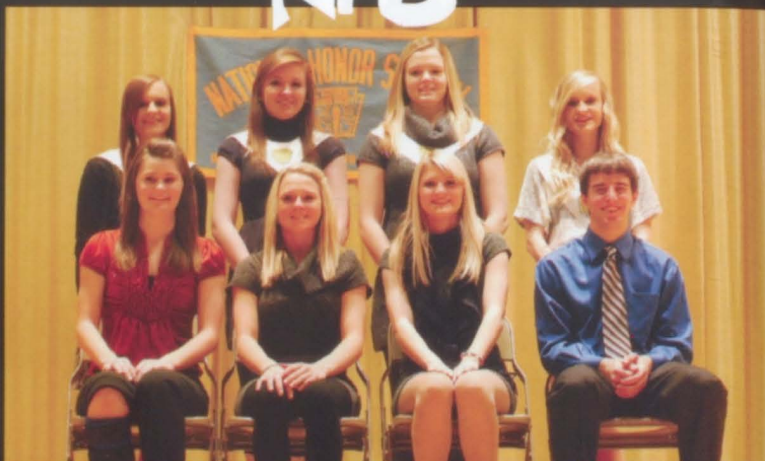
Front Row: Regan Krause, Shea Harper, Bailey Hensley, Jessie Stanton, and Alicia Kroeger **Second Row:** Shelby Hollern, Jenny Hollern, Bernadette Frickey, Sarah Mick, and Hailey Dinkel **Third Row:** Brittany Dinkel, Breanna Kroeger, Cole Pfeifer, Mikayla Gottschalk, Candace Bollig, and Ashleigh Bunker *Photo by: Thatcher Brown*

Link Crew



Front Row: Alexis Rose, Bailey Hensley, Jerica Dinkel, and Shea Harper **Second Row:** Cadyn McCoy, Candace Bollig, Mikayla Gottschalk, Beth Augustine, and Ashleigh Bunker **Third Row:** Brayden Werth, Riley Hunsicker, Jared Herl, Jordan Rohr, Thatcher Brown, Cole Pfeifer, and Mr. Dale *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*

NHS



Front Row: Beth Augustine, Bailey Hensley, Ashleigh Bunker, and Kyle Weber **Second Row:** Shelby Hollern, Breanna Kroeger, Mikayla Gottschalk, and Jenny Hollern *Photo by Jerica Dinkel*

Scholar's Bowl



Dusty Bittel, Jacob Towns, Kelly Robb, Jordan Rohr, Jared Herl, and Cadyn McCoy *Photo by Bernadette Frickey*

Softball



Front Row: Coach Katelyn Jurgensen, Alexis Mattheyer, Brittany Dinkel, Autum Hellerud, Mikayla Gottschalk, Candace Bollig, Olivia Reiter, Alexis Rose, and Coach Mallory Shanahan **Second Row:** Becca Aschenbrenner, Lexi Feik, Beth Augustine, Christen Spinelli, Sarah Mick, Bailey Hensley *Photo by Jill Wood*

Boys Track



Front Row: Nick Wynn, Allen Augustine, Brandon Groff, Dylan Krause, Logan Fuchs, Jacob Towns, and Alan Wilson **Second Row:** Chris Browning, Jared Pfeifer, Jared Herl, Luke Lohrmeyer, Harley Wright, Eli Lohrmeyer, John Ramirez, and Seth Fuller
Photo by Jerica Dinkel

Girls Track



Front Row: Abigail Hafliger, Rachel Keller, Regan Krause, Sarah Henman, Hailey Dinkel, and Brianna LaBarge **Second Row:** Megan Honas, Ashley Lopez, Danielle Hausler, Kori Clark, Sidney Gottschalk, Kaleigh Soneson, Kathleen Windholz, and Alysha Werth
Photo by Jerica Dinkel

STUCO



Kyle Weber, Jared Mick, Mikayla Gottschalk, and Shelby Hollern
Photo by Bernadette Frickey

Multimedia/Web



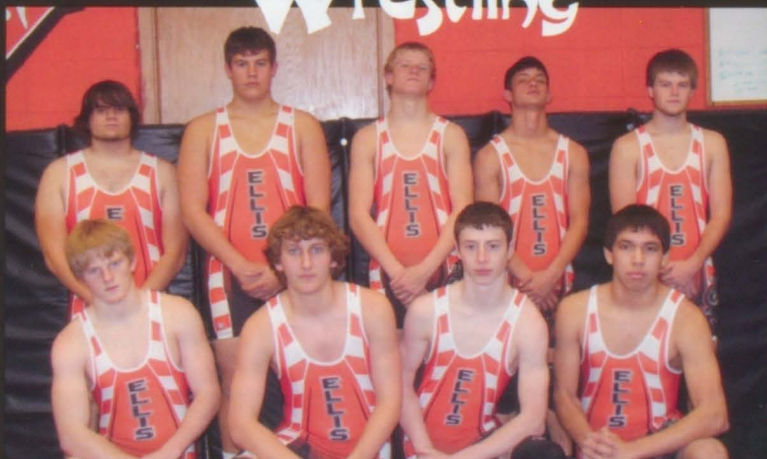
Front Row: Bernadette Frickey, Jenny Hollern, and Shelby Hollern **Second Row:** Meny Rodriguez, Breanna Kroeger, Ashely Lopez, Gage Younger, and Blake Hudson
Third Row: JJ Hernandez, Jordan Rohr, Luke Lohrmeyer and Craig Amrien **Not Pictured:** Ashleigh Bunker
Photo by Jerica Dinkel

Volleyball



Front Row: Mgr. Ciara Garnett, Danielle Hausler, Hailey Dinkel, Olivia Reiter, Stephanie Greenway, Autum Hellerud, Baylee Werth, Ashley Butler, and Kori Clark **Second Row:** Alexis Mattheyer, Kara Parson, Rachel Keller, Kaleigh Soneson, Samantha Graves, Brittany Dinkel, Sidney Gottschalk, Regan Krause, Abigail Hafliger, Alysha Werth, Sarah Mick **Third Row:** Coach Vanessa Beilman, Christen Spinelli, Bailey Hensley, Becca Aschenbrenner, Megan Honas, Beth Augustine, Mikayla Gottschalk, Candace Bollig, Ashley Lopez, Taylor McClung, Alexis Rose, Kourtney Kaicy, Brianna LaBarge, and Coach Ellen Dreyer
Photo by Smoky Hill Photography

Wrestling



Front Row: Austin McGann, Skyler Tebo, Riley Hunsicker, Austin Lopez, and Landon Younger **Second Row:** Gage Younger, Allen Augustine, Jared Pfeifer, and JJ Hernandez **Not Pictured:** Mgr. Jerica Dinkel, and Mgr. Hailey Dinkel
Courtesy photo



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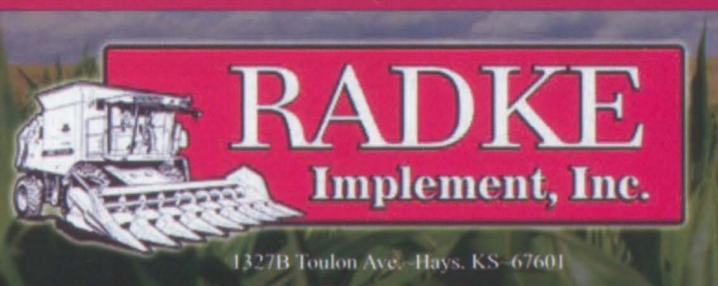


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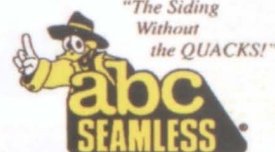


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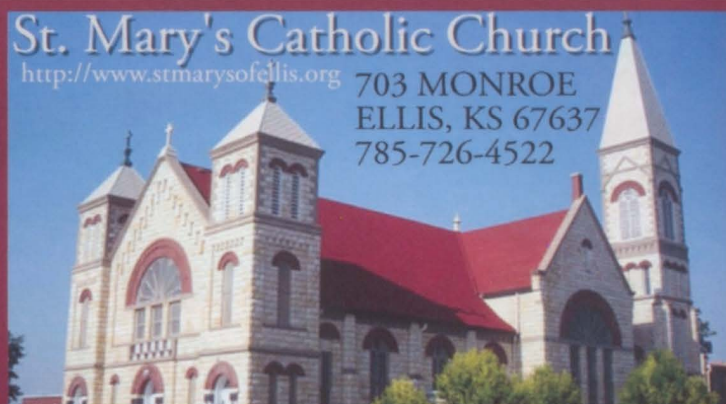


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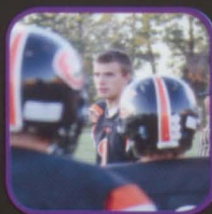
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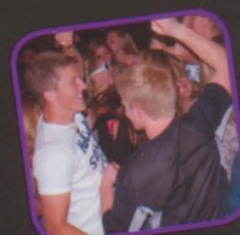


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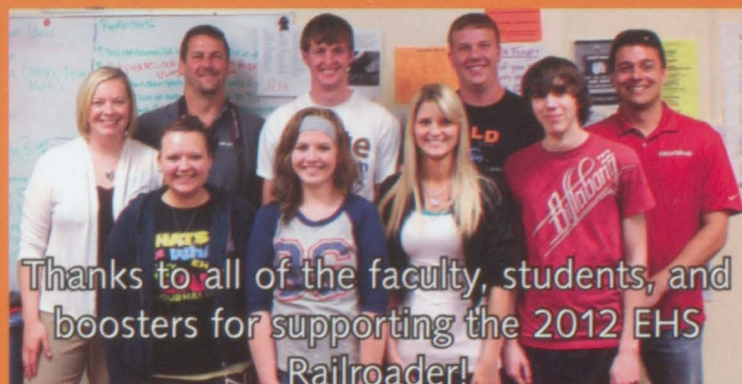
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The 2012 edition of the Ellis High School Railroader was published by the EHS yearbook staff and printed by Jostens of Topeka, Kansas. Sales Representatives were Jordan Hall and Derius Mammen and plant representative was Lori Wishert. Press run was 120 copies with 112 pages. The Railroader was printed with a trim size of 8. Body copy in the yearbook is AYT Struktur and AYT Speaking Style. The Railroader is a computer generated book, and all work was done by the students using Adobe Indesign CS4 and Photoshop CS3 on IBM computers and a color laser printer. Portraits and group photos were taken by EHS journalism staff, Smoky Hill Photography, Jill Wood, and the Ellis Review. The Railroader was financed from \$35 book sales, \$35 business ads, \$70 1/4 pages ads, \$140 1/2 page ads, and \$280 full page ads.

The yearbook staff would like to thank Mrs. Jill Wood for taking on the task of being the journalism sponsor and pushing us to reach our potential; Derius Mammen for helping us with technical problems and saving us money; and the faculty for letting us out of class to work on the yearbook and interrupting their classes to take pictures. We would like to express a very special thanks to Mr. Steve Herman for helping us with all of the computer problems we faced this year, and to the EHS students for being so cooperative with all the e-mails we sent out and all the pictures we took of you. We appreciate you!

Every student at Ellis High School has their own way of living, yet somehow we are all connected. We all pull ourselves out of bed every morning and try to keep our eyes open during the first class of the day. As the day goes on, students brighten up and begin to socialize. Students get excited for after-school activities, sporting events, or the idea of going home.

However, there is something that makes Ellis students unique. The City of Ellis was selected for the 2012 'One of a Kind' Kansas Contest. KWCH Eyewitness News from Wichita sent three reporters to various cities around Kansas to find out what makes them such great places. "Different", "helpful", "nice," are all words that were used to describe the people of Ellis.

"Ellis is different from most small towns. The people want to share their story and help you understand why they love Ellis," said Michael Schwanke, KWCH 12 News Anchor.

Whether the people of Ellis realize it or not, we are something special. We, as students, are taught that we have the experience and abilities to go out and become successful. But we still know where our roots are, we still come home.

"Take advantage of every opportunity you have. Don't be afraid to fail," KWCH 12 Photojournalist Rob Schunn said.

No matter where you go, no matter what you do, you will always be an Ellis Railer. You will always be distinctive. You will always set yourself apart. Because only you know how to

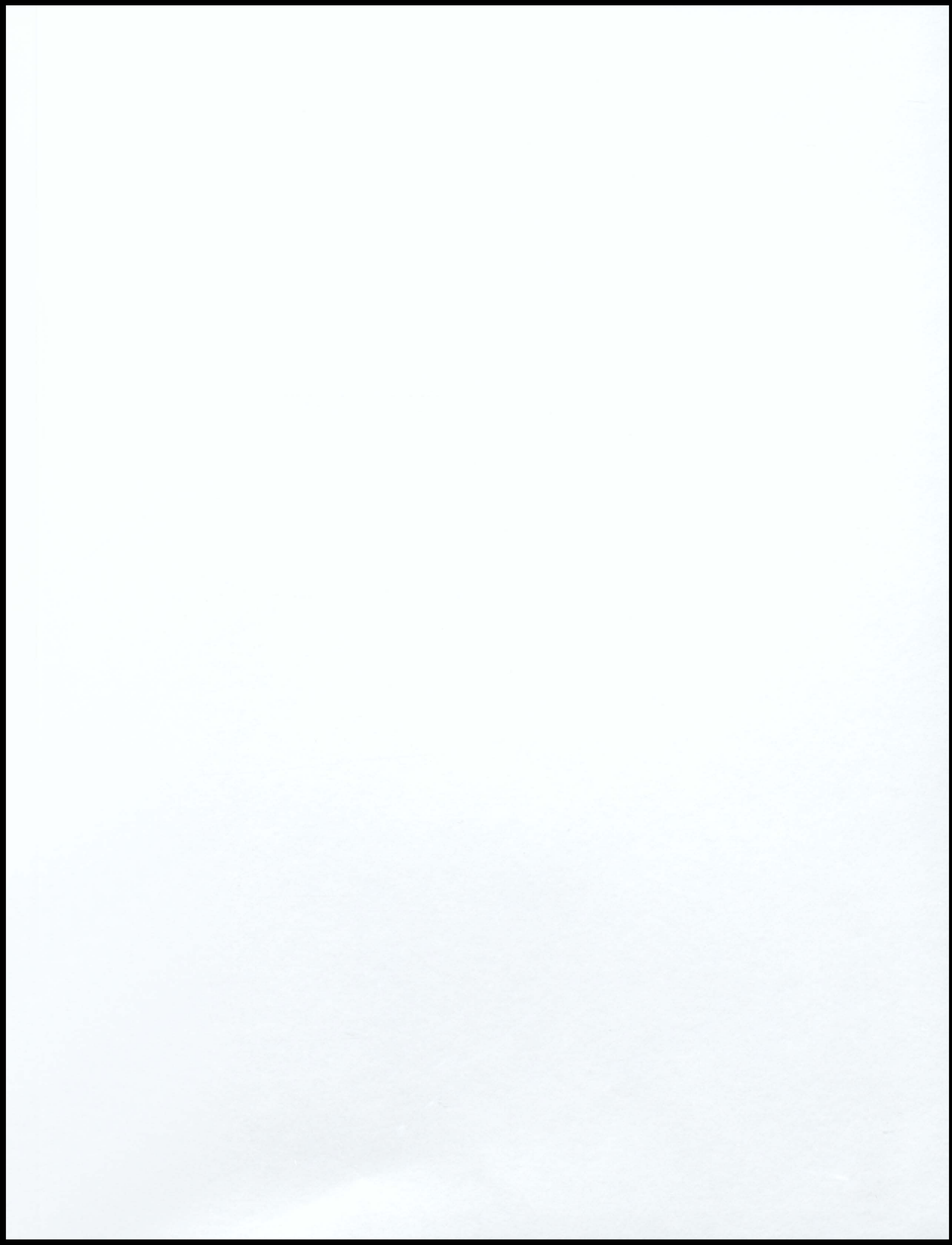
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PEACE OUT Juniors Luke Lohrmeyer, Thatcher Brown, and Shea Harper raise their arms in a cheer at the Jostens Workshop held at FHSU. This is Harper's second year on the yearbook staff and Brown's and Lohrmeyer's first year. Photo by Jill Wood

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