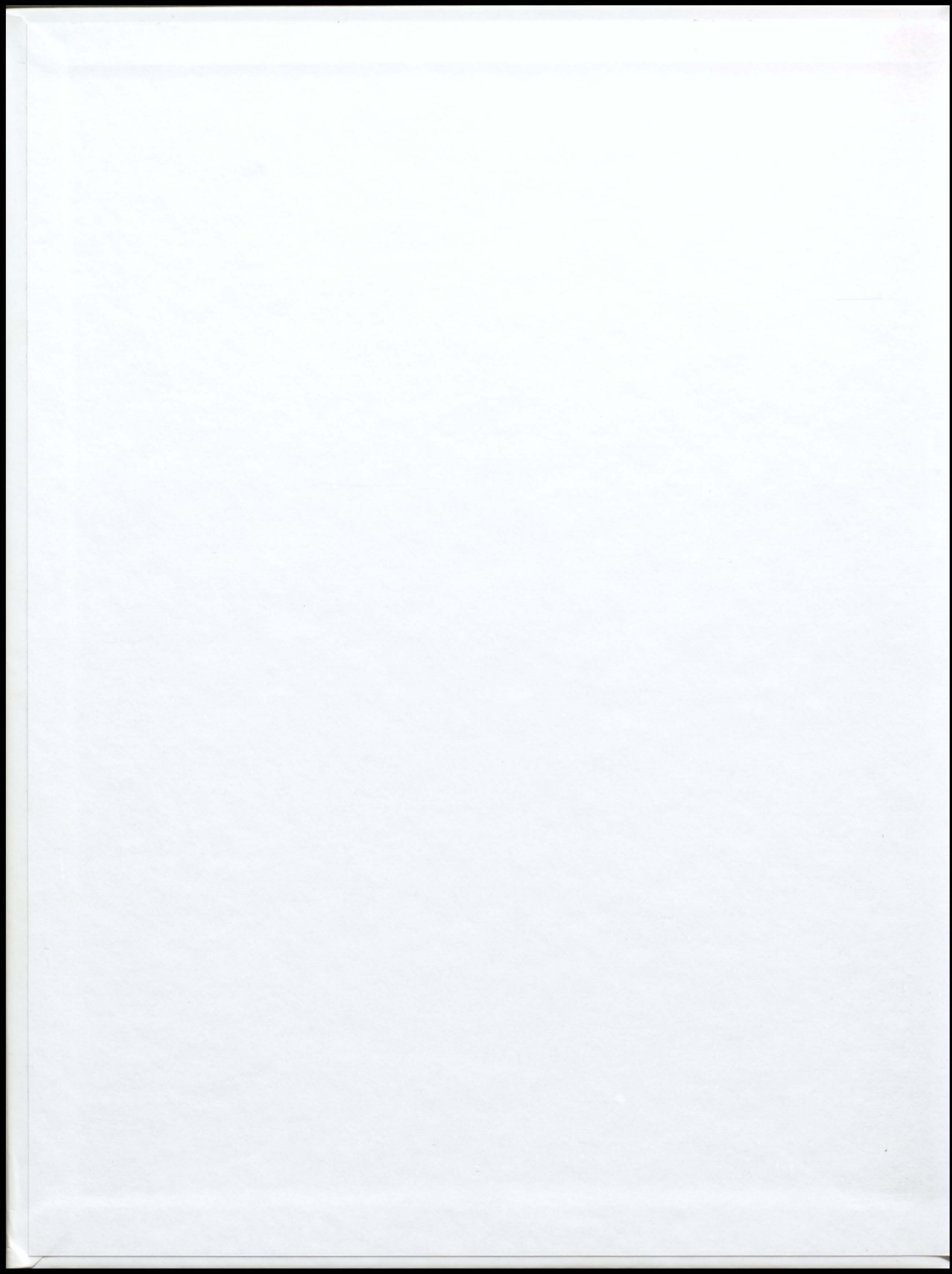
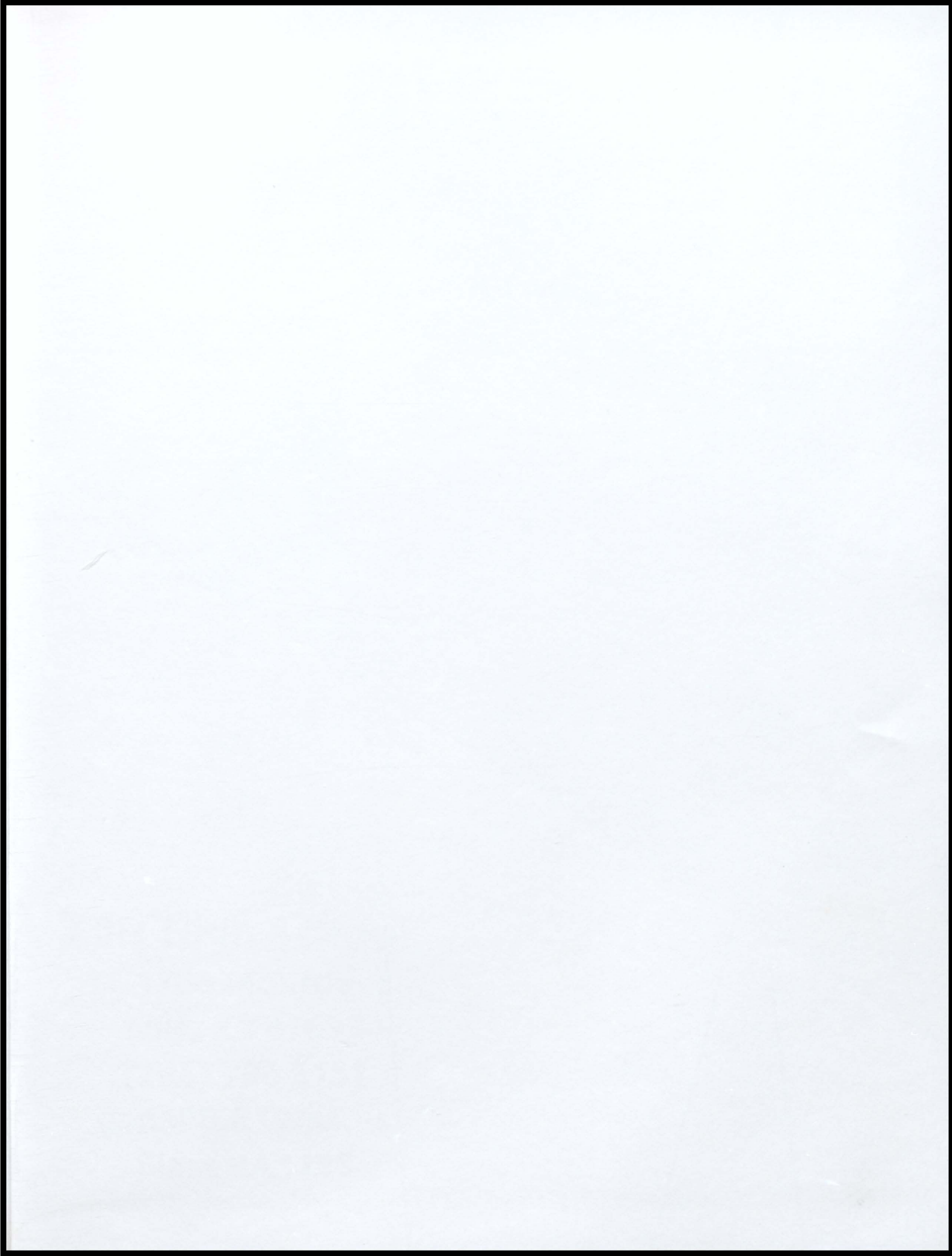


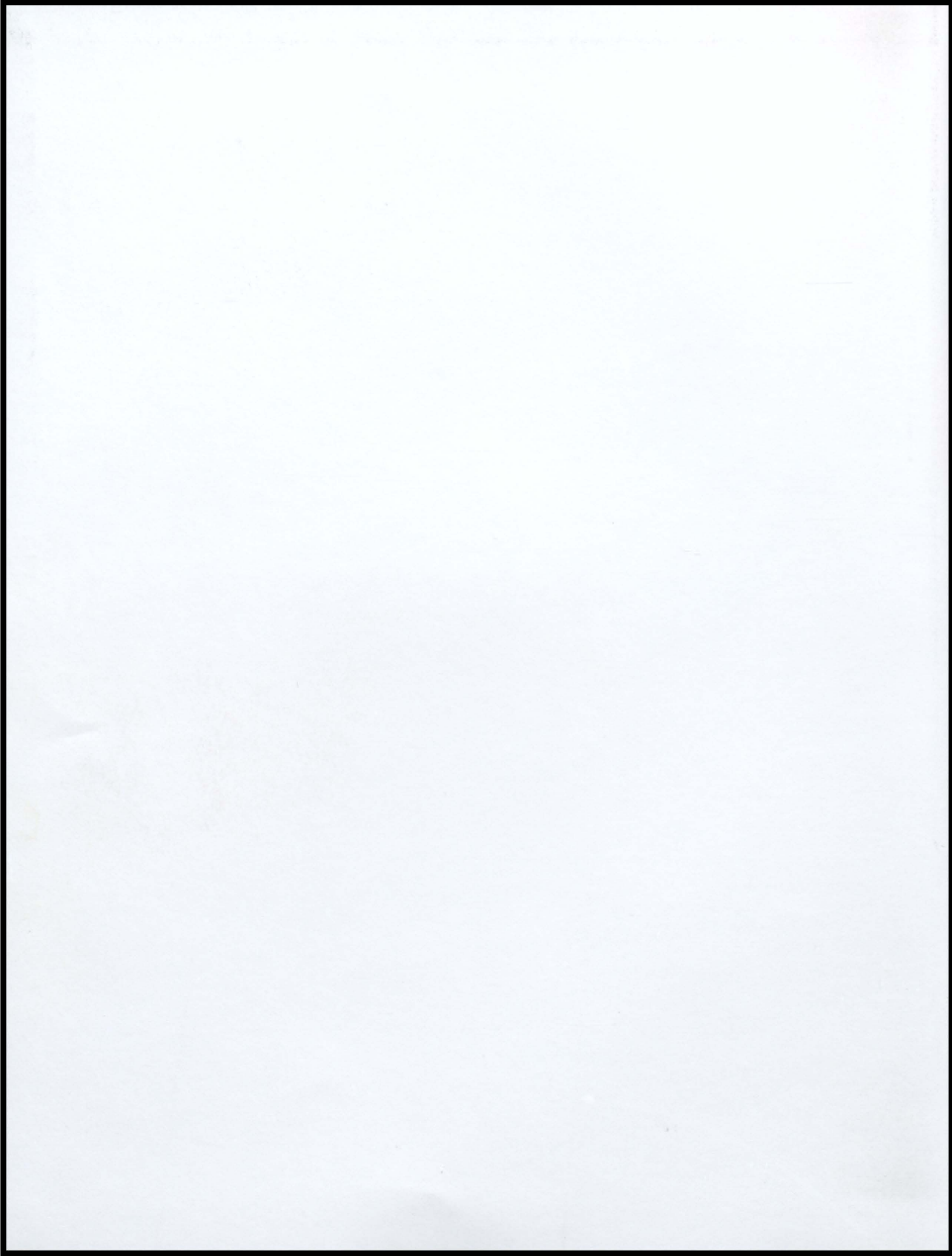
FROM ALL ANGLES

2017



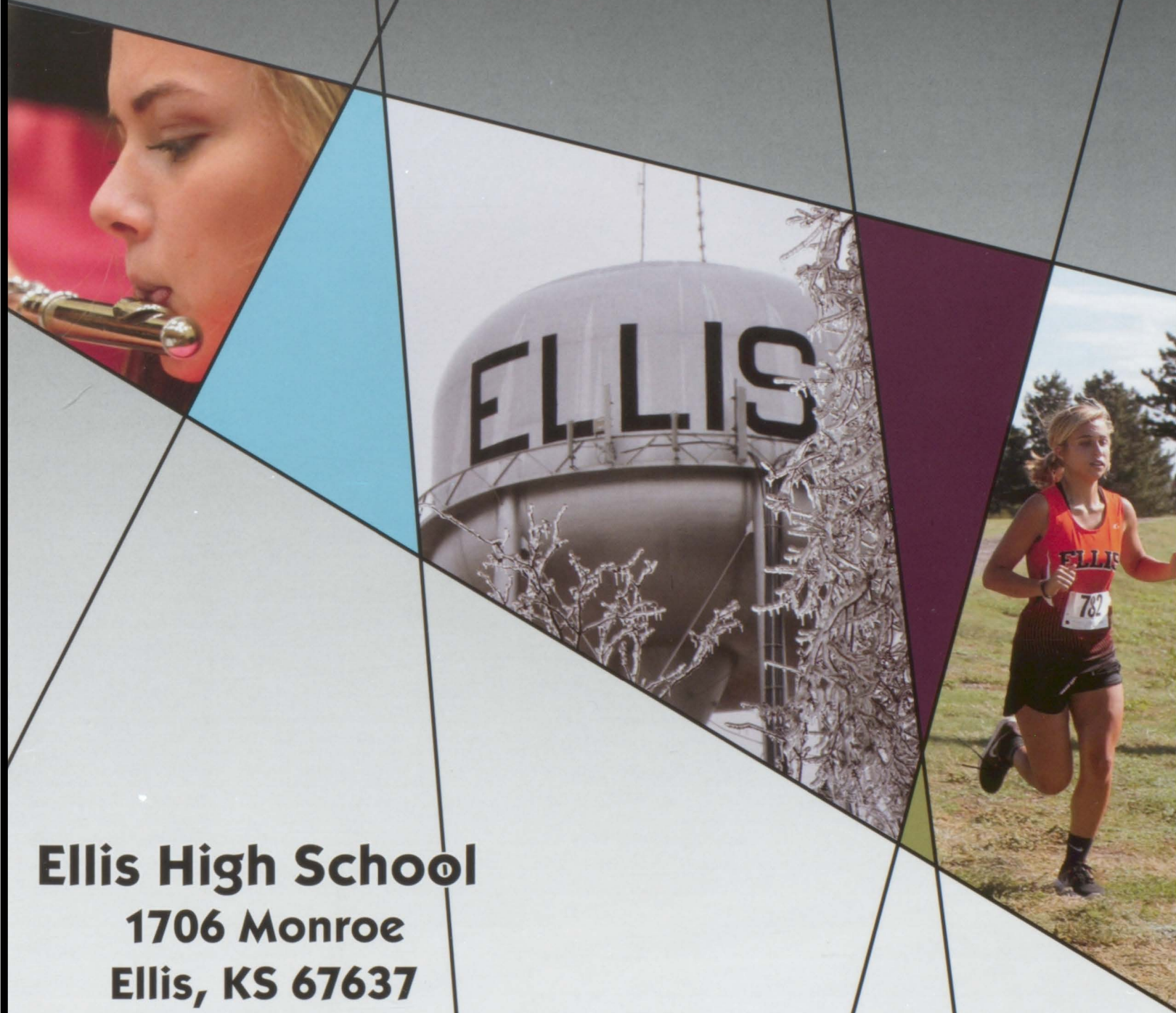






FROM ALL ANGLES

Railroader 2017



Ellis High School

1706 Monroe

Ellis, KS 67637

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Class 2A*135

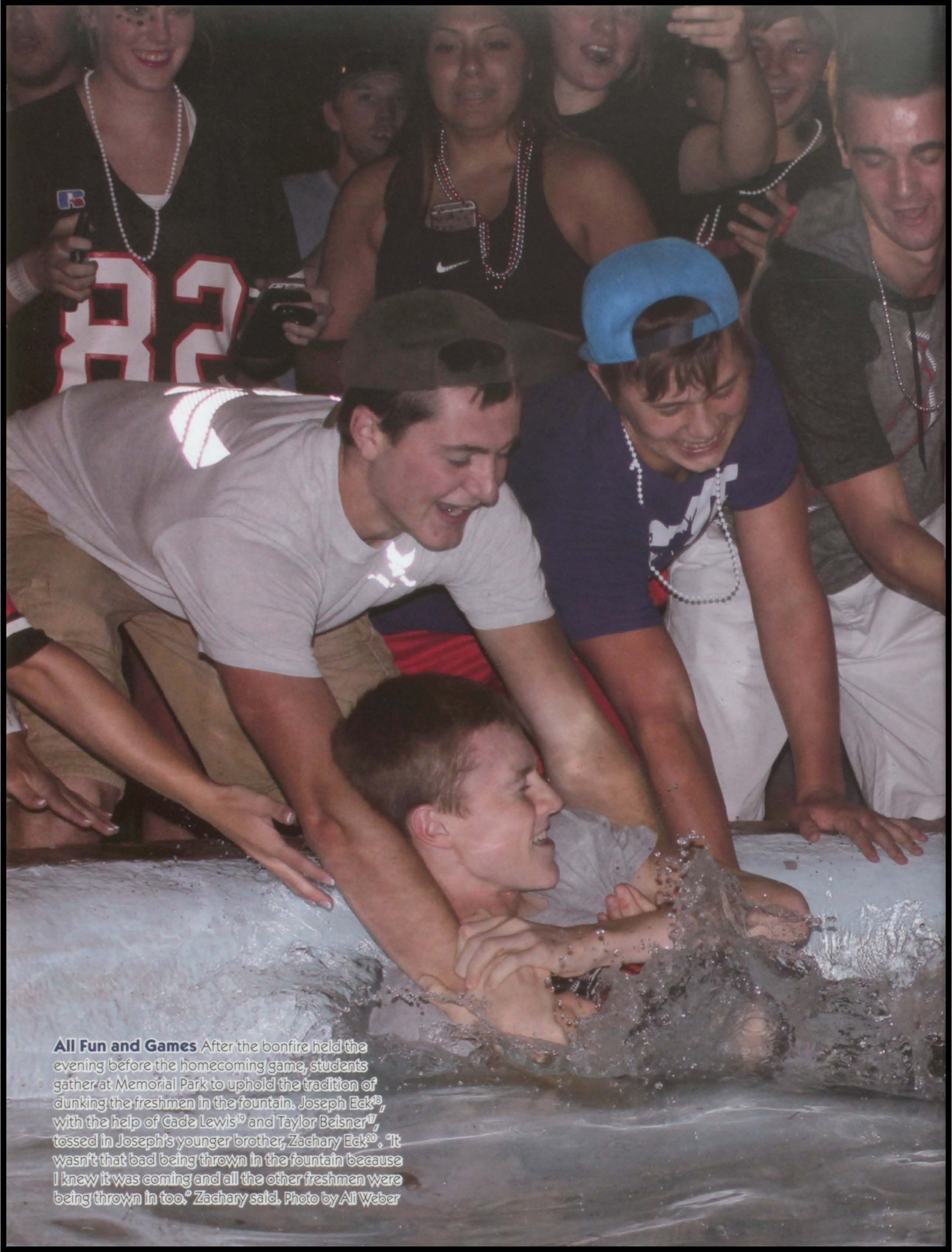
FROM ALL ANGLES

Everyone sees things differently, and no two people are exactly the same. Sometimes, to get a better perspective of a certain situation, you have to view things **FROM ALL ANGLES**. With Ellis's reputation for high-achievement, we can proudly say that we represented our school and community by taking our time, doing our work, and enjoying our high school years **FROM ALL ANGLES**.



Where Pride Meets Passion During the first game of the season against Syracuse, Head Coach, Craig Amrein, overlooks his players as they gather in a tight huddle during a time out. "It is something special to see young men come together and unify as a team. It's like having a second family," Amrein said. Photo by Haley Reiter





All Fun and Games After the bonfire held the evening before the homecoming game, students gather at Memorial Park to uphold the tradition of dunking the freshmen in the fountain. Joseph Eck¹⁸, with the help of Cade Lewis¹⁹ and Taylor Beisner¹⁷, tossed in Joseph's younger brother, Zachary Eck²⁰. "It wasn't that bad being thrown in the fountain because I knew it was coming and all the other freshmen were being thrown in too," Zachary said. Photo by All Weber



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A Splash of Water During the Riverfest parade, lifeguards Abby Burton¹⁶, Ali Weber¹⁶, Sierra Cunningham, and pool house attendant Haley Reiter¹⁶ advertise swimming lessons the Ellis Municipal Pool provides. Throughout the parade, community members were squirted with water to capture their attention. "The parade was fun because we were able to shoot people with water guns," Weber said. Photo by Lexie Rome

SUMMER TRADITIONS

Students stay involved during break between the Junior Free Fair and Riverfest

By the first day of school, students have already started a countdown to the first day of summer. To keep busy throughout the summer, students stay occupied as they attended the annual Riverfest held in June and the Ellis Junior Free Fair in July.

During the Riverfest, students participated in the parade and explored the wide variety of games and food available. Others showed interest in the antique car show with a music concert performed by Jason Craig and the Wingmen.

"I enjoyed going to Riverfest with my friends with the fun atmosphere and everything they have there. The food, games, and the concert is what I liked the most," Brevin LaBarge¹⁷ said.

At Riverfest, FCCLA members Blakely Bittel¹⁸, Samantha Crawford¹⁸, and Haley Reiter¹⁸ sold baked goods to help pay for their trip to San Diego, California for National Leadership Conference in July.

"Our fundraiser went incredibly well as it paid for [a] majority of our trip. A lot of people helped out by supporting us through buying baked

goods or giving us donations," Samantha Crawford¹⁸ said.

From July 27th through July 30th, the Ellis Junior Free Fair took place with the theme "Blue Jeans and Country Dreams." The fair provided a wide variety of food, games, and events every night.

"My favorite part of the Junior Free Fair is going to hang out with my friends and watching mud volleyball while eating a delicious fair cheeseburger," Bryce Keithley¹⁷ said.

Students, also, competed in the Golden Egg Hunt during the fair with clues provided each day to find the egg. Senior Zakarie Ramos, and several family members, found the Golden Egg two and a half miles northwest of the fairgrounds located in a Locust tree.

"Difficulties of finding the egg were the calculations of where the location the egg might be. Trying to understand the riddles from the hints they gave us was fun and challenging at the same time," Ramos said.

Having many summer festivals kept many of the students busy and having fun with the many activities it provided.

"Seeing our town come together for these events is something I cherish"
-Ashton Johnson, 17

Simple Lifestyle



1.

1. Dogs Day Out During the first annual Dog Day at the Ellis Municipal Pool, Dawson Sproul¹⁸ spends time playing with his dog Snooki. "It was cool having a K-9 Day. Snooki loved cooling off," Sproul said. Photo by Ali Weber

2. Helping Hand At the Back to School Bash, Taylor Honas¹⁸ helps serve food at the park. "It felt really good helping others since I like giving back to the community in any way I can," Honas said. Photo by Lexie Rome

3. Swing Away Competing in a golf challenge during Riverfest, Taylor Beisner¹⁷ focuses on where his ball will land. "I enjoy the variety of food and games there," Beisner said. Photo by Haley Reiter

4. All Smiles At her first day at a new school, Peyton Brown¹⁸ chuckles while walking with her cousin, Khianne Schaus, up the sidewalk at Brown's new school. Photo by Haley Reiter



Teamwork Taking part in Farm Olympics, teammates Cameryn Kinderknecht¹⁹, Tara Woodworth¹⁹, Trey Hudson¹⁹, and Hayden Aschenbrenner¹⁹ work together to finish the race. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



Country Girl Participating in the Ellis Junior Free Fair, Breonna North²⁰ competes in the livestock show. "My first time showing went better than expected. I enjoyed it," North said. Photo by Lexie Rome



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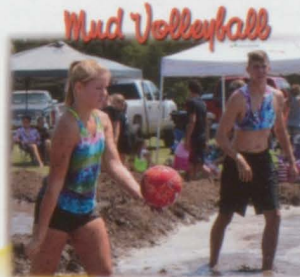
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4.



Sierra Schmidt¹⁸ and Sienna Schmidt



Brittany Boland¹⁷ and Easton Smith¹⁷

Summer Adventures



Ashley Matthever¹⁷ and Shelby Werth¹⁸



Allie Fricker¹⁷, Jasmin Hernandez¹⁷, and Grayden Bittel



Eye for Design Studying over every detail, Lindsay Augustine¹⁷ looks over the artwork. Members of the FFA officer team participated in judging crafts entered by 4-H members. Photo by Ali Weber

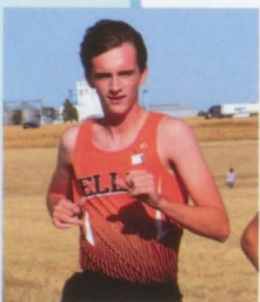


Hands Off After climbing through an obstacle course, Jaylin Pfeifer¹⁸ attempts to drop a balloon in a bucket. "The hard part was getting the obstacles done in a good time," Pfeifer said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt

On the Move



Running in the Rain As a storm rolls over the meet in WaKeeney, Marissa Lindberg¹⁹ competes to finish before it starts to rain during the junior varsity race. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



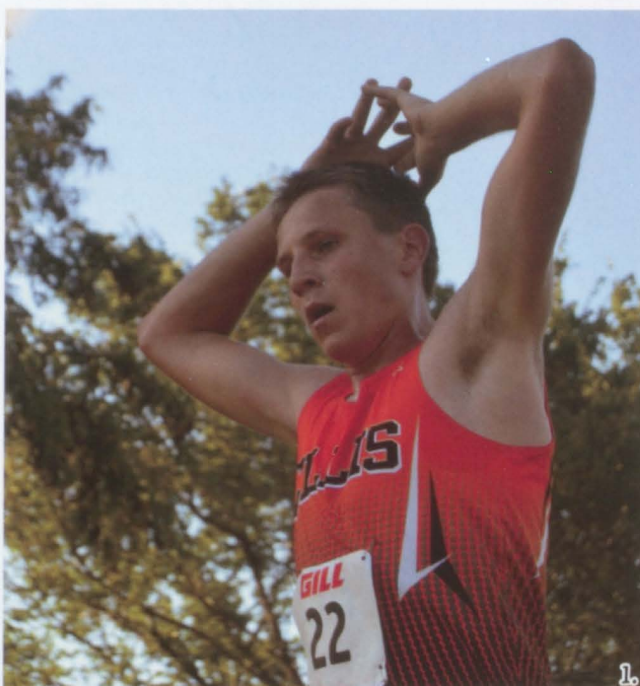
Pulling Ahead Competing at the last meet, Lane Fischer¹⁹ gains speed to pass two runners. Fischer finished with a personal best time of 24:50 at Wheatland. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



Finish Hard Flying down the hill in Hill City, Kaitlyn Lindberg¹⁹ prepares to speed up the next hill where she will head into the last mile of the race. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



Gaining to Lead Passing an opponent, Austin Carbajal¹⁸ sprints to the finish. "The last mile is my favorite part of the race because I know to push hard," Carbajal said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



1. Just Breathe After finishing a race, Derek Pfeifer¹⁷ attempts to catch his breath. Pfeifer ran a time of 22:10 at the Hill City meet. Photo by Sierra Schmidt

2. Racing the Clock As a new member of the team, Logan North²⁰ finishes out his first season in Ness City. "I enjoyed being able to push myself and have my team there to support me," North said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt

3. Last Run At one of Jasmyrn Hernandez's¹⁷ last meets, she powers through the course and achieves a personal record of 31:22. "I was kind of sad that Ness City was my last meet because I wanted to PR under 30," Hernandez said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt

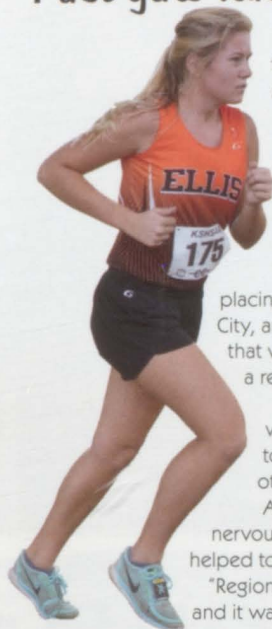
4. All Out As varsity girls line up at the start, the anticipation rises while opponents warm up before the state meet in Wamego. Photo by Lexie Rome



State Bound The day before the varsity girls competed at state, the school holds a send off where the team runs through a tunnel of students and breaks through a banner. "The send-off really made me realize that we actually made it to state, and it got me pumped up," Sierra Schmidt¹⁸ said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

IN IT FOR THE LONG RUN

First girls varsity team to make it to state cross country in 24 years at Ellis High



With experienced runners returning this season, the team was pressured knowing they had a good chance of making it to state. The team started the season by writing down goals they wanted to achieve. These goals included running personal bests, beating opponents, and making it to state.

"My goals this year were to PR and to make it to state. It took a lot of hard work during practices, but we had high hopes that we could do it," McKenzie Dowis¹⁸ said.

The varsity girls came out strong in the first few meets, placing at many of them, including Trego, Hill City, Webster, Ness City, and the regional meet in Hill City. The team started to realize that with hard work and dedication, they could make their goals a reality.

"When we realized we had a chance at state, it made us want to work harder to make it. We didn't want the season to end after that because we had grown so close to each other," Brittany Bollig¹⁷ said.

At the regional cross country meet in Hill City, the team was nervous, but having the support of football players and parents helped to calm them.

"Regionals was the first cross country meet I have ever been to, and it was pretty exciting to watch them finish. I felt they needed support because not everybody could go to [the meets,] so if we

had the opportunity [to go] we should take it," football player Dalton Hensley¹⁷ said.

As regionals ended, the team knew that the scores would be close and gathered together to listen. As they heard "Ellis" being called for third place, the team was overwhelmed with hugs and tears.

"I cried when they announced we made it, but I was excited to get to spend another week with my team. It was a once in a lifetime experience for my senior year," Allie Frickey¹⁷ said.

The girls cross country team has only made it to state three times in all of Ellis High School's history. The last team to make it was in 1992.

"The team worked hard and put miles in [every practice], varying from three to five miles, but the more miles earlier in the season really helped them," coach Jack Wolf said.

Out of 102 girls and 12 teams running at state, the varsity girls placed ninth as a team. The top placer for Ellis was Jessica Gamez¹⁷, placing 31st overall with a time of 23:33.

"It was such a rush getting to see all the people that have the same passion as you do. I have faith that Sierra and McKenzie can make it to state next year with their hard work and dedication. I wish them the best of luck and I hope they can take Coach Wolf to Wamego for the second consecutive year," Gamez said.

At the end of the season, the team got together for their last team dinner where they looked back on all the accomplishments, friends, and memories they had throughout the year.



Jessica Gamez, 17
"These shoes marked a special time in my life."

Allie Frickey, 17
"My shoes have more miles than my car."

Brittany Bollig, 17
"These shoes have been through hills and back."

McKenzy Dowis, 18
"This princess wears running shoes."

Sierra Schmidt, 18
"It took three years to break these in."

Being in our Shoes

59 tackles 4 blocked kicks 2 interceptions

receiving touchdowns 5

5 rushing touchdowns

[288] receiving yards

[406] rushing yards

| Dalton Hensley |
EHS Senior



RISING TOGETHER AS ONE

The Railers tackle a new season together with leadership and opportunity

With nine returning seniors, the Railers went into the season with high hopes and great leadership within the team. The stakes were set high for the team after taking districts the year before.

"Since there were nine seniors, there were a lot of leaders on the team. I feel like we really came together at the end and were like family," Josh Smith¹⁷ said.

Injuries, also, played a key factor in the outcome of the Railer's season. With five two-way starters out at once, the team struggled to overcome hardships.

"The season was filled with constant adjustments and moving players into different positions throughout the season. I said before the season that our depth would have a huge impact on the season, and that was completely accurate," Coach Craig Amrein said.

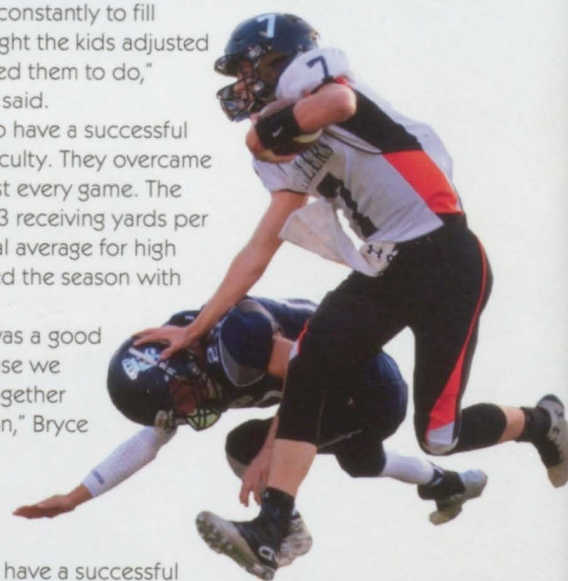
Starting 3-0, they could not be stopped the first three weeks of the season. This was the first time since 2001 the team had started with that record. Then, the team hit a rough patch facing many injuries, changing the lineup greatly. Depth in the team once again became a tough obstacle.

"We had players step up constantly to fill positions of need, and I thought the kids adjusted well for the tasks that we asked them to do," Assistant Coach Jake Dreiling said.

The Railers still managed to have a successful season, even after facing difficulty. They overcame adversity and struggles almost every game. The team averaged a total of 122.3 receiving yards per game, right above the national average for high school teams. They also ended the season with a record of 4-5.

"Winning against Oakley was a good way to end the season because we played as one and worked together for the last game of the season," Bryce Keithley¹⁷ said.

Even after facing many challenges, the Railer football team managed to exceed expectations and still have a successful season.



Railers In Action

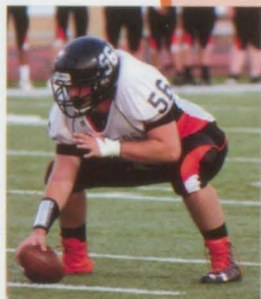


Around the Block Fighting off a defender, Joseph Eck¹⁶ works to score against TMP. "I knew we needed to score, so I ran as fast as I could," Eck said.

Photo by Lexie Rome

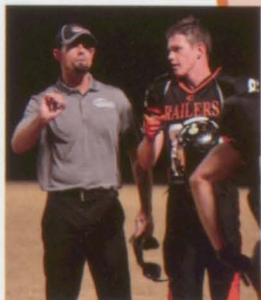


Ready To Run Hustling down the sideline, Trayton Kroeger¹⁷ rushes in attempt to score for the Railers. The team played Sublette for homecoming and dominated the Larks 50-2. Photo by Dawson Sproul



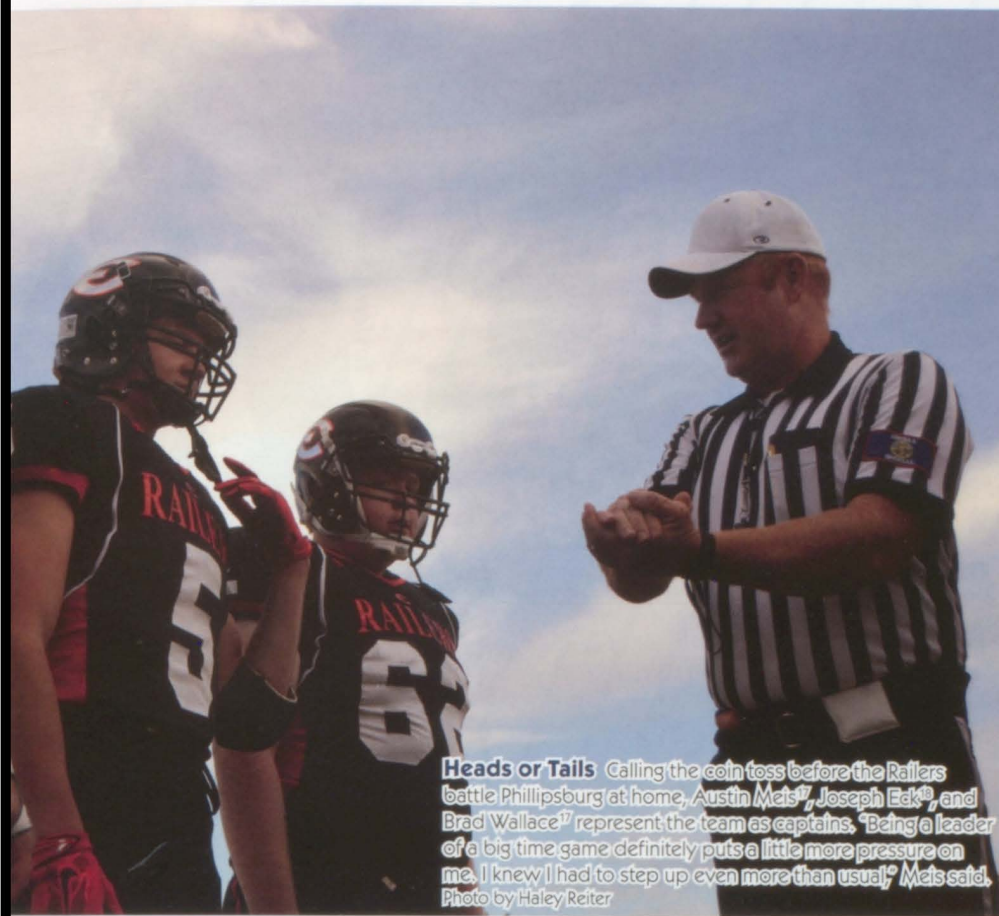
Down And Ready Preparing to start the play, Josh Smith¹⁷ gets down and ready. "Being center is a lot of pressure, because you start every single play," Smith said.

Photo by Dawson Sproul



Talking It Out On the sideline, Coach Craig Amrein and Geoffery Soneson¹⁸ talk about a recent play. "It's important to be on the same page as your players," Amrein said.

Photo by Lexie Rome



Heads or Tails Calling the coin toss before the Railers battle Phillipsburg at home, Austin Meis¹⁷, Joseph Eck¹⁶, and Brad Wallace¹⁷ represent the team as captains. "Being a leader of a big time game definitely puts a little more pressure on me. I knew I had to step up even more than usual," Meis said.

Photo by Haley Reiter



1. Together Breaking through a banner that the Ellis Booster Club donated, the football boys get fired up to play. The team was preparing to take on Oakley for senior night. Photo by Dawson Sproul

2. Punting To Success On the fourth down, Dalton Hensley¹⁷ attempts to punt the ball across the field before, MCL rival, Smith Center takes over on offense.

Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

3. Power Through Pushing through Sublette defenders, Clay Feik¹⁷ works to move the ball. "I was doing everything I could to make sure we won the game," Feik said.

Photo by Lexie Rome

4. Lining Up Ready for the next play to begin, the Railer offensive line sets up against Smith Center. "We knew the game against Smith Center would be tough since they have some really fast kids, but we gave it our all," Geoffery Soneson¹⁸ said.

Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



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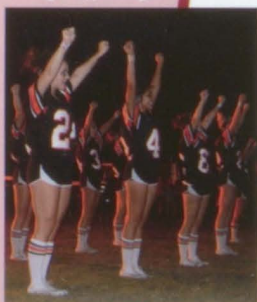


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Hoco Recap



Tradition Every year, a few seniors get together before the bonfire and paint their stomachs spelling out "seniors" to show their school and class spirit. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Light It Up Dancing to "Eat 'Em Up," the cheerleaders get the school and fans pumped up for the homecoming football game against Sublette the following night. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Cousinly Love Cousin homecoming candidates Chase Hudson¹⁷ and Allie Frickey¹⁷ ride together in the parade. "We have wanted this since day one," Hudson said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Flour Power After digging into a pile of flour to find gum for a pep rally game, John Gamez²⁰ smiles to the crowd as he attempts to blow a bubble to win the game. Photo by Dawson Sproul

Brad Wallace, 17



John Gamez, 20



Chase Hudson, 17

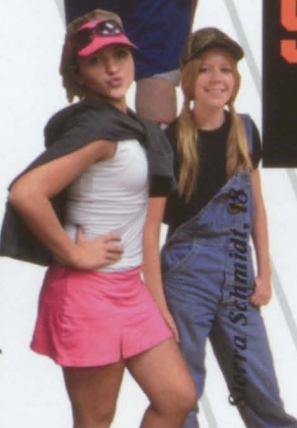


Taylor Beisner, 17



SPRIT Week

Blakely Bittel, 18



Sierra Schmidt, 18

Thomas Shepard, 19



Koda Kever, 18



Surprise Kiss At the homecoming pep rally at Memorial Park, Austin Meis¹⁹ gets a kiss on his cheek from a "cheerleader," who was actually his mom during a game that only involved senior football players. "I kind of knew it was my mom because I didn't believe a cheerleader would do that, but I thought it was cool to get the moms involved and funny to watch people try to guess who kissed them," Meis said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

A WEEK TO REMEMBER

Classes clash during homecoming class games and spirit week activities

Throughout the week of homecoming, there were many old and new traditions, ranging from eye-catching spirit days, to a glitter surprise at the pep rally on Friday.

Spirit days can change from year to year or stay the same. This year two of the five spirit days were new, Country vs. Country Club, and Hawaiian. Even though 'Merica Monday, Class Color day, and Orange and Black day are all tradition, students still go all out to show their spirit.

"My favorite spirit week day was 'Merica Monday because I finally got to bust out my Donald Trump stuff that I acquired," Brad Wallace¹⁷ said.

On Thursday, students met at the old high school before they marched and chanted to the fairgrounds where the bonfire was to make a big entrance. It took a few tries for Mr. Kohl to get the fire started, but that did not suppress the energy of the students.

"My favorite part was when the teams and classes ran around the bonfire," Lauryn Becker²⁰ said.

Friday brought powderpuff football and boys volleyball at the old high school. No class was able to beat the staff in the annual student/faculty volleyball game, and the junior girls came in first in powderpuff for the third year in a row.

"My favorite part of playing powderpuff football is dominating the seniors every year," Melanie Befort¹⁸ said.

The cheerleaders involved students at the pep rally by playing games, including a senior football player game. Another game was a relay race with the classes where four from each class competed against each other in different challenges, with the seniors coming out on top.

"My favorite game to watch was the football players getting kissed by their moms because they thought it was cheerleaders," Derek Pfeifer¹⁷ said.

The seniors took home a gold, winning in participation in dressing up all week, class games, and the parade float contest. Decked out in orange and black at the end of the week, the Railers cheered on the football team to secure a win against Sublette.

**"Like December 7, 1941,
it was a week that will not
soon be forgotten!"
-Jeff Kohl**

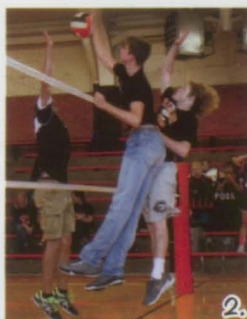


1. Perfect Pass Gazing down the field, Cora Milbourne¹⁹ looks for a teammate to pass the ball to. "Powderpuff is a fun way to get our class together," Milbourne said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey

2. Senior Smack Down During boys volleyball against the staff, Easton Smith¹⁷ spikes the ball over Principal Corey Burton's head as Clay Feik¹⁷ backs Smith up. Photo by Shelby Werth

3. Team Effort In class games, Kaylyn Foster¹⁸ and Julia Cox¹⁸ hold hands as they maneuver through a hoop to gain another point. "Juniors lost by one point, but we won't be losing next year," Foster said. Photo by Lexie Rome

4. Racing the Clock Competing against all of the classes, Raeven Milbourne²⁰ concentrates as she attempts to scoop a penne onto a spaghetti noodle to gain the most points for her class. Photo by Lexie Rome





Just Dance Bringing out their inner cheerleaders, Krysten Frickey¹⁶ and Allie Frickey¹⁷ perform a dance they learned at Spirit-Spreader. "It was fun dancing to our Spirit-Spreader dance because girls from other schools also knew it and joined in with us," Krysten said. The song "Where They From" was requested by a fellow cheerleader, so anyone who knew it joined in. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

A VIEW FROM THE INSIDE

After the football team brought in a victory, the dance was in full swing

For the first time in fifteen years, the football team had a chance to go undefeated at homecoming. Students and parents were excited for the team since they have not reached this record in so long.

"There was a lot of pressure because the community wanted us to go 3-0, but we haven't been since 2001. All we wanted to do was show that we could compete and start the season off better than any other season we have played," Clay Feik¹⁷ said.

The Railers had a head start at the beginning of the season, winning against the Syracuse Bulldogs and the TMP Monarchs. Coming into the homecoming game, there was a great deal of pressure on the players. The coaches were able to place a few second string players in to finish the game and they ended up on top. After dominating the Sublette Larks on a running clock with a score of 50-2, the football boys were able to finish the homecoming game out with a win.

"It was a great feeling for these players to start their season 3-0. This was only the fifth time Ellis has started a season with this record. I think

it made for a great homecoming night," Coach Craig Amrein said.

After a victory on the football field, students came back to the high school ready for the dance. It was a successful night with almost all of the students attending the dance.

"It was nice having the dance right after the football game, especially after a win, because it is more exciting and I feel like it makes the dance way more fun," Bryce Younger¹⁸ said.

Usually, the dance is held the Saturday following the game, but this year it was held the night of the game. With the game ending at 8:30 p.m. and the doors to the dance closing at 9 p.m., students scrambled to get ready to celebrate.

"I felt pretty rushed, but I was already sort of ready because I am a cheerleader. I already had

my makeup done, and I just had to throw my hair up in a messy bun," Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ said.

The night was packed having the game and the dance all together, but it was a new and different way to celebrate the win.

"Once I knew we were going to win, a weight was lifted off me; there wasn't anymore pressure of winning my homecoming game"
-Bryce Keithley, 17

Night to Remember

1. Cheesin' As realization sets in that they won, Allie Frickey¹⁷ and Easton Smith¹⁷ smile for the camera. "Being crowned Homecoming Queen was exhilarating, and I hope that I can continue to be a good leader for our school," Frickey said.

Photo by Dawson Sproul

2. Yardage With the ball in hand, Clay Feik¹⁷ escapes the Larks grasp and sprints towards the end zone.

Photo by Dawson Sproul

3. Fancy Footwork Feeling the beat, Blakely Bittel¹⁸ puts her heart into dancing. "I requested 'Come On Eileen' because it plays in *Perks of Being a Wall Flower*," Bittel said.

Photo by Kyrsten Frickey

4. As One The cheerleaders show their school spirit by involving the crowd in the alma mater. "After practicing each dance, it comes to you naturally," Samantha Crawford¹⁸ said.

Photo by Dawson Sproul



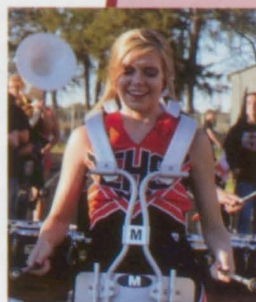
Front and Center As the crowd cheers him on, Spencer Fuller¹⁷ performs his annual dance to "Thriller." "It has become a tradition at this point. Why stop now?" Fuller said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Set, Hut! After a touchdown is made by the Railers, Syracuse attempts to catch up. Austin Meis¹⁷ and Bryce Keithley¹⁷ were determined to put up a tough defense. Photo by Dawson Sproul



All in To celebrate the win, Kyrsten Frickey¹⁸, Allie Frickey¹⁷, and Abby Burton¹⁸ bring a crowd together. "Dancing with my friends makes the dance way more fun," Burton said. Photo by Haley Reiter



To The Beat Being in cheer and band, Sierra Schmidt¹⁸ jumps between sidelines and the pep section. "I'm glad to be in both; it keeps me busy," Schmidt said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

Crowning Glory



Brittany
Bollig

Easton
Smith

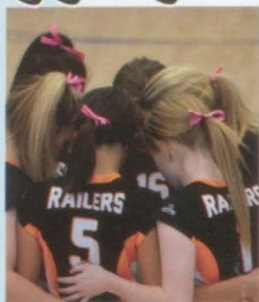
Jessica
Gamez

Dalton
Hensley

Allie
Frickey

Chase
Hudson

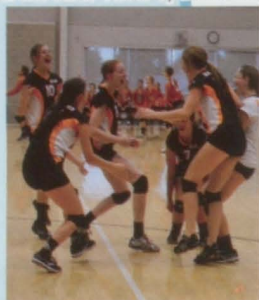
Digging Deep



Focus is Key Coming together before the MCL Tournament, the starting six unite. As last year's runner-up, the pressure to fulfill high expectations took a toll on the team. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Double Trouble In an attempt to block a spike by Stockton, Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ and Abby Burton¹⁸ form a wall. "That was the first game that we started playing as a team," Burton said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Refuse to Lose Jumping for joy, the JV team celebrates a win against Ness City. "The JV team focused on keeping our minds set on winning, and it really showed," Rylee Werth²⁰ said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Serves Up Preparing to serve, Lexie Rome¹⁷ concentrates on her form. "I try to not overthink while serving, but then I work on trying to place my serves," Rome said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

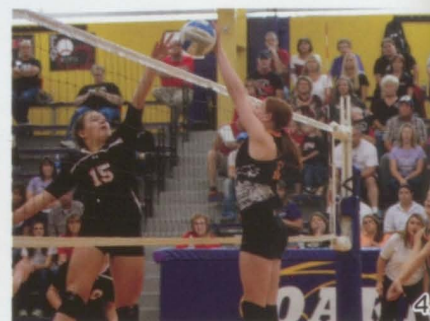
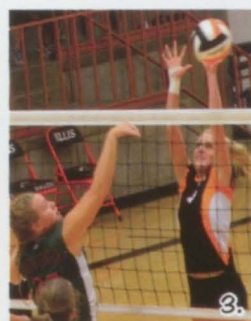


1. Tip, Tip, Boom Rising above her opponents, Kaylyn Foster¹⁸ attempts to push the ball into an open spot at the Kiowa County Invitational. "Our fourth place finish was unexpected and boosted our confidence," Foster said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey

2. Spike Zone Striking the ball, Ashton Johnson¹⁷ attacks during a triangular in Trego. "We had a lot of talent, but sadly, it didn't come through," Johnson said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

3. Block Party Reacting to a hit, Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ rises for a block. This year, the team fell to the Redmen in their lone match-up. Photo by Sierra Schmidt

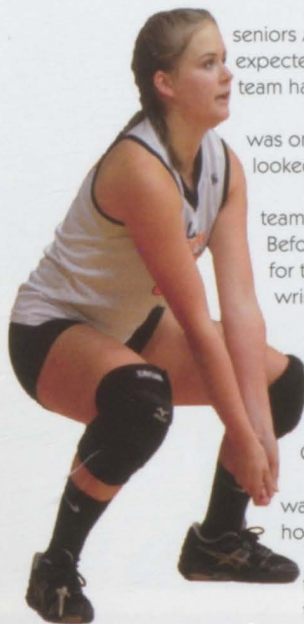
4. All Out, All Game Ascending high, Abigail Mattheyer²⁰ hinders a tip from the Rawlins County Buffaloes. Mattheyer was the only freshman to play on varsity. Photo by Dawson Sproul



A-CE Celebrating an unreturned serve by Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸, the Railers stomp to their "ACE" cheer on their home court. The team hosted a quad against MCL rivals Hill City, Phillipsburg, and Trego. "I don't place the serve or anything like that, I just try to get the ball over the net without killing it," Schoenberger said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

TOUGH SHOES TO FILL

Railers have a difficult time living up to last year's successes



After losing four of last year's senior starters, current seniors Ashton Johnson, Ashley Mattheyer, and Lexie Rome were expected to step up to the net and lead the team. This season the team had multiple goals they wanted to reach.

"After having a successful season last year, the pressure was on this year for us to uphold as a team. I also felt more looked upon for advice," Rome said.

Facing injuries and inconsistencies early in the season, the team sought ways to turn negative circumstances into positive. Before some games, Coach Jennifer Hansen made it available for team members to rub jasmine-scented spray onto their wrists to instill confidence in the players.

"It was a private team thing. 'Confidence' is all I will say," Hansen said.

Starting off the season, the team ventured to Norton for a triangular against two league rivals. Despite their hard work, the Railers came home 0-2, having lost against Hill City and Norton.

"I was really excited to start this year's season. I knew it was going to be a hard first two matches but we did good holding our own," Mattheyer said.

After a slow start to their season, the varsity team finally claimed their first victory against Pratt-Skyline during the Kiowa County Tournament. They quickly followed this

win up with another win against Macksville the same day.

"After winning our first two games in Greensburg at the Kiowa County Invitational, I was relieved. We played as a solid team against some hard competitors," Shelby Werth¹⁸ said.

The ladies hosted two quads this season, one the first week and one half-way through the season. The second had a more favorable outcome, with the Railers losing against Smith Center and Phillipsburg, but coming out on top against the Hill City Ringnecks.

"We played very well, beat Hill City, and came back against Phillipsburg. This quad showed us what we are capable of even though we didn't win all matches," Cassie Waldschmidt¹⁹ said.

As the season progressed, the team members started to put their all into every match, which showed because of their attitude and teamwork on the court. Even with this new mentality, the Railers struggled to pick up wins. They ended their season 5-28.

"I felt that this season was bumpy, both from injuries and introducing the team to a whole new system of offense and defense. The ladies learned a great deal, even though the win/loss record may not show that. I am looking forward to working with this group this summer and next season," Hansen said.

Although the Railers didn't come out on top, they ended their season better than they had started it. They found a way to work as a team and overcome some of their initial difficulties, whether it was for a win or a loss.



Volleyball Spotlight

Team Leaders: Kills

Kaylyn Foster¹⁸
101 KILLS

Haley Reiter¹⁸
65 KILLS



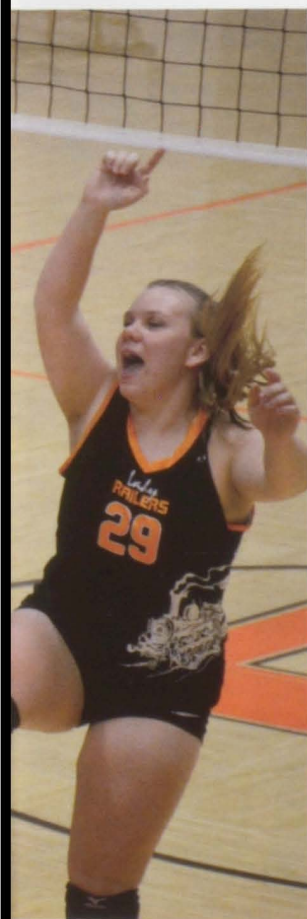
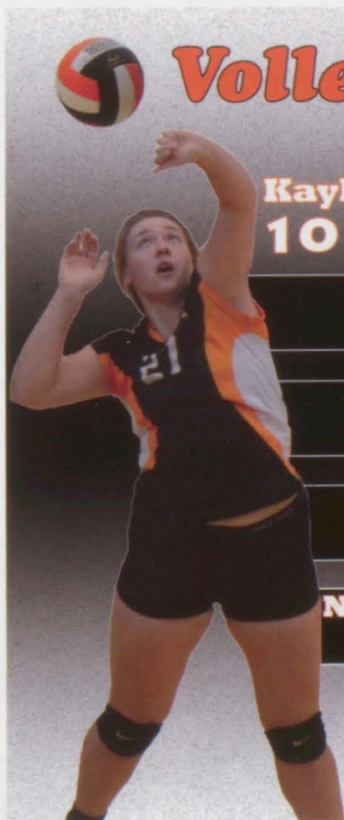
Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷
62 KILLS



Abby Burton¹⁸
57 KILLS



Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸
44 KILLS





Acting the Part To start off the play, Grace Beisner²⁰ explains the other importances in life besides sports to her brother, played by Brad Wallace¹⁹. "My character was different from the rest of her family because she was more focused on art and culture rather than just on sports," Beisner said. Photo by Sarah Staten

THEY RUN IN OUR FAMILY

With a new director on board, the cast "tackles" a new kind of production

The fall play was centered around the Pennywinner family, a clan made up of a football coach father, two sport-crazed sons, a daughter who wants to wrestle, a daughter who likes art, and a fed up mother who looks to her sister, Alice, for guidance. The comedy's goal was to keep the audience entertained and intrigued throughout the performance. The production was different from the previous year's serious drama.

"Doing a comedy as my first acting experience was nice because it made me feel more comfortable going on stage knowing that the other people were making the audience laugh," Easton Smith¹⁷ said.

The process started out with tryouts to see who would make the cast. Some were returners, while others were newcomers to the play. One of the newcomers, Grace Beisner²⁰, had one of the lead roles.

"Being the only freshman with a lead role was very exciting, but also took a lot of work. It was very fun, though, because a lot of people got to watch me," Beisner said.

"Moral of the story: a little football can go a long way." -Aunt Alice (Blakely Bittel, 18)

The lead role this year went to Dalton Hensley¹⁷, a returner from last year. He portrayed the Pennywinner father, Sam. He was very single-minded at the beginning of the play, focusing only on football, but had a change of heart by the end.

"The hardest part of having the lead role is trying to fulfill your role in the play and, also, presenting yourself as who the director wants you to be. It's not only about memorizing lines, but also facial expressions, tone of voice, and hand motions," Hensley said.

Another change from last year was the director, Sam Polifka. Polifka is a graduate of Ellis High School and former play member. He saw there was a chance to be a part of the play again, and fulfilled the directing role.

"I heard they were looking for someone and I didn't want the kids to not get a chance to be in a play, so I said 'By George' I'll step up and take on the role of director," Polifka said.

The production received a standing ovation both nights, and the cast also received many compliments following their performance.

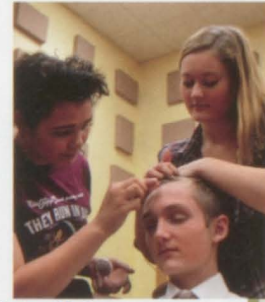
Behind the Scenes

1. Do I have to? In preparation to go on her first date, Haley Reiter¹⁶ and Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ try one last time to convince Dalton Hensley¹⁷ to not force Reiter to go. "The scene was funny and I liked the audience's reaction," Reiter said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis

2. Frogs' Creed Hoping to be in the football starting lineup, Brad Wallace¹⁷ and Zachary Cox¹⁹ attempt to impress Dalton Hensley¹⁷ by excitedly reciting the school creed. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey

3. Go, Go, Go With anticipation, Dalton Hensley¹⁷ listens anxiously to the Frogs' football game over the radio, which he was unable to attend due to sickness. Photo by Sarah Staten

4. Fed up After a failed attempt of trying to remind her husband of their 20th anniversary, Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ sits disappointedly with her sister, played by Blakely Bittel¹⁸. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Extra Help Before the show, Drew Keller¹⁸ gets into character as Katie Milbourne¹⁷ and Tara Woodworth¹⁹ finish up his look. "Makeup and hair help the characters come to life," Keller said. Photo by Ali Weber



Transition Time Prepping Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ for her role, Brittany Bollig¹⁷ teases Mattheyer's hair into a 90s updo. "The updo was fun and looked good on me," Mattheyer said. Photo by Ali Weber



Finishing Touches Applying eyeshadow to Jasmyn Hernandez¹⁷, Kinley Kuppetz¹⁸ finalizes her costume. "I like doing stage makeup to help people get into character," Kuppetz said. Photo by Ali Weber



Straighten It Out Getting ready for showtime, Peyton Brown¹⁸ gives Grace Beisner²⁰ a hair style that fits her character. "My hair is hard to straighten, but Peyton did a good job," Beisner said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

Act It Out

Favorite Lines of the Play



"I couldn't stop them with the Winchester '73 coach!" - Buzz Pennywinner played by Dawson Sproul¹⁸



"Wanna hit me in the stomach? Go ahead!" - Chester (Spook) Mullins played by Nathan Cox¹⁷

\\ Making Pals for Life



Zachary Eck

Meeting his PAL for the first time, Zachary Eck²⁰ greets kindergartner Josh Rybeck at the annual PALs activity. "Having Josh as a PAL is very enjoyable because he's entertaining. There is never a lack of conversation with him," Eck said.

Photo by Shelby Werth



Ali Weber

Starting the school year off with an activity, Ali Weber¹⁸ participates by creating a craft with her fourth grade PAL, Ayden Yanda. "It's nice to meet and play games with him every week and watch his face light up when he sees me. He's always energetic," Weber said.

Photo by Shelby Werth



Shelby Werth

Every Thursday morning before school starts, Shelby Werth¹⁸ meets with her PAL, Cole Toothman to spend time playing games with him. "Cole's active imagination generates lots of fun stories that fill my mornings with laughter," Werth said.

Photo by Lexie Rome

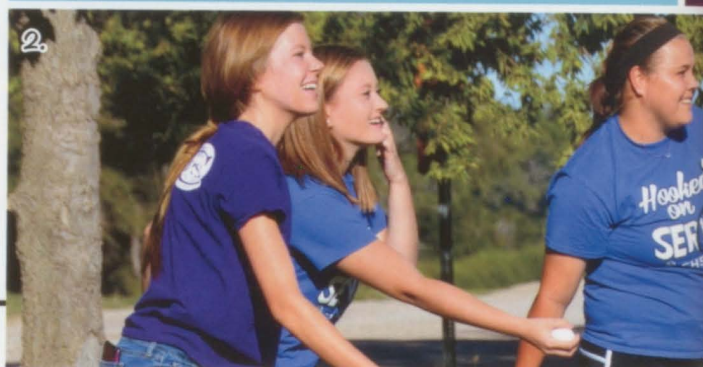


"I felt the session I led went really well. Everyone shared a bunch of new ideas and seemed to really enjoy it. In KAU's, we definitely get the opportunity to make a difference."

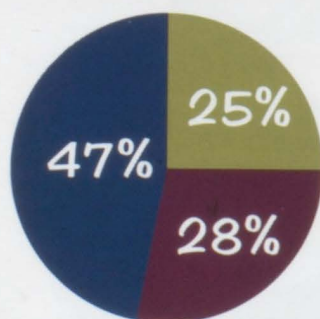
-Halley Reiter, 18



Saving Lives Donating for the first time, Austin Meis¹⁷ pumps a stress ball as he gives blood at the annual StuCo blood drive held in November. Photo by Lexie Rome



Students Staying Involved



135 polled

FFA Members

FCCLA Members

KAU Members

Small Impressions, Big Impact Before a home football game against Phillipsburg, FFA holds a free will donation at their annual barbecue for the community. Lyla Meserve¹⁷ pitched in by passing out drinks as other FFA members helped cook and serve food. "As a chapter we put a lot of work into getting ready for this event. I enjoyed helping with the barbecue because I can receive community service hours from it, and I enjoy connecting with people from the community, one of my favorite parts about FFA," Meserve said. Photo by Lexie Rome



"Lights, Camera, Action"

Building Leadership Skills and Giving Back to the Community

1. Branching Out New Ideas

At the Regional KAY Conference, Haley Reiter¹⁸ discusses with other students about new service project ideas for their schools, communities, and nation. Schools took these new ideas they received from the conference to use within their own club. Photo by Shelby Werth

2. One Toss at a Time

During the KAY membership drive, Sierra Schmidt¹⁸, Tara Woodworth¹⁹, and Marissa Lindberg¹⁹ participate in the egg toss competition. "My favorite part of the KAY drive was getting to grow closer to the other members through all the different activities we do together," Schmidt said. Photo by Lexie Rome

3. Separation is Key

On their own time, Marissa Lindberg¹⁹, Grace Beisner²⁰, Clara Crawford²⁰, and Kaitlyn Lindberg¹⁹ volunteer during the Trick or Treat So Others Can Eat by sorting out canned goods. "I had a really great experience volunteering and it felt good to help others out," Crawford said. Photo by Lexie Rome

4. Rock, Paper, Scissors

Before the start of the Regional KAY Conference held in Quinter, Abby Burton¹⁸ and Lexie Rome¹⁷ take part in the rock, paper, scissor challenge. "Ice breaker games are a good way to meet new people and see what you have in common while using our KAY leadership skills," Burton said. Photo by Shelby Werth

5. Going Beyond Expectations

After collecting canned goods from the community during a KAY service project, Cheyenne Born²⁰ helps distribute them into different boxes based off of the product. "The event was really fun and it made me feel good about myself after volunteering once it was over," Born said. Photo by Lexie Rome



District Officer

As the VP of Finance, Kassi Brown¹⁸ informs FCCLA members at the Fall Leadership Conference about her duties of keeping track of all of the district's money. Photo by Lexie Rome



Speaking Out

"I like FCCLA because of the great leadership opportunities it builds for us," Samantha Crawford¹⁸ said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Chipotle Class

"At the National Leadership Conference, I learned the steps to a successful career path" Allie Frickey¹⁷ said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Listen Up

"I wanted members to learn how important driving is and why we should be safe while driving," Blakely Bittel¹⁸ said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Relaxation

"I enjoyed Freshmen Fun Night with Cheyenne Born since we learned about FCCLA," Rylee Werth²⁰ said. Photo by Lexie Rome

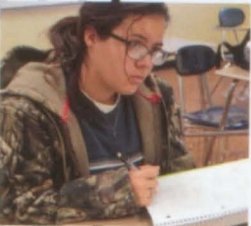
Think Fast

"Forensics is really fun because we get to do a lot of cool things like makeup and performing things," Taylor Honas¹⁸ said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Quick Learner

"I enjoy calculus to an extent, but it is a hard math class. Thankfully, Mr. Mick is a good teacher," Lyla Meserve¹⁷ said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Stamp It

"Art is one of my favorite classes because it's really laid-back and it allows you to express yourself," Kinley Kuppertz¹⁸ said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Good Deeds

"Community Service Day was pretty fun because I had a lot of cool people to work with," Junior Hernandez¹⁸ said. Photo by Ali Weber



Digital Age

Focusing in Computer Apps, Zachary Eck²⁰, Brian Carbajal²⁰, and Austin Mattheyer²⁰ navigate programs in Microsoft Office. Photo by Haley Reiter

Advancing Academically

Students Learn with Hands-On Experiences Away from the Desk

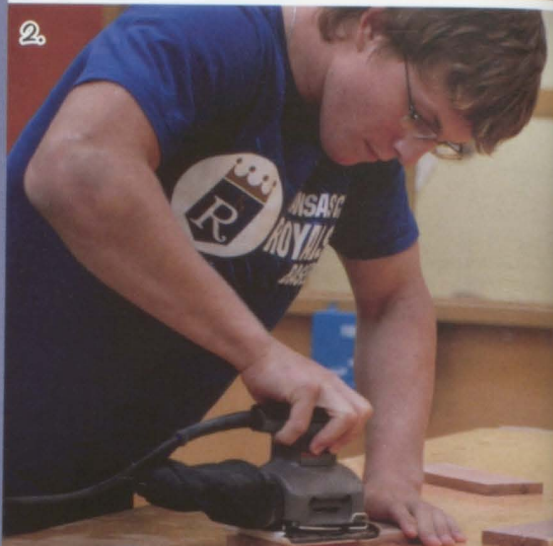
1. Festive Fun

While carving a pumpkin at the nursing home, Spencer Fuller¹⁷ spends time with a resident during his Community Career Connections class. "Going up to the nursing home is fun because I get to meet new people and SpongeBob says 'old people are full of wisdom'," Fuller said. Photo by Lexie Rome



2. Sanding Smooth

Sanding down a piece of wood in Mr. Carroll's woodshop class, Dalton Hensley¹⁷ concentrates on keeping a steady hand. Hensley was sanding down the fronts of a drawer that belong to a jewelry box that he was making as a present for his grandmother. Photo by Ali Weber



3. Putting the Pieces Together

Sparks fly as Joseph Wynn¹⁷ welds in the ag shop. Wynn was concentrating on perfecting his technique. "I enjoy going to the shop because it is hands-on learning and I am practicing for college," Wynn said. He plans to attend the Tulsa Welding School. Photo by Haley Reiter



4. Studious Work

Studying in the library, Jessica Gamez¹⁷ prepares for an upcoming test. Like many students, Gamez took an online class to help prepare for the future and to gain a college credit. "It is relaxing to work in the library in the comfortable chairs," Gamez said. Photo by Haley Reiter

5. Working Together

During Mr. Mick's College Algebra class, Abby Burton¹⁸ and Kassi Brown¹⁷ work on the board to solve a problem together. "Using the board doesn't seem as bad as doing a regular assignment on paper and you can easily erase any mistakes you make," Burton said. Photo by Ali Weber





"I took Woodworking because I like to be creative and make new projects and things that I will be able to use the rest of my life. I also think being able to do this stuff is a good skill to have."

-Dalton Hensley, 17

// Tooting Our Horn



Kaylee Hernandez

Practicing during band, Kaylee Hernandez¹⁹, concentrates on perfecting her new music. The band was preparing for their winter concert in December. "Band is a good break throughout the day in between all my hard classes," Hernandez said.

Photo by Ali Weber



Melanie Befort

With sparkly skull makeup, Melanie Befort¹⁸ plays pep band at a football game where the students were allowed to dress up for Halloween. "Dressing up for Halloween in band was awesome because Halloween is my favorite holiday," Befort said.

Photo by Ali Weber



Geoffrey Soneson

Playing the song "Crunch Time" in band class, Geoffrey Soneson¹⁸, masters the trumpet. "I don't get to play pep band music because of sports most of the time, but when I do, I really enjoy playing songs that I actually kind of know,"

Soneson said.

Photo by Ali Weber



To The Limit Maxing out in GPD, Junior Hernandez¹⁸ finishes his last rep of cleans. "I just wanted to make sure that I increased weight in all of my lifts," Hernandez said.

Photo by Ali Weber

5.

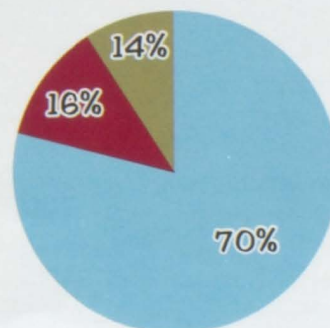


A Closer Look With a steady hand, Brandon North¹⁷ cuts a piece of metal with a band saw in the shop. North was cutting the metal to fix a part on his trailer that had broken off and with the help of a few other students, they took on the task to get the trailer working again. "I think working in the shop is fun because you get to build a lot of cool stuff, and we, usually, get a lot of freedom to build what we want. It's also nice to have a place to just relax and relieve stress throughout the day," North said.

Photo by Haley Reiter

Hardest Class

75 polled



History, Mr. Kohl



Math, Mr. Mick



Science, Mr. Wildeman



Pulling Ahead Seconds after Easton Smith¹⁷ makes a three pointer, Chase Hudson¹⁷, Cade Lewis¹⁹, Junior Hernandez¹⁸, and Logan Shaw¹⁹ celebrate on the bench as the team gains a lead on Plainville in the second round of sub-state. Many of the students traveled to support the boys in hopes of them advancing to state. "The student section was amazing and they made it a lot of fun. It made our bench really excited," Hudson said. Photo by Lexie Rome

The background of the page is a collage of several photographs of students in winter sports uniforms. On the left, a male student in a black 'Ballers' jersey is shown in profile, looking to the right with a wide smile. In the center, a student in a red jersey is partially visible. On the right, a male student in a black 'Ballers' jersey is shown in profile, looking to the left. The images are separated by white diagonal lines that create a dynamic, geometric pattern across the page.

WINTER

WRESTLING

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GIRLS BASKETBALL

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BOYS BASKETBALL

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CHEER

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SNOBALL

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ORGANIZATIONS

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ACADEMICS

Page 38

Single Leg

BRYCE YOUNGER¹⁸



WHAT'S YOUR MOVE?

Sprawl

DYLAN BROWN¹⁹



Dump

JOSH SMITH¹⁷



CHAMPIONS OF THE MAT

The wrestlers of Ellis High fight until the end to break finals and take state

Nine wrestlers made it through the season, each earning individual medals for themselves, but sticking together as a team.

"I was very happy when I broke finals; it is a great feeling to have after all the hard work I put in during the season. Everyone was very supportive of my wins and me making it to state," Bryce Younger¹⁸ said.

Throughout the season, the wrestlers achieved many awards for their wins, but they had to each make sacrifices in order to for the season to be successful. Each wrestler set their own goals to achieve.

"I had to make many sacrifices through the season, including not eating all the time and I did not really meet all my goals this year like I planned," Lane Kohl¹⁸ said.

All the way up to regionals, the team prepped for every match, such as cutting down on food a week before the tournament and prepared for individual matches in their own unique ways.

"I always start warming up for each match probably by stretching before every meet, and then doing some light jogging and telling myself that I can do it, that I can make it

through this match," Thomas Shepard¹⁹ said.

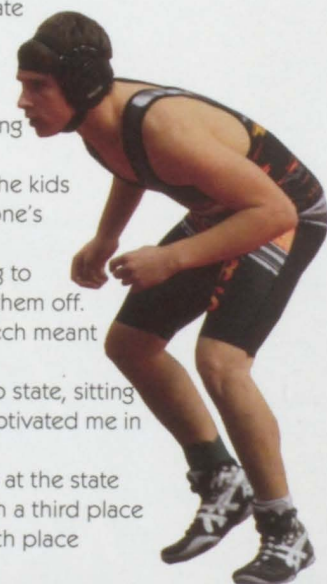
Making it to state, held at Fort Hays State University, was Younger with a record of 32 wins and six losses, wrestling at 126 pounds and Dalton Hensley¹⁷ with a record of 36 wins and four losses, wrestling at 160 pounds.

"I was not very worried about any of the kids in my bracket because at state it is everyone's chance to take it all," Hensley said.

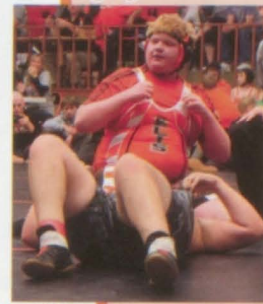
Since Younger and Hensley were going to state, the school had a pep rally to send them off. Brandon Pfeifer, Head Coach, gave a speech meant to inspire the state-bound wrestlers.

"Although I did not end up making it to state, sitting in the bleachers listening to his speech motivated me in an odd way," Cole Swenson¹⁸ said.

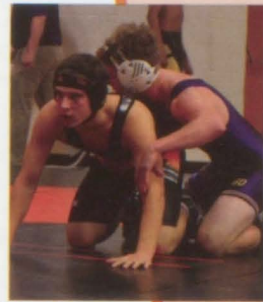
Both boys placed in the top five spots at the state wrestling match. Hensley came home with a third place medal and Younger came home with a fifth place medal.



Grapple Up



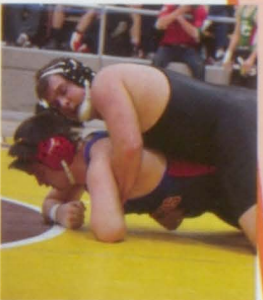
First Pin In one match, Ben Wallace¹⁹ comes through with a pin on home ground. "I felt very accomplished when I got him to the ground," Wallace said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis



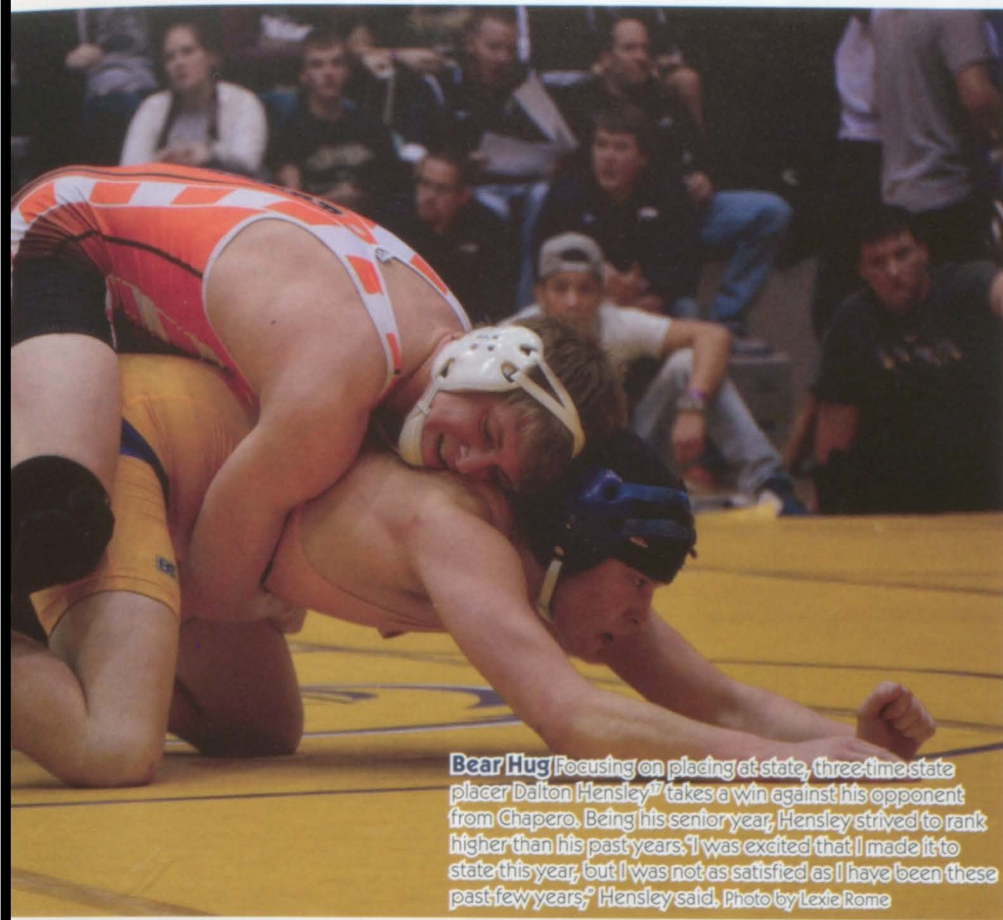
Take Down With a win close at hand, Cole Swenson¹⁸ waits for the right moment to make a move on his opponent. "I go for the feet every single time," Swenson said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis



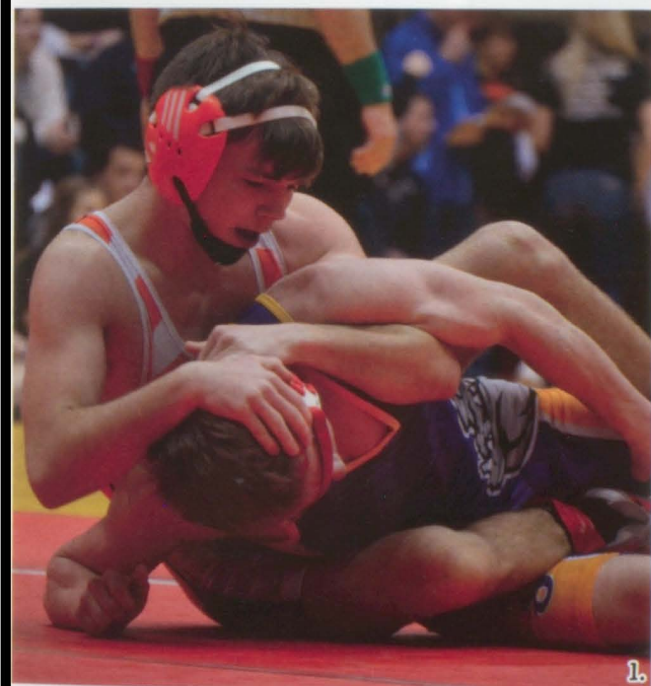
Pep Talk Ending the pep rally, Coach Brandon Pfeifer uses terms "grits and guts" to describe the boys. "His speech was motivating and calmed my nerves," Bryce Younger¹⁸ said. Photo by Ali Weber



Break Away With time running out, Josh Smith¹⁷ switches it up to get a better stance on his opponent. "I just try to run my moves and not get stuck on bottom," Smith said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis



Bear Hug Focusing on placing at state, three-time state placer Dalton Hensley¹⁷ takes a win against his opponent from Chapero. Being his senior year, Hensley strived to rank higher than his past years. "I was excited that I made it to state this year, but I was not as satisfied as I have been these past few years," Hensley said. Photo by Lexie Rome



1.

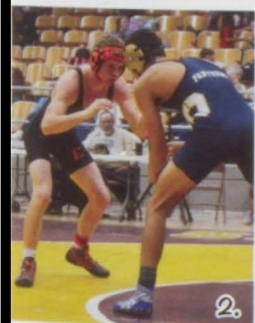
1. Twisted Up Winning his first match at state wrestling, Bryce Younger¹⁸ takes advantage of his opponents fall. "I set pretty high goals for myself this year, so I wasn't as excited like other years," Younger said. Photo by Lexie Rome

2. Stand Off With the time ticking, Thomas Shepard¹⁹ uses a move that rises his chances of winning. "I would have to say that my most used move is the Half Nelson," Shepard said.

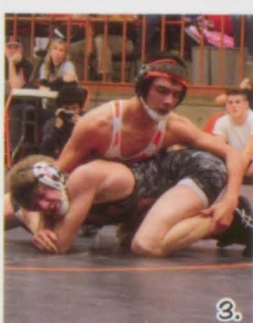
Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

3. Holdin' On With a lead on his opponent, Lane Kohl¹⁸ pulls his rival down to the mat for an extra point. "My strategy at the very beginning is to get my opponent on the mat and leg ride," Kohl said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis

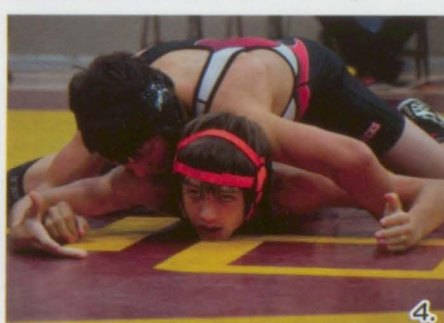
4. Flattened Trying to release himself from a tight grip, Dylan Brown¹⁹ stays grounded. "I always try extra hard to win," Brown said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



2.



3.



4.

Playing To Win



Going All Out In a tightly contested game, Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ fights to gain possession. "On defense, I always get aggressive so I can steal the ball away," Mattheyer said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Seize The Moment During one of the final home games of the season, Lexie Rome¹⁷ looks for a teammate to pass to. The Railers came out victorious over Trego, 62-51. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Break Away After stealing the ball, Rylee Werth²⁰ looks down the court to score a lay-up. "I knew I had to work hard everyday to prove myself as a freshman," Werth said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Keep Your Dribble Competing against league rival Thomas More Prep-Marian during a home game, Shelby Werth¹⁸ makes a move in an attempt to get around her opponent. Photo by Dawson Sproul



1. Fives All Around On senior night, Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ receives high fives and words of motivation from teammates Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸, Lexie Rome¹⁷, and Cassie Waldschmidt¹⁹ before the game. Photo by Dawson Sproul

2. Leading the Way Pushing the tempo of the game, Haley Reiter¹⁸ races down the court. "Whenever I have the ball, I mainly focus on not dribbling off my foot or traveling," Reiter said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

3. No Mistakes During an away game, Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ handles the basketball by keeping it away from her Plainville defender. Photo by Dawson Sproul

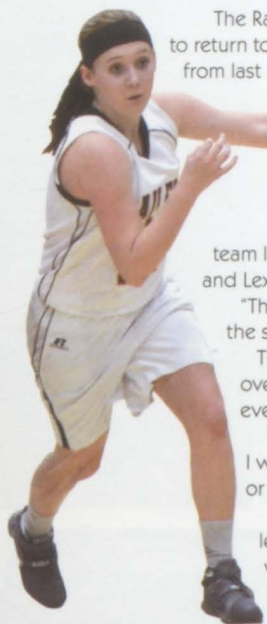
4. Look To Shoot Fighting her way through Smith Center's defense, Kaylyn Foster¹⁸ makes her way to the basket to score a field goal. "My favorite part about being on offense is when I hit an unexpected three," Foster said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Cheers All Around Attempting a comeback against the Norton Bluejays during a home game, teammates Ali Weber¹⁹, Kinley Kuppertz¹⁹, Kaylee Hernandez¹⁹, and Abigail Mattheyer²⁰ help keep the spirit alive with the final minutes dwindling down. "When I'm sitting on the bench cheering for my teammates, it helps me to get motivated before I go into the game," Mattheyer said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

JOURNEY UNTIL THE END

Players step up to the challenge by striving to replace past leadership roles



The Railers entered the season with high hopes of motivation to return to the sub-state championship game, improve their record from last season, and advance to the state tournament in March.

"During the season, I wanted us to bond so we could play as a team. I think we really accomplished that and I'm so glad I have these lifelong friends and memories," Cassie Waldschmidt¹⁹ said.

With losing three starting seniors from last year, the team looked for guidance through seniors Ashley Mattheyer and Lexie Rome.

"The underclassmen always rallied around the energy that the seniors provided for the team," Kaylee Hernandez¹⁹ said.

Throughout the year, the team worked together to overcome obstacles by working hard in practice and using everybody's strengths on the team.

"My mind-set was just to try to do my best the whole time I was out on the court, whether it was scoring, rebounding, or playing defense," Kaylyn Foster¹⁸ said.

In addition to the team's success, the junior varsity team led by Assistant Coach, Jessica Bollig, finished the season with a winning record of 9-6.

"To me each girl is different. As a coach, I get to know what they need to work on and develop those skills

to make them better. I believe that each player can also make their teammates better by enthusiasm and passion. My one rule with junior varsity [that] I always tell the girls: you have to shoot the ball, you miss 100% of the shots you don't take," Bollig said.

During the mid-point of the season, Head Coach Perry Mick reached a milestone in his coaching career by achieving 200 wins. He reached this mark after the conclusion of the Mid-Continent League tournament when the team beat Victoria.

"I am honored to have had the opportunity to coach such fine young ladies here at Ellis High School. It is fun to think back and remember all the great players I've coached over the years. I have many fond memories of all the exciting victories and the painful defeats. Most of all, I'm proud to have been a small part of the learning and growing experiences of all my former and current players," Mick said.

The team's season ended during the first round of the 2A sub-state tournament after losing to the Rawlins County Buffaloes on their home court, with a final score of 49-37. The Lady Railers completed their season with a record of 7-14.

"My senior year was a great experience. Although there were a lot of tough games, we always put up a good fight. I will miss playing basketball in our Ellis uniforms, not being able to foul out of most games, and playing with my teammates," Mattheyer said.

GAME HIGHS



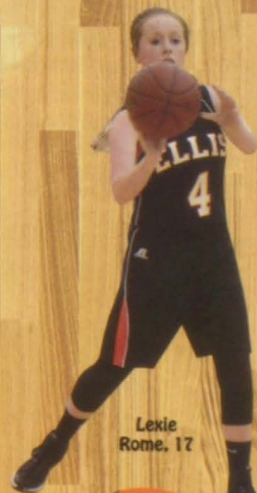
Natalie Schoenberger, 18

13 POINTS
9 REBOUNDS
6 ASSISTS



Ashley Mattheyer, 17

20 POINTS
11 REBOUNDS
3 BLOCKS



Lexie Rome, 17

14 POINTS
4 ASSISTS
3 STEALS

Game Day Essentials

FRESHMAN



Carter Bollig

My vision became a liability at first, but then my agent, T-Beis[Taylor Beisner], went out and bought me these goggles and now I don't miss.

SOPHOMORE



Logan Shaw

I always make sure I have a granola bar or two with me so I will have energy throughout the whole game. My favorite kind is chocolate and peanut butter.

JUNIOR



Junior Hernandez

Before a game I always have to listen to music. It helps get me pumped up and ready to play for the night.

SENIOR



Derek Pfeifer

The one thing I need for every game is a bottle of blue gatorade. It is the only kind I like, so that's all I drink.



STRONG LEADERSHIP

With many senior athletes this year, the Railers expect upperclassman direction

With Head Coach Brandon Maska back for his second year of coaching, he used his year of experience with his team to learn and grow from the previous season.

"Coaching at Ellis is an exciting challenge. All the boys work extremely hard for me every day at practice. It is my second year with this group of men, so it was nice coming in and knowing how they work, and I had a pretty good idea what to expect," Maska said.

After losing their leading scorer from the previous year, players had to step into leadership roles. With many combined years of experience, this was not an unattainable task for the basketball team. Senior players took charge and set the climate for this new season of basketball.

"With so many seniors, it felt like we all just bonded together and had a team full of leadership. It was also nice that some of the juniors stepped up and played aggressively," Derek Pfeifer¹⁷ said.

With new direction and experience on their side, the players started the season off strong with a third place finish in the Quinter Classic tournament.

Then, the team faced an issue. They had difficulty

maintaining a lead and winning a game mid-season.

"It was tough in the middle of the season when it seemed like we could never finish a basketball game. We had to learn how to hold onto a lead and not let the other team come back," Joseph Eck¹⁸ said.

After pulling together as a team, they fought their way through the rough patch and started to make a come back, just in time for sub-state.

"There was a big difference in the team after making it to sub-state. Things got really intense," said Carter Bollig²⁰.

The boys thrived off of the excitement of the crowd and the senior players pushing the team. The energy at the games increased and the team began playing more aggressively, winning against WaKeeney and Plainville.

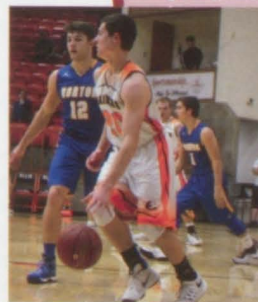
Sub-state ended in a loss against the Hoxie Indians, bringing their season to a close 15-9.



One on One



In The Game Jumping in celebration, Taylor Beisner¹⁷ encourages his team. "The whole sub-state tournament is when the team really cheered the players on," said Beisner. Photo by Ali Weber



Leading The Way Dribbling down his home court, Joseph Eck¹⁸ looks for a fast break opening from Easton Smith¹⁷. The Railers ended up losing to Norton in a close game. Photo by Ali Weber



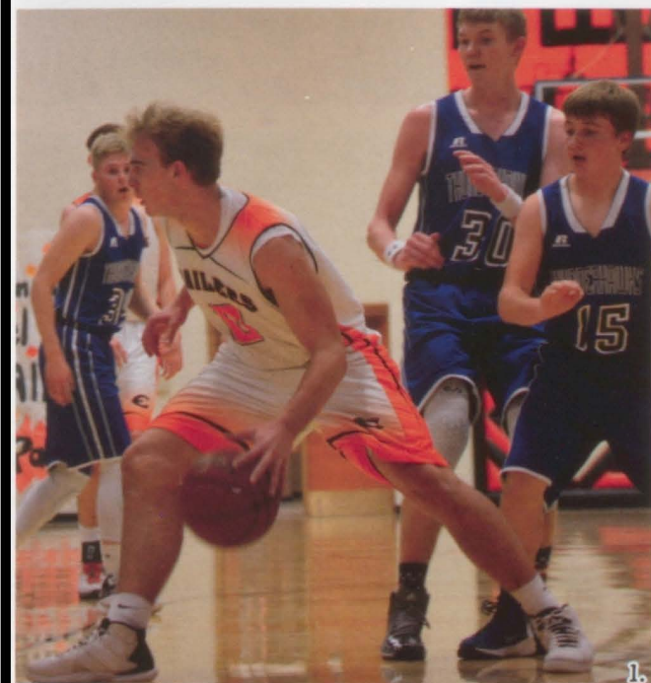
Pass Around Looking for an opening, Chase Hudson¹⁷ attempts to pass it inside for an assist. "I am going to miss playing basketball and being with my friends everyday," Hudson said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



On The Move Driving in towards the basket, Easton Smith¹⁷ goes in for the lay-up. The team went on to lose the game against Trego, but later beat them in the first round of sub-state. Photo by Lexie Rome



At The Rim While battling the Plainville Cardinals, Easton Smith¹⁷ towers over opponents to dunk a shot while teammates Joseph Eck¹⁸ and Ryan Herl¹⁸ prepare for a possible rebound. Smith led the team in points with an average of 20 points per game. "My teammates put me in good situations to score," said Smith. Photo by Lexie Rome



1. Zone Attack Making a move to the basket, Ryan Herl¹⁸ dribbles aggressively up the inside. "I like playing on the inside because the shots are easier to make," Herl said. Photo by Ali Weber

2. On The Move Scouting for an open teammate, Clay Feik¹⁷, point guard, looks to Coach Maska for guidance on which play to call. "Carolina" was the most used play of the season. Photo by Lexie Rome

3. All The Way Driving towards the basket, Derek Pfeifer¹⁷ goes in for a layup. Immediately after scoring a layup, Pfeifer scored another point from a free throw shot. Photo by Dawson Sproul

4. Reach For It Attempting a steal after a TMP rebound, Geoffrey Soneson¹⁸ swats the ball. "Against TMP we had a good defensive game. The only thing that lacked was our offense. It seemed like we could not make a shot," Soneson said. Photo by Ali Weber



2.



3.

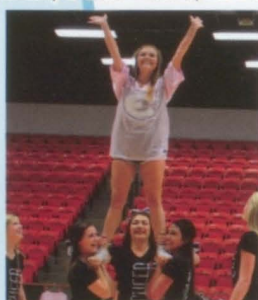


4.

Taking the Lead



Loud And Proud On the night of bonfire, Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ dances to "Hey!" while throwing beads to the crowd. "Bonfire brings together all the students and pumps us up," Mattheyer said. Photo by Ali Weber.



Senior Spirit At the jersey auction, Allie Frickey¹⁷ models her cheer jersey with a smiling face. "It was sad wearing my jersey knowing it was my last year of high school," Frickey said. Photo by Lexie Rome.



Cheer Love During Pee Wee Cheer Camp, Kyrsten Frickey¹⁸ and Blakely Bittel¹⁸ share a hug with their group. "Pee Wee is a fun opportunity to teach girls what cheer is all about," Bittel said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis.



Holiday Spirit At a home game, Haley Reiter¹⁸ dresses as Wednesday Adams and Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ dresses as the Bride of Chucky to show their Halloween spirit. Photo by Ali Weber.

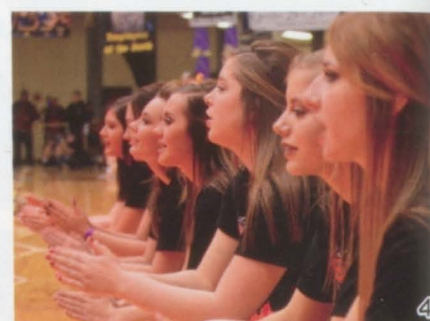


1. Make It Work At 1A State Basketball at Fort Hays, Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷, Allie Frickey¹⁷, Kyrsten Frickey¹⁸, and Jessica Gamez¹⁷ perform at half-time of the boys' game. Photo by Dawson Sproul

2. Nailed It At half-time of the boys' game, Samantha Crawford¹⁸ poses after dancing to a dance learned at cheer camp. Photo by Lexie Rome.

3. All Smiles During a home football game, Shelby Werth¹⁸ spirits to the crowd after another touchdown. "My favorite part about cheering at football is being on the sideline close to the action," Werth said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

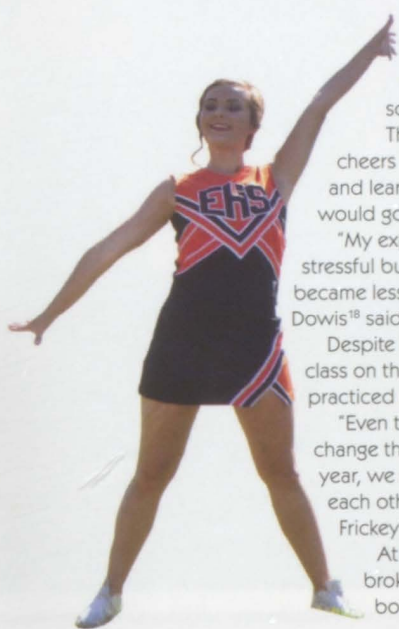
4. Take Down The squad cheers on Bryce Younger¹⁷ at state wrestling as he takes down his opponent. "It's hard to get a lot of cheers in during the match, but we try to do as many as possible," Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ said. Photo by Lexie Rome.



Fly High On the day of homecoming, the team performs at a pep rally at Memorial Park where they showed off a dance created by captain Allie Frickey¹⁷ and co-captains Jessica Gamez¹⁷ and Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷. "My favorite dance we did was the homecoming dance because the crowd was super loud," Cassie Waldschmidt¹⁹ said. Photo by Dawson Sproul.

KEEPING SPIRITS HIGH

The cheer squad keeps the student section alive even with injured cheerleaders



After losing only three senior cheerleaders, tryouts were very competitive. The cheer team finalized with three seniors, nine juniors, and one sophomore.

The new cheerleaders learned most of the cheers and dances before the first football game and learned how their first year as a cheerleader would go.

"My experience being a first-year cheerleader was stressful but I made new friends along the way, and it became less stressful as the season went on," McKenzie Dowis¹⁸ said.

Despite there being more juniors than any other class on the team, it did not affect the way they practiced or performed as a group.

"Even though our team has lots of juniors, it didn't change the way we bonded because throughout the year, we all grow on each other and learn to love each other no matter what the situation is," Allie Frickey¹⁷ said.

At the beginning of the year, Abby Burton¹⁸ broke her hand and Blakely Bittel¹⁸ was in a boot for a few months, setting back how the

team performed.

"Every member on the team is a key component in what we do. Missing Blakely and Abby required us to make major adjustments. Even with the setback, we all worked really well together and were still able to give our best for the fans and football team," Samantha Crawford¹⁸ said.

As the basketball boys played sub-state games, the team brought pom poms and signs for the student section to hold up.

"I love when the student section comes to the games because the more support and people yelling, the better. The players always seem to do better, and it helps us out," Kyrsten Frickey¹⁸ said.

As the basketball season came to a close and cheerleaders prepared for another year of tryouts, the squad looked back on all the memories they had made together.

"The best part of cheering with this team was how close everyone is and we all get along really well," Haley Reiter¹⁸ said.

Although the team went through injuries throughout the year, they still were able to pull through the season as a family.

the LOOK

THE MAKEUP

Natural Smoky Eye

Dark Lipstick

Contour

Mascara

Dark Eyeshadow

No Makeup

THE SHOES

Short White Socks

Cheer Shoes

Colored Socks

Nike Brand Shoes

the DO'S & DON'TS

THE HAIR

All Up / Teased

Bow

Unkempt

Crazy Colors

THE OUTFIT

Cheer Uniform

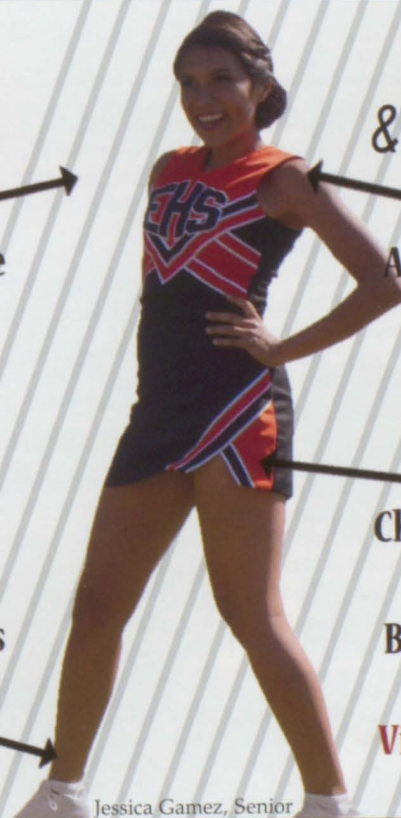
Pom Poms

Black Spandex

Turtle Neck

Visible Tattoos

Jewelry



Jessica Gamez, Senior



Snoball Showcase Leading the student body, Elijah Raub¹⁹ and Drew Keller¹⁸ coordinate their dance moves to "Wobble." The song has become nearly a must-play at every dance along with songs like "Cotton-Eyed Joe" and "Cupid Shuffle." "This specific dance is a fun tradition worth partaking in. This year's Snoball overall was considerably better than last years. I can't wait to see what next years is like," Keller said. Photo by Ali Weber

A NIGHT ON THE BRICKS

KAY members test a new theme that brings more color to the dance floor

With basketball in Smith Center the night before and ACT testing the morning of Snoball, the KAY club encountered some troubles finding enough helping hands to put together a unique dance with out-of-the-box decorations. This year's theme was "A Night on the Bricks."

"The KAY board thought of the theme at the Fall Leadership Conference in Quinter when somebody yelled out 'Straight Outta Compton.' We loved the idea, took it, and added our own twist to it to give it that sense of originality," Blakely Bittel¹⁸, KAY secretary, said.

Even though the crew was short-staffed, they put together a contemporary display of lights and decor. The different aspects of design included a large poster spray-painted to look like graffiti on the side of a building, neon-colored balloons, black tarps, and another wall-sized mural.

"We didn't want to stick with the cliché Valentine's Day, lovey theme and decor. We loved the abstract take on the dance. The board and I thought it was funny that people were dressing so regal to attend a unique, unordinary Snoball," Dawson Sproul¹⁸, KAY president, said.

The festivities began with promenade at the Good Samaritan Home, then group pictures, followed by the dance and crowning. This year's royalty was as follows: senior class, Ashton Johnson and Derek Pfeifer; junior class, Blakely Bittel and Dawson Sproul; sophomore class, Cassie Waldschmidt and Lane Fischer; and freshman class, Rylee Werth and Coby Fischer.

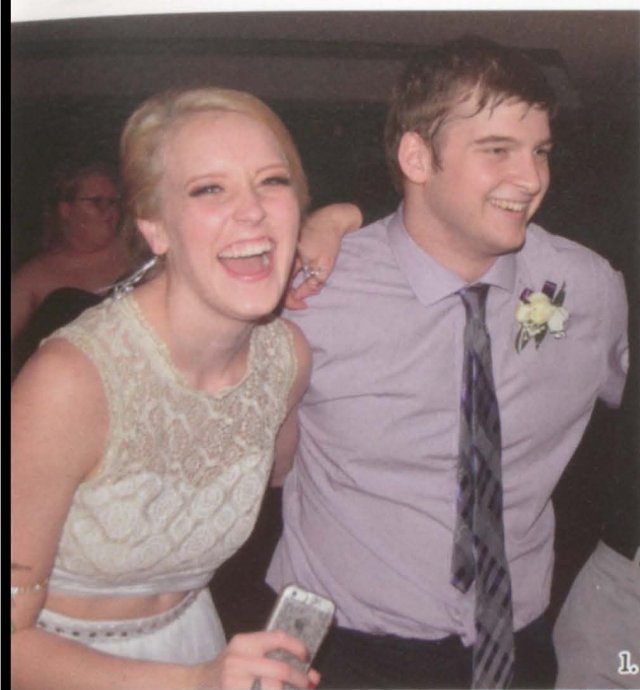
"My first Snoball experience was so fun. I was honored to be up for royalty. I loved being able to dance with all of my friends and get others that were acting like wallflowers involved in group dances. Overall it was a great night," Rylee Werth²⁰ said.

The dance had quite the turnout with nearly 80 attendees, which is the highest total in recent years. Everybody danced the night away until the

"Everything was perfect from the theme to the music and dancing; the cherry on top of the night was my sister being crowned."
-Aiden Johnson, 18

last song ended.

"I'm extremely happy with this year's turnout! We tried out an edgy theme and everybody seemed to love it. I can't wait to see what ideas we come up with for next year. Hopefully our dance for next year will be just as great," Kristi Bittel, KAY sponsor, said.



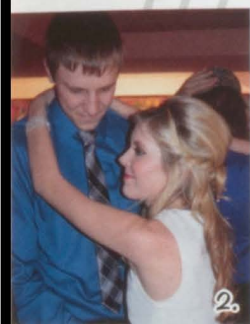
1. All Laughs Wrapping up the night, Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ and Josh Smith¹⁷ gather in a circle to enjoy the last song "Jumper" by Third Eye Blind with the rest of their class. Photo by Lexie Rome

2. Slow Dancing Duo Dancing to "Do I" by Luke Bryan, Derek Pfeifer¹⁷ and Sierra Schmidt¹⁸ pair up to sway to the beat. "I like slow dances because they are relaxing," Schmidt said. Photo by Lexie Rome

3. Twists and Turns Participating in a group song, Rylee Werth²⁰ spins fellow classmate Cheyenne Born²⁰ around in circles. "We make good partners because we both are always dancing," Born said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

4. Sister Sandwich During a slow dance, siblings Ashton¹⁷ and Aiden¹⁸ Johnson enclose Lane Kohl¹⁸ and Samantha Crawford¹⁸ with locked hands to form a "Johnson smash." Photo by Lexie Rome

1.



2.



3.



4.



Work in Progress



Graffiti Goddess In preparation for the dance, Peyton Brown¹⁸ spray paints the backdrop. "I like graffiti art because I can express myself and use block and bubble letters," Brown said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Balloon Boy Taking down the decor, Dawson Sproul¹⁹, works with sponsor Kristi Bittel to clean up following the dance. "Cleaning took little time with everyone's help," Sproul said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Assembly Time Helping out the night before, Lauryn Becker²⁰ puts up the background for the graffiti bricks. "All the decorations looked great. Our hard work paid off," Becker said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



Tear It Down Assisting in the clean-up process, Taylor Beisner¹⁷ rips down the backdrop. This year the KAYS cleaned during the dance so people wouldn't have to stay after to do so. Photo by Lexie Rome

\\ Tractors At School



Lane Kohl

The FFA had a Bring Your Tractor to School Day where some of the members participated. "The tractor I brought to school is a John Deere 4455. I have had for about five to six years.

We use it for lots of things on the farm like feeding out in the field, cultivating, and planting," Kohl said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



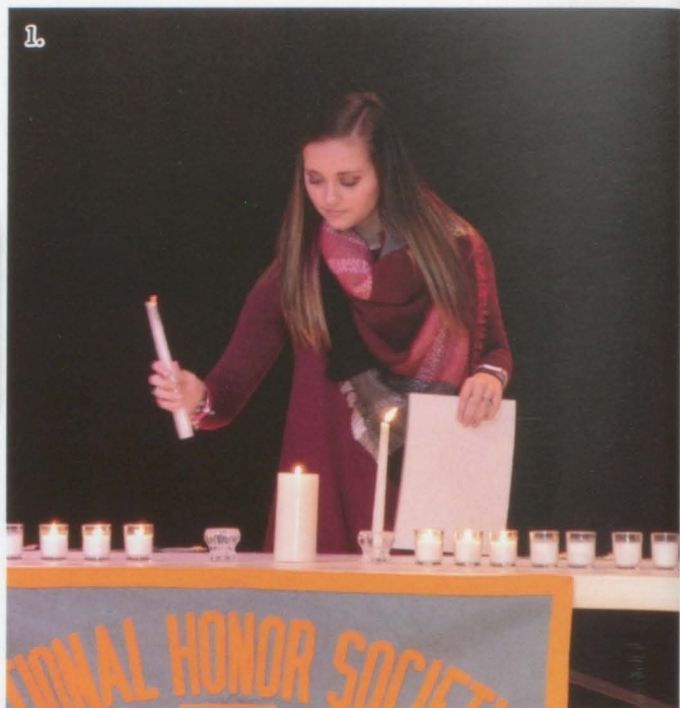
Derek Pfeifer

Bring Your Tractor to School Day was a component of the chapter's FFA week festivities. "The tractor I brought to school is a John Deere 8420. We have had it for about 8 years now, and we use it for planting milo, drilling wheat, and any field work that needs to be done," Pfeifer said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Clint Irvin

This year was the first year that the FFA chapter has done a Drive Your Tractor to School day, and plans to continue to do it in the future. "The tractor I brought to school is a John Deere 4630. I've had this tractor for about 10 years now. On our farm we use it to feed," Irvin said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

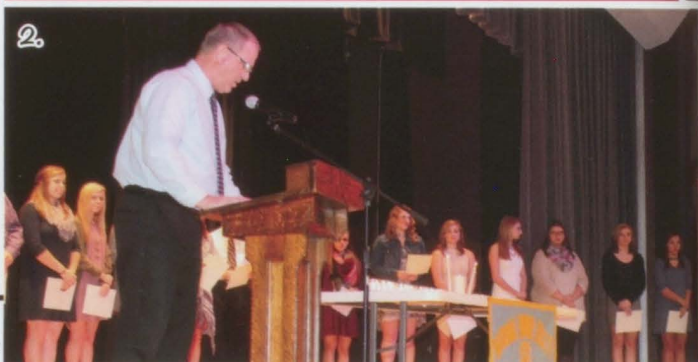


"NHS is a good organization to be a part of because it shows that you are willing to work hard and that you are a good student. I think everyone should try to be a part of it."

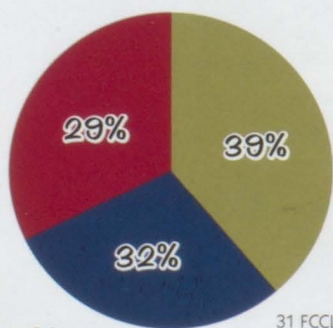
-Lindsay Augustine, 17



Time Well Spent At one of the morning PAL sessions, Abby Burton¹⁸ and her PAL, Brody Fischer, play a board game while spending time together. Burton and Fischer have been PALs for two years and plan to be next year. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Favorite FCCLA Activity



31 FCCLA Members Polled

- FCCLA Week
- Baked Goods Silent Auction
- Freshmen Fun Night

Smarty Pants At a Scholar's Bowl meet in Ness City, Samantha Crawford¹⁸, Lexie Rome¹⁷, and Drew Keller¹⁸ prepare to compete in a match up against Otis-Bison. The team went on to receive a second place finish at the meet. In the season, the team competed in many other meets. They placed fourth at the Phillipsburg meet, second at the MCL meet, and did not come out with a medal at their home meet. "I thought that we worked better together this year compared to last year, and that helped us to win more matches," Crawford said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



National Honor Society

Community Based Organization
That's Rewarding For The Students

1. Flame of Leadership

Getting inducted into the National Honor Society, Kyrsten Frickey¹⁸ secures her spot by lighting a candle symbolizing enlightenment and knowledge. "The hardest part of reaching all the requirements for NHS was getting the 40 hours of community service I needed," Frickey said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis

2. That's A Wrap

After all the members were inducted, NHS sponsor Perry Mick concludes the ceremony, congratulating all the students. "NHS is a great way for students to show that they are well-rounded academically and are well-respected by their teachers," Mick said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis

3. After Party

Succeeding the ceremony, Allie Frickey¹⁷ and her parents celebrate her second year induction into NHS by eating cake and drinking punch. "It's an honor to be a second year member because it shows how much you do for the community and the involvement you have in your school," Frickey said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis

4. Take It Away

At the beginning of the ceremony, Lindsay Augustine¹⁷, along with the rest of the second year inductees, recites all the requirements each student needs to be inducted into NHS. Seven of the 17 students inducted were second year members. Photo by Sheri Bedore

5. All Good Times

Following the ceremony, Josh Smith¹⁷ and Derek Pfeifer¹⁷ converse. Pfeifer was a second year inductee and Smith was a first year. "I did NHS this year because it was important for my resume while applying for scholarships," Smith said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis



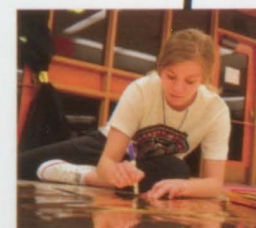
Captain's Coming

At the unit KAY conference held in Ellis, Brittany Bollig¹⁷, Sierra Schmidt¹⁸, and Ashton Johnson¹⁷ play the game Ships and Sailors before the official start of the conference. Photo by Shelby Werth



KAY Ideas

"Leading the group was hard because nobody talked, but it turned out good," Dawson Sproul¹⁸ said. Photo by Shelby Werth



Conference Prep

"It's cool to see everything come together and start looking like you want it to," Breonna North²⁰ said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



Check It Out

"Cheryl Gleason demonstrates to all students in KAYs what good leadership is," Jessica Gamez¹⁷ said. Photo by Shelby Werth



Almost Done

"Conference decorating took lots of time, but everything came together nicely," Shelby Werth¹⁸ said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt

Helping Hand

"Whittle does a lot for us so it's nice to help her out with little things," Tanner Small¹⁷ said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Precise Cuts

"It was cool to make a custom farm sign to have sold at the annual FFA labor auction," Lane Kohl¹⁸ said. Photo by Ali Weber



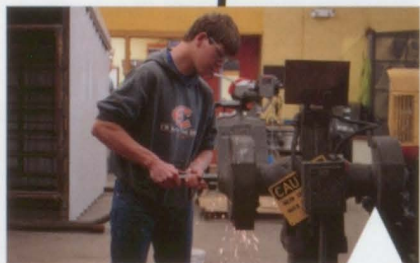
Teamwork

"Mrs. Whittle needs a new bookshelf so we helped make her one," Lindsay Augustine¹⁷ said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Sparks Fly

"It took two days to make these dugouts for the Ellis Rec," Joseph Wynn¹⁷ said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Constant Grind

Smoothing the edges on a metal rod, Hayden Aschenbrenner¹⁹ operates the grinder in the shop. This was one component of a dirtbike holder for his truck. Photo by Dawson Sproul

Fine Arts Fanatics

Students Unleash Creative Sides In Classes Like Band And Art

1. Forensic Fist Fight

Practicing their duet in front of the class, Nathan Cox¹⁷ and Brevin LaBarge¹⁷ perfect their fight scene. "Last year, Nathan and I realized that we had some serious chemistry as partners. Being the returning duet champions, we are ready to reclaim our state title," LaBarge said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



2. Crafted to Perfection

In the process of executing the perfect painting, Blakely Bittel¹⁸ arranges her colors onto a palette. Mrs. Boeckner assigned each student an emotion to channel onto their canvas. "I liked the freedom that came along with painting our interpretation. My emotion was joy," Bittel said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



3. Giving Back To The Town

Trying a new form of art, Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ works on weaving together her project. This year Mrs. Boeckner has assigned her art classes to complete various different art projects rather than just the conventionals. They have experimented with weaving, pottery, and abstract painting. Photo by Dawson Sproul

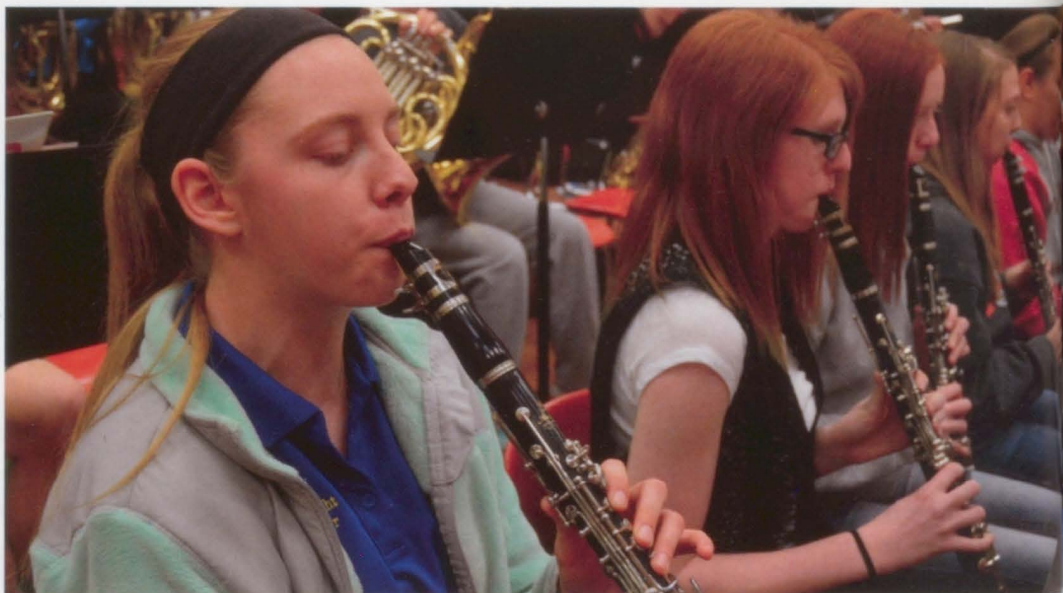
4. Shape, Mold, Create

Working on finessing his project, Sam Rupp¹⁷ focuses on achieving the perfect shape. He and the art class were constructing clay sculptures and teapots. "I got to shape and mold my ceramic pot in whichever way I wanted to. Sculpting is one of my favorite forms of art," Rupp said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



5. The Grind Never Stops

During daily rehearsal, McKenzie Dowis¹⁸ focuses on hitting every note to produce the best sound possible. Dowis has been playing the flute since fifth grade. "I originally wanted to play the trumpet but this really mean girl wanted to also, so I stuck with the flute," Dowis said. Photo by Dawson Sproul





"My weave design was inspired by my love for things that are sparkly. I'm using mainly black and different blues. All these colors will match my dorm room in college."

-Ashley Mattheyer, 17

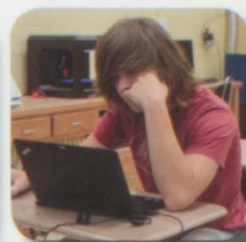
// Woodshop Warriors



Joseph Eck

Checking the dimensions of his project, Joseph Eck¹⁸ assembles benches to go along with a table he has created in the shop. Eck has taken a shop class every year in high school and is planning to major in Architecture once he graduates.

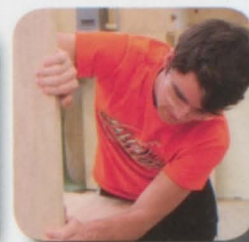
Photo by Dawson Sproul



Brayden Bittel

Working in AutoCAD, Brayden Bittel¹⁷ plans out the blueprints for a school. In Mr. Carroll's Architectural Design class, the students are designing their own high schools. "It's really cool to make your own school how you want from scratch," Bittel said.

Photo by Dawson Sproul



Trayton Kroeger

Carefully observing, Trayton Kroeger¹⁷ ensures that the measurements on his project are precise. He is constructing a wooden case for the Ellis City Office to hold crafts in. "It's a really big project, but it's coming together well so far," Kroeger said.

Photo by Ali Weber



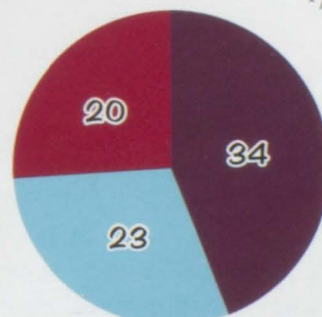
Multiple Personalities Feeling the beat, Tara Woodworth¹⁹ makes an appearance in various performances, including a solo, at the annual Dinner Theatre. Photos by Kyrsten Frickey



Working Windpipes Preparing for both state contest and a spring concert, the clarinet section led by first chairman Cameryn Kinderknecht¹⁹, collaborates with the rest of the ensemble during their daily run-through. The band is playing songs such as "Fandango for Mallet Percussion" by Oscar Stover for their spring program this year. "Practice makes perfect; if we keep working hard and believe in each other, I think we can achieve success in both our concert and state contest," Kinderknecht said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

Most Popular Electives

*77 students polled



Band



Choir



Theatre and Forensics



Double Defense Going after a ground ball hit by a TMP baseball player, Bryce Keithley¹⁷ and Dalton Hensley¹⁷ scramble to field the ball before the batter makes it to first. After going into extra innings, the Raiders came out on top, beating TMP with a score of 6-4. "Offensively, we had to be really patient at the plate, and defensively, we just had to knock the ball down and get the outs when they came," Keithley said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



SPRING

SOFTBALL

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BASEBALL

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GIRLS TRACK

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BOYS TRACK

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GOLF

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PROM

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Rattle The Bats



Batter Up Warming up her swings, Cora Milbourne¹⁹ practices her stance for a good hit. "I really try to focus on my timing and how I am standing," Milbourne said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Huddle Up Teammates Ali Weber¹⁸, Brittany Bollig¹⁷, Cora Milbourne¹⁹, Lexie Rome¹⁷, and Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ make jokes to uplift spirits throughout the game. Photo by McKenzie Dowis



You're Out! Catching the ball, Ali Weber¹⁸ tags a player out from the Lincoln team. "I liked playing infield because there's a lot more action compared to the outfield," Weber said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Swingin' Up to bat and ready for a hit, Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ takes a chance on a good hit on Plainville ground. "Getting a good hit feels like taking a nap: refreshing," Schoenberger said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis



1. Home Safe Cutting it close, Lexie Rome¹⁷ slides into home base safely, giving the team another point before getting tagged out by her opponent. "I felt great and just have to trust my speed," Rome said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis

2. Eye On The Ball Up to bat, Peyton Reese²⁰ ducks down as a pitch goes above her head. "I just ducked and kept my bat tucked in to prevent it from hitting a foul," Reese said. Photo by Haley Reiter

3. Strategy Biting down on the top of her jersey, Keighlee Wilken¹⁹ shows a unique way of getting ready for the ball. "I do it so I don't throw my head," Wilken said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

4. Splits To Safety Sliding into third base, Lindsay Augustine¹⁷ does the splits on her way towards home. "The only thing I worried about was a rip in my pants," Augustine said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis



Fast Pitch Preparing her arm, Brittany Bollig¹⁷ pitches the ball to warm up before she starts the game off with a strike. "I just focus in and try to throw the ball past the catcher. Also, I like to throw a high inside pitch just to scare everyone away from the plate a little bit," Bollig said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

STARTING OVER FRESH

A new year, new season, new team, new assistant coach, and a new attitude

Starting off the season with a new assistant coach, the softball girls were shown a new way of playing the game.

"This season we really mesh well as a team and are able to play together really well," Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸ said.

Being new, Assistant Coach Brandi Roland gave the team a new insight on the term "team bonding."

"Brandi has helped us a lot this season because she has taken us back to the basics and rebuilt a lot of the skills we need for winning the games we play," Keighlee Wilken¹⁹ said.

Energetic and outgoing, Roland leads by example that a player doesn't always have to be serious about the game.

"Our new coach interacts with us and tells awesome jokes and stories. She makes sure we have a great time during games and practices," Lindsay Augustine¹⁷

said.

Although, not everything is all fun and games, she also has a serious side when it comes to playing correctly and winning the game.

"We like to have fun and all, but every drill we do in practice we take seriously as they prepare us for our games," Lexie Rome¹⁷ said.

With a record of 8-9 at the end of the season, the team says she helped with technique and strategy to get them there.

"She helps encourage us all to have fun and work hard. She also shows better ways to work as a team and have a better season overall," Peyton Reese²⁰ said.

Roland integrated team drills into practices, including warming up together and pairing with partners. These practices were meant to build team relationships.

"I feel like as a team we have really clicked together this year. We have really stressed leadership in everyone, even the underclassmen. From our daily runs to playing on the field, we do everything as a team," Samantha Crawford¹⁸ said.

Bringing in a new assistant coach was something different for everybody, but has overall helped construct the team. Her criticism and team building set the tone for the season and her new drills transformed the team and benefitted them throughout the season.

At launch, the barrel is at 45 degrees

Natalie Schoenberger¹⁸

Head stays front and center facing the ball

Shoulders slightly tilted

Front elbow is bent

The Perfect Stance



NO BASE LIKE HOME

Railers use team chemistry and motivation to advance to the state tournament

After ending their season last year at the 2A state baseball tournament in the first round, the team used their post-season experience towards a perfect regular season and a deeper run at the state tournament.

"We have all been playing together since we were probably five years old, so we are all close to each other and have great team chemistry which will only help throughout our season," Easton Smith¹⁷ said.

A key to the team's success is their dynamics with each other. With majority of the team made up of seniors, many have started since their freshman year.

"I think it helps that we've been playing together since we've been little and we all get along well with one another. This year with us seniors we all want to win, so with the same goal in mind, our determination and attitudes have made our team grow," Clayton Feik¹⁷ said.

The team completed a perfect regular season with a 15-0 record with 13 of the 15 being run rules. The two other victories against Thomas More Prep-Marian off of comeback victories.

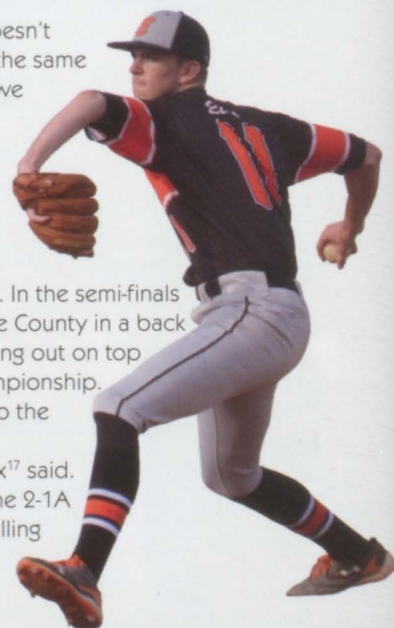
"Completing a perfect regular season is great, but

once it comes to the post-season, it doesn't mean anything because everyone has the same goal in mind to make it to state. Once we beat TMP, it really boosted our team's confidence and we felt we could accomplish anything with each other," Trayton Kroeger¹⁷ said.

The Railers entered the state tournament as the number one seed against Wabaunsee defeating them 7-0. In the semi-finals the team faced Cottonwood Falls-Chase County in a back and forth contest with the Railers coming out on top in extra innings to proceed to the championship.

"The game we played to advance to the championship game was intense, nerve-racking, and exciting," Nathan Cox¹⁷ said.

The team finished their season at the 2-1A state tournament as state runner-ups falling to Leon-Bluestem in the championship game 8-5. The Railers completed their season with a record of 20-1.



Road to Success



Make It Count In his final season of high school baseball, Brevin LaBarge¹⁷ delivers a pitch to a batter from Lincoln to close out the first game. "My favorite part of pitching is when I get to strike people out for the third out because it makes me feel better than them knowing I did my job for the team," LaBarge said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Swinging For The Fences

Following through with his swing, Bryce Keithley¹⁷ hits a home run. "When you hit a home run, it feels like air running around the bases," Keithley said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Hustle And Heart Pushing himself to beat out an Ellinwood throw, Nathan Cox¹⁷ makes his way towards home plate during the season opening game at home. Photo by Dawson Sproul



1. Seize The Moment On his way to home, Brayden Bittel¹⁷ receives support from Head Coach Brent Cain. "[Cain] has us work on technique every day so we can build our connection as a team," Bittel said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

2. Down And Ready Focusing on the pitch, Clayton Feik¹⁷ battles against a Thomas More Prep-Marian pitcher. The team defeated the Monarchs for the first time in team history. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey

3. No Turning Back Coming in to close out the game, Carter Bollig²⁰ pitches during the championship at the 2-1A state tournament. Photo by Ali Weber

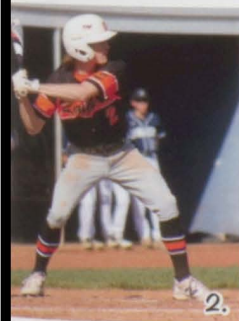
4. No Turning Back After rounding third base, Dalton Hensley¹⁷ attempts to retrieve back to the base. "Baseball is a mental game where if you make a mistake you just have to laugh it off and have fun with it no matter what," Hensley said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Eyes On The Prize After hitting a single during the championship game against Leon-Bluestem, Trayton Kroeger¹⁷ anticipates the next pitch before stealing second base. Photo by Ali Weber



Technique Winding up for the next pitch, Junior Hernandez¹⁸ aims for catcher Brevin LaBarge's¹⁷ mitt. "Being the pitcher you get to control the tempo of the game," Hernandez said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Baby Got Track



Take The Leap Competing in the 300 meter hurdles, Abby Burton¹⁸ concentrates on making it to the finish line. "I have to focus on my form to help block out the pain," Burton said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Throwing For Perfection Getting into form, Sierra Pfannenstiel¹⁸ takes the steps needed for a good throw. "I clear my mind and go with my instincts," Pfannenstiel said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Leading The Pack Keeping pace in the one mile run, Jessica Gamez¹⁷ leads the group to the finish line. "I just think of it in 800s so it does not seem like a long race," Gamez said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Make It Count Turning her body forward, Marissa Lindberg¹⁹ throws the shot-put. "Every time I throw I just hope for a better throw each time," Lindberg said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



1. Sky High Aiming for a good score, Abigail Mattheyer²⁰ throws javelin. "There's a lot of competition and I have never done it before, but I liked it," Mattheyer said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

2. Down To Business With disc in hand, Haley Reiter¹⁸ launches it into the marked area of the field, scoring points for the team. "We have a lot of runners, so I try to gain points in throwing for our team," Reiter said.

Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

3. Zooming Past Determined to win, Kaitlyn Lindberg¹⁹ competes in the 800 meter run at the Ness City track meet. Photo by Dawson Sproul

4. Soaring High At the Ness City track meet, Cassie Waldschmidt¹⁹ gets over starting height in high jump with ease. "It is an event that is not as stressful as a running event, and it is just something I enjoy," Waldschmidt said.

Photo by Dawson Sproul



Flinging Sand Breaking her personal record with a jump of 34'10", Kelsey Brack¹⁸ avoids falling forward after jumping into the pit. Brack participated in both long jump and triple jump. "To get a good jump, I have to make sure to always do the same approach every time, that way I am where I need to be on the board," Brack said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

ALL HANDS ON DECK

Making the distance, time, and height gains points needed for placing

The girls track team took their meets to a next level of serious where hard work paid off, making enough points in every event to get first place overall in nearly every single meet this year.

"Coming in first place always makes me feel very proud for everyone on the team," Kaitlyn Lindberg¹⁹ said.

Being a smaller team consisting of only 15 girls, they had to put in extra work and participate in more than one event to have a chance of placing.

"It is hard because you have to work your hardest to place in the top six, and, when you place first, it feels amazing," Marissa Lindberg¹⁹ said.

All running, throwing, and field contestants contribute by earning points for the team by

placing in their events. With having many members, the team benefits when each competitor places.

"Earning points is definitely a combination between all the girls. We are a team, and we work together to make up those points," Kelsey Brack¹⁸ said.

There are different ways of scoring the points needed to win 1st place at each meet. A thrower gains points through the distance of the object that is being thrown. Depending on the event, the object could be thrown from around 20 feet to a couple hundred feet.

"Most of the time I do not earn as many points as I could, but when I do earn points, I know I could be the difference between winning and losing," Sierra Pfannenstiel¹⁸ said.

A runner earns points for the team by how fast she can finish a timed race. The lower the time for the distance, the more points earned.

"A majority of our team are sprinters that contribute to the team. In the 800 meter and mile race, I help score points in the area where other teams could catch up to us," Jessica Gamez¹⁷ said.

A field event includes shot-put, pole vault, long jump and so on. Contestants in these areas show strength in distance, height and even speed.

"Most points come from placing in field events," Abigail Mattheyer²⁰ said.

Ending the season, Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷, Abby Burton¹⁸, Kelsey Brack¹⁸, Kaylyn Foster¹⁸, and Cassie Waldschmidt¹⁹ qualified for state. Many brought home medals and new records that put the season to a close.

A High Jumpers Guide

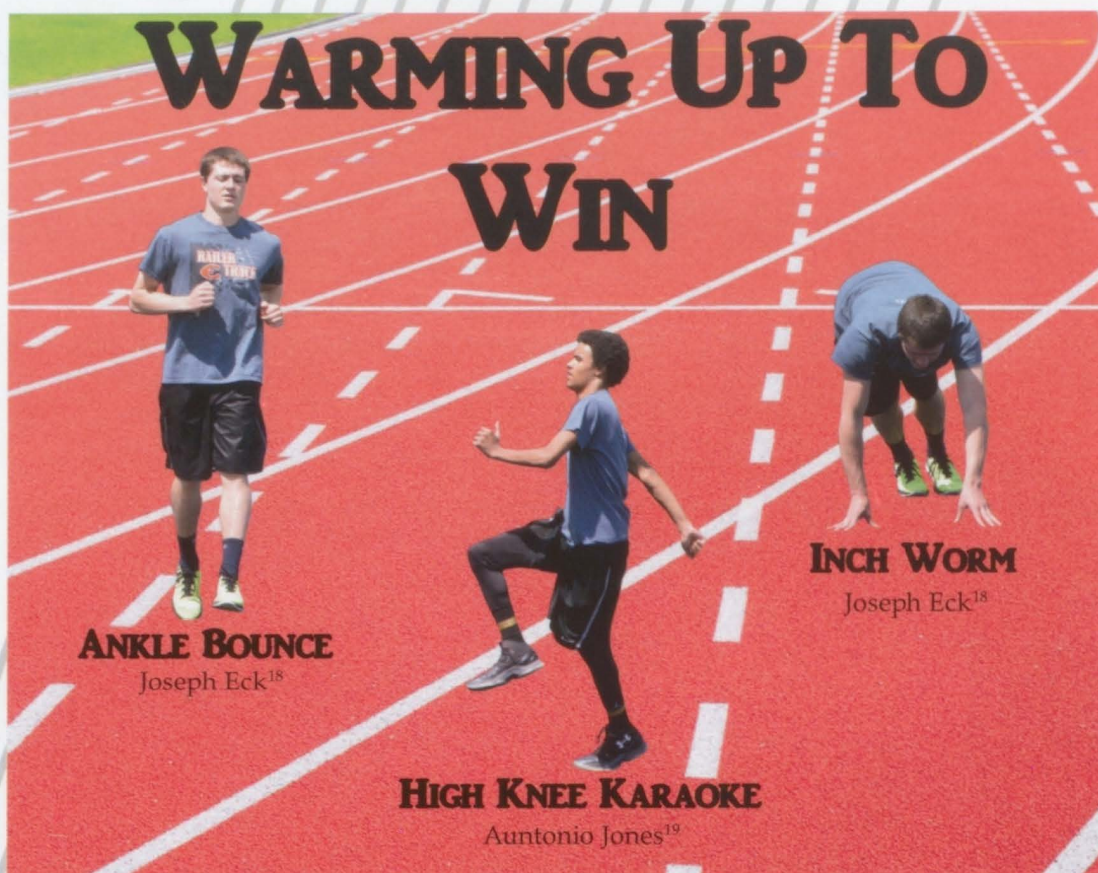
**2. APPROACH THE MAT
IN A J PATH**

3. ARCH YOUR BACK

1. MARK YOUR STEPS

Ashley
Mattheyer¹⁷

4. LAND ON THE MAT WITHOUT TOUCHING THE BAR



GETTING BACK ON TRACK

The boys track team makes progress with more numbers covering more events

Last year the boys track team was small, so there was a limited amount they could do event-wise to get points to place at meets, but this year was different. With only one senior graduated from last year, much of the team returned, along with the new freshmen and additional athletes from the school.

"Last season was different because there were only a few boys who I needed to focus on, unlike this year where there are many I can help out," Coach Craig Amrein said.

With fewer competitors last season, the team was unable to have the participants in events that they needed to gain team points and place at meets. This season, though, the team was double the size it was last year resulting in the coverage that last season lacked.

"One thing that has improved is the relays. Both of our relays are ranked in the state," Amrein said.

Along with the relays being ranked in the state, Geoffrey Soneson¹⁸ was also ranked 12th in the pole vault with a vault of 12 feet. Soneson also went into regionals ranked fourth.

"Being ranked in the state feels cool because it means

that I'm kind of good," Soneson said.

The team had someone participating in almost every event. The only events lacking consistent participants were the distance runs.

"This season our coaches are spread out thinner due to more boys doing more events," Amrein said.

The team placed within the top three teams at several track meets unlike last season where they did not place at any.

"I am excited for next year's season because we return all relay members and sprinters. I'm also excited for the future to see the track program continue to grow," Amrein said.

Finishing out the year, the boys 4x1 and 4x4 relays qualified for state, which takes place on the last Saturday in May, along with Trey Hudson¹⁹ in long jump. The 4x1 placed second and 4x4 fifth. Overall, the boys ended the season on a positive note and many will be returning next year.



Victory In Mind



Throw It Far Gathering strength, Noah Lohrmeyer²⁰ perfects the form to get a good throw. "I like throwing discus because my brother threw discus," Lohrmeyer said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Push To The Limit While warming up, JJ Linch²⁰ practices to compete to his full potential during the competition. "The biggest factors in javelin are form and power," Linch said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Jump, Jump, Jump! In mid air, Taylor Beisner¹⁷ attempts to jump as far as he can using the momentum he gained on the runway. This was Beisner's first year of high school track. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Just Keep Running At the Victoria meet, Auntonio Jones¹⁹ pushes to get ahead of all of his competitors. Jones's best time in the 100 meter dash this season was 11.70 seconds. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

1. Safe Landing Following his jump, Trey Hudson¹⁹ attempts to have a good landing without falling backwards. Falling backwards would affect his distance jumped. Photo by Dawson Sproul

2. Give It Your All Pushing to make the shot-put go far, John Groff¹⁹ gathers up all the power he will need to send it flying. "To get good at shot you have to lift to build up muscle and perfect your form," Groff said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

3. Never Give Up Hurdling the obstacle, Logan Shaw¹⁹ runs the 300 meter hurdles. "To build endurance I ran at practice and just pushed myself the best I could," Shaw said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

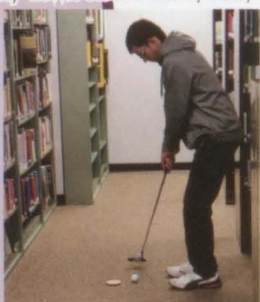
4. All It Takes In preparation to pole vault, Jake Eck²⁰ takes his approach from the runway where he will gain the momentum he will need to get him over the bar. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

Flyin' High Using strength gathered from the runway, Bryce Younger²⁰ attempts to clear the pole vault bar in order to get a good vault in. Younger has placed in the event at all the track meets and hopes to continue his success. "When I'm pole vaulting, I try to stay confident and imagine myself going high to clear it," Younger said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

Putting In Effort



Swinging Away At the I-70 Classic, Cade Lewis¹⁹ takes his second shot on the 3rd hole. "That tournament was my favorite because my parents got to watch me," Lewis said. Photo by Haley Reiter



Indoor Fun Practicing his putting, Holden Lyman¹⁹, golfs on the handmade course in the library. "This is a fun activity we do every year and it actually helps our skills," Lyman said. Photo by Haley Reiter



Heads Up At the I-70 Classic, Chase Hudson¹⁷, tees off to begin the 9th hole. Hudson golfed a personal best at the Ellis portion of the tournament and finished with 3rd place. Photo by Haley Reiter



Book Of Golf During a rainy day, the golf team took practice to the library to work on their putting skills. The teammates took turns creating courses to give everyone a challenge. Photo by Haley Reiter



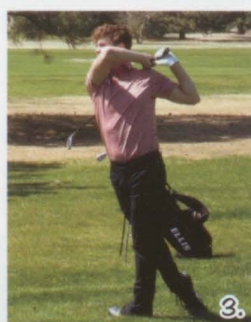
1. Who's Your Caddy?

Lining up a putt, Tabasco McClung¹⁹, set up and picked out his club of choice. "It's nice to be your own caddy because you always have your clubs with you, but it also hurts your back," McClung said. Photo by Haley Reiter

2. Daily Dose Of Iron Chipping his golf ball onto the green, Holden Lyman¹⁹ works his way closer towards making it into the hole. Lyman made the shot in three more strokes. Photo by Haley Reiter

3. In Full Swing Hoping to keep his score low, Cade Lewis¹⁹, inches his way into putting range. "Putting is by far the easiest part of golf for me," Lewis said. Photo by Haley Reiter

4. Go For The Green Getting a better angle to line up his next shot, Zachary Cox¹⁹, crouches down before he takes a swing. Cox went on to make the shot, and advanced to the next hole. Photo by Haley Reiter



Down And Ready Focusing on his next shot, Chase Hudson¹⁷ mentally prepares for his next putt. Hudson placed 5th at the Atwood Invitational that day. "The most important thing to remember when putting is speed. You will never make a putt if you don't get it there and putting is a crucial part of a good golf game," Hudson said. Photo by Matt Carroll

KINGS OF THE COURSE

Focusing on technique and skills, a young golf team works towards their goals



After last season, the golf team returned for a new season hoping to advance more competitors on to state. Chase Hudson¹⁷ was the only player from last year's team to compete at the state tournament. He planned on making it to state again this season and bring a few underclassmen with him as well.

"Coming in to this year I just tried not to get stressed. I kept a good head on my shoulders for the most part and enjoyed my senior year," Hudson said.

This year the golf team consisted of five members and four of the five members were only sophomores. The only upperclassman was Hudson, a senior, who qualified for the state tournament last year as a junior.

"Being the only senior golfer isn't really anything I didn't see coming. I knew that things were going to be this way and I have really enjoyed the year with my teammates," Hudson said.

With a young team, learning the basics was integral for the golfers. At the beginning

of the season, they started from scratch and learned proper form and technique to ensure that they all knew the correct procedures for executing a swing and the fundamentals of the game. In this practice, the coach anticipated that the team would get better as the season progressed.

"I am glad that we learned all the basics at the beginning of the year because now as we head into the post season, I am learning the importance of having good form," Zachary Cox¹⁹ said.

As the season progressed, Hudson became a regular placer at meets. The team recognized his senior leadership and began following suit, with each player improving their scores at meets. Three of the five golfers hit a score below ninety, which was a personal best for most.

"I hope that they learn that hard work and perseverance eventually pays off. I hope that the younger guys will see how much Chase has improved since he was a freshman to become one of the top players in the area and realize that they can do the same. The only way to get better is to practice and work on your game. I also hope they learn mental toughness and know that they can do much more than they think is possible," Coach Matt Carroll said.

With young athletes on the course, the golf team made strides toward improvement and showed they can play competitively even with a small team.

6 people polled

Favorite Course of the Season

**Sugar Hills
Golf Club
Goodland, Kansas**



**Ellis Golf Club
Ellis, Kansas**

**Smoky Hill
Country Club
Hays, Kansas**





Dance Away During the traditional "Wobble" dance, Chase Hudson¹⁷, Nathan Cox¹⁷, and Derek Pfeifer¹⁷ are front and center showing off their dance moves. "I've heard the 'Wobble' at every dance I've been to, and it's a really fun dance to do as a whole school and it creates a fun energy. It's cool to see everyone come together and dance as a whole," Cox said. Photo by Ali Weber

UNDER THE CITY LIGHTS

The junior class aims for more involvement with the return of former Ellis DJs

When April rolls around, so does prom, put on by the junior class. The class started planning the event in mid-February so they could get every detail down to the T. They first picked out three different themes to choose from and the class voted for the theme that they wanted. The theme that won was "Under the City Lights."

"It was exciting to finally have a theme to work with so we could start planning everything out and looking through the different items we could purchase," Kyrsten Frickey¹⁸ said.

The class had many components of the event that they needed to get in order, though, before it could be finalized. One of these components was the DJ because many didn't like the one they had before.

"We were looking to invest in a new DJ because the one we had at the dances before played songs that nobody could really dance to, and we wanted to find a DJ that would get the students more involved at the dances," Sierra Schmidt¹⁸ said.

The class looked back on the past to find Jake Dreiling and Neal

Metzler. Dreiling and Metzler used to DJ at the school, but stopped due to Metzler wanting more family time, and them both simply just needing a break from it.

"Both of us needed a break from it, so we decided to call it quits for a while," Dreiling said.

The students were persistent on having the duo back, and begged all throughout the year to convince them to return for prom.

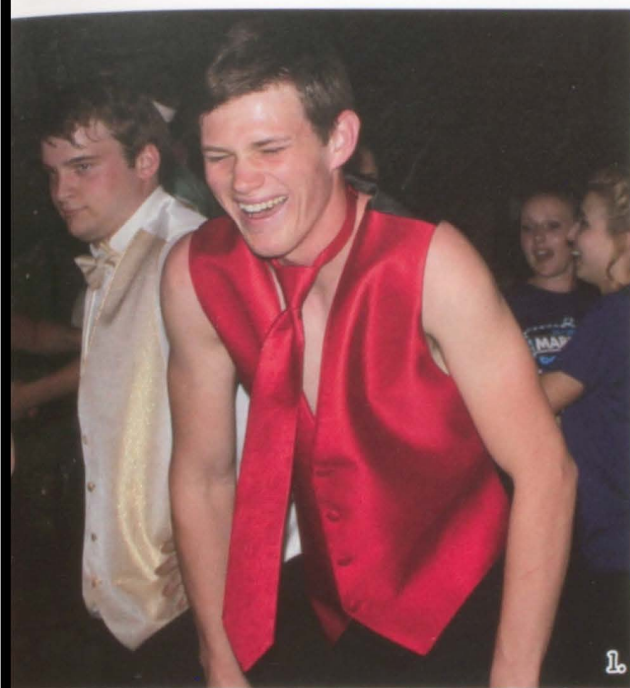
"I would say it [begging from the students] helped. It is a lot of fun to DJ when people are having fun and dancing," Dreiling said.

Prom would be the duo's first gig since they stopped back in 2015. Their hope was to make a comeback without getting tired of it and needing another break from it.

"After taking some time away from it, we thought we would give one dance a year a try. We talked to Mr. Burton about just working prom," Dreiling said.

The duo achieved their goal of keeping students involved and on the dance floor at prom, and plan to return next year to DJ the 2018 prom.

"The DJs killed it. By far the best dance in EHS history."
Chase Hudson, 17

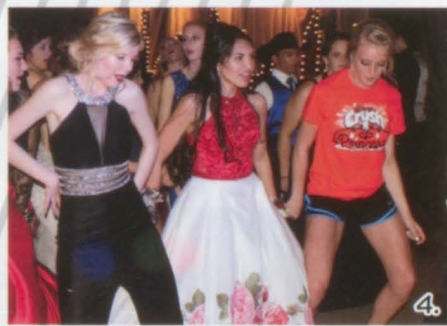
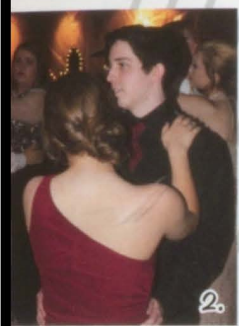


1. All Smiles In the heat of the moment, Geoffrey Soneson¹⁸ breaks into a laugh after a friend's joke. "Being at dances with friends makes it easier to have fun because you can just be yourself," Soneson said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey

2. Perfect Match When the DJ slows the music down, Julia Cox¹⁸ and Nick Geschwentner¹⁸ pair up to dance to the song. The pair attended the dance together. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

3. Dancing Fools Feeling the rhythm, Brayden Bittel¹⁷ and Derek Pfeifer¹⁷ get down on the dance floor. "The dance was fun this year because there was a different DJ that played music that people could actually dance to," Bittel said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey

4. Work It Participating in one of the line dances, Sierra Schmidt¹⁸, Jasmyn Hernandez¹⁷, and Ashley Mattheyer¹⁷ dance the night away. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Before and After



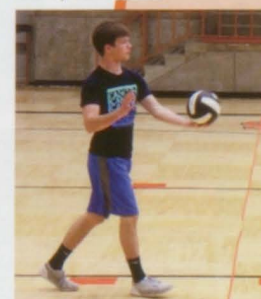
Scissor Hands During the designated decorating day on Friday, McKenzie Dowis¹⁸ works with the assistance of her classmates to prepare gossamer that will hang on the walls. Photo by Lexie Rome



Get After It In hopes of scoring a goal, Joseph Eck¹⁸ plays bubble soccer at After Prom. "I liked bubble soccer because you got to run around and delect people," Eck said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Stuck Like Glue Preparing for prom the next day, Peyton Brown¹⁸ uses hot glue to secure a decoration. Hot glue was a necessity for decorating. Photo by Lexie Rome



Serving L's During the first ever After Prom Volleyball Tournament, Bryce Younger¹⁸ prepares to perfect his serve. "My team didn't do that good and could've done better, but the tournament was fun," Younger said. Photo by McKenzie Dowis

How Much Did YOU Spend?

Total Spent
\$184.00

Boy vs. Girl

Total Spent
\$510.00

Boutonniere
\$13.00

Shirt
\$8.00

Pocket Square
\$8.00

Tux
\$130.00

Shoes
\$25.00

Hair
\$70.00

Makeup
\$30.00

Corsage
\$20.00

Dress
\$250.00

Fingernails
\$40.00

Shoes
\$60.00

Toenails
\$40.00



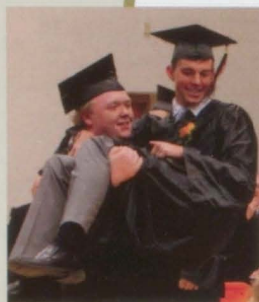
One Last Time



New Alumni Ending his high school years, Brayden Bittel receives his diploma. "It's going to be weird not coming to EHS everyday but I'm glad to move on," Bittel said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Tough Goodbyes Embracing Dawson Sproul¹⁸, Kassi Brown sheds a tear. "The thing I will miss most about high school is my underclassmen friends," Brown said. Photo by Shelby Werth



Carry Me Home Leaving with a handful, Bradley Wallace puts on a show for the crowd by picking up his classmate Easton Smith. "We have a strong bromance," Smith said. Photo by Ali Weber



Key To Success Piecing together Mrs. Carroll's speech, Spencer Fuller uncovers the key that was hidden under his chair. "I can't wait to add 'notches' to my own key," Fuller said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

CAPS OFF TO THE GRADS



JESSICA GAMEZ



CHASE HUDSON



ASHTON JOHNSON



Give 'Em A Hand After the introduction of the school board, Brittany Bollig turns towards classmates Jasmya Hernandez, Dalton Hensley, and Jessica Gamez to give a warm welcome during one of their last get-togethers as an entire class. "All that was running through my head during graduation was a combination of 'I can't believe it's all over' and 'don't trip in front of everybody,'" Bollig said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

THE BUS STOPS HERE

Class of 2017 leaves their mark with academic and athletic accomplishments

On May 13th, 2017, Ellis High School said goodbye to another group of students as they begin their journey and venture out into the real world. Thirty-three students graduated in the class and joined the abundance of alumni that have walked the same halls as students years prior.

"It's sad to leave this school because I just started to enjoy it my senior year. I'm glad that it's over though so I can continue on in life. I'm happy I can call myself an EHS graduate," Sam Rupp said.

Among these graduates includes many who have succeeded in athletics and extracurriculars. These include Ashley Mattheyer, 2A State High Jump Champion in 2014, Brevin LaBarge and Nathan Cox, 2A State Speech and Drama Duet Champions in 2016, and Easton Smith, 2-1A Pitcher of the Year in 2017, and various others who have also achieved such feats throughout high school.

"It's an amazing feeling to know I will always be on the walls of EHS, the school I dedicated years of sports towards. I'm pleased to represent

my school and class in such a positive manner," Mattheyer said.

In addition to successes outside of the classroom, these seniors also excel in the academic realm. The class of 2017 had a total of seven valedictorians who fit the criteria of maintaining a 4.0 GPA all throughout

high school: Lindsay Augustine, Brittany Bollig, Jessica Gamez, Dalton Hensley, Jasmyn Hernandez, Lyla Meserve, and Derek Pfeifer.

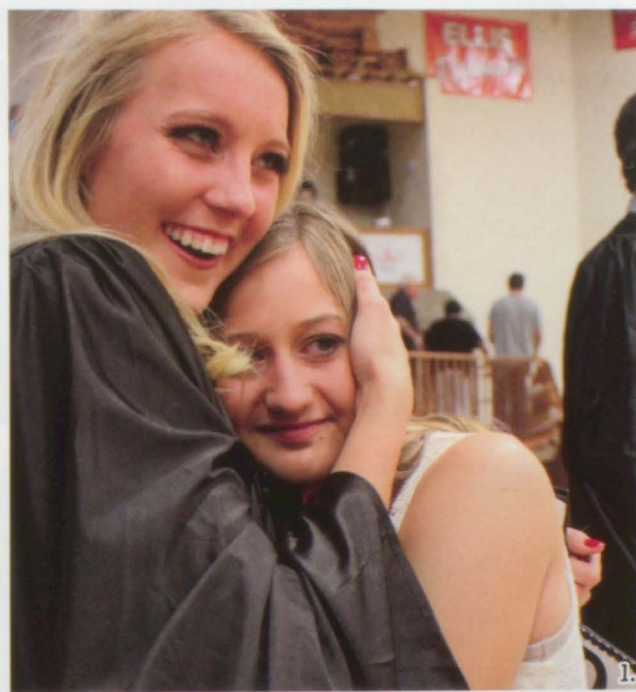
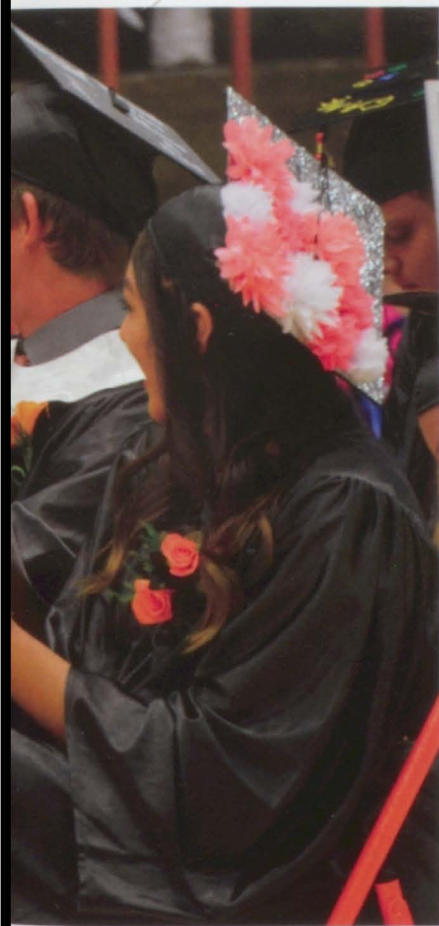
"I've always felt the need to keep my grades up and focus on school as much as possible, making it my number one priority. I'm happy it paid off in the end," Hernandez said.

The class earned \$500,000 in scholarships combined. Be it vocational, university, or community college, students will continue their education in some fashion.

"This class of 2017 has many talented young men and women. I look forward to seeing each of them reach their dreams and achieve all of their aspirations," Principal Corey Burton said.

As Mrs. Carroll said in her speech, students will now take their keys and unlock their potential life paths.

*"Dear underclassmen, have fun before you have to start acting like an adult."
-Lyla Meserve*

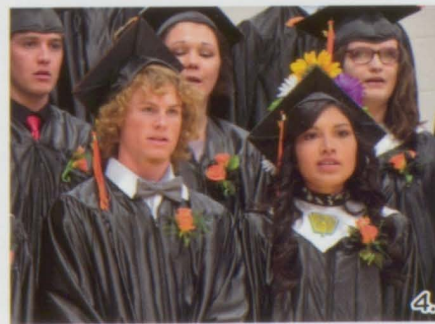
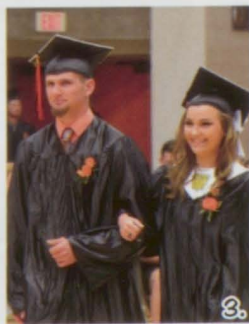


1. Shoulder To Cry On After the ceremony, Rylee Werth²⁰ greets graduate Ashley Mattheyer to give a final goodbye. "The seniors were not only my friends, they were also my role models and family," Werth said. Photo by Shelby Werth

2. Top Of The Class Giving her portion of the valedictorian speech, Lindsay Augustine addresses the crowd. "I was a bit nervous public speaking but I'm used to it from FFA," Augustine said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

3. Hand In Hand Initiating the commencement, Nathan Cox escorts Allie Frickey into the gym. "It's sad that today was an end to it all. I will miss my class a lot," Frickey said. Photo by Ali Weber

4. Final Song Staying on key, Clay Feik and Jessica Gamez sing along with their classmates. The Class of 2017 chose "May We All" by Florida Georgia Line as their class song. Photo by Shelby Werth



\\ Coming To A Close



**Lindsay
Augustine**

Assisting in the reception following the FCCLA banquet, Lindsay Augustine¹⁷ makes sure the cups of punch are filled and prepared for the members to arrive. "It was a struggle trying to resist myself from drinking the punch right away," Augustine said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



**Kaden
Armbruster**

During the installation of officers ceremony, Kaden Armbruster¹⁹ lights his candle to complete the sequence and pass on his office. This year Armbruster served as the VP of Star Events and will be succeeded by Clara Crawford²⁰. Photo by Dawson Sproul



**Kassi
Brown**

Preparing to pass on her torch, Kassi Brown¹⁷ opens up the FCCLA banquet with a welcome. In addition to serving as chapter president, Brown was also elected as district treasurer. "Serving both positions was overwhelming but fun," Brown said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



"My members are truly amazing. There's rarely a day where I have to actually tell them to get started with a project that we are working on or to stay on track. It was a year full of fun."

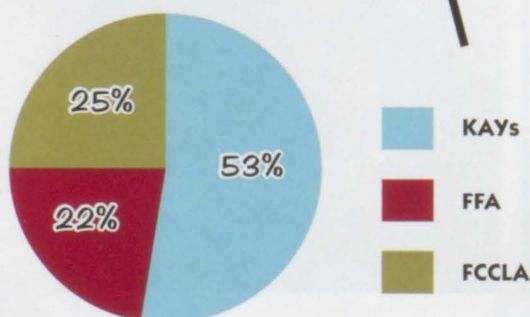
-Chelsea Whittle



Helping Hand After the junior high band and choir concert, Blakely Bittel¹⁸ helps make sundaes to raise money for National FCCLA in July. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Fan Favorite Organization



40 Students Polled

Sugar, Spice, and Everything Nice

At the first ever pep rally to recognize the organizations prior to their state contests and final events, Coach Brandon Armbruster recognizes the individuals that competed at State Powerlifting. One place where you can usually find Cassie Waldschmidt¹⁹, Samantha Crawford¹⁸, and Abby Burton¹⁸ is on the sidelines cheering; another place is in the weight room. All three cheerleaders competed at state and were crowned state champions in their weight divisions. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Final Festivities

Ellis FFA Chapter Ends Their Year With CDE Contests And A Lock-in

1. Well Equipped

All stocked up, Mason Swenson²⁰ tries to get out all of his competitors during a chapter game of dodgeball. Members of both the high school and junior high participated in the FFA games. "I kept trying to get my brother out because we always have a rivalry," Swenson said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

2. A Face In The Crowd

Standing amongst his fellow competitors, Coby Fischer²⁰ examines a group of lambs during the indoor portion of the District Livestock contest. "I like participating in CDEs because it brings our chapter together and shows the competitive side of me," Fischer said. Photo by Chelsea Whittle

3. District Contest

Transferring her observations from pencil to paper, Jaylinn Pfeifer¹⁸ attempts to rise to the top at District Livestock Judging. The chapter came home without any placers but still have people qualified for state contest in events such as Entomology and Dairy Judging. Photo by Chelsea Whittle

4. Hang In There

Listening to the rules of the game, Austin Mattheyer²⁰ "koala" hugs Logan North²⁰ during the FFA Lock-In. The itinerary for the night included dodgeball, a scavenger hunt and bubble soccer. "My first year in FFA was enjoyable because I got to be around my friends," North said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

5. Listen Up

Instructing the group, chapter Sentinel Lane Kohl¹⁸ makes sure everybody knows the rules prior to participating in bubble soccer. "There were a lot of kids that showed up to the lock-in so we needed somebody to take charge. I like yelling so I was perfect for the job," Kohl said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Perfect Match

During a usual Thursday morning, Lauryn Becker²⁰ meets up with her PAL to enjoy conversation, games, and quality time together. Photo by Lexie Rome



Quick Update

"Our last activity was fun because me and my PAL got to make kinetic sand," Taylor Honas¹⁸ said. Photo by Shelby Werth



Open Arms

"My PAL and I had a great time and I'm so glad I have another year with her," Sierra Schmidt¹⁸ said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



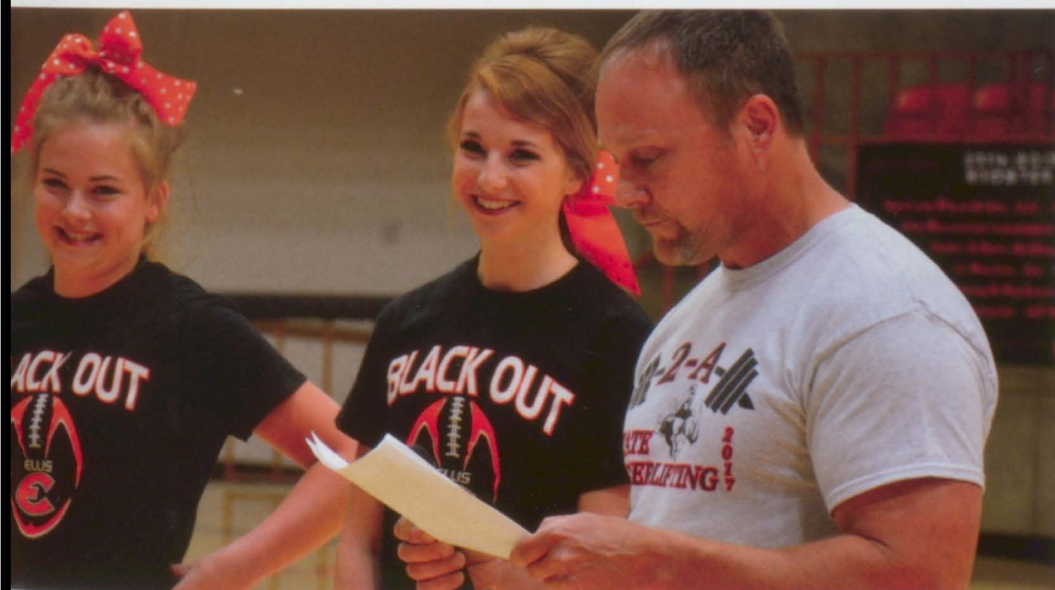
Dual Effort

"End of the year activities are sad, but my PAL and ice cream made it really fun," Jessica Gamez¹⁷ said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



Pictureka

"Thursday mornings were my favorite because I got to see my PAL," Lexie Rome¹⁷ said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Sewing Queen

"During the time I sew, it helps me stay relaxed, and it serves as a peaceful class," Mary Towns¹⁹ said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Flatten Out

"Ironing is a key part to creating a quilt, otherwise your quilt won't stay aligned," Kelsey Brack¹⁸ said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Stitches

"A Bargello quilt requires me to seam-rip to make the different colors of rows," Shelby Werth¹⁸ said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Lay It Out

"My T-shirt quilt will always remind me of memories from when I wore that shirt," Kaylyn Foster¹⁸ said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Cooking A Storm

After completing a recipe, Riley Malleck¹⁹ and Owen Bates²⁰ taste test their chips with salsa. "Our salsa recipe turned out well, but could always be better," Bates said. Photo by Lexie Rome

Back-To-Back State Champs

Forensic Team Defends Their State Title For The Second Year

1. Safety First

Portraying the emotions of a victim in a car accident, Sierra Pfannenstiel¹⁸ performs her serious solo "The Test on the Drive Home," at Forensics Night. "Dawson Sproul¹⁸ helped me since I wasn't getting anywhere. Plus, he assisted me by giving me tips and preparing me for state," Pfannenstiel said. Photo by Jennifer Sproul

2. Time To Celebrate

After hearing their team's name called once again as state champions, seniors Brevin LaBarge, Katie Milbourne, and Nathan Cox collect their state trophy for the second year in a row. "It was an awesome feeling to finish out as state champs after everything we've done," Milbourne said. Photo by Jennifer Sproul

3. Hard Work Pays Off

After the conclusion of the 2A State Forensics tournament in Wichita, the team rejoices by posing with their state championship trophy. "It was a rush of adrenaline and relief to know we defended our state forensics team championship title," Head Coach Alyssa Dawson said. Photo by Jennifer Sproul

4. Piece Of The Action

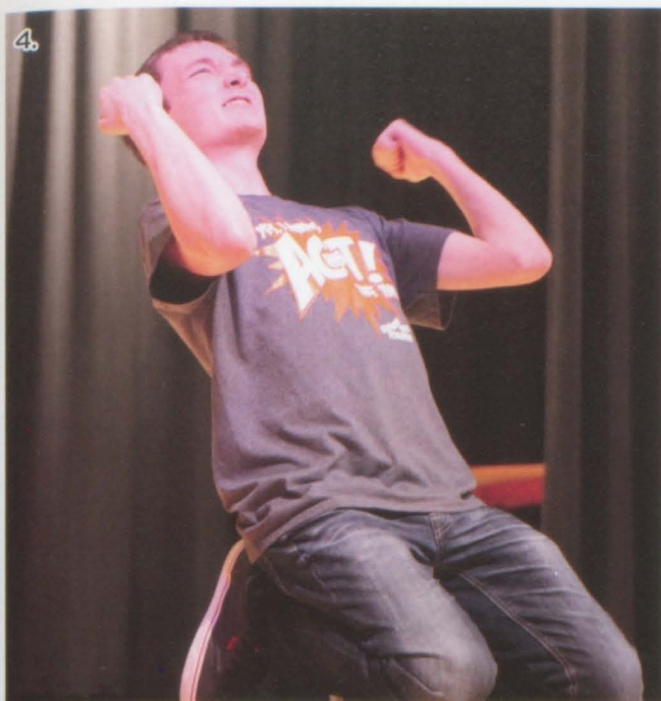
On forensics night, Drew Keller¹⁸ presents his humorous solo "Dueling Doormen" which qualified for state. "Forensics is a great opportunity where a lot of people can get involved and show another side of them many people don't get the chance to see," Keller said. Photo by Lexie Rome

5. Patience Makes Perfect

Waiting on stage as one of the six finalists for Informative, Lane Fischer¹⁹ keeps his composure before hearing his name called for third place. "It was really rewarding knowing all of my hard work paid off with placing in Informative since you have to write your piece," Fischer said. Photo by Lexie Rome



4.



"Defending our forensics team title was a very exciting time for all of us. For us being able to relive that moment of winning state all over again is something I'll never forget."

-Nathan Cox, 17

5.



// Mad Scientists



**Lyla
Meserve**

To complete Anatomy and Physiology, Lyla Meserve¹⁷ participates in dissecting the fetal pig. "This dissection will help me since I want to go into veterinary sciences for my career and it'll help me to learn the anatomy side of animals," Meserve said.

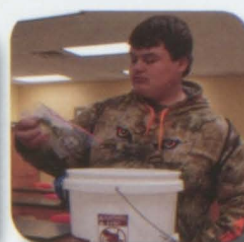
Photo by Lexie Rome



**Melanie
Befort**

Testing out different chemicals, Melanie Befort¹⁸ tries new Chemistry experiments during the annual qual labs. "The hardest part was trying to figure out what elements you have and writing everything down at the same time," Befort said.

Photo by Dawson Sproul



**Ty
Patee**

After finding and identifying his plant, Ty Patee¹⁹ presents his finding of buffalo grass to Mr. Wildeman as one of his items for the Biology scavenger hunt. "I found it easy when it came to finding different plants and animals for this project," Patee said.

Photo by Lexie Rome



Master Piece Presenting his creation, Logan Armbrister²⁰ displays his artistic abilities during a class project in English by paint-dipping a phone case. Photo by Dawson Sproul

Life After High School

Down The Line After receiving yearbook pages, Ali Weber¹⁸ looks over for any errors to be corrected before approving the pages to be submitted. "Although it's going to be really hard to try to create another All-Kansas yearbook, I really enjoy being an editor alongside Kyrsten [Frickey¹⁸] because we get to decide what stays on the pages and what doesn't. We also have really amazing staff members who work hard and stay focused, which makes it easier on us as editors," Weber said. Photo by Lexie Rome



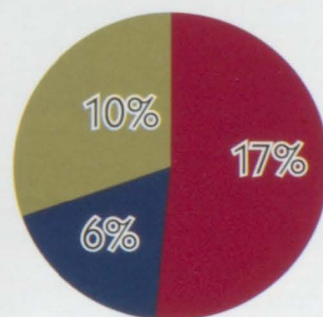
University



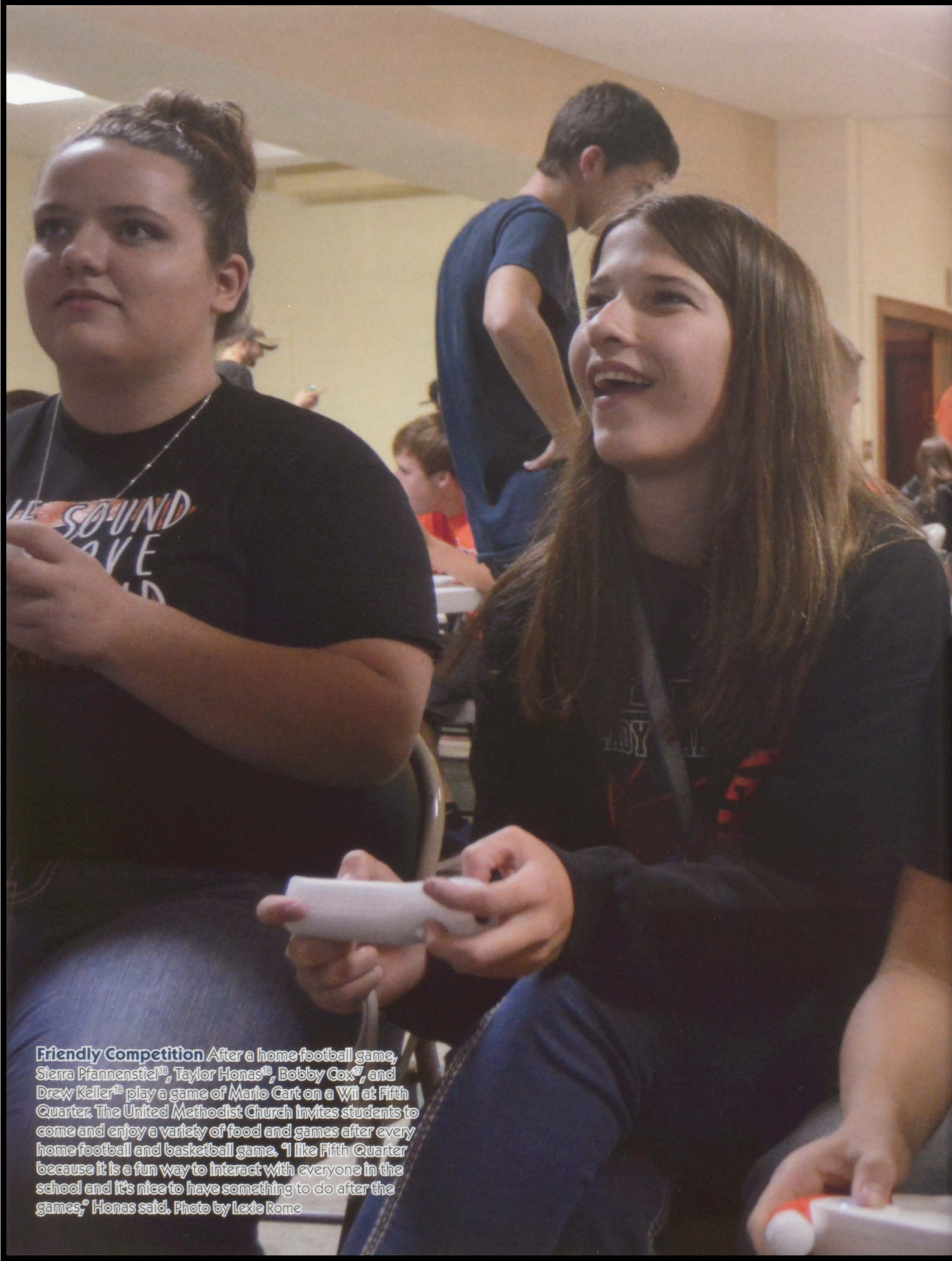
Work/Undecided



Community College



*33 seniors polled



Friendly Competition After a home football game, Sierra Pfannenstiel¹⁸, Taylor Honas¹⁸, Bobby Cox¹⁷, and Drew Keller¹⁸ play a game of Mario Kart on a Wii at Fifth Quarter. The United Methodist Church invites students to come and enjoy a variety of food and games after every home football and basketball game. "I like Fifth Quarter because it is a fun way to interact with everyone in the school and it's nice to have something to do after the games," Honas said. Photo by Lexie Rome



PEOPLE

FRESHMEN
Page 62

SOPHOMORES
Page 64

JUNIORS
Page 66

SENIORS
Page 68

FACULTY
Page 82



Logan Armbrister



Owen Bates



Lauryn Becker



Grace Beisner



Carter Bollig



Trinity Bollig



Cheyenne Born



Abigail Brown



Brian Carbajal



Clara Crawford



Jacob Eck



Zachary Eck



Coby Fischer



Landis Fischer



John Gamez



Kade Gottschalk



Keaton Keller



Natalie Kelsey



Lawrence Kreutzer



John Linch



Noah Lohrmeyer



Weston Love



Abigail Mattheyer



Austin Mattheyer



Raeven Milbourne



Savannah Miller



Breonna North



Logan North



Peyton Reese



Adelita Shepard



Mason Swenson



Rylee Werth

Play To Win Following a home football game, Rylee Werth and Zachary Eck focus intently on beating their opponents during a game of foosball at Fifth Quarter. "Fifth Quarter is fun because you get to play games and hang out with not only your classmates, but also the upperclassmen," Werth said.
Photo by Natalie Schoenberger

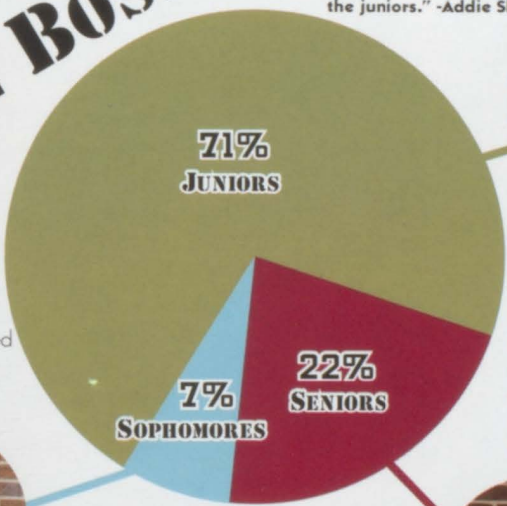
Class of 2020



We've Got Spirit During their first homecoming parade as high school students, some members of the freshmen class throw out candy while riding their class float. "The thing I enjoyed the most about homecoming was being on the float because I got to play around with the dry ice we used on it," Noah Lehmeyer said. The class's float ended up getting third place in the contest. Photo by Ali Weber

WHO'S THE BOSS?

28 polled



"The juniors are the most intimidating to me because I know a lot of the seniors and sophomores, but I don't know any of the juniors." -Addie Shepard



"I'm more intimidated by the seniors because they have been here the longest and they are the oldest ones in the school." -Keaton Keller



"The sophomores are the most intimidating because they are only one year older than me, but I still have to listen to what they say." -John Gamez



1. Working Hard Doing his designated job on Community Service Day, Austin Mattheyer washes the benches at the Good Samaritan Nursing Home. Every seminar was assigned to do different jobs throughout the day. Photo by Ali Weber



2. Serve The People Before a home football game, Coby Fischer and Logan North provide food for fans attending the game. "The purpose of the barbecue was to feed the fans while raising money for the FFA chapter," Fischer said. Photo by Lexie Rome



3. Hold On Tight On the day of homecoming, JJ Linch and Owen Bates attempt to keep a basketball from falling to the ground during class games. "Our class lost, but it was fun competing and trying to win together," Bates said. Photo by Lexie Rome



Kaden Armbruster



Hayden
Aschenbrenner



Dylan Brown



Kennedy Burgess



Robert Cox



Zachary Cox



Lane Fischer



John Groff



Kaylee Hernandez



Trey Hudson



Auntonio Jones



Cameryn
Kinderknecht



Reece Kroeger



Cade Lewis



Kaitlyn Lindberg



Marissa Lindberg



Bailey Lepper



Holden Lyman



Riley Malleck



Tabasco McClung



Kiandra Merriman

Just Knock It Over Waiting anxiously for their classmates to show up with cans, Lane Fischer and Cassie Waldschmidt realize that they are on their own for this KAVs project. "I was a little disappointed when Mr. Kohl didn't knock over our lovely mountain of cans, because I was really looking forward to skipping his class," Fischer said. Fischer and Waldschmidt left in defeat after Mr. Kohl did not knock over their cans. Photo by Dawson Sproul





Cora Milbourne



Ty Patee



Elijah Raub



Christain Remer



Logan Shaw



Thomas Shepard



August Sinclair



Talon Torline



Mary Towns



Cassandra
Waldschmidt



Benjamin Wallace



Keighlee Wilken



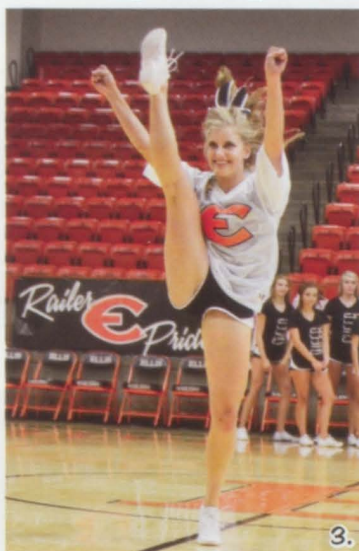
Tara Woodworth



1. Clean Sweep Clearing the sidewalk at the Johnson home, Ben Wallace completes services assigned to Mr. Carroll's seminar. "I like Community Service Day because I am able to make the city of Ellis better and cleaner for the people," Wallace said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



2. Crystal Clear Scrubbing in style, Kaitlyn Lindberg dons her fashionable aviators while wiping the windows of the old high school streak free for Community Service Day. "Cleaning the windows was actually kind of fun because I got to go outside, and it didn't take that long to clean them," Lindberg said. Photo by Ali Weber



3. High Kicks Auctioning off Dalton Hensley's 17 football jersey, Cassie Waldschmidt shows off his jersey solo. "When you walk out in front of a crowd there are always nerves. I tend to spirit spastically when I am nervous and my smile is cheesy, but I could not be happier to be supporting the boys and girls by sporting their jerseys," Waldschmidt said. Photo by Lexie Rome



'Hay' There! Taking part in the schools' summertime Farm Olympics, Tara Woodworth shows her sportsmanship by helping Trey Hudson and Hayden Aschenbrenner out with their event. "I had to sit in a wheelbarrow holding a hay bale while Hayden and Trey pushed me to the finish line; I was worried they would drop me. Fortunately I was lucky enough to stay seated," Woodworth said. The boys push Woodworth towards the finish line with enough speed to bring home the first place medal. Photo by Sierra Schmidt

Bring on the Bling



Cameryn Kinderknecht

"My ring is unique because there is an Italian phrase engraved on it and the stone is a sapphire, my birthstone. The phrase in Italian is 'Avere Fede, Essere Forti', which means have faith, be strong."



Marissa Lindberg

"My ring is unique because the diamond is my birthstone and it expresses me in a certain way. It is different than everyone else's and I like being unique in my own way."



Class of 2018



A Class Act While playing a relay game at the homecoming pep rally, Drew Keller pulls gummy worms out of a bowl of whipped cream. "I was really in it for the gummy worms and the whipped cream, but I wish we could have at least beat one of the other classes," Keller said. Aiden Johnson and Julia Cox also competed in the game, drinking pop from a baby bottle and chewing gum from a pile of flour. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Melanie Befort



Blakely Bittel



Kelsey Brack



Peyton Brown



Abby Burton



Taton Busby



Austin Carbajal



Julia Cox



Samantha Crawford



McKenzie
Dowis-Jones



Jordyn Eaton



Joseph Eck



Kaylyn Foster



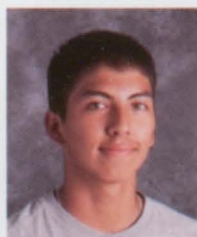
Kyrsten Frickey



Nicholas
Geschwentner



Ryan Herl



Junior Hernandez



Taylor Honas



Emma Aiden
Johnson



Zakoda Keever



Drew Keller

GUESS WHO?



Here is a child who was ready for his picture. He has his nice, combed hair and a colorful background. Who is he?



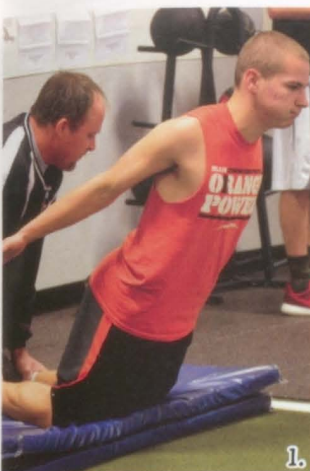
This cowgirl is a princess at heart. No farms for her; she lives in a big castle in the middle of town. Who is this princess?



This junior knew what he wanted to do since he was a baby; work his dream job at the local hometown foods, IGA. Who is he?

Answers:

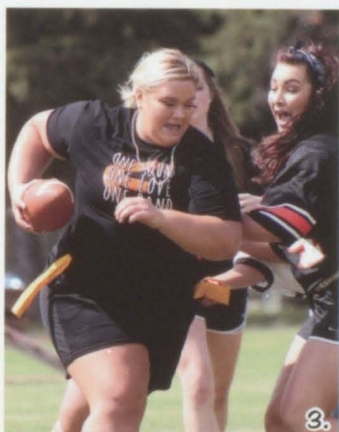
1: Koda Keever 2: Aiden Johnson 3: Levi Wolf



1.



2.



3.

1. A Work In Progress During GPD, Mr. Armbruster helps Cole Swenson with a core workout.

Photo by Sierra Schmidt

2. A New Chapter At the National Honor Society Induction Ceremony, Shelby Werth lights a candle before reciting the induction creed with the other inductees.

Photo by Sheri Bedore

3. Powderpuff Champs Running for a touchdown, Kinley Kuppertz helps the class to a third year victory in powderpuff football during homecoming week. "Our girls really bond when we play powderpuff and we always dominate the other classes," Kuppertz said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Lane Kohl



Kinley Kuppertz



Sierra Pfannenstiel



Jaylinn Pfeifer



Haley Reiter



Sierra Schmidt



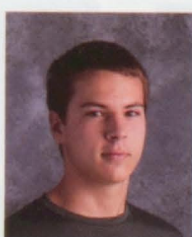
Natalie Schoenberger



Geoffrey Soneson



Dawson Sproul



Cole Swenson



Francis Towns



Ali Weber



Shelby Werth



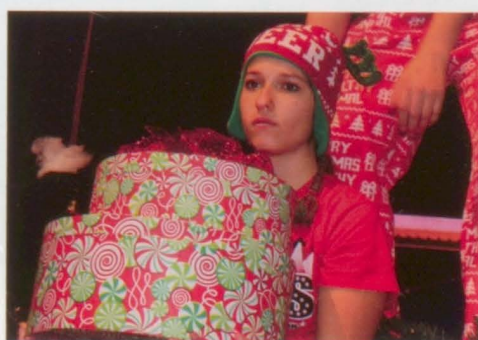
Levi Wolf



Bryce Younger



Brendon Zweifel



Christmas Spirit Decked out in Christmas clothes and her KAY shirt, Taylor Honas prepares to hand out a box that was sold at the KAY Food Box Auction before Christmas Break. "I like the Food Box Auction because it gets everyone involved and I like to see what is in all of the decorative boxes. Overall, it's a great fundraiser for the organization," Honas said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt

DIAGNOSIS: Senioritis

Daydream or pass
College Algebra?

Read a book or
look for a
Snoball dress?

Eat a Nutter
Butter or grasp
Composition?

Apply for
College or take
a nap?

Interpret
Government or
disregard politics?

Write college
essays or drink
tea?

Memorize
forensic piece or
work out?

Read a book or
play with a
Rubik's Cube?

Katie Milbourne

Nathan Cox



Kassi
Brown

"Attend Colby
Community
College and
major in Early
Childhood
Education."



Tanner
Small

"Enter the work
force and be
employed by
working on the
family farm
full time."



After High School I Plan To...



"Enter the work
force and work
at Golden Belt
Co-Op in Ellis,
Kansas."

Spencer
Fuller



"Attend
Kansas State
University and
major in
Veterinary
Sciences."

Lyla
Meserve



One Last Time The senior class comes together for the traditional senior group picture on the final day of homecoming week. "Over the years our class has created a strong bond from the start of high school until the very end. All of us have been through so many events together that it's weird to think we won't see each other everyday after we graduate, but every classmate of mine will always hold a special place in my heart for the rest of my life," Ashton Johnson said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



1.

CLASS OF 2017

1. Clear and Precise Using her artistic skills, Lindsay Augustine decorates the FFA float in preparation for the homecoming parade. "We put in a lot of work to make this float; although it was stressful at times, it was worth it in the end," Augustine said. Photo by Lexie Rome

2. Class Spirit Before the start of their final bonfire, Brittany Bollig, Lindsay Augustine, Ashton Johnson, Jasmyn Hernandez, Lexie Rome, Katie Milbourne, and Dacia LaBarge honor the tradition of "seniors" being painted across their stomachs. "It was a very special bonfire since it was the last one I'd get to experience as a high schooler," Hernandez said. Photo by Dawson Sproul

3. Making a Change After the football game against Oakley, Zak Ramos plays a game of air hockey during Fifth Quarter at the United Methodist Church. "I like how Fifth Quarter is a fun and friendly environment that is provided to us after home games on Friday nights. I also like how they provide food and games for all of us students to enjoy," Ramos said. Photo by Lexie Rome

4. Going All Out During powderpuff football against the junior class on homecoming week, Brad Wallace controls the game as a referee while Lexie Rome looks down the field for an open receiver. "It was fun being a referee because I got to yell at the players for once instead of being yelled at myself," Wallace said. Photo by Sierra Schmidt



2.



3.



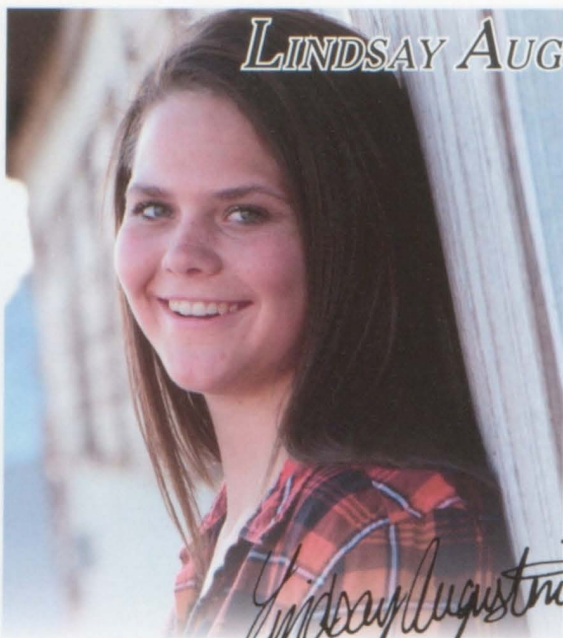
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17

LINDSAY AUGUSTINE



Lindsay Augustine

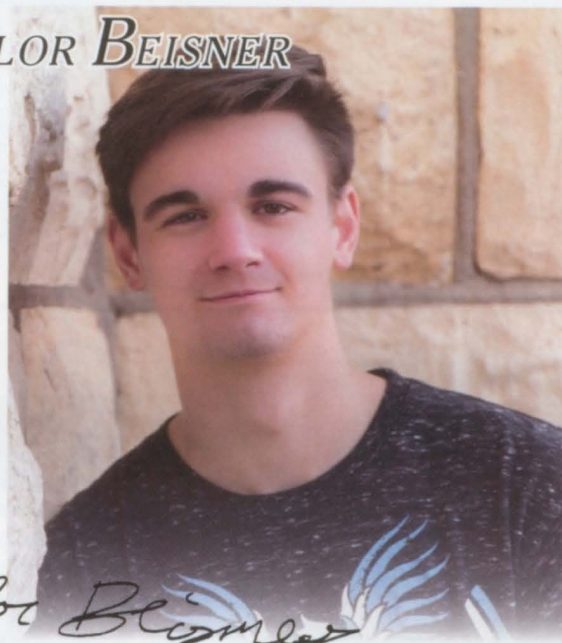
Congratulations on all of your accomplishments. We are very proud of you. We wish you the best of luck in your future. We can't wait to see what your future holds.

Love,
Mom & Dad

Basketball 9
Cross Country 11
FCCLA 12
FFA 9, 10, 11, 12
FFA Officer 10, 11, 12
FFA President 11, 12
Forensics 9, 10, 11, 12
Forensics State Qualifier 9, 10, 11, 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
Kansas Honor Scholar 12

KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
KAYs Board Member 12
Link Crew 11
National Honor Society 11, 12
Prom Server 10
Scholars Bowl 11, 12
Site-Based Council Community Service Award 9, 10, 11, 12
Softball 10, 11, 12
Volleyball 9, 10

TAYLOR BEISNER



Taylor Beisner

"I'll love you forever, I'll like you for always, As long as I'm living my baby you'll be."

-Robert Munsch
Mom & Dad

Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12
Golf 9, 10, 11
Honor Roll 11
KAYs 9
Track 12
Web Team 12

20



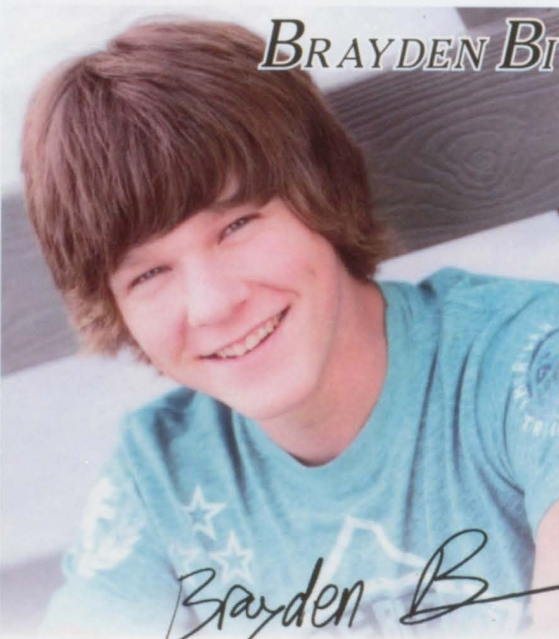
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17

BRAYDEN BITTEL



Brayden B

Congratulations, "B."

We are sending lots of love, luck, and support your way as you start this new journey. The best is yet to come!

Love,
Dad & Mom

All-State Second Baseman 11
Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12
FFA 9, 10
Football 11
KAYs 9, 10
Prom Server 10

BRITTANY BOLLIG

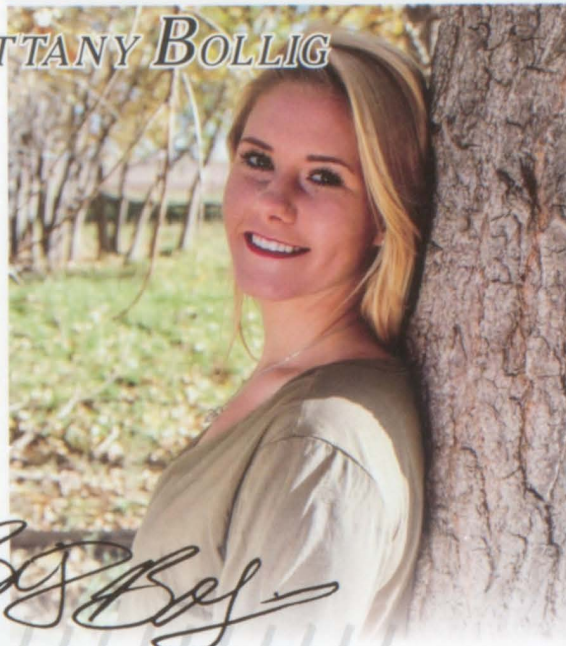
You are half way. May your graduation be the beginning of a bright future for you. Best wishes for wonderful college years.

Congrats!
Mom, Dad, & Myah

All-A Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
Band 9, 10, 11, 12
Basketball 9, 10
Basketball Manager 11
Choir 11
Cross Country 10, 12
FCCLA 9, 10, 11
Football Manager 12
Governor's Award 12

Homecoming Candidate 12
Kansas Honor Scholar 12
MCL All-Academic Team 12
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
Scholars Bowl 9, 10, 11
Softball 9, 10, 11, 12
StuCo 9, 10, 11
Volleyball 9

BB Bollig



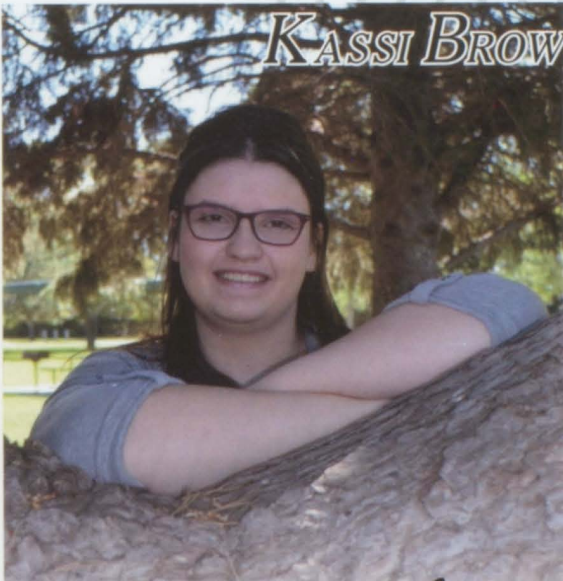
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17

20

KASSI BROWN



Kassi, we are so proud of you and the goals you have reached. Keep reaching for the stars.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Harley, & Abby

Asst. Yearbook Business Editor 11
Band 9, 10, 11
BIGs/PALs 10, 11, 12
FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12
FCCLA District Officer 11, 12
FCCLA Officer 10, 11, 12
FCCLA President 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12

Journalism 10, 11
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
KAYs Board Member 11
Link Crew 11
National Honor Society 12
Play 12
Site-Based Council Community Service Award 11, 12

Kassi Brown

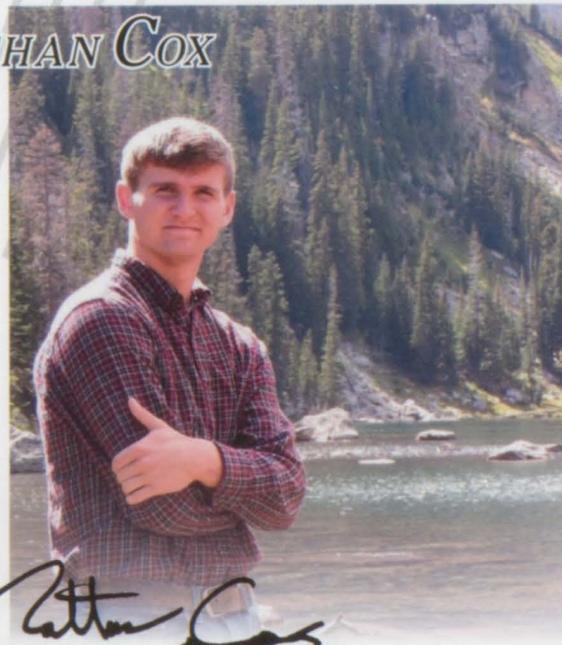
NATHAN COX

Nathan, there is a whole world out there waiting to hear! Be courageous and do what you do best. We love you endlessly! Romans 10:13-15

Love
Mom & Dad

Band 9, 10, 11, 12
Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12
Choir 9, 10, 11, 12
Cross Country 9
FFA 9
Forensics 11, 12
Play 12
Soccer 10, 11, 12

Nathan Cox



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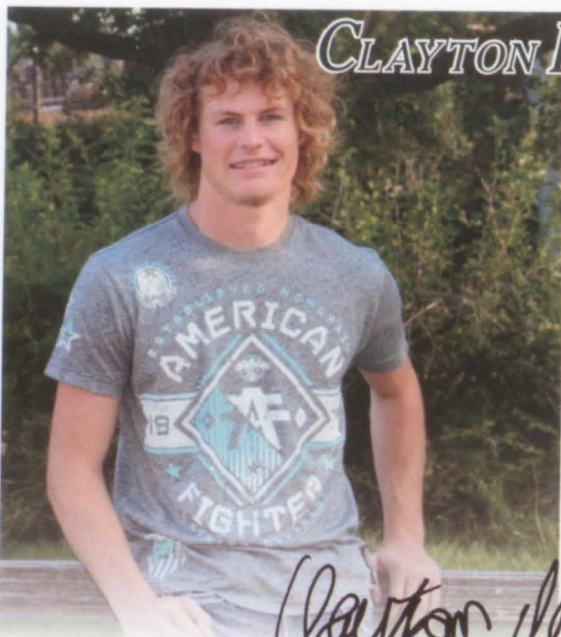
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CLAYTON FEIK



Clayton Feik

You have grown into an amazing young man. We love you more each day! We can't wait to celebrate your next chapter in life.

We love you!

Mom, Dad, Lexi, Tyson, Kobbie, Maxx, & Jaxx

All-State Special Teams Returner 12
All-League Football Defense 10
Baseball 9, 11, 12
Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12
Basketball Captain 12
FFA 9, 10
Football 9, 10, 11, 12
Football Captain 12

Hays Daily Choice Football
Linebacker 12
Honor Roll 11, 12
KAYs 11, 12
Prom Server 10
Second Team All-League Returner 11
Special Teams Runningback 12

Graduation is not the end, it's only the beginning of your adventure and we are anxious to see where it takes you.

Dad, Mom, Bernadette, & Brady

All-American Cheerleader 12
Band 9
BIGs/PALs 10, 11, 12
Cheerleading 9, 10, 11, 12
Cheer Captain 12
Class Officer 11, 12
Cross Country 11, 12
FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12
FCCLA Officer 11, 12
Homecoming Queen 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12

Journalism 11
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
KAY Board Member 12
National Honor Society 11, 12
News Team 11
Prom Server 10
Site-Based Council Community
Service Award 9, 10, 11, 12
StuCo 11, 12
Volleyball 9, 10

ALLIE FRICKEY



Allie Frickey

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SPENCER FULLER



Spencer Fuller

Spencer, life is to be lived and explored! Seize all opportunities that open up to you.

Much love,
Your Family

FFA 9, 10
Golf 9, 10, 11, 12
News Team 12



17

72// Ali
Weber

We held your hands as you took your first steps.
Today you face the world independently and
nothing could make us prouder. Congratulations
to our little girl who has grown up so beautifully.

Love you always,
Dad, Mom, & John

All-American Cheerleader 12
Band 9
BIGs/PALs 10, 11, 12
Cheerleading 11, 12
Cheerleading Co-Captain 12
Cross Country 11, 12
FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12
FCCLA Officer 11, 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
Journalism 10, 11
Journalism State Qualifier 10, 11
Kansas Honor Scholar 12
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
KAY Board Member 10
KAYs Officer 10

Link Crew 11
MCL All-Academic Team 12
National Honor Society 11, 12
Perfect Attendance 9, 10, 11, 12
Prom Server 10
Scholar's Bowl 12
Site-Based Council Community
Service Award 11, 12
Snoball Royalty 9
State Cross Country 12
State Wrestling Web Team 10
StuCo 9, 10, 12
Track 9, 10, 11, 12
Volleyball 9, 10
Web Team 12

JESSICA GAMEZ

Jessica Gamez

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DALTON HENSLEY

Dalt Hensley

Dalton, you have grown to be a strong individual
in so many ways. Continue to be true to yourself,
your faith, and your dreams.

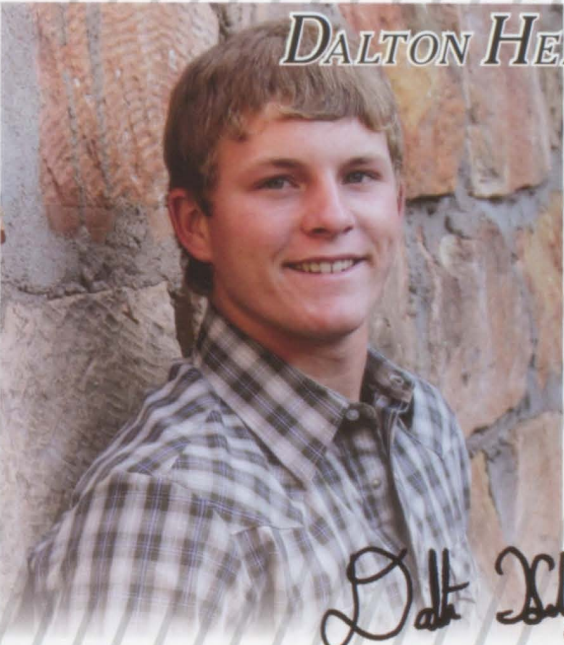
Love you always,
Dad, Mom, & Bailey

Band 9, 10, 11
Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12
Baseball Captain 11, 12
BIGs/PALs 9, 10, 11, 12
Class President 9, 10, 11
FFA 12
Football 9, 10, 11, 12
Football Captain 11, 12
Homecoming Candidate 12
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
KAYs Officer 9
Link Crew 11

National Honor Society 11, 12
Play 11, 12
Scholars Bowl 9
Site-Based Council Community
Service Award 9, 10
State Wrestling Qualifier 9, 10, 11, 12
State Wrestling-3rd Place 12
State Wrestling-5th Place 9, 11
StuCo 9, 10, 11, 12
StuCo President 12
Web Team 11
Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12



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JASMYN HERNANDEZ

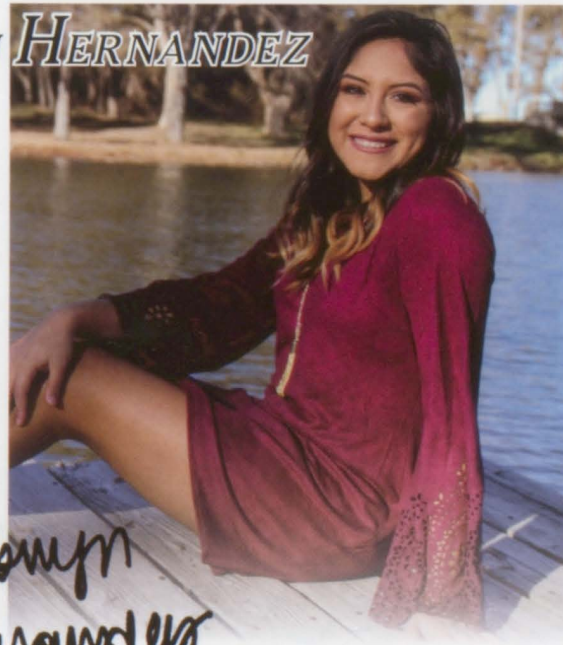
Jasmyrn Hernandez

Jasmyrn, thank you for being such a wonderful
daughter. We are very proud of you and can't wait
to see what the future has in store for you!

Love you,
Mom, Dad, Junior, & JJ

All-Kansas Yearbook 11
Band 9
Baseball Manager 12
Basketball 9, 10
Basketball Manager 12
BIGs/PALs 11, 12
Cross Country 11, 12
FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12
FCCLA Officer 11, 12
Football Manager 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12

Journalism 11
Kansas Honor Scholar 12
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
KAY Board Member 10
News Team 11
Play 12
Prom Server 10
State Wrestling News Team 11, 12
StuCo 11, 12
Track 9, 10, 11
Volleyball 9, 10



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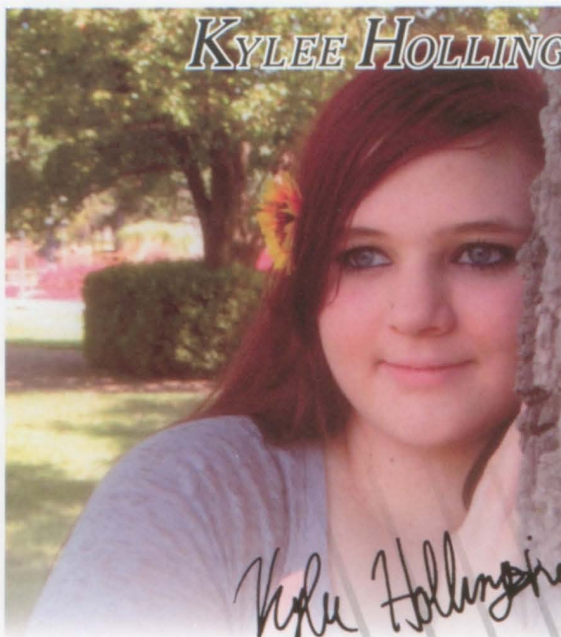
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KYLEE HOLLINGSHEAD



Kylee Hollingshead

We are so proud of the strong, independent, young woman you have become. Wishing you the best and brightest future.

Love ya,
Mom & Sisters

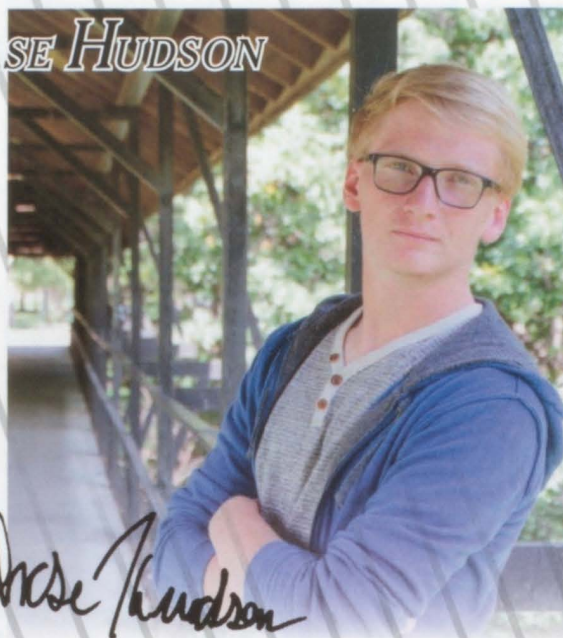
Choir 9, 10, 11, 12
Forensics 9, 10, 11, 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
KAYs 9
Play 9, 10

We are so proud of what you have accomplished so far in life and can't wait to see what your future has in store.

Love,
Mom & Dad

Basketball 9, 10, 12
Cross Country 9, 10
FFA 9, 10
Golf 9, 10, 11, 12
Homecoming Candidate 12
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
Prom Server 10
State Golf Qualifier 11
Wrestling 11

CHASE HUDSON



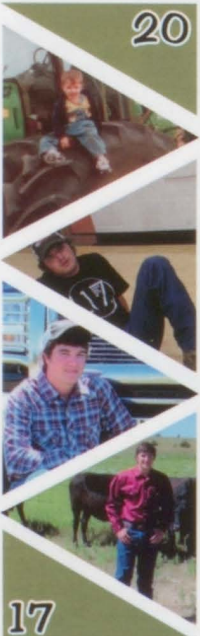
Chase Hudson

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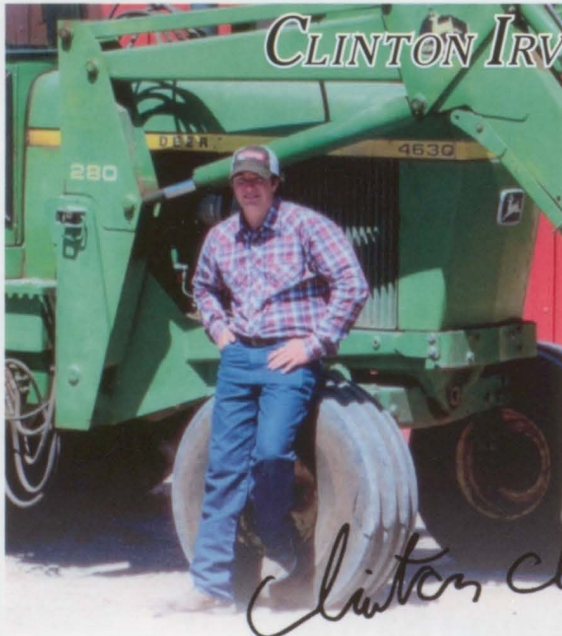
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CLINTON IRVIN



Clinton Irvin

Clint, we are very proud of you and we know you are going to have a bright future.
Your family

FFA 9, 10, 11, 12

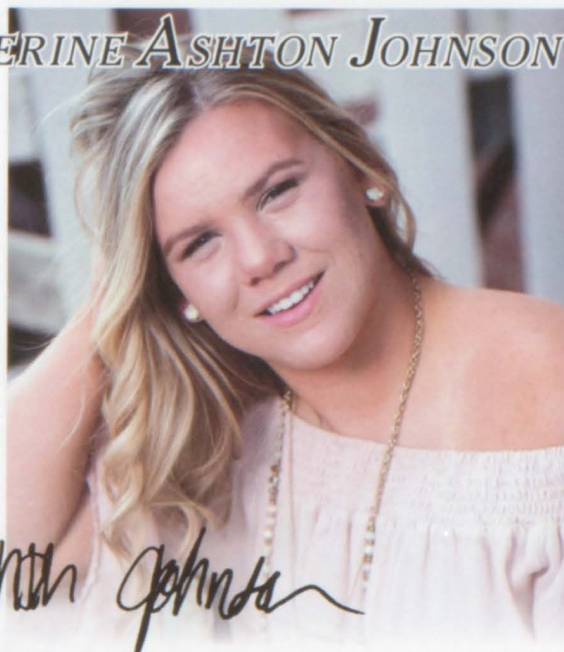
We know you will go far in life because of your determination and tenacity and we look forward to watching all of your accomplishments as you go forward into adulthood.

With all our love,
Mom & Dad

Band 9
Basketball 10, 11
BIGs/PALs 10, 11, 12
Choir 9, 10, 11, 12
Class President 12
FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12
Girls Basketball Manager 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12

Link Crew 11
National Honor Society 11, 12
Prom Server 10
Soccer 10, 11, 12
State Band 9
State Soccer 10
StuCo 12
Track 9
Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12

CATHERINE ASHTON JOHNSON



Catherine Johnson



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BRYCE KEITHLEY



Bryce Keithley

It has been wonderful watching you grow and become the person you are now. We are very proud of you and hope all your dreams come true.

We love you!
Mom, Dad, & Tanner

Band 9
Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12
Basketball Manager 12
Football 10, 11, 12
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12
News Team 11
Perfect Attendance 9, 10, 11, 12
Wrestling 9

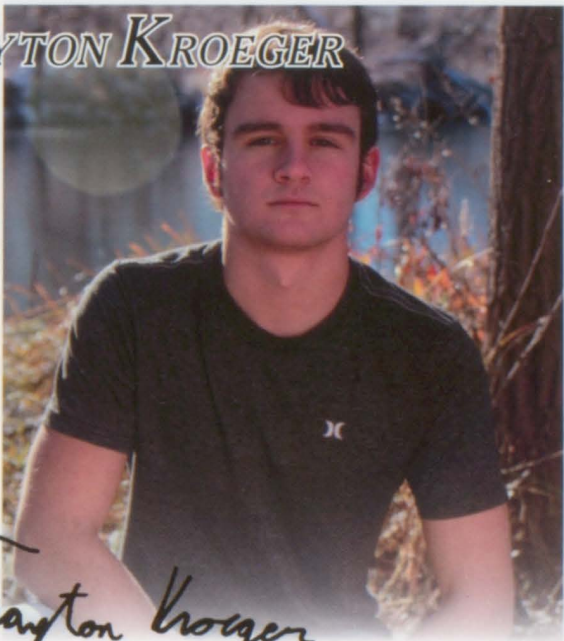
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The meaning of life is to find your gift. The purpose of life is to give it away.

We're so proud of you,
-Your Family

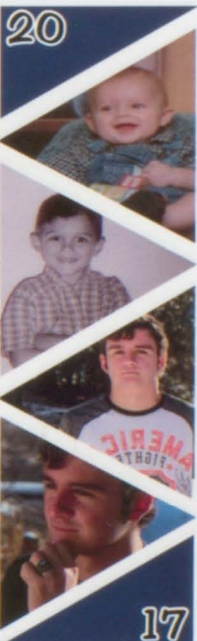
Baseball 9, 10, 12
FCCLA 9
Football 9, 10, 11, 12
Golf 11
KAYs 9, 10
Wrestling 9, 10

TRAYTON KROEGER



Trayton Kroeger

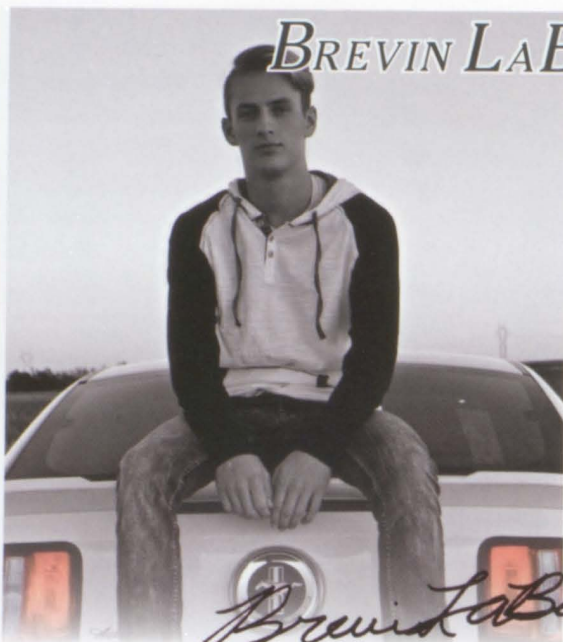
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BREVIN LABARGE



Brevin Labarge

Brevin, you are one amazing kid and we could not
be more proud of you and where the future takes
you.

With love,

Mom, Bryson, & Nathan Luea

Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12

Football 9, 10, 11

Forensics 9, 10, 11, 12

Forensics State Champion 1st Duet 11

Prom Server 10

School Play 9, 10

State Forensics Qualifier 10, 11

Web Team 12

Wrestling 9, 11



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ASHLEY MATTHEYER

Punky,
You have worked hard and we are proud of you.
"Commit to the Lord whatever you do and your
plans will succeed," Proverbs 16:3

Mahaja & Dahdee

Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12

MCL Basketball Honorable Mention 11

Bigs/PALs 10, 11, 12

Cheerleading 11, 12

Cheerleading Co-Captain 12

FFCLA 9, 10, 11, 12

FFA 9

KAY Board Member 11

KAY Officer 12

KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12

Link Crew 11

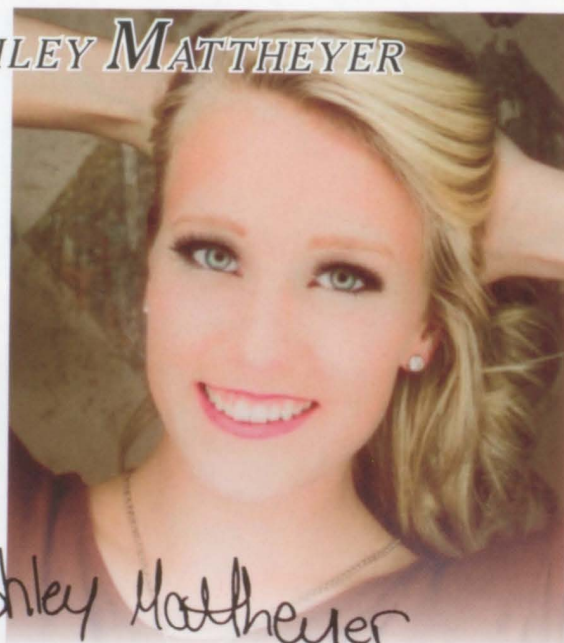
News Team 12

School Play 12

Track 9, 10, 11, 12

Track State Champion 1st High Jump 9

Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12



Ashley Mattheyer

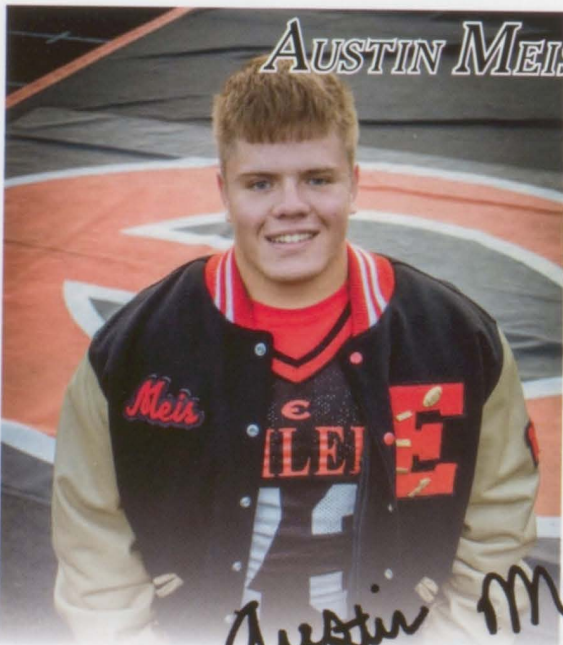
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AUSTIN MEIS



Austin Meis

We are so proud of you and wish you much
success in all things.

Love,

Dad, Mom, Grandma, Grandpa, Beth, & Mike

Baseball 11, 12

Basketball Manager 12

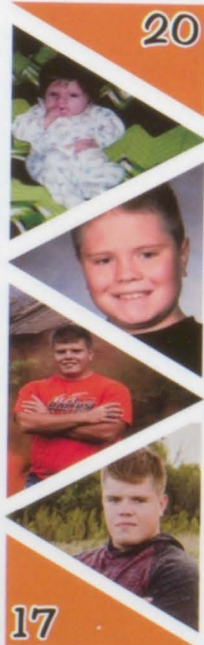
FFA 9, 10, 11, 12

Football 9, 10, 11, 12

Honor Roll 9, 10

Perfect Attendance 9, 10

Track 9, 10



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LYLA MESERVE

Before you could even walk, we all knew that your love for animals would go far. Proud of your accomplishments and future success.

Love you,
Mom & Dad

FFA 9, 10, 11, 12
FFA Officer 11
Forensics 9
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
Link Crew 11
Scholars Bowl 9, 10, 11, 12

Lyly Meserve

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KATELYNN MILBOURNE

To our sweet daughter, congratulations on your graduation. You've made us so proud over the years. Here's to a bright future.

Love,
Mom & Dad

Choir 9, 10, 11, 12
Drama Club Officer 11
Forensics 9, 10, 11, 12
Play 9, 10, 11, 12
Softball 9
Wrestling Manager 11

Katie Milbourne

17



BRANDON NORTH

Congratulations! We are so proud of you! We are looking forward to what the future holds for you.

We love you!
Dad, Mom, Logan & Carson

FFA 9, 10, 11, 12
Football 9

Brandon North

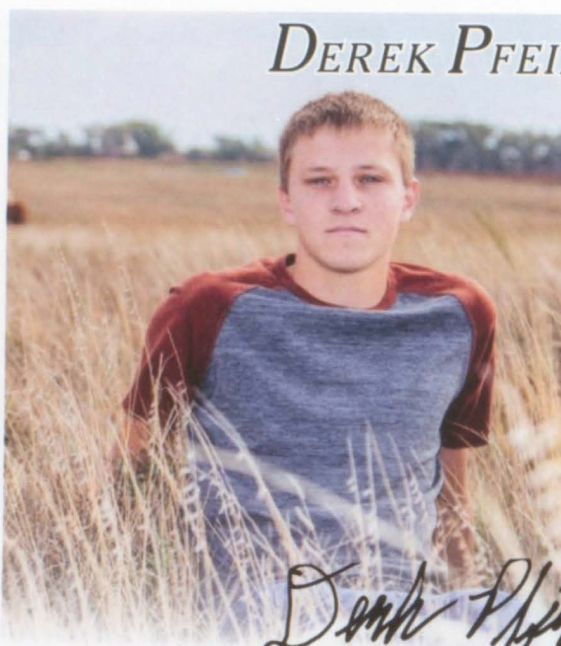
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DEREK PFEIFER



Derek Pfeifer

Congratulations! We are proud of you, all you hard work, and all you have accomplished. Good luck with everything you do in your future.

Love you!

Dad & Mom; Lynn, Landon, & Kids; Danielle, Todd, & Kids

All-A Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12
Class Vice-President 9, 10, 11, 12
Cross Country 10, 11, 12
FFA 9, 10, 11, 12
FFA Secretary 11
Football 9
Kansas Honor Scholar 12
KAYS 9, 10, 11, 12

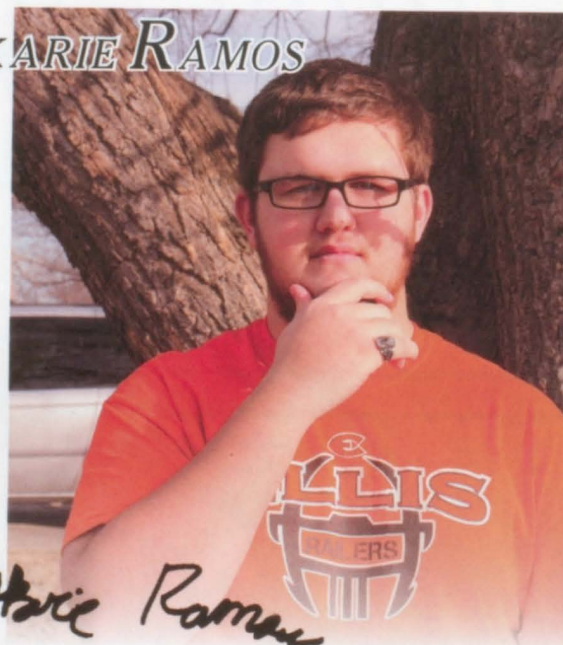
Link Crew 11
National Honor Society 11, 12
StuCo 9, 10, 11, 12
Site-Based Council Community Service Award 9, 10, 11, 12
Track 9
4-H Vice-President 9, 10
4-H President 12

The family is all proud of you, Zak. We're thankful to see you graduate and move on to adulthood.

Love you,
Mom, Tiana, & the whole family

Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12
Choir 9, 10, 11

ZAKARIE RAMOS



Zakarie Ramos



We are so proud of you and the beautiful young woman you have become. Never settle for anything but the best. Always know that our hearts are with you as you pursue your dreams.

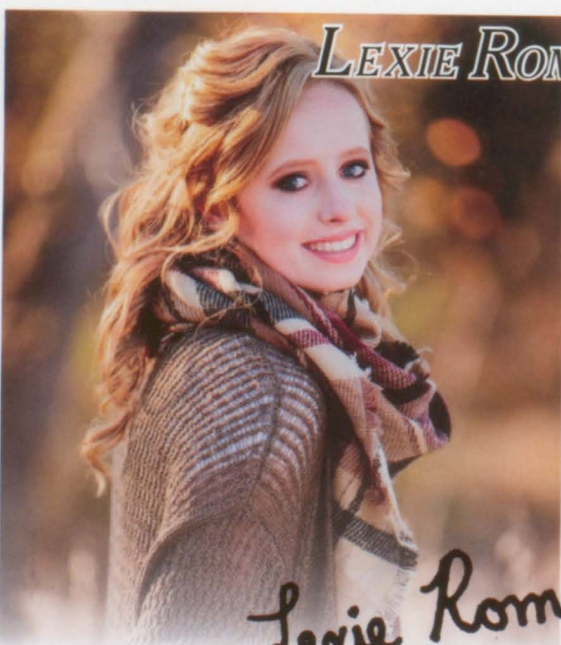
Love,

Mom, Dad & Alyssa

Band 9, 10, 11, 12
Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12
BIGs/PALS 10, 11, 12
FCCLA 9, 10, 11, 12
FCCLA Officer 11, 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
Journalism 11, 12
Journalism Managing Editor 12
Journalism State Qualifier 12
KAYS 9, 10, 11, 12
KAYS Board Member 10, 11

Link Crew 11
National Honor Society 11, 12
Perfect Attendance 9, 10
Scholar's Bowl 10, 12
Site-Based Council Community Service Award 9, 10, 11, 12
Softball 9, 10, 11, 12
State Band Ensemble 1 Rating 10, 12
State Large Group Band 9, 10, 11, 12
StuCo 10, 11, 12
Volleyball 9, 10, 11, 12

LEXIE ROME



Lexie Rome

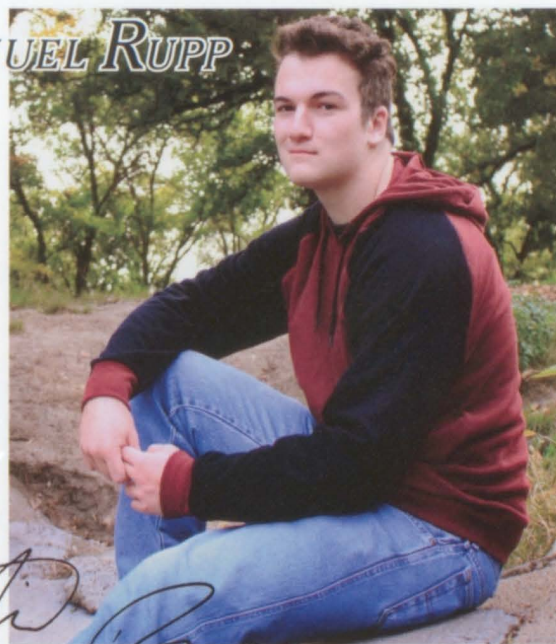


SAMUEL RUPP

Congratulations! We are all so proud of you!
Good luck in all your future endeavors!

We love you!
Dad, Mom & Danny

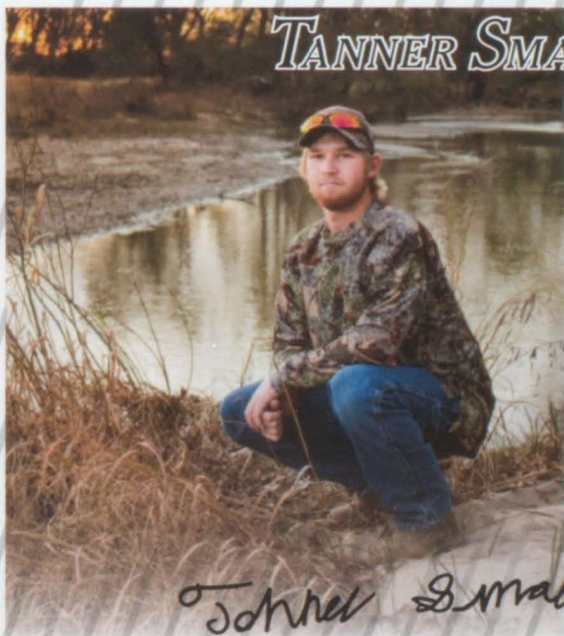
Football 10
Forensics 11



Samuel Rupp

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TANNER SMALL



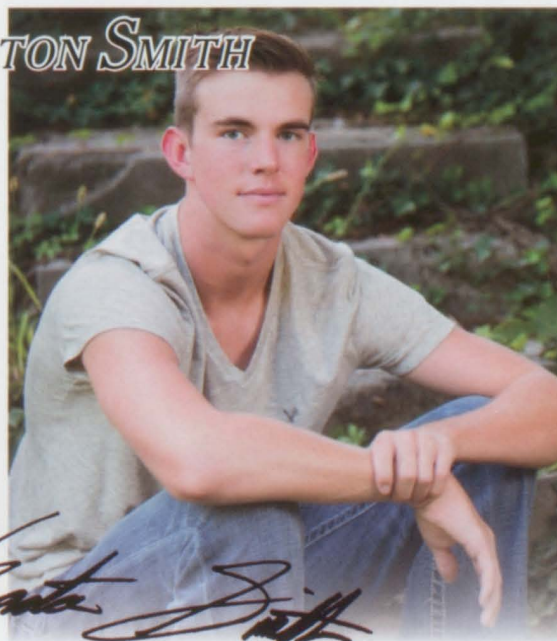
Congratulations, Tanner. We are proud of you!
Good luck in the future!

Love,
Mom, Wes, Weston & Katera

FFA 9, 10, 11, 12

Tanner Small

EASTON SMITH

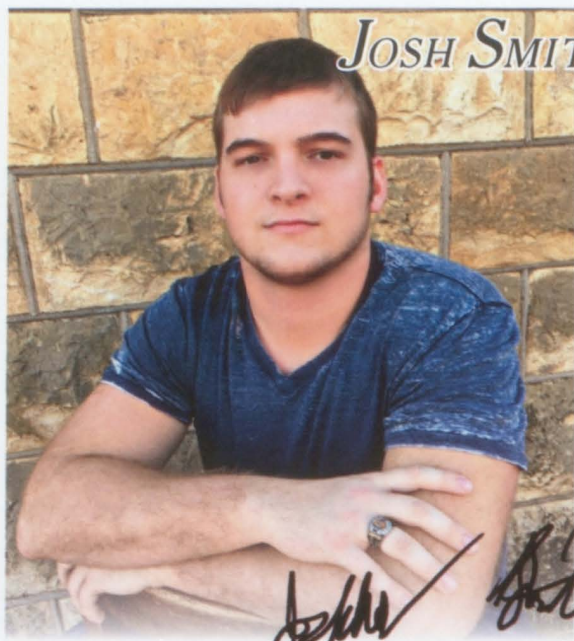


Easton Smith

It's been such a joy to raise you and watch you
become such a talented and amazing young man.
We know you'll have a very successful future.
We love you and are very proud of you!
Mom & Dad

Band 9, 10
Baseball 9, 10, 11, 12
Basketball 9, 10, 11, 12
Football 9, 10, 11, 12
Homecoming King 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
Honorable Mention MCL
Quarterback 12
KAYs 9, 10, 11, 12

News Team 11
Prom Server 10
School Play 12
Snoball King 11
StuCo 9, 10, 11, 12
Web Team 12
1st Team All-State Pitcher 11
2nd Team HDN All-Area Basketball 11
2nd Team MCL Basketball 11



JOSH SMITH

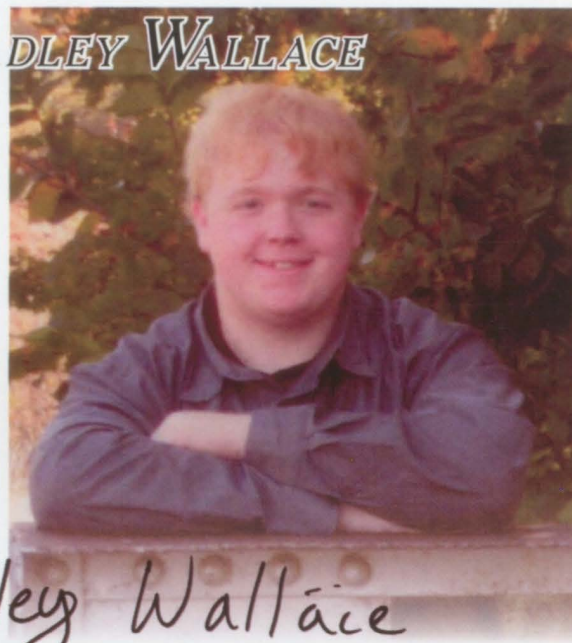
Josh Smith

Josh, we are so proud of you. We know that you will face all of life's challenges with strength, courage, and enthusiasm. Stay faithful

Love,
Mom, Dad, & Todd

FFA 9, 10, 11, 12
FFA Officer 12
Football 9, 10, 11, 12
Honor Roll 9, 10, 11, 12
National Honor Society 12
School Play 12
Track 11, 12
Wrestling 9, 10, 11, 12

BRADLEY WALLACE



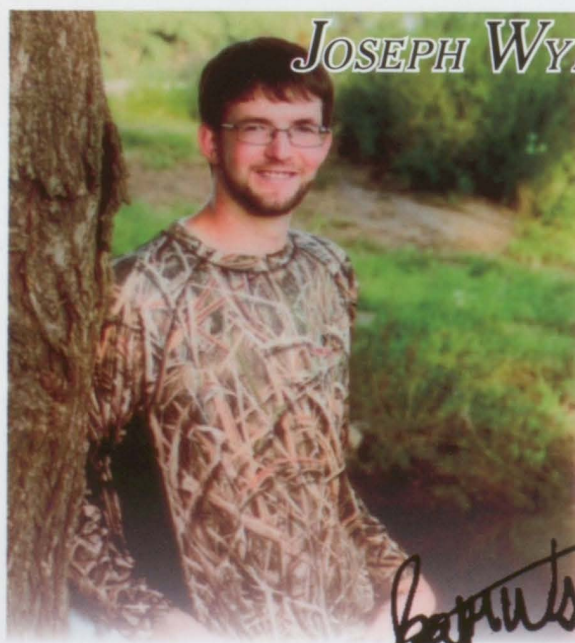
Bradley Wallace



Good luck Brad. As you grow older, hopefully they will invent a keychain that won't get lost, self cleaning dishes, and disposable clothes so that you won't have to clean up after yourself.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Ben, & Alesha

FFA 9, 10, 11, 12
Football 10, 11, 12
Forensics 10, 11, 12
Scholar's Bowl 11, 12
School Play 12



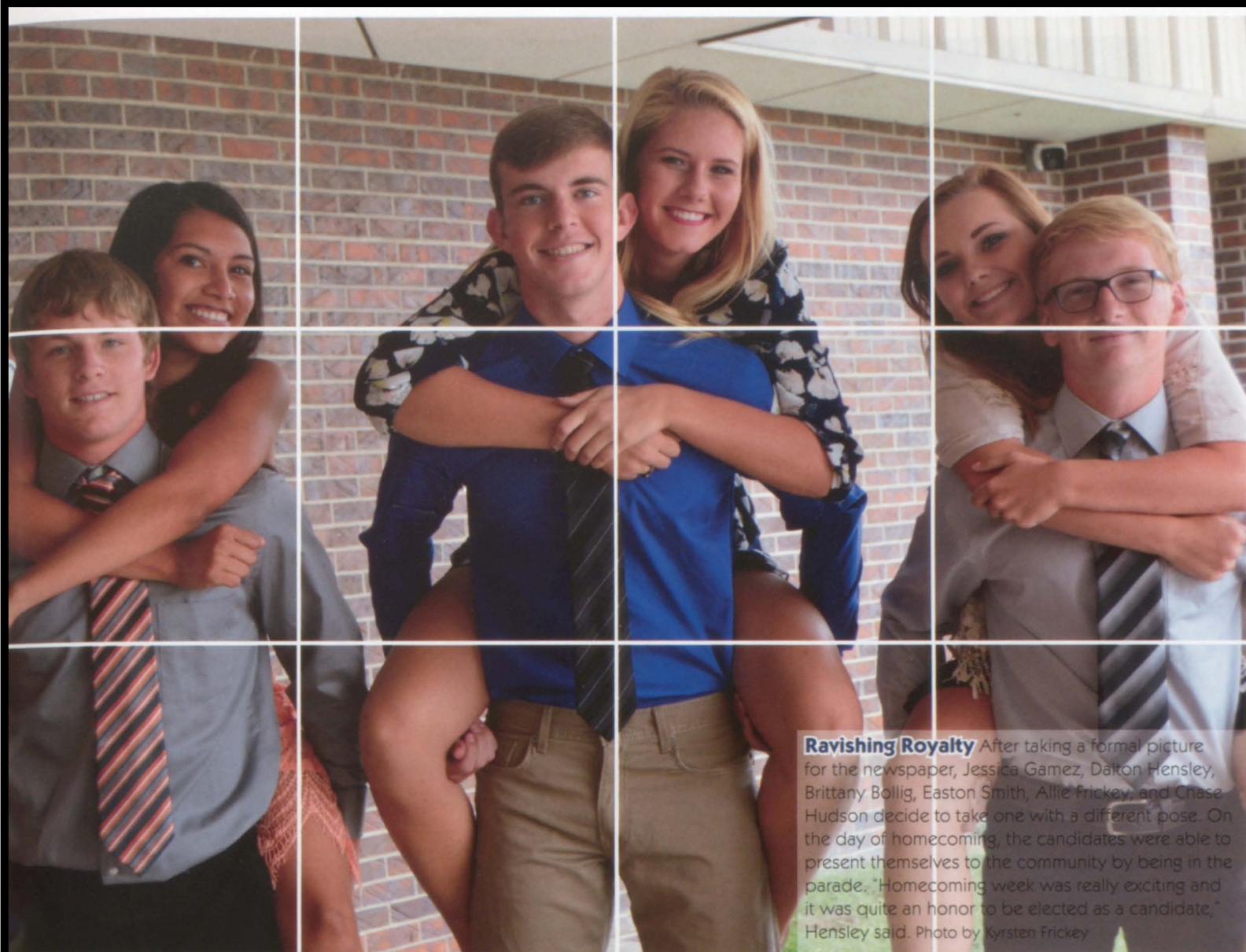
JOSEPH WYNN

Joseph Wynn

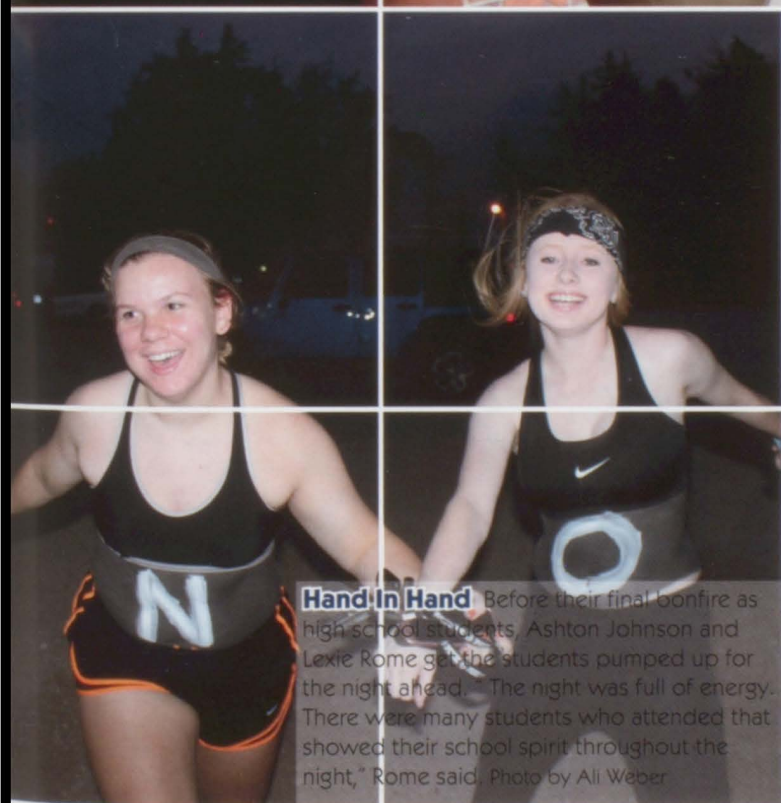
We love the person you have become. We know your future holds nothing but wonderful adventures for you.

Love,
Dad, Mom, Rachelle, & Nicholas

Basketball 9, 10
FFA 9, 10, 11, 12
Track 9



Ravishing Royalty After taking a formal picture for the newspaper, Jessica Gamez, Dalton Hensley, Brittany Bollig, Easton Smith, Allie Frickey, and Chase Hudson decide to take one with a different pose. On the day of homecoming, the candidates were able to present themselves to the community by being in the parade. "Homecoming week was really exciting and it was quite an honor to be elected as a candidate," Hensley said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Hand In Hand Before their final bonfire as high school students, Ashton Johnson and Lexie Rome get the students pumped up for the night ahead. "The night was full of energy. There were many students who attended that showed their school spirit throughout the night," Rome said. Photo by Ali Weber



Community Clean-Up Helping on Community Service Day, Joseph Wynn cleans up the front lawn of the high school by picking weeds. "My seminar and I are really close, we work pretty good together, and we were really efficient about making the high school look better," Wynn said. Photo by Kyrsten Frickey



Craig Amrein
(Multimedia)



Brandon Armbruster
(Physical Education)



Sheri Bedore
(English/Journalism)



John Befort
(Athletic Director)



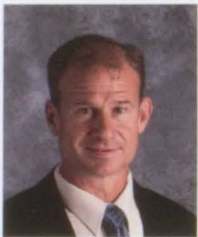
Kristi Bittel
(Cheer Coach/KAYs)



Jodi Boeckner
(Art/Volleyball)



Jessica Bollig
(Girls Basketball)



Corey Burton
(School Principal)



Brent Cain
(Baseball)



Matt Carroll
(Woodshop/Golf)



Nicole Carroll
(Counselor/Quiz Bowl)



Jennifer Cimmiyotti
(Kitchen)



Alyssa Dawson
(English/Forensics)



Jake Dreiling
(Football/Track)



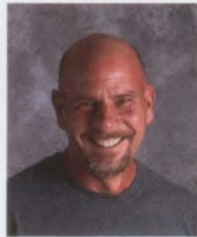
Paula Greenway
(Para-Educator)



Jennifer Hansen
(Volleyball)



Michelle Hensley
(Librarian)



Randy Herman
(Custodian)



Steve Herrman
(Tech Coordinator)



Jacob Kinderknecht
(Football)



Norleen Knoll
(Librarian)



Jeff Kohl
(History/StuCo)



Lenard LaBarge
(Custodian)



Heather Lyman
(Kitchen)



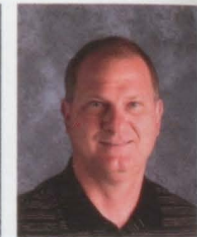
Brandon Maska
(Boys Basketball)



Jared Mick
(Boys Basketball)



Maria Mick
(Secretary)



Perry Mick
(Math/Girls Basketball)



Serves Up Putting the ball into play during the annual homecoming staff vs. student volleyball game, Principal, Mr. Burton, serves. The staff remained undefeated in volleyball once again this year. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



All Eyes Conducting the band while they sight read music, Ms. Williams keeps her eyes on the music and ears open for wrong notes. The band has received state rankings the past two years. "This is my fifth year as the band director at Ellis. One of the biggest and hardest things we work for throughout the school year is contests. The spring is the time of year where we really work hard and strive to be as musical as possible" Williams said. Photo by Ali Weber



Pushing Education While learning about Newton's First Law of Motion, the Physics class created a hoverboard to show how friction works. Pushing Brittany Bollig¹⁷, Mr. Mick demonstrates the experiment. "Almost all friction is eliminated so the hoverboard and student will travel at a constant velocity and that is what I wanted the students to learn from this," Mick said. Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Bob Mickelson
(Softball)



Breanne Nilhas
(FACs/FCCLA)



Mary Parke
(Nurse)



Brandon Pfeifer
(Wrestling)



Sam Polifka
(Play)



Brandi Roland
(Softball)



Ashley Rohleder
(Forensics)



David Schuster
(Class Sponsor)



Karla Schuster
(Class Sponsor)



Sandy Shupe
(Para-Educator)



Kaleigh Soneson
(Volleyball)



Dan Walker
(Math)



Chelsea Whittle
(FFA)



Kathy Wickham
(Kitchen)



David Wildeman
(Science/Baseball)



Stacey Williams
(Band/Choir)



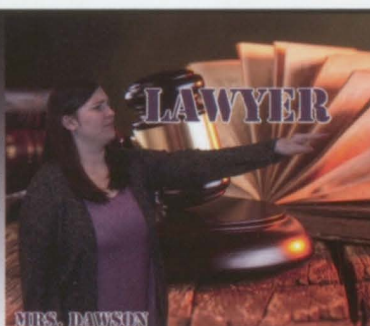
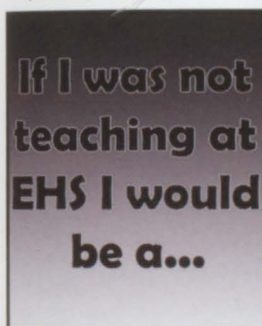
Jack Wolf
(Track)



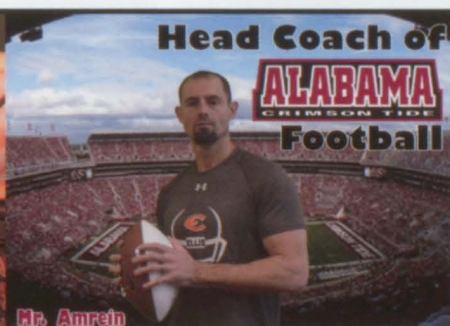
Rhonda Wolf
(Office)



Robert Young
(Superintendent)



MRS. DAWSON



Mr. Amrein



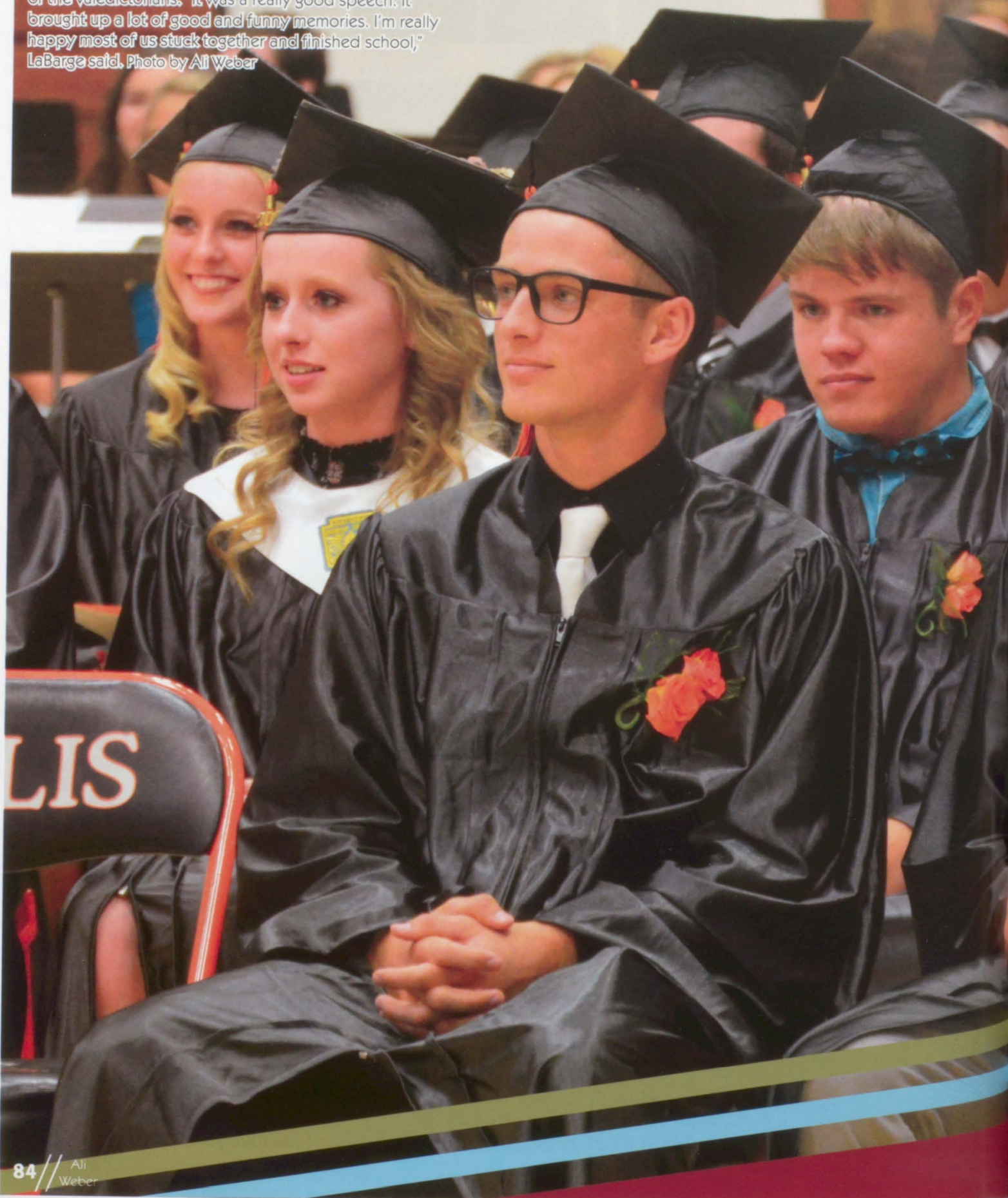
Mrs. Bedore

Faculty



Brain Food Prior to lunch, Kathy Wickham finishes preparing the bread to be served. Each time rolls are served they plan on making about 210 rolls which is needed to feed the Junior high and high school. The students at EHS look forward to the bread served with each meal daily. "Bread is definitely my favorite part of lunch, especially when I can get another roll from one of my friends," Natalie Schoenberger¹³ said. Photo by Haley Reiter

A Tassel Worth The Hassle Listening to the valedictorian speech written by their classmates, Brevin LaBarge¹⁷ and Clay Feik¹⁷ reminisce on their younger years as students. The speech was split between all seven of the valedictorians. "It was a really good speech. It brought up a lot of good and funny memories. I'm really happy most of us stuck together and finished school," LaBarge said. Photo by Ali Weber





FROM ALL ANGLES

As graduation rolled around and community members congratulated the seniors for their achievements, old and new generations discussed high school **FROM ALL ANGLES.** With the 2017 school year coming to a close, the feeling of summer and stress-free days filled the hallways of the high school. After finishing final tests, quizzes, and projects, students looked back on their school year **FROM ALL ANGLES.**

BAND



First Row: Bobby Cox, Trey Hudson, McKenzie Dowis, Julia Cox, Samantha Crawford, Aiden Johnson, Tara Woodworth. Second Row: Trinity Bollig, Lauryn Becker, Cassie Waldschmidt, Melanie Befort, Sierra Schmidt, Lexie Rome, Cameryn Kinderknecht, Blakely Bittel, Marissa Lindberg. Third Row: Kaitlyn Lindberg, Kaylee Hernandez, Zachary Cox, Abigail Mattheyer, Brittany Bollig, Natalie Schoenberger, Kennedy Burgess, Grace Beisner, Haley Reiter. Fourth Row: Nathan Cox, Addie Shepard, Drew Keller, Geoffrey Soneson, Lane Fischer, Hayden Aschenbrenner, Dylan Brown, Kinley Kuppertz, Sierra Pfannenstiel.

First Row: Dalton Hensley, Clay Feik, Thomas Shepard, Brian Carbajal, Trayton Kroeger, Talon Torline, Mgr. Zak Ramos. Second Row: Head Coach Brent Cain, Nathan Cox, Junior Hernandez, Carter Bollig, Easton Smith, Brayden Bittel, Bryce Keithley, Brevin LaBarge, Assistant Coach Dave Wildeman. Not Pictured: Mgr. Jasmyn Hernandez and Mgr. Sierra Schmidt



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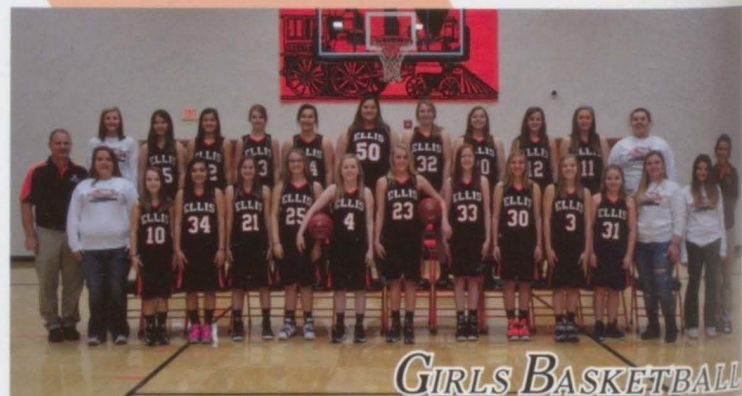
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BOYS BASKETBALL



First Row: Mason Swenson, Jake Eck, Kade Gottschalk, Koda Keever, Austin Mattheyer, Francis Towns, Landis Fischer, Auntonio Jones, Trey Hudson. Second Row: Head Coach Brandon Maska, Noah Lohmeyer, Zachary Eck, Carter Bollig, Geoffrey Soneson, Ryan Herl, Easton Smith, Taylor Beisner, Derek Pfeifer, Logan Shaw, Assistant Coach Jared Mick. Third Row: John Gamez, Coby Fischer, Mgr. Austin Meis, Cade Lewis, Joseph Eck, Clay Feik, Chase Hudson, Junior Hernandez. Not Pictured: Mgr. Bryce Keithley, Mgr. Jasmyn Hernandez, Mgr. Dawson Sproul

First Row: Mgr. Sierra Pfannenstiel, Cheyenne Born, Mary Towns, Rylee Werth, Grace Biesner, Lexie Rome, Ashley Mattheyer, Abigail Mattheyer, Breonna North, Cassie Waldschmidt, Clara Crawford, Mgr. Ashton Johnson, Mgr. August Sinclair, Asst. Coach Jessica Bollig. Second Row: Head Coach Perry Mick, Mgr. Kelsey Brack, Taylor Honas, Shelby Werth, Abby Burton, Haley Reiter, Kinley Kuppertz, Kaylyn Foster, Natalie Schoenberger, Ali Weber, Kaylee Hernandez, Mgr. Aiden Johnson.



GIRLS BASKETBALL

CHOIR



First Row: Julia Cox, Jaylinn Pfeifer, Cora Milbourne, Clara Crawford, Tara Woodworth, August Sinclair, Cheyenne Born. Second Row: Kaylee Hernandez, Aiden Johnson, Taylor Honas, Peyton Reese, Kylee Hollingshead, Rylee Werth, Katie Milbourne, Ashton Johnson. Third Row: Kaitlyn Lindberg, Marissa Lindberg, Sierra Pfannenstiel, Natalie Kelsey, Nathan Cox, Thomas Shepard, Cole Swenson, Jordyn Eaton.

Ashley Mattheyer (Co-Captain), Allie Frickey (Captain), Haley Reiter, Kyrsten Frickey, Jessica Gamez (Co-Captain), McKenzie Dowis, Sierra Schmidt, Shelby Werth, Natalie Schoenberger, Abby Burton, Cassie Waldschmidt, Blakely Bittel, Samantha Crawford.



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CROSS COUNTRY



First Row: Kaitlyn Lindberg, Jessica Gamez, Sierra Schmidt. Second Row: Marissa Lindberg, McKenzie Dowis, Allie Frickey, Jasmyn Hernandez, Brittany Bollig. Third Row: Head Coach Jack Wolf, Mgr. Blakely Bittel, Lane Fischer, Derek Pfeifer, Logan North, Austin Carbajal. Not Pictured: Mgr. Melanie Befort.

First Row: Jessica Gamez (Vice President of Finance), Allie Frickey (StuCo Representative), Lexie Rome (Secretary). Second Row: Kassi Brown (President), Jasmyn Hernandez (Vice President of Membership), Abby Burton (Vice President of Recognition), Samantha Crawford (First Vice President), Kaden Armbruster (Vice President of Star Events), Cassie Waldschmidt (Vice President of Public Relations).

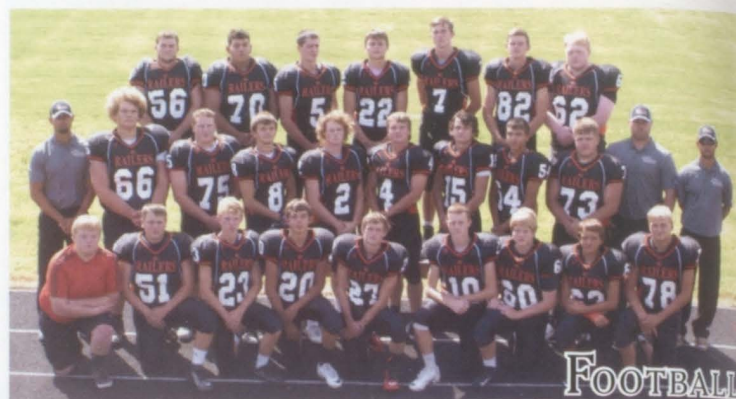


FFA OFFICERS



Cameryn Kinderknecht (Reporter), Lane Fischer (Vice President), Lindsay Augustine (President), Jaylinn Pfeifer (Secretary), Josh Smith (Treasurer), Lane Kohl (Sentinel).

First Row: Mgr. Ben Wallace, Talon Torline, Thomas Shepard, Landis Fischer, Taton Busby, Zachary Eck, Kade Gottschalk, Jake Eck, JJ Linch. Second Row: Head Coach Craig Amrein, John Groff, Bryce Keithley, Bryce Younger, Clay Feik, Dalton Hensley, Trayton Kroeger, Lane Kohl, Austin Meis, Assistant Coach Jake Dreiling, Assistant Coach Jacob Kinderknecht. Third Row: Josh Smith, Daniel Carbajal, Joseph Eck, Cade Lewis, Easton Smith, Geoffrey Soneson, Brad Wallace.



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FORENSICS



First Row: Nathan Cox, Blakely Bittel, Clara Crawford, Brevin LaBarge. Second Row: Peyton Reese, Drew Keller, Trinity Bollig, August Sinclair, Breonna North. Third Row: Lane Fischer, Katie Milbourne, Dawson Sproul, Kaylyn Foster, Sierra Pfannenstiel, Addie Shepard.

Zachary Cox, Tabasco McClung, Chase Hudson, Cade Lewis, Holden Lyman.



JOURNALISM



First Row: Lexie Rome, Kyrsten Frickey (Co-Editor), Sierra Schmidt, McKenzie Dowis, Ali Weber (Co-Editor). Second Row: Shelby Werth (Business Manager), Haley Reiter, Dawson Sproul, Natalie Schoenberger, Sheri Bedore (Adviser).

First Row: Ashley Mattheyer, Breonna North, Grace Beisner, Cassie Waldschmidt, Clara Crawford, Rylee Werth, Shelby Werth, Brittany Bollig, Peyton Brown, Kaylyn Foster, Lane Fischer, Jasmyn Hernandez, Easton Smith, Haley Reiter, Kinley Kuppetz, Sierra Pfannenstiel. Second Row: Zachary Cox, Drew Keller, Dalton Hensley, Brad Wallace, Nathan Cox, Cheyenne Born, Lauryn Becker, Director Sam Polifka, Taylor Honas, Kassi Brown, Addie Shepard, Dawson Sproul, Natalie Schoenberger, Josh Smith, Katie Milbourne, August Sinclair, Blakely Bittel.



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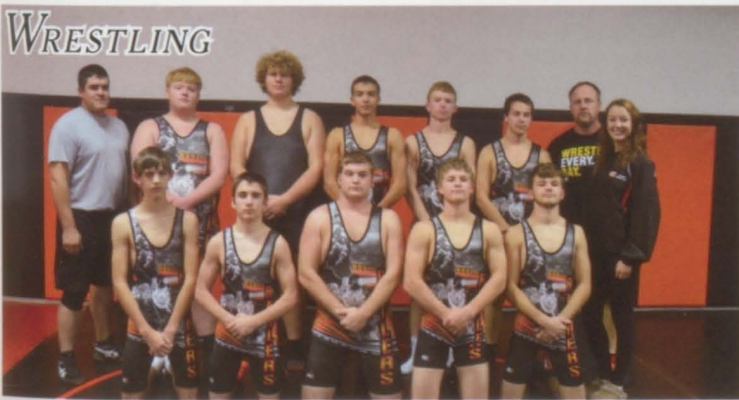
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First Row: Dylan Brown, Reece Kroeger, Josh Smith, Dalton Hensley, Bryce Younger. Second Row: Head Coach Brandon Pfeifer, Ben Wallace, John Groff, Lane Kohl, Thomas Shepard, Cole Swenson, Assistant Coach Brandon Armbruster, Mgr. Jaylinn Pfeifer.

First Row: Lauryn Becker, Jessica Gamez, Lexie Rome, Samantha Crawford, Abby Burton. Second Row: Lane Fischer, Brad Wallace, Drew Keller, Dawson Sproul, Addie Shepard, Grace Beisner. Not Pictured: Blakely Bittel, Zachary Cox, Clara Crawford, Sierra Schmidt, Thomas Shepard.

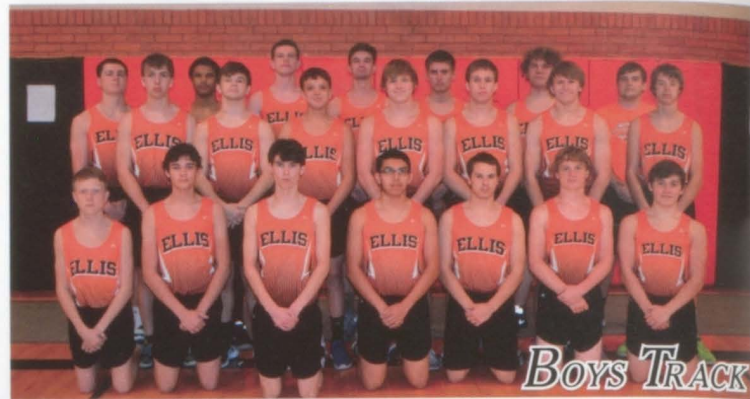


SOFTBALL



First Row: Lexie Rome, Lindsay Augustine, Brittany Bollig. Second Row: Mgr. Lauryn Becker, Clara Crawford, Taylor Honas, Samantha Crawford, Cora Milbourne, Cheyenne Born, Mgr. Addie Shepard. Third Row: Keighlee Wilken, Assistant Coach Brandi Roland, Grace Beisner, Natalie Schoenberger, Ali Weber, Peyton Reese, Head Coach Bob Mickelson, August Sinclair.

First Row: Austin Mattheyer, Coby Fischer, Koda Kever, Austin Carbajal, Cole Swenson, Trey Hudson, Bobby Cox. Second Row: Noah Lohrmeyer, Bryce Younger, Jake Eck, Dawson Sproul, Logan Shaw, Kadon Armbruster, Mason Swenson. Third Row: Joseph Eck, Auntonio Jones, Geoffrey Soneson, Taylor Beisner, Logan North, John Groff, Josh Smith. Not Pictured: JJ Linch, Head Coach Jack Wolf, Assistant Coach Craig Amrein.



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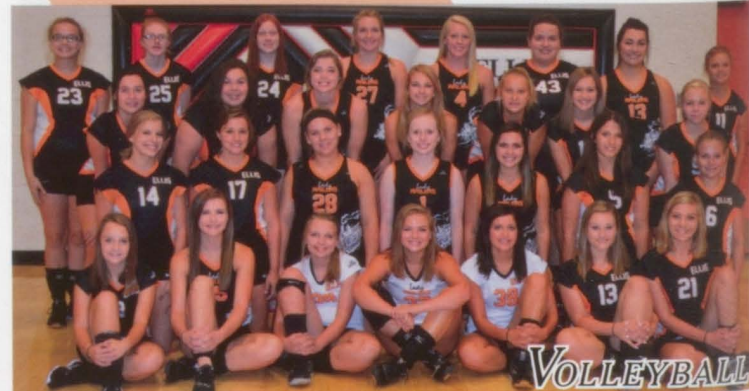
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GIRLS TRACK



First Row: Trinity Bollig, Raeven Milbourne, Savannah Miller, Jessica Gamez, Kelsey Brack, Jaylin Pfeifer, Cassie Waldschmidt, Abby Burton. Second Row: Marissa Lindberg, Haley Reiter, Sierra Pfannenstiel, Abigail Mattheyer, Kinley Kuppetz, Kaylin Foster, Ashley Mattheyer, Mgr. Breonna North. Not Pictured: Kaitlyn Lindberg, Head Coach Jack Wolf, Assistant Coach Craig Amrein.

First Row: Cheyenne Born, Kelsey Brack, Lauryn Becker, Samantha Crawford, Shelby Werth, Tara Woodworth, Breonna North. Second Row: Cassie Waldschmidt, Ali Weber, Ashton Johnson, Lexie Rome, Kyrsten Frickey, Taylor Honas, Clara Crawford. Third Row: Kaylee Hernandez, Aiden Johnson, Natalie Schoenberger, Abby Burton, Kennedy Burgess, Rylee Werth, Peyton Reese. Fourth Row: Grace Beisner, Trinity Bollig, Abigail Mattheyer, Kaylyn Foster, Ashley Mattheyer, Sierra Pfannenstiel, Haley Reiter, Raeven Milbourne. Not Pictured: Head Coach Jennifer Hansen, Assistant Coach Kaleigh Soneson, Assistant Coach Jodi Boeckner.



EHS STAFF



First Row: Corey Burton, Shelly Hensley, Nicole Carroll, Sheri Bedore, Jodi Boeckner. Second Row: Brandon Armbruster, David Wildeman, Craig Amrein, Alyssa Dawson, Sandy Shupe, Chelsea Whittle, Perry Mick, Jack Wolf. Third Row: Matt Carroll, Dan Walker, Jeff Kohl, Stacey Williams.

First Row: Ashley Mattheyer, Kyrsten Frickey, Shelby Werth, Allie Frickey, Lexie Rome, Sierra Schmidt. Second Row: Tara Woodworth, Rylee Werth, Lauryn Becker, Blakely Bittel, Ali Weber, Abby Burton, Taylor Honas. Third Row: Lane Kohl, Zachary Eck, Savannah Miller, Lane Fischer, Abby Brown, Kassi Brown. Not Pictured: Lexie Rome, Ashton Johnson, Dalton Hensley, Jessica Gamez, Aiden Johnson, Jasmyn Hernandez.



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Dennis Wolf, Rhonda Wolf, Heather Schumacher, Sarah Staten, Wes Shannon, Eldon Pfeifer, Swede Swenson Not Pictured: Paulette Kroeger, Troy Parson

Superintendent Bob Young and Secretary Connie Waldschmidt



DRAMA CLUB OFFICERS



Drew Keller, Tara Woodworth, Dawson Sproul, Blakely Bittel, Addie Shepard.

First Row: Geoffrey Soneson, Haley Reiter, Drew Keller, Melanie Befort. Second Row: Kinley Kuppertz, Natalie Schoenberger, Bryce Younger. Not Pictured: Ashley Mattheyer and Spencer Fuller.



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STUCO OFFICERS



President, Dalton Hensley; Secretary, Abby Burton; Treasurer, Kyrsten Frickey; Vice President, Dawson Sproul.

First Row: Geoffrey Soneson, Josh Smith, Dawson Sproul, Derek Pfeifer, Dalton Hensley, Drew Keller. Second Row: Ashton Johnson, Lexie Rome, Jessica Gamez, Allie Frickey, Shelby Werth, Jaylinn Pfeifer, Sierra Schmidt, Kyrsten Frickey, Blakely Bittel, Kassi Brown, Samantha Crawford. Third Row: Lindsay Augustine, Ali Weber, Haley Reiter, Natalie Schoenberger, Kaylyn Foster, Aiden Johnson, Abby Burton, Kelsey Brack.



SCHOOL BOARD



First Row: Melanie Fischer, Rob Soneson, Trish Groff. Second Row: Jerry Pfeifer, Glenn Fondoble, Mike Keller, John Walz.

First Row: Julia Cox, Peyton Brown, Kaylee Hernandez, Bobby Cox. Second Row: Logan Shaw, Ashton Johnson, Aiden Johnson, Junior Hernandez, Nathan Cox, Dylan Brown. Not Pictured: Zachary Cox, John Gamez, Chase Hudson.



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Front Row: Samantha Crawford, Kyrsten Frickey, Jessica Gamez, Nick Geschwentner. Second Row: Easton Smith, Brevin LaBarge, Taylor Beisner.

Kaden Armbruster, Lane Kohl, Samantha Crawford, Abby Burton, Dalton Hensley.





First Row: Grace Beisner, Austin Mattheyer, Raeven Milbourne, Peyton Reese, Clara Crawford. Second Row: Abigail Mattheyer, Lauryn Becker, Trinity Bollig, Savannah Miller, Cheyenne Born, Rylee Werth, Breonna North, Addie Shepard. Third Row: Jake Eck, Zachary Eck, Brian Carbajal, Mason Swenson, John Gamez, Kade Gottschalk. Fourth Row: Noah Lohrmeyer, JJ Linch, Carter Bollig, Landis Fischer, Coby Fischer. Not Pictured: Logan Armbrister, Owen Bates, Abby Brown, Keaton Keller, Natalie Kelsey, Lawrence Kreutzer, Weston Love, Logan North.

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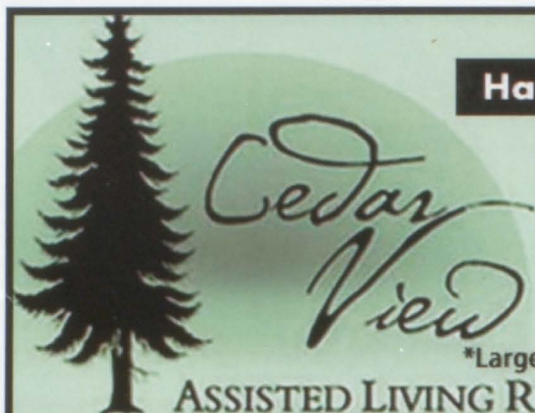


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First Row: Dalton Hensley, Spencer Fuller, Chase Hudson. Second Row: Lyla Meserve, Jasmyn Hernandez, Allie Frickey, Ashley Mattheyer, Lexie Rome. Third Row: Trayton Kroeger, Kylee Hollingshead, Jessica Gamez, Kassi Brown, Lindsay Augustine, Brittany Bollig, Ashton Johnson, Katie Milbourne, Clay Feik, Austin Meis. Fourth Row: Brayden Bittel, Bryce Keithley, Taylor Beisner, Joseph Wynn, Easton Smith, Derek Pfeifer, Brad Wallace, Nathan Cox, Brevin LaBarge, Josh Smith. Not Pictured: Clinton Irvin, Brandon North, Zak Ramos, Sam Rupp, Tanner Small.



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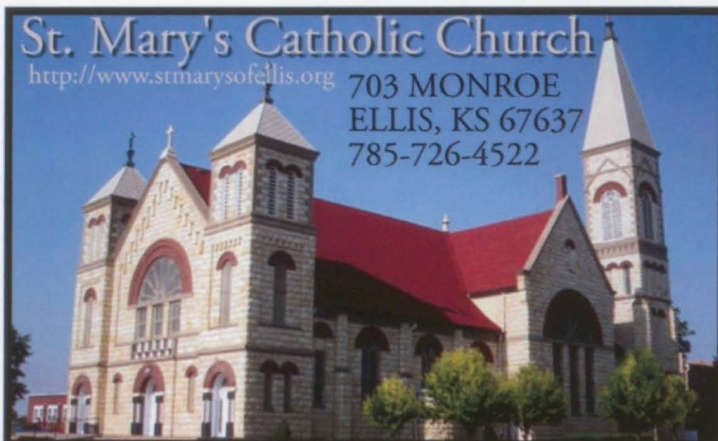
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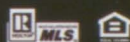


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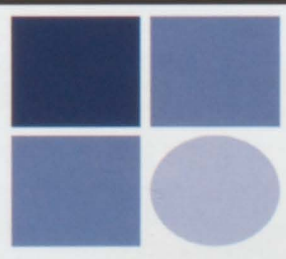


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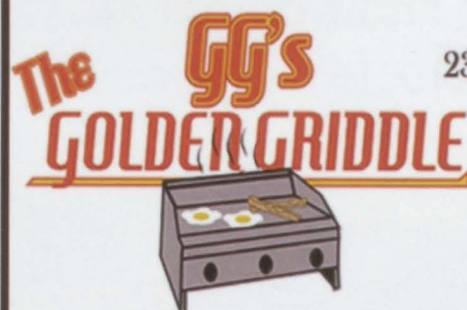


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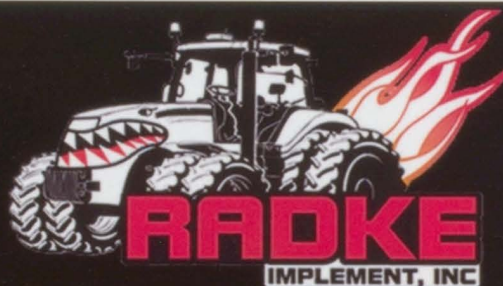
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oh snap

It's well-advertised that the the "j-squad," puts in extra hours many other classes would not require. However, journalism students do not take the class because it is fun—it is—but most journalism students apply for the class because of their dedication, attention to detail, and an innate need to report accurately and effectively.

"I took journalism because I liked taking pictures and writing. I knew it would be hard, but I didn't know it would be this hard," Kyrsten Frickey¹⁸, editor, said.

Being a part of the staff proved even more difficult this year. The journalism "squad" rose to a challenge at KSPA competiton. In February, staff members competed in regional competiton at FHSU. Every staff member on the EHS journalism staff qualified for state based on their placings at regionals in multiple categories.

"It was fun to be able to be creative and design something from scratch," Haley Reiter¹⁸, first time staff member and Theme and Graphics competitor said.

From feature writing to the Sports Photography category, staff members were able to showcase their skills. Results were tweeted on the three and a half hour ride home from Lawrence to Ellis. Rife with anticipation, the j-squad impatiently awaited each category result.

"It was a constant nerve-racking feeling as we sat in the suburban refreshing our phones the whole way home," Shelby Werth¹⁸ said.

At state, which takes place at KU in May, nine of the sixteen entries brought home medals, with an EHS j-squad member earning a state championship title in feature writing, Natalie Schoenberger.

what I liked about

JOURNALISM ...



Sierra Schmidt¹⁸

"The best part about being social media editor was having the ability to watch how some of the posts got people excited." Photo by Shelby Werth



Dawson Sproul¹⁸

"My first year on staff was a blast. From the grilled cheese dinners to the worknights, it was all an awesome experience." Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



Haley Reiter¹⁸

"I got to work with my close friend Dawson, on our KSPA state entry of Yearbook Theme and Graphics." Photo by Natalie Schoenberger



4. Dual Effort Brainstorming ideas for a cover, the "j" squad teams up with Roxanne Ebberts at a workshop hosted at Ellis High School. Different schools from around Northwest Kansas attended this to help get on track for this year and narrow down yearbook theme ideas. "I thought it was fun to have workshop this year, especially to host one. I think we all benefitted from it greatly," Sierra Schmidt¹⁸ said.

Photo by Sheri Bedore

5. Nose In A Book Searching for inspiration, Lexie Rome¹⁷ pages through old yearbooks. In journalism, both the internet and paper sources - like other yearbooks - are used to help generate ideas. "Our old yearbooks are always my go-to for ideas," Rome said. Photo by Ali Weber



1. The Giving Season Opening up the present she chose, Kyrsten Frickey¹⁸ participates in the Journalism White Elephant Gift Exchange. Her gift was later stolen by Shelby Werth¹⁸. "Gift exchanges are usually really fun until people start stealing gifts and everybody gets mad," Frickey said. Photo by Ali Weber

2. Flower Girl Stopping to "smell the roses," Ali Weber¹⁸ poses for the camera at the State KSPA Competition at the University of Kansas. The staff members ventured around campus to look for photoshoot spots. "State journalism was a lot of fun especially when we took 'senior pictures,'" Weber said. Photo by Shelby Werth

3. "J" Squad Senior: Lexie Rome. Juniors: Natalie Schoenberger, Haley Reiter, McKenzie Dowis, Sierra Schmidt, Dawson Sproul, Shelby Werth (Business Editor), Kyrsten Frickey (Co-Editor), and Ali Weber (Co-Editor). Advisor: Sheri Bedore. Photo by Jasmyn Hernandez



WHAT IS YOUR FAVORITE camera?

Nikon

camera?

80%

Canon

20%

*ten polled



Progress

"I liked how the grid gave us a visual representation of our progress," Dawson Sproul¹⁸ said. Photo by Ali Weber



Cheese

"Grilled cheese lunches fueled my brain for the long day ahead," McKenzie Dowis¹⁸ said. Photo by Sheri Bedore



Food Coma

"Eating after regional contest together brings us closer to each other," Lexie Rome¹⁷ said. Photo by Dawson Sproul



Pictureka

"We tried to give pages to the people who would enjoy doing them," Ali Weber¹⁸ said. Photo by Sheri Bedore

A Message from the Editors

We hope you enjoy this book we based around 'From All Angles.' It includes coverage from the many school events and people throughout the school year. We wanted this book to be unforgettable and full of memories that will last a lifetime. We put in many extra hours and lots of late nights to make this book the best we wanted it to be. We hope that you enjoy it just as much as we do. The pictures are from different angles of viewing things and of the many events of the year. Everyone is pictured at least three

times, giving us full coverage of all of you in this book. We hope you look back on this book and cherish it forever. Lots of memories have been made and shared, and we have captured all of it. We loved having fun with our many colors and different shapes to design the book into a modern feel. Thank you for purchasing a 2017 Railroader yearbook and we hope that you enjoy looking through the many memories from this past year and looking back on them for many years in the future.

**-Kyrsten Frickey
and Ali Weber**



FROM ALL ANGLES

Yearbook Staff

Co-Editor: Kyrsten Frickey

Co-Editor: Ali Weber

Business Manager: Shelby Werth

Social Media Manager: Sierra Schmidt

Group Pages Editor: Sierra Schmidt

General Staff Members:

Dawson Sproul

Lexie Rome

Natalie Schoenberger

Haley Reiter

McKenzy Dowis

Colophon

The 2017 Edition of the Ellis High School Railroader was published by the EHS staff and printed by Jostens. Sales representative was Derius Mammen and plant representative was Lori Wishert. Press run was 120 with 120 pages. The Railroader was printed with trim size of seven. The book colors was VT Navy, VT Celery, VT Techno, VT Mango, VT Chilly Blue, and VT Paprika. Body Copy was AYT Koch Geometric, AYT Hudson, and AYT TurnOil. The Railroader is a computer generated book, and all work was done using Adobe InDesign CC 2015 within Monarch and Adobe Photoshop CS3 on HP computers and a color laser printer. Portraits and group photos were taken by the EHS journalism staff and Sheri Bedore. The Railroader was financed by \$35 book sales, \$35 1/8 page ads, \$70 1/4 page ads, \$140 1/2 page ads, and \$280 full page ads.

The yearbook staff would like to thank Ms. Sheri Bedore for being the journalism adviser and pushing us to reach our potential; Derius Mammen for all the food, monthly visits, and many technical questions we had; Mr. Steve Herrman for helping us with all of the computer problems we faced this year; faculty for letting us out of class to work on the yearbook and interrupting their classes to take pictures or ask questions; Maria Mick for all her help in the office; and to all the students with all the questions we sent out and all of the pictures we took of you. Students, this book is for you—now and for all time.

2017 RAILROADER

A Message from the Editors

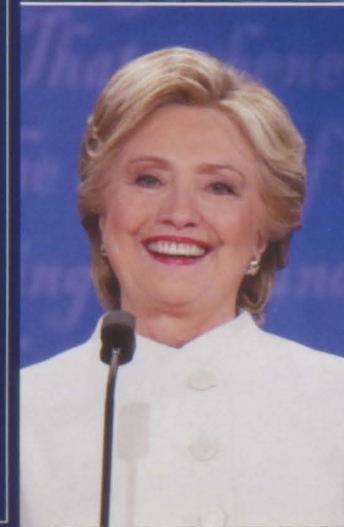
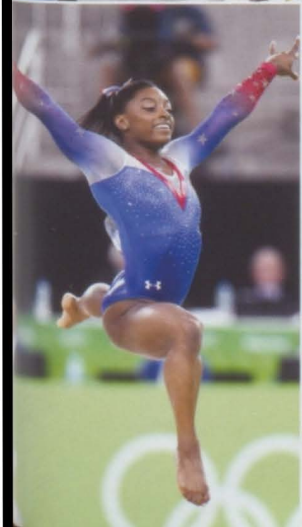
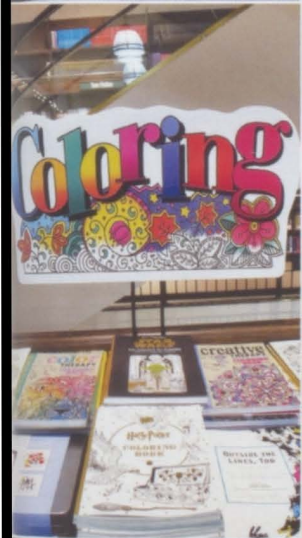
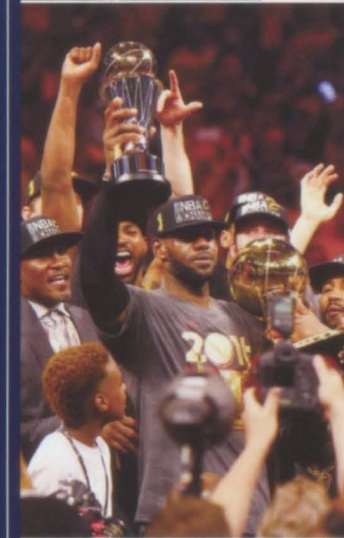
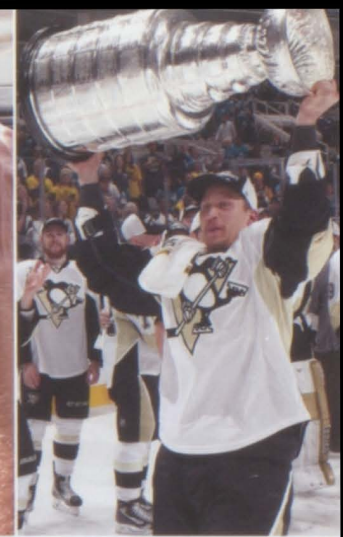
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<http://www.blackwell-science.com>



Jostens
WORLD BEAT
2016
2017

The year's top stories in Music, TV, Movies, News, Sports, Pop Culture and more.



OLYMPICS



OUT OF THE POOL

Swimmer Michael Phelps, the most decorated Olympic athlete in history, confirms his plans to retire from competitive swimming after the Summer Games in Rio.



SIMONE & SIMONE

Team USA gymnast Simone Biles brings home four gold medals and a silver from Rio. Swimmer Simone Manuel sets a record in the women's 100-meter freestyle and is the first African-American woman to win gold in an individual swimming event.





MIGHTY MEDALIST

By winning two gold medals and one silver in Rio, sprinter Allyson Felix brings her Olympic medal total to nine, making her the most decorated woman in the history of U.S. track and field.



ON THE RUN

Jamaican sprinter, Usain Bolt, brings home three gold medals from Rio and hints at retirement.

BEST IN BRAZIL

Team USA tops the world medal tally in the 2016 Rio Olympics and with a total of 121 medals, beating its previous record of 110.

121 Medals



USA

70 Medals



CHINA

67 Medals



GREAT
BRITAIN

56 Medals



RUSSIA

42 Medals



GERMANY



TRUE CHAMPIONS

American runner, Abby D'Agostino and New Zealander, Nikki Hamblin, fall during the women's 5,000-meter race. They help each other up and finish together, despite D'Agostino's injured ankle.

A BIG SPLASH

U.S. swimmer, Katie Ledecky, claims four gold medals and one silver in Rio, where she breaks her own world record for the 800-meter freestyle.

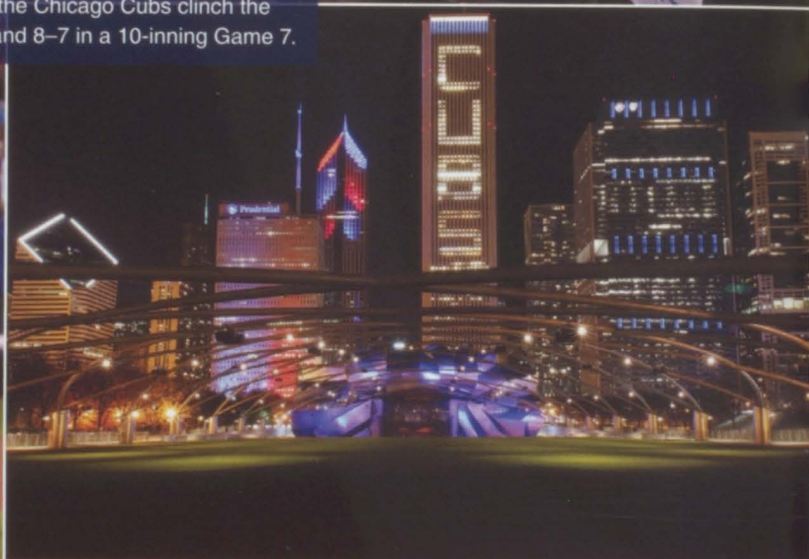


SPORTS



CUBS FANS REJOICE

For the first time since 1908, the Chicago Cubs clinch the World Series, beating Cleveland 8-7 in a 10-inning Game 7.



2016 Gold Glove Award Winners

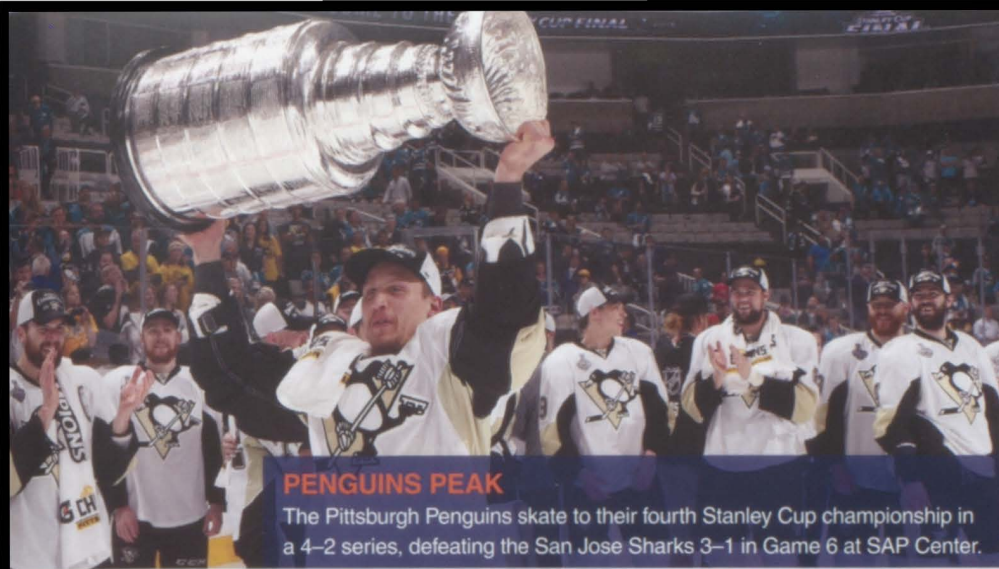
| POSITION | AL WINNER | TEAM |
|----------|------------------|------|
| P | Dallas Keuchel | HOU |
| C | Salvador Perez | KCR |
| 1B | Mitch Moreland | TEX |
| 2B | Ian Kinsler | DET |
| 3B | Adrian Beltre | TEX |
| SS | Francisco Lindor | CLE |
| LF | Brett Gardner | NYN |
| CF | Kevin Kiermaier | TBR |
| RF | Mookie Betts | BOS |

| POSITION | NL WINNER | TEAM |
|----------|------------------|------|
| P | Zack Greinke | ARI |
| C | Buster Posey | SFG |
| 1B | Anthony Rizzo | CHC |
| 2B | Joe Panik | SFG |
| 3B | Nolan Arenado | COL |
| SS | Brandon Crawford | SFG |
| LF | Starling Marte | PIT |
| CF | Ender Inciarte | ATL |
| RF | Jason Heyward | CHC |

BASEBALL GREATS

Eighteen Major League Baseball players, including two from the World Series champion Cubs, receive Rawlings Gold Glove awards from The Society for American Baseball Research.





PENGUINS PEAK

The Pittsburgh Penguins skate to their fourth Stanley Cup championship in a 4-2 series, defeating the San Jose Sharks 3-1 in Game 6 at SAP Center.



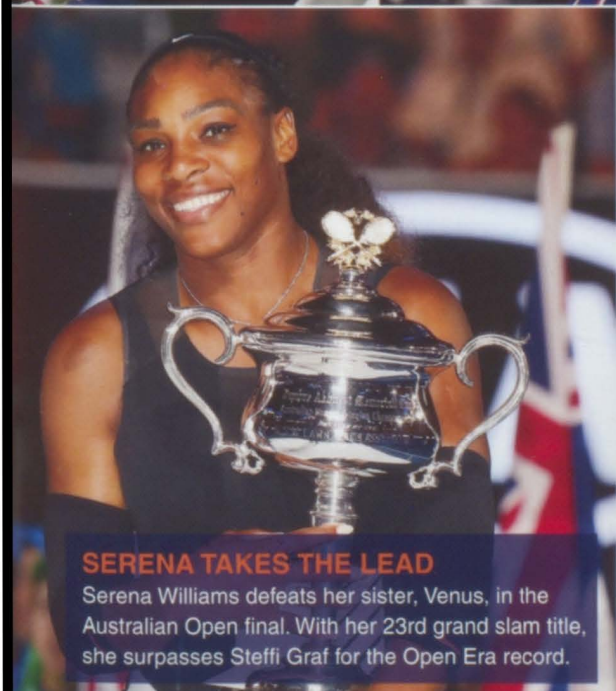
CLEVELAND CLAIMS NBA TITLE

LeBron James and the Cavaliers beat the Golden State Warriors 93-89 in Game 7 and give their city its first major sports championship since 1964.



BRADY WORKS OVERTIME

Quarterback Tom Brady celebrates his fifth Super Bowl win as he leads the New England Patriots to a 34-28 victory over the Atlanta Falcons in the first-ever Super Bowl to go into overtime.



SERENA TAKES THE LEAD

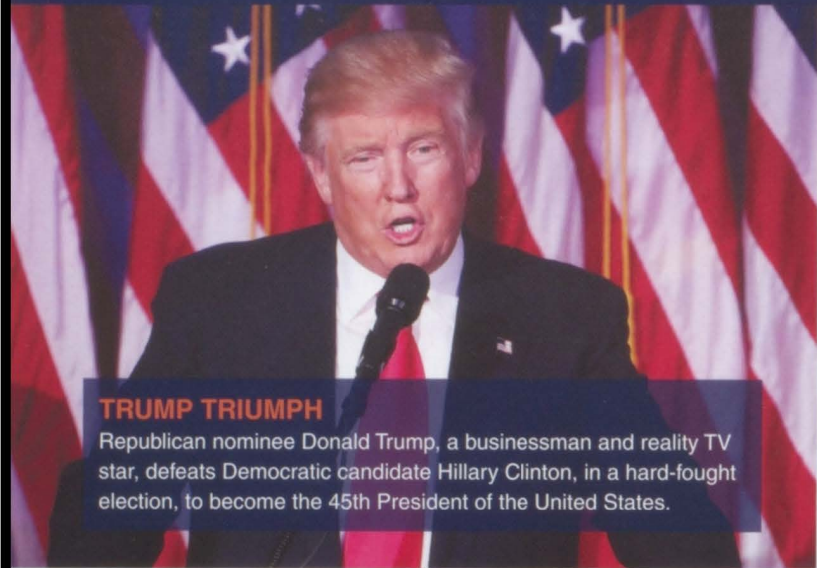
Serena Williams defeats her sister, Venus, in the Australian Open final. With her 23rd grand slam title, she surpasses Steffi Graf for the Open Era record.



CLEMSON NABS NCAA CHAMPIONSHIP

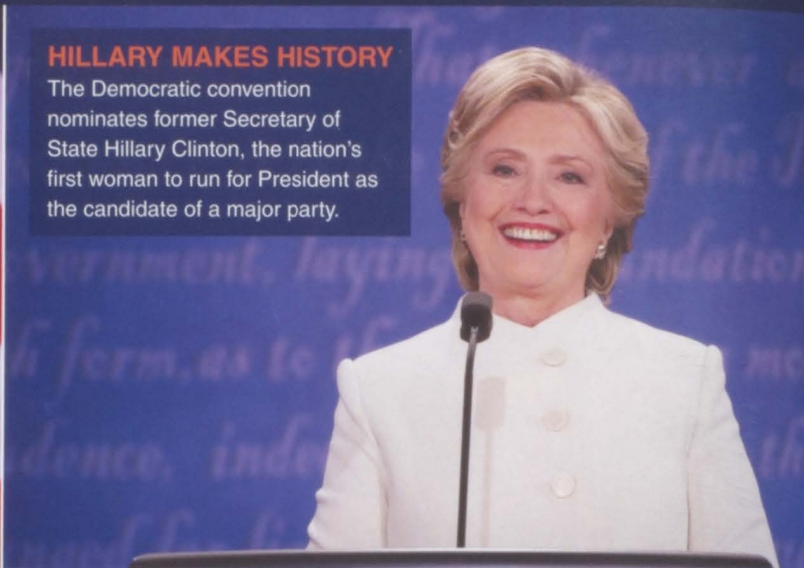
The Tigers push back Alabama's Crimson Tide 35-31, thanks to a last-second touchdown by Clemson wide receiver Hunter Renfrow.

NEWS/HEADLINES



TRUMP TRIUMPH

Republican nominee Donald Trump, a businessman and reality TV star, defeats Democratic candidate Hillary Clinton, in a hard-fought election, to become the 45th President of the United States.



HILLARY MAKES HISTORY

The Democratic convention nominates former Secretary of State Hillary Clinton, the nation's first woman to run for President as the candidate of a major party.



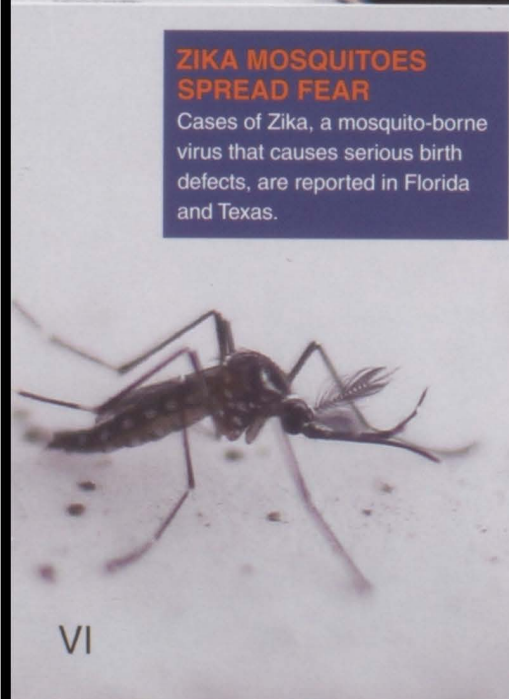
HOT NEW PHONE

Samsung recalls almost two million Galaxy Note 7 phones after battery malfunctions cause the devices to explode and burst into flames.



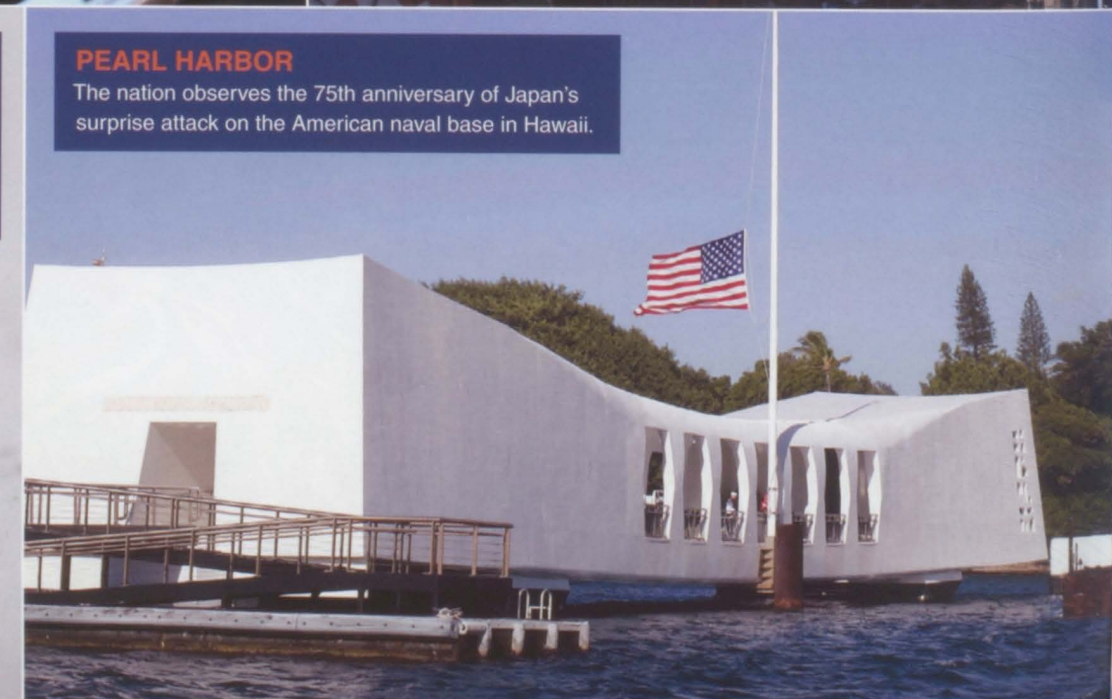
UK DECIDES TO BREXIT

Great Britain's voters choose to leave the European Union, reflecting growing concerns about immigration, national identity and the economy.



ZIKA MOSQUITOES SPREAD FEAR

Cases of Zika, a mosquito-borne virus that causes serious birth defects, are reported in Florida and Texas.



PEARL HARBOR

The nation observes the 75th anniversary of Japan's surprise attack on the American naval base in Hawaii.

MATTHEW MAYHEM

Matthew, a Category 5 Atlantic hurricane, leaves a wake of damage and destruction stretching from the Caribbean to the coasts of Florida, Georgia, South Carolina and North Carolina.

9/11 ANNIVERSARY

The country observes the 15th anniversary of the September 11 terrorist attacks. President Obama honors the victims and their families in a speech at a memorial service at the Pentagon.

TRAVEL TO CUBA

American Airlines Flight 17 from Miami is the first regularly scheduled commercial flight from the U.S. to Havana since 1961.

SPELL "COINCIDENCE"

For the third straight year, the Scripps National Spelling Bee declares two winners. Eleven-year-old Nihar Janga of Austin, Texas and 13-year-old Jairam Hathwar of Corning, New York are co-champions.

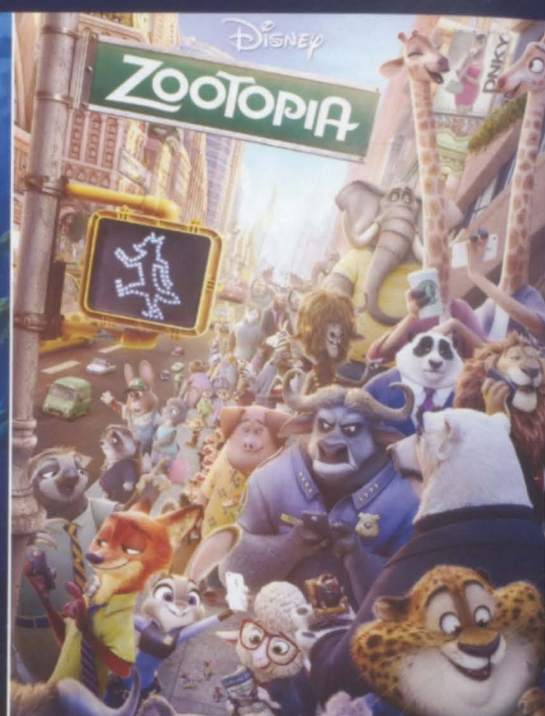
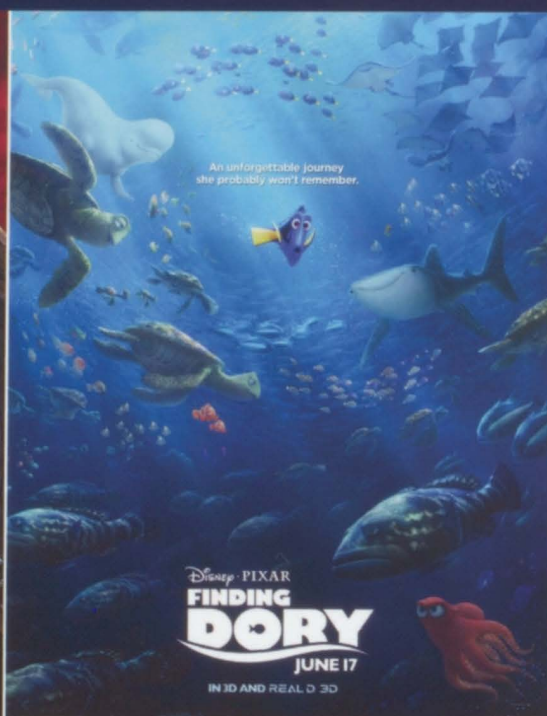
AIR AMAZON

An Amazon customer in London is the recipient of the e-commerce company's first home delivery by drone.

TESLA CARS RECEIVE AUTOPILOT UPDATE

With an over-the-air update, Tesla adds self-driving functionality to thousands of their customers' vehicles; however drivers can't go completely hands-free.

MOVIES

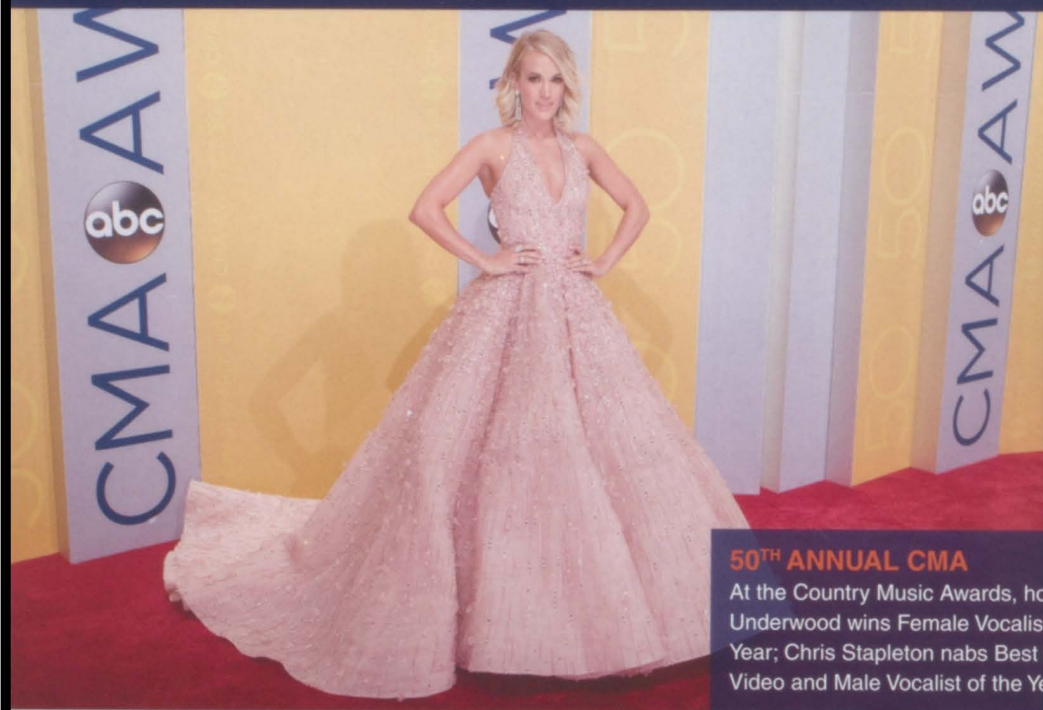


IMAGINATION RULES

Animation and superheroes dominated the top movies of 2016. Together, these movies grossed over \$3 billion worldwide.

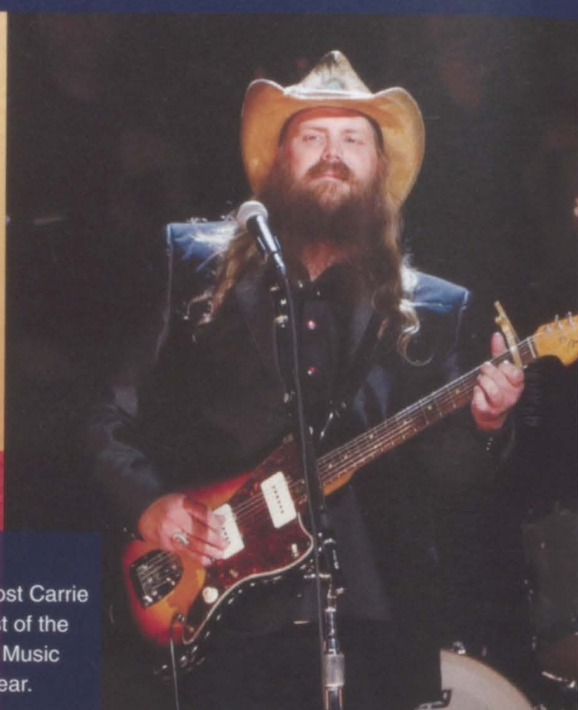


MUSIC



50TH ANNUAL CMA

At the Country Music Awards, host Carrie Underwood wins Female Vocalist of the Year; Chris Stapleton nabs Best Music Video and Male Vocalist of the Year.



QUEEN BEY REIGNS SUPREME

With her record-breaking nine nominations, Beyoncé leads the Grammy pack, followed by Drake, Kanye and Rihanna, with eight a piece.



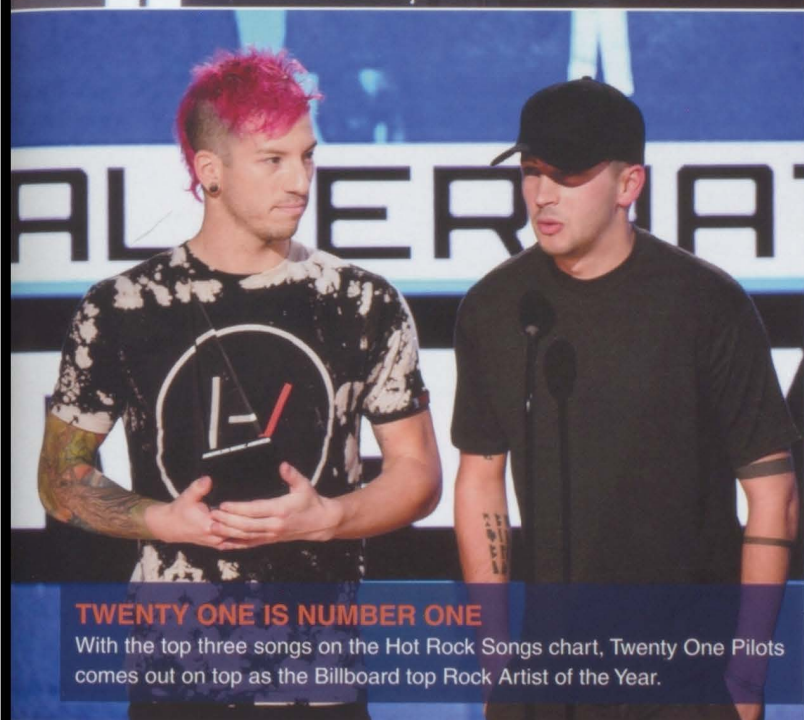
ARIANA ACES THE AMAS

Ariana Grande sends love to her fans in a heartfelt acceptance speech for her American Music Awards Artist of the Year award.



4.7 BILLION STREAMERS AND COUNTING

With the most streamed single, "One Dance," and the most streamed album, "Views," Drake is the most streamed artist of the year according to Apple Music and Spotify.



TWENTY ONE IS NUMBER ONE

With the top three songs on the Hot Rock Songs chart, Twenty One Pilots comes out on top as the Billboard top Rock Artist of the Year.



TAYLOR TAKES THE LEAD

Forbes crunches the numbers and finds that Taylor Swift is the world's highest-paid musician, ahead of One Direction in second place and Adele in third.



SONGWRITER NABS NOBEL

The Swedish Academy bestows the Nobel Prize in literature on singer-songwriter Bob Dylan. It's the first time the award has gone to a musician.

CELEBRITY NEWS



JUDGES CROWN A COUNTRY VOICE

Soulful country singer Sundance Head, from Porter, Texas is named the winner in the Season 11 finale of *The Voice*.



THE OSCAR GOES TO LEO

After five previous nominations, Leonardo DiCaprio finally clinches an Academy Award. He is named Best Actor for his role in *The Revenant*.



TEEN
CHOICE
2016

TEN YEARS OF TIMBERLAKE

TEEN CHOICE celebrates Justin Timberlake with its first-ever Decade Award to mark his 10-year-career as a TEEN CHOICE icon.

RIISING ON "FALLING"

In the grand finale of *American Idol: The Farewell Season*, Mississippi native Trent Harmon performs his coronation song, "Falling," as the season's winner.





HOWL AT THE MOON

In the sixth and final season of MTV's popular supernatural drama, *Teen Wolf*, the characters confront ghostly adversaries during their last semester of high school.



IN MEMORIAM

Pop culture fans bid farewell to several iconic performers including music legends Prince and David Bowie, actor Alan Rickman and actor/screenwriter Carrie Fisher.

POP CULTURE



"HELLO" FROM THE CARPOOL

The year's most-viewed YouTube video captures Adele's appearance in "Carpool Karaoke" a popular recurring feature on James Corden's *Late Late Show* on CBS.



FASHION FLASHBACK

Iconic looks from the 1990s — like chokers, Doc Martens, biker jackets, jelly sandals, scrunchies, overalls, high-waist jeans and flannels — make a comeback.



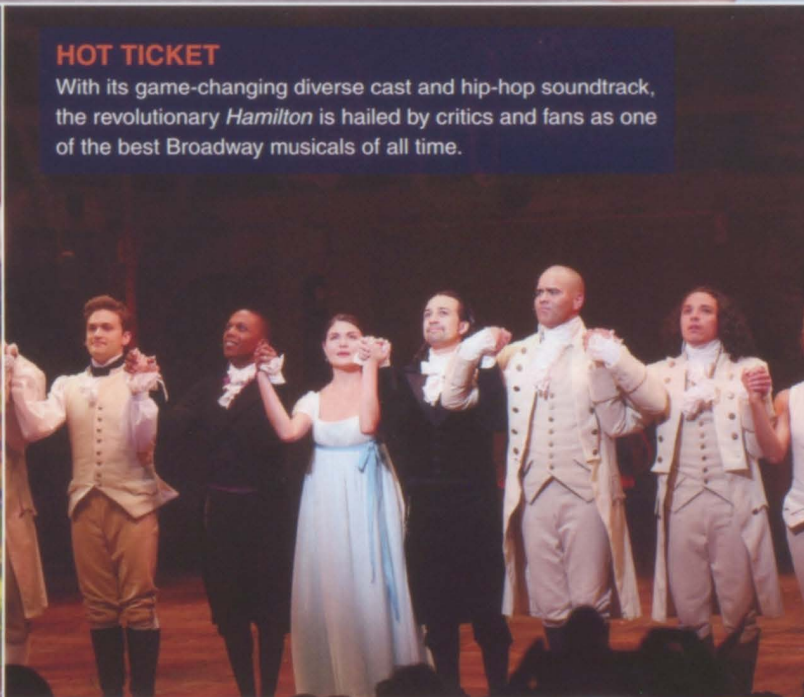
POKÉMON PHENOMENON

Pokémon Go is a bestselling game; millions of players hunt and capture its digital creatures, resulting in a dramatic increase in visits to parks across the nation.



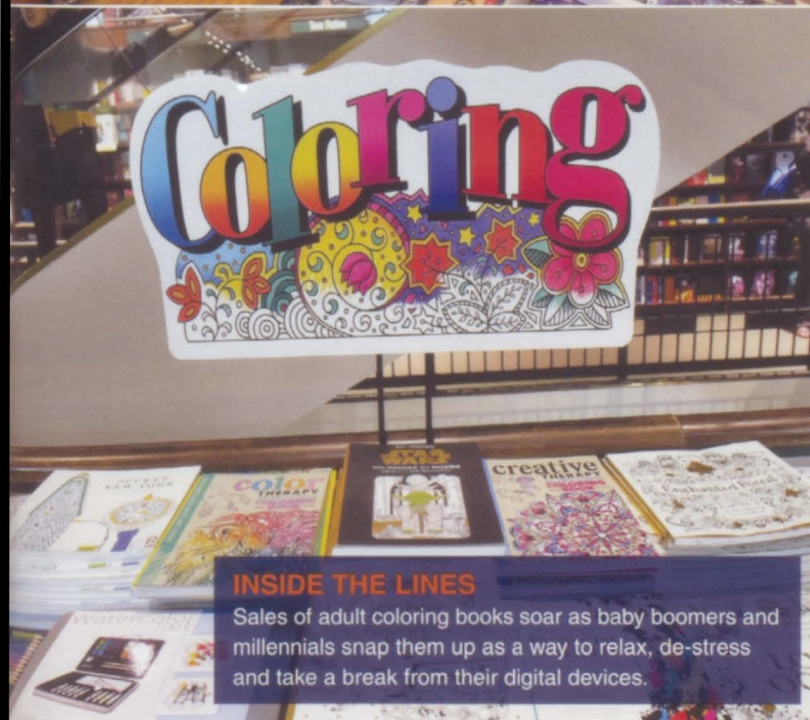
POTTER RULES

A special rehearsal script for *Harry Potter and the Cursed Child*, the eighth story in J.K. Rowling's popular series, tops the Amazon bestseller list.



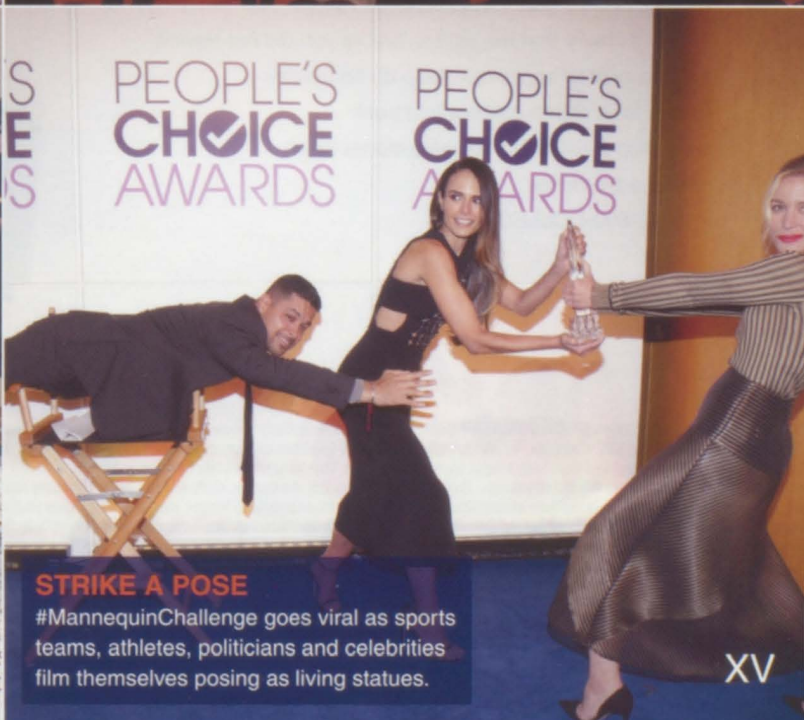
HOT TICKET

With its game-changing diverse cast and hip-hop soundtrack, the revolutionary *Hamilton* is hailed by critics and fans as one of the best Broadway musicals of all time.



INSIDE THE LINES

Sales of adult coloring books soar as baby boomers and millennials snap them up as a way to relax, de-stress and take a break from their digital devices.



STRIKE A POSE

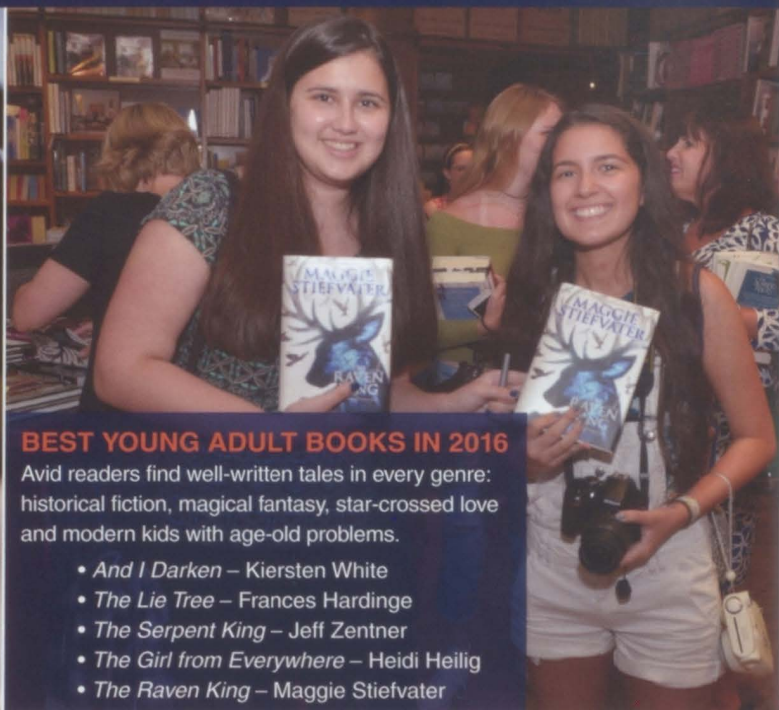
#MannequinChallenge goes viral as sports teams, athletes, politicians and celebrities film themselves posing as living statues.

FUN FACTS



TEENS' TOP APPS

- Snapchat
- Twitter
- Spotify
- What's App
- Instagram
- Facebook Messenger



BEST YOUNG ADULT BOOKS IN 2016

Avid readers find well-written tales in every genre: historical fiction, magical fantasy, star-crossed love and modern kids with age-old problems.

- *And I Darken* – Kiersten White
- *The Lie Tree* – Frances Hardinge
- *The Serpent King* – Jeff Zentner
- *The Girl from Everywhere* – Heidi Heilig
- *The Raven King* – Maggie Stiefvater

Things your parents did but you may never do:

- Miss your favorite TV show or sit through all of the commercials
- Roll down the car window manually
- Use a printed paper map on a road trip
- Rent a movie that the person before you did not rewind
- Use a printed encyclopedia to do homework
- Look for a phone number in a book
- Develop a roll of film to see pictures taken
- Hear a typewriter
- Use 1-800-COLLECT



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