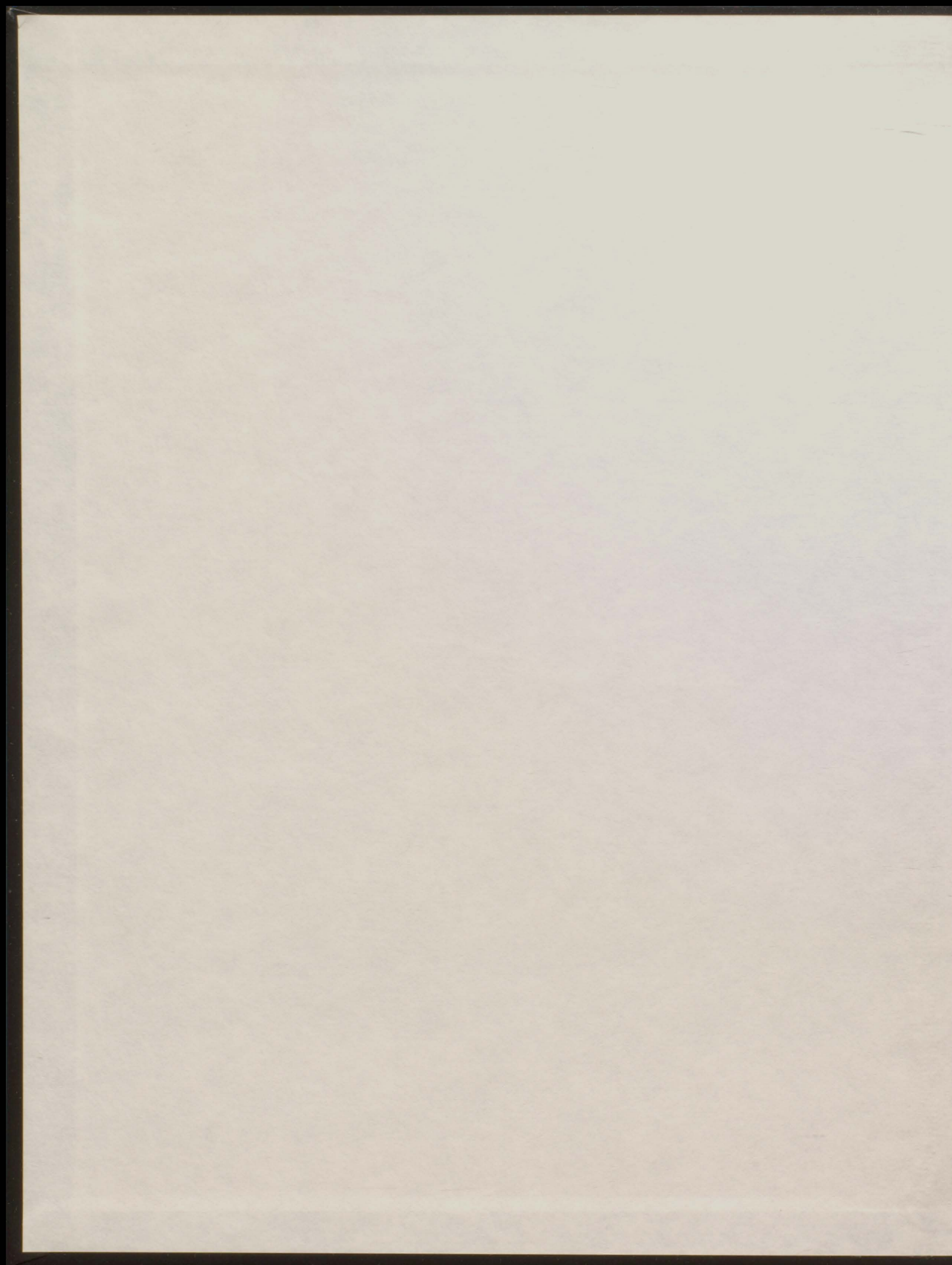


MANSFIELD HIGH SCHOOL

# Reality

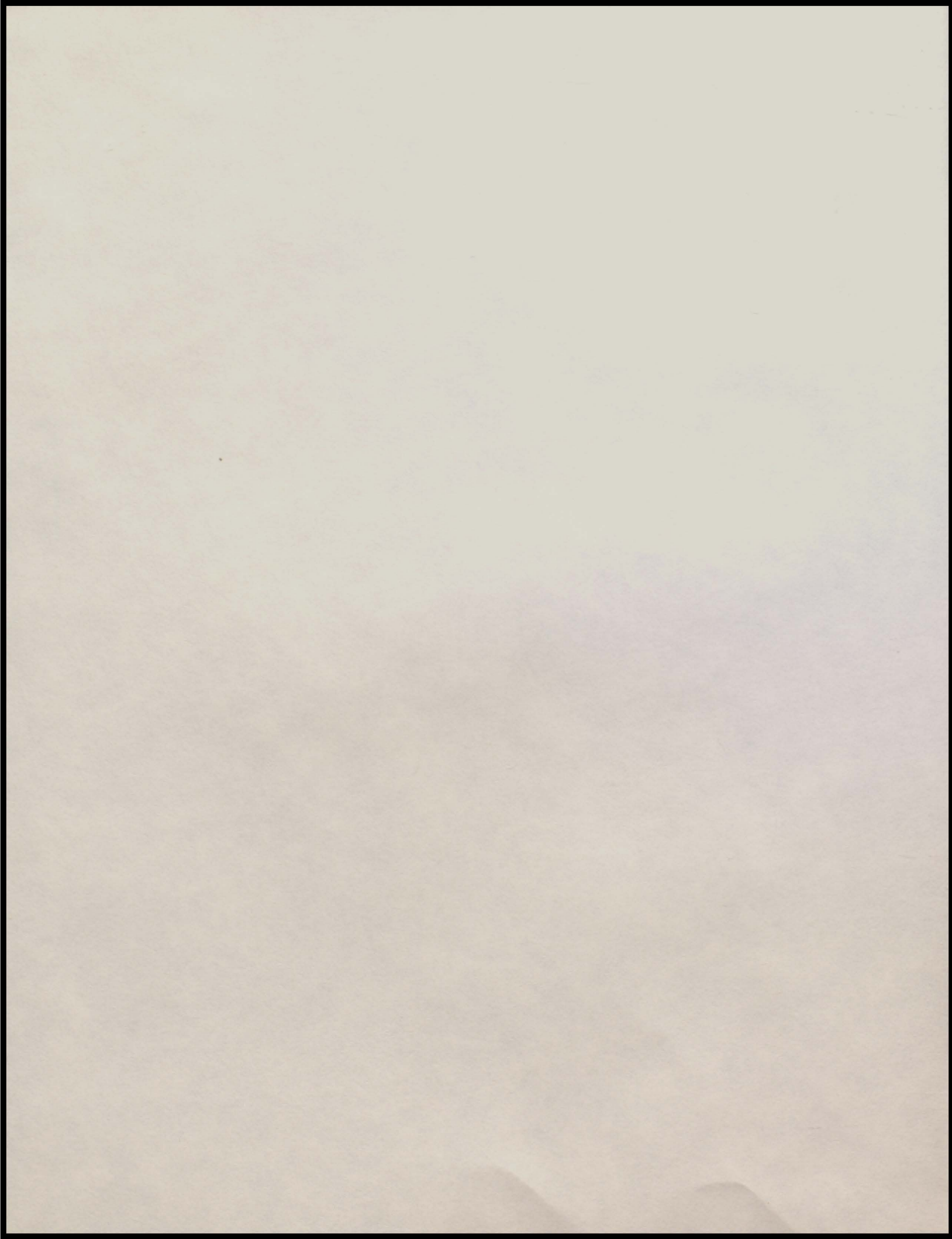
EL LEON 2003







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# REALITY

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Volume 56



# Uncover our take on reality

Imagine what you can do

How far can you go

Real time challenges

Friend factor

Mansfield High School

Cover art by Justin Kingery



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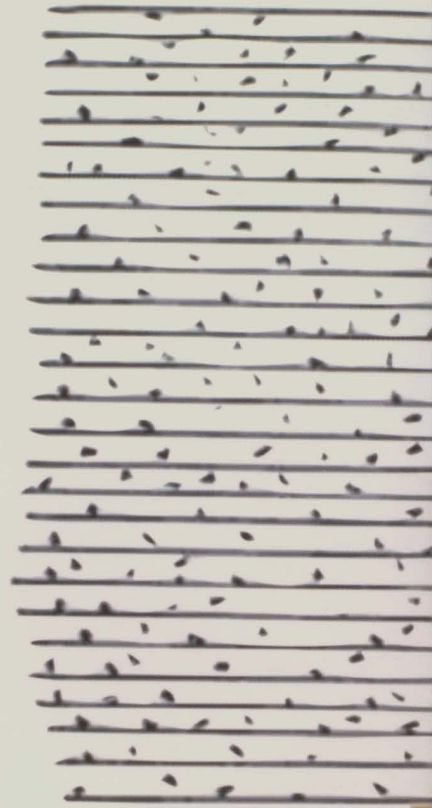
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el leon 2003

in tune with how we live

AT FIRST GLANCE, there's no similarity between the 2003 El Leon and the latest craze in television programming—Reality TV. One person called reality TV “the car wreck we can't avert our eyes from.” For others, it's merely benign entertainment. Maybe as one student said, “we watch because we wonder what we'd do in the same situation.”

BUT LOOK CLOSER: Both observe others in unscripted, unrehearsed moments to tell a slice-of-life story, and both are always changing, some times confounding and ever-exciting. So with the theme, “Reality,” we offer a visual tour of the people and events that made up our school's year 2002-2003.



# REALITY

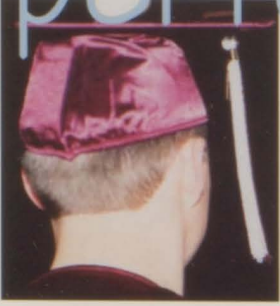




Performance comes from drive, a desire to excel like skateboard enthusiast John Blaine who practices winning moves off ramps on the city's outdoor amphitheater stage. Photo by Eli Helms; art by Justin Kingery.



# performance



# experience

**GOOD NEIGHBORS** After raking leaves, Student Council members Tim Shelhamer and Brandon Grass haul bags off to a compost site. In the fall, council members participated in Drive-by Raking, a community service project for local senior citizens. *Photo by Eli Helms*

**COUNTRY PLEASURES** A favorite annual festival inspired by rural roots finds a curious Madison Keith inspecting Dillon Massey's beagle puppy. Children dressed in pioneer attire gather on the square for the Little Laura and Farmer Boy contests at Wilder Days. *Photo by Justin Kingery.*







opportunity  
*discovery*

# Student Life

By Mandy Rokusek,

Eli Helms &

Tim Shelhamer

*Imagine what you can do*



It had all the makings of a block buster. Humor at the pep rally, nostalgia at Wilder Days celebration and heroics at Homecoming when the Lions lit a fire and came back in a blaze of glory. Then there was real peril, dread and fear at a drunk driving reenactment where actors were tested to within an inch of their lives. Patriotic services reminded us about what is possible and a trip to the Pacific Northwest transported us to realms unimagined. Finally graduation with its dangling emotional threads and cliffhangers, big and small, gave us pause, purpose and perspective.

culture

**THE PLAY'S THE THING** Journalism I student Lindsey Hopping clicks the shutter on first graders Shania Tibbett, Kasen Campbell, Kourtney Brumley and Cody Coffman at recess. Hopping and her classmates practiced using 35mm cameras on the playground while learning photography composition.

**ROCKY RIDGE ENTERTAINERS** Mandy Rokusek, Josh Venable, Sara Henley and Joey Hill entertain the audience with "In the Good Old Summertime," during intermission of "Little House Memories." The outdoor show draws visitors from as far away as England, Ireland, Scotland and Canada.

# Celebrate the Ozarks

OUTDOOR PAGEANTS, MUSIC, CRAFTS AND OLD-FASHIONED GAMES HONOR THE HERITAGE OF LAURA INGALLS WILDER, THE TOWN'S MOST FAMOUS CITIZEN



No single person in recent history has had such a profound influence on Mansfield as internationally known author, Laura Ingalls Wilder. Her nine-volume "Little House" series, which has fascinated and inspired readers for well over 50 years, was written from her Rocky Ridge Farm in Mansfield.

### KEEPING THE PIONEER SPIRIT ALIVE

Every September, the community honors Wilder's memory with Wilder Days, a festival of Old West fun, parades and special events. The town square swells with craft booths, fans, Little Laura and Farmer Boy contests and entertainers. The days' activities are capped off by a performance of "Little House Memories," an outdoor musical presented by Ozark Mountain Players in August and September.

Junior Josh Venable, a two-year OPA member, said that even though the play is based on reality, improvisational comedy often runs rampant. Venable recalled an incident not written in the script. "One night, one of the girls got mad at me and threw me on the bench in the middle of a scene. I heard the bench crack and thought it broke," he said. "I practically fell off because I was laughing so hard. She wasn't angry after that."

**TRADE SECRETS** Backstage at "Little House Memories," below right, hairstylist Chery Holmes grooms the beard of Eric Spyres, vocal music teacher. Spyres, a founding member of the Ozark Mountain Players, has played the part of Pa Ingalls for 13 years.

**OH MY GOODNESS!** Farmer Boys Beau Massey, Austin Rokusek, Dillon Massey and Sean Neal act out a scene about Almanzo Wilder's childhood on his father's farm in New York. Other songs in the scene include "Grandma's Feather Bed" and "Crawdad Hole."

By Eli Helms



**FOR YOUR INFORMATION** Tour guide Sarah Bennett, a senior, escorts visitors through the Rock House, an English-style house given to Laura and Almanzo Wilder by their daughter Rose in 1928. "I always say stupid things," Bennett said about getting flustered by crowds. "I keep telling about one of the chairs in the bedroom that was sent off a year ago to Canada. Tourists look at me like I am crazy!"

**SITTING PRETTY** LEFT ABOVE: Miss Missouri American Sweetheart 2002, Nikki Zorsch waves to the crowd at the annual Wilder Day Parade. At nationals, Zorsch placed 21 out of 115 contestants and won first in family art project, second in modeling and eighth in talent.

### history

◆ **1894** Laura Ingalls Wilder, husband Almanzo and daughter Rose move to Mansfield, where she lived until the age of 90.

◆ **1932** Laura Ingalls Wilder publishes *Little House in the Big Woods*. Afterwards, she wrote *Farmer Boy*, the story of Almanzo's childhood. Letters from school age children poured in begging her to continue the stories. Soon after, a series of nine books was born called *The Little House Series*.

◆ **TODAY** Between 50,000 and 60,000 fans and fanatics flock to the the Laura Ingalls Wilder Home and Museum to learn more about Wilder's life in the Ozarks.





# life imitating **life**

By Justin Kingery

A DRUNK DRIVING REENACTMENT SHOCKS AND CHILLS PARTICIPANTS AND OBSERVERS





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## a bad day

**1. ONE BAD DECISION** from behind the wheel starts with intoxicated junior Jill Merritt who ignites a damaging chain reaction. Merritt, splattered in blood from a head-on crash, fails a sobriety check from officer Brad Hanger. The 90-minute event, sponsored by area law officials and SADD, shows the impact of bad judgment and serves as a reality check for teens to think twice before drinking and driving.

**2. LIFE ON A LIMB** Firefighters work quickly with the Jaws of Life to extract two trapped victims. During the procedure, the equipment broke which prolonged the rescue.

**3. SHOCK AND AWE** From the sidelines, a stunned crowd focuses on the action as the story unfolds. Police officers and First Responders capture the undivided attention of freshman Mandie Adamson, junior Amanda Sherman and senior Donna France.

**4. SHATTERED LIFE** Junior Garret Keith comforts Mandy Rokusek who burst into tears at the sight of her friend's unconscious body, smashed from hitting the windshield. "The reenactment felt so realistic, I just played the part naturally," she said.

**5. RIGHT TO REMAIN SILENT** Police officer Duane Delcour collars junior Cody Whorton, a drunk defying arrest. "I was trying to resist a little bit so the cop threw me down on the pavement to cuff me," Whorton said.

**6. IN THE END** Coroner John Miller pronounces sophomore Sara Henley dead on the scene. "I didn't want this part because the thought of being stowed in a hearse makes my insides shiver," Henley said. "The accident was all too real."

**MINDSET:** "Lying in the seat of a wrecked gold Saturn, chills crawl up and down my spine. Blood runs down my arm to the asphalt below, forming a pool of crimson at the base of the door. I lay in complete silence, feeling disgusted and awkward from the slimy chicken [resembles injured body parts] on my bare skin." —Senior Brett Bailey (left) on the mock accident



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# so proudly we hail

WITH OUR COUNTRY AT WAR WITH IRAQ AND STILL RECOVERING FROM THE SEPT. 11 TRAGEDY, STUDENTS RALLY TO HONOR THOSE WHO DIED, SERVED AND CONTINUE TO PROTECT CIVIC FREEDOM.

## **A STAR SPANGLED GOOD TURN**

Soprano Sara Henley performs "God Bless the USA" at the choir's Veterans Day salute, which honored local veterans with an evening of dinner and patriotic music. "I was really nervous going into the solo, but I received a standing ovation, so it was worth it," Henley said.





**S**pecial service calls for special ceremonies as students, teachers and community members join hands to mark the anniversary of a national tragedy and to honor those who serve in the military. After a city-wide Veterans Day program, choir members hosted "Remember When," a dinner theater saluting local veterans. ● NHS members spent hours after school assembling ribbons for students and faculty to commemorate patriotism, hope and loss. ● Elementary students and teachers, *right*, gather in front of the American flag to recite the Pledge of Allegiance and to observe a moment of silence the morning of Sept. 11. Reflecting on the events, junior Zack Flageolle said he views those who made and continue to make personal sacrifices in a different light. "Now after everything, I take the meaning 'home of the brave' more seriously," he said. "We definitely have some of the bravest."

**1. RED, WHITE AND BLUE** Mandy Rokusek, National Honor Society member, hands a ribbon to Chad Smith before school. Members made ribbons for students to wear for a week-long observance of 9-11 to remember approximately 3,000 victims of terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center and the Pentagon.

**2. AT YOUR SERVICE** Becky Slate, choir member, serves dinner while Ed Speakes and Randy Ivy share a laugh with David Goss. "I enjoyed helping out with the dinner," Slate said. "As my friends say, 'I'm just a good deeds person.'"

**3. PAYING TRIBUTE,** the Mt. Grove Marine Corps Jr. ROTC Color Guard presents the flags in the Veterans Day program. Band and choir members also participated in the community-wide memorial service in the gymnasium.

**4. HONOR ROLE** George Rasmussen, grandfather of Tim and Tom Brazeal, receives a commemoration award from LTC Morgan during the Veterans Day service. Rasmussen spent three and a half years in the Navy, stationed in the South Pacific during World War II.

**5. OF THEE I SING** Entertaining a full house, Eric Spyres directs choir members in "Single Voice, Solitary Flame." Choir parents cooked chili, stew and desserts for approximately 250 people who attended "Remember When" for veterans and family members.



A controversial ruling that declared the Pledge of Allegiance unconstitutional became an issue when a judge ruled that the phrase "under God" violates the guarantee of separation of church and state.

### **Should the words "Under God" be taken out of the Pledge of Allegiance? Seniors speak out:**

**Tim Brazeal:** "I don't believe the 'Under God' part of the Pledge of Allegiance should be removed or even questioned as unconstitutional... Religion has been such a strong part of America's history and it shouldn't be questioned because a few people have recently found it distasteful."

**Alisha Stewart:** "No because our founding fathers looked to God for answers and that is how America was founded. We wouldn't be the successful nation that we are without God."

**Justin Kingery:** "Our world and our country were created and founded under God and without His presence in our country, we'll fall like the majority of the world has already fallen. The views and opinions of a few blind atheists shouldn't change the way we've lived for the last 226 years."

**Jennifer Calhoun:** "America was built on a Christian foundation. If you build on that foundation and then start chipping away, how can you expect what you have built to stand."





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By Eli Helms

# field of screams



**LAUGHTER UNPLUGGED** Tabitha Merideth and Hannah Moore react to a pep rally game called the Worm. Teams of students who hooked together with each others' shoulders and feet swayed and tried to flip over in unison.

FROM WEIRD DRESS-UP DAYS TO WACKY GAMES, SPIRIT ABOUNDS WHEN LIONS SHOW THEIR PRIDE



**pucker up:** "I was framed. I think they took everyone else's money and put it in my jar because we all thought I was going to have to kiss a real pig." —Principal Randy Short, *below*, about a community center fundraiser



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By Eli Helms



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**LION PRIDE** Mascot Brandon Grass signals the freshman class stand up and yell during a class competition at the pep rally. The annual event kicks off the boys and girls' basketball season.

2

**NOW HEAR THIS** Perched on the hill above the ball field, John Blaine and Christian Eichelberger cheer on the Lions at an informal tailgate party. At every home game, a group of supporters yelled, grilled hot dogs and encouraged others to join them in supporting the Lions.

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**EYES WIDE SHUT** Missing her target, Sara Henley paints lipstick on Tim Stuart in a pep rally game which involves applying make-up blindfolded. "As soon as Sara got hold of the lipstick, she pushed it across my face so hard, it broke off," Stuart said afterwards. **4.** Bracing himself for the worst, Stan Coday, agriculture teacher, partners up in the game with Michell King, math teacher, who smears face powder across his eyes. The audience voted sophomores winners by applause vote.

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**RAG TIME BAND** Soliciting on Ohio Avenue, a hobo band panhandles its music in the parking

lot while preparing for the SMSU Homecoming Parade. Students dressed in hobo garments as part of a Spirit Week's dress-up day.

6

**KISS THIS** Principal Randy Short smooches a stuffed pig in a fundraiser to help raise money for the community center's grand opening. Short and other public figures who participated were assumed that the winner would kiss a live pig.

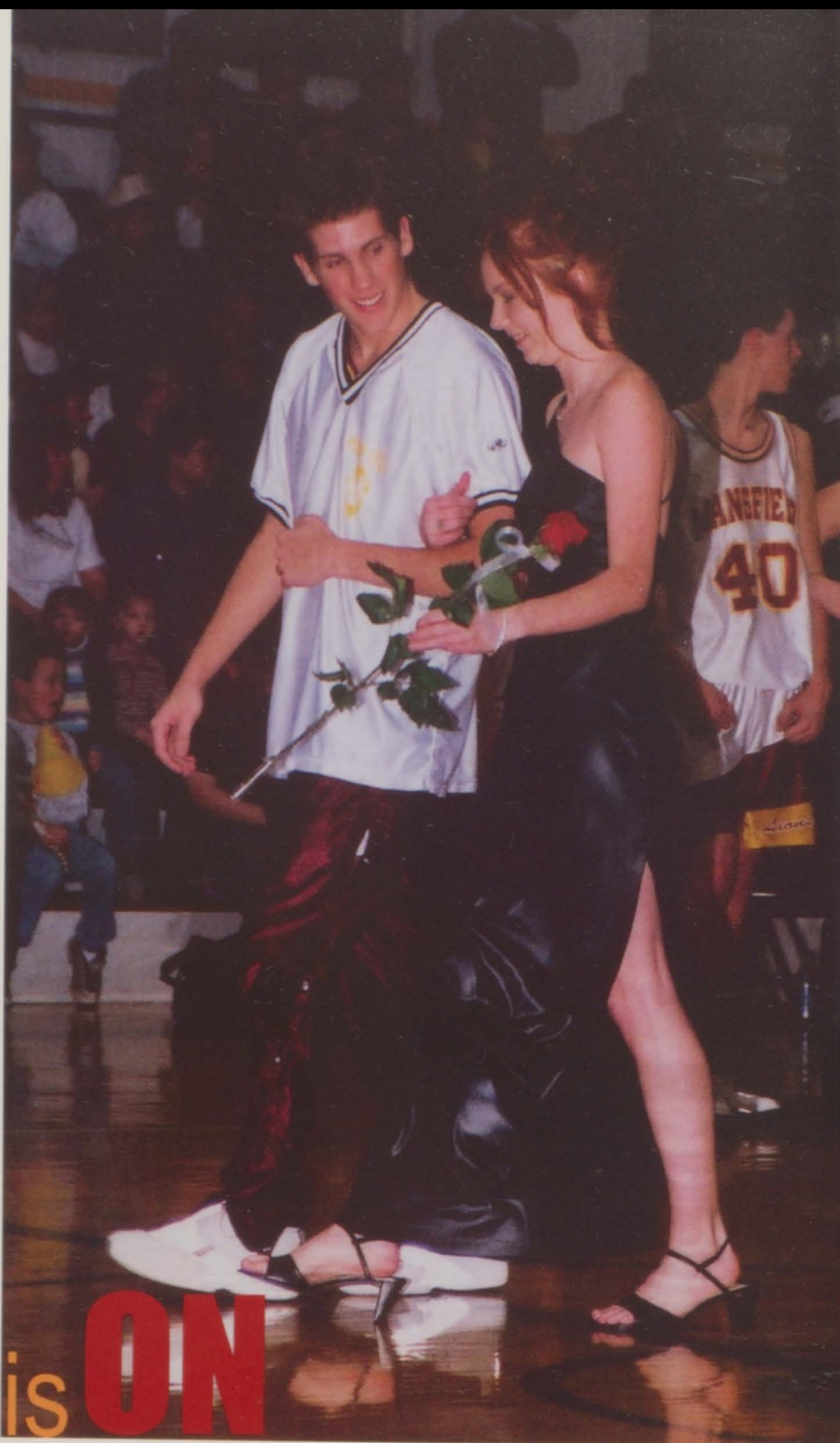
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**WILD KINGDOM** Rousing crowds celebrate the culmination of Spirit Week which marks the season's first basketball games. **8.** A gang of bums pose for a picture on Hobo Day. Students sported mismatched rags, holey pants and smudged faces for a down and out look.



**WALK THIS WAY** Sophomore princess Becky Lucas and escort Brett Bailey chat while walking down the court at the crowning ceremony. "We were all so nervous before the ceremony, but afterwards, we realized what a blast we just had!" Lucas said.

**RAVE ON** A boisterous group of students displaying true colors gets on its feet in the varsity game. The crowd fed off a second half comeback where the Lions clawed their way to a one-point margin victory over Conway.



## The heat is **ON**

By Eli Helms

DAZZLING DECORATIONS, HOURS OF PRACTICE AND A HEART-PUMPING GAME HEAT UP THE ATMOSPHERE FOR A SIZZLING HOMECOMING CELEBRATION



All students stayed home on Homecoming day but that didn't mean the night was a bust. Due to dangerous weather conditions, school had been cancelled for two days, including the pre-game pep rally. However, the game was still on so pommers and Student Council members spent snow days decorating the gym and stage. "It was actually good we didn't have classes because we needed extra time to get the decorations finished," said Wilda Watterson, Student Council adviser.

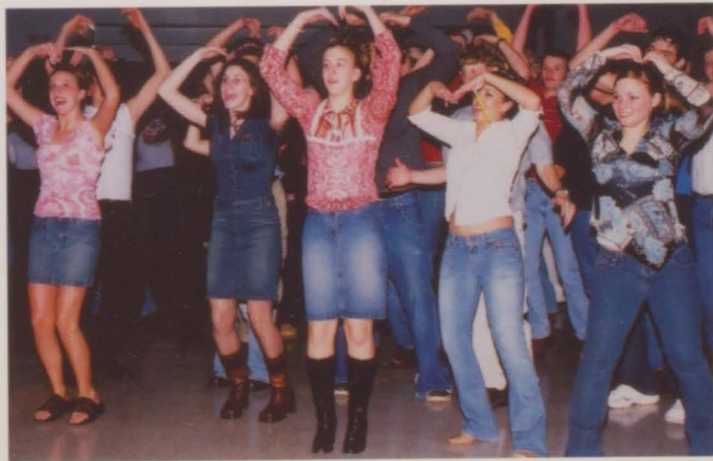
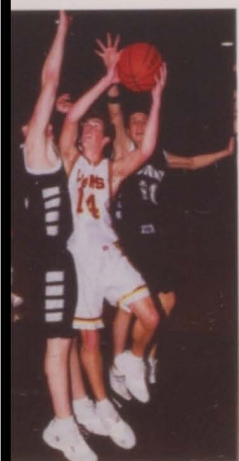
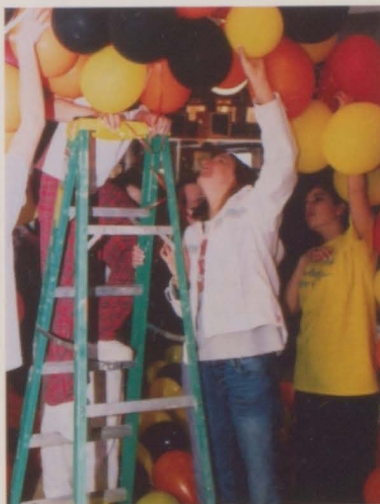
Creating intricate flames for the Hearts Afire theme was time consuming according to junior Zack Flageolle. "We drew flames on cellophane and glued it on plastic, then repeated the process with another color and used an exacto knife to peel parts of the cellophane off," he said.

To welcome fans, MHS Sweethearts created a yellow, red and orange grand balloon entrance for a packed house that brought needed energy for the Lions' 50-49 win over Conway. At half-time, the audience showed appreciation for a rousing Spirit Squad routine and a ceremony that crowned Kelly Carampatan as 2003 Homecoming Queen. After the game, students and alumni celebrated their victory with a dance in the commons area.

**A STEP UP** Kasie Rueff and Ashley Borders assist in the construction of a balloon arch inside the gym doors to greet those attending the game. "Decorating for homecoming was pretty stressful," Rueff said. "We worked all day the Sunday before Homecoming trying to beat last year's decorations."

**TOO HOT TO HANDLE** Amanda Delcour and Jennifer Calhoun use a glue gun to reattach a flame to a candle for the background. Student Council members worked before and after school to construct, assemble and set-up the stage.

By Zack Flageolle



**ICE CREAM SANDWICHED** Guard Brett Bailey faces fierce opposition as he goes in for a layup. "It was an intense game because we were 17 points down and had to battle our way back," Bailey said about 50-49 Lion victory.

**FRIDAY NIGHT FEVER** Kasie Rueff, Tanya Loveland, Jana Young, Jill Merritt and Katelyn Choate lead the crowd in "YMCA" at the homecoming dance following the game. "I think a lot of people thought the dance would be lame and it ended up surprising all of us how fun it was," Loveland said.



## HOMECOMING ROYALTY

Front- Senior candidate Kasie Rueff, Homecoming Queen Kelly Carampatan, senior candidate Jana Young; Back - junior princess Jill Merritt, flower girl Kaylee Pierson, sophomore princess Becky Lucas, crown bearer Ashtin Young and freshman princess Mandie Adamson.



# what a girl WANTS

A TRADITION FOR 23 YEARS,  
THE ANNUAL MISS MANSFIELD  
PAGEANT STILL REMAINS  
A COVETED TITLE



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By Larry Dennis

## PICTURE PERFECT

**1. MISS MANSFIELD 2003** Ashley Borders strikes a pose after the pageant with Kasie Rueff, third runner-up; Melanie Davis, second runner-up; and Jill Merritt, first runner-up.

**2. MISS MANSFIELD 2002** Brenna Drakeford ends her reign by crowning after emcee John Hinsley announces Ashley Borders as the winner.

**3. JUNIOR MISS MANSFIELD** Amber Henry with first runner-up Katie Sherman; third runner-up Erin Schell; and second runner-up Audra Dierksen.

**4. YOUNG MISS MANSFIELD** winners are Stephanie Farmer, third runner-up; Casey Box, Young Miss Mansfield; Danyale Young, second runner-up; and Brittany Cruse, first runner-up.



1



## all that GLITTERS

**FOR MISS MANSFIELD** contestants, left, Melanie Davis, Amanda Delcour and Ashley Baty and right, Ashley Borders, Kasie Rueff and Chasity Olive, spending a busy afternoon getting ready later means playing the waiting game. The oldest division is the last competition of the evening, which lasts about three hours.

**SHOE-IN CONTESTANT** Backstage, Savanna Cornelius takes a break from other contestants who are singing and dancing. Cornelius, who competed in Young Miss Mansfield, said her shoes were a little tight on her feet.





"My aunt convinced me to enter Miss Mansfield because she thought I would win. Then I actually did win and I was really suprised."

—Amber Henry, Junior Miss Mansfield



**LITTLE MISS MANSFIELD** winners are third runner-up Katlyn Hanson, second runner-up Amanda Davis, first runner-up Kaylee Pierson and Little Miss Mansfield Tiffany Jones.



By Eli Helms

#### **LONDON BRIDGE**

Playing a game with Leanna Leckenby, FCCLA members, supervise candidates in the choir room. FCCLA adviser Teresa Hinsley and members organized the event, set up the stage and kept the pageant running smoothly as John Hinsley, science teacher, ran the show up front.



By Eli Helms



**MIRROR MIRROR** Sara Henley touches up her lipstick before Miss Mansfield division contestants compete. An out-of-town panel of judges ranks contestants on appearance, poise, smile and stage personality.

**HELPING HANDS** Melissa Edwards, Tiffany Jones and Jessica Houke pass the time with a hand game. As contestants move to the stage area, they seal on smiles and step into the more serene environment.



# Portland

## On the Oregon trail

FOR PUBLICATION STUDENTS, GETTING AROUND PROVES TO BE AS MUCH FUN AS WINNING AWARDS



**CRUISE CONTROL** Jana Young takes a hand at navigating staffers on a day trip to the Columbia River Gorge National Scenic area, an 80-mile stretch of 77 waterfalls that tumble from glaciers and Mt. Hood's snow-fields. They also drove down the Pacific coast highway and explored downtown Portland.

**BREATHTAKING SCENERY** "I'll never forget the 2.4 mile round-trip hike up Multnomah Falls (left). It was worth it once we got to the top and saw the spectacular view," said Jana Young, referring to a steep trail the group climbed to a view point overlooking the upper falls. Multnomah Falls stands 620 ft. high as the nation's second highest year-round waterfall.



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**Lord of the Rings:** "Justin and I stopped at a jewelry stand owned by a crazy dude who hadn't cut his hair in years. After I gave him \$20 for a ring, he said, 'Hey, could you guys...like...watch my stand for a minute and...like...make sure it doesn't run away?' Oddly enough he didn't wait for a reply and ran off. About five minutes later, he returned with a soda and my change." —Eli Helms at Portland's open-air Saturday Market

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## making connections

For the third year in a row, the El Leon staff earns a national Pacemaker award

**1. EMERALD BEAUTY** Hiking into a cool, misty canyon, students discover a world of natural springs, roaring cascades and flora and fauna. "I was really glad the convention was in Portland. It's just one of those places I wouldn't have traveled to on my own. Columbia Gorge is the best."  
—Justin Kingery

**2. NEXT STOP?** Looking for evening entertainment, Kingery, Helms, Bricker, Young and Pettibone locate Rock Bottom Cafe on the Max rail map. The light rail system links hotels to the convention center, downtown and airport.

**3. STROLLING DOWN** West Burnside Street, Young and Bricker make their way towards Powell's Bookstore, the world's largest used and new retail bookstore. It occupies a full city block and three stories.

**4. PICKING UP THE PACE** Publication students April Pettibone, Jesse Bricker, Jana Young, Eli Helms and Justin Kingery pose outside the Portland convention center with plaques won at the JEA/NSPA National Spring Convention in April. Staff members and adviser Betsy Wight were recipients of a 2002 National Yearbook Pacemaker award, 4th place in Best of Show and induction into NSPA's Hall of Fame.

**5. GAZING ACROSS** the Pacific Ocean, April Pettibone drinks in the stunning view at Cape Mears Lighthouse. The historic beacon lighted the way for ships since 1890. The coast, less than 80 miles west of Portland, is a major attraction for watching migrating whales and beachcombing.



Photos by Eli Helms and Justin Kingery



# Escape to paradise

JUNIORS TRANSFORM DAILY DESTINATION INTO TROPICAL GETAWAY

## 1. UTILITY MAN

Adam Bennett deals with tangled rope before hanging twinkie lights from the ceiling for prom. For the first time in 35 years, juniors hosted the event at school.

## 2. MEN AT WORK

Tyler Rummens, Zack Flageolle, Cody Elliott and Zac Blevins assemble an arbor for a red carpet grand entrance. Juniors constructed the South Seas setting for three days in the commons area.

## 3. CUTTING IT CLOSE

April Butcher cuts gossamer for a dropped ceiling as Amanda Sherman and Kathie Williams hold the fabric taut. Decorations included a starlit sky, 10 ft. beach scenery backdrops and neon lit palm trees.

## 4. ALOHA!

Senior class sponsor Kelly Brazeal greets Casey Delapp with a lei after she arrives on the red carpet. School Board members served as valet parkers for students' vehicles.







**1. SELF-SERVE** Zac Blevins, Brent Jones, John Blaine, Leanne Moody and Jill Merritt line up for heavy hors d'oeuvres which included deli-style sandwiches, cheese and crackers, vegetables, dips and freshly cut fruit.

**2. PROM- ROYALTY** First runners-up Brett Bailey and Whitney Hannaford; Queen Kelly Carampatan and King Justin Kingery; second runners-up Cody McCleary and Kasie Rueff; and third runners-up Cory Letsinger and Alisha Stewart. Juniors voted for seniors by secret ballot.

**3. ALL HANDS** Zack Flageolle saves Garret Keith from a vest dilemma. Prom goers wore a range of attire from camouflage and traditional tuxedos to shimmering, vibrant gowns.

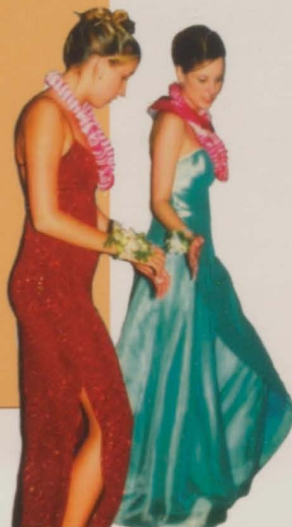
**4. TWO STEPPIN'** Whitney Hannaford and Kasie Rueff review dance steps on the floor. TKO DJ's from St. Louis entertained with music, videos, light shows and games.

**5. MORNING DO** Taking time and and pain-staking effort, Mandy Rokusek and her hairstylist go all out for a vintage look. "It didn't move for days," Rokusek said.



"At first I was a little nervous, but then I found out it was pretty easy; I just had to turn in circles."

—Cody Elliott dancing above with Ashley Eichelberger



# prom



## forward thinking

**1. AT EASE** Heather Menefee shares a laugh with her parents after receiving a gift. Middle School graduation exercises were held for 44 eighth graders in the gymnasium.

**2. FUTURE TENSE** Ryan Scott nervously chews on his nails during the welcoming speech delivered by Lauren Rummens, Student Council president.

**3. YOUNG & RESTLESS** Erick Benson dances in his seat to piano music while the rest of his class receives their diplomas. Graduates wore red, white and blue gowns and supported a patriotic theme with "You're a Grand Ole Flag," "This Land is Your Land," "Yankee Doodle" and "God Bless The U.S.A."

**4. CAUGHT IN THE MOMENT**

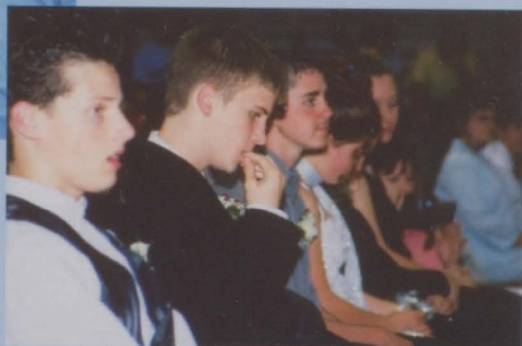
Crossing the stage, Kaylee Melton accepts her diploma from Don Sanders, elementary principal. The class graduated 44 kindergartners.

**5. THREE'S COMPANY** In the recessional, Kristen Wallace, Shyan Webster and Deleah Jones make their way up the aisle where they are greeted by well-wishers and camera wielding family members.

**6. ON STANDBY MODE** Dalton Borders glances curiously past Kimber Stout and Jordan Lebahn as the group silently awaits the presentation of diplomas to the rest of their classmates. Later in the program, Borders and Lebahn delivered parts in the closing speech.



By Leanne Moody



By Eli Helms

Mindset: "I'm looking forward to changes that high school will bring, but I'm also a little worried that classes will be harder."  
— Andy Morris

# graduation



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By Eli Helms

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FOR KINDERGARTNERS AND EIGHTH GRADERS,  
GRADUATION MARKS THE NEXT BIG THING

# Stepping UP

By Eli Helms



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**1. SINGING A NEW TUNE** Bobby Cubellis, Lauren Rummens and Paige Hoover perform "We are the Children of Tomorrow" with the eighth grade ensemble directed by Eric Spyres, vocal music teacher. Later in the program, soloist Audra Dierksen (inset) sang "We've Only Just Begun."

**2. SHAKE AND TAKE** Superintendent Arlene Magnin awards Samantha Morris with her diploma as Freddie Doherty, middle school principal, announces names. The Class of 2007 included 44 students, down in number from past years.

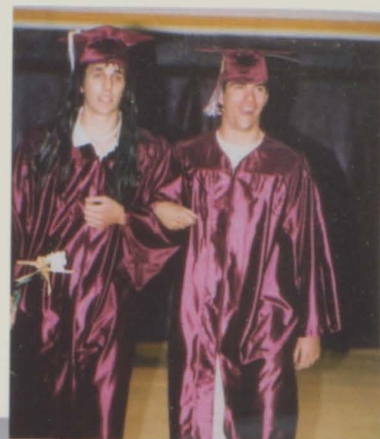
**3. SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE** Class President Brett Essary addresses his fellow classmates and the audience with anecdotes from middle school experiences. "I can't remember all the girlfriends I had because, let's face it, I'm a ladies man!" Essary joked.

**4. MAKING AN ENTRANCE** Toby Shelhamer escorts Melissa Johnsen in the processional to their respective seats. Shannon Waldo, instrumental music teacher, served as accompanist.

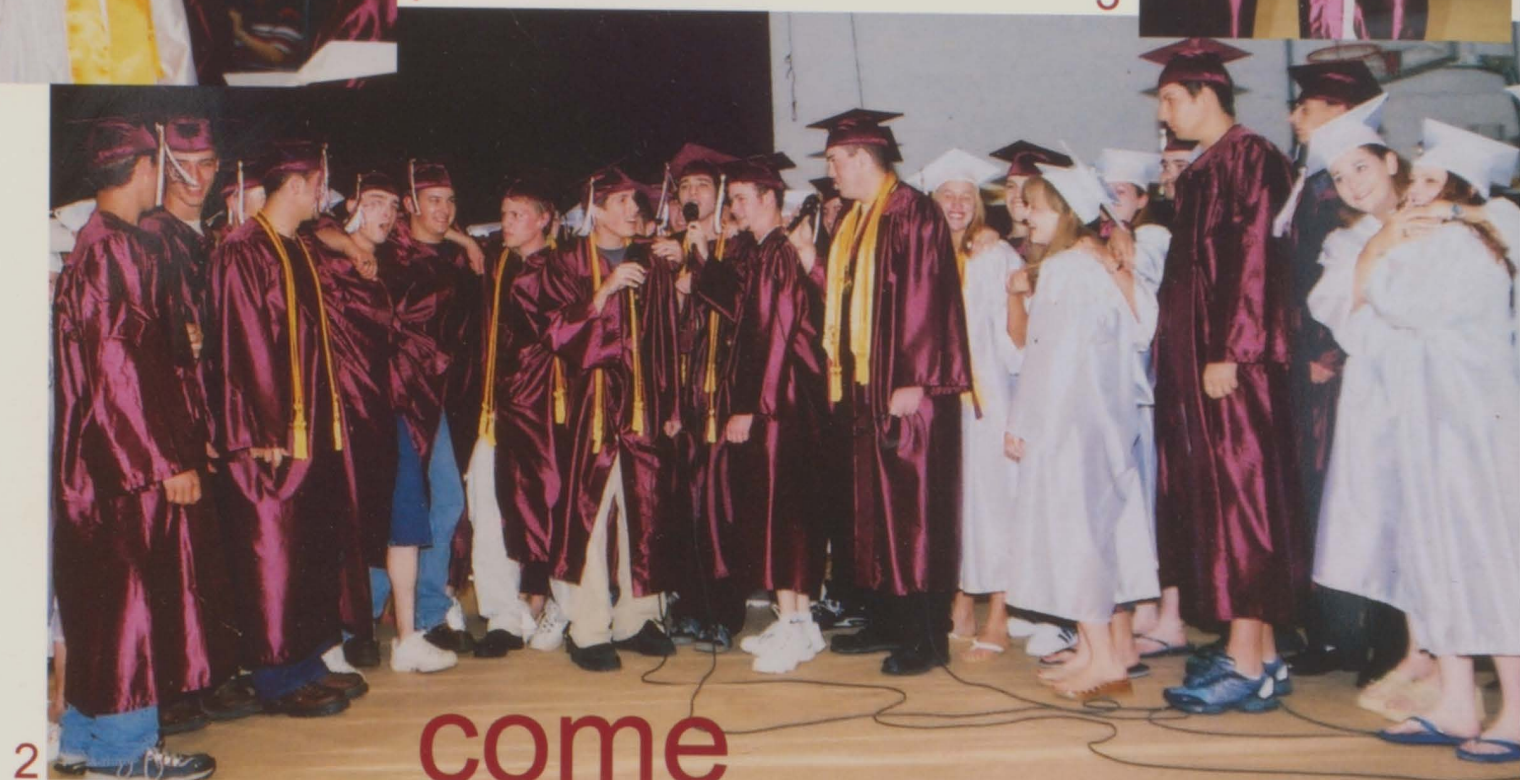




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come

together

By Eli Helms



Dustin Dixon and Melissa Sherman

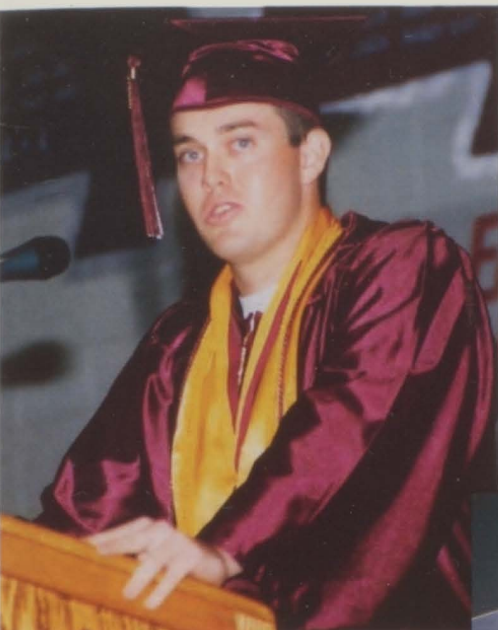
THE CLASS OF 2003 FINDS UNEXPECTED  
COMRADERIE FROM A 30-YEAR-OLD HIT SONG  
AT THE FINALE OF HIGH SCHOOL



# graduation

**jungle gym:** "When I saw Christian walk in with that wig on, I thought it pretty much summed up our class—wild animals."

—Jordan Cantrell on commencement



4



Tina Crain and Cory Letsinger

5



6



1

**READY, AIM, FIRE** Jana Young celebrates with the Class of 2003, by taking a shot in the silly string war. "I was aiming for Lisa who had hit me and I accidentally drilled Amanda Delcour in the face," Young said.

2

**UNITED THEY STAND** As the trio of Brett Bailey, John Blaine and Tim Brazeal perform "Stand By Me," classmates moved by the words spontaneously walk up to sing along and embrace each other. By the end of the song, the heartfelt event had most graduates either laughing or crying.

3

**WIGGED OUT** Prankster Christian Eichelberger adds humor to a serious occasion as he and Brent Bishop walk in the procession. Eichelberger, who took off the hairpiece after he sat down, raised eyebrows and giggles in the crowd.

4

**HEAD OF THE CLASS** Valedictorian Tim Brazeal reminds his classmates: "This is the day we take our own path to the rest of our lives. We may get only one shot at opportunity, so we had better make it count. I thank the teachers for pushing us every day to make us succeed." After Brazeal, Salutatorian Jennifer Calhoun's

speech emphasized the importance of letting God be a part of one's future. In the fall, Brazeal will attend SMSU-West Plains and Calhoun, Southwest Baptist University, Bolivar.

5

**IN HARMONY** Ashley Borders, Kendra Smith and Kelly Carampatan blend voices in the song "Dreams to Dream." Eric Spyres, vocal music teacher, directed the senior ensemble.

6

**LEFT OVER RIGHT** After shaking hands with Max Greene, school board president, Tony Lockmon receives his diploma. Behind them, Superintendent Arlene Magnin calls the next graduate in line to the stage.

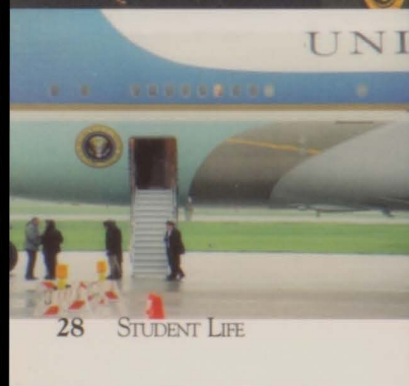


# THE 2003

# BEST

**STORIES | OPINIONS | ISSUES | EVENTS | STATISTICS | TRENDS**

**E**ach August resets the school calendar and begins the countdown to yet another milestone. And each yearbook provides moments, on the cusp, between ending and beginning to reflect on our past and to salute our future. In a six-page section, we chronicle the year's biggest stories, opinions and issues in the public debate.



1

## When the President comes to town

Regardless of one's political persuasion, the experience of seeing a U. S. president up close is stirring and inspiring. On two different occasions, MHS teachers and students saw President George

W. Bush at a Republican rally for Senator Jim Talent (left) and when Bush arrived to inspect tornado damage in southwest Missouri. Staff photographer Eli Helms happened to be job shadowing at KORL-10 and covered Bush's arrival on Air Force One (far left). "It was non-stop chaos from the moment I arrived," said Helms, who assisted with the station's coverage. "Turns out they were shorthanded so I helped with set up and wore a live feed headset to communicate messages back and forth with the station. It was an awesome opportunity."

Photos by Debbie Sanders and Eli Helms



2

## Center of attention

Opening of community center serves as local gathering spot for students

By TIM SHELHAMER

The old saying, "build it and they will come" proved true when the Mansfield Community Center opened its doors to the public in December.

The community center features a college-size wood floored gymnasium, walking track, exercise room, weight room, youth activity room, meeting room, kitchen, locker rooms and offices.

"I think it's a good place for teens to go instead of being bored at home," said sophomore Brittany Borders. "Parents would rather have their kids hang out in the community center than other places they might not trust."

A main attraction for students is

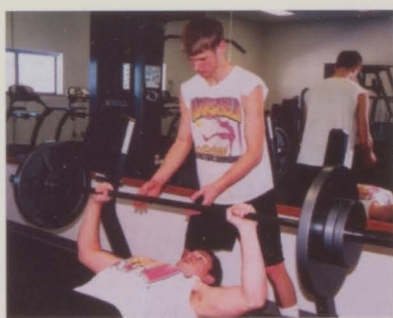
the youth activity room which includes a big screen television, air hockey, table tennis, foosball, study area and computer stations.

Average daily attendance ranges from 200 people on weekdays to more than 300 people on weekends according to Director Becky Davis.

The center's gymnasium and weight room has been advantageous to the high school basketball teams who can schedule afternoon practices when the school's gymnasium is occupied.

In addition, the center offers special programs including children's sports leagues, aerobics, martial arts, Weight Watchers, basketball tournaments and co-ed volleyball.

"I think it is a good place for kids to hang out," said sophomore Sara Henley. "This might help the town of Mansfield grow."



**ON THE MUSCLE** Cody Whorton spots for Paul Moody in the community center's weight room. Beside free weights, the room features a series of Cybex equipment.

3

## Meet the folks

Freshman orientation, open house



**BRAVE NEWWORD** At freshman orientation, teacher Kathleen Barnett explains a new class to Kima Harris, parent of Ryan Harris. The new course, Study Skills, is designed to give freshmen more tools with which to succeed. ■ Hannah Maggard, right, and her parents Brent and Catherine Maggard, listen to Doug Jones, physical science teacher, explain his class procedures. The Maggards were one of 30 families who took advantage of freshman orientation.



By Debbie Sanders

**GETTING TO KNOW YOU** Parents John and Edith Elliott listen as Michell King, math teacher, compares their responses to son Cody's on a "How well do you know your child" trivia quiz at open house. ■ Fifth grader Casey Box, right, sponges off a square of paper she made in art teacher Holli Kristek's middle school classroom at open house.

4

## How have you used the community center?

"Pommers use it for practice.

The aerobics room, with its mirrored wall, helps us break down our dances."

—Kasie Rueff, '03



"I go to the community center all the time to use the weight room."

—Dakota Branham, '05

"Every day or night I go to play basketball and lift weights. It's better than sitting at home."

—Cody Whorton, '04



"I work out everyday and play basketball. I love the weight room, especially the ab machine."

—Melanie Davis, '05

"She has a right to her *opinion*, but she shouldn't have said it in front of all those people *in London*." —Drew Berry '05 on Dixie Chick singer Natalie Maines's criticism of President Bush which cost them airplay, fans and controversy.

"I watched all the *coverage* until the news conference was over. The public wants to know but sometimes I think we *violate* the families' *privacy*." —Jill Merritt '04 on press coverage of the shuttle Columbia tragedy



# OPINIONS



Jackson's ever-changing looks

## 1 What's With Michael?

By KRISTEN QUICK

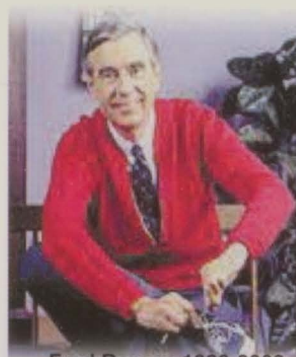
HAVE YOU FOUND yourself thinking: What's with Michael? You're not the only one. We've grown accustomed to his bizarre life, which includes him and his children wearing masks in public and his ever-changing face. But recent actions have gone

too far. First Jackson dangled his infant son over a hotel balcony. When journalist Martin Bashir interviewed him, Jackson said: "The media is wrong. I love my children. I was holding my son tight and strong. Why would I throw a baby off the balcony?" We wondered too. Then *Vanity Fair* reported that Jackson paid \$150,000 to have "voodoo curses" put on people from his enemy list, including director Steven Spielberg and music mogul David Geffen. Jackson needs to tone his antics down or get out of the public eye. Some things are meant to stay at Neverland.

## 2 It's a sad day in the neighborhood

By DULCI LANCASTER

ZIPPING HIS BURGUNDY sweater and tying his tennis shoes, while singing "It's a Beautiful Day in the Neighborhood." Talking to the trolley in Make-Believe Land and feeding his fish twice within the half-hour show. These are images I remember from *Mister Rogers' Neighborhood*, the public television show that aired for over 30 years.



Fred Rogers 1928-2003

By Lynn Rogers

Fred McFeely Rogers, role model to many children, died of stomach cancer on February 27 at age 74. With his gentle voice, Mr. Rogers taught us how to share and love others and also how to deal with feelings and concerns like anger and trust. In the comfort of our living room, he taught us manners, compassion, kindness and

learning can be fun. Mr. Rogers will always be loved and a part of our neighborhood.

## 3 Reality Plights

By ALEX MILLER

EVER SINCE the debut of *Survivor* and *The Real World*, networks have gone wild over the concept of reality-television. *The Amazing Race*, *The Mole*, *Big Brother*, *Fear Factor*, *The Bachelor*, *Joe Millionaire* have dominated programming. The bottom line is that networks have gone overboard. Many crashed and burned; others triggered sequels

with the same basic idea: outlasting everyone else.

Contestants go to extremes with flashing dollar signs to entice them. This hook is particularly evident in *Fear Factor*. Contenders are so crazed over cash that they make the unthinkable thinkable.



Once contestants competed for \$50,000 by eating spaghetti made of slimy worms and pig blood. These ideas are demented.

Yet, as ludicrous as it is, reality-TV is surviving the real world. We watch as people like us eat rats to win a million dollars, back stab others or find their soul mate in six episodes. We know these shows are stupid but we still watch in amusement. The tribe has spoken or in this case, the viewers.

### Get Real

NETWORKS FLOOD prime time with reality shows. Some of these shows have little or no value or reality to them. For example, *The Osbournes* features a cussing, dysfunctional family whose pets make messes on the floor. Who wants to watch that? —Virginia Sherman, sophomore

### Gas Prices

I really have to watch how much I drive

these days, even if it means cutting back on my favorite hobby—cruising. —senior Dustin Dixon who estimates he cruises three hours daily instead of five due to high fuel costs.

### PDA Policy

Students should be able to hold hands and hug, but I am against kissing even though I may sometimes want to. —freshman Hollie Jordan about why the PDA policy needs clarification



4



AMERICAN IDOL I finalists

## AMERICAN IDOL

### FOX, advertisers the real winners

"After three months, 14 weeks and 98 days, nearly 20 million people tuned in as 20-year-old Texas native Kelly Clarkson battled Justin Guarini, 23, for the crown of American Idol. People either loved or hated this show; I just didn't understand all the fuss. Most people I talked to said they watched "to get a good laugh." Debuting in June, the show became a cultural phenomenon, regularly ranking in the Nielsen top 15 and pulling in strong numbers with 18-34 year olds, an audience prized by advertisers." -Mandy Rokusek, Gazette reporter

WE ASKED and you told us (boy, did you ever tell us) about all the things you like and how you stand on issues. From your favorites in sports and music to television and film, 90 students delivered the goods. Here are the results of a random stratified survey:

1

What was your favorite sport to watch?

1. Basketball
2. Football
3. Other (NASCAR, golf, paintball, etc.)



How would war with Iraq affect your daily life?

- It would affect everything in my life - 30%  
It would affect somethings in my life - 68%

7

2

What was your favorite sport to play?

1. Basketball
2. Baseball and Softball (tie)
3. Football

Should the words "Under God" in the Pledge of Allegiance be ruled unconstitutional?

- No - 94%  
Yes - 6%



8

3

Who was the most noteworthy athlete?

1. Fernando Vina
2. Dale Earnhart JR
3. Barry Bonds



Who was this year's best actor?

1. Vin Diesel
2. Mel Gibson
3. Josh Hartnet



9

4

Who was your favorite musical artist?

1. Eminem
2. Good Charlotte
3. Nelly



What was your favorite show this year?

1. CSI
2. Friends
3. The Simpsons



10

5

What was your favorite album this year?

1. "Eminem Show"-Eminem
2. "The Young and the Hopeless"-Good Charlotte

What was your favorite movie this year?

1. Lord of the Rings: The Two Towers
2. Triple X and Goldmember (tie)
3. Sweet Home Alabama and The Ring (tie)

11

6

Which is more important to you?

- Stopping terrorism - 64%  
Not losing any of my freedoms - 31%

Who was this year's best actress?

1. Reese Witherspoon
2. Jennifer Lopez
3. Liv Tyler



12





**ROAD SCHOLARS** Faculty members Marcella Swatosh, far left, and John Hinsley cross their respective finish lines at the Nokia Sugar Bowl Marathon in New Orleans. Swatosh finished the half-marathon (13.1 miles) in 2:28.06; Hinsley ran the full marathon (26.2 miles) in 5:32:42. Swatosh said the mid-February race offered the flattest course and fit their training timeline.



When three teachers set their sights on running in their first marathons, the path to success included rocky roads, honest dedication and inspiration from unlikely sources

## Catch them if you can

BY JUSTIN KINGERY

For months a sign taped to Michell King's door read, "I am going to run a marathon." Though students appeared skeptical, their doubts about this math teacher's resolve faded when King showed up on Mondays talking about 3, 5, 11 and eventually 18-mile training runs with Marcella Swatosh, English teacher.

With motivations stemming from turning 30 to having babies, the two embarked on a 20-week training schedule, having registered for the Nokia Sugar Bowl Marathon in New Orleans.

"I knew a lot of people thought I couldn't do it," King said. "That is like the ultimate challenge for me—to tell me I can't do something."

Later, the two teachers

discovered colleague John Hinsley, middle school science teacher, would be competing. "I decided to run because I turned 40, and I just wanted to prove to myself that I could actually do it," he said.

Through five months of training, Hinsley remained healthy, but King and Swatosh weren't so lucky. Two months before the February race, King suffered a stress fracture in her right foot, forcing her to discontinue training for four weeks.

Eight days before the event, Swatosh fell down the stairs of her home and stretched ligaments in her left foot. When the doctor examined the bruising and pain, he advised her not to

run the full marathon for fear of causing further foot damage.

"The doctor's news depressed me because I had trained for so long," she said.

### The Race: February 16

At 7:00 a.m., some 6,200 runners lined up under gray skies of downtown New Orleans in 45-degree weather for the race. As the national anthem played and moments of silence were held for the Columbia crew and troops abroad, runners' thoughts ran the gamut.

Near the starting gate Hinsley said he peered up at the Super Dome and imagined himself wearing a Dallas Cowboy jersey getting ready to take the field for a Super Bowl game.

Swatosh said she focused on the half-marathon. "When they played the Star Spangled Banner, I felt like an Olympian before a race," she said. "I was running only to finish, but I still felt competitive."

At the gun, runners sprinted by the thousands. It took two minutes to reach the starting line. Mansfield's three runners kept pace until the last leg of their races. King and Swatosh said they faced difficult moments around mile 11 of 13.1 when pain became unbearable.

"My foot pulsed as it pounded against the hard pavement," Swatosh said. "My muscles ached and I found it difficult to stay focused."

"I couldn't feel my legs



A lot of people thought I **couldn't** do that; that's like the ultimate **challenge...**"

Michell King, math teacher

**CAJUN CELEBRATION**  
After completing their races, runners, family, friends and a toothless waiter pose for pictures while having dinner at a local restaurant.

2

## MO Coaches Hall of Fame inducts Doug Jones

**R**ecord breaking performances from Lions' baseball teams in the late '80s and '90's put MHS on the map for its winning program and Coach Doug Jones into the Missouri High School Coaches Hall of Fame.



PRINCIPAL RANDY SHORT presents Doug Jones, baseball coach, with a plaque of appreciation on behalf of the Board of Education for 15 successful years. Earlier Jones had been inducted into the MO High School Coaches Hall of Fame. Short also had served as the team's assistant coach.

Fifteen former players surprised Jones at Athletic Awards Night when they filed in to congratulate him.



"These guys are part of a great tradition," Jones said acknowledging their contributions. "They were part of something we probably didn't appreciate enough."

**THE GOOD OLE DAYS** Former Kansas City Royal pitcher Bart Evans '89 shares a story about a bus incident with Jim Freeman, Jeremy Jones, Jon Freeman, James Barnett and Barry Short at the Athletic Awards. "People classify Mansfield by our baseball team. We have a lot of respect for him," Evans said. Jon Freeman said jokingly, "I never realized I wasn't any good until I got in college. We kept on winning because he said we could."

3



"This **locker** had to be the worst I've ever seen. Among the trash, we **found** antlers, a **red high heel**, spaghetti in tupperware, a **tangerine**, an umbrella and **dirty socks**"

-Bobby Moore, janitor

by mile 11," King said. "At one point, I was really dragging and some guy ran up next to me and asked if I was okay. He ran with me for a little while until I got my pace back. He was really encouraging."

In the full marathon (26.2 mi.), Hinsley ran steadily for

division. Knowing I wouldn't succeed at all three if I didn't pick up the pace motivated me enough to run until the end."

All three teachers finished. Each claimed the race to be more exciting and challenging than expected.

Nearing the finish line,

King said she saw people waiting and screaming. "I suddenly felt no pain and sprinted as fast as I could for the finish. I told myself I wouldn't do something corny like raise my hands

above my head but as you get closer to the line and everyone cheers for you, it's just a reflex."

Hinsley said since he set his goal to finish in less than five hours, he has planned his next race to "take care of unfinished business." ■

"My foot pulsated as it **pounded** against the hard pavement. My **muscles ached** and I found it difficult to **stay focused.**"

-Marcella Swatosh about mile 11

the first 19 miles, but the final seven proved to be the toughest of his life.

"I hit the wall at mile 19," he said. "As I stopped to walk for awhile, I thought about my three goals: to finish the race, not finish dead last, and not finish dead last in my



# teamwork

## emotion



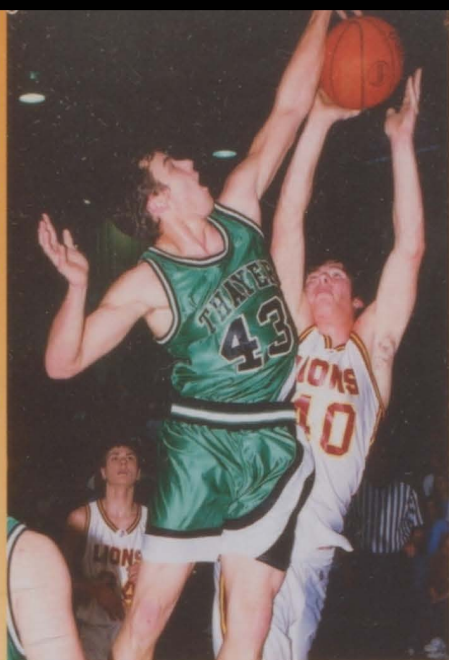
**PARTING SHOT** Forward Cody Corder, right, gets rejected by a Thayer opponent in district action at Norwood. The Lion's 39-37 OT loss to the state-ranked Bobcats wrapped up their season, but not before new coach Darren Taylor guided the team to a Summit Conference title and produced a few unlikely wins along the way. ■

**SAND BOX** Shortstop Lisa Chambers, left, awaits a throw in a dust storm kicked up by a Conway runner at second base. Chambers who lead the team in hitting was named MVP. ■

**COMING UP, GOING DOWN** Power pitcher Cody Whorton delivers a fastball to a Sparta batter in a 3-2 home loss to the I-A state champion Trojans. Whorton, a junior, emerged as the team's No. 1 starter and his consistent performances helped the Lions stake the Summit Conference title. *Photos by Eli Helms*







grinding  
suspense

# Sports

By Justin Kingery,

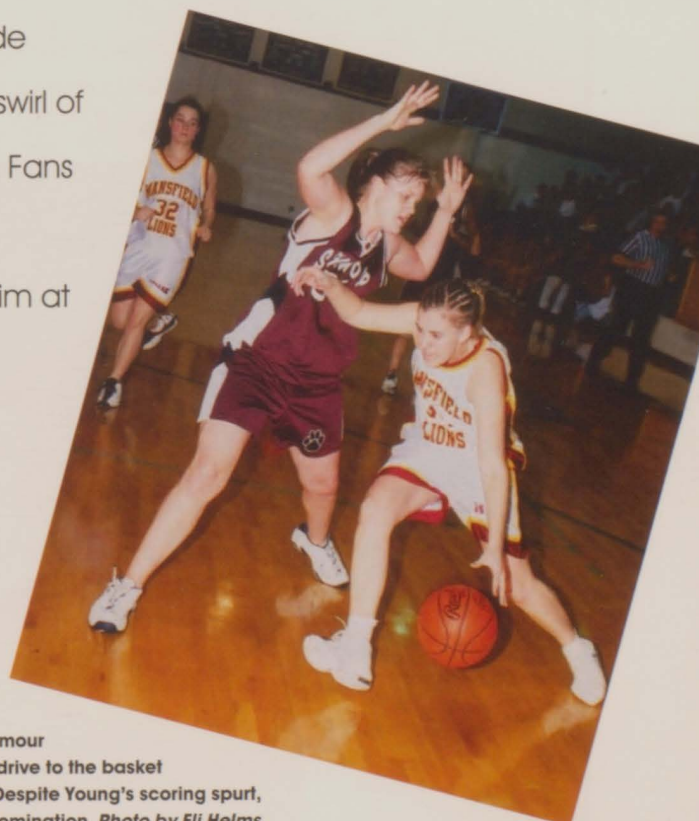
Jesse Bricker

& Jana Young

How far can you go?

Forget wrestling crocodiles and eating worms. Lion pride provides its own challenges and prime time action: a swirl of dancing mascots, kicking dancers and blaring bands. Fans break out in maroon and gold and become delirious. Coaches turn red in the face. Jump shots flirt with the rim at the buzzer. Winners collapse into piles while losers try desperately to fight back tears. The Lions delivered all this and more by record-breaking performances, knocking off heavily favored powerhouses and winning conference titles in basketball and baseball.

success



**FORWARD THINKING** Casting off a Seymour defender, guard Jana Young prepares to drive to the basket in a fourth period turnaround at districts. Despite Young's scoring spurt, the Lions could not stop consistent Tiger domination. Photo by Eli Helms



# Kick it up a notch

The Lions turn up the heat on opponents, snatching a long-awaited conference title

**IT WAS A STRONG SHOW** for a team getting used to a new coach and a slew of seniors, making up the majority of the squad.

The Lions launched an assault on their opponents and garnered a 15-9 season record, 6-0 Summit Conference record, the first time in nearly a decade.

Eventually, the Lions experienced their biggest high and low when they fell one layup short in overtime in the second round of district play against Thayer 39-37.

"Oh, we should have won," said guard Brett Bailey. "That was one of the worst games I played all season, and it had to be the last game I'll ever play," said guard Brett Bailey.

After the game, Coach Darren Taylor said he felt the team executed their game plan extremely well.

"We held down two all-state players and kept them off the boards," Taylor said. "The obvious shortfall would be free-throws. It's hard to win a big game and go 2-9 from the line," he said.

Other season highlights included the annual Mansfield/Hartville rivalry where the Lions defeated the Eagles 67-52. Forward Travis Clouse said the team wanted to play well for Coach (a former Hartville coach) and that motivated them to play harder.

At Athletic Awards Night, Taylor acknowledged the comradery of the team. "They are good friends and I'm proud they all made it through," he said, recounting their season's success.

In junior varsity action, the players earned a 15-3 record, remained undefeated in the conference and won second in the Norwood Tournament.

## GETTING THE JOB

done, point guard Justin Kingery drives in for two of his 19 points on the night against Conway. Seniors Kingery and forward Cody Corder were All-Conference players along with honorable mention Brett Bailey. Photos by Eli Helms



## Honor Roll

- Most Valuable Player - Justin Kingery
- Free Throw Award - Justin Kingery
- Defense Award - Brett Bailey
- Hustle Award - Cody Corder
- 1,000 Point Career Scorer - Cody Corder

### All-Conference Team

Justin Kingery, Cody Corder  
Brett Bailey- Honorable Mention



# Score Board

## MHS

## Opponent

|    |                |    |
|----|----------------|----|
| 59 | Plato          | 45 |
| 48 | Cabool         | 46 |
| 54 | Seymour        | 48 |
| 65 | Fordland       | 59 |
| 51 | Forsyth        | 57 |
| 38 | Catholic       | 59 |
| 36 | Strafford      | 47 |
| 47 | Mtn. Grove     | 60 |
| 56 | Lutie          | 43 |
| 52 | Fordland       | 41 |
| 82 | Houston        | 70 |
| 67 | Hartville      | 52 |
| 31 | Hartville      | 39 |
| 62 | Gainesville    | 54 |
| 57 | Cabool         | 50 |
| 50 | Forsyth        | 65 |
| 50 | Conway         | 49 |
| 60 | Seymour        | 50 |
| 61 | Gainesville    | 60 |
| 61 | Norwood        | 48 |
| 67 | Ava            | 70 |
| 36 | Willow Springs | 45 |
| 68 | Seymour        | 59 |
| 37 | Thayer         | 39 |

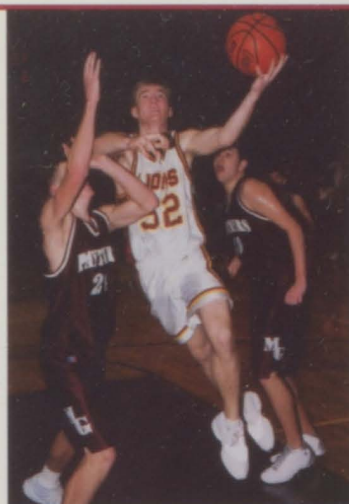
**Varsity Record: 15-9**

**Conference Record: 6-0**

**Junior Varsity Record: 15-6**



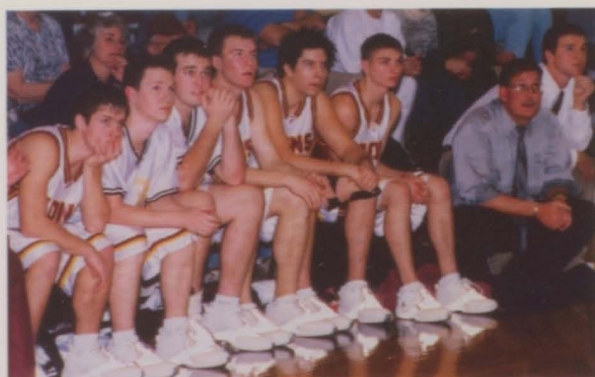
**VERTICAL LIMIT** Center Cody Corder, left, attempts to gain possession at the jump of the district game against Thayer. The Lions ended their season in overtime 39-37.



By Eli Helms

**POWER SURGE** Forward Craig Campbell, left, taps in two points in a home game with Seymour. "I worked extra hard after practice because I wanted to play more varsity," he said.

■ Above, Forward Drew Berry finds his way to the basket in a home game against Mt. Grove. The Panthers beat the Lions 60-47.



**TENSION MOUNTS** as players, Coach Darren Taylor and Asst. Coach Adam Cook wait the outcome of a referee's call in the Homecoming game against Conway. The Lions slipped by the Bears 50-49 with a basket from guard Jordan Cantrell in the final 30 seconds. ■ **CLOSE LINED** Freshman guard Blake Miller draws a foul from Thayer's Tim Eckman as Miller steps to shoot a lay-up after stealing the ball in district play.



**JUNIOR VARSITY** Left- Asst. Coach Adam Cook, Kendall Findley, Tim Shelhamer, Craig Campbell, Drew Berry, Tristan Dennis, Tom Brazeal, Adam Keith, Evan Jones and Coach Darren Taylor.



**VARSITY** Front- Travis Mason, Tim Shelhamer, Kendall Findley, Brent Jones, Blake Miller, Justin Kingery; Back- Asst. Coach Adam Cook, Craig Campbell, Tim Brazeal, Drew Berry, Travis Clouse, Cody Corder, Jordan Cantrell, Brett Bailey and Coach Darren Taylor.



## Track & Cross Country

# Heart & Sole

Long distance runners dig deep to perform at their personal best



**AT THE GUN**, varsity runners sprint from the starting line in the Mansfield Invitational meet. A field of 10 schools competed on the 3.1-mile course, considered one of the conference's best.

JUST AS COOL, winds began to signal autumn, the cross country fall season heated up for four long distance runners.

"All runners at one time or another lead our team," said Coach Darren Taylor, at the Athletic Awards Night.

Competing in nine meets, the cross country team included junior Jordan Cantrell, sophomore Craig Campbell, freshmen Adam Keith and Zachery Levan.

"Even though it's a team sport, it takes individual heart because competition is from within," Taylor said.

For sophomore Craig Campbell, the road led him to the highest level-state, where he placed 150 out of 175 runners and finished in 22:35.

"I was excited just to be there," Campbell said of his first state competition. "It was the toughest course I

have ever run."

Campbell said the experience gave him insight about running on hilly terrain.

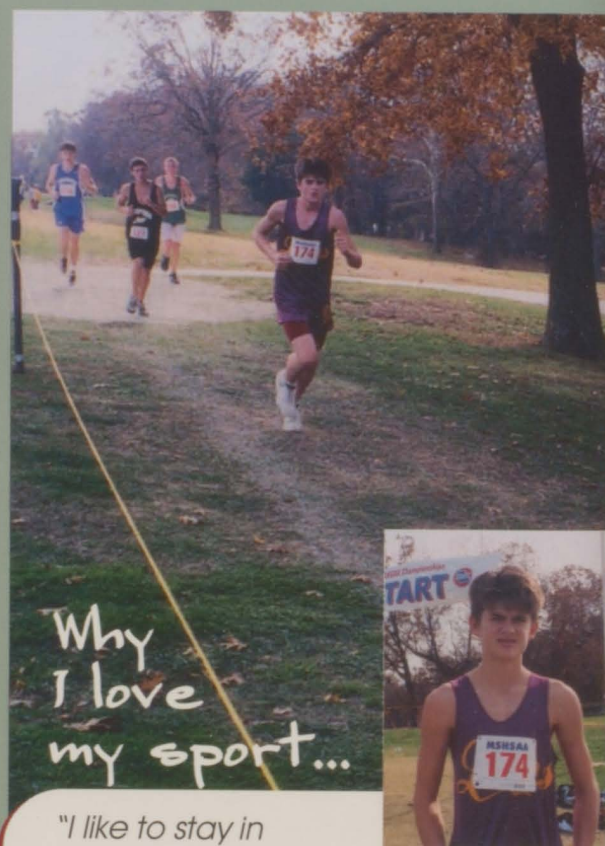
"The key was to keep a steady pace and not overexert myself too soon in the race," he said.

Besides the fun of competing, Campbell said cross country offers him an additional benefit.

"It keeps my stamina up and makes conditioning for basketball a lot easier," he said.

On the All-Conference Team, MHS had two runners including senior Jordan Cantrell, place six and freshman Zach Levan, place eight.

**HAPPY TRAILS** Sophomore Craig Campbell paces himself in the state course in Jefferson City. The 3.1-mile track offers runners flat to rolling terrain, scenic views and hilly foothill trails.



"I like to stay in shape, and it's fun to beat other people. Cross country is a sport that anybody can do."  
—sophomore Craig Campbell, state cross country contender



**FEELING THE PAIN**, Zachery Levan makes the final lap of the Mansfield meet, just behind a Hollister runner. Levan placed 30 with a time of 18:57.



**TRACK TEAM** Craig Campbell, Tanya Loveland and Amanda Hilton (not pictured) are recognized for their effort in the short season at Athletic Awards Night. "Even though they weren't very successful, they gave it their best and represented Mansfield very well," said Don Luster, track coach. In four meets, the trio competed in the following events: Campbell-high jump, 400m, 800m and long jump; Loveland-100m, 800m and long jump; and Hilton-400m.



**BEFORE THE RACE**, junior varsity runners Craig Campbell and Adam Keith stretch out before competing in the Mansfield meet. Later in the race, Keith (right) stays strong as he loops through the city park. Keith's first effort earned twelfth place in 19:23.



**TOUGH GOING** Jordan Cantrell attempts to finish strong in order to slice a few seconds off his time. "Running cross country gets me in shape for basketball," Cantrell said, "plus I didn't want to hear about not finishing from Craig Campbell."

## for the record

● **MEET SITE:** Plato  
RESULTS: Zachery Levan, place 11, time 20:34; Craig Campbell, place 26, time 21:40; Jordan Cantrell, place 31, time 22:38.

● **MEET SITE:** Mtn. Grove  
RESULTS: Levan, 12, 19:28; Cantrell, 13, 20:22; Campbell, 15, 20:40.

● **MEET SITE:** Pleasant Hope  
RESULTS: Campbell, 40, 21:53; Cantrell, 45, 22:44; Levan, 46, 22:55.

● **MEET SITE:** Conway  
RESULTS: Cantrell, 26, 20:19; Levan, 28, 20:30; Campbell, 34, 20:50.

● **MEET SITE:** Licking  
RESULTS: Levan, 38, 19:48; Campbell, 45, 20:31; Cantrell, 46, 20:32.

● **MEET SITE:** Mtn. Grove  
RESULTS: Levan, 23, 19:47; Cantrell,

36, 20:24; Campbell, 38, 20:32; Junior Varsity - Adam Keith, 10, 21:31.

● **MEET SITE:** Mansfield  
RESULTS: Levan, 30, 18:57; Cantrell, 37, 19:25; Junior Varsity - Campbell, 9, 19:20; Keith, 12, 19:23.

● **MEET SITE:** Fordland - Conference  
RESULTS: Cantrell, 6, 20:12; Levan, 8, 20:21; Campbell, 11, 20:40; Keith, 14, 21:44.

● **MEET SITE:** Rogersville - Districts  
RESULTS: Campbell, 14, 19:30; Levan, 16, 19:47; Cantrell, 29, 20:13; Keith, 31, 21:18.

● **MEET SITE:** Jefferson City - State  
RESULTS: Campbell, 150, 22:35.





# Girls' Basketball

Envisioning their potential gave Lady Lions an outbreak season

## A TASTE OF SUCCESS

WITH A VETERAN ROSTER of seven lettermen and three senior leaders, the Lady Lions accumulated a respectable 15-11 record and tied for second place in the Summit Conference with a 3-2 standing.

"Our real challenge was believing that we could beat the really good teams instead of just being content with playing with them," Coach Sunny Rost said.

In district play, the third-seeded Lions breezed by Dora 71-14, advancing to face conference rival Seymour in the second game. The two teams had split victories earlier in the season, but when the final buzzer sounded, the Lady Lions fell 59-45.

"It was heart-wrenching," said guard Alisha Stewart. "It's the worst feeling to know you lost your last game in high school to a team you already beat."

KEEPING HER KNEES bent and eyes on the ball, guard Alisha Stewart, right, prepares to steal the ball from a Seymour offender. The Tigers defeated the Lions in district action 59-45. ■ Tanya Loveland, left, and teammate Danielle Banner battle for a rebound in a game against Fair Grove. Loveland and Banner combined for 10 points in a 41-31 loss in the Mansfield Invitational Tournament.



Photos by Eli Helms

"Playing under the basket is a very physical battle. All the girls like to

claw and scratch

and I'm constantly on the ground for loose balls."

—Tanya Loveland, forward

TANYA LOVELAND

forward

8.2 Rebounds per game



## Lessons from the locker room

"Playing basketball taught me the importance of setting goals and to never give up until I achieve them. I'm glad I did because now basketball will help pay for my education."

—senior Jana Young, who signed with Mid-America Nazarene University, Olathe, KS

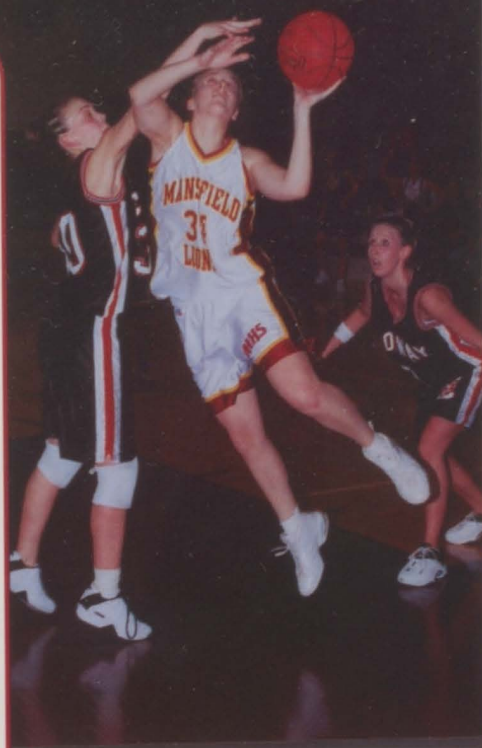


Photo by Justin Kingery



**BATTLING BULLDOGS** for possession, center Danielle Banner (left) and guard Becky Lucas (right) wrestle for balls against Cabool. The Lions defeated the Bulldogs 53-50 in the varsity game and 16-4 in junior varsity action.



**BASKETBALL TEAM** Front - Leanne Moody, Jana Young, Megan Hicks; Row two - Tanya Loveland, Natasha Dixon, Alisha Stewart, Ashley Baty, Jacki Feldhaus; Back row - Assistant Coach April Morris, Mandie Adamson, Amanda Neal, Jesse Bricker, Danielle Banner, Becky Lucas and Coach Sunny Rost.

# Score Board

## MHS

## Opponent

|    |                |    |
|----|----------------|----|
| 63 | Willow Springs | 54 |
| 92 | Lutie          | 49 |
| 40 | Mtn. Grove     | 27 |
| 42 | Gainesville    | 43 |
| 56 | Sparta         | 54 |
| 45 | Mtn. Grove     | 40 |
| 31 | Fair Grove     | 41 |
| 49 | Licking        | 51 |
| 56 | Gainesville    | 57 |
| 31 | Catholic       | 51 |
| 84 | Dora           | 22 |
| 63 | Hartville      | 71 |
| 30 | Billings       | 47 |
| 37 | Norwood        | 26 |
| 66 | Plato          | 41 |
| 74 | Mtn. View      | 34 |
| 53 | Cabool         | 40 |
| 44 | Licking        | 65 |
| 37 | Ava            | 57 |
| 76 | Seymour        | 73 |
| 70 | Conway         | 55 |
| 53 | Forsyth        | 31 |
| 63 | Seymour        | 78 |
| 57 | Fordland       | 49 |
| 71 | Dora           | 14 |
| 45 | Seymour        | 59 |

**Varsity Record: 15-11**

**Conference Record: 3-2**

**Junior Varsity Record: 3-11**

## Honor Roll

- Jesse Bricker - Most Assists (4.4 pg)
- Tanya Loveland - Most Rebounds (8.2 pg)
- Jana Young - Best Offense (16.8 ppg)
- Tanya Loveland - Best Defense
- Jana Young - 1,000 Point Career Scorer
- Ashley Baty - Highest Free Throw Percentage (72.8%)

## All-Conference First Team Selection

Jana Young, Ashley Baty





# Baseball

Lions make  
mechanical  
adjustments  
necessary  
to keep an

## Eye on the Summit

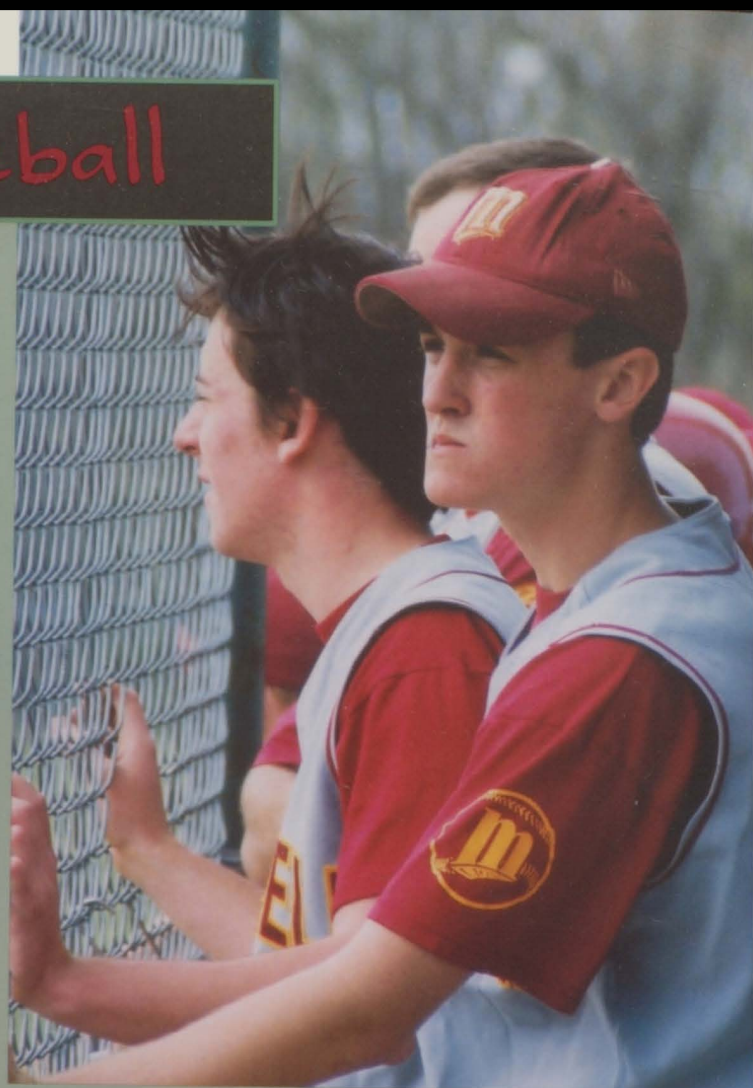
**FIRST THINGS FIRST** For the boys' baseball team, their priority meant recapturing the Summit Conference Championship, a title the Lions had owned in 2001 but proved elusive in 2002. Geared up for another title run, the Lions finished 20-11 for the spring and fall seasons and undefeated in the Summit Conference.

**HIGHLIGHTS** - Right-hander Cody Whorton struck out eight batters and was a walk away from a five-inning-no-hitter in a conference game against Norwood. The 11-0 win against the Pirates notched a 6-0 conference record.

**KUDOS** - "The varsity seems to be getting more confidence at the plate, but hitting and fielding both need work." -Coach Doug Jones

**KEY TO SUCCESS** - "Our pitching is our strength, and we are pretty well rounded offensively and defensively." -Tim Brazeal, first baseman

**CHALLENGES** - "After a .485 batting average in the fall, I hit a slump in the spring and batted an all-time low. It's mentally tough when you either strike out or pop out." -Justin Kingery, second baseman



By Eli Helms

**ARMING FOR THE TOP** Third Baseman Garret Keith and second baseman Justin Kingery watch from the dugout as their teammates get the job done at the plate, shutting out Norwood 11-0. The win sealed the Summit Conference championship and set the team back in a winning tradition.



Why  
I love  
my sport

"I have a high pain tolerance  
plus I love the game and  
didn't want to be taken out."

-Pitcher Brian Jones about the last three  
games of the season where he was  
spiked three times and hit in the mouth  
with a ball that took a bad hop



**DOWN AND OUT** Second baseman Brian Jones attempts to dodge the Hartville catcher but the umpire calls him out in a conference game where the Lions plucked the Eagles 10-2.





By Lois Findley

**SOUTHPAW**  
**TRAVIS CLOUSE**  
 unleashes a pitch  
 against a Kickapoo  
 batter in an away  
 game. The class 5-A  
 Chiefs scalped the Lions  
 11-1. ■ **SLIDE**  
**RULE** Pinch runner  
 Tom Brazeal beats the  
 ball into second in a  
 home game against  
 Conway. The Lions  
 defeated the Bears 6-5.



By Lois Findley



**HOMECOMING** Catcher Kendall  
 Findley readies himself for a throw  
 from third in a junior varsity home  
 game against Seymour. The Lions  
 whipped the Tigers 7-0.



**BASEBALL TEAM** Front - Cody Whorton, Tom Brazeal, Kendall  
 Findley, Adam Keith, Evan Jones, Blake Miller, Paul Moody; Row Two - Zack  
 Flageolle, Ryan Harris, Brian Jones, Ryan Loge, Taylor Thompson, Eric Bricker,  
 Tyler Rummens, Garret Keith; Row Three - Coach Doug Jones, Tim Brazeal,  
 Cory Letsinger, Brent Jones, Justin Kingery, Travis Clouse, Asst. Coach Nate  
 Moore.

# for the record

## Conference Games

| MHS | Opponent    |   |
|-----|-------------|---|
| 12  | Seymour     | 2 |
| 10  | Gainesville | 0 |
| 7   | Hartville   | 5 |
| 6   | Conway      | 5 |
| 7   | Fordland    | 2 |
| 11  | Norwood     | 0 |

Fall & Spring Record: 20-17

Junior Varsity Record: 17-5-2

Conference Record: 6-0

## Honor Roll

- **All-Conference Team** - Tim Brazeal, Garret Keith, Cody Whorton; Kendall Findley - Honorable Mention
- **Defense Award** - Blake Miller
- **Least strike-outs** - Kendall Findley; 6 in 72 at bats
- **Highest batting average** - Tim Brazeal
- **Most Valuable Player** - Cody Whorton



**LAYING DOWN**  
 a bunt Brent Jones  
 attempts to move  
 runners around the  
 bases in the Conway  
 game at home. ■  
 Taking the field, the  
 Lions do the hustle  
 against Seymour,  
 sweeping by them  
 10-0.





# Spirit Squad

Turns, leaps and pirouettes. When pommers take the floor, it's their job to make the place roar

## GOLDRUSH

SMALL IN NUMBERS but big in performance, the MHS Sweethearts shook up Lion mania with 16 different routines at athletic events and pep rallies.

The nine-member squad picked up most of their dances at summer camp in Warrensburg, MO, according to senior Kendra Smith. They came home with Spirit Sticks for each day and 19 blue ribbons, which required fewer than two mistakes per dance.

"This year was actually our best year at camp," Smith said. "We worked harder and won more blue ribbons than any previous year."

Sponsor Teri Leonard's philosophy: "Can't learn the dance, can't perform the dance," motivated pommers to work hard.

To prepare for performances, the girls practiced three days a week from 6-8 a.m., the bulk spent learning new routines and/or perfecting previously learned routines. Their jazzy, funk-style routines became intense cardiovascular workouts at times.

"Our Homecoming dance was very long and that made it very stressful," said freshman Katelyn Choate, a first-year dancer. "All the different counts and moves required extra time."

Senior Ashley Borders, described by Leonard at Athletic Awards Night as a "hard worker with a good attitude" said a person needs dance potential as well as a willingness to be taught.

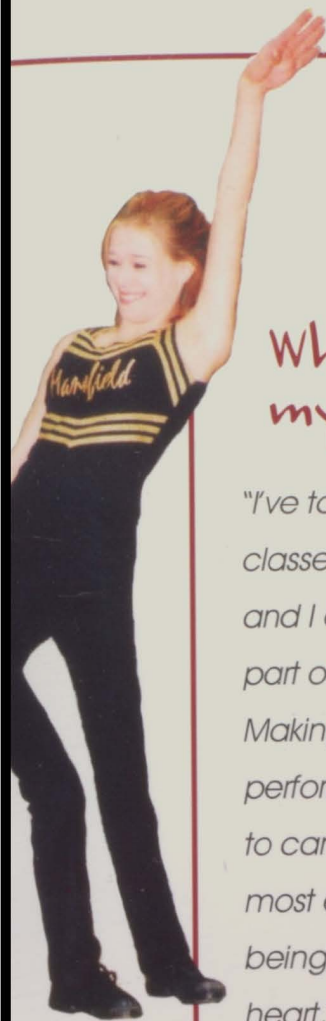
"If you are just out there to show off your stuff, you aren't going to get anywhere," Borders said.



Captain Kasie Rueff, left, and Katelyn Choate with Co-captain Whitney Hannaford, above, and Kendra Smith. By Eli Helms

"Captain Kasie Rueff has been such a great leader on the squad. We have appreciated her very much, and her hard work will be greatly missed."  
-Sponsor Teri Leonard at Athletic Awards Night



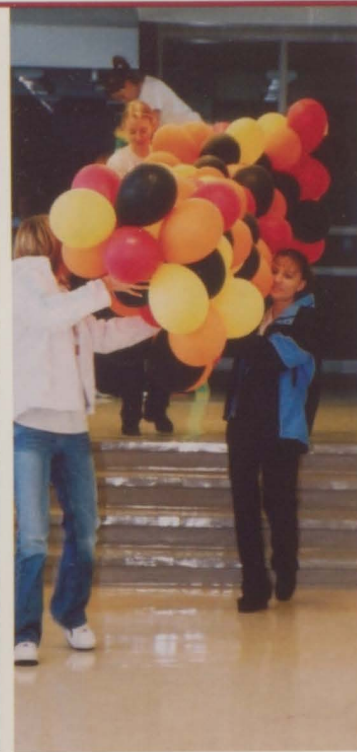


## Why I love my sport

"I've taken dance classes all my life, and I enjoy being a part of the team. Making up dances, performing and going to camps are the most exciting parts of being a MHS Sweet-heart."

—senior Kendra Smith

**STRETCHED OUT** MHS Sweethearts perform "Pour Some Sugar On Me," to a packed house at Homecoming. The 5-minute routine, a mix of 80's music, involves complex moves and kicks which they prepare for weeks in advance.



**PUMP UP THE SPIRIT** CLOCKWISE: Prior to Homecoming, Katelyn Choate and Kate Probert paint cafeteria windows with players' names and upbeat slogans. ■ Using the theme "Hearts Afire, the group heads to the gymnasium lobby with a balloon arch to welcome students and alumni. ■ LeAnn Kendall, Melanie Riley and Brittany Borders hang streamers in the commons area to foster pride and a sense of excitement on campus.



**SPRIT SQUAD** Ashley Borders, Captain Kasie Rueff, Brittany Borders, Kendra Smith, Co-Captain Whitney Hannaford; back standing - LeAnn Kendall, Virginia Sherman, Kate Probert and Katelyn Choate.



**CHEERLEADERS** Rebecca Barlett, Mascot Hailey Sue Stacey and Jessica Williams. Behind the scenes, they helped decorate for special athletic events to promote school spirit. ■ A rowdy crowd, below, takes an active role in the Lions' 61-48 attack on Norwood in a home basketball game.





# Softball

## Fall back, spring forward

Battling inexperience and inconsistency, the fight for a positive season proves to be a learning experience

**FINISHING THE FALL** season with a 3-13 record, the Lady Lions entered spring softball with hopes of redeeming themselves.

"In the fall we just couldn't seem to all play together as a team on the same night," said second baseman Jill Merritt, comparing the team's mental attitude to riding a rollercoaster.

Freshmen contributions proved necessary in order to win as the spring season progressed. With five of nine starters coming from the ninth grade, the team was young but learning quickly.

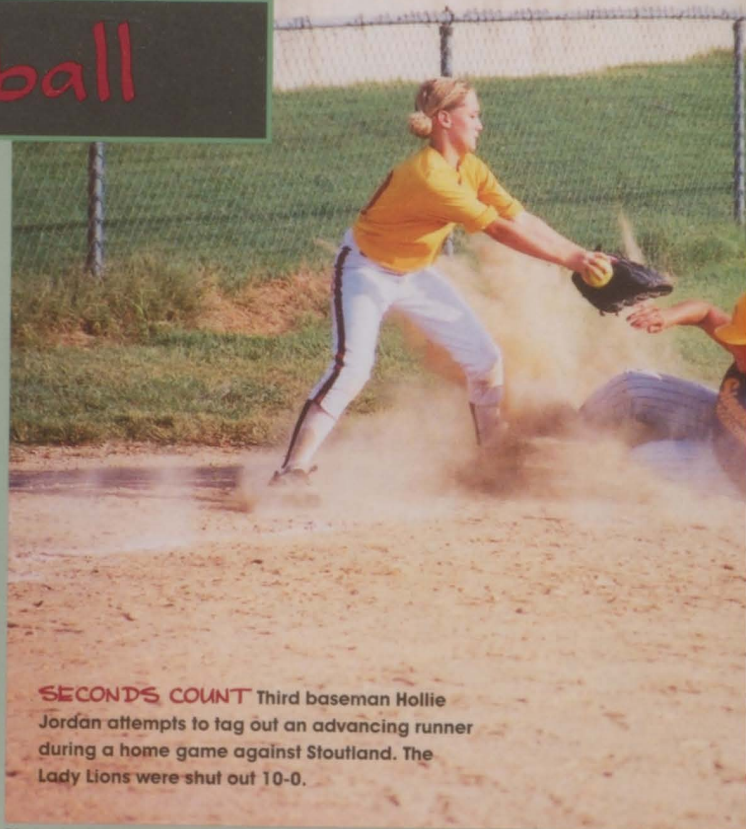
"It really helped the team when the younger girls started stepping up," said first baseman Amanda Delcour. "That pushed us to practice harder when we had to compete for positions."

The Lions proved successful in the end with a 7-5 spring season record, but more importantly with the

newfound skill of working together as a team. "The fall season was a learning experience for the younger girls who had never played before," said Assistant Coach Wilda Watterson. "They helped push the older players and gained valuable knowledge of the game along the way."

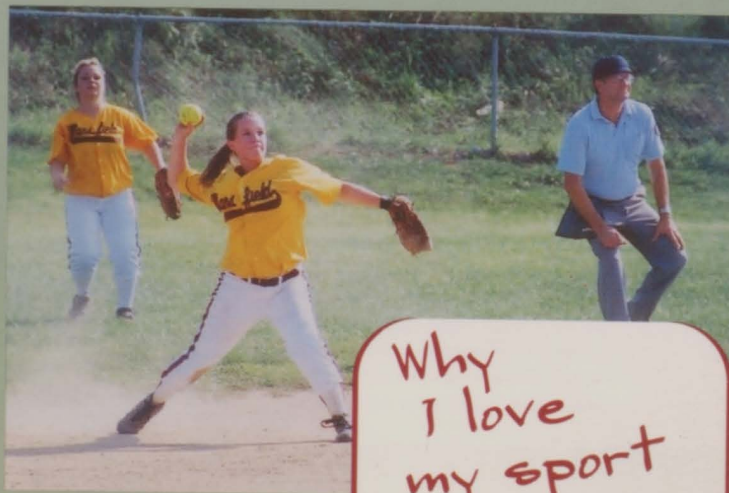


**LET HER RIP**  
Catcher Leanne Moody takes an aggressive look at a pitch in a game vs. Conway. Moody held the team's highest on-base percentage (.600).



**SECONDS COUNT** Third baseman Hollie Jordan attempts to tag out an advancing runner during a home game against Stoutland. The Lady Lions were shut out 10-0.

Photos by Eli Helms



**STEP AND THROW**  
Shortstop Lisa Chambers throws to first base for an out against Norwood. The senior standout, who was named to the All Conference and All District teams signed on to play in the fall for Brown-Mackie College in Kansas.

*Why I love my sport*

"Playing softball increased my work ethic and made me strive to accomplish the most I could as a player and a teammate."

— senior Lisa Chambers, Most Valuable Player



**LET IT FLY** Pitcher Megan Sowers delivers a pitch to the plate in a match against Seymour. Sowers was one of five freshmen in the varsity's starting lineup.



**CHANGE OF PLANS** Coach Roger Wood takes a trip to the mound in a home game to emphasize "keeping your heads in the game" with the varsity.



## for the record



**SOFTBALL TEAM** Front - Megan Sowers, Leanne Moody, Amanda Delcour, Lisa Chambers, Katelyn Choate, Jill Merritt; Row two - Brittany Borders, LeAnn Kendall, Sara Henley, Erin Schell, Jessica Taylor, Hollie Jordan, Chrystina France; Row three - Coach Roger Wood, Kayla Hilton, Synthia Bannister, Melanie Riley, Lindsey Hopping, Amanda Neal and Assistant Coach Wilda Watterson.

### MHS

### Opponent

|    |             |    |
|----|-------------|----|
| 4  | Seymour     | 15 |
| 7  | Norwood     | 0  |
| 11 | Conway      | 9  |
| 5  | Fordland    | 15 |
| 0  | Hartville   | 10 |
| 11 | Chadwick    | 8  |
| 7  | Norwood     | 0  |
| 0  | Hartville   | 15 |
| 21 | Fordland    | 10 |
| 0  | Gainesville | 10 |
| 0  | Seymour     | 15 |
| 10 | Conway      | 7  |

**Varsity Record: 7-5**

**Conference Record: 6-5**

### Honor Roll

- **Most Valuable Player** - Lisa Chambers
- **Best Defense** - Amanda Delcour
- **Hustle Award** - Jill Merritt
- **Highest Batting Avg.** - Lisa Chambers (.381)
- **Highest On-base Percentage** - Leanne Moody (.600)

### All-Conference Selections

Lisa Chambers, Amanda Delcour, Jill Merritt (HM)

### All-District Team

Lisa Chambers



## Middle School Boys' Basketball

# As tough as it gets

Injuries, disappointing performances leave young Lions searching for the road to success

FINDING THEIR WAY into the winner's circle proved to be a hard fight for the middle school boys' basketball team.

The rosters, which consisted of nine seventh grade players and only five eighth graders, battled inexperience and struggled to post +9 (eighth) and 2-10 (seventh) season records.

Forward Danny Thompson, an eighth grader, said he tried to concentrate on fundamentals. "To win games you have to do the little things so that is what I really tried to make myself work on," he said.

In mid-season, the eighth grade team encountered a major setback to its five-man roster when Thompson suffered a dislocated knee and was unable to play for the remainder of the season.

However, Joey Neal, eighth grade guard, said he remained positive about the season. "The best part of basketball season was riding the bus and hanging out with my friends," he said.

**SCRAMBLE** Guard Andy Morris fights for a loose ball in a home game against Norwood. The Pirates edged the Lions 44-42. ■ Forward Preston Goss, right, drives down the sideline during an eighth grade game against Conway. The Bears stomped the Lions 52-32. Photos by Eli Helms



"I worked really hard in practice and in my spare time on my three point shot. I knew if my percentage was better, it could help the team WIN."

—Andy Morris, guard

ANDY MORRIS  
eighth grade guard



# Score Board

## Seventh Grade

| MMS |             | Opponent |
|-----|-------------|----------|
| 12  | Fordland    | 27       |
| 27  | Gainesville | 53       |
| 29  | Hartville   | 44       |
| 46  | Sparta      | 36       |
| 37  | Seymour     | 32       |
| 26  | Fordland    | 35       |
| 24  | Gainesville | 43       |
| 16  | Seymour     | 32       |
| 25  | Norwood     | 34       |
| 14  | Seymour     | 38       |
| 21  | Hartville   | 38       |
| 21  | Conway      | 46       |

## Record 2-10

## Eighth Grade

| MMS |             | Opponent |
|-----|-------------|----------|
| 30  | Fordland    | 29       |
| 30  | Gainesville | 50       |
| 43  | Hartville   | 56       |
| 61  | Sparta      | 45       |
| 55  | Seymour     | 56       |
| 42  | Fordland    | 42       |
| 42  | Norwood     | 44       |
| 48  | Seymour     | 66       |
| 42  | Skyline     | 41       |
| 50  | Plato       | 52       |
| 47  | Hartville   | 58       |
| 32  | Conway      | 32       |

## Record 4-9

**ONE HAND** Forward Danny Thompson shoots a jump shot over two Norwood defenders in a home game. Thompson scored 23 points in the Lions' 44-42 loss.

## Lessons from the locker room

"We were winning when we had Danny but it's tough to lose a player, no matter who it is."

**-Guard Marcus Sherman referring to teammate Thompson's injury**



**TEAM TALK** Coach Adam Cook calls timeout to discuss floor strategy. "Coach would tell us to take an open shot and look for people in the low post," said forward Quentin Berry. ■ Guard Chandler Veit, left, attempts to deny a pass in a seventh grade home game against Conway. The Lions were defeated 46-21.



**SEVENTH GRADE** Front - Kody Adamson, Chandler Veit; Row Two - Dustin Taylor, Daniel Pharris, Cory Walker, Matt Leonard; Row Three - Heath Carnall, Quentin Berry, James Stafford, Coach Adam Cook.



**EIGHTH GRADE** Front - Preston Goss, Coach Adam Cook, Joey Neal; Back - Andy Morris, Danny Thompson and Marcus Sherman.



# Score Board

## Eighth Grade

| MMS | Opponent    |    |
|-----|-------------|----|
| 21  | Fordland    | 36 |
| 34  | Gainesville | 26 |
| 22  | Hartville   | 39 |
| 15  | Sparta      | 47 |
| 19  | Seymour     | 37 |
| 18  | Fordland    | 21 |
| 14  | Norwood     | 44 |
| 19  | Seymour     | 30 |
| 23  | Skyline     | 11 |
| 17  | Norwood     | 38 |
| 16  | Hartville   | 36 |
| 18  | Conway      | 31 |
| 9   | Hartville   | 42 |

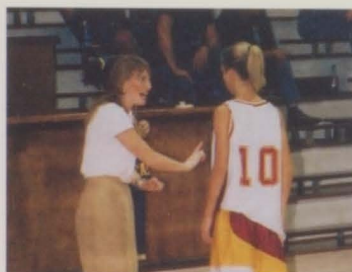
**Record 2-11**

## Seventh Grade

| MMS | Opponent    |    |
|-----|-------------|----|
| 12  | Fordland    | 24 |
| 29  | Gainesville | 23 |
| 24  | Hartville   | 39 |
| 13  | Sparta      | 30 |
| 23  | Seymour     | 43 |
| 22  | Fordland    | 24 |
| 25  | Seymour     | 41 |
| 23  | Gainesville | 25 |
| 38  | Norwood     | 29 |
| 21  | Seymour     | 39 |
| 21  | Hartville   | 24 |
| 21  | Conway      | 25 |

**Record 2-10**

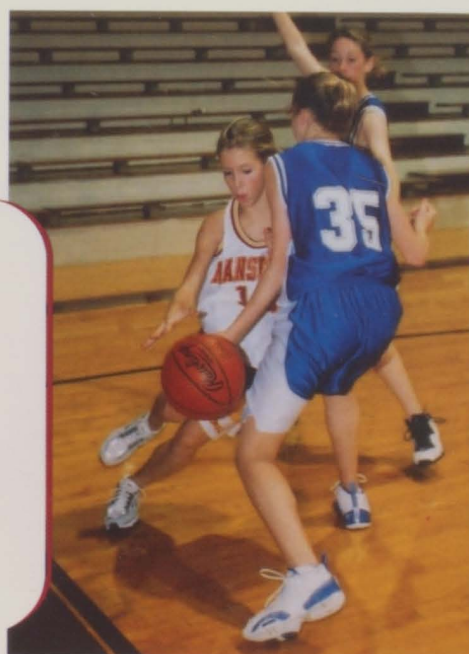
**HANDS OFF** Eighth grade guard Ashley Young edges her way past a Seymour defender in a home game. The Tigers thumped the Lady Lions 37-19. "Even though our record wasn't too impressive, we all stuck with it," Young said.



## Lessons from the locker room

"Coach Rost would tell me that I needed to drive the baseline. I decided to take her advice."

*-Paige Hoover, eighth grade guard above and right*



**SEVENTH GRADE** Front - Chelsea Jones, Katie Sherman, Summer Bannister; Row two - Melissa Morris, Spencer Deal, Morgan Scott, Kristin Adamson; Row three - Assistant Coach April Morris, Amber Henry, Sadie Vaverka and Coach Sunny Rost.



**EIGHTH GRADE** Front- Chelsea House; Row two - Paige Hoover, Lauren Rummens, Ashley Young; Row three - Assistant Coach April Morris, Kristin Campbell and Coach Sunny Rost.



## Middle School Girls' Basketball



# Forward march

Despite a deficit season, Lady Lions keep their sights set on improving play

WINNING ONLY TWO games in a season could be discouraging for most teams, but the MMS Lady Lions turned their 2-11 (eighth) and 2-10 (seventh) performances into learning experiences.

A good record is not necessarily what a season is all about according to Coach Sunny Rost. "I had a good group of kids who learned a lot throughout the season," Rost said. "The girls had little experience before junior high, but they made big strides in practice and in games."

While success was fleeting, guard Kristin Campbell said the effort paid off offensively. "When we would run the plays right, we did well," she said.

Amber Henry, seventh grade post, said the team's inexperience did prove disappointing on the court, but next season looked promising. "If we practice harder, we should be better next year," she said.



**COMING THROUGH** Seventh grader Sadie Vaverka tries to drive to the basket against a Seymour defender. The Lady Tigers beat the Lady Lions 43-23 in a home game.

*Photos by Eli Helms*

"When you love to play a sport, winning doesn't matter that much. Losing

does **get irritating,**

but you just have to stick with it."

**-Katie Sherman, point guard**



KATIE  
SHERMAN

seventh grade  
point guard



# struggles

## leadership

**FIRST THE FACTS** Jessica Williams, Chandler Veit and Amanda Hilton exit an assembly sponsored by SADD and area law officials to increase awareness about the destruction and consequences caused by drinking and driving. Earlier, students witnessed a mock accident staged on the First Baptist Church parking lot.

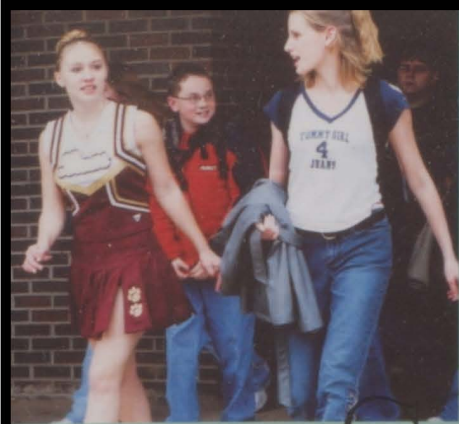


**REAL NUMBERS** Fifth grader Vince Miller, left, reviews mathematical concepts with Dallas Chambers, math teacher, before completing his homework. ■ On the road again, Kelly Brazeal, Brett Bailey, Becky Lucas, Kristin Quick and Cassie Sanders scan the side of Highway 60 for trash as part of Math Club's adopt-a-highway project.

*Photo by Eli Helms*







possibilities

*solutions*

# School Life

By Alex Miller,

Whitney Miller &

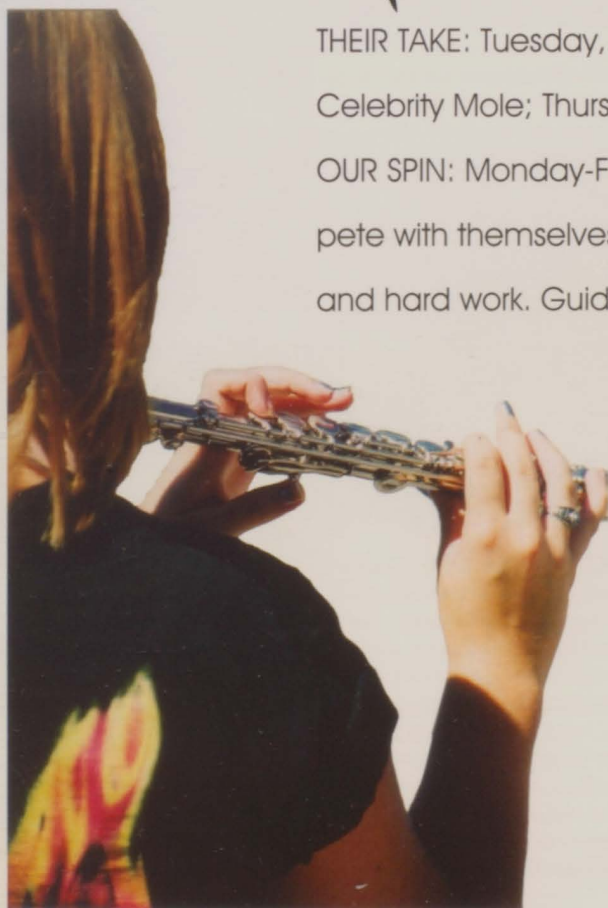
April Pettibone

## *Real time challenges*

THEIR TAKE: Tuesday, American Idol; Wednesday, The Bachelorette, Celebrity Mole; Thursday, Survivor, Are You Hot? and Joe Millionaire.

OUR SPIN: Monday-Friday, evenings and weekends. Contestants compete with themselves and others based on preparation, performance and hard work. Guided through vigorous "training camps" to educate

and excite, they witness internal organs of felines and voice views on the heated situation in the Middle East. The four-quarter epic exposes participants to unknown ideas utilizing the latest technology to achieve this goal. Outside the class, clubs and organizations are preoccupied with council meetings, parades, ceremonies, community volunteer work and positions of leadership.





# STRENGTH IN NUMBERS

From cleaning up highways to sponsoring an interactive math night, Math Club delivers en masse

**D**ecomposed cats, 25 pieces of silverware, dirty magazines and urine-filled gallon jugs ranked high on the gross list at Math Club's Adopt-a-Highway work day.

"We have 56 members, so we thought we could take on a larger project," said Michell King, math club adviser, referring to a two-mile stretch of Highway 60 between two Mansfield exits.

Prior to working, they viewed a safety video provided by MoDOT and then suited up in orange vests.

"The vests brought out the construction worker in me," said junior Garret Keith.

Junior Zac Blevins said jokingly, "We looked like a bunch of convicts!"

One student said she actually looked forward to the opportunity to pick up trash.

**"I really wanted to get out there because it was going to be a big help to the community. Cassie Sanders, freshman"**



By Eli Helms

**TALKIN' TRASH** Math club members, collecting bags of trash along Highway 60, stop to encourage a truck driver to honk. Adam Keith, inset, and Blake Miller search for litter along the 2-mile stretch between overpasses. The community service project takes about two hours depending on how many members participate.

On three different occasions, students gathered nearly 50 yellow bags of garbage for MoDOT collection. Divided into two teams, the work detail turned into a contest, according to King.

"I mean, how many students do you know who can find entertainment in gathering dead cats and empty bottles?" she said. "Now it's a club goal to break the record of horn honks every time we go out."



**IN DISGUISE** Freshman Sarah Moody assists Rachel Hash with a mask she made using a variety of geometric shapes at elementary math night. High school students manned a variety of stations that promoted fun ways to learn math concepts.







**CLOCKWISE FROM TOP: MAD SCIENTIST** Eli Helms takes part in a chemical reaction lab. The experiment demonstrated how chemicals interact with one another. ■ **SHIFTING GEARS** Physic student Derrick Richardson test drives a hovercraft down the ramp. Students built the craft with a fan, a leaf blower, a chair, a board and duct tape. ■ **DISSECTING A CAT** Becky Slate identifies the major veins and arteries in a cat. Human Anatomy students dissect felines during second semester. ■ **CONFERENCE CHAMPION** Cory Letsinger explains his environmental science project, "Passive Reactive Barriers in Phosphate Treatment," which also won first at the South Central Science Fair at Rolla.



## Math Awards

### Summit Conference

#### Gold Medal:

- Tristan Dennis, LeAnn Kendall, Cody Calhoun - pre-algebra
- Blake Miller, Adam St. Laurent, Kendall Findley - Algebra I
- Cassie Sanders, Michael Fuge, Julie Hutton - geometry
- Alex Miller, Tim Shelhamer, Craig Campbell - Algebra II
- Tyler Rummens, Cody Elliott, Josh Venable - advanced math
- Tim Shelhamer - Algebra II

#### Champion Trophy:

- Cassie Sanders - geometry
- Craig Campbell - Algebra II

#### Silver Medal:

- Julie Hutton - geometry

#### Blue Ribbon:

- Alex Miller - Algebra II

**Mansfield - First place overall**

### College of the Ozarks

#### Second Place:

- Blake Miller, Chelsea House - Algebra I

#### Fourth place:

- Alex Miller, Craig Campbell - Algebra I

#### Fifth place:

- Cassie Sanders, Julie Hutton - geometry

#### Sixth place:

- Tyler Rummens, Cody Elliott - open
- Zac Blevins, Josh Venable - trigonometry

**Mansfield - Third place overall**

**SUMMIT CONFERENCE** winners display their medals and trophies. **MHS won the overall trophy out of seven schools competing.**



### Pummill Relays SMSU

#### First place (overall):

- Alex Miller - Algebra II

#### Bronze Medal:

- Megan Sowers, Evan Jones, Cassie Sanders - geometry

## Science Awards

### Summit Conference

- Best in Show - Cory Letsinger
- Red ribbon - Brittany Hilton, Becky Slate

### Rolla Science Fair

- First place & \$100: Cory Letsinger
- Second place & \$75: Brittany Hilton

### SMSU West Plains

- First place - Cory Letsinger
- Second place - Brittany Hilton
- Conservation award plaque - Cory Letsinger



**MATH CLUB** Front— Michell King (adviser), Justin Kingery (president), Brett Bailey (vice president), Eli Helms (jr. rep.), Jennifer Calhoun, Tim Shelhamer, Megan Sowers, Jane Wehmeyer; Row two — Christian Eichelberger, Tim Brazeal, Zack Flageolle, Garret Keith, Brandon Grass, Kasie Rueff, Tanya Loveland, April Pettibone, Natasha Dixon, Jacki Feldhaus; Row three — Ashley Baty, Jesse Bricker, Jana Young, Melanie Davis, Becky Lucas, Cory Letsinger, Paul Moody, Katelyn Choate, Leanne Moody, Amanda Neal, Kate Probert; Row four — Julie Hutton, Mike Moody, Travis Mason, Craig Campbell, Alex Miller, Taylor Thompson, Tyler Rummens, Tom Brazeal, Mandy Rokusek, Cody Elliott; Row five — Trampus Hire, Blake Miller, Michael Fuge, Kendall Findley, Adam Keith, Mandie Adamson, Dulci Lancaster, Whitney Hannaford, Whitney Miller; Row six — Ryan Loge, Adam Smith, Evan Jones, Eric Bricker, Travis Clouse, Billy Newton, Josh Slater, Zac Blevins, Cassie Sanders and Kristin Quick.



**SCIENCE CLUB** Front— Alex Miller, Zack Flageolle, Garret Keith, Craig Campbell, Sarah Bennett (senior rep.), April Pettibone, Kate Probert, Jennifer Calhoun, Pam Probert (adviser); Row two - Tim Brazeal, Brett Bailey, Eli Helms (jr. rep.), Brandon Grass, Kasie Rueff (treasurer), Tanya Loveland, Alisha Stewart, Natasha Dixon, Jacki Feldhaus, Julie Hutton; Row three - Melanie Davis, Becky Lucas, Tim Shelhamer, Cory Letsinger (president), Paul Moody, Katelyn Choate (freshman rep.), Leanne Moody, Amanda Neal, Whitney Miller; Row four - John Blaine, Cody Corder, Taylor Thompson (soph. rep.), Tyler Rummens, Tom Brazeal, Cody Elliott, Ashley Eichelberger; Row five - Brittany Borders, Justin Kingery (vice president), Mandie Adamson, Megan Sowers, Kayla Hilton and Mandy Rokusek (secretary).



# A HELPING HAND

Agriculture  
& FFA

When senior Keith Newton unloaded his longhorn **COW** for Food for America, it went **wild**, kicking up **dirt** and swinging its **horns**.

"She's usually tame, but she has never ridden in a trailer before," said Newton, an FFA member. "As soon as I let her out of the trailer, I knew she would be trouble."

Newton and other FFA members brought their animals to school for Food for America, a day-long activity which educates kindergarten through fifth grade students about agriculture and how it affects their lives. The animals at the event ranged from a Paint horse to game chickens.

"The reason we do it every year is to inform kids about where their food comes from and to give FFA a good image," said Stan Coday, FFA adviser.

Besides Food for America, other events included a blood drive, a community breakfast, Barnwarming, Greenhand initiation and FFA Week.

**“I like joking with kids, teaching them what animals eat and how quickly they grow.”**

*Taylor Thompson, sophomore*



By Eli Helms

**BUG OUT** Displaying his entomology collection, junior Alex Newton discusses origins and species of beetles to third graders at Food for America. FFA members bring in their animals to introduce elementary students to agriculture and to make them more aware of how it affects their daily lives.



**BARNWARMING ROYALTY** Sophomores Shawn Singh and DeOndra Camall, top, win Barnwarming King and Queen with senior candidates Kendra Smith and Travis Hilliard, junior candidates, middle, Alex Newton and Samantha Ousley and freshman candidates, bottom, Nick Price and Hannah Maggard. FFA members chose winners using penny-a-vote method.



**MAKING A DEPOSIT** First-time donor Brad Young avoids looking at his arm as a Community Blood Center nurse prepares to draw a pint of blood. Earlier, Young's mother assured him it would hurt; however, "it wasn't as bad as Mom said," he concluded.





**MILK DUDS** Cooks Debbie Allen and Avenall Jones compete against other faculty members to obtain the most milk. The contest, held in the parking lot, produced excitement and was one of many activities during National FFA week.

**OPEN WIDE** Barnwarming Queen candidates, below, DeOndra Carnall, Hannah Maggard and Kendra Smith compete to see which person can cram the most marshmallows in two minutes. Other activities at the western-themed event included rope tug-of-war, hay bale throws, relay races and dancing.



## Petal Pushers

A Vocational Enhancement Grant enabled the agriculture department to build a new greenhouse. The 48' x 26' x 10' building features automatic cooling and heating, for the production of vegetables and other houseplants. The greenhouse supplied horticulture students and FFA members with a basis for study and hands-on activities. They grew annuals and perennials and other potted plants. Juniors Becky Slate, Jacki Feldhaus and Brittany Hilton, above, prepare poinsettias for a December sale.



**AG ON ICE** At open house, teacher Stan Coday, middle, finds himself with plenty of hands-on assistance from Trampus Hire and Cassie Sanders. With the theme, "What's Cooking?" FFA students stirred up batches of homemade vanilla ice cream for the more than 900 visitors attending the annual event in October.

## FFA AWARDS

**Outstanding Chapter Member** –  
Brittany Hilton  
**Outstanding Freshman** –  
Amanda Hilton  
**Outstanding Sophomore** – Kate Probert  
**Outstanding Junior** – Becky Slate  
**Outstanding Senior** – Dustin Dixon  
**Star Greenhand** – Cassie Sanders  
**Star Chapter Farmer** – Jacki Feldhaus  
**Missouri Agribusiness Academy** –  
Kate Probert  
**State FFA Chorus** – Jacki Feldhaus

## PROFICIENCY AWARDS

**Dairy Production Placement** –  
Josh Pyle  
**Diversified Livestock Production** –  
Jacki Feldhaus  
**Equine Science Entrepreneurship** –  
Jacki Feldhaus  
**Floriculture** – LeAnn Kendall  
**Sheep Production Entrepreneurship** –  
Brittany Hilton  
**Specialty Animal Production** –  
Jacki Feldhaus  
**Vegetable Production** – Brittany Hilton  
**Scholarship Award** – Cassie Sanders,  
Tim Shelhamer, Jacki Feldhaus,  
Tyler Rummens



**FFA** Front – Stan Coday (adviser), Becky Slate (president), Brittany Hilton (secretary), Brandon Grass (sentinel), Sarah Bennett (treasurer), LeAnn Kendall (parliamentarian), Jacki Feldhaus (vice president), Alex Newton (historian), Kate Probert (reporter), Dustin Dixon (second vice president); Row Two – Mark Cruse, Synthia Bannister, Amanda Hilton, Cassie Sanders, Christy Nichols, Natasha Dixon, Hannah Maggard, Alisha Stewart, Danielle Banner, Heather Mitchell; Row Three – Nick Price, Melanie Davis, Becky Lucas, Tim Shelhamer, Cory Letsinger, Lisa Chambers, Kendra Smith, Kasie Rueff, Samantha Ousley, Kathie Williams, Amanda Sherman; Row Four – Trampus Hire, Les Parsons, Michael Fuge, Taylor Thompson, Travis Clouse, Paul Moody, Tyler Rummens, Joe Lucas, Tom Brazeal, Cody Corder, Jesse Stuart; Row Five – Steven Jarrett, Danny LaFavor, Shawn Singh, Dakota Branham, Josh Pyle, Josh Sullivan, Alex Dunbar, Adam Bennett, Cody Whorton and Keith Newton.



BLOOD, ALCOHOL, sirens and death. These are the hard and chilling details that students experienced during a mock drinking and driving accident, co-sponsored by SADD and area law enforcement agencies.

SADD members played parts in the reenactment: Sara Henley was pronounced dead at the scene; Brett Bailey had to be cut out of a mangled car; and Cody Whorton, Jill Merritt and Tim Brazeal (left with Officer Brad Hanger) were taken into police custody. Mandy Rokusek and Garret Keith played friends who drove up on the scene.

Police, paramedics, firemen, the Highway Patrol, funeral director and prosecuting attorney also took part.

"The accident showed students what really goes on in a situation where drinking and driving takes the lives of innocent people," said Kelly Brazeal, SADD sponsor.

# CRASH COURSE

## THESE ARE THE GRISLY FACTS



**1. WRECKLESS MOMENTS** Tiffany Dollarhide, Rebecca Barlett, Jessica Williams and Keith Newton encounter the seriousness of the crash scene as they witness law enforcement officials dealing with victims and drunk drivers. **2.** Passenger Sara Henley hangs partially out of Brett Bailey's car. "Something just hit me when I saw Sara lying there, and I just broke into tears," said Mandy Rokusek, a close friend and fellow actor. **3.** Attempting to revive Bailey, firefighters hold his neck in place and administer oxygen. Bailey, who coincidentally had been in a wreck in the winter, used his own car in the reenactment. **4.** After stabilizing Bailey's condition, a St. John's helicopter air flights Bailey to Springfield. *Photos by Eli Helms and Justin Kingery*



# RELAY FOR LIFE

It's gotta be polyester or tie dye and a cause worth walking for



2



4

**TRUCKIN' FOR A CURE** 1. Zac Blevins and Christian Eichelberger arrive on the football field decked out in raccoon and polyester. Eichelberger said he borrowed his 1970's outfit from his grandmother's closet. 2. NHS poses for the team picture dressed in their retro attire for the evening. 3. Katie Ritter, Julia Ritter and Becky Slate visit under the tent while April Pettibone munches on vegetables and dip. 4. Jennifer Calhoun and Laurel Oberbeck share a gooey, chocolate dessert at Relay for Life, a night filled with walking, games and contests.



1

ON SEPT. 11, talking ceased in classes for four separate moments of silence, marking times when hijacked planes crashed a year ago in New York, Washington and rural Pennsylvania.

National Honor Society sponsored the observance and made ribbons for students to wear out of respect for those who lost their lives in the tragedy.

"Wearing ribbons showed we were proud of our country and its citizens who protected it," sophomore Alex Dunbar said.

Senior Kasie Rueff said the tragedy built character. "Our first reaction as Americans was coming together and we're still holding strong," she said.



**LEST WE FORGET** Before school Kate Probert pins a red ribbon on Jacki Feldhaus for the first day of the week of Sept. 11. For the next two days, students received a white and blue ribbon as part of a week-long observance.



**NHS front**— Cory Letsinger (treasurer), April Pettibone (secretary), Tim Brazeal (vice president), Jana Young (president), Julia Ritter (adviser); Row two — Zack Flageolle, Eli Helms, Garret Keith, Jennifer Calhoun, Mandy Rokusek; Row three — Cody Elliott, Justin Kingery, Paul Moody, Tyler Rummens and Kasie Rueff.



**SADD Front** — Cory Letsinger (treasurer), Alex Miller (secretary), Brett Bailey (president), Garret Keith (vice president), Leanne Moody (freshman rep.), Kasie Rueff (senior rep.), Tanya Loveland (jr. rep.); Row two — Ashley Borders, Laurel Oberbeck, Katelyn Choate, Jennifer Calhoun, Melanie Davis, Zack Flageolle, Craig Campbell, Mandy Rokusek; Row three — April Pettibone, Paul Moody, Amanda Neal, Kristin Quick, Julie Hutton, Kayla Hilton, Sara Henley, Whitney Miller; Row four — LeAnn Kendall, Erin Schell, Ashley Eichelberger, Becky Lucas, Kate Probert (soph. rep.), Kerri Young, Christy Nichols, Becky Bennett, Virginia Sherman; Row five — Tim Brazeal, Cody Elliott, Tom Brazeal, Cody Whorton, Adam Bennett, Jill Merritt, Tyler Rummens, Dulci Lancaster; not pictured — Kelly Brazeal (sponsor).



**STEPPING INTO A POSITION** of leadership, newly elected secretary Della Lansdown lights her flame at the induction ceremony, as president Cory Letsinger and historian Amanda Kuhn stand by. Each officer has his or her own candle which represents loyalty to FBLA and the responsibility that accompanies the office. The ceremony was held at open house. ■ Below, district contest winners gather in the commons area after earning first through fifth places. Individual placings are listed below.



**BANK ON IT** Students in Entrepreneurship tour the Bank of Mansfield to learn first hand about financial practices and banking operations. Bank officials also explained the full range of services offered and how a young person could start establishing a good financial history.

## >> Business AWARDS

### > District FBLA Contest

#### First Place

Alex Miller, Intro to Business Comm.  
Alex Miller, Word Processing I  
Kate Probert, Business Math

#### Second Place

Tim Shelhamer, Economics

#### Third Place

Josh Venable, Public Speaking II

#### Fourth Place

Cody Elliott, Business Procedures  
Whitney Miller, Intro to Business Comm.  
Kate Probert, Public Speaking I  
Kristin Quick, Business Math

#### Fifth Place

Ashley Eichelberger, Business Law  
Christian Eichelberger, Tech. Concepts



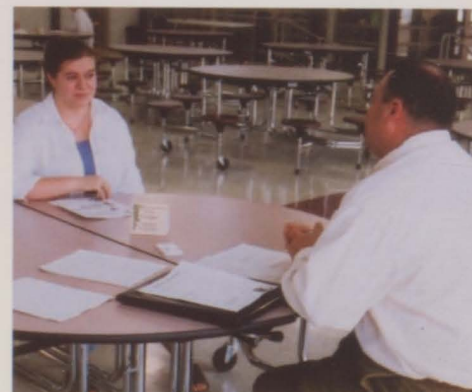
**FBLA DISTRICT WINNERS**  
Tim Shelhamer, Kate Probert and Alex Miller.



**WELL DONE** Ashley Eichelberger receives an excellence in business award from Jane Wehmeyer, math teacher, on behalf of teacher Marsha Appleby at Academic Awards Night.

### PUTTING INTERVIEW SKILLS

in action, FBLA member Samantha Ousley participates in Interview Day with Don Hanger of Copeland Industries. The event, sponsored by the A+ program, allows juniors and seniors to conduct a mock interview with area business people, glean insights about careers and be assessed for their efforts.

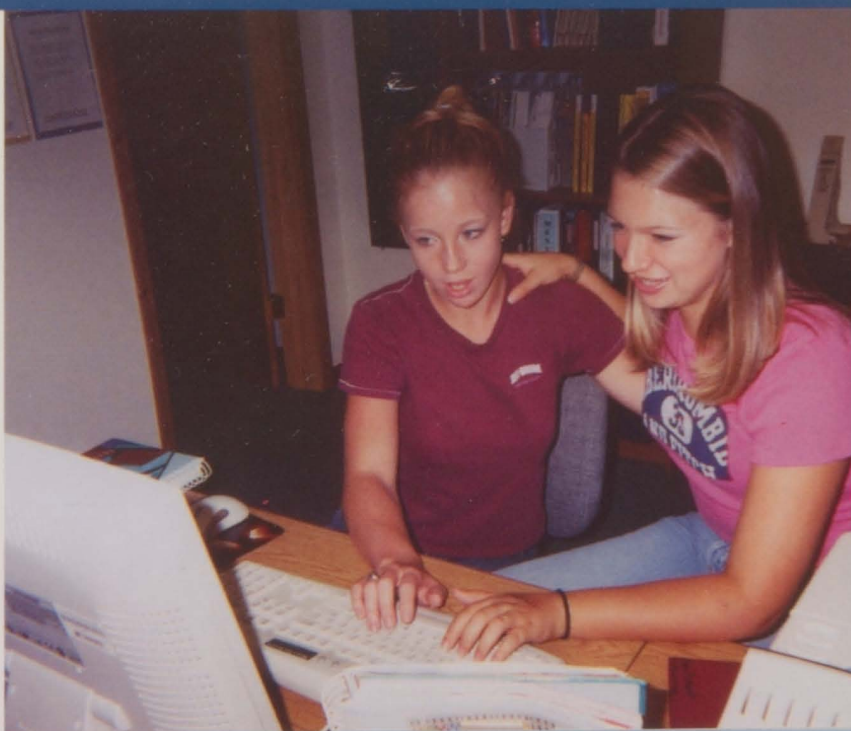


**LETTER PERFECT** FBLA members LaToya Bell, Ashley Borders and Melissa Beckner tutor elementary students in the art of letter writing. They helped students with format and content as part of a classroom assignment.



Accounting  
Business Law  
Computer Applications  
Entrepreneurship  
Keyboarding  
Word Processing

# Taking Care of Business



**DOUBLE UP** Keyboarding I students Amanda Delcour and Kate Probert team up to test their typing skills with each person using only one hand. Each team had to complete the task in pairs to see which group had the highest words per minute. The activity showed skills needed in the real world and stressed the necessity of teamwork.

As you graduate from high school and begin your life in your chosen career fields, employers expect you to have certain skills. Skills such as effective communication, teamwork and leadership are prerequisites in any workforce.

Business students and FBLA members learned and polished these skills that are expected by employers—but are not necessarily taught in a textbook.

Marsha Appleby, business teacher, provided many opportunities for students to learn about marketing and management, develop their leadership skills, compete with their peers in a variety of marketing-related fields and tour a variety of business sites.

- Accounting students provided tax return services to assist others with their 1040 EZ forms.
- Office procedures helped prepare mailings for a community center event which the CTA sponsored.
- The keyboarding/word processing class educated others about National Bill of Rights Day with posters and a video which explained the first 10 amendments.
- Business law students visited small claims court to observe proceeding and conducted mock trials.
- FBLA sponsored fundraisers including Data Match and reindeer candy canes. They donated food to the crisis center, won at district and state business contests and participated in National FBLA week.



## THINKING ABOUT TOMORROW

As a 2002 vocational grant recipient, a joint venture of the business and agriculture departments, MHS upgraded its computer lab to keep pace with technological advancements.



**FBLA Front-** Cory Letsinger (treasurer), Tim Shelhamer (second vice president), Amanda Kuhn (historian), Jessica Pettibone (historian), Cody Elliott (president), Craig Campbell (parliamentarian), Della Lansdown (secretary), Hillary Persinger (reporter), Kasie Rueff (vice president); **Row Two** - Marsha Appleby (adviser), Brett Bailey, Mike Moody, Kendra Smith, Mandie Adamson, Megan Hicks, Whitney Hannaford, Kelly Carampatan, Ashley Borders; **Row Three** - LaToya Bell, Jennifer Calhoun, Becky Lucas, Kate Probert, Natasha Dixon, Julie Hutton, Cassie Sanders, Kristin Quick, Nicole Freeman; **Row Four** - Alex Miller, Josh Venable, Ashley Eichelberger, Samantha Ousley, Whitney Miller, Leanne Moody and Christian Eichelberger.



# ON A HIGH NOTE

**W**hen it comes to colors, choir members displayed the red, white and blue. In November, under the direction of Eric Spyres, vocal music teacher, choir members paid tribute to those who served in the military.

On Veterans Day, local veterans, their families and community members were invited to a chili supper followed by entertainment. More than 250 people attended the star spangled event which featured a patriotic program of singing and readings.

In the spring, persistence paid off for senior Tim Brazeal who brought home the blue after earning a I rating at state. A three-year choir member, Brazeal had competed every year but never received the state's highest award.

"Making a I rating at state actually



**PATRIOTIC PRAISES** In borrowed uniforms the boys' chorus performs a medley "Salute to the Armed Forces" at Remember When, a choir-sponsored dinner theater on Veterans Day. Veterans were served a complimentary dinner of soups, stews, chili and desserts and later honored during the program.

fulfilled one of my biggest dreams, yet it didn't feel any different," said Brazeal after the competition.

Other state honors included II ratings for Julie Hutton, Robert Perkins and the boys' quartet; and a III for the girls' sextet and the mixed eight ensemble.



Bass Tim Brazeal sings "Old Friend" at baccalaureate services in May.

**BE OUR GUEST** Freshmen Tabitha Merideth and Cassie Sanders greet attendees and encourage them to select a letter. Notes of appreciation for dedication and service, written by Marcella Swatosh's English I & II students, were given to veterans attending the program.



**IN THE SPIRIT** Choir members Sara Henley and Tim Brazeal dish out a variety of pies, cakes, cobblers and cookies for the more than 250 people attending the Veterans Day dinner theater, Remember When. Proceeds from the event were earmarked for a New York performance trip in 2004.





**SEASONS GREETINGS** Choir members perform an outdoor concert at Silver Dollar City, Branson. Afterwards, they took in the park activities like riding roller coasters and shopping. ■ **IN UNISON** the soprano section performs "Single Voice, Solitary Flame" at the Veteran's Day program, a community-wide event which focused special recognition on World War II veterans.



## > CHOIR AWARDS

### State Music Contest

#### One rating

- Tim Brazeal - vocal solo

#### Two rating

- Julie Hutton - vocal solo
- Robert Perkins - vocal solo
- Boys' Quartet - Brett Bailey, John Blaine, Tim Brazeal, Craig Campbell

#### Three rating

- Girls' sextet - Katelyn Choate, Audra Dierksen, Sara Henley, Julie Hutton, Kellie Hutton, Whitney Miller
- Mixed eight ensemble - Brett Bailey, Drew Berry, John Blaine, Tim Brazeal, Katelyn Choate, Sara Henley, Julie Hutton, Whitney Miller

### District Music Contest

#### One rating

- Girls' sextet - Katelyn Choate, Audra Dierksen, Sara Henley, Julie Hutton, Kellie Hutton, Whitney Miller
- Boys' quartet - Brett Bailey, John Blaine, Tim Brazeal, Craig Campbell

- Mixed eight ensemble - Brett Bailey, Drew Berry, John Blaine, Tim Brazeal, Katelyn Choate, Sara Henley, Julie Hutton, Whitney Miller

- Tim Brazeal - vocal solo
- Julie Hutton - vocal solo
- Robert Perkins - vocal solo

#### Two rating

- Ashley Renner, vocal solo
- Mandy Rokusek, vocal solo



**KUDOS** At Academic Awards Night, Eric Spyres, vocal music teacher, recognizes Craig Campbell, *top*, as Most Improved Choir member and Julie Hutton as Outstanding Vocalist of the Year.



**CHOIR** Front - Eric Spyres (director), Julie Hutton (treasurer), Jill Merritt (secretary), Mandy Rokusek (vice president), Tim Brazeal (president); Row two - Chris Domiano, Megan Barlett, Amanda Hilton, Robert Perkins, April Butcher, Tiffany Dollarhide, Ashly Renner; Row three - Evan Jones, Amanda Kuhn, Erin Schell, Ashley Eichelberger, Jessica Pettibone, Brittany Hilton, Cassie Sanders, Tabitha Merideth; Row four - Samantha Ousley, Cody Calhoun, Alex Dunbar, Greg Short, Craig Campbell, Sara Henley, Whitney Miller; Row five - Becky Slate, Jordan Cantrell, Josh Sullivan, Katelyn Choate, Leanne Moody, Amanda Neal; Row six - Drew Berry, John Blaine, Cody Corder, Brett Bailey and Jacki Feldhaus.

## > SPEECH AWARDS

### State Speech Contest

#### Eleventh place:

Mandy Rokusek - poetry reading  
Robert Perkins - prose reading

### District Speech Tournament

#### Second place:

Robert Perkins - prose reading

#### Third place:

Mandy Rokusek - poetry reading

## > A League of Their Own

A small but powerful duo of juniors Mandy Rokusek and Robert Perkins paired up to win top individual and team awards including the second place sweepstakes trophy at the Marion C. Early Tournament. At state, Rokusek and Perkins won place 11 in poetry reading and prose reading respectively.







**TSA** Front – Zac Blevins (vice president), Brendan Keeling, Jeremy Lampley (treasurer), Roy Ryan (sponsor); Row Two – Rebecca Barlett, Mandy Rokusek (secretary), Jessica Williams, Susie Graham (sponsor); Row Three – Paul Moody (sergeant at arms), Josh Slater, Tony Lockmon (president) and Cory Letsinger.

## THEY KNOW THE DRILL TSA AND INDUSTRIAL ARTS



**1. UNDER CONSTRUCTION** Woodworking I student Matt Rhodes uses a table saw to measure and cut certain lengths of boards as Josie Vaverka stands by in the shop room.

**2. ROUNDING OUT THE EDGES**, freshman Ryan Harris spins a piece of wood on a lathe. The process, known as woodturning, creates a cut of lumber with a circular trim.

**3. WITH A HARD DRIVE**, Danny Thompson contends against other students in a LAN party. The after-school competitions, sponsored by TSA, raise funds on a monthly basis for the state convention.



By Sarah Moody



## > AWARDS

### CONFERENCE INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY FAIR

**Best in CAD:** Justin Stafford

#### One Rating:

Danny LaFavor, Wood I  
Jaron Keeling, Wood I  
Michael Tate, Wood II

#### Two Rating:

Drew Berry, Wood I  
Evan Jones, Wood I  
Amanda Sherman, Wood I  
Shane Norell, Wood I

#### Class Awards

##### Principles of Technology –

Megan Sowers, Trampus Hire

##### CAD II – Justin Stafford

##### Woodworking I – Jaron Keeling

##### Woodworking II – Michael Tate

##### Senior Award – Cory Letsinger

#### ART

**Creative Art** – Taylor Thompson, Zack Flageolle, Becky Bennett

**Art I** – Whitney Hannaford, Kendra Smith, Jerica Cody

**Art II and III** – Jennifer Calhoun, Donna France, Alisha Stewart

**Advanced Art** – Laurel Oberbeck

#### CARPENTER BLUES Summit

Conference winners Michael Tate, Jaron Keeling and Danny LaFavor pose with Tate's cedar chest. Keeling and LaFavor won first in their respective divisions with a gun cabinet and a table.

#### ALPHA RHO TAU

**First Place** – Laurel Oberbeck

**Second Place** – Jacob Wright

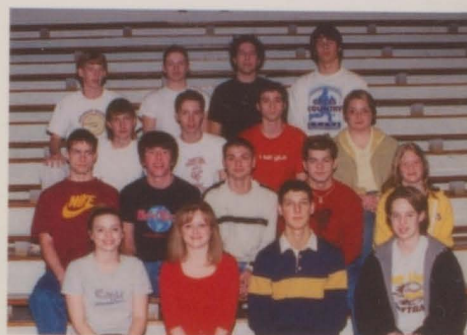
**Fourth Place** – Brendan Keeling, Justin Stafford

**Honorable Mention** – Kendra Smith

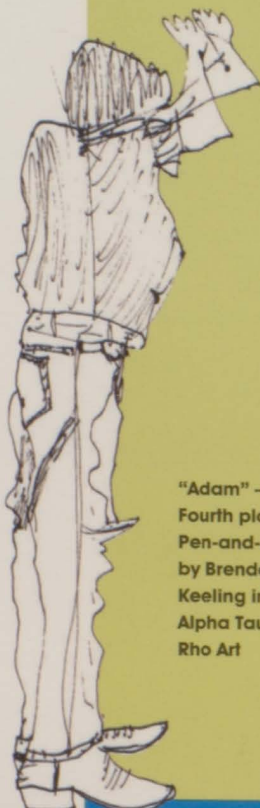
**Excellent Rating** – Synthia Bannister, Donna France, Christy Nichols, Michael Tate

**Superior Rating** – Tina Crain, Jennifer Calhoun, Donna France, Joe Lucas, Matt Rhodes, Alisha Stewart, Taylor Thompson

**Good Rating** – April Butcher, Jennifer Calhoun, Tina Crain, Donna France, Samantha Kirby, Amanda Kuhn, Christy Nichols, Laurel Oberbeck, Jessica Pettibone, Kendra Smith, Jeremy Storm



**ART CLUB** Front – Laurel Oberbeck (vice president), Jennifer Calhoun, Zack Flageolle, Synthia Bannister (treasurer); Row Two – Brent Jones, Justin Kingery, Jordan Cantrell, Brian Jones, Christy Nichols; Row Three – Michael Fuge, Brandon Grass, John Blaine, Sarah Bennett; Row Four – Tim Shelhamer, Taylor Thompson, Travis Clouse and Cody Corder. Not shown: Gretchen Schultz (adviser)



"Adam" –  
Fourth place  
Pen-and-Ink  
by Brendan  
Keeling in  
Alpha Tau  
Rho Art



VIBRANT COLORS, vivid imaginations and a variety of drawings factored into one primary creation—the Alpha Rho Tau Regional Art Show. In April, MHS hosted the annual fair for the first time, where more than 20 area high schools competed. Open to the public, the event featured hundreds of projects in categories ranging from paintings to pottery.

Not only did Gretchen Schultz, art teacher, and Art Club students help organize the event, they won in several categories, as well as earned Excellent, Superior and Good ratings.

Five students attained ribbons and 15 others received ratings for their artwork. Senior Laurel Oberbeck came home with a first-place ribbon for her watercolor.

IN HER WILDEST DREAMS Laurel Oberbeck, Advanced Art student, showcases her project that won first place in the Master Studies Painting category. Oberbeck said she did not discover her talent for art until she enrolled in art classes her senior year.

# BROTHER HERE'S ART

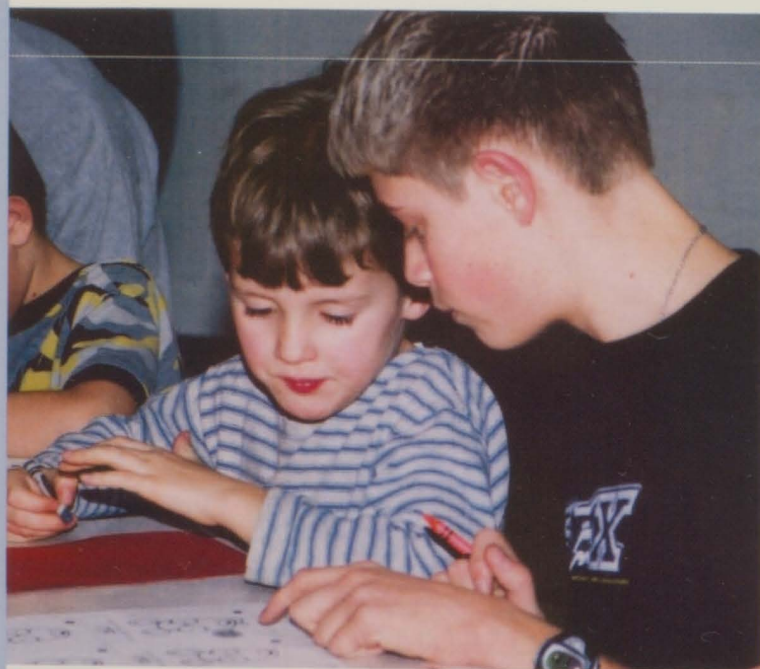
ART CLUB HOSTS REGIONAL SHOW



1. **ROOM WITH A VIEW** Students and teachers from 20 area schools attend the Alpha Rho Tau art show in the gymnasium. The week-long festival included hundreds of student-entered works which were open for public viewing.
2. **THE FINISHING TOUCH** Freshman Jacob Wright places his paper lantern along side others. Students made and decorated them as part of a graded assignment.
3. **THE BIG SETUP** Donna France, art club member, works on Saturday to assemble one of many frames for projects to hang from in the gymnasium.
4. **USING A SQUEEGEE** Jennifer Calhoun completes a screen painting in Art III. Class members used different templates to create unique and colorful designs.







# Good Grief

**REPEAT AFTER ME** English I student Adam Smith, *top*, works with Anthony Lubbock at Arthur Reading Night, sponsored by Practical Parenting Organization and Marcella Swatosh's English I students. The event, themed after the popular children's reading series, Arthur Aardvaark, featured activity stations designed to promote reading skills.

**TROPHY WINNERS** in the annual MHS Language Arts Fair winners receiving their award from English teacher Marcella Swatosh include Mike Moody (9/10 poetry), Tim Shelhamer (journalism, 9/10 Writer of the Year) and Christian Eichelberger (description). Not shown: Justin Kingery (11/12 poetry) and Tim Brazeal (personal essay, persuasive essay and Writer of the Year 11/12).

**MEDIEVAL MUSIC** Dancing an Elizabethan tune, Cassie Sanders and Sarah Moody perform on the lawn with English I classmates. The pre-reading activity informed students about Renaissance music, history and instruments prior to reading Shakespeare's *Romeo and Juliet*.

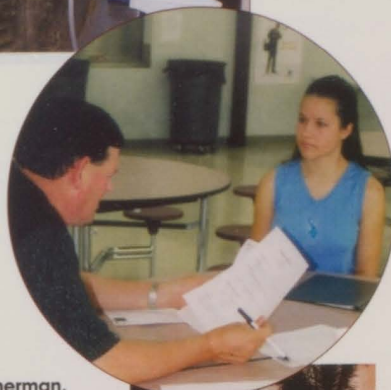
I hate writing; I love having written." This quote, attributed to poet and novelist May Sarton, expressed sophomore Tim Shelhamer's notion of writing when he read it on journalism teacher Betsy Wight's t-shirt. "That's just how I feel," said Shelhamer, who was trying to compose yearbook copy. Even after he was named MHS 9/10 Writer of the Year, Shelhamer, pictured above, maintained that, for him, writing is a love/hate relationship. And so it goes for others who find that the writing process can be a source of both frustration and satisfaction.





## Communication

**FIX-A-FLAT** Brad Young observes Della Lansdown as she repairs a hole in a tire using step-by-step directions that Young wrote. Students read their directions aloud and a partner had to follow the procedures as written.



## Career English

**CHECKS OUT** On Interview Day, junior Amanda Sherman, right, waits as David Coday, State Farm Insurance Agent, scans her resume. Career English students worked on writing and presentation in class in preparation for mock interviews with area business leaders. Afterwards, students received written feedback from interviewers.



## American Literature

**LAST WORD** Julia Ritter, English teacher, acknowledges junior Zac Blevins as Best Writer for work in her American Literature class. At Academic Awards Night, Blevins also picked up awards for winning work in the MHS Language Arts Fair.

## Shakespeare Alive!

**FESTIVE MINDSET** Setting the scene for reading William Shakespeare's classical tragedy of two young lovers, Blake Miller, English I student, decorates a mask for himself. Then students read the act where Romeo sets his eyes on the fair Juliet at a costume dance.

**MAKING A POINT** beside the one on his head, Brett Calhoun, *below left*, and Trampus Hire role play the fight scene between the Montagues and the Capulets. Students experimented with the language by acting out parts.

## Journalism I

**PHOTO OP** Sara Henley practices with a 35mm camera on the playground as Hollie Jordan, Lindsey Hopping and Virginia Sherman wait their turn.



**BACK DRAFT** Summit Conference English winners pose with their ribbons after the Summit Conference English Contest. Front, Virginia Sherman, Alex Miller, LeAnne Moody, Brett Bailey, Becky Lucas, Ashley Eichelberger and Julie Hutton; Whitney Miller, Christian Eichelberger, Jill Merritt, Justin Kingery, Tyler Rummens and Jennifer Calhoun. Individual results are listed below.

## along came a writer

### Summit Conference Contest

#### Second Place Overall and Blue Ribbon –

Whitney Miller, spelling; Alex Miller, grammar

● Blue Ribbon – Tyler Rummens, composition, Jennifer Calhoun, composition

● Red Ribbon – Leanne Moody, composition; Virginia Sherman, vocabulary; Justin Kingery, spelling

● White Ribbon – Julie Hutton, grammar; Brett Bailey, grammar; Ashley Eichelberger, vocabulary; Christian Eichelberger, vocabulary; Becky Lucas, composition

● Yellow Ribbon – Jill Merritt, grammar

### Journalism Awards

● Pacemaker Award – El Leon 2002

● NSPA All-American – El Leon 2002

● JEA/NSPA National Convention, Portland, Fourth Place, Best of Show - El Leon 2002

● National Write-Off Contest - Justin Kingery excellent rating, color photography

● Quill and Scroll Sweepstakes Winners – Jana Young, sports spread; Eli Helms, sports action photo; Justin Kingery, academic photo; and Laura Furr '02, theme

● Quill and Scroll Gold Key Winners – Eli Helms, sports action photo; Justin Kingery, feature photo; Mandy Rokusek, academic spread; and Jacob Magnin '02 feature photo.

"I can't believe I misspelled receive. I should have remembered i before e except after C."

–Whitney Miller, who spelled 97 out of 100 words correctly at Summit Conference to win second



They laugh. They cry. They mostly keep you up at night. Eventually students in Child Development who participate in "Baby Think It Over," an infant simulator designed to give students knowledge about parenting, come away with the insight that child care means less sleep and more responsibility.

Freshman Kayla Gallion said her experience of caring for a lifesize and lifelike doll left her tired and weary. During a 24-hour period, Gallion logged her baby's activities, resulting in 15-30 minute intervals of crying.

In its fifth year at MHS, the "Baby Think It Over" program benefits students by providing them with realistic parenting and with basic caretaking. Students transport babies in carriers to class, lunch and anywhere else they go.

Freshman Sarah Moody said her baby made her late to class. "I was getting books out of my locker when my baby started crying so I just had to stop and take care of it, just like real life."

Besides childcare, other classes like Basic Skills teach students successful life management skills.

Every year the class participates in a citizenship project. Each group creates a poster to explain topics like safety, manners, peer pressure, stranger safety and healthy foods.

Freshman Julie Hutton said her group taught manners to fourth graders.

"I think kids learned a lot about manners and how to use them," she said. "They seemed very interested and participated well."

In FCCLA, members put skills into practice. The group's sponsorship of the annual Miss Mansfield Pageant gives them responsibility for organizing the event, supervising younger contestants and decorating the stage.

During National FCCLA Week, guest speaker Becky Davis, Community Center director, informed members about a career in community development and grant writing.

**CUT UP** Joe Perkins trims a piece of material for a sweatshirt in Basic Skills. Students select their own sewing projects according to their experience in the field.

**STUDENTS AS TEACHERS** Josh Asher, Les Parsons, Crystal Lansdown and Jessica Taylor make a presentation on healthy eating to second grade students. The citizenship project was part of a class assignment in Basic Skills to promote nutrition and wellness.

## Family Consumer Sciences



# Going into practice

Some say **Family Consumer Sciences** are as close to the real world as one can get with hands-on activities that help teens appreciate family life responsibilities, manage resources to meet material needs and prepare for life and work in a career.





ALL IS CALM on stage as Miss Mansfield contestants vie for titles in four categories. The annual pageant is a FCCLA fundraiser. Backstage, FCCLA member Tanya Loveland, inset, entertains Leanna Leckenby and others on the keyboard while they wait for their group to be called up front. ■ Julie Hutton, right, colors mushrooms for a children's board game to promote skills in thinking, counting and colors recognition.



ONE STITCH AT A TIME Kerri Young learns the mechanics of a sewing machine while making a sweatshirt in Basic Skills. ■ Constructing a ring toss game, Shamala Bunch and Kelsey Tomlinson consider the motor skills and thinking strategies of toddlers for a class project.



**FCCLA** Front- Hollie Jordan (treasurer), Ashley Borders (2nd vice president), Jordan Cantrell (parliamentarian), Julie Hutton (secretary), Kristin Quick (vice president), Teresa Hinsley (adviser); Row two - Laurel Oberbeck, Katelyn Choate, Leanne Moody, Garret Keith, Jennifer Calhoun, Melanie Davis, Della Lansdown, Megan Hicks; Row three - Melanie Riley, Brittany Borders, Kayla Gallion, Shamala Bunch, Kelsey Tomlinson, Sarah Moody, Tabitha Meridith; Row four - Amanda Neal, Ashley Eichelberger, Jessica Pettibone, Melissa Beckner, Amanda Kuhn, LaToya Bell and Hillary Persinger.



**DRESSED FOR SUCCESS** Representing careers in the business and medical fields, FCCLA AND FBLA members pose for a picture at a pizza party for National FCCLA Week. The two clubs met to hear a guest speaker. With the theme, "Creating Connections," each day has a focus: Monday - teacher appreciation lunch, Tuesday - red and white day; Wednesday - dress for success lunch; Thursday - food drive and Friday - Valentine's surprise.





**TRAIL BOSS** Rick Hamby fields a question from an elementary student about the dangers encountered on the trail near the Mexican border. Hamby encouraged students to sit in his coach to experience what it was like for Western settlers.

# THE JOURNEY

## Danger! Adventure! Obstacles! Courage!

FOR WEST PLAINS native Rick Hamby, traveling from Springfield, MO to Tombstone, AZ, on an Overland Stage Coach, was a dream come true. Hamby, who has always had a passion for the Old West, purchased and refurbished the 1800's coach. Then for the first time in 140 years, he traveled the Old Butterfield route, carrying advance ticketed passengers, personal mail and a strong box. After 63 days on the trail through ice, rain, tornadoes, snakes and scorpions, Hamby, his crew and six mules arrived at Wyatt Earp's Old Tombstone Trading Post in May 2001. Hamby shared his trail experiences with summer school students at the request of his cousin, Wilda Watterson, social studies teacher.





**HISTORIC GUESTS** American humanitarian Clara Barton as portrayed by Dulci Lancaster, left, shares her experiences as a nurse in the U. S. Civil War who later founded the Red Cross. ■ Adam Smith, right, role-plays Sacajawea, the well-known Indian woman who led Lewis and Clark on the famous expedition to find the Pacific Ocean. Character biographies were research projects for American History students in Wilda Watterson's class.



**FOR ACHIEVEMENT** in the classroom, teacher Wilda Watterson acknowledges the efforts of Adam St. Laurent at Academic Awards Night.

## class awards

- World History – Sara Henley, Virginia Sherman, Alex Miller, Craig Campbell
- Modern European History – Cody Elliott, Zac Blevins
- Sociology – Jennifer Calhoun
- Geography – Ashley Eichelberger
- Psychology – Ashley Eichelberger
- Economics – Julie Hutton
- American History – Melissa Beckner
- History 122 – Jennifer Calhoun

## Social Studies & Foreign Language



**FOREIGN LANGUAGE CLUB** front - Justin Kingery (president), Brett Bailey (vice president), Jana Young (secretary/ treasurer), Vicki Blankenship (adviser), Wilda Watterson (adviser); Row two - Travis Mason, Zack Flageolle, Garret Keith, Eli Helms, Kasie Rueff, Tanya Loveland, April Pettibone; Row three - Cody Elliott, Josh Slater, Zac Blevins, Jesse Bricker, Kate Probert, Danielle Banner; Row four - Josh Venable, Jennifer Calhoun, Tyler Rummens, Ashley Eichelberger, Mandy Rokusek and Sarah Bennett.

## From Stonehenge Kitty Hawk<sup>to</sup>

To realize the importance and wonder of significant events and places in other time periods, World History students in Roger Wood's class select their own topic, conduct research and construct a representative project.



"This is the first plane Wilbur and Orville Wright flew. I used cardboard, popsicle sticks and a clothes hanger. It took two days to complete." -James Wheeler

"Our project, Arlington National Cemetery, contains the gravesite of the Kennedys, the eternal flame and others. We took a rectangular piece of styrofoam and painted it white. The graves are made of baked clay, the eternal flame is a candle and moss covers the sides." -Alex Miller and Whitney Miller



"This Plains Indians teepee is made from particle wood, tree limbs, deer and rabbit skins. I already had the skins from the season before. It took about three weeks and the hardest part was keeping the skins on because they tear so easily. We learned the Indians used buffalo ligaments called sinew for rope." -Dakota Branham and Shawn Singh

"No one knows who built Britain's Stonehenge but researchers date its construction around 3000 B.C. It took us about two hours to cut out styrofoam blocks, glue them and spray paint them gray." -Brittany Borders, LeAnn Kendall







# THE PLAYERS

**LEAF IT TO US** Eli Helms, April Pettibone, Tim Shelhamer, Brandon Grass, Brett Bailey and Cody Elliott play around in a pile of leaves they just raked in a local neighborhood. Council members participating in the annual fall project, Drive-by Raking, cleaned up six yards by noon.







By Wilda Watterson

**FOLLOW THE LEADER** Tanya Loveland finds herself hypnotized in a series of commands—sleeping, experiencing cold, driving and turning—at a weekend leadership training workshop.



## STUDENT COUNCIL

Meet those who have made **volunteering** part of their everyday life and learned first hand the joy of **helping** others. **For real**

**R**eading in the media about today's teenagers can be discouraging. Tales of violence, substance abuse and general lack of direction are popular subjects that regularly make the news. Not so at MHS, where Student Council members belie negative reporting and in fact, build strong connections with the community, according to Wilda Watterson, Student Council sponsor.

To equip them for leadership roles in their school and community, Council officers attended a week-long camp in the summer where they were involved in team-building, communicating and training sessions.

Then putting feet to their training, they sponsored the following activities: Drive-by Rakings, Senior Citizens Banquet, Teacher Appreciation Breakfast and a spring blood drive.

"Working in the community establishes a tie with people in town you normally don't get to visit with, and that's good for both groups," said Brett Bailey, Student Council president.

One of the group's largest undertakings is construction of the homecoming stage and hosting the crowning ceremony.

### SEASONAL WORK *Top left:*

After school, Student Council members fill their buckets with black walnuts on a farm outside town. Proceeds from their efforts netted about \$240. ■ *Top right:* Garret Keith, Tim Brazeal and Tim Shelhamer glue sides of a flame while Cody Elliott and Brandon Grass cut out candleholders. Members started construction two weeks out and worked afternoons and evenings on the Hearts Afire theme.



### CASTING BALLOTS

Brett Bailey, Student Council president, hands Amanda Kuhn a pencil as Sara Henley and Brad Young vote for 2003-04 Student Council officers. Justin Kingery assists while sponsor Wilda Watterson oversees the lunch time election. ■ Tina Crain and Becky Lucas prepare scrambled eggs while Katelyn Choate and Megan Sowers arrange fresh fruit on a platter for Teacher Appreciation Breakfast in May.



**STUDENT COUNCIL** Front - Cody Corder (vice president), Brett Bailey (president), Eli Helms (secretary), Jana Young (treasurer), Wilda Watterson (adviser); Row two - Cody Elliott, Zack Flageolle, Garret Keith, Jennifer Calhoun, April Pettibone, Mandy Rokusek; Row three - Katelyn Choate, Brandon Grass, Amanda Delcour, Adam Bennett, Cory Letsinger; Row four - Megan Sowers, Becky Lucas, Drew Berry, Tim Brazeal and Tim Shelhamer.

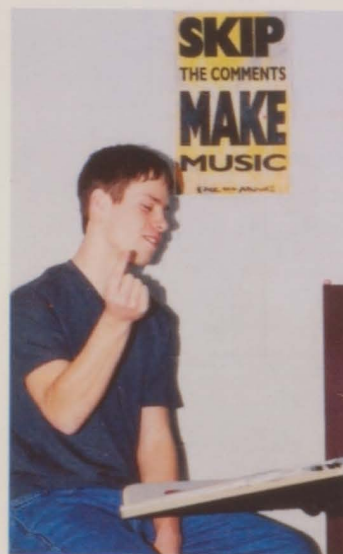


In a new class, students combine red hot and cool jazz with literary selections to research historical periods and artists and to explore the ideas of freedom and collaboration.

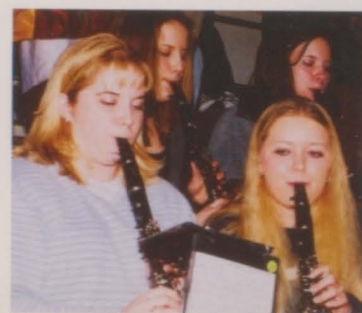
# All that Jazz



**BUTTER DAY FESTIVAL** Dressed in casual uniforms of black and khaki, the band marches down Commercial Street to perform for bystanders attending the parade in May. Flag Corp members lead the 60-member band composed of middle school and high school students. ■ April Pettibone, John Blaine and Eli Helms perform "Love Will Keep Us Together" on the square. The annual event honors the area's dairy industry.



**OPEN MIKE** Jazz Appreciation student Brent Jones snaps his fingers while participating in a poetry slam in class. The activity puts dual emphasis on writing and performance, encouraging poets to focus on what they're saying and how they're saying it.



**OLDIE BUT GOODY** Woodwinds section members Hillary Persinger, top, and Della Lansdown and Brett Bailey and Tristan Dennis on trumpets play "Louie, Louie" prior to the start of a varsity game. Pep Band, which helps to heighten spirit at games, performs at girls and boys' home basketball games.





**ON YOUR HONOR** Drum Major Tim Brazeal and Ashley Borders, flag corp leader, pose with the band's trophy after placing sixth in its division at the SMSU Homecoming parade in Springfield. ■ *Right:* Shannon Waldo, band director, presents Tim Brazeal with the Patrick Gilmore award at Academic Awards Night.



**A FINE SHOW** Back from competing in a band festival in Marshfield, Middle School band members and director Shannon Waldo pause for a photo after earning 19 one-ratings, 15 two-ratings and four three-ratings. "I think they even surprised themselves with their outstanding performances," Waldo said.



**BAND** Front— Eli Helms (reporter/drum major), Brett Bailey (senior rep.), Justin Kingery (reporter), April Pettibone (vice president), Julie Hutton (reporter), John Blaine (secretary/treasurer), Tim Brazeal (president/drum major); Row two - Shannon Waldo (director), Trampus Hire, LaToya Bell, Jacob Wright, Lindsey Hopping, Chrystina France, Kayla Hilton, Dulci Lancaster (freshman rep.); Row three - Ashley Borders, Kelly Carampatan, Christian Eichelberger (librarian), Shane Norell, Ashly Renner, Nicole Freeman, Jessica Williams, Megan Sowers; Row four - Kate Probert (sophomore rep.), Lisa Chambers, Mike Moody, Adam Smith (librarian), Tom Brazeal, Danny LaFavor, Brandon Grass (librarian), Katelyn Choate; Row five - Virginia Sherman, Hillary Persinger, Della Lansdown, Megan Hicks, Crystal Carter, Jessica Taylor, Leanne Moody, Amanda Neal; Row six - Tony Lockmon, Josh Venable (junior rep.), Josh Slater, Zac Blevins, Tristan Dennis and Jeremy Lampley.



## Band HONORS

### High School Awards

- District Music Contest: II rating
- Two Rating: Tim Brazeal, trombone solo
- Patrick Gilmore Award - Tim Brazeal
- John Philip Sousa Award - Tim Brazeal, Justin Kingery

### Middle School Band Contest, Marshfield One Ratings

- Melissa Johnsen, Samantha Morris, Audra Dierksen, Kelsey Acree, Melanie Moore, Kellie Hutton, Chelsea House, Audra Dierksen, Erin Dierksen, Josh Gresham and Rebecca Freeman;
- Rashawnda Jackson and Chelsea Jones - duet;
- Samantha Morris, Audra Dierksen, Chelsea House and Melissa Johnsen - quartet;
- Hannah Persinger, Audra Dierksen and Maranda Pringle - trio;
- Whitney Jordan, Miranda Farris and Rachel Sowers-trio;
- Miranda Farris, Chelsea Pringle and Rachel Sowers-trio;
- Kellie Hutton and Rashawnda Jackson - duet;
- Randee Jo Barlett and Kellie Whorton - duet;
- Kelsey Acree and Chelsea Pringle - duet

### Two Ratings

- Whitney Jordan, Miranda Farris, Dakota Willis, Windy Johnsen, Landon Jarrett, Bryce Matlock, Joey Neal and Emily Nichols

### Three Ratings

- Sidney Tucker and Will Brazeal- duet;
- Matt Leonard and Dallas Massey - duet.

### Junior High District Honor Band

Andy Morris, Will Brazeal and Chandler Veit

### Language Arts Fair of SW Missouri

First Place—11/12 Original small group prose anthology



# engaging

# creative



**TRIVIAL PURSUITS** Justin Kingery, Publications staff member, points out a photo opportunity to Journalism I students Dulci Lancaster, Zack Flageolle, Ryan Loge and Hannah Moore as classmate Leanne Moody takes the shot on a scavenger hunt across campus. ■ **INTERIOR DESIGN** Kindergartners McKenzie Tripp, Jordan Lebahn and Courtney Kirkland investigate a rabbit's ear as Chandler Blaine coaxes another hare with blades of grass. The class toured animals stations at FFA's Food For America, a program which teaches students about agriculture and how food moves from farm to consumers. *Photo by Eli Helms*

**PRIVATE PANIC** Betsy Wight, English teacher, squirts out enough milk "to fill a thimble," in a cow milking contest during FFA Week. School personnel competed to see who could milk the most in one minute. *Photo by Justin Kingery*







dynamic  
sharing

# People

By Tina Crain,

Becky Lucas &

Jill Merritt

## Friend factor

Simply put, we're a big time, small school. While we have many resources of a large school, we act like a small one— flexible, personal and manageable. With contrasting ages (705 pre-school - seniors) and experiences, each area brings a celebrated stage and a bright presence to the school. A vision to coax our rural roots forward to become a 21st century school brought us recognition as one of Missouri's elite Distinction in Performance schools. And while we enjoy bragging rights, it's the people and friendships that are the heart of the matter.

confidant



**GIFT RAP** Under a watchful eye, Lexy Morris spells her mother's name for a Santa's Workshop attendant to print on an ornament. The CTA-sponsored holiday event featured food and craft booths and a silent auction. *Photo by Eli Helms*



# The little school that could

Mansfield R-IV earns state's Top Ten list,  
one of four southwest Missouri high schools

**P**ROVING THE SAYING "bigger is not always better," the Mansfield District, for the second year in a row, earned state recognition for being top in academics.

The district was recognized for "Distinction in Performance" based on criteria established by the State Board of Education, including MAP test scores, ACT test scores, attendance and dropout rates and other academic performance measures.

Mansfield ranks among the elite, one of only 75 districts which earned a perfect score on the state's annual performance report.

"This score is an indicator of the level of instruction taking place on a daily basis in our classrooms," said Superintendent Arlene Magnin. "I appreciate the efforts of teachers and students, and we will continue to provide a high level of instruction to increase our achievement scores."

Magnin's office reported that ACT scores from the Class of 2002 were the school's highest scores in more than five years.



**TO THE TOP** The State Board of Education formally honors the Mansfield School District at a Distinction in Performance awards ceremony at Plaster Student Union, SMSU in March. Those attending include Debbie Sanders, A+ Coordinator, Superintendent Arlene Magnin, High School Principal Randy Short, Elementary Principal Don Sanders and Middle School Principal Freddie Doherty.

Arlene Magnin, Superintendent  
Randy Short, High School Principal  
Freddie Doherty, Middle School Principal  
Don Sanders, Elementary Principal  
Dorothy Wallace, Special Education Director

Gina Adams, Special Education, National  
Board Certified Teacher  
Debbie Allen, Cook  
Steve Baty, Custodian  
Janet Brooke, High School Secretary  
Harold Dennis, Maintenance Supervisor

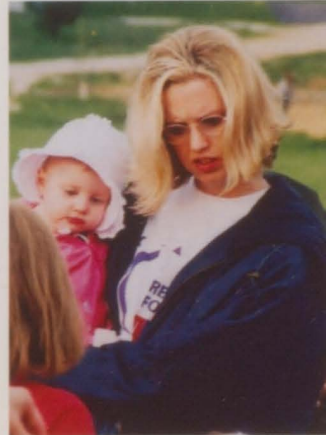
Pat Dennis, Cook  
Lois Findley, Cook  
Don Hanger, Head Mechanic  
Brenda Hutton, Middle School Secretary  
Teresa Jarrett, Elementary Secretary  
Avenail Jones, Cook







**GROWING IMPATIENS** Kathy Short and Janet Mitchell discuss the choice of annuals on sale in the new greenhouse. Horticulture students and Stan Cody, agriculture teacher, propagated the plants in the spring for sale in May. ■ **THIS MIGHT STING** Pat Dennis, elementary cook, takes advantage of a free tetanus booster administered by a Wright County health department nurse. Tuberculosis immunizations were also available.



**A SPINE-TINGLING LUNCH** Students look twice when filling in for lunch on Halloween. Cooks, dressed in costume, served bat ham, smashed potatoes, graveyard gravy, grape-eye jello and a spookie cookie. ■ Nurse Jennifer Morris visits with her daughter at the elementary team campsite at Relay for Life in May. Using the theme, "Sporting for a Cure," team members helped raise money for Wright County's American Cancer Society.



Cheryl Keith, High School Head Cook  
Kay Lansdown, Cafeteria Clerk  
Debbie Letsinger, Superintendent's Secretary  
Mary McDowell, Cook

Becky Moody, Special Education Assistant

Kelly Moody, Cafeteria Clerk  
Jennifer Morris, Nurse  
John Nichols, Bus Driver, Special Education Aide  
Tina Nichols, Bus Driver, Special Education Aide  
Patti Nolen, Bus Driver, Special Education Aide

Mercede Price, Cook  
Ronnie Roy, Custodian  
Cindy Sanders, Custodian  
Debbie Sanders, A+ Coordinator, Public Information Director  
Jane Shirley, Special Education

Kathy Short, Parents as Teacher Director  
Becky Sullivan, Cook  
Nancy Veit, Elementary Head Cook  
Barb Williams, Special Education Aide



## Teams raise nearly \$5,000 to fight cancer

**T**SPORTING FIRE CHIEF HATS and giant candles with blazing flames and referee uniforms and whistles, two Mansfield School Relay for Life teams set up a festive atmosphere for the sixth annual Wright County Relay for Life. It was the fifth year for Mansfield faculty and staff teams to participate in the American Cancer Society's all-night, fund-raising event held at the Mountain Grove football field.

Three teams, including the elementary, high school and middle school staff and National Honor Society raised \$4,969. There were 46 teams at the event who combined to raise over \$70,000 and in addition, over 500 luminaries were purchased in memory of or in honor of individuals with cancer. Several team members are cancer survivors themselves.

For the second year in a row, the two faculty teams received bronze medals for raising over \$1,500. To help raise money, raffles included a homemade patriotic quilt by Debbie Sanders and a mountain bike.



By Mandy Rokusek

**FIRED UP** At Relay for Life, Mansfield High School and Middle School Faculty Team poses for a photo on the walking track. Front- Betsy Wight, Susie Graham; Back - Wilda Watterson, Debbie Sanders, Captain Vicki Blankenship, Kathleen Barnett, Joanna Tidwell and Stan Coday. The team's campsite used the theme, "On Fire for a Cure."

Marsha Appleby, Business, FBLA Sponsor  
Kathleen Barnett, Alternative School, Health  
Kelly Brazeal, High School Counselor, Senior Class Sponsor  
Georgianne Brown, Special Education, A Sporting Chance Sponsor  
Dallas Chambers, Remedial Math

Naomi Clouse, Title I  
Stan Coday, Agriculture, FFA Sponsor  
Adam Cook, Physical Education, Assistant Boys' Basketball Coach  
Tara Dennis, Speech Implementor  
Stacey Doherty, Elementary Counselor

Terri Flynn, Learning Disabilities  
Kay Goss, Librarian  
Susie Graham, Middle School Computers, Cheerleader Sponsor  
Tiffany Gray, Middle School Math  
John Hinsley, Enrichment, Middle School Science

Teresa Hinsley, Family and Consumer Science/Health, FCCLA Sponsor  
Doug Jones, Science, Athletic Director, Baseball Coach  
Colleen Klingensmith, Special Education  
Michell King, Math, Math Club Sponsor, Junior Class Sponsor  
Holli Kristek, Elementary and Middle School Art







*O, SHE'DOTH TEACH* her students to dance. Marcella Swatosh, English teacher, demonstrates a Renaissance dance to English I students on the front lawn. The activity accompanied the reading of Shakespeare's Romeo and Juliet.

■ Principal Randy Short helps Betsy Wight, journalism teacher, slip on Wal-Mart's "Teacher of the Year" vest at Academic Awards Night. A \$1,000 check for use in the classroom accompanied the honor.



**PATRIOTISM ON DISPLAY FAR LEFT:**

Cheri Rummens, pre-school director, performs "God Bless the USA" at the annual Veterans Day ceremony in the gymnasium. Her father Erman was among the World War II veterans honored posthumously for service to their country.

■ **DAIRIERE** A cow milking contest creates lunch time excitement for a crowd watching science teachers Pam Probert and Doug Jones compete. The event, held in conjunction with National FFA Week, pitted staff members against each other to see who could collect the most milk in one minute. Ronnie Roy and Jane Wehmeyer tied for champion milkers.



Helen Lawrence, Remedial Reading  
Teri Leonard, Middle School Social Studies, Pom Pon Squad Sponsor  
Cindy Massey, Title I  
Stephaney Menzie, Special Education, A Sporting Chance Sponsor  
Janet Mitchell, Title I



Pam Probert, Science, Science Club Sponsor, Beta Chi Pi Sponsor  
Sunny Rost, Physical Education, Girls' Basketball Coach  
Roy Ryan, Industrial Technology, TSA Sponsor  
Gretchen Schultz, Art, Sophomore Class Sponsor  
Eric Spyres, Vocal Music, Speech/Debate Club Sponsor



Beth Ann Strain, Elementary Librarian  
Donna Streight, Special Education  
Marcella Swatosh, English  
Darren Taylor, Physical Education, Boys' Basketball Coach  
Shannon Waldo, Instrumental Music



Wilda Watterson, Social Studies, Student Council Sponsor, Assistant Softball Coach  
Jane Wehmeyer, Math, Math Club Co-sponsor  
Betsy Wight, English, Journalism, Newspaper/Yearbook Adviser  
Roger Wood, Social Studies, Softball Coach



**SOBER THOUGHTS** FAR RIGHT: A drinking and driving mock accident captures the attention of Ashley Borders, Jordan Cantrell and Cody McCleary. The rescue was reenacted by law enforcement officials, firefighters and SADD members. ■ Green Hand Initiation leaves FFA member Kendra Smith feeling a little sticky. Smith had to recite "I love FFA" and kiss the handbook. On the third time, she smacked a whip cream pie.



## Brett Bailey

Foreign Language Club 3, 4 and Officer 4, SADD 2,3,4 and Officer 4, FBLA 2,3,4, Math Club 2,3,4 and Officer 4, Science Club 2,3,4, Student Council 1,2,3,4 and Officer 3,4, TSA 2,3, Band 1,2,3,4, Choir 1,2, Basketball 1,2,3,4, English Contest 1,2,3, Vocal Music Contest 1, Instrumental Contest 1,2,3,4, Math Contest 1,2, Industrial Arts Fair 1, FBLA/Business Contest 2,3

## Sarah Bennett

Foreign Language Club 4, SADD 3, Art Club 3,4 and Officer 3, Science Club 3,4, FFA 1,2,3,4 and Officer 4, English Contest 1, Barnwarming Queen Candidate 2

## Brent Bishop

## John Blaine

FBLA 2,3, TSA 2,3,4, Band 3,4, Choir 1,2, Vocal Music Contest 1, Instrumental Contest 3,4, Science Fair 2,3,4, FBLA/Business Contest 2,3, TEAMS Engineering Competition 3, District Choir 1, Band Officer 4

## Ashley Borders

Foreign Language Club 3,4 and Officer 3, SADD 2,3,4, FBLA 4, Science Club 2,3, FCCLA 2,3,4 and Officer 4, Band 1,2,3,4, Softball 3,4, Pom Pon 1,2,3,4, Instrumental Contest 1,2,3,4, FBLA/Business Contest 4, Homecoming Queen Candidate 3, Flags 1,2,3,4 and Captain 4, Miss Mansfield Runner Up 2, Miss Mansfield 4

## Tim Brazeal

Foreign Language Club 3 and Officer 3, SADD 1,2,3,4 and Officer 3, NHS 3,4 and Officer 4, FBLA 4, Math Club 1,2,3,4 and Officer 2,3, Science Club 1,2,3,4, Student Council 3,4, Beta Chi Pi 3,4, Band 1,2,3,4 and Officer 1,2,3,4, Choir 1,2,3,4 and Officer 1,2,4, Class Officer 3,4, Baseball 1,2,3,4, Basketball 1,2,3,4, English Contest 1, 2, Vocal Music Contest 1,2,3,4, Instrumental Contest 1,2,3,4, Science Fair 2,3, Math Contest 2,3,4, TEAMS Engineering Competition 3, District Choir 1,2,4

## Jesse Bricker

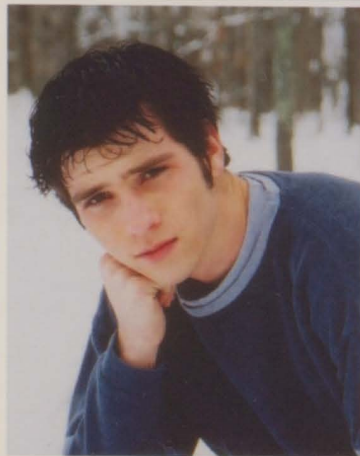
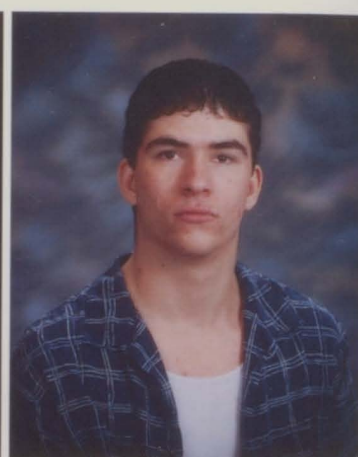
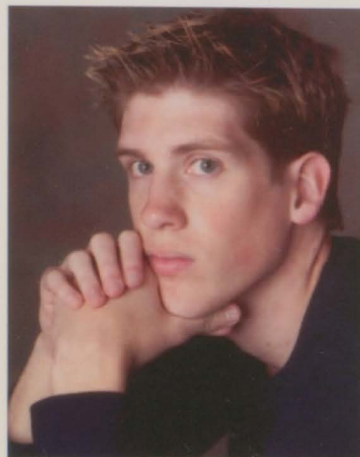
Foreign Language Club 2,3,4, Math Club 1,2,3,4, Science Club 2, Publications Staff 3,4, Youth Alive 1,2, Softball 1, All Conference Softball 1, Basketball 1,2,3,4, Journalism Contest 3,4, Art Fair 2, Girls State 3.

## Jennifer Calhoun

Foreign Language Club 3,4, SADD 1,2,4, NHS 3,4, FBLA 1,2,3,4, Art Club 1,2,4 and Officer 1,2, Math Club 1,2,3,4 and Officer 1,4, Science Club 3,4, FCCLA 1,2,3,4, Student Council 3,4 and Officer 3,4, Publications Staff 2, Class Officer 4, Youth Alive 1,2,3, English Contest 1,2,3,4, Journalism Contest 2, Math Contest 3, FBLA/Business Contest 1,2.

## Jordan Cantrell

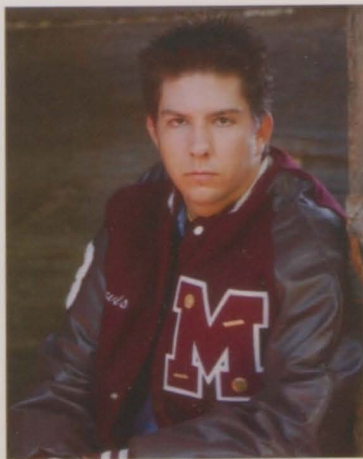
SADD 2, Art Club, 2, Science Club 2, FCCLA 4 and Officer 4, FFA 2, Choir 1, Baseball 2, Basketball 1,2,3,4, Cross Country 4, All Conference Cross Country 4, Barnwarming Candidate 2.







**CLOSE ENCOUNTERS** Huddling together, seniors fit inside the boundaries of a hula hoop at a pep rally game. The event kicks off boys' and girls' basketball season. ■ First-year voter Cory Letsinger, far left, casts his ballot in a state election held in the gymnasium lobby. As a convenience to students, Wright County officials register 18-year-olds at school in the fall.



### Kelly Carampatan

FBLA 1,2,3,4, Art Club 3 and Officer 3, Math Club 1,2,3, Science Club 1,2,3, Pep Club 1, Band 1,2,3,4, Choir 1,2,3, Homecoming Queen 4, Prom Queen 4

### Lisa Chambers

FFA 1,2,3,4, Band 1,2,3,4, Softball 2,3,4, All Conference Softball 3, Basketball 3, Cross Country 1, Girls State 3

### Travis Clouse

Math Club 4, Science Club 3,4, FFA 1,2,3,4, Baseball 2,3,4, Basketball 1,2,3,4,



### Cody Corder

Math Club 1,2,3, Science Club 1,2,3, FFA 1,2,3, Student Council 1,2,3,4 and Officer 1,2,3,4, Choir 1,4, Class Officer 4, Baseball 1,2,3,4, All Conference Baseball 2, Basketball 1,2,3,4, All Conference Basketball 2,3,4, KKOZ Dream Team 3,4, Cross Country 1,2 All Conference & All District Cross Country 1,2, Track 1, Vocal Music Contest 1.

### Tina Crain

Foreign Language Club 3,4, SADD 2,3, NHS 4, FBLA 2,3,4 and Officer 3, Math Club 1,2,3,4, Science Club 1,2,3,4, FOCLA 3,4 and Officer 4, Student Council 3,4, Publications Staff 4, Softball 1, Pom Pom 1,2,3, English Contest 2,3, Journalism Contest 1, FBLA/Business Contest 2,3, and FBLA State Business Contest 3.

### Amanda Delcour

SADD 1, Art Club 1,2, FOCLA 1,2,3, FFA 1, Student Council 3,4, Publications Staff 3, Youth Alive 1,2, Softball 1,2,3,4, Mirth Excell 3.

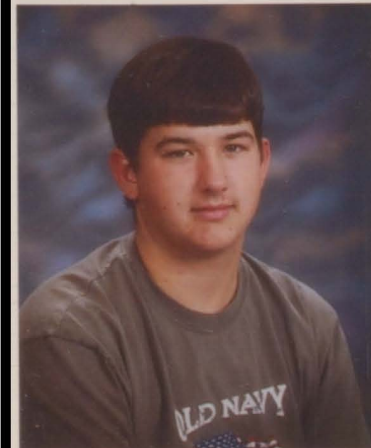
### Dustin Dixon

FFA 1,2,3,4, and Officer 1,2,3,4

### Christian Eichelberger

Foreign Language Club 1, Math Club 1,4 and Officer 1,4, Science Club 1, TSA 2,4, Speech and Drama 1, Band 1,2,3,4, Track 1, Instrumental Contest 1,2,3,4, Science Fair 1, Math Contest 1, FBLA/Business Contest 4

### Donna France





# Seniors

**LOOKING FORWARD** After commencement, sophomore Melanie Davis congratulates Ashley Borders who said she remains undecided about her future. The Class of 2003 graduated 43 in May.

■ Dustin Dixon models Carhart overalls and a straw hat as Brandon Grass emcees the FFA fashion show, part of National FFA Week.



## Maranda Garzee

## Whitney Hannaford

Foreign Language Club 3, SADD 1,2,3,4, FBLA 1,2,3,4, Art Club 1,2,3, Math Club 1,2, Science Club 1,2,3, FOCLA 1,2,3,4, Youth Alive 1,2, Softball 1, Pom Pom 2,3,4 and Co-Captain 4, Math Contest 2, Homecoming Princess 2, Junior Miss Mansfield Runner Up 1

## Travis Hilliard

Art Club 3, Math Club 3 and Officer 3, Science Club 3, FFA 1,2,3,4, Class Officer 1,3, Basketball 1,2,3,4, Barnwarming King Candidate 1,4

## Brent Jones

Baseball 1,2,3,4, Basketball 2,3,4, Art Club 4

## Justin Kingery

Foreign Language Club 3,4 and Officer 4, NHS 3,4, Art Club 3,4 and Officer 3, Math Club 1,2,3,4 and Officer 4, Science Club 1,2,3,4 and Officer 4, FOCLA 1, Publications Staff 3,4, Quill and Scroll 3,4, Band 1,2,3,4, Class Officer 2, Baseball 1,2,3,4, All Conference Baseball 2,3, Basketball 1,2,3,4, All Conference Basketball 3, KKCOZ Dream Team 3, English Contest 1,2,3,4, Journalism Contest 2,3,4, Instrumental Contest 1,2,3,4

## Josh Kulp

Science Club 1, FFA 1,2,3,4, TSA 1, Baseball 2, Track 1

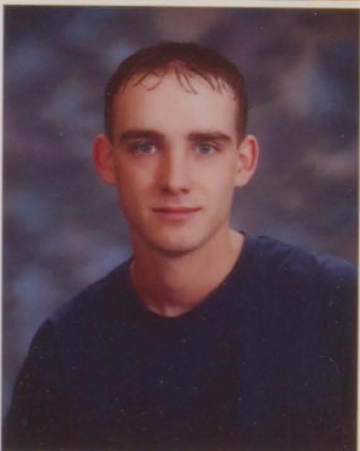
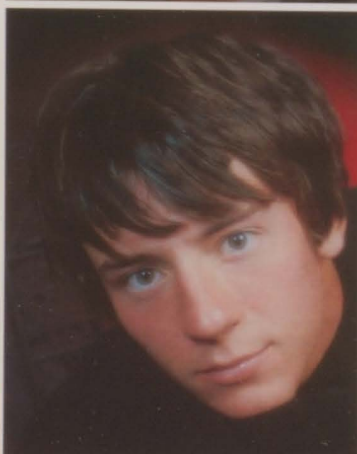
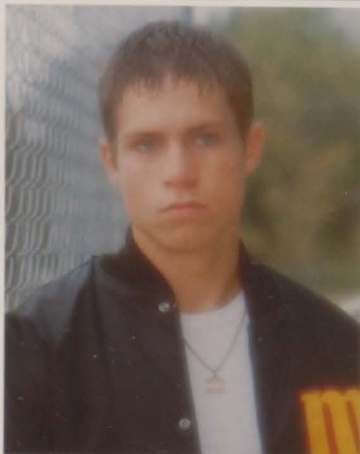
## Darren Leader

## Cory Letsinger

SADD 1,2,3,4, NHS 4 and Officer 4, FBLA 2,4 and Officer 4, Math Club 1,2,3,4 and Officer 1, Science Club 1,2,3,4 and Officer 3, FFA 1,2,3,4, Student Council 4, TSA 2,3,4 and Officer 2, Beta Chi Phi 3, Class Officer 4, Baseball 1,2,3,4, All Conference Baseball Honorable Mention 3, Basketball 1, Science Fair 2,3,4, Math Contest 1,2, Industrial Arts Fair 2,3, FBLA/Business Contest 2

## Tony Lockmon

Foreign Language Club 2, Art Club 1, TSA 2,3,4, Band 1,2,3,4, Art Fair 1, Science Fair 2,3,4, Math Contest 3, Industrial Arts Fair 2,3,4



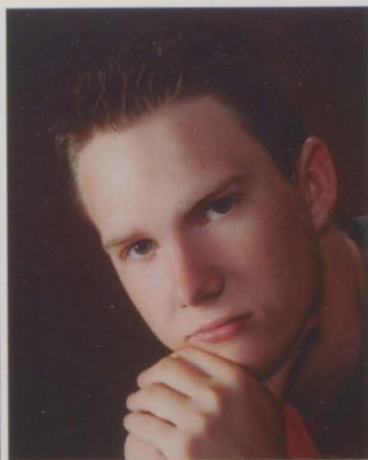




**BATTLE OF THE SEXES** Jordan Cantrell, far left, and Lisa Chambers box out their differences with large inflatable gloves at Project Graduation. The all-night party at Incredible Pizza in Springfield featured arcade games, movies and prizes. ■ Adjusting his tassel after graduation, Cody McCleary and Travis Clouse visit with junior Tyler Rummens. Both graduates are planning to attend SMSU-West Plains.



**Catrina Long**



**Travis Mason**

Foreign Language Club 3,4, Math Club 2,3,4, FFA 1,2,3, Basketball 1,2,3,4, Math Contest 3, Boys State 3



**Cody McCleary**

Art Club 1, Science Club 1, FFA 1,2,3,4, Baseball 1,2



**Keith Newton**

FFA 1,2,3,4



**Laurel Oberbeck**

Foreign Language Club 3, SADD 4, FBLA 1,2,3, Art Club 1,2,3,4 and Officer 4, Math Club 1, Science Club 1,2,3, FCCLA 1,2, Band 1,2,3, English Contest 1,2,3,4, Instrumental Contest 1,2,3, Art Fair 1,2,3,4, Math Contest 2



**April Pettibone**

Foreign Language Club 3,4, SADD 4, NHS 4 and Officer 4, Math Club 3,4, Science Club 2,4, FCCLA 1, FFA 2, Student Council 4, Publications Staff 2,3,4, and Editor 3, Band 1,2,3,4 and Officer 4, Softball 3, Basketball 2, English Contest 1,2,3,4, Journalism Contest 1,2,3,4, Instrumental Contest 1,2,3,4



**Aaron Price**

FFA 1,2,3 and Officer 3, Baseball 1, Basketball 1



**Kasie Rueff**

Foreign Language Club 3,4, SADD 1,2,3,4 and Officer 3,4, NHS 4, FBLA 3,4 and Officer 4, Math Club 2,3,4, Science Club 1,2,3,4, FCCLA 1,2, FFA 1,2,4, Beta Chi Pi 3, Band 1,2, Youth Alive 1, Pom Pon 1,2,3,4 and Captain 4, FBLA/Business Contest 3, Barnwarming Queen Candidate 1, Junior Miss Mansfield Runner Up 1, Flag Team 1,2, and Captain 2



**Melissa Sherman**



# Seniors

**UNDERSTANDING NUMBERS** Kasie Rueff helps kindergartner Kyle Elliott glue 100 shapes onto a grid at Math Night. Students worked with grids of 2 x 50, 4 x 25, 5 x 20 to help with their counting skills. ■ For a culminating activity in Career English, Keith Newton mixes up a batch of peanut clusters following classmate Della Lansdown's written instructions. Students created a set of instructions for some skill at which they were proficient.



## Josh Slater

Foreign Language Club 3,4, Math Club 3,4, TSA 2,3,4, Speech and Drama 1, Band 1,2,3,4, Class Officer 4, Instrumental Contest 1,2,3,4

## Kendra Smith

SADD 2,3, FBLA 3,4, Science Club 2,3, FCCLA 2,3, FFA 4, Band 1,2, Pom Pon 1,2,3,4, FBLA/Business Contest 3, Junior Miss Mansfield 1, Miss Mansfield Runner Up 3

## Brandon Sproul

## Justin Stafford

## Alisha Stewart

SADD 3, FFA 2,4, Band 1, Softball 3,4, Basketball 1,2,3,4

## Jason Walker

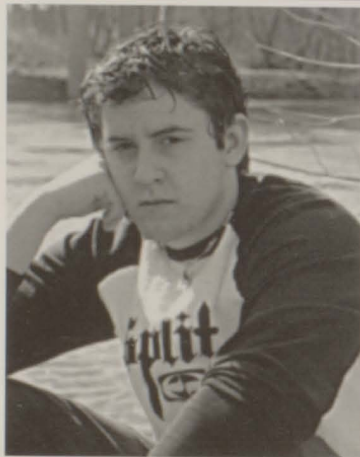
## LaJana Young

Foreign Language Club 2,3,4 and Officer 3,4, SADD 1 and Officer 1, NHS 3,4 and Officer 4, Math Club 1,2,3,4, Science Club 1,2, Student Council 4 and Officer 4, Publications Staff 3,4, Basketball 1,2,3,4, All Conference Basketball Honorable Mention 3, KKOZ Dream Team 3, Cross Country 1, Journalism Contest 1,3,4, Girls State 3, Homecoming Queen Candidate 4

Not Pictured:

## Amanda Walker

**SLEEP-DEPRIVED GRADUATES** attending Project Graduation crash on the inflatable boxing ring at Incredible Pizza in Springfield. Senior parents sponsored the 10 p.m. - 6:00 a.m. party, attended by more than 40 students.





Class Stats

**President:** Tim Brazeal  
**Vice President:** Jennifer Calhoun  
**Secretary:** Ashley Borders  
**Treasurer:** Josh Slater  
**Student Council Rep.:** Cory Letsinger  
**Population:** 43 (24 guys, 19 girls)  
**Class Flower:** Dogwood  
**Class Colors:** Ivory & Gold  
**Class Motto:** Special times and special places, special friends together; the moments pass so quickly, but the memories last forever.

Seniors 2003

Travis Hilliard

"Outgoing, fun, responsible, always goes out of his way to make things fun."  
-Justin Stafford

Justin Kingery

"Mischievous, crazy and full of ideas. Always making people laugh."  
-Kendra Smith

Amanda Delcour

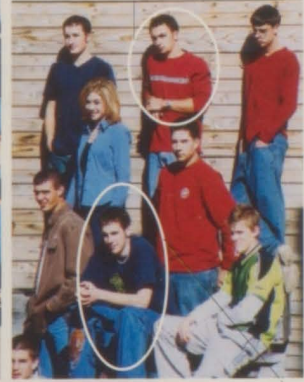
"Interesting to be around. Life is never dull when the sky is pink."  
-Jennifer Calhoun

Kelly Carampatan

"Always in style, nice to everyone and always laughs at my jokes."  
-Laurel Oberbeck

Cody McCleary

"He is the best kind of person. He's fun to be around, easy to talk to and let's face it, he's just hot."  
-April Pettibone



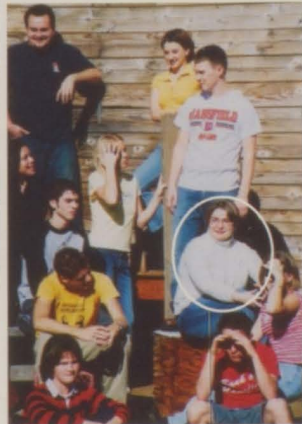
Cody Corder

"We've been best friends forever and for some reason his jokes never cease to crack me up."  
-Justin Kingery



Brett Bailey

"A guy anyone can talk to and he will always understand. He's crazy, always knows what to say and always does his best even if it doesn't work."  
-Jana Young



Sarah Bennett

"Sweet, a total kindred spirit. Someone I know I can always blab to about my day and she'll totally understand."  
-Jennifer Calhoun



Christian Eichelberger

"Silly, airheaded, determined, easily distracted, tries to bring silliness to every situation."  
-John Blaine

Melissa Sherman

"Always has a positive attitude no matter what the situation is. Always makes things fun when I am around her."  
-Ashley Borders

Laurel Oberbeck

"Full of wit, always knows how to find humor in bad situations."  
-Whitney Hannaford

PHOTOS BY ELI HELMS



## "What really irks you?"

"People who park diagonally  
across two parking spaces."

—Becky Slate

"Going through a fast food drive up window,  
getting your order, and discovering miles  
later that it's not right." —Amanda

Sherman

"Tight packaging, especially really tight lids  
and plastic wrap that covers CDs." —Eli

Helms

"Magazine inserts—the ones that you have to  
tear out because the magazine won't flip with  
them in there. Also those loose subscription  
cards that fall out all over the place." —

Garret Keith

"People who use signals but  
never turn them off." —Paul  
Moody

"Grocery stores—cart wheels that  
are off balance, people who hog  
the aisle and decisions about  
which line to get in (it's always  
the one where the cashier has to  
call the manager for change)." —

Mandy Rokusek

"Web sites that are posted but  
no longer available." —Tyler  
Rummens

*BOUQUETS OF  
FLOWERS*, balloons  
and stuffed animals  
catch the eye of  
Megan Hicks, Hillary  
Persinger and Della  
Lansdown wading  
through the assortment  
of Valentine gifts.



*IN THE FINAL ROUND*, the junior class battles the freshman class  
in the tug of war contest at Barnwarming. Brian Jones, Matt  
Rhodes and Jeremy Storm lead the pack. Other competitions  
include hay bale throwing, calf roping and relay games at the  
annual FFA cowboy style western dance.

Josh Archer  
Danielle Banner  
Ashley Baty  
Melissa Beckner  
LaToya Bell  
Adam Bennett  
Zac Blevins



April Butcher  
Casey Delapp  
Ashley Eichelberger  
Cody Elliott  
Jacki Feldhaus  
Zack Flageolle  
Eli Helms



Megan Hicks  
Brittany Hilton  
Travis Hire  
Ashley Hood  
Heather Jasick  
Brian Jones  
Jaron Keeling



Garret Keith  
Amanda Kuhn  
Jeremy Lampley  
Laura Lancaster  
Della Lansdown  
Tanya Loveland  
Joe Lucas







**MARTIALARTS** student Alex Newton demonstrates self defense techniques to visitors on the downtown square during Wilder Days. Newton, a yellow belt, takes lessons twice a week at the community center. ■ Students, teachers and community members from diverse religious perspectives, gather for "See You At the Pole" to pray for their school, friends and local, state and national leaders. Tyler Rummens, inset, hugs Wanda Winkler after participating in the meeting as Jennifer Calhoun waits. The event, a constitutionally protected right to "freely exercise religious faith" is held annually in schools across the country in September.



**SAYAAAAH** Conducting an experiment, Danielle Banner swabs Ashley Eichelberger's taste buds, sensory organs that are found mostly on the tongue, for a classroom activity in Anatomy/Physiology. The average person has about 10,000 taste buds. ■ On behalf of FBLA, LaToya Bell assists with packets of ketchup and other condiments for elementary lunch during Grandparents Day. Club members filled in as substitute grandparents and helped teachers with classroom activities.



Jill Merritt  
Megan Millard  
Paul Moody  
Alex Newton  
Chasity Olive  
Samantha Ousley  
Joe Perkins

Robert Perkins  
Hillary Persinger  
Jessica Pettibone  
Nicole Nelson Pilch  
Randy Ramsey  
Matt Rhodes  
Derrick Richardson

Mandy Rokusek  
Tyler Rummens  
Justin Schofield  
Amanda Sherman  
David Shevchuk  
Becky Slate  
Daison Steffe

Jeremy Storm  
Michael Tate  
Josh Venable  
Cody Whorton  
Brad Young



"I see myself out of school and living in a dumpster." –**Tom Brazeal**

"I see white men, many buffalo and the chief of my own tribe." –**Dakota Braham**

"I see myself working in a hospital in Springfield." –**Virginia Sherman**

"I will be a 500 lb. bedridden soccer mom because I eat so much stinkin' food, and I 'm going to be in the middle of suing McDonalds for getting fat!" –**Melanie Davis**

"Married with children." –**Steven Jarrett**

"I will be married with kids and have a few beef cows with some land that I can hunt on." –**Danny Ray**

"Maybe in Japan living the life!" –**Greg Short**

*"Where do you see yourself in ten years?"*

"I'll be married on the verge of getting a divorce and pregnant with three other kids living in a one-room shack."

–**LeAnn Kendall**

"I think I'll most likely be finishing medical school, hopefully at a nice one with good grades." –**Alex Miller**

"I see myself at the R & K Fun Center." –**Michael Fuge**

"I see myself married to Whitney Miller." –**Tim Stuart**

"Hopefully I will have a college degree in something, if I ever figure out what I want to do...I might be married, but not to Tim Stuart." –**Whitney Miller**

"I will be living with my dad in Baltimore, MD." –**Shawn Singh**

"Living in a van down by the river." –**Casey Ivy**

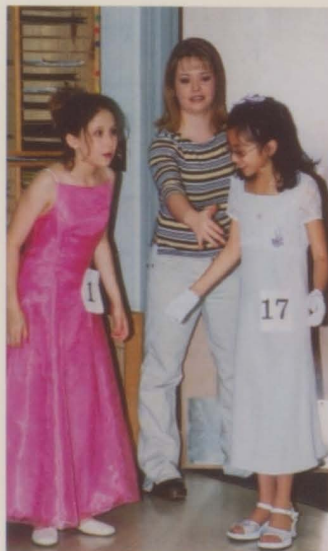
"I will be on my way to a wonderful career, a few years out of college and working for Microsoft. I will be making lots of money, living in a nice house, I'll be highly educated, in shape and a chick magnet." –**James Durham**

## SPORTING-CHANCE athletes

James Wheeler, Cody Calhoun, Shawn Singh and freshman Tiffany Dollarhide receive certificates from their sponsor Stephaney Menzie at the Athletic Awards night. The team competed in football, basketball and track leagues. ■ Chef Brandon Grass flips pancakes for the FFA sponsored community breakfast. Members start cooking the meal at 6 a.m. which features eggs, biscuits and gravy, sausage and pancakes.



**YOUR TURN** Brittany Borders, FCCLA member, rounds up Young Miss Mansfield contestants Kaylyn McNeil and Shantell Kelsay to escort them to backstage for their portion of the program. ■ Drew Berry has his teeth checked by a Wright County nurse as Mark Cruse checks out the procedure at the health fair. Freshmen and sophomores visit various stations which include screening for vision, hearing, dental, height and weight. Results are confidential and used by the state for statistical purposes.







Josh Asher  
Megan Barlett  
Becky Bennett  
Drew Berry  
Brittany Borders  
Dakota Branham  
Tom Brazeal

Vernon Brazeal  
Jeremiah Butcher  
Cheryl Calhoun  
Cody Calhoun  
Craig Campbell  
DeOndra Camall  
Tracey Cline

Mark Cruse  
Melanie Davis  
Tristan Dennis  
Chris Domiano  
Alex Dunbar  
James Durham  
Chrystina France

Michael Fuge  
Brandon Grass  
Sara Henley  
Kayla Hilton  
Lindsey Hopping  
Casey Ivy  
Ashley Jackson

Steven Jarrett  
Elaine Johns  
LeAnn Kendall  
Danny LaFavor  
Becky Lucas  
Anna Lynn  
Ashley McCrite

Alex Miller  
Whitney Miller  
Heather Mitchell  
Mike Moody  
Hannah Moore  
Christy Nichols  
Josh Pyle

Melanie Riley  
Amber Schofield  
Tim Shelhamer  
Virginia Sherman  
Greg Short  
Shawn Singh  
Matthew Stranghoner

Tim Stuart  
Josh Sullivan  
Taylor Thompson  
James Wheeler  
Jessica Wright  
Kerri Young



**YOU GONNA EAT THAT?** Josh Cornelius waits cautiously as Ryan Harris takes the first bite of his Halloween surprise. Cooks spooked up the lunch with bat ham, green mashed potatoes and black jello.

■ **BIG GULP** Leanne Moody, far right, pumps gas into Eli Helms's truck, for a Journalism I assignment. Moody wrote a news feature on the rising price of fuel and its impact on students.



**CURSES, FOILED AGAIN** Sarah Sherman and Tabitha Merideth create eye glasses out of aluminum wrap for "Foil Day" during Spirit Week. Other students sported hair accessories, jewelry, masks, ties, shoes and vests. ■ **BANNED BOOKS** English I students Kendall Findley, Evan Jones, Rebecca Barlett and Crystal Carter find themselves excluded from a seventh period library activity because of overdue books and fines.



Mandie Adamson  
Synthia Bannister  
Rebecca Barlett  
Eric Bricker  
Shamala Bunch  
Brett Calhoun  
Adam Caston



Katelyn Choate  
Jerica Cody  
Josh Cornelius  
Natasha Dixon  
Tiffany Dollarhide  
Kendall Findley  
Nicole Freeman



Kayla Gallion  
Ryan Harris  
Amanda Hilton  
Trampus Hire  
Julie Hutton  
Jackie Johnson  
Evan Jones



Hollie Jordan  
Brendan Keeling  
Adam Keith  
Samantha Kirby  
Dulci Lancaster  
Zachery Levan  
Ryan Loge





"Can't be a pushover, but on second thought I do like to get my way." **-Kristin Quick**

"About 5'4, 115 lbs. and beautiful. I want her to love hunting and fishing as much as I do." **-Les Parsons**

"Funny, loving, hot, not fat, brown hair and built. He has to be a good kisser and have a nice butt." **-Jessica Williams**

"I want a woman who is a redneck and drives a big 4/4 Chevy. About 125 lbs., black hair and beautiful. A good rifle shot, a great fisher and needs to chew." **-Nick Price**

"Tall, rich, built with blonde hair and knows how to have fun. Smart not geeky. Lots of personality." **-Synthia Bannister**

"Not fat or skinny, not real tall and has a good personality. She's athletic and not dumb, can hunt, fish and needs to be attractive."

**- Adam Keith**

"They need to have a great body and a great personality and that's about it. Oh and HUGE...eye lashes." **-Jesse Stuart**

"Tall, very good looking and dark eyes. Extremely nice, likes to talk about anything and has to, no doubt, be nice to my cat." **-Leanne Moody**

"Smart, handsome, tall, blue eyes, physically fit, dresses nice, has a career, straight white teeth, no unibrow, blondish-brown hair, good tan, no piercings and

## Describe your ideal opposite sex.

sweet." **-Amanda Hilton**

"Tall. She's got a light complexion. She should have glasses and be smart." **-Josh Cornelius**

"Two words, Blake Miller." **-Megan Sowers**

"A hot Gothic chick who has more hardware than Ace, who doesn't worry about what people think and likes the same music I do." **-Adam Caston**

"Nice, smart and handsome with light hair, nice shave, non-smoker, non-drinker, not selfish. Not the type of guy to settle down." **-Shamala Bunch**

"The ideal woman HAS to be very nice, sweet and fun to be around. Gotta have a good personality and maybe a little pretty." **-Blake Miller**

"I really won't care if they're smart and know how to please me. Wouldn't take jokes too personal." **-Kayla Gallion**

"Attractive with many talents. Same interests as mine. Funny, blonde and does not enjoy wearing clothes." **-Shane Norell**

"Lovable. Works out a lot, not fat. Plays sports, has a good job and a nice car." **-Natasha Dixon**



Hannah Maggard  
Tabitha Merideth  
Blake Miller  
Leanne Moody  
Sarah Moody  
Amanda Neal  
Billy Newton

Shane Norell  
Les Parsons  
Nick Price  
Kristin Quick  
Ashly Renner  
Drake Rigenhagen  
Cassie Sanders

Erin Schell  
Sarah Sherman  
Scott Short  
Adam Smith  
Chad Smith  
Megan Sowers  
Adam St. Laurent

Jesse Stuart  
Jessica Taylor  
Kelsey Tomlinson  
Andy Ussery  
Josie Vaverka  
Jessica Williams  
Jacob Wright



"Pretty Woman." –Danny Thompson

"Enough, because I think I'm enough for any one and I shouldn't have to change."  
–Ashley Kirtwright

"Kenny Chesney's song, *Young*."  
– Aimee Williams

"The movie *Dazed and Confused*."  
–Andrew Byerlee

"*Rudolf the Red-Nosed Reindeer*."  
– Lauren Rummens

"*Big Star* by Kenny Chesney because I have hopes to be a big star someday" – Audra Dierksen

"The movie *Legally Blonde* best describes my personality." – Heather Menefee

"*Road Trip*." –Brett Essary

"The song that best describes me is *Pimp Juice* by Nelly." – Josh Lansdown

"*Funky Chicken*, because I'm really funky!" – Joey Neal

"What song or movie title best describes your personality?"

"*Green Eggs and Ham*, because I love trying new foods."  
– Melanie Moore

"*Daredevil* best describes my personality." – Marcus Sherman

"*Sweet Home Alabama* because that is probably what will happen to me." – Hannah Persinger

"*Jason X*." –Jasmine Singh

"The three Austin Powers movies." – Ryan Scott

"*Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets*." –Melissa Johnsen

"*Half Baked* most describes me."  
– Ryan Wright

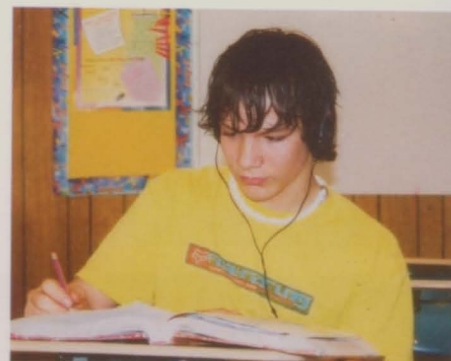
"The movie *Girls Girls Girls*."  
– Andy Morris

"*Sing With Me*, Eminem." – Brandon Sinning

**SHACKED DOWN** Joey Neal mingles with friends and family after graduation. Neal was unaware that Tammy Barrett, a friend of the family, left lipstick on his cheek. ■ **PRE-ALGEBRA STUDENT** Josh Gresham, completes a math assignment while listening to music in Tiffany Gray's classroom. Music helps him tune out distracting noise.



By Eli Helms



By Blake Miller



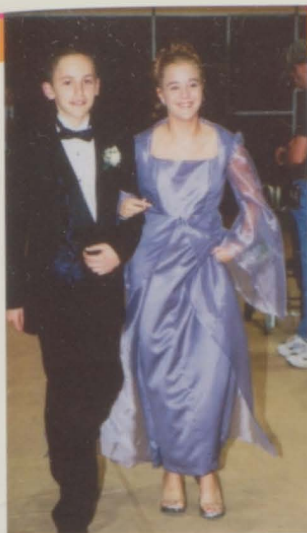
**TOY STORY** Jason Skaggs and Ethen Napier, prepare sets of CO<sub>2</sub> cars for racing in the high school commons area. Students in Roy Ryan's quarter-long class, built the wood cars, painted them and added decals, then matched them up two-by-two in a speed race.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Winners on the middle school math team celebrate at the ninth annual Mansfield Math Relays, sponsored by the Math Club. Eighth graders who placed were seventh graders Katie Sherman and Brittany Keeling, first, number theory; and eighth graders Heather Menefee and Chelsea House, first, algebra; Marcus Sherman and Kristin Campbell, second in number theory.







# TURNING A CORNER

Hannah Persinger, left, with escort Ronald DeLapp and Ashley Young, far left, and Brett Essary walk together in the processional. After graduation, parents sponsored a party at the community center for the 44 graduates. Photos by Eli Helms



Vicki Billings  
Andrew Byerlee  
Kristin Campbell  
Amanda Cook  
Ronald DeLapp  
Audra Dierksen  
Steven Domiano

Brett Essary  
Preston Goss  
Josh Gresham  
Paige Hoover  
Chelsea House  
Melissa Johnsen  
Mark Lampley

Josh Lansdown  
Michelle Lynn  
Melanie Moore  
Samantha Morris  
Andy Morris  
Joey Neal  
Chad Newton

Adam Penn  
Hannah Persinger  
Maranda Pringle  
Debbie Quick  
Lauren Rummens  
Ryan Scott  
Toby Shelhamer

Marcus Sherman  
Jasmine Singh  
Brandon Sinning  
Justin Skaggs  
Shona Stewart  
Jeremy Sutton  
Lacey Tate

Danny Thompson  
Adam Ward  
Zachary Weddle  
Aimee Williams  
Craig Williams  
Ryan Wright  
Ashley Young



# Grade Seven

"Never ground me."

—Quentin Berry

"Let me ride my dirt bike even if I have bad grades." —

Jonathan Lems

"Not to push your kids so hard for good grades.

Sometimes it's OK, but not always." —Ryan Whorton

"Still guide me but let me make my own choices because it could help me be a better person by learning from my mistakes."

—Sadi Harrell

"We need more freedom if they want better behavior."

—Sara Ussery

"I would not give my parents any advice because they have their

*"What tip would you offer your parents on how to be better parents?"*

reason for their rules."

—Rebecca Freeman

"I would tell my mom to dress up nicer and prettier when we go somewhere." —Sadie Vaverka

"Let me go more places and let me do more things. I would also ask them not to be so hateful when they are tired." —Morgan Scott

"Buy more Dr. Pepper and Hot

Pockets." —Elliott Johns

"Spend more time with me."

—Travis Turley

"Listen to me and to take my advice more often." —

James Stafford

"Don't tell our friends embarrassing things that happened to us."

—Spencer Deal

"Not to be so protective of me."

—Emily Nichols, Kellie Hutton

"Properly research games before you ban them just because of 'mild language.'" —Quincy St. Laurent



**LOVE IS IN THE AIR** Austin Bogart, top, and Summer Bannister carry balloons and candy in the lobby after school on Valentine's Day. ■ **WACKY HARE DAY** Brittany Keeling, top, works on homework with friend, Roger Rabbit in her rear view. Keeling participated in Spirit Week days which kick off middle school basketball season.



Kody Adamson  
Kristin Adamson  
Summer Bannister  
Stephanie Baty  
Quentin Berry  
Austin Bogart  
Nicole Bookout



Will Brazeal  
Heath Camall  
Margaret Davis  
Spencer Deal  
Justin Elliott  
Pamella Feldhaus  
Rebecca Freeman



Amanda Hallmark  
Amber Heath  
Amber Henry  
Kellie Hutton  
Justin Ince  
Rashawnda Jackson  
Elliott Johns



Chelsea Jones  
Brittany Keeling  
Jennifer Lemons  
Jonathan Lems  
Matthew Leonard  
Dallas Massey  
Bryce Matlock







**BEAT THAT** A group of shop technology students compare times in a CO<sub>2</sub> car race. Students in the quarter-long class built the wood cars, painted them, and added decals, then matched them up two-by-two in a speed race.



**UNDER THE GUN** Kellie Hutton and Will Brazeal team up in the open division in the Mansfield Math Contest, competing against 14 area schools. In its tenth year, the middle school contest is hosted by the Math Club.



**BIG WHEELS** Spencer Deal and Jennifer Lemons along with freshmen Billy Newton and Eric Bricker hitch a ride through the annual Butter Day parade on the tailgate of Keith Newton's high siffin' rig. The annual parade honors contributions of the county's dairy industry.



Jordan McDowell  
Aaron McNeil  
Alyshia Meiners  
Gabrielle Millard  
Melissa Morris  
Ethen Napier  
Emily Nichols

Larry Ousley  
Michael Pagel  
Daniel Pharris  
Cole Riley  
Christopher Roy  
Morgan Scott  
Katie Sherman

Jacob Skaggs  
Jason Skaggs  
Quincy St-Laurent  
James Stafford  
Jordan Sutton  
Dustin Taylor  
Sidney Tucker

Jessica Turley  
Joseph Turley  
Travis Turley  
Trishta Turley  
Sara Ussery  
Sadie Vaverka  
Chandler Veit

Ashley Vinson  
Adam Ward  
Cory Walker  
Ricky Wallace  
Ronald Webster  
Ryan Whorton



# Grade Six

**BUTTERDAYFUN** Tron Sherman and sixth grader Cody Riley use the last of their ride tickets on the tilt-a-whirl. In May, a carnival on the square kicks off the town's annual salute to the area dairy industry. Games, parades and entertainment are held nightly on the square. ■ In Pee Wee basketball action, Jake Gunter defends Doug Pyle who is attempting to drive to the basket for a layup. Fourth, fifth and sixth graders play together on a four-week league in the spring. High school girls and boys' basketball players serve as coaches.



## POLISHING OFF APPLES

and pudding, Laura Wagner, Kelly Whorton and Dalena Mitchell finish lunch in the new cafeteria. Sixth graders choose from a hot meal or soup/salad bar. ■ Landon Jarrett and Dustin Taylor compete in air hockey, a popular pastime at the community center. The youth room features ping pong, computers and big-screen television.



Kelsey Acree  
Chelese Adams  
Paige Adamson  
Julia Allen  
Brody Banner  
Ranee Barlett  
Sarah Billings



Travis Bishop  
Deanna Bookout  
Josh Box  
Megan Brooke  
Miranda Brooke  
Nathan Brumley  
Dustin Cody



Amy Collins  
Blake Conaway  
Tamara Delcour  
Jackie Emerick  
John Farmer  
Miranda Farris  
Courtney Geeser



Jake Gunter  
Timber Henry  
Ryan Hilliard  
Shawn Hume  
Landon Jarrett  
Windy Johnsen  
Colton Jones





"That I was delivered by the Easter bunny. How could that be if my birthday is in November?"

— John Farmer

"In kindergarten, my teacher made little leprechaun foot prints on the floor in green paint and told us that every April Fool's Day a leprechaun came in the classroom looking for his pot of gold."

—DeAnna Bookout

"When I was about six, my sisters told me I came from Wal-Mart and that's where they got me."

—Shane Stewart

"People told me that if I kept picking my nose, the booger snail

would come out and eat my finger."

—Paige Adamson

"You've heard of the man on the moon, well my aunt says 'there's a man up there just like God, even though you can't see him doesn't mean he's not there.'

Sometimes I wonder."

—Jackie Emerick

"My dad says I was brought by the ugliest stork."

—Tron Sherman

"On half the moon, they say it is a big toe nail."

—Tyler Riley

*"What have adults told you that you suspect is not true?"*

"Jaws is real."

—Chad Kabage

"Miracle Grow makes hair grow."

—Justin Keith

"My dad said he taught George Washington to ride a horse so that I would ride my horse."

—Kristine Whorton

"That bed bugs will bite and the bogeyman is going to get me."

— Courtney Geeser

"My mom told me that I was related to Abraham Lincon."

—Shawn Hume

"Mom and Dad tell me not to make funny faces cause one might get stuck like that."

—Ebboni Williams

"My mom said if I sat too close to the T.V I would go blind."

—Rachel Sowers

"That we'll never move again."

—Timber Henry

Whitney Jordan  
Chad Kabage  
Justin Keith  
Michael Lynn  
Dalena Mitchell  
Daniel Morton  
Steven Myers

Tyler Page  
Chelsea Pringle  
Tyler Riley  
Tara Robinson  
Clay Schell  
Tron Sherman  
Kashmir Singh

Dee Singh  
Rachel Sowers  
Aaron Stewart  
Meranda Stewart  
Shane Stewart  
James Swanson  
Amanda Tucker

Laura Wagner  
Eldon Wallace  
Evan Whorton  
Kelly Whorton  
Kristine Whorton  
Austin Wight  
Ebboni Williams

Dakota Willis  
James Wright  
Marcia Blaine  
Don Luster  
Nate Moore



# Grade Five

**URBAN COWBOY** Austin Johnson acknowledges a familiar face in the crowd as he rides his horse in the Wilder Day parade, held annually in honor of hometown author Laura Ingalls Wilder.



**GIVING 100 SHAPES** onto a variety of grids keeps Justin and Daniel Colston and their mom Jackie Colston concentrating on counting and multiplication skills. At this Math Night station, students worked with grids of 2x50, 4x25, 5x20 and others.



**LIONS ON PARADE** Katelyn Nolen, Nathan Rummens, Jasmine Turney, Kaysha Ousley Marcy Stofer and Chauncie Mitchell show off two of the colorful lions displayed in the lobby of the elementary. Students built their lions out of paper mache, using recycled materials.

Bailey Acree  
Haden Adamson  
Lindsay Allen  
John Barnett  
Kayla Baty  
Casey Box  
Brian Bunch



Echo Cantrell  
Cody Clayton  
Dillon Coffelt  
Daniel Colston  
Laken Conaway  
Devin Davis  
Erin Dierksen



Kelsay Dugger  
Alisha Gray  
Jamie Gunkel  
Brittany Halverson  
Victoria Hardison  
Kerry Harris  
Adam Heater



Joshua Heater  
Stephanie Henry  
Marshall Johns  
Rochelle Johns  
William Johnson  
Austin Johnson  
Nathan Jones  
Chelsi Keith



Krista Lampley  
Brittany Landrum  
Vince Miller  
Chauncie Mitchell  
Cory Moore  
Marcy Morton  
Kaleb Nolen





"Eric Koston because he is a pro skateboarder." –**Johnathon Stout**

"My Uncle Scott because he is a cop and gets to bust people." –**Laken Conaway**

"I wouldn't want to be anyone else because I'm happy with who I am." –**Kaysha Ousley**

"I would want to be President Bush, because it would be nice to be in charge, and for one there would be a woman president." –**Chauncie Mitchell**

"I would be my mom Christina because I would like to work at MODOT." –**Jasmine Turney**

"I wouldn't want to be anyone else besides me, because I

wouldn't have the same friends and family." –**Casey Box**

"SpongeBob SquarePants." –**Nathan Rummens**

"Michael Jordan because I would like to be famous, have a lot of money and be a star." –**Morgan Williams**

"Gohan on Dragon-Ball Z

*"If you could live  
someone else's life  
for a week, who would  
you pick and why?"*

because Gohan is extremely fast and powerful." –**John Barnett**

"I would like to be Jackie Stiles, because she is a basketball star and I want to be one." –**Marcy Stofer**

"Jason Kidd because he is the best passer in the NBA." –**Nathan Jones**

"I would pick Kelsey R. because her life sounds really cool." –**Danyale Young**

"Major League baseball player Albert Pujols or Priest Holmes, a football player for the Kansas City Chiefs. He is fast and makes millions of dollars." –**Cody Clayton**

"Sandra Bullock because she is pretty and a star." –**Rochelle Johns**

"Jeff Gordon so I would know what it feels like winning the Daytona 500." –**Justin Sanders**

"I wouldn't want to live anyone's life." –**Eric Tompkins**

"I wouldn't want to be anyone, not even people who are rich and famous." –**Allyson Rokusek**



Katelyn Nolen  
Kaysha Ousley  
Doug Pyle  
Cody Riley  
Kelsey Rogers  
Allyson Rokusek  
Austin Rokusek

Alex Roy  
Nathan Rummens  
Justin Sanders  
Cody Sigman  
Jaimie Smith  
Marcy Stofer  
Johnathon Stout

Eric Tompkins  
Jasmine Turney  
John Wallace  
Whitney Whorton  
Morgan Williams  
Sheirif Williams  
Jake Yost

Danyale Young  
Jared Young  
Carol Anderson  
Jacki Engel  
Jodie Sell



*"What is the  
bravest thing  
you ever did?"*

"I saved a kitty's life when a car was coming." – **Brittany Lakey**

"Jump off a cliff and let my shoes fall off." – **Rheanna Allen**

"I killed a two-foot snake." – **Warren Brazeal**

"The bravest thing I ever did was open the door on a cold day." – **Anthony Sabado**

"I went into the house when no one was home, the lights were out and I was all by myself." – **Vanessa Delcour**

"Listen to the Britney Spears CD." – **Devin Robbins**

"I saved a puppy's life." – **Olivia Whorton**

"Walk into a creepy house, alone, to feed my rabbit." – **Wendy Ince**

"The bravest thing I ever did was ride a train." – **Jodi McDowell**

"I rode my bike down a steep slope." – **Jakob Adamson**

"I tried to ride a dirt bike without knowing

how to work it and I ran into a pole." – **Alyse Ashburn**

"I crossed a creek on a root." – **Heath Dugger**

"The bravest thing I ever did was be a witness for Jesus." – **Brittany Cruse**

"Try to walk after I had broke my leg." – **Sharice Dennis**

"I jumped off the trampoline backwards." – **David Turley**

"I rode Wildfire but now I like it." – **Lakin Bogart**

"The bravest thing I ever did was stand up for a friend." – **Cody Young**

**CHILLIN' OUT** On a winter afternoon, Jessica Berry plays air hockey with Marci Ramilo from Norwood in the community center youth room, where neither membership nor admission is required. ■ **ON THE SIDELINE**, Vanessa Delcour belts out a cheer for the Lions during an uplifting moment at the homecoming game against Conway. Cheerleaders tossed megaphones into the crowd to boost volume and spirit. The Lions nudged by Conway 50-49.



**GOOD OLD DAYS** Zachary Houke makes his way through the "Virginia Reel," an old English country dance, during a performance on Grandparents Day. The day began with an assembly in the gymnasium where each grade performed a song or dance directed by music teacher, Eric Spyres. ■ **FRONT AND CENTER** In Little House Memories, Nikk Zorsch who plays Laura and Audra Dierksen (blue dress) as Nelly, perform with area dancers to "Plum Creek Diddy." The outdoor pageant is presented by the Ozark Mountain Players in the city's amphitheater.







**OPEN HOUSE VISITORS** Brett and Lawanda Dennis, far left, visit daughter Sharice's classroom while teacher Christie Grubbs, left, talks with Lemuel and Debra Berry in her classroom. Guests, which numbered close to 1,000, were treated to hands-on activities, mini-concerts, pom pon dances, cookbooks and snacks.



Jakob Adamson  
Rheanna Allen  
Alyse Ashburn  
Jessica Berry  
Lakin Bogart  
Austin Branham  
Savanna Cornelius

Brittany Cruse  
Ethan Davis  
Vanessa Delcour  
Jeromey Dennis  
Sharice Dennis  
Heath Dugger  
Rachael Essary

Stephanie Farmer  
Jordon Gunter  
Gabriele Henry  
Justin Hinsley  
Sarah Hooker  
Zachary Houke  
Wendy Ince

Laine Kelley-Cain  
Cody Kenaga  
Brittany Lakey  
Hannah Levan  
Dillon Massey  
Jodi McDowell  
Kaylyn McNeil

Eryka Myers  
Darron Nichols  
Erin Nichols  
Devin Robbins  
Anthony Sabado  
Kyle Sigman  
Kimberly Stofer

David Turley  
Olivia Whorton  
Cody Young  
Nikki Zorsch  
Vicky Denney  
Christie Grubbs



# Grade Three

**CHRISTMAS SPECTACULAR** Mrs. Clause Katlyn Swisher, elf Emily Neal and Santa Christian Gray sing "Getting' A Part Time Job," back up by a chorus of elves. First, second and third graders presented the elementary program, directed by Eric Spyres, vocal music teacher. ■ **SWEET STUFF** Caitlin Hickie corrals her Valentine balloon after staff members made deliveries in the classrooms. On the same day, grandparents were honored guests and participated in holiday projects and games.



**FRUSTRATED REINDEER,** finding themselves with empty pockets and a serious overbooking situation on Christmas Eve, sing their sorrows away during "The Night the Reindeer Rocked." ■ **THE NOSE KNOWS** At the health and safety fair, Officer Steve Grass demonstrates his K9 German Shepherd's abilities to detect drugs, weapons and contraband to Silas Strain and Beau Massey.



Chance Allen  
Chase Allen  
David Barlett  
Shawn Barrett  
Taylore Baty  
Quinton Bell  
Sarah Bishop



Nathan Bogart  
Billy Buford  
Jenna Campie  
Justin Colston  
Jessica Cook  
Johnnie Dunham  
Christian Gray



Julia Gresham  
Brady Hanger  
Katie Hanson  
Aaron Harris  
Nathan Henry  
Caitlin Hickie  
Kaitlyn Hooker



James Jackson  
Samuel Johnsen  
Blake Johnson  
Trey Jones  
Pavel Khatuliou  
Tucker Kirkland  
Jordyn Loge





"When Miss Crump makes expressions on her face like when her eyebrows go up."  
- Lexi Sherman

"I like when Mrs. Quick reads a funny story." -Brandon Nash

"My church teacher makes me laugh when she draws pictures."  
-Joe Lynn

"When the teacher pulls down the projector screen and it rolls up real fast." -Nathan Bogart

"Sometimes they dress funny." - Chance Allen

"When they get to talking too

much and say stuff wrong." - Tucker Kirkland

"When we do Math-a-thon, the teachers get pied in the face and when their faces are a snow plump and they lick their faces." - Trey Jones

"When they get pies thrown at them, mess up writing on the board and dress up in clothes to be Bible characters at church." - Christian Gray

*"What do teachers do that make you laugh?"*

"Mrs. Graham tells jokes."  
-Shawn Barrett, Taylore Baty

"Ms. Strain makes me laugh because she is the library dragon." -Pavel Khatuliou

"Mr. Spyres always does funny dances and he talks wierd sometimes." -Billy Buford

"The teachers ask silly questions." -Austin Stewart

"Ms. June acts really goofy and Ms. Graham laughs all the time." -Silas Strain

"Mr. Sanders tells jokes." - Devon Sabado

"My teacher plays Simon Says and she says funny things like 'Simon says go to the moon.'" - Michel Perrin



Joe Lynn  
Jonathan Lynn  
Shayna Matney  
Dillon McCoy  
Dakota Melton  
Nicole Mitchell  
Daniel Moody

Joey Moore  
Billy Morton  
Brandon Nash  
Emily Neal  
Michel Perrin  
Mikeal Pippin  
Alex Reed

Kyle Rummens  
Devon Sabado  
Megan Schofield  
Lexis Sherman  
Loren Smith  
Austin Stewart  
Silas Strain

Sierra Strunk  
Jerrad Sullivan  
Aaron Swanson  
Bradley Swanson  
Katlyn Swisher  
Carlin Tompkins  
Kodi Toomey

Cory Turney  
Steven Walker  
Miranda Young  
Vicki Box  
Elaine Crump  
Linda Graham

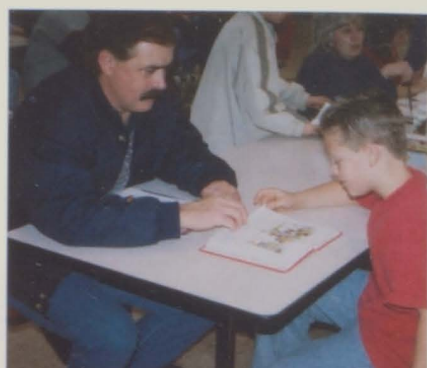
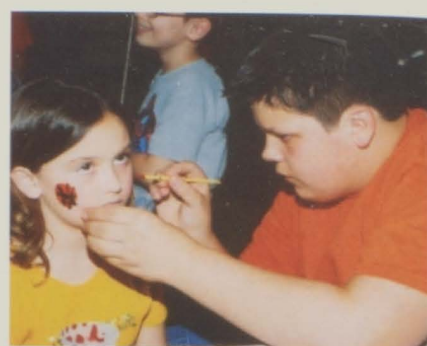


# Grade Two

**REINDEER GAMES** Second graders perform "Rudolph the Rednosed Reindeer" at the Christmas Spectacular. The musical was made up of unison and 2-part voices. ■ **PERSONAL ARTIST** Freshman Jesse Stuart paints a Lion paw on Chantelle Border's face during Arthur Aardvark reading event held at the elementary. The activity paired up high school students with their younger counterparts.

**SISTERACT** Cassandra and Alyssa Sproul wait in line to get their fingerprints processed by Officer Duane Delcours from the Mansfield Police Department at the health and safety fair. Delcours stressed the importance of having prints on file in case of a missing person situation ;.

■ **READING COUNTS** Tyler Young, far right, shares some time with Grandpa Donald Calhoun at Grandparents Day in February. Grandparents ate lunch in the cafeteria with their grandchildren and participated in class activities.



Cory Allen  
Sam Appleby  
Chace Bell  
Chantelle Borders  
Aaron Burruss  
Cassey Burruss



Corey Cantrell  
Curtis Carnal  
Bobby Clanton  
River Cochran  
Brooke Coffman  
Austin Cook



Jason Cornelius  
Zach Croslow  
Amanda Davis  
Scott Davis  
Cole Doherty  
Candace Dunbar



Melissa Edwards  
Ryan Elliott  
Chance Emerick  
Richard Garson  
Ryan Hamberg  
Mandy Hanson

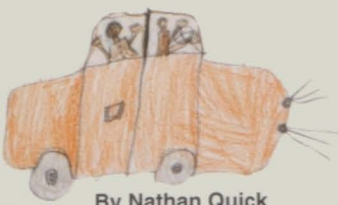


Dakota Harris  
William Hash  
Maranda Heath  
Cody Henry  
T.J. Hilton  
Jessica Houke





"Yes, because you can go anywhere you want." – **Jade Turney**



By Nathan Quick

"Yes, because you get to get married." – **Dakota Harris**

"Yes, because you get to get money for working." – **Sam Appleby**

"Yes, because parents get to boss kids around." – **Cole Doherty**

"Yes, because you get to do what you want to do. You can also get what you want at the stores."

– **Jessica Houke**



By Kaylee Pierson

"Yes, because you won't get lonely." – **Taylor Matney**

"Yes, because you get to build stuff." – **Bryon Stout**

**"Is it fun to be a parent?"**

"Yes, because I would let my kids spend the night with my mom." – **Cody Pratt**

"Yes, because you can cook." – **Curtis Carnal**

"I think it would be fun because their life is a lot easier." – **Chance Emerick**

"Yes, because they have children." – **Katelyn Irwin**

"I think that it is not fun to be a parent because the baby cries all night and you don't get any sleep." – **Mandy Hanson**



By Caleb Jones



Samantha Howard  
Darren Hume  
Michael Hutson  
Katelyn Irwin  
Shay Jackson  
Caleb Jones

Canaan Kindle  
Brandy Koke  
Taylor Matney  
Kolby Miller  
Christain Parsons  
Kaylee Pierson

Torey Pingel  
Cody Pratt  
Nathan Quick  
Elaine Rawlings  
Becky Short  
Cassandra Sproul

Bryon Stout  
Nathan Swisher  
Jade Turney  
Mathew Walker  
Taylor Wehmeyer  
Shafi Williams

Susan Williams  
Ashtin Young  
Clayton Young  
Tyler Young  
Edwina Carnal  
Carol Hanger  
June Hanger



"Chicken Butt. My uncle gave me this name and my family laughs when he calls me that."  
– **Kelsey Adamson**

"Red. I like that name because I have red hair."  
– **Kourtney Brumley**

"They call me teepee. I like it when they call me that. I don't know why they call me that."  
– **Tiffany Jones**

"Shorty Pants. I like my nickname. They call me that because I am little."  
– **Ashley Lansdown**

"Junior. I like it because it's my favorite race car driver's name."  
– **Levi Harris**

"Russ. I like it because it is better than my real name."  
– **Russell Harrison**

"Sugar. I like it because they think I am sweet."  
– **Katie Peak**

"Izzy. I don't like it because it is dumb."  
– **Gabby Levan**

"Pooh. I like it because I have a Pooh that I sleep with."  
– **Chelsea Emerick**

"Bub. I like it because it is my Uncle's name too."  
– **Devin Garson**

"Honey. I like it because I am sweet."  
– **Philisha Lamb**

**"What nicknames do you have that you like or dislike?"**

"Andrew, I don't like it because it's my middle name."  
– **Jess Farris**

"Monkey. I don't know why my family calls me that. I do things like monkeys do."  
– **Mariah Harris**

"My Aunt Stephanie calls me

A.J. because those are my initials."  
– **Aidan Bailey**

"Bubba. Because there is no Austin in my family so they call me Bubba."  
– **Austin Matney**

"Tick. I don't like it because it is a silly name."  
– **Cody Nash**

"Goober Smooch. My mom and dad gave it to me."  
– **Shelby Lansdown**

"KK. I like it because my papa calls me that and it has only two k's."  
– **Clay Smith**

"Balto. That's what my babysitter called me."  
– **Dalton McNeil**

"Froggy because I hop like a frog."  
– **Meileeta Rawlings**

Kelsey Adamson  
Nicholas Barnard  
Jordan Baty  
Katarena Beatty  
Kourtney Brumley  
Aaron Buford  
Derek Campie



Cody Coffman  
Amanda Cook  
Aleah Cunningham  
Kristen Duhaylungsod  
Fallon Easley  
Chelsea Emerick  
Sarah Emerick



Jess Farris  
Devin Garson  
Levi Harris  
Mariah Harris  
Rachel Hash  
Brandon Henry  
Cory Henry



Derrick Hunsucker  
Stephen Irwin  
Patrick Jackson  
Ethan Johns  
Ashley Lansdown  
Shelby Lansdown  
Leanna Leckenby







**COUNT DOWN** Eric Spyres, vocal music teacher, leads first grade students in saying and performing actions to a musical poem, "Thar's a Bar," which teaches students rhythm and beats in music.

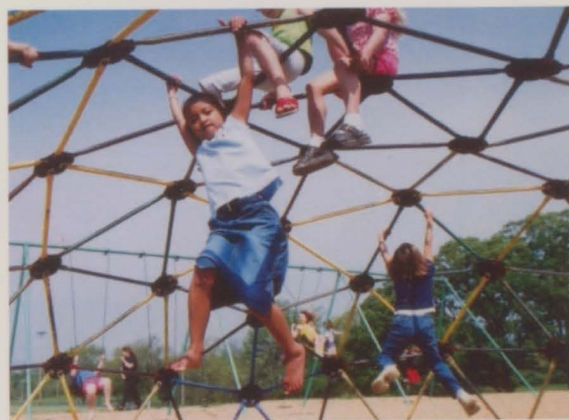


By Sara Henley



**ON THE SPOT**  
Jordan Baty and Cody Coffman perform "Goin' to the Zoo" for guests attending Grandparents Day. After the assembly, grandparents accompanied students to their regular classrooms for activities and projects.

By Leanne Moody



By Sara Henley

**HIDE AND SEEK**  
At recess, Cory Henry, far left, and Ethan Wallace spot "the seeker" on the playground while Kristen Duhaylungsod hangs around on the jungle gym with her classmates.



Gabby Levan  
Austin Matney  
Dalton McNeil  
Cody Nash  
Ashtyn Nichols  
Katie Peak  
Meileeta Rawlings

Zachary Robbins  
Mark Schuster  
Cameron Shores  
Jennifer Sigman  
Clay Smith  
Alyssa Sproul  
Calli Titsworth

Tiffani Ussery  
Spencer Vogt  
Ethan Wallace  
Nur Williams  
Michael Wilson

Patty Hanger  
Jana McConnell  
Brenda Quick  
Not pictured:  
Tiffany Jones



"Growing up means helping people and building houses. I will be 88 when I am grown up."

—Justin Gower

"You're big and older. Sixty or 50 somewhere around there."

—Jordan Lebahn

"Grown up means 'don't be a baby.' I'll be 20." —Bethany Lakey

"I am already grown up. I am six."

—Dalton Young

"It means you get to be the boss. When I am 21, I will be grown up."

—Shyan Webster

"It means you can be a mom. I will be grown up when I am six."

—Madison Richardson

*"What does it mean to be  
all grown up?  
How old will you be?"*

"Grow up means you have to work. 20." —Jonah Gray

"You're the boss! Like 16."

—Chandler Blaine

"You get to do big stuff like cooking and picking up wood. 40." —Sherry McDowell



By Ashtin Matney

"You get to work on your truck. Seven." —Cory Parsons

"You have to work. Seven is grown up." —Kara Kennedy

"Go to McDonalds by yourself. 55." —McKenzie Tripp

"Growing up means to work out at the Community Center. 100." —Taylor Cain

"Grown up means you have a lot of birthdays. 80." —Ashtin Matney

"Grown up means to eat healthy stuff. 20." —Kyle Elliott

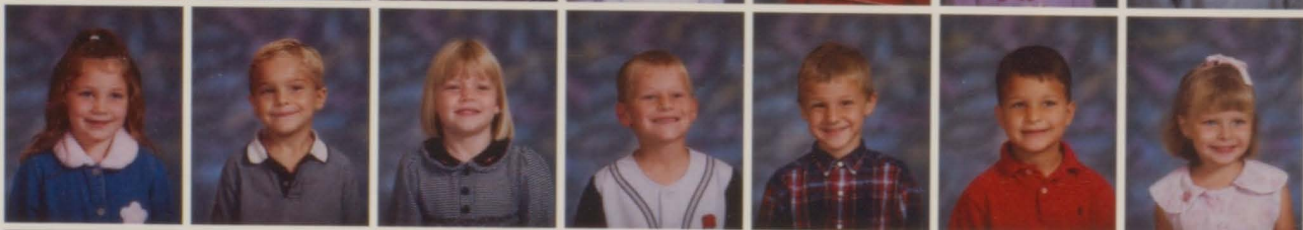
Bailey Adams  
McKenzie Adamson  
Erick Benson  
Chandler Blaine  
Dalton Borders  
Madison Box  
Ashley Brazeal



Braden Bruce  
Matthew Buford  
Taylor Cain  
Brianna Carter  
Jon Clanton  
Hannah Cochran  
Mashala Crain



Justice Dechenne  
Arik Dennis  
Blaine Dennis  
Kyle Elliott  
Justin Gower  
Jonah Gray  
Cassidy Hickie



Zachary Hodges  
Deleah Jones  
Kara Kennedy  
Courtney Kirkland  
Bethany Lakey  
Jordan Lebahn  
Dakota Lems







**SHOWING RESPECT** Elementary Principal Don Sanders leads students and staff in a moment of silence, Wed., Sept. 11, 2003. This moment was part of a school-wide observance marking the anniversary of the terrorist attacks in New York City and Washington, D.C.



**FOWL LANGUAGE** Chandler Blaine talks poultry with sophomore Danny LaFavor as kindergartners tour Food For America. The annual event, sponsored by FFA, educates elementary students about agriculture's role in their lives.

**GO FIGURE** Dalton Borders works takes a turn at a paper multiplication game with Ashley Baty on Math Night. High School students working at different stations, taught math concepts using games and hands-on activities.



Anthony Lubbock  
Beau Massey  
Ashtin Matney  
Makenzie McCrite  
Sherry McDowell  
Kaylee Melton  
Kailey Morris

Justin Moss  
Cory Parsons  
Dustin Reed  
Madison Richardson  
Kimber Stout  
McKenzie Tripp  
Kristen Wallace

Shyan Webster  
Dalton Young  
Patti Gleason  
Kelley Jones  
Kay Scrivner



*"If you had  
a million dollars,  
what would you  
buy your mom?"*

"A little bitty, bitty house that has little bitty toys and big toys." **-Maci Gray**

"A carrot because she likes carrots to build a snowman with." **-Calista Bogart**

"A castle because her likes castles."  
**-Chris Caswell**

"A big trampoline because my mom might be so happy." **-Mason Roy**

"A pretend skunk, a pretend whale and two balloons." **-Drew Roy**

"A flower because she likes flowers in vases and on the fireplace."  
**-Jack Brazeal**

"A building so she can buy her some stuff." **-Preston Bailey**

"A monster to roar at her door." **-Christian McCrite**



"An angel because she likes angels and a house." **-Ethan Davis**

"A Power Ranger because my mom wanted to have one."  
**-Caleb Kindle**

"Green Goblins so her can play with them." **-Cameron Brazeal**

"A crown because she would wear it, and a heart that would stand on the ground in the yard because she would like to look at it."  
**-Justin Campbell**

"Some sunglasses, a boat, a dress and some shoes." **-Breanna Thompson**

"A train with a driver." **-Conner Choate**

"A butterfly, balloons and coins because I just want to." **-Caleb Swisher**

"Little People's Noah's Ark because I saw it at Wal-Mart and it cost a lot of money. She plays Little People with me." **-Jefferson Engel**

"A flag because she's like to watch it." **-Morgan Price**

"A coconut, cantalopes and flowers because she would like them." **-Kadie Black**

"A T.V. so she can watch cartoons." **-Debra Bell**



"A Barbie and a rainbow and the sky because her's gonna love those things."  
**-Emily Lebahn**

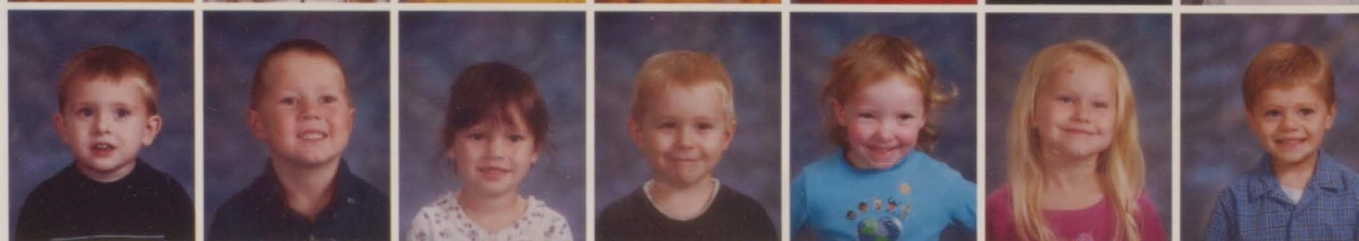
Preston Bailey  
Debra Bell  
Shellbie Bell  
Kadie Black  
Adam Blaine  
Calista Bogart  
Cameron Brazeal



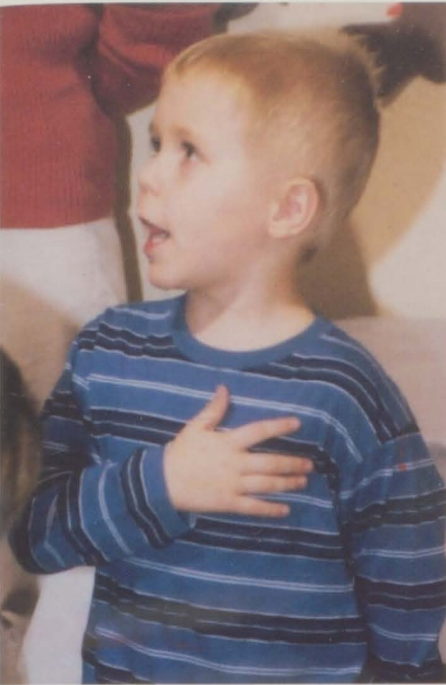
Jack Brazeal  
Jamie Brooke  
Braidy Calhoun  
Justin Campbell  
Austin Cantrell  
Chris Caswell  
Conner Choate



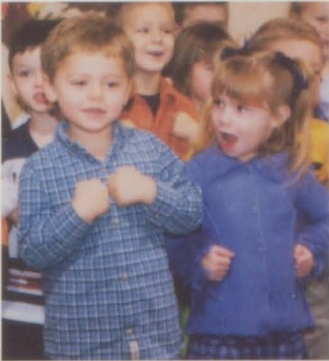
Joshua Clanton  
Ryan Coffman  
Kayla Corder  
Ethan Davis  
Sarah Dugger  
Alyssa Elliott  
Jefferson Engel







**THANKS A LOT** Ryan Coffman recites the Pledge of Allegiance along with other students and guests attending the pre-school's annual Thanksgiving feast held at the First Baptist Church Family Center.



**PLAY ON THE WAY** Jefferson Engel and Taylor Tripp perform hand motions in a song about turkeys at the pre-school's Thanksgiving feast. The annual event, organized by teachers Cheri Rummens and Lori Hoover, draws more than 250 parents and family members.



**IMAGINE THIS** Maci Gray sits calmly as sophomore Sara Henley paints her face to resemble Arthur Ardvaark. A reading night, designed around the children's book character, paired students up from Marcella Swatosh's English I and II classes with readers from the elementary school.



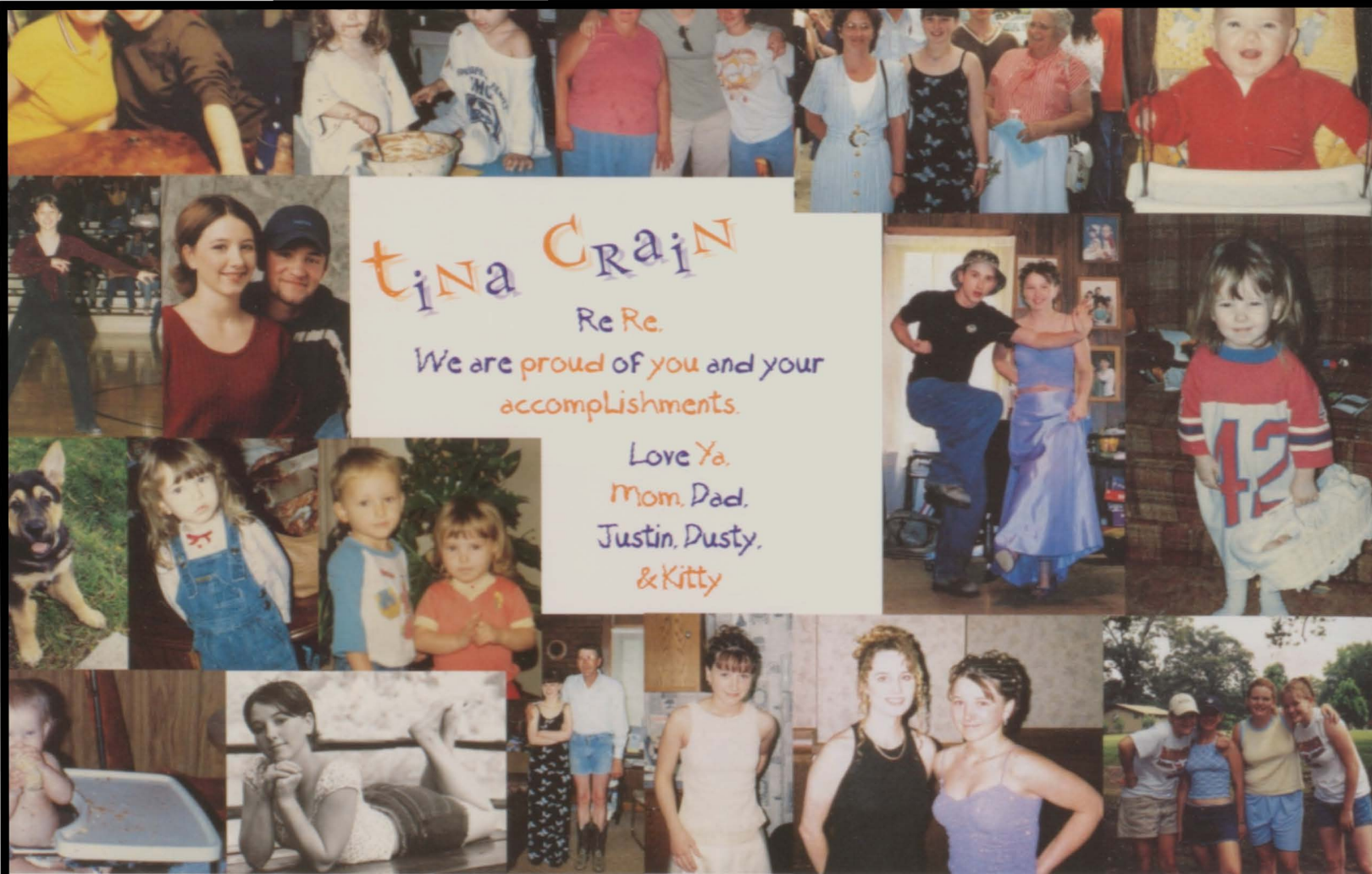
Cassidy Gardner  
Kaliasha Garrison  
Maci Gray  
Aidan Gresham  
Caleb Kindle  
Megan Kingery  
Emily Lebahn

Kelcie Matney  
Christian McCrite  
Jake McNeil  
Sean Neal  
Alyssa Nelson  
Morgan Price  
Abby Roy

Drew Roy  
Mason Roy  
Sissy Roy  
Kacey Smith  
Caleb Swisher  
Christian Thill  
Breanna Thompson

Taylor Tripp  
Chassity Wilson  
Lori Hoover  
Cheri Rummens





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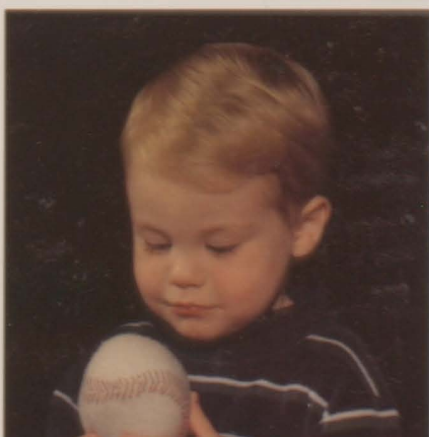
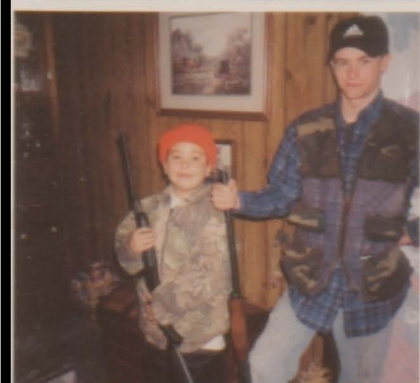
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# JOSH KULP

Our gift from God, so blessed and sweet  
Breathe deep of all life has to offer.  
Be strong and true to yourself and know  
We will always be there for you.  
We love you,  
Mom, Dad, Sara, Kaleb and Katelyn







# Laurel OBERBECK

YOU ARE OUR INSPIRATION WITH  
YOUR EVER READY SMILE  
AND YOUR QUICK WIT!  
ALWAYS LEAVE THEM LAUGHING.  
WE LOVE YOU.  
MOM, DAD, TRACY AND LIAM





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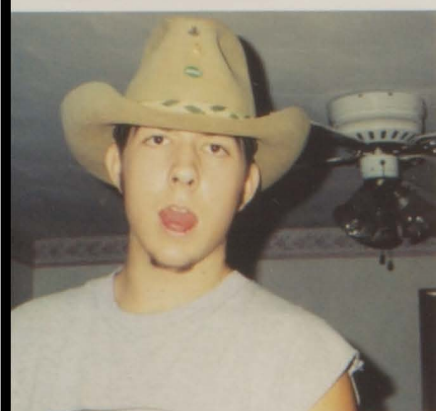
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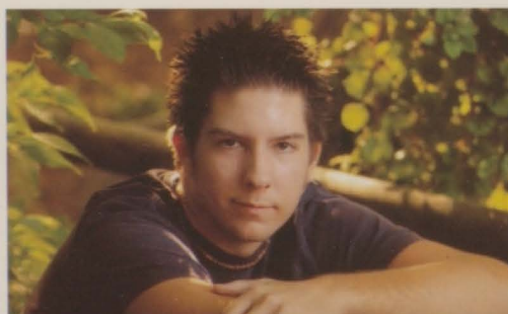




# TRAVIS CLOUSE

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Love you,  
Dad, Mom, Papa, Momo and Paula





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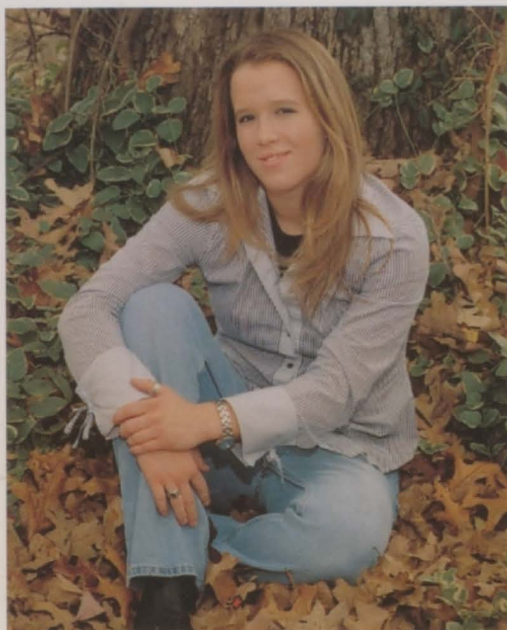
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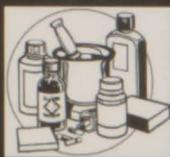
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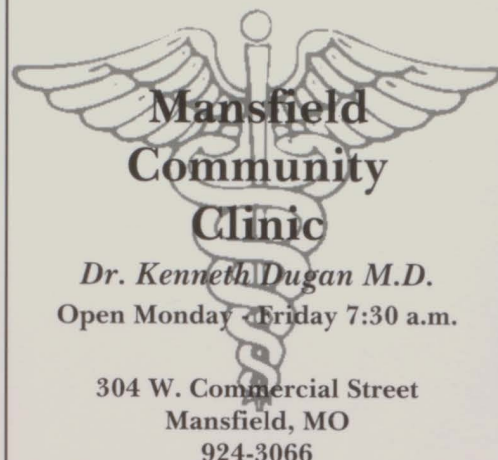


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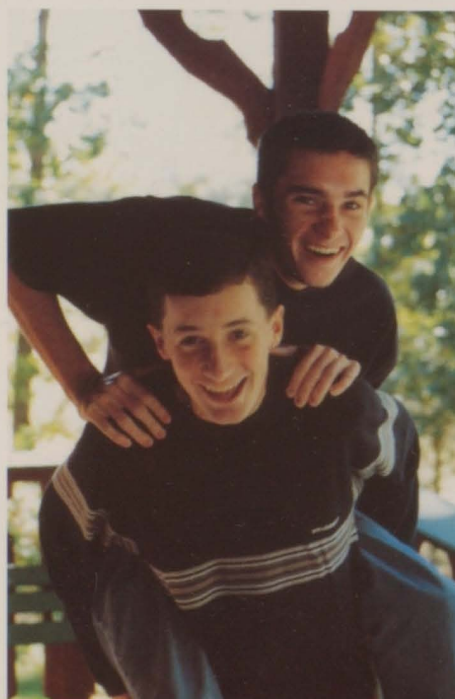
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And we love you a lot  
Love,  
Dad, Mom, Craig, Shelby & Maggie







## Whitney Lee Hannaford

"Hold true to your values—  
Dream of greatness—  
Rise to the challenges of life  
with a smile on your face  
and a song in your heart!"  
You're a blessing  
and a shining star—

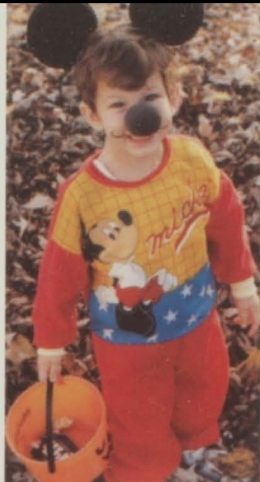
With love,  
Mom, Dad, & Linds





124 ADS

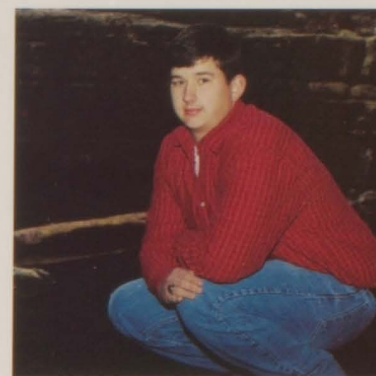




**DUSTIN DIXON**

We are very proud of you  
and wish you the best  
in everything you set out to do.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Natasha, Grandma & Papa





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# Brent Jones

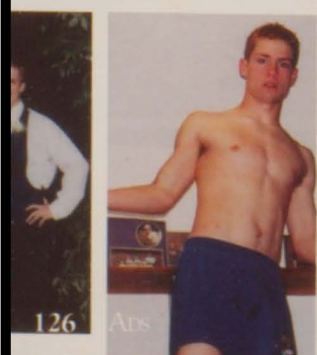
As the years passed by  
not a tear in our eyes.

The wind blew strong  
and you held your own.

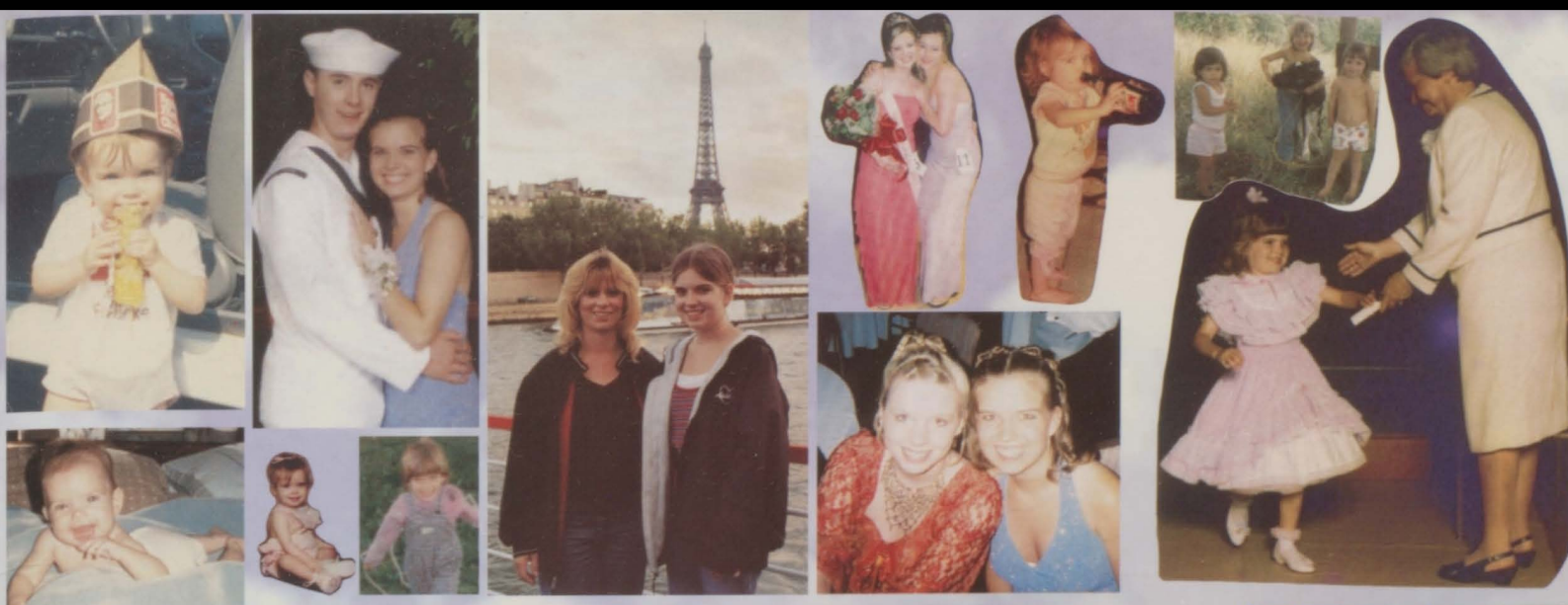
Congratulations #22!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Ashley, & Bryan







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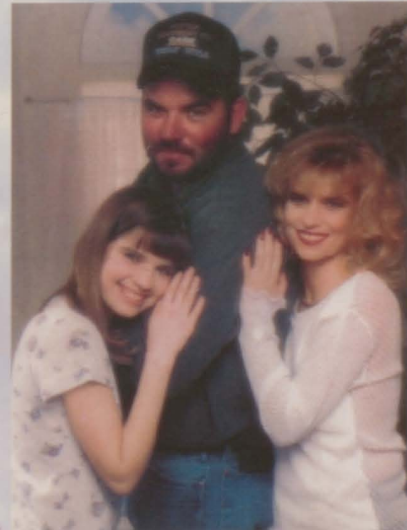
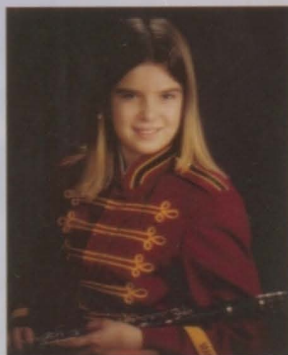
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e

y

CONGRATULATIONS! You made it! We are so proud of you. Seems like only yesterday God gave us one of the greatest joys of our life: blessing us with you. Now you're grown and ready for a life of your own. We know you'll succeed in everything you choose to do. Keep God number one in your life and He'll make sure you succeed abundantly. Remember, *The highest courage is to dare to be yourself in the face of adversity. Choosing right over wrong, ethics over convenience, and truth over popularity are the choices that measure your life. Travel the path of integrity without looking back, for there is never a wrong time to do the right thing.*

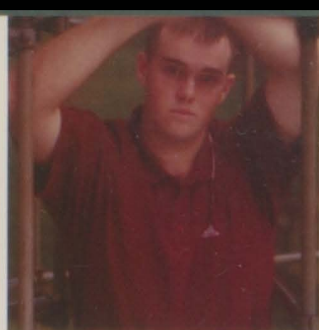
We love you Ash,  
Mom, Dad, Brittany,  
Chantelle and Dalton



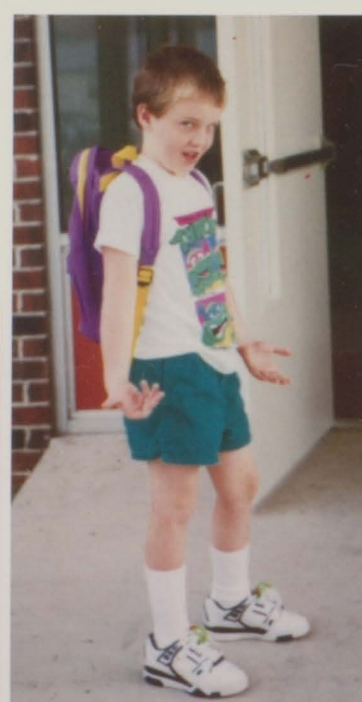
Borders







**Tim Brazeal**  
 We're so very proud of you and  
 your accomplishments. We wish you the  
 best for the future.  
 Love, Mom and Tom



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jesse  
BRICKER

You have always been a  
special delight in our lives.

Always keep your faith in everything you do. Jesus loves you and so do we.

## Dad, Mom, Eric and Papa





*Congratulations  
to our  
2003 graduates!*



Jennifer Calhoun



Lisa Chambers



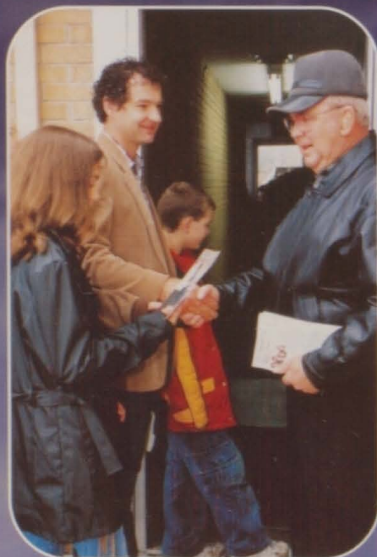
Dustin Dixon

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Wednesday Bible Study 7:00 p.m.



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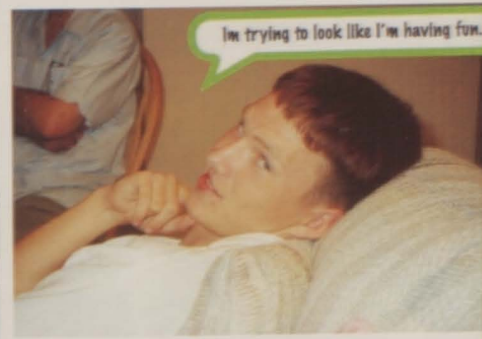
school



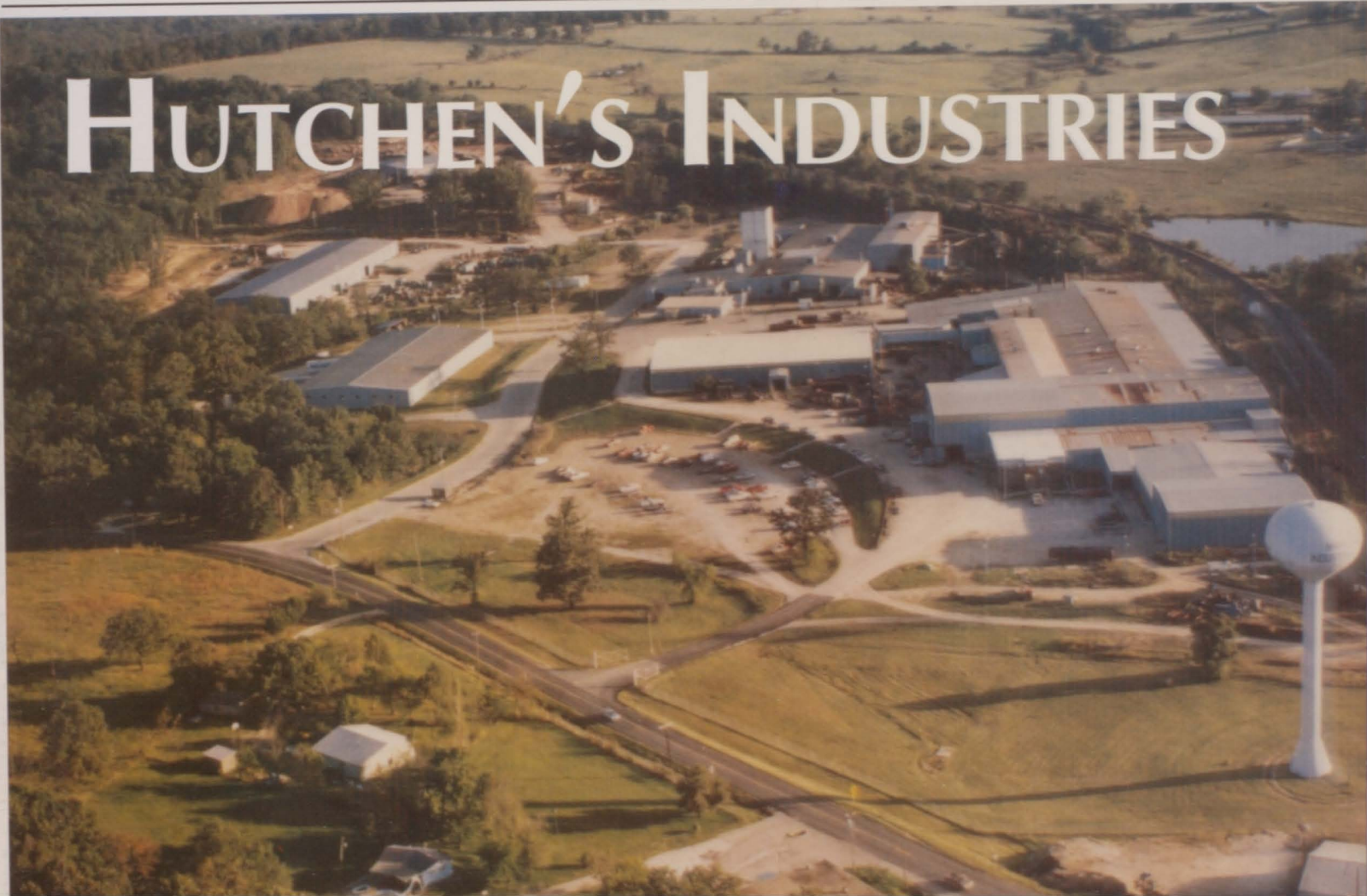
*Travis Mason*

*We're proud of you!*

*Love,  
Micheal, Lynn,  
Jana and  
Ashley*



# HUTCHEN'S INDUSTRIES

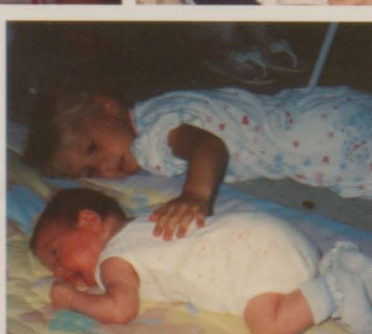
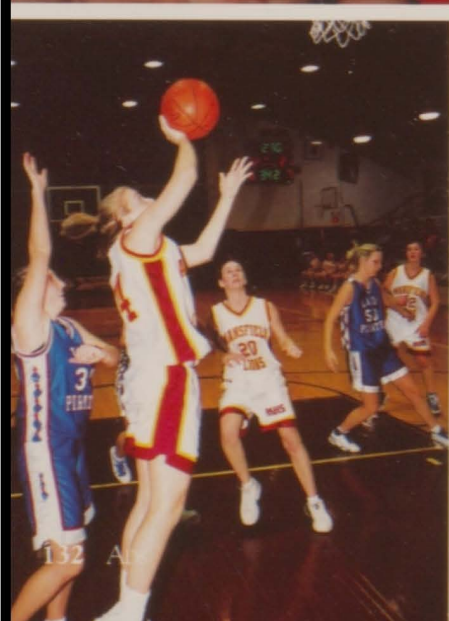
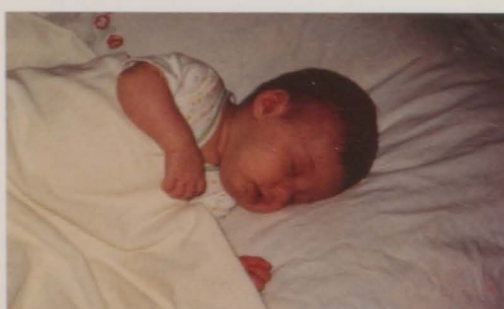
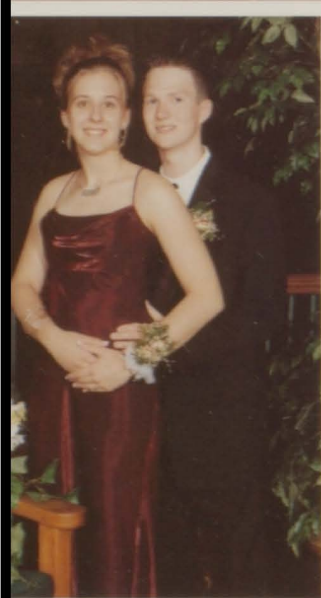






# JANA YOUNG

You're a daughter  
and a sister that  
we're very proud  
of. We wish you a  
lifetime of  
happiness.  
We love you!  
Mom, Dad and  
Ashley





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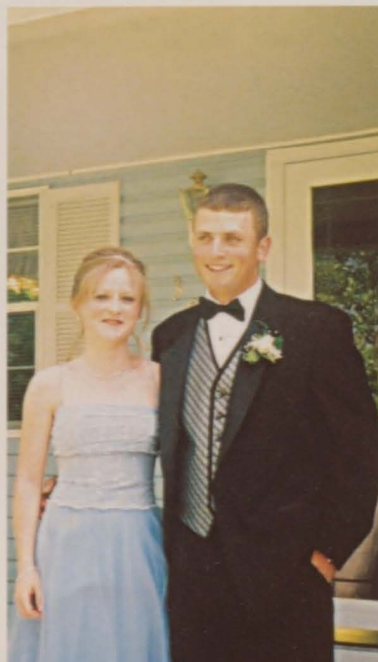
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**Brett  
Bailey**

You've always  
made us proud.  
We love you!  
Mom and Dad



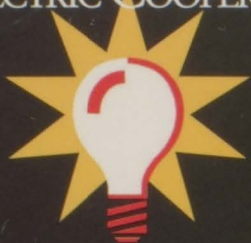
Jen,  
We love you  
and we are so  
proud of you.  
Love,  
Mom & Dad

**Jennifer  
Calhoun**



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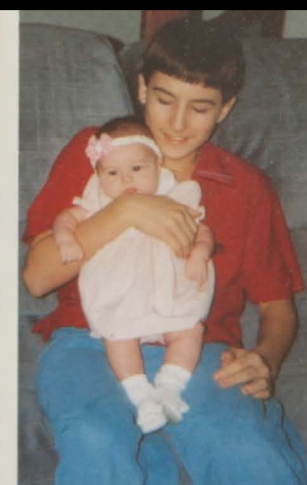
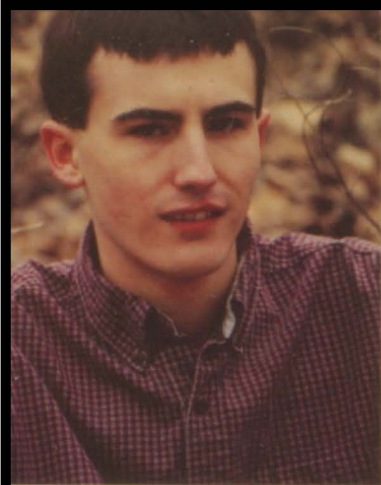
# CODY McCLEARY

Cody Michael,  
May you always  
sing your  
own song,  
think your  
own thoughts,  
follow your  
own path,  
and forever be  
our special  
"Code-man."

Love always,  
Mom & Ken  
Dad & Joyce,  
Dustin Chad







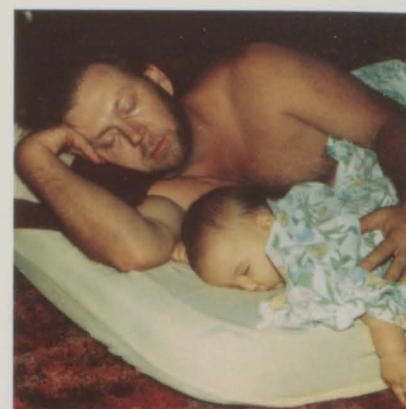
# AARON PRICE

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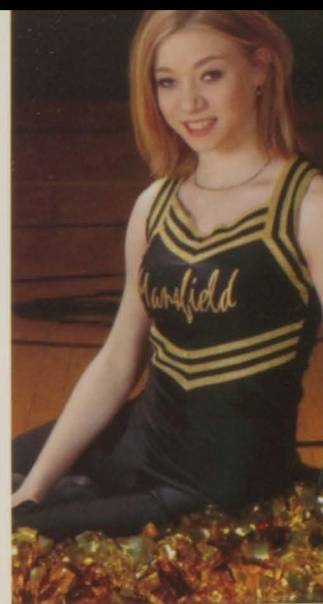
*We're proud of you, Aaron Shane.*

*Love,*

*Dad, Mom, Nick, Morgan,  
Kim, Grannie & Grandpa*





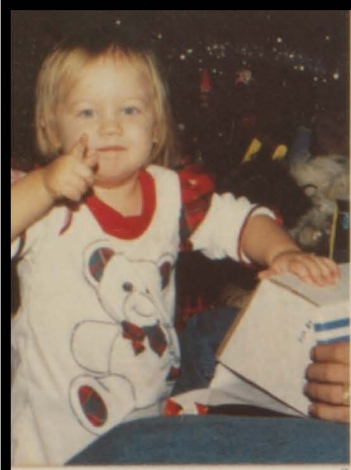


## *Kendra Smith*

*Good luck in the future.  
We're so proud of you and  
love you, Pootie Head.  
Be strong and reach  
for the stars and your  
dreams will come true.  
With love,  
Mom, Dad & Adam*







Kasie  
Kasie  
Kasie  
Kasie  
Kasie

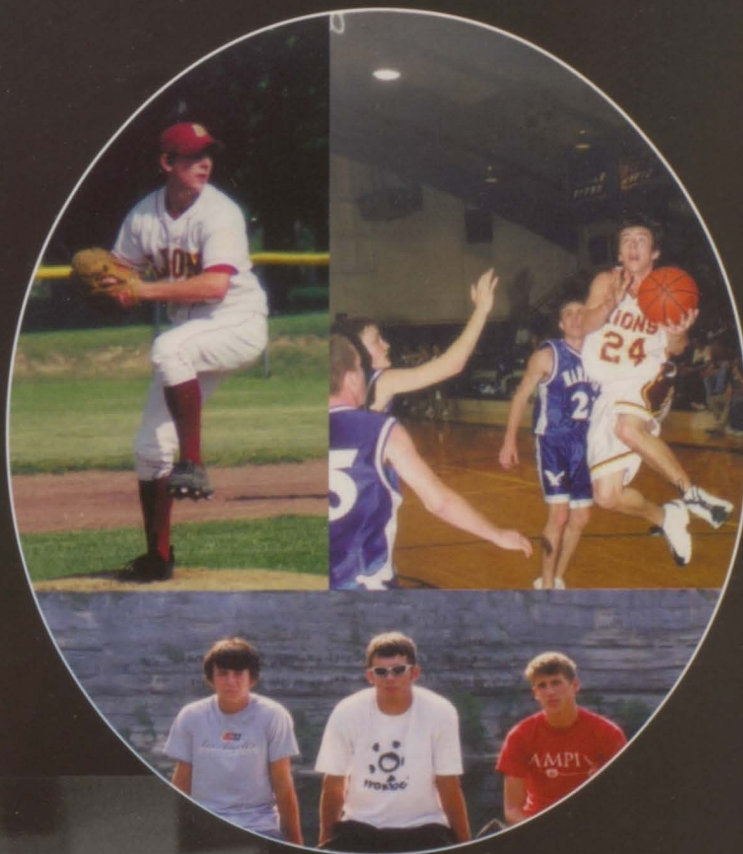
You were beautiful when  
you were born and now  
you're a beautiful young  
lady! We are so very  
proud of you. Always  
remember we love you.

Love,  
Dad & Mom

Rueff







You're one  
of a kind!  
We love you,  
Mom & Dad



Justin Kingery



## index

On the last day of school, students hesitate to leave due to a water balloon assault from the parking lot. MIDDLE: Peggy Dennis covers grandson Kyle Rummens's eyes for a drawing activity on Grandparents Day. FAR RIGHT: In Biology, Whitney Miller checks the effect of solutions on a substance.



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FAR LEFT: Adam Keith, teacher Pam Probert, Greg Short, Shawn Singh and Brendan Keeling watch an emergency rescue at a drunk driving reenactment, sponsored by SADD. LEFT: Fifth graders Jasmine Turney and Katelyn Nolan visit backstage at the Miss Mansfield Pageant.

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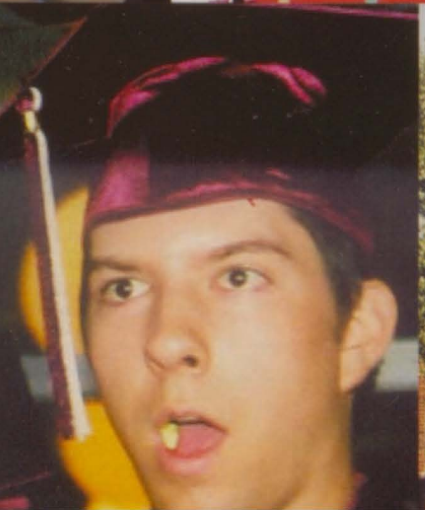
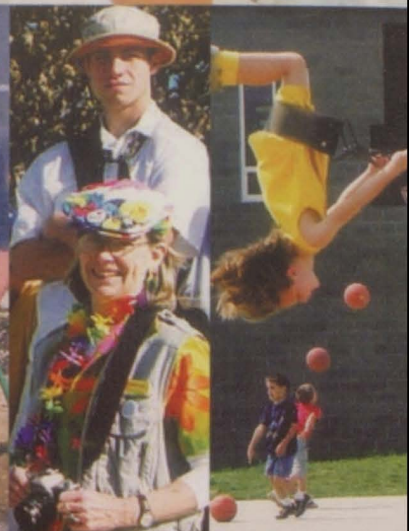
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# REALITY

SO THIS IS REALITY and Mansfield School and a spectrum of its creative people, passionate traditions and measurable results that help get students ready for the future. The kind of reality we're talking about has nothing to do with millionaires or idols or survivors. Well, maybe a little bit about the latter, if you consider falling tax revenues, state funding cuts and a sinking stock market that's forced school officials to make up the difference between their slashed budget and expenses. Easy fixes on paper, however, don't always translate well into real life and the territory ahead.

THESE RECESSION CONCESSIONS are serious matters but all work and no play make for dull space so to snap oneself out of problem-solving and strategic thinking, we close with the unconventional, an absurd seizure of visual hokum and a collection of geek culture.

el leon 2003  
point of departure



# HOW WE DO WHAT WE DO

On any given day, staffers check the pulse of the school to find out what's happening on the calendar or to get the lowdown on sporting events, contests, clashes or photo ops. You expect accurate information and we work very hard to provide it. What's relevant? What's most pressing? Who cares? These questions guide our decisions about what to cover and what we think you'll find most interesting. We pride ourselves on being fair and objective in our content. We make mistakes but they're always honest ones. We hope that comes through on every page.

El Leon 2003, Vol. 56, was produced on Macintosh G4s and G3s using Pagemaker 6.5, Adobe Photoshop 6.0, Illustrator and Microsoft Word 2001. It was submitted camera-ready on Zip disk to the Walsworth Publishing Co., Marceline, MO. Press run is 300 copies. Paper stock is 100 lb. enamel and binding is on 160 pt. binding board.

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EL Leon 2003 with the theme "Reality" contains 144 pages of four-color photographs. Underclassman portraits and organization photographs were taken by Life Touch. Senior photographs were taken by Life Touch, World Photography, Connies, Krizans, Hillyards and others.



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### In Memory

"Just a little bit of glue" is how many students will remember Cindy Martin, elementary and middle school art teacher for 12 years.

Martin, 45, died Aug. 12, 2002, after a long battle with cancer. She is survived by her husband, daughter, son-in-law, grandson and her parents.

"She always encouraged me with my art," said sophomore Sara Henley. Freshman Ryan Loge said he recalls Martin saying, "Just be creative, not messy."

Martin's family members have donated three Georgia O'Keeffe prints, which have been placed in the elementary library in her memory.

—Whitney Miller







# PHAT 110

|                          |                           |                          |
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| 1. Introduction          | 2. History                | 3. Theory                |
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| 73. Data Dreamer         | 74. Data Doer             | 75. Data Maker           |
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| 82. Data Idealist        | 83. Data Pragmatist       | 84. Data Realist         |
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