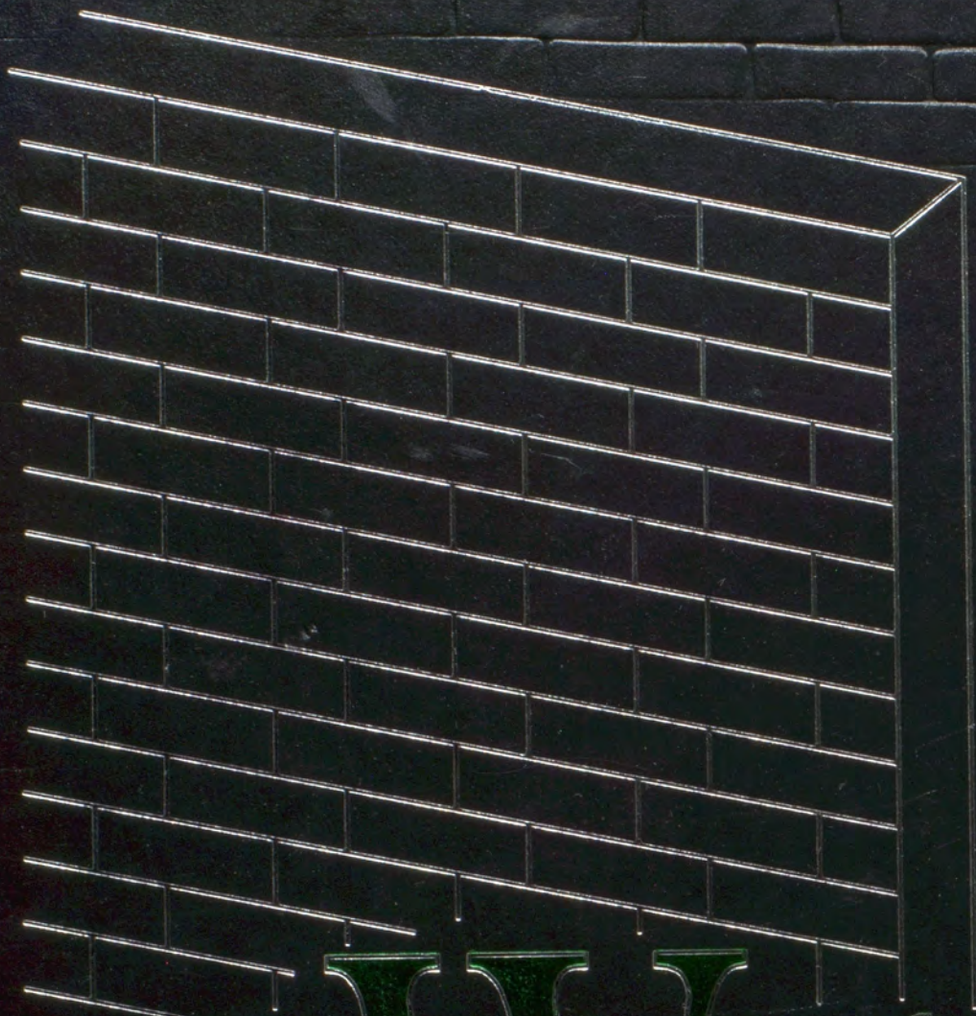
Mallard 99

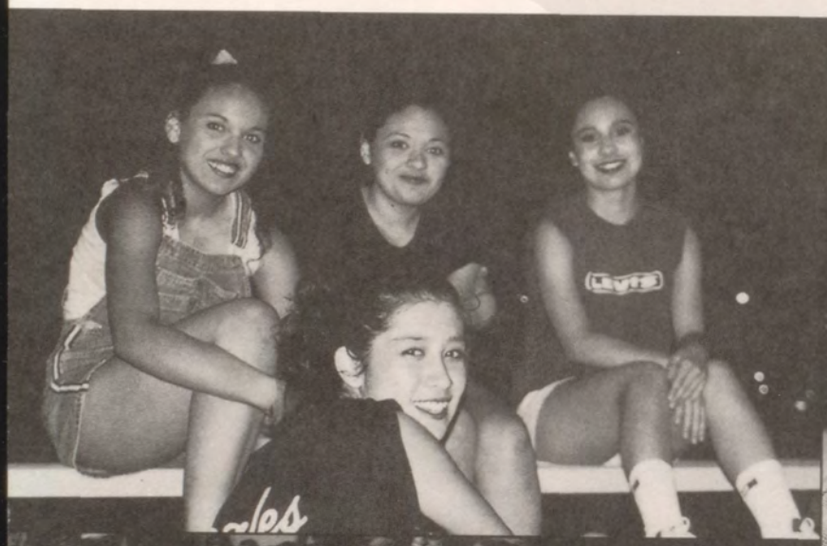


If the Walls could Talk



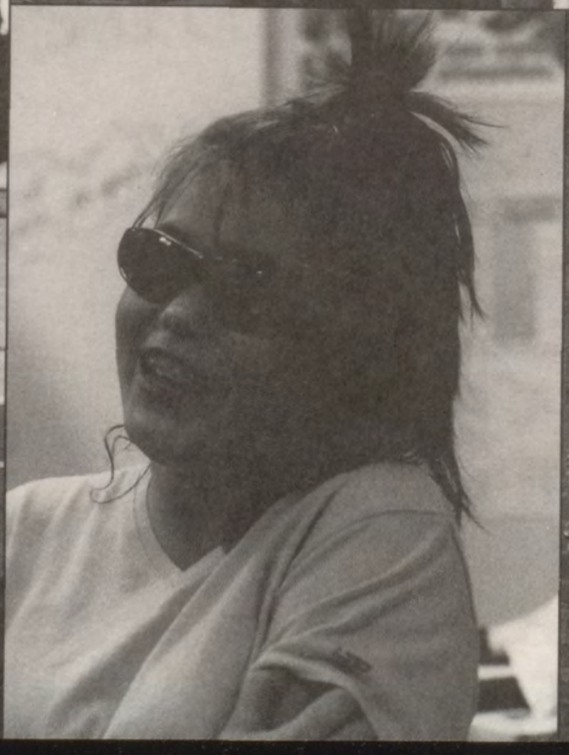


If the Walls



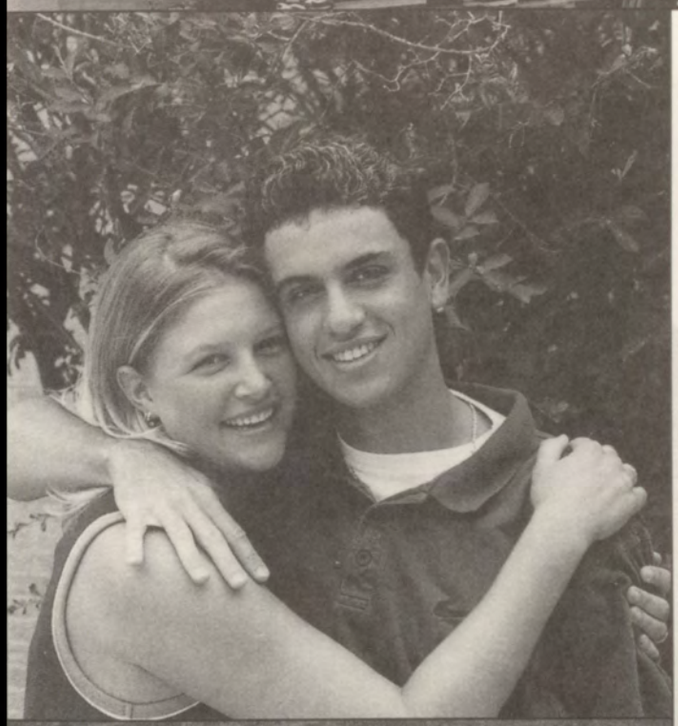


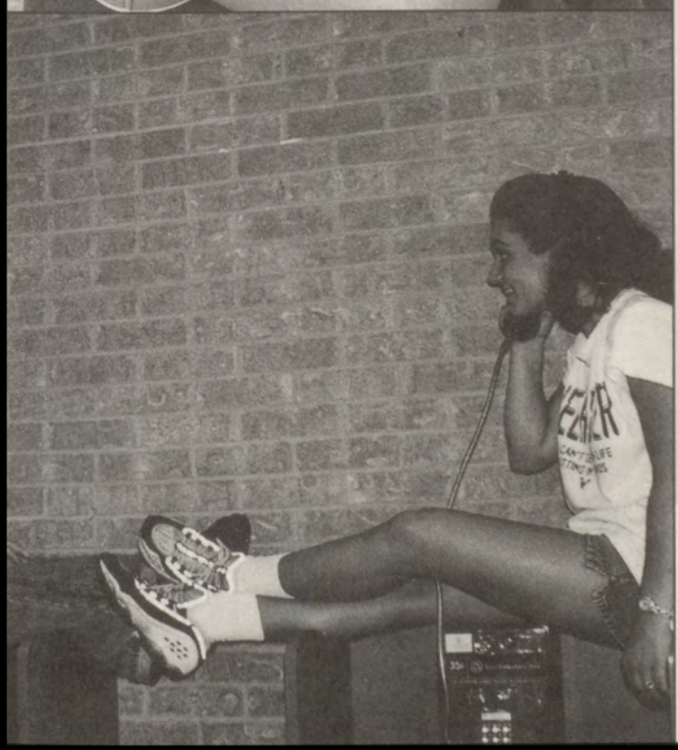












Could Talk

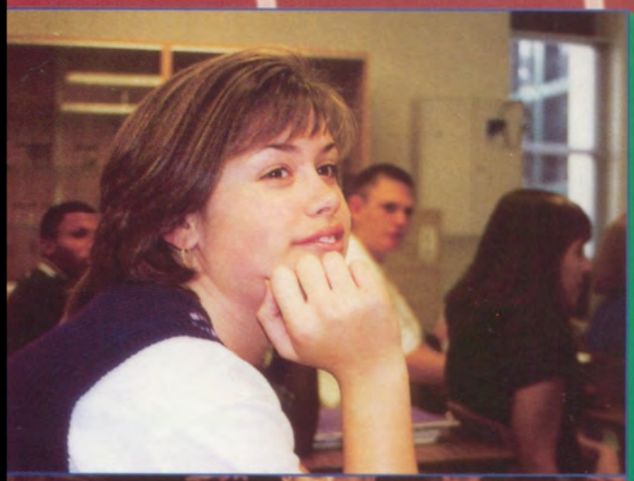
People.....26
Academics.....52
Sports.....68
Organizations.....108
Ads.....176
Ending.....202

If the Walls Could Talk...

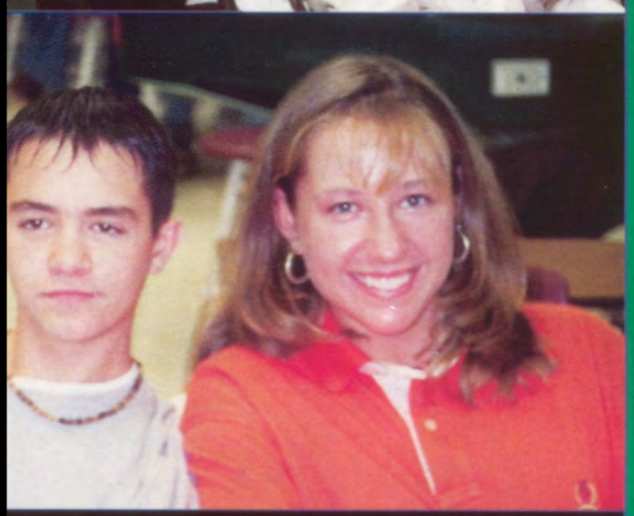


Mallard 1999

Taylor High School
3103 N. Main St.
Taylor, Texas 76574



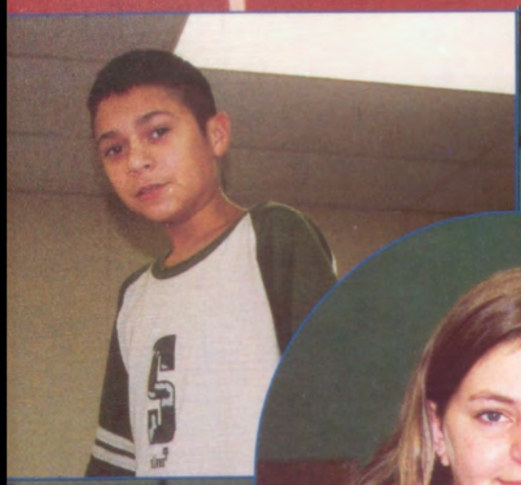






IF THE WALLS COULD TALK...

The Mallard Staff thought long and hard when trying to decide a theme for this year's book. We thought... we thought... we thought. But nothing seemed to fit our school and the people in it after the many changes--both internal and external--that had taken place during this school year. We thought, "Oh, if the walls could talk," they'd probably be able to think up a good theme for us. And then we had it! If the walls could talk! We extend our deepest apologies if you don't like our theme, or if you find our book a little off the wall. We just thought the best way to present this year to you is through the eyes of the walls--they see us all, no matter who we are or what we do--the walls have been there through the changes in faces and the many coats of paint. So from us and the walls, enjoy your book--and remember to ask yourself... if the walls could talk, what would they say about you?



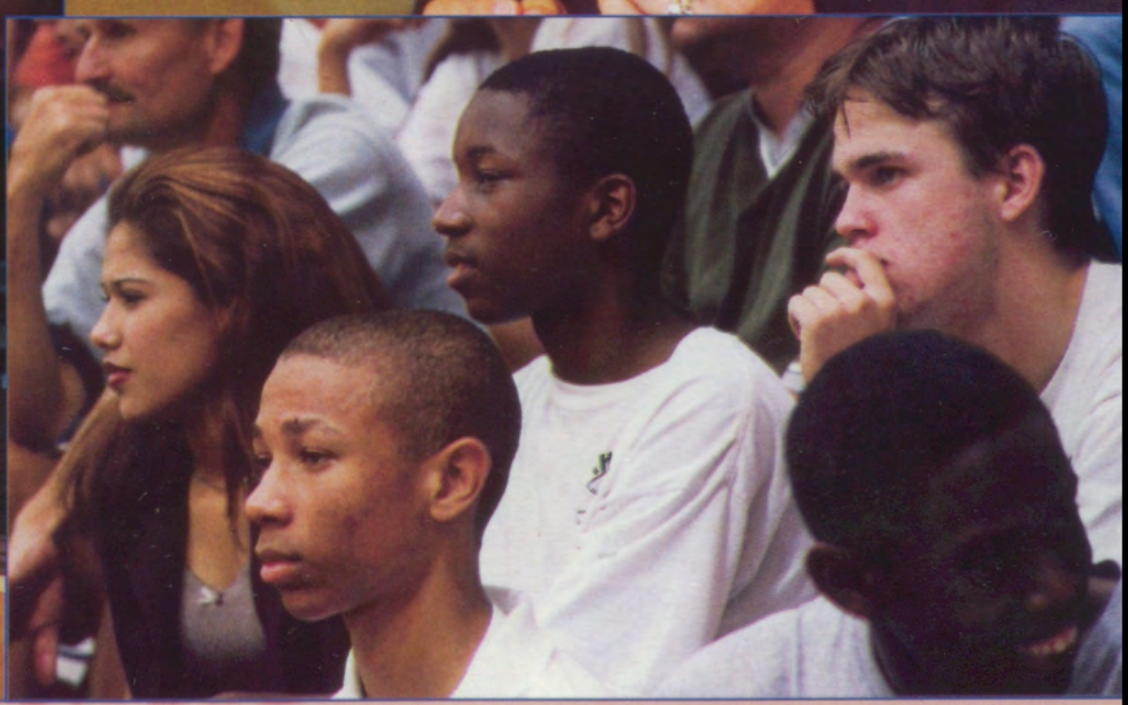

TAYLOR TRACK











If the walls of Taylor High could talk, they would have more than an earful to say about Hunter. Rarely did he meet a person he didn't know, and if he did, he wasted no time getting to know him. He never took an easy road in life, and his efforts were seen by all. Hunter was one in a million.

As a Mallard Staff member, he was not only a student, but a teacher and a friend. He never went halfway, but always pushed himself and others beyond the extent of their abilities. On a scratch piece of paper, Hunter kept a list of goals that he had set for himself. As each one was reached, he would check it off. One of those was to make the Mallard one of the greatest yearbooks ever, and as the 97-98 Mallard arrived, we knew as a class that we were able to check that one off for him. He had not only taught everyone the way to put together a yearbook, but he also taught us each a certain lesson in life.





Hunter, we the 1998-99 Mallard staff dedicate our work and our book to you.
We love you and miss you dearly.

Thank you for the memories!
THIS ONE IS FOR YOU!!!











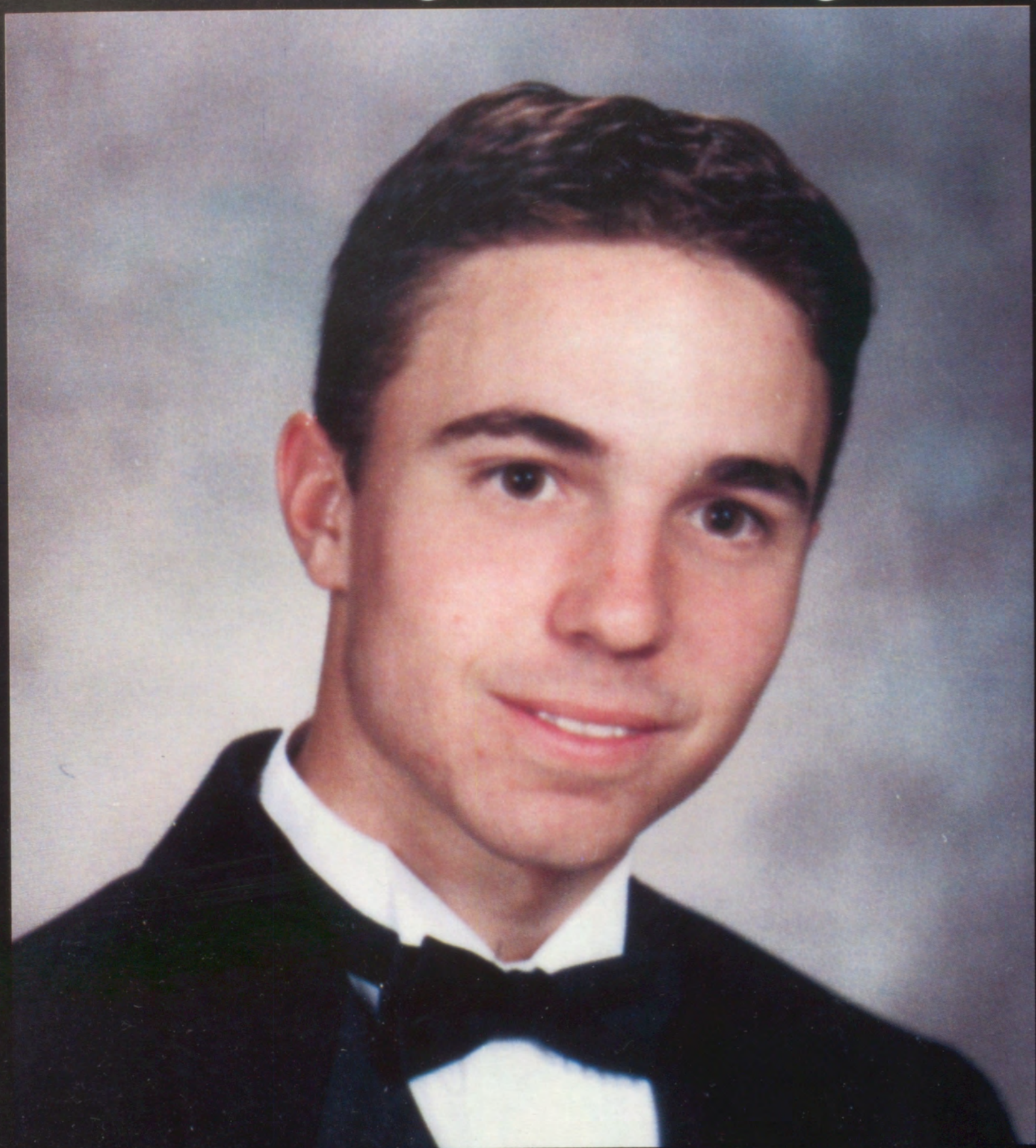






So close, no matter how far...

In Loving Memory of



Ryan "Hunter" Hargis

May 22, 1980 - October 4, 1998

Definitely a Worthwhile Tradition

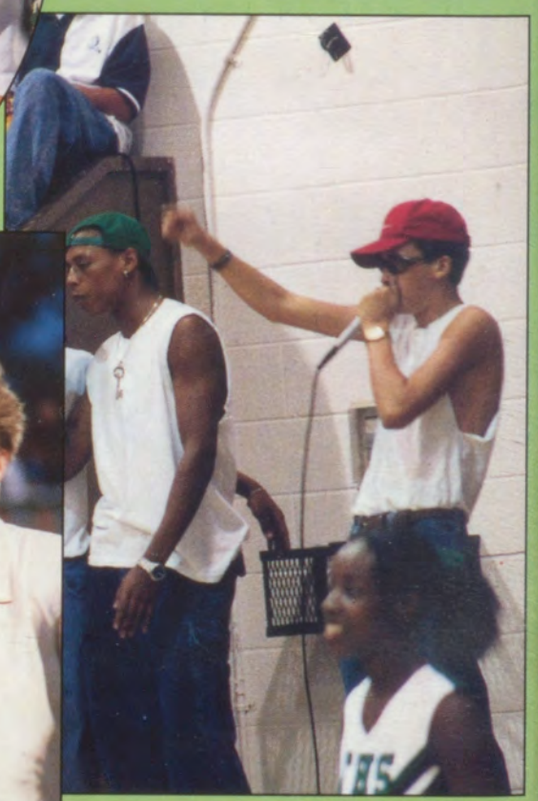














The 1998 Homecoming Court. Princesses Beatriz Hernandez and Alison David, Queen April Maruska, King Eric Ariola, and Princes Edward Alderete and Jeff Davis smile for the camera. ↑↑

Proud to be GREEN & WHITE!! Jonas shows his true colors to support the Ducks. ↑

Just look at those tears of joy! Eric Ariola and April Maruska smile big after being crowned the 1998 Homecoming King and Queen. ↗

Strike a pose! Ashley Butler gets jiggy with it at the Homecoming Dance. ↗

Make 'em say uh! Lamont Davis and Kenny Horne get the crowd pumped with their own Duck rap. →→







HOMECOMING

Homecoming is a tradition, a game that everyone remembers. This year we kept the tradition and we definitely were left with a memorable homecoming. The cheerleaders kept the fans fired up throughout the week, along with the help of the Steppers, Band, and Twirlers. Homecoming events commenced at the beginning of the week with the Homecoming dance. With a Mardi Gras theme, the dance was a great success. Homecoming nominees were also announced at the dance as everyone awaited anxiously to hear the following results: Nicole Caffey, Nicole Cantu, Alison David, Beatriz Hernandez, Stacey Huber, Meagan Kilborn, April Maruska, and Andrea Wilson. John MaCuk, Brett Helbert, Edward Alderete, Eric Ariola, Lance Pavlicek, Brandon Dickinson, Jeffrey Davis, and Travis Rozacky were all homecoming nominees. The day of homecoming was a lively one. Pep rally activities were awesome, we had a parade, a cheer from the guys, hi-steppers, twirlers, and a skit from the cheerleaders. Who could forget all those crazy cheerleaders dressed up as nerds, hillbillies, thugs, hippies, bimbos, and a nun? However, the spirit did not end at the pep rally. We continued to stay fired up through the night with music, stunts, dancing, mums and garters, exes, and royalty. Speaking of royalty, April Maruska and Eric Ariola can tell you a lot on the subject as they were called out 1998 Homecoming King and Queen. Princesses and princes were Alison David, Beatriz Hernandez, Jeffrey Davis, and Edward Alderete. Wow! What more could we ask from such a great homecoming? Oh yeah, on top of all this excitement we WON!!!!







↖ Listen to that beat! The band belts out the Taylor High Alma Mater at the Homecoming Pep Rally.

↑ There's no get out of jail free card for this Hearne cheerleader. The Hi-Steppers have her put away for good.

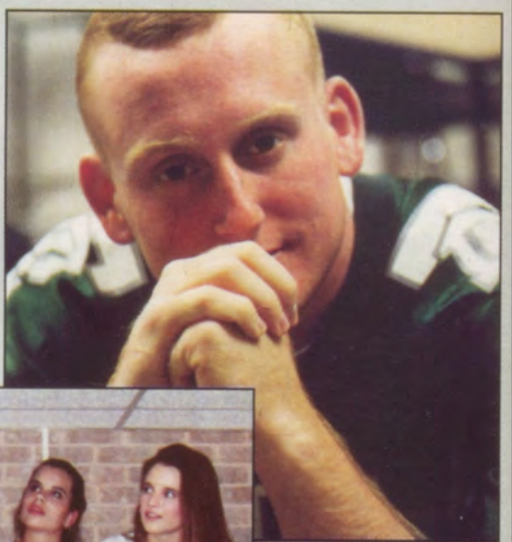
← Fire it up! The varsity football players get pumped up at the Homecoming Pep Rally.

Talk About Greatness

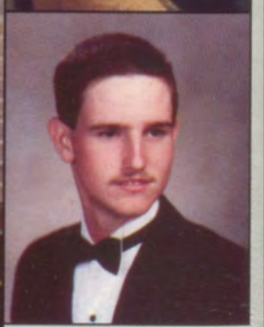
SENIORS '99

What would the walls say about us, the rulers and most awesome class to come out of Taylor High School? They would say a lot, you can count on that! For the four years we have spent here, we have been T.H.S. We *did* every thing and *were* everything. If the walls had anything to say about us, they'd be yelling 'cause they'd be so excited! They'd yell "Oh, please never leave! We need you to rule us and guide us and show us the way, since you're so incredibly cool and intelligent, and... oh! You epitomize what a class should be!" Yes, indeed. They'd say that and more. But the Class of '99 has a lot to offer the world, so we can't stay forever, or for that matter, not even another year. However, we can remember our final year at T.H.S., our year as seniors, and smile. For, we'll know if the walls could talk... they'd be talking about us.









Darryl Ackerman



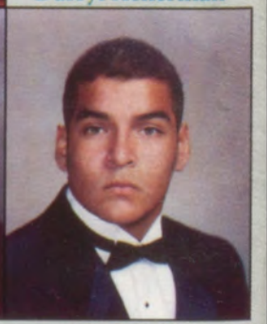
Augustine Alderete



Edward Alderete

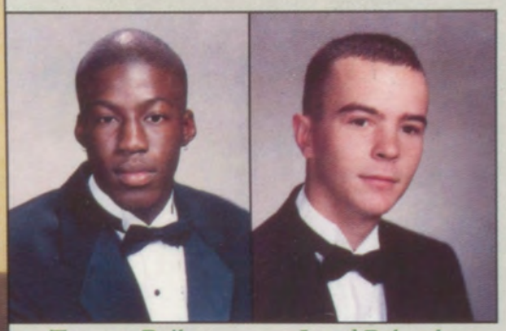


Maria Arias



Eric Ariola





Terence Bailey Jarod Balusek



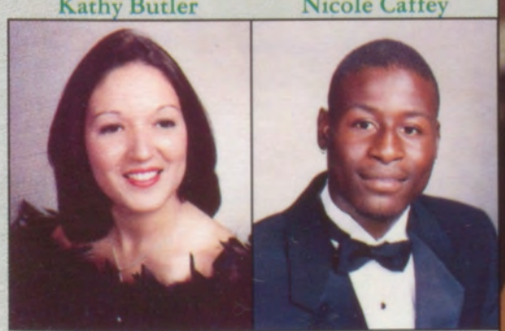
Shawana Barber Amanda Beran



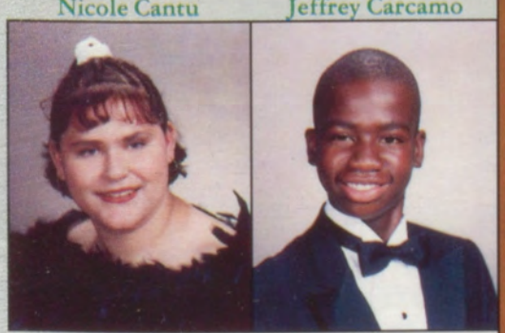
Lee Betak Tiffany Bigon Erica Bohac Thomas Bragg Whitney Brandon Diane Buhler



Kathy Butler Nicole Caffey



Nicole Cantu Jeffrey Carcamo



Maria Castaneda Tyrone Coleman



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Kevin Collins | Sara Cooper | Keri Cruz | Brooke Dabbs | Alison David | Jeffrey Davis



Christopher Dekle





Jeremy Dekle



Brandon Dickinson



Malachi Dilworth



Nathan Dixon



Michael Dominguez



Cullen Eschberger





Todd Eschberger



Brian Faltesek



Shannon Faulkner



Christina Fields



Adrian Flores



April Flores



Michelle Ford



Steven Fuller



Juan Garcia





Sylvia Garza



Victor Gomez



Brooke Gonzales



Lindsay Gossett



Peter Grady



Roger Grady



Eryn Graef



Jonathan Gray



Tina Green





Heath Grimm



Tanner Hamann



Lindsey Hanacik



Cassandra Harrison



Brett Helbert



Jason Hennington



Franklin Henry



Beatriz Hernandez



Heith Hernandez



Monica Hernandez



Anthony Hubbard



Stacey Huber

Copy and Layout by Melodie Strickland, Lauren Schwartz, Amanda Beran and Amber Byfield





Amy Hughes



Lisa Hunn



Tina Hunt



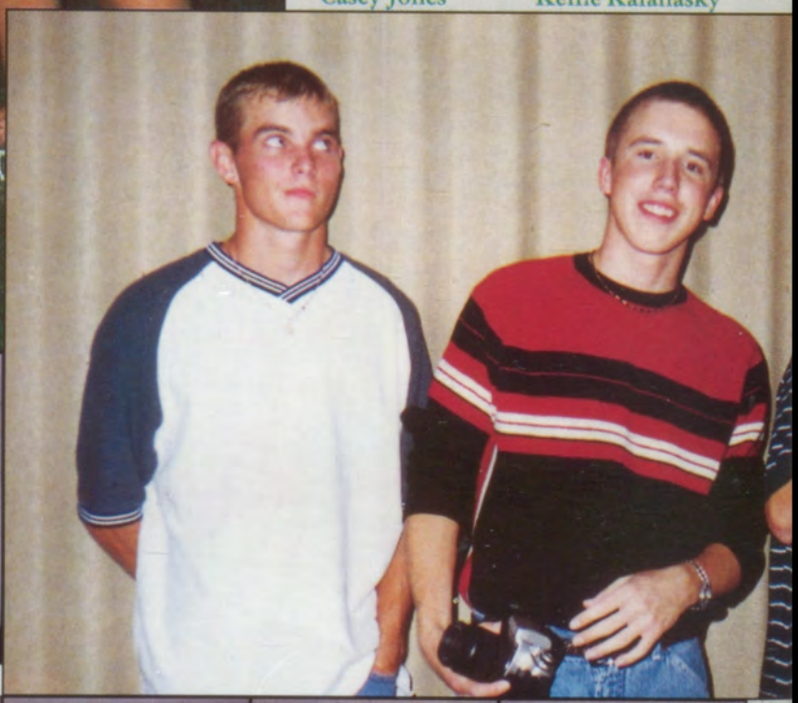
Leslie Johnson



Casey Jones



Kellie Kalanasky





Kylie Kerlin



Meagan Kilborn



Justin Klaus



Palmer Klotz



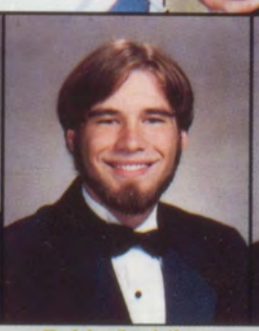
Whitney Kolinek



Brian Lawrence



Luis Lepe



Bobby Leshikar



John MaCuk


Kristen Martin


Adrian Martinez


Gladys Martinez


Joe Martinez


April Maruska


Brittany Matoska

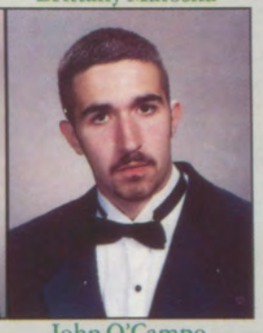

Tessa Mikulencak


Karon Moore

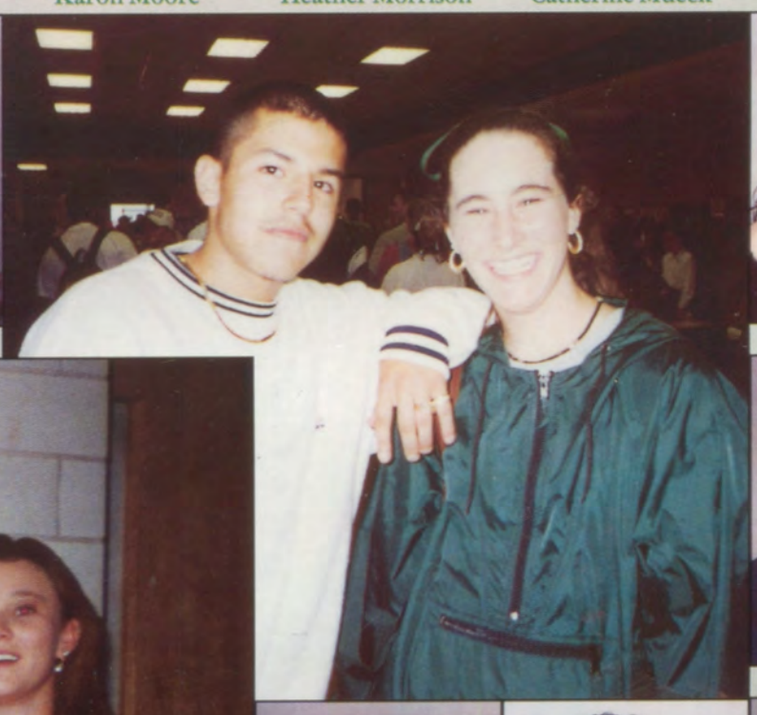

Heather Morrison


Catherine Mueck


Ramon Nazario

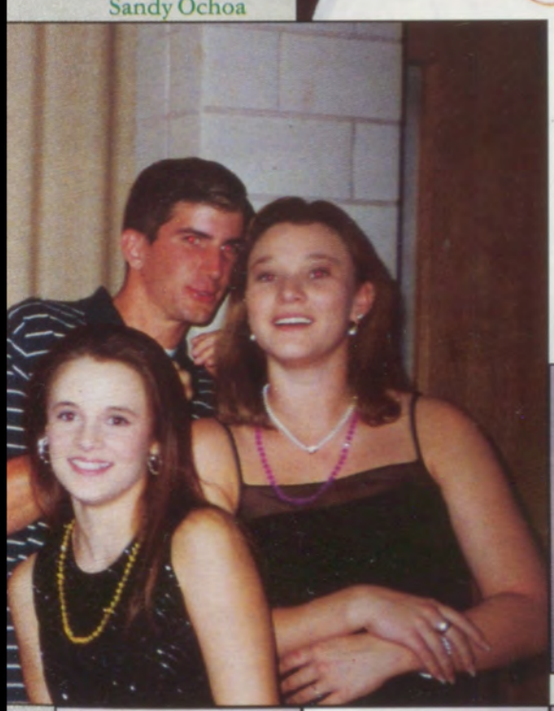

John O'Campo

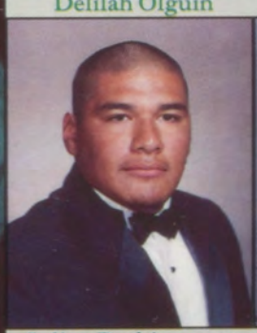

Sandy Ochoa




Delilah Olguin


Guy Oliphant




Julian Pachicano


Staci Parker


Lance Pavlicek


Shirvonne Pedro


Vidal Pina


Heather Poldrack


Elizabeth Pullen

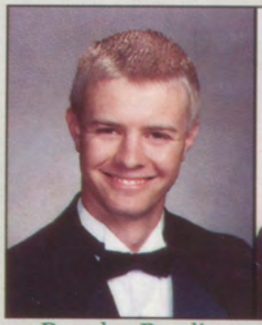

Mary Quintanilla


Telisha Raesz


Josie Ramirez


Rebecca Ramirez

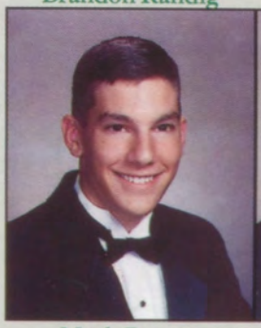

Sylvester Ramirez



Brandon Randig



Carmen Razo



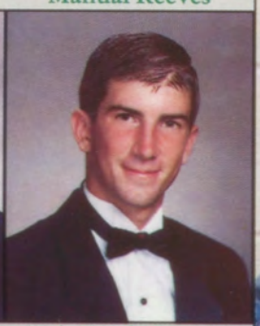
Mark Reeves



Manual Reeves



Patrick Richter



Kyle Rinderknecht







Angie Roman



Joe Roman



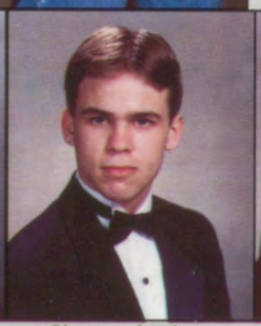
Travis Rozacky



Monica Ruble



Denise Samaniego



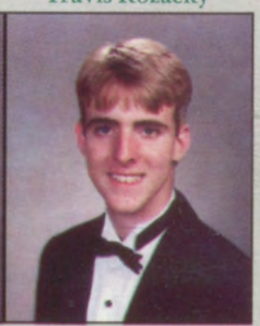
Clayton Sankey



Sam Sanchez



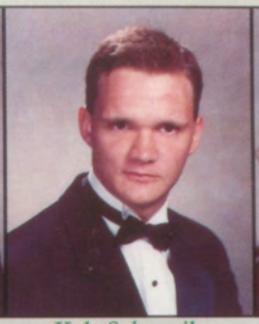
Oscar Saucedo



Tyler Schade




Joshua Schernik


Kyle Schernik


Erin Schmidt

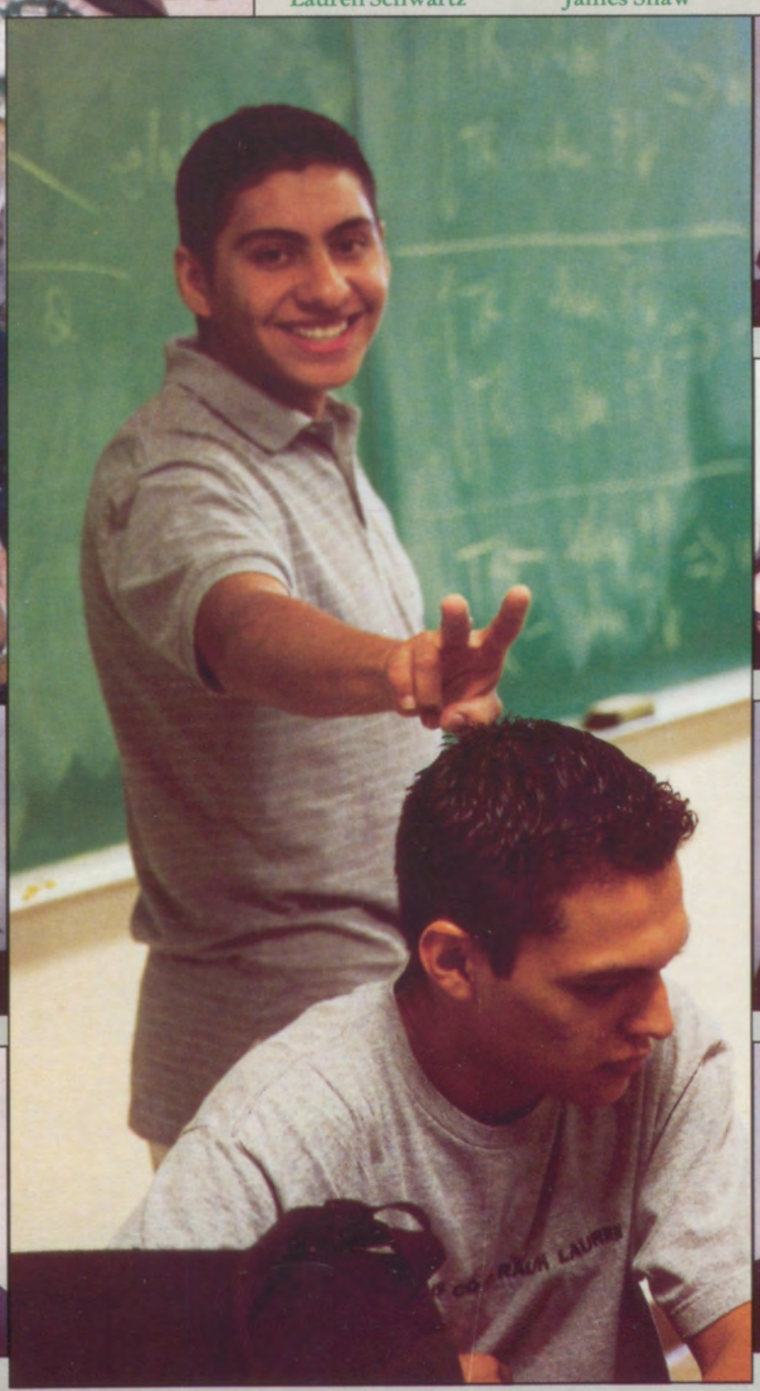

Autumn Schneider


Lauren Schwartz

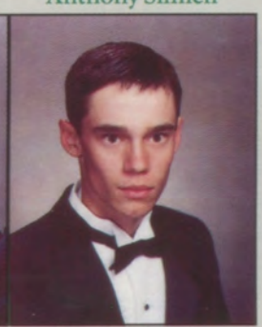

James Shaw


Yenni Singuenza


Anthony Simien




Sarah Simmons

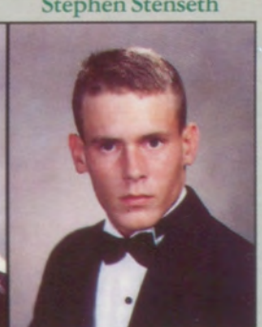

Justin Sladek

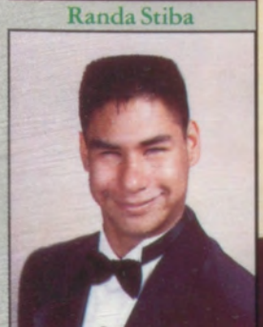

Sonja Stelly


Stephen Stenseth

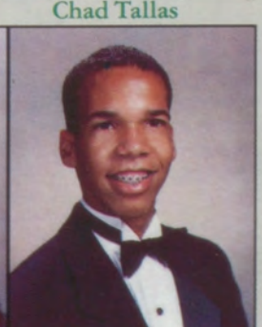

Randa Stiba


Melodie Strickland


Chad Tallas


Jose Tamez


Cassie Taylor


Joshua Tealer

Copy and Layout by Melodie Strickland, Lauren Schwartz, Amanda Beran and Amber Byfield



Cindy Terrazas



Lance Thornton



Roxanne Torres



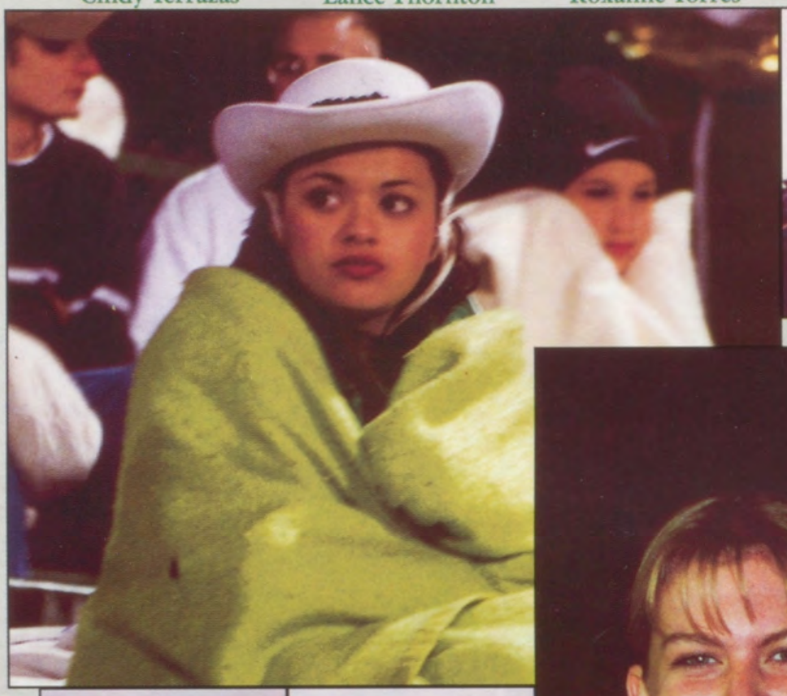
Blake Ward



Cody Welch



Jennifer Whatley





Atara Williams



Brandy Williams



Andrea Wilson

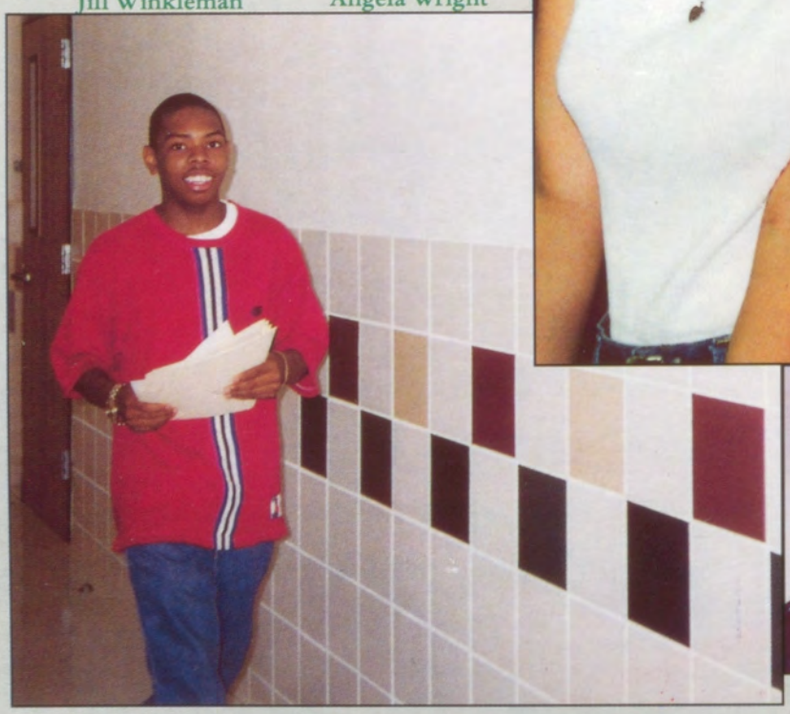




Jill Winkleman



Angela Wright





Crystal Wright



Jennifer Zachary



Kimberly Zachary

What Have You Done!?!

Senior Credits

Edward Alderete: Science Club-4; Art Club (Sec.)-4; Spanish Club-3; NHI-3; SURF-1; Football (Honorable Mention)-4; Baseball-4; Powerlifting-4; Track & Field-2; Texas Scholar

Amanda Beran: SURF-4; Science Club-4; FTA-4; Junior Historians-4; Spanish Club-2; Choir-1; Mallard-2; Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate

Tiffanie Bigon: SURF-4; Science Club-2; FCA-2; Art Club-1; German Club-2; BPA (Payroll Accounting-3rd place)-1; Basket Ball-1; Softball-2

Michael Bindner: Drama Club-1; *A Christmas Carol*; One Act Play (Honorable Mention All-Star Cast, Alternate play)-2; Track (Regional Qualifier)-1; Mallard-1

Erica Bohac: SURF-4; Science Club-3; FTA-3; FFA-2; FHA-2; Spanish Club-3; FCA-2; UIL Speech Competion-1; Hi-Steppers-2; Starlets-1; OM-1; Art Club-2; HOSA-2; Drama Club-1; Junior Historians-2; Texas Scholar

Nicole Caffey: FTA (Sec.)-3; SURF (Sec.)-4; Science Club-3; NHS-2; Spanish Club-2; Varsity Track-3; Class Officer (Vice Pres.)-2; Mallard-2; Texas Scholar; HOSA (Vice Pres.)-2; BPA-1; Cheerleader (Co-Captain)-4; Art Club-1

Brooke Dabbs: Feature Twirler-3; FHA-1; Band (freshman rep.)-4; SURF-3; Science Club-2; NHS-2; 1st Division at UIL Regional Twirling-3; Starlets-1; OM-1; Spanish Club-2; Drama Club-1; Texas Scholar

Alison David: Cheerleader (JV & Varsity Head)-4; All American Cheerleader; SURF (Rep., Sec.)-4; Science Club (Sec., Treas.)-4; FTA (Treas., Sec.)-4; Latin Club (Treas., Sec.); Class Officer (Pres.)-2; Mallard (Business Manager)-2; BPA (Sec., Administrative Asst.-2nd place)-1; Goodfellow-2; Homecoming Princess; Most Friendly

Jeffrey Davis: SURF-2; Science Club-2; Latin Club-2; Class Officer (Rep.)-1; Track-2; Baseball-2; Basketball-4 (All District); Football-4 (All District); Class Favorite-2; Mr. THS

Nathan Dixson: Jr. Historians (Pres.)-3; VICA-1; German-2; Mallard-2; BPA-1; SURF-1; NHS-1

Michelle Ford: Softball-4; FTA (Vice Pres., Dist. Officer)-4; Latin Club (Pres.)-4; SURF-4; Science Club (Field Trip Coor.)-4; Junior Historians-2; ESPRIET-4; NHS (Sec.)-3; UIL Debate-1; Debate/Speech Club (Sec.)-1; NFL Member-1; Honor Graduate; Texas Scholar

Steven Fuller: Honor Graduate; Texas Scholar; UIL Science (2nd, 1st, 6th)-2. UIL Computer Science (5th-1; 1st in State in 1999)-2, Band-4

Brooke Gonzales: Hi-Steppers-1; Starlettes-1; Art Club-3; Science Club-2; SURF-4; Golf-2; Spanish Club-3; NHI-4

Eryn Graef: SURF-4; Science Club-4; German Club (Hist.)-2; ESPRIT-4, NHS-3; FCA-1; UIL Debate-1; Class Officer (Rep., Sec.)-2; HOSA (Sec., Pres., Area I Sec.)-2; FFA-1; Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate; OM (2nd, 3rd)-4

Cassie Harrison: Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate; SURF (Rep-1, Pres-1)-4; Science Club-4; Spanish Club-2; Mallard (Business Mgr-1)-2; Esprit-4; Student Senate (Rep.)-1; Hugh O' Brian youth leadership Seminar; UIL (Piano)-1; NHS-3; Class officer (V. Pres, Rep.)-2

Beatriz Hernadez: SURF (Sec, Pres.)-4; Spanish Club (Pres.)-3; FTA (Pres.)-2; Class Officer (Rep. , V. Pres.)-3; Tennis (Reg. Chap. , State Qualifier, All-District)-4; BPA (Reporter)-1; Science Club (Hist.)-4; Junior Historians-2; Esprit-4; NHS-3; Volleyball-3; Softball-2; Superintendent Scholar-8; NHI-4

Stacey Huber: Art Club (Treas.)-1; Class officer (Treas.)-1; Softball (All-District, Academic All-District)-3; Homecoming Court; Most Beautiful; SURF-1

Amy Hughes: FFA (Sec., Pres., Star Greenhand, Chapter Star Farmer, Lone Star Farmer); FHA-1; Tennis-4, Powerlifting (Reg. Qualifier)-1

Casey Jones: Arts Club-3; Drama Club (Publicist)-1; Baseball-2; FTA-1; *A Christmas Carol*; One Act Play (Honorable Mention All-Star Cast)-1; Girls Athletic Manager-2; Tennis-1

Kylie Kerlin: SURF-3; Science Club-1; Art Club-2; FCA-2; Volleyball (All-District Honorable Mention, 2nd Team All-District)-4; Basketball (2nd Team All-District, 1st Team All-District)-2; Track-2; UIL (Feature Writing-4th Reg. Qualifier)-1, Headline Writing 3rd)-1; Spanish Club-2; Cotton Boll-1; Most Athletic

Whitney Kolinek: SURF-2; Science Club-1; BPA-1; UIL (Computer Applications Reg. Qualifier)-1; Latin Club-1; Class officer (Sec.)-1; Tennis-2; Volleyball-1; FTA-1; Drama Club-1

Brain Lawrence: FFA (Reporter)-3; Latin-4; SURF-4: Art Club-1; ScienceClub-4; Tennis (All-District, State Qualifier and Reg. Qualifier)-4; Texas Scholar

Bobby Leshikar: Band (Drum Major, V. Pres., Pres., John Phillip Sousa Award, Area Band)-4; OM (Renatra Fusca Award)-4; Academic Decathlon (3rd music at Region, 2nd essay, 3rd interview at state)-1; One Act Play (All-Star Cast, Honorable Mention All-Star Cast, Alternate play, Advancing play)-3; *A Christmas Carol*; NHS-3: Jr. Historians (Parl., V. Pres.)-4; UIL Ready Writing (4th); Science Club-3; Poetry Club-1; Latin Club-3; Esprit-4; Drama Club-3; Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate; Tri-M-1; Most likely to Succeed

Adrian Martinez: FCA-2; Art Club (Treasurer)-1; Science Club (Rep.)-4; SURF-4; Spanish Club-2; NHI-2; Baseball-4: Football-4; Powerlifting-2; Esprit-4; Drama Club-3

Gladys Martinez: HOSA-2; Science Club-1; Softball-1; Hi-Steppers-2; Honor Graduate; Texas Scholar

April Maruska: Volleyball-2 (Honorable Mention, Academic All-Star); Softball (Academic All-Star)-2; SURF (V. Pres.)-4; FTA (Parl.)-4; FCA-2; Science Club (Rep.)-3; Student Senate (Parl.)-1; Athletics Caption-4; BPA (V. Pres.)-1; Spanish Club-1; Perfect Attendance-4; Homecoming Queen; Miss THS

Tessa Mikulencak: Student Senate (Pres., Parl)-3; NHS (V. Pres)-3; SURF (Parl.)-4; Science Club (Treas.)-4; FTA (Parl.)-3; Art Club-1; German Club (Treas.)-3; Class Officer (Treas., Sec., Rep)-3; UIL Accounting (1st, 3rd)-2; UIL Number Sense (4th)-2; Basketball-4; Volleyball-1; Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate; Superintendent Scholar; Most Likely to Succeed

Karon Moore: NHS-3; Science Club (Officer)-4; Class Officer-1; Esprit-3; SURF-4; Track-2; Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate

Heather Morrison: German Club-3; SURF-3; Science Club-2; Texas Scholar; Art Club-1

Catherine Mueck: Art Club-3; SURF-2; LatinClub-1; Volleyball (Honorable Mention)-3; Softball (1st team All-District)-4; Academic All-District-1; Bascketball-1

Ramon Nazario: NHS-3; Science Club-2; Spanish Club-2; SURF-2; Academic Decathlon (1st-Math)-1; Basketball-2; Texas Scholar

Guy Oliphint: NHS (Pres.)-3; Science Club (Officer)-4; Spanish Club-2; Art Club-2; National Merit Scholar; College Board's Advisory Panel for Students Concerns; Superintendent Scholars-3; Honor Graduate; Texas Scholar

Vidal Pina: Honor Graduate; Texas Scholar; Track & Field-1; Science Club (Pres.)-4; SURF (V. Pres., Rep)-4; Jr. Historians (Liaison)-4; HOSA (V. Pres.)-2; Spanish Club-2; Esprit-4; Band-2; NHI-2; NHS-3; UIL Band Solo (1st rating)-2

Beth Pullen: Art Club-1; SURF-3; Science Club-3; FCA (V. Pres., Sec.)-3; NHS (Reporter)-3; Class officer (Chaplain)-1; Spanish-1; Honor Graduate; Esprit-4

Brandon Randig: Art Club-1; SURF-3; Science Club-2; Class officer (Rep.); FFA (V. Pres.)-2; Texas Scholar; Baseball-4; Honor Graduate

Monica Ruble: Honor Graduate; Texas Scholar; UIL Calculator Applications (1st District)-4; Band (Uniform Manager)-4; OM (2nd and 3rd, Rentura Fusca)-2; SURF-4; Science Club-4; Drama Club-3; One Act Play (Honorable Mention All-Star Cast, Alternate play, Advancing play)-4; *A Christmas Carol*; Junior Historians-1; Spanish Club-1

Tyler Schade: Academic Achiever-1; Art Club-2; Backetball-1; HOSA (Treas.)-2; NHS-1; Spanish Club-2; SURF-2; Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate

Josh Schernik: SURF-3; Science Club-3; Art Club-1; Latin Club-2; FCA-2; Football-1; Baseball-1; Tennis; Golf-3; Class Officer (Treas.)-1; Texas Scholar

Autumn Schneider: NHS (Parl.)-2; SURF (V. Pres.)-4; Science Club (Parl.)-4; Student Senate (Sec.)-2; Spanish Club-2; FTA (Hist.)-3; Mallard (Assistant Editor)-2; Art Club (Pres)-1; Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate; Solo Finalist; Hi-Stepper (Jr. Lieutenant., Lt. Colonel)-3; Starlets (Captain)-1

Erin Schmidt: Softball (All Tournament, All-District)-4; FTA (Pres., Dist. Pres.)-4; SURF-4; Science Club-3; Art Club-1; Spanish Club-2; Junior Historians-1; ESPRIT-4; NHS-3; FCA-2; UIL Accounting (2nd place)-1; Class Officer (Rep.)-2; Honor Graduate, Texas Scholar

Sarah Simmons: SURF (Sec.)-4; Cotton Boll-1; UIL Editorial Writing (3rd)-1; Science Club-3; FTA-2; Band (Drill Instructor)-2; German Club-2; UIL German (1st, 2nd, 3rd, 4th-State)-2; Junior Historians (Sec., Treas.)-3; NHS-2; Honor Graduate; Texas Scholar

Sonja Stelly: Hi-Steppers-1; Starlettes-1; Debate Team-1; Choir (Sec.)-3; SURF-2; Science Club-1; UIL (Poetry & Prose); UIL (Solo & Ensemble); Texas Scholars

Stephen Stenseth: NHS-3; Academic All-District; Football (Honorable Mention and All-District Defensive Tackle)-4; Texas Scholar; Track-3; Basketball-3; Cross-Country-1

Randa Stiba: Student Senate (Hist., V. Pres.)-3; NHS (Hist.)-3; Tennis (All-District)-4; Class officer (Sec., Pres., Parl, Rep.)-3; SURF (Rep)-4; Science Club (V. Pres., Sec.)-4; FTA (V. Pres.)-2; FCA-2; BPA (Treasurer)-2; Honor Graduate; Texas Scholar; Art Club-1; Salutatorian; Goodfellow-1; Most Intelligent; Superintendent Scholar

Melodie Strickland: Mallard (Editor-In-Chief)-3; Science Club (Reporter, V. Pres.)-4; SURF (Sec.)-4; German Club (Hist., Sec.)-4; Junior Historians (Publicity Mgr., V. Pres.)-4; FTA-4; BPA-2; Class Officer (Parl., Chaplain)-2; Student Senate (Parl.)-2; One Act Play (Honorable Mention All Star Cast, Alternate play, advancing play)-4; *A Christmas Carol*; Drama Club (Social Director, Pres.)-3, UIL Poetry Reading-1; Poetry Club-1; Starlets-1

Brandy Williams: NHS-2; SURF-3; Science Club-3; FCA (Treasurer)-2; Art Club-1; Class Officer (Rep.)-1; Mallard-2; Best Dressed; Texas Scholar

Andrea Wilson: NHS-2; Tri-M-1; FCA-3; Spanish Club-2; SURF (Rep.)-3; Science Club-2; HOSA (Sec.)-1; Band (Rep.)-4; Class Officer (Rep.)-1; UIL Solo/ Ensemble (1 Rating)-4; Homecoming Court; Texas Scholar; Honor Graduate.

Jennifer Zachary: SURF-2; Spanish Club-2; Science Club-2; UIL (Speech)-1; Hi-Steppers (Pres.)-3; Starlets; UIL Choir (Solo and Ensemble); Choir-2; Texas Scholar

Kimberly Zachary: SURF-2; Spanish Club-2; Science Club-2; Class Officer (Sec.); Hi-Steppers-3; Starlets-1 UIL (Speech); Texas Scholar; UIL Choir (Solo and Ensemble); Choir-2

The Class of 1999

Our echoing laughter and adored friendships are forever frozen in these halls, in our hearts and in our minds; one by one we'll step out of the photograph and view ourselves as we were, and as we'll always be--together.



Song: Freebird

Flower: White Rose

Colors: Midnight Blue & Silver

Layout and Design by Melodie Strickland











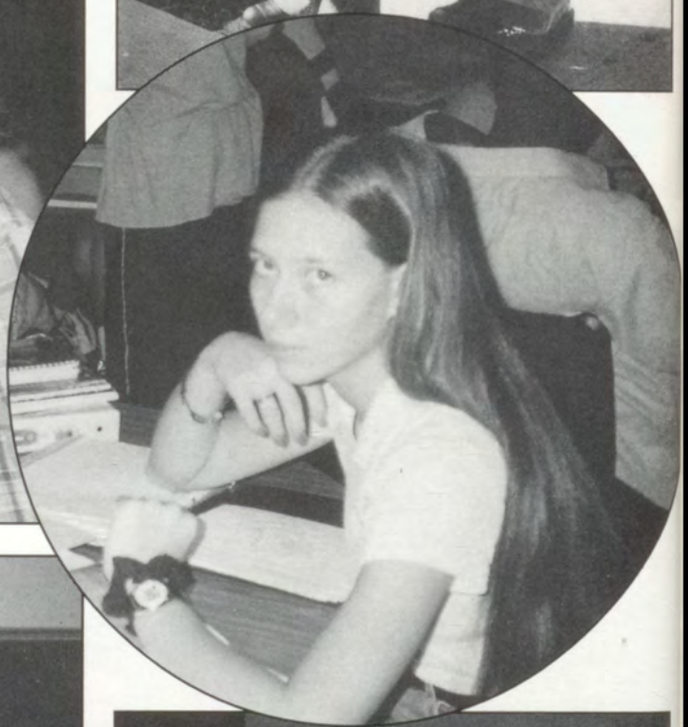
signatures

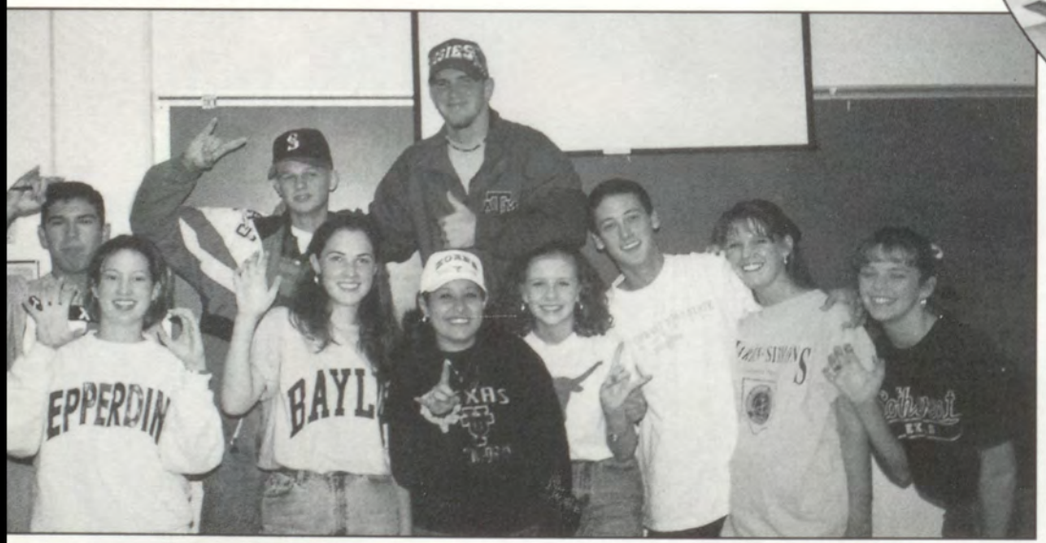
FASHION

As fashion has changed over the years, the students of Taylor High School have continued to keep up. Along with these trends, the Ducks have created some of their own. Bleached hair has remained popular along with the addition of the knotted hair look. Although Tommy Hilfiger, Polo, Doc Marten, and Wrangler have stayed trendy, many new styles have developed. Carpenter and corduroy pants have risen to the top of the fashion industry, while body piercing and beaded necklaces have grown in popularity. Some name brands such as American Eagle, Abercrombie and Fitch, and Old Navy have influenced the preppy style along with the scatter/grunge look. Regardless of how you dress, the Ducks are always in style!









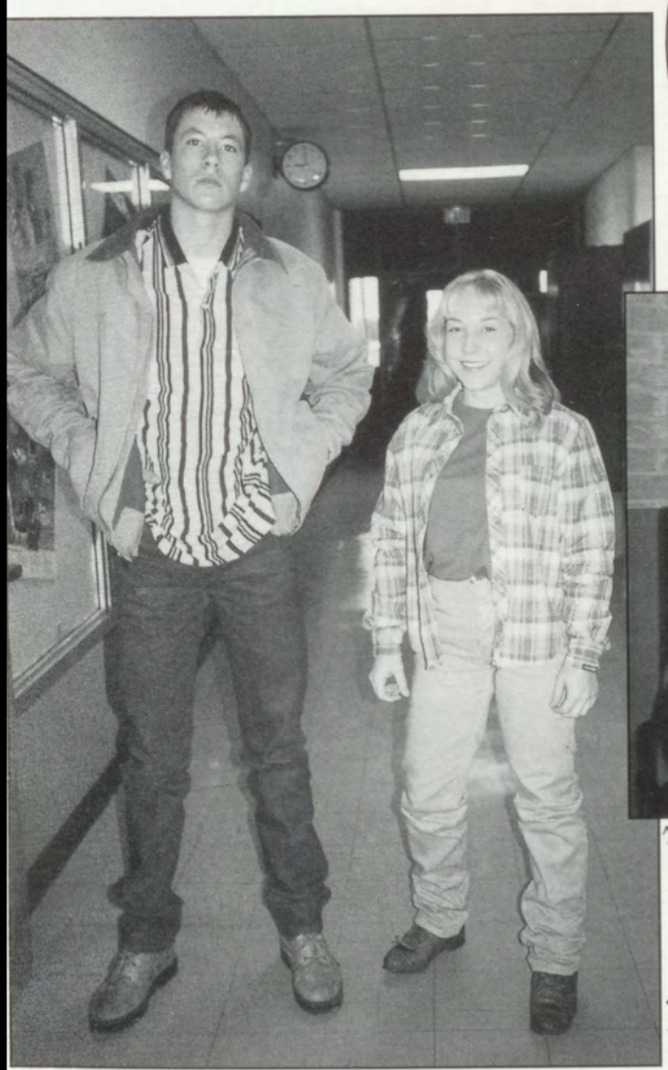


Beth and Brandy represent the preppy look in their clothes from Abercrombie.
Allison and Lauren smile big wearing the casual preppy look.
A group of students show school spirit by wearing the college theme of their choice.
It keeps growing and growing! Alison wins the award for the longest hair.
Shannon and Casey have a rather unique style!











↖ Guy and Stacey pose wearing the preppy/slacker look.

↑ Jennifer and Carrie are smiling now, but just wait until they have to brush those knots out!

↑ Seth strikes a pose in the ever popular grunge look.

← Nice legs! Brett and Lacie are stylin' in their boots and jeans.

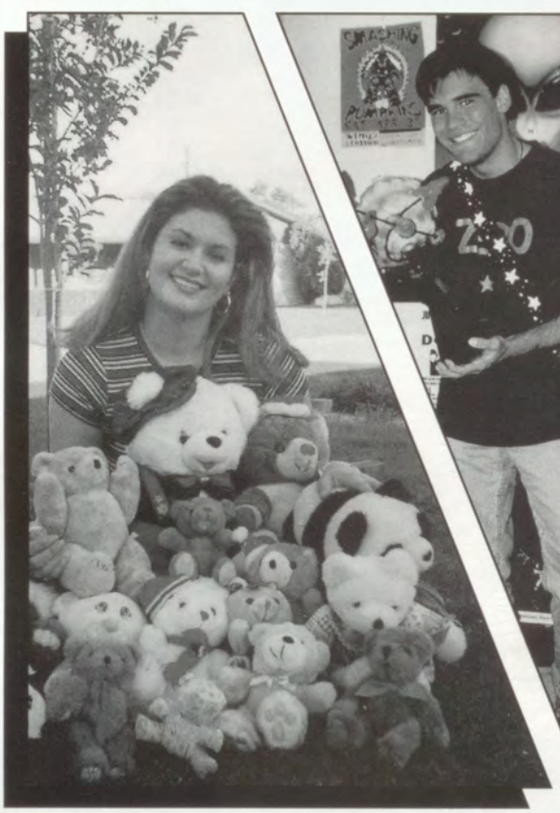
↑ Smile! A group of seniors pose in a variety of popular styles.

Layout and Copy by Autumn Schneider and Keitha Jones

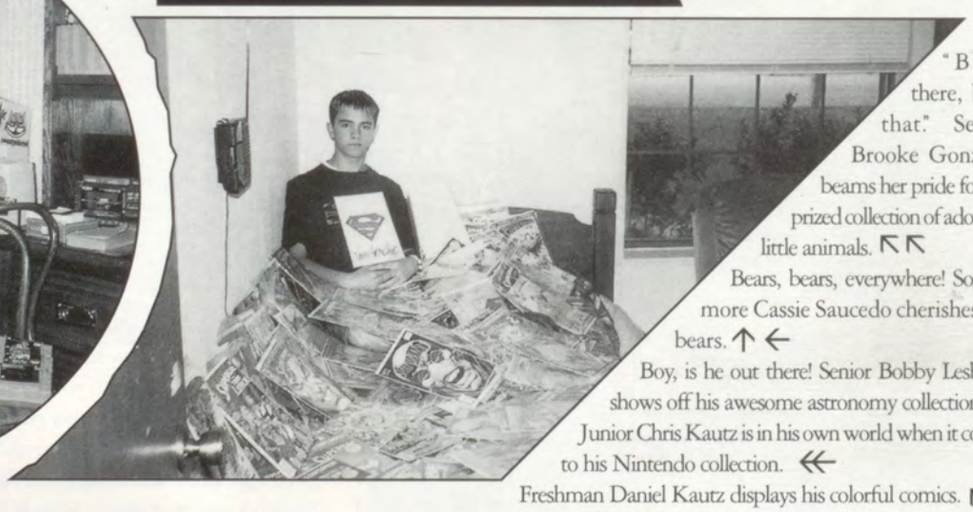
OBSESSIONS

Do you own that special something that makes you who you are? Something you just can't live without? When you go shopping, doa you search all of the shops for your passion's memorabilia? When people see it, do the automatically think of you? I'm sure you've heard that often-asked question, "Don't you have enough of that stuff? What, are you OBSESSED?" You know what they say: "One person's junk is another person's treasure." Well, our students have a variety of obsessions, from animals to cartoons; from sports to Beanie Babies. You name it, someone owns it... Lots of it!To sum obsessions all up: **O**nce you see it, you **B**uy it; you want that **S**pecial something to **E**xemplify your **S**elf; you **S**how your **I**nner love **O**f the thing you own. **N**ever could you live without the passion that completes your **S**oul. Take a look at these OBSESSIONS and their extremely passionate pals!









"Bean there, bean that." Senior Brooke Gonzales beams her pride for her prized collection of adorable little animals. ↖↖

Bears, bears, everywhere! Sophomore Cassie Saucedo cherishes her bears. ↑ ←

Boy, is he out there! Senior Bobby Leshikar shows off his awesome astronomy collection. ↑

Junior Chris Kautz is in his own world when it comes to his Nintendo collection. ←

Freshman Daniel Kautz displays his colorful comics. ↖











She loves them, yeah, yeah, yeah. Senior Melodie Strickland is head over heels about the Beatles. ↑↑

I don't think we're in Kansas anymore. Junior Brian Heeke obviously has his future planned out with his Kansas paraphernalia. ↗↗↗

You'll never catch Senior April Maruska horsin' around when it comes to her pride and joy.

"Elephants never forget." Senior April Flores never forgets her cuddly companions. ↗↗

Isn't she precious? Senior Autumn Schneider poses with her precious porcelain moments. →

Gettin' FROGGY with it! Senior Kellie Kalnasy is chilling with her friendly little frogs. ↗

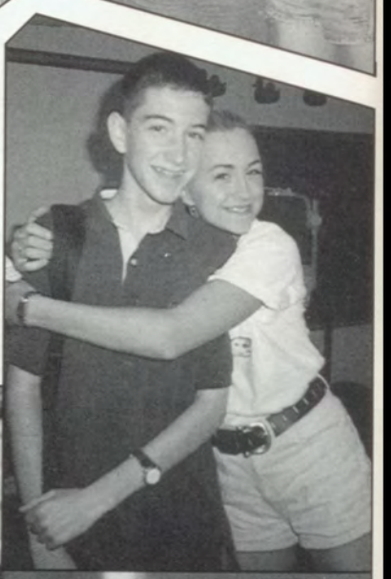
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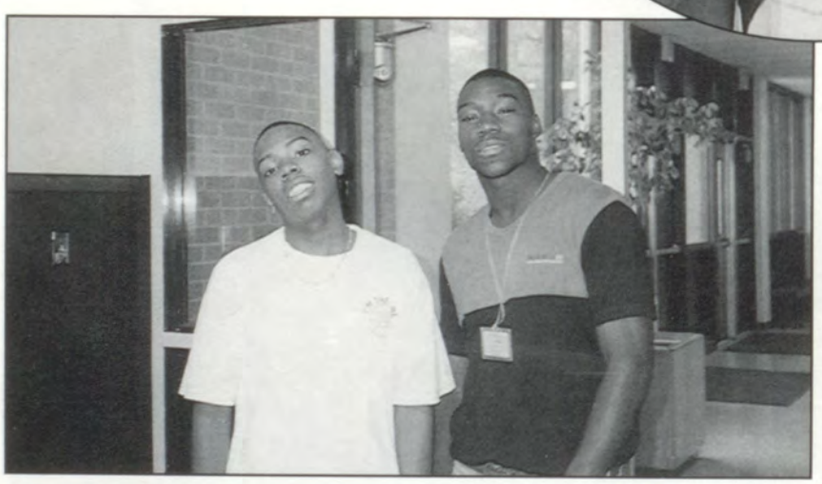
The Gift of Friendship

A friend isn't just a person whom you just smile at in the halls. You went through grammar school, and grew up together, and it didn't happen over night. It took a lot of trust and memories to make a friendship. You laughed and cried in the good times and sorrow. In times of despair, a true friend is a hand to pull you out, while your "so called friends" are there to put you down and make you suffer. Friends are honest and understanding and even a shoulder to cry on. A friend is someone to turn to when you need a lift when you're having a rough day. They take you for who you are and don't judge you. But most of all, a FRIEND is a heart, a strong and sturdy wall, they care for you and you care for them, friendship is the best gift of all.











↗ Friends stick together. These friends, Erica, Beatriz, Laura, and Michelle, get in a friendly huddle.

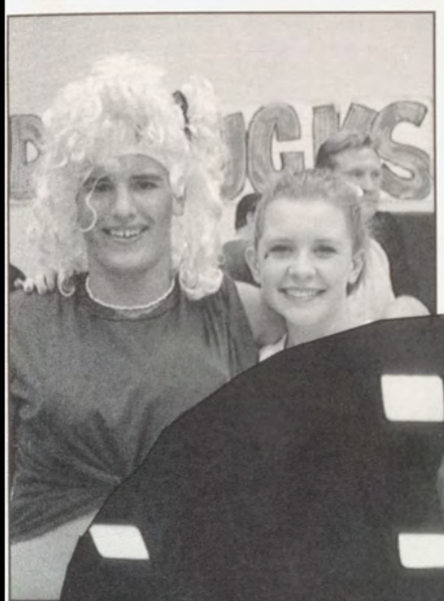
↗ Fishy Friends! Shala and Lauren pose together during lunch.

→↑ Heather gives David some friendly encouragement after a speech.

↑ What up? Jonathan and Frank pose for a friendly pic.
→ We didn't do anything! Honest!

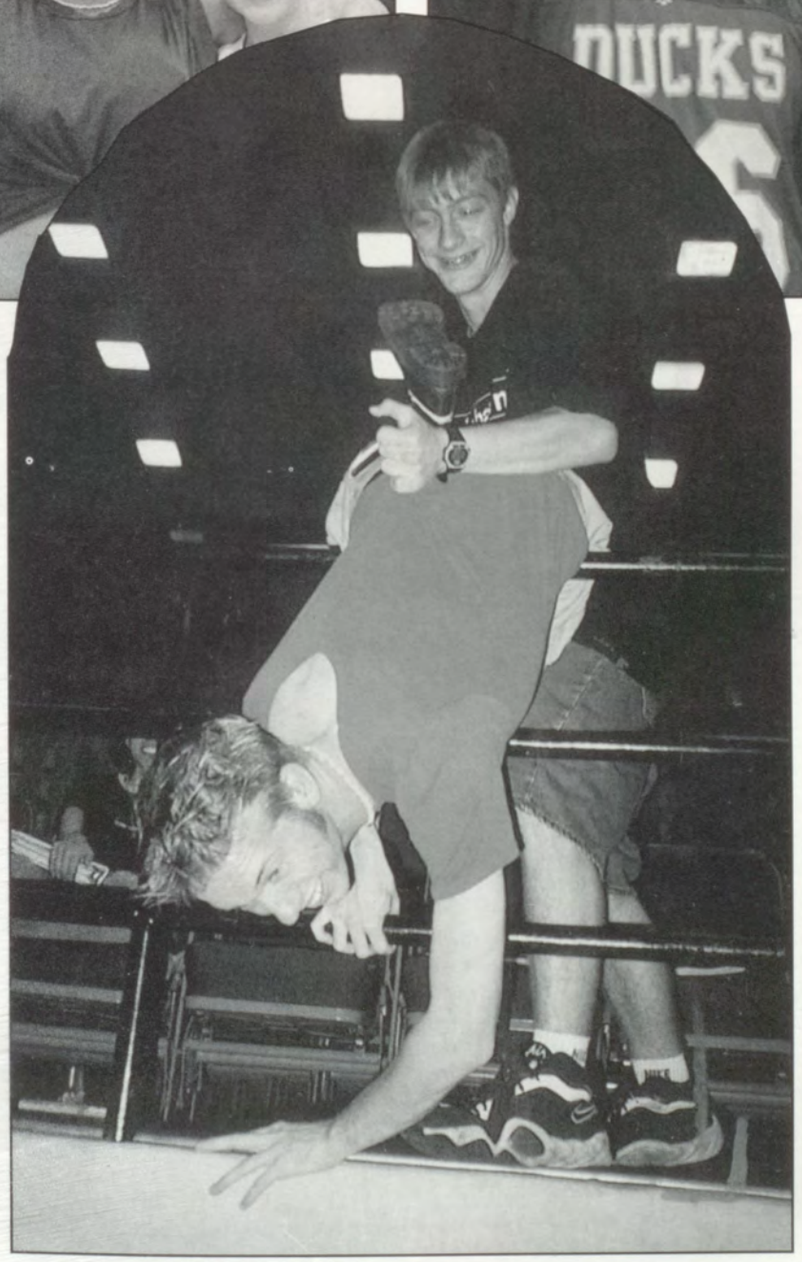














↖ CHEEESSSEEE!!! Look at theeessseee friends smile.

↑ Amy and Amanda chill out in the hallway.

↖ Teammates and friends. Football really can bring guys together.

↖ Justina and Candace share some beauty tips before the big game.

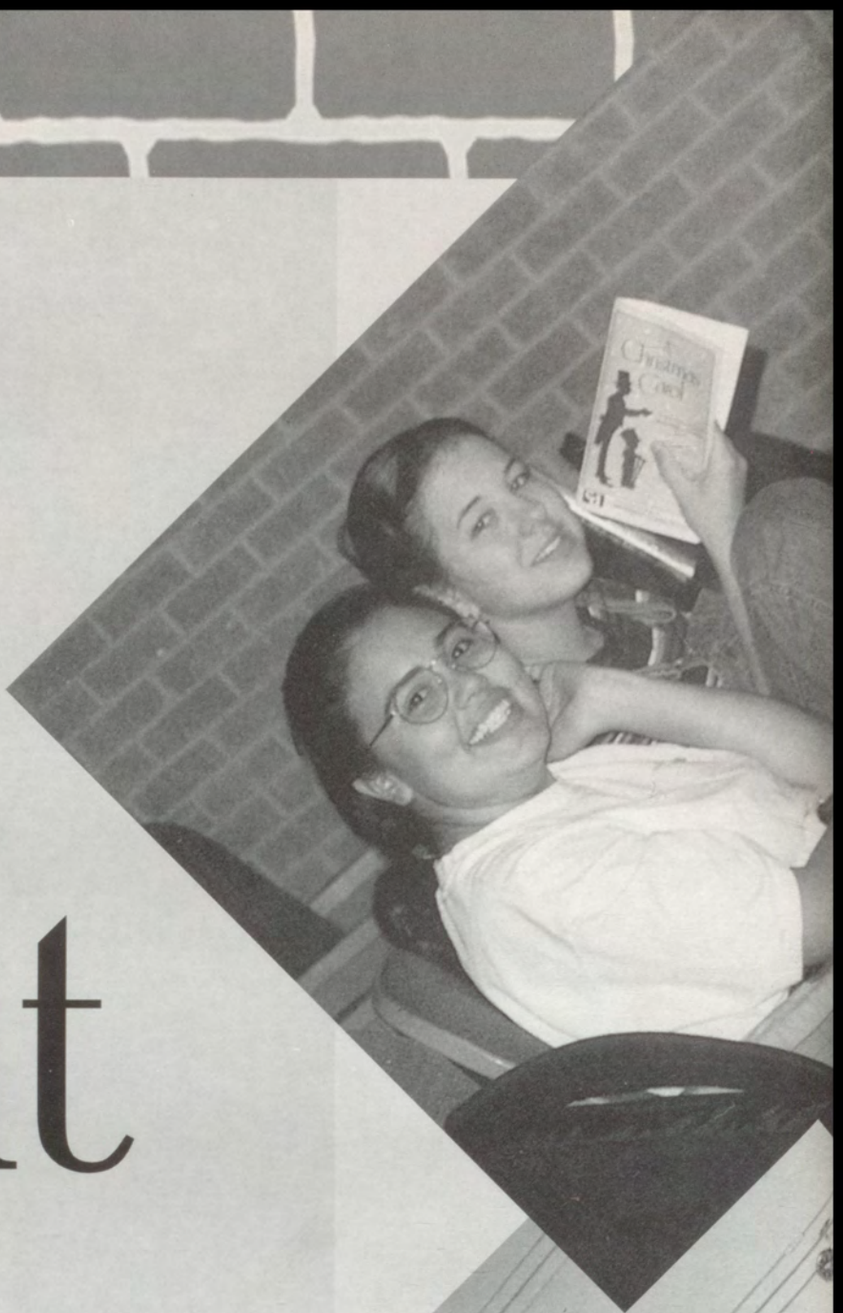
↑ Care to dance? Michael and Chrissy get jiggy with it.

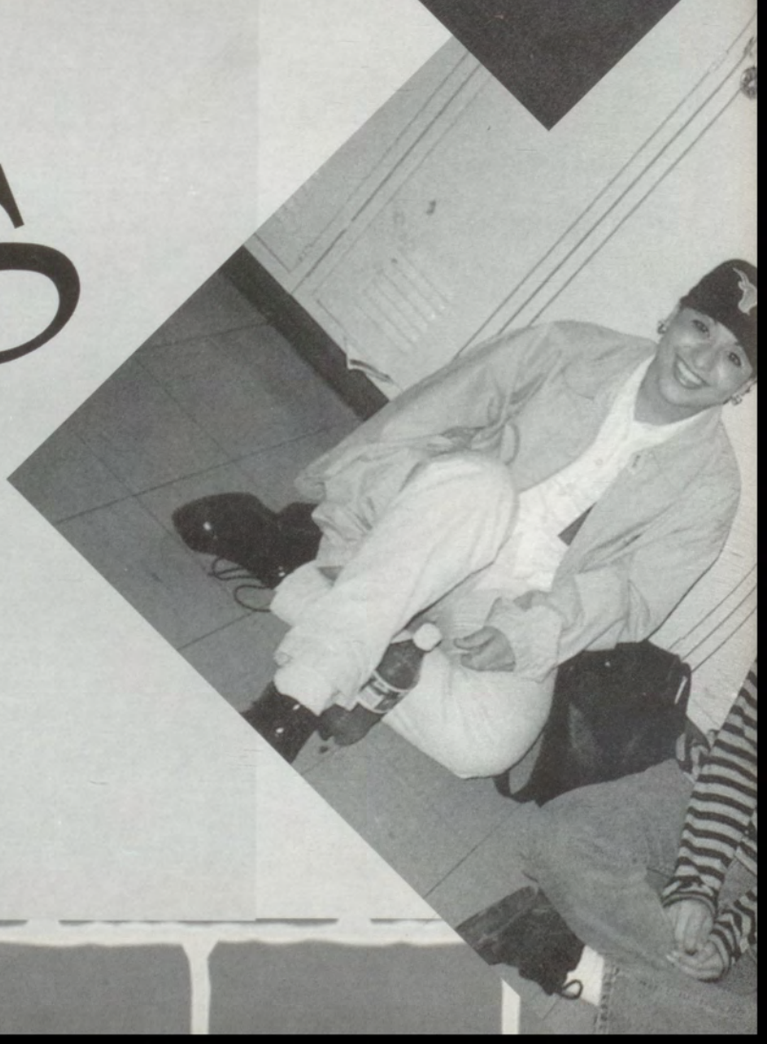
← Casey, do you need any help with that?

↑ Surprise! Right as the camera flashed, Rory popped in the snapshot with these crazy friends.

Copy and Layout by Kyle Kaiser

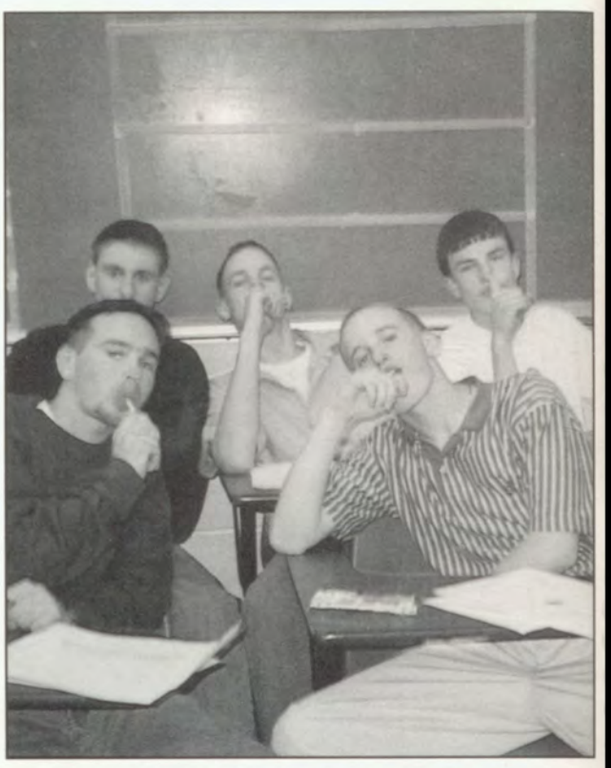
Talk About Class





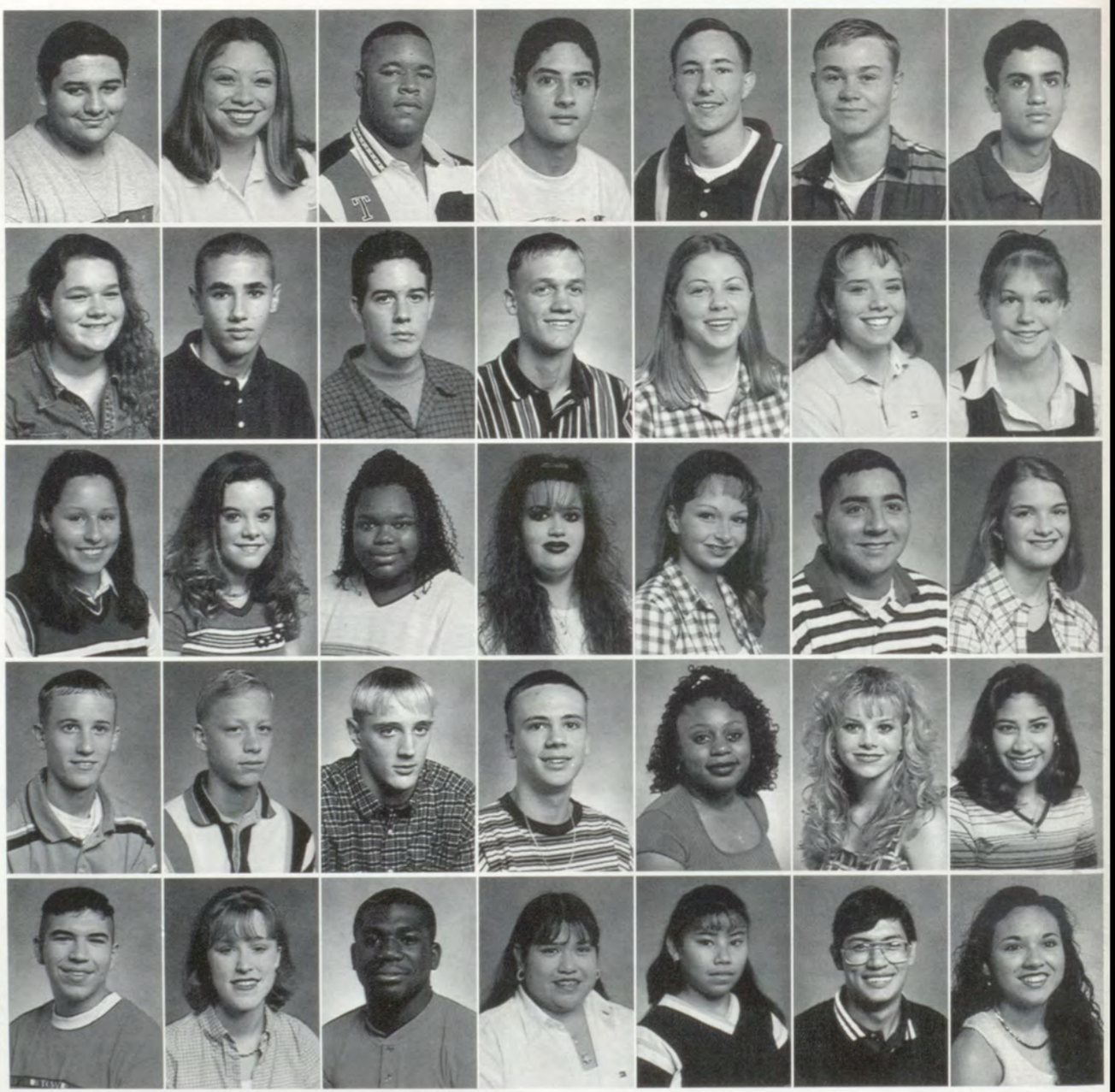
Only One Step Left

Juniors



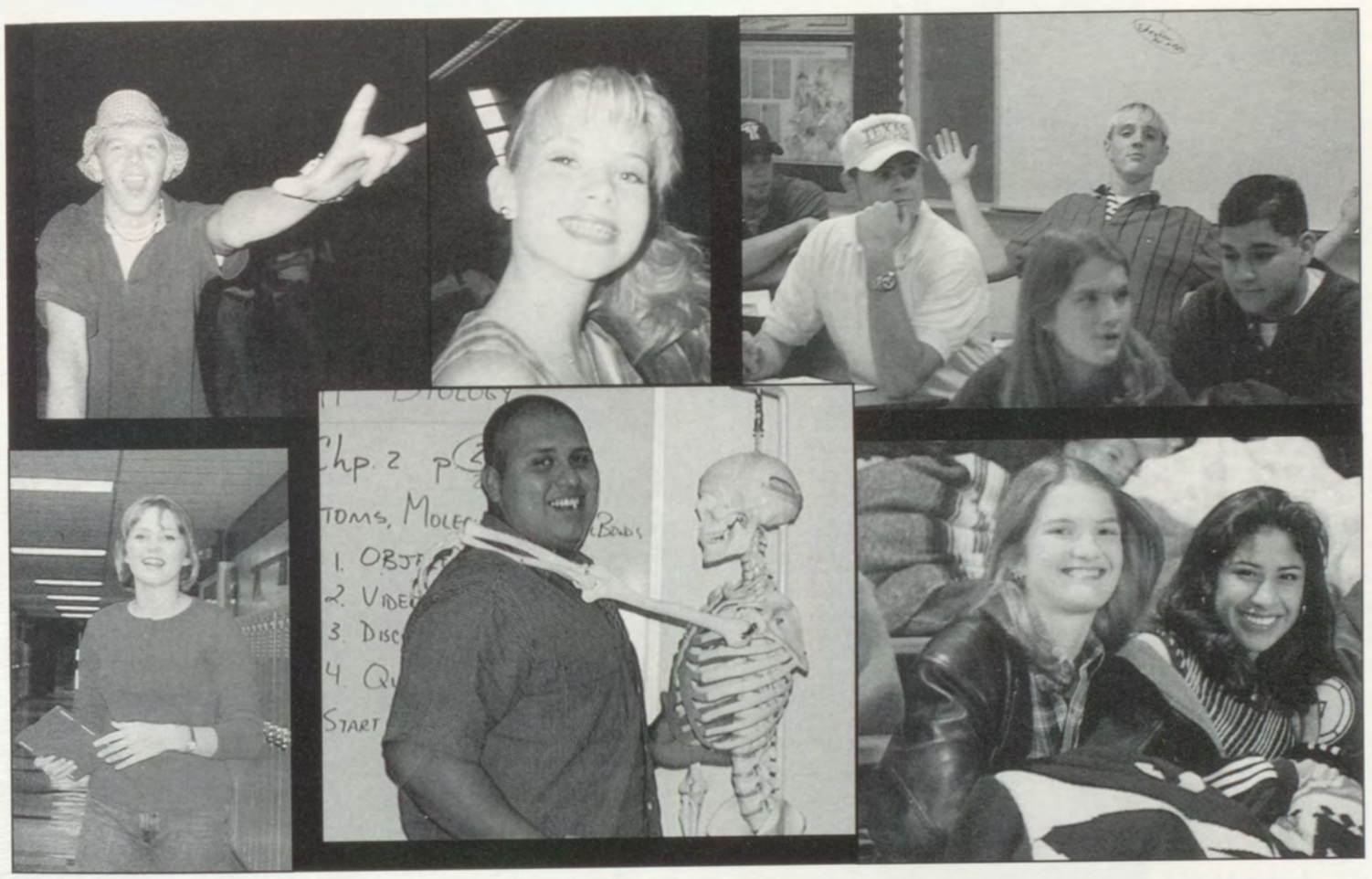
Wow, okay... And they told us that our Junior year would be a breeze. Yeah, okay, NO! As the year progressed, we found that this was going to be the scariest year to face. It all had to do with college prep courses; long, stressful research papers; preparing to take the SAT test; and organizing the prom. Another thing, since this was our first credit check, we each had to make sure we had enough credit to even be qualified as a Senior next year. But the one thing that we could actually look forward to was being an upperclassman! It was tough, but through a lot of hard work and getting in trouble, somehow we have not yet pulled off one of the best years. Yeah... Even though our class has had more downs than ups this year by getting involved in a chaos of trouble, hopefully in time or by next year we'll overcome what has happened in the past and next year be a totally cooler class than ever.

Fermin Aguirre
Anna Alderete
Quincy Andrews
Bruno Apgaua
James Ashley
Torsten Auerbach
Ricardo Basso
Jaime Bigon
Ashaley Bland
Al Block
Bradley Bohac
Tara Burba
Jolena Caldera
Misty Carrithers
Dana Carrizales
Kristen Carter
Kathryn Cathey
Angie Cazalas
Kristin Chait
Manuel Chavana
Lyndsey Cmerek
Lyle Cmerek
Shane Cmerek
John Cuba
Matt Daenzer
Latasha Deary
Brooke Dlouhy
Nancy Dominguez
Troy Dominguez
Alison Enochs
Curtis Fields
Elizabeth Flores
Maria Flores
Angelo Fraire
Chastity Garcia





Javier Garcia
David Garcia
Samantha Ging
Brandon Gomez
Laura Gomez
Jennifer Gonzales
Christina Gonzales
Maria Gonzales
Elaine Good
Lacie Grieger
Lisa Grimm
Jazelle Gros
Tremon Harrell
Angela Harrington

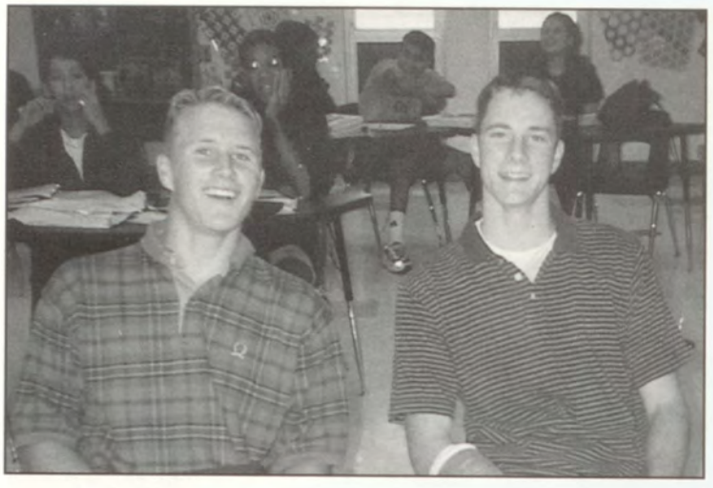




Dustin Harrison
Heath Haverland
Stephen Hawkins
Heather Hazelwood
Brian Heeke
Dawn Hehmann
Chris Hejl
Darren Helbert
Sherri Henry
Don Hernandez
Joseph Hernandez
Sergio Hiracheta
Dean Hohle
Kenny Horne

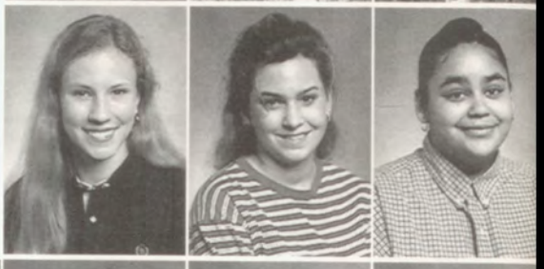
Copy and Layout by Cassie Hyzak and Jennifer Gonzales

Ike Houston
Brenda Hyzak
Carrie Jackson

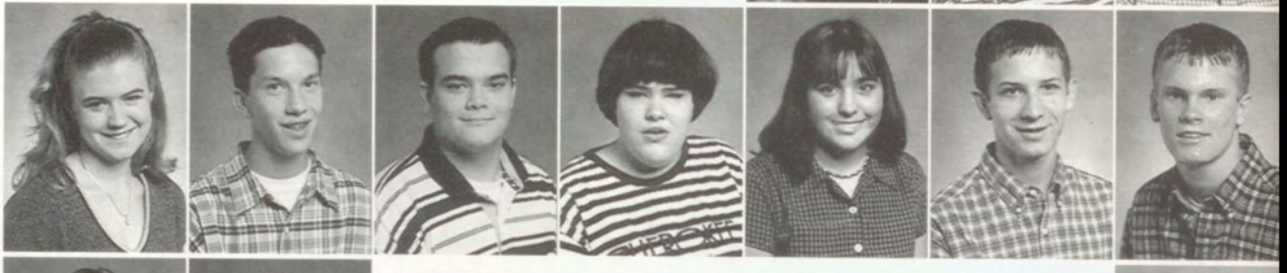




Kendra Jirasek
Amy Johnson
Kathryn Johnson



Laura Johnson
Kyle Kaiser
Christopher Kautz
Jamie Kautz
Jennifer Kolinek
Stephen Konarik
Kelly Kuhl



Lance Magana
Dan Martin
Kenneth Martin







Jonathan Martinez
Marty Martinez
James Massey

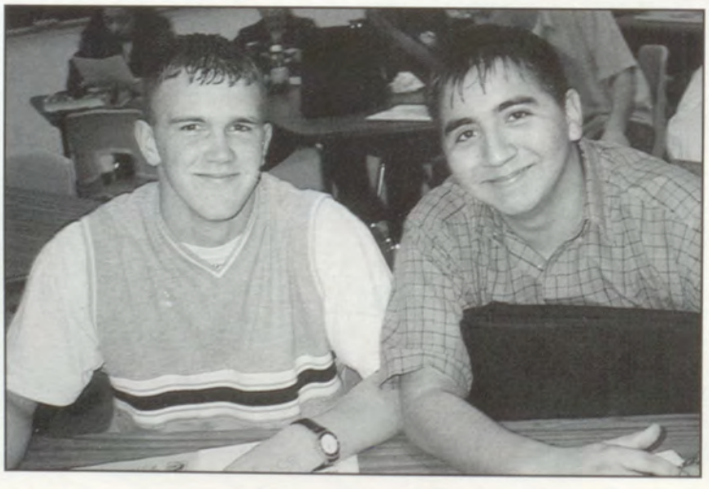


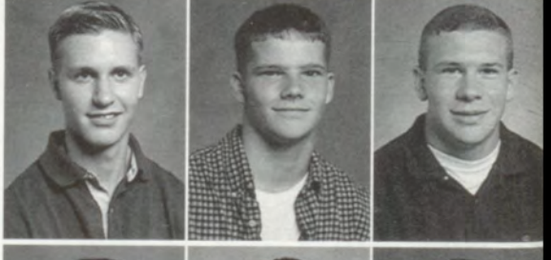


Bradley McClain
Krystal Medearis
Carlos Menchaca
Jeannie Mendez
Lauren Mikulencak
Clint Mokry
Janlyn Mokry



Nick Mokry
Jason Moldenhour
Andrew Morris



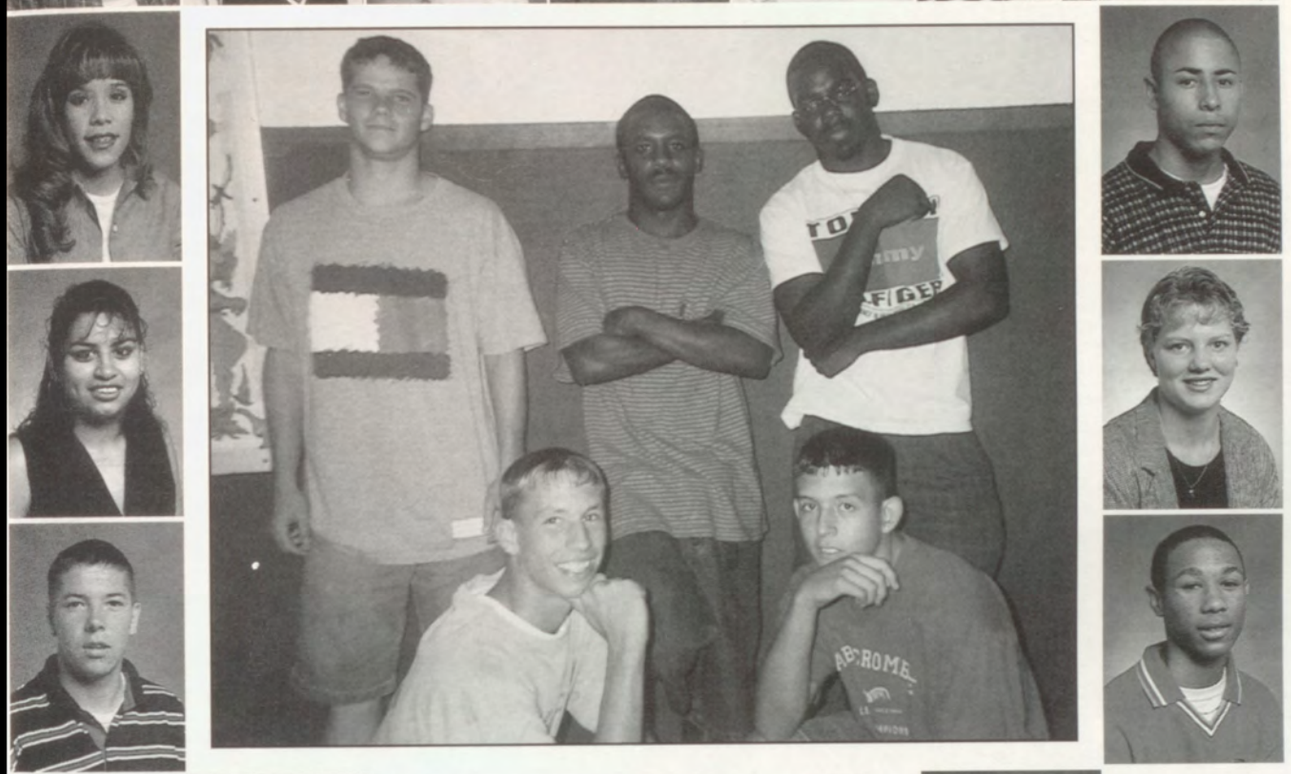


Kristine Muegge
Kerry Murry
Brandon Naiver





Tamara Naiver
Bertha Nunez
Yolanda Nunez
Monica Ochoa
Angela Olguin
Stephen Ontiveros
Jesse Ortiz



Paula Ortiz
Manuel Perez

Sylvia Perez
Danielle Pistole

Matthew Pokorny
Tremayne Poole



Blake Randig
Kevin Rowe
Nicole Rowe

Lauren Rozacky
Jose Ruiz
Miguel Salazar
Leslie Salazar



Jessica Samaniego
Amy Samuelson
Jimmy Sanchez
Lauren Sanchez
Robert Sanford
Travis Sanford
David Scarborough
Stanci Schroeder
Nick Shelton
Stephanie Spells
Stephanie Spruill
Crystal Stefek
Justin Steffek
Keli Stewart

Jarod Stojanik
Tara Svehlak
Trenton Talley
Lynsey Tiemann
Clarence Tolliver
Danielle Townsend
Clayton Turner
Cesar Valdez
Paula Vasquez
Isabel Velasquez
Eloy Villarreal
Tarisa Walker
Jermaine Washington
Sean Washington

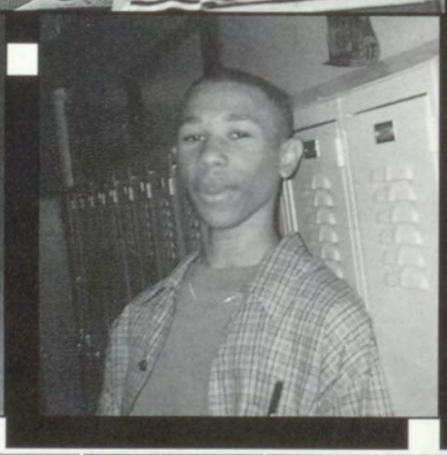


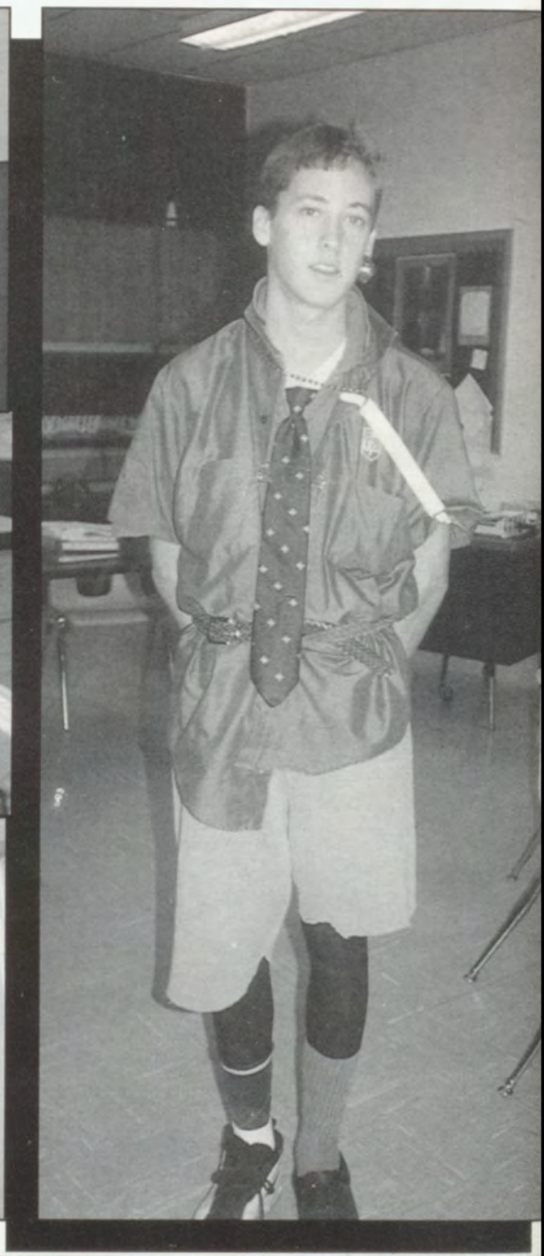












Tonya Watkins
Courtney Watson
Amanda Welch
Candice Williams
Amy Zucknick
Scott Zucknick
Lonnie Zycha



BRAZILIANS!!!

Not our neighbors, but our friends.

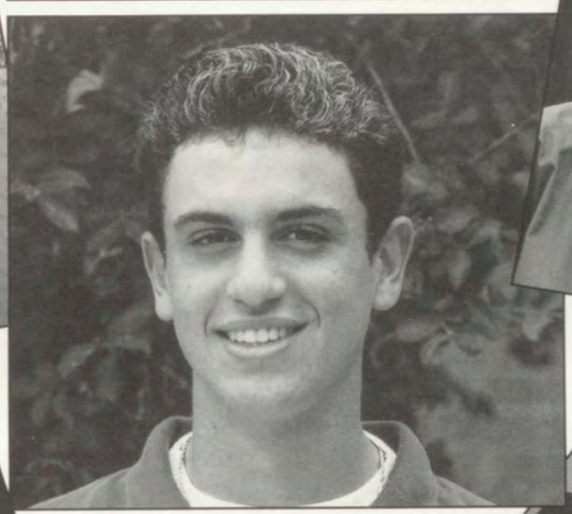
BRASILEIROS NO PEDAÇO!

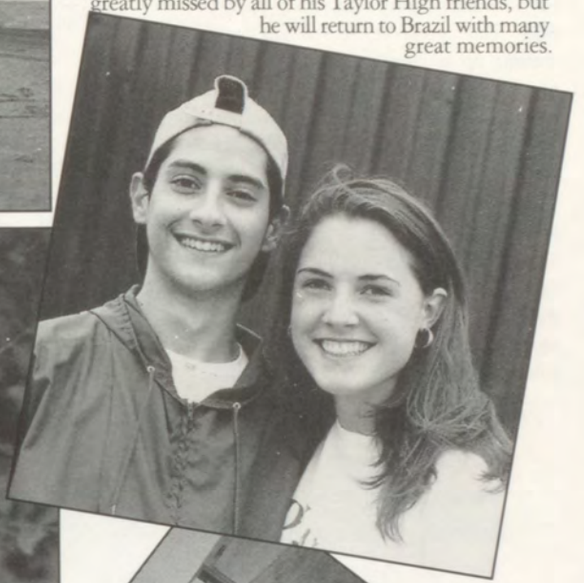
From the first time we met Ricardo, we knew he was anything but shy. He was outgoing, and it didn't take any time for him to get involved and make the varsity tennis team. He adopted the typical ways of an outgoing teenager and it was no surprise to see him at every party in Taylor. He quickly fit in with his Taylor family and spent alot of his time at Taylor Sporting Goods. Ricardo, also known as Pedro, could always put a smile on your face, whether he was just cracking a joke or asking, "How to do it?". In fact, he enjoyed Taylor so much he is looking in to staying another year! (Imagine that!)

Bruno came off as a little on the shy side at first, but quickly opened up to the atmosphere of Taylor High School, and fit right in with the rest of the crowd. And once he got to know you, his comedic side came through. He became active in the school by joining our cross country and track team, in which he did very well. Although he was unable to compete in district he remained a dedicated member of the team, cheering them on throughout every meet. Bruno will be greatly missed by all of his Taylor High friends, but he will return to Brazil with many great memories.











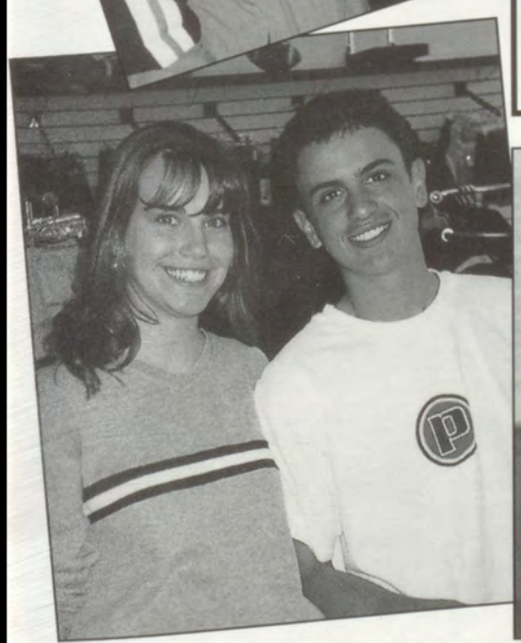
"I enjoyed Taylor High School because of the people in it. I especially enjoyed going on trips with the tennis team where I had my best times."

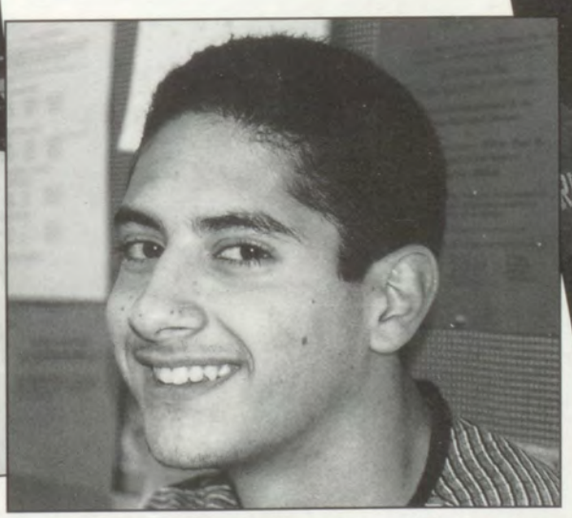
--Ricardo Basso

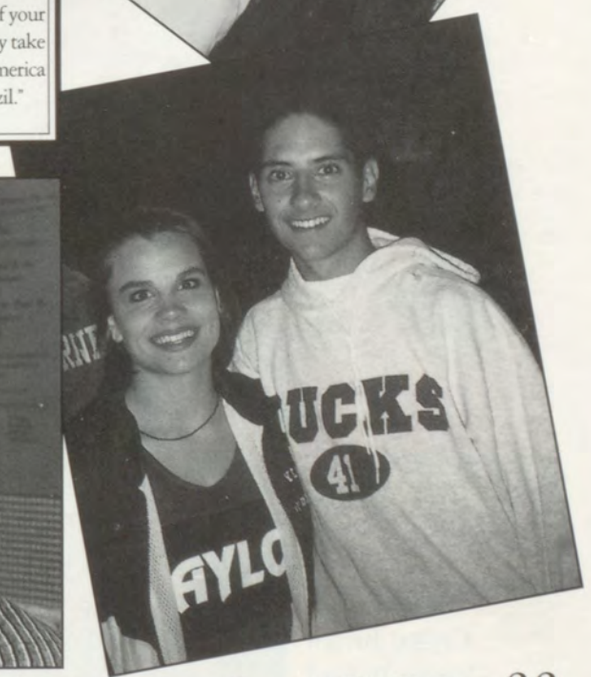


"It is a cool experience to be around people with another culture and be different from them, even when they're making fun of your accent. I enjoyed the way America supports their sports, they take it real seriously. It was fun to come over here and see what America really looks like. I just wish Americans could go visit Brazil."

--Bruno Apgaua







Copy and Layout by Lauren Schwartz and Candace Benad

A Little Older, More Pond to Cover

Sophomores

As the school year draws to a close and we reflect upon our experiences, we have a great deal about which to be proud. We started the year as the largest sophomore class ever to attend Taylor High. We were glad to no longer be the youngest students on campus and definitely enjoyed the privilege of going off campus for lunch. Homecoming was October 16th and we played Hearne at our newly refurbished field. The sophomores showed spirit at the pep rally by dressing up as Hearne cheerleaders and injured football players. The fans and exes weren't the only ones talking about it afterwards; the gym walls will remember our float for a long time! We bagged the blue ribbon and left the upperclassmen eating our dust as we made our way out of the gym with our wheelchair and gurney! Once again we took first place when the Christmas Tree Contest came around. The officers worked with Mrs. Moehnke and Mrs. Foley to decorate the tree with mauve, burgundy and gold ornaments and a mauve bow with ribbons cascading down to top it off. The walls in the student center were definitely talking about our tree! It was also picked by the Junior High Life Skills group who took it to brighten up their room the week before Christmas. We decided to be responsible and started planning ahead for our junior prom duties! We had two fund raisers, candy sales in January and a barbecue dinner in April, and we voted on the theme for the prom so that we could start putting ideas together. Meanwhile, Mr. Garcia and Mr. Carrizales left the school and some of us had a hard time adjusting to all the English teacher switches, but we survived and hopefully will be adequately prepared for English III next year! Many of us also had the chance to get to know two of Taylor High's newest teachers, Mr. Rogers and Coach Bostick. Everyone was pretty surprised when we got our class rankings in March. This was the first time students had received rankings so early in their high school career. Some of us were excited, some were discouraged, and some were simply motivated to work harder for the rest of the year. This was a year of projects (thanks to Mrs. Bennett!) and post-labs (thanks to Mrs. Sutton!) but we still found time to have fun. And if the walls could talk, they'd have a lot of new stories to tell because of us.



Christina Agundiz
Anna Alderete
Monica Alderete
Rebecca Alderete
Cynthia Aleman
Leroy Aleman
Greg Alford



Alexander Anderson
Maxine Arreosola







Chris Auerbach
Michelle Avila





Aaron Bachmeyer
Lorena Barber





Chris Beckermann
Josh Bell
Candace Benad
Justin Bohls
Caitlin Brown
Crystal Bryant
Vanesa Bullard





Colbey Bullock
Amber Byfield
Leah Caldwell
Edith Candelario
Mark Cantrell
Ruben Cantu
Chad Cervenka



Tammy Cervenka
Jason Conner
Ualitha Cook
Bobby Cowan



Chandler Dabbs
Jade Daenzer
Alisha David
Lamont Davis



Earley Deary
Shakira Deary
Krissie Dekle
Crystal Delatorre



Greg Demps
Dominick Devasty
Anna Dominguez
Brian Drummond
Jennifer Duran
Stephen Emmick
Bekki Estrada



Elisa Estrada
Michael Evans
Kristen Farmer





George Fiegel
Willie Fields
Antonio Fitzgerald

Copy and Layout by Emily Johnson and Alisha David

Nick Flannery
Martha Flores
Traci Floyd





Anne Foley
Brandy Ford
Christina Ford



Chris Fox
Maria Fraire
Nichole Frazier
Nathan Gamble

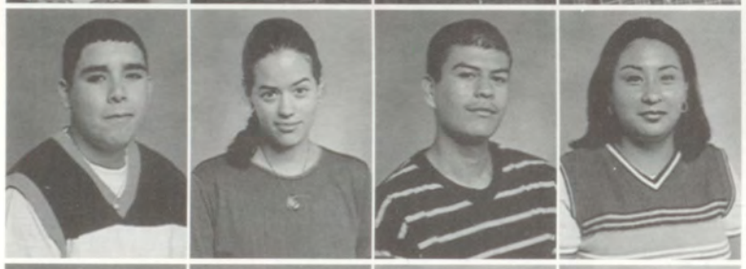




Jessica Garcia
Margaret Garry
Veronica Garza
Chris Gayton



Toby Gayton
Angelena Gomez
Larry Gonzales
Veronica Gonzales



Maria Gonzalez
Justin Graef
Micah Grau
D'Neshia Griffin



Fred Griffin
Heather Guardiola
Lindsay Harbers





Wesley Hejl
Monica Hernandez
Nichole Holder







Travis Huber
Louie Jahn
Emily Johnson



Katara Johnson
James Jonas
Keitha Jones



Lathesa Jones
Pedro Juarez
Caleb Kilborn



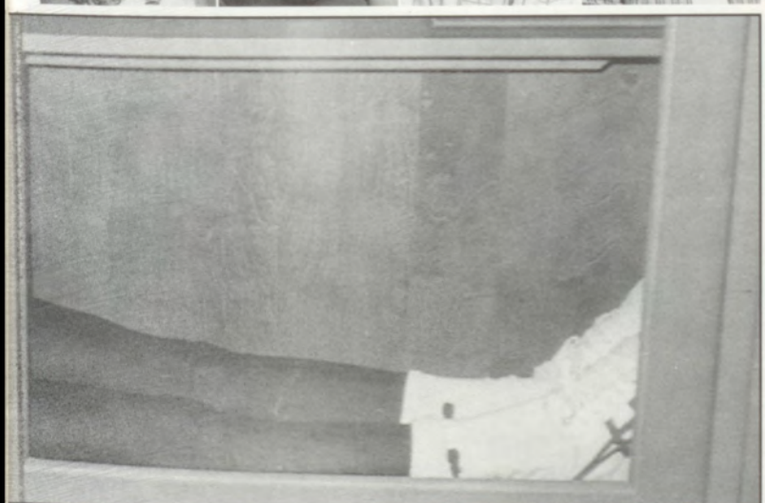
Derek Klepac
Meghan Klotz
Dustin Kruse
Stacy Kruse
Amanda Larson
Becca Lewis
James Littlejohn





Melinda Lopez
Stacy Lopez
Tracy Machu
Sean Mack

Brandi Martinez
Debbie Martinez
Ernest Martinez
Marissa Martinez



Ashley Mathis
Alison Mayer
Lance Mills
Courtney



Minzenmayer
Ladd Moehnke
Ronny Moore
Abbi Mott

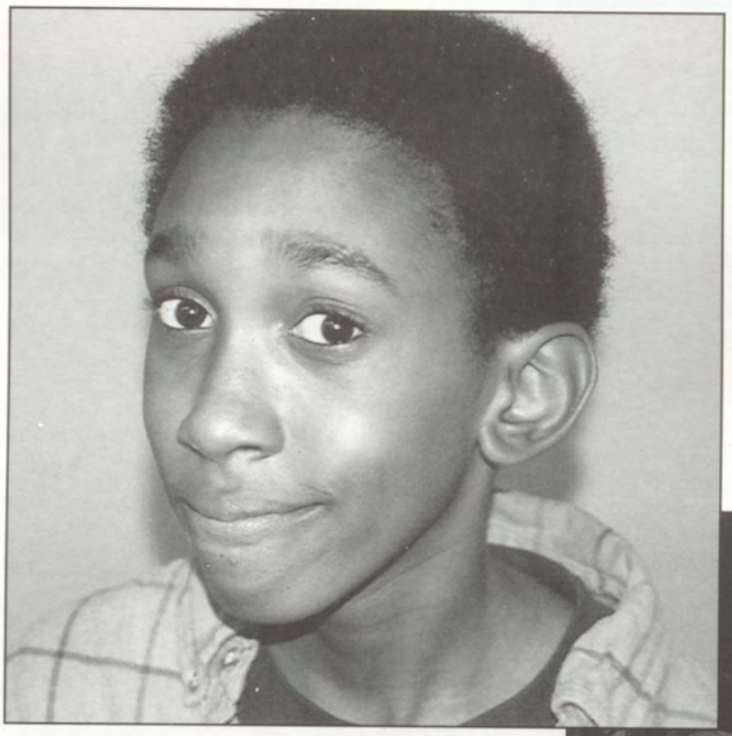


Diane Murray
Kelly Nygrin
Brit Oliphint
Nina Ontiveros



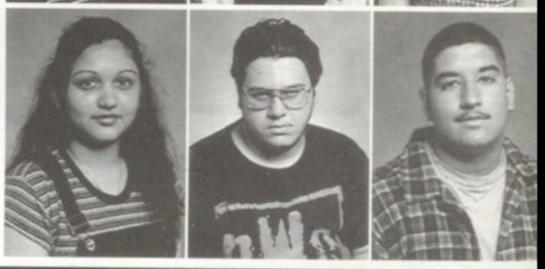


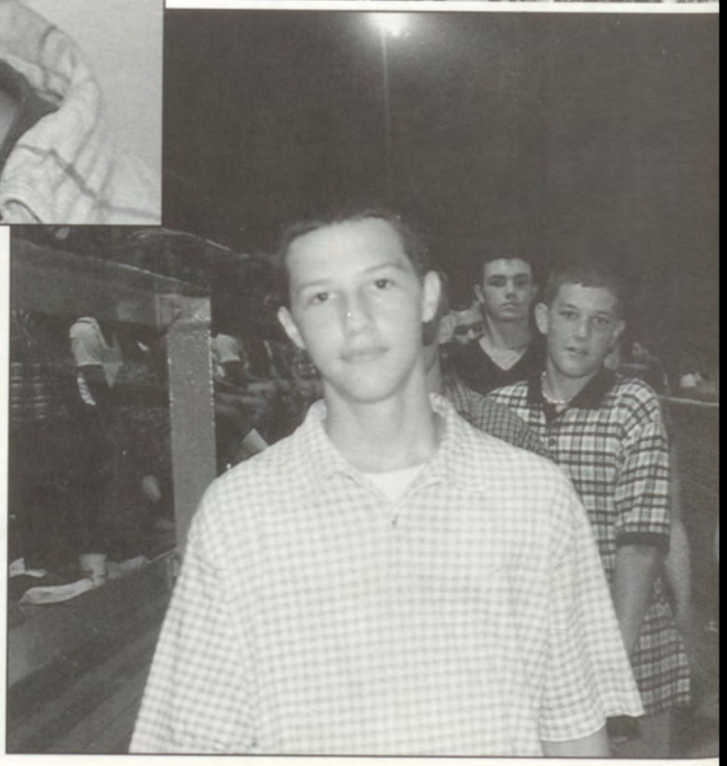
Andrew Oser
Arthur Pachicano
Ashleigh Page





Kelly Parker
Alpa Patel
Dennis Perry





Thomas Pickerill
Tina Ponkoney
David Powers



Brandon Raesz
Sarah Raesz
Jessie Ramirez
















Olivia Raya
Carl Richter
Beth Richter
Josh Richter

Jonathan Roberson
Anissa Robinson
Marlene Rodriguez
Lacie Ruemke

Kyle Rydell
Jason Sanchez
Lisa Sanchez
Stephen Sanchez
Trent Schade
Vanessa Schaffer
Jordan Schmidt
Reagen Schroeder
Julie Schumpert
Bryan Scott
Amber Seidel
Ruby Serna
Herbert Shamard
Chelsie Shanafelt
Richard Smith
Cindy Solis
C.J. Stahl
Tracy Stefek
Sterling Teague
Amaris Tealer
Terrance Tealer
Steven Teggeman
Jose Tellez
Julia Torres
Nicole Torres
Jennifer Urbanek
Josh Verastique
Linzy Wallace

Scott Washington
Josh Weise
Brandi Wellings

Laura Whatley
Nicole White
Todd Wiseman
Brandon Wyckoff

Little Fish in a Big Pond

Freshmen

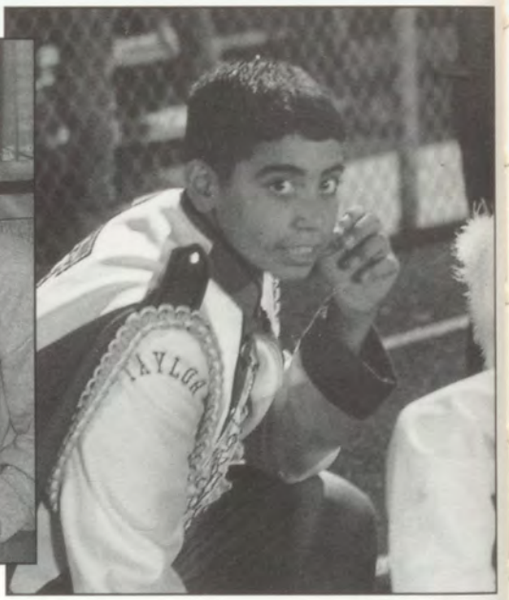
The freshman year is hard one for each class. Having to make the change from being the oldest at the junior high to being the youngest at the high school isn't particularly fun. But the class of 2002 proved to be much more than just little fish. They toughened up and endured all the pressures of being new and unfamiliar with their surroundings. The freshmen soon began to fit in and know the school better.

The freshmen didn't get much done during the first weeks of the school year because they hadn't voted on class officers the year before. But a few months into the fall semester, Sally Naivar and Margarita Yanis came to their rescue as new class sponsors. These two ladies organized a class election and the whole freshman class was invited to vote on December 9. Once they had class officers they got down to business and planned a taco dinner. They sold tickets and on January 12, they spent two hours serving customers at the Northside cafeteria. They didn't have to personally cook the meals but they had a lot of fun serving them. Over twenty members of the freshman class participated.

The freshmen had a good time being new members of the high school body and next year we can expect even greater things from them as they become more involved and do their part to give back to the school.







Sonia Aguirre
Melissa Alderete
Monica Alderete
Rosa Alderete
Jose Aleman
Paulina Amado
David Arias



Marina Arreosola
Nichole Artieschovfsky
Shane Arzola
Jeff Atkinson
Jessica Bailey
Deanna Baran
Laura Barefoot



Jennifer Bigon
Randy Blackwell
Crystal Black
Kristen Bohac
Jennifer Bond
Tisha Benson
Laura Briones





William Brock
Caleb Brooks
Coty Brown
Richard Bryant
Stanley Burd
Kristina Burkhalter
Ashley Butler



Angelica Cabello
John Camarda
Roman Capetillo
Donald Carrithers
Mina Carter
Marco Castillo
Maritza Cavada



Cristy Cervenka
Michelle Chait
Melissa Chandler
Mario Chavana

Matthew Chenoweth
Bryan Cleary
Coratta Cleveland
Byron Coleman

Tim Copple
Asher Craig
Rory Craig
Michael Cuba



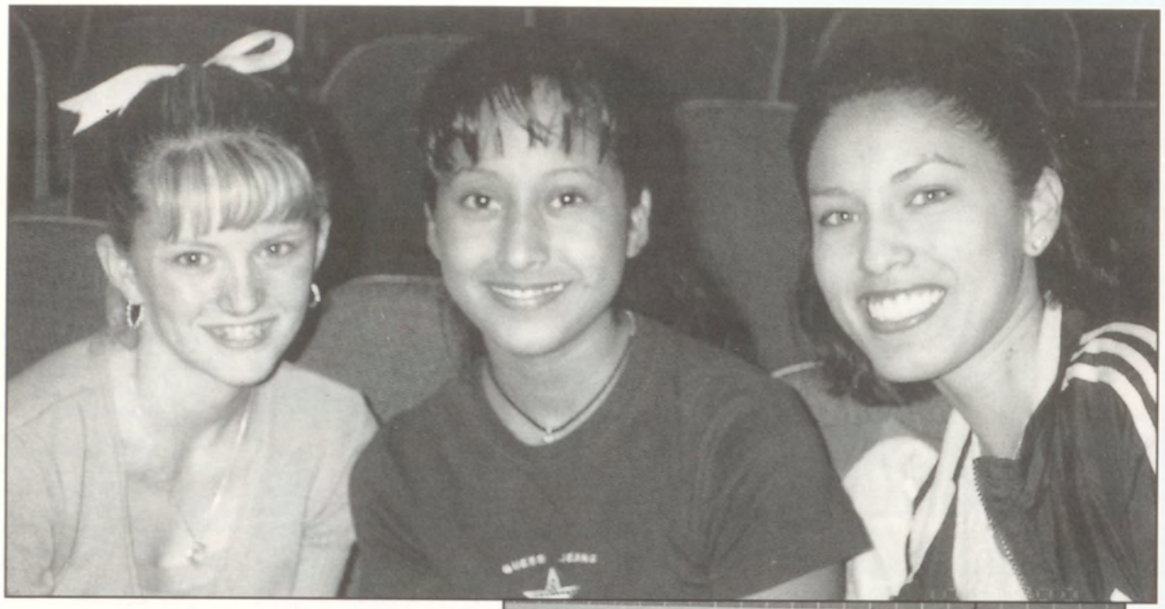
Luke Curik
Lauren Currie
Dwyane Curtis
Daniel Davis
Dennis Davis
Orenthial Davis
Jimmy Deary



Patrick Devastey
Angela Diaz
Jose Diaz
Shala Dlouhy
Leticia Dominguez
Rachel Dominguez
Melissa Donjuan



Christina Dragna
Stephen Drummond
Chris Duncan
Sabrina Dunkle
Joseph Edwards
Pete Ellis
Jenna Eschberger





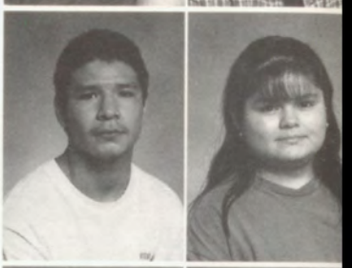




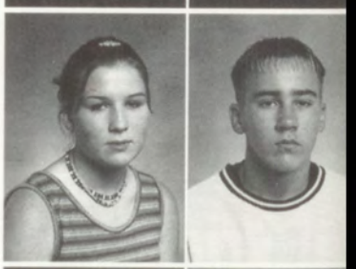




















Yaromi Espano
Steve Estrada
Michael Evans
Mikisha Evans
Vanna Evans
Stefanie Faulkner
Talisha Fisher
James Flippin
Balentine Flores

Rosa Flores
Tiffany Ford
Charlotte Frederick
Ben Fuentes
Erik Fuller
Aaron Gadison
Vivian Gadison
Koda Gallegos
Lori Garcia

Arthur Garza
Stephanie Garza
Quinnton Gault
Jeffery Giusto
Chris Glenn
Anna Glover
Joshua Glover
Matt Gola
Brooke Gomez

Jesse Gomez
Elida Gonzales
Johnny Gonzales
Matthew Gonzales
Nicholas Gonzales
Robert Gonzales
John Grady
Corey Griffin
Victor Gutierrez

Andrea Harrel
Michael Harrison
Tabitha Haskins
Justin Hegar
Quincy Henderson
Teresa Henry
Samantha Hernandez
Leo Herrera
Paula Herrera

Trey Hewtty
Jessica Hill
Shenekra Hill
Bruce Hines
Jarod Holman
Tonya Hunt
LaToya Jackson
Kodie Jirasek
Akai Johnson

Tashabqui Johnson
Sara Juarez
Chris Kelm
Clayton Krueger
Jennifer Krueger
Crystal Krieg
Kim Klaus
Corey Kalnasy
Daniel Kautz

Brandon Landreth
Ricardo Lepe
Kris Leshikar
Rachel Lute
David Meyer
Nathan Mokry
Josh Morrison
Josie Munoz
Dawn Murdock

Michael Mack
Ryan Marshall
Jessica Martinez
Ralph Martinez

Vanessa Martinez
Lee McKinney
Clint Naivar
Sarah Naivar

Josh Nelson
Porsia Nelson
Tim Neslony
Monique Netayer
Teresa Nira
Chris Nunez
Monique Owen

Kathryn Ochoa
Amy Olguin
April Olivarez
Christopher Ortiz
David Ortiz
Chris Pachicano
Nelson Parker

Chris Parkhill
Jason Pausewang
Daniel Perez
Erica Perez
Megan Powell
John Pokorny
Barret Randig

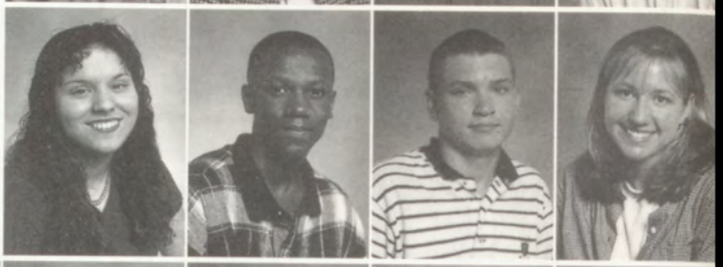
Travis Randig
Marcus Reese
Steve Resondez
Fernando Reyes

Geraldo Reyes
Monica Reyes
Nichole Reyes
Amy Rinderknecht

Stephanie Rohlack
Joshua Rojas
Veronica Rojas
Tamika Ross
Trent Rozacky
Jamie Ruden
Laura Ruiz









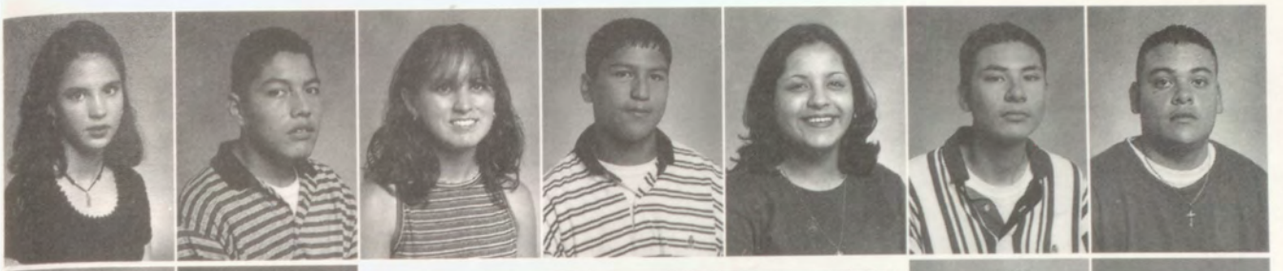












Vanessa Rivera
Carlos Rodriguez
Casey Rogers
Robert Salazar
Vira Salgado
Ricky Sanchez
Tay Sandoval



Cassie Saucedo
Lauren Schroeder
Maria Siguenta
Dedrick Simien

Stephen Sorensen
Ashley Starks
Jennifer Stefek
Chris Stenholm

Jonathan Stephens
Seth Stivers
Brandy Susan
Casey Sutton

Stacey Sutton
Ashley Tamez
Elroy Thomas
Nicole Thompson



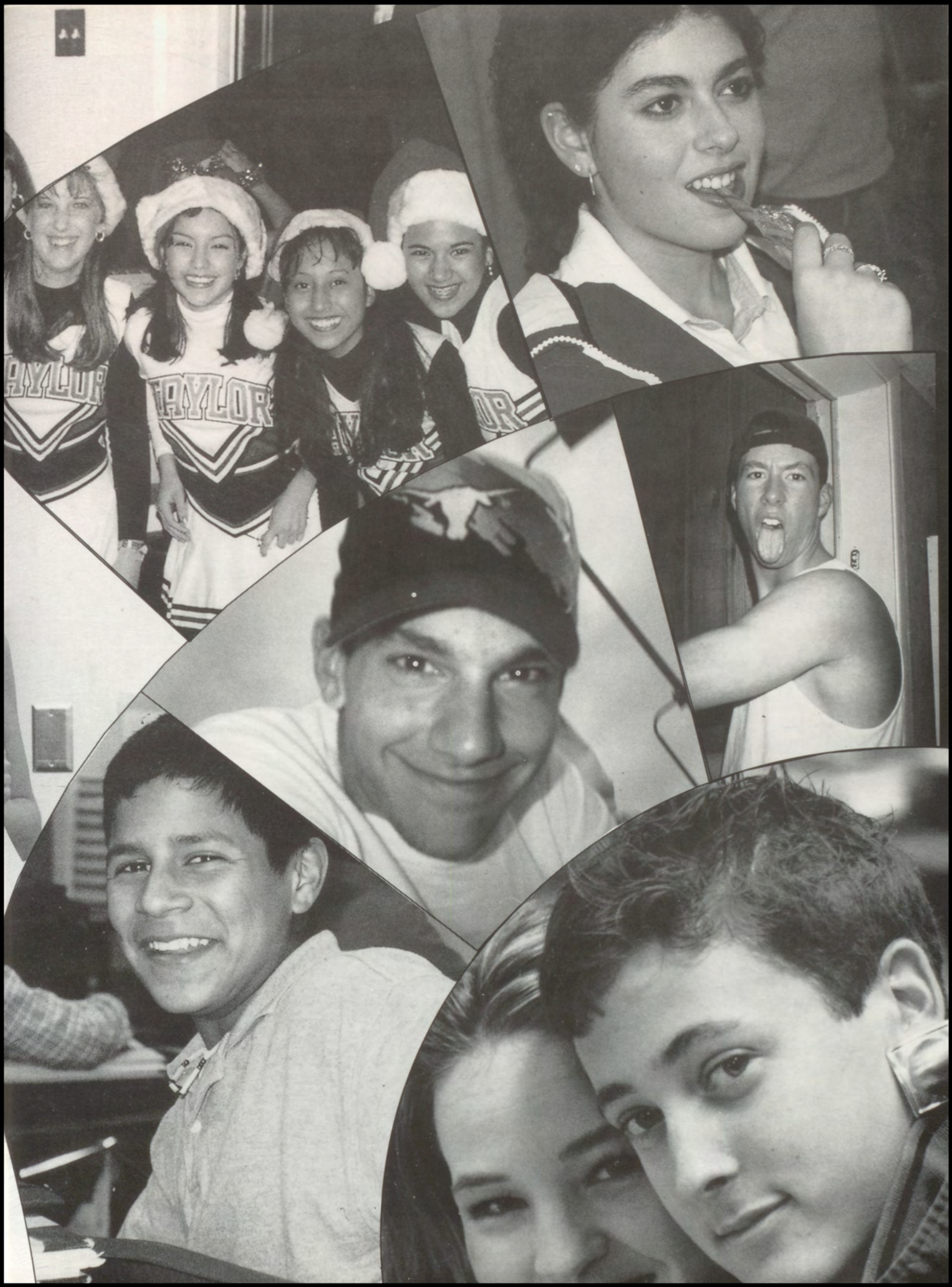
Ross Thornton
Jordan Tiemann
Justin Tiemann
Monica Torres
Sarah Torres
Jordan Tschoener
Chance Turner

Harrison Turner
Brent Valdez
Missy Vargas
Thomas Villarreal
Jacque Wallace
Kasey Walton
Ashley Williams

Craig Williams
Mack Winkelmann
Phalyn Wooldridge
Christina Yanis
Ray Yanis
Juan Yannis
Paul Zucknick



signatures


BAYLOR
BAYLOR

Leading us down the path

Faculty

If the walls could talk, they would say only the best about this faculty. Faculty. . . the word brings to mind teachers, but faculty is more than just class instructors. They are a decdicated unity, striving to make us succeed. They devote hours on end to grading papers, calculating averages, and helping students before school, during their own lunch, or after school when they would like to be out enjoying other things. They have shown tremendous effort and skill in teaching this student body both academics and knowledge of the world. Yes, we often complain about the three hours of homework and the pop quiz on Monday morning, but deep down we know that these horrors are both necessary and crucial in developing our skills and preparing us for college. These dedicated individuals not only help us with schoolwork but also help us out in our personal lives. Yes, they too were once teenagers and know where we're coming from. Teachers are teachers for one reason: to help us. Life may look easy for faculty, but they have stress, too. Despite the obstacles they face in day to day activities, however, they never fail to come through for us when we really need them. This year, with the new block scheduling, they, along with us, learned to adapt to the new school day. The faculty went through many changes this year, new principals, new teachers, and old teachers leaving. The faces changed but the spirit remains one of learning and growing. Another year has ended, but a new one lies ahead. And just like this year, future ones will be just as rewarding and challenging. Thank you faculty for always caring and never ceasing to strive to achieve.

Melodie Archer
Carol Becan
Bonnie Bailey
Patsy Bartosh





Jeff Bell
Vicky Bennett
Scott Bishop
Dorothy Bohac



Aric Bostick
Ruth Brockman
Rachel Burklow
Janet Carpenter
David Carrizales
Ken Cogdell
Sherri Cook

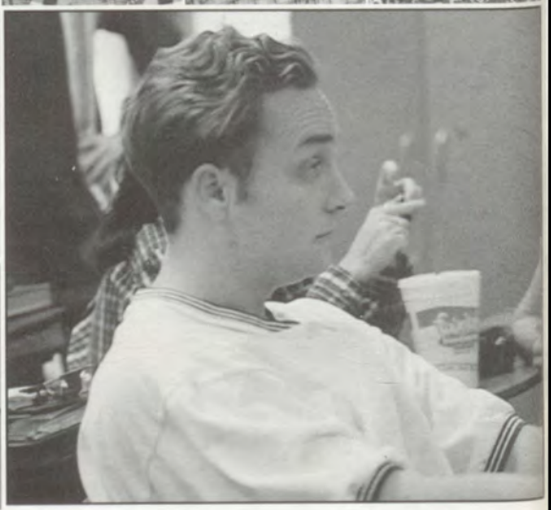


Donna Curtis
Rosa Delgado
Darlene Dodson
Julie Downs
Beth Foley
Enrique Garcia
Becky Hamilton



Kathi Heinz
Carolyn Hendrix
Julie Ann Huchingson
Betty Jackson





Barbara Johle
Edward Johnson
Mary Kalbaugh
Bobbi King





Joan Krhovjak
Sid Krhovjak
Marjorie Krueger
Ronald Krueger

Doug Kuhl
Wanda Legg
Barbara Leschber
Odessa Mackey

Augie Maldonado
Shirley Manning
Kimberley Mason
Francis McCauley
Craig Miller
Connie Moehnke
Kathaleen Moore

Oscar Muniz
Laura Nelson
Rebecca Niehues
Yvonne Oranday
Priscilla Parsons

Pam Pekar
Charles Poole
Danny Potts
Jeanette Potts
John Powell

Paul Quarles
Viola Razo
Debra Roberts
David Rogers
Pat Rogers
Robert Rubio
David Rucker
Patti Ruemke
Prissy Rumel
Kaye Schaefer
Arlene Schneider
Carin Shaughnessy
Bob Smith
Eddy Spiller

Sue Spiller
Delia Sutton
Susan Vest
Danny Volek
Bob Woertink
Margarita Yanis

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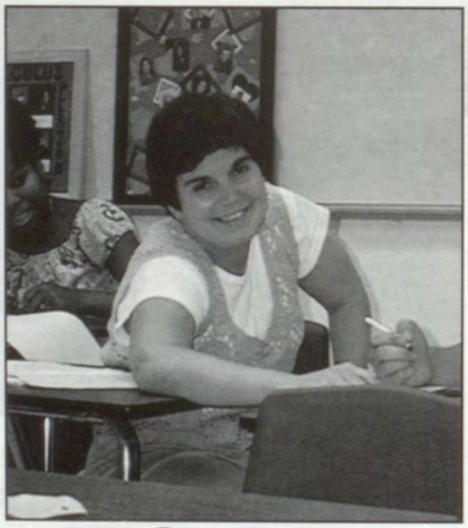


Taylor ISD Board of Trustees

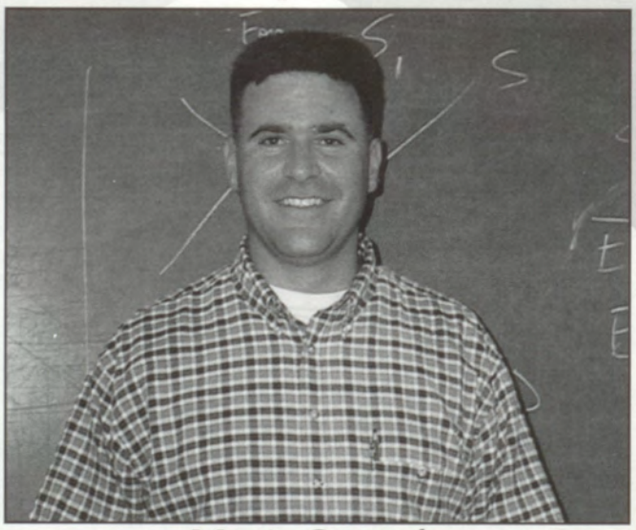
Front Row, L.R.: Griffin Teggeman, Dr. Ron Werner, Lupe Torres, Barbara Dale, and Eddie Tealer
Back Row: Gary Patterson, James Marek, James "Bo" Stiles, and Arnold Cuba.



Gary Patterson
TISD Superintendent



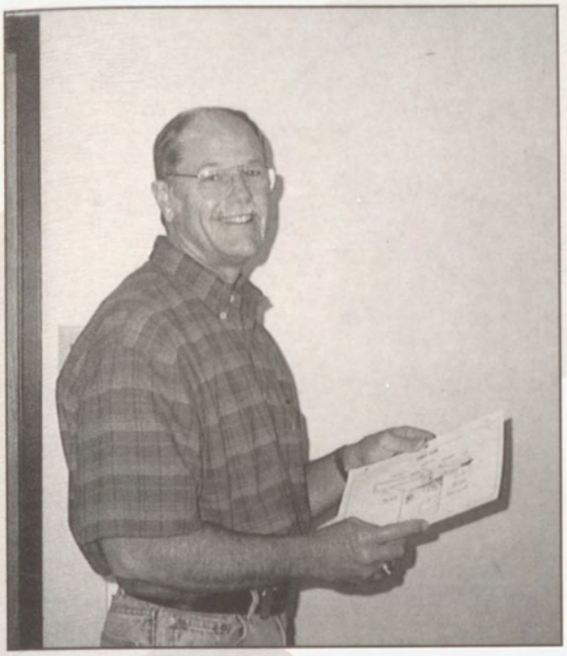
Dixie Ross
Simiens Award Winner



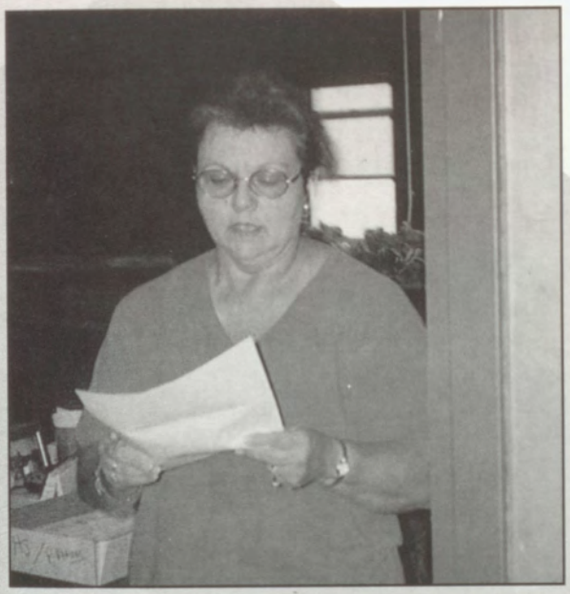
Martin Conrardy
Rotary Educator of the Year



Patsy Bartosh
Campus Teacher of the Year



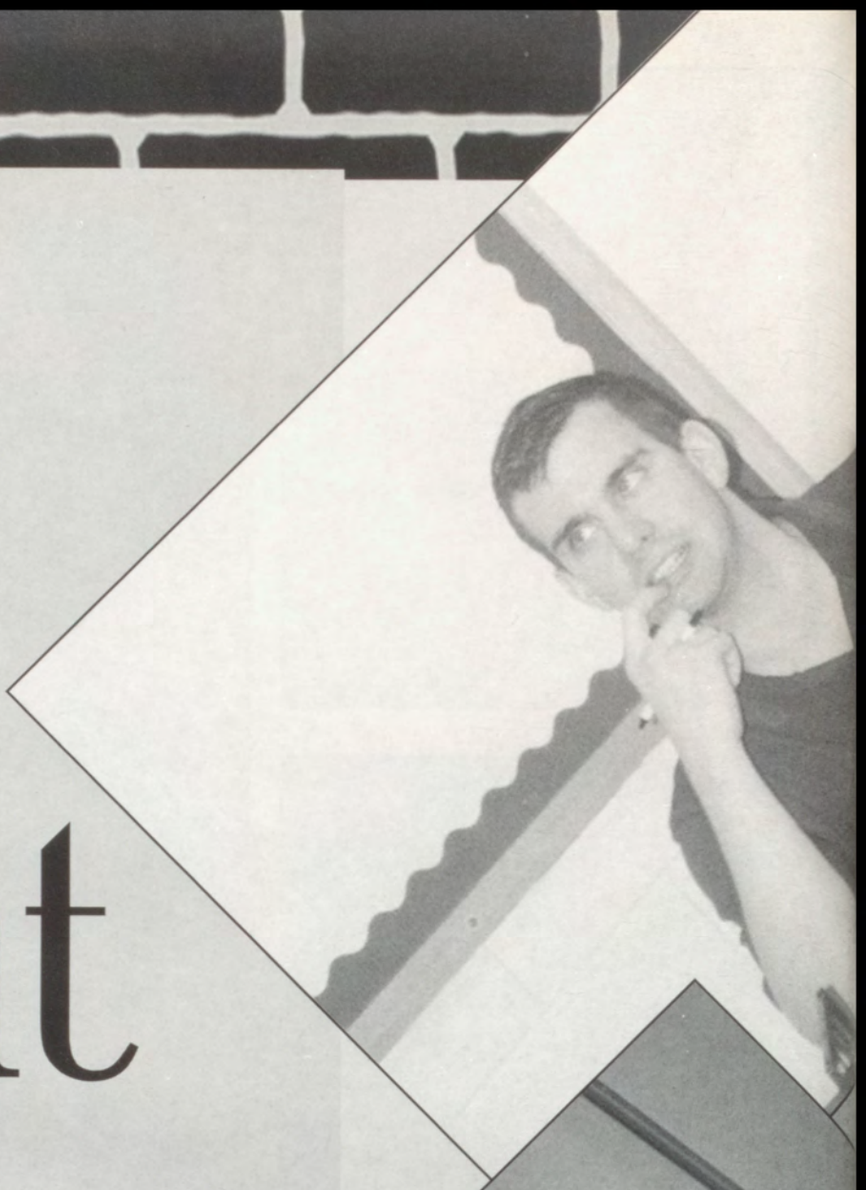




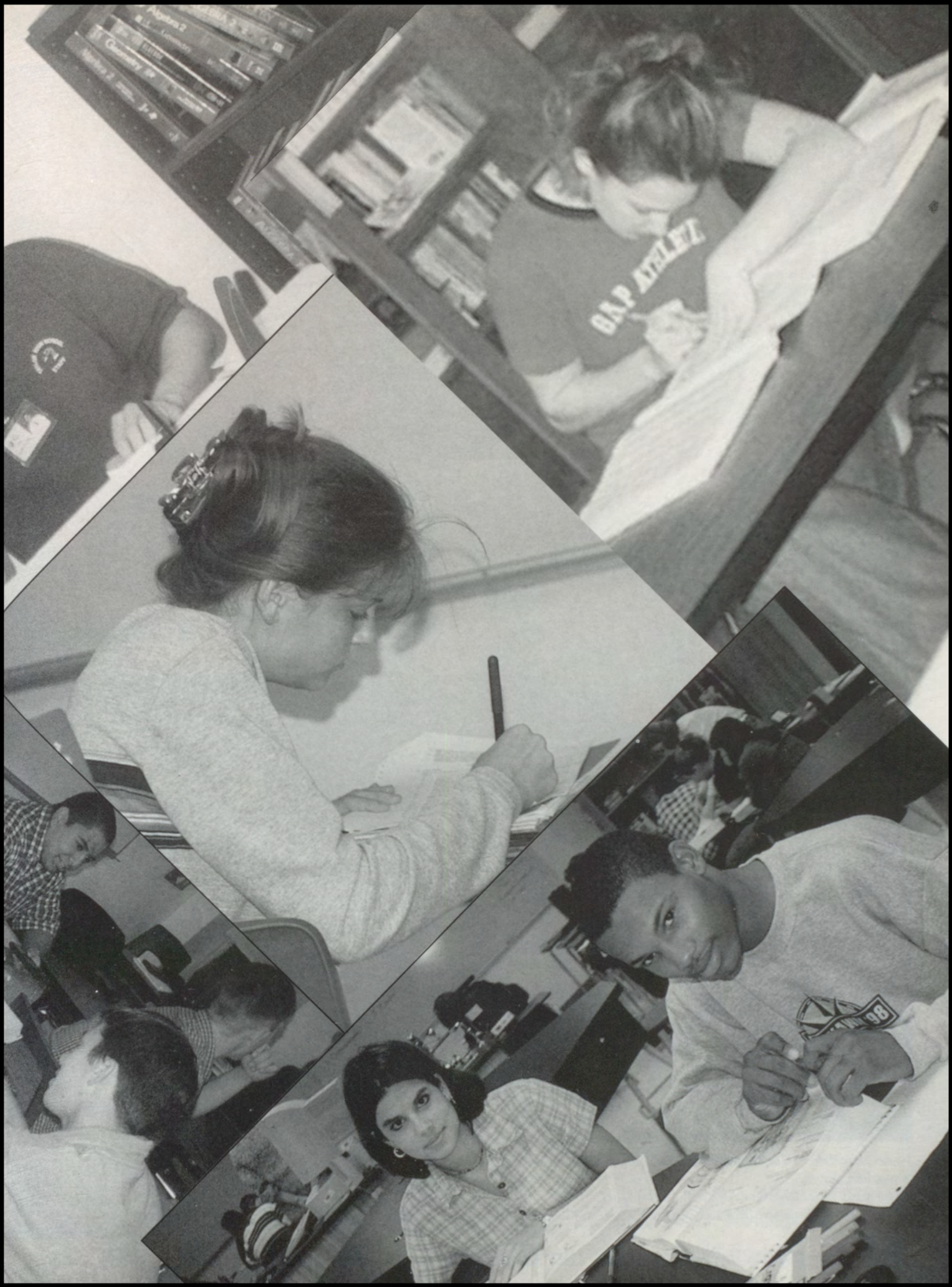



LIVE
IT
LOUD

Talk About Learning







Reading, Writing, and Realization

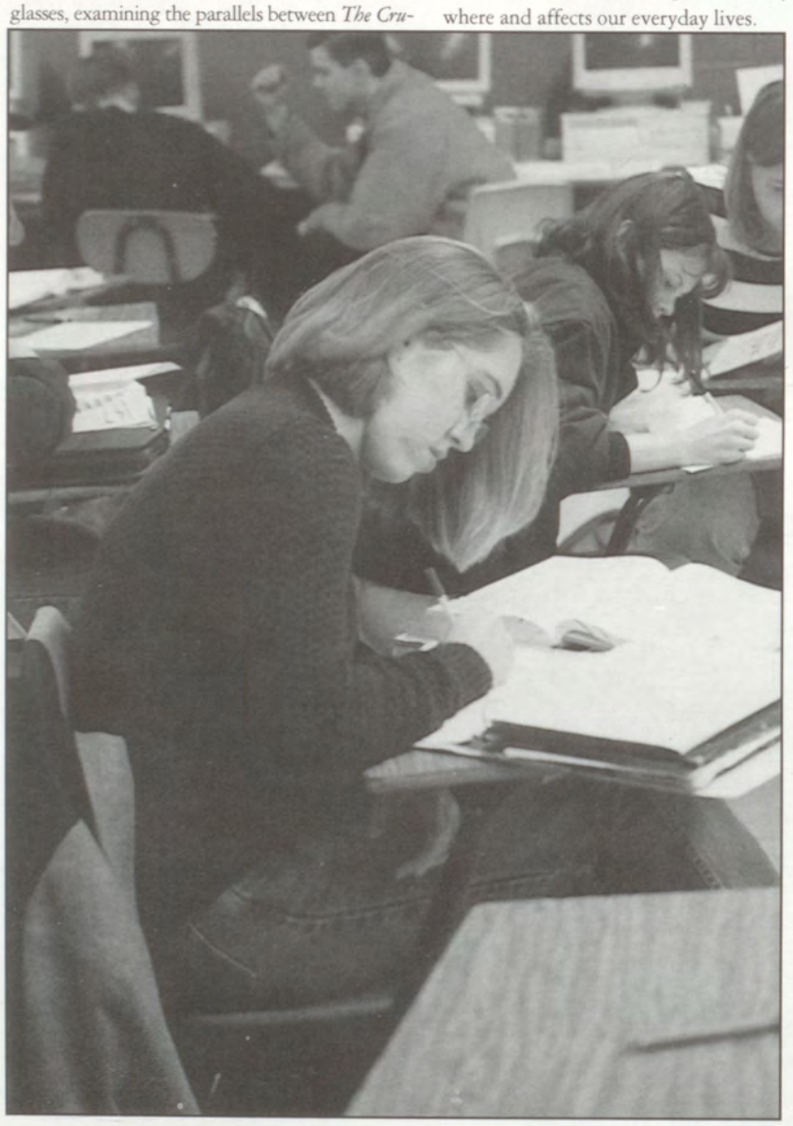
We love English

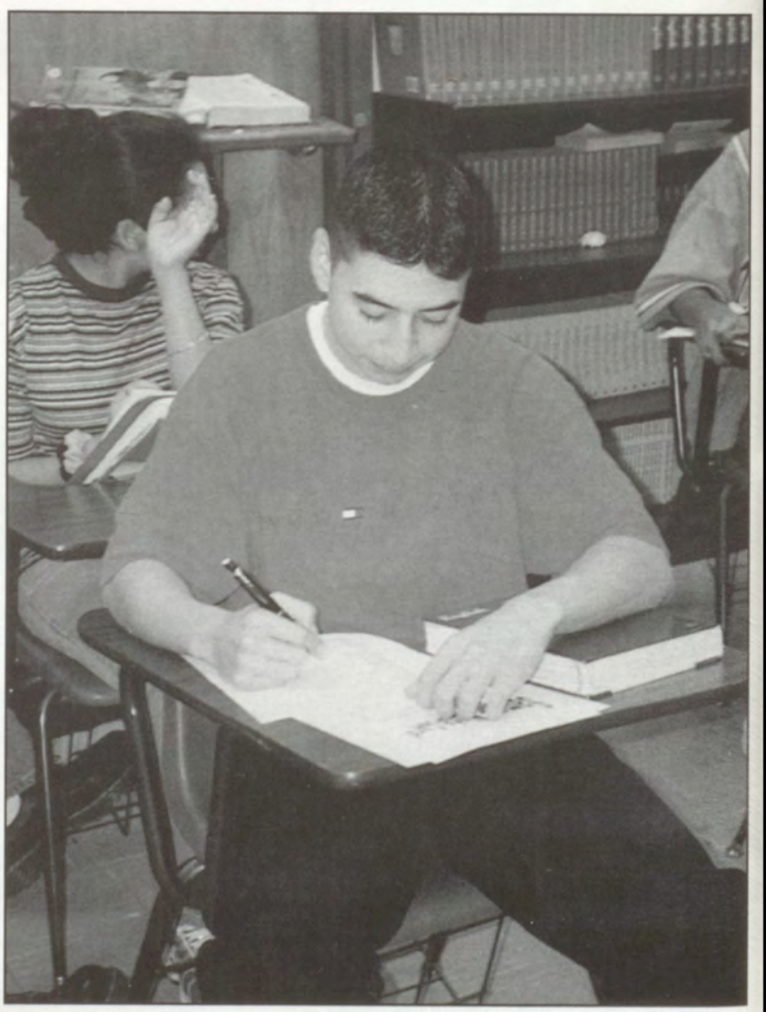
"To be or not to be? That is the question…." English is a subject that we delve into, get deep inside of and discover new horizons in. We all do our best and reach to achieve our goals, which get higher each year.

Reading various pieces of literature has, is, and always will be a large part of our English classes throughout high school. But beyond the books, there was a world of fun. In Ms. Burklow's freshmen class we enjoyed watching *Romeo and Juliet*. Mrs. Tennill's sophomore Pre-AP class made Julius Caesar interviews by asking questions and using lyrics to various songs as answers (i.e., the end of Chandler's tape). Coach Bostick gave everyone in his classes the extra "umph" we needed to set goals and meet them to become successful in everything. All sophomores took a stab at Shakespeare's *Julius Caesar*. In Mr. C's eleventh-grade class, we held a mock trial for *The Crucible*. Mrs. Parson's AP American Lit classes looked at *The Crucible* through different glasses, examining the parallels between *The Crucible*, McCarthyism and what went on within our government this past year with the "witch hunt" in the Oval Office. Seniors examined British and World literature like *Beowulf* and *MacBeth*. Mrs. Foley's classes did video projects on *Macbeth*. We were positive Mrs. Foley liked us when she told us "Je t' aime, mon petit chou chou." (I love you, my little cabbage head) And her AP students will never forget Bobby Leshikar's imitation of the shaky-voiced Hamlet on the tape Mrs. Foley played for us, nor will we forget sixth period's enactment of Mission Possible: Brighten your teacher's day.

English is a subject where we can be transported to many different places, we can learn to write prize-winning stories, learn about Shakespeare, and broaden our vocabulary skills. English is everywhere and affects our everyday lives.





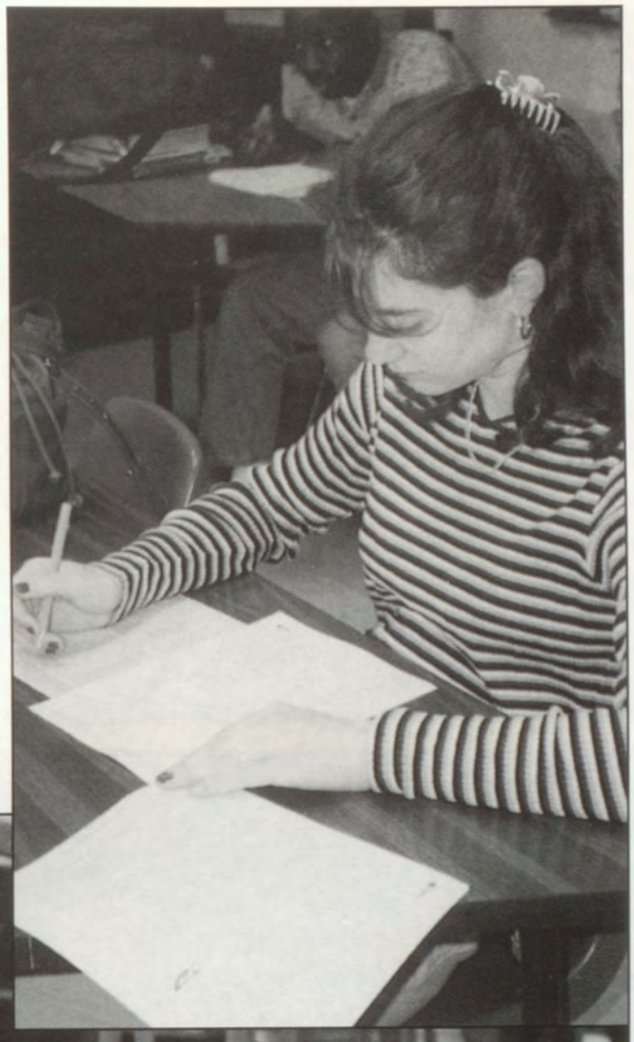


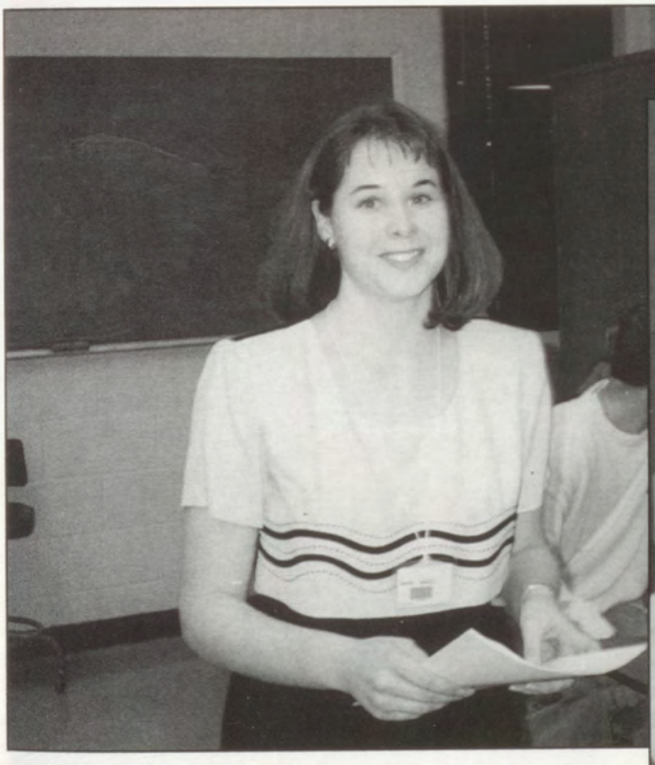
Juniors Maria Flores, Dana Carrizales, and Paula Vasquez take time from English to pose for a picture. ↗

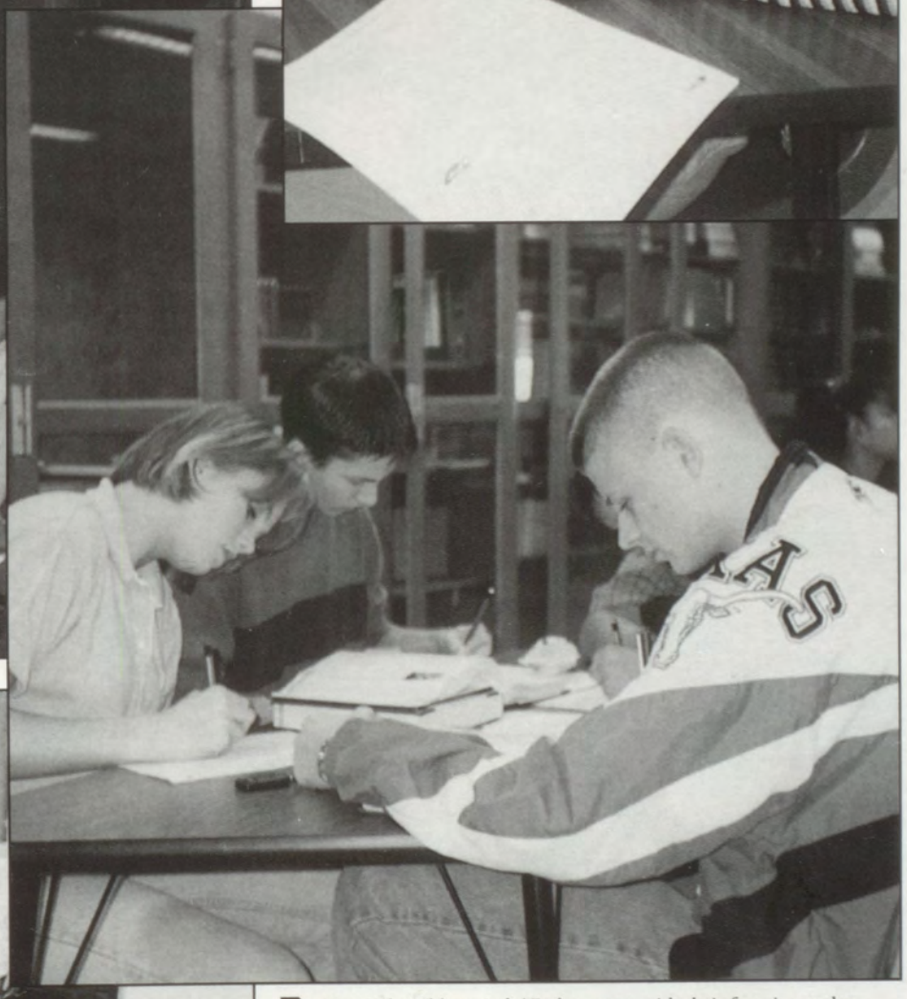
Sophomore Rebecca Lewis busily defines the Meaning of Life. ↑

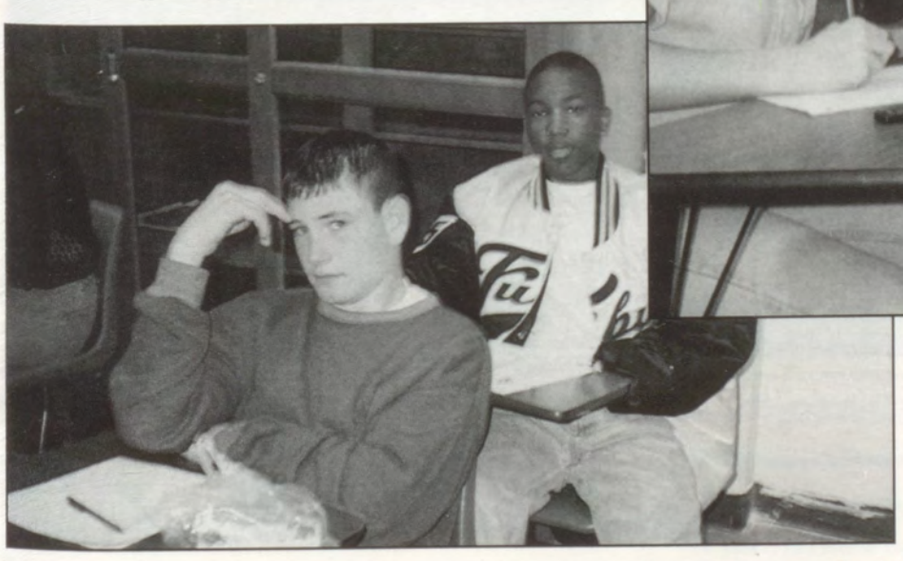
Junior Albert Arzola puts the finishing touches on his homework assignment. →











↖ Mrs. Foley's 6th period AP class poses with their favorite teacher.

↑ Sophomore Sarah Raesz works hard to finish her test.

↖ Junior English teacher Ms. Niehues passes out the next assignment.

↑ Juniors Libby Krepps, Kyle Kaiser, and Chris Hejl work on their research source cards.

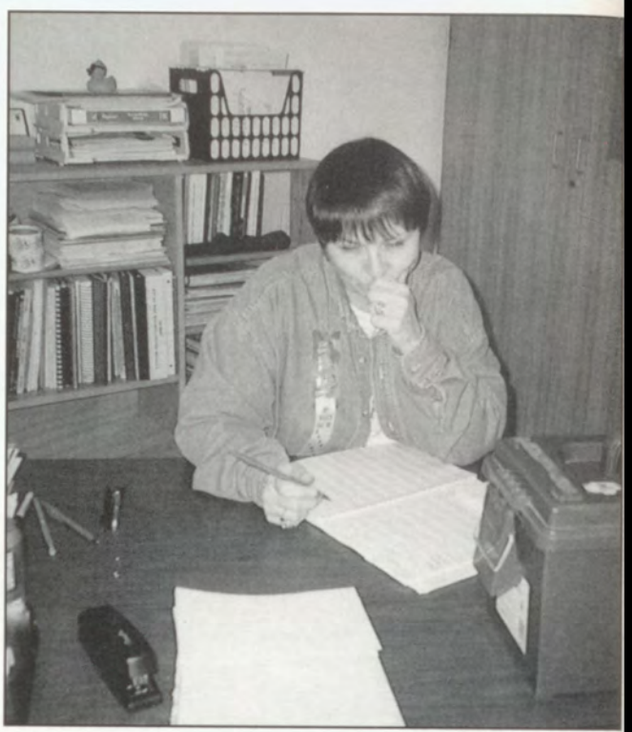
← Junior Blake Randig stops his test to think about the answer.

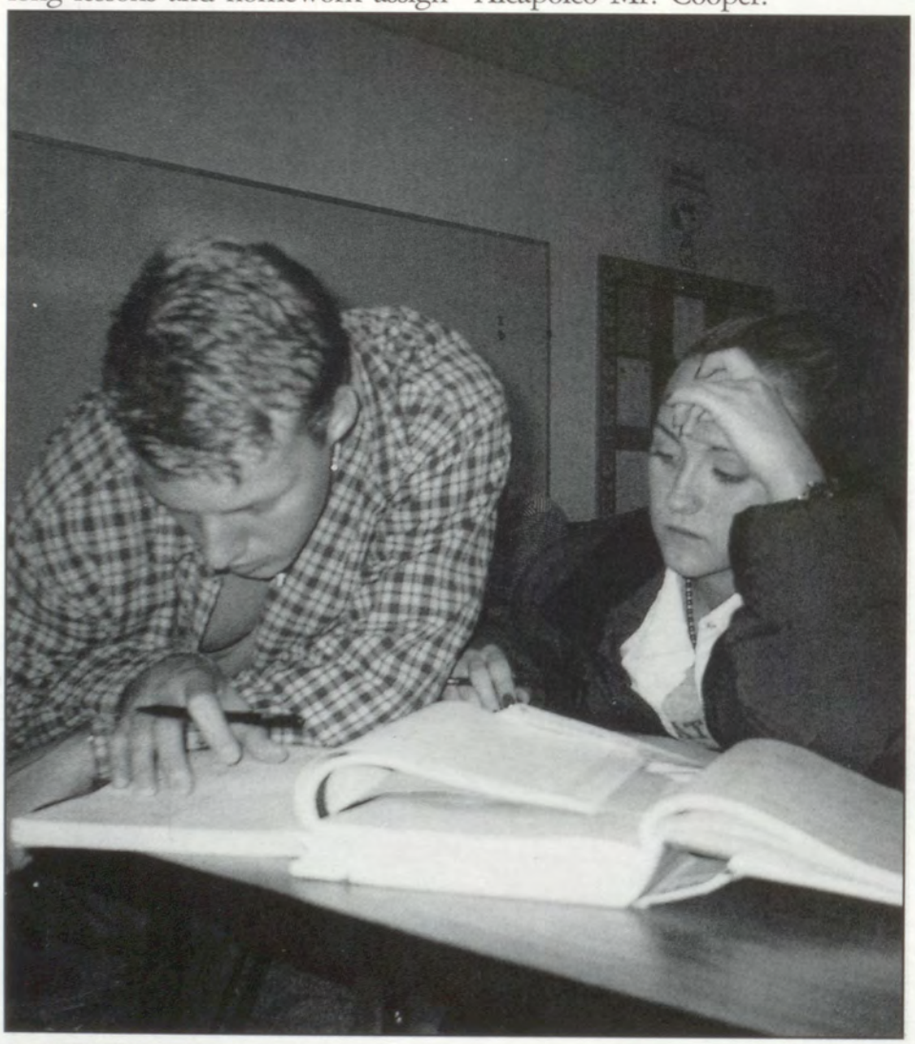
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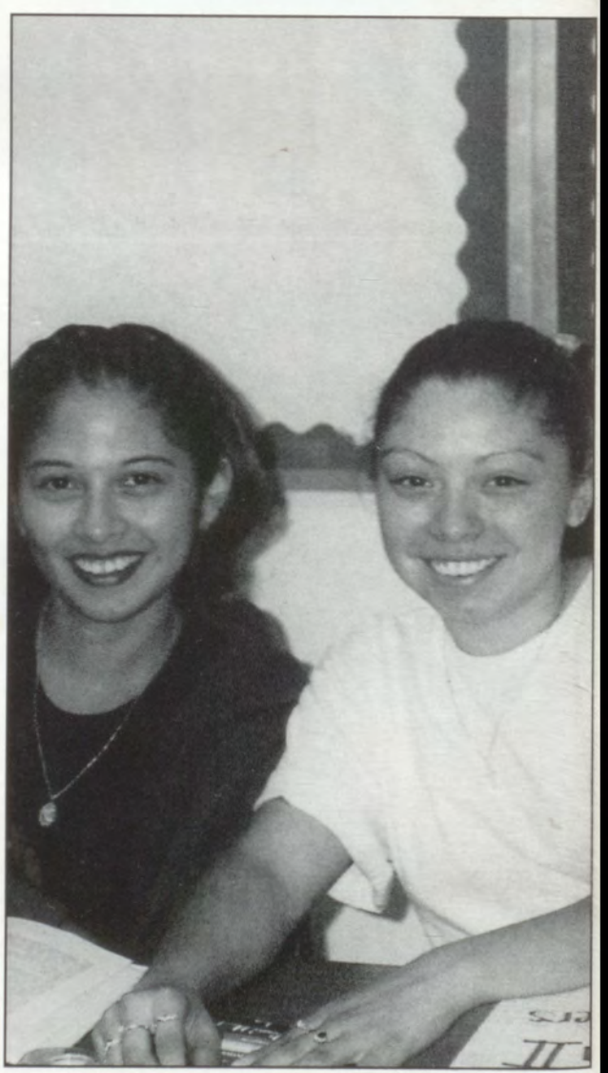
Count the many reasons...

We love Math

When we think of math, some things that often come to mind are negatives and positives, multiplication and division. But, there is so much more to math than 2 + 2 = 4. For once, Mr. Cooper, it's not all as "Easy as snuff." Most people dread the torture of going to math class, whether it be Geometry for the never-ending proofs, Algebra II for the quadratic formula, or even Pre-Calculus for a daily grade. But after the long lessons and homework assignments, we were always happy about learning something new -- like making solar ovens in Mr. Roger's class -- even if it makes you feel a little bit like a "Bone-head." We also know when we're struggling with the challenges that we face in math, we have our teachers, our heroes, who are also our friends to help us out and because of that we come to realize that math isn't so bad after all! We're looking forward to that trip to Alcapolco Mr. Cooper!



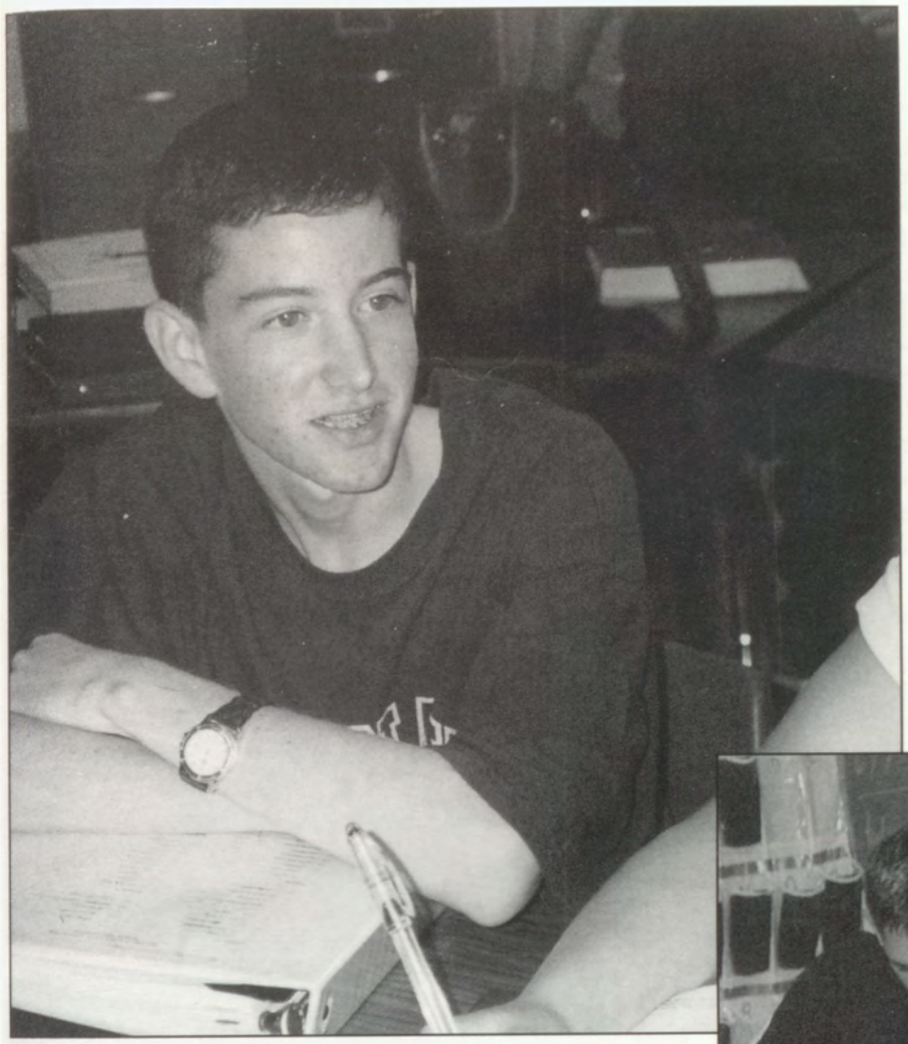


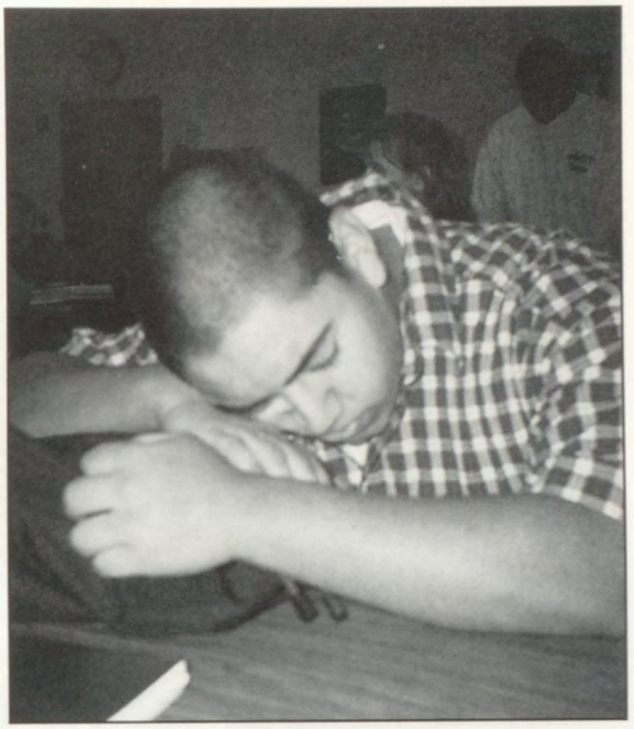


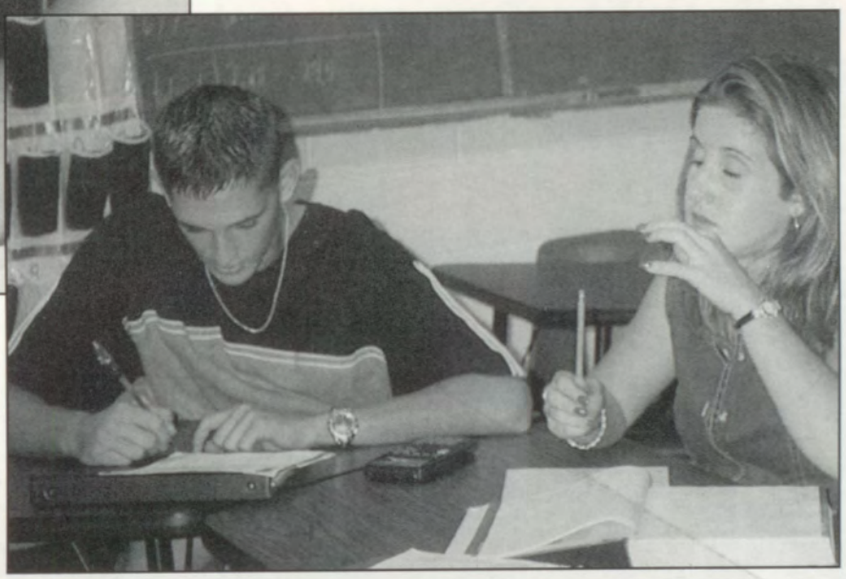
Mrs. Kalbaugh jots down the finishing touches of the Pre-Calculus daily grades in her gradebook. ↗

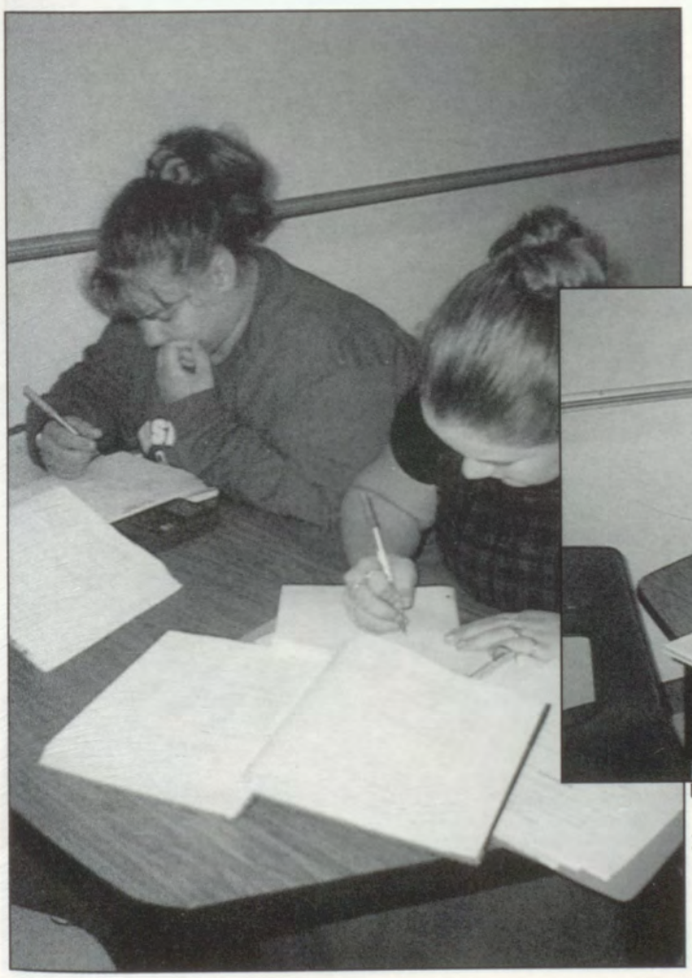
Seniors TJ Bragg and Heather Morrison strain their brain over a difficult Pre-Cal problem. ↑

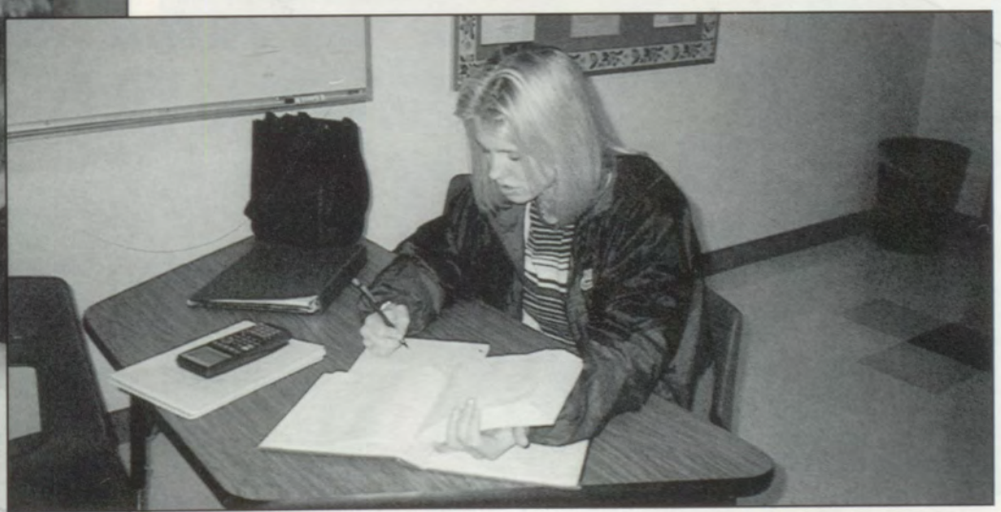
Juniors Courtney Watson and Anna Alderete take a quick break from their strenuous work of Algebra II to pose for a picture. →











↖ Juniors David Scarborough and Carrie Jackson converse over a homework problem.

↗ Senior Juan Garcia just gave up on taking his Pre-Cal notes!

↑ Sophomore Carl Richter busily works on his Algebra II assignment.

↖ Juniors Heather Hazelwood and Kristine Muegge hastily work their way through Pre-Cal.

↑ Junior Tara Svehlak checks her answers from the math homework.

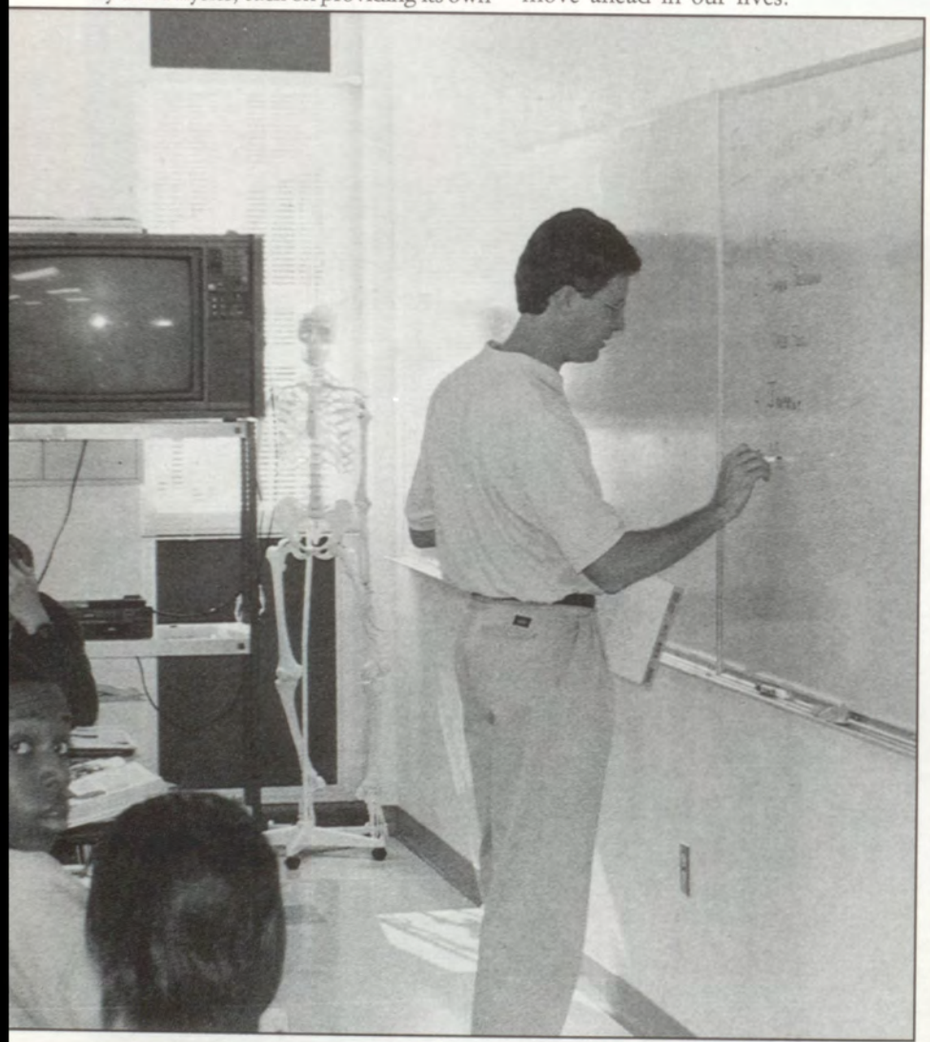
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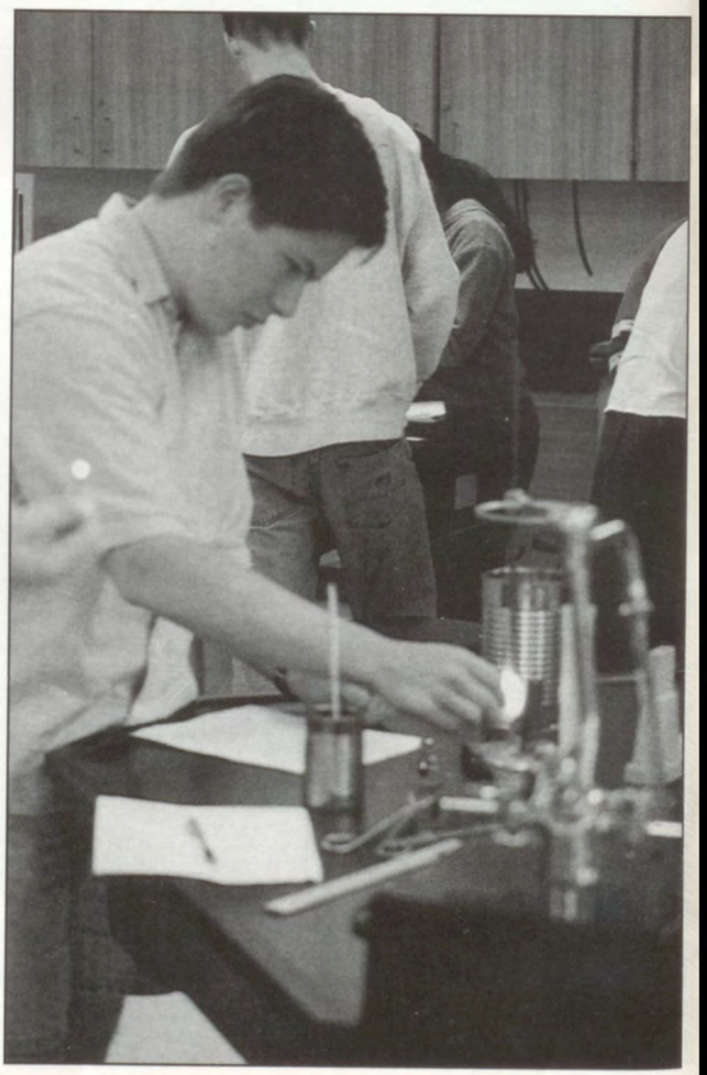
Understanding Life

We Love Science

Out of the many fields of study offered here at Taylor High School, science seems to be one of the most challenging and at the same time one of the most interesting. In the fast-paced information age in which we live, it is no surprise that science has become our lifeline to a more prosperous and fulfilling future. The more we learn about this subject, the more we understand about life in general. Taking this into consideration, our school offers a wide variety of science courses for students eager to become the next Thomas Edison or Albert Einstein. These range from Physical Science and Biology to Chemistry and Physics, each on providing its own unique challenge. Many exciting and memorable things happened this year in science. We will always remember the dissecting of a pig fetus in Biology I, and the titrations of chemicals in Mrs. Sutton's Chemistry class. With the help of a new physics teacher and the expertise of our science department, the UIL science teams did exceptionally well this year, winning first place in District. That's something that not only the science department can be proud of, but the whole school, as well. All in all, we learned an incredible amount of valuable information that will benefit us as we continue our schooling and as we move ahead in our lives.



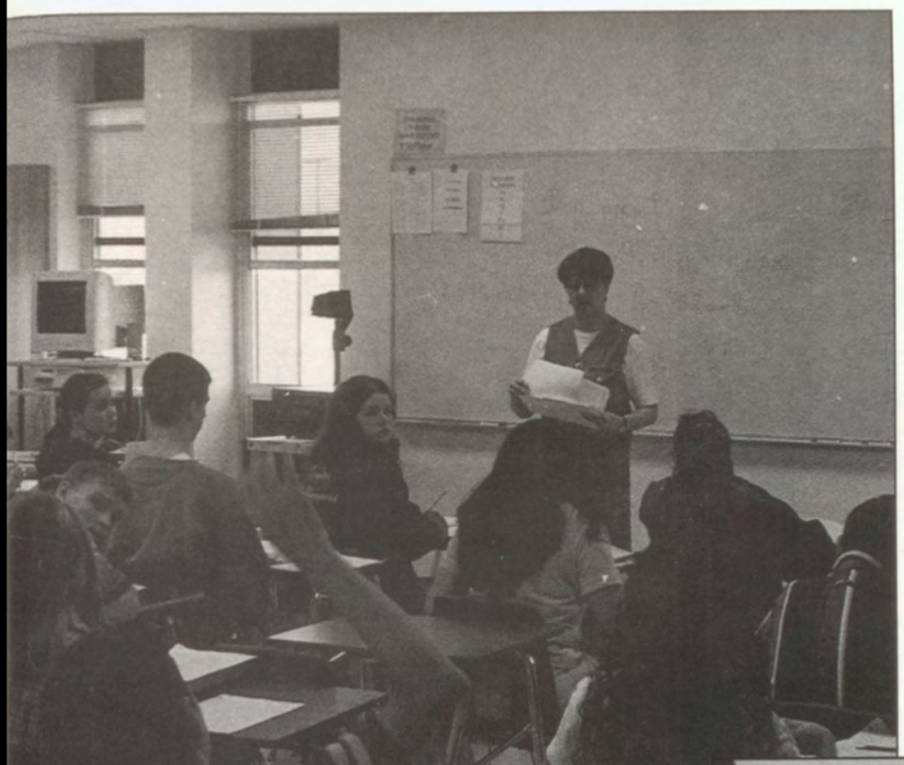




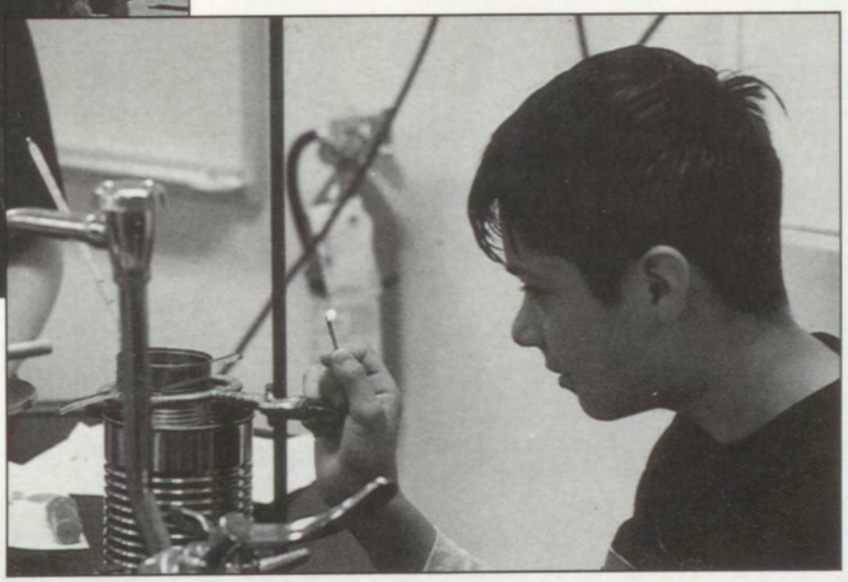
Melodie Strickland checks for a pulse while she chats with her friend. ↗

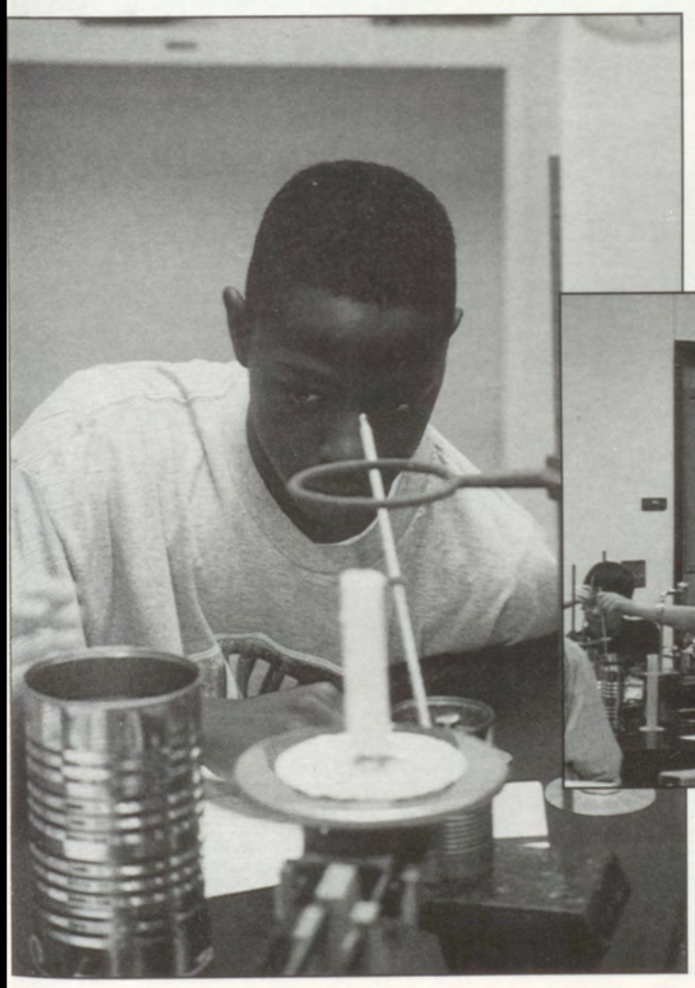
Coach Rucker conducts the class. ↑

Josh Verastique says *"Let's get Chemical-Chemical! I wanna get Chemical!"* →











↖ Mrs. Sutton answers a question from an inquisitive student.

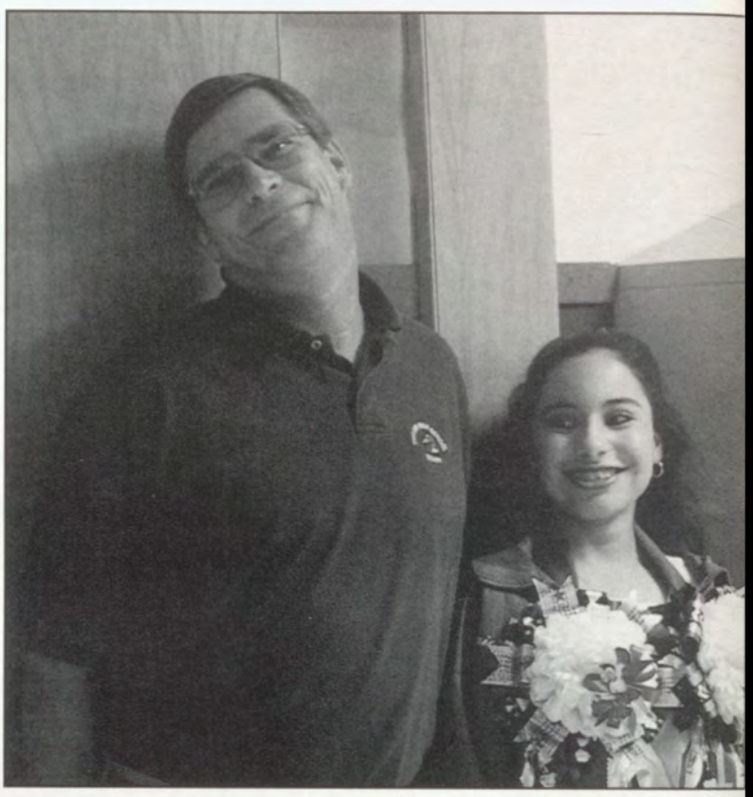
↑ Louie Jahn measures the temperature.

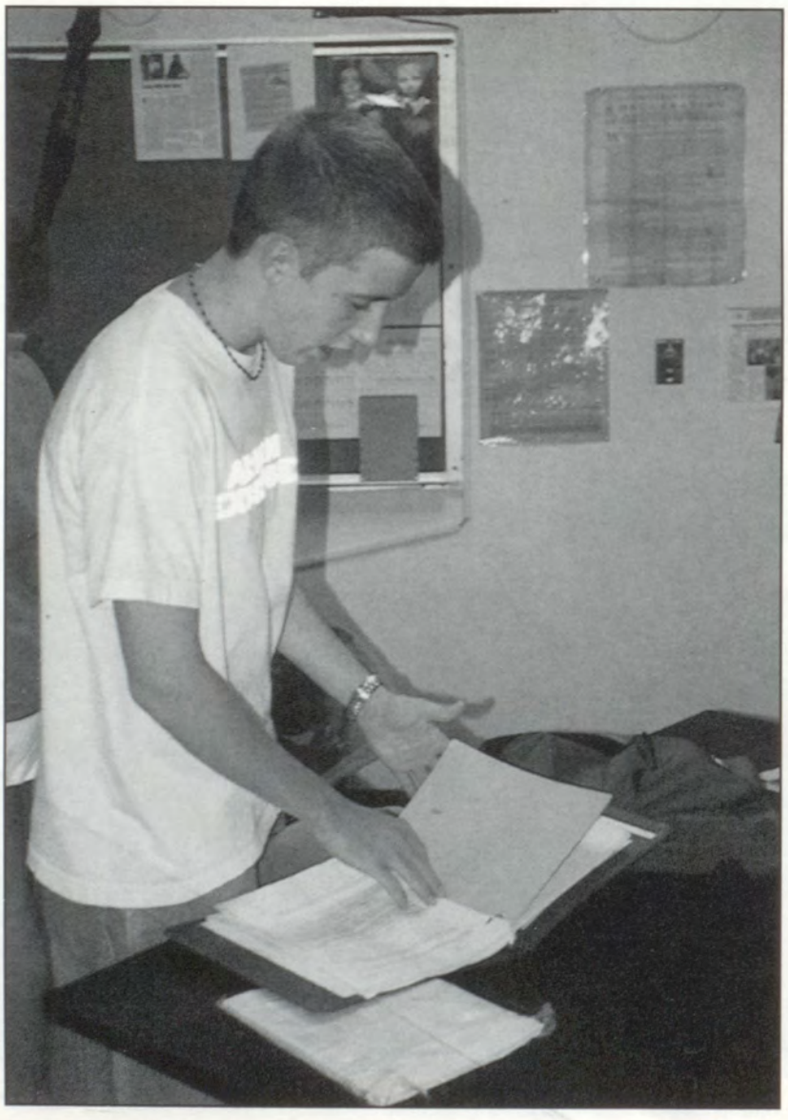
↑ ***Watch out--you might get burned!*** Jason Sanchez plays with fire.

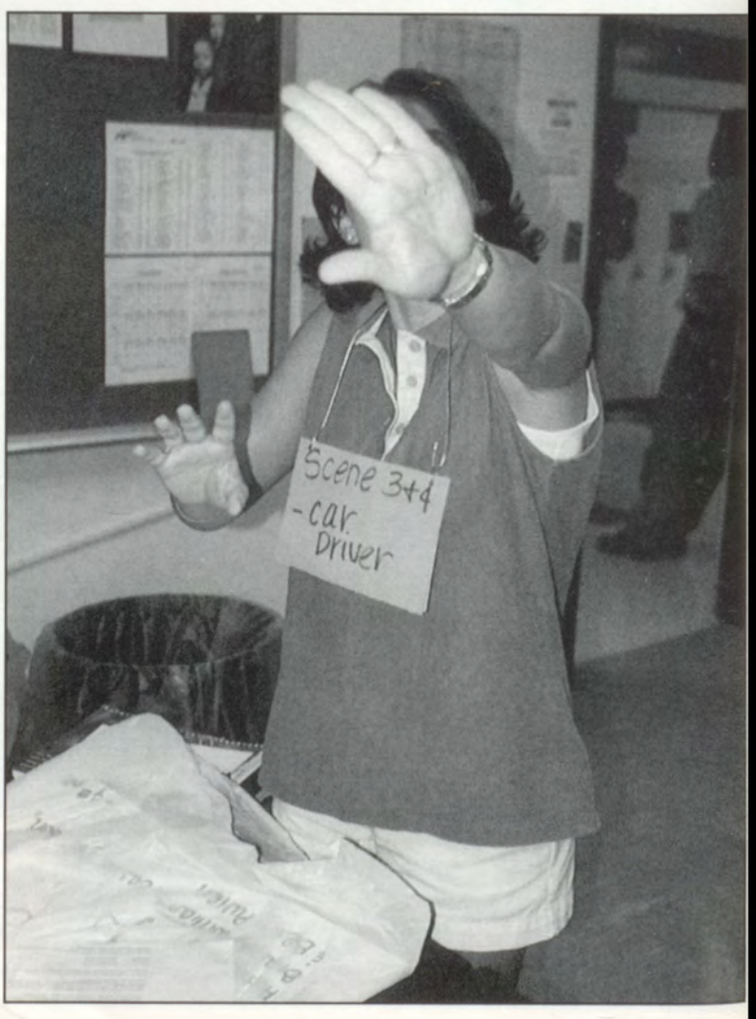
History in the Making

We Love Social Studies

"Dont know much about History..." This is something you would never hear from the walls of Taylor High School. Our teachers devote their time and patience to make sure we know everything about our leaders, accomplishments, and even our defeats on this big ol' spinning rock. Not only do we learn and achieve our goals of hard work, but we have lots of fun doing it. From groupwork to projects, to videos and review games, there was never a dull moment once we stepped into a social studies class. Whether it was geography, history, or government and economics, our minds were always stretched to the limit. Mr. Quarles' history class was always a blast when Homey Claus came to town. Homey Claus was who Mr. Quarles converted into to give us the answers on test reviews. At least he didnt bring a sock for when we got one wrong... And who could forget Mr. Conrardy's systems of government project with Clinton and Monica? Remember when Mrs. Bennett made everyone dress up as a famous explorer, reformer, artist, or scientist? All in all, learning social studies in Taylor High School was nothing short of an unforgetable experience that deserves to be written in the books and on the walls.

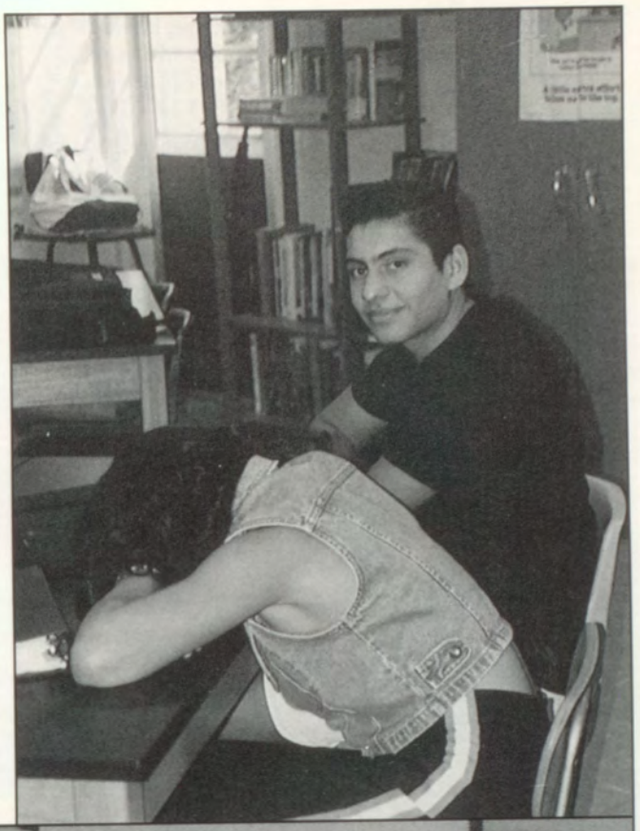


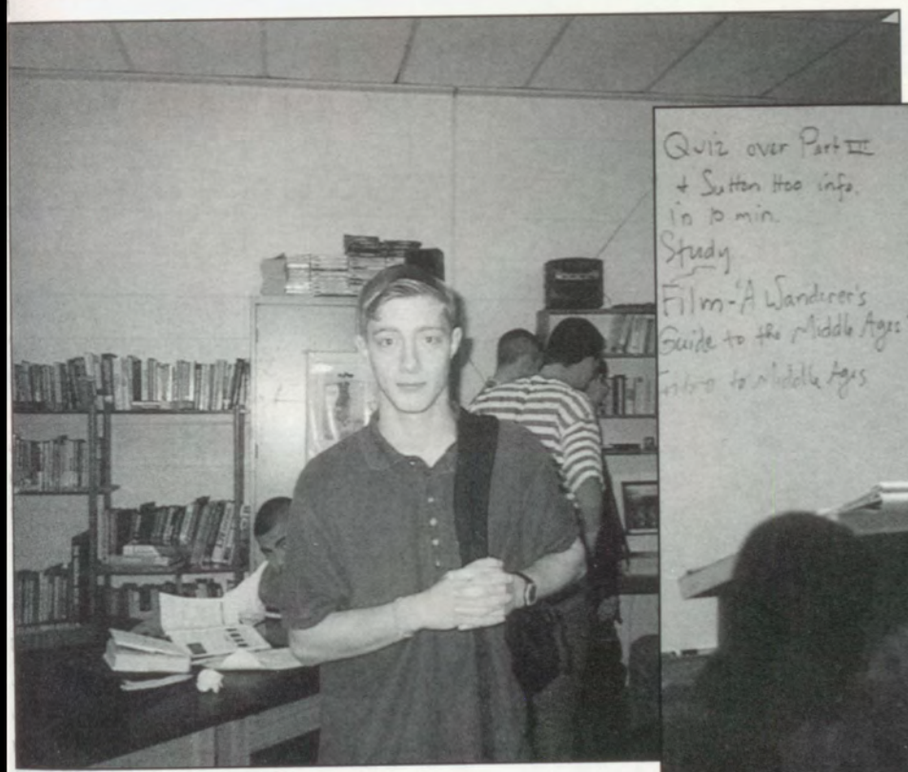


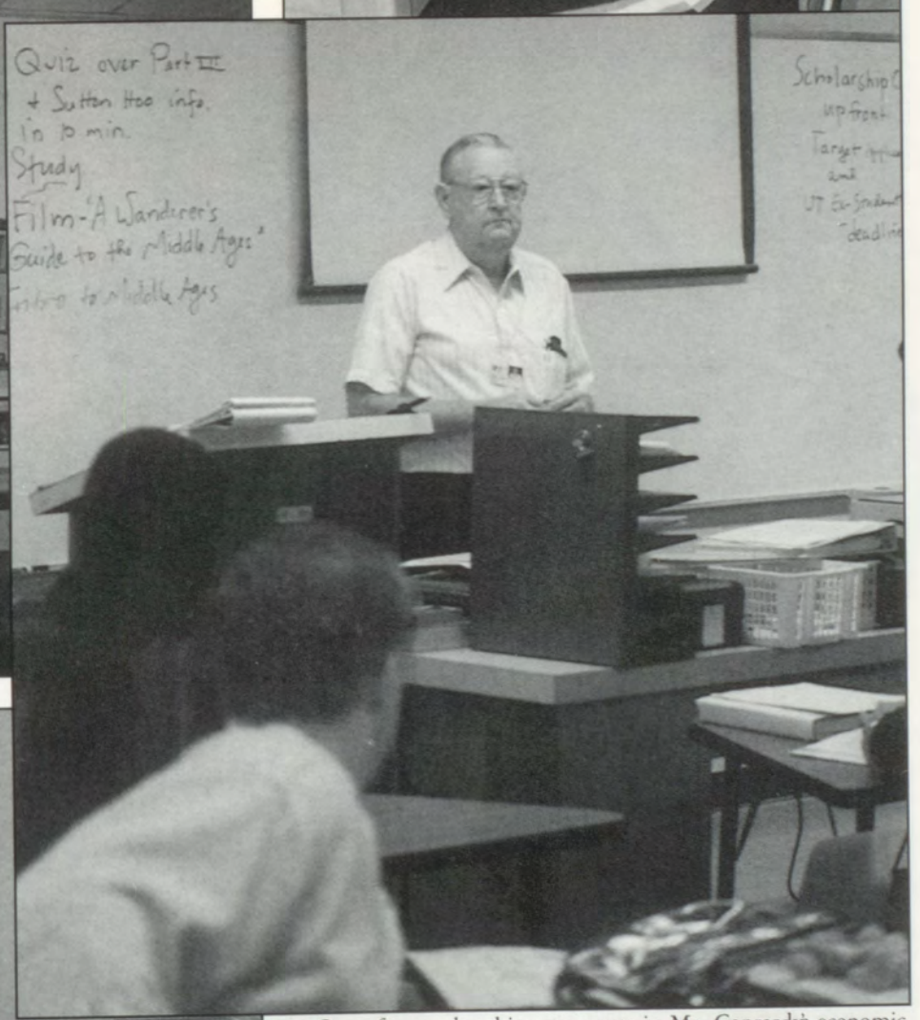


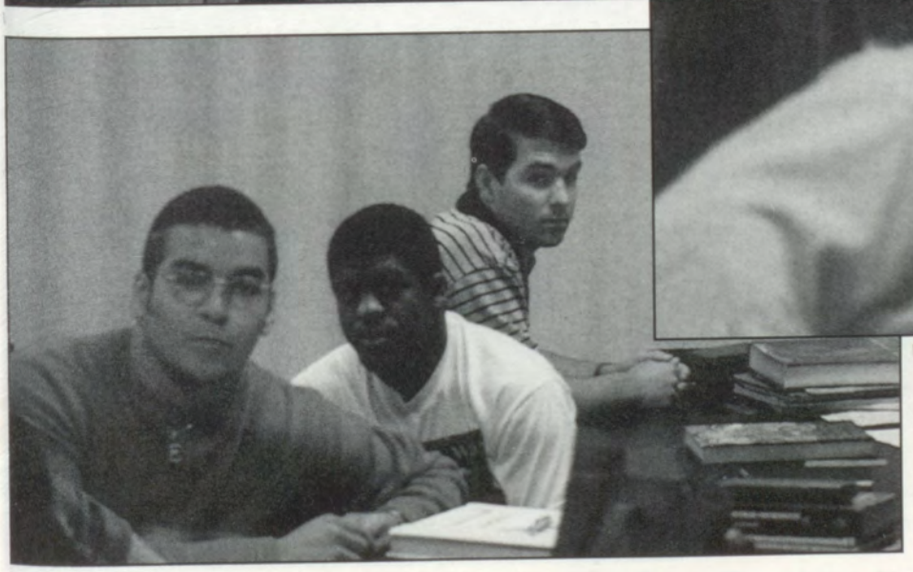
Junior Monica Ochoa poses with Mr. Quarles, her favorite history expert. ↗
Senior Guy Oliphant searches for that lost homework assignment... ↑
"Dont take my picture!" Senior Cassie Harrison stresses during an A.P. Government project. →











↖ One of many laughing moments in Mr. Conrardy's economic classes.

↑ "No rest for the weary!" Something you'll hear from Senior Vedal Pina.

↖ Senior Shannon Faulkner takes time out to give us a quick smile.

↑ Mr. Pool talks during yet another government lecture.

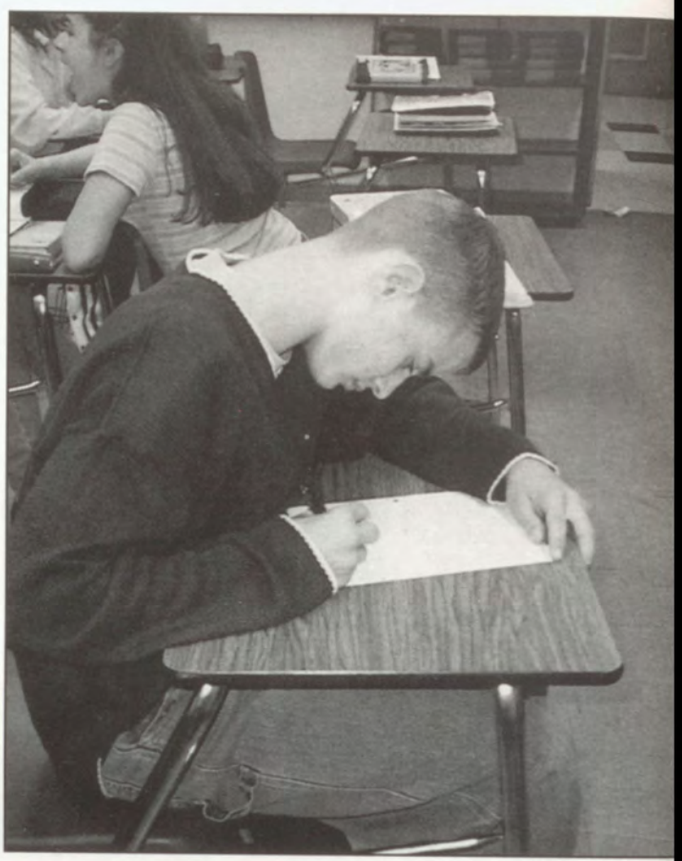
← Mr. Conrardy's government class takes a break from the grinder.

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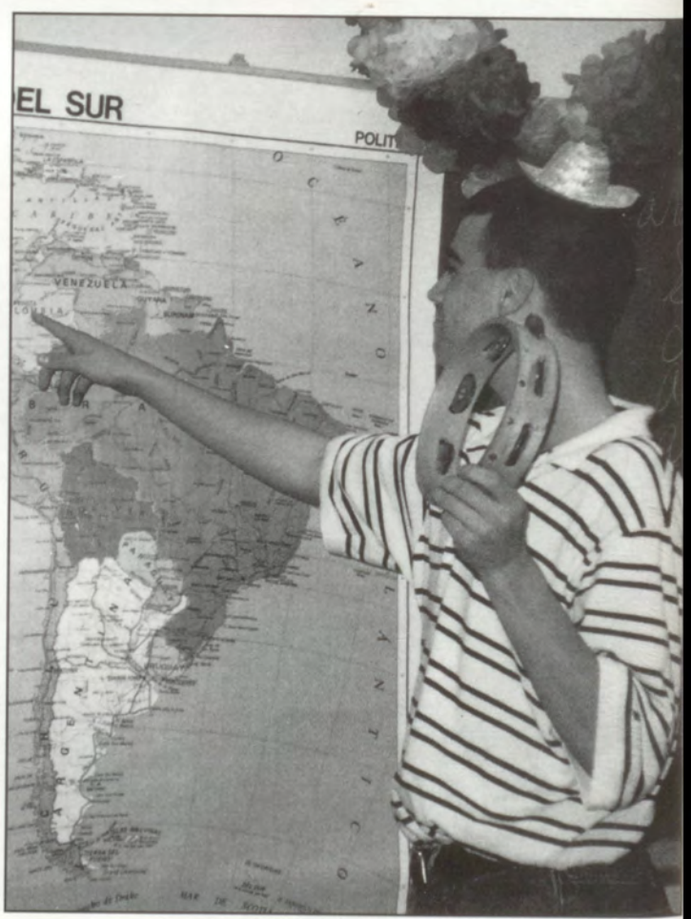
See, School Can Be Fun!

We love Electives

Electives are the classes which one could not live without! These are classes which can just be enjoyed. It doesn't matter if one likes to build, act, or draw, they can do it in an elective. While sitting in an English or math class, one can't help but look forward to drama, where they can have fun acting and working on props for plays. Or drafting, where one can get to work with their hands and draw three dimensional designs. Art is a fun elective because everyone has their own way of expressing art, and at the same time one can express one's self. And if one would want to talk to the walls anywhere, it would have to be the walls in the art room. The students painted them with an array of designs and colors that could liven up anyone's day! In Spanish, Latin, and German one not only learns a whole new language, one learns about the country and its customs. And, of course, who could forget Mallard, the class which makes this very book possible and the best elective of all! So, what are the walls talking about in *your* elective?



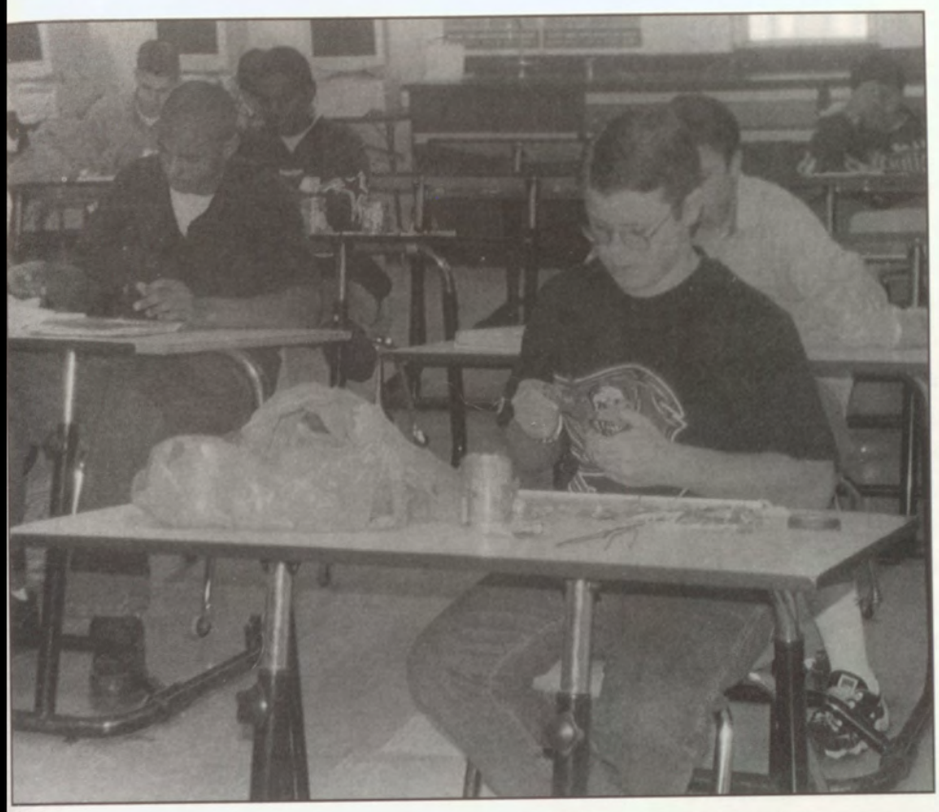




Uno, dos, cuatro? Travis Randig thinks hard in Spanish. ↗

Hola Senor! Nelson Parker shows us how it's done. →

Don't look at the keys! These students type fast during keyboarding. ↑



When will those be ready? Leslie Johnson bakes up some goodies in home ec.

Kenny Horne--just another "modest" member of the Mallard staff!

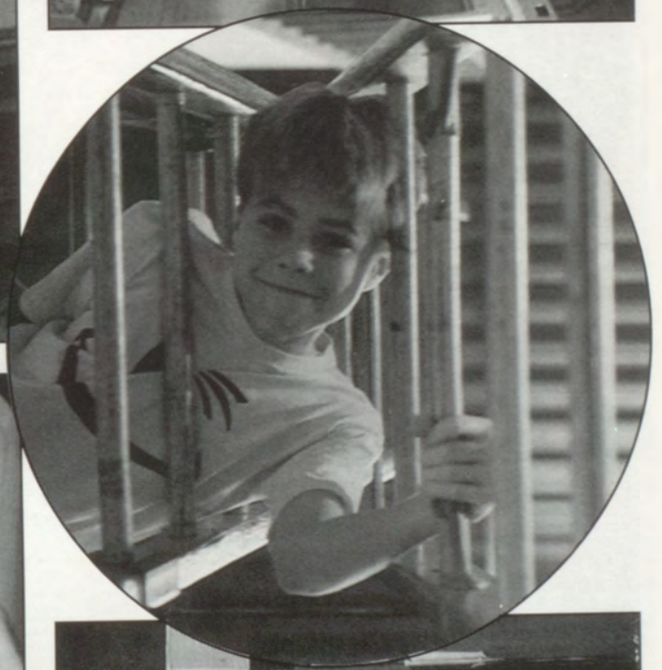
Koda Gallegos enjoys just hangin' out during drama.

Did anyone take out the trash? Casey Jones makes sure there is nothing left.

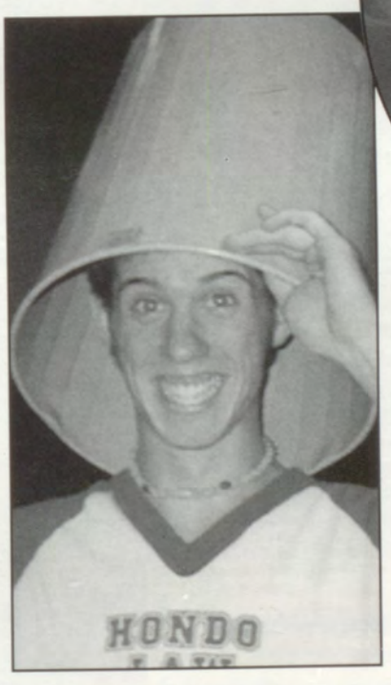
Are we in art or math? Laura Whatley takes a break from her artistic side.











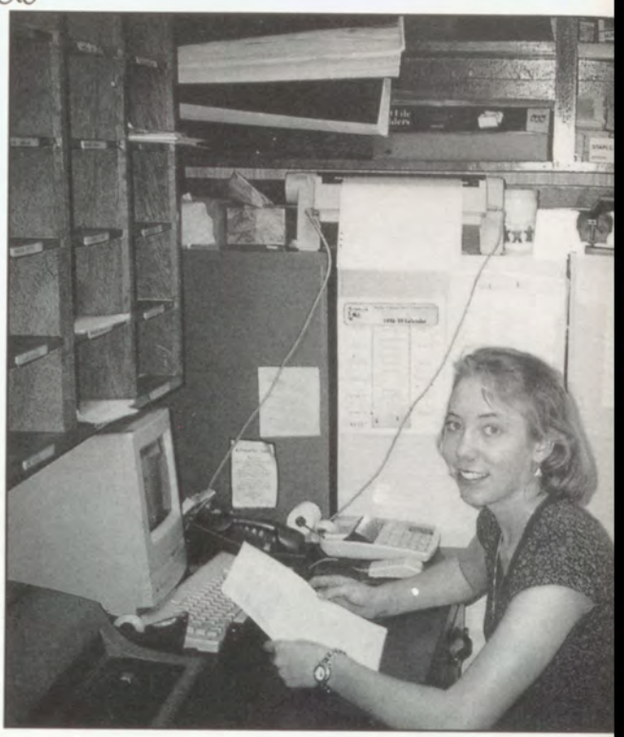


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That'll Work

Vocational

What experience do you have? This is one of the first questions every employer asks. For those who have never worked, it's often difficult to find employment. Many of our juniors and seniors realize they need to work either as a full time employee or part time to supplement their educational endeavors after high school. Our vocational classes enable students to attend high school, yet get work experience. These classes helped students work with the public and employers and realize the responsibility of being accountable in the real world. No longer were excuses for tardiness or absenteeism accepted. Courtesy and skills were a must. Job experiences varied from program to program, and there were interest areas for everyone ranging from food service to schools to technology and beyond. Co-op proved a valuable program to help envision the real world and get the experience needed to get a job when you need one. No longer do our students have to fear that inevitable question, "What experience do you have because we only hire people with experience." Through Co-op, the experience needed is aquired.







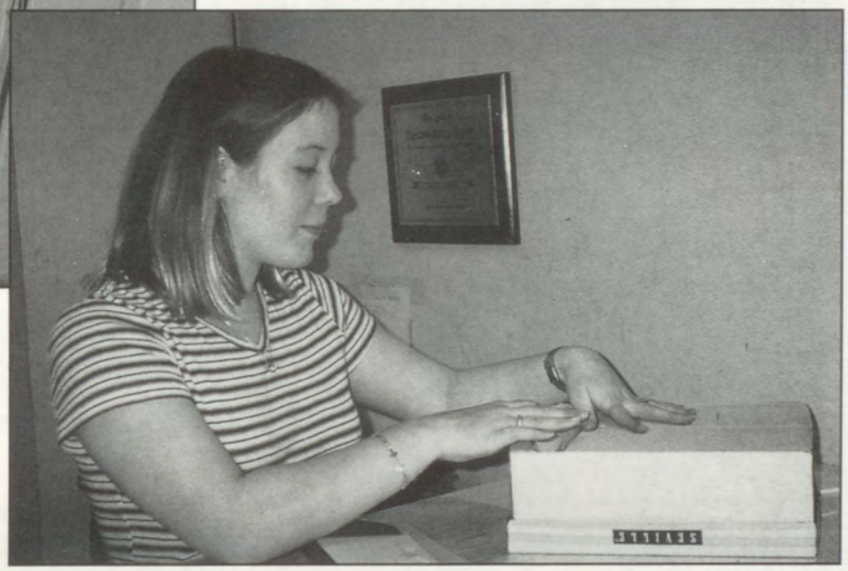
Does this look alright? Heather Poldrack proof reads a memo she had typed at Central Office. ↗

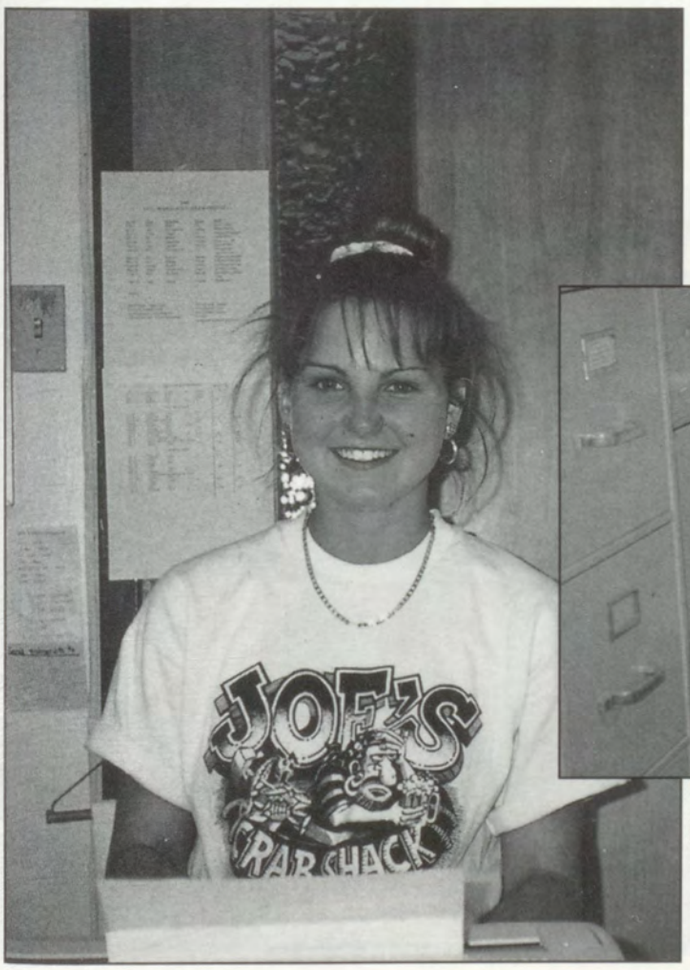
Enough to make a guy thirsty! Matt Daenzer restocks the soft drink section at Rogers Exxon. ↑

May I help you? Whitney Kolinek busily hands out prescriptions at the Eckerds Pharmacy. →











↖ **Deposit or withdrawal?** Cindy Terrazas types in the account number for one of her customers at City National Bank.

↑ **Good Afternoon!** Kathy Butler answers one of her hundred calls of the day at Maxwell.

↑ **Where's the news?** Lindsey Hanacik searches for news to put in the Taylor Daily Press.

← Happily working in the counselors office, April Maruska types information sheets.

↑ **Where is it?** Tiffany Bigon searches to find her customers file at Caldwell Bankers.

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Sense and Sensibility

AP Classes

Talk about hard work!! This year, Taylor High School went on its tenth consecutive year to actively participate in the Advanced Placement Program. Way back when, Calculus was the only AP class offered with only 11 students participating. This year we have an estimate of 12 AP classes offered with an average of 20 students per class. Classes such as biology, english, physics, chemistry, and history now offer more to the student who wants to take on the challenge. These classes differ from regular ones in that they require more time and diligence. To take on an AP class is to take on the work load of two regular classes with many hours of study each night. This is true, especially for government and economics, which is a group of dedicated seniors who chose to take on the rigorous load their last year in high school. This proves that Taylor High School Students strive to be the best academically, taking rigorous courses and an extra work load which takes them to the top. The AP Program is strong enough to help a significant number of seniors to qualify for Distinguished Achievement Programs, and prepares them for the real world. Every year a number of teachers attend numerous training opportunities to make this program accessible to an even greater number of students at Taylor High. The future looks bright for the students and faculty of Taylor High Schools participation in the Advanced Placement Program.



English III- Bottom L-R: James Ashley, Chris Kautz, Tarisa Walker, Don Hernandez, David Scarborough, Chastity Garcia, Christina Gonzales, Jennifer Gonzales, Kendra Jirasek Middle L-R: Javiar Garcia, Stephen Konarik, Jennifer Kolinek, Danielle Townsend, Lisa Grimm, Lauren Rozacky, Kelly Kuhl, Janlyn Mokry, Andrew Morris Top L-R: James Massey, Lauren Mikulencak, Nancy Dominguez, Heath Haverland, Brian Heeke, John Cuba, Clint Mokry, Justin Steffek, Carlos Menchaca, Alison Enochs, Lyndsey Cmerek



English IV-Bottom L-R: Eric Ariola, Tessa Mikulencak, Autumn Schneider, Bobby Leshikar, Melodie Strickland, Michelle Ford, Randa Stiba, Cassie Harrison, Eryn Graef Middle L-R:Lauren Schwartz, Sarah Simmons, Stephen Stenseth, Tyler Schade, Alison David, Ramon Nazario, Brandy Williams, Beatriz Hernandez Top L-R: Karon Moore Beth Pullen, Guy Oliphint, Erin Schmidt, Mrs. Foley, Jennifer Zachary, Kim Zachary, Sonja Stelly, Gladys Martinez, Brittany Matoska



Government Bottom L-R:Melodie Strickland, Autumn Schneider, Randa Stiba, Beatriz Hernandez, Cassie Harrison, Beth Pullen, Michelle Ford, Brandy Williams Middle L-R: Kim Zachary, Sonja Stelly, Gladys Martinez, Jennifer Zachary, Heather Poldrack Top L-R: Sarah Simmons, Karon Moore, Adrian Flores, Clayton Sankey, Guy Oliphant, Ramon Nazario, Lauren Schwartz, Mr. Conrardy.



Economics Bottom L-R: Autumn Schneider, Randa Stiba, Beatriz Hernandez, Cassie Harrison, Beth Pullen, Michelle Ford, Brandy Williams Middle L-R: Kim Zachary, Sonja Stelly, Gladys Martinez, Jennifer, Zachary, Heather Poldrack, Lauren Schwartz Top L-R: Sarah Simmons, Karon Moore, Adrian Flores, Clayton Sankey, Guy Oliphint, Ramon Nazario, Danny Ramirez, Mr. Conrardy.



U.S. History Bottom L-R: Stephen Konarik, Lacie Grieger, Amy Johnson, Don Hernandez, Tarisa Walker, Tara Burba, Tamara Naivar, Brenda Hyzak, Laura Johnson, David Scarborough, Janlyn Mokry, Christina Gonzales. Middle L-R: Amy Samuelson, Misty Carrithers, Chris Kautz, Danielle Townsend, Jennifer Gonzales, Kendra Jirasek, Jessica Samaniego, Lauren Rozacky, Lyndsey Cmerek,Alison Enochs, Jennifer Kolinek.



Calculus Bottom L-R: Erin Schmidt, Eryn Graef, Brittany Matoska, Randa Stiba, Tessa Mickulencak, Autumn Schneider, Beatriz Hernandez, Michelle Ford. Middle L-R: Stephen Fuller, Bobby Leshikar, Monica Ruble, Clayton Sankey, Tyler Schade, Kyle Rinderknecht, Brian Faltesek. Top L-R: Adrian Flores, Mark Reeves, Cody Welch, Guy Oliphint, Justin Sladek, Brandon Randig, Josh Schernik, Mrs. Ross.



Physics L-R: Brittany Matoska, Kevin Collins, Stephen Fuller, Adrian Flores



Spanish
Beatriz Hernandez



Computer Science Bottom L-R: Stephen Hawkins, Josh Verastique, Michelle Ford, Stephen Konarik. Top L-R: Todd Weisman, James Ashley, Javier Garcia, Stephen Fuller, Chris Kautz

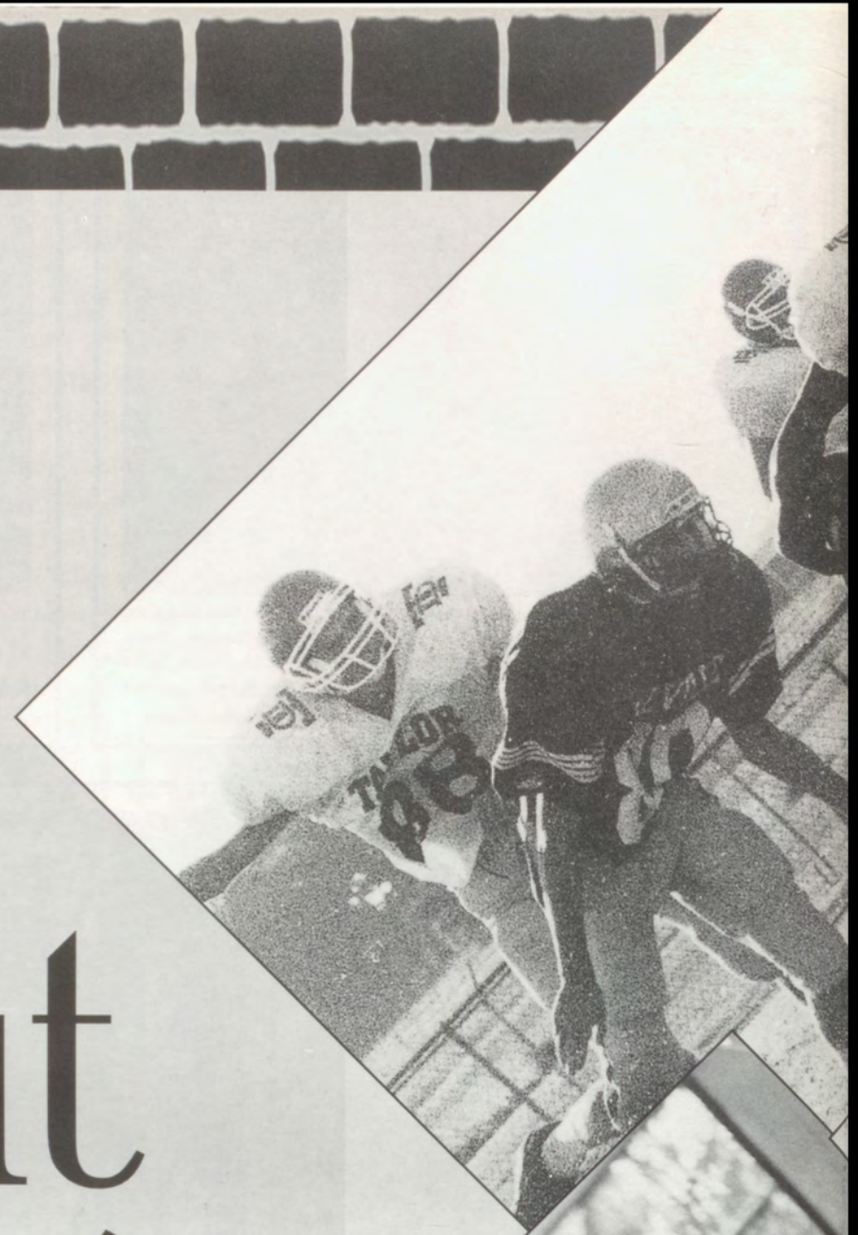


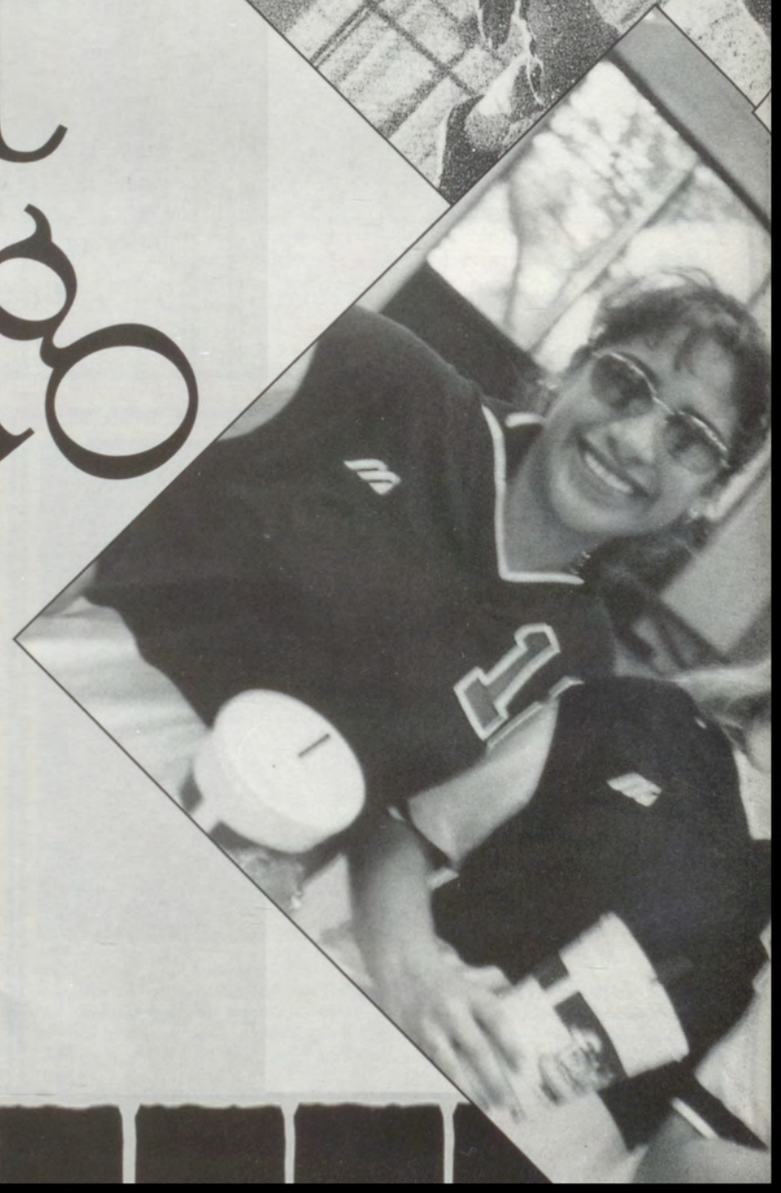
Biology Bottom L-R: Clayton Sankey, Telisha Raesz, Amanda Beran, Dawn Hehman, Amanda Welch, Lauren Mikulencak, Heath Haverland, Bubba Talley, Eric Ariola, Marty Martinez, Laura Johnson, Brenda Hyzak, Misty Carrithers. Middle L-R: Miguel Salizar, Danielle Townsend, Jessica Samaniego, Danielle Pistole, Jennifer Kolinek, Maria Flores, Dana Carrizales, Andrea Wilson, Meagan Kilborn, Jennifer Gonzales, Melodie Strickland, Chastity Garcia, Tara Burba. Top L-R: Bradley Bohac, John Cuba, Todd Weisman, Stephen Hawkins, Carlos Menchaca, Javier Garcia, Kelly Kuhl, Nicole Rowe, Clint Mokry, James Ashley, Alison Enochs, Libby Krepps, Janlyn Mokry,Tarisa Walker, Danny Ramirez, Stephen Konarik, Chris Kautz.



Chemistry Bottom L-R: Chris Kautz, Amy Johnson, Lauren Rozacky, Lyndsey Cmerek. Middle L-R: Samantha Ging, Matt Daenzer, Andrew Morris. Top L-R: Javier Garcia, Janlyn Mokry, T.J. Bragg, Brian Heeke, Lisa Grimm.

Talk About Winning





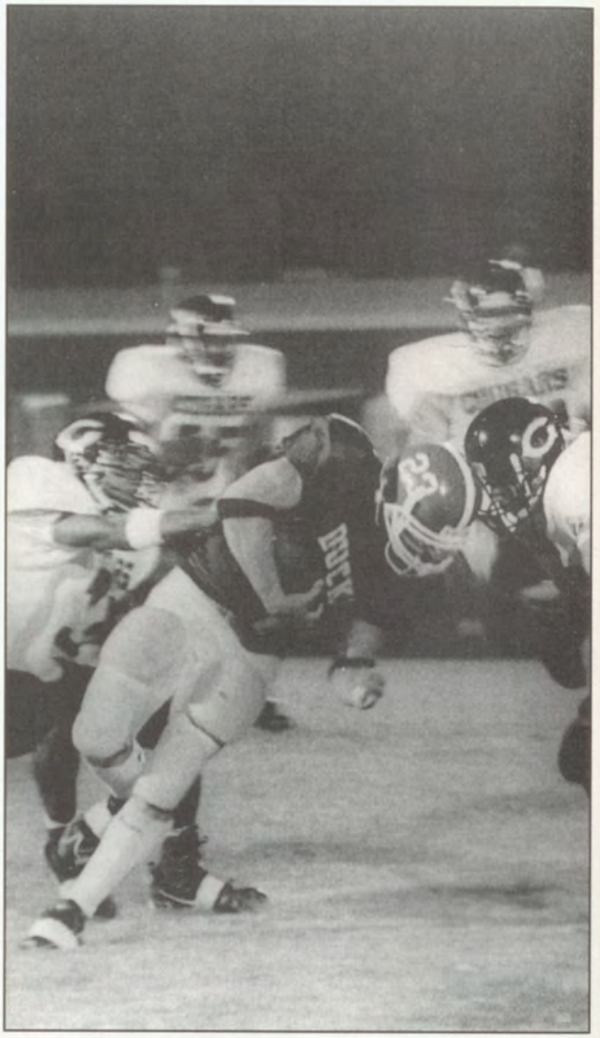
TAYLOR
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TAYLOR
TAYLOR

What's Green is Gold

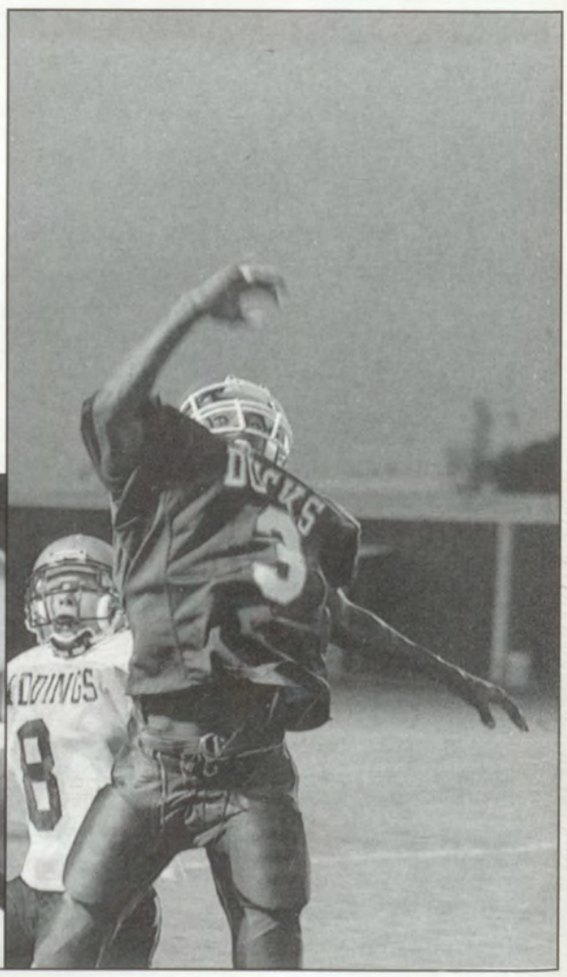
Varsity Football

The Ducks' strive for success did not look good after the shaky 0-2 start with the two losses to Giddings and Marble Falls. The Ducks were ready for redemption, but it would not come against the Lanier Vikings because El Nino dumped more than five inches of rain on the field. Of course, the game couldn't commence. The rain-out pushed the Ducks to prepare even harder to get their first victory of the season. After a hard week of practice, the Ducks were ready. Marching on the field as an underdog to the Pflugerville Connally Panthers, the Ducks played hard all four quarters and came out on top with a decisive victory. In the weeks to come, the Mighty Ducks proved themselves as a play-off bound team as they rattled off five more straight wins. Finally, it was time for the district championship.

The Ducks were a perfect 4 in 0 in district, but so were their hated rivals, the Rockdale Tigers. With a play-off spot already clenched, the Ducks headed into the game with not just a district title on the line, but also with pride going to the winner. With all of the team's hard work and so much at stake, the Ducks' valiant efforts fell short. Heading into the play-offs, the lost district title was forgotten as the Ducks learned that they would once again be matched against the Giddings Buffaloes. Bad weather conditions did not stop the first round of the play-offs as the Ducks trotted onto a soggy field with a frigid temperature. The Ducks fell short that evening, but Duck pride will live forever.





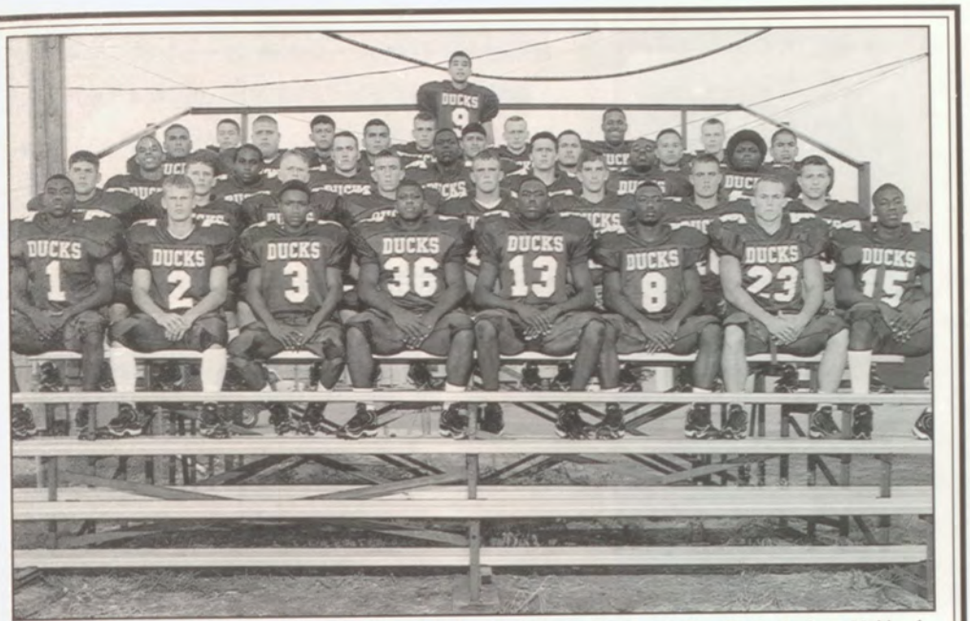


Brandon Dickinson pumps hard for extra yards. ↗

Once youire down on the line, there is no turning back. ↑

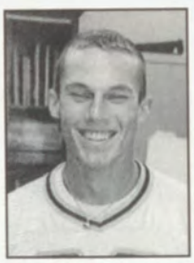
Malachi Dilworth going the distance to make the grab. ↠

Senior Eric Ariola sizes up the competition. →



Bottom Row (L-R): Frank Henry, Kelly Kuhl, Malachi Dilworth, Whitney Brandon, Jeffrey Davis, Anthony Hubbard, Brandon Dickinson, Terrance Bailey. 2nd Row:Todd Eschberger, Brandon Raesz, Clayton Turner, Heath Haverland, Trenten Talley, Kyle Riderknecht, Lance Pavlicek, John Macuk. 3rd Row: Dominick Devastey, Kerry Murray, Travis Rozacky, Terrance Tealer, Marvin Robinson, Ike Houston, Frederick Griffin. 4th Row: Julian Pachicano, Marty Martinez, Eric Ariola, Manual Reyes, Edward Alderete, Adrian Martinez, Juan Garcia. 5th Row: Matthew Pokorney, Miguel Salazar, Jarod Stojanik, Stephen Stenseth, Quincy Andrews, Christ Beckermann. 6th Row: Stephen Ontiveros.



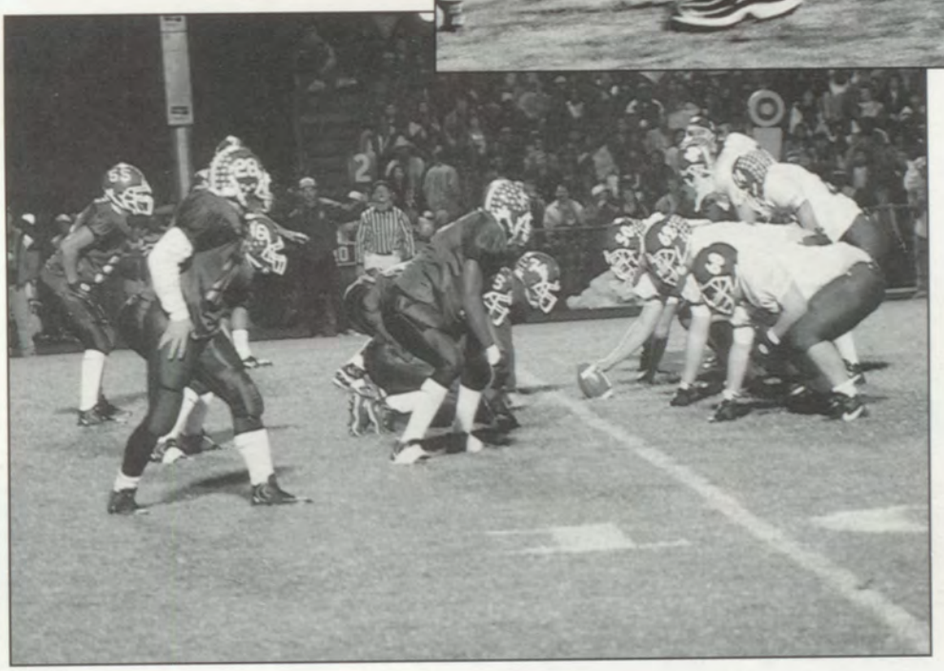


"It was a memorable season, and I'm looking forward to coming back to see how the Ducks do next year."
Brandon Dickinson

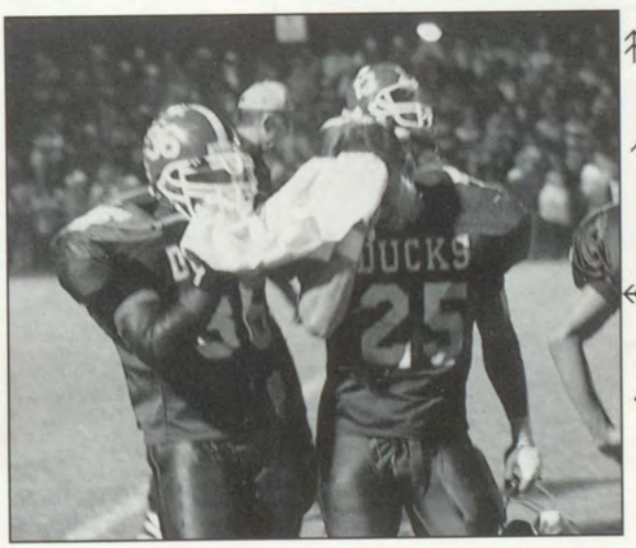
Varsity Scores

21 Giddings 24
Austin Lanier
7 Marble Falls 12
35 Pflugerville Connaly 13
23 Burnett 0
38 Caldwell 0
34 Hearne 25
26 Manor 20
22 Elgin 14
14 Rockdale 29

Playoffs
Giddings







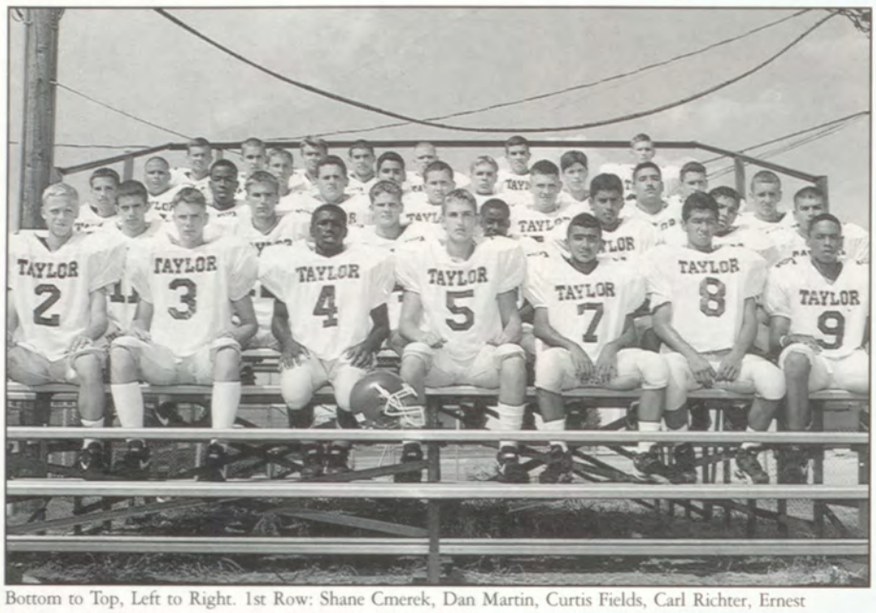
↑↑ Anthony Hubbard shoots through the gap.

↑ The defense stand strong deep in their territory.

↞ The Ducks get hyped up before the big game.

← Two seniors cool off after a tough defensive outing.

Copy and Layout by Bubba Talley and Chris Beckermann



Bottom to Top, Left to Right. 1st Row: Shane Cmerek, Dan Martin, Curtis Fields, Carl Richter, Ernest Martinez, Ralph Martinez, Lamont Davis. 2nd Row: Brit Oliphint, Justin Graef, Jason Moldenhour, Jermaine Gipson, Cesar Valdez, Steven Sanchez, Larry Gonzales. 3rd Row: Steven Teggamen, Antonio Fitzgerald, Brian Drummond, Jordan Schmidt, Blake Randig, Thomas Pickerill, Sterling Teague. 4th Row: Thomas Vega, Darren Helbert, Arthur Pachicano, Chris Fox, George Fiegel, C.J. Stahl. 5th Row: James Massey, Ruben Cantu, Chad Cervenka, Derek Klepac, Louie Jahn, Wesley Hejl, Justin Steffek.

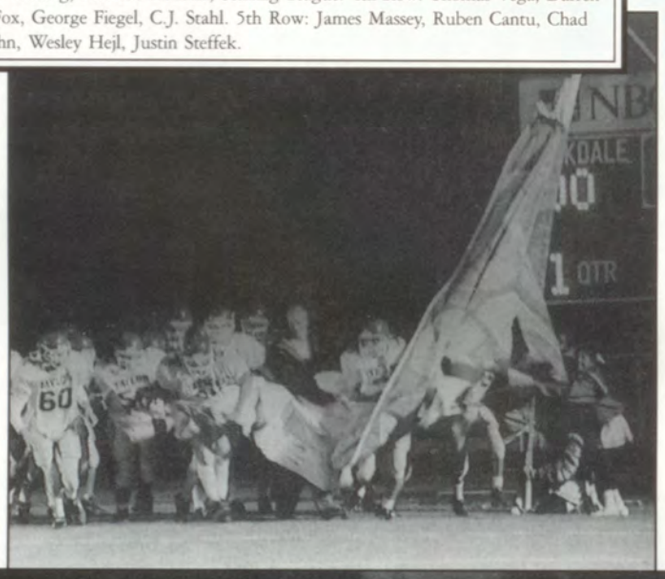
Who's Tall

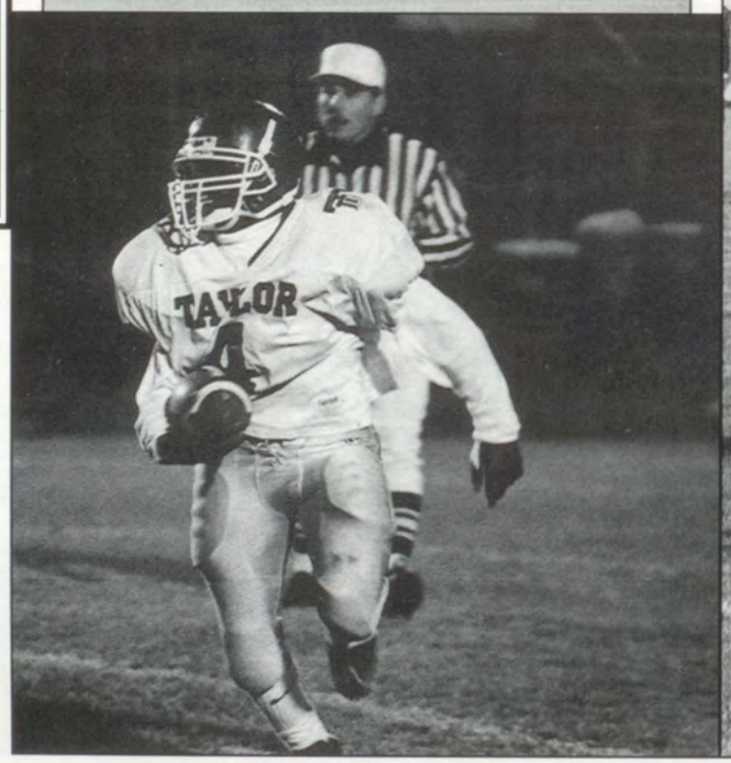
J.V. and Freshmen

This year's J.V. and Freshmen football teams decided to get down to it and show their rivals what they were made of. They ended their seasons with very impressive records and proved themselves as a force to contend with in the future. With their hard fought victories, the freshmen and J.V. also proved that they would never give up and would do whatever it took to reach a higher level of competition. The Freshmen team had an outstanding season by winning nine out of ten games. They showed the heart and desire necessary to come back next sea-

Junior Varsity Scores

14 Giddings 6
30 Austin Lanier 0
30 Marble Falls 8
22 Pflug. Connally 19
28 Burnet 7
28 Caldwell 14
14 Hearne 12
24 Manor 6
26 Elgin 6
16 Rockdale 26







Ducks fly high on the long bomb. ↗

Michael Cuba runs around the outside for another long touchdown run. ↠

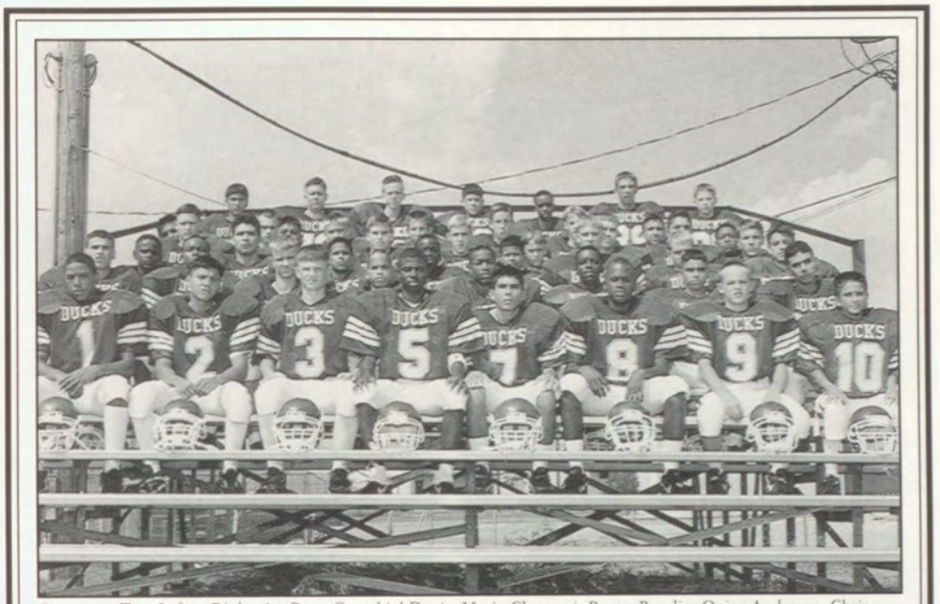
The Ducks come together for the third down conversion. →

son without any defeats. Meanwhile, the J.V. had a pretty successful season, posting a 9-1 record. They will need to take that winning attitude as they move up to the varsity level in an effort to play as the defending district champions. As the season ended, both teams were looking for next year's victories.

king Now?

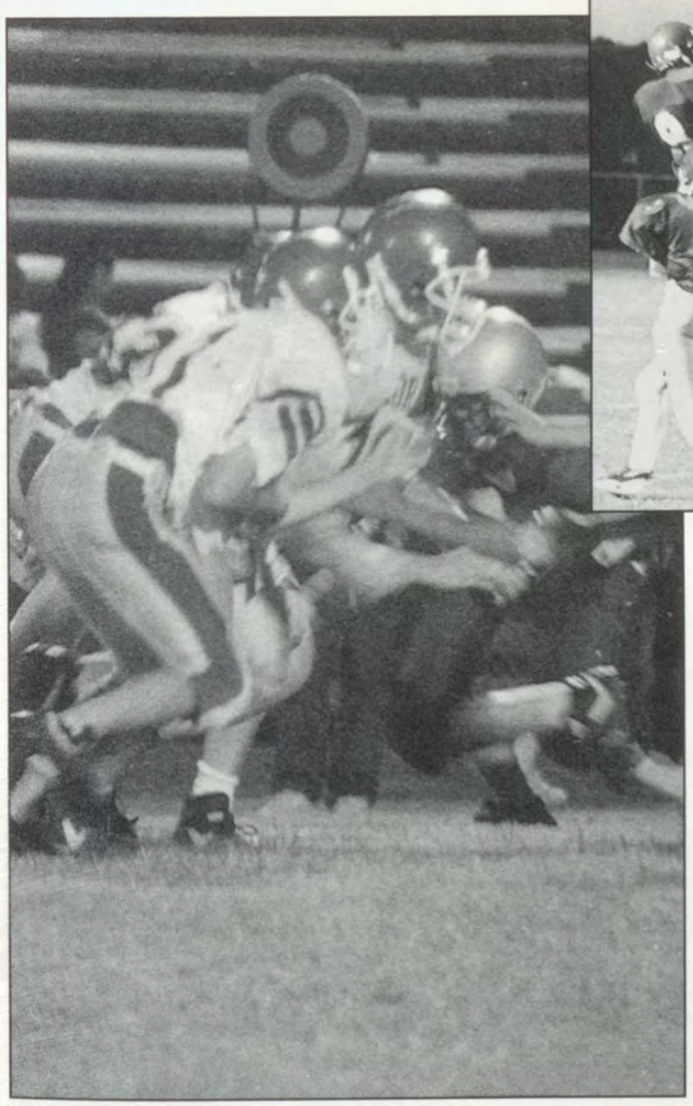
Football

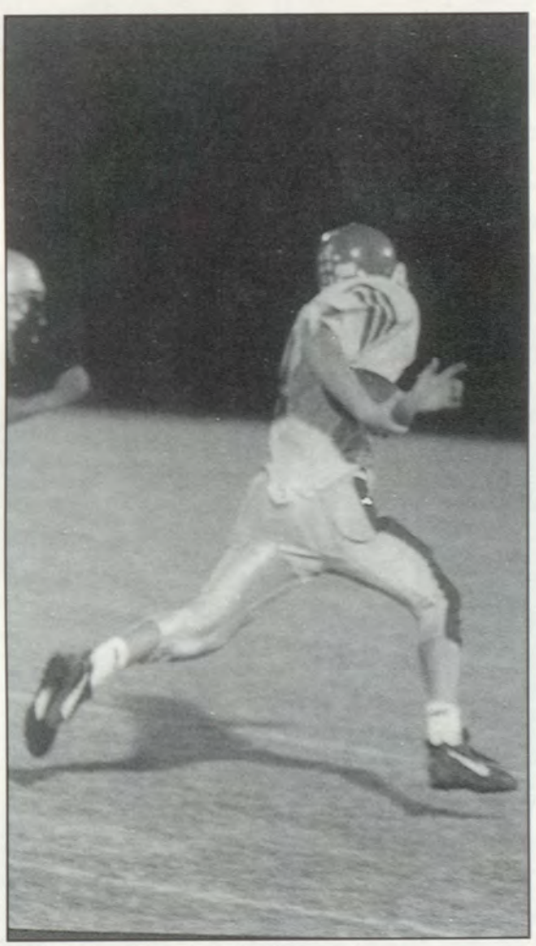
Many of the guys started powerlifting or at least an active weight program. A running program also continued. One things for sure, our guys are going to work a lot this summer, stay in training, and be an even more awesome force next year.



Bottom to Top, Left to Right. 1st Row: Orenthial Davis, Mario Chavanci, Barret Randig, Quicy Anderson, Chris Nuniz, Derrik Simien, Chris Parkhill, Chris Pachicano. 2nd Row: Nelson Parker, Corey Griffin, Travis Randig, Patrick Devastey, Duwayne Curtis, Quintin Gault, Matthew Gonzalez, Juan Yannis. 3rd Row: Akai Johnson, Arthur Garza, Fernando Reyes, Brian Coleman, Geraldo Reyes, Michael Cuba, Matt Edwards, Jonathon Rojas. 4th Row: Matthew Gola, Johnny Gonzales, Jason Pausewang, Nathan Mokry, Jonathan Stephens, Trent Rozacky, Carlos Rodriguez, Coty Brown. 5th Row: Steve Estrada, Tim Coppel, Mack Winkelman, Eric Fuller, John Pokorny, Rory Craig, John Camarda, Harrison Turner. 6th: Robert Salazar, Jarod Holman, Chris Glenn, Victor Gutierrez, Craig Williams, Chris Kelm, and Tim Nesloney.







↖ The Ducks are ready for combat.

↑ Lamont Davis takes it in for the touchdown.

← Curtis Fields runs hard, not at all intimidated by the defense.

Freshmen Scores

12 Giddings 20
22 Austin Lanier 6
14 Marble Falls 0
28 Pflug. Connally 26
35 Burnet 0
25 Caldwell 6
16 Hearne 14
32 Manor 16
42 Elgin 6
28 Rockdale 8

Copy and Layout by Bubba Talley and Chris Beckermann

Striving to be the Best

Varsity Volleyball

This season volleyball took a whole new direction. At the beginning of the road, the Lady Ducks got off to a rough start. In the preseason, Varsity had 11 losses and 7 wins. As District approached however, the team came through strong with only losses to Manor and Caldwell, with Caldwell being the state champs. The road to victory was a bumpy one. The girls had to adjust to a new coach and deal with team conflicts. But no challenge is to big for the Lady Ducks. The 1998 Varsity team received 3rd place in district 19-3A and made it to the first round of playoffs against Bellville. But the former state champs were too much and the Lady Ducks were defeated 15-1, 15-8. Overall the Lady Ducks' season proved to be a great success and provided a lifetime of memories. Each girl had an incredible amount of skill and Coach Downs did a good job distributing it where it was needed. The team had its weaknesses but it only made them stronger. The long practices the Lady Ducks endured built a strong foundation for the team. All in all very valuable lessons were learned and many unforgettable memories were made.









Wow! Dawn Hehmann practices with an awesome spike. ↗

Lauren Mikulencak and ↑ Catherine Mueck are anxiously waiting for the spike.

Telisha Raesz practices with an amazing spike. ↗

While Coach Downs is yelling, Lisa Grimm, of course, is not listening. →



1st Row: April Maruska, Telisha Raesz. **2nd Row:** Coach Hampton, Lisa Grimm, Stephanie Spells, Nancy Dominguez, Lauren Mikulencak, Lindsey Cmerek, Coach Downs. **3rd Row:** Amanda Larson, Dawn Hehmann, Casey Jones, Catherine Mueck, Tina Green, Carrie Jackson, Kylie Kerlin, Nathan Dixon.



This year's volleyball season will definitely be one to remember. Hopefully, next years volleyball team will use what we have learned and come together to be #1.

--Tina Green

Varsity Scores

15 Elgin 8
15 Elgin 3

15 Hearne 3
15 Hearne 2

15 Rockdale 6
15 Rockdale 2

8 Manor 15
8 Manor 15

1 Caldwell 15
1 Caldwell 15

15 Elgin 12
15 Elgin 11

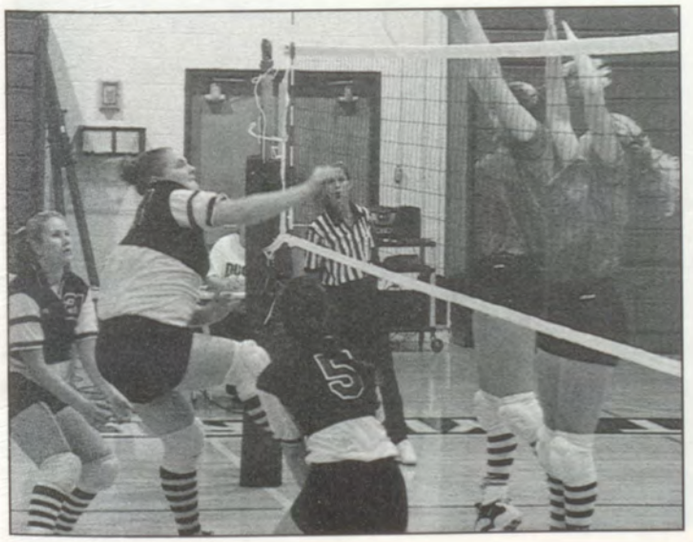
15 Hearne 2
15 Hearne 7

15 Rockdale 7
14 Rockdale 16
15 Rockdale 7

11 Manor 15
8 Manor 15

6 Caldwell 15
7 Caldwell 15







↑ Wow! Look how Tina Green goes up for a tight spike.

↑ Tina Green suddenly pauses when the ball is hit out of bounds. Way to watch it!

↞. . . spike! Kylie Kerlin shows her stuff with an amazing spike!

← Look! Kylie Kerlin goes up for a tight dink, while Tina Green covers her.



1st Row: Kasey Walton, Ryan Marshall **2nd Row**: Kim Klaus, Stacey Sutton, Sarah Naivar **3rd Row**: Latoya Jackson, Dawn Murdock, Anna Glover, Casey Sutton, Coach Allie Hampton **4th Row**: Mykeisha Evans, Casey Rogers, Tisha Brenson, Phalyn Wooldridge, and Charlotte Fredrick.

This year the freshmen experienced an awesome season! As a team, they dominated the volleyball court, eliminating the majority of their opponents. Despite that fact, they still had several challenges to overcome. New skills had to be improved, dedication had to be increased, and the team had to come to-

Stretching th

JV and Freshmen

gether more efficiently. But like all fish in a new pond, they soon adapted. Overall they came together and learned to give 100% on the court and play with accuracy However, different factors apply to the J.V. team. As an athlete on the Junior Varsity vol-

Freshmen Scores

15 Elgin 9
15 Elgin 11
16 Elgin 14

15 Rockdale 17
12 Rockdale 15

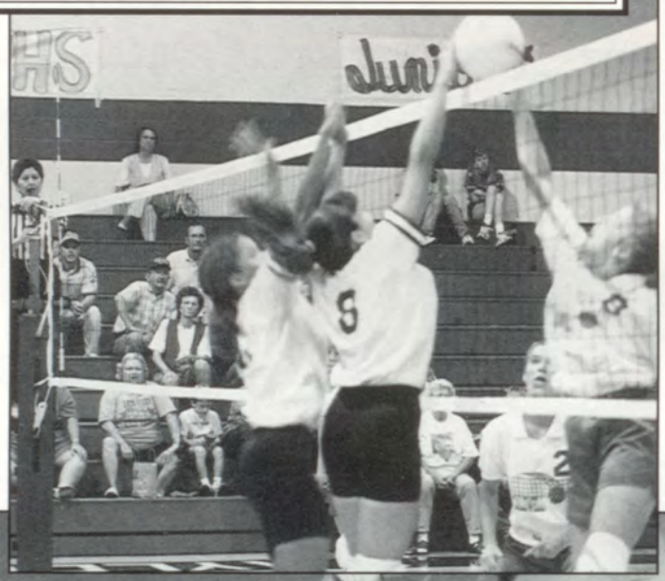
6 Manor 15
16 Manor 18

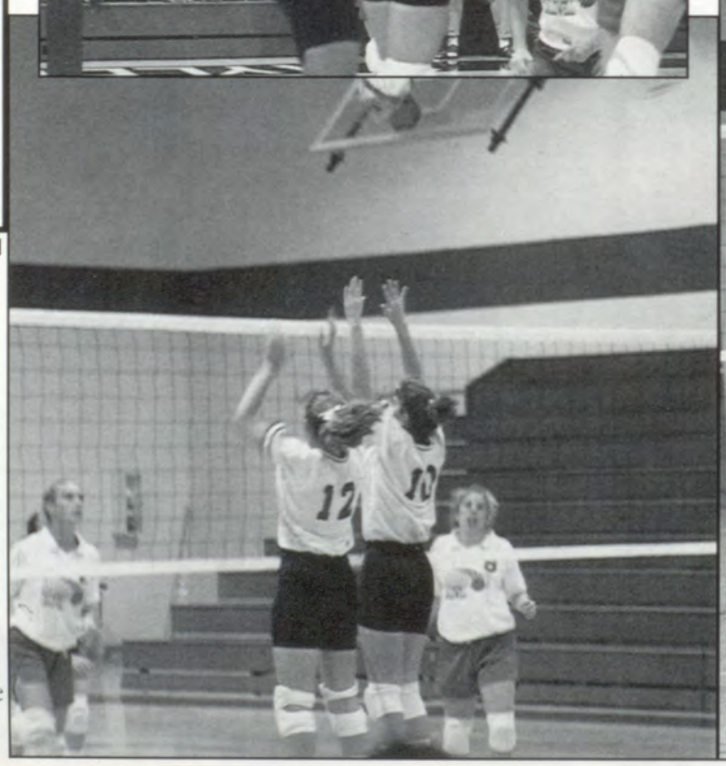
13 Caldwell 15
13 Caldwell 15
1 Caldwell 15

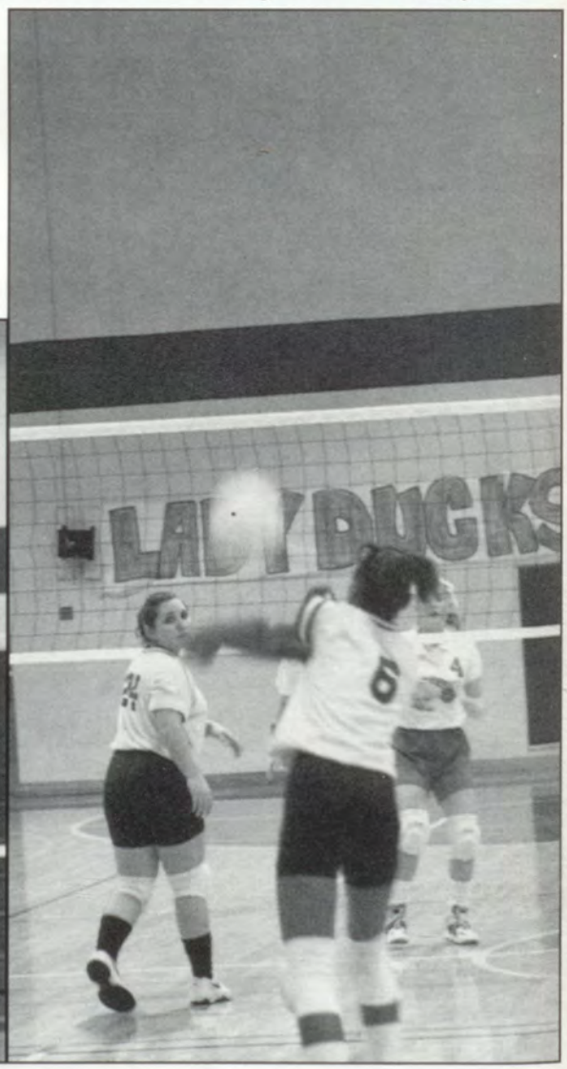
15 Elgin 2
15 Elgin 6

15 Manor 8
16 Manor 14

6 Manor 15
11 Manor 15







Stuffed! Casey Walton and Tisha Brenson block the ball.

Another good block by Kim Klaus and Sarah Naivar. Great team work!

I'm waiting! Anna Glover waits anxiously to spike the ball.

leyball team, your future is determined and you improved since least year. How good will you be next year? J.V. is all about proving your dedication and showing a great deal of preparation. But with all this pressure, the Lady Ducks stretched the boundaries to what a J.V. team should be. Not

e Boundaries

Volleyball

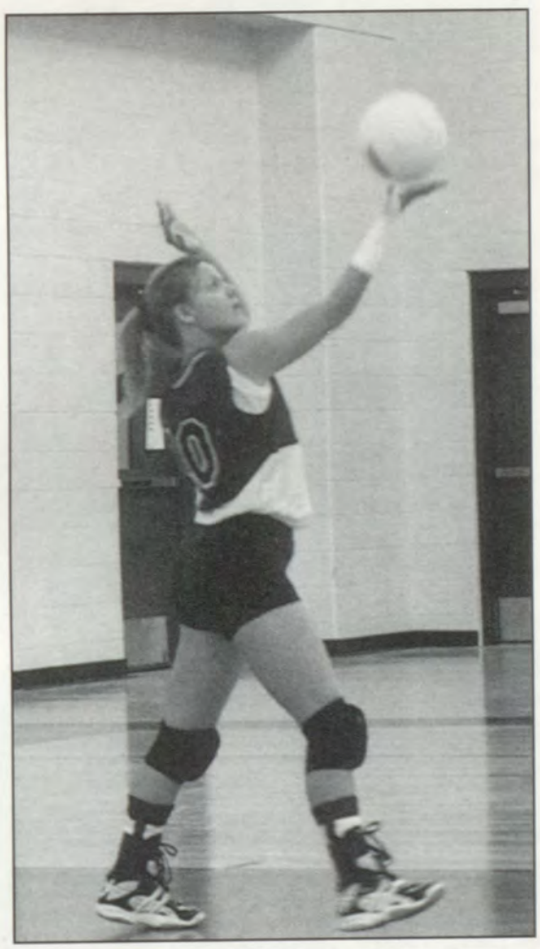
only did they fight hard until the end of each game, they also discovered what the word "Team" really means. All in all, this J.V. team experienced a successful season and will continue to achieve many more.



Back Row: Amanda Larson, Julie Schumpert, Kristen Farmer, Katara Johnson, Lindsay Harbers, Casey Jones. **Middle Row:** Sarah Raesz, D'Neshia Griffin, Coach Allie Hampton, Meghan Klotz, Heather Guardiola. **Front Row:** Monica Hernandez, Traci Floyd, and Maria Flores.









J.V. Scores

9 Elgin 15
8 Hearne 15
15 Rockdale 8
15 Manor 9
7 Caldwell 15
15 Elgin 5
15 Hearne 1
16 Rockdale 14
15 Manor 8

↑Traci Floyd gets pumped to serve an ace.

←←Julie Schumpert and Meghan Klotz cheese it after a game well played.

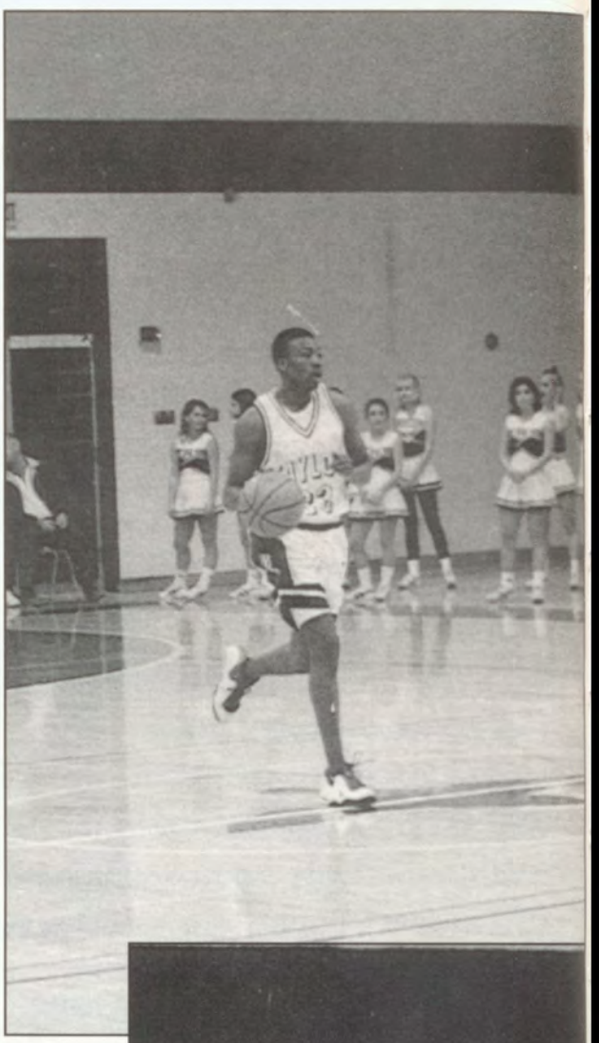
↑↑ Katara Johnson and Lindsay Harbers up to make an awesome block.

↑↑ JV girls get fired up during an awesome game.

The Clock is Ticking

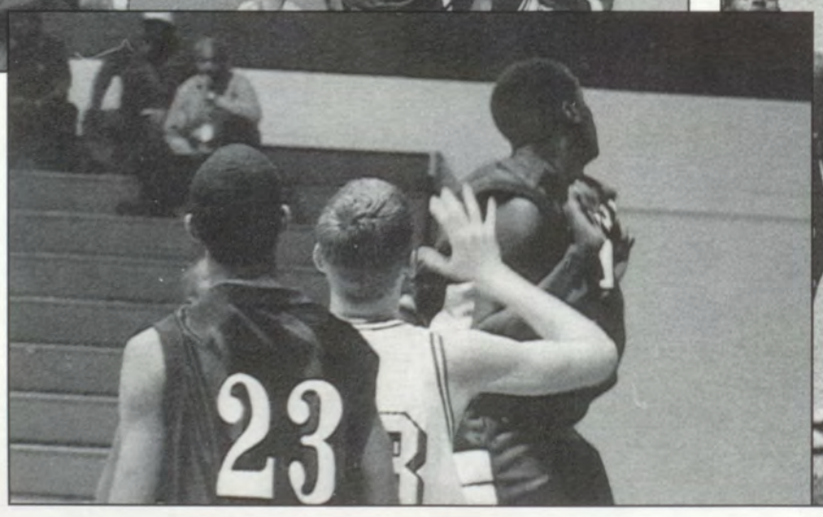
Varsity Basketball

The buzzer went off, marking the end of an action-filled season. The question to ask was "where did the time go?" We were just starting to have fun. With the last season having come and gone, this year marked the beginning of a new era. Before the season started, many new additions were made to enhance the Varsity Boys Basketball team. These changes included new uniforms and a new-found team unity. Even the gym received some new pieces of equipment. Just to make things all the sweeter, a new score table was purchased along with new chairs and new basketballs. These may have been material objects, but it was us boys as a team that took them to new heights of excellence. Coach Bell said, "These boys didn't get where they were without working very hard every day. They would not settle for second or anything less. They played for each other." It was teamwork that led the Ducks to achieve the long-held dream to go to Regionals. With a season record of 24-10 and a District record of 8-2, we were District Co-Champs. We received a Bi-District win as well as a win over Waco Robinson 66-61. That made us Area Champs. Sadly, Caldwell defeated us in the Regional quarterfinals 89-86 in overtime. And now, everyone is asking "Ducks who?" The Ducks have truly made their mark on the basketball courts.









Greg Demps takes the ball down court as he contemplates the next play. ↗

Rebound! The team watches in suspense as a fellow Duck gets the rebound. ↗

Here--you take it! As he thinks quick and passes the ball. ↑

Everyone clutters around the hoop to see just where the basketball will bounce. →



Top: Jonathan Gray. Middle, Left to Right: Brian Heeke, Darren Helbert, Whitney Brandon, George Turosik, Joshua Bell. Bottom: Angelo Fraire, Jeffrey Simien, Maurice Jackson, Frank Henry, Jeffery Davis, Jason Hennington, Clayton Sankey, Coach Bell.



Co-District Champs

Area Champions

Season Record 24-10

District Record 8-2







I believe I can fly.... The Duck flies in for a great shot.

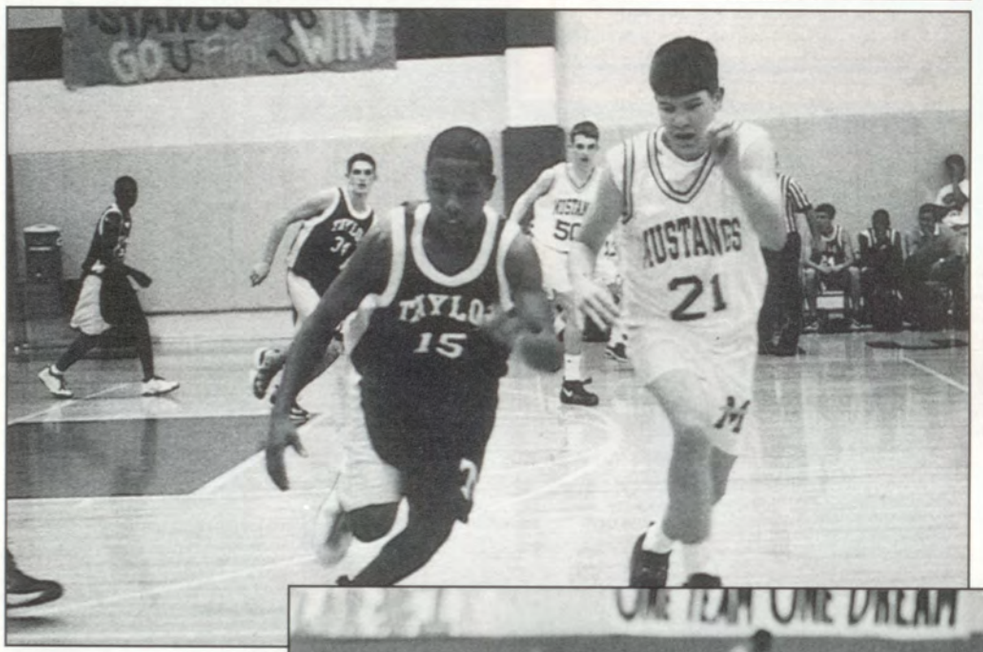
It's coming! The teams anxiously await to see if he makes the free shot.

JUMP! Josh Bell rockets off the ground to catch the basketball in mid-air.

It's a ringer. The teams seem in awe of the ball as it rolls around the rim.

Copy and Layout by Chris Hejl and Joe Tamez









He Shoots,

J.V. and Fish

The buzzer went off marking the end of a game and of a season. We, the JV and freshmen, went into the season with our dreams and goals to achieve a district title, and we came quite close and nearly met our goal with second place. Our hard work and dedication couldn't have gotten us as far if we didn't work as a team. Coach Bostick taught us to set goals, and not give up until we had reached them.

He shoots he scores! Chris Fox goes up for two points. ↑↑
Hey! Come back here! Orenthal Davis runs to get a lost ball. ↑
Chris Fox pivots to avoid a Hearne man. ↠
Coach, I'm tired! Lamont Davis has an exhausted look on his face but still keeps going. →

This year the freshmen record was 21-9, with a district of 8-2, and the JV record was 18-13, tying with Elgin for second place in district with a 7-3 record. We worked and played hard to a win at the

He Scores

Basketball

Bastrop Tourney. Even though one of our coaches is leaving, we will remember what he has taught us, in many ways, and will never forget him and his lessons. Now we know what to expect at the varsity level.





"I am very lucky to have coached such a hard working bunch of kids."

Coach Bostick





↑↖ *Hey dude where you at?* Jonathan Robinson looks for a teammate to pass to.

↑ *Up...Up...And away!* Look at Chris get good height on his shot.

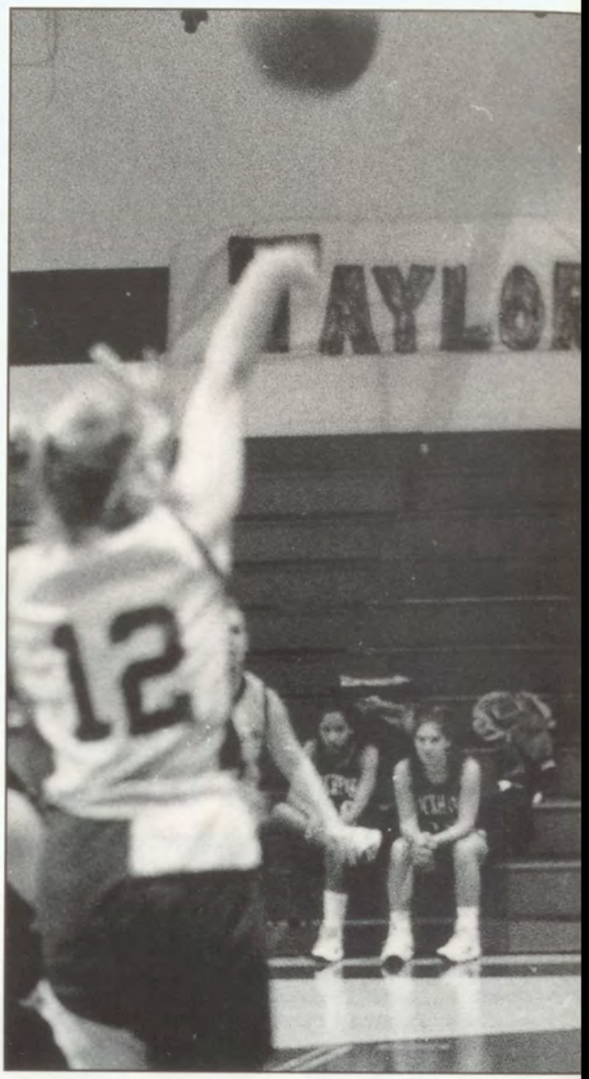
← *You ain't going no where.* Darren Helbert and Lamont Davis jumps to block a pass.

Copy and Layout by Kyle Kaiser

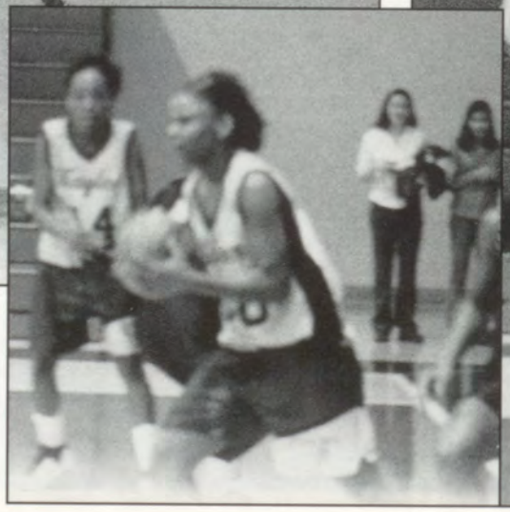
Ruling the Court

Girls Varsity Basketball

This year was a great season for Varsity girl's basketball. To many it went fairly well, and others well...there were many ups and downs, but at the end we all worked at it, played, and stuck together as a team. Overcoming many obstacles made us a stronger and better team. With six returning starters for this season, we already knew we were designed for our best year ever with much help from a few strongly skilled Sophomores and some new "fresh" Freshman. Considering that this team was a young team, we proved everyone wrong of what they thought of us. It was a good feeling to play with different people; the majority of the time was all enjoyable. For example, when we stepped out onto the court, it seemed as if we did it as a team, not as an individual. As a result, in playing as a team this year, we pulled it off and advanced to the playoffs for the first time in a long time. In conclusion, with our high hopes and spirits proved that our hard work and commitment paid off successfully. Good Luck to those with the same attitude for next year!









Wow! Tessa Mikulencak attempts a three pointer.↗

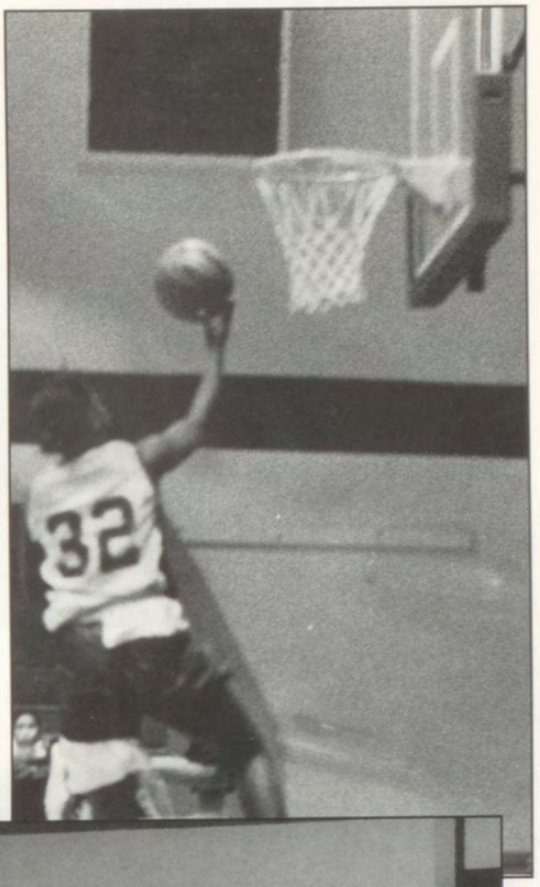
It never fails for Taylor to be ready for a rebound.↑

Even blocked, Kylie Kerlin goes for a shot.↠

Look out! Katara Johnson is fixing to take off. →



Front row: Katara Johnson, Tessa Mikulencak, Stefanie Spells, Casey Walton
Back row: Julie Schumpert, Tina Green, Kylie Kerlin, Meghan Klotz





Overall this year was different, when we stepped out on to the court we did it as a team, not as an individual. Also, I enjoyed playing with this group and the new comers. I hope the next years basketball team will dominate and become winners. Good Luck!
--Tina Green

Varsity Scores

District record:
6-4

Play-offs:

Moulton 48-55

Bellville 43-57







← Taking a time-out always helps to cool down from the tension.

↑↑ O' man, look at that lay-up by Tina Green.

↑ Look at that awesome blocking by Christina Foster, as Stefanie Spells waits for a turnover.

↞ You better stop her! Meghan Klotz performs Taylor's blocking skills.

Copy and Layout by Brooke Dloughy and Jennifer Gonzales



JV Girls Basketball. Top, Left to Right: Crystal Bryant, Nicole Rowe. Middle: Maria Flores, Jessica Samaniego, Laura Johnson, Christina Ford. Bottom: Martha Flores, Ashley Matthews, Becky Estrada, Tisha Brenson.

1-2-3 Tea

Junior Varsity & Fish

The Junior Varsity Girls Basketball team was outstanding all year. Our dedication and the team's strong efforts led to many wins during District. We practiced strenuously to prepare for their opponents, and enough to improve over the span of the season. Although the JV Team didn't win many games during preseason, we kept our chins up and still had pride. For the Freshman Lady Ducks, the over all winning scores were ten to sixteen. Great job girls! Even though there were many losses in District, we all hung in! "It was a better experience playing for Taylor High, because we played better as a team. We won most of the games. The good times were winning, getting along, and most of all, making

JV District Scores

Hearne 70-40

Elgin 33-27

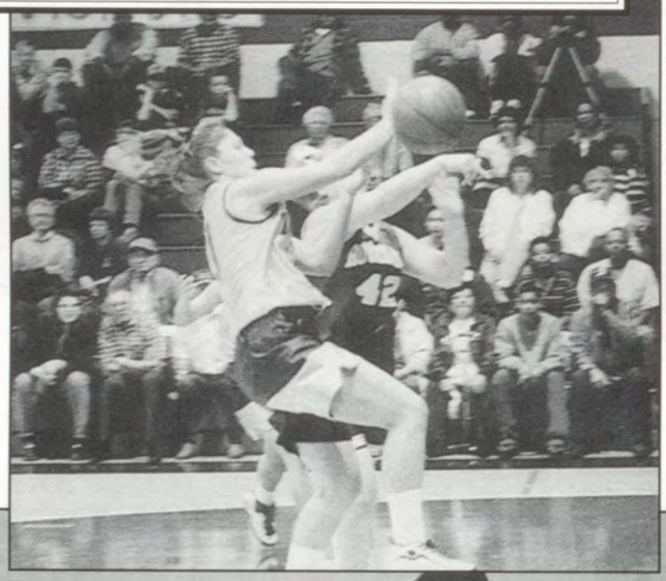
Rockdale 52-51

Caldwell 17-49

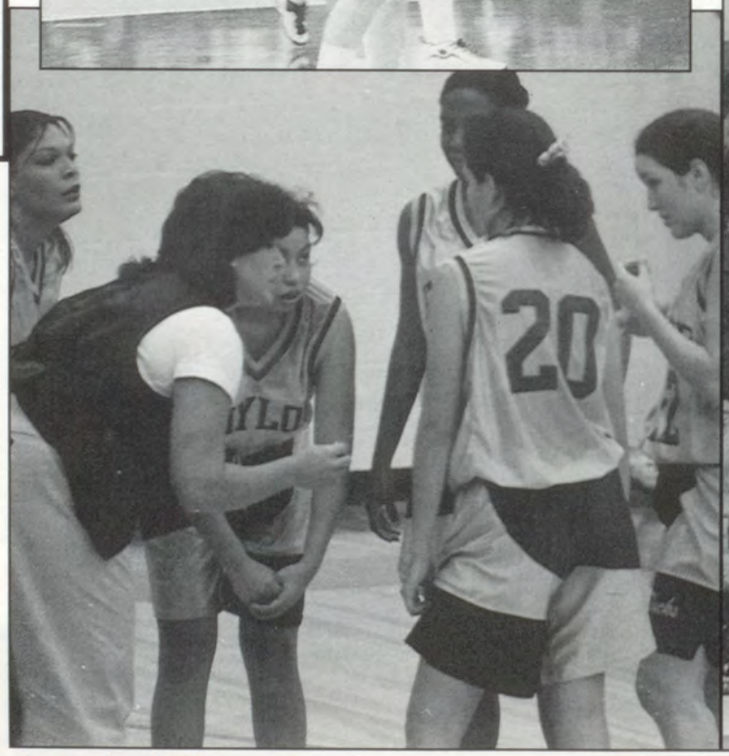
Manor 23-24

Elgin 27-14

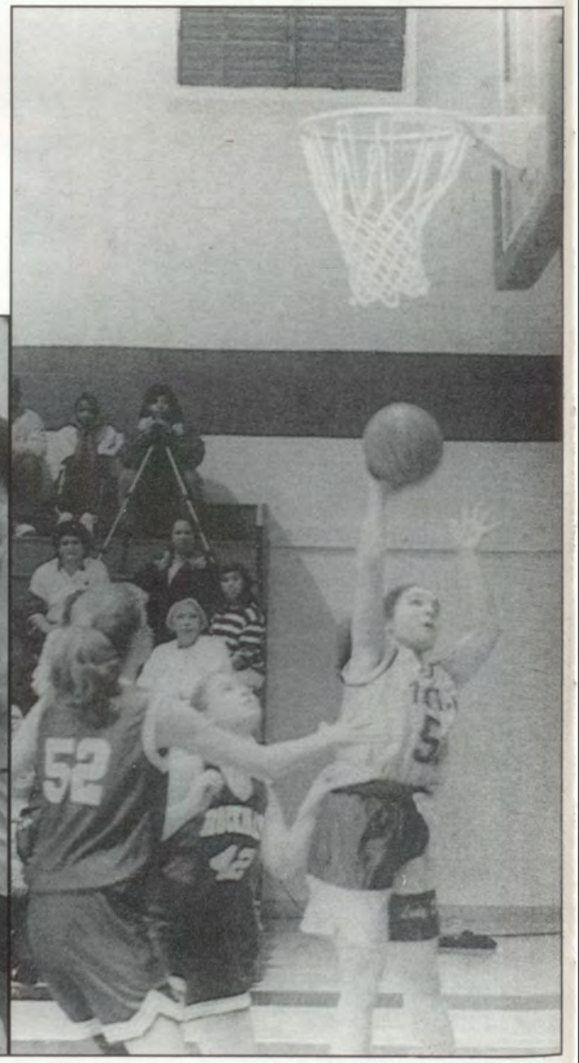
Manor 38-29



Crystal Bryant strives to do a layup while getting fouled. ↗



A quick group huddle to prepare for the final point. →



Swoosh! Christina Ford flies in to make the last two points of the game. ↠

memories. Thanks to Ms. Baiza, it was the best year we ever had. Coach Jones, on the other hand, was tough, but if paid off in the end," says teammate Tisha Brenson, of our Freshmen team. Jessica Samaniego, of the JV team, said, "After losing many games in the preseason and finally starting to get

mwork!

Girls Basketball

along with all the teammates, District rolled around and we won most of those games. I guess losing our preseason but trying hard has paid off. The best and hardest team that we played was Rockdale. That was one of the most exciting games, especially when we won in the last couple of seconds." Teamwork was of the essence, and all of our hard work obviously paid off.



Freshmen Girls Basketball. Top, Left to Right: Latoya Jackson, Tisha Brenson, Phalyn Wooldridge, Tabitha Haskins. Middle: Ashley Tamez, Missy Vargis. Not Pictured: Cathrine Ochoa, Lasondra Shaw.







Freshmen Scores

LBJ 45-22
Crockett 56-30
Bastrop 30-29
Del Valle 38-17
La Grange 33-35
Gatesville 60-36
Caldwell 32-29
Rockdale 21-44
Caldwell 26-12
Rockdale 31-45



↖ Cathrine Ochoa looks for an open pass.

↑ Tabitha Haskins shoots and scores.

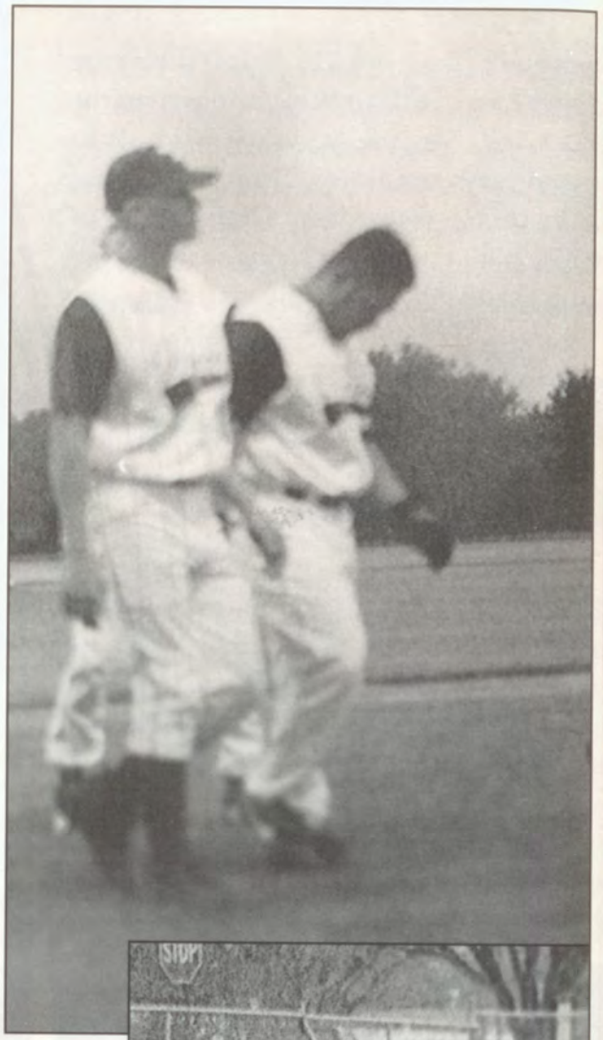
←Coach Biaza gives the final tips for the next game.

The 1998-1999 baseball season was an exciting season for all the Taylor High School players as well as for the fans. We Ducks proved to everyone that we were a team that could overcome every obstacle that was thrown our way. Throughout the season, dealing with competition, cold weather, and many sweaty days were only a few of the many challenges faced. With a record of 10-0 in district and a 17-6 overall at the conclusion of district, we moved on to the playoffs. As the crowds filled the stands and watched all the exciting games played, we proved to all of them that we were a team that pulled together and gave it our all, a team that had determination and goals that we wanted to see come true. Every player on the team had an important part to play throughout the game. Whether you were a catcher, pitcher, outfielder, or rooting the others

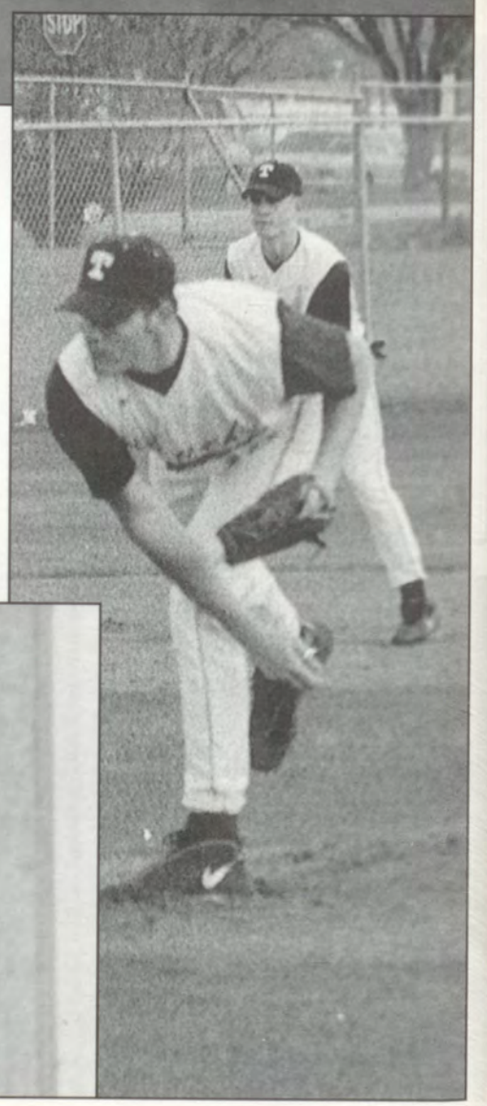
No "I" in "TEAM"

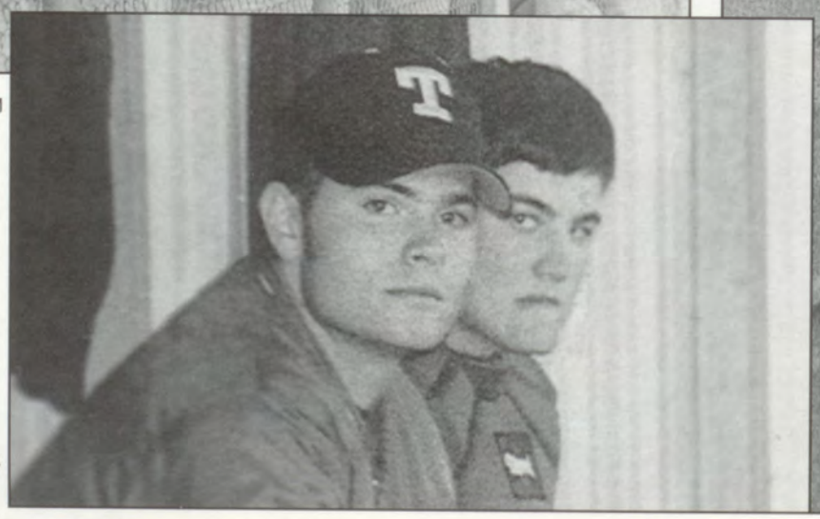
Varsity Baseball

on from the dugout, all parts were important and were put together to form a team. As baseball players we proved to ourselves that there was no "I" in TEAM. Concentration and determination were two important aspects to keep the adrenaline pumping up the players at all of the games and also to dodge a few of those fouls balls. We not only had stress with the practices and games but also having to keep up our grades to be able to participate. From running crowns, fielding ground balls, and practicing batting, we pulled all these skills together and proved to our fans that we had formed an outstanding baseball team. We each had a special energy pumping inside us, allowing us to fight through adversity and give it our all.









Teammates come in after a hard-earned run. ↗

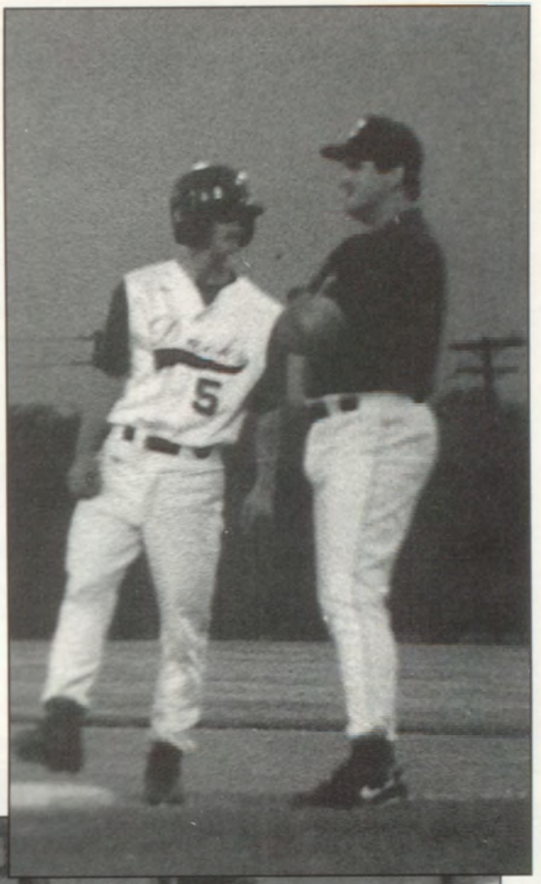
Taking care of the main priority--having fun. ↑

Mokry with another K. ↗

Clint and "Poo" talking about following strategies. →



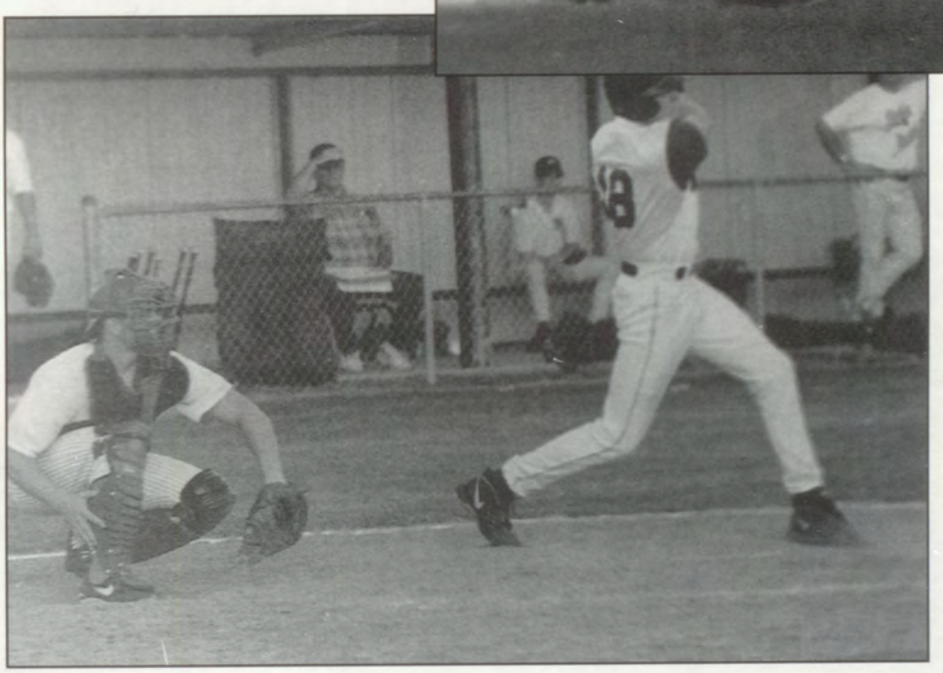
Varsity Baseball. Top, Left to Right: Kyle Rinderknecht, Lance Thornton, Clayton Turner, Clint Mokry, Blake Randig, Jason Moldenhour. Middle: Stephen Ontiveros, Heath Haverland, Bubba Talley, Todd Eschberger, Adrian Martinez, Brad Robbins. Bottom: Brandon Randig, Kelly Kuhl, Edward Alderete, Lance Pavlicek.



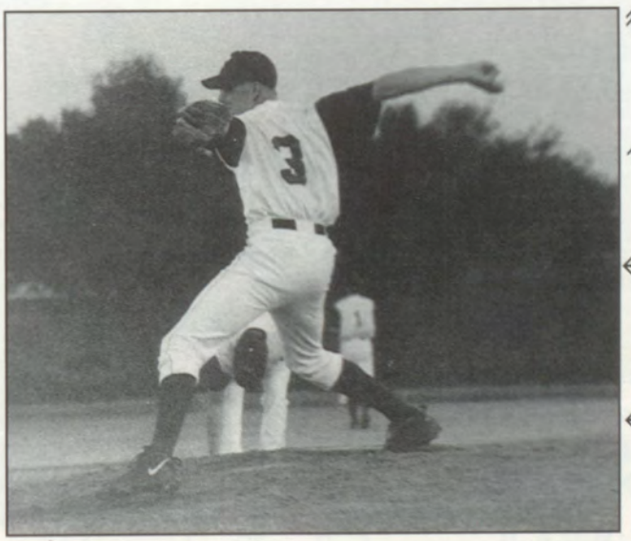
REGIONAL FINALISTS

Varsity Scores

Caldwell 3-1
Hearne 3-2
Manor 14-1
Elgin 7-5
Rockdale 4-2
Caldwell 14-4
Hearne 18-1
Manor 8-2
Elgin 3-2
Rockdale 11-0
Playoffs
Palestine-Westwood 10-2
Giddings 7-2; 6-4







↟ Kelly Kuhl gets tips from Coach Ball.

↑ Mokry with the big wak.

↞ "Poo" coming in after a big 3-run smash.

← Lance Thornton takes care of business at the mound.

Copy and Layout by Chris Beckermann and Bubba Talley



JV Team. Front, Left to Right: Barret Randig, Clint Bingham, Travis Huber, Michael Harrison. Second Row: Sterling Teague, Jordan Schmidt, Dustin Harrison, Nelson Parker, Chris Beckermann. Third Row: Derek Klepac, Lance Mills, Carl Richter, Brian Drummond, James Massey, Marty Martinez.

This year the Junior Varsity and Freshman teams played a tough schedule, finding out that 3-A baseball was not any easier than 4-A. J.V. started the season off slow but picked up the pace towards the middle of

Out of the

JV & Fish

the season by winning a few of the many tournaments we played this year. But when it came to crunch time, the J.V. got down to business posting an impressive 7-2-1 record to come second in District, winning many of their games by 10

JV Scores

Caldwell 14-4

Manor 18-1

Elgin 4-5

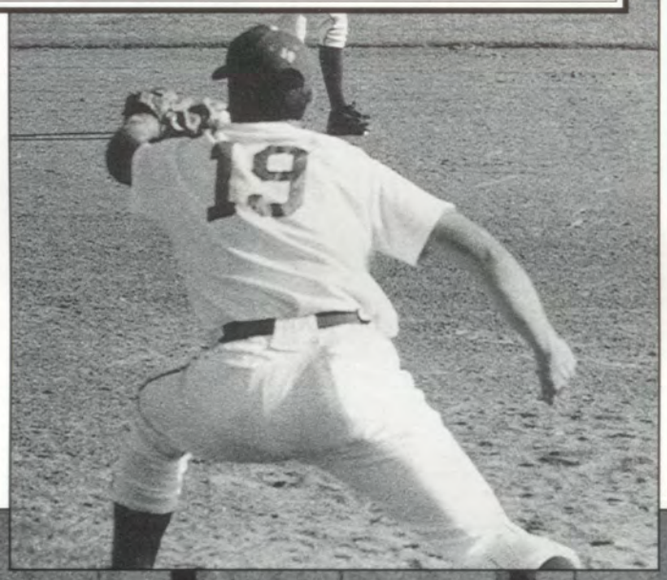
Rockdale 10-5

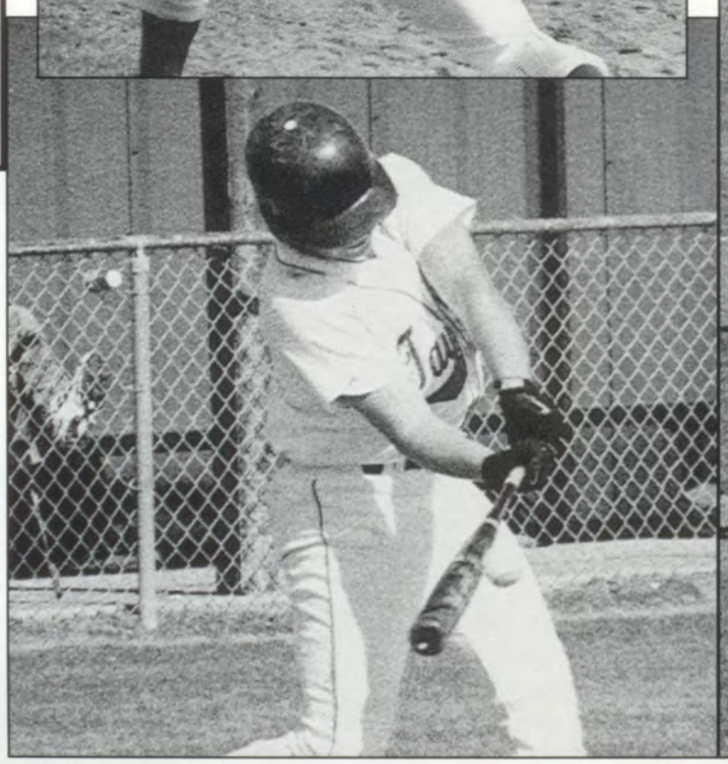
Caldwell 8-7

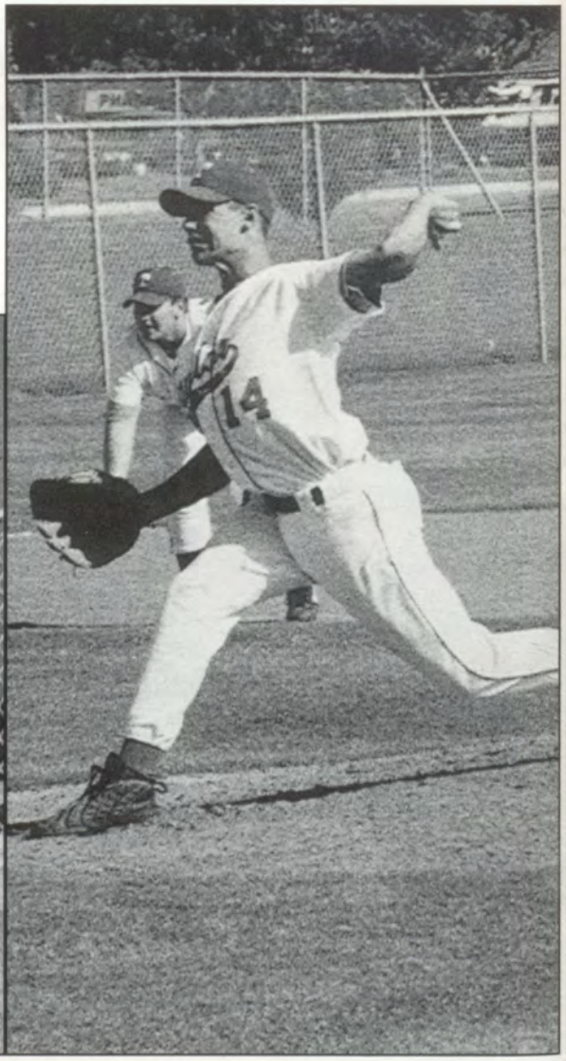
Manor 22-2

Elgin 6-9

Rockdale 3-3







You're out! First baseman Brian Drummond stretches for the put out. ↗

Pitcher Derek Klepac racks up another K. →

Chris Beckermann starts off the inning with a lead-off triple. ↠

runs or more. The freshman had a little tougher time dealing with the transition to 3-A. The J.V. had a roller coaster season, winning a few and losing a few, but nonetheless we had a lot of fun and played hard. We

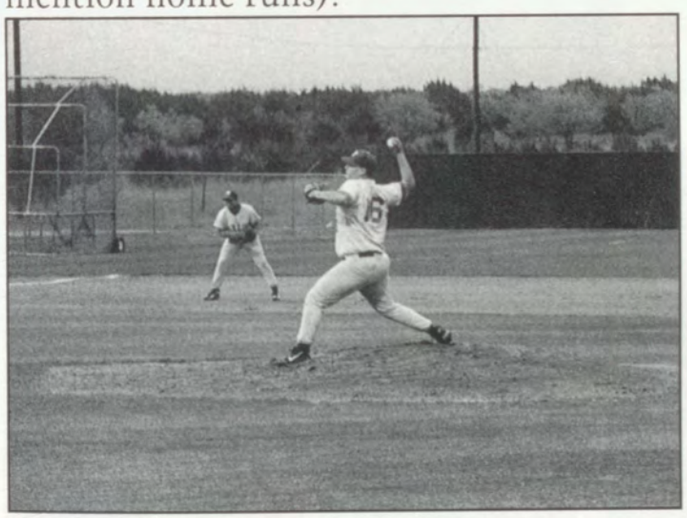
Ball Park

Baseball

practiced as a team, sharpening our skills individually and as a team. We were a great group of kids and look forward to playing J.V. ball next year. It's all about trying our best and hitting our goals (not to mention home runs).



Freshmen Baseball. Front, Left to Right: Travis Randig, Chris Nunez, Chris Ortiz. Second Row: Robert Salazar, Johnny Gonzales, Coty Brown, Jonathan Roberson. Third Row: Harrison Turner, Jason Pausewang, Matt Gola, Jarod Holmann.



Freshmen Scores

Austin Crockett 7-2

Waco Midway 2-4

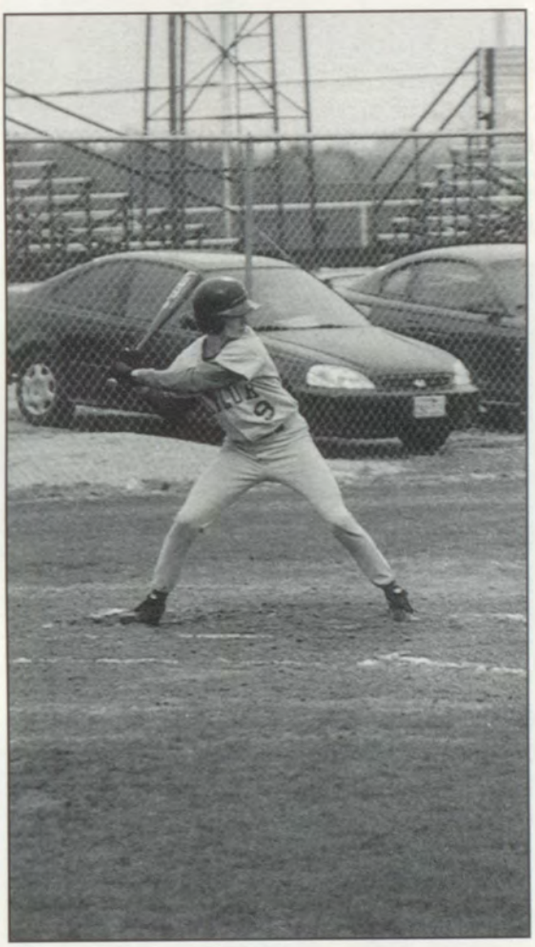
Austin Anderson 8-10

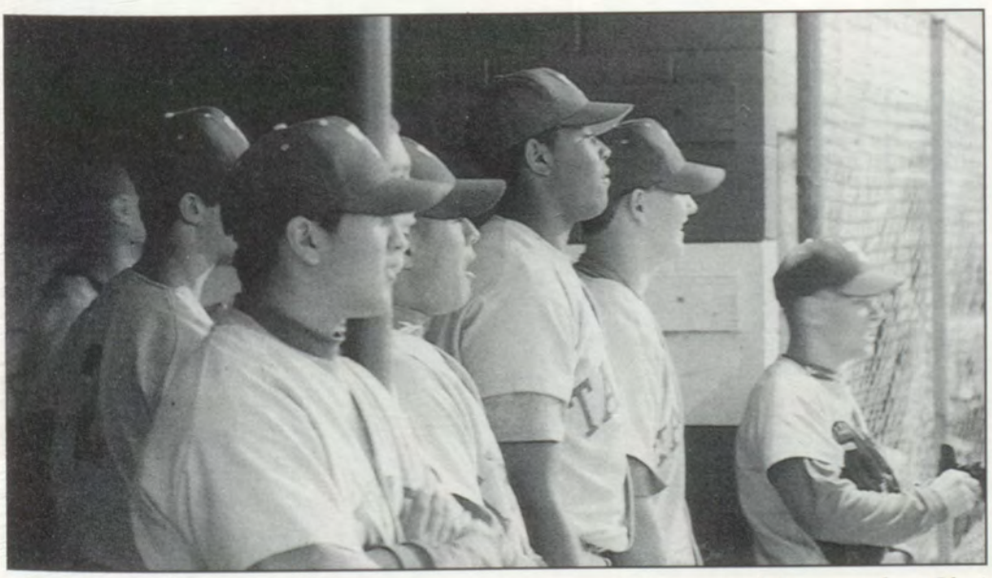
Leander 2-6

Killeen 3-5

Copperas Cove Tour
12-4, 5-7

Burnet14-12





↖ Matt Gola delivers the pitch.

↑ Curly Randig waits on the pitch.

← The team makes noise in the dug-out.

Nothin' Soft About It

Varsity Softball

The Varsity Softball season has been a learning experience this year. Not only for the team but for everyone. Our team itself has learned how just one player's attitude or how the other teams attitude affects us. However, the important thing we learned here is that we can't let that affect us. We have to play softball. Of course, we played softball and there were some games that we played where we were unbeatable. For example, the Lorena Tournament. There we were excited, supporting each other, and playing to our extreme. But that was only some games and we can't win State not playing 100%. Still, we softball girls know we had the potential to go far. Overall, we had our accomplishments this year. Not only did we overcome the challenge of coming together as a team, but we won games too. We finished fourth in the new 3A district. We started off like champoins beating Hearne and Caldwell our first two games. No practice over Spring Break proved to be costly as we were defeated by Elgin and Rockdale. With our heads not so high we started off the second round of district with Caldwell. We learned then that things had to change on our team as Caldwell beat us putting us tied with them for the playoff position. We beat Hearne and were defeated by Elgin and Rockdale again. The heartbreak came when we learned that Caldwell beat Elgin which completely swept us from the playoffs. All in all, team effort is everything. Just because of one person does not mean we can fall apart on the field. We know next year we will forget our problems on the field and play the sport we love. After all, isn't that what it is all about. Doing what we love the most. And we did most of the time. We had fun the rest of the time which proved to be the highlight of the year.









You're out! Julie Schumpert saves a bad throw and makes the play! →

Sophomore teamates stop for a quick pic! ↗

HOW SWEET! Senoirs share their last gifts with Coach Sally. ↑



Varsity Softball

Front: L-R Alisha David, Christina Ford, April Maruska, Stacey Huber Second Row: L-R Michelle Ford, Lauren Mikulencak, Janlyn Mokry, Traci Floyd Third Row: L-R Julie Schumpert, Dawn Hehman, Catherine Mueck, Sarah Naiver, Erin Schmidt Coaches Bobby Cervenka and Sally Naiver





"This year was a fun one! We love the game and we're sad the season ended so early!"

Erin Schmidt & Michelle Ford







←Yeah We're gonna WIN! Lauren Mickulencak expresses her excitment.

↑Strike! Catherine Mueck frames the perfect strike!

A Field Full

Junior Varsity

The Junior Varsity squad has fought hard all season long, being ready and willing to play every game. We started off kind of slow trying to overcome all of the challenges and conflicts that we were faced with. The beginning always seems like a hundred rough edges that are virtually impossible to smooth over, but we eventually smoothed over them. Because of the fact that there weren't enough teams in our 3A District, we had enough players for a freshman and JV team, but one team could be made. On top of that, we had the regular team conflicts within our team and with the Varsity team. But still, somehow, by the time district arrived, we were prepared to play. We dominated most of our opponents in District 3A, and proved so by placing third. Besides the sport aspect of the game, how about



Top, Left to Right: Coach Cervenica, Ashley Tamez, Jennifer Kolinek, Kim Klans, Nicole Rowe, Marissa Martinez, Coach Naivar. Middle: Anna Glover, Amber Seidel, Nina Ontiveros. Bottom: Amy Rinderkhecht, Jennifer Stefek, Amy Johnson, Ryan Marshall, Casey Walton



"Softball was great this year! We had fun and played as a team." Jennifer Kolinek







Out! Kim Klaus saves → the throw with a long stretch.

Is my arm warm yet? Ryan Marshall prepares her arm during pregame. ↠

Load up! Softball buds Kim Klaus and Ryan Marshall stop for a quick pic before the bus ride home.

the heart each one of us played with out there on the field? When we stepped onto the field, the other team was amazed at the spirit we projected. We all loved the game itself. Granted, some of us did not love the lineup or the position we were playing, but but we still managed to enjoy the game. All in all, softball is a fun game and that's exactly what our Lady Ducks proved it to be. Although it cannot be fun and games all the time, we still kept

# of Dreams

Softball

on our crazy ways when we could. Next year, however, we are hoping for more games and a little less goofing around because next year it is time for Varsity and this year we had our breaks. Even though some will not make Varsity and some will, we still look forward to playing next year and hopefully having a lot of fun doing it. We sure had a home run season this year!









← **Just cheesin' it!** Nina Ontiveros laughs at herself for striking out on a ball.

↑ ***I got it!*** Amy Rinderchneckt goes for a ball hit between second and right.

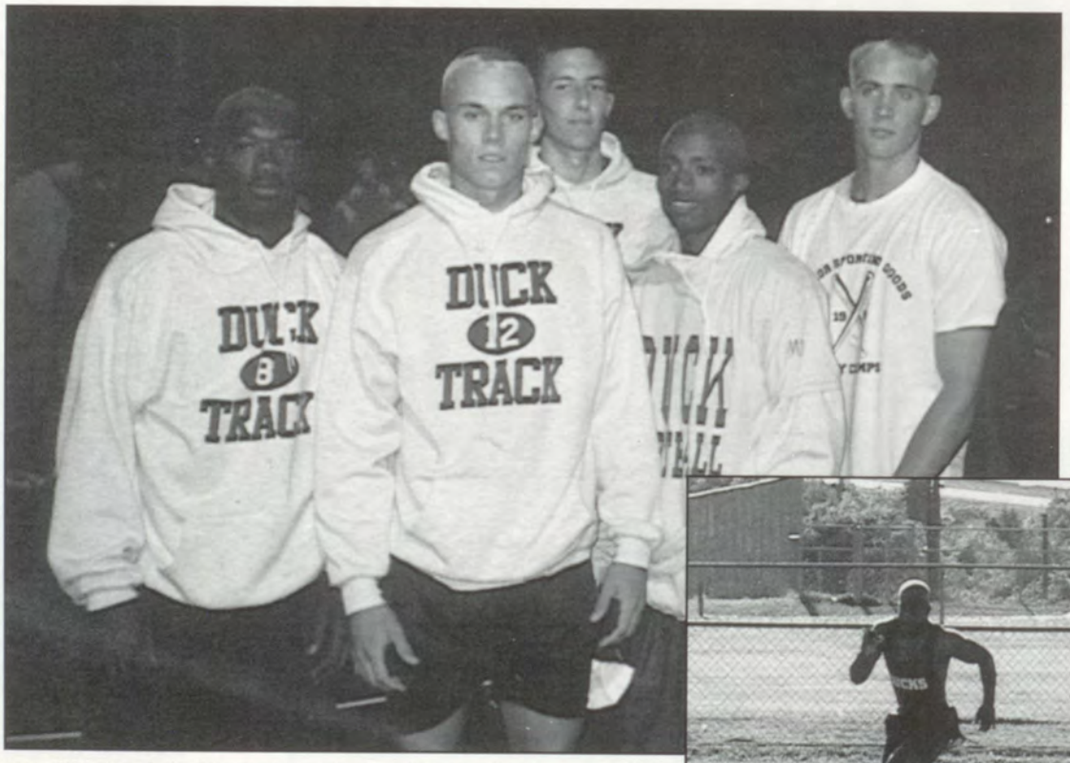
↖ **Hustle up!** Anna Glover rushes to get her gear on fast.

We Showed Our True Colors

Boys Track

This year brought a record setting season for the track team. The varsity consisted of only eight young men but we always finished either first or second in every meet attended, which goes to show that hard work and dedication really does pay off. Each day after school we spent our time at the track working to cut down our times. Sometimes the team would stay as late as seven o'clock working to get that time down by a tenth of a second. Our priorities were focused strictly on running and doing the best we could do. That is very difficult in this day and age considering all the other distractions we are faced with today as young teens. Despite this, our team went out there and breezed by almost all of our opponents. We did so well that our 1600-meter relay team won first at State. That by far was one of the best accomplishments that Taylor has ever seen. Not only did the team bring home the State championship they also set a new class 3A record with the time of 3:17.09! Of course, it was a pretty long road trying to get to State. But we had fun along the way. Probably what the students at Taylor High will remember most about the track team this year was that we showed our unity by bleaching our hair. It made a big impression on the people around us and the guys we ran against, especially when Coach Tennill got in on the fun! The beginning of the road to State was the beginning of the season at the Rockdale Relays in March, where we placed second as a team. Then we went on to the Fredericksburg Relays and Lorena Relays where we spent our Saturdays in the new spring sun competing for the first place position. Then right before district we ran in the Texas Relays at the University of Texas where we won Division I in the 1600 meter relay. We earned first place again at the Allison Relays in South Austin. At the District Meet in Manor we tied making us the Co-Regional Champions. Finally, after we advanced in the Regional meets, we went on and crossed the finish line first at State. This was a great year for track because whether we were on the mile relay team or not, we tried our hardest and had a lot of fun doing it!







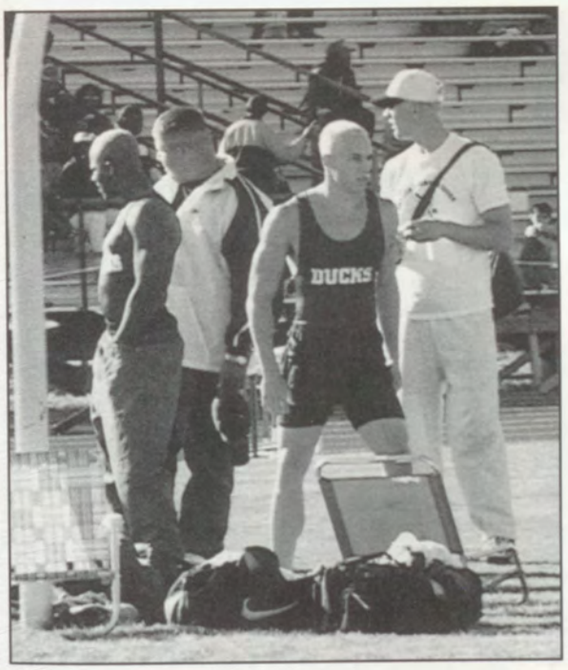


James Ashley has a look of determination on his face as he jumps a hurdle at practice.↑↗
The mile relay team: Anthony Hubbard, Brandon Dickinson, Malachi Dilworth, Michael Cuba, and, in the back, alternate James Ashley.↑
As the gun shot resounds around the track Matt Edwards sprints the first curve of his relay leg.↗
Whitney Brandon gives his all as he rounds a curve in his leg of the sprint relay.→

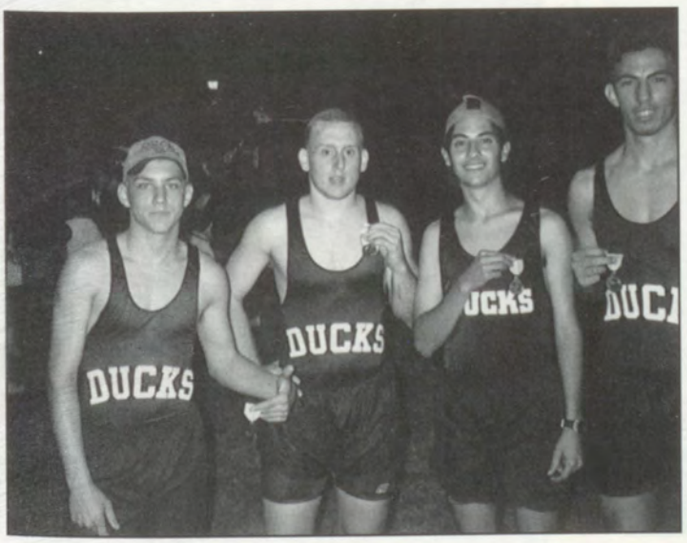


Freshman, JV, and Varsity Boys Track Teams: (Left to Right), Front Row: Matt Edwards, James Ashley, Malachi Dilworth, Terence Bailey. Second Row: Coach Mike Tennill, Marty Martinez, Michael Cuba, Whitney Brandon, Anthony Hubbard, Bruno Apgaua, Stephen Stenseth. Back Row: Chris Kelm, Dwayne Curtis, Shane Cmerek.











↑ I Believe I Can Fly! Malachi Dilworth is ready for take off as he receives the baton from Brandon Dickinson.

↖ Whitney, Marty, Brandon, and Michael stand around in the field while waiting to compete in their events.

↞ Matt, Stephen, Bruno, and Chris show off their hard earned medals at the end of a long day!

← Craig Williams, Quinnton Gault, and Dwayne Curtis look for the 4th relay team member as they head to the starting line with the baton.

Copy and Layout by Emily Johnson
With Thanks to Brian Smith





"This year, track was completely different. There were so many surprises that came with the season. But in the end I achieved my own personal record so everything was great!"

Amber Byfield



"I dont usually talk much but track was so extremely enjoyable this year that I felt it completely necessary to express my utterly unceasable joy concerning the season. I definitely encountered my share of hardships yet what didnt kill me has made me stronger. I am deeply indebted to Coach Baiza and Coach Stenseth for aiding me in my fight to become a more competitive jumper. I bestow my best wishes upon the girls who willl be running next year; Seize each day and dont let a lost race get you down!"

Alison Mayer

Track encompasses more than just running, especially to those of us who ran (or just jumped) this year. It involves hard work, dedication, endurance, sportsmanship, and the mindset to accept anything that comes our way, like tan lines, frostbite, and the Caldwell girls. But we, the track team of 98-99, hurdled each obstacle with ease, ran around each

"Go Get Girls

barrier, and jumped past the hardships. Because we became more of a team than the usual track pack, we worked better. Our work ethic became better as time went by, and we put more effort into each workout. Each day was a new adventure: the weather was a determining factor for each afternoon and at every track meet. Some days would start off bright and sunny and, at the blink of an









Becky Estrada runs hard but paces herself for her next three laps as she competes in the 1600 meter run. ↑↑
Jessica Samaniegos determination is evident in the look upon her face as she strains to get the baton to her teammate as quickly as she can. ↑
Charlotte Frederick sprints with a smile on her face at the track meet here in Taylor at Memorial Field. ↗
Prepare! Push! Pace! PR! Coach Stenseth offers advice to Monica Reyes before she competes in the 800 meter run. →
Stacey Sutton, Casey Sutton, Crystal Bryant, Deanna Baran, and Tisha Brenson work hard to prepare their bodies for PR track performances by sitting and having a good laugh together! →→

eye, turn cold and cloudy. One of the first meets was in Fredricksburg. Ah, yes, nothing like a blistering cold wind chill to enhance one's running or jumping capabilities. We froze our toes off out there! But then, there was the one Saturday we spent getting what we thought would be a tan and turned out to be sunburn. Coach

Your PR" Track

Stenseth came home looking like he had on a raccoon's mask that day. Throughout the season, we improved our running times and our jumps. We also became more of a team than ever, chanting verses before the races and sitting together out on the field. We will always remember the hard work and commitment that we put forth into the track team.



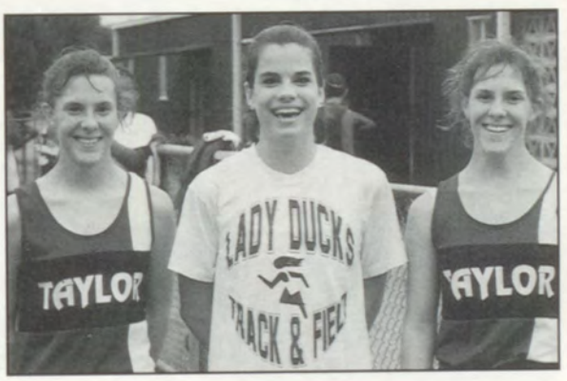












"Track was a lot of fun this year. Bus rides were always exciting, and placing at District made all those practices seem worthwhile." Stacey Sutton

"It was a tough season because we lost a lot of people but we pulled together and made it a greater year." Andrea Wilson

" My favorite part of track season this year was when I won first place in the long jump. My least favorite part would have to be the fights, like when my sister and the other girls got together and beat me up on the bus." Casey Sutton

↖↑ Katara Johnson has a mischievious grin on her face as she waits for her race to start.
↑↑ Becky Estrada is glad to have finished all her races. (and even more glad that she earned a couple medals to hang around her neck!)
↖← Duck Pride! Monica Reyes is happy with the outcome of her race.
↖ Monica Reyes, Katara Johnson, and Coach Baiza have a small conference on the track.
↑ Why run when you can fly? Leah Caldwell's feet aren't even touching the track as she rounds the curve in the 800 meter run.
← Get out of my way! Catherine finishes her race with monster-truck force.

Copy and Layout By Emily Johnson

Chasing Grapes

Cross Country

The Cross Country season started the second week of school and immediately the girls involved knew that this was a sport unlike any other they'd ever participated in. The high school team started off quite small, consisting of Denise Samaniego, Leah Caldwell, and Emily Johnson. There was also a junior high team which varied in participation from five to ten girls each week. Later into the season these three were joined by more brave souls: Becky Estrada, Crystal Bryant, Kelly Parker, and Bruno Apgaua. Each afternoon Coach Stenseth sent the runners on a two or three mile run to whip them into shape! Their meets were usually on Saturday mornings so they met up at the school around 7:00 a.m. Of course, they weren't always on schedule (It didn't help when Coach Stenseth locked himself in the bathroom!) but more often than not they arrived on time and had a little while to walk through the course they would be running on. The different courses were always rough but the girls managed to stay with the pack most of the time. At a Georgetown meet Coach Stenseth told each of us to make it our goal to try and catch an Elgin runner. We soon began calling the Elgin girls "grapes" due to their purple uniforms. Therefore, we ended up chasing a bunch of grapes! We usually stayed just long enough to compete in our races and then headed back to Taylor after making a stop at a gas station. Nothing like a healthy snack to replenish one's energy! (Leah, no more pickles!) Rides in the van were often loud (not to mention smelly!) and high school girls were always outnumbered by middle school girls. Near the end of the season the runners had all seen a great deal of improvement in themselves. The district competition was here in Taylor and five other schools showed up with their runners. Taylor did well overall and placed third, qualifying for regionals. Bruno did well at district but was unable to compete at regionals due to a lack of time to acquire his immigration papers. The regional competition was two weeks later at San Jacinto College in Houston. No one qualified for state but we were happy to come in close to the middle among the group of over 200 varsity girls and survive! (Hopefully next year we'll be closer to the beginning of the group!) Cross Country involved a lot of long hours and muddy shoes, tears and sweat, early mornings and late nights, and a whole lot of awesome memories! As we look back at all the time we spent together it becomes obvious that Cross Country is truly a team sport. We all learned a lot about ourselves, each other, and how to work together to encourage and push each other on. Keep working hard girls and next year we'll make state for sure!

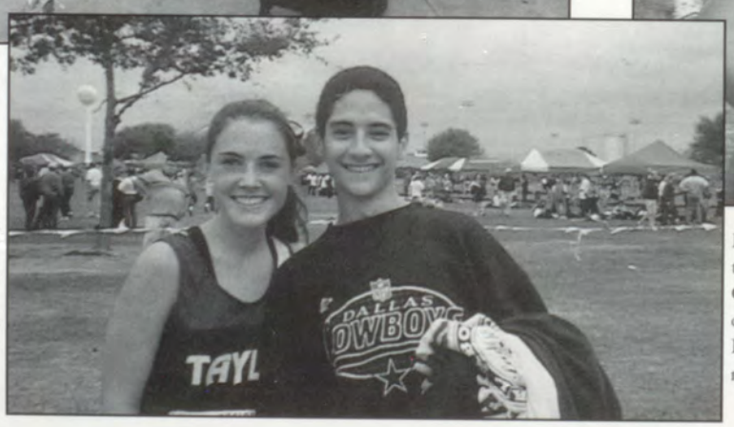












Becky Estrada still has a spring in her step as she rounds the portable on her first lap. ↑

Goof Troop! Leah Caldwell, Crystal Bryant, and Becky Estrada kid around after an afternoon practice. ↗

Bruno Apgaua wasn't able to compete at the regional meet but he was there to support Emily Johnson and the other girls. →

Bruno Apgaua stretches out his stride as he looks toward the finish line. ↑↑↑

Coach Baiza congratulates Becky Estrada as she recovers from her race. ↑↑

Denise Samaniego focuses on the course as the signal is given and the race begins. ↑



Regional Meet Participants (Left to Right): Leah Caldwell, Becky Estrada, Emily Johnson, Crystal Bryant, Kelly Parker, Dawn Hehmann









"Cross Country season was hot! My job was to find a group of girls who could take the heat and run to the water tower and back without needing a water break. I found such a group and the worked hard to improve their performance all season. They are still improving, and I'm looking forward to an even better season next year!"
Coach Stenseth

"I was at the regional meet and I passed the grape (Elgin runner) during the race."
Dawn Hehmann

"Cross Country was a great experience. Everyone worked really hard through the season. And it all paid off because our team made it to regionals this year and it was a great feeling."
Denise Samaniego

"Girls, thanks for working hard and making CC so much fun to be a part of! Keep running and don't forget the crazy things we did or the lessons we learned. I'll see you on the course this summer!"
Emily Johnson

"I was really excited to run Cross Country this year. Going to regionals was a great experience. Our hard work and persistant running paid off."
Becky Estrada

"It was fun running on varsity and going to regionals with my lucky bandana. (P.S. Those pickles were good!)"
Leah Caldwell





Copy and Layout by Emily Johnson

T-Town... We Ain't Scared

Tennis

This year's team let their racquets do all the talking for them. Tennis is a sport unlike any other in the school. The team formed a bond, uncommon in most athletic groups, spending every Friday and Saturday playing tournaments. Our coach became more like a mother to us. Being on the team required a lot of hard work and dedication. This year we strived to be the best, and our efforts paid off. In team tennis, we pulled together despite the many tribulations we faced the week before, combined our strength both mentally and physically, stuck together as family, and came out on top, winning first place in the regional tournament. The bond that formed during that time remained with us through state where we placed 8th in the 3A division. No sooner was team tennis over, we began our season of individual play. The team took top honors in district and qualified eight of twelve members for the regional tournament. We were also fortunate to adopt a Brazilian to our team. Pedro AKA Ricardo AKA Ricky brought many smiles and a new language to the team that kept our spirits high. We ended the year with a fish fry held at the Rozacky's house where everyone got together one last time and recalled the many moments shared together. Throughout the year we shared laughter, tears of joy, and sadness as the season came to a close, and the team would let go of six seniors, but the memories we shared will be carried for a lifetime.





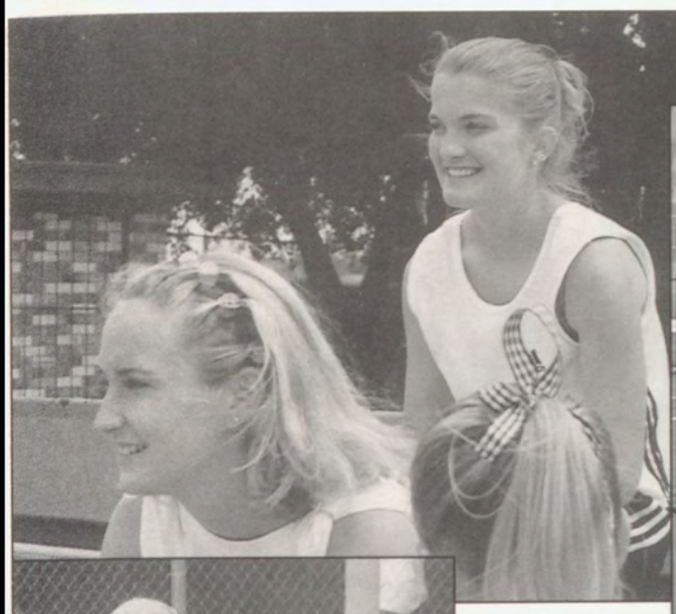
After a hard day playing tennis, these team members take a well deserved picture. ↗



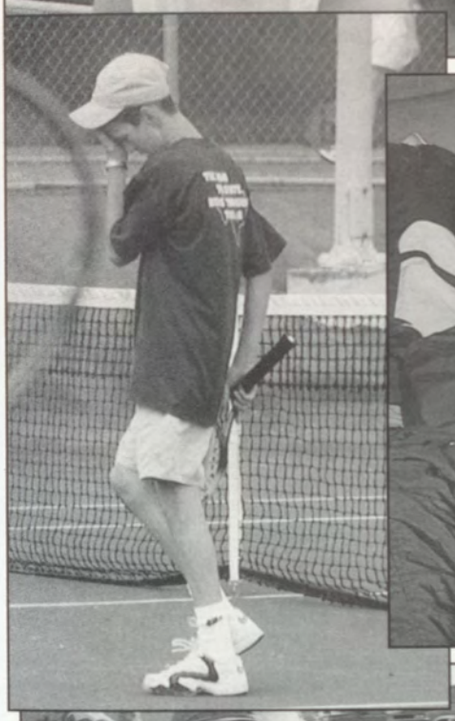
"How to do it?" Ricardo Basso knows how to do that! ↠

Nick Shelton lets everyone know that HE is the man of tennis. →

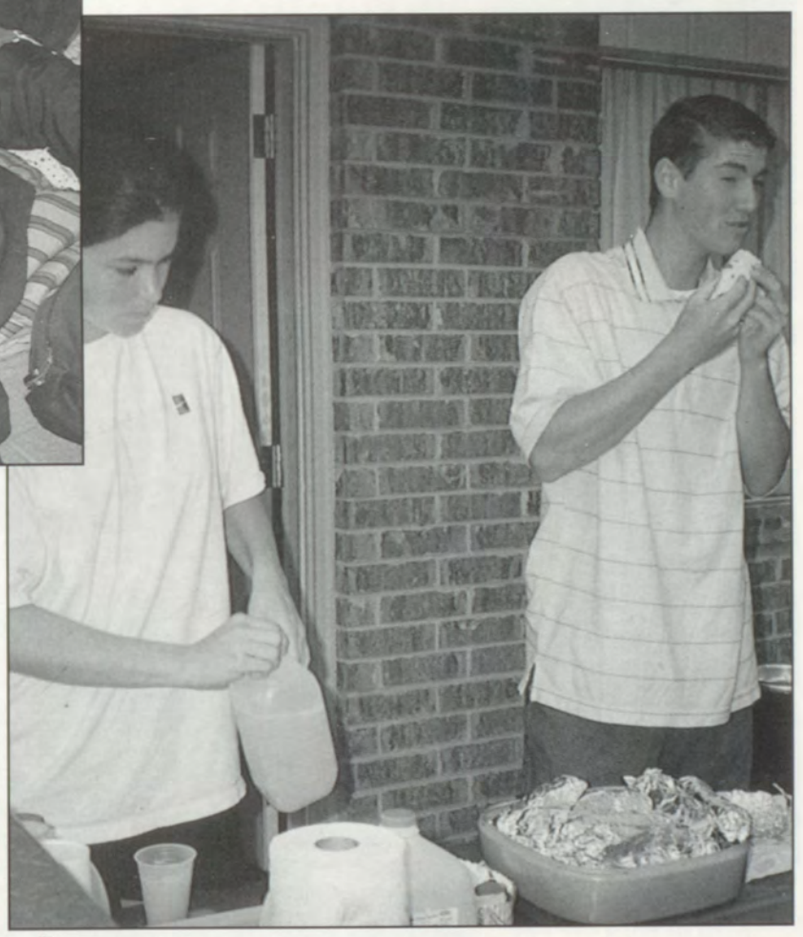
















↖ Go Ducks! Lindsey Cmerek and Randa Stiba cheer on their team members.

↑ Yum, Yum...team members Rachael Lute and Ladd Moehnke start off the day right.

↑ Team members are all smiles after they won the Regional title.

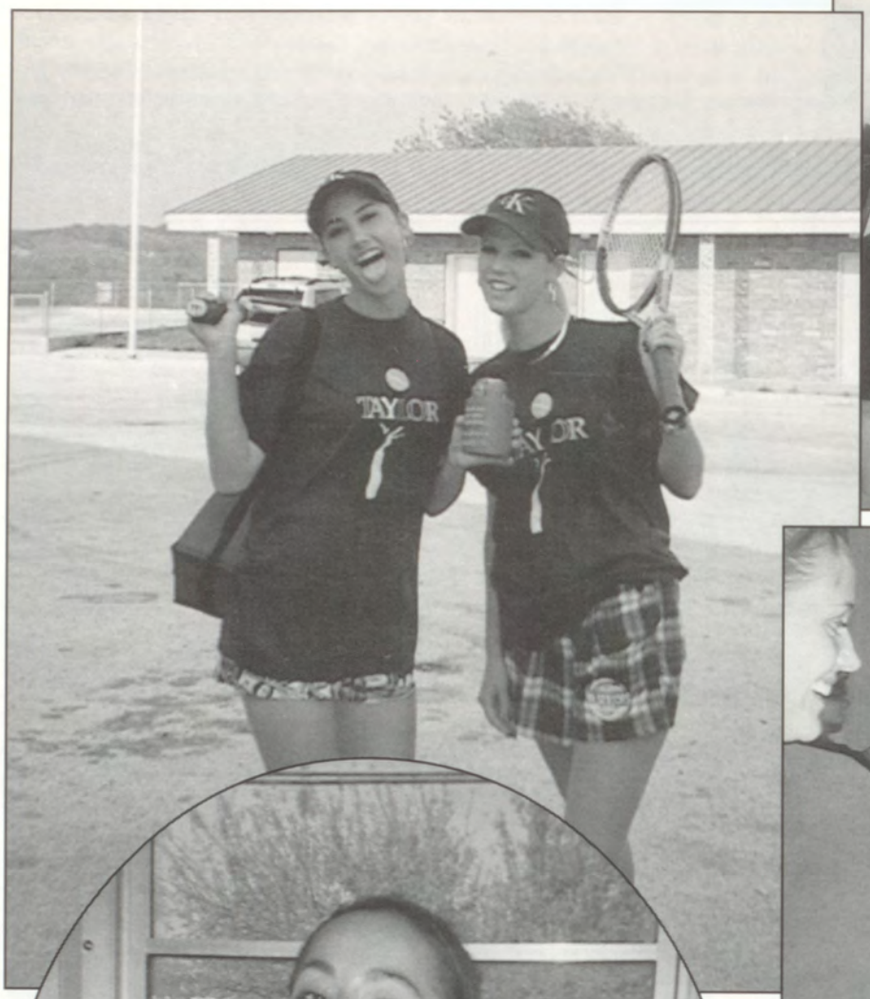
← Is it love connection? Lindsay Gossett and Justin Bohls say "CHEESE!"

↖ It is the three stooges of tennis! Ricardo, Lauren, and Justin are always where the trouble is .

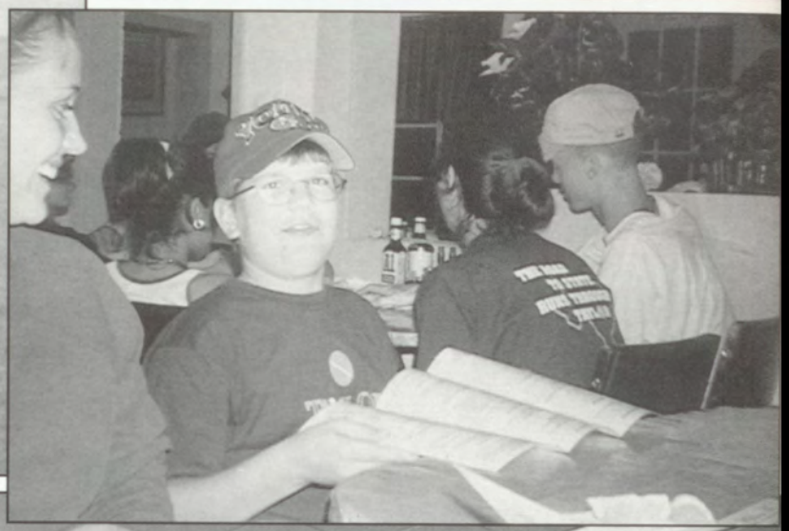
↖ Dont sweat it! Ross Thornton wipes the sweat from his brow after a long match.

↖ Just Chillin! Nancy Dominguez waits out the rain.

Copy and Layout by Lauren Schwartz and Candace Benad















State players gather with Coach Hall for a picture. ↗

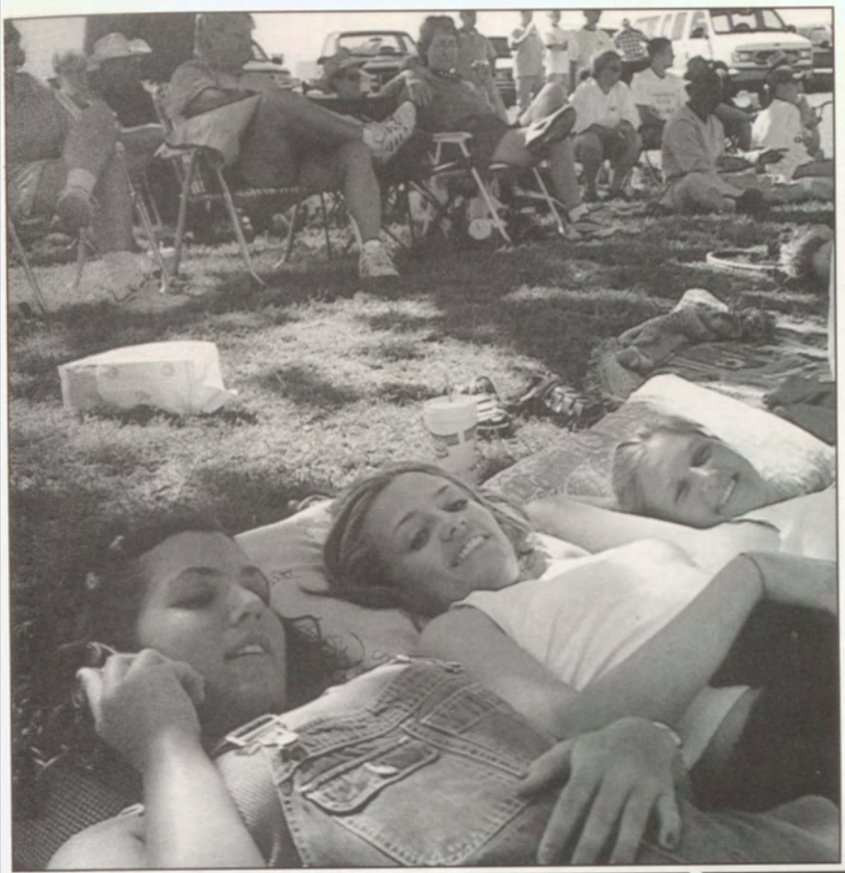
"We ALWAYS dress alike!" Laura Whatley and Lindsay Harbers stop for a picture. ↑

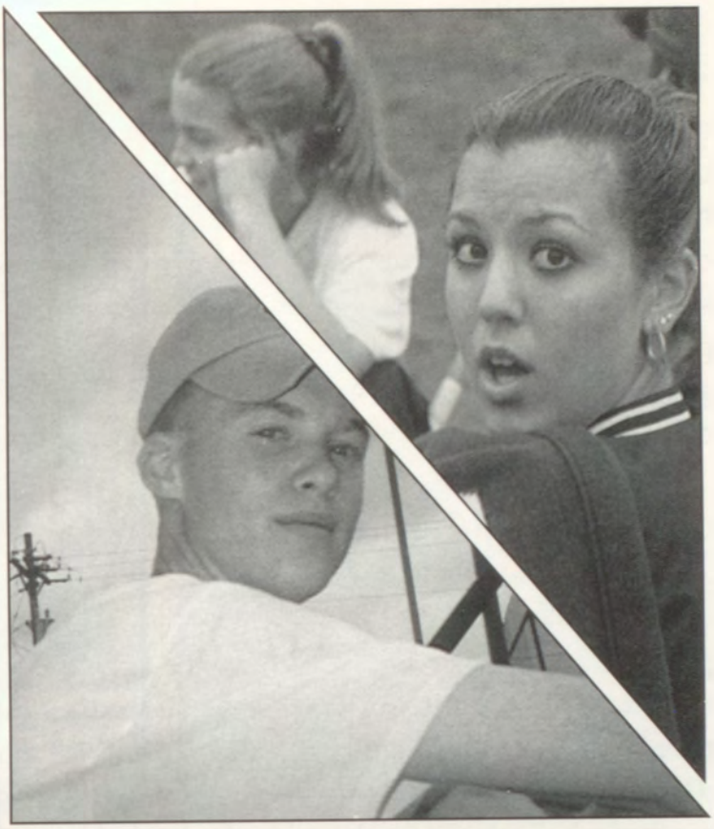
"So many choices. . .", Michael Mack tries to decide what to eat. ↗

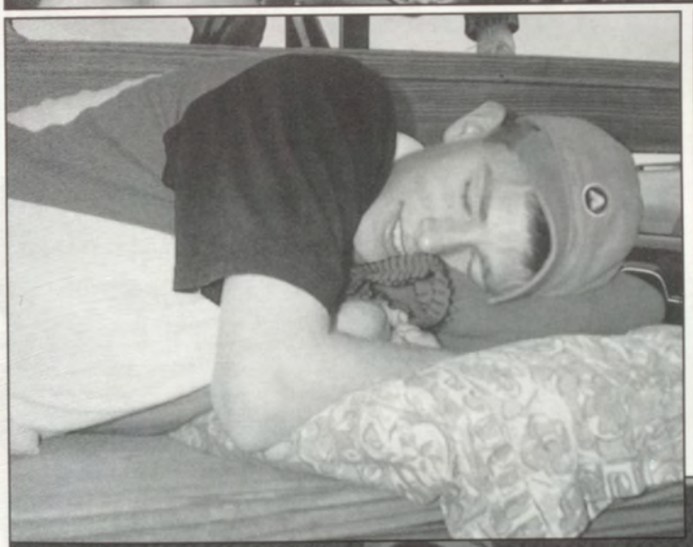
Camera shy? NOT! Beatriz Hernandez shows her pearly whites for the camera. ↑

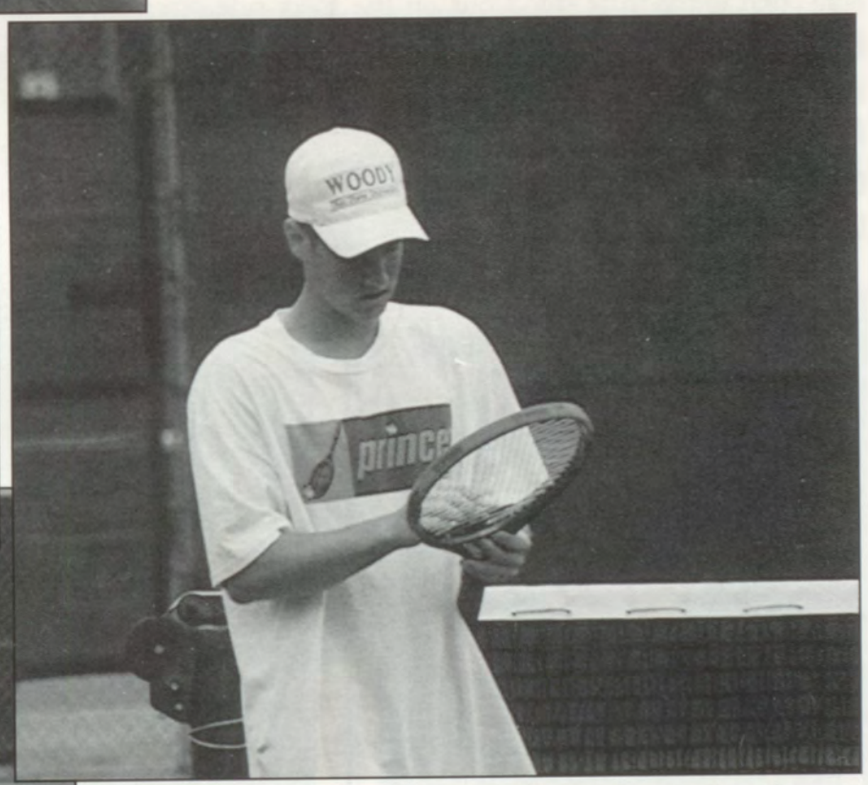
"Did somebody say McDonalds? These team members can't play on an empty stomach! ↗

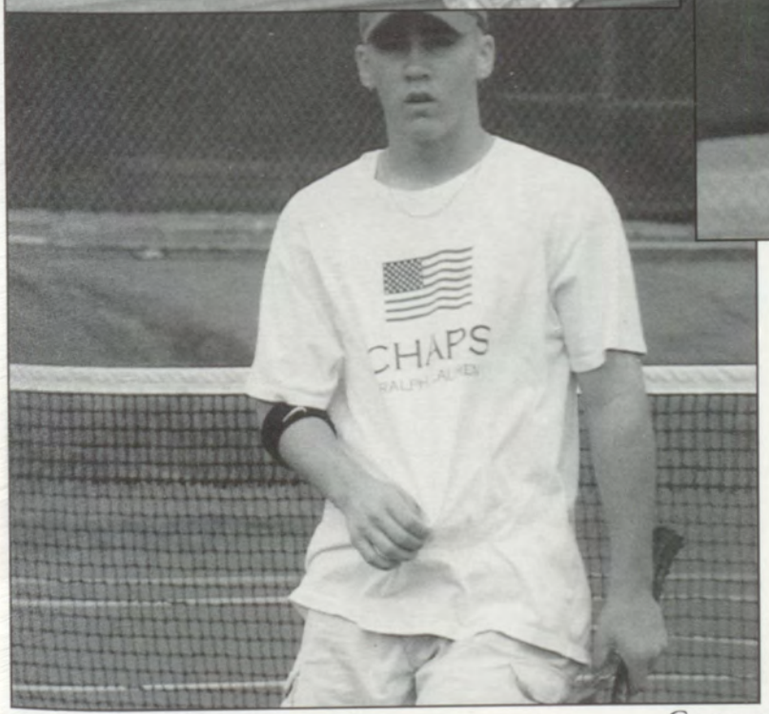
"Shouldn't you people be playing tennis or something?" Chris Fox, Ricardo Basso, and Mark Reeves just sit around. →











↖↖ You lazy tennis players! Lindsay Gossett, Lauren Rozacky, and Lauren Schwartz take a long breather.

↑↑ Brian Lawrence, a solitary tennis player,watches his team mates play.

↑↑ "What did you say?" Lindsay Gossett seems to be caught off guard.

↖ "What child is this who lays to rest?" It is Justin Bohls resting his head after a long match.

↑ ""Whats wrong with this thing?" Ladd Moehnke fixes his racquet.

← "Game!" Michael Harrison walks proudly off the court.

Copy and Layout by Lauren Schwartz and Candace Benad

A Hole New Attitude

Golf

"Golf is life, the rest is just details." In the 1998-1999 Duck golf season, this was the philosophy and team motto. Many hours were spent dedicated to having fun and practicing at the golf course. The courses were of high caliber which did not need to be physically prepared for, but mentally prepared for which any golfer will tell you is the hardest thing in any sport to conquer.The boys golf team was an experienced one with four good returning players and two new guys on the squad who had really good years and contributed greatly to the team. The girls team had only two returning golfers. They both had fun and gained good experience to prepare themselves for next year. Also, the girls team acquired the assistance from a new golfer, Eryn Graef, who helped out the team and made things more enjoyable. Both boys and girls teams fell short of expectations which was clinching district titles and advancing to regional. On a good note, two individuals stood out on the men's side receiving All-District honors: Justin Sladek and Troy Dominguez. Dominguez will be the only returning golfer for next year and hopes to improve his game and see new faces out at the golf course trying out for the team. Over all this year the golf season was a real fun and exciting time. Next year's golf looks to be promising and better.





Girls Golf Team, 1998-99

Left to Right: Nicole Frazier, Candace Benad, Eryn Graef.



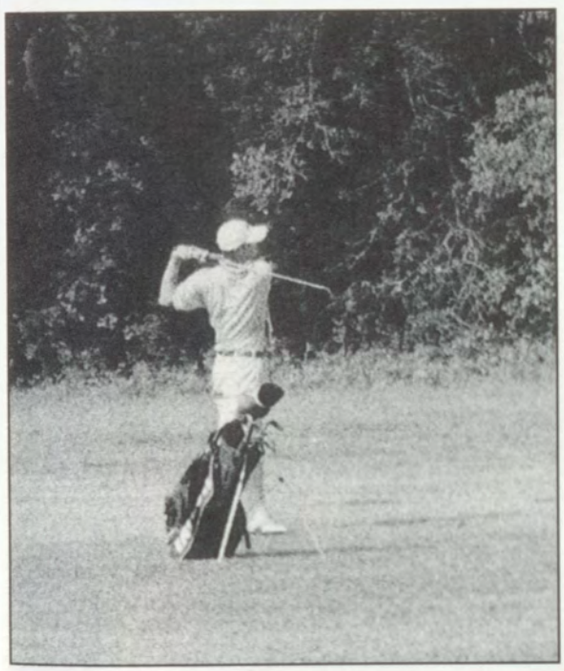
↑ Cody Welch reads the green for that crucial putt.

↟ Travis Rozacky takes practice putts to make that birdie.

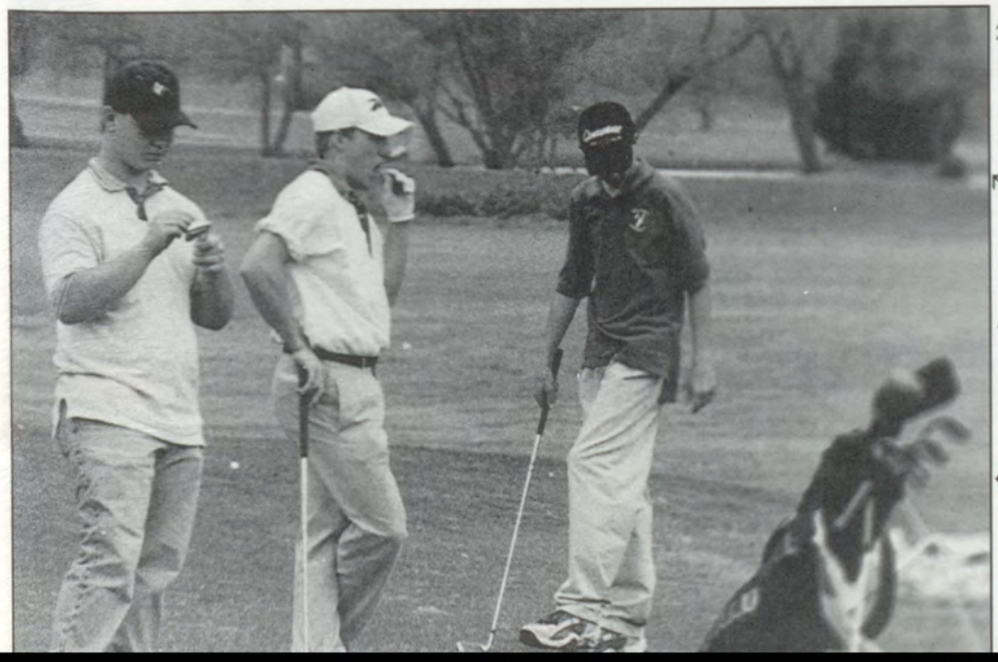


Left to Right: T.J. Bragg, Justin Sladek, Josh Schernik, Cody Welch, Travis Rozacky, and Troy Domiguez









↟ Josh Schernik chips up close for the up and down.

↖ Justin Sladek holds the follow thru while hitting the pretty shot.

↑ Troy Dominguez walks to his super long drive.

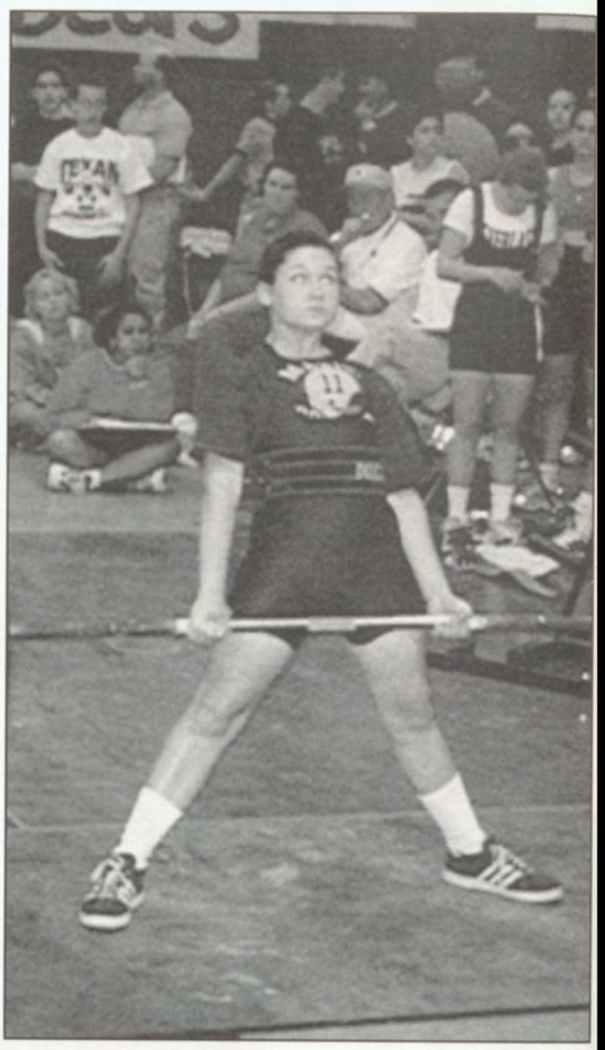
← T.J. Bragg concentrates hard on the shot that lies ahead.

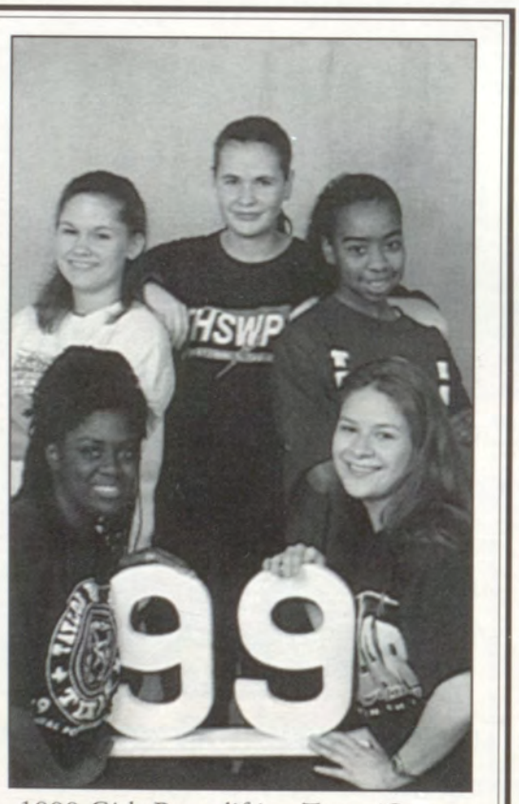
Copy and Layout by
Troy Dominguez

We Know How to Lift Your Spirits

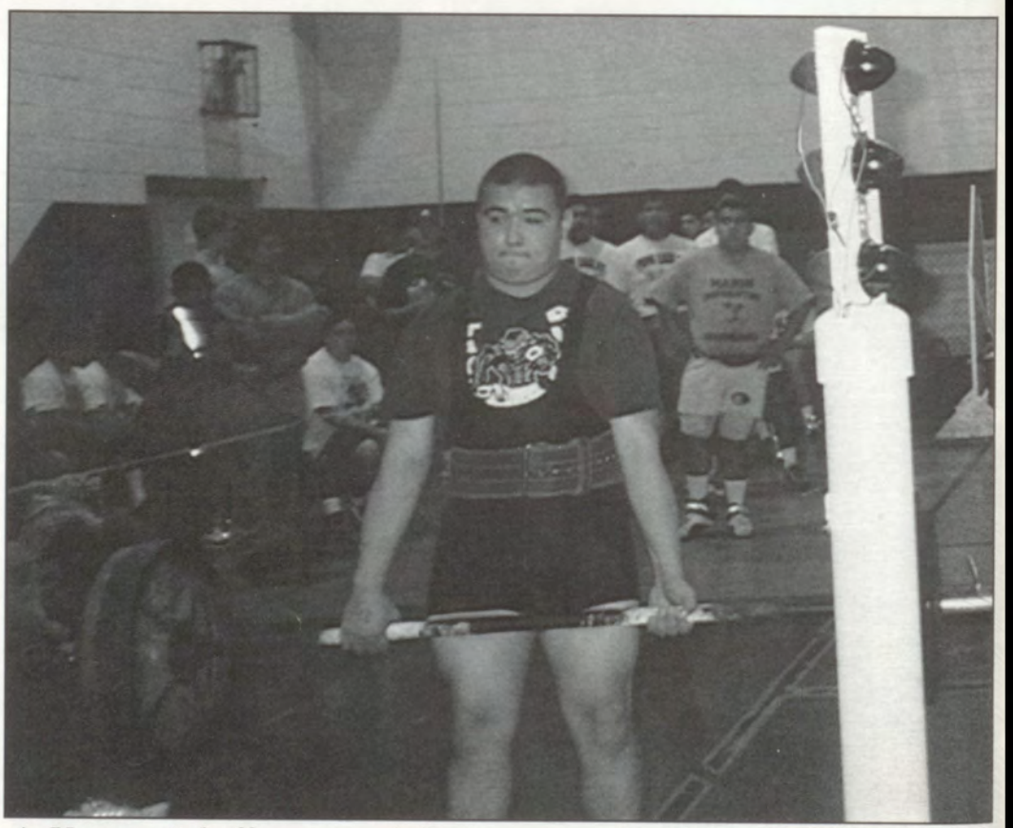
Powerlifting

The THS Powerlifters remained committed and dedicated to our work through a tough year after making the transition of losing a coach. Coach Talevera and Coach Burgis helped us to get back on track and led us to many victories this year. They stood beside us and encouraged us to go a little further, run a little faster, and lift a little more. We, dedicated guys and girls, practiced every day for two hours or more to pursue our goal, which was to qualify for Regionals. Some of us even had to give up our steak and potatoes for sometimes a week to make our weight class. Others had to miraculously gain two pounds or more in five minutes to qualify for their meets. Many of us lifters did qualify for Regionals; we took three guys and two girls to represent Taylor's finest lifters. We had a good team this year, but it will be even better next year. The lifters will continue to work out and lift weights to become even stronger next year to pursue an even higher goal, State.



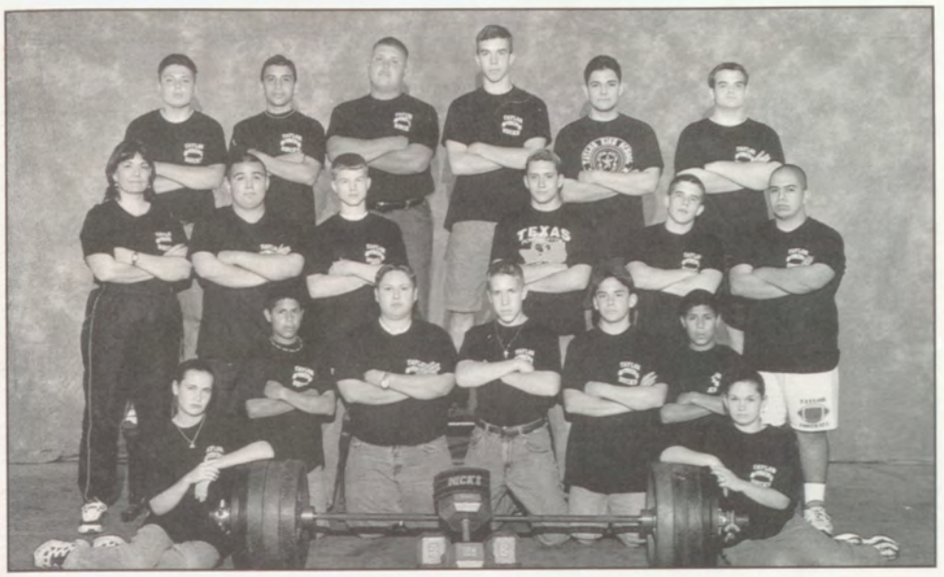


1999 Girls Powerlifting Team (Counterclockwise): Vanessa Bullard, Leah Caldwell, Monica Reyes, Charlotte Fredrick, Vanessa Schaffer.



↟ Vanessa Schaffer successfully attempts a 185lb. dead lift at the San Marcos Baptist Academy.

↑ Danny Ramirez hardly even breaks a sweat as he picks up 460 lbs. on the dead lift.



Bottom Row, L to R:Vanessa Bullard, Geraldo Reyes, Don Hernandez, William Brock, Ben Fuentes, Fernando Reyes, Vanessa Schaffer. Middle: Coach Burgis, Danny Ramirez, Tim Neslony, C.J. Stahl, Brit Oliphint, Juan Garcia. Top: Richard Bryant, John Camarta, Marty Martinez, Wesley Hejl, Javier Garcia, Chris Kautz.





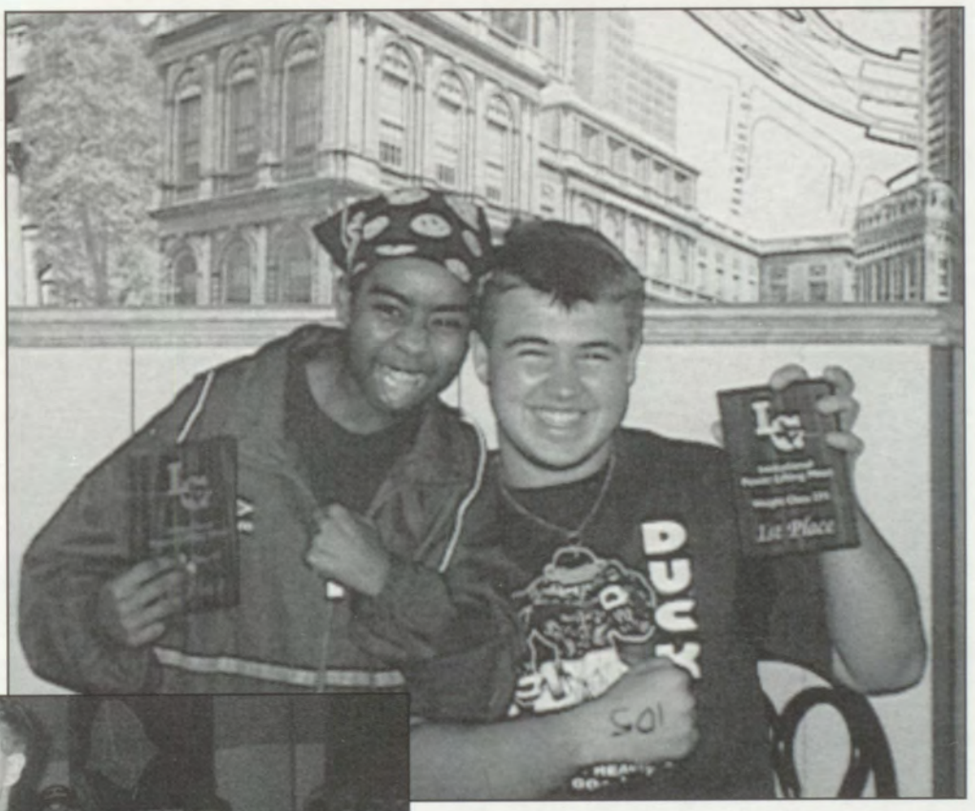
"This has all in all been a great year for powerlifting. We had many good times and many good outcomes. I'm sure looking forward to next year."

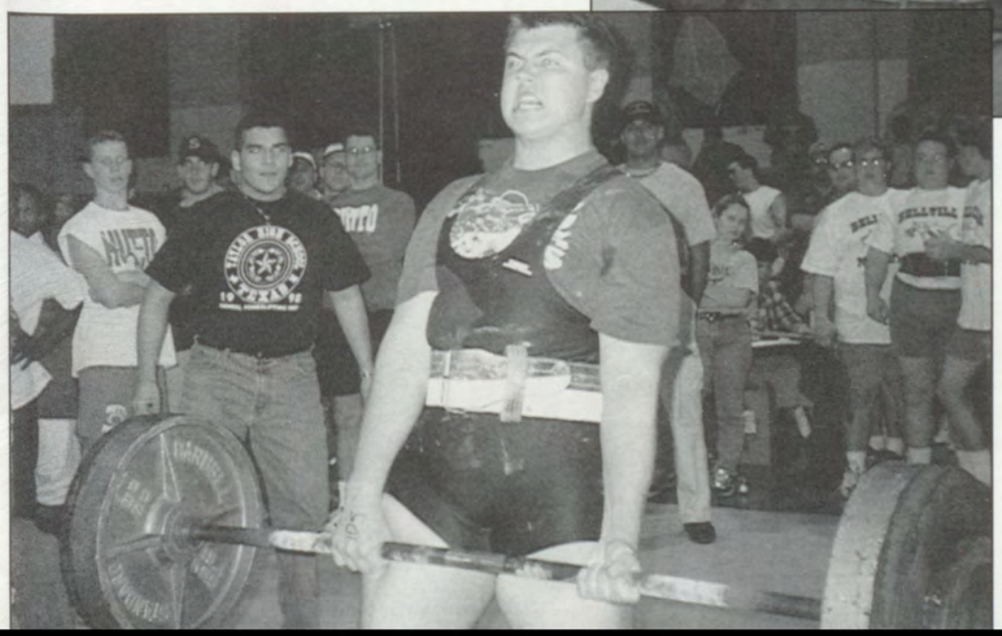
Javier Garcia

"I'm glad to have gone to Regionals, and that I had the opportunity to do the best that I could."

Juan Garcia







↑ Leah Caldwell and Chad Cervenka are obviously pleased with their first-place plaques.

↑↑ Powerlifters, Vanessa Schaefer and Geraldo Reyes, relax and have a good time during a meet.

← Chad Cervenka demonstrates his tremendous strength as he dead lifts 400 pounds and wins the 242 weight class.

Copy and Layout by
Beth Pullen and Chris Hejl

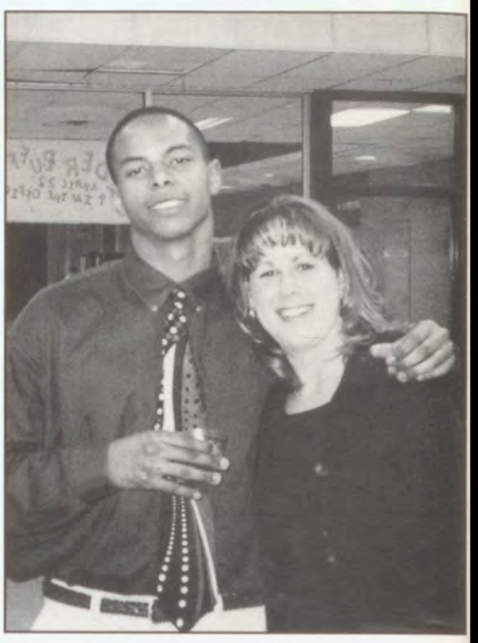
Talk About Involvement



GERMAN CL
TAYLOR MIDDLE SCHOOL

Reflection of Excellence

National Honor Society



We, as members of the National Honor Society, were chosen because we are set apart from all the rest of the Taylor High School students. We exemplify in all areas: our academics, extracurricular activities, and devotion to helping others. Each year we try to do just a little more, to go the extra mile to provide service to our community. For example, this year we gave gifts to the children at the Texas Baptist Children's home at Christmas, and also dressed up like pirates to serve at the Chamber of Commerce dinner in January. In addition we also sold candy and held a barbecue dinner in April to help raise money for two of our biggest scholarships, given in memory of Jason Rydell and Hunter Hargis. Our membership remains strong. This is something that we are extremely proud of because we are students working hard to be the best, to be worthy of being set apart.



"This year has been a lot of fun in NHS and thanks to everybody in it we were able to get a lot done."
--Guy Oliphint



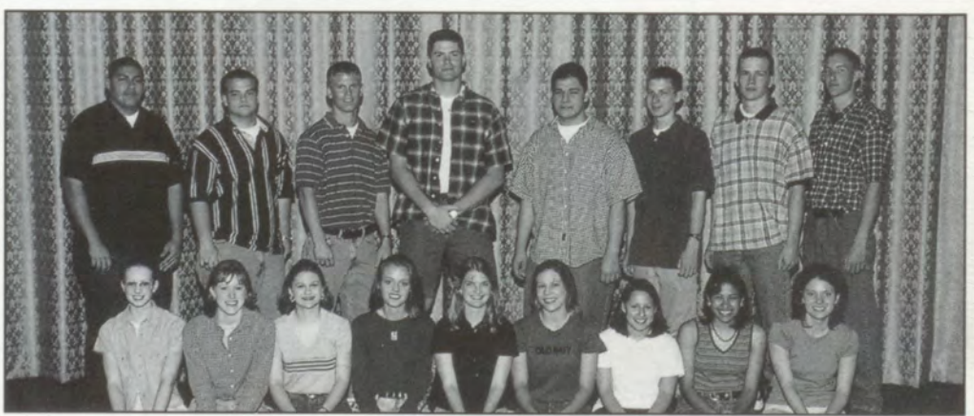
New Members

Bottom row(l-r): Emily Johnson, Margaret Garry, Tracy Machu, Tracy Stefek, Christina Ford, Tara Burba, Alison Mayer, Amber Byfield, Becky Estrada, Candace Benad, Alisha David. **Middle row(l-r)**: Wesley Hejl, Willie Fields, Becca Lewis, Anne Foley,Nicole White, Angelina Gomez, Nathan Dixon, Meghan Klotz,Brandon Raesz, Martha Flores. **Top row(lr-)**: Chandler Dabbs, James Ashley, James Massey, Justin Bohls, Justin Graef, Dominick Devastey, Aaron Bachmeyer, Joshua Verastique, Jordan Schmidt, Michelle Avila.



↗ New members Dominick Devastey and Meghan Klotz smile big for the camera at N.H.S. initiation '99.

↑ New member Emily Johnson proudly accepts her certificate of initiation from Mrs. Rogers as she carries her candle across the stage.



Junior Members

Bottom row(l-r): Tarisa Walker, Alison Enochs, Janlyn Mokry, Lauren Rozacky, Lyndsey Cmerek, Lauren Mikulencak, Dana Carrizales, Nancy Dominguez, Lisa Grimm. **Top row(l-r)**: Carlos Menchaca, Chris Kautz, Kelly Kuhl, Clint Mokry, Javier Garcia, Stephen Konarik, James Massey, James Ashley.

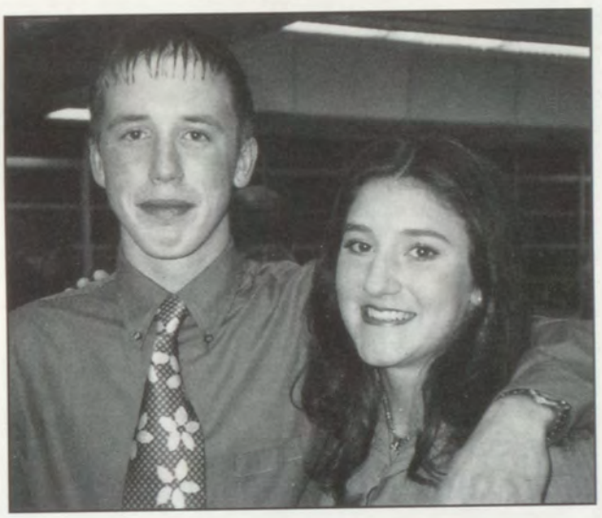






Officers

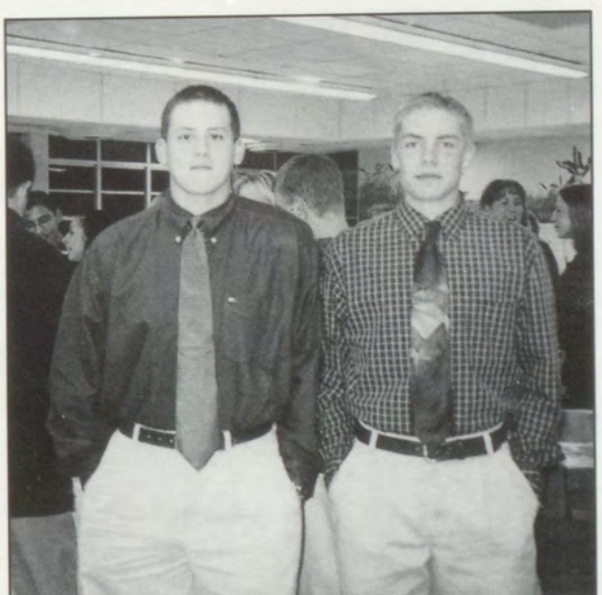
Bottom Row(l-r); Alison David(treasurer), Tessa Mikuelancak(vice-president), Michelle Ford(secretary), Autumn Schneider(parlimentarian). **Top Row**(l-r): Beth Pullen(reporter), Guy Oliphint(president), Randa Stiba(historian).





Senior Members

Bottom row(l-r): Telisha Raesz, Erin Schmidt, Michelle Ford, Beatriz Hernandez, Ramon Nazario, Alison David, Beth Pullen, Tessa Mikulencak, Eryn Graef. Middle row(l-r): Karon Moore, Andrea Wilson, Brooke Dabbs, Sarah Simmons, Autumn Schneider, Brandy Williams, Cassie Harrison. Top row(l-r): Stephen Fuller, Bobby Leshikar, Nicole Cantu, Nicole Caffey, Brittany Matoska,Randa Stiba, Lauren Schwartz, Stephen Stenseth, Guy Oliphint.



Something to smile about! Dont these homemade desserts look good? Mrs. Rogers and Erin Schmidt pose for a quick picture while working at the BBQ dinner.

Some of the senior NHS members who served at the banquet took a break and smiled big for the camera.

President Guy Oliphint and new member Alisha David get close and show their enthusiasm at initiation this year.

Students in Charge

Student Senate



This year, the Student Senate President, Tessa Mikulencak, started off the year right. The Student Senate officers participated in several activities in the fall of the school year. As in past years, we continued the tradition of greeting other school leaders at mid-field before the football game. At the beginning of the each game, several of our officers walked arm in arm across the field to exchange such presents as candy and certificates representing charities with other school representatives. The officers also led the opening prayer before each game. Another thing we did was sponsor the Christmas Tree decorating contest between the classes. The trees were then donated to families who needed a tree to celebrate the Christmas Holidays. And during the spring, the Student Senate was in charge of the voting for class favorites and Senior favorites. To prepare all of our programs, the Student Senate officers often met with our Superintendent, Mr. Patterson, and the principals of T.H.S. Together we planned activities such as the Homecoming Day programs and the voting for Homecoming King and Queen. We also planned the Leadership Conference in the fall. Student Senate members and chosen students for the conference decorated Heritage Square for the Taylor Trail of Lights. At meetings, the officers also discussed ways of improving attendance, addressed dress code rules, and gave student opinions on the building of the new middle school and our own school's programs and buildings. Student Senate was determined to make this year one of the best ever and worked hard at being involved in the improvement of the school and student body



Student Senate Officers: First Row, Left to Right: Randa Stiba, Tessa Mikulencak, Alison David, Cassie Harrison. Second Row: Autumn Schneider, April Maruska, Beatriz Hernandez, Lauren Rozacky.



"This year in Student Senate, we have accomplished much for our school. We have had a productive year and hopefully it will carry on to the next."
Tessa Mikulencak,
President

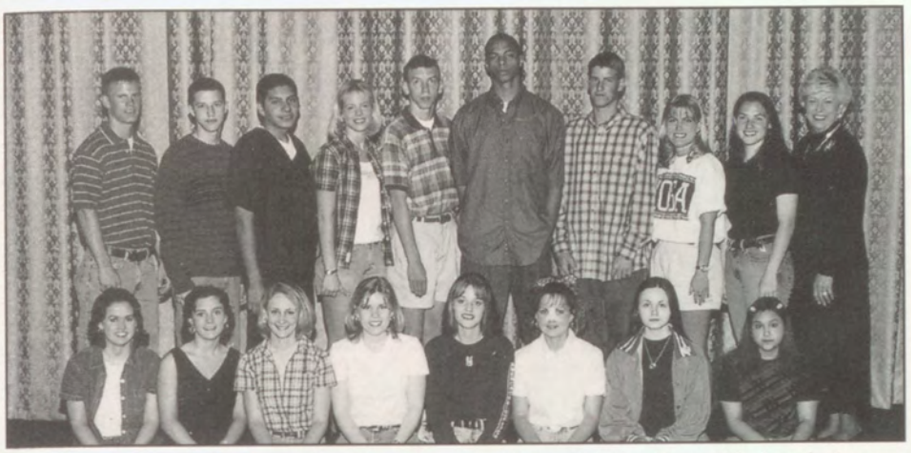


The Leaning Tower of Leaders! The winning group poses for a picture at the '99 leadership conference. ↑↑

Now what was that again? Tessa MIkulencak and Lauren Roacky listen carefully to Mr. Patterson during a group lunch meeting. ↑

They melt in your mouth, not in the jar! A group of girls smile with the M&M's they won at the Student Senate Leadership Conference. →



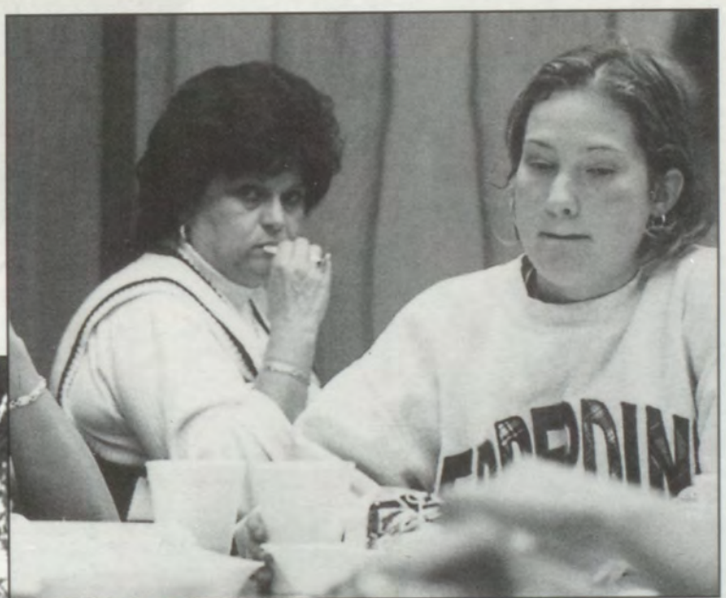


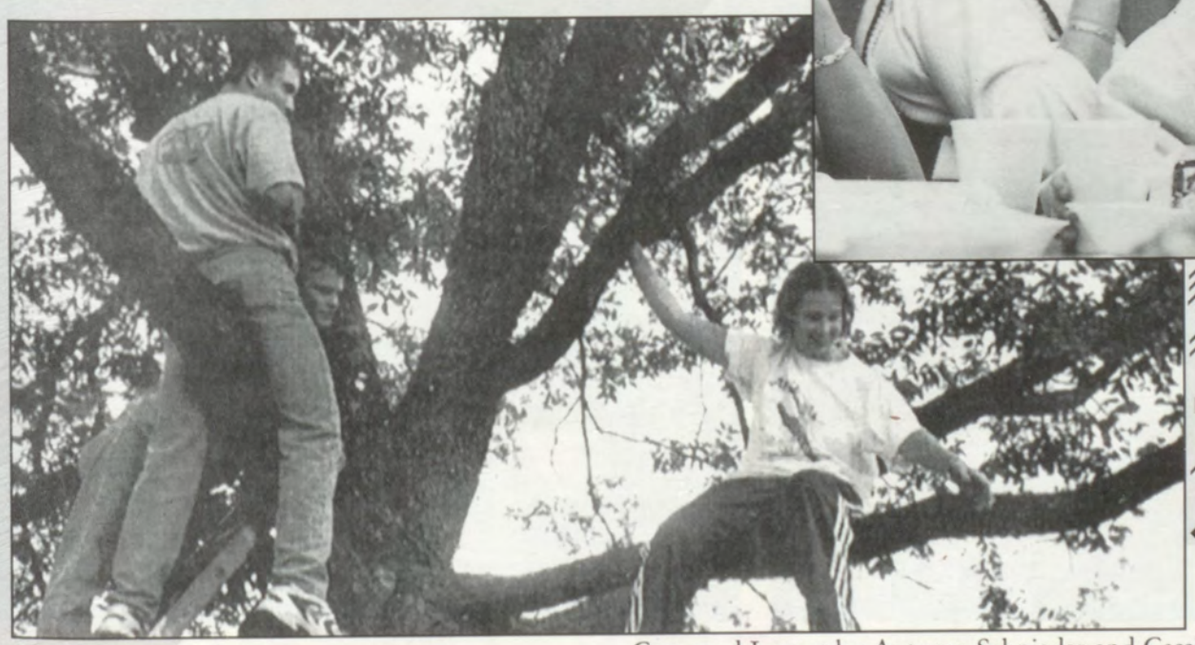
First Row, Left to Right: Cassie Harrison, Alison David, Randa Stiba, Tessa Mikulencak, Lauren Rozacky, April Maruska, Melodie Strickland, Marlene Rodriguez. Second Row: Kelly Kuhl, Steven Teggeman, Vidal Pina, Tara Svehlak, Nathan Dixon, Dominick Devastey, Ladd Moehnke, Eryn Graef, Emily Johnson, Mrs. Leschber.











This candy is all for us! Tessa Mikulencak and Cassie Harrison smile as they greet the other Student Senate officers.

Once a Duck, always a Duck! Randa Stiba and Mrs. Leschber greet the exes on Homecoming Day.

Well, I think that... Alison David and Beatriz Hernandez smile as they interact at the Student Senate officer meeting.

Autumn Schneider and Mrs. Hill take a break for lunch at the Student Senate officer meeting.

Are those monkeys in that tree? No, it's just Kelly Kuhl, Jarod Stojanik, and Autumn Schneider hanging some Christmas lights in Heritage Square.

Copy and Layout by Autumn Schnieder and Cassie Harrison

We've Got Class

Class Officers



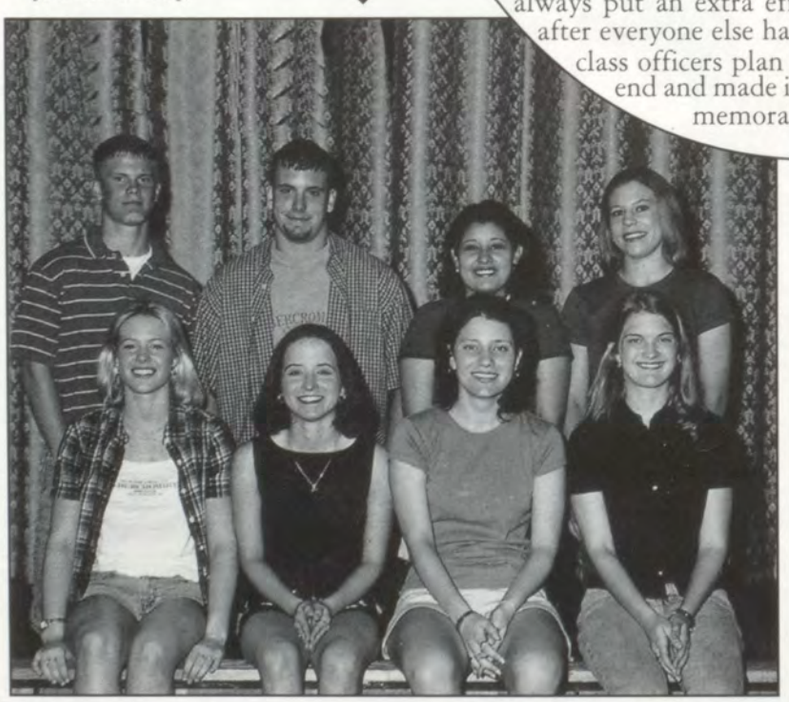
Top L-R: Trent Rozacky- (Rep), Ashley Tamez- (Treasurer), Michael Cuba- (Historian) Bottom L-R: Tabitha Haskins- (Secretary), Ryan Marshall-(Vice President), Laura Ruiz-(Rep), Sarah Naiver-(President)



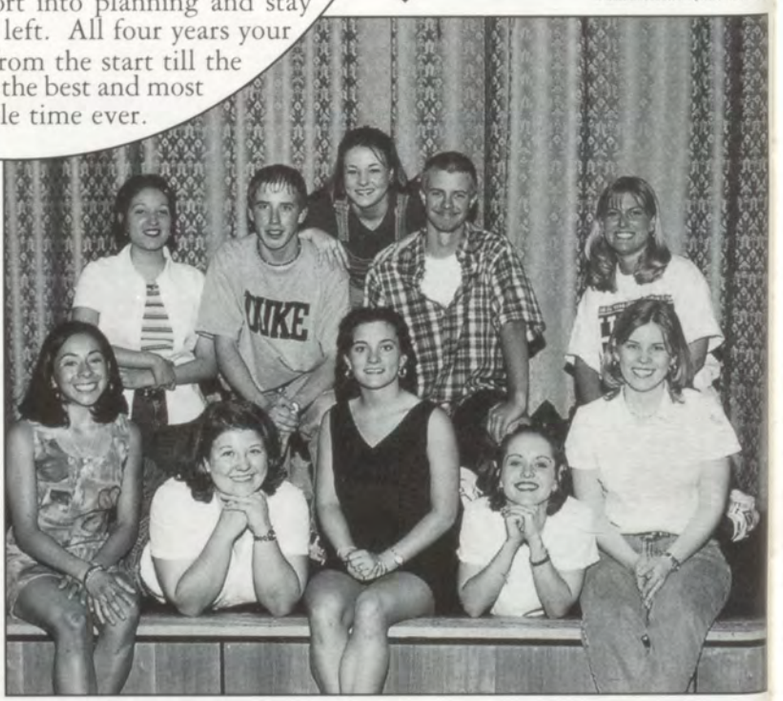
Top L-R: Ladd Moehnke-(Rep), Justin Graef- (Parliamentarian), Stephen Teggeman- (President), Dominick Devastey- (Rep), Marlene Rodriguez- (Rep) Bottom L-R: Emily Johnson- (Rep), Candace Benad- (Historian), Alisha David- (Vice President), Heather Guardiola- (Secretary), Meghan Klotz- (Treasurer), Not Pictured Kristen Farmer- (Rep)

The jobs of class officers are to lead each class into the halls of graduation. It's not like junior high anymore, when all you did was meet a couple times and plan for the end of the year, in high school you plan for many great and exciting days. These are all your leaders to lead you in the future. The freshmen, just getting started and still learning the ropes in high school, successfully planned a taco dinner. Sophomores, doing a lot this year, planned for fundraisers such as the Bar-B-Q dinner and selling candy, making money to plan for next years prom. Then comes your junior year and the big PROM! After almost 3 years of fundraising and planning you have made it and plan to be the best prom ever, even though the seniors still think their prom was better. Here we divided the whole junior class, or whoever really wanted to work, into committees and each committee had a special duty to make the prom much easier. This year's Prom theme was "Enchantment of the Sea." Although starting a little late we managed to come out just fine and have a successful prom. Then finally your senior year, Graduation, HORRAY! Here's where it all begins. The officers plan for graduation by selecting class flower, class motto, class colors and the class banner. These groups of people always put an extra effort into planning and stay after everyone else has left. All four years your class officers plan from the start till the end and made it the best and most memorable time ever.

Top L-R: Kelly Kuhl-(President), Jarod Stojanik-(Rep), Jennifer Gonzales- (Reporter), Lauren Mikulencak- (Secretary) Bottom L-R: Tara Svehlak- (Rep), Amanda Welch- (Rep), Lisa Grimm- (Treasurer), Lindsey Cmerek- (Vice President) Not Pictured- Kyle Kaiser- (Rep) and Javier Garcia- (Rep)



Top L-R: Nicole Cantu- (Parliamentarian), Guy Oliphint- (Rep), Brandon Randig- (Rep), Brandy Williams- (Rep), Eryn Graef- (Reporter), Bottom L-R: Beatriz Hernandez-(Vice President), Erin Schmidt-(Rep), Alison David- (President) Beth Pullen- (Chaplain), Tessa Mikulencak-(Treasurer)



Layout and Copy by Kyle Kaiser

Brownies, Pizza, and Poetry

Poetry Club

Roses are red, violets are blue...poetry, right? Not exactly. Poetry is a lot more than just rhyming. It is about feeling, emotion, expression, and pizza. Well, the pizza part may only apply to Mrs. Foley's Poetry Club. This was the first year for the poetry club, and we feel that it was successful. At the first meeting, we decided that this would not be a club whose goal was to raise money and go on trips. We decided this club's sole purpose would be to appreciate the works of great poets. But we read more than just the classics like Edgar Allen Poe. We read the works of the members of the poetry club, including Bobby Leshikar's poetry. It was then that we realized that talent was overflowing in our club. All sorts of poetry were read, such as modern, classic, and haiku. Many different opinions were in our club about what was good and what was bad, but what is the point of poetry if everyone likes everything? As Shakespeare once said, "Nothing is good or bad, but thinking makes it so." One of the modern poems we may never forget is "The Wheelbarrow", where we contemplated if the wheelbarrow was something more, or maybe they just like wheelbarrows! Many great memories were made. Mrs. Foley the Great made sure we had pizza at every meeting, which was very good. And on Anne's birthday we had a "Poetry Party", complete with birthday brownies and Mrs. Delgado. Trends come and go, but great poetry will always be. The classics will never die, they will only prosper.



Poetry Club

Left to right; (standing) Sarah Simmons, (laying next to Shakespeare) Candace Benad, (above Candace) Tracy Machu, (center) Anne Foley, (standing) Mrs. Foley, (below Mrs. Foley) Rebecca Lewis, (in hat) Melodie Strickland, (laying) Margaret Garry, (elbow on Melodie, with leg bent in air) Bobby Leshikar



"The club opened my eyes, and it showed me how many unexpected poets there are at our school."

Tracy Machu



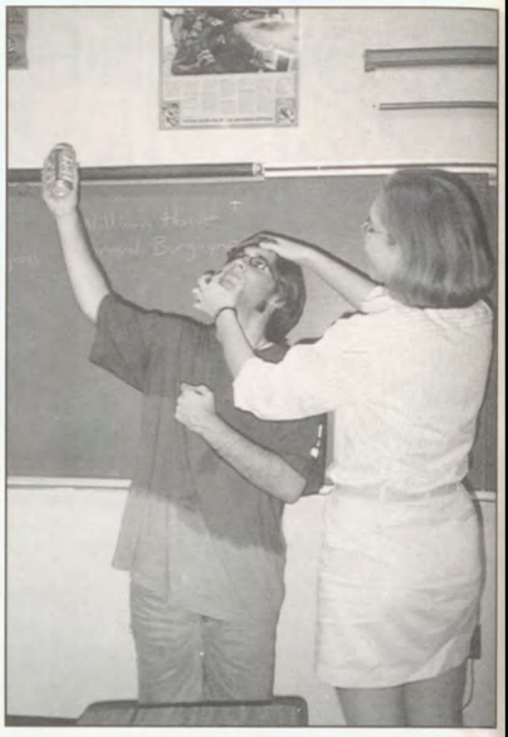
"The poetry club was great! I loved the meetings, but for another to come, I'll have to wait. We'll never forget the pizza from Mrs. Foley, or the birthday brownies for Anne, or Bobby, the poetry man! This club was fun, and this was only the first year it had begun. I konw next year we'll have fun, and poetry club is #1!"

-Candace Benad

Nothing Boring About It

History in the Making

History. . . not a lively subject to some people, but to us, a worthwhile thing and worthy of its own club. This year we had many new experiences with still some of the same old history. During Homecoming, we participated for the first time in making a banner to welcome back the exes. Around Christmas time we sold the traditional candy that I guess you could say we are "historic" for. We sold Runts, Nerds, and M&Ms and we made alot of money off this fundraiser as we always do. Also at Christmas we decorated a Christmas tree and put it in the Student Center for all to enjoy before we donated it to a needy family. Although we were not able to get a trip together (who ever said historians were organized?) the gracious seniors have left us their fundraiser money earned this year to make our trip even better next year. The meetings were always a blast, and thanks to Joe Tamez, every meeting we were supplied with wonderful pizzas which will be greatly missed next year. We definetly have some memorable moments from the Wednesday meetings which will never be forgotten. Things such as arguements at **every** meeting and Nathan's infamous dog wash are times that we can always look back on and laugh. All in all, we had many firsts this year with the freshmen, many lasts with the seniors, and many memories made to go down in Junior Historians history.

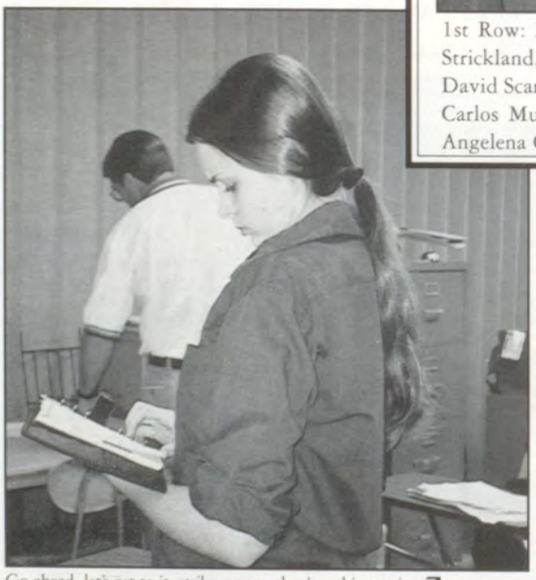




"I've been both stunned and excited to see the club continue to thrive and grow. Leading the club this year has been an honor. I wish next year's group the best of luck!"
--Nathan Dixon



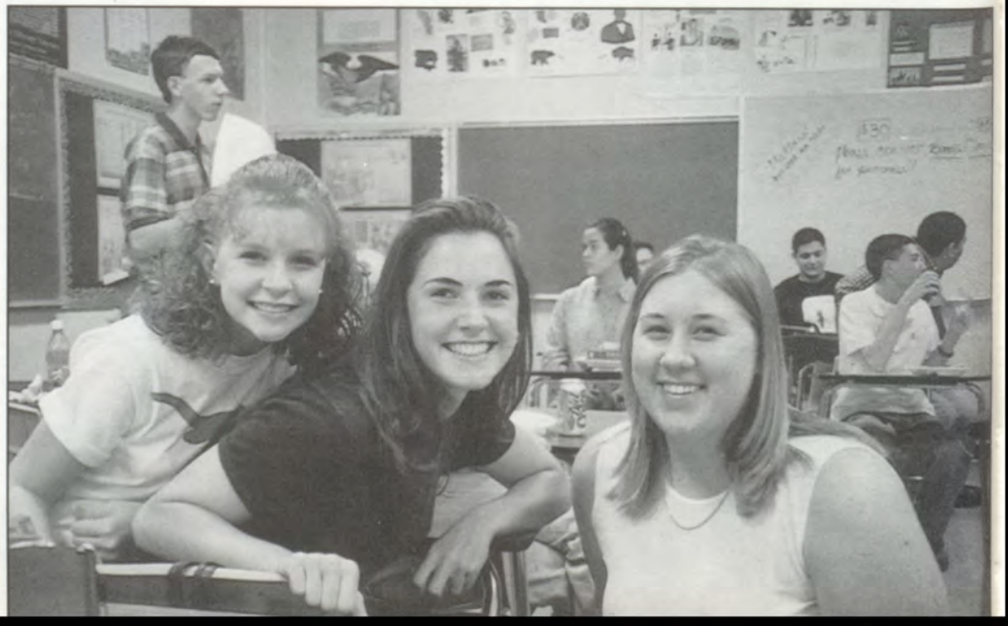
1st Row: Margaret Garry, Candace Benad, Nichole Fraizer, Amanda Beran, Don Hernandez, Becca Lewis, Melodie Strickland, Anne Foley, Tracy Machu, and Tarisa Walker. 2nd Row: Stephen Konarik, Nathan Dixon, Amy Samuelson, David Scarborough, Willie Fields, Richard Smith, Emily Johnson, Courtney Minzenmayer, and Tracy Stefek. 3rd Row: Carlos Munchoca, Nicole Rowe, Jessie Ortiz,Jessica Samaniego, Danielle Townsend, Micah Grau, Bobby Leshikar, Angelena Gomez, Joe Tamez, and Mr. Quarles.

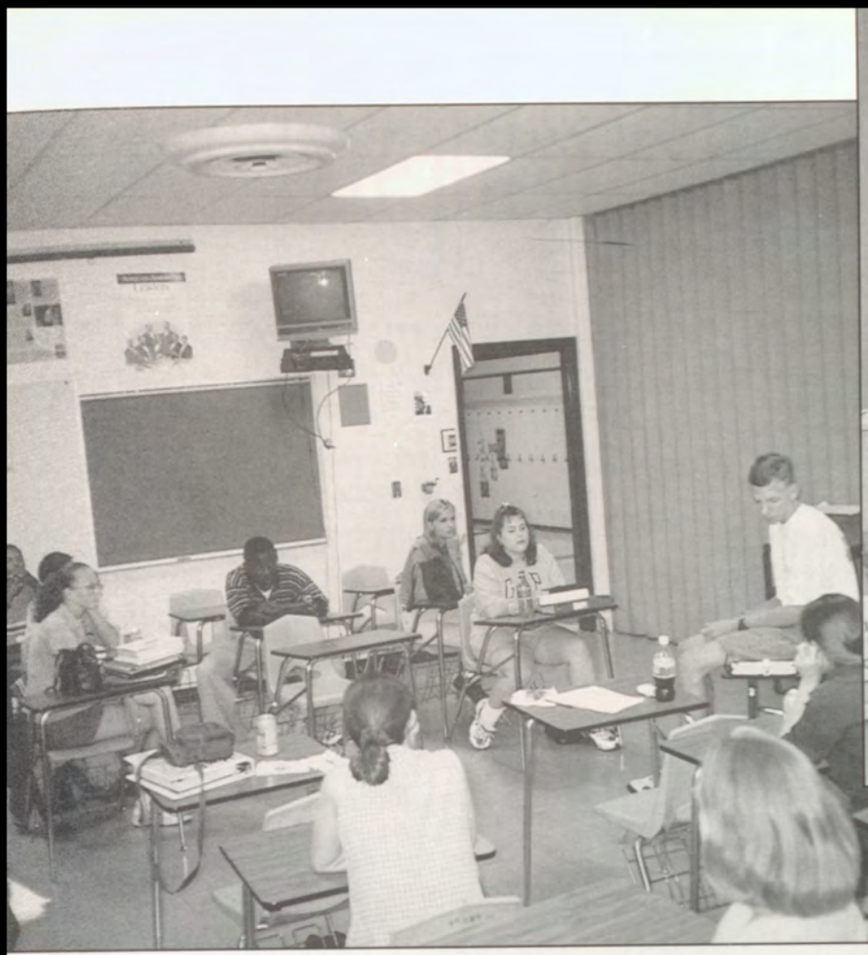


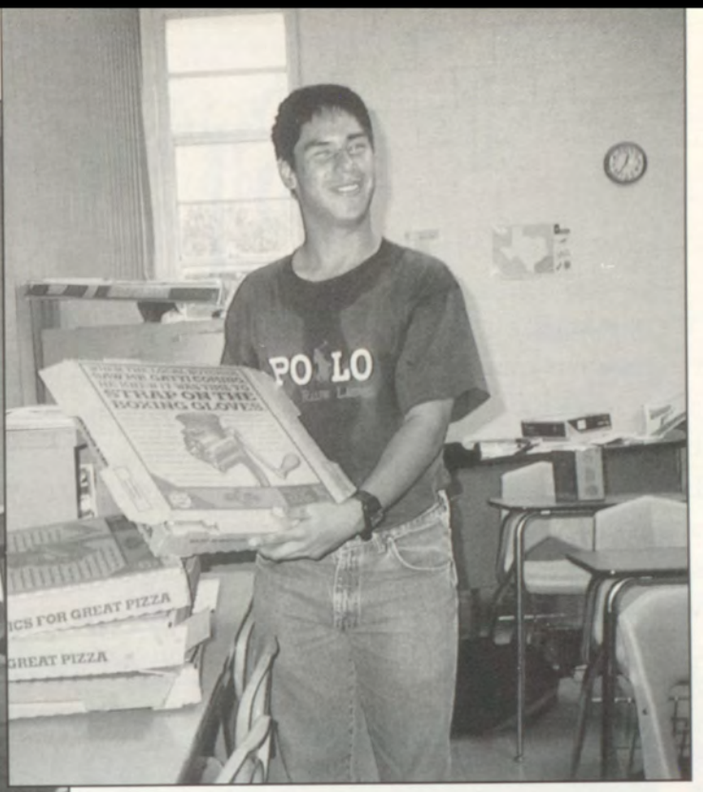
Go ahead, let's get to it, strike a pose, there's nothing to it. ↗

"So much to do, so little time...", vice president Melodie Strickland reviews her date book at a meeting. ↑

Paying attention to Nathan as always, Candace Benad, Emily Johnson, and Courtney Minzenmayer focus on taking a picture instead of the meeting. →











Officers

Sitting: Candace Benad(historian), David Scarborough(secretary), and Nichole Fraizer(recruiter).
Standing: Nathan Dixon(president), Emily Johnson(researcher), Bobby Leshikar(vice-president), Melodie Strickland(vice-president), Anne Foley(recruiter), and Stephen Konarik(treasurer).



Pizza anyone? Our pizza man Joe Tamez always picked up the pizzas for every meeting. ↟

What have these elves been up to? Candace Benad and Melodie Strickland have some fun while decorating the Christmas tree↟

Double the Santa, double the fun! Vidal Pina and Kyle Kaiser try on the merchandise at Wal-Mart. ↑

Bobby Leshikar plays his trumpet by the flagpole on Verterans Day.←



Speak up!

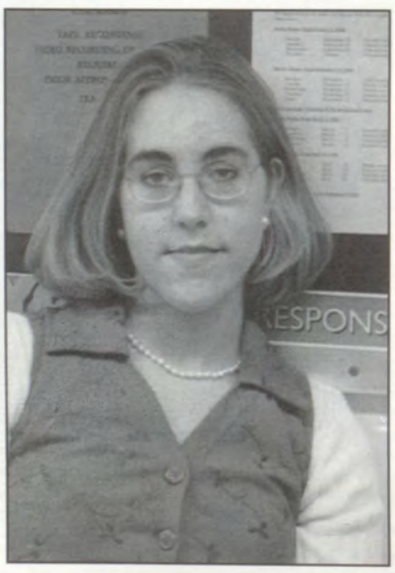
Speech & Debate Club

We were small but we sure did know how to speak our minds! And we should be able to, after all--we're Speech and Debate Club. This year, Speech and Debate Club provided opportunities to learn about how to research and prepare a speech. It was especially helpful for those who have a desire to pursue careers in politics and law. We got a chance to meet new people and learn about what was happening in the world and how it affected our lives today and tomorrow, along with how it affected the world around us. We really enjoyed ourselves this year; we had a lot of fun! We talked about neat things and there were really interesting people that were a part of the organization--everyone having equally interesting opinions on things. We met regularly. Every Wednesday at lunch and also after school, were our meeting times. Two of our members were especially active--Kristina Penny and Megan Powell. They competed in UIL, doing rather well. So, this year proved to be productive. And more importantly, it paved the way for an even better organization next year.



Speech & Debate Club

Left to Right: Rebecca Lewis, Laura Barefoot, Kristina Penny, and Megan Powell



"The best thing about being a part of Speech and Debate club was beging able to get together with people that share some of the same interests."

Rebecca Lewis



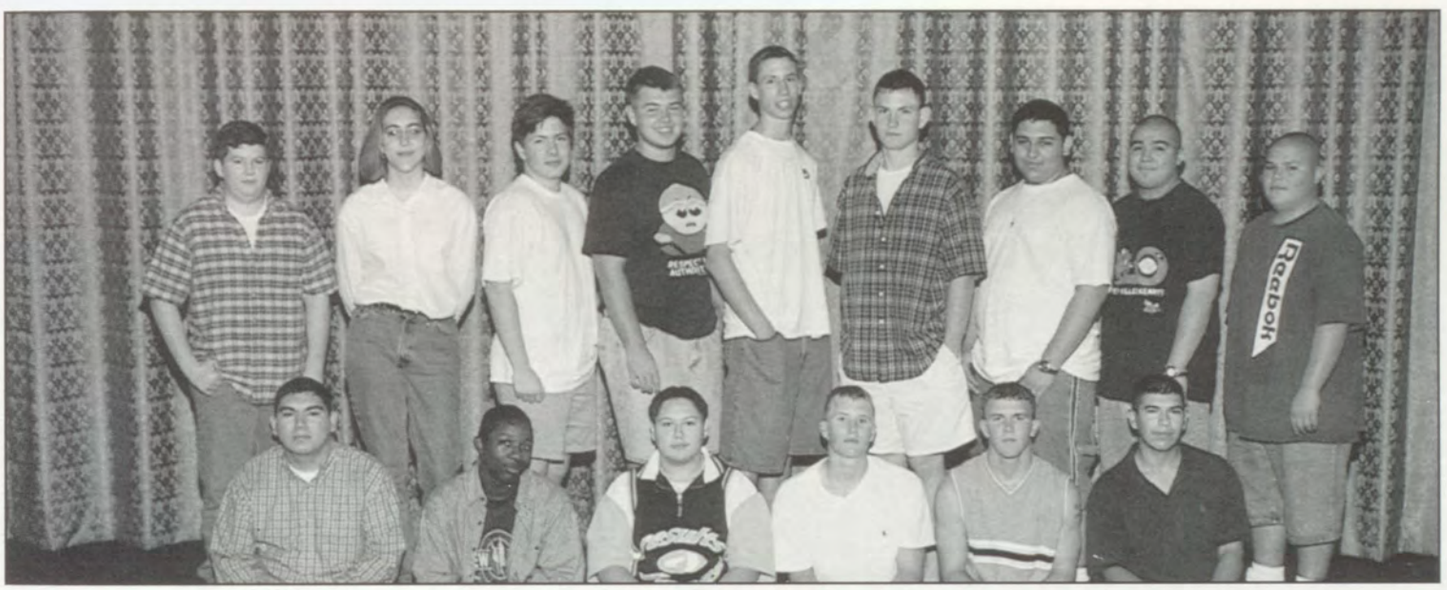
"My fondest memories of the club involve arguing with other people (which can be really fun) for a good cause."

Laura Barefoot

Bishop to Knight 4

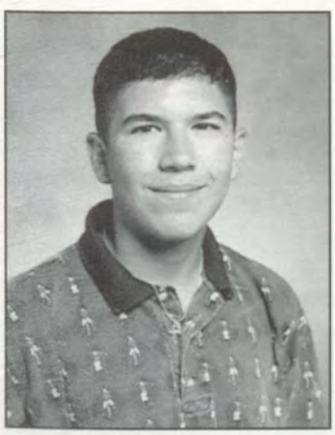
If You Were In the Club, You'd Understand

In its first year of existence at Taylor High, Chess Club had a successful year. But what did we do all year? Play Chess, of course! We met during lunch in Mr. Powell's room and had a blast. Sure, everyone thinks "Chess is boring!" But that's not true! Only the uneducated would say that, because anyone who got a chance to play the game--at least with a Duck--would realize how wrong he was and how much fun Chess really is to play! We had our regulars who attended meetings daily just to show their love for the game. Chess became an addiction for some members. And it definitely had to be something of an addiction (or at least some sort of natural talent) for the winner of our tournament--Lyle Cmerek. Overall we had a wonderful year full of pawns (not puns!) and kings and queens and anything imaginable involving Chess... and most of us can say at least one time we got the honor to say "Checkmate!"



Chess Club

Top row, L-R: Sean Mack, Rebecca Lewis, Josh Verastique, Chad Cervenka, Darren Helbert, Blake Randig, Fermin Aguirre, Danny Ramirez, Bud Vega. Bottom row: Jesse Ortiz, Richard Smith, Don Hernandez, Clayton Turner, Bubba Talley, Troy Dominguez.



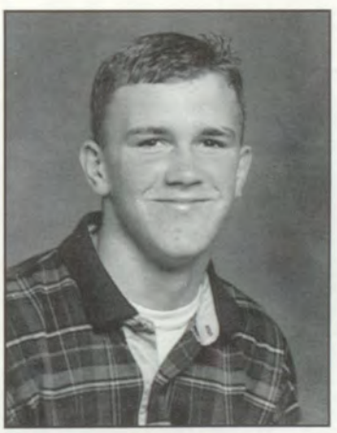
"Chess was exciting this year with so many good players playing."

Troy Dominguez



"Chess was so exciting."

Don Hernandez



"Chess helped me learn about thinking about the situation before agreeing to it."

Bubba Talley



"Chess is like life, you got to look at your surroundings before committing to a move."

Sean Mack

Let Your Light Shine Bright

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

"It only takes a spark to get a fire going..." This phrase's true meaning became known to the small group of us involved in Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Once sparked, FCA's flame would burn steadily and brightly on the walls of Taylor High. Even though FCA was small in number this year, our tight group of friends was big in heart. From Game Nights, to Bible studies, to guest speakers, to picnics, to a modern-day "reenactment" of the Christmas story found in the Bible, FCA shone its light on others. We learned how to have a good time without negative influences. Who could forget the baseball games and scooters in the T.H. Johnson gym? Or the time we watched the "Matthew" video at the Moehnke's house? Or volleyball at Sonic and Kenny's cake!? What we gained this year was more than just good times, though. We learned so many valuable lessons for our lives and for the lives of others. Surely people in and around Taylor will notice our positive change and strive to have their light shine as ours does.

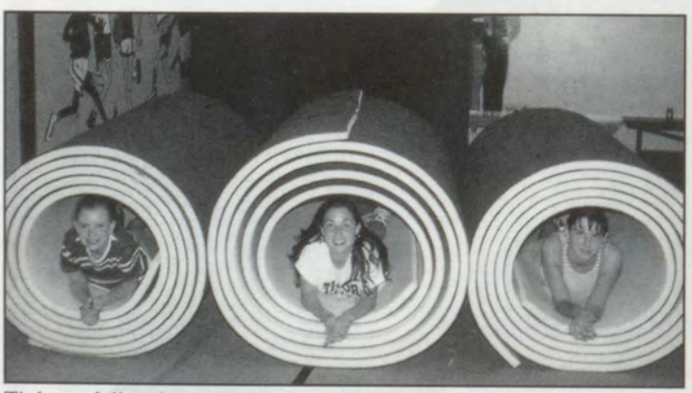




F.C.A., Left to Right, top row: Blake Randig, Darren Helbert, Clayton Turner, Bubba Talley, and Ladd Moehnke. Bottom row: Candace Benad, Bekki Estrada, Amber Byfield, Alison Mayer, and Emily Johnson.



"Even though we seemed like a small group to everyone, we learned that it's what's inside that counts."
Becky Estrada, President

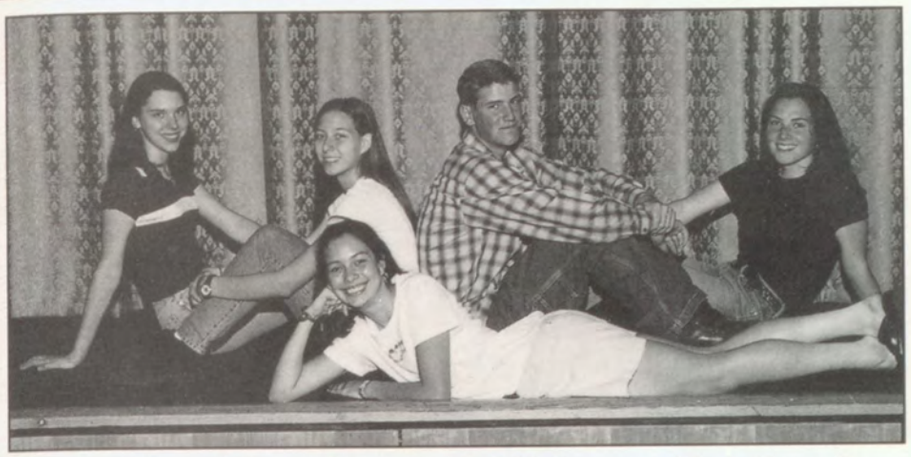


Tis but a doll... who would trust the combination of Alison Mayer, Becky Estrada, and Pepsi with a real baby?

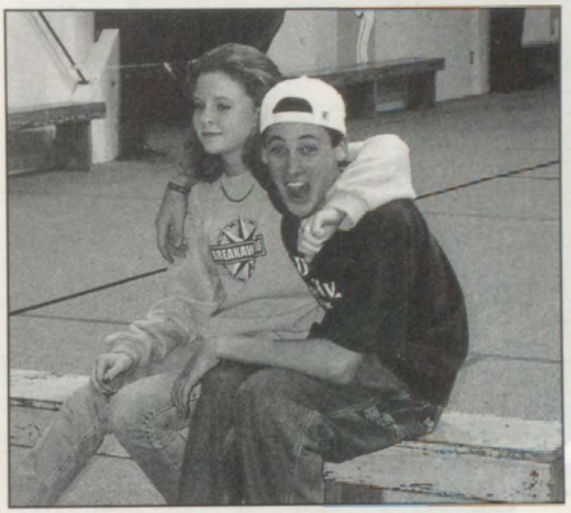
All rolled up and ready to go. Candace Benad, Emily Johnson, and Amber Byfield hide in the mats at a meeting.

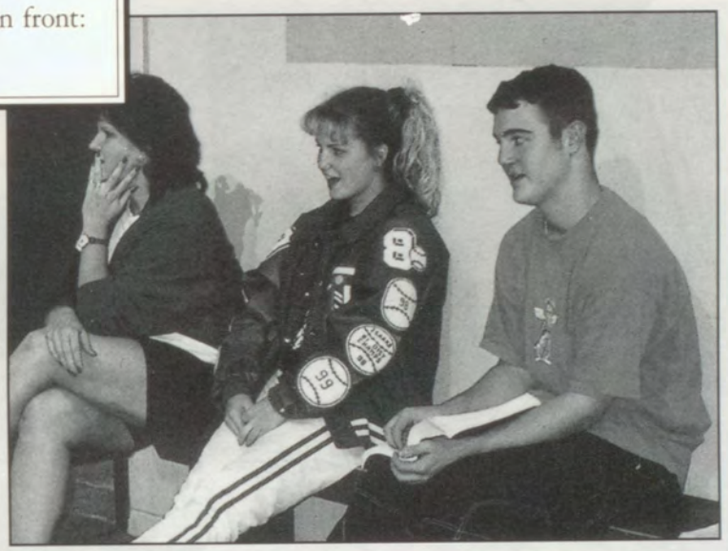
Freeze! It took a lot of effort to get these members to hold still for a picture instead of breaking into a great game!

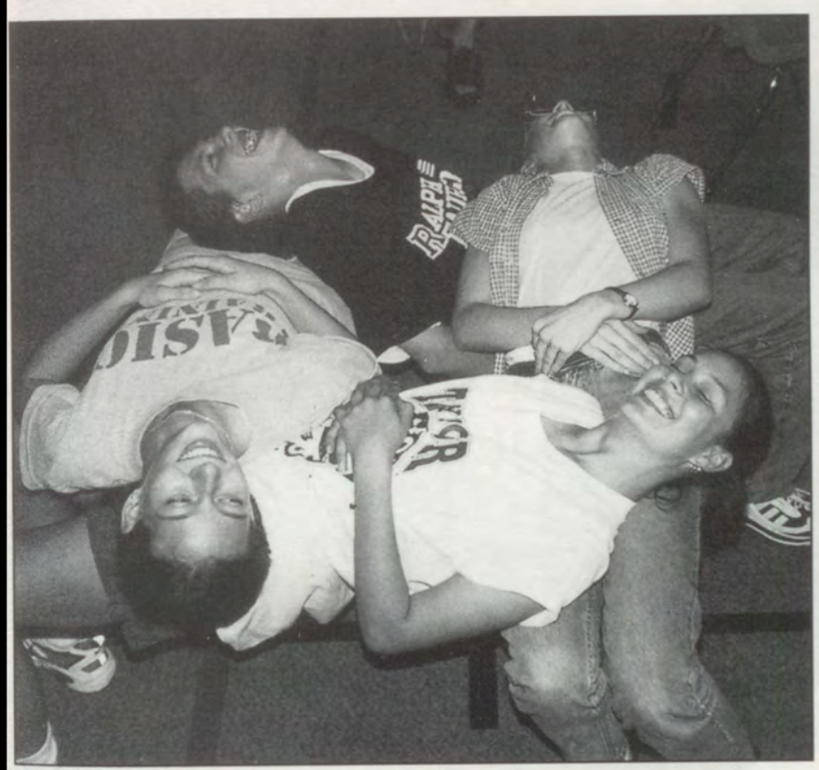


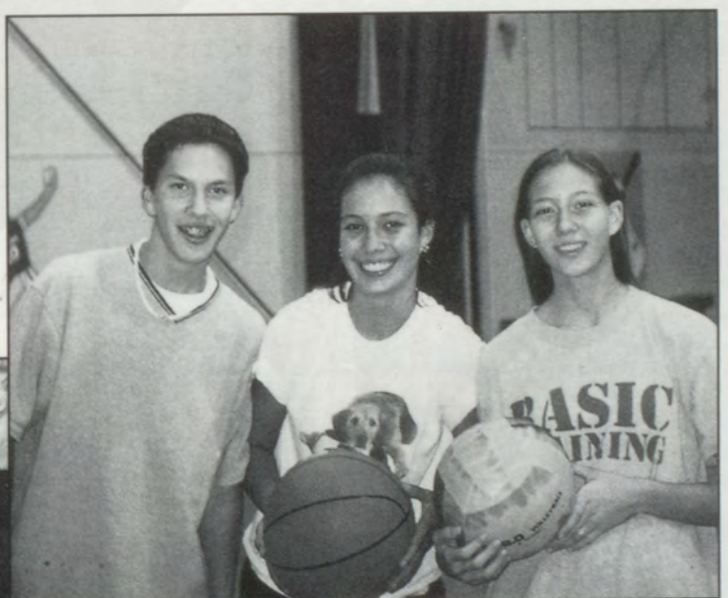


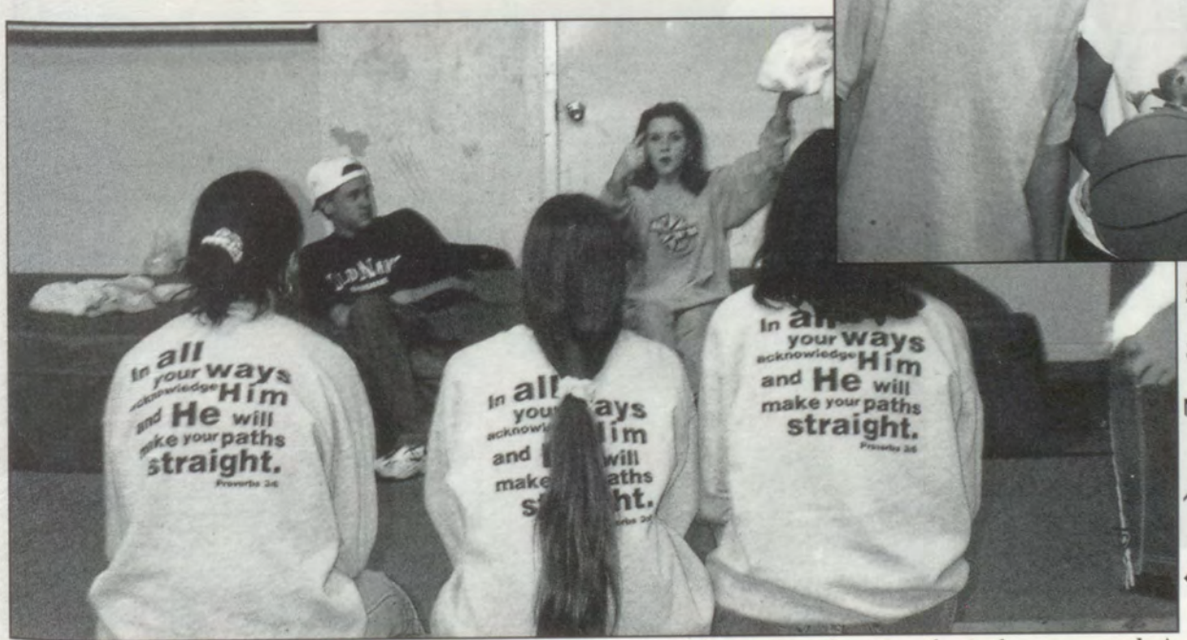
F.C.A. Officers, left to right: Amber Byfield, Secretary; Alison Mayer, Recruiter; Ladd Moehnke, Vice President; Emily Johnson, Treasurer. In front: Becky Estrada, President.











Candace Benad and Kenny Horne take a break from the Christmas Story reenactment to let out their true feelings.

Mrs. Downs, our sponsor, April Maruska, and Trent Schade watch the performers act out the book of Luke.

Sometimes, you just have to go on faith. Alison Mayer, Kyle Kaiser, Tarisa Walker, and Bekki Estrada demonstrate this in a daring trick with no chairs.

Are you ready for some basketball? How 'bout volleyball? Kyle Kaiser, Becky Estrada, and Alison Mayer get ready to start some intense games at one of the weekly meetings.

The triplets (Becky Estrada, Alison Mayer, and Amber Byfield) sport their Retreat sweatshirts.

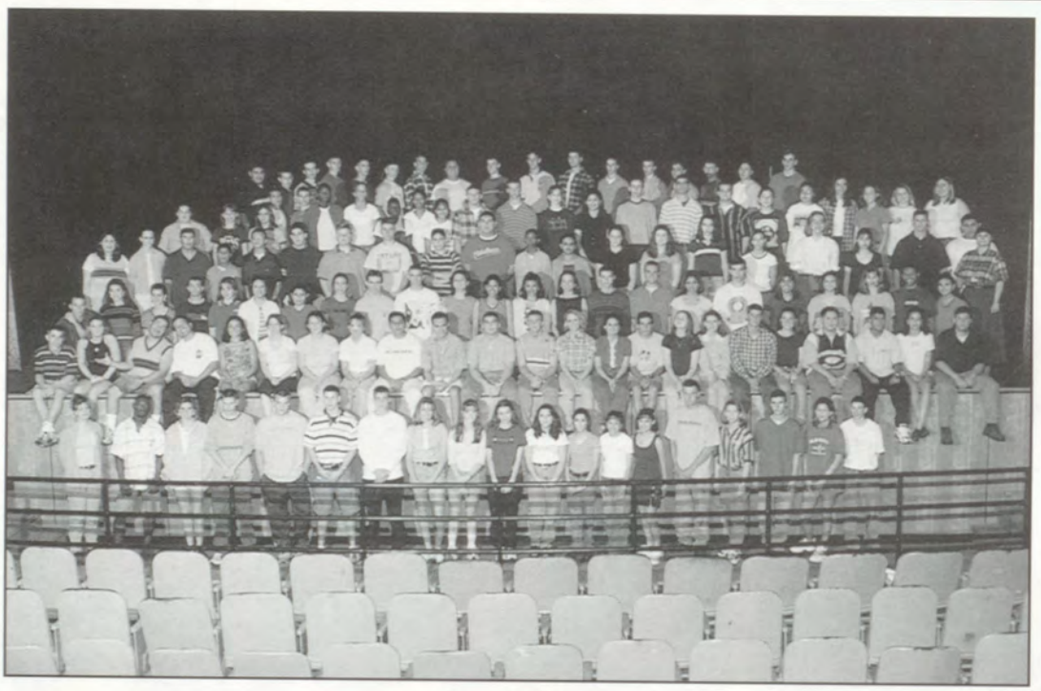
Copy and Layout by Emily Johnson and Amber Byfield

Surf's Up!

Students United for Responsible Fun



This year, Students United for Responsible Fun (SURF) started off with a bang with its membership drive, which brought in the most members in an organization this year. Our first event was the Homecoming Dance. The SURF officers met early that morning to decorate. That night everyone showed up ready to have fun and find out the Homecoming King and Queen nominees. The following week, the student body participated in Penny and Canned food drives. During football season, SURF held a Fun Night. Everyone who came left messy but definitely enjoyed themselves. On December 6, Cassie Harrison and Keitha Jones traveled to Austin to meet Mrs. Kaulbaugh and Mrs. Mason for the MADD candlelight vigil at the Capitol. This was a memorable event that wont be forgotten by either of them. Then ,the week before Prom, SURF sponsored our annual Prom Promise sign-up. Signing the promise meant that these students promised not to use alcohol or any other drug on Prom night. Each student that signed up for Prom Promise received a free pen or key chain, as a reminder of the commitment that they made. At the end of the year, SURF sponsored its most memorable event. SURF held a mock "wreck" complete with "injured and dead victims." The purpose of this "wreck" was to remind students of the dangers of drinking and driving. Rounding it all up, I guess you could say that SURF had a very successful year.



Surf Club



"SURF's goal is for people to be responsible. I hope that through our activities this year, people realized that. We had alot of fun together and made alot of memories. Hopefully the following year will be just as fun and successful."

--Cassie Harrison, president

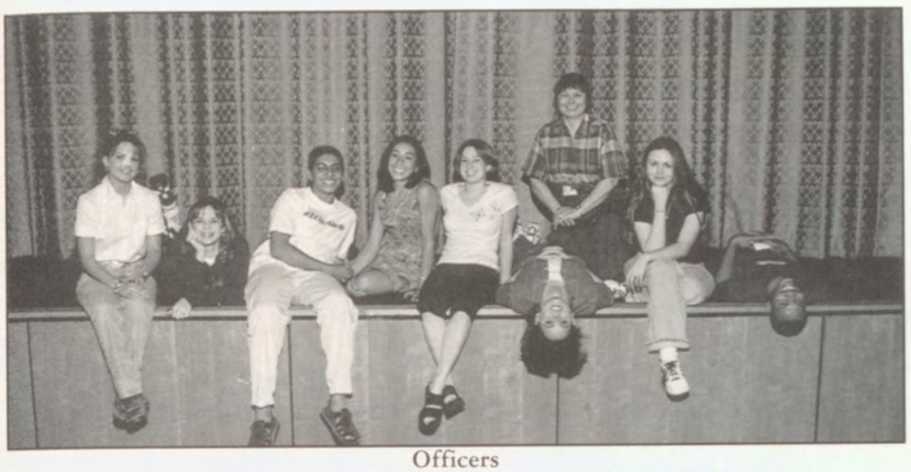


"Dont get too close Jennifer!" Kenny Horne and Jennifer Gonzales pose together for a quick shot. ↗

"Smile big!" Autumn Schneider and Tessa Mikulencak carry the red ribbons in honor of red ribbon week across the field. ↑

"Let's eat!" Autumn Schneider, Cassie Harrison, and Alison David eat while planning a SURF activity at a meeting. →





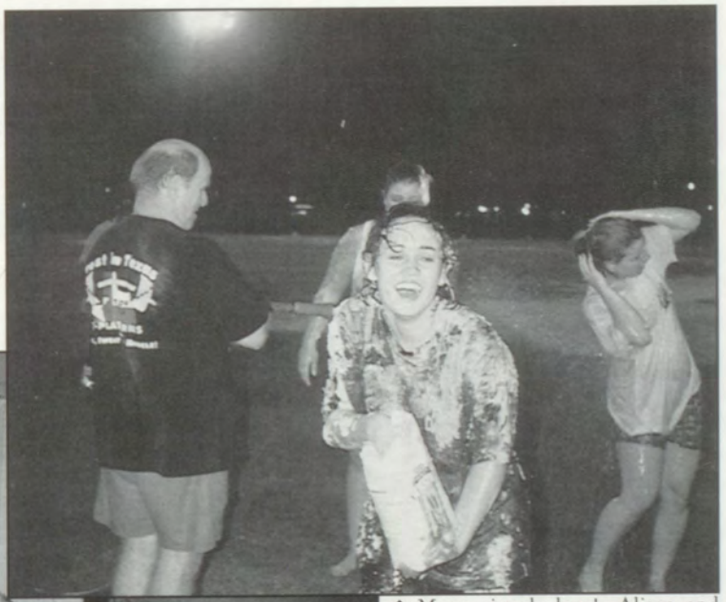
Officers

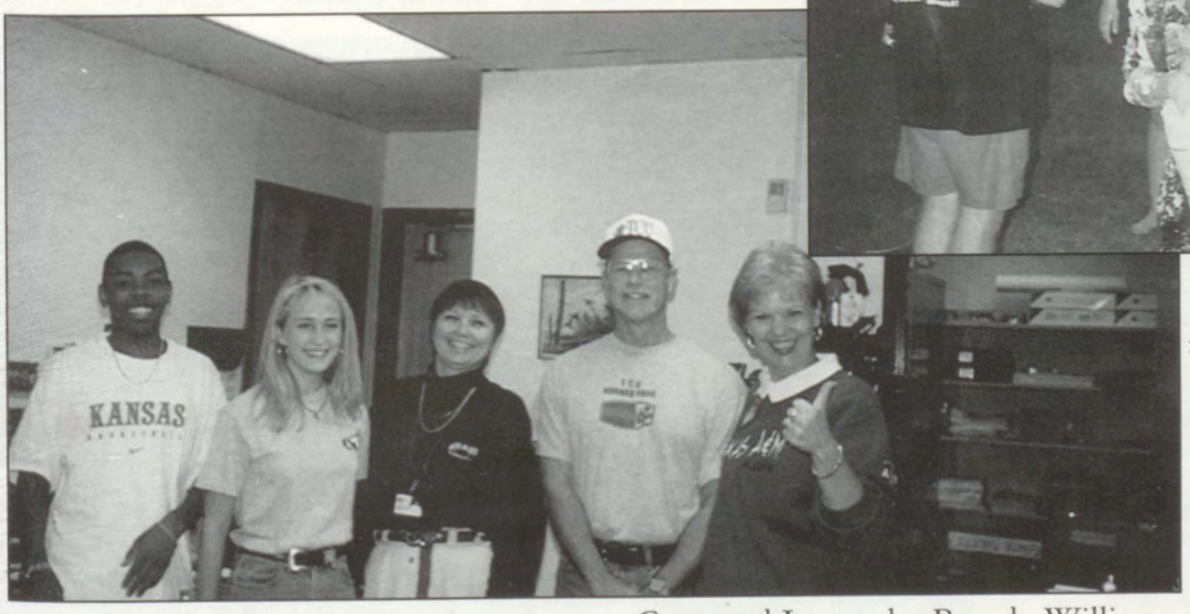
Beatriz Hernandez(president), Cassie Harrison(president), April Maruska(v-president), Autumn Schneider(v-president), Vidal Pina(v-president), Keitha Jones(v-president), Nicole Caffey(secretary), Melodie Strickland(secretary), Sarah Simmons(treasurer), Alison David(treasurer), Tessa Mikulencak(Parlimentarian), Andrea Wilson(rep.), Jill Winkleman(rep.), Sean Washington(Rep.),Mrs. Kalbaugh(sponsor).











Messy sisterly love! Alison and Alisha David get dirty at the crud war.

The conquerers! Vidal Pina and Mrs. K. take the victory pose at the crud war.

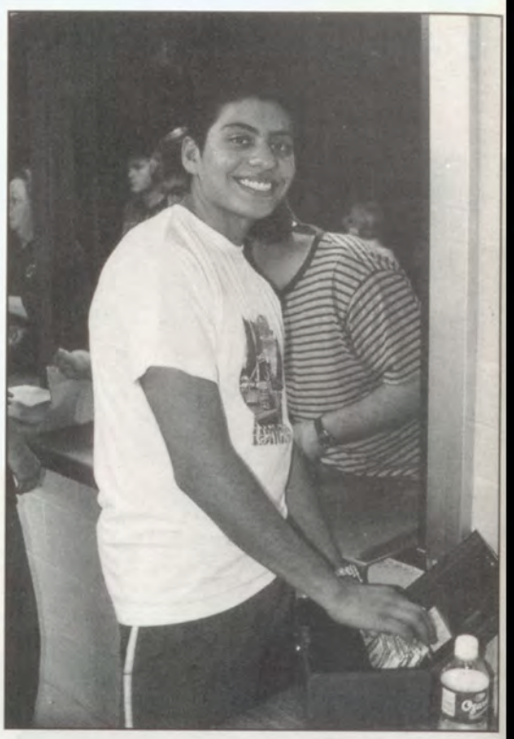
Rockin' around the Christmas tree.. Cassie Harrison, Mrs. K., and Keitha Jones pose in front of the Christmas tree.

"I'm cute even when I'm filthy!" Cassie Harrison fights hard at the crud war.

The Science of Service

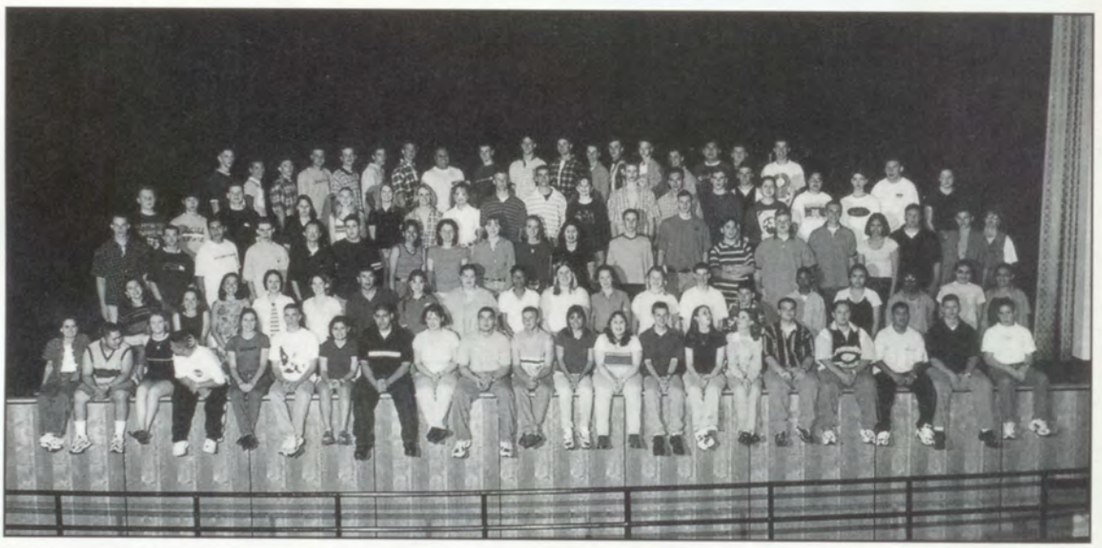
Science Club

One of the most outstanding clubs this year was the 131 member Science Club, who prospered under the direction of Mrs. Sutton and Vidal Pina. As a club, we held many events that helped enhance and beautify our school. One of the most important and impressive activities we held was the annual Fish Camp. Fish Camp was designed to rid the freshmen of their fears of high school. It seems that Fish Camp was a big success and a big help. Most teachers noted that not very many freshmen got lost the first week of school, which was good. Another impressive aspect of the Science Club was our ability to raise $6000 in just one year! Our secret to raising the money included hosting a Friday night concession stand, a car wash, and a Bar-B-Que dinner. The great things about these fundraisers were we not only raised a lot of money, but we had a lot of fun! Much of this money, however, went to active, senior Science Club members who dedicated a great deal of their time to the club. Not only did we give scholarships, we were also able to leave the next year's Science Club with enough money to start off next year's activities and get motivated. Other functions in which the Science Club participated in were the Taylor Trash Pick-Up, the Christmas Lights at Heritage Square, donation of a Christmas tree to the needy, and the landscaping of the new courtyard. All of these events could not have been so successful if it were not for the group of students who were so dearly dedicated to it. When looking back on the year, we can all be proud of our service to Science Club. For, in serving Science Club, we not only helped our club, the school, and the community, we also helped next year's club, school, and community by setting a precedence of excellence.

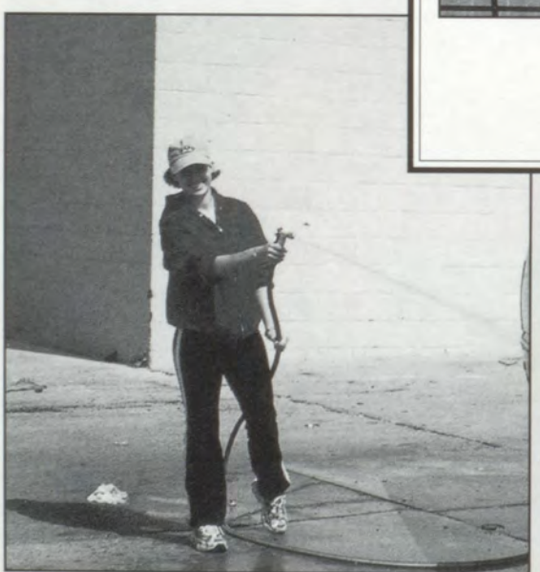




"Being president of Science Club has been exciting and fun-filled. Many memories were created and I would like to thank everyone for making my year as president a very memorable one."
Vidal Pina, Science Club Pres.



Science Club

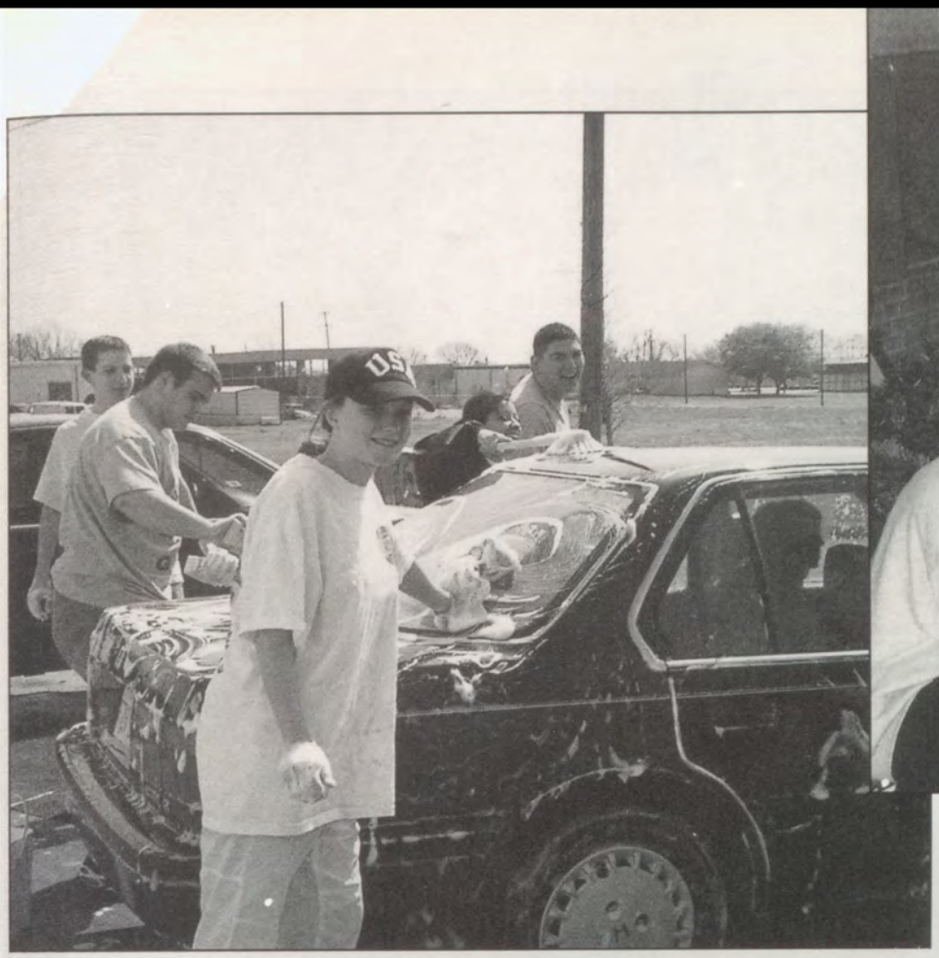




Cashin' in! President Vidal Pina shines his pearly whites at the money the club rakes in at the concession stand. ↗

Mrs. Clean, Mrs. Clean! Senior Autumn Schneider sprays down a vehicle at the car wash. ↑

I'm hungry! Sophomore Heather Guardiola lets Senior Edward Alderete take a bite at the dinner while Marty Martinez and James Massey look on. →









Science Club Officers

Top, left to right: Mark Reeves, Randa Stiba, Cassie Harrison, Vidal Pina; Bottom: Adrian Martinez, Beatriz Hernandez, Autumn Schnieder, Michelle Ford, April Maruska, Adrian Flores. Not pictured: Guy Oliphint, Alison David, Karon Moore, Steven Fuller, and Tessa Mikulencak.





↑↑ In the Christmas spirit, Kyle Kaiser, Sean Washington, and Candace Benad help with the Christmas tree.

↑↑ ***Popcorn Anyone?*** Senior Cassie Harrison gets ready to serve the crowd.

↑ **Scrub it baby!** Jennifer Gonzales poses for a pic while continuing to clean.

← ***O' Christmas Tree!*** Seniors Vidal Pina and Melodie Strickland put the finishing touches on the club tree.

Copy and Layout by Amanda Beran with special thanks to Vidal Pina

¡Comprende!

Spanish Club and National Hispanic Institute



This year the Spanish Club had lots of fun-filled times. We started off with a fund-raiser selling "Looney Tunes" character key chains, which were a big hit. Hardly a person in the school was without one. Then, in November, we travelled to Mexico. We had an incredibly great time. Many wonderful memories were made. Definitely no one will forget that trip. In May, we took a trip to Six Flags Theme Park in Dallas. There we met the inspiration of our "Looney Tunes" key chains. This year, NHI was also very fun and exciting. Some of the members attended the Lorenzo de Zavala Youth Legislative Session in the summer before school started. This was a wonderful experience for the students who attended. We went to an eight day session, living in dorm rooms and meeting new people. Members also attended the Collegiate World Series (CWS), which was a four day program where we learned more about the SAT and ACT.



Spanish Club



"As president of the Spanish Club I am extremely proud of all the activities we did throughout the year. We got some new things started that I hope to see future Spanish Clubs continue with."
Beatriz Hernandez



Tara Burba, Amy Zucknick, Kristen Farmer, and Ladd Mohenke take a break from the fun in Laredo for a quick picture. ↗

Hey, look at the parade that's going on in Mexico! ↑



Strike a pose! Adrian Martinez and Edward Alderete show off their new sombrero they got on their trip to Mexico. →



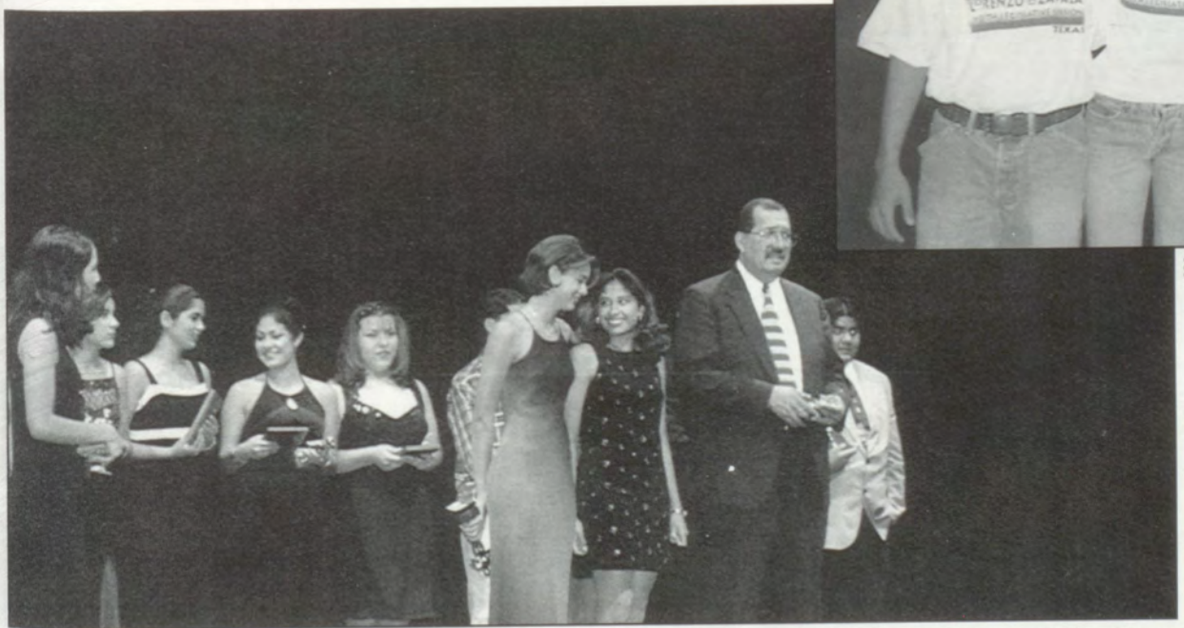
National Hispanic Institute











↟ Congratulations! Top Attorney Team Award.

↖ Packin' up and heading out... Don Hernandez leaves the airport.

↖ Javier stops for a quick pic with his new-found friends.

↑ Nancy at the Lorenzo de Zavala expo.

← Everyone waits anxiously to recieve their well-deserved award.

Copy and Layout by Jennifer Gonzales and Keitha Jones

Mach Spass

German Club



"Sprechen Sie Deutsch?" This was yet another fun and exciting year for German Club. Frau Jackson led us through plenty memorable learning experiences. We had a good time keeping the Moody Museum beautiful, not to mention the courtyard here at the high school. Everyone pitched in as a group to get the trash cleaned up, plant flowers, trim trees, and things like that. We also enjoyed the trash-off, which was a big success, and helped to keep the town looking clean. Spaghetti ice was always fun to make, and even better to eat, as well as German picnics consisting of only German conversation. Anyone caught using the English language was removed from the table that had the food on it, giving us a little incentive to learn as well as chow down. Who can forget Wurstfest, the ten-day salute to sausage....yes, sausage! Everyone enjoyed the games, carnival rides, and of course the many different kinds of delicious sausages. It was also great the way we excelled at Houstonfest, and stepped up again at the State competition, bringing home a second place finish in poster design, and third place with the club album. Everyone who competed at Houstonfest deserves credit for another strong finish overall. Pizza meetings at lunch were loud and funny as always, where we would all sit around and come up with different ideas of how to make our club even better than it already is. Whether it be fundraisers, clean-up ideas, or just discussing school, everyone always had a line or two to drop in. We were proud to see the trees that we donated planted at the baseball field and dedicated in memory of a very special person. This year was not all fun and games. There were the occasions when we had to buckle down and prepare for competition, or come up with nifty ideas for a bulletin board design, and spend and hour or so just cutting out pictures. All in all, this was a special year for all of us in German Club. We all look forward to next year, as it promises to bring more unforgettable and exciting experiences. "Ich Liebe Deutsch!!!"



"This year was a special year for everyone. We all had a great time. Everyone seemed to become friends right away. There was never a dull moment. We created a lot of memories."
Kenny Horne,
President



Bottom Row, Left to Right: Heather Hazelwood, Crystal Block, Melodie Strickland, Lindsay Cmerek, Lisa Grimm, Alison Enochs, Lauren Rozacky, Jennifer Krueger, Michelle Chait. Second Row: Frau Jackson, Nick Flannery, Jordan Schmidt, Derek Klepac, Steven Teggeman, Brandon Raesz, Micah Grau, Kodie Jirasek. Top Row: Ruth Dixon, Michelle Avila, Nathan Dixon, Carl Righter, Brian Heeke, Chris Fox, Chris Beckermann, Justin Graef, Justin Bohls, Chris Auerbach, Andrew Oser.



On the road again. Everyone havin a great time on the road to Houstonfest. ↗

In loving memory. Club officers stand around the special trees at the baseball field. ↑

Rowdy crowds. The fun never stops when we all get together. →









Officers: Bottom Row, Left to Right: Lisa Grimm, 2nd Vice Pres.; Lindsey Cmerek, 1st Vise Pres.; Alison Enochs, Secretary; Lauren Rozacky, Reporter. Standing, Left to Right: Justin Graef, Historian; Chris Fox, Parliamentarian. Not Pictured: Kenny Horne, President.







Where'd they all go? Juniors Sean Washington and Brandi Bagby look for the happenin' spot.

I know this one. Juniors Heather Hazelwood and Ruth Dixon enjoy the sing along at Wurstfest.

Fun awaits us. Crystal Block and Micah Grau wait to get in the part at the Sausage Fest.

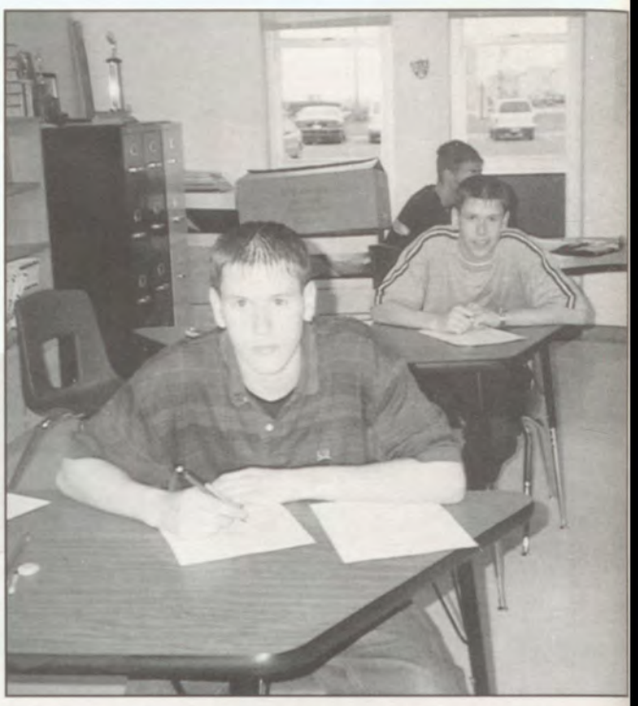
Strike a pose. These guys are posted up, waiting for a good time to come along.

Copy and Layout by Kenny Horne

Who Said it was Dead?

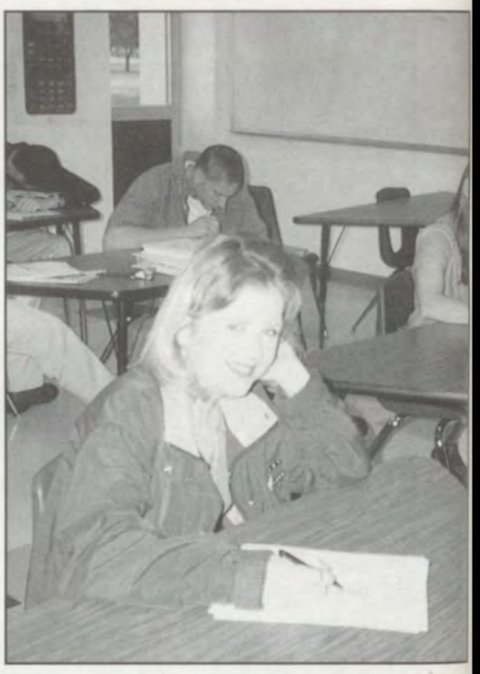
Latin Club

Even though the Latin Club was small in number this year, it was still big at heart. The Latin language and facts about Roman history, such as the time period of Julius Caesar, proved to be very interesting. This year, each of our Latin classes collected coins so we could adopt a foster child, which was a very kind and generous gesture. Latin members also enjoyed a fun-filled field trip to the San Antonio Museum of Art. It was quite interesting seeing all the ancient figures for the first time, only a few feet away. The most fun part, as it always is, was the bus ride. All of us Latin members grouped up in one little yellow bus! We were a handful, constantly nagging Mrs. Schaeffer to take us to RiverCity Mall or the Riverwalk. But time was costly that day, and we only had about three hours to spend in San Antonio. Overall, the trip was fun. Some people say Latin is a dead language, but if you ask us, we can tell you Latin is anything but dead.





Top row, left to right: Wesley Hejl, Chandler Dabbs, Brian Lawrence, Mrs. Schaeffer; Middle row: Clint Mokry, Josh Verastique, Dominick Devastey, Kelly Kuhl, Patrick Richter, Lynsey Tiemann, Jennifer Kolinek, Michelle Ford; Bottom row: Margaret Garry, Jennifer Duran, D'Neshia Griffin, Alisha David, Traci Floyd, Samantha Ging, Amber Seidel, Michelle Avila.



Taking a break! Freshmen twins Justin and Jordan Tiemann pose for a pic befor continuing their Latin assignment.



Smile big! Sophomore Brandy Ford take a break from the Latin to smile.

"Latin this year has been the best of all. I enjoyed being president and working hard to make this club function in a fun-filled way." Kelly Kuhl, President



Officers: left to right: Clint Mokry, Jennifer Kolinek, Lynsey Tiemann, Kelly Kuhl.

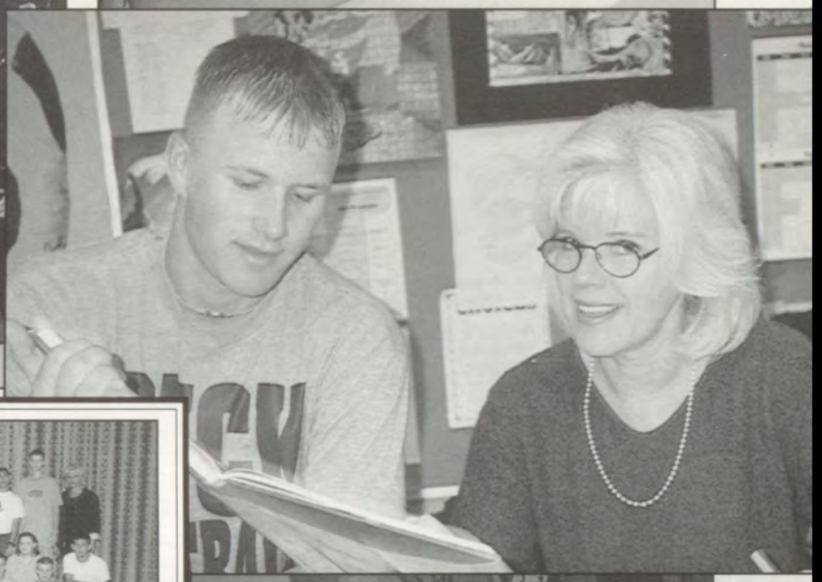
Not Exactly Paint By Number!

Art Club

Art Club has always been a popular club in High School. It is made up of intelligent minds put together to explore the beauty of art. With Juan as president the Art Club was very successful throughout the school year. During the year, we were responsible for re-painting the Homecoming mural (Thanks to Adrian and his South Park characters). We also had such fundraisers as Valentine's candy and Earth Day sales. We took two exciting fieldtrips. Earlier in the year, we went to the San Antonio Zoo to draw the art of the nature. Then, in the second semester, we took a long trip to Corpus Christi's Aquarium and drew the art of the ocean. Those were all a blast and a memorable experience. And finally, the art club was responsible for the Memorial to Hunter Hargis on the art room wall. May he live in our hearts forever!

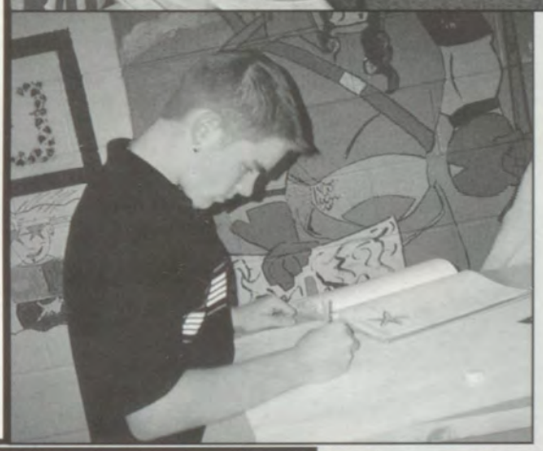








Art Club





"The most enjoyable part of Art Club was the fieldtrip to San Antonio Zoo."
Adrian Martinez



Top, Left to Right: Clayton Turner (Parl.), Eric Ariola (Parl.), Mauel Reyes (Hist.). Bottom: Adrian Martinez (Treas.), Bubba Talley (V.P.), Juan Garcia (Pres.), Edward Alderete (Sec.).

↟Adrian and Brooke busy working at sea.

↖Kyle's mind went blank searching for an idea.

↟Mrs. Hendrix and Clayton Turner are discussing the finer parts of the art world.

↑**Concentrate!** Caleb Kilborn is working on a starfish.

Success In the Making

Upward Bound

Upward Bound is an excellent program for those who want to engage in education for a career beyond High School. It is a program designed to help; students who attend the Upward Bound program can earn high school and college credits. The Upward Bound program at Huston-Tillotson College is a precollege, academic preparatory program that gives one the discipline necessary for success in a post-secondary education. The program focuses on instruction, tutoring, counseling, and activities, which stress academics and expose students to post-secondary environments. We have done many things this year. We participated in Blue and Red Santa; activities sponsored by law enforcement and the Fire department. In doing this we helped in wrapping for the needy children of Austin and Taylor. We gained much from this experience; it helped us learn to appreciate what we have and it taught us to strive to help the less fortunate. Upward Bound members also participated in the now annual Diversity Day. We were hosts and hostesses of this big event and were very proud of our involvement. Community service is a big part of the Upward Bound program. It teaches the students to care more about our environment. Overall Upward Bound very beneficial learning experience; that has prepared us for our future.



Top to bottom, L-R: Charlotte Frederick, Shirvonne Pedro, Elida Gonzales, Harrison Turner, Quinnton Gualt, Josh Nelson, Mrs. Cook, Mina Carter, Michael Evans; Bottom: Phalyn Wooldridge, Ualitha Cook, Marlene Rodriguez, Lee McKinney, Diane Murray, Dedrick Simien, Katara Johnson, Leah Caldwell



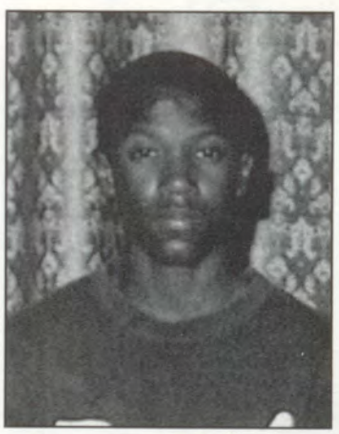
"The Upward Bound program is excellent for those willing to learn and have their minds set on education. The program has helped me out tremendouly!"

Ualitha Cook, President



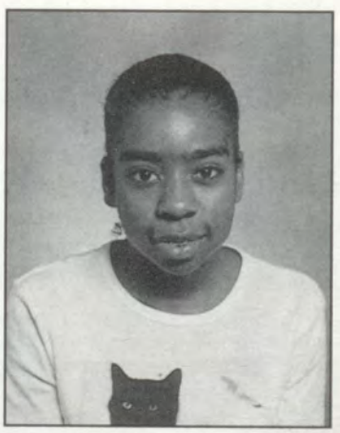
"Upward Bound has directed me toward my goals in life."

Marlene Rodriguez, Vice President



"The Upward Bound program has opened doors and helped me make descisions for my future and my goals in life."

Lee McKinney



"Upward Bound is a great program for those who desire to go to college. It has enhanced my perspective of college life significantly! I love it!!!"

Leah Caldwell

Copy and Layout by Michael Bindner and Amy Samuelson

United Scrabble Association of Dendrites

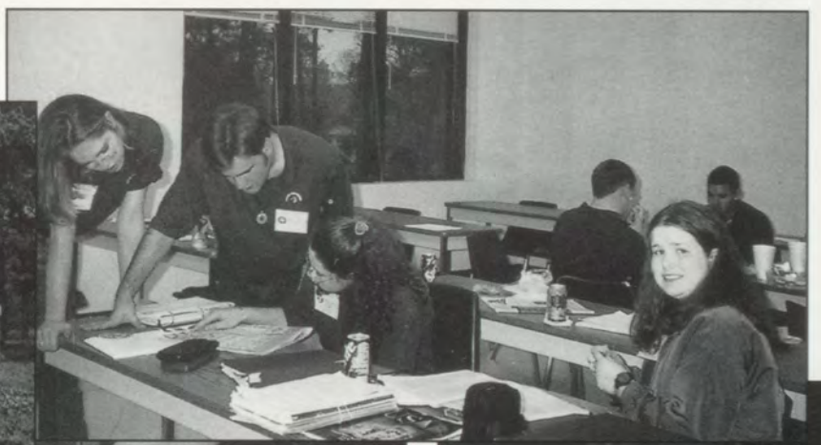
Academic Decathlon

Each year has its firsts, and this year it was the Academic Decathlon team at T.H.S. Eight of us made up the final team after we went through the preliminary tests. Almost every subject was covered this year in Ac.Dec.: math, music (Opera), art, language and literature (*Siddhartha, Remains of the Day*, and poetry), economics (thank you Mr. Conrardy!), history, speeches, and the BRAIN. At Regional competition, we placed eighth, which earned us a chance to compete with the top twenty teams in the state. Once at the State meet, our team worked very hard and earned twelfth place! Not bad for our first year and for us being the youngest team! Our overall score improved over one thousand points. But what about all the fun? Over time, the United States Academic Decathlon team became the United Scrabble Association of Dendrites. We struggled with the questions "What makes a great butler?" and "How do you pronounce AMYGDALA?" Region brought with it Spaceballs (May the Schwartz be with you), the first water incident, the first long van trip, people from Sinton, the first Hillary Weaver encounter, the beginning of spilled drinks, Le Jardin de La Mer (yes, it does have walls and a roof), and the correct pronunciation of "Palacious." We mustn't forget what we actually went there for, though… The first tests, speeches, and scores. The Tuesday after Region, we found out that we had made it to State. And then came Lufkin. The study sessions before State were very interesting… In fact, that's where the song "Theta Rhythm" originated, and where we learned what a good eraser was, thanks to Bobby. Who will ever forget those rushed economic lessons and the struggle we all had with pronouncing all those *brainy* words? But the trip to Lufkin was another story! And stories were in abundance, such as the one about Becca's glasses and the police. A four-hour drive? Nope, a three-hour trip. More spilled drinks, white horses, and waving at farm animals were some of the things we met along the way. The obsessions ran wild—Star Wars and the Trivia game, mini-games of Scrabble between tests, the little sodas, construction workers, kazoos… We all became like the stressed out pony! The hotel rooms almost explained themselves: a Nintendo 64, a VCR, coffee (a.k.a. Goldfish), empty Surge cans, and Mr. Conrardy's giant coffee mug were omniscient. Yes, they had a pool, we soon found out! That's where the second water incident occurred (no, not Nicole's icy swim), and that's also where we met some very nice people from Dalhart (and Fabio from Goliad). There, in Lufkin, we learned more than just what Ac.Dec. had to offer (i.e., the meaning of life…). When all the tests were over, we could relax (bowl). Little Rardy sure knew the tricks of the trade! What about Bobby's form? Ahh, a perfect 90-degree angle… At the Awards ceremony, one of our proudest moments was when Andrew beat Hillary. Bobby received medals in interview and essay, and Becca received a medal in history. But what about the ride home? Yes, we once again squeezed into the van and then stopped at 7-11, where we found two little lost Banderians. We didn't want them to be picked up by the Frisconians, so we stayed with them and waited for their bus to get back. Most of us slept the entire way home, but Amber was wide awake! So what was the most helpful thing we learned this year? Was it how to work together, what your hippocampus does, how to bowl, what dignity was, how to ward off strangers (pepper spray), or what the true meaning of life is? *Pencils up!* Dr. Walls-of-Taylor-High-School says that we learned more than we could have ever hoped to learn, and had an absolutely wonderful time doing it! No one on the Ac.Dec. team of 98-99 will ever forget this year, that's for sure!





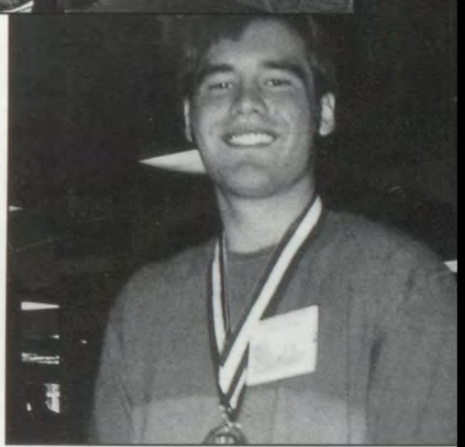






1998-99 Academic Decathlon Team, in serious thinking mode, left to right: Andrew Morris; Alison Mayer; Bobby Leshikar; Margaret Garry; **our wonderful coach and friend, Mr. Conrardy**; Ramon Nazario; Amber Byfield; Becca Lewis (seated); and Anne Foley. Not pictured: Nicole White.





Study session or Scrabble tournament? The team struggles with the word game before going into the Essay room.

What a way to relax... At the bowling alley in Lufkin, Andrew Morris, Little Rardy, Margaret Garry, Amber Byfield, and Anne Foley take time out to breathe after a long day of academic tests.

What was the answer to number 22? Between tests, the team questions their answers and even has time for a Scrabble match (isn't that always the case?).

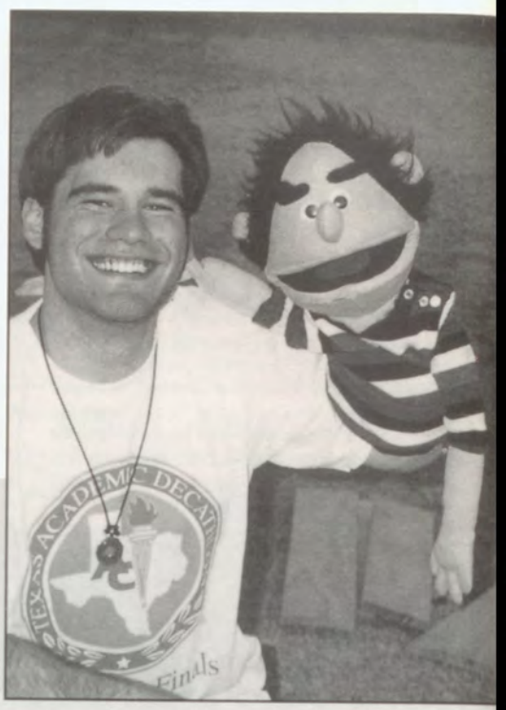
Look! A chicken! A woodpecker! No, it's a roadrunner! The team balances themselves precariously on the statue of Angelina College's mascot.

Bobby's neck is getting weak... He won State medals in Interview and Essay.

Becca and her bright State medal shine for History.

Creative Minds at Work

Odyssey of the Mind



Great minds go to great lengths to achieve great goals. This was especially true for those of us who participated in the Odyssey of the Mind teams at T.H.S. We put all we had into our long-term problems and the preparation for competition. Mr. Rogers' OM team competed in the EnvirOMental Challenge. We designed and created a "discriminating device" as well as a collection process to satisfy the requirements of our long-term problem. In addition to the long hours we spent the night before competition, our team will long remember Wesely's startling accident with the discriminating device. Luke's impromptu jump at competition allowed us to place fourth at the Regional meet without endangering the safety of our cows. The most important lessons we learned were the value of teamwork and the consequences of procrastination. (Which OM team didn't encounter these two lessons???) The structure team, coached by Bonnie Estrada and made up of Becky Estrada, Alison Mayer, Amber Byfield, Micah Grau, Tim Copple, and Andrew Morris, had the task of creating an efficient solution and balsa-wood structure. Our problem was entitled "RatiOMetric Structure." We were to construct a small framework that held as much weight as possible. But this year, a twist was added: the weight held would affect the score according to how much the structure weighed. The theme for our solution was efficiency, and our skit took the traditional story of the "Three Little Pigs" to new limits. None of us will ever forget the good times we had working together, especially the rhyming skit, the judge's wig, or the ornate balsa-wood house (complete with framed picture, set table with fork and knife, and ceiling fan!)! Or what about Becky's "split personality?" Our team was awarded fourth place for our wonderful work. The Carpenter team had a rocky start as the members from last year's team and the new Omers on the team hadd to get to know each other and learn to work together. We spent many afternoons in Janet's classroom, planning and designing, but the real OM experience wasn't truly felt until almost a month before competition. The seven Omers began to meet each afternoon out at the Carpenter farm, staying as late as eleven, chasing chickens, talking to Anne's donkey, eating, and sometimes even working on the solution! Everything came together just in time, though, and our flying goat even made it over Peak Abieu on the test runs! Despite the fact that we were making last minute adjustments to our catapult and rollercoaster track out in the parking lot that morning of competition, we presented our solution well and earned third place at Regionals. All in all, everyone involved in OM this year learned a lot about life. Maybe we didn't have a perfect structure, or long enough jumps, or an aerodynamic goat, but we had a ton of fun! Nothing can take these memories away from us, and nothing will replace them.



Carpenter Team. Top, Left to Right: Sean Washington, Nichole Frazier, Emily Johnson. Bottom: Kris Leshikar, Bobby Leshikar, Monica Ruble, Anne Foley.





"I can't think of any program that develops one's appreciation for individual talent and the value of hard work like OM. Being creative isn't enough if you are unproductive. OM really brings that idea into focus."
Janet Carpenter



Bobby and Fred have a nice chat during a Carpenter-team meeting. ↗
Three Little Pigs, Andrew, Micah, and Becky, sit and watch Tim work on the structure. ↗
Janet Carpenter salutes her team as they recieve third place medals. ↑



Rogers' Team, Left to Right: Michelle Ford, Marie Fraire, Lacie Ruemke, Wesley Hejl, Angelo Fraire, Luke Curik.



Graef Team, Front, Left to Right: Courtney Minzenmayer, Candace Benad, Eryn Graef, Tracy Machu. Back: Brandon Raesz, Justin Graef. Not Pictured, Ross Thorton.

↓ The usual Estrada team meeting: Alison, Becky, and Tim sit and procrastinate.

↙ *At ease...* Monica Ruble and Sean Washington take a break from their other duties to help with the Div. I OM meet at Pasemann.

↓ The Carpenter Team has a good time in Janet's backyard while they gather ideas for their team sign.

↙↙ Amber and her camel Flauge turn up to help at the Div. I OM meet.









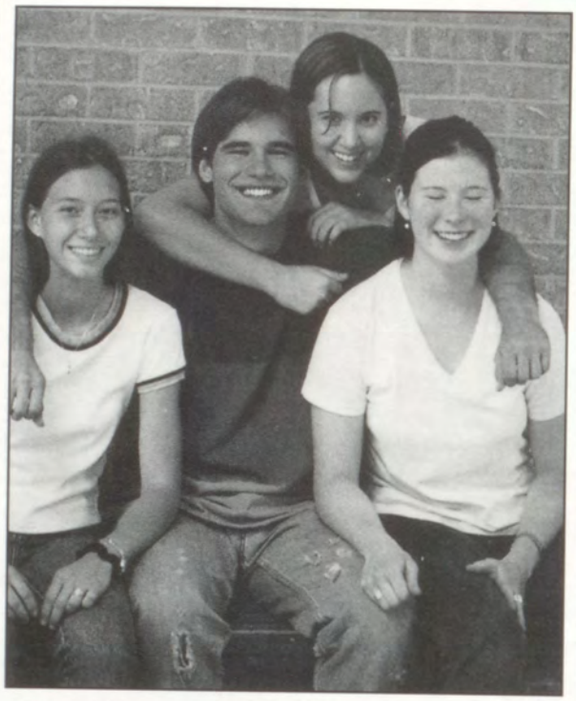


Estrada's Team, Left to Right: Andrew Morris, Amber Byfield, Becky Estrada, Alison Mayer, Micah Grau. Not pictured: Tim Copple.

Copy and Layout by Emily Johnson and Amber Byfield
Special Thanks to Mr. Rogers

A Long Road to Success

UIL Participants Win District for the First Time in 30 Years

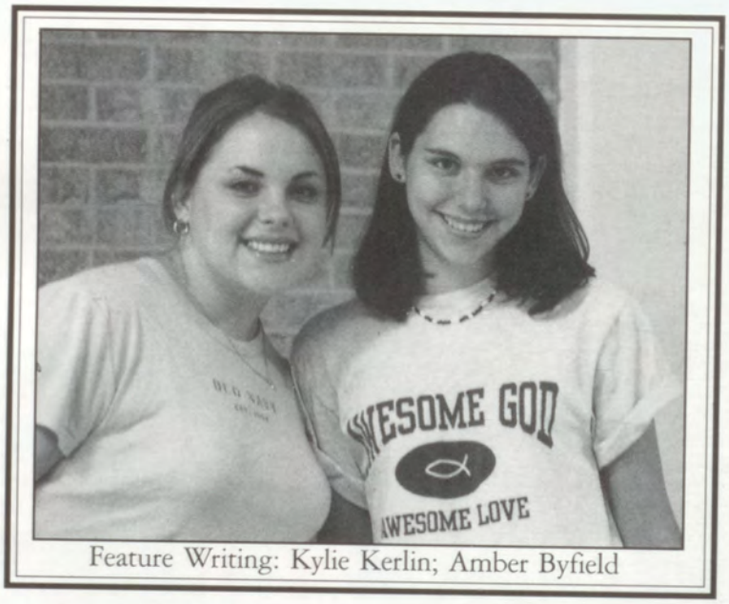


Ready Writing: Alison Mayer, Bobby Leshikar; Nicole Artieschousky; Anne Foley



NewsWriting: Sarah Simmons; Nicole Cantu; Emily Johnson

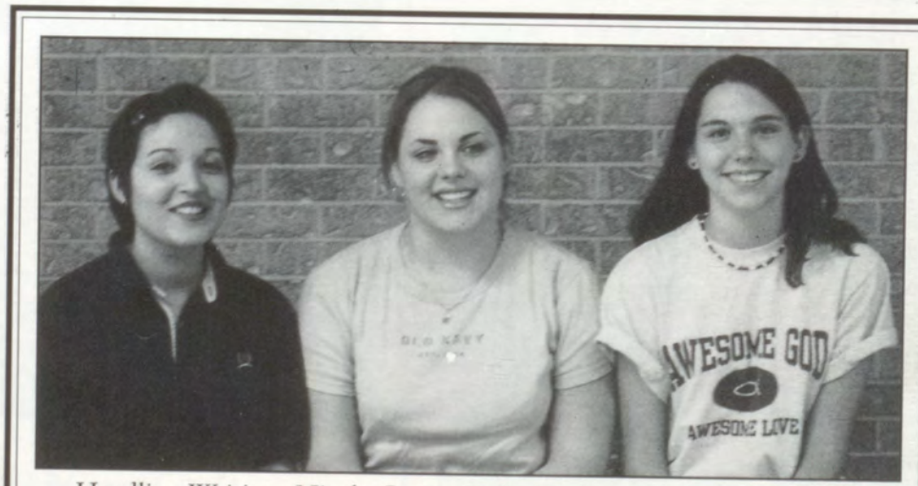




Feature Writing: Kylie Kerlin; Amber Byfield

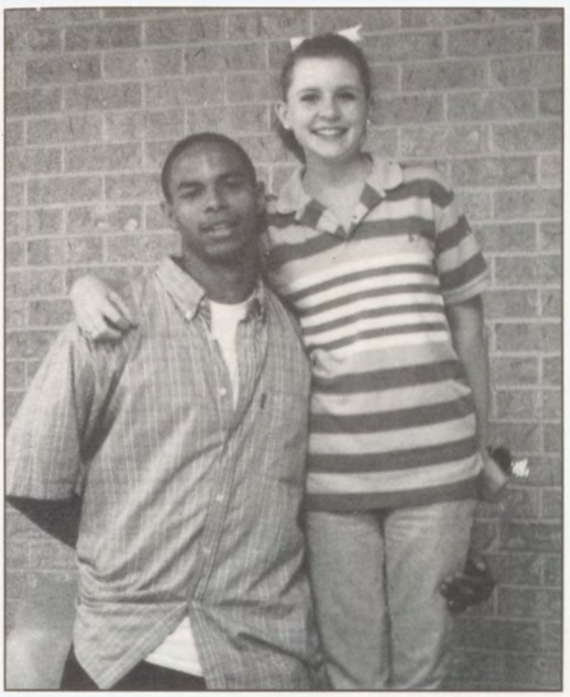


Editorial Writing: Sarah Simmons



Headline Writing: Nicole Cantu, Kylie Kerlin, and Amber Byfield

UIL Academic Events Win District for the First Time in 30 Years



Spelling and Vocabulary: Dominick Devasty and Candace Benad





Poetry Interpretation: Josh Tealer and Beth Ann Paul





Lincoln-Douglas Debate: Nicole White and Margaret Garry



Informative Speaking: Nicole White

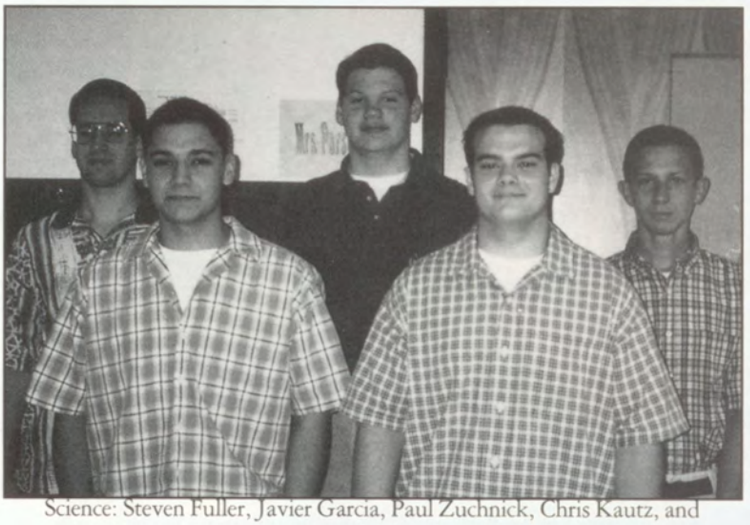


Prose Interpretation: Kristina Penny, Michelle Chait, and Megan Powell.

UIL Academic Events Win District for the First Time in 30 Years

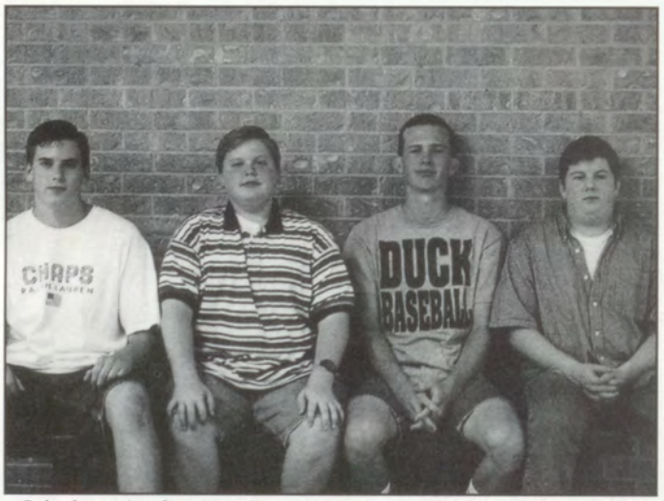


Accounting: Erin Schmidt and Tessa Mikulencak

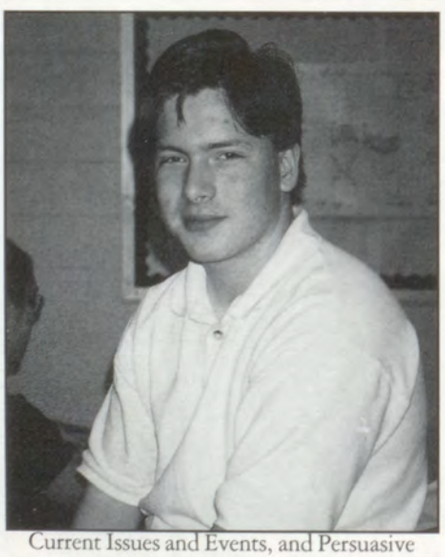


Science: Steven Fuller, Javier Garcia, Paul Zuchnick, Chris Kautz, and Steven Konarik

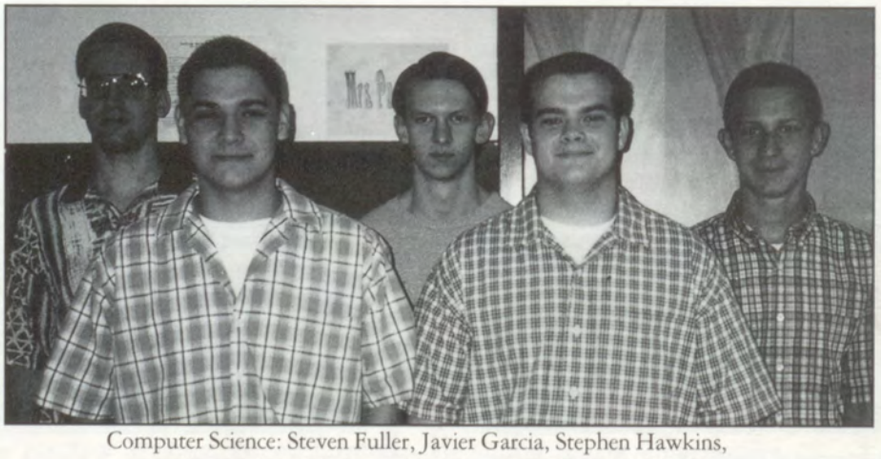




Calculator Applications: Jason Pausewang, Clayton Krueger, James Massey, Sean Mack. Not pictured: Monica Ruble.



Current Issues and Events, and Persuasive Speaking: Josh Verastique



Computer Science: Steven Fuller, Javier Garcia, Stephen Hawkins, Chris Kautz, and Stephen Konarik.



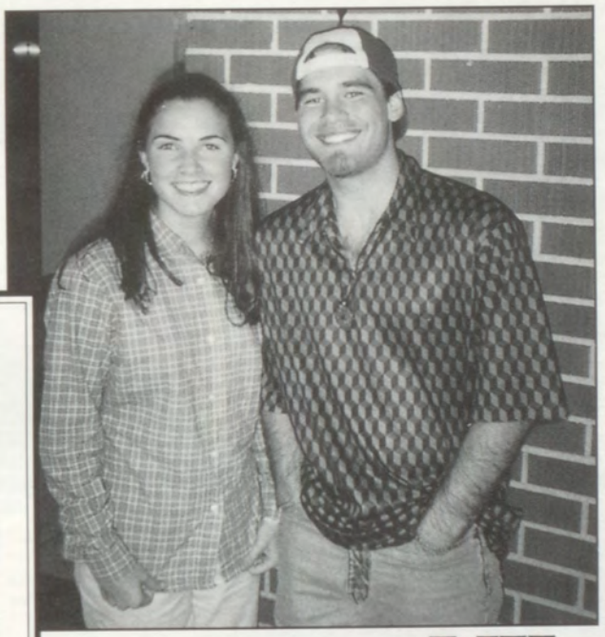


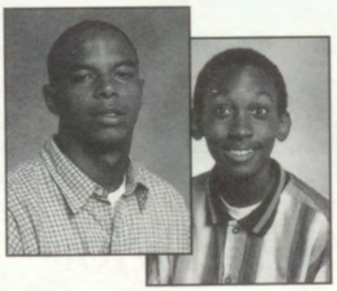

Mathematics

Javier Garcia, Steven Konarik, Josh Verastique, Paul Zucknick

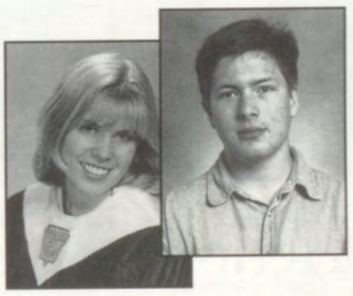




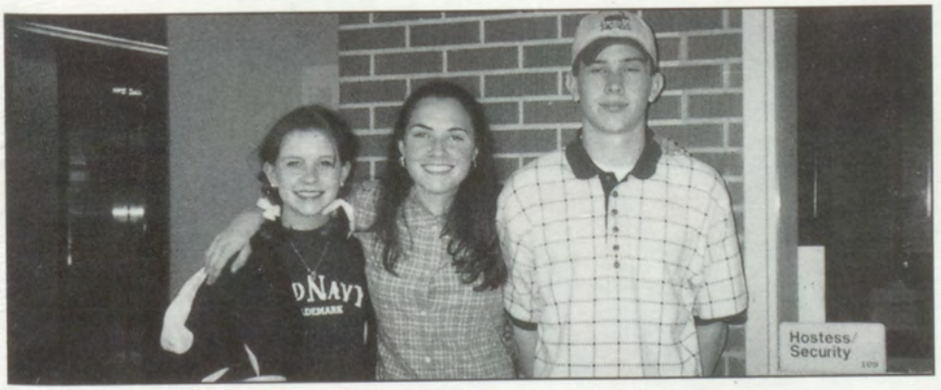




Number Sense



Dominick Devastey, Willie Fields, Tessa Mikulencak, and Josh Verastique





Computer Applications: Whitney Kolinek

UIL

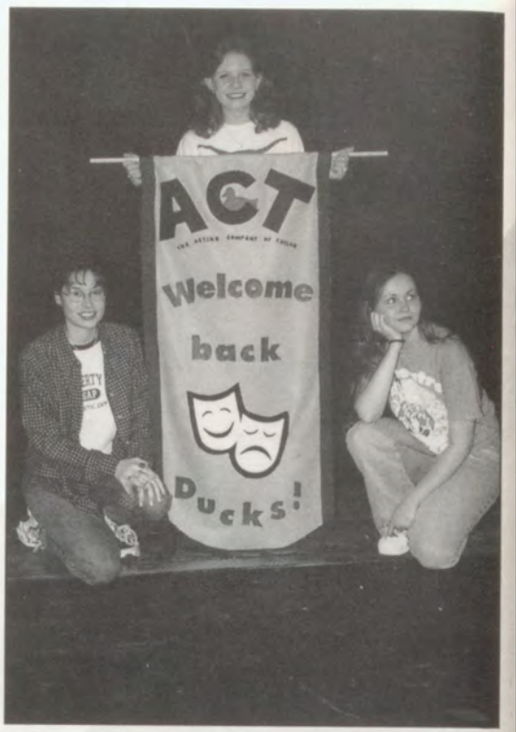
Steven Fuller advanced even further than the rest of us and made us proud by bringing home the gold medal from the State meet. Way to go Steven!

DISTRICT CHAMPIONS

Copy and Layout by Emily Johnson

If the Walls Could Act?

The Acting Company of Taylor



The finest thespians in Taylor High joined to make one organization—Drama Club (a.k.a. the Acting Company of Taylor). ACT met every Thursday discussing many things ranging from the theatre related to the not so theatre related. We always had lots of fun, entertaining each other with different improv games. Some of these games included the ever-popular "Taxi" (and a few times it was adapted to Airport Van to make it possible for more people to play). Here many characters were developed, ranging from animals to narcoleptics to Spartans (Go Spartans!). A favorite of the seniors was the story game. They learned this and many other fun games in January at the T.E.T.A. (Texas Educational Theatre Association) Conference held at the Renaissance Hotel, in Austin. Above all the fun we had at our meetings, the thing we were most proud of this year were our productions. We sponsored two marvelous plays—Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*, and a comedy by William Shakespeare, *The Taming of the Shrew*. Each and every thespian looked forward to the production of these plays, and in the end when each of us got irritable we looked forward to the finishing of them. But regardless of the sometimes hard feelings, no one can question the bond we all developed while working both together on the plays and working together at our weekly meetings. We made lots of wonderful memories over the year, things not a single member will forget (how about those cast parties?). No doubt we will greatly miss working together—especially working as a cast. If the walls could talk they'd quote Shakespeare and Dickens and encourage other walls to play Taxi... that is, if the Walls were members of ACT.



"Fie, fie, I have enjoyed being president of ACT! I cannot think of an organization I would have rather been president of... I mean, I'm really going to miss everyone... but even more I'm going to miss the scratched up stage of THS... we've been in love these four years."
Melodie Strickland, President



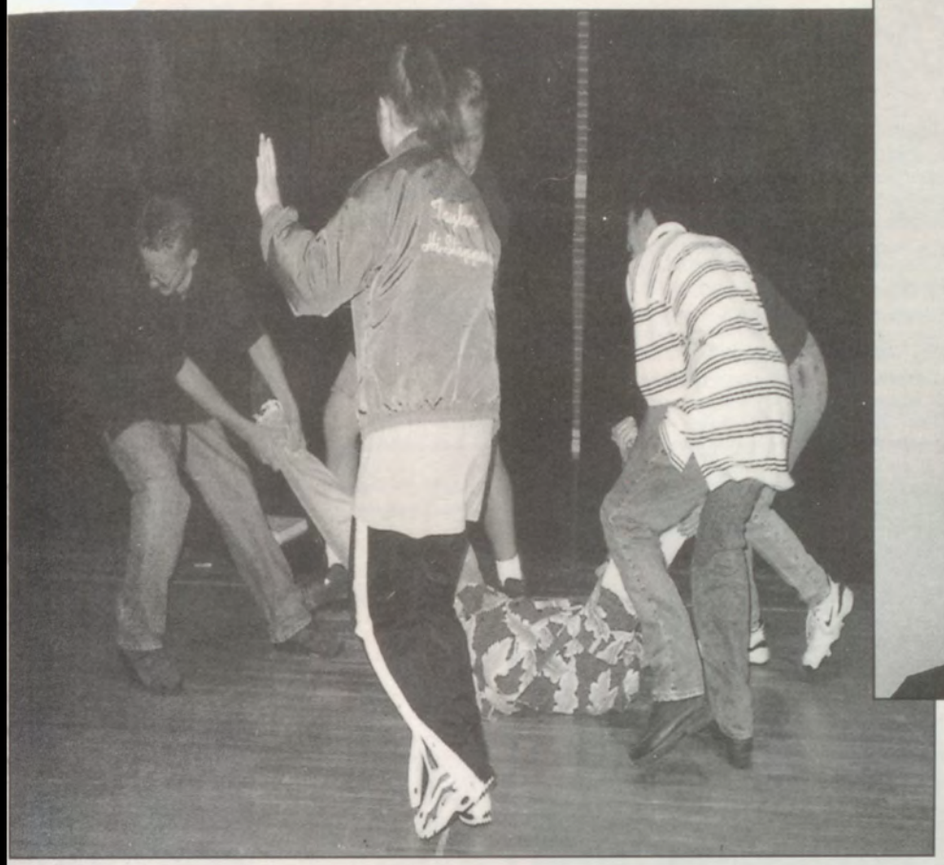
The Acting Company of Taylor



Do you know how many hours this took to make?!?! Tracy Machu, Candace Benad, and Melodie Strickland pose with the beautiful banner they made all by themselves. ↗



You're so squishy, Casey! Laura Barefoot gives Shannon and Casey a good luck hug before they go on to perform "Who's On First." →









Officers

Seated, L-R: Melodie Strickland (Pres.), Micah Grau (Treas.), Lauren Currie (Vice Pres.), Tracy Machu (Hist.), Mrs. Archer (Sponsor); Laying on Ground: Casey Jones (Publicist); Not Pictured: Kyle Kaiser (Srgt. at Arms), Laura Barefoot (Sec.)





↖ *Please don't take me away!* Some of the members playing one of the improv games during a meeting.

↑ *Yes, but don't we need to...* President Melodie Strickland and Mrs. Archer discuss meeting plans.

↑ **Yumm!** Tracy Machu, Candace Benad, and Alisha David chow down at an ACT meeting.

↑ Sue Ellen poses to take a quick picture while Candace gives her some comforting words.

Copy and Layout by Kyle Kaiser and Melodie Strickland

I Can't Think of Anything I'd Rather Do

A Christmas Carol

"Marley was dead to begin with", or so says the opening line of our play, *A Christmas Carol*. But "to begin with" it really had been a number of years since our school had put on a Christmas play, and what better play to revive the tradition than the classic *A Christmas Carol*? Under the direction of Mrs. Archer we put on a grand show with period-perfect costumes (excluding Kyle's khakis!), antique set pieces, and Casey's dirty mattress. We only had a month to put the production together, and it seemed clear the night of dress rehearsal how little time that was to prepare for a major production. To top things off it was a musical, another feat the thespians of Taylor High hadn't undertaken in a good long while. The cast and crew had a lot of fun putting the show together and a lot of memories were made while working on the show. We will undoubtedly never forget eating at Mr. Gattis as a group and going mad in the game room, Kyle's Spice Girl impersonations, running through the school playing the murder game, and the late-late-LATE rehearsals playing catch-up in the end. But when it all came together (at the last minute) we put on a pretty good show. But our play didn't go on without it's own little mishaps! The missing candle, the Cratchit scene the stage crew forgot, the lights that wouldn't go out (the five minutes stare), and the misspelled "Ebeneezer", or the lack of food or drink in every scene that was supposed to have food or drink were all things that were part of the production that could not be forgotten. At the curtain call the crowd went wild when the mystery Third Spirit (Enrique Garcia) removed his mask revealing his identity. At the party the group's rendition of Areosmith's "I Don't Want to Miss a Thing" was like something straight out of a movie. Everyone was singing, people were standing on tables, other had their arms around each other swaying back and forth—all in a wonderful cast unity that could hardly be imagined. What a memory! What a cast! What a play! It is certain none of us will ever forgot the memories we made while working on *A Christmas Carol*. And when each of us look back, without a doubt we will each think to ourselves the opening verse from the dance scene—"I can't think of anything I'd rather dŏ—but add our own twist—"I can't think of anything I'd rather dŏ than put on a Christmas play.

The Cast & Crew

Director	Melodie Archer
Stage Manager	Monica Ruble
Assistant Stage Manager	Jacque Wallace

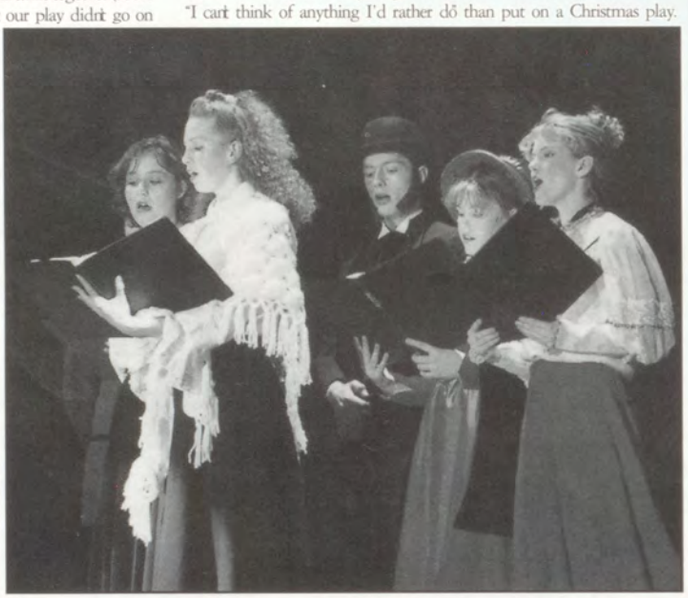
The Cast

Narrator	Sarah Simmons
Carolers...	Laura Barefoot, Michelle Chait, Luke Curik, Lauren Currie, Shannon Faulkner, Monica Ruble, Melodie Strickland, Tarisa Walker, and Sean Washington
Bob Cratchit	Michael Bindner
Scrooge	Casey Jones
Fred	Bobby Leshikar
Business Men	Kyle Kaiser and Sean Washington
Marley's Ghost/Topper	Andrew Morris
1st Spirit	Candace Benad
Young Boy Scrooge/Peter	Kyle Kaiser
Young Man Scrooge	Luke Curik
Fan	Tarisa Walker
Fezziwig/Old Joe	Micah Grau
Mrs. Fezziwig	Laura Barefoot
Dick Wilkins/Undertaker	Shannon Faulkner
Belle/Bess	Lauren Currie
Emma	Nicole Artieschoufsky
2nd Spirit	Lacie Ruemke
Mrs. Cratchit	Melodie Strickland
Belinda/Maid	Dana Carrizales
Martha	Tracy Machu
Girl (Sarah)/Want	Mackenzie Archer
Tiny Tim	Steven Foley
Clara	Michelle Chait
Ignorance	Christopher Currie
3rd Spirit	Mr. Garcia
Three Men	Sean Washington, Luke Curik, and Blake Hegar
Mrs. Dilber	Monica Ruble
Errand Boy	Koda Gallegos

The Crew

Jason Bindner, Al Block, Misty Carrithers, Christy Cervenka, Luke Curik, Shannon Faulkner, Anne Foley, Koda Gallegos, Heather Hazelwood, Rebecca Lewis, Megan Powell, Tamika Ross, Monica Ruble, Jamie Ruden, Stephen Stenseth, Jacque Wallace, Nicole White



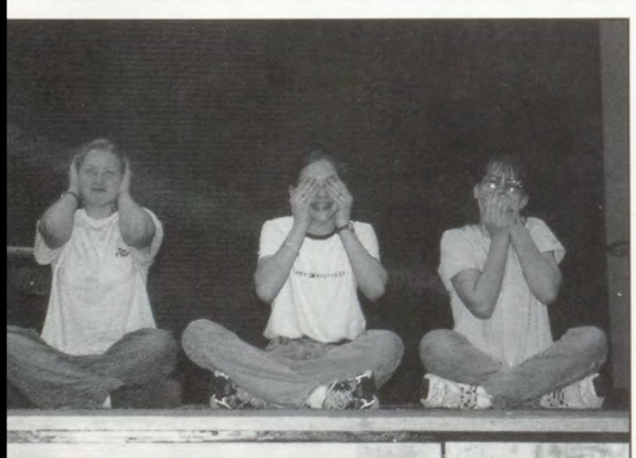








"Oh my gracious macaronni and cheese! This was the most stressful thing I ever had to do, but also one of the most helpful."
Casey Jones, "Scrooge"







You could call it a curtain call... or call them silly. Casey Jones, Sarah Simmons, Koda Gallegos and Laura Barefoot goof around at rehearsal.

Seniors Rule! After the performance the senior cast members have fun and strike a pose.

Back! Back! Micah Grau and Bobby Leshikar stand back in fear of Andrew Morris before the show.

Hear no evil, see no evil, speak no evil... and most importantly keep with the Christmas Spirit.

What a happy family! It's the Cratchits post-production and without the 'lil ones.

Copy and Layout by Melodie Strickland and Candace Benad

Not Your Average Senior Citizens

Seniority on Stage

Perhaps the most talented group of thespians to ever come out of a graduating class in the history of Taylor High? To quote the play that almost was, "yeah, basically." The shining stars in theatre this year were obviously the seniors. We encompassed the majority of the roles, filling the largest and most difficult of them. We had a phenomenal year! With theatre veterans and theatre newcomers we put on two incredible productions. But beyond the productions some of us went to the wonderful TETA conference that was held in Austin this year. We had lots of fun at the conference; we went to many different interesting sessions and met many interesting people (um... think Chad). Beyond just being a highly talented group, these seniors knew how to work together. The unity of this group was immeasurable. Most of these thespians plan to continue with their theatre studies, some even majoring in theatre. Some day without much surprise we will be able to look up at a movie screen or on the stage of a Broadway play and see an ex-Taylor High Student... but not an ex-Duck.... because like the saying goes... *Once a Duck alawys a Duck*... even if hes an actor pretending to be a squirrel (like in Belton) or a hippo or something.



"The production I enjoyed the most was *The Taming of the Shrew*, because I had the lead and I was given a chance to meet lots of poeple that I would have otherwise just passed in the halls. The highlight of this year was getting to kiss the lovely Melodie. Having the role of Petruchio showed me that I was able to handle a lead role, and it brought my self-esteem and confidence to a new level. My favorite memory of theatre, also this year, was during the rehearsal I had alone with Melodie (Mrs. Archer was there)--the first time I actually kissed her. This year was a real special year for me; I am going to have these memories with me for the rest of my life. I am glad that I took the opportunity to make such great memories."

Michael Bindner

Michael Bindner came to Taylor new this year, but not new to the stage. Michael played Petruchio in this year's One Act Play, Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*. But he was no stranger to Shakespeare! Last year he appeared in Centerville's One Act Play of *Macbeth*, where he had dual roles, playing both Seyton and Angus. He also starred in the ACT winter production of *A Christmas Carol* as Bob Cratchit. At One Act competition this year, Michael received Honorable Mention All-Star Cast for his role as Petruchio in *The Taming of the Shrew*.



"I'd have to say my most enjoyable production would have to be *A Christmas Carol* because of the fun and the diverse cast. My favorite memories this year would have to be doing Abbot and Costtello with Shannon and meeting Rip Torn. My experience in theatre this year with the people who participated as well has helped many aspects of my life from being a lot more bold and shameless to being more responsible and patient."

Casey Jones

Casey Jones was the newest to theatre among our talented group of senior thespians. He quickly proved himself this year taking on the lead role in ACT's winter production of the Charles Dickens' classic, *A Christmas Carol*. Casey also performed at the Homecoming assembly for the exes, performing *Who's On First*, made famous by Abbot and Costello. He was also a member of this year's One Act Play, *The Taming of the Shrew*, playing Grumio, for which he received Honorable Mention All-Star Cast.



"It's been fun, wonderful, splendid, great, a jolly good time, etc, etc."

Bobby Leshikar

Bobby Leshikar has appeared in three One Act Plays during his high school career--being a cast member his freshman, junior, and senior years. He was both a Nazi and whistling Vender in *Remember My Name* his freshman year; his junior year, in *Alice in Wonderland* he performed as the Mad Hatter and Humpty Dumpty (and more!); and he was Lucentio in this year's *The Taming of the Shrew*. Bobby was also a member of the cast of *A Christmas Carol*, playing Fred, the kind-hearted nephew of Scrooge. Bobby has received both Honorable Mention All-Star Cast and All-Star Cast for his roles in One Act Play the past two years.



"Theatre has brought a whole new perspective to my imagination and it's something that I really enjoy. *Alice* was my favorite play because I had fun with my parts and *Shrew* because I liked the cast and had fun with everything. My fondest memory is of when we went bowling, last year, in Marble falls with all the other casts, and the swing dancing this year with the Elgin cast. Being involved in the productions has allowed me to look at things on the flipside and make the best out of situations; and most of all it has been a great people meeting device. The funnest people are usually thespians."

Monica Ruble

Monica Ruble is one of only two people in the class of 1999 to have been in four One Act Plays. Monica played Pauline in *Remember My Name* her freshman year; she played Doctor Mayberry as a sophomore in *I Never Sang For My Father*; she had countless roles in *Alice In Wonderland* as a junior, including the Rabbit, the table, and Alice's Croquet Ball, just to name a few; and this year she completed her four year streak of One Act Play playing both Biondello and the lusty Widow. Monica also appeared in this year's *A Christmas Carol* as Mrs. Dilber, and served as second in charge as well--the All Powerful, Stage Manager. Monica has received Honorable Mention All-Star Cast two times for her role as Pauline and for her many roles in *Alice*.



"I doubt I will ever stop missing theatre at THS. The time I have spent on stage here has meant a lot to me--all the memories I have made in my four years I will forever carry with me as some of my fondest memories ever made. Though I will contiue in acting after I have left these yellow-lockered halls, nothing will replace the space I hold in my heart for the productions I have been a part of while here, or the crazy thespians whom I have become friends. At times I felt discouraged while working on plays here, especially when we had to switch plays my sophomore year--and the lead was taken away from me--but regardless of the the sometimes unhappy situations and hard feelings I will always have a great love for theatre at THS. After all, 'it's all just twisted love'."

Melodie Strickland

Melodie Strickland might as well make it legal and marry the stage, for it's her love. She has exhibited her great love for the stage by performing in every play put on during her time in high school. She made her high school debut as a freshman in the One Act Play, *Remember My Name*, as Yvetter Reunaud. Some of her other high school credits include--*I Never Sang For My Father*, in which she played Mrs. Scott; *Alice in Wonderland* in which she played the Red Queen; *A Christmas Carol* in which she was Mrs. Cratchit; and this year's wonderful One Act Play, Williams Shakespeare's *The Taming of the Shrew*, playing the untamed Katharine. Melodie has received two Honorable Mention All-Star cast awards for her roles as the Red Queen and Katharine.

Acting up... for Competition

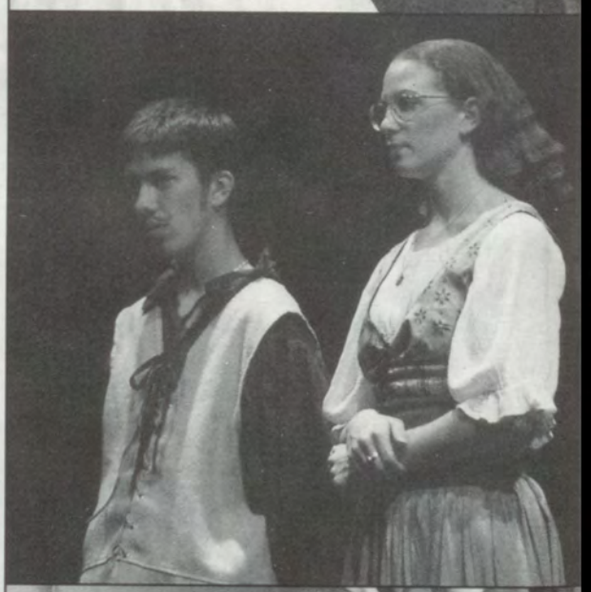
If You Want to Distroy My Sweater

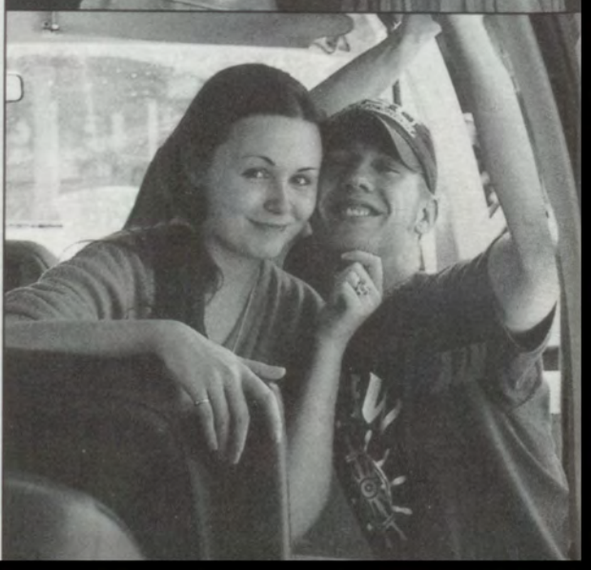
One Act Play… to say the least it was quite an experience. Taking on *the Taming of the Shrew* was something seemingly out of the question for most high school students—but not for us. We were too cool to let difficult language, long lines, and quick costume changes daunt us. We had a cast overflowing with talent. The shrew was tamed in less than forty minutes and with much approval from the audience. But, with little approval from our One Act judge. Truth be told, the woman was a loony toon, and confirmed this fact when telling us things like Michael had a weak voice and the slap was "too real." But beyond the blundering of the judge and her overlooking to advance us, we had a lot of fun. At least the judge knew well enough to give some of the members of our cast awards. Bobby Leshikar, Casey Jones, Michael Bindner, and Melodie Strickland were all awarded Honorable Mention All-Star Cast for their bang-up jobs in their roles. But still, we have reason to question the judge about the awards, as well… she should have given one to everyone in the cast. We had such a wonderful cast! And, we had a big cast, which translated to a big family. We had many memorable moments while working on the show, including Kyle's Britney Spears' dance, the boys in tights, Nubile the puppy, and the wedding of Grumio and the Tailor the day of spike at Caldwell. Simply put, we had a simply wonderful show. We may have returned home slightly discouraged because of the outcome of competition, but we could not let our failure to advance truly get to us. We had a great show. We know we had a great show. We didn't need some old woman to tell us our show was the greatest… we knew that every time we preformed. We knew that before we performed, perhaps that's why it took all of us so long to learn our lines—we were so good, we didn't need lines. Now that each of our actors' heads has been inflated let's jump back to relativity, shall we? Let's not forget what we learned while working on this play… "fie, fiē means shame, shamē, if you have a Duck Card you can get Blizzards for cheap, having someone call you "yeastȳ or "rump-fed" is in no way a complement, memorize your lines on time, never forget KORN on your way to competition, ALL the words to "The Sweater Songē by Weezer, Michael should stay away from wearing tights, dying one's facial hair is in no way ĉool", if you knock a chair over so many times the chair will break, if you mess up a line just say the simple words "I gō, fake grapes don't taste as good as real grapes, and lastly, there is nothing in the world a good hug can't solve. Basically we learned about being friends while working on *The Taming of the Shrew*; we learned about unity and fun, we learned how to function as a cast. Overall the One Act experience this year—be it one's first, second, third, or fourth year—was wonderful! If the walls could talk about our cast and our play they would say ĕncore, please perform again… encore!" The walls know talent like ours only gathers once in a blue moon… so the walls appreciated it while it lasted… but for those of you who are not like the walls, and might forget the great talent… "Fie, fie."











"I find you passing…" out? What a kiss! Michael Bindner and Melodie Strickland perform the infamous kiss scene. ↑

Ready for a sing-a-long? Bobby Leshikar (with prized lute), Michelle Chait, and Kyle Kaiser smile, ready to rehearse. ↑↑↑↑

Oh, my eye! Just kidding… Koda Gallegos patiently sits through the application of make up pre-competition in Caldwell— ↑↑↑ Monica Ruble (with mustache!) acts as makeup artist.

"Here Sir! Here Sir!" Kyle Kaiser and Tarisa Walker stand at attention in their roles as Nathanial and Christina. ↑↑

It's not a weave! Melodie Strickland proves Casey Jones's facial hair is real by pulling on it the day of spike. →

The Cast & Crew

Director..... Melodie Archer

The Cast

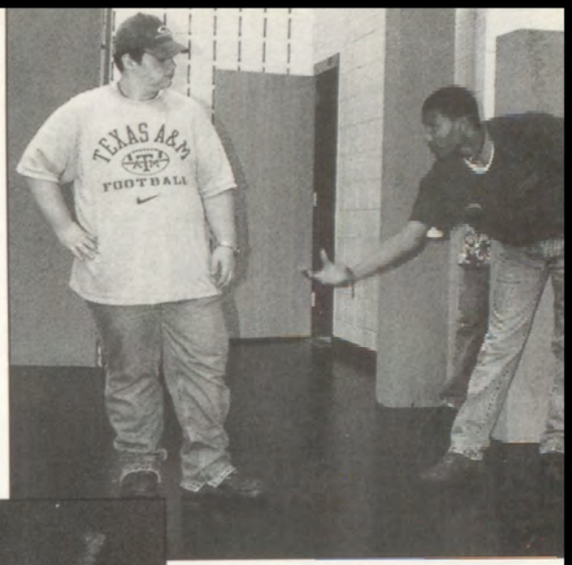
in order of appearance...

Lucentio, *the Lover, suitor to Bianca*..... Bobby Leshikar
Tranio, *servant to Lucentio*..... Sean Washington
Baptista, *gentleman of Pauda*..... Micah Grau
Gremio, *suitor to Bianca*..... Andrew Morris
Hortensio, *suitor to Bianca*..... Koda Gallegos
Bianca, *young daughter of Baptista*..... Michelle Chait
Katharine, *the shrew, eldest daughter of Baptista*..... Melodie Strickland
Petruchio, *gentleman of Verona*..... Michael Bindner
Grumio, *servant to Petruchio*..... Casey Jones
Biondello, *sevant to Lucentio*..... Monica Ruble
Christina, *servant to Petruchio*..... Tarisa Walker
Nathanial, *servant to Petruchio*..... Kyle Kaiser
The Tailor..... Anne Foley
Vincentio, *father to Lucentio*..... Andrew Morris
The Widow..... Monica Ruble

The Crew

Stage Manager..... Jamie Ruden
Lights..... Jason Bindner
Backstage Crew..... Andrea Harrell & Ashley Williams
Make-up and Costume..... Tracy Machu & Lauren Currie







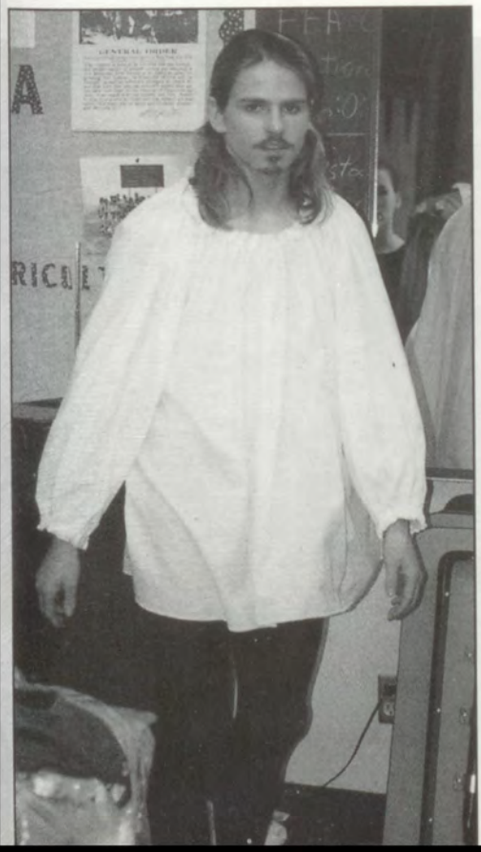




"I've really enjoyed being a part of One Act Play this year. I gained valuable experience that I hope to use through college and the rest of my life." Michael Bindner, Petruchio

"I am glad that my fourth and final year in One Act was doing a Shakespearean play. It gave me the chance to do something I had never done before... and it gave me a chance to see Michael look silly dressed up like a pirate." Melodie Strickland, Katharine









↑↑↑ **Archer Lady says, "Look what I found!"** while we browse the costume shops look for renaissance garb.
↗↗↗ **Someone was kissing!** Micah Grau and Sean Washington rehearse at Paseman Elementary only hours before the kissing police arrive.
↑↑↑ **Isn't he gorgeous?!** Sean Washington shows off the hair he stole from Monica.
↑↑ **Without them we would not have fake meat!** Crew members, Andrea Harrell, Jason Bindner, and Jamie Ruden work on the papier-mâché meat.
← **Peter What?** Michael Bindner is caught off guard in his manly tights.
↑ **"Oh then belike you fancy..."** Melodie Strickland and Michelle Chait perform wonderfully in their scene together.
↗ **The bus that wasn't ours...** Anne Foley, Casey Jones, Koda Gallegos, Tracy Machu, Lauren Currie, Jaime Ruden, and Michelle Chait pose in the not-quite-ours bus.

Copy and Layout by Melodie Strickland Michael Bindner

Sweet Sounds

Choir



Do, re, mi, fa, so . . . ahhhh, the sweet sounds of a choir serenading you, what could be better? The only thing that could be better than just any choir singing to you would have to be the Taylor High School Choir harmonizing their sweet sounds for you. The choir proved to make some sweet sounds this year for all to enjoy. Right from the start, we showed off the harmonies of Maria Castaneda, George Fiegel, and Quincy Andrews. In September at TMEA District Choir auditions they were selected to be members of the District Choir. Also during football season we sang the Ducks on to a win at the Homecoming Assembly. Later in October when in came to all choir auditions the Ducks were made proud when Quincy Andrews was selected for the All-Region Choir. At Christmas time we put on our annual holiday choir concert which proved to be a success. The auditorium was packed with avid listeners which made it an even bigger joy to share the wonderful melodies of Christmas carols. In the same month we sang for the Taylor Lions Club. In February we attended solo/ensemble contest where 13 students from the Concert Choir performed, 3 of those 13 were Class One soloists. Nicole Rowe received a first division rating and performed for the TSSEC in San Marcos in May. In March we performed for Main Street Day for the First Lady of Texas, Laura Bush. In April we took our trip to Houston where we spent the day in Astroworld. And before the year was over, we attended the Texas State Solo and Ensemble contest where Maria Castenada, George Fiegel, and Quincy Andrews won STATE!!!. So, the school year has ended, but our voices keep singing, tuning up for next year.

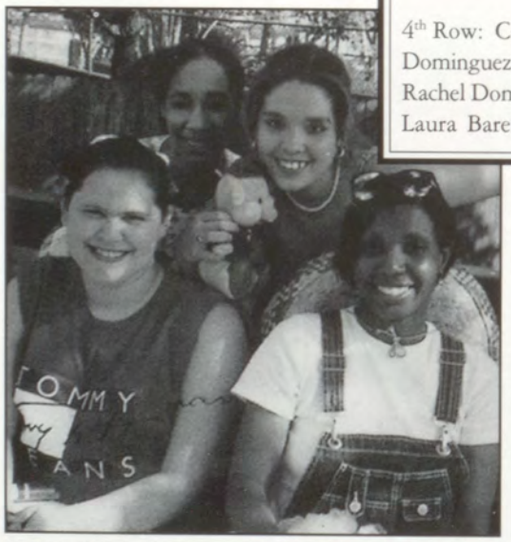


"We had a great year in choir. With a lot of dedication and hard work we accomplished our goals and had fun doing it too."
Maria Castenada



Concert Choir

4th Row: Cassie Saucedo, Quincy Andrews, Fred Griffin, Veronica Gonzales, Orenthial Davis, Katara Johnson, Anna Dominguez. 3rd Row: Maria Castaneda, Ruth Dixon, Tabitha Haskins, Phalyn Wooldridge, Ashley Mathis, Kevin Rowe, Rachel Dominguez. 2nd Row: Nicole Rowe, Chelsie Shanafelt, Jazelle Gros, Nicole Thompson, Jimmy Davis. 1st Row: Laura Barefoot, Stacy Lopez, Patrick Devastey, Sarah Torres, Craig Williams, Paula Herrera, Shirvonne Pedro.



Cassie Saucedo sings her heart out at Caberet "99 to "No Place that Far". ↗



Solo and Ensemble

Top Row: Maria Castenada, Tabitha Haskins, Quincy Andrews, Craig Williams, and Katara Johnson. Bottom Row: Laura Barefoot, NIcole Rowe, Jazelle Gros, Paula Herrera, Shirvonne Pedro, and Sarah Torres.

Astroworld RULES! These choir members look happy at their trip to Houston. ↑









Mixed Choir

Top Row: Quinnton Gault, Marcus Reese, Ike Houston, Harrison Turner, Dwayne Curtis, Shaunta Hill, Nicole Torres, Elaine Good, Porsia Nelson. Middle Row: Angelena Gomez, Ruby Serna, Melissa Chandler, Kerry Murray, Caitlin Brown, Jennifer Bond, Mina Carter, Melissa DonJuan, Vanessa Rivera, Sara Juarez. Bottom Row: Jessica Garcia, Charlotte Fredrick, Elisa Estrada, Nicole Reyes, Debbie Martinez, Lori Medina, Maria Siguenza, Melissa Alderete, Monica Torres, Bertha Nunez.







⇈ Chelsie Shanafelt and Sarah Torres sing to "Fiddler on the Roof."

⇈ "Smile and get ready. . ." These choir members anxiously await for the music to start.

↑ "We are TIRED!" After a long day at Astroworld, these choir members are ready to head back to Taylor.

← Sweet little Sarah! Sarah Torres gets all her courage together to sing her solo.

"Hello, I love you, won't you tell me your name?"

Play That Funky Music!

The Band had a lot to be proud of this year. We earned the name and distinction of a Division I Concert Band for the first time in twenty years! But that was only one of many honors and awards we received. We also had individual band members excel, advancing past Area, Region, and even on to State. We played a variety of music this year as well, proving what a well-rounded band we were. Over the summer we were invited to spend the night in Georgetown with that Dawson-guy who thinks he looks like Bobby Leshikar to play the part of an opposing team's marching band in the hit movie *Varsity Blues*. From that point, the music never stopped: we went from the Doors to Otello, *Prince of Egypt* to *the Grinch Who Stole Christmas*, proving ourselves to be the most talented musicians in school history. On our Trip to perform at the Disney World Magic Music Days Festival, we took 1st place in our division, while back at home Andrea Wilson performed with the National Band Association Honor Band and Anne Foley joined the All-State Band in their spectacular concert. On top of that, State Champion Twirlers, Tamara Naivar and Brenda Hyzak qualified to compete at Nationals! Although the road was often difficult (and some of us couldn't find the road because we got lost on some haunted country road), we pulled together when it counted most and played with one heart and one goal to be the best! OK... maybe there was another thing we pulled together to do... have FUN!









D, B flat, E. Clarinetists Heather Hazelwood and Becky Estrada play their hearts out during a half-time performance. →

With the beat: the percussion section keeps time, even while having their picture taken. ↑

Lalalala... Andrew Oser gets a little sidetracked during a chilly football game. →





"The best thing about marching season this year was seeing the freshmen class mature to a level that almost yielded a Division I rating. Next year is something to look forward to."
Andrew Morris,
Drum Major



"The best thing about being a drum major this year was the opportunity that I received to live out one of my dreams to be a leader of the band. And what better a band than the **Taylor High School Marching Band!!!**"
Sean Washington,
Drum Major















On the field again, just cart wait to get on the field again... The band anxiously awaits their next on-field performance.

Come on, BAND!!! The members begin warming up for an extremely peppy pep rally.

Twirler Brooke Dabbs is ready for another beautiful and graceful routine.

At the Homecoming pep rally, the band takes a break from their inspiring music and enjoys the show.

Fellow Clarinetists Vanna Evans and Denise Samaniego take time out for pictures and autographs.

The Bright and Beautiful Band
Beau and Band Sweetheart...
Bobby Leshikar and Andrea Wilson

Layout and Design by Amber Byfield and Melodie Strickland Copy by Bobby Leshikar
Special thanks to Anne Foley and Sean Washington

Anne Foley's balancing act is telepathically steadied by Willie Field's intense stare.

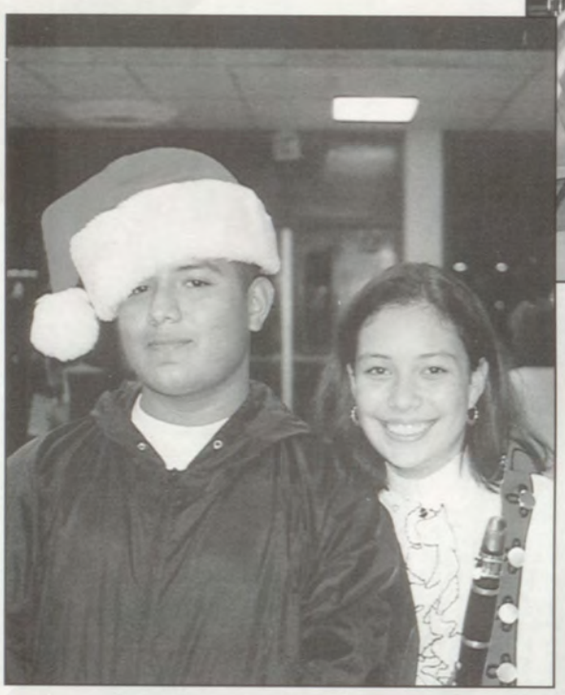
Mmm... Tastes like chicken to Mr. Rubio!

Jeffery Giusto tells Josh Verastique that all he wants for Christmas is a new trombone.

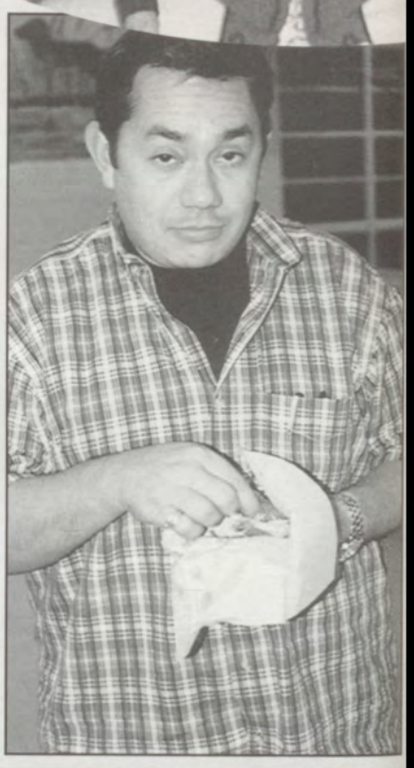
Laura Briones says BINGO, Stephanie Rolak says BOGGLE, Maritza Caveda says I lost.















"Wherefore must the compostition end? A melody of memories come to mind, a harmony of friends. I leave you now with the peace of mind whatever you dream the music shall provide."

Bobby Leshikar,
Band Council Pres.

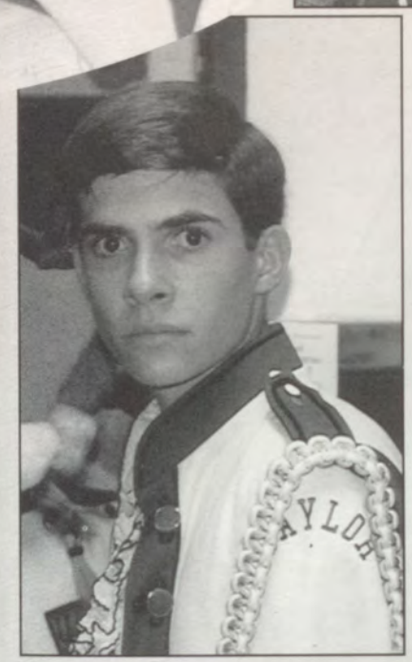


Top to bottom L-R: Bobby Leshikar (Pres.), Paul Zucknick (Fish Rep.), Sean Washington (Jr. Rep. & Co-Drum Major) 2nd row: Tamara Naivar (Historian), Willie Fields (Soph. Rep.), Anne Foley (Vice Pres), Andrea Wilson (Co Senior Rep.) Not pictured: Elizabeth Flores (Secretary/Treasurer), and Brittany Matoska (Co Senior Rep.)











"I'm proud to have been President of our school's first music Honor Society. So There!" Anne Foley, President of Tri-M



Top to Bottom, L-R: Paul Zucknick (Secretary), Brenda Hyzak (Treasurer), Tamara Naivar (Historian), Bottom row: Anne Foley (Pres.), Sean Washington (Vice Pres.)



Top to Bottom, L-R: Bobby Leshikar, Steven Fuller, Paul Zucknick, Willie Fields, Stephanie Faulkner, Clayton Krueger, Maria Fraire, Lacie Rueke, Micah Grau, Andrew Oser, Chandler Dabbs, Jason Pausewang, 2nd row: Kara Elliot, Andrea Harrell, Heather Hazelwood, Lauren Currie, Casey Rogers, Monica Ruble, Andrea Wilson, Tarisa Walker, Laura Barefoot, Josh Verastique, Bottom Row: Becky Estrada, Crystal Block, Sean Washington, Tamara Naivar, Anne Foley, Brenda Hyzak, Laura Johnson, and Kristin Chait



Friends Andrea Harrel and Maria Fraire spread Christmas cheer to all with their smiles. ↑

A trio for the Christmas tree... This group of three grins at the Christmas party. ↗

The Grinch won't steal the Christmas from these determined marchers at the Taylor Parade of Lights! ↗

Who, me? Chandler Dabbs seems guilty... He knows what songs will be played at this Christmas concert. ↑

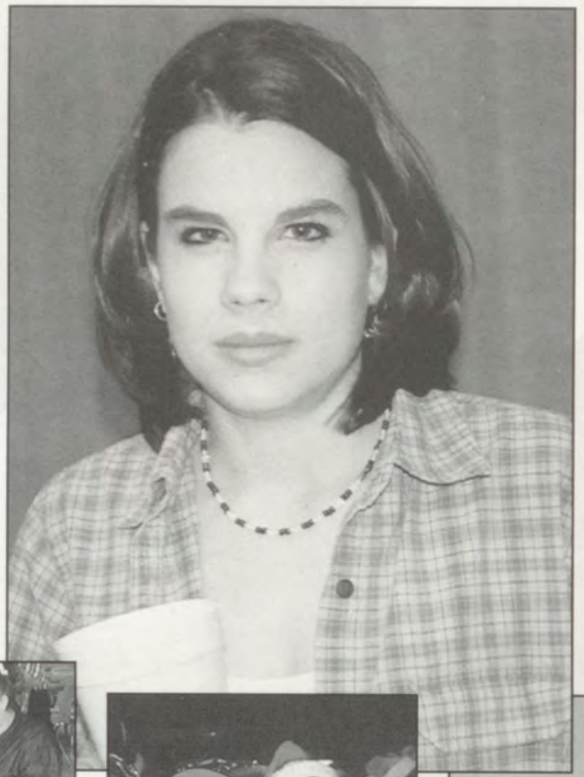
Ta-Da!!! Anne Foley's balancing act becomes a hit at the Christmas party. Yes, those are checkers at the base! →

Layout and Design by Amber Byfield and Melodie Strickland Copy by Bobby Leshikar

Special thanks to Anne Foley and Sean Washington

"The Band has reached a high level of excellence this year. A lot of it has to do with student discipline and willingness to learn. The senior band members have played a major part in the success of this band. They will be surely missed, but we have very dedicated musicians returning next year."

Robert Rubio,
Band Director



Association of Texas Small School Bands

All State Band Members:
Anne Foley (flute/piccolo), alternates: Sean Washington (bass clarinet), Stephanie Faulkner (bassoon), Lacie Ruemke (clarinet).

Area Band Members:
Anne Foley (flute/piccolo), Bobby Leshikar (trumpet), Andrea Wilson (clarinet), Sean Washington (bass clarinet), Lacie Ruemke (clarinet), and Stephanie Faulkner (basson).

Region Band Members:
Symphonic: Anne Foley (flute/piccolo), Lauren Currie (flute), Bobby Leshikar (trumpet), Sean Washington (bass clarinet), Lacie Ruemke (clarinet), Andrea Wilson (clarinet), Stephanie Faulker (bassoon), and Chandler Dabbs (French horn)
Concert: Coty Brown (bass clarinet), Willie Fields (alto sax), Jason Pausewang (tenor sax), Paul Zuchnick (French horn), Andrew Morris (French horn), Chris Auerbach (French horn), Josh Verastique (trombone), Steven Fuller (baritone), Chad Cervenka (tuba), and Todd Wiseman (tuba).







Honor Band

Honor Band I:
Kristen Chait, Heather Hazelwood, Brenda Hyzak, Tamara Naivar, Andrew Morris, Monica Ruble, and Sean Washington

Honor Band II:
Bobby Leshikar, Brittany Matoska, and Andrea Wilson

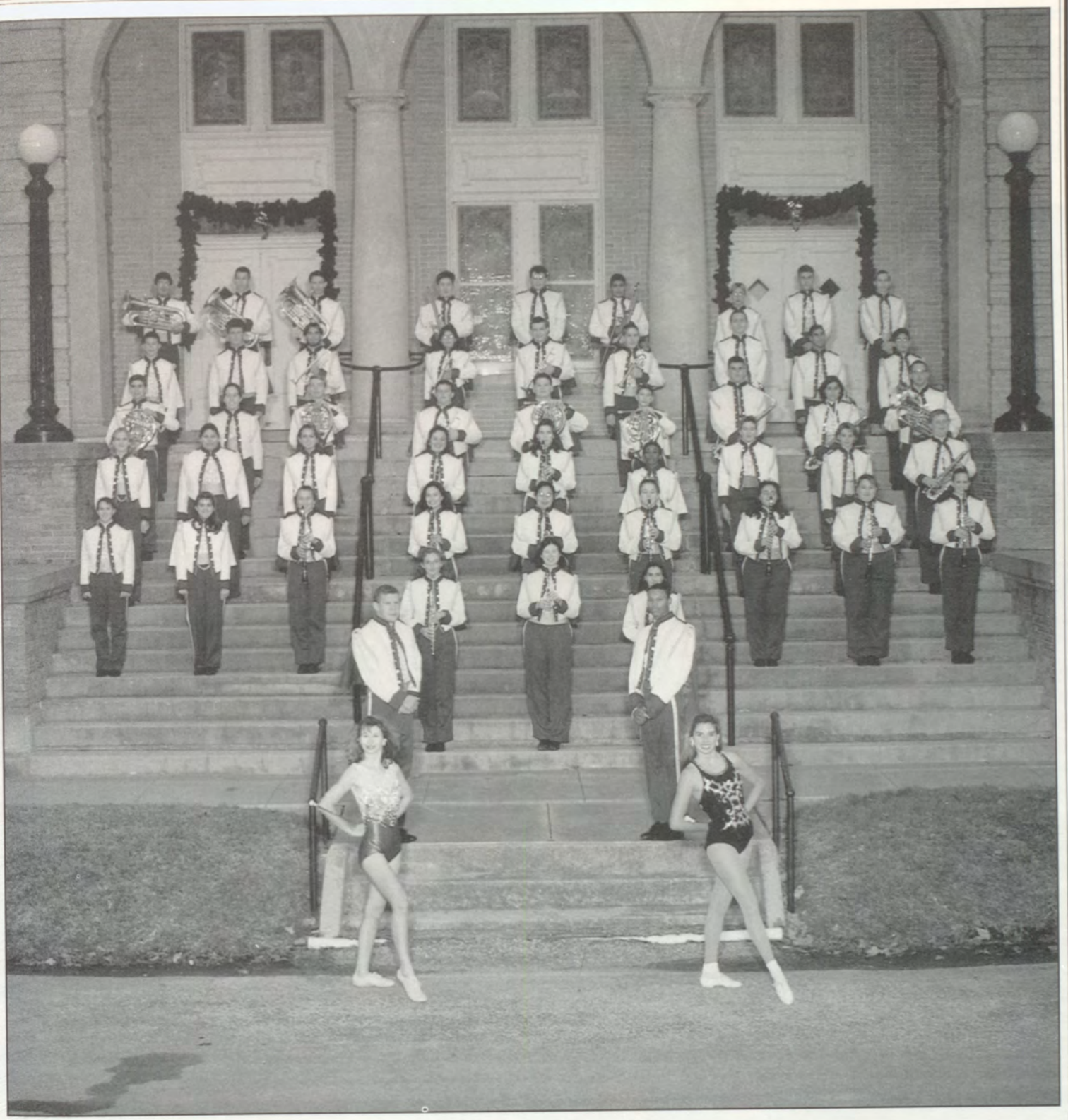








Grrrrrr! Andrea Wilson frightens our Mallard photographer at the Christmas Band Bash.
What is it? Others look on while Andrea Harrel opens a gift during their game at the Band Bash.
It's the Evil Oser! Andrew Oser gives us the evil eye after the Band Christmas Concert.
What a trio! Stephen Sorenson, Micah Grau, and Bobby Leshikar play their horns
Scooby-Scooby-Doo... Bobby loves you! Bobby shows his love for Scooby on the trip to Florida.



Taylor High School Marching Band

Top to Bottom, L-R: Angelo Fraire, Erik Fuller, Stephen Hawkins, Josh Verastique, Todd Wiseman, Johnny Gonzales, Jeffery Guisto, Coty Brown, and Josh Glover; 2nd Row: Stephen Drummund, Stephen Emmick, Bobby Leshikar, Maritza Caveda, Clint Naivar, William Brock, Blake Hegar, Joe Tamez, and Ben Fuentes; 3rd Row: Chandler Dabbs, Crystal Block, Chris Auerbach, Micah Grau, Paul Zucknik, Andrew Oser, Jason Pausewang, Monica Ruble, and Steven Fuller; 4th Row: Dawn Murdock, Samantha Hernandez, Casey Rogers, Ashely Butler, Willie Fields, Kara Elliot, Nichole Fraizer, and Clayton Krueger; 5th Row: Casey Sutton, Stephanie Rohlack, Vanna Evans, Becky Estrada, Maria Fraire, Lacie Ruemke, Stephanie Faulkner, Heather Hazelwood, and Tarisa Walker; 6th Row: Ruth Dixon, Anne Foley, and Lauren Currie; 7th Row (Drum Majors): Andrew Morris and Sean Washington; 8th Row (Twirlers): Tamara Naivar and Brooke Dabbs

Layout and Design by Amber Byfield and Melodie Strickland Copy by Bobby Leshikar
Special thanks Anne Foley and Sean Washington

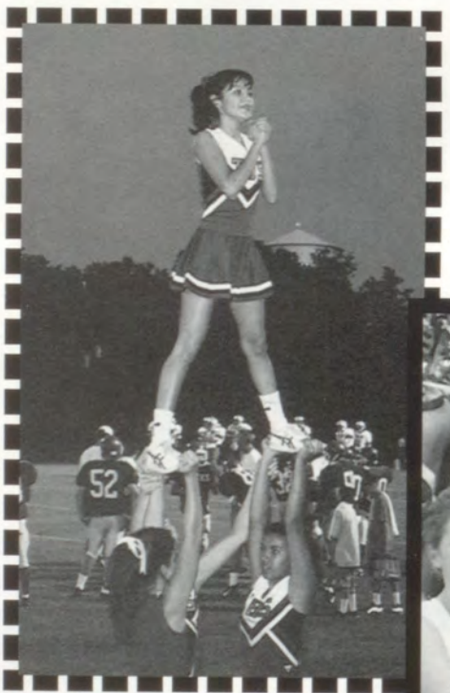
Keeping the Spirit Alive

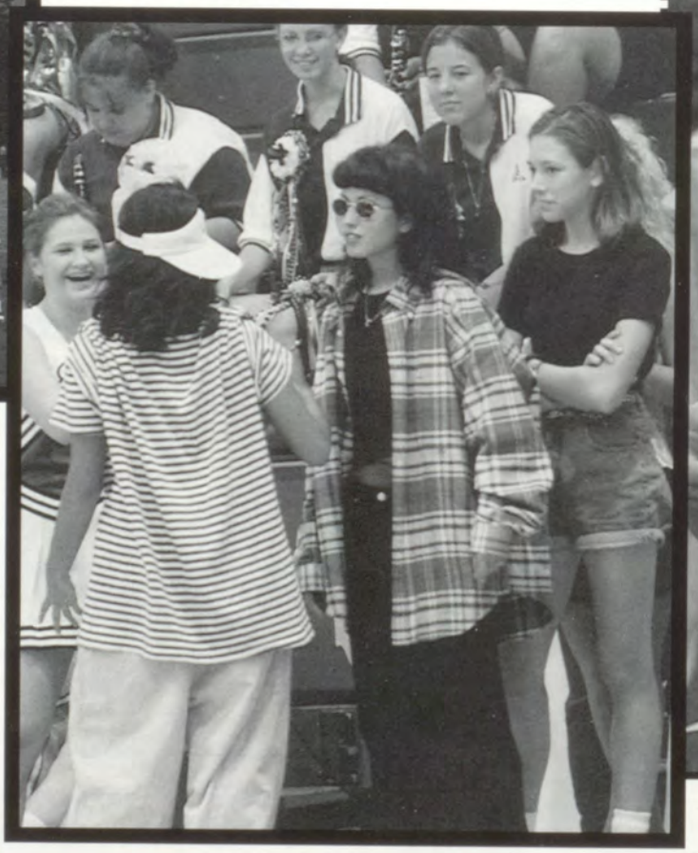
JV and Varsity Cheerleaders



Cheerleading is not just another extra-curricular activity. It is a sport which takes time and dedication. The cheerleaders devote themselves to making the school a better place. We do a good job of supporting our teams at every football, volleyball, basketball game, and powerlifting meet. We hold awesome pep rallys at every in town football game, paint huge run through signs, decorate the student center with banners, and keep the spirit alive in every way possible! To prepare for football games we put in many hours of our time and put forth hard work practicing after school. When game night arrives we fire up the Duck fans with our bright smiles, loud yells, and our miniature footballs that we threw at every Duck touchdown. All in all, the hard work and dedication pays off when it all comes down to winning. The football team may rule the field, but we rule the sidelines. And if the walls had anything to say about the football season, it wouldn't be about the big win, it would be about us.









Crazy Cheerleader "thugs" Ashley Tamez and Stacey Lopez imitate Hearne homecoming nominees. →

Get away from my pizza! Janlyn Mokry indulges in pregame activities. →→

Say cheese! The four seniors take time out for a quick shot. ↗

Yell with us! Sarah Torres bravely pumps up the crowd. ↑





"As my second year to be a mascot I have enjoyed making people laugh and seeing the little kids smile. It has been an honor to be a part of the squad."

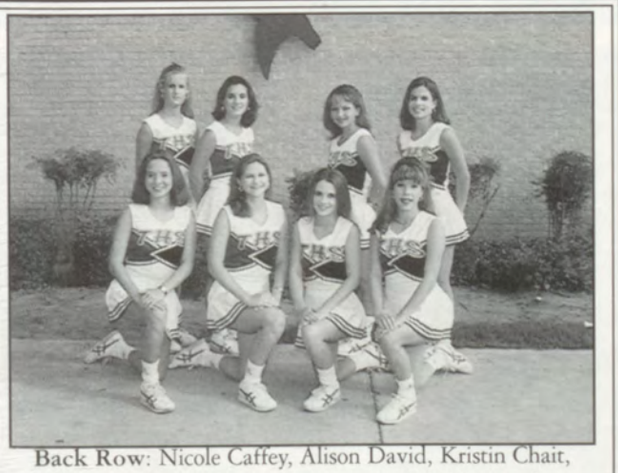
--Keli Stewart







Back Row: Alisha David, Stacey Lopez, Tabitha Haskins, Abbi Mott, Candace Benad.
Front Row: Amy Rinderknecht, Sarah Torres, Tina Ponkoney, Laura Ruiz, Ashley Tamez.



Back Row: Nicole Caffey, Alison David, Kristin Chait, Andrea Wilson. **Front Row**: Amanda Welch, Janlyn Mokry, Meagan Kilborn, Pauld Ortiz.

↖ Just Cheesin' it! Candace Benad shows some spirit!

↖ Had to be a duck! Alisha David goes swimming in her uniform.

↑ Go Cheerleaders! The JV and Varsity show their skill!

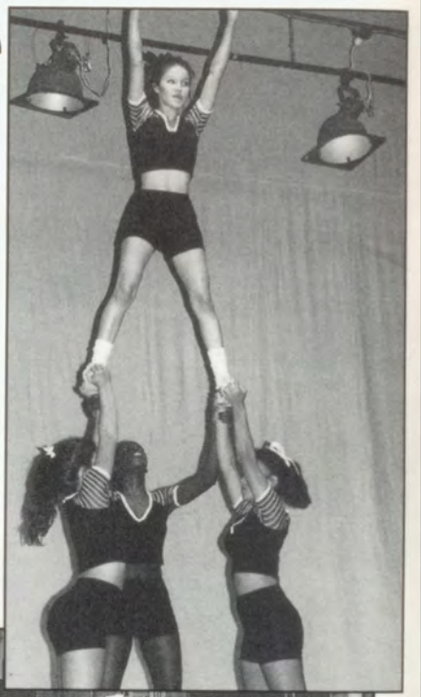
Copy and Layout by Alisha David and Candace Benad

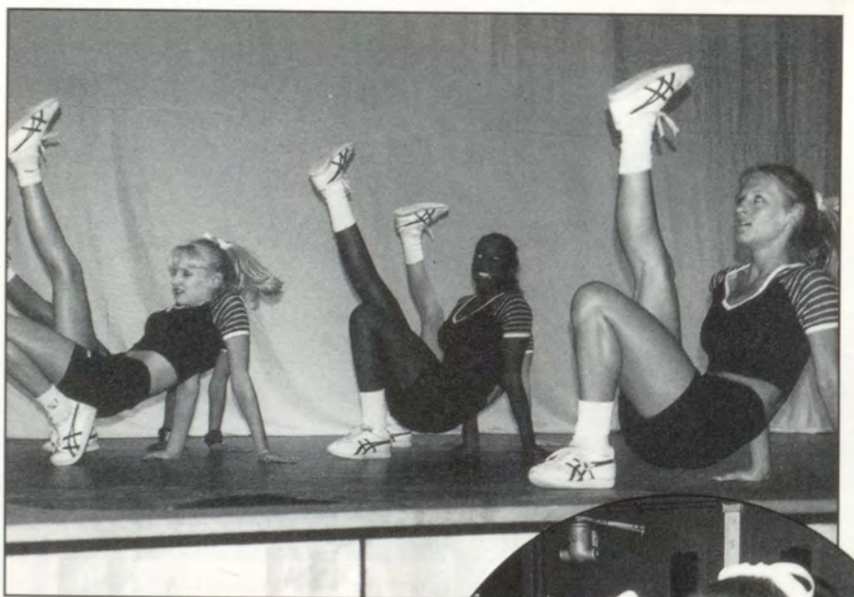


Our Time to Shine

Cheerleaders Spring Show

In the past, cheerleading was always first priority. But as the years go by, so do the common traditions. Despite the struggle of practice and other jobs, sports, etc., we still managed to practice 4 times a week from 6-7 and 2-4 on Sundays. Who will ever forget our practices? Although practice was hard most of the time, the rest of the time was solid laughs. Whether we were sneaking out behind Mrs. Mohel's back or being entertained by Nicole's dance moves; it was never anything but fun. Next year will not be the same without our four seniors. We will always remember the awesome spring show put together by some of the best cheerleaders Taylor High has ever seen. Our spring show routine left the audience in a state of awe and us in a state of pride. We also felt appreciation, for each other and ourselves. The time and dedication each one of us put forth into making our spring show the best one ever clearly paid off. Ten years from now we will smile and laugh at the great time we had and the job we did extremely well. We lit up the stage with our dances, stunts, jumps, and tumbling rolled up into one big routine. We are very proud of our accomplishments and there is no doubt Spring Show will remain in our hearts for years to come.







5, 6, 7, 8,. . . cheerleaders show off their moves during dress rehersal. ↑



"I'm so nervous!" Sarah Torres and Alisha David stop for a quick shot before they go on stage. →



"We love you guys!" The four seniors group up for one of the last pictures they'll ever take together. ↗



How it's Done

Cheerleaders Competition



Years ago, competition was a part of cheerleading. However time was costly and the thrill of competition was not so easily achieved. The professionals at Cheer Station gave us a choice, "Go to Nationals with a full squad and only eight out of fifteen able to tumble or go with a competition team of all the tumblers and have a definite spot in finals." So we took a team of 8 and in 2 months we prepared for Dallas. December 27, we left for Dallas to compete in the NCA National Championships. There we waited anxiously with stomachs full of butterflies. Finally, it was our turn to perform. We went out there and landed each of our standing backs, toe-touch flip-flops, and flip-flop backs. We felt confident about our performance. We waited breathlessly for our scores. We did not make the finals. Although most of us did not feel like partying, we still went to the Hard Rock and had the time of our lives. Overall, the togetherness we built over that 2 months with each other proved to be our greatest success. Five of the other cheerleaders supported us also by coming down to Dallas and joining in on the fun. We could not have done it without their support and dedication to the sport. The Hotel room was a blast, even with Alisha's mouse friend. Oh! We can't forget the bus tearing down the entrance of the Ramada. The windows also proved to be entertaining and Snoopy also experienced new things along with us. Competition was a blast this year and we will





↑ Smile! All these cheerleaders want for Christmas is 1st at competition.



← "Hit it!" THS competetors take the floor!

↖ Is our food here yet? Cheerleaders anxiuosly await their food at "Gators" in Dallas.

Copy and Layout by Alisha David

Steppin' Up

Hi-Steppers

This season started off great for the Steppers. At the end of last year the officers returned to Starmakers Dance Camp; we learned many routines that we brought home to the team. In the summer, we traveled to T Bar M in San Marcos for line camp. Even though camp was hard, we bonded as a team forming memories that will last a lifetime. We had a break the rest of the summer, but when school started it was business as usual. We practiced everyday polishing and perfecting our field routines. The practice was well worth it because football season was a great success, and the Steppers got to show off everything we learned in our brand new uniforms. This year along with Stepper of the Week, the Steppers added a Spirit Girl of the Week. The Spirit Girl of the Week was chosen by the social officers and was given to a Stepper at every home game. When Christmas came around we sold beautiful red poinsettias, visited retirement homes, and led the annual Christmas parade. All together, the '98 football season was a great year for us, and it will never be forgotten.





Front Row: Lt. Col. Autumn Schneider, Colonel Nicole Cantu, Jr. Lt. Jolena Caldera
Back Row: Roxanne Torres, Christina Gonzales, Monica Ochoa, Gladys Martinez, Chastity Garcia. Jennifer Zachary, Tammy Cervenka, Kendra Jirasek, Kimberly Zachary, Keitha Jones, Margaret Garry, Mgr. Kodie Jirasek, Mgr. Jennifer Krueger

The officers pose for a quick snap during the officer camp. ↑

Big and Lil' sisters Roxanne and Tammy smile in anticipation of their half time routine. →

Show us those Stepper smiles! Juniors Jolena and Christina pose during a home town football game. →→







Officers: Col. Nicole Cantu, Jr. Lt. Jolena Caldera, Lt. Col. Autumn Schnieder











↟ The senior Steppers pose for a quick picture at the homecoming game.
↟ The team bundles up for a quick picture after half time.
↖ Seniors Autumn and Nicole say cheese for a quick picture during their final home game.
↑ Chastity Garcia smiles big while performing a standing routine.

Copy and Layout by Autumn Schnieder

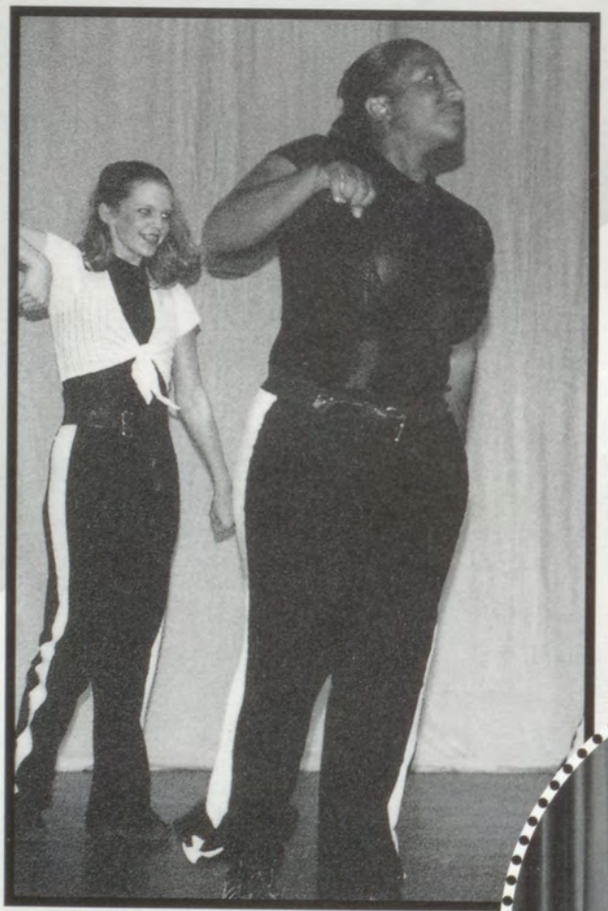
Spring Show

Contest & Kaleidoscope

Looking back at this year, anyone could see that the Hi-Steppers had their kicks at competition. We competed hard at contest in both New Orleans and at Westwood. As a team we took three routines for which we received Sweepstakes, a Gold Star award, and two Silver Star awards. The officers received Sweepstakes for their three routines, a Gold Star award, and two Silver Star awards. For the first time in years, two soloist, Nicole Cantu and Autumn Schneider were named solo finalists. This year the Steppers opened Kaleidoscope in the auditorium with our award winning kick routine to "Masquerade."

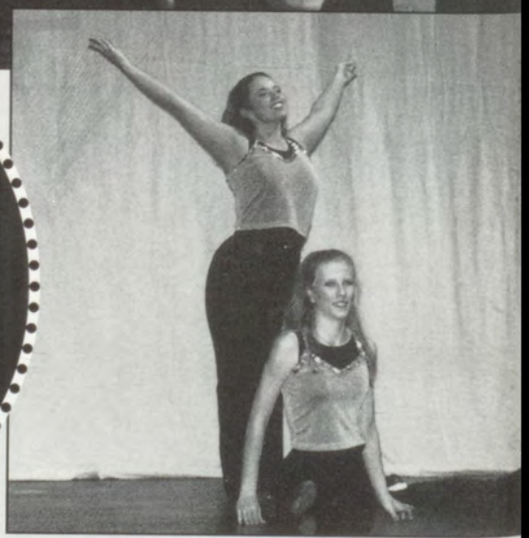
As a team we also performed our contest Jazz and Military routines, along with our new team Funk and Lyrical routines. The officers performed their Lyrical and Jazz routines; the guys performed their "Hard Knock Life" routine, there was a parents routine, and Nicole Cantu performed her solo. Class dances were still a tradition but the seniors stood out with their unique modern jazz routine to "The Truth." As Kaleidoscope came to an end, tears were shed as the seniors remembered the friends and memories they made while Steppers as they joined together for the last time, as a team, dancing to the traditional "Last Dance."











Pump it up! Autumn Schneider and Monica Ochoa get into their team funk routine. ↗↑

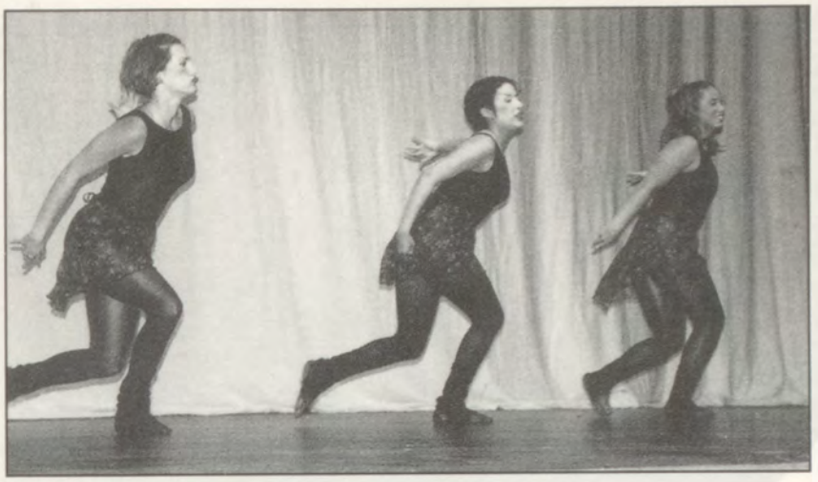
Freeze! The team smiles in the ending position of their Jazz routine. ↗

Keitha Jones and Kim Zachary get into their team Funk routine. ↑

Kendra Jirasek and Jolena Caldera pose for the last time as juniors. →

Nicole Cantu and Autumn Schneider show their solo finalist awards.















The team shows off their team Sweepstakes trophy and Officer Sweepstakes trophy. ↑↑↑←

The officer's dance for the last time to their Jazz routine "Flood." ↑↑↑

Dancing with her heart in it, Autumn Schneider gives it all she has got. ↑↑←

Steppers take a kicking break as they perform the opening number " Masquerade." ↑↑

Tammy Cervenka holds her pose for a quick pic. ←

These Seniors strut their stuff to their Senior dance, "The Truth." ↑

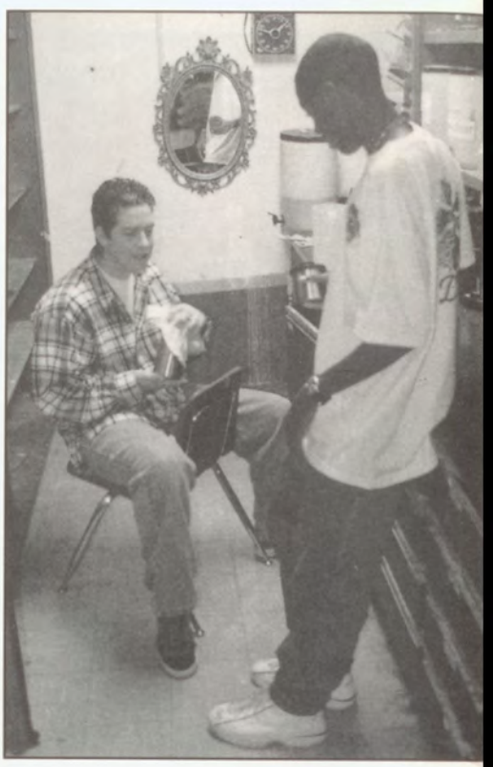
The officers and Ms. Vest smile knowing the hard work paid off. ←

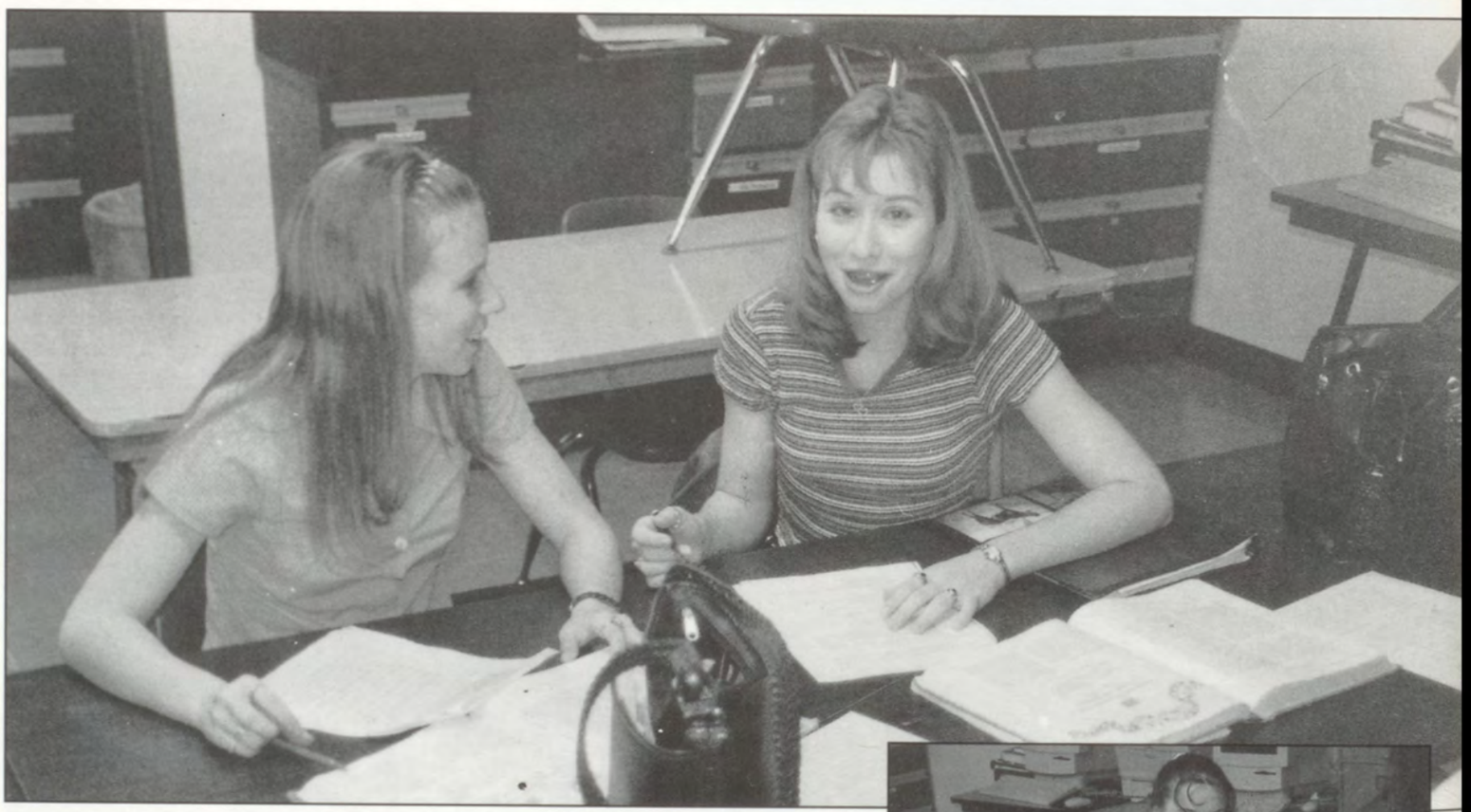
Copy and Layout by Autumn Schneider

Wait a Cotton-Pickin' Minute

It's a Newspaper Not a Football Game!

It has been around since the dawn of time… well, at least since the dawn of Taylor High School— Cotton Boll, as we know it, is the school newspaper (not a football playoff). Proudly, this year Cotton Boll can boast having put out more issues than we had in years. But this wasn't any miracle—this year we had perhaps the largest staff Cotton Boll has ever seen, reaching nearly 30 members. Of course, like any staff not all 60 hands were utilized, but nonetheless we had a hardworking staff that brought to the school such favorites as Santa Letters and Senior Wills. A few new things were added to the paper this year, among them was horoscopes; and old time favorites from years long passed such as Senior Favorites (with a Cotton Boll twist) were resurrected. In the senior issue another interesting thing was added—a short question and answer section, where teachers were asked questions about when they were in high school. Undoubtedly our best issue all year was the senior issue. Containing Remember Whens, Senior Wills, Class Favorites, and Baby pictures—there's no way we could have gone wrong. All together Cotton Boll had a great year. We worked hard to meet our deadlines and each member can be proud to say, "I was a part of the Cotton Boll staff."





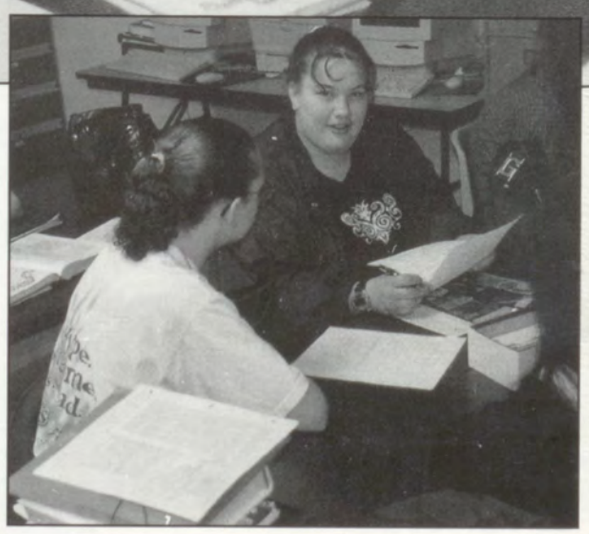
Hey, it's not dark in here! Al Block and Kenneth work in the darkroom. ↗

Kendra Jirasek and Tamara Naivar figure out the chemical makeup of the developing chemicals. ↑

Workin' it! Heather Hazelwood and Tarisa Walker revise their copy for an upcoming issue. →

Munching and working... Heather Guardiola works and eats. →







Cotton Boll Staff

Top Row, Left to Right: Angie Roman, Kenneth Martin, Tara Svehlak, Justin Klaus, Guy Oliphint, Al Block, Alisha David, Meagan Kilborn. Middle Row: Bertha Nunez, Sarah Simmons, Jill Winklemann, Kendra Jirasek, Leslie Johnson. Bottom Row: Kristin Carter, Don Hernandez, Tarisa Walker, Heather Hazelwood, Heather Guardiola, Meghan Klotz, Candace Benad.





"Cotton Boll taught me how to examine situations and report about them. It was a great experience. I hope this course helps many more students."
Al Block

← **Working hard!** After finishing breakfast tacos, Alisha David and Candace Benad work on... umm... looking at a magazine.

We'll Save Your Life Someday

Is there a doctor in the school?



Health Occupation Students of America, otherwise known as HOSA, has had an unforgettable year in all of our opinions. For several years, Mrs. Dodson's classes have done a Disaster Drill. It is done to test the 911 system and the hospital. This year, we did a mock bomb explosion. Another annual event is the Area I competition. This year's competition was held in San Antonio. A lot of hard work was done by all of us to prepare for our events. All the hard work paid off, because eight fellow members placed high and moved on to State. The State competition was held in Lubbock, and everyone had a good time. On a free afternoon, Mrs. Dodson took the State competitors to the Texas Tech Gross Anatomy Lab, and looked at the different studies of the human body. HOSA is a great club, and Mrs. Dodson is a wonderful teacher. We did many more great things as a club, including two very successful blood drives, which provided a lot of blood and blood types for those in need. HOSA is the club that none of us will ever forget. We learned many valuable skills for our futures in the Health occupational field.



Top, Left to Right: Angelica Diaz, Steven Teggeman, Caleb Kilborn, Sarah Raesz, Chandler Dabbs, Vidal Pina, Maria Arias, Chastity Garcia, Gladys Martinez, Christina Ford, Mrs. Dodson, Elaine Good. Middle: Melinda Lopez, Tonya Watkins, Catherine Cathey, Dana Carrizales, Paula Vasquez, Alpa Patel, Jennifer Duran, Monica Hernandez, Julie Schumpert, Anita Cruz. Bottom: Ladd Moehnke, Mark Reeves, Andrea Wilson, Nicole Caffey, Eryn Graef, Tyler Schade, Jennifer Kolinek, Maria Castaneda, Monica Ochoa.





Mrs. Dodson's 5th period class proudly shows off HOSA's new Homecoming banner. ↗
This won't hurt a bit. Eryn Graef puts the finishing touches on HOSA's replica of ↑
Hearne's football player.
What's going on? Andrea Wilson got escorted out of the bomb scene during the →
disaster drill.



Top, Left to Right: Angelica Diaz (Historian), Vidal Pina (Co-Vice Pres.), Mark Reeves (Co-Vice Pres.), Tyler Schade (Treasurer), Maria Castaneda (Historian). Bottom: Chastity Garcia (Historian), Andrea Wilson (Secretary), Eryn Graef (President), Jennifer Kolinek (Treasurer and Area I Secretary), Sarah Raesz (Area I Member at Large).









"HOSA has been a wonderful experience this year. We had two successful blood drives and eight people competed at State. I will miss it."

Eryn Graef,
HOSA
President



Elaine Good and Monica Ochoa practice dressing wounds.

Brrrr! The HOSA members that competed at State competition in Lubbock pose in front of the Gross Anatomy Lab at Texas Tech.

Don't drop me! Eryn Graef is carefully strapped to a board due to fake severe leg injuries during the disaster drill.

It's coming! Screams Angelica Diaz, right before giving birth to her imaginary baby during the drill.

Copy and Layout by Amy Samuelson

Business as Usual

Business Professionals of America



Business Professionals of America proves to be one of the most outstanding and successful clubs this year with all of their great achievements. With Augie Alderete as its president, this organization has been active in many of Taylor High School's activities, such as working at the concession stand at a football game, and entering a float in Taylor's Parade of Lights for Christmas. B.P.A. was also successful in going to state competition in Corpus Christi and showed off their talents there and in other competitions. The students involved in BPA represented Taylor High School by showing integrity and talent in many areas. Members took office-related courses or are members of Co-op. BPA was a fun way to learn about jobs and the real world. Learning many things such as computer skills and ways to communicate, BPA had a very productive year. BPA will contribute to our preparation for the future and will proceed to lead us to a successful future.



"This year, BPA got a lot accomplished. We did well at the area competition and qualified several for State. This experience really prepared me for my future carreer."
Randa Stiba



First Row, Left to Right: Melodie Strickland, Janlyn Mokry, Whitney Kolinek, and Randa Stiba. Second Row: Tiffanie Bigon, Alison David, Augie Alderete, April Maruska, Tessa Mikulencak, and Mrs. Leschber.



Hey, let's skip this and go shopping. Mrs. Leschber and Mrs. Rogers are working really hard at the concession stand. ↗

Say Cheese! Janyln Mokry and Heather Poldrack stop for a quick pic on the way to the pool at the BPA contest. ↑

Rollin' in the dough! Brooke Gonzales and Kellie Kalnasy work hard at the concession stand. →









Officers: Tessa Mikulencak, Parlimentarian; April Maruska, Vice-President; Randa Stiba, Treasurer; Augie Alderete, President; Alison David, Secretary. Not Pictured: Beatriz Hernandez, Reporter.





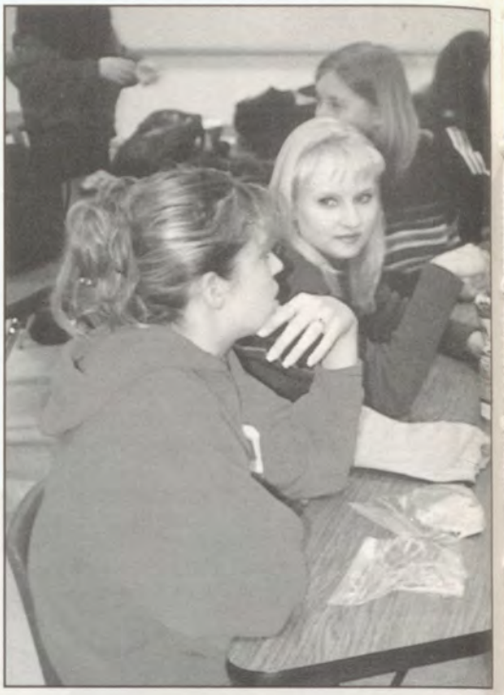


↑Tiffanie Bigon, Tessa Mikulencak, Janlyn Mokry, and Heather Poldrack are proud to be representing Taylor at the State Competition.

↖So, you think you're cool? Augie Alderete, Lauren Schwart, Tiffanie Bigon, April Maruska, Randa Stiba, and Beatriz Hernandez wave to their fans in the Parade of Lights.

The Future of Teaching

Future Teachers of America



Future Teachers of America, an organization created for students who have the dream of becoming the best at educating as they can be. This year FTA had an extremely bright variety of members. Some of our members, reaching for the educational stars, competed at contest in Austin. Erin Schmidt, Michelle Ford, Jennifer Kolinek, and Tracy Steffek were the pround members to go to competition this year. They did very well and learned a lot! "It was a fun learning experience," says Jennifer Kolinek, "not only did I do well, but I also had fun learning different aspects of education." Erin Schmidt was extremely pleased with contest. Who wouldn't be pleased with a $1000 scholarship? FTA continued to shine as we went to state contest proving that FTA was no ordinary club. In February, club members got together and organized the sale and distribution of carnations onValentine's day. We sold carnations to everyone--friends, boyfriends, girlfriends, teachers--in the spirit of love and friendship on Valentine's Day. Despite our size, FTA proved to be one of the more active and successful clubs at our school. UIL and State were just a couple of our distinguished accomplishments. Our school is full of pride for FTA. After all, we are the future teachers of America at Taylor High.



Top row, left to right: Jennifer Kolinek, Clint Mokry, Dominick Devasty, Kelly Kuhl, Mrs. Schaefer. Second row: Tracy Steffek, Tracy Machu, Becky Estrada, Alison Mayer, Amber Byfield, Margaret Garry, April Maruska, Michelle Ford, Erin Schmidt, Christina Ford. Bottom row: Sara Simmons, Keitha Jones, Courtney Minzenmayer, D'Nehsia Griffin, Alisha David, Candace Benad, Emily Johnson, Melodie Strickland.



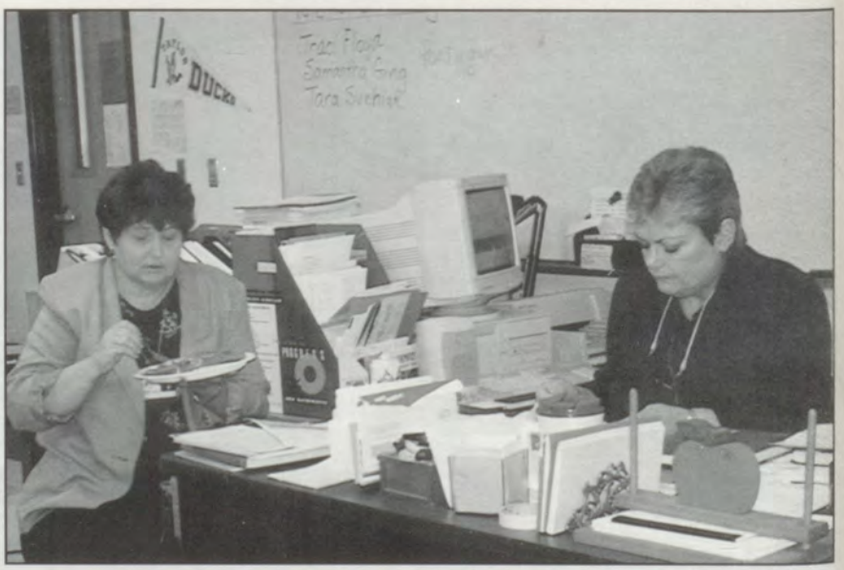
"Being a part of FTA has helped me prepare for my future. We had a really great time and accomplished a lot of things." Erin Schmidt, President



Keitha Jones and Abbi Mott sit and eat lunch while the club briefly discusses the upcoming contest. ↗

The real teachers! Mrs. Burklow and Mrs. Schaefer chow down at one of our meetings. →

Alisha David, Dominick Devasty, and D'Neshia Griffin get the munchies during the meeting. ↑

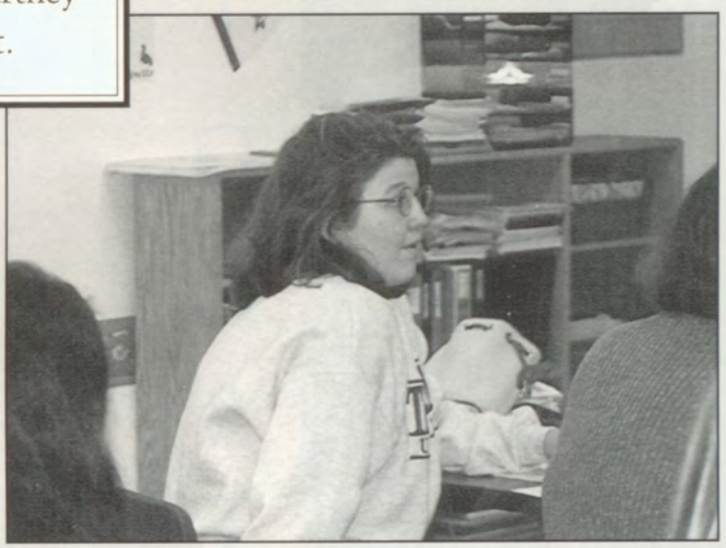


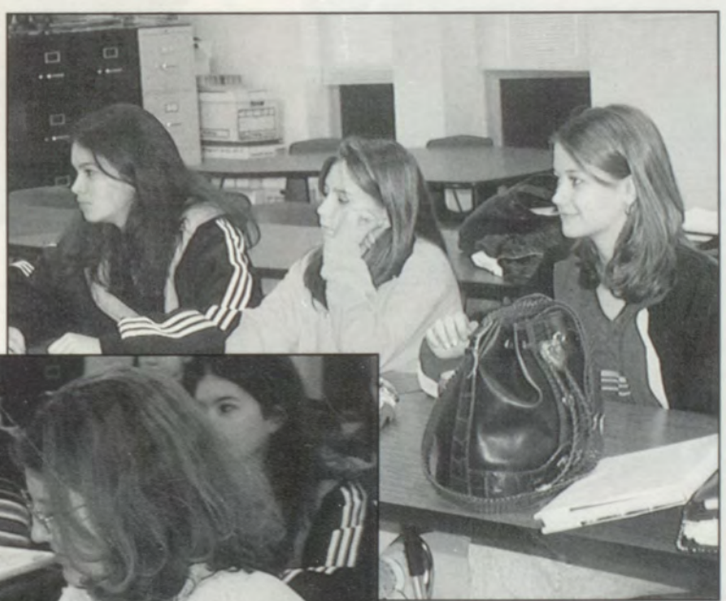


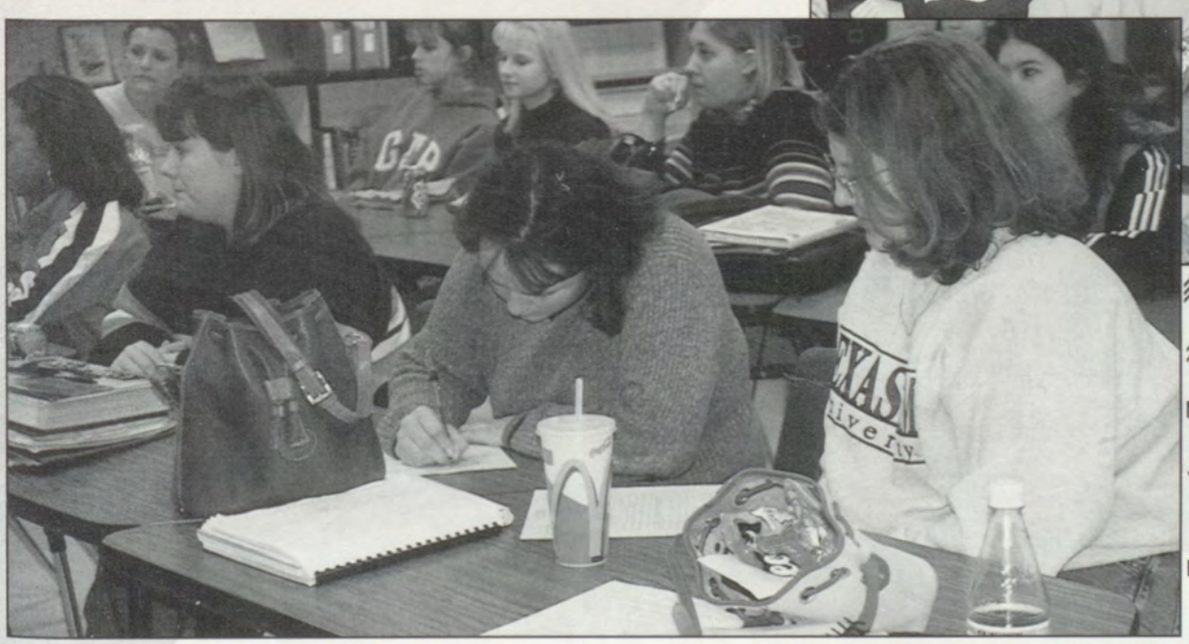
F.T.A. Officers, Left to right: Jennifer Kolinek, Courtney Minzenmayer, Michelle Ford, and Erin Schmidt.











↑ **Smile!** You look stressed out, Mrs. Schaefer! You're working too hard, take a break.

↑ **Look out** as Erin Schmidt takes the floor.

↖ Tracy Stefek and Candace Benad strike a pose at a meeting.

↑ ***Are we having fun yet?*** Rachael Lute, Tiffany Ford, and Kristin Bohac, listen intently for the upcoming carnation sales.

↖ Erin Schmidt and Michelle Ford group together to take notes on the upcoming events.

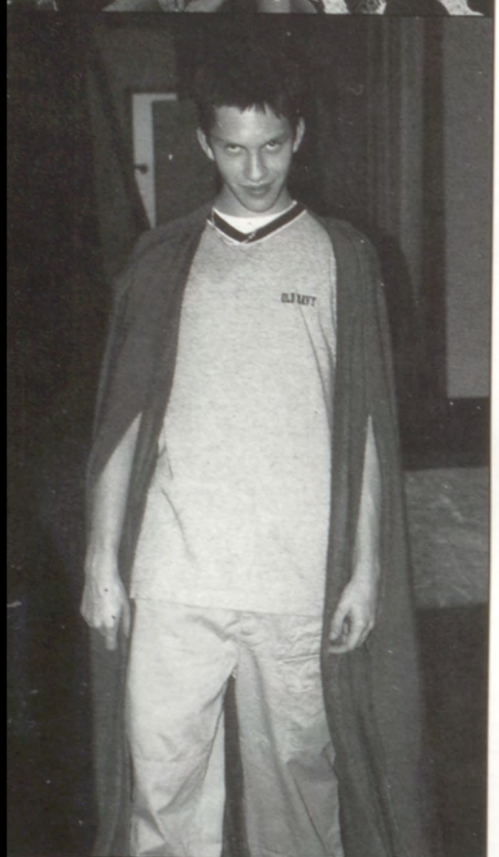
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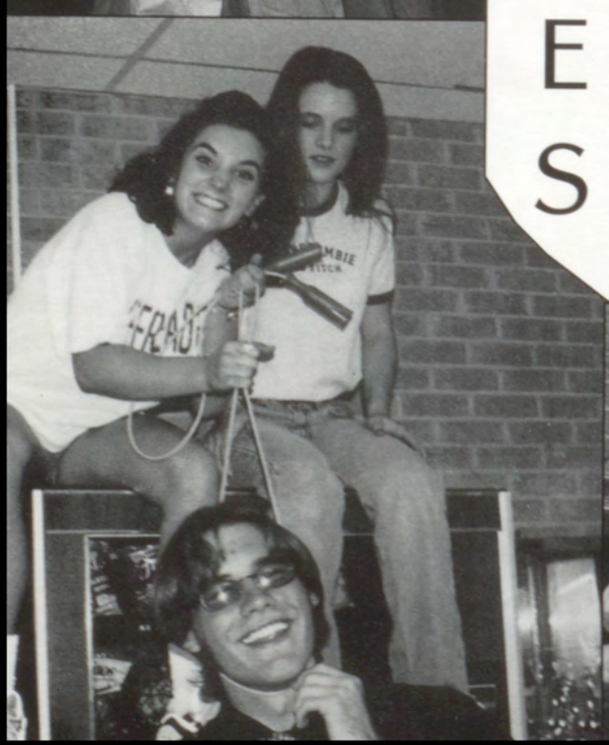






SIGNATURES









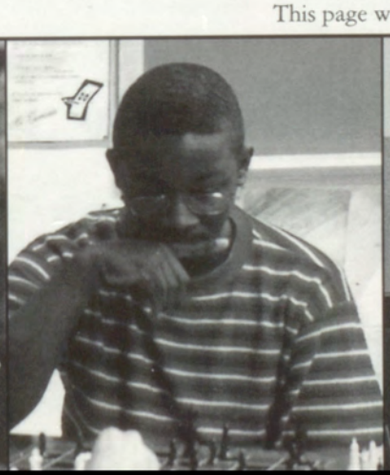






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Pigs and Cows and Chickens, Oh My!

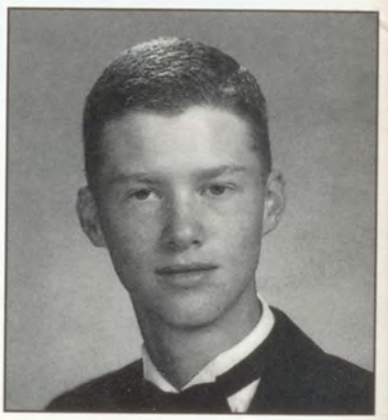
Future Farmers of America



One of the greatest things about THS is the fact that no matter what interests you, there is always something for everyone. Future Farmers of America was the club to join if you were into horticulture, agriculture, or animal science. Members of FFA learned the importance of careful planning and management which were necessary to produce the best livestock and crops around the area. This year, FFA students showed their animals in various contests, including the Williamson County Livestock Show, and the Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo. Being an important part of American life as farmers, ranchers, or ag. technologists was the goal of our club this year. Participants in Future Farmers of America raised such animals as cows and chickens, also. We took great care of our animals, spent a lot of time with them, and came to love them dearly.



Bottom: Tracy Steffek, Randy Blackwell, Amy Hughes, Cassie Taylor.
Middle: Nathan Mokry, Travis Huber, Dustin Harrison, Brandon Randig.
Top: Reagen Schroeder, Herbert Shamard, Brian Lawrence, Josh Richter, Heath Grimm, Derek Klepac.



"FFA was cool this year, that's the only word I need to describe it."
Brian Lawrence



FFA Members gather in front of the bull at Sirloin Stockade before the banquet. ↗



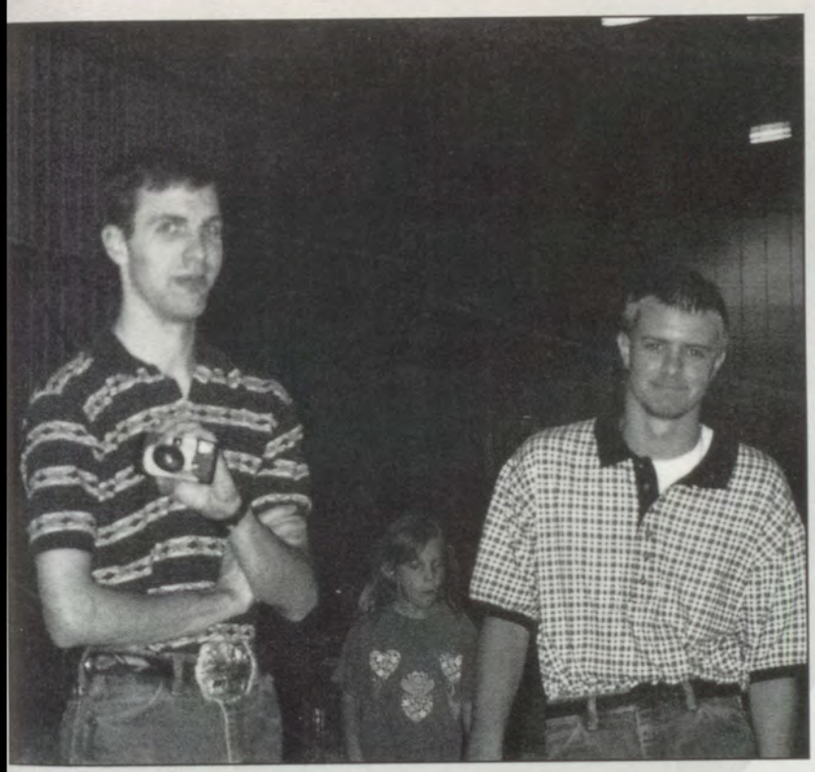
Heath, Cassie, and Travis have fun and joke around at the banquet. ↑
Where's the food? →



Left to Right: Brandon Randig, Cassie Taylor, Amy Hughes, Tracy Stefek, Brian Lawrence









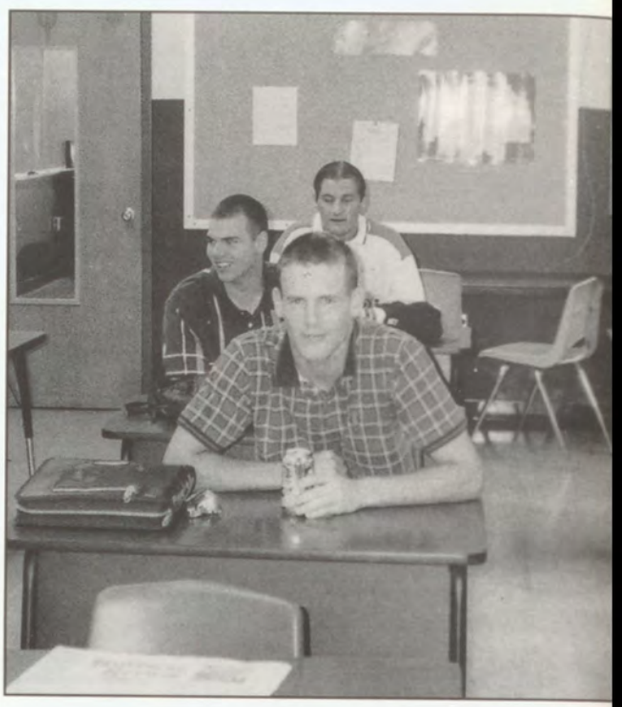


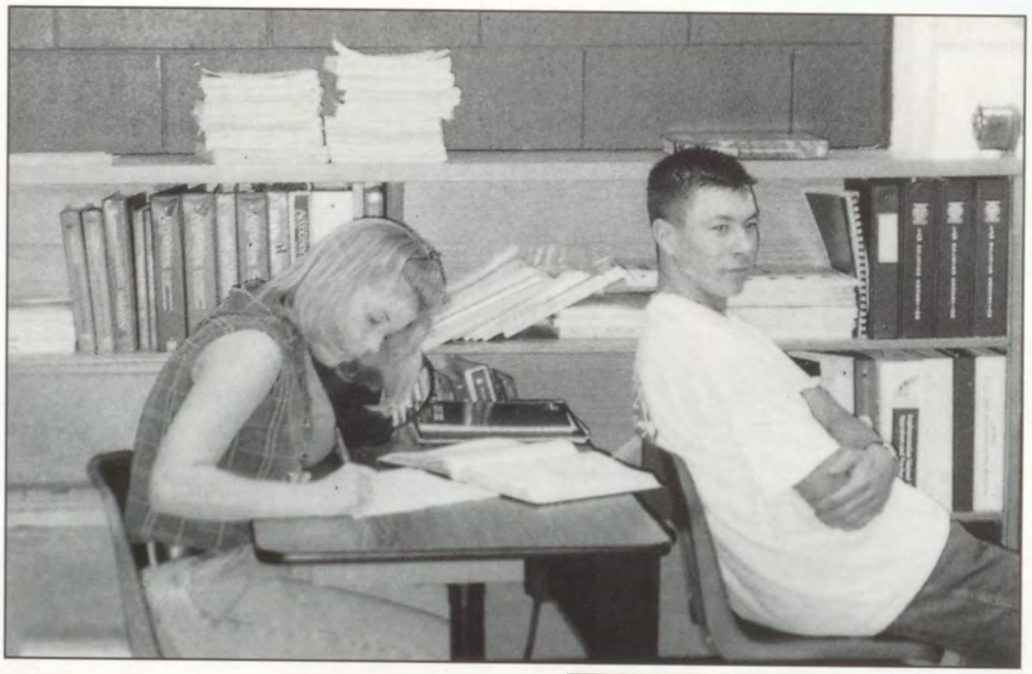
↟ Cassie and Amy at the 1999 State FFA Convention.
↟ Amy and Lucky at the Houston Livestock Show.
↖ Mr. Bishop and Brandon "just chillin'."
↑ Heath and Cassie with their prize chickens.
← *It's just chicken*, preppy!

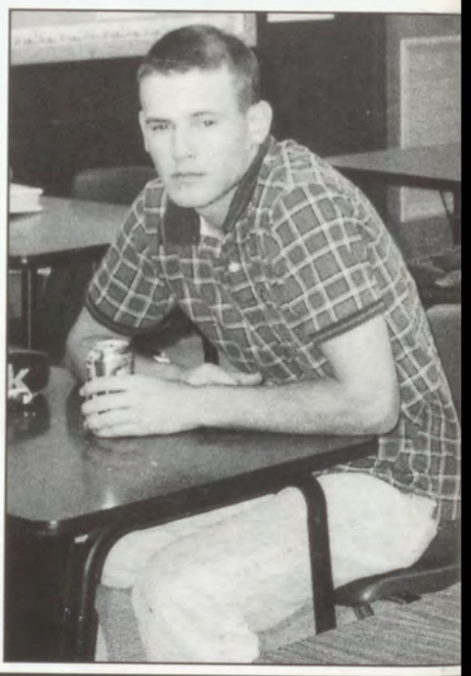
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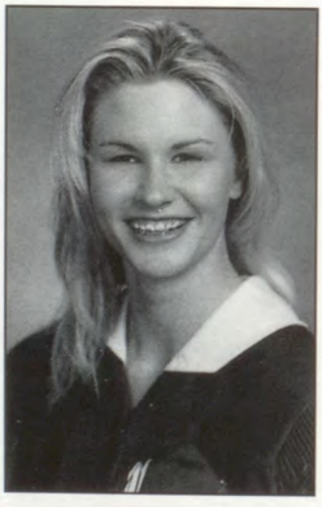
Ready for the Work Force
ICT

The ICT program provides a way to prepare high school students like us for employment in occupations classified as industrial or technical. The ICT program helps introduce members of its classes to a career in which they are intersted and teaches them how to deal with employers, co-workers and people in general. Mr. Dickinson coordinates the program that teaches how to deal with the responsibility of having a job and the skills needed to be successful. We have learned how to survive in the often fast-paced, ever changing world of work.







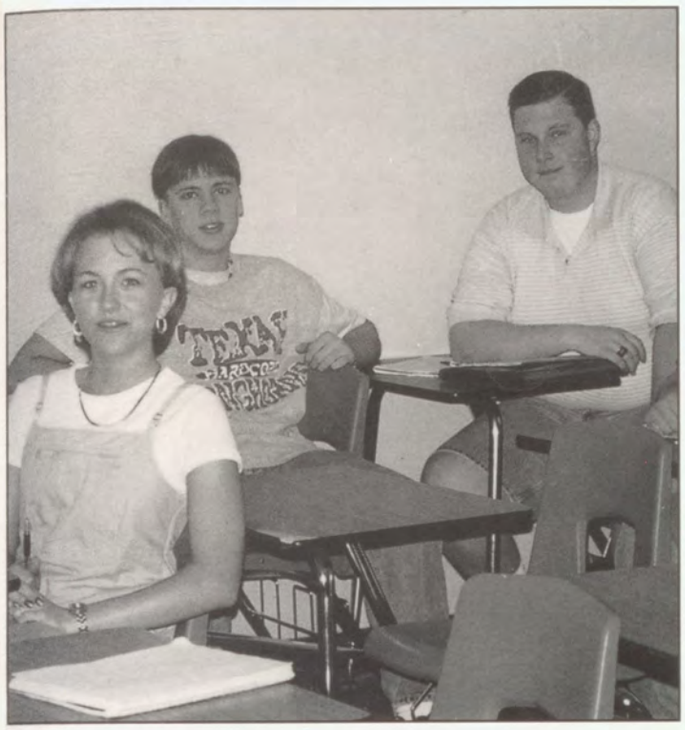


"ICT was something that taught me how to handle a job in the real world. Also the class itself had it's originality."
--Jennifer Whatley



ICT

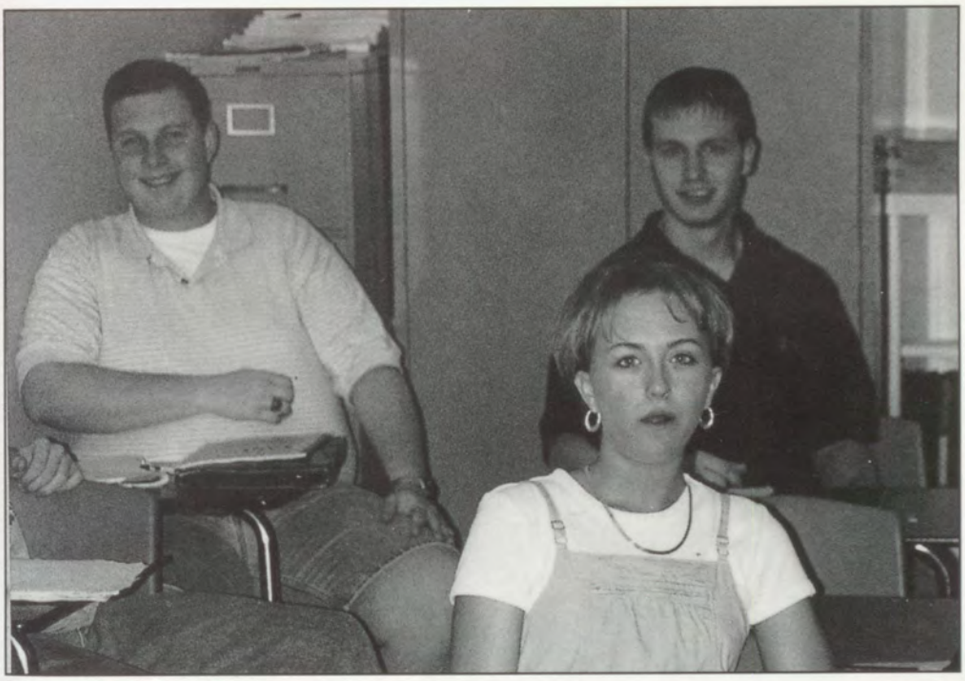
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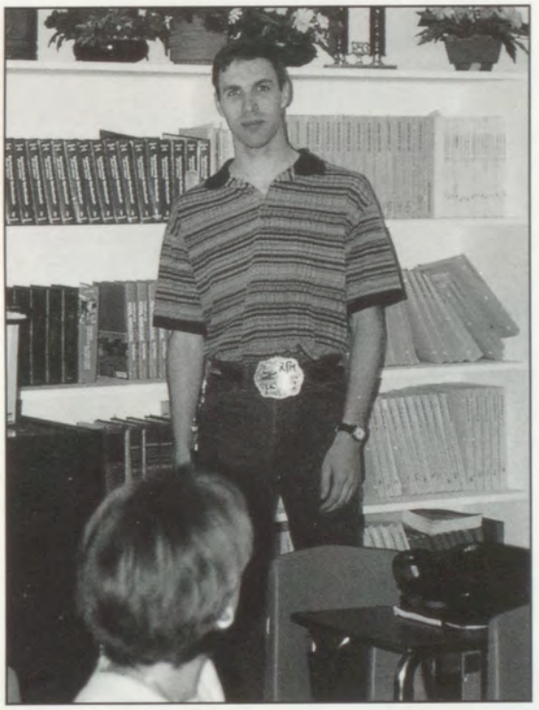


School and Work... What a Combination

Distributive Education Cooperation of America

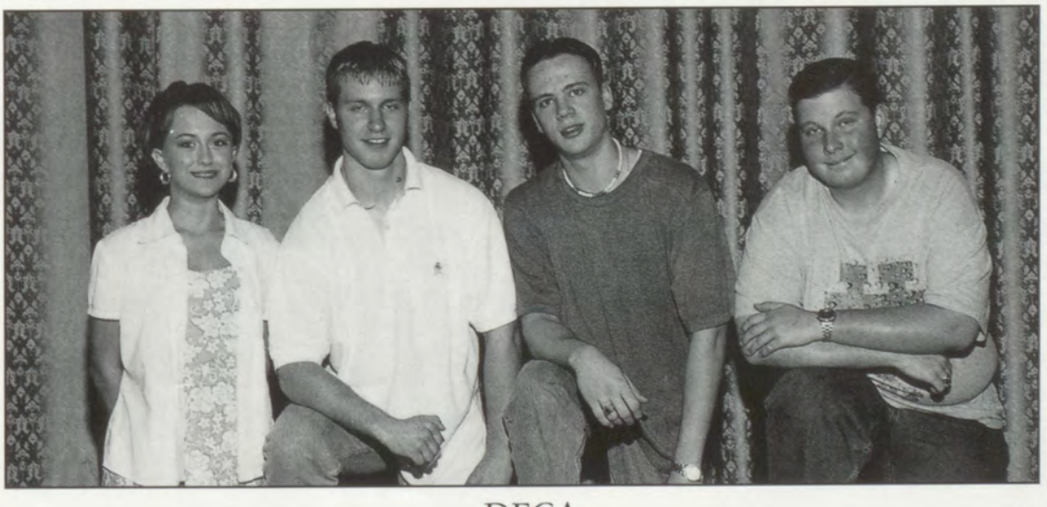
DECA, Distributive Education Cooperation of America, is one of our co-op programs. DECA is an organization centered on ambitions and goals. Its focus is to improve educational and career opportunities in marketing, management, and entrepreneurship for students. Consisting of only a few students, the group wasn't your average size; however the students weren't so average themselves. Taking on both work and school at the same time is not an easy thing—nor is taking on work for school. But the prospect of money is enticement enough. Mr. Bishop helped teach us that it was time we took part in our own actions—that meant being responsible for ourselves as young adults. Most of all though, he helped us believe in our capabilities and ourselves.





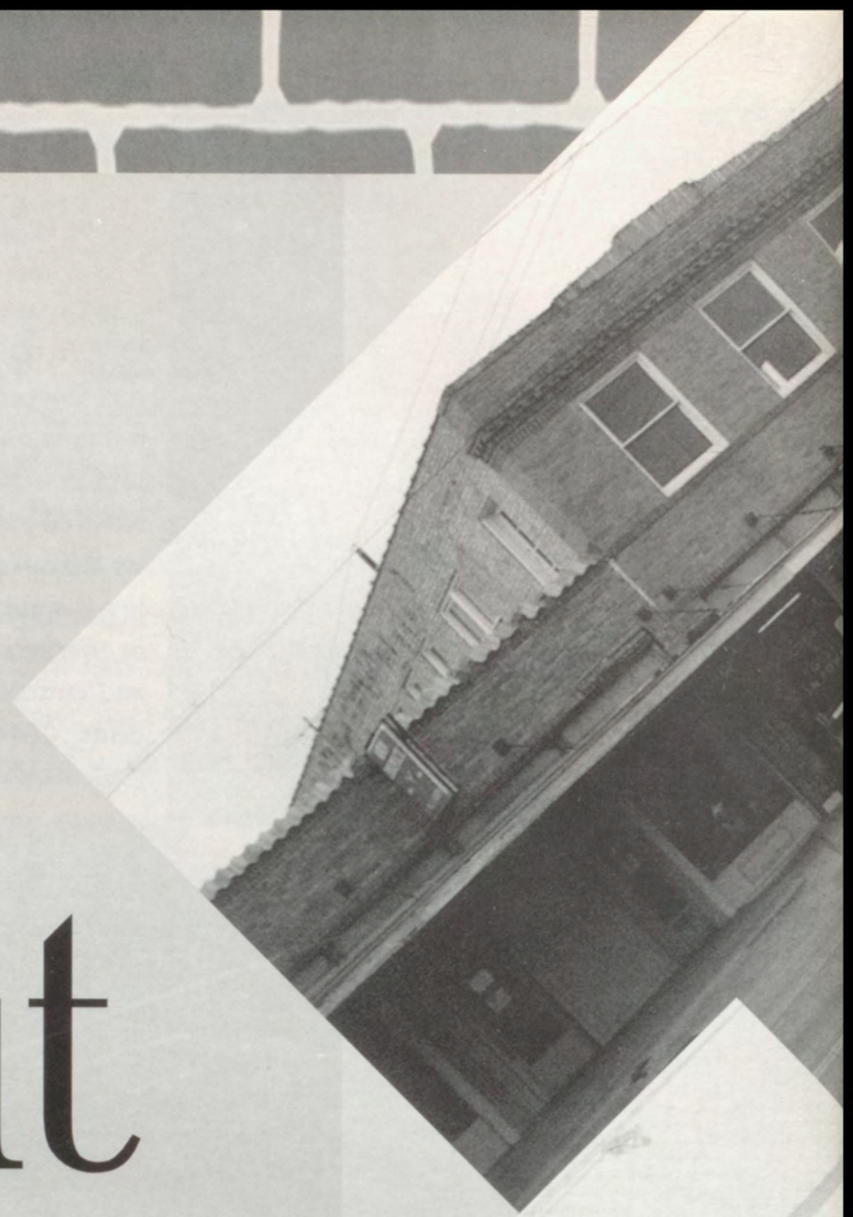


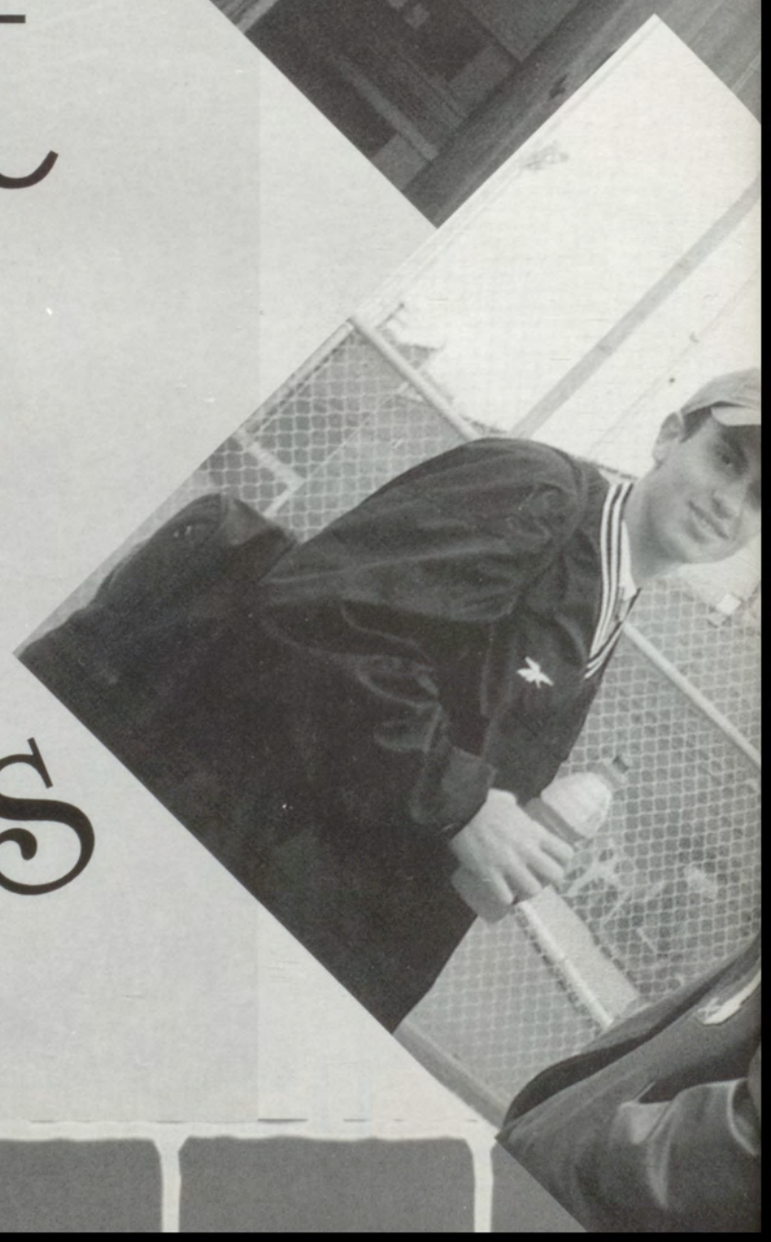
"DECA was a great experience for my future." Matt Daenzer



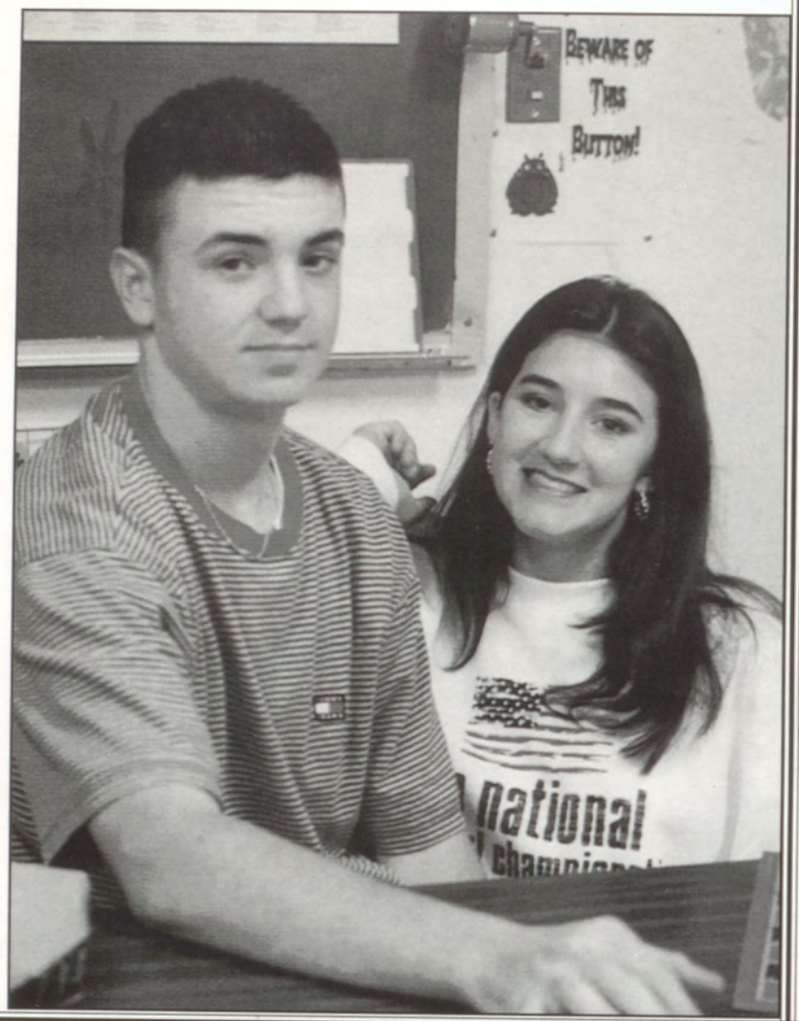
DECA

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bryn-alan
PHOTOGRAPHY

Good Luck!!!

Seniors '99


Sonya Stelly




Kim Zachary


Jennifer Zachary


Gladys Martinez

♥, Your Families

Meagan Kilborn







Congratulations Meagan!
We are so proud of you!
Love,
Mom & Caleb

Erin Schmidt



Eryn Graef



Through thick and thin,
You've shared a lot,
You two have a friendship,
That can't be bought.

There was Sunday School
at St. Paul's,
We all knew that route.
Mrs. Jone for Kindergarten,
Though one was in when the
other was out.

Birthday parties, braces
and field trips,
Jumping on the trampo-
line and practicing your
flips.





Then it was high school with
German Club, softball, Espirit,
HOSA, NHS, FJA, and
more football games, graduation
parties, dates, prom, Joe's Crab
Shack -- how could anyone keep
score?

Next is graduation,
Texas A&M,
And you're on your way.
All of our love goes with
you.
What else is there to say?





Dad, Mom, Jordan & Joanna

Dad, Mom, Justin, Corey & Tyler

Melodie Strickland






Congratulations to the most talented daughter in the **UNIVERSE!** You came from up above and filled our lives with love.

Love, Daddy, Moo, Justin, & all the Kitties






Good-bye, Class of '99



Look out, Southwest Texas/A&M... Here they come!

AIN'T SKEERED.

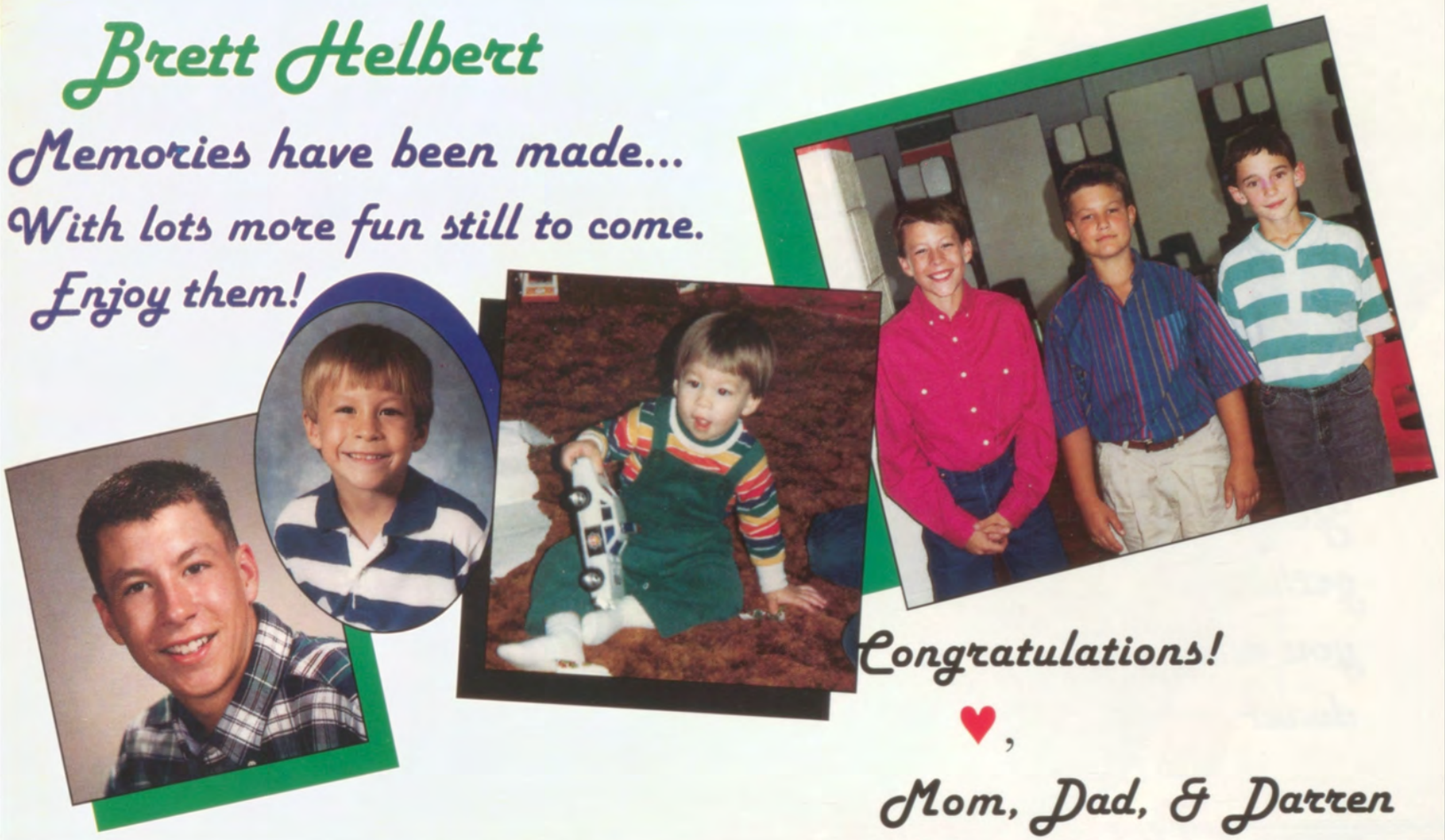
We love you, Brooke & Erica! Love, your families






Brett Helbert

Memories have been made...
With lots more fun still to come.
Enjoy them!

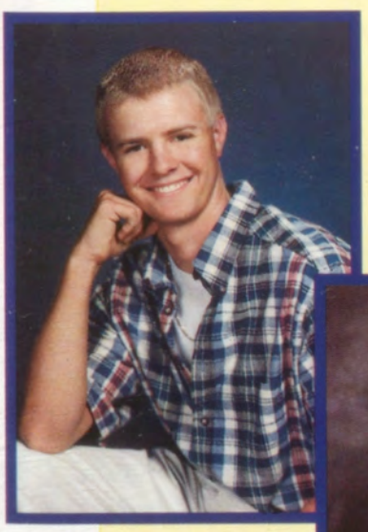


Congratulations!

♥,

Mom, Dad, & Darren

We are very proud of you. It's been four years with a lifetime full of memories. Congratulations and good luck!



Love,
Mom, Dad,
and Travis



Brandon
Randig

Jessa Mikulencak



Jessa,

We love you very much. You have made us proud. Best of luck at V.J.

God Bless you always.

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Chris



Nicole Caffey
Alison David
Meagan Kilborn
Andrea Wilson



Ya'll have been cheerin' hard together for 6 years. We love you and we are proud of all you've done!



Party hard in college!







Love,
Your families





Congratulations Cassie & Randa







Cassie Harrison

We are so proud of you and hope that all your dreams come true.

Love,
Sandy, Jeff,
& Michael;
Shary, Randy,
& Ryan



Randa Stiba

Michelle Ford

Congratulations!





Love,
Mom, Dad,
Melissa,
Tommy,
Christina, and
Matthew



Congratulations

Mark and Guy





We are so proud of you!
Love,
Your Parent$





Mark Reeves

Guy Oliphant



Alison David



Cassie Harrison



Jessa Mikulecak

We're proud of all your achievements. Enjoy life and always remember that we love you!



Good Luck!
Love,
Your families

Amanda Beran





Congratulations!
You have made us so proud and you deserve the best. May all your dreams come true.
We love you!
Mom, Dad, Melanie, and Ronnie

Congratulations, Lauren!
Good luck at A&M!
Love,
Your Friends



Lauren Schwartz

Brett Helbert



One more time, Mema...
Thas' all.
Congratulations Precious!
Love,
Mema Doris

Autumn Schneider







Congratulations, Autumn. We are so proud of you! Good luck in college.
Love,
Dad, Mom, & Spencer

If you can do this, you can do anything. We are so proud of you.



Good luck at Texas A&M!
Love,
Granny, Mom, Ronny, and Kalee

Congratulations, Kathy!



We are proud of you! May all of your dreams come true!

Love,
Mom, Jesse, and Jonathon



Kathy Butler

Brandon Dickinson











With your dedication and determination you've become the football player you always dreamed of. You have been an inspiration for both family and friends.

We're very proud of you!

Love,
Mom & Dad



Congratulations!

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Stacey Huber

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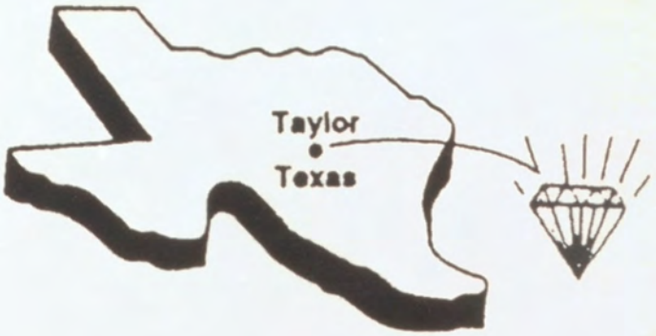
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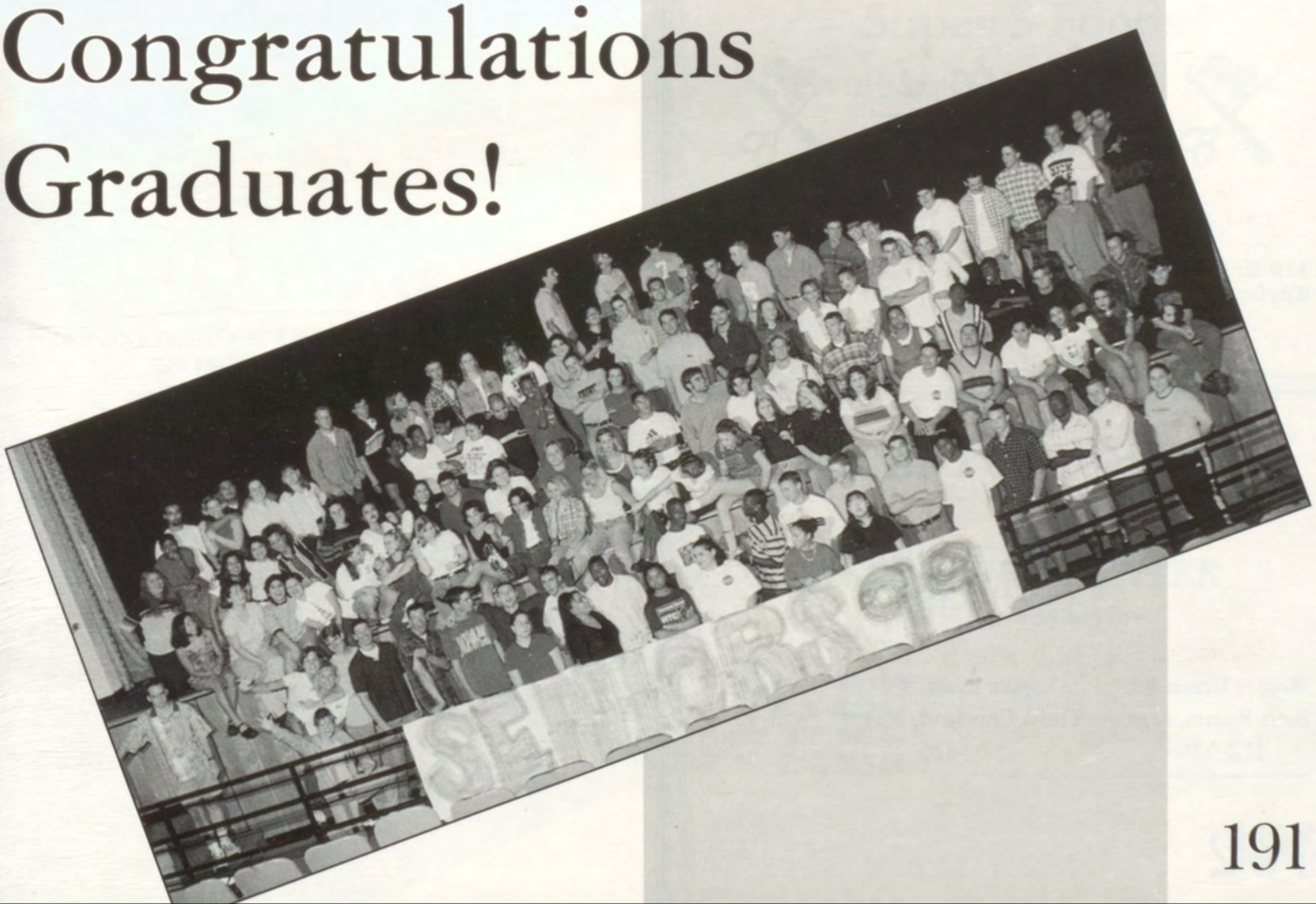
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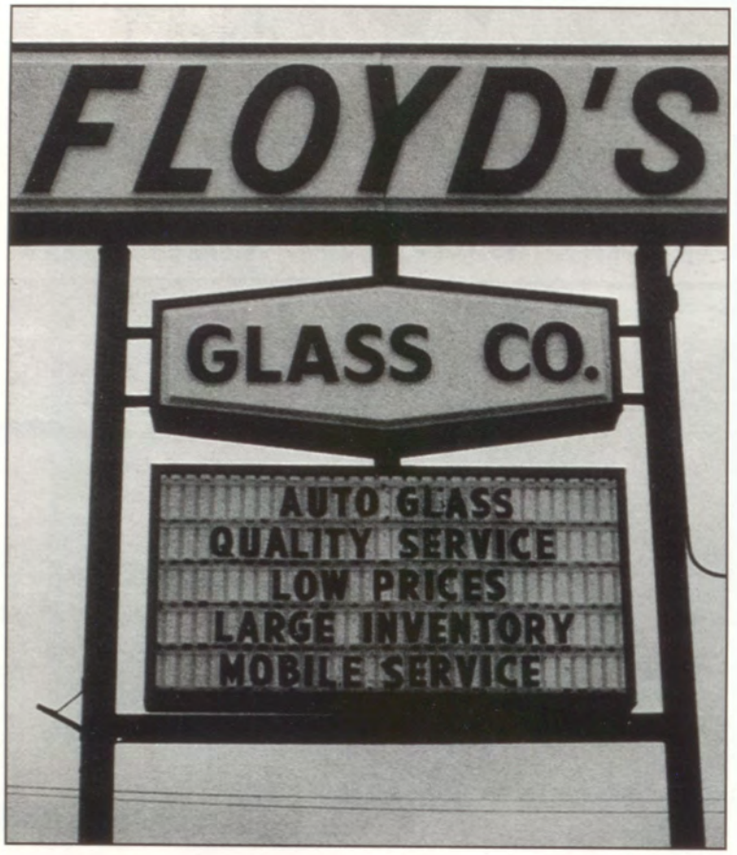
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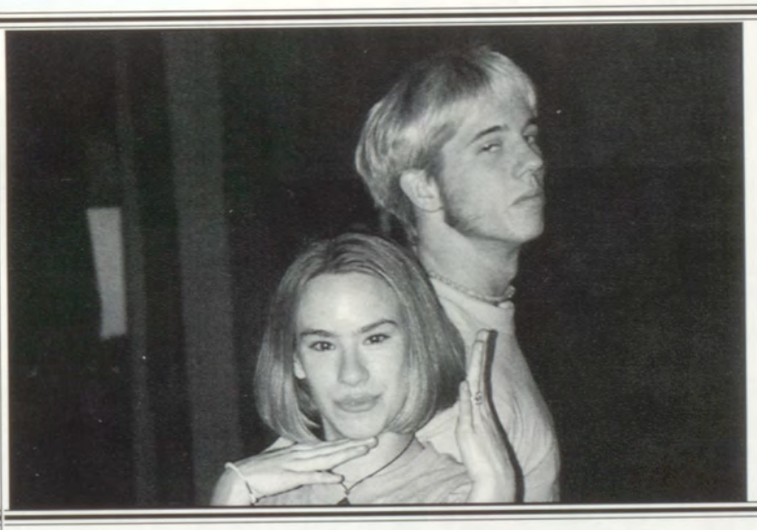
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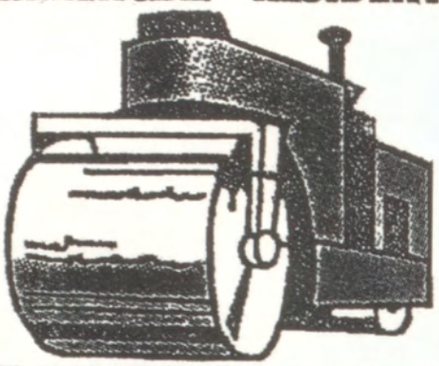
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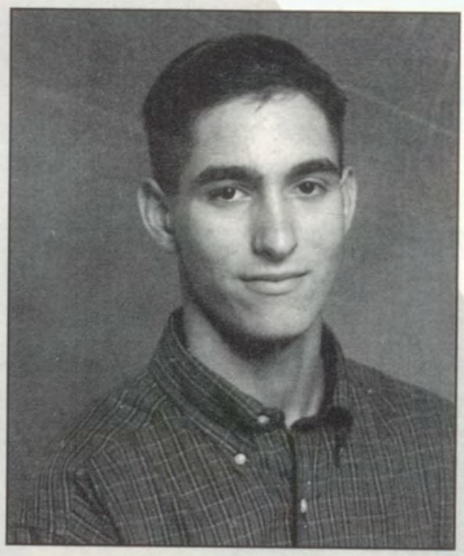
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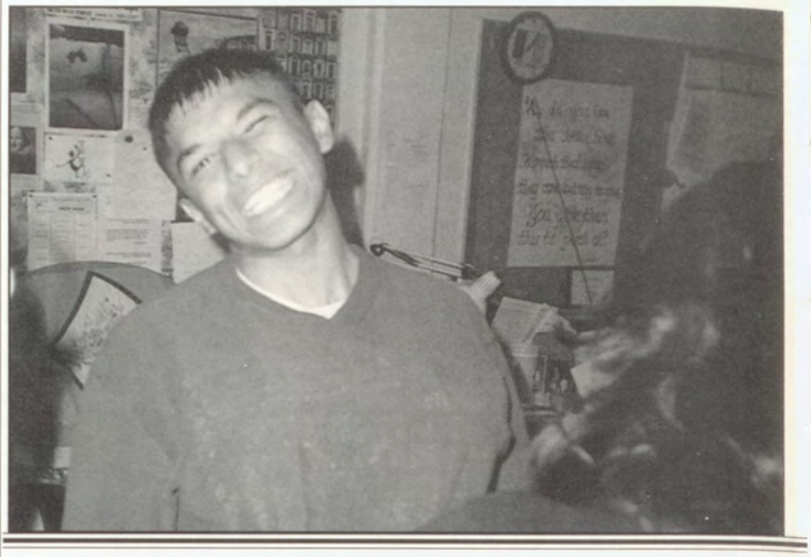
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may you always have the wisdom and strength to follow you dreams,
the courage and ambition to meet the new challenges
and may you know the happiness and price that comes with success!
May the years ahead be as happy as those you've left behind.

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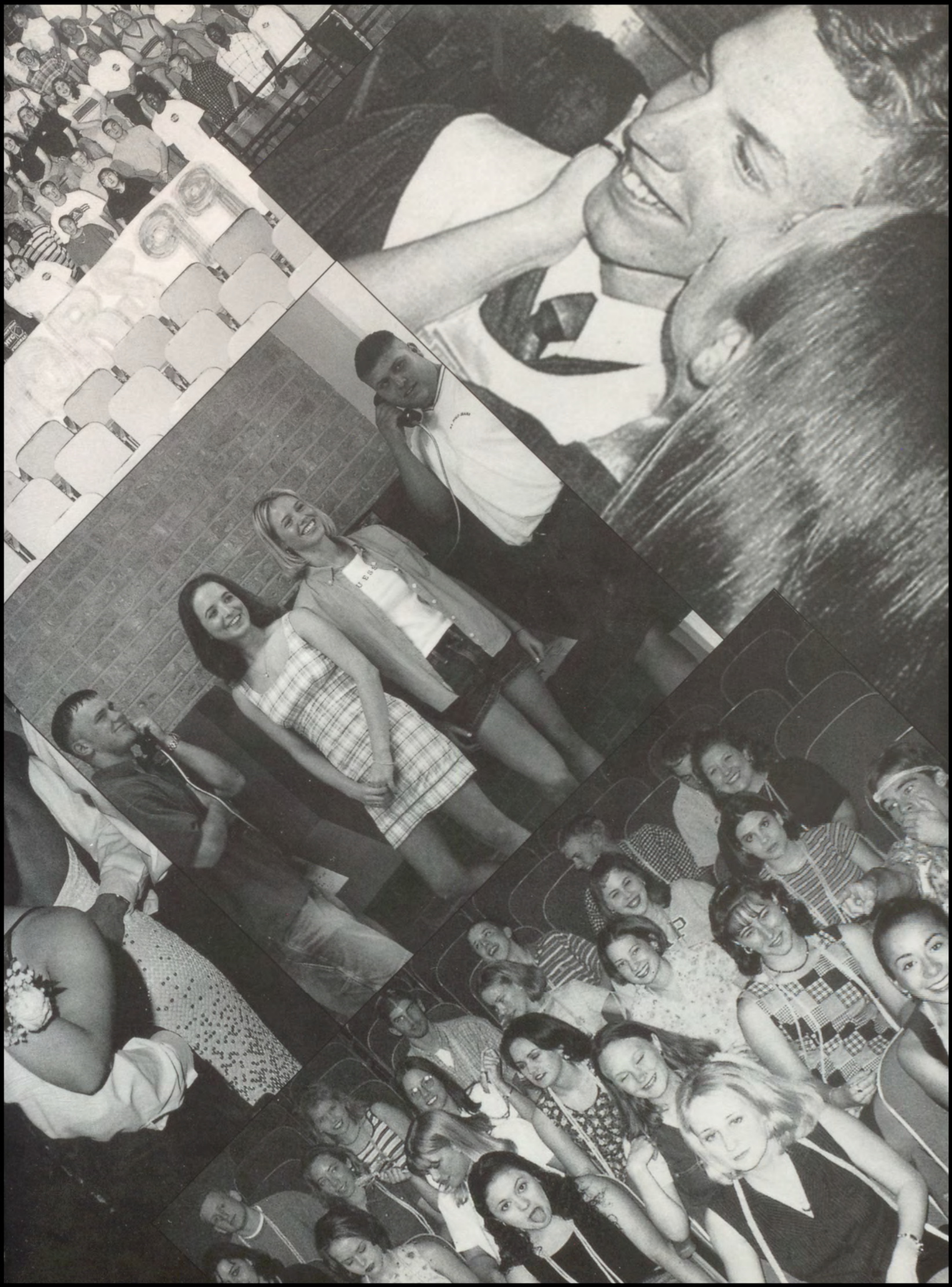
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Talk About an Ending



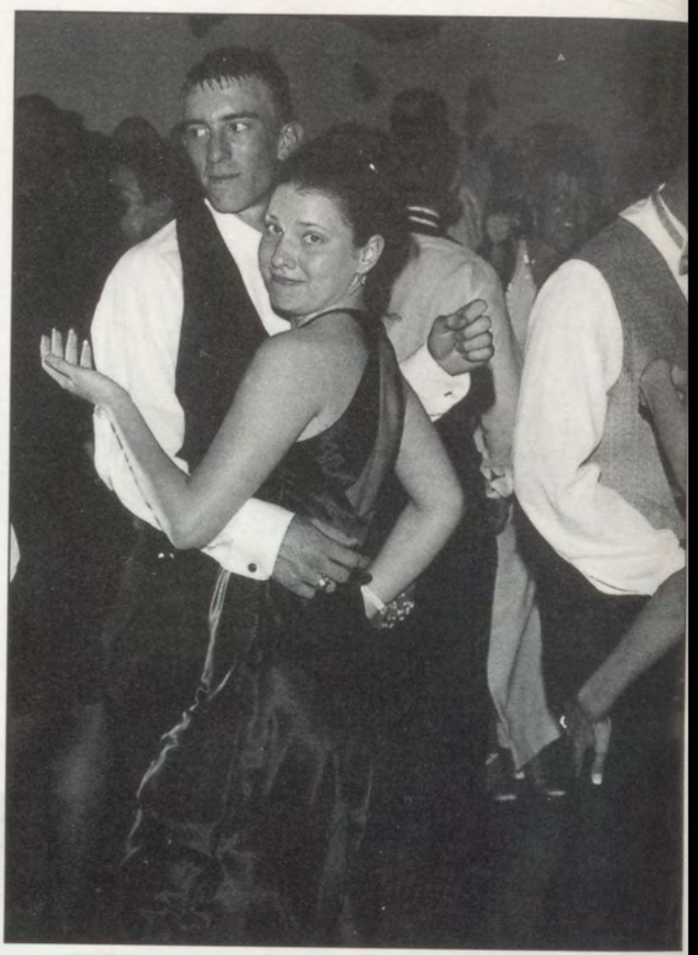




Enchantment of the Sea

Junior/ Senior Prom '99

It was enchanting, to say the least! Prom '99 proved to be a spectacular event; with the work the juniors put into it had to be. The atmosphere was truly that of an underwater dream... the place looked beautiful! Different interesting decorations adorned the student center, a giant clam and a beautiful mermaid were just a few. Coins and seashells only added to the splendor, and the decorations were brought to a wonderful high with the entrance. The entrance was a wooden dock with sand; it was an introduction to a sea of merriment. Most of us will never forget our night of Prom, especially if this were our first Prom. Like Bob Smith, loved substitute teacher at our fair school, this was both his ad his wife's first prom. Most assuredly, they both thoroughly enjoyed themselves, dancing the night away. But everyone enjoyed himself! Early in the evening of prom, Casey Jones and Melodie Strickland showed their incredible dance ability by dancing the hustle while the floor was empty and others looked on. While the popular Grease medley played nearly ever person on the dance floor sang along having fun every second. The freshmen servers, dressed as sailors, served us punch and other refreshments while photographers snapped pictures all around. Long time couple, Nicole Caffey and Brandon Dickinson were named Prom Queen and King shortly before the end of the enchanting evening. In every way Prom '99 lived up the it's title of "enchantment"... Enchantment of the Sea turned out be an enchanting evening for everyone who attended. And one thing's for sure, prom is truly everyone's night to shine.









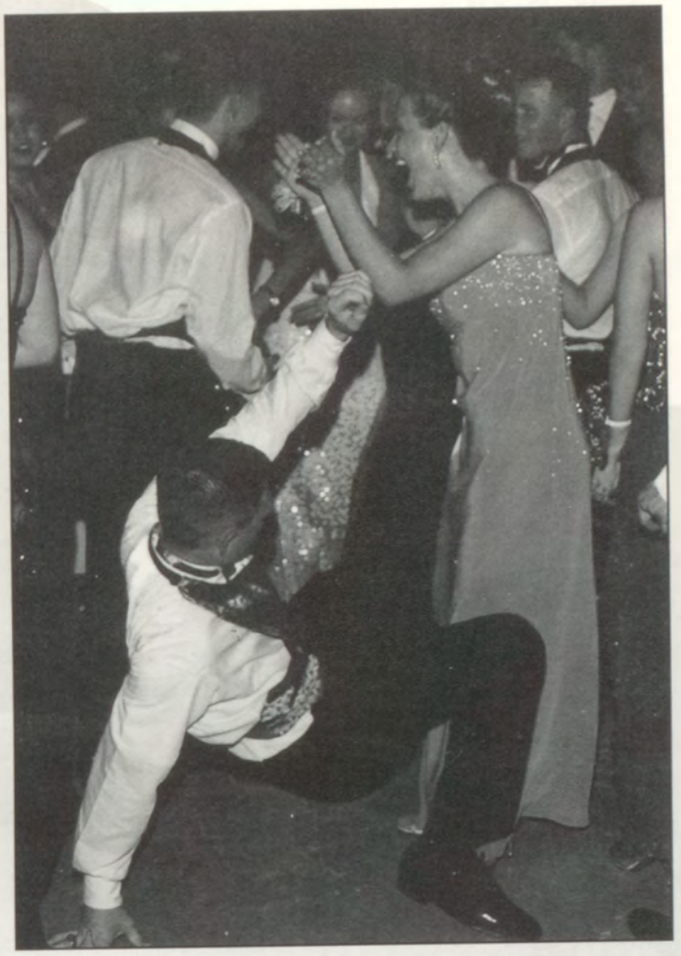
Prom King and Queen Brandon Dickinson and Nicole Caffey dance to "Because You Loved Me" →

"You don't have to call me darlin, darlin," says Dawn Hehmann and her friends.↑

"I don't know what he's looking at," Lisa Grimm and Heath Haverland get down.↗

Smile! Alison Enocks, Brandy Williams, and Lauren Rozacky take time for a quick picture.↟











← DoReMiFaSoLaTiDo. Darren Helbert leads the group in singing and dancing.

↑ "Gettin Jiggy Wit it" Fredrick Griffin and Ike Houston got the moves.

↖ Traci Floyd and Adrian Martinez smile as they dance a slow dance.

↑↑ How low can you go? Blake Randig and Stacey strech the limits.

↑↑ Smile, Brandon Dickinson and Nicole Caffey are crowned Prom King and Queen.

Copy and Layout by Autumn Schneider

What the Walls Saw This Year

What Happened in 1998-99?

Guys Track Team Sets State Record in 1600M Relay

Cross Country Makes a Comeback--1st Year and Went to Regionals

Block Schedule Came To Be

Academic Decathlon Goes to State 1st Year in Existence at THS

Impeachment Hearings

The Ken Starr Report Was Released
Showtime Begins...

Star Wars Returns With More FORCE Than Ever

Tennis Goes to State

Football Went to Playoffs

Mr./Miss Rescheduled... Mr./Miss Rescheduled... Mr./Miss Rescheduled...
Mr./Miss Canceled

Furbys Came to Be

Taylor Wins UIL District
Title First Time in 30 Years

STILL BATTLING WITH
BEANIE BABY MADNESS

Band Gets Division 1 Rating
First Time in 20 Years

Exams *After* Christmas Break

Baseball Takes it Home in Playoffs

Steppers Went to New Orleans & Band Went to Florida

Texas Beat A&M, but A&M Wins Big 12

Bomb Threats in Schools Sweep the Country

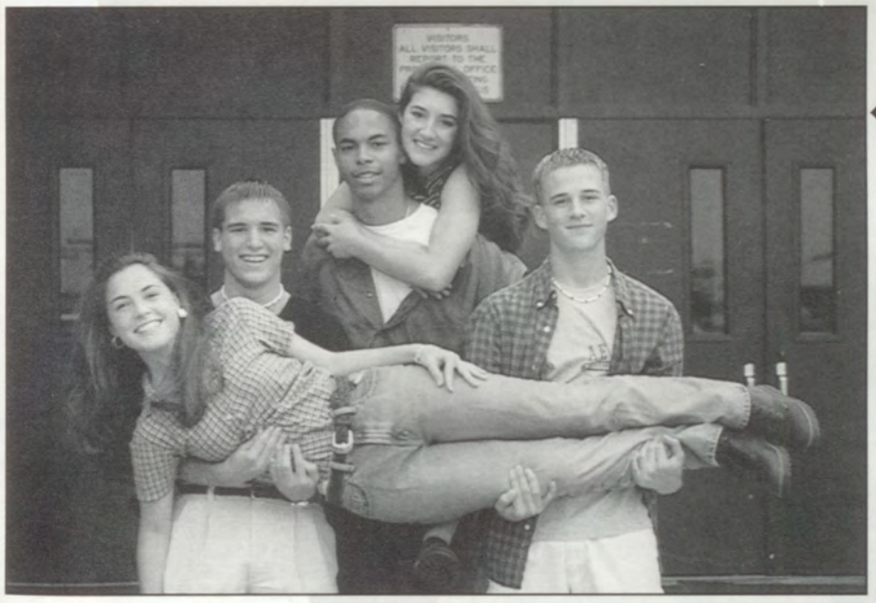
A Good Thing

The Goodfellows

Freshmen Goodfellows ⇨

Top to Bottom, L-R:
Jason Pausewang,
Michael Cuba,
Ryan Marshall, Sarah Naivar,
Paul Zucknik, and
Michael Harrison





⇦ Sophomore Goodfellows

Top to Bottom, L-R:
Alisha David,
Dominck Devastey,
Emily Johnson,
Justin Graef, and
Travis Huber

Junior Goodfellows ⇨

Left to Right:
Bubba Talley,
Amanda Welch,
Tara Svehlak,
and Marty
Martinez

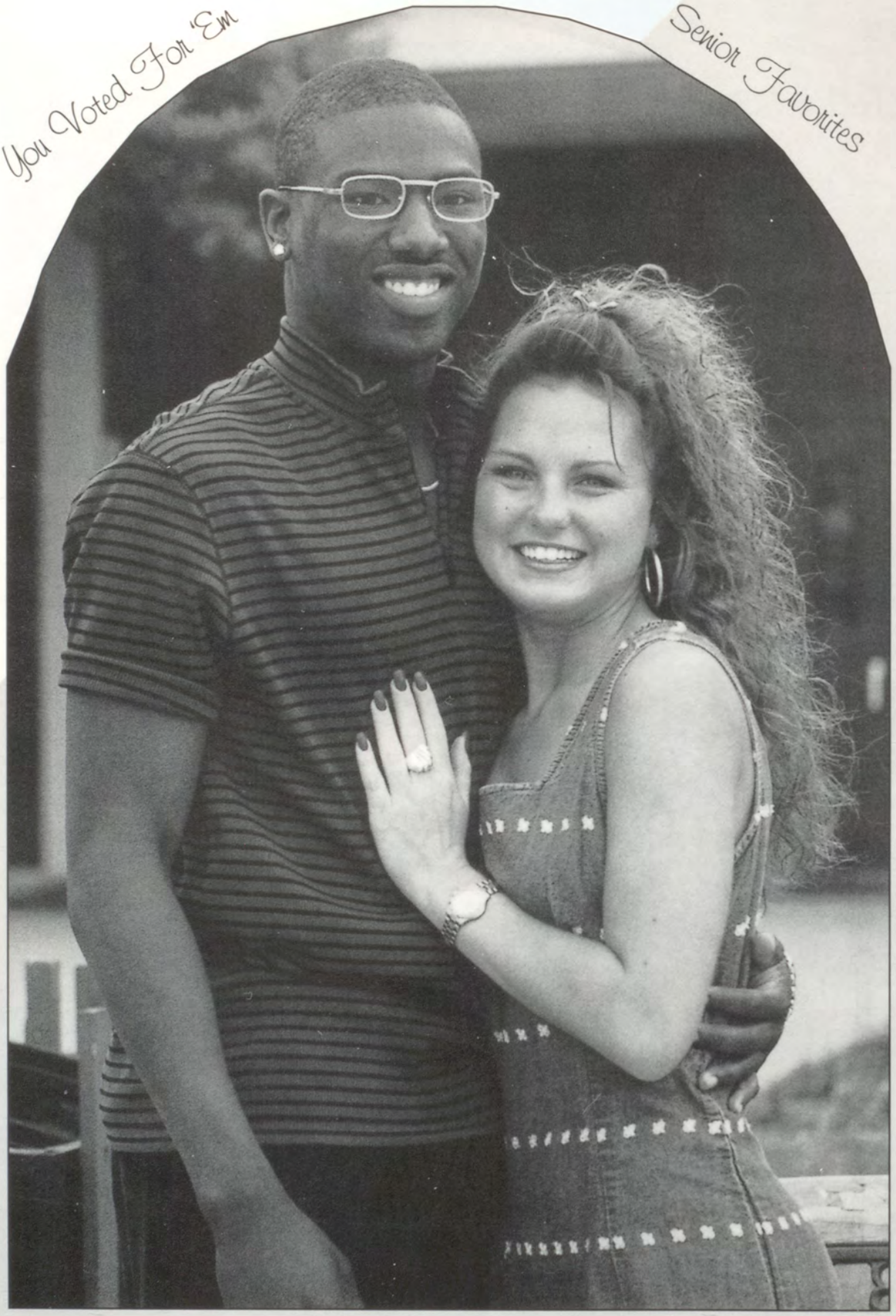


Layout and Design by Melodie Strickland

Favoritism

You Voted For 'Em

Senior Favorites



Mr. & Miss T.H.S.
Jeffery Davis and April Maruska

More Most Likelys...

Most likely to join the carnival... Casey Jones

Most likely to still be riding around in 10 years... Jarod Balusek

Most likely to live off her parents for another 10 or 20 years... Whitney Kolinek

Most likely to be Miss America... Stacey Huber

Most likely to be in a two year college for three years... Brett Helbert

Most likely to become a Dallas Cowboy Cheerleader... Meagan Kilborn

Most likely to be the first one married after graduation... Beth Pullen

Most likely to have the most kids at the five year reunion... Edward Alderete

Most likely to fish and hunt his life away... Justin Sladek

Most likely to come back to THS as principal... Tessa Mikulencak

Most likely to be president of the USA... Guy Oliphint

Most likely to become a movie star... Melodie Strickland

Most likely to have a basketball shoe named after him... Jonathan Gray

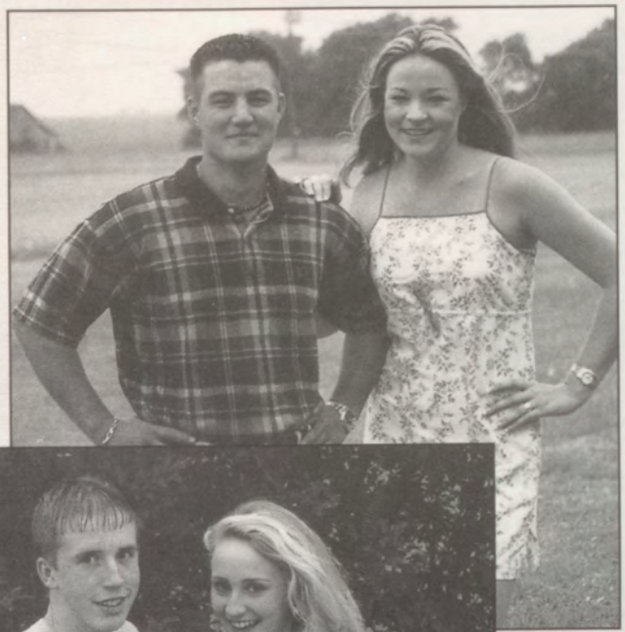
Class Clown... Juan Garcia

Most likely to be late to graduation... Cassie Harrison

Most likely to trip on stage at Graduation... Jill Winklemann

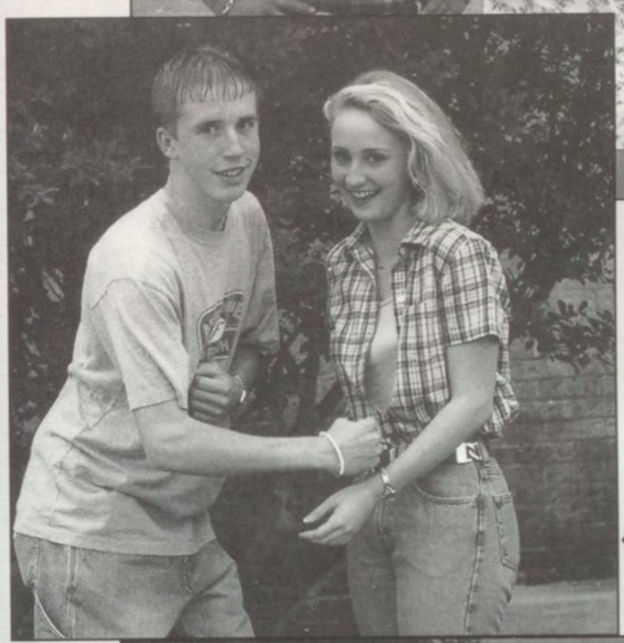
Most likely to forget what she's most likely to do... Andrea Wilson

Best Dressed
Lance Pavlicek and Brandy Williams

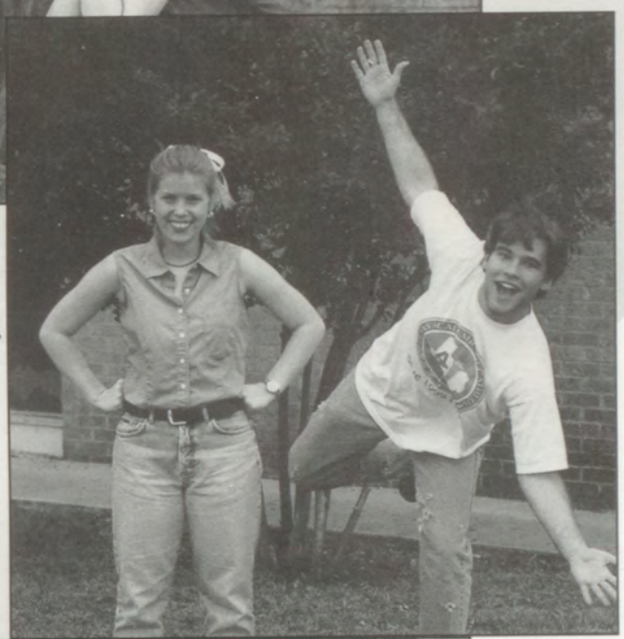


Most Friendly
Eric Ariola and Alison David

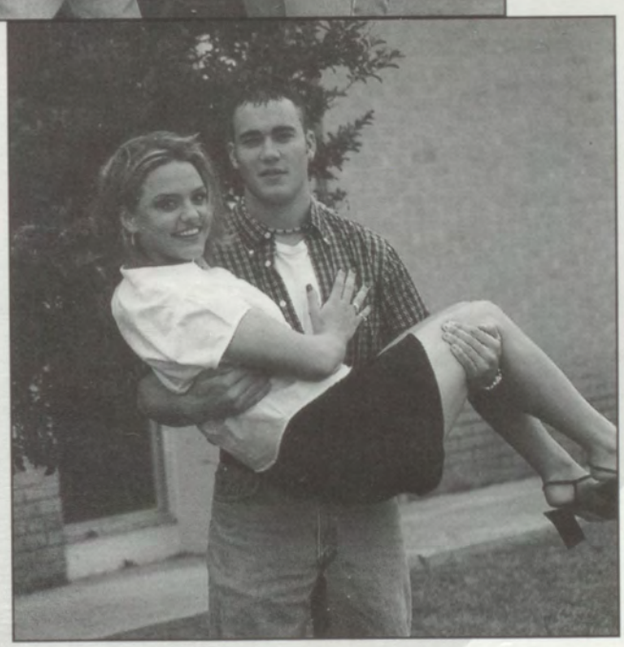


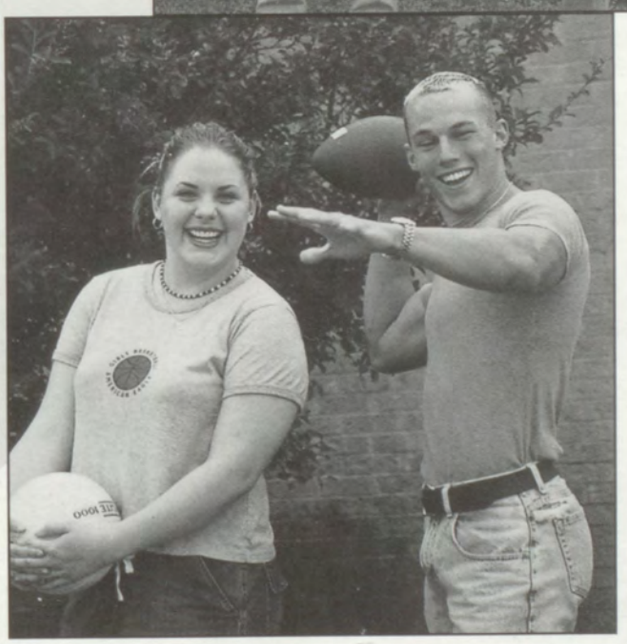


Most Likely to Succeed
Tessa Mikulencak and Bobby Leshikar



Most Intelligent
Guy Oliphint and Randa Stiba





Most Handsome & Most Beautiful
Travis Rozacky and Stacey Huber

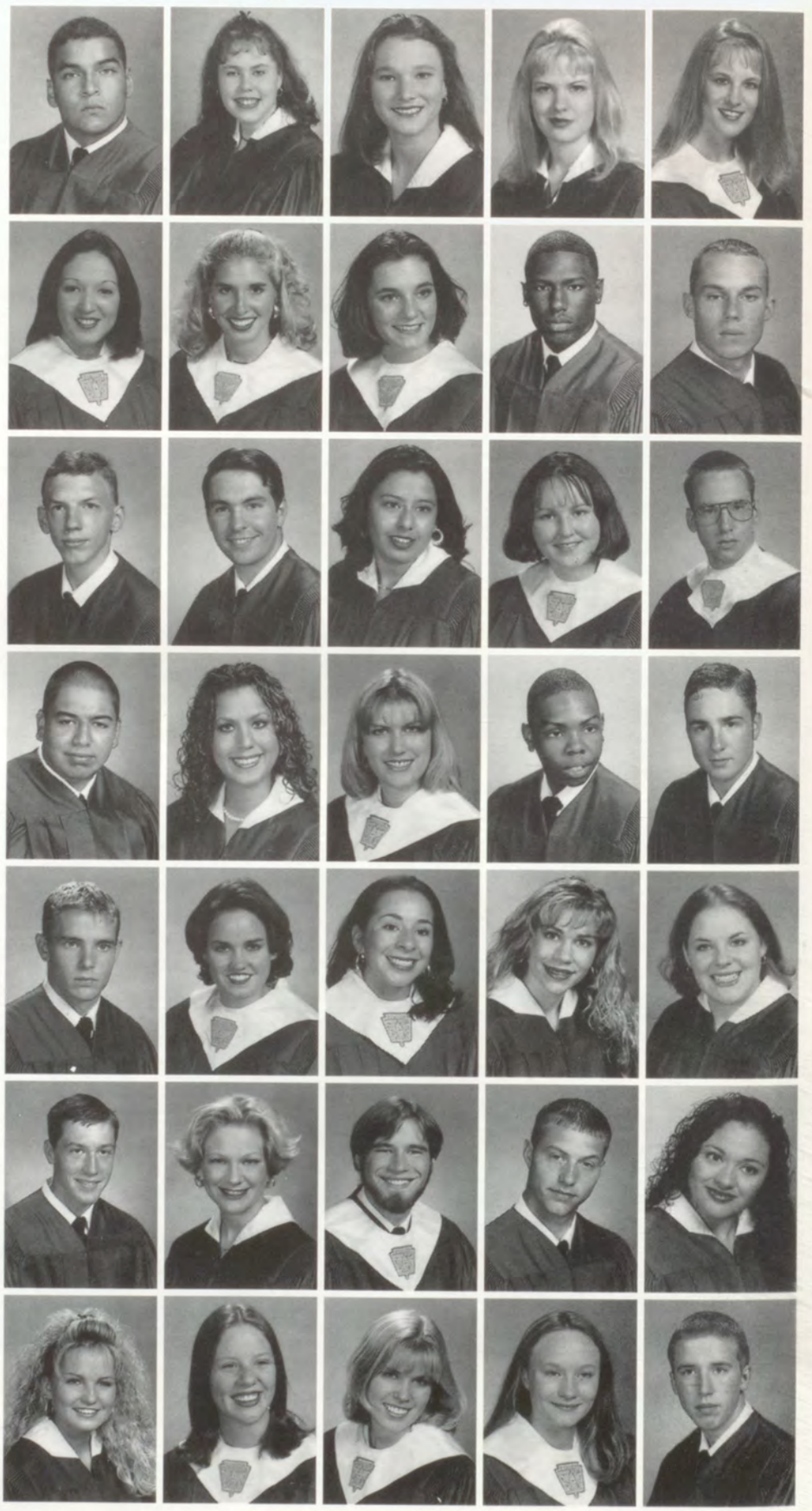
Most Athletic
Kylie Kerlin and Brandon Dickinson

Layout and Design by Melodie Strickland

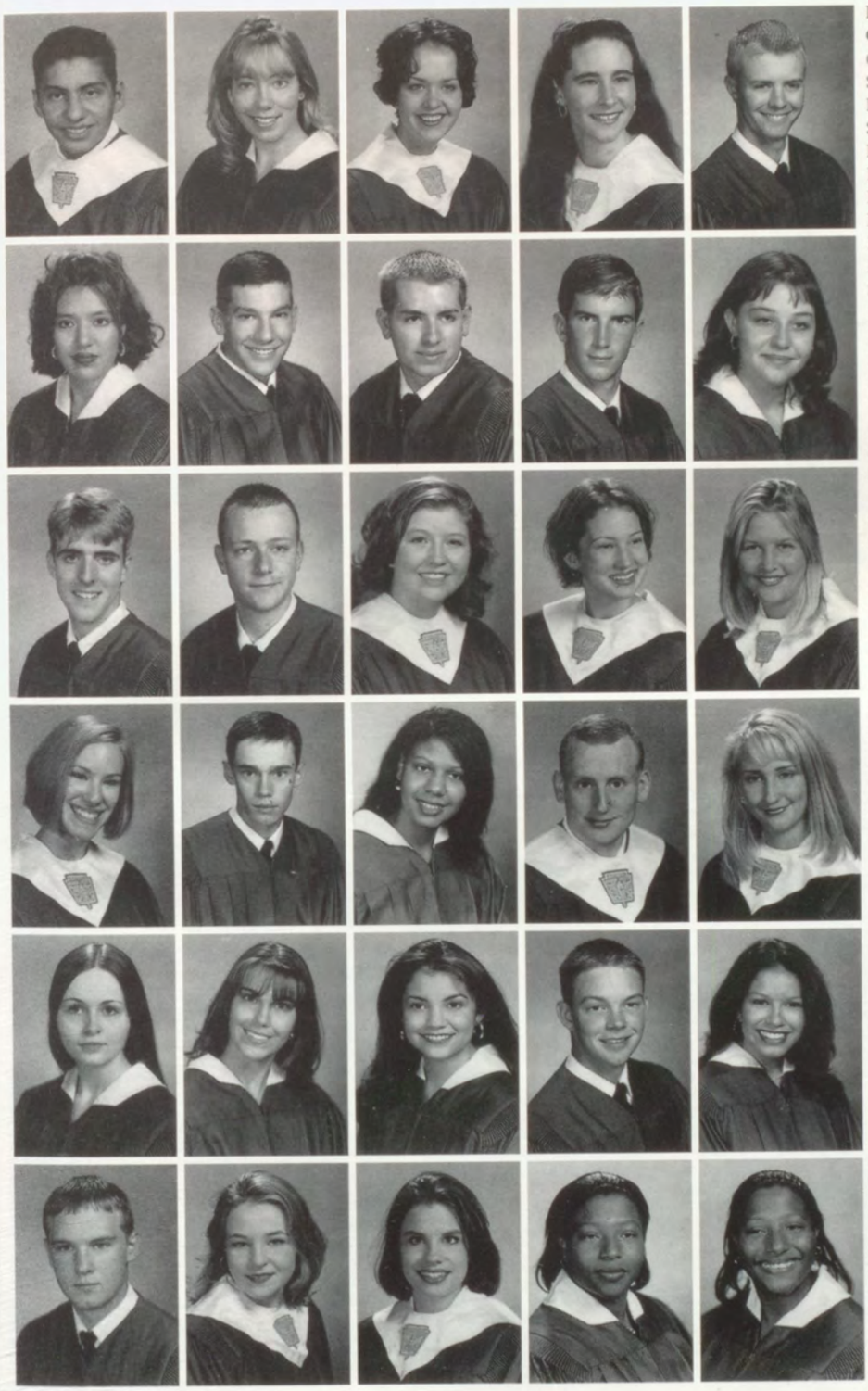
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Bohac, Erica: Mt. Vernon Mills Employees Children Scholarship ($400)
Caffey, Nicole: National Junior Honor Society Scholarship ($400)
Cantu, Nicole: Gay Lynn Brinkmeyer Memorial Scholarship ($400) Hi Steppers Booster Club Scholarship ($250)
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Davis, Jeffery: Citizens for the Future Scholarship ($500)
Dickinson, Brandon: SWTSU (full athletic scholarship)
Dixon, Nathan: Woodrow Melasky Scholarship ($500) Business Professionals of America Scholarship ($250)
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Hughes, Amy: Chamber of Commerce Ag Award ($500)
Kerlin, Kylie: Brinkmeyer-Hobbs-Wade Scholarship ($500)
Klaus, Justin: SPJST Scholarship ($500) Immanuel Lutheran Church Scholarship ($500)
Kolinek, Whitney: University Federal Credit Union Scholarship ($500)
Leshikar, Bobby: Minnie Stevens Piper Foundation Scholarship (full scholarship) N G & Helen Hawkins Scholarship ($2000) Phi Delta Kappa Scholarship ($500) Band Booster Scholarship ($500) Jr. Historians Scholarship ($100)
MaCuk, John: THS Ex Students Scholarship ($300)
Martinez, Gladys: N G & Helen Hawkins Scholarship ($2000)
Maruska, April: Taylor Rodeo Association Scholarship ($500) Science Club Scholarship ($500) Counselor's Choice Scholarship ($300) SURF Scholarship ($250)
Matoska, Brittany: Sidney Cinnamon Scholarship ($4000) Taylor Conservation & Heritage Scholarship ($500) Ralph Brookshire Memorial Scholarship ($500) Don & Helen Manson Memorial Scholarship ($250)
Mikulencak, Tessa: N G & Helen Hawkins Scholarship ($2000) National Honor Society Jason Rydell Scholarship ($750) German Scholars ($100)
Moore, Karon: Gernert Scholarship ($1000) Science Club Scholarship ($500) Williamson Co. A&M Mother's Club Scholarship ($500)
Oliphint, Guy: University of Texas Merit Scholar ($14000) N G & Helen Hawkins Scholarship ($2000) Honors Colloquim Scholarship ($1000) Monica Blaha Memorial/10th St. Methodist Church Scholarship ($500) National Honor Society Scholarship ($400)



Recipients 1999



Pina, Vidal: N G & Helen Hawkins Scholarship ($2000) Johns Community Hospital Auxiliary & Louise Kennedy Foundation Scholarship ($500) El Amistad Club of Round Rock Scholarship ($500) Science Club Scholarship ($500) SURF Scholarship ($250) HOSA Scholarship ($100)
Poldrack, Heather: Melasky Scholarship ($1000) First State Bank Scholarship ($500)
Pullen, Elizabeth: Melasky Scholarship ($1000) VFW Post 447 Voice of Democracy ($100) ATPE Scholarship ($225)
Raesz, Telisha: Bobby Wilks Memorial Scholarship ($1000) Immanuel Lutheran Church Scholarship ($500)
Randig, Brandon: Charles Schneider Memorial Scholarship ($1000) Russell Minzenmeyer Memorial Scholarship ($500) David Threadgill Memorial Scholarship ($600)
Razo, Carmen: Guidance Committeee Scholarship ($300)
Reeves, Mark: Bunnell Rotary Scholarship ($2000)
Richter, Patrick: Ben & Lorene Sabotik Memorial Scholarship ($500)
Rinderknecht, Kyle: Melasky Scholarship ($1000) David Threadgill Memorial Scholarship ($600)
Ruble, Monica: Gernert Scholarship ($1000)
Schade, Tyler: N G & Helen Hawkins Scholarship ($2000) University Scholar Award Southwestern University ($3000) Monica Blaha Memorial/ 10th St. Methodist Church Scholarship ($500)
Schernik, Joshua: Gernert Scholarship ($1000)
Schmidt, Erin: Ruth Schroeder Scholarship ($1000) Don & Helen Manson Memorial Scholarship ($250) National Honor Society Scholarship ($500) Ruth Mantor Scholarship ($500) Gina Reichenbach Scholarship ($200) FTA Scholarship ($250) Tom Llewellyn Teacher Preparation Scholarship ($1000)
Schneider, Autumn: Melasky Scholarship ($1000) National Honor Society Scholarship ($750) Science Club Scholarship ($500) Hi Steppers Booster Club Scholarship ($250)
Schwartz, Lauren: Melasky Scholarship ($1000) Taylor Rodeo Association Scholarship ($500) Hunter Hargis Mallard Memorial Scholarship ($250)
Simmons, Sarah: N G & Helen Hawkins Memorial Scholarship ($2000) Johns Community Hospital Auxiliary & Louise Kennedy Foundation Scholarship ($500)
Sladek, Justin: Old Settlers Association of Williamson Co. Scholarship ($1000) Lou Bell Harris Scholarship ($500) Davey Roznovak Art Scholarship ($500)
Stelly, Sonja: Ranken & Louise Kennedy Scholarship ($500) Citizens for the Future Scholarship ($500)
Stenseth, Steven: Melasky Scholarship ($1000) SUL ROSS Scholarship ($2000) Corrections Corporation of America Scholarship ($500)
Stiba, Randa: Fay T. Barnes Scholarship ($12000) Texas A & M President's Achievement Scholarship ($10000) Thomas H. Barton Texas A & M Scholarship ($4000) Temple-Inland Foundation Scholastic Achievement Award ($1000) Melasky Scholarship ($1000) Joe Downs Music Award ($500) Williamson Co. Association of Realtors Scholarship ($300) National Honor Society Scholarship ($250)
Strickland, Melodie: Jr. Historians Scholarship ($400) Hunter Hargis Memorial Scholarship ($350)
Taylor, Cassie: Taylor Rodeo Association Scholarship ($500) Chamber of Commerce Ag Award ($500)
Terrazas, Cindy: ATPE Scholarship ($225)
Thornton, Lance: Hunter Hargis Memorial Scholarship ($1000)
Torres, Roxanne: Pan American Golf Association of Round Rock Scholarship ($500)
Welch, Cody: Lou Bell Harris Scholarship ($500) Emil A & Freida K Krieg Award ($500)
Williams, Brandy: National Honor Society Scholarship ($250)
Wilson, Andrea: N G & Helen Hawkins Memorial Scholarship ($2000)
Zachary, Kimberly: Citizens for the Future Scholarship ($500) Hi Steppers Booster Club Scholarship ($250)
Zachary, Jennifer: Citizens for the Future Scholarship ($500) Hi Steppers Booster Club Scholarship ($250)

Honorably the Top of Our Class...



Valedictorian of the Class of 1999

Beatriz Hernandez 99.2703



Salutatorian of the Class of 1999

Randa Stiba 98.3514



Honor Graduates

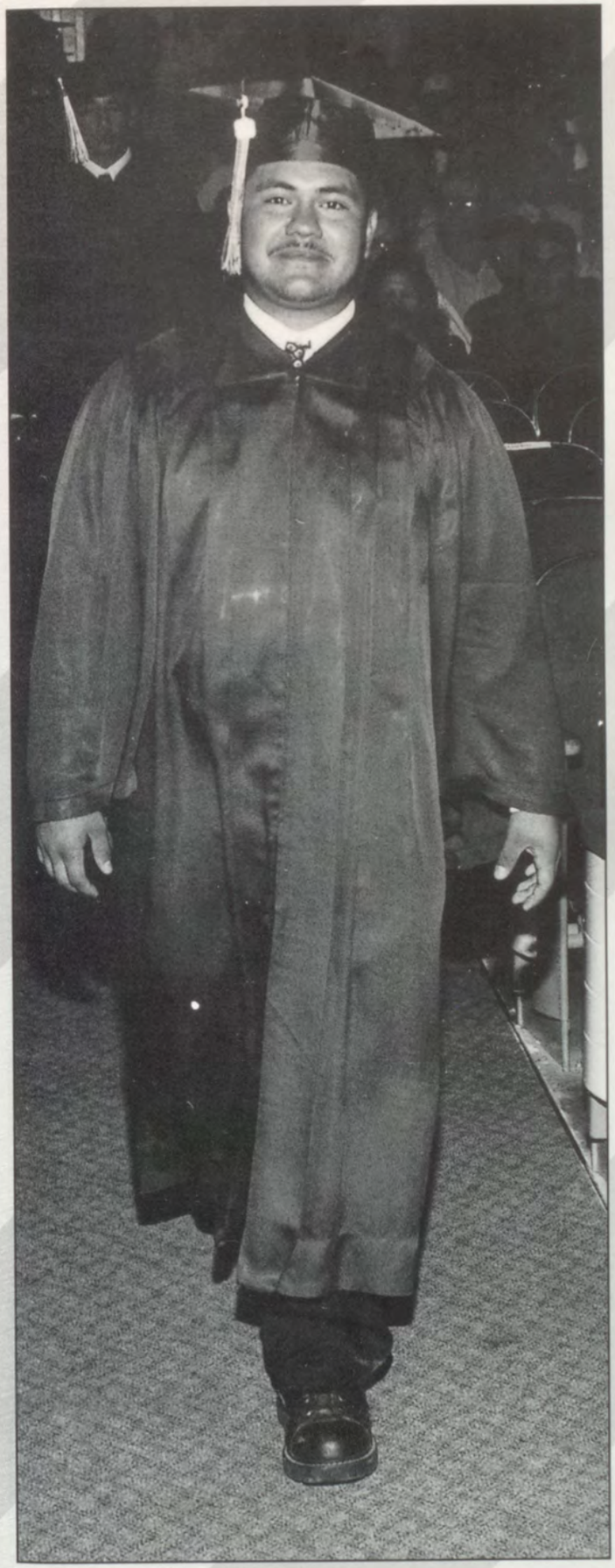
Starting in the back row, L-R: Stephen Stenseth, Tessa Mikulencak, Kyle Rinderknecht, Guy Oliphint, Brandon Randig, Mark Reeves; 2nd row: Monica Ruble, Heather Poldrack, Brittany Matoska, Sarah Simmons, Amanda Beran, Erin Schmidt; 3rd Row: Vidal Pina, Beth Pullen, Eryn Graef, Cassie Harrison, Autumn Schneider, Andrea Wilson; 4th row: Michelle Ford, Steven Fuller, Gladys Martinez, Karon Moore, Telisha Raesz, Bobby Leshikar; in front: Randa Stiba and Beatriz Hernandez

Honor Graduates

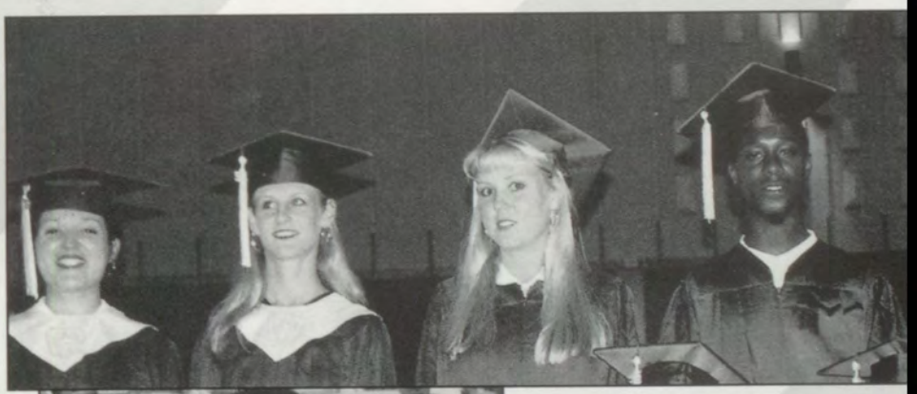
1.	Beatriz Hernandez	99.2703
2.	Randa Stiaba	98.3514
3.	Guy Oliphint	97.2162
4.	Steven Fuller	96.4865
5.	Brittany Matoska	96.1081
6.	Tessa Mikulencak	95.0541
7.	Michelle Ford	94.4054
8.	Tyler Shade	94.1351
9.	Erin Schmidt	93.8108
10.	Bobby Leshikar	93.4054
11.	Heather Poldrack	93. 2162
12.	Stephen Stenseth	93.1622
13.	Karon Moore	93.0270
14.	Andrea Wilson	92.3243
15.	Telisha Raesz	91.9730
16.	Sarah Simmons	91.6486
17.	Vidal Pina	91.4865
18.	Autumn Schneider	91.1081
19.	Mark Reeves	91.0811
20.	Elizabeth Pullen	90.6757
21.	Cassandra Harrison	90.4595
22.	Eryn Graef	90.3784
23.	Kyle Rinderknecht	90.0000
24.	Brandon Randig	89.6757
25.	Monica Ruble	89.5676
26.	Gladys Martinez	89.5405
27.	Amanda Beran	89.5135

End of a 12-Year Rut?

It's Finally the Day



After getting sunburned at rehearsal in the afternoon, it raining in the early evening, then clearing up an hour before graduation… we still had graduation in doors, in the auditorium. We had a hard time feeling "as free as a bird" packed into the hot hallway before graduation. Graduation brought mixed feelings for us all. Some of us felt sad, some happy, and others angry (over the whole rain issue). But before we took those final steps as seniors, certainly each and every one of us felt feelings of anxiousness before we took our seats in the middle of the auditorium. We enjoyed speeches from both our valedictorian (Beatriz Hernandez) and salutatorian (Randa Stiba). Between speeches a beach ball was passed back and forth among our class while our class song played. At least the *beach ball* was "as free as a bird"—at least until it ended up in the orchestra pit. We received what we thought were our diplomas (we later got the real thing), and Superintendent Patterson gave us some words of wisdom before commencement ended. It's hard to believe high school is over for the class of 1999. It is truly hard to believe. Our class shirts read "the end of a 12 year rut." But was it really a rut? We've enjoyed many times together and learned many things. These years we spent in school together were the bricks on a foundation for the rest of our lives. With graduation, we end a Chapter I of our lives, one we will undoubtedly hold dear to out hearts. So… end of a 12 year rut? No, end of a 12 year smile… ready for the next one.

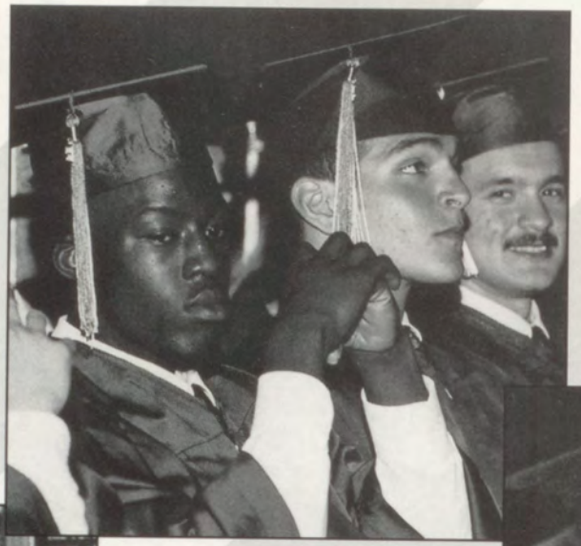


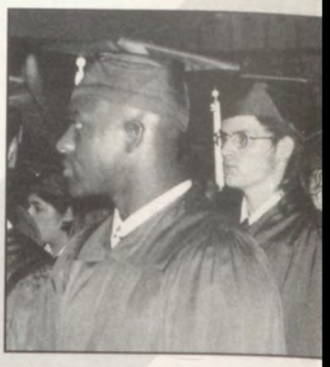




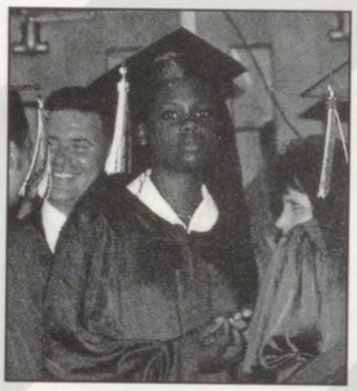


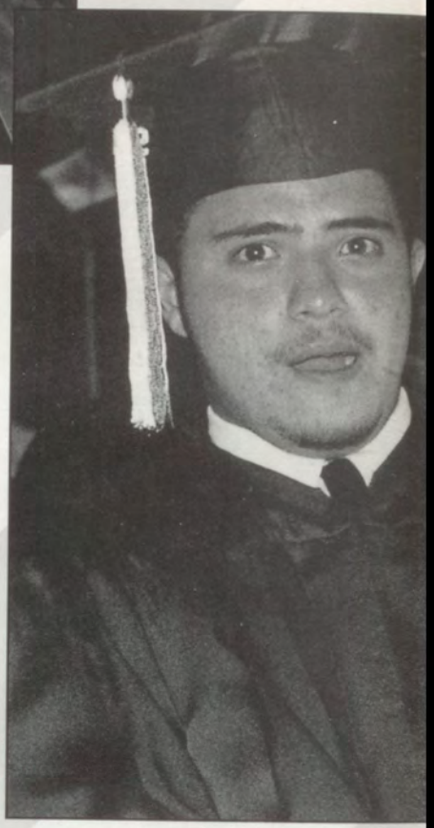
"We've learned many things along the way, but maybe some of the most important ones, things that we should hold close to our hearts, are things we learned in kindergarten."
Salutatorian Speech,
Randa Stiba

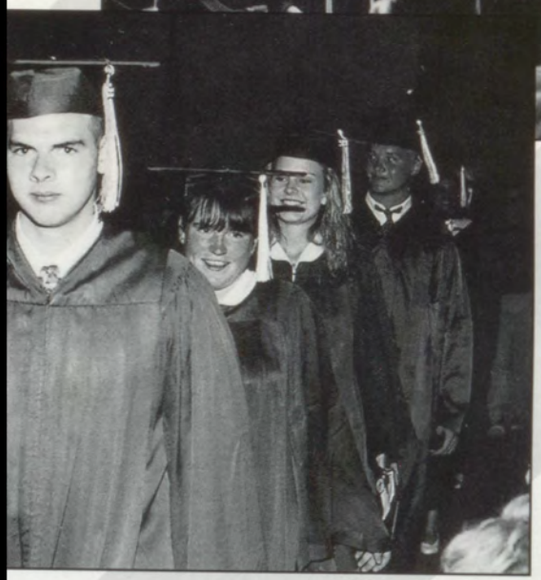


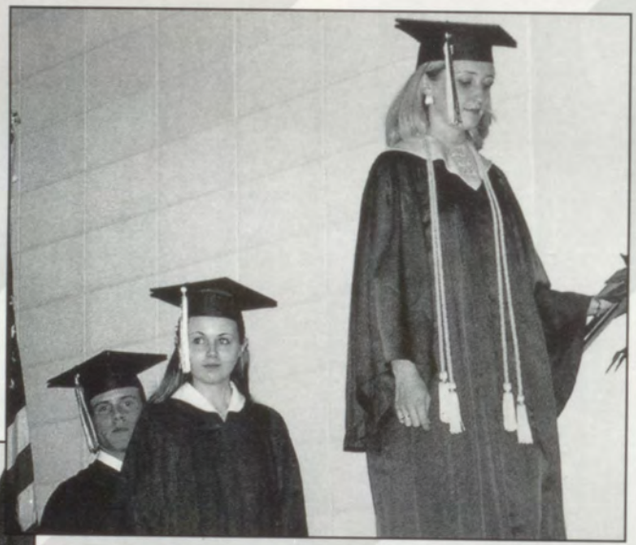




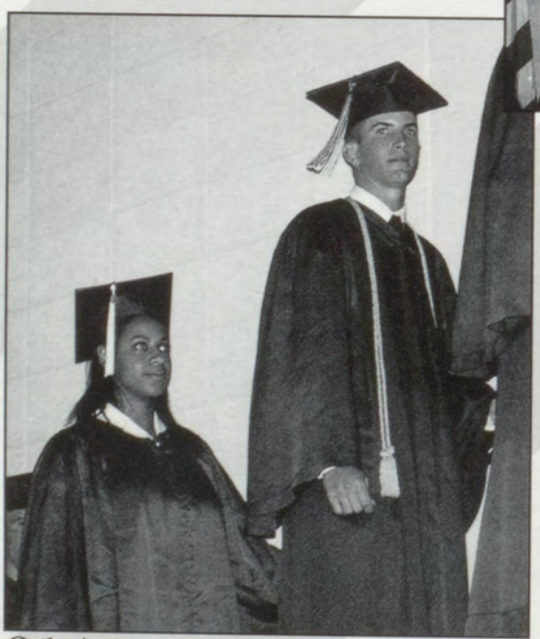






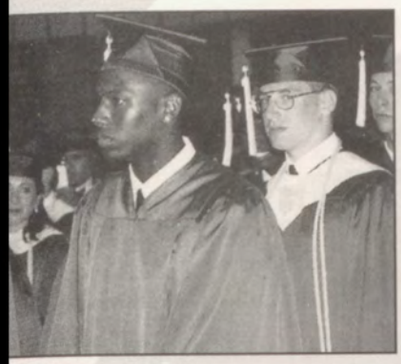






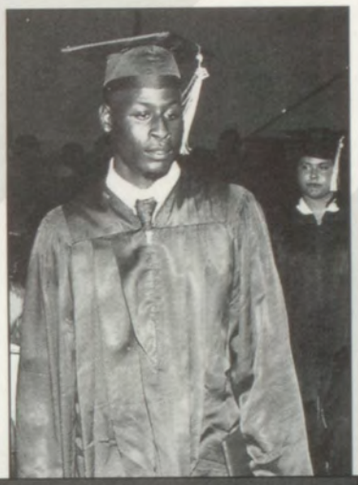


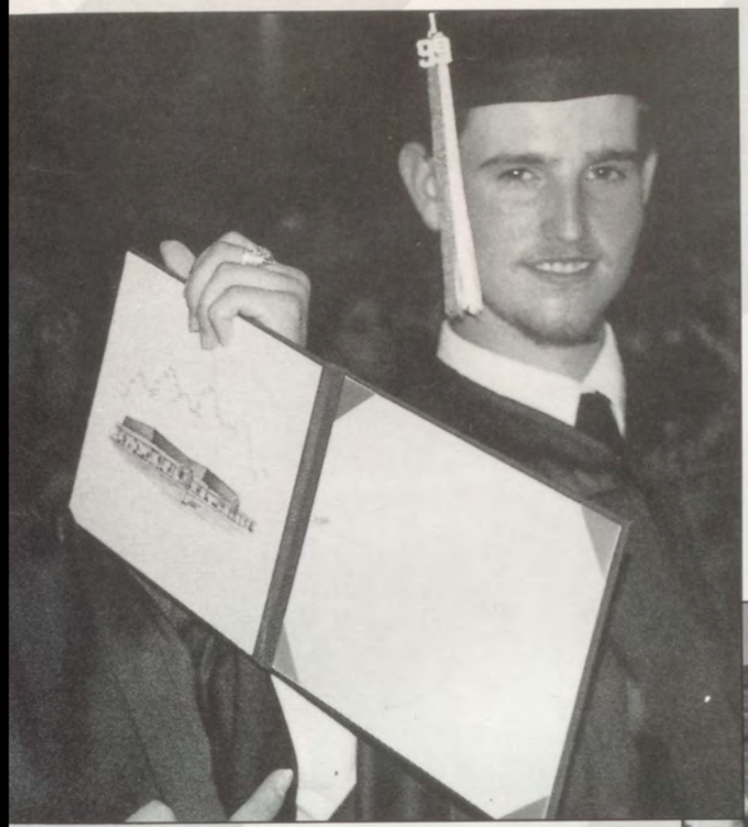


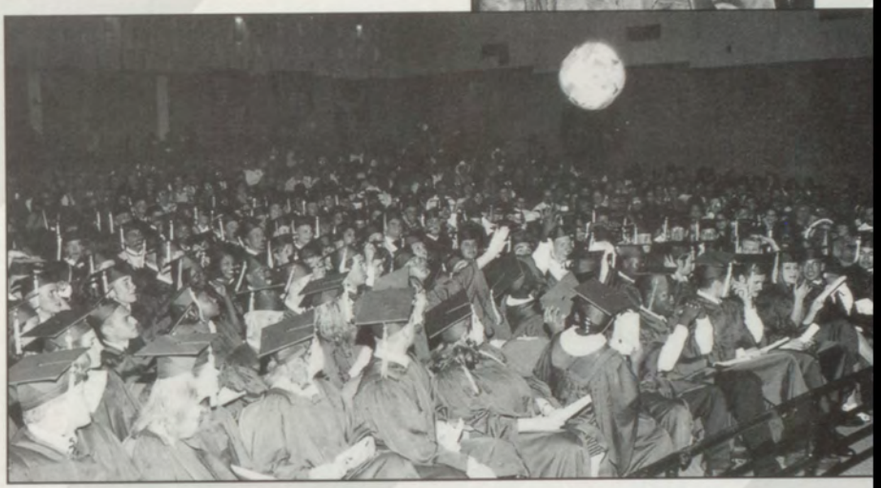


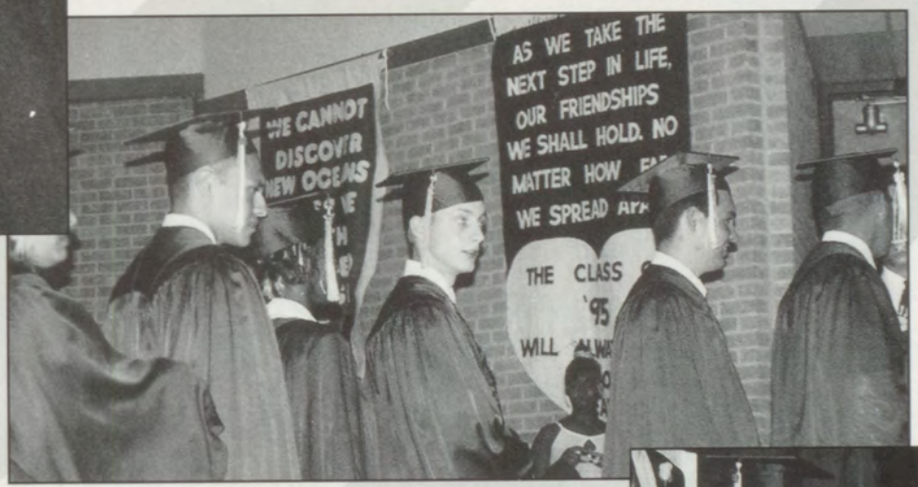






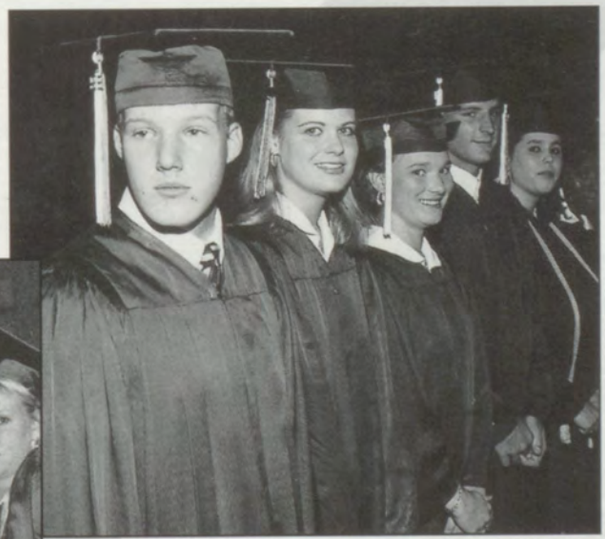




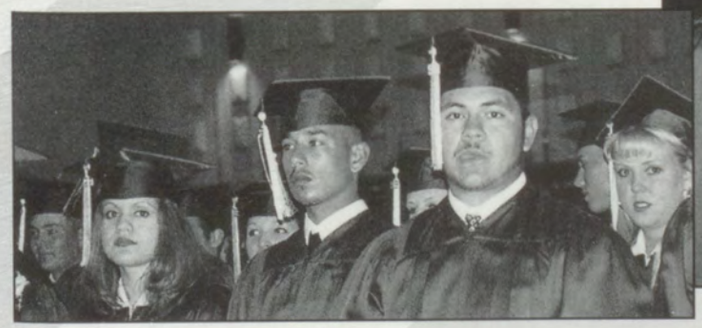


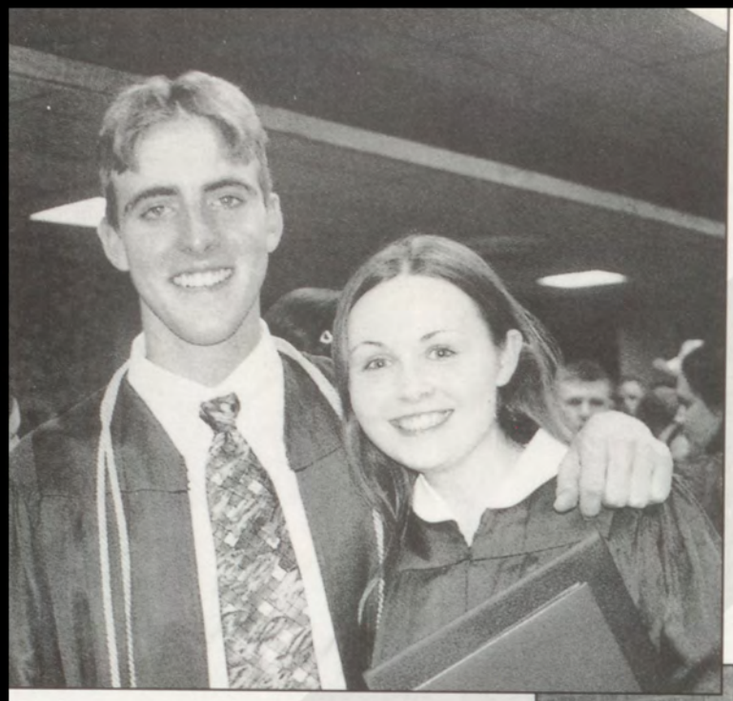


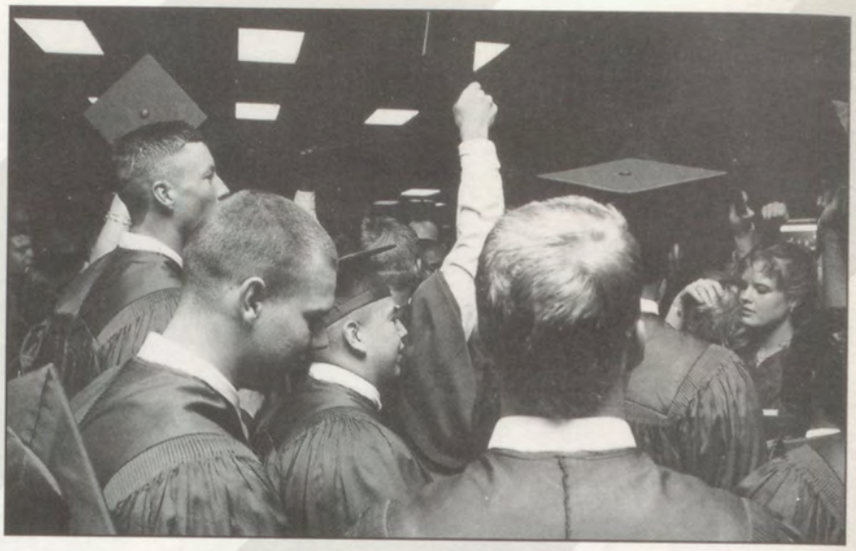
"It is hard to believe graduation is here already. And, as I am sure many other people have said over the years--I didn't think this day could come quickly enough. Here we are, sitting in our caps and gowns, with these annoying strings in our eyes, waiting for the signal to move them in front of the other eye, making them just as annoying as before."
Valedictorian Speech,
Beatriz Hernandez





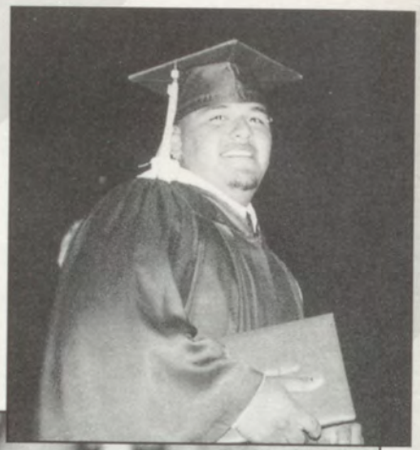


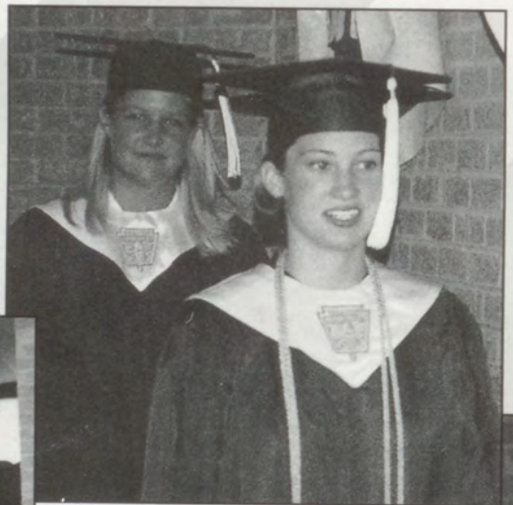














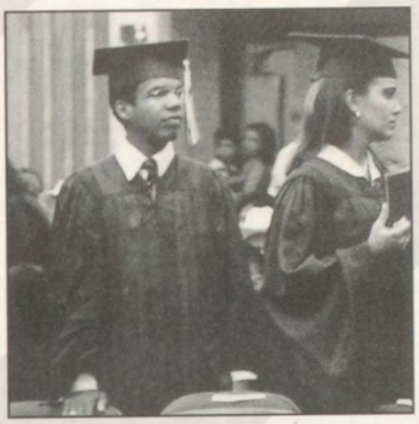
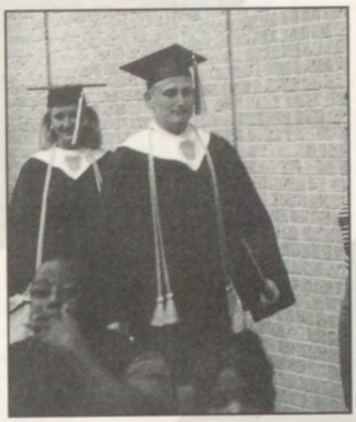
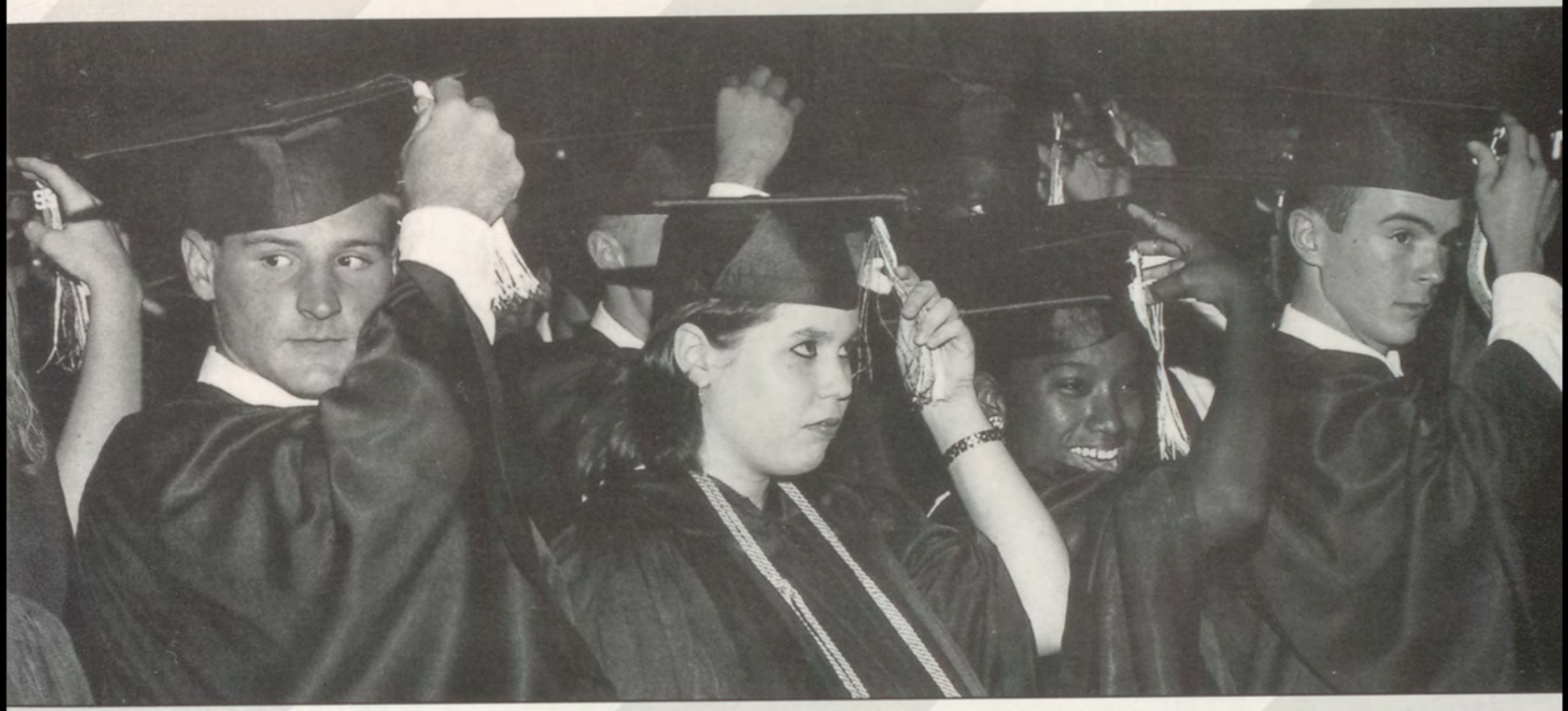
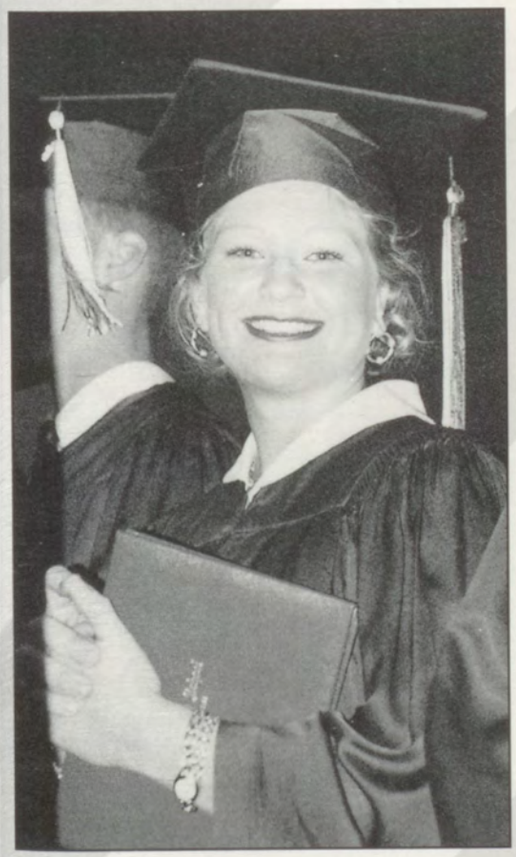


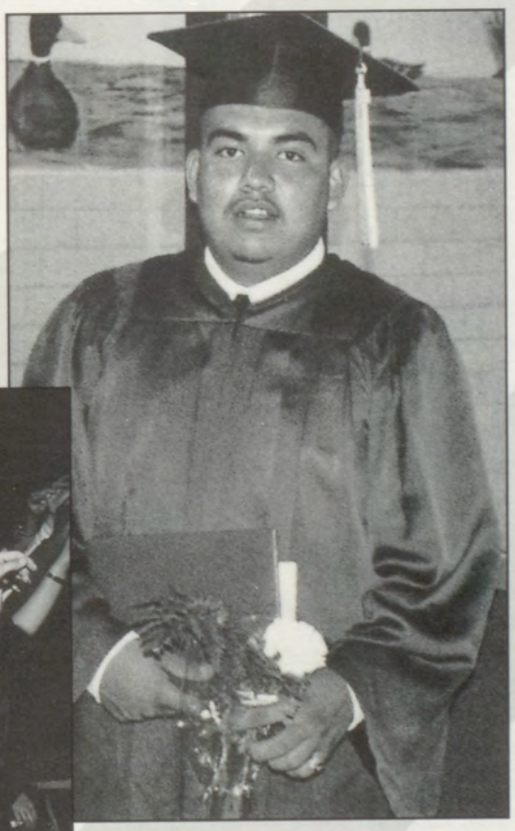











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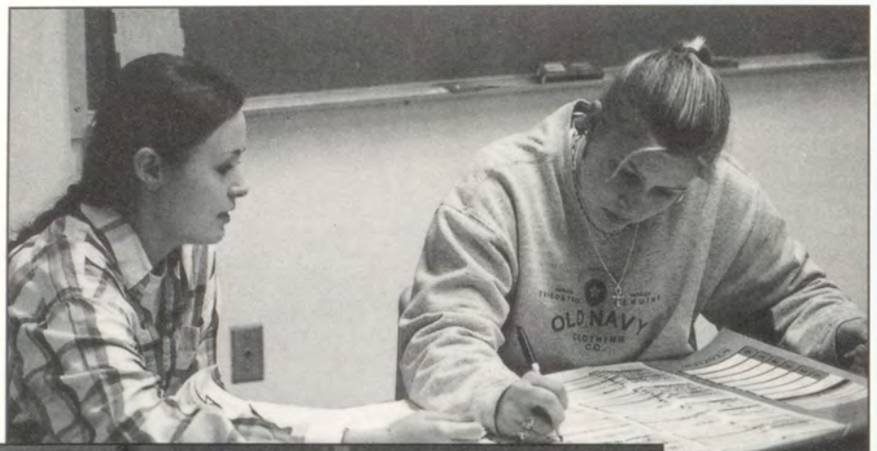
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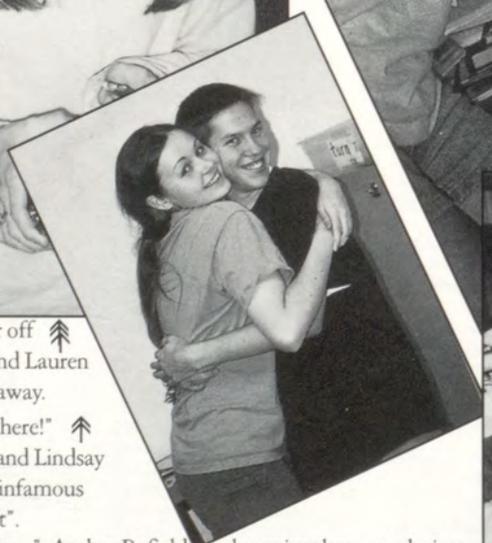


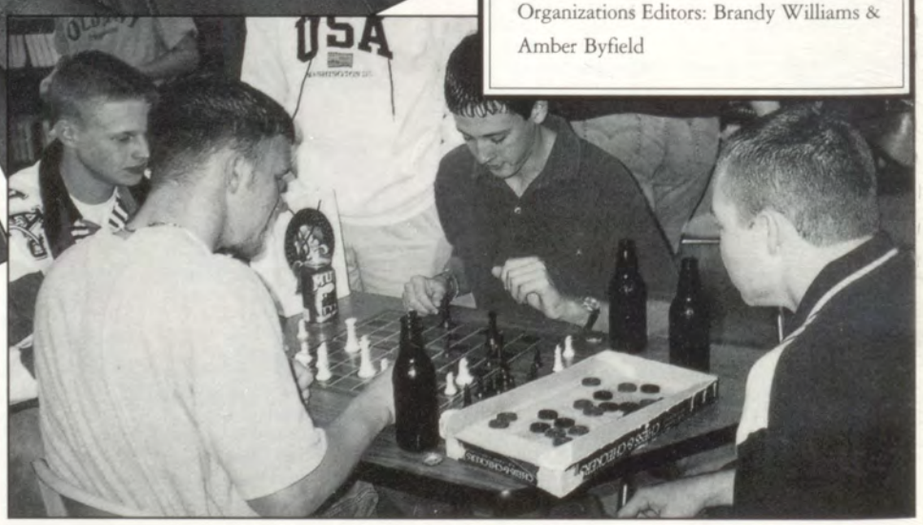


1998-99 Mallard Editors

Top, L to R: Melodie Strickland (Editor), Lauren Schwartz (Editor). Middle: Cassie Harrison (Business Manager), Emily Johnson (Co-Assistant Editor), Autumn Schneider (Co-Assistant Editor). Bottom: Amber Byfield (Computer Editor), Beth Pullen (Business Manager), Candace Benad (Assistant Computer Editor).







The Staff

Chris Beckermann, Candace Benad, Amanda Beran, Amber Byfield, Jaime Bigon, Michael Bindner, Alisha David, Brooke Dlouhy, Troy Dominguez, Jennifer Gonzales, Lindsay Harbers, Cassie Harrison, Chris Hejl, Kenny Horne, Cassy Hyzak, Keitha Jones, Emily Johnson, Kyle Kaiser, Beth Pullen, Amy Samuelson, Autumn Schneider, Lauren Schwartz, Melodie Strickland, Bubba Talley, Joe Tamez, Brandy Williams

Section Editors

People Editors: Emily Johnson & Alisha David

Academics Editors: Amanda Beran & Amy Samuelson

Sports Editors: Chris Beckermann & Chris Hejl

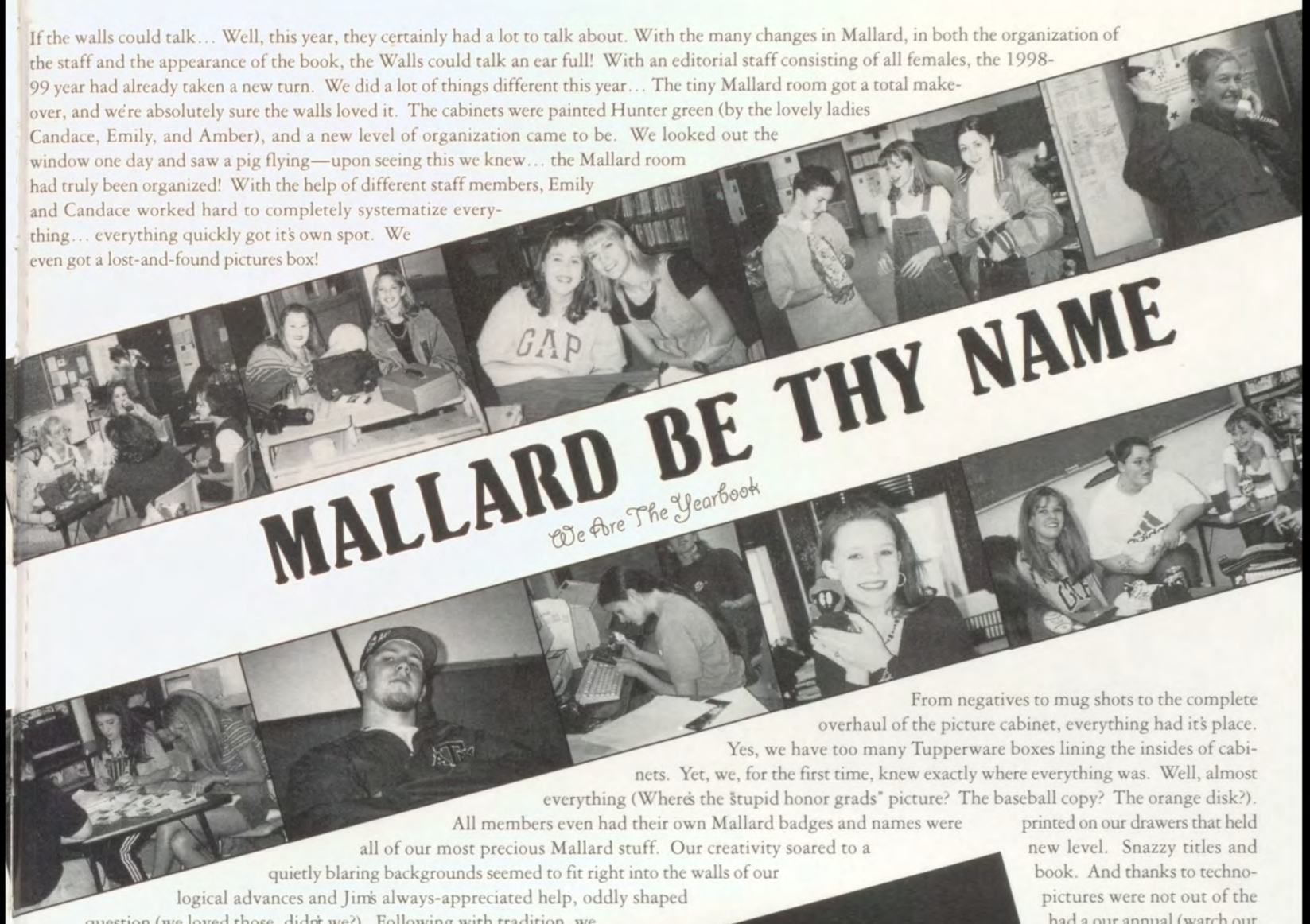
Organizations Editors: Brandy Williams & Amber Byfield

Starting the year off right, Melodie and Lauren start work right away.

"It is freezing in here!" Candace Benad and Lindsay Harbers use the infamous "Mallard Blanket".

"Love, sweet love. . ." Amber Byfield shows just how much time she spent with the computer this year.

"It's only I.B.C!" The guys in Mallard enjoyed playing chess and drinking root beer at the Mallard Christmas Party.

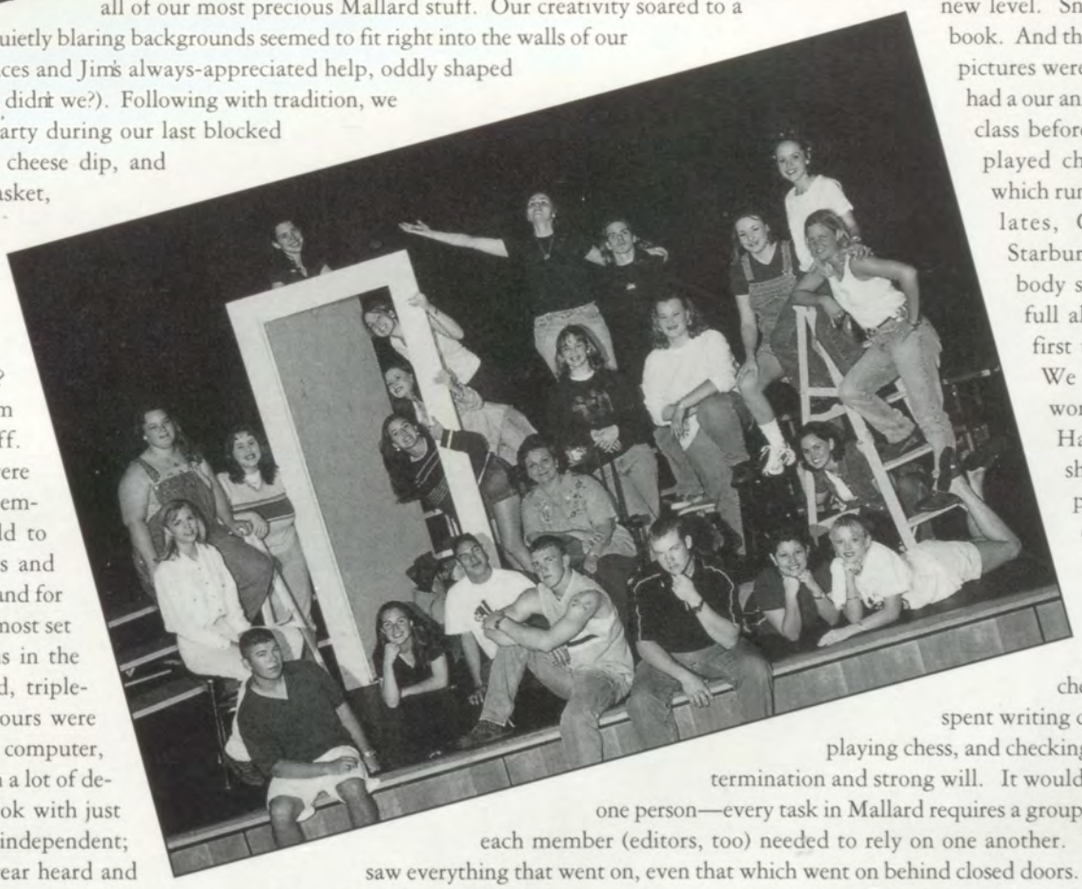


MALLARD BE THY NAME

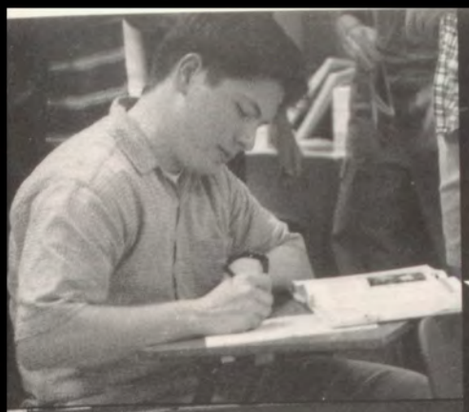
We Are The Yearbook

If the walls could talk... Well, this year, they certainly had a lot to talk about. With the many changes in Mallard, in both the organization of the staff and the appearance of the book, the Walls could talk an ear full! With an editorial staff consisting of all females, the 1998-99 year had already taken a new turn. We did a lot of things different this year... The tiny Mallard room got a total make-over, and we're absolutely sure the walls loved it. The cabinets were painted Hunter green (by the lovely ladies Candace, Emily, and Amber), and a new level of organization came to be. We looked out the window one day and saw a pig flying—upon seeing this we knew... the Mallard room had truly been organized! With the help of different staff members, Emily and Candace worked hard to completely systematize everything... everything quickly got it's own spot. We even got a lost-and-found pictures box!

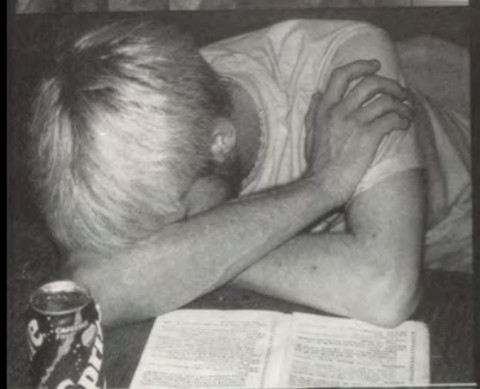
From negatives to mug shots to the complete overhaul of the picture cabinet, everything had it's place. Yes, we have too many Tupperware boxes lining the insides of cabinets. Yet, we, for the first time, knew exactly where everything was. Well, almost everything (Where's the "stupid honor grads" picture? The baseball copy? The orange disk?). All members even had their own Mallard badges and names were printed on our drawers that held all of our most precious Mallard stuff. Our creativity soared to a new level. Snazzy titles and quietly blaring backgrounds seemed to fit right into the walls of our book. And thanks to technological advances and Jim's always-appreciated help, oddly shaped pictures were not out of the question (we loved those, didn't we?). Following with tradition, we had a our annual (watch out for puns!) Mallard Christmas party during our last blocked class before the holidays, where we exchanged gifts, ate cheese dip, and played chess. Another new addition was our candy basket, which runneth over with a wide assortment of chocolates, CremeSavers, Jolly Rancher lollipops, Starbursts, and those hard egg-shaped things that no body seemed to like. At least, it was supposed to be full all the time. It usually ran out of supplies in the first ten minutes of class... But who could blame us? We were just a bunch of kids getting hungry from working on all of our top-secret yearbook stuff. Hardly ever was there a time this year when we were short of pictures. With the editors placing a heavy emphasis on quality, each staff member was told to cover his spreads well both with pictures and words (the minimum was set at 200 words and for a maximum overachievers like Amber we almost set making of at 1200). We were meticulous in the checked, and quathis book! We double-checked, triple-spent writing copy, designing druple-checked pages. Long hours were playing chess, and checking layouts, entering layouts into the computer, termination and strong will. It would have been imbook was truly put together with a lot of depossible to put together this book with just one person—every task in Mallard requires a group effort. Impossible for a single one of us to be independent; each member (editors, too) needed to rely on one another. The walls that encased the Mallard staff this year heard and saw everything that went on, even that which went on behind closed doors. They know all about how much we depended on each other, and how much fun we had. They know that even when we had difficult things to deal with, we pulled through as a team, as a real staff. (They know a bunch of other stuff, too. Probably some information that they don't want to know and we would rather them not know, as well... and from what we understand... they even took pictures!) So, just ask the walls. They're talking about us—the Mallard staff of 1998-99 and how great we always will be.




DUCKS
TAYI













This is the closing, where we are supposed to wrap things up and add closure to the school year. This is also where I'm not supposed to come right out and say "this is the closing", but I say, "oh, well" to that—I enjoy learning from my mistakes (I will never do it again. I promise. Oh, yeah… this is my last yearbook). Keep that in mind if you come across any typos or mistakes while browsing through the book (though, I might add it will be hard to find mistakes—we were rather meticulous). The entire time while working on this book I have wanted use stars… finally… finally! Yes, finally they are here. I could try to tell you the reason they're on this page is the final thought (stealing an idea from Jerry) I'd like to leave you with "keep reaching for the stars." But, that's not my true intention (though, it's nice a thought), so why lie? The stars are on this page 'cause they're pretty… so there! We on Mallard staff believe this book to have been a rather good depiction of the year and of the students at our school… we're very proud of the job we did (just ask one of us… we're bound to say, "turn to page…" and gush with pride). I guess an appropriate reason to have stars on the closing, is the closing is like the "goodnight" of the book. If you look at the opening it is short just like a wake up call, but this closing is long just like a good bedtime story or loving lullaby. But before the final "goodnight", the staff would like to take up a line or two or three or four to thank some of the many people who made this book the wonderful book that it is. Firstly, thank you Mr. Jim Anderson! Without Jim we would be without a publisher, therefore without a book… well… I guess we could get another publisher, but any other publisher couldn't be half as good as Jim! Next in line for thanks are the three men we turn to for pictures… Mr. Powell, Mr. Mosier, and Mr. Brian Smith. Thanks guys! But the biggest thanks… the thanks that comes more from me personally than from the staff is to the always lovely Miss Amber Byfield. This book would have been impossible without Amber; her patience with me, incredible intelligence, her ability to grasp my meaning through my often vague explanations… she should be bowed down to for her wonder (not to mention her beautiful hair!) I highly recommend to everyone that if they get a chance, to go up to Amber and thank her. She definitely deserves thanks. But beyond the skills she exercises as Madame Computer Editor, Amber is also a born journalist and above all a wonderful friend. My only wish is that I could take her with me to college… Undoubtedly I am leaving people off the "thank you' list that I should have thanked… please don't feel forgotten… just because I'm not saying "thank you' in type or in words… doesn't mean I'm not thanking you… have you ever heard of telepathy? But to finish up, I will say I hope you enjoyed your book… We told you in the beginning that it might be a little off the wall… well, what do you think? If you're not busy email me and tell me… my email address is MellieOfStrickland@excite.com Thanks for taking the time to read the final "goodnight." I say "goodnight" to you… please enjoy your book… "Goodnight."

Melodie Strickland









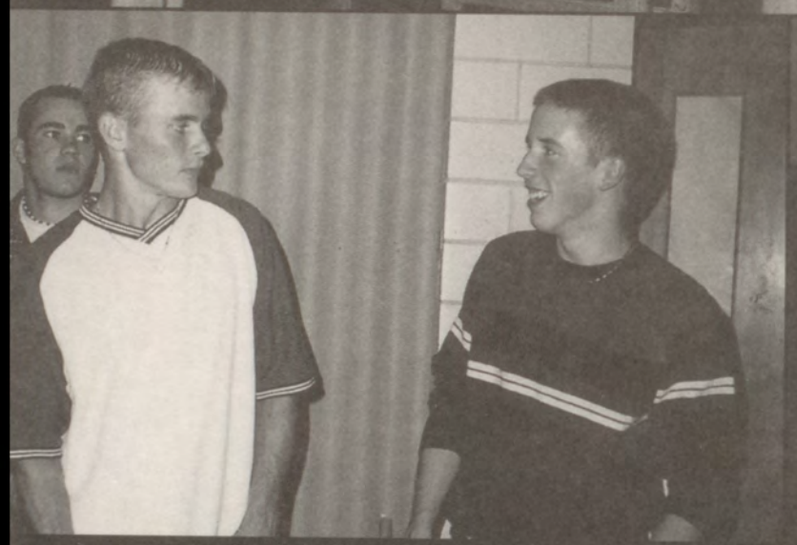


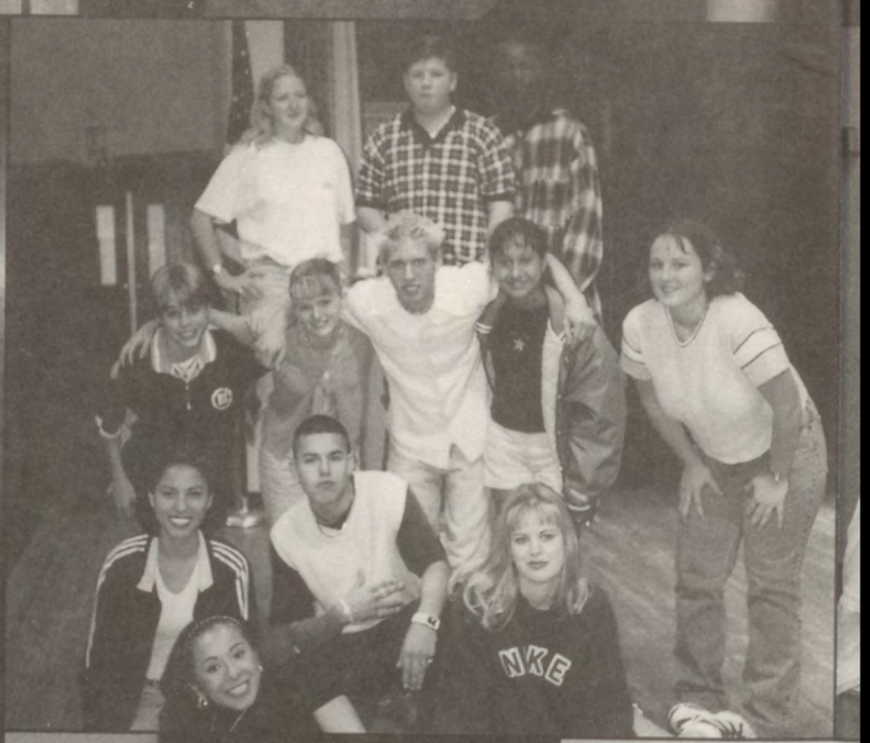


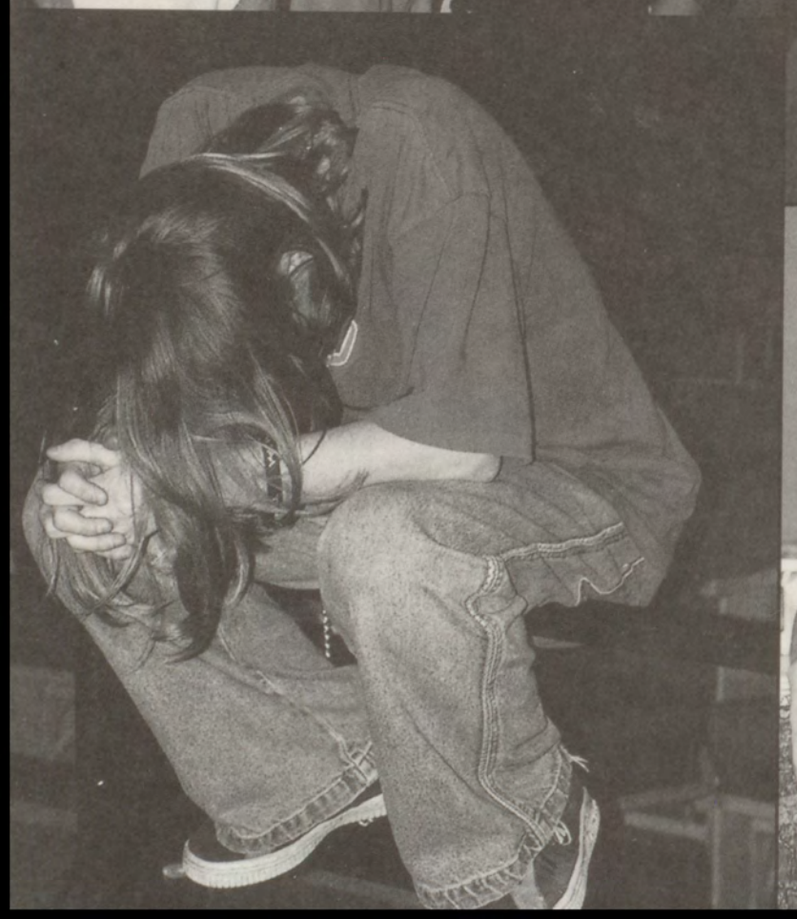

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