
Mallard • 2007
voices

4 student life

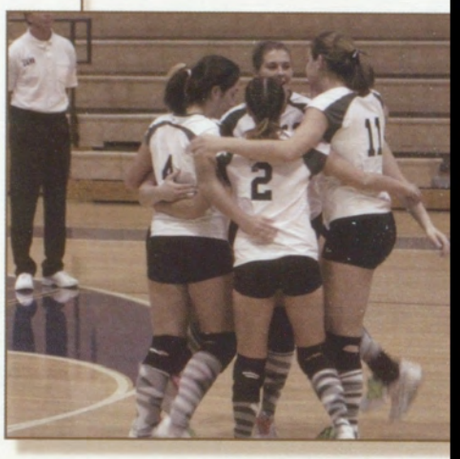
28 activities

54 academics

72 sports

Jalisa Budd, Brandie Jackson, and Pearlie Gault cheer to win the Spirit Stick. "I wasn't afraid to get loud because I wanted the candy," Pearlie said. The football and volleyball team won the Spirit Stick the most. Photo by Devyn Rucker

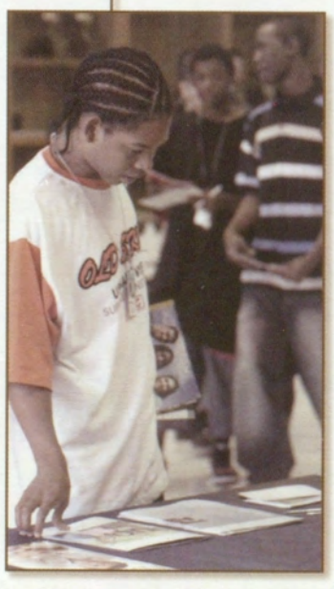




Before the start of their first p
off game, the volleyball tean
in a hudle to prepare for the m
"We were really nervous becaus
wanted to make Taylor proud,"
by Johnson said. The girls adva
to the playoffs for the first time
years. Photo by Devyn Rucker



Jessica Bosley pins Homecoming King Lamar Rollie's sash on. "There were so many people on the ballot, it was hard to choose just one girl and boy," Brittni Gola said. The diversity of nominees allowed for many different types of students to be recognized. Photo by Devyn Rucker



Derrick Ridyolph looks at a college's catalog at the college fair. "I liked the College Fair because I got a chance to look at a bunch of different colleges without having to use the internet," Derrick said. Photo by Taylor Savage

138 ads

98 people

168 index



Bryce Block, Christina Hilscher, and Suzanna Hernandez stand outside the school before the day begins. " Dress like a king or queen day was my favorite because I was able to move about the school in a way that comes naturally to me," Bryce said. King and queen day was a new dress-up day during Homecoming week. Photo by Taylor Savage



Jordan Humphreys sits in the Mallard Office reviewing business ads. "I really enjoy creating ads for the Mallard because I could have a future in graphic design and advertising," Jordan said. Jordan creates the business ads for the Mallard. Photo by Aaron Reeves



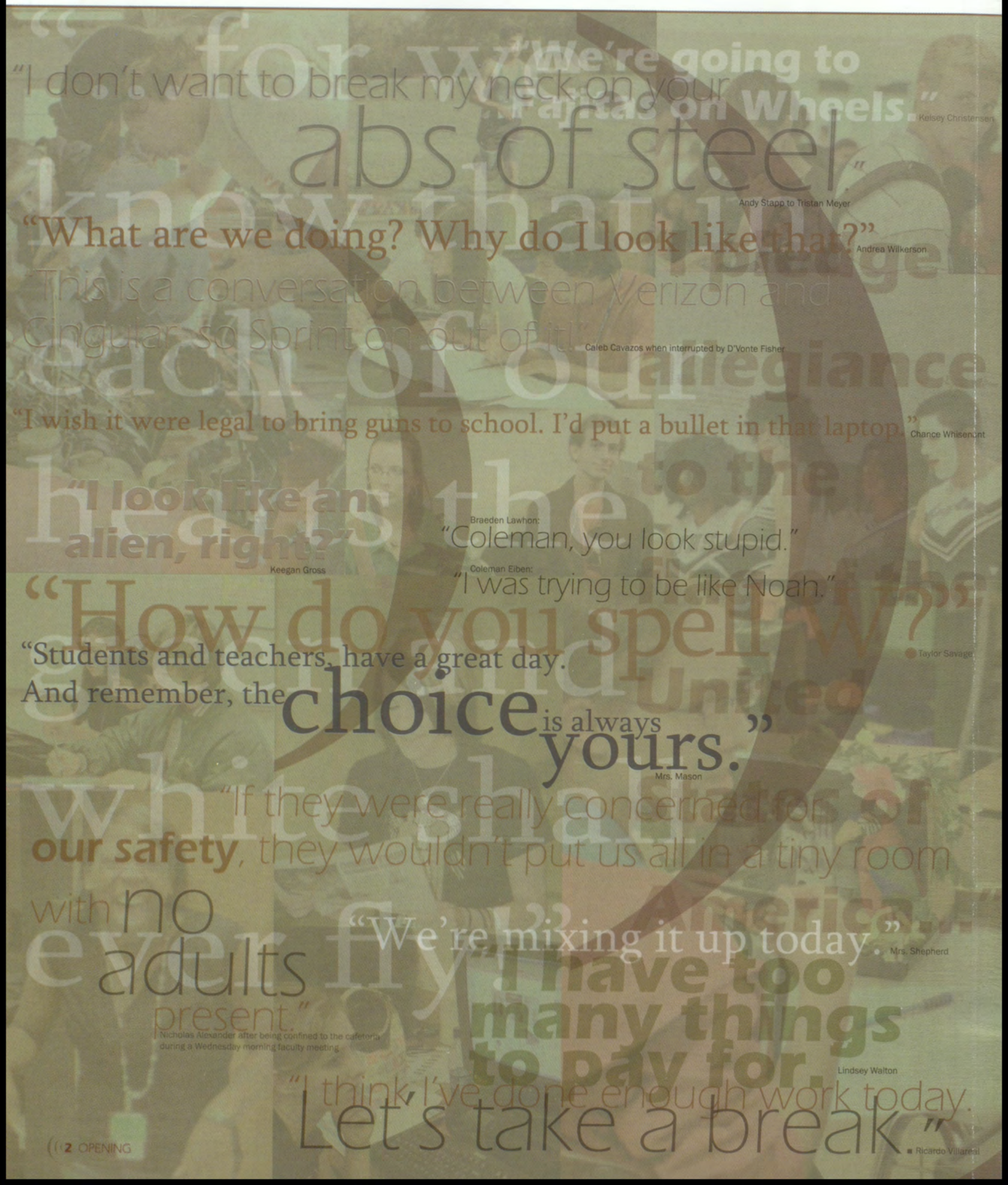
Tara Eulenfeld claps for the students who have just been named Homecoming Nominees. " I love the fact that the whole school comes together to support the team's. It's really cool," Tara said. Photo by Devyn Rucker



Taylor High School • 3101 N. Main St • Taylor, Tx 76574 • 512.365.2804 • www.taylorisd.org • 120 staff • 885 students

MALLARD voices 2007

vol. 61


"I don't want to break my neck on your abs of steel."
Andy Stapp to Tristan Meyer
"We're going to Applebee's on Wheels."
Kelsey Christensen
"What are we doing? Why do I look like that?"
Andrea Wilkerson
"This is a conversation between Verizon and Cingular, so Sprint can get out of it."
Caleb Cavazos when interrupted by D'Vonte Fisher
"I wish it were legal to bring guns to school. I'd put a bullet in that laptop."
Chance Whisenant
"I look like an alien, right?"
Keegan Gross
Braeden Lawhon:
"Coleman, you look stupid."
Coleman Eiben:
"I was trying to be like Noah."
"How do you spell AW?"
Taylor Savage
"Students and teachers, have a great day. And remember, the choice is always yours."
Mrs. Mason
"If they were really concerned for our safety, they wouldn't put us all in a tiny room with no adults present."
Nicholas Alexander after being confined to the cafeteria during a Wednesday morning faculty meeting
"We're mixing it up today."
Mrs. Shepherd
"I have too many things to pay for."
Lindsey Walton
"I think I've done enough work today. Let's take a break."
Ricardo Villareal

voices

Every day you are surrounded by countless theories of the way your life should be lived. The voices of your friends, enemies, and teachers consume your interior life as well as your actions. The speech given by your class president at graduation, the attempted comebacks tossed out by your teacher, or the inside joke you had with your best friend are the memories you will take with you upon leaving high school. With all the voices that fill the hallways, it is easy to get lost in the crowd. It is imperative, however, for your voice to stand out and make an impression on others.

The focus of the year seems to embrace the concept of getting students' voices heard. We were actually given the opportunity to voice our opinions to Mrs. Mason, within the shelter of Duck Diplomats. The decisions we made will forever change our school. We were heard. Our views were taken into consideration, and we became the adults, directing our own paths with compromise and maturity. For those students hoping to impact their classmates outside of school policies, we were given the chance to paint our favorite quotes on the walls of our school. The sayings we so valued for ourselves are now displayed for everyone in hopes of sharing their wisdom with future Ducks. Our voices, our words, will cling to the walls in which they reside now, for years to come. The inception of the school's new television staff left us all in awe. This opportunity allowed students to finally exercise their right to free speech by broadcasting their opinions all over campus. The staff searched for stories which interested them, and permitted their interview subjects to say what they actually felt instead of how they "should" feel.

By redirecting our focus to each individual student, we have been able to hear our classmates' voices rather than allowing them to be hidden amongst the crowd. Through our contributions toward improving our school or simply encouraging a single classmate, we will never forget these voices which fill our lives every day.



"We just had to get out of this town. We had to find a new kind of high." Crystal Lopez

student life



Crystal Lopez skydives in a tandem jump with an instructor in late October. Several students traveled to Lexington for the opportunity to try this thrilling sport. "I was pretty nervous, but once you were strapped in, there was nothing you could do," said Cassie Stabeno, whose jump was also her first time in an airplane.

Courtesy photo

Meanwhile, back in the States...



9th Grade: Zachary Talavera

"This summer I went to church camp with my church youth group, First Baptist Youth. We went to Arkansas and it was a different experience there than here in town."

"a different experience"



10th Grade: Karla Hoffman

"I went to basketball camp this summer and I really enjoyed it. It prepared me for this season because all the hard work that I put into it."

"prepared for this season"



11th Grade: Mariah Dempsey

"I went to Hi-Stepper camp and it was an emotional and hard week. We had a candle lighting ceremony and it really bonded us all together."

"an emotional week"



12th Grade: Todd Bryan

"I went to a lot of football camps this summer, but the one that I really enjoyed was at Tarleton State University. Being at a college is a more mature atmosphere and it makes you expect more out of yourself."

"more mature atmosphere"

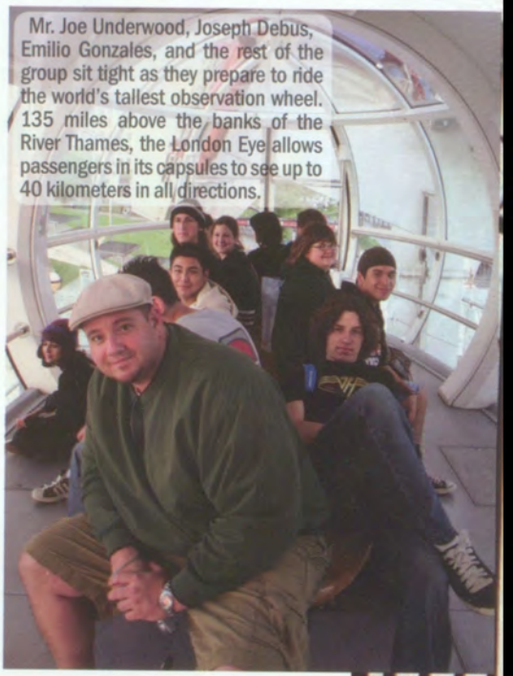




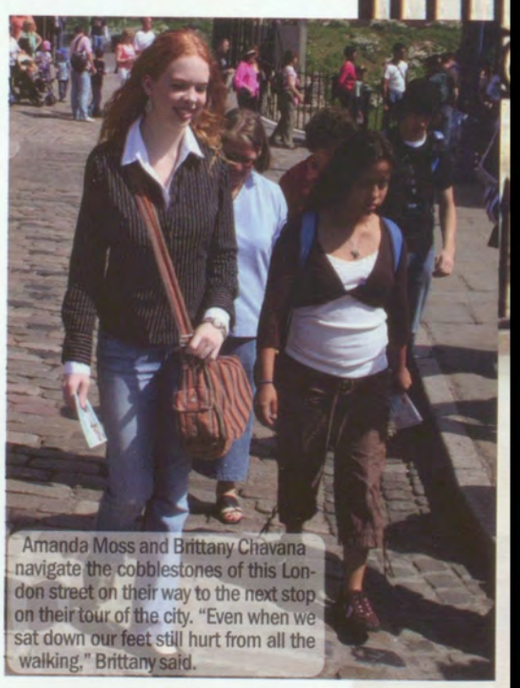




From top: Westminister Abbey, Tower Bridge, Guards at Buckingham Palace, Stonehenge.



Mr. Joe Underwood, Joseph Debus, Emilio Gonzales, and the rest of the group sit tight as they prepare to ride the world's tallest observation wheel. 135 miles above the banks of the River Thames, the London Eye allows passengers in its capsules to see up to 40 kilometers in all directions.



Amanda Moss and Brittany Chavana navigate the cobblestones of this London street on their way to the next stop on their tour of the city. "Even when we sat down our feet still hurt from all the walking," Brittany said.



Mrs. Vicki Rowe sits atop the throne at The Tower of London. The students took a tour of the Tower and visited the Queen's area. "It was nice to feel like a queen," Mrs. Rowe said.



Elisabeth Garry and Blakesley King try to poke fun at the Queen's Guard at Buckingham Palace. The girls got to tour London and visit historical monuments. "The weather there was really pleasant; I was prepared for cold rainy weather, but it was sunny and warm," Blakesley said .

"It was a hysterical event."

Story by Briana Lopez
Photos by Dawn Escobar

During the summer most students visit family or take the usual trip to the beach. Very few get to experience the lifestyle or culture of another country. Mrs. Vicki Rowe, along with some of her scholars, encountered London, England through the eyes of Texans. From the food, to the historical buildings, and busy streets, the students experienced it all.

There was a lot for the students to keep up with, starting with the long plane ride from Austin to Chicago. "This was my first time on a plane and let me tell you, I was nervous. When the plane started, it was shaking," Bryce Block said.

In any foreign country there will be differences in food, clothing, and lingo, but for an American visiting England it is particularly amusing to hear the British accent. The accents of the students and the tour guide were distinctly different. "I didn't pick up on the accent completely, but we did try mimicking our tour guide, Daniel," Amanda Moss said.

Some took the mimicry to the next level. "Everywhere I went I used the British accent. I found it fun to speak the way they do, but I don't think I will keep it up in Texas," Frankie Guardiola said.

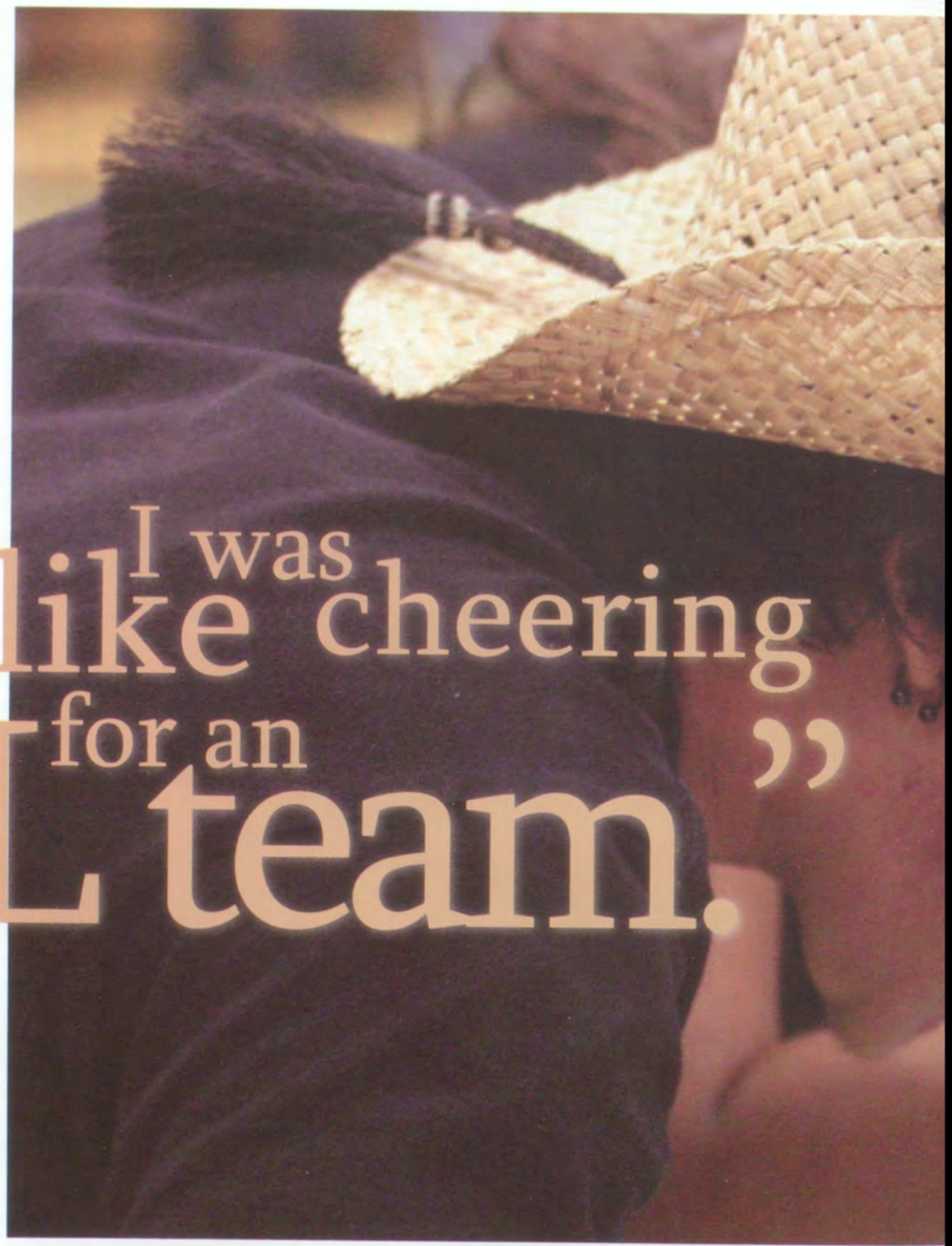
The students went on tours of Big Ben, The London Tower and Bridge, Westminister Abby, and Windsor Castle, but what seemed to be the most exciting event was when the students were outside the gates of the Prime Minister of England, Tony Blair's house.

"It was a hysterical event," Bryce said. "The guardsmen walked out as if Tony was coming, so everyone on the streets got excited and crowded by the gates. Each time a black car passed by everyone took out their cameras and got ready to catch a shot of him but unfortunately we were upset by each outcome. Our tour guide would keep yelling 'Here he is! Here he is!' but he didn't realize how much he said it until we showed him on film."

Along with a big city comes the rush of a metropolitan area. "The town was always moving quickly and the car rides were nerve-wrecking," Bryce said.

"There was so much to see. The buildings in London seemed timeless. But you couldn't sit and admire much because in London you have to learn to move quickly and try not to get in anyone's way," Blakesley King said.

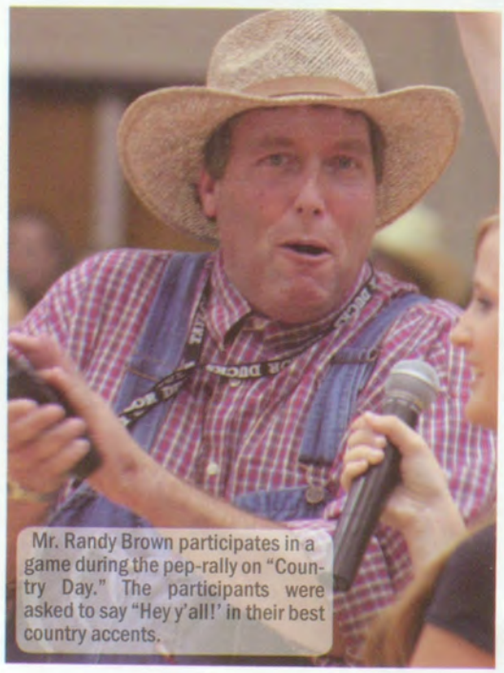
On September 15 it became apparent that pep-rallies as students knew them would never be the same. Mrs. Kate Mooney and the Varsity cheerleaders decided that pep-rallies should include as many students as possible instead of primarily focusing on the students involved in the current sports. Banners hung in the student center early in the week letting everyone get an idea of how they were going to address the theme of the following Friday. Themes like mis-match day, bling day, and even the infamous cowboy day were a few of the pep-rally themes that could be seen on every home game Friday. One of the most popular themes was "Blackout Friday." Students came to school decked out in all black clothing, black wigs, and even all black make-up. The actual pep-rally took place in the auditorium instead of the gym where they are usually held. The cheerleaders gave out glow sticks and bracelets and lit up the pitch-black auditorium with neon lights. "The adrenaline was crazy throughout the crowd," Johnathan Wooldridge said. "It was hard to control the outrageous excitement!" Johnathan was the spokesman for the football team that Friday and his words of encouragement gave the crowd a sense of assurance in a victory over Alamo Heights.



"I felt like I was cheering for an NFL team."

Even though the Ducks fell shy of victory, the pep-rally that started it off was fresh in the minds of the students that attended it. "When we did the entrance I felt like I was cheering for an NFL team!" Briana Lopez said. For most students the pep-rallies throughout the season were innovative and memorable and hopefully started another tradition that will be carried out for years to come.

Spirit Week has always been a time of fun and exciting events. Even though it seemed to be a struggle to kick start the week, one class really pulled through in the end. The Junior class of '08 really stepped it up in the hall decorating contest with a "Bury the Yeomen" theme. Their hall by the office was covered in black paper and entombed with headstones all along the wall. "It was hard to get it started with the 10 people that showed up," Pearlie Gault said, "but it turned out really great in the end." Spirit Week and Spirit Days were definitely a little different, but with the participation of most of the student body, it would be hard to argue the day's success.



Mr. Randy Brown participates in a game during the pep-rally on "Country Day." The participants were asked to say "Hey y'all!' in their best country accents.



Jenna Howard talks to a friend in class while dressed up for Royalty Day. "I love Spirit Week because you get to dress up like you usually don't and express how much you love and support the Ducks," Jenna said. Many girls enjoyed Royalty Day because it gave them the chance to wear a previous year's prom dress.



Emilio Gonzales takes a bite out of his Fear Factor meal at a pep-rally. "That's the most disgusting thing I've ever had to do in my entire life. I had to eat a pig's foot and raw fish," Emilio said. Games, such as eating a combination of random foods, were prepared for every pep-rally.



Brittany Jackson searches for more Cheetos in her snack pack on Mis-Match Day. "Everyone kept saying that I must have gotten dressed in a dark closet," Brittany said. Mis-Match Day was a chance for students to dress as creatively as possible.



Keegan Gross draws on the chalk board during Art class on Black and White Day. "I dressed up on Black & White Day because it was an easy way to show school spirit," Keegan said. Most students were covered head-to-toe in black and white on this day, leaving no room for any color.



Julie Ann Carey enjoys the attention at a pep-rally on Mis-Match day. "I was excited to dress up for Mis-Match Day. I just threw a little bit of everything together," she said. Students were awarded at every pep-rally for being the most dressed-up in the school.

What would your ideal spirit day be?

"Super-Villian Day."

After randomly polling a number of students the results showed that almost everyone asked said the exact same thing. "I'd want to have a Super-Villan day," Clarence Johnson, and many of his fellow classmates said.

It seems, many students have felt the urge to dress up like their favorite comic book character more than once in their life. "I think I'd be a Teenage Mutant Nija Turtle," Sisto Gonzales said.

Story & Photos by Briana Lopez

"I wasn't trying to get people to vote for me, I just wanted to add a little fu

"Please choose one boy and one girl and pass your ballots forward." These words were announced throughout the whole school during second period on October 17th. It was that time of the year again when traditions are brought back and the halls are filled with decorations and school spirit.

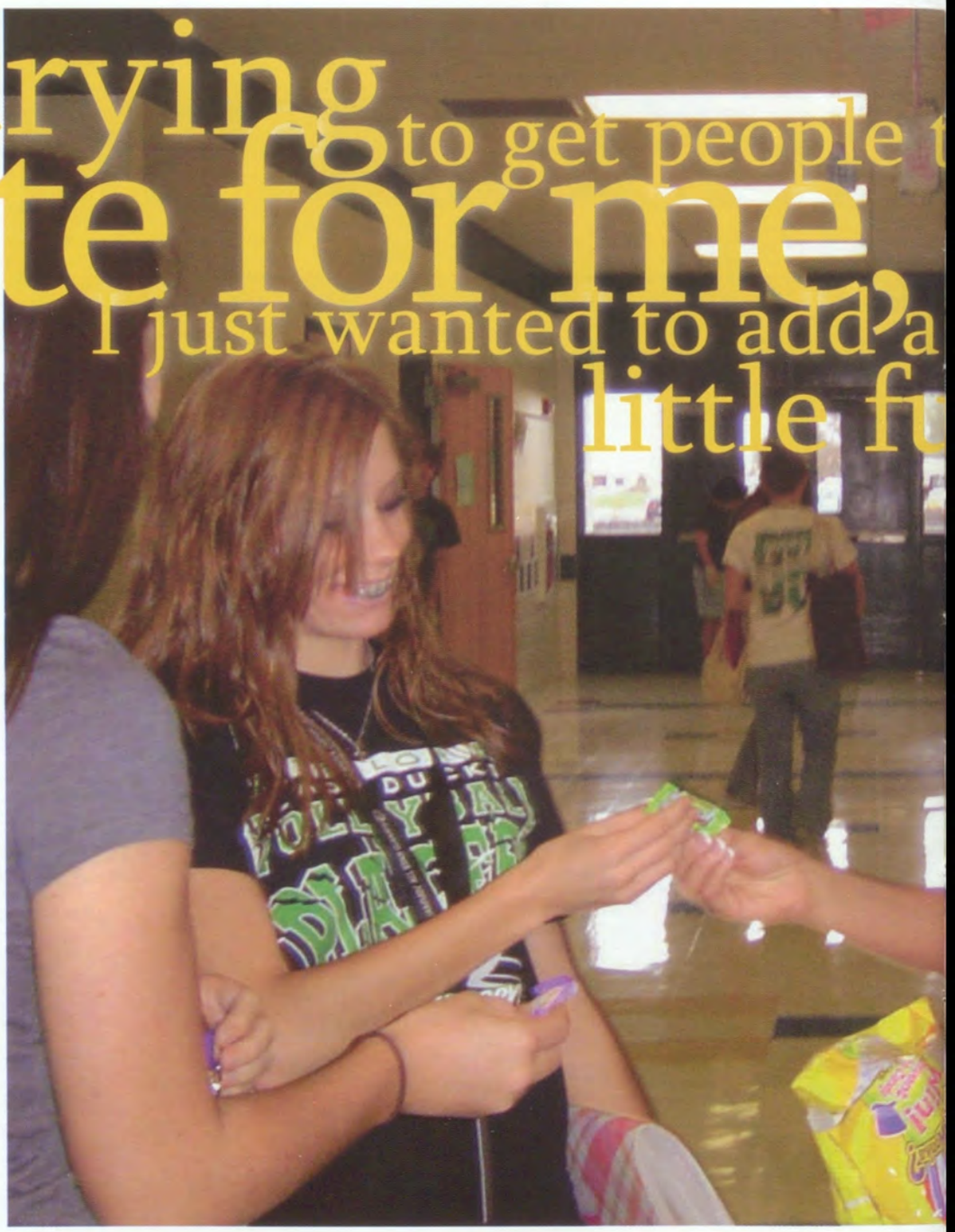
With all the excitement that came with Homecoming there was also drama. "There were some scandalous events that occurred. The voting seemed to be the most eventful for me," Frankie Guardiola said. Frankie took part in the voting process and knew who was in the top all along. "It was really hard for me to keep my mouth shut considering I have a big one."

With Frankie on one end counting votes, Mallory Janak was on the other receiving them. But Mallory brought in some fun by campaigning. "I got the idea from Andrew Gonzales one day at work. He was telling me what he did and I thought it was a fun idea," Mallory said. Most students thought it was a bit much handing out candy but Mallory only wanted to add a little fun to it. "I wasn't trying to get people to vote for me. I just wanted to add a little fun. I even wore my 'Vote for Mallory' t-shirt that I had from the NHS running."

With all the excitement going on at school, there was just as much going on in the community and on Mallard Lane. Student Senate president, Ashley Keith, took on a big role and planned the community pep-rally that everyone wanted. "It was a lot of work but I wanted everything to go right. I was stressed and had so much going on that week. People thought that Homecoming this year was intense, but every year it is, and no one really sees that side of it," Ashley said.

After the pep-rally, some students went "still tippin," the weaving of cars in and out of their lane in a long line, down Mallard and attracted several cops. Lindsey Green was one of the many students that took part in the rally. "It was exciting until we got pulled over by the cops. They kind of ruined our mood," Lindsey said. "But I wasn't scared. The funny part was every kid that got out of the car had on some sort of uniform. Whether it was a Hi-Stepper, cheerleader, or football player, we all had on our uniforms."

Homecoming always involves setting new traditions and adding onto the old, but the Senior class took it to new levels. From campaigning for Homecoming court to driving down Mallard to make a scene, the Seniors left their mark. "Every year Homecoming is exciting, but this year was sad because this is our last year and next year won't be the same," Lindsey said.





The Ducks bust through the sign as they get ready to take on Cameron. The run-through came with a smoke machine to try and get the boys pumped up. "Everytime we run out I get an adrenaline rush. I'm ready to light someone up," Andrew Lopez said. Photo by Devyn Rucker



Mallory Janak hands out candy in the hallway to students passing by. Mallory was named one of the Homecoming Princesses that evening. "I was shocked that I got princess," Mallory said.



9th Grade Prince & Princess: Jacob San Miguel & Katie Yanez

"I was really shocked when they announced my name. I only knew my close friends were voting for me, but I didn't know that the whole class would," Katie said.

"was really shocked"



10th Grade Prince & Princess: Eric Brooks & Danielle Zavala

"I didn't really care if I got it. I got it my freshman year, so it didn't come to my suprise, but I also didn't really expect to get it again," Eric said.

"didn't really expect to get it"



11th Grade Prince & Princess: Sean Bradshaw & Crystal Lopez

"I didn't want to get it this year. I've gotten it before, but I didn't care for this year. My friends just wanted to see me in a dress; that's why they voted for me," Crystal said.

"just wanted to see me in a dress"



12th Grade King & Queen: Kara Murphy & Lamar Rollie

"I was told by a lot of people that I would win, but I wanted to be surprised. I could feel my face getting red, and as Jessica Bosley put the crown on my head, she told me exactly what to do, where to stand, and what was going to happen," Kara said.

"feel my face getting red"



Lindsey Green dances during their performance at the pep-rally. The Hi-Steppers often get the crowd going with their hip-hop dance. "I wasn't nervous at all; I was ready to dance. It was my favorite routine," Kelly Martinez said. Photo by Devyn Rucker



Noah Brinkmeyer and other senior football players try to hit every move in their exclusive performance as the varsity cheerleaders. The boys practiced three nights out of the week to perfect their performance. "I didn't know I looked that ugly, but I loved my outfit," Noah said. Photo by Taylor Savage

Story & photos by Kelsey Dykes

Guitar is probably the most popular instrument to play in high school. Some students might play because it makes them look cool, but others are in their own bands and use their talents to make original music. Still others have aspirations of becoming popular or even famous.

Travis Hyzak started playing guitar for a very common reason. "I got started to pick up chicks," Travis said. Now he plays for something else. "I use the gift that I have to worship," Travis said. He plays and sings for the worship band at Christ Fellowship Church, and occasionally writes his own music too.

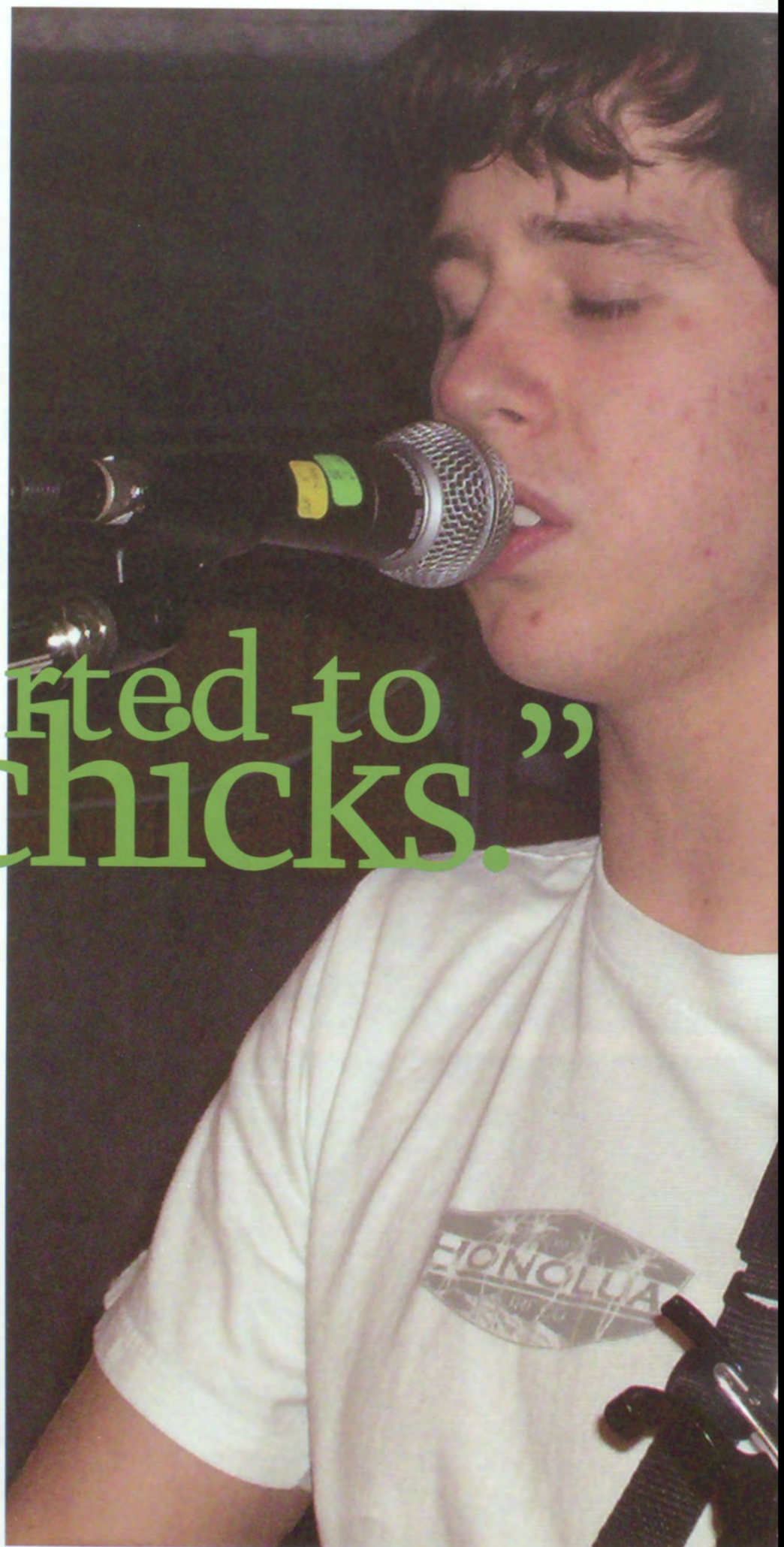
While some have a specific goal to achieve and reason for playing guitar, others come across it by default. "I originally wanted to play bass, but they didn't have that as a class in Coupland, so I just decided to play the guitar," Andrew Stapp said. When asked what his influences for playing are, Andy lists mostly underground bands like Nile, Decide and grunge bands like Nirvana and Soundgarden. He is also a member of the local band Fatal Cry. "It's a challenge every time you pick up the guitar. There's always something new you can learn and play," Andy said.

"I got started to pick up chicks."

Others play the guitar just because of their love for music. Since he was in eighth grade, Cory Keith has been playing guitar. He plays everything from rock and roll to Johnny Cash. "I've always liked music and playing is just another way to be around it. It makes me feel like I'm actually doing something productive," Cory said. Whether they play for chicks, popularity, or for the sake of rock and roll, these musicians love to play guitar.



Rudy Mikeska plays the bongos while Britton Byfield accompanies him on the drums. "I never really learned how to play to the drums; I just mess around when I can," Britton said.
Photo by Emily Quinn





Travis Hyzak kicks off a Wednesday night service with music. "It's fun to create new stuff that I've never played before," Travis said. The CFC youth group meets weekly to sing along and worship.



Brandon Vega pratices with his band Issei Sagawa. "Music equals life. Most of our songs apply to certain events that have happened in our lives. " Brandon said. The band often practiced together on Friday nights. Courtesy photo



Lauren Tucker plays the piano. "I started taking lessons because my mom made me," Lauren said. She started playing and taking lessons eight years ago.



Brooke Gabel selects a song on her iPod. "I listen to reggae when I'm happy,"Brooke said. Although no electronics are allowed during school, many students still found a way to listen to their music.

Brooke Gabel's iPod Playlist

Wrong Way- Sublime
Snow- Red Hot Chili Peppers
Back in Black-ACDC
Insane in the Brain- Cypress Hill
Youth- Matisyahu
Jamming- Bob Marley
Charlie- Red Hot Chili Peppers
Smooth Criminal- Alien Ant Farm
Blister in the Sun- Violent Femmes
Fergalicious-Fergie

"Music helps express your individuality."

Brooke Gabel

Story & Photos by Sydney Savage

It would be most people's dream come true if money were to grow on trees, but unfortunately, that is not possible. Luckily for Amber Johnson however, she actually enjoys going into work at the YMCA every day, and fortunately, her job has not taken any toll on her school work. Although waking up to be at work by 8 a.m. certainly has lessened the amount of sleep that she got, she believes it definitely paid off in the end.

"During the summer I had less time for myself, but now that school has started I have even fewer hours. I have to be at work at 8 in the morning, so that's the only part that stinks," Amber said.

Building on the bond that she has already made with these children is what she looks forward to most in going into work every day. "My favorite part about this job is that I get to watch these kids grow up, and I get have a relationship with them. I enjoy their company so much," Amber said. "It's the same thing every day, we go in and just watch the kids, but I love it. They give me hugs every day and it makes me happy to know that they know me."

Truly loving someone might come hard to some people, but between Amber and the children that she works with, there is no question about how much Amber loves them. "The relationship I have with these kids is so special to me. I really care about these kids," Amber said.

"It's fun getting to interact with the children and know them and their parents. We love them and their parents trust us. The main thing is, we just need to keep the children happy," co-worker Deveina Gonzales said.

Between the many uneasy experiences that Amber has had to face, from two sisters arguing in Spanish to changing babies' diapers, Amber has grown to learn from them, and enjoy their company.

Upon Amber entering this job, it was important that she adapt to the kids at the YMCA, not find a way out of the difficult situations.

Amber and her co-workers looked up questions and sentences of basic things to say in Spanish so they could communicate with two Spanish-speaking sisters. Phrases like "*do you need to use the rest room, are you hungry, do you want to watch a movie, you need to share, stop arguing*" came in handy when attempting to control these girls.

"we just need to keep the children happy"

Throughout the time that Amber has been employed at the YMCA, she has learned many valuable things. She continues to find new and helpful things from her job. "I've learned how to create relationships with different and new kinds of people. I've learned more how to be a better mother. I've learned to be more of a people person. I've definitely learned to be more respectful and I've also learned how to be more giving," Amber said.



Amber Johnson plays with a little girl that she baby-sits daily at the YMCA. "I love getting a hug and smile from them every day," Amber said. Amber has been working at the YMCA since the beginning of the summer.



Jacqueline Wolf juggles different items as she returns products to a shelf at HEB. "Returning is fun because I don't have to deal with customers on their bad days," Jacqueline said. She has been employed by HEB since May 2006.



Frankie Bevka puts fries in a bag for a customer at Chicken Express. "Even though it's work, it's still fun because of the people there," Frankie said. "My managers create a very welcoming environment." For as long as Chicken Express has been open, many students have been employed there.



Paige Vanecek uses the curing light on a patient's chipped tooth at Dr. Werner's office. "This is what I want to do in college so it's interesting to get to see some things," Paige said. Paige plans to work for Dr. Werner for the remainder of her high school career.





Coleman Eiben repairs a tire for a client at Pfluger Tires. "I love how I can just sit around most of the time. I plan on working here until I graduate," Coleman said. Coleman does not intend to pursue a career in auto mechanics, but for the time being, he has no complaints about his job.



Michael Platz fills up a cup of sweet tea at Chicken Express for a waiting customer in the drive-through. "I'm glad I get discounts," Michael said. "It helps me save money." Michael gets a 15% discount every time he buys something.

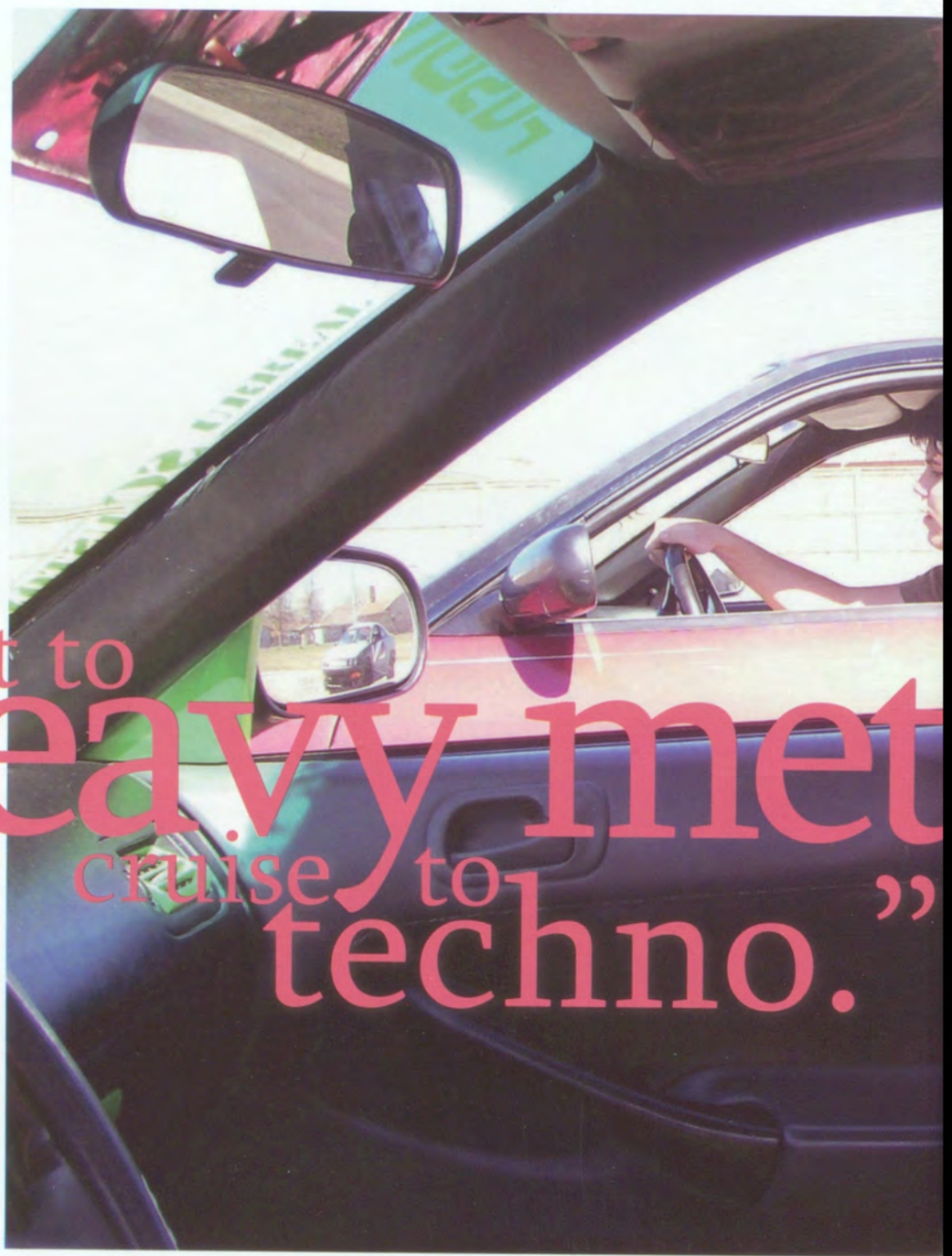
Story & Photos by Lorna Gould

Fastening your seat belt and taking in a deep breath; glancing over at the opponent and seeing the sweat drip from their forehead as you grab your gear shift; it is time to put the pedal to the medal.

"Drive fast to heavy metal, cruise to techno," Colin Valerio said.

Situations like this might be seen in movies like 'The Fast and the Furious' and several others, but one would not need eight dollars to see the action on the big screen. All that would be needed is a trip to the Temple Raceway Arena or our very own corn fields during Spring Break. Bill Ruden, Colin Valerio, John Estrada, and many others find thrill in burning rubber on the asphalt of our Taylor roads.

"I race so much, I just start driving fast anywhere and everywhere," Colin said. Some race with or without the need of money, but racing can be a very commendable hobby.



"Drive fast to heavy metal, cruise to techno."

"From just one race in my new/old raggy truck, I won one race and got about 1,000 dollars," Aaron Reyes said. Racing is not only about speed but also the many tricks and the hard work that can go into stunts and the many other factors of racing.

"I can do 360-degree doughnuts at 140 MPH; it's real cool but it's bad on your tires," Bill said.

"I've busted so many tires and rims that I just stick to 180s," Colin said.

One might say that putting the pedal to the metal is alright until the point when you can not tell the difference from the race track and the highway. Despite what others might say, that does not discourage the racers.

"Sometime when it's time to race, you don't have to be at a race track or road; I race in the corn fields," John said.



Zachary Wilkins shreds the grass at his boss's land. "My boss had to teach me how to drive a tractor, but it's really not hard, and I get paid pretty good," Zack said. Many students find jobs during Spring Break to make a little extra cash. Photo by Emily Quinn





Eric Crumley and Jerry Wallace get ready to race down Mallard Lane. Eric and Jerry drive cars that can both go well over 100mph. "I've gotten so many tickets on Mallard for speeding it's crazy," Bill Ruden said.

al,



Mrs. Ashley Sengsouvanh reviews songs for Hi-Stepper try-outs. "I spent my entire Spring Break listening to songs. It got pretty tiring," Mrs. Sengsouvanh said. Hi-Stepper try outs were the week after the girls returned from the break, so many senior Hi-Steppers had their hands full in preparation during their off week.



Devyn Rucker fishes in Galveston Bay. Rain and cool weather kept her inside most of the week. "Once the rain stopped, the fishing was terrible," Devyn said. "I only caught one little fish." Courtesy photo

"Spring Break was full of work, rain, and sickness. It was bad."

Alexia Patterson

Story by Kristen Humphreys
Photos by Chris Bogan

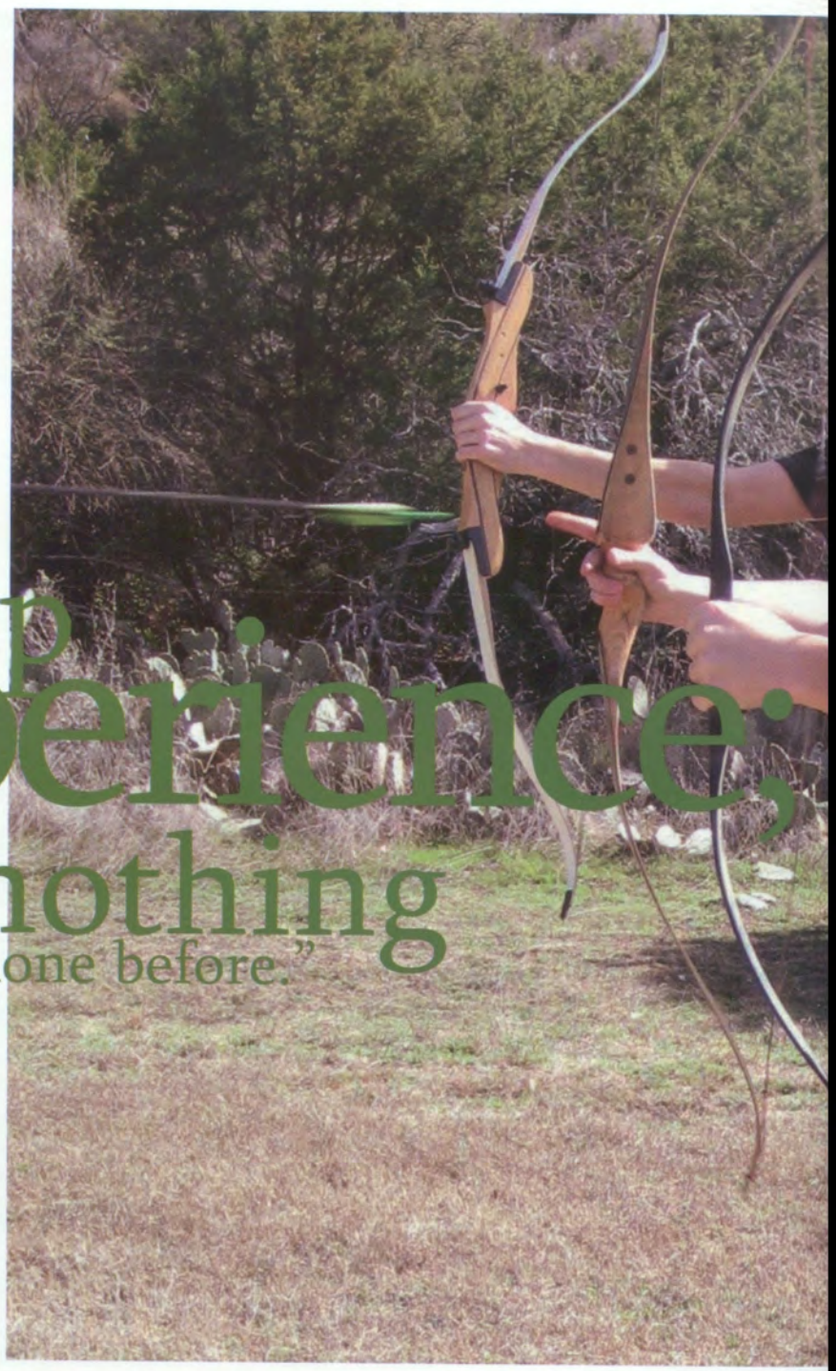
First Baptist Church has an annual tradition of taking the youth group out to a to Texas camp for the Winter Retreat. This year the youth group went to Camp Buckner to share in this unique tradition.

"It was a lot of fun; the owl game was probably the best thing we did," Jacqueline Wolf said. They played a game where one person on each team had to hide like an owl and the rest of the team had to make calls to find them. The game was similar to the pool game Marco Polo. "I was really scared because no one could find me, and I kept hearing rustling noises like there were snakes around me," Jacqueline said. The groups then had to transport their 'owls' away from the woods.

"The leaders would hit us with socks filled with flour, and we'd have to leave the owl," John Estrada said.

"We had a really fun time with the owl game, but the Bible study was really different," Chris Bogan said. The youth group experienced a more in-depth Bible study at this winter retreat. They spent more time on each topic and looked at the verses in ways they had not before. "It was a really deep experience; it was like nothing I'd ever done before," Chris said.

"It was a really deep experience; it was like nothing I'd done before."

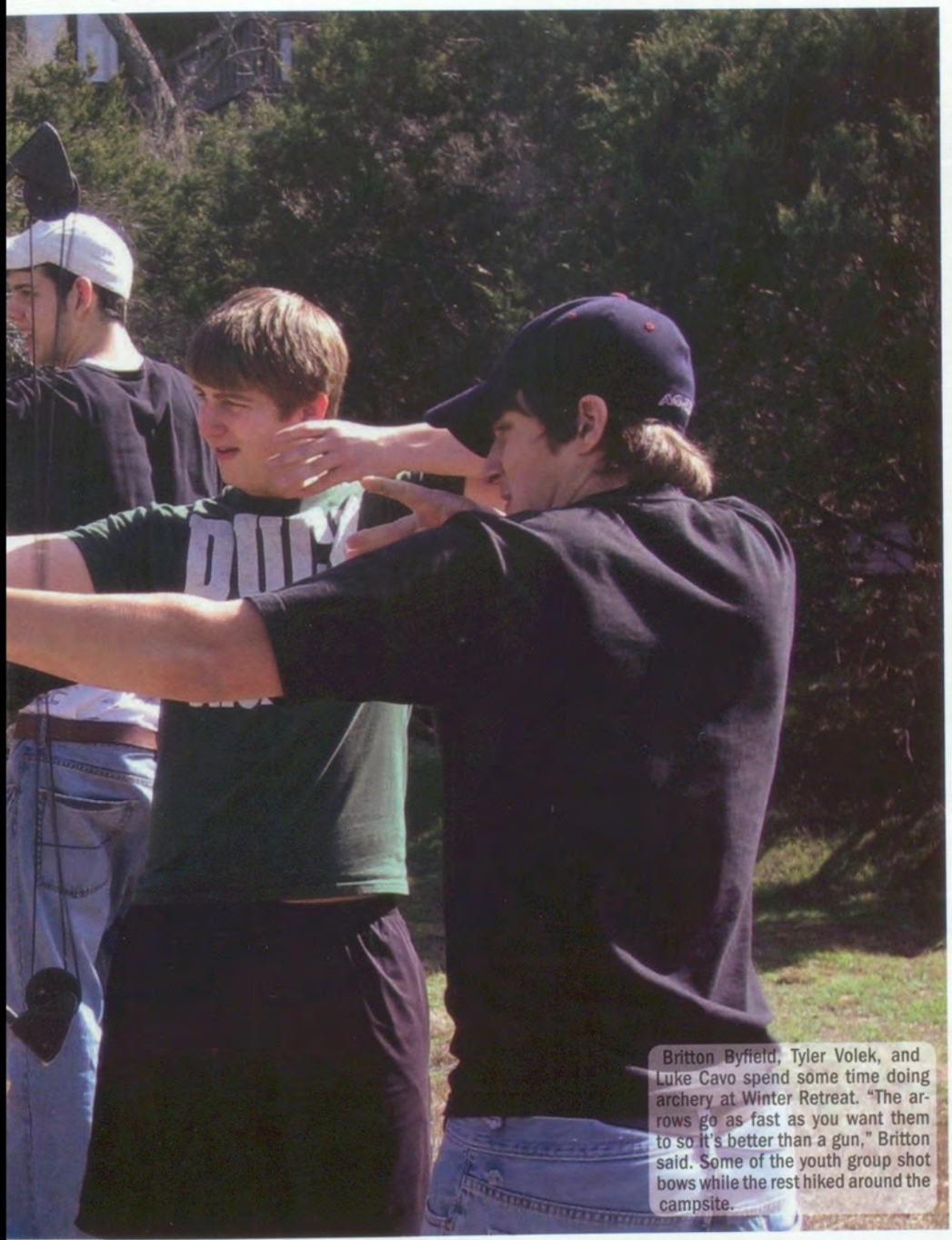




Keegan Gross and Jed Cotner pass time during the Brethren Church's lock-in by playing foosball. "We got to eat a lot of pizza and throw a football inside; it was great," Keegan said. Many students brought video games and board games from home to use during the night. Courtesy photo



Brianca Alderete and Rebecca Almazan laugh at the discussion during their small group's Bible Study. "The videos we watched always seemed to relate to what was going on in our lives at the time," Brianca said. The small groups were divided up by gender and age, so the students could relate to each other. Photo by Chris Bogan



Britton Byfield, Tyler Volek, and Luke Cavo spend some time doing archery at Winter Retreat. "The arrows go as fast as you want them to so it's better than a gun," Britton said. Some of the youth group shot bows while the rest hiked around the campsite.



Jerry Wallace looks up a verse at FBC's Winter Retreat. "Jerry really seemed to enjoy his last winter retreat," Jacqueline Wolf said. The youth group was challenged at the retreat to "Start a Commotion" at school.

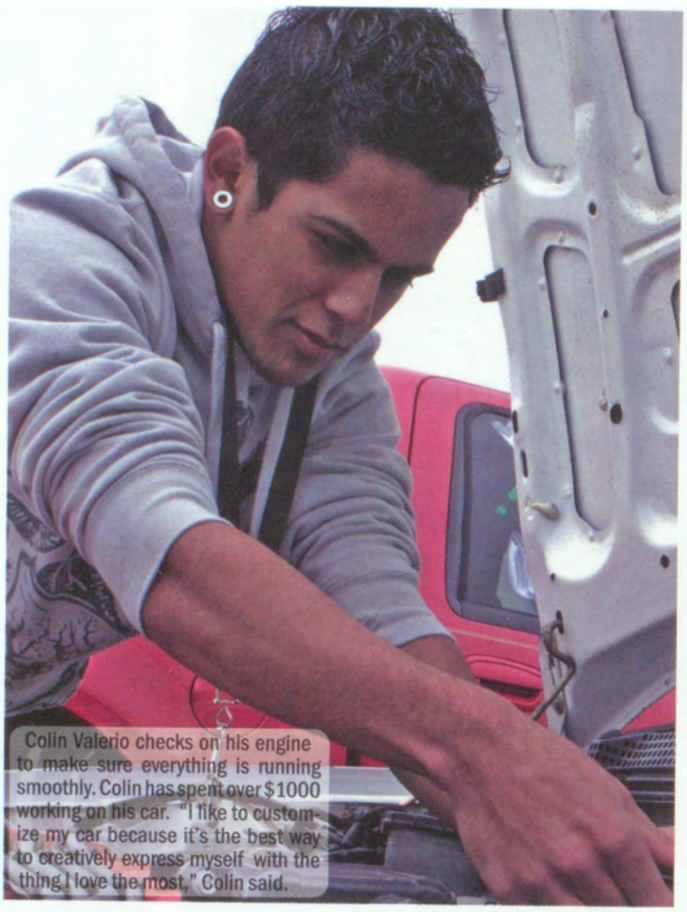




Brandee Carlson looks over verses for an upcoming meeting with her youth group. Brandee and Jordan Humphreys are co-presidents of the St. Mary's Youth Group. "It's really great to have a girl and guy because we get two different opinions," Brandee said. Photo by Jordan Humphreys

"I was really scared because no one could find me."

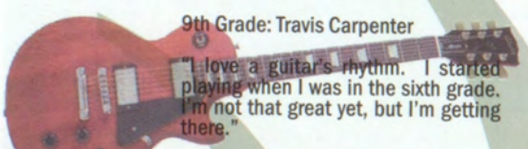
Jacqueline Wolf



Colin Valerio checks on his engine to make sure everything is running smoothly. Colin has spent over $1000 working on his car. "I like to customize my car because it's the best way to creatively express myself with the thing I love the most," Colin said.



On your own time...



9th Grade: Travis Carpenter

"I love a guitar's rhythm. I started playing when I was in the sixth grade. I'm not that great yet, but I'm getting there."

"love a guitar's rhythm"



10th Grade: Johnathan Ortiz

"I play my Xbox 360 a lot; I normally play on the weekend for about three hours at a time and anytime I have free time."

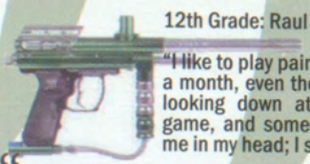
"three hours at a time"



11th Grade: Irving Miravete

"I play on a soccer team and we practice a lot. I'm probably the best in Taylor High School."

"I'm probably the best"

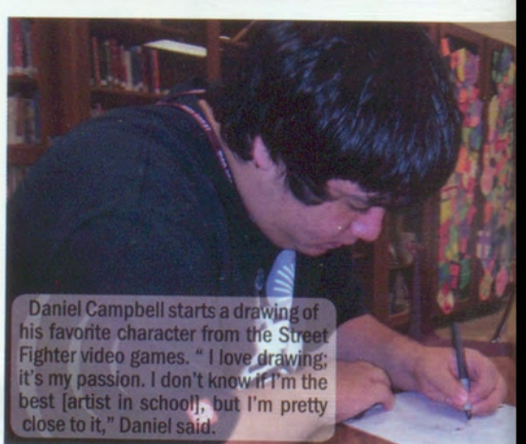


12th Grade: Raul Avalos

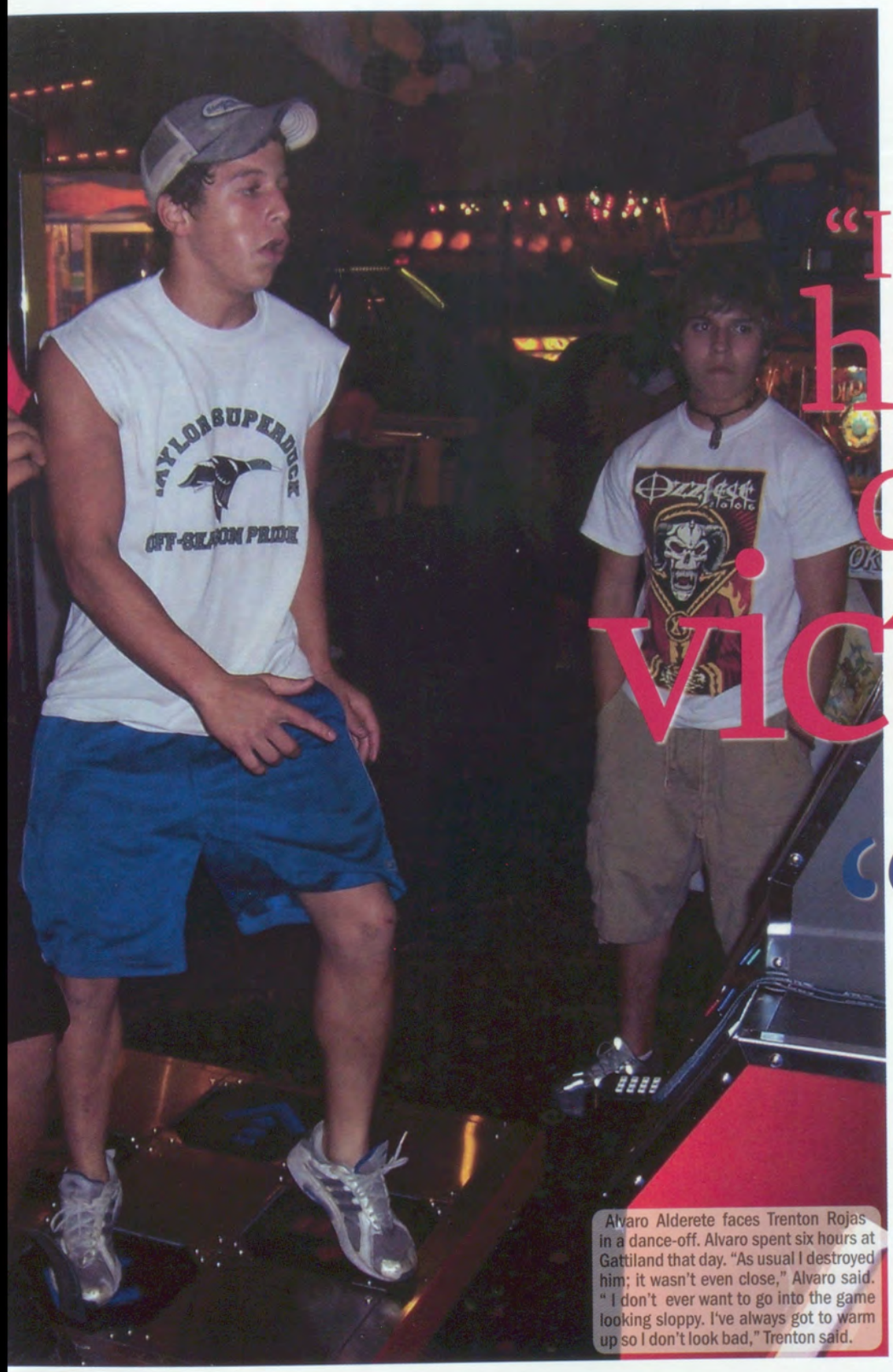
"I like to play paintball a couple times a month, even though one time I was looking down at my gun during a game, and someone came and shot me in my head; I started bleeding."

"someone came and shot me"

Photos from http://www.amazon.com



Daniel Campbell starts a drawing of his favorite character from the Street Fighter video games. " I love drawing; it's my passion. I don't know if I'm the best [artist in school], but I'm pretty close to it," Daniel said.



Alvaro Alderete faces Trenton Rojas in a dance-off. Alvaro spent six hours at Gattiland that day. "As usual I destroyed him; it wasn't even close," Alvaro said. " I don't ever want to go into the game looking sloppy. I've always got to warm up so I don't look bad," Trenton said.

"It was a hands-down victory"

Story & Photos by Larry Pachicano

"Don't lie, Trenton; you know I'm way better then you at Dance Dance Revolution," Alvaro Alderete said. Dance Dance Revolution was a new dance video game that was quickly gaining popularity with students.

Anyone who had seen Alvaro play knew that the game could get pretty crazy. "Sometimes Alvaro's feet move so fast, I can't even keep up with them," Tristan Meyer said. Almost every weekend in the summer, Trent Rojas, Alvaro, and Tristan Meyers would head to Gattiland just to play Dance Dance Revolution.

"Whenever we went, we would usually play for around 4 hours," Trenton said. The three of them would compete all day against each other and practice mastering the songs in the game. "When Alvaro and I compete, we're usually neck and neck," Trenton said.

Alvaro and Tristan actually had a chance to compete against each other in front of the entire class second period during advisory time in Mrs. Cathy Johnson's World History class. "Mrs. Johnson told us that she had to go to the senior class meeting during advisory time, so we asked if we could bring the game to play while she was gone; to our surprise, she said yes," Tristan said. After the song was done and the score was tallied, Alvaro had defeated Tristan.

"It was a hands-down victory; I could've beaten him blind-folded. If Trenton was in our class, I would've taken him down too," Alvaro said.





Paula Reeves checks her Myspace page to see if she has any new comments or messages. "I normally spend way too much time on Myspace," Paula said. Myspace allows students to post a personal profile, pictures and leave messages for their friends.

Photo by Aaron Reeves

Fashion faux pas...



9th Grade: Rebecca Carnes

"I stick to stuff that's normal. I don't really like the whole tights thing with jean capris and skirts."

"the whole tights thing"



11th Grade: Erica Gutierrez

"If I like it and I look good in it, then I'll wear it, but I don't wear something just because a lot of people do."

"If I like it...I'll wear it"



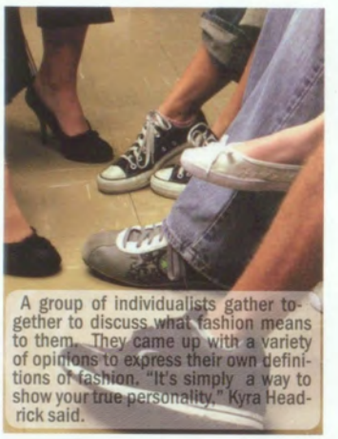
12th Grade: Krishan Ghandi

"I can't stand it when guys wear tight jeans. It's just not natural."

"It's just not natural."



Frankie Guardiola shows his crazy personality by sporting his blazer with a smile. Frankie has always made his style a priority in his life. "I like to wear my blazer when I can because it has the ability to dress up anything," he said.



A group of individualists gather together to discuss what fashion means to them. They came up with a variety of opinions to express their own definitions of fashion. "It's simply a way to show your true personality," Kyra Headrick said.

"If there's so about fa

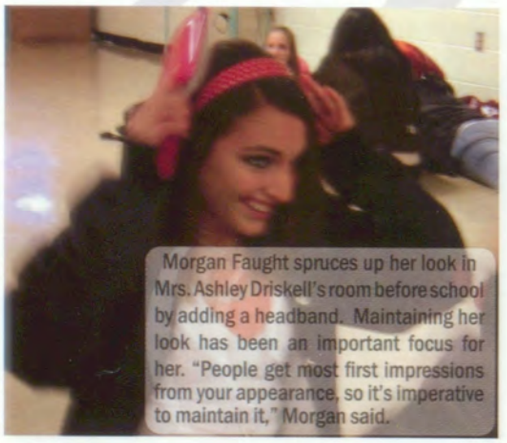
Story by Taylor Mock
Photos by Taylor Savage

Fashion has always had a way of re-inventing itself in one way or another, and we have students proving the accurateness of that statement everyday. A few fashion crazes from the eighties have managed to inch their way back into the wardrobes of students including headbands, tights with mini skirts, and long tunics, just to name a few. Another big fad that can be easily seen throughout the halls would have to be big vintage jewelry. People have found that it is much easier to rummage through grandma's jewelry chest than it is to actually go out and pay for earrings that were made to look old. A plethora of students seem to agree that fashion should be a way to establish your unique eccentricities than just another way to follow the crowd.

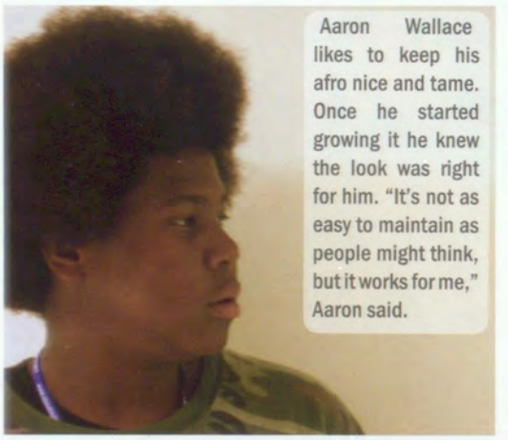
"If there's one thing I loathe about fashion it would have to be trends," Kari Jahn said. "I try to avoid the styles in everyday fashion magazines so that I know my style is my own."

Girls are not the only ones taking a leap backward into the retro rage; guys can also be spotted sporting crazes like the mohawk and even some fitted blazers. Abraham Henandez owes his mohawk to his sister Crystal Lopez who had the honors of shaving his head and shaping his 'do.

"I've always liked the look of the mohawk and I really felt that making a statement and standing out would be the best way to kick off a great senior year," Abraham said.



Morgan Faught spruces up her look in Mrs. Ashley Driskell's room before school by adding a headband. Maintaining her look has been an important focus for her. "People get most first impressions from your appearance, so it's imperative to maintain it," Morgan said.



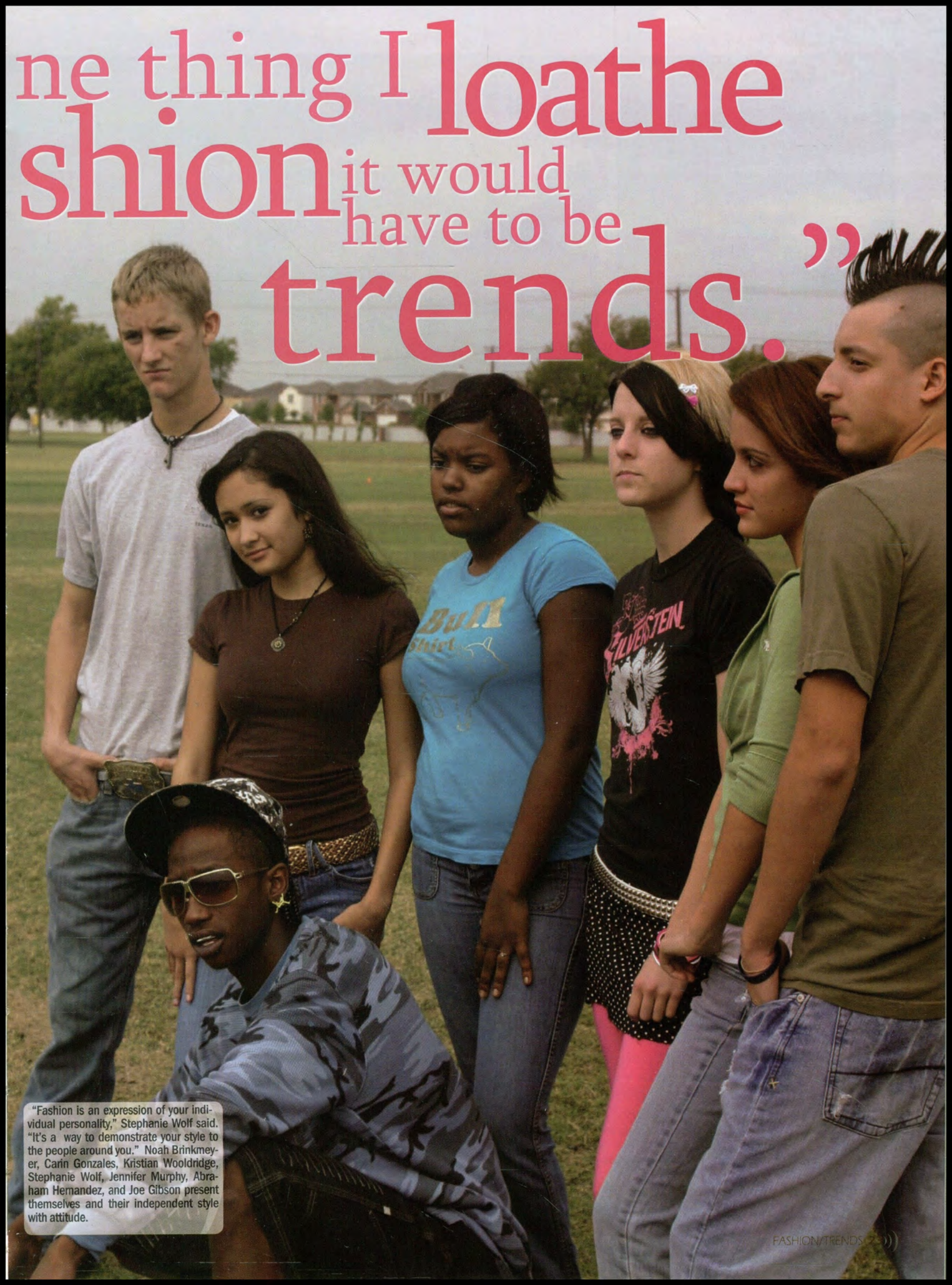
Aaron Wallace likes to keep his afro nice and tame. Once he started growing it he knew the look was right for him. "It's not as easy to maintain as people might think, but it works for me," Aaron said.

"I try to avoid the styles in everyday fashion magazines so that **I know my style is my own.**"



Kelsey Christensen quickly applies makeup during the passing period while trying to not get it on her tunic dress-shirt. The four minute period has left Kelsey with little time to freshen up. "What can I say? I like to look my best at all times," she said.

ne thing I loathe shion it would have to be trends."



"Fashion is an expression of your individual personality," Stephanie Wolf said. "It's a way to demonstrate your style to the people around you." Noah Brinkmeyer, Carin Gonzales, Kristian Wooldridge, Stephanie Wolf, Jennifer Murphy, Abraham Hernandez, and Joe Gibson present themselves and their independent style with attitude.

Story by John Kaspar
Photos by Aaron Reeves

"I don't want to say stuff the pe

Twelve people, six stereotypes, one room. What would happen when two preps, two jocks, two skaters, two band members, two ESL students, and two scene/emo people meet in the same room. Would they argue, would they clash, would they even talk? All these questions would be answered when Brandee Carlson, Rachel Weison, Robert Aikens, Adam Janak, Jared Matta, Nick Harrington, Nicholas Abbott, Christina Hilscher, Jose Salazar, Jose Aguirre, Andrew Jones, and Danielle Hernandez were asked to meet in the same room, at the same time.

As these students walked in and sat down, every two members of the same clique sat next to each other, except for the jocks who did not sit much at all. "It's weird being around all these people you don't know," Rachel said.

"I don't want to say some stuff in front of these people," Brandee confessed.

At first the room was silent as it would have been if it were empty. A question about the war was asked and most, like Jose Salazar, didn't care much about it "as long as it doesn't come here."

"I think we should stay in or else we went in for no good reason," Rachel stated.

Jared had an opinion on this issue and he countered in saying, "Everything we do is not for a good reason."

After hearing this everyone knew it was okay to attack others' beliefs, so they did.

"Do you even know why we're in the war?" Nick Abbott asked Brandee.

Tempers flared about the war and some chaos broke out between the cliques.

Another dilemma between cliques came when Nick Abbott asked Andrew why he wore such tight pants.

"They're comfortable; I don't like to wear baggy pants," Andrew said.

"But those are so tight, foo," Robert expressed, "Why can't you wear normal pants like [Jose Aguirre's]?"

"Those are baggy," Andrew replied.

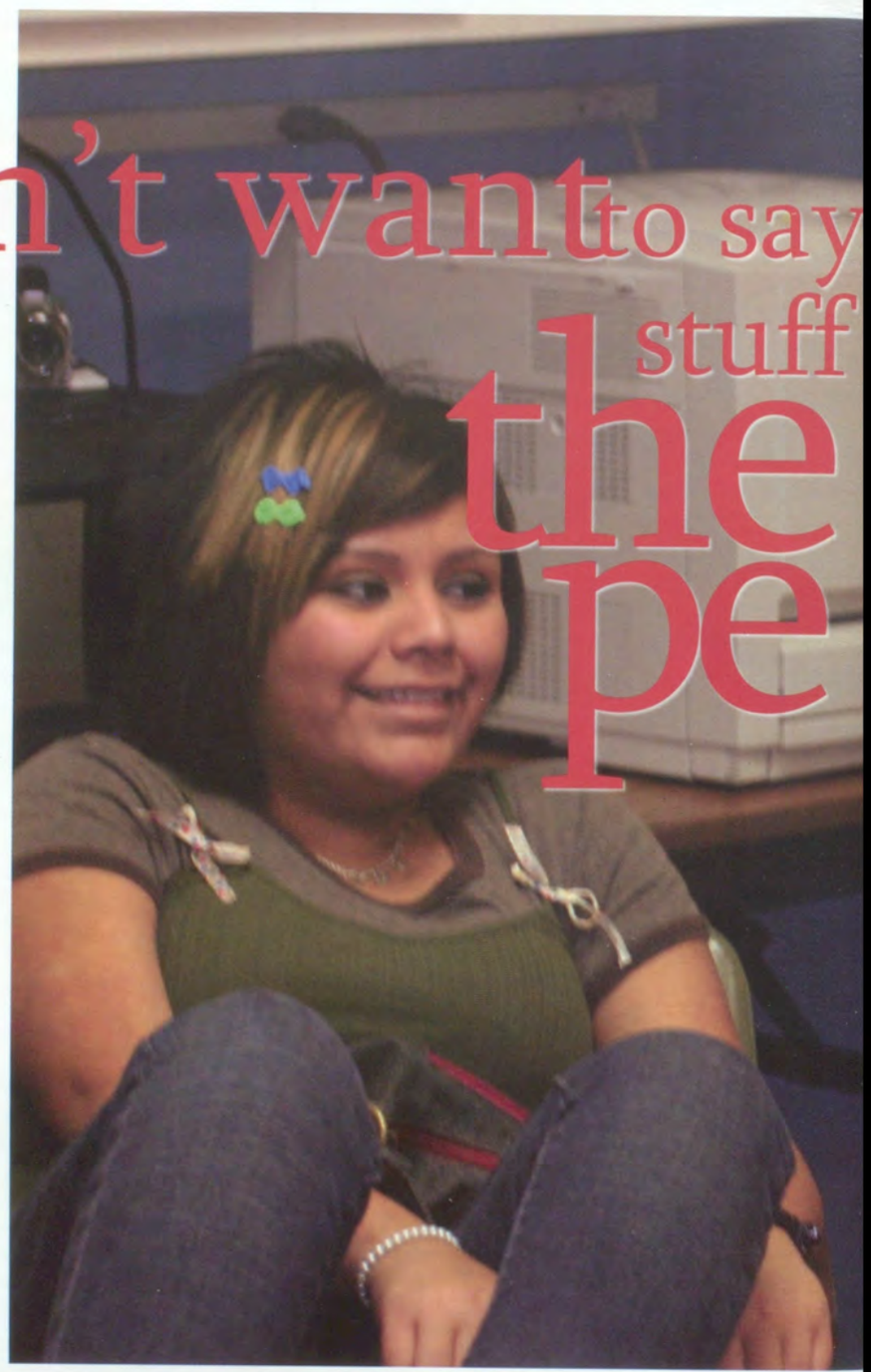
"I like his pants," Danielle added.

Most cliques still did not understand the tight pants but the discussion had ended.

During this meeting Danielle was asked to stereotype the others in the room and she did, just as they were stereotyped earlier.

When the group was asked which clique they would hate to be a part of the scene/emo people shocked some and said they would least like to be skaters. Another shocker was when a "prep" said out of all the groups she would choose to be scene/emo above the rest.

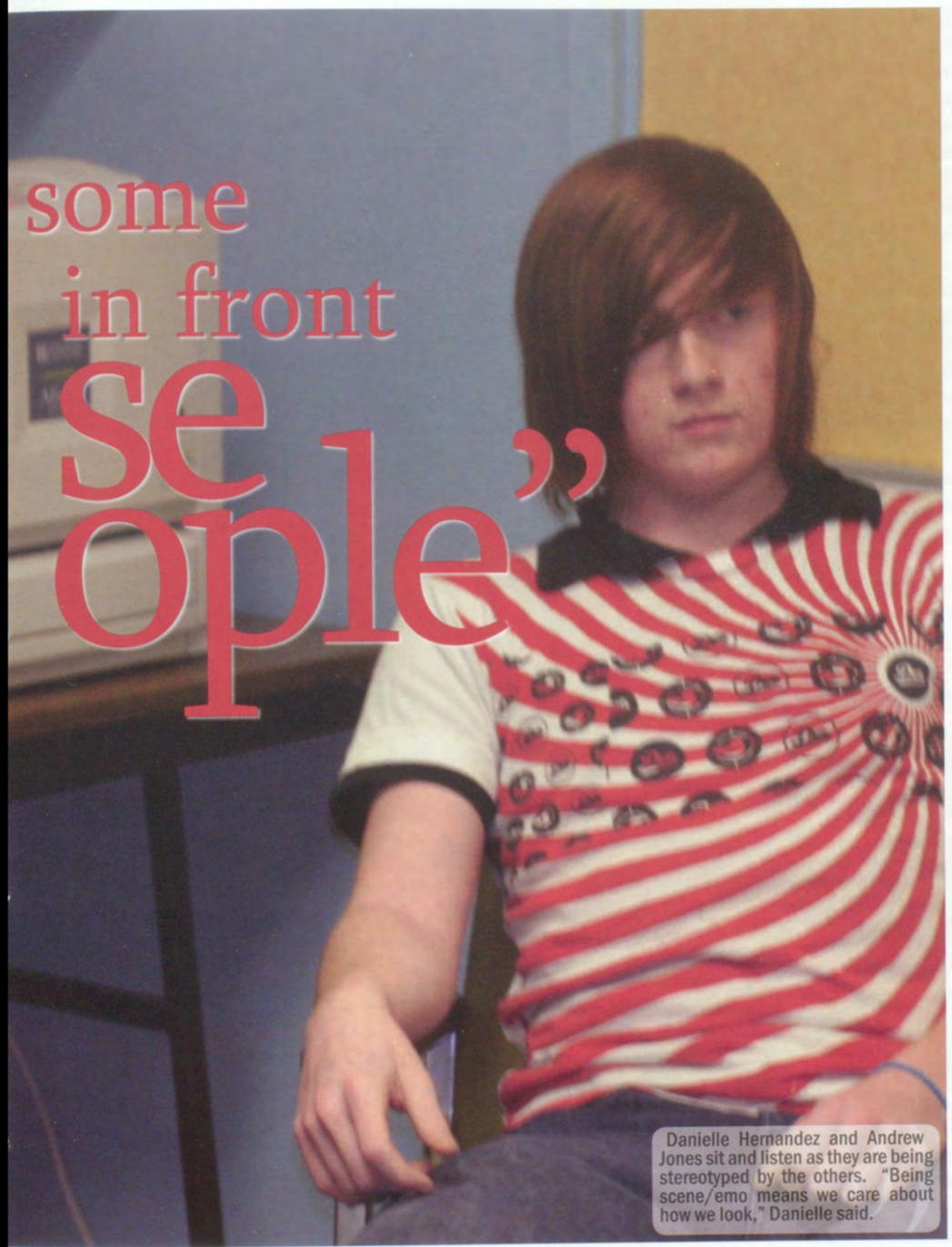
Out of everyone in the room only Jose Aguirre and Christi had no Myspace. Everyone also wished to go to college except Jared. This brings the question, are stereotypes wrong? After witnessing this meeting it seems the answer is no. All members of these cliques stood with their group and separated themselves from the others. Stereotyping is just something that happens regardless, and not many seem to be bothered by it at all.





Adam Janak loses interest in the proceedings. "I want a sports question," Adam said when asked about the war.

some in front se ople”



Danielle Hernandez and Andrew Jones sit and listen as they are being stereotyped by the others. “Being scene/emo means we care about how we look,” Danielle said.



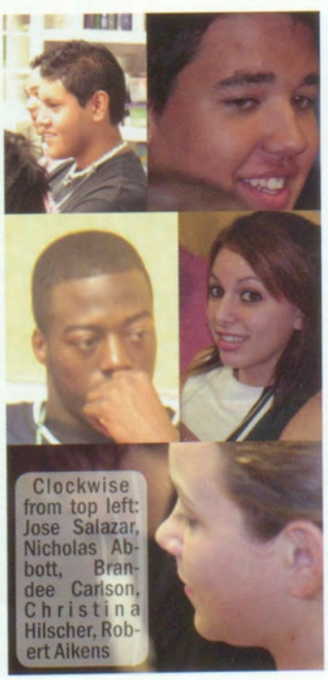
Jared Matta listens for his chance to put his own words in on a debate. Jared disagreed with the scene/emo students when it came to moshing. “Are you crazy?! Moshing is the best!” Jared said.



Rachel Weison argues her position when it comes to the war. “Why do we care about their economy?” Rachel said. Rachel, in contrast to many students, believes it is not America’s duty to interfere in other countries’ governments.



Nick Harrington expresses his opinion on the legalization of drugs, which differed from many of the others’ views. “Marijuana isn’t actually a drug because it’s a natural substance,” Nick said.



Clockwise from top left: Jose Salazar, Nicholas Abbott, Brandee Carlson, Christina Hilscher, Robert Aikens

How are you stereotyped?

“Gothics say they want to be different, but in their group, they all dress the same.”

Holly Frazier

“Preppy people think everything should be given to them.”

Whitney Kahanek

"Stop whining, run for president,

Story by Mrs. Cathy Johnson

The Iraq War had entered its fifth year when school started this year. The war began in March of 2003. The multinational force, led by the United States military, had as its stated goals to rid Iraq of weapons of mass destruction, to end Saddam Hussein's regime, and to free the Iraqi people. The early months of the war met with great success; Baghdad fell by May, Saddam's Baathist party was overthrown, and Saddam himself was captured in December of that year.

The efforts to establish a new governmental regime did not meet with as much success, however. Iraq held free elections for the first time in its history and a constitution was ratified, but the coalition was unable to restore order to the entire country. By the time this school year began, the Iraqi insurgency, the power struggle between the Sunni and Shia Iraqis, and continued al Qaeda terror operations in Iraq led to increased civilian deaths. August 2006 was the deadliest month of the war for Iraqi civilians, with nearly 3,500 being killed by car bombs and insurgency fighting.

"I see no justification for the war. There were no weapons of mass destruction there and now millions of innocent people are dying," Ryan Fontenot said.

The American public became increasingly disillusioned with our efforts to establish a democratic government in Iraq and called on the Bush administration to bring our troops home. By October, the number of Americans who believed we were winning the war in Iraq was at an all-time low, which perhaps explains why Democrats regained the majority in Congress during the November elections.

"The war to me seems unnecessary. It's causing gas prices to go up and it's killing so many people," Jillian McQuillen said.

Secretary of Defense Donald Rumsfeld resigned shortly after the November elections and President Bush appointed Robert Gates, the president of Texas A & M, as Rumsfeld's successor. With Gates in place and a new general in charge in Iraq, Gen. David Petraeus, the Bush administration announced a new strategy for victory in Iraq – an escalation of the number of troops in Iraq. The temporary power surge was to be part of a new effort to rid Baghdad of the sectarian violence that has crippled its economic growth and has targeted neighborhoods of ethnic and religious minorities.

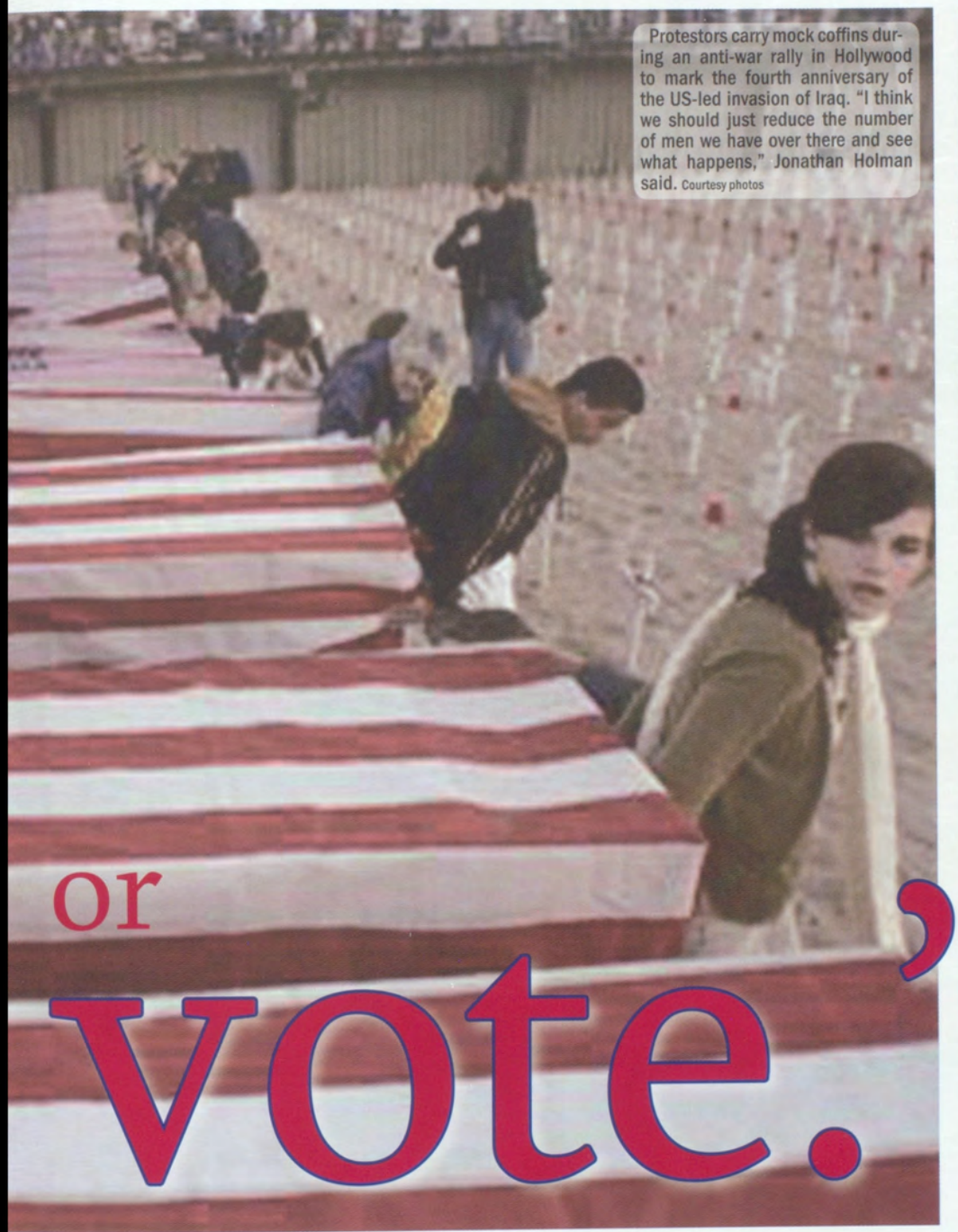
"I really think we are where we need to be right now. The soldiers that died would be for nothing if we withdrew now. We need to finish the work we've started over there," Stephen Ballard said.

As the school year draws to a close, opinion is still divided on the right course of action in Iraq. The good news is that Saddam Hussein's brutal regime is over and he was tried, convicted, and executed by the Iraqi judicial system. A freely elected government is in place in Iraq, albeit somewhat weak and ineffective. Iraqi forces are beginning to take more responsibility for the peace and security of the country. But for the foreseeable future, American troops remain in Iraq to maintain order.

"You basically have three options- stop whining, run for president, or vote," Rudy Mikeska said.



A convoy of Iraq's Kurdish troops travels to Baghdad from Sulaimaniya. "I was in favor of the war at first, but I'm not anymore because it's taking too long to get done what they wanted to get done," Matthew Milliken said.



Protestors carry mock coffins during an anti-war rally in Hollywood to mark the fourth anniversary of the US-led invasion of Iraq. "I think we should just reduce the number of men we have over there and see what happens," Jonathan Holman said. Courtesy photos

or vote."



President George W. Bush delivers the annual State of the Union address. "I don't agree with all of Bush's decisions, but what's done is done and I think we just need to stick with it now," Joshah Moors said.



US Secretary of State Condoleezza Rice speaks to reporters about Iraq at the Eisenhower Office Buildings in Washington, D.C. "We either need to get something done or move on," Anna Gonzales said.

The war at home...



9th Grade: Andrew Jones
"If we got out now their economy and country would crash and fail. Most of the war is over two Muslim sects fighting over who should be head of the government. If we weren't there, they would fight over that and literally kill each other."

"crash and fail"



10th Grade: Antoinette Bell
"I think our troops have been over there too long and it should end. Nothing's being done."

"over there too long"



11th Grade: Cullen Pick
"It's pointless. We've been there almost longer than WWII. There's going to be a civil war in 10 years no matter what so we can either leave now or in 10 years."

"pointless"





Thousands of crosses stand on a hillside memorial in Lafayette, California, in honor of US troops killed in the Iraq war. Approximately 3,135 US soldiers have died since the start of the war in 2003. "I'm glad that the war isn't taking place here because then our civilians would be dying," Jessie Hilscher said.

activities



Hi-Steppers join hands and sing the school song at the Homecoming pep rally. Steppers, cheerleaders, and band members played an important role in raising school spirit. Photo by Taylor Savage



"I love to hear the crowd cheering when we perform."

Lauren Connors

Try-out Jitters

BY JACQUELINE WOLF AND LARRY PACHICANO • PHOTOS BY TAYLOR SAVAGE



Amanda Moss and Cory Keith have a serious moment as they rehearse their scene. "I like theatre because it gives you a chance to be someone else for a while," Amanda said.

Students paced anxiously backstage, continuously reciting lines, trying to make sure every part of their act was perfect before stepping onto the stage to put it all on the line in front of Mr. Jonathon Alonzo. It was time for One Act tryouts, and the atmosphere was full of tension. "I'm always really nervous before tryouts and when we have to wait for the part sheet to go up," Josh Monderas said.

Once each audition was completed, Mr. Alonzo chose which student would fill each role, and then posted the results in the hallway by his room. "I was so excited when I got the character I wanted," Amanda Moss said.

Other students were disappointed with the outcome of the tryouts. "I was a little sad that I didn't make it but it was okay because it was the first time I'd tried out," Kameren Hodnett said.

"I was upset for a while because I didn't get the role I wanted, but then I realized that it is better than not having any part at all," Paula Reeves said.

For some students, the disappointment of not receiving a part was easier to handle since Theatre was just an elective to fill their graduation requirements. Others, however, including Cory Keith, took it slightly more seriously, with the plan of taking a theatre class in college. "I am glad I'm doing theatre because it will give me a chance to see if I really am going to do it later on after high school or as a career," Cory said.

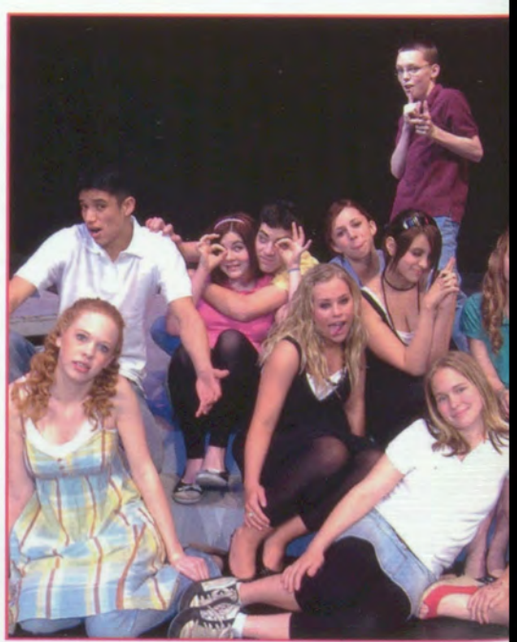
Even the students who did not get the opportunity to play a character could still take part in the play and bond with others involved in the production. Many of them decided to help with the backstage activities that truly make each play come to life. "Everyone begins to grow close because most of the same people are in all the plays so it is really fun," Amanda said.



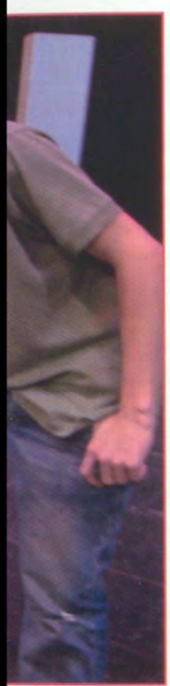
Kasey Penny, Jenna Howard, and Krista Seidel listen to their classmates rehearse during theatre. "I feel dumb because I have to yell 'Happy time!' and it's hard when your not having a good day," Krista said.

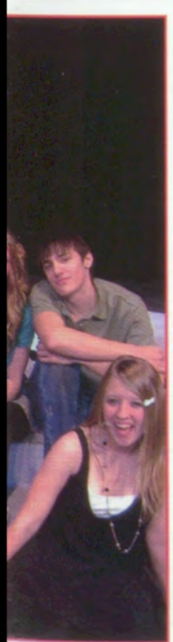


Kevin Lindsay and Paula Reeves practice a scene in the upcoming play. "Being partnered up with Kevin makes me feel so little but he makes me do my part a lot better," Paula said.



The crew poses as they take a picture. "I have fun doing theatre and the crew makes it twice as fun," Cory Keith said.





Ashley Keith kisses her sheep, Mally. "I saved her from dying. She was an orphan and her owner didn't want her so I went ahead and took her into my care," Ashley said. Courtesy Photo







Blake Jirasek gets ready to show his goat to the judge. "I placed 4th place with that goat. I usually do really good and make a lot of money at the shows," Blake said. Courtsey Photo

Reaping the benefits...



12th Grade: Ashley Keith

"Raising animals involves being at the barn before the sun rises and long after it sets, no matter what the weather is like. While it's a lot of work, it's definitely worth the experience."

"worth the experience"



11th Grade: Keegan Gross

"FFA is alright; I like Mr. Bishop and think he's cool. Ag class is pretty fun too; we get to weld things together and do other things. It's just another chance to be outdoors."

"chance to be outdoors"



10th Grade: Kyle Sakewitz

"One of the best things about FFA is that you get to miss a lot of school. But probably the best thing is winning cash prizes for getting first place at the shows."

"winning cash prizes"

Noah Brinkmeyer shows his pig in front of the judges at a stock show. "Showing animals isn't the only thing FFA does; we're farmers too," Noah said. Courtsey Photo

"You eat it, we grow it."

- Noah Brinkmeyer

work hard

play hard

STORY BY BRYCE BLOCK, BAND MEMBER • ADDITIONAL REPORTING BY ANDREA WILKERSON
PHOTOS BY TAYLOR SAVAGE • ILLUSTRATION BY MARCO SOLORIO



Alan Gonzales perfects his sounds on the tuba. "It's a little hard to hold up this huge instrument, but you get used to it," he said. Fellow band member Bryce Block disagrees because "you don't have to use your arms" to hold the tuba.



Band members assume their positions in line before practice starts. "Waking up early isn't fun, but that's what I get for being in band," Matthew Lozano said. The band practiced every morning from 6:50 to 8:45.

Each year the band works hard and practices long hours to achieve their goals they set out for themselves. This is the stereotypical image that most perceive of the band, but what is the true attitude of the students involved? "My favorite part of Band wasn't winning the contests; it was being around everyone and dealing with the everyday problems that we had with each other," Brianca Alderete said.

The band woke up each morning and practiced at 6 a.m. Yes it was hard, but the most difficult parts of band are different than what most would assume. "I hated the morning breath," Assistant Drum Major Nicholas Abbott said. "You would not believe how many times I avoided some of my best friends because they needed some gum." But fighting through the morning breath and the early morning schedule all culminated to a 30 minute break where attitudes and relationships were flying.

"Sometimes I just sit in the Band Hall after practice to enjoy the drama," Lucas Alderete said. Tensions between 85 people can get high right around contest time, so the group has to work through all of the emotions in order to accomplish their goals.

"During practice the day before Area, I really hated all of the underclassmen because they kept messing up, but the next day when we advanced to State all of the hate vanished," Jessica Stegall said.

The best times that some of the band students have deal nothing with the hard work, the trophies, or the competitions won. Constant celebrations have filled the year with different events, whether it be the end of Summer Band, the Band Hay Ride, or the State Party. "After the Summer Band party ended, about seven of us seniors and Nick stayed around school until 3 a.m. playing charades. I will never forget the funny ways we were describing the words," Ashley McFarlin said. That is what Band is, not the rehearsal or even the music. Most students do not even care about the work or the practice involved.

Senior Jaboa Matoska reminisced tearfully on the bus at one of their last competitions: "I am really going to miss these guys, and I think that we should all buy a house together after we graduate, because I don't know what I am going to do without my best friends." The band truly felt united and no matter what grade each person was from, everyone in the entire band worked hard, and laughed even harder. The love for music and each other brought this group together and their accomplishments were great. Advancing to the state competition for the first time in Taylor High's history and doing so without ripping each other's heads off- that is what it is all about.



Lieutenant Suzanna Hernandez waves her flag high during a half-time show. "I am most excited about the new uniforms and flags we're able to have this year," Suzanna said. The color guard participated in fundraisers to earn money for the their new uniforms.



Alto saxophonist Courtney Svatek displays the perfect attributes of marching: step size, posture, horn angle, head position, and hat position. At competition, the Field Marching score is based on these qualities.



Johnathan Holman plays the bells during a home football game. During "Hymn" the bells were prominently featured. As a freshman, this was Johnathan's first year to play in the front line ensemble.

"We practice harder than most sports teams."

Matt Lozano



Kevin Lindsay marches while Catherine Emery performs with the Color Guard. During one part of the show, the Color Guard members danced with some members of the band.



Nicholas Abbott leads the band in an early morning practice. "We've been working really hard and we are pushing for State this year!" Nick said. Nick had the honor of being assistant drum major as he worked alongside Kelly Portillo.

As the sun rises, Derek Terwilliger raises his trumpet at early-morning band practice. "Yeah, it's early," said Derek, "but if you practice and work hard, you'll get the job done."

“Why didn’t I make it?”

Lindsey Walton marches out onto the field for the halftime show. “Dressing up and putting on fun makeup makes me feel special in a way because this year it’s so much harder to make the cut and be able to perform,” Mariah Dempsey said.



Co-Captain Kara Murphy along with Amanda Eckhardt and others get excited at the Homecoming pep rally. “That pep rally was really exciting but sad at the same time because we all knew as seniors it would be our last,” Kara said.



The Hi-Stepper team performs their traditional kick routine at halftime with the band playing in the background. “You have to be dedicated because you’re with these girls 24/7. They may get annoying at times, but you’ve got to love them anyway,” Ashley Riviera said.

full out
steppers struggle to adjust

BY JESSICA DALE • PHOTOS BY TAYLOR SAVAGE • ILLUSTRATION BY AARON REEVES

Try-outs are over and the cuts have been released. Dejected faces alongside those of delight and relief. Smiles, laughs, and pats on the back. The Hi-Steppers have felt the pressures of strenuous try-outs for each dance and having to adjust to their new dance instructor, Mrs. Ashley Sengsouvanh.

A requirement made years ago by, forced the Hi-Steppers to try out before every performance. If the girls did not meet the expected standards, they would be not be allowed to participate at the upcoming football game or pep rally. Everyone was judged by the Hi-Stepper officers and their instructor. This made things especially uncomfortable since the officers had to judge their own friends and peers. "The saddest thing is when I feel like I'm having to tell someone that they're not good enough. I cry every time," Lieutenant Justine Lorenzten said.

Although this system may have broken a heart or two, most of the Steppers seemed to think that it worked out better for everyone. "I would much rather be cut from a dance than go out in front of a crowd not feeling 100% confident with myself and my performance," Jasmin Estrada said.

The Hi-Steppers' practices were often filled with tension and stress due to the new requirement of try-outs. "At the beginning of the year, I was always really nervous about the cuts," Paris Lopez said. "Now it's a little bit easier and I've gotten used to it."

The tryouts are not based solely on whether a person is a good dancer or not. Most of the cuts made are because of the style of the dance and how each girl looks while performing it. "Some people just don't look as good doing certain dances," Jaqueline Orozco said.

Ashley Riviera had to go through the disappointment of not getting to participate in a dance more than once. "When I don't get to dance it bugs me because I'm like, 'Why didn't I make it?!'," Ashley said.

"[Ashley] has been cut a few times but she always tries really hard and would be our first choice alternate," Lindsey Walton said.

"Overall, I think it's better having the tryouts. Not everyone always knows the dances, so the tryouts help to weed some of those people out," Ashley said.

"I feel like I'm having to tell someone that they're **not good enough.**"





Lauren Connors strikes a pose during the Hi-Stepper field routine at the football game. "The uniforms are cute, but when it's cold the tights don't do much for us," Lauren said.



Paige Kreidel does the trademark salute as she waits for the football team to run in. The Hi-Steppers were required to remain posed at all times. "Home games are fun, especially when we're winning because the crowd gets pretty intense," Paige said.

Let them Laugh

BY LORNA GOULD • PHOTOS BY DEVYN RUCKER • ILLUSTRATION BY AARON REEVES



Josh Medris and Ryan Hill practice their UIL song "My Lord, What a Morning" with Mr. Casidy Castillo-Wilson. Jacob and Gregory were both part of the Varsity choir. "It's hard to hit those high notes; that's why I have to squeeze my stomach to reach them," Jermaine Wright said. At UIL competition students sing two solos for three judges



Justine Lorentzen and Fabiola Sanchez sing "Silent Night" at the Christmas concert. At the concert, the choir sang a plethora of sing-alongs that the audience could help with. "One thing that I try to do in choir is give my best at all times," Jacob Rangel said.

The lights dim. Mr. Casidy Castillo-Wilson announces the soloists' names. They slowly walk out. The music starts. The auditorium silences. The music from "Have you Ever" by Brandy fills the room and entwines with three girls' voices.

"Our voices started off decent, not where we wanted them to be but okay," Brandy Foster said. The song flowed smoothly from their lips and harmonized, from three voices to one. Around the end of the second verse, the crowd got restless and an uproar of trash soared across the auditorium. Harsh talking seeped into the music and intermingled with the voices and brought about feelings of nervousness for Brandy, Julissa Moody, and Katrina Bushyhead.

"I was so nervous about the way we sounded; I started shaking, and it felt like I was going to have a small seizure," Julissa said.

"My stomach was boiling when I did my high part; I knew that was what they were laughing at," Katrina said. When the lights brightened, the song was over, and the audience gave their "pity" applause. The ladies took their bows and exited the stage to the choir room.

"It felt like this was going to be the one thing everyone remembers, and it stinks that I'm a freshman," Brandy said. After the performance, the girls stayed in the choir room for the rest of the day to recover.

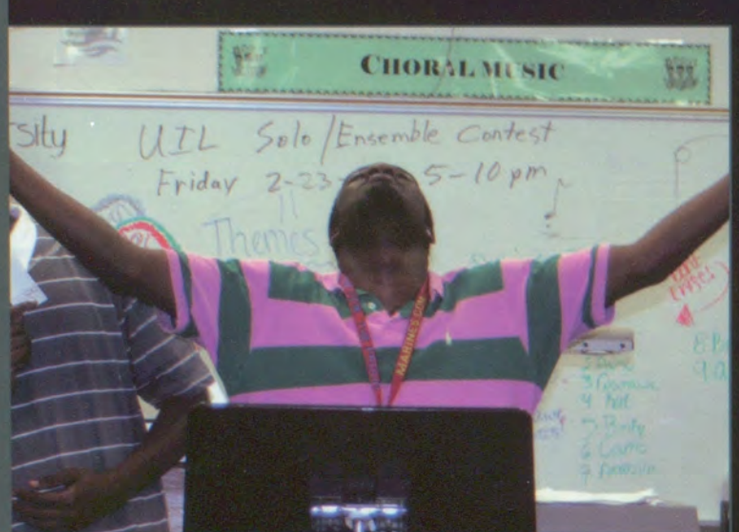
"It was so hard to get out there and face everybody," Katrina said.

Some students however, think the girls need not have worried so much about what their classmates thought.

"I hope that those girls knew that it took more courage to stand up and sing in front of people than to sit there and throw trash and laugh," William Bellemere said.

Painful as it might have been, there is no doubt that the girls' experience was memorable.

"This is one of those things that, if it doesn't kill you, it will only make you stronger," said Emilio Gonzales.



Lee Wright completes his solo without error. "I almost cracked on my high notes, but somehow the note came out right, and I'm a bass singer," Lee said. In the boys J.V Choir, they often all sing the same song, but many students that have a hard time hitting the highest notes.



Shawn Bradshaw and Kayla Johnson sing a different version of "The 12 days of Christmas." For every day of Christmas in the song, the choir had people act them out on stage. "It may look easy to sing, but to sound right is tough," Mr. Casidy Castillo-Wilson said.



"Standing backstage, I had butterflies deep in my stomach."

Brittany Foster

Brittany Foster sings her solo part in 'Have You Ever'. "The whole time I was hoping for that moment to be over," Brittany said. Despite the winter concert mishap, Brittany, Julissa Moody, and Katrina Bushyhead all want to do another emsemble for the spring concert.

Building Leaders

BY LARRY PACHICANO • COURTESY PHOTOS

Over the summer, students in the National Hispanic Institute had the opportunity to go to Austin, and work inside the capitol for the Lorenzo de Zavala Youth Legislative Session (LDZ) program. LDZ is a leadership program which students attend to improve on his/her confidence and leadership abilities. At the event, the NHI students from Taylor got to see what it is like to pass laws in the state of Texas.

"We would go through the entire process of making a law by submitting them to the Senate and writing why we thought it was a good law," John Estrada said. "Once the Senate approved the law, it then finally went to the governor."

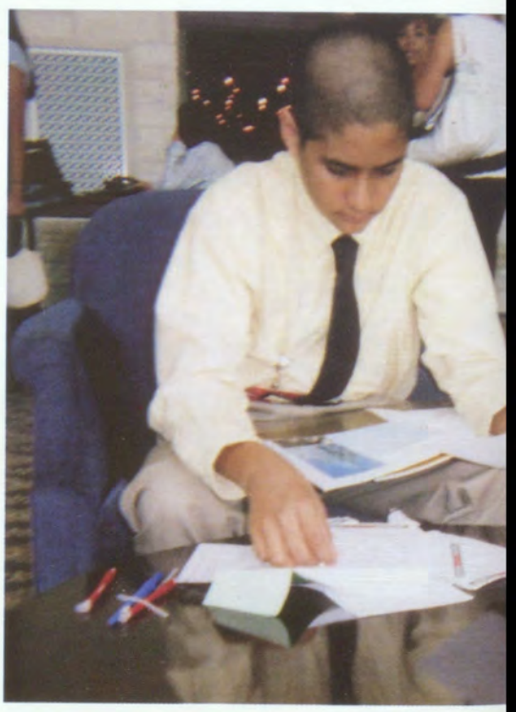
While it might seem that the event was pretty serious, John and his roommate Elloy from New Mexico had their share of fun at LDZ by pulling a prank on their group leader. "It was late at night, and we were pretty bored. We were trying to find something to do, when it hit me," John said. "I got this Wal-Mart bag and filled it up with water. I went outside and threw it at the floor of our leader's door," John said. "When he woke up in the morning he was yelling real loud and saying 'why is this floor soaking wet!' It was hilarious. But of course he never found out that it was us that did it," John said.

"The nights we stayed over were pretty fun; I had a good time," Emilio Gonzales said. Many of the NHI students thought it was well worth their time even though the event was during their summer vacation. "It was definitely a great event; I learned a lot of things about being a leader and how things run in the Senate," Ryan Gonzales said. "I'll probably never forget the experience I had."



NHI officers Jaquelyn Orozco, Emilio Gonzales, and Jasmin Estrada discuss plans for the next NHI event. "We try to meet at least once a week to discuss what type of things we want to do," Jasmin Estrada said. Photo by Taylor Savage

John Estrada tries to come up with a law he could pass through the "Senate". "There was this long process that we had to go through in order to make it a law," John said.



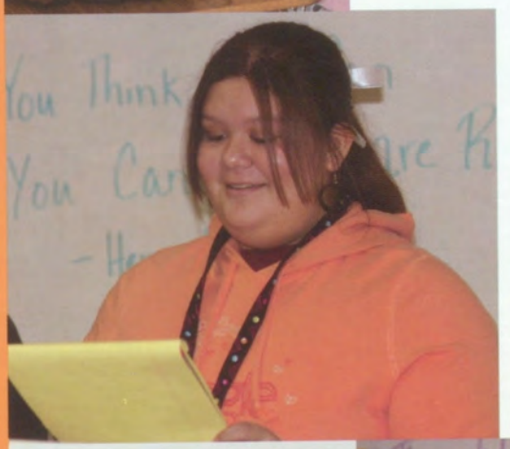


Ryan Gonzales revises one of the many bills he tried to pass through the "Senate," while he was attending LDZ. "I was trying to pass a latino super hero bill," Ryan said.

Hope Johnson and Julie Ann Carey take flowing notes during a case. Students in debate are required to take notes during someone else's presentation. "I actually think debate is kind of boring; to me it's not very fun or exciting," Hope said.

Photos by Devyn Rucker



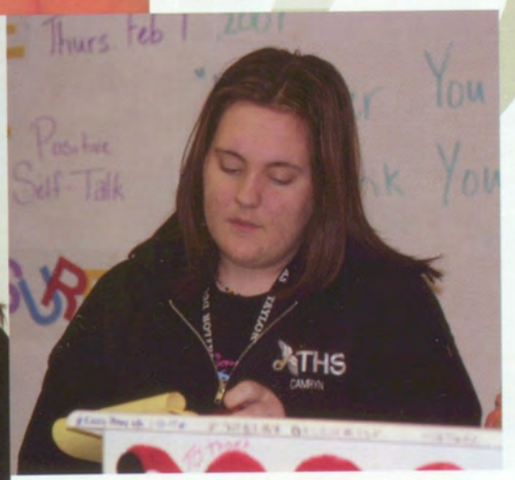








Abigail Luna prepares her case for debate. She had to go through days of researching before she could even start her case. "Debate class is kind of easy, but kind of hard at the same time; you have to know what your doing," Abigail said.



Camryn Stoll presents her case in front of the class. "The class is definitely a challenge and takes a lot of work; it's no easy class," Camryn said.

The inside scoop...



9th Grade: Rachael Voytek

"Debate is actually a lot of fun. It takes a lot of work to prepare your case. It helps me be a good listener, and you get to speak and write about your opinion on different topics."

"It takes a lot of work"



9th Grade: Victoria Flores

"I think it's a great class to be in. It's a lot better than just regular arguing since you're actually doing it in an informative manner. Being able to express your point of view is great."

"better than arguing"



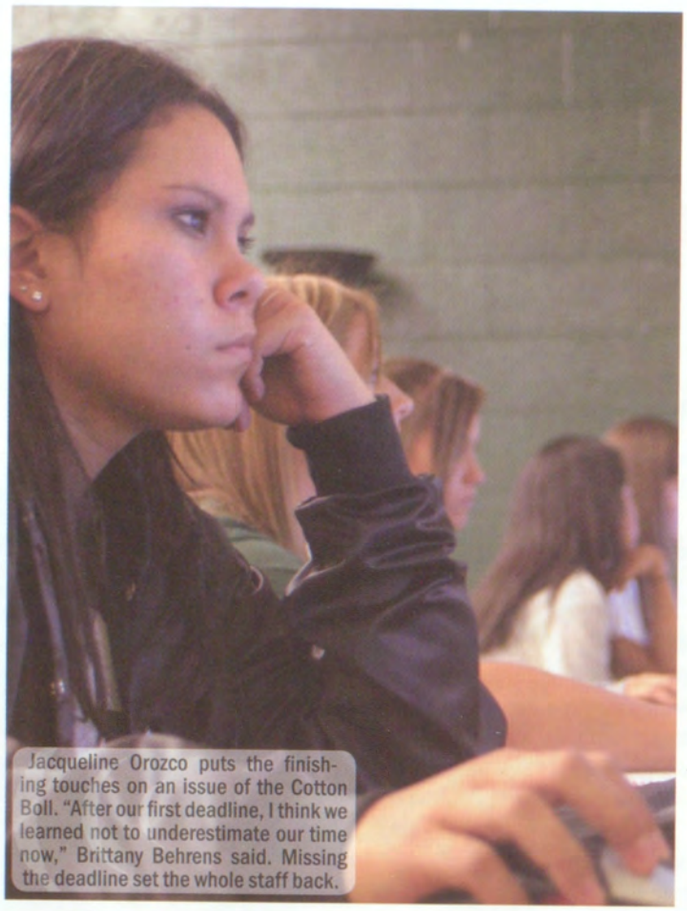
9th Grade: Camryn Stoll

"I really like debate class a lot. My favorite part of debate is when we actually get to debate. I actually win a lot and I consider myself pretty good. It's definitely a great class."

"I think I'm pretty good"

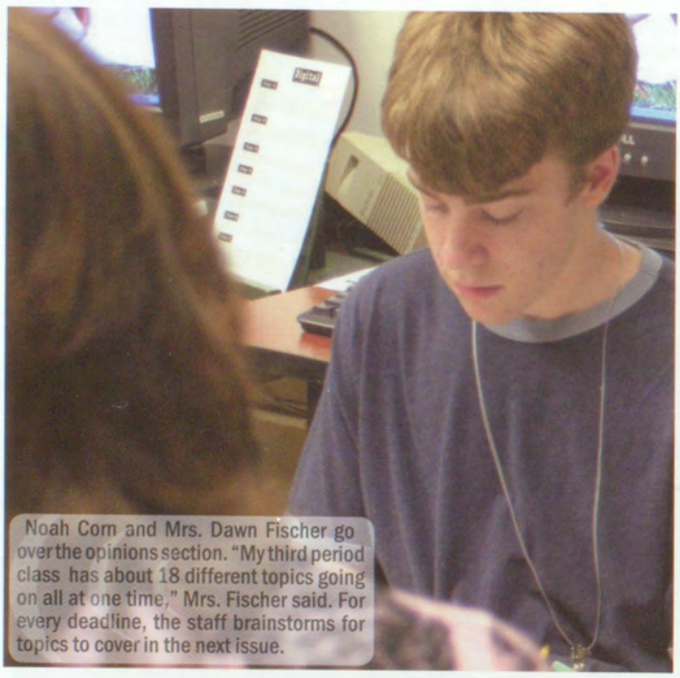
Felicia Alderete answers cross examination (CX) questions. CX is one of the many processes involved in debate. "To me the class is great; you have to be well informed when you go up to present your case and make sure you know what you're talking about," Felicia said.

"I'll probably never forget the experience."

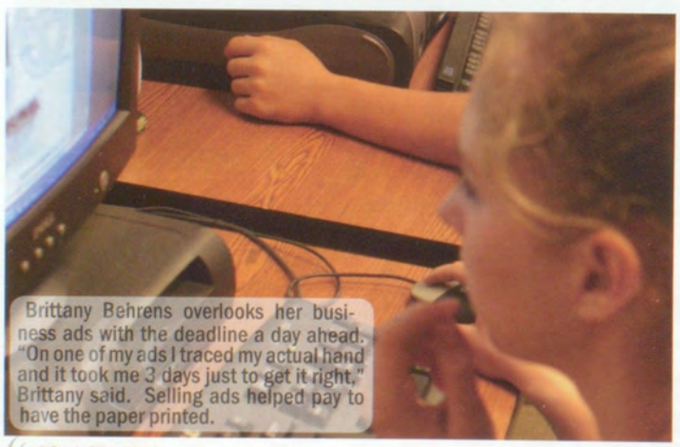


Jacqueline Orozco puts the finishing touches on an issue of the Cotton Boll. "After our first deadline, I think we learned not to underestimate our time now," Brittany Behrens said. Missing the deadline set the whole staff back.





Noah Corn and Mrs. Dawn Fischer go over the opinions section. "My third period class has about 18 different topics going on all at one time," Mrs. Fischer said. For every deadline, the staff brainstorms for topics to cover in the next issue.



Brittany Behrens overlooks her business ads with the deadline a day ahead. "On one of my ads I traced my actual hand and it took me 3 days just to get it right," Brittany said. Selling ads helped pay to have the paper printed.



Frankie Bevka helps Kelly Martinez on her layout. Each staff member had to design his or her own layout. "Most of the time when I look back at the Cotton Bolls, there is always something I see that I could have made better," Suzanna said. Photo by Sydney Savage

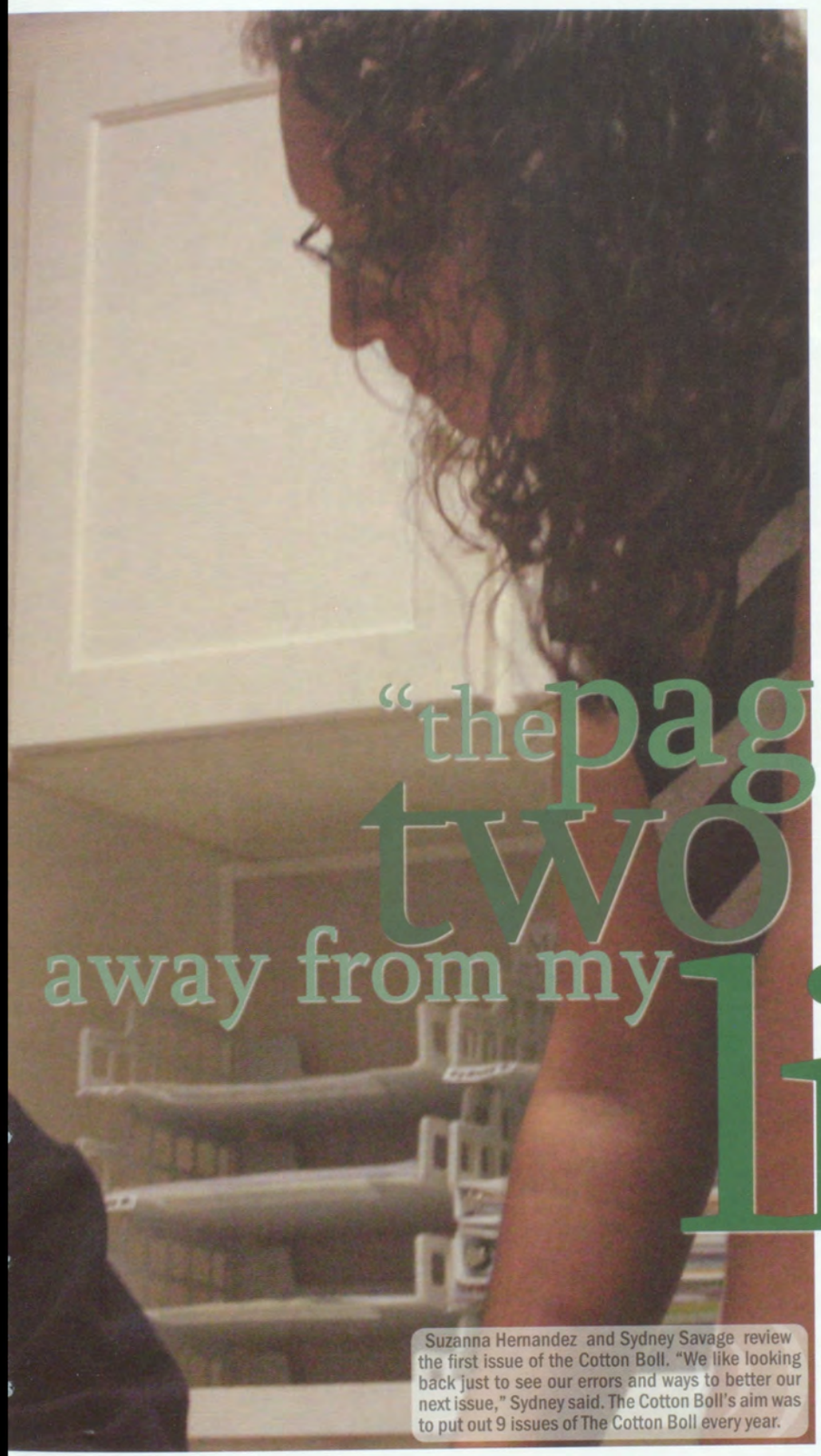
Story by Lorna Gould
Photos by Taylor Savage

"the page that took two days away from my life"

Many people say to "be a leader, not a follower," but sometimes when there are too many leaders in the same area, the end result is not the best. The Cotton Boll staff is not made up of just one editor, but five different editors. With their leadership foundations, "there were TOO many leaders acting like dictators and not enough acting like staffers," Suzanna Hernandez said.

Because of the strong personalities and misunderstandings, the staff was delayed on their first deadline. "Page 16 was the page that took two days away from my life," Cotton Boll adviser Mrs. Dawn Fischer said. Starting with a small postscript error on page 16, the staff had to take piece by piece away from a page, but it was still difficult to find the error. "We had to break down word by word, send a T then an H then an E; it took forever," Mrs. Fischer said.

"Every one was really stressed out that our paper was a week late," Brittany Behrens said. Eventually by September 22nd the staff had released its first edition of the Cotton Boll with a whole new page 16.



Suzanna Hernandez and Sydney Savage review the first issue of the Cotton Boll. "We like looking back just to see our errors and ways to better our next issue," Sydney said. The Cotton Boll's aim was to put out 9 issues of The Cotton Boll every year.

"We had to write stories for the page in like, 30 minutes, but we never found out what the error was on that page," Sydney Savage said.

Over all, Mrs. Fischer said that even with deadlines at their throats, "we need to push for quality rather than quantity."



Karyn Roznovak and Brianna Yanez proofread an article for the paper. "We have a very diverse group of students," Mrs. Fischer said. Cotton Boll tried to cover topics that involve every student's interests. Photo by Sydney Savage

"It's a hot mess of pictures, layouts, stories, ads, and attitudes, but I love it."

Suzanna Hernadez

"I love to give gifts even though I don't buy the right thing most of the time."

Rachel Parker

Christmas trees glow throughout the school during December in preparation of the holiday season. "Christmas decorations make the school seem happpier," Christina Hilscher said.



Raul Avalos and Ricardo Villarreal work on Christmas drawings in Art II. On the back of the students' drawings, they were required to write a letter to Santa. "It was childish in a way, but fun," Raul said.



Briana Bohac cuts holly for her wreath in Floral Design. Her class was able to decorate wreaths and learn how to make bows for them before the holidays. "It was fun because everyone made them how they wanted so they were all different," Briana said.



Nakevia Miller and Frankie Guardiola put lights on a Christmas tree in the counselor's office. It was the office aids' job to decorate both offices for Christmas. "We had some really old ornaments from like the sixties and lights that looked rusty, but it's always fun decorating," Nakevia said. Photo by Melanie Catuogno

the deck hallways

BY SARAH JOHNSON, DEVYN RUCKER, & EMILY QUINN • PHOTOS BY DEVYN RUCKER • ILLUSTRATION BY AARON REEVES

Students await anxiously for Winter Break to arrive, but with the Christmas season come many unavoidable expenses. Not only do most students spend money on personal gifts, but they are also required to give a donation for Green Santa to each club in which they are involved. "At first I thought it would be hard to get people to donate, but we ended up having a great turnout," Rachel Parker said.

It can often be viewed as a burden to have to spend the little money most students have on Christmas gifts. "If I don't see them using the gift, it feels kind of like a waste of time," Tyler Volek said. With multiple family members and friends to buy gifts for, it can be hard to stay within a reasonable budget.

"I end up spending close to $300 on presents," Norma Arredondo said. Although the cost is high, most students believe the high prices are justified when the gifts are opened on Christmas morning.

Knowing a person, and being familiar with his/her likes and dislikes, makes it easier to purchase the perfect gift in most cases. "I love to give gifts to my family, even though I don't get the right thing most of the time," Rachel said. Without having a personal relationship with the one receiving the gift, a person is usually less willing to sacrifice as much money.

"I think it's hard sometimes to get people to donate for Green Santa because they don't put themselves in that person's position. They don't know what it is like to be needy and not able to buy gifts," Norma said.

Many students are involved in more than one organization and are asked to donate money for each Green Santa family. "If you want to give a lot to each club, it adds up quickly," Tyler said.

"Most of the Hi-Steppers tried to help out with Green Santa, but some of them went on vacation and it was just too much for them," Mariah Dempsey said. "I ended up donating around $50 since there weren't many other people helping out."

Despite the time and money one has to give up during the Christmas season, knowing others are benefitting from it makes the sacrifices worthwhile. "It was sad but exciting at he same time to show up and know that doing so little can help one family so much," Mariah said.

Along with the joy of knowing someone is benefiting from the sacrifices, for some seeing the reaction is even more rewarding for some. "I love to see people happy when they open their gifts. I love to help people," Justin Felder said. "It was so nice to see the reaction when we delivered the gifts. The lady was so thankful and even started crying. I'd never done anything like that before, and it was really cool," Justin Felder said.

"I was very happy that I participated. These people needed it, and we have so much. If we wouldn't have given anything, they wouldn't have had a Christmas," Mariah said.



Mallory Dykowski selects a pair of sneakers for the NHS Green Santa family. The officers of most clubs found time to go shopping for the family in which their club raised money. "You think you have a lot of money, but when you're buying presents for 3 kids, it doesn't go very far," Mallory said. Photo by Sarah Johnson



Claire Berger and Jaboa Matoska make candy cane ornaments out of balloons, glue, water, and string. "I licked one; it was not good," Jaboa said. When the ornaments were finished, the students took them to the art gallery downtown to be sold as a fundraiser.



Several cheerleaders carol in Austin before the holiday break. The girls were part of a performance on a downtown street. "It was really funny because there was a guy in a Santa costume standing next to a guy dressed up as Jesus," Courtney Hyde said.

in the spotlight

STORY BY LARRY PACHICANO • PHOTOS BY TAYLOR SAVAGE • ILLUSTRATION BY AARON REEVES



Andy Stapp gets ready to interview a student for his package. "It's actually hard work. While it may seem easy on TV, it's really not," Andy said. Packages covered what else was going on in school other than the daily announcements.



Bryce Block assists Reyna Yanez as she edits a show. "The hardest thing I've had to do is learn to be relaxed on camera," Reyna said. Reyna split her time between anchor and working behind the camera.

"We've had everything from lights blow up on us to computers almost frying. Basically, technology has failed us," Bryce Block said. That is the kind of year THS-TV has had.

"The beginning of the year was real tough for us since Mrs. Catuogno wasn't here," Tristan Meyer said. The staff had not assigned postions yet since it was in its first year.

"We had to figure out what to do ourselves," Lindsey Walton said.

And they did. "I am so impressed with this group," advisor Mrs. Melanie Catuogno said. "This show is 100% student-produced." Even with Mrs. Catuogno back in the classroom, staff members work independently on their news packages and turn mostly to producers Bryce Block and Lindsey Walton for assistance. "I am an advisor in the true sense of the word," said Mrs. Catuogno.

The staff has had to work through many technical issues as well. For example, the staff had received brand new lights for the studio room, and at first they seemed to be working fine, but then trouble reared its head.

"Kelsey [Christensen] and Reyna [Yanez] were standing in front of them when it happened," Lindsey said. "Then all of a sudden I heard a loud noise and the lights went out. The lights had literally blown up in front of both their faces," Lindsey said. "Luckly the lights had a cover over them so Kelsey and Reyna did not get hurt or anything. It could have been a lot worse," Lindsey said. The staff sent back the lights and received replacements within a few weeks.

The student body appreciates the efforts of the news staff. "THS-TV is great,--it's way better than regular announcements," Adam Barry said. "Their stories are really interesting. My favorites ones have to be the videogame one and the MTV reality show one. People in my class actually listen to the announcements now that they're on TV," said Adam.

Despite the rough start, THS-TV came together and successfully met the challenge of producing a daily news show. "We're a pretty tight-knit group now," said Bryce.



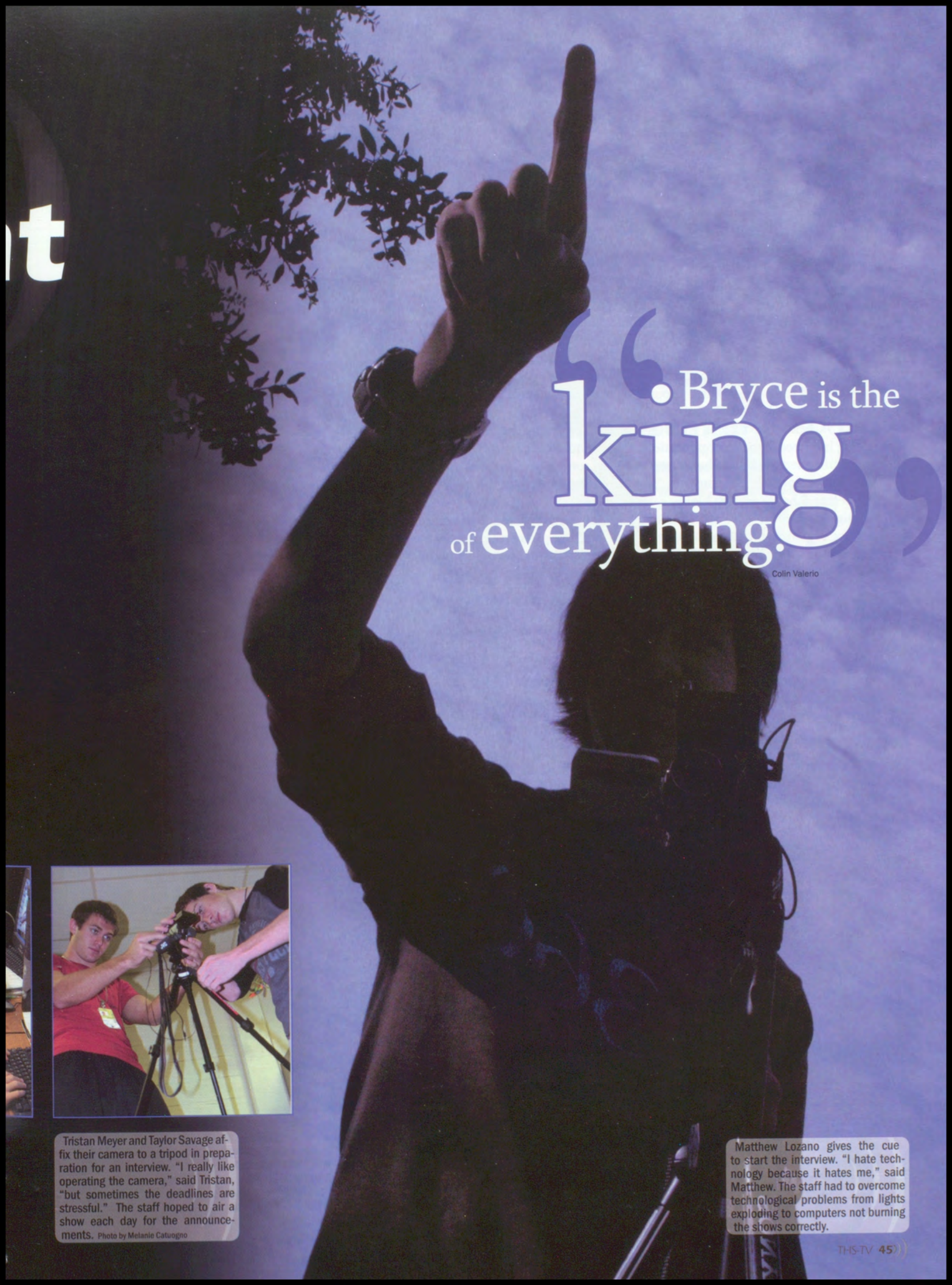
Aaron Reeves and Emilio Gonzales read the day's announcements from the teleprompter in the TV studio. "It's hard work to be in front of the camera and not mess up," Emilio said. Each staff member was given the opportunity anchor.
Photo by Melanie Catuogno



Lindsay Walton puts the finishing touches on the day's TV show. "I have to come in nearly every morning and afternoon to burn the the show onto a DVD," Lindsay said. Having little time to edit during class, the producers often had to spend time out of class finishing a show.



Colin Valerio and Brooke Hegar edit a package to be aired the next day. "I hate being on camera," said Brooke. "I like doing the filming." The staff member who filmed was also responsible for editing the package.



t

"Bryce is the king of everything."

Colin Valerio

Tristan Meyer and Taylor Savage affix their camera to a tripod in preparation for an interview. "I really like operating the camera," said Tristan, "but sometimes the deadlines are stressful." The staff hoped to air a show each day for the announcements. Photo by Melanie Catuogno

Matthew Lozano gives the cue to start the interview. "I hate technology because it hates me," said Matthew. The staff had to overcome technological problems from lights exploding to computers not burning the shows correctly.

Apathy among Scholars

BY TAYLOR SAVAGE • PHOTOS BY TAYLOR SAVAGE

National Honor Society is a service organization composed of students who meet a criteria of leadership, academics, and service. Gloria Schuldt and Robyn Rogers, NHS sponsors, thumbed through a long list of potential students in hopes to pick the most capable and deserving students. President Mallory Dykowski had high hopes for the year.

"I was excited to be president; I thought it was going to be a great year," Mallory said. But as the year progressed, Mallory realized that not all of the students were living up to the NHS standards. "Students aren't doing what they need to be doing; they're lazy!" Mallory said.

In being inducted into the organization, it was required that every student turn in club dues and community service hours, but as the sponsors soon found out, turning in the material on time was not a priority to the students. "Most kids just don't want to get up early and come to a meeting before school," Hailey Mokry said.

"The biggest issue we have with the students is turning in community service hours, and we are a service organization," Mrs. Schuldt said. In an attempt to bring awareness to the problem, sponsors sent out various threats to the students claiming that they could be kicked out of NHS, put on the obligation list, and even not be allowed to graduate if they did not turn in their material.

"They need to hurry up and do that or they're going to be removed from the group," Mrs. Rogers said. Mrs. Schuldt blamed the problem on an over abundance of activities outside of NHS.

"Juniors and Seniors are so actively involved in everything that it is hard for them to pick and choose what is important; they have a hard time focusing on one thing," Mrs. Schuldt said.

"About 80% are now doing what they're supposed to... They're a good group of kids, some of the best in the school," Mrs. Rogers said.



Cassiddy Stefek picks out the right color of wrapping paper for the Green Santa presents. "It was a really awesome feeling helping people when they need it most," Cassiddy said. Photo by Sarah Johnson



Mrs. Robyn Rogers and Mrs. Gloria Schuldt discuss important National Honor Society matters pertaining to fundraisers. "Our organization benefits from fundraisers, but not when the students don't turn in their money," Mrs. Schuldt said.



Ashley Lantszch rushes to a morning NHS meeting. "It's really hard to get to the meetings sometimes when teachers keep asking me for my pass," Ashley said.



NHS officers Mallory Dykowski, Suzanna Hernandez, and Mallory Janak decorate the academic integrity bulletin board. "It's nice being in charge and actually being a part of NHS," Suzanna said.

Francis Hewtty, Devyn Tone, and Reyna Yanez mess around with a shopping cart in the Wal-Mart parking lot after performing hours of service work. "It was so much fun even though Mrs. Tennill thought that I was going to get stuck," Devyn said. Courtesy photo



Lending a hand...



Sponsor: Mrs. Marilyn Tennill

"They are the absolute best group of kids who are dedicated to giving back to their community. They are always there to answer a call for help."

"dedicated to giving"



11th Grade: Kayla Marek

"I enjoy Interact because we do service work for the community. Plus, Mrs. Tennill does it and she's cool."

"Mrs. Tennill is cool"



10th Grade: Tiffany Salinas

"For some reason, I like doing work. It's a way of helping the community and I just like it."

"I like doing work"



Interact students pose after a long day of buying presents for Green Santa. "Green Santa is fun because you get to pick out presents for kids you haven't met yet, but you still know that they need the gifts," Rebecca Almazan said. Courtesy photo







Students gather around to ring bells for the Salvation Army. "Our service is something that will hopefully open the eyes of the community and show them that, even though we're young, we can still do something," Kimberly Amado said. Courtesy photo



Joshah Moors pulls weeds outside of the greenhouse. "The earth sustains us all so we might as well take care of it," Joshah said. Interact members met at the school to help with the annual "Trash Off".

"Even though we're young, we can still do something."

Cheerleaders



Front: Krista Seidel, Trista Stewart, Co-Captain Rebecca Carnes, Fantasia Miller, Maia Richter, Claire Berger, Rachel Weison, Harmony Lorentzen, Captain Brandee Carlson. Back: Brittany Palomo, Co-Captain Andrea Wilkerson, Captain Briana Lopez, Erin Tomei, Brittany Behrens, Hailey Ruzicka, Stacy Bubenik, Cassie Stabeno, Kari Jahn.

Hi-Steppers



Front: Lieutenant Lindsey Walton, Co- Captain Kara-Jayne Murphy, Captain Nakevia Miller, Lieutenant Lindsey Green, Lieutenant Justine Lorentzen. 2nd: Paris Lopez, Vice-President Mariah Dempsey, Whitney Kahanek, President Kelsey Christensen, Amanda Eckhardt, Secretary Lauren Conners, Morgan Faught, Historian Paige Kriedel. Back: Sponsor Mrs. Ashley Driskell, Jennifer Murphy, Ashley Rivera, Jasmin Estrada, Jackie Orozco, Brittany Seggern, Danielle Zavala.

Band



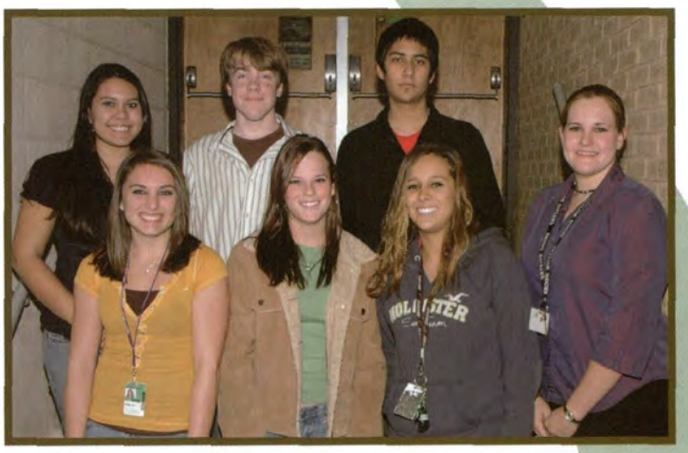
Front: Savannah Lerma, Catherine Emery, Abigail Luna, Ariel Lopez, Adriana Romayor, Kelly Portillo, Nickolas Abbott, Suzanna Hernandez, Lindsey Teggeman, Krystal Estrada, Michelle Smith. 2nd: Courtney Svatek, Andrew Barry, Matthew Lozano, Brittany Blank, Matthew Solbach, Stephanie Yanis, Cindy Cabrera, Juana Rodriguez, Jessica Stegall, Mariah Garza, Stephanie Bourdeau, Ula Tatum, Devyn Tone, Lucas Alderete, Stevie Buckalew, Rosa Gonzales, Ashley Lantzsch, Trevor Gray, Lorena Gonzales, Felicia Alderete, Kristina Bourdeau. 3rd: Kayla Marek, Lawerence Caldwell, Theodore Vargas, Andrew Herrera, Steven Lawler, Rufina Polasek, Bryce Block, Tyler Volek, Augustine Cervantez, Grant Carter, Brianca Alderete, Rebeca Almazan, Samantha Howard, Allyson Mathys, Derek Terwilliger, Christian Miravete, Anthony Moreno, Tiffany Salinas, Kevin Lindsay, Juan Rangel, Jonathan Cortinas, Megan Holman, Rebecca Murphy. 4th: Josh Herrera, Amanda Martinez, Stephanie Stegall, Johnathan Holman, Erica Gutierrez, Jaboa Matoska, Ruby Pumphrey, Conley Reinhardt, Carla Hoffman, Alfredo Romayor, Christina Hilscher, Ashley McFarlin, Kristi Flores, Brian Slivensky, Jared Delony, Jonathan Gonzales, Conner Vanecek, Chris Currie, Amanda Nardecchia, Jessie Cervantez, Anthony Gonzales, Bruce Griffin, Brad Bogan. Back: Assistant Director Kendall Prinz, Director Jacques Brown, Seth Harvey, Alan Gonzales, Albert Gutierrez, Assistant Director David Motl, Flag Instructor Monica Gaudin, Percussion Instructor Chris Montemayor.

Freshman Choir



Front: Director Mr. Cassidy Castillo-Wilson, Kyshara Jenkins, Perla Pena, Stacy Ramiochan, Maria Torres, Jasmine Wolbrueck, Kelsey Walton, Assisstant Director Emilio Gonzales. Back: Gabby Solis, Kourtney Woods, Devin Douglas, Marcos Urbina, David Bogan, Trista Stewart, Kayla Johnson.

Jr. Class Officers



Front: Treasurer Morgan Faught, President Cassie Stabeno, Vice President Crystal Lopez, Sponsor Ms. Johna Childress. Back: Secretary Jackie Orozco, Historian Noah Corn, Representative John Estrada.

JV Choir



Front: Director Mr. Cassidy Castillo-Wilson, Trinia Thompson, Tina Bradford, Angel Escobar, Jazzsmen Martinez, Larry Jackson. Back: Nick Gault, Timothy Haskins, Jermain Wright, Ryan Hill, Bobby Sovil, Lee Wright.

Sr. Class Officers



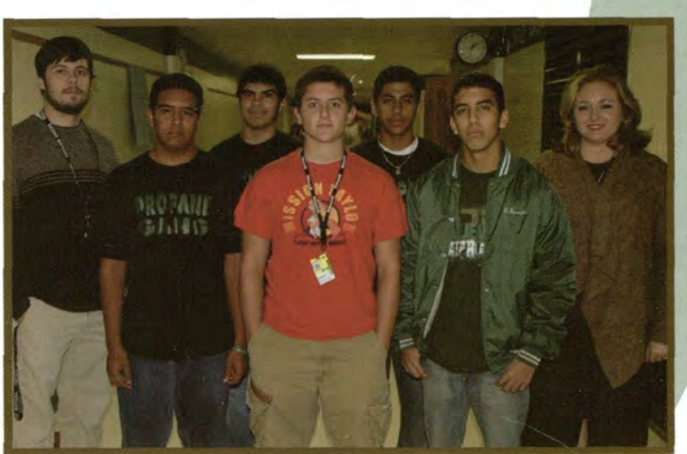
Front: Secretary Reyna Yanez, Treasurer Paris Lopez, President Kelly Banner. Back: Representative Lorna Gould, Parliamentarian Albert Gutierrez, Representative Kyle Vanecek.
Not Pictured: Vice President Briana Lopez, Reporter Lindsey Walton.

Varsity Choir



Front: Whitney Kahanek, Secretary Justine Lorentzen, Katrina Bushyhead, Fabiola Sanchez, Director Mr.Cassidy Castillo-Wilson. 2nd: Brianca Alderete, Historian Natalia Ramos, Ashle Cochran, Julia Moody, Treasurer Camryn Stoll, Historian Brandy Foster. Back: Cody Slavych, Corey Terwilliger, Vice President Jacob Rangel, Greg Carter, Shawn Bradshaw, President Emilio Gonzales.

Propane Gang



Front: Sponsor Mr. Nathan Gray, Aurelio Lopez, David Bogan, Ryan Gonzales, Sponsor Mrs. Kate Mooney. Back: Abel Rincon, Amador Yanez.

Jr. Historians



Front: Camryn Stoll, Secretary Lindsey Walton, Vice President Brittany Chavana , President Stephen Ballard. Back: Sponsor Mr. Paul Quarles, Luke Cavo, Krishan Gandhi, Treasurer Ashle Cochrau, William Bellemare.

Science Club



Front: Sponsor Ms. Jennifer Lane, Ashley Heaton, Paige Kreidel, Secretary Mariah Dempsey, Stacey Platz. 2nd: Sponsor Mr. Chad Springer, Karyn Roznovak, Jasmin Estrada, Ashle Cochrau, Brittany Chavana. Back: President Ashley Keith, Krishan Gandhi, Jordan Humphreys, Treasurer Cory Keith, Kelsey Davis.

OOTM



Front: Sponsor Mrs. Bonnie Estrada , Kelli Aiello, Mariah Dempsey, John Estrada. Back: Shawn Bradshaw, Taylor Savage, Jasmin Estrada, Jordan Humphreys.

Upward Bound



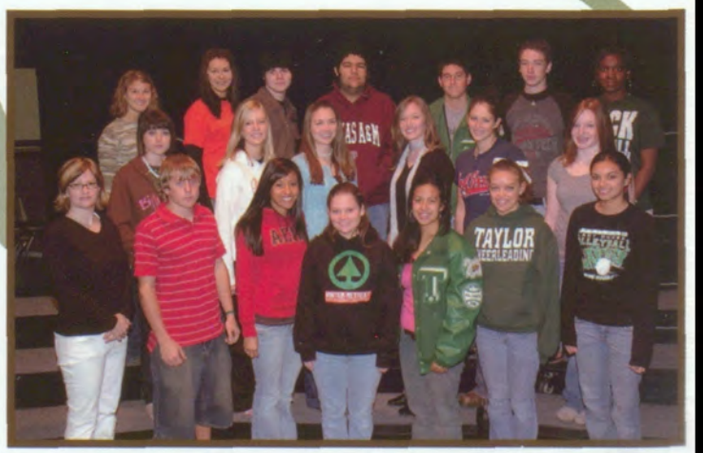
Front: Sponsor Mrs. Dee Sutton, Trinia Thompson, Jalisa Budd, Kaneisha Griffin, Justin Felder. 2nd: Charles White, Ashley Reyes, Victoria Gonzales, Chelsey Boykins, Nekey Miller Back: Devin Douglas, Nakevia Miller, Brittany Wyatt, Chasity Douglas, Deloris Fields, Nicolette Gault, Fantasia Miller.

Interact



Front: Sponsor Mrs. Marilyn Tennill, Paige Vanecek, Justine Lorentzen, Andreina Calzada, Kimberly Amado, Lindsey Walton, Brittany Chavana, Frances Hewtty, Vice President Jaboa Matoska 2nd: Student Senate Rep. Sarah Johnson, Kelsey Christensen, Devyn Rucker, Kelley Portillo, Kelsey Davis, Mallory Janak, Emily Gainer, Reyna Yanez, Erica Gutierrez. Back: Brittany Wolf, Hailey Mokry, President Nakevia Miller, Joshah Moors, Frankie Guardiola, Nickolas Abbott, Krishan Gandhi, Rachel Lewis, Emily Quinn, Rebecca Almazan.

Mallard



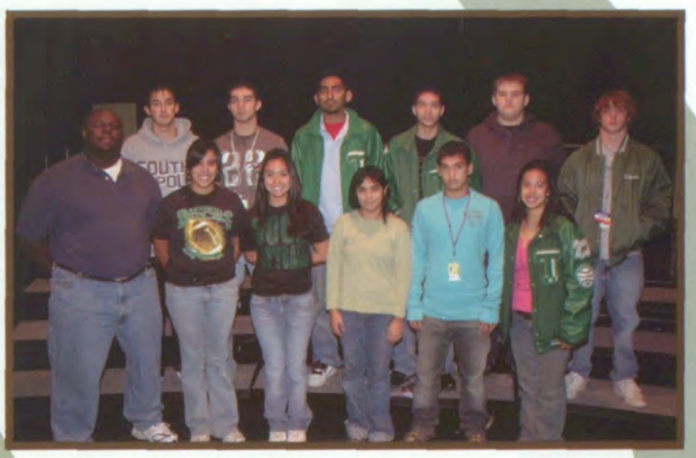
Front: Adviser Mrs. Melanie Catuogno, John Kaspar, Briana Lopez, Sydney Savage, Reference Editor Brittany Chavana, Andrea Wilkerson, Jessica Dale. 2nd: Jacqueline Wolf, Business Manager Kelsey Christensen, Copy Editor Sarah Johnson, Editor-in-Chief Emily Quinn, Kyra Headrick, Design Editor Kelsey Davis. Back: Photo Editor Devyn Rucker, Hailey Mokry, Graphics Editor Aaron Reeves, Larry Pachicano, Christopher Bogan, Photographer Taylor Savage, Loma Gould. Not pictured: Jordan Humphreys, Reese Hall

Art Club



Front: Sponsor Mr. Nathan Gray, Paige Stives, Treasurer Rachel Parker, Paige Vanecek, Ashley Williams, Danielle Deary, Kari Jahn, Jasmyne Kernell, Travis Carpenter, James Fields. 2nd: Dylan Lambert, Travis Mussells, Logan Jackson, Sammy Dominguez, Manuel Cornejo, Treasurer Daniel Campbell, Crystal Carrillo, Michael Martinez, Morgan Faught, David Bishop. Back: Sergio Tovar, Kyle Vanecek, Chaston Matta, Jose Salazar, Gerald Dobbs, Justin Foster, Vice President Toni Chandler, Dell Buckalew, Conolly Reinhardt, Daniel Lopez.

Sights & Sounds



Front: Sponsor Mr. Melvin Jenkins, Ashley Rivera, Brianna Yanez, Megan Holman, David Rodriguez, Brittany Chavana. Back: Sergio Tovar, Nathan Neitsch, Krishan Gandhi, Daniel Lopez, Jordan Humphreys, Kyle Vanecek.

German Club



Front: Sponsor Ms. Lisa Decker, Brittany Blank, Lindsey Teggeman, Vice President Justin Lorentzen, Courtney Svatek, Anita Robles, Kayla Johnson, Brandee Carlson, President Reyna Yanez. 2nd: Tiffany Salinas, Cassie Stabeno, Jacqueline Wolf, Camryn Stoll, Kristyne Baran, Allyson Matthys, Jessie Hilscher, Kelsey Young. Back: Brittany Fail, Brian Logsdon, Trevor Gray, Trent Rojas, Kyle Sakewitz, Tyler Graef, Chad David, Cullen Pick, Josh Nataros. Not Pictured: Drew Weise, Lauren Tucker, Deavin Carpeater, Cassandra Rozacky, Brittany Seggern.

NHS



Front: Reyna Yanez, Sydney Savage, Mariah Dempsey, Lindsey Walton, Justine Lorentzen, Jaboa Matoska, Treasurer Suzanna Hernandez, Karina Pacheco, Paige Vanecek. 2nd: Elisabeth Garry, Briana Lopez, Jacqueline Orozco, Kelli Aiello, Lauren Connors, Brittni Gola, John Kasper, Parliamentarian Cassiddy Stefek, Jessica Dale. 3rd: Ashton Baran, Secretary Sarah Johnson, Emily Quinn, Nathan Close, Ashley Lantzsch, Blake Jirasek, Noah Corn, Grant Carter, Devyn Rucker, Travis Hyzak. 4th: Nakevia Miller, Amanda Moss, Brittany Wolf, Rudy Mikeska, Bryce Block, Brittany Behrens, Ashley Keith, Hailey Mokry, Kelsey Young, Jasmin Estrada. Back: Keegan Gross, Cullen Pick, C.A Ramirez, Albert Gutierrez, Jordan Humphreys, Nickolas Abbot, Matthew Schwettman, Frankie Guardiola, Britton Byfield.

BPA



Front: Sponsor Mrs. Sue Lawson, Lanija Thomas, Representative Paige Vanecek, Alica Pachicano, Stacey Platz, Reporter Lindsey Walton, Treasurer Norma Arredondo, Paris Lopez. 2nd: Historian Kelly Banner, Briana Lopez, Secretary Cassiddy Stefek, Representative Amanda Eckhardt, President Ashton Baran, Robin Gonzales, Nathan Close. Back: Stephanie Yanez, Jeraime Kemp, Vice President Nakevia Miller, Lucas Alderete, Brittany Wolf, Parliamentarian Hailey Mokry, Edward Stringer.

Cotton Boll



Front: Entertainment Editor Kelly Martinez , Web Manager Paris Lopez, Assistant Co-Editor Sydney Savage, Courtney Svatek, Sports Coverage Brianna Yanez , Photo Editor Rachel Weison. 2nd: Editor-In-Chief Suzanna Hernandez, Feature Editor Stacy Bubenik, Sports Editor Brittni Gola, Design Editor Jacqueline Orozco, Web Design Brittany Blank. Back: Copy Editor Noah Corn, Business Manager Brittany Behrens, Sports Coverage Karyn Roznovak, Frankie Guardiola, Stephanie Bourdeau, Assistant Co-Editor Frankie Bevka.

Student Senate



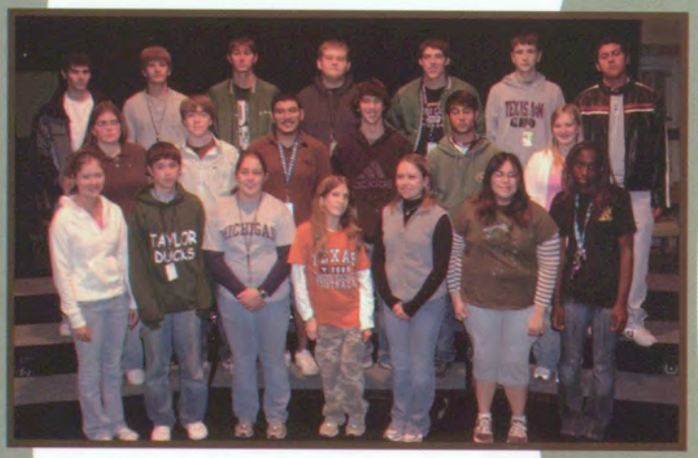
Front: Parliamentarian Devyn Rucker, Emily Quinn, Reyna Yanez, Sarah Johnson, Suzanna Hernadez, Vice President Mallory Janak, Ashton Baran. Back: Nakevia Miller, Secretary Cassidy Stefek, Ashley McFarlin, Bryce Block, President Ashley Keith, Amanda Moss, Treasurer Rudy Mikeska.
Not pictured: Reporter Mallory Hartman

THS-TV



Front: Sponsor Mrs. Melanie Catuogno, Emilio Gonzales, Co Producer Lindsey Walton, Brooke Hegar, Reyna Yanez, Andy Stapp. Back: Producer Bryce Block, Aaron Reeves, Matthew Lozano, Tristan Meyer, Taylor Savage, Kelsey Christensen.

Latin Club



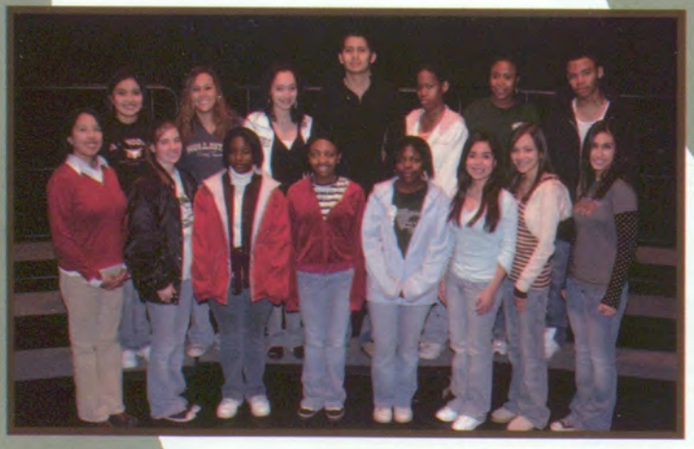
Front: Mallory Janak, Bradley Nemec, Kayla Marek, Stacey Platz, Paige Kreidel, Ana-Lisa Alderete, Ula Tatum. 2nd: Ashle Cochran, Imperator Noah Corn, Anthony Gonzales, Vice Importer Travis Hyzak, Secretary Nathan Close, Becca Carnes. Back: Dylan Moerbe. Cole Carnes, Dalton Marek, Jordan Humphreys, Jacob Farr, Jordan Stefek, Jose Salazar.
Not Pictured: Christopher Bogan, Kasey Penny

HOSA



Front: Mallory Janak, Reporter Jacqueline Orozco, Brittney Palomo, Kimberly Flores, Laura Reyna, Brittany Seggern. Back: Historian Annette Escobar , Josh Nataros, Ashley Lantzsch, Jasmin Estrada, Secretary Erin Tomei, Advisor Mrs. Lisa Vaughan
Not Pictured: President Alexandra Estrada, Vice President Ashley Lopez, Treasurer Christina Aguilar, Parliamentarian Gonzalo Tellez, Alicia Pachicano.

FCCLA



Front: Sponsor Mrs. Monica Ramirez, Parliamentarian Justine Lorentzen, Tina Bradford, Brene Washington, Lanija Thomas, President Andreina Calzada, Marcela Valladares, Lauren Connors. Back: Historian Kristen Alderete, Vice President Crystal Lopez, Treasurer Arabela Valladares, Secretary Frankie Guardiola, Tamera Simien, Janaye Hall, Jeralme Kemp.

Debate



Front: Abigail Luna, Hope Johnson, Julie Ann Carey, Perla Pena, Sponsor Mrs. Nisa Stevens . Back: Felicia Alderete, Camryn Stoll, Eric Noel, Devyn Tone.

FCA



Front: Sponsor Mr. Matt Walker, Brandie Jackson, Justine Lorentzen, Leadership Team Brene Washington, Pearlie Gault, Crystal Lopez, Mariah Dempsy. 2nd: Leadership Team Luke Cavo, Brittany Chavana, Paris Lopez, Ashley Lantzsch, Zachary Talavera, Leadership Team Mallory Janak, David Rodriguez. Back: Derek Terwilliger, Hailey Mokry, Jasmin Estrada, Matthew Lozano, Taylor Savage, Jordan Humphreys, Tyler Volek, Christopher Bogan, Travis Hyzak.

NHI



Front: Sponsor Mr. Jonathan Alonso, Marcela Valladaves, CFO Kelly Banner, Andreina Calzada, Priscilla Martinez, Reyna Yanez, Treasurer Megan Holman, Jasmyne Kernell, Historian Brittany Chavana, Kristen Alderete. 2nd: Sophomore Rep Fabola Sanchez, Jessica Tapia, Ashley Rivera, Matthew Hernandez, Jr. Rep John Estrada, Head Recruiter Jacqueline Orozco, Mariana Ramirez, President Emilio Gonzales. Back: Ashle Cochran, Jesse Cervantez, Sr. Rep Albert Gutierrez, Daniel Lopez, Frankie Guardola, Sergio Tovar, Johathan Cervantez, Secretary Ryan Gonzales, Vice President Jasmin Estrada.

Drama Club



Front: Sponsor Mr. Jonathan Alonso, Mariah Dempsey, Party Planner Jenna Howard, Kristina Bourdeau, Katie Barley, Jacqueline Orozco, Kelli Aiello, Paula Reeves. 2nd: Fabola Sanchez, Victoria Gonzalez, Krista Seidel, Brandee Carlson, Brittany Blank, Brooke Gabel, Kelsey Davis, Vice President Elisabeth Garry, Kari Jahn. Back: Kameren Hodnett, Josh Nataros, Jasmin Estrada, Treasurer Seth Marcon, Secretary Cory Keith, President Amanda Moss, Frankie Guardiola, Blakesley King, Kasey Penny.

International



Front: Sponsor Ms. Leslie Decker, Brenda Hernandez, Glianne Sanchez, Francisca Araujo, Kayla Johnson, Selenia Lazaro, Tiffany Salinas, Camryn Stoll, Kristyne Baran. 2nd: Elvira Hernandez, Dulce Cisneros, Martin Gonzales, Christian Miranete, Bryant Cigales, Aaron Ramirez, David Cervantes, Manuel Cornejo. Back: Josh Nataros, Seth Marcon, Adrian Young, Eric Noel, Alfredo Lopez, Salvador Moreno, Oscar Rodriguez, Jose Moreno, Jose Salazar.

Journalism Club



Front: Desiree Crathers, Whitney Kahanek, Priscilla Martinez, Treasurer Marissa Chavana, Spokesperson Victoria Flores, Brandy Foster treasurer. Back: Antoinette Bell, Ana-Lisa Alderete, Tiffany Herklotz, Toni Chandler, Vice President Valkyrie Landrum, Historian Kristyne Baran.

Spanish Club



Front: Briana Ortiz, Brittany Wilkerson, Treasurer Rachel Weison , Kelly Dominguez, Pearlie Gault, Jenna Howard, Secretary Mariah Dempsey, Kelsey Aunspaugh, Brene Washington Cindy Arriaga, Brittany Chavana. 2nd: Senora Lorraine Bustamante, Ray Rojas, Leah Morales, Eric Camacho, Ashley Rivera, Jonathan Ortiz, Brooke Gabel, Arabela Valladares, Lauren Connors, Kristen Alderete, Katrina Bushyhead, Senora Tracy O'Quinn. 3rd: Mallory Hartmann. Luke Cavo, Ashley Lantzsch, Johnny Reyna , Rebecca Almazan, Jillian McQuillen, Kelsey Davis, Victoria Gonzalez, Sonya Schmidt, Jessica Dale, Karyn Roznovak. Back: Historian Keegan Gross, Ashley Keith, Larry Pachicano, John Estrada, Rudy Mikeska, Lucas Alderete, President Amaris Jones, Vice President Jasmin Estrada, Briana Bohac, Scott Lute.







Josh Nataros performs a chromatography experiment on the Science Club field trip to Port Aransas. "The object was to show that sea plants use different colors of light for photosynthesis than land plants," said Chemisty teacher Mr. Chad Springer.
Photo by Chad Springer

see the colors all break down into their most basic components." Josh Nataros

What's Cookin'? boys in the kitchen

Story & Photos by Kyra Headrick

While many guys may think cooking is solely for their girlfriends and moms, for Tristan Simian, there is nothing that he likes more about school than his 2nd period Food Science class.

"Everyone thinks that boys can't cook, but they're wrong. Half of our 2nd period class is boys and we make the best food," Tristan said.

There is this common misconception that boys do not cook. However, the boys in Mrs. Monica Ramirez's Food Science classes have proven to hold their own against the seemingly better female cooks. "I was surprised that the boys could actually cook, and it even tasted good," Andreina Moncada said.

"I love that class; we get to eat what we cook," Braeden Lawhon said.

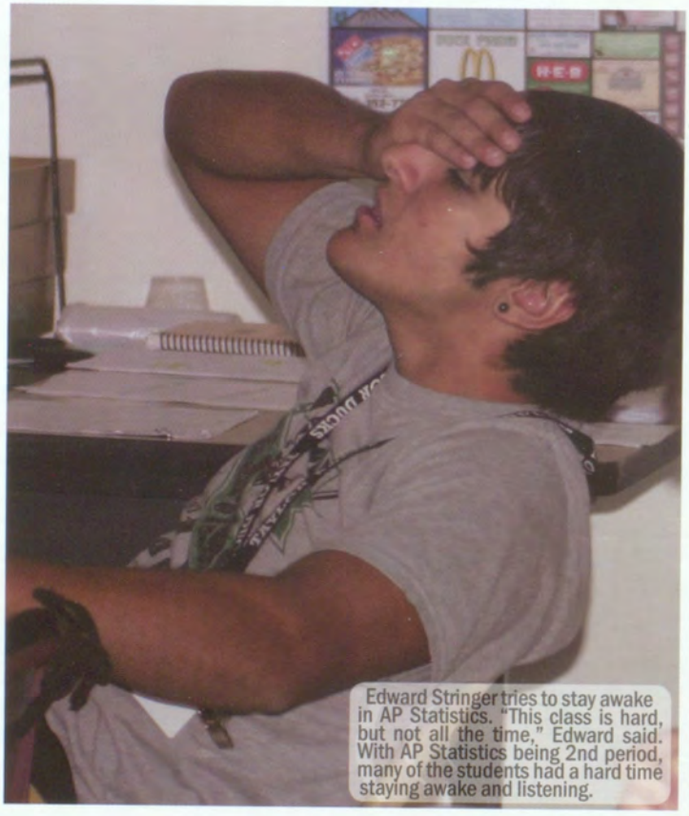
The Food Science classes try out countless recipes every Thursday. Needless to say, there are times when they do not turn out exactly right.

"One day we made chocolate chip cookies, and my group's cookies came out watery. It was disgusting! No one wanted to eat them, and me, Braeden, and Norma Arredondo were really mad because everyone else got to eat cookies but ours were like watery chocolate chip pancakes," Johnathan Wooldridge said.

"I don't understand how that group messed up the cookie recipe that bad; those cookies were *really* gross," Mrs. Ramirez said.



Noah Brinkmeyer erases a design off of his paper in Art 1. "My project was so good that it got hung up on the wall," Noah said. Mr. Nathan Gray selected the best designs to go up outside of his room. Photo by Taylor Savage



Edward Stringer tries to stay awake in AP Statistics. "This class is hard, but not all the time," Edward said. With AP Statistics being 2nd period, many of the students had a hard time staying awake and listening.



Students of Mr. Ed Johnson's Auto Mechanics class repair a car during their class period. "The class taught me a lot," Nicholas Pachicano said. All the groups worked together and got the job done. Photo by Taylor Savage





Tristan Simian helps his partner prepare oriental pork chops in Food Science. "I love to cook, and this class is an easy credit," Tristan said. Tristan and Anselmo Oranday were cooking partners the entire year.



Stephen Ballard colors his graffiti in Art I. "I enjoyed my graffiti project, but I only did it so Mrs. Shepherd wouldn't yell at me," Stephen said. All art classes had the chance to go outside and do chalk graffiti on the sidewalks. Photo by Taylor Savage



Braeden Lawhon takes a bite of his oriental pork chops that he made in Food Science. "This class is awesome," Braeden said. Food Science cooked every Thursday, making that many students' favorite day.

"I love that class; we get to eat what we cook."

Braeden Lawhon

The Art of Amusement

students keep busy

Story & Photos by Sydney Savage

With the combination of students making jokes and people walking in and out of the classroom all day, keeping one's mind on school work can be quite difficult. Disruptions are something that each classroom must conquer daily.

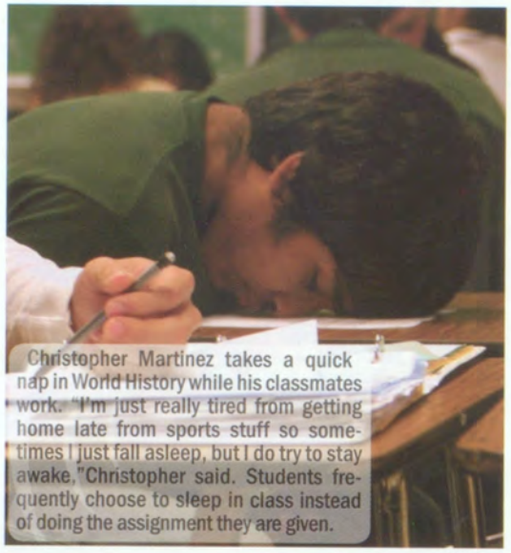
Students are always finding ways to amuse themselves in class. Some students share special talents that they do not mind showing off during class, such as martial arts. "One day in art Jordan Brogan told us that he knew martial arts," Nathan Neitsch said. "We asked him to demonstrate it for us. It was so funny!"

Jordan's love for martial arts has been his saving grace when he has a lack of interest during the school day, and his fellow students find it a refreshing, entertaining source of enjoyment. "It's just fun for me! My brother and sister did it also, so it's just something I've always been interested in," Jordan said.

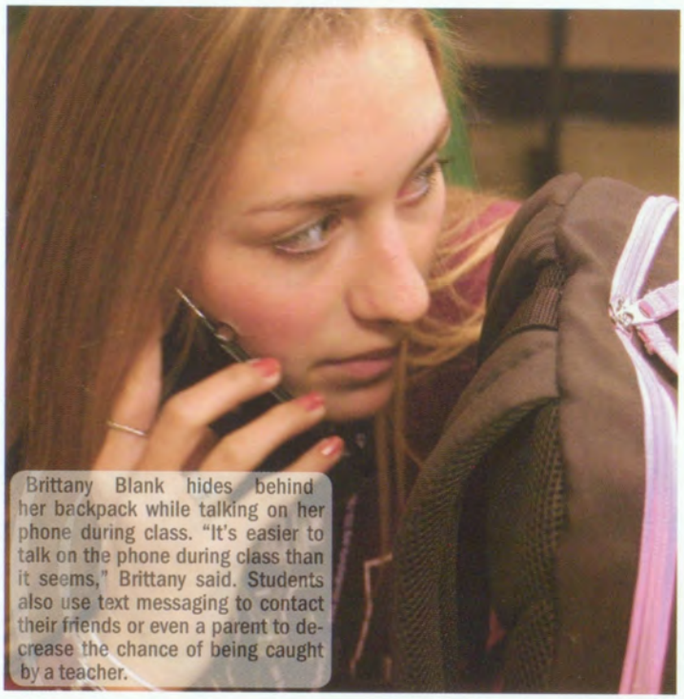
When Jordan performs during class, it is more of a fun show, not something that disturbs the class and gets him in trouble. Jordan takes lessons at a studio in Round Rock so he knows many traditional moves to perform in a real match with an opponent. A student performing martial arts is certainly something one does not see every day, so everyone is usually interested in watching the show. "I wouldn't normally do it in class, because it can be kind of distracting, but they wanted to see it so I did it for them," Jordan said. "They don't ever do anything anyway."

Though a lot of students enjoy, sometimes crave, this comic relief, some students see these commotions as a nuisance. "Anything that is not conducive to positive progression is a disruption," Noah Corn said.

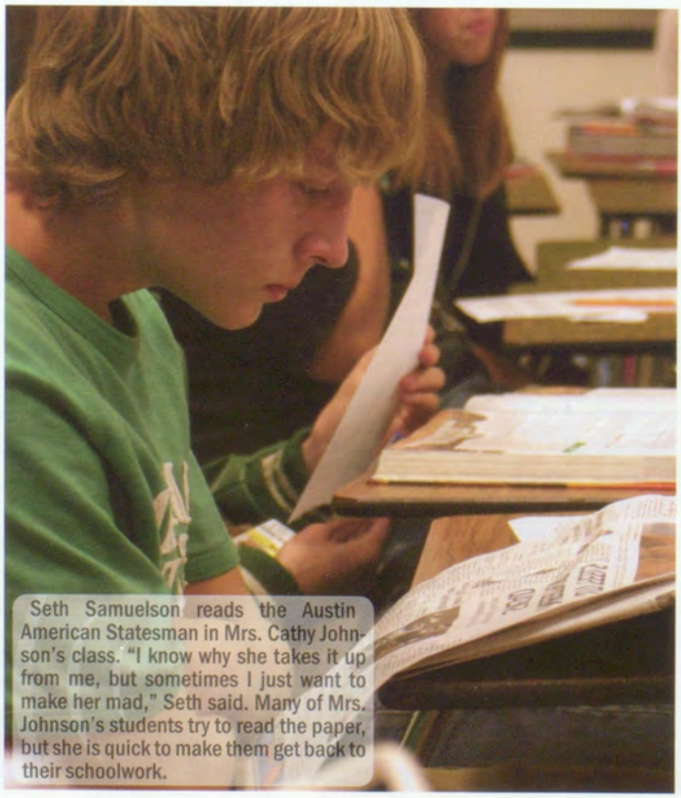
"I actually don't mind when Jordan does it in class. It takes about two minutes and then he's done. It's kind of like a little reward," Mrs. Jane Shepherd said. "He's a responsible student anyway."



Christopher Martinez takes a quick nap in World History while his classmates work. "I'm just really tired from getting home late from sports stuff so sometimes I just fall asleep, but I do try to stay awake," Christopher said. Students frequently choose to sleep in class instead of doing the assignment they are given.



Brittany Blank hides behind her backpack while talking on her phone during class. "It's easier to talk on the phone during class than it seems," Brittany said. Students also use text messaging to contact their friends or even a parent to decrease the chance of being caught by a teacher.

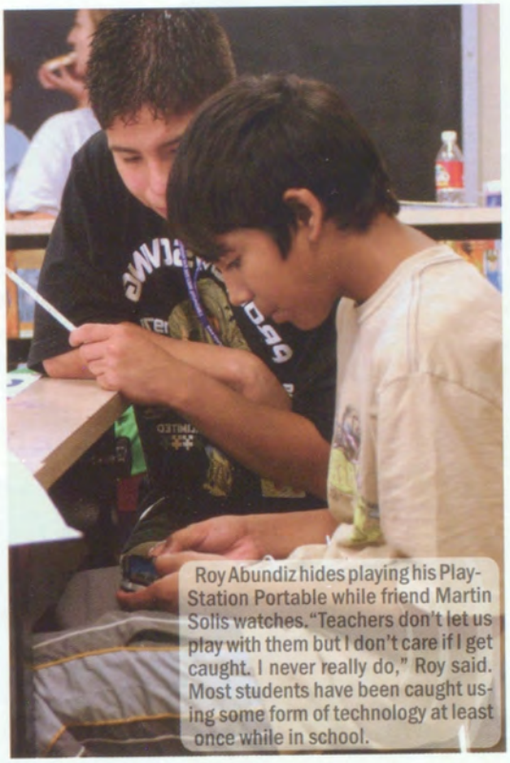


Seth Samuelson reads the Austin American Statesman in Mrs. Cathy Johnson's class. "I know why she takes it up from me, but sometimes I just want to make her mad," Seth said. Many of Mrs. Johnson's students try to read the paper, but she is quick to make them get back to their schoolwork.





Jordan Brogan practices his martial arts moves in art. "I just love it. It's something I've always liked to do," Jordan said. Jordan's teachers usually do not mind when he practices his moves, as long as it does not get in the way.



Roy Abundiz hides playing his PlayStation Portable while friend Martin Solis watches. "Teachers don't let us play with them but I don't care if I get caught. I never really do," Roy said. Most students have been caught using some form of technology at least once while in school.

"He seems more like himself and a lot more comfortable when he's doing his karate. It was really interesting to see him perform because I would not have known he knew all of that stuff otherwise. I don't really think he means for it to be a distraction, just entertainment."

Frances Hewtty

Keep It Interesting

Using different methods to teach

Story & photos by Sydney Savage

Teachers are constantly coming up with uncommon ways to keep their students entertained while in class. While every teacher has a curriculum to follow, many use interesting props, games, or other methods of activity as lesson plans.

Ms. Krystina Haefner practices Tang Soo Do, a traditional Korean martial art. It is a primary system of empty handed self-defense that dates back about 2,000 years. Ms. Haefner brought boards of wood to class to teach her students how to properly break them in half.

"I brought the boards to class just for fun. I thought it would be a nice treat for my students," Ms. Haefner said.

"She brought the boards to class that day and she let people break them. She told us to hold our hand a certain way so we wouldn't break our wrists. She also said to follow through. I liked it. It was fun to do," Dalton Marek said.

While this particular presentation did not pertain to Latin, Ms. Haefner did many interesting things to keep her students interested.

"I try to use artwork a lot. Everybody learns differently and it's more fun to draw than to write. I also try to play games with my class," Ms. Haefner said.

Students are more compelled to pay attention to the teacher if they have something that is tangible to learn by. Students become interested and involved in the lesson that the teacher has planned if it is something that one can be more involved in.

"I like how Ms. Haefner incorporates games and prizes into our grades. Her way of teaching is out of the ordinary. I guess it reinforces what we've learned," Jordan Humphreys said.

With many classes like math or science, where the teacher can only lecture or write on a dry erase board, many students agree that it is a better option to teach with games; students learn better with things they can hold and play with.

"When teachers associate games with learning it's easier to pay attention. When it's fun, I'm less susceptible to falling asleep," Britton Byfield said.

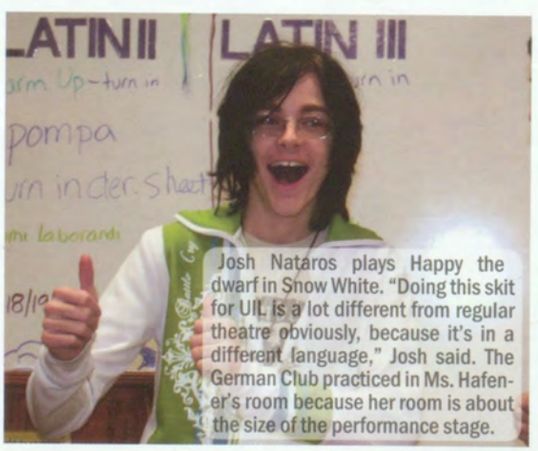
Whether it is by martial arts, games, or artwork, incorporating different activities draws students into the lesson and helps them remember the subject more effectively.



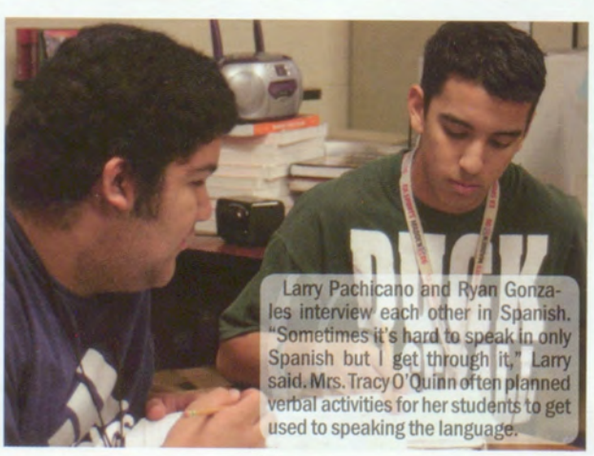
Kourtney Woods works on translating a story in Spanish. "Sometimes we do races to the board, we play Jeopardy and games like that," Kourtney said. Spanish I students focus on learning vocabulary and grammar that they use while translating stories and speaking the language.



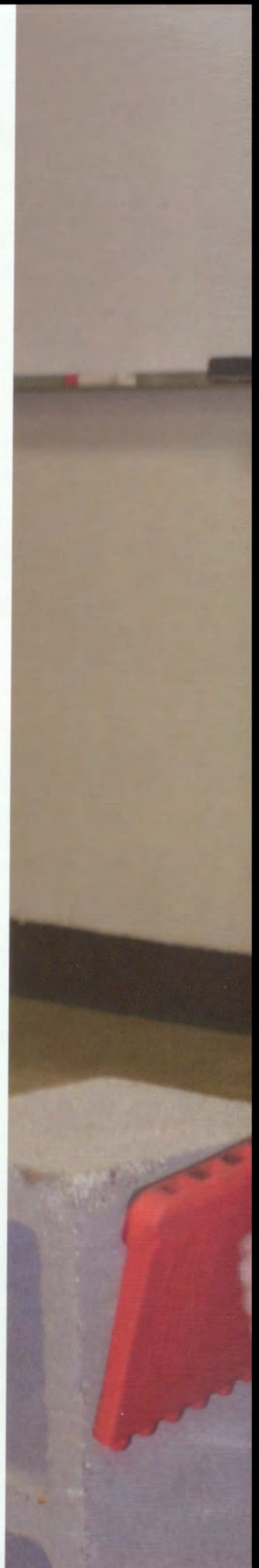
Kelsey Marek translates a story on the board in her Latin II class. "I like when teachers use ways of teaching other than lecturing because then we actually pay attention instead of doing our own thing," Kelsey said. Students were put into groups and would translate parts of a story onto the white board for the class to copy.



Josh Nataros plays Happy the dwarf in Snow White. "Doing this skit for UIL is a lot different from regular theatre obviously, because it's in a different language," Josh said. The German Club practiced in Ms. Hafener's room because her room is about the size of the performance stage.



Larry Pachicano and Ryan Gonzales interview each other in Spanish. "Sometimes it's hard to speak in only Spanish but I get through it," Larry said. Mrs. Tracy O'Quinn often planned verbal activities for her students to get used to speaking the language.





Noah Corn practices breaking boards with a plastic square that snaps back together, but is harder to break than real wood. "Ms. Haefner's original teaching style and unique attitude toward Latin and learning in general creates an educational atmosphere that greatly benefits her students intellectual development," Noah said.



Justin Felder interviews a classmate in Spanish III. "I liked doing this activity because it helped me get to know my classmates a lot more," Justin said. This exercise helped students to not only listen and understand Spanish, but to be able to correctly pronounce it.

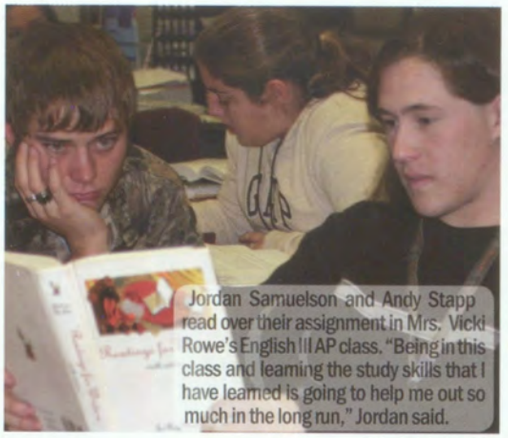
"We had a project in Latin where we could choose what we wanted to do. Sydney [Savage], Emilio [Pachicano], and I chose to cook. It was a lot of fun getting to do that and incorporate roman foods."

Andy Flores

Getting Ahead students prepare for college

Story by Sydney Savage
Photos by Sydney Savage

When the year comes to an end, for some juniors and seniors it is the time to begin preparing for college. Many students take dual-credit classes and AP classes in order to get credits toward graduation and hours for college. Students study for the SAT numerous times with the intention of sending their best score in with their college application. Writing a good essay, giving all community service hours, sending in one's application early, and all other things that go along with college applications may better one's chance of getting into the college of choice.



Jordan Samuelson and Andy Stapp read over their assignment in Mrs. Vicki Rowe's English III AP class. "Being in this class and learning the study skills that I have learned is going to help me out so much in the long run," Jordan said.

It is important to get started on planning and applying for college as soon as possible in order to have a better chance of getting everything exactly how one wants it. "Entering college being ready is going to get me so much further," Justin Felder said.



Luke Cavo searches for a scholarship in the counselor's office. "My mom has stayed on my back about getting scholarship applications. Any amount can help," Luke said. The counselors push all students to apply for as many scholarships as possible.

There are several opportunities at school and at Temple College for students to take tests and classes for college that many students take advantage of. "I took a dual-credit class last summer to get a credit for this year and college. I'm also taking AP Calculus this year," Luke Cavo said.

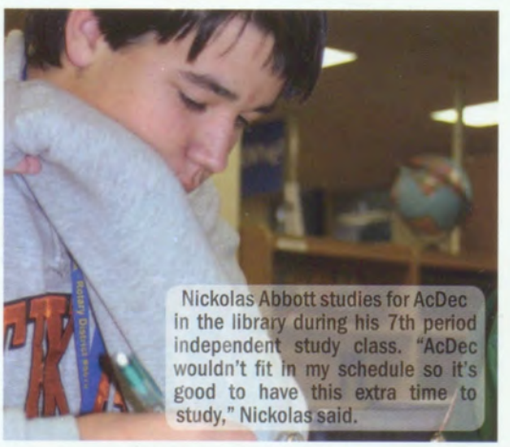
A number of students take the SAT more than once to better their scores each time and send in their best with their applications. It is important to take the SAT as early possible to know if one will need to take it again. "I took the SAT twice and the ACT three times because I wanted to try to get a better score to send in with my application to have a better chance of getting in," Luke said.

"If you take the SAT more than once, chances are, you will pick up more math and reading skills from the last time that you took the test," Mrs. Vicki Rowe said.

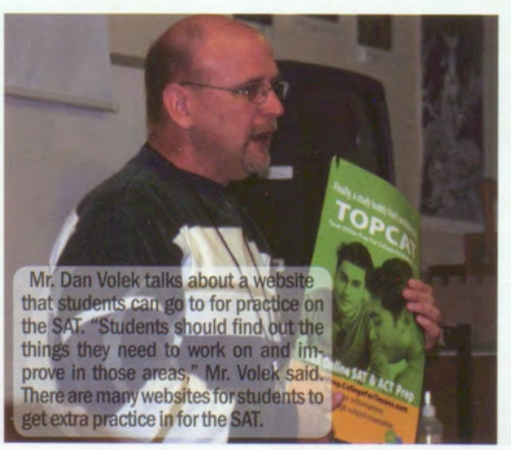
Several students also take AP classes to help better their education and study skills, and possibly get college credit. "An AP class is the closest a student's class will get to a college level class. They have the opportunity to receive college credit and maybe even money with a high enough score," Mrs. Rowe said.

Colleges like to see that one is in numerous clubs and activities, which improve one's chances of getting into their college of choice. "AcDec is basically a college level class in every way. Saying that it looks good on a college application is an understatement," Mrs. Rowe said.

"Students should begin preparing for college as early as possible. Don't wait until your senior year to take the SAT or the ACT," Mrs. Marilyn Tennill said.

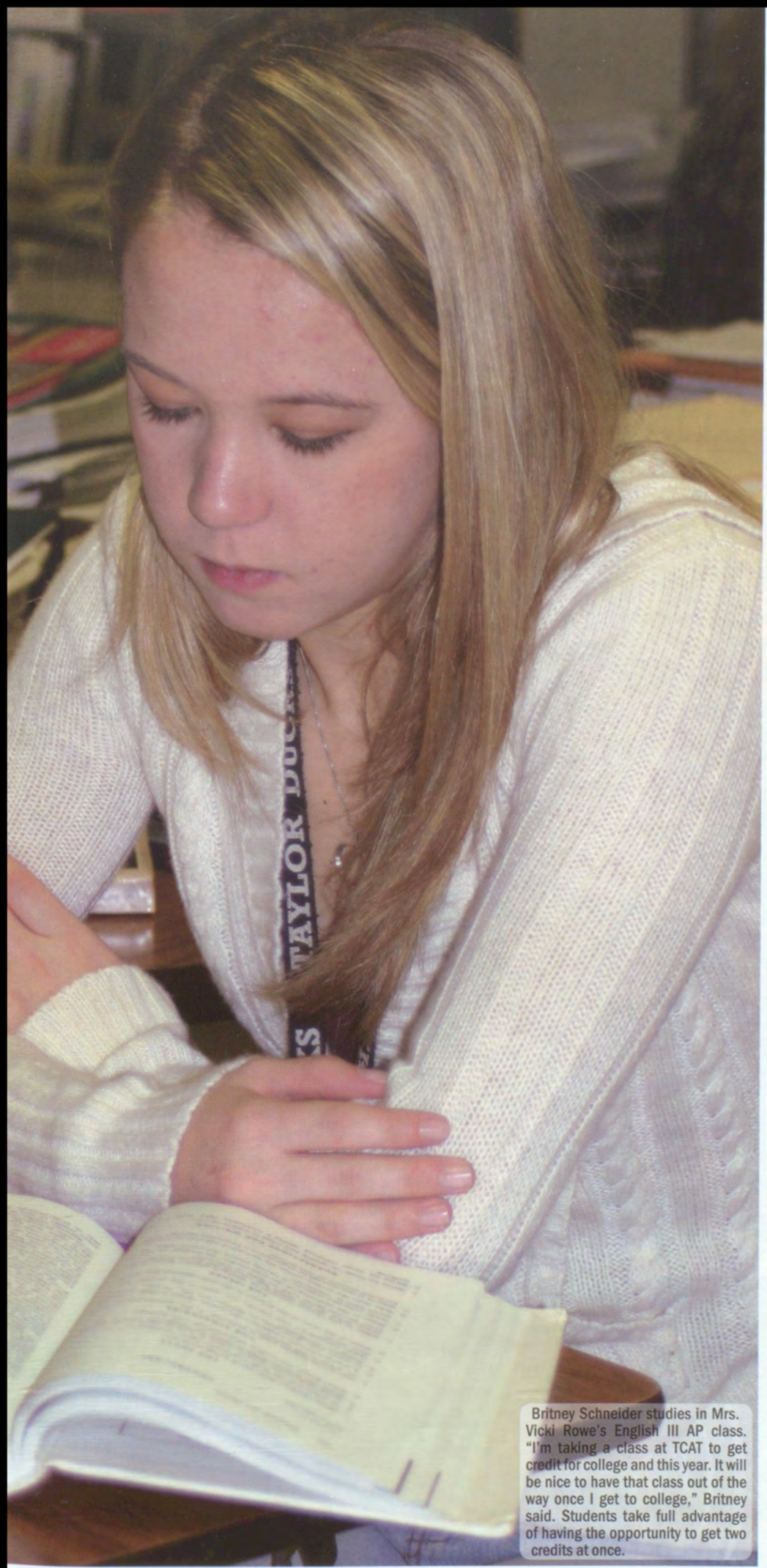


Nickolas Abbott studies for AcDec in the library during his 7th period independent study class. "AcDec wouldn't fit in my schedule so it's good to have this extra time to study," Nickolas said.



Mr. Dan Volek talks about a website that students can go to for practice on the SAT. "Students should find out the things they need to work on and improve in those areas," Mr. Volek said. There are many websites for students to get extra practice in for the SAT.





Britney Schneider studies in Mrs. Vicki Rowe's English III AP class. "I'm taking a class at TCAT to get credit for college and this year. It will be nice to have that class out of the way once I get to college," Britney said. Students take full advantage of having the opportunity to get two credits at once.



Kammi Sims works on her Pre-Cal homework. "It's good that I'm taking this class because I'll have an advantage in college. I'll be a little more familiar with everything," Kammi said.

"I wanted to graduate early, but I decided too late and didn't have time for much stuff. It's definitely important to begin preparing for college as early as possible."

Rudy Mikeska

Heavy Medals

AcDec team beats the pants off the competition

Story by Sarah Johnson Photo by Devyn Rucker

Deciding to be a member of the AcDec team was no small commitment. The team practiced every morning, during lunch, during the AcDec period, and after school. They also held practices during every holiday or break from school. Most of the members did not mind, however, because of what resulted from it. "I actually enjoy practice because I know it's going to pay off in the end. Plus, we always have fun at practice," Courtney Svatek said.

"We basically studied any time we didn't have prior engagements. Because of all that studying, we ended up beating the other teams brutally. It was great," Joshah Moors said.

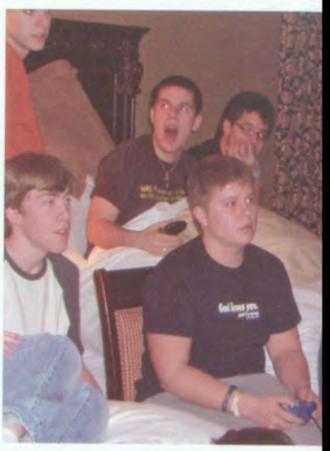
Though the Academic Decathlon team did reap the rewards of their hard work at State competition, they were denied the opportunity of advancing to Nationals. They were unable to advance in the small school division because of a limit of 650 enrolled students, and were unable to beat the teams in the large school division. "We tried to be optimistic about it but we knew it would be hard to advance," Stephen Ballard said. Despite the letdown of not being able to participate in the national competition, the AcDec team worked hard during the time they were able to compete and enjoyed the success that came from it. "I can't even describe the feeling I felt when we won. I cried for about ten minutes just as a release of all the emotions that had built up. It was finally the big payoff," Stephen said.

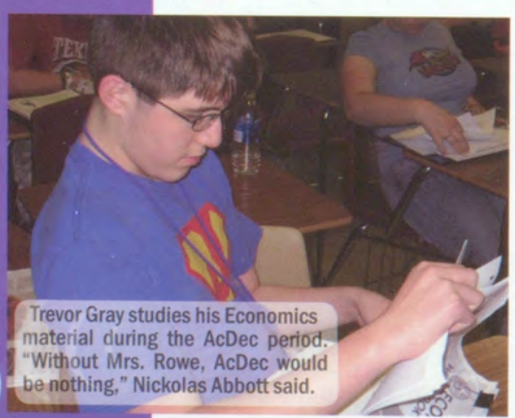
"I don't think people realize the amount of pressure on the team at competition," Mrs. Vicki Rowe said.

The team stayed positive and optimistic though they were not able to advance. "I know next year if we work really hard we can do it," Courtney said.



Christina Hilscher looks for errors in her speech. Christi's speech discussed the effect of a strict dress code in schools. "I really loved going over to Mrs. Rowe's house to practice," Christi said.

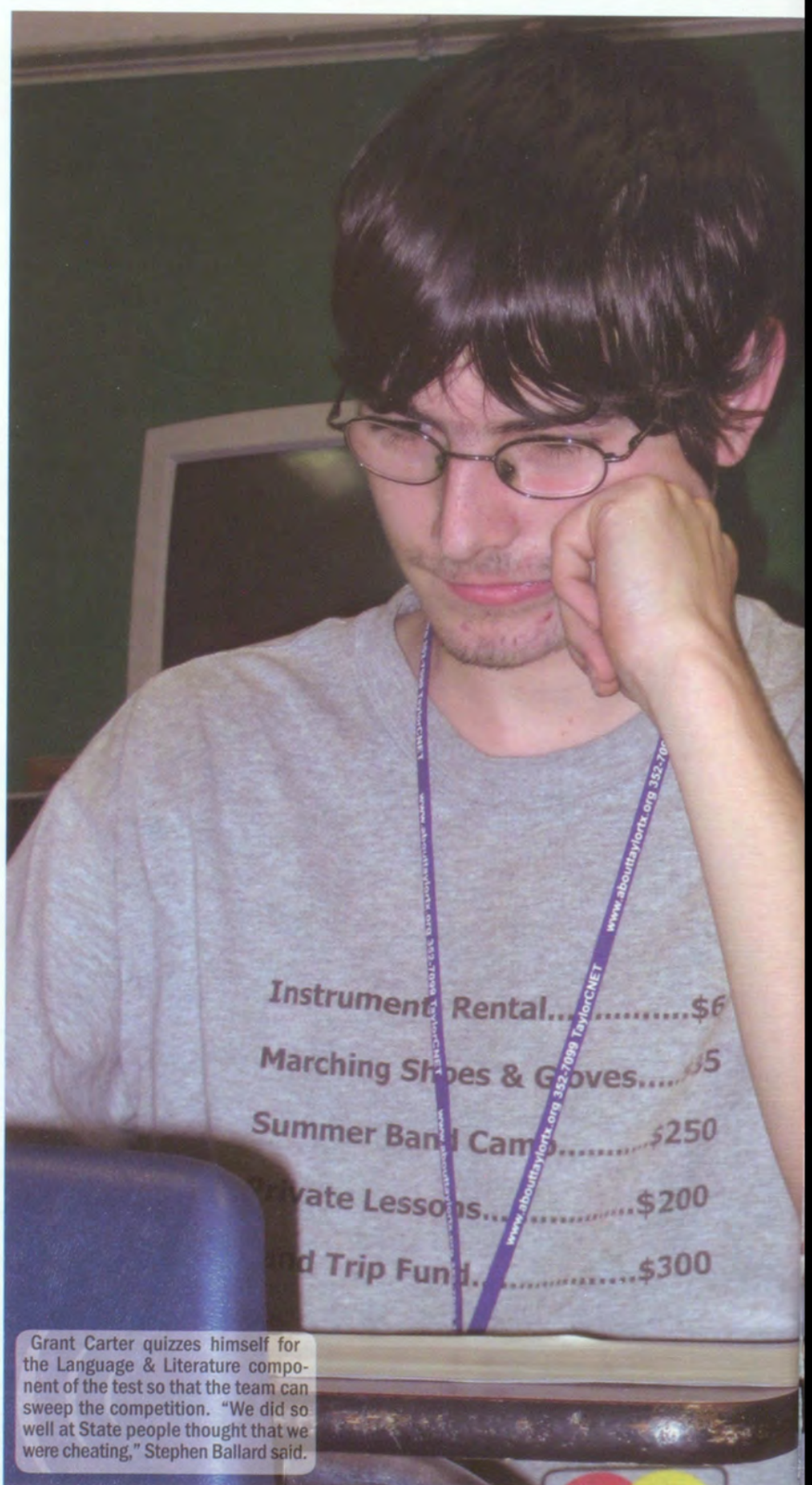




Trevor Gray studies his Economics material during the AcDec period. "Without Mrs. Rowe, AcDec would be nothing," Nickolas Abbott said.



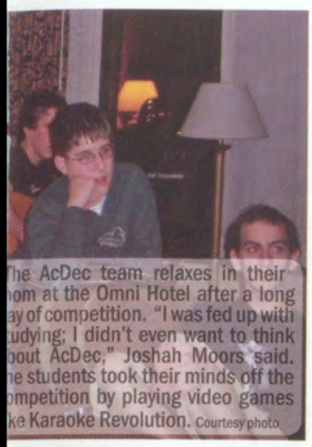
Mrs. Kimberly Mason along with the Academic Decathlon team proudly show off their awards at the state competition. "We just kept winning," Mrs. Vicki Rowe said.
Courtesy photo



Grant Carter quizzes himself for the Language & Literature component of the test so that the team can sweep the competition. "We did so well at State people thought that we were cheating," Stephen Ballard said.

Odyssey of the Mind

Story & Photos by Jordan Humphreys



he AcDec team relaxes in their om at the Omni Hotel after a long ay of competition. "I was fed up with udying; I didn't even want to think bout AcDec," Joshah Moors said. e students took their minds off the mpetition by playing video games ke Karaoke Revolution. Courtesy photo





Taylor Savage constructs the team's structure during the performance. Part of the scoring in the problem consisted of how fast the team could construct and test it.



Kevin Lindsay performs as a potato during an OM competition. The group portrayed various vegetables who were not friends with a rude piece of spinach. "I must be tired because all of my eyes are droopy," Kevin said.

Courtney Svatek wears a tomato costume for their skit. The tomato's goal was to buy her mother a present. "I bought this present for my mommy," Courtney said.







Seth Marcon and Courtney Svatek are costumed as popcorn and ketchup in their skit. The two were changed from corn and a tomato by a microwave and a food processor. "I started off as corn," Seth said, "but then I got popped."

Shawn Bradshaw and Jordan Humphreys watch the other teams receive their awards after receiving first place. All of the TISD teams placed high in the meet. "We usually do well at Regionals, but State is where it matters," Jordan said.



Jordan Humphreys dresses in the costume of a walking stick. Personifying unusual things can help win teams many awards. "Narrating the entire performance for eight minutes was hard," Jordan said. "But one of the judges said I could have a public speaking career."

Ashley McFarlin dresses as a piece of rotten spinach. The spinach was the cause of many problems for the other vegetables. "I was only thinking of you," Ashley said several times throughout the skit.

There are few organizations in high school which foster creativity. Some students find Odyssey of the Mind an excellent creative outlet. Most of the members have been competing in the organization for eight or nine years. Each member is a part of a team of seven or less people that competes in one of five set problems. The teams have a tradition of making it to the state level, often securing a high rank of third, fourth, or fifth, with one team even advancing to the world competition due to their creativity. "I like the fact that we can't have outside assistance. It makes the creations that much more astounding," Shawn Bradshaw said.

There are two teams at Taylor High School who compete. One team created a skit in which they each played vegetables in a refrigerator who are tormented by a rotten piece of spinach, played by Ashley McFarlin. An ear of corn, Seth Marcon, was put into a microwave and turns into popcorn. A tomato, Courtney Svatek, was put through a food processor and became ketchup. As the vegetables were put through their various pains, the rotten piece of spinach continued to say, "I was only thinking of you." The vegetables eventually taught the spinach how to be kind to others, and the performance ended with a happy group of produce.

The other group created a skit in which a group of termites searches for sticks and finds a walking stick, Jordan Humphreys. The walking stick taught the termites how to find their food so that they would not eat him in rage. Taylor Savage and Shawn Bradshaw put the structure together and tested its strength during the 8-minute performance. "OM really helped me to break out of my shell because you have to act and voice your opinions. You can't be afraid to not hold back," Jasmin Estrada said.

Both teams received first place and advanced to the state level of their respective problems.

"It is fun and worthwhile because you get to exercise your mind outside of school," Courtney said.

> "OM hones my design skills each year."
> Taylor Savage

Boiling Point

Personal tragedy leads to an alternative campus

Story by Jordan Humphreys
Photos by Jordan Humphreys

Kelli Aiello is an honor student who has taken all the Pre-AP and AP classes available, gone to the national tournament for Odyssey of the Mind twice, been ranked in the top three students by GPA in the junior class- and spent five weeks in TALC. "I knew she was under a lot of stress and had a lot of stuff going on, and I almost wanted to say 'I don't blame her'," Aaron Reeves said. "But the school couldn't let it go unpunished."

A tragic chain of events led to Kelli's stay in TALC. While Kelli was in Iowa for the Odyssey of the Mind World Tournament with the rest of her team, her brother died in a car accident.

"She doesn't like to talk to about her problems with anyone," Jasmin Estrada said. "She was in a horrible state of mind." Kelli had gone to many places in an attempt to deal with the loss. She did not feel ready to talk to the psychiatrists.

"After spending an hour worth $300 on a psychiatrist, he told me I had experienced a great loss," Kelli said. "I already knew that and thought it was a waste of time and money." She continued to keep quiet about her feelings. After skipping a lot of school during the second and third terms, she was completely behind. One morning after all her emotions had boiled over, Kelli came to school severely intoxicated.

"It was really bad," Mariah Dempsey said. "We just wanted to get her home from our Spanish class. Then she started yelling and talking about her brother. We had almost gotten her outside when the administrators came." The counselors and principals sent her to the hospital.

"They wouldn't let us go see her," Jasmin said. "I was crying for the entire day because I was so worried about her."

Kelli couldn't remember most of that day, but she was glad her friends had helped her. "It made me realize that a lot of people were there for me," Kelli said. "I had reached a boiling point. I'm really glad I came to school. I could have just died at home if I hadn't."

Kelli had to spend at least five weeks at TALC for the offense. At TALC, she had to wear a white shirt and denim jeans without a jacket. She could only go to the restroom twice a day and had to eat cafeteria food. "I usually didn't eat there because you had to pay for gross food," Kelli said.

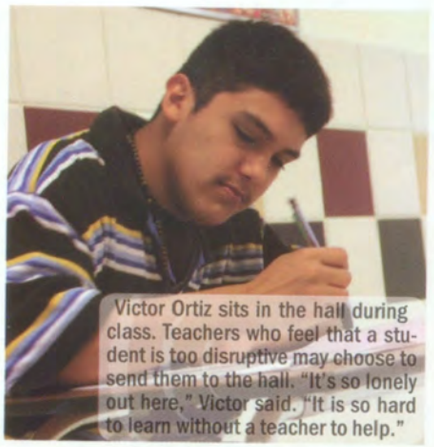
"It got me to start doing my work again," Kelli said. "They wouldn't let me just put my head down and give up." TALC forced Kelli to get back on pace with the other students in her classes. Her teachers, Mrs. Gloria Schuldt, Mr. Jonathan Alonzo, and Mr. Amin Lalani, visited her and helped her to get back on track.

"She was forced to do her work," Mariah said. "I think she wanted to work and knew that being there helped." Kelli learned three terms worth of work at her stay in TALC.

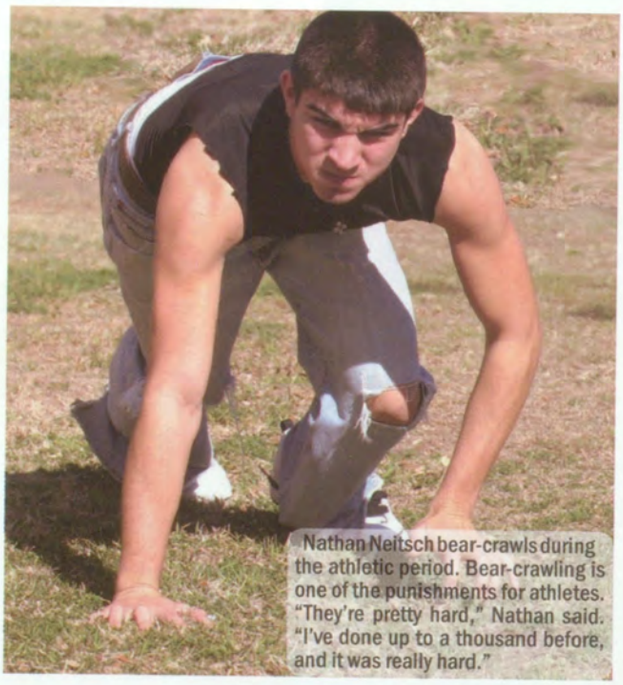
"I'm glad she got the wake up call and had a chance to get back where she was," Lauren Connors said.

"Kelli learned that there are different ways to deal with problems," Aaron said. Kelli seems to have learned a great deal from her stay in TALC.

"Overall it was a positive outcome," Kelli said. Kelli wants to graduate on time and raise her GPA closer to the level it was formerly.



Victor Ortiz sits in the hall during class. Teachers who feel that a student is too disruptive may choose to send them to the hall. "It's so lonely out here," Victor said. "It is so hard to learn without a teacher to help."



Nathan Neitsch bear-crawls during the athletic period. Bear-crawling is one of the punishments for athletes. "They're pretty hard," Nathan said. "I've done up to a thousand before, and it was really hard."



Jasmin Estrada and Jackie Orozco do 64's for Hi-Stepper punishment. One 64 consists of 8 straight sets of 4 kicks in repetitions. "They are pretty tiring," Jasmin said. "It's like a long difficult practice."



Kelli Aiello stares into space during her stay at TALC. The students in TALC are restricted to a small cubicle to do all their work for the seven hour day. "All that's in there is a schedule and the school's rules," Kelli said. "And I memorized them both out of boredom."



After five weeks, Kelli Aiello bursts free from TALC. She made it through all the inconveniences of isolation to get back on the road to success. "I'm just glad to be able to wear my normal clothes again," Kelli said.

"I heard this guy say, 'Why is she here? I thought her life was perfect.' He didn't even have a clue."

Kelli Aiello

Technical Difficulties
students encounter filming problems

Story by Emily Quinn
Photos by John Kaspar

"It's one of those things that you think you can do, but it fails miserably," William Bellemare said, as the rest of the class agreed.

"Something always seems to go wrong at the last second, but I guess it was screwed up from the get-go," Abraham Hernandez said.

This is the story of Video Tech. All year, students are given assignments in which they must creatively film and produce their own videos. Sometimes however, what starts out as a good idea ends up falling to pieces at the last minute.

One group's "favorite scene" project, in which students recreated a scene from a movie, was plagued with problems.

"The first day we tried to shoot, someone forgot to get a camera. The next day we had changed the time we were filming and CJ [Clarence Johnson] was supposed to call and tell Courtney [Hyde], but it was too late. She was already at Brittni [Gola's] house in her robe," Abraham said. Then, when they were finally ready to shoot, they "didn't have any actresses, so [they] had to go to the basketball game and pick up the only actresses [they] could find - middle school girls," Brittni said.

"They remember all the things that went wrong," said Video Tech teacher Mrs. Melanie Catuogno, "but I can tell you they have come a long way and really produced some impressive pieces of video."

Not one group has failed to turn in a project on time, a record that absolutely impresses the teacher. "I am really proud of them," said Mrs. Catuogno, "and I wouldn't mind working with most of these people again next year in an advanced class."

"Working on a project for so long, it's really nice when we finally get to see it done," John Kaspar said.

While some students have problems getting things organized at the last minute, others have unavoidable accidents while filming.

"One movie I had to hardcore dance like the scene people, and considering I have no balance whatsoever, it wasn't easy. There I am flinging my arms and legs all over the place; one second my head is in the frame and the next I'm lying on the ground," Blakesley King said. Although she said it hurt pretty badly, her "biggest regret is that [they] didn't even get it on film because the camera was off."

Until they have taken the class, most students do not know is how hard it is to actually put a film together. However, no one will tell you they wish they had not taken the class.

"Even though it is hard to work with some people and deal with deadlines sometimes, I wouldn't trade taking the class. I like it. It's fun," Jacqueline Wolf said.



Scott Lute films Coleman Eiben as he says his part for a Video Technology news report. "I enjoy being in Video Tech almost as much as I enjoy beating Braeden in the game," Coleman said.



Stephen Taylor focuses on his subject before taking the shot. Taking pictures was something that Photojournalism students did almost every day. "I enjoy taking pictures and love the teacher," Stephen said.



Amanda Nardecchia staples up an announcement that she made in Digital Graphics. Many fliers and announcements with unique designs were made in this class. "I enjoy learning how to make and create things on the computer," Amanda said. Photo by Taylor Savage



Catherine Lopez works on her Photo Repair project for Desktop Publishing, using Adobe Photoshop and InDesign. "It can be fun but also frustrating working with the programs when something goes wrong," classmate Rudy Mikeska said. Photo by Emily Quinn





Erica Gutierrez, Stephen Ballard, and Frances Hewtty prepare to film a scene for a movie they are making in Video Tech. "We're starting a video ministry at our church so it's nice to have this extra experience with the camera and editing," Frances said. The skills that students learn in Video Tech can be very useful for future careers or activities. Photo by Emily Quinn



Andy Flores adjusts the light for the perfect shot. For one project, the Photojournalism students made pin-hole cameras and took pictures around the school. "Only like one out of every 50 million pictures turned out right," Eric Crumley said.

"Lighting is an important part of a picture, so we have to learn how to make it just right."

Andy Flores

S'mores & Snores
Science Club goofs off at the beach

Story by Kelsey Davis
Photos by Larry Pachicano

Affectionately called "Winger" by his students, Mr. Chad Springer is the Science Club sponsor and is therefore in charge of planning all of their activities and outings. At the beginning of October, the club had the opportunity to travel to Port Aransas to learn about wildlife and science on the beach. But missing two days of school was not the only incentive to participate in the trip.

"The students did experiments that simulated life along the Texas coast, whether it be frequency of waves, height of bird flight, or ecology of the bay systems," Mr. Springer said.

Not only did they get to do hands-on activities and science experiments, but members also got to enjoy Port Aransas and time away from home during a school function.

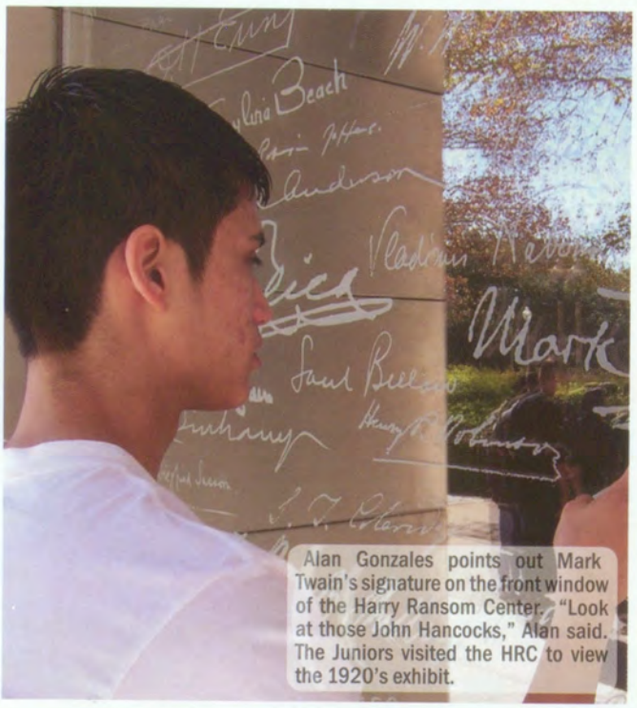
Life-science was not the only information they gained from the trip. "I learned to never sleep in the same room as Winger because he snores," Dalton Marek said.

With all of their hard work and studying, the club members were also given some free time to explore Port Aransas. This included roasting s'mores over a campfire, going shopping for an afternoon, skimming on the beach, dolphin-watching, and putting potato chips on Dalton's head. "We put a chip on my hood and a seagull came and took it off," Dalton said.

Although it was a science trip, not all the things they did were scientific. Many of the most memorable experiences were non-academic. "One night everybody was sleeping except for Jed and myself and in Cole's sleep we heard Cole moaning, 'Winger'," Rudy Mikeska said. "We still give him a hard time about it to this day."



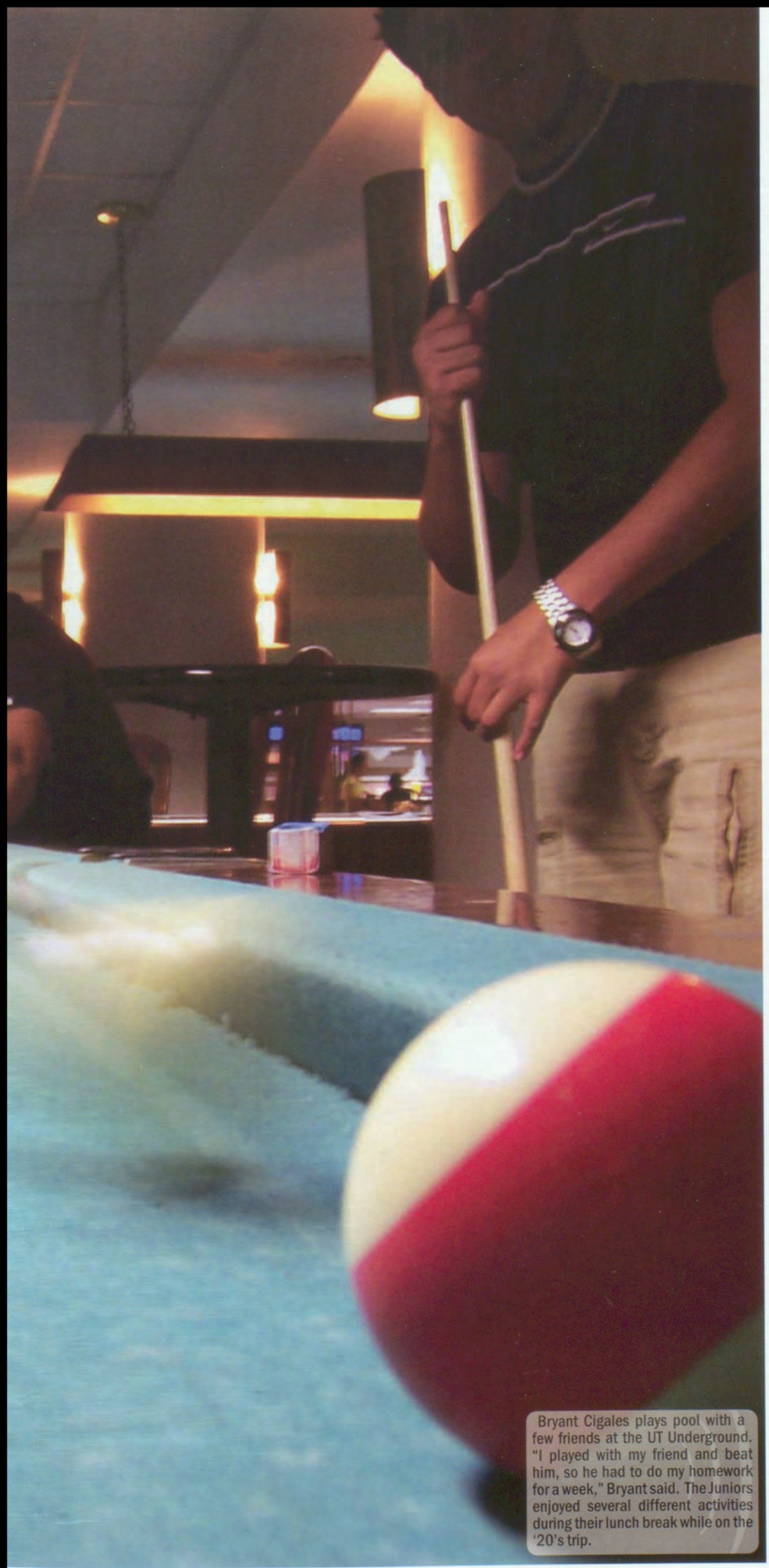
Ashley Rivera focuses in on the ant exhibit at the Texas Memorial Museum. "I enjoyed seeing different parts of Austin. It was insane how much walking we had to do," Ashley said. The Sophomore English classes explored the city only if they were passing all of their classes. Photo by Kelsey Davis



Alan Gonzales points out Mark Twain's signature on the front window of the Harry Ransom Center. "Look at those John Hancocks," Alan said. The Juniors visited the HRC to view the 1920's exhibit.



Cole Carnes, Jed Cotner, Rudy Mikeska, and Rachel Weison wade in the ocean. "The best part of the trip was going to get ice cream with everybody and Dalton saying dumb things," Rudy said. The members learned about ocean life and did many other activities on the trip. Courtesy Photo



Bryant Cigales plays pool with a few friends at the UT Underground. "I played with my friend and beat him, so he had to do my homework for a week," Bryant said. The Juniors enjoyed several different activities during their lunch break while on the '20's trip.



Brooke Hegar looks at the CD collection at the University of Texas student radio station. "It was really amazing how many CDs they had. I think it would be cool to get into something like that in the future," Brooke said. The Mallard and TV staffs toured the Radio/TV/Film department and the publication offices at UT. Photo by Emily Quinn



Rachel Weison studies a fish during the Science Club field trip. "That fish ended up dying, poor thing." Rachel said. The students had to dig the fish out of seaweed reeled in from the ocean. Courtesy photo

"We put a jellyfish on Springer's head. That was the best part."

Stacy Platz

sports



Brooke Anders leads the pack at the district cross-country meet in Cameron. Brooke placed ninth and advanced to Regionals.
Photo by Shelli Cobb

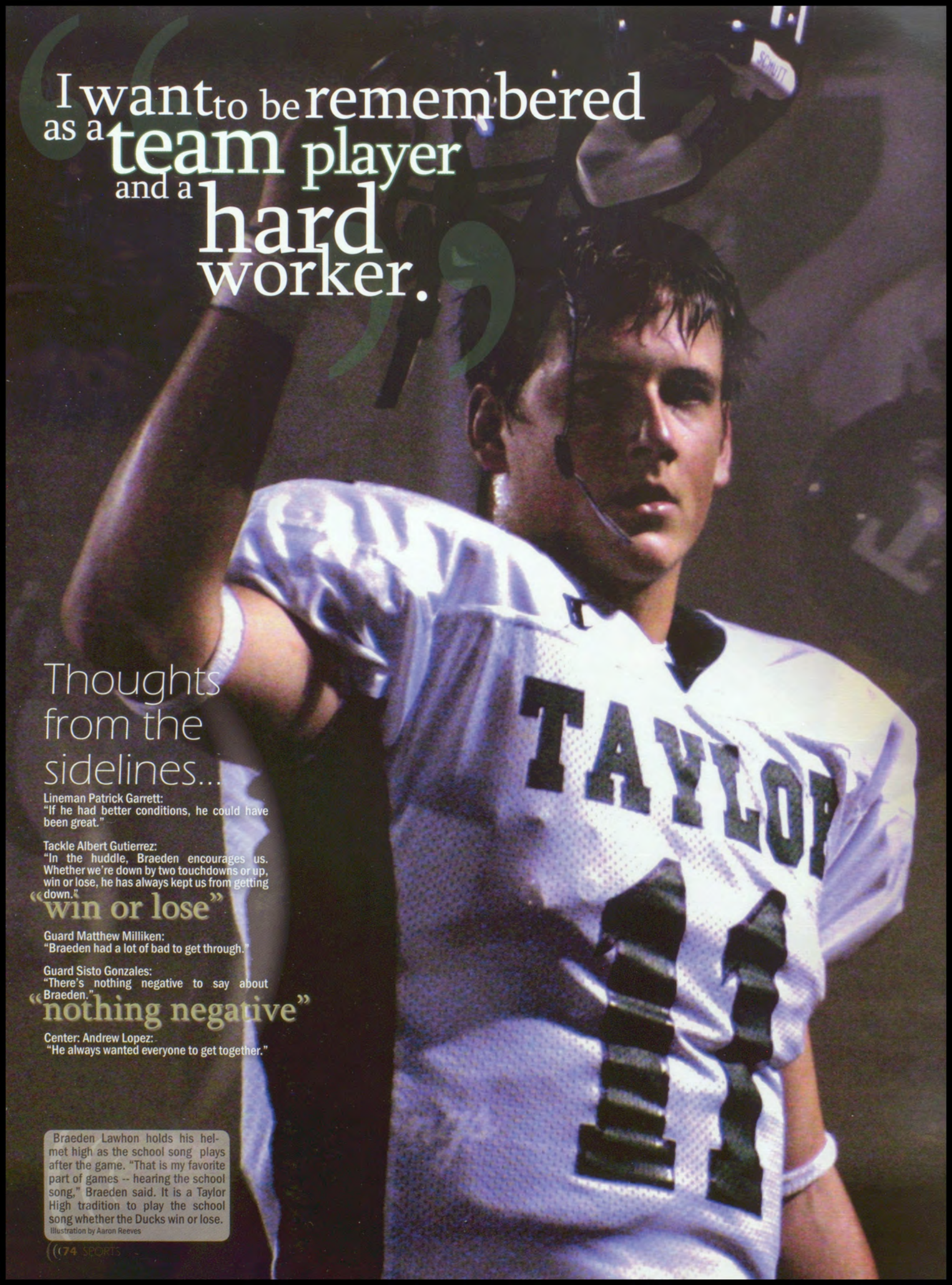
"It's just my passion.





It's who I am."

Brooke Anders



Braeden Lawhon holds his helmet high as the school song plays after the game. "That is my favorite part of games -- hearing the school song," Braeden said. It is a Taylor High tradition to play the school song whether the Ducks win or lose.
Illustration by Aaron Reeves

natural LEADER

Story by Jordan Humphreys
Photos by Taylor Savage

Despite the fluctuation of football coaches, players, and even trainers, there has been one constant: the quarterback. Braeden Lawhon has been the Ducks' quarterback for the entirety of his high school career. The position he plays has placed the weight of the hopes and mixed emotions of an entire community on his shoulders. "There's been a lot of pressure, but you learn not to focus on it," Braeden said.

The pressure can get out of hand sometimes. "The worst time for me," Braeden said, "was the Homecoming of my Sophomore year. I feel like I let everyone down."

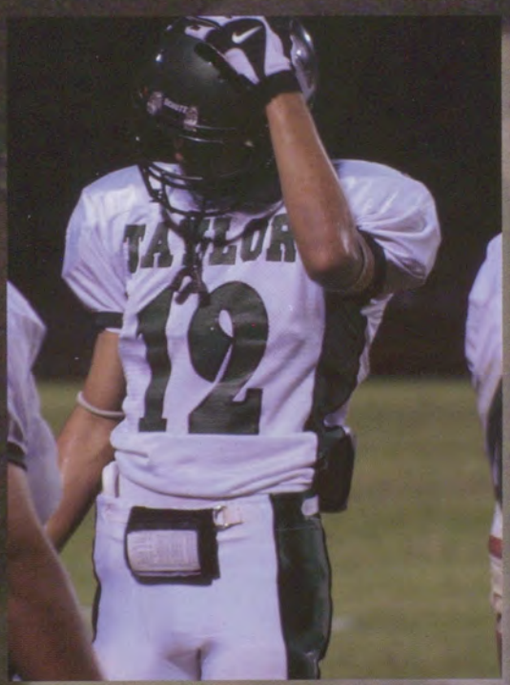
The Homecoming loss caused some community members to make derogatory statements to Braeden. "He said someone called his cell phone and said things like 'you lost Homecoming for us,'" offensive lineman Sisto Gonzales said. "That's not right."

"The worst thing a quarterback can do is throw an interception," Braeden said. The Ducks' receivers will admit that they are responsible for interceptions too.

"Sometimes a receiver won't know his route and can tip the ball and cause a pick," receiver Chase Danek said. The players think he is always especially hard on himself and takes the blame even when is not his fault.

Even if things did not seem to go the way they were planned, the team feels Braeden has been a composed leader on and off of the field. "I want to be remembered as a team player and a hard worker," Braeden said.

Receiver Chase Danek talks to the coaches about the previous series. The coaches could not always see what happened on the field, so they had to make changes based on the players' observations. "The coaches wanted to know what looked good. Things ran a lot smoother after everything changed," Chase said.





The defensive line crouches, ready to strike. The defense held Hutto to 14 points in the final game. "It gets pretty ugly--people punch, poke eyes, and strip the ball if people pile up," lineman Matthew Milliken said.



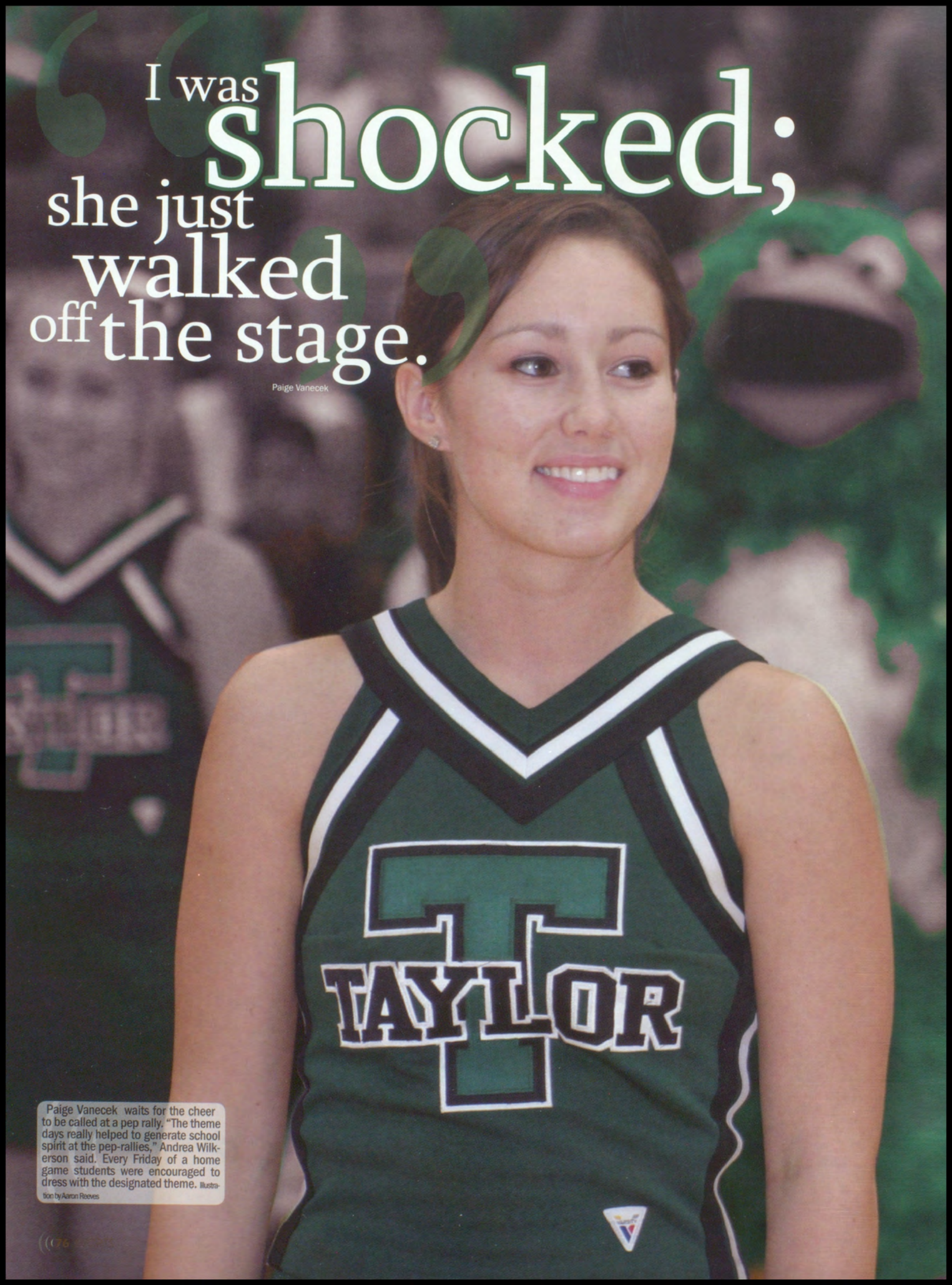
Patrick Garrett watches from the sidelines as his teammates play. Patrick had knee surgery in the spring and had to sit out most of the games. "I wonder how it would have been if I never got hurt," he said.





The linemen push behind the running back to gain extra yards. "It was frustrating because if we couldn't move the ball all the blame was on the line," offensive lineman Sisto Gonzales said. The Ducks had trouble driving the ball against Burnet.

Center Andrew Lopez gets set to snap the ball. The Ducks ran a shotgun offense for the first time this year. "I'm a deep snapper for other things so it was easy for me to play center. I just had to make sure I was accurate," Andrew said.



Paige Vanecek waits for the cheer to be called at a pep rally. "The theme days really helped to generate school spirit at the pep-rallies," Andrea Wilkerson said. Every Friday of a home game students were encouraged to dress with the designated theme. Illustration by Aaron Reeves

overcoming OBSTACLES

Story by Kyra Hegarick
Photos by Taylor Savage

The crowd was buzzing all through the stands. "What happened to that cheerleader?" "What's wrong with Kari's leg?"

"I didn't even know what had happened until the game when Coach [Kate] Mooney told us," cheerleader Cassie Stabeno said. It turns out that during the "Black-Out" pep-rally, cheerleader Kari Jahn fell off of the stage and severely injured her leg.

Traditionally, all of the pep-rallies have taken place in the gym, but because the gym does not get completely dark due to the skylights, it was held in the auditorium. "Everything was going really well- the crowd was really pumped up the whole time; it was one of our far better pep-rallies," Rachel Weison said. Near the end, Kari, along with the rest of the cheerleaders, began throwing out glow-in-the-dark footballs. As she went to throw one, she stepped right off the stage and fell into the orchestra pit where the band was playing. The band members around where she fell helped her up with the assistance of her parents and the nurse.

Kari was taken straight to the hospital to find out that her leg was severely sprained in several places. She arrived at the game that night with a "boot" on her leg. "It was pretty scary, but hilarious too. I couldn't stop laughing. It was really upsetting too though because I knew my hopes of tumbling were crushed," Kari said.



The Drakes cheer as the Ducks struggle to win their last game of the season. "I was really pulling for them tonight," Abraham Hernandez said. The Drakes helped to pump up the crowd when the team was losing.



Cassie Stabeno yells for the Ducks at the Homecoming game. "Homecoming is a special time for all of us; it brings different people together," Cassie said. This was Cassie's first Homecoming game as a Varsity cheerleader. Photo by Mrs. Robyn Rogers



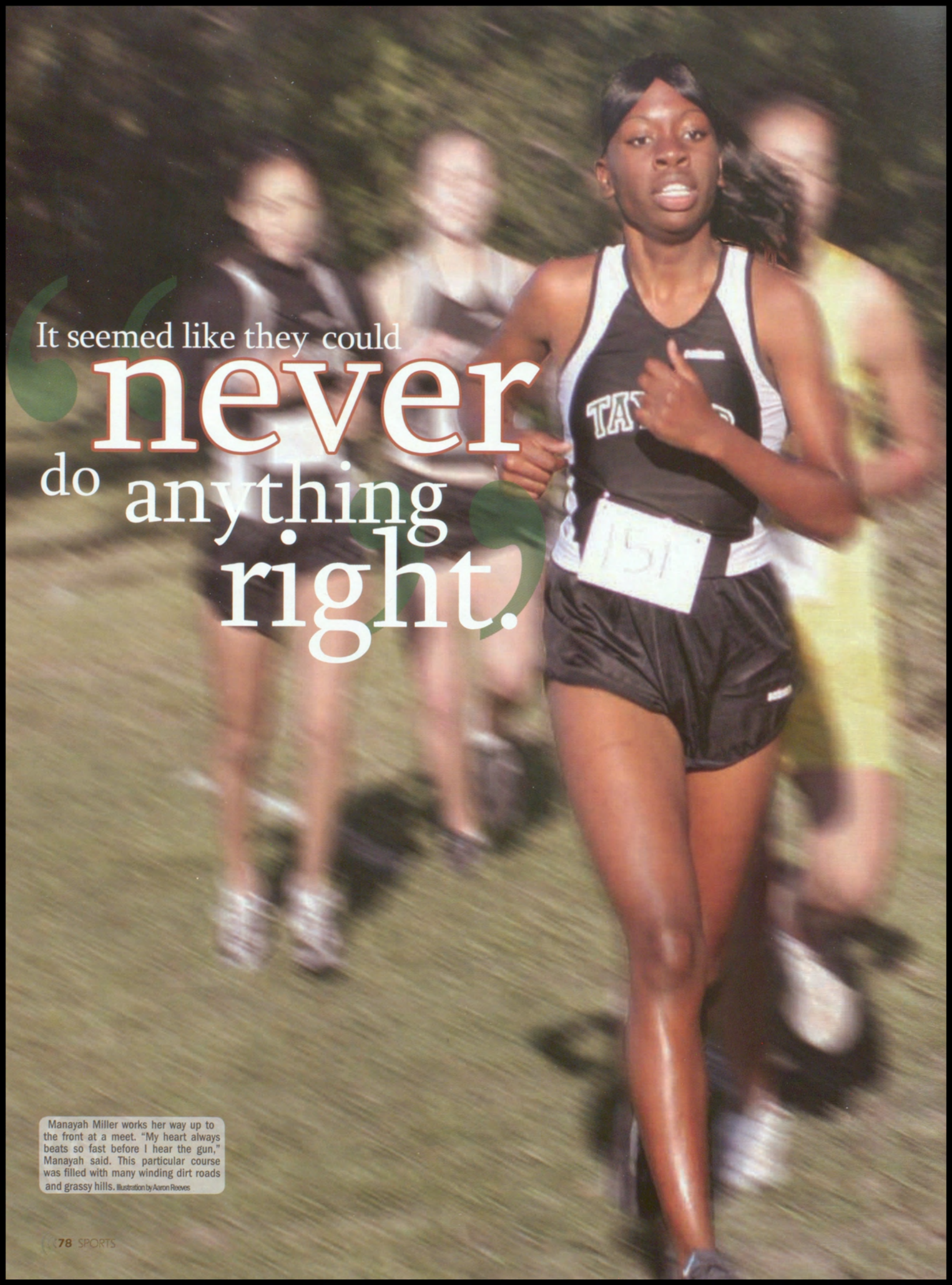


Hailey Ruzicka, Briana Lopez, and Paige Vanecek dance to the school song. "The last time I heard that song at the end of a game was sad because I knew that was my last game to cheer at as a Duck cheerleader," Briana said. The majority of the Varsity squad had cheered together since they were in the 7th and 8th grade. Photo by Mrs. Robyn Rogers



Brandee Carlson yells during a cheer at the last pep-rally. "Pep-rallies went so much better this year; they were way more organized," Britney Palomo said. The faculty was more involved this year with the pep-rallies.

Kari Jahn cheers after the Ducks score their first touchdown of the Rockdale game. "It really upset me that I couldn't tumble because of my ankle," Kari said. She had to wear a protective boot for the rest of football season.



It seemed like they could never do anything right.

Manayah Miller works her way up to the front at a meet. "My heart always beats so fast before I hear the gun," Manayah said. This particular course was filled with many winding dirt roads and grassy hills. Illustration by Aaron Reeves

surviving HARDSHIP

Story by Lorna Gould

There is a tradition for the cross-country runners that every year they end on a fun note with the Survivor Run. The boys and girls split up into two teams and get decked out in glow sticks and running shoes for an adventure that will take them to an abundant number of places. At these places they are in search of puzzle pieces that, when put together, become a map to where their treasure will be found. But this year's Survivor Run was nothing but bad news for the red team.

"It seemed like they could never do anything right," Manayah Miller said.

When all clues were found and all the runners were on their way back to the school, it seemed like it would be a very close competition. But to the red team's disadvantage, a simple drop of a very important clue set them back. "When it happened, all I could think is 'How did you not know that you dropped your clue?'" Brooke Anders said.

"I couldn't believe that Aubrey dropped her clue. I thought for a minute that we would have a good chance to win," Kaneisha Griffin said.

"You see what happened is, I was up against Manayah Miller and I needed my speed. So I put my clue inside my jacket, then my clue fell out at the intersection on Davis, but I didn't notice it. As soon as I got to the school when everyone else was putting their clues together I realized mine was gone. Then I had to run all the way back to the intersection, which was about another mile, and get it. By the time I got back the blue team was already digging out their treasure," Aubrey said. "Even though it set us back, it was pretty funny. It was my last year to do the Survivor Run, and I'm happy I did something that everyone will remember."

If that was not enough for the red team, while Aubrey went on her search, the red team had to use the blue team's map and got mixed up when trying to figure out where the treasure was located. "There were two X's on the map. One was for where the shovel was hidden, but it ended up taking us 15 minutes to find the shovel, and that was way too long," Kyle Leeper said.

"After we finally found the shovel, everyone was like, 'Matt, you dig for the treasure chest.' So I put one foot on the shovel and pushed down real hard and then something made this loud cracking noise. It turns out I broke the treasure chest," Matthew Hernandez said.

The red team had finally found their treasure, but there was no doubt that the blue team had won the race. Despite all of the difficulties, everyone enjoyed the Survivor Run and appreciated having a day off of the regular cross-country practice.



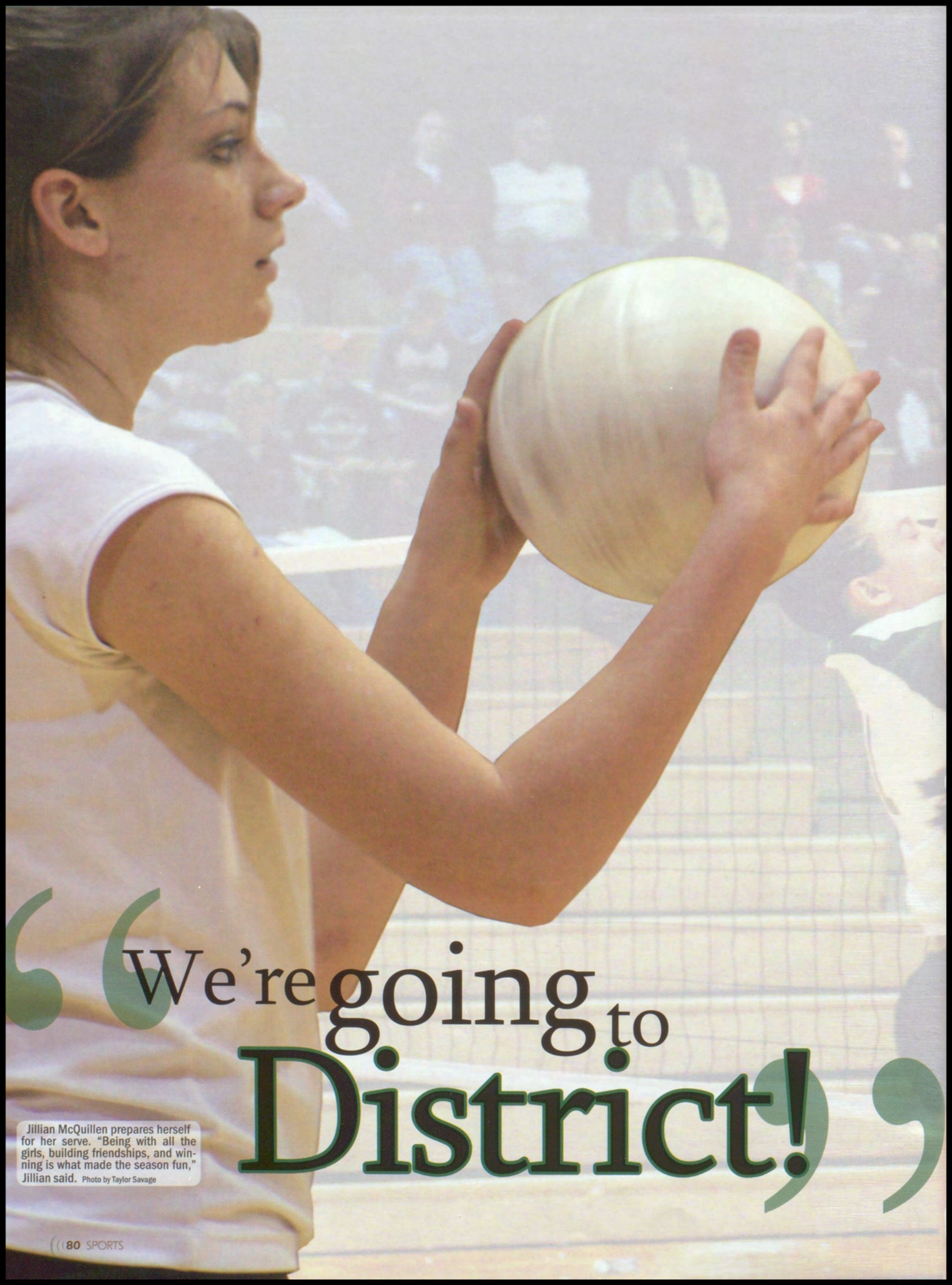
The red team puts the remainder of their map together with help from the blue team during the Survivor Run. "I was happy that Aubrey messed up, because I lost to my opponent," Matthew Solbach said. Every runner was teamed up with people from the opposite team with their same running abilities. Photos by Shelli Cobb and Sarah Johnson



Seth Samuelson leads the pack at the district meet. Seth was the first to finish from the boys' team at this meet. "When I run, I have to be ahead because I hate being passed up," Brooke Anders said.



Brianna Yanez, Manayah Miller, Kelly Dominguez, and Aubrey Medaris get ready for the race to start. "Many members of the team are running much faster times than last year which is exciting to see," Coach Shelli Cobb said. The Varsity girls ended up placing 2nd at District.



"We're going to District!"

Jillian McQuillen prepares herself for her serve. "Being with all the girls, building friendships, and winning is what made the season fun," Jillian said. Photo by Taylor Savage

reputations to REDEEM

Story by John Kasper
Photos by Devyn Rucker

"We're going to district!" Hailey Mokry yelled at the pep-rally. For the next few weeks, Hailey was ridiculed for saying "district" when the Ducks earned a spot at the playoffs. It was the first time the girls volleyball team had made in appearance at the playoffs in 18 years.

"I felt like we accomplished something," Holly Frazier said. The team had their doubts but knew if everyone came together victory could be theirs. The Ducks' first playoff match in 18 years was against the Lorena Leopards. Not only did the girls win their first match, but they also made it a sweep 3-0.

"I've seen them play and figured we would beat them but not sweep," Hailey said. This was not the last sweep the girls would hand out. In fact the very next match against Groesbeck the team conquered 3-0 once again.

After the match Holly thought the team would "go far because of the win." However the next match was not going to be an easy one. The number one team in the state, China Springs, now stood in the way.

"There was no let-down because our coaches knew a lot about them and gave us the full scouting report," Holly said. The ladies lost the first game against China Springs but were not out of the match.

"I was thinking we really had to step it up," Hailey said. "I thought everyone else was thinking the season was over." Another sweep occurred, except this time they were on the losing end. Even though the season was over the Ducks thought it to be a great season and were happy to have the opportunity to make the playoffs. The three starting Seniors Hailey Mokry, Hailey Ruzicka, and Brittany Behrens were "pretty important," Holly said, "but we will still do good next year, at least make the playoffs."

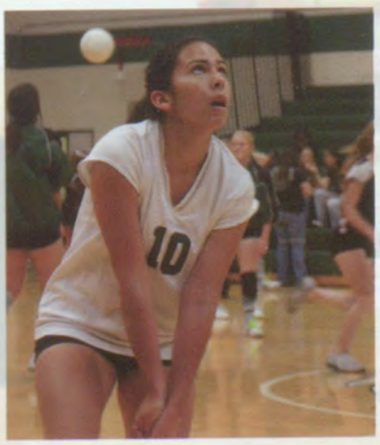


Amaris Jones, Hailey Mokry, and Kelsey Marek celebrate after the Ducks complete their first playoff victory. "I couldn't stop smiling," Hailey said. The Ducks went on to to be area champs.

Brittany Behrens slams down a point for the team. "I like spiking on the opposing team because it makes you seem more powerful than them," Brittany said. This is one of many spikes Brittany gave the Ducks' opponents.

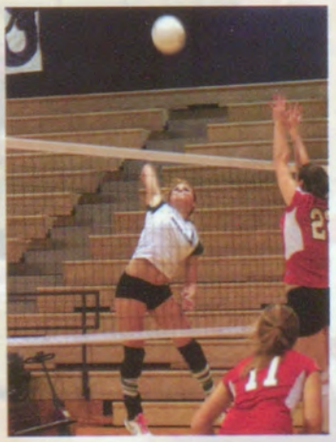






Coach Stacy Rogers talks to the Varsity team in between games. Most of the girls enjoy breaks, so they can plan a strategy with their coach.

Leah Morales bumps the ball back to her partner during the warm-up. "Warm-ups are an important part of playing our best in a game," Hailey Ruzicka said.



Hailey Ruzicka jumps and spikes the ball on the opposing Lorena Leopards. "Lorena wasn't bad but they were no match for our power," she said. The Lady Ducks swept the Leopards in a three game victory.



"Going to one of these competitions gives you a new perspective on how hard these kids work."

Mrs. Kimberley Mason

Andrea Gutierrez studies her roll to see if she will win the gold at the State Fall Classic. "It's been great working with the kids and being able to see them work and grow into great young ladies and men," Coach Dennis Gage said. Photos by Mr. Kevin Widmer

olympic DREAMS

Story by Andrea Wilkerson

The Special Olympics program in Taylor is one of the largest and most successful programs in the area. Many people do not realize the practice and dedication that goes into the competitions. Some of the events that Special Olympics competed in include bowling, basketball, and track & field. MATP, which stands for Motors Activities Training Program, was also an activity offered to the immobile students in the program. The team practiced almost every day after school to perfect their skills in his/her designated event. Practices were held all around town at the different fields and courts, and the team also traveled to an Austin bowling alley to practice for the bowling event. "We have the best athletes in the world! The students are wonderful and fun to work with; they bring tears and joy to my life," Coach Dee Sutton said.

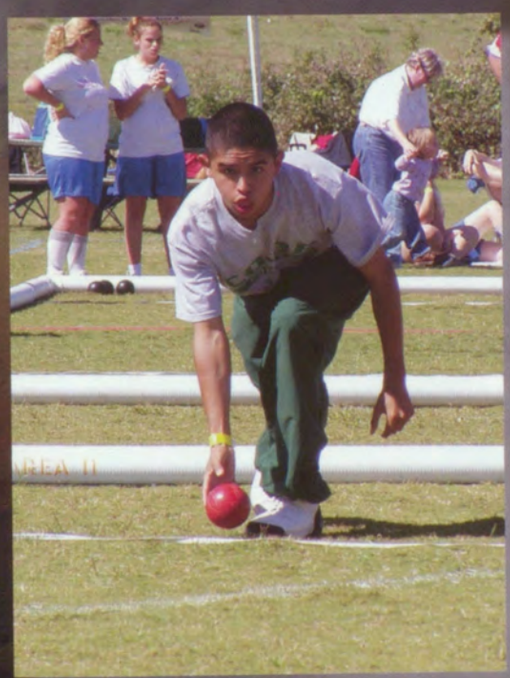
All of the hard work that went into preparing for these events by the students and the teachers almost always paid off with a gold medal. The team usually came home with a medal in every event. "It really builds the team's confidence when they win in their events," Coach Kevin Widmer said, "and that's why they continue to do well year after year."

"We have six Seniors leaving this year and it will ve hard to see them go knowing that they have become and are some of our best athletes on the team," Coach Yvonne Oranday said. While some team members may be leaving, the skills that they learned while working as a team will stay with them for life.



One of the Bocce teams celebrates after a hard fought victory at the State Fall Classic in Waco. "I'm going to miss all of the Seniors terribly next year," Dee Sutton said.

Michael Rodriguez concentrates as he rolls the Bocce ball during the State Fall Classic in Waco.





The Taylor Co-Op Comets take a break during the Fall Classic for a group picture. "We have some of the best and most hardworking athletes in Taylor," Liz Delatorre said.

Larry Jackson practices bowling for the State Winter Games. "In the 10 years I have coached the athletes it has been such a rewarding experience. I've become so close to all of them and our awesome coaches," Liz Delatorre said.





Megan Krueger tries to throw the ball as far as she can in the game of Bocce.

history MAKERS

Story & photos by Jessica Dale

The girls' basketball team has not had a taste of the playoffs since 1996 and the team desperately strived to break the dry spell this year. With new players, young starters, and one senior, the girls' basketball team had a lot of work ahead of them at the beginning of the season.

Senior and newcomer to Taylor, Lakeeta Jones, joined the team with high hopes. Coming to Taylor from Rockdale, she had to overcome the adversity of being the new girl and trying to fit in. "At first things were awkward, but as time passed, my younger teammates began to look up to me," she said.

The team discovered that they would have to come together to have any chance at accomplishing their goal of making it to playoffs for the first time in eighteen years. They had team dinners at each teammate's home, attended each other's church, and hung out in and out of school in hopes of it bringing them closer together, and it all paid off.

"The prayers got us where we needed to be to win the game." Junior Brandie Jackson said.

The girls tied for first in District, (with Liberty Hill and Hutto), and surprised everyone.

"Once we realized that we all had a common goal, we came together to make history for the school for the second time this year," Junior Amaris Jones said (as volleyball also made it to playoffs this year for the first time in many years). Although they lost first round to Lorena, they hope to have set a winning example for upcoming teams to follow.



Lakeeta Jones guards her player in the heat of the game. Lakeeta moved to Taylor from Rockdale at the beginning of the school year. "It was different playing for a new team, but I got used to it," she said.

Coach Keisha Jones tells Jessica Hilscher the play to call as she is about to enter the game. "Good communication leads to a victory," Coach Jones said. The girls' improved communication helped lead them to several close victories.





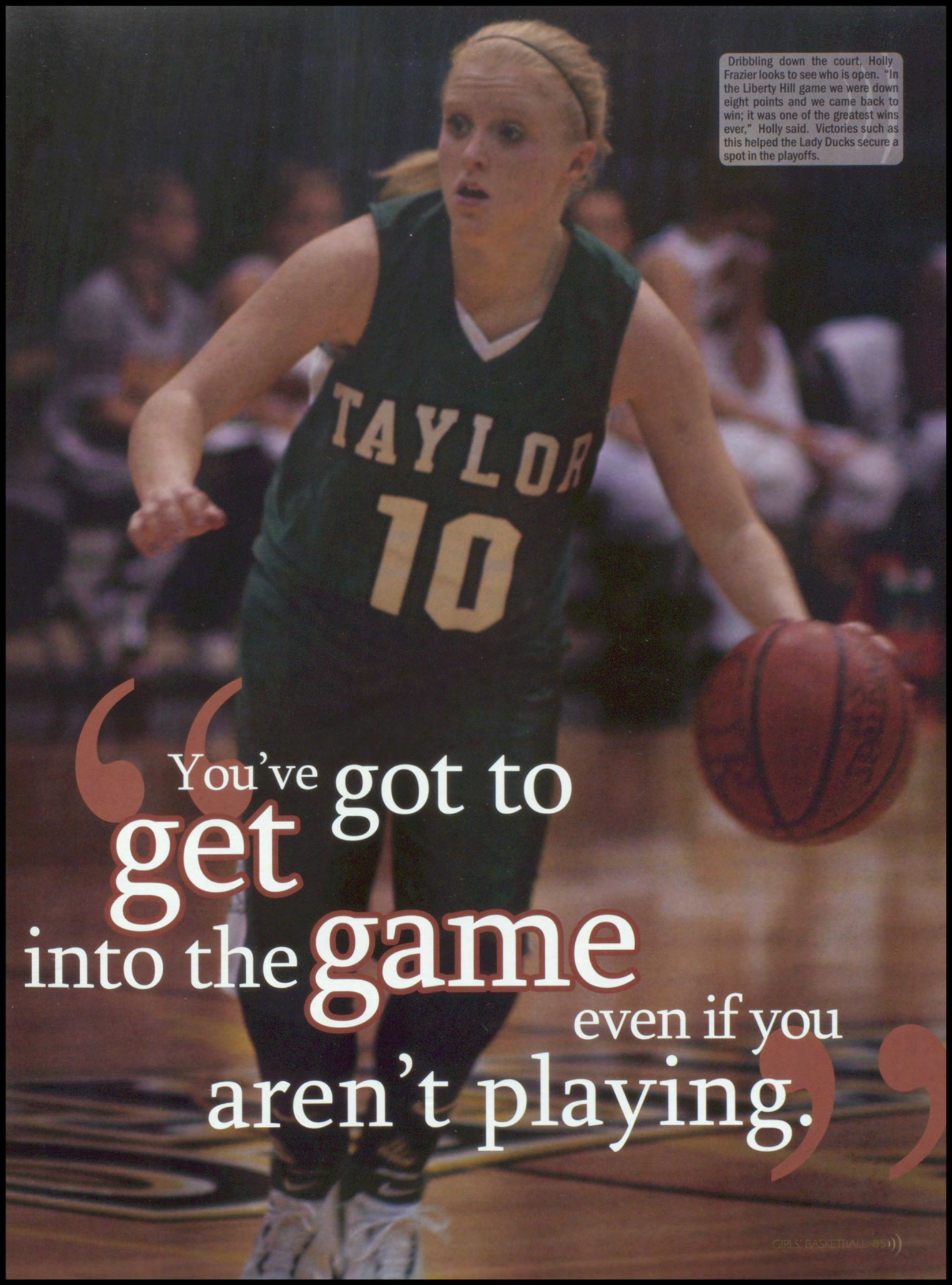
Chasity Douglas guards the post from Hutto to make sure she does not score. "Our improved defense helped us get as far as we did this season," Chasity said. The defense held their opponents to an average of 41 points per game.



Pearlie Gault and Amaris Jones cheer on their teammates from the bench while Lakeeta Jones and Crystal Lopez watch anxiously. "You've gotta get into the game even if you're not playing," Pearlie said.

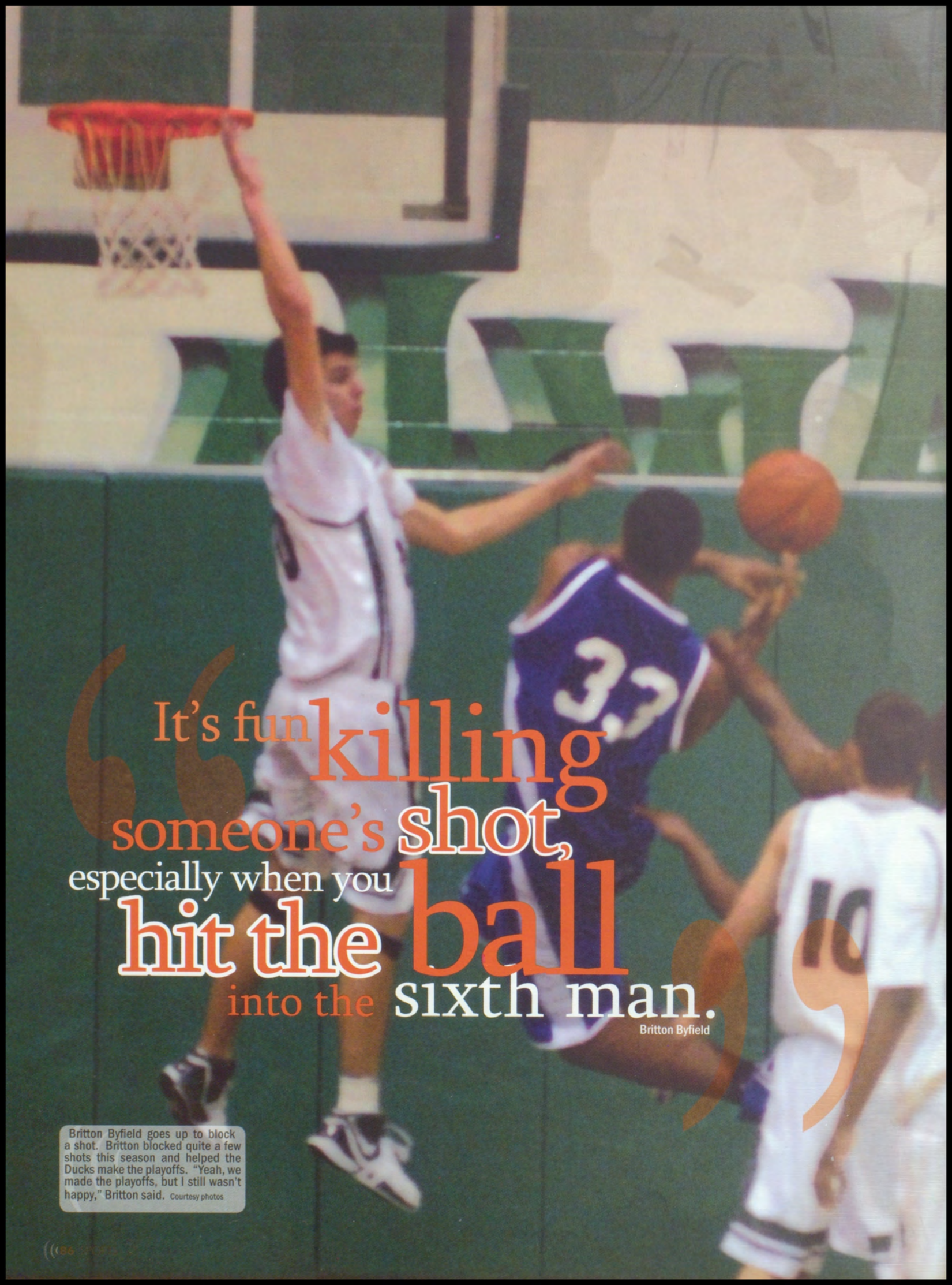


Shelby Johnson throws in the ball to start off the second quarter. "I feel like we really accomplished something this season," Shelby said. Basketball had not made it to the playoffs in 18 years.



Dribbling down the court, Holly Frazier looks to see who is open. "In the Liberty Hill game we were down eight points and we came back to win; it was one of the greatest wins ever," Holly said. Victories such as this helped the Lady Ducks secure a spot in the playoffs.

"You've got to **get** into the **game** even if you aren't playing."



"It's fun killing someone's shot, especially when you hit the ball into the sixth man."

Britton Byfield

Britton Byfield goes up to block a shot. Britton blocked quite a few shots this season and helped the Ducks make the playoffs. "Yeah, we made the playoffs, but I still wasn't happy," Britton said. Courtesy photos

highway RIVALRY

Story by John Kasyan

Stress levels were high as the basketball team entered the Hutto High School gym. It was to be a close, tense game for both the players and the fans. The Ducks were a solid contender in their district for the first time in four years. "It was a mixture of the new coach and the support from the 6th Man that helped us do so well," Chase Danek said.

There were several other close games the team played, but this one stuck out the most. The boys were one win away from making the playoffs as they went into Hutto for the game. The Ducks lost their first match against the Hippos earlier in the season but this game meant something more and everyone knew it. "The game was really tense and exciting. I was on the edge of my seat the whole time," Kyle Leeper said.

The game was close, with Hutto having a slight lead going into the last quarter. The Ducks were backed by a loud 6th Man in the final quarter and the team took off. "It was a real good feeling having the 6th Man there. They kept us in the game and kept us motivated," Robert Aikens said. Lance Loewe hit a couple of 3-pointers and brought the game within two points. With six seconds left, the ball found its way to Britton Byfield who made a lay-up to send the game to overtime. Mark Jackson hit several clutch free-throws and the Ducks pulled off the victory 53-50. After the game, the Duck crowd rushed the court and surrounded the team, screaming with excitement. The basketball team had finally earned the opportunity to go to the playoffs. It was a game to remember.



Robert Aikens concentrates on his free-throw shot. "A free-throw is a shot that has to be made," Robert said. Robert made the shot and the Ducks went on to win the game. Photo by Devyn Rucker

Mark Jackson jumps over defenders and goes up for the shot. "He's like 5'3" and he can practically dunk it," Andy Flores said. Mark may be smaller than most and only a freshman, but he had a big impact on the team. Photo by Devyn Rucker

Lamar Rollie passes the ball to a teamate during the Cameron game. The Ducks went on to defeat the Yoemen by a big margin. "It was great making the playoffs," Lamar said. "I just wish we would have gone further."







Freshman and Coach Dusty Loewe's son, Lance Loewe, guards the opposing player closely. "Basketball is basically my life," Lance said. Lance was only a freshman but hit several clutch three-pointers in the game against Hutto.



The "6th Man" supports their Duck team while having a little fun. Jonathan Wooldridge rode the crowd during the Ducks' playoff game against Waco Connally. "We had a real fun time during the game. It's too bad we lost," Jonathan said.

"I did work, son!"





Jed Cotner keeps his eye on the ball as he plays at State. "I did work, son!" Jed said. The team finished the season ranked 11th in the state.
Photo by Reyna Yanez

Reese Hall hits a forehand back to her opponet from Sweetwater. "I hate when matches are close. I would just rather beat everyone 19-0." Reese said. Photo by Reyna Yanez. Illustration by Aaron Reeves

Reese Hall serves during a match while Emily Quinn gets ready. "I love playing with Emily; we are the Dream Team Jumping Beans," Reese said.
Photo by Reyna Yanez

doing WORK

Story by Reese Hall
Photos by Emily Quinn

"Do work!" yelled the tennis team before the start of the tournament. The players started saying this new slogan at every match as a tradition this season. The saying came from the show *Rob & Big*, and Jed Cotner and Rudy Mikeska were attributed with starting the saying that stuck with the team.

With the school down to 3A, the requirements to advance to Regionals changed. Taylor only had to play Liberty Hill at the district match. Everyone on the team was prepared for what Liberty Hill had to offer. They had their minds set on winning with no problem, and that is exactly what they did. The score ended up being 18-1; Taylor dominated on the tennis court. "I was surprised at how weak Liberty Hill was," Devyn Rucker said.

The next step was slightly harder when Taylor faced Llano in the first round of Regionals. "We still wrecked shop on them," Jed said. The score was 19-0 against Llano.

The next team that the Ducks had to face was even tougher. La Grange, in the past, always ended up going to State, so they were not happy to see the new competition. "When we played La Grange I was feeling under the weather; I even had to bring tissues on the court," Jed said.

It looked like the score would be close, and with that, visions of advancing to State were slipping away.

"I was stuck waiting to play and I had never been so nervous," Emily Quinn said. The Ducks yelled out their slogan and ended up pulling through with no problem.

After winning the match against La Grange which Devyn called a "confidence booster", the team was in the finals. They knew that the next match would be the toughest one of the year. They were matched up against the Wimberley Texans. Wimberley was seeded number one, but Taylor was determined to go to State as number one. The team was pumped up, but the matches did not quite go how they wanted them to. "It was nice to play better people like Wimberley because I play better when I'm against people like that," Devyn said. There were so many close scores; the matches could have gone either way. The score got close but the Ducks could not pull it off, and ended up getting second. The tennis team still was able to go to State, however, and looked forward to meeting Wimberley again in the State finals.



Jessica Dale and Brittni Gola shake hands after a match against Spring Hill. "Even though we might get in fights with the other team, in the end you have to have a good attitude," Brittni said.

Keegan Gross hits a mean forehand during his match. "Forehands are my best shot, because Kwit taught me all I know," Keegan said.
Photo by Reyna Yanez





Zachary Wilkins concentrates on the ball as he hits a backhand. "My Dad pushes me to do better on the court," Zack said. Zack's dad has been coaching him since he was young and first started playing.







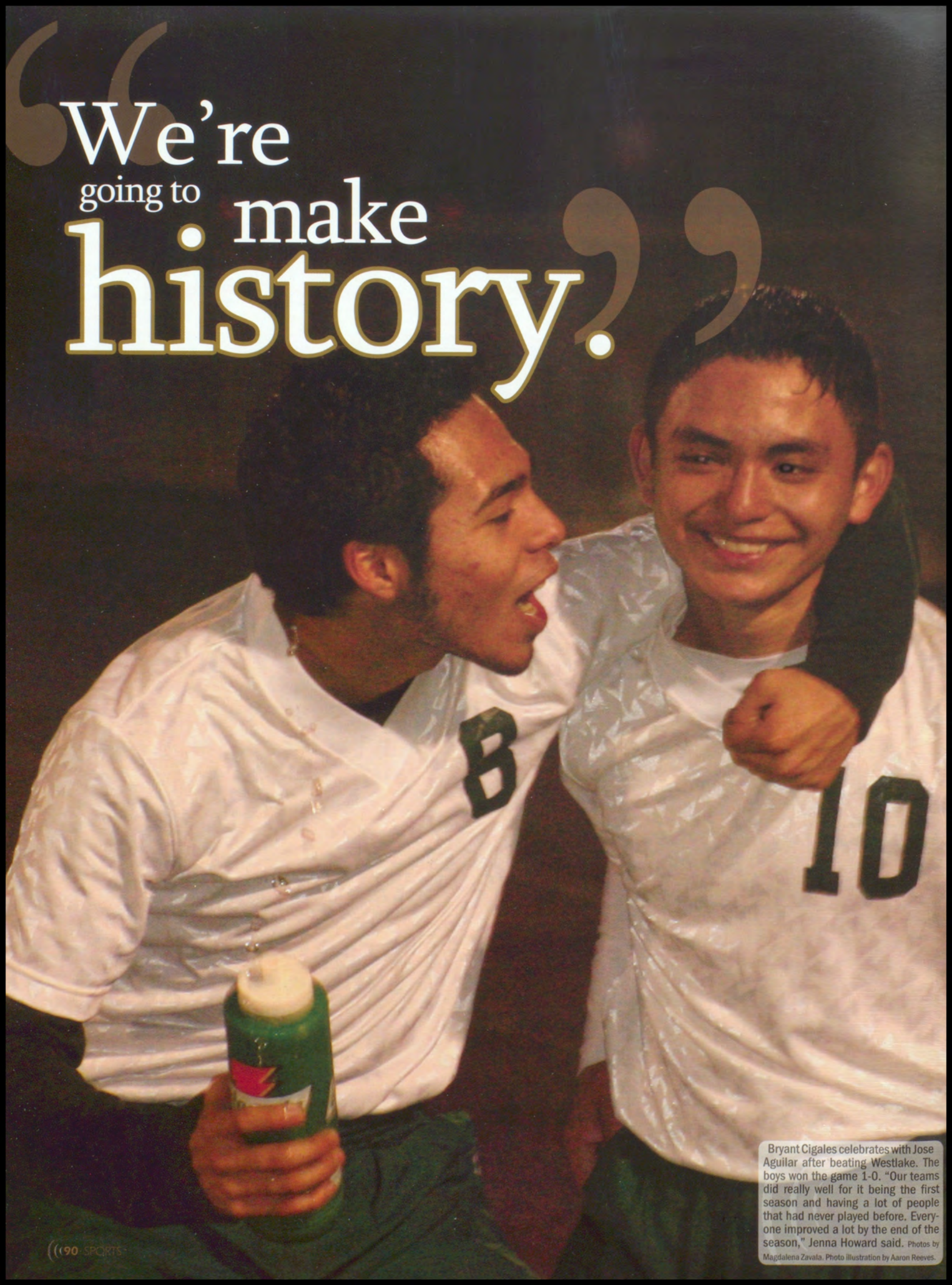
Heath O'Bannon drills the ball down. "I try to hit the other guys or slam it down so hard it bounces over the fence," Heath said.



Devyn Rucker and Brianna Yanez intensely wait on their opponents to serve at the state competition. "I was really nervous that match, but once those girls made me mad, I forgot all about it," Devyn said. Many people on the team had to calm their nerves before each match.

Reyna Yanez returns a serve while playing mixed doubles. "It was a really close game. Brandon [Peschke] didn't give up, so it made me not want to give up either," Reyna said.

“We’re going to make history.”



Bryant Cigales celebrates with Jose Aguilar after beating Westlake. The boys won the game 1-0. “Our teams did really well for it being the first season and having a lot of people that had never played before. Everyone improved a lot by the end of the season,” Jenna Howard said. Photos by Magdalena Zavala. Photo illustration by Aaron Reeves.

a whole new BALL GAME

Story by Taylor Savage

By popular demand, and many years of begging district officials, soccer finally arrived on the grounds of Taylor High School. Football, basketball, and baseball are all options normally presented to students, but soccer offered a fresh new recreational activity, thus making it popular among the student body.

Tryouts were held December 6th and 7th and students were allowed to come and show their skills to the coaches, Edgar Fisher and Casey Shuck. The group was split up into men's and women's teams, with Coach Fisher taking charge of the girls and Coach Shuck leading the boys. Hopes were high for both.

"I don't think it matters how good you are, as long as you come out and try," Brittany Fail said. "I'm very excited. I haven't played in a while so I'm looking forward to it."

These high spirits seemed to show in most students, even the ones who were not actually playing soccer. "I'm happy that soccer is finally a sport for all the people who wanted to play. I hope they do great!" Rachael Voytek said.

Some difficulties came about with starting a brand new program. "It was pretty hard to keep it going and make such a huge commitment," Megan Holman said.

"For our first year we did pretty well. We honestly tried our hardest and gave all that we had the majority of the time," Priscilla Martinez said.

Though positive feelings were abundant, seniors noted a feeling of remorse as they reflected on the little time they had. "It feels good, but at the same time, the seniors won't get to play together again," Jose Aguirre said.

With negative outlooks aside, students valiantly looked toward the future. "We're all excited about the first year; we're going to make history," Jose Aguirre said.



Priscilla Martinez goes for the first goal of the season as she cautiously dribbles down the field. "I just really wanted to be the first to score," Priscilla said.

Coco Aguirre looks for an open man down the field with Westlake players left and right. "I just didn't want to be a ball hog," Coco said.

Allyson Mathys steals the ball from the Westlake forward in order to stop another goal. "As long as they don't get past me I'm fine," Allyson said.





Martin Aguirre dodges Westlake players while Daniel Becerra clears a path. "Im glad Daniel was there to get my back, that would've been trouble," Martin said.

Ruby Pumphrey and Catherine Emery enjoy a great game with Westlake but realize their loss. "We almost had them; with a little more practice, it should be an even closer game next time," Ruby said. Photo by Micah Dunkle

Varsity Football



Front: Aundris Draine, Lamar Rollie, Kyle Vanecek, Christopher Bogan, Stephen Taylor, Tommy Longoria, Ricardo Villarreal,Coach Ryan Vrabel, Priscilla Martinez, Adriana Camzales. 2nd: Deloris Fields, Cassie Rozacky, Coach Rick Cobia, Johnathan Wooldridge, Patrick McFarlin, David Chaidez, Tristan Meyer, Alfredo Romayor, Jarvis Fitzgerald, Michael Martinez, Sergio Tovar. 3rd: Jacob Farr, Adam Janak, Nathan Neitsch, Matthew Milliken, Bobby Sovil, Matthew Lopez. 4th: Trainer Nikki Ray, Coach Stan Gabel, Coach Matt Walker, Coach James Proctor, Coach Dusty Loewe, Steffon Cook, Robert Aikens, Sisto Gonzales, Krishan Gandhi, Noah Brinkmeyer, Albert Gutierrez, Patrick Garrett, Clarence Johnson, Nicholas Pachicano,Coach Mark Rogers,Coach Kenny Cmerek, Coach Rusty Rohan, Kammi Sims. 5th: Coach Derek Smith, Caleb Owens, Coach Doug Kuhl. Back: Chase Danek, Braeden Lawhon, Richard Alford, Todd Bryan, Andrew Lopez, Tyler Graef, Joe Gibson.

Burnet: 19-36 (loss)

Manor: 35-12 (win)

Lampasas:19-14 (win)

Llano: 21-0 (win)

Alamo Heights: 6-29 (loss)

Gatesville: 10-49 (loss)

Cameron: 23-43 (loss)

Rockdale: 10-7 (win)

Liberty Hill: 10-56 (loss)

Hutto: 12-14 (loss)

Season Record: 4-6

All-District Honors:

Tackle 2nd team:
Trenton Rojas
End 2nd team:
Caleb Owens
Outside LB 2nd team:
Nathan Neitsch
Inside LB 2nd team:
Lamar Rollie
Defensive Back 1st team:
Todd Bryan
Defensive Back 2nd team:
Robert Aikens
Kicker 2nd team:
Christopher Bogan
Guard 2nd team:
Sisto Gonzales
Wide Receiver 1st team:
Robert Aikens
Wide Receiver 2nd team:
Johnathan Wooldridge
Running Back 2nd team:
Lamar Rollie
Punter 1st team:
Braeden Lawhon
Quarterback 2nd team:
Braeden Lawhon

JV Football



Front: Matthew Hernandez, Shawn Bradshaw, Andrew Barry, Aurelio Lopez, Adrian Torres, Jesse Shaw, Chris Martinez, Kyle Leeper, Shermane Caldwell. 2nd: Julian Sanchez, Amador Yanez, Jordan Samuelson, Dillon Pfluger, Ryan Gonzales, Lawrence Caldwell, Trenton Rojas, Jacob Valverde, Emilio Pachicano. 3rd: Chris Seigmund, Chris Patterson, Daniel Jones, Josh Herrera,Gregory Carter, Steven Gibson, Matthew Earley, Juan Rangel, Brandon Taylor. 4th: Cullen Pick, Bryan Mundkowsky, Alvaro Alderete, Jonathan Cervantez, Cory Kruse, Jamal Shaw, Abel Rincon, Davey Pepper, Lucas Orosco. Back: Adam Barry, Matthew Winchester, Corey Strmiska, Scotty Lute, Jordan Humphreys, Chris Rodriguez. Not Pictured: Justin Latham

Burnet: 28-7 (loss)

Manor: 8-21(win)

Lampasas: 9-14 (loss)

Llano: 27-7(loss)

Alamo Heights: 27-18 (loss)

Gatesville: 12-7 (loss)

Cameron: 28-13 (win)

Rockdale: 19-18 (loss)

Liberty Hill: 24-30 (loss)

Hutto: 27-8(loss)

Season Record: 2-8

"It's the best feeling in the world to be on the field on a Friday night."
Shawn Bradshaw

Freshman Football



Front: Isador Ortiz, Jacob Doss, Jordan Orta, Simon Martinez, Juan Gonzalez, David Rodriguez, Ethan Speer, Cody Slavych, Alanmykal Jackson. 2nd: Johnny Reyna, Dylan Saucedo, Zachary Talavera, Anthony Martinez, Alex Bogan, Mark Jackson, Ryan Garcia, Issac Aparicio, Matthew Gonzales, Freddie Garza. 3rd: Victor Cardenas, Jeremy Hernandez, R.Ryan Gonzales, Marcos Urbina, Jonathan Holman, Christino Arzola, Dimitri Perez, Jacob San Migel, A.J. Gonzales, Concepcion Moreno. 4th: Chaston Matta, Andrew Miller, Luis Gonzalez, Lance Loewe, Robert Brenson, Josiph Welton, Justin Seigmund, Ricky Cobia, Derek Rumel. Last: Joey Thompson, Aaron Gonzales, Tony Pack, Jordan Stefek, Deavin Carpenter, Samuel Jirasek.

Burnet: 17-8 (win)

Manor: 23-14 (win)

Lampasas:25-18 (win)

Llano: 14-7(win)

Alamo Heights: 20-19 (win)

Gatesville: 27-18 (win)

Cameron: 21-26 (loss)

Rockdale: 28-20(win)

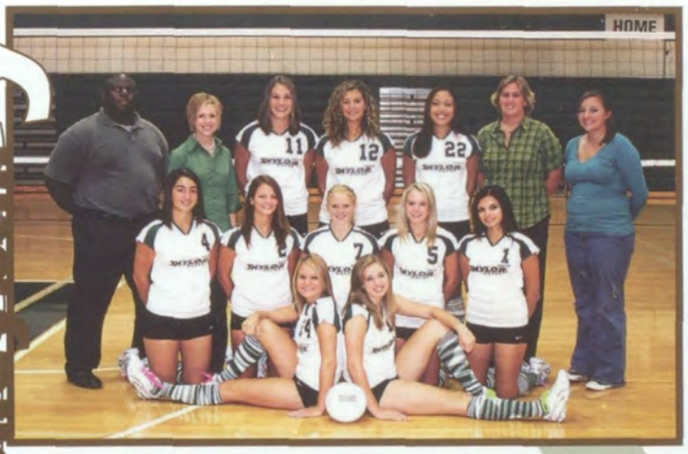
Liberty Hill: 50-16 (win)

Hutto: 24-14(win)

Season Record: 9:1

"I"ll never forget the Alamo Heights game. It was way too close. We were really nervous."
R. Ryan Gonzales

Varsity Volleyball



Front: Hailey Ruzicka, Brittany Behrens. 2nd: Shelby Johnson, Reese Hall, Holly Frazier, Britney Schneider, Jessica Dale. Back: Coach Melvin Jenkins, Coach Stacy Rogers, Kelsey Marek, Hailey Mokry, Amaris Jones, Coach Holly Turnbough, Manager Brittany Fail.

Rockdale: match 3-1 (win)
25-22 (win) 25-21(win)
25-19 (loss) 25-18(win)
Liberty Hill: match 1-3(Loss)
25-20 (win) 25-23 (loss)
25-22 (loss) 26-24(loss)
Cameron: match 3-1(win)
25-17 (win) 25-16 (win)
21-25 (loss) 25-20 (win)
Hutto: match 0-3 (loss)
10-25 (loss) 19-25 (loss)
14-25 (loss)
Rockdale: match 3-2 (win)
25-16 (win) 15-25 (loss)
25-26 (loss) 18-16 (win)
(win)
Liberty Hill: match 3-2 (win)
25-13 (win) 25-21 (loss)
25-20 (win) 15-10 (win)
26-24 (loss)
Cameron: match 3-0 (win)
25-14 (win) 25-21(win)
25-13 (win)
Hutto: match 0-3 (loss)
16-25 (loss)22-25 (loss)16-25(loss)

District Runner up

Playoffs:
Bi-District Champs
Lorena: match 3-0 (win)
25-15 (win) 26-23(win)
25-22 (win)
Area Champs
Grosebeck: match 3-0(win)
25-16(win)25-21 (win)
25-15(win)
Regional qualifiers
China Springs: match 0-3 (loss)
15-25 (loss) 18-25 (loss)
16-25 (loss)
Season Record: 19-13
All-District Honors:
1st team:
Hailey Ruzicka,OH
Brittany Behrens,OH
2nd team:
Resse Hall,S
Kelsey Marek,MB
Honorable Mention:
Hailey Mokry, MB
Holly Frazier, DS
Shelby Johnson, S

JV Volleyball



Front: Glenna Tharp, Leah Morales, Kelly Dominguez, Brianna Yanez, Harmony Lorentzen. 2nd: Coach Stacy Rogers, Karyn Roznovak, Jillian McQuillen, Cassie Stabeno, Brittni Gola, Manager Brittany Fail. Back: Coach Holly Turnbough, Stephanie Zachary, Kelsey Young, Carla Hoffman, Coach Melvin Jenkins.

Rockdale: match 2-0 (win)
25-19 (win) 25-11 (win)
Liberty Hill: match 2-0 (win)
25-16 (win) 25-15 (loss)
Cameron: match 2-1(win)
25-16 (win) 17-25 (loss) 25-15 (win)
Hutto: match 0-2 (loss)
14-25 (loss) 13-25 (loss)
Rockdale: match 2-0(win)
25-15(win) 26-24(win)
Liberty Hill: match 0-2(loss)
25-18 (loss) 25-17 (loss)
Cameron: match 2-0 (win)
19-25 (win) 25-12 (win)
Hutto: match 1-2 (loss)
19-25 (loss) 25-16 (loss) 6-25 (loss)
Season Record: 16-6

"The ball was really far so I decided to jump but I didn't see the bleachers."

Harmony Lorentzen

Freshman Volleyball



Front: Michelle Campos, Miressia Steele, Kelsey Aunspaugh. 2nd: Sonya Schmidt, Brittany Buckman, Coach Melvin Jenkins, Kelsey Walton, Lauren Tucker, Katie Yanez. Back: Kristian Wooldridge, Mallory Hartmann, Coach Stacy Rogers, Coach Holly Turnbough, Darlene McFarlin.

Rockdale: match 2-1 (win)
25-22 (win) 25-15 (win)
Liberty Hill: match 1-3(win)
25-17 (win) 25-17 (loss) 25-18 (loss)
Cameron: match 1-2 (Loss)
23-25 (loss) 25-17 (win) 19-25 (loss)
Hutto: match 0-2 (loss)
21-25 (loss) 25-19 (loss)
Rockdale: match 2-0(win)
25-19 (win) 25-17 (win)
Liberty Hill: match 0-2(loss)
28-26 (loss) 25-17 (loss)
Cameron: match 0-2 (win)
20-25 (win) 25-18 (win)
Hutto: match 2-0 (win)
25-23 (loss) 25-21 (loss)
Season Record: 15-7

"One practice we just talked with Coach. It helped us connect better as a team."

Kelsey Walton

Girls' Cross Country



Front: Kristen Martinez, Kelly Dominguez, Kaneisha Griffin, Megan Holman, Jenna Howard, Brianna Yanez. 2nd: Aubrey Medaris, Devyn Tone, Brooke Gabel, Sarah Johnson, Manayah Miller, Brooke Anders. Back: Coach Shelli Cobb, Kyle Leeper, Seth Samuelson, Ryan Jaecks, Matthew Solbach, Jonathan Holman, Matthew Hernandez.

Temple:
Varsity girls - 12th place
Varsity boys - 11th place
JV girls - 10th place
Lockhart:
Varsity girls- 7th place
Varsity boys - 7th place
A&M:
Varsity boys - 11th place
Ceder Park:
Varsity girls- 3rd place
Varisty boys - 3rd place
JV girls - 19th place
Cameron:
Varsity girls - 6th place
Varsity boys - 2nd place
Georgetown:
Varsity boys - 4th place
District
Cameron:
Varsity girls - 4th place
Varsity boys - 1st place
JV girls - 2nd place

Regionals
Humble:
Brooke Anders 49/169
time-13:06
Varsity boys:
Team -13th place
Seth Samuelson 31/162
time- 18:11
Kyle Leeper 39/ 162
time - 18:22
Ryan Jaecks 91/162
time- 19:23
Matthew Solbach 119/169
time- 20:05
Matthew Hernandez 131/162
time- 20:26

Fall Tennis



Front: Britton Byfield, Justin Felder, Luke Cavo, John Kaspar, Keegan Gross, Heath O'Banon, Zachary Wilkins, Jed Cotner. Back: Reese Hall, Kyra Headrick, Reyna Yanez, Stacy Bubenik, Brittni Gola, Karyn Roznovak, Jessica Dale, Brianna Yanez, Emily Quinn, Devyn Rucker.

Vista Ridge :
10-9(win)
Henderickson:
19-0(win)
DelValle:
14-5(win)
Coppers Cove:
14-11 (win)
Belton:
8-11 (loss)
Marble Falls:
14-5 (win)
Waco Robinson:
11-8 (win)
Elgin:
21-0 (win)
Season Record:
8-1

"Tennis is where I go to relieve my stress."

Reyna Yanez

Girls' Soccer



Front: Francisca Araujo, Jenna Howard, Megan Holman, Priscilla Martinez, Alicia Pachicano, Cindy Arriago. 2nd: Catherine Emery, Marcy Aguilar, Ruby Pumphrey, Rosa Gonzalez, Mary Rameirez. Back: Mellissa Sanchez, Allyson Mathys, Alex Sarp, Elizabeth Seda, Selenia Lazaro, Brenda Hernandez.

Stony Point:
0-6 (loss)
Westwood:
0-9 (loss)
Westlake:
0-13 (loss)
Westlake:
0-3 (loss)
Brenham
Tournament:
3rd place
Season Record:
3-5

"I had a hard time breathing when we scored our first goal. We were so excited."

Alicia Pachicano

Varsity Boys Soccer



Front: Briana Bohac, Alfredo Lopez, Jose Aguirre, Bryant Cigales, Daniel Becerra. 2nd: Jose Salazar, Zeke Alderete, Matias Salazar, Coach Casey Shuck, Jonathan Holman, Carlos Aguilar, Alex Bogan, Josh Medris, Martin Aguirre, Issac Apparicio. Back: Jose Aguilar, Aurelio Lopez, Chris Bogan, Brad Bogan, Jose Moreno, Robert Morales, Irving Miravete, Gustavo DeHoyor, Christian Miravete.

Vista Ridge:
0-11 (loss)
Bastrop:
5-1 (win)
Westlake:
4-0 (win)
Smithville:
3-5 (loss)
Bastrop:
4-0 (win)
Westlake:
1-0(win)
Season Record:
9-7-3

"After a while the team started to get good. We started to get comfortable and we started to trust one another."
Martin Aguirre

Varsity Basketball



Front: Brandie Jackson, Pearlie Gault. 2nd: Jessie Hilscher, Holly Frazier, Laketta Jones, Crystal Lopez, Shelby Johnson. Back: Carla Hoffman, Chasity Douglas, Kelsey Marek, Amaris Jones, Stephanie Zachary.

Cameron:
72-46 (win)
Rockdale:
74-54(win)
Liberty Hill:
46-54(loss)
Hutto:
41-38 (win)
Cameron:
63-47 (win)
Rockdale:
28-15 (win)
Liberty Hill:
50-48(win)
Hutto:
33-38(loss)

Tri-District Champs
Season Record: 17-15
Playoffs:
Bi-District
Lorena:
64-53 (loss)
All-District Honors:
1st team:
Chasity Douglas
Holly Frazier
Carla Hoffman
2nd team:
Shelby Johnson
Kelsey Marek
Laketta Jones
Academic:
Holly Frazier
Chasity Douglas
Amaris Jones

Freshman Basketball



Front: Amber Gamboa, Kelsey Walton. Back: Trista Stuart, Michelle Campos, Darlene McFarlin, Kristen Martinez, Devyn Tone.

Cameron:
35-22(win)
Rockdale:
47-46 (win)
Hutto:
10-41(loss)
Cameron:
32-25 (win)
Rockdale:
53-42 (win)
Liberty Hill:
13-49(loss)
Hutto:
12-27(loss)
Season Record:
6-11

"One game I scored all the points. I never would have thought I could do that."
Michelle Campos

Varsity Basketball



Front: Daniel Lopez, Julius Collins, Michael Martinez, Mark Jackson, Lamar Rollie. Back: Coach Dusty Loewe, Steffon Cook, Nathan Neitsch, Chase Danek, Britton Byfield, Robert Aikens, Lance Loewe.

Rockdale:
60-49 (win)
Liberty Hill:
39-66 (loss)
Hutto:
47-53 (loss)
Cameron:
64-36 (win)
Rockdale:
52-46 (loss)
Liberty Hill:
45-48 (loss)
Hutto:
53-50 (win)
Cameron:
35-47 (loss)

District Runner up
Season Record: 15-17
Playoffs:
Bi-District
Waco Connally:
48-58 (loss)
All-District Honors:
Defensive MVP:
Robert Aikens
1st team:
Britton Byfield
2nd team:
Caleb Owens
Honorable Mention:
Lance Loewe
Lamar Rollie
Chase Danek
Julius Collins
Mark Jackson
Daniel Lopez
Academic:
Lance Loewe
Britton Byfield

JV Basketball



Front: Whoo-Hoon Chung, Chris Martinez, Tommy Longoria, Shermane Caldwell, Lawerence Caldwell. Back: Coach Rusty Rohan, Juan Rangel, Gregory Carter, Nathan Burrow, Jonathan Chervantez, Travian James.

Rockdale:
53-44(win)
Hutto:
44-40(win)
Cameron:
52-69(loss)
Rockdale:
48-53(loss)
Liberty Hill:
65-66(loss)
Hutto:
48-42(win)
Cameron:
53-48(win)
Season Record:
8-10

"I felt like every shot was going in. Then I missed the shot that could have won it."

Lawrence Caldwell

Freshman Basketball



Front: Marcos Urbina, Robert Brenson, Brandon Dupy, Andrew Miller, Ricky Cobia, Johnny Reyna. Back: Jacob San Migel, Alan Michael Jackson, Derek Rummel, Jose Lopez.

Rockdale:
35-40 (loss)
Hutto:
56-39 (win)
Cameron:
45-50(loss)
Rockdale:
37-41(loss)
Liberty Hill:
46-57(loss)
Hutto:
39-52 (loss)
Cameron:
62-54 (win)
Season Record:
10-6

"I knew I was only there because other players were missing but it still felt good to start."

Marcos Urbina

Spring Varsity

Powerlifting



Front: Simon Martinez, Adrian Torres, Kyle Vanecek, Lucas Orosco, Julian Sanchez. Back: Patrick Garrett, Matthew Hernandez, Joseph Hewtty,Corey Strimiska, Jacob Valverde, Bryan Mundkowsky.

Giddings:
1st place
Elgin:
2nd place
Llano:
2nd place
Taylor:
3rd place
Rockdale:
6th place
Del Valle:
3rd place

Regional Qualifiers:
Simon Martinez (114)
Adrian Torres (148)
Kyle Vanecek (148)
Lucas Orosco (148)
Julian Sanchez (165)
Abel Ricon (165)
Tristan Meyer (181)
Patrick Garrett (220)
Joe Hewtty (275)
Scotty Lute (SHW)

Regionals:
Simon Martinez - Regional Champion
Pat Garrett - Regional Runner-up
Kyle Vanecek-3rd Place
Julian Sanchez- 4th place
Tristan Meyer- 4th place
Lucas Orosco -5th place
Joe Hewtty- 5th place
Matt Hernandez- 5th place

State Qualifiers:
Simon Martinez
Pat Garrett

Powerlifting



Front: Miressia Steele, Andriana Romayor, Amber Badilla. Back: Brooke Gabel, Kristin Martinez, Cassandra Sanchez, Brittany Bockman, Ashley Rivera.

Giddings:
Tied 5th place
Elgin:
3rd place
Llano:
4th place
Taylor:
4th place
Rockdale:
6th place
Del Valle:
4th place

Regional Qualifiers:
Miressia Steele (105)
Amber Badilla (105)
Cassandra Sanchez (165)
Kristen Martinez (165)

Regionals:
Kristen Martinez-5th place
Cassandra Sanchez-6th place

Tennis

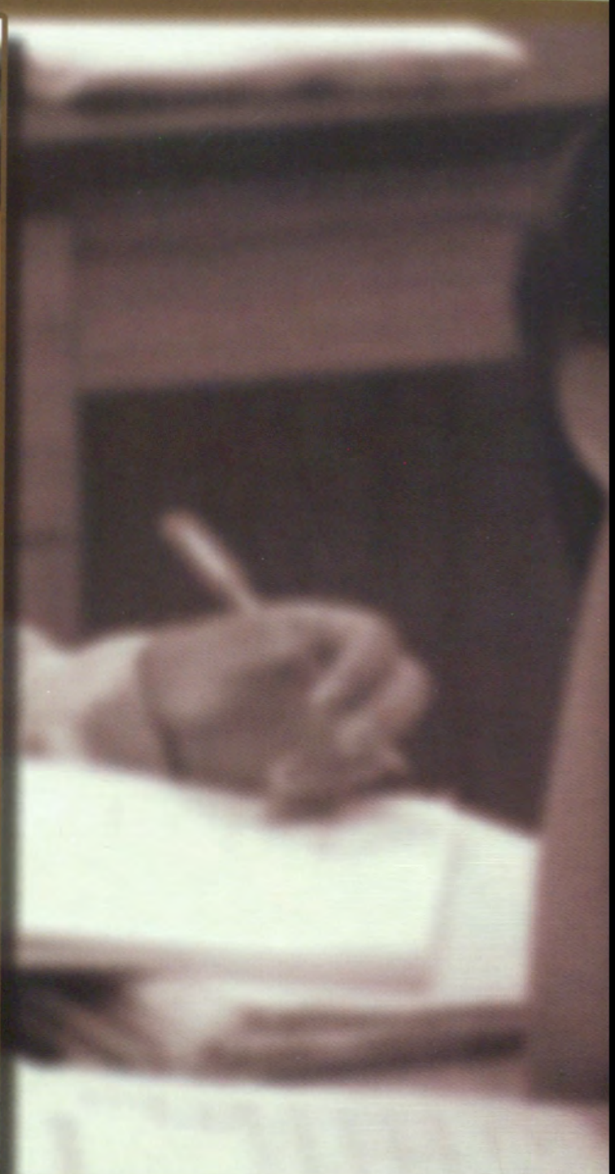


Front: Reese Hall, Kyra Headrick, Jessica Dale, Brittni Gola, Emily Quinn, Devyn Rucker, Reyna Yanez. Back: Drew Weiss, Rudy Mikeska, Keegan Gross, Heath O'Bannon, Zachary Wilkins, Brittion Byfield, Justin Felder, Brandon Peschke. Not pictured: Jed Cotner.

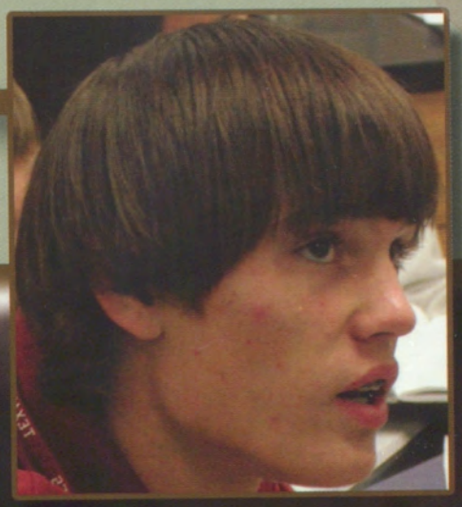
Georgetown Invitational:
8 out of 21
Killeen Ellison:
4 out of 12
Belton:
4 out of 10
Liberty Hill:
19-0 (win)
Wimberly Elite:
4 out of 8
Waco Robinson:
11-8 (win)

Regional Runner Up
Regionals:
Llano:
19-0 (win)
LaGrange:
12-5 (win)
Wimberly:
7-12 (loss)
State:
11th place
Groesbeck:
10-2 (loss)
Bellville:
(win)
Sweetwater:
10-6 (loss)
Spring Hill:
(loss)





people



"Working with other people is easier than working alone. I'm too lazy to do all that work by myself." Ryan Jaecks

Ryan Jaecks collaborates with Andreina Calzada on an assignment in Mr. Springer's chemistry class. Students often worked together to tackle the sometimes difficult work assigned to them. Photo by Taylor Savage

2007

Cutest Couple

Kelly Portillo & Alfredo Romayor

"He's liked me since the sixth grade and I secretly liked him too."
Kelly Portillo

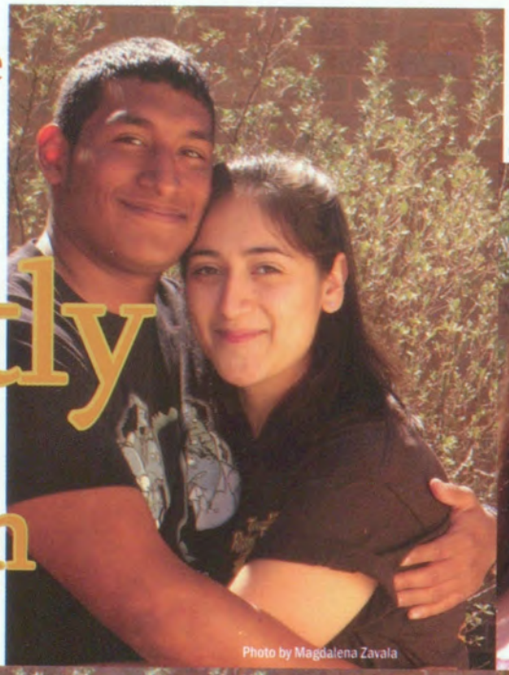
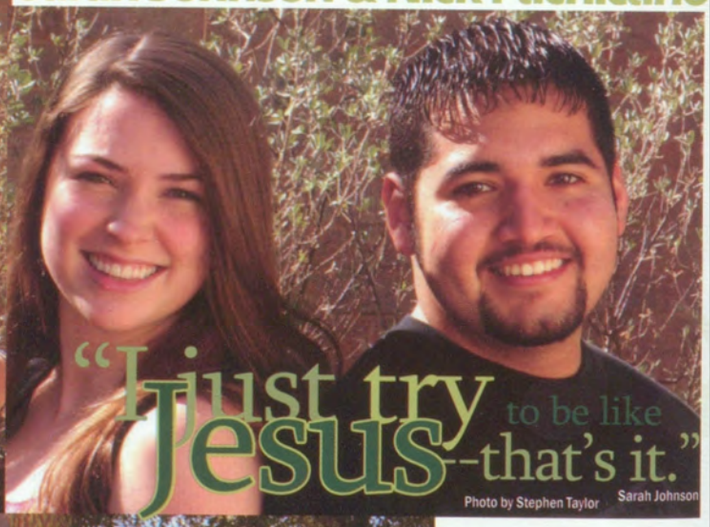


Photo by Magdalena Zavala

Friendliest

Sarah Johnson & Nick Pachicano


"I just try to be like Jesus -that's it."
Sarah Johnson
Photo by Stephen Taylor

"This is why I'm hot"
Mallory Dykowski

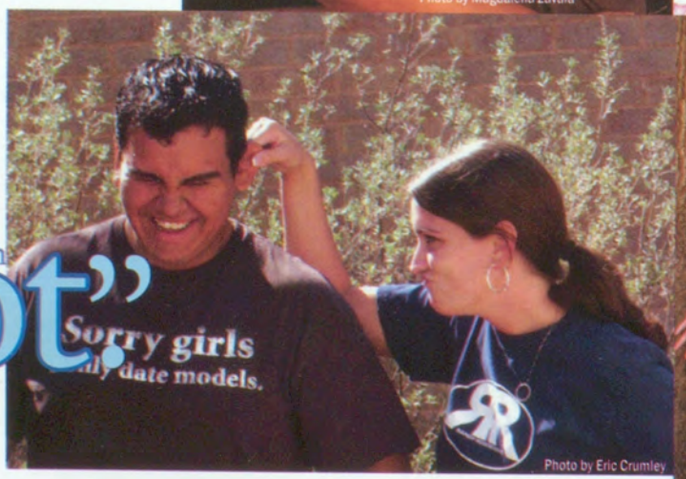


Photo by Eric Crumley

Funniest

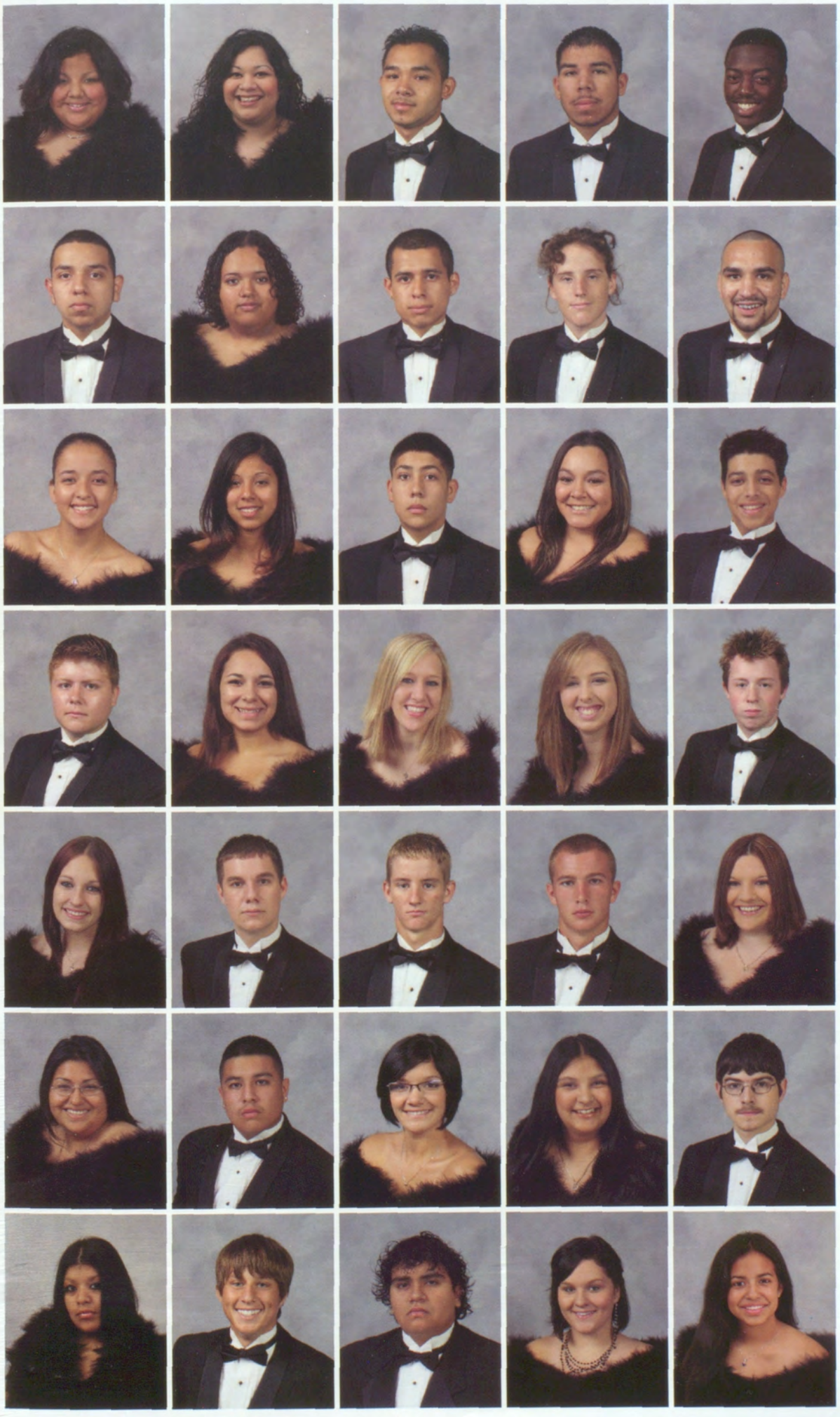
Mallory Dykowski & David Chaidez


Photo by Brandy Foster

"It's boring to be the same as everyone else."
Colin Valerio

Most Original

Blakesley King & Colin Valerio



Christina Aguilar
Jessica Aguilar
Jose Aguirre
Martin Aguirre
Robert Aikens

Aaron Alderete
Brianca Alderete
Matthew Alderete
Nicholas Alexander
Joshua Anderson

Francisca Araujo
Norma Arredondo
Raul Avalos
Vanessa Avalos
Arthur Baisley

Stephen Ballard
Kelly Banner
Ashton Baran
Brittany Behrens
William Bellemare

Frankie Bevka
Bryce Block
Noah Brinkmeyer
Todd Bryan
Courtney Burns

Cindy Cabrera
Eric Camacho
Brianna Cantu
Charlotte Carrillo
Grant Carter

Christian Castillo
Luke Cavo
David Chaidez
Toni Chandler
Brittany Chavana

Kelsey Christensen
Julius Collins
Tracy Collins
Mason Crayton
Eric Crumley



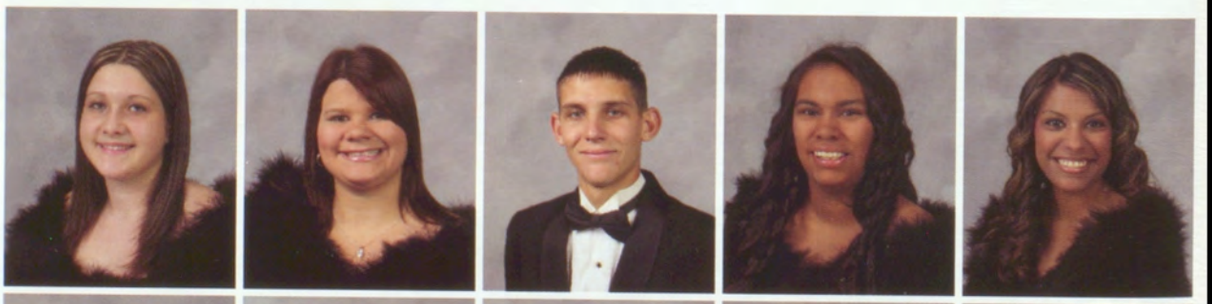
Chase Danek
Aaron Davis
Danielle Deary
Savannah Dekneef
Mallory Dykowski



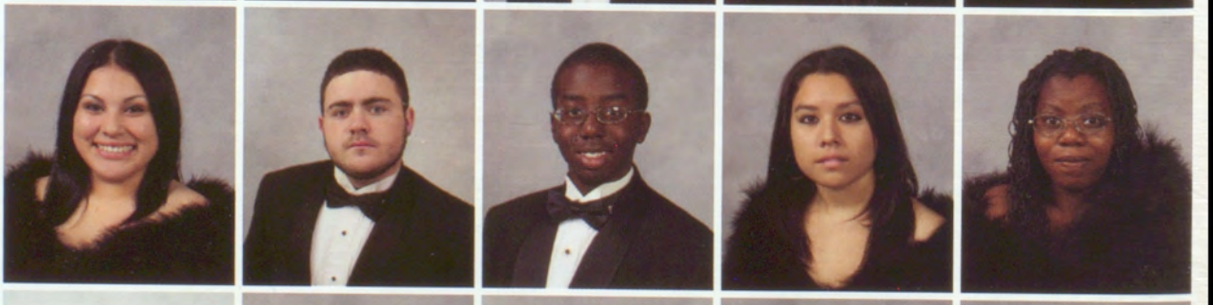
"This is my senior year?"

Coleman Eiben

Breana Earley
Amanda Eckhardt
Coleman Eiben
Angel Escobar
Annette Escobar



Alexandra Estrada
Clinton Fannin
Justin Felder
Irelda Fernandez
Crystal Fields

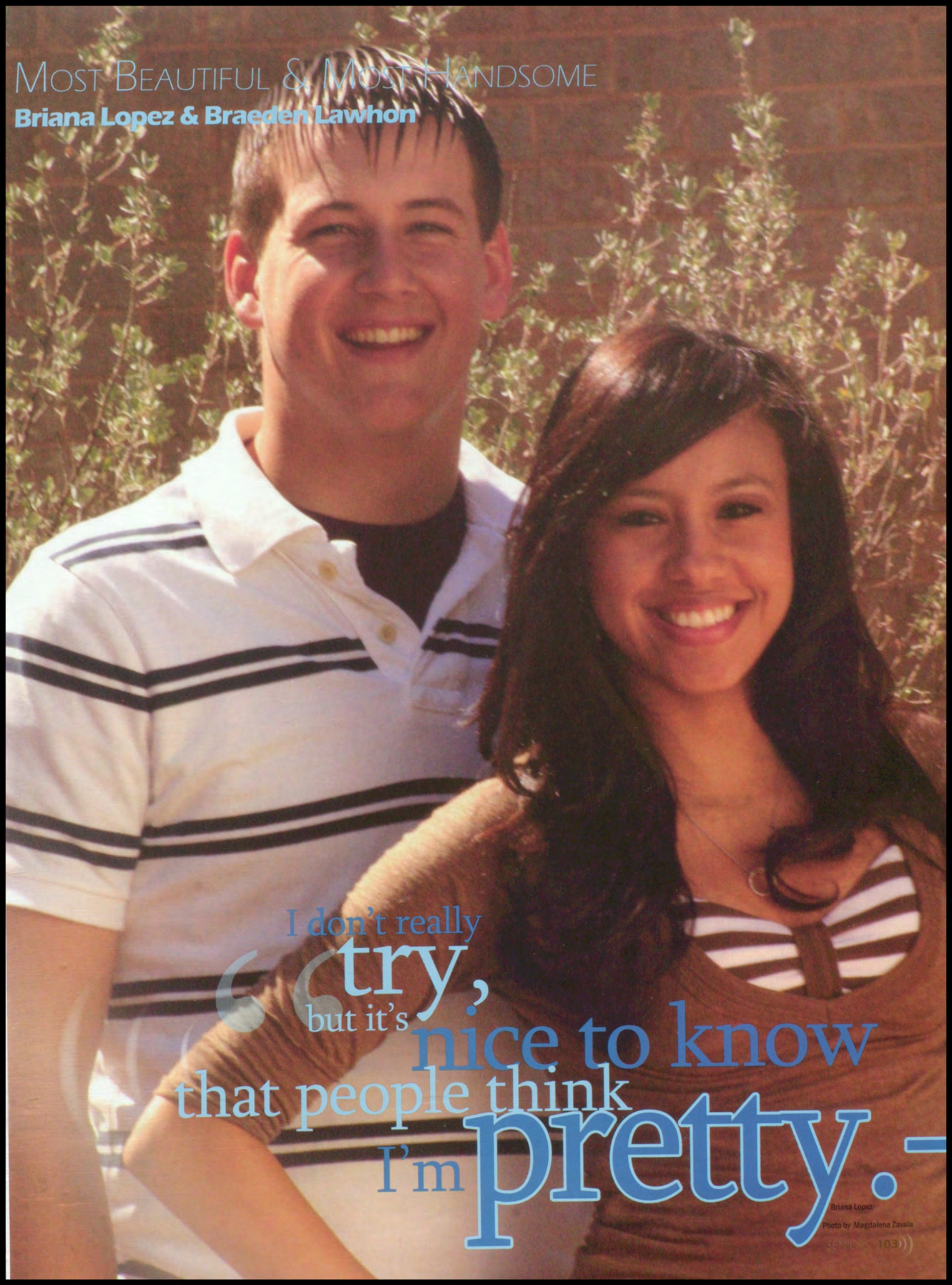


Jarvis Fitzgerald
Kristi Flores
Justin Foster
Krishan Gandhi
Michael Garcia



Most Beautiful & Most Handsome

Briana Lopez & Braeden Lawhon



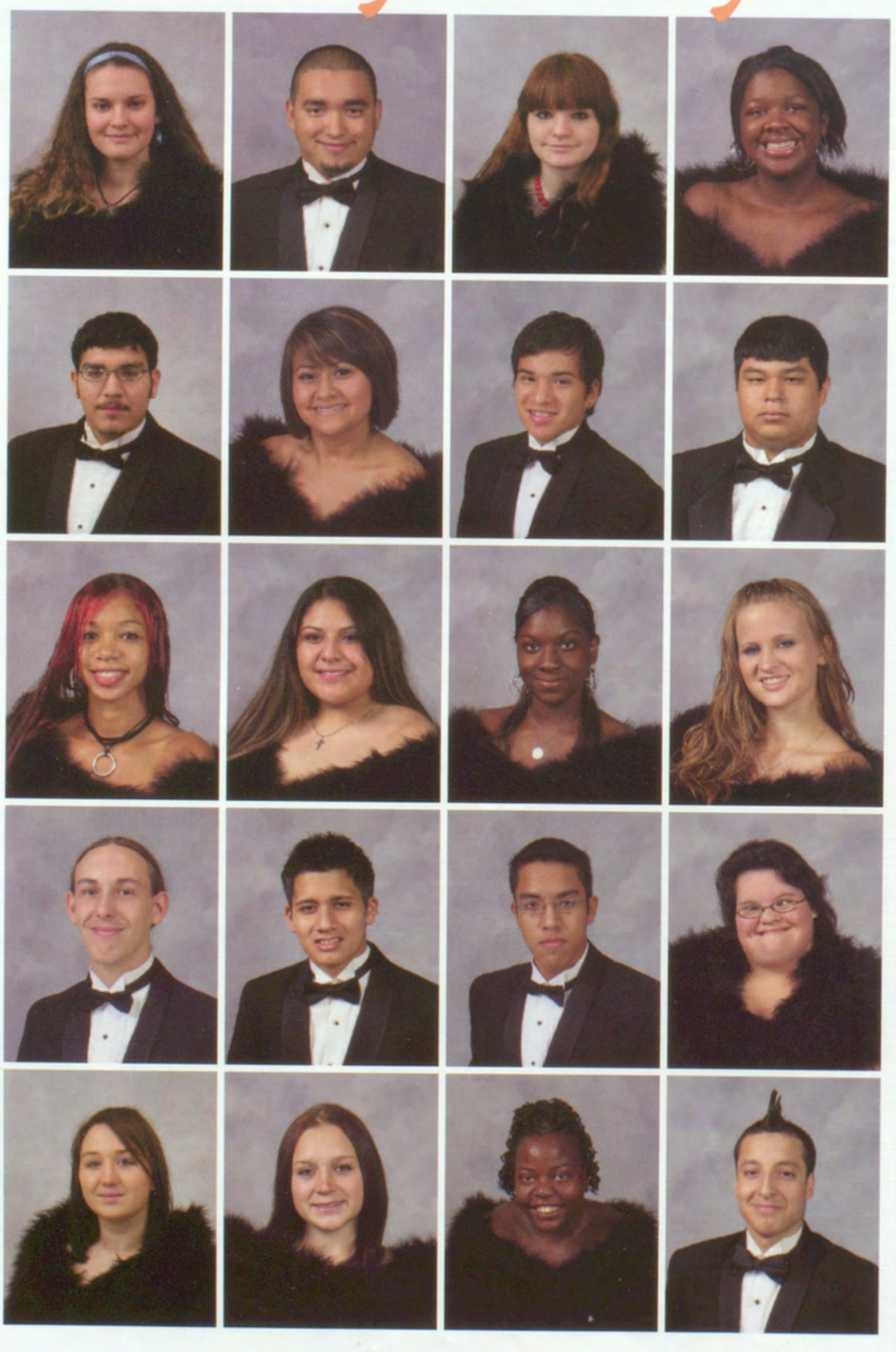
"I don't really try, but it's nice to know that people think I'm pretty."

Briana Lopez

Photo by Magdalena Zavala

"I'm ready to leave but not leave everybody."

Kelly Martinez



Tasha Garcia
Thomas Garcia
Elisabeth Garry
Nicolette Gault

Anthony Gonzales
Deveina Gonzales
Emilio Gonzales
Sisto Gonzales

Victoria Gonzales
Robin Gonzalez
Lorna Gould
Lindsey Green

Bruce Griffin
Francisco Guardiola
Albert Gutierrez
Andrea Gutierrez

Ashley Heaton
Brooke Hegar
Heather Hennington
Abraham Hernandez

Most Likely to Succeed

Mallory Janak & John Kaspar

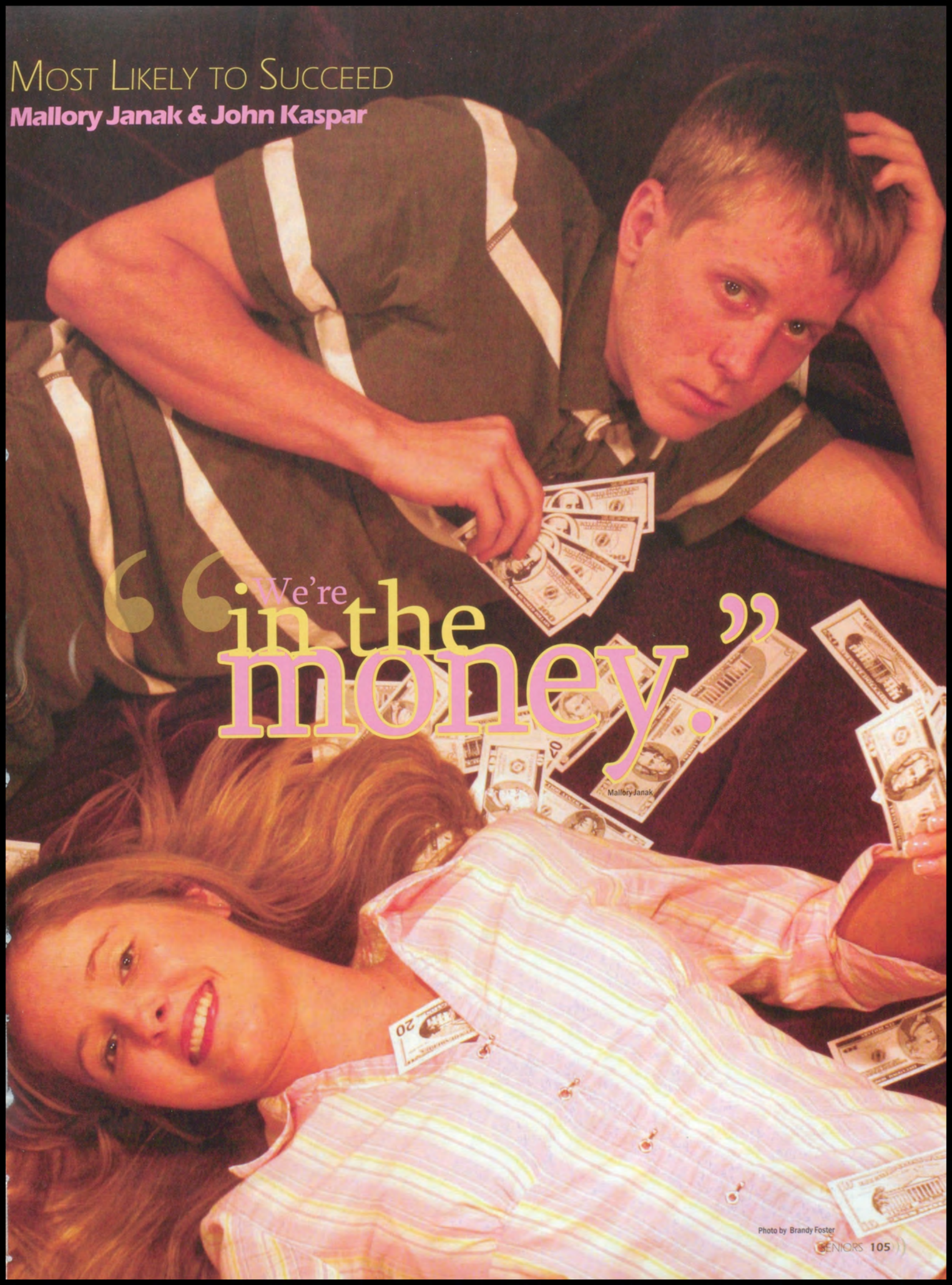


Photo by Brandy Foster

Gabriel Hernandez
Stephanie Hernandez
Suzanna Hernandez
Andrew Herrera
Christina Hilscher



Adam Janak
Lance Janak
Mallory Janak
Blake Jirasek
Amber Johnson



Clarence Johnson
Sarah Johnson
Aaron Jones
Laketta Jones
Whitney Kahanek



John Kaspar
Ashley Keith
Jeralme Kemp
Maegan Kidwell
Joshua Kiewit



Blakesley King
Monique Klepac
Megan Krueger
Braeden Lawhon
Brandon Lester

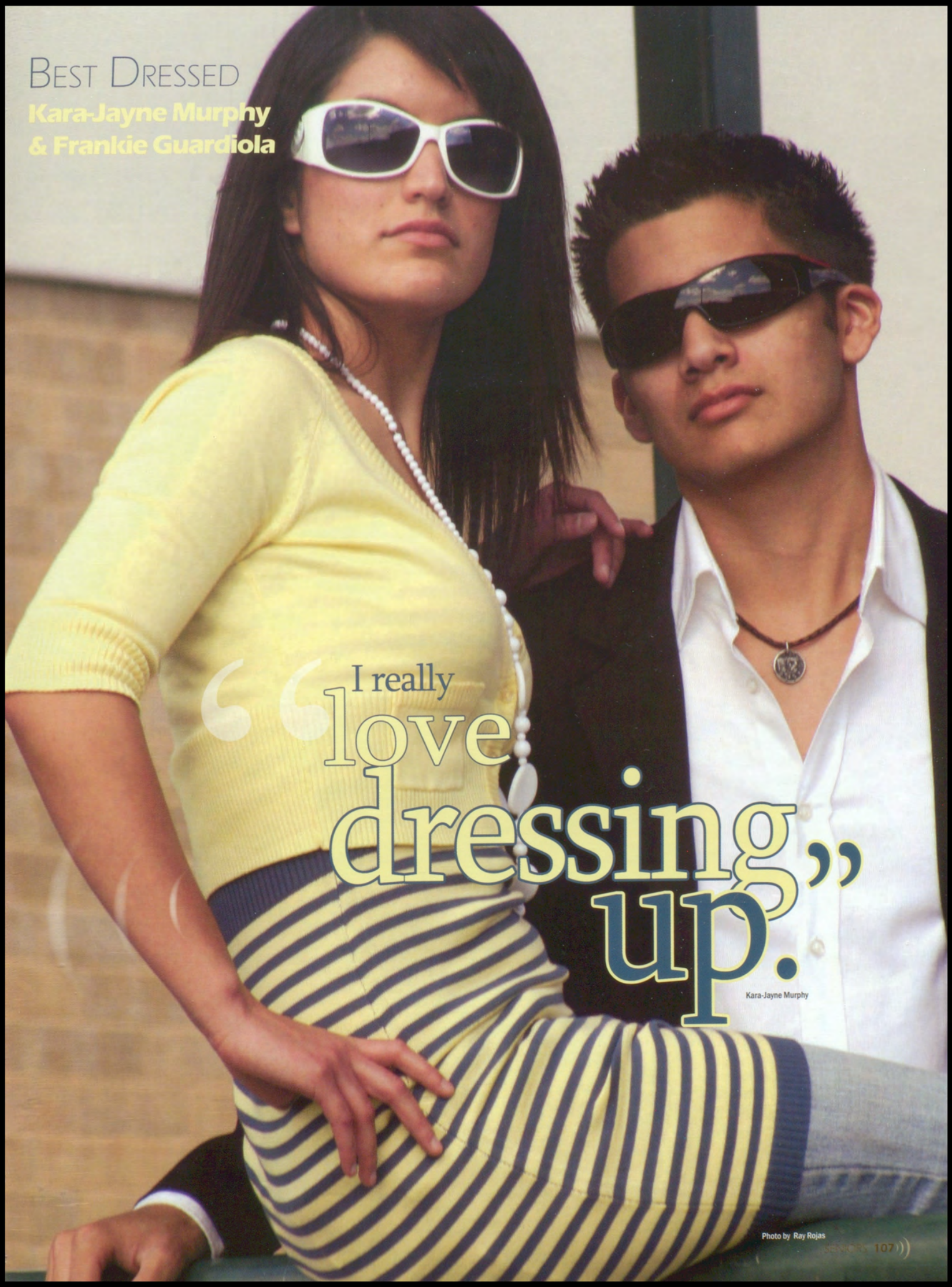


"I feel old. It feels good."

Sisto Gonzales

Best Dressed

Kara-Jayne Murphy & Frankie Guardiola

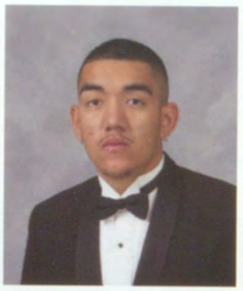


"I really love dressing up."

Kara-Jayne Murphy

Photo by Ray Rojas

Alfredo Lopez
Andrew Lopez
Ashley Lopez
Briana Lopez
Daniel Lopez




Katherine Lopez
Paris Lopez




"Soon enough, there's no more tests, teachers, or stupid ID's!"

Grant Carter

Cassandra Marshall
Amber Martinez
Kelly Martinez
Michael Martinez
Jaboa Matoska

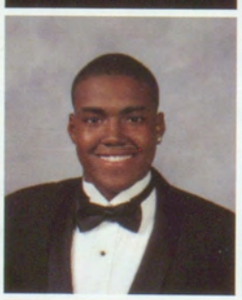






Jared Matta
Ashley McFarlin
Patrick McFarlin
Aubrey Medaris
Victor Medina-Torres







Nakevia Miller
Matthew Milliken
Hailey Mokry
Joshah Moors
Ciera Morgan

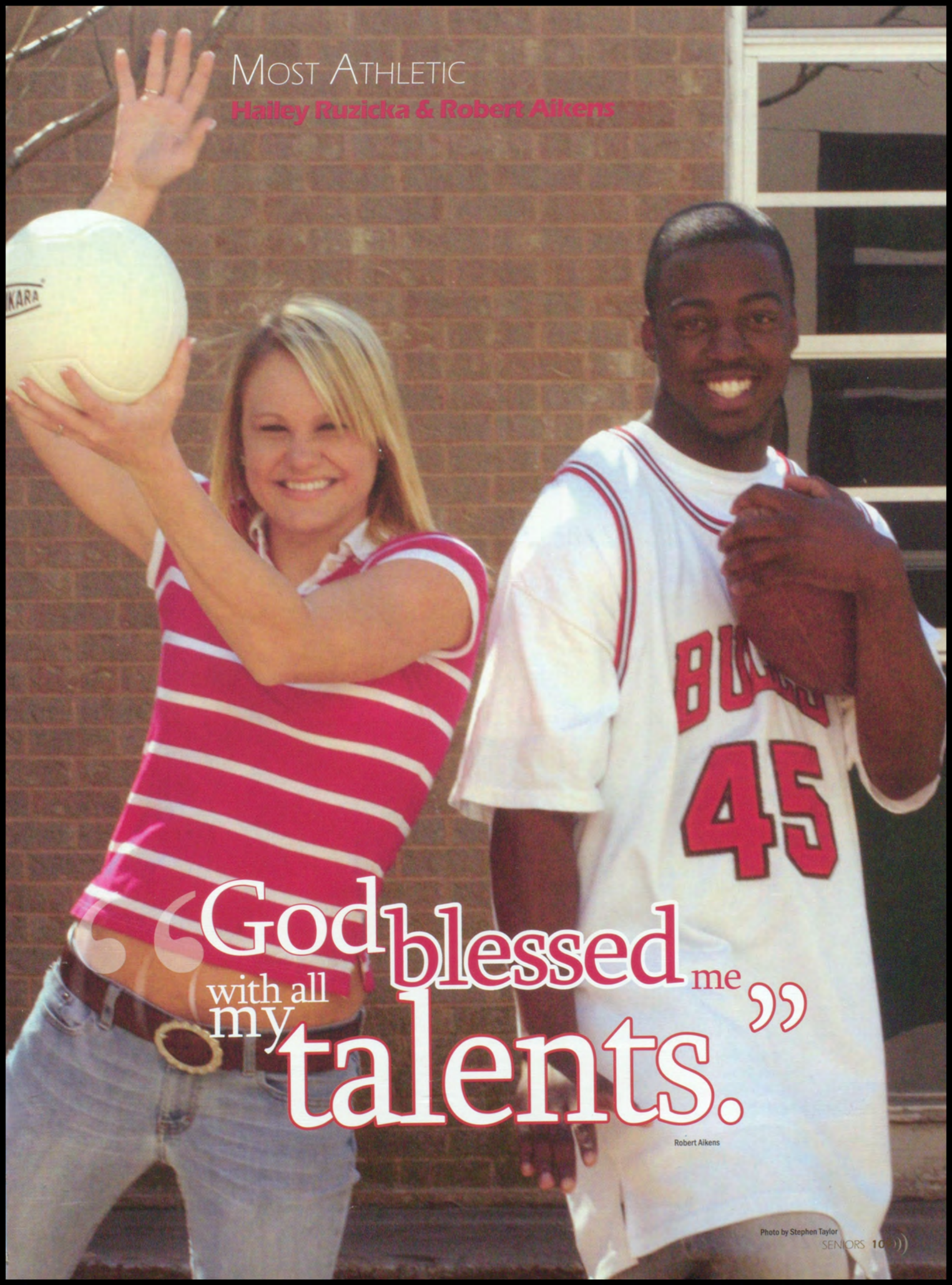






Most Athletic

Hailey Ruzicka & Robert Aikens



"God blessed me with all my talents."

Robert Aikens

Photo by Stephen Taylor

Amanda Moss
Duvelsa Murguia
Kara-Jayne Murphy
Nathan Neitsch
Kyle Nevins



Pedro Ochoa
Meagan Oviedo
Caleb Owens
Karina Pacheco
Nicholas Pachicano



Chrisilda Palacios
Ismadl Palomo
Rachel Parker
Alexia Patterson
Michael Platz



"The past twelve years have come down to **one walk** across a stage."

Kesley Christensen

Courtney Popham
Kelley Portillo
Emily Quinn
Casimiro Ramirez
Randall Ramirez



Enrique Recendis
Aaron Reeves
Jessica Reyes
Joseph Reyna
Jarrel Roberson

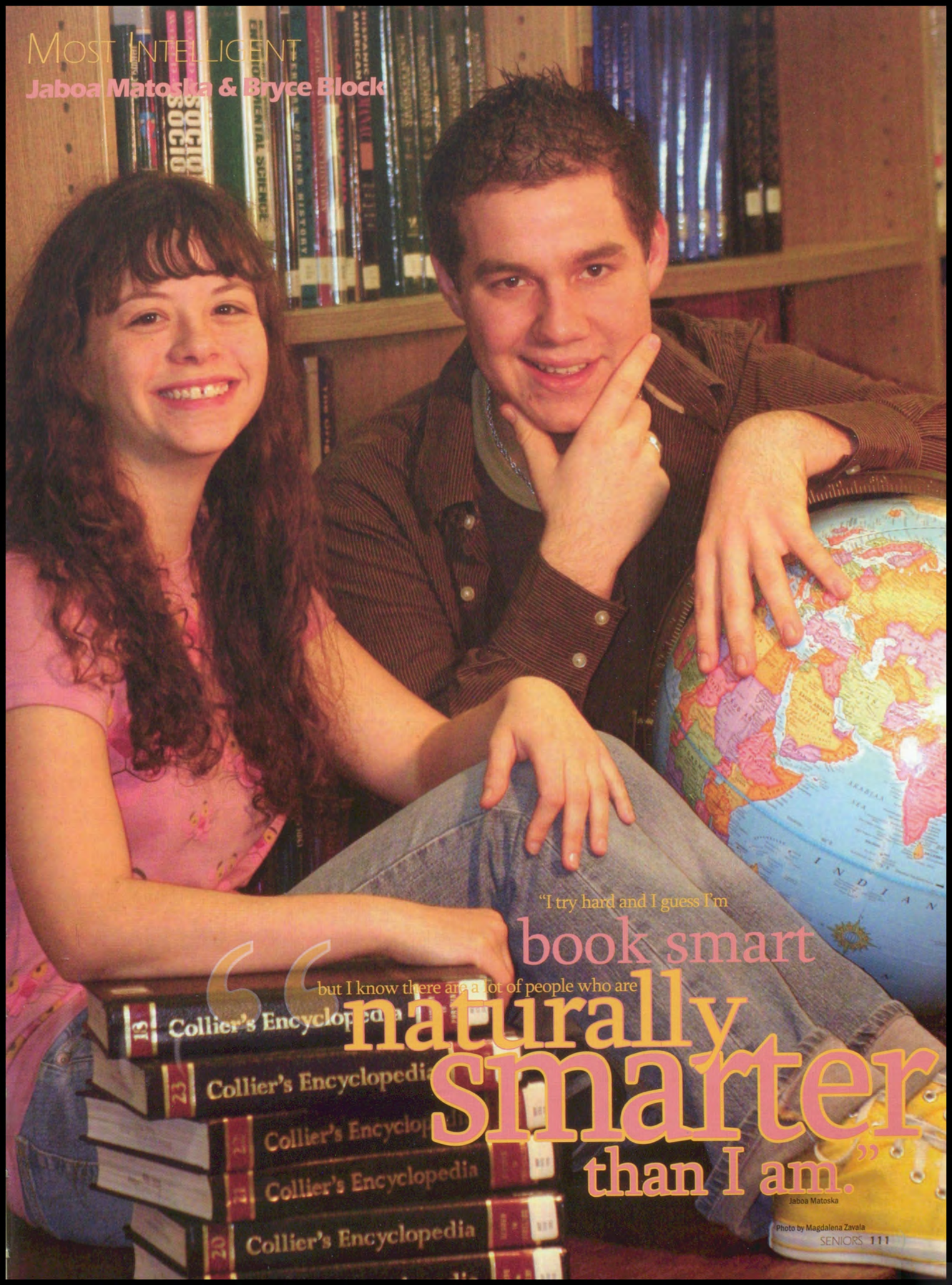


Ashunta Robinson
Anitarita Robles
Lamar Rollie
Alfredo Romayor
Devyn Rucker



Most Intelligent

Jaboa Matoska & Bryce Block



"I try hard and I guess I'm book smart but I know there are a lot of people who are naturally smarter than I am."

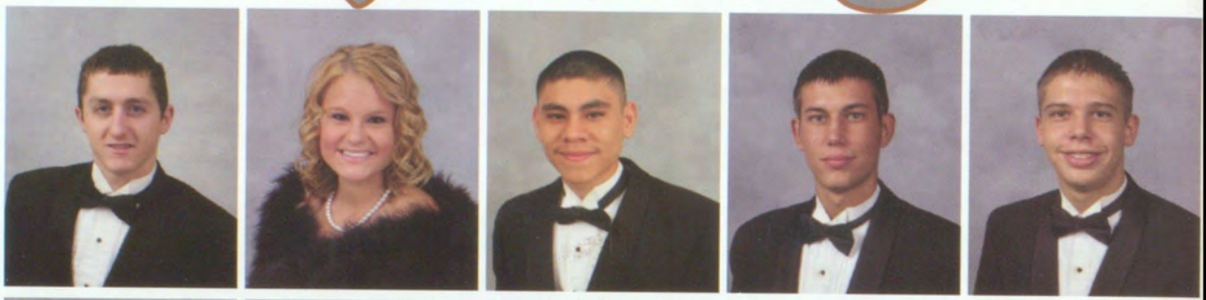
Jaboa Matoska

Photo by Magdalena Zavala

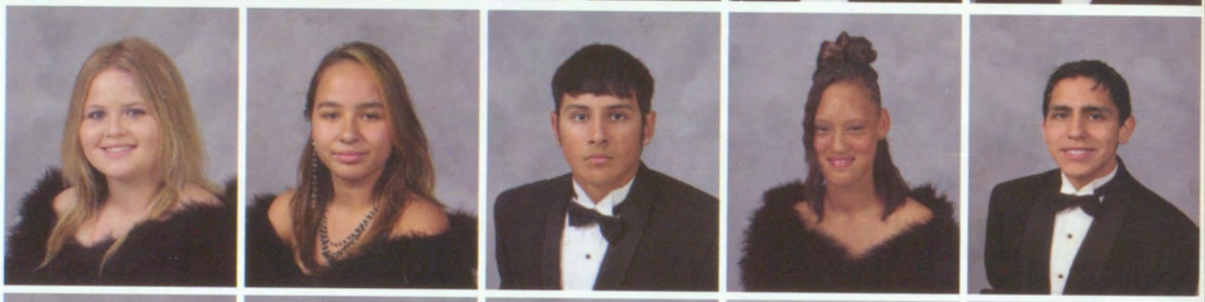
"It doesn't seem that long ago that we were so young."

Brooke Hegar

William Ruden
Hailey Ruzicka
Dagoberto Sanchez
Matthew Schwettman
Jeremy Selucky



Cassiddy Stefek
Paige Stives
Edward Stringer
Taporsha Tanksley
Eric Tellez



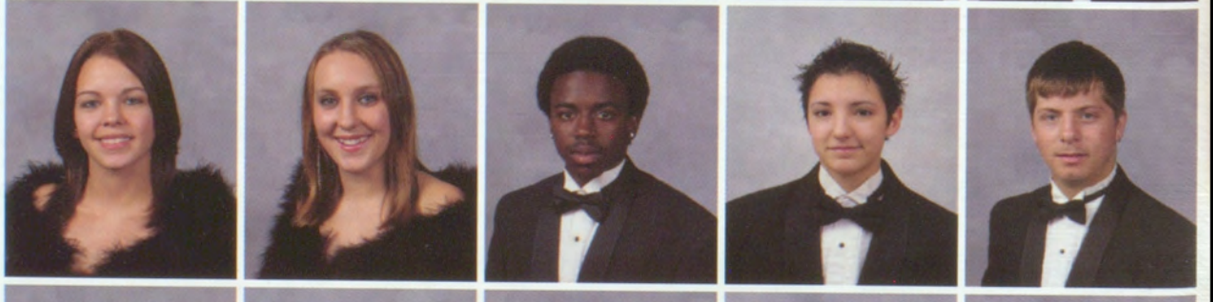
Gonzalo Tellez
Derek Terwilliger
Erin Tomei
Ann Tovar
Sergio Tovar



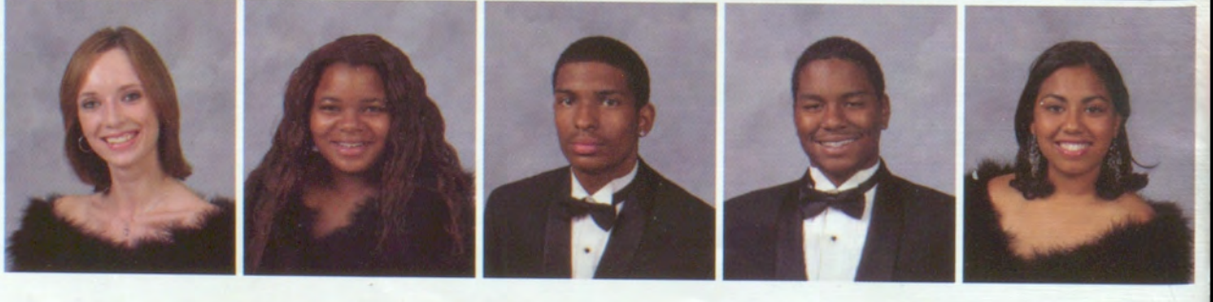
Colin Valerio
Kyle Vanecek
Paige Vanecek
Amabilia Villarreal
Jerry Wallace

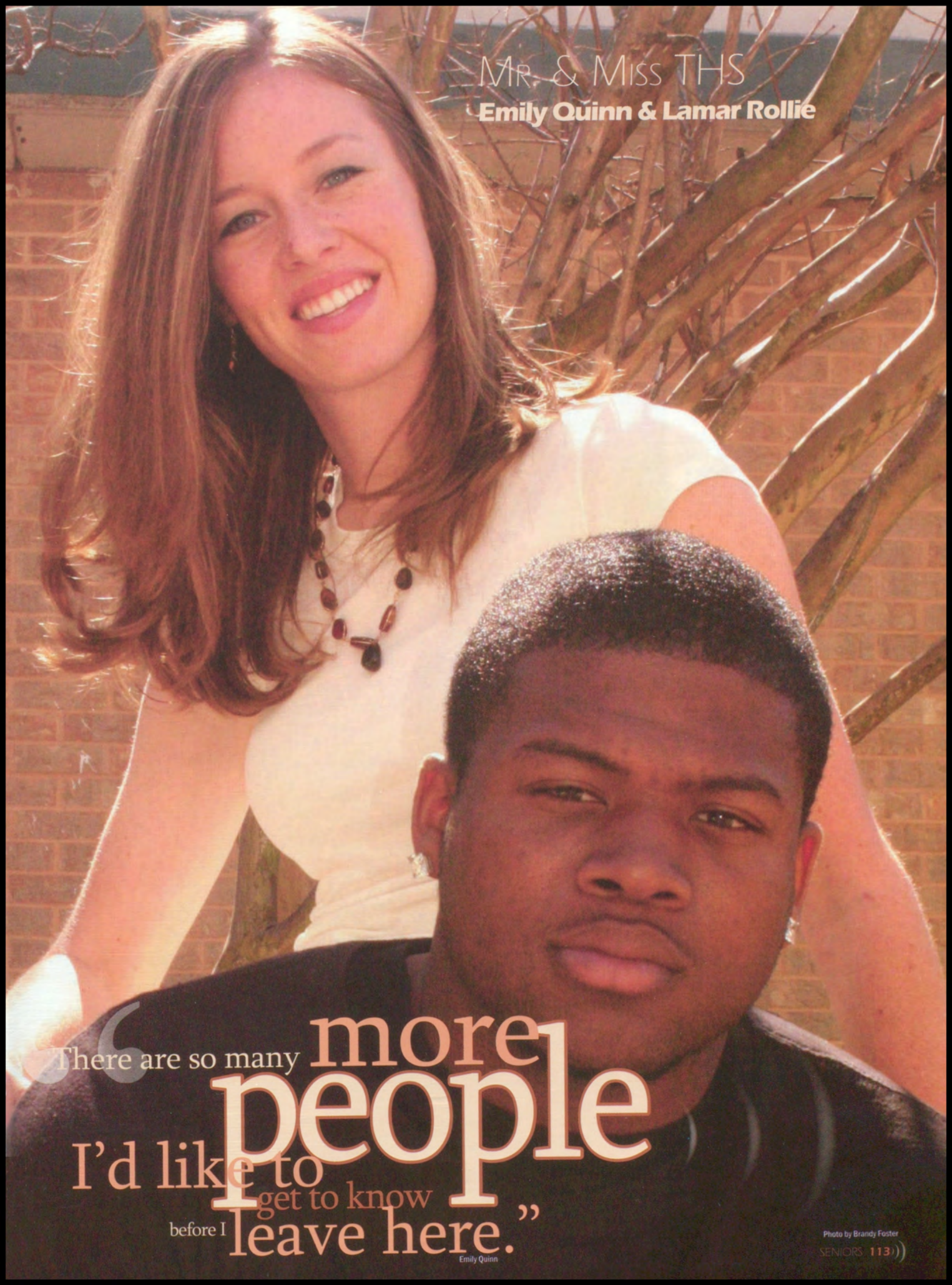


Lindsey Walton
Sarah Ward
Justin Ware
Ashley Williams
Zane Wilson



Brittany Wolf
Erika Wooldridge
Johnathan Wooldridge
Jermain Wright
Reyna Yanez





Mr. & Miss THS

Emily Quinn & Lamar Rollie

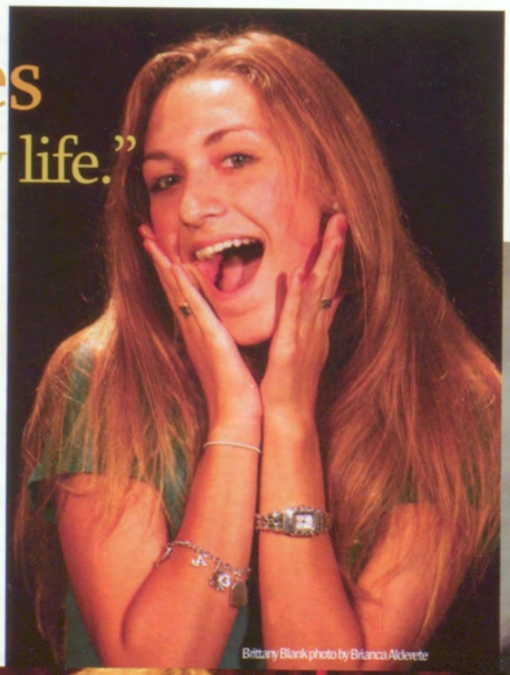
"There are so many more people I'd like to get to know before I leave here."

Emily Quinn

Photo by Brandy Foster

2008 2009 2010

"I love the privileges I have in my life."

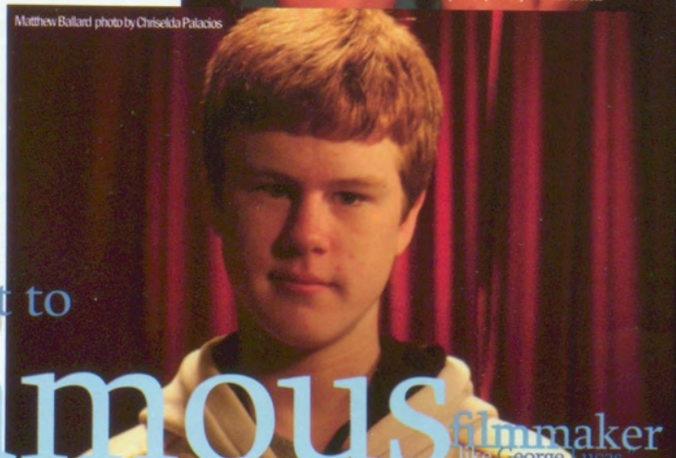


Brittany Blank photo by Brianca Alderete

"I regret not trying harder in all that I do.



Crystal Carillo photo by Ana-Lisa Alderete



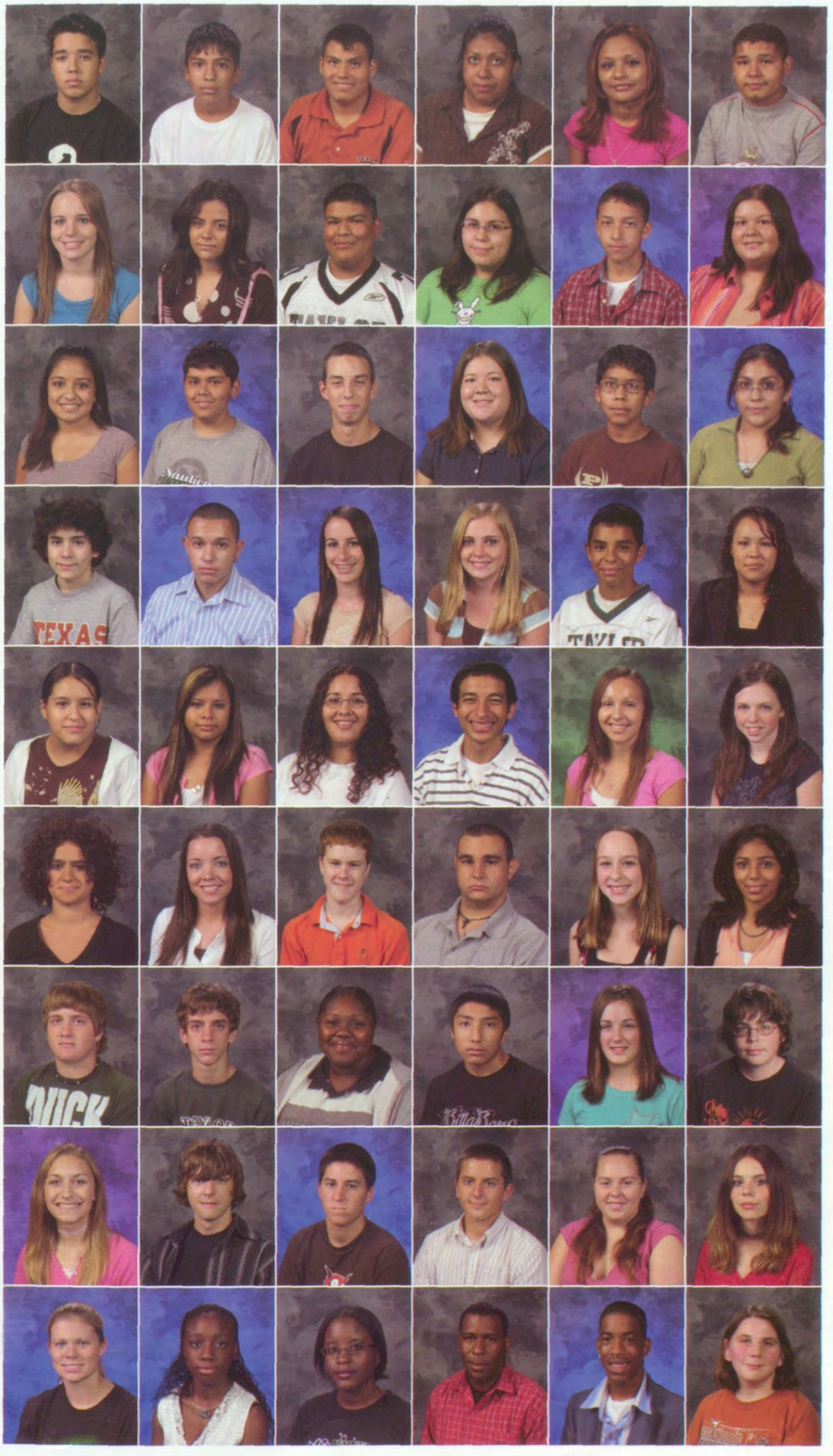
Matthew Ballard photo by Chriselda Palacios

"I want to be a famous filmmaker like George Lucas.



Mr. Edgar Fisher photo by Taylor Savage

"I think Calculus is powerful.



Nickolas Abbott (11)
Roy Abundiz (9)
Carlos Aguilar (10)
Marcie Aguilar (11)
Maria Aguilar (10)
David Aguirre (9)

Kelli Aiello (11)
Laura Alcaraz (9)
Alvaro Alderete (10)
Ana Lisa Alderete (11)
Cody Alderete (9)
Felicia Alderete (9)

Kristen Alderete (10)
Lucas Alderete (10)
Richard Alford (11)
Rebecca Almazan (11)
Julian Alonzo (9)
Kimberly Amado (11)

Alexander Aminzadeh (9)
Trey Ancira (11)
Brooke Anders (11)
Samantha Anderson (10)
Issac Aparicio (9)
Dulce Araujo (9)

Silvia Araujo (10)
Cindy Arriaga (9)
Andrea Arroyo (9)
Christino Arzola (9)
Sabrina Atkinson (9)
Kelsey Aunspaugh (9)

Michaela Babejova (10)
Casey Balduff (11)
Matthew Ballard (9)
Nathan Balusek (11)
Kristyne Baran (9)
Kathleen Barley (9)

Adam Barry (11)
Andrew Barry (11)
Antoinette Bell (10)
Alfred Beltran (9)
Claire Berger (9)
David Bishop (9)

Brittany Blank (10)
Bradley Bogan (11)
Christopher Bogan (11)
David Bogan (9)
Briana Bohac (10)
Kristina Bourdeau (9)

Stephanie Bourdeau (11)
Chelsey Boykins (11)
Tina Bradford (10)
Shawntrale Bradshaw (11)
Robert Brenson (9)
Marianne Brock (11)

Stacy Bubenik (11)
Joshua Bucek (9)
Dell Buckalew (9)
Stevie Buckalew (10)
Brittany Buckman (9)
Jalisa Budd (11)



Nathan Burow (10)
Katrina Bushyhead (9)
Britton Byfield (11)
Lawerence Caldwell (11)
Shermane Caldwell (10)
Andreina Calzada (10)



Eric Camacho (10)
Cathy Camarda (9)
Daniel Campbell (11)
Shaquille Campbell (9)
Chris Campos (10)
Michelle Campos (9)



Amanda Cannon (9)
Mayra Cansin (10)
Victor Cardenas Mata (9)
Julie Carey (9)
Brandee Carlson (10)
Cole Carnes (11)



Rebecca Carnes (9)
Deavin Carpenter (9)
Mistie Carpenter (11)
Travis Carpenter (9)
Clarrissa Carrillo (9)
Crystal Carrillo (11)



Adriana Carrizales (9)
Allen Castro (11)
Caleb Cavazos (9)
Lidia Cavazos (11)
Augustine Cervantes (9)
David Cervantes (9)



Jesse Cervantez (10)
Lori Cervenka (11)
Mark Chaidez (9)
Ana Karen Chaires (11)
Virginia Chaires (9)
Marissa Chavana (9)

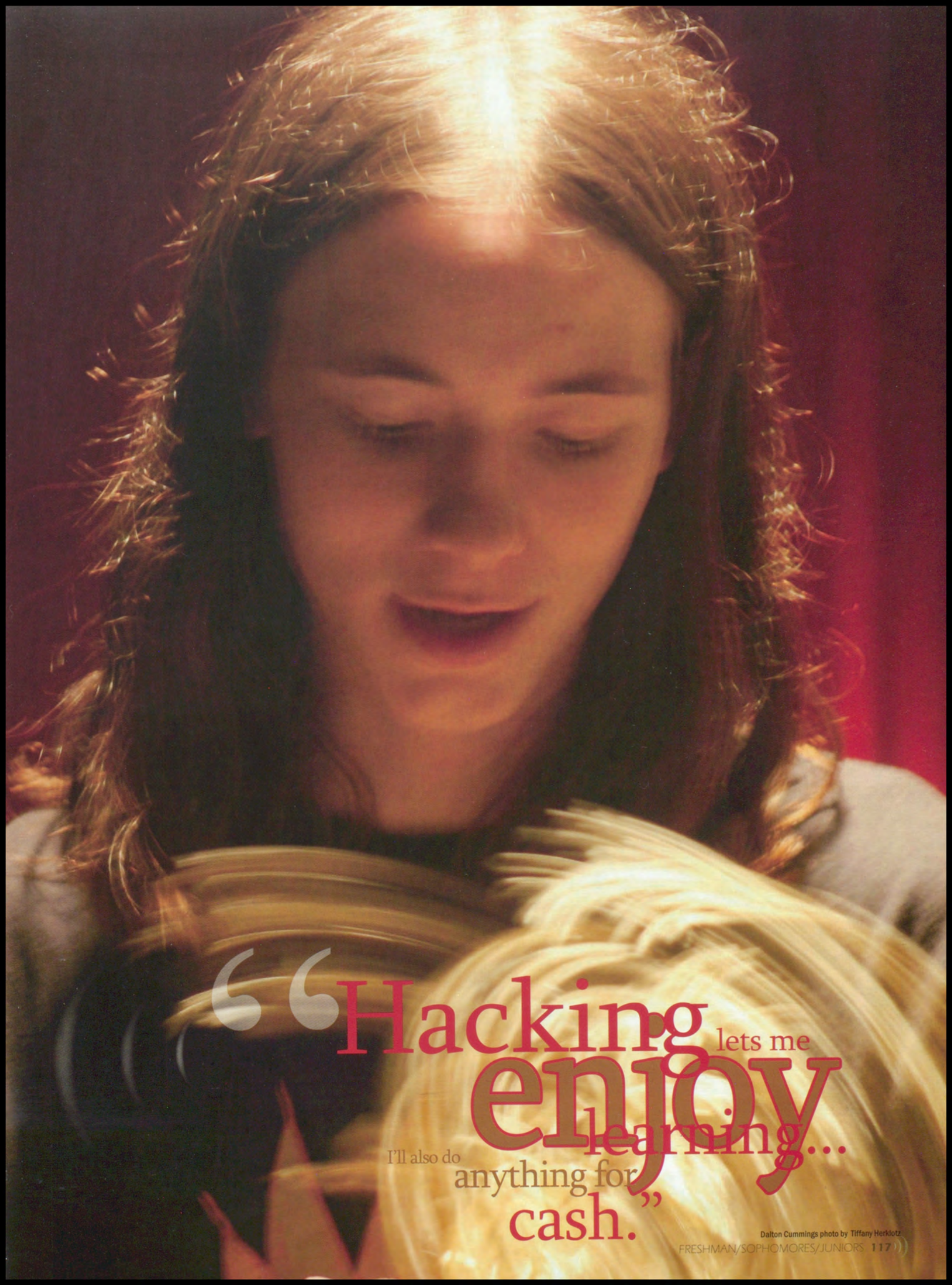


Woo-Hoon Chung (10)
Bryant Cigales (11)
Nathanial Close (11)
Richard Cobia (9)
Ashle Cochran (11)
Rebecca Cocke (9)



Tanda Collinson (9)
Lauren Connors (11)
Steffon Cook (11)
Noah Corn (11)
Manuel Cornejo (9)
Andrea Cortez (9)





Dalton Cummings photo by Tiffany Herklotz

Jonathan Cortinas (11)
Adrian Costilla (9)
Jerry Cotner (11)
Erica Crabb (9)
Caneisha Crathers (9)
Desiree Crathers (10)



Connie Crayton (11)
Dalton Cummings (10)
Jessica Dale (11)
Chad David (11)
Kelsey Davis (10)
Latasha Davis (11)



Carlos De La Cerda (11)
Andrew Delgadillo (11)
Yesenia Delgadillo (9)
Jared Delony (9)
Mariah Dempsey (11)
Ricky Denson (10)



Joshua Devaul (10)
Iesha Dickerson (9)
Shelby Dillard (11)
Gerald Dobbs (9)
Kelly Dominguez (10)
Sammy Dominguez (9)



Jacob Doss (9)
Robert Doss (10)
Chasity Douglas (10)
Devin Douglas (9)
Brandon Dupy (9)
Dustin Eddins (11)



Matthew Eiben (11)
Catherine Emery (9)
Jordan Eppinett (10)
Preston Eschberger (11)
Ashley Estrada (9)
Jasmin Estrada (11)



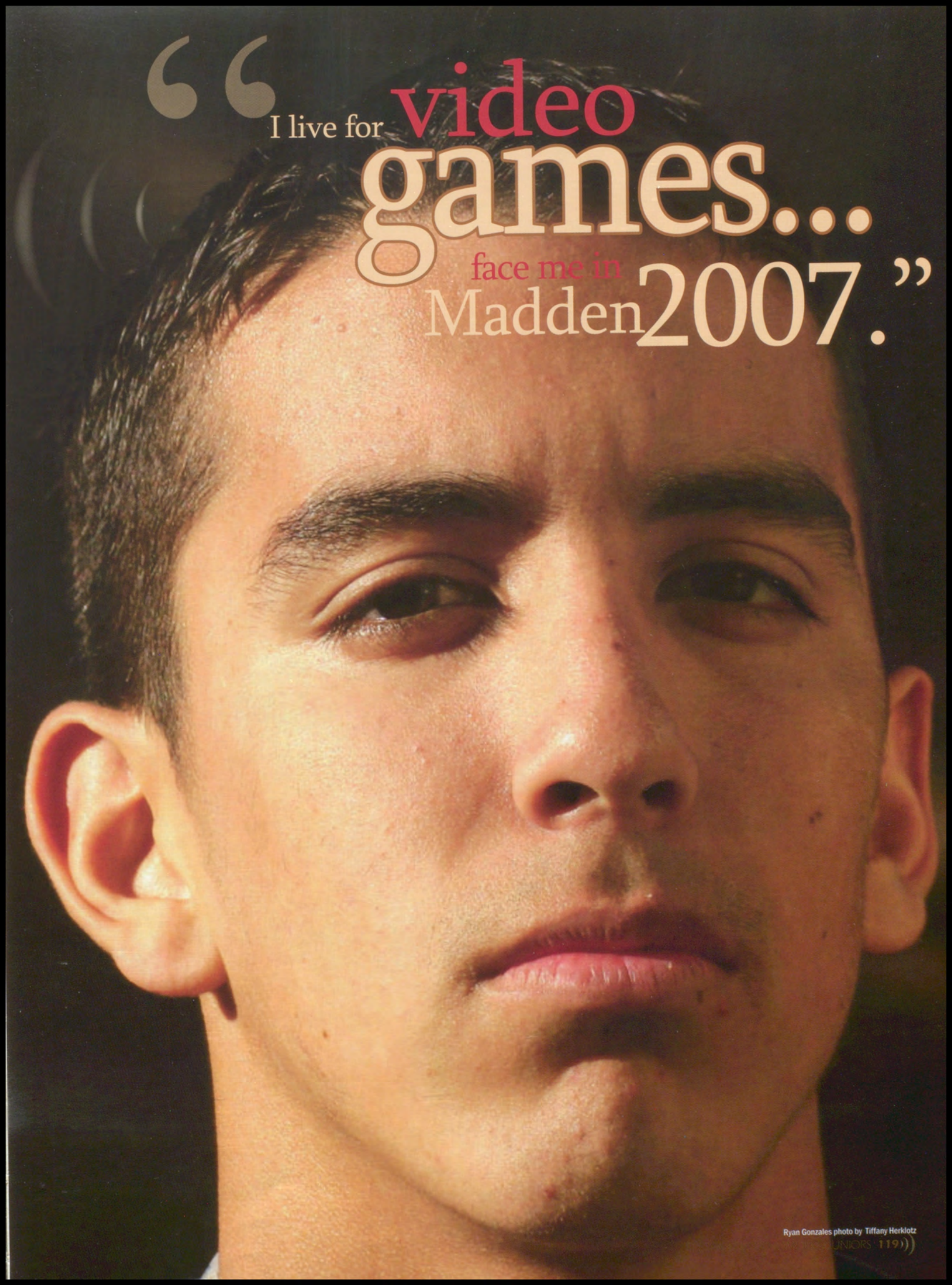
John Estrada (11)
Krystal Estrada (10)
Tara Eulenfeld (9)
Brittnay Fail (10)
Jacob Farr (11)
Tiffany Farr (9)



Morgan Faught (11)
Deloris Fields (11)
James Fields (9)
D'vonte Fisher (9)
Andrew Flores (11)
Julia Flores (11)



Kimberly Flores (11)
Victoria Flores (9)
Kyle Fontenot (9)
Ryan Fontenot (10)
Brandy Foster (9)
Holly Frazier (10)



Ryan Gonzales photo by Tiffany Herklotz

Donald Fredrick (11)
Abery Fuentes (9)
Brooke Gabel (10)
Amber Gamboa (9)
Ryan Garcia (9)
Alfred Garcia-arzola (9)



Patrick Garrett (11)
Freddie Garza (9)
Mariah Garza (10)
Pearlie Gault (11)
Steven Gibson (10)
Colt Ging (11)



Brittni Gola (11)
Cameron Gomez (10)
Aaron Gonzales (9)
Alan Gonzales (11)
Anna Gonzales (11)
Arnulfo Gonzales (9)



Carin Gonzales (9)
Jonathan Gonzales (10)
Joshua Gonzales (9)
Matthew Gonzales (9)
Matthew Gonzales (9)
Richie Gonzales (11)



Rosa Gonzales (11)
Ryan Gonzales (11)
Jose Gonzalez (9)
Juan Gonzalez (9)
Lorena Gonzalez (9)
Luis Gonzalez (9)



Martin Gonzalez (11)
Victoria Gonzalez (9)
Tyler Graef (11)
Trevor Gray (10)
Kaneisha Griffin (10)
Denoyos Gustavo (10)



Andrea Gutierrez (11)
Erica Gutierrez (11)
Juan Gutierrez (9)
Phillip Gutierrez (11)
Jennifer Haley (11)
Vence Haley (10)

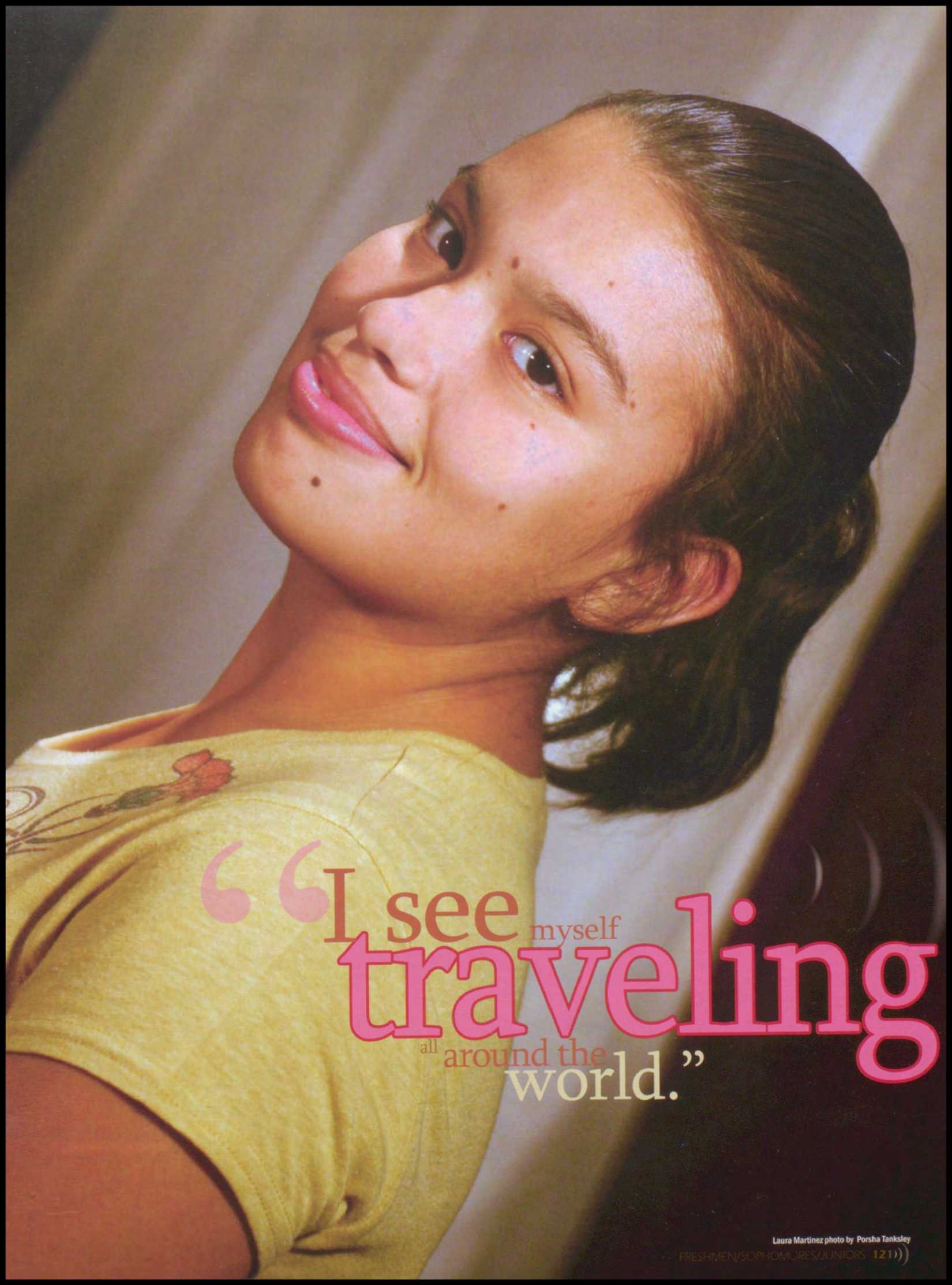


Janaye Hall (10)
Reese Hall (11)
John Hankins (9)
Alexandria Harmon (9)
Nicholas Harrington (9)
Mallory Hartmann (9)



Seth Harvey (9)
Timothy Haskins (11)
Kyra Headrick (11)
Jake Henderson (9)
Tiffany Herklotz (10)
Adrian Hernandez (9)





Laura Martinez photo by Porsha Tanksley

Brenda Hernandez (9)
Danielle Hernandez (11)
Elvira Hernandez (11)
Gabriel Hernandez (10)
Ieshia Hernandez (9)
Jeremy Hernandez (9)

Matthew Hernandez (10)
Noel Hernandez (10)
Shirley Hernandez (11)
Gabriel Herrera (9)
Joshua Herrera (10)
Frances Hewtty (11)

Joseph Hewtty (11)
Christopher Hill (10)
Ryan Hill (10)
Jessica Hilscher (10)
Joshua Hinkle (9)
Kameren Hodnett (9)

Jonathan Holman (9)
Megan Holman (10)
Candace Hopson (11)
Jenna Howard (10)
Samantha Howard (10)
Nathan Huf (11)

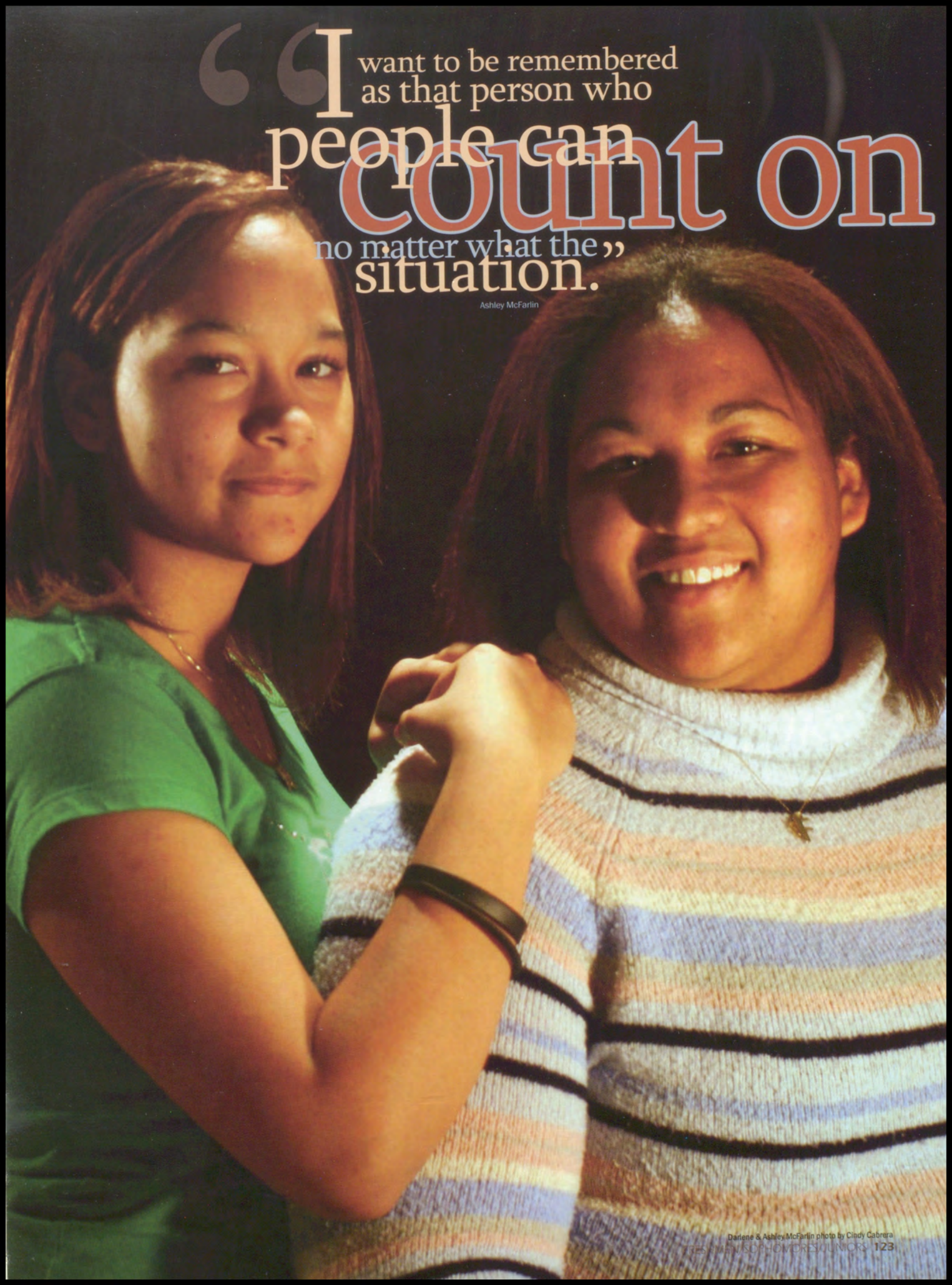
Nicholas Hull (9)
Jordan Humphreys (11)
Amber Hurst (9)
Courtney Hyde (10)
Travis Hyzak (11)
Alanmykal Jackson (9)

Barry Jackson (11)
Brandie Jackson (11)
Brittney Jackson (10)
James Jackson (11)
Jessica Jackson (10)
Logan Jackson (10)

Mark Jackson (9)
Terence Jackson (10)
Ryan Jaecks (10)
Kari Jahn (11)
Travian James (11)
Brittney Jefferson (11)

Brittany Jensen (9)
Tiffany Jensen (9)
Samuel Jirasek (9)
Hope Johnson (9)
Kayla Johnson (9)
Shelby Johnson (10)

Amaris Jones (11)
Andrew Jones (9)
Krystle Jones (9)
Lisa Jones (11)
Milton Keith (10)
Jordan Kiewit (9)



Darlene & Ashley McFarlin photo by Cindy Cabrera

Nathan Kirschvink (11)
Monique Klepac (11)
Justin Koehler (10)
Paige Kreidel (11)
Cory Kruse (11)
Kalen Kruse (9)



Connor Kutach (9)
Dylan Lambert (9)
Valkyrie Landrum (9)
Ashley Lantzsch (11)
Justin Latham (11)
Leonel Lavalle (9)



Steven Lawler (10)
Selenia Lazaro (9)
Christopher Leal (9)
Kyle Leeper (10)
Mercedes Lerma (11)
Savannah Lerma (11)



Rachel Lewis (11)
Casandra Leyendecker (11)
Kevin Lindsay (10)
Lance Loewe (9)
Brian Logsdon (10)
Ariel Lopez (10)



Aurelio Lopez (10)
Brittany Lopez (9)
Claudia Lopez (10)
Crystal Lopez (11)
Ivan Lopez (11)
Matthew Lopez (11)



Valerie Lopez (10)
Jose Lopez-Leyva (9)
Destiny Lorentzen (10)
Harmony Lorentzen (10)
Justine Lorentzen (11)
Matthew Lozano (11)



Abigail Luna (10)
Amber Luna (10)
Jacqueline Luna (9)
Raymond Lute (10)
Daphne Maccauley (9)
Quade Maccauley (9)

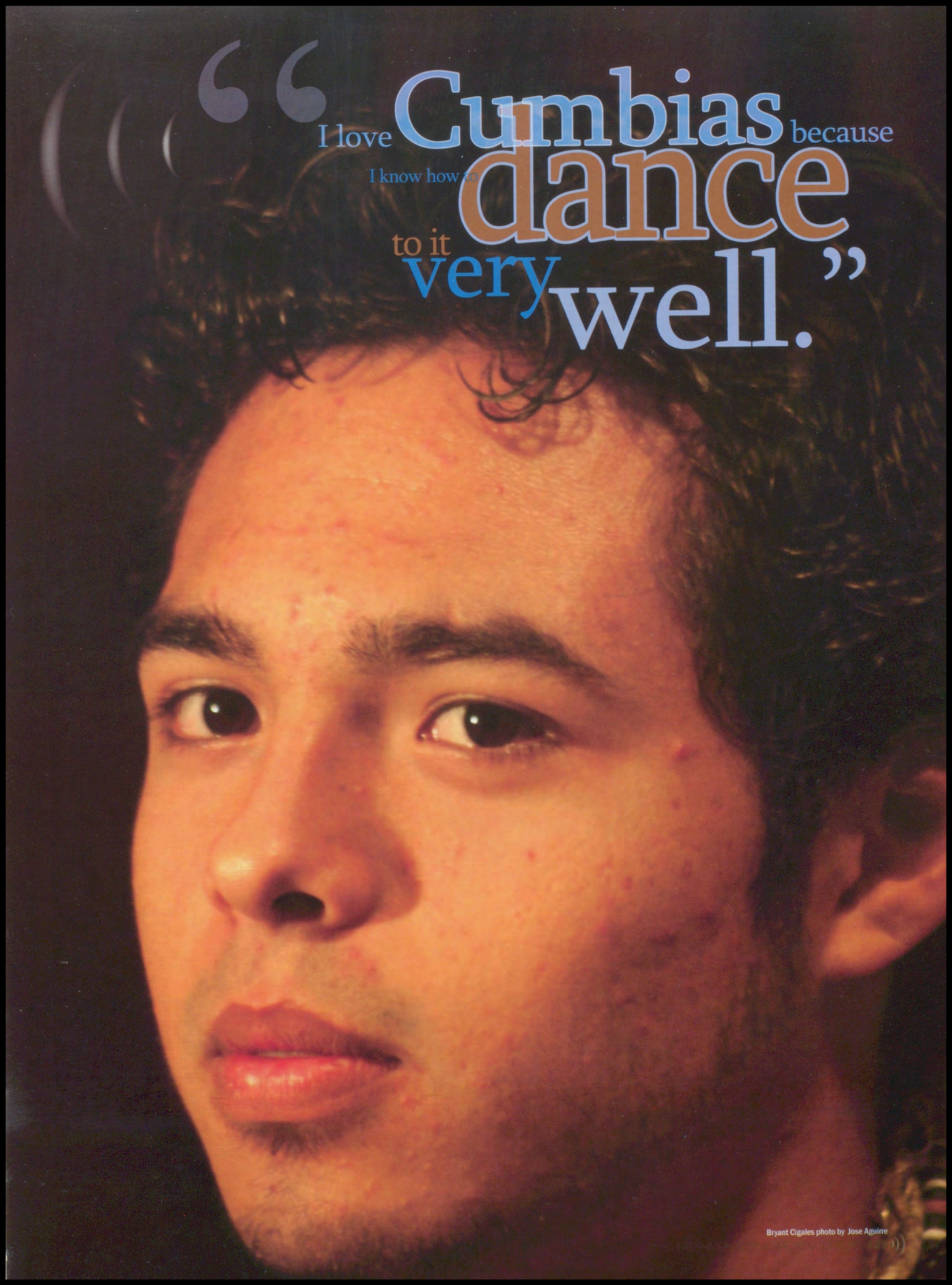


Jacqueline Macedo (10)
Josefina Macedo (9)
Seth Marcon (10)
Dalton Marek (11)
Dwayne Marek (9)
Kayla Marek (11)



Kelsey Marek (10)
Christine Maresh (10)
Maria Marmolejo (9)
Amanda Martinez (9)
Anthony Martinez (9)
Christopher Martinez (10)





Bryant Cigales photo by Jose Aguirre

Francisco Martinez (11)
Jacob Martinez (10)
Jazzsmen Martinez (11)
Johnathan Martinez (11)
Kristin Martinez (9)
Laura Martinez (10)



Priscilla Martinez (10)
Simon Martinez (9)
Chaston Matta (9)
Allyson Matthys (10)
Damian Mayberry (11)
Darlene Mcfarlin (9)



Jillian Mcquillen (10)
Tiffany Mederis (11)
Diana Mendez (11)
Angel Mesta (9)
Tristan Meyer (10)
Rudy Mikeska (11)



Andrew Miller (9)
Fantasia Miller (10)
Manayah Miller (10)
Irving Miravete (11)
Dylan Moerbe (11)
Alexander Mojica (9)



Julia Moody (9)
Isaac Moore (9)
Leah Morales (9)
Roberto Morales (11)
Concepcion Moreno (9)
Jose Moreno (11)



Manuel Moreno (10)
Mario Moreno (10)
Salvador Moreno (9)
Cody Morgan (9)
Richard Morgan (9)
Bryan Mundkowsky (10)



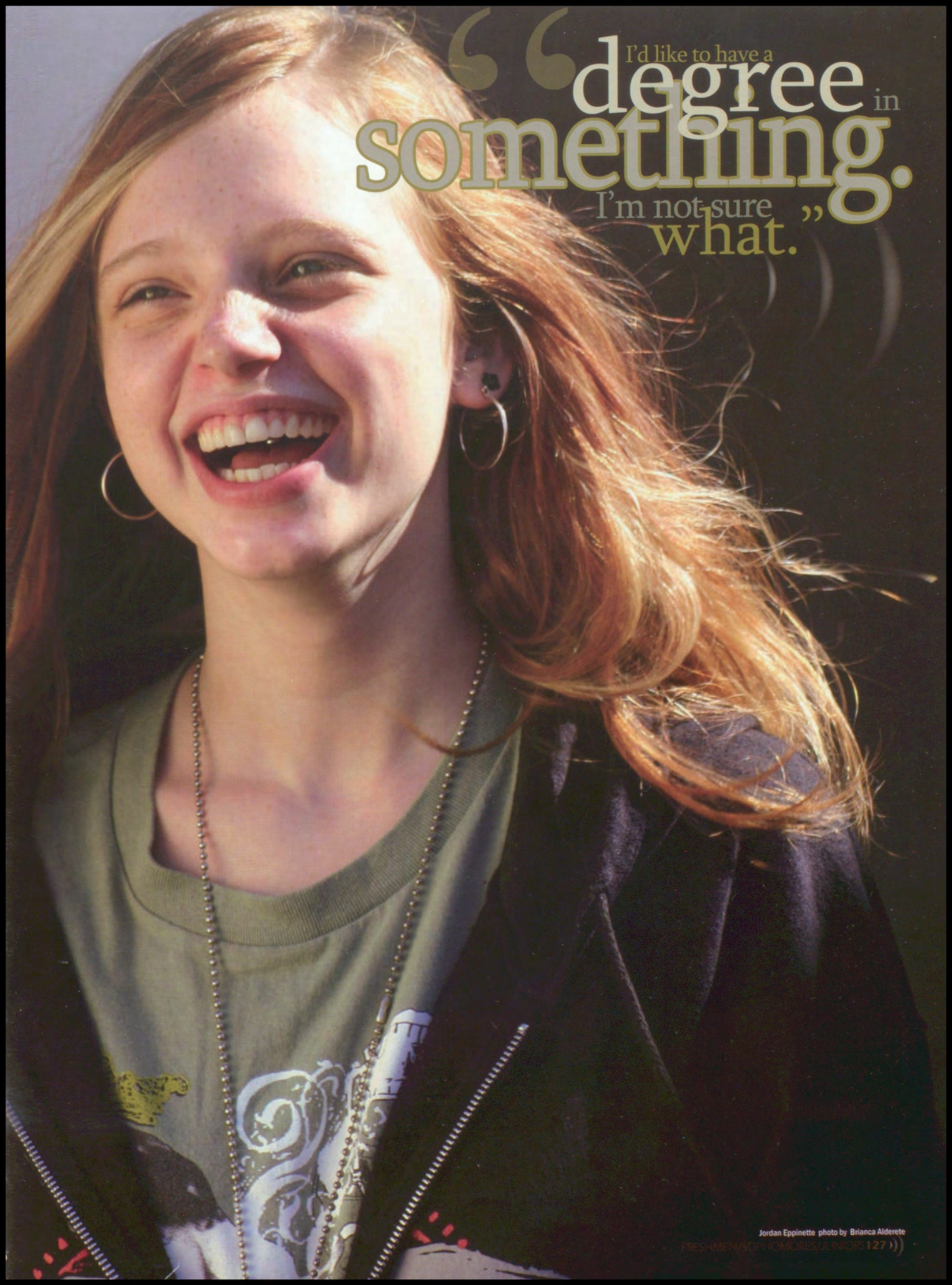
Shane Mundkowsky (10)
Jennifer Murphy (10)
Rebekah Murphy (9)
Roland Myers (11)
Amanda Nardecchia (11)
Josh Natoros (10)



Bradly Nemec (9)
Dylan Noel (9)
Heath O'banon (10)
Natalie Ochoa (9)
Kryscelda Olivarez (9)
Anselmo Oranday (11)



Lucas Orosco (10)
Jacqueline Orozco (11)
Jordan Orta (9)
Briana Ortiz (9)
Dinah Ortiz (10)
Erica Ortiz (9)



Jordan Eppinette photo by Brianca Alderete

Isaiah Ortiz (9)
Jonathan Ortiz (10)
Valerie Ortiz (11)
Victor Ortiz (10)
Youqing Ouyan (11)
Alicia Pachicano (10)

Emilio Pachicano (10)
Larry Pachicano (11)
Paul Pachicano (9)
Tony Pack (9)
Brittany Palomo (11)
Rachel Parker (11)

Ashley Patterson (11)
Christopher Patterson (10)
Perla Pena (9)
Kasey Penny (11)
Dimitri Perez (9)
Travis Petty (11)

Dillon Pfluger (10)
Cullen Pick (11)
Stacey Platz (10)
Rufina Polasek (10)
Ruby Pumphrey (9)
Aaron Ramirez (10)

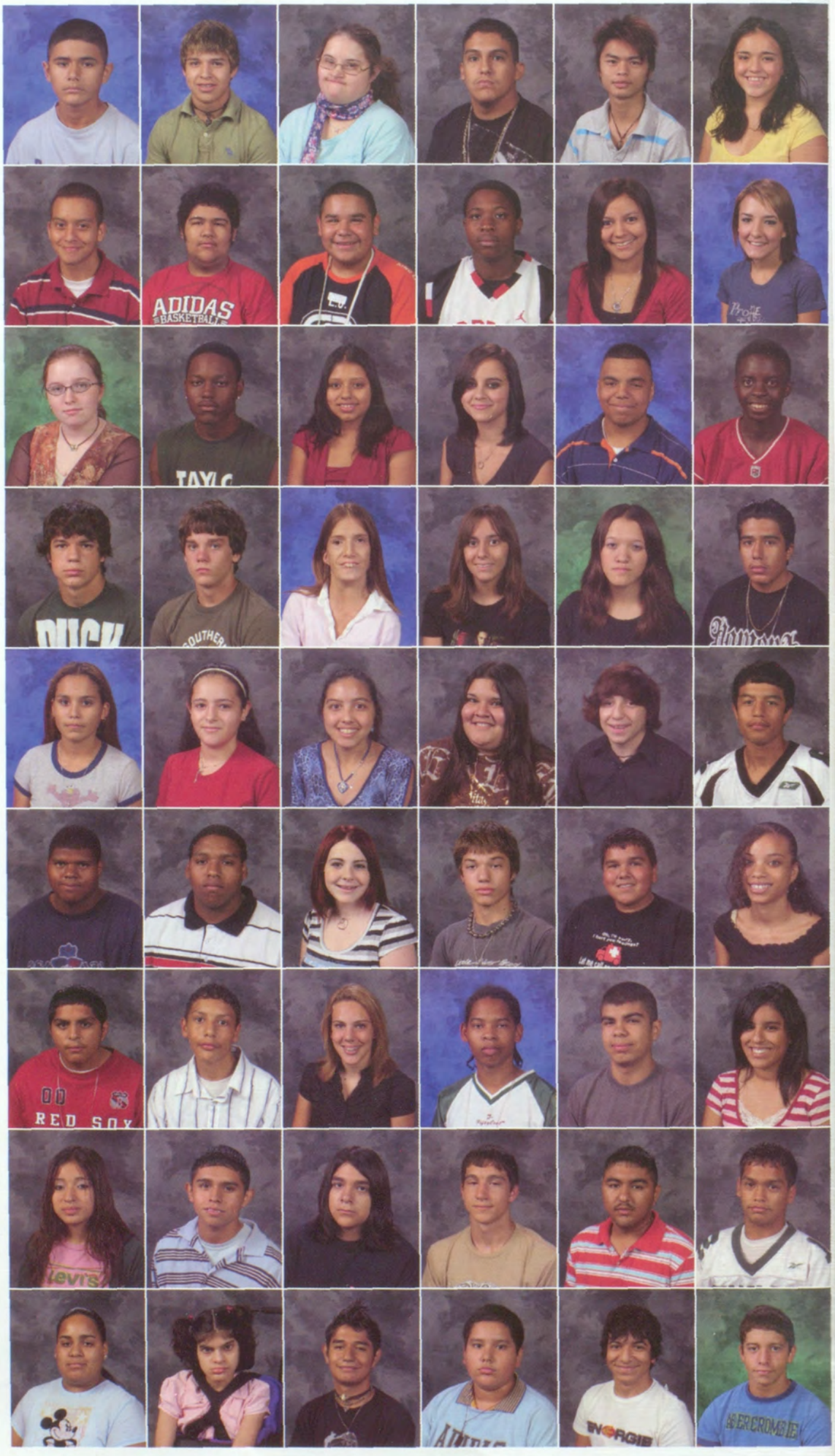
Marcella Ramirez (9)
Mariana Ramirez (10)
Stacy Ramlochan (11)
Estefania Ramos (9)
Jacob Rangel (11)
Juan Rangel (10)

Chris Recendis (10)
Eric Recendis (9)
Paula Reeves (9)
Conoley Reinhardt (9)
Aaron Reyes (11)
Ashley Reyes (10)

Juan Reyes (11)
Johnny Reyna (9)
Maia Richter (10)
Derrick Ridyolph (11)
Abel Rincon (10)
Ashley Rivera (10)

Karen Rivera (9)
Michael Rodrigez (11)
Alonzo Rodriguez (10)
Christopher Rodriguez (10)
Danny Rodriguez (11)
David Rodriguez (9)

Juana Rodriguez (11)
Kayla Rodriguez (9)
Oscar Rodriguez (10)
Victor Rodriguez (9)
Ray Rojas (11)
Trenton Rojas (10)





Samantha Anderson photo by Andrew Jones



Johnny Roman (11)
Adriana Romayor (10)
Cassandra Rozacky (10)
Karyn Roznovak (10)
Derek Rumel (9)
Kyle Sakewitz (10)

Amy Salazar (9)
Felipe Salazar (10)
Jose Miguel Salazar (11)
Kelly Salazar (9)
Tiffany Salinas (10)
Jordan Samuelson (11)





Woo-Hoon Chung photo by Ana Lisa Alderete



Seth Samuelson (10)



Jacob San Migel (9)



Carlos Sanchez (11)



Cassandra Sanchez (11)



Elaine Sanchez (10)



Fabiola Sanchez (10)



Glianne Sanchez (9)



Julian Sanchez (11)
Valerie Sanchez (10)
Ceara Sanford-wilridg (10)
Candan Sarp (10)
Dylan Saucedo (9)
Sydney Savage (11)

Taylor Savage (11)
Sonya Schmidt (9)
Britney Schneider (11)
Charmaine Scott (10)
Rowdesha Scott (9)
Brittany Seggern (10)

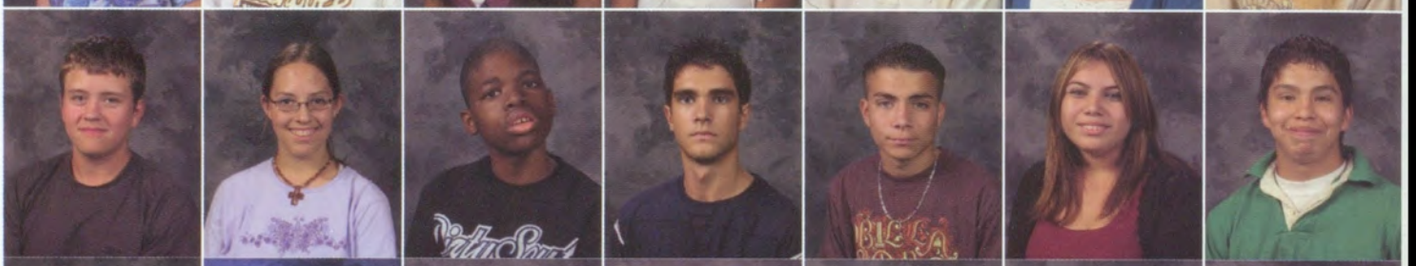
Krista Seidel (10)
Christopher Seigmund (10)
Justin Seigmund (9)
Brooke Selby (9)
Jessica Serna (11)
Jamal Shaw (10)
Jess Shaw (10)



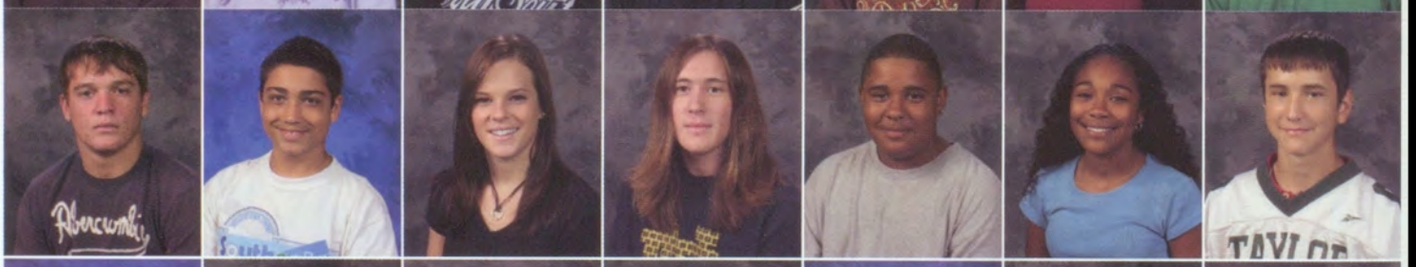
Christina Shultz (9)
Daniel Siguenza (10)
Ashlee Silva (9)
Tamara Simien (11)
Cole Sims (9)
Kammi Sims (11)
Cody Slavych (9)



Brian Slivensky (9)
Michelle Smith (10)
Orlando Smith (11)
Matthew Solbach (11)
Eric Solis (11)
Gabrielle Solis (9)
Martin Solis (9)



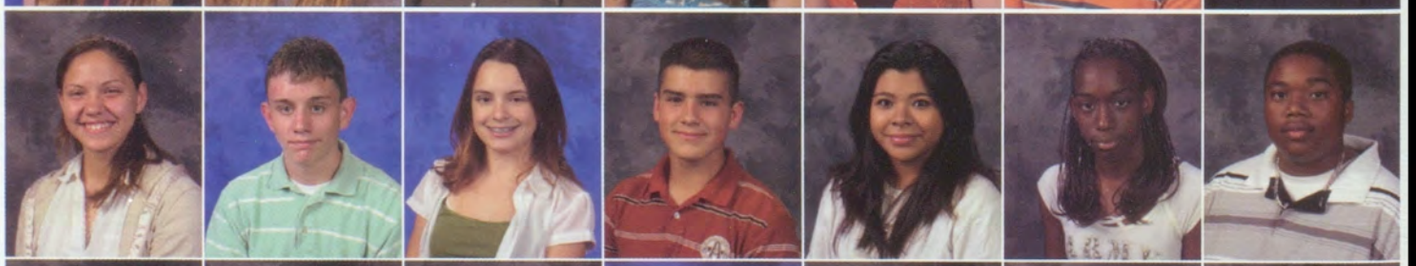
Bobby Sovil (11)
Ethan Speer (9)
Cassie Stabeno (11)
Andrew Stapp (11)
Jonathan Steele (10)
Miressia Steele (9)
Jordan Stefek (9)



Jessica Stegall (11)
Stephanie Stegall (9)
Aubrie Stewart (11)
Trista Stewart (9)
Camryn Stoll (9)
Corey Strmiska (10)
William Stroud (11)



Chardonnay Suarez (9)
Tyler Susan (9)
Courtney Svatek (10)
Zach Talavera (9)
Jessica Tapia (10)
Ula Tatum (11)
Brandon Taylor (10)

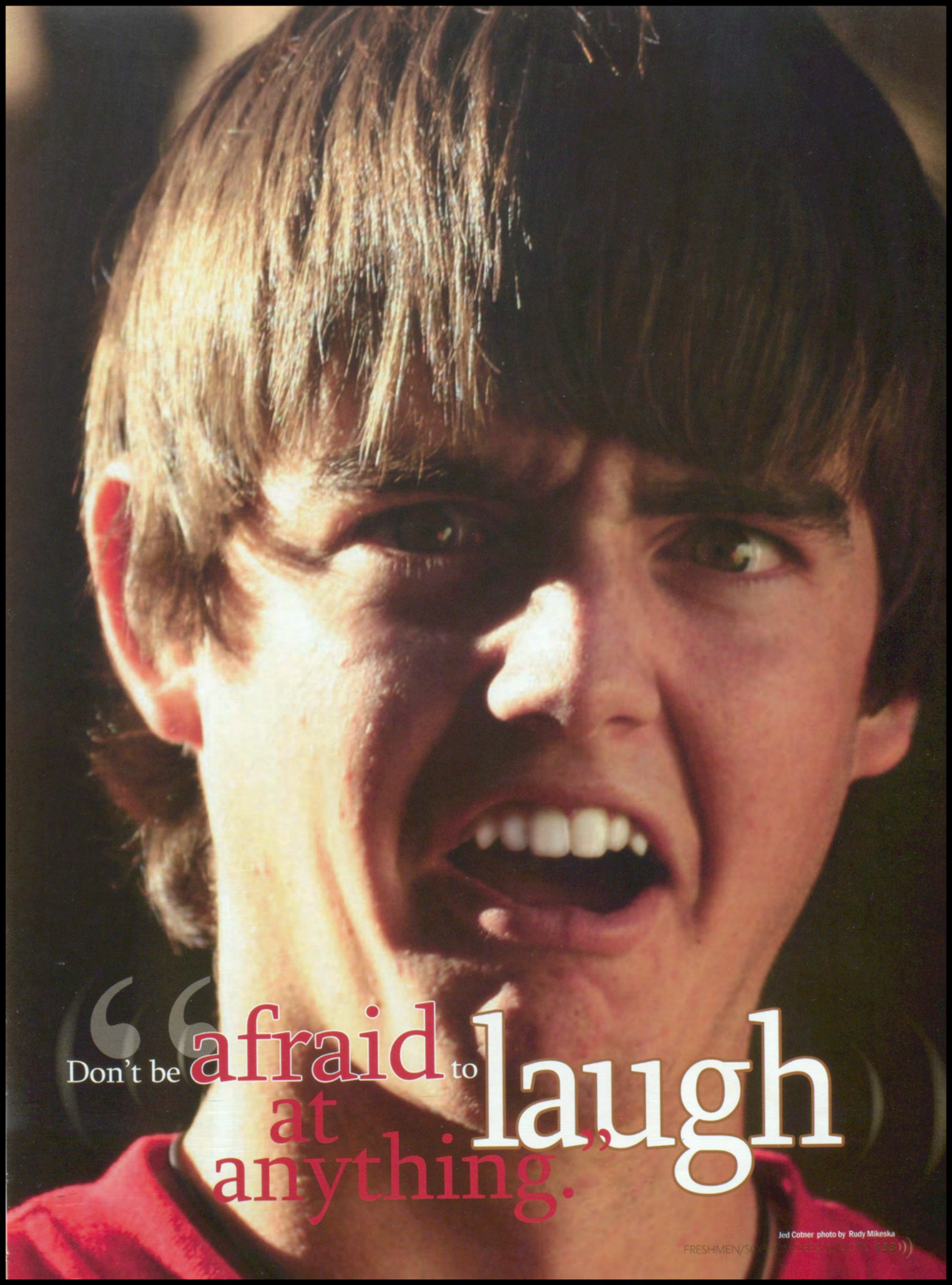


Ransom Taylor (10)
Stephen Taylor (11)
Lindsey Teggeman (10)
Corey Terwilliger (9)
Glenna Tharp (10)
Lanija Thomas (11)
Joey Thompson (9)



Matthew Thompson (9)
Trinia Thompson (10)
Devyn Tone (9)
Adrian Torres (10)
Maria Torres (9)
Olivia Torres (10)
Stephen Torres (11)





Jed Cotner photo by Rudy Mikeska

Jesus Trujillo (9)
Lauren Tucker (9)
Marcos Urbina (9)
Eric Uriegas (10)
Abram Valdez (10)
Evangelina Valdez (10)

Jessica Valdivia (10)
Arabela Valladares (11)
Marcela Valladares (10)
Jacob Valverde (10)
Theodor Vargas (10)
David Vasquez (11)

Luis Vasquez (9)
Monica Villagomez (10)
Maximiliano Villanueva (9)
Tyler Volek (10)
Rachael Voytek (9)
Kelsey Walton (9)

Brene' Washington (11)
Drew Weise (9)
Rachel Weison (10)
Dustin Weiss (9)
Troy Weiss (10)
Josiph Welton (9)

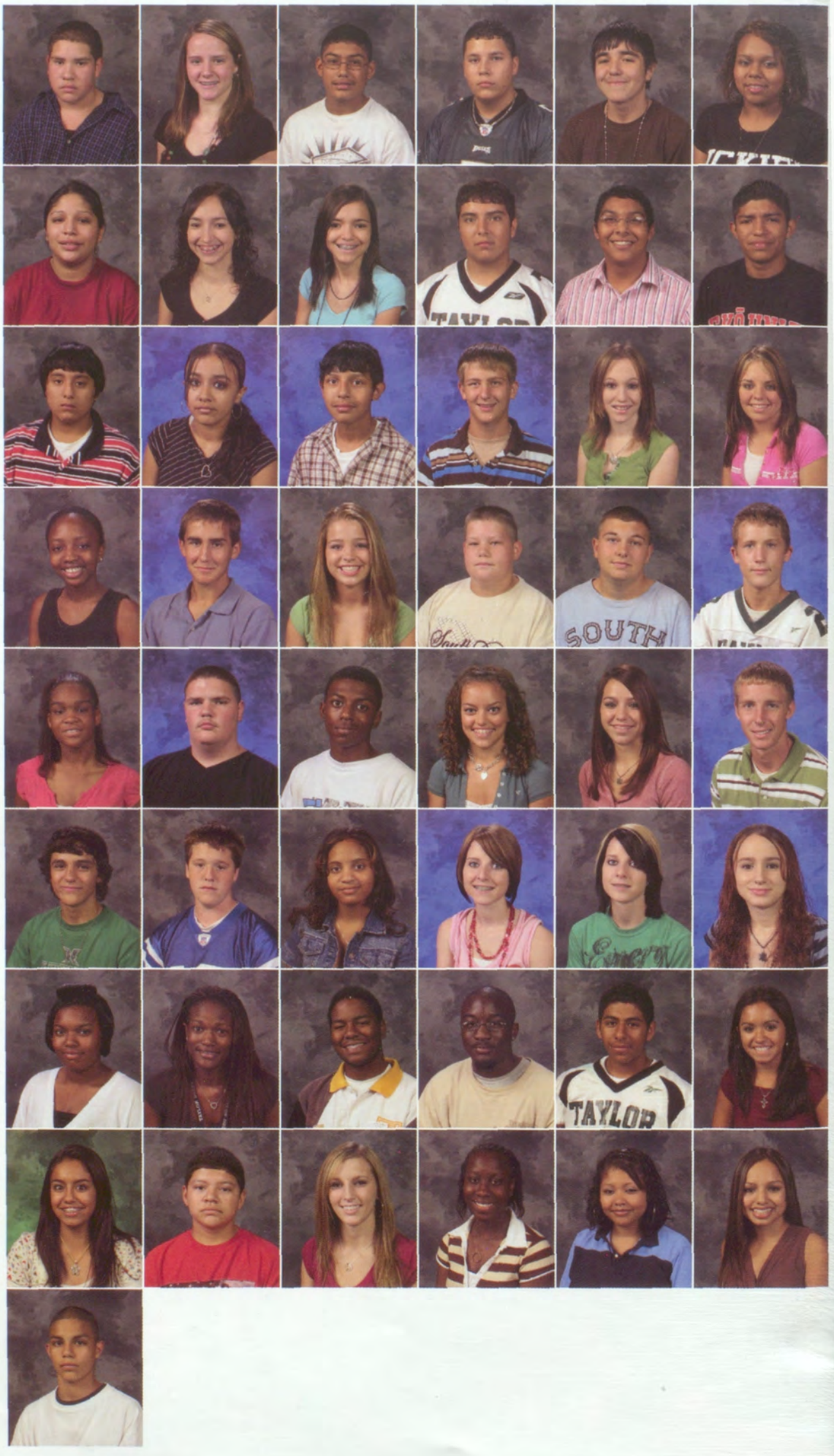
Briona Wheeler (9)
Chance Whisenant (11)
Charles White (11)
Andrea Wilkerson (11)
Brittany Wilkerson (10)
Zachary Wilkins (11)

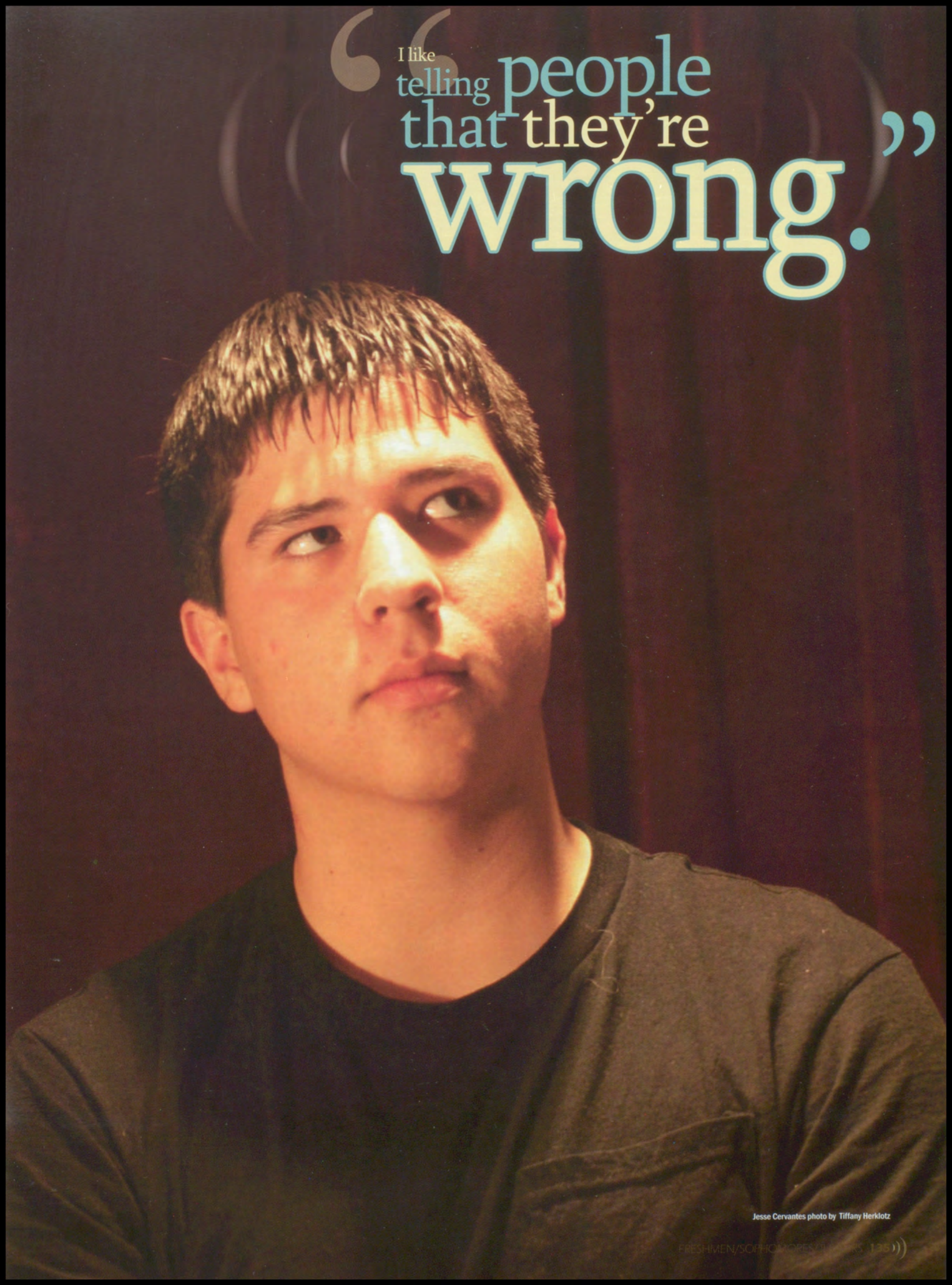
Chase Williams (10)
Matthew Winchester (10)
Jasmine Wolbrueck (9)
Jacqueline Wolf (11)
Stephanie Wolf (11)
Kourtney Woods (9)

Kristian Wooldridge (9)
Meagan Woolridge (10)
Jermain Wright (11)
Lee Wright (10)
Amador Yanez (10)
Brianna Yanez (10)

Katie Yanez (9)
Adrian Young (10)
Kelsey Young (11)
Stephanie Zachary (10)
Aracelly Zavala (10)
Danielle Zavala (10)

Angel Zuniga (10)





Jesse Cervantes photo by Tiffany Herklotz

Jonathan Alonso *Theater Drama Club NHI*
Chris Arldt *Tardy Tank Boys' PE*
Scott Bishop *Ag Floral Design FFA*
Eliza Boyd *Special Ed Aide SRD Club*
Arlene Boyer *Lifeskills*
Ruth Brockman *Basic Eng 3-4 CM*
Herlinda Brown *Special Ed Diagnostician*

Randy Brown *Assistant Principal*
Rachel Burklow *English 1 PAP English 4*
Lorraine Bustamante *Spanish 1-2 Spanish Club*
Alissa Carter *Geometry PAP Geometry Math Models Cheer*
Julie Case *Transition*
Melanie Catuogno *Video Mallard DTP THS-TV*
Johna Childress *English 2 APA English 4*

Shelli Cobb *English 1 PEA*
Sherri Cook *Lifeskills Aide*
Donna Curtis *Eng 4 ESL Read 1-3 SOL International Club*
Leslie Decker *German 1-2 Alg 1 ESL German 3 PAP German Club*
Elizabeth Delatorre *Lifeskills Special Ed Intructional Aide*
Ashley Driskell *Hi-Steppers Dance 1-3 Student Senate*
Dawn Fischer *Digital Graphics Cotton Boll*

Edgar Fisher *Enhanced Math*
Diann Fox *Librarian*
Dennis Gage *Lifeskills Aide*
Maureen Gray *US Goverment AP Goverment Economics Student Senate*
Nathan Gray Art 1 Art Club Drakes
Gracie Guerrero Attendance Clerk
Susan Hackleman Success Center

Krystina Haefner *Latin 1-2 AP Latin 3 Latin Club*
Christine Hodges *Enhanced Reading*
Barbara Johle *Assistant Principal's Secretary Receptionist*
Cathy Johnson *World History PAP World History*
Jennifer Lane *IPC Science Club*
Susanna Lawson *Keyboarding BCIS BPA*
Barbara Leschber *Co-Op BPA*

Cheryl Mankin *Lifeskills*
Deborah Marek *Cafeteria*
Norma Marquardt *Assistant Principal*
Kimberley Mason *Principal*
Lucy Matocha *Lifeskills*
George Matthys *TSC Math*
Craig Miller *SS Dept. Head World Geo. PAP W Geo. Criminal Law*

Connie Moehnke *Nurse*
Kate Mooney *English1 Reading 1-2 Cheer Drakes*
Suzanne Morris *Content Mastery Aide*
Belinda Nira-Munos *Counselor's Secretary*
Tracy O'Quinn *Spanish Club Spanish 1-2 AP Spainsh 3-4*
Yvonne Oranday *Special Education Aide*
Michael Orman *Algebra 1-2*

Linda Paredes *Lifeskills Aide*
Pam Pekar *Registrar*
Viola Razo *Principal's Secretary*
Debra Rinderknecht *Aide*
Mark Rogers *AP Math 1-4 PEA*
Robyn Rogers *World Geography NHS*
Stacy Rogers *TMS Girls PE EA*

Julie Rohan *Algebra 2 PAP Algebra 2*
Vicki Rowe *AP English 3-4 AcDec*
Patti Ruemke *ISS Intructional Aide*
Carin Shaughnessy *Content Mastery Alg 2 incl History incl*
Nisa Stevens *STEP Basic English 2 VAC Debate*
Dee Sutton *Special Education Aide Upward Bound*
Michael Svetly *Geometry AP Stats Tardy Tank*



"When I was a kid, I wanted to be a scientist because it's neat."



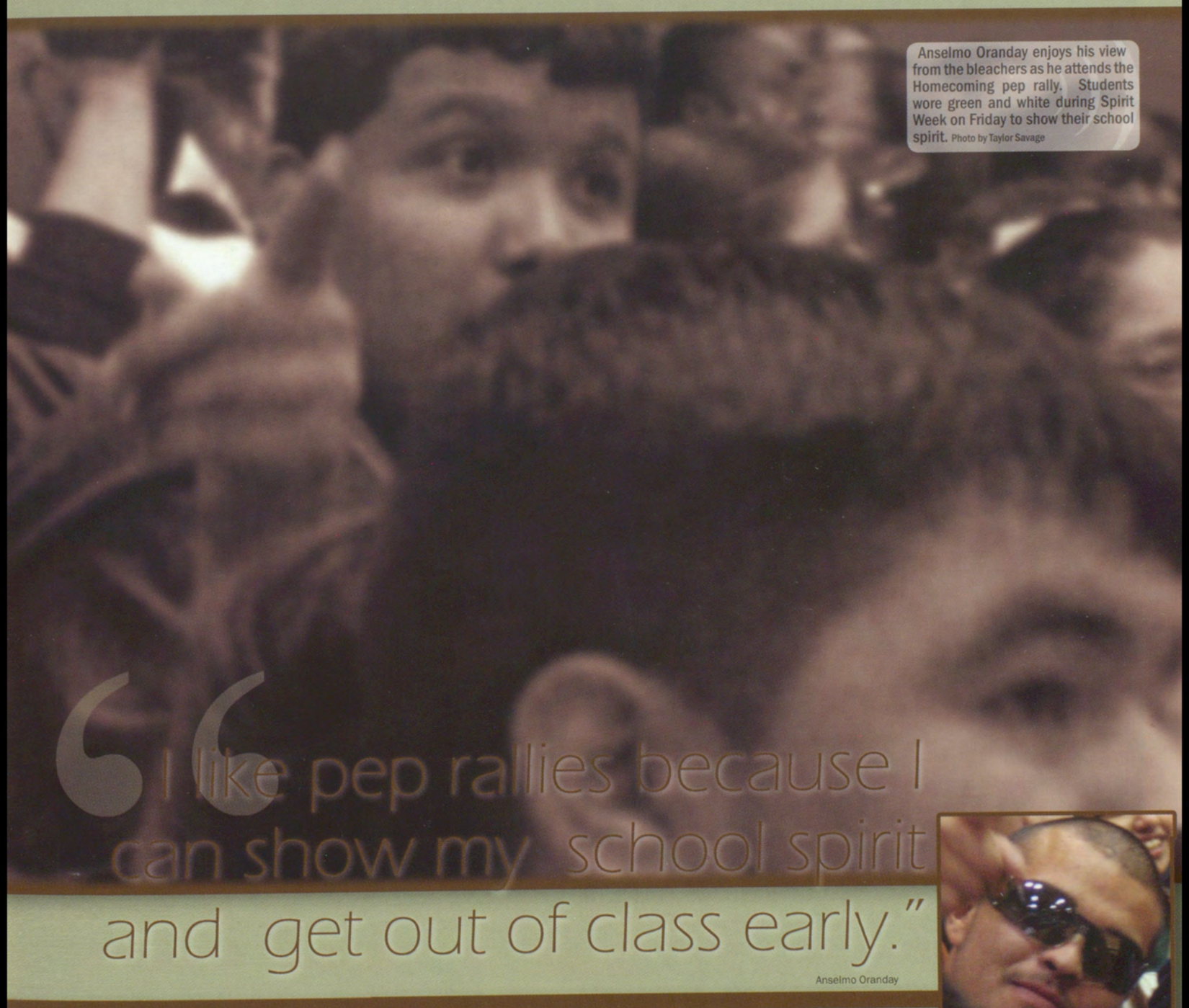
Marilyn Tennill *Counselor Interact*
Whitney Thomas *English 3-4*
Darleen Tucker *Clerical Aide*
Dan Volek *Counselor*
Melissa Waggoner *English 2 PAP English 2*

Matt Walker *Principles of Technology PEA FCA*
Cindy Wehling *On Track*
Kevin Widmer *Life Class*
Magdalena Zavala *Journalism Photo Jrnlsm Geom ESL Bio ESL Journalism Club*
Mary Ann Zucknick *Librarian Assistant*

Mr. Michael Svetley photo by Maria Aguilar

advertising





Anselmo Oranday enjoys his view from the bleachers as he attends the Homecoming pep rally. Students wore green and white during Spirit Week on Friday to show their school spirit. Photo by Taylor Savage

"I like pep rallies because I can show my school spirit and get out of class early."

Anselmo Oranday







Enrich your Surroundings







CABINETRY • MILLWORK
BC
FURNITURE • DESIGN

BURROWS CABINETS

Since 1971

Trills

...the little extras that make life fun!

Congratulations, CJ!
We love you.



201 W. Fourth
352.5518

House of Style

A FAMILY HAIR SALON

Jodie Wilkerson
Mary Mathey
Louis Torres

716 N Main
352.5324

Paul's pool & spa

4208 N Main
352.8857

The Donut Palace

352.5324



1426 N Main

Congratulations
2007
Taylor Seniors!

Mike & Grace
LEONE

Cornerstone Real Estate, Inc.

365.9548

www.Cornerstone-RealEstate.net

1806 Cypress Cove
Taylor, TX 76574

101 East Street
Hutto, TX 78634

taylor & hutto

fax:512.365.1576
toll free:888.777.9838

phone:512.759.5050
fax:512.846.1421

614 W Hw 79
Hutto, TX 78634
512 . 846 . 1761

chili's

PATSCHKE & PATSCHKE
REAL ESTATE

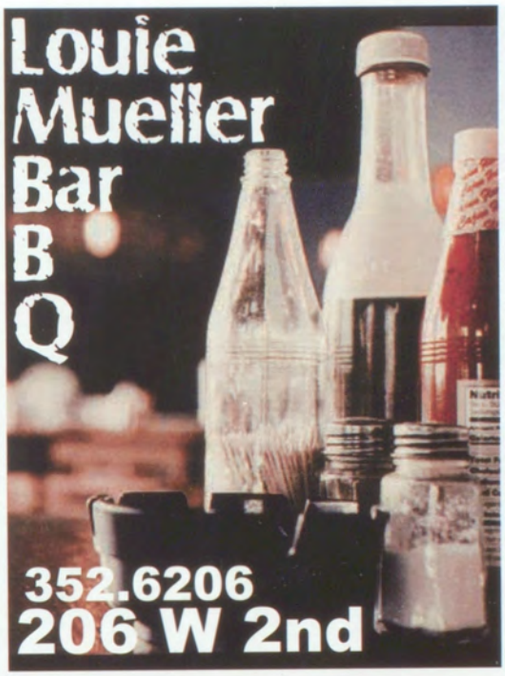
512.365.1905
2403 N Main
Taylor, TX 76574
www.patschkerealestate.com

Trophies & Things by Rachael



2705 Donna Drive
Taylor, TX 76574
512.352.8820
tharp8820@sbcglobal.net

Trophies.Awards.Plaques.Laser Engraving.Gifts



Abigail Luna

All through the year we have
been on the go,
Not much time to let you know
How much we love you.
Here is a note to let you know
we care
And have enjoyed being there.

GOOD LUCK in all that you do.

Mom, Mike and Heather

Brittany Wolf

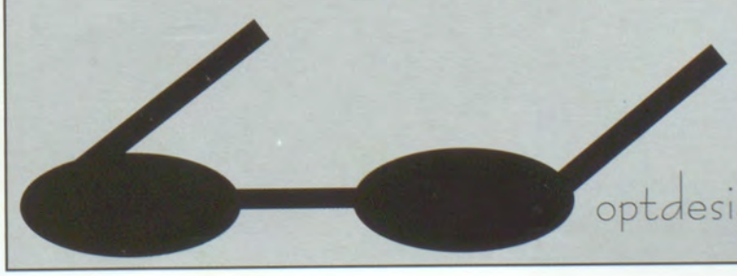
Congratulations,
As one more chapter in your life closes, another will soon begin.
Follow your heart and make your dreams happen.
We are proud of you in all you have accomplished
Love,
Mom, Dad, Jacqueline, and Stephanie



Optical Design Eyeware

601 Mallard Ln
Taylor, Tx 76574

512.352.3016
512.365.3027



optdesign@aol.com



Davis
& Grocery Barbecue
400 S. Robinson
You've tried the rest, now taste the best.
352.8111

Since 1954
2407 N. Main
Schwenker RX
PHARMACY
352.3659
352.8282 (fax)
800.447.3916

Timmy & Nancy Talley
owners

1622Tammi Lane
P.O. Box1181
Taylor, Texas76574

512.365.1979Office

512.365.5068Fax

netally@sbcglobal.net
www.nancohomes.com

Nanco Homes, INC
"Making Your Dream Home a Reality"



TAYLOR FITNESS

310 N. Main

Good Luck Reese Hall!

STEVE CHAPMAN
MOTOR SALES
AUSTIN TEXAS

STEVE CHAPMAN
MOTOR SALES
AUSTIN TEXAS

5919 E. Ben White, Austin TX. 512.385.8807

810 Hester's Crossing.
Suite 165. Round Rock TX
78681

512.238.7888 direct
512.238.7984 fax
512.499.1122 pager

www.candybuzan.home123.com

Candy Buzan
Loan Officer

Home123
Cutting through the loan clutter

Storage @ Circleville
1618 Tammi Ln.
352.8757

Andrew Lopez



Trust in the Lord with all your heart; do not depend on your own understandings. Seek His will in all you do, and He will direct your path. Proverbs 3:5-6
We love you! Congratulations!

Dad, Mom, David Lee and Brooke

Kelley Portillo

Congratulations!
WE LOVE YOU

-Mom, Dad, Nicole, Andy, Ethan, Izaak & Sierra

Aaron Reeves

Hey little brother,
You're graduating,
You're flatulating,
You're pretty cool...
for a bonehead.
Love ya,
Richard Jr.

HAGLER AFFILIATES

Taylor Lube Center

Taylor Tire Center

Taylor Auto Credit

Speedy Lube

TAYLOR SPORTING GOODS

Quality Uniforms and Equipment for 24 Years
305 N. Main
Taylor, Texas 76574
352.3402 [fax]
taylorsportinggoods.com
taylorsporting@sbcglobal.net

352.8964

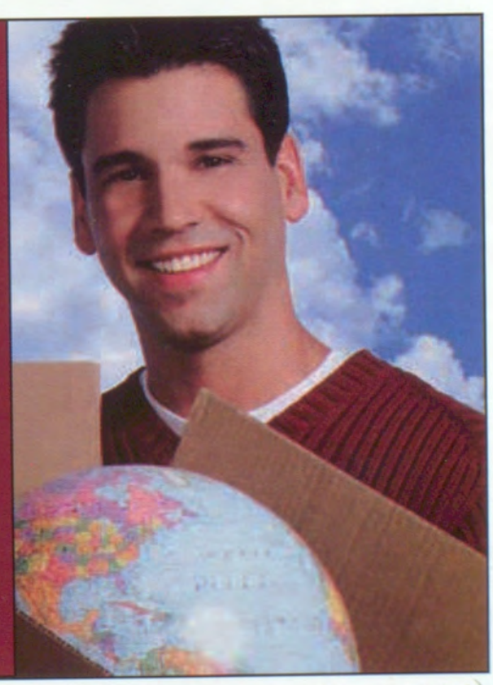
Screenprinting. Embroidery. Names on Uniforms. Window Decals. Fundraising. Custom Uniforms. Heat Press Lettering. Tackle Twill.

365.3900

PAKMAIL

We'll ship anything anywhere!
Taylor HEB Shopping Center

UPS. FedEx. DHL. Freight Mailboxes. Copies[B/W, COLOR]. Packaging Supplies



Taylor Dental
ASSOCIATES, INC

512.352.5577
512.365.5872

We create smilestones! And we create them for all ages. For more than 20 years, we've offered the very latest in caring dentistry and orthodontics for the entire family.

Brittany
Chavana

Congratulations!
Brittany Elizabeth Chavana





We are very proud of you!

Love,
Mark, Camille, Jacob, Erik, and Grandma

Dental Professionals of Taylor
FAMILY, PEDIATRIC, COSMETIC & DENTAL IMPLANTS
1611 OLD GRANGER RD
TAYLOR, TX 76574

512.352.5244

Penny's
PHARMACY
511 N. Main
352.5233


201 E HWY 79
Thrall
Sat 11 to 9. Sun 8 to 2
Mon.Wed.Thurs.Fri 5 to 9
898.2397
El CHILITO Cafe

365.8866.748.5208
samuel@sanddplumbing.com
S&D
Since 1980
plumbing

Eddie's
Plumbing
365.1771
585.7249

SIRLOIN
STOCKADE
352.9424
3607 N. Main

Amber Johnson







It's been an awesome adventure with some wonderful memories!
As you begin the next phase of your journey, keep reaching for the stars, for they will lead you to your dreams!
We are very proud of you and love you,
Dad, Mom, Shelby & Dustin

"Be strong and of good courage. Do not be afraid, nor be dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." -Joshua 1:9



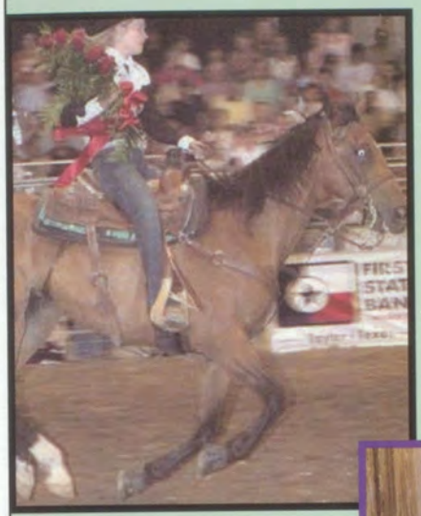








Mallory Janak







Live the life you have imagined. Follow your dreams! We are proud of you.

Love always,

Mom, Dad, Trey, Julie, Rusty, Madison, Papa, and Granny

Tall Grass Guy

365.1608



802 Gilmore Street

Citizen's National Bank

316 N. Main St

254.697.6653

Derek
Terwilliger

Derek, what a joy you are! We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Continue to love God and follow Him in whatever He has for you. Keep your sense of humor. It'll help you (and others) through tough times.

We love you, Son.

Mom and Dad



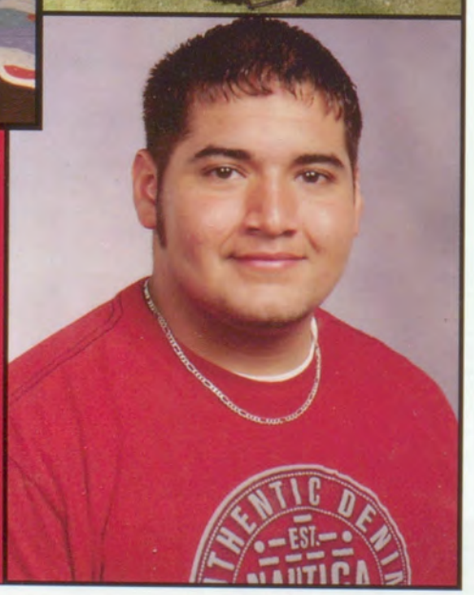
352.PEST[7378]
866.365.2847 Toll Free
512.849.7351 Pager
512.365.2847 Fax

PEST PATROL

Nicholas
Pachicano







We're proud of you Nick!

Love,
Mom & Dad

352.5292

Best Western

Best Western Taylor Inn

Free Continental Breakfast
Free High Speed Internet
Swimming Pool

The GROVE
Country Life Museum
The Grove, Texas

254.986.3437
512.282.1215
512.694.4011

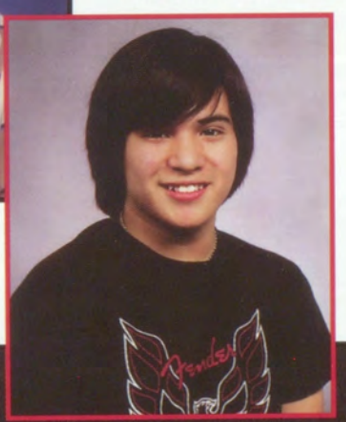
Welcome to
RICHTER FURNITURE
Family Owned Since 1903 by 5 Generations

115 W. 3rd
Taylor, Texas
512.352.3212
www.richterfurniture.com

Emilio
Gonzales



Emilio- Life is really just beginning. Continue making us proud!
Love,
Mom And Dad





Large Enough to Serve,
Small Enough to Care

Longhorn Title Company

H-E-B
Here.Everything's.Better
GAS STATION. PHARMACY. BAKERY. PHOTO
100 Carlos G Parker. Suite 101. 352.2015. Open 24hrs

dragonfly
Floral & Gifts
512.846.1777 Toll-Free 866.507.4438
www.dragonflyfloralandgifts.com
Location: 208 US Hwy 79E, Hutto, Tx 78634 Mail: P.O. Box 761, Hutto, Tx 78634

Terra Properties INC
Billy Simank
2207 N. Main St
Taylor, Tx 76574
Office 365.5555
Cell 429.1765
Home 898.2800

Fajitas on Wheels
401 W. 3rd Street
352.2326

TAYLOR OFFICE PRODUCTS
119 W. 3rd St.
352.5568

Dave's Heating & Air Conditioning
208 Sloan St.
365.6627

Free ATMs Nationwide
with No minimum balance. No monthly service charge

It's Your Life
Don't waste it searching for an ATM



City National Bank
Progressive Financial Services Since 1900
www.cnbt.com
Member FDIC

*Only Three Requirements Per Cycle:
• Valid email address • Electronic statements • (4) Visa Check Card transactions

Todd Bryan





Look at you at two, look at you at three,
here you sit on Papa's knee.

You are looking up at him, he is looking down at you,
What you two would do without each other,
no one has a clue.





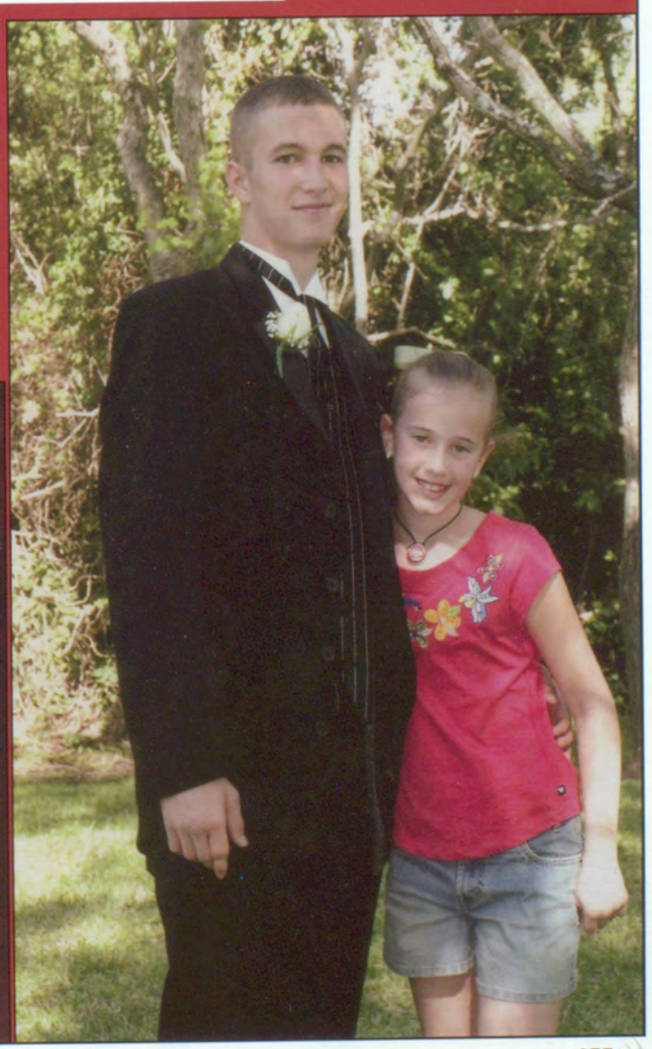
You were so sweet then, and even sweeter now.
How did you get so grown ? Please tell me how.

We are proud of you son, you are now a grown man,
Take all that we have taught you and make your own plan.

Remember though the one thing that will always get you through,
We will love you and will always support all that you do.

Love,
Mom, Dad & Brookie







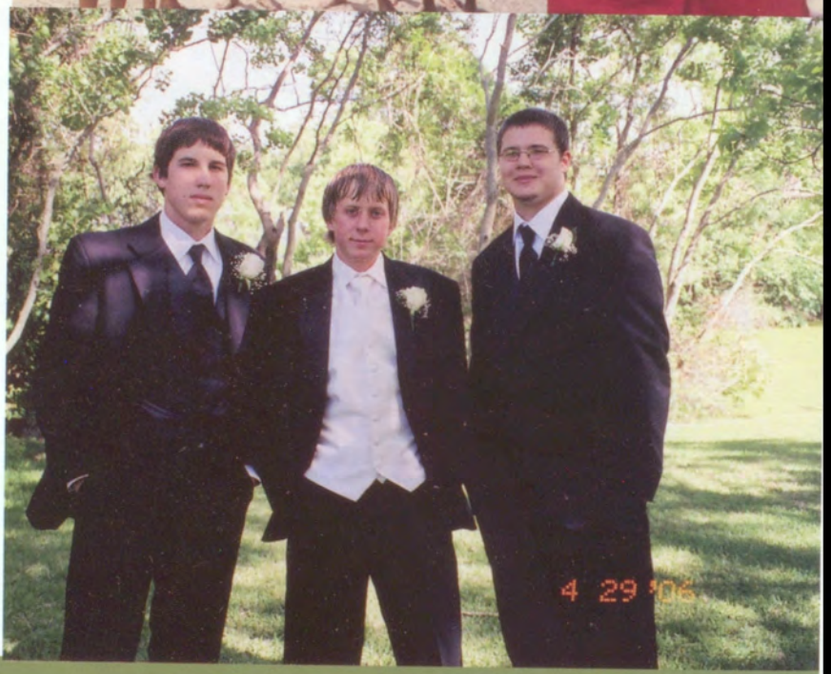
John Kaspar

Congratulations, John David! We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. The world is waiting, so follow your heart and make your dreams come true. You're still your mom's best birthday present ever! Thanks for the memories and always remember we love you very much.

Mom, Dad, Luke, and Savannah

















Rick's CLEANERS

Voted Best Cleaners Five Years in a Row

"We don't charge too little ...
All the others charge too much!"

$1.89 Any Garment
$1.19 Laundered Shirts
$.99 Laundered Shirts when you mention this ad

www.rickscleaners.com

HUTTO

409 W. Front St. 100

759.4300

Edward STRINGER



Tick,
You have grown up to be such a handsome young man. Every day you remind us more and more of Dad. We will always be behind you through all that life has to offer and as long as you continue to strive for success, God will be there for you too. We are so proud of the person you have become.
Love always,
Mom & Sherrie









EULENFELD*Interiors*

www.eulenfeldinc.net
604 E. Lake Dr.
365.7174 or 352.8314

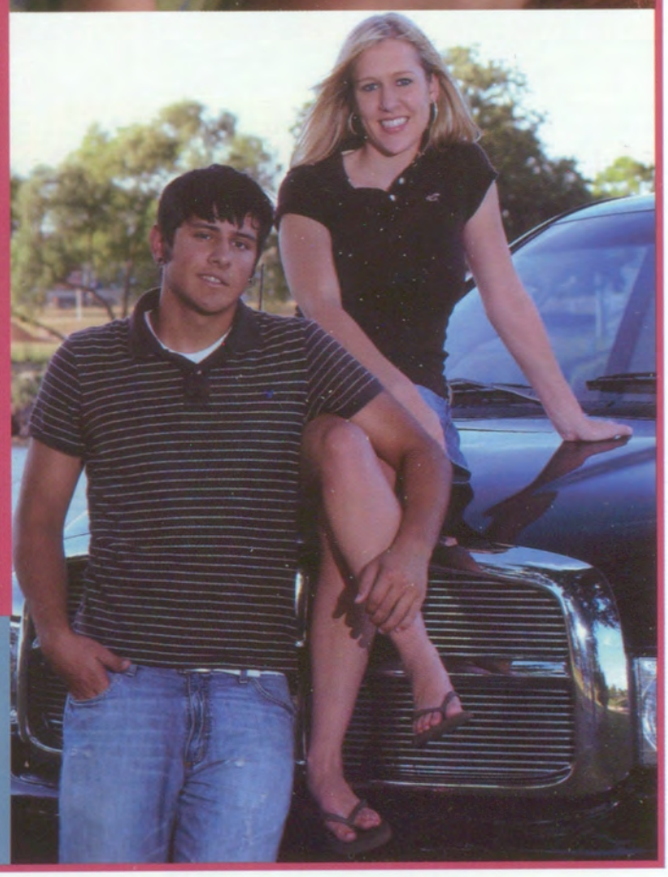


Ashton Baran





Ashton,
We are proud of you and love you. Good luck at Texas State.
Mom, Dad and Slim





K's
MERLE NORMAN
K's Gifts & More
Purses. Jewelry. Picture Frames. Cards. Candles & More
Located at the Exchange Center in Hutto
846.2099

A. L. Paul Painting
Quality Since 1974
1800 CR 347
365.9230

Paige Vanecek









For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future. Jeremiah 29:11

Follow your dreams.
We are very proud of you!

Love, Mom, Dad, Tyler, & Aaron



Danielle KAHANEK





Dani,

Granddad and I are *so proud* of you. You have grown into a *beautiful young woman*. Thank you for being you.

Love you *always*.

Grandad
& Grandma

Ron WERNER DDS

501 Mallard Ln.

352.2922

Floyd's GLASS

365.2016

1604 W. 2ND ST.

Devenia Gonzales



Veina-
Through the years I have watched you grow up as you went through life's struggles, and you survived it. Now you are all grown up and I'm very proud of your accomplishments.
You are my rock!
Love you.
Mom

Congrats Sis!
I love you!
Carin

Im proud of you, and good luck with your future endeavors.
Big Sis Jennifer

We love you Deveina!
You made it! Keep standing for what you believe and want. We're always here for you!
Always,
David&Rhonda

McMAKIN & ASSOCIATES REAL ESTATE

365.8563

Gongl's
CUSTOM AUTO INC

20901
HWY
79 TAYLOR

352.7298

Mustang Creek
Golf Club

365.1332

CAPITOL
Aggregates
LTD

We commit to provide all customers total quality in products, services, and support within our corporate framework of integrity, fairness, and profitablity.

385.3211

Luke & Josh

CAVO

KIEWIT

Luke and Josh,
What a blessing you are to us. We are very proud of you.
Love,
Your families

Trust in the Lord with all your heart,
and do not lean on your own understandings.
In all your ways acknowledge Him,
and he will make your paths straight.

Proverbs 3: 5-6



















Brittany Chavana











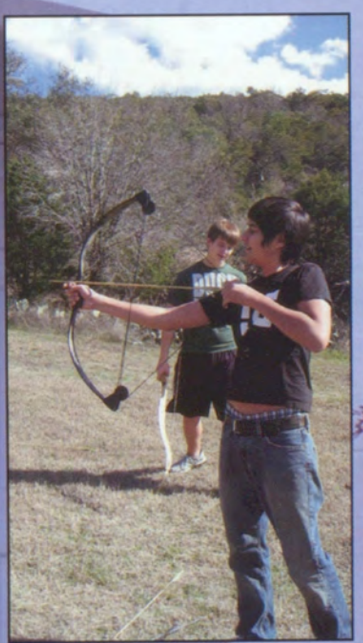
Congratulations Brittany!
We are very proud of you. We love you and wish all the best!
Mom, Dad, and Ramon



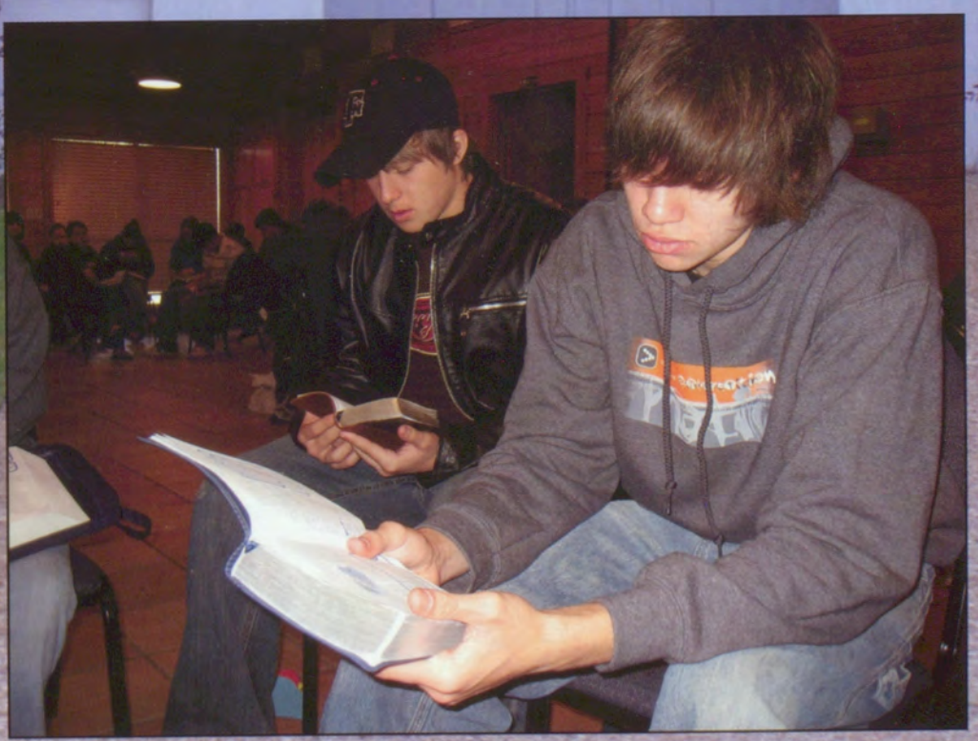


First Baptist Church

352.3144









MATT
Milliken









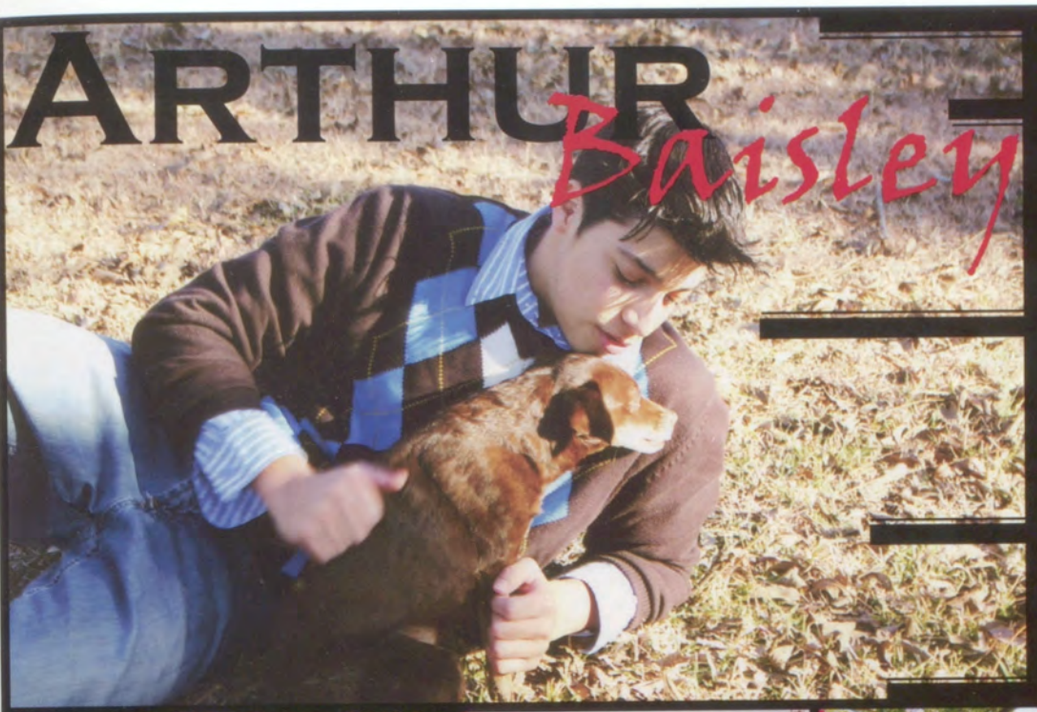






Matt,
The day you were born, we were blessed!
You are a great student and a special person.
We're going to miss watching you play football. You always work so hard! Best of luck at college! We know that you will do great things and will make us proud!
Love,
Dad, Mom, Trey, Mo-Mo, Po-Po, Granny and Paw Paw

ARTHUR Baisley



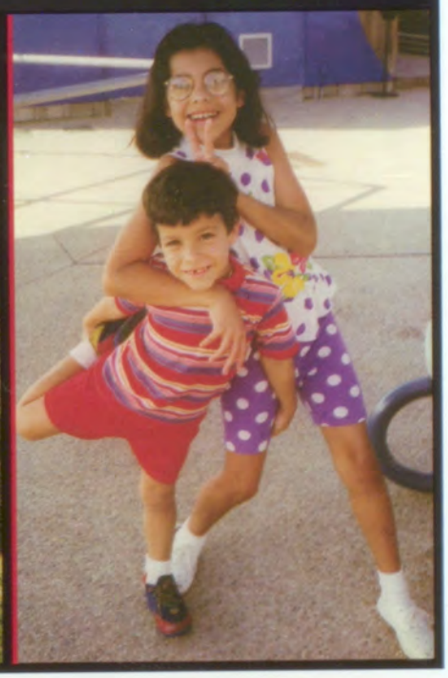
Arthur, AKA "Junior" to his family. Life is a journey you must not take lightly. You have made it through with great qualities like a giving heart, compassion and understanding. Not to mention impecable style. You always give 100% in all that you do. Good Luck and always know we are here for you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Chris,
Jessie & Vincent









COST CUTTERS®
FAMILY HAIR SALON
CUTS - COLOR - CUT
NEXT TO HEB 352-7522

Java Junction
Coffeehouse and Deli Too!
519 N Main St Taylor, TX (512) 352-3229

DURCON™
LABORATORY TOPS, INC.

206 Allison Drive
Taylor, TX

595.8000
595.8400

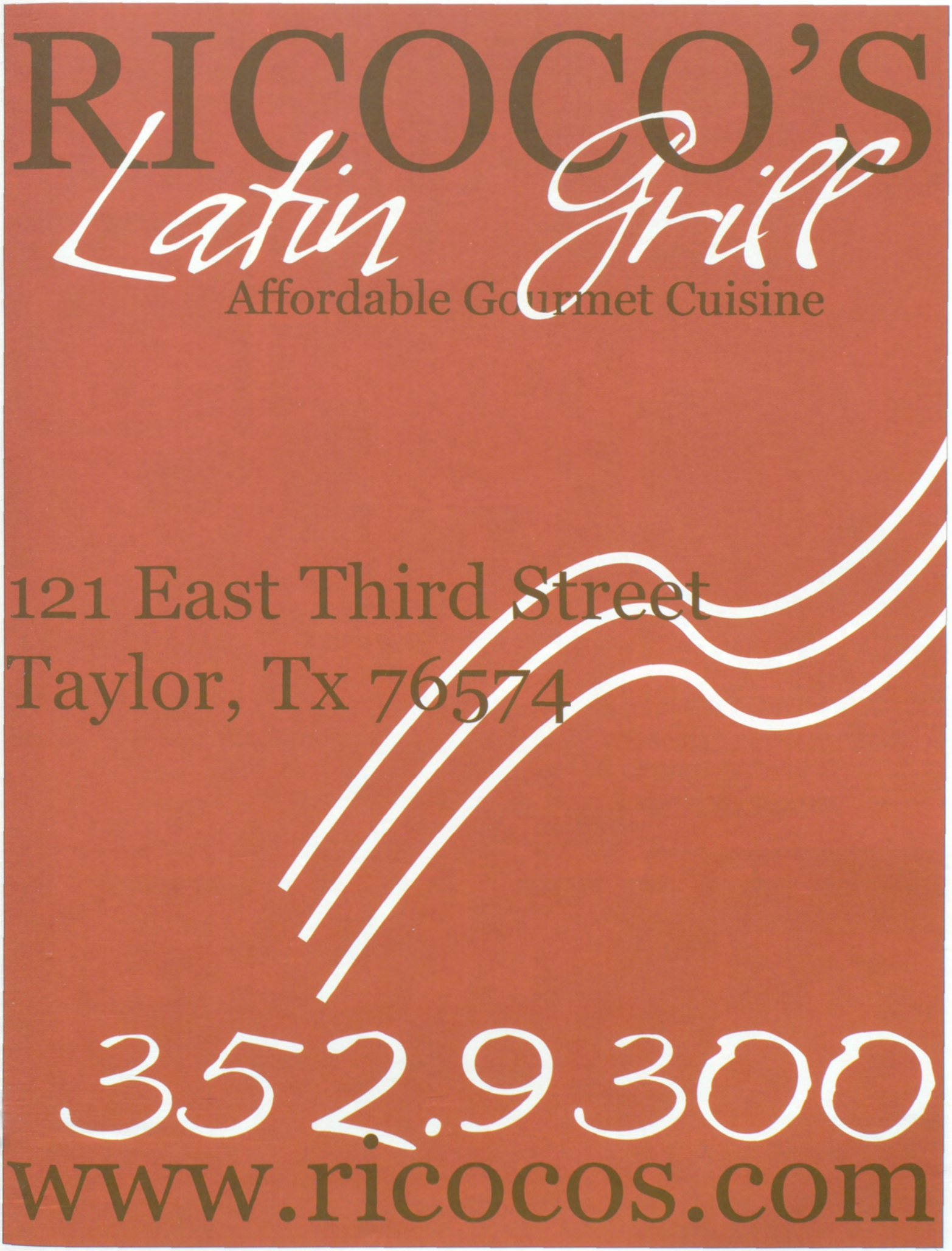
TW
Business
Solutions
Hutto
663.6553


Moss
True Value
200 Commercial Dr
Taylor, TX 76574
Phone: 512-352-2895

JOHNS COMMUNITY
HOSPITAL

305 Mallard Lane, Taylor, TX 76574
(512) 352-7611/(512) 365-2041

We're here when you need us...


RICOCO'S
Latin Grill
Affordable Gourmet Cuisine
121 East Third Street
Taylor, Tx 76574
352.9300
www.ricocos.com









Paige Stives & Toni Chandler

Screaming in the rain, not having any shame. Having someone there when you are in pain. The long crazy nights of playing the meow game. I think it's safe to say our friendship is far from being plain. Without each other our senior year just wouldn't be the same.
TOE-KNEE & Paigey Poo Poo Shoe









Taylor Floral Company, Inc.

serving Taylor trade area since 1947

6th and Davis Sts.
P.O. Box 1125
(512) 352-6369
(800) 728-6369

The Holmstroms



Casey Balduff's green Mazda sits slightly damaged in the parking lot. The driver who hit her car on the highway drove away before Casey got a chance to get a positive identification.

Casey Balduff found herself doing a normal teenage activity, until she suffered the effects of the involved truck, along with her car. "I was on my way to the football game and the truck next to me swerved into my lane and hit me." Casey said. "The driver's side door is mostly damaged and the mirror hangs down," Luckily, her car was the only one who suffered cosmetic damages.

On the opposite end of the spectrum, Matthew Lozano has had much different car wreck experiences. Being involved in two different incidents has not necessarily been pleasant for Matt. On the way to church one morning, Matt ran into a minor obstacle. "Some papers fell and I bent down to get them and all of the sudden I felt a big bump and half of my car was off the road," Matt said. Unintentionally, after leaving the driving posture for a fleeting moment, Matt was accomplishing an unanticipated maneuver onto the curb. "It's kind of bad now because I get made fun of all the time," Matt said. In a second case, Matt found himself repeating the same scenario as the first, except now the consequences were of a larger caliber. This time, he successfully mowed over a stone mailbox coming out unscathed, of course, but not his car. He has held his head up and kept his spirits high, though. "My car is running, so that's all that matters now," Matt said.

Aaron Reeves







Always entertaining,
Always surprising,
Really the best!
Our son-
Now graduating.

Remember we love you always,
Even when you make us crazy,
Even when you make us cry when
Visualizing you as an adult.
Everlasting love-that's what
Sustains our family.

Aaron- We are (and always have been)
so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad & Paula



Matthew Lozano's car sits in the body shop in the pre-repairing stage. All the work took three days and several hundred dollars. "Not having a car for three days was bad but I guess I managed. I mean, I didn't have one for sixteen years," Matt said.



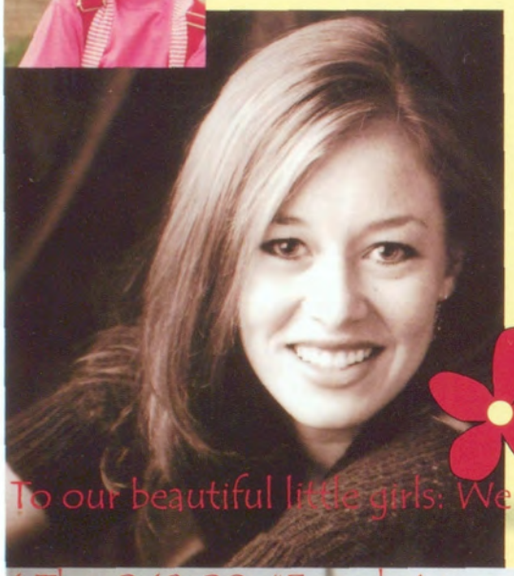
Emily Quinn



Devyn Rucker



Sarah Johnson

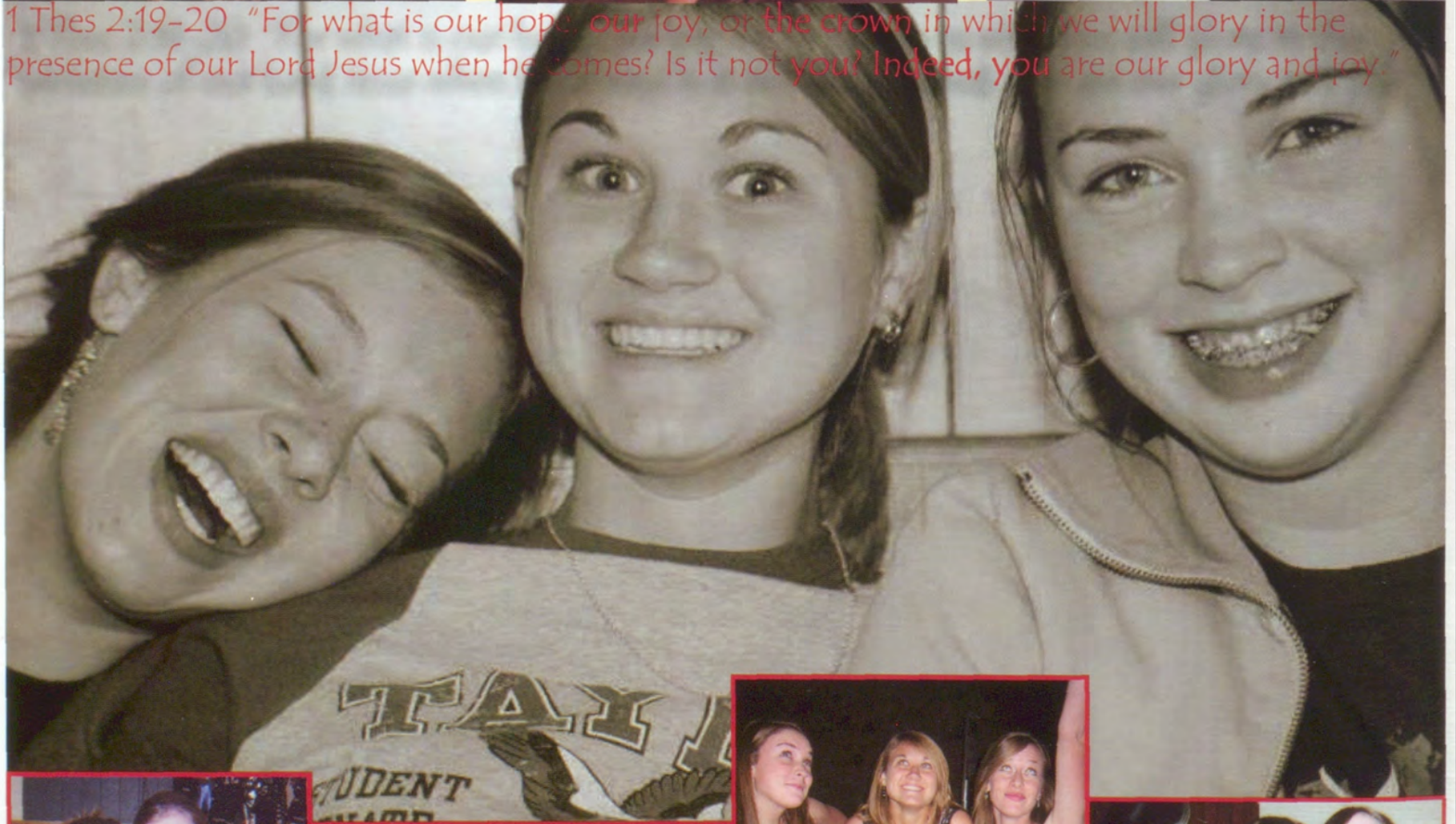






To our beautiful little girls: We love you and are proud of you.

1 Thes 2:19-20 "For what is our hope, our joy, or the crown in which we will glory in the presence of our Lord Jesus when he comes? Is it not you? Indeed, you are our glory and joy."













Crystal Carillo tries to convince Mrs. Julie Rohan to accept her late homework "It's a habit with me," Crystal said. Many teachers have started not accepting any late work no matter how believable the excuse. Photo by Sydney Savage

Every night students go home with folders full of homework for most of their classes. Several students manage to get their homework done on time, but others are not so lucky. "I just go home and I don't worry about my homework for a while and then before I know it, it's 1 o'clock, so I can't do my homework," Crystal Carrillo said.

Some students make up excuses so frequently that they feel it is easy to inch their way through an argument with a teacher. "I do it so often that it's become a pattern for me. I've sort of become an expert at it," Crystal said.

Crystal uses countless excuses and stories to get out of her homework. One story that she has used, more in a joking manner, is about a train passing by. She explains to her math teacher that "she missed the train that came by and her paper flew away."

Students come up with many funny, sometimes unbelievable, excuses to get out of their homework assignments. Others opt for trying to come up with something probable so that it is less likely to be caught lying. "Most of the time I just use work for an excuse. Teachers will believe me if I say that I had to work really late and didn't have time to do my homework," Brittni Gola said. "Or one time, for a health project, my group just told the teacher that our video camera was messed up and wouldn't transfer the footage to the TV, but in reality we just hadn't done the project yet so there wasn't anything on the tape."

On occasion, teachers might give students flexibility in certain special situations, and unfortunately, a number of students take advantage of this. "Many times students do have other things to do, but I also believe a lot of students just don't want to do their homework," Ms. Rachel Burklow said.



Kyle
Vanecek

We are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished. May God always be with you.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Conner,
Collin and Kacie



Colin
VALERIO



For He will give His angels charge of you to guard you in all your ways.

Psalms 91: 01

I will not fail to speak of his Limbs, His strength and his graceful form.

Job 41:12

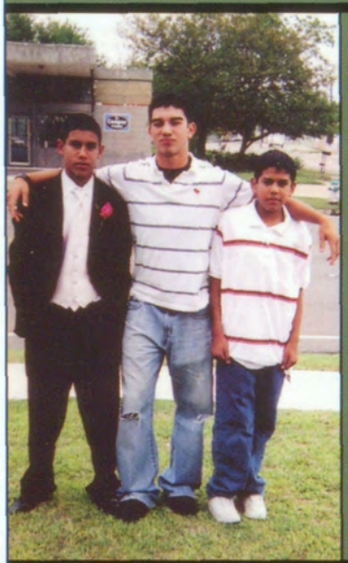
Colin,
Your sister and I are so very proud of you-we love you very much. Keep your focus on God and he will make your path straight.

Love you always,
Mom&Ericka

Nathan Neitsch

Congratulations Nate!
We're so proud of you!
Love,
Mom & Dad,
Grandma & Oma

The Lord is my rock, my fortress and my deliverer;
my God is my rock, in whom I take refuge.
He is my shield and the horn of my salvation, my stronghold.
Psalm 18:2









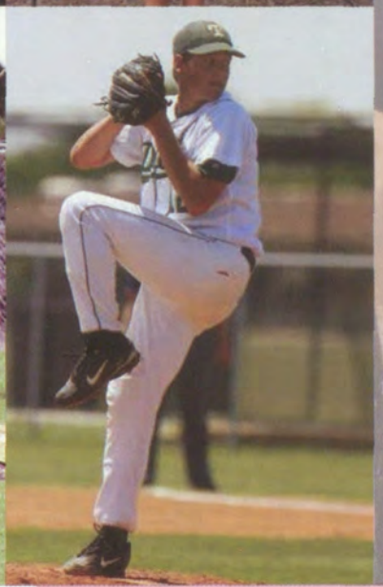


BRAEDEN LAWHON

Through the years you've made us laugh,
you've made us cry, but most of all,
you've made us proud!
Congratulations and lots of luck in the
years to come.

We Love You,
Dad, Mom, Maisen, Mo Mo Lawhon and
Maw Maw Hannusch





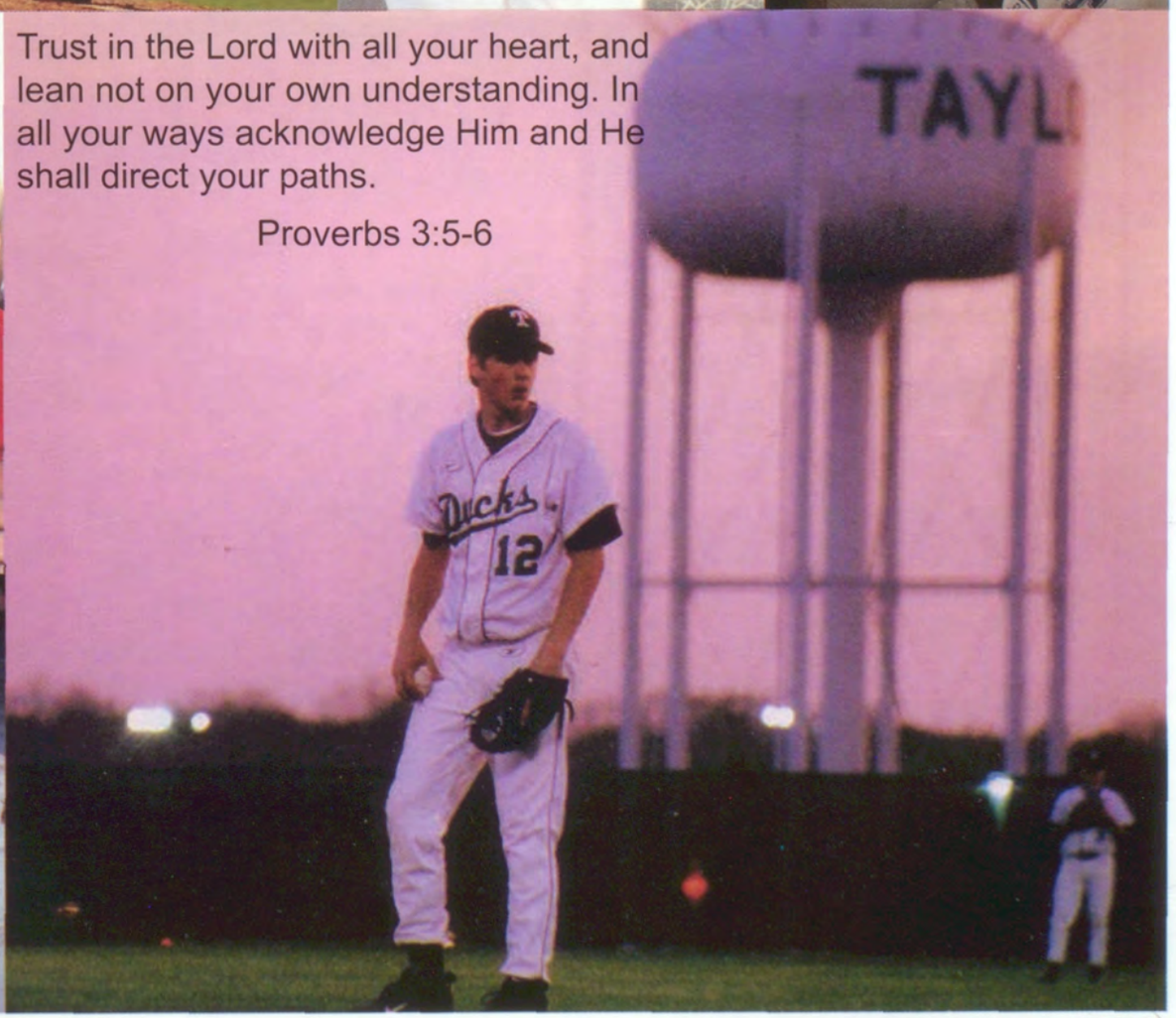




Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and
lean not on your own understanding. In
all your ways acknowledge Him and He
shall direct your paths.

Proverbs 3:5-6





Devyn Rucker







Devyn,

You are a special young women. We are proud of all you have accomplished and more importantly, of the type of person you have become. Your hard work and dedication will take you far and allow you to accomplish great things. Good luck at UT and Hook 'em!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Keely
& Ian

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own unnderstandings;
in all your ways acknowledge Him,
and He will make your path straight.
Proverbs: 3:5-6











Sarah Johnson

Trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not on your own understandings; in all your ways acknowledge Him, and He will make your paths straight.
Proverbs 3: 5-6

I have no greater joy than to hear that my children walk in the truth. 3 John 1:4

We love you, Sarah!
Mama, Dad, Emily, Jennifer & Anna

















Robin Gonzalez













Robin,
Congratulations on your four hard years in school, and we hope you continue your education and become someone important as you have been in our life. We love you so much.
Mom & Dad





Some people see the backpack a necessity when it comes to school, while others just carry around a folder. How you organize your backpack could make a difference.

"I'm neat," Cassie Rozacky said, "I keep all my papers in folders." Cassie is one of many that choose the neat way when putting papers in her backpack. Most girls do like to keep it neat while the guys decide to just throw in papers anywhere. Dillion Pfluger is a prime example of this.

"I don't realize how messy it is until I can't find papers," Dillon said. "I like it this way I don't want to be neat," Dillon said.

"It really bothers me when people are unorganized. I just want to fix all their stuff for them," Cassie said.

Although some people keep their backpacks tidy, they often still contain many things besides the normal three-ring binder and notebook paper.

"I have things organized, but I always keep a bowl of cereal on hand. You can never be too prepared," Cassie said.

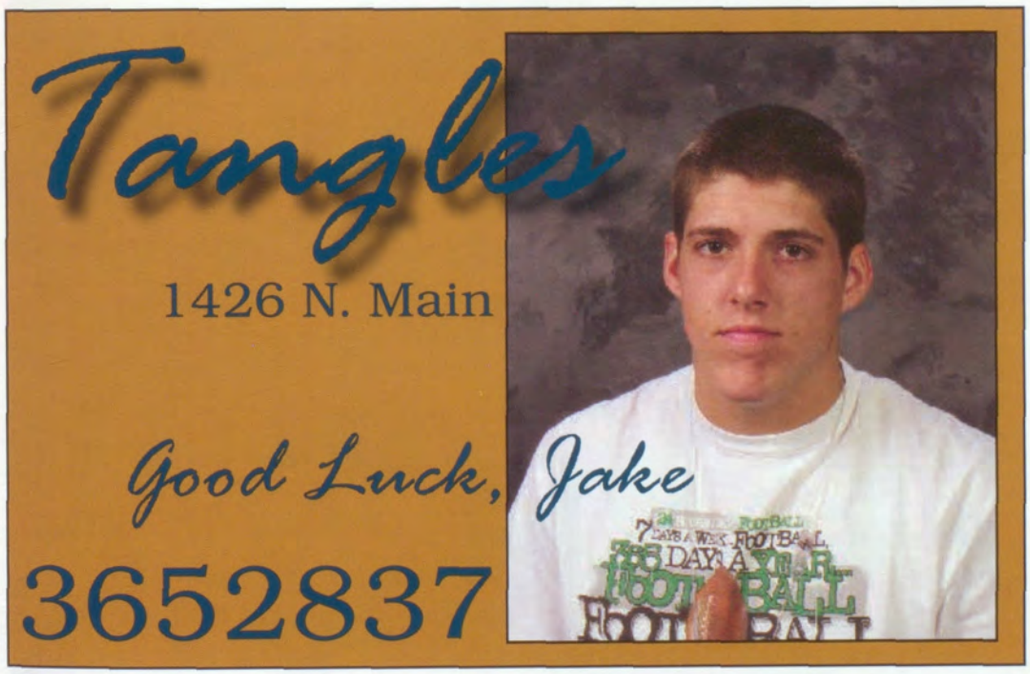


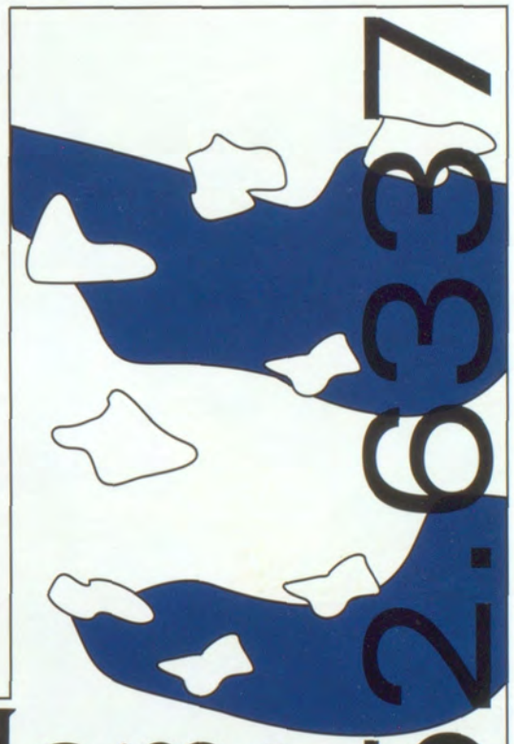


Cassie Rozacky and Cole Carnes show off their organized backpacks. Some students find it hard to learn with a messy or disorganized backpack. Photos by John Kaspar



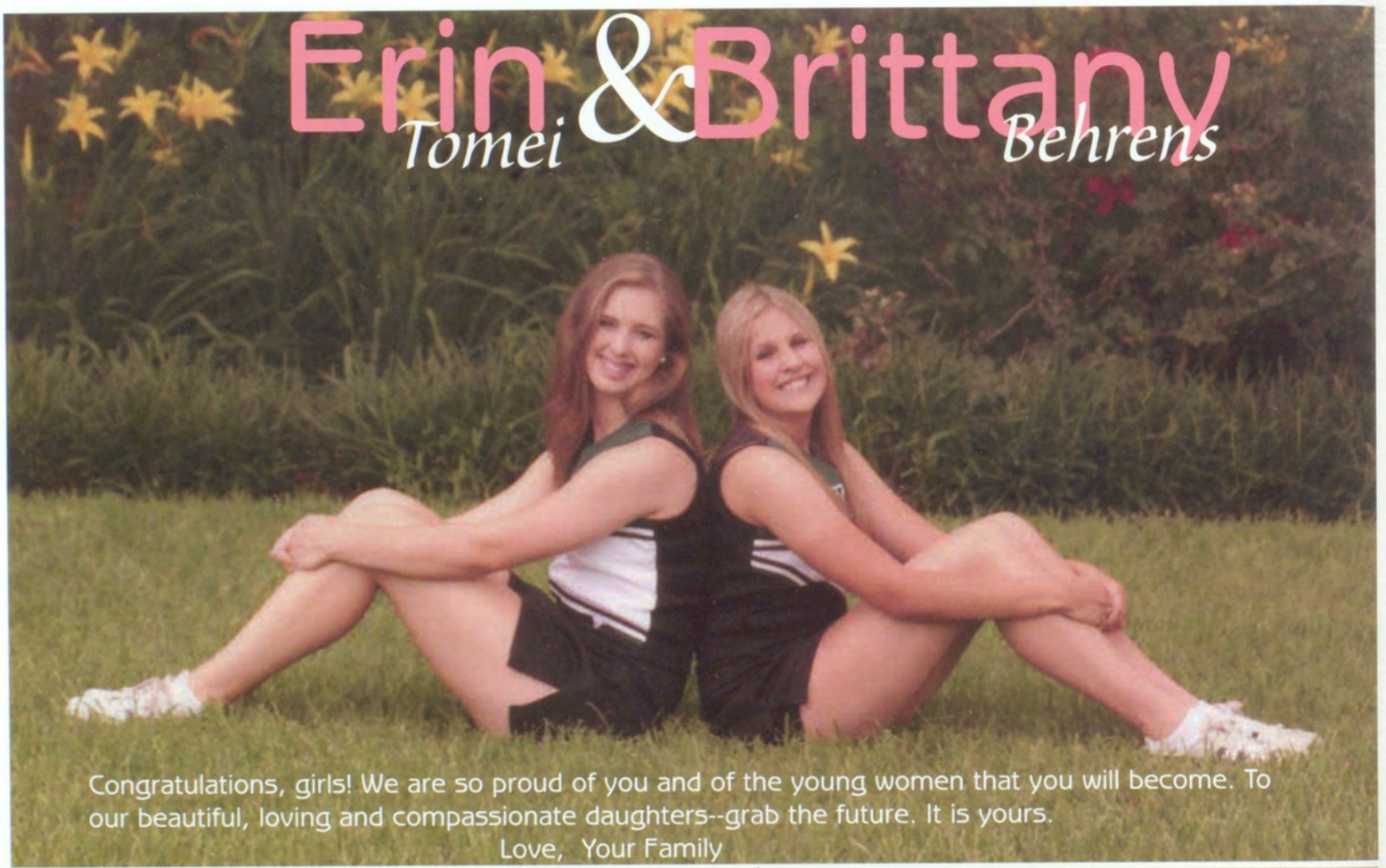
Dillon Pfluger rummages through his backpack full of various papers. Many students shove handouts and notes into their backpacks without organizing.


Tangles
1426 N. Main
Good Luck, Jake
3652837


3652.6337


S P J S T Rest Home
500 E. Lake Dr

Erin Tomei & Brittany Behrens



Congratulations, girls! We are so proud of you and of the young women that you will become. To our beautiful, loving and compassionate daughters--grab the future. It is yours.

Love, Your Family















Colophon

Software: Adobe InDesign CS, Adobe Photoshop CS2, TaylorYB!Pro. Equipment: 22 Dell Optiplex 280s, 1 Dell Optiplex GX 270, 1 Dell Dimension 2500, 4 Sony Cyber-Shot cameras, 1 Canon10-D camera, 3 Canon Canoscan 8400F. Fonts: Chaparral Pro regular and bold, , Bradley Hand ITC, Myriad Pro light condensed,web italic and web condensed. Cover: Smyt.160 binder boards, Lithocote Gloss. Paper: 100# enamel. Portraits: Bryn-Alan Studios.Printing: Taylor Publishing, Dallas, TX. 168 pages, 300 copies. Questions should be directed to THS Mallard, 3101 N. Main, Taylor TX 76574 (512) 352-6326.

special Thanks

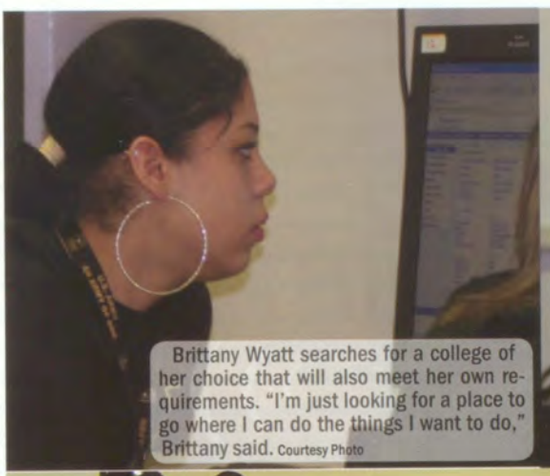
The Mallard Staff wishes to express sincere gratitude to the following individuals who helped in one way or another with the production of this book.

Jim Anderson, Morgan Anderson, Nancy DeWees, Ashton & Tisha Nowak, Viola Razo, Melissa Meaker, Robyn Rogers, Vicki Rowe, Dan Volek, Marilyn Tennill, Kevin Widmer, Barbara Johle, Kimberley Mason, Jeannie Hill, Susan LeDonne Wind, Robert Borgne, Ryan Perry, Dr. Bruce Scott, Dawn Fischer, Magdalena Zavala and the Photojournalism classes, Cathy Johnson, Larry Robbins, Carol Sutton, Stiles Byrom, Amy Weison, Bryce Block, Rudy Mikeska, the TISD School Board, and all our teachers, coaches, families, and friends.

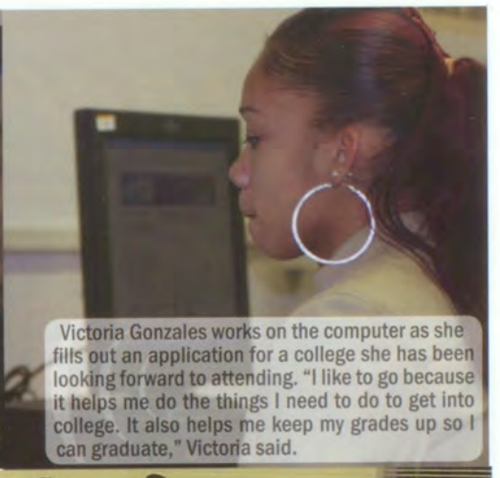
Mrs. C would like to express her sincere appreciation to the parents of the Mallard editors for raising such brilliant, responsible, creative, kind young people.

Upward Bound is a program for students who either need help with their studies or are in need of help in getting ready for college. "It's basically like a tutoring program that also helps you get scholarships and get into college," Deloris Fields said. "Most of us just go to get help with our homework. I think it's pretty cool how they help us with our work and get us ready for college, and then they pay us on top of that." The students that take part in Upward Bound get paid different amounts depending on how long they have been a member, their attendance during the month, how much work they do, or how hard they try with their assignments. Depending on these standards, if met, the Seniors will get paid anywhere from $50- $60 a month, the Juniors get about $40-$50 a month, the Sophomores about $35-$40, and the rest of the participants under Sophomores all get $30. If these requirements are not met by the students, that amount can almost be cut in half, only if they are not participating or attending.

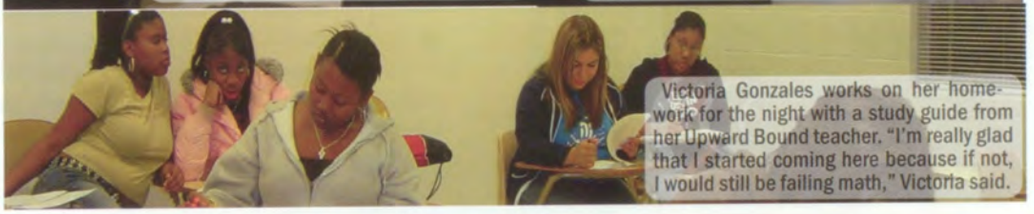
Chelsey Boykins is another member of the club and regularly goes to the meetings every Wednesday to get help with her everyday assignments. "I do it because it will help me get into college and will look good on my application," Chelsey said. "I get paid about $40 a month, but that's still more than some of the other juniors who go. Even though some of them don't get paid as much as others, they don't get mad or anything because they know that it's their own fault," Chelsey said.



Brittany Wyatt searches for a college of her choice that will also meet her own requirements. "I'm just looking for a place to go where I can do the things I want to do," Brittany said. Courtesy Photo



Victoria Gonzales works on the computer as she fills out an application for a college she has been looking forward to attending. "I like to go because it helps me do the things I need to do to get into college. It also helps me keep my grades up so I can graduate," Victoria said.



Victoria Gonzales works on her homework for the night with a study guide from her Upward Bound teacher. "I'm really glad that I started coming here because if not, I would still be failing math," Victoria said.

Schools are required to perform emergency drills every year so that each student knows how to proceed during any kind of crisis during school hours. On November 10, though there were many rumors as to what was going on that day, it was in fact a drill.

"It was a very pro-active drill. We decided to just take care of it before we have any serious emergency situation," Mrs. Marilyn Tennill said.

To some, the day was crazy and unusual, but the administration tried to make it as normal as possible. All but the main doors were locked and inaccessible. The school borrowed metal detectors and put them behind the only entrance to the school. There was an illegal contraband dog on campus and teachers were required to lock their classroom doors. After 8:50, there were no exits from the parking lot until the end of school. Co-op students had to go through a special procedure to exit or enter the campus.

"I went to school that day but my mom was kind of debating about it. I was a little nervous just because I knew that some of the rumors I heard could actually have happened. People weren't really different that day, but the things around school were," Lauren Tucker said.

Teachers and aides walked around the campus during their conference periods to monitor the hallways. Students were not allowed to walk to the library, office, or the nurse's office unless they had an emergency.

Though the procedures may have made most people in the school feel a little bit safer and more secure, some thought it only distracted students and prevented anything productive from being accomplished. "It was stupid and a waste of the day. The teachers weren't able to get anything done," Bruce Griffin said.



Students line up at the main doors, waiting to go through metal detectors on their way to class. It took some students over half and hour to get through the line. Photo by Melissa Kanz, *Taylor Daily Press.*

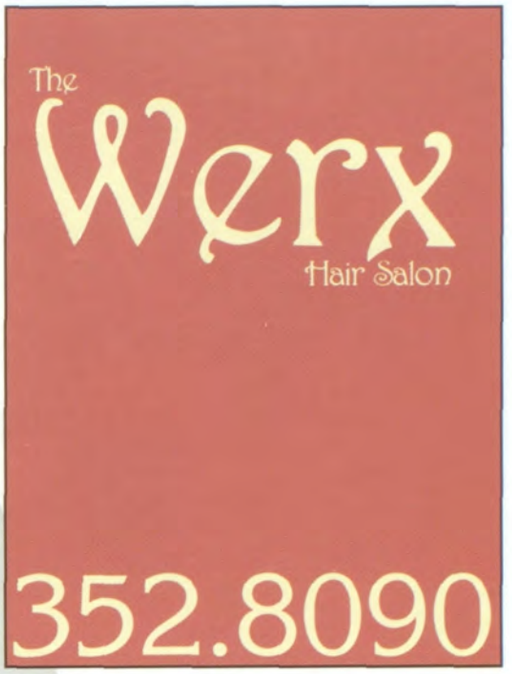
Marx service
922 W. 2nd St.
3523393

Pfluger tire & lube
209 W. 2nd
352.6051

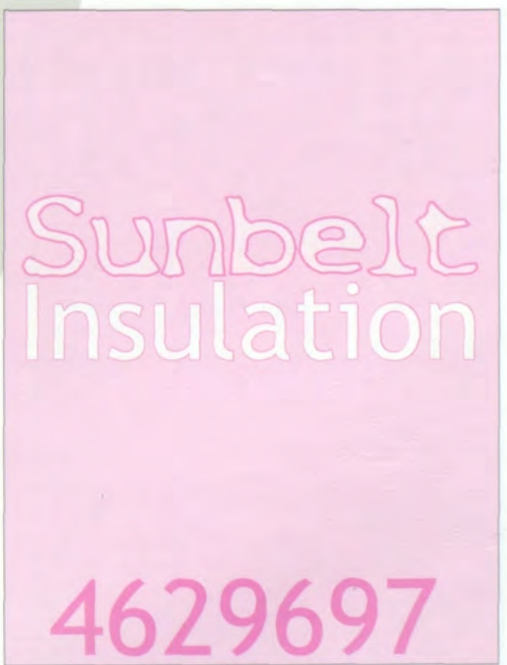
Bells & Rattles
352.2894
423 N. Main St.

Abbott, Nicholas 24, 25, 32, 33, 48, 50, 51, 62, 115
Abundiz, Roy 115
Academics 54
ACDEC DINI 3
ACTIVITIES 28
ADS 142, 146
ADVERTISING 138
Aguilar, Carlos 95, 115
Aguilar, Christina 101
Aguilar, Jessica 101
Aguilar, Jose 90, 95
Aguilar, Marcie 94, 115
Aguilar, Maria 115
Aguirre, Coco 91
Aguirre, David 115
Aguirre, Jose 24, 91, 95, 101
Aguirre, Martin 91, 95, 101
Aiello, Kelli 50, 51, 53, 66, 67, 115
Aikens, Robert 3, 24, 25, 92, 96, 101, 109
Alcaraz, Laura 115
Alderete, Aaron 101
Alderete, Alvaro 21, 92, 115
Alderete, Ana Lisa 52, 53, 115
Alderete, Brianca 2, 32, 48, 49, 101
Alderete, Cody 115
Alderete, Felicia 39, 48, 52, 115
Alderete, Kristen 52, 53, 115
Alderete, Lucas 32, 48, 51, 53, 115
Alderete, Matthew 101
Alderete, Zeke 95
Alexander, Nicholas 101
Alford, Richard 92, 115
Almazan, Rebecca 2, 3, 48, 50, 53, 115
Alonso, Jonathan 30, 53, 136
Alonzo, Julian 115
Amado, Kimberly 3, 50, 115
Aminzadeh, Alexander 115
Ancira, Trey 115
Anders, Brooke 72, 73, 79, 94, 115
Anderson, Joshua 101
Anderson, Samantha 115
Aparicio, Issac 92, 115
Apparicio, Issac 95
Araujo, Dulce 115
Araujo, Francisca 53, 94, 101
Araujo, Silvia 115
Arldt, Chris 136
Arredondo, Norma 43, 51, 56, 101
Arriaga, Cindy 53, 94, 115
Arroyo, Andrea 115
Arzola, Christino 92, 115
Atkinson, Sabrina 115
Aunspaugh, Kelsey 53, 93, 115
Avalos, Raul 20, 42, 101
Avalos, Vanessa 101
Babejova, Michaela 115
Badilla, Amber 97
Baisley, Arthur 101
Balduff, Casey 115, 171
Ballard, Matthew 114, 115
Ballard, Stephen 2, 26, 50, 57, 69, 101
Balusek, Nathan 115
BAND/COLOR GUARD 33
Banner, Kelly 49, 51, 53, 101
Baran, Ashton 51, 52, 101, 159
Baran, Kristyne 51, 53, 115
Barley, Kathleen 115
Barley, Katie 53
Barry, Adam 48, 92, 115
Barry, Andrew 48, 92, 115
Becerra, Daniel 95
Behrens, Brittany 40, 48, 51, 81, 101
Bell, Antoinette 27, 53, 115
Bellemare, William 36, 50, 101
Beltran, Alfred 115
Berger, Claire 115
Bevka, Frankie 14, 40, 51, 101
Bishop, David 51, 115
Bishop, Scott 136
Blank, Brittany 48, 51, 53, 114, 115
Block, Bryce 7, 32, 48, 51, 52, 101, 111
Bockman, Brittany 97
Bogan, Alex 92, 95
Bogan, Brad 48, 95, 115
Bogan, Chris 2, 50, 53, 92, 95, 115, 189
Bogan, David 49, 115
Bohac, Briana 42, 53, 95, 115
Bourdeau, Kristina 48, 53, 115
Bourdeau, Stephanie 48, 51, 115
Boyd, Eliza 136
Boyer, Arlene 136
Boykins, Chelsey 50, 115, 181
BOYS BASKETBALL 3
Bradford, Tina 49, 52, 115
Bradshaw, Shawn 11, 36, 49, 50, 92
Brenson, Robert 92, 96
Brinkmeyer, Noah 11, 23, 31, 56, 92, 101
Brockman, Ruth 136
Brooks, Eric 11
Brown, Herlinda 136
Brown, Jacques 48
Brown, Randy 8, 136
Bryan, Todd 6, 92, 101, 155
Bubenik, Stacy 48, 51, 94
Buckalew, Dell 51
Buckalew, Stevie 48
Buckman, Brittany 93
Budd, Jalisa 50
Burger, Claire 43, 48
Burklow, Rachel 136, 173
Burns, Courtney 101
Burrow, Nathan 96
Bushyhead, Katrina 36, 37, 49, 53
Bustamante, Lorraine 53, 136
Byfield, Britton 2, 3, 12, 51, 60, 94, 96, 97
Cotner, Jed 94
Cabrera, Cindy 48, 101
Caldwell, Lawerence 48, 92, 96
Caldwell, Shermane 92, 96
Calzada, Andreina 50, 52, 53
Camacho, Eric 53, 101
Campbell, Daniel 20, 51
Campos, Michelle 93, 95
Cantu, Brianna 101
Cardenas, Victor 92
Carey, Julie Ann 9, 39, 52
Carillo, Crystal 114, 173
Carlson, Brandee 3, 24, 48, 51, 53, 77
Carnes, Cole 52, 70, 179

Close, Nathan 51, 52
Cmerek, Kenny 92
Cobb, Shelli 79, 94, 136
Cobia, Rick 92
Cobia, Ricky 92, 96
Cochran, Ashle 49, 50, 52, 53
COLLEGE PREPARATION 63
Collins, Julius 96, 102
Collins, Tracy 102
Connors, Lauren 29, 35, 48, 51, 52, 53, 66
Cook, Sherri 136
Cook, Steffon 92, 96
Corn, Noah 40, 49, 51, 52, 61
Cornejo, Manuel 51, 53
Cortinas, Jonathan 48, 118
Costilla, Adrian 118
Cotner, Jed 2, 3, 70, 118, 133
COTTONBOLL 41
Crabb, Erica 118
Crather, Caneisha 118
Crathers, Caneisha 118
Crathers, Desiree 53, 118
Crayton, Connie 118
Crayton, Mason 102
CROSS COUNTRY 79
Crumley, Eric 3, 69, 102
Cummings, Dalton 118
Currie, Chris 48
Curtis, Donna 136
Dale, Jessica 3, 50, 51, 53, 94, 97, 118, 189
Danek, Chase 3, 75, 92, 96, 102
David, Chad 51, 118
Davis, Aaron 102
Davis, Kelsey 50, 53, 118, 189
Davis, Latasha 118
Deary, Danielle 51, 102
Decker, Leslie 51,53, 136
DeHoyos, Gustavo 95, 120
Dekneef, Savannah 102
Delatorre, Elizabeth 3, 136
Delgadillo, Andrew 118
Delgadillo, Yesenia 118
Delony, Jared 48, 118
Dempsey, Mariah ..... , 6, 34, 43, 48, 50, 51, 53, 66, 118
Denson, Ricky 118
Devaul, Joshua 118
Dickerson, Iesha 118
Dillard, Shelby 118
Dobbs, Gerald 51, 118
Dominguez, Kelly 53, 79, 93, 94, 118
Dominguez, Sammy 51, 118
Doss, Jacob 92, 118
Doss, Robert 118
Douglas, Chasity 50, 84, 95, 118
Douglas, Devin 49, 50, 118
Draine, Aundris 92
Driskell, Ashley 48, 136
Dupy, Brandon 96, 118
Dykowski, Mallory 2, 43, 100, 102
Earley, Breana 102
Earley, Matt 92
Eckhardt, Amanda 48, 51, 102
Eddins, Dustin 118
Eiben, Coleman 15, 68, 102
Eiben, Matthew 118
ELECTIVES 57
Emery, Catherine 33, 48, 91, 94, 118
Eppinette, Jordan 127
Escobar, Angel 49, 102
Escobar, Annette 52, 102
Estrada, Alexandra 102
Estrada, Bonnie 50
Estrada, Jasmin 35, 38, 48, 50, 51, 52, 53, 66
Estrada, John 2, 38, 49, 50, 53
Estrada, Krystal 48
FIELD TRIPS 71
Fail, Brittany 51, 91,93
Fannin, Clinton 102
Farr, Jacob 52,92
FASHION/TRENDS 23
Faught, Morgan 22, 48, 49, 51
Felder, Justin 43, 50, 61, 62, 94, 97, 102
Fernandez, Irelda 102
Fields, Crystal 102
Fields, Deloris 50, 92, 181
Fields, James 51
Fischer, Dawn 40, 41,136
Fisher, Edgar 91, 114, 136
Fitzgerald, Jarvis 9, 102
Flores, Andy 3, 61, 69
Flores, Kimberly 52
Flores, Kristi 48, 102
Flores, Victoria 39, 53
FOREIGN LANGUAGES 61
Fontenot, Ryan 26
FOOTBALL 75
Foster, Brandy 36, 37, 49, 53
Foster, Justin 51, 102
Fox, Diann 136
Frazier, Holly 25, 81, 85, 93, 95
Fredrick, Donald 120
FRESHMEN 115
Fuentes, Abery 120
Gabel, Brooke 13, 53, 94, 97, 120
Gabel, Stan 92
Gage, Dennis 2, 136
Gainer, Emily 50
Gamboa, Amber 95, 120
Gandhi, Krishan 50, 51, 92, 102
Garcia, Michael 102
Garcia, Ryan 92, 120
Garcia, Tasha 104
Garcia, Thomas 104
Garcia-Arzola, Alfred 120
Garrett, Patrick 74, 75, 92, 97, 120
Garry, Elisabeth 51, 53, 104
Garza, Freddie 92, 120
Garza, Mariah 48, 120
Gaudin, Monica 48
Gault, Nick 49
Gault, Nicolette 50, 104
Gault, Pearlie 8, 53, 84, 95, 120
Ghandi, Krishan 22
Gibson, Joe 23, 92
Gibson, Steven 92, 120
Ging, Colt 120
GIRLS BASKETBALL 85
Gola, Brittni 3, 51, 93, 94, 97, 120
Gomez, Cameron 120
Gonzales, A.J. 92
Gonzales, Aaron 92, 120







COUPLAND TX
TDM
2998774

C&C construction
3526301

110 W. Lake Dr.
Taylor Nails
352.8090

Griffin, Kaneisha 50, 79, 94, 120
Gross, Keegan 2, 3, 9, 31, 51, 53, 94, 97
Guardiola, Frankie 7, 10, 22, 42, 50, 51, 52, 53, 104,107
Guerrero, Gracie 136
Gutierrez, Albert 48, 49, 51, 53, 74, 92, 104
Gutierrez, Andrea 2, 104, 120
Gutierrez, Erica 22, 48, 50, 69, 120
Gutierrez, Juan 120
Gutierrez, Phillip 120
HOBBIES 21
Hackleman, Susan 136
Haefner, Krystina 60, 136
Haley, Jennifer 120
Haley, Vence 120
Hall, Janaye 52, 120
Hall, Reese 2, 93, 94, 97, 120, 189
Hankins, John 120
Harmon, Alexandria 120
Harrington, Nicholas 24, 25,120
Hartmann, Mallory 53, 93, 120
Harvey, Seth 48, 120
Haskins, Timothy 49, 120
Headrick, Kyra 22, 50, 94, 97, 120,189
Heaton, Ashley 50, 104
Hegar, Brooke 48, 52, 71, 104, 112
Henderson, Jake 120
Hennington, Heather 104
Herklotz, Tiffany 53, 120
Hernadez, Suzanna 41, 52
Hernandez, Abraham 23, 68, 77, 104
Hernandez, Adrian 120
Hernandez, Brenda 53, 94, 122
Hernandez, Danielle 24, 25, 122
Hernandez, Elvira 53, 122
Hernandez, Gabriel 106, 122
Hernandez, Ieshia 122
Hernandez, Jeremy 92, 122
Hernandez, Matthew 53, 79, 92,94 97, 122
Hernandez, Noel 122
Hernandez, Shirley 122
Hernandez, Stephanie 106
Hernandez, Suzanna 2, 32, 41, 51, 106, 191
Herrera, Andrew 48, 106
Herrera, Gabriel 122
Herrera, Josh 48, 92,122
Hewtty, Frances 3, 50, 69, 122
Hewtty, Joseph 97, 122
HI-STEPPERS 35
Hill, Christopher 122
Hill, Ryan 36, 49, 122
Hilscher, Christina 2, 24, 42, 48, 106
Hilscher, Jessica 51, 84, 95,122
Hinkle, Joshua 122
Hodges, Christine 136
Hodnett, Kameren 30, 53, 122
Hoffman, Carla 6, 48, 93, 95
HOLIDAY PREPARATION 43
Holman, Jonathan 27, 32, 48 92, 94, 95, 122
Holman, Megan 48, 51, 53, 91, 94, 122
Hopson, Candace 122
Howard, Jenna 8, 30, 53, 90, 94, 122
Howard, Samantha 48, 122
Huf, Nathan 122
Hull, Nicholas 122
Humphreys, Jordan 3, 50, 51, 52, 53, 60, 92, 122, 189
Hurst, Amber 122
Hyde, Courtney 43, 122
Hyzak, Travis 12, 13, 51, 52, 53, 122
JOBS 15
Jackson, Alanmykal 92, 96,122
Jackson, Barry 122
Jackson, Brandie 53, 84, 95, 122
Jackson, Brittney 9,122
Jackson, James 122
Jackson, Jessica 122
Jackson, Larry 3, 49
Jackson, Logan 51, 122
Jackson, Mark 3, 92, 96, 122
Jackson, Terence 122
Jaecks, Ryan 94, 122
Jahn, Kari 48, 51, 53, 77, 122
James, Travian 96, 122
Janak, Adam 24, 92, 106
Janak, Lance 106
Janak, Mallory 2, 10, 11, 50, 52, 53, 105, 106, 151
Jefferson, Brittney 122
Jenkins, Kyshara 49
Jenkins, Melvin 51, 93
Jensen, Brittany 122
Jensen, Tiffany 122
Jirasek, Blake 31, 51, 106
Jirasek, Samuel 92, 122
Johle, Barbara 136
Johnson, Amber 14, 106, 150
Johnson, Cathy 136
Johnson, Clarence 9, 92106
Johnson, Hope 39, 52, 122
Johnson, Kayla 36, 51, 53, 122
Johnson, Sarah 50, 51, 52, 94, 100, 101, 106, 172, 189
Johnson, Shelby 84, 93,95, 122
Johnson, Kayla 49
Jones, Aaron 106
Jones, Amaris 53, 81, 84, 93, 95, 122
Jones, Andrew 24, 25, 27, 122
Jones, Daniel 92
Jones, Keisha 84
Jones, Krystle 122
Jones, Laketta 84,95, 106
Jones, Lisa 122
JUNIORS 115
Kahanek, Whitney 25, 48, 49, 53, 106, 160
Kaspar, John 50, 51, 68, 94, 105, 106, 189
Keith, Ashley 10, 31, 50, 51, 52, 53, 106
Keith, Cory 12, 30, 50, 53
Keith, Milton 122
Kemp, Jeralme 51, 52, 106
Kernell, Jasmyne 51, 53
Kidwell, Maegan 106
Kiewit, Jordan 122
Kiewit, Joshua 106
King, Blakesley 7, 53, 68, 100, 106
Kirschvink, Nathan 124
Klepac, Monique 106, 124
Koehler, Justin 124
Kreidel, Paige 35,48,50, 52, 124
Krueger, Megan 3, 106
Kruse, Cory 92, 124
Kruse, Kalen 124

Lopez, Daniel....51, 53, 96, 108
Lopez, Ivan....124
Lopez, Jose....96
Lopez, Katherine....108
Lopez, Matthew....92, 124
Lopez, Paris....48, 49, 51, 53, 108
Lopez, Valerie....124
Lopez-Leyva, Jose....124
Lorentzen, Destiny....124
Lorentzen, Harmony....48, 93, 124
Lorentzen, Justine....35, 36, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 124
Lowe, Dusty....96
Lowe, Lance....96
Lozano, Matthew....32,33, 48, 49, 52, 53, 124, 171
Luna, Abigail....39, 48, 52, 124
Luna, Amber....124
Luna, Jacqueline....124
Lute, Scott....53, 68, 92, 97, 124
Maccauley, Daphne....124
Maccauley, Quade....124
Macedo, Jacqueline....124
Macedo, Josefina....124
MALLARD STAFF....188
Mankin, Cheryl....136
Marak, Kelsey....95
Marcon, Seth....3, 53, 124
Marek, Dalton....52, 60, 70, 124
Marek, Deborah....136
Marek, Dwayne....124
Marek, Kayla....3, 48, 52, 93, 124
Marek, Kelsey....60, 81, 124
Maresh, Christine....124
Marmolejo, Maria....124
Marquardt, Norma....136
Marshall, Cassandra....108
Martinez, Amanda....48, 124
Martinez, Amber....108
Martinez, Anthony....92, 124
Martinez, Chris....92, 96
Martinez, Christopher....124
Martinez, Francisco....126
Martinez, Jacob....126
Martinez, Jazzsmen....49, 126
Martinez, Johnathan....126
Martinez, Kelly....11, 40, 51, 104, 108
Martinez, Kristin....94, 95, 97, 126
Martinez, Laura....121, 126
Martinez, Michael....51, 92, 96, 108
Martinez, Priscilla....53, 91, 92, 94, 126
Martinez, Simon....92, 97,126
Mason, Kimberley....2, 136
Matocha, Lucy....136
Matoska, Jaboa....32, 43, 48, 50, 51, 108, 111
Matta, Chaston....51, 92, 126
Matta, Jared....24, 25, 108
Matthys, Allison....48, 51, 94, 91, 126
Matthys, George....136
Mayberry, Damian....126
McFarlin, Ashley....3, 32, 48, 52, 108, 123
McFarlin, Darlene....93, 95, 123, 126
McFarlin, Patrick....92, 108
McQuillen, Jillian....26, 53, 80, 93,126
Medaris, Aubrey....79, 94, 108
Mederis, Tiffany....126
Medina-Torres, Victor....108
Medris, Josh....36, 95
Mendez, Diana....126
Mesta, Angel....126
Meyer, Tristan....21, 48, 49, 52, 92, 97, 126
Mikeska, Rudy 3, 12, 26, 51, 52, 53, 63, 68, 70, 97, 126
Miller, Andrew....92, 96, 126
Miller, Craig....136
Miller, Fantasia....48, 50, 126
Miller, Manayah....78, 79, 94, 126
Miller, Nakevia....42,48 50, 51, 52, 108
Milliken, Matthew....26, 74, 75, 92,108
Miravete, Christian....48, 53, 95
Miravete, Irving....20, 95, 126
Moehnke, Connie....136
Moerbe, Dylan....52, 126
Mojica, Alexander....126
Mokry, Hailey....2, 50, 51, 53, 81, 93, 108, 189
Moncada, Andreina....56
Monderas, Josh....30
Montemayor, Chris....48
Moody, Julia....49, 126
Moody, Julissa....36, 37
Mooney, Kate....8, 49, 77, 136
Moore, Isaac....126
Moors, Joshah....2, 3, 27, 50, 108
Morales, Leah....53, 81, 93, 126
Morales, Roberto....95,126
Moreno, Anthony....48
Moreno, Concepcion....92, 126
Moreno, Jose....53, 95, 126
Moreno, Manuel....126
Moreno, Mario....126
Moreno, Salvador....53, 126
Morgan, Ciera....108
Morgan, Cody....126
Morgan, Richard....126
Morris, Suzanne....136
Moss, Amanda....6, 7, 30, 51, 52, 53, 108
Motl, David....48
Mundkowsky, Bryan....92, 97, 126
Mundkowsky, Shane....126
Murguia, Duvelsa....110
Murphy, Jennifer....23, 48, 126
Murphy, Kara....11, 34, 48, 107, 110
Murphy, Rebekah....48, 126
MUSIC....13
Mussells, Travis....51
Myers, Roland....126
NHI/DEBATE....39
NHS/INTERACT....3
Nardecchia, Amanda....48, 68, 126
Nataros, Josh....51, 52, 53, 55, 60, 126
Neitsch, Nathan....51, 66, 92, 96, 110
Nemec, Bradly....52, 126
Nevins, Kyle....110
Nira-Munos, Belinda....136
Noel, Dylan....126
Noel, Eric....52, 53
Ochoa, Natalie....126
Ochoa, Pedro....110
Olivarez, Kryscelda....126
Oranday, Anselmo....57, 126, 139
Oranday, Yvonne....3, 136
Orman, Michael....136

1706 N. Main
Curves
3652878

210 3rd St
Taylor Office Equipment
3523842

Circleville Store&Grain
3526848
600 Hwy 95

Mid Tex
loan company
3527605

Randig Insurance Agency LLC
3521005

Activities index

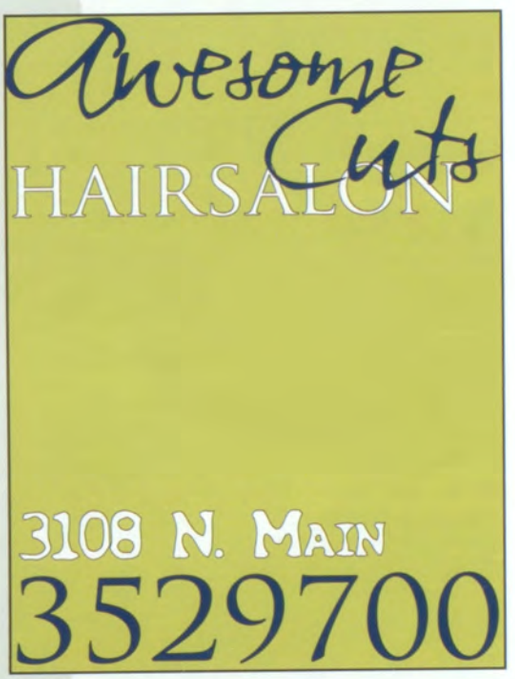
activites.....28
choir.....36,37
NHI.....38
debate.....39
cotton boll.....40,41
theater.....30,31
band.....32,33
color guard.....32,33
hi-steppers.....34,35
holiday preparation.....42,43
tv staff.....44,45
interact.....47
NHS.....46
HOSA.....48
FFA.....48
activites reference.....50

Penny, Kasey.....30, 53, 128
Pepper, Davey.....92
Perez, Dimitri.....92, 128
Peschke, Brandon.....97
Petty, Travis.....128
Pfluger, Dillon.....92, 128, 179
Pick, Cullen.....27, 51, 92, 128
Platz, Michael.....15, 110
Platz, Stacey.....50, 51, 52, 71,128
Polasek, Rufina.....48, 128
Popham, Courtney.....110
Portillo, Kelley.....48, 50, 100, 110
Prinz, Kendall.....48
Proctor, James.....92
Pumphrey, Ruby.....48, 91, 94, 128
PUNISHMENT.....67
Quarles, Paul.....50, 191
Quinn, Emily...3, 50, 51, 52, 94, 97, 110, 113, 172, 188, 189
Rameirez, Mary.....94
Ramiochan, Stacy.....49
Ramirez, Aaron.....53, 128
Ramirez, C.A.....51
Ramirez, Casimiro.....110
Ramirez, Marcella.....128
Ramirez, Mariana.....53, 128
Ramirez, Monica.....52, 56
Ramirez, Randall.....110
Ramlochan, Stacy.....128
Ramos, Estefania.....128
Ramos, Natalia.....49
Rangel, Jacob.....36, 49, 128
Rangel, Juan.....48, 92, 96, 128
Ray, Nikki.....92
Razo, Viola.....136
Recendis, Chris.....128
Recendis, Enrique.....110
Recendis, Eric.....128
Reeves, Aaron.....48, 50, 52, 66, 110, 146, 171, 191
Reeves, Paula.....21, 30, 53, 128
Reinhardt, Conoley.....48, 51,128
Reyes, Aaron.....2, 128
Reyes, Ashley.....50, 128
Reyes, Jessica.....110
Reyes, Juan.....128
Reyna, Johnny.....53, 92, 96, 128
Reyna, Joseph.....110
Reyna, Laura.....52
Richter, Maia.....48, 128
Ridyolph, Derrick.....128
Rincon, Abel.....49, 92, 97,128
Rinderknecht, Debra.....136
Rivera, Ashley.....34, 48, 51, 53, 70, 97, 128
Rivera, Karen.....128
Roberson, Jarrel.....110
Robinson, Ashunta.....110
Robles, Anitarita.....51, 110
Rodrigez, Michael.....128
Rodriguez, Alonzo.....128
Rodriguez, Christopher.....92,128
Rodriguez, Danny.....128
Rodriguez, David.....51, 53, 92, 128
Rodriguez, Juana.....48, 128
Rodriguez, Kayla.....128
Rodriguez, Michael.....3
Rodriguez, Oscar.....53, 128
Rodriguez, Victor.....128
Rogers, Mark.....92, 136
Rogers, Robyn.....2, 136
Rogers, Stacy.....81, 136
Rohan, Julie.....136, 173
Rohan, Rusty.....92, 96
Rojas, Ray.....53, 128
Rojas, Trenton.....21, 51, 92, 128
Rollie, Lamar.....3, 11, 92, 96, 110,113
Roman, Johnny.....130
Romayor, Adriana.....48, 97,130
Romayor, Alfredo.....48, 92, 100, 110
Rowe, Vicki.....2, 6, 7, 62, 136
Rozacky, Cassandra.....92, 130,179
Roznovak, Karyn.....41, 50, 51, 53, 93, 94, 130
Rucker, Devyn .3, 50, 51, 52, 94, 97, 110, 172, 189
Ruden, Bill.....2, 112
Ruemke, Patti.....136
Rumel, Derek.....92, 96,130
Ruzicka, Hailey.....48, 77, 81, 93, 109, 112, 191
SPECIAL OLYMPICS.....3
SPRING BREAK.....3
Sakewitz, Kyle.....31, 51, 130
Salazar, Amy.....130
Salazar, Felipe.....130
Salazar, Jose.....24, 25, 51, 52, 53,95
Salazar, Jose Miguel.....130
Salazar, Kelly.....130
Salazar, Matias.....95
Salinas, Tiffany.....3, 48, 51, 53, 130
Samuelson, Jordan.....62, 92, 130
Samuelson, Seth.....79, 94, 131
San Migel, Jacob.....11, 92, 96, 131
Sanchez, Carlos.....131
Sanchez, Cassandra.....97, 131
Sanchez, Dagoberto.....112
Sanchez, Elaine.....131
Sanchez, Fabiola.....36, 49, 53,131
Sanchez, Glianne.....53, 131
Sanchez, Julian.....92, 97, 131
Sanchez, Mellissa.....94
Sanchez, Valerie.....131
Sanford-Wilridg, Ceara.....131
Sarp, Alex.....94
Sarp, Candan.....131
Saucedo, Dylan.....92, 131
Savage, Sydney.....41, 50, 51, 131, 189
Savage, Taylor.....3, 49, 50, 52, 53, 131, 189
Schmidt, Sonya.....53, 93, 131
Schneider, Britney.....63, 93, 131
Schuldt, Gloria.....2
Schwettman, Matthew.....51, 112
Scott, Charmaine.....131
Scott, Rowdesha.....131
Seda, Elizabeth.....94
Seggern, Brittany.....48, 52, 131
Seidel, Krista.....30, 48, 53, 132
Seigmund, Chris.....92, 132
Seigmund, Justin.....92, 132
Selby, Brooke.....132
Selucky, Jeremy.....112
Sengsouvanh, Ashley.....3
SENIORS.....101, 103, 105, 107, 109, 111, 113
Serna, Jessica.....132
Shaughnessy, Carin.....136
Shaw, Jamal.....92, 132

Stefek, Jordan 52, 92, 132
Stegall, Jessica 32, 48, 132
Stegall, Stephanie 48, 132
Stevens, Nisa 52, 136
Stewart, Aubrie 132
Stewart, Trista 48, 49, 132
Stives, Paige 51, 112, 170
Stoll, Camryn 39, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 132
Stringer, Edward 51, 56, 112, 158
Strmiska, Corey 92, 97,132
Stroud, William 132
Stuart, Trista 95
STUDENT LIFE 4
Suarez, Chardonnay 132
SUMMER 7
Susan, Tyler 132
Sutton, Dee 3, 50, 136
Svatek, Courtney 2, 3, 32, 48, 51, 132
Svetly, Michael 136, 137
THS-TV 49
Talavera, Zach 6, 53, 92, 132
Tanksley, Taporsha 112
Tapia, Jessica 53, 132
Tatum, Ula 48, 52, 132
Taylor, Brandon 92, 132
Taylor, Ransom 132
Taylor, Stephen 68, 92, 132
TECHNOLOGY 69
Teggeman, Lindsey 48, 51, 132
Tellez, Eric 112
Tellez, Gonzalo 112
TENNIS 3
Tennill, Marilyn 3, 50, 62, 137, 181
Terwilliger, Corey 49, 132
Terwilliger, Derek 33, 48, 53, 112
Tharp, Glenna 93, 132
THEATRE / FFA 31
Thomas, Lanija 51, 52, 132
Thomas, Whitney 137
Thompson, Joey 92, 132
Thompson, Matthew 132
Thompson, Trinia 49, 50, 132
Tomei, Erin 48, 52, 112
Tone, Devyn 3, 48, 52, 94, 95, 132
Torres, Adrian 92, 97
Torres, Maria 49
Tovar, Ann 112
Tovar, Sergio 51, 53, 92, 112
Trujillo, Jesus 134
Tucker, Darleen 137
Tucker, Lauren 13, 93, 134, 181
Turnbough, Holly 93
Urbina, Marcos 49, 92, 96, 134
Uriegas, Eric 134
Valdez, Abram 134
Valdez, Evangelina 134
Valdivia, Jessica 134
Valerio, Colin 2, 20, 48, 49, 100, 112
Valladares, Arabela 52, 53, 134
Valladares, Marcela 52, 53, 134
Valverde, Jacob 92, 97, 134
Vanecek, Conner 48
Vanecek, Kyle 49, 51, 92, 97, 112, 173
Vanecek, Paige 14, 50, 51, 76, 77, 112
Vargas, Theodor 48,134
Vasquez, David 134
Vasquez, Luis 134
Vaughan, Lisa 52
Vega, Brandon 13
Villagomez, Monica 134
Villanueva, Maximiliano 134
Villarreal, Amabilia 112
Villarreal, Ricardo 42, 92
VOLLEYBALL 81
Volek, Dan 62, 137
Volek, Tyler 3, 43, 48, 53, 134
Voytek, Rachael 39, 91, 134
Vrabel, Ryan 92
Waggoner, Melissa 137
Walker, Matt 53, 92, 137
Wallace, Aaron 22
Wallace, Jerry 3, 112
Walton, Kelsey 49, 93, 95, 134
Walton, Lindsey 34, 48, 50, 51, 52, 112
WAR IN IRAQ 27
Ward, Sarah 112
Ware, Justin 112
Washington, Brene 52, 53, 134
Wehling, Cindy 137
Weise, Drew 97,134
Weison, Rachel .. 24, 25, 48, 51, 53, 70, 71, 77, 134
Weiss, Dustin 134
Weiss, Troy 134
Welton, Josiph 92, 134
Wheeler, Briona 134
Whisenant, Chance 134
White, Charles 50, 134
Widmer, Kevin 3, 137
Wilkerson, Andrea 48, 50, 76, 134, 189
Wilkerson, Brittany 53, 134
Wilkins, Zachary 2, 3, 94, 97, 134
Williams, Ashley 51, 112
Williams, Chase 134
Wilson, Zane 112
Winchester, Matthew 92, 134
Wolbrueck, Jasmine 49, 134
Wolf, Brittany 50, 51, 112, 143
Wolf, Jacqueline 2, 3, 14, 50, 51, 68, 134, 189
Wolf, Stephanie 23, 134
Woods, Kourtney 49, 60, 134
Wooldridge, Erika 112
Wooldridge, Johnathan 3,8, 56, 92, 112
Wooldridge, Kristian 23, 93
Wright, Jermain 49, 112
Wright, Lee 36, 49
Wyatt, Brittany 50, 181
Yanez, Amador 49, 92
Yanez, Brianna 3, 41, 51, 79, 93, 94
Yanez, Katie 11, 93
Yanez, Reyna. 3, 48, 49, 50, 51, 52, 53, 94, 97, 112
Yanez, Stephanie 48, 51
Young, Adrian 53
Young, Kelsey 51, 93
YOUTH GROUPS 3
Zachary, Stephanie 93, 95
Zavala, Danielle 11, 48
Zavala, Magdalena 137
Zucknick, Mary Ann 137

Sports index

sports 72
cross country 78,79
cheer 76,77
drakes 76,77
special olympics 82,83
soccer 90,91
volleyball 80,81
football 74,75
girls' basketball 84,85
boys' basketball 86,87
tennis 88,89
sports reference 90





editor's note

2007 Mallard Reader,

Oh, how I hope you love this book as much as I do! The year is finally over and this book is finished. Our staff is so diverse and we tried our hardest all year to cover everyone in the school, and hopefully we met your expectations.

I love my job. I love the hurried chaos of deadlines and what seems like a million people asking me questions at once. In fact, as I write this, I think every single person in the room is yelling something at each other in total panic. At times I cannot wait for the book to be finished, but then there are those moments, like right now when things are crazy, that I think I could do this for the rest of my life.

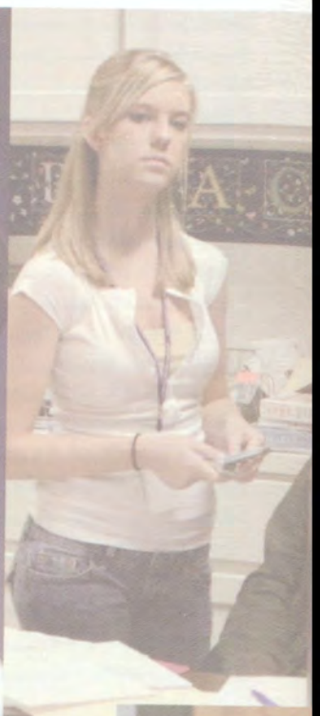
This year's staff was so amazing. Besides the fact that many of them are my very best friends, they are all willing to give 100% all the time. Never once did someone complain when they found out I changed pretty much their entire spread. I don't think that ever before has a staff as a whole put so much into a book as they did this year. The pages didn't just contain the editors ideas, but every single person's insight. One or two people could never come up with all the creative ideas that fill these pages. Devyn, Sarah, Mrs. C., and Aaron--you are amazing and I don't know what I would do without you. To all the teachers who have staff members in their class--thank you for your generosity in sharing your students with us as we spend hours at a time trapped in the Mallard office.

This year, everyone's patience has been tested and your comfort zone has been stretched, but we all recovered--maybe not very gracefully, but we recuperated.

This was a great year, and it has truly flown by. I hope this book will recapture all those memories for you, because if it does, we did our job. I love this school and the people I'm surrounded by everyday. Thank all of you for making this year as great as it was. I'm in your debt. Once again, I hope this book means as much to all of you as it does to me. Good luck to all my fellow seniors and to those of you who will still be walking these hallways another year--have fun; it's over before you know it. Thanks again and I will never forget you! *"I thank God every time I remember you." Philippians 1:3*

Emily Quinn
Editor-in-Chief





I love my job.

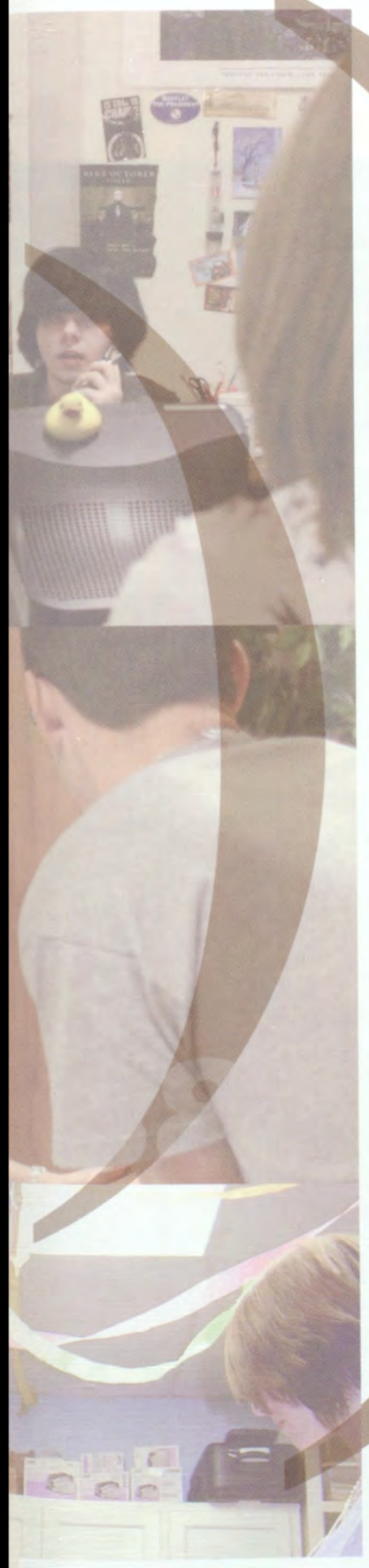
I love the chaos of deadlines.





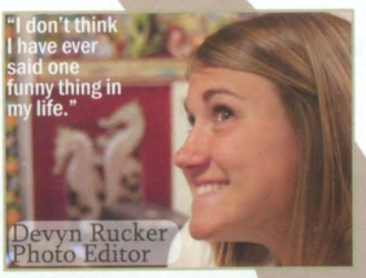








Emily Quinn
Editor-in-Chief



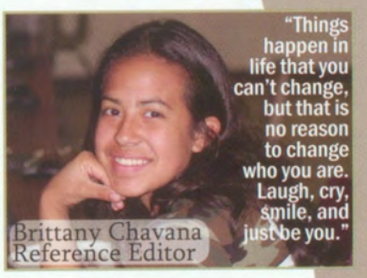
Devyn Rucker
Photo Editor



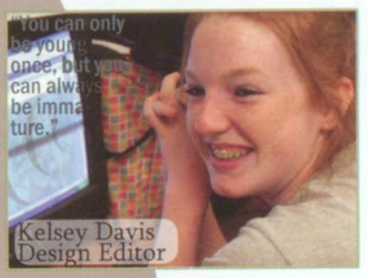
Sarah Johnson
Copy Editor



Aaron Reeves
Graphics Editor



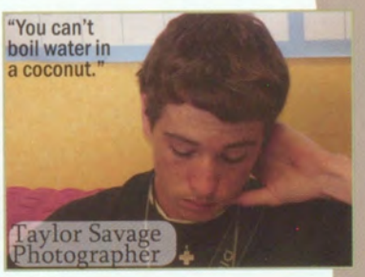
Brittany Chavana
Reference Editor



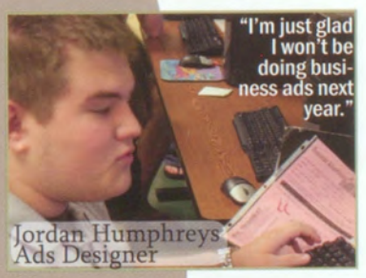
Kelsey Davis
Design Editor



Kelsey Christensen
Business Manager



Taylor Savage
Photographer



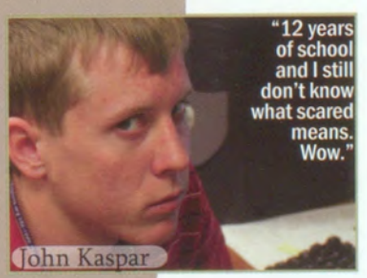
Jordan Humphreys
Ads Designer



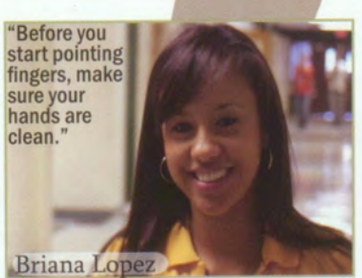
Jacqueline Wolf
Senior Ads Designer



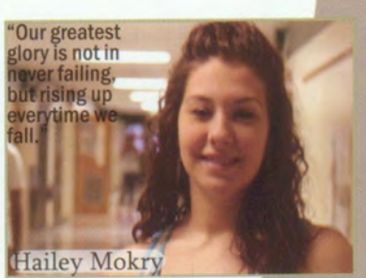
Lorna Gould



John Kaspar



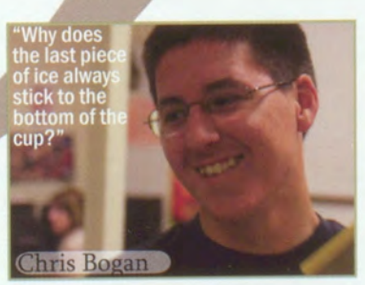
Briana Lopez



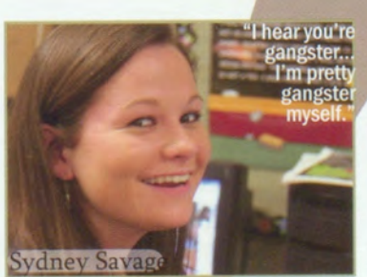
Hailey Mokry



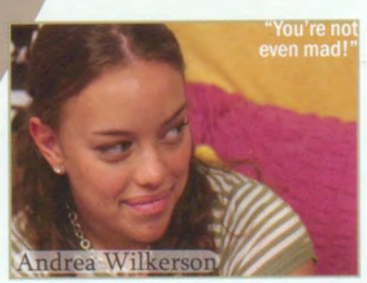
Reese Hall



Chris Bogan



Sydney Savage



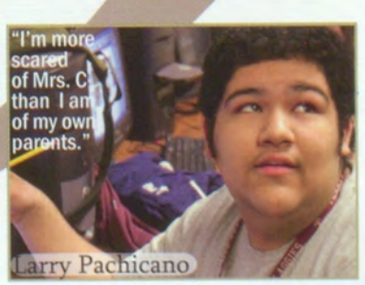
Andrea Wilkerson



Melanie Catuogno
Adviser



Krya Headrick



Larry Pachicano



Jessica Dale

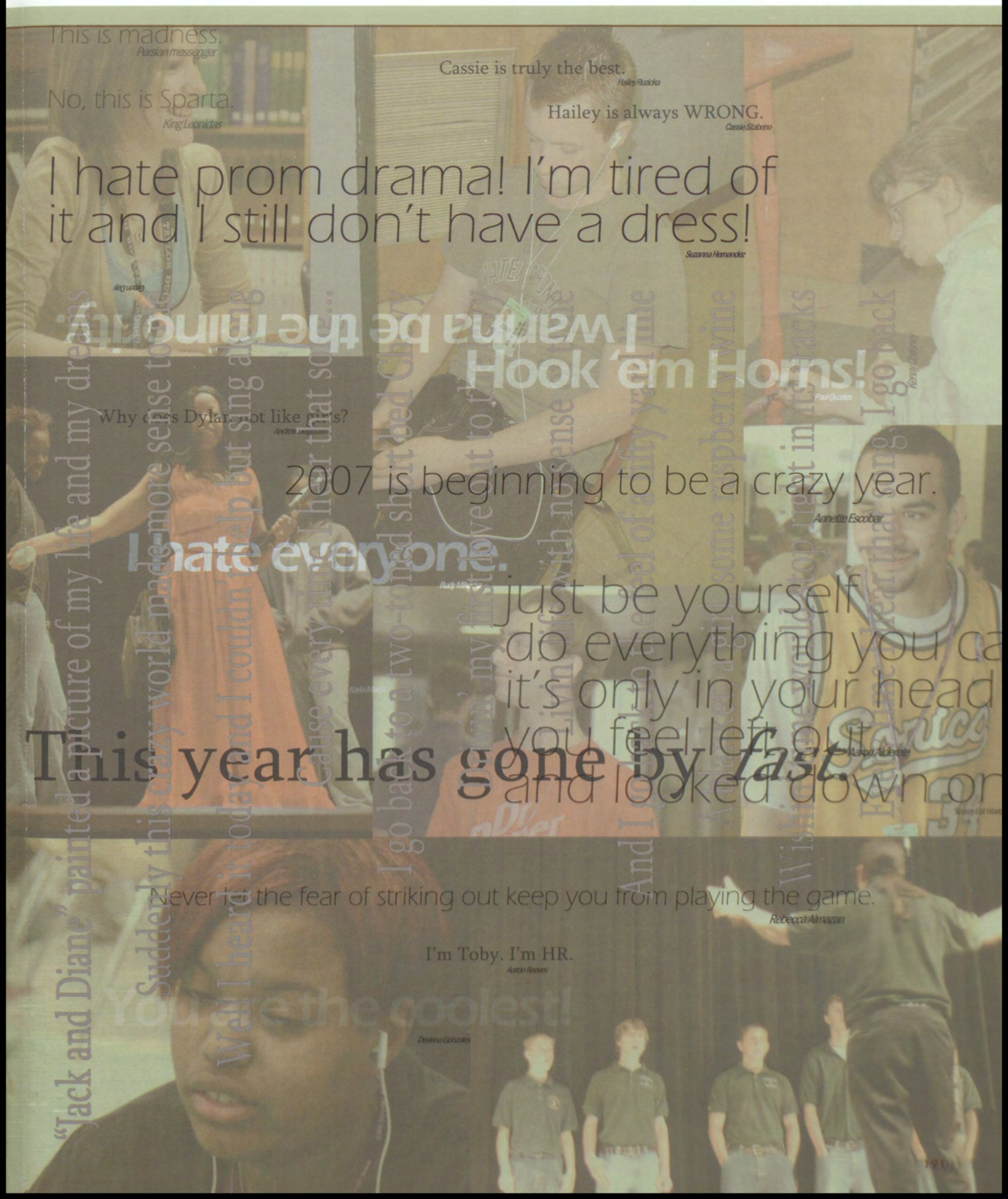
voices

Everyone has a voice that is unique to them alone. No matter how similar you may be to your sibling or best friend, you have personal opinions that belong to you and you only. No matter how difficult it may be, it is vital for you to make your voice heard and not fade into the background.

We were given the opportunity this year to let our views be known, whether it was by something as obvious as broadcasting it to the whole school through the morning announcements or as simple as displaying personal artwork in the hallway. We allowed our own voices to guide us through the events of the year, rather than listening solely to the opinions surrounding us.

With the addition of Flight Time to this year's schedule, we were able to meet with our peers and discuss our views on different topics. Opinions were shared in the confidence of a small group of fellow students. We embraced the aspects of our lives that set us apart through the diversity assembly, where skits were performed and poems were recited, therein letting our voices be heard. With the help of classes like Desktop Publishing, Digital Graphics, Photojournalism, and Art, we were able to display personal artwork and express ourselves in the hallways.

Though the year is over, an aspect of each of us is left behind, whether it be through our contributions we made to the administration in Duck Diplomats or simply through the impact we made on other students. You may not remember the bad grade you made in Physics or the time you tripped on stage in front of the whole school, but you will always remember the voices that have influenced you.



This is madness.
Persian messenger

No, this is Sparta.
King Leonidas

Cassie is truly the best.
Hailey Ruzicka

Hailey is always WRONG.
Cassie Stabeno

I hate prom drama! I'm tired of it and I still don't have a dress!
Suzanna Hernandez

I wanna be the minority.

Hook 'em Horns!
Paul Quarles

Why does Dylan not like girls?
Andrew Degaurier

2007 is beginning to be a crazy year.
Annette Escobar

I hate everyone.
Rudy Mangrum

just be yourself
do everything you ca
it's only in your head
you feel left out
and looked down on
Aaron Alderete

This year has gone by *fast.*

Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game.
Rebecca Almazan

I'm Toby. I'm HR.
Aaron Reeves

You are the coolest!
Deviena Gonzales

"Jack and Diane" painted a picture of my life and my dreams

Suddenly this crazy world made more sense to me

Well I heard it today and I couldn't help but sing along

I go back to a two-toned shirt bed Chevy

And I got a feel of a fifty year time

Wishing we would stop right in its tracks

I go back

2007 Mallard Policies

Statement of Purpose

By virtue of the fact that the yearbook is a student conceived, planned, and produced publication, as well as a product of an academic program,there are certain legal and ethical guidelines which the staff follows. The 2006 Mallard and its staff are protected by and bound to the principles of the First Amendment and other protections and limitations afforded by the Constitution and the various court decisions implementing those principles. By not interfering with the publication content, school officials are therefore not liable or responsible for the content.

Journalistic in nature, the yearbook informs and entertains its audience in a broad, fair, and accurate manner on all subjects that affect readers in the areas of academics, community, groups, sports, and student life. The entire student body of 1000 prospective readers constitutes the book's target audience. Secondary audiences include school personnel, community members, and scholastic journalism groups.

Since this policy is revised and updated each year, all parts of the policy apply only to the 2007 Mallard, Volume 61 of the Taylor High School Yearbook.

coverage

Content focuses on coverage which will meet the wants and needs of the majority of the student body, so long as those wants and needs are not contradictory to the principles of scholastic journalism.

The staff encourages constructive criticism of any part of the book, both before and after publication. However, final authority for the content of the yearbook rests solely in the hands of the yearbook students under the guidance of their adviser.

No material which is libelous, irresponsible, and/or an advocate of illegal activity will be published. No material which the editor and/or adviser deems in poor taste will be printed. The content coverage period lasts from thesummer before school starts to early March,when the yearbook is completed. Events occurring past this date are included in a summer supplement which is mailed to all purchasers of the book and which attaches to the book in a seamless and professional manner. The yearbook staff strives to include Mallard staff members no more than any other student would be covered; that is, only through class portraits, group photos, and in pages specifically about the yearbook staff. The staff strives to include every student in the yearbook at least once; it is not always possible to do so. While the yearbook staff strives to include all official school sports and organizations as equitably as possible, the ultimate decision for page allocation is decided by the editor and adviser. All faculty, coaches, and staff are notified of publication deadlines and the yearbook staff makes its best effort to work with all groups to maximize coverage.

portrait photography

All students and school personnel must have their portraits taken by the official school photographer,Photo Texas, to be included in the yearbook. All students and school personnel are afforded at least two opportunities to have their portraits taken or retaken. Seniors who do not have their portraits taken on or before the announced deadline in January will not have their portrait included in the yearbook. Seniors are given the opportunity to select their yearbook pose from among their proofs. If no pose is selected, the studio selects one. The yearbook staff does not have the ability to change this selection. Occasional errors may occur at the photography studio that are not the responsibility of the yearbook staff.

sensitive issues

Should a student or school personnel die during the current coverage period, the staff will treat the death in a professional, tasteful, and respectful manner. A 1/4 page ad space will be allocated to a memoriam. Family and friends may also purchase advertising space for additional tributes.

advertising

All advertising accepted by the staff must meet the same guidelines as editorial content. Acceptance of advertising does not constitute an endorsement by the Mallard staff or adviser, Taylor High School's administration, faculty, staff, or students, or the Taylor Independent School District. Senior advertisements are sold from the beginning of the school year until February, with prices increasing as our printing deadline approaches. The Mallard staff discourages advertisements which include boyfriends/girlfriends because advertisements cannot be removed or changed after submission. Advertisements will be designed by the yearbook staff. Collages will not be accepted. Photos and content may be provided in print or digital format. The quality of photo reproduction in the advertisement will depend upon the quality of the photos provided.

The yearbook staff does not guarantee the safe return of photos submitted for advertisements.

client satisfaction

Because the yearbook is a student production, complete satisfaction is not guaranteed to the purchaser. Refunds will not be given for minor errors such as poor portrait quality, misspelled names, etc. Occasional printing errors may occur at the publishing house that are not the responsibility of the yearbook staff. Books returned for refund must be free of damage or writing. Once returned, the book becomes property of the staff and can be resold at the current price. Exchanges can be made for books with flaws if no writing appears in the book. If a book has been written in, then no exchange can be made unless the adviser determines the flaw in the book is of major proportion, i.e., page missing or upside down. All refunds and exchanges are made at the discretion of the adviser. It is the responsibility of the buyer to provide proof of purchase if the yearbook staff has no record of a sale. Valid proof of purchase includes a valid receipt, cancelled check, or credit card statement. The staff cannot hand out any yearbook without proof of purchase. Yearbooks will not be mailed unless the postage is paid by the purchaser. Buyers may be asked to provide photo identification when picking up a yearbook.

pricing

Students who do not purchase a book prior to February 1 will not be guaranteed to receive a book. A limited number of books are sold upon delivery for $60 on a first-come, first-served basis. A letter including details of yearbook pricing, advertisement, and deadlines is included in the first-day packets given to each student. Several purchase offers are mailed to students' homes by the yearbook company. This information is also available from the yearbook office or on the district website (www.taylorisd.org) at any time.

photo manipulation

Photographs will only be altered or manipulated by the staff to improve the quality of the photo or achieve a specific artistic effect; i.e., desaturating the background of a photo to black and white, feathering the edges. Photos may be combined to create a montage background; these montages are labeled as photo illustrations. No photos will be manipulated in a manner that changes the meaning of their content.

When you receive your
spring supplement
(which includes coverage of baseball, softball, prom, graduation, and more),
insert it after this page.