

# 2001: A Wildcat Odyssey



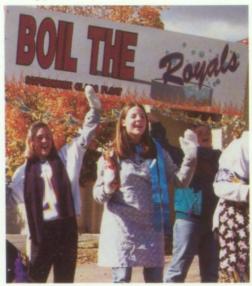
dyssey (od' e se), n. a long series of journeys or adventures especially when filled with notable experiences or hardships In many ways, each member of Waconia High School has gone on an odyssey of their own. For some it could be the journey to a new and unfamiliar place. Those of us who have remained in this school our entire lives may see it as an end to one of the most beneficial journeys of our time, while others may see it as the first day of the rest of their own personal journey, their life. No matter what viewpoint one is coming from, there is no doubt that each one has an idventure ahead of them. Along life's little journeys we have lost many companions, but have not neglected to accept new ones. Throughout the pages of this book are memoirs of the trip each of us has taken. So come along as we relive that trip, the Ddyssey of High School.

PAWPRINTS	Table of C	ontents
2001	Opening	2
WACONIA HIGH SCHOOL 1400 COMMUNITY DRIVE	Students	12
	Academics	50
	Activities	66
WACONIA, MN 55387	Sports	104
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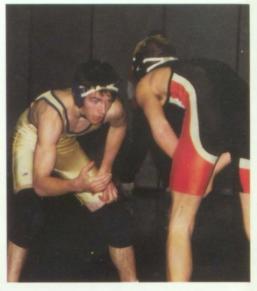
# A Year in the Life of the Wildcat

From day one to day done, there are so many things that go on in a school. Activities begin early in the year, even before school starts, and continue throughout the summer. And after all the commotion dies down, the students finally get to relax. Very seldom is the broad view of a school year seen, but below lies just that. From the fall to the spring, the students of WHS create a history of their own, whether it's in school or while on a little break. Either way, it's all good.

"Beautiful is the year in its coming and in its going." ~Lucy Larcom **Below.** The sophomore float helps mark the coming of fall and homecoming, during the annual homecoming parade.



### Homecoming



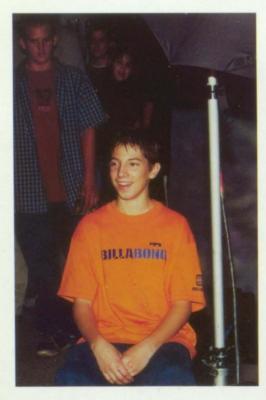
Above. Senior Josh Jetto represents the Wildcat wrestling team every winter with great skill and agility.

### Winter Sports

## **First Days of School**

#### **Fall Sports**

#### Winter Break



Above. Freshman Justin Ludwigson is one of many students who get their pictures taken during the first days of the school year.

**Below.** Senior Natalie Timmers is one of the many stars of various fall sports. Natalie qualified for state competition in cross country.





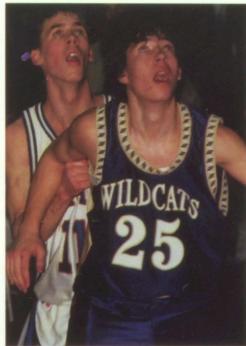
Above. Sophomore Morgan Berndt enjoys making snow angels every year during winter break. Winter marks the coming of each new year.



**Above.** Senior Megan Doyscher plans for a radical spring break. This year's spring break was a little early, but it was still a great one.

## **Spring Break**

**Below.** Senior Paul Ague helps represent WHS basketball during playoff competitions throughout March.



#### March Madness



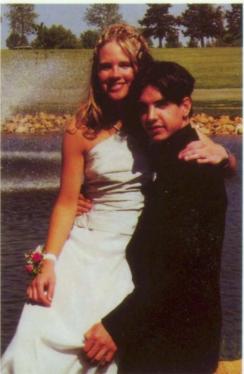
**Above.** Senior Aaron Petersen returns home, like so many students, to his loving family after a quality year at school.

## Last Days of School

## **Spring Sports**

### Prom

**Below.** Seniors Tanya U'Ren and Matt Anderson take pictures in front of a fountain before prom activities begin.



## Graduation



Above. New graduate Jessi Williams accepts a congratulatory handshake from Mr. Bettcher following commencement ceremonies.



**Above.** Senior Matt Priess adds All-Star flair to the golf team, which represents springtime sports at WHS.



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# Let the Se

ver since anyone can remember it's been a goal to be pictured in the yearbook. Each year students anxiously look through its pages

in hopes of catching even the smallest glimpse of their beautiful selves. Since the first yearbooks of elementary school to the senior yearbook of each























# arch Begin!

class the tally increases as more moments are captured on film. Well, here it is. The chance everyone waits for. Look through and possibly find yourself. And who knows, maybe you will also find a familiar character who some call . . . **Waldo**. Let the search begin!!



















# The Cats Come Out to Play

Ife, to us, is school. Five days a week the students of WHS go to school. It consumes our life, it becomes our life, it is our life. But where do the students go after this life is done each day? Each one, from every walk of life, has yet another life to attend to after school. Some go to work, while some go to play. Others plan ahead for a new day, while others sit back and let each day pass on its own. It is impossible to claim that the life of a student is boring uneventful or just plain easy. Aside from school, the students

student is boring, uneventful or just plain easy. Aside from school, the students of Waconia High School participate in and become a part of many activities every day.

"If a man insisted always on being serious, and never allowed himself a bit of fun and relaxation, he would go mad or become unstable without knowing it." ~Herodotus from *The Histories of Herodotus* 

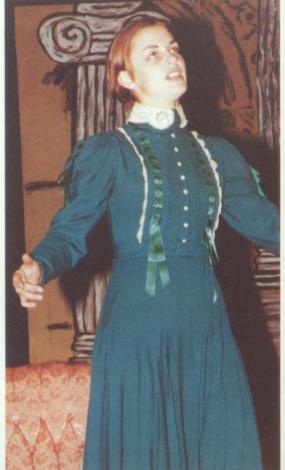




**Center left.** Seniors Ted Keefe and Ryan Mortensen take in an after school movie at the Waconia Theatre.

Above. Senior Aaron Petersen, sophomore Taylor Stangret, and junior Nate McKinney hang out with the security at the Mall of America.

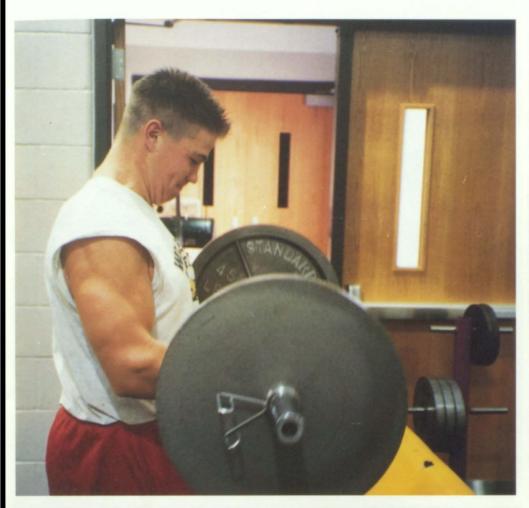
**Below.** Senior Eva Mohn, shown during *My Fair Lady*, is one of many involved in after school drama practices.

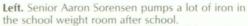




Above. Justin Reitsma and Andy Meeks work on their skills during a Metro Basketball practice.







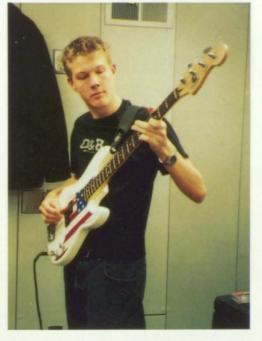
**Below.** Juniors Alicia Ertl and Abby Welch count on savings during after school shopping at Mack-enthun's.







Above. Senior Emily Tongen serves junior Maureen Ayers-Looby while working at Frost and Steam after school.



Above. Senior Matt Masurka jams on his bass after school.



# The Unbreakable Journey of Friendship

s each student grows up, it is no doubt that each becomes their own individual. From style of dress, to speech, to interests, to possibly even homes, everything changes over the years. Even though time can do so much, some things never change. Certain groups of students have gone through childhood, elementary and middle school, and even high school together. These students represent a few of the many friendships that time couldn't touch.

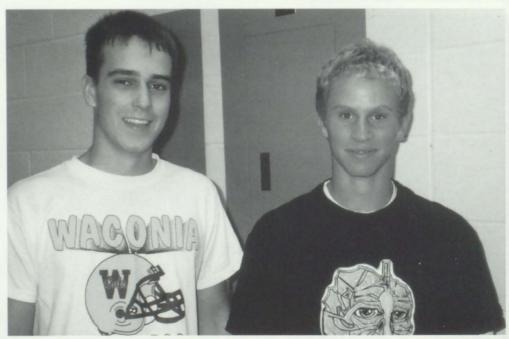
As each new year approaches, friends look forward to spending more and more time together. For some, as college approaches, they can look back and remember those who shaped their lives for so long. No matter what the case, it has been said to "make new friends, but keep the old."

> "I get by with a little help from my friends." ~John Lennon and Paul McCartney





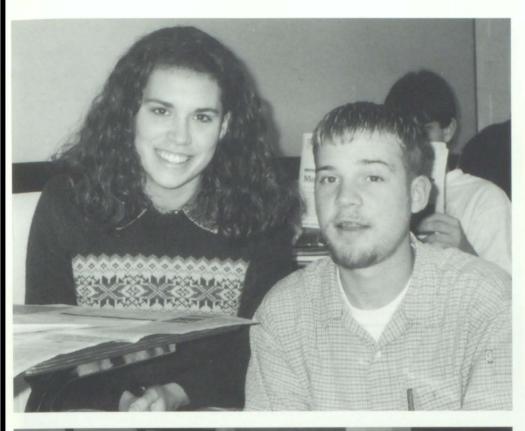
**Above.** Seniors Maren Delaney and Emily Tongen have been friends since age four and now share a high school friendship.



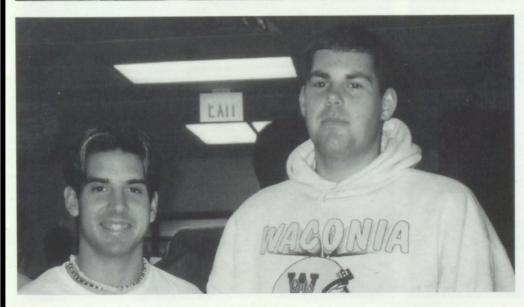
**Top.** Seniors Leah Gjertson and Caitlyn Klosterman grew up together in the same neighborhood. Now they participate side by side in many school activities.

Above. Sophomore Dan Philp and freshman Justin Reitsma shared many neighborhood basketball games and continue the tradition in high school.









**Left.** Seniors Holly Olson and Matt Dressel have a strong childhood past. They even share the same birthday!

**Below.** As a child of a military officer, Brooke Simonson moved around a lot. But she found a faithful friend in fellow junior, Amber Krause.





Left. Seniors Matt Anderson and Jeff Elliot virtually share their childhood memories of video games and summer sports.

Above. Sophomores Emily Cousin and Meghan Menssen have been great friends throughout school. Now, in high school, they play volleyball together and also work at Frost and Steam.

**Center left.** Freshmen Brian Falk, Megan VanEyll, Jennifer Brandenburg and Cassie Williams have been classmates since the beginning.



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# The Mighty Roar of the Wildcats

I t's impossible for a year to go by without anything happening; literally it's impossible. Yes, some things may be small and seem trivial, but they don't go unnoticed. Other things are very noticeable, but in them humility is found.

All of these events are noticed by someone, somewhere, somehow. To the students of WHS: don't let your efforts go unnoticed. Determination, ambition, and hard work will pay off.

This year, just like every other, was full of highlights. The girls' cross country team had another great season. *My Fair Lady*, this year's musical, was a smash; and the Waconia High School Marching Band also had a very successful season.

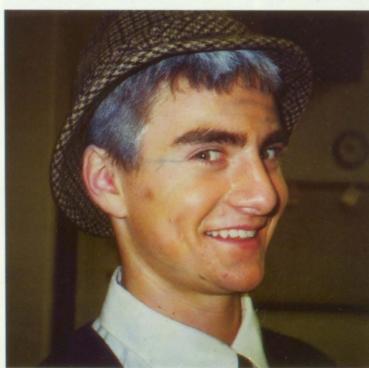
Along with these, the fall was filled with many special events and days, from Spirit Week to Halloween to the holidays. These days and all the others provided plenty of highlights to remember.

"Life is all memory except for the one present moment that goes by you so quick you hardly catch it going." ~Tennessee Williams

**Top.** Natalie Timmers is escorted by Matt Stuewe as they represent WHS as this year's homecoming king and queen.

**Below.** Sophomore Phil Litfin acts the part of Colonel Pickering in the fall musical, *My Fair Lady*. **Below right.** As part of Chemical Health Week, various students represent the victims of chemical abuse.











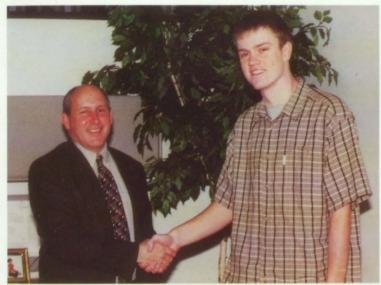
Left. The baritone section, along with the complete WHS Marching Band, travels to the National Cherry Festival to bring home the "bling-bling." Below. Seniors Audra Lehrke and Kristin Pletsch

clown around on Halloween.

**Center left.** Senior Drew Gustafson receives con-gratulations from Mr. Fredericksen for being a fi-nalist in the annual National Merit Scholarship com-

**Center right.** As part of Spirit Week, sophomores Baillie Miller and Becky Mieseler dress as twins.

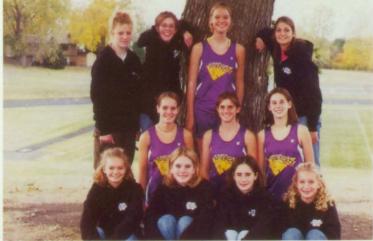








Above. For the fourth consecutive year, the Parade of Bands concert has been an autumn hit.



Above. The girls' cross country team is named Conference Champions, and senior Natalie Timmers runs at state competition.







hey fill the halls, the classrooms and the offices. They fulfill the purpose of Waconia High School. They are none other than the students. A total of 659 students, consisting of 145 seniors, 155 juniors, 174 sophomores, and 185 freshmen attend the school. Only proof that we are a growing population. With greater numbers come greater diversity and opportunity. Students are engaged in a wider variety of activities, sports and even curriculum. The greater number of students also provides more excitement in every new day. And learning, expanding, enhancing and improving one's self overall are what WHS students are all about.

"America's future walks through the doors of our schools each day." ~Mary Jean Letendre





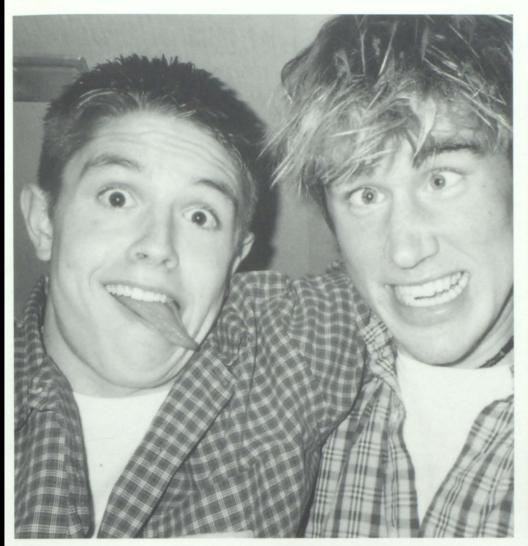
**Top.** Freshmen Jenna Ely, Sammie Hoff, Kaylee Rasmussen and Cynthia Ratsabouth take one last look in the mirror before having their student pictures taken.

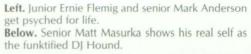
Above. Freshmen Claire Salveson and Megan VanEyll strike a pose while chillin' in the library. **Right.** Sophomores Laura Schmidt and Megan Haberling dress alike from ears to toes.

**Far right.** Homecoming King Matt Stuewe celebrates with his freshman sister, Kate, after coronation.













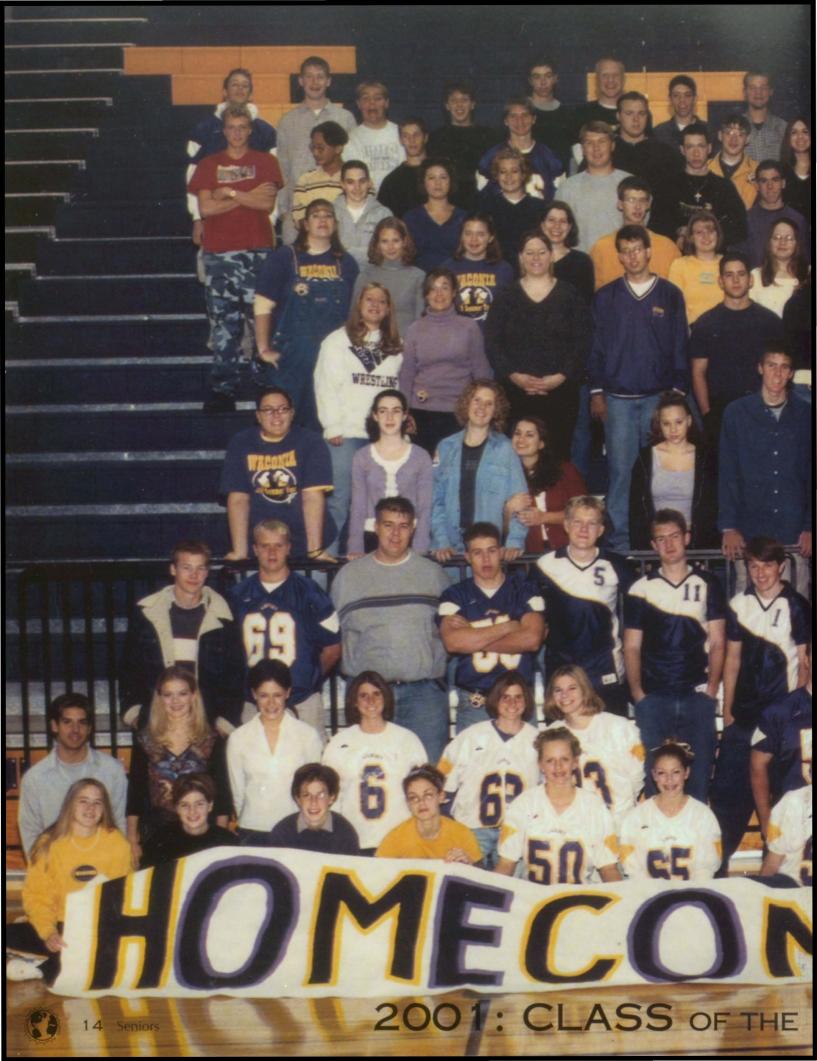




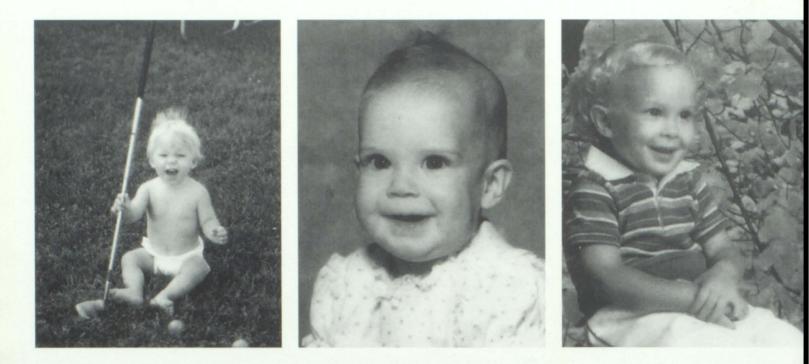


Center right. Senior Tanya U'Ren and junior Megan Rasmussen enjoy a quick break from class. Far left. Senior Chadd Smith and sophomore Alex Smith get crazy for the Vikings on Twin Day. Left. Junior Matt Wagener tests the value of his "bling-bling" with his teeth. Above. Sophomore Sonja Ellingson smiles with glee during English class.









# $\sim$ A Journey into the Past $\sim$

A n infant, to many, is a symbol of innocence, unspoiled life, and a refreshing reminder of days past. Each person still has that infant somewhere inside them. Some show it everyday in their own ways, while others seem to grow out of it too soon.

No matter what the case may be, each person was once an infant. Many of them may still resemble their younger selves, but some of us have changed dramatically. Naturally, every person is always looking for that child-like innocence, and trying to recapture their youth. On these pages, that youthful generation of the class of 2001 is captured forever.

Clockwise from top left. Matt Priess, Anna Warnes, Ryan Debner, Nicole Krautbauer, Garret Chadek, Sara Mauk, Audra Lehrke.

"I can make something out of the children. . . They have an essence of greatness in them." ∼Zora Neale Hurston





















"Our children must never lose their zeal for building a better world." ~Mary McLeod Bethune





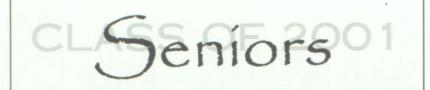


Clockwise from top left. Lisa Smestad, Drew Gul-den, Megan Doyscher, Holly Olson and Matt Dres-sel, Lindsey Lindemeier, Matt Anderson, Sarah Domoradzki, Holly Kunkel, Caitlyn Klosterman, Leah Gjertson.

Seniors — As They Were



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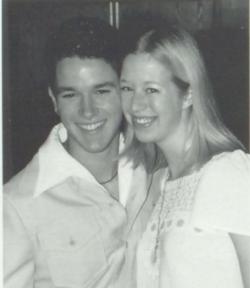








Clockwise from top left. The senior homecoming float, Matt Masurka, Megan Doyscher, Scott Stein, Mark Anderson, Jeff Elliot, Amanda Templin, Jennifer Capaul, Karl Kranz, Charity Zabel.



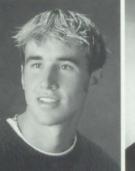












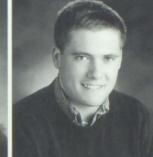




The New









Andy Acosta Paul Ague Lacey Ahlbrecht Lucas Anderson

Mark Anderson Matthew Anderson Michelle Anderson **Richard Barfknecht** 

Justin Beilby

Bryan Bracken Brian Buetow

Andrew Bergstrand



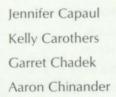












Daniel Chrest Dylan Christensen Jaclynn Condon Ryan Debner







# NICKNAMES

ur names. Since the beginning of time our names have been our identity. We even have them, in some cases, before we are born. As we grow, our names become something more to us than just a bunch of letters. Our names become who we are, what we believe in, and also how we will be remembered. In some cases, it's being remembered that changes everything. Events happen and things change, and along with that comes a new name. Introducing. . . . the Nickname. Many kids develop them and embrace them as their identify. Although we can't name them all, below are a few of the nicknames seniors have acquired over the years.

MATT MASURKA MODE, GLITCH, ZURK
ANDREW BERGSTRAND SUNSHINE,
PONCH
DYLAN SCHESSO DUCK
JEFF ELLIOT JUMBO
AARON PETERSEN AP, PILE
MARK ANDERSON BORK
DANN CHREST DANIMAL, TEENWOLF
STEVE MITCHELL SMITCH
JARED SANDEEN BIG BOSS MAN DEEN
MATT STUEWE STU, STU-TANG
AMBER GOETZE BLONDIE
KARL KRANZ BOY MEETS WORLD
DREW GULDEN DREW DOGG
NATE HENDREN HEN DAWG
GREG HOPPENRATH
JOE DIMLER JD
JOE REITSMA PEPE
MARK WILSON WILLARD
MATT ANDERSON MATTA
JOE WEBSTER COON
AARON SORENSEN SORNY, SMILEY
STEVE OSTLUND STEVE OWE, DUDE
ANDY ACOSTA MEX
MATT DRESSEL WART
ERIK SCHULTZ PUTER
JEN MOCHINSKI JENMO
CHRIS HENDREN CHAY, C-NOTE, C-
MONEY, C-SPAN, CH, CHAYCH, CASH
MONEY, C-BASS, CHOPS, CHIMP, CASH
Mo, Cash Monsey

Natalia DeFrancesco Maren Delaney

Joseph Dimler Sarah Domoradzki

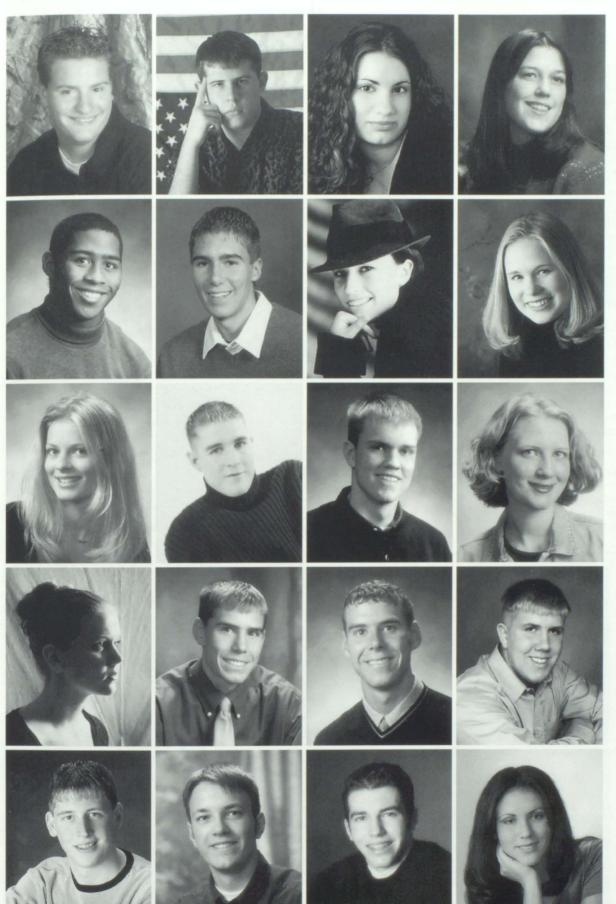
Megan Doyscher Matthew Dressel

James Dressen Tyler Dubbe

Jeffrey Elliot Michael Erickson







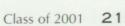
Matthew Evans Jordan Everhart Cassandra Gaddo Stephanie Ganser

Joseph Gast Nicholas Gee Ann Geyen Leah Gjertson

Amber Goetze Drew Gulden Andrew Gustafson Jennifer Harter

Lindsey Hatz Christopher Hendren Nathaniel Hendren Michael Hilliard

Gregory Hoppenrath Eric Janzen Joshua Jetto Jolene John



# Remembering Lindsey



Lindsey Lindemeier November 3, 1982 to February 8, 2001

L indsey Lindemeier died as the result of a traffic accident on an icy stretch of highway early in the morning on her way to school. Her friends miss her very much. The following are excerpts from their memories of Lindsey.

"Lindsey was a burst of sunshine. No matter what the day was like, she could make you smile. We could all learn something from her — smile and be happy — life is too short."

"You will always be a big part of our lives forever and ever. Your memories will always be with us."

"No matter what kind of mood I was in Lindsey always made me laugh. Just seeing her smile made my whole day get better. It is so hard to get back to 'normal' life without having Lindsey around."

### Lindsey, You Make Us Smile

We can see you walking down the halls of school, laughing, smiling and talking and We smile, knowing that You are with us.

As we prepare for graduation, getting ready for the big day, We will smile, knowing that You are with us.

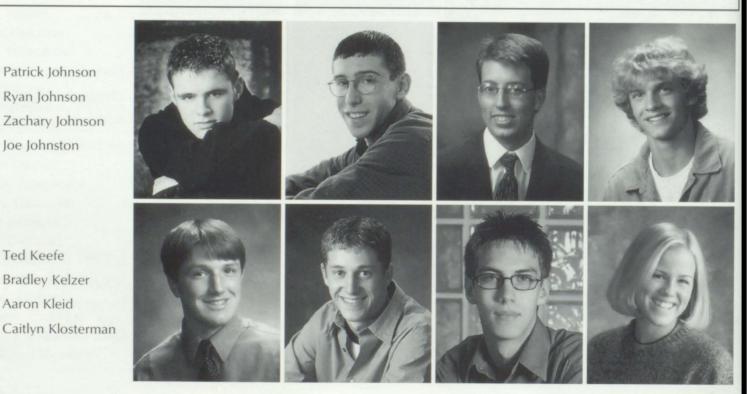
Someday, as we are shopping at the mall, we will see someone that reminds us of you and We will smile, knowing that You are with us.

One day as we get married and have children and as our children challenge us as all children do, We will smile, knowing that You are with us.

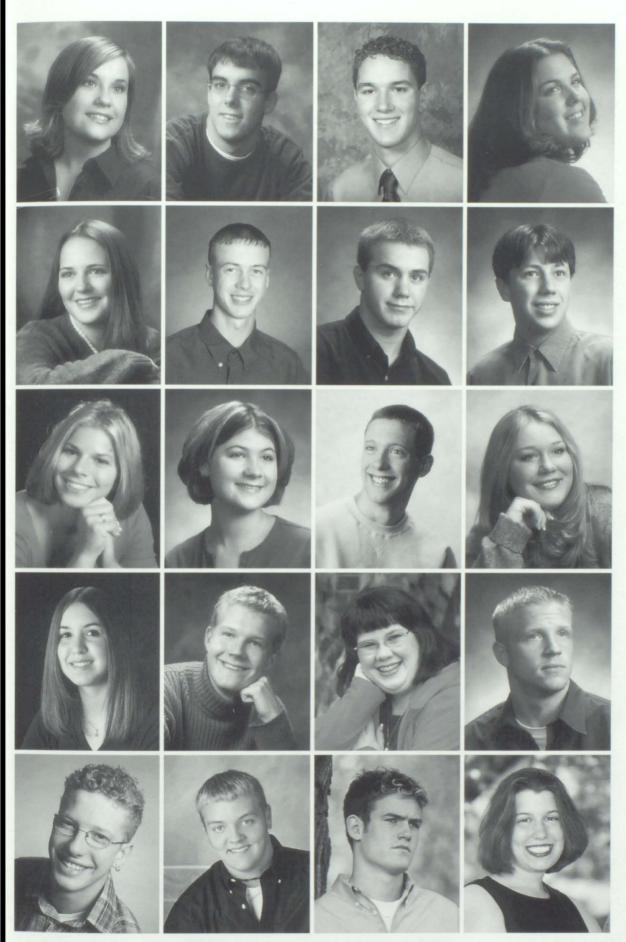
When our children are teenagers and we hear them laughing with their friends we will remember the good times and We will smile, knowing that You are with us.

One day, as we realize we have grown older and as we prepare for what's ahead, We will smile, knowing that we will see You again.

~written by Lindsey's Friends







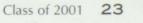
Rachel Knickerbocker Thomas Kortisses Karl Kranz Nicole Krautbauer

Holly Kunkel Zachary Lamberger Joseph Laumann Nicholas Leffler

Audra Lehrke Rhea Lenzen Patrick Lindstrom Jennifer Litfin

Lea Massengale Matthew Masurka Sara Mauk Matthew McGowan

Nathan Mechtel Jacob Meyer Lucas Meyer Sara Meyer



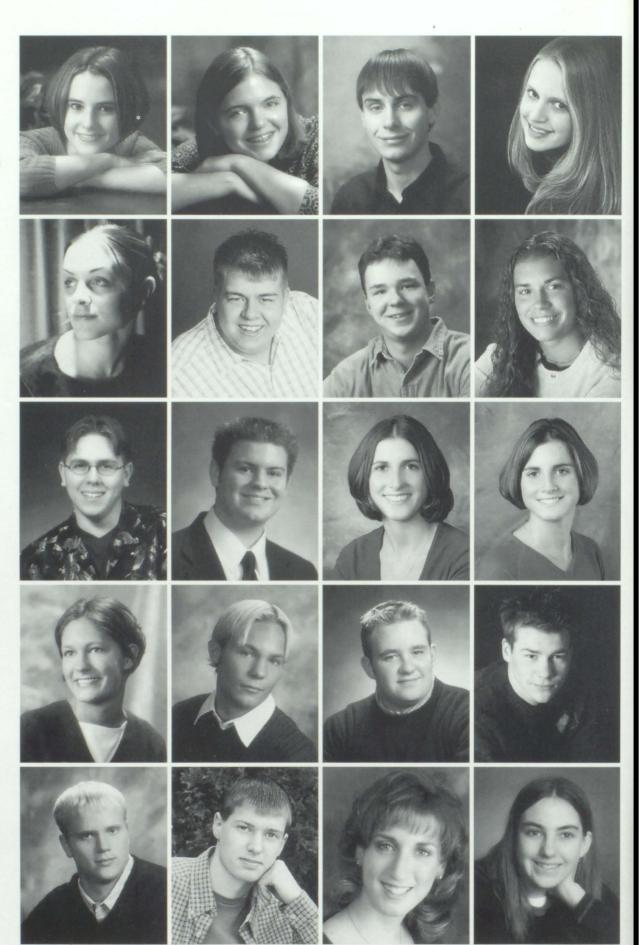
Amanda Miller Rachel Minzel Steven Mitchell Jennifer Mochinski

Eva Mohn Ryan Mortensen Kevin Mott Holly Olson

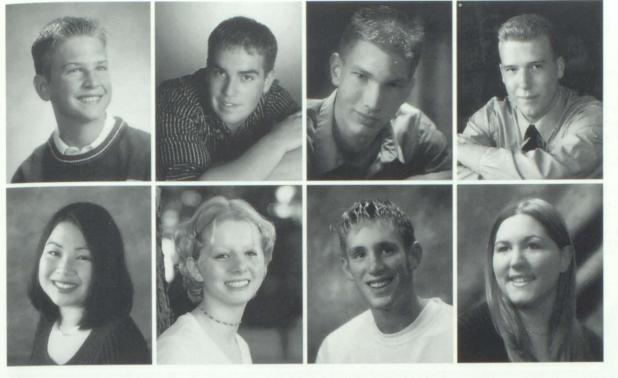
Stephen Ostlund Aaron Petersen Kelli Pletsch Kristin Pletsch

Sarah Popelka Matthew Priess Eric Randt Bud Redinger

Joseph Reitsma Christopher Rettig Nicole Ristow Carla Roepke







Brent Rolf Jared Sandeen Joe Sanocki Dylan Schesso

Jennifer Schmakel Megan Schmaltz Christopher Schmitz Nicole Schneewind

# SENIORS CONTEMPLATE THE GOOD AND THE BAD ABOUT GRADUATING

G raduation is something that is on every high school senior's mind. And, as the effects of "senioritis" set in, sometimes it's the only thing that is on their minds. At the turn of each new year seniors start to realize that they have only six months left in school. For some, this means making the

months left in school. For some, this means making the most of those six months. For others it means making plans for that final day.

Graduation is definitely a milestone in most people's lives, but in some ways it is bittersweet. The oncoming independence seems so great, but on the other hand... independence means no parental support. Everything, graduation included, has its goods and its bads.

Several seniors were asked what they thought is the best thing about graduating and also what is the worst thing about it. . .



The Best Thing about Graduating:

"Finally able to meet new people and do what you want with your life." ~ Megan Schmaltz

"Choose what you learn about." ~ Amanda Miller "Happy that you graduated on time."

#### ~Patrick Lindstrom

"To move on, go to college." ~ Lacy Skoog "Get to go someplace where the chicks don't know

me." ~Ryan Mortensen

"Actually considered an adult." ~ Matt Masurka

# The Worst Thing about Graduating:

"Leaving all my friends behind." ~ Maren Delaney "You have to move on. Have to decide what you're

doing." ~Lacy Skoog

"The change in routine." ~ Mike Hilliard

- "Pay for schooling." ~ Nick Waletich
- "Doing my own laundry." ~ Holly Olson
- "Having to start actual life." ~ Robert Kolar
- "There is no downside." ~ Jordan Everhart





# SENIOR PLANS

I t's what some people are scared to death of. Yet, it's what others can't wait to experience. It's college. After high school a world of options awaits. College, work, military service. These are all options to a graduate of high school, and students choose differently among them. We polled the senior class to find out the specifics of who is going where after they finish high school. Anywhere we go, we, the class of 2001, are bound to make an impact!

Post High School Plans

Erik Schultz Blane Severson

















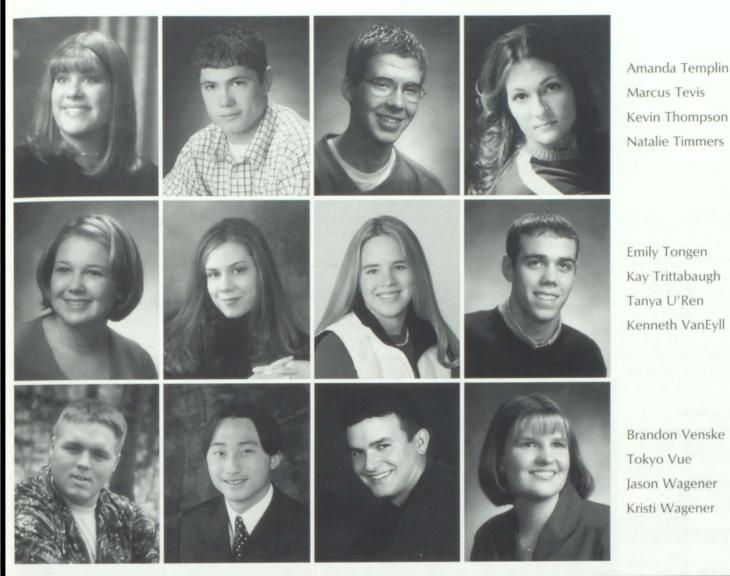


Lacy Skoog Lisa Smestad 4-Year College 2-Year College Military . Ħ Work 55% 28% Other Chadd Smith Colleges Chosen Aaron Sorensen Other MN Col. 21.9% U. of M. 35.6% Mankato State Dut-of-State Co Technical Col. 9.69 Scott Stein Melissa Stevens Majors Chosen **Business** Computer Sci. 24.1% Science/Math 8.5 Liberal Arts Education Pre-Law, -Med Matthew Stuewe

Justin Symanietz



27.8%



SENIOR SLANG ROOTED IN ROCK, RAP MUSIC

A s the years go on, everything around us changes. As we are introduced to new things, we are influenced by them. These influences stem from our parents, our peers, and the media. But one source stands out among the rest: music. The music we listen to is the origin of many of the things we do. Our dress, attitudes, and behavior reflect our listening choices. Even our speech is influenced. As new music comes out, a wide variety of new slang terms follows. What we hear on our CD's and

minidiscs is exactly what is heard coming from our mouths. The following is a conversation you might hear in the halls of WHS.

"Whodi!"

"What up man? What are you doin' this weekend?"

"Ah ya know, chillin', goin' to a tight partay, it only costs 5 bones to get in."

"Off da heazy fo sheezy, man, I'll make sure to wear all my ice."

"Yeah. I'll be chillin' with all my peeps."

"Welp, see ya."

"Whodi."

#### SLANG PHRASES

Fo shizzle For sure (fosho)
Off da heazy fo sheezy Off the hook (cool)
WhodiMan, cool
Hey, greeting/farewell
Bling-bling Spendy, money, jewelry
Ice Diamonds
That's platinum
Chill Hang out
Peeps Friends, people, peers
Bones Money
Tight Cool, awesome
<u>l'm out</u> Goodbye
What up/Was up How are you?



# WHERE WERE YOU WHEN . . . ?

hrough four years of high school, a lot of things happen, in school and out. Sometimes these things are so big and impact people so much that they are remembered forever. In some cases we remember exactly what time these events happened. where we were when they happened and exactly how they made us feel. These things range from serious crimes to odd circumstances to national crises, even to complete joy and exhilaration. These are the events about which we remember every detail and which will stay in our our memories forever. So, where were you when . . .?

"Our memory is our coherence, our reason, our feeling, even our action. Without it, we are nothing." ~Luis Bunuel

#### OJ Simpson's Verdict Was Read:

"Mr. Machtemes' 7th grade history class. Everyone was shouting what they wanted the verdict to be and it was guite rowdy!"

~Lisa Smestad

#### The U.S. Entered the Gulf War:

"At home eating spaghettios drawing war pictures." ~Ted Keefe

#### The Twins Won the World Series in 1987; in 1991:

"Home, both times. It was one of the coolest things to happen in Minnesota. I'm a true-blue die-hard Twins fan and they're the best sports team we have due to the fact that they can win the big game."

#### ~Joe Dimler

#### The Columbine School Shooting Happened:

"At school. It made me realize that peers affect other students. I felt scared that students may not be safe at school anymore." ~Amanda Miller

**Rvan Skraba** July 14, 1983 to April 7, 2001



Nicholas Waletich Michael Wander Anna Warnes **Benjamin Weaver** 

Joseph Webster Sarah Weinzierl Katie Whittaker Jessica Williams

Mark Wilson Charity Zabel

#### Not Pictured:

Jason Biskey Todd Ebersviller Robert Kolar Lori Parkin



### MOVIE

1. The Matrix 2. Gladiator 3. Dazed and Confused

## ACTOR

1. Adam Sandler 2. Mel Gibson 3. Nicholas Cage

# ACTRESS

1. Sandra Bullock 2. Julia Roberts 3. Gwyneth Paltrow

# MUSICIAN

1. Don Schultz 2. Metallica 3. Led Zeppelin

# RADIO STATION

1. Beat 96 2.93 X 3. K102

# TV SHOW

1. The Simpsons 2. Friends 3. MTV's Jack\*\*\*



# EPISODE OF THE SIMPSONS

1. Homer becomes a missionary 2. Trip to Japan 3. Homer3

THE STUFF WE LIKE CLASS OF 2001

#### TEACHER RESTAURANT

1. Applebee's 2. Olive Garden

3. Perkin's

1. Mr. Aeling 2. Mr. Machtemes 3. Mr. Zender



1. Cosmopolitan 2. People 3. Sports Illustrated

# HANGOUT

1. Frost and Steam 2. Friends' houses 3. In the Cities

# GAME SYSTEM

- 1. Nintendo 64
- 2. Playstation 2
- 3. Original Nintendo

## BOOK

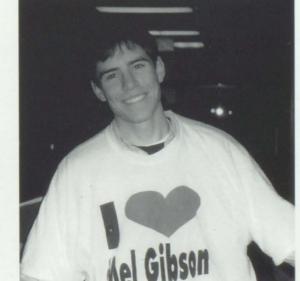
1. Everyone Poops 2. The Great Gatsby 3. The Bible

## STORE

1. Target 2. Dueber's 3. Best Buy















**Clockwise from top left.** The juniors on Class Color Day, Murphy Steiner, Sasha Rasmussen, Miranda Johnston, Molly Lenzen, Kenzie Foley and Sarah Gibbs, Eric Roberts and Jenny Sorensen.

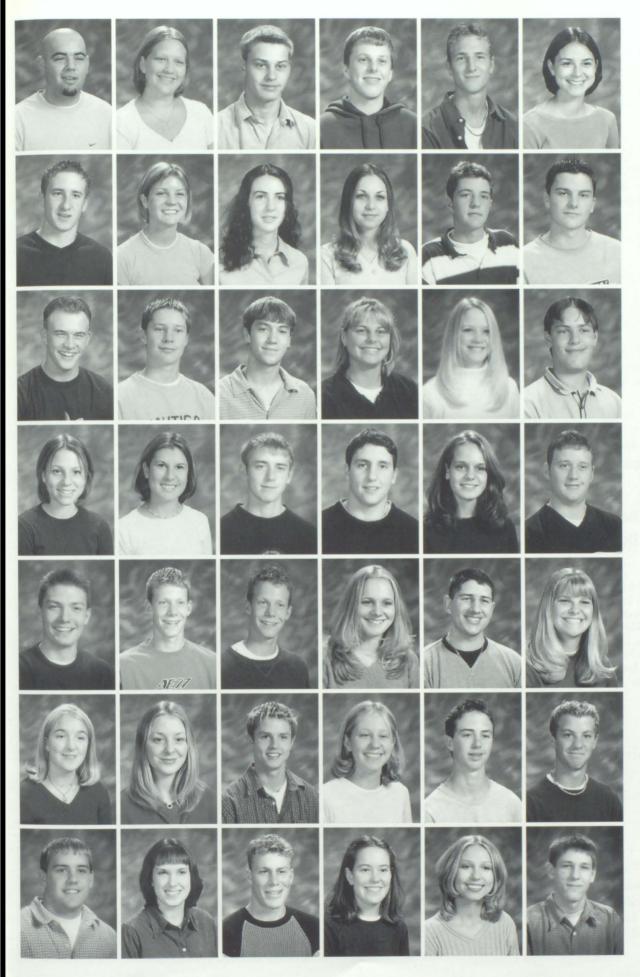












Gabriel Acosta Amanda Allen Matthew Anderson Wesley Anderson Donald Arndt Maureen Ayers-Looby

Sean Bailey Jessica Bammert Anne-Kathrin Becker Stephanie Benedix Austin Bodahl Jonathon Boll

Matthew Bren Rod Brink Jeffrey Buckingham Tanya Clemensen Heather Colton Timothy Connor

Kelsey Dake Julie Dalbec Adam Dalen Justin Davis Tabitha Deleeuw William Diers

Jacob Edlund Eric Ellingson Marc Ellingson Alicia Ertl Marshall Everhart Jessica Falk

Gina Fanberg Sarah Feerhusen Ernie Flemig Mackenzie Foley Jeffrey Foust Travis Frank

Nickolas Furman Lisa Gedden Dustin Gesinger Sarah Gibbs Angela Goodwin Cole Hackbarth



### Q: How many tries did it take you to get your license? Any advice?

► "Two



times. Don't overrun stop signs!" ~ Ben Horner



▼ "One try. Don't drink and drive!" ~ Tim Held

horn, make sure it doesn't get stuck." ~ Tara Nelson

try. When they ask

you to honk the

✓ "One time. Don't run red lights."

Jeremiah West



# Q: What was the worst date you

have been on?

while I

was in

~ Jackie Pitts



▲ "Every date I have had has ruled." ~ Adam Hastings



< "Going to Titanic. It was boring." ~ lon Boll



▼ "We went out to eat and the loser had no money." ~ Cara Hendrickson



Adam Hagen Lisa Hammer Adam Hastings

Amanda Hedtke Matthew Heger Timothy Held

Cara Hendrickson Matthew Hennen

Christopher Hennes

Matthew Hentges Charles Herman Jennifer Hilgers

Haemin Hong Amanda Hoops

Leah Indrelie

Graham Irving

Kurtis Jenkins

Meghan Jereczek

Caleb Jetto

Brian Johnson

Benjamin Horner











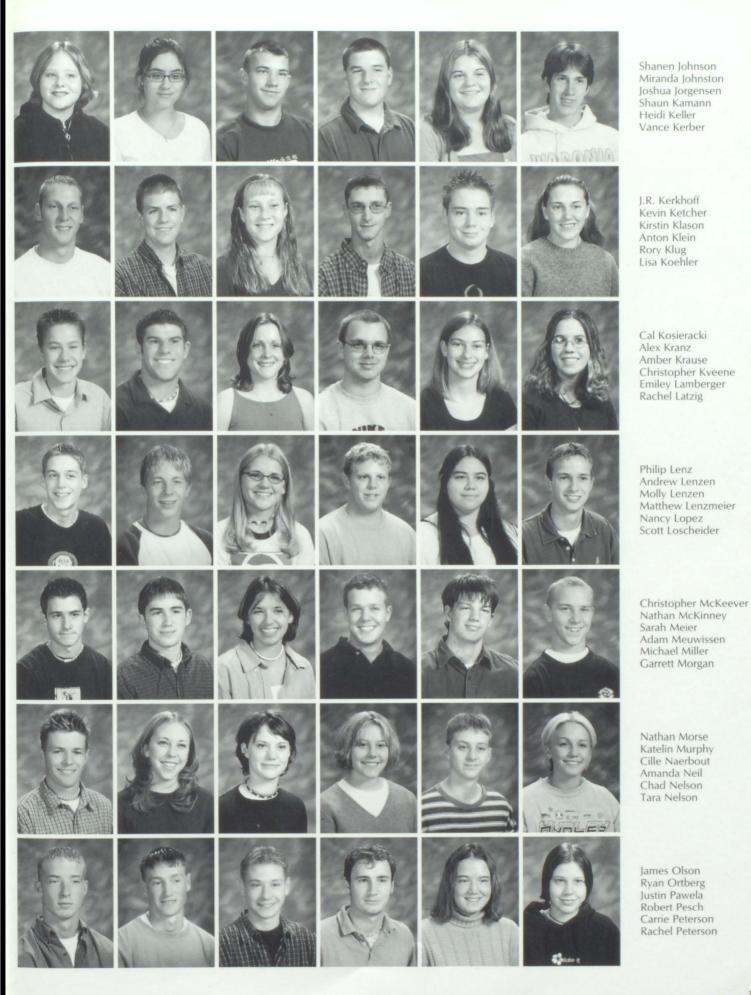














## Q: Who is your favorite teacher so far and why?



 ✓ "Mr. Zender. He tells it how it is and doesn't beat around the bush. He is also not afraid to show his true colors."
 ~ Nate McKinney



✓ "David
 Grack. He's a
 cool teacher
 and makes class
 fun."
 ~ Billy Diers

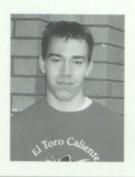


 ✓ "Mr. Zender, even though I don't understand anything in his Poli Sci class."
 ∼ Brooke
 Simonson

 "Mr. Torborg is because he always has something intelligent to say even when it is the weirdest thing."
 Stephanie Benedix



 "Mr. Arman. His sarcastic remarks make class fun."
 ~ Dylan Pforr.



► "Mr. Machtemes cause he is a laid back teacher who knows what he's teaching about. The class is fun, plain, and simple." ~ Heidi Keller

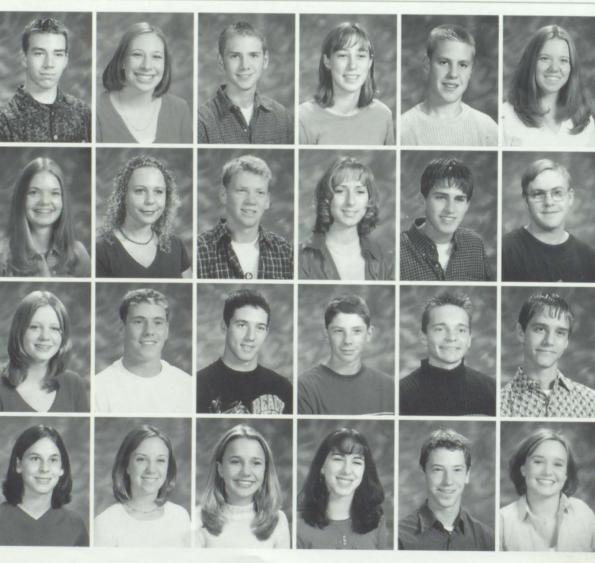


Dylan Pforr Jacqueline Pitts Bret Plocher Tina Pogatchnik David Powers Katie Rademacher

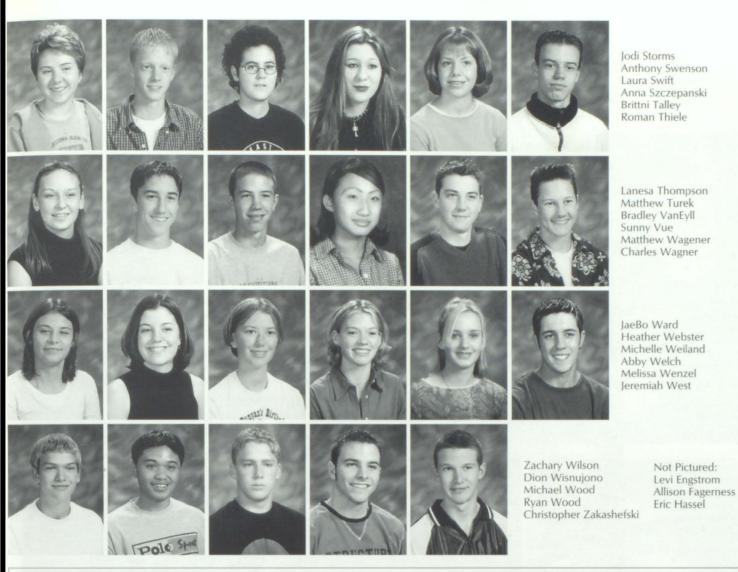
Megan Rasmussen Sasha Rasmussen Randal Redinger Natalie Ristow Lucas Roach Eric Roberts

Melissa Rogers Ryan Rosin Robert Samuelson Justin Schelitzche Luke Schiller Adam Schlagel

Jennifer Schnobrich Brooke Simonson Jennifer Sorensen Marilyn Spiess Murphy Steiner Megan Sterner







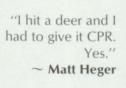
## Q: What was the best excuse you used for coming home late? Did your parents believe you?



"I drove under the speed limit. Yes, because they can't argue against their own rule." ~ Adam Schlagel



"I'm always home on time, and I always tell the truth. So of course they believe me." ~ Robert Pesch





"The best excuse for coming late is, on my way home I got pulled over by a police officer. Yes, this did work for me." ~ Charlie Herman













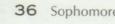
Clockwise from top left. Sophomores on Class Color Day, Carly Brown, the sophomore float, Dan Philp and John Keefe, Summer Becklund and Sarah Schmakel, Ellie Goenner and Melanie Butler, Michael Anderson and Evan Johnson.

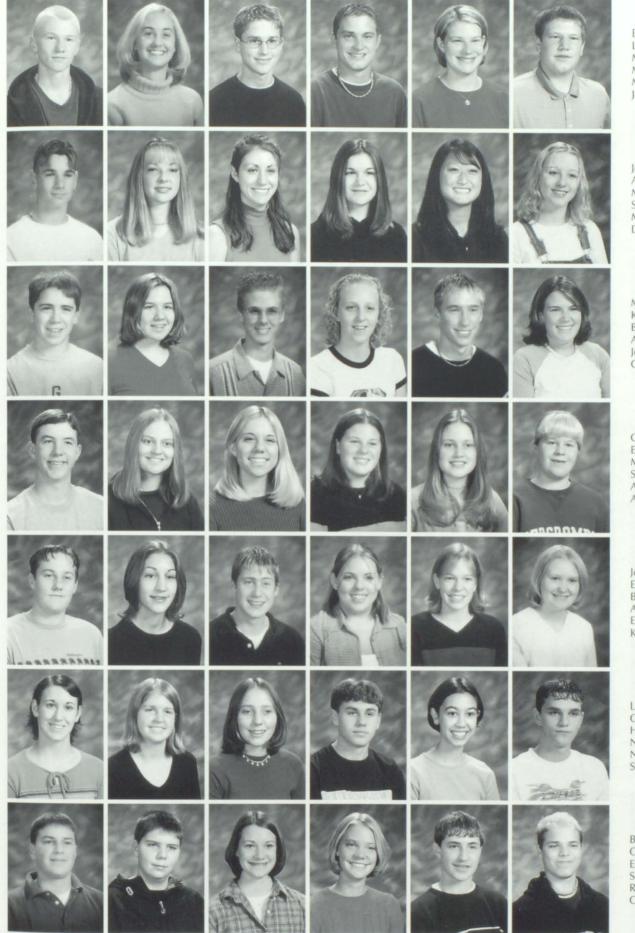












Evan Abrahamson Laura Anderson Michael Anderson Michael Anquist Molly Anquist John Ansell

Jeremy Armstrong Ashley Artmann Makenzie Bakken Summer Becklund Morgan Berndt Danielle Bernier

Matthew Biskey Kienan Bjorklund Benjamin Boughton Alyssa Braun Jedd Braunwarth Carly Brown

Christopher Buetow Elizabeth Bush Melanie Butler Stephanie Capaul Anna Carrigan Alaina Caviness

Jonah Chester Erica Christenson Brian Cook Anna Corson Emily Cousin Katie Dean

Lindsey Debner Cassie DeBoer Heather Diethelm Nathan Dixon Nicole Donnel Steven Doyen

Benjamin Dubbe Chris Dunn Emily Eder Sonja Ellingson Ryan Engelen Cory Engstrom



#### Question: Where would you prefer to go on a date the most and why?



"To a Twins game, cause I can see all the men in tight spandex!" ~ Alaina Caviness

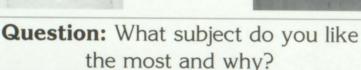
"I would probably prefer to go to the beach. It would be fun to ya know ..... 'do stuff.' ' ~ Baillie Miller.

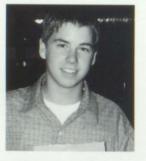


"I would go to a movie so if you don't like the person you're with, you don't have to talk to them. Ha-ha." ~ **Maggie Hilliard** 



▼ "Girls don't like me. I've never been on a date." ~ Mike Anguist





</ break because of the pizza." ~ Russ Herman

◀ "Science. Mr. Berg's cool magical tricks." ~ Heidi Paulson



 ✓ "Biology. It's the only class that I actually understand." ~ John Ansell



▼ "History, because it's fun and easy and he plays some cool music

~ Sean Lewis

wink wink -



▲ "Woods because Mr. Lindemann knows what he's doing and taught ~ Travis Roush

Jenny Erickson **Jennifer** Evans

Rvan Fenske

Andrew Fredericksen







Jeremy Gesinger Jacob Goede

Ellie Goenner David Gongoll





Jennifer Grier Michael Groschen

Lucy Gunness Francine Gustafson

Megan Haberling Ashley Hagman





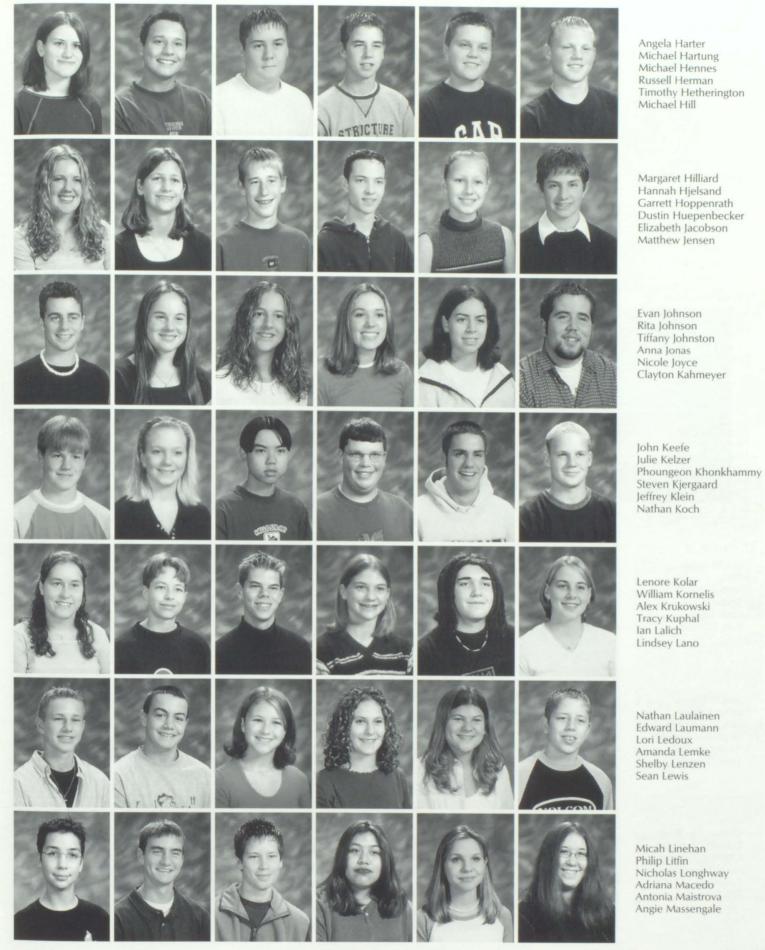






me a lot.'





Sector Sector



Jonothon McKee Kymberly Mehus Meghan Menssen Kayla Menth Matt Meuleners Justin Meyers

Becky Mieseler Roxanne Mieseler Baillie Miller Lukas Mitchell Christine Nelson Janelle Nelson

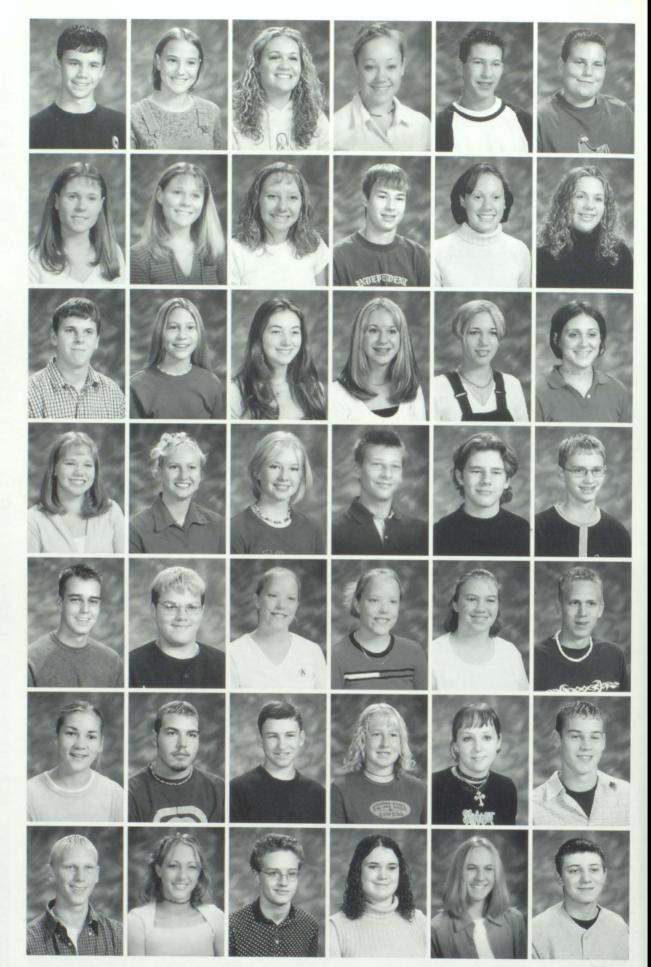
Timothy Niccum Jena Niesen Jennie Novellino Tia Oakman Cassie Olson Jacleen Olson

Jennifer Olson Kerstin Palm Heidi Paulson Arron Pawelk Austin Perbix Scott Peterson

Daniel Philp Phillip Pieper Andrea Ptacek Trisha Ptacek Katie Rajewsky Kory Rambow

Sara Redinger James Reimer Benjamin Robb Stephanie Roepke Amber Rogney Travis Roush

Christopher Rueben Danielle Sampson Christian Sappington Martha Saunders Cassandra Schaffer Tim Schendel





Question: What's the most embarrassing thing you have done at WHS?



"The first day of school I went in to the wrong class and found out halfway through the class."  $\sim$  **Dan Philp** 



"Now why would I tell you that?" ~ Katie Rajewsky

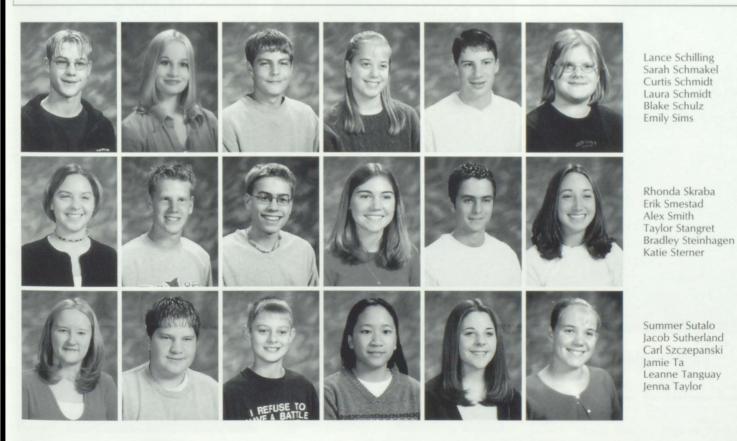


"I was getting up from sitting on the floor, and I hit my head against the concrete wall, and EVERYONE saw. The worst thing was — I had a headache the rest of the day." ~ Katie Dean



"Just this year my fly was open and this guy saw and told me that it was. I turned beet red. He chuckled for the rest of class." ~ Angie Massengale "I was talking to someone while walking down the hall. I wasn't paying attention to where I was walking and I ran into a door and fell down." ~ Melanie Butler

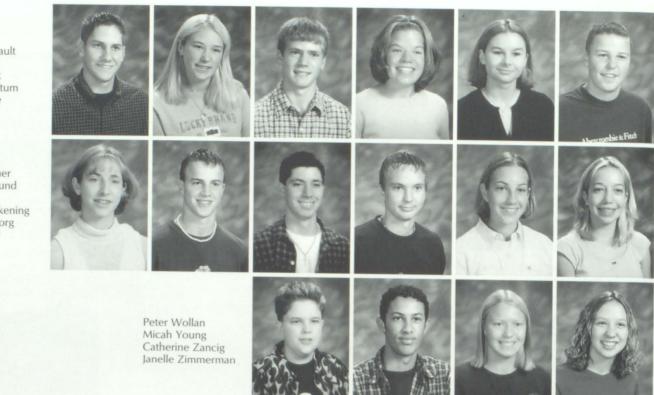






Cory Tellers Melissa Tetreault John Tietz Emily VanKirk Carla VonHoltum David Wabbe

Alyssa Wegener Dennis Westlund James Wilber Benjamin Wilkening Brittany Willborg Tracy Winkler



## Question: What's your worst fear about school and why?



✓ "Getting in trouble and having to talk to my dad."
 ∼ Andrew
 Fredericksen



▲ "Going to it." ~ Micah Young

► "My biggest fear is growing up because I hate being responsible." ~ Sonja Ellingson



"Meeting different people and wondering what their first impression is. I hate being a new kid. And meeting people. But almost everybody I've met, has been pretty cool!!"

~ Carla Von Holtum





 "All of the ugly freshmen."
 Luke Mitchell



















Clockwise from top left. Angie Driggins, Patrick Ross, Ryan Hill, Matt Polding, Lacey Jorgensen, Jon Mott, Suzie Harvat, Cortney Dammann, Megan VanEyll, Jenna Ely and Kyle Beilby, Sammie Hoff and Claire Salveson, the freshman float, Andy Neborak, Suzie Harvat, Dayna Sudheimer, Bethany Jetto, Megan VanEyll, Mallory Hanson, Amanda Janzen, Akayla Stevens, Brittany Bammert, Ali Klason.



Amanda Alcorn Daniel Allen Jacklyn Anderson Nickolas Anderson Amy Asbjornson Jamie Asp

Megan Bailey Brittany Bammert Kyle Beilby Samantha Benedix James Berg Regan Bjorklund

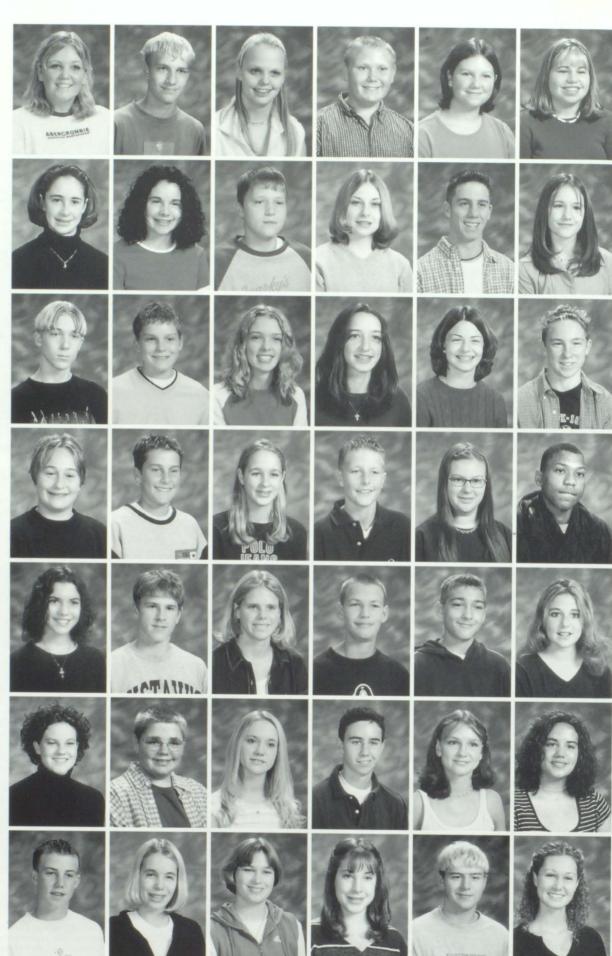
Scott Bohdan Andrew Bongard Cortney Bongard Jennifer Bostic Jennifer Brandenburg Jeremy Brandenburg

Katherine Braun Brady Brink Courtney Buesgens Christoph Bullis Susan Bush Natiel Carby

Danielle Chinander Jeffrey Chrest Amanda Clemensen Scott Connor William Cradick Andrea Dalen

Cortney Dammann James Dammann Reka Dandliker David Deering Katerina Delon Amanda Dirks

Brant Douville Angela Driggins Brittney Ebert Aislinn Edwards Matthew Eiden Jenna Ely



THE BLACK & GOLD



## Q: Give two reasons you know you're a freshman.



 "Because my schedule says so and because I passed eighth grade."
 Brittany Marshall



▲ "They call me fresh, and I'm Falk's little brother."

freshmen,' and the other kids act better than us.'' ~ Dayna Sudheimer

▶ "When

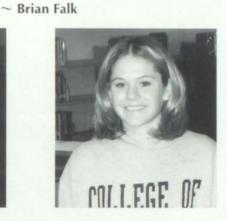
people say

'stupid

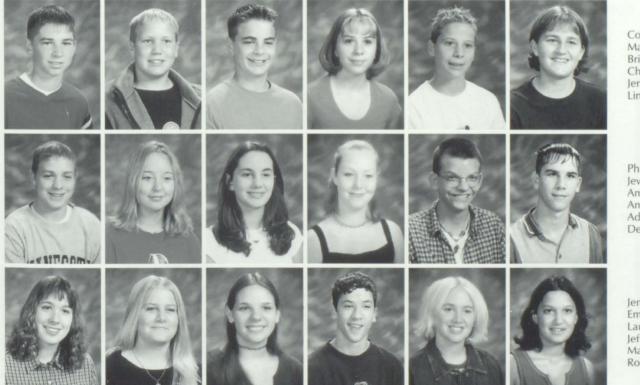


 "People always call you names, like 'fresh meat' and 'frosh.""
 Cortney Bongard





 ✓ "We get an ugly color for Class Color Day, and we get bumped in the hallway tons."
 ∼ Mallory Tevis



Corey Erickson Matthew Ernst Brian Falk Chenelle Felt Jerrod Felt Lindsay Fischbach

Philip Franklin Jewell Fritz Amanda Gaddo Amanda Gelhaye Adam Gentz Dennis Gieser

Jennifer Glashan Emily Goede Lauren Hackbarth Jeffrey Hanson Mallory Hanson Rochelle Hartung



#### Q:What do you like most about high school compared to middle school?

► "The

Hot!" ~ Jen Brandenburg



▲ "Air conditioner because it was always hot in the middle school. I also like the food better."

~ Amanda Wenning



✓ "Not as hot and doesn't smell." ~ Justin Reitsma



▼ "They are more strict than middle school, so people don't get away with as much. This makes it a better learning environment." ~ Cara Weinzierl



#### Q: If you were nominated for the class poll, what do you think you would be nominated for?



▲ "Biggest flirt." ~ Ali Klason



▲ "Most talkative." Amanda Alcorn

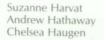




▲ "Best student." ~ Aaron Salo



▲ "Vertically challenged." ~ Gabe Maravelas



Marissa Held Melissa Henderson laclvnn Hennen

Nicholas Hentges Ryan Hilfers Paula Hilgers

Ryan Hill Samantha Hoff McKinzie Hubbard-Rossberg

Amanda Janzen Bethany Jetto Johnny Johnson

Rachel Johnson

Lacey Jorgensen

Sergey Kaurov Sara Kelzer Alisha Klason

Adam Jones



















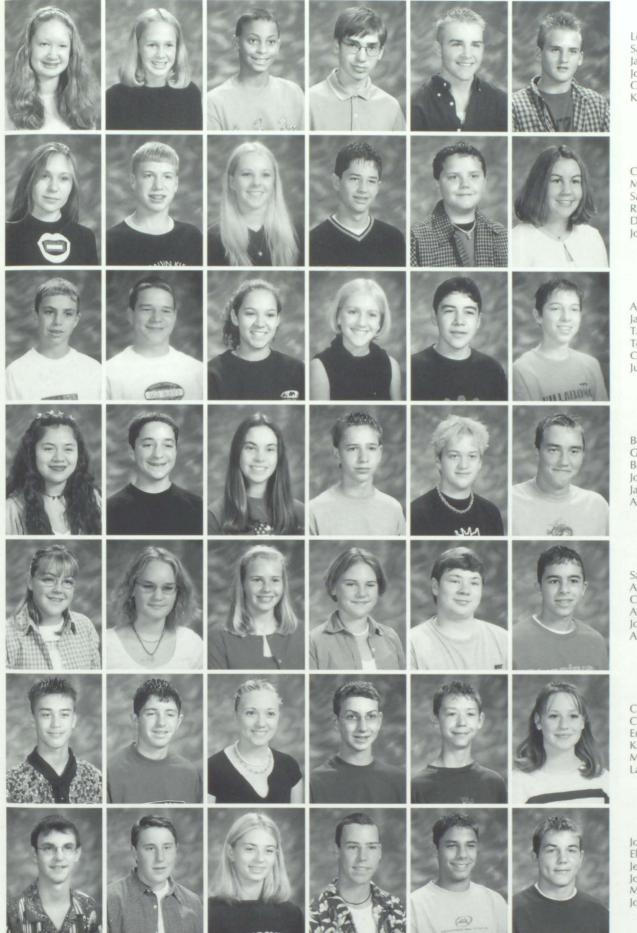












Louise Klingelhutz Sara Koch Javon Koenig John Kratzke Cody Krause Kevin Krautbauer

Crystal Kroells Mitchel Lahr Sasha Landskov Reid Larsen Damon Laukala Johanna Lee

Adam Lehrke Jacob Lesher Tasha Lindemann Tegan Lingbeck Christopher Lopez Justin Ludwigson

Beatriz Macedo Gabriel Maravelas Brittany Marshall Joshua Mason Jared May Andrew Meeks

Sarah Menth AmeKristin Meyer Carly Moore Amber Morgan Jon Mott Andrew Neborak

Christopher Newman Chase Noethe Erin Ostlund Karl Palm Matthew Parris Lauren Petersen

Joshua Peterson Eli Pieper Jessica Piersa Joseph Pogatchnik Matthew Polding Jonathan Priess



Brian Rademacher Amanda Randt Kaylee Rasmussen Wesley Rasmussen Cynthia Ratsabouth Justin Reich

Justin Reitsma Birgitte Rifley Nadine Ristow Randal Ritzko Jeremy Robb Justin Rosckes

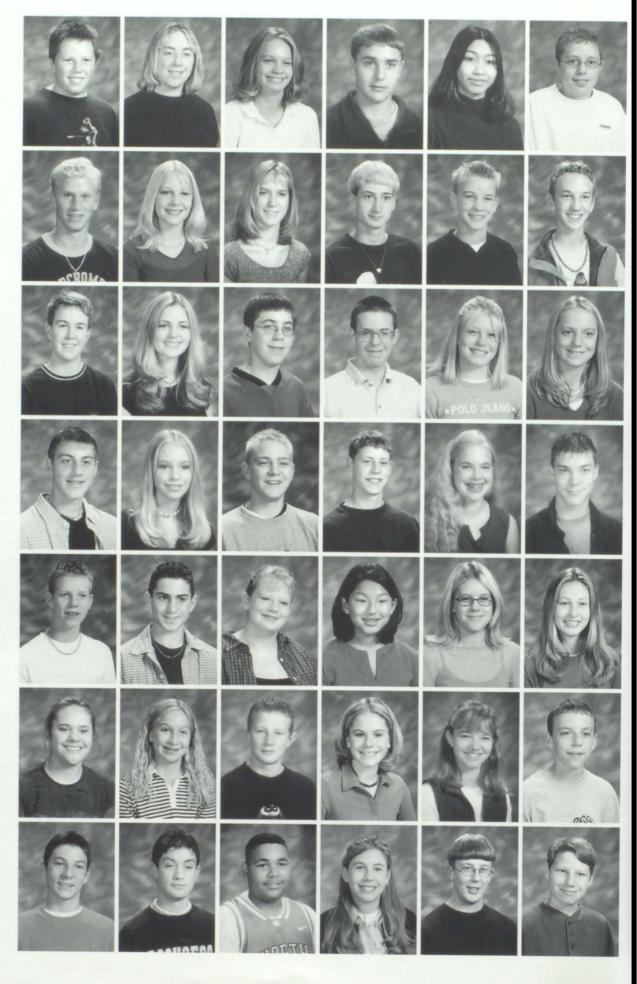
Patrick Ross Shayanne Roth Dustin Salden Aaron Salo Claire Salveson Heather Schendel

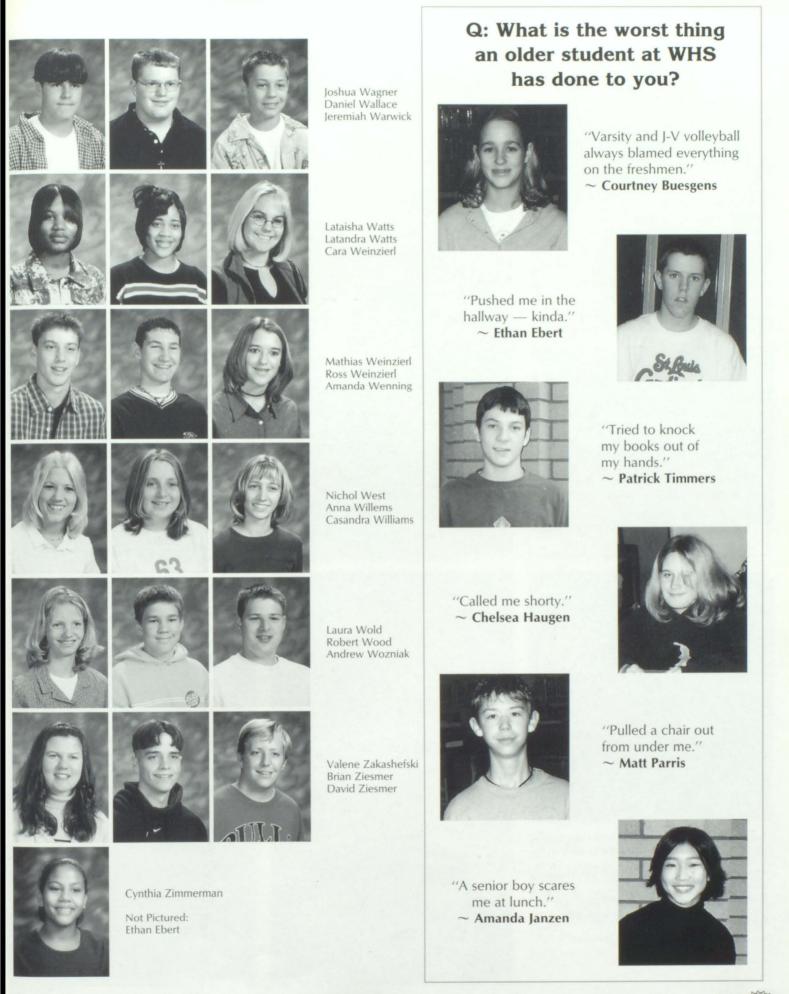
Anthony Schilling Robyn Schlueter Ryan Schmakel Reilly Schoo Miriam Schwochow Charlie Skogstad

Dillon Sletten Benjamin Smothers Katherine Stairs Akayla Stevens Malerie Stevens Hannah Strahota

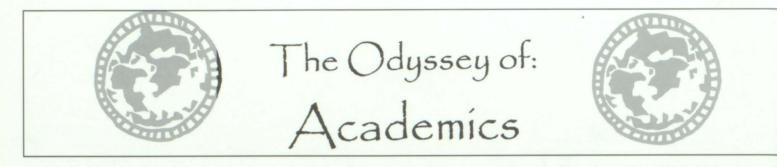
Katherine Stuewe Dayna Sudheimer Joseph Sutalo Mallory Tevis Amanda Thaemert Ryder Thompson

Patrick Timmers Curtis Tschakert Nathaniel Turner Megan VanEyll Grant Vierling Benjamin Wagner









very day, students come to school. Why? To learn and to study, of course. WHS offers a variety of classes that are available to its students. Each class presents something new and challenging to the students. Many classes even provide students with hands-on experience through field trips and different laboratory experiments. Others develop the practical skills of woodworking, foods preparation, and technological abilities, all of which are useful every day. Mixed in with these are many classes that thoroughly exercise the minds of students or offer chances for students to perform or develop their creative abilities. Everywhere at WHS education is thriving, from music to reports to technology. It's all here!

"We teach what we learn, and the cycle goes on."  $\sim$  Joan L. Curcio





**Top.** Juniors Heather Schendel and Luke Schiller gleefully act out the life of a Bolivian couple in Mr. Erickson's Spanish class.

Above. Jenny Sorensen practices her parenting skills in Child Development.

**Right.** Junior Vance Kerber proudly displays his bridge from Physics.

Far right. Junior Abby Welch gets her math on.













Left. Sophomore Dennis Westlund explores the inards of a pig during Biology 10. Below. Junior Jake Edlund concentrates on a magazine, one of the many mediums used for study.







Center right. Seniors Matt Priess and Joe Sanocki, along with many others, take advantage of the school's computers for various classes. Far left. Junior Adam Hagen manually constructs a

magnifying glass for his Tech Concepts 2 class. Left. Seniors Nick Gee and Lacy Skoog proudly portray historical European figures for AP European History.

**Above.** Freshman Josh Wagner pays close attention to his experiment in Physical Science.



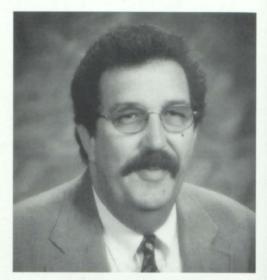
# Administration



Mark Fredericksen Principal

The yearbook staff interviewed WHS principal Mark Fredericksen to find out his views on the state of the school. He said that students who are more involved with after school activities are more likely to like high school. He also indicated that for students who aren't involved with after school activities, more surprise activities during the school day would make school more fun.

Mr. Fredericksen also had some interesting things to say about the changes in our school. He said that seven years ago when the school opened, the kitchen, art room, FACS room, industrial tech rooms, band and choir rooms, and the gym weren't yet finished. He also said that the school is a lot more crowded now. Students used to use only every other locker, but now all the lockers are used. The last thing he had to comment on was the parking lot. "It's filling up more and more every year," he said.



Dr. Jerry Kjergaard Superintendent



James Bettcher Guidance Services



Kathy Fontes Guidance Services



Wayne Mortensen Activities Director



Board of Education. Front: Joel Hentges, Bob Hiben, Teresa Pesch. Back: David Orn, Scott Jensen, Bryan Pawela, David Falk.

Spotlight on Dr. Kjergaard



N ew to District 110 this year is Dr. Jerry Kjergaard, superintendent of schools. Dr. Kjergaard received his Master's degree from the University of South Dakota at Vermillion and his doctoral degree in education from Drake University in Des Moines. Most of his career has been spent in districts similar in size to Waconia. His most recent position was in Sioux City, Iowa, a large district with over 14,000 students. The major difference in Waconia is that it is growing so much. "The growth is good, but requires a great deal of planning so that the district's educational needs are met at the same time facility needs are addressed."

When asked his first impressions of the district, he answered, "I'm very pleased at the pride in the facilities, the evident pride of the faculty in the quality of the work they do, and find the students very pleasant to be around."



## District 110 Staff



Mary Klehr District Nurse



Julie Karnes Community Liaison Officer



Kathy Oliphant Curriculum Coordinator



Arlyce Rieck Unique Learner Coordinator



Lydia Thometz Technology Coordinator

## Secretaries, Aides, Cooks, Custodians



Monica Vierling, Principal's Secretary

Not Pictured: Paul Whittaker, Custodian Tom Maiser, Custodian "Education is not preparation for life; education is life itself." John Dewey



#### In the Teachers' Words.

\* What was your most embarrassing moment as a first year teacher?

"Falling over backwards trying to sit on a chair that wasn't there." ~Kristi Berlin

"Having teachers ask me for a pass in the halls."

#### **Dave Aeling**

"I had a huge study hall of 60 juniors and seniors who put tacks on my chair. Fortunately, I didn't feel the full impact when I sat down, so I never let on that I knew what they did. I'm sure they were disappointed!"

~Barb Danger

#### \* What made you decide to become a high school teacher?

"I enjoy the students and the content I teach. Plus I couldn't refuse a teacher's salary."

~Tom Erickson

"My father was a teacher and coach and he died when I was 15. I decided after completing high school to try and follow in his footsteps. I've never regretted it."

#### ~Pat Foley

"I enjoyed working with kids. I wanted to work with high school students because they have a purpose in their studies. I enjoy the older students because of the relationships that can be set."

~Mark Grundhofer

\* When you were young, what did you dream of being when you grew up?

"Either an astronaut or a lumberjack."

~Mark Fredericksen

"An English teacher. I realized this in the fourth grade. I also wanted to be a rock star, but I gave that up when I realized I couldn't sing.' ~Stephanie Kappel



**Dave Aeling** Industrial Tech







Heidi Degener English



**Darrell Arman** Science



Mel Berg Science



**Corinne Dulgar** Spanish

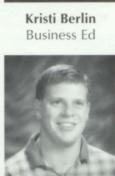


Jim Bailey Phy Ed





Phy Ed



Mark Elsenpeter



Ioan Ball **Special Education** 



**Barbara** Danger Media Specialist



**Iill Engeswick** Learning Lab



**Marie Erickson Special Education** 



**Tom Erickson** Social, Spanish



**David Grack** Science



**Amy Fischer** Art



**Megan Gregor** English



**Pat Foley** Health



Mark Grundhofer Math





Sue Hartwig FACS



Roxanne Kuerschner Math. Science



Social

Kathy Kurtz Math



**Steve Hullander** Social



lim Lee **Business** 



Stephanie Kappel

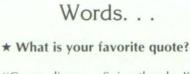
**Bob Lindemann** Industrial Tech



Pam Melchert French, Speech



Music



"Carpe diem — Seize the day!" ~Barb Danger

In the Teachers'

"I am only one, but still I am one. I cannot do everything, but still I can do something."

~Iill Engeswick

"The heart feels things the eve cannot see and knows what the mind cannot understand."

~lim Lee

"Everyone smiles in the same language."

~Corinne Dulgar

"Lead, follow, or get out of the way!"

~Dave Aeling

\* What is your favorite part about teaching?

"Teenage mood swings — never a dull moment!"

~Jill Engeswick

"The kaleidoscope of student personalities - so unique and constantly being transformed, albeit gradually."

#### ~Corinne Dulgar

"Seeing the 'light go on' when a student gets 'it.""

~Stephanie Kappel

#### ★ What is your most memorable teaching experience?

"I have many, but one of them is having a student in class that should have been kicked out of school. make a cedar chest that could have placed at the state fair. He made it through school and graduated in lune."

~Dave Aeling

"When students pull me aside, after class or in the hall, and tell me they are learning in my class."

~Tom Erickson



**Julie Longstreet** 

Math

Aaron Olson Music



Mark Torborg English



**Clark Machtemes** 

**Tim Sauer** Math, Science



Sandy Wasness Learning Lab



**Connie Manuel** 

Phy Ed

Linda Scholla **Special Education** 



**Mike Zender** Social









## HUMANITIES Classes Focus on Literature, World Languages, and Social Studies

he humanities encompass the study of literature, language, history, geography, etc. At WHS, many of the classes students are required to take fall in the areas of English and social studies. Many students also elect to study a world language, either Spanish or French.

WHS offers several electives in addition to the required classes. Advanced Placement Literature and Advanced Placement European History can be substituted for twelfth grade English requirements or for eleventh grade social classes. In English, the majority of students take American Lit or Readings in Lit plus Comp 11 as juniors, and they take a writing class plus Performance Media or World Lit as seniors. Junior social classes include World Cultures and World Geography, and senior classes include Economics or Democracy and Psychology.

nomics or Democracy and Psychology. Foreign language classes are available to students at three levels — beginning, intermediate, and advanced.







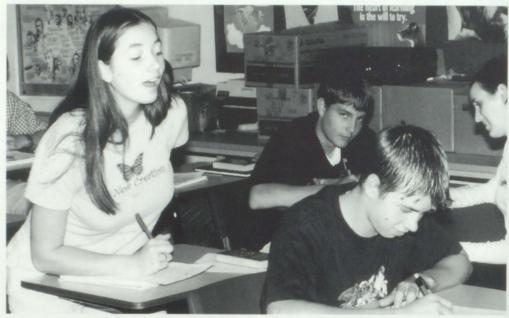
Top right. Senior Matt Stuewe and junior Julie Dalbec work as a team to do their research.

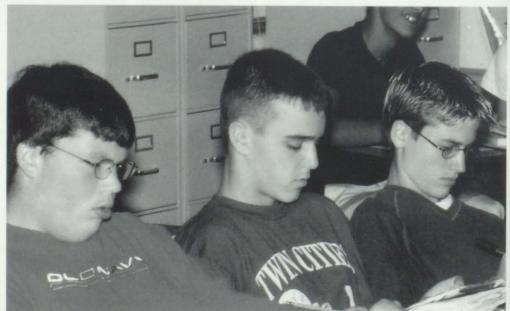
Center left. Senior Kay Trittabaugh listens intently during AP European History.

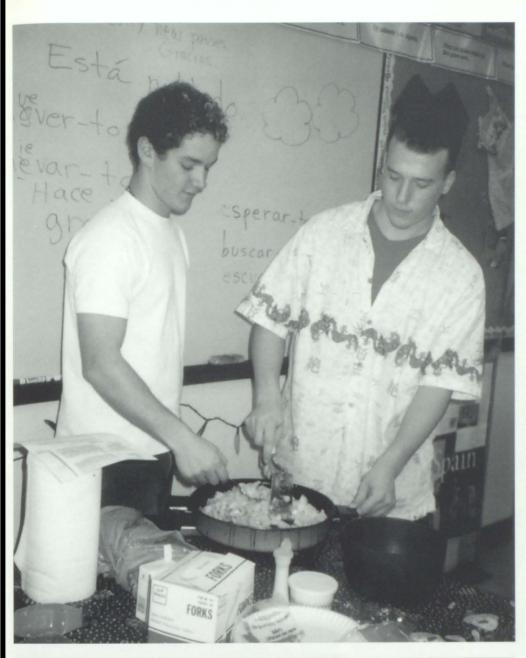
**Center right.** Sophomore Jennie Novellino uses all her resources to excel in English class.

Above. Jen Mochinski and Jessi Williams dress in authentic costumes for their European History project.

**Right.** Steven Kjergaard, Dan Philp and Michael Anderson are enthralled by their work in English 10.



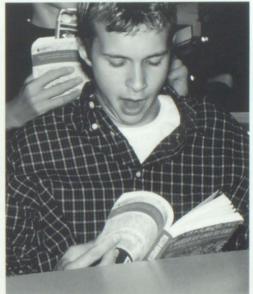






Left. Seniors Karl Kranz and Dylan Schesso prepare food for a fiesta in Spanish class. Below. In social class, senior Matt Dressel sets a great example for good study habits.







**Center right.** Junior Scott Loscheider can't put his literature book down, despite impending fatigue. **Above.** During a French fashion show, Jeff Foust and Kevin Ketcher dress as a cowboy and as a businessman.

Left. Mrs. Melchert and her students sing French carols during the holidays.



## THE ARTS

## Classes Give Students Creative and Performing Outlets

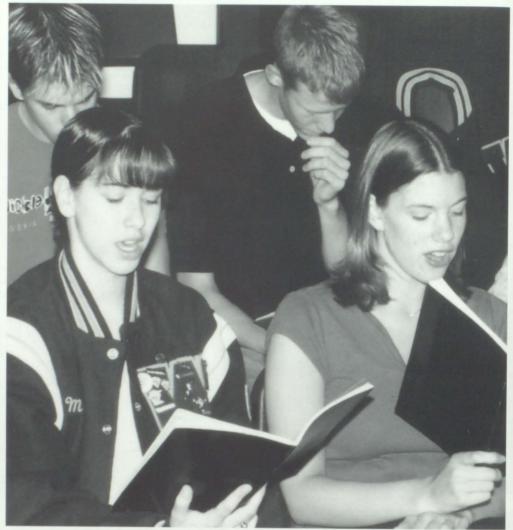
he arts encompass all the music, art, and theatre classes WHS offers. The arts allow students to demonstrate their performance or creative talents. In music, students may elect to take Music Theory or Music Appreciation in addition to participating in band or choir. Art electives are many and varied, including drawing, painting, ceramics, and commercial art. Another creative arts class is Theatre and Dramatic Literature, which emphasizes acting and technical production skills.



"If the music doesn't say it, how can words say it for the music?" ~John Coltrane

**Top.** Senior Marilyn Spiess and sophomore Frannie Gustafson rehearse music for concert choir. **Above.** Junior Carrie Peterson hits every note with ease in concert band.

**Right.** Seniors Jolene John and Cassie Gaddo add class to the woodwind section.















**Top left.** Amber Rogney and Rachel Latzig warn senior Rob Kolar of oncoming doom in the Theatre class's production of *Romeo and Juliet*.

**Top right.** Phoungeon Khonkhammy works on a delicate project in art class.

Above. Seniors Charity Zabel and Steve Ostlund reenact a deadly fight scene in *Romeo and Juliet*. Center left. Sophomores Amber Rogney and Justin

**Center left.** Sophomores Amber Rogney and Justin Meyers demonstrate their artistic skills in Drawing and Painting class.

Left. Senior Eric Janzen, junior Alex Kranz and senior Leah Gjertson represent the concert band's French horn section.





## LAB/ACTIVITY Science and Phy Ed Classes Put Students in Action

lasses that require hands-on training include all the sciences and physical education and health courses. Physics students have many opportunities to be involved in labs, contests, or to watch demonstrations that study motion. Chemistry students study matter, and lab work involves experiments in chemical reactions, etc. In biology, the study of plant and animal life, students have opportunities to take part in labs that exam-

ine both plants and animals. In Physical Science 9, freshmen receive introductions to chemistry and physics through classroom and lab experiences.

Physical education classes keep students active through a variety of sports and exercises. In health classes, students have opportunities to learn CPR and to learn how to handle medical emergencies with hands-on training.

Right. Junior Rory Klug takes part in a crazy experiment for anatomy class.







Center left. Freshman Amanda Randt waits for the volleyball in her phy ed class.

**Center right.** Senior Eric Randt learns the methods of heroism in his Medical Emergencies class.

Above. Freshman Jon Mott prepares to fire up his bunsen burner during a Physical Sciences experiment.

**Right.** Senior Audra Lehrke is propelled on a skooter during this physics class's "Skooter" lab.









Left. Biology teacher David Grack helps sophomore Erica Christenson dissect a pig in the lab.
Below. Freshman Melissa Henderson studies her experiment in Physical Science.
Center right. Johnny Johnson focuses on the basket in freshman phy ed.
Bottom left. Junior Graham Irving measures the trajectory of a dart in physics class.
Bottom right. Freshmen Damon Laukala and McK-inzie Hubbard concentrate on getting the water in the beaker.













## PRACTICAL SKILLS FACS, Industrial Tech Give Students Head Start on Future

Consumer Science classes provide students with a wide variety of practical skills that they can use throughout

their lives. In the Industrial Technology Department, students may elect to take drafting, auto maintenance, small engines, woodworking, electricity, and metals technology. In these classes, students gain skills in construction, welding, and wiring; and they learn the operation and repair procedures for small engines and automobiles. In Manufacturing, students actually set up a company for the production of products for sale.

FACS classes include Child Develop-



Top right. Nate McKinney and Lucas Anderson work on their project in Electricity.

Above. Senior Ryan Mortensen prepares a door for the cabinet he is making in Woodworking Technol-Ogv

Right. Antonia Maistrova and Holly Kunkel get acquainted with their "babies" during Child Development/Parenting class.

ndustrial technology and Family and ment, Housing and Interior Design, to advanced food preparation, child care Foods I and II, Gourmet Foods, and Fashion Merchandising. Students learn basic

and development, and home decorating and furniture arrangement.













**Top left.** Molly Lenzen listens to Mrs. Hartwig as she prepares food in class. Top right. Johnny Johnson and Jeremy Branden-burg work together to make their cabinet perfect. Center left. Students in Child Development have an opportunity to observe toddlers close-up. Above. Roman Thiele and Heather Webster work

together in Auto Maintenance. **Right.** Mike Groschen and Mike Anquist make sure their measurements are perfect before they cut the

wood.





## Math, Computer Skills Assist Students throughout Life

omputer and math classes are an essential part of a good high school education. WHS offers many computer and math classes to all grade levels. As the world becomes more advanced, students need

the skills taught in these classes for future school and career choices, as well as for daily living. Required classes include Math Connections I and II and keyboarding. Some of the electives include accounting, calculus, keyboarding, trigonometry, Personal Law, and Intro to Windows. These classes range from beginner to advanced levels.

> "Technology makes more technology possible." ~Alvin Toffler





Top left. Shaun Kamann focuses on his computer assignment. Above. Nate Dixon and Erica Christenson concen-

trate on reaching a high gwam.





Top right. Aaron Chinander and Rod Brink work on their math assignment together in Pre-Calc.

Above. Leah Indrelie and Josh Jetto show enthusiasm while trying to learn math.

# yearzine

This is the "Age of Connectivity" and you're in it. You are everywhere, thanks to the Internet. E-mail a friend in Bangalor, shop for cool shoes at some European e-tailer, or even watch a web-cast concert from overseas, and all from your desktop.

### The world's getting smaller. Might even feel crowded at times. Chill. Look for signs along the road to help you find

WARE

your way in this brave new world. and enjoy the ride.



#### What a golden year for sports.

Michael Johnson won two gold medals in the 400 meter and 4 x 400 meter relay in the Sydney Olympics. (Must have been the shoes.)

> Multiple medals also went to Maurice Green and to Marion Jones, who took home three gold and two bronze. She's the first woman to win five medals in one Olympics.

#### Tiger Woods did it again. And again. And again.

As the PGA Tour Player of the year, he placed first in tournament after tournament, including the U.S. Open, the British Open and the PGA Championship.

The golden girls of soccer settled for silver in Sydney

## Under a Shady attack

Shaquille O'Neal, with Kobe Bryant, shot the Lakers to victory against the Indiana Pacers in the NBA finals.

Lance rules. Armstrong

conquered the Alps and silenced cynics, winning his second consecutive Tour de France His comeback from cancer

makes him a double role model, to athletes and cancer patients alike.

The Williams sisters

continued to take the tennis world

The "Subway Series made baseball big news. For the first time in 44 years the New York Yankees and the New York Mets went head to head at the World Series. New York came out on top. (As in Yankees.)

335

It wasn't in the stars, The New Jersey Devils took the Stanley Cup back from the Dallas Stars after their nail-biting double overtime by storm. Rivals on opposite sides of the net, victory in game six.

they're unstoppable as partners. Venus topped a stellar year with wins at Wimbledon and the U.S. Open. She took the gold at the Sydney Olympics in singles, and paired with Serena to take the gold in doubles as well.

#### D-FENSE

The Baltimore Ravens extraordinary defense gave them the edge and a 34-7 win over the New York Giants in Super Bowl XXXV.

What goes around comes around.

ATE

0

Look behind the technology hype and you're sure to find recycled trends. Oh, the irony.

It's the 70s all over again. Large tinted lenses make for look-at-me sunglasses and disco-era hairstyles return with "wings" and feathered bangs reminiscent of Farrah Fawcett's famous locks.

> A new twist is the bright burst of hair color, maybe a leftover from the punk and glam rock resurgence last year.

A rhinestone belt holds up your denims? Glittery studs on your faded jeans?

#### Totally.

England's Prince William took a "gap year" before college, following his mother's example of service and humanitarianism.

His volunteer and environmental work in Chile shows that the man who will be king is a true prince of hearts. For the guys, the mop top is back with the "shag" hairstyle. The bed-head hairstyles of Ricky Martin and Kevin of the Backstreet Boys is typical of the macho look many stars like. Leather whatever.

Leather is everywhere. Leather pants. Leather boots. Everything else sparkles and shines. We heard lots of wedding bells. Two Backstreet Boys got hitched, Madonna married her Guy. Catherine Zeta-Jones wed Michael Douglas, and Jennifer and Brad tied the knot.

#### Caution. Heavy traffic ahead.

As in new millennium traffic. It seems like the more info there is, the harder it is to be informed. Technology promises a bright new age but it's still hard to communicate. Some things never change.

The Pope journeyed to the Holy Land and prayed for peace, while conflicts between Israelis and Palestinians raged.

Allegedly linked to the unrest, the USS Cole was bombed off the coast of Yemen. This year we remember with honors entertainer Steve Allen, actors Walter Matthau, Jason Robards, and Alec Guiness.

Crash. Technology and music went head to head, as 19-year-old Napster co-founder Shawn Fanning battled the music industry over copyright usage of downloaded music. Firestone tires exploded on highways across the nation forcing one of the largest recalls in history. Hillary Clinton stepped out of the White House and into the U.S. Senate, a first.

erman

And the nation waited 36 days for the drama of the 43rd presidential election to unfold.

Another first. After court battles and recounts, Florida's 25 electoral votes were finally awarded to Texas governor George W. Bush in the closest presidential race in history. In another dramatic sequence of events, tensions between U.S. and Cuba rose over the custody battle of 6-year-old Elian Gonzalez who was finally reunited with his father and sent back to Cuba amid anti-Castro protests. Television gives a crash course in life lessons. The nation tuned in to see who would be voted out in this summer's biggest smash "Survivor". The ultimate Survivor, Richard Hatch, beat all odds in order to outlast his island mates.

In shows like "Roswell" and "Angel," to SUrvive means getting rid of the bad guys.

They showed that we all experience feelings of alienation, but we are not alone.

In fact, putting up with siblings, family issues and struggling to "find ourselves" are common denominators for us all.

#### Inventions topped inventions.

This year, we saw cable lines not only enhance television but surfing speed and e-commerce as well.

Electronic organizers rock. From the palm of your hand you can check e-mail, invest in futures or buy a present for Mom.

Oh yeah, and get organized.

The newest digital cameras have greater picture quality as well as roomier disk space,

while the next generation MP3s are smaller, faster, more portable, and provide better-than-ever sound quality. Toyota was among the future-thinking car companies to introduce hybrid cars.

> Half -electric and half gasoline-powered, these new wheels will eventually be as easy on the pocketbook as they are

on the planet.

#### Playstation 2

and the latest Nintendo made the virtual world more entertaining.

UNERTICIES

E FUJIFITA

Performers

like Hoku and Jakob Dylan of the Wallflowers emerged from the shadows of their famous parents.

#### Blink-182

lets their California style influence their wardrobe and music, which led them to an MTV music award for "All the Small Things." Globalization has had a profound effect on the style-music industry. Latin's back with a bang with the return of Carlos Santana and the rise of Enrique Inglesias along with Christina Aguilera's release of a Latin-style CD this year. And we saw Ricky Martin going global

with a tour reaching as far as Austral-Asia.

On the local scene, many underground performers have been rocketed into the mainstream,

as was Moby, the one-time New York DJ, with the immensely popular "Play," image is everything.

Madonna came alive (what else is new) with her new "Music," reinvigorating her original dance-music roots.

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Unbelievably, this mother of two has topped the charts for some three decades now. Her concert, performed in a London pub, was one of the most-watched events on the Internet to date.

> And with MTV, VH1, Napster, and others, the faces of today's performers are seen live everywhere.

For pop princesses like Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera and Aaliyah, as well as the ubiquitous boy bands, image is as big as (maybe bigger than) their music. For performers like the Backstreet Boys, LFO, 98° and especially \*NSYNC, style is the substance of pop.

Check out their live shows.

Legendary actor Robert Redford stepped behind the camera to direct the mystical golf movie "The Legend of Bagger Vance."

Will Smith plays Vance, the wise caddie who guides golfer Matt Damon through more than just the perfect golf game.

72nd Annual Academy Awards. Best Picture: "American Beauty" Best Actor: Kevin Spacey, "American Beauty" Best Actress: Hilary Swank, "Boys Don't Cry" Best Supporting Actor: Michael Caine, "The Cider House Rules" Best Supporting Actress: Angelina Jolie, "Girl, Interrupted"

> Rack up another hit for Jim Carey. Irresistible even when he's covered in green from head to foot. The Whos in Whoville are a must-see in Dr. Suess's "How the Grinch Stole Christmas.

There was something for everybody on the big screen this year. claymation genius brought the chickens of Tweedy's farm hilariously to life as they worked up a plan to fly the coop in "Chicken Run." "Shanghai Noon," with Owen Wilson and Jackie Chan heading out West to rescue Princess Pei-Pei, played by Lucy Liu. And Buzz Lightyear came to the rescue, and beyond, leading the troops on a mission to bring Woody back in "Toy Story 2."

"Pay It Forward" proved it's possible to change the world and it doesn't have to be a big thing. Kevin Spacey, Helen Hunt and wonderkid Haley Joel Osment inspired us all to do a favor or two or three and make this world a better place.

#### X-termination avoided, thanks to the X-Men.

Enlightened Professor Xavier provides a safe haven for the world's newest and most persecuted minority, a group of mutant, genetically-gifted human beings called the X-Men. Their struggle against hostile Government agencies and mutant supremacist Magneto made "X-Men" one of this Summer's biggest smash hits.

#### Local Area Sees Growth and Changes in 2001



it's everywhere around us. It involves everything we do. And it happens all over the world. Waconia is no stranger to the news. Every day telelvision,

radio and the newspaper relay the news from the world to our homes. This past year saw some pretty interesting news. One thing that nobody could ignore was the opening of the new middle school, Clearwater, as well as the adjoining community center. The fall of 2000, which foreshadowed an unforgettable winter, saw the closing of the local Hardee's, but McDonald's was not too far on its heels as it prepared to make a new home in Waconia. Even the people of Waconia were in the spotlight. Wendy Templin, a Clearwater Middle School science teacher, was named one of the finalists for Teacher of the Year in Minnesota. In the spring of 2001, there was something that no one could ignore. After the snow melted and the grass began to grow, the water began to rise. Waconia and its surrounding communities were only a portion of the state to experience heavy flooding.







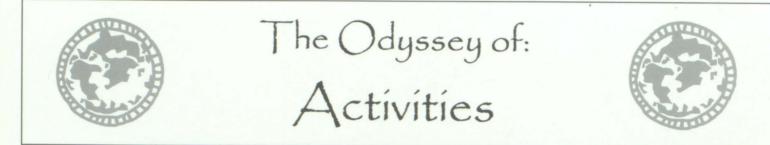


Top. Clearwater Middle School opens in March. Center left and center. The local Hardee's closes, but a new McDonald's opens.

**Center right.** Teacher of the Year Mrs. Templin at coronation with daughter Amanda.

Above and right. The Minnesota River rises to its near crest in Chaska. Above, the roof of the visitors' kiosk is nearly all that's visible as the waters rise.



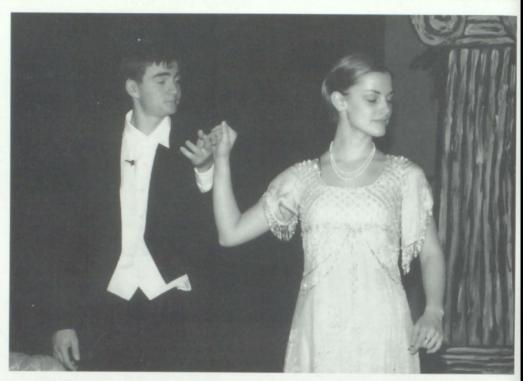


B esides the tedious paper work, the reports, and nail biting waiting periods before you get your report card, school also means much more. Students are involved in a wide variety of extracurricular activities. Music and academics make up a large portion of these activities. The activities which involve the most students are all-school events, including Spirit Week, homecoming, Winterfest, prom, and graduation.

Home to a very successful marching band, WHS also supports various jazz bands, a pep band, and two large choirs, plus a show choir and smaller choral groups.

There are also many clubs that have been formed in several departments at school as well. They range from Math League and Science Club to FLA and FFA to student council and student helpers. Three publications also keep many students busy.

No matter the interests of the students, at least one activity is bound to please them.





Top. Junior Phil Litfin and senior Eva Mohn add drama to the arts at WHS.

Above. Sophomore Erik Smestad runs gleefully to retrieve his prize after winning Turkey Bingo.

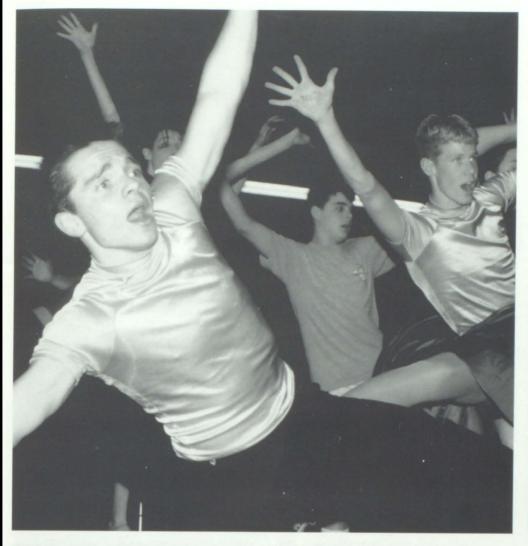
**Right.** Juniors Jenny Schnobrich and Brian Johnson represent WHS's marching band drumline.

Far right. Senior graduate Brian Buetow accepts a congratulatory handshake from Mr. Bettcher after commencement ceremonies.











Left. Junior Luke Schiller belts out a tune during a Show Choir performance. Below. Senior Lucas Meyer reveals his true identity as Superman on Super Hero Day during Winterfest Week.





Left. Recently crowned homecoming queen Natalie Timmers crowns Matt Stuewe as king. Above. Sophomores Ashley Artmann and Tiffany Johnston work skillfully on the yearbook staff.



"The hills are alive with the sound of music." ~Oscar Hammerstein II

# Band Marches to More Victories

From Calgary to Michigan, the Waconia High School Marching Band has been traveling. This past year the 138 students from seventh to twelfth grade tried to follow up their National Victory at the Calgary Stampede in Canada. They were quite successful. During the summer of 2000 the band walked away with four Grand Champion awards, including a repeat at Brooklyn Park. The band also captured four first place trophies.

To top off the season, the band traveled to Traverse City, Michigan to compete in the National Cherry Festival. There they marched in three very competitive parades and came out with one Grand Champion finish and two second place finishes. Over all, it was a great season!





**Top.** Cymbal players Simon Gustafson, Toni Mochinski and Jordan Meyer add a little shimmer to Terry Klaers' opening solo.

Above. Rifle colorguard members get the crowd's attention at the Carver County Fair parade. Right. The Amsquad marches proudly down the streets of Waconia.







Above. Trumpet player Chris Hendren concentrates on the music.

#### Marching Band 2000

#### Color Guard:

Ashlev Hagman Jamie Asp Lacey Ahlbrecht Jolene John Emily Eder Marissa Held Louise Klingelhutz Tasha Lindemann Katie Zancig Tanya Clemensen Jenny Erickson Emiley Lamberger Martha Saunders Shavanne Roth Leah Gjertson Scott Connor Heidi Keller Carly Moore

#### **Commander:** Jennifer Mochinski

Sarah Gibbs Am Squad: Carrie Hagman Julie Neborak Estelle Denbrook Samantha Konrardy Nicole Sampson Megan Fredericksen Ted Moore Ben Timm Gretchen Saunders

Lisa Smestad Amanda Templin Tim Connor Chrissi Nelson Megan Sterner

#### **Clarinet:**

Flute:

Rachel Minzel Lori LeDoux Micah Linehan Rachel Knickerbocker lennifer Litfin lessie Bammert Ali Klason Katie Herling Katie Sterner **Bass Clarinet:** Vance Kerber Nicole Krautbauer

Alto Saxophone: Jennifer Olson Nate Hendren Morgan Berndt Mallory Hanson Alex Krukowski Lindsey Lano Maureen Ayers-Looby Dylan Pforr **Tenor Saxophone:** Sasha Landskov **Baritone Saxophone: Ernie Flemig** 

Trumpet:

Carl Szczepanski David Flemig Chris Hendren Nate Laulainen Lucas Mever Aaron Petersen Emily Tongen Michael Anderson Stephanie Capaul Eric Ellingson Marc Ellingson Lucy Gunness Hannah Hjelsand Anna Ionas Kevin Ketcher Audra Lehrke Scott Peterson Dylan Schesso Maggie Klason

#### Horn:

Tiffany Johnston

#### Trombone:

Matt Masurka Rvan Mortensen Mark Wilson Nick Anderson Katie Braun Garrett Hoppenrath Philip Litfin Mathias Weinzierl

**Baritone:** Mark Anderson Matt Heger

Ted Keefe Cal Kosieracki Eva Mohn

#### Tuba:

Matt Anderson John Ansell Brian Falk Nathan McKinney Robert Pesch Erik Smestad

#### Percussion:

Matt Eiden Jordan Meyer Toni Mochinski Danny Philp Dan Wallace Holly Kunkel Brent Rolf Adam Hagen Jennifer Schnobrich Abby Welch Maggie Hilliard Kirstin Klason Sonja Ellingson Jessie Falk Matt Stuewe Luke Schiller Lisa Hammer Simon Gustafson

#### **Directors:**

Mr. Don Schultz Mrs. Lisa Sauer

### Record Numbers Perform in Concert, Symphonic Bands

F very day over 180 students gather in the band room to play an instrument of their choice. For 45 minutes they develop and put into practice the skills needed to play a variety of music. Each year they perform in four concerts, displaying their talent for their community.

This year's concert season began with the Parade of Bands, performed by the Bayview bands and the WHS Marching Band, as well as the Concert and Symphonic Bands. The bands also performed holiday, mid-winter, and spring concerts, each of which was filled with a variety of music from Tchaikovsky to Aaron Copland. Both Concert and Symphonic Bands are the origin of other groups like pep band and jazz groups, and both challenge their members to succeed through music.

**Right.** Lisa Smestad pays attention to Mr. Schultz as she performs in Concert Band.

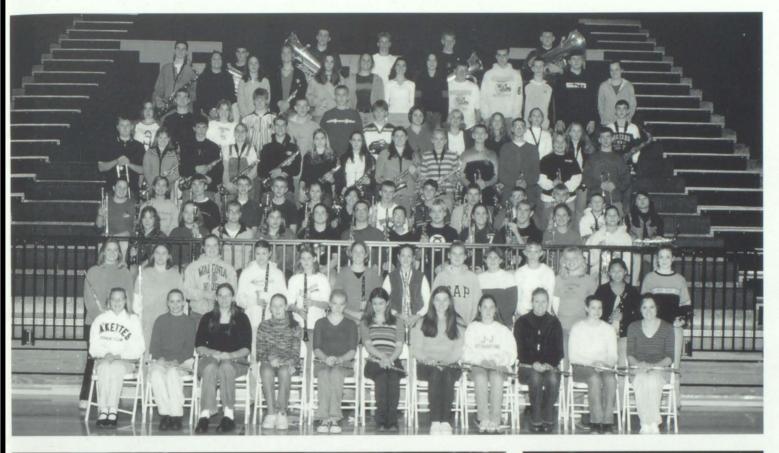




**Concert Band.** Front: Rachel Minzel, Nicole Krautbauer, Luke Schiller, Jessica Bammert, Sarah Gibbs, Brittni Talley, Jen Mochinski, Jenny Litfin, Rachel Knickerbocker, Amanda Templin, Kay Trittabaugh. 2nd Row: Cassie Gaddo, Jolene John, Lacey Ahlbrecht, Lisa Smestad, Brooke Simonson, Megan Sterner, Tim Connor, Emiley Lamberger, Lisa Hammer, Kirstin Klason, Dylan Pforr, Juliet Hong. 3rd Row: Justin Pawela, Carrie Peterson, Lisa Gedden, Adam Schlagel, Kevin Ketcher, Dylan Schesso, Eric Ellingson, Ryan Rosin, Marc Ellingson, Chris Hendren, Matt Priess, Aaron Petersen, Jodi Storms. 4th Row: Emily Tongen, Eric Janzen, Alex Kranz, Leah Gjertson, Nate Hendren, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Natalie Timmers, Jen Capaul, Vance Kerber, Jessica Falk, Matt Masurka, Mark Wilson, Ryan Mortensen. 5th Row: Lucas Meyer, Jeff Foust, David Powers, Murphy Steiner, Matt Hentges, Adam Hastings, Mark Anderson, Ted Keefe, Eva Mohn, Matt Heger, Cal Kosieracki, Chris Schmitz, Matt Stuewe, Ernie Flemig. Back: Chris Kveene, Aaron Sorensen, Jeff Elliot, Robert Pesch, Nathan McKinney, Drew Gustafson, Dion *Wi*snujono, Brent Rolf, Leah Indrelie, Abby Welch, Kenzie Foley, Holly Kunkel, Jennifer Schnobrich, Adam Hagen, Brian Johnson.



Symphonic Band. Front: Carly Moore, Jackie Anderson, Lauren Hackbarth, Marissa Held, Birgitte Rifley, Regan Bjorklund, Jennie Novellino, Rita Johnson, Kerstin Palm, Emily Eder, Chrissi Nelson. 2nd Row: Julie Kelzer, Katie Rajewsky, Maggie Hilliard, Lori Ledoux, Alisha Klason, Ashley Hagman, Brittany Willborg, Amber Morgan, Lindsay Fischbach, Cassie Williams, Claire Salveson, Akayla Stevens, Lauren Petersen. 3rd Row: Aislinn Edwards, Kayla Menth, Cara Weinzierl, Jamie Asp, Martha Saunders, Aaron Salo, Micah Linehan, Jared May, Anna Jonas, Andrew Fredericksen, Amanda Lemke, Hanna Hjelsand. 4th Row: Stephanie Capaul, Laura Anderson, Michael Anderson, Scott Peterson, Nate Laulainen, Jenna Ely, Amanda Janzen, Brant Douville, Patrick Timmers, Nick Hentges, James Dammann, Carl Szczepanski, Chris Bullis, Morgan Berndt. 5th Row: Nick Anderson, Jen Olson, Matt Jensen, Lindsey Lano, Alex Krukowski, Shayanne Roth, Amanda Gaddo, Valene Zakashefski, Mallory Hanson, Scott Connor, Karl Palm, Katie Braun, Mathias Weinzierl. 6th Row: Kienan Bjorklund, Philip Litfin, Emily Cousin, John Keefe, Garrett Hoppenrath, Kory Rambow, Jeff Chrest, Jackie Olson, Tia Oakman, Tiffany Johnston, Janelle Zimmerman, Sasha Landskov, Josh Peterson.7th Row: Meghan Menssen, Katie Sterner, Sonja Ellingson, Brittany Marshall, Kate Stuewe, Danielle Chinander, Jen Bostic, Dan Wallace, Dan Philp, Dillon Sletten, Matt Eiden, Megan Haberling. Back: David Deering, Brian Falk, Tony Schilling, Justin Reitsma, Erik Smestad, John Ansell.





Above. Nick Hentges, James Dammann, Brant Douville, and John Ansell perform in the brass section of the Varsity Band.



Above. Rachel Knickerbocker uses her Concert Band skills to perform in the pit orchestra for the musical.



# Pep, Jazz Groups Offer Variety to Aspiring Musicians

S ome say it crawled out of the swamp. It's jazz. Although its origins are in the murky depths of Louisiana, jazz has a strong background at Waconia High School.

Each year two groups of jazz musicians are formed. Jazz I members must audition for a role, while Jazz Also members get to experience jazz without the pressure of auditions. The groups host a jazz concert every spring which showcases both Jazz I and Jazz Also, as well as the Clearwater Jazz Band. Jazz I is also a regular attendee at the Morris Jazz Festival at the University of Minnesota Morris campus.

This year the Jazz I lineup included a Latin piece title, "The Puffy Taco," "Smack Dab in the Middle," and "Bill on the Grill," along with familiar classics like "Brass Machine."

Another musical activity that students participate in is the pep band. The WHS pep band added spirit to several sports throughout the year, enthusiastically supporting football, boys' and girls' basketball, and even gymnastics.

**Right.** Trombones Murphy Steiner and Nick Anderson are backed by Marc Ellingson on trumpet and Morgan Berndt on saxophone.







Jazz 1. Front: Justin Pawela, Nathan Hendren, Alex Krukowski, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Morgan Berndt, Ernie Flemig. Center: Matt Anderson, Adam Hagen, Brent Rolf, Mark Wilson, Matt Masurka, Philip Litfin, Murphy Steiner, Nick Anderson, Leah Indrelie, Juliet Hong. Back: Nate McKinney, Marc Ellingson, Aaron Petersen, Lucas Meyer, Chris Hendren, Eric Ellingson.

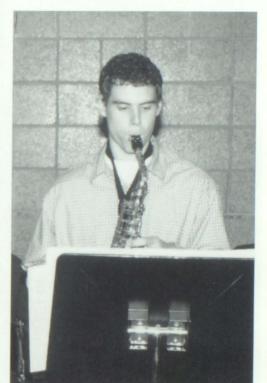
Above. Members of Jazz I perform in the lobby one December morning to kick off the annual Yuletide Festival.





Left. Seniors Matt Anderson and Aaron Sorensen add bass to the pep band.

**Center left.** Jazz I members participate in the annu-al homecoming parade. **Below.** Senior Nate Hendren is a jazz master when it comes to the saxophone.







Above. Junior Adam Hagen heads the rhythm section on drums in both Jazz I and Jazz Also, as well as in pep band.



Jazz Platinum. Front: Mallory Hanson, Matt Jensen, Brittany Willborg, Lindsay Fischbach, Akayla Stevens, Ali Klason. Center: Kerstin Palm, Cassie Williams, Adam Hagen, Sasha Landskov, Katie Braun, Nick Anderson. Back: Kevin Ketcher, Lucy Gunness, Laura Anderson, Hannah Hjelsand, Amanda Janzen, Nate Laulainen, Michael Anderson.



### WHS Choirs Raise their Voices in Song

Music is known to inspire many other aspects of a student's life. The WHS Varsity and Concert Choirs specialize in just that. Every year dozens of students participate in the choirs and produce beautiful vocal music. Varsity Choir, made up of freshmen and sophomores, and Concert Choir, made up of juniors and seniors, rehearse every day during

school and provide the school and community with several concerts a year. The choirs also participate in several special events such as school collaborations in which other schools visit WHS to hear the choirs sing. There are also plans for a trip to New York in the near future. Combining all of these exciting aspects creates a wonderful vocal music experience for WHS students. "Music is, by its very nature, essentially powerless to *express* anything at all. . .music expresses itself." ~lgor Stravinsky



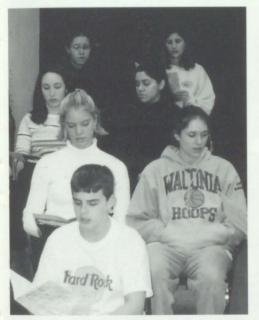




**Concert Choir.** Front: Sarah Gibbs, Kenzie Foley, Kirstin Klason, Eva Mohn, Abby Welch, Tany U'Ren, Tina Pogatchnik, Gina Fanberg, Nancy Lopez, Amanda Neil. Center: Holly Kunkel, Jolene John, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Emiley Lamberger, Lea Massengale, Marilyn Spiess, Charity Zabel, Anna Warnes, Sarah Domoradzki, Nicole Krautbauer, Kristi Wagener, Sara Meyer, Taylor Stangret, Shanen Johnson. Back: Luke Schiller, David Powers, Dylan Schesso, Karl Kranz, Alex Kranz, Drew Gulden, Ryan Wood, Eric Ellingson, Drew Gustafson, Marc Ellingson, Aaron Petersen, Joe Dimler, Chris McKeever, Mike Miller, Bret Plocher, Michael Erickson.

Varsity Choir. Front: Jackie Hennen, Allie Klason, Baillie Miller, Jamie Ta, Jen Olson, Beth Jacobson, Regan Bjorklund, Leanne Tanguay, Meghan Menssen, Becky Mieseler, Anna Jonas, Brittany Willborg, Amanda Wenning, Emily Goede, Valene Zakashefski, Miriam Schwochow. 2nd Row: Sara Menth, Brittany Bammert, Tia Oakman, Nicole Joyce, Laura Wold, Nichol West, Aislinn Edwards, Matt Ernst, Justin Rosckes, Aaron Salo, Matt Parris, James Dammann, Kate Stuewe, Carly Moore, Lenore Kolar, Emily Sims, Roxanne Mieseler, Sara Kelzer, Heather Diethelm, AmeKristin Meyer. 3rd Row: Amanda Thaemert, Steph Roepke, Rita Johnson, Lindsey Debner, Cille Naerbout, Jackie Olson, Amanda Lemke, Jenny Evans, Jeremy Gesinger, Joe Pogatchnik, Tim Niccum, Brian Falk, Katie Stairs, Katie Sterner, Anna Carrigan, Hannah Hjelsand, Lauren Petersen, Courtney Buesgens, Jen Bostic, Jen Brandenburg, Andrea Dalen. Back: Chenelle Felt, Shelby Lenzen, Tasha Lindemann, Cortney Bongard, Jennifer Glashan, Liz Bush, Kerstin Palm, Heidi Paulson, Jono McKee, Philip Litfin, Alex Krukowski, Andrew Fredericksen, Sonja Ellingson, Katie Zancig, Angie Massengale, Angie Harter, Jennie Novellino, Johanna Lee, Emily VanKirk, Makenzie Bakken.









**Opposite page, top left.** The Concert Choir's soprano section warms up with style.

**Opposite page, top right.** Senior Joe Dimler smiles cheerfully while junior Marc Ellingson hits the perfect pitch.

**Center left.** Varsity choir members focus on their music.

**Above.** The Varsity Choir sings to brighten everyone's holiday spirit.

Left. Mr. Olson has the attention of Varsity Choir members as they rehearse for an upcoming concert.



### WHS Power Company Dazzles with Energetic Program

he Waconia High School Power Company performs many times throughout the year, including pepfests, pop shows, and competitions. Preparation for the competition season began in September. The group prepared through choreography camps, rehearsal two times a week and strict practice sessions.

This year the Power Company had many accomplishments. They were featured in the Waconia *Patriot* several times for outstanding achievements at competitions and home shows. At the Show Choir Invitational in Eau Claire, Wisconsin, the group placed third, and at the invitational in Hastings, they received second in Class A. At Albert Lea, the group placed third in Class A and third overall after finals.

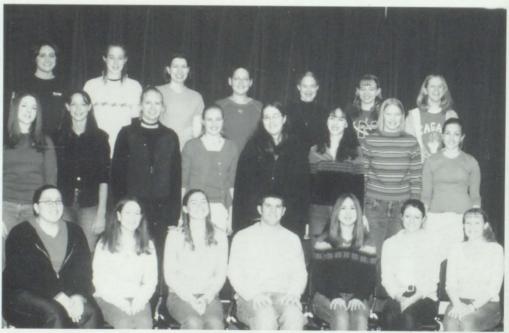
The musical numbers performed by the group included "Willamania" from *The Will Rogers Follies*, "The Gospel According to King," "Rain" from the musical *Seasons*, a medley of "Windy" and "Up, Up and Away," and a Madonna/Z Z Top medley that included "Express Yourself."

Top. Show Choir members show off their talent at a pepfest performance.

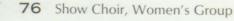




Above. Maureen Ayers-Looby performs her solo with feeling.



Women's Ensemble. Front: Nicole Krautbauer, Sarah Gibbs, Taylor Stangret, accompanist Alex Kranz, Lea Massengale, Makenzie Bakken, Kirstin Klason. Center: Leanne Tanguay, Jen Bostic, Kerstin Palm, Carly Moore, Angie Massengale, Marilyn Spiess, Katie Zancig, Brittany Willborg. Back : Jackie Olson, Tina Pogatchnik, Sara Meyer, Holly Kunkel, Miiram Schwochow, Amanda Thaemert, Mackenzie Foley.















2000-2001 Power Company. Front: Joe Pogatchnik, Joe Dimler, Jen Olsen, Brian Falk, Mackenzie Foley, Matt Parris, Sarah Gibbs, Luke Schiller, Philip Litfin. Center: Taylor Stangret, Mike Erickson, Jackie Olson, Jolene John, Alex Kranz, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Lea Massengale, Karl Kranz, Tanya U'Ren, Tina Pogatchnik. Back: Andrea Dalen, Nicole Krautbauer, Alex Kurkowski, Jen Bostic, Eric Ellingson, Marilyn Spiess, Jono McKee, Anna Warnes, Marc Ellingson, Dylan Schesso.



Top left. The Show Choir reaches a finale in their musical number.

musical number. **Top right.** Dylan Schesso and Jono McKee get into the dance by adding a little flare. **Center left.** Junior Mackenzie Foley and senior Mike Erickson sing along while they dance. **Center.** Philip Littin and Jackie Olson give their performance a little pizazz. **Center right.** Luke Schiller sings with feeling and confidence.

confidence. Above. Senior Charity Zabel gets into the Show Choir performance.



## My Fair Lady Succeeds with More than 'Little Bit of Luck'

ver 70 students — including actors, singers, musicians, and backstage personnel — participated in this year's fall musical, *My Fair Lady*. Presented on November 9-11, 2000, the Lerner and Lowe musical focused on Honry, Higgins, a confirmed old backslash (ad

on Henry Higgins, a confirmed old bachelor (and likely to remain so), who teaches Eliza Doolittle, a poor flower girl, how to speak beautifully — like a lady in a shop. After many long nights of instruction, Eliza finally learns. Higgins and his friend Pickering test Eliza's newly-learned speaking abilities by taking her to the Embassy Ball. The reluctant Higgins and Eliza end up falling in love and live happily ever after.

Director Kim Benson double cast the role of Eliza Doolittle to give Marilyn Spiess and Eva Mohn both opportunities to play the lead.

Top right. Mrs. Pearce and Jamie (Franny Gustafson and Alex Kranz) sing out during the Ascot Gavotte.

Below left. Freddy (Marc Ellingson) offers a dance to Eliza (Eva Mohn) at the Embassy Ball.

Below right. At the Ascot, the cast watches the horse race with anticipation.









**Pit Orchestra.** Seated in front: Ryan Mortensen. Front: Matt Masurka, Leah Gjertson, Jen Mochinski, Sarah Gibbs, Rachel Knickerbocker, Kerstin Palm, Virginia Miller. 2nd Row: Mrs. Lozito, Ms. Kidder, Drew Gustafson, Matt Priess, Juliet Hong, Morgan Berndt, Sonja Ellingson, Maggie Hilliard, Katie Braun. Back: Luças Meyer, Matt Anderson, Chris Hendren.



Above. Eliza (Marilyn Spiess) has tea with Mrs. Higgins (Nicole Krautbauer).



Buskers
Tina Pogatchnik
Mrs. Eynsford-Hill Mackenzie Foley
Eliza Doolittle Eva Mohn
Marilyn Spiess
Freddy Eynsford-Hill/4th Cockney . Marc Ellingson
Colonel Pickering
A Bystander Luke Schiller Henry Higgins Aaron Petersen
Selsey Man/1st Cockney Alex Kranz
Hoxton Man
Bystander/3rd Cockney Eric Ellingson

#### My Fair Lady Cast

Second Cockney ..... Luke Schiller Alfred P. Doolittle ..... Alex Krukowski Alfred P. Doolittle Alex Krukowski Mrs. Pearce Franny Gustafson Mrs. Hopkins Jackie Olson Servants Maureen Ayers-Looby, Eric Ellingson, Mackenzie Foley, Jolene John, Anna Jonas, Alex Kranz, Jackie Olson, Taylor Stangret Mrs. Higgins Science Ricel Krautbauer Lord Boxington Fric Ellingson

Lord	Boxington						Eric Ellingson
Lady	Boxington						Tina Pogatchnik
Mrs.	Higgins' Maid						Emily VanKirk
Bou	ncer	 		 2			Aaron Salo

Selsey Woman Leanne Tanguay Chorus - Amanda Alcorn, Laura Anderson, Kenzie Bakken, Regan Bjorklund, Jenn Bostic, Stephanie Capaul, Anna Carrigan, Emily Eder, Cassandra Gaddo, Ashley Hagman, Hannah Hjelsand, Tiffany Johnston, Nicole Joyce, Johanna Lee, Amanda Lemke, Carly Moore, Jen Olson, Karl Palm, Heidi Paulson, Lauren Petersen, Birgitte Rifley, Emily Sims, Taylor Stangret, Brittany Willborg, Janelle Zimmerman

Artistic Director Kim Benson Music Director .... Aaron Olson









Far left. Aaron Petersen is delighted that he has two Elizas (Marilyn Spiess and Eva Mohn) by his side. Above. Servants Franny Gustafson, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Kenzie Foley, Alex Kranz and Eric Ellingson rest before Mr. Higgins comes home. Left. Lauren Petersen, Regan Bjorklund and Birgitte Rifley watch the horse race.





### From Law to Science to Math to Ag, Clubs Offer Students Opportunities

A ctivities are available at WHS for students who have a wide variety of interests. Four of these activities are FFA, Math League, Science Club, and Mock Trial.

The main activity for the Science Club was preparation for the Science Knowledge Bowl and the Science Olympiad. This group is made up of students with an ambition to enhance their scientific knowledge and have fun while doing it.

At the Minnesota Science Knowledge Bowl, held at Macalaster College in St. Paul, the team competed with other Minnesota schools in a trivia/quiz-bowl type of format consisting of four-member teams. At the Science Olympiad competition at Mankato State University, the team competed in a series of "scientific" events with a 15-maximum person team. This year the WHS Science Club took ninth place at the Southwest Regions at Mankato State.

The WHS Math League participated in five competitions held at Shakopee High School. Nate Hendren was the leading scorer, taking third place in the entire region of ten area high schools. Every competition consisted of four different levels of twelve-minute contests students take individually and one team contest that lasts for twenty minutes. Mock trial had a very successful season this year as they competed in the playoffs against Watertown and Eden Prairie.

This year's trial concerned a boating accident involving alcohol in which a boater was charged with murder for hitting and killing a swimmer with his boat.

Students acted as lawyers or witnesses in the case. Practices were held twice a week with Mr. Lee as adviser and attorney Tim Looby as the legal adviser.

**Right.** The WHS mock trial group holds a meeting with lawyer Tim Looby. **Below.** Mallory Hanson, Johanna Lee and Lindsay Fischbach plan strategy for an upcoming trial. "Every intersection in the road of life is an opportunity to make a decision." ~Duke Ellington





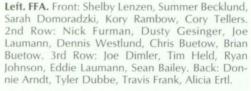


Above. Mock trial member Johanna Lee practices her lawyer skills on witness Gabe Maravelas.



Above. Mock Trial. Back: Kelsey Dake, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Claire Salveson, Mallory Hanson, Johanna Lee, Eva Mohn. Center: Lindsay Fischbach, Danielle Chinander, Rob Pesch, Miriam Schwochow, Gabe Maravelas. Front: Marilyn Spiess, Tina Pogatchnik.





Left. Science Club. Adam Hagen, Cynthia Ratsabouth, Sasha Landskov, Dylan Pforr, Nick Waletich, Mr. Berg.



Above. Senior Nate Hendren receives Math League honors for his third place finish in the region.





Above. Math League. Marilyn Spiess, Tina Pogatchnik, Kevin Krautbauer, Jacob Lesher. Not pictured: Nate Hendren, Dan Chrest, Nick Gee, Mike Hilliard, Kevin Ketcher, Justin Pawela, Bret Plocher.



## Fifty Students Inducted into National Honor Society

he National Honor Society banquet was held on October 30, 2000. Fifty new members joined this year, setting a higher standard for themselves. The dinner was catered by Ozzie's, and there was a speech given by Superintendent Jerry Kjergaard. The induction ceremony was given by Nathan Hendren, Anna Warnes, Nick Waletich, Audra Lehrke, and well as setting a good example. Jessica Williams. Certificates or pins were given to sophomores and juniors, and plaques to seniors.

To be considered for NHS membership, a student must maintain a grade point average of 3.33, contribute 15 hours of time to community service, and be involved in at least two activities as

Below far left. Joe Dimler recites the National Honor Society pledge.

Below left. Senior Jessi Williams speaks at the induction ceremony.

Below. Guest speaker Dr. Kjergaard gives a motivational speech.

Bottom. After receiving his certificate, Alex Kranz is congratulated by Mr. Bettcher.







Left. Sophomore Members of National Honor Society. Front: Morgan Berndt, Laura Anderson, Anna Jonas, Brittany Willborg, Erica Christenson, Chrissi Nelson. 2nd Row: Alex Krukowski, John Keefe, Dennis Westlund, Evan Johnson, Philip Litfin, Amanda Lemke, Jen Olson. 3rd Row: Emily Eder, Emily Cousin, Maggie Hilliard, Janelle Zimmerman, Ashley Artmann, Cassandra Schaffer, Jena Niesen, Megan Haberling. 4th Row: Lindsey Lano, Nate Laulainen, Ashley Hagman, Taylor Stangret, Catherine Zancig, Leanne Tanguay, Emily VanKirk. Back: Sonja Ellingson, Dan Philp, Heidi Paulson, Michael Anderson, Matt Jensen, Jacleen Olson, Kerstin Palm.

Below. Junior Members of National Honor Society. Front: Matt Hentges, Matt Heger, Ernie Flemig, Alex Kranz, Scott Loscheider. 2nd Row: Bret Plocher, Tabitha DeLeeuw, Jennifer Schnobrich, Jessica Falk, Abby Welch, Molly Lenzen, Amanda Hedtke. 3rd Row: Kevin Ketcher, Justin Pawela, Eric Ellingson, Juliet Hong, Murphy Steiner, Sarah Meier. 4th Row: Kirstin Klason, Tina Pogatchnik, Michael Miller, Dylan Pforr, Marc Ellingson. Back: Marilyn Spiess, Mackenzie Foley, Sarah Gibbs, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Kelsey Dake, Jodi Storms, Vance Kerber.





**Center left.** Emily Cousin smiles as she's accepted into NHS.

Left. Senior Members of National Honor Society. Front: Mark Anderson, Lacy Skoog, Eric Randt, Megan Doyscher, Matt Priess. 2nd Row: Mark Wilson, Matt Anderson, Nate Hendren, Michael Hilliard, Drew Gustafson, Josh Jetto. 3rd Row: Ted Keefe, Matt Masurka, Joe Dimler, Nick Waletich, Dylan Schesso. 4th Row: Dan Chrest, Charity Zabel, Karl Kranz, Jessica Williams, Anna Warnes. Back: Chris Hendren, Lacey Ahlbrecht, Jennifer Mochinski, Natalie Timmers, Emily Tongen, Audra Lehrke, Jeff Elliot.





### FLA Pilots Violence Prevention Project; Sponsors Food, Book Drives

"What do we live for, if it is not to make life less difficult for each other?" ~George Eliot

LA is a very challenging activity at WHS led by FACS teacher Mrs. Sue Hartwig. Among the many projects the group worked on this year included the competitive Star Events,

the pilot project Peace It Together, and FACTS (Families Acting for Community Traffic Safety). For the latter project, FLA helped put together Ghost Out Day and a mock crash. Twenty-six members qualified for state competition. The group also sponsored a Give Drive to collect toys, food, and clothing for needy families and the Jamaica Project to donate books and other items to Jamaican schools.

The Waconia Chapter of FLA was one of eighteen pilot chapter projects to focus on the Violence Prevention Project and also to attend the Legislators' Retreat. Lenore Kolar received special recognition for her work on the Jamaican Project and Katie Dean for her projects on preventing birth defects and preventing teen pregnancy.

Fifteen members of the chapter attended the National Cluster in Minneapolis and four attended the Legislators' Retreat. Carly Moore was elected to a region office, and Kerstin Palm completed a region office for this year.





Top. Mrs. Hartwig goes over materials for an FLA project with Amber Rogney, Above. FLA Members. Front: Lisa Hammer, Justin Pawela. Center: Sarah Menth, Danielle Chinander, Mackenzie Foley, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Mark Anderson. Back: Carly Moore, Sarah Domoradzki, Aaron Petersen, Bret Plocher.



Above. Sophomores Janelle Zimmerman and Lori Ledoux help with the candy gram sales for Valentine's Day.





Left. FLA Members. Front: Danielle Sampson, Emily VanKirk, Melanie Butler, Ellie Goenner, Amber Rogney. Row 2: Dan Philp, Nate Laulainen, Laura Anderson, Lori Ledoux, Steph Capaul, Micah Linehan, Katie Rajewsky, Julie Kelzer. Row 3: Janelle Zimmerman, Erica Christenson, Leanne Tanguay, Michael Anderson, Scott Peterson, Kayla Menth, Anna Corson, Beth Jacobson, Katie Dean. Row 4: Kerstin Palm, Matt Jensen, Alex Krukowski, Evan Johnson, Philip Litfin. Back: Rita Johnson, Jena Niesen, Lenore Kolar, Heather Diethelm, Liz Bush. Below left. FLA members confer with Mrs. Hartwig following a monthly group meeting.

Below. FLA Leaders. Front: Liz Bush, Katie Dean, Lenore Kolar. Back: Justin Pawela, Bret Plocher.



#### LifeSmarts Team Focuses on Consumer Issues



W HS's Life Smarts team focused on consumer issues. LifeSmarts is a statesponsored program that encourages the next generation of consumers to learn about such consumer issues as the rights and responsibilities of the consumer, safety issues, insurance, the environment, and credit and budgeting.

For regional competition the group competed online. The team was made up of (from left) Amanda Neil, Lisa Hammer, Emiley Lamberger and Tanya Clemensen.



### Council, Helpers Plan Fun Activities Throughout the Year

S tudent council and peer helpers make an important impact on our school. These groups are made up of some of the best students and leaders in WHS. They are in charge of planning a variety of fun student activities and events.

Student council members are chosen through an interview process conducted by the group's advisor, Pam Melchert. They meet about twice a month and each fall attend one leadership workshop. This year the group planned such activities as homecoming, turkey bingo, Winterfest, Custodian's Day, the Teacher Appreciation Breakfast, and the annual blood drive.

Peer helpers are chosen on a volunteer basis. They conducted new student and



**Top.** Megan Schmaltz smiles as she prepares to give blood during the Student Council sponsored blood drive.

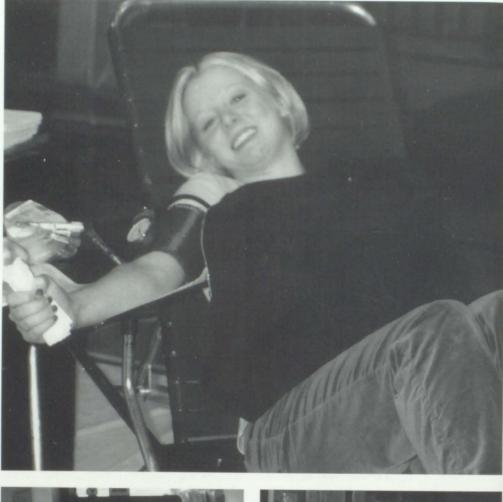
Above. Freshmen Amber Morgan and Jeff Chrest hope to win a prize during Turkey Bingo.

**Right.** Freshman Claire Salveson appears to be close to winning Turkey Bingo as sophomore Kory Rambow studies his card.

Far right. Jeremy Gesinger helps himself to pop and treats, distributed at the end of VIP Day.

freshman orientations at the beginning of the school year. They also planned and put on such major events as Chemical Health Week and Career Day.

"As for me, prizes mean nothing. My prize is my work." ~Katherine Hepburn











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Top left. Janelle Zimmerman wins a prize on VIP Day

Center left. Student Council members Anna Jonas and Taylor Stangret assist with registration for the blood drive.

Above. Alex Krukowski portrays a victim of drunken driving during Ghost Out Day.

Left. Peer Helpers. Front: Emily Eder, Emily Van-Kirk. Center: Jackie Condon, Amanda Templin, Ra-chel Knickerbocker, Holly Kunkel, Sara Meyer. Back: Lacey Ahlbrecht, Baillie Miller, Megan Haberling, Sarah Meier.





Student Council. Front: Jaclynn Hennen, Sarah Gibbs, Kenzie Foley, Laura Anderson, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Sara Kelzer. Center: Anna Warnes, Emily VanKirk, Leah Gjertson, Ali Klason, Anna Jonas, Emily Tongen, Natalie Timmers. Back: Courtney Buesgens, Bret Plocher, Alex Krukowski, Philip Litfin, Taylor Stangret, Ernie Flemig, Matt Heger, Mark Anderson, Mallory Hanson.





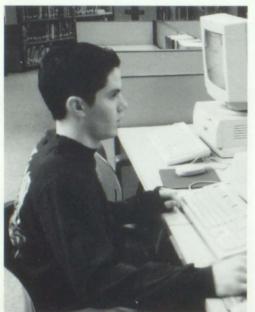


### Yearbook, Newspaper Record Events of 2001

he events and the news that happens every day has to be recorded by someone. Written records, in some cases, are our only link to the past. The publication groups at WHS have been capturing those events for years. The yearbook, *Pawprints*, has been relaying the news of the school for the past seven years. Before that, the yearbook went under the name *The Chieftain*. The yearbook staff met every Tuesday throughout the school year. The 2000 edition of the yearbook received a silver award by the Journalism Educators of Minnesota for outstanding coverage.

There have also been new additions to the publications department at WHS. Within the past two years, a literary magazine, which contains the art and literary accomplishments of students, began under the name *Impressions*. The literary magazine holds a coffee house style release party for each year's issue. This year a school newspaper named *Tracks* was created and published on a quarterly basis. The newspaper staff met weekly and then as needed to turn in their assignments.

"A writer is unfair to himself when he is unable to be hard on himself." ~Marianne Moore







Newspaper Staff. Front on floor: Rachel Knickerbocker. Front: Jennifer Capaul, Mandy Templin, Holly Olson, Nicole Krautbauer, Ben Weaver. Center: Megan Gregor, Amber Rogney, John Ansell, Miriam Schwochow, Tony Schilling, Ben Wagener. Back: Rachel Johnson, Jamie Asp, Anna Szczepanski, Aaron Petersen, Katie Whittaker, Jackie Condon, Rachel Minzel.



**Top left.** Newspaper editor Ben Weaver checks the internet for information for a news story.

**Top right.** *Tracks* adviser Megan Gregor assists Jamie Asp and Rachel Johnson as they prepare stories for the paper.

Above. Senior Jacki Condon helps with every aspect of the publication of the newspaper, from ayout to writing to distribution.







Yearbook Staff. Front: Matt Anderson, Aaron Petersen. 2nd Row: Valene Zakashefski, Katie Dean, Kienan Bjorklund, Julie Kelzer, Katie Rajewsky, Ashley Artmann, Steph Capaul. 3rd Row: Roxanne Mieseler, Lindsay Fischbach, Amanda Alcorn, Erica Christenson, Ashley Hagman, Sarah Meier, Janelle Nelson. Back: Becky Mieseler, Amanda Janzen, Birgitte Rifley, Katie Zancig, Emily Eder, Baillie Miller, Jenny Evans.

**Left.** Sophomores Emily Eder, Janelle Nelson and Ashley Hagman plan a layout for the activities section of the yearbook.

**Below.** Junior Heidi Keller and sophomore Katie Rajewsky discuss which photos to use for an academics layout.







Center right. Becky Mieseler, Baillie Miller and Roxanne Mieseler label portraits for the students section.

**Above.** Yearbook editor Matt Anderson proudly displays the 1999-2000 edition of *Pawprints* which received a silver award.



### Louisa May Alcott's Little Women Comes Alive on Stage

n April 19 and 20, the WHS Drama Dept. presented Little Women. Anna Warnes played the tomboy writer Jo, who falls for the professor (Nick Waletich). Amy (Mackenzie Foley), the youngest of the March sisters, ends up marrying Laurie, the neighbor boy (Dylan Christensen), while Meg (Marilyn Spiess) and Laurie's tutor (Mike Miller) end up together. Another sister, Beth (Sarah Gibbs), dies during the play. The four sisters, along with Marmee (Nicole Krautbauer), Hannah (Amanda Templin), and Mr. Laurence (John Ansell), make this tale of love, sadness, joy and laughter come alive on stage.









Above. Little Women Cast. Front: Amanda Alcorn, Jackie Condon, Mackenzie Foley. Center: Anna Warnes, Kerstin Palm, Pat Johnson, Mike Miller, Sarah Gibbs. Back: Amanda Templin, Nick Waletich, John Ansell, director Kim Benson, Dylan Christensen, Marilyn Spiess, Nicole Krautbauer. Top. The March family (counter clockwise from top left: Mackenzie Foley, Sarah Gibbs, Nicole Krautbauer, Anna Warnes and Marilyn Spiess), athera sound the fire.

Anna Warnes and Marilyn Spiess) gathers around the fire. Center left. Marmee (Nicole Krautbauer) comforts daughter Amy (Mackenzie Foley).

Left. An upset Jo (Anna Warnes) storms about the stage as Laurie (Dylan Christensen) watches.



### Coffee House, Magazine Spotlight WHS Fine Arts



or the second year the arts of WHS were celebrated for an entire day. The second annual literary magazine coffee house was held to spotlight visual art, poetry, and music. The literary magazine Impressions contains artistic works of WHS students from poetry and song lyrics to paintings, drawings, and photography. The coffee house was held to celebrate the magazine's annual release. Over the course of an entire day, several musical and spoken acts lent their talents to a packed audience. An evening performance was also held for the members of the community.

Impressions was put together with the help of faculty members Megan Gregor and Amy Fischer, editor in chief Jackie Condon, and staff volunteers.







Top. A full audience looks on as Mr. Machtemes jams through a set of Bob Dylan classics.

**Center left.** Senior Matt Anderson accompanies Karl Kranz and Charity Zabel for a love duet.

Center. Freshman Jessica Piersa performs an Etta James classic.

**Center right.** Senior Drew Gustafson stands as a lone tree during the AP Literature presentation of "Jane Eyre: a Pantomime." Nick Waletich (Mr. Rochester) is proposing to Eva Mohn (Jane).

Far left. Jackie Olson, Jen Bostic and Jen Olson, also known as "Triple J," sing "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" for the coffee house audience.

**Left.** Seniors Cassie Gaddo, Jackie Condon and sophomore Crystal Kroells serve on the literary magazine staff.

"The task of the artist at any time is uncompromisingly simple — to discover what has not yet been done, and to do it." ~Craig Raine





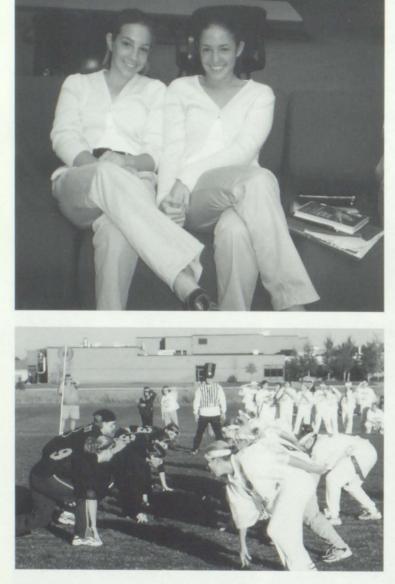


## Expect the Unexpected during Wildcats' Spirit Week 2000

"Love the moment, and the energy of that moment will spread beyond all boundaries." ~Corita Kent

E very year students from Waconia High School show their school spirit by dressing up according to the daily themes. On Monday, Class Color Day, the most visible classes were the juniors in white and the seniors in black, as they prepared to face each other in the powder puff game that night. On Tuesday, students used their imaginations and selected their favorite time period for Decade Day. Everyone was seeing double on Wednesday, Twin Day, as many students chose a friend and dressed alike. Thursday was Pajama Day, the students' favorite day, as they arrived at school in very comfortable attire. On Friday, students dressed in purple and gold to show their school spirit.





**Center left.** Sophomore friends Brittany Willborg and Ashley Hagman make perfect twins on Twin Day.

Above. The juniors and seniors wear white and black on Class Color Day as they get set to play the powder puff game.



**Top.** Megan Doyscher and Audra Lehrke dress as nurses for Twin Day. **Above.** Amber Rogney and Anna Szczepanski show off their unique style on Twin Day.





Top left. Aaron Petersen and Al Krukowski show their style on Decade Day. Top right. Waconia cheerleaders Katie Zancig, Jen Mochinski, Bethany Jetto, Cassie Olson, Megan Haberling and Laura Schmidt dress alike in togas. Center left. Ellie Goenner, Melanie Butler, Jena Niesen, Tracy Winkler, Tracy Kuphal and Cassandra Schaffer appear with their twins.

**Center right.** Freshmen Ali Klason, Jaci Hennen and Kaylee Rasmussen are all decked out for Decade Day.







Above. Luke Schiller flashes a smile to the camera on Decade Day.



**Above.** Friends Eva Mohn and Maureen Ayers-Looby are excited to be twins during Spirit Week.



Above. Mark Anderson and Andrew Bergstrand heat up Decade Day.



# Excitement Fills the Air during Homecoming Week

H omecoming week was kicked off by a pepfest on Monday. After the powder puff game that night, students could enjoy volleyball, karaoke, and pizza.

A students could enjoy volleyball, karaoke, and pizza. On Thursday, the 2000 homecoming king and queen, Matt Stuewe and Natalie Timmers, were crowned during an afternoon ceremony. This event included jazz and vocal performances by WHS students.

School was dismissed early on Friday for the homecoming parade. Later that evening the 2000 homecoming football game was played. The week's activities concluded with Saturday night's dance, hosted by DJ Hound.





Top right. King and Queen Matt Stuewe and Natalie Timmers sit upon their thrones. Top left. Newly crowned Natalie Timmers hugs

senior Megan Doyscher. Above. Juniors Luke Schiller and Molly Lenzen em-

cee the coronation program. Above center. King and queen candidates Mark Wilson and Leah Gjertson wave to the crowd dur-

ing the parade. Center right. Waconia Wildcat cheerleaders ride

on the fire truck in the parade. Right. Volleyball team members wave to their fans.







Left. Freshmen cheer to the crowd as they ride on the freshman float.

"I Think We're Alone Now" at coronation. **Center right.** Senior powder puff team members plan their winning strategy.









Homecoming Royalty. Back: Kyle Beilby, Evan Johnson, Eric Roberts, Matt Anderson, Mark Wilson, Andy Acosta, Joe Gast, Scott Stein. Center: Amber Rogney, Jenny Sorensen, Megan Doyscher, Matt Stuewe, Natalie Timmers, Mandy Templin, Kristin Pletsch, Leah Gjertson. Front: Jenna Ely, Kelli Pletsch.

Center left. Caitlyn Klosterman and Danielle Samp-son add spirit to the homecoming pepfest. Center. Sophomore Carl Szczepanski shows his school spirit by participating in FLA's milk mustache contest.



### Cold, Snowy Winter Holds Warm Memories for Wildcats

veryone who lives in Minnesota knows that winter is just a part of life. Sometimes a bigger part of life than desired. But whether we like the snow or not, or if we

prefer the frigid air to the warm feel of the sun, it's no doubt that winter makes for an interesting season. It's not only the season itself that's interesting, but also the events that happen during it. This winter, one of the snowiest seasons ever, was packed with highlights. It marked the introduction of some new events, like Rage Against Destruction, an awesome assembly during Winterfest. The pepfest also continued some old traditions like the Lips and Legs Contest and the pie eating contest. Yes, the snow may pile high, but so do the memories.

"Winter kept us warm, covering the Earth in forgetful snow." ~T. S. Eliot

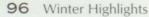






**Top left.** Seniors Nate Hendren and Natalie Timmers are congratulated by Mr. Fredericksen for receiving the Triple A Award for excellence in athletics, academics, and activities.

Above. Students of the second lunch shift hold "Potluck 2000" as a kickoff to the upcoming holi**Top right.** Seniors Luke Meyer and Nick Gee get hyped for Twin Day during Winterfest Week. **Right.** Mike Hartung prepares for a dance competition during an assembly. He won a DVD as a result.







**Top left.** Seniors Matt McGowan and Holly Olson pull with all their might during the annual tug-of-war.

Above. Senior Ryan Mortensen goes at his pie during the Winterfest pie eating contest.

**Top right.** Maren Delaney and Dylan Schesso are crowned Winterfest's Queen Lips and King Legs. **Center right.** Wrestlers Scott Stein, Andrew Fredericksen and Dennis Westlund qualify for the state tournament.





#### Winter Stats

• Total Snowfall: 75.5 inches
• 8th Snowiest Winter on Record

• 40" of Snow Received

in Nov/Dec 2000

• Temperature on December 25, 2000 — 24 degrees below zero
• In January/February/March 2001

— 44 days colder than normal
★ Not one complete snow day!



#### Feathered Masks, Glitter Add to Mardi Gras Mystique

t was fun. It was a blast. It was "Mardi Gras!" and it was an event to remember. This year's prom began months before the actual event as the prom committee spent long hours designing the Mardi Gras Mystique of the junior-senior prom.

The day began with the traditional Grand March at the high school gymnasium. Then it was off to Rush Creek Golf Course in Maple Grove. The voyage wasn't without problems as the prom goers found themselves lost for a few moments before finally reaching the dinner. The dinner was quite interesting and left everyone asking what's to come. The answer was dancing and socializing.

The night continued into post prom where games and activities were provided. The prom goers were treated to a performance by "Comedy Sports."

The evening was memorable for everyone who participated, and all the hard work in preparations by the prom committee and the prom goers paid off.





**Top.** Prom goers Alex Smith, Emiley Lamberger, Gina Fanberg, Chadd Smith, Amanda Allen, Mike Hill, Michelle Weiland and Micah Linehan wait in anticipation for the Grand March to begin. **Above.** Seniors Amber Goetze and Sarah Popelka share a moment as "best friends" after Grand March.







**Center.** Nick Leffler and Erica Christenson pose at the Arboretum.

Above. Juniors Adam Hagen and Amanda Neil are both dressed elegantly for the prom. Left. "The perfect dress" is chosen by Caitlyn Klos-

terman, Julie Dalbec and Brittany Willborg!



**Below.** Ryan Rosin, David Powers, Sarah Meier and Ryan Ortberg enjoy the prom at Rush Creek. **Right.** Seniors Kevin Thompson and Kristi Wagener pause for photos during Grand March.











Above. Girls just want to have fun! Prom goers Tanya Clemensen, Brooke Simonson, Tia Oakman, Molly Anquist, Ashley Hagman, Jackie Pitts, Julie Dalbec, Molly Lenzen, Katelin Murphy and Amber Krause show off their formal attire.



**Center.** Senior Pat Lindstrom and junior Becky Luedloff get "hyped" for Grand March. **Center right.** Exchange student Natalia DeFran-cesco and her date pose as the only Brazilian cou-

Above. Rachel Latzig and Kevin Mott preview the festive prom decorations in the gym.



Prom 99

# SENIOR POLL



MOST ATHLETIC: JOE GAST, HOLLY OLSON MOST SPIRITED: MARK WILSON, NATALIE TIMMERS



WORST JOKE TELLER: BRENT ROLF, ANNA WARNES BEST LAUGH: ZACH JOHNSON, AUDRA LEHRKE



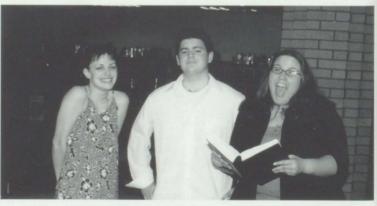
Most Talkative: Andrew Bergstrand, Emily Tongen Quietest: Eric Janzen, Megan Schmaltz



TEACHER'S PET: NATE HENDREN, LEAH GJERTSON MOST LIKELY TO SUCCEED: NATE HENDREN, ANNA WARNES



BEST DRESSED: BUD REDINGER, SARAH POPELKA KLUTZIEST: MARK WILSON, AMBER GOETZE



Best Actor/Actress: Aaron Petersen, Eva Mohn Best Singer: Aaron Petersen, Nicole Krautbauer Most Unique Style: Mike Wander, Eva Mohn





BEST MUSICIAN: MATT ANDERSON, ANNA WARNES BEST ARTIST: MATT MASURKA, SARAH POPELKA



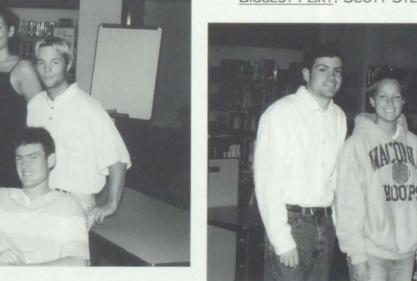
CLASS CLOWN: MATT STUEWE, MANDY TEMPLIN MOST LIKELY TO BE SENT TO THE OFFICE: MATT MCGOWAN, AMANDA MILLER



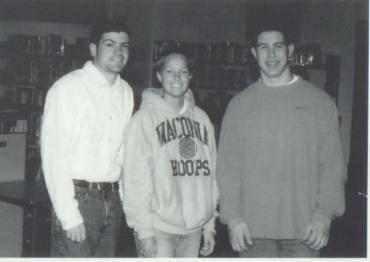
BEST FRIENDS: NATE HENDREN, CHRIS HENDREN CUTEST COUPLE: KARL KRANZ, CHARITY ZABEL



BEST CAR: ERIC RANDT, CAITLYN KLOSTERMAN BIGGEST FLIRT: SCOTT STEIN, KRISTIN PLETSCH



BEST PIERCING: MATT DRESSEL, SARAH WEINZIERL BEST EYES: LUCAS MEYER, MAREN DELANEY BEST HAIR: MATT PRIESS, MAREN DELANEY



BEST SMILE: AARON SORENSEN, MEGAN DOYSCHER FRIENDLIEST: JOE DIMLER, MEGAN DOYSCHER



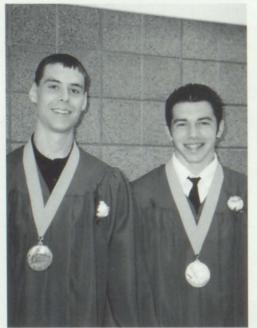


# Wildcat Odyssey Ends for Graduating Class of 2001

s the class of 2001 graduated from WHS, they left behind not only friends and mem-ories, but also their reputation. For years the class was known as "the bad class," or "the class to look out for," but as commencement ceremonies showed, they were much more than that. This year some of WHS's top students in school history were honored for academics, athletics, and the arts. A total of 142 students received recognition for thirteen years of schooling. The ceremonies also represented the final chapter in a class plagued by tragedy and misfortune. But it ended on a happy note as those 142 students celebrated together, a future of success and happiness.

Senior Flower: Purple Tipped White Rose Senior Colors: Purple and Platinum Senior Class Song: "It's My Life" Senior Motto: "The moments pass by so quickly... But the memories last forever."





**Top.** Amanda Miller and Jennifer Schmakel relax and have fun before the ceremonies begin. **Above.** Nate Hendren was named the class valedictorian alongside salutatorian Josh Jetto.

**Right.** Joe Johnston and Amanda Miller share a moment together after graduating.

Far right. Katie Whittaker congratulates Nate Mechtel as he realizes he just finished high school.







Left. Jenny Schmakel, Nicole Schneewind, Sarah Domoradzki and Jackie Con-don wait in anticipation for commencement to begin. Below. Cassie Gaddo, Rhea Lenzen and Kelly Carothers celebrate their gradua-

tion.

**Center left.** The class of 2001 is presented to a full audience of family members and friends.

**Center right.** Steven Mitchell, Jordan Everhart and Steve Ostlund gather together after commencement ceremonies end.





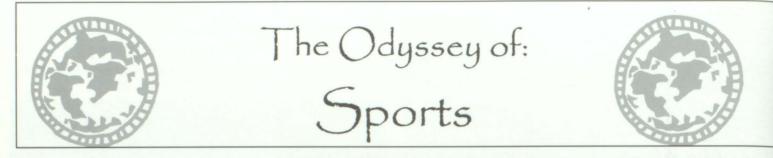






Above. Nick Waletich, Mike Erickson, Brandon Venske and Ryan Mortensen chill out after graduating. Left. Joe Webster and Sarah Weinzierl wait patiently for rehearsals to finish





he students of WHS strive to live a healthy lifestyle. This is done in a variety of ways. Participating in sports is one of the many ways to stay healthy. WHS provides a variety of sports for its students to participate in, many of which have been very successful.

Several members of the wrestling team qualified for state competition, as did the Lakettes danceline. The boys' and girls' basketball teams both had exciting seasons as they played deep into the playoffs. The spring sports, including golf, baseball, softball and track, also had great seasons, despite a soggy beginning. The Twin Cities had the rainiest April on record with nearly seven inches of rain.

With fan support the 2000-2001 sports season was very exciting!

"In the great department store of life, sport is the toy department." ~Anonymous





Top. The award winning danceline celebrates a victory.

Above. Sophomore Mike Groschen sets up for a pin on his opponent.

**Right.** Sophomore Philip Litfin uses endurance and strength during a cross country meet.

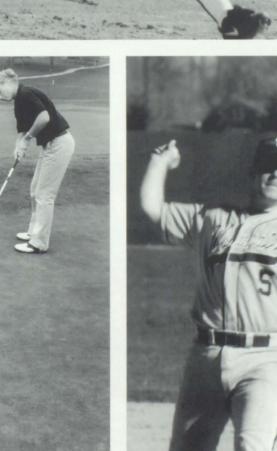
Far right. Senior Holly Olson prepares to drive into the lane.













**Top right.** Senior Ken VanEyll leaps to endless heights over the pole vault. **Center right.** Senior Matt Priess set up behind his offensive line.

Far left. Senior Megan Doyscher watches as her ball glides to the cup. Left. Senior Dan Chrest winds up to make a throw. Above. Junior Chris Zakashefski deflects the ball away from his opponent.







# Wildcats Gain Defensive Skills during Building Season

**B** eating Dassel/Cokato for the first time since 1992 was the highlight of an otherwise disappointing season for the Wildcats. They ended the season with two wins and six losses.

Building a better defense was the Wildcats' goal for this season. They did an excellent job, as evidenced by being tied with Conference champ Glencoe 6-6 after three quarters and trailing Delano only 4 to 7 at halftime.

Joe Gast, Andy Acosta, and Chris Schmitz all received All-Conference honors. Joe was also the Wright County Conference co-defensive lineman of the year. Andy made 104 tackles in eight games, and Chris Schmitz achieved four turnovers and was the leading receiver on offense.

Coach Pat Foley looked at the season optimistically as a good opportunity for the younger players to gain experience. He described the season as an "outstanding defensive season with many players contributing to our success."

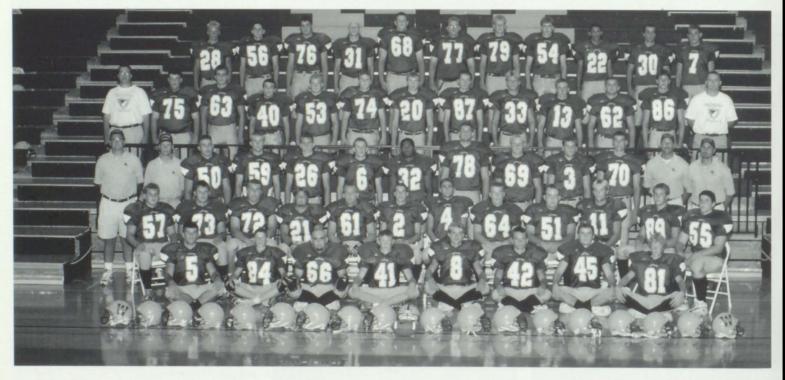
Top left. Senior Drew Gulden pummels an opponent.

**Top right.** Senior Chris Schmitz beats a Glencoe Panther to the catch.

**Right.** The Wildcats pursue an opponent to make a tackle.

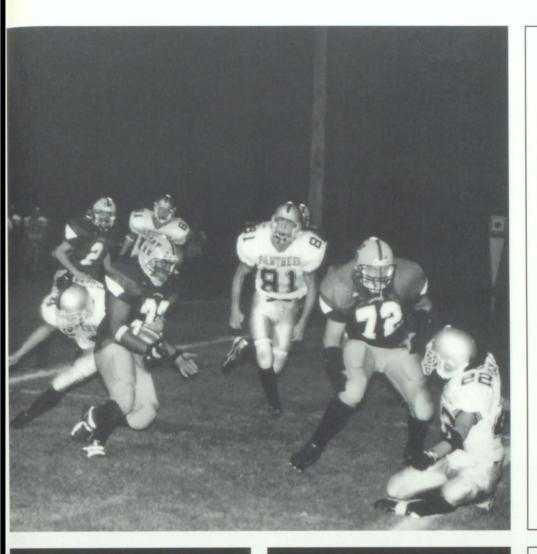






Varsity Football. Front: Alex Kranz, Justin Schelitzche, Gabe Acosta, Ryan Oswald, Ernie Flemig, Luke Schiller, Rob Pesch, Tim Held. 2nd Row: Matthew Heger, Adam Hastings, Mike Hilliard, Andy Acosta, Jacob Meyer, Drew Gulden, Scott Stein, Dylan Schesso, Eric Randt, Matt Priess, Ryan Rosin, Justin Davis. 3rd Row: Coach Malsom, Coach Foley, Aaron Sorensen, Mark Wilson, Nicholas Waletich, Chris Schmitz, Joe Gast, Jeff Elliot, Joe Reitsma, Daniel Chrest, Nate Hendren, Coach Olson, Coach Grundhofer. 4th Row: Coach Herrmann, Steven Kjergaard, Dan Philp, Eddie Laumann, Nate Koch, David Wabbe, Matthew Hentges, Rod Brink, Graham Irving, Sean Bailey, Nick Furman, Vance Kerber, Coach Grack. Back Row: Justin Reitsma, Cory Tellers, Jeff Klein, Chris Rueben, John Ansell, Phillip Pieper, Erik Smestad, Ryan Engelen, Micah Young, Mike Groschen, Andrew Fredericksen.





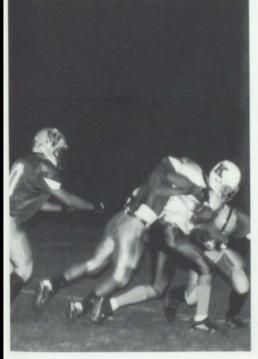
#### Captains: Superstitions Revealed



**Q:**: What are your pre-game habits or superstitions? Has it been of benefit?

Andy Acosta: "At the beginning of the season, I began watching a game tape of the team we are playing to try and figure out their offense. It's a lot easier to make plays when you know their plays."

**Joe Gast:** "I go to D'Vinci's and then play Madden 2001. I started this my junior year, cause before home games we had time to spare. It really didn't benefit. It was just for fun."

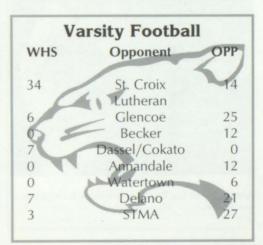


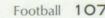
**Top.** Senior Joe Gast strives for the Wildcats' first down. **Above.** The Wildcats plow down a knight.



Above. Junior Ernie Flemig takes down one of St. Michael-Albertville's Knights.

"Football is a game played with the arms, legs and shoulders, but mostly from the neck up." ~Knute Rockne







# Team Exceeds Expectations-Subsection Runnerup

The WHS volleyball team exceeded their goals for the season by completing the season as the subsection runnerup. The team beat Mayer Lutheran twice, won the Simley Tournament, and were ranked between #10 to #14 for four weeks. The team finished their regular season with ten wins and seven losses and took third place in the conference.

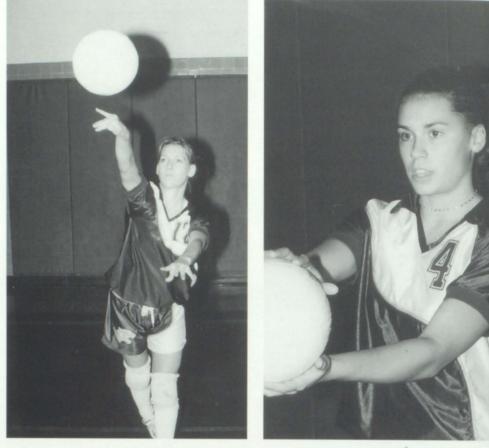
Coach Jim Lee indicated that the strengths of the team were their team concept and their digging and attacking skills.

Holly Olson and Maren Delaney were named All-Conference, and Maren was named Honorable Mention All-State. Alicia Ertl, Natalie Ristow and Carla Roepke received All-Conference Honorable Mention.

Coach Lee summed up the season, "The girls exceeded expectations and surprised many programs."

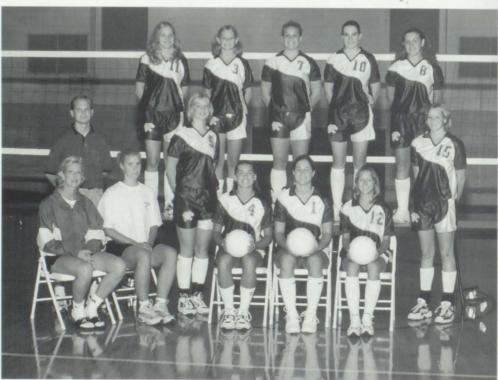
Top left. Natalie Ristow follows through on her service.

**Top right.** Senior Holly Olson gets ready to deliver a powerful serve.



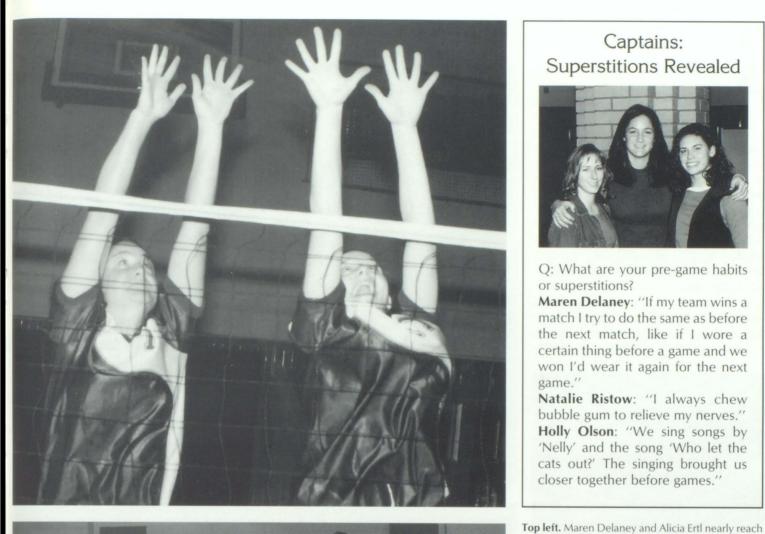


Above. Junior Lisa Koehler gets ready for a pass to a teammate.



Varsity Volleyball. Front: Coach Shuman, Coach Longstreet, Holly Olson, Maren Delaney, Natalie Ristow. Center: Coach Lee, Heidi Paulson, Amanda Hedtke. Back: Alicia Ertl, Abby Welch, Meghan Menssen, Carla Roepke, Lisa Koehler.





#### Captains: Superstitions Revealed



Q: What are your pre-game habits or superstitions?

Maren Delaney: "If my team wins a match I try to do the same as before the next match, like if I wore a certain thing before a game and we won I'd wear it again for the next game."

Natalie Ristow: "I always chew bubble gum to relieve my nerves." Holly Olson: "We sing songs by 'Nelly' and the song 'Who let the cats out?' The singing brought us closer together before games."

the stars as they defend the Wildcats' side of the

court.

3

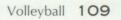
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J-V Volleyball. Front: Jen Olson, Taylor Stangret. 2nd Row: Maggie Hilliard, Anna Jonas, Amanda Lemke, Katie Sterner. 3rd Row: Coach Shuman, Leann Tanguay, Emily Cousin, Lindsey Lano. Back: Sarah Gibbs, Kirstin Klason, Kelsey Dake, Jessie Bammert.

**Varsity Volleyball** WHS Opponent OPP 3 Mound 0 Westonka 3 Norwood 3 Annandale 3 Dassel Cokate 3 Mayer Lutheran 3 Becker 3 Bloomington Kennedy Delano 3 **Belle** Plaine 3 Watertown 3 0 0 Windom 3 3 Glencoe 1 0 Orono 0 STMA 3 3 Brooklyn 0

Center Mayer Lutheran 0 Watertown 3





## Girls' Cross Country Takes Conference Championship

A ccording to Coach Clark Machtemes, the girls' team taking conference championship was the highlight of the cross country season. Making an outstanding contribution was senior Natalie Timmers, who was conference champion and who also went to state competition where she placed 21st. Several team members on both the boys' and girls' teams were named All Conference; included were Natalie Timmers, Sonja Ellingson, Kaylee Rasmussen, Tabitha Deleeuw, Marc Ellingson, Eric Ellingson and Philip Litfin.

Coach Machtemes described the cross country team as a "super group of student athletes who were not afraid to work hard and achieve their goals."

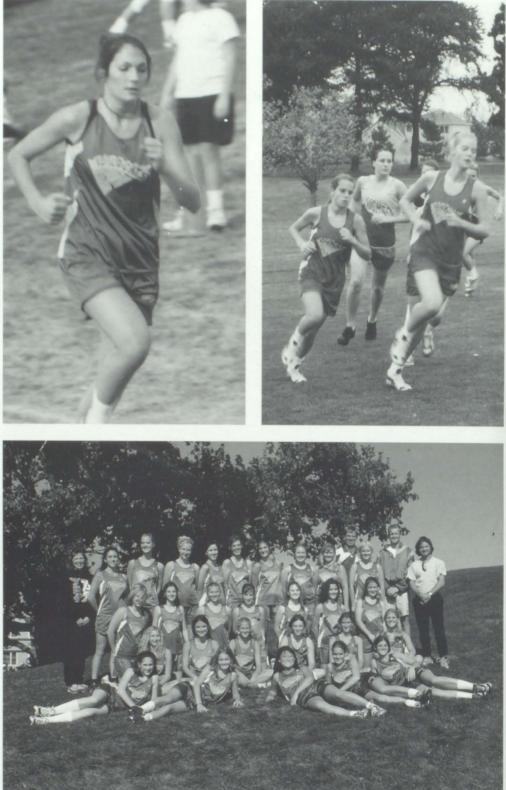




Top left. Senior Natalie Timmers always strives to be first.

Top right. Sonja Ellingson and Tabitha Deleeuw pace themselves evenly during the race. Center left. Mark Anderson and Murphy Steiner

stay ahead of the competition. Above. Sophomore Kerstin Palm maintains a steady pace.



**Girls' Cross Country.** Front: Megan Bailey, Kaylee Rasmussen, Morgan Berndt, Tabitha Deleeuw, Kelli Pletsch. 2nd Row: Dayna Sudheimer, Maureen Ayers-Looby, Megan Doyscher, Ann Geyen, Nicole Ristow, Molly Lenzen. 3rd Row: Mallory Tevis, Jenny Schnobrich, Audra Lehrke, Aislinn Edwards, Lauren Petersen, Danielle Chinander, Makenzie Bakken. Back: Sandy Wasness, Jolene John, Sonja Ellingson, Kerstin Palm, Marilyn Spiess, Anna Warnes, Natalie Timmers, Emily Tongen, Jessica Falk, Coach Skerik, Mallory Hanson, Coach Gilbert, Coach Clark Machtemes.





#### Senior Superstitions Revealed

**Q:** What are your pre-game habits or superstitions? Do they help?

**Natalie Timmers:** "I always put a clover in my shoe before I run. I began this in ninth grade. I don't really know why I began this. Clovers are usually lucky so I did it and did well, I think. Yeah, it's been of benefit — without the clover I freak out!

"Once at the starting line I didn't have it in my shoe so Machtemes threw a handful of grass in my sock. It worked cuz I assumed there was a clover in that."

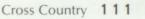
**Mark Anderson:** "An exciting game of football or ding-dong ditching (cross country style). We started this to get some adrenalin pumping. It was a tremendous benefit."



**Boys' Cross Country.** Back: Coach Wasness, Coach Gilbert, Mike Anderson, Eric Ellingson, JR Kerkhoff, Ken VanEyll, Marc Ellingson, Philip Litfin, Matt Hennen, Karl Palm, Zach Johnson, Coach Skerik, Matt Turek, Coach Machtemes. 3rd Row: Corey Erickson, John Keefe, Alex Krukowski, Evan Johnson, Ted Keefe, Erik Schultz, James Dressen, Scott Loscheider, Murphy Steiner, Nate Laulainen. 2nd Row: Mark Anderson, Andrew Bergstrand, Scott Peterson, Caleb Jetto, Aaron Chinander, Matt Jensen, Joe Dimler, Reid Larsen, Adam Schlagel. Front: Jeremy Robb, Andrew Neborak, Ben Weaver, Chase Noethe, Adam Lehrke, Brian Falk.



**Top.** Senior Marc Ellingson and sophomore Philip Litfin struggle for the lead. **Above.** Senior Aaron Chinander puts all his concentration into the race.





#### Cheerleaders Always Positive about Teams

heerleaders work harder than many people watching them might think. The first step is tryouts, a three-day process. Once on the squad, practice can be very time consuming; practices some-

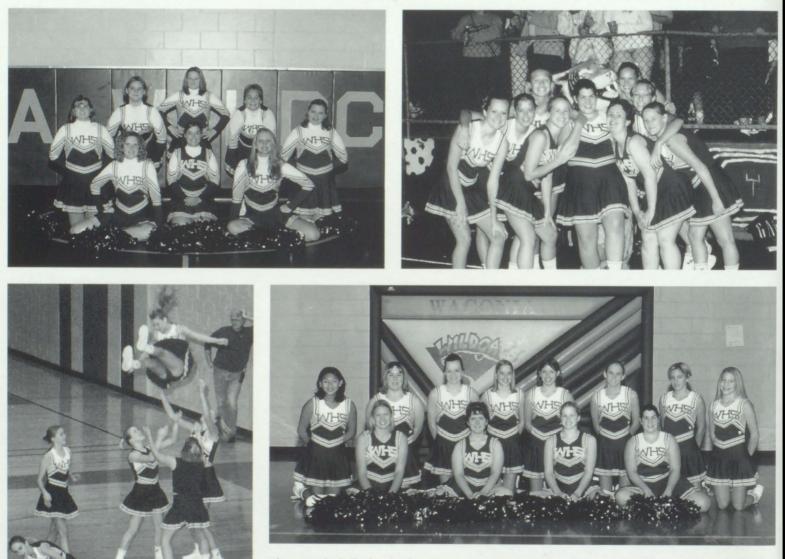
times are scheduled every day. Cheerleaders encourage the support of sports fans throughout football, volleyball, wrestling, and girls' and boys' basketball seasons. They also perform dur-

pepfest activities. Below. Wrestling Cheerleaders. Back: Kristi Wagener, Amber Morgan, Summer Sutalo, Katie Braun, Rachel Minzel. Front: Jenny Capaul, Rachel Knickerbocker, Jen Mochinski.

ing pepfests at school and help to plan

Fall Sports Cheerleaders. Front: Caitlyn Klosterman, Lacey Ahlbrecht, Leah Gjertson, Jen Mochinski, Center: Megan Haberling, Allison Fagerness, Wildcat Willie, Laura Schmidt, Summer Sutalo. Back: Bethany Jetto, Cassie Olson, Danielle Sampson, Jenny Erickson, Katie Zancig.

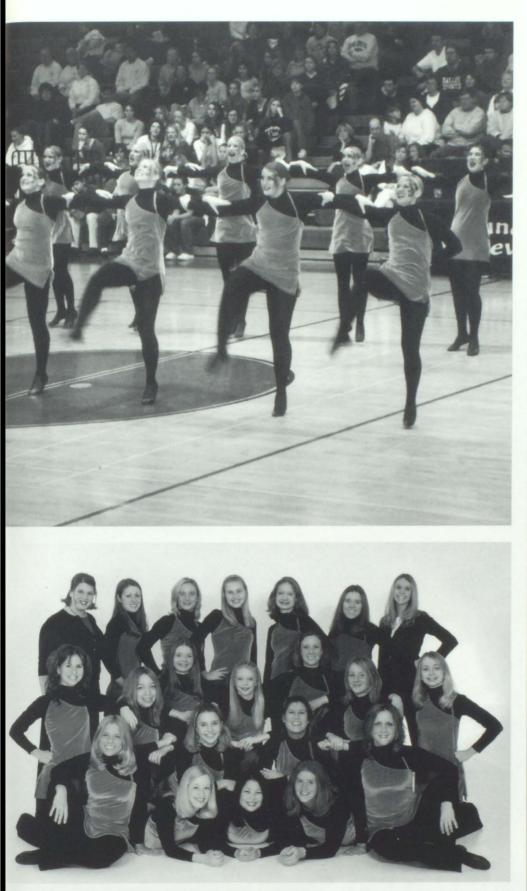




Above. Basketball Cheerleaders. Front: Katie Zancig, Allison Fagerness, Leah Gjertson, Jenny Erickson. Back: Akayla Stevens, Amanda Randt, Megan Haberling, Laura Schmidt, Sarah Meier, Cassandra Schaffer, Cassie Olson, Jena Niesen.

**Center right.** The fall sports cheerleaders get their pose on with Willie, the Wildcat. **Bottom left.** The basketball cheerleaders complete a complicated stunt.





Waconia Lakettes. Front: Charity Zabel, Jenni Schmakel, Lisa Smestad. 2nd Row: Melanie Butler, Jenny Sorensen, Julie Dalbec, Amber Krause. 3rd Row: Jaclynn Hennen, Tracy Winkler, Megan Rasmussen, Robyn Schlueter, Brooke Simonson, Sarah Feerhusen, Ellie Goenner. Back: Coach Tara Lindemeier, Makenzie Bakken, Melissa Wenzel, Carly Moore, Louise Klingelhutz, Katie Rademacher.

# WHS Dance Team Turns Heads

The WHS Lakettes had a hectic season as they qualified for state, but didn't win. During the 2000-2001 danceline season, change was something that the whole

team had to get used to. The team was directed by a new coach who brought in new dress styles, makeup styles, and most importantly, new dance styles. The team members adjusted quite easily to all this. At state competition, the team met their goal of turning heads with their new style and aggressiveness. Even though the team was rather small this year, it had strength in technique, ability, and flexibility.

Over all, it was a successful year, despite constant change and constant pressure to improve.

**Top.** The Lakettes get their dance on during a competition.

#### In the Captains' Words



Q: What was your most memorable moment from the season?

**Charity Zabel:** "Faribault competition. We competed our jazz dance, 'Drop Dead Gorgeous' in which we danced our hearts out. We were extremely happy with our performance. We knew we did our best. It was awesome."

Lisa Smestad: "When we went to the Apple Valley competition (which is a mini-state) and got fourth. We were only behind the top three teams at state last year!" Jenni Schmakel: "At JFK dance camp, we didn't know the choreography for DMX 'Up in Here' to perform with all the other dancers. We still had a lot of fun because we just made up moves of whatever we felt like doing. That was the best time I had all year!"



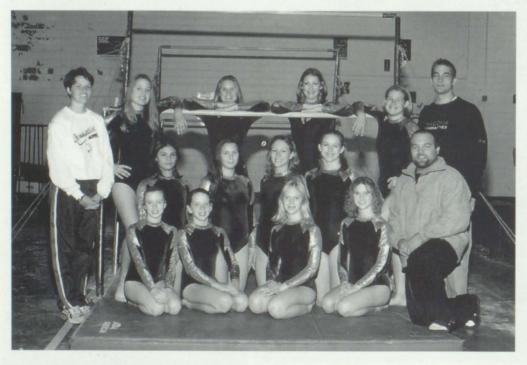
# Gymnastics Team Surpasses Goals, Sets New Record

he Waconia High School gymnastics team finished sixth in the conference with three wins and six losses. However, they broke a team score record of 120.08 by finishing with a 120.125 against STMA. Later, the team broke their own new record with a 121.65 against Dassel Cokato. Coach Jenny Trelstad was pleased with the team's progress. Finishing the 1999-2000 season with a team high score of 111.65, the team started this year's season with a 113 against Howard Lake. The team continued to improve and surpassed their team goal of 121.0775.

The young team shows potential for

the future. Coach Trelstad said, "They are on the right track toward getting the Waconia gymnastics program competing competitively with others in our conference and section."

# PERIOR CONTRACTOR OF CONTRACTO



Gymnastics Team. Front: Kelly Hoen, Maddy Sims, Kate Munson, Ali Klason. Center: Jaebo Ward, Nicole Sampson, Danielle Sampson, Bethany Jetto. Back: Anna Carrigan, Leah Gjertson, Lacey Ahlbrecht, Molly Anquist. Not pictured: Jolene John.

#### Gymnastics Season

WHS	Opponent	OPP
113	Howard	81.2
	Lake	
114.55	Watertown	127.2
115	Rockford	125.05
109	Glencoe	119.75
116.9	Annandale	127.97
119.9	Becker	113.1
120.125	STMA	137.85
114.175	Delano	136.425
121.65	Dassel	117.6



**Top.** Ali Klason, Lacey Ahlbrecht, Leah Gjertson and Jolene John bond at a meet. **Above.** Danielle Sampson focuses on her next move on the beam.







Top. Senior Leah Gjertson smiles as she performs a perfect toe-touch during her floor exercise. Above. Sophomore Molly Anquist begins an intricate move on the balance beam.



Above. Senior Lacey Ahlbrecht stays committed to trying her hardest at gymnastics.



# Girls' Basketball Team Happy with Winning Season

ith a season record of thirteen wins and ten losses, the girls' basketball team felt they had a successful season. Although they would like to have won more games, the girls loved to play the game and played hard. Their attitude toward the game was the team's biggest strength.

The team's win over Norwood Young America, in overtime and in front of the biggest crowd of the season, was undoubtedly the highlight of the season. The team also enjoyed conference wins over rivals Glencoe Silver Lake, Watertown Mayer, Dassel Cokato, Annandale, and Becker.

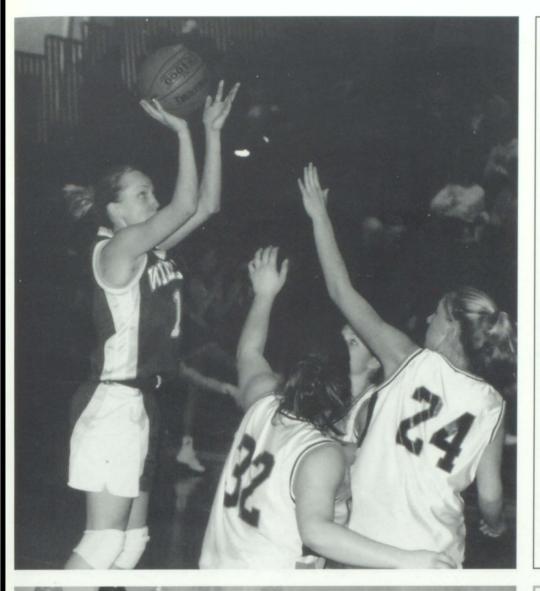
Lacy Skoog was named All-Conference, and Megan Doyscher and Holly Olson received Honorable Mention All-Conference.

Coach Doyscher described the team as "a great group of girls who enjoyed the game and were fun to coach."

"You can't win if you don't play as a unit." ~Kareem Abdul Jabbar



Varsity and J-V Girls' Basketball. Front: Megan Doyscher, Nicole Ristow. Center: Coach Lee, Natalie Ristow, Lacy Skoog, Holly Olson, Jessica Williams, Amanda Hedtke, Lisa Koehler, Coach Doyscher. Back: Laura Anderson, Jackie Olson, Cille Naerbout, Emily VanKirk, Heidi Paulson, Maggie Hilliard, Lindsey Lano, Amanda Lemke, Anna Jonas, Jen Olson.



In the Captains' Words



**Q:** What advice would you give to future generations of competitors? Megan Doyscher: "My advice would be to never stop trying to get better. Even if you're good, you could improve. Also, have fun with the game now, because it goes way too fast."

Q: What part of practice do you like or dislike the most? Why? Nicole Ristow: "I like practices when the intensity is high. Practices are best when there is a big game coming up."



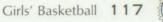
**Opposite page, far left.** Holly Olson plays tough defense. **Opposite page, center.** Lisa Koehler is on a fast breat

**Opposite page, center right.** Nicole Ristow sets up for a jump shot.

**Top.** Lacy Skoog shoots over the Dassel Cokato Chargers. **Above.** Coach Doyscher takes a timeout to talk

**Above.** Coach Doyscher takes a timeout to talk with his team in overtime.

	Varsity Season	
WHS	Opponent	OPP
54	Ellsworth, WI	33
59	Superior, WI	44
46	Mayer Lutheran	57
78	Dassel	38
57	Mound	45
40	Glencoe	47
48	Jordan	36
49	Glencoe	37
42	Delano	58
23	STMA	53
43 67	Watertown	27
37 2	Delano	44
39	Becker	46
70	Annandale	53
66	Dassel	49
55	Norwood	51
50	Glencoe	48
33	STMA	48
52	Watertown	35
44	Delano	60
53	Becker	44
77	Annandale	82
36	Mound	46





## Inexperienced Team Finishes Seventh in Conference

The Wildcats finished the season in seventh place in the conference. Even though they did not finish fifth, as they had hoped, there ware several bright spots in the season. The team beat Delano at an away game and won their first playoff game against Brooklyn Center.

The team lacked experience, which accounted in large part for their inconsistency. The team played very hard and gained valuable experience. One team member that played a major role in defeating Brooklyn Center was Chris Zakashefski. He had a big double double against BC, making 32 points and 22 rebounds.

At the end of the season, Chris Schmitz was named All-Conference, and Chris Zakashefski received Honorable Mention All-Conference. Awards given by Coach Sayles included the following: Best Free Throw Percentage — Chris Schmitz; Chairman of the Boards — Chris Zakashefski; Hustle Award — Andy Acosta; Most Improved — Jedd Braunwarth; Defensive Stopper — Chris Schmitz; and Practice Player of the Year — Alex Kranz.

"You have to expect things of yourself before you can do them." ~Michael Jordan

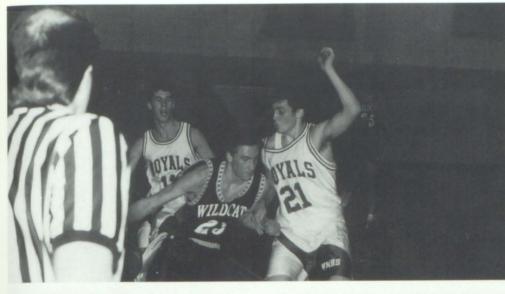




**Top.** Junior Chris Zakashefski closely guards a Watertown Royals player. **Above.** Sophomore Travis Roush goes for a wide open shot.

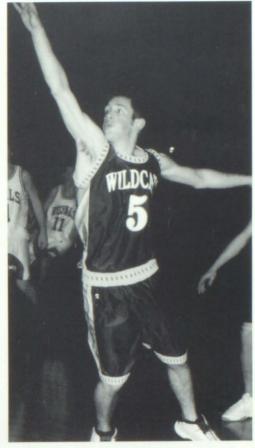


Varsity Boys' Basketball Team. Front, on floor: Nick Litfin. Front: Philip Litfin, Rod Brink, Matt Hentges, Ernie Flemig, Alex Kranz, Jeff Klein, Jedd Braunwarth. 2nd Row: Andy Acosta, Coach Konrardy, Coach Herrmann, Coach Sayles, Coach Olsen, Paul Ague. Back: Evan Johnson, Chris Rettig, Chris Zakashefski, Joe Reitsma, Travis Roush, Chris Schmitz.









**Top left.** Sophomore Jedd Braunwarth tries hard to keep the opponents back.

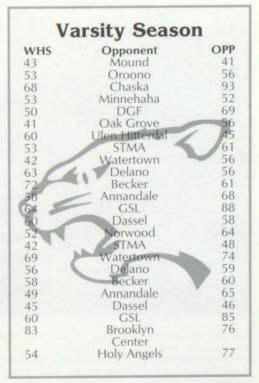
Top right. Senior Chris Schmitz goes for a block against the Royals.

**Center left.** Coach Sayles confers with his team during a timeout.

Center right. Junior Rod Brink dribbles past the opponents with ease.



J-V Boys' Basketball. Front: Nate Laulainen. Center: Philip Litfin, Evan Johnson, Michael Anderson, Matt Jensen, Jonothon McKee, Jedd Braunwarth, Dan Philp. Back: Coach Konrardy, John Keefe, Micah Young, Jeff Klein, Kory Rambow, Steve Kjergaard, Alex Krukowski, Coach Olsen.





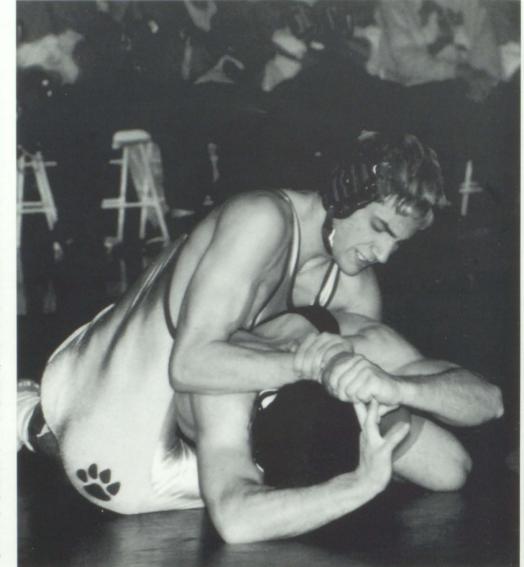
## Wildcat Wrestlers Excel Both On and Off the Mat

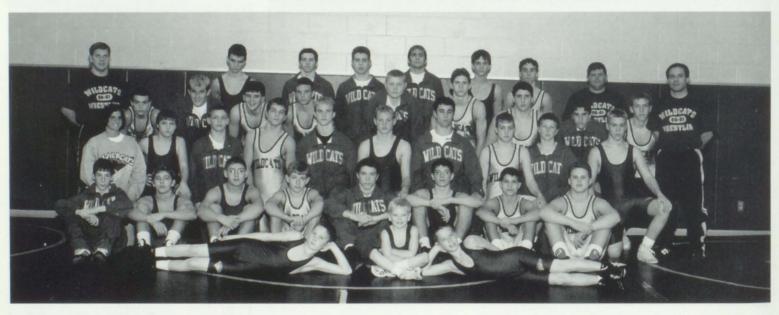
he Wildcat wrestling team experienced an outstanding season. For the third time, the team qualified for the region finals. They also set a school record for the most dual meet wins in a season (18). Not only did they excel in their sport, the team was named All-State All Academic with a 3.42 team GPA.

Four team members qualified for state individual competition — Dennis Westlund, Scott Stein, Andrew Fredericksen, and Dan Schutte. According to Coach Elsenpeter, the team was made up of thirteen above average wrestlers and plenty of depth. Although there were no superstars, every weight was well represented.

Coach Elsenpeter summarized the season, "This was without a doubt my most enjoyable wrestling season! We had a great coaching staff, super student athletes, and incredible support from everyone!"

**Right.** Senior Scott Stein applies a power half to his Delano opponent.





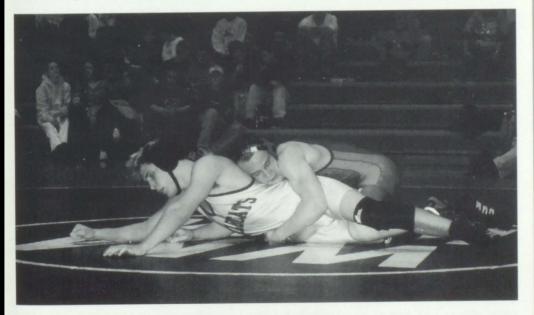
J-V and Varsity Wrestling. Front: Kevin Bullis, Matt Elsenpeter, TJ Selvey. 1st Row: Aaron Cook, Sean Stein, Andrew Ruscher, Brandon Wachholz, Dan Hoernemann, Ben Timm, David Flemig, Joe Nord. 2nd Row: Kristin Pletsch, Kyle Beilby, Jared Duske, Jonathon Priess, Dennis Westlund, Mike Hill, Mike Groschen, Phil Franklin, Chris Bullis, Dan Fosmo. 3rd Row: Eddie Laumann, Andrew Fredericksen, Matt Heger, Albert Kuehne, Dan Schuette, Greg Dierdorff, Justin Davis, Matt Turek, Matt Winter. Back: Coach Elsenpeter, Jason Beck, Josh Jetto, Aaron Sorensen, Scott Stein, Adam Schlagel, Aaron Chinander, Coach Wagener, Coach Berg.











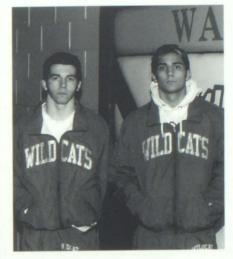
**Top.** Junior Matt Turek does a chin drop on his Delano opponent.

**Center left.** Senior Aaron Chinander attempts to turn his opponent.

Center right. Sophomore Dennis Westlund defends his Watertown-Mayer's shot.

Above. Sophomore Andrew Fredericksen looks for an escape from his Watertown opponent.

#### In the Captains' Words



Q: What part of practice did you like or dislike the most and why? Scott Stein: "The worst part of practices are when we condition. But it's kind of a necessary evil, because we need it to stay at the top of our game."

Matt Heger: "I liked the games we play in practice. I disliked cutting weight."

V	Vrestling Season	n
WHS 59 57 19 16 30 48 43 45 62 30 59 37 31 12 57 27 52 47 18 68 65	Vrestling Season Opponent Orono Lac Qui Parle St. James Dassel New London Glencoe Mound Kimball Osseo Milaca Fridley Becker Watertown Albert Lea Moorhead Hutchimson Delano Maple Lake St. Cloud Tech Washburn Cretin Benilde	OPP 5 4 31 32 27 9 22 29 32 5 22 23 47 10 38 10 15 28 3 9 3 9 3
60 58 42 10	Columbia Heights Brooklyn Center STMA	3 22 46

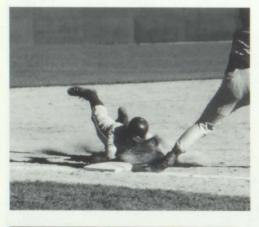
Wrestling 121



## Baseball Team Has Successful Season, Takes 2nd in WCC

or years baseball in Minnesota has been a struggling sport. But this year the WHS baseball team changed all that with a second place finish in the conference. Ending the season with a 12-6 record the team improved in more ways than just a winning record. The team competed well in the Jordan Tournament, finishing with the tournament title.

They also improved in various areas of their game. Pitching and catching were expected to do well, but a surprise came when the hitters also performed above the expected. Dan Chrest and Joe Gast were named All-Conference. Drew Gulden was selected for the Minnesota All-Metro West team, whch competes into June. Most of all the team set out to have fun and to have a successful season. By ranking second in conference and being first seed in subsections, they accomplished their goals.



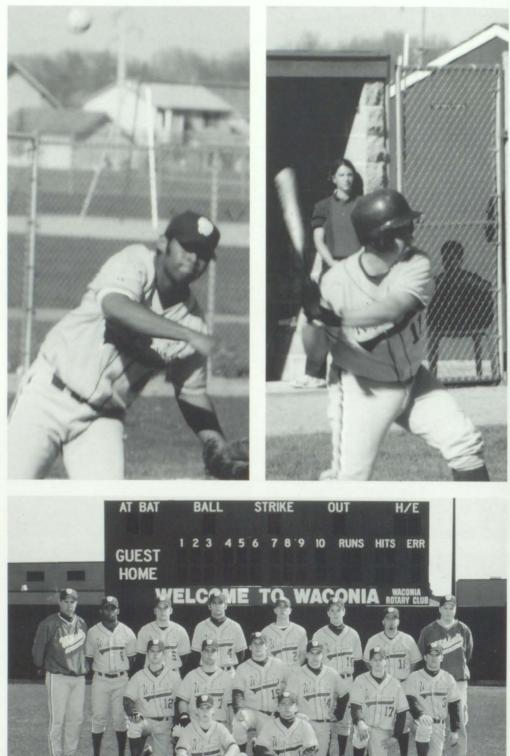


**Top left.** Senior Joe Gast throws the ball in to put the opponent out. **Top right.** Captain Andy Acosta gets ready for a big

**Center left.** The sand flies as Ernie Flemig slides in safely to third.

Above. Catcher Drew Gulden waits attentively for





Varsity Baseball. Front: David Powers, Luke Schiller. Center: Ernie Flemig, Mike Groschen, Ryan Rosin, Matt Hennen, Chuck Wagner, Alex Kranz. Back: Coach Grundhofer, Joe Gast, Dan Chrest, Scott Stein, Drew Gulden, Karl Kranz, Andy Acosta, David Wabbe.







What was the team's biggest accomplishment this season? Andy Acosta: "We overcame the loss of seniors to become a better team." What were the goals of the team? Were they met?

Andy: "To win the Jordan Tournament. Yes, we did."

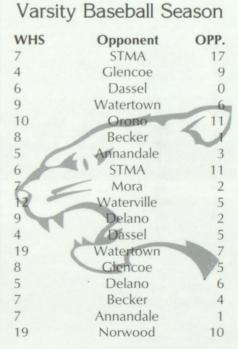
Will you continue playing baseball in college?

Andy: "I'm gonna try."



J-V Baseball. Front: Mike Anquist, Matt Heger, Nate Koch, Scott Loscheider, Adam Hastings, Buddy Reimer, Ben Smothers. Back: David Gongoll, Andrew Fredericksen, Jono McKee, Ryan Engelen, Blake Schulz, Justin Davis, Cory Tellers.

Left. Junior Ernie Flemig stretches for a sliding catch.





# Outstanding Softball Season Ends Too Quickly

aconia softball had an outstanding season, holding the 2A #1 ranking in the state and winning the Wright County Conference for the second year in a row. The team finished with a 17-2 record. According to Coach Elsenpeter, the seniors really stayed focused and met the challenge head on. The team played su-

per defense by holding their opponent's scores to no higher than four runs all season.

However, the team was disappointed with their subsection loss to Delano, which ended their hopes for advancing in competion.

Elsenpeter said, "The girls were athletic, smart, united and classy. This year's team is the best softball team to ever represent Waconia High School."

Below left. Junior Lisa Koehler winds up for a powerful pitch.

**Below.** Senior Jessi Williams gets the batter out. **Center left.** Senior Holly Olson swings the bat with authority.

**Bottom left.** Catcher Kristin Pletsch is in the zone waiting for the pitch.











Varsity Softball. Front: Jaebo Ward, Amber Krause, Alicia Ertl, Tanya Clemensen, Tina Pogatchnik, Lisa Koehler, Natalie Ristow. Back: Coach Goldschmidt, Kristin Pletsch, Nicole Ristow, Emily Tongen, Maren Delaney, Jessi Williams, Holly Olson, Audra Lehrke, Coach Elsenpeter.







J-V Softball. Front: Carly Brown, Lucy Gunness, Christine Nelson, Emily Sims, Anna Jonas, Amanda Lemke, Jackie Olson. Back: Stephanie Roepke, Jamie Ta, JaeBo Ward, Tina Pogatchnik, Tanya Clemensen, Alaina Caviness, Cassie DeBoer, Coach Goldschmidt.



Above. Senior Softball Players. Front: Emily Tongen, Holly Olson, Nicole Ristow. Center: Maren Delaney, Jessi Williams. Back: Kelli Pletsch, Audra Lehrke, Kristin Pletsch. Left. Senior Maren Delaney slides safely into home base.

Vars	ity Softball Sea	ason
WHS	Opponent	Opp.
9	Rockford	0
6	STMA	0
5	Glencoe	1
10	Dassel	0
3	Watertown	/ 1/
0	Princeton	1
6	Minnehaha Acad.	0
4	Meadow Creek	0
8 3	Becker	2
8	Annandale	2
10	STMA	0
4	Delano	0
9	Delano	0
15	Dassel	2
5	Norwood	1
3	Glencoe	4
11	Watertown	0
4	Annandale	0
3	Becker	0



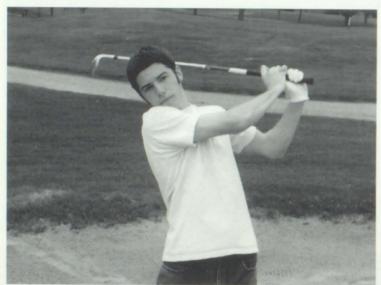
# Girls Win Sections, Head to State; Boys' Team Wins Sub-Sections

oth the girls' and boys' golf teams had successful seasons this year. The girls won the section championship, as well as the subsection championship. Brittany Willborg was the medalist at sections, finishing with the best score. The entire girls' varsity team headed to state competition. The boys won subsections, and one individual,

Dillon Sletten, advanced to state.

Inclement weather led to many postponed practices and meets, putting more pressure on the golfers. Boys' golf coach Doug Sayles indicated that the guys were always ready to play in any weather. The highlight for his team was going into third place past Glencoe/Silver Lake by beating them by 22 strokes at the last match. He was also proud of his team for being the Section 4A Academic All State team.

Below. Senior golfer Josh Jetto watches his ball soar toward the green after a big hit.





Boys' Varsity Golf Team. Front: Matt Priess, Josh Jetto. Back: Coach Sayles, Dillon Sletten, Caleb Jetto, Murphy Steiner, Matt Jensen.

Below. Senior Matt Priess chips his ball out of the sand.





Boys' J-V Golf Team. Front: Blake Willborg, Jeremy Robb, Damon Laukala, James Dammann. Back: Coach Skerik, Patrick Ross, David Carrier, Steve Kjergaard, Joey Pogatchnik, Corey Erickson, Reid Larsen.







Far left. Senior Megan Doyscher takes a whack at her ball in the sand trap. Left. Emily VanKirk checks out her putting surface. Below. Brittany Willborg takes a swing at the ball.





Girls' Varsity Golf. Front: Kate Solheim, Jenny VanKirk, Jackie Jensen. Back: Brittany Willborg, Laura Swift, Emily VanKirk, Megan Doyscher.



Girls' J-V Golf. Front: Johanna Lee, Val Zakashefski, Tess Surat. Back: Megan VanEyll, Cortney Dammann, Lindsay Fischbach, Cassie Williams, Claire Salveson.



## Three New School Records Set in Winning Season

hree school records fell this season as the boys 4 x 800 relay team (Phil Litfin, Alex Krukowski, Marc Ellingson, Eric Ellingson), Eric Ellingson in the 1600m run, and Meghan Menssen in the shot put set new school records. Fourteen boys and twelve girls advanced to the section finals, and both teams took second place in sub-sections. Five students advanced to state competition — Matt Hentges, Justin Reitsma, Evan Johnson, Ryan Ortberg in the 800 meter relay and Lacey Ahlbrecht in the triple jump.

The girls surpassed a number of their team goals and individual goals they had set, plus they never placed lower than third in a meet. The boys' team members met their individual goals, and a number of athletes ended the season with personal best performances.

Senior Natalie Timmers left the program with seven letter winning seasons, including several state competitions. Her leadership and skills will be hard to replace, according to Coach Manuel. Other graduates who contributed their skills and time to building the program include Lacey Ahlbrecht, Leah Gjertson, and Ken VanEyll.

"We survived possibly the worst training season (weather related) that I've seen in my 22 years of coaching. Yet the athletes managed to end with personal best performances!" Coach Manuel summarized the season.



Top left. Senior Lacey Ahlbrecht performs her best in sprinting.

Top right. Brad VanEyll takes a flying leap into the pit.

Center left. Senior Leah Gjertson puts all her energy in the long jump.

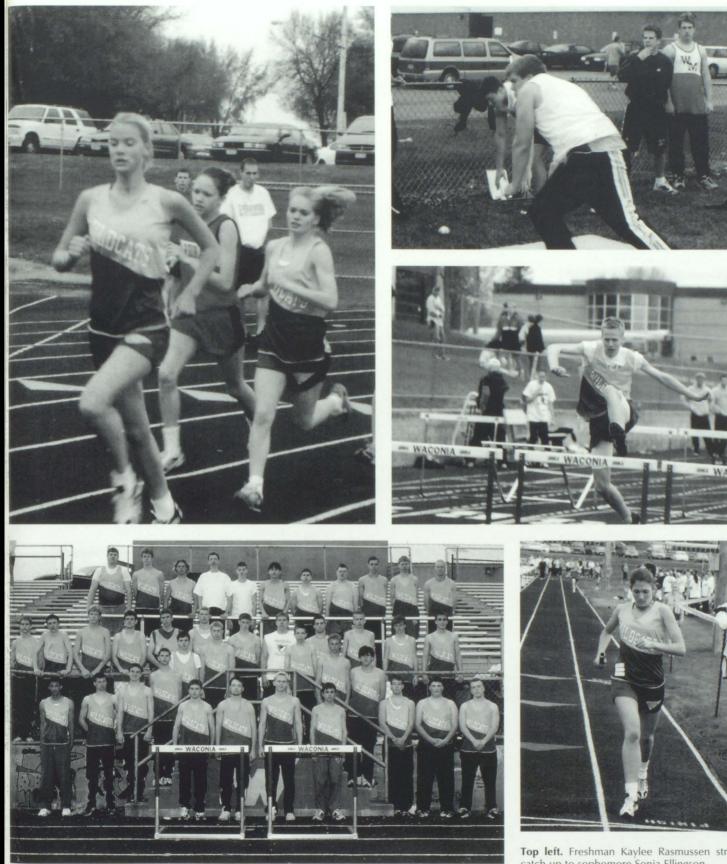
**Center right.** Ryan Ortberg grasps the baton from Justin Reitsma in the 800m relay.

Above. Eric Ellingson, Marc Ellingson and Phil Litfin represent the Wildcat team in the grueling race.



Girls' Track. Front: Megan Bailey, Mallory Hanson, Paula Hilgers, Jen Brandenburg, Kate Stuewe, Kaylee Rasmussen, Jennifer Bostic, Louise Klingelhutz. Center: Krista Anderson, Andrea Dalen, Bethany Jetto, Rachel Johnson, Aislinn Edwards, Cille Naerbout, Molly Lenzen, Jenna Ely, Meghan Menssen, Danielle Chinander, Dayna Sudheimer, Brittany Bammert, Mallory Tevis. Back: Kerstin Palm, Natalie Timmers, Jolene John, Heidi Paulson, Sonja Ellingson, Brooke Simonson, Leah Gjertson, Jennifer Sorensen, Lacey Ahlbrecht, Emily Cousin.





Boys' Track. Front: Mathias Weinzierl, Eric Janzen, Chris Rueben, Andy Neborak. 2nd Row: Micah Young, Chris Rettig, Phil Litfin, Alex Krukowski, Chris Hendren, Matt Hentges, Brad VanEyll, Justin Reitsma, Josh Wagner, Zach Johnson, Steve Kjergaard, Dylan Schesso. 3rd Row: Adam Schlagel, Jeff Foust, Marc Ellingson, Lucas Meyer, Nick Gee, Chris Zakashefski, Ryan Ortberg, Mike Hilliard, Evan Johnson, Kory Rambow, John Keefe, Dan Philp. Back: John Ansell, Eric Ellingson, Graham Irving, Karl Palm, Charlie Skogstad, Chris Newman, James Dressen, Dan Wallace, Ken VanEyll, Mitch Lahr, JR Kerkhoff.

Top left. Freshman Kaylee Rasmussen strives to catch up to sophomore Sonja Ellingson.

Top right. Senior Mike Hilliard winds up for the shot put.

Center right. Sophomore Kory Rambow leaps over the hurdles in a mad dash for the finish line.

Above. Senior Natalie Timmers crosses the finish line with ease.



# Swim Team Completes Third Undefeated Season

or the third season in a row, the Watertown-Mayer/Delano/Waconia swim team had an undefeated season. In Sections, Jessi Williams qualified in three events: 200 medley relay, 50 freestyle, and 100 breaststroke. Chrissi Nelson qualified in the 100 freestyle and Leah Moore qualified in the 100 breaststroke. Jessi Williams received the coaches' All Conference At Large Award, All Conference Honorable Mention for the 100 breaststroke, the Conference Athlete-Scholar award. She also placed first in the 200 medley relay, 5th in the 200 individual medley, 3rd in the 100 breaststroke, and 1st in the 200 free relay. Chrissi Nelson took 3rd in the 400 free relay, 6th in the 100 freestyle, 7th in the 50 freestyle, and 4th in the 200 freestyle relay.



Above. Senior Jessi Williams practices her award-winning strokes. Top right. Jessi Williams and Chrissi Nelson demonstrate the power of their moves.

#### **Swim Team Season Results**

Opponent	WHS Results
Hutchinson Invit.	2nd of 8 teams
St. Cloud Apollo Relay Meet	2nd of 6 teams
Dassel-Cokato	Win
Becker	Win
Holdingford	Win
Buffalo	Win
Big Lake	Win
Shakopee	Win
Watertown-Mayer Invitational	1st of 4 teams
Dassel Cokato	Win
Becker	Win
Montevideo Invitational	2nd of 6 teams
Holdingford	Win
Big Lake	Win
Duluth East Invitational	5th of 11 teams
Wright Central Swimming and	1st of 5 teams
Diving Championship	
Section 2AA at Hutchinson	3rd of 8 teams





Swim Team. Back: Amy Asbjornson, Jessica Williams, Suzanne Harvat. Front: Martha Saunders, Christine Nelson, Jenna Taylor.



# Mock Crash Held; Mr. Arman Named Teacher of Year



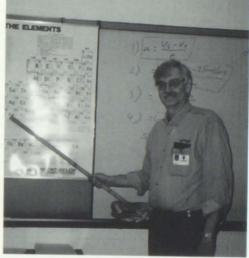
fter an unforgettable winter, spring is bound to hold something new and exciting. Along with the unstable weather,

many memorable events took place this year at WHS. This spring brought the introduction of a "Mock Crash," which had been cancelled in previous school years. The new middle school opened along with Safari Island Community Center, which is home to Waconia's first community pool. Mr. Arman also received high honors as District 110's Teacher of the Year. And a new tutoring group called America Reads came into existence.

Left. Senior Eva Mohn is in anguish as she realizes the effects of her drunk driving during the "Mock Crash," enacted in May. Center left. The crowd looks on as a fireman and

Center left. The crowd looks on as a fireman and paramedics rush to aid the victims of the "Mock Crash."







**Above.** Two new pools open in Safari Island, the city's new community center. **Center right.** Science teacher Darrell Arman is named this year's Teacher of the Year for District 110.



America Reads Tutors. Back: Coordinator Jen Schmidt, Lisa Gedden, Jenna Ely, Tegan Lingbeck, Johanna Lee, Kate Stuewe. Center: Anna Willems, Kerstin Palm, Anna Corson, Lindsay Fischbach, AmeKristin Meyer. Front: Miriam Schwochow, Mallory Hanson.



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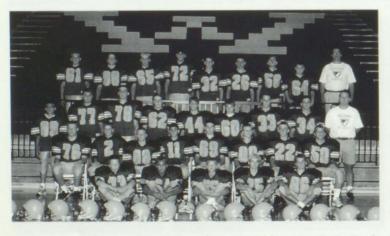
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Freshman Volleyball. On floor: Cassie Williams, Jen Brandenburg. Front: Nadine Ristow, Jaci Hennen, Sara Koch, Andrea Dalen, Jen Bostic. Center: Coach Longstreet, Cortney Bongard, Sammie Hoff. Back: Courtney Buesgens, Amanda Randt, Brittany Bammert, Ali Klason, Amanda Clemensen.

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Freshman Girls' Basketball. On floor: Cassie Williams. Front: Megan VanEyll, Andrea Dalen, Nadine Ristow, Kaylee Rasmussen, Tegan Lingbeck, Megan Bailey. Back: Courtney Buesgens, Kate Stuewe, Jen Brandenburg, Sammie Hoff, Jen Bostic, Mallory Tevis, Coach Kuerschner.



Freshman Boys' Basketball. On floor: Corey Erickson. Front: Jeremy Robb, Andy Bongard, Brady Brink, Ben Smothers, Mathias Weinzierl, Patrick Timmers, Jim Berg. Back: Coach Grack, Brant Douville, Dillon Sletten, Ross Weinzierl, Andy Meeks, Justin Reitsma, David Deering.



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Freshman Baseball. Front: Kevin Krautbauer, Andy Bongard, Ethan Ebert, Matt Parris, Ben Wagner, Chris Bullis.Back: Jim Berg, Dennis Gieser, Patrick Timmers, Adam Lehrke, Brant Douville, Jeff Chrest, Reilly Schoo, Jacob Lesher.



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L ongtime secretary Suzie Melichar retired at the beginning of the 2000-2001 school year. As the high school principal's secretary for 34 years, first for Brook Peterson and then for Bob Lind, Suzie was a constant in the office for so many years that everyone who had a question assumed she knew the answer. She usually did, or she managed to find an answer!

## Three WHS Teachers Retire at the End of 2001



**R** etiring from WHS after 31 years is **Darrell Arman**, chemistry and physical science teacher. During his years at WHS, he advised the student council and NHS.

Mr. Arman will not miss the paper work (lesson plans, correcting, and grading) that goes with the job, but he will miss the people — teachers, cooks, custodians, aides, secretaries, administrators, and KIDS.

In his retirement, he hopes to travel, finish his "Honey do" list, and maybe sub, but only in his field! Although his memories of WHS could fill a book, being named Teacher of the Year for 2001 is his most recent. "Teacher of the year is an honor given to one teacher but is due to the efforts of **everyone** in the school. Thanks to all of you for helping me achieve this honor and to the students for putting up with me."



W ayne Mortensen began at WHS in 1970, and played a number of roles over the years. He began as an English teacher, served as the first Community Ed director, and then became Activities Director fifteen years ago. Other roles included head football coach and assistant track coach.

He's looking forward to not having bells regulate his day, but he will miss the wonderful interaction he's had with kids, staff, and parents. He'll miss the fun of seeing real learning taking place.

During his retirement, he plans to take a deep breath and enjoy his farm for awhile. He summarizes his memories of WHS, "I have been blessed with great students and staff to work with over the years; they are my memories."



L ibrary media specialist **Barbara Danger** began at WHS in 1981, and advised the yearbook staff for twenty years.

She will not miss getting up at 5 a.m., meeting yearbook deadlines, and inventorying the library. She will definitely miss her colleagues, many of whom are close friends, and of course, the students. She'll miss seeing students grow from awkward seventh graders into mature seniors ready to go on to college. She will also miss the satisfaction of seeing the finished yearbook at the end of each summer.

After 34 years of teaching and working as a media specialist, she plans to sleep in, organize her house, and travel during the off-peak seasons. And this librarian has a huge pile of unread books that she will now have time to enjoy.

#### Editor's Notes

would like to thank, of course, everyone who helped with the production of this book. Especially Ms. Danger for putting up with, probably, the most unorganized editor ever. Also, thanks to the staff for their committed work and to anyone who shot or contributed to pictures in the book

"A Wildcat Odyssey" was chosen as the theme because it represents something we all go through. An odyssey is defined as a journey, and high school is just that, a journey.

Thank you again to everyone who contributed to the book and also to you, for purchasing it. The goal of this book is to capture the moments that we lived through during the 2000-2001 school year. I hope that as you go through it, you find that it has done just that. Thanks again.

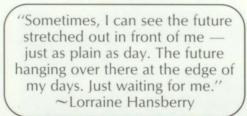
Matt Anderson



#### Adviser's Farewell

ince this is the last yearbook will be advising for Waconia High School, I wanted a chance to thank everyone who helped make these twenty books possible. Photographer Mark Torborg took wonderful photos for the past twenty years, and Lee Huls photographed our teams and other groups. Anne Mueller from Taylor Publishing was a great help. The editors, too many to name, each contributed a bit of themselves to the books. I want to thank them for their hard work, creativity, patience, and tenacity. I will remember with fondness those editors and all staff members who worked on the yearbooks over the years.

Barbara Danger



Editor Matt Anderson and classmate Aaron Petersen complete their Wildcat odyssev and

look forward to the future.

#### Prices in 2001

Gas \$1.84/gallon
College \$10,000 to 30,000/year
Books for college \$200 —
500/semester
Prom \$250 — 375
Fast food meal \$3.00 - 5.00
Jeans \$50 — 60
Shirt \$25 — 50
Shoes \$60 — 100
Used car \$3,000 — 5,000
New car \$10,000 — 30,000
Family vacation . \$2,000 — 7,000
Movies \$4.50 — 6.50
Extracurricular fees \$35 - 300
(MarchingBand)
Waconia Patriot
CD\$1 (CD-R) — \$15
Computer \$1,000 — 3,000

#### YEARBOOK STAFF

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EDITOR'S HELPER . AARON PETERSEN
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BECKY MIESELER
Adviser Barbara Danger
PHOTOGRAPHERS MARK TORBORG
LEE HULS

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Wildcat Odyssey was the theme picked by editor Matt Anderson for the first edition of Pawprints in the new millennium. The book was published by Taylor Publishing Company of Dallas, Texas. Designed on UltraVision software, the 136-page book was printed on 80. lb. enamel paper, smyth sew, with a green Starlight-grained blind embossed cover with Mylar-top brass foil stamping. The endsheets were tan parchment, printed with bamboo beige ink. The page size of the book was 8 1/2" x 11". Body copy was 10 point Athena, and captions were 8 point Athena. The main headline style was Rinna, with special sections using Copperplate Gothic Bold. There were 410 books sold at \$42.00 each. The Taylor sales representative was Anne

Mueller, and the yearbook adviser

was Barbara Danger.



