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Enrollment: 926 students

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No matter what we do in school, we leave our

fingerprints.

Whether it be on the game-winning football, the drinking fountain outside of class, or the dials on our lockers, we have all left them somewhere and that is what the high school experience is all about.

We all have a **DIFFERENT** story to tell here at Waconia High School,
but

every one of us has
ONE Thing

in common

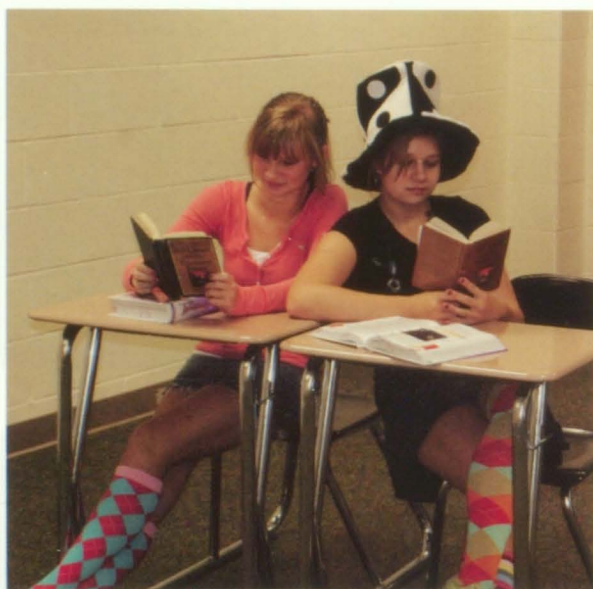
we have all left our fingerprints somewhere.



Right: Freshman Grady Holpberg, sophomore Tyler Stauffer, junior Nick Allen, and senior Sarah Porter scarfed down hot dogs in the first annual hot dog eating contest. Porter and Stauffer were neck and neck throughout the contest, but Allen ended up taking the "Fastest Hot Dog Eater" title, winning the event.

Below Right: Seniors got pumped up at the pepfest. "It was nice to be separated by grades because seniors made it clear that we had the most school spirit!" said senior Jenna Christopherson.

Below Left: Sophomores Kate Tusha and Katie Heenie expressed their homecoming spirit by wearing wacky socks and hats. Tusha explained that she thought it was great seeing all the different socks and hats students had.

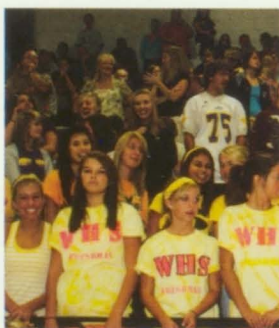


Monday
PJ Day
Pep Fest

Tuesday
Flannel/Plaid Day

Wednesday
Wacky Socks & Hat Day
Service Night

Right: Freshman, sophomores, juniors and seniors all dressed up in their class colors during the week of homecoming. "Even though it was pajama day, everyone wore their class color, and it was really cool to see the whole school come together in trying to bring back our class color day," said senior Amy Krautbauer.



Homecoming

Rebelling Against New Tradition

2008

"Seniors- black, Juniors- white, Sophomores- purple, and Freshman- yellow! Wear your class color tomorrow and bring back class color day!"

This was the text message forwarded to students in every grade on Sunday, Sept. 22, 2008, the night before Homecoming week kicked off.

This year there were supposed to be new traditions added to the week, or so the Student Council had hoped. Instead of going along with the new traditions and the schedule that was designed for the 2008 Homecoming week, students started scheming up their own plans.

Student Council member Kyle Wall expressed his view on how he felt about the rebellion against him and his fellow council

members' plans.

"I got at least four texts saying I should wear black, but I still wore white pajamas," Wall said. "Students will always want to have a say because they are rebellious, and there is nothing the Student Council can do about that."

Posters were put up on Friday, Sept. 20, informing the students of the new traditions. Pajama day was first on the agenda for Monday, but the chain texts were forwarded to students in every grade warning them not to mess with traditions and to show up in their class colors.

"I got at least ten texts saying I should wear black and that students were trying to get class color day back," said senior Caty Giesen.

By Monday, Sept. 23, most of

the students in the school were informed to rebel against pajama day and show up wearing class colors.

After being interviewed on Friday, before any rebellious actions took place, Principal Mark Fredericksen made it clear that he had faith that students would not act up too much.

"I am mostly concerned for things I cannot control outside of school," said Fredericksen. "I am excited to see the students enjoy the week and have as much safe fun as possible."

Students in their various colors flooded the school. Teachers were on guard all day watching for any mischievous actions. Fredericksen said he understood why students would want to rebel but remained adamant on keeping it out of

the school for the safety of the students.

"In the past, class color day lead to bad behavior, though it started out as fun," said Fredericksen.

The decision to cancel class color day may have stemmed from last year's Spirit Week when many juniors and seniors participated in class color antics.

"I remember last year grabbing a hand full of white paint and smearing it all over a senior, and, in return, I got covered in black paint," said senior Jenna Christopherson.

The innocent paint war turned into the vandalism of school property and students' personal belongings.

This year, most students stayed clean and proved to the staff that they could behave and act

responsibly.

Administrative Assistant Monica Vierling-Hall explained her outlook on the whole day.

"Students behaved themselves, but due to the actions of the others, I doubt class color day will come back next year," she said.

It will remain a mystery until next year's Homecoming week as to whether or not the tradition will come back.

Senior Kelsey Hoen participated in every activity during Homecoming week, including the rebellious class color day, and reflected on the weeks events.

"It was a great last Homecoming week for us seniors. It was cool that we were all able to keep the tradition around for our last year of high school," said Hoen.

Thursday

Super Hero Day

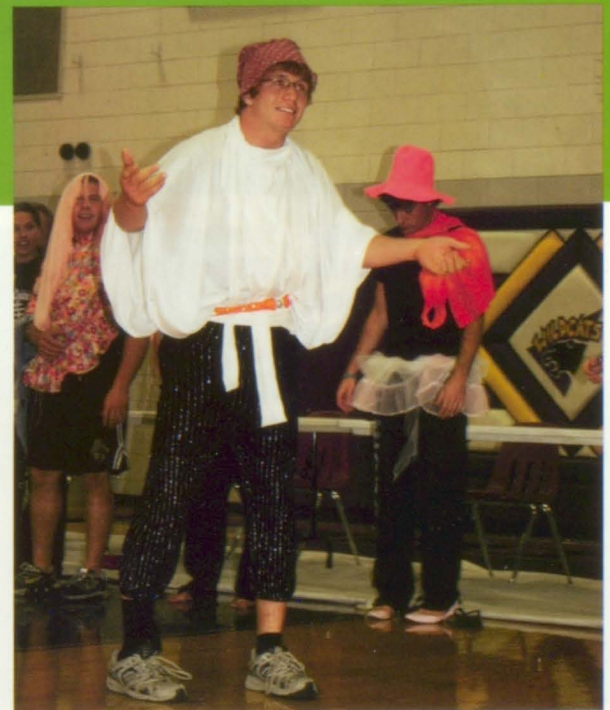
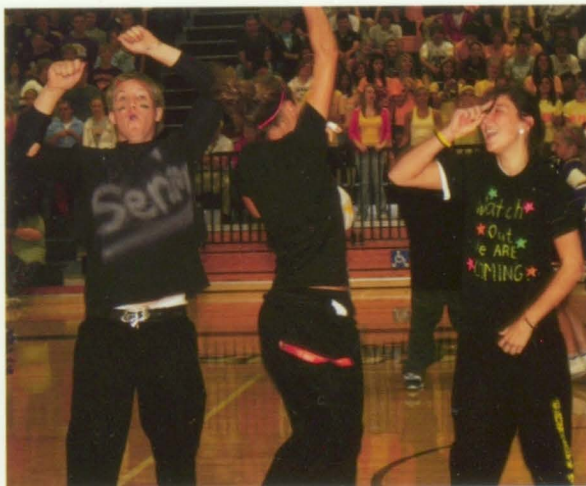
Friday

Spirit Day

Coronation

Right: Seniors Dakota Hart, Amanda Iverson, and Caty Geisen help out the cheerleaders with the "Truckin'" during the pep fest.

Far Right: Senior Brian Broll shows off his attempt at dressing up as a girl to his fellow classmates. The entire Homecoming court participated in this challenge during the pep fest held on Monday. The challenge winners, Kyle Wall and Hallie Miller, were rewarded with gift certificates and continuous crowd applause.



A Royal Affair

Braunhausen, Wall reign over Wild week

As the wild 2008 Homecoming week came to an end, the entire student body crammed into the gym and waited for its new Homecoming king and queen to be crowned.

"I was so nervous about tripping over my dress and falling in front of the whole school," said queen candidate Hallie Miller. As the crowd watched, their fellow classmates walked across the floor and waited.

"I was so hot in my tux and I just wanted to get going," king candidate Jared Pawelk said.

The afternoon began with the pages and escorts leading the way, followed by the king and queen candidates. First, the queen candidates gathered on the stage, and each was handed a

small toy. The candidate holding the toy that lit up was to be crowned. Once the button was pushed, Morgan Braunshausen's toy lit up. The whole gym exploded with cheers, and Braunshausen was presented with the crown by 2007 Homecoming King Ethan Gutzmann-Williams.

"I was so surprised that I won because all the girls were so great, and everyone deserved to win," said Braunshausen.

Next, were the king candidates. The candidates were each handed a box that contained balloons.

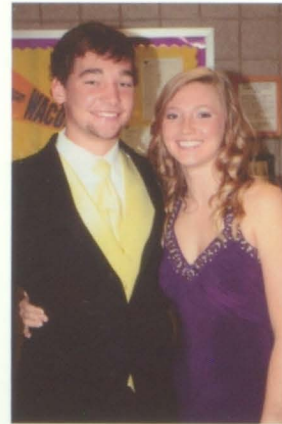
"The balloon idea was a surprise because I had my box opened first and there was a balloon in it, only mine didn't float," said candidate Chris Leivermann.

As Kyle Wall ripped his box

open, the balloons burst into the air, and he was crowned king. Wall said that he was really surprised when he won because the balloons in his box didn't start floating right away.

As Braunshausen and Wall made their first royal appearance together, the two walked the Homecoming court and that night, they were presented to the crowd at the football game along with the rest of the Homecoming court.

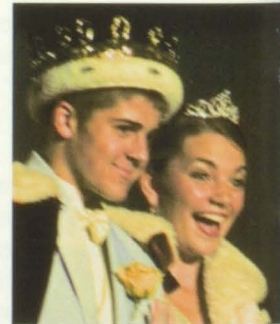
"This was a great experience, and I am going to take on the responsibility of being a positive role model as the Homecoming king," said Wall.



Above Left: Junior page Jessica Rice and escort Jake Braunshausen pose together at the Clearwater Pep Fest. Above: Sophomore page Annmarie Powers and escort Nick Hennen pose prior to their grand entrance during Coronation.

Left: Freshmen page and escort Maria Spurbeck and Drew Neubauer stand together before they walk the floor.

Right: front row: Queen Morgan Braunshausen and King Kyle Wall. Back Row: Maddie Brown, Emily Willems, Margo Schwartz, Jessica Hunter, Hallie Miller, Gavin Woodland, Chris Leivermann, Brian Broll, Jared Pawelk, and Jeremy Reichenberger.



Above: Queen Morgan Braunshausen and King Kyle Wall flash a smile to the crowd after they were crowned 2008 royalty.

Running Wild

Running game, defense ruin Royals



Legendary Chicago Bears Head Coach Paul Bryant Jr. once said, "Defense wins championships."

Defense might not have won a championship game for the varsity football team on Homecoming night, but it did ensure a 20-7 victory over the Watertown-Mayer Royals.

Allowing the Royals only one touchdown, an 82-yards kickoff return by Royals running back Jacob Wilson in the fourth quarter, the Wildcats dominated the defensive side of the ball.

The game began in a defensive stalemate, with both defenses forcing three-and-outs on the first drives of the game. Neither team scored in the first quarter as both teams seemed evenly matched.

Before halftime, senior running

back Chris Leivermann scored a one-yard touchdown, capped by an extra point by senior Nick Ramm, putting the Cats on top 7-0 at halftime.

"We came out with the mindset that we would dominate this game. When Watertown played with us for the first half, we got worried," said senior linebacker Derik Noeldner.

The third quarter was much like the first, a defensive struggle, ending with the score still 7-0.

The fourth quarter began with a 70-yard drive by the Wildcats capped by a one-yard touchdown run by Leivermann.

"After that touchdown, it felt as though the offense would just take off," said Leivermann.

After the touchdown, the Royals

launched a come back returning a kickoff 82-yards for a touchdown. The score was now 13-7, late in the fourth quarter.

The Wildcats had a slim lead over the Royals, and it looked as if this lead might diminish more, until Royals quarterback Josh Hoeft, threw an interception from his own nine-yard line to senior cornerback Chris Leivermann, returned 19-yards for a touchdown. This score put the Cats on top 20-7, and that's how the game ended.

"We knew that Watertown was a formidable opponent and wasn't going to back down at all," said Noeldner. "We had to come together as a team, and when teams play as one, they win, and that's what tonight was, a real team win."

Friday 9/26
7:30 P.M.

Kickoff

Almost
Halftime

Touchdown run by
Chris Leivermann

3rd Quarter

74 yard punt by Cody Swier,
one of the longest in school history

4th Quarter

Touchdown run
by Leivermann

End of Game

Wildcats win,
20 - 7



Top left: Senior kicker Nick Ramm prepares for a kickoff during the second quarter of the Homecoming game. Ramm had 42 kickoffs for a total of 1760 yards this season. Ramm's longest kickoff of the season was 60 yards.

Left: Watertown-Mayer Quarterback Josh Hoeft is sacked by Wildcat defensive end Anton Lieb. The Wildcats' defense recorded ten sacks during the game. The game was a defensive battle with the Wildcats leading 7-0 until the beginning of the fourth quarter.

Below: Waconia running back Chris Leivermann returns a punt in the second quarter. Leivermann returned two punts for 13 yards.







STUDENTS



SENIORS

"No big deal, we'll see ya down there." -Maddie Brown "To fall is not to fail; you fail when you don't try." -Margo Schwartz
"Life isn't about waiting for a storm to pass, it's about learning to dance in the rain." -Sarah Northrup
"AND ME WAS THERE TOO." -GATTLIN MILLER **"A dream is a wish your heart makes."** -Jackie Surat
 "Impossible is nothing." -Amanda Sinnen **"All men share one trait in common, the ability to listen."** -Ariel McCullum
 "Dance like no one is watching, love like you'll never be hurt, sing like no one is listening, and live like it's heaven on earth." (William Purkey) -Kyla Thorson & Anna Gesinger
 "The harder you work, the luckier you get." -Emily Cook **"Live everyday like it's your last."** -Alex Hathaway
 "Hey! Hey!" -Preston Lalich **"DON'T LIVE DOWN TO EXPECTATIONS, GO OUT THERE AND DO SOMETHING REMARKABLE."** -KYRA DAUGHERTY
"If you were perfect all the time, you would have nothing to work and try harder to achieve, give everything your best." -Christina Rupp
 "That's what she said." -Chris Leivertmann **"I can tell widow said, as he gently brushed back her hair."** -Kelsey Hoen
"Never give up on your dreams, fight for what you believe in, and never have regrets." -Jessica Hunter
"Life is short, STUNT IT!" -Kevin Olesen **"If at first you don't succeed, destroy all evidence proving you tried."** -Will Sievers
 "Don't frown, you never know who might be falling in love with your smile." -Elissa Selleck **"I'm kool"** -Tami Reinke
"You need a variety of colors in your crayon box." -Amanda Quiring **"IS THIS A JOKE?"** -JESSICA MCGINN
"Otay!" -Brittney Ellis **"To get what you have never had, you must do what you have never done."** -Jared Pawelk
"Would I rather be feared or loved? Easy. I want people to fear how much they love me." -Cassie Faust
 "You're never given something you can't handle." -Emily Storms **"All you need is love."** (John Lennon) -Jenna Mossberg
"YOU MUST BE THE CHANGE YOU WISH TO SEE IN THE WORLD." -JEREMY REICHENBERGER **"Crank that Batman!"** -Amanda Grindahl
"Don't take life seriously, you never get out alive anyway." -Shane Ewalt & Dakota Hart **"Whhhat?"** -Tyler Stevenson
 "Find your passion and make it happen. Be on a mission and live your life on purpose. Be motivated by your desire to achieve rather than your fear or failure." -Mercedes Tolzmann
"We're only teenage girls!" -Meryl Pogatchnik **"So you're saying there's a chance?"** -Steph Cluff
"Live life to the fullest." -Austin Johnson **"Don't bunt, aim out of the ball park."** -Amanda Iverson
 "A friend shares her umbrella when it's raining, but a best friend takes the umbrella and says, 'run, loser, run!'" -Cathy Gieseler
"Music is a safe kind of high." [Jimi Hendrix] -Caleb Talbert **"It's a pace, not a race."** -Becky Lund
"It's a leap year." -Nathan Kelzer **"A day without laughter is a day wasted."** -Lucy Tonger
 "All who wander are not lost." (JRR Tolkien) -Hannah Kimyon **"Be a Fruit Loop in a Cheerio world"** -Emily Halvorsen
"We keep moving forward, opening new doors and doing new things, because we are curious and curiosity keeps leading us down new paths." (Walt Disney) -Christian Pierce
"I wouldn't miss it for the world, but if something else came up, I definitely would not go." -Kyle Wall
"Well this isn't a road..." -Josh Goergen **"DO I ASK YOU WHAT YOU DO WITH YOUR TIME MACHINES?"** -KARA BAKKE
 "Dream as if you'll live forever, live as if you'll die today." (James Dean) -Jenna Lester **"don't worry about it."** -arron eder
"Yesterday is history, tomorrow is a mystery, so just live in the moment." -Kelsey Robling, Lauren Kalkes, Eric Rathmanner
"Skill to do comes of doing." -Aaron Barden **"Stupid is as stupid does."** -Matt Gibbs **"Be and not seem!"** -Nicole Holasek
"If God is for you, who can be against?" -Caroline Marceau **"What's slow like a turtle?... a snail!"** -Scottie Moats
"LIFE'S A DANCE, YOU LEARN AS YOU GO." -BETH BERTELSEN **"Let it be."** (The Beatles) -Naomi Rakow
"To be peaceful without being stupid, interested without being compulsive, and happy without being hysterical." -Dusty Hans
"Love is a friendship on fire." -Ashlie Scheuble **"The future depends on what we do in the present."** -Shana Froehling
"Happiness is not achieved unless shared with others." -Mary Polding **"Being cool is Robert."** -Robert Cook **"Just trying to fit in."** -Emly Capaul
"If you settle for second place, you have a tendency to settle for second place all your life." -Gavin Woodland
"GUYS... WHY DOES MY LAWN HAVE GRASS?" -MAGGIE STIVERS **"Live your life to the fullest, always with a smile on your face."** -Whitney Watts
"If you're waiting for a sign, this is it. Do it. It will be amazing." -Kjerstin Haugsky
"Life is like a blindfolded rollercoaster, instead of fearing what's to come, lay back and enjoy the ride" -Mandi Selvey **"...and spit."** -Nick Ramo
"It's just a board game." -Rebecca Mueller **"Whether you think you can or you think you can't, you're probably right."** -Annie Ke
"He who fights with monsters should look to it that he himself does not become a monster." (Nietzsche) -Jackson Melius
"It's only funny until someone gets hurt, then it's hilarious." -Jenna Christopherson **"Look out for your future Pa-Dow!"** -Keelan
"There's an old saying about those who forget history. I can't remember what it is, though." -Brian Broll
"Best there ever was, best there ever will be!" (Ricky Bobby) -Josh Condon, Derik Noeldner & Eliot Ferron
"If you are not first, you're last." (Ricky Bobby) -Keith Voeller **"We live for the nights we will never forget with the friends we will always remember."** Hallie Miller
"Just when the caterpillar thought the world was over, it became a butterfly." -Rachel Mathwig
"shoot for the moon! even if you miss, you'll land among the stars." -Kyla Thorson
"There are no ordinary moments." -Lynne McMullen **"IF ALL COMES TO EVERYTHING, WE ARE COMIN' IN."** -JESSICA VO
"I don't know karate, but I know karaze!" -Kyle Neibeling **"You are you, this is truer than true. There is no one youer than you."** -Megan Goldman
"TRY YOUR BEST NO MATTER HOW HARD THE TASKS MAY SEEM." -STEVEN WERT **"Where?!"** -Kelly Deweese
"More than anything else, I believe it's our own decisions, not the conditions of our lives, that determine our destiny." (Anthony Robbins) -Cassy Norton **"It's better to let it out and bare the pain, than hold it in and bare the pain."** -Sara Porter
"And in the end it's not the years in your life that count, but the life in your years" (Abraham Lincoln) -Justin Ratzlaff
"One day your life will flash before your eyes, make sure it's worth watching." -Cheyenne Dantona **"Becky can't drive she's on e!"** -Erin Linden
"And now, let us welcome the new year, full of things that have never been seen." -Melanie Grangaard



Scott Adams



Aaron Albani



Samuel Anderson



Kara Bakke



Laura Baldy



Aaron Barden



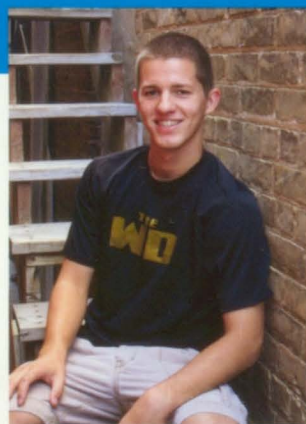
Bethany Bertelsen



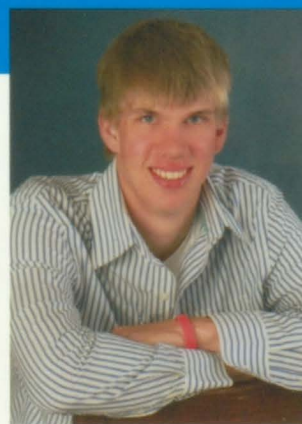
Samantha Bierlein



Justin Boll



Clint Borka



Ryan Bradt



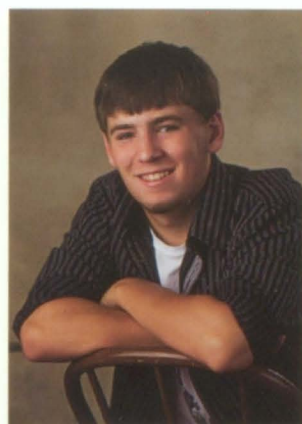
Morgan Braunshausen



Brian Broll



Madeline Brown



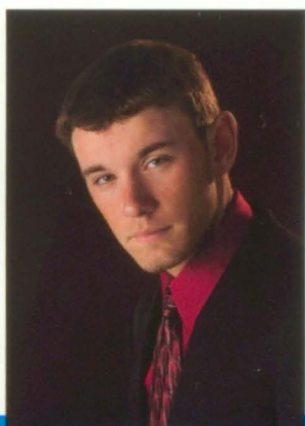
Jared Buesgens



Tanner Bullock



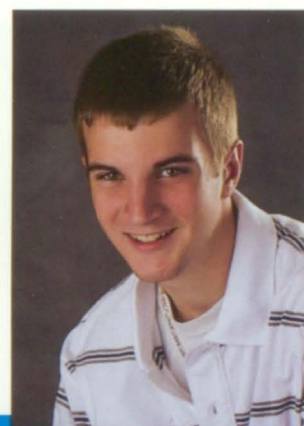
Brittany Burr



David Butz



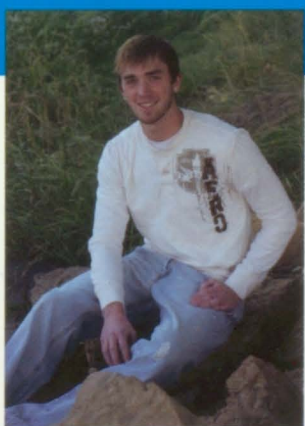
Emily Capaul



Matthew Carsten



Brandon Chappell



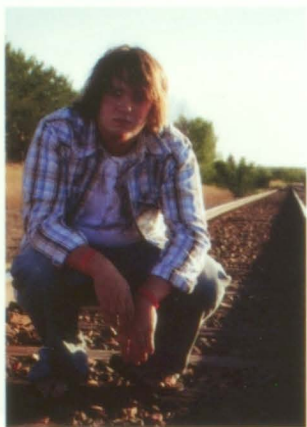
Colby Chase



Jenna Christopherson



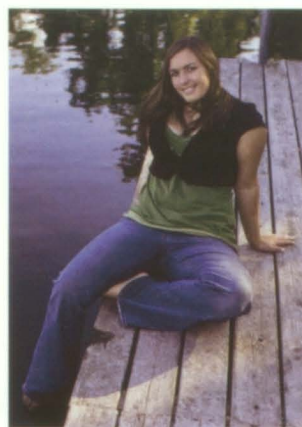
Stephanie Cluff



Ronnie Cobb



Joshua Condon



Kelsey Connor



Emily Cook



Jonathan Crundwell



Anders Culver



Shannon Curtis



Lianne Dang



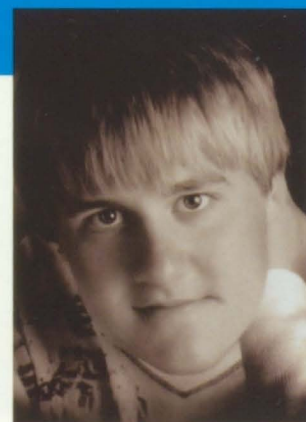
Cheyenne Dantona



Kyra Daugherty



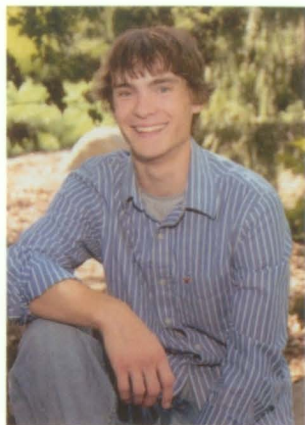
Leire De La Fuente



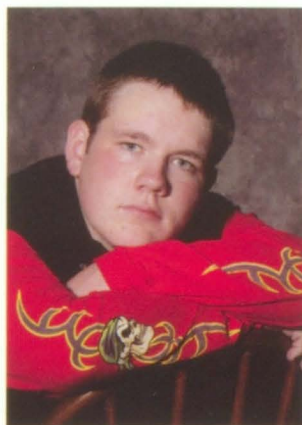
Dru Delange



Kelly Deweese



Michael Diehl



Cody Ebert



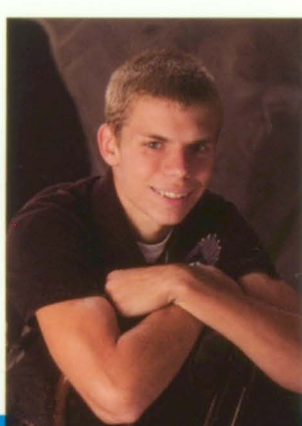
Arron Eder



Daniel Edwards Jr



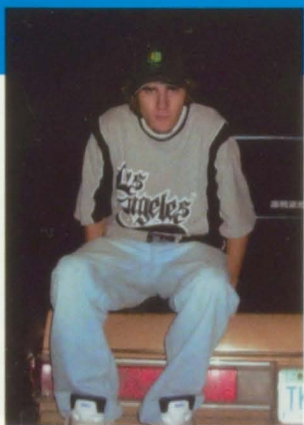
Joshua Eiden



Jason Elasky



Brittney Ellis



Alexander Emmings



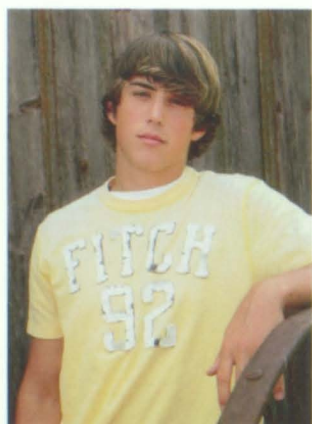
Shannon Engler



Silje Ericksen



Jessica Evjen



Shane Ewalt



Cassandra Faust



Eliot Ferron



Andrew Fiebelkorn



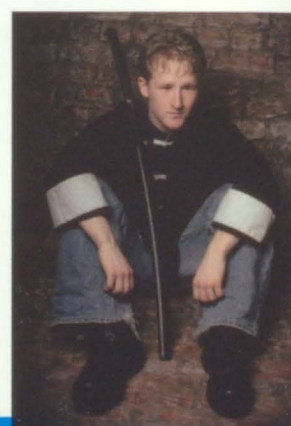
Shana Froehling



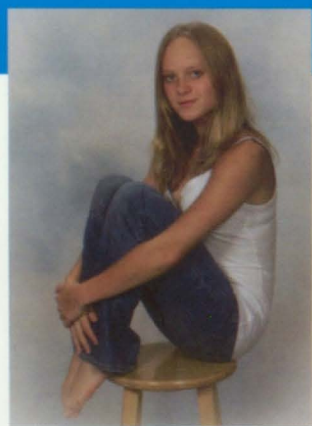
Alexander Gallup



Ashley Gast



Travis Gelhaye



Hali Germond



Anna Gesinger



Matthew Gibbs



Cory Gieseke



Caitlin Giesen



Josh Goergen



Megan Goldman



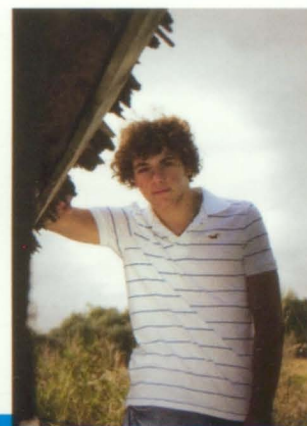
Melanie Grangaard



Jeffrey Grimm



Amanda Grindahl



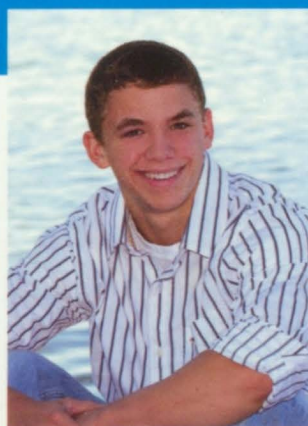
Mitchell Gunderson



Brielle Haggerty



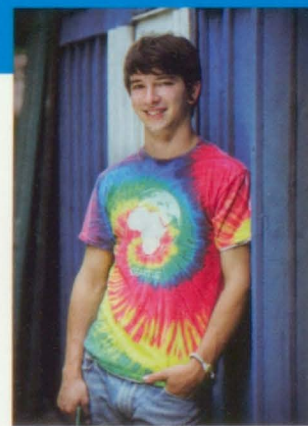
Bridgette Halloran



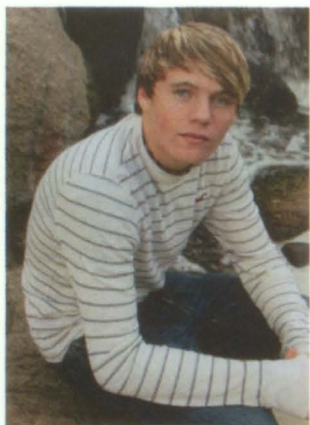
Shane Hallstrom



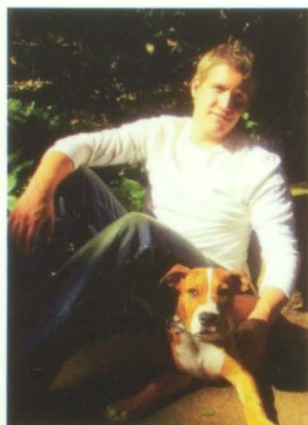
Emily Halvorson



Dustin Hanson



Kyler Hanson



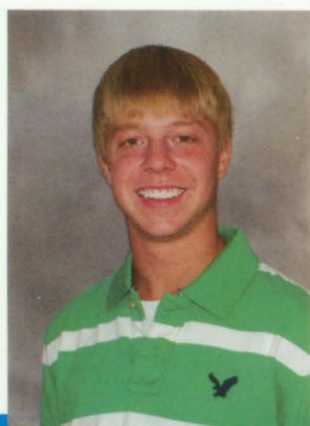
Dakota Hart



Alexander Hathaway



Kjerstin Haugsby



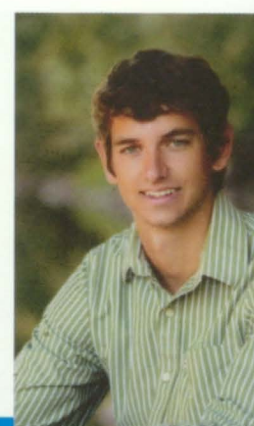
Jonathan Heimdal



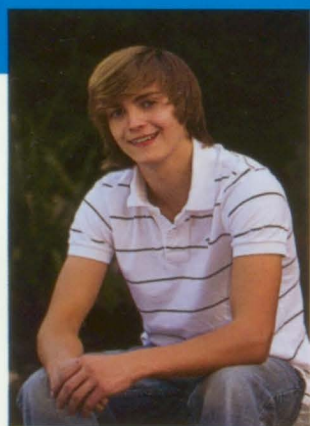
Eric Held



Molly Helmbrecht



Nicholas Henner



Samuel Henninger



Daniel Herrmann



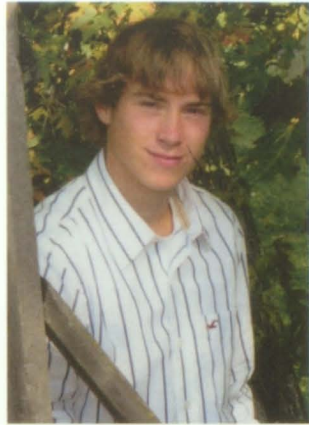
Zachary Hintgen



Kelsey Hoen



Nicole Holasek



Aaron Hulke



Jessica Hunter



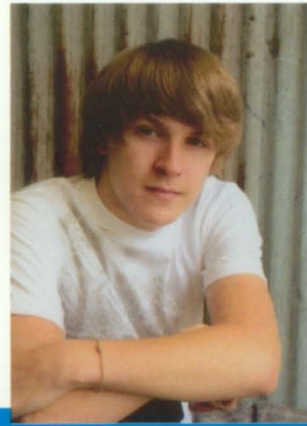
Amber Ickes



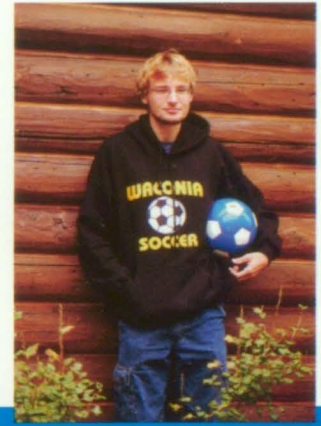
Brit Indrelie



Amanda Iverson



Austin Johnson



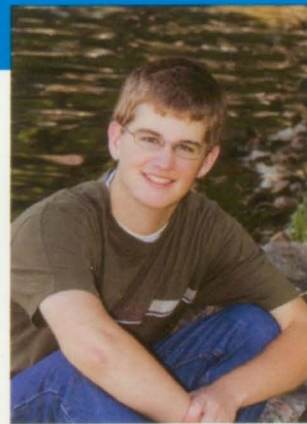
Donovan Johnson



Lauren Kalkes



Alex Kapuska



Zachary Kassmeyer



Annie Keim





SENIORS

CLASS OF 2009



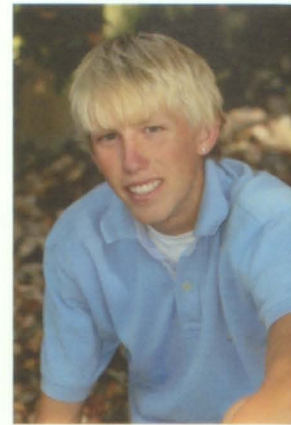
Nathan Kelzer



Hannah Kimyon



Alexa Klos



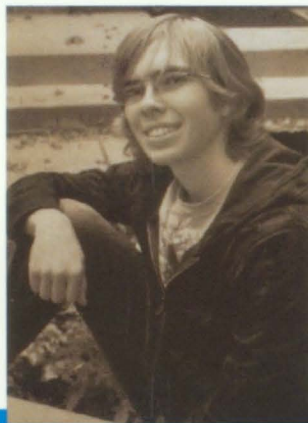
Thomas Kortuem



Amy Krautbauer



Michelle Kroells



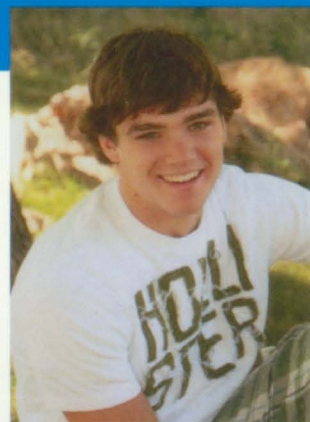
Preston Lalich



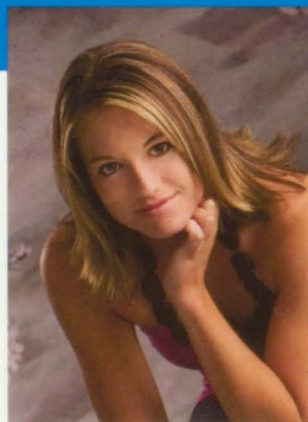
Edith Lee



Stephanie Lee



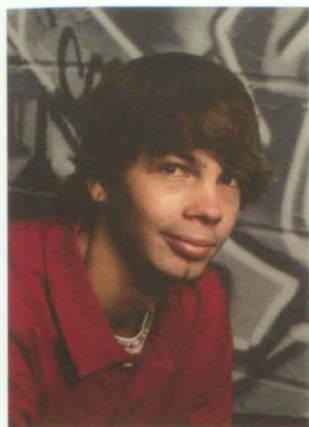
Christopher Leivermann



Jenna Lester



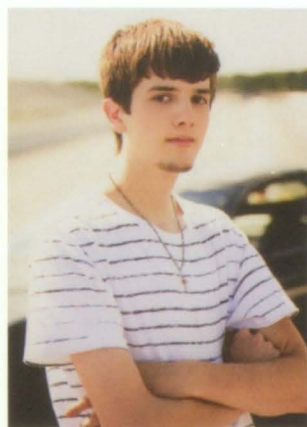
Erin Linden



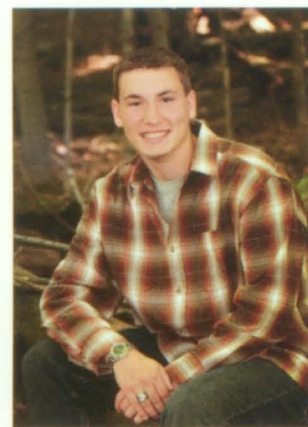
Sean Linehan



Shane Linehan



Garrett Luce



Douglas Lueck



Rebecca Lund



Jessica Macedo



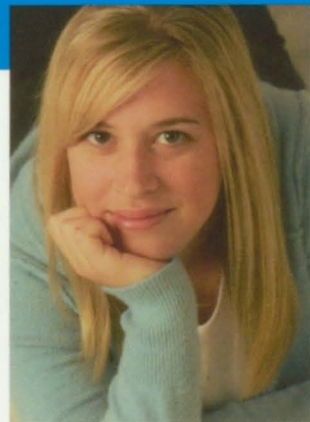
Jaimie Mankowski



Caroline Marceau



Lani Massengale



Rachel Mathwig



Brandon Matson



Ariel McCullum



Jessica McGinn



Lynne McMullen



Jackson Melius



Gattlin Miller



Hallie Miller



Ken Miyamoto



Scotti Moats



Kyle Morgan



Jill Morschen



Jenna Mossberg



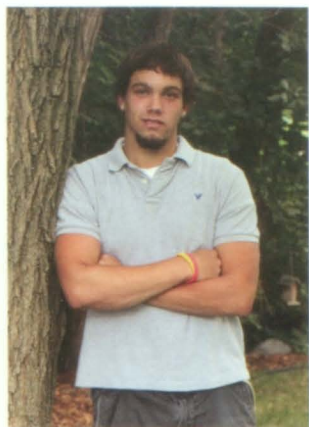
Rebecca Mueller



Kelly Munson



Kyle Niebeling



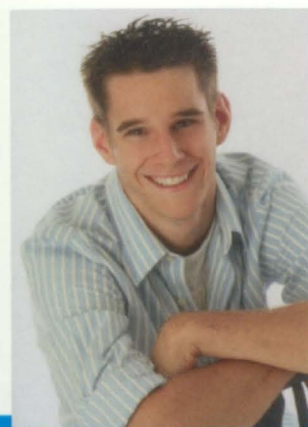
Derik Noeldner



Sarah Northrup



Cassandra Norton



Trevor O'Konek



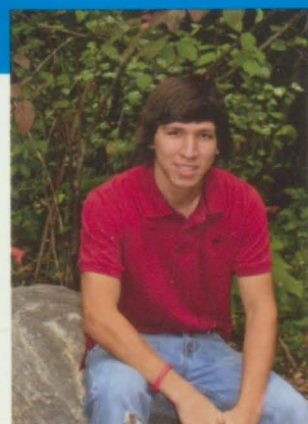
Kevin Olesen



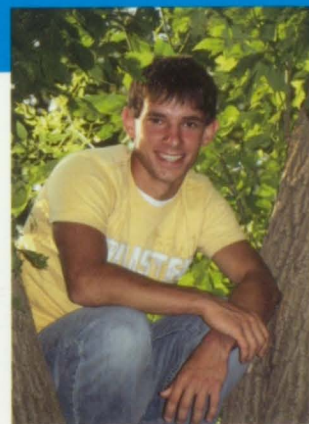
Zachary Olson



Alex Osborn



Joshua Osterkamp



Carter Ostlie



Jenna Otremba



Dianne Parkinson



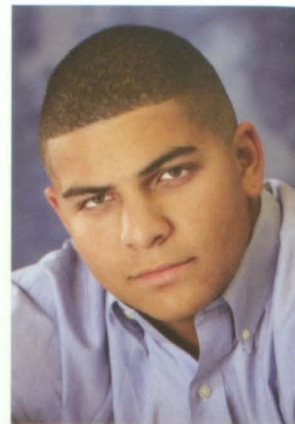
Robert Paul



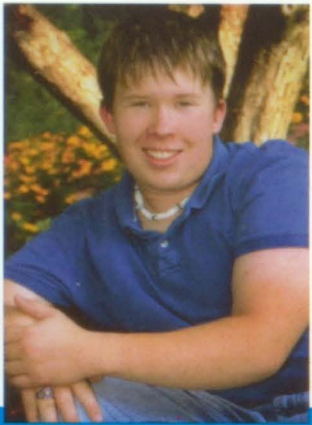
Jared Pawelk



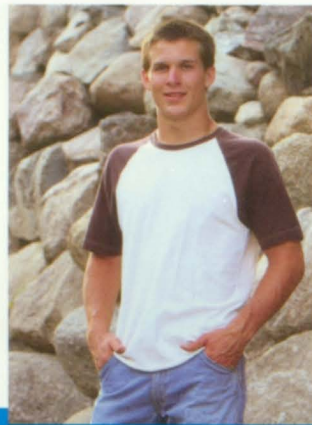
Taylor Perks



Alexander Phifer-Roger



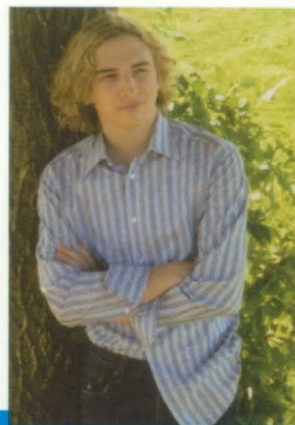
Christian Pierce



Kyle Pingeon



Kara Pioske



Miles Poehler



Meryl Pogatchnik



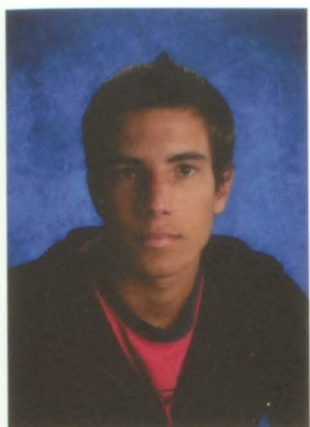
Mary Polding



Glenda Pomare



Sara Porter



Carlos Prada



Amanda Quiring



Megan Rademacher



Naomi Rakow



Nicholas Ramm



Eric Rathmanner



Justin Ratzlaff



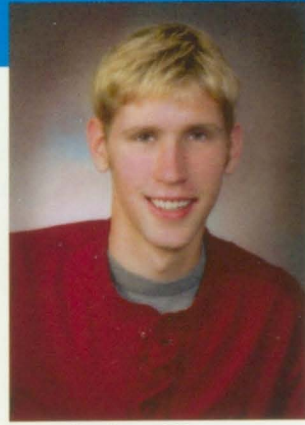
Ashley Read



Jeremy Reichenberger



Tamara Reinke



Nathan Ristow



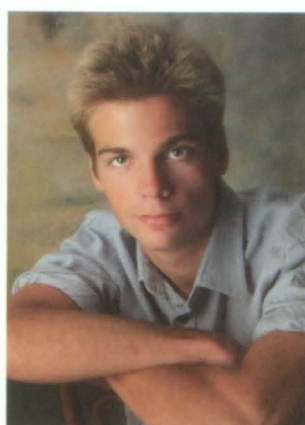
Kelsey Robling



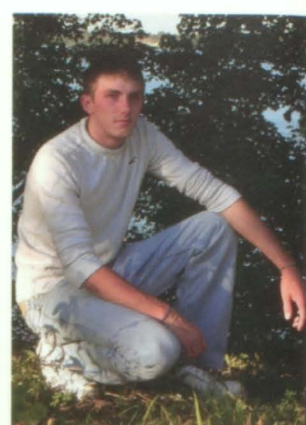
Leah Rothfusz



Christina Rupp



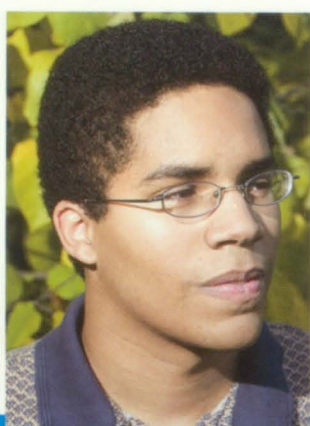
Keelan Ryan



Jaymes Schelitzche



Ashlie Scheuble



Calvin Schmidt



Tyler Schultz



Margo Schwartz



Elissa Selleck



Mandi Selvey



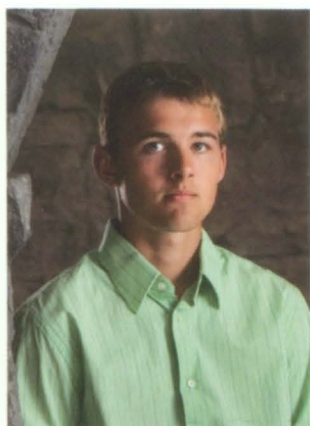
Trevor Sidwell



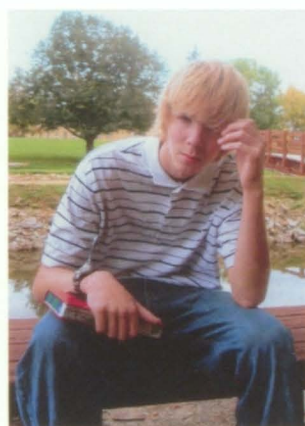
William Sievers



Amanda Sinnen



Tanner Skaalerud



Benjamin Smith



Kyla Smith



Heather Snyder



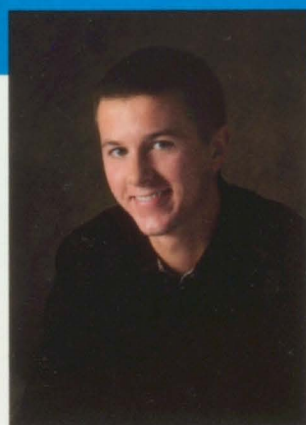
Joshua St Amand



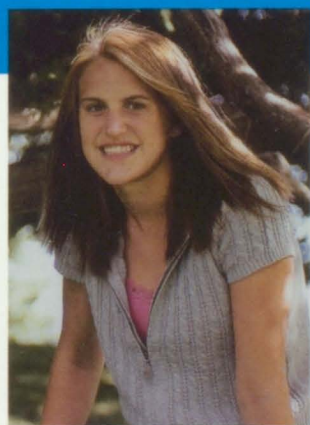
Kevin Stahn



Elijah Stangret



Tyler Stevenson



Margaret Stivers



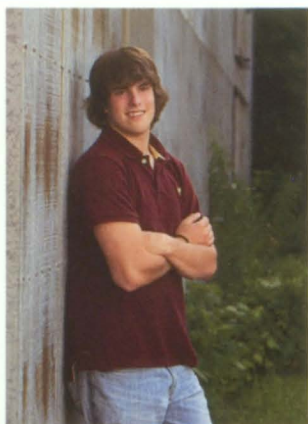
Emily Storms



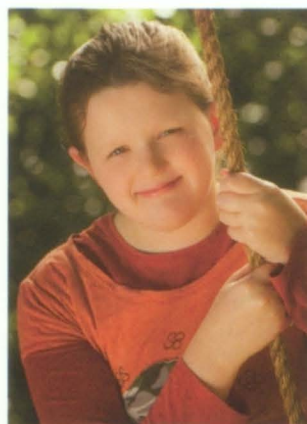
Alexa Strand



Cody Strand



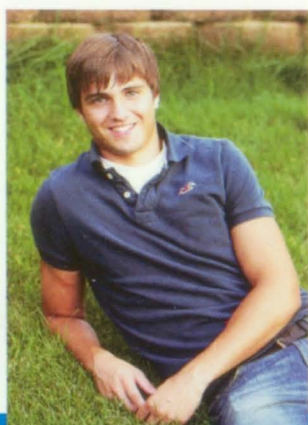
Austin Sullivan



Brianna Sullivan



Jacklyn Surat



Cody Swier



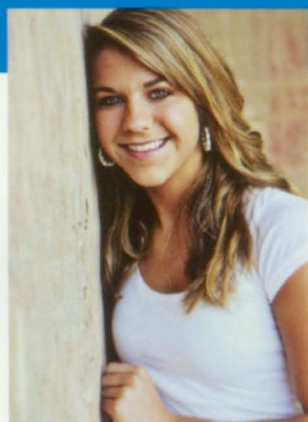
Caleb Talbert



Benjamin Tegels



Kyla Thorson



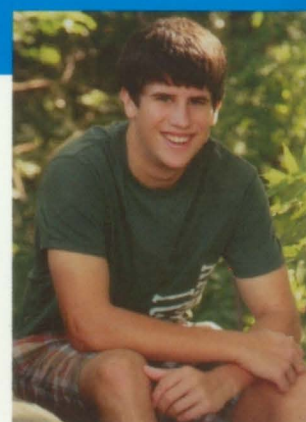
Mercedes Tolzmann



Lucy Tongen



Caroline Torgersen



Patrick Van Kirk



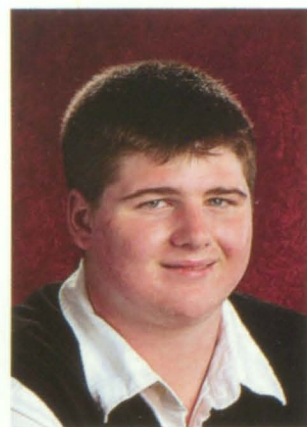
Luis Velasquez



Keith Voeller



Jessica Vogel



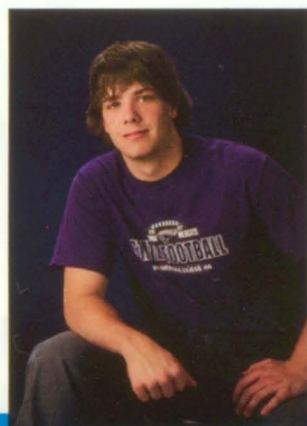
Joshua Wacek



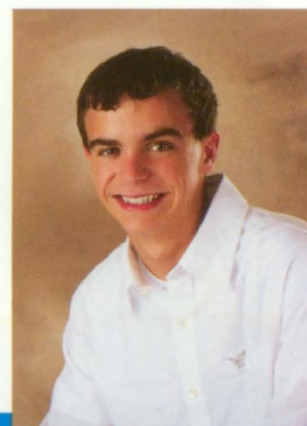
Kyle Wall



Whitney Watts



Mark Weiland



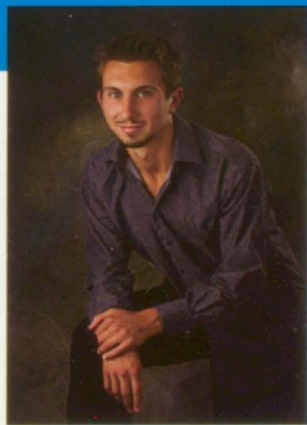
Steven Wert



Emily Willems



Eric Wolf



Gavin Woodland



Stephanie Wothe

Not Pictured: Tammy Cummines, Benjamin Hable, Alyssa Reich



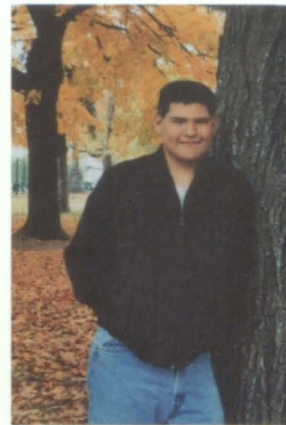
Zachary Woytcke



Alexandra Wright



Stephanie Wymore



Robert Cook



Mickayla Hegr

Senior Favorites

Magazine:

1. Cosmopolitan
2. Seventeen
3. Sports Illustrated

Tv Show:

1. One Tree Hill
2. Family Guy
3. The Office

Restaurants:

1. Chipotle
2. Buffalo Wild Wings
3. Applebees



Teacher:

1. Mr. Machtemes
2. Mr. Bristor
3. Mr. Zaske

Favorite Part of Being a Senior:

1. Seniority
2. T.A.-ing
3. Dominating At Everything



Sports Team:

1. Waconia Wildcats
2. Twins Baseball
3. Vikings Football

Store:

1. Target
2. American Eagle
3. Hollister

Candy:

1. Reeses
2. Snickers
3. Skittles

Actress:

1. Kate Hudson
2. Jennifer Aniston
3. Angelina Jolie

Actor:

1. Heath Ledger
2. Adam Sandler
3. Shia Labeouf



Musical Artist:

1. Lil' Wayne
2. John Mayer
3. Jack Johnson

Class:

1. Gym
2. Art
3. MN Heritage

Song:

1. "I'm Yours" - Jason Mraz
2. "Paper Planes" - M.I.A.
3. "Come on Get Higher" - Matt Nathanson

Movie:

1. The Dark Knight
2. Pineapple Express
3. The Breakfast Club



Hangout:

1. Mocha Monkey
2. Pizza Ranch Parking Lot
3. Jake B's House

Best High School Memories

State football game at the dome

Homecoming 2008

Silje running into the screen door

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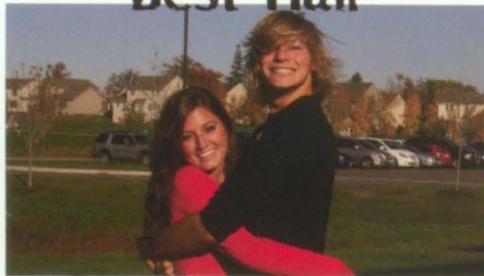
r

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Best Smile

Shane Hallstrom and Kyra Daugherty

Best Hair

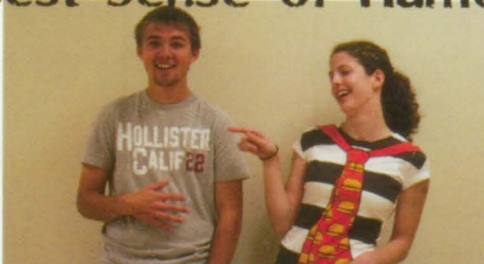
Rebecca Lund and Anders Culver

Most Unpredictable

Jackson Melius and Naomi Rokow

Easily Amused

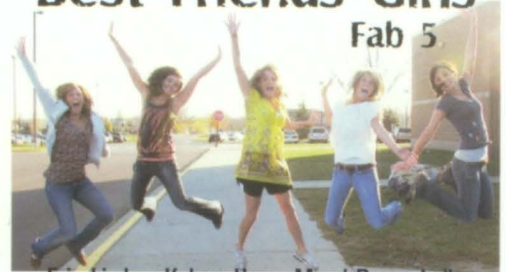
Samuel Anderson and Sarah Northrup

Best Sense of Humor

Tanner Skaalerud and Sara Porter

Best Friends Girls

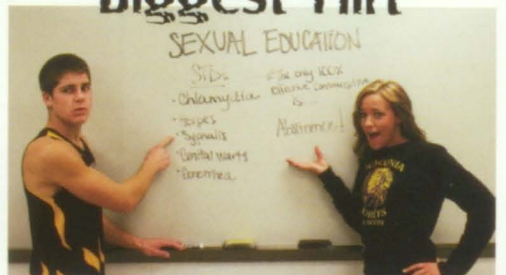
Feb 5



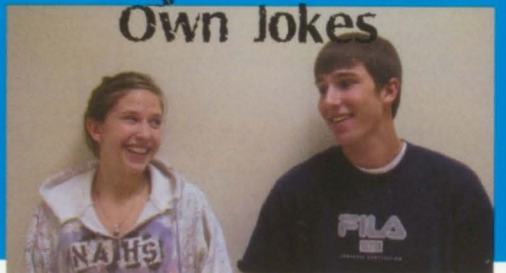
Erin Linden, Kelsey Hoen, Meryl Pogatchnik, Jessica Vogel, and Rebecca Lund

Best Dressed

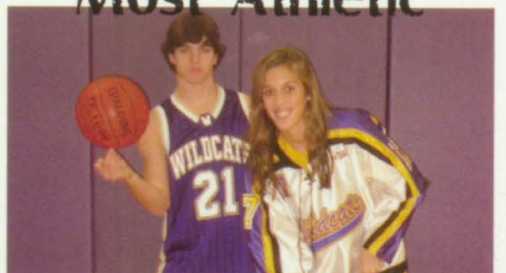
Trevor O'Konek and Jackie Surat

Biggest Flirt

Kyle Wall and Stephanie Cluff

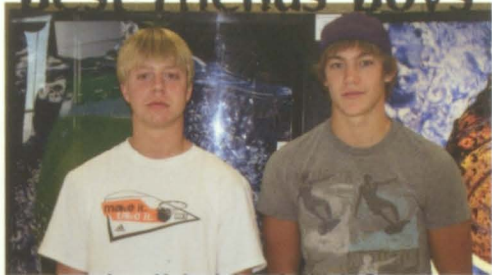
Laughs at their Own Jokes

Kyla Thorson and Arron Eder

Most Athletic

Christopher Leivermann and Amanda Iverson

Best Friends Boys



Jonathan Heimdal and Elijah Stangret

Most Artistic



Eric Held and Cassandra Faust

Most Laid Back



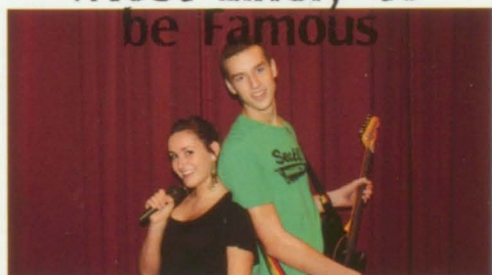
Derik Noeldner and Margo Schwartz

Most Likely to Make Your Day



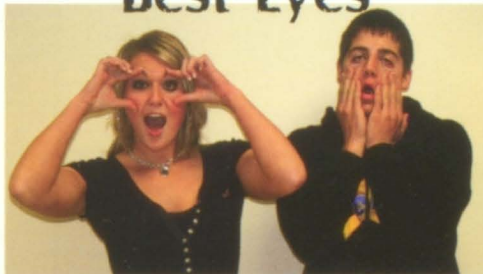
Mitchell Gunderson and Sara Porter

Most Likely to be Famous



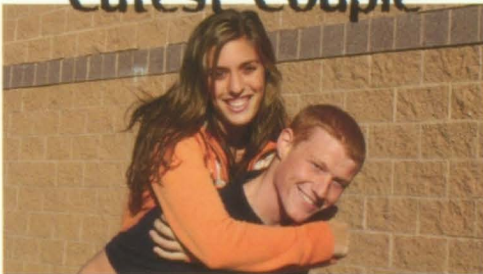
Kelsey Hoen and Caleb Talbert

Best Eyes



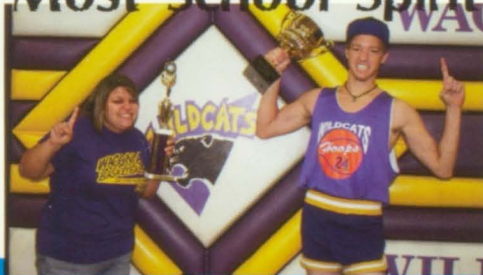
Jenna Mossberg and Kyle Wall

Cutest Couple



Amanda Iverson and Matthew Gibbs

Most School Spirit



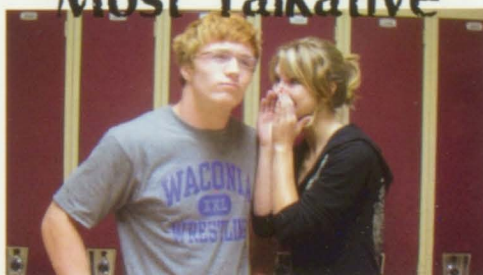
Jessica McGinn and Joshua Condon

Loudest Laugh



Zachary Hintgen and Kyra Daugherty

Most Talkative



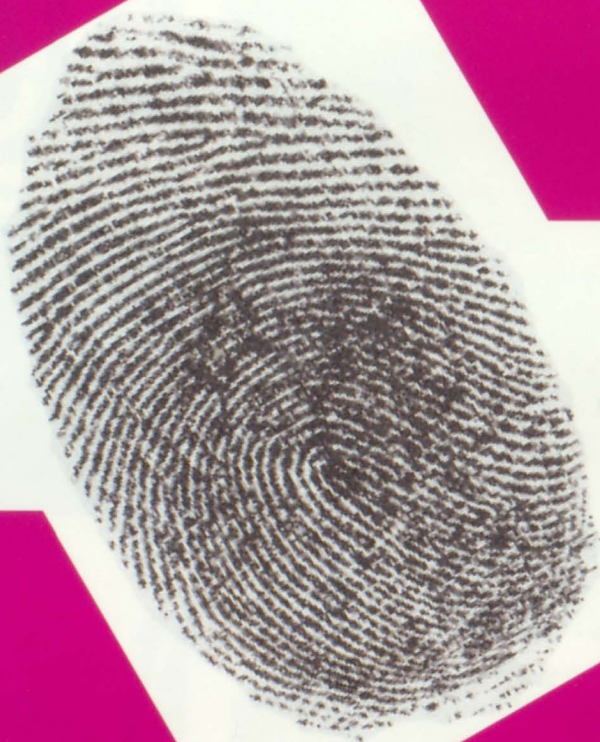
Brian Broll and Naomi Rakow

2

0

0

9



juniors



Dane Aadland



Cory Adams



Dustin Adams



Bethany Aeling



Nicholas Allen



Kari Anderson



Maxfield Anderson



Allison Armstrong



Madeline
Asbjornson



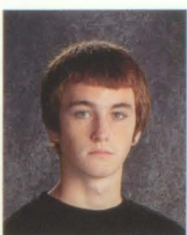
Eric Bach



Laura Baldy



Kelly Barnard



Tyler Barrett



Hunter Boser



Becky Boughten



Corey Bradshaw



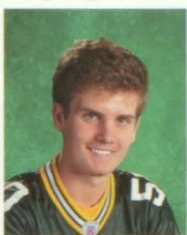
Mercedes Bratsch



Jacob
Braunshausen



Kelsey Brennan



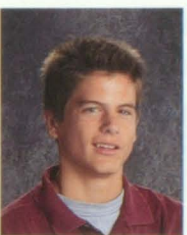
Pete Brettingen



Alex Broadston



Samantha
Broeckert



Michael Brown



Ellie Brueggemeier



Mark Bullis



Tyler Burmeister



Jennifer Cafarella



Rachael Carlsted



Matthew Carson



John Castaneda



Leah Christensen



Jesse Conkey



Nigel Cook



Cody Dahl



April Daley



Elizabeth Del Main



Jessi Delacy



Tanner Delange



Amy Diehl



Racheal Domjahn



Connor Donohue



Travis Drees



Alli Dunkel Berger



Dustin Ehrreich



Jacob Ehrreich



Zachary Emerson



Amy Erickson



Silje Erikson



Sarah Farlow



Cody Fenner



Cecelia Findorff



Daniel Fischbach



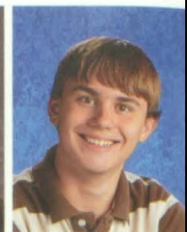
Nicole Fladung



Javier Flores



Alyssa Francen



Dylan Furst



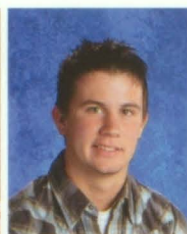
Thea Fyrlieu



Samantha Gapen



Brenna Garens



Isaiah Gatheridge



Melissa Geiszler



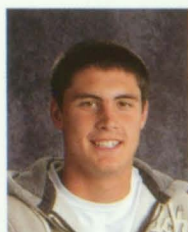
Travis Genz



Matthew Gieseke



Joleen Glashan



Evan Graff



Jacob Gregory



Nicole Gregory



Dustin Grimm



Katherine Grinnell



Tyler Gunnufson



Dane Haase



Haley Hafften



Emily Hansen



Gitte Hansen



Shane Hanson



Alexandra Harder



Whitney Hart



Sally Haselhorst



Kerry Hayes



Rachel Helmbrecht



Alyssa Hennen



Benjamin Hentges



Jacob Hilk



Samuel Horner



Trevor Horning



Zachariah Hubert



Rebecca Hughes



Leif Jensen



Margaux Jensen



Alec Johnson



Tiffany Johnson



Zachariah Johnson



Brennan Jones



Eric Jones



Kera Jones



Brooke Jorgensen



Trevor Jost



Erica Karels



Marshall Kelzer



Cristin Kieser



Rebecca Kimyon



Allyson Klitzke



Kayla Krause



Caitlin Krieg



Alana Lamkin



Rebecca Langland



Brittney Lechner



Kirsten Lederer



Daniel Leifermann



Tyler Litfin



Patrick Logelin



Jordon Lowell



Emily Ludwigson



Efrain Macedo



Breanna Mahoney



John Mahoney



Andrew Majhor



Christina Marceau



Sullivan Marxen



Brian McAvoy



Isaiah McCourt



Stephanie McGinn



Brianna McLay



Anthony
McMahon



Jacob Melchert



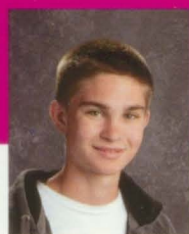
Amanda
Mesenbring



Benjamin Metling



Austin Meuwissen



Cole Midthun



Igor Mikityuk



Dennis Mila



Jackson Mitchell



Jamie Mohr



Thomas Morimoto



Emily Mueller



Michael Murray



Samantha Nelson



Samantha Niccum



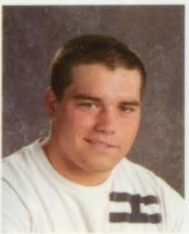
Blake Njos



Seunghui Noh



Elizabeth Nord



Tyler Nordby



Christina Nyman



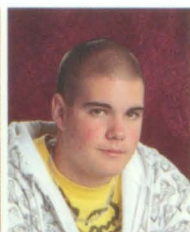
Cody Olson



Logan Overvold



Emily Patterson



Brandon Pederson



Claire Perkins



Kelsey Peters



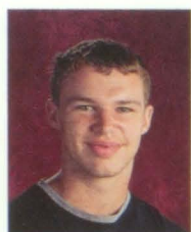
Laurel Pierson



Dillon Pomeroy



Meredith Proulx



Scott Rajewsky



Lisa Rasmussen



Jordan Reeve



Spencer
Reichenberger



Kelsi Reuther



Jessica Rice



Britta Rinke



Zachary Runyon



James Russell



Ryan Samuelson



Joseph Sandholm



McKenna Schauer



Zachary Schieffer



Amanda Schmidt



Nicholas Schmidt



Shelbey Schmidt



Brandy Schultz



Katie Schuman



Addy Scrimgeour



Mitchell Segner



Shane Segner



Anna Shaw



Morgan Simmons



Gunnar Sipper



Elle Skerik



Nicole Slepicka



Dacotah Smith



Charles Smothers



Logan Sohns



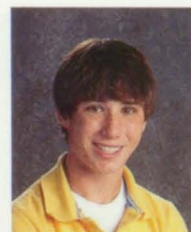
Kelsey Sorenson



Justin Spurbeck



Matthew St John



Jesse Sterner



Robyn Stessen



Carly Stockert



Cassidy Stumm



Asha Sukhu



Jackson Sullivan



Matthew Thomas



Drew Thomes



Caroline Torgersen



Benjamin Travis



Alejandro Tristan



Micah Trujillo



Jared Tuttle



Brittany Van Houtte



Jacob Vipond



Thomas Vonberge



Beizing Vue



Emma Wabbe



Jonathan Wagener



Ashley Walter



Allisa Ware



Timothy Watts



Reese Weber



Anna Weitz



Kelsey Wenning



Nadya Weseman



Nicole White



Chelsea
Wickenhauser



Soren Wille



Danielle Williams



Wesley Willow



Colt Wilson



Kelsey Woodland



Kara Wynsteker



Nicole Wynsteker



Samantha Young



Kylie Zawada



Joseph HomOres



Kelcey Albers



Autumn Ament



Kaitlyn Andersen



Alena Anderson



Cassandra Anderson



Erica Anderson



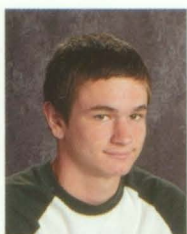
Tyler Bach



Carissa Bakke



Nicholas Barrett



Jacob Bartz



Najmi Basha



Gerrit Bass



Amanda Beaulieu



Aaron Becker



Brock Bender



Adam Biegel



Jacob Billstrom



Kayla Blachowiak



Sondra Blaschko



Shawn Bode



Kaydee Bohanon



Matthew Borgmann



Kayla Borka



Katelyn Bouchard



Jacob Boyer



Shane Bramer



Emily Braun



Blake Bronstad



Calvin Brown



Paige Brown



Megan Brueggemeier



Alisha Bruner



Ben Buesgens



Whitney Buesgens



Ashley Buffington



Morgane Carman



Angela Carner



William Chandler



Anna Christensen



Sheaden Christensen



Stacy Christensen



Abigale Christenson



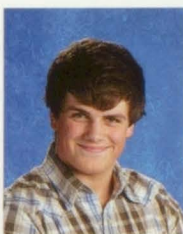
Dominic Ciccarelli



Andrew Cook



Christopher Cousin



Wyatt Crosby



Kenneth Dallman



Timothy Deweese



Katelynn Doherty



Kelly Drey



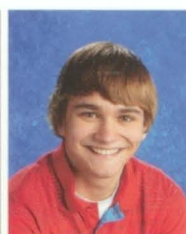
Willam Duran-Lynn



Eric Durkin



Jake Durkin



Jason Ecklein



Ryan Eischens



Molly Elasky



Erika Emmings



Caitlyn Engler



Keaton Everett



Erik Evjen



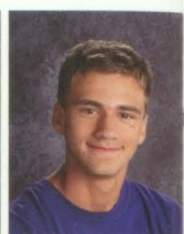
Bailey Farrell



Bryan Faust



Emmett Ferron



Zachary Fimon



Steven Fischer



Nicole Fitzgerald



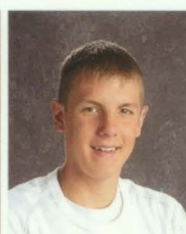
Rachel Flemig



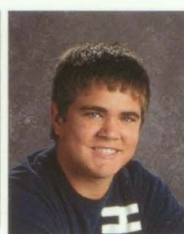
Maria Forsythe



Bennett Frey



Tanner Friedrich



Josh Frischmon



James Froehling



Nikki Frydenlund



Emily Geyen



Theodore Gilliam



Alex Goede



Christian Goldman



Scott Gomez



Madeline Gordon



Molly Gorghuber



Kaylin Graff



Jennifer Gray



Taylor Gregory



Kayla Haase



Ellie Haggenmiller



Chaneen Haler



Jonathon Hansen



Alexander Hedlund



Kaitlyn Heenie



Joshua Heeralall



Jessica Heimdal



Nicholas Hennen



Alyse Herman



Maxwell Herrera



Turi Hjelsand



Chandra Honebrink



Madilynn Honnold



Melinda Horejsi



Louise Irvine



Annabel Jacobs



William Jantz



Julia Johnson



Kendra Johnson



Matthew Allen
Johnson



Hayley Jost



Natalie Kalkes



Jennifer Kallio



Heather Kalthoff



Mark Kapuska



Luke Kassmeyer



Brady Kenney



Jared Klein



Miranda Koch



Joni Komperda



Benjamin Kortuem



John Koster



Nicole Kroells



Katie Krogman



Haley Kruchten



Jessica Kullman



Zane Kunsteina



Alex Kurtz



Victoria Larkin



Emma Larson



Zachary Leshner



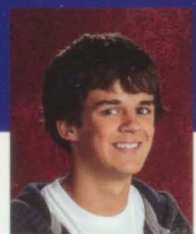
Anton Lieb



Courtney Liebhard



Marissa Lind



Sean Linden



Anthony Luedloff



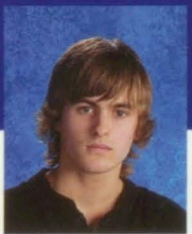
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Matthew Lund



Nicholas Lundquist



Brandon Machtemes



Dana Martel



Mitchell Martins



Abbey Matheson



Jacob Matz



Olivia McCullum



Cristy Medina



Viviana Medina



Calleigh Melchert



Kory Melchert



Marisa Melchert



Ramya Melichar



Megan Midthun



Dawn Miller



Shelby Moats



Bailey Monson



Cameron Monson



Peter Moore



Alina Moreno



David Morschen



Daniel Mueller



Nicole Niesen



Dana Noeldner



Justin Otremba



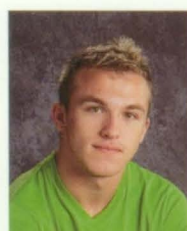
Sabine Palm



Temery Pasket



Rebecca Pederson



Jethro Peterson



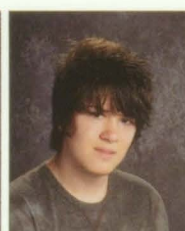
Anna Pogatchnik



Annmarie Powers



Meghan Radde



Travis Ramsey



Dennis Rathke



Zachary Ratzlaff



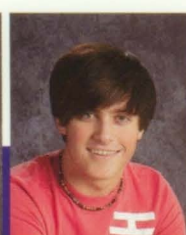
Quincee Raymond



Nicholas Reinke



Maxwell Rickel



Garrett Riffe



Rachel Riner



Alyssa Robb



Elise Roche



Natasha Rosckes



Jana Rueegg



William Russell



Emily Sanborn



Cayman Scarrella



Bronson Scheff



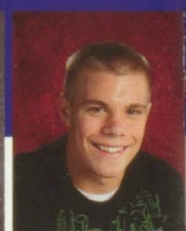
Nicholas Schlueter



Larkin Scholla



Callie Schroeder



Micheal Schuette



Andrew Schulenberg



Morgan Schultz



Tyler Selleck



Ariel Shane



Rebecca Shirk



Stewart Sievers



Christopher Sinclair



Joshua Sinnen



Amanda Smith



Robert Smith



Whitney Snyder



Angela Splettstoeser



Jacob St Amand



Jacob Stahn



Tyler Stauffer



Alexander Steinbrueck



Jack Stephan



Scarlett Sterner



Mason Stiller



Spencer Stiller



Austin Stole



Joshua Strate



Kara Stroming



Nicole Sullivan



Byron Synstegaard



Zachary Synstegaard



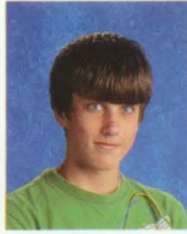
Kelly Tibbitts



Dalton Tolzmann



Joshua Torgeson



Christopher Traxler



Kyler Trnka



Katherine Tusha



Chelsea Vanderhoff



Kayla Vit



Zachary Wacek



Sara Wachholz



Jessica Walter



Mackenzie Watson



Paige Weiland



Mariah Werlich



Alexander Wickeham



James Widmer



Jordan Wildung



Brooke Willborg



Nicole Winkelman



Brandon Woytke



Alexander Zajac



Julie Zakashefski



freshmen



Devin Aadland



Garrett Aalfs



Bahjo Abdi



Rania Ahmed



Elena Albert



Caylee Albright



Ariadne Alvarez



Alexis Ament



Alexandra Anderson



Micah Asleson



Jacob Bass



Logan Baumann



Maria Benedict



Corrina Bergquist



Josiah Berry



Andrew Bezpalko



Brandon Birlew



Courtney Borka



Marshall Born



Renee Bourgeois



Samuel Braunshausen



Todd Broll



Faithful Brueggemeier



Alexandra Buck



Matthew Bullis



Kelsey Burmeister



Daniel Cafarella



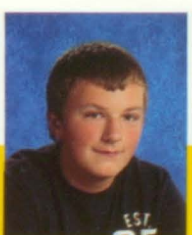
Evan Carlson



Melody Carman



Nicholas Carson



Tyler Carver



Ashley Castaneda



Francisco Castillo



Lyndsy Chase



Michelle Citarella



Patrick Cobb



Amanda Cook



Kaitlin Cook



Allison Corson



Connor Cowley



Ethan Curley



Kelsey Daugherty



Lauren Deadrick



Jacob Debus



Jordan Decker



Abigail Dejewski



Ian DeVaan



Alexandra Doeden



Chrystal Dondlinger



Nicole Drees



Aaron Ecklund



Paige Ehlt



Aaron Eiden



Jeffrey Ellis



Theodore Ellis



Dean Erickson



Randie Exum



Megan Farlow



Ryan Farniok



Melissa Felt



Kaylee Flournoy



Jeffrey Folstad



Paige Fortwengler



Stephanie
Frempong-Longdon



Alyssa Giesen



Jonathan Goldsmith



Kathryn Gonsior



Alec Gonzalez



Ellie Gorghuber



Alyson Graff



Stephanie Gregoire



Cody Gregory



Deanna Gregory



Mikayla Grenke



Valerie Grimm



Kelsie Gunnufson



Victoria Haler



Colleen Halloran



Paddy Halloran



Lindsay Harder



Alexander
Hart-Thomas



Andrew Haselhorst



Peder Haugsby



Ashley Haus



Taylor Helle



Jeffrey Hennen



Kole Herrick



Brittany Herrmann



Rachel Hill



Joshua Hiltbrand



Robert Holmberg



Grady Holtberg



Benjamin Hubert



Lauren Huggett



Cassie Johnson



Lucas Johnson



Madeline Johnson



Sierra Johnson



Xzaviera Johnson



Leah Jones



Taylor Kahl



Dustin Kamish



Marisa Keidel



Kelsey Kelzer



Samantha Kessler



Darlyna Khonkhammy



Schoen Kichler



Joseph Kirch-Paulsen



Danielle Kirsch



Lisa Kittleson



Alison Klein



Heather Klitzke



Charlie Klos



Kevin Knutson



Nathan Kraml



Kara Kruchten



Shiloh Landskov



Jacob Laplante



Kelsey Lechner



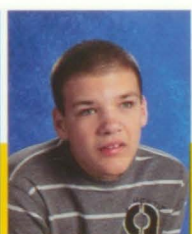
Ryan Lee



Christine Leonard



Colin Lieb



Stephen Logelin



Lydia Long



Benjamin Mahoney



Mary Mahoney



Casey Majhor



Rachel Marquette



Emily Martel



Garrett Marxen



Carl Mathwig



Elizabeth Mauk



Cory McKeever



Allison McPhee



Kindra Melichar



Alyssa Mesebring



Austin Millender



Brianna Miller



Cassandra Miller



Scott Miller



Hanna Miyamoto



Hannah Mohr



Emily Moore



Hannah Nagy



Jesse Nelson



Justin Nelson



Taylor Nelson



Ariana Nelson-Klug



Drew Neubauer



David Niaz



Felisha Nordby



Nicholas Nothom



Franco Olesen



Kryslyn Olson



Karrie Osborn



Caitlin Overby



Amber Paul



Shannon Paulson



Breanna Pederson



Madison Peitz



Carter Perez



Luke Peters



Shantel Peters



James Petersen



Kelly Pingeon



Cameron Pomeroy



Tucker Pruden



Xavier Quast



Kristine Rademacher



Laura Rakow



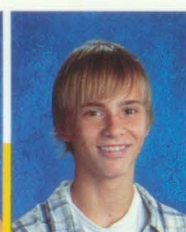
William Redinger



Morgan Reeve



Katie Reichenberger



Jacob Reimann



Paige Richardson



Everett Rinke



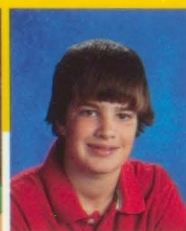
Zachary Rolf



Chase Rossell



Sonja Ruotsinoja



Anthony Rupp



Noelle Russell



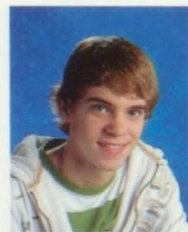
Ashley Samuelson



Dalton Sawyer



Josie Sayre



Alex Schmitt



Laura Schmitt



Samantha Schnyder



Mariah Schoonover



Brittany Schultz



Chad Schultz



Nicholas Selleck



Zachary Sellman



Garrett Shaw



Devyn Sievers



Haley Sites



Mikayla Slepicka



Timothy Smith



Maria Spurbeck



Shauntel Stahlke



Jenna Stanga



Ashley Stangret



Kylie Stoddard



Ashley Sukhu



Bailey Sullivan



Jillian Sutherland



Alexandria Swanson



Anna Talbert



Sarah Talbert



Carly Taylor



Julie Thaemert



Madilyn Theis



Sylvia Tristan



Whitney Vacek



Mollie Van Arsdale



Brianna Vanderlinde



Samuel Vipond



Hanna Wabbe



Jerica Waligoski



Stephanie Wall



Benjamin Wallace



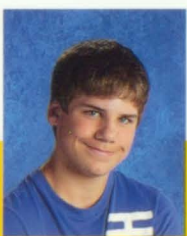
Jesse Waller



Sydney Walsh



Zachary Ward



Joseph Wasmund



Mitchel Weber



Cynthia Weiland



Rachel Weitz



Jack Wells



Carl Wenning



Jackson Weppner



Elena Weseman



Brandon Wiggert



Hanna Wille



Alexander Willems



Blake Willems



Alec Williams



Maxx Williams



Jonah Windschitl



Cassandra Winkelman



Cody Wood



Ryan Wood



Cameron Wright



Tyler Wright



Emily Wrolson



Suzanna Wymore



Rachel Wynsteker



Justin Young



Gabriel Younkin



Amanda Amoe

**Straight from
THE HORSE'S MOUTH**
(or donkeys, or elephants)

// Both candidates did whatever they could
and one of them won...
That's what it's all about. W
- John McCain



Left: Illinois Senator Barack Obama and his family wave proudly to his supporters at the Missouri Caucus. His wife Michelle, and two daughters Malia and Sasha, were some of his biggest supporters and stood by his side throughout the entire election process.

This year, a large number of students were able to participate in the 2008 Presidential Election. The race was between Illinois Senator Barack Obama and Arizona Senator John McCain. Whether or not students were for Obama or McCain, many strongly showed support for the candidates. Some students made t-shirts, and others put bumper stickers on their cars to express their views. After a long race, the ballots were tallied and on November 4, 2008, Obama was the first ever African-American to be elected President of the United States of America.

// It's not just enough to change the players.

We've got to change the game.

-Barack Obama



// I believe that, as hard as it will be, the change we need is coming, because I've seen it, because I've lived it.

-Barack Obama

// And I call on all Americans, as I have often in this campaign, to not despair of our present difficulties, but to believe, always, in the promise and greatness of America, because nothing is inevitable here.

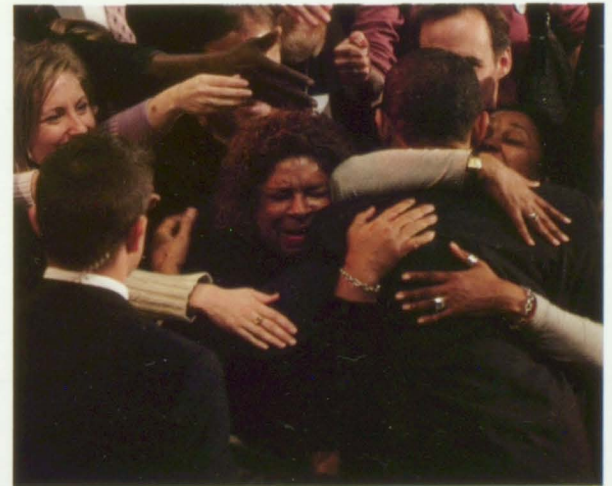
- John McCain



Above: Senator Barack Obama delivers his speech during the Iowa Caucus held January 3, 2008.

Left: Pennsylvania Senator Joseph Biden, elected Vice-President, and his wife Jill greet fellow politicians and supporters during the Missouri Caucus in Columbia, Missouri.

Right: Obama receives plenty of hugs from his supporters after the announcement that he won the Democratic portion of the Iowa Caucus. He earned 16 delegate votes.







NC academics

Administration



Dr. Nancy Rajanen
Superintendent



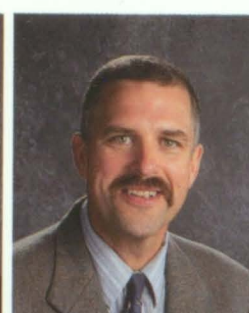
Mark Fredericksen
Principal



Jeff Jeska
Assistant Principal



Lynette Alger
Guidance Counselor



James Bettcher
Guidance Counselor



Dave Kuehn
Activities Director

WHS Staff



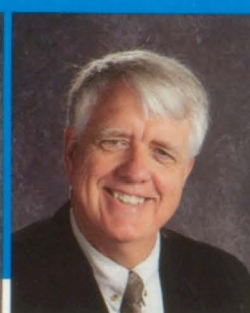
David Aeling



Dianne Anderson



Shalanah Backus



Kim Benson



Mel Berg



Becky Bigaouette



Tracy Braun



Adam Bristor



Jaclynn Condon



Amy Dettman



Corinne Dugar



Sara Eischens



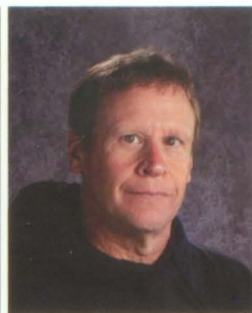
Lynette Elling



Nancy Ellis



Marie Erickson



Patrick Foley



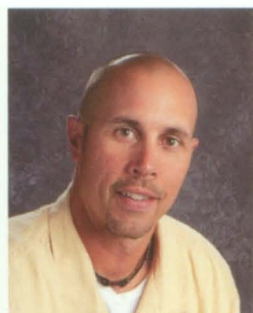
Amy Fischer



Mavis Flemig



Megan Gregor



Mark Grundhofer



Amanda Hagen



Eric Hansen



Ron Hanson



Sue Hartwig



Pat Hayes



Paul Henn



Eric Herrmann



Deb Heuer



Kathy Hoes



Rachel Hoes



Steve Hullander



Jodi Hunter



Lori Ittel



Michael Jensen



Michael Johnson



Joanna Johnston



Stephanie Kappel



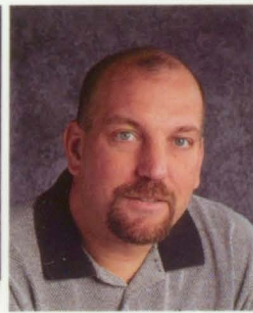
Ben Karnes



Tracey Kichler



Todd Klein



Bob Klitzke



Brady Krusemark



Roxanne Kuerschner



Kathy Kurtz



James Lee



Lauren Leshner



Robert Lindemann



Nicole Lonning



Susan Lund



Clark Machtemes



Mary Ann Magnuson



Tom Maiser



Eimile McNeil



Pam Melchert



Corrie Merten



Brenda Michniewicz



Shirley Minnick



Yoko Miyamoto



Derek Myhre



Dustin Neibauer



Missy Nenovich



Susan Peck



Sara Pingeon



John Pohland



Heather Prondzinski



Judy Rademacher



Dana Rathmanner



Linda Scholla



Lori Schwartz



Drew Sodey



Kari Stevenson



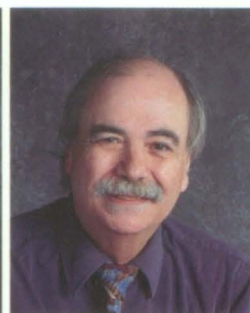
Sandy Stockert



Karen Thell



Mary Ellen Timmers



Mark Torborg



Wayne Trapp



Cindy Van Kirk



Thomas Vermillion



Monica Vierling Hall



Juliet Vredenburg



Sandra Wasness



Melissa Weinand



Mike Werner



Mike Zaske

IN Memory Of...



Connie Manuel



Sandi Cooley



It's time now to sing out though the story never ends.
Let's celebrate, remember a year in the life of friends.

Remember the love





5 Things you probably Didn't know About....

Bob Klitzke

shops on eBay

had a crush on Farrah Fawcett

would be an accountant if he wasn't a teacher

was a football player and a basketball player

considers Bud Grant his hero



Stephanie Kappel



1 plays french horn

2 had a childhood crush on Andy Gibb

3 would be a lawyer if she didn't teach

4 played volleyball, basketball and ran track

5 thinks of her mom as her hero



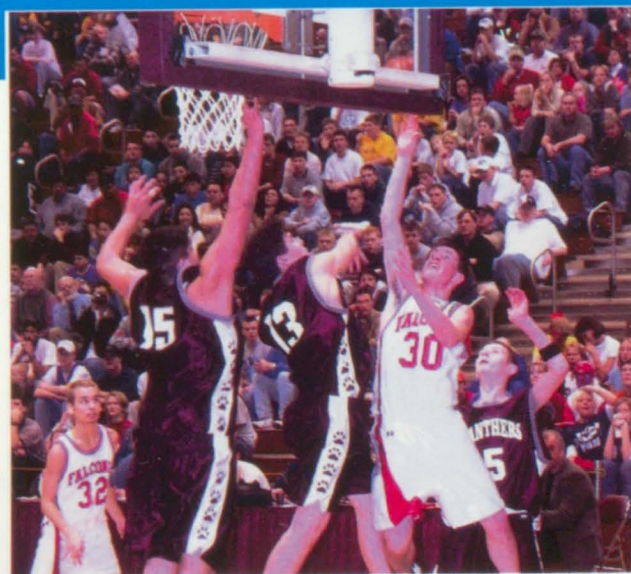
Susan Lund

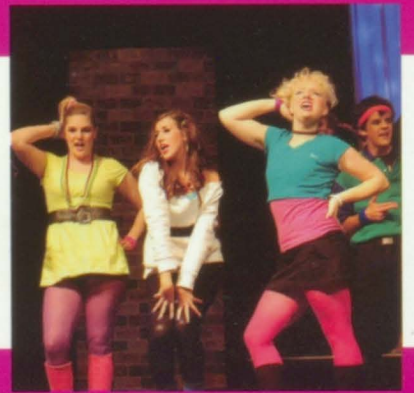


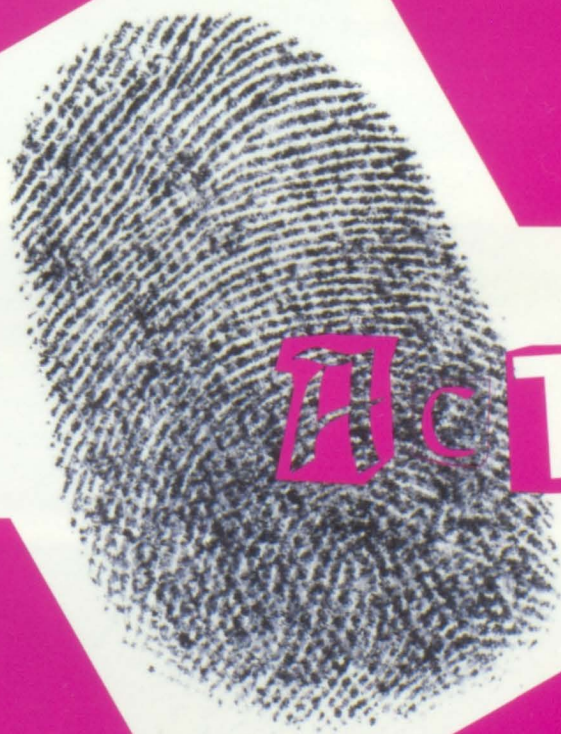
- 1 loves Anime and used to keep bees
- 2 had a crush on her friend Peter
- 3 would like to be a photographer or a writer
- 4 didn't play sports, but she lettered in debate and speech
- 5 considers her older sister to be her hero

Dusty Neibauer

- 1 used to have hair down to his shoulders
- 2 had a childhood crush on Princess Leia
- 3 would like to have been an FBI agent
- 4 played football, basketball, golf, baseball and ran track
- 5 thinks Obi-Wan Kenobi is his hero







Activities

Involved as Leaders

Service. Scholarship. Leadership. Character. These are the four characteristics that National Honor Society students strive to represent. This year, 131 members were inducted during the November ceremony.

Students realize that being inducted into NHS is a prestigious honor.

"Being in NHS is one of the highest honors you can achieve in high school, so you want to make a good name for yourself, your school, and your community," said Jensen.

NHS member requirements include completing service hours, maintaining at least a 3.5 grade point average, participating in at least three extra curricular

activities, and being a good role model for not only their school but their community as well.

Members have to complete a minimum of 40 hours of service. In addition to serving others, NHS also gives students a sense of responsibility.

"NHS makes you responsible and gives you experience with volunteering, so you want to continue doing it," said senior Sarah Northrup, a three year member and a cabinet member.

Students completed many different activities to complete required service hours.

Junior Margaux Jensen said she volunteered at the annual Dollars for Scholars phone-a-thon, while seniors Justin Ratzlaff and

Melanie Grangaard, both three year members and cabinet members, flipped pork patties at the Carver County Fair.

Another major component of NHS is scholarship. Members must balance their extracurricular activities and volunteer hours while maintaining their 3.5 G.P.A.

"It's easy to keep my grades up while doing all of my activities. I am organized, and NHS has helped me become that way," said Grangaard.

Members must participate in at least three extra curricular activities to be inducted.

The extracurricular requirement helps students to become involved in their school and community.

Extracurricular requirements also

provide students with opportunities to demonstrate their leadership and character skills.

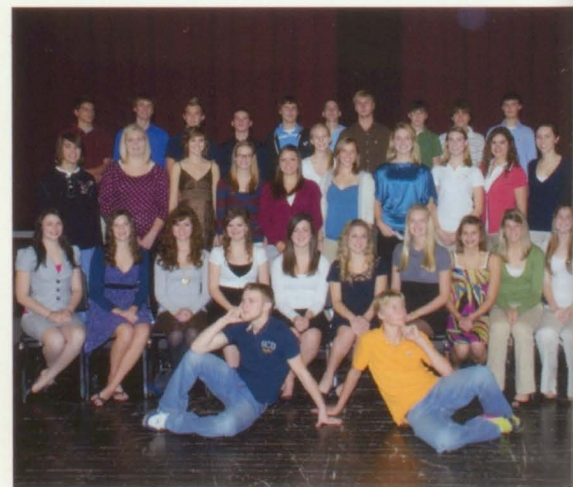
"Being a good role model is easy as long as you've got your priorities set straight, and you choose not to do bad stuff," said Ratzlaff.

With all the positive qualities NHS members demonstrate, it's no surprise members have had a positive experience doing good for others.

"NHS gives me that warm fuzzy feeling inside when I see something I've done make a difference in the school or the community," said Grandgaard.

Seniors Front Row: Keelan Ryan, Anders Culver; Second Row: Jared Pawelk, Jacklyn Surat, Scotti Moats, Mary Polding, Gattlin Miller, Mercedes Tolzmann, Hannah Kimyon, Stephanie Wothe, Kyla Thorson, Kyla Smith; Third Row: Brianna Sullivan, Dianne Parkinson, Sarah Northrup, Emily Halvorson, Kjerstin Haugsby, Stephanie Wymore, Cassandra Norton, Rachel Mathwig, Kelsey Connor; Fourth Row: Ken Miyamoto, Tyler Stevenson, Matthew Gibbs, Kyle Pigeon, Steven Wert, Elijah Stangret, Patrick Van Kirk, Hallie Miller, Melanie Grangaard, Justin Ratzlaff; Fifth Row: Caitlin Giesen, Margo Schwartz, Kara Pioske, Jackson Melius, Nicholas Hennen.

Juniors Front Row: Dillon Pomeroy, Jackson Mitchell; Second Row: Anna Weitz, Emily Mueller, Margaux Jensen, Lisa Rasmussen, Kelsey Brennan, Rebecca Kimyon, Becky Boughten, Brittany Van Houtte, Allison Dunkelberger, Leah Christensen; Third Row: Gunnar Sipper, Laurel Pierson, Jennifer Cafarella, Meredith Proulx, Stephanie McGinn, Emily Ludvigson, Kelsey Woodland, Kelsey Peters, Alyssa Hennen, Rebecca Hughes; Fourth Row: Michael Brown, Patrick Logelin, Justin Spurbeck, Reese Weber, Daniel Fischbach, Britta Rinke, Michael Murray, Logan Sohns, Jesse Sterner, Joseph Sandholm, Benjamin Metling.



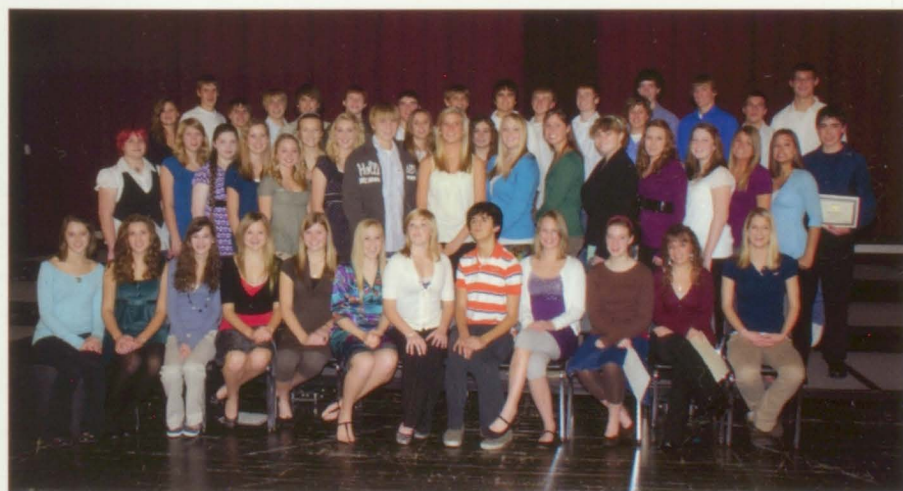


Left: Senior Justin Ratzlaff lights a candle to symbolize leadership before reading his speech. Ratzlaff was one of this year's NHS cabinet members.

Below Left: Senior Anders Culver accepts his plaque from NHS Advisor Melissa Weinand and Principal Mark Fredericksen. Below: Seniors Melanie Grandgaard and Sarah Northrup volunteered their time on Friday, Nov. 14 to help load food for the Stuff-A-Truck event. Service is one of the four components of NHS. The other components include leadership, scholarship and character.



40 minimum GPA of **3.5** **1** great leader
3 service hours **3** extracurricular activities



Sophmores Front Row: Caitlyn Engler, Katelyn Bouchard, Julia Johnson, Alyse Herman, Annabel Jacobs, Anna Christensen, Madilynn Honnold, Sean Linden, Abigale Christenson, Nicole Sullivan, Amanda Beaulieu, Turi Hjelmsand; Second Row: Kaitlyn Andersen, Dawn Miller, Ariel Shane, Victoria Larkin, Jessica Heimdal, Marisa Melchert, Meghan Radde, Jake Durkin, Kelcey Albers, Chandra Honebrink, Taylor Gregory, Quincee Raymond, Kendra Johnson, Autumn Ament, Brock Bender, Chaneen Haler, Larkin Scholla, Whitney Buesgens, Rachel Flemig, Maxwell Herrera; Third Row: Annmarie Powers, Tanner Friedrich, Dennis Rathke, Eric Durkin, Steven Fischer, Zachary Leshner, William Jantz, Calvin Brown, Josh Frischmon, Matthew Lund, Nicholas Hennen, Timothy Deweese, Luke Kassmeyer, Micheal Schuette, Shelby Moats.

Far Below: Senior Amanda Quiring performs a dance to the song "Breathe In Breathe Out" by Matt Kearney at the Living Live Festival on Dec. 12. Quiring was one of the many students who performed at Living Live, a concert put on collaboratively by the NAHS and SADD organizations.

Below: Senior Ashley Read sings and plays her guitar during her set at the fourth annual Living Live event. Read, who is a member of NAHS, has performed at previous Living Lives.

Right: Junior Kelsey Sorenson does an art activity with a kindergartener at Southview Elementary.



**Why
do
Art
?**

So you will be human.
So you will recognize and appreciate true beauty.
So you can communicate from the very depths of your soul.
So you will be sensitive to life and the peoples within it.
So you will be closer to an infinite beyond this world.
So you will have more love, more
compassion, more gentleness - more life.

Bottom Row: Jessica McGinn, Kyle Niebling, Hannah Kimyon, Eric Held, Margaux Jensen; Top Row: Jessica Hunter, Cassandra Faust, Cecelia Findorff, Jeremy Reichenberger



Create!

Students Growing in Art

National Art Honor Society has steadily grown over the past few years. It now has more than 55 members.

NAHS is an organization for students interested and involved in art in their school and community. It gives students the opportunity to take part in many art related projects and activities. The goal of the Waconia chapter is to create, display, and spread art throughout the community.

"NAHS is fun, educational, and creative," said Vice President Jessica Hunter.

Every year NAHS members paint the set of the fall musical and spring play. This year, a stencil created last year by NAHS members was reused again to embellish the football field for

Homecoming. A new group project this year was painting designated "Home" and "Away" sections above the bleachers in the gym for sporting events.

Apart from these group projects, members were also encouraged to take part in organizing individual and small group activities. Juniors Anna Weitz, Kelsey Sorenson, and seniors Kelly Munson and Molly Helmbrecht went to Southview Elementary and did art activities with kindergarten students.

The two biggest events NAHS takes part in are Living Live and the Coffee House. Living Live is a partnership between NAHS and SADD. NAHS's focus during Living Live is coming up with an artistic theme, following through with decorations, and designing

t-shirts. NAHS members help plan and coordinate the Coffee House, a student-led music event held each May.

Each year, members also get the opportunity to go on a field trip to the Minneapolis/Saint Paul area. This year's field trip was very similar to last year's, with students going to the Art Institute of Minnesota, as well as partaking in an art workshop. Students also had the opportunity to participate in a bookbinding class at the Minnesota Center for Book Arts. The field trip ended with the group visiting the Midtown Global Market.

This year's NAHS officers were President Hannah Kimyon, Vice President Jessica Hunter, Secretary Jeremy Reichenberger, Treasurer Kyle Neibling, Public

Relations/Activities Officers Eric Held, Cassandra Faust, and Jessica McGinn, and Junior Officers Cecelia Findorff and Margaux Jensen.

Helping to spread art throughout the community, the laid back environment of NAHS makes for a creative and free environment in which its members can thrive. Overall, members can become educated in art while still having a lot of fun.

"One of the most important lessons being in NAHS has taught me is learning to see the value of art and how much it can enrich people's lives," said senior Kelly Munson. "You get to help people and see the joy they experience when they create something beautiful."

Right: Senior Naomi Rakow works on an art project with pastel in AP Art. Aside from being a member of the AP art class, Rakow is also a National Art Honor Society Member.

Far right: Senior Kelly Munson assists Southview Elementary student Brianna Wallert with a bubble art activity. In addition to creating an art project, the activity also taught the students about what results when the primary colors are mixed.



IN Depth

A Community Focus

The Family Career and Community Leaders of America chapter of the 2008-2009 school year was filled with numerous in depth projects to help the community.

Many of these projects focused not only on fundraising, but on educating members of the community, with a focus on youth.

One major chapter in-depth project this year was called "Operation Respect." The leaders of this project were junior Allison Armstrong and junior Rachel Helmbrecht.

The focus of Operation Respect was to teach stop the violence and non-bullying strategies to students in kindergarten through fourth grade.

All FCCLA members were encouraged to take part in this project. Participating members would then be put into groups, and groups would go twice a month to either Bayview or Southview Elementary Schools.

With the help of the elementary school counselors, the participants would put on skits and do activities to show the negative effects of bullying and violence.

Another interesting project this year was done by juniors Stephanie McGinn, Cecelia Findorff and Nicole Fladung. The group organized a public relations project to reach out to community youth by going to Clearwater Middle School to speak with fifth and sixth grade students about getting

involved in FCCLA. The group visited Mrs. Simonson's Family and Consumer Science classes.

"We felt doing public relations for FCCLA was important because being a member of this organization can be very beneficial to students. Being a part of FCCLA teaches and helps you better understand the fundamentals of life: family, career, and community," said McGinn.

Created during Global Youth Service Week, The Waconia High School Memory Garden was a concept executed by seniors Jessica Hunter and Maddie Brown.

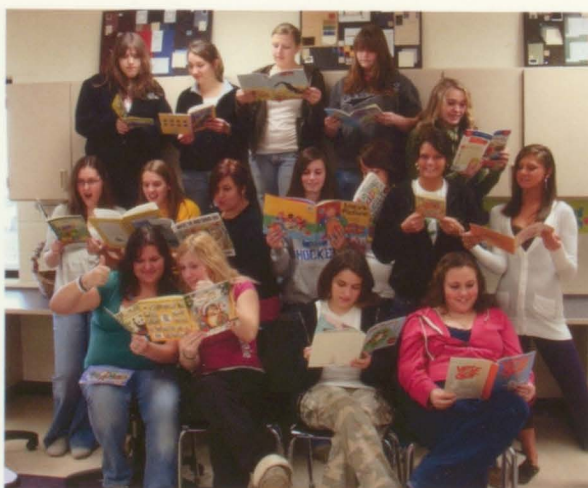
Students, their parents, and the staff were invited to purchase \$25 memory bricks to pave a small area in the garden.

Some bricks were engraved with the names of students and their accomplishments as a memory of their time at WHS.

Other bricks were placed in memory of students and faculty and staff who have passed away. Multiple bricks were placed for some, such as memorial bricks for physical education teacher Connie Manuel, who passed away last year.

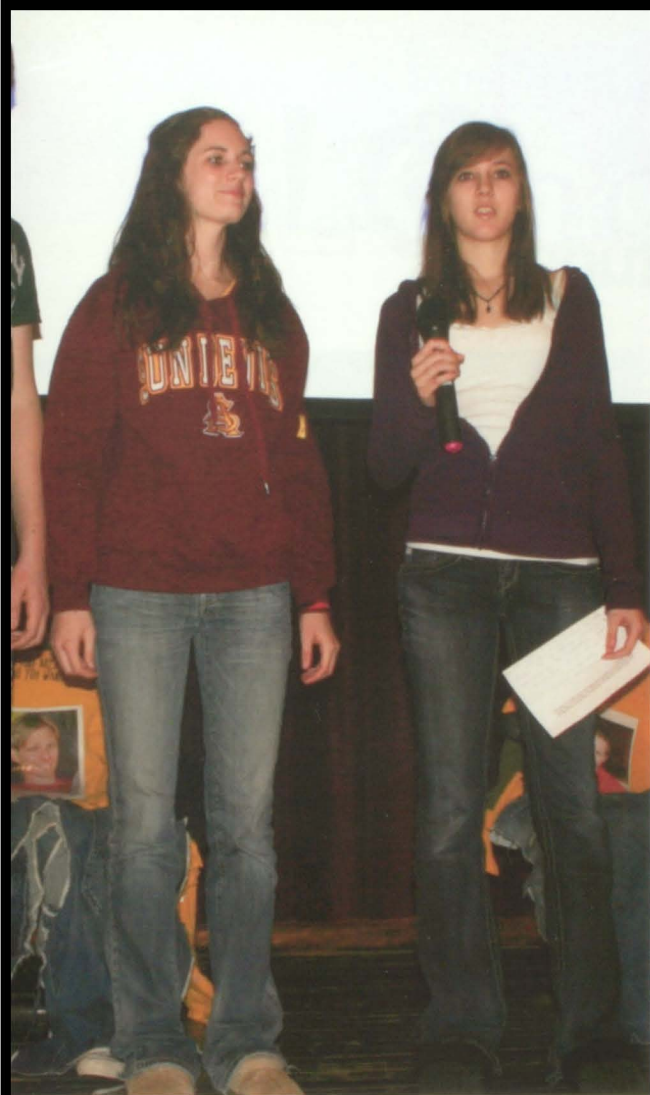
The area behind the school will be made into a garden using donations of money as well as sand, dirt, and plants.

FCCLA and its members, with their concern and involvement for and in the community, helped this to make the school and the surrounding areas better.



Far Left: Seniors Trevor O'Konek, Amanda Iverson, Jared Pawelk, and Nicole Holasek pose in their Halloween costumes. FCCLA member organized the Second Annual Halloween Dress Up Day for the student and staff.

Left: FCCLA members enjoy books collected during a book drive. FCCLA members Molly Helmbrecht and Amber Ickes organized a literacy project, "The Kids Korner," to spread the joys of reading to youth. They donated baskets of books to classrooms in local daycare centers.



Left: Freshman Daniel Cafarella and juniors Kera Jones and Jennifer Cafarella introduce Winterfest week guest speakers, the Backstrom Family. Their FCCLA project focused on the story of the Backstroms, and how drunk driving can affect lives. Top: Junior Cecelia Fendorff gives a non-bullying presentation to a group of Southview Elementary students. Bottom Left: Seniors Whitney Watts and Caty Giesen wrestle in sumo suits at the FCCLA lock-in. Bottom Right: Juniors Katie Grinnell, Bethany Aeling, and Katie Schuman give their Star Event presentation at the FCCLA Open House, while advisor Sue Hartwig evaluates their presentation.



Front Row: Ramya Melichar, Meghan Midthun, Tori Larkin, Alyse Herman, Katie Daherty, Jessica Heimdal, Jessica Kullmann, Marisa Melchert; Middle Row: Sean Linden, Chelsea Vanderhoff, Mariah Schoonover, Alyssa Giesen, Alli Corson, Kindra Melichar, Jennifer Kallio, Alina Mareno; Back Row: Ellie Haggenmiller, Anna Pogatchnik, Callie Schroeder, Katie Heenie, Jimmy Froehling, Daniel Cafarella, Dacotah Smith



Front Row: Margo Schwartz, Alexa Klos, Glenda Pomare, Hannah Kimyon, Megan Rademacher, Rebecca Lund, Jessica Vogel, Maddie Brown, Amber Ickes; Middle Row: Kerry Hayes, Whitney Watts, Caty Giesen, Kyle Wall, Cassandra Faust, Mercedes Tolzmann, Kyra Daugherty, Christina Rupp, Shana Froehling, Stephanie Wothe, Kyla Thorson, Maggi Stivers, Sarah Farlow; Back Row: Rachel Helmbrecht, Kera Jones, Jennifer Cafarella, Allyson Klitzke, Laurel Pierson, Kylie Zawada, Cecelia Findorff, Nicole Wynsteker, Emily Mueller, Molly Helmbrecht, Allison Armstrong, Cassandra Norton, Katie Grinnell, Stephanie McGinn, Bethany Aeling, Katie Schuman, Cassidy Stumm



This year's FCCLA officers are really on top of things. Bottom Row: Shana Froehling, Stephanie McGinn, Allison Armstrong; Middle Row: Alexa Klos, Hannah Kimyon; Top Row: Cassandra Norton

Leaders

Among Students

The 2008-2009 Student Council was advised by two new co-advisors, Dustin Neibauer and Drew Sodey, and with new people come fresh ideas.

Even with the new visions and ideas of the co-advisors, Student Council members still had a lot of planning to do.

"To be in Student Council, you have to work a lot harder than most people think," said Student Council President Justin Ratzlaff.

Student Council members had to get to school early every alternating Mondays to attend 7 A.M. meetings

"It requires intuitivism and teamwork," said Sodey.

One way Student Council members demonstrated their intuitivism was with the formation

of a brand new event at this year's pep rally. The event was originally scheduled to be a rib eating contest, but it was replaced with a hot dog eating contest.

"The rib eating contest could not take place because some of the Hole Hog Heaven employees were in a car accident, so the manager could not spare any more employees," said Student Council member junior Merideth Proulx.

Another fresh idea that came this year was re-creating the Homecoming dance and hosting the dance at WHS, not at an outside location like past years.

"The Homecoming dance was different this year because it took place in the cafeteria instead of the barn, like last year," said senior Student Council member Kyle

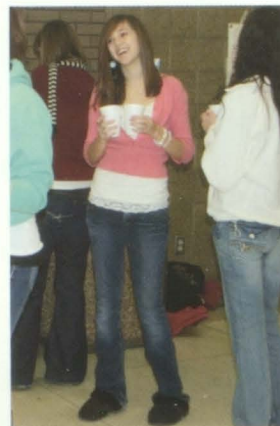
Wall.

This year, the 25 members helped during Homecoming events and activities and brought the students together to help the community during Service Night.

Prior to winter break, Student Council members also promoted good cheer by handing out hot cocoa to students as they entered the building.

Council members also helped plan Winterfest activities, including the annual Red Cross blood drive, and assisted with the Winter Olympic events.

"We promote school unity by planning activities and try to create a good school atmosphere," said Sodey.



Left: Student Council member junior Jennifer Cafarella passes out hot chocolate on a cold day to students as they walk through the front door into school. Student Council passed out hot chocolate a couple times throughout the winter season.



Below: Student Council members Justin Ratzlaff and Melanie Grangaard greet and register blood donors senior Alex Gallup and senior Stephanie Wothe at the Feb. 11 blood drive.

Front Row: Emily Halverson, Gattin Miller, Justin Ratzlaff, Melanie Grangaard.
Top row: Marissa Melchert,
Second Row: Meredith Proulx, Kelsey Peters, Jennifer Cafarella, Kelsey Wood-land, Sean Linden, Lisa Kittleson, Anna Whitts.
Third Row: Victoria Haler, Whitney Watts, Paige Weiland, Larkin Scholla, Amanda Beaulieu, Chaneen Haler, Katie Heenie, David Niaz.



Lend a Hand

Leave a Fingerprint



Above: Seniors Tyler Stevenson, Kyle Wall, and Steven Wert are collecting food from Lauren Lesh's class during the first week of Stuff-A-Truck. Lesh's class collected 306 lbs. of food, earning donuts for the entire class.

Left: Senior Sarah Northrup packs food into boxes at the school loading dock. The food was loaded in a truck and sent to Machenthuns.

Peer Helpers is a group of 20 sophomores, juniors and seniors that strive to be a positive role model in our school.

"Our goal is to make the school more united," said senior Patrick Van Kirk.

They work especially hard at the beginning of the year when a new school can be overwhelming for a new student.

To help new students feel more welcome, the Peer Helpers hosted a pizza party for all new and foreign exchange students.

"I like knowing that I helped make new students feel comfortable, and when they see me, they see a friendly face," said junior Maddie Asbjornson.

A pizza party for new students was just one of many activities

Peer Helpers organized. They also sponsored Kindness Week and the Penny Challenge. Their activities helped both the school and the District 110 communities.

The favorite activity of Peer Helpers that they do each year is Stuff-a-Truck.

This year from Oct. 27 to Nov. 14 Peer Helpers encouraged students to bring non-perishable food items to their first hour class for the 6th annual Stuff-a-Truck. Peer Helpers members hung posters, made announcements, and rewarded prizes.

Weeks one and two were won by Mrs. Lesh's class with totals of 306 and 197 pounds of food.

The final winner at the end of the three weeks was band/choir with a total of 1,224 pounds of

food.

The overall total of food shipped off to Mackenthuns was 3471 pounds, which was stuffed into a large truck and taken to food shelves all over Carver County.

Peer Helpers helped a lot of people this year, both students in the school and people in the community.

"The main function of Peer Helpers is to provide our school with a group of positive role models dedicated to bettering our school and community," senior Tyler Stevenson said. "We do this by planning functions such as the Stuff-A-Truck campaign and Kindness Week."



Left: First Row: Brittany Van Houtte, Cassie Norton, Maddie Asbjornson, Brock Bender, Tyler Stevenson, Steven Wert, Jessica Heimdal; Second Row: Advisor Lynette Alger, Justin Spurbeck, Kyle Wall, Patrick Van Kirk, Becky Boughten, Danny Fischbach, Maddie Brown, Gavin Woodland, Alyssa Hennen, Sarah Northrup, Alli Dunkelberger, Kelsey Brennan, Melanie Grangaard.

LIVE ABOVE

the Influence

Motor vehicle crashes remain the number one cause of death among youth ages 15 to 20. According to statistics released in 2006, 31 percent of those who were killed were either drinking or had been hit by a drunk driver.

SADD, Students Against Destructive Decisions, is trying to change those statistics by promoting a healthy lifestyle through annual activities such as Red Ribbon week and having victims of destructive decisions share their stories.

Advisor Dana Rathmanner and eight SADD council members lead all activities. All council members are seniors Hallie Miller, Kyra Daughtry, Sarah Northrup, Lucy Togen, Gattlin Miller, Emily Halvorson, and Mercedes

Tolmann. They get together once a week and discuss upcoming events, activities and how the council will engage the 200 students who are all involved in the SADD chapter.

When all members are together, they decide on activities that they are going to do for the upcoming event.

"There is no other program out there trying to get the message out that we are *all* leaders and that anyone can be in it," said Kyra Daughtry.

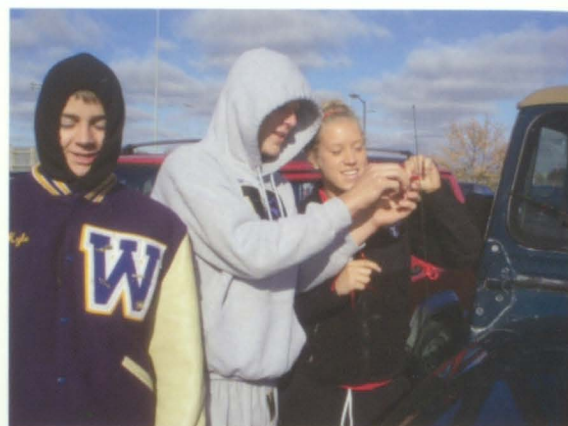
One main event that SADD sponsors is Red Ribbon week, which was held Oct. 27-31. The goal is trying to get students to understand the dangers of making destructive decisions. This year, Lori Lohman, shared her story

about being seriously injured by a driver who was under the influence of alcohol.

SADD members also put together a red paper linked chain that had 12,998 links to symbolize how many drinking-related deaths there were in the year of 2007 in the state of Minnesota. It took a little over ten hours to make the chain, and five hours to hang it up around the school.

According to Rathmanner, SADD membership has many benefits.

"In SADD there are events that pursue kids to make good decisions, but also do other creative stuff to get everyone aware and to show them the good and bad in a situation you may be in," said Dana Rathmanner.



Above: SADD members seniors Kyla Wall, Kyle Pigeon, and Cassie Nor placed red ribbons on the students cars during Red Ribbon Week.



Left: SADD members senior Tyler Stevenson and junior Nicole Flaudun make the pledge as they light their candles. Red Ribbon Week and the Pledge ceremony were set up to promote a healthy lifestyle.

Right: senior Caleb Talbert perform at the SADD third annual Living Live show in the commons area. There was a wide variety of entertainment including singing and dancing. Anyone from the high school could sign up to perform at this event.



Above: Senior Mercedes Tolmann helped hang up the paper chain around the school that symbolized Nation wide deaths due to drunk driving.

Tutor

Heroes

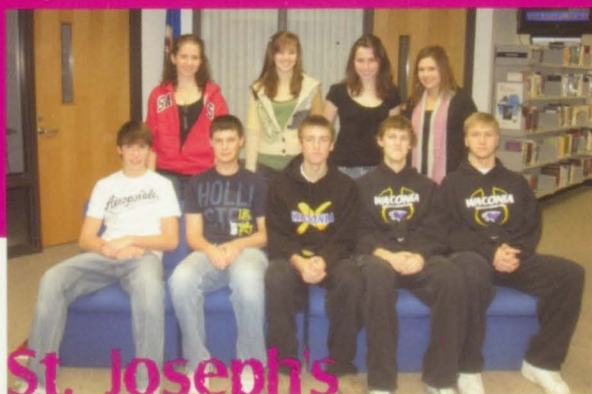
Ensuring Success



Bayview



Southview



St. Joseph's

Bayview: Front Row: Kendra Johnson, Britta Rinke, Morgan Schultz, Quincee Raymond, Rachel Flemig, and Cassie Norton; Back Row: Matt Corwin, Dane Aadland, Cassie Faust, and Zach Synstegaard

Southview: Front Row: Amanda Quiring, Hallie Miller, Amy Krautbauer, Gattlin Miller, and Steven Wert; Back Row: Brittney Lechner, Kelsey Lechner, Kelsey Peters, Tanner Friedrich, Scottie Moats, and Jennifer Kallio

St. Joseph's: Front Row: Jesse Sterner, Benjamin Metling, Patrick Logelin, Danny Fischbach, and Logan Sohns; Back Row: Stephanie Gregoire, Jenny Cafarella, Rebecca Hughes, and Katie Heenie

Every Tuesday and Thursday morning, 50 Waconia High School students get up early to be at one of the Waconia elementary schools by 7:15 a.m. to tutor first through third graders.

These high school students are a part of America Reads, a program that helps elementary kids with their English and math skills.

Every year, each high school student gets paired up with an elementary school student to practice vocabulary, math, and reading skills.

America Reads is not all work and no fun, however.

According to senior Cassie Faust, a tutor at Bayview Elementary, once the students are finished with the work, they like to spend their free time playing

games.

In contrast, when Southview Elementary students are done with their work, the tutors encourage the children pick a book to read to their tutor senior Scottie Moats explained.

Waconia High School Media Specialist Melissa Weinand is the America Reads program advisor. Her main duty is to work with the elementary school principals to ensure everything runs smoothly.

"We pair students; the only thing we will try to do is match boys with boys and girls with girls," said Weinand.

Faust, a dedicated volunteer who has been involved with American Reads for over two years, noted that America Reads is a "really good project because it's

really rewarding."

The rewards of America Reads may even extend past high school.

"I like to work with little kids because I'm going into elementary education," said Faust.

One memory that Faust said she will never forget was this past Valentine's Day when she asked the little boys what they got for their girlfriends, and the boys were grossed out.

As for Moats, she said the best part of the experience is when she sees the kids getting better at the subject and enjoying what they are learning.

"They are just so cute and love learning from the older kids. Sometimes what they say is really funny because they're so little," said Moats.



Left: Juniors Kelsey Woodland and Meredith Proulx review vocabulary cryptograms and word finds for first and third graders. Woodland tutored at Bayview Elementary, and Proulx tutored at St. Joe's Catholic School. America Reads students met with elementary students before school and worked with the elementary students on math and English assignments. Once the tutoring session was over, the students would play games with their elementary student or practice oral reading.

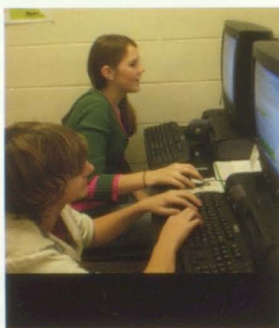
Perspectives

Telling our Story



Above: Junior Britney Van Houtte and senior Leire De La Fuente look over interview questions while writing a story about athletes' superstitions.

Left: Freshmen Nick Nothom and sophomore Kara Stroming work on their articles. Nothom wrote an article about roundabouts in Waconia. Stroming wrote about show choir and the freshmen retreat.



This year's Tracks newspaper staff had a goal to produce three newspapers and include more freshman and sophomore students on the staff so they could get a point of view from the younger students.

This group consisted of a total of fifteen members, nine students enrolled in the journalism course and six students who participated as part of an extracurricular activity.

The editorial committee included seniors Lynne McMullen, David Butz, and Hannah Kimyon.

The school newspaper was considered a co-curricular activity because students worked on the paper in school during the journalism class and outside of school as an extracurricular

activity.

The staff brainstormed before each issue to decide what topics would be timely and relevant to students.

"Topics we write about are current events in the community and the school, as well as issues of interest to the students and staff," said editorial committee member Lynne McMullen.

"Additionally, we cover sports and activities here at school, and occasionally, feature specific students and their achievements."

Students had various duties on the newspaper staff, everything from writing stories to completing layout.

"The most interesting part of writing in the paper is being able to interact with some pretty

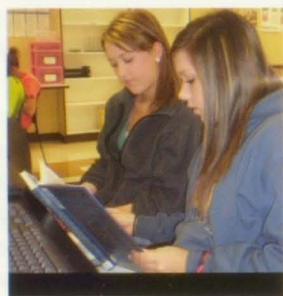
interesting interview subjects," said senior Hannah Kimyon.

When producing a paper, the staff usually worked independently, and they also met as a group to discuss deadlines. The editors met to design spreads and finish the layout.

"Working on Tracks has taught me how much work goes into creating a newspaper," said McMullen.

Tracks is not only a time to make a newspaper, but also a time to have some fun meeting new people and making new friends.

"Working on Tracks has been a good opportunity to work with people that I usually don't cross paths with," said McMullen.



Left: Juniors Elizabeth Nord and Stephanie McGinn look through the Waconia history book while preparing for their story about Waconia's Coney Island. Nord and McGinn were enrolled in the Journalism course.

Right: Front Row: Alexandria Swanson, Lynne McMullen, Nick Nothom
Back Row: David Butz, Kara Stroming, Angela Carner, Leire De La Fuente, Bennett Frey



Fingerprints

Leaving our Mark

"I'm leaving you my legacy. I gotta make my mark. I gotta run it hard. I want you to remember me. I'm leaving my fingerprints." This 2008 Katy Perry song, "Fingerprints," became Co-editor-in-Chief Jeremy Reichenberger's inspiration as he coined the 2008-2009 theme, Fingerprints.

After much brainstorming and many suggestions, the 47 students in the Introduction to Yearbook courses and the editorial staff chose Fingerprints as the book's theme.

"It's a cool concept. High school is all about leaving your mark, and that's something we all want to do," said Senior Editor Jessica Vogel.

In addition to Reichenberger and Vogel, this year's editors

included Co-Editor-in-Chief Kjerstin Haugsby and Design Editor Maddie Asbjornson.

This year's staff wanted to make a break with tradition by creating a less verbal, more visual theme.

They also made a statement with the design of the book by having a more contemporary, pop art theme, including using students' actual fingerprints for section the fronts.

Although the staff aimed to produce a great book, there were glitches along the way.

According to Advisor Megan Gregor, the biggest pressure is with technology. This year the students struggled when the camera broke in October. Luckily, Taylor Publishing provided an extra camera.

An outdated scanner caused another problem. Once again, Taylor came to the rescue, providing the staff with a new scanner.

"It was hectic because we had scanned all the pictures using the old scanner, and we had to rescan all of them using the new one, which took up a lot of time," said Gregor.

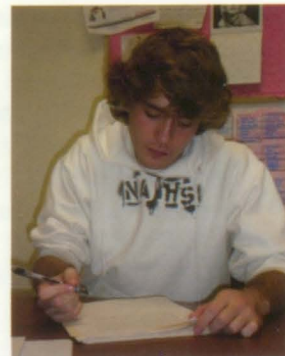
This year the staff is really excited about how the book will turn out.

"Seeing the vision of the book come into reality is really exciting. The yearbook is something most of us will have for the rest of our lives and it's an honor to be able to say that I played a part in creating it," said Reichenberger.



Above: Sophomores Julie Zakashefski and Emily Sandborn share a laugh during the Intro to Yearbook course. Zakashefski and Sandborn were part of the first trimester course. Students enrolled in the course were responsible for many of the first and second deadline spreads.

Right: Co-Editor-in-Chief Jeremy Reichenberger works on editing yearbook copy. Reichenberger, along with Co-Editor-in-Chief Kjerstin Haugsby, made sure everything was finalized before the yearbook staff's final deadlines.



Stop Up and Stand Out

When someone mentions FFA, it may be automatic to assume he or she is referring to the Future Farmers of America. However, since 1988 this group has been known as the National FFA Organization.

Every year, FFA members strive to make the world a better place, while having fun too. Members participate in a wide range of agricultural educational activities at the local, state and national level.

During the fall, when the farmers harvest their corn, members asked local farmers to donate money or corn for Camp Courage, a program that is supported through donations and helps handicapped and mentally challenged kids and adults.

The corn was gathered and sold to a local elevator.

This year the Waconia FFA chapter collected enough corn to donate over \$2,200 to the Camp Courage organization.

One new change to the 2008-2009 chapter is the increased membership.

"For the past four years, Waconia did not have many members, so we joined up with Chaska. But this year we have over fifteen members, so we competed separately," said Dennis Bjorklund who's been the advisor for the past 29 years.

Junior Kara Wynsteker, a first year member said, "Competing against Chaska was really fun, and although it's a competition, everyone was extremely nice."

Wynsteker spends her time participating in animal judging contests and working with horses.

New and returning members alike participated in a variety of activities.

Senior Kelsey Hoen, a fourth year member, shows dairy cattle at both the county and state level. She said that her highlight of the year was winning first place with her junior calf at the Minnesota State Fair.

Zack Woytcke, a senior, lives on a dairy goat farm, milks one hundred goats everyday, and competed on the dairy judging team.

With the numerous opportunities available in this organization, Bjorklund said he hopes that FFA continues to grow at WHS.



Above: Juniors Missy Geiszler and Travis Drees shovel corn during the FFA Corn Drive. Local farmers could donate either corn or money, which was donated to Camp Courage. This year's FFA chapter collected \$2,200. Right: Senior Sam Anderson, a fourth year member, works on a dairy farm. He fed silage to the dairy cows before milking them.



Front Row: Missy Geiszler, Laurel Pierson, Nicole Wynsteker, Jacob Melchert and Kara Wynsteker;
Second Row: Kelsey Hoen, Christine Leonard, Chelsea Wickenhauser, Kari Anderson and Victoria Haler;
Third Row: Zach Woytcke, Max Herrera, and Sam Anderson;
Back Row: Advisor Dennis Bjorklund



Above: Juniors Kara Wynsteker and Kelsey Sorenson study their notes during the horse judging contest. They judged horsemanship, a class based on how someone performs on horseback.

Live to Ride

the Talents Hidden Among Us



Feeling the wind blow through one's hair and hearing the crowd roar are two feelings the equestrian team members may feel each time they enter the show arena.

The equestrian team became an organized activity three years ago.

People who enjoy horseback riding now can now join the equestrian club and participate in dressage, hunter jumper, eventing, polo, saddle seat or western events.

"It gives students an opportunity to represent their school just like any other athlete," said Advisor Helen Thompson.

This year ten members participated in the club. During most competition events, each member competes individually,

but teammates work together to make each person a stronger and better rider.

This was the first year that western riding was offered, which caused interest in joining.

"I think it's great that we can finally involve more of our high school equestrians in the club," said senior Kyla Smith.

"Waconia has a lot of western riders, so letting them join really increased interest in our club."

Melissa Russell, a new club advisor, said she would like to see activities added.

"We hope to have games added in the future," said Russell.

"Games refers to timed events like barrel racing and pole weaving where the horse and rider combination with the fastest time

wins.

Russell said she enjoyed meeting other people who have the same interest in riding and taking care of horses. Her son Tom was a member of the western team. Tom Russell has been riding for as long as he can remember and said he was training his horse for gaming events.

Like Tom Russell, senior Edith Lee, a three year member, is an experienced rider who has competed in hunter/jumper events throughout the United States. She viewed joining the school's equestrian team as a way to combine her love of horses and an extracurricular activity.

"I love riding horses. I thought it would be good to get involved in school activities," said Lee.



Above: Senior Kyla Smith and her horse Deuce compete in a hunter/jumper event in Hugo, Minnesota. The event was held at Carriage House Farm, and Smith placed third in her class.

Left: Nicole Holasek, Emily Martel, Megan Farlow, Shilo Landskov, Elise Roche, Kyla Smith, Edee Lee and Tom Russell standing around their mascot, Kat.

Below: Sophomore Elise Roche and her horse Kirk compete in the English Pleasure class during a Minnesota High School Equestrian Association show held at the Carver County Fairgrounds.



WE Are GREEN

Conservation Club

When saving the environment is a top priority, why not be in a club whose motto is "Explore, expand and protect our natural resources"?

The Conservation Club conducted many different activities including ditch clean up, tree planting and bird banding.

"We do good things, and people like that," said Conservation Club Advisor Wayne Trapp.

One of the biggest changes to this year's Conservation Club is number of new members. With approximately 100 members, it's one of the school's largest clubs.

"There are a lot of new members this year, so I hope it stays strong," said secretary Dru Delange.

Trapp had his own theories as to why the club's membership

grew so much. He said that many students were not informed about Conservation Club so as word got out, people started to hear about how fun it was.

Another reason the club has become so popular is because it reaches a lot of people's interests through the variety of activities available.

"I love Conservation Club because we actually do something good for the environment," said Patrick Van Kirk, Conservation Club vice-president.

Because of the growing membership of the club, there have been some changes added to one of the group's favorite activities - the Boundary Waters Canoe Area trip.

Due to the popularity of the trip,

this year three to six groups of twelve members that best qualify will be going. In order to qualify, members have to have attended two-thirds of the scheduled meetings and participated in a number of scheduled activities.

"The Boundary Waters trip is definitely the most fun and it is the final trip," said Eric Wolf, Conservation Club president. "You get to use a lot of the skills you learned in the club over the years."

Conservation Club members may not be able to save the world's major problems, but they can attempt to better the environment and District 110 communities.

"Conservation Club is one way to a greener, cleaner world," said Pete Brettingen, Conservation Club treasurer.



Above: The Conservation Club Tree Planting Committee is busy planting trees around the High school and Middle school.



Left: Junior Kelsey Woodland tries releasing her bird after the banding at the Lowry Nature Center in Carve Park.



Left: Front Row: Ashley Walter, Madeline Brown, Jessica Vogel, Mitchell Gunderson, Nicole Holasek, Jonathan Heimdal, Marissa Lind, Nicole Winkelman, Kaitlyn Heenie; Middle Row: Nicole Gregory, Kelsey Peters, Britta Rinke, Brittany VanHoutte, Alyssa Hennen, Dakota Hart, Kaydee Bohanon, Elijah Stangret, Emily Halvorson, Chealsea Wickenhauser, Jacklyn Surat, Kari Anderson, Melissa Geiszler; Back Row: Travis Genz, Shane Hallstrom, Nathan Kelzer, Dru Delange, Benjamin Metling, Patrick Van Kirk, Eric Wolf, Benjamin Tegels

Below: The fur-clad Conservation Club officers include Secretary Dru Delange; Vice-President Patrick Van Kirk; Treasurer Pete Brettingen; and President Eric Wolf.



Cultural Ties

International Club

International Club provides one opportunity for students to be involved in world events, to learn about cool international topics, and to meet new people.

"I enjoyed the day when we met the foreign exchange students. I think that day was a great way to get a feel for different cultures and meet new people," said sophomore Brook Willborg, International Club member.

"I like to see my students being excited to see different cultures," said International Club advisor Kari Stevenson.

The International Club had two presidents this year. Seniors Gattlin Miller and Kelly Deweese served as co-presidents. Their duties included planning events

and meetings, and establishing the rules.

"We make sure that things run smoothly and oversee the setup of events," Miller and Deweese said.

Miller and Deweese both feel the club is worthwhile and enjoyable, but both said they found it difficult to get up early for the 7:15 a.m. meetings every Thursday.

Miller also realized that being a co-president meant being prepared for every meeting and activity.

One of the enjoyable activities the club engaged in is the celebration of different countries' holidays, such as Mexico's *Day of the Dead* and Chinese New Year.

The *Day of the Dead* is a holiday when the living go and pray for

their family members and friends who have died.

Very popular in Latin America, the *Day of the Dead* is generally celebrated on Nov. 1 and 2.

Day one is said to be set apart in honor of the deceased children and infants, whereas day two is in honor of the deceased adults.

The Chinese New Year was celebrated on Jan. 26, 2009, and is based on a lunar calendar. Miller noted that Chinese New Year is really about celebrating family and traditions.

Latino and Chinese cultures were only two of the many cultures examined by the International Club.

"We try to celebrate many different cultures," Miller said.



Above: Gattlin Miller, Sarah Northrup, Marissa Melchert quizzed students at lunch about the Chinese New Year. Eric Durkin, Willam Duran-Lynn and Jonathon Hansen participated. Left: Kelly Deweese, Emily Halvorson, Meghan Radde and Sean Linden are discussing different events for the International Club to host.



Right: Front Row: Meredith Proulx, Meghan Radde, Gattlin Miller, Mary Polding, Hannah Kinyon, Kjerstin Haugsby, Lisa Rasmussen, Rebecca Kimyon, and Victoria Haler; Middle Row: Kelsey Peters, Brianna Sullivan, Caroline Jeff, Jacklyn Surat, Hallie Miller, Jessica Killman, Julia Jonhson, Brook Willborg and Marissa Melchert; Back Row: Rebecca Hughes, Emily Mullen, Heather Kalthoff and Sean Linden



Above: Seniors Kevin Olesen and Alex Osborn are working hard on their molded sugar skulls at an International Club's *Day of the Dead* activity.

Talk to a wall

Not My Hand

As strange as it may sound, the Waconia Speech Team members get very used to talking to a wall.

"Before competitions we all scatter throughout the halls and talk to the walls. That way we can practice our speeches without having to bother someone else to listen," said senior Kjerstin Haugsby, a second year member.

This year marks the one year anniversary of Waconia's Speech Team.

While still an inexperienced team, there aren't too many members, but they all are very enthusiastic about being on the team.

"We even got sweatbands!" jokes junior Nick Allen.

Each member can participate

in thirteen different categories, including anything from serious interpretation of drama, to humorous interpretation, to speeches that students wrote themselves.

Some members found it a little intimidating to be in this group.

"We go into a room with anywhere between four and ten other competitors from our division and one judge," said senior Maggie Stivers. "Everyone's eyes are on you the entire time, and the judge just stares at you. Sometimes the judge will laugh at a joke you make in your piece, but most of the time they just stare without any emotion."

The team competed in six competitions in the area, and

individuals have been awarded several different ribbons and medals for their achievements.

One member who received some awards is senior Aaron Albani, a second year member, who received third place at the Wright County Conference Speech Meet in the prose interpretation category.

While advisor Adam Bristor enjoys it when his students are successful, he sees a bigger purpose for competitive speech involvement.

"It's always a great feeling when my speakers make it to finals, but if they don't, that's fine too. This activity is about becoming confident in your speaking and having a fun time doing it," said Bristor.

Right: Senior Aaron Albani proudly displays his ribbon after placing third in the serious interpretation of prose category at the Wright County Conference Speech Meet held March 12. Below: Junior Gunner Sipper and senior Maggie Stivers wait anxiously in the finals room at the Eden Prairie Speech Tournament. These two competed in the Dynamic Duo category.



Right: Front Row Gunnar Sipper, Robyn Stessen, Maggi Stivers, Kara Bakke, Rachel Mathwig; Back Row: Aaron Albani, Kjerstin Haugsby, Nicholas Allen, Kyle Wall, Eric Held



Above: Senior Kjerstin Haugsby shows off her third place finish in the Serious Interpretation of Drama category at the Eden Prairie Tournament.

Proven Guilty

In the Courtroom



It's quiet at first as everyone takes his or her place. Soon, the case starts to unravel itself as student lawyers, experts and witnesses approach the bench.

This is a typical competition scenario for the Mock Trial team. This year's case involved a man who set off fireworks that caused a wildfire that killed two people.

The group practiced every Monday and Thursday from Oct. until March. This year saw the addition of some new members.

"I went to almost every practice because I have a lot of friends in it, so I thought why not just join?" said senior Kyla Thorson, a first-year member.

Everyone was assigned some type of role for the case.

Sophomore Larkin Scholla was an attorney for the prosecution, while seniors Zac Kassmeyer and David Butz played the role of defense attorneys.

As soon as everyone had his or her role, the group's next task was to practice the case, which may be either a civil or a criminal case.

Every member received a rules and case packet which "includes statements and evidence to the case," said sophomore Angie Carner.

Susan Lund advised the team, and an actual lawyer, Mr. Tim Looby, helped prepare the students.

To better prepare for competitions, Scholla said the team also practiced and

scrimmaged with other schools prior to actual competitions.

During competitions the team defeated teams from Burnsville, Wayzata and Eden Prairie High Schools.

However, most of the students said they were in it for the fun.

"One of the things that makes it so great are all of the inside jokes," said Carner.

Lund believes mock trial helps students to develop confidence in public speaking and to carefully examine both sides of an issue.

This year's team advanced to the region quarterfinals before being defeated by Lakeville South.

Still, members remain optimistic. "I'm really excited for what happens next," said Scholla.



Above: Senior Kyla Thorson explains to Shannon Curtis what she witnessed on the night of the fire. Curtis was an attorney in this year's case while Thorson played the role as Shea Landis, a witness to the fire.

Left: First Row: Kyla Thorson, Cynthia Weiland, Larkin Scholla, Alex Swanson, Angie Carner; Second Row: Emily Wroolson, Mollie Van Arsdale, Autumn Ament, David Butz, Rachel Weitz, Susan Lund; Back Row: Zachary Hintgen, Tyler Bach, Theo Gilliam, Jesse Nelson, Shannon Curtis, Zachary Kassmeyer

Below: Zachary Hintgen and David Butz practice their roles at a competition. Hintgen was an arsonist while Butz was a defense attorney.



All About Math

Sometimes individuals bond and form groups because they have something in common. So what could a select group of freshman, sophomores, juniors, and seniors all have in common? They all love math and are part of the Math League.

This year the group was lead by Coach Eric Hansen, and the team consisted of twelve members, all of whom excelled in their ability and knowledge of mathematics.

Since the team had to prepare for its four month long season, practices were on Mondays after school in Hansen's room. The practices were a great way for those who are math-minded to come together.

"Practices are always a lot of

fun because you get to hang out with people that share the same interests," said Junior Gunnar Sipper.

During practices they would work on various problems and take practice tests from previous years to get a better understanding of what types of problems they would be solving.

Each of the five meets was held at Shakopee High School. Every meet consisted of four individual events, and for the last event, each team selected eight of its members to work together on a problem as a team.

To end the season, all of the teams in the division get together at Shakopee High School and attend the annual pizza party.

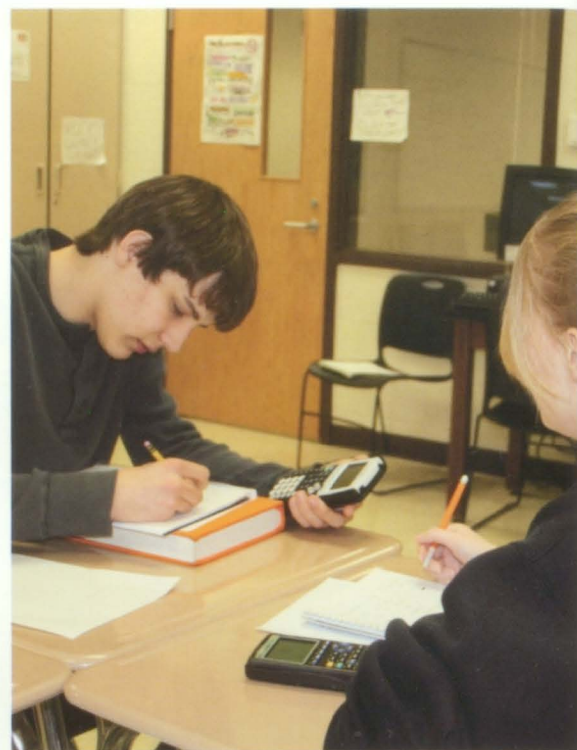
"The pizza party is always a fun way to meet new people and to bond with your team," said senior Edith Lee.

With lots of practice and help from Hansen, the team finished in sixth place in their division, which is an improvement from last year.

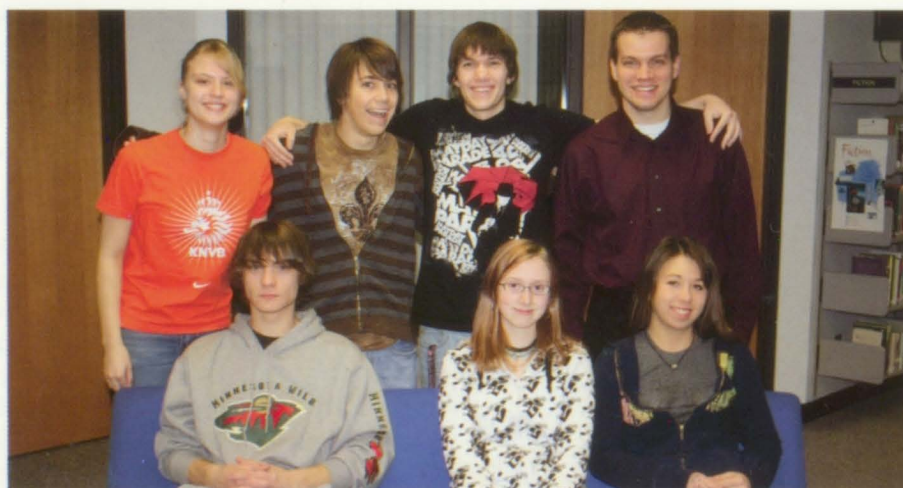
Hansen said that he felt like the kids are really starting to get a sense of what it takes to do well, and he is looking forward to next year.

It seems that team members were happy with their season as well.

"There is always room for improving, but overall, I think we did really well this year and we definitely tried our best," said senior Michael Diehl.



Right: Front Row: Micheal Diehl, Erica Anderson, Edith Lee; Second Row: Robyn Stessen, Gunnar Sipper, Keith Voeler, Head Coach Eric Hansen Far Right: Senior Keith Voeler shows his teammates how to solve a difficult math problem. During practice and between competitions, the teammates would often help each other out to figure out challenging questions.



Above: Senior Aaron Barden and junior Robyn Stessen go over various math problems to prepare themselves for their upcoming meet.



Let It Roll

Bowling Team Debuts

In its first year of existence, the Waconia High School bowling team proudly donned its purple and gold bowling shirts and made its debut in the Mid Central Conference.

One of the school's only co-curricular teams, the bowling team began its season in Sept. 2008 with practices at Waconia Lanes.

Throughout the three month season, the Wildcats won nine games and finished with an overall record of 9-15. Sophomore Erica Anderson was named to the all-conference team.

Unlike the school's other organized teams, which are governed by the Minnesota State High School League, the bowling team is governed by the

Bowling Proprietors Association of Minnesota.

According to team captain Samantha Niccum, Josh Brandenburg, the owner of Waconia Lanes, helped organize the team. Niccum also had a part in the team's organization.

"I wanted to form a bowling team because my brother was on the Norwood team," said Niccum. "I bowl on leagues in Norwood, and my friends in Norwood were all on a high school bowling team, and I wanted to join."

Since the bowling team consisted of both experienced and inexperienced bowlers, team members needed to learn the rules. Team coaches Mark Bentz and Dennis Niccum taught the rules

as well as other fundamentals of good bowling.

"Accuracy and form are the types of skills we worked on to improve," said junior Gunner Sipper.

During a typical competition, the team bowls against two other teams. Five members of the team bowl five games bowling two frames with the best bowlers bowling the four and five spots. The four and five bowlers control the tenth frame and final frame.

Besides organizing a new school activity, Niccum said team members had other goals in mind this year.

"We just wanted to build skills and teach people how the game works," said Niccum.



Above: Sophomore Erica Anderson practices her release while bowling at Waconia Lanes. Anderson made 98 strikes this season and was one of eight bowlers named to the Mid Central All-Conference Team.



Left: Junior Samantha Niccum was the bowling team captain. Niccum has bowled since she was four years old.

Right: Front Row: Samantha Niccum, Erica Anderson; Middle Row: Gunner Sipper, Jordan Lowell; Back Row: Dennis Niccum, Soren Wille, Hunter Boser and Mark Bentz



Above: Erica Anderson was named a member of the Mid Central All-Conference Bowling Team.

Battle Bots

Only the strong survive



Left: Senior Sam Henninger attempts to find a way to fuse dangerous parts to the battlebot in hopes of winning at the Robogames.

Above: Seniors Jeff Grimm and Sam Henninger discuss possible strategies and tools they could use to make a successful robot.

The Robotics Club works as a team to build a robot to compete in the Robogames. The games are held at various locations around the state, and there is a different competition every month.

"We really hoped to make it to the Robogames competition at the Mall of America, but unfortunately, it didn't work out this year," said first year member Jeff Grimm.

The club is still getting used to things since this is only their second year. This year has been much more successful than last year, and the club has hopes to compete by the end of the summer.

"If we can't finish our robot in time to compete during the school year, there is still hope that we may finish it by the end of the

summer, so we can go to the Robogames at the State Fair," said advisor Todd Klein.

The Robotics Club buys their materials with donated money, but it is difficult for them to afford and find the tools they need to build a destructive robot.

"One of the challenges we face is getting all the right materials to build the battlebot. It has to be strong and durable enough to withstand the damage another robot could do, and to win a fight with some pretty powerful robots," said Sam Henninger.

Two ways a robot could destroy its competition are by flipping the other battlebot, or by sawing it in half. This year, the Robotics Club hopes to build a robot that is capable of doing both. This

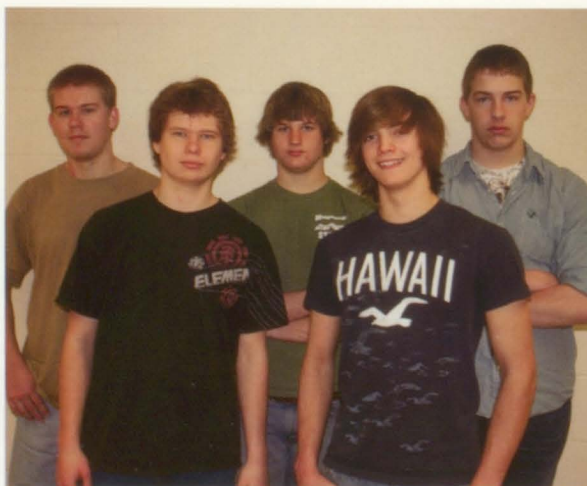
is a struggle though, because no one in the group has ever built a destructive robot before.

"We are all learning from this experience and combining our ideas to make the robot. None of us has worked with battlebots before and we all have something to offer each other," said Klein.

The boys plan to bring in Al Jaedicke, an experienced student from Dunwoody Technical College, to give some advice and technological guidance.

"For now, winning a competition isn't the most important thing for us. Everyone just wants the feeling of success by finishing a robot," said Grimm.

Right: Front Row: Alexander Steinbrueck, Sam Henninger; Back Row: Jeffrey Grimm, William Russell, and Crosby Smith



Above: Senior Jeff Grimm works hard to try to find a way to build a destructive battle bot. The boys work in the metals room every Wednesday after school to build their robots.

Mind Wars

Winning Tactically

On Sept. 17, 2008, the Tactical Games Club prepared for a battle, well, not an actual battle, more like a battle of the minds.

In room D149 the atmosphere was thick with keen concentration. It was the group's first meeting of the year, and they were playing *SoulCaliber*, a videogame that was originally produced in 1995 by Namco under the name *Soul* series.

The game is the second game in the series and was named *SoulCaliber* following a 1999 overhaul.

This is the Tactical Games Club's first appearance in the yearbook, and also its first year without their founder, 2008 graduate Tim Gregory. The president of the club is senior Brandon Matson; the vice-president is senior Aaron

Barden; the secretary and treasurer is junior Asha Sukhu. The group also enlists the leadership skills of junior Sullivan Marxen as their leader.

During the club's twice weekly get togethers, often times members will compete in player versus player games. For these, they will play some traditional board games like checkers and chess.

One of the favorite games they play is *Dungeons and Dragons*. In this game the player becomes a character in a free-form game that is part board game and part story telling.

"Once a month, video game day takes the place of a regularly scheduled player versus player day," said Aaron Barden.

The video game *Super Smash Brother Brawl*, a plot-driven game in which a player's objective is to knock an opponent off the screen, is one of the club's favorites.

Video game day involves more than electronic fun. Snacks are sold to raise money for new games and the club's other needs.

Treasurer Asha Sukhu said she is trying to order Tactical Games Club shirts for this year, and the snack money will help pay for this.

The club has more than just in-school meetings. They host at least one paintball party and a banquet at the end of the year.

Barden encourages anyone who's interested to check TGC out.

"Games have been out for a long time, said Barden. "Make a game and try TGC out."



Left: Robert Cook, Donovan Johnson, Calvin Schmidt, Alex Hart-Thomas, Zach Johnson, Sullivan Marxen, Brandon Matsen, Aaron Barden, John Crenwell, Asha Sukhu, Jacob Gregory, Tyler Bach, Zach Wacek, Cameron Wright, Anthony Luedloff, Nick Rinke, Theodore Gilliam, Daniel Mueller, Rebecca Mueller, Tucker Pruden, Justin Otremba. Right: Freshman Tucker Pruden participates in a game of *Yu-Gi-Oh*. The TGC played board games, card games and video games.

Above: Senior Brandon Matsen and sophomore Tyler Bach play one of the club's favorite games, *Dungeons and Dragons*



Pick a Country

And Let's Play Some Games

Between the Winterfest Dance and the 2009 Winter Olympics, students were overwhelmed with activities to participate in.

Throughout the week of Feb. 9-13, students dressed up in many different outfits. The week started with pajama day on Monday, and then the days followed with Decade Day, Hat Day, College Day, and Wildcat Day.

"Pajama Day was my favorite, especially since it was on Monday, because I didn't have to worry at all about getting ready in the morning after the weekend!" said junior Cecelia Findorff.

The Saturday before Winterfest Week was the Winterfest Dance. On Saturday, Feb. 7, the lunch room was decked out in giant snowflakes and streamers.

FCCLA, the organization responsible for hosting the dance, was able to get a great DJ to come and perform. The group also had a lot of snacks and drinks for sale.

During Winterfest the senior girls and boys started practicing their kisses and getting their legs in shape for the annual Lips and Legs contest.

This year, Ashley Scheuble was voted to have the best lips out of the more than 40 girls who participated, and Gavin Woodland was picked to have the nicest legs.

"I think Lips and Legs is a really funny activity to have happen. I was really surprised I won," said Woodland.

The medallion hunt was another

tradition that was held once again this year. After a lot of hunting from all the students, senior Jared Pawelk found the medallion hiding on the sailboat in the front of the school.

The tug-of-war competition between the teachers and students during the Olympics is always a funny sight to see.

During morning break different teams of students played tug-of-war to be able to become the one team that goes against the students. Then, during the Olympics, the winning team battled the teachers. This year the students dominated the teachers.

For the Olympics, fifth hour classes all picked a different country and competed at the end of school on Friday. Several

students from each class competed in the different events aiming for the gold. The teams participated in the Dogsled Race, Snowshoe Race, and Popsicle Eating Relay.

Senior Stephanie Cluff is definitely a fan of Winterfest Week.

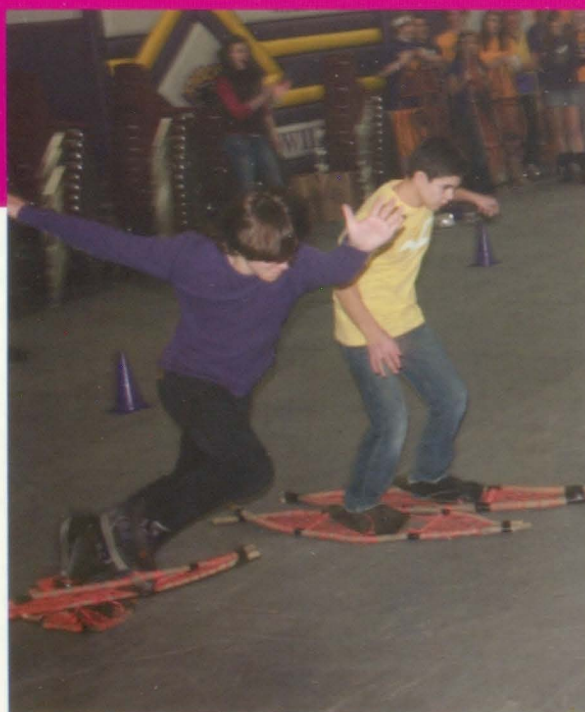
"I'm so glad we have Winterfest. It's a fun and easy thing to do that gets your mind off of all your school work and the cold weather."

Below: The teachers tug-of-war team made up of Becky Bigouette, Nicole Lonning, Dru Sodie, Michael Jensen, Jodie Hunter, and Michael Johnson gave the fight their best effort by taking the early lead and holding strong. Unfortunately for them, the students' team gained ground and won.



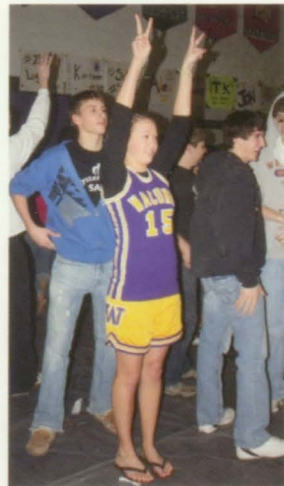
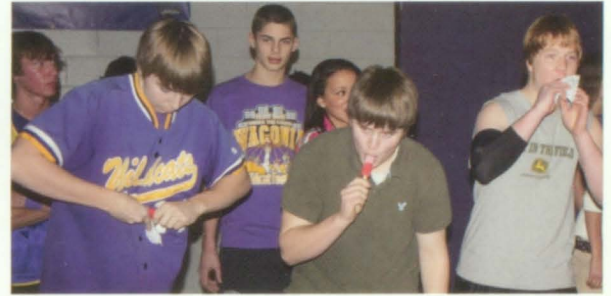
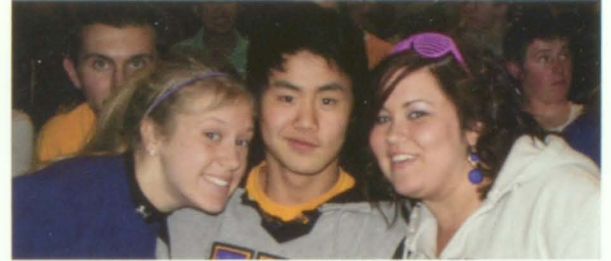
Right: Timothy Smith gets off to a rocky start during a preliminary heat of the snow show race. He and Franco Olesen were just two of the many competitors participating in this race.

Far Right: Winterfest teams anxiously wait in the cafeteria for their turn to run into the gym and participate in the different activities.

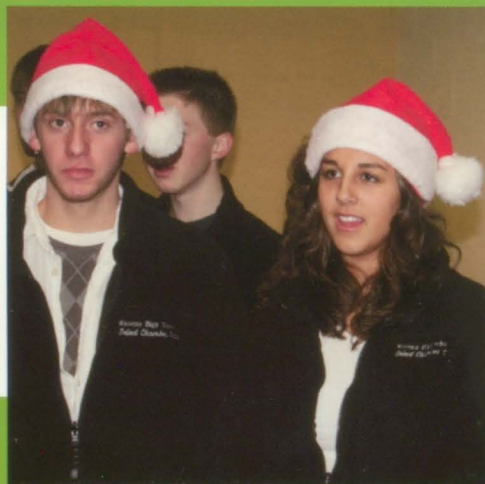


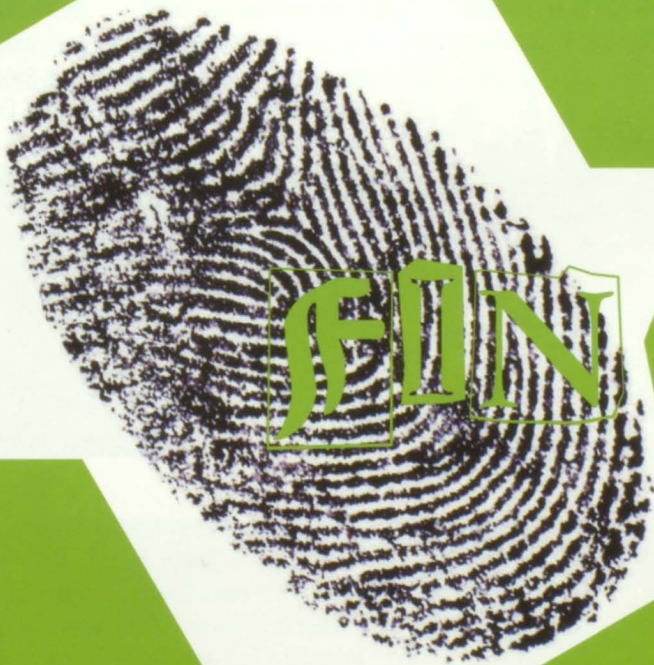


Left: Juniors Sarah Farlow, Anna Shaw, Christina Marceau, Maddie Ashbjornson, Emma Wabbe, Kelsey Wenning, Beth Aeling and many other students sit in the bleachers and cheer on their teams during the Winter Olympics competitions. Bottom Left: Ben Korteum, Dillon Faust, Jake Durkin, and Zach Ratzlaff are representing Germany and Miss Susan Lund's Spanish class. Below: Seniors Cassie Norton, Alex Osborn, and Amandah Grindahl sit in the stands while watching their friends and fellow students compete. Far Below: Jake Durkin and Matt Giseke try to eat their popsicles as fast as they can to win the Popsicle Eating Relay.



Far Left: Winterfest Olympic participants run as fast as they can while pulling a classmate behind them during the Dogsled Race. Middle Left: Senior Maddie Brown shows off her excitement just before the Popsicle Relay starts. Left: Senior Aaron Albani is not only showing off his hat, but also is sporting red pre-wrap after donating blood at the Red Cross Blood Drive, which was held on Wednesday, Feb. 11.





FINE ARTS



First Row: Ariadne Alvarez, Chrystal Dondlinger, Caitlin Overby, Brittany Hermann, Everett Rinke, Devin Aadland, Drew Neubauer, Xzaviera Johnson; Second Row: Morgan Reeve, Ashley Sukhu, Alexandra Anderson, Cynthia Weiland, Felisha Nordby, Josiah Berry, Rachel Weitz, Kaitlyn Cook, Emily Martel, Molly Van Arsdale, Hannah Mohr, Hanna Wille, Marisa Keidel; Third Row: Leah Jones, Jordan Decker, Shiloh Landskov, Allison Carson, Heather Klitzke, Alyssa Giesen, Peder Haugsby, Carly Taylor, Kelly Pingeon, Noelle Russell, Blake Willems, Ian Devaan, Megan Farlow, Elizabeth Mauk, Zach Rolf, Alex Schmitt, Hanna Miyamoto, Libby Mauk, Anna Talbert, Ariana Nelson-Klug, Laura Schmitt, Melody Carman, Suzanna Wymore, Andrew Haselhorst, Cory McKeever; Fourth Row: Jerica Waligoski, Luke Peters, Samuel Vipond, Garrett Alfs, David Niaz, Carl Wenning, Aaron Eiden, Kevin Knutson, Benjamin Wallace, Carl Mathwig, Schoen Kichler, Anna Talbert, Alex Schmitt, Evan Carlson, Logan Baumann, Matthew Bullis, Grady Holtberg, Marshall Born, Joshua Hiltbrand



First Row: Alyse Herman, Victoria Larkin, Annabel Jacobs, Jessica Walter, Anna Christensen, Hayley Jost, Kayla Borka, Megan Midthun, Julia Johnson, Jessica Heimdal, Katelynn Doherty; Second Row: Alexander Wickehama, Kendra Johnson, Ariel Shane, Katie Krogman, Mackenzie Watson, Alina Moreno, Whitney Buesgens, Chandra Honebrink, Rachel Flemig, Paige Weiland, Justin Otremba, Matthew Lund; Third Row: Christopher Sinclair, Travis Ramsey, Kaitlyn Andersen, William Jantz, Brock Bender, Jennifer Kallio, Sara Wachholz, Alexander Zajac, Daniel Mueller, Jacob Matz; Fourth Row: Bryan Faust, Gerrit Bass, Zachary Ratzlaff, Timothy Deweese, Nicholas Hennen, Alexander Steinbrueck, Josh Frischmon, Benjamin Kortuem, Christopher Cousin, Jacob Billstrom, Tanner Friedrich, Calvin Brown, Zachary Synstegaard, William Russell, Byron Synstegaard.



First Row: Brandy Schultz, Amanda Schmidt, Addy Scrimgeour, Lisa Rasmussen, Kylie Zawada, Dacotah Smith, Cristin Kieser, Samantha Nelson; Second Row: Rachael Carlsted, Emily Capaul, Kelly Deweese, Emily Cook, Stephanie Cluff, Lucy Tongen, Sara Northrup; Third Row: Bridgette Halloran, Emma Wabbe, Kelsey Brennan, Hali Germond, Edith Lee, Sara Porter, Carly Stockert, Daniel Leifermann, Isaiah Gatheridge, Dustin Hanson, Jessica Vogel, Madeline Brown, Kara Pioske, Eric Jones, Sally Haselhorst, Nicholas Allen, Logan Sohns, Samuel Horner, Anthony McMahon, Jacob Vipond, Alec Johnson, Tanner Delange, Alexander Phifer-Rogers, Shane Segner, Soren Wille



First Row: Becky Boughten, Rebecca Hughes, Rebecca Mueller, Asha Sukhu, Emily Mueller, Heather Kalthoff, Turi Hjelsand, Larkin Scholla, Kelsey Connor, Kyla Thorson, Bailey Farrell. Second Row: Aaron Albani, Eric Held, Melanie Grangaard, Katherine Tusha, Kjerstin Haugsby, Steven Wert, Brianna Sullivan, Gattlin Miller, Jacklyn Surat, Erica Anderson, Laurel Pierson, Rebecca Shirk, Autumn Ament, Jamie Mohr. Third Row: Justin Ratzluff, Maxwell Rickel, Annemarie Powers, Austin Stole, Marisa Melchert, Jackson Melius, Tyler Stevenson, Brit Indrelie, Shannon Curtis, Zachary Hintgen, James Russell, Rachel Mathwig. Fourth Row: Matthew Gibbs, Kyle Niebeling, Caleb Talbert, Kyle Pingeon, Clint Borka, Ken Miyamoto.

A Smart way to Play

Whether it was a senior's fourth year in high school band or a freshman's first, there were changes for the instrumental music program.

No, it wasn't a set of new teachers or a brand new band room. It was the welcoming of an innovative computer program called SmartMusic and the addition of the Wind Ensemble.

SmartMusic is a program that uses a computer to help students in both band and choir practice music. The student plays the notes into a microphone, and SmartMusic receives the sound. It then shows the student if the notes are being played correctly. The student can also listen to the song that was recorded and

analyze his or her performance.

"SmartMusic helped us to understand the music better and gave us more time to perfect the songs that we play in band class," said senior Kyla Thorson.

SmartMusic has helped students by showing them what notes were played incorrectly and how to correct them. It is able to be used in the practice rooms or from the comfort of one's own home.

"It helps because you get rhythms right and I know more about the music I am playing," said sophomore Hayley Jost.

Not all students have the benefit of a computer at home, and for those who don't have one, it is harder to make practice time.

"If you don't have a computer

at home, it can be hard to find time before or after school," said Thorson.

Students aren't the only people that SmartMusic has helped. Band Directors Brady Krusemark and John Pohland reaped the benefits of what SmartMusic has offered the band students.

"I feel like we will see big improvements because of the practice SmartMusic requires," said Krusemark.

SmartMusic may enhance all the bands. Wind Ensemble, a new band this year, is no exception.

Unlike the Wildcat, Concert and Symphonic bands, Wind Ensemble members had to audition for a spot in the band.

Thorson describes Wind

Ensemble as being "more focused" than the other band classes in which she has participated.

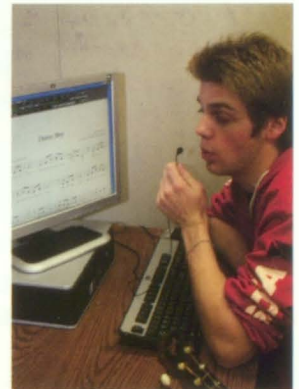
"We really work hard," she added.

Although the classes may be perceived as fun, there is also a sense of maturity that someone must have to be a part of band.

"It takes a lot of practice and focus," said junior Soren Wille.

Band classes present many challenges for students. They learn great skills such as responsibility and patience. They strive to work hard and perform the songs to the best of their abilities.

Marshall Born, a freshman percussionist in the Wildcat Band said, "Band is structured and overall a good experience."



Above: Senior Keelan Ryan practices singing a song that is part of the SmartMusic program's song repertoire. The SmartMusic software follows, responds, and assesses the student's performance on screen.



Left: The Symphonic Band performs in the gymnasium during the Parade of Bands held Oct. 28, 2008. They were the third group to perform for the night, right after the Wildcat Band. The Symphonic Band played two songs.

Flying

to Seattle

With the hot sun shining, sweat dripping down their backs, and the crowd's attention towards them, all pressure was on. This was the case many times for marching band members as they competed against other schools in parades during the summer.

Traveling all over Minnesota kept the band pretty busy during the summer. They participated in 13 parades and competed against other marching bands for places in four different classes.

Before the season began, members had the opportunity to fund raise by selling various products. The money was used to for the 2008 marching band trip.

Every year the band takes an out-of-state trip around the Fourth

of July, and this year the band flew out to Seattle.

"It was an exhilarating time. People on the first flight had to be there early, and then they waited for the rest of us to join them," said junior Dacotah Smith.

They left in three flights on a hot summer morning. As each plane arrived, members were shuttled to the hotel.

Once at the hotel, members all had a couple of hours to burn, so everyone hung out and got situated in their rooms.

"We had a perfect view of the Space Needle from our hotel room," says junior Cristin Kieser.

Once everyone got settled, members left to embark on a journey. They started walking all

over town with their chaperones.

During the trip the band did many interesting things such as attending a Mariners Game, hiking on Mt. Rainier, and taking a ferry out to Tillicum Village, an Indian Island where members were served a traditional salmon meal and treated to a pow-wow and a relaxing time on the island.

The trip wasn't all just fun and games, however. On the way back from Mt. Rainier, about an hour's drive from downtown Seattle, the drumline bus broke down and a few chaperones and kids were stranded.

"It made for a memorable trip," stated sophomore Maxwell Rickel.

On the Fourth of July the band performed in two parades.

When Drumline director Mr. Gilbert told them about the route, he stated, "You are in for a parade of a lifetime. We are performing through a turn and a roundabout." Band members had only performed on straight streets, no turns or roundabouts.

After all the excitement, it was finally time to head home. While many of the members fell asleep on the way home, some 2008 graduates were awake realizing that their marching careers had come to an end.

Once back to Minnesota, members all took a look back on their amazing season at the marching band banquet, where all the seniors gave senior gifts and reflected back on their marching

band days. Many had stories to tell about band camp, parades and of course the bus rides, leaving them with many joyous and not so joyous memories.

Below: Matt Gibbs and Amber Quaschnick perform their solos at the Waconia Band Festival.



Left: The 2008 Latin themed marching band show, *Tempre Ardent*, starts with the drumline and the colorguard playing the drumbreak. The band performed in 13 parades, including the Father Hennepin Days Parade in Champlin, Minnesota, on June 13. The band received first place at this marching band competition by outscoring four other marching bands.



Commanders

Nicole Willems, Madeline Brown, Bryan Wessale, Rachel Horner

Color Guard

Kelsey Connor, Christina Rupp, Pat Puckett, Jessica Evjen, Kelly Munson, Kara Bakke, Margaret Stivers, Mackenzie Watson, Nicolle Kroells, Carissa Bakke, Alexis Ament, Cynthia Weiland, Steph Quaschnick, Amber Quaschnick

Honor Guard

Andrew Haselhorst, Alexander Zajac, Kyle Wall, Aaron Eiden, Jethro Peterson, Christopher Sinclair, Peder Haugsby

Street Helpers

Madilynn Honnold, Sarah Northrup

Flute/Piccolo

Cristin Kieser, Rachel Weitz, Sara Porter, Becky Boughten, Kylie Zawada, Rebecca Hughes, Morgan Reeve, Hannah Mohr, Elizabeth Mauk, Jessica Heimdal, Megan Midthun, Katelynn Doherty, Julia Johnson, Rachael Carlsted, Larkin Scholla, Jessica Vogel, Dacotah Smith, Kayla Borka

Clarinet

Asha Sukhu, Rachel Mathwig, Anna Christensen, Hali Germond, Emily Halvorson, Stephanie Cluff, Tim Gregory, Emily Mueller, Heather Kalthoff, Jessica Walter, Paige Weiland, Autumn Ament, Ariana Nelson-Klug, Brianna Hartmann

Alto Saxophone

Tyler Stevenson, Brittany Sellman,

Emily Cook, Josh Goergen, Carl Mathwig, Amy Anderson, Edith Lee, Kala Cermack, Brit Indrelie, Rachel Flemig, Nicole Sullivan, Stephanie Tuley, Justin Otremba, Cory McKeever, Everett Rinke, Zachary Rolf

Tenor Saxophone

Jackson Melius, Addison Born, Kelsey Brennan, Samuel Horner, Marisa Melchert, Erica Anderson, Jaimie Mohr, Emily Capaul

Trumpet

David Klingelhutz, Ken Miyamoto, Steven Wert, Ashley Tuley, Kyla Thorson, Greg Farlow, Andrew Brick, Anthony McMahon, Jacob Hilk, Shannon Curtis, Turi Hjelmsand, Rebecca Shirk, Carly Stockert, Jacob Boyer,

Jennifer Kallio, Nicole Wynsteker, Jacob St. Amand, Daniel Leifermann, James Russell, Robert Smith

Horn

Camille Moore, Gattlin Miller, Sally Haselhorst, Jacob Matz, Kelly Pingeon, Carly Taylor

Trombone

Keelan Ryan, Anna Ayers Looby, Jacklyn Surat, Ethan Gutzman-Williams, Austin Stole, Caleb Talbert, Nicholas Allen, Garrett Aalfs, Matt Stole, Zachary Hintgen, William Russell, Anders Culver, Kaitlyn Andersen, Zachary Sellman

Baritone

Matthew Gibbs, Kyle Niebeling, Gerrit Bass, Jessica Tuley, Aaron Albani,

Christine Deering

Tuba

Eric Held, Andy Newnman, Josh Frischmon

Percussion

AnnMarie Powers, Lance Neubauer, Shane Segner, Britta Rinke, Maxwell Rickel, Kyle Pingeon, Dustin Hanson, Austin Schmidt, Isaiah Gatheridge, Clint Borka, Kjerstin Haugsby, Terra Peterson, Tyler Clouse, Justin Ratzlaff, Lucy Tongen, Melanie Grangaard, Kelly Deweese, Bailey Farrell, Annabel Jacobs, Drew Neubauer, Marshall Born, Timothy Deweese, Victoria Larkin, Tanner Delange, Alexander Phifer-Rogers, Soren Wille, Lars Skodje, Katherine Tusha, Alyse Herman

Right: Jessica Walter, Heather Kalthoff, and Anna Christensen, along with the other clarinet players, rotate their diamond at the end of the *Tempre Ardent* show.

Middle: The color guard marches down the street with perfect form during the Father Hennepin Days parade.

Far Right: Finishing off the show, drumline members Shane Segner, Lance Neubauer and Clint Borka line up to perform their parts in the show.



Play with Soul

Play with Rhythm

Everyone is silent and staring at the stage. The lights are focused brightly on the members on stage and their director. It's time to play.

This is what the Jazz I and Platinum Jazz members experienced a few times over the course of the school year when they performed in front of family and friends during school concerts and at various performances throughout the school district.

Jazz I consisted of students in grades 9-12 who auditioned in the fall for a position in the band. This band is directed by Mr. Brady Krusmark.

Students in grades 9-12 also could audition for a position in Platinum Jazz band. This group was directed by Mr. John Pohland.

Both bands practiced on various

mornings two to three days a week before school from 7:00-7:45 A.M.

Students had various reasons why they enjoyed playing in the jazz band.

Senior Kelsey Connor said she enjoyed playing challenging music in a more relaxed atmosphere while junior Laurel Pierson also enjoyed playing the challenging music.

"I like the different rhythm styles and the swing style of music," said Pierson.

Right before winter break began, Jazz I performed in the front entry way of the school to get the students ready for the holiday season. The group played a collection of holiday favorites.

"We Three Kings is my favorite

songs to play," said senior Connor.

In addition to providing the school with holiday music, Jazz I and the Platinum Jazz band also hosted two dinner concerts on Monday, Feb. 2, and Tuesday, Feb. 3.

This was the second year the jazz bands hosted a dinner concert. The three-course meal was catered by senior Shannon Curtis' father.

"They closed the curtains on stage and set up a small stage and had a bunch of tables set up inside," said Pierson.

Other highlights this year included competing at the Region 2AA Jazz Contest, performing at the District Jazz Concert and the Springs Pops Concert, and taking a day trip to the Lamberton Jazz Festival.



Above: Trumpet players Kelsey Connor, Ken Miyamoto, Shannon Curtis, Kyla Thorson and Laurel Pierson and the rest of the Jazz I ensemble fill the front entry way with holiday cheer on the Thursday, Dec. 18. The group played various holiday favorites. Right: Freshman Sam Vipond is a pianist in the Platinum Jazz ensemble. Vipond is one of three freshmen in the rhythm section.



Left: Saxophonists Nicole Sullivan, Erica Anderson and Carl Mathwig play "We Three Kings" during the jazz bands' holiday performances. The bands performed during the week of Dec. 15-19. In addition to the bands' performances, student council members handed out hot cocoa to students as they entered the building on a chilly December morning. Right: Members of the Platinum Jazz ensemble practice before school. The ensemble played at various jazz venues and attended the Lamberton Jazz Festival in April.



Play

it LOUD

Play it Proud



Being asked to play at The University of Minnesota Women's Gopher Hockey game at Ritter Arena was a great honor for the Pep Band.

To be chosen to play over many other Minnesota high schools was a great honor for the band, and it gave the band a chance to showcase both its Wildcat spirit and its Gopher spirit as well.

Wearing purple and gold is always the tradition with Pep Band members, but with an opportunity like this, maroon and gold were the colors to wear. Many of the Pep Band players were all colored in their Minnesota colors to show the spirit Waconia's Pep Band brings wherever it goes.

This game gave the Pep Band a chance to show University of

Minnesota women's hockey fans what the band was made of.

The music played at the game was traditional music; music which has been played in the Pep Band for years. Many other students have personal favorites as well.

Seniors Kelly Deweese and Lucy Tongen said "Livin' on a Prayer" is their favorite piece while junior Nicole Wynsteker said "Hey Baby" is her personal favorite.

The girls' hockey game was a main highlight for many Pep Band members

"Boys were banging on the glass," said sophomore Larkin Scholla. "Yet we were still louder than the entire crowd."

In addition to performing at Ritter Arena, another first for this year's Pep Band was performing

at the new Target in Waconia for their "Very Important Guest" night. Band members played music and received a sneak peak of the new Target store.

Going to the U of M and supporting the new local Target made this a year of adventure and firsts.

Whether it was playing at a special event or playing at a home football, volleyball, hockey or basketball game, the Pep Band is always there to support the school's teams.

"We all like band and like to play loud to pump up the fans and team," said sophomore Paige Weiland.

As the band goes on, they will always keep their beats strong.



Above: University of Minnesota mascot Goldy Gopher takes a moment to greet Pep Band director Brady Krusemark and the rest of the Pep Band prior to the playing of the "Minnesota Rouser."

Above: Sophomore Heather Kaltoff, junior Asha Sukhu, senior Rachel Mathwig and junior Emily Mueller play at the Minnesota Gopher women's hockey game at Ritter Arena.

Right: Pep Band members Nicole Sullivan, Danny Liefermann, Shannon Curtis, Jamie Mohr, Laurel Pierson, Kelsey Connor, Brianna Sullivan, Rebecca Mueller and the rest of the Pep Band perform at Target's "Very Important Guest" night. Band members got to tour the new store while playing their music.



Let Your Voice Be Heard

Senior Management Advisor Price Pritchett, Ph.D., once said, "Change always comes bearing gifts."

For the Vocal Music program, gifts came in the form of an additional choir and changes to the existing choirs.

With a growing choir enrollment and a larger student enrollment in general, Director Aaron Olson knew it was time to implement some changes.

There are now four choirs that all rehearse during the school day.

The newest addition to the Vocal Music program is the Chamber Choir. Members of this group were selected through an audition process, and the group rehearsed everyday during first hour.

During the 2007-2008 school

year, the Chamber Choir met after school once a week. Olson noticed the strong personal interest from those students involved and presented the option of Chamber Choir as a class offering.

Transitioning from an extracurricular activity to a daily class left some students a little unsure.

"I didn't know how some kids would react to meeting everyday during school hours, but now I'm glad that we had to meet," said senior Kelsey Hoen, Chamber Choir member. "We are all really dedicated and want to be here, so it's a lot of fun."

Although Chamber Choir was the only new course offering in the Vocal Music program, there were also changes to the existing choirs.

The Cantabile Choir, which

was previously a mixed choir consisting of juniors and seniors, now consists of only junior and senior women; the Concert Choir previously consisted only of sophomores, but now consists of sophomores plus some junior and senior men. Only the Varsity Choir remained unchanged, consisting only of freshmen men and women.

There were several opinions on the changes that took place.

Cantabile Choir member Amy Krautbauer said that it was weird not having everyone from last year in the same choir, especially the men. Krautbauer said some of the choir members had been singing and performing together since middle school.

Chamber Choir member Hannah Kimyon had a different outlook.

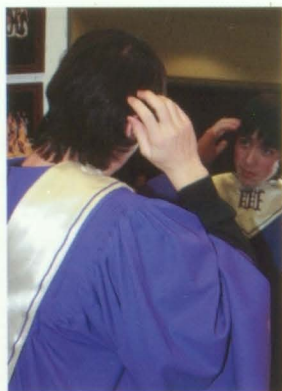
"It is fun because we are all

friends," said Kimyon. "We know that we all want to be here for the same reasons."

Despite what choir students participated in, every student had some passion for expressing his or her vocal talent.

Students' hard work and dedication to the Vocal Music program are shown during concert and other public performances.

This is the time for both students and director to show off their well-rehearsed talents on stage.

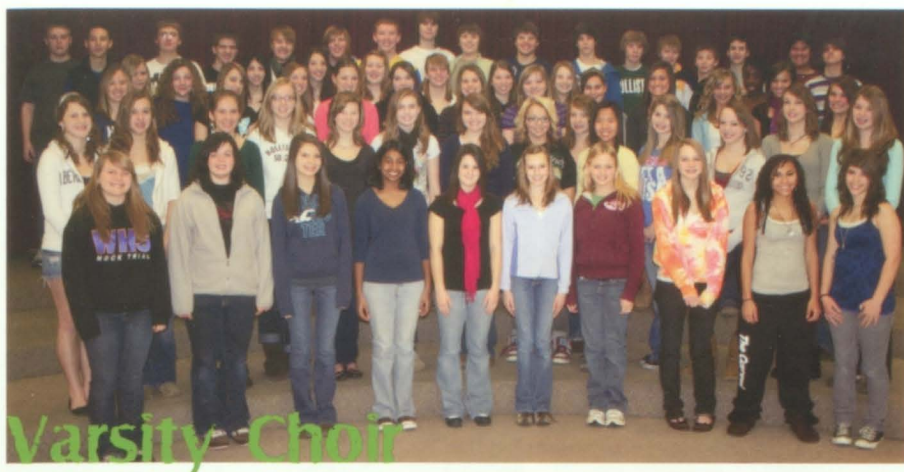


Above: Sophomore Maxwell Herrera checks out his hair in the mirror just before going out to perform with the Concert Choir during the Yuletide Festival.

Right: Caitlyn Engler, Kaitlyn Bouchard, Melinda Horejsi, Tyler Stauffer, Jacob Stahn, and Maxwell Herrera warm up before their Yuletide Festival performance.

Far Right: Choir Director Mr. Aaron Olson leads the Concert Choir through their "Do-Re-Mi" warm ups at the beginning of class.





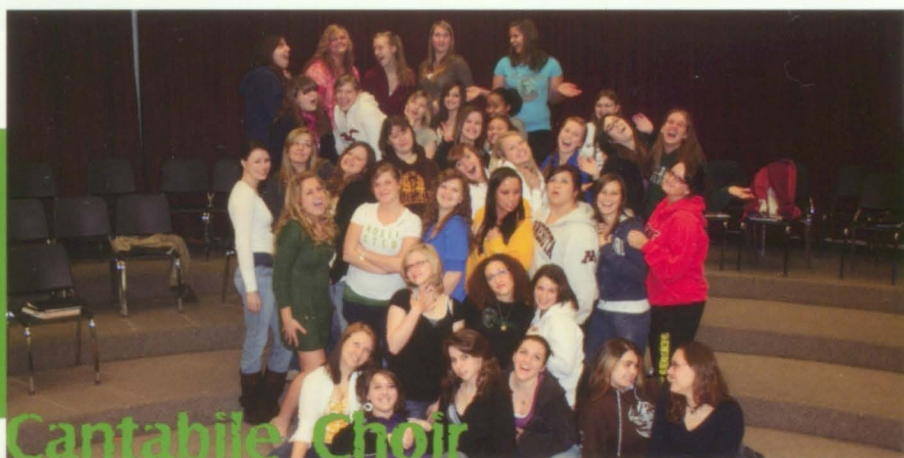
Varsity Choir

First Row: Cynthia Weiland, Morgan Reeve, Alyssa Mesebring, Ashley Sukhu, Shantel Peters, Haley Sites, Elena Albert, Megan Farlow, Kaylee Flournoy, Kaitlin Cook; Second Row: Kelsey Kelzer, Madeline Johnson, Stephanie Gregoire, Alexandra Doeden, Noelle Russell, Shannon Paulson, Hanna Wabbe, Rachel Marquette, Madison Peitz, Karrie Osborn, Lauren Huggett, Kylie Stoddard, Allison McPhee, Alexandra Buck; Third Row: Lisa Kittleson, Brianna Miller, Taylor Kahl, Ellie Gorghuber, Colleen Halloran, Ashley Samuelson, Josie Sayre, Julie Thaumert, Paige Fortwengler, Whitney Vacek, Maria Spurbek, Lydia Long, Kara Kruchten; Fourth Row: Valerie Grimm, Michelle Citarella, Jillian Sutherland, Elizabeth Mauk, Christine Leonard, Kelsey Lechner, Alexis Ament, Stephanie Frempong-Longdon; Fifth Row: Xavier Quast, Paddy Halloran, Garrett Aalfs, Zachary Sellman, Dean Erickson, Nathan Kraml, Benjamin Wallace, Cody Gregory, Scott Miller, Jesse Nelson, Justin Young, Alec Williams, Jacob Laplante, Ryan Wood, Alexander Hart-Thomas, Tucker Pruden, Timothy Smith



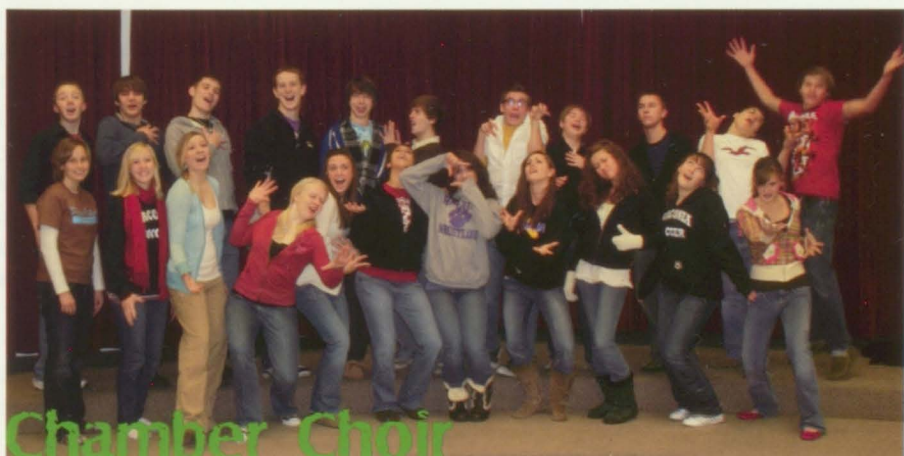
Concert Choir

First Row: Natasha Rosckes, Melinda Horejsi, Kelly Tibbitts, Kayla Blachowiak, Nikki Frydenlund, Mackenzie Watson, Chaneen Haler, Megan Brueggemeier, Sabine Palm, Calliegh Melchert, Jennifer Kallio; Second Row: Meghan Radde, Cassie Strand, Caitlyn Engler, Katelyn Bouchard, Paige Brown, Cayman Scarrella, Alina Moreno, Dawn Miller, Bailey Farrell, Nicole Sullivan, Emily Sanborn, Julie Zakashefski, Abigale Christenson, Jana Rueegg; Third Row: Taylor Gregory, Angela Spletstoeszer, Nicole Fitzgerald, Jessica Walter, Kayla Borka, Kara Stroming, Natalie Kalkes, Carissa Bakke, Emma Larson, Temery Pasket, Kaylin Graff, Nicole Sullivan, Amanda Smith, Kaydee Bohanon; Fourth Row: Bailey Monson, Sheaden Christensen, Christopher Traxler, Aaron Becker, Erik Evjen, Jacob Stahn, Mark Kapuska, Maxwell Herrera, Zachariah Johnson, Tyler Stauffer, Cameron Monson, Sean Linden, Christian Pierce, Wyatt Crosby, Zachary Ratzlaff, Leif Jensen, Kory Melchert



Cantabile Choir

First Row: Kelly Munson, Ashley Read, Addy Scrimgeour, Alana Lamkin, Cheyenne Dantona, Brittany Burr; Second Row: Sarah Stairs, Bridgette Halloran, Amber Ickes; Third Row: Rebecca Kimyon, Nicole Fladung, Lisa Rasmussen, Jill Morschen, Amanda Grindahl, Brittney Ellis, Ashlie Schauble; Fourth Row: Anna Weitz, Kelsey Sorenson, Jordan Reeve, Shannon Engler, Cecelia Findorff, Becky Boughten, Lucy Tongen, Kelly Deweese, Amy Krautbauer; Fifth Row: Rachel Helmbrecht, Allison Armstrong, Alexa Strand, Ellie Brueggemeier, Emily Patterson, Brianna McLay, Nicole White, Elle Skerik; Sixth Row: Molly Helmbrecht, Shelby Schmidt, Cristin Kieser, Laura Baldy, Jenna Otremba



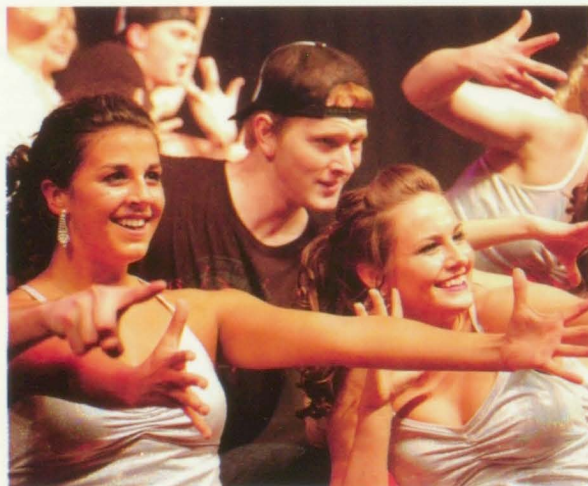
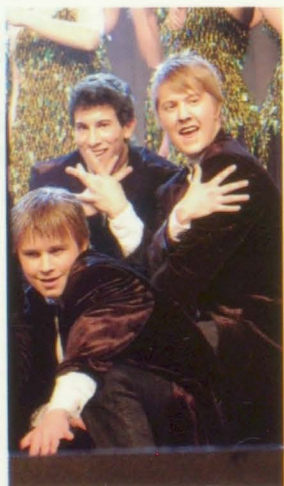
Chamber Choir

Front Row: Lynne McMullen, Dianne Parkinson, Amanda Quiring, Kyla Smith, Hallie Miller, Mary Polding, Hannah Kimyon, Kelsey Hoen, Margaux Jensen, Marisa Melchert, Annmarie Powers; Back Row: Josh Goergen, Aaron Barden, Jacob Gregory, Nicholas Ramm, Maxwell Rickel, Austin Stole, Gattlin Miller, James Russell, Tyler Stevenson, Kevin Olesen, Kyler Hanson



Power Company 2009

First Row: Katelyn Bouchard, Austin Stole, Caitlyn Engler, Justin Young, Mary Polding, Gattlin Miller, Kelsey Hoen, Kyler Hanson, Maddy Gordon; Second Row: Kara Stroming, Thomas Morimoto, Ashley Read, Zach Johnson, Margaux Jensen, Sean Linden, Hallie Miller, Jacob Stahn, Lucy Tongen, Max Herrera, Sarah Northrup; Third Row: Caitlin Krieg, Scott Miller, Kyla Smith, Deano Erickson, Dianne Paarkinson, Jesse Nelson, Marisa Melchert, Garrett Alf, Lisa Rasmussen, Jimmy Russell, Becca Kimyon; Fourth Row: Kaydee Bohanon, Max Rickel, Becky Boughten, Dylan Furst, Cecelia Findorff, Nicholas Ramm, Kelly Deweese, Jacob Gregory, Annmarie Powers, Josh Goergen, Hannah Kimyon; Fifth Row: Kate Tusha, Nicole Sullivan, Laurel Pierson, Zachary Sellman, Tyler Stevenson, Keelan Ryan, Devin Adland, Kyler Niebeling, Taylor Gregory, Steven Wert, Rachel Flemig; Sixth Row: Chris Pierce, Amy Krauthauer, Laura Baldy, Anna Weitz, Kelcey Albers, Cassie Strand, Megan Radde, Jordan Reeve, Kelsey Sorenson;



Competitions

Viterbo 101 Invitational
La Crosse, WI

Winterfest Invitational
Eau Claire, WI

La Vista Invitational
Papillion, NE

Totino Grace Invitational
Fridley, MN

Wheaton Warrenville
Chicago, IL

Grand River Invitational
La Crosse, WI

Far left: Juniors Jimmy Russell and Thomas Morimoto, along with freshman Deano Erickson, gave it their all while they performed at Star Power. Middle: Seniors Mary Polding, Nick Ramm, and Kelsey Hoen strike their final poses at the end of the show performed for the student body. Right: The girls danced and sang back up for sophomore Austin Stole's solo in "Gots to Get Her." Far right: Senior Josh Goergen and sophomore Katelyn Bouchard danced together while singing their duet in the "Four Minute Medley."

Bringing Power To the Stage

Perseverance and intense emotion hit the stage for Power Company this year. Found under the lights were 45 dedicated singers and dancers, 13 band members, and eight stage crew members.

This year, participants in Power Company strived to set aside their differences and work together to put on a 20 minute show filled with high energy every time.

"The long trips can really tire you out during the day, but once I step foot on that stage to perform, I have more energy and perseverance than I ever thought possible," said junior Caitlin Krieg.

Many weekends Power Company traveled to different parts of the Midwest to compete. They competed in Nebraska, Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota and Wisconsin.

The show consisted of five

songs: "It Don't Matter," "Gots to Get Her," "Orphans of God," "That's How You Know," and the "Four Minute Medley," which were chosen by the directors, Aaron Olson, Kevin Barnard, and Sue Snorek. The chosen songs incorporated a variety of musical styles.

Power Company practiced Tuesdays and Thursdays from 7- 9:30 p.m. and had occasional Saturday practices when competitions were not scheduled.

On Feb. 14 Waconia hosted the Star Power Show Choir Invitational.

"Nothing else that I have been involved in has ever brought me as much satisfaction as our last Star Power performance, and we weren't even being judged," said senior Gattlin Miller.

One aspect of Power Company that many participants noted is

that it unified many students and brought them together. Many members said it's been a special high school experience, one that they probably won't ever have again.

"Show Choir has been one of the most flat out amazing things have I have done in my life," said freshmen Deano Erickson. "I find myself on the Show Choir bus coming back from a competition tired and sore, but already looking so longingly towards the next stop on our tour."

Director Aaron Olson said that Power Company members learned more than just singing and dance moves. They also talked and learned about responsibilities and importance of grades. Most importantly, they became a unified group that took pride in their activity.

"I really don't care what other

people say or think about it. I have gained so much through Power Company: friends, confidence, and that feeling you that you get when you are performing on stage," said senior Kyler Hanson. "It's just something I can't explain. I really care about Power Company a lot, and I am definitely going to miss it."

The students in Power Company were very committed to performing and have fun while doing it.

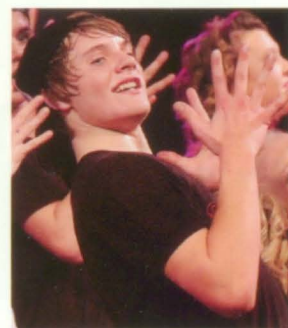
Through hours of sweat, practices and performances, they became comfortable being completely themselves around each other.

"Show Choir is awesome because it is a huge group of people with one thing in common: They couldn't care less what others think of them. Everyone in Show Choir is exactly who they say they are," said Miller.



Above: Seniors Kelly Deweese and Nick Ramm performing "That's How You Know."

Below: Senior Kyler Hanson rocked the "Four Minute Medley."



"I take in the moment, step into costume, and perform my heart out every time, because you are never given a second chance in one moment." - Junior Zach Johnson



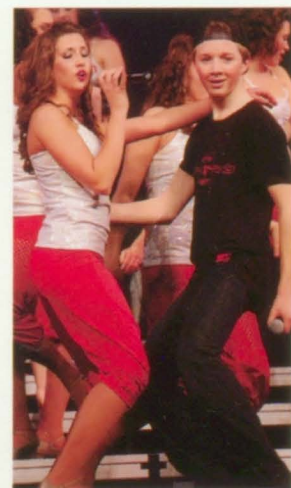
"We are going to look back on our high school years someday and never regret or forget the friends and the memories that the Show Choir experience gave us." - Seniors Hallie Miller and Lucy Tongen



"Show Choir is a part of you, no matter if you were involved for one year or for many. It's just something that will live in you forever." - Band Director Sue Snorek

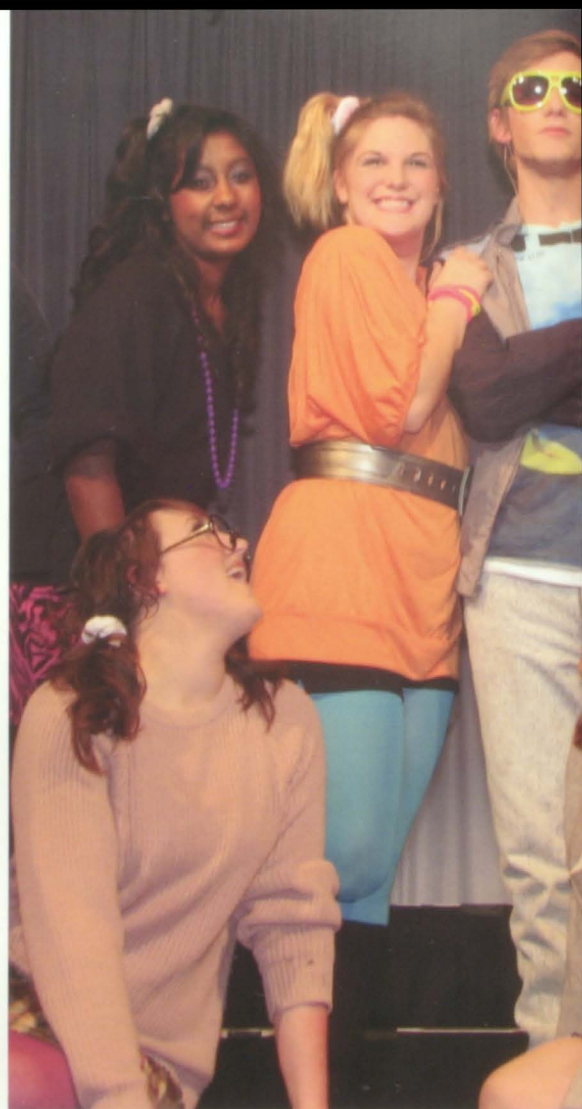


"Participating in Show Choir has made a major impact on me. The performing aspect has given me self-confidence, as well as a true appreciation for the power that music has on people and the capability to truly move someone through this sound." - Senior Mary Polding



Right: Cast members strike their ending pose for the song "Get Out Of My Dreams". This song took place right after the girls realized Michael Feldmen (senior Gattlin Miller) had just driven up in his new car. The girls knew it was pretty beat up but that it was still a car, nonetheless. The popular girls were on the sides of Miller. On the left were the popular sisters Mel Easton (junior Asha Sukhu) and Kim Easton (junior Nicole Fladung). To the right was one of the popular girls, Tiffany Housten (senior Kyla Smith). On the floor sat the unpopular Laura Wilde (senior Ashley Read) and chorus members (juniors Alana Lamkin and Anna Weitz).

Below: Michael Feldmen (Miller) and Feargal McFerrin (senior Jackson Melius) get into a fight over Eileen Reagan. Feargal was standing up for her after Michael pretended to like her and then broke her heart. Feargal ended up winning the fight and also landed the girl.



"Don't Worry Be Happy"

"500 Miles"

"Footloose"

"Get Out Of My Dreams"

"Man In The Mirror"

"Kids In America"

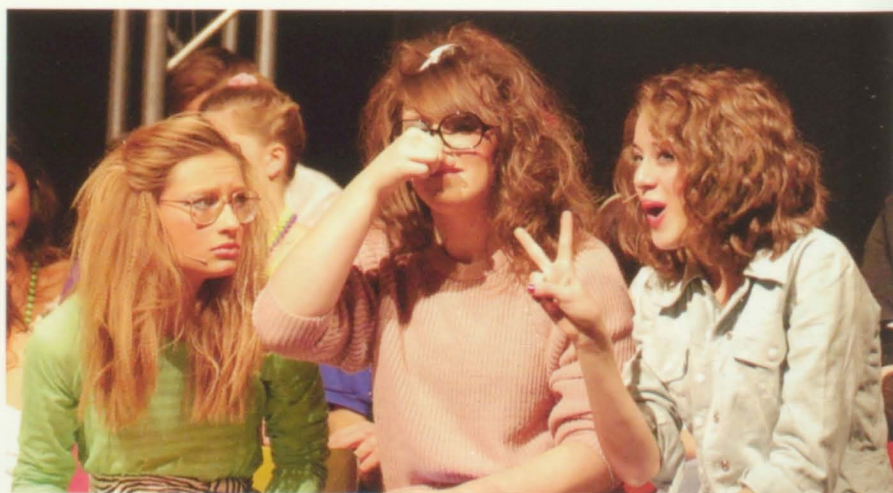
"Never Gonna Give You Up"

"Walking On Sunshine"

"Total Eclipse Of The Heart"

"Centerfold"

Right: The most unpopular girls at school, Debbie Fox (junior Meredith Proulx) and Laura Wilde (senior Ashley Read), sit next to the new girl in school, Eileen Reagan (sophomore Caitlyn Engler). Everyone in class was meeting Eileen for the first time, and Laura and Debbie were the only two to approve.



Back to the 80's

Curtain Call

For adults, memories flashed back, while kids laughed at what Director Ben Pogatschnik said was a cheesy yet charming musical, *Back to the 80's*. On stage something stunning was found as the curtain rose and the lights went on. Freshmen through seniors worked together to create something that had so much desire and enthusiasm.

"I feel a really close connection to the cast," said junior Caitlin Krieg, who played Ms. Brannigan, the scandalous teacher. "All of us share the same passion, which makes us able to put on a good show."

This year's musical was unlike other past musicals. It had all new directors and not nearly as

much set; however, with the physical humor and wit, the musical became racy with some provocative dancing and lines as the story of a boy in his senior year unfolded.

Directors Nancy Pearson and Pogatschnik, along with the cast of 34 students, practiced Monday through Thursday from 4-6:30 p.m. for the first couple of weeks and gradually started practicing from 3-7 p.m. The cast relationships went beyond just practicing. Many cast members would stay after school and get snacks or drinks before rehearsals. It did not matter if members were good friends before, everyone was invited to the pre-musical rehearsal, trips to the Shell station.

"I was friends with a lot of the people from the cast before the musical, and I have made a lot of new friends during this production as well," said senior Josh Goergen, who played the main role of Young Corey Palmer.

Basic expectations were set the first day of practice. Knowing lines was a must.

The cast and directors came together to make sure the show would be ready for its performance dates on Nov. 6-8, 2008.

In this *Back to the 80's* musical, Corey Palmer is in love with the girl next door, Tiffany Houston, played by senior Kyla Smith. She is in love with Michael Feldman, the most popular boy in school, played by senior Gattlin Miller.

"Acting in love with the guys was not awkward," said Smith. "They are both friends of mine. I understand it is just acting, and I will do it for the sake of the show."

A lot of the cast members also hung out outside of practice and performances. Great bonds were formed when the same interests were shared.

"It doesn't matter how clicky our school is. When you walk past those people from the musical in the hallway, you know that you share a friendship like no one else," said junior James Russell, who played Mr. Cocker, teacher and boyfriend of Ms. Brannigan.

"Let's Hear It For The Boy"

"Video Killed The Radio Star"

"Girls Just Wanna Have Fun"

"Nothing's Gonna Stop Us Now"

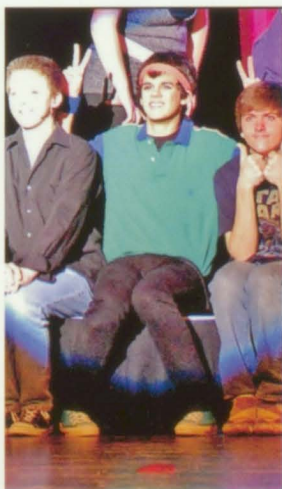
"Mickey"

"Love Shack"

"Angel Is The Centerfold"

Right: Characters young Cory Palmer (senior Josh Goergen), Kirk Keaton (sophomore Sean Linden), and Alf Bueller (sophomore Austin Stole) were froze in a pose while junior Dylan Furst, who played the older Cory Palmer, told of himself and his two best friends as they were when they were young.

Far Right: The cast and crew of the show. Juniors Caitlin Krieg and James Russell, who shared a close relationship in the musical, hugged while the rest of the cast struck a pose.







Sp**O**r**T**s

Teamwork

A Valuable Advantage

It's Friday night at Meuwissen Field. The lights are shining; the crowd is roaring. It's time for Wildcat football.

Every Friday, the football team gets ready for game time. When they step onto the field, they forget about everything except the reason that they are there to win.

The 2008 football team began the season with last year's state semifinal loss to eventual state champion Totino-Grace in the back of players' minds.

Still, players remained optimistic about a possible return trip to state.

"As far as making it to state, I thought that we could go as far as our hearts took us," said senior Chris Leivermann.

The season started off with a 7-30 loss to the Orono Spartans.

However, Leivermann's 45-yard touchdown run provided the team with a glimmer of hope.

The Wildcats bounced back with a 26-17 win against conference rival the Litchfield Dragons. Once again, Leivermann led the team, scoring four touchdowns. Next, the Wildcats defeated the Annandale Cardinals 26-7 and shutout rival Delano 22-0. Senior Cody Swier scored once, and senior Derik Noeldner also provided an offensive punch rushing for one touchdown.

The 'Cats headed into the Homecoming game against Watertown-Mayer with a 3-1 record. They ended up defeating the Royals 20-7, and followed this victory by winning two more games against Minneapolis Edison and Mound-Westonka High School.

In those games, Leivermann scored six touchdowns and rushed for over 200 yards.

"The whole team played great and the blocking really helped me with my running game," said Leivermann.

Once the Glencoe-Silver Lake Panthers and the Wildcats met, the intensity could be felt in the air. Waconia was up 19-12 in the fourth quarter with less than two minutes to go. It looked like the 'Cats would come away with a win, but the Panthers, the 2008 Class 3A state champions, scored with less than one minute to go and followed the touchdown with a two point conversion, defeating the Wildcats 20-19.

In the section playoffs, the 'Cats defeated New Ulm in the first round 49-0, but saw their season

come to an end against Mankato West, the eventual Class 4A state champion.

Offensive standouts included Leivermann, who rushed for an average of 92.8 yards per game and scored 18 touchdowns; Derik Noeldner, who scored five touchdowns; and junior Dillon Pomeroy, who scored four touchdowns.

Seniors Brian Broll and Jared Pawelk and sophomore Anton Lieb were defensive standouts. Allowing opponents only 12 points per game, defensive players built on the success of the 2007 team.

"It didn't seem like the defense would be as good as last year, but it turned out to be better," said Defensive Coordinator Mark Grundhofer.



Monday Aug. 11,
Camp Begins

Sept. 5,
Litchfield

Sept. 19,
Delano

Aug. 29,
Orono - First Game

Sept. 12,
Annandale

Sept. 26,
Watertown-Mayer, Homecoming

	W	D
Orono	7	30
Litchfield	26	17
Annandale	26	7
Delano	22	0
Watertown-Mayer	20	7
Minneapolis Edison	49	8
Mound-Westonka	41	7
Glencoe-Silver Lake	19	20
New Ulm	49	0
Mankato West	6	43

Season Record: 7- 3- 0



Left: Junior Jake Braunhausen and Sophomores Will Lynn and Anton Lieb walk back to the huddle after a defensive stop. These three played a big role defensively during the 49-0 section playoff game victory against New Ulm High School.



Left: Quarterback Evan Graff attempts a pass at home versus Mound-Westonka. Graff went 3-6 and passed for 30 yards and a touchdown in this game. The 'Cats defeated the White Hawks, 41-7.

Below: The Wildcat offensive line prepares for Graff's snap during an offensive series against Minneapolis Edison High School, a game which the Wildcats won, 49-8.

Below Right: Running back Chris Leivermann runs for a first-down behind the blocking of Left Guard Cory Gieseke. Leivermann, the team's leading rusher and scorer, rushed for an average of over 92 yards per game and scored 18 touchdowns.



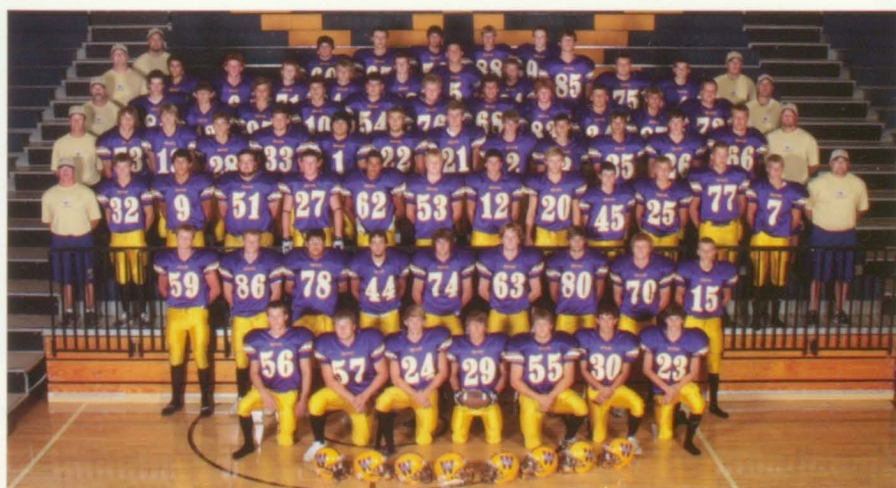
Oct. 3,
Minneapolis-Edison

Oct. 15,
Glencoe - Silver Lake

Oct. 25,
Mankato West - Final Game

Oct. 10,
Mound-Westonka

Oct. 21,
New Ulm, Sections Game 1



Front Row: Kyle Pingeon, Dan Edwards, Elliot Ferron, Cody Strand, Jared Pawelk, Carter Ostile, Chris Leivermann; Second Row: Cory Gieseke, Matt Gibbs, Robert Cook, Derik Noeldner, Austin Sullivan, Nick Ramm, Cody Sweir, Brian Broll, Jason Elasky; Third Row: Bronson Scheff, Thomas Morimoto, Eric Bach, Tim Watts, Matt Gieseke, Charles Smothers, Dillon Pomeroy, Marshall Kelzer, Robert Smith; Fourth Row: Anton Lieb, Luke Kassmeyer, Joey Sandholm, Jake Braunhausen, Trevor Horning, Pete Brettingen, Emit Ferron, Jared Klein, Zach Fimon, Keaton Evert; Fifth Row: Timothy Deweese, Josh Sinnen, Shane Segner, Christian Goldman, Shane Hanson, Brady Kenney, Will Lynn, Byran Synstegaard, Kyler Trinka, Calvin Brown; Sixth Row: Josh Frischman, Zach Synstegaard, Zach Leshner, Casey Dalhman, Nick Hennen, Evan Graff, Mike Schuette, Shelby Moats, Brian Faust, Chris Sinclair; Seventh Row: Tylan Nordby, Scott Rajewsky, Tyler Gunnufson, Tanner Friedrich, Jacob Boyer

Back to Back to Back

For the third season in a row, the Wildcats volleyball team showed its conference dominance by earning the title of Wright County Conference champions with an undefeated 8-0 record. This was a big achievement for Waconia's volleyball program.

The season started off with a bang with a 3-1 victory in the first game against Eden Prairie, a team the Wildcats have had trouble beating in past. According to Head Coach Jim Lee, this was only the first time the Wildcats have beaten the Eagles during his tenure.

"The EP game was really nerve-wracking," said senior Emily Storms, who has been on the varsity team for the past three

seasons. "It was the first game of the season, but I also look at it as the final step for the team. Most of us have been playing together for over three years. It is something we all wanted and we finally got it, and it really brought the team together."

This was the first sign of the success that was to come.

The second sign was realized from results in tournaments.

The team competed in three tournaments this year: the Eden Prairie tournament, in which the team took third place; the Marshall Tournament, in which the team won consolation; and the Benilde St. Margaret's tournament, in which the team took home the first place trophy.

In a season ending with a close loss to Chaska in the second round of the playoffs, the Wildcats finished out the season with an overall record of 25-4-0.

According to MaxPreps, with a win percentage of 0.862, the Wildcats were ranked the 18th team in the state, and out of the thousands of volleyball teams in the country, they had a national rank of 609.

Lee attributed this year's success to the high level of athleticism his players possessed, as well as abiding by the motto, "High expectations bring high rewards."

One of the major individual achievements this year belonged to senior Kara Pioske who was named to the Wright County All-

Conference team and was a Class AAA 1st Team All-State selection. Pioske had 1013 career kills. The other Wildcats named to the all-conference team were senior Margo Schwartz and sophomore Chandra Honebrink. All-conference honorable mention selections included senior Jenna Lester and sophomore Dana Noeldner.

Waconia will lose five seniors this year: Kara Pioske, Margo Schwartz, Emily Storms, Jenna Lester, and Emily Willems.

Coach Lee's one word to describe this year's season was "boom." The impact that this season has made on the Waconia volleyball program is definitely one to remember.

"This was the best team Waconia has ever had," said Lee.

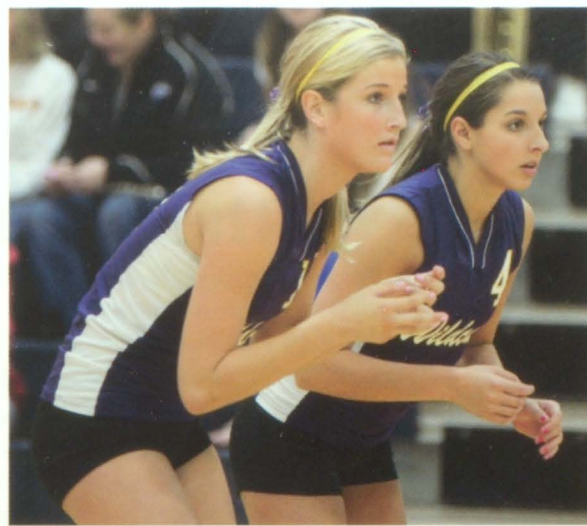


Eden Prairie	W	0
Mayer Lutheran	3	1
Mound-Westonka	3	0
Belle Plaine	3	0
Litchfield	3	0
Blaine	3	2
Orono	3	1
Glencoe-Silver Lake	3	0
Annandale	3	0
Norwood-Young America	3	0
Watertown-Mayer	3	2
Delano	3	1
Shakopee	0	3
Dassel-Cokato	3	0
Hutchinson	3	0
Chaska	0	3

Season Record: 25-4-0



Above: Fans who attended the last Wright County Conference game against the Dassel-Cokato Chargers celebrate the conference title win with the team. The Wildcats went undefeated in conference play finishing with an 8-0 record.



Far Left: Senior Emily Storms goes for a kill against the Hutchinson Tigers in the first round of the playoffs. The Wildcats beat the Tigers 3-0.
Top Left: Sophomore Chandra Honebrink and Senior Emily Willems anticipate a serve. Honebrink was named all-conference this year.
Bottom Left: Junior Jessica Rice serves the ball. Rice was one of four juniors on the varsity team this year.
Below: Senior Kara Pioske, Class AAA 1st team All-State selection, makes a kill in a game against Anandale. This accounted for just one of Pioske's 1,013 career kills.



Front Row: Jenna Lester, Beth Aeling;
Middle Row: Emily Willems, Dana Noeldner, Jessica Rice; Back Row: Assistant Coach Melia Archambault, Assistant Coach Kristin Krusemark, Kara Pioske, Margo Schwartz, Emily Storms, Chandra Honebrink, Head Coach Jim Lee, Manager Steven Wert

Going The Distance

In long distance running, the old cliché, "No pain, no gain," is taken to heart. The cross country team knows whatever effort put into meets and practice makes the whole team better. Pushing it to the limit is not unfamiliar to the athletes participating in this tough sport.

Hard work has helped to bring the team closer together. One thing cross country has become known for is the strong unity of the team members. Team meals, bus rides, and even practices are adventures with such a diverse group of team members. Members pushed each other in practice to get better and succeed.

"Its fun to have your friends with you while working to

accomplish similar goals," said senior Aaron Albani.

The cross country team began the year with a few weeks of the hardest practices of their lives. The runners work hard to earn their best individual times, which makes the whole team more successful. Difficult practices everyday are a necessity.

"This year there is a really strong group of runners, so wáve been pushing it a lot more and increasing the work," said Head Coach Clark Machtemes.

Hard work seemed to have influenced the runners. At the Wright County Conference meet at Crown College, every varsity girl received honorable mention honors. All the varsity boys got their

individual personal records. Seniors Gattlin Miller and Hallie Miller, juniors Chelsea Wickenhauser and Meredith Proulx, sophomore Julia Johnson, freshman Danielle Kirsch, and seventh grader Lexi Willems were awarded all-conference honors.

"I don't really know how I did it, but I took 44 seconds off my personal record and that's crazy," said senior Gattlin Miller after his impressive run at the WCC meet.

The cross country program has developed a strong family bond over the years. Each athlete works on testing his or her limits and pushing each other to strive for perfection and be the best he or she can be.

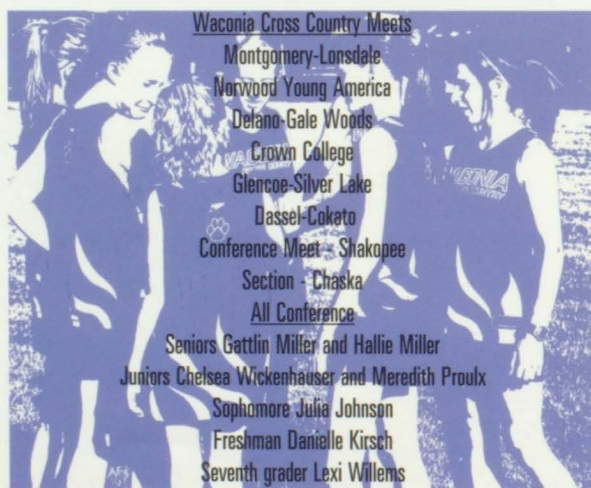
Senior captain Trevor O'Konek,

said that cross country is all about the friends. The athletes are really close, which helped the entire team bond and develop great friendships. There is so much cheer at every practice and meet, which influences everybody's attitudes on the pain.

"The team has never been this close and connected, and it really makes a difference," said Machtemes.

Cross country is a sport of hard work, commitment and having fun. The team has a great spirit and attitude that makes for good running.

"All the hard work paid off, and we were really happy with how the season ended," said senior Hallie Miller.



Waconia Cross Country Meets

Montgomery-Lonsdale

Norwood Young America

Delano-Gale Woods

Crown College

Glencoe-Silver Lake

Dassel-Cokato

Conference Meet - Shakopee

Section - Chaska

All Conference

Seniors Gattlin Miller and Hallie Miller

Juniors Chelsea Wickenhauser and Meredith Proulx

Sophomore Julia Johnson

Freshman Danielle Kirsch

Seventh grader Lexi Willems



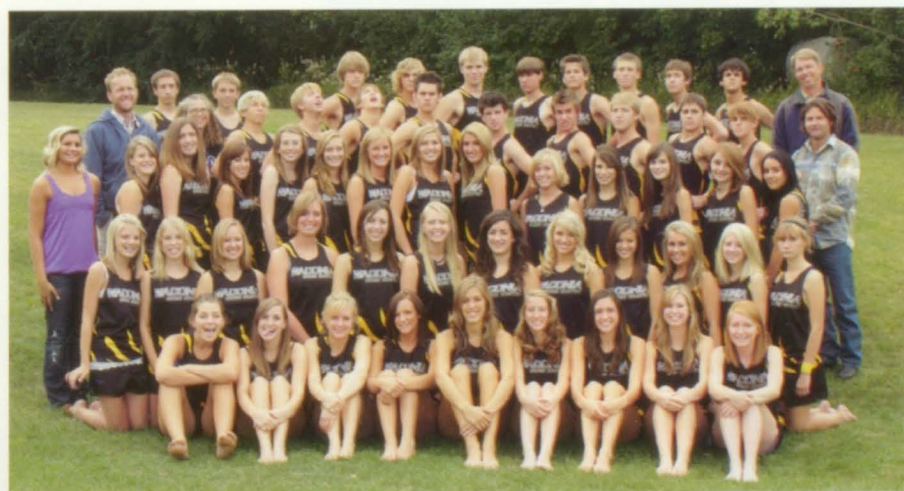
Left: Boys varsity runners senior Gattlin Miller, sophomore Jacob Billstrom, senior Kyle Wall, junior Patrick Logelin, freshman Blake Willems, and junior Michael Brown, wait at the starting line for the race to start at the Waconia Invitational held at Crown College on Sept. 16. Each of the boys prepared for the 3.1 mile race in his own unique way.



Left: Senior Gatlin Miller keeps a steady pace while running at the sunny Waconia Invitational held at Crown College. Miller had a successful season and was at his best when he was awarded all-conference honors near the end of the season. Below: Girls' varsity runners junior Chelsea Wickenhauser, junior Meredith Proulx, seventh grader Lexi Willems, senior Hallie Miller, freshman Danielle Kirsch, sophomore Julia Johnson, and senior Cassandra Faust begin their run at the Waconia Invitational. At this meet, the beginning of the race was even more crucial because of the hot weather.



Back Row: Daniel Leifermann, Charlie Klos, Tanner DeLange, Anders Culver, Alexander Gallup, Jacob Vipond, Michael Brown, Patrick Logelin, Jimmy Froehling, Sean Linden, Assistant Coach Don Skerik. Fourth Row: Assistant Coach Christian Gilbert, Assistant Coach Sandy Wasness, Blake Willems, Jonathan Heimdal, Elijah Stangret, Trevor O'Konek, Aaron Albani, Gattlin Miller, Justin Ratzlaff, Kyle Wall, Jacob Billstrom, Head Coach Clark Machtemes. Third Row: Manager Ashley Walter, Kelsey Kelzer, Cassandra Anderson, Victoria Haler, Lyndsy Chase, Meredith Proulx, Sarah Farlow, Emma Wabbe, Alyson Graff, Kerry Hayes, Chelsea Wickenhauser, Julia Johnson, Kelly Drey, Ariadne Alvarez. Second Row: Allison Corson, Kelsey Burmeister, Lisa Kittleson, Dacotah Smith, Rebecca Hughes, Becky Boughten, Kelsey Brennan, Kelsey Wenning, Lydia Long, Christina Marceau, Danielle Kirsch, Katherine Tusha. First Row: Morgan Braunshausen, Kelsey Hoen, Melanie Grangaard, Stephanie Cluff, Amanda Iverson, Jacklyn Surat, Hallie Miller, Lucy Tongen, Cassandra Faust.



Below: Junior Justin Spurbeck does a jump up with senior captain Gavin Woodland. Each member of the team did something similar to this with Woodland as their name was called before a game. It helped the team get pumped up before a game. Right: Junior Carlos Prada is getting ready to kick the ball downfield as junior Matt Carson catches up to defend against the opposing team. Prada, a Spanish foreign exchange student, was a first year team member and was named as a team co-MVP.



Front Row: Thomas Korteum, David Butz, Javier Flores, Kevin Olesen, Matt Carson. Middle Row: Nicholas Hennen, Spencer Reichenberger, Aaron Hulke, Alex Osborn, Gavin Woodland, Carlos Prada, Reese Weber, Bailey Monson. Back Row: Head Coach Tyrel Seim, Logan Sohns, Brandon Chappell, Jackson Mitchell, Justin Spurbeck, Mark Kapuska, Zachary Emerson.





Kickin' it up

with a new goal

With pressure and sweat dripping across his face, senior midcenter Alex Osborn had to kick the penalty kick with zero seconds left in the game. The game was tied 1-1.

It all came down to this kick. If the ball went past the St. Cloud Cathedral goalie, the team would be named the Wright County Conference champions. Ready, set, kick! The ball swooshed through the goal right past the goalie.

"It was the scariest moment of my life, knowing that this goal could decide whether our team was named the conference champs. After I made the goal, the feeling was un-realistic," said Osborn.

The 15 member team set a high

goal: to win 12 games. Once this was accomplished, they pushed to win as many games as they could.

Getting pumped up and motivated for a game was a big factor for these boys. "Warm up music really got me motivated," said senior Nick Hennen also noting that the team's song was "Welcome Back" by Mase.

Beating a rival team is a goal for any team to accomplish, especially beating both of them said sophomore Bailey Monson.

"Orono and Holy Family are a few of our rivalry teams," said senior Tommy Korteum.

The team was astonished after the big win against Cathedral.

"I couldn't believe it, it was just so unreal," said junior Logan Sohns.

"We jumped around the field for half an hour after the game," said senior Kevin Olesen.

To celebrate the big the win, the team went out to eat at Perkins. They did not have much time to celebrate since they still had school the next day, so the celebration seemed limited.

"As the season went on, we really wanted to go to state, but with a conference championship and best record on our history, I'd say the season turned out in a good way," said senior captain Gavin Woodland.

Junior Zach Emerson said that the team exceeded its original goal. The players connected as a family, knowing they would have to set new goals to be successful.

This year's standout players included Gavin Woodland and Carlos Prada, who were named Team MVPs; Nick Hennen, who was named Forward MVP; Matt Carson, who was named Midfield MVP; and junior Reese Weber, who was named Defensive MVP.

According to Woodland, teamwork was key.

"We did everything together. Everybody stood out."

There were no good luck charms involved in the team's success, just practice and hard work that resulted in a 9-0 conference record and the first Wright County Conference title in the school's history.

Right: Senior Thomas Korteum rushes under the ball as it is flying in the air to defend it against the other team. Sophomore Mark Kapuska and senior Brandon Chappell helped by defending off the other players.



	W	L
Minneapolis Washburn	4	3
Southwest Christian School	4	1
Orono	1	0
Shakopee	1	4
Mound-Westonka	4	1
Watertown Mayer / Mayer Luth	8	0
Providence Academy	5	0
Holy Family Catholic	0	1
St. John's Prep	2	0
Glencoe-Silver Lake	3	0
Marshall	6	2
Delano	6	2
Rockford	6	0
St. Peter	3	2
Holy Family Catholic	5	2
St. Cloud Cathedral	2	1
Chaska	0	4
Mound-Westonka	6	0
Benilde-St. Margaret's School	1	0
Breck School	2	4

Season Record: 16 - 3 - 0

Go grEEen

Soccer Style

The term "Go Greeñ has been a common slogan for a few years now. It usually refers to the environment, but for the girls' soccer team, it has a whole new meaning. For them, it means to spread out and use the whole field.

Coached by Gretchen Fritz, this year's team consisted of 16 returning players, including senior captains Mary Polding and Jessica Hunter. The experience of the players helped the team earn 13 victories and 7 losses.

"Soccer is a team sport. when we are playing as a team, everyone is involved.. The girls that are on the bench cheer loudly while the girls on the field are more pumped up and ready for the rest of the game. The team plays

every game with all their heart," said Polding.

Early season practices consisted mostly of drills and scrimmages. The girls worked on any issues experienced in the previous game, and they would often practice spreading the field, or going green."

"At the beginning of the season, we played easier teams, so we would use this to our advantage by practicing spreading out as much as we could," said senior Jessica Hunter. "We started using the saying go green as an easier way to communicate the need to spread out."

Practice continued to be a vital key to the team's success this season. Without practice, the girls wouldn't have been able to

work together as well as they did. They practiced additional passing and shooting drills so they would be able to apply the fundamentals during games.

"We always practiced together, even if you were a defender and we were practicing shooting. By working together at practice, we got along much better on the field," said Polding.

The girls faced many challenging rivals this year including neighboring schools Mayer Lutheran and Holy Family.

"Some of the girls on the Mayer team play with us on our summer league, which makes both teams really determined to win," said Hunter.

The team split its games against

Holy Family, losing 2 - 3 in the first game, but defeating the Fire 5-1 during the section game.

"Our section game against Holy Family was definitely our best win of the year. Everyone on and off the field was only focused on winning the game, and that desire to win was all we needed to beat Holy Family and continue our season," said senior goalkeeper Becky Lund.

The season ended in the section semi-finals with a loss to the Orono Spartans.

"Even though we didn't win every game, like we wish we could have, this season was still fun. Everyone really bonded, and I couldn't imagine a better set of girls," said Polding.



Front Row: Stacy Christensen, Sara Wachholz, Claire Perkins, Mandi Selvey, Dianne Parkinson, Emily Ludwigson, Jessica Hunter, Head Coach Gretchen Fritz.
Back Row: Sarah Northrup, Scarlett Sterner, Carly Stockert, Alli Dunkelberger, Mary Polding, Rebecca Lund, Megan Rademacher, Emily Cook, Kelsey Woodland, Amy Erickson, Leah Christensen, Rebecca Pederson.



Left: Senior captain Mary Polding makes a move to get the ball away from her opponent. Junior Claire Perkins helped Polding by getting open for a pass.

Below: Junior Alli Dunkelberger dribbled the ball away from a Chaska defender to score a goal against the Hawks.



Right: Junior Kelsey Woodland cuts around a Chaska player to move the ball up to Chaska's end of the field. Woodland was a returning player on the team this year. Playing both defense and midfielder, she helped the team achieve their successful record.



	W	O
Minneapolis Washburn	3	1
Orono	1	7
Shakopee	2	1
Providence Academy	2	1
Mound-Westonka	3	1
Watertown-Mayer	1	0
St. Peter	3	1
Mayer Lutheran	6	0
St. John's Prep	4	1
Glencoe-Silver Lake	7	0
Benilde St. Margaret's	0	4
Delano	1	0
Rockford	3	2
Fridley	0	2
Holy Family	2	3
St. Cloud Cathedral	1	2
Chaska	1	6
Mayer Lutheran	3	0
Holy Family	5	1
Orono	0	6

Season Record: 13 - 7 - 0

Shin to win

Fast and Clean

Sliding around courses, traveling to different hills, and meeting many new people is what this year's ski team got to experience.

The group consisted of five girls and four boys all coming together to do their best.

They were scored by combining both the girls' and boys' scores at the end of the meet. Whichever team had the best combined total score won the competition.

The 39-member team was made up of Waconia students and also students from Holy Family Catholic High School, Watertown-Mayer High School, and Mound-Westonka High School.

"Anyone can join, and it is a good opportunity to meet new people," said sophomore Jimmy

Froehling, a two-year member.

The season started in November and ran until February, as the team practiced two times a week at Hyland Hills Ski Area in Bloomington.

To get prepared for the season, senior Justin Ratzlaff said he would rollerblade while senior Shana Froehling said she worked out, doing a lot of quad and lower leg exercises, as they are important for skiing. Shana Froehling also used a ski machine which simulates the motion of down hill skiing.

If the hills weren't ready to practice on, the team had what they called 'dry practices,' where they mainly ran to get in shape and to get conditioned for the

season.

Besides practicing, another major element of skiing is wearing and using the proper equipment. The trick is finding clothing that keeps the skier warm and dry and provides the necessary amount of protection.

"When skiing I usually wear a baselayer top and bottom, sweatpants, polar fleece, snowpants, coat, gloves, helmet with chin guard, ski boots, pole guards, and goggles," said Ratzlaff.

Then there's the cost to participate skiing.

"A season can get a little expensive if you don't have all of the equipment, and then to top that off, it's about \$500 for tickets. But I would say it's

entirely worth it," said Shana Froehling.

Competitions were held at Hyland Hills, Buck Hill, Powder Ridge, and Afton Alps. The varsity team had four meets which consisted of two runs down a slalom course. According to Head Coach BJ Johnson, racers are placed from fastest to slowest.

Technique and critique are keys for these racers.

"You have to perfect everything," said Madilynn Honnold. "It's not the easiest when you come down and the coaches critique you, and then you go back up to do it all again, but it definitely pays off. By the end of the season, I knew it had paid off as my scores had improved."



Right: Front Row: Turi Hjelstrand, Alissa Kirby, Jimmy Froehling, Madilynn Honnold; Back Row: Jessica Kullman, Victoria Larkin, Shana Froehling, Justin Ratzlaff, Timothy Deweese
Right: Sophomore Jessica Kullman is skiing around a pole as she nears the end. The team had practiced this many times to perfect it by the time competitions came.





Right: Sophomore Turi Hjelsand crouches for speed as she flies downhill. Skiers work on speed and agility during practice runs. They also work on aerobic endurance and perform strength building exercises before the competitive ski season begins.

Below: Senior Justin Ratzlaff is cutting around a turn at a competition. Ratzlaff said he's been skiing for most of his life.



Below: Senior Shana Froehling and teammates are talking about how they thought they did. The team's coaches provided tips regarding individual techniques and ways to increase speed on the slopes.



Right: Sophomore Madilynn Honnold is swiping past a pole at Hyland Hills during a competition. Hyland Hills is also where the team has its practices. Below: Sophomore Jimmy Froehling and senior Justin Ratzlaff are taking a break to warm up and also get something to eat. Racers can do this once they are done competing.

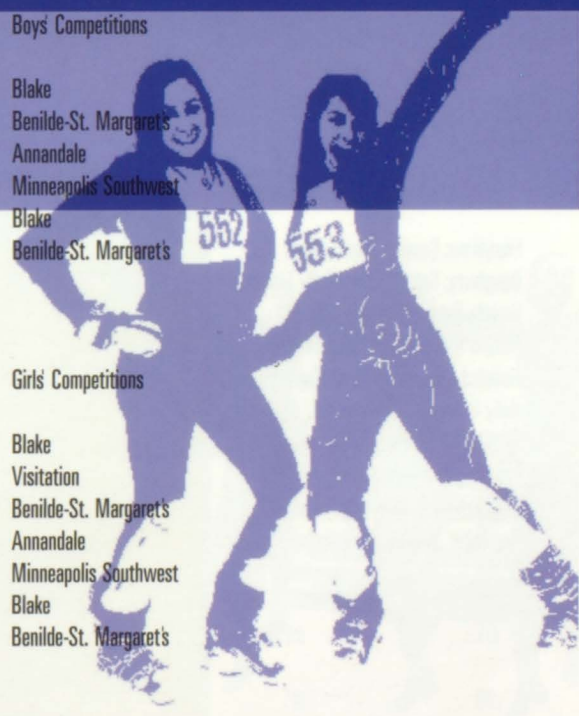


Boys' Competitions

Blake
Benilde-St. Margaret's
Annandale
Minneapolis Southwest
Blake
Benilde-St. Margaret's

Girls' Competitions

Blake
Visitation
Benilde-St. Margaret's
Annandale
Minneapolis Southwest
Blake
Benilde-St. Margaret's



Give it All

Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

"I expect everyone to try their hardest and put their all into the practices and competitions," said junior Cassidy Stumm.

The 2009 Lakettes Danceline did so by competing in seven competitions including Apple Valley, Lakeville, Maple Grove, Prior Lake, Litchfield, Waconia, and the 3AA sections.

Although the Lakettes did not make it to state, they put all their effort and heart into their season and competitions.

On Oct. 22, 2008 the 19 girls on varsity had their first practice. This was the first time the girls began dancing together as an organized team. Prior to their first official practice, the girls worked and dancing skills and physical

conditioning, two important elements needed during both practice and competition.

During the season, the girls competed in two categories - jazz and high kick.

The jazz team competed in seven competitions while the high kick team competed in four competitions. In each competition, the teams improved on many things.

"We had a young team with two seniors, one junior, eight sophomores and eight freshmen. With each competition, it increased our averages in the scoring, and we competed with two strong routines," said Head Coach Amy Segener.

The high kick team placed fifth in its first competition at Apple

Valley High School dancing to Cyndi Laupers "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun," and followed this with a first place finish at the Maple Grove Invitational. This invitational was the first place where the Lakettes Jazz team performed, taking fourth place.

Even though the Lakettes didn't earn a trip to state, senior Stephanie Wothe said the teams' performances were memorable.

"We didn't place where we wanted to, but we were all so happy with our last performance," said Wothe.

"Girls Just Wanna Have Fun" wasn't just the high kick team's routine song but also a motto for their season.

"The teams get along on and off

the dance floor, and that is what makes it a great season for the team," said Segner.

The Lakettes did have fun before their competitions doing their "breakdown" cheer and playing loud music in their dressing room. Competitions weren't all play and no work, however, as each girl would run through the dance prior to performing. Still, the team had fun.

"Bus rides, goofing around and bonding as a team are what makes practices and competitions fun," said Stumm.

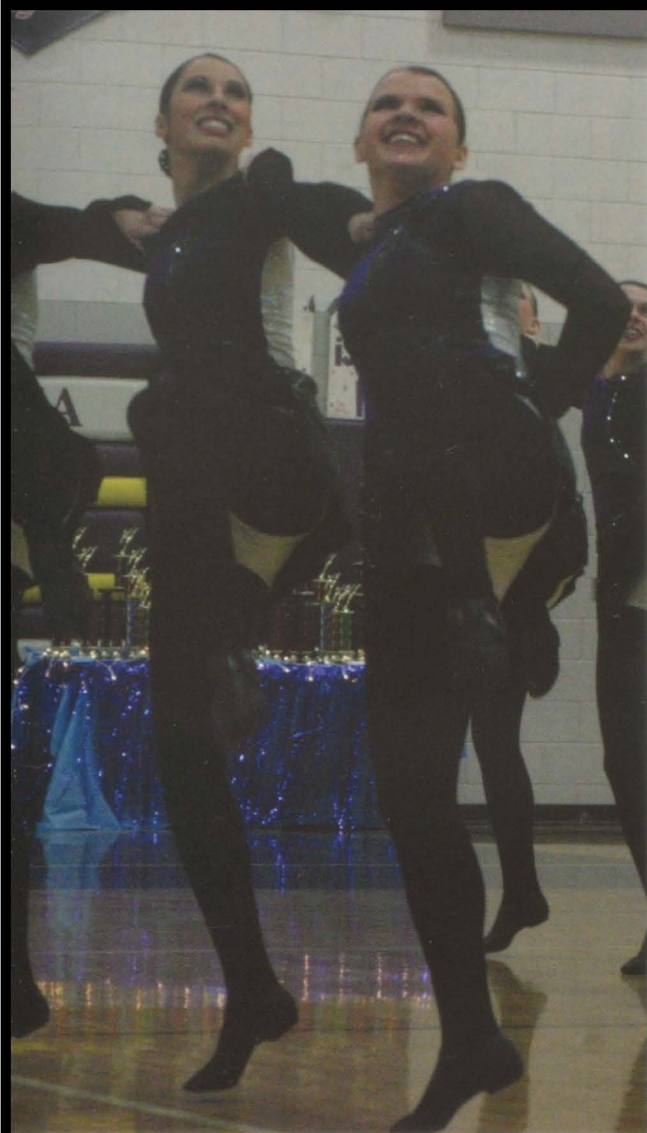
By the end of the season the team performed in many competitions, improving on many skills.

"Over all, it was great," said Segner.



First Row: Cassidy Stumm, Kyra Daugherty; Second Row: Molly Elasky, Carissa Bakke, Stephanie Wothe, Natalie Kalkes, Zane Kunsteina, Rebecca Shirk; Third Row: Kayla Vit, Kelly Drey, Anna Christensen, Jillian Sutherland, Madison Peitz; Fourth Row: Victoria Haler, Shantel Peters, Marisa Keidel, Jordan Decker, Ellie Gorghuber, Kristine Rademacher





Far Left: Cassidy Stumm, Natalie Kalkes, Marisa Keidal, and Kristine Rademacher join together to perform their high kick line at the Waconia Invitational. The high kick team danced to Cyndi Laupets "Girls Just Wanna Have Fun."

Left: Kristine Rademacher performs during the high kick portion at the Waconia Invitational. The high kick team placed sixth overall.

Below: The Lakettes leap to victory at the Waconia Invitational on Jan. 24, 2009.



Front Row: Jenna Lund, Alexis Flesness, Kristin Stivers, Natalie Beaton, Brittley Sealy; Second Row: Jade Anderson, Breanna Borka, Madeline Beuning, Madison Widmer, Leire de la Fuente; Third Row: Sybil Rosenau, Madison Hintgen, Rachel Stephan; Fourth Row: Mackenzie Loutzenhiser, Jordan Decker, Danielle Johnson, Haley Brennan, Rachel Shirk, Kourtney Kromgman, Jessica Ramsey, Anna Keidel.

	High Kick	Jazz
Apple Valley	5th	NA
Lakeville	7th	NA
Maple Grove	1st	4th
Prior Lake	4th	4th
Litchfield	2nd	4th
Waconia	6th	7th
3AA Sections	7th	8th

Right: Junior Brittany Van Houtte competes on the uneven bars during a home meet at Clearwater Middle School.

Far Right: Amanda Sinnen stuns the crowd with her complex floor exercise routine.

Below: Senior Mercedes Tozmann performs her routine on the balance beam, concentrating on perfecting her moves while maneuvering on the four inch-wide balance beam.



	W	O
Orono	124.9	122.25
Annandale	128.35	134.375
Dassel-Cokato	129.675	125.25
Glencoe-Silver Lake	127.575	118.1
Litchfield	123.45	127.4
Maple Lake	133.425	131.075
Rockford	130.575	111.725
Howard Lake	130.75	119.9
New Ulm	132.75	130.7
Delano	130.325	135.65
Mound-Westonka	131.875	141.725
Watertown Mayer	132.6	125.175
Season Record: 8-4-0		



Right: Senior Amanda Sinnen high fives her classmates as they join her in the pepfest sending her off to the state gymnastics meet. After an outstanding performance at the section meet, Sinnen advanced to the state meet where she finished seventh on vault, twelfth on floor, and 25th in the overall competition.

All Around Success

"Success" is the one word junior Brittany Van Houtte used to describe the 2008-2009 gymnastics season. What can not be described is the amount of effort and the determination each member brought to the team.

The team is led by Head Coach Stephanie Swenson along with Assistant Coach Molly Anquist and Junior High Coach Terri Bessire.

"Our coaches always push us to do our best and to stay focused on our routines," said Senior Mercedez Tolzmann. "They are always there motivating us and giving us positive feedback no matter what the outcome."

Gaining skill and creating a good performance takes a lot of practice. By working hard

everyday after school, the team concentrated on perfecting their routines and focusing on their technique. Many gymnasts also put in extra hours of hard work by practicing during the offseason to stay in shape and to better prepare for the upcoming season.

"It is important to practice during the offseason because if you don't practice at all, then you lose a lot of strength and endurance that will take most of the season to rebuild," said Tolzmann.

With a small team of only six varsity members, the team really had to step up and focus on improving their individual skills.

"I like having a small team because you can really bond and

get to know each other really well," said Van Houtte.

The team finished in third place at the Section 2A meet in Waseca. Varsity member Amanda Sinnen won the all-around title with a score of 36 becoming the first Waconia High School gymnast to do so and setting a new school record. This sent her off to state for her third time.

Sinnen had a positive outlook going into this year saying that she wanted to do her best for her senior year and really worked hard to make this season a success.

Gymnastics is really about working together as individuals. Even though they are scored individually, the overall score is based on the entire team's

performances.

"It is really a team effort," said sophomore Emily Sanborn. "We really tried our best this year and we all worked together."

This year the team focused on the unity of the team and worked hard to bring their performances to a new level. Senior Mercedez Tolzmann said that in comparison to last year the team has really stepped up and almost everyone got new skills.

The Team got to show off everything they worked for during their meets and through their performances. With their high scores and evident improvement they proved this season to be a success.



First Row: Karley Orloff, Mercedez Tolzmann, Jade Swensen Second Row: Hali Germond, Mariah Vagen, Amanda Sinnen Third Row: Emily Sanborn, Callie Schroeder Fourth Row: Nina Tumrongsirpol, Libby Gasca, Kryslyn Olson, Brittany Van Houtte, Ashlund Buck, Cheyenne Davis Fifth Row: Rebecca St. Amand, Katelyn McMahon, Katelyn Bachmeyer-Parker, McKensie Livermore, Clarice Kinneberg Sixth Row: Head Coach Stephanie Swenson, Junior High Coach Terri Bessire, Skylar White, Assistant Coach Molly Anquist

The Deep End

Out of the Depths

With dedication rushing through their veins and a look of intensity in their eyes, fifty-nine Waconia swimmers cheer at the pool's edge, saying, "Eat my bubbles and kiss my splash."

Seniors Ariel McCullum and Christina Rupp were the team's captains. Their head coach was Chuck Charnstrom; Amy Schmitt and Kevin Micklo were assistant coaches.

At this year's St. Peter Invitational the girls' hard work paid off. They took first place there, for the first time in the team's history. It was a great start to the year.

The night before every meet, team members had a carbo-load. These get-togethers happened

when a girl on the team volunteered to host it at her house for the night.

The girls' parents would make the pasta, and then right after practice, the team would meet there for to load up on carbo-rich foods.

"Carbo-loads consist of pasta and team bonding," said Charnstrom. These get-togethers gave the team energy to burn for the next day's meet.

During the meets, team members competed in events consisting of four strokes: back stroke, breast stroke, butterfly and freestyle. Team members compete both individually and on relay teams.

Competing in eleven meets total, the girls finished their season with

a 3-5-3 record.

Rupp, McCullum, sophomore Alisha Brunner and sophomore Taylor Gregory represented WHS at the state swim meet, swimming in the 200 freestyle relay event. Brunner also swam in the 100 meter backstroke.



Left: Senior Bethany Bertelson swims the breaststroke. She was fueled by the carbo-load from the night before. Below: At practice, Senior Alexa Klos swims freestyle. The girls swam many meters at practice while building up their strength and endurance.



Above: Senior Christina Rupp swims the butterfly during a team practice. According to Head Coach Chuck Charnstrom, the butterfly is the most difficult stroke to master.

Front Row: Taylor Kahl, Kindra Melichar, Brittany Van Houtte, Kaitlin Cook, Addy Scrimgeour, Paige Ehalt, Lindsay Harder, Hannah Nagy; Middle Row: Olivia McCullum, Chaneen Haler, Alisha Bruner, Ramya Melichar, Taylor Gregory, Megan Farlow, Abigale Christenson, Nicole Wynsteker, Allison McPhee, Jerica Waligoski, Jennifer Kallio; Back Row: Kara Bakke, Sara Porter, Hali Germond, Ariel McCullum, Leire De La Fuente, Christina Rupp, Shana Froehling, Alexa Klos, Bethany Bertelsen, Laura Baldy, Michelle Kroells



A Joint Effort

Swim teams Combine Talent



Above: Senior Diego Valasquez swims in the butterfly events at Watertown-Mayer High School. Since WHS didn't have enough boys to form its own team, they were part of a cooperative between Waconia, Watertown-Mayer and Delano High Schools.

Left: Junior Daniel Leifermann prepares himself on the starting block prior to the start of his race.

A strict diet, shaved legs, and surviving practices were not unfamiliar to the boys on the 2008-2009 swim team.

"This season went well, and the team worked really hard," said junior Daniel Leifermann. "We all just tried our best, and hoped for the best."

Waconia didn't have enough boys to form a team of its own this year. Instead, the boys were part of a cooperative that included Watertown-Mayer and Delano High Schools. Waconia's contributors included senior Diego Valasquez, junior Daniel Leifermann and sophomore William Chandler.

"We all got along very well," said senior Diego Valasquez. "We love to have fun."

The team was coached by Chuck Charnstrom and the Assistant Coach was Amy Schmitt. The boys felt they were very helpful, enthusiastic coaches.

These coaches pushed the swimmers' abilities and made them stronger competitors.

The boys made it through a lot of tough practices that tested their strength.

"The worst part about swimming is being tired," said Leifermann. "But all the hard work paid off."

One of the best meets and memories this season was swimming at sections on Feb. 28. Leifermann swam the 50 free, 100 free, 200 free, 100 back, 200 relay, and 400 free relay. Some of his best times were earned at

this meet.

These boys faced some tough teams and individual competition throughout the year that made them stronger as a team. The team's record was 6-4. They felt they gave it their all and had fun doing it.

"I will not be around next year but this season was a lot of fun and we made a lot of great memories," said Valasquez.

As for Leifermann, he had a successful season, but he said he's already thinking about next year, his senior season, and setting his goals high.

"I am excited for next season because I am going to work really hard during the off season and will try to go to state next year," said Leifermann.

Far Right: Junior Danny Leifermann swims the 100 free style race.

Leifermann swam in several freestyle races and also several relay races.

Right: Members of the boys' swim team from Waconia include William Chandler, Daniel Leifermann, and Diego Valasquez (far right). Harry Schaeffer, third from left, is a student at Delano High School. The cooperative team is made up of students from Watertown-Mayer, Waconia and Delano High Schools. All home swim meets are held at Watertown-Mayer High School.



Right: Sophomore Shelby Moats and junior Danny Fischbach play some intense defense during a game against the Glencoe-Silver Lake Panthers. Moats was an all-conference selection.

Far Right: Senior Jon Heimdal goes up for a lay-up, successfully making the basket. Heimdal scored 234 points during the season.

Bellow: Senior Tommy Kortuem scans the court for an open teammate.



Front Row: Student Manager Alex Kapuska, Assistant Coach Tom Konrardy, Patrick Van Kirk, Jon Heimdal, Thomas Kortuem, Head Coach Pat Hayes; Second Row: Assistant Coach Michael Johnson, Luke Kassmeyer, Shelby Moats, Logan Sohns, Danny Fischbach, Assistant Coach Rich Gove; Third Row: Alex Schmitt, Ben Kortuem, Patrick Logelin, Bronson Scheff, Nick Hennen.

Unified

on the court and off

The varsity boys basketball team didn't just have unity on the court. They had it off the court as well.

In fact, they combined their teamwork and their skills to earn a share of the Wright County Conference championship and finish the conference campaign with a record of 14-2.

"We were a true 'team' in every respect," said Head Coach Pat Hayes.

Throughout the season, the Wildcats faced some stiff competition.

The Wildcats opened their season against Minnetonka High School, the 2008 MSHSL 4A state champion. Although they played the Skippers tough, the Wildcats lost the opener 50-55. Two other tough losses came

against the New Prague Trojans, 2009 state tournament participants, and the Shakopee Sabers.

However, some players felt their biggest competition wasn't other teams.

"Our biggest competition is ourselves. It is all psychological," said junior forward Danny Fischbach.

Playing tough and talented teams early in the season may have helped the Wildcats hone their skills for conference play.

The boys began the conference season pumped defeating the Litchfield Dragons in the conference opener 43-33.

The boys fought hard every game, win or lose. At no time was this more apparent than in January when the team began a 12 game winning streak. One especially

exciting game against Watertown-Mayer ended in a 51-50 overtime victory.

Unfortunately, the Glencoe-Silver Lake Panthers stopped the streak and gave the 'Cats one of their two conference losses. The team rallied for the remaining conference games by battling back to defeat the Orono Spartans 64-51 and claim their portion of the conference championship.

The team's captains - Patrick Van Kirk, Tommy Kortuem and Jon Heimdal - provided leadership and helped the boys stay loose before games. One popular way to do this was by playing music.

"We relax and listen to music before getting dressed for our game," said Heimdal, who, along with Kortuem and sophomore

Shelby Moats, was named to the Wright County All-Conference team.

The team hoped its winning ways would continue during Section 6AAA play.

This wasn't the case as the Academy of Holy Angels ended the Wildcats' season with a 48-42 victory over Waconia.

The team finished the season with a 18-8 record.

Even though it was a disappointing loss, Hayes wants to remember the positives.

"The season was a tremendous success. The team really worked hard this year. I am proud of what they accomplished," said Hayes.



Right: Senior Patrick Van Kirk dribbles through two Delano players and passes to another player. Van Kirk scored seven points during the game, and the Wildcats defeated the Tigers 57-39. Earlier in the season, the Tigers handed the Wildcats one of the team's two conference losses. The Wildcats claimed part of the Wright County Conference crown, finishing conference play with a 14-2 record. The Wildcats finished the season 18-8 overall.

	W	L
Litchfield	43	33
Delano	48	57
Dassel-Cokato	77	45
Watertown-Mayer	66	60
Mound-Westonka	60	45
Annandale	58	56
Glencoe-Silver Lake	61	57
Orono	63	59
Litchfield	49	36
Delano	57	39
Dassel-Cokato	72	58
Watertown-Mayer	51	50
Mound-Westonka	76	55
Annandale	79	51
Glencoe-Silver Lake	53	62
Orono	64	51
Holy Angels	42	48

Season Record: 18-8

*Wright County Conference and Section 6AAA scores only

Team

First

Knock on Wood

According to *Wikipedia*, the phrase "Knock on Wood" means, a phrase used to avoid 'tempting fate'. The expression is usually used in the hope that a good thing will continue to occur after it has been acknowledged verbally."

For the girls basketball team, "Knock on Wood" became a team slogan. The concept of team co-captain Amanda Iverson, the girls followed this slogan, both literally and figuratively.

Before every game, the girls tapped any nearby wooden object. This included tapping on the hardwood court just before the opening tip off.

The girls rituals may have kept them motivated throughout their entire season, but it took more than luck to finish with a 21-6

record and finish with a perfect 16-0 Wright County Conference record, the first time a WHS girls basketball team has accomplished this.

The girls success was based on many things, but three important contributing factors were hard work, perseverance and dedication to the team.

The 'Cats hard work was especially apparent offensively. They averaged nearly 59 points per game. The 'Cats were led in scoring by senior Scotti Moats, who averaged 17.8 points per game; junior Ali Dunkelberger, who averaged 14.8 points per game; and junior Amy Erickson, who averaged 10.2 points per game.

"On offense we improvise about ninety percent of the time and it

works. We try to get the defense moving so we get an open look at the basketball," said junior Stephanie McGinn. "We are a fun and go team; we like to push the other team and tire them out."

The Cats' initial goals were to win three titles: the NYA tournament, conference, and sections. The Cats were strong both offensively and defensively, which gave them some options.

"We are good at knowing when to sprint down the court and when to slow down and be controlled," said junior Britta Rinke. "We have a really good post and amazing shooters. We also have strong defensive skills and boxing out really helps us."

Senior co-captain Jessica Hunter provided her teammates

with opportunities for open shots. Hunter led the team in assists, dishing out 3.9 assists per game.

Hunter also helped motivate teammates when things got tough.

"This is a season to remember, a golden year. Our team has had to deal with numerous injuries such as Amy's [Erickson] ACL, Dacotah's [Smith] dislocated patella, and Scotti's [Moats] nose. We've grown as a team and worked to endure and keep going," said junior Alyssa Hennen.

The girls were very proud of their season and the goals they set.

"I believed in our team," said McGinn. "This was where all of our dreams led, and we were going to try our hardest to make them a reality."



	W	L
Glencoe-Silver Lake	64	31
Orono	64	62
Litchfield	59	27
Delano	72	32
Dassel-Cokato	73	32
Watertown-Mayer	70	61
Mound-Westonka	57	22
Annandale	64	49
Glencoe-Silver Lake	60	36
Orono	54	49
Litchfield	63	59
Delano	66	36
Dassel-Cokato	62	49
Watertown-Mayer	53	46
Mound-Westonka	61	30
Annandale	61	26
Delano	57	35
Orono	40	42
Season Record: 21-6-0		

*Wright County Conference and Section 6AAA scores only



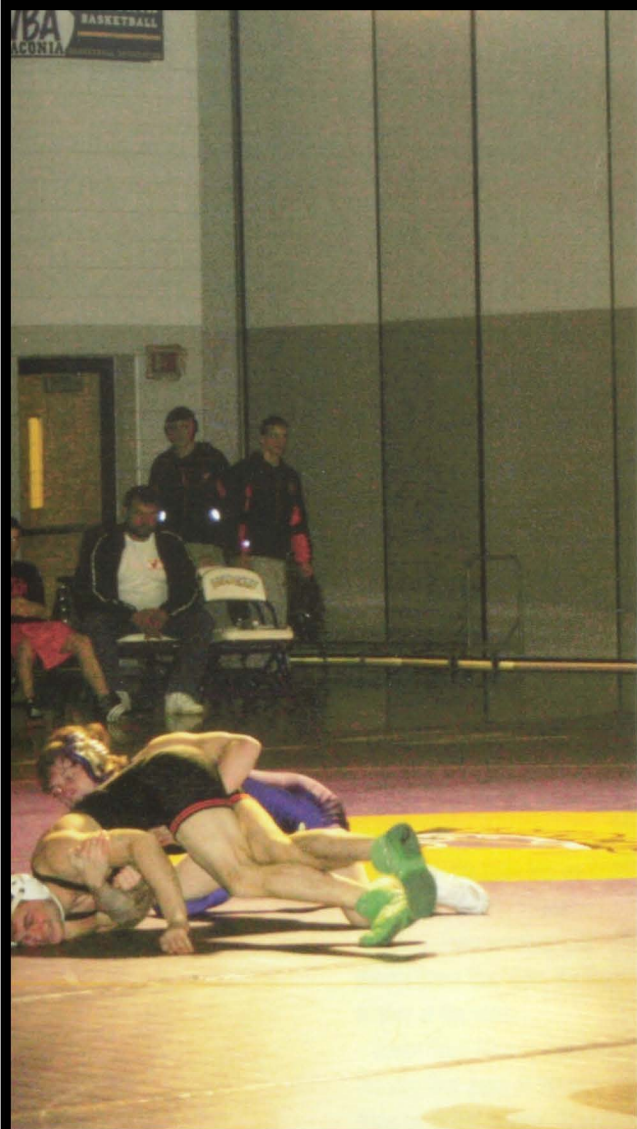
Left: Center Scotti Moats prepares to shoot a free throw after being fouled in the home game against Annandale. The Wildcats defeated the Cardinals 61-26. Moats scored over 1000 points during her years at WHS.



Far Left: Senior Amanda Iverson battles to control the tip off during a game against the Annandale Cardinals while senior Scotti Moats looks for the direction of the ball.
Left: Senior point guard Jessica Hunter dribbles the ball upcourt. Hunter was one of the team's co-captains this season.
Below: Junior Alli Dunkelberger, junior Leah Christensen, Scotti Moats and senior Cassie Faust play some tough defense against the Shakopee Sabers.



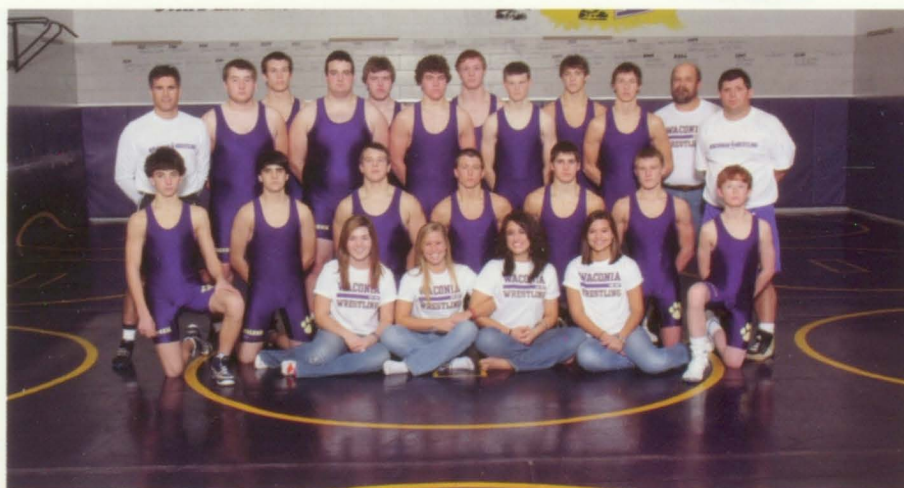
Front Row: Alyssa Hennen, Cassie Faust, Stephaine McGinn. Secon Row: Amy Erickson, Jessica Hunter, Britta Rinke, Alli Dunelberger, Leah Christensen, Amanda Iverson, Dacotah Smith, Becky Boughten, Scotti Moats; Back Row: Head Coach Tom Doysher, Assistant Coaches Dave Philp, Paul Henn, and Dusty Neibauer



Far Left: Senior Eli Stangret took his opponent down and laid him out flat.
Bottom Left: Senior Tyler Schultz walked away with a win against Glencoe- Silver Lake. The Wildcats defeated the Panthers 61-15.
Below: Senior Kyle Wall attempts to make a move against a Delano opponent.



Front row: Managers Ellie Haggemiller, Mandi Selvey, Hannah Kimyon, Rachel Flemig; Second Row: Sam Braunchausen, Carter Perez, Jared Pawelk, Cody Strand, Kyle Wall, Jesse Conkey, Todd Broll; Third Row: Assistant Coach Mike Pettit, Dan Edwards, Eric Bach, Tyler Schultz, Ryan Eischens, Danny Herrmann, Head Coach Kelly Wagener; Back Row: Kyle Pingeon, Shoen Kichler, Brian Broll, Eli Stangret, Assistant Coach Ethan Weiland

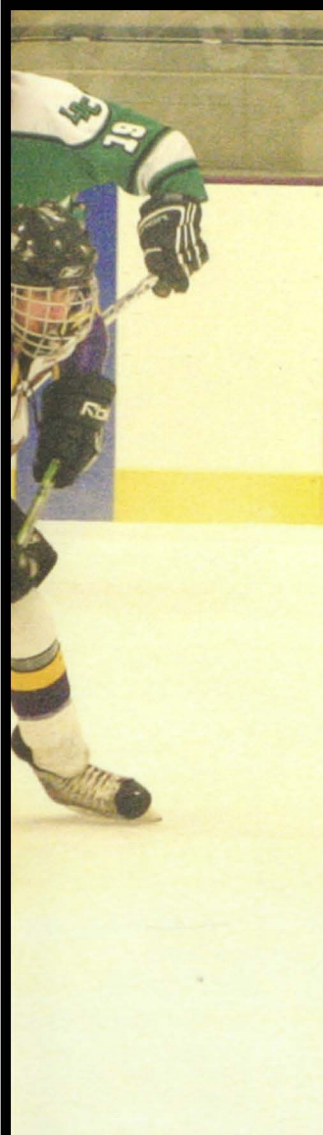


Far Right: Captain Chris Leivermann handles the puck down the ice.
 Right: Senior Josh Eiden keeps his eye on the puck.
 Below: Dressed in their purple and gold uniforms, the Wildcat varsity team lines up for the starting line up before the first game played at the new Waconia Ice Arena. The game was held on Tuesday, Dec. 2, and it was against Providence Academy. The Wildcats lost the game 2-3.



Right: First Row: Cory McKeever, Travis Genz, Chris Leivermann, Head Coach Dan Benham, Assistant Coach Tony Steffes, Derik Noeldner, Josh Eiden, Dustin Hanson; Second Row: Garret Shaw, Gunnar Regan, Charlie Klos, Jethro Peterson, Wyatt Crosby, Mitch Martins, Dalton Tolzman, Student Manager Dustin Kamish; Third row: Tyler Selleck, Pete Brettingen, Jason Elasky, Maxx Williams, Brian McAvoy, Tyler Burmeister, Mark Weiland, Charlie Smothers





A New Era

A New Team

A new arena, a new team, and a fresh start began the 2008-2009 season.

At the beginning of the season, things looked pretty positive for the boys' hockey team, but like anything else, the team experienced its share of highs and lows.

"It's been a roller coaster," said senior Josh Eiden.

Playing the first game ever at the new Waconia Ice Arena was a definite high point for the team.

Although the team lost its first home game 2-3 to Providence Academy, team members will always know they were the first to play at the arena.

Junior Brian Mcavoy described the very first game at the new arena as "tough," adding, "It was to

be expected."

Eiden scored the first goal in the new rink and made his team proud. Although they did not win this game, it was a game the guys will always remember.

December proved to be the Wildcats' most successful month. The team finished the month with a 5-2 record and took this upswing into their holiday tournament.

Winning the St. Michael-Albertville Holiday Tournament became a second positive memory.

"It was an exciting moment for us this season," said Eiden.

The rivalry between Waconia and Holy Family provided more team memories.

The Wildcats and Fire met twice this season. In the first game, the Wildcats' defense covered the net,

while the offense found the net three times. The 'Cats won the game 3-1.

"This win felt great," said Mcavoy.

The second game against Holy Family didn't end up in the Wildcats' favor. Even though the 'Cats played strong defense and scored two goals, the Fire defeated the Wildcats 3-2.

The 'Cats did face some obstacles this season, but off the ice, many teammates were already close friends, so teammates were able to take the highs and the lows in stride.

"Hanging out with the guys, working out, practicing and eating pizza is what we do," said Mcavoy.

Team captains Josh Eiden, Dusty Hanson, Derik Noeldner,

and Chris Leivermann provided leadership and motivation for the team. They also helped the team unify and helped build confidence as the season continued.

The captains this year also helped the younger players with the pressure of varsity games.

The team finished its regular season with an 8-2 loss to St. Cloud Cathedral and entered the Section 2A hockey playoffs as the number 12 seed. They faced the Richfield Spartans, the number 5 seed, in the opening round of section play and were defeated 5-2, ending their season.

Like any season, this one had its highs and lows, but the team found a way to win nine games and provided great hockey action for their hometown crowd.



Left: Senior Derek Noeldner handles the puck away from the defenseman during a game against the Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato Dragons. Although the Wildcats battled hard during both games against Litchfield, the Wildcats lost both games.

	W	O
St. Paul Academy & Summit	2	6
Redwood Valley	4	2
Providence Academy	2	3
Hutchinson Tigers	3	4
Redwood Valley	0	3
St. Peter/LeSueur-Henderson	2	1
Mankato East/Loyola	8	2
Sommerset, WI	5	3
Providence Academy	3	1
Two Harbors	4	2
Delano Tigers	3	8
Mound-Westonka	0	5
Minneapolis West	10	4
Holy Family Catholic	3	1
Orono	3	9
Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato	2	5
Saint Cloud Cathedral	0	4
Delano Tigers	1	2
Marshall/Lakeview Tigers	8	2
Mound-Westonka	1	7
Holy Family Catholic	2	3
Redwood Valley	1	3
Orono	0	10
Litchfield/Dassel-Cokato	2	4
Saint Cloud Cathedral	2	8

Season Record: 8-16-0

Girls Bringing Fire

Twenty-three girls huddle beside the bench chanting four words, "Stop. Drop. Roll. Fire."

The girls skate onto the ice dressed in white and green, stick grasped in hand, a racing heartbeat with their eyes concentrated on bringing home a win.

The Holy Family varsity girls' hockey team loved to skate and have a good time. They went onto the ice with determination to win.

The team set a goal to improve their 2007-2008 season record, but this was not accomplished. Team members focused on building relationships and developing their hockey skills.

"I love the girls on the team," said senior Heather Snyder, one of the team's goalies. "They're always fun and in a good mood."

Unlike the boys' hockey team, which has its own squad this year, the girls' team combines members from Holy Family and WHS. With the same squad, the girls had high hopes for the season.

"I just go in and try my best," said junior Ashley Walter. "We have to be serious, but we love to have fun at the same time."

Their season record may not have indicated it, but the girls enjoyed themselves. Before games they liked to listen to loud music together, ate a ton of food, and bonded during team sleepovers.

Team members commented that they had great chemistry when they were out on the ice, but they still struggled to win.

"The girls are amazing," said senior Jenna Christopherson, one

of the team captains. "It seems like we're all on the same page, both on and off the ice, which makes things a lot of fun."

Their season had its highs and lows, but the girls felt they have improved their individual skills.

This year the team played at the varsity level, unlike past seasons when they faced junior varsity teams.

Varsity-level play provided the team with good competition, but not all team members thought they were ready for the transition.

"The team maybe should've had another year on the JV level, so we could've figured out how to work with the new girls," said Walter. "In the future, we have the chance to play successfully at a higher level."



Above: The team lines up for the National Anthem before their home game.



Left: Abigail New and right wing Ashley Walter wait for the puck to be put in play. This was the first season that the Holy Family Fire played as a varsity squad.

	W	O
Orono	0	10
Saint Louis Park	4	7
Mound-Westonka	1	7
Richfield	0	6
St. Paul United	0	6
Breck School	0	10
St. Paul Blades	1	4
Minneapolis Novas	0	6
Blake School	0	10
Princeton	0	7
Babbitt-Embarrass Knights	2	7
Eveleth-Gilbert	1	10
Breck School	0	15
Blake School	0	12
St. Paul United	0	7
Rogers	2	9
Minneapolis Novas	0	0
Blake School	0	9

Season Record: 0-12-0



Above: First Row: Carly Bergstrom; Second Row: Emily Hansen, Cayman Scarella, Brooke Weinzierl, Kenzie Ronnkvist, Mikayla Hoff, Chelsea Wickenhauser, Abigail New; Third Row: Dana Noeldner, Jenna Christopherson, Bridget Ryan, Abbey Matheson, Kelsey Burmeister, Grace Watson, Jenny Sik, Christe Wirth; Fourth Row: Shannon Domicic, Carly Taylor, Jaci Reinke, Jami Orcutt, Kelly Sumer, Ashley Walter, Kelsey Peters

We Say You Say Gold Purple

"T-TRU, Woo, Woo, Woo T-R-UCK Keep On Truckin All the Way" was the motto for the 2008-2009 cheerleading season.

With three girls graduating and four girls wanting to focus on schoolwork, the squad was left with five returning veterans and two first year members.

There were seven girls cheering for varsity football every Friday night, and their season started early, about two weeks after the 2008 school year ended. Members practiced all summer learning cheers and walks for the season.

The actual fall season started Aug. 11 when organized practices began.

For football, the squad had over 100 cheers that they needed to

memorize before the first game.

"Once you get to know the cheers, they were really easy," said Captain Kelsi Reuther.

By the first game, the cheerleaders felt ready, but nerves set in for some of the girls.

First-year member Cassie Johnson had her own way of dealing with her nerves.

"I look for a person in the crowd I knew and was friends with, and think about how if I mess up, they will still love me," said Johnson.

One thing the veterans knew was that it helped to act like they were not nervous, just smile and act like nothing is wrong and soon their nerves would go away.

Another thing that helped keep the girls focused and let them

show off their skills was stunting.

"Stunting is really fun. I love trying to get the flier as high up as possible," said Reuther.

Reuther and junior Tiffany Johnson are bases, and junior Brenna Garens the main flier.

Besides football, cheerleaders performed at boys' hockey games and boys' and girls' basketball games.

A favorite part of cheerleading was getting to travel to the away games.

"Kelsi brought her dock, and I brought my music and we all just dance and sing the whole way there," said Johnson. "It was great team bonding."



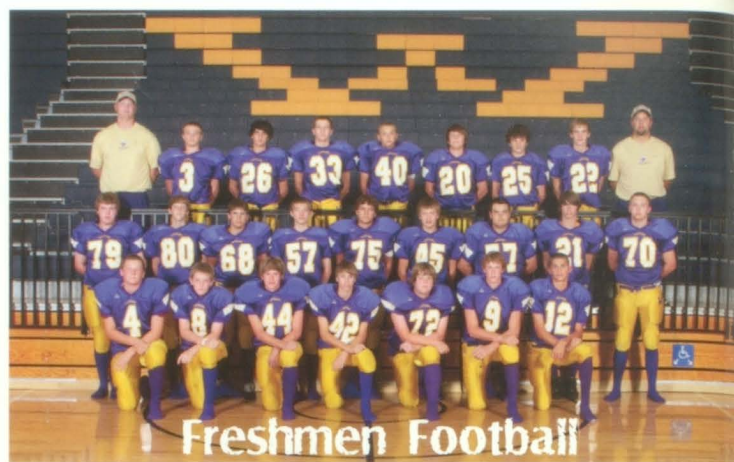
Above: Tiffany Johnson and Kelsi Reuther base Brenna Garens for the cheer "Pump it Up." The girls had three main cheers that had stunts involved and were very proud that they never had to bail out of a stunt during the games.

Left: Front Row: Kelsi Reuther, Kat Gonsior, Hayley Jost; Back Row: Coach Jacki Condon, Brenna Garens, Tiffany Johnson, Kyla Thorson, Cassie Johnson

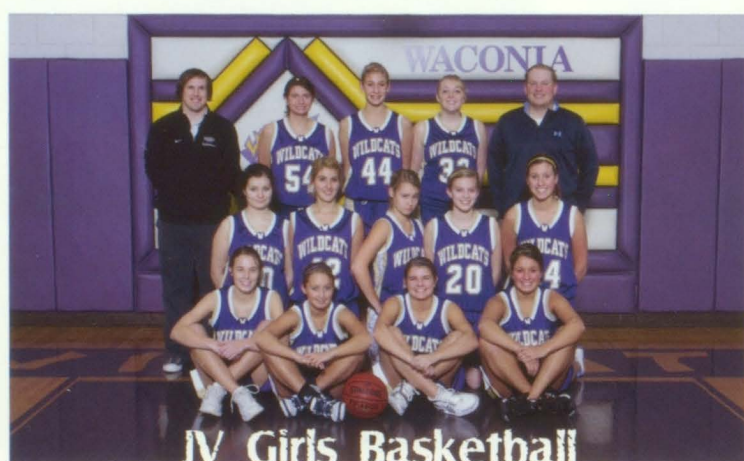
Right: During Homecoming 2008, junior Soren Wille poses as Willy the Wildcat. He walked around giving kids high fives and helped the squad pass out footballs and Homecoming buttons at the game. Willy attempted to do cheers with the cheerleaders, but most of the time he ended up laughing with the crowd at his own attempts.



Freshmen and JV TEAMS



Front Row: Garrett Shaw, Jacob Bass, Austin Millender, Theodore Ellis, Grady Holtberg, Maxx Williams, Dalton Sawyer; Second Row: Schoen Kichler, Matthew Bullis, Joseph Wasmund, Joseph Kirch-Paulsen, Alexander Willems, Evan Carlson, Micah Asleson, Logan Baumann, Mitchel Webber; Third Row: Coach Michael Johnson, Dustin Kamish, Carter Perez, Zachary Sellman, Cody Wood, Justin Nelson, Samuel Braunhausen, Alex Schmitt, Coach Michael Zaske.



Front Row: Jennifer Gray, Brittney Lund, Whitney Buesgens, Morgan Schultz; Second Row: Jana Rueegg, Alyson Graff, Sammy Schnyder, Laura Schmitt, Kendra Johnson; Third Row: Coach Dustin Neibauer, Nicole Niesen, Lauren Deadrick, Quincee Raymond, Coach Paul Henn



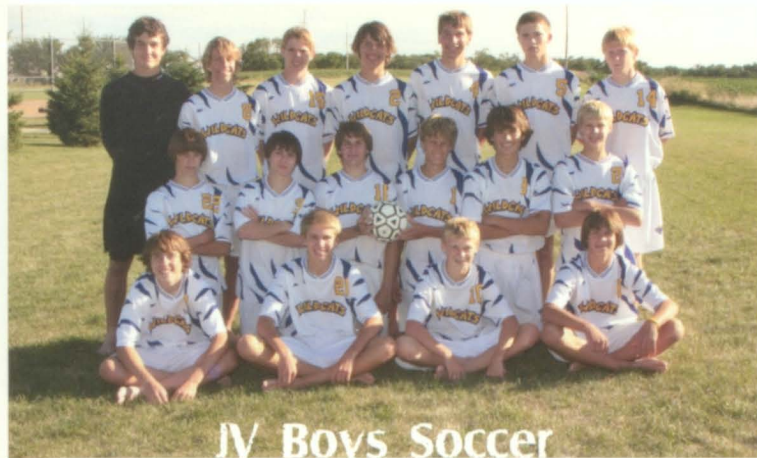
Front Row: Samantha Schnyder, Laura Schmitt; Second Row: Michelle Citarella, Kelsie Gunnufson, Shannon Paulson, Kelsey Lechner, Sonja Ruotsinoja; Third Row: Brianna Vanderlinde, Christine Leonard, Lauren Deadrick, Alyson Graff, Hanna Wabbe; Fourth Row: Cassandra Miller, Alison Klein, Whitney Vacek, Lydia Long, Kelsey Daugherty, Coach Dustin Neibauer



Front Row: Nick Hennen, Micheal Schuette, Brock Bender, Coach Michael Johnson, Jason Ecklein, William Jantz, Matthew Lund; Second Row: Luke Kassmeyer, Byron Synstegaard, Tanner Friedrich, Zach Synstegaard, Andrew Schulenberg, Christopher Cousin



Front Row: Cody Wood, Jake LaPlante, Drew Neubauer, Nicholas Carson, Lucas Johnson, Peder Haugsby; Second Row: Luke Peters, Austin Millender, Kevin Knutson, Evan Carlson, Tyler Wright, Anthony Rupp; Third Row: Benjamin Wallace, Logan Baumann, Mitch Weber, Jeffrey Hennen, Everett Rinke, Dalton Sawyer



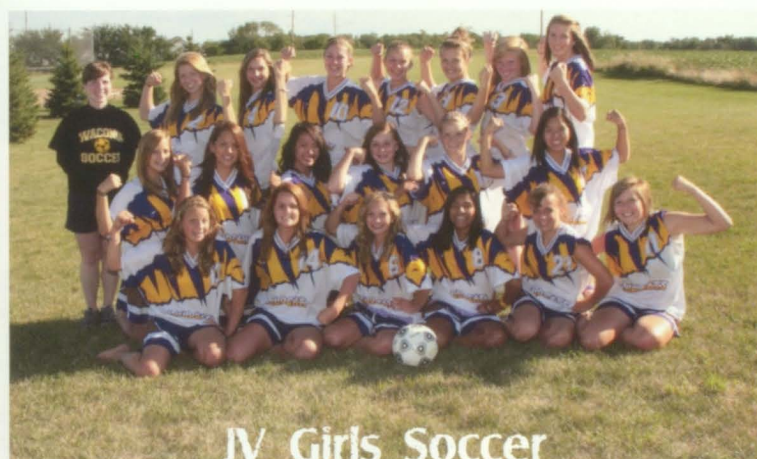
JV Boys Soccer

Front Row: Garrett Marxen, Gerrit Bass, Cameron Pomeroy, Jackson Weppner; Second Row: Nicholas Selleck, Sullivan Marxen, Baily Monson, Drew Neubauer, Steven Fischer, Everett Rinke; Third Row: Tyler Bach, Sheaden Christensen, Peter Moore, Zachary Emerson, Mark Kapuska, Connor Cowley, Nicholas Carson.



Freshmen Boys Soccer

Front Row: Benjamin Wallace; Second Row: Carl Wenning, Casey Major, Mitchell Zebell, Seth Krueger, Tyler Christensen; Third Row: Ryan Lee, Nick Dirnberger, Jacob LaPlant, Ben Kullman, Franco Oleson; Fourth Row: Coach Jared DeWolf, Billy Schultz, Donovan Johnson, Jeffrey Hennen, Chase Rossell, Ian DeVaun, Kevin Knutson.



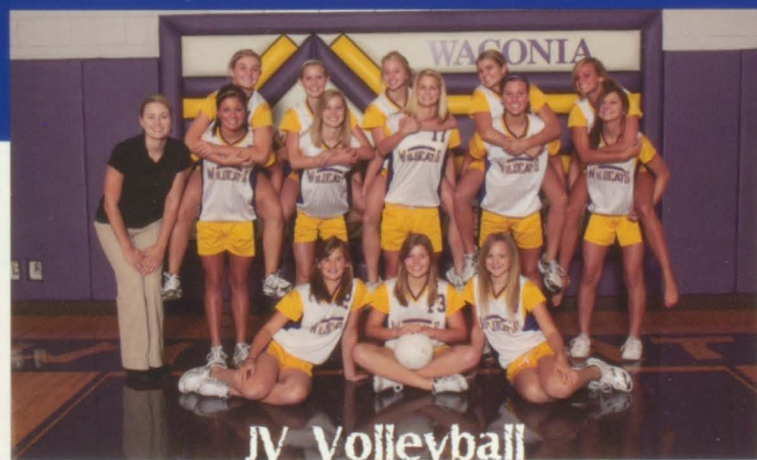
JV Girls Soccer

Front Row: Kelsey Daugherty, Chelsea Vanderhoff, Maria Spurbeck, Sylvia Tristan, Amanda Beaulieu, Kelly Tibbitts; Second Row: Samantha Kessler, Anna Pogatchnik, Hanna Miyamoto, Nicole Winkleman, Maria Forsythe, Karrie Osborn; Third Row: Coach Shalanah Backus, Jessica Kullman, Mariah Werlich, Kelsie Gunnafson, Renee Bourgeois, Marisa Melchert, Madilynn Hannold, Thea Fyrliev.



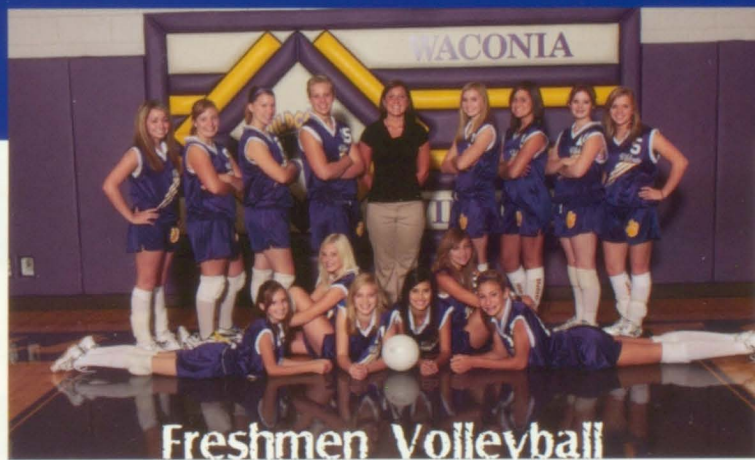
Freshmen Girls Soccer

Front Row: Alexandria Swanson; Second Row: Luci Drill-Mellum, Karlye Vallafsky, Kelly Luce, Kayla Christensen, Emma Skerik; Third Row: Jamie Thomes, Amy Parkinson, Kelly Pingeon, Stephanie Wall, Paige Fortwengler; Fourth Row: Coach Dan Benham, Elizabeth Bourgeois, Grace Watson, Sierra Johnson, Haley Sites.



JV Volleyball

Front Row: AnnMarie Powers, Annabel Jacobs, Alyse Herman; Second Row: Coach Kristin Krusemark, Morgan Schultz, Katelynn Doherty, Turi Hjelsand, Kendra Johnson, Katherine Grinnell; Third Row: Anna Shaw, Victoria Larkin, Jessica Heimdahl, Whitney Buesgens, Katie Schuman



Freshmen Volleyball

Front Row: Madison Peitz, Laura Schmitt, Amanda Cook, Lauren Deadrick; Second Row: Ashley Haus, Makayla Grenke; Third Row: Brittany Schultz, Madilyn Theis, Kelsey Lechner, Christine Leonard, Coach Melia Archambault, Shannon Paulson, Whitney Vacek, Maria Benedict, Kristine Rademacher

Baby Pictures

You are a blessing and you have brought great joy into our lives. We are proud of the young lady you have become. With your strong faith, kind heart and dedication you will continue to be successful. God Bless you.
Love,
Dad and Mom

Cassandra Norton



Eliot Edward Ferron,
We are warmed by your insatiable smile, encouraged by your tender heart, in admiration of your creative way and amused by your smart humor. You have grown, and we are proud.
Love, Mom, Dad, Emmett, and Wylie

Eliot Ferron



As you begin another new journey, please know we are so proud of who you have become. Your smile can light up a room and your voice can lift spirits. We love you so much!
Mom, Dad, Krista, and Matt

Mary Polding



Brit Indrelie



Brit Jacob A. Indrelie,
We have been truly blessed to have you as our son!
God Bless!
With love,
Mom and Dad

Samantha Bierlein



Always keep busy with something. A busy person never has time to be unhappy. Keep on smiling!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Jenna Christopherson



We are so proud of you and love you so much! Congratulations on your high school graduation! "This is the day the Lord has made, let us rejoice in it and be glad." Psalm 118:24
Mom and Dad

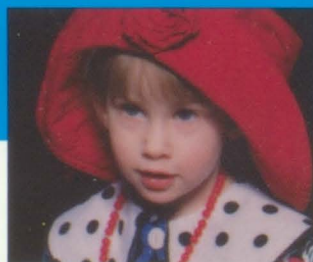
Rebecca Lund



Pebbles,
You bring so much joy and happiness to our lives. Keep being the fun-loving person you are. You have so much to offer to the world. Keep on Smiling! We Love you!
Mom, Dad, Timmy, and Brianna

Jacklyn Paige Surat,
Always in fashion, Blonde Girl! Follow your heart and you will go far.
With much love, Mom and Dad

Jacklyn Surat



You are the sunshine of our life. You make us smile you and make us proud. You will move mountains. Go find your mountain. And remember, somewhere in my soul there is always rock and roll!
Love you,
Mom and Dad

Keelan Ryan



Kyle Niebeling



Got to be true to myself.
-Ziggy
Thank you for being our pride and joy.
Love you forever,
Mom and Dad

Christian Pierce



Monkeyboy,
You have come a long way. The best is yet to come. We are very proud of you!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Patrick Van Kirk



Hats off to thee!
Stay Sherman strong!
Follow your dreams!
I am so proud of you!
Love,
Mom

Kyle Wall



We are very proud of you and your many accomplishments. Keep your great sense of humor, work hard at all you do and you will succeed. Dream big and enjoy life.
We love you!
Mom, Dad, and Stephanie

Madeline Brown



Madeline Louise Brown,
We are so very proud of all you have done and the person you have become. Go from here with courage and faith, and remember always to "Dream until you dreams come true!"
We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Dylan

Emily Cook



It's been an amazing and wonderful 18 years. We are so proud of the young woman you have become. Keep chasing your dreams, enjoying life, and know we are always behind you. We love you.
Mom, Dad, and Kaitlin

Rebecca Mueller

As you turn the page into the next chapter of life, remember the final formation of your character is in your hands. Believe in yourself and remember that we are always here for you. Enjoy life and remain a squiggle!
Mom, Dad, and Daniel



You have brought us so much joy and happiness. We love you and are proud of the young man you've become. Believe in yourself, as we will always believe in you! Congratulations and God Bless.
With all our love,
Mom and Dad

Mitchell Gunderson



We love you! We are very proud of you!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Margaret Stivers



Jonathan Heimdal



You are a blessing from heaven! We have cherished the past 18 years. You fill our house with love and laughter. We know you will succeed in whatever you do.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Jessi

Shana Froehling



You grew from a little "peanut" into a beautiful young woman in a heartbeat. Life goes by fast, take time to enjoy it... and keep smiling.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Leah, and Jimmy

Jared Buesgens



Always remember to keep God in your heart. Believe in yourself and you will succeed! We love you and are very proud of you!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Kara Pioske

It has been so much fun watching you grow from a baby into a young woman. We are so proud of you and love you very much.
Love,
Dad and Mom



You are an awesome young man. We are very proud of you. You have a bright future and we look forward to watching you continue to grow and succeed in whatever you do. Hold onto your dreams and your faith in God, and you will go far.
We love you!
Mom, Dad, Mindy, and Josh

Nicholas Ramm



We thanked God for giving us a health baby boy. We thank you for giving us many years of enjoyment, with many more to come. Ty, set your goals high, you will achieve them.
We love you!
Mom, Dad, Brittany and Lucas

Tyler Schultz



Austin Johnson



Your awesome talents and sharp, slightly twisted wit are amazing. Your integrity, determination and genuine spirit are inspiring. You are a joy to our lives and an asset to the world.
Rock on!
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Cassie

Carter Ostlie



You know how to "tackle" life's challenges and stride to be the best in everything you do. Hard work and determination has made you a young man to be proud of. We saved the best for last!
We love you!
Mom, Dad, Tara, and Holly

Zachary Kassmeyer



It seems like just yesterday that you were this size. Now you have grown into a wonderful young man and we are incredibly proud of you. Live, laugh, love, and dream big! Congratulations!!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Luke, Clint, and Blake

Daniel Herrmann



You have made it through this journey of your life and now you have a wonderful future ahead of you! Live your life. Love your life... You have made our lives more Beautiful. We love you! Mom, Dad, and Brittany

Anna Gesinger



"What lies behind us and what lies before us are tiny matters compared to what lies within us." -Quote by Emerson Anna, you have the strength, grace, and wisdom to take the next step of your life's journey. God be with you. Love, Mom, Dad, Dusty, Joe, Lisa, and Ellie

Melanie Grangaard



Congratulations, Melanie! Keep up the good work. Love, Mom, Dad, and Laura

Amy Krautbauer

What a wonderful daughter you are. We will always remember the good times we all had together and hope we have a lot more to come. Enjoy your life and keep up the good work. Love you, Mom, Dad, Nicole, and Jessica



You've come so far, and yet there are many steps to take. Keep trusting and following the Lord and he will guide you. We love you very much. Mom, Dad, Sarah, and Anna

Caleb Talbert



We are so proud of you sweetie! Appreciate your talents; they are gifts from God. Thank you for all of the memories in the past and for the many more to come in the future. With your bubbly personality, we know you will go far. We love you! Mom and Dad

Kelsey Hoen



Taylor Perks



I am so proud of the wonderful person you've become. You've worked so hard to get here and you deserve the world. Congratulations! I love you Tay! Love, Chelle

Ashlie Scheuble



What an incredible woman you have become. You will do wonderful things with your life. We could not be more proud. We love you. Love, Mom, Dad, Lizzy, and Devin

Cody Strand



You are such a blessing to our family. You have an amazing future ahead of you that is so bright. We pray you continue to make good life choices as you spread your wings. We love you! Love, Mom, Jim, Brady, Connor, and Kylie

Eric Rathmanner

We are so proud and excited for you as you begin this new chapter of your life! It'll bring successes and failures, joys and sorrows, glories and defeats. Always remember that is truly what defines the phrase, "A full life." Love from, All your family



"We are the music makers, and we are the dreamers of dream." -Roald Dahl (Charlie and the Chocolate Factory) Love, Mom, Dad, and Taylor

Jackson Melius



Bro, you are so amazing and talented in so many ways. We've had many fun times together. You have always been in my life and it will be so difficult here without you. You're my older brother but you are also my best friend. Have a great time at college and come back to visit us. Luv ya, Your little sister Kelsey

Gavin Woodland



Douglas Lueck



Congrats Doug! You're such a great kid! We are very proud of all you have accomplished in High School. Good luck in college. Love, Mom, Dad, and Nick

Kelsey Robling



We are so proud of you. We hate to let you go but know you will take on the world with a warm heart and a huge smile. Hit hard, run fast, and never stop trying. Love, Mom, Dad, and Nick

Hannah Kimyon



Hannah Banana! We are so proud of you and all you've accomplished. We can't wait to see what wonderful things happen as you set off on this next stage of your life. Lots of love and hugs, Mom and Dad

Stephanie Wymore



Behind every success is
endeavor.
Behind endeavor, ability.
Behind ability,
knowledge.
Behind knowledge, a
seeker. Congratulations!
We are so proud of you!
Love,
Mom and Dave, Dad and
Vicki, and Suzanna.

Kyra Daugherty



How wonderful it has
been to watch you grow
and become such a
beautiful person. I am
so very proud of you and
all you have become.
Reach for the stars,
never give up your hopes
and dreams. You're
awesome!
Love,
Mom and Kelsey

Matthew Gibbs



We can't wait to see
where you end up!
Enjoy the journey!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Tanner Skaalerud



Tanner Banan-er,
we are so proud of you!
Whatever the future may
bring, remember what
you have already over-
come in your young life,
and you can accomplish
anything. Dream BIG!
We love you!
Mom and Dad

We hope your dreams
take you to the corners
of your sails, to the
highest of your hopes,
to the windows of your
opportunities, and to the
most special places your
heart has ever known.
-Unknown
We are very proud
of you!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Nicholas Hennen



If one advances confid-
ently in the directions
of his dreams, and
endeavors to live the life
which he has imagined,
he will meet with a
success unexpected in
common hours.
- Henry David Thoreau
We hope you dance.....
Lots of love,
Mom, Dad, Dustin, and
Christian

Megan Goldman



Jenna Lester



We are very proud of
you Jenna! Hoping all
of your dreams come
true.
We love you,
Mom and Dad

Sarah Northrup



God gave you the humor
and heart to accomplish
great things in life.
We wish you have a
wonderful journey.
Love,
Dad, Mom, and Laura

Naomi Rakow



Through all the ups and
downs of raising you,
I am reminded of your
grandmother's words,
"That one day when
Naomi sets her mind to
it she will make a great
impact on this world." We
believe these words are
for you.
We love you,
Mom, Dad, Laura, Garrett,
Samuel, Sarah, Gabriel,
and Elizabeth

Cory Gieseke



We are so proud of
who you have become
and what you have
accomplished! May your
future be bright and all
your dreams come true.
All our love,
Mom, Dad, and Matt

We couldn't be more
proud of you, for all of
your accomplishments
and for being the kind of
person you are. Greet
your future with a roar
and with confidence.
You have shown success
in many ways.
We love you!
Dad, Mom, and Austin

Margo Schwartz



Our little girl is all grown
up and ready to venture
into the big world. Good
luck in all of your future
adventures. Make us
proud.
We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Anthony

Christina Rupp



Jessica Vogel



When you were little you
were so cute and always
smiling. Now you have
grown up and become
a beautiful, strong, and
intelligent young lady. I
am so proud of you and
all your accomplishments.
Keep smiling peanut!
Love you,
Mom

Jeffrey Grimm



You have always been
so full of energy and
surprises. Keep that!
Enjoy the wide world
ahead of you and always
remember that we love
you! Don't be afraid to
continue to dig deeper
for the answers.
With love,
Mom, Dad, Val, and
Laura

Alexa Klos



Lex,
thanks for being who
you are. We are very
proud of all you have ac-
complished. Continue to
be confident and strive
hard to make your
dreams a reality. We
love you!
Love,
Dad, Mom, and Chuck

Caitlin Giesen



You are truly an amazing person. We've watched you grow from an adorable baby, to a moody adolescent, and into the beautiful person that you are today. We can't wait to see where the rest of your journey takes you.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Aly

Amanda Grindahl



Life presents us with challenges and you rose to greet every one of them. Cherish relationships formed along your life's journey and take chances. With much love and encouragement for your future,
Mom and Dad

Jared Pawelk



Congratulations for climbing your first mountain. Remember, "There ain't no mountain high enough." Good luck on your next climb!
Love,
your family

Jessica Hunter

You are an awesome person. Let God guide your walk as you follow your heart. You have accomplished many goals in High School. As you extend your wings, we will always be here for you.
Love,
Dad, Mom, and Jenny



Our little Glenny. We thank God for you. We are so proud of you. Your strength and gentle heart will take you far in life. I only wish your Opa was here to see you.
We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Olivia

Glenda Pomare



We pray God will fill your heart with dreams, and faith gives you the courage to dare to do great things. We're here for you whatever life brings!
Mom and Glenn

Emily Capaul



Cheyenne Dantona



Through the laughter and tears, we have learned so much in 18 years. Your "Cheyennism" kept us in stitches- your individuality made us appreciate differences. You're now a young adult with enormous potential. Go find your place in this world, sweetheart, and know your family loves you, is proud of you, and will always be there for you.
Much love,
Mom and Papa XXXXX

Scotti Moats



You are a cherished blessing. We love your life of integrity and love for God, your tender heartedness, and your leadership in the classroom and on the court. We are proud of who you are and all that you will become.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Shelby

Dianne Parkinson



You have brought blessing and great joy to your family. Grow, fly, sing, live, and enjoy life and the blessings of God. Keep a song in your heart!
We love you!
Mom, Dad, Becky, Amy, and Megan

Dru DeLange

Live your life to the fullest! Strive to achieve all of your goals! You have made us so very proud!
We love you!
Love,
Mom, Dad, and your brother



Never stop dreaming your dreams, with hard work and faith they can come true. Don't be afraid to make mistakes; that's how you grow. We have been so blessed to have you in our lives. We are so proud of you.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Seth

Hallie Miller



It seems like only a blink of our eyes from when you were born, until today that you are graduating from High School! We have loved and watched every moment of your life with amazement of your inner grace and strength. Thank you for being our daughter and who you are! We know that your future will be successful and alive with care, love and hope. We love you so much,
Mom and Dad, Andrew and Emily

Lucy Tongen



Cassandra Faust



Words to live by... Have faith, be humbled and giving, and serve others. We are so proud of our daughter and "little sister. May God always bless you as you've blessed us.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Colin, and Bryan

David Butz



Your sense of humor, compassion for others and loyalty are just a few of the many things that make me so proud of you! Reach for the stars!
Love,
Mom, Daniel, and Jonathon

Eric Held



Live life large with a grateful heart. Always remember how much we love you, support you and believe in you. You are such a wonderful gift, who has brought so much joy to our lives. We are so proud of you!
We love you!
Mom and Dad, Tim and Dan

Brian Broll



Thank you for all the memories... you have been a joy to watch grow up. We are so proud of you and will continue to support your choices as you continue to grow and change, as you journey through life.
Love you honey,
Mom and Dad

Jill Morschen



May your eyes always twinkle and your smiles be many.
We love you!
Mom and Dad

Kjerstin Haugsby



From a cute little girl to a beautiful young lady, you've made us proud every step of the way. We love you and pray that all of your dreams come true.
Hugs,
Dad, Mom, Erik, and Peder

She's a little bit of sunshine, She's a smile to light your days, she will steal your heart and keep it warm endearing ways, she's your precious little daughter, with sweetness from above who will fill your years with laughter, and fill your heart with love.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Mercedes Tolzmann



Tadah! You did it! You graduated with grace, determination and honors! We are so proud of you! May your future bring you all of the happiness in the world.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Nick

Stephanie Cluff



Kelly Ro- Oh the places you'll go!
Mom, Dad, Mary, and Tim

Kelly Deweese



Amanda Sinnen



You filled everyday with sunshine. You have made us so very proud because you have stayed true to your beliefs and kept your faith through every single day! We love you so much- Keep that beautiful smile!
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Josh

Zachary Olson



Congratulations to my wonderful son. You have filled my life with love and happiness. Always remember to believe in yourself, follow your heart, and enjoy each and every day. I am so very proud of you!
Love,
Mom

Emily Willems



You have brought us great joy and happiness, and we are very proud of you. Remember to always follow your dreams.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Alex

Megan Rademacher



Reach for the stars and do what you love, sweet pea!
Love,
Dad and Mom

Thank you for your smiles and positive attitudes! Your beauty, in and out, shines through your actions. You will forever be a blessing in our life. Go forward now and follow your heart.
We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Timmy

Whitney Watts



Wow, where did those 18 years go! It has been a joy watching you grow.
We love you!
Dad and Mom

Preston Lalich



Bridgette Halloran



Bridgie, we are proud of you. You are a source of joy to those around you. We look forward to your exciting future. You are a beautiful young woman and have a lot to offer the world around you.
Love,
Mom and Dad

William Sievers



Never without a smile... never without a joke... Love, patience and understanding is what you are made of... Here's to your future and the ride you have waited for... God's speed... You've made us proud!
Always in our hearts,
Mom, Dad, Jim, Stewart, and ScottLynn

Kyla Thorson



It's been so wonderful to see how you have grown. Dad and I are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished. Your love of life and beautiful spirit have filled our lives with joy and we pray that as you go on from here that your life will be filled with much love and happiness.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Nathan Ristow



The future is now yours to create. Remember to keep God first and everything else will fall into order. Your best days are ahead.
Mom and Dad

Annie Kiem



You're a special gift to all of us. We love your smile and love that you give to us. We hope all your dreams and hopes come true.
Love,
Dad & Evy
You are special to me because you care for me. I'm going to miss your personality.
Love,
McKaylee

Alexander Osborn



"Go confidently in the direction of your dream; live the life you have imagined."
-Thoreau
And never stop singing
We love you so much!
Mom, Dad and Karrie

Trevor Sidwell

Trevor has always been a resourceful person as seen in the picture. "I'm your man." Great job and you have so much more to look forward to. Keep up the good work. Love you!
Mom, Dad, and little brother Wheeler



Wow! How much time has passed. From a beautiful baby to a beautiful young woman.
With all our love,
Mom and Al

Britteny Ellis



Meryl Meister,
From the first day of Kindergarten to the last of high school, you always seemed to find your own path. We know that you will continue to do so and that you will make us proud. To quote Dr. Seuss, "Today you are You, that is truer than true. There is no one alive who is Youer than you."
We love you.
Mom, Dad, Anna, and Jack

Meryl Pogatchnik



Morgan Braunshausen



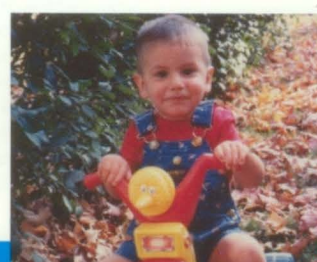
Where have the years gone? We hope your dreams come true.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Tanner Bullock



You are a true inspiration to all of us. Your positive attitude toward life will carry you far. Keep your chin up in whatever directions you go, because you have a great determination and an awesome personality. We are here if you need us.
Mom, Dad, Brandon, and Maxwell

Gattlin Miller



We are blessed to have you as our son. You are an inspiration to all! We are always proud of you.
Love you forever,
Mom and Dad

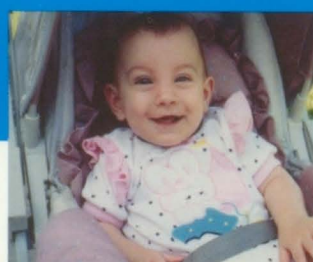
Erin Linden

If there's anything that you want, if there is anything we can do, just call on us and we'll send it along. With love from us to you. -Beatles (Live at the BBC)
We are so proud of you merry. Follow your dreams and keep smiling.
We love you!
Love,
Dad, Mom, and Sean



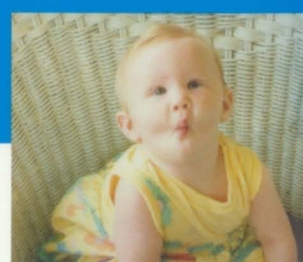
What a beautiful woman you've become! We are very proud of you and love you so much. Congratulations on reaching this milestone. We wish you a lifetime of happiness and success!
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Natalie

Lauren Kalkes



We are so proud to be your parents and to watch your life unfold. Our wish for you is to use the many gifts God has given you as you continue on your journey. God bless you, Emily.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Emily Halvorson



Jenna Otremba



You are such an amazing young lady. Your kindness of spirit and generosity never cease to amaze us. Always trust yourself, believe in yourself, and keep your dreams where you can see and follow them.
Love you!
Mom, Dad, and Justin

Dakota Hart



You've grown up so fast, from the huuuuge little boy to the man you've grown to be. Life hasn't always been easy but look how far you've come, all the way to graduation. I am so proud of you.
We love you!
Mom, Jordan, and Maddison

Edith Lee



"Life is not a journey to the grave with the intention of arriving in a pretty and well preserved body, but rather a skid on broadside, thoroughly used up, totally worn out and loudly proclaiming,"
Wow-what a ride!
Mom

Shane Ewalt



We wish for you success and happiness in all you do. We could not be more proud of you! May all your dreams come true.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Jessica McGinn



Our wish for you is that all of your dreams come true. We are so very proud of you!
Love,
Dad, Mom, Steph, and Scout

Ronnie Cobb



You've never failed to make your father proud. You've upheld your family through tragedy and overcome hardship to be an example for all to see. Continue to persevere. You have the love and respect for all that know you.
Love,
Dad, Mom, John, Kelly, Patrick, and JW

Kyla Smith



We are very proud of all you have accomplished. We have enjoyed the dancing, synchronized swimming, riding, singing and acting; we can't wait to see what's next after you return from Brazil.
Mom, Dad, and Caty

You are an amazing son and we admire you and all your accomplishments. Believe in yourself and remember Einstein's words: "Learn from yesterday live for today, hope for tomorrow. The important thing is not to stop questioning."
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Emmylou

Aaron Barden



We are so proud of what you have accomplished so far in your life. We can't wait to see what you will achieve in the future. Let you "brilliance" shine on.
Love,
Mom and dad

Justin Ratzlaff



Ashley Read



We are so very proud of you. Follow your heart with your gift of music and singing. Live, love, and laugh often in life. We wish you happiness and success in the future! Remember we will always be there for you.
All our love,
Mom, Dad, Mitchell, Shelby

Mandi Selvey



Babydoll, wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine.
-Anthony J. D' Angelo
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Ty

Alexander Hathaway



Congratulations on this significant milestone in your life. We are very proud of you. As you move forward in your education, reach for your dreams. If you want something bad enough, you can achieve it.
Love always, Dad, Mom, Andrew, and Adam

Heather Snyder



We love you Elmo! Your smile lights up a room! So very happy you're our daughter. Keep Happy! You've been my sister for fifteen years but you've been more than a sister, you're my best friend and I love you beautiful!
Don, Whitney, and Dorshann

We love your gentle spirit, tender heart and inner strength. As parents we could not be more proud of who you have become! We look forward even more to what your future holds and what God has in store for you. Keep trusting!
Our love always,
Mom and Dad

Ariel McCullum



Thanks for being such a great kid. You have brought great joy and laughter to our family. We wish you all the best after graduation. We know you will be a great success!
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Kelly

Aaron Hulke



Nicole Holasek



A little note with lots of love. Enjoy your life! Laugh a lot, love a lot, listen to your heart, and follow where it leads you. Words cannot express how much we love you. We are so proud of you and so thankful for the years that you have given us.
Love you,
Mom and Dad

Dustin Hanson



Through all the years- good times and bad- your spirit, Dustin, shines through. Don't ever forget how wonderfully talented you are.
With all our love,
Mom and Helena

Jeremy Reichenberger



Since your early arrival in the world, patience was not your strong suit. You were always in a hurry. Our wish for you is to enjoy the present and stay focused on your future. Be patient and all your dreams will be realized. We are proud of you and all you've accomplished.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Katie

Kyle Pingeon



We are very proud of you and the person you have become. We know you will succeed in all you do. Thanks for all the great memories. We love you always, Mom, Dad, and Kelly

Clint Borka



We are so proud of you and all your accomplishments. You have a wonderful and adventurous future ahead of you. Follow your dreams and reach for the stars! Anything is possible!
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Kayla

Caroline Marceau



Milestones are great opportunities to share and celebrate with each other. You are our precious tender-hearted joy! In the next phase of your life, "Go light your world," others can be blessed as we, your family, have been. We love you more than words can express.
Love,
Dad, Mom, Tina and C

Stephanie Wothe



"Be who you are and say what you feel because those who mind don't matter and those who matter don't mind."
-Dr. Seuss
Make good choice, have no regrets, be kind, be happy, be you.
Love you,
Mom and Dad

We are so proud of you. Your free spirit and loving kindness have been a blessing to our family. The world is a better place because you are in it. We love you! You will always be our baby girl.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Emily Storms



Dream big, Sam! You can do anything that you set your mind to! We will always be cheering you on!
Love you lots,
Mom and Dad

Samuel Henninger



Anders Culver



What a fantastic kid you are. You've kept us laughing since the day you were born. Your positive attitude and willingness to help have always put a smile on our faces. Keep looking for the humor in each day and you'll always have a smile on your face. We are so very proud of you.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Amy

Jaymes Schelitzche



We hope you always find joy in the simple things in life and we wish you as much happiness as you've given us! We are so proud of you!
Love,
Ma, Dad, and Brittany

Amanda Iverson



Looking good is HARD WORK! Apply that same energy in everything you do and you will go beyond your dreams. Continue to share the great sense of humor through life's journey; have a way of brightening everyone's day! We are so proud of you. Love,
Mom, Dad, Morgan Grant and Blake

Zachary Hintgen



You are a true blessing; we are so very proud of you. Our wish for you is that all of your dreams are fulfilled. Remember, The journey is the destination.
We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Madison

Wherever you go, no matter what the weather, always bring your own sunshine!
Love,
Dad and Kelli

Kyler Hanson



Buck, You have grown in so many ways. We are very proud of you and your accomplishments. May your future be filled with many more! Keep smiling and always be happy.
Always remember, we love you!
Mom and Dad

Ryan Bradt



Nathan Kelzer



We are very proud of the kind, caring and intelligent person that you have become. Always do your best in whatever you choose to do in life and have fun. We love you lots and always!
Mom, Dad, and Tracy

Miles Poehler



Miles, Miley, Smiley, Squeaky, Click. "What's a truck?"
We love you tons!
Love,
Mom, Travis, Caleb and Sommer

Brittany Burr



This time has come too quickly. We are proud of you. Believe in yourself, Brittany, we believe in you. You are a beautiful young woman, with the kindness of hearts. Follow your dreams and reach for the stars.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Sierra

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2009 Editors

We're Hot Like Your Mom

<p>Ladies and Gentlemen of the class of '09... wear sunscreen.</p>			<p>Sing.</p>
	<p>Remember compliments you receive, forget the insults; if you succeed in doing this, tell me how.</p>		<p>Stretch.</p>
<p>Don't be reckless with other people's hearts, don't put up with people who are reckless with yours.</p>			<p>Floss.</p>
	<p>Don't mess too much with your hair, or by the time you're 40, it will look 85.</p>		<p>Dance.</p>

Above quotes from "Everybody's Free (to Wear Sunscreen)" by Baz Luhrmann

I would have an affair with him! You guys just love sitting in the dark. Squirt, squirt. Sorry, I just... I got up at 10:30! Play me some Britney! I'm not gonna Skype you! Omg Is like Lindsay Lohan like okay like? You pretty much just kissed Chris...and my dog. We better talk to Will about Ransom Threat! I'm not gonna Skype you! Omg Is like Lindsay Lohan like okay like? You better not be talking about that Twilight book again. The Eagle... Good! put Bruce in my phone. Bouncin' in the club where the heat is on... KJ hates Es! Marilyn Monroe is most definitely our mantra. You freak! Next year is totally gonna be scratch-n-sniff. D kmjj Big cheese! Wait, she has a blue tooth?! Two breadsticks! Thwruuuuuppp. I don't know why, but I just love this picture. You should probably get started on the index...



Co-Editors-in-Chief

Kjerstin Haugsby

If you talk to anyone, they will all tell you how big of a passion I had for making this yearbook. Not only did I love being able to work with the different computer programs to make this book, but I had so many amazing times that I will never forget. Being on staff, I made so many good friendships, especially with the other editors. There have been uncountable amounts of memories from these past two years.

Although this book was tons of work, being a Co-Editor-in-Chief with Jeremy was so much fun. We were able to bounce ideas off of one another to create what we hope is a good reflection of our school and the students in it.

There is so much hard work and

loads of time put into making this book, but the final result makes all the stress worth it. Everyone on staff has to deal with writing copy, taking pictures, and putting everything together to make a good spread before the deadline hits. Being able to make something that 90 percent of the student body buys is a huge honor.

Hopefully, when you pull this book out of the bottom of your closet ten years from now, you will look back and remember how amazing it felt when we won the Homecoming football game or how funny it was when Mr. Olson dressed up as a bunch of grapes on Halloween. I know I will.

Congrats to the class of 2009, we did it!

and Jeremy Reichenberger

During my four years here at WHS, the yearbook courses I've taken have been the most challenging, yet most rewarding classes I've taken. The hard work involved in making the book was nothing compared to the memories immortalized within it.

In class the past two years, I've made so many memories with my fellow editors and staff that even if the book didn't turn out after all the hard work, it would still be worth it. Even just listening to Britney, writing weird notes on the whiteboard, and trying to keep track of all the stupid things we've said over the past year

word-for-word in quotes has made everything well worth it.

As an editor, I've left my fingerprints all over this book. Seeing my vision of a theme, verbally as well as visually, shaped into a reality was a privilege and an honor. I hope I, as an editor-in-chief, have helped to memorialize this year in all of our lives in a way we can all look back on and remember in a good way.

Thank you to my fellow editors: Kjerstin "The Big Cheesë Haugsby; Maddie "I Love School" Asbjornson; and Jessica "Bluetooth?" Vogel for sharing this amazing experience with me.

As former yearbook co-editor-in-chief Anna Hedstrom once said of the yearbook experience, "Making the yearbook is just like eating at a Chinese buffet. After it's over, you're hungry again in like five minutes."

To my senior class, I hope you all left all the fingerprints you wanted to during the last four years here at Waconia High School. Good luck wherever life takes you, and I hope you leave your fingerprints in even bigger and better places in the future.

Peace Out 2009!

Design Editor

Maddie Asbjornson

When signing up for the Introduction to Yearbook class, I thought it was just going to be an easy A, but it was more than that. Just being able to work on the yearbook with a great staff was so much fun.

Being the Design Editor is not an easy thing. I have to design all of the spreads and make sure the layout is perfect. Working with KJ, Jer, and Vogel was so much fun.

I cannot forget about Britney. Jamming out to her in the

yearbook room was a blast.

We worked great together as a group. We have had a great year together. It will be hard not having all of the editors next year to work on the yearbook, KJ won't be able to give me brilliant ideas to do with my spread; Jer won't make me laugh, and Vogel, the co-editors and I won't be able to eat lunch in the yearbook lab anymore to finish our spreads before deadline.

Being an editor was very hectic and crazy. Getting your copy in

on time and finishing your spread before deadline was very stressful, even though Miss Gregor kept on pushing me to finish it. Miss Gregor has taught me many things, including getting my spread in on time and to be very responsible.

I am so excited to start next year. Being able to be the Co-Editor-in-Chief will be a very beneficial but stressing thing. I am going to miss KJ, Jer and Vogel very much. Good luck at college, guys!

Senior Editor

Jessica Vogel

I was really excited coming into this year as the Senior Editor for the 2008-2009 yearbook. I knew it was going to take a lot of responsibility and a lot of time and effort, but I was ready to take on the challenge.

Creating this yearbook has been so much fun, and I could have never done it without the other wonderful editors Maddie, Kjerstin, and Jeremy. A lot of people don't realize how much time and dedication is put into making this yearbook great.

Meeting deadlines, designing layouts, and writing copy only begins to explain the stress that comes along with being in yearbook. But I think it is definitely worth it, because you get to see all your

hard work turn into something great and also something people will look back on.

It had a lot of fun creating the senior sections this year, and I really got to know a lot about what our class was all about.

I will never forget the countless times I ran down to the office asking them question after question, the hours spent on tallying the senior polls, pretty much harassing students to turn stuff in, but most importantly, I will never forget the memories I have made and the people I have shared them with.

Congratulations class of 09! I hope this is a year that you will never forget. Good luck to the future and remember, "It's a pace, not a race."

Whether you were the varsity **JOCK**
or a member of the Tactical Games Club,
whether you set a new school record in the 4x4 relay or won best in show at the regional art show

one way or another you have left your

While

mark.

fingerprints

are easily removed,

we have left marks that can never be erased.

We have left marks on the

HEARTS

of our peers, our teachers, and our coaches.

We've made friends, and while we may not keep in touch forever,

the memories we have made will last

FOREVER.

COLOPHON:

Taylor Publishing in Dallas, Texas, published the 2008-2009 Waconia High School yearbook, which consisted of 152 colored pages printed on 100# glossy paper. Approximately 691 books were shipped, each pre-purchased for \$59 through the Smart-Pay program. The Adobe CS3 software was used to design the book. Fonts used included Ransom size 70, which was used for the headlines; Shabby size 18, which was used for subheadlines; CosmosXcondtp size 11, which was used for body copy; and CosmosXcondtp size 10,

which was used for the book's captions.

The book was completed during trimesters one and two by the 50 students enrolled in the Introduction to Yearbook courses and the Yearbook II classes. Students were advised by Megan Gregor, and Kjerstin Haugsby and Jeremy Reichenberger were the editors-in-chief. The book's theme, "Fingerprints," was the creation of Jeremy Reichenberger. The book's cover was conceptually designed by Jeremy Reichenberger and created by Kjerstin Haugsby with input from section editors Maddie Asbjornson and Jessica Vogel.

The 2008-2009 staff would like to thank many people including Bruce Lammers, Taylor Publishing representative; Christy Powell at Smart-Pay; Mr. Mark Torborg for taking

photos; Lynn Laumann Photography; Varsity Photo; Brad Unangst at the Waconia Patriot for his photos and his support of the yearbook program; all the parents and students who submitted photos for use in the yearbook; Network Administrator Will Cattrysse; Activities Director Dave Kuehn; Activities Administrative Assistant Mary Ellen Timmers; Principal Mark Fredericksen for his continued support of the yearbook program; Office Personnel Monica Vierling-Hall, Judy Rademacher and Lori Schwitz; and finally, Megan Gregor for her time, support and leadership.

The yearbook staff would like to thank you for your resources, time, patience, and support while the book was in production.

