



an effort toward an ...

endeavor

  Foundation
2008-2009
  Westminster Christian Academy



history
mental - 6
nhs middle school

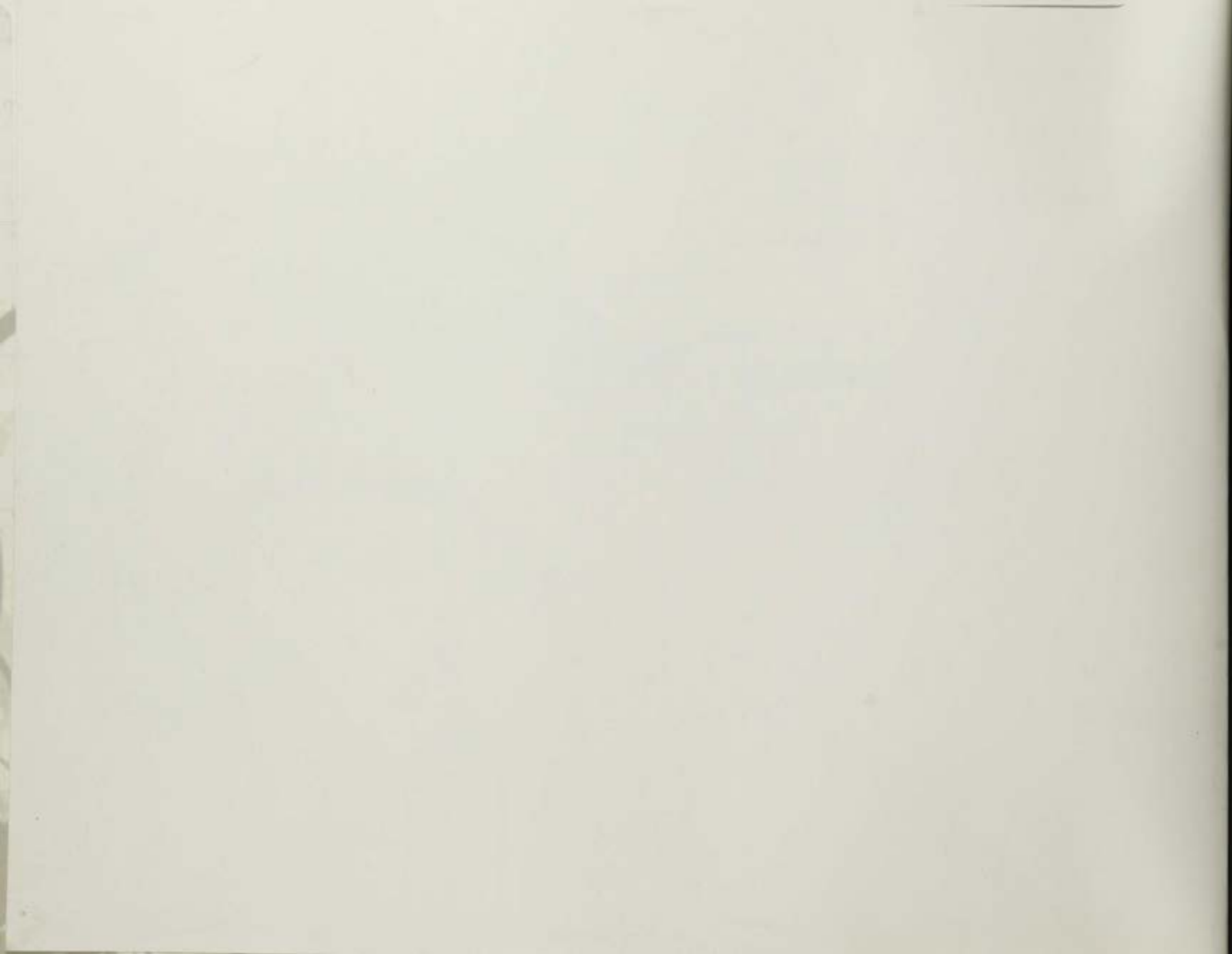
underclassmen
social - 42
p.c.'s spirit week

seniors chapel
spiritual - 88
itsog

carnival
physical - 150
swimming improv

Life.... It's an

endeavor



Westminster Christian Academy
10900 Ladue Road
St. Louis, MO 63122
(314) 997-2800
population: 870

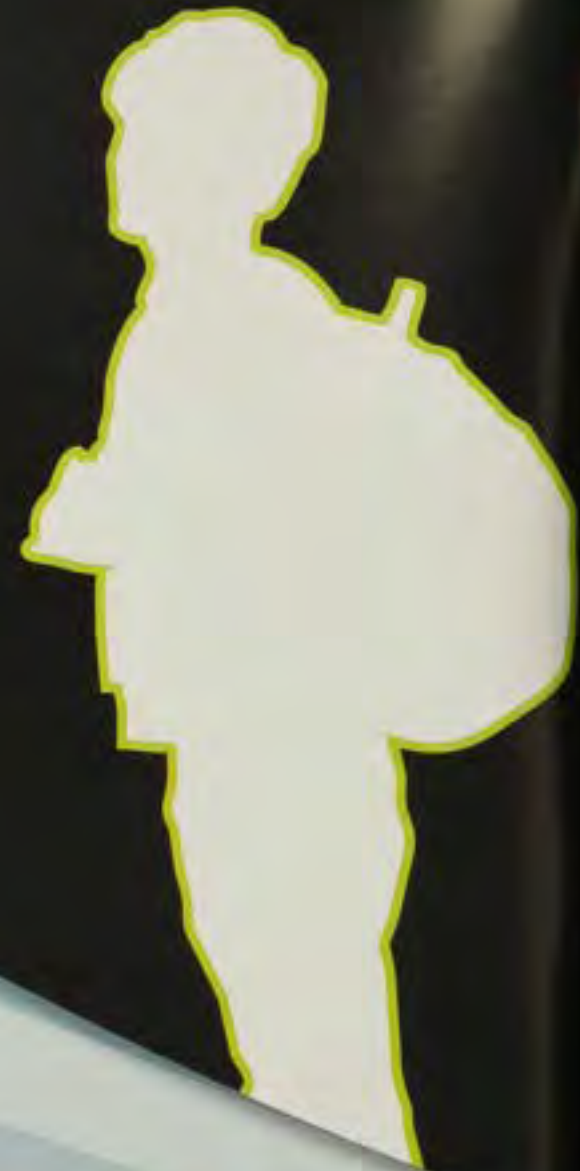


an effort toward...
endeavor



Austin Gantner, junior

endeavor



Sarah Hughes and Aaron Krumsieg, juniors



Avery Anderson and Alexandria Calhoon, freshmen



Ben Arndt, junior



We all have our own journeys, trials and paths that **mold** our life. These experiences start when we are born and end on our last day. They include our journey through kindergarten, elementary school, and now **Westminster** . We all endured this part of our life together ,but our different **excursions** were not all the same.

Whether it was studying for a biology final or getting hair done for Christmas Banquet, you were **making decisions** that would help your future unfold. You might have been a straight "A" student or a star on the court, but we all spent 1,267 hours...76,020 minutes...4,561,200 seconds **together** each year at WCA. As this clock ticked we encountered mental, social, spiritual, and physical adventures that challenged us to **grow** in all areas of our lives.

Every day we tried to **achieve** certain goals. Some days we woke up more prepared for them than others. Our minds developed not only through tests and quizzes at school, but also through the trials we faced with our friends and families. Spiritually we grew as we persevered through our **struggles** . During our experiences we challenged ourselves through activities, such as the sports we played.



Jessica George, junior



Jennifer Thompson, senior



Nicholas Rosen, seventh grade



Paige Norman, senior



Justin Weststeyn and Aaron Kinder, seniors



Morgan Patterson, eighth grade

Teamwork was required, whether in the classroom or on the field, in order to succeed. We leaned on each other for support in times of need. Other's experiences enlightened us to do better in the same situation. We rested in the **comfort** of having someone by our side.

We sought **mental** inspiration throughout the school day as we obtained new knowledge in each class. Our **social** lives intertwined as we participated in activities such as spirit week. When our lives seemed too chaotic we tended to grow in our **spiritual** relationships with God. Coaches helped us overcome the **physical** aspects of our lives as we fought to make it to the finish.

As we lived out our lives we made multiple **decisions** that not only affected us but also those around us. We went on different excursions as we made our way from home to school to meetings to sports practices to **extra-curricular** activities and then back home again. Our time at Westminster was more than just a journey through middle school and high school; it was a continuum of our ultimate **ENDEAVOR**.



Lucy Egan, junior



Melissa Oliver, junior



Amanda Wiele, junior



Christian Lindgren, seventh grade



Matthew Kimberling, Theodore Duesenberg, Reid Montgomery, seventh grade



Sarah Duffy, senior

endeavor



Kira Stewert, sophomore



Christian Davis, junior



Ellie Straub, eighth grade



Kenton Coffman, senior

mental

pertaining to the mind

Timothy Holley, history teacher, hits a watermelon during a demonstration to his class.



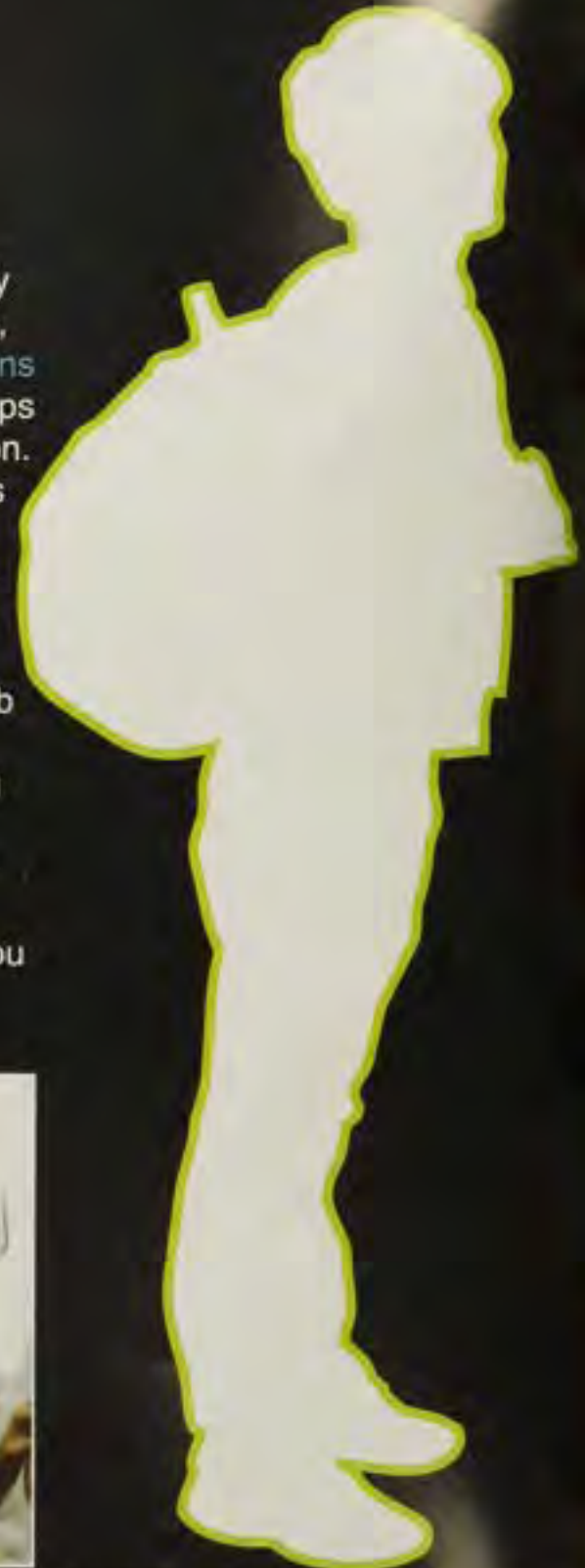
Steven Bradley, science teacher, helps John Raines, Cole Hoskins, and Jensen Holt, seventh grade, during a lab.



Mallory Alpert, junior, Anne Martin and Emily Rasseur, seniors, look at photographs on the board, while visiting Chris Knerr's Ancient History class.

Your alarm clock goes off at exactly 6:00 am. **Reluctantly**, your mind forces your body to start a new day. You rush to school early, just in time for your PC meeting. **Class begins** and you attempt to focus as your mind grasps the concept behind a new algebraic equation. As the bell rings for lunch, your mind begins to rest for a while. You're looking forward to dollar tacos at the Spanish club meeting, since you always have the same old turkey sandwich everyday. The afternoon then **speeds up** as you look forward to chess club practice after school.

Your mind was the **most powerful** tool you used throughout the day. Some days you were more **engaged** than others, but in the end your **logic** allowed you to **achieve** the grades which you **strove** so hard to gain. You encountered mental endeavors everyday, whether in school, sports, or relationships.



Kyle Cline, seventh grade, measures the mass of an action figure during a lab in science class.



Political Animals

In the year of 2009, Political Science went through many changes.

Soccer sweeties and Baseball Babes were the only known fan clubs for sports and teams; however, fans of Political Science decided to create a fan/ support group.

The fans of "Political Animals" were given a designated player on the team, and they were expected to give their player food or encouragement on the day of their big events.

This year they had more of the top academic students take part in the class. Two out of the five top academic students participated in Political Science in 2007-08. This year, four out of the five high academic students took the class.

Along with these changes came a last minute switch of group members just prior to the state tournament. A unit is a group of four people who work together memorizing different categories of information. It was only nine days before *The We the People* state competition when Ken Boesch, coach, changed the groups. Richard Dykhouse and Joseph Pohlman, seniors, were part of the switch.

"It's nerve-racking to switch so close to state, but it is kind of a compliment because it shows that Mr. Boesch thinks we can do it," said Dykhouse. Even though state was just nine days away, the team adapted to the changes and took on the new challenge.

Even with the many changes, the Political Science class still won the state competition. Unit two, which included Sarah Caple, Jordan Duke, Ryan Dykhouse, and Amanda Schaffner, seniors, ended up getting the highest score of all the Westminster groups. It was Westminster's tenth straight victory at this level.

Davis Vermillion and Kevin O'Leary, freshmen, open their parachute and make sure their egg is not cracked. In Lisa Harding, physics teacher's, third hour physics class, students tested to see how reliable their contraptions were.





John Raines and Cole Hoskins, seventh grade, get help from Steve Bradley, middle school science teacher, during a lab. Students learned how to work a scale and weigh different objects. "I like Mr. Bradley's class because we have no homework," said Raines.



Anna Eichelberger, Alyson Nichols, and Hannah Hickman, seventh grade, do an experiment during science class. These girls partnered together during Steve Bradley's fifth hour science class. Together they tested food to see which contained fat and protein.



Alexandar Frogge, freshman, checks to make sure his egg has not broken during a lab for physics. The class created different parachutes and experimented to see if they would work. If the egg did not break, the parachute was deemed useful.

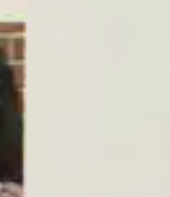
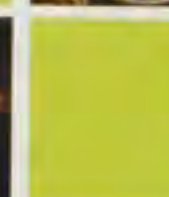
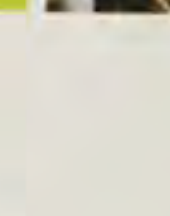
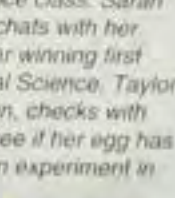


Jennifer Albertson and Audrey Dodds, seventh grade, research during their science class. In their third hour science class, Albertson and Dodds worked on finishing a lab on the body. "I really like having no homework and like doing labs," said Albertson.



The science and math wings in Westminster are very involved with labs and hands-on learning. Some science labs include: dissecting cats and frogs, egg drops, tie-dyeing shirts, and lighting things on fire to see the color. Like the labs done in science, math classes had translations and dodecahedron sketches. Anna Becker, sophomore,

and Michael Nothum, eighth grade, research and create a power point for class. Katherine Fliessner, junior, presents a project on osteoporosis for biology. Annaliese Clark, Anneleyce Alexander, and Jennifer Thompson, seniors, dissect a cat for Anatomy. Nathan Jackson, eighth grade, weighs different objects, such as a glue stick, during his third hour science class. Sarah Caple, senior, chats with her teammates after winning first place in Political Science. Taylor Burch, freshman, checks with her partner to see if her egg has cracked after an experiment in physics.



NEWS STORIES

It was the critical transition from elementary school to high school that helped students to develop not only spiritually, but also mentally, physically, and socially. This period of time is most often known as Middle School.

Westminster academics continued to play a large role in shaping the lives of 251 young adults middle schoolers. New opportunities and challenges faced these students in their every day activities. Science fair projects, writing research papers for English, and posting on the online discussion forum for extended class discussion in Bible were just some of the many activities 7th and 8th graders encountered.

Perhaps one of the most well-remembered parts of middle school was dissecting a frog in seventh grade. Students spent a few days dissecting frogs and learning their anatomy. "It was awesome because I took out the brain and the spine," said Parker Briden, eighth grade. "Hyperextending the knees was my favorite part," said Eric Shaffer, seventh grade. However, most of the girls had a different opinion. "It was disgusting!" said Emma Glasgow, seventh grade. Many of the girls named their frogs after celebrities, or people they knew.

As days turned to weeks and months, students began to realize that they were acquiring knowledge about not only math, science, and social studies, but important facts of life. Throughout middle school, students learned to manage their time, work with one another, and develop important friendships.

As time progressed, the anticipation of high school grew nearer. By the end of eighth grade, students were ready to face the new opportunities and challenges that awaited them during the next four years of high school.



Middle school students were given the opportunity to try different classes and discover interests before high school. Mitchell Penning, eighth grade, works on a project during an art class. Kelly Goebel, seventh grade, chats before science class. Steven Bradley, middle school science teacher, shows Sydney Seabaugh, seventh grade, the correct way to dissect a frog. Elise Burton and Anastacia Hathaway, seventh grade, work together on an in-class assignment. Rebekah Sharp, seventh grade, listens to a lecture in Bible class. Amber Draper, eighth grade, munches on Goldfish with her friends. Eichel Davis, seventh grade, prepares to dissect his frog during one of the more memorable labs of seventh grade. Michael Nothum, eighth grade, focuses during his Bible class. Hannah Hickman, seventh grade, jots down her assignments for the day. Benjamin Huffman, seventh grade, presents a report. Dillon Brown, seventh grade, illustrates a Bible project.

page credit: Jessie Flori

Ryan Smith, seventh grade, dissects his frog with his partner. Most students agreed that the worst part of the lab was the smell.



Coie Hoskins and Matthew Kimberling, seventh grade, use the laptops to research for an assignment in science class. The middle school utilized the laptop carts provided by annual giving to work on projects, papers, and online activities.



Eise Burton and Kendall MacDonald, seventh grade, work together as lab partners during the frog dissection lab.



Demetris Williams, seventh grade, reviews his textbook during class. Students read from a variety of books in English class with Kim Landes, middle school teacher.

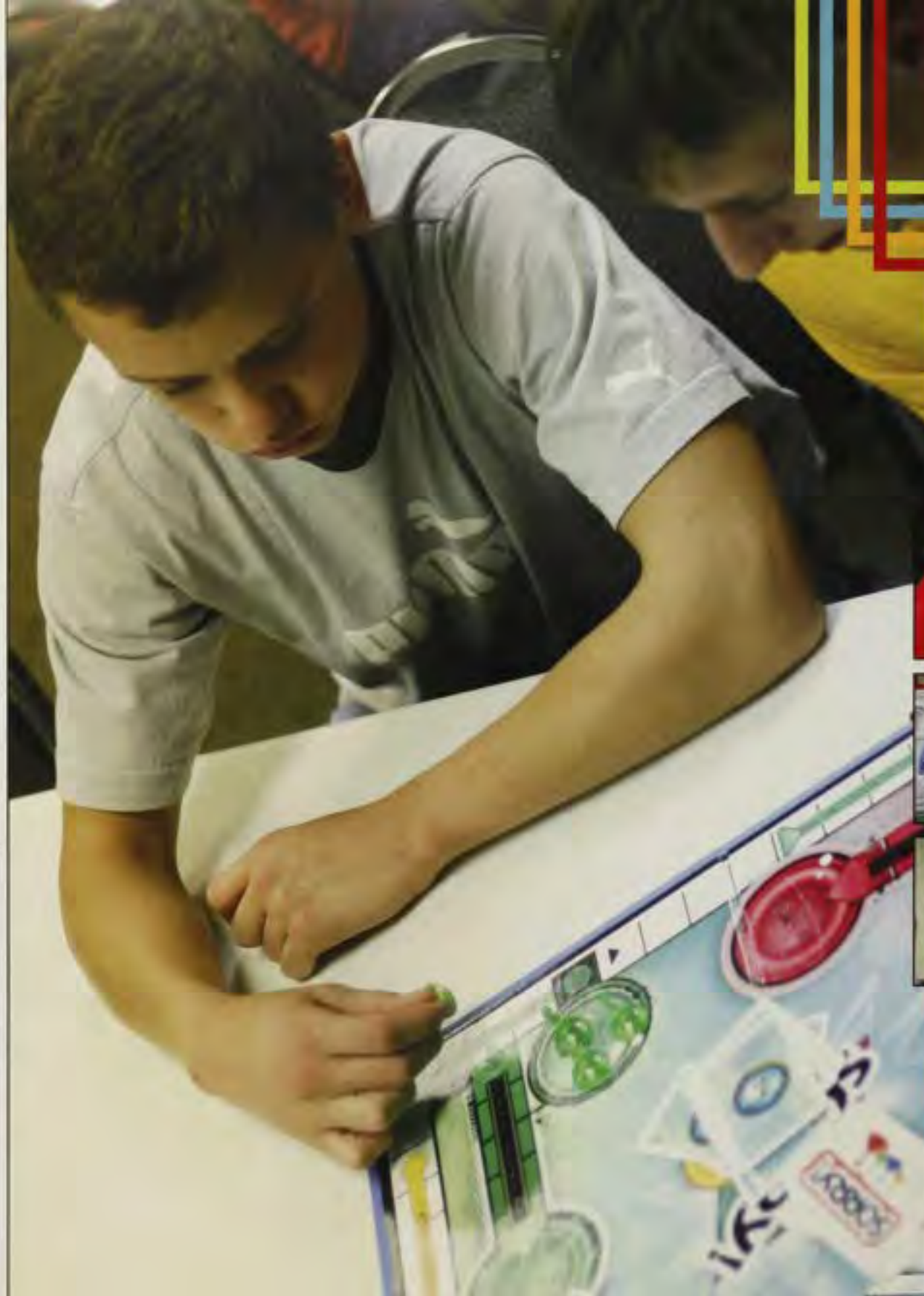


"Being a leader, you learn a lot about how to deal with people but also how much work goes into something you're a part of."

-Amibeth Thompson, junior

NHS

Curtis Stump, junior, and Austin Wallach, senior, contemplate which piece to move in a competitive game of Sorry at Room at the Inn. Playing board games and telling riddles with Larry Birchler, NHS coordinator, had been long-standing traditions on those weekends. Ana Tanner, junior, is "rewarded" the task of making pancakes for breakfast at room at the inn. The first two people to wake up were given the task of making pancakes while late-risers cleaned bathrooms and vacuumed the floors. Katherine Smith, junior, gives John Vonder Bruegge a piggy back ride at "wee wildcats." Student volunteers cared for WCA teacher's children while they enjoyed a day of Christmas shopping and preparation. Katherine Hickman, sophomore, helps a three-year old from Trinity Presbyterian Church make a hot cocoa mix. Hickman worked at her church's Christmas craft day for service hours.



FIRST TIME Blunders

Although most people only saw the smiling faces and welcoming gestures of the ambassadors, mishaps and uncomfortable situations did occur. The senior ambassador leaders knew all of the ropes due to previous experience, but it took much trial and error before they reached that point.

Kaitlin Harding, senior, had been an ambassador for two years before becoming a leader during her senior year.

"The first year I was an ambassador, I wasn't assertive at all. People scared the heck out of me," said Harding.

Harding recalled a few incidents when things did not go according to plan.

"At open house my sophomore year, my tour group was the only one with a wheelchair, which was fine, but it meant that I had to give the tour backwards because we took the elevator. Then there was another couple and the wife would repeat everything I said to her husband in a really loud voice. I didn't really know how to deal with my group," said Harding.

Despite the experiences she had during her first few events, Harding saw definite improvement to the ambassadors program.

"I think it's great having student leaders because they can hear students' inputs and solve problems that the faculty doesn't realize," said Harding.

Marta Roberts, junior, talks with parents at the upper school ignite at the beginning of the school year. Roberts had served as an ambassador leader during the previous school year. Cooper Dunlap, sophomore, talks with other ambassadors before going to his post at open house. "I like showing people the school and telling them what it's like," said Dunlap. Rebecca Waller, freshman, distributes bags at the college fair for visitors to put college materials inside. The ambassadors came early to help college representatives set up booths and welcome visitors.



Elizabeth Quisenberry, freshman, greets prospective parents and students during December's tour on Thursday. Ambassadors who participate in tours on Thursday come to school dressed in their uniform at night in the morning and welcomed students and parents before a program and tour of the school. "I like working at tours on Thursday the best because it's fun to greet students that might go here," said Quisenberry.



"It's important to have students lead at these events instead of teachers because it gives a more realistic impression of the school."

- Marta Roberts, junior

Ambassadors



Bill Serber, sophomore, hands out student schedules at the upper school ignite. Parents followed their child's schedule and participated in ten minute classes to see what their day was like. Madison Burke, junior, reviews the schedule for open house in November. Ambassadors had to arrive thirty minutes early to go over the schedule for the evening, and they stayed after to help clean up. Peggy Johnson, admissions director, and Katie Boggs, admissions assistant, along with the leaders, would prepare schedules of when the ambassadors needed to be at a particular time. Madison Nye, junior, talks with Boggs at tours on Thursday. "It's really important that potential parents meet students because they demonstrate what a WCA education looks like," said Johnson.



"For me, scholar bowl broaches academic horizons like no other."
- Nevin Cherian

Scholar Bowl



Kathleen Talent, sophomore, waits earnestly as the moderator asks an NAQT question. NAQT, which stands for National Academic Quiz Tournaments, made the official standards, procedures, and questions for scholar bowl matches. Robert Vass, scholar bowl coach, used real NAQT questions during practice to prepare the team for tournaments.



Danielle Cicka, sophomore, calculates a math problem during scholar bowl practice. The scholar bowl team met every Thursday after school to practice.



Joy Collins and Matthew Thampy, seniors, participate in a scholar bowl tournament at Villa Duchesne. WCA tied for first place with two other teams.



Michael Talent, senior, practices for World Quest, an academic competition between schools over current events. Westminster's team won second place in the Saint Louis area.

Friendliness Enjoys Company

Success was claimed by all members apart of the 2008-2009 scholar bowl team. Mid-season they had won seven out of ten matches, had three top scorers in a 160-person tournament, and the World Quest team had placed second in the annual current events quizbowl. The JV team was the largest in WCA history; normally having around ten players, twenty players signed up and participated throughout the year. "We're no longer a second-rate club," said Nevin Cherian, senior. "It's exciting to watch the team reach an entirely new level."

But what caused the rebirth? What was the key to the club's success? To answer this, many pointed to its popularity with the ninth grade and the Varsity team's unusual friendliness during practice. Unlike previous years, the Varsity team made a conscious effort to cut back on criticisms during practice when teammates answered questions incorrectly. Underclassmen quickly found scholar bowl to be an inviting place, which encouraged them to invite their friends to join. "They just flooded in," said Cherian. "It's become very popular."

CHESS: IT'S A TRADITION!

One minute talking to Coach reveals how much chess club members are proud of it's long history. Nearly the oldest club in the school, chess club was founded in 1991. Since then, it has grown to twenty-six members, two of whom were in middle school. Its longevity has allowed it to develop a number of rivals, including St. John Vianney, WCA's "arch rival". Although WCA has yet to beat Vianney, the club has made other accomplishments such as winning first place in the Gateway Chess League Tournament in both the High School section and the 9th grade section.



"Chess club helps sharpen your brain."
- Michael Menzel

Chess Club



Evan Miller, freshman, contemplates his next move in a chess game. Miller was one of the players awarded chess club Member of the Month in September.

Brian Goldfarb, freshman, makes his move in a practice chess game after school. Chess club met every Tuesday after school to practice.

Harold Ellis, freshman, racks his brain during practice. Ellis was a winner at October's Simultaneous Exhibition.



"Math club is for everyone."
- Alek Miller

Math Club



Paul Wheeler, sophomore, listens during a math club meeting on a Thursday afternoon. Club members enjoyed solving interesting problems and participating in Carnival at the math club booth.



Nathan Wheeler, sophomore, drinks soda while listening to an introduction to the AMC test, a standardized math test. Math club helped many prepare for the AMC10 and AMC12, optional standardized math tests for high school students.

The Trendsetters

Math club may seem like an unlikely trendsetter, but this year the organization started a fad that lasted throughout the year. At just a year old, the club aimed to raise interest in math and problem solving through monthly themes and challenging problems. Club members worked problems involving logic, probability, geometry, and algebra.

However, besides the traditional math approach to problem solving, math club also introduced a number of strategy games, some of which gained huge popularity. The "circle game", a game played with a pencil and paper between two players, was one that spread quickly around the school. Many students could be found playing the circle game in class, and some became quite competitive.



Selfless French

This year the French Club brought an air of sophistication to every event. Andrew Nichols, junior, was the club president. "This year we planned some really fun stuff. We've been watching *Amélie* at lunch, which is an old French movie, so you don't understand a lot of it," said Nichols. The club met at lunch over baguettes and nutella.

Students traveled to St. Genevieve to look at the French style homes, went ice skating, and ate crepes at a local crêperie. For Carnival this year they had their annual Chocolate booth. "All the proceeds from our booth went to the Kims. They used to be French teachers here at Westminster and they are starting a mission in France right now," said Nichols. The French Club raised \$107 for the mission. A goal never achieved by the club until this year.



Elizabeth Korb, juniors, works on painting a tree after school for a set. "I love the sense of community and friendship in French Club because we are all studying a culture we love," said Korb.

Christian Davis, junior, waits to cheer for Varsity Basketball. "I like the club because it allows me to experience the French culture more than I would in class," said Davis.



"The French club is better. We have nutella and baguettes."
- Andrew Nichols

French Club



Mia Seagraves, junior sings Jingle Bells in her French class. Laurel Dicus, junior finishes up her homework during a meeting. Sheridan Hentrich, sophomore, serenades a Spanish class with Christmas carols. During their meetings they discussed plans and ended with a treat of nutella and baguettes.



"I love Spanish because you can experience it here in St. Louis. You don't have to go far to use the language."
- Sarah Johnson

Spanish Club

Spicing Up Life

The Spanish club went out into the St. Louis community to explore the Latino culture this past year. "We planned a lot of activities so we could use our language here," said Sarah Johnson, junior. The club went to Refuge of Nations twice a month to play with the immigrant children. They also planned a scavenger hunt through a Spanish Market. Their restaurant visits allowed them to order in Spanish and they also took Salsa dancing lessons.



Meri Davis, senior, counts money for the club T-shirts as the secretary of the Spanish club. Erin Flowers, sophomore, makes a taco at the first meeting of the year for the Spanish club. Danielle Cicka, sophomore, makes a plate of nachos at the Spanish club booth during carnival. Joseph Collins, freshman, gets a tortilla during the taco lunch.



"I love getting together with all of my Latin speaking friends and eating lots of food."
- Madalyn Elliot

Latin Club

Burning Rome

Latin Club provided a fun twist to a difficult language. This year they "burned Rome" at the Wallach's home, with a giant bonfire, hotdogs, and s'mores. To build the huge fire they added wood, cardboard boxes, and gas. "When they lit the fire you felt a huge heat wave," said Madalyn Elliot, junior. For their Christmas party this year they went on a carriage ride through Tilles Park. After the brisk ride, they went back to Mrs. Lewis' for hot chocolate, a white elephant gift exchange, and more s'mores to warm them up.

Jane Im, sophomore, models the Latin club T-shirt. The front stated "Got Latin" in Latin and the back showed all the verb conjugations. "I like Latin, because we do lots of fun out of school activities," said Im.



page credit: Emily Mitchell



Victoria Urban and Katie Wos, sophomores, drink hot chocolate before they drew names for the white elephant gifts.



Andria Graeler, freshman, gets ready to cook a s'more during the Latin club Christmas party. David Thomas, freshman, eats a s'more while watching the white elephant exchange. Rebecca Gee and Ian Farmer, sophomores, take a break from swimming to eat during the kickoff pool party. Andrew Everett and Hannah Nothum, juniors, bundle up during their carriage ride through Tilles Park on December 12. There was food and games to entertain them, as well as a white elephant gift exchange.



Davis Vermillion, freshman, pushes out his final reps on the bench press. The weight room received a new piece of equipment this year. It was an all-purpose machine that allowed for multiple lifts to be performed on it.



Rory Hennings, senior, gets measured for his vertical jump. The vertical jump use to be measured in the old gym, but David Schall, strength and conditioning coach, ordered a professional vertical jump measuring stick.



Nathaniel Arnold, eighth grade, receives instruction from David Schall, strength and conditioning coach, on his straight leg dead lift. "Coach Schall put a lot of emphasis on proper technique," said Caleb Unser, junior.



Drew Hanes, 8th grader, works his triceps during the middle school lifting program. Drew was one of the first middle school students to attend the after school program.



Elisha Logan, junior, runs the 300 meter shuttle. The shuttle run was one of the many tests that David Schall, strength and conditioning coach, used to measure improvement in the Advanced Wellness class.



Kenton Coffman, senior, shoulder presses as Theodore Siebenmen, senior, spots him.

Caleb Unser, junior, gets in position to max on his back squat. The squat is one of the three major lifts a student must complete to be eligible for any of the weightlifting clubs.



Weight Game

Deserted all day long, until the 3 o'clock bell rang, the weight room, which has evolved over the years to an all purpose training facility, was flooded with students at the end of the day. The students consisted of all athletic levels and all came down to the weight room for different reasons. The most common reason for students to be in the weight room was to get stronger for their respective sports. Other reasons were stress relief, enjoyment, and to get in shape. Some students even took a class for lifting, that also taught good personal health.

The biggest change in the Westminster weight room occurred on Tuesday and Thursday afternoons. There was a sparse group of middle school students before this year that would occasionally visit the weight room. But thanks to Coach David Schall all of that changed this year with the weight room being packed. Schall implemented a workout plan for any and all middle school students every Tuesday and Thursday. The workout plan consisted of proper weight training with an emphasis on technique followed by some sort of conditioning. "The advantage these kids will have when they reach the high school level is one to be envied by all current high school students," said Joseph Greenlee, senior. With the combination of middle school students and upper school students, there was not a day that went by that the Westminster athletic program was not improving.



page credit: Andrew Goebel



Jennifer Altman
Brittany Altman
Bryanna Altman
Jana Alpert
Kayla Armstrong
Catherine Bakewell

Jeremy Bibbert
Justin Burnett
Drew Dauter
Sarah Becken
Tristin Baker
David Bell

Audri Blumfield
Shane Dennis
Andrew Blackwood
Dillon Brown
Tyler Burns
Elise Burton

Jeffrey Camp
Annabeth Canfield
Edward Canfield
Andrew Cannon
Tyler Cottrell
Kyle Chou

Andrew Colgrove
Taylor Davidson
Echiel Davis
Micah Deibel
Madison Devos
Austrey Dodds

McKinnon Duenweg
Daniel Dwyer
Anna Eichelberger
Colin Eisenberg
Grayson Eymerhart
Coley Falkner

Gregory Flaxner
Aaron Deeney
Andrew George
Khiley Giles
Blake Gierse
Emma Glasgow



Kelly Goebel
Morgan Grimm
Sheldon Gruender
Abigail Gustafson
Kayla Hampton
Olivia Harri



Mhalea Hasting
Anastacia Hathway
Delaney Haynes
Brennen Hebler
Mitchell Henry
Hannah Hickman



Caleb Hicks
Jonathan Hinrichs
Jensen Holt
Cole Hoskins
Jacob Hueliskoete
Benjamin Huffman



Edward Jackson
Se Ryeon Jin
Ashley Johnson
Catherine Johnson
Adrien Jones
Ashley Jones



Alexis Jostrand
Jennifer Jurgenson
Ligh Kaap
Matthew Kimberling
John Kimbrough
Jonathan Kinney



The assistant of Doctor Young, the doctor performing the presentation, takes a preserved brain out for the microscopic operation done in front of the entire seventh grade class.



Hannah Stiponovich, Julia Alpert, and Kelly Goebel, seventh grade, locate where the human organs are on the body and color them on a traced person.



Maren Osterholt, seventh grade, lays down to be traced. After the presentation at SLU, the seventh graders returned to Westminster to complete various interactive activities to learn more about the brain.

Brennen Almus and Benjamin Huffman, seventh grade, color and cut out a picture of the brain. "I liked the activities more than the presentation because we got to color and make the body however we wanted to make it," said Almus.





Theodore Muschary, seventh grade, focuses on the lecture at Saint Louis University.

Squeals of disbelief, amazement, and disgust resounded through the auditorium as Doctor Young picked up the human brain in his hands. On Wednesday, November 19, the seventh grade class traveled to Saint Louis University along with other schools to watch a presentation on the human brain. "It was cool to see the brain that is actually in my head," said Morgan Machelke, seventh grade. "The guy cut open and showed us every part of the brain," said Morgan Siebemen, seventh grade.

BRAIN FREEZE

This outing to Saint Louis University was one of the many field trips the middle school students took during the course of the year. While many field trips were taken for academic purposes, sometimes the seventh or eighth grade would go fun places after the educational part of the trip. Often times, teachers planned field trips to fun locations such as the Zoo, Elephant Rocks, and the City Museum. "I like field trips alot because we don't have to do work all day, and we get to do fun stuff instead," said Brennen Almus, seventh grade. No matter the destination, field trips were a nice break from the regular routine and work of a school day.



Scott Rupprecht and Eichel Davis, seventh grade, try on their 3-D glasses before the presentation.



Kendall Macdonald, seventh grade, colors and glues the different sections of the brain during one of the interactive games at school.



Andrew George, seventh grade, tries on his 3-D glasses before the lecture about the human brain. SLU gave the spectators 3-D glasses to greater enhance the presentation.



McKinzie Duesenberg, seventh grade, traces Ashley Johnson, seventh grade, after the field trip to SLU. "The activities were funny, and when we traced Ashley she could not stop laughing because it tickled her," said Duesenberg.

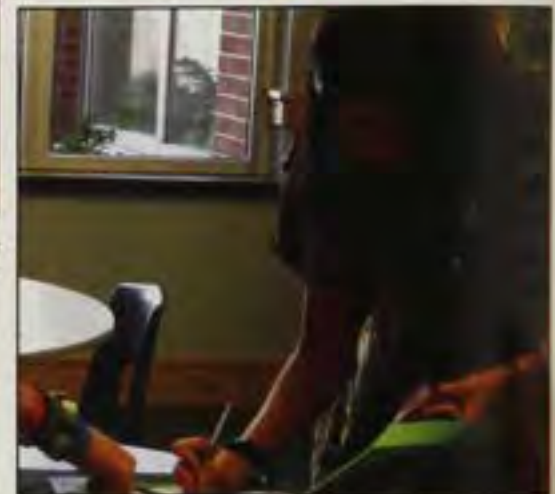


Theodore Sutcliffe, senior, charms students into purchasing Kaldi's bakery goods. The list of bakery goods sold included cookies, scones and gooey butter cake. Many of the students in the Contemporary World Affairs class volunteered to sell bakery goods beginning at 7 a.m.

Olivia Pierson, senior, sells bakery goods to collect donations for Invisible Children. Kaldi's Coffee donated coffee and bakery goods in order for the Contemporary World Affairs class to sell for a minimum donation of 1 dollar.



April Johnson, junior, buys Kaldi's coffee on Wednesday, December 10. Kaldi's donated coffee and bakery goods to support the efforts of the Contemporary World Affairs class and raise money for Invisible Children. Two hundred dollars was raised from coffee and bakery goods alone.



Emily Farris, senior, signs a receipt for Invisible Children merchandise after staff from the organization spoke in chapel. Much of the student body and parents were moved by the presentation.



Contemporary World Affairs teacher, Ken Boesch, prays during the Invisible Children chapel. Three Representatives from the organization visited chapel to show the new "GO" documentary.





Change for CHANGE

While students all around Westminster were learning Science, Math and English, the 6th hour Contemporary World Affairs class was busy trying to change the world. Invisible Children was an organization that helped children in Northern Uganda, who had been affected by the war, receive quality education. Kristen Gilbert, class of 2008, first introduced the organization to her class by showing the Invisible Children documentary. Struck by the childrens' horrific living conditions, the class started collecting change. The organization also sponsored a schools for schools program. Students in both public and private high schools and universities competed against eachother to raise the most amount of money. Through the creation of creative t-shirts, spare change, and donations, students were able to collect more than twenty-two thousand dollars. This gave Kristen, along with freshman English teacher, Anne Heyse, the opportunity to travel to Uganda.



Following in their footsteps, this years Contemporary World Affairs class collected over sixteen thousand dollars. Fundraising included t-shirt sales, sweatpants, spare change, Kaldi's bake sale, and more. The Contemporary World Affairs class raised the most amount of money in the midwest area, which gave another student and teacher the chance to re-build schools in Uganda.



Jackson David
Katelyn Probst
Christen Livingston
Kristen Melchardt
Michael Maggione
Charles Murto

Chad Masry
Kristina Masry
Ashley McConkey
Elissa Mironchen
Esther Mironchen
Morgan Mironchen

Christopher Moore
Michael Montgomery
Caroline Moore
Theodore Moschary
Nylon Nichols
Avonna Neehus

Abby Nixon
Joshua Nkong
Maren Orloff
Maddie Olson
Winston Park
Julia Prashar

Taylor Pfoke
Erinna Pohlmann
John Rames
Travis Ralls
Robert Rasche
Andrea Reed

Nicholas Rowen
Scott Rupprecht
Ryan Russo
Breidan Sabzideh
Skyler Savoy
Ann Schlatky

Michael Scott
Sydney Steinbaugh
Eric Shaffer
Rebekah Sharp
Matthew Sheehan



Zachary Shikles
Morgan Seibenman
Abigail Smith
Laura Smith
Ryan Smith



Hamzah Sepanovich
Maya Taylor
Naara Tison
Miss Tucker
Daria Vonderahe



Anne Waddell
Kristen Walker
Jordan Weber
Victoria Weldon
Andrew Williams



Demetri Williams
Emily Wilson
Jonathan Wood
Haley Wootbright
Mary Wynn



Nicholas Zinfel



The Incredible SQ3R

You had a total of four hours to know everything in the first 74 pages of your Western Civilization textbook. Then you had two more hours to memorize 40 vocabulary words that all seemed to sound very similar. How on earth could your brain hold all this at once?

Many students created studying methods throughout the years that allowed them to hold loads of information at once. Some students believed wearing the same perfume during a test that they wore while studying often triggered their memory. Other students tried to memorize by reciting their notes to their pets.

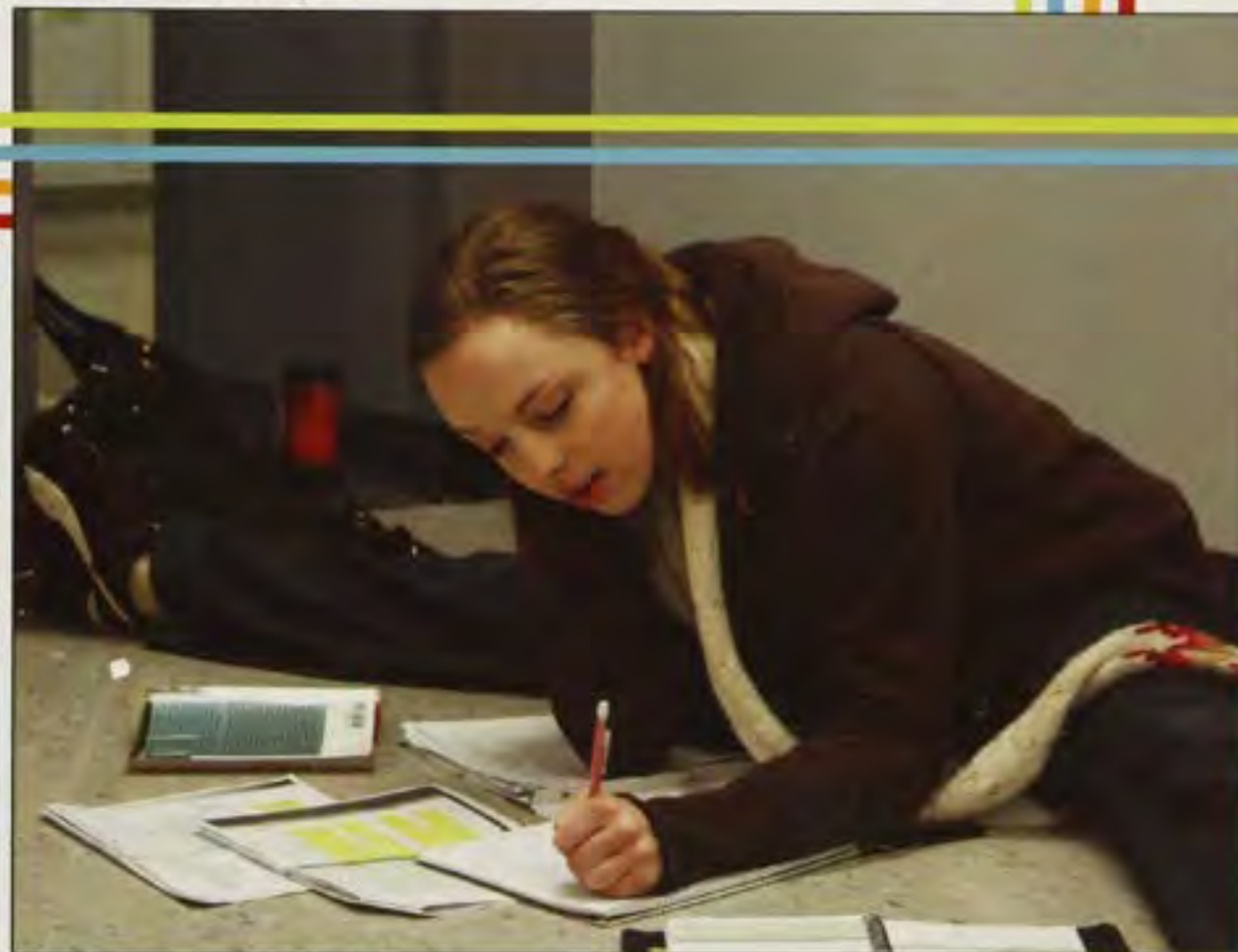
Several high school and university professors, however, supported a method called SQ3R: Survey, Question, Read, Recite, Review. Before the first semester exams, 8 students were asked to test this system. Their results were noteworthy. One student who tested SQ3R, Seth Lillenberg, senior, explained that he "retained a lot of the first semester information even though finals [were] already over." Overall 6 out of 8 students found this method helpful. While students may have invented their own unique methods of studying, SQ3R proved to be beneficial as well.



Nevin Cherian, senior, studies vocabulary for his AP Literature class. To remember the words, he created stories about a part of the word or related them to something he knew he would remember.



Laura Barbisa, senior, stretches her legs during study hall in Seniorville. To stay focused, she often sat in the splits while studying. If she knew she would be up late working, she often ate Ramen noodles and hot chocolate. She then slept on the couch to complete the strange ritual.



Eric Terschak, senior, listens to his iPod while studying for exams. In order to drown out the noise from his multiple siblings, he usually studied in his basement and blasted music from the band "Yellowcard".



Ana Tanner, junior, attempts to finish homework in the commons. As a result of both procrastination and habit, she was often only able to write papers when it was dark outside. Winter papers therefore tended to be accomplished sooner.



Brytany Woods, senior, finishes her homework during her third hour study hall. When memorizing Bible verses for Worldviews, she put the words to the beat of a song and sang it in her head during the quiz to jog her memory.



"Any student who strives to find a means of personal expression shows signs of moving beyond the status quo to becoming an individual who thinks for him or herself.

In Emily Beerbower, Alex Cole, and Blake Anderson I see students who desire to find their own voice, and I respect that."

Dr. Timothy Gibson, teacher

Alex Cole, senior, creates poetry to express herself. She enjoyed seeing how her thoughts matured through her artistic ability.



I have trouble communicating with people so poetry helps me.

Alex Cole

ARTISTIC PASTTIME

I have been creating it [art] since I could hold a pencil.
Lauren Dille



Lauren Dille, junior, enjoys several aspects of art design such as colored pencil, digital, and ink. Dille partook in art to relieve stress. She said, "It just makes me happy." She entered the Young Artists of St. Louis contest and received third place.

I love how a simple lump morphs into something awesome.

April Johnston

Blake Anderson, junior, writes plays and poems in his spare time. He has written several poems on World War I and the Vietnam War since fifth grade. His passion for play writing began sophomore year. Anderson used his talent to get out his emotions when he was upset. He said, "You can make it whatever you want," said Anderson.



April Johnston, junior, has always loved art. She took a drawing and a pottery class during the summer. Working with clay was her favorite because "if you make a mistake, you just collapse it and start over," said Johnston. She enjoyed taking classes to exercise her creativity and help her get better.

Release

The average student, who may not be artistically savvy, would only be familiar with the basic art forms: such as painting, drawing, poetry, and pottery. Many students have engaged in several different medias as a way to express themselves. They participated in classes to better their ability inside and outside of the academy. Some of their work was displayed in the glass case at school, while others submitted their work to contests.

These five students found their individual media both refreshing and stress relieving. When dealing with tough issues or simply a bad day, they enjoyed engaging in their art form for comfort. These students explained that they could express whatever emotion they were enduring at that moment through their artwork.



Emily Beerbower, senior, takes private art lessons outside of school where she can learn and play around with any media she desires. "You can manipulate art in so many different ways, the opportunities are endless," said Beerbower. Her favorite media was pencil drawings of people especially their faces because "they are all similar but different." She has always enjoyed art because it has kept her thoroughly entertained.



Jonah Anderson
Nathaniel Arnold
Sarah Barker
Cecelia Barnes
John Barry
Eric Baumgartner

Alex Beard
Michael Beckler
Bryce Bell
Nathan Bell
Bailey Bennis
Sarah Blackwell

Jeremy Blanchard
Kathryn Blesch
Eren Bogner
Nichole Bonaccorso
John Boyd
Travis Brand

Parker Brown
Keegan Brown
Timothy Burgess
Christopher Cacciarelli
Samuel Carfield
Christopher Carter

Kaitlin Chapel
Nathan Cheson
Taylor Cole
Brooke Cusumano
Julia Davin
Taylor Devel

Anna Desigraeth
John Doh
Amber Draper
Madison Drury
Michael Dudley
Kaylee Duke

Robert Dykhouse
Jeremy Ebert
William Egan
Brandon Estok
Emilee Events
Patrick Farmer



Brian Fellows
Taylor Fisher
Jesse Grunstein
Matthew Hall
Lauren Harce
Janay Hardy



Anne Harwig
Alexa Harvey
Drea Hayes
Elizabeth Heame
Justin Henry
Emily Hoyt



Jacob Hicks
James Hinrichs
James Hoekzema
Emily Horak
William Hughes
Joseph Isaacs



Leah Janssen
Lucas Johnson
Christopher Kebr
Shelby Kehr
Ryan Kelly
Zachary Kessel



Melissa Krigma
Violet Kouzes
Gayeona Lee
Sarah Levenhugh
Bennett Lewis
Grace Linton



Hallway Melodies



As most students finished their last minute homework, Samuel Heyl, junior, composed his own music at the piano in the art hallway. Heyl had played the piano officially since 6th grade. He played anything from "Bad Day" by Daniel Powter, to worship music, to his own melodies. Without sheet music, Heyl learned all the songs by ear. Inspired by his father, who is the music director at Kirk of

the Hills Presbyterian Church, and his mother, piano and violin teacher, Heyl has always had a passion for music and found a way to utilize his abilities during the school day. The wooden piano in the art hallways usually sat unattended, but some students, including Heyl, seized the opportunity to use their talents and shared music with fellow classmates. When discussing his future, Heyl said, "I plan to major in music," and by playing the piano at school, he has already put in many hours.



William Serber and Joseph Burzinski, sophomores, play a duet on the hallway piano before school. Students involved in the theater were able to use this piano to practice for auditions.



Ruth Cross, sophomore, practices the flute during fourth hour band class. Cross had played the flute for Westminster since seventh grade and held the fourth chair position. Singing in the choir was another form of music she participated in.



Samuel Reeves, freshman, plays the tenor saxophone. Reeves enjoyed his third year participating in band class under the supervision of Hugh Jones.



Dalton Williams, freshman, plays the bagpipes as students exit a chapel service in silence. It was the first time a student had ever played bagpipes in chapel.



Austin Krumm, junior, plays a trumpet and during the coronavirus pandemic. Krumm has participated many times this year when he competed against over 100 elite trumpet players and was named to the first of six state bands which performed at Fort Totten. A member of the Lions of the Downs, he has played since third grade. Last year he was a part of the 2018 Lakeland Youth Symphony Orchestra.

DON'T PROCRASTINATE. YOU'LL BE BURIED IN YOUR OWN COFFIN OF ENGLISH PAPERS AND LATE HOMEWORK.

- ANA TANNER, JUNIOR

Kendall Vanderslice, senior, swims during a practice in January. Vanderslice tried out for the Varsity women's swim team, although she had not been on the team previously, and had never been on a competitive swim team before. She followed her own advice and tried something new, and ended up helping the swim team throughout their season by swimming frequently in the 400 freestyle relay.



TRY NEW THINGS AND MEET NEW PEOPLE.

- KENDALL VANDERSLICE, SENIOR

Ana Tanner, junior, works during her study hall third hour. Tanner found, like many other high school students, that a lot of homework accompanies the transition from middle to high school. "There's a lot more homework to get done than when we were in middle school," said Tanner.



Cole Montgomery, eighth grade, talks to his PC Junior leader Andrew Everett, junior. PCs played an essential role in giving advice to the eighth graders in their group. They were able to silence fears and provide reassurance for nervous middle school students. "I've told them that they need to work hard in high school" said Everett.

Grace Johnson, junior, spends time at Starbucks during finals week to take a break from studying. Students often, after spending many hours focusing on academics, took the time to catch up with friends and relax during finals week. These much-needed breaks enabled students to better cope with the stress of finals.



FINALS AREN'T THAT BAD. DON'T OBSESS ABOUT THEM.

- JAME ZIMMER, JUNIOR



DON'T EAT YELLOW SNOW

AND OTHER WORDS OF WISDOM

For an eighth grader, the prospect of ascending into ninth grade can be bewildering, confusing, and even frightening. Although only 22 stairs separated the middle school and high school worlds, the contrast between these two worlds was extreme. Students were faced with new ideas, teachers, schedules, sports, and environments. With such immense differences, it was easy to understand why anxiety often accompanied the transition from eighth grade to ninth.

While oftentimes teachers only increased this anxiety by warning of the difficulties of high school, many upper school students were willing to offer advice to their younger counterparts. These words of wisdom often pertained to the heavy workload which students face in high school. "Work hard, because there's more homework than in middle school. Study every night," said Jessica Owens, freshman. This advice was echoed by other freshmen, who urged eighth graders to work hard once they moved up to the high school world.

However, words of encouragement were another common theme among the advice given. Upper school students frequently said that high school is an amazing experience. They also emphasized that too much work ruins the fun of high school. As mentors, PC Juniors eagerly offered advice to the eighth graders in their group. "I'd like to tell my girls that high school goes by so fast, and that they need to soak in every moment" said Mallory Alpert, junior. Other PC Juniors also talked with the students in their group about high school. Some students were apprehensive about the upcoming transition, including Sierra Mathews, eighth grade, who said, "I'm really nervous, mostly about finals." However, thanks to their advice, high school students made the transition from middle to upper school more enjoyable and less frightening for eighth graders.

page credit: Lucy Egan

YOU HAVE TO LEARN TO BALANCE SCHOOLWORK, SPORTS, FRIENDS, AND FAMILY.

- GRACE JOHNSON, JUNIOR

IT'S NOT REALLY MUCH DIFFERENT FROM MIDDLE SCHOOL YOU STILL GET TO HANG OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS AND EVERYTHING.

- BRITTANY FELLOWS, SOPHOMORE



Ashley Loney
Katherine Lusk
Laural Marshall
Rylie Mathew
Sierra Mathews

Amy McClain
Bark McClain
Mark McClain
Brynna Marshall
Emily Marshall

Hansen Mitchell
Caiti Montgomery
Tessie Marie Murry
Rissa Murray
Rebecca Nason

Grace Norman
Michael Norman
Caitlin Nye
Meredith Oliver
Emily Orr

Justin Orr
Thomas Ollert
Jonathan Plank
Morgan Patterson
Michael Peering

Ariah Redbe
Eric Redout
Emilee Schroeder
Amanda Scott
Michael Suther

Samuel Sherman
 Lucas Sekey
 Summer Smith
 John Eric Steiner
 Sadek Sapanovich



Ellie Stubb
 Holly Sumner
 Edward Sulphen
 Laura Tazareno
 Brandon Terbrock



Amber Tenschack
 Christian Thompson
 Scott Thompson
 Megan Tilley
 David Vanderlice



Austin Walker
 Pam Watson
 Ellen Wenning
 Christina Whipple
 Zachary Wibbenmeyer



Timothy Wilcox
 Della Woodward
 Jessica Wydrzynski
 Sarah Yusef
 James Zandstra



...drive a Mustang or a Hummer H2?

Matthew Heyse, senior, said, "Definitely a Hummer H2 because it's much better than a Mustang. Mustangs are so original, but Hummers are big and beefy and manly. Plus, I've always wanted to drive one, so that would be cool."



...Own a PC or Mac?

"I'm a PC kind of kid...PC's are much better than Macs because it is able to have a lot more software than Mac computers." said Nevin Cherian, senior. Cherian was a part of the Political Science class taught by Ken Boesch. He often chose to use a PC laptop over a Mac computer.



... be able to fly or teleport?

"I would fly so I could swim in the air and do something amazing that no one else can," said Andrea Williams, seventh grade.

WOULD YOU RATHER?

Ketchup or mustard on your hot dog? Black ink or a #2 pencil on your test? The movies or a football game on a date? Santa or the Easter Bunny? Fergie or Coldplay? Life was full of choices, both good and bad. Whether it was the color of your CB dress, how much homework you did, or what song you downloaded to your iPod, everyone had a choice in something. Sometimes younger students wished they could have had more choices, and some older students did not want as many.

Everyday you make decisions, some more important than others. But each has an impact on your daily life. Everyone is different, resulting in different decision making.

How do you make good decisions? "Instead of asking what is right or wrong, ask yourself what would be the wise thing to do in light of my past, my present and my future dreams," said Life Skills teacher Susan Pike. Making good decisions also depends on your source of wisdom. Gaining advice from our peers can sometimes result in faulty decisions whereas seeking advice from an adult can lead to a clearer and happier life.



... be a mouse or elephant?

"I'd be a mouse so I could go in small places and bother people. It'd be cool to go next to a person and they'd freak out," said Sheldon Gruender, seventh grade.

page credit: Ern Guthrie

... be a famous actor or a musician?

"I would choose to be an actor. I love being on stage and I have multiple personalities... I can be in a really angry mood and then change into a really nice mood on stage," said Drew Glidewell, junior.



... Be president of the United States or CEO of a super-rich oil company?

"I would rather be president because I would like to change the liberal direction the country is going. Plus, I could unite the country and get control over the big guys," said Victor Alexander, senior



... Date Joe Jonas or Zac Efron?

"Joe Jonas, because he's cuter than Zac Efron and I like his music," said Leigh-Ann Kaup, seventh grade.



... be blind to color or deaf to music?

"I'd rather be blind because I like listening to rock music too much. My favorite band is Muse," said Brian Goldfarb, freshman.



From Banquet to Bowling

Over the years, Westminster's middle school has celebrated Christmas in different ways. Until 2006, the Middle School had a Christmas banquet similar to that of the upper school. However, a new tradition has begun in the last couple of years. 2008's middle school Christmas party consisted of a shortened school day, followed by two hours of bowling. Many students enjoyed this out-of-the-ordinary experience. "I don't get to go bowling much, so it was really fun to do it at the party," said John Dohr, eighth grader.

After going bowling, the students returned to school where a variety of activities were waiting for them. While the students were gone, the teachers set up a movie room, a candy walk room, a karaoke station, a giant tricycle track, and a gym full of giant inflatable obstacle courses and games. Middle schoolers enjoyed Christmas movies like *Elf* and *Home Alone* in the science room. They walked to the melodies of Christmas carols and won candy when the music stopped. Some engaged their creative side and colored pictures of Christmas trees and snowmen. Others climbed and sparred in the new gym on the inflatable obstacle courses. Some sang karaoke, and others just enjoyed the company of their friends. Though this night evolved through the years, it remained in young minds as a night to remember.



Caroline Moore, seventh grade, Joseph Isaacs, eighth grade, Eric Shaffer, and Taylor Freiner, seventh grader, stretch to place a marker as far as they can on an inflatable obstacle course. Each player was strapped into a harness with a bungee cord attached to the back. The students then ran as hard as they could in order to place the marker at the furthest distance and win.



Nicholas Rosen, seventh grade, celebrates a victory on the sparring inflatable. This activity was popular with the boys. Since lines were so long, each pair of players were limited to one-minute sessions timed by a teacher.

Drake Norman, Bryce Bell, and Benjamin Mitchell, eighth grade, sing karaoke in the Commons. The lyrics to the songs were projected onto a large screen. This activity was so entertaining that singers often laughed more than they actually sang.



Jennifer Jurgenson, seventh grade, waits at the starting line, anticipating her race. The school rented giant tricycles for the Christmas party. A track was set up in the Old Gym for the races.



Ellen Wenning, eighth grade, wears goggles as she rounds a turn of the tricycle track. Each race consisted of two laps around the track. After the first lap, the racer was handed a pair of goggles that skewed his or her field of vision and made it harder to navigate the obstacles.



Karen Ashery
Ryan Adams
Rosemary Anderson
Eric Bell
Andrew Bateman
Dana Bentley



Carrie Beard
Cand Becker
Mary Becker
Lawrence Becker
Ken Bensch
Elizabeth Buggs



Evelyn Bowman
Sered Bradley
Joy Bransman
Susan Brown
Julia Burr
Sherry Busk



Brian Burkley
Dani Butler
Doug Butts
Pamela Byr
John Campbell
Carolin Carrington



J. Zachary Clark
Douglas Coleman
Lizak Copeland
Monique Cuzzumano
Luke Davis
Sharon Degnan



Elizabeth DeLuise
Sarah Davies
John Dickerson
Abigail Donan
Kim Doyle
Juan Dudley



Craig Dunham

Kathy Eickelinger
Lary Erdman
Traci Everett
Jim Farmer
Karin Fitzgerald
Kenny Faust



Mike Ford
Todd Fuller
Marcia Ghalston
Timothy Gibson
Michelle Gilbert
Eileen Goebel



L. B. Graham
Lauren Graham
Karen Groves
David Haas
Judy Haas
Susan Hall



Timothy Hall
Lisa Harding
Tam Havel
Susan Havenstick
Nicky Hentsley
Ann Heysa



Scott Holley
Timothy Holley
Erin Huffman
Lary Hughes
Rex Jamosh
Mark Jenitloga



David Johnson
Jeff Johnson
Peggy Johnson
Thomas Johnston
Hugh Jones
Kathleen Kangar



A Mother's NIGHTMARE

Everyone has had an occasional bruise or scratch, but these students were left with both a scar and a story.

John Shields, sophomore, had been to the emergency room seven times for various reasons. On one occasion, Shields fell off of his bike resulting in two serious injuries on his head and chin and 500 stitches.

Shields also went through another injury on a different occasion. "I was messing around in the woods and I fell off a cliff and hit my head on a rock. The surgeon said he stopped counting after 600 stitches," said Shields.

For someone that has made such frequent trips to the emergency room, his parents acted like any other. "My dad wasn't home when it happened, so my mom kind of freaked out...a lot," said Shields.

Andrea Waeckerle, senior, had a scar story of her own. During her sophomore year, an accident occurred while she was playing basketball. As a result, she tore her ACL and part of her meniscus. She had surgery on her knee and went through 6 months of physical therapy. "It was really annoying because I was only playing basketball to stay in shape for soccer," said Waeckerle.

On Waeckerle's first day back to soccer in the summer, she tore her ACL again, resulting in another surgery and 8 more months of physical therapy. "The injury wasn't as bad as the first, but I got really tired of physical therapy," said Waeckerle.

Paul Smallwood, senior, also had a scar story. Though the resulting burn scar on his hand was not quite as dramatic as the other two, his story was just as exciting. "On the 4th of July, I melted a toy soldier with a firework...I didn't really think about what it would do," said Smallwood.



The surgeon said he stopped counting after 600 stitches.

-John Shields, sophomore



I've torn my ACL twice and have gone through 14 months of physical therapy in the past two years.

-Andrea Wackerle, senior



On the 4th of July, I melted a toy soldier with a firework...I didn't really think about what it would do.

-said Paul Smallwood, senior



Forrest Hughes, junior, prepares to defend himself against Blake Anderson, junior, during a sword fight in the "The Princess Bride." It was the famous "You killed my father, prepare to die" scene.



Kimberly Peterson, senior, caresses a bullfrog during her role as a witch in "Princess Bride." Peterson had been in the Drama Club throughout much of her time at WCA.



Daniel Keith, sophomore, listens to Forrest Hughes, junior's heartbeat. Keith participated in drama plays since his first role in "The Best Christmas Pageant Ever" in eighth grade.



Paul Schmidt, junior, declares his kingly thoughts to his "wife," the queen, on stage. Schmidt's lines were delivered in gibberish. "I really enjoyed it; it did not require too much thought," said Schmidt.

"YOU KILLED MY FATHER.
PREPARE TO DIE."

Princess Bride



The Princess Bride cast takes time to pray before their dress rehearsal. Taking time to pray helped calm everyone's nerves and focus on the real reason that they were participating in the dramatic production.

Angel Street

There were not one, but two fall plays at Westminster this past year. One of them was entitled "Angel Street", and the other was "Curious Savages." Angel Street outlined the story of two children and their seemingly insane mother. The children tried throughout the whole play to get their mother committed to an insane asylum so they could inherit their money faster and thereby have control over the fortune.

"I played the part of Mrs. Manningham, the insane old lady, and it required a lot of thought and feeling which was really challenging. I really had to feel my part and act from that," said Justine Doiron, freshman. The cast had only five members, which provided ample opportunity for the members to get to know one another. "I had a lot of fun; we became really close over the course of the play," said Doiron. "I enjoyed seeing the students learn how to employ new characters and acting techniques. It made some of them really come out of their comfort zone and expand their acting ability," said Helen Scott, drama teacher and director of "Angel Street".



Margaret Johnson, sophomore, monologues during the fall play, "Curious Savage". Johnson was a proud thespian and participated in many plays, outside of school as well as in school.



Katherine Fleissner, junior, lends a sympathetic ear to Margaret Johnson, sophomore, while setting up a Parcheesi board game.



Grace Smith, junior, laughs devoutly during the dress rehearsal of the play. Smith played the role of Miss Patti, a crazy old woman. "I was a very addled old lady during my part in the play," said Smith.



Nathan Cox, sophomore, and Aaron Blackwell, senior, discuss the situation at hand during "The Curious Savage".



Katherine Fleissner, junior, sobs theatrically into her hands while Margaret Johnson, sophomore, kicks and screams on the floor. Johnson had one of the more emotional roles in the play, which required her to "lose" control at moments.

THE CURIOUS SAVAGE



Olivia Pierson, senior, listens to a friend tell a story. Max Miller, freshman, poses with Santa during Christmas Banquet as a friend takes their picture. Santa visited tables between entertainment routines talking and making jokes. Many eager students asked Santa to take a picture with them.



Anthony Thompson, Kristen George, Rhoda Baker, juniors, and Erinn Flowers, sophomore, take a picture with a group of friends. After the Banquet, Baker and her friends went to the after party and had a sleepover. "This year's Christmas Banquet was a lot more fun than my freshman year," said Baker.



Rebecca Lambert, sophomore, empties a vase that served as a centerpiece for a table at the Christmas banquet. All STUCO members were required to stay after the banquet was over to clean up.



Chloe Carnahan, freshman, Joseph Pollman and Karen Girgis, seniors, chat with a group of friends. Carnahan's date was Caleb Winter, freshman. Pollman asked Katherine Kennison, senior, and Girgis went with Matthew Thampy, senior. "It was really fun to spend time with all my friends at the Banquet," said Carnahan.



Nick O'Neal, junior, cleans up the stage after the banquet. O'Neal was part of the AV club since his freshman year. Even on a social evening AV club members made sure things went well with the sound and video.



Gordon Younkin, freshman, carries decorations after the conclusion of the banquet. Having been a freshman, it was Younkin's first year on STUCO. STUCO members began planning Christmas banquet at the student leadership retreat on August 7th. Leah Gruneisen, sophomore, chats with friends after the conclusion of the banquet.



Jessa Mourey, freshman, laughs with a friend after Christmas Banquet. Sarah Fullerton, senior, sings "Silver Bells" after dinner. Fullerton had been singing since her sophomore year in Westminster's concert and chamber choirs. "I wish I could have been a part of it longer, but my schedule didn't leave room," said Fullerton.

Sean O'Neill, freshman, folds up a microphone stand from the stage. The AV club played a major role in the Banquet's entertainment. They ran sound, lights, and videos and helped to make the night a success.

Alexis Grasse and Justine Doiron, freshman, try to decide which dessert to choose. The dessert menu consisted of a variety of cheesecakes and chocolate cake. For dinner, students ate caesar salad, stuffed chicken breasts, cooked vegetables and roasted potatoes.

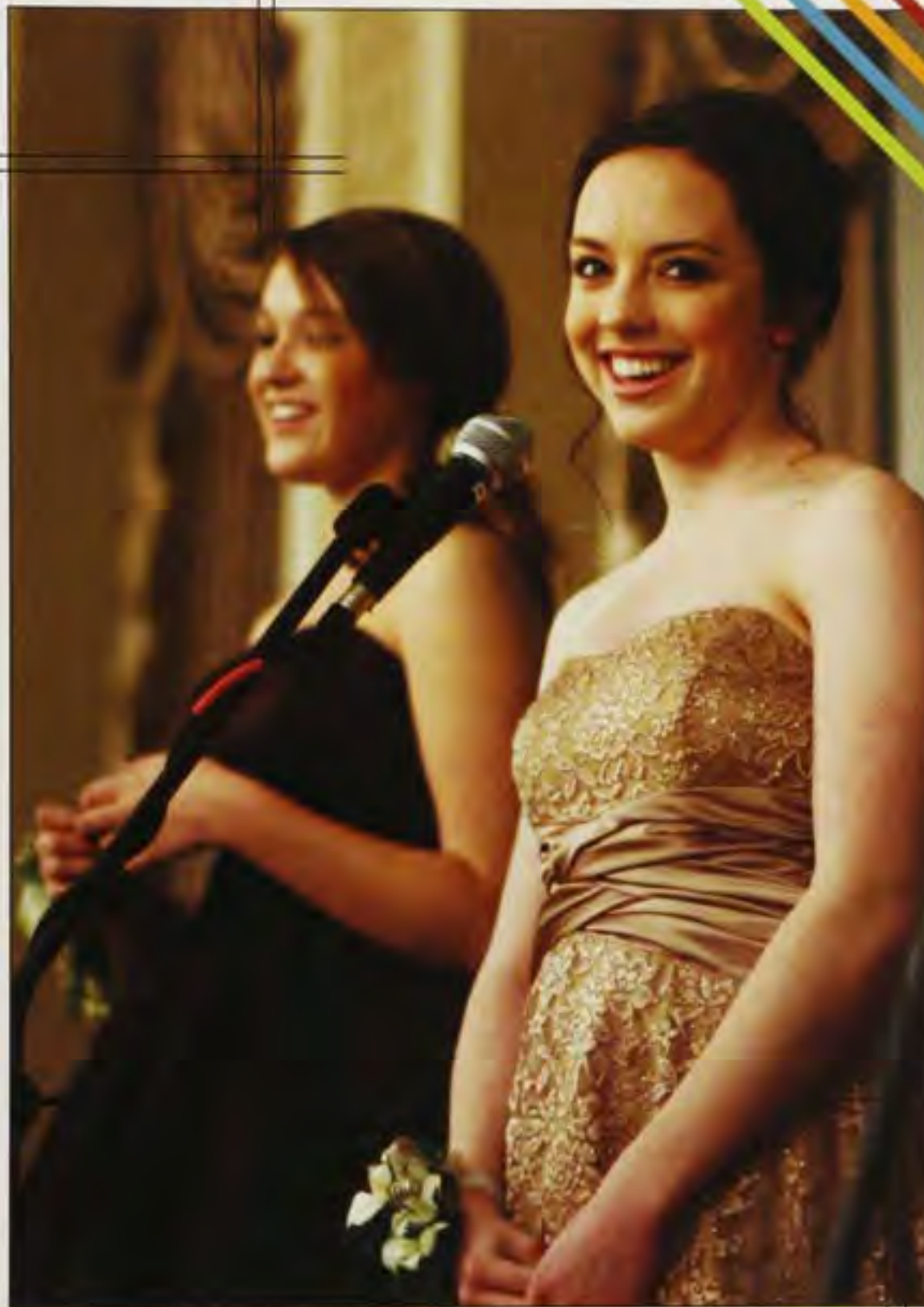
Change of Pace

Each year after Christmas Banquet, the familiar sound of complaints can be heard throughout the halls of Westminster. Students have created the trend of complaining about the banquet's entertainment. Common critiques included technical difficulties, sound problems, and the entertainment being boring, dumb, or not funny.

However, this year, the entertainment surpassed all guests' expectations. Throughout the night, Santa visited tables and talked with students. Several students provided melodies for the student body through song. A barbershop quartet made up of Daniel Alexander, David Alexander, Ben Arndt, and Jimmy Myers, juniors sang "Joy to the World." The Alexander brothers also performed "Mary Did You Know," and David tap danced to "Charlie Brown's Christmas." Kaitlin Harding, Laura Barbiea, and Sarah Fullerton, seniors, performed "Silver Bells."

In addition, the movie put together by STUCO, starring Aaron Blackwell and Paige Norman, received rave reviews. The film took the viewers through Blackwell's high school years of trying to get a date to the Banquet. The movie ended with a scene outside another prospective date's house. In the scene Blackwell climbs in the window and is shocked to find himself in the bedroom of Florence Lewis, Latin teacher.

Any sacrifices that students had to make turned out for the best. "I thought the movie was hilarious," said Chloe Carnahan, freshman.



Kaitlin Harding and Laura Barbiea, seniors, sing "Silver Bells" as part of the evening's entertainment

social

Developing the relationships

Suzanne Weston, Rebecca Zandstra, Kelly Penning, and Madison Nye, Juniors, cheer for David Alexander, junior, tap dancing and Aaron Krumsieg, junior, playing the trumpet during neighborhoods in the commons.



Bailey Benes, Megan Tilley, and Alexis Harvey, eighth grade, karaoke in the commons after bowling with their class during the Middle School Christmas Banquet.

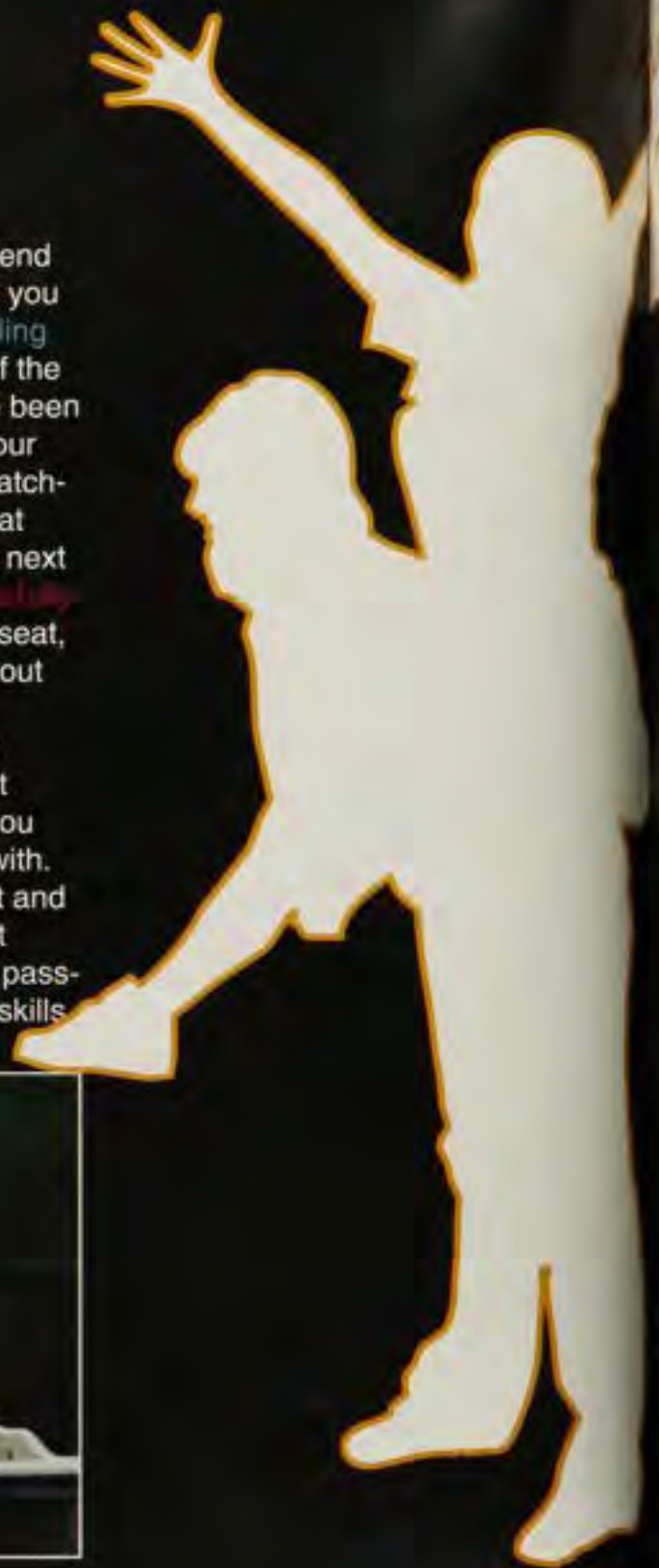


Class seems **endless** as you text your friend to save you a spot at lunch. As the bell rings you prepare to weave your way through the **bustling** hallway, eagerly trying to beat the back-up of the lunch line. Today is pizza day and you have been **anticipating** lunch for the past four hours. Your best friend finds you in the lunch line and snatches a bite of your pizza. The two of you look at each other in relief as you walk to your table next to the lunchroom entrance; you have **successfully** defeated the irritating lunch line. You take a seat, joining your friends in eating and chatting about weekend plans.

Lunch is one of the only times during the day you can **catch up** with friends throughout your demanding school day. It is a time for you to see friends you do not have any classes with. Your friends discuss **plans** to go see Twilight and spend the night together. Your **endeavors** at Westminster are about much more than just passing tests and quizzes, but developing social skills through **relationships**.



Danielle Evans, Avery Anderson, and Madeleine Smith, freshmen, paddleboat during the leadership retreat before the beginning of school. Anderson lost her flip flop after Evans threw it out of the paddle boat. Anderson had to paddle to it to retrieve it before it floated away.





Brittney Hough, Nevin Cherian, and Seth Lillenberg, seniors, meet at Crazy Bowls and Wraps after working at senior service.

Interviews



Laura Kaup, sophomore, paints a scene of flowers during her seventh hour watercolor class. They used a technique called wet-on-wet to spread the lighter colors first and then darker.



Iryoung Jang, freshman, plays the cello during the Christmas Concert on December 11th. All three choirs, the band and the orchestra performed on that night.

Joseph Greenlee, senior, plays a game during the December 5th improv night. The improv team split up into a blue team and a white team in order to compete in comedy games for a trophy.



Matthew Baldwin, sophomore, performs with the pep band. The pep band played music to get the crowd pumped up at home games. The cheerleaders and dance team choreographed line dances to their music.



Jacob Yousef, senior, and Jacob Dahl, junior, sing Christmas songs to those studying in the commons. The concert choir traveled down the school halls singing in preparation for an upcoming concert.



The Birthplace of Jazz

Nerves raced through the minds of every band member as they prepared to play at Missouri Baptist University's music festival for the first time. This concert helped prepare them for their band trip to New Orleans, Louisiana, the city known as the birthplace of jazz.

While in New Orleans the band performed for professors at Loyola University. The band prepared for evaluations at the University level by touring elementary schools such as Central Christian School, Kirk of the Hills, and Twin Oaks. This year, the logo on the band's t-shirts read, "Take a stand, you've got the band." All members of the band were busy in March with competitions and tours. Each performance they gave was unique and special to the audience.

Although they played a different genre of music, the jazz band joined the entire high school band on its trip to New Orleans. The two upper school jazz bands had the opportunity to meet with a Loyola University professor who helped them perfect their music through critiquing. "It's really cool to go to New Orleans to play because there is so much jazz history in that city," said Matthew Baldwin, sophomore. In order to prepare for this trip both bands practiced daily after school.

The band members excelled as individuals this year as well. Aaron Krumseig, junior, made state first chair trumpet and also played in the St. Louis Junior Symphony Orchestra. Many band members also made all-district band. Alek Miller, Philip Haas, seniors, Aaron Krumsieg, Andrew Kouba, Jacob Dahl, juniors, and William Serber, sophomore, all received honors. Baldwin was selected for the second chair alto saxophone in the District Jazz Band. Jennifer Thompson, senior, Leah Younkin, junior, and Drew Hillemeier, Gordon Younkin, and Inyoung Jang, freshmen, also excelled at the All-District Orchestra level.



The Fine Arts Department prepares students to explore the gifts that God has given them outside the academic world. Christopher Bishop, senior, plays the clarinet. Paul Schmidt, junior, entertains the crowd at an improv performance. James Myers, junior, carols through the halls with the rest of the choir. Sarah Dickerson, senior, prepares her paint. Susan Horak, junior, creates an imaginary animal during art. Robert Tague, sophomore plays the trumpet during the Christmas Concert. Landon Burke, freshman, plays the bass with the pep band. Zachary Hanson, junior, participates in a game with his improv team.

Learning to "Cry Wolf"

The drama room began to feel stuffier than usual as eighth grade students filed in for their first day of drama class. Most students had already taken drama in seventh grade, but silence still permeated the air as students took their seats with anticipation. Helen Scott, drama teacher, broke the awkwardness by introducing their first drama game: Cry Wolf. "Every time Mrs. Scott calls our name for attendance we have to act out according to the theme for that day. Depending on how well we act we receive one or two points. The first day of drama we had to cry like a wolf," said Christian Thompson, eighth grade.

After every student had a chance to "cry wolf" the class split off into pairs. Scott then demonstrated how to act out fighting techniques on stage. Throughout this "Violence Week" students practiced techniques on each other. First, students learned how to act as if they were being choked. Many believed that choking was a short act, but students learned that it was one of the longest ways to act out death on stage. "We also learned how to make it look like we were shooting each other on stage. After that we learned how to make it look like we were being stabbed. That was the easiest thing to learn," said Ellie Wenning, eighth grade.

Throughout the week students practiced these new fighting techniques on their partners. At the end of the week students were evaluated on stage in front of the class on how well they had learned their new skills. For some, this was frightening, while for others it was enjoyable.

After six weeks of learning the students performed a final short play for their class to demonstrate the new skills they had learned. "The class was split into different groups and we did different fairy tales. My group performed The Three Little Pigs," said Taylor Cole, eighth grade.

While seventh and eighth grade students were learning fighting techniques in the little theatre upstairs, students downstairs were drawing and working with multiple colors. Donald Tiermeier, art teacher, first taught the students basic 2-D drawing. Students then learned how to draw 3-D and practiced by drawing the hallways. At the end of six weeks students drew self-portraits of themselves.

Art and drama were classes where students could take a break from the usual academics to learn about the Arts. From learning how to act out a bloody feud to drawing a still life, middle schoolers had the opportunity to take a break from their usual academics through encore classes.



Bennett Lewis, Elizabeth Hearne, Hannah Mitchell, Janay Hardy, Tomorrow Mundy, Joshua Ortiz, Samuel Canfield, Christopher Cacciarelli, Bryce Bell, and Travis Brandt, eighth grade, all participate in encore classes. Every morning students headed off to either Art, Drama, Band or Choir classes. After six weeks in each encore, students would have the choice to participate in a different one.



Janay Hardy, eighth grade, acts as if she has been punched in drama class. This is one of the many fighting techniques students learned during "Violence Week". Students learned how to act out slapping, shooting, stabbing, and choking each other.

Timothy Wilcox, eighth grade, measures proportions in art class for his dimension project. Students learned how to use rulers to draw 2-D dimensional drawings of their houses.



After a short skit Madison Drury, Leah Janssen, and Kathryn Boesch, eighth grade, laugh together. The three girls had to use the fighting techniques they learned in drama previous weeks to make it seem as if they had got into a brawl.



Taylor Cole, eighth grade, measures beats on a drum in Choir. The class used various instruments to learn rhythm and beat.



Michael Nothum, eighth grade, acts like he has been stabbed in drama class by clutching his chest and falling to the ground. The class learned how to act with a series of "John Wayne" techniques. Students also practiced how to fake a shooting, another well-known violent tactic.



Artists in the Making: The WCA Graphic Arts Club

A member of the graphic arts club points out her handwork on the Spirit Week brochure. This was just one of the many ways the club used their designing abilities to help the school. They also designed posters for plays, such as the Princess Bride.



Kathleen Talent, sophomore, works on a Photoshop drawing during a lunch meeting in Ellen Robb computer teacher's room. Much of the club's work involved using Photoshop and Adobe InDesign. They usually hand-drew their ideas and scanned them into the computer, and worked on them from there.

Ashley Lokey, sophomore, and president of the Graphic Arts Club, discusses a new design with the group during the same lunch meeting. This was her first year as president of the club; previously, Kathleen Talent, sophomore, had been president.

Creating photoshop images, discussing anime shows, and generating media for the school were some of the Graphic Arts Club's favorite things to do during meetings. Many of the posters seen around school and booklets handed out throughout the year were due to the hard work of the Graphic Arts Club.

Club members stayed after school to work on designs together. "We talk with Spirit Club and Drama Club," said Sarah Davis, sophomore, "and they basically tell us what to design and stuff, like posters or booklets. Another thing we do is bring our own drawings and play with them in Photoshop during our meetings, so that's fun. We just started working on our spring musical designs. This year, we really started doing more for the school. Our work is actually starting to pile up, since we have several plays coming up to do posters for. I'm excited to see what the rest of the year brings," said Ashley Lokey, sophomore and club president.



Pep Band

"When I start playing the music for the game, I can literally feel the energy and spirit in the gym. That's probably my favorite thing about it."

-William Serber, sophomore

Pep Band

They were always there, sitting on the bleachers that faced the west side of the new gym. Pep Band continued to add excitement to the basketball games this past year by adding a little extra noise to the gym. Students were seen dancing and clapping along to the songs the band played during basketball time-outs. The Pep Band was comprised of band members who wanted to volunteer a little extra time out of their evenings to show support for their sports teams. Members could often be seen entering the gym with the same instruments that they played in band.

"We practice the songs that we play at the games during band class. Then on the night of the game we bring snacks and play our music to get the crowd into the game," said Evan Miller, freshman. Basketball fans became familiar with the songs that the band played and could be seen clapping along to the beat. The Cheerleaders and dance team also coordinated with the Pep Band to organize sideline routines to entertain the crowd. "The songs we play are things like 'I'm a Tiger' and other 'wild catty' songs like that. We mainly play 70's and 80's retro music during the games," said Cooper Dunlap, sophomore.



Evan Miller, freshman, plays the saxophone for the pep band during the Blue and White basketball game in October. Miller played for the jazz band and regular band as well.



James Richardson, freshman



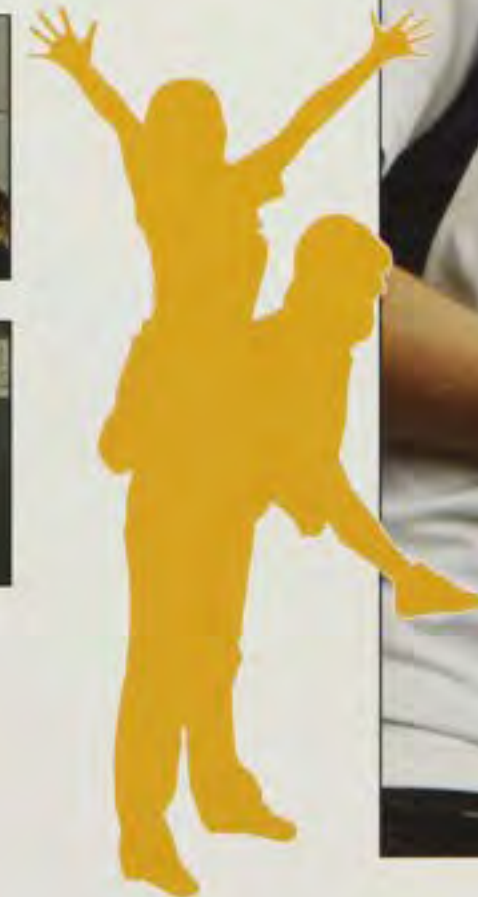
Aaron Krumseig, junior



Richard Mansfield, junior, plays his saxophone during his daily band practice. "The room can be kind of crazy and hectic," said Hugh Jones, band teacher; however, after they were warmed up and ready, they played together harmoniously.



Matthew Sugg, sophomore



Jacob Dahl, junior, plays his trombone before the Spirit Week night basketball game. Pep band members practiced after school and in band class to prepare for the big game.



Drama Club



"I love the feeling of responsibility that I have as president of the drama club. I also like getting people who normally would not be involved in drama into the club."

-Alayna Doiron, senior

Drama Club



Andrew Waeckerle, sophomore, and Hannah Victor, senior, pretend to wait past their "daughter's" curfew during a Drama 2 performance in chapel.

Shelby Massot, junior, parodies an overachieving student during the class' production in chapel. Massot was a member of Drama Club and starred in many plays, in addition to being on the Improv team.

Joseph Minella, senior, discusses the power of the magic water bottle during the chapel. The theme of this chapel was "second chances". Everyone was given a second chance during their vignette because of a "genie", played by Minella. He would come in and give them a water bottle full of magic liquid that rewound their previous actions and gave them a chance to start over again.

Lacinta Chard, junior, gives advice to her friend via her cell phone during chapel. Many Drama Club members often took Drama 1 or 2 twice because they enjoyed being able to express themselves theatrically; plus the classes were often never the same, so each time could be a new experience.

Thespians, Unite!



Elizabeth Korb, junior, prepares to mix paint for the set of the Princess Bride. The scenery ranged from regal castle walls to torture chambers that required many shades of paint to create. Nicholas O'Neil, junior, steadies a wood frame before drilling a hole in it. Zachary Hanson, junior, makes an effort to hold his drill steady while drilling holes in preparation for wheels.



Making Life a Pretty Stage:

WCA SET CLUB

"I really enjoy seeing all our sets come together for a play after school. Students hauled in buckets of paint and thin sheets of plywood, and made small talk about the upcoming play and the new set they needed to build."

-Ana Tanner, junior

Set Club

The smell of aging paint and musty wood filled the Old Gym on a Friday after school. Students hauled in buckets of paint and thin sheets of plywood, and made small talk about the upcoming play and the new set they needed to build.

Creating the sets was an exciting process, one that took months of preparation and assembly.

"Well, we find out what the play is. Then we go to Mrs. Scott or Mrs. Klemm so they can tell us what they need the set to look like. Then we start building it and painting it. We're usually done with it a week before the opening night of the play," said Zachary Hanson, junior.

If the play was not being performed at Westminster the crew would take the partially assembled set to the venue and set it up there. While frustrating at times, set club was also very rewarding to some people. "My favorite part is dismantling the set after the play's over. It takes a really long time to get the set ready and it can be frustrating sometimes, so I always enjoy destroying it or taking it apart," said Hanson.





AV A Power Struggle?

CLUB What if the words didn't show up on the screen? What if it took ten minutes extra to get the speakers loud enough for everyone to hear? Would Mr. Kim's laptop get stuck in a loop? Did the guest speaker have his microphone on? Would the aging soundboard cooperate? These are only some of the questions that the Audio Visual club prepared for and dealt with each day. The members of the club were responsible for every function of the school that required audio-visual equipment, from Spirit Week to chapel on Wednesdays. AV club members often attended chapel band meetings to plan out the PowerPoint slides and the sound for the speakers. Whether it was filming the lip sync competitions or frantically racing to fix the speakers, the AV club was always ready for every challenge that came their way.



Erica Baker, junior, prepares to drill a hole in the wall of one of the sets. If the current play took place at a different venue, the set club installed wheels on the bottom of each section in order to make transportation easier.

Taylor Brandt, junior, operates a camera during the Monday spirit week assembly festivities. Brandt had been on the club since he was a freshman. The AV club shot Spirit Week videos that were available to order later on in the year.



*"I mainly do sound for chapel and stuff like that. One of the harder things about AV is that it is a big-time commitment, but I love it."
-Hannah Fletcher, senior*

AV Club

More Than Donuts



"It was hard to get my girls to open up at first, but as the year went on, we got closer and had tons of fun together."

- Deborah Knubley, senior

Peer Counselors



Natalie Bell, eighth grade, decorates cookies during her junior peer counselor's group Christmas party. The Junior PC's met with their groups every other Wednesday before school. On certain occasions, such as Christmas, some groups go together and celebrated with lots of food and fun to share.

Seventh grade is all about new experiences; the students are at a new school, have new friends, new teachers and classes, and also have a new peer counselor with his or her own preference as to what the best morning food is. "When I bring donuts to the meetings, usually about half of them wind up smashed on the floor or on the other side of the commons. The kids I have in my group this year are rambunctious, but they've taught me a lot," said Benjamin Becker, senior.

Peer counseling groups, or "PC" groups, were groups of seven or eight seventh grade students who were assigned to a senior mentor. The Junior peer counseling groups, or "JPC" groups, were groups assigned to junior mentors. The senior peer counselors met with their seventh grade groups every Tuesday while the Junior peer counselors met with their eighth grade students every other week on Wednesdays. Being a PC was rough for some juniors and seniors, but most agreed that being in this type of leadership role was rewarding.

Many PCs and JPCs took their kids somewhere outside of school for a fun extracurricular activity. "Three of us guy junior PCs took our groups to Centreat Park, right next to the new Westminster campus, and had an airsoft war. It was awesome! We had camouflage war paint all over our faces and were decked out in our padded gear ready to take on the eighth graders," said John Kehr, junior. Though there were times that frustrated the PCs and JPCs, the unique and entertaining experiences made the rough times worth it.



Aaron Geesey, seventh grade, looks behind him nervously before taking on the trust fall. During the seventh grade retreat, games such as the trust fall caused the students to work as a team and allowed them to get to know each other better.



Annabeth Canfield, Delaney Haynes, and Rebecca Sharpe, seventh grade, participate in a game of Red Rover. Being outside in the fresh air gave the seventh graders the chance to let out all their energy while participating in team building activities.



Esther McGowan, seventh grade, tries to button up an oversized jacket while holding up an adult-sized pair of pants. The dress up relay race was a fun and exciting game among both the kids and their peer counselors.



Kristine Maxey, seventh grade, falls into the arms of her classmates while participating in the trust fall. The seventh graders were pushed to new limits during their retreat with their peer counselors. The games they participated in were fun yet tough.





Ema Baumgartner, Jessica Wydrzynski, Melissa Kingma, and Sarah Leventhagen, eighth grade, leap into the air like superheroes taking off from the ground to fly. These four girls, as well as many other eighth grade students enjoyed fun moments such as this all throughout the day during their retreat with their junior peer counselors.



Jensen Holt, seventh grade, Madison Deves, seventh grade, and Kristin Rosen, senior pray together to end their meeting one Tuesday morning. Peer counselors and junior peer counselors were not only mentors because of their age, but they were spiritual mentors to the seventh and eighth graders as well.



Mitchell Maglione, seventh grade, arranges small sticks into a pattern in a game that his PC group is playing. The seventh grade class used their brain power to figure out some brain teasers and to untangle the human knot that they were put in.



Robert Rasche, Christopher Meeks, Corey Falkner, seventh grade, and Matthew Reilly, senior, sit in the commons and discuss topics that are important in their lives. PC meetings were a great way to get to know some seventh graders better by learning about their history and their strengths and weaknesses.



Kyle Cline, seventh grader, sits on Brennen Grone, senior's, shoulders and smiles as he covers his eyes. Many of the seventh graders enjoyed the chance to come out of their comfort zones by spending time with seniors who showed them numerous fun activities and crazy games.





Richard Copeland, junior, does his homework in his mother's office. Copeland used his mother's office frequently to do work on his studies. "While the P.E. class went bowling, I stayed here to finish up some homework," Copeland said.



Calvin Boesch, senior, Kathryn Boesch, 8th grade, and Ken Boesch, teacher, have a family Rock Band session. Although Calvin played the drums, the family rotated around so each member got a turn at each instrument.



Brooke Cusumano, 8th grade, gets a bag of snacks from her mom, Monique Cusumano, nurse. Having a parent work at school gave Brooke the opportunity to get some food in case of a hunger emergency.

Hunger

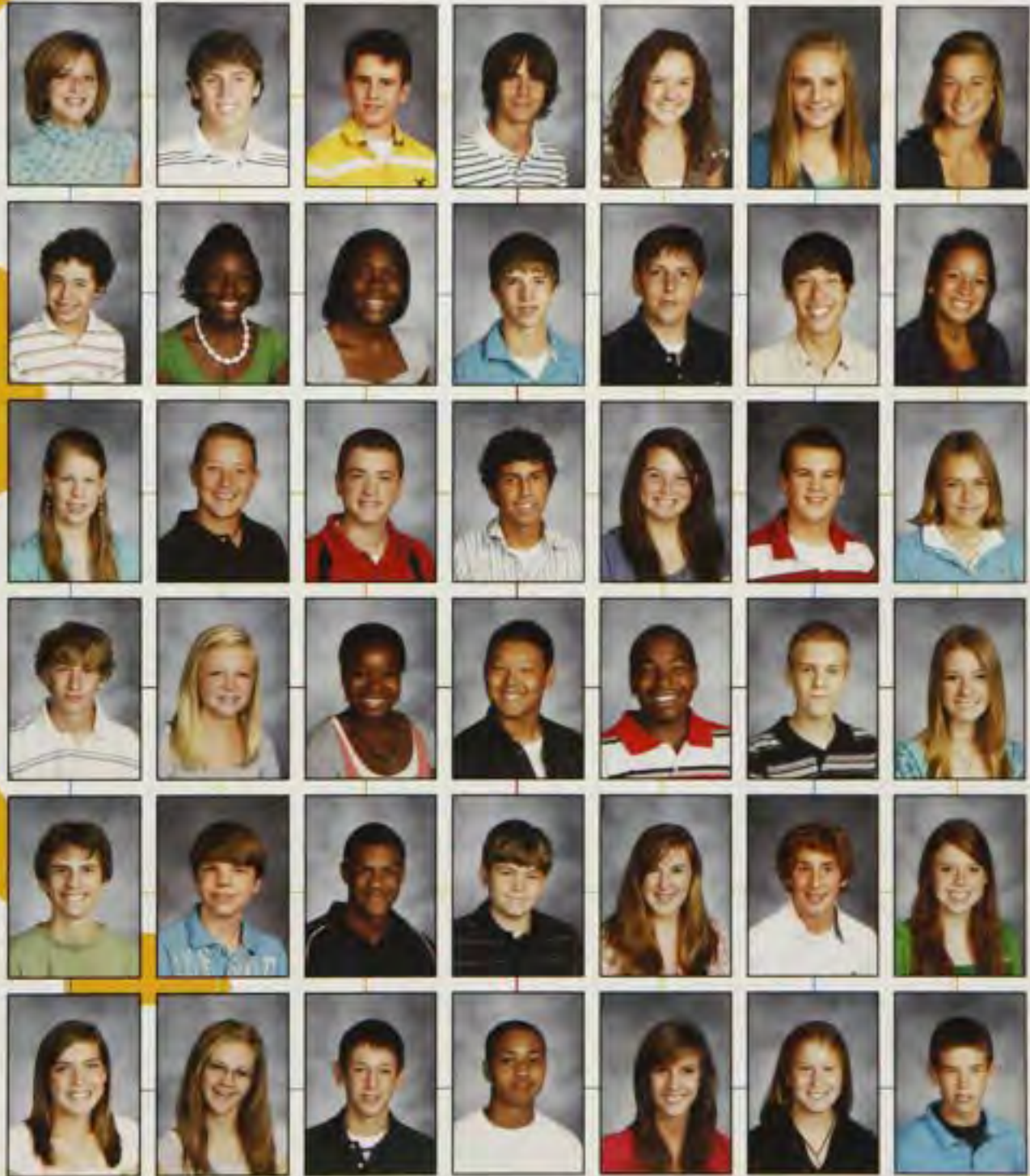
HOTLINE

Your heart starts to race and sweat drips down the side of your face as that low rumble begins in the bottom of your stomach. The words echo throughout your head: I forgot my lunch. Suddenly, school work and education seems dwarfed by this crisis. "If that happens you just kind of hope that your friends will let you mooch off of them," said Andrew Woss, junior.

However, there were a select few who did not have to resort to this mooching method when their food was forgotten. These students were known as "the sons/daughters of a faculty member". There were a few options when it came to a forgotten lunch. The first method was the easiest for the parent and their son/daughter. When the parent was confronted with this teenage crisis, a crisp five dollar bill would slide out of the wallet and find itself placed into the hand of the teenager. The teenager's eyes would start to water as he/she seemingly sucked up to parent, but once out of sight, a mischevious grin would appear on the students face. Victory.

The second method was a little more tedious, but was quite less expensive. The parent could painlessly drive back home to pick up that brown paper bag that was full of nutritious, yet somewhat bland food, as it sat forgotten on the kitchen counter. The student would receive the bag somewhat reluctantly.

And thus, the crisis was averted and the day returned to its repetitive cycle. Food was not the only advantage when it came to having a parent a few steps away. Homework and other teacher relations were all positive sides to having a parent on faculty. These students took the slight embarrassment that came with being related to faculty and used it to their advantage.



Amy Anderson
Dylan Arntsen
Ricky Arntsen
Sarael Barrios
Rachel Becken
Bryce Brown
Megan Dell

Samuel Desjak
Cindy Blanchard
Jovica Blanchard
Taylor Bookout
Jonathan Bopp
Steven Bosch
Andrew Bradley

Laura Brandt
Austin Brown
Matthew Bruggen
Jacob Burke
Taylor Buch
Landon Burke
Alexandra Carlson

Glen Cullen
Chloe Cameron
Selah Chapman
Jae Hwan Chung
Cameron Clay
Joseph Collins
Elin Dix

Austin Gray
Caleb Darr
Keith Deibel
Marshall Dickerson
Justin Dismen
Peter Duell
Elizabeth Duesenberg

Margaret Duffy
Danielle Dystra
Connor Einertson
Harold Ellis
Danielle Evans
Amelia Farquhar
Connor Fleming

Anna Franceschi
 Wesley Franceschi
 Alexander Frogge
 Katherine Gannight
 Gregory Gannon
 Rachel Gardner
 Samantha Gähler



Brian Goldfarb
 Andrew Gordon
 Andrea Graeber
 Alexis Gräble
 Henry Grossbeck
 Ramya Gustafson
 Brandon Halenrichter



Jessy Hall
 Laura Halmlain
 Zachariah Hampton
 John Harzock
 Olivia Handler
 Marissa Harjo
 Rachel Hart



Brittany Hawkins
 Ryan Hazel
 Tiffany Hennings
 Andrew Hillenmeyer
 Hannah Hoxzema
 Jessica Hoff
 Elise Huffman



John Hughes
 Steven Hughes
 Evan James
 Inyoung Jang
 Caleb Janssen
 Maya Johnson
 Peter Johnson



Adrienne Kaup
 Robert Kinsinger
 Melina
 Knoppenberger
 Louis Khors
 Rebecca Krasins
 Kelsey Leib
 Abigail Leibovich



on the road... again?

As seventh graders were bundled up in their scarves and gloves, they waited in the brisk air outside the Commons for their carpool to come retrieve them. All of a sudden, some drivers who were noticeably younger than the typical soccer mom were seen in the carpool line. The seventh graders gazed in envy upon the seniors and juniors in their toasty warm cars, rocking out to the radio and already on their way home.

Many upperclassmen started to take driving for granted as they grew older, and it was sometimes hard to remember the times when they couldn't just hop in their car and jet off to Starbucks whenever they had the taste for a latte. Typically, juniors and seniors drove themselves to their sporting events, friends' houses, and even just home from school. However, students under the age of fifteen couldn't even operate a car with the supervision of a parent because they were too young to obtain a permit. These students talked about their futures as drivers to their many experiences on the road.

"I really want to drive so I can go to my friends' houses with out my parents or sister having to drive me."

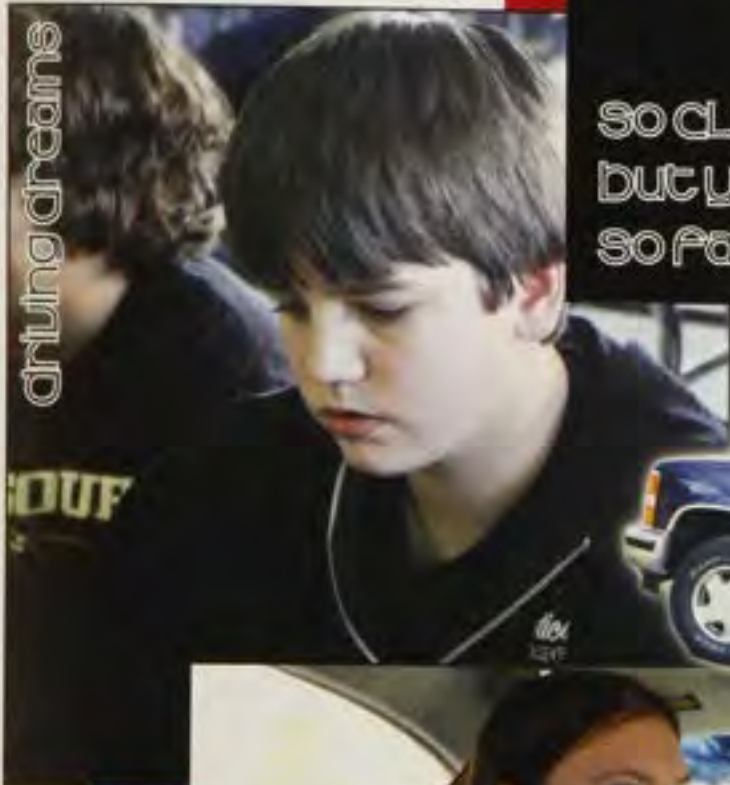
-Edward Canfield, 7th grade

so close
but yet
so far

"When I got my permit, I wanted to make sure I looked good in my picture. But I just couldn't wait to drive at all, even if it is with my mom in the front seat."

-Danielle Evans, freshman

driving dreams



"I feel like it's kind of close but too far away to be excited about it."

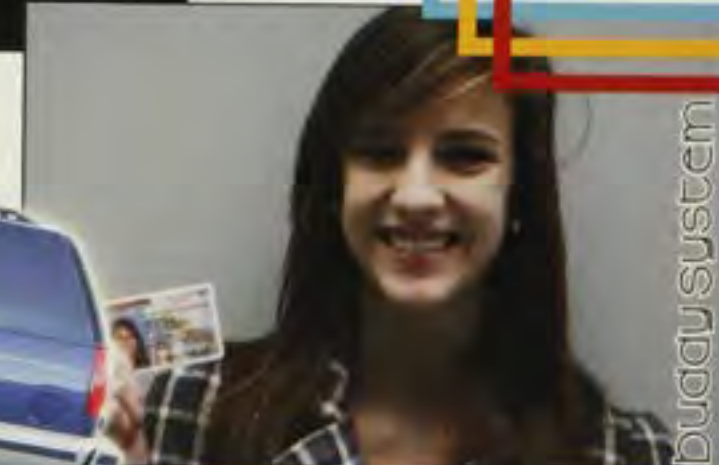
-Natalie Bell, 8th grade



"The thing I have the hardest time with when I drive is maintaining the speed limit."

-Michael Koebbe, junior

buddysystem



the old pro

"I love having senior privilege so I can leave during lunch and study hall. It's also great not to have to wait for parents to pick you up either."

-Brittany Maass, senior

Learning the ropes



"I took a drivers ed class this summer. The first time I was out with my class, I jumped the curb on the way into a drive-through."

-Haley Betlach, sophomore

the newbie



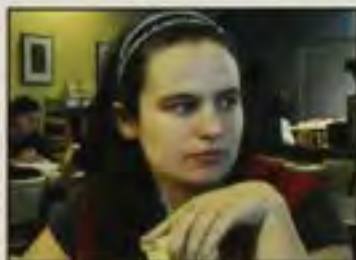
Phillip Binkholder, senior, lounges on a couch while watching Sunday afternoon football. "I really enjoy football and I tend to watch it a lot after church every week," said Binkholder. Many families watched football with their friends and cheered for their favorite teams.



"Sunday afternoons are my naptime!" said Karen Girgis, senior. After being sleep deprived during the long school week, a number of students chose to catch up on their rest on Sunday afternoons.



Robert Thompson, senior, plays air hockey against Phillip Binkholder, senior, at a friend's house.



Kimberly Peterson, senior, looks out the window at Qdoba waiting for a friend to meet her after the morning church service. Going out with friends was a popular past time for many students.



"I sometimes read a good book on Sundays because it's a peaceful day during the week and I actually have time to read," said Amanda Schaffner, senior.



Katherine Kennison adds soy sauce to her favorite Chinese meal at Pei Wei. "Usually, my family and I go out to eat after church. We sometimes go to unique places like Thai restaurants, Chinese restaurants, or even seafood restaurants," said Kennison.

Olivia Girgis, sophomore, Sarah Hall, junior, and Hayden Lewis, junior, play Nerts at their youth leader's house before youth group. Many students played crazy games such as this among other activities before going to youth group on Sunday night.

Sunday Driving

The music blared through the speakers as Sara Taylor Sharpe, senior, took a drive on a cool Sunday afternoon. Sharpe, along with other seniors, knew how to kick back and relax on Sunday afternoons every week. Students often participated in activities such as taking naps, going out to eat, watching television shows, going to the movies, hanging out with friends, going to youth group, and playing videogames.

"I know I should take a break from working, but I do homework on Sundays," said Rebecca Lambert, sophomore. There has always been a tug-o-war between these two ways to spend Sunday afternoons. What was supposed to be a day of rest for Lambert and others turned into another school day. Most students admitted to devoting time to homework, whether it was writing papers or doing calculus homework, as a part of their Sunday schedule.

"As long as students take time out one day a week to focus on God and spend time resting and building relationships with others in the church, it is not wrong to work on Sundays," said Emily Beerbower, senior. Mondays brought homework as another responsibility to take care of, and it was difficult for students to find time for a break. "Saturdays are the only 'break day' of the week when we don't have to go to school the next day. Because of this, we push off the work we have to do until Sunday because it's due the following day and it's the last time we have to do it," said Beerbower.

The tension between working and resting caused much debate among students and some chose to work, leaving no room for rest. Whether Sunday afternoons were spent working or relaxing, students always had this one day to take a break from their regular rituals of the weekdays.

"A lot of times on Sunday afternoons I get in my car, turn on my music, start driving and see where it takes me," said Sara Taylor Sharpe, senior.



Robert Lindgren
Elizabeth Lintell
Elyseann Logan
Brendan Loveland
Alexander Loynd
Joveth Manno

Kristy Mathis
Michael Matheny
Margaret Moore
Bryn Miska
Jeffrey Moyer
Aerin Miller

Evan Miller
Max Miller
Spencer Moberg
Margaret Moore
Jessa Murray
Seth Muzart

Andrew Munoz
Morgan Nelson
Morgan Nixon
Nicholas Norman
Forest Oberhaus
Kevin O'Leary

Kristen O'Leary
Sean O'Neill
Jessica Owens
Darin Payne
Rachel Pinsky
Courtney Powell

Anthony Prichett
Amanda Radach
Graham Ralls
Nicholas Ramo
Megan Rasche
Jacqueline Rea

Samuel Reeves
Steven
Richardson
Noah Roberts
Rebecca Rogers
David Rohlfing
Jonathan Roth



Alex Rumsey
Aurlanna
Salem-Turvo
Grant Shaffer
Jocelyn Shreffelt
Madeleine Smith
Brent Stump



Connor Sullivan
Timothy Svoboda
Brandon Terfouse
David Thomas
Caroline
Thompson
Tinsia Tisuel



Luke Turner
Kevin
Vande Kamp
Davis Vermillion
Isaac Wachsmuth
Rebecca Waller
Rebecca Weiss



Dillon Williams
Joshua Wilson
Caseb Winter
Victoria Wood
Lucy Wynn
Brian Yeager Junior



James Young
Gordon Yourkin
Brittany
Zee-Cheng



Ryan Kirkland, lead singer of *Between the Trees*, plays *White Lines* and *Red Lights* in Kansas City. Rebekah Boesch and Karen Munoz, sophomores, traveled to Kansas City in early October to see the band. There were several other bands playing that night to raise money for the organization *To Write Love on Her Arms*.



Alex Cole, senior, chats with another student before her oil painting class. Cole went to the Lil Wayne concert in August with Kristen George, junior. "He was so good live. He played for a really long time. Music is so much better live because you can see the emotion in the artists face," said Cole.



The Listening opens for *Between the Trees* in Kansas City. Behind the band was a screen that displayed strobe lights and played videos. The tickets cost twelve dollars per person at the door to raise money for a charity.

Better than the Radio

You scream at the top of your lungs, lifting your hands in the air, awaiting an encore. The crowd begins to chant together as the heels of your feet ache from standing up the past two hours. You struggle to breathe as smoky air fills your lungs. As you look around you see people everywhere. Your body is touching at least two complete strangers. The pit is completely full. People are waiting in line to try and shove their way through the crowd to the front of the pit. Tonight the Pageant concert venue is jam packed to see The Kooks.

Two years ago Paige Speights, senior, heard The Kooks on the radio for the first time. The band originated in the United Kingdom and stopped to play in St. Louis during their American tour. Their latest CD, *Konk*, was released in 2008 and went straight to the UK top album chart. For Speights concerts were a regular ritual throughout her high school experience. "I skipped Christmas Banquet my sophomore year to go see Muse," said Speights. In October Speights drove down to the Delmar Loop with friends to enjoy a night of music by one of her favorite musicians. "Music is so much better live than on the radio. It makes you appreciate it so much more," said Speights.

The Pageant was one of the many concert venues in St. Louis. When the weather was warm many could find Westminster students flocking the Verizon Wireless Amphitheatre's outdoor concert venue. Live music filled the ears of almost 21,000 fans on July 3rd as John Mayer played on a Thursday night. Concerts gave students the opportunity to listen to their favorite artists live and enjoy time with friends outside of school.

page credit: Chelsea Call

The List

- LI Wayne - August 30th
- Vampire Weekend - September 10th
- Maroon 5 - September 27th
- The Kooks - October 7th
- Death Cab for Cutie - October 13th
- Rise Against - November 16th
- Jason Mraz - November 23rd
- The Faint - December 12th
- Ludo - December 28th
- LI Wayne again! - January 9th
- Keller Williams - February 21st
- Yonder Mountain String Band - February 27th
- Sound Tribe Sector 9 - March 14th



Noah Russom sings and plays the drums for *The Listening*, an American Christian Rock band. The band originated in Franklin, Tennessee. *The Listening* became popular with their EP release in 2005.



The Pageant concert venue is located at the east end of the Delmar Loop. It hosted many concerts with a capacity of up to 2,000.



Vampire Weekend fans raise their hands as the band plays "A-Punk". The band played at The Pageant in early September.

1. The Future X-Boyfriends



Andre Cataldo and Harrison Hinrichs, sophomores, talk with each other about guitars. Cataldo and Hinrichs were in a band called The Future X-boyfriends. The band had been together since the end of summer 08.



Ryan Allee, sophomore, waits for his band to start practicing. The Future X-boyfriends practiced every Saturday morning. "I love being in a band because I'm able to play with guys who have a passion for music," said Allee.

Eric Rideout, eighth grade, plays the drums during fifth period on December 12. Rideout had never taken drumming lessons in his life, but played in the band as the only drummer. During his eighth grade year, Rideout had participated in Running with Scissors for one year.



Keegan Brown, eighth grade, plays his guitar with a friend in the band room on a Friday. Keegan had played the guitar for five years. "I love playing in a band because it gets your name known. People know who you are," said Brown.



Maxwell Lindstrom, freshman, and Parker Briden, eighth grade, practice after school on Tuesday. In their band, Lindstrom was the bassist and Briden was the singer. Running With Scissors, performed in the school variety show and at a church retreat.



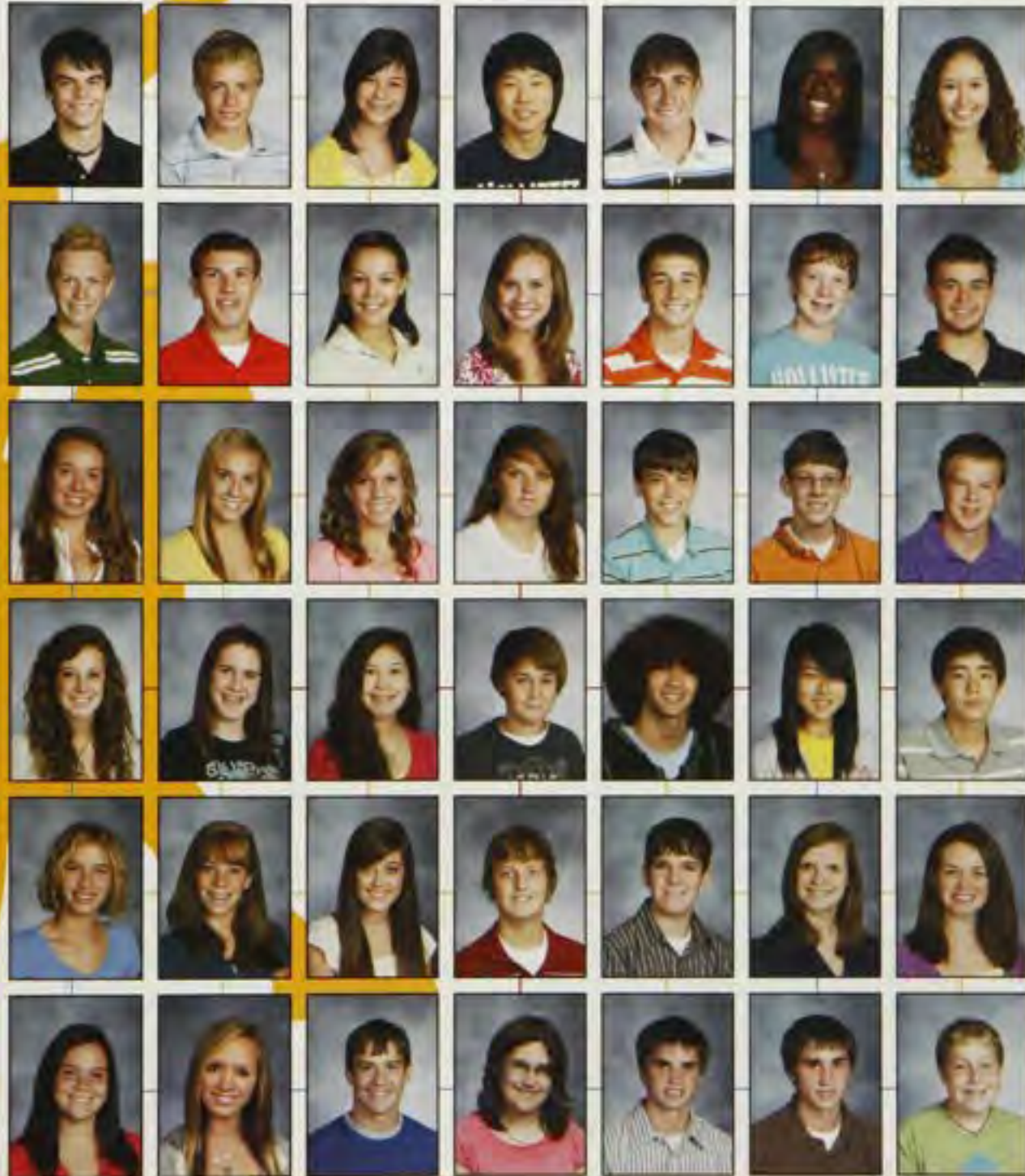
Bands at WCA provide a way of entertainment. These are two of the many bands that were formed by Westminster students. They include middle schooler students and high schooler students.

Peter Johnson, freshman, waits for band practice to start on December 9. Every Tuesday, Running with Scissors, the band, practiced at Johnson's house after school. "We have some good times with each other," said Johnson.

2. Running with Scissors



The Starting Line



Travis Allen
Jacob Appelbaum
Arianna Arritt
Sophie Hahn-Ball
Matthew Baldwin
Harper Bates
Lizbeth Beuth

Brii Baccaglini
Andrew Beck
Abigail Becker
Anna Beckler
Garrett Bell
Schaeffer Bril
Ronald Brinkman

Haley Bergman
Haley Bertucci
Elizabeth Blackwell
Ritashah Damsch
Jacob Boyer
Cameron Druak
Joseph Burzinski

Lacey Call
Rebecca Carlfield
Angela Cannady
Daniel Cannon
Andre Cataldo
Deanna Chase
Sung Min Cho

Darlene Cicka
Abigail Clark
Kaley Clark
Brett Collier
Nathaniel Coie
Ruth Cross
Sarah Davis

Lauren Derausse
Audrey Doermann
Cooper Dunlap
Sarah Eise
Daniel Everett
David Everett
Ian Farmer

Bands, originally created to keep military troops in step, have formulated into much more. Drums and horns were originally used to keep the troops calm and to inspire the men. However, what started out as a marching band, quickly formulated into a new way to make music.

In the 21st century, there were bands all over the world. Different types existed such as: rock bands, marching bands, heavy metal bands, pop bands, and many other genres of music. Coincidentally, a few Westminster students were a part of a band in the 2008-2009 school year. Peter Johnson and Maxwell Lindstrom, freshmen, along with Keegan Brown, Parker Briden, and Eric Rideout, eighth graders, played in a band called Running with Scissors. When Johnson, Lindstrom, and Brown were 11, a spur of the moment caused the three to want to create a band. Since then they have added 2 more members: Rideout and Briden.

Forming a band name creates an image. It is what the band is known as for their entire career. "Our band tried to think of different band names, and my church leader said we should be the Blue monks. But one day, running with scissors just popped in my head." said Johnson.

The most important part of a band is creating songs and performing. When Running with Scissors started new songs, they "learned them quickly" said Lindstrom. However, as the group would perfect it got more challenging. Even though it took alot of work, being in a band was a "fun experience" said Johnson.

Brittany Fellows
Abigail Finn
Steven Fitzgerald
Joshua Flob
Enni Flowers
Evonia Franceschelli
Gilbert Garrison



Kayla Gebhardt
Rebecca Gee
Kaitlin Gholston
Olivia Gerge
Maria Gjorden
Christina Grayson
Leah Grunstein



Erin Guthrie
Sarah Hall
Steven Hall
Sabrina Hammond
Rebecca Harding
Hayden Harper
Sheridan Hentrich



Chandler Haft
Katherine Hickman
Hanson Hinrichs
Taylor Hopkins
Jacquie Hughes
John Hunsicker
Jane Im



Margaret Johnson
Maggee Kane
Laura Kaup
Jamieson Keech
Darnee Keith
Kelsey Kinborn
Jacob Kirsinger



Jordan Klein
Miri Kneifans
Ryan Krupp
Rebecca Lambert
Chaz Langeneckert
Alexandra Langley
Stephen Lilienberg



Thomas Porter and Bethany Leibovich, juniors, party it up at Lauren DeRousse's, sophomore, party. The DJ's at the party handed out glow sticks and bracelets to make the party even more exciting.

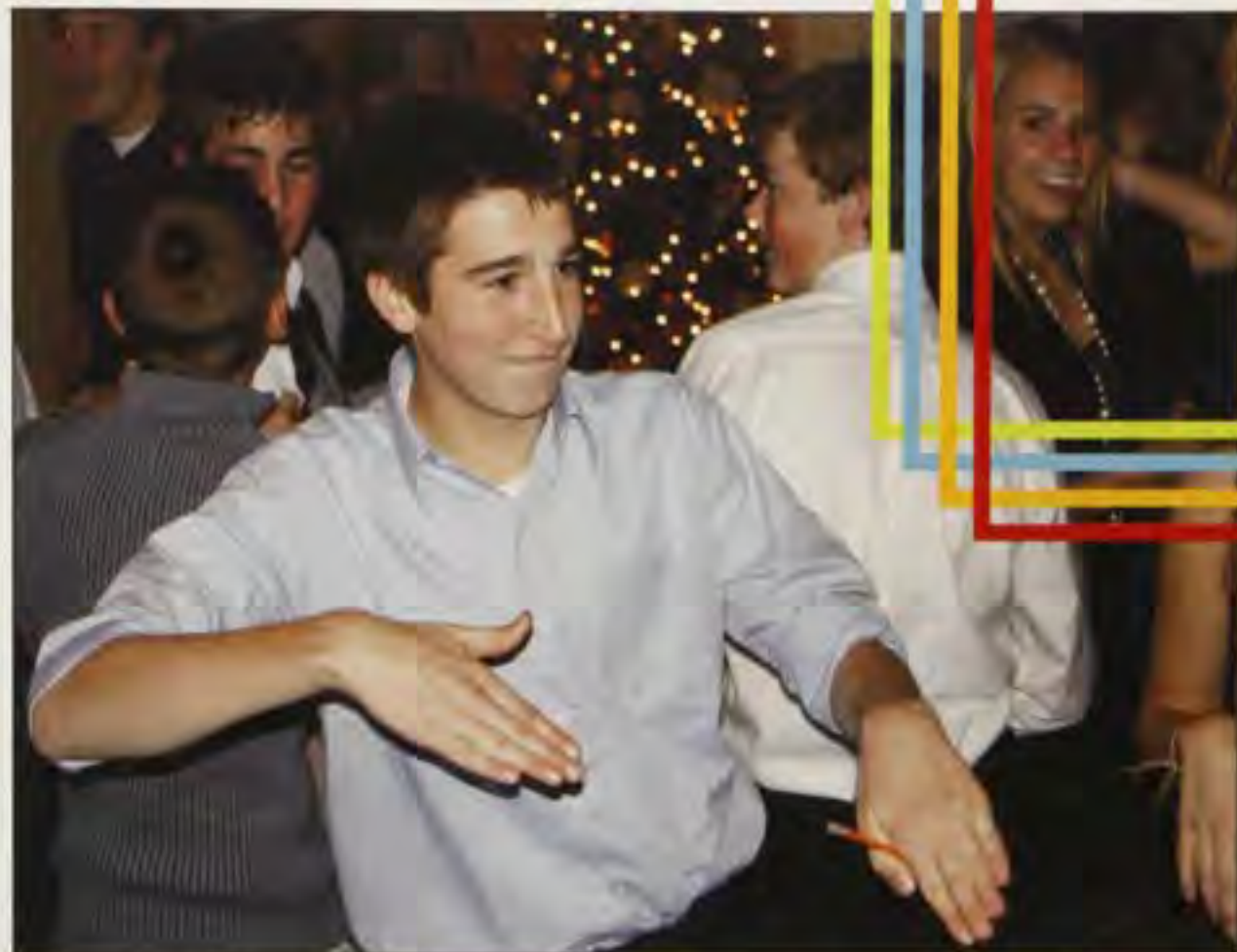
BIGGER is Better

Nathan Smallwood got a...
Hockey Stick

Bennet Bell got...
Money and Gift Cards

Emily Mitchell got a...
Honda Accord Coupe

Class of 2011's Slice of Heaven



Luke Schroeder, sophomore, isn't afraid to show off his moves at sophomore Lauren Derousse's party. Party-goers were a little afraid at first to dance, but it didn't take long for them to warm up to the music.

Counting down the seconds until the magical day appears, sweet 16 has always been the most memorable. Freedom and driving are just some of the benefactors of arriving at this special age. Having the ability to go wherever you want, whenever you want has always been a privilege most people have looked forward to since their childhood. It is the age where responsibility is thrust upon them like those sloppy Christmas kisses from Aunt Judy.

To make it even more memorable, teenagers have been known to go all out with their 16th birthday parties. From having professional musicians perform to renting out complete buildings (or both), these parties showed just how serious these teenagers were. "We rented out rooms in The Lodge and had about 120-130 people come," said Elizabeth Blackwell, sophomore. Blackwell and Lacey Call, sophomore, had a joint sixteenth birthday party during Christmas break.

The really extravagant parties were usually for the females, though. Guys were all about subtle when it came to parties by only inviting a handful of friends here and there. "I had a few guys come over and chill in my basement one night, if that counts," said Nathan Smallwood, sophomore, when asked about his party. To them, it was not about the glittery outfits or mountains of presents. No, for guys, it was all about acquiring the freedom of driving. "I've been looking forward to driving since my childhood," said Smallwood.



Lauren DeRousse, sophomore, blows out her birthday candles during her own party. The party was held at Norwood country club.



Lauren Derousse, sophomore, eats a cupcake with her friends, Elizabeth Nester and Chelsea McConkey, sophomores. DeRousse held her party at Norwood Country Club, where she and her family are members.



Chad and Kristine Maxey, 7th graders, show their similarities. "It can be kind of annoying because everyone calls us 'the twins' instead of by our own names," said Kristine. "I like always having someone by my side. I like to play board games and shoot baskets with my sister," said Chad.

2.5% of WCA students are twins

Number of twins in 7th grade: 4

Number of twins in 8th grade: 0

Number of twins in 9th grade: 4

Number of twins in 10th grade: 4

Number of twins in 11th grade: 8

Number of twins in 12th grade: 2

Lacinta and Landon Chard, juniors, share many similarities as twins. "We both sleep walk and sleep talk a lot. With homework we only have to bring home one textbook and we remind each other of what we have due," said Landon. "I'm always driving him around, so we get time to connect with each other. But he never shuts up while I'm driving, and turns up the music really loud," said Lacinta.

SEEING DOUBLE

At some point, everyone has wondered what it would be like to be a twin. But what if it was the other way around? Twins Kevin and Kristen O'Leary, freshmen, have frequently wondered what their lives would be like if they weren't twins.

As they talked about it, Kevin said, "I wouldn't like not being a twin." Kristen agreed, "Neither would I...can you imagine sitting at the table on your birthday and having Mom and Dad give only you presents and having all the attention on you?"

Westminster had twins in almost every grade, and all of them had different feelings about it. Some could never imagine life any other way, but others wished they didn't have twins. Some enjoyed always having a friend around, while others lamented the fact that they were never alone.

Elias and Matthias Wood, juniors, had mixed emotions about being twins. Though they got along well, they had many differences. "We share the same room and it's really hard because [Elias] likes it really dirty and I like it really clean," said Matthias.

Most twins at WCA enjoyed having a brother or sister to share their lives with but agreed that it was really no different than having a brother or sister who was older or younger. They still laughed, argued, played, and went through school just like everyone else.



Kristin and Kevin O'Leary, freshmen, wait to be picked up after school. "I like it when we go places so we can always have somebody there with me, but it can get annoying," said Kristin. "It's nice, because since we have a lot of classes together, we study for tests together and help each other with other things," said Kevin, talking about what he liked most about being a twin.



Anthony Lohay
Anthony Mai
Chloe McDermott
Matthew McIlwain
Walter Mouton
Andrew Munnell
Elizabeth Allen

Vanessa Miller
Alex Mitchell
Erin Muehlen
Lauri Moore
James Moore
Shane Myster
Karen Muraw

Elizabeth Nestle
Jordan Nichols
Paige Nicotri
Cristina Palmieri
Sam-A Park
Emily Pauck
Mavis Parving

William Pienzen
Tiffany Priesman
Justin Probst
Rachel Rawns
Danielle Roberts
Michael Reigman
Kaylee Rosen

Christine Schaffly
Kon Schill
Zachary Schupp
Luke Schroeder
Nicole Schwesler
Spencer Seabough
William Serber

Lizbeth Sendon
Cristin Shinton
John Shields
Brooke Sieberman
Elizabeth Simakoff
Pete Spod
Teholes-Shanks

Nathan Smallwood
Alexandra Smith
Cameron Smith
Carter Smith
Kira Stewart
Benjamin Stratton



Matthew Sugg
Lauren Sulewski
Rachel Suther
Robert Tague
Kathleen Talent
Owen Taylor



Nathan Tinschke
Jennifer Trastraen
Tiffany Thompson
Victoria Utbon
Drew Wascherle
Jordan Weaver



Katia Weir
Margaret Wenberg
Morgan West
Nathan Wheeler
Paul Wheeler
Julia Wiens



Taylor Wiggins
Peter Williams
Emily Wilson
Hannah Worrest
Katie Wos
Yoon Hu



Rachel Yu
Connor Zelonko



DECK THE HALLS

...with boughs of holly, 'tis the season to be jolly. The Christmas season was that time of the school year that everyone had anticipated for many months, and to make the season a little more interesting and exciting, some Westminster students celebrated the holiday season by starting or continuing unique versions of celebrations.

One new way the senior class exhibited much Christmas cheer in December of 2008 was called "Ugly Christmas Sweater Day." Aaron Blackwell, senior, organized and planned this event without excluding a single member of the senior class. Blackwell accomplished this by first making an event group on Facebook and then he followed this up with many reminder messages to encourage his fellow classmates to participate.

This sent multiple seniors running to their mother's closets to find the most colorful and gaudy but festive Christmas attire. When the morning of December 12 arrived, about twenty-five to thirty seniors paraded into the school building adorned with stitched snowmen, pom-pom Santa hats, and tasseled zipper pulis. This simple yet entertaining event was one of the many ways WCA students provided Christmas cheer. These students talked about some of their traditions that they keep to celebrate the most wonderful time of the year.



Monica Moore, senior, sports a festive Christmas sweater on the senior's "Ugly Christmas Sweater day." Aaron Blackwell, senior, was the man in charge of this event that occurred on December 12. He even created a Facebook group to get the word out and sent reminder messages so that no one would forget. About twenty-five seniors participated.



The JV dance team gathers at their annual team Christmas party. Every year, they had some sort of celebration for the holidays, but each year they celebrated it differently. This season, they played the old holiday game "rob your neighbor" and ate pizza after one of their practices.

Rebecca Canfield, sophomore, sneaks a gift into the locker of her secret santa recipient. This winter was the third year Canfield and her friends had a secret santa gift exchange. Danielle Cicka, sophomore, also participated in this week-long series of mysterious gift exchanges, and she said, "It's fun because, then, we don't forget to give presents to each other in the hectic season." Some of the other presents that were given were candy, stuffed animals, and lotions.



Grace Linton, 8th grade, sprinkles a sugar cookie at her PC junior Christmas celebration. Sarah Hughes, Linton's PC junior, organized this festivity for the morning of December 10 as part of one of their weekly meetings on Wednesdays. They also played a game of musical chairs with Christmas music in the middle of the commons.

Matthias, Elias juniors, Victoria, freshman, and Jonathan Wood, seventh grade, have seven children

"I guess I like my family. I don't like it when they mess with my stuff in my room, but I like it because you're never lonely," said Jonathan.



Daniel, freshman, Rachel, senior, and Andrew Cannon, seventh grade, pose together at a family gathering during Thanksgiving. "I enjoy having my families at the same school," said Andrew.



Nathan, sophomore, Eric, senior, and Amber Terschak, eighth grade, gather together during Thanksgiving with their six siblings. "I like my family most of the time, they keep me from getting bored. My little brother and sisters get annoying sometimes, but I like spending time together as a family," said Nathan.



Kendall, senior, and Davis Vanderslice, eighth grade, have five siblings in their family. "People tend to stereotype big families and think that we don't get along. But, that's not true, because we are around more people," said Davis.



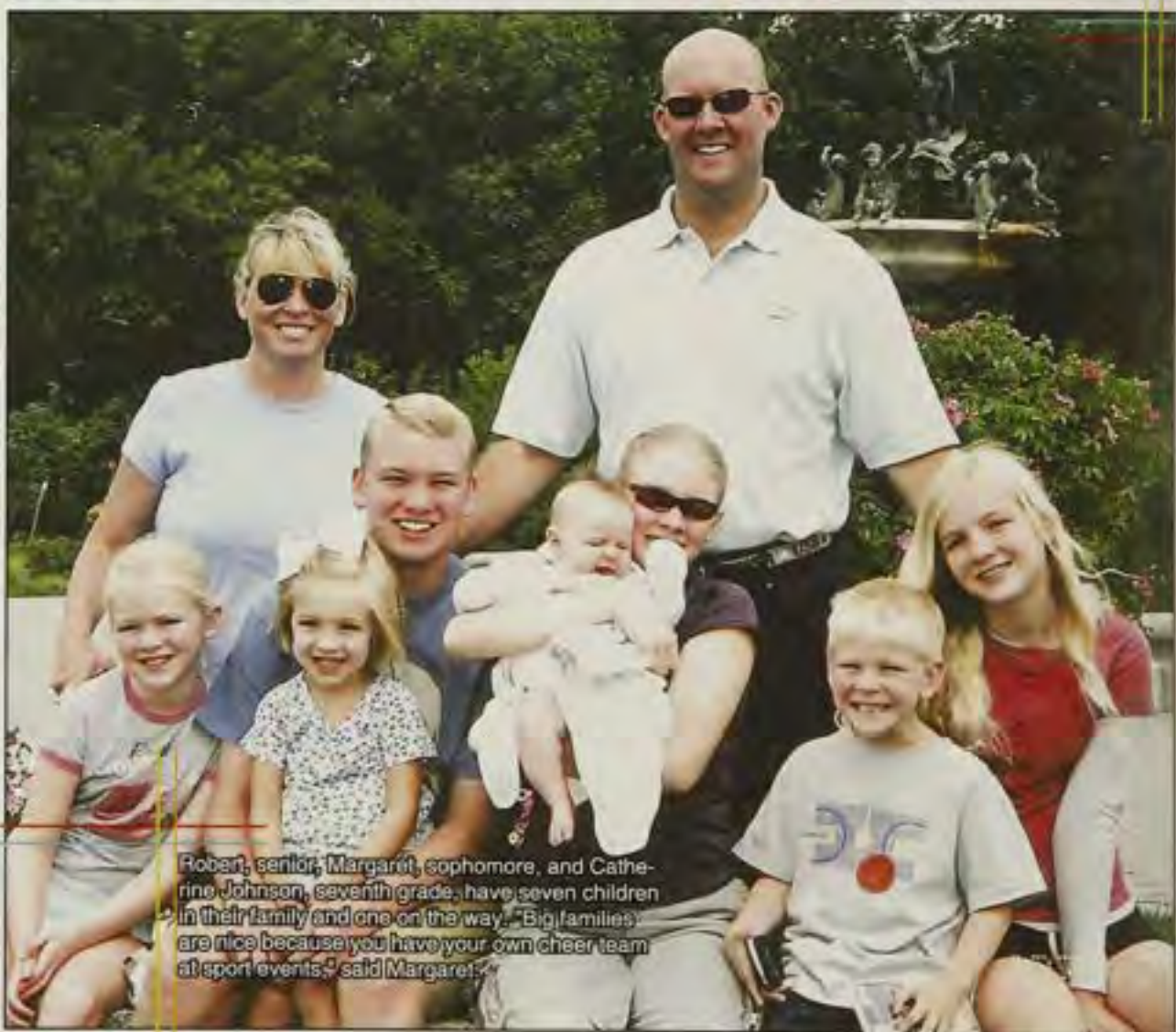
Number of Siblings at WCA from 2008-2009

174
24
1

families with 2 siblings at WCA

families with 3 siblings at WCA

family with 4 siblings at WCA



Robert, senior, Margaret, sophomore, and Catherine Johnson, seventh grade, have seven children in their family and one on the way. "Big families are nice because you have your own cheer team at sport events," said Margaret.

Share the SPACE

Crowded, busy, LOUD. These are all words that large families have used to describe their homes. With five or more kids running around, each family has their own struggles. Siblings learned to deal with and share things with each other, things that other families did not have to worry about. "The hardest thing to share with my siblings is the car," said Robert Johnson, senior. Others had trouble with sharing space. With seven siblings, Elias Wood, junior, had trouble with space and noise. Even though these students had to deal with the business and noise in their large families, most loved it. "Yes, I love being in a large family because its never boring and there is always something going on or someone to hang out with," said Matthias Wood, junior.

In large families, or any family, siblings are an automatic playmate. They are always there, and they are always willing to play. "When we were little, we would all play outside. We also have fun building things, like forts and legos, together," said Victoria Wood, freshman. Siblings like to play games or play make-believe. "I like to play games with my brothers and sisters," said Amber Terschak, eighth grade. "It may sound childish, but I like to play house with my little bother and sisters."

Even though the noise and crowded space was annoying at times, an empty house was even worse. "When my family went on vacation, I went home a week early with my dad and brother. They both worked and I was home alone in that huge house. It was so scary without all the noise and I really missed my siblings," said Catherine Johnson, seventh grade.

The noise was always amplified during family gatherings in large families. During Thanksgiving, the Terschak family gathered all together in Indiana. "Large families make holidays more fun. For Thanksgiving, my eight person family, grandparents, uncles, aunt, and six cousins get together at my grandparents house in Indiana and it's a blast. Last year we had 22 people in one house," said Eric Terschak, senior.

"Everyone in my family has ADD. It's loud and insane. We all talk really fast. Its weird, but I love it and its fun!" said Kendall Vanderslice, senior. With a crowd, noisy, loud house large families at WCA have fun learning to get along and spending time with each other.



Allyson Adams
Darin Anderson
David Anderson
Alicia Ayres
Blair Ayers
Molly Anderson
Christopher Ayers

Anthony Ayers
Oliver Ayers
Nathan Ayers
Matthew Ayers
Ella Baker
Rhyne Baker
Chryssine Barber

Kevin Bell
Nathan Benjamin
John Benjamin
Anthony Benjamin
Carmen Benjamin
Alexandra Bland
Samuel Bland

Ashlene Blyth
Taylor Blyth
Madison Burke
Alexandra Burke
Cecilia Burke
Caitlin Burke
Jacqueline Burke
Lindsay Burke

Scott Clark
Ethan Clark
Richard Clark
Alex Clark
Jacob Clark
Janet Clark
Christian Clark

Lauren Davis
Sarah Davis
Dedra Davis
Lauren Davis
Christina Davis
Zachary Davis
Jacob Davis
Kyle Davis

REDEEMED Renovations

15019 Clayton Road, 3 Chesterton Lane, 12848 Ladue Road. Although these addresses were not churches, they were still places of worship. They were buildings where students could come at any time to hang out, talk to their leaders and worship as a group. Several churches that Westminster students attended recognized the importance of giving their youth their own space.

Homes close to the church location were provided as youth houses, and some youth groups even helped to renovate the homes for use. Kirk of the Hills, sought the help of junior high and high school students in painting, window washing, and cleaning out the basement to prepare for future youth group meetings. "We were really excited about the house, and the students really allowed us to move in faster," said BeCa Fisk, youth women's coordinator. Covenant Church, located on Ballas road, also sought the help of its youth members to move furniture into their house.

Youth houses provided churches with much needed space, and room for youth programs to grow. Chesterfield Presbyterian Church has used their youth house for many years, and it was a place where students went to relax and hang out. Sharon Baca, one of several middle school youth leaders, lived in one of the two youth houses belonging to Chesterfield Presbyterian Church. Students came almost every day to hang out, play games and get to know one another. Rebecca Boesch, sophomore, enjoyed going to the youth house because "it is open literally all the time, and I feel comfortable talking to all the leaders about anything."



Luis Egan
Thomas Egan
Bianca Elliott
Madelyn Elliott
Andrew Everett
Michael Eyette
Michael Ferrara

Kyle Finn
Katherine Flessner
Sarah Fleming
Henry Franz
Christopher Freeman
Austin Gardner
Jessica George

Kristen George
Drew Giddwell
Kevin Giddwell
Jacob Gorman
Zachary Hanson
Rebecca Hamer
Jonathan Hartwig

Katelyn Havenrlick
Katherine Hazel
Amelia Hearme
Samuel Hoyt
Nichole Hoban
Susan Horak
Catherine Horsman

Nicholas Howard
Matthew Hudnut
Forrest Hughes
Sarah Hughes
Connor Hunsicker
Kathleen Hunt
Hed Hurter

Taylor Jewell
Erik Johnson
Gracia Johnson
Saman Johnson
April Johnston
Haley Kane
John Kane



Sara McClellan, eighth grade, and Jennifer Jurgenson, seventh grade, sing praise songs at Kirk of the Hills youth group. This kickoff night consisted of singing, praying, and promoting the winter missions trip to Nashville, Tennessee.



Jennifer Thompson, senior, unknowingly kisses the head of a deer at Chesterfield Presbyterian Church. Members of the youth group participated in a blindfolded game where they had to guess what objects they kissed.

Robert Curdell Elizabeth Buckwell, sophomore, talks to the pastor of Memorial Park, the first youth pastor. Buckwell, along with many other Westminster students, did not attend this church but enjoyed attending youth sessions with friends that include them.

Noah Roberts and Madeleine Smith, freshman, watch their leader open a white elephant gift. Roberts had attended Covenant Presbyterian Church since he was in first grade and he liked going to youth group because, "Charles is there."



Matthew Brugner, freshman, plays the part of Santa as Marta Douglass, Westminster 2001 alumni, tries to figure out what character he is acting out. Many students gathered at Chesterfield Presbyterian Church's last "Crew" night, Wednesday, for the Christmas party. Around forty high schoolers attended the party and about ten were Westminster students.

Blair Rallo
David Rische
Timothy Reed
Leisha Riber
Marta Roberts
William Rock
John Ross



Richard Ross
Paul Schmidt
Matthew Schwartz
Michael Scott
Mia Seagraves
Ashley Seigrave
Jake Sharp



Emily Sherman
Catherine Smecker
Grace Smith
Karlton Smith
Curtis Stump
Ana Tanner
Lukase Thampy



Ambeth Thompson
Anthony Thompson
Cassie Unnenstall
Caleb Unser
Alyssa Weflach
Kenneth Weiss
Suzanne Weston



Shaylyn Weststeyn
Amanda Wiebe
Bryan Wiley
Thomas Winkler
Elias Wood
Matthias Wood
Andrew Wos



Andrew Wu
Leah Younkun
Rebecca Zambrana
Jamei Zinner



Caleb Hicks, seventh grade, completes a math problem in Allison Pautler's, Pre-Algebra teacher, math class. Pautler attended Hope College in Michigan before coming to Westminster. "I've loved getting to know the students and teachers here. They've been really welcoming," said Pautler.



Rev. Luke Davis, school chaplain, teaches a biblical ethics class to sophomores and juniors. This was Davis's first year at Westminster. Almost every Wednesday morning, Davis began chapel with Scripture and prayer.

Abigail Gustafson, seventh grade, watches Allison Pautler, seventh grade pre-algebra teacher, use the SmartBoard in her 3rd period class. Pautler grew up in St. Louis and graduated from Kirkwood High School. She was excited to return to her hometown after college to teach at Westminster.



Welcome to the Family

As the summer ended and school started up again, students returned to the scheduled routines that brought back familiar sights, sounds, and feelings. However, middle schoolers were not returning to the same setting that they had left at school the past May. Three new teachers were seen around the middle school classrooms when school began. The new faces included Allison Pautler, seventh grade pre-algebra teacher, Aaron Layton, ELC teacher, and Joshua West, eighth grade science teacher.

The fact that each of these teachers was young excited the students. Morgan Mechelke, seventh grader, enjoyed having Pautler as a teacher. She agreed that younger teachers played more of a friend-like role than that of a parent. "I think she's more energetic because she's younger," said Mechelke. Hannah Hickman, seventh grader, also enjoyed Pautler's Pre-Algebra class. "We play games that have nothing to do with math. It's really fun," said Hickman.

Similarly, the eighth graders enjoyed having West as a younger science teacher. "He has a good sense of humor," said Sadie Stipanovich, eighth grader. Other students had nicknames for their teacher. "We call him Westie," said Bailey Benes, eighth grader. Alexis Harvey and Megan Tilley, eighth graders, along with Benes, played on the basketball team coached by West. "It's really fun to have him as a coach. We can tease him and try to beat him," said Tilley.



Joshua West, eighth grade science teacher, and Bailey Benes, eighth grader pray in a huddle before practice. In addition to teaching in a classroom, West coached the eighth grade basketball team. Like other middle school teams, theirs practiced during the school day instead of having after-school practices.

Earning the Extra Funds

Juggling academic life with social life was a difficulty that many Westminster students faced. Not only did students work hard at school, but many of them were also committed to a job. Students had jobs in order to pay for cars, gas, clothes, movie tickets, and other items. While money was a big motivation for students to have jobs, many of them chose to work at unique places that paid more than just money. Helping others through their jobs gave students a sense of satisfaction.

Joshua Flori, sophomore, was among many of the WCA students who worked an unusual job. Since he was a freshman, Flori has given piano lessons to four boys around the ages of ten. Twice a week he rushed home from school to teach thirty or forty-five minute lessons. Having had several piano teachers, Flori realized that different methods of teaching worked better than others, especially depending on the age of the students. "I really try to present the material in a way that's fun, and try to generate enthusiasm for the piano by spicing up the lessons with games and incentives. I like to reward the students with things like cookies or with coins that I have in my pocket if they do well," said Flori. "It's rewarding when I can see young lives taking an interest in the finer things, using the gifts God has given them," said Flori.



Joshua Flori, sophomore, teaches a forty-five minute piano lesson to a talented neighbor. "My neighbor noticed my abilities in piano, and asked if I would teach her two sons how to play," said Flori.



Sara Keeton
Kent Kehr
Jill Keith
Andy Kerckhoff
Han Kim
Kate Kindborn
Ila Klemm

Shari Kleyn
Chris Knerr
Kimberly Landes
Aaron Layton
J. Daniel Legters
Florence Lewis
Ming Xuan Ma

Karen Martin
Eddie McNeil
Rebecca Mendis
Alan Miller
Jacob Mohler
Tim Muehleisen
Nick Nichols

Allison Pautter
J.D. Perona
Martha Peters
Susan Pike
Judy Powell
Pamela Reed
Betty Richardson

Ellen Robb
Joe Roth
Spencer Savory
Dave Schall
Jeffrey Schipper
George Schmidt
Allen Schwamb

Helen Scott



Jonathan Bopp, freshman, shows the tools he uses to remove honeysuckle. Bopp owns and operates a honeysuckle removal business. His first job was for his

grandpa for \$400. "It took me four months to remove the honeysuckle from one acre. I worked every day after school for an hour" said Bopp. Soon, his neighbors heard about his service, and hired him as well. "The honeysuckle blocks the sun so small trees can't grow. So we remove it and people like to pay good money for it," said Bopp.

Alyson Tate, senior, teaches a private swimming lesson at The Lodge in Des Peres. Tate taught swimming lessons in the fall, and worked as a

lifeguard in the summer. "My job is really flexible. I can either work for 30 minutes or 3 hours. It's great because I'm still working so I don't feel like a bum, but I still have time for homework," said Tate.



Ana Tanner, junior, organizes wedding dresses during a Saturday afternoon at her job. Tanner had worked at I Do I Do Bridal since January 2008. "I work there because my pastor's wife owns the store, and my mom does alterations on the wedding gowns; I've sort of grown up in the business." Tanner works the cash register and sorts the gowns on the racks. The shop used to sell prom dresses as well, but now it is exclusively wedding dresses. "It's fun because when the brides come in, they're all happy because they're engaged. But sometimes they're mad, like if the dress is the wrong color peach or something," said Tanner.

COWBOYS,

Pitchers, & *The Queen of England*

Jeremy Scott
James Sefrit
Mark Sell
Andrew Shaw
Rachel Smith



Warren Smith
William Smith
Cory Snyder
James Starige
Nathan Talley



Donald Tierneier
Amy Turner
Richard Van Gilst
Rebecca Van Valkenburg
Deana Vandegriff



Nate Vander Wal
Robert Vass
Scott Vander Brugg
Bonnie Wagner
Craig Walseth



Howard Warren
Pamela Warren
Joshua West
Anne Westhoff
Andrea Wilcox



Paula Williams
Sandra Winchester
Elizabeth Woodall
Cynthia Zayaglia



What do you want to be when you grow up? This was one of the most familiar questions for many children. As time goes on and children grow up the answer to this question often changes. While most teachers chose their profession at a young age, they still had somewhat far-fetched dreams as children. These teachers wanted to be just like the glamorous women on the red carpet or the masculine men on the baseball field. However, some had a different idea in mind. "I wanted to be a truck driver," admitted Jim Marsh, Head of School. He was not sure he wanted to work at schools until he was in high school.

Other teachers had practical dreams that they pursued up until college. Marty Peters, librarian, wished to become a nurse and pursued it as a major in college. While childhood dreams may seem crazy to high school students and adults, they were close to reality for some teachers as children.



Scott Holley, Academic Dean and English teacher, discusses *Emiel Hemingway* with his AP *Worldviews* in Literature class. As a fan of major league baseball, he hoped to one day become a pitcher for the St. Louis Cardinals. He decided at age 12 that he wanted to be a teacher.



Pamela Bye, middle school English teacher, models her favorite crown. As a small child, she dreamt of becoming the Queen of England. She decided to become a teacher as a junior high student, after realizing that the Queen could only claim the throne by being born into the right family.



Howard Warren, upper school history teacher, helps AP Political Science students research in the library. Like many young boys, he dreamt of playing professional football. He began studying teaching in college when he was 20 years old.

Susan Brown, Student Services, gets ready to jump onto "the blob" at the leadership retreat. As a child, she dreamt of being an airplane stewardess when she grew up. She started working in schools around 1988 but jokes that she still does not know what she wants to be.



James Stange, upper school art teacher, laughs with his AP art history class. Unlike most teachers, he did not dream about his future job much as a child. "I didn't even think about it! I was too busy running," said Stange. He decided to become an art teacher as a sophomore in college.

Larry Hughes, upper school ethics teacher, smiles while finishing his work on the computer. As a boy, he looked up to the cowboys on TV and hoped that he could be one someday as well. He decided he wanted to be a teacher and work with kids around 1980.



Breaking UP THE NOISE

Ramya Gruisen, Laura Hamman, and Margaret Mauze, freshmen, parade into the new gym wearing their duct tape attire. Many students spent hours creating duct tape and foil garments. Chandler Hiatt and Jacob Kinsinger, sophomores, participate in the tug of war against the juniors. Students showed their support for their class at the end of the rope.



Samuel Bezyak, freshman, adds to the sound of the class blue man stomp routine by beating on buckets. "I feel that we as a class performed very well, and I was very excited that we had a second place finish in blue man. I found spirit week to be a nice breather from normal school life," said Bezyak.

It was known throughout the Westminster community that much work and time went into the spirit week activities. What they did not know however, were some of the specifics of these practices.

The night before the blue man stomp performances, the junior class was at work perfecting their routine at Jonathan Hartwig's house.

"We were running through a routine and doing the same thing over and over for a while when someone noticed that a car was parked outside with its headlights on. We didn't really think anything of it, so we kept playing," said Aaron Krumsieg, junior.

A few minutes later, someone came and banged on the garage door. Thinking that it was someone's parent, the group ignored the noise and went on with their practice.

"When the person banged again, Sam Bowman went to open the door. We first saw the shiny black boots, then the pants, then the holster, and realized that someone had complained about the noise," said Krumsieg. The policeman told the group that they were being too loud and needed to stop.

"We dropped everything we were doing and just hoped for the best," said Krumsieg.

Michael Scott, seventh grade, conducts interviews with the junior class after the hula hoop line competition. Scott and other AV crew members worked on interviewing people throughout the week for the spirit week video.



Elizabeth Nester, sophomore, eats her lunch on class color day. For the second year in a row, the class of 2011 chose the unconventional color of orange. Many sophomores fulfilled their dress up requirements with traffic vests, bandanas, and their class t-shirts.

Elizabeth Linhoff, freshman, glues paper footprints onto the floor for the freshman hallway. The hallway crews utilized a variety of materials like gravel, styrofoam, and plumbing parts to complete their creations.



Elizabeth Linhoff, freshman, glues paper footprints onto the floor for the freshman hallway. The hallway crews utilized a variety of materials like gravel, styrofoam, and plumbing parts to complete their creations.



1 Brandon Estock, eighth grade, adjusts the sound levels during the spirit week events. Members of AV club were assigned areas to work during the week. Some worked on the sound board and others with the camera equipment.

2 Adam Miller, senior, cheers for his class while waving an owl figurine. Miller took the owl from the room of Ken Boesch, government teacher, to be the senior mascot.

3 KumHwa Jeong, senior, cheers for her class after the M.C.'s announced the dress up winners for blue and white day. There was a three-way tie between the seniors, juniors, and seventh grade.

4 Melissa Blackwell, seventh grade, ties a balloon around her ankle in preparation for the balloon stomp game. "I have three older siblings, so I have been going to Spirit week for years," said Blackwell.

5 Ethan Cobbel, junior, studies in Sandra Winchester's AP Biology class. Cobbel found a way to incorporate his Buzz Lightyear wings as part of his dress ups everyday of the week.

6 Kinsey Martin, freshman, and Anthony Marr, sophomore, perform a salsa dance during the "So You Think You Can Dance" event. This performance was one of the few that did not count toward the class' overall score.

7 Austen Crim, freshman, cuts out pieces of construction paper to be used for the freshman hallway. The freshman hallway tied for second place with the theme of Calvin and Hobbes.

8 Leah Gruneisen, sophomore, studies in the library before school on Monday. Throughout the day, grades were segregated by class color.



Rick Mansfield, junior, is pulled back by rest of the boys in the juniors' boys poms performance. The theme of the routine was mad scientists and Mansfield starred as the experiment.



Gaining popularity each year, Boys Poms became one of the most extraordinary events during spirit week, so it is no surprise that the sign-ups have constantly grown each year. The seniors had 22 sign up while the juniors had 16, both edging towards a fairly large group. However, there was one class that failed to have any boys sign up at all. That class was the sophomores. Better known for their finesse in the area of Blue Man Stomp, the sophomores had been lacking in the Boys Poms area. Although expectations were not high for their Boys Poms, they were still expected to have one.

Through many debacles and controversies, most of the JV Boys Basketball team eventually signed up for Boys Poms as a team effort. They were originally not going to sign up for any spirit week events in order to focus on basketball, but Tim Holley, JV basketball coach, ended up encouraging it. However, despite getting some boys to join in, they still only had about a week to practice their routine as compared to the regular two weeks. "We only had about seven hours of total practice, so not a whole lot of time to work with," said Emily Mitchell, sophomore, who also helped choreograph the routine.

Walking out with their faces bright orange and ripped up brown shirts, they managed to draw laughs from everyone in the gym. The boys also got the crowd involved by playing the song "Apache" by The Sugarhill Gang. So while they did not expect to achieve a first place win, they still managed to create a memory that will live on in spirit week history.

SPIRIT WEEK

1

Chaz Langeneckert and William Pierson, sophomores, laugh during the spirit week assembly. The assembly was 45 minutes each day at the end of school.

**5**

William McKenna, junior, waders through the hallways on Thursday morning. Students enjoyed walking through the halls and looking at the different grades' works of art.

**7****7**

Joseph Collins, Michael Matheny, and Blake Armstrong, freshmen, cheer on their class during one of the spirit week events. The freshman ended up placing fourth overall during spirit week.

2

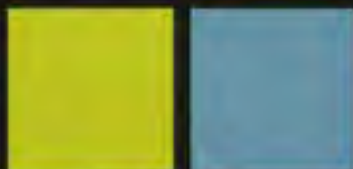
Morgan Seibenmen and Leigh Kaup, seventh grade, get excited for their first day of Spirit Week. Monday was class color day, and the seventh grade's color was brown. The seventh grade got sixth place overall.

**5**

Alec Mitchell, sophomore, uses his hat as a blow-horn during an event. The second day of spirit week was duct tape and tin foil day.

8**3**

Emily Sherman, junior, anchors for the junior girls tug of war. The class recruited some of the stronger and more athletic girls from the junior class.

**9**

Violet Kouzes and Holly Sumner, eighth grade, appear covered in their duct tape and tin foil outfits. Many students were seen showing their creative sides as they came clothed in everything from a duct tape body suit to tin foil facial hair.

4

Brent Stump, freshman, catches a hotdog in his box during the hot dog toss. This event was one of the messiest games of the week. At the end of the game the floors were littered with bits and pieces of frozen hot dogs.



Kiprotich Ballach, senior, flips up his spiderman mask as he walks into the assembly. Thursday was comic book hero dress up day.

6**10**

Madison Deves, seventh grade, takes the front of the rope for her seventh grade girls tug of war team. Although they did not win, the seventh grade team showed resilience and persistence.

10



1 Noah Roberts, freshman, participates in the tug of war against the sophomores. The freshmen boys have reigned victorious over the sophomores before, but this year, the two were very equally matched.

2 Bennet Bell pulls Rachel Raines, sophomores, in the chariot race on Tuesday. In this particular game, the sophomores placed fourth. Doing well in games and dress ups helped the sophomore class place 3rd in Spirit Week overall.

3 Zackary Lokey, eighth grade, sports a tinfoil hat and duct tape t-shirt for Tuesday dress ups. The eighth grade tied for first on this dress up along with the freshmen and sophomores.

4 Michael Siefert, eighth grade, performs in the "So You Think You Can Dance?" entertainment on Tuesday. Siefert and his partner, Taylor Pfeifer, seventh grade, performed a disco style routine. This was one of the only Spirit Week events that was not counted for points.

5 Samuel Knehans, senior, sits in biology class on class color day. For the past two years, the senior class color was blue. Previously, this senior classes have had the colors red, black, and pink represent their class.

6 Alyssa Wallach, junior, cheers on her fellow classmates participating in the tug of war. It is customary for each grade to sit on the end of the basketball court and encourage while their classmates tug. This year, the seniors placed first for boys and the juniors placed first for girls.

7 Daniel Moore, sophomore, competes in the balloon stomp on the first day of Spirit Week. Monday was the day when each class dressed in their unique class color. The seventh and eighth grade tied for first on this dress up, starting Spirit Week off to the underdog's favor.

8 Daria Vonderahe, seventh grade, holds her classmates hands as she prepares for the hula hoop line. The juniors won this event and placed well in others like the ostrich race and the chariot race.

LAST MINUTE MAYHEM

All the Friday routines had been performed and other event results had been declared, but one of the most anticipated announcements of Spirit Week was still yet to be made. As the Lip Sync winner was proclaimed, senior faces fell and junior screams of excitement arose rapidly. Once again, the class of 2010 had pulled an upset, winning one of Spirit Week's largest affairs. However, it was an interesting journey that led them to this victory.

While most Lip Sync routines were learned with plenty of time to make changes, the junior class had not finished mastering all their moves until the night before it was to be performed at Community Night. This was because they had to have two variations of the routine ready to execute in case one of their major performers was ill. While learning two routines was tedious and difficult, their hard work paid off because many hours of frustration were turned into a first place prize and the satisfaction of upsetting the senior class.





Corinne Becker and Haley Estes, seniors, celebrate on Friday night upon finding out that they won Spirit Week. With a total score of 2258, they beat the junior class by 67 points.



Class	Lip Sync	Boys Poms	Halls	Total	Place
12	2nd	2nd	1st	2258	1st
11	1st	1st	2nd	2191	2nd
10	4th	4th	5th	1772	3rd
9	6th	5th	2nd	1728	4th
8	5th	3rd	5th	1573	5th
7	3rd	6th	6th	1508	6th



A group of freshmen guys pray before lunch. The group was encouraged by Coach Eric Bain to pray everyday. Several of the guys also ate lunch once a week with Coach Bain to talk about various aspects of their lives.



Spiritual

Participating in faith

Every morning as you enter school, you walk under the stone pillars with **crosses** engraved in them. Immediately, you see small glimpses of God **present**. As you sit in first hour you listen to your teacher give a **devotion** from God's word. You then pray with your class, asking God to **bless** your day. Before you realize it, the bell rings; ending a block period. You meet your friends in the commons and enter **chapel**. Each Wednesday you can feel the Holy Spirit fill the old gym as songs of praise **flow** from hundreds of students' lips.

Whether your walk with Christ is weak or strong, your **spirituality** is affected daily. Christ's **message** is clear throughout every hour of the day. Outside of the Academy's walls you represent Christ and your school in sports and other activities. You are challenged with **spiritual** decisions every day.



Catherine Sinclair, junior, Rachel Canon and John Burgess, seniors, lead worship during chapel



Ryan Krupp and Benjamin Stratton, sophomores, enjoy a Fellowship of Christian Athletes meeting at the Worrell's house.



Katie Haxel, junior, paints a child's face during carnival at the Varsity Dance Team face painting booth.


Senior Wisdom

The hallway was filled with anxious eighth graders nervously awaiting their senior peers advice about high school. A five-month journey for the seniors came to an end as they presented their topic to a small group of eighth graders. The topics included: speech, friends, diligence, money, correction and conflict. Seniors were assigned to compare the Biblical teachings about wisdom in a particular area of life with typical cultural attitudes towards the issue. Using Proverbs as their basis, students found evidence of the Biblical view on their topics. Finding evidence for the world's view was illustrated through magazine articles, television shows, and movies.

After choosing a group and a topic, seniors began working on a way to present to the eighth graders. The documentary consisted of interviews, Bible verses, personal experiences and outside media sources. Making the video proved to be the most difficult aspect of the project for many seniors. "Our group's topic was about conflict. The video making process took a lot of time and work, especially being an editor, but it was worth it to see the response of the eighth graders" said Matthew Heyse, senior. The group was divided into different roles which included: producers, directors, writers and editors. "The hardest part was making the video," said Aaron Blackwell, senior. Blackwell was in charge of the editing for his group.

After the ten-minute documentary, the group presented for another fifteen minutes. The presentation gave seniors and eighth graders the chance to interact. The seniors' hard work paid off when they presented the issues to their eighth grade peers. Groups tried all different kinds of things to coax the eighth graders into the conversation. "We gave out candy as an incentive," said Paul Smallwood, senior. Hesitant at first, eighth graders slowly warmed up to the seniors and talked about issues going on in their lives. "It was exciting to give my advice and input on the issue" said Emily Farris, senior. Many of the seniors agreed that there were many things they would have done differently during their middle school and high school years and urged the eighth graders to not make the same mistakes.

The final aspect of the project required participation from both the seniors and the eighth graders. For the first time, students were assigned to chat on a forum. The forum incorporated the group's documentary and comments from teachers as well as additional advice from the seniors.



Tyler Harper, Paul Smallwood, and Austin Wallach, seniors, answer real life questions about high school. Not only was the project challenging for the seniors, but also for the eighth graders. The purpose of the project was to encourage the eighth graders not to make the same mistakes as their senior peers.





Sadie Stipanovich, Ellie Straub, Alexis Harvey, Amanda Scott, Samuel Canfield eighth grade, listen to advice given by their senior mentors. Although teaching different subjects, Mackenzie Pflitzinger, Jacob Yousef, Ryan Wiggins, Hannah Victor, and John Dinga, seniors, had the same goal, to give advice to eighth grade students. Every senior wished they could have done something different in the past and the goal of this project was to prevent that same thing from happening to these eighth graders.



Katherine Taylor and Elizabeth Lambert, seniors, present the topic of correction. Although the project proved difficult, many of the seniors found the skills they used in this project to be good practice for the senior integration project due in May.



Michael Menzel and Hannah Fletcher, seniors, use Bible verses from Proverbs to expand upon their topic. Seniors had to do extensive research in the book of Proverbs for their projects. Each group of seniors also spent time exploring what the common culture had to say about their topic.



Emily Farris, Anna Thompson and Jacob Yousef, seniors presented the issue of speech. "The eighth graders responded well to us and it was a good experience," said Farris. Although hesitant at first, the eighth grade students soon opened up to and responded well to questions and advice.



Drew Wendt and Andrew Goebel, seniors, Brendan Terbrock, Ellen Wenning, James Zandsira, eighth grade, listen intently as the first group presents. Each room of eighth graders had two groups of seniors. Many taught about the same subject. "We talked about how to respond to different types of correction," said Wendt.

Taking It to the Web

In an attempt to mix things up, the Bible department decided to add a little spice to the middle school Bible curriculum. Rather than writing essays, which would only be read by the teacher, eighth graders exchanged ideas in an online forum. Students discussed ideas brought up in class and received credit for their thoughts. Topics ranged from class reflection to Psalms to memory verse work.

Changes were also made inside the classroom. For example, a classic eighth grade Bible project involved finding Biblical elements in Hollywood movies and presenting them in class, one at a time. This year, however, the project was changed to "Day at the Movies." The eighth grade hallway was transformed into a giant "theater" with each Bible classroom showing a different movie. Students were given the license to choose which movies they would watch, running here and there between "showings" to catch a short glimpse of this or that movie.

Finally, the Bible department also set up a joint project between the seniors and the eighth grade. High school seniors made documentaries on different topics from Proverbs, including diligence and money, and showed them to the eighth graders in a group discussion format. They then used the online forum to exchange questions and answers after the viewings.

Listening to the eighth grade Bible teachers explain the details of the changes, their contentment with the changes was apparent. "Did it do what we wanted it to do?" Nathan Talley, eighth grade Bible teacher, said, "Yes." Jeremy Scott, Bible teacher, chimed in: "Students do better when something is at risk, when other people see what they write. I think that's the biggest difference between the old way we did things and now." Both cited student interaction, collaboration, and authenticity as improvements. "The new projects have laid the foundation for the future. I really think we have something good going here," said Scott.

The interaction between the seniors and the eighth grade students was also a valuable experience for the middle school students. "Since the middle school wing is in the basement tucked away from the upper school," explained Scott, "there is a strong tendency toward isolation. The senior project has really opened the students' eyes to high school life." This year's eighth grade Bible classes have likely prepared the students for high school more than any in the past.



William Hughes, Samuel Sherman, and Jonah Anderson, eighth grade, take notes during eighth grade Bible class. Although middle school Bible classes often focused on Old Testament theology, teachers found ways to make the material relevant to the students' lives using tools such as the internet and multimedia. Jonathan Pannkuk, eighth grade, writes comments in the online forum for Bible class. Pannkuk offered advice about the seniors' documentaries after watching the ones on speech and conflict in class. Natalie Bell and Katie Matheny, eighth grade, participate in discussion in middle school Bible classes. Katherine Boesch and Timothy Wilcox, eighth grade, listen during Jeremy Scott's Bible class. The class curriculum included class reflection, Psalms, and memory verse work. Additionally, middle school Bible classes included oral test requirements with groups consisting from two to four students each.





Michael Nothum, eighth grade, listens during Bible class. In addition to typical classwork, students worked on projects inside and outside of the classroom. Collaborative projects were commonplace in the middle school curriculum.



Philipp Haas, senior, sets up his drum set before chapel. He had played drums and other percussion instruments for seven years, and he plans to continue his drumming career with a music major at either Belmont or University of Denver.



Thomas Winter, junior, plays his electric violin and adds a unique vibe that many students appreciate. "When I was younger I felt forced to go to chapel. Now I see it as an opportunity," said Watson Woodward, senior.



The New City Fellowship choir of Westminster students claps to the music under the direction of Julia Richard, choir leader. During their performance, they had dance breaks to really feel the music. Victor Alexander, senior, began with a rap to hype up the audience.



Sung Min Cho, sophomore, Se Ryeon Jin, seventh grade, Yooyin Hu, sophomore, and Guyeong Lee, eighth grade, were part of a group that gave a drum presentation in chapel during international week. "They were Korean traditional instruments that farmers used. I had never played before until this performance" said Lee. The students practiced once a week for a month in order to prepare for the performance.



Landon Chard, junior, chats with a friend in a skit for the Drama II chapel performance. Chard played the part of a friend who enjoyed spreading rumors.

Rachel Cannon, senior, sings as one of two female vocalists in chapel band. On the first Wednesday of each month, the band led worship for the entire chapel and added passages of scripture they found moving.



Joshua Flori, freshman, creates worship music on his keyboard. The band practiced on Tuesday nights, Wednesday mornings and Fridays at lunch.

Joseph Minnella, senior, performs with the Drama II class during a chapel about "living water." As the genie in the skit, Minnella granted distraught students the chance to "redo" their decisions.



Brianna McIntyre, sophomore, worships with the New City Fellowship choir during one of three Black History Month chapels. "We had a lot of fun singing in front of the entire school," said McIntyre.



Richard Dykhoush, senior, leads the band in worship at a Tuesday night practice in February. Dykhoush also sang in the Concert and Chamber choirs and taught guitar lessons.



Steven Hall, sophomore, acts out a stressful phone conversation during the drama two chapel. Drama students had the opportunity to perform for the school once a year.

MAFIA MADNESS

In the movie "The Godfather," Don Vito Corleone, while talking to Donnie Fontane about Jack Woltz, says, "I'll make him an offer he can't refuse." Similar to this story about the mafia, Daniel Legters, upper school Spanish teacher, told the student body a story of a man he met who had previously been in the Mexican mafia. He explained that when he was a child, he lived in Merdia, Mexico, where Legters' parents were missionaries who ran a seminary out of their home. This man attended the seminary at the household of the Legters. After some time, the Legters found out that the man had previously been second-in-command in the Mexican mafia before attending a church, becoming a Christian, and then attending the seminary at Legters' parents' house. After attending seminary for only a few weeks, the mafia tracked him. Eventually, they kidnapped him and took him to "the boss." The newfound seminary student gave the headman of the mafia a New Testament Bible while the boss held a gun to his head. Then, "by the grace of God," said Legters, the boss could not pull the trigger. The men in the mafia let the man go free and return to the new life he lived.

Stories of God's intervention and grace such as this were just one of the highlights of the weekly chapels held in the Old Gym. Almost every week a speaker would present a lesson to the students and faculty. Though the lessons were not always easy to hear, the students learned much from each one.

The teachings ranged from intense teachings such as one during Black History Month to family friendly lectures such as the talk from the Wos family, who were missionaries in South Africa. The students and faculty were encouraged and challenged each week as the speakers gave them a new perspective on different aspects of God and portrayed new ways to think about Him.



"The church I went to this year wasn't doing well, so chapel band was like my church small group."
- Catherine Sinclair, junior

Chapel

John Burgess, senior, picks his bass guitar during practice with the rest of the band one Tuesday night. "Some of the new songs didn't sound great the first time we played them, but with practice we got used to them, and they sounded good," said Burgess. The chapel band practiced every Tuesday night at 5:30 to learn new songs to play during chapel.

LEGACY LIVES LONG

Fellowship of Christian Athletes was a part of many schools across the country; big and small, public and private. At Westminster, it became a notably special part of student life. Out of FCA came traditions and community. One such tradition, the "John McClarren Huddle" was created in loving memory of a former WCA student athlete who passed away in a car accident. After his son's death, John's father, Denny McClarren, became a meaningful part of the Westminster chapter of FCA. He attended each meeting; it was encouraging for the students to see his interactions in the group. "He talks about John

pretty openly because all he has are good memories of him. Denny's a very Christ-like guy," said Michael Ferrara, junior. FCA built community and catalyzed spiritual growth through fellowship throughout the year. At Westminster Christian Academy, Fellowship of Christian Athletes has truly become more than just a club.



John Caldwell, senior, plays his guitar at the beginning of an FCA meeting. Caldwell led worship for the group of students during every meeting. Caldwell also started a Bible study with his peers during the year.



Kayla Gebhardt, sophomore, prays during the girls' meeting at FCA. After worshipping together, student athletes separated into smaller groups for devotions and discussion. They also read a sports-related devotion distributed by FCA.



Marci Penning, sophomore, plays "cowballs" after an FCA meeting. This game became a tradition after it was started the previous year by seniors. The game included rolling pool balls together and sprinting around the pool table.



Ryan Wiggins, senior, Benjamin Stratton, and Ryan Krupp, sophomores joke before the start of FCA. Before the meetings started, students chose from a large variety of snacks provided by the Warrells, who hosted FCA. Sometimes students threw fruit snacks across the room into each other's mouths.

Kickoff Pool Party



Shaylynn Weststeyn, junior



Alex Tilley and Jacob Turner, seniors



Ryan Haxel, freshman, Leisha Ritter, and Katherine Haxel, juniors



Theodore Siebenman, senior



Andrew Goebel and Andrew Wendt, seniors



Michael Kruse, senior



Suzanne Weston, junior





"My relationship with God has gotten a lot stronger through my family's involvement in FCA."

- Jacob Worrell, senior

FCA



Marci Penning, sophomore, Leah Beck, senior, and Kelly Penning, junior, sing a praise song at an FCA meeting. The club had worship books that contained about fifty different songs. At the beginning of each worship session, students would shout out their favorite songs as suggestions for the next song to sing.

Andrew Wendt, senior, leads a devotion for a boys group during a meeting.

Theodore Sutcliffe, senior, smiles as he listens to a friend telling a story.

Michael Ferrara, junior, leads a boys group in prayer during an FCA meeting.



Eric Levenhagen, junior, wrestles Andrew Goebel, senior, during the leadership retreat in August. During the retreat, student leaders found time to hang out with friends, play games such as carpet ball and signs, and play in the lake and on the blob. Besides getting to know other leaders, one important aspect of the retreat was chapel time, which was held twice a day. Chapel band made its debut at the retreat. The guest speaker was Jared Huffman, a youth leader at The Kirk of the Hills Presbyterian Church and WCA alum.



"I really appreciate the service opportunities that come along with being a class officer."
-James Myers

Junior Vice President

Abigail Clark, sophomore, hands a sandwich to a customer at one of the STUCO booths during Carnival. Tim Muehlheisen, eighth grade history teacher, camped out at Westminster overnight to roast a pig which was made into sandwiches and sold by STUCO. Other booths manned by STUCO included the duck pond, skeeball, and the water booth.



Mari Knehans, sophomore, gets grabbed by the arms and dragged towards the pool during the STUCO and leadership retreat. All new STUCO members were thrown into the pool, in keeping with a long-standing initiation tradition. Before being tossed in, new members were also required to dig through whipped cream with only their mouths in an attempt to find a hidden M&M. This provided a distraction so that returning members could pounce.



Susie Pike, STUCO Advisor, zip lines on the lake at the Leadership Retreat in the fall. Some students that zip lined were able to hang upside down.



April Johnston, junior and Joy Collins, senior, sit on the dock of the lack watching the activities going on.



"I wanted to be president of STUCO so I could make the events incredible."
-Kendall Vanderslice, senior

STUCO President

John Hancock, freshman, Conor Zielonko, sophomore, and Claire Simponpietri, senior, eat lunch and socialize during a STUCO lunch meeting. David Rohling, freshman, pulls the theme of Turn About out of a hat. STUCO lunch meetings were the time when members planned events such as Christmas Banquet and Turn About and discussed plans for future events.



IN LIKE A LION...

Both sides of the room were in turmoil, voices rang throughout the crowded space, evidence of the heated argument in progress. For the remainder of the lunch period, the divided group continued to debate over the crucial subject: The Spring Event.

In early January, STUCO met in the athletic conference room during lunch to discuss the theme for Spring Event. In contrast to the theme for Christmas Banquet, which was decided over the course of two days on the leadership retreat, the theme for Turn About was often decided in a mere twenty-five minutes. However, this past year, STUCO was unable to come to a decision. Susan Pike, Student Council sponsor, offered two suggestions for the theme; a hoedown, and the Academy Awards. A hoedown theme would have included square dancing (the only type of dancing allowed at Westminster), country music, and couples wearing matching flannel shirts to school on the day of Turn About and to the event itself. The Academy Awards would have involved students submitting homemade videos which would be viewed and awarded prizes on the night of the event.

The members of STUCO were unable to come to a decision on which theme should be selected, as some members found the hoedown theme to be too old-fashioned, and others thought the Academy Awards would be boring. Because they were unable to make a decision, STUCO put it to the vote. During lunch, they passed out voting ballots, and students were able to cast a vote for either the hoedown or the Academy Awards. By the end of the lunch period, many students had submitted their opinion, and STUCO began counting. However, the results were too close to be conclusive, so Student Council was once again left without a theme. In the end, they compromised by blindly pulling the theme out of a hat. The Academy Awards was chosen and became the final theme of the 2009 Spring Event.



"I enjoy the fame, fortune, and prestige that come along with being president."

-Noah Roberts

**Freshman
President**

Kira Stewart, sophomore, jumps off of the tower onto the blob.



Alexandria Calhoun, freshman, grabs paddles to go canoeing on the lake.



Sara Bopp, senior, talks during a STUCO meeting in mid-February. This was Bopp's first year on STUCO, and she helped by being one of the people who thought of hosting a mother-daughter fashion show to raise money for charity. STUCO used the money generated from this event to give donations to the Metro Women's Homeless shelter.



swat



"SWAT becomes really rewarding when you see people who understand and are willing to change."
- Abigail Hicks, senior

SWAT Club
President



Thomas Porter, junior, and Mike Kruse, senior, both attend a TREND conference. The conference took place over the summer. SWAT (Students Working Against Tobacco) was a club that helped raise awareness against the use of tobacco. Porter and Kruse had both been on SWAT since their freshman year and both had traveled to many cities supporting their cause.



Forrest Hughes, junior, is dressed up for the third day of Spirit Week. Hughes was a member of the Spirit Club which helped organize and create Spirit Week. The week was a creative way to increase school spirit and a fun way to have the classes compete against each other.



Aaron Blackwell, senior, rolls the dice to decide which grade is up next. Alexandria Calhoon, freshman, holds the hula hoops for the freshman class. Calhoon also participated in the event. Theodore Siebenman, senior, screams for the senior class during one of the activities during the assembly.



The new mascot is unveiled during Wildcat Pride Night on November 21. The new cat was generously donated by the senior class of '08. Its new features included more muscle and overall excitement.



Sara Keeton, English teacher and spirit club advisor, measures the mohawks of Zackary Lokey, eighth grade, and Jonathan Wood, seventh grade. The competition took place during Blue and White Day and the winner got a candy bar. The Spirit Club plans out this special event and schedules many fun competitions throughout the school day.



"I like having power and making decisions."
-Aaron Blackwell, senior

Spirit Club
President

Spirit Club



"Ears Not Mouths"

In past years, Marty Peters, librarian and rule maker and bookkeeper of the library, never allowed iPods. "Originally students in classes wanted to listen to iPods like the other kids in the library but the teachers did not want that," said Peters. But this year she had a change of heart. "Some students concentrate better with iPods, and so far it hasn't caused any problems," said Peters.

Once music was allowed in the library, most students and even some teachers took the opportunity to use their iPods while studying. Some students enjoyed listening to country, while others focused better with hip-hop music. Even though Peters is now allowing iPods, she has made it clear that the "no food rule remains."

Taylor Pfeifer, seventh grade, enjoys listening to the High School Musical 3 Soundtrack and Hannah Montana while she does homework. "I can focus a lot better when I listen to music that is happy," said Pfeifer.



Jacob Mohler, math teacher, listens to his iPod during his fourth hour planning period. Mohler received the iPod as a gift from his pre-calculus students last school year.



Luke Thampy, junior, works on homework during his study hall. "When I work on my chemistry homework, I really like listening to 'Almost Lover' by a Fine Frenzy. It is just so soothing" said Thampy.



Anneleyce Belle Alexander

God, thanks for never leaving my side. Clinton you're my brother and my best friend. Abby thanks for being the best friend I could ever ask for. Kristin thanks for keeping things fun and always being there for me. Claire two words- bio buddies. Never forget cika. Sarah so many crazy memories thanks for all the laughs. Cati, I love how our minds think alike keep it that way. Nicole you eat too much Chinese but I love you. Blake you're a great math pal, thanks for everything. Anne, wash those walls. To my other friends, guys; thanks for letting me 'be one of the guys', and listening to me. Girls; I love you all thanks for making me smile.



Marty Peters, librarian, stacks books on a cart for the next class to use. Peters prepared a large selection of books for the seventh graders to use during their time in the library.



Drew Glidewell, junior, listens to his iPod while studying in the library. "I love listening to country, especially 'Drive' by Alan Jackson," said Glidewell.



Tim Gerald Appelbaum

I don't have much to say, but thanks. Thanks to my mom and dad for sending me here and never giving up on me. And thanks for shelling out all the money to go here, because I can definitely see the difference between here and public schools. Also, thanks to my friends for letting me hang around you all. And thanks to all the teachers for not giving up on me either, but thanks go especially to Coach Bain for counseling me through tough times. All in all, I could not have made it through Westminster without you all.





Victor Lawrence Alexander

To my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, who has made my life possible, thanks. I thank God for my mother and father who He gave the strength to and did not allow them to send me away to boarding school. I thank God for their love and mercy that they showed and have showed me all my life. I thank God for the loving counselor, Mrs. Blough, who showed me the way that I learn and the way that I think. Thanks to God for my school that I love. To my home girl, Alex, keep it real sugar toast. To my two BFFs Daniel and David, its been a great ride and I thank God for you.



Lindsay Renee Allee



God-Thank you for the many blessings you have given me! Mom, Dad- Thanks for all your love and support. I love you so much! Ryan- You always make me laugh. I love you! Breakdown and Jenna- You are an inspiration and a blessing! I love you all! VDT and "CC" "Walking is not an option." Love you girls! Rye's Bro's- You are my little bro's, always! Love you guys! My "girls"- You mean so much to me! Thanks for all the fun times! Laurel, Leisha- Love you girls! Thanks for being there! Rach, MO- Fun times, friends always! Jordan N- Friends forever! Victor and A- boys- Dancin' partners forever! Thank you all for the wonderful memories and God bless!



Kiprotich Baliach

To God, I thank You Lord for bringing me this far in life. Knowing you has been the best thing in my life and Your love is unconditional. Kara-wonderful in my life, being patient and putting up with me through high school meant so much to me- I love you. Joyce, I love you, you remind me of my loving grandma. Chester, most influential person in my life, you taught me a lot and I thank you. Mark, Brandt, and Kenzie-thanks for being part of our family. I pray that we always have good days. Friends and people of WCA- thank you for welcoming me to WCA and I urge you to continue emulating Christ in everything you do.



Laura Caroline Barboia

Oh my goodness, here we are! As excited as I am for the future, I'm going to miss Westminster and everyone here so much! My teachers and friends have taught me, challenged me, and inspired me in more ways than they'll ever know. You're all a blessing from God. My wonderful parents-for you, this isn't really a goodbye, but thanks for putting up with me for 17 years. Kaitlin and Sarah- I love you both! You're both amazing and beautiful, and I can't wait to see where you'll go in life! Michael- it's pronounced "oh-ee-she" and "Missour-ee." Thanks to all of you who helped keep me awake during those late nights of homework via facebook or texting! It was fun!





Leah Schulte Beck



God, thank you for loving me, providing for me, and blessing me with everything you have given me. Beth- you are a great friend and have helped me out with EVERYTHING more times than I can count. Kelly- I love your stories and your witty comments. I don't remember not knowing you. Marci, my tall friend- thanks for making me laugh ALL the time! Annie, Amanda, Karen, Jessie, and Katherine- you're amazing and have been great friends! I love you all! Volleyball, basketball and soccer girls- keep working hard and glorifying God. Mommy and Daddy, thank you for loving me and supporting me in everything I do. I love you. Andrew and Michael thank you for being great brothers. Galatians 2:20.



Emily Catherine Beerbower

I have so many memories I'll never forget from high school. I've learned so much in and out of the classroom at WCA. Thank you Gibson for inspiring an appetite for learning in me. Your passion for students encourages me everyday. OHLESUE, how could I have ever made it without you? You complete me. I <3 you with all of my heart, forever. St- we've been together so long. I can't even imagine life without you. Our memories are some of the greatest times of my life. I love you. Carmen- You are precious to me and I cherish our time together. Claire, you know me better than anyone. You're a part of me. Thanks to my parents. I love you and all the ones dear to my heart.



MIDDLE SCHOOL

UPPER SCHOOL

A student's first day of 7th grade at Westminster is full of uncertainties: Will anyone like me? Will my classes be hard? When is lunch? When comparing these first moments to a senior's final day in high school, it was easy to see that countless changes took place between middle school and high school. These changes included different sports schedules, new freedoms, and elongated classes. While only one floor marked the distance between these two levels of education, the differences between the two were many and significant.



Elizabeth DeRousse, middle school teacher, looks over math homework for a student in her class. Students enjoyed her fun-loving, positive attitude.

“Middle school is awesome. I really like all of the teachers.”
Julia Alpert, seventh grade



Cobem Nyi, eighth grade, rests after a football practice. For eighth graders, practices took place in the middle of the day, which made it hard for some students to get to class on time.

“It stinks having sports during the day. You have to get all sweaty.”
William Egan, eighth grade

“There's a lot more freedom in high school than in middle school.”

Brett Baumgartner, sophomore



Timothy Reed, junior, talks with his friends during a study hall. As a part of junior privilege, juniors were allowed to spend their study halls in the commons or library.

“I love the block schedule in high school. It's so much more fun.”

Ian Farmer, sophomore



Emily Sherman, junior, works on an art project during a block day. Block day allowed students to focus on their projects for a more extended period of time.



**Benjamin Clark
Becker**

Mom and Dad, I don't think I could have made it through WCA without you "raising me up in the way that I should go" so when I am old, "I will not depart from it." So thanks. Second, little sis, thanks for always being so patient with me even when I get annoying. It means a lot. Third, every football guy that I ever had the honor of sharing the field with, thank you. Use the lessons the game teaches you about life. Fourth, to all the summer seminar people, that was an experience of a lifetime. Keirnit, MOB, let's go golfing sometime. And to the rest of WCA, peace out, I'll see you at the ten-year reunion.



**Corinne Elizabeth
Becker**

Mom and Dad- Thank you for always encouraging me to follow my dreams. Abby, Michael, David- You guys are the best siblings a big sister could ask for! To all my girls- KT, Sarah, Kelsey, Kendall- I will never forget the laughs we shared and the times we spent together. You all mean so much to me, and I don't know what I would do without you. Mugg- we are the same person! Forrest, Thomas, Hally- My quad really does do it better. Ben- Why so serious? Thanks for never judging me. Varsity Dance Team- It has been such a privilege to be your captain. Always strive for excellence! Finally, I need to give God the glory! Psalm 50:15



**Phillip Down
Binkholder**

I want to thank God for all that he has done for me throughout my life, with all the things I have been through. I also want to thank my friends for all the good times that we have had together. Coach Muehleisen thanks for all the things you have done for me and being there for me and helping me through my hard times and to keep my focus on trusting God through it all. Thanks mom for all that you have done; you have given me encouragement to keep striving to be better. Coach Pederson, thanks for the encouragement throughout my time at WCA and being a better man living for Christ.



**Christopher Frederick
Bishop**

Mom, thanks for believing in me when I didn't always believe in myself. Grandpa, thanks for all the love and support. Lineman, football was an awesome experience thanks to you guys. Burgess, it's been an honor to ride with a celebrity such as yourself and I'm going to miss those deep philosophical-theological White Castle filled car rides home. Dr. Shaw thanks for reminding me about Imago Dei and helping me realize God values us all because we are made in His image. Bobby Tague, keep being beastly (nuff said) Finally to my favorite band/football freshmen Brownie and Cookie Dough try to get along I find your love/hate relationship bizarre (COOKIE NOOO!!!) but I'm going to miss it. God bless





Aaron Pau Blackwell

I want to thank my parents for sending me to Westminster, because if it weren't for them I would not have the same friends or experiences. I want all of my friends to know that they will never know how much they have done for me. I will always love the memories with them, whether it is at a concert or driving around doing nothing. I am so excited to see where all of you guys end up in the next twenty years. If you ever come back and read this when you are old and married contact me please, because I never want to lose touch with you guys. Go on and love others like you loved me.



Calvin James Boesch

First, I want to thank my dogs for making me happy. Thanks, Mom, for teaching me to love reading. Thanks, Dad, for the support and encouragement over the years. Toad, I'll miss ANTM, Harry Potter Scene It, Mario Kart, and MOHRS. Becky, maybe I'll join you at a PETA rally or an emo concert someday. Sarah, your obsession with Pirates of the Caribbean is disgusting and I am definitely better than you at Disney Scene It even if the record doesn't show it. To my fellow members of the Human Fund, thanks. You guys made high school fun. Thanks to all the authors whose books I have enjoyed over the years. In particular: Stephen King, George R.R. Martin, and JRR Tolkien; your work has inspired me in so many ways.



Sara Anne Bopp



Camilla Thayer Buckley

Mom, thank you for showing me what a Godly woman looks like. I truly appreciate your untiring love, encouragement, and support. I'm so thankful for the close relationship we share. You are my best friend... I love you! Dad, I love you to the moon and back! Shelly, I love laughing with you! Thanks for always listening. You're my best friend. Meri, we've been together since the beginning! Thanks for being such a great friend. Sarah, I love traveling with you! You are such a special girl and an amazing friend. Brennen, I'll always be grateful for the closeness we share! Cheerleaders, it has been a privilege to lead such beautiful and talented young women! Thank you, God, for your redeeming love and grace.



Are You Ready For This?

One early Saturday morning in September thirty juniors filed into the cafeteria at the Westminster Town and Country campus. While most of their friends were sleeping in, these students were attending the first ACT preparation class, taught by Sherry Blough, upper school guidance counselor. During this class students were taught test taking strategies and reviewed concepts that perhaps had not been covered in school curricula for a couple of years. The class was made up of two six-hour sessions on two different Saturdays. Mrs. Blough taught about the English and Reading portions of the test during the first session, while she covered math and science in the second session.

Students had different thoughts and reactions to this class. Some thoroughly valued every aspect of the test preparation, while others had mixed feelings. "I don't think it needed to be that long or that expensive for the information that they gave us," said Jacob Grimes, junior. However, Grimes appreciated what he learned through the class. He took the ACT in October and was pleased with his score. "The strategies I learned helped me when I took the test," said Grimes.



Matt Darr, tutor, helps Brittney Hough, senior, with math homework. Darr was a familiar face every day in the library. He assisted many Westminster students as they studied for both Westminster classes and standardized tests such as the ACT.



Meredith Davis, senior, studies on a computer in the library. Students often used the library to study for the ACT or SAT. Students could register for standardized tests and were able to find their scores after taking the tests using the internet.



David Alexander, junior, Victor Alexander, senior, and Richard Copeland, junior, listen to the Lindenwood representative at a college visit. Students asked questions of the representative regarding cost, housing, and sports. They also discussed the ACT and SAT scores required for admission to Lindenwood.



John Allen Burgess

Dad and Mom, I appreciate all that you have done to help me succeed. T-man, it's now your turn to carry on the Burgess name. I'm proud of you. To all the guys on the football team and coaches, you've taught me so much. Hughes, it's been fun, the hockey team will always be remembered. Andrew, thanks for being a great live-in friend. All the lunch table guys, you've made every day fun and the crazy times we've shared great. I can't imagine finding another group like you guys. Everyone else along the way, you've helped make my time at WCA amazing. Thanks to everyone, and remember Psalm 68: 19-20



John Joseph Caldwell

God, you are so awesome! I love you so much! I love my family and friends. Bye Westminster!





Chelsea Dee Call

Dad, I don't know how you do it, you are my hero. Thank you for your unconditional love and wisdom. Lace, you are my baby girl and best friend. You will never understand how truly precious you are to me. Adam, you will always be my chub and my rock, you have taught me so much, I love you. Carm, Paige, Les, Em, ST, Ange, Alex, Watson; my beautiful girls, nobody can possibly begin to understand our friendship. Thank you for all the wonderful and wild memories. To everyone else: thank you for being a part of a chapter in my life. "Parting is all we know of heaven, and all we need to know of hell." -Emily Dickinson.



Sarah Allison Caple

God, thanks for guiding me through the years and blessing me in so many ways. Family-I couldn't ask for better parents. You support and love me unconditionally. Thanks for occasional slaps in the face, Calen. Thanks, Jarred, for introducing me to good music. Hannah, you're my favorite little sister. Bethany, you always make me laugh. Calvin-I still think you're an amazing person. Thanks for never boring me, putting up with my craziness, and introducing me to Harry Potter. Guyfriends- You're all hilarious and I've had loads of fun with you. Katherine-Thanks for all the laughs, sleepovers, chocolate binges, facials, and "labs". Amanda and Jordan- Yay Unit 2! Thanks for staying friends with me when others didn't. I love you all!



Whitney Kathryn Calvin



Michael Barres Cawthon

Mom and Dad, thanks for all of your love, support, and encouragement. Laura and Bill you are the best brother and sister. Chris, my other brother, you are a great addition to our family. Luke and Joe, its been fun! To all my teachers and friends, thanks for all the help and the great memories.





Rachel Lee Cannon

Jesus, thank you for pouring out your love when I don't deserve it. Mom and Dad, thank you for the sacrifices you've made-I love you. Danny, you understand my humor. Andrew-you'll always be my little buddy. Monica-from Suz, songs for the ages, now and then, the laughing game, and meekos, you've been there through everything. Maybe someday you'll stay awake for a whole movie. Nadia- from c.d.s to stats, I think we laughed the whole time. Kels, let's go visit Naters. And remember-it's zoom-nine! You and Nauds bring so much laughter to my life. A-lay-our improv ritual is legit. Jenny, you'll always be my Edward. Matthew 6:33-34



Friday Night Improv

Bursting into tears, jumping for joy, and playing leapfrog under the spotlight are a few usual components involved in the Improv shows held twice every month. "It was really fun to see friends in a different environment and being really funny and making

a hundred people laugh," said Sarah Hughes, junior. Many students, along with faculty and family, enjoyed watching the student's creativity come out on the stage. Several families came regularly to Improv, and others came just once or twice. No matter how many times someone attended Improv, they always enjoyed watching the students perform. Improv was more than just a class for these students, it was a way to express their inner selves.

Katharine Smith, junior, pretends to interrogate Blake Anderson, junior, during a game of "Bad Cop/ Good Cop". The game was somewhat Clue-style and involved a random name, murder weapon, and murder location, picked by an audience member, such as Dolly Parton or Jude Law.



Anne Martin, senior, bursts into inconsolable tears while Nathan Cox, sophomore, attempts to comfort her during a mini-drama game.



Nevin George Cherian

I would like to thank God for His providence throughout high school. My parents-I will always remain grateful for the ambition and faith you've instilled in me. Nathan-I am constantly amazed at the level of maturity you show. Take advantage of the numerous gifts God has provided you. Dr. Shaw- I will never forget the phrase "finite and fallen." Mr. Vass and Schobo- learning trivia with you has been a joy. Talent-I couldn't imagine what past years would have been like without your friendship. Ju- you've exemplified Romans 12: I can't help but respect that. To WCA students-remember "real education must ultimately be limited to men who insist on knowing, the rest is mere sheep-herding."



Several members of improv laugh at their fellow classmate's antics during a game of charades in Advanced Improvisation, a class that all improv members were required to take. They had to take Drama I and Drama II before being accepted on to the improv team.



Forrest Hughes, junior, weeps over the "dead" body of Shelby Massott, junior, while acting out a scene in a movie suggested by an audience member. The game consisted of the same scene acted out over and over in different settings, such as "horror movie" or "Japanese kung-fu flick."



Joseph Greenlee, senior, struggles through an imaginary desert at Friday Night Improv. During Improv, the whole class was divided into two teams. They competed against each other by playing various games. The team that accumulated the most points won the coveted trophy of the semester. In the end, the blue team won, much to the dismay of the others.

EVERYBODY Dance NOW

Although Westminster's policies did not allow any school sponsored dances, this did not stop students from finding ways to dance. The hobby of swing dancing originated with E-Free's youth group. Soon the trend continued to catch on as swing dancing parties and fundraisers were organized by students. Several groups of juniors and seniors started swing dancing regularly at Casa Loma Ballroom in South St. Louis.

1 Kevin Bell and Olivia Atkinson, juniors, try a dance movement called the pretzel. "It doesn't always work out. You have to work at the moves a lot before they become smooth and natural," said Atkinson.



2 Nadia Pasque, senior, dances with her little brother. Both started swing dancing during the summer with E-free's youth group.



3 Courtney Pfeiffer and Lukose Thampy, juniors, practice during the Casa Loma's free lessons. Though Pfeiffer had gone dancing on several occasions, this was Thampy's first time. "The atmosphere is really cool. It's like something from the fifties," said Thampy.

4 David Alexander, junior, does an impromptu tap routine at Casa Loma. The owner allowed Alexander to dance for free when he brought his tap shoes. He instantly drew a crowd as he began to dance.



Annaliese Marie Clark



God, my life is yours. Family: Thanks for the love and support. Mom: Don't worry about me. I'll get by—always have, always will. Dad: I am your girl... as long as you don't kill my dog. Abbs: Way to not let others push you around. That's my job. Watch out for bugs. I love you, though I don't always show it. Anne: BFF. We've been through lots. You helped me open up, relax, and enjoy life. Love you much. Becca: No predicaments without me. I'll miss you. Lane 2: Thanks for the laughs, talks, and downtown trips. Coachy: Expect more late night visits. You're the best. V-ball girls: I missed you. You're the sweetest. WCA: Thanks for making me think.



Joy Marie Collins



Lord Jesus, you are my strength when I am weak. Mom and Dad, it's impossible to thank you enough for what you've done for me over these years. You have been constantly beside me, listening to me, encouraging me, and guiding me. I know I can always count on you, and your girl will always love you. Joseph, stay bold, you have a steadfast heart that I love—I'm going to miss you bunches. To all my teachers at Westminster: You have revealed more of God and his Creation to me. Mr. Vass, I didn't break your clock. And to my friends: You are a tremendous encouragement to me. Thank you for all the moments we've shared. Hebrews 4:14-16





Kenton Bradley Coffman

Mom and Dad, you both have always given me love and advice through crucial times. Casey, thanks for all the social advice as we know that I am pretty clueless without my sources. Our relationship has been amazing as it surpasses the typical brother and sister dynamics. Friends are huge in life and I have loved all of the different moments whether fun, serious, affectionate, or idiotic. Football Coaches and Coach Schall, the knowledge you have passed on to me has not been wasted and through your coaching, I will continually strive to make my life look similar to that of a R.E.A.L. man.



Alexandria Lauren Cole

11 Timothy 4:7-Mommy, you're my angel, I don't deserve you. Tay, I would die for you. Sorry for breaking your bed. Erinn, Gilbert, you are my babies and I won't ever leave you hanging. Adam and Chelsea, tears, you make this moment bittersweet. ST, I want to be just like you! Paige, best friend for life. Victor, my sunshine, you make me laugh. Family, thank you, you have been such a blessing. I'm sorry if I have left you out. There are not many times where I am left speechless, but this is one. Just know that I love you. Emily, Jes, Leslies, Bre, Kristin. And Papa, this is for you, because I wanted to quit a long time ago.



Elinor Catherine Crim

Thank you, Mumsie and Daddy for your prayers, love, and support throughout my life. My Moosie and Iwewe, thanks for all the grilling and pizza making fun. Miss Liz, my Doge, I'm so glad you finally realized I am your best friend. Cakes, the Doge Lackey, thank you for being my best buddy and putting up with me every morning. Smally, it's nice to have you around even though you are the loudest snorer I know. Po, I still only give him two Ts, if that. Thanks to all the rest of my friends, floating, City Museum and late-night ice cream. Thanks to all my teachers here. I'll never forget how to write a "two-page paper."



Meredith Ann Davis

Even though I haven't been totally faithful, God has truly blessed me. Mom and Dad: your love continues to teach me new things every day. Sisters: "Lord help the mister who comes between me and my sisters," always remember the road trips. Sarah, Camilla, and Shelly: I believe our friendship could hold through anything, thanks for changing me into a better person. Cheer-girls: always remember to smile and have fun. Friends and classmates: I'm glad to say all of you have given me memories that I will keep forever. "We make a living by what we get, we make a life by what we give." -Winston Churchill





Mary Sarah Dickerson

SENIOR '09 ... I can't believe I'm graduating from high school already! First of all I want to thank God for letting me have 4 successful years of high school. Also, I thank Him for being there for me when times were tough. Next I want to say thank you to Lecy: Girl, I LOVE YOU SO MUCH! Thank you for being a great friend and I will remember all the CrAzY times we had together. Hannah ... CRAZY CHICKEN! Thank you for being an awesome friend. My brother Marshall: you make me laugh! I will miss driving you to school in the morning. Love you. Finally, mom and dad, thank you for letting me spend my senior year at Westminster!



John Jerald Dinga

Does anybody ever read these? I don't think I ever did. I want to thank my friends that made high school so great. Matt Evans, you will never be able to read this. Bink, you're an amazing guy and we should hang out more. Jared Dare, Jessi Stamps, Michael Hughes, Hannah Fletcher, and Bishop you are all amazing people. No, Alek Miller you're in here too. I have always admired your morals and ethic, stay cool man. To Jeff, we curb stomp for kicks. To Justine, I hope you enjoyed "Watchmen". To anyone I have forgotten I hope by the time you read this I will have thanked you for whatever you needed thanks for. Goodbye Westminster.



DECIDING YOUR DESTINATION

The fiery colors that started to appear in September were not the only sign of autumn this past year. College representatives from across America began flocking to high schools. Normally, a person would hear the squeaking of shoes and the swishing of baskets in the new gym, but on college fair nights tables were lined up along the gym walls. As the doors of the new gym opened, questions began to fly as parents and students alike wondered about the necessities available at each college. This year the St. Louis Christian College Fair was hosted by WCA and over 50 colleges from all over the U.S. were represented. For juniors and seniors, this event, and many others like it, was the first step towards choosing a school after Westminster.

Eric Levenhagen, junior, listens in as the Marine Corp. representative explains what one must go through to be accepted. As well as the physical demands, one must meet a certain level of academic requirements.



Haley Estes, senior, and Cori Becker, senior, stand in front of the science wing at Wake Forest University. They also visited Davidson University while they were there. "We went up to North Carolina to visit an old friend and it sort of turned into a college road trip," said Estes.



Katherine Smith, junior, talks with a college representative at the Christian College Fair. The fair was held at Westminster on November 7. The Fair held over 50 colleges from around the nation.



Alyson Tate, senior, and Kelyn Gum, WCA alumnus, watch a football game during Tate's visit to Baylor University. College visits not only served as an informative trip, but could also serve as a fun get away. Tate had visited colleges in California, Texas, and Illinois.



Alayna Christina Doiron

Mom/Dad- Thanks for putting up with me. I really appreciate all you've given me! Don't give away the cat once I'm gone. Justin- Keep acting! And love the cat. Lisa/Bestie/Cakester- Can't wait till we get our pink mo-heads! lolli. David/Joe- Best friends! Sam- Secret hand shake Maggie- Thanks for being the Samwise to my Frodo. You are a peach, dear! Ben-Ay- Maybe one of these days I'll be able to sing higher than you. 37. Kels. Mo, Nauds, Rach- Thanks for adopting me into the posse for senior year! You make me smile. Improv friends- Oh my gosh you are Hilah-nious! To everyone else- 120 words are not enough. It's been a blast! Love you all!



Jordan Charles Duke

"Dream as if you'll live forever, live as if you'll die today." To those that helped me to "live" in high school: Andrew W, Sarah C, Amanda S, Karen G, Katherine K, Caleb L, Calvin B, Michael T, Phil H, Juhyung K, Hoseon Y, Matthew T, "If given a chance to be a role model always take it because you can influence a person's life in a positive light" To those who I looked up to: Steve Dalbey, Jay Westra, BJ Otey, Eric Stiller, Ms. Zavaglia, Mr. Warren, Mrs. Pike, Dr. Aucker, Mr. Vonder Bruegge, Mr. Lewis, Mrs. Lewis. "It is not flesh and blood but the heart which makes us family." To my family: Mom, Dad, Kaylie, Nathan. Matthew 6:13b (NASV)



Sarah Kathryn Duffy

Mom- "I'll be your best friend" you already are mine. Dad- I have learned everything I know about my faith from you. You two have shaped the person I have become. Paul and Maggie- You two are irreplaceable siblings. I love you both. To my teachers- You have given me the stepping stones needed to excel in academics and life. Meri, Shelly, and Camilla- Mere words fail to give justice to the amount of love and respect I have for you. Thanks for being my incredible friends and always standing by my side. Annie, Becca, and Kristin- You all have taught me what it means to be a teammate and athlete. You have continuously pushed me to be the best. John 16:32-33



Richard Ryan Dykehouse

First of all, I just want to give credit to God and how He has miraculously kept me sane and blessed me throughout the journey. Mom, Dad, thanks for being there and being so supportive. It has meant a lot. Lil Bro, keep it real as a freshman. You'll do great in high school. Lunch table, thanks for being welcoming to the new guy. We've had some good times and great laughs! Chapel Band, thanks for the great year. It's been an experience. And for the rest of my high school buds, thanks for everything! It's been a great 3 years! 2 Timothy 4:7—"Hold fast to dreams for if dreams die, life is a broken-winged bird that cannot fly." -LH





Christine Michelle Ehrmann

First of all I would like to thank my family, especially my mom and dad for sticking with me through everything. Also, my brothers, you guys have been a significant part of my life and have become my best friends. Coach Smith, I am so grateful to have had you as my coach, teacher, and friend. You have taught me a lot. Whitney, Kenzie, and Emily, my closest friends, we have been through so much together that I truly cherish it all. I will greatly miss every moment, even though I know there will always be more to come. I love you all.



Michelle Lisa Engelbart

God: My all in all. Mom: My best friend, thanks for always believing in me. Dad: I'm forever grateful for your providence. I love you both. Matthew: I'm still Matt's lil sis. Jenna: mentor and friend xo. Ky: Thank you for your honesty and loving friendship. You mean so much to me. Tripod: my sisters, cookie dough, pucca dino, and schotzy sleepovers. Mads: make good choices. Aaron: many laughs, Doyle family dinners. H(girlfriend-SF) and B: plan of destruction. BreakDown: I admire you all and your commitment. Gibson: thanks for teaching me beyond the classroom. Aly, Emily: x night. Whit: older men. Chris: neighbor! Kenzie: travel buddy. Bopp on a Rope, Kendall: thanks for all the memories. Micah 6:8. Peace.



Matthew John Farquhar

When I think about my career at Westminster Christian Academy a couple of things come to mind. The first ideal is discipline. For teaching me discipline and the principle of respect I would like to thank Dr. Shaw and my parents. They also taught me to strive for excellence and always do my best. The other ideal that encompasses my time at Westminster is friendship. I want to thank Mrs. Lewis for showing me that people are essential to be happy. She had me step out of my comfort zone and be social and only good things have come from that. I would just like to say "good-bye" to Westminster and "good luck" to the rest of the class. Adsis cum deus vos.



Emily Joanne Farris

I would like to acknowledge the Lord and thank Him for the way in which He's worked in my life. Mom and Dad, you have loved and guided me all the way through these years and a thank you could never express how much I truly appreciate it. Lindsay, you are my role model, the past eighteen years you've been my best friend. Chase, you will always be my hopper. God has truly blessed me and I love you! Ashleigh, the times we've spent together are priceless. Whitney, Christine, Kenzie, and all the others... you have made high school incredible with all the memories and laughs we have had. Proverbs 3:5-6. Congratulations, class of 2009! God bless you all!



"Work? Senior Year? What?"

Imagine for a moment that you are a senior, it is your last year at the Academy and all you want to do is lay around and enjoy yourself. Well, that is exactly the opportunity afforded to some seniors. Seniors with study hall periods were allowed to leave campus and enjoy freedoms similar to that of college students, a feature Westminster called "senior privilege".

Some twelfth-graders chose to enjoy activities in the great outdoors by playing football and soccer in the waning days of autumn. "It's really nice outside," said Caleb Leonard, Senior. "We're having a blast throwing around a football."

Others spent time at food and drink joints such as St. Louis Bread Co. and Smoothie King. Only a small group of seniors chose to go home during senior privilege, but sometimes, actually getting something done was more important than having fun.



Adam Miller and Watson Woodward, seniors, converse in Seniorville during senior privilege. Located at the end of the senior hall, Seniorville was the on-campus location of choice for seniors.



Corinne Becker, senior, eats lunch at Subway during senior privilege. Senior privilege gave seniors the opportunity to diversify their meals.



Nadia Pasque and Monica Moore, seniors, eat lunch at McAllister's. The group ordered their favorites weekly, such as mac and cheese, turkey sandwich, and nachos. They sat at the same table each week, since they ate there so often.

Caleb Leonard, senior, plays table tennis at a student's house during his study hall period. Caleb and others often left campus to play games such as football, pool, and soccer.



Haley Jensen Estes

It's hard to believe that after six years of laughter, tears, and homework, my time at WCA's coming to a close. Mom, Dad, and Bax, thank you for supporting and shutting around your busy daughter. I love you! Mugg, we're best friends why? ... cuz we "g" like that! Belf, you know me better than I know myself. KT, my homey, go beavers go! Kels, chucking M&M's... classic. Sarah, my drama queen, we'll forever share our love of the fine arts. Capelli, you make me "Sunni", Shady! Mac, one word, jabsos. Budorkus, it only takes a moment. To God, my teachers, and all other friends and family, you've made school such a blessing. Jeremiah 10:23



Hannah Rose Fletcher

First off I want to say thanks to my friends for being awesome and making me laugh all these years. Ben, have fun being AV next year, I'll miss hanging out with you before school! Sarah, my youth group and grade school friend - crazy chicken! Everyone else, you know who you are, thanks for putting up with my randomness. My KREW family, you guys are amazing. I don't know how I would have gotten through high school without you. You've brought me so much closer to God. All of you have made me who I am today. I'll never forget all the Destin and Fin-and-Feather trips. Mom and Dad, thanks for everything you've given me these eighteen years.





Jessica Grace
Flori

I owe my life to Jesus Christ. Thank you for your unending love and grace. Mom, you are so devoted; thanks for making my life special. Dad, you are a godly father; thanks for your discipline and kindness. Josh, stay close to God and listen to Mom and Dad; thanks for all the fun times. To those who have been friends to me: Danielle Long, Becca Nitcher, Kevin Hayes, Alex Adelman, Betsy Best, Cameron Stoner, Maria Schneider, Darcy Schober, Rachel Rentschler, Katie Roberts, Travis Hughes, Jimmy Moore, Kyle Edwards, Simone Elliot, Michael Evetts, Kaitlin Harding, Shannon Hock, Kristi Budnick, Ben Lim, Katherine Kennison, Carolyn Bonaquist; words aren't enough to express how much I love all of you.



Sarah Kathryn
Fullerton

Mom and Dad, thank you for your love and support, you are my best friends. Paul, we are opposite sides of the same person, thanks for sharing my life and being my motivation. Laura, remember all the hours at Starbucks. I hope we get the lives we planned. Kaitlin, you'll have no trouble remembering everything I've forgotten, sleepovers, Pei Wei, and yearbook analysis. Haley and Cori, you are some of my first WCA memories and there are too many good times to count. Hales, we'll always share theater. Cori, we were together for the pink poodles, Spanish, school events, etc. WCA, these past six years have been a blessing. I thank God for putting all of you in my life.

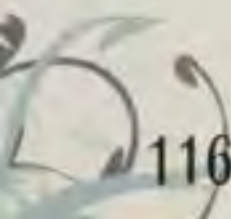


Catherine Elizabeth
Godt



Andrew Thomas
Goebel

"You are my God, and I will give you thanks..." Psalm 118:28. Family- I love you all. Mom- thank you for all your hard work and pushing me to be my best. Dad- thanks for always being there for me to look up to and teaching me about life. Whit- thanks for leading by example and being there to talk. Matthew and Kelly- you guys are beautiful and you mean the world to me. Small group- it has been awesome going through high school with you guys and growing closer to God alongside all of you. To everyone I have shared a field with: thank you, it has been an honor. Hebrews 12:1.





Karen Wael Girgis

Family-- thanks for pushing me. I love you. Amanda- I strive to be like you. "adieu," one day we'll be normal. You help me see the importance of right now. Katherine- random debates, realizing you're right. Taught me to read and were happier for my achievements than I was. Debbie- you brought spontaneity, hilarious sleepovers, KT- xc, movie lines, and songs! Caleb- business partner and brother, thanks for teaching me how not to be worry. You helped my confidence. Andrew- long phone conversations, dicaprio ha! Thanks for putting up with my theories and babbling. Nevin- long facebook discussions. Jordan- hypothetical situations, and helping me out of naivety. Always laughing around you. Claire, Beth, Sarah, Leah, Katie T, you're amazing.



YOU KNOW YOU'RE A Senior WHEN....

AP classes, senior service, varsity sports, NHS, and being a club leader are some of the many responsibilities seniors take on. The final year at the academy, long awaited by all, became reality for the seniors this past year. The class of 2009 felt the anticipation of graduation since the first day of school. Along with taking on many other responsibilities, senior year had many other aspects to it. Students were asked, "When do you know you are truly a senior?" These students responded with various answers.

"... You wait until the last possible minute to do your homework," said Travis Rupprecht, senior. Many seniors, relax and set aside homework for after they enjoy time with friends watching movies and doing other fun activities.



"... Thursday mornings are no longer times to sleep in," said Elizabeth Lambert, senior. While five-sixths of the student body stays home on Thursday mornings, the seniors were working hard to prepare for and help out at their senior service.



"... You can do nothing in studyhall and still graduate," said Jay Yousef, senior. Instead of studying, many seniors use study hall as a time for eating, going off campus, and hanging out with friends.

"... You stay up 'til midnight writing a college essay and fall asleep the next day when you should be studying," said Michael Menzel, senior.



Joseph Scott Greenlee

First of all, I want to thank my parents for sending me to great schools so that I could receive an excellent education. Mom, thank for helping with my schoolwork and for always being there for me. Dad, thank you for all the advice that you have given me and for all the times you drove me to school. Finally, to all of the people that I've been going to school with since seventh grade, it's been great knowing you, and thanks for the memories. It's been a long ride, but I will miss it!



A Few of my FAVORITE things...

Owl figurines, nutcrackers, playbills, and Star Wars books are some of the many items students have begun to accumulate over the years. These students have taken something they find fascinating and created their own personal collection.



Rachel Cannon, senior, collects little owl figurines. "When I was in fourth grade, a family of owls moved into our backyard. So our whole family became obsessed with owls. From that year on my mom would get me a little owl figurines for gifts on my birthday and at Christmas."



Aaron Blackwell, senior, has 25 nutcrackers. Blackwell's tallest nutcracker is six feet tall. "Every year when I was younger my parents would take me to the Nutcracker Ballet. So every year since I was born I've gotten a nutcracker for Christmas and a few in between," said Blackwell.



Justine Doiron, freshman, collects playbills from the Muni and the Fox theaters. "My sister has season tickets to the Fox, so she brings me a lot," said Doiron. "Doiron has eighteen playbills. "My favorite musical is '90 Years of Muni Magic," said Doiron.



Alek Miller, senior, collects Star Wars books. "I started collecting the books in order to expand my knowledge of the Star Wars universe," Miller.



**Brennen Faris
Grone**

Lord, I thank you for grace, joy, and love. You make me happy, for when I am weak-you are strong. My hero-Dad: your example of perseverance & hard work has set an incredible example for me. Thanks for always listening as a friend and a father. Momina: although I do not always show it, I appreciate you teaching me a lesson in all that I do. Every action, big or small, is out of love. PC: build each other up. CB: You personify unconditional love. Drew: always my brother. Gumball, Princess Ted, Till, Beef, and JET: forever my boys. Mackenzie: my best friend and sister. Finally everyone needs an honest, funny, stick by your side friend-thanks Justin. -John 15:13



**Kaitlin Patrice
Harding**

Mom, Dad, Rebecca, and Elisabeth: thanks for all the love, laughs and encouragement. I love you more than you will ever know. Friends: I thank God for you. You've made high school so worthwhile. We've had our ups and downs but we've always come out on top. Laura: There are no words that describe what you mean to me. You are incredibly, inconceivably, extraordinarily amazing. Sarah: You're freaking gorgeous. Thanks for all the great memories; teaching me how to dance and how to let go and just have fun once in a while. Kimmie: my complete opposite. We're amazing together. Monique: Te amo. Voy a faltarte chica. My puppies: I'm gonna miss you the most. I love you so much.





Tiffany Marie Gustafson

Thank you Mom and Dad for all you have done for me. Abby, no one could've asked for a better sister and you are now a "teenage girl." Do well in school and I'll miss you next year. To my friends, you all have been awesome and always have supported me. We've had some fun times and I love you all!



Philip David Haas

Thank you Mom and Dad for sacrificing so much for me and loving me unconditionally. Thanks for the fun times: family-road trips and games. Sisters- thanks for showing me what it means to follow Christ with your whole life. Spring Hills YG- thanks for the fun times, thank you Michael for challenging me. Calvin- snl, drumming, you've got so much standup material to get together, geah, peach geah. Caleb-keep sailing, you're not a redneck. Dance! Ju- break dancing, food Jordan- don't take over the world, build me an awesome computer. Wiens- you're a mad scientist, lets have a LAN party. Michael- you will be president some day, I called it! God, thanks for giving me the strength to persevere.



Carmen Cristina Harjoe

It's almost impossible to sum up all six years at Westminster into 120 words. Although my memories were not all fun, they were filled with many learning experiences. All of this could not have been possible without my parent's love and trust in God and my two little sisters, who have also become some of my closest friends. Thank you to all my friends who challenged me to be a better person and made high school so much fun. Dr. Gibson, thank you for giving me a passion and love for learning and life lessons that I will carry with me always. Finally, Tia Wilma, thank you for teaching me to take on each day at a time.



Tyler Charles Harper

I would like to thank God for my 6 years at Westminster and my excellent education. I'm grateful for my parents who supported me through high school and for always being there for me. Hayden it's been great! You were always someone I could talk to about anything. I could not have asked for a better brother. I want to thank all my friends... you have made these past 6 years some of the most memorable years in my life. (Not counting the hours you spent in front of the "Call of Duty 4".) As we all go off to different colleges I hope to stay in touch with all my awesome friends who molded me into the person I am today.





Rory Thomas Hennings

I would first like to thank God for getting me to this point. I would like to thank you mom for always being there for me and guiding me in my college choice. Dad, you've taught me life lessons and how to maximize my potential in football and I thank you. To my little sister, Tiffany, I am glad to see the person you have become today and you will always have my love. Victor you made high school so much fun. John, you've been a great friend for many years and I thank you. Bishop, "beat em like they stole your fried chicken." Enough said. Much love to all my underclassmen friends.



Matthew Thomas Heyse

Mom and Dad, I couldn't have dreamt of better parents. You have taught me how to raise children in the most loving and supportive way. I love you. Brothers, my love for you will never cease. Your influences have shaped me into who I am. Ben, you paved the road and taught me more than anyone. Jon, you're my best friend. Girls, it's been a pleasure to know you all. Boys, I couldn't have asked for better friends. Coach P, and Mrs. Erdman, thank you for everything you've done. Other faculty and teachers, you cared for me in ways I will never forget. In the words of Dave Matthews, "If nothing can be done, make the best of what's around."



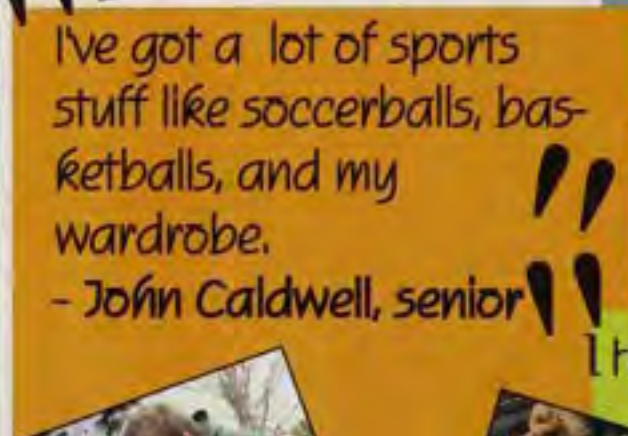
Trunks stuffed with JUNK

Fireworks, lampshades, pots, and sports balls are all strange items that were found in these students trunks. Whatever their reasons may be, these upperclassmen had several reasons for such odd items. One reason was because of transportation. "I pretty much

have my life in my car because I live so far away," said John Caldwell, senior. Others blamed it on their sibling, "I have a lampshade because my sister put it in there," said Bethany Leibovich, junior.



"I have a lamp shade because my mom is an interior designer and I like to help her sometimes."
- Abigail Leibovich, freshman



"I had left over pots from my spanish project. We had to create a Mexican Dish."
- Katherine Krause, junior





Abigail Kristine Hicks

Mom and Dad, thanks for always encouraging me and being there. Without you who knows where I would be. I love you! Little Brothers, you guys are much better brothers than I could have asked for. To all my senior girls, you know who you are, thanks for all the amazing memories I love y'all so much! Anneleyce: what can I say? 10 years as friends, thanks for always being there for me. To all my junior girls (MB, KK, CU) Thanks for always giving me the time of my life, love y'all. Nic, thanks for all the LB and Chinese times. Lastly I must thank God for all he has done for me. Thanks for all the memories! Jer. 29:11.



Brittney Wallace Hough



First, I would like to thank my Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Without Him I am nothing and wouldn't be where I am today without His unfailing love. Mom and Dad-I love you both so incredibly much! Thank you for all of your love and support. You two are the best parents anyone could ever ask for. I love you a lot! Tiffany- You are my only sister and I wouldn't have it any other way. I love you! To my amazing boyfriend Michael- You are incredible! I can't imagine my life without you. No matter what I do you are always there for me. Thank you! To all my friends- Thanks for making everything so enjoyable! Joshua 1:9



Michael Alan Hughes

First off, Mom and Dad: Thanks for always being there when I needed you and being supportive throughout the years. I never could have made it through the past four years without your help. Becca: My favorite big-little sister who was and always will be a role model for me. You mean more to me than you will ever know. To my friends: Thanks for making the past few years go by so fast and full of laughs. I will miss you all as we move on to bigger and better things. To the hockey team: It's been crazy from the beginning to end. I enjoyed each moment that we shared and am glad to have been a part of it all.



KumHwa Jeong

Yey! I can't believe that I made it through it all! I feel like the day I first walked in WCA with nervousness was only a few months ago. Two and a half years at WCA- I grew up under God, met great teachers, and made awesome friends. My years in the US without my parents have been challenging. I thank all those who helped me and cared about me. To my parents- Thank you for all your love, sacrifices, support, and trust. You are everything to me. Thank you for being a big fan of me across the Pacific Ocean. I love you so much! To my friends- Thanks for all the fun memories and sincerely. Good luck!





Robert Lincoln Johnson

God-Thank you for loving me unconditionally and for being faithful even when I'm not. Dad-Thank you for encouraging me in my walk with Christ and for modeling Christian character. Mom-Thank you for being a good listener and for giving me good advice. Family-I feel really blessed to have six wonderful siblings. I don't know what I'd do without you. Alek- Thank you for your sense of humor and for your fresh perspective on things. I am so grateful for our friendship.



Han-Byu Kang

God-Thank you so much for giving me great opportunities throughout my life. Mom and Dad-thank you so much for being a great support, trusting me, and being on my side no matter what. Yire- you are the best cousin ever. Dani- You are my favorite teacher and a great mentor. Best Friends Forever, you know who you are. I owe you guys tons of thanks; Halloweens, Thanksgiving dinners, b-day parties, getting lost in the middle of nowhere, and many other fun memories and good times. To everyone who knows me, thank you for being patient when I had trouble communicating. I had the best time of my life at WCA because you all were there.



Juying Kim

God, thank you for everything you've given me. Without you, I am nothing. Mom, Dad, Juhyae, and grandparents: thank you for sacrificing so much for my Christian education at WCA. It has truly been a blessing. A shoutout to the A-team: thanks for the fun memories in Wiens' basement; they'll be cherished forever. P.S. I will get that operation done. (That's for you Jordan). Nevin: my Indian, lifting, and XC buddy, I enjoyed "running" with you for 3 years and all the fun memories we've had... you're awesome. Hoseon: my best friend, all the laughs we shared these past 5 years will be remembered forever. Thanks for your awesome friendship. We WILL become Youtube celebrities someday... for reals. To everyone else, enjoy life while maintaining peace with everyone. Romans 12:18. Peace-out A-Town



Aaron William Kinder

I want to thank my parents. They've seen my best and worst times. Mom and Dad, I love you! Hannah, Jessica, Gabe, and Emily, my unofficial twin, you guys are the best siblings. Looking at each of you I see parts of myself, because growing up I wanted to be like you. Coach Bain, I'll never forget you calling my name and me asking what did I do now? You are an amazing model of what a Christian man should be. My basketball boys, much love. Especially the "White Squad" and the Chucks, always represent Rishad. Andrea thanks for supporting me in those large crowds, you know what I mean! WCA was great, and God is love.



Going Green

As the world began to conserve the environment through eco-friendly bottles and bags this past year these Westminster students created a club to change the Academy, and the world, by going green. They went out into the community and planted flowers to produce cleaner air and recycled objects that would usually be thrown away. These little every day actions that often go unnoticed were implemented by this new club that met once a week in Mr. Hughes room.



"I have this purse made out of Minute Made Juice pouches. Recycling makes the world a better place to live in because we can have clean air and be healthier."

-Hannah Mitchell, 8th grade

"For costume parties, my friends and I go to resale shops. Last year, I bought a cheap blazer, and it worked great for my costume. If we recycle by shopping at resale shops, we can save money and materials it takes to make clothes. We get to be more creative, too!"

-Elizabeth Simakoff, sophomore



"I think we should plant more flowers and trees around the school to make it more beautiful and to help us have cleaner air."

-Bryn McKie, freshman
(member of the Go Green club)



Katherine Elizabeth Kennison

Family, you've spoken love and made me laugh. You're precious to me. Mandy, you're a peacemaker, counselor, encourager. Karen, you challenge, comfort, strengthen. You're my sisters. teachers: I love you. Katie/Sis, you first showed me true friendship. You're honest, gentle. Claire, keep shining beautifully-camping adventures. KatieW, you're hilarious-ponytails, appli-tree. Sarah-lame jokes. You're so patient. Debbie-you're bold, creative, sincere. Yea, you're hott! Beth, you made routine exciting. Leah, you taught perseverance. Calvin, you friendship kept me standing sophomore year. Andrew, you taught honesty and looking forward. Jordan, you took time to understand. Caleb, thanks for kindness, enthusiasm. WCA teachers, your patience, hard work are astounding. God is good. 2 Corinthians 12:9



Cal Leonard Kliesen

I first would like to thank my parents for everything they have done for me, without them I would not even be at Westminster. You both have made sacrifices for me to have a good education and a comfortable life. I love you both tremendously. Jesus, my heavenly Father, thank you for my time at Westminster and please help me along the way through college. To my friends-it has been awesome getting to know everyone these past 3 years. Football coaches-thanks for always pushing me even when I did not want to be pushed. I've learned many things about life through football. Teachers-thanks for all the help, especially Dr. Gibson. Overall, I enjoyed WCA, but I am looking forward to moving on to college.





Samuel Joseph Knehans

I would like to thank God for the opportunity to grow in faith and knowledge at a place like Westminster, my years here have been invaluable. Jackie Robinson once said, "A life is not important except in the impact it has on other lives." Many people have had a profound impact on my life. Mom and Dad, thank you for the love and support you have give me, my appreciation and admiration of you is beyond words. Mari, thanks for being my best friend through thick and thin, I love you. The guys, the lunch table. 4 years and still going strong. you are my second family. Volleyball girls, Baseline? To everyone, thanks for making my high school experience memorable.



Deborah Anne Knubley

Luke 12:27 My Savior, may all my life be for your glory; Parents and family, thank you for your never-ending patience and loving support. I am blessed to have you as mine. Friends, thank you for being there for me and for helping me to experience life to its fullest. Fireworks in convertibles, bookstores, glow-sticks, light-up Frisbee, Tree house, extra H's, fountains, heart to hearts... classic PC girls, remember that you are wonderfully made and strive to fulfill God's will for you in all that you do. "Stuff your eyes with wonder, live as if you'd drop dead in ten seconds. See the world. It's more fantastic than any dream made or paid for in factories."



Elizabeth Anne Lambert

God, thanks for always being there for me. You are a great God and Savior. Mom and Dad, thanks for always supporting me and loving me. Rebecca, I love you! Thanks for putting up with me... you can have Oscar now. Jessie, you are amazing. Leah, you are a fantastic girl! Thanks for being fantastic friends. To the basketball girls, it's been amazing; I love you all! Thanks to all of my WCA friends. I'll miss you all next year! Philippians 4:8-9: "Finally... whatever is true, honorable, right, pure, lovely, of good repute, dwell on these things. The things you have learned and received and heard and seen in me, practice these things, and the peace of God will be with you."



Caleb Nathanael Leonard

Mom and Dad, it's been tough but thanks for putting me through it all. I've learned more than I ever thought I would in these six years at Westminster and have been able to challenge myself the whole time. To the group, you know who you are. It was fun and I'll miss it. All the random times were memorable and we have way too many inside jokes to even begin to list. The best part is that I'm sure we'll all keep in touch in college...yes, you too, Karen. To everyone on the Swim Team, meet mode! Finally, thanks to all the wonderful teachers at Westminster who work so hard.





Michael Paige Kruse

To my Classmates: Stay strong and keep persevering. You have all put up with me since middle school, there is nothing you cannot handle. Never forget who you are and where you come from. To Ts, Jb, Rh, Cb, Aw, Rd, Mh: you guys rock, lets finish strong. There is no way I could have done it without you. Football team: NEVER GIVE UP. Freshman- I'm proud of you guys, I'll be checking up on you guys, don't let me down. To my parents: I don't know how you are still sane but thanks for everything you have done for me. I am grateful to be called your son. Thanks for sticking by me.



Seth James Lillenberg

Mom and Dad: your consistent love and support these past eighteen years have truly been a blessing. Sarah: thanks for always being there. Stephen: I couldn't have asked for a better younger brother, I'll miss you next year. Taylor: the hospitality was divine. Summer Seminar buddies: the thriving was unforgettable. Costa Rica friends: you're great. Team-mates- Soccer, Hockey, Tennis, I've appreciated you guys. WCA: the education, opportunities, sports, travel, and most importantly people, have all been inspirational and life changing. Coaches, teachers, and others not mentioned, thanks. High School has been great. God bless and best wishes.



Give Me a Break

Every Thursday afternoon, after fourth hour block period, Westminster high schoolers headed to different corners of the school to meet with their small groups. Some grades decided to have co-ed small groups, while others did not. Some had less than ten members, while others had nearly fifteen. Details aside, small groups provided a break from the daily grind of school, and allowed students to socialize with peers in a fun, informal setting. Small groups played games, and held friendly competitions with prizes like pizza. During small groups, students had a chance to get to know people they might not have otherwise known.

This freshman class unites to worship in a neighborhood meeting. Anna Franceschelli, Avery Anderson, Taylor Hughes, and Andy Muñoz lead their classmates: "Small groups are a good time to keep the Westminster community close," said Matt Brugner, freshman small group leader.



Sophomores compete in flying paper airplanes during the sophomore olympics. It was the last event of the semester for their class. Small groups competed against each other in various activities, ranging from scavenger hunts to arm wrestling. "They were a good way for students to compete in enjoyable events that don't necessarily require any athletic abilities," said Matt Sugg, sophomore.

The junior class hear about Summer Seminar in the commons. Seniors from last year's Summer Seminar spoke about their experiences, and faculty told them about what they should expect. Summer Seminar is a Summer trip for upcoming seniors to encounter physical challenges while enjoying nature.



Senior boys play a game of football on one of the last warm days before the winter weather set in. "Small groups this year were really great because they allowed people to come out of their comfort zones and talk to others they wouldn't otherwise associate with," said Matthew Farquhar, senior.

MINIVAN MAYHEM

Everyday, student drivers dealt with the inevitable chaos of traffic around the Westminster parking lot. Minivans and SUVs lined the pavement as early as 2:45 in hopes of avoiding the crowded mess. As soon as the bell rang, seniors and juniors rushed to their vehicles to bypass the bumper to bumper traffic. Frantic parents stopped at nothing to take their kids home.

Some students who knew families that lived near Westminster chose to park in their driveways. "Even though next semester I can park at school, I am going to continue to park in the neighborhood next to Westminster. I get out much faster," said Amelia Hearne, junior. Thomas Egan, junior, expressed his frustration toward the parking situation, "unless I leave right at three, the parents back up everything, and it gets old really fast."

Even before school the traffic on Ladue road was congested and required the assistance of a Creve Cour Police officer to direct traffic in and out of Westminster. Without the help of the Police officer, before and after school, drivers found it near impossible to turn left onto Ladue when exiting.



Kylie Watson senior, tries to avoid the before school traffic. Watson has dealt with the traffic at Westminster since junior year, when she first recieved a parking pass.



Aura Brands, freshman, makes her way after school to the car where her mom waits. Since the majority of Westminster students cannot drive, the parking lot is full of parents before and after school.



Thomas Winter, junior, gets into his car after school. Last year, Winter rode to and from school with his senior brother. He waited till 3:45 until the parking lot traffic passed.



Juhyung Kim, senior, waits to get out of the parking lot. Because of the traffic, most students had to wait around 20 minutes before they could even get on Ladue Road.



Brittany Ann Maass

First, I want to thank God for everything He has done and for giving me the strength to make it through high school. Next, I want to thank my family, Mom, Dad and Jerrett, for helping me through these past few difficult years. Finally, I want to thank all my friends who helped me adjust to a new school and a new way of life. Special thanks to my sister for life, Shell-bell, the beautiful Courtney Pfeifer, and my volleyball girls, especially Annie Clark, Leah Beck, and Jessie Menchak. My first day would have been wretched without you! Love you all!



Michael Christian Menzel

Mom and Dad, I love you so much and thanks for helping me through the good and the bad. Megan, I miss you. Thanks for being a role model and a fashion expert for me. Drew, I still think you are wrong in most of our arguments but you're the best brother anyone could have. Joe, how would I have gotten through freshman year without you? Sam, brother, wow, you made high school awesome-thanks bud, and for all my vball boys- thanks for everything. Lunch table, where would I be without you guys? Jimmy, I'll never forget your sarcasm. Jake, you might as well be a senior. For everyone else who I'm leaving out, thanks. Adios!



A Creve Cour Police officer directs traffic flow coming in and out of Westminster. Every morning the officer arrived around 7:20 and stayed until school began.



Anne Lee Martin

Kinsey, you are my best friend and I love you so much! Thanks for being the best sister ever! D. Jay, you have helped me through so much! I love you! Mom, you have always encouraged me, and dad, you have always been there for me! I love you both. Thank you for everything! Annalese-BFF for life! Anne's Athlete's- Thanks for having so much fun with me! You girls are amazing! Cati- thanks for all the crazy times! Love ya! Jesus- thanks for letting me have such a great life and for being my Lord and Savior. To all my senior and junior girls I love you all- thanks for all the great memories.



Jessica Marie Menchak

Thank you Lord for being my father, friend, lover, and strength! I'm nothing without you! Thank you for never ceasing to amaze me and loving me more than I could ever ask or imagine! You've blessed me with wonderful friends and a fantastic family. Thank you for my mom and dad. Parental Units, I love you and appreciate you more than I could ever write. Thanks for supporting me even when I continue to run into the 'pegs' of life (peg, peg, peg)! God, thanks for my friends, Basketball/volleyball chicas and my goofy PC girls. I LOVE YOU! Pursue your passions - God won't let you down! Rachel, you make me smile! Beth and Rebecca - sister forever!! James 1:1-12



Adam Eric James Miller

Parents- You mean more to me than you will ever know. I have a respect and a love for you incomparable to anyone in my life. Thank you for putting up with me for all these years. Sisters- Such great times we have had, black and blue us three shall be together forever. Joe- You are like the brother I never had. Chessy- 3rd sister, wise woman, my rock, my life will only continue with you a part of it. Lunch table- Life is more fun on a rollercoaster, thanks for being there for every turn. Everyone- Make a way for yourself in life for "No one is free, even the birds are chained to the sky." Bob Dylan



Alek William Miller

Lord, thanks for everything, family, friends, music, the PS2, everything. Parents, thanks for being the best, even through my incompetence. Aaron, comb your hair. Evan, neighborhood football. Robbie, Super Bowl parties, Time Crisis still rocks. Menzel, Sam, Terschak, Travis, etc., thanks for being friends. Ben Guthrie, it's funny 'cause it's true. Tim and Troop 387: "Staff" infection, capture the flag. Dr. Shaw, Star Wars is cooler. Flutes, keep being the band's best. Band, keep trouncing the choir. Someone take Music Theory... Please... Mr. Jones, the Cards will lose. Math and Chess Club, keep it going. Pro. 1:7, 4:7, Acts 20:24. Now, if you'll excuse me, I'll be out improving society. "I failed, but God redeemed. Merely forgive me."





Joseph Mark Minnella

It's been a long road with a lot of ups and downs, but there are a lot of people in my life that made my four years in high school a lot easier... and fun. Mom and Dad, thank you for your support in everything I did and helping direct me to be a man of God. Daniel, you're the other half of our Dynamic Duo and nothing can compare to our experiences. Mike, the Bandits will live on forever. Cat, it was always fun hanging out together. Stalom, Dick, those French fries were terrible. Jay, every time we hung out was an adventure. Tim, thanks for keeping me out of trouble. Coach, thanks for being so tight.



Frank Michael O'Brien IV

First off, Mom and Dad, Thank you. You two have put up with so much and I owe you more than I can ever repay. I love you. To all my football coaches, thank you for playing such a big role in my high school years. You have taught me so much. Football team, I have spent countless hours with all of you. Thanks for making them great. Ben and Kenton, my workout brothers, you two have given me a lot to laugh at. Jay, you're my little Egyptian forever. Brittney, words can't begin to describe how you have blessed me. To the rest of my friends, thank you for being there. Finally, God, you truly are amazing! Thanks.



WHAT'S IN YOUR BACKPACK?



Backpacks have the potential to be a black hole, a gaping abyss into which homework, pencils, and permission slips fall, never to be seen again. However, when students take the time to dig deep into their bags, they often unearthed much more than forgotten scraps. While some students merely carried their essentials, others found their backpacks to be brimming with the unexpected.



Lukose Thampy, junior

A I have this enormous calculator.



Olivia Alkire, junior

A Sometimes I have packaging tape in my backpack, but right now I just have lipstick."



Kathrine Fleisher, junior

A Well, I have ballet tights, Canadian money, and glue. I also have pistachios, but I'm allergic to them."



Monica Erin Moore

God, I owe you everything. Mom, thanks for trusting me and being my best friend. Dad, you're my hero; meet you on the roof. Christopher, I love you more than words can say. You'll always be my little dude. Rachel, my sister for life, I love you more than you'll ever know. Fun times in choir, heart to hearts in my car, crashing weddings, singing Newsies, it's been the time of my life. Kels, Nauds, and Alayna- I love you guys so much. BFF's! Summer Seminar people- you guys are awesome - I love you all. Jenny and Katherine- Only we will ever understand the importance of underwear bags. Elliot- God has blessed me so much with you. You are amazing.



Paige Elizabeth Norman

Psalm 8. Lord, my life is yours. Mom, my best friend, I am so blessed to have such a wise, beautiful, godly woman as my role model. Dad, there are few things I love more than simply sitting down and talking with you. Thank you, both, for always challenging me in every aspect of my life, especially my faith. I love you. Cole you're a "louser," but I love you anyway. Drake, my brother and friend, thanks for always standing up for me. Kendail, Aly, Debbie, Kylie, kickboxing, Lodge, work, salsa dancing, and many laughs. Hannah: our dance! Shelly, stay forever "shexy." Aaron: so "mean." Sarah: birthday sister! Lindsay fellow fashionista. You are all like sisters to me. God bless!



Caleb Steven Olson

First of all, I would like to thank my family, especially my parents, for always being there for me. I am especially grateful for the Christian influence they have had in my life. Secondly, would like to thank my older brother, Joshua, for always being a good role model to follow. Finally, my friends who have had a huge impact on my life. I would never have been able to survive Westminster without the support of my friends. Also, I would like to thank the soccer team for an enjoyable senior season. And Señor, thank you for four seasons of enjoyable soccer. I can only hope college life will be as fulfilling as the past four years of my life have been.



Nadia Katerina Pasque

What a blessed journey. Dad, Mom, thanks for your love, support, and dedication. My bros, you make it wonderful to be your sis. Dan, you will always be my best friend. Nina and Sarah thanks for being my sistas. To all teachers, you totally make a difference. "It's only when you see people looking ridiculous that you realize how much you love them" - Winnie the Pooh. Rachies, Mon, Kels, Alayna, our laughs always bring us together. Claire, our special field trips will be treasured. Jess, you can always make a bad day better. And to all unmentioned folks "Make happy those who are near and those who are far will come." - Proverb. To God Almighty forever all praise and glory...





Kimberly Ann Peterson

Here goes: K: love to make you smile, I will miss it. Tif: sushi, Mulder/Scully, ghetto business suits, copies. Vic: random conversations, Breakdown, and scaring me. MenCHECK; thanks for keeping me on the up and up. Fletcher: What the... you know. Drama peeps gonna miss you all and all the weird stuff we do. Everyone I have ever confused, freaked, amused, or associated with, you will be filed under WCA in my memory. Shelby, you are destined to do amazing things, don't let anyone tell you different. Katielynn you are a source of joy, I will miss you. My advice to all is to use mouthwash, draw with crayons, and live an original life.



Mackenzie Marie Pitzinger

Mom and Dad, you have both shown me unconditional love; words could never describe my gratitude. Woo, you will always be my best friend. I would be a complete mess without you! I love ya!!! Gibson; soccer is sport! Smith, thanks-I'm truly blessed. To my friends, the memories are countless. Kristen; always on the same page! Christine, my partner in crime. Whitney Calvin, since pre-K and still going strong. Emily Farris, Tiger! Shelly, you will always be in my heart. I love you to death. To my boys, Brennen, the good times are endless. Drew, my soda boy. Ted, the mystery man. Beely, enough laughs for a million years. To all, I owe a huge thanks.



Joseph Lee Pollman

I would just like to say thank you. Thank you to my family who has taught me so much throughout my life. Thank you to the teachers who have passed on much needed wisdom to me. And as much as anyone else, thank you to all of my friends, my lunch table friends, my triple J friends and everyone else, I have enjoyed so much of my life so far, and I look forward to the future.



Lauren Elyse Probst

Lord, thank you for all your blessings, including trials; they have shaped me. Dad, if there is one thing I will remember for the rest of my life, it is that "I will always have a job". Every day I aspire to be more like you because you aspire to be like Christ. Mom, thank you for hearing me when I have not spoken. Ashley, thank you for being my best friend. It's no wonder why I always wanted to copy you. Justin, thank you for being you. You always make me smile. Carol, my second mom, I appreciate your love. Sam, Abby, John, Ellie, Jonathan, Kristen, Sarah, Loko, Timmy, Jill- all my brothers and sisters in Christ- thank you.





Olivia Erances Pierson

Thanks Mom, Dad, Willy, and Bean for encouraging me to pursue the things I enjoy. You all have been awesome and I love you. Peace out Girl Scout.



Getting On Your Nerves

Everyone has that one thing that they just can't stand: nails on a chalkboard, cleaning one's room, the taste of Altoids, or even being asked what their pet peeve is. Whatever a person's pet peeve may be, it can drive them absolutely insane. People cringe at the sight of seeing someone chomping gum with their mouth wide open, or hearing a classmate hum under their breath. Perhaps they shudder at the sound of a fork hitting a tooth, or avert their eyes when another student bites their nails. Students at Westminster have learned to cope with such pet peeves on a daily basis, even if it drives them up the wall.



"The smell of sauerkraut makes me gag, and I hate that. I never eat it anyway, though," said Ian Farmer, sophomore.



"It really annoys me when my sisters barge into my room without knocking, especially when I am changing or getting ready. Or when they take my stuff as well," said Laura Kaup, sophomore.



Emily Terry Rassieur

Mom- you're the most caring and loving person I know. I look up to you. I hope to be as good of a mother as you are. I love you. Never doubt that. Dad- you inspire me. I hope to be just like you when I grow up. I love you. Karen- you're my best friend. So many good memories. I love you. Aly- Thank you for being an amazing constant friend. It means a lot to me. I hope our friendship will continue to grow. Tennis team- thanks for being there for me. I love you all. Dr. G- Thank you for encouraging and pushing me to become the best I can be. -Jeremiah 29:11

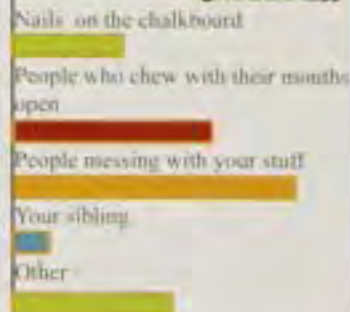


"When people are talking to you and they'll say "Oh, LOL!" like in text speak. That really annoys me. I mean, can you not talk normally?" said Ashley McConkey, seventh grader.

"Political bumper stickers really annoy me. I mean, I don't want to see an "Impeach Bush" sticker when I'm driving on 270," said Kyle Finn, junior.



CAN YOU STOP THAT, PLEASE?



Fifty-three students were picked at random for this poll.



Ashley Anne Reese

Where would I be without my God? He is my everything, and He has gotten me through it all. Without Him I am nothing. Where would I be without my parents, I love you. Where would I be without my sister, you're my best friend, my thito, I love you. Where would I be without my FAM(ily), traveling Bible, laugh. Where would I be without you, screaming to the songs on the radio, dancing like we have nothing to be ashamed of, laughing till we cry. With you I lived, I loved. I laughed, and I learned, thank you. I love you. John 16:33



Matthew Joseph Reilly

Mom and Dad, I can't thank you enough for your unconditional love and support all these years, and for all the sacrifices you've made on my behalf. I am truly blessed to have you as my parents. Seph Dizzle- you've been like a brother to me. Teddy-Cic's. Snowblast. You always make me smile and you've always been there for me when I have had a problem. Soccer wouldn't have been the same without you. Taylor- Dumb and Dumber tuxes. You never failed to make me laugh, and your witticisms will be missed. Tim-Good luck in the Marines, you'll do great. Tyler- wookiee voice. Caleb- you're "practically" amazing. Rob- hours of ping pong at Taylor's. Goebel- best soccer captains ever.



Kristin Taylor Rosen

Gracious Father, thank you for leading my life. Mom and Dad- thank you for instilling the love of Christ in me. I love you. Kaylee and Nick- thanks for never making life at home dull! Stay true to who you are. God is in control. MacKenzie- it is always you and me! Christine- thank you for never making life dreary. Whitney- your infectious smile fills the room. VonVon- your sweet and innocent nature shines bright. Drew, Brennan, Beety, and Ted- amidst all of the jokes, thanks for being there for me and living a life for Him. Jacob- phone bills, ADD moments, and endless laughs. I can't thank you enough. Thanks for loving me for who I am. PC girls- God is good!



Travis James Rupprecht

I want to thank my Savior Jesus Christ. Without Him I would still be lost. Mom and Dad, thank you for all of your hard work, patience, and help so that I could get the most out of my Westminster experience. Scott, Hailey, and Hannah, thank you for being good siblings and bringing out the best in me and helping me to find myself. Robby, it's been a blast. You are the nicest person I know. Our friendship has been a blessing to me. Joe, Sam, and Menzel, it's been fun every day. You're good friends. Thank you for everyone I have not mentioned. You have all shaped my life in one way or another. May God bless you all. Isaiah 2:22





Julia Michelle Russell

Mom and Dad- Thanks for loving me unconditionally. Without you I wouldn't be who I am today. Jake- thanks for being a great big brother. All the laughs and fun times are unforgettable. Sarah- Gosh, I don't know what I would have done without you. Kayden- you're my hero. Camilla- Without you I wouldn't have made it through a lot of things. A brunette and a blonde with an inseparable bond! Sarah Duffy- all the crazy adventures we go looking for, good memories. Meri- thanks for standing by me through everything. Cheerleaders- all of you are truly amazing. To everyone else, thanks for some of the greatest memories. My Lord and Savior, thank you for all the blessings and amazing opportunities.



twilight

If you were to have opened any Westminster locker this past year, the most common novel to be found would have been Twilight, written by Stephanie Meyer. Though most students started reading it during the summer, some heard about the series early. Laurel Dicus, junior, received the first book as a Christmas present from her cousin. She was not interested in it at first, but when she started it a couple of days later, she read the whole book in one night. She then quickly completed the remaining three. "The complexity of the characters makes it interesting. You want to keep reading to find out more about them," said Dicus.

Mallory Alpert, junior, heard about Twilight from a friend during the summer. "It was everywhere. Everyone started talking about it," said Alpert. She soon was sucked into Meyer's imaginary realm. Twilight's interpretation of a Romeo and Juliet storyline was a hit. "It's a new twist on forbidden love," said Alpert.



Kristen O'Leary, freshman, holds the first book of the Twilight series along with other school books. Students had trouble putting down this series. They were often tempted to read a Twilight book instead of doing their homework.



Christopher Robert Paul Ryckman

I would first like to thank my parents for always being there for me and giving me the support and strength I need to get through high school. Mom, thanks for always being there for me and raising me to be a God-fearing man. Dad, thank you for all the time we have spent together and all the life lessons you have taught me along the way. Without you guys I would not be the person I am today. I would like to thank all my teachers for teaching me the things I need to know for the next stage of my life. I would like to thank all of my friends for always being there for me and helping me have a wonderful time in high school. I would like to thank God for always being there when I needed Him most and helping me through the harder times in high school. I will always remember you guys, thanks for the memories.



Lacinta Chard, junior, Kayla Gebhardt, sophomore, Katherine Krause, and Katherine Fleissner, juniors, read the four books of the Twilight series. Many copies of Twilight, New Moon, Eclipse, and Breaking Dawn were seen in hallways and lockers throughout the year. Rare was a lunch period when Twilight was not a subject of conversation.



Rebekah Sharp and Maya Taylor, seventh graders, wear their Twilight shirts during lunch. The girls saw the Twilight movie on opening night. Along with their shirts, they had decorated their hands and their purses with Twilight characters and quotes.

Jordan Nichols, sophomore, wears his new Twilight jacket to school in November. Though most of the Twilight fans were females, several males also enjoyed the books. "I'm a big Twilight fan. I got my whole family into it too," said Nichols.



How do you deal with BEDHEAD?

Frustrated by waking up with a messy head of hair, these students shared their methods for tackling bed-head. Though many girls preferred more time-consuming forms of hair care, guys were more partial to shortening their routines.

I like to straighten my hair.



I don't usually get bed-head, but when I do, I like to french braid it.



I like to straighten my hair.

I take a shower.



Amanda Kay Schaffner

God - my ultimate source of joy. Your mercies are new every morning. Mom, Dad - your humble leadership and sacrifice reflects Christ in awesome ways. Siblings - you're my best friends. Jenny, Rachael - my beautiful sisters, thanks for listening and loving. Peter - you gave me laughter. I challenge you to a duel! Yupio, soccer, badminton, boggle. Debbie - my joyful spontaneous fellow traveler, keep the memories. SarahC - we broke the Schaffner/Caple conflict. You're awesome. Claire, Beth, Leah, KatieW, KatieT, SarahD - your friendships are precious. Andrew, Jordan, thanks for the laughs and lessons—be safe, Caleb - I'll miss you... wait... food?! Where!?! Katherine and Karen - my beautiful opposites. In a changing world, you're my consistency. Here's your challenge (Hebrews 12:1-3).



Theodore August Siebenman



Parents- We had ups and downs, but I love you more than you know. Mom- Thanks for the sacrifices you've made. You always put us first. Dad- Thanks for being a role model, best friend, and hunting partner. Brooke- You're a great sister. Thanks for your advice. Morgan- Gave you hard times, but still love you. Taylor- we drove our parents crazy. Goebel, Tilley, Drew, Beef, Kenton, Kinder, Turner; Brennen, Justin- my boys. It's been real, thanks. God blessed me with the best group of friends I could ask for. We had the most fun possible. The Girls- Thanks for making it interesting and fun. God you're my rock. I am nothing without you.





Elliot Robert Schroeder

My experience at Westminster has been memorable thanks to the great friends that I have made over these six years. They have been there for me in good times and bad and helped my walk emotionally and spiritually. I also want to thank my parents for providing me a strong Christian upbringing and allowing me to attend such a great school. Moreover, I want to thank my brother and sister for all the time spent together and the memories we have made. My last thanks is to Monica Moore, for being a great friend and girlfriend. I hope our relationship will continually grow. God has blessed me with such an amazing person.



Sara Taylor Elizabeth Sharpe

Thank you to all those who have had a part in molding and building me. Sara-Taylor, Mommy - friend and mentor, I thank my God for you and your wisdom. Daddy - I still wanna grow up and play music with you. Hannah - I cannot believe this time has come. Sister and best friend, press on. I love you way more than you know! Emily and Leslie - you're my girls. Without you two I wouldn't understand true friendship; through good and bad you keep me laughing! Matthew, love, don't lose touch. Alex - my soul sister, love you girl - friends since day one! Chelsea - twin, you taught me patience and independence. Carmie - you are my heart, Tbell. To Mr. VanGilst I will always love you!



Claire Elise Simonpietri

Mom, Dad - thanks for always supporting me and believing I could do anything. Marie - I love you so much, you are a great sister; I can't wait to watch my niece grow up. Marc - you're an amazing big brother and I will always look up to you. Alyssa - we've come a long way from hating each other in 2nd grade... you're my best friend, thanks for always being there for me. Nadia - Miss Keeton, hot chocolate and popcorn after school, friendship bites, lacrosse... we will always be 3rd graders! Katherine, Amanda, Karen - camping, my uncle's lake house, so many great times! Annekoyce - futsal, your hilarious jokes, bio buddy! Most of all, I thank God for the experiences He has given me.



Paul Taylor Smallwood

I know the standard "parent thank you" may seem trite by now, but I say it with utmost sincerity. Mom, thanks for your guidance and unconditional love. Dad, thank you for always being a part of my athletic life and offering help in any way. Nathan and Gavin, you're the best brothers I could ask for. I'm really going to miss you. Hockey team - stay strong and you'll win something eventually. Tyler, Rob, Caleb, Chris, Reilly and Tilley, thanks for being awesome through the seven years at the Academy. Hopefully everyone appreciates my tactful absence of inside jokes. (Later!)





Emily Paige Speights

These past five and a half years at Westminster Christian Academy have been filled with several memories. They have also been a wonderful learning experience for me. I have met many great friends along the way and had many incredibly hilarious moments. The teachers here have been some of the best and inspiring adults I have ever met, encouraging me to uncover many talents and pursue my dreams. I want to thank you, Mom and Dad, for your patience and perseverance. Matt- do good in school, and don't die in football. Love you three. And to my friends, I love you guys and I'll miss you, and I love Cricket. Blair.



BREAKDOWN THE Truth

Performed by teenagers throughout the St. Louis area, Breakdown STL brought a powerful and compelling message to many high schools. Jenna Imergoot, former coach for the WCA dance team, is the director of Breakdown STL. Battling against the lies that the sexually saturated society presented, Imergoot, along with numerous other guys and girls associated with Westminster, used the spotlight to try and spread the truth about sexual abstinence until marriage, STD's, second chances, and other myths about sex.

These truths helped prepare teens mentally, spiritually, and emotionally for the obstacles that they would face in the real world.



David Alexander and Richard Mansfield, junior, go through their dance routines during a Breakdown practice. Breakdown STL held a practice every Saturday morning.



Jessica Ann Stamps

"Life's [an] uncertain voyage" (William Shakespeare). If there's anything that I've learned from anyone, it's my parents. Thanks mom and dad for never giving up on me, all the love and support that you've given me. I thank God for you every day. I love you guys! For my friends, thanks for putting up with me during the years. Nicole, Aimee, Joy and Elinor, thanks for showing you care about me when life is tough. Lunch buddies- Dinga and Binkholder- lunch was very interesting and very entertaining- thanks guys! I'll miss you very much next fall. All friends who weren't mentioned- I love you and I'll miss you. To the class of '09- Adios y Dios bendice. Stay classy now "Jessi"



Lee Davis, WCA alumni, Samuel Bowman, junior, and Jordan Nichols, sophomore, act out their parts during a Breakdown performance. Breakdown STL visited many high schools all around the St. Louis area.



The Breakdown Dance Team does their routine during the Breakdown performance. The Dance Team served as an intermission while the performers got prepared for the next act in the drama.



Laurel Dicus, junior, and Kylie Watson, senior, dance in front of hundreds of high school students. Both Dicus and Watson had danced for Breakdown for a number of years.





Theodore Benhardt Sutcliffe

Mother and Father, you are the best parents in the world. Thank you so much for everything. You both have always been there for me no matter what.—Katie, Grenny, Clifford, Caroline, Christine thanks for being my sibling, you have all shaped my life even if you don't realize it.—Kyle, John, Evan, Nick it's been a fun ride and we have all learned a lot, especially about MySpace.—Lunch table thanks for being there when I was new and eating too.—Forrest you're the hottest kid in your class and will, "my picture still be hanging in your locker."—Dr. Gibson thanks for reading all my bad papers, you are what Westminster is all about.—Everyone else it has been a pleasure getting to know you, and remember, "All you need is love"



Michael Everett Talent

To my father, mother, grandmother, sisters, and Dad; thanks for always supporting me and being there for me. To all my teachers: thanks for sharing your knowledge. To all my coaches: thanks for teaching me leadership, toughness, and how to be part of a team. To all my friends: thanks for just being there. All of you have contributed to who I am today, and I would not have gotten through high school without you. Gloria Deo. Isaiah 40.



Alyson Lee Tate

1 John 2:6 God you are my all. Family, thank you for shaping me into who I am today. Parents, thank you for your unconditional love and provision. Drea, you have always been my role model and best friend, I constantly thank God for giving me the best sister. Amanda, other half Debbie, I will always cherish our glow stick-tree house-golf course extravaganzas. Hannah, you and Wanda always hold the highest spot on my adventures list. Emily, I will never forget how we met. Sara, thanks for your seasonal lists; you make life exuberant. Girls, thanks for the laughs and wonderful times. "And in the end, it's not the years in your life that count. It's the life in your years."



Katherine Ruth Taylor

I have been close friends with many of you at different times in life. Thank you all for being great friends even when I've been gone for so long. Katie-aka twin, you were always there even when we were an ocean apart. I love you! Milen, Tanya, and Margarita- thank you for being my Bulgarian family. Obicham vi!! Mom, I have always admired your selflessness and wisdom. Thank you for sharing it with me. Dad, thanks for understanding my feelings and being sensitive to them. I don't and never will regret going to BG. Bubba, we are so different but so much alike. Thanks for being a best friend along with a caring brother. I love ya'll so much!





Kevin Joseph Taylor

First, I want to thank God, without him I wouldn't be here today. Mom and Dad: thanks for the unconditional love and support through out the years. Eric and Maya: I couldn't ask for better siblings. Coach P and Mrs. Erdman: thanks for going the extra mile, your help is greatly appreciated. The track team and coaches: Its been a great experience, especially those LSD days. And lastly, my friends and that one person I can't seem to get rid of (you know who you are); thanks for all the laughs and the good times. I hope to see many of you again.



Eric Joseph Terschak

Mom, thank you for all the support you have given me throughout high school and the encouragement to challenge myself in school and swimming. Dad, thank you for the advice you've given me and the time you've invested in my life. I love you both and appreciate all you have done for me. Thank you to all my friends who helped me in my transfer to Westminster Junior year, especially Sam, Menzel, Joe, and Jake. Your friendships have meant so much to me. And especially, thank you God for being with me through these past few hectic years. I can't wait to see what He has in store for me in the future.



Anna Ruth Thompson

First off, thanks mom and dad for everything. Matt and Erik, you guys are awesome and I love you. Jenny, you are and always will be my best friend. Thanks for always being there for me and going along with all my stupid ideas. You're always there to get me out of trouble and I don't know what I would do without you. To all my friends, thanks for always making me laugh. You guys have made the past four years so much fun and I'll miss you all next year. Last, thank you to all the leaders at KREW. I couldn't have made it without you.



Jennifer Sue Thompson

Family- Thanks for everything. You've helped me grow so much. Brothers- I miss you and love you. Anna- You're my best friend, I could never live without you. Bri- I'm glad we're so close, you're amazing. Kronos- Thanks for always being there for me, myah! Tiff- I'll never get mad at you again. Kate- You live too far away. Kaitlin- thanks for pushing me into the lake. Olivia- I won that paint fight. Krew- You've helped me grow immensely. Everyone I'm close to, I love you guys, let's go to'ing again. Rachel and Monica, He's our other brother. Katherine- We're good tenties. Everyone else- thanks for everything and helping me realize "where you live shouldn't determine whether you live."



you knew it was 2008-09

As time changes, new trends develop causing there to be fads and obsessions with new people, places, and things. Every year movies are released, different styles of clothes are bought, and a rising athlete is the stud pictured in many girls lockers. The crazes that people become passionate about seem to indentify the years in which they became popular. These were the styles and trends that marked the 2008-2009 school year.

Cameron Clay, freshman, wears a T-shirt with the Joker, a main character from *The Dark Knight*, printed on the front.



* Michael Phelps and Shawn Johnson

* "Fail"
* The Dark Knight

* The Office and Gossip Girl * iPod touch * Scarves

* McCallister's Deli

Kayla Gebhardt, sophomore, sports a white fashion scarf that became very popular as the cold weather came in.



* Guitar Hero 4



Ward Egan and Sarah Johnson, juniors, play *Guitar Hero* at a friend's house on a Friday night.

* Twilight
By Stephanie Meyer

* Lil' Wayne



Matthew Joseph Thampy



As the bus of life rolls to its next stop, I reflect on the people who made the past four years a blessing. Firstly, I thank God for giving me parents who unconditionally love me, who unwaveringly support me, and who most patiently raise me. To my brothers and sister: I thank God for all of you everyday and will always treasure you as my own. To Mr. Mohler: I thank you for your listening ear, patience, and guidance. How God has smiled upon me to let our paths cross. To Joe Pollmann, a model of probity: thanks for your friendship. It has been a long road, but, alas this is my stop and as I finish my high school adventure I thank God most of all for loving me.



Robert Stephen Thompson

God thank you so much for blessing me with such a great family and friends. Mom and dad, you have been the best parents possible. Dad you've taught me everything I know—except for a stick shift, Mom did that. Mom, I'll always be YOUR Mama's boy. Allison and Caroline, I always feel free to tell you anything, and I'm sure we'll keep our relationship strong. Allison, War Eagle! Caroline, enjoy being the only child, call me anytime you're lonely. And to all my friends: The ones I've known all my life, met at WCA, and that have moved away (and even moved back), thanks for all the memories, we'll keep in touch.





Alex Wayne
Finley

Parents- Thank you for everything. I especially thank you for giving me the opportunity to go to Westminster. I know I took it for granted, but I want to say thank you. I love you. To the small group, you guys are awesome. We've had so many great times, from the Chicago trip to gents' ball, but I thank you all the most for holding me accountable. Coach Holley, Musso, you guys have been great spiritual examples for me. Eban, you've been one of the most influential people in my life. I hope that I can one day I have the spiritual consistency you have. Basketball team, it's been real, spent the whole summer with you guys, you know I love you. Everyone else thank you for making these last six years awesome.



Jacob Edward
Turner

First and foremost I want to thank my savior Jesus Christ. Mom and Dad thanks for always supporting me. I love you, Luke, you're a great brother, stay strong in your faith. The guys - I couldn't ask for a better group of friends to spend my high school years with. Beef and Drew - you guys are awesome, thanks for always being there for me, so many good times. Mike - keep Bergman under control. Coach Bain - thanks for the prayers and support. Coach VanGilst - thank you for giving me every opportunity to succeed. Kris - you're an amazing girl, beautiful both inside and out. I can't thank you enough for everything you've done for me. So many memories.



Hannah Beth
Victor

Mom - you are my best friend. Dad - you can always make me laugh and are the best dad I could ask for. Rachel - you are Regina and I am Karen...I want to be you. Bethany - you are my bosom buddy and will always be my person. Shelly - girlfriend, Kylie - S.F., Kendall - lists, Aaron - blue thing!, Aly - adventures, Matt - "dollar dollar bill yo." All my friends at Westminster - thank you for helping me grow as a person as well as in Christ. I have created some great memories at Westminster but all of them were because of the amazing friends I have made here. I will miss all of you terribly. You changed my life.



Andrea Marie
Waeckerle

Mom, Dad- I love you, thank you for always encouraging me, loving me unconditionally and I'll always be your "Andeleta momaleta lateleta". Drew, Lauren- thank you for being patient with me, love you. Watson, Kylie it all started in 2nd grade. Watson- we are just super weird together. Kylie- you have been there for me through it all. Adam- I have never laughed with anyone as much with you. Chels, my wise hairy friend, whenever I need good advice I go to you. Aaron you're my favorite, "count it!" Sara, we're friends because you have red hair, you have no idea what our friendship means to me. Late nights where we just entertained ourselves, we have some interesting times! love you.





**Kendall Noelle
Vanderslice**

God thanks for helping me through all life's ups and downs. Thank you, Mom and Dad for raising me to love the Lord and nurturing me in my faith. I would not be who I am today if not for your perseverance. Lyssa, Davis, Em, Izz- You're amazing, always keeping me laughing and challenging me to love God in everything I do. Hannah- I don't even know. Cori- NHD, Sweet 16, dancing, tons more! Aly and Paige- Live the Lodge life. Yes, we have the best job ever. To all of my girls- I thank God everyday for the wonderful friends He's placed in my life. You all have taught me to praise the Lord no matter the circumstance.



**Austin Kyle
Wallach**

Mom and Dad, thanks for all you've done. I couldn't do it without you. Alyssa thanks for making me laugh and enjoy your senior year at WCA. My teachers, you pushed me hard, and you did it for good reasons. I am grateful to my friends for being there with me through good and bad times. Burgess, we managed to survive six years together. Hughes, I enjoyed pondering your awkward questions at lunch. Teddy you always beat me to school. Chris you will never be able to impersonate me. Dykhouse it has been a crazy 3 years. Thanks to everyone for my experience at Westminster. It's been memorable.



Gotta Love Snotty Noses

Stacking cans, cleaning horses, and reading to handicapped children were some of the many ways that senior students were able to go out into the community and serve on Thursday mornings. "Sometimes it's really gross. The kids I work with can't really clean themselves, so I get drooled on and there's snot everywhere," said Brittney Hough, senior, about her senior service at Litzinger School. "I work with mentally handicapped kids, so situations are awkward sometimes, but the kids are sweet, and their priceless facial expressions make it worth it," said Hough. These opportunities to serve around the St. Louis area gave seniors the chance to make a difference in their community.



Meredith Davis, senior, swings a jump rope as a student from Central Christian School jumps over it with a smile on her face. Playing with the kids at recess was one of the highlights of many seniors' Senior Service experience.



Sarah Dickerson, senior, bearhugs a girl from Central Christian Elementary school. "Working at Central with the kids is really fun," Dickerson said.



Elliott Schroeder, senior, shows a Westminster horse to a young child. "It was a great experience to see the horse."



Kevin Taylor, senior, works on a mosaic art project with the special needs class. "The students made mosaics on the ceiling tiles that were going to be put up at the front of the school," Taylor explained.

Blood DRIVE



It was a sunny fall morning when a Westminster student walked into a cubicle in the old gym to have her finger pricked, expecting little pain. After this precaution she was ushered to the gurney to give blood, thoughts of fainting haunting the back of her mind. For Sarah Dieckgraefe, junior, this disturbance was inescapable. Soon after the nurses pricked her finger, Dieckgraefe saw the blood and passed out on the floor. "I really wanted to give blood, but instead I laid on the gurney for several hours without giving blood." Other students were unable to give blood because they were anemic or had traveled out of the country recently. For those who could give blood, they spent several minutes prepping to give blood before they actually did. First, their blood type was checked. Then if they were allowed to give blood they had their arm cleaned. After they actually gave blood, there was apple juice and other snacks to restore their energy. Each student had a unique experience donating to save lives.



Jordan Leib, junior, holds the hand of Michael Kruse, senior. "I couldn't give blood because I went on the school trip to Mexico over the summer, and we visited the ruins. Apparently I am high risk for ebolavirus," said Leib.

"It was my first time giving blood so I was a little nervous but I knew it was going to a good cause," said Jacob Worrell, senior.



"I was scared at first but in the end it was fine. They kept messing up so they had to stick me three times. But I still felt good about giving blood and I'm sure I'll give blood in the future," said Hannah Victor, senior.



Kylie Blake Watson

Live, Laugh, Love, Life has no purpose without people. Thanks to everyone who has made my time at WCA a blast. Mom and Dad thanks for always being there. Shell, you've my person thanks for listening to me over-analyze over the littlest of things. Where would I be without you? Hannah, SF, you make me laugh. A-Ron, hug monster. Aly, 16yrs and more to come. Ange, Backstreet Boy Memories and friends for life. Sara, keep up the blinking and hiccupping lol. Gibs and V, you are not just teachers... you're friends. Dance like no one is watching, for today may be your one chance to shine. Joshua 1:9 Be strong and courageous, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go.



Kelsey Louise West

WHOOOAA! Already done with High School! I am truly blessed by God in every area of life. Parents, I wouldn't be the woman I am today without you, I miss you. Amanda! Morg, you're my favorite person & I love you to death! Ohhh Nauds... you're one CrAzY girl & I love ya for it. Katie, you've always been there for me. Rach, you're such a cute little girl & we're still BFF's after 6 years! Alayna, you will ALWAYS be my stats buddy for life... "It's ok to trip as long as you don't fall." Hales & Cor, I experienced my first concert with you. Monica, my love, just seeing your face makes my day better! Love you all.





Kathryn Ann Wenberg

"From life's first cry to final breath, Jesus commands my destiny." I praise God for the opportunities He has given me. Mom and Dad, thank you for guiding me through 18 years of ups and downs. Maggie, sister and closest friend. I appreciate car rides, band fights, and your "subtle" advice. Kelsey, we'll always be friends, you know too much. Homey H., fashion and social advisor, what would I do without you. Annie- Heya, you got me swimming, "peanut." Cori, math bud, I love you like a mango! Sam, "The Best Thing." Amanda, Katherine, and Karen, miles and miles of laughs. OTs, "Shake it up." All my WCA buds, love ya! God has plans for all of us. Jeremiah 29:11



Andrew Murphy Wendt

First of all, I want to thank God for where I am today and the hope I have for the future. To my family, for all the time and money you guys spend just to make me happy. To the small group guys, thanks for accountability, companionship, and gents ball. To Coach Holley and Coach Bair, thanks for pushing me athletically and spiritually these past four years and showing me the importance of my faith. To all my friends, you guys are the best, thanks for everything. To Westminster, my experience here was unforgettable, thank you. And to everyone, always remember Hebrews 10:23-24.



Katelyn Ann Westrich

Mom and Dad- Thanks so much for putting up with me! I definitely couldn't have made it this far without your love and support. Bekah (Boo!)- I'm sure you'll have no problem filling my shoes! Keep mom and dad in line! You're amazing and don't let anyone treat you otherwise. Friends- I have so many great memories with you! Jenny- Lacrosse, home made movies, band trips, and corn mazes. Thanks for keeping me positive! Anna- Throwing art projects off porches. You've taught me that it's ok to have fun! Olivia- Walnut Shady Place Rd, our arm rap, and the God poster. Thanks for the many laughs! To all my other friends, I love you guys and I'm going to miss you!



Justin Thomas Weststeyn

To Mom, Dad, Shay, and Trevman- you guys mean the world to me. I would be nothing without every single one of you. Mom- Thanks for sticking with me and never giving up on me. I never made it easy. Dad- I aspire to be like you, I couldn't ask for a better role model as a father. Shay- I may not show it, but I love you to death and I'm so proud of you. You have big things ahead of you! Go get them! Trevman- My bud, my best friend, my brother. You have grown up in front of my eyes. You're amazing! I look up to you big guy and I don't know what I'm going to do without you. The Bible Group- It has been real guys. I couldn't ask for a better group of guys to share my life with.





Andrew Douglas Wiens

Before leaving the Academy, I would first like to thank a few people. First, thank you Mom and Dad for love and support, for not skimping on my education, for how you put up with all my crazy projects, and, of course, for the dinner time political arguments. Julia, I love you and I'll miss you in college. I would also like to thank my friends for the odd moments we share. Thampy, you're looking good today. Calvin, come, now is the time to worship. Karen, "are we... are we... are we cool??" Caleb, goose says "hi". Jordan, stay straight. SAJ, "I think they should break up." And last but not least, Ju: NAH BAH JEE AE DDONG SAH!!



Ryan C Wiggins

Mom and Dad thanks for always being open minded, and thanks for teaching me to keep a Christ like attitude, no matter what I did, because I know with God I can do anything. Dad, watching how you handled cancer made me mentally strong. I would like to thank my boxing coaches, Sid and Greg, for always working me hard to keep my hands raised high. Coach Pederson, you were always there for inspiration in school or sports. Thanks Tilley and Turner for being my St. Charles brothers. Drew for taking the heat off of me at the lunch table, Beely for FCA, Jay for being my first WCA friend, and everyone else at WCA thanks for everything.



ITSOG was a one time of the year opportunity where classes competed to bring in the greatest amount of toys, toiletries, school supplies, canned food, and other sorts of school and home supplies. In addition, the classes would collect change for schools in Uganda. Every morning, students brought in supplies that were then counted by their classmates and given away to different organizations, such as Sunshine Ministries. At the end of every day, James Sefrit, head of upper school, would come on the intercom to announce the class with the most items brought in that day. In addition, he would announce the score overall. This year the junior class claimed victory by bringing in the most amount of items and change.



Grace Linton, eighth grader, counts the number of food items on the first day of ITSOG. "I like ITSOG because its a good way to show its not all about us!" said Linton. On Monday, the eighth grade brought in 275 items of food.



Monday Sugg. and more, groups colored pencils into different piles. On Friday, the sophomores brought in 370 items of school supplies. The sophomores came in 2nd place on Friday.

In The Spirit Of Giving

	Change Total	Supplies Totals	Shoe Total	Place
7th	95	2689	230	3rd
8th	29	2172	122	6th
9th	62	3284	188	2nd
10th	135	2469	260	4th
11th	126	3315	323	1st
12th	198	2035	275	5th



Leslie Michelle Williams

"Love is life. All, everything that I understand, I understand only because I love. Everything is, everything exists, only because I love. Everything is united by it alone. Love is God and to die means that I, a particle of love, shall return to the general and eternal source." - Leo Tolstoy. I love you Mom and Andrea, you have made my life what it is. Keep it real home girls.



Taylor Nichole Wilmering

I still can hardly believe that I'm writing this. It doesn't feel like I should be finishing my senior year! But I am, and there are a few very important thank-you's that need to be said. First and foremost THANK YOU to my Heavenly Father. You have given me strength in very difficult times, and I know without a doubt that You have a wonderful plan for my life. I'm ready and willing to find out what it is. Secondly, thanks, Mom and Dad! You've always been there for me, and you've encouraged me and prayed for and with me during all of the hard, dark times. Thanks you SO MUCH for all of your love and support. You're the best parents a kid could ask for! (Yes, Dad, I am still your Little Pterodactyl. . .) Thirdly, thanks to all of my wonderful friends and family members. I always enjoy and look forward to our time together, and I love the laughter and fun. Late-night movies, long phone calls, vacations lots of silly stuff, and great memories. Big hugs to all of you!! So much to say, so many people to mention, and so little space to do it in. I could go on for a long time. Just know that I LOVE and RESPECT all of you, and will ALWAYS be grateful for the roles that you played in my life.



Watson Ansley Woodard

Mom and Dad- Thanks for never giving up on me, thanks for your patience and understanding, and thanks for guiding me to be more like Christ. Lainey- Thanks for still staying in my life even though you are 10 hours away. You are such an encouragement to me. Della- Thanks for putting up with me! You brighten my day even when I don't show it. Good luck in high school. Andrea- We have been through it all. Thanks for making me laugh and thanks for always being there for me. Sara- You bring the best out of everyone. Thanks for being open with me and holding me accountable. Adam and Chelsea- Triggers for life! Coach P- Thanks for getting me through!



Brytany Domonique Woods



Mom, Dad, Grandma and Grandpa Duple, Mr. Marsh, Mrs. Keith, Mrs. Johnson, and Westminster students. All that help support me. I would like to say thanks for helping me be the best that I can be. To friends new and old that made high school a blast! We MADE IT THROUGH! Shout out to: Katie- who learned what a wrap was. Victor and Rhoda- for just being cool you made the transition easier. Alayna and Joa- it was nice hanging with you guys cracking jokes at senior service. "I wouldn't be surprised if you two end up married!" Big UPS to class '09.



Jacob Stuart
Worrel

Philippians 4:13. Thank you Lord for getting me through all the tough times. Thank you mom and dad for supporting me in all I do and giving me all the opportunities that I've had in my life. Mom, you have been a great influence in my spiritual walk and challenging me in my faith and I thank you for that. Dad, thanks for always pushing me in my faith, sports and school. Thanks Coach Pederson for all your help and Coach Bain for always being there. To me bible study group, thanks all you guys for being such awesome friends, we have had a lot of great times together and girls it's been a great high school experience.



Jacob Thomas
Yousel

After receiving this award I would like to thank my parents for being so helpful and encouraging. Ever since I was a wee lad, I dreamed of being a Westminster High School graduate, I couldn't have done it alone. I have to also thank my awesome friend Ashley and my perfect girlfriend, Kristin Dahlin. Who I love!



Big Night **PREP**

Numb hands frantically fidgeted with candle lighters in twenty degree weather as the wind constantly blew out candles. While Micah Mills, junior, took Molly Anderson, junior, on a leisurely walk in icy weather, Debbie Knubley and Alyson Tate, seniors, hid under a bridge in Lafayette square anxiously awaiting to assist Mills in asking Anderson to the Christmas Banquet.

A couple days in advance, Mills, Tate, and Knubley made a boat out of a sled and glued candles onto the sled forming "CB." Before Mills and Anderson arrived, Tate and Knubley sat under the bridge preparing for the event. "It was freezing outside, and the candles would not stay lit because of the wind so we were freaking out thinking it would not work," said Tate. Mills stomped on the bridge and coughed as an agitated gesture for Knubley and Tate to push the sled under the bridge. Anderson shivered and shot Mills a confused glance as Mills told her to "look for fish in the water." As she skimmed the water, the floating sled came into her view with lit candles asking her to Christmas Banquet. "With all the factors of freezing weather, perhaps a bit lost, and focusing on the plans for the Chocolate Bar ahead, I really was not expecting to see candles appear in the water. It was a magical experience," said Anderson.



Kate Krause and Katherine Fleissner, juniors, act as lost tourist and during the STUCO's theme presentation for Christmas Banquet. Kendall Vanderslice, senior, and Christian Davis, junior, carried umbrellas that were opened at the end of the presentation. The theme for the Christmas Banquet was CB in NYC. The STUCO member's did a song to "Christmas in New York."





After receiving notes in their lockers, Courtney Pfifer, Katherine Smith, Emily Sherman, juniors, and Cori Becker, senior, watch as they are serenaded by the quartet. Daniel Alexander, Benjamin Arndt, Tom Winter, David Alexander, and Jimmy Meyer, juniors, asked their dates by singing to them. After singing, each boy pointed to their dates.



Cori Becker, senior, and Benjamin Arndt, junior, stand by the front sign. Arndt wrote the note asking Becker to Christmas Banquet. Arndt also asked her by serenading her in the choir room. It was impossible to ignore the front sign and he hoped Becker would notice.

Jacob Grimes, junior, asks Amanda Wiele, junior to Christmas Banquet by begging her to place his newspaper story. Unfortunately In-Design failed and Grimes was left standing behind Wiele without even officially asking.



David Rasche, junior, asked April Johnson, juniors, by locking her computer during class. He then presented her with flowers. "It was not scary because I asked her last year," said Rasche.



Sarah Fullerton, senior, was asked by Michael Kruse, senior on December 3. Fullerton was kidnapped by her friends and asked by Kruse by using a robotic voice recorder.



Seth Lillenberg, senior, relaxes after finishing the third and final leg of a 150 mile biking expedition. Students were required to go on training rides before the trip to South Dakota so they could get used to being on a bike for several hours at a time.



The summer seminar students visit the Badlands National Park where they enjoy beautiful views and hike miles over unique terrain consisting of sandy rock, lush grass, and desolate dirt.



The students took a trip to the Cheyenne River Ranch, where Dan O'Brien, owner, raises buffalo. O'Brien spoke to the students on why he chose to raise his buffalo on grass alone. The students also ate some of his world famous buffalo burgers.



Abigail Dorani, math teacher, explains to Brennen Grone, Kenton Coffman, and Annaliese Clark, seniors, how Devil's Tower was formed. "Miss Dorani was full of information and it was always interesting to hear what she had to say," said Coffman.



Christine Ehrmann, Mackenzie Pflitzinger, Kendall Vanderslice, Annaliese Clark, Kimberly Peterson, Leah Beck, Jennifer Thompson, Katherine Kennison, Sarah Duffy, and Alyson Tate, seniors, wait at the top of Mount Harney for everyone's summit. At the top, the students had a "core" lesson about creation restoration and learned how to help restore the earth.

Warren Smith, science teacher, delivers a talk on the peak of Mount Harney. The teachers who spoke to the group chose unique locations to give their lessons to help convey their message.



Biking, hiking, climbing, and kayaking were all daily activities during the trip, but the main focus was to discuss ways that humans can restore God's original intended beauty to the earth. Students were taught to view their world through a more appreciative scope.



Andrew Wendt, senior, participates in a game of Custer Ball after a bike ride. Students would play on any roof they could find.



A group of students explore their campground on the first night of the two week trip. On the first night, while trying to sleep, several students witnessed a herd of buffalo walking right outside their tents.



Jennifer Thompson, senior, reads an article at the top of Mount Harney. Each student was given an article to read before the discussions began. Each of them read the article alone while they enjoyed the view and space around the mountain.

Custer Ball

The game of choice on Summer Seminar

Sweat dripped onto his eyebrows as Andrew Wendt, senior, ignored his aching legs and leaped into the air. His eyes intently watched the size one, blue soccer ball as he reached up to grab it. This occurrence became known as Custer Ball, an event that helped define the 2008 edition of Summer Seminar.

After an exhausting fifty-four mile bike ride, sixteen boys anxiously lined up next to the pavilion at Custer Campsite. After the first van full of boys completed the bike ride, they waited for the rest of the group to return. While waiting, they started to throw the soccer ball up on the roof of the pavilion. "One thing led to another and the game formed," said Michael O'Brien, senior.

Custer ball may look like your ordinary childhood game, but there are many strategies and tricks involved to make it the most popular past time on Summer Seminar. In Custer Ball there existed merely two rules: a player must stay in the air during the time he catches and throws the ball, and players must stay in order, following the person in front them. Strategy was a key aspect in the game. It consisted of "not throwing it too high on the roof, because it would go to the other side. You also had to read the person in front of you to anticipate the ball," said O'Brien. At the start of the game, the boys scrambled to get into the ideal position.

Boys from different social groups shared competition and laughter as the girls and teachers sat on picnic tables and watched. Some girls attempted to compete in the game, but many simply surveyed and giggled over the various distorted facial expressions of the focused players. Both players and spectators enjoyed every game of Custer ball and anxiously awaited for an opportunity to play.





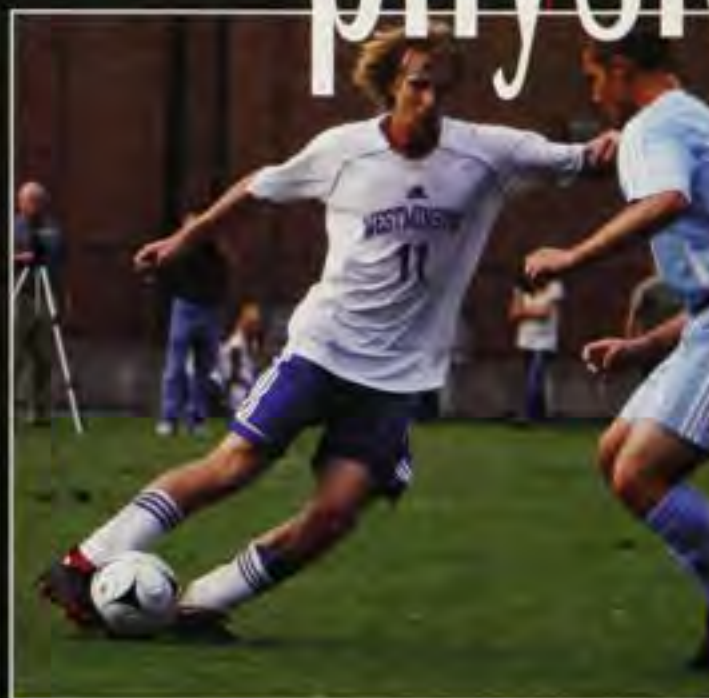
Alexander Cacciarelli, junior, runs the ball down the field during the game against St. Marys.

physical

an offshoot of the body...

With two minutes left on the clock your heart begins to race. *Energy* builds up as you prepare yourself mentally for the last critical seconds of the game. Your teammates are looking to you to make the next move. The pain in your right calf begins to worsen as you pass to the forward on your soccer team. Your body so badly *wants* to quit and you begin to stumble. Looking at the field ahead, you see your teammates struggle to find the next open outlet. It feels as if every last ounce of *energy* has been used up, but you push your legs to run for the open pass. As the last five seconds of the game go by, so does your last kick of the season, resulting in the ball flying past the goalie into the net.

Everyday you were *dependent* upon your body. Your legs *guided* you from classroom to classroom while your eyes sent images throughout your brain, which *enabled* you to complete homework and papers. No, not everyone can relate to being on the soccer field and scoring the game winning goal, but everything you do in life is related in some form to a physical *endeavor*.



Michael Evetts, junior, dribbles the ball down the field during a home game against Parkway West.



Hannah Worrell, sophomore, pitches during a softball game.



Calvin Boesch, senior, Alexander Lindstrom, junior, David Everett and Daniel Everett, sophomores, sprint from the starting line during a cross country race.

Leaving their mark

A new year can't erase a tradition

Hearts thumped and sweat dripped down their face as six senior girls jogged steadily towards their goal; the pavilion at Malcolm Terrace Park. Each year Westminster seniors carve their name into the hard, dew covered wood pillars of the pavilion.

For many, the season's end is a relief. But for some, the realization that this was the last day of Westminster cross-country was a solemn thought. As each senior gently carved her name, memories of their hard work and dedication ran through their minds. After years of this tradition, their long awaited turn to carve their names was almost snatched from under their feet.

Over the summer the pavilion was repainted, jeopardizing their chance to continue the tradition. Despite this mishap, they did not let it get in the way of leaving their legacy as Westminster cross-country runners.

"I am excited to carve my name so that people will recognize all the hard work that I have done," said Karen Girgis, senior.

Many of the girls had been a part of the team for all four years and were disappointed when they heard of this setback. "I have worked very hard for three years and am looking forward to carving my name in the pavilion," said Katherine Kennison, senior. The fact that these girls were almost deprived of their tradition made them value the opportunity even more.



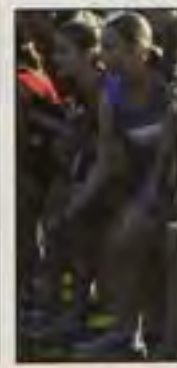
Julie Sharpe, junior, runs at the Hazelwood Central invitational. "We've had a lot of great new girls on the team this year, and team energy is always really high. The longer runs are especially fun because we can get to know each other while enjoying what brought us together in the first place," said Sharpe.



Han Byul Kang, senior, and Sabrina Hammond, sophomore, stretch during practice. Every day the team stretched together while Coach Boesch talked to them about upcoming events. Practice usually consisted of ten minutes of stretching and the remaining time for free run. Watson Woodward, senior, Amanda Bettlach, junior, Katherine Kennison and Kathryn Wenberg, seniors, get a workout in along Ladue Rd.



Sabrina Hammond, sophomore, sprints to the finish line at the MWWA Invitational at Principia High School. Amanda Bettlach, junior, uses her strength to dash past many of the other runners. Mia Seagraves and Julie Sharpe, juniors, prepare for the 3.1 mile race.



From here
to Topeka

Add up the

3.1

Miles run in
every meet.

plus the

6

Miles run in
each
practice

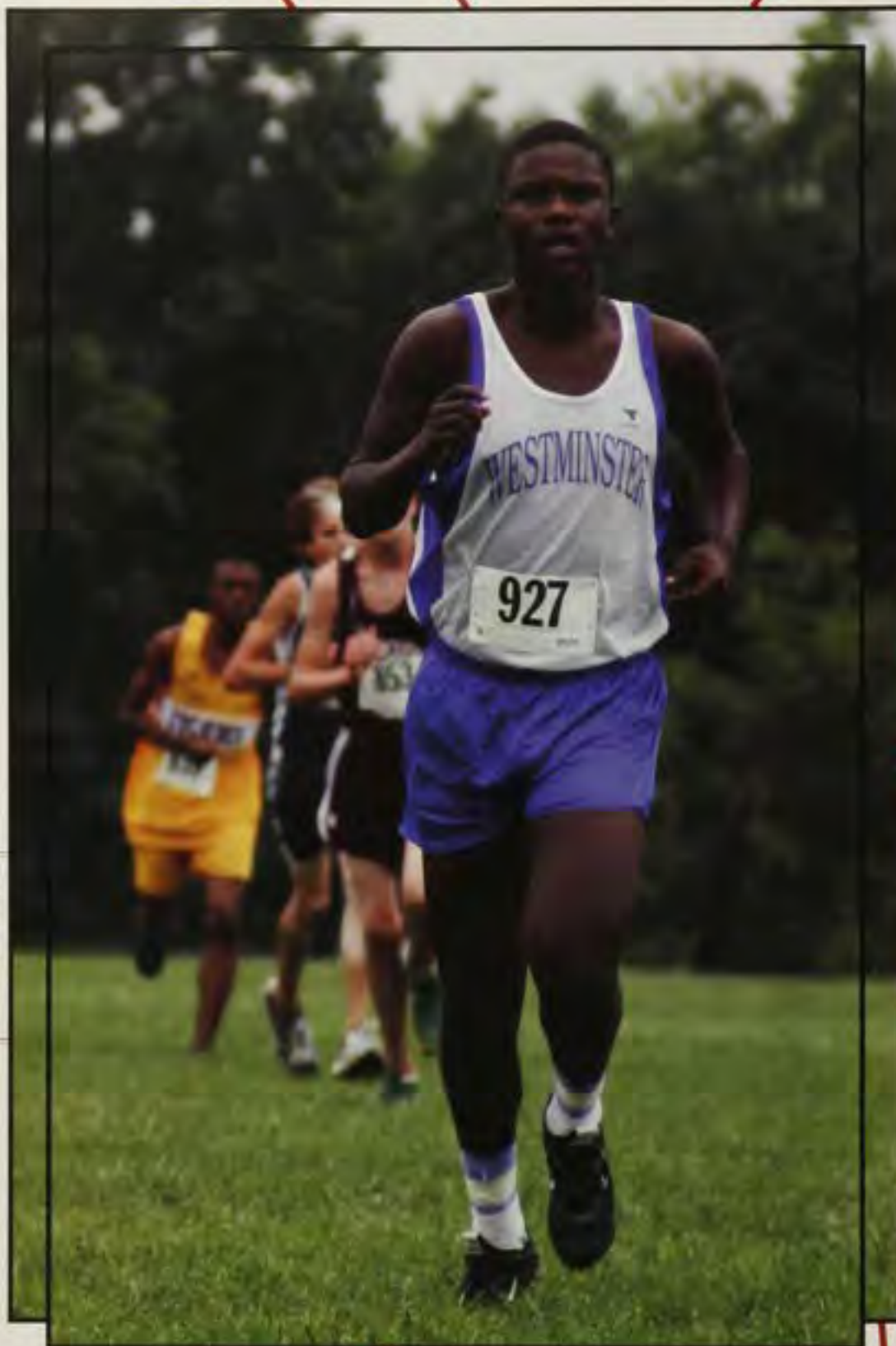
and you'll have the

300

Miles run in
the whole season...

...enough to get you
out the front door
of WCA and all the
way to the capital
of Kansas





Kip Baliach, senior, runs the course at the First Capital/ St. Charles Invitational on Sept. 5. He ran it in 22 minutes and 30 seconds. Since the last season, the Cross Country Cats had improved because almost all of the Cats beat their time from last year by at least a minute.



At the Hazelwood Central Invitational on September 20, 2008, David Meyer, junior, runs the 5.1 mile course. Calvin Boesch, senior, was the captain of this year's varsity squad. Boesch has been captain two years of his four years on varsity.



Sweat soaked summer

The summer miles made the difference in the season

The sweltering July sun beat down on their bodies all summer and the hills they attempted to conquer only grew steeper. Shin splints continued to impair their lower legs, but the men's cross country team persistently ran in order to prepare for the fall season. For devoted runners, autumn is the one season where progression is clearly apparent.

Last year, the team was speedy and swift, but this season, their quickness increased. "The whole team got a lot faster from last year, and most of us ran the first meet about a minute quicker," said Andrew Wiens, senior. This was a result of all the summer training the team endured.

As an individual, each member of the varsity squad was required to run about three hundred to four hundred miles over the summer. While other students relaxed in the sweltering heat by the pool, cross country runners awoke early to beat the boiling temperatures. "We do a lot of long distance running by ourselves in the summer, and then when school starts, we try to make our short distance times quicker while running together," said Danny Keith, sophomore. The time spent running over the summer was beneficial because it prepared the Cats to be stronger and faster for the tough season ahead of them.

"FUN RUNS"

The Cross Country team had beneficial practices that were also entertaining. On Fridays, the team practiced by having "fun runs" to Malcolm Terrace Park.



In order to make these runs "fun," they...

1

found a bunch of orange construction cones and used them to dam up a creek so the water overflowed the bridge

2

...jumped on and slowly ran in front of Coach Stange's car on the way to the park so he had to drive over lawns to get past them

3

...threw stones into the creek and got lectured by a passing man about how this causes floods.



Daniel Everett and David Everett, sophomores, run close together in the St. Charles Invitational. However, Daniel, the only Wildcat to place at this meet, finished 3rd. Danny Keith, sophomore, breaks from the starting line and Calvin Boesch, senior, sprints towards the finish.



Matthew Sugg, sophomore, swims breaststroke during a time trial on Aug. 25. Sugg's specialty stroke throughout the season was freestyle, and he often swam the 500-yard race, which is the equivalent of 20 lengths of the pool.

Goggle Toss

Swimmers tried to get their goggles stuck on the flags before practice. If they succeeded they get to skip a workout. "Kris Freeman is amazing at the goggle toss. He's gotten them stuck, like, two or three times," said Thomas Egan, junior.



Thomas Egan, junior, swims the 100-yard freestyle during a tri-meet against Cape Notre Dame and Jackson. Although WCA came in last, the team swam well, including Eric Terschak, senior, in breaststroke, Robert Johnson, senior, in freestyle, and Caleb Janssen, freshman, in breaststroke.

page credit: Lucy Egan

Erik Johnson, junior, waits for his race to start during the outdoor meet against Wentzville on Sept. 2. Although the meet ended undecidedly due to rain, the team was allowed to complete their first event, the 200-yard medley relay, with Thomas Porter, junior, swimming breaststroke, and Nathan Terschak, sophomore, swimming fly.



Kristopher Freeman, junior, executes a dive during a meet against Chaminade. Freeman was the only diver on the team, and his wins contributed to the team's success throughout the season. Freeman also swam in meets with the specialty of backstroke.

Stroke of Luck

An Unexpected Downpour canceled a meet.

Eyes nervously darted to the rolling black clouds along the skyline, as members of Westminster's swim team waited along the side of the pool for their meet to commence. It was a momentous occasion; not only was it the first meet of the season, but for the first time in many of the boys' Westminster swimming careers, they would be swimming outdoors. Many were excited about this new experience.

However, their enthusiasm was soon met by a roadblock in the form of ominous-looking clouds lining the horizon. The first events in the meet were delayed due to bouts of thunder, which some used as an excuse to try to escape swimming. "Coach, as a certified life-guard, I'm pulling myself from this meet," said Erik Johnson, junior. Unfortunately, the meet officials seemed to be thinking along the same lines, and after only two events the meet was canceled.

The pouring rain did not dampen the swimmers' spirits, as they made their way to Pizza Street, a local restaurant, for the annual swim team banquet. "It ended up being really lucky that the meet ended so soon because we had a great time at Pizza Street," said Robert Johnson, senior.

Number *one* goal

The JV women's tennis team made consistency their top priority

Anticipation pervaded the tennis court at the beginning of the year. The JV Tennis team was comprised of new girls, over half of which were freshmen, and a new coach.

Although she had had extensive experience with the sport, this was Elizabeth Barker's first year coaching a tennis team. Coming into the season, Coach Barker was excited to pass on her love and knowledge of tennis to the girls at WCA. At the beginning of the season, Barker had everyone on the team write down their number one goal that they had for the season. The overall response was 'consistency'. They knew that perfecting such a skill would require discipline and sacrifice. Barker helped the team practice consistency in their game every chance they had, as they counted the number of strokes they got in a row. "I liked getting a new coach. She corrected us and told us what we did wrong, instead of just sitting on the sidelines," said Danielle Cicka, sophomore.

The passion of Coach Barker, along with the diligence and commitment of her team, was apparent with 9 wins and 4 losses at the end of the season. "It was an awesome season with a great group of girls and their families. God truly blessed me with a wonderful first year of coaching," said Barker.



Margaret Duffy, freshman, hits the ball at a home match. Duffy has been playing the sport for three years. "Getting to know everyone, was the most fun thing about this season," said Duffy.

Morgan Nixon, freshman, returns the ball to her Parkway West opponent. Rebecca Weiss, freshman, Danielle Cicka and Elizabeth Blackwell, sophomores, take on their doubles opponents. The Wildcats won the match, 7-2.



Olivia Handler, freshman, Danielle Cicka, sophomore, Mallory Alpert, junior, and Margaret Duffy, freshman, strive to beat Cor Jesu at their last home game of the season. They won the game, 3-2. Duffy, Alpert, and Handler were swing players, and rotated to play every third varsity game.



Caroline Thompson, freshman, serves the ball at Ladue, finishing the last match of the season with a score of 8-4. Elizabeth Blackwell and Nicole Schuessler, sophomores, along with Rebecca Waller, freshman, enjoy playing tennis together. "We really work together as a team and the 10th graders are really kind to us," said Waller. "In doubles I like working with other people. I like getting to know everyone," said Blackwell.



Danielle Cicka, sophomore, prepares to swing at her last game of the season. Cicka has played tennis for three years. "I like it because it's kind of a mental game. You have to decide where you want to put your points and stuff - it's not just physical."



Rebecca Waller and Morgan Nixon, freshmen, meet their opponents before the game.

Time to Play

3:30	Arrive at the court	3:45	Warm up with teammates
3:35	Get snack and pep talk from Coach Barker	4:00	Begin the match

Jordan Montgomery, junior, reaches to return the low volley hit by Lafayette opponents in the MICDS doubles tournament. Montgomery, along with doubles partner Amanda Wiele, teamed up to play number one doubles but lost, 6-2, 6-2. This was Montgomery's second year on Varsity, making her one of three returning Varsity players. Amanda Wiele, junior, follows through on her backhand. Ashley Segrave, junior, hits a backhand. She was paired with Rachael Aucker, junior, and they later won the match 6-4, 7-5.



Emily Rassieur, senior, prepares to hit a low backhand during pre-game warm-ups for the match against Cor Jesu. Rassieur was the only senior on the team, and provided her teammates with much needed leadership. Jordan Montgomery, junior, prepares to hit a forehand volley. Lauren DeRousse, sophomore and number two singles player, hits a backhand volley and later won the match 6-3, 6-4. Bethany Leibovich, junior, returns a hard low shot hit by opponent Cor Jesu and won the match 6-4, 6-2.



Lauren DeRousse, sophomore, returns the ball to her Cor Jesu opponent. Although DeRousse lost the first set 3-6, she came back to dominate the next two sets 6-3, 6-2. Christine Schlafly, sophomore, hits a low volley. Schlafly played number one singles but lost the match 6-0, 6-1. Megan Betz, freshman, hits a backhand volley during the match. Betz won at number 4 singles, with a score of 6-2, 6-3. Megan was the only freshman to play singles on the Varsity roster.



Amanda Wiele, junior, follows through on her serve. Wiele was one of the captains for the tennis team.

by the numbers

80	180	5:45
		
Number of ball cans used throughout the season	Number of minutes the longest match lasted	Time the captain pulled the fresh towel out of the bag

Bound for state

Top varsity players represented Westminster at state

Twenty-two years after Westminster Christian Academy first established a women's tennis team, the school was finally represented at state. The doubles team that emerged were the second-year varsity sophomores, Christine Schiafly and Lauren DeRousse. The duo had been doubles partners for the past two seasons and finally had the opportunity to represent the school at the state tournament and prove that they could compete at the state level.

Being the first player on the Westminster men's team to go to state in 1991, Coach Nathan Talley had both experience and insight in the game of tennis, making him a great coach for these two players. Number one and two singles players, Schiafly and DeRousse learned to compete together and work as a team. "Schiafly has incredible hands, especially at the net," said coach Talley. He also commented on how DeRousse had "solid groundstrokes and is incredibly cool under pressure during the important moments of a match." These two players had different strengths which made them a strong team. Consistency and placement are two areas in which the girls excelled.

The road to state was tough, including a three hour match to win districts. The match even at one set all, 6-4 Westminster, 4-6 Clayton, the two teams began the third set. The third set went to 6-6 and they started the seven point tiebreaker. Westminster quickly went up 6-2, but Clayton fought back bringing the score to 6-5. Westminster then won the following point, securing them a spot at state. "DeRousse must have hit 15 balls in the rally and then finally, Christine found the one she needed up at the net, and the girls put it in the bank and made history," said Coach Talley.

Christine Schiafly, sophomore, hits a backhand during the match against Ursuline and later won with a score of 6-0, 6-0. Schiafly played number one singles throughout the season and had a singles record of 5-3. "She is ridiculously smart on the court. She knows where to move, where to place the ball, and how to exploit opponents' weaknesses," said Nathan Talley, coach





Hilary Franz, junior, approaches the tee, and Jamie Zimmer, junior, prepares her swing. Despite the rainy weather, both Franz and Zimmer accomplished low scores to help beat Nerinx Hall on Sept. 15 for the first time in Westminster golf history.

Dead goose society

*Girls aimed high to knock
geese out of the sky*

Most understand the phrase "aiming high" as setting a goal that is hard to accomplish. The women's golf team, however, created a whole new meaning for the phrase. They tried to aim their shots upward in hopes of knocking a goose out of the sky. Once a team member achieved this, she was officially a member of the highly esteemed Dead Goose Society.

Over several years, new members have joined the society. Some have even managed to kill the goose they have hit. But where did these golfers' deep hate for geese come from? "The geese are always pooping all over the course, it's disgusting. So we hate the geese," said team captain Sarah Duffy, senior.

The women's golf team had other traditions as well. Before every meet, the team routinely performed a silent cheer in order to uphold the serene setting of the golf course after saying a quick prayer. They also ate at Lambert's Restaurant whenever a match was nearby. The variety of personalities on the team found commonality through these activities.

Although most athletic teams had interesting traditions, the women's golf tradition of the Dead Goose Society proved to be especially unique.

Margaret Moore, freshman, searches the skies for her ball, and Sarah Duffy, senior, concentrates on her back swing at the Sept. 22 match against Cor Jesu. Moore started her freshman year on the varsity team, following the footsteps of her older sisters Ellie Moore, 2008 graduate, and Sarah Moore, 2007 graduate. "I like to beat them because they set high standards. It's really fun," said Moore. Abigail Leibovich and Rachael Gantner, freshmen, practice their swings.



Sarah Duffy, senior, follows through her swing at the Districts tournament on Oct. 8. Duffy was one of only two seniors on the golf team and had been on the team since her freshman year. She serves as both a captain and a role model for her teammates who have less experience. Kristin Kilpatrick, junior, prepares to whack the ball and Steven Bradley, coach, observes his team.

Golf Talk

Eagle = two strokes below par on an individual hole

Birdie = one stroke below par

Bogey = one stroke above par

Apron = the closely mowed area between the putting surface and surrounding rough

irons = clubs used from the fairway and sometimes the tee

Flush = perfect contact between club head and golf ball in a swing

Barkie = making par after bouncing the ball off a tree





Kristen Kilpatrick, junior, places the ball on the green. Qualifying for State the third year in a row, Kilpatrick placed third at the Districts tournament. She also placed fourth at the State Competition out of 122 girls with scores of 80 and 81 strokes.



Katie Haverstick, junior, swings for a double in the districts game against Villa Duchesne. The Wildcats won the game 10-0. Haverstick, Shay Weststeyn, and Suzanne Weston, juniors, were captains this year because there were no seniors on the team.

Shay Weststeyn, junior, winds up for the pitch against Fort Zumwalt West. Brynn Benes, freshman, watches. Hannah Worrell, sophomore, hit a triple, while Jocelyn Sheffield, freshman, hits her second run of the game. Jordan Klein, sophomore, is walked in the first inning of the Sept. 16 game. Weststeyn won the game for the Cats with seven strikeouts.



Suzanne Weston, junior, throws from second base to first base in fielding practice before a game. Ellie Huffman, freshman, catches another strike by pitcher, Hannah Worrell, sophomore. Bryn McKie, freshman, sprints to third and then to home during the Sept. 9 game against St. Elizabeth. McKie drove in three runs and Brynn Benes, freshman, had four hits to contribute to the 16-3 win.

WILDCATS BY THE NUMBERS

138 TOTAL RUNS SCORED ALL SEASON

183 STRIKE OUTS BY SHAY

14-4 REGULAR SEASON RECORD

8 FRESHMEN
2 SOPHOMORES
3 JUNIORS
0 SENIORS

4 ALL-DISTRICT PLAYERS

SHAY WESTSTEYN
ELLIE HUFFMAN
JOCelyn SHEFFIELD
Bryn McKie

1 ALL-REGIONAL PLAYER
SHAY WESTSTEYN

In the land of giants

Varsity women compete with a full load of freshmen

With palms sweaty and heart racing Brynn Benes, freshman, walked to home plate for her first time at bat. "I was really nervous before the first game, but it helped me play better," said Benes. On her first swing, Benes hit a double. There were a lot of 'first time Varsity game jitters' going through the team. "We have two sophomores, three juniors, no seniors, and eight freshmen," said Jordan Klein, sophomore.

Along with eight new freshmen, the girls also had a new coach. Todd Worrell, father of Hannah Worrell, sophomore, stepped in as the head coach this year. Once again, the change did not hurt the way these ladies play the game.

For a team comprised of mostly freshmen, they did not play like it. In a game against Fort Zumwalt West, the Wildcats were up by three in the first five minutes of coming up to bat. They held the best varsity record at Westminster.

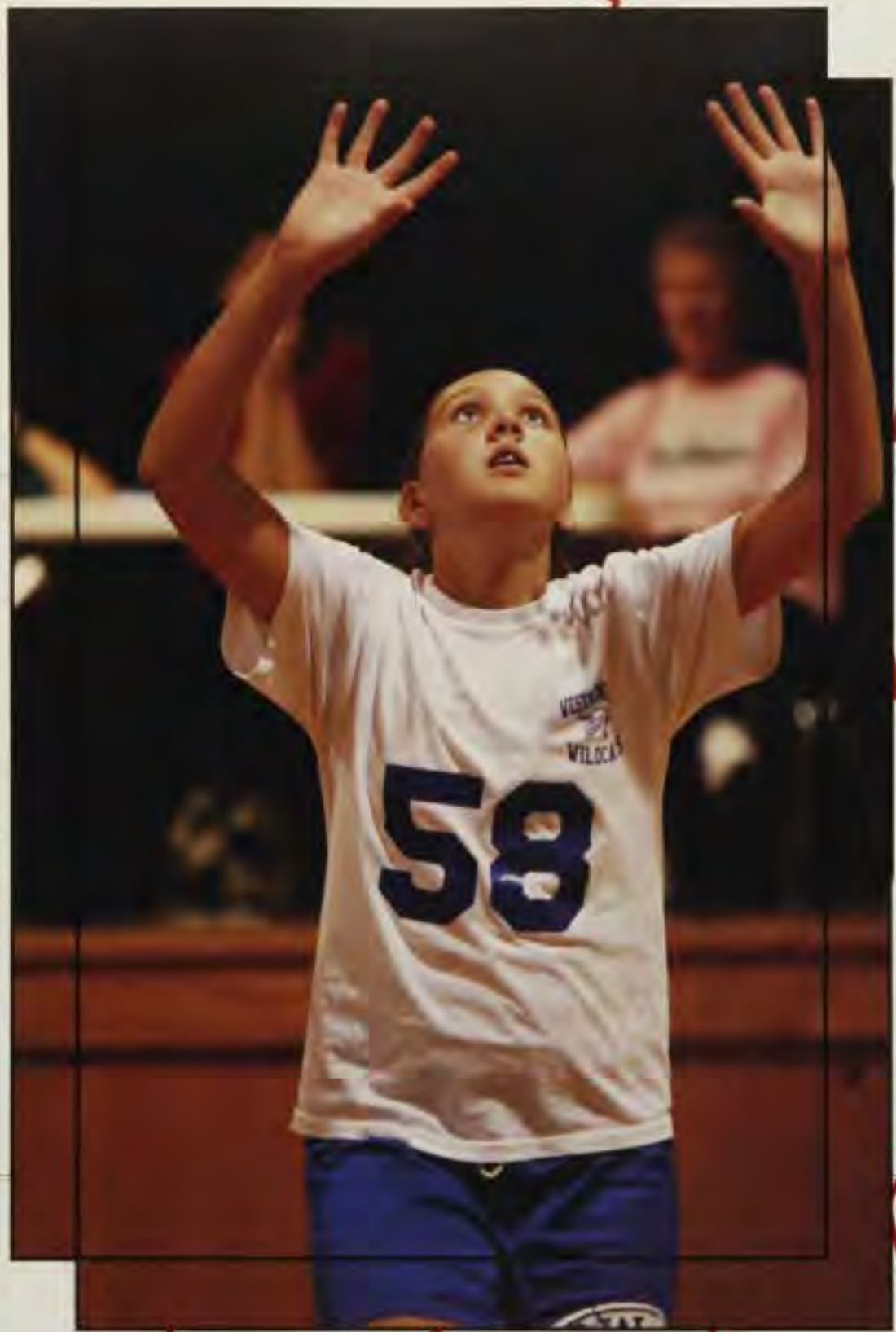
"It is cool being on a team with almost all freshmen because we're all learning and getting better together, and the upperclassmen always encourage us," said Benes.

The season had been hard work, but it all paid off. Due to the lack of seniors, the three juniors had to step up as captains. The team won districts for the second year in a row and advanced to sectionals. Shaylynn Weststeyn, junior, was named St. Louis Post Dispatch Athlete of the Week.

The freshmen were the reason for the rousing cheers creeping up from the lower fields. "The freshmen are serious about the game and they are good at it too," said Worrell.



Andria Graeler, freshman, tunts to advance the runner from first to second.



Megan Tiley, eighth grade, focuses on the ball before setting it. In the end, the Wildcats played a hard game and gained another victory against St. John's Lutheran.

Jack, Queen, King,

Cheers motivated the middle school volleyball players

ACE!

The seventh grader's hearts raced as they anticipated St. Paul Lutheran's next move. In the final stretch of last game of the match, the young Lady Wildcats found themselves down 19 to 24, game point for St. Paul's. Motivated by each others encouragement, the Cats refused to give up. The team came back with a run of seven points and claimed the victory. "It was pretty intense," said Hannah Hickman, seventh grade. "One aspect that helped us win was when the girls started cheering for each other and picked each other up," said Allison Pautler, seventh grade A team coach.

Constant cheers and chants among the seventh grade volleyball teams were used in many matches as a way to motivate the players. "They sure do love their cheers!" said Deana Vandegriff, seventh grade B team coach. After a point was scored off of a serve, the team would yell out a cheer in unison such as, "Jack, Queen, King, Ace!" Saying these types of cheers after an ace was scored "made the server happy," said Hannah Hickman, seventh grade. "The energy from cheering brings unity among the team and makes them play harder. Coming together and slapping hands in the middle of the court between plays is the motivation that the girls need to play better, more intense volleyball," said Coach Pautler.



After a time-out, the seventh grade white team players put their hands together and cheer before going back on the court. Annie Canfield, Alison Nichols, Sydney Seabaugh, and Laura Smith, seventh grade, slap hands in excitement after an ace is scored. Kariynn Kneibert, seventh grade, sets the ball over to Whitfield. Sydney Seabaugh, seventh grade, passes after the opponents serve. The seventh grade white team won against Whitfield in two games because of their "focus and consistent serves," said Doug Coleman, seventh grade volleyball coach.



Sadie Stipanovich, eighth grade, blocks an opposing Immanuel Lutheran player. To prepare for the match, the eighth grade A team huddles close and gets excited for the games ahead. Playing defense in the back row, Della Woodward, eighth grade, passes to the setter. The girls take a rest during a time-out and chat about what they need to do next. After losing the first game 25-13, the Lady Wildcats came back with 17-22 in the second game and won 22-25. After all their hard work, Mr. Benes took them all out for ice cream.



Caroline Moore, seventh grade, digs a hit and passes to the setter. Ellie Straub, seventh grade, reaches for a block against an Immanuel Lutheran hitter. The seventh grade A team ended the game with another victory.



Top 5 cheers

1 "Bang! Bang! Reload!"

2 "Tip, Tip Flooray!"

3 Stomp
Stomp
"Woohoo! Ace!"
Stomp

"1,2,3 Team!"

5 "Aww Team!"



Kaylee Rosen, sophomore, gives out words of encouragement and motivation to her teammates after a point. The JV girls had just won a point against Christian High's varsity team. Christian High was one of the two varsity teams they played.



Baseline or bust

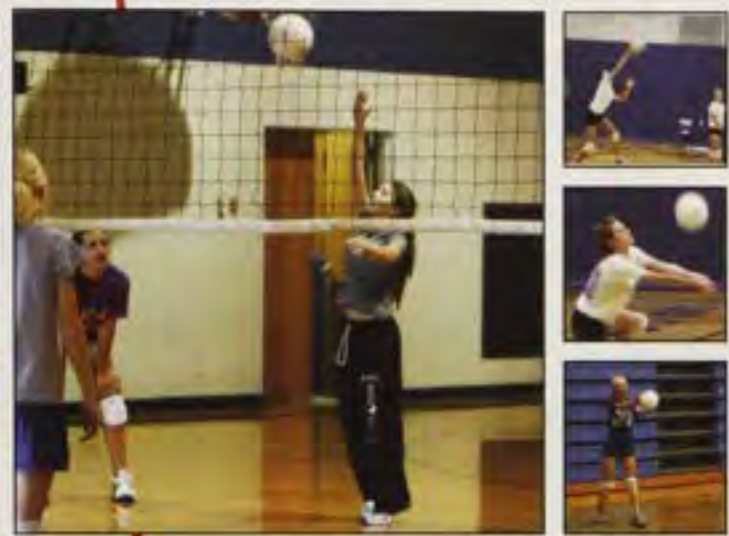
A simple consolation was all the girls needed

All eyes from the Wildcats JV Volleyball team glared toward Coach John Powell as the Lady Wildcats missed a simple spike during a match against Christian High. "Baseline," said Powell, as he shook his head. It is all the team needed to become motivated to do even better. So what does baseline mean anyway? "Well, after we do a bad pass or something during a match, coach will just say 'baseline,' which basically means we're doing sprints during practice," said Danielle Pyl, junior. Even though they won without playing a third game, sprints still awaited the girls at their next practice.

Their goal was to win and become one of the best JV teams around. This mission was easily accomplished. The wins kept motivation up by the team and with each game they wanted to become more experienced and capable. Sitting on a 17-2 season, the team elevated their prowess past some varsity volleyball teams. The team beat Proctoria and Christian High's varsity teams. A feat not many JV teams can prove themselves capable of.

Through sweat and adversity, the JV volleyball team was able to become stronger mentally and physically.

Auri Salem, freshman, spikes the ball during a practice. Maegan Nelson, Lucy Wynn, and Adrienne Kaup, freshman, participate in a practice that pitted them against the JV team. Occasionally, the freshman volleyball team got to practice with the JV team.



Rebecca Canfield, sophomore, spikes the ball over the net during one of the JV matches. Before their last match begins, the JV team meets one last. Danielle Evans, freshman, peers over her teammates during the national anthem. Elizabeth Miller, sophomore, mentally prepare for the game ahead.



Go Figure

19 Total Number of Wins

3 Total Number of Losses

16 Number of 2 game wins

We all had to step up as leaders since we lost seven seniors.

- Kelly Penning

Team Chant

Everywhere we go (echo)

People wanna know (echo)

Who we are (echo)

So we tell them (echo)

We're Westminster Varsity (echo)

We play volleyball (echo)

Ooh Ahh! Hit down!

Ooh Ahh! Pass good

Ooh Ahh! Hit down!

Ooh Ahh! Pass good



The team celebrates and encourages each other after nearly every play to keep the energy positive. Kelly Penning, junior and captain, jumps to clear the ball over the net. Sarah Hughes, junior, serves the ball against Luthern North. "We knew we had to work hard this season, and when we play our best we are rewarded," said Hughes. Varsity defeated Luthern North.



Katherine Kraus, junior, digs the ball in warm ups. The lady wildcats defended the ball to restrict the offense from another point. Christina Dohr, junior, lunges to hit the ball during their warm up before the MICDS game. After falling behind, the lady Wildcats came back with a victory in the second game. They fought hard and defeated the Rams in a close 26-24 victory.

Jessica Menchak, senior and captain, Kira Stewart, and Sarah Hall, sophomores, show determination and skill to defeat long time rivals Villa Duschene. "We know each individual player and their positions, so we practice accordingly," said, Heidi Hunter, junior. After a long battle back and forth, Westminster accomplished an exciting victory.



Leah Beck, senior and captain, makes a pass during a team warm up before the game. She demonstrated great talent and technique. Although Beck was quiet, she provided the team with excellent leadership.



Tradition lives on

Westminster graduate Heather Kea returned as a coach

The crowd cheered as outside hitter, Heather Kea, smacked the ball into the opposing teams court, gaining another point for Westminster.

Eight years ago, Heather Kea was a star player on the varsity volleyball team. She came back to coach the 2008 women's varsity volleyball team with the same techniques she learned while in high school. The team was blessed to be under the leadership of Kea.

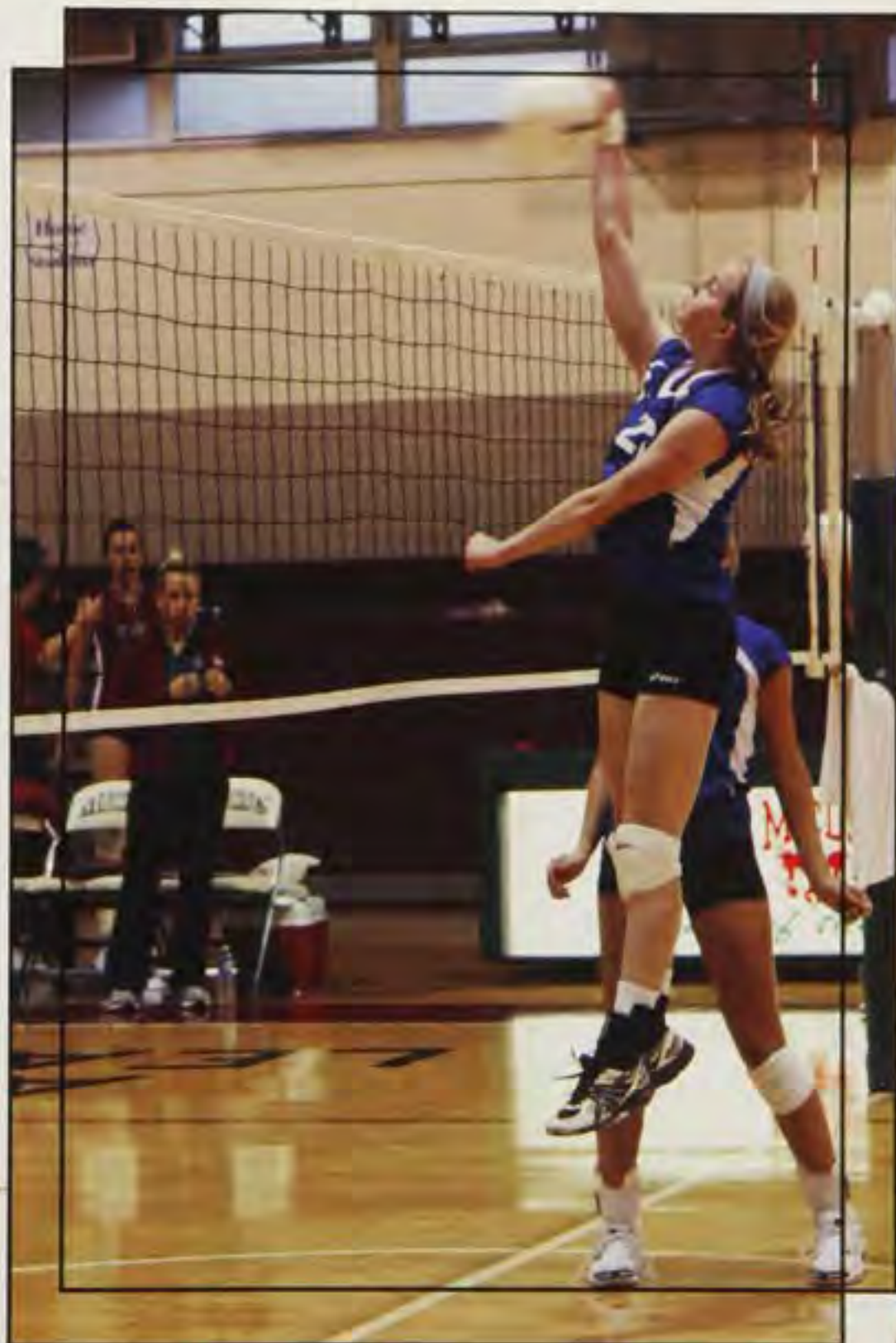
"She's really funny and knows how to get us to work hard and play our best," said Leah Beck, senior and captain. Kea's knowledge and experience was beneficial because she could relate to what the girls were going through, therefore, creating an instant bond.

"Some traditions my high school team had have carried on, they are fun and perky like the Spanking Machine," claimed Kea.

"When it's someone's birthday, at practice, all the girls line up and the birthday girl has to crawl through everyone's legs and get spanked mercilessly," explained Heidi Hunter, junior. Although they did not enjoy being the birthday girl, the team loved keeping the tradition.

Another tradition, or rather rivalry that still remained prevalent to this year's team was Villa Duchesne. "The rivalry has always existed," said Hunter. Kea's experience proved beneficial while practicing before a rivalry game because she knew how to instruct and lead the girls in order to gain a victory. The lady Wildcats knew Villa's players individually and practiced their strategies to prepare for the game.

The players all agreed that Kea's best advice helped them with more than just volleyball. "I want them to believe in themselves, be confident, and know they have a fighting chance to win," said Kea.



Heidi Hunter, junior, leaps to spike the ball against opponents, MICDS. After a long battle, the girls were victorious.

The domino effect

One goalie went down, another went up

Nerves raced up and down his veins as Jacob Buffa, freshman, prepared to play goalie for the first time. Normally, Buffa would start in the middle of the soccer field as center midfielder, but not this game. "I have never been a goalie in my life," said Buffa. With his nerves still high, he could only think about one thing: not letting any shots get into his net.

This all started when Timothy Reed, junior and varsity soccer goalie, injured himself. Michael Hall, sophomore, was forced to take Reed's place as goalie on the varsity soccer team.

With Hall playing varsity, the junior varsity soccer team was left without a goalie. Luckily, Jacob Buffa stepped up to play for his first time. "It is so different going from midfielder to goalie. As center midfielder you control what is going on, but as a goalie you don't have an impact on how your team performs," said Buffa. Being a goalie may not have an impact on the field play, but goalies do have an impact on the score.

While Hall was busy playing on the varsity team, Buffa along with Ben Stratton, sophomore, and Robert Kinsinger, freshman, contributed to the team by playing goalie.



Michael Hall, sophomore, punts the ball up the field to the team forwards at a game on Sept. 27. Later in the first half, Ryan Krupp, sophomore, sends the ball lying down the Wildcat home field. Anthony Pritchell, freshman, passes to his teammate after stealing the ball. Henry Griesedieck, freshman, dodges an opponent and passes the ball. The Wildcats fought hard and challenged Cape Notre Dame.

Sang-a Park, sophomore, settles the ball on Sept. 12. Andrew Beck, captain, Matthew Baldwin, Luke Schroeder, sophomores, and Brent Stump, freshman, listen to David Stair, coach, during half time. Ben Stratton, sophomore, filled in as goalie for Jacob Buffa, freshman. "The Wildcats played a hard-fought game" said Stair.

SO YOU know...



15

The number of goals Soo-Heon Baik, sophomore, scored this year.

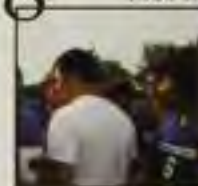
The average number of pentagons on a soccer ball.



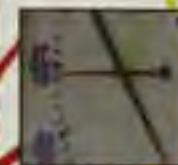
2

The number of freshmen players on the soccer team.

8



35



The minutes in each half of a soccer game.



Jacob Buffa, freshman, makes a move around an opponent while playing center midfield. The Wildcats traveled to Priory and lost a 70 minute game. "You guys are a really good team, don't get down on yourselves," said David Stair, coach.

Off the hook

Middle school skipped legends

The old line "you talk the year is hard, and if next year is turned on its head by the grade's middle school soccer program. Besides the usual school-year anxiety, Westminster's middle school soccer boys faced an impending loss of tryouts in the wake of their summer activities. Seventh graders already phased by the change of scenery between elementary and middle school, received a double dosage of acclimation they found themselves competing for slots on the seventh grade A and B teams. Others, however, got off easy.

One happy eighth grader explained how his team didn't have any cuts. "We didn't have enough players," said Nathan Cherman, eighth grade. His cheerful demeanor quickly vanished, though, as he told about how the team played soft and slow into hard-core "Indian Run" in practice. "It's using Cherman said. "I've gotten faster and played with more intensity since the summer."

Despite their progress as a team, the eighth grade soccer guys still worried about tryouts in the future. "I think I will still be worried about next year's tryouts because of the two cuts out," said



Cherman



8th grade starters

- Bennett Lewis - Goalie
- Hunter Hughes - Sweeper
- Timothy Burgess - Stopper
- Robert Dykhouse - L Fullback
- Dominic Barresi - R Fullback
- Michael Dudley - L Midfield
- Michael Seifert - Center Midfield
- John Dohr - Center Midfield
- Bryce Bell - R Midfield
- Nathan Cherman - Forward
- James Hoekzema - Forward

about the season

5.9	average score for a 7th grade A game
-----	--------------------------------------

6	total games the 8th grade team won
---	------------------------------------

9 out of 11	number of games 7th grade A team won
-------------	--------------------------------------

10	most goals scored in a game
----	-----------------------------



Travis Falls, seventh grade, dribbles around a Whitfield defender. The team won the game with a final score of 10-0 as a result of their efforts. Nathan Cherman, eighth grade, crosses the ball to the middle. Jonah Anderson, eighth grade, attempts to block an opponent's pass. Although he could not finish the season due to an injury, Anderson helped the team win 3-0 against Eureka.



Kyle Cline, seventh grade, evades two Fenton players. The team, determined to succeed after their second loss of the season, finished the game with a 6-2 win. Two days later, Cline scored three goals in a row, the first hat-trick of the year, in a game against Whitfield.

Every second counts

Eleven seconds remained as a free kick changed the outcome of the game

Screaming fans' eyes diverted from the stationary ball to the rapidly decreasing clock. Westminster fans yelled "Hit it," in sync as Matthew Hudnut, junior, stalled to take the free kick. "Matt knew it was the last chance we would get and so he took his time to make it perfect," said Jacob Grimes, junior. Every player raced up the field in high hopes to take advantage of this free kick against Parkway West. "I forgot how much my legs hurt and sprinted up the line," said Grimes. Hudnut launched the ball into the goalie box and several players leaped into the air, their eyes locked on the ball. The clock read three seconds when the ball was redirected by Grimes's head towards the goal. The team let out a jubilant and astonished cheer as they prepared themselves for extra minutes of soccer.

The game continued into two over times without a goal. The humidity and wet field conditions added a struggle to an already challenging game. "It was like playing in a sauna. It was so humid and muggy," said Matthew Schwartz, junior. Many players slid on the field as a result from the constant rain the previous day. "The hardest thing was to play defense one on one," said Grimes.

After one-hundred minutes of soccer in brutal heat conditions, the result of the game rested in the hands of six Westminster boys. After scoring all five penalty kicks, the end result depended on the last opponent's penalty kick. Nervous shrills lingered on the boys' fingertips as the opposing goalie approached the ball. Westminster boys screamed in excitement as the last kick went wide of the right goal post. The win gave the team first place in the St. Louis Shootout tournament and a confidence boost after working hard to earn a win over a tough team. The stimulating game tying header by Grimes wiped away any pain recollections as the visual of the ball soaring into the top right corner of the goal surpasses any other memories of that day.



Matt Reilley, senior.

“WE MADE AROUND THREE THOUSAND DOLLARS AT THE FOREST PARK BALLOON RACE AND AT CARNIVAL. WITH THE MONEY WE BOUGHT TSHIRTS AND WARM-UP JERSEYS AND WE PUT THE REST TOWARDS THE SOCCER PROGRAM FOR GOALS, JERSEYS, BALLS AND SUCH.”

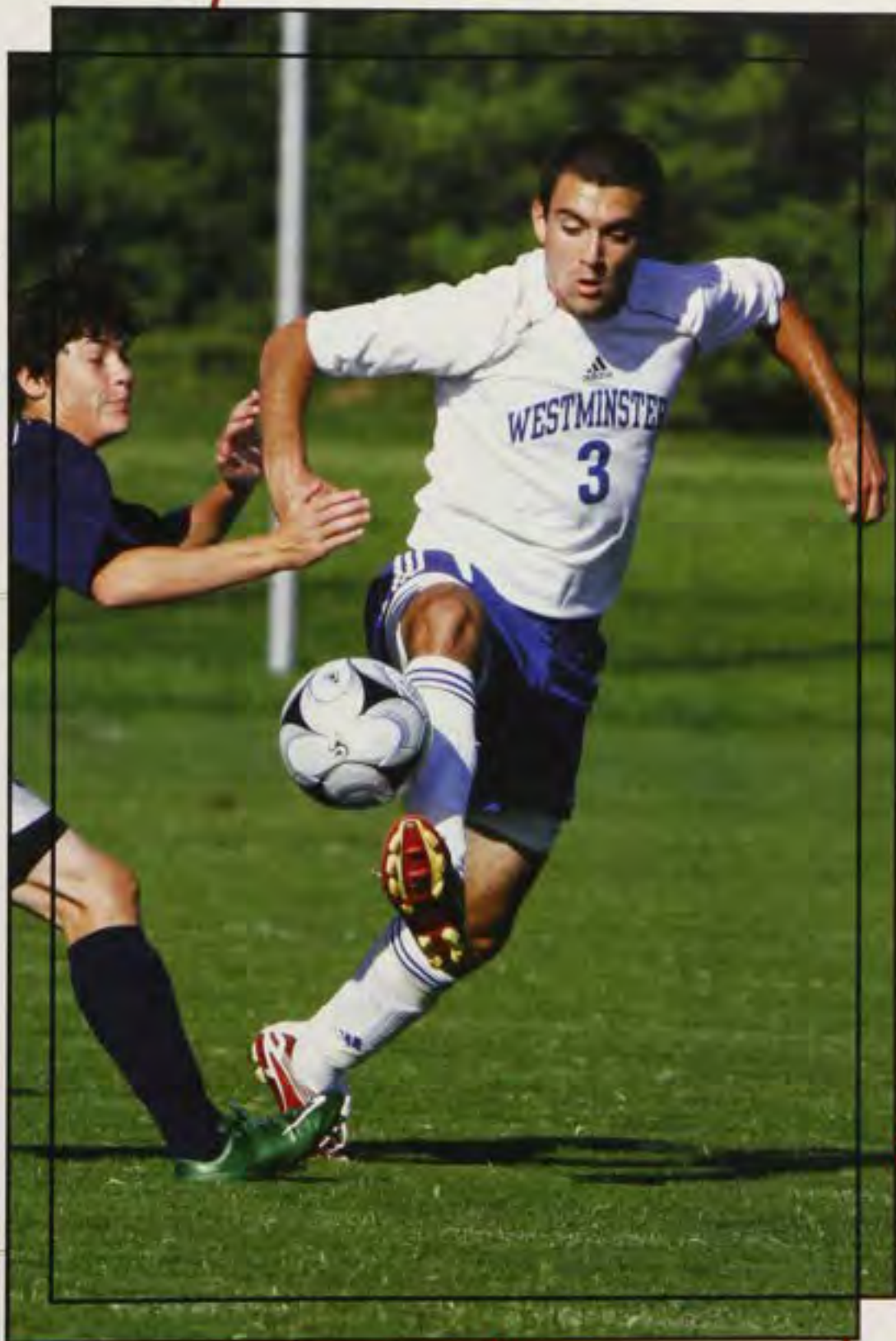


Matthew Hudnut, junior, reaches for the ball while shielding off his opponent. Nicholas Arnold, junior, fights for the ball against Mc Cleur North. Austin Gantner, junior, and John Caldwell and Theodore Sutcliffe, seniors, cheer on their teammates. After getting behind in the beginning of the game, the Gats came back to win the game, 4-1.



Caleb Olson, senior, touches the ball to his teammate before running up the field to receive the ball again. Timothy Reed, junior, dives for a shot in warmups. Michael Everts, junior, passes the ball across the field into the attacking goalie box.

Jacob Grimes, junior, shields off his opponent as he reaches out his leg to win the ball. Grimes was one of the three captains along with Matthew Reilly and Caleb Olson, seniors. Grimes was the only junior captain this year.



John Hunsicker, sophomore, touches the ball to the outside midfielder before making a run. Forster Hughes, junior, clears the ball out of the defensive end. Matthew Schwartz, junior, races up the field on a counterattack. Connor Hunsicker, junior, focuses on the ball before volleying it to the center midfielder. In spite of a previous loss to MiCDS, the team played hard in a rematch and won 2-0.



Christopher Cacciarelli, eighth grade, runs towards the 20-yard line during the Sept. 20 game against Afton.

Second Time's the Charm

Most of the eighth grade football players were also on the seventh grade team so the sport was not new to them. However, this being only their second year playing football, they needed to learn more skills and brush up on what they had learned as seventh graders. "We focus on mainly developmental stuff, and we also go through the basics and just try to prepare them for high school football," said Tim Muehleisen, coach. Having practiced diligently from day one the eighth grade team's efforts paid off on Sept. 20. The game was an exciting one, with many close calls and touchdowns by Westminster. The first touchdown was scored by Alex Rideout, eighth grade. He was instrumental in the end, when he tackled another opposing teammate in the last 15 seconds to save a touchdown. This resulted in an end score of 20-13. Excitement

filled the eighth grade football team as they looked forward to more successful wins during the rest of the season.



First time pros

The seventh graders and their first game

"Practice consists of tackling, running, and other drills with coach Muehleisen. I'm excited about the first game, I think we'll do pretty well."

-Parker Briden, eighth grade

Wide-eyed seventh graders walked onto the WCA football field the morning of Sept. 20, unsure of what would happen in the next hour and a half of their very first football game of the year. The hours of preparation and practice had the seventh grade boys ready as they anticipated their first test.

"We basically practiced a lot of plays, learned a lot about what varsity football does, defense and offense, terminology, et cetera. Figuring out how to get all their equipment to fit is probably the biggest challenge right now. But I'm excited, and I'm looking forward to it. I think they are ready to play," said Steve Bradley, coach.

The lack of football experience among seventh graders provided many learning opportunities for the team as well as individuals. "I learned that I need to set a good example for the team and I also need to respect the coaches and encourage others to do the same thing," said Shane Benes, seventh grader. "I really liked getting the team all fired up before games and encouraging them to keep doing their best even if we were losing in the last part of the game," said Benes.

Being new to football did not stop these seventh graders from playing their hardest. Their focus and endurance resulted in a win during their first game, which set the tone for a season filled with many learning experiences and successful wins.



Benjamin Huffman, seventh grade, tussles over the ball against the Afton team. Shane Benes, seventh grade quarterback, blocks the ball from the opposing teammate on the Sept. 20 game. Benes and Daniel Dwyer, seventh grade, protect the football from the opposite team.

Jacob Hicks, eighth grade, grabs the ball and runs with it in the first game of the season. Joshua Ortiz, eighth grade, is tackled by an Afton opponent during the Sept. 20 game. John Eric Steiner, eighth grade, takes a bite out of the watermelon, provided by the mothers. Brink Thompson, eighth grade, watches the game from the sideline.

Demetris Williams, seventh grade, runs the ball down the field. Miles Tucker and Brennan Hehner, seventh grade, block during the Oct. 4 game against Duchesne. The kick off team, Jackson Davis Klein, Shane Benes, and Dillon Brown, seventh grade, prepare to kick the ball to their opponents.

Andrew Waeckerle, sophomore, runs the ball down field in the JV game against Priory. Waeckerle played runningback for the team this year. His teammate Micah Mills, junior, named him as one of the key players on the team.



in Fellowship

Big Brother System Led to Unity

fraternity

Half of the members of the Westminster football program braced themselves, teeth gritted, with legs at ninety-degree angles, against the cool cement wall. The other 30 men stood in front of the first group, recovering from their turn of wall-sits and encouraging their partners. During the third round of two-minute long sits, Taylor Hughes, freshman, saw his legs begin to quiver slightly. He arched his back and pushed his body just an inch up the wall to relieve even a fraction of the weight. "You haven't flinched this entire time, so stay down there," said Hughes' partner Kenton Coffman, senior. Hughes immediately returned to the correct position and endured the remaining seconds of the drill. Through this kind of interaction, more than just the strength and perseverance of the athlete became evident.

The Westminster football program developed a way to make these athletes more than just a team. The big brother system was started to strengthen relationships between players both on and off the field. At the beginning of the season, each player was assigned a big brother or little brother within the football program. Each pair got together once a week before practice to find out how the other was doing. "We pray for each other and share how football's going and talk about school and life and our problems," said Jae Wan Chung, freshman. Through these meetings, players got to know each other better and formed friendships that otherwise might not have existed. "We became better friends because of it," said Steven Fitzgerald, sophomore. The older team members learned to be role models for their younger brothers. "It's important that the big brothers set a good example and show them what they need to be when they're upper classmen," said Micah Mills, junior. Westminster's football program did more than build just physical strength; more importantly, it taught leadership, responsibility, and accountability--characteristics that last a lifetime.



Nathan Smallwood, sophomore, looks to pass the ball to a teammate in the JV game against Borgia



Matthew Piazza, junior, runs the ball through Borgia's defenders in a September game. After the game, the team gathered in a huddle and raised their fingers for a cheer. Brad Musso, JV assistant coach, talks to the team after the game. Though they lost, coach Timothy Gibson was proud of his team. "These guys play really hard for me no matter the circumstances," said Gibson.

The freshman offensive line sets up against the St. Mary's team. Austin Brown, freshman, was the team's starting center. Forrest Oberhaus, freshman, runs the ball through St. Mary's defenders. Jeremy Hall, freshman, listens to Coach Doug Butte, Freshman head coach during a pre-game meeting. The team ended the meeting with the chant, "We will hit! We will hit!"

GEARING UP!

Step 1

Put the hip pads, tail pad, thigh pads into the grille—a pair of compression shorts with pockets.



Step 2

Put the knee pads into the pockets of the pants.

Step 3

Put the jersey on the shoulder pads and then put them on.



Shane Maylan, sophomore, blocks against a Priory lineman in the first game of the season. Quarterback Zachary Schopp, sophomore, hands the ball off to his runningback as teammate Brendin Loveland, freshman, takes. Steven Fitzgerald, sophomore, jumps above the Rebel defenders to catch a pass. Taylor Hughes, freshman, listens as J.D. Perona, head coach, gives high pointers during the first half. The JV team fought hard against Priory but were defeated 18-0.

page credit: Sarah Hughes

Zachary Dorton, junior, gets ready to pass the ball to Alix Cacciarelli in the game against St. Mary's. Dorton's experience from the previous season contributed to the team's success.



J.D. Perona, head varsity coach, talks with the team during a timeout. Michael O'Brien, senior, blocks Priory's defensive lineman John Kehr, junior, pulls past the defender. This was the varsity team's first Friday night game of the season.



In the family

Kenton Coffman, captain, lives dad's dream

You wipe the mud off of your face, trying to see through the downpour of icy rain. Everything is going fine, just another day at football practice, when all of a sudden, your teammate falls in pain.

It was finally senior year—the year long-awaited by all, especially athletes. This was the year to be on top, with starting positions secured and scholarships sought out. Unfortunately, one senior's dream was rudely interrupted after only his second game. "We were at practice and I dislocated my knee cap and strained my MCL. After it happened I was pretty bummed because I knew my season was over," said Kenton Coffman, senior. Though the injury required physical therapy and time off, Coffman was back in time for districts. "I was only out four to six weeks, but I was expecting a lot worse. I'm lucky that nothing really bad happened," said Coffman. Adding to the disappointment, Coffman had been made a senior captain just before the injury.



What *really* made his injury bitterly ironic, however, was that his dad had also experienced some of the same injuries. "When my dad was in high school, he played the same two positions [center and defensive line] as me. He hurt his right shoulder [like I did two years ago] and his right knee. They were career-ending injuries. Now it's a lot easier to fix things," said Coffman. The situation brought new meaning to the saying "like father, like son."

John Bergman, junior, quickly recovers the ball after a St. Mary's player fumbles. Benjamin Becker, senior gets ready to snap the ball to the quarterback. The defensive line attempts to stop the offensive player on the opposing team. Michael Talent, senior, walks off of the field during half time. Talent was one of the four captains on the varsity football team this season.

Cal Kliesen, senior, and Brett Park, junior, block a Lutheran North defender during a passing play. John Burgess, senior, breaks through Lutheran North's defense. Kanton Smith, junior, positions himself in a defensive stance in preparation for the play. "The game was frustrating because we would get the ball down to the red zone but couldn't get into the end zone," said Smith.



Kenton's a very vocal leader—he puts words to **actions**. He's still here, but [the situation] really makes the other leaders to **step up**.
- Michael Kruse, senior.

INJURIES

1 **KNEE**
Kenton Coffman, senior

3 **CONCUSSION**
John Keht, Eric Levenhagen, juniors,
Alec Mitchell, sophomore

1 **SHOULDER**
Micah Mills, junior

Cooper Dunlap, sophomore, runs behind the defensive line to trick the offense. This was Dunlap's first year playing on the varsity team. "It was a big jump starting on varsity this year since I played on the freshmen team last year," said Dunlap.



Rory Hennings, senior, breaks through a tackle from St. Mary's defender. The team ended up losing 35-48. This was Henning's fourth year playing football at Westminster.

Rebecca Zandstra, junior, swims Butterfly during practice. Throughout the season Zandstra made state qualifying time in the 50 Freestyle, 100 Freestyle, 100 Backstroke and three relays.



Dedication Leads to Qualification

"Starbucks, starbucks, starbucks..." chanted the entire Varsity women's swim team. Before the meet against Notre Dame, Kent Kehr, coach, made a bet with the team: If the A-lane 400 freestyle relay beat the school record, the entire team could be dismissed from practice to take a trip to Starbucks. Westminster had established a lead, but Katherine Fleissner, Rebecca Zandstra, Shaylynn Weststeyn, juniors, and Annaliese Clark, senior, stayed focused. The 400 freestyle relay was the last event, and with its approach, the whole team lined up around the pool to cheer on the girls. Although the relay had already lapped all of its opponents, the team did not stop hollering and chanting. John Kehr, junior, held the stopwatch and let out a smile as he glanced at the watch and saw 3:51:39. This time surpassed the previous record from 2002 by one second, but 3:51:39 would not control the board for very long.

Although the first time the girls beat the record was exciting, it did not compare to the thrill of the League meet on Saturday February 14. Going into the meet, the 400 freestyle relay held the third place rank. After advancing to the next round, the relay of Fleissner, Weststeyn, Clark, and Zandstra prepared themselves for the finals Saturday morning. Leaving the crowd astonished, the girls took a lead in the third leg. However, it looked like the MICDS team may catch up and win. Zandstra kept the lead as the relay took first place beating MICDS, the second place relay, by eight-tenths of a second. Many girls improved their times as the Westminster relay team dropped four seconds and set another Westminster swimming record. The 400 relay also set a new League record with a time of 3:47:29, which had not been broken for two years. The League meet was the last meet before state, and the relay had high hopes for the state meet, February 20-21.

Swim team members dive off of blocks during swim practice. At the end of every practice, swimmers improved their starts, turns, and strokes.

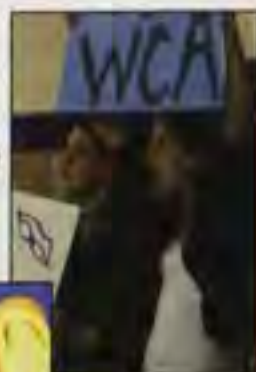


Members of the 200 medley relay, Shaylynn Weststeyn, junior, and Hannah Worrell, Hainy Bergman, Abigail Clark, sophomores, prepared for the races ahead of them at the State competition. Annaliese Clark, senior, arranges her goggles before stepping on the starting block. Clark swam the 50 and 100 Freestyle.

During tryouts, the new members have their first taste of dry land exercises. These included the swimmer kick, abs and push ups. Sarah Fleming, junior, prepares to launch into her backstroke. This was Fleming's first year on the swim team.

FANATIC FANS

Kelly Penning, junior, and Marcy Penning, sophomore, along with other members of the Varsity women's basketball team applauded the efforts the swimmers made during the meet.



The wrestling team cheers by clapping with kick boards during a home swim meet. Westminster athletes were encouraged to support each other throughout the year.



Han-Byul Kang, senior, swims breaststroke during practice. Kathryn Wenberg, senior, practices relay starts at the end of practice. Molly Anderson, junior, reaches for her flippers in the middle of a workout. Kent Kehr, swimming coach, posted the workouts on the board so the team could finish the daily workouts at their own pace. Some of the workout required flippers, a kick board, or a pull buoy.



CAPTAIN'S CORNER

My favorite thing about cheer is developing relationships between all the girls throughout the year. The whole squad becomes like one big family. My favorite part about being captain is thinking of new stunts and stuff and then being able to see them work and look really cool.

-Michelle Russell,
Senior varsity cheer co captain

The Varsity cheer squad stunts in front of the crowd in the New gym on Westminster's Pride Night on October 10. Other events that occurred on this night were the annual powder puff game and a barbecue for Westminster students and their families.



Shelby Massot, junior, practices her toe touch at JV cheer practice. Massot, one of the six juniors in the cheer program, tried out for the squad for the first time this past year.



Alexandra Smith, sophomore, and Rachel Bates, sophomore, prepare for a JV basketball game against Lutheran North. This was Smith's first year cheering. "It's so much fun and the girls are really sweet. I'm really glad I did it [cheer] this year," said Smith.



Come So Far

*Cheer program grows in
size and intensity*

As the judges arose to announce the winner of a division at the University Cheer Association Regional Cheer Competition, the lady Wildcats anxiously awaited the selection of the first place team. After so much work to prepare for their first competition, the Varsity cheerleaders hoped and prayed that they would reign victorious. When the judges declared Westminster the winner, the cheerleaders took a deep breath of relief and excitement. Since they had just won the medium-sized varsity non-tumbling division, the Lady Wildcats were now qualified to attend and perform in the national cheer competition in Orlando, Florida. Although it was their first time competing, they pulled out a win due to their hard work and determination.

Another way one could see the growth of the Westminster cheer program was the reappearance of a JV squad. Unlike the previous school year's Varsity squad of about eighteen members, they had sixteen cheerleaders on the Varsity squad this past year with an additional ten on JV. This new-found interest in the cheer program and the formation of the JV team resulted in the JV football and basketball teams once again having cheerleaders to encourage them and get the crowd involved throughout their games.

Throughout the past year, the cheer program has generated much interest, enrolled in competitions for the first time, and brought home some trophies.



Madison Burke, junior, Lacey Cowl, sophomore, and Camilla Buckley, senior, perform a cheer at halftime of the Dec. 11 game vs. Dushesne High School. Buckley was the captain of the Varsity squad this season with Michelle Russell as a co-captain. This was Buckley's second year on Varsity and her third year cheering at WCA.

Sara Taylor Shams, senior, helps explain a game to a child at WCA Pride Night. For one of the activities, the cheerleaders and dance team members played a game with all the kids in the audience.



Laura Hamman, freshman, claps along with her teammates at a JV cheer practice. Hamman was one of three freshmen on the squad this year.



Rachel Raines, sophomore, leads a Varsity basketball crowd in a classic blue and white cheer. This was Raines' second year cheering at Westminster and for the Varsity squad.



Haley Kane, junior, performs the combined JV and varsity cheer dance at the halftime of the Jan. 23 game. This was Kane's first year as a Westminster cheerleader. She, alongside Rachel Bates, sophomore, was appointed co-captain of the JV team.

Surpassing Lyrics Logistics

New music policy changes dance atmosphere.



Evona Franceschelli, sophomore, performs the Varsity pom dance, choreographed by fellow team member Laurel Dicus, junior.



Jordan Leib, junior, dances to 80's music in the Varsity novelty dance. The costumes were vintage from the former 80's WCA dance team.



Rachel Porter, freshman, and Andalee Amdt, sophomore, hit a hip hop move while pumping up the audience at half time.



Varsity performs the intense hip hop Spirit Week dance. The theme consisted of Christian rap music. They started in choir robes and after a glitch in the music, they burst out into full hip hop style.

Christian school, secular pop music, and choreographed dances had to be brought together for both the Varsity and Junior Varsity dance team this past summer. After three weeks of intense rehearsal for camp, both teams traveled to a high school UDA dance camp to learn dances, compete, and grow closer as a team. Varsity came out with a victory giving them a bid for nationals. Their hard work paid off, but the trials began when the 2008-2009 school year started.

A new music rule was established, which prohibited Varsity and JV to perform their dances at any basketball games. The initial reaction was frustration because both teams had put several hours into their dances, but they realized that although this was a setback, the music policy was good. "The new music policy had to begin somewhere, so although it unfortunately directly affected the dance team, we were set as the role models to show that it [dances] could be done," said Madison Nye, junior and Varsity co-captain.

The highly-anticipated half time performance by the Varsity dance team at the Friday night Spirit Week game was choreographed this year to all Christian rap songs. "We think it's great to have the opportunity to expose the audience to different types of music through our dances rather than the same old popular rap songs," said Varsity co-captain Leisha Ritter, junior. Their intense attitudes enticed and held the audience's attention throughout the entire dance.



Corinne Becker, senior and captain, leads the team in warm ups across the floor. Leisha Ritter, junior and co-captain, performs the poms routine at half time of the varsity boy's basketball game. Kristin Rosen, senior, stars as the mom in the Varsity novelty routine. In the St. Charles Competition, the Varsity dance team placed first in their novelty and poms routines.



Elizabeth Blackwell, sophomore, Anna Franceschelli, Rachel Porter, and Jessica Holt, freshmen, perform their hip hop dance choreographed by seniors. The JV team holds their pose after half time performance of the pom dance. Abigail Clark, sophomore and captain, and Jessica Holt, freshman, hit moves and facials to attract the crowd during their hip hop dance.

Elizabeth Blackwell, sophomore, performs a straddle jump solo in the JV hip hop dance.



Varsity and JV practice a kick routine together for an upcoming varsity basketball game. "It was a fun camp routine that allowed the JV girls to experience what a Varsity practice is like," said Madison Nye, junior and co-captain. Katherine Haxel, junior, dances the Spirit Week routine choreographed by a professional choreographer from Chicago. The Varsity team enjoyed performing to Christian music, while still hitting detailed hip hop steps.



The varsity team consisted of 12 dancers which **MADE US ALL CLOSER EVEN THOUGH WE ARE ALL IN DIFFERENT GRADES**," said Leisha Ritter, junior and co-captain.

UDA Camp
Home Routine

Lindbergh Competition
Pom Routine

St. Charles Competition
Pom Routine-1st Place
Novelty Routine-1st Place

Missouri State Dance Competition
Pom Routine 1st Place
Novelty Routine-1st Place





Morgan Patterson-Gill, Lauren Mansfield, Sierra Mathews, and Emily Mitchell, eighth grade, perform at half time of an eighth grade boys basketball team on January 16.

page credit: Alyson Tate



Social, Not Competitive

Combined opportunities social encounters value less than competitive attitudes.

Pom poms and excited middle school girls crowded the halls every Thursday after school. One cause of the congested, confined space was the fact that both the seventh and eighth grade girls dance teams practiced together. "The thing I dislike about dance practice is that we practice with the seventh graders," said Grace Linton, eighth grade. This made it difficult for coaches to give as much attention to each team as they would have liked. The eighth and seventh grade teams were separate because they performed solely for their grade's basketball games. The teams had different routines, but the two teams still had to practice together. The two teams only had the opportunity to practice once a week on Thursday afternoons. Even though the practices were crowded, hectic, and infrequent, many of the girls had the opportunity to dance outside of Westminster.

Since Westminster only held practices once a week, it left an open slot for the girls to participate in classes at various dance studios. "Only one-third of the girls dance outside of Westminster," said Linton. She practiced three days a week outside of school dance team and took ballet and point. The girls who took dance outside of school took classes in many different styles. While Westminster dance is more cheer and hip hop, the different genres of dance the girls were involved in ranged from jazz and tap, to ballet and point. Some girls took classes outside of school together. "The dance at school is more basic and not as challenging as the classes outside of school," said Emily Mitchell, eighth grade. "Westminster dance is different because you get to hang out with your friends," said Elizabeth Hearne, eighth grade. Overall, the middle school girls thoroughly enjoyed and benefited from the dance team experience.



Rebekah Sharp, seventh grade, listens to Katrina Dalbey, dance team coach, discuss upcoming events.



Detaney Haynes, seventh grade, stretches at practice. The seventh and eighth grade dance and cheer squads practiced together every Thursday after school.



Kristine Maxey, seventh grade, follows the warm up stretches.



Elizabeth Hearne, eighth grade, performs during half time of an eighth grade basketball game. "I like dance team because I get to hang out with my friends and get to know people," said Hearne.



Michelle Bonacquisti, eighth grade, screams for the eighth grade basketball B team. During the game, the eighth grade dance team cheered on the basketball players from the sidelines.

!! really enjoy dance team because the dances are very creative and fun to do.

- Janay Hardy, eighth grade.



Lucas Johnson, eighth grade, wrestles an opponent and looks to the sideline for advice from his teammates or coach.



Cutting *the* Percentages

It is common in wrestling to cut weight in order to meet a desired weight class. It is not a common accomplishment for a team to cut their winning percentage like the middle school wrestling team did. While the history of middle school wrestling is not as deep as other sports, it still has been around for quite a while. The team comprised of both seventh and eighth graders, went 40-14 alone in their first match. "We all got really excited when the last match was over... It was fun to see that what we were taught, played out so well" said Michael Scott, seventh grade.

There was a hang up that consistently played out through the season. On several occasions wrestlers would have to wrestle each other since wrestling is also an individual sport as well as a team sport. "It was a lot of fun wrestling other guys because you kind of already knew what their style of wrestling was," said Wesley Park, seventh grade. It puts into perspective what their winning percentage as a team truly could have been if they had not wrestled each other during some tournaments.

Extra Good words are not effort record



Bennett Lewis, eighth grade, throws down an opponent from Priory High School. Lewis was in the 132 lb. weight class. There were 10 different weight classes for the middle school level.

Point System:

- Takedown - 2 pts
- Reversal - 2 pts
- Escape - 1 pt
- Near fall 2 sec to 5 sec - 2 pts
- Illegal hold or violation - 1 pt

Miles Tucker, seventh grade, attempts to turn over and pin his opponent from Chaminade High School. On average there were about eight schools at each tournament. There were no size limits for student body in the middle school tournaments like there were at the high school level.



Wesley Park, seventh grade, and Jake Kehr, eighth grade, wrestle each other during a meet at John Burroughs. Wrestlers from Westminster would often wrestle each other, but they would only wrestle other athletes in their respective weight class.



Tim Muehleisen, coach, wrestles Christopher Cacciarelli, eighth grade. Muehleisen would often wrestle middle school wrestlers in order for them to be challenged because of weight class limitations.

Michael Nothum, eighth grade, works to get his opponent into his preferred position. The wrestlers had meets at John Burroughs School, MICDS, Whitfield, and Chaminade.



Wrestling Gear:



Period Breakdown:

- 1st period - Start in Neutral position for 1 min
- 2nd period - one man's choice
-neutral, up, down
- 3rd period - other man's choice
-neutral, up, down

Tristan Becker, seventh grade, looks to Coach Perona for advice in the last round of a tournament at MICDS. A coach was always required to stand on the mat at all times for safety purposes and to offer tips.



Michael Scott, seventh grade, scores a takedown against a Chaminade wrestler. Chaminade was usually dominant in the wrestling ring, but Westminster topped them on several occasions.

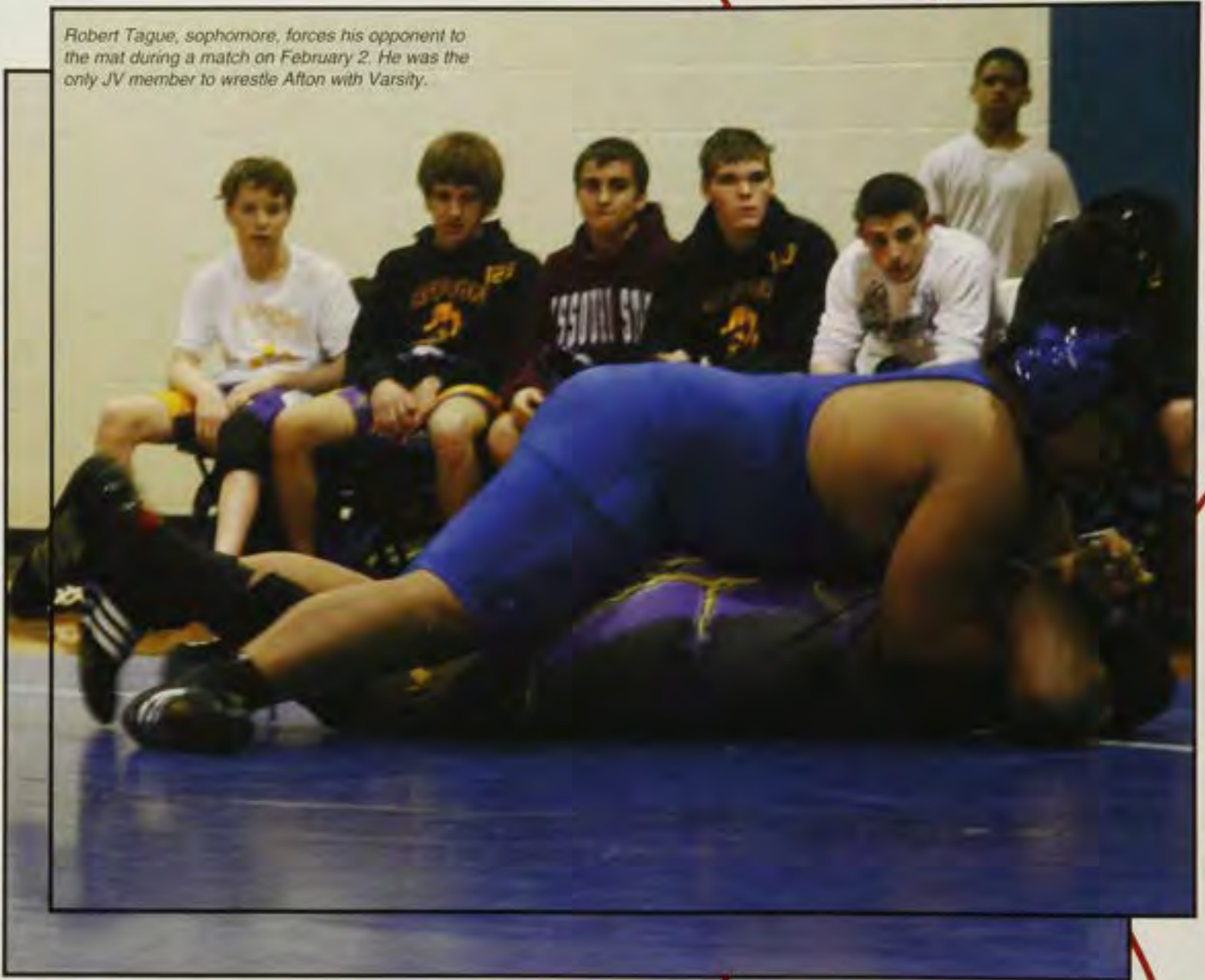


Justin Probst, sophomore, holds his position as his opponent struggles to lift him. "Wrestling is really hard, but it's worth it in the end because it's really rewarding," said Probst.



Cameron Clay, freshman, pins his opponent's forehead to the mat at the Westminster JV Invitational. To prepare for this event, the team held especially difficult practices and did extra conditioning.

Robert Tague, sophomore, forces his opponent to the mat during a match on February 2. He was the only JV member to wrestle Afton with Varsity.



Fun Filled Fridays

An especially hardworking athletic team catches a break.

Both the Varsity and the JV wrestling teams had a reputation for holding extremely strenuous practices. The two teams practiced together so that older Varsity members could teach and encourage the younger JV wrestlers. "Practicing with Varsity is lot more intense," said Jae Hwan Chung, freshman.

What most students did not know is that one Friday a month the wrestlers took a short break from their intense routines on a day they called "Fun Friday." However, even on their "day off," the wrestlers started with a light workout. After the workout, the fun began with a few games of dodgeball.

On one particular "Fun Friday," the wrestlers played a different game. The game was some strange form of tag; they all took their shirts off and tagged each other by slapping their teammates' backs. While this may not have seemed like "fun" to other students, the wrestlers were excited to catch a break in the midst of all their hard work throughout the season.



The Varsity and JV wrestlers cheer at the edge of the pool for the women's swim team. When swim meets were held at Westminster, the wrestling team supported their school together after practice.

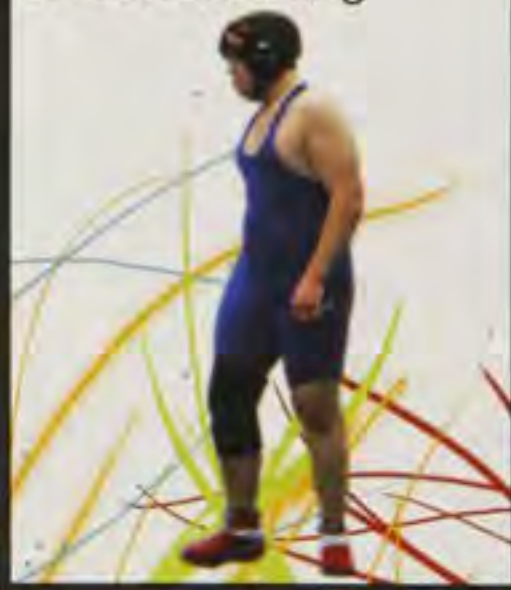


Jae Hwan Chung, freshman, attempts to leap from the grips of his opponent at the Westminster JV Invitational. Chung had been wrestling since seventh grade.

The Daily Routine

3:20 - 6:00

1. Warm-up and jog
2. Drill wrestling strategies
3. Snap-downs
4. Shots
5. Wrestle live for 30 minutes
6. Conditioning



More Than a Coach

Tom Muehleisen
1976-01-01 at 00:00:00

Every sports season begins with the anticipation of the unexpected. A new season means new players and new rules. Some worried that it would be a challenge to become a tight-knit team, but Tim Muehleisen, Varsity wrestling coach, spent extra time on uniting the boys.

"The relationship with the older guys is great. We're like a big family as coach says," said Forrest Obenhaus, freshman. The age difference was no problem as the older boys helped the younger ones. Seniors automatically stepped up to mentor younger wrestlers. "The older guys on the team are a lot more helpful than I thought they'd be because they tell me what I'm doing wrong and how to improve," said Brian Yeager, freshman.

"Coach Muehleisen coaches us to be the best we are. He's all we have," said Christopher Bishop, senior. To bond outside of practice, Coach occasionally invited the guys over to his house to watch movies as a team. "He focuses more on our characters and teaches us how to apply things we learn in wrestling to outside life," said Phillip Binkholder, senior.

Muehleisen took the time to build a friendship with each individual to help keep the team bonded. After every practice, players would gather together and share a devotional with each other. "Coach always says no matter how we do in wrestling, he still loves us the same," said Andrew Waesckerle, sophomore.

Lingo

CHOP: TO PULL THE OPPONENT'S NEAR ELBOW TOWARD THE MAT.

CROSSLÉG: TO REACH UNDER THE OPPONENT'S CHEST OR STOMACH, GRABBING THE KNEE OR CALF OF THE FAR LEG.

DAYLIGHT: THE DISTANCE BETWEEN YOU AND YOUR OPPONENT

POST: TO PLACE A BODY PART (USUALLY THE HEAD OR FOOT) TO THE MAT.

STEP AND SLIDE: TO MOVE YOUR FEET IN A CIRCLE OR LATERALLY STEPPING SIDEWAYS WITH ONE FOOT, THEN SLIDING THE OTHER FOOT TO KEEP AN EVEN DISTANCE BETWEEN THEM.

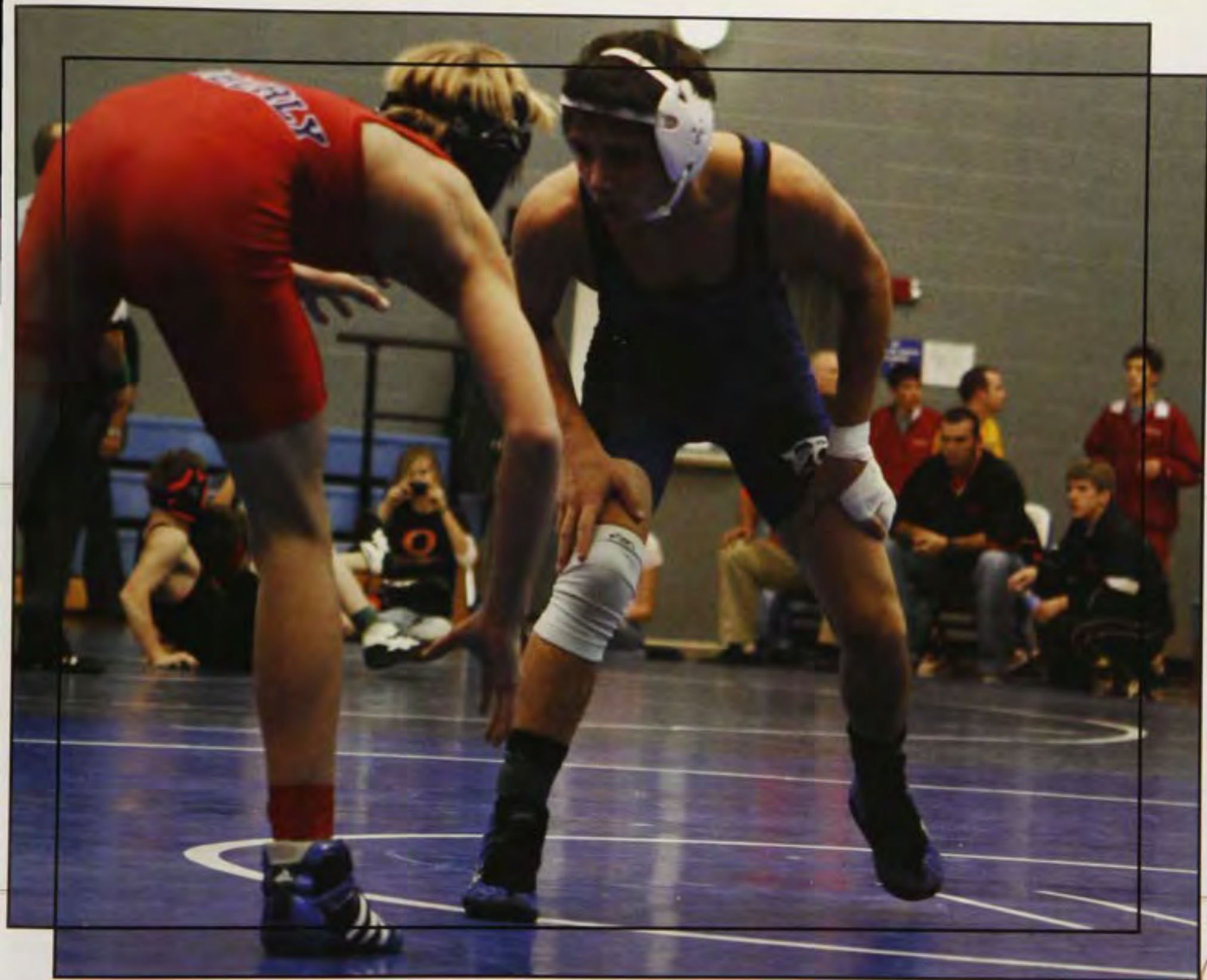
SWISHER: TO SWING YOUR FEET AWAY FROM YOUR BODY WHEN IN A SQUAT BACK OR TABLETOP STANCE.

UNDERHOOK: A TIE UP IN THE NEUTRAL POSITION DONE BY DRIVING THE HAND AND FOREARM INSIDE THE OPPONENT'S ARM, AND RAISING THEM ABOVE THE OPPONENT'S SHOULDER.



Clockwise from top left: Matthew Piazza, junior, struggles to escape the hold against his opponent at the Westminster Invitational on December 6, 2008. Piazza began wrestling in elementary school. Richard Ross, junior, sizes up his opponent. He became a part of the wrestling team while his brother, Orion Ross, class of 2008, was still on the team. Orion Ross was the state champion in 2008. Christopher Bishop, senior, tries to pin his opponent at the Westminster Invitational tournament on December 6. At this tournament, Micah Mills and Richard Ross, juniors, and Forrest Obenhaus, freshman, all placed in the top four.

Clockwise from top: Phillip Binkholder, senior, goes head to head with his opponent in one of the matches at the Westminster Invitational tournament. Bottom left: Brett Park, junior, pins his opponent. Park was one of the state qualifiers. Bottom right: Alexander Cacciarelli, junior, prepares to wrestle by listening to his iPod. "My favorite part is winning close matches against good kids in big tournaments because it's like winning a mini-war, and every second has to be focused in order to win. The competition and intensity can get pretty incredible," said Cacciarelli.



Micah Mills, junior, focuses on defeating his opponent at the Westminster Invitational. Mills placed second overall.

Play Like a Girl

Middle school girls Katie Matheny joins the team

Though Ham Porter meant the phrase as an insult in *The Sandlot*, Katie Matheny, eighth grade, proved that playing like a girl contributed to the success of Westminster's C-hockey team.

Matheny had played hockey since she was 9 years old, and she represented Westminster as an eighth grader this past year.

"The school team and my select team are different because I'm playing with boys and they're older than me. Other than that there aren't a lot of differences," said Matheny.

Matheny started out playing roller hockey and then eventually switched to ice. "My older brother always made me play with him outside and be goalie for him," said Matheny.

For Matheny, hockey was not just a passing activity. She spent much of her time traveling for her select team in Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania. "I practice everyday, either with the Varsity team or my club, and travel almost every weekend," said Matheny.

Another aspect of playing on a high school team was that she played with her older brother during practice. "Sometimes there's a lot of tension and competition going on between us," said Michael Matheny, freshman.

The fact that both siblings played hockey also made things interesting for their parents. Because both Katie and Michael Matheny played on a select team as well as the school team, they were constantly traveling. "Our parents usually divide and conquer when it comes to tournaments and games," said Michael Matheny.

The stereotypes of hockey were broken down as girls like Katie Matheny showed what it was really like to play like a girl.



Brentan Tarbrock, eighth grade, attempts to score during the game versus Mehtville. Though the team tried to score numerous times, the game ended in a tie of 0-0.



Connor Sullivan, freshman, prepares to receive a pass after the face-off. "Hockey never gets boring because it's so fast-paced," said Sullivan.



Luke Turner, freshman, follows the offense down the rink. Turner had played hockey since he was five years old. "I really like how physical it is," said Turner.



Andres Munoz, freshman, prepares to receive a pass during the second period of the game against Lindbergh. Munoz had played hockey for seven years.



Samuel Canfield, eighth grade, pursues a Mehtville player to try to take back the puck. "The result of the game was really frustrating because we weren't playing our best. If we had, the result would have been different," said Canfield. Samuel Barrientos, freshman, prepares to pass the puck to a fellow player.



Blake Armstrong, freshman, skates with the puck while being defended by an opponent.



While the season was under way from August through May, Samuel Canfield, eighth grade, scored several goals during the season. "I really enjoyed this sport because it's so fast-paced and it's so physical," said Canfield.



Andres Munoz, freshman, tends off a Eureka defender. At practice, players went over technical situations that could happen in a game, like fighting off an opposing player.

Having Katie play is really good for our team. It shows the other teams that the stereotypes of hockey aren't true.

-Andres Munoz,
freshman



Katie Matheny, eighth grade, skates past Eureka's defense after a face-off. When Matheny first started playing hockey, she played goalie. This season she utilized her speed as a forward.

Luke Turner, freshman, goes up against the Mehlville defender after the face-off. Turner and Katie Matheny, eighth grade, played forwards and took turns taking face-offs.



Andrew Everett, junior, competes in a face off against a Priory opponent. Everett had been on the Westminster Varsity team for three years. Everett scored one goal that game.



Jacob O'Brien, junior, skates past the Priory Hockey players and aids in the Wildcat's defense. O'Brien had been on the Varsity hockey team for three years.

After a tough second period, the Varsity hockey team takes a breather. During these breaks, the captains and coaches work to give the team the motivation needed to finish the game strong.



Beating Club Prices

Ice rink available to all members

Missing teeth, black eyes, bloodied noses, and pure, unadulterated grit are just some of the adjectives and visuals that were used to describe a hockey player. 5 A.M. practices and games that edged ever closer to midnight were only a few of the ferocities that players had to deal with. The drive to beat the best and become the best, kept these young men going through the tough practices and commitments they faced. There was one commitment, though, that did not demand physical prowess, yet it was probably the most demanding: cost.

"Since we aren't school sponsored, we have to pay for our own gear, which can get really expensive," said Jacob O'Brien, junior. Without a school sponsorship, the players had to buy all the pads, sticks, skates, helmets, jerseys, and even water bottles. Pads, helmets, jerseys, and water bottles lasted throughout the season, but items such as sticks and skates needed to be replaced. The most expensive pair of skates rounds to about \$200, but if a hockey player wanted to survive out on the frozen pond, then the ideal pair of skates would have cost about twice that. One crisp Benjamin is what a hockey stick costs; yet those are much more easily worn out and broken.

Cost became the deterrent that drove away most young hopefuls and skilled veterans from this growing sport. "I played hockey most of my life. The main reason I stopped playing was because of how expensive all the equipment was," said Timothy Reed, junior. That kind of money could not be found just laying around. Joining the Westminster hockey team was a commitment that left a crater in players wallets.

There were positive outcomes to these exorbitant costs: it brought out only the dedicated and willing players. It created a team filled with devoted young athletes, who were ready to go all out for the sake of their team mates, and their money.

5 Benjamin\$ A Month

Helmets	----->	\$70-150
Pants	----->	\$50-100
Hockey Sticks	----->	\$120-200
Jerseys	----->	\$30
Gloves	----->	\$120-200



Jacob Applebaum, sophomore, keeps an eye on the puck after a successful save. Applebaum had 23 saves in the game against Priory despite losing the game.



John Burgess, senior, skates away with the puck during a Varsity game against Priory. Burgess contributed one goal that game, but the wildcats lost the game 2-5. Burgess has been on the team for four years and was one of the captains this year.

Summer Smith, eighth grade, goes for a lay up during a drill in practice. Middle schoolers practiced during the school day, which left their afternoons open for homework and other activities.



A, B, C, W

The seventh grade changes team names

Commonly, when children enter kindergarten, one of the first pieces of information they absorb is how to say their A B C's. Not only are the letters A, B, and C a crucial part of the learning process, they are also traditionally used to classify middle school sports in a way similar to the high school method of Junior Varsity and Varsity.

However, this year, the seventh grade girls basketball teams decided to break the mold in the area of A, B, and C teams. Although the seventh grade girls basketball A and C teams retained their traditional names, the B team mixed it up and gave itself a new, unique name. The team that used to be the seventh grade girls' B team was divided into two separate teams, the "Blue Team" and the "White Team."

According to players, this change was due to the immense number of players who tried out for the seventh grade basketball teams. "They didn't want to make the C team really big, but then there were too many people on the B team. They fixed it by splitting the B team into Blue and White teams," said Kelly Goebel, seventh grade.

The teams were chosen randomly, and neither was predominant over the other. They had their own separate schedules, and on the main, operated as completely separate teams. The presence of two teams allowed more playing time for students, preparing them for future basketball experiences.

Kailynn Kriebert, seventh grade, prepares to make a shot during a game on February 7. Kaylie Duke, eighth grade, looks for a pass. Taylor Cole, eighth grade, dribbles a basketball while warming up for practice. The seventh grade and eighth grade B and C teams very rarely played at Westminster, and most seventh grade games took place at the Center, in Clayton. This was because the old and new gyms were often occupied by high school games during the week and on Saturdays.



Shelby Kehr, eighth grade, dribbles towards the basket in preparation for a lay up during warm-up before a game. Haley Woolbright, seventh grade, pivots and looks to the basket for a shot during a game against Fox on Jan 23. Ashley Jones, seventh grade, shoots the ball during a game against MICDS. On the rare occasions when the middle school teams played at Westminster, almost all of their games took place in the old gym, because the new gym was occupied by the high school teams. "I don't really mind the old gym, but the new gym is better," said Kehr.



Brooke Cusumano, eighth grade, snatches the ball and begins to dribble down the court. Rebecca Nixon, eighth grade, runs a suicide during practice for the eighth grade B team. The A and B teams practiced together during the week, so that they could both utilize the new gym.



Mihaela Hasting, seventh grade, attempts a shot during a game. The seventh grade basketball teams often had games on the same days, which allowed the girls to cheer on their fellow seventh grade players. Oftentimes, other students would also come to games to show their support for the teams.

Spotlight on: the seventh grade White Team

WINS: 4

LOSSES: 2

!! IT'S REALLY FUN TO PLAY AS A TEAM AND HANG OUT WITH YOUR FRIENDS. IT FEELS AMAZING TO WIN BECAUSE EVERYONE IS PROUD OF EACH OTHER. !!

-JULIA ALPERT, SEVENTH GRADE



Avonna Nienhuis, seventh grade, stops under the basket and prepares to shoot during a game. Erin Bognar, eighth grade, talks with some of the other girls on the team as she stretches before a practice. Kelly Goebel, seventh grade, dribbles down the court towards the hoop.



Cindy Blanchard, freshman, goes up for a jump shot, anticipating a foul from a McCluer North player. In many of the junior Varsity Lady Wildcats' games, free throws were their weapon to winning. When the girls would get fouled, the one shot that they practiced more than any other during practices would wind up helping the Cats light up the scoreboard.



Dressed in White for a home game, the JV Wildcats huddle together to talk about the game and their strategies to win. Throughout the season, the strategies and plays that the team ran gave them unique opportunities to score and helped them win a few games.



Brianna McIntyre, sophomore, dribbles down the court toward Westminster's basket.



Maggee Kane, sophomore, drives into the paint preparing to shoot a jump shot. Though she worked hard everyday during the season, she had shin splints that prevented her from completing the season. The JV girls team suffered after losing four girls to injuries.

page credit: Jessie Menchak

Outstanding Overtime Optimism

The Cats battle and pull out another victory

Tension grew as the crowd watched the girl's Junior Varsity basketball team battle the Lutheran South Crusaders. The score was 42 – 40, the Wildcats were up by two with less than a minute to go in the fourth quarter. It played out almost like a movie scene when, as if on cue, a guard from Lutheran South's team dribbled down the court and made a two point shot to tie the game.

Overtime ensued and the jump ball was set up at half court for the second time. Though the teams battled for the win, the score was tied again at 43 by the end of the two minutes.

Exhausted, with adrenaline pumping, the Westminster Wildcats huddled just before going into the second overtime of the game. After deciding which plays to run, the team stepped back out onto the court for a third jump ball. Both teams worked hard to keep the ball in their possession, and when the Cats had the ball, the Crusaders fouled to stop the clock.

With each foul came two free throw shot opportunities, giving the JV team an advantage over Lutheran South. One after the next, Brianna McIntyre, sophomore, and a few other Westminster girls sunk their free throws. The Cats inched ahead one point at a time, making the final score 50 – 43 and pulling out the win. When the buzzer sounded, the crowd, as well as the team, went wild with excitement and were relieved that the stressful game was finally over.

Brittany Hawkins, freshman, focuses on the basket as she sets up to shoot a free throw. In a few of the Lady Wildcats games, free throws were the determining factor for which team won the game.



Samantha Giltner, freshman, whips the ball behind her head to protect it from her Burroughs opponent before passing to a teammate.



Alexis Grasse, freshman, goes up for a lay up during the Cats' game against McCluer North. "The game was really physical, and it was difficult to get shots off," said Grasse.



Two girls bring their hands into the huddle to chant "Wildcats" before running onto the court. Suzanne Weston, junior, and Courtney Powell, freshman, were two of the four Varsity girls who played on the junior Varsity team due to the numerous injuries that plagued the team. Five girls from the JV team were injured, prohibiting them from playing for the rest of the season. Shin splints, a broken knee cap, a broken finger, and a badly sprained ankle left the team with only four players and nowhere else to turn but to the Varsity team.



Courtney Powell, freshman, shoots from the three point line. Powell was the only freshman playing on the Varsity team this year. Powell would break out in dance whenever music would come on.



Jessica Menchak, senior, and Suzanne Weston, junior, stand in the huddle before their game. Before each game the team would eat together. They would either carpool to a nearby restaurant or to the home of team mate Sarah Clark, junior.



Sarah Clark, junior, warms up her shots before the game. "I love our team this year. We're like one big family," said Clark.



Marcie Penning, sophomore, searches for an open team mate amidst the Lutheran South defense. Jordan Klein, sophomore, dribbles the ball down under the basket. Katelyn Haverstick, junior, passes the ball to Kelly Penning, junior.



Leah Beck, senior, Jordan Klein, sophomore, Katelyn Haverstick, junior, and Marcie Penning, sophomore, pray before the annual Blue and White Night. Katelyn Haverstick, junior, Jessica Menchak, and Leah Beck, seniors, defend their basket against Jennings. Suzanne Weston, junior, passes the ball to the key. Leah Beck, senior, dribbles down the court during the McDonald's tournament. Beck played point guard this season and along with Menchak held the position of co-captain.



ELIZABETH LAMBERT MANAGER

Elizabeth Lambert, senior, had been managing the Varsity girls basketball team since her freshman year. Lambert came to all the practices, ran the clock, and kept track of their drills. She took statistics at all the games and helped get the team warmed up.



Just in Time

Women's Basketball played hard til the last second

As the clock drained, the Lady Wildcats frantically searched for an opening to shoot. Seconds ticked away as the wing inbounded the ball from half court to Leah Beck, senior and co-captain. Beck saw the seconds slipping to one, and she hurled the basketball toward the hoop. Miraculously, the ball slipped into the net just as the buzzer sounded. "She always practices those shots during practice, so we always joked that she would make that shot in a game," said Jessica Menchak, senior and co-captain. Beck also shot a three pointer just before the end, which lessened the gap between the Wildcats and Cape Notre Dame in the game played on January 17.

In the February 18 game against Parkway South, Beck set a school record for total high school career assists. She made 414 assists in her four years playing Varsity basketball.

Beck was not the only one to make an incredible shot this season. Marci Penning, sophomore, was posting up the defense when she received the ball. "I just turned and shot, then the buzzer sounded," said Penning. This shot helped the Wildcats take third place in the McDonald's tournament at Parkway West High School. The Lady Wildcats, played their hearts out until the last second of the season.



Kelly Penning, junior, takes a shot during the February 10th game against Villa Duschene. Penning has played with her sister Marci Penning, sophomore, for the past two years. "At first it was kinda wierd, now it's normal. As a result a lot of our friends are the same, so we've bonded," said Penning.



Jonah Anderson, eighth grade, waits to pass to his teammate during a game against Oakville. Grayson Everhardt, Demetris Williams, and Travis Falls, seventh grade, looked at a basketball play while listening to their coach before a Thursday night game. Zachary Kessel, eighth grade, practices his free throws before the Fenton game.



There are going to be better teams out there, but my team can tough it out. We can do it because we have some good athletes and teammates.

-Tristan Becker, seventh grade



Jeremy Blanchard, eighth grade, takes a free throw during a game on January 14. Nathan Cherian, eighth grade, receives a rebound during practice. Mark McFarland, eighth grade, attempts to take a shot in a game against Fenton. James Hoekzema, eighth grade, attempts a lay up in practice during a drill.



Caleb Hicks, seventh grade, dribbles the ball down the court during a game against Priory. Robert Rasche, seventh grade, takes a free throw after being fouled. Ryan Russo, seventh grade, inbounds the ball to his teammate during a game. Michael Dudley, eighth grade, makes a shot in a game versus Principia.



On Top of the Game

*When a team plays together for over a year,
you end up with a practically undefeated team*

"And yet another win for the A team" was a common saying in the eighth grade hallways. For two years straight, the boys A basketball team for the eighth grade had gone almost undefeated, losing only two games. The team had been playing together since seventh grade and going into their second season together, the class of 2013 had ten of the eleven players come out again. Only having one new player allowed the A team to play together and work not just on the physical aspect of basketball, but on the team bonding aspect, too.

Confidence was one of the components that kept the team going throughout the season. "We can beat everyone, and no one can stop us. All we have to do is work hard to keep it up like last year," said Drew Haynes, eighth grade. "I am really confident in my team. We just have to go out there and play and do what we did last year," said Michael Becker, eighth grade.

Since the team only had one new player that season, they were able to keep up their hard work and play together again. "Being the only new player on the team really made me work harder to make myself better," said Cobern Nye, eighth grade.

Overall, the eighth grade A team worked hard to keep up their almost undefeated record. "I really love the kids on this team. They have a heart for the game and a heart for each other," said Doug Coleman, coach.



Bryce Bell, eighth grade, bounds in the air to catch the rebound of his teammate. During practice, Dale Beachy, coach, had the team run drills and shoot hoops. "The best part about playing basketball is when you swish a shot. It looks really cool and feels really cool." — Bryce Bell

Nicholas Norman, freshman, shoots a lay-up during a game against Ladue. The Wildcats took the game with a 55-17 victory.

Ryan Haxel, freshman, takes a shot during a game against Lutheran South. WCA won the ABC Tournament with a 57-25 win.



The freshman basketball team jogs off the court after a hard-earned victory against Ladue.

Jacob Buffa, freshman, blocks a Lutheran South player during a shot. Buffa played forward for the freshman basketball team.



Gregory Gannon, freshman, looks for an opportunity to pass. The game started a winning streak that continued through the end of the season.



Andrew Beck, sophomore, dribbles down court. Beck led at the top of leading scorers with nine points.



JV Team Season-in-Review

Proportion of Games Won

First half of season	33%
Last half of season	67%

Season Record

9 wins / 9 losses



Connor Flemming, freshman, dribbles down the court. Despite injuries and absences, the freshman basketball team won eight out of nine games by mid-season.

A Rough Start

The Cats struggled in the beginning, but rallied towards the end.

Let's face it, most things in life just aren't easy. They take a lot of hard work and effort to pull off. In the end, however, the reward makes all of it worthwhile. This was the cold, hard truth that the JV basketball team rubbed up against this year.

The first half of the season was definitely an uphill battle. Scoring just half that of the opposition, the team arrived at a 33-62 loss against CBC during the first game of the season. This trend continued until early January, during which time the team won only one game. Many of the early season games followed a pattern: the Wildcats would play tough for three quarters of each game only to run out of steam during the fourth quarter and lose.

Fortunately, the team quickly broke the pattern. In January, the JV team won three games in a row ending the month with four wins and only one loss. Many attributed the team's successes to a patient, effective offense combined with an intense defense. Ultimately, teamwork led the JV team to their successful turnaround and ensured that they ended the season well.



Connor Einertson, freshman, dribbles the ball down the court while Grant Shaffer, freshman, gets into position. After winning the game against Lutheran South, the freshman Wildcats won their opening home game against Ritenour High.



Walsworth