

West Fargo High School

2007

# As We See It



West Fargo High School

The Yearling

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As the years pass by, our experiences and perspectives on life become **greater** and **greater**. We realize the life-changing experiences we have alter the way we view our everyday lives. Some of us see life **tilted**; others see it a little **crooked**. Some of us see life **upside down**; some see it **right-side up**. Some see the big picture; others see it a little **smaller**. Some of us see life in **full color**; for others it is plain **black and white**. Either way, we cannot avoid life-changing experiences that shape the way we see life through our individual perspectives. This is the way **we** see it.

-Ashley Helm  
Yearling Senior Editor



Soda for the seniors!!



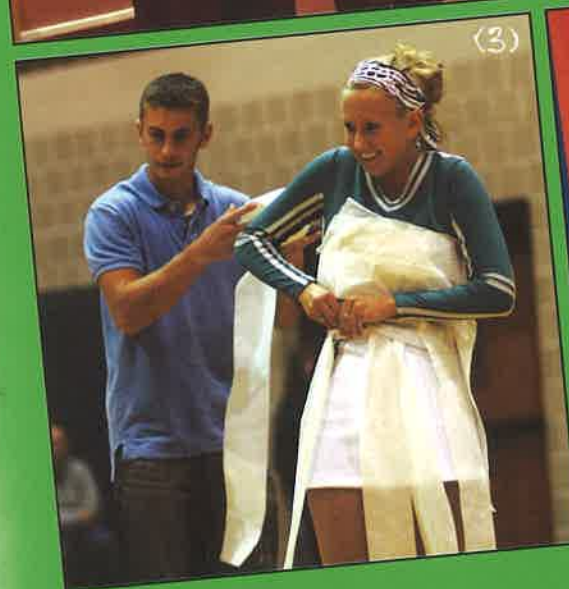
(2)

1) Spring is in the air... Seniors Ashlynn Sylvester, Amy Rogers, Sierra Shoman and Joslyn Nelson enjoy a free senior lunch offered by the administration in May. "The senior picnic was a fun time to get together with all of the seniors," Rogers said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

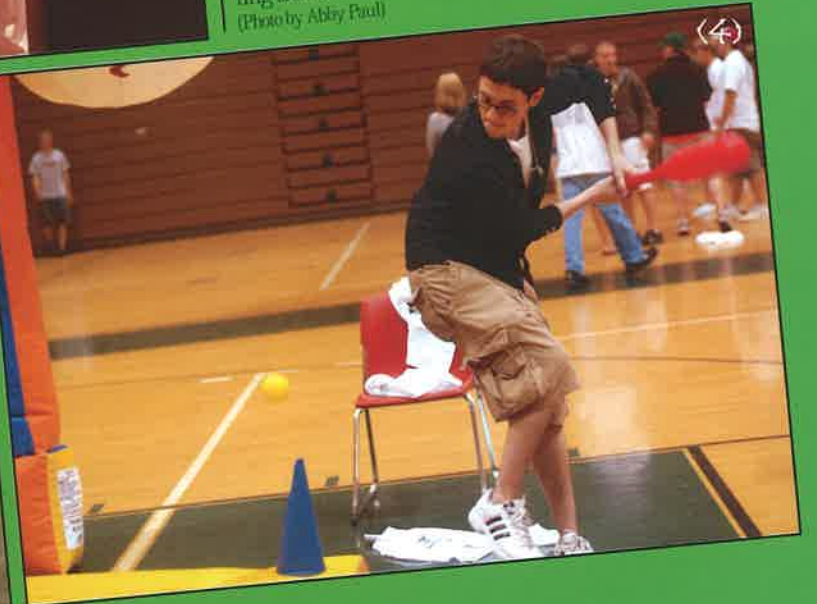
2) Reaping the rewards... Technology teacher Hillary Bertsch, English teacher Mary Sherman and history teacher Barb Metcalf accept a cash award from Best Buy in April to continue incorporating technology into class curriculum. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

3) Mummified... Participating in the pep rally in September, senior Christopher Urlaub wraps senior Sarah Parkhouse with toilet paper. (Photo by Abby Paul)

4) Swing batter, batter... Playing the tee ball game at post-grad, senior Peter Quinn sharpens his batting skills. (Photo by Abby Paul)



(3)



(4)

# Month by Month

As The Calendar Sees It...

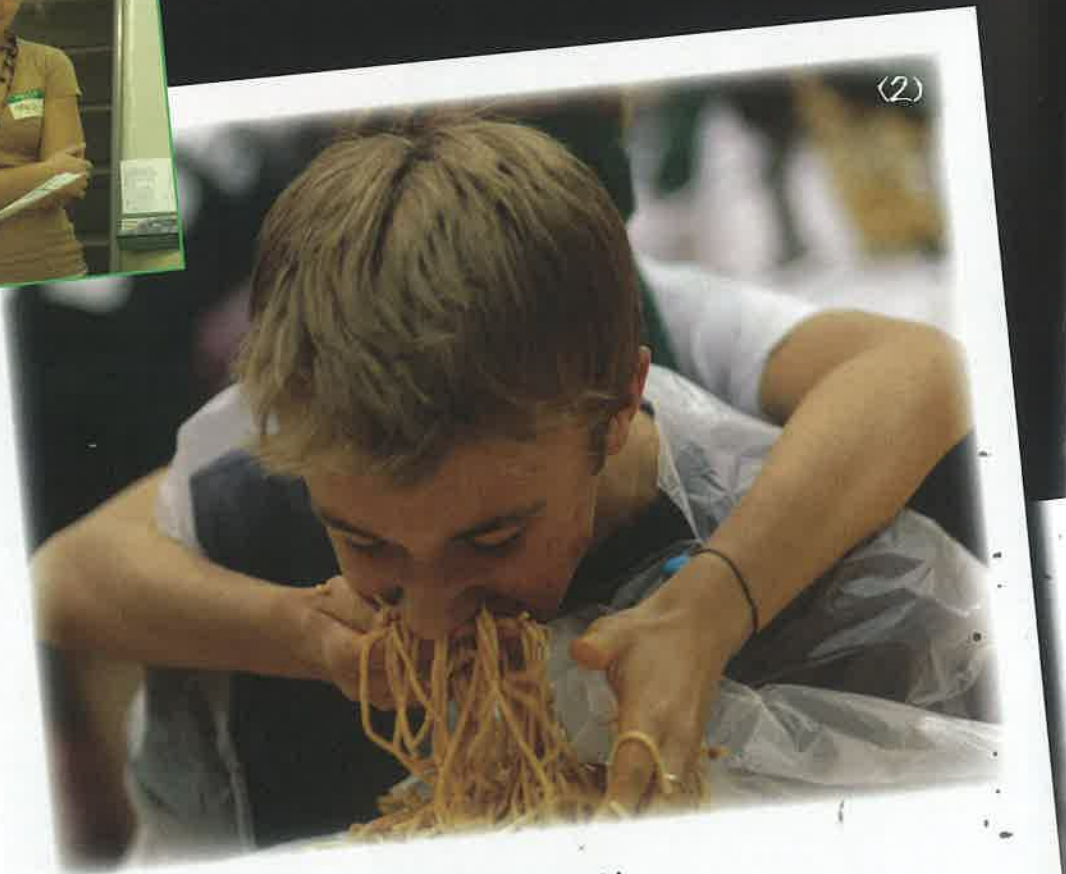
# September

September 5, 2006



(1)

September 20, 2006



(2)

Bon Appetit!!

1) Another lost person... During back to school night, junior Abby Kiefer, a Student Council member, tries to help parent Craig Holmquist find his way around the school. (Photo by Jill Utter)

2) Chow down... During the spaghetti eating competition at the pep rally, freshman Cassandra Baumgartner rapidly hand feeds freshman Peyton Vane while blindfolded. "It was messy, but it was definitely a triumph for the freshmen class," Baumgartner said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

September 16, 2006



Play that funky music... While marching in the WestFest Parade, senior Brian Schiller toots away on his trumpet with other members of the band following behind him on Sheyenne Street. (Photo by Jill Utter)

September 14, 2006

I love it... At yearbook distribution night, seniors Kelli Clark and Elizabeth Erickson and junior Alexandra Crummy smile while taking a look through their new 2006 yearbooks. (Photo by Tory Graves)



## News Headlines

Death penalty phase winding down in Rodriguez trial  
Mindy Morgenstern found dead in Valley City apartment

Suspicious fire destroys home near Elizabeth, Minnesota  
Colorado gunman takes six high school girls hostage, killing one

Meredith Vieira joins the Today Show on NBC  
"Crocodile Hunter" Steve Irwin dies by sting ray stabbing

# October

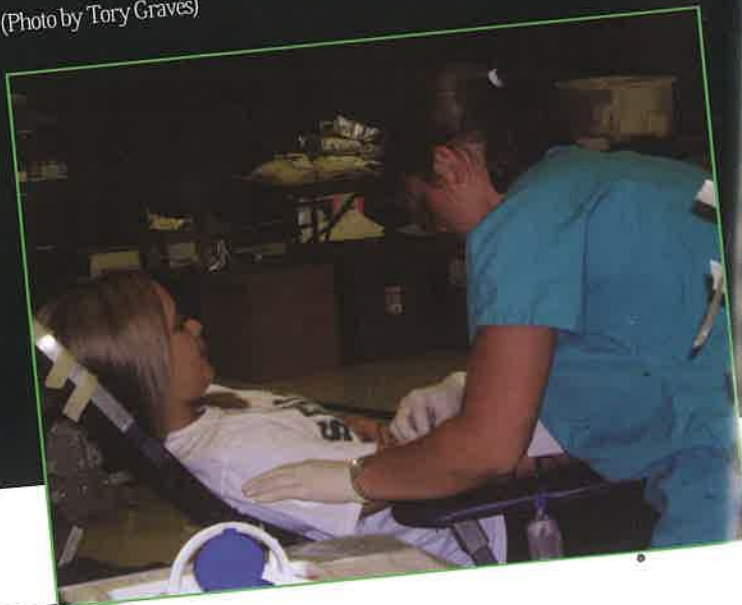
October 2, 2006



Patty-cake, patty-cake, bakers men... While playing a unique hand game, SADD member senior Brenna Ashburn concentrates while building teamwork along with her fellow peers.  
(Photo by Tory Graves)

October 12, 2006

Take a deep breath... While the phlebotomist gets ready, senior Laura Ronning prepares to give blood for the annual United Blood Services blood drive sponsored by Student Council.  
(Photo by Tory Graves)



October 24, 2006



1) Sweet temptations... While working at the National Honor Society's Cancer Awareness bake sale, junior Haylee Preabt, Shauntel Barnes and Jessica Ballou smile at passers-by, tempting them to try a treat.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

October 13, 2006



Burrrr! It's cold!!!

2) What's that smell? While visiting North Fargo's Waste Water Plant on a field trip for environmental science, seniors Ellen Vaagen and Jessica Nelson look inside of a building that contained forty feet of flowing water on Oct. 13. "It was a fun experience. The only drawback was that it smelled terrible," Vaagen said.  
(Photo by Sam Gehrig)

## News Headlines

Nicole Sinner accused of falsely reporting bomb threat at Mercicare West Fargo says good-bye to Loden Field

More than 40 arrested in Warroad drug case  
Jamestown woman died while searching through a garbage bin

CBS's "The Price is Right" host, Bob Barker announces retirement  
Yankees pitcher and flight instructor crash into 50-story Manhattan Condo, killing both

# November

November 15, 2006



1) On the right track... Taking the opportunity to plan her future using Fast Track, senior Lindsay Wangler finds out if she has been accepted to the University of North Dakota.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

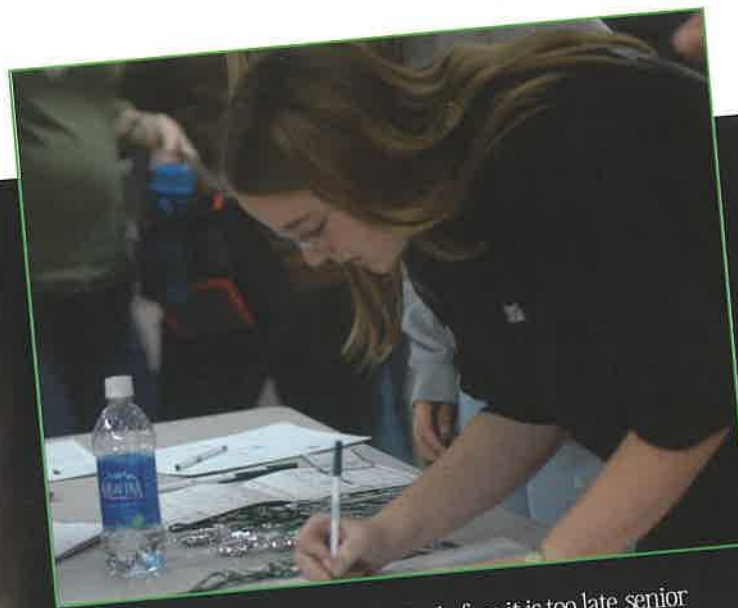
2) Hit em' with your best shot... Trying out their new kickboxing moves, seniors Nathaniel Saye and Matthew Klein enjoy the Food and Fitness field trip at Courts Plus Fitness Center. "Kickboxing was a fun way to get a work out," Klein said.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

November 8, 2006



Work it!!

November 22, 2006



Check this, sign here... Stopping by before it is too late, senior Sara Morrison fills out papers for Jostens to receive her highly anticipated cap and gown for graduation coming in June.  
(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

November 30, 2006

Hog heaven... Dissecting pigs in Anatomy class, teacher Michael Preston demonstrates how to carefully make an incision while juniors Britta Strahm and Chelsi Desotel watch.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)



## News Headlines

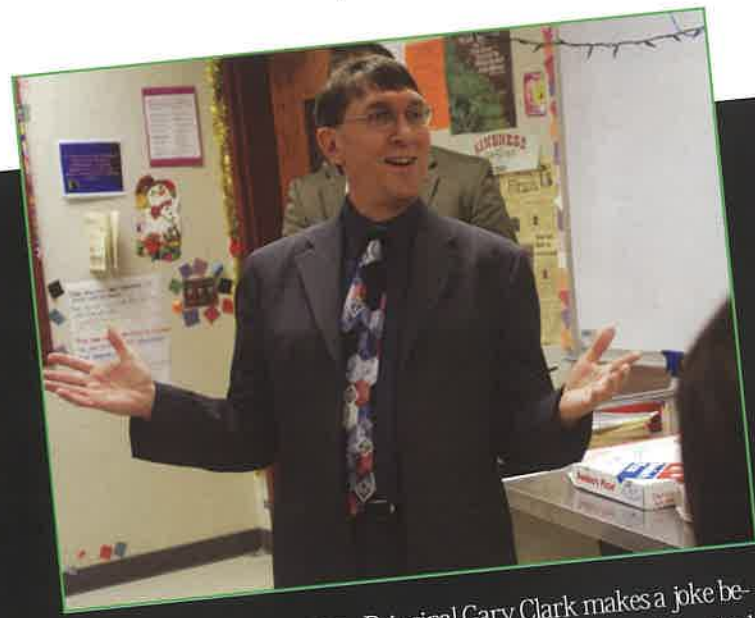
Fargo North freshman dies during gym class  
Harwood Elementary awarded "No Child Left Behind-Blue Ribbon School"

Man uses stapler to rob Grand Forks grocery store  
"Bedroom Bandit" invades local homes

Groundbreaking for Martin Luther King Jr. memorial  
Democrats take over House and Senate

# December

December 15, 2006



Pizza's free, jokes are extra... Principal Gary Clark makes a joke before dishing out pizza to Jeremy Murphy's fourth period Yearbook class, who won a party by raising the most money for United Way. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

December 6, 2006

Get your stickers... During all of the lunches, seniors Kallista Nilson and Cinder Buzick hand out stickers to promote AIDS awareness throughout the school. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)



December 19, 2006



1) Is it a boy or is it a girl? Scrutinizing the masterpiece made by random everyday objects, seniors Melinda Rothhouse and Kari Remmen review the art show. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) What time is it? Lex time... During the campaign session at the state student council convention in Bismarck, junior Lex Lunde yells his cheer hoping to be voted Class A Representative for the state of North Dakota. "I ended up in the final two," Lunde said. "That is pretty good in the history of West Fargo's past representatives." (Photo by Ashley Helm)

December 10, 2006



I am on top of the world!

## News Headlines

Flakes don't want to stay - Brown Christmas in Fargo  
Michelle Kartes and David Soldier face federal charges for illegal work on E-Bay

Two Minnesota National Guard soldiers killed in Iraq  
South Dakota Senator Tim Johnson suffers brain hemorrhage

Former President Gerald Ford dies  
Sadaam hanged in Iraq

# January

January 11, 2007



January 26, 2007



Oodles of noodles...

1) Tuck and fold... During AP English presentations for final testing, junior Amy Walen portrays a character from Willa Cather's "O Pioneers."

(Photo by Emily Hartley)

2) It's alive... In the Foods for Today class, juniors Carrie Young and Tavga Weled cook a yummy but frightening batch of noodles. "It was a good experience about making homemade noodles, but we should have made our noodles smaller," Young said.

(Photo by Victoria Hackett)

January 18, 2007



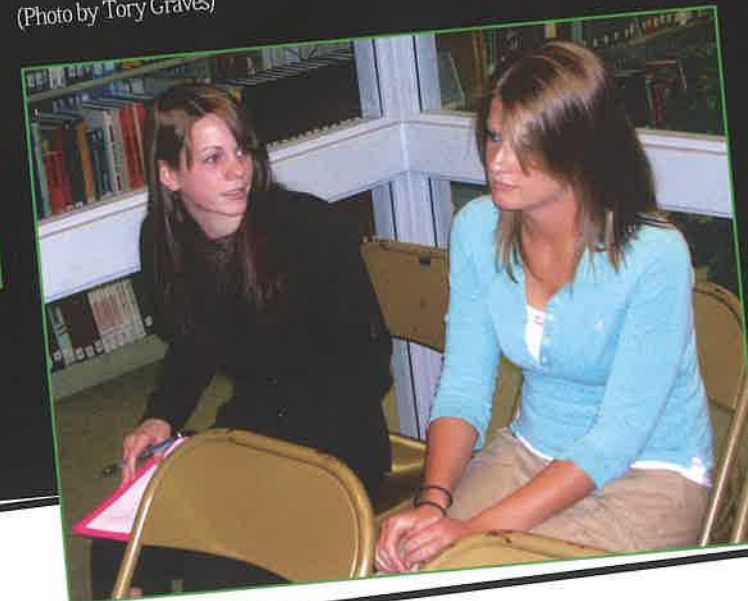
Wrap that candy... During a newspaper fundraiser, senior Ruth Ehlke wraps the candy bars enthusiastically while talking with her friends.

(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

January 25, 2007

Anxiously waiting... Outside the library, juniors Brooke Lisburg and Brittany Nichelson wait for their interview as part of an English speech assignment.

(Photo by Tory Graves)



## News Headlines

Fargo man rides on top of train from Fargo to Casselton

Fargo crash kills Jesse Brainerd, injures West Fargo High student Rebecca Mattson

Tim Pawlenty calls for modest increase in Minnesota school funding

UND President Charles Kupchella announces retirement

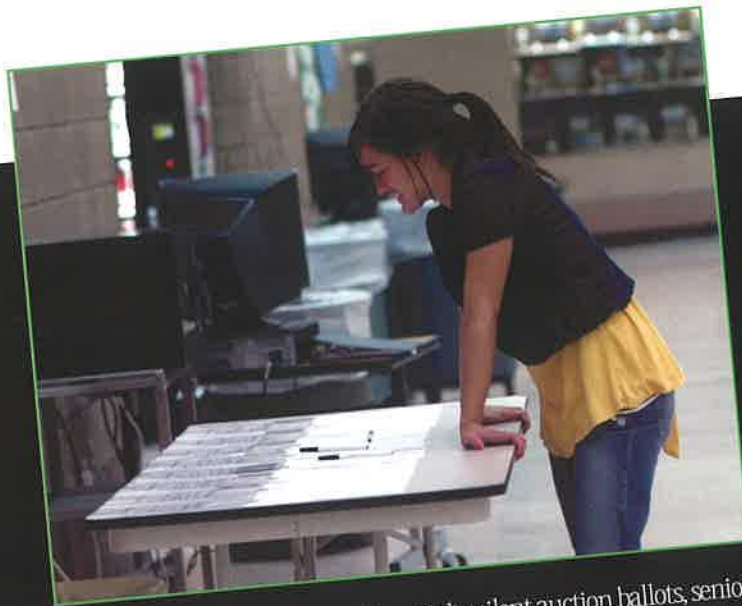
Momofuku Ando, inventor of Ramen noodles, passes away

Bush calls for more troops to Iraq

# February

February 12, 2007

February 27, 2007



So many choices... While looking at the silent auction ballots, senior Ashley Helm decides what dream date she would like to go on to benefit the MDA charity.  
(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

Bling, bling, bling... Visiting Josten's booth in the commons, sophomores Ashli Powell and Zachary Dahl carefully contemplate their class ring of choice.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



## News Headlines

Oak Grove Dean of Students, Mark Selisker, passes away  
Makeover planned for Hector Airport

Frazee man accused of offering to pay to have estranged wife paralyzed  
Early homecoming for 39 Grand Forks soldiers

'Miracle Baby' first to survive after being delivered at 22 weeks  
Dow down over 500 points

February 27, 2007

February 9, 2007



1) Ready to launch... Seniors Jamilia Brown and Michael Johnson prepare to launch their rocket during a chemistry lab as they are reminded by Chemistry teacher Aaron Tank that they are "carrying a small bomb."  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Bustin' some moves... Entertaining the crowd at the winter pep rally, senior Jason Carriveau and English teacher Lynette Mund get their groove on. "It was tight that I got to host the pep rally and represent my senior class at the same time," Carriveau said.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



The perfect cheer!

# March

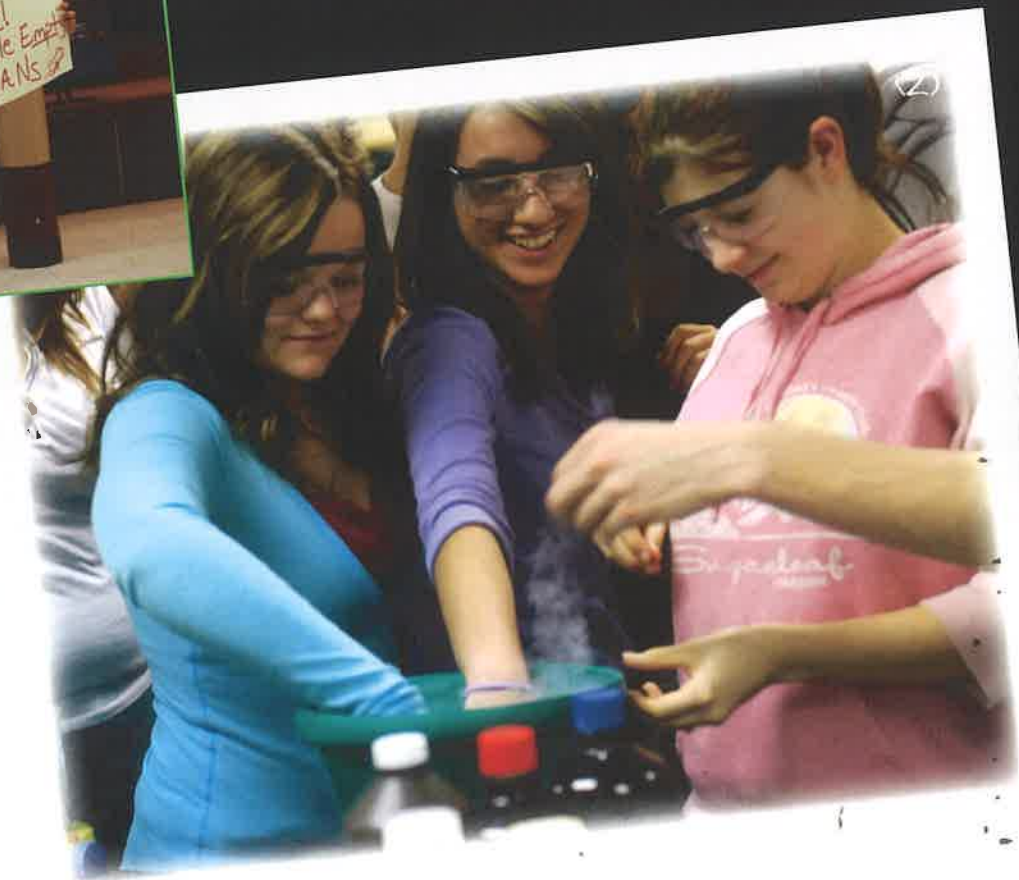
March 5, 2007



1) Reduce, reuse, recycle... During Environment Awareness week, senior Ellen Vaagen tries to influence students to recycle cans while hopping around as a kangaroo.  
(Photo by Sam Gehrig)

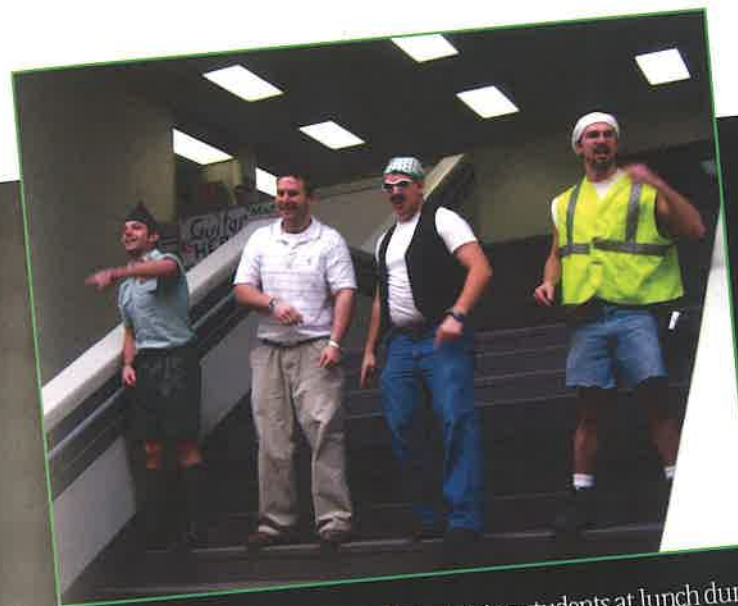
2) Freezing fingers... Junior Sadie Kraft, senior Sara Giuliano, and junior Breanna Ranzenberger reach in a pot for a frozen marshmallow during a chemistry demonstration. "It was cool how the marshmallows froze and we were able to eat them," Giuliano said.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

March 30, 2007



Cold as ice....

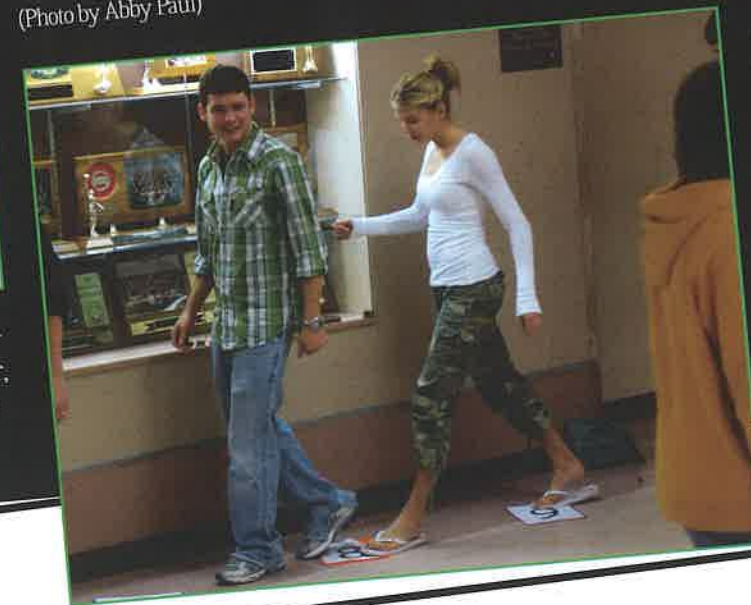
March 8, 2007



It's fun to stay at the YMCA... Entertaining students at lunch during theme week, student teachers Zach Fjelstad, Jeremy Seeklander, Jeremy Kasperson, and Dustin Russel perform actions to "YMCA".  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

March 21, 2007

I want a cupcake... During the cupcake walk in the commons, junior Ryan Mischell and senior Alexa Kleingartner step from number to number.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



## News Headlines

Man arrested in connection with White Drug Pharmacy bomb threat  
Red River Freethinkers plan monument next to Ten Commandments monument

Hoeven signs new minimum wage law  
Sex offender sparks Grand Forks schools lockdown

Teen floats down Mississippi on giant ice slab  
Gore takes Global Warming to Congress

April 27, 2007

April 4, 2007

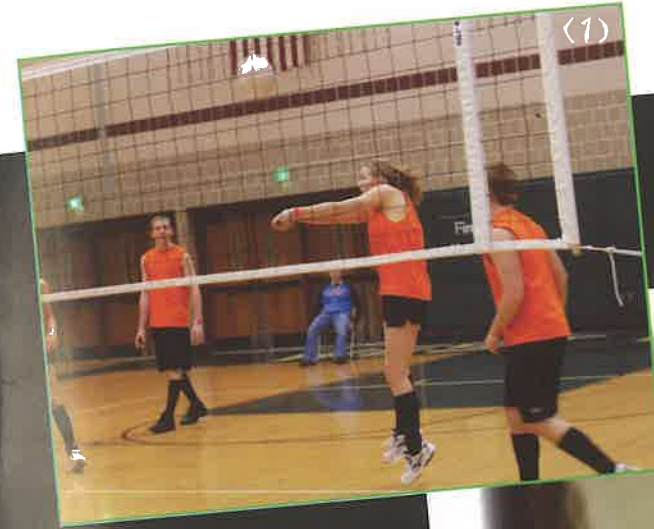
April 12, 2007

April 23, 2007



The love to volunteer... Helping out at the blood drive, seniors Sadie Olson and Jerad Daul keep things organized for people about to give blood to United Blood Services.  
(Photo by Megan Schwartz)

In the race... Intrigued by Nascar driver Casey Mears's car, sophomores Eric Hartog and Nicholas Sanders check out what the race car has to offer for the track.  
(Photo by Victoria Hackett)



1) Bump that ball... During the student-faculty volleyball game, sophomore Aryelle Jones, of the winning team, sends over the ball.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Sweet victory... Senior Ruth Ehlke admires her first-place certificate she received for one of NIPA's Journalist-in-Action competitions. "It was undescrivable because I had never won at that state level before," Ehlke said. "Out of the three years at NIPA it was great to be recognized at the state level."  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

The winner takes it all!

## News Headlines

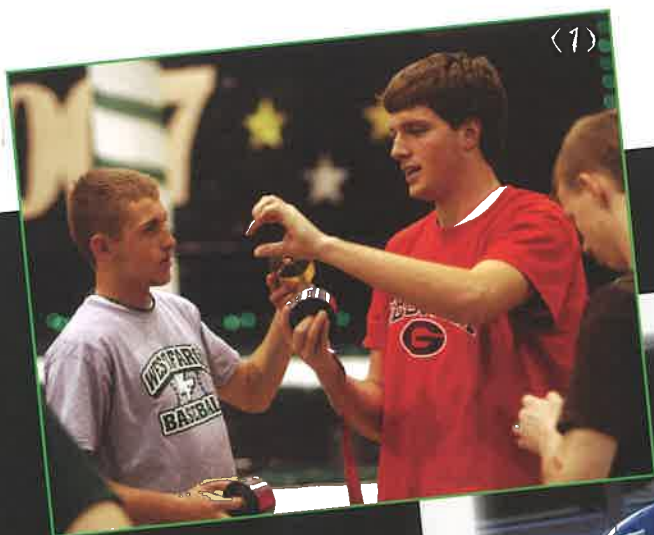
Three NDSU football players get shot at NFL  
Cobber grads caught skinny dipping in Concordia pond

Some school officials skeptical about new education bill  
Governor Hoeven issues Missouri River Drought Emergency

Thirty-one dead at Virginia-Tech shooting rampage  
Idol fans happy to see Sanjaya leave show

# May

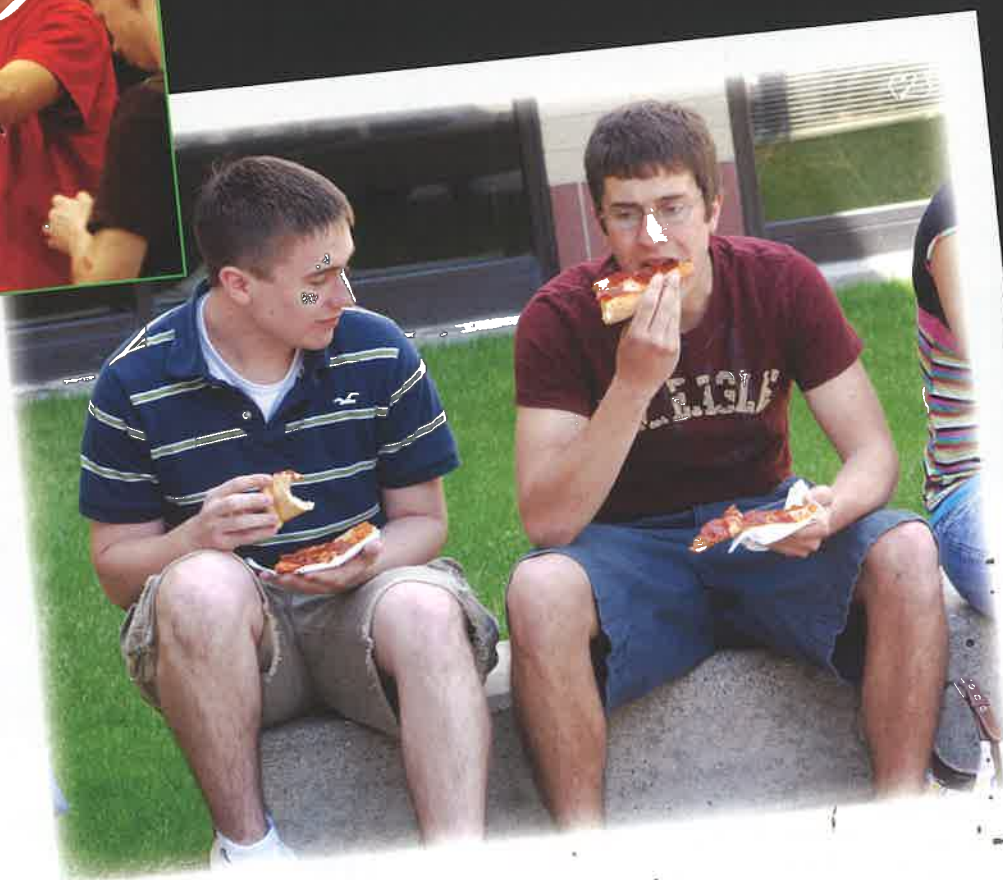
May 4, 2007



1) Watch and learn... While setting up for Prom, juniors Lucas Steckler and Seth Dye concentrate on the taping.  
(Photo by Sam Gehrig)

2) Eat it up... Enjoying a free meal for the senior lunch, seniors Jacob Miller and Brandon Bucholz shovel in pizza. "It was cool that we got free pizza for our last year of high school," Bucholz said.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

May 16, 2007



Pizza, pizza!!

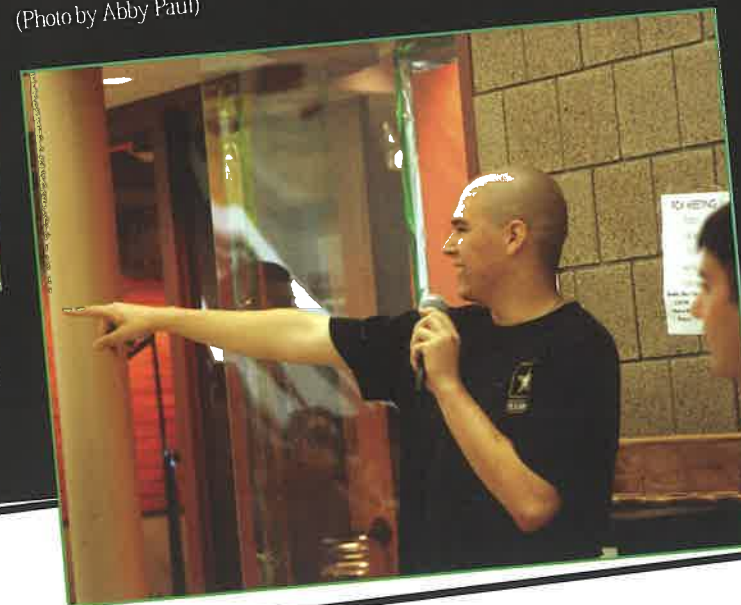
May 9, 2007



If you mess with the bull, you'll get the horns... After losing a reverse raffle ticket drawing, English teacher Sybil Hopkins is forced to wear a bull costume for an entire day.  
(Photo by Sam Gehrig)

May 15, 2007

Sold for one dollar... During lunch, senior Eric Novacek auctions off items as part of Junior ROTC. The money raised bought calling cards for troops overseas.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

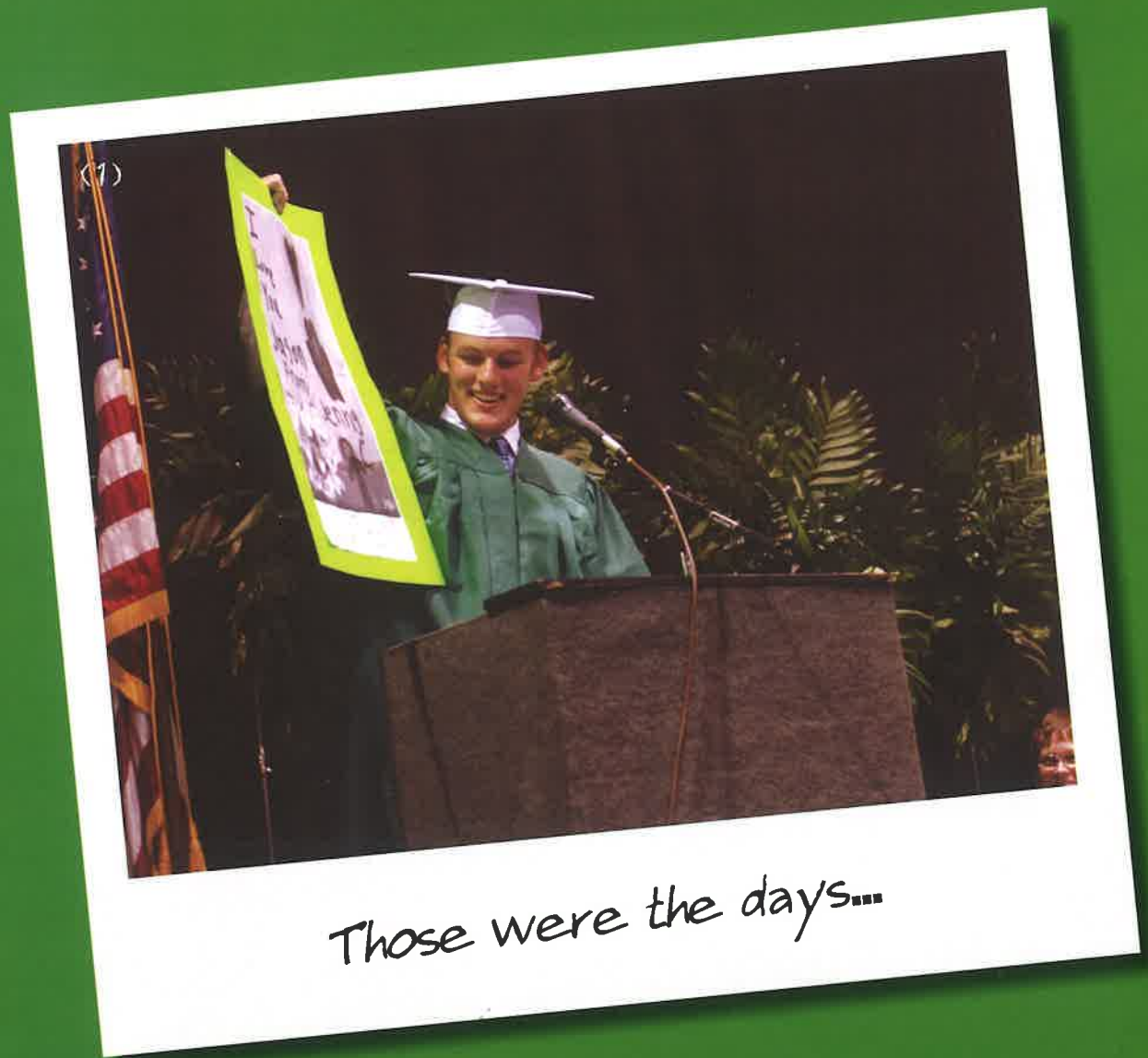


## News Headlines

Mickey Hoeven helps two Fargo families get homes  
MeritCare charity donates half-million dollars to Children's Hospital

ND schools prepare for all day kindergarten  
MSU-Moorhead becomes first public college campus to ban outdoor smoking

Six men arrested on charges of plotting attack at Fort Dix Army Base  
Microsoft plots to buy out Yahoo!



Those were the days...

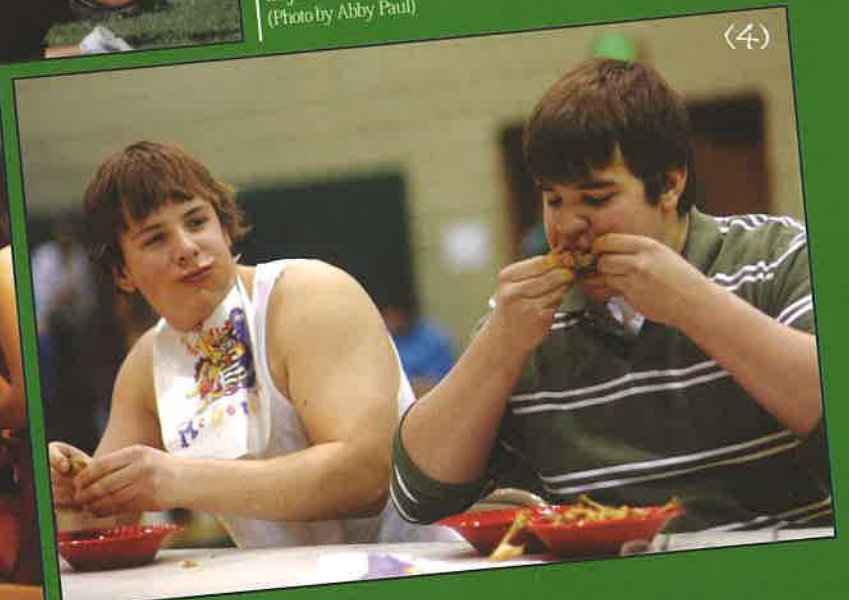
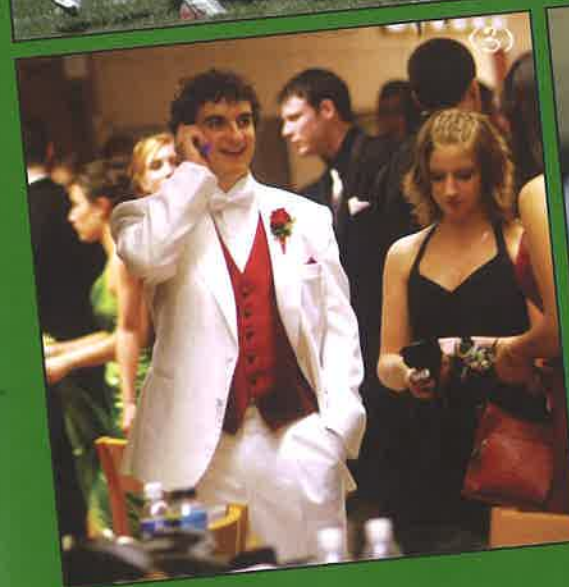


1) I need to return this. Senior Jason Carriveau shows off his letter from his childhood friend during his speech at graduation. "It was pretty cool to be able to say some last words to all of the seniors I will be leaving next year," Carriveau said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) I got her... Reaching with all her might, senior Sadie Olson catches junior Tavga Weled and helps the seniors capture the football at the Powder Puff game Sept. 20. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Can you hear me now? Junior foreign exchange student Martin Fruehauf chats on his cell phone while waiting for Grand March at Prom. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)

4) Man, I thought I could eat... In the midst of stuffing his face during the wing eating competition at the winter pep rally, sophomore Centry Lee glances at junior Taylor Olstad who takes his last bites to win. (Photo by Abby Paul)



# Student Life

As The People See It...



# Homecoming spirit suffers

## Fewer students participate

Superhero costumes, tie-dye outfits and bling are all things one would expect to see students sporting in the hallways during Homecoming spirit week. Because of a lack of effort, spirit week is turning into another normal week of school. Every year fewer students participate in dress-up days or attend the Homecoming dance, and many do not show any school spirit.

Although showing school spirit seems to be a thing of the past, there is still hope for future years. If teachers can find a new way to get students to participate, the halls may once again be roamed by superheroes.

-Danielle Mehus

Coming to school dressed as Batman or wearing a freshly tie-dyed shirt used to be exciting for students, but slowly the amount of people who participate has dwindled down. "I think people don't dress up on theme days because they don't want to step out of their bubble and look different than everybody else," sophomore Mackenzie Shommer said.

The Homecoming dance seems to be a popular place for the underclassmen, but as students get older they no longer find fun in dancing the night away. "I went when I was a freshman, but I just feel too old to attend now," senior Kelsey Stroh said.

Although many students get decked out for football games, that spirit seems to stay out on the field and does not find its way back into the hallways. "We always dress up and cheer at games, but there's nothing to motivate me to dress up for theme days," senior Nicole Litzinger said.



1) Hy ya... Juniors Rebecca Pegg and Matthew Morrison strike a pose for Hero Day during Homecoming week. (Photo by Megan Schwartz)

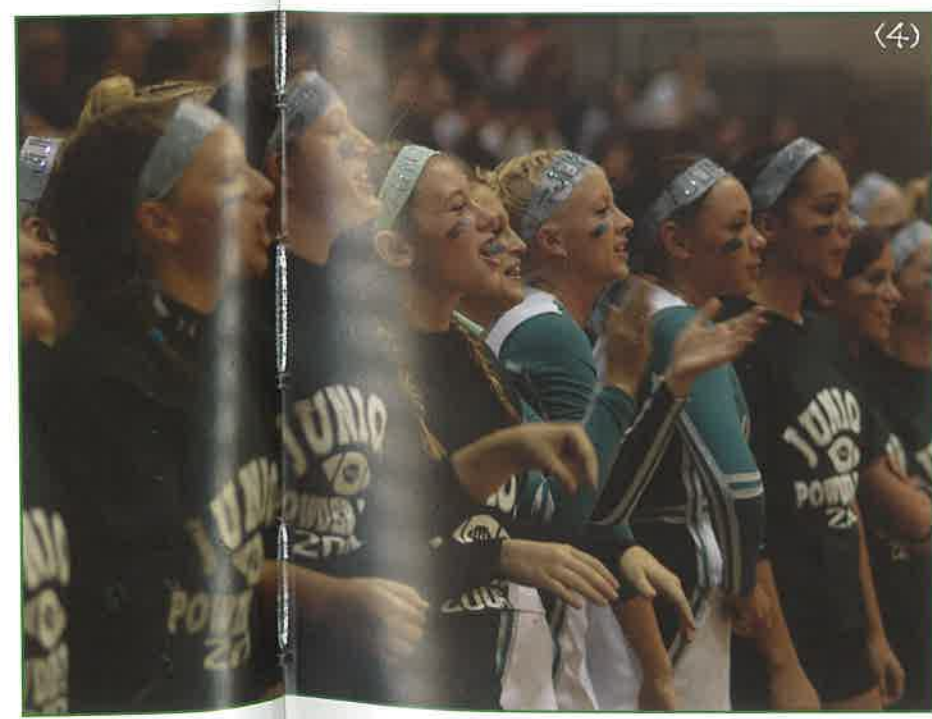
2) Dancing dirty... While competing in the dancing competition at the pep rally, sophomore Austin Casazza slides suggestively across the gym floor. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) We did it... Screaming for joy, senior Cinder Buzick rejoices with senior Ashley Helm as the seniors win the Powder Puff game 14-0. "The juniors were put in their place after all their talk. The class of 2008 was truly welcomed to the jungle," Helm said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

4) "Juniors! Juniors! Juniors!..." In the midst of all the excitement at the pep rally, juniors Maggi Nicholls, Britta Strahm, and Stevi Kinsella cheer enthusiastically from the sidelines. (Photo by Abby Paul)

5) Smile and wave... While being announced at the Homecoming game, Homecoming King senior Broc Bellmore and Homecoming Queen senior Jessica John demonstrate their gratitude to the crowd. (Photo by Abby Paul)

6) Pull a little harder... At the tug of war competition during the pep rally, senior Gerrit Haerter pulls his hardest helping his side win. (Photo by Abby Paul)



What is your favorite homecoming week event?

"The best part is getting dressed up and cheering at the football game on Friday."  
-Sophomore Shayla Lund

# Music Television Network

## TV station lacks music in all areas



Shows such as *Real World*, *Laguna Beach* and *True Life* have begun to overwhelm MTV, the Music Television network. Many people wonder where the music shows have gone.

Some students think the reality shows bring more viewers. "I think more people watch MTV because of the shows than just showing music," senior Casey McGarry said.

Even though MTV does not usually play or show music, students are still watching the network. "I like it [MTV] and I watch it a lot," sophomore Christina Sorum said. "It's one of my favorite television channels."

Others may say they do not like all the reality shows, but they still watch them. "It's [MTV] all right; some shows are interesting and some shows are stupid," junior Lucas Steckler said. "It would be a fun experience to be on one of the shows."

Many people wonder where the music has gone, but they still get sucked into watching the reality shows they say they do not like. MTV still gets viewers to watch without showing the "music television" they are known for, so their strategy of showing the new shows must have paid off.

-Amanda Montgomery

### Top Five MTV Shows

1. The Real World
2. Real World/Road Rules Challenge
3. Laguna Beach
4. The Hills
5. Two-A-Days

\*According to The Yearling staff



I love my MTV!

# MySpace Vs. Facebook

The average teenage kid goes home after school, grabs some snacks and cozies up to the big computer monitor.

This student is about to embark on a journey that will send her mind surfing through a thousand pictures and tons of controversial information. She is connecting to the Internet.

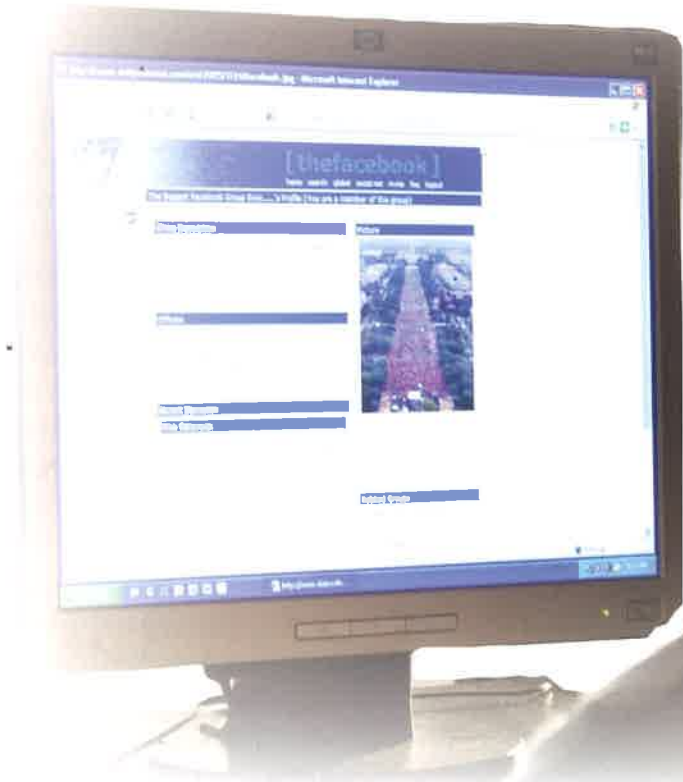
The most popular Web sites around the school this year are facebook.com and mspace.com. Most students use them to stay connected to or find friends. "It's a way to waste time on the computer and keep in touch with friends," junior Katie Kapel said. Posting pictures, comments, and meeting new people are some features of these sites.

Some students find the sites very compelling. "It's addictive because once you are on it then you just keep looking at other people's sites with just a click of a button," senior Ashley Yochim said.

These Web sites, however, are more protective than past one's like xanga.com. One must ask the owner of the Web site to become a "friend" before viewing the site. It is still important not to put too much information on the Internet. "I don't think teens realize the danger of putting up personal information and pictures on the Internet," senior Jessica Balster said.

Although these new Web sites are fun and helpful, it is still imperative that students keep personal information off the Internet. When the average teen is sitting in front of the screen, she should feel comfortable clicking away and searching facebook.com or mspace.com with thousands of pictures and pages full of information.

-Kelsey Stroh



Which is better, MySpace or Facebook?



"Facebook is better because it is a lot safer than MySpace because you have to approve them as a 'friend' before they can see anything."

-Senior Alexa Kleingartner



"Facebook is the best by far. It's structured a lot better, and there isn't as much random stuff on the sides."

-Senior Jason Carriveau

# Displaying public affection

## PDA takes over school hallways

Walking through the hallways seems more like a scene from an R-rated movie with all of the different couples groping each other, making out, and pushing up against lockers practically laying on one another.

Public displays of affection (PDA) are becoming more common among students, and many people who do not show PDA around school often find it a nuisance when couples are making out or having a gushy conversation in the middle of the hallway. "They should keep their PDA to themselves because it slows down the process of getting to class since people always have to weave around them," junior Nicole Brokmeier said. "They just aren't aware of anyone else around them except themselves."

Some teachers think the students who show PDA with their significant other simply want some sort of attention. "[It's terrible] they do that in school," history teacher Jim Jonas said, "but they do not have to make out or kiss in school just because they think they are cool. I think they're just trying to find their own identity."

The couples who are displaying affection do not care what other people think of them or what they do. "I don't care what people think when they see my girlfriend and me [displaying PDA] because if they do not want to see it then they shouldn't look," junior Matthew Pomey said.

The main reason this is happening though, could be the down-to-earth virtue of love. Pomey hugs or kisses his girlfriend before class because he loves her, he said.

When students are walking down the hallway and see a couple sharing spit and germs, they could easily gawk and stare, choose not to look or believe in their mind that this couple is innocently displaying their love for each other.

-Jill Utter



XOXOXO!!

### Top Five Make-Out Spots

1. The 'locker'
2. The main entrance
3. The pop machines
4. The bottom of the stairs
5. Outside the classroom door

\*According to The Yearbook staff

# Dresscode creates chaos



Junior Brittany Haaland hears her name over the intercom; once in the office she is informed her skirt is too short, and she is given the choice of wearing grungy lost-and-found sweatpants or going home and changing into more school appropriate attire.

Haaland and many other students throughout the school believe the dress code is not enforced for all students. "I don't think it's fair when girls wear short skirts and get into trouble for it," Haaland said. "And cheerleaders can wear their's and you can see their butts."

Most students would agree having somewhat of a dress code is good for the school. "I don't like or want to see girls' cleavage, and it keeps us in control," junior Alison Sund said. "I don't want it to get out of hand though, like Shanley's uniforms."

Sophomore Candace Hager both agrees and disagrees with aspects of Sund's opinion. "I think people take what they wear way too far sometimes, but I think we should be able to wear whatever we want," Hager said. "What we wear expresses our own individual personality and allows us to express ourselves."

Some students believe the administration is doing their job by enforcing the no sexual, drug, or alcohol references. "Some of the shirts students try to wear offend people," Sund said.

Haaland decides to go home and changes into her own clean pants instead of wearing the grungy sweatpants. Once back at school, she checks in and the principal makes sure she changed into clothes more appropriate for school before going back to class.

-Allyson McCracken



What would be your ideal dresscode?



"I go for comfort. My ideal dresscode would be to have everyone wear jeans and t-shirts to school everyday."

-Junior Britta Strahm



"My ideal dresscode is slippers, Coco Puff pants, an orange Crush shirt and my hair sticking up."

-Sophomore Austin Cassezza

# Working hard For money

## Students take on jobs

Waking up early on weekends, staying up late on school nights to do homework and turning down friends when asked to hang out are all sacrifices worth the money for many high school students. Students are starting to have more responsibility by getting some sort of job during school.

Having a job is time consuming, but it does have its benefits. "I work too much, but I like getting my paycheck," senior Alison Jenson, who works at Gordman's, said.

Even students in activities find time to work for different reasons. "I work for gas money," junior Jace Holm said. "I like working." Holm finds time to work at Extreme Pita while participating in soccer and hockey.

Some underclassmen choose to take advan-

tage of little jobs they are offered instead of taking a challenging job while starting a new school. "I work at my dad's hockey tournaments every weekend in June," freshman Becky Capouch said.

Many students may have jobs, but there is a big majority who do not have jobs. "I don't have a job, but I think about getting one often because I don't like asking for money from my parents when I'm old enough to make my own," sophomore Abby Salquist said.

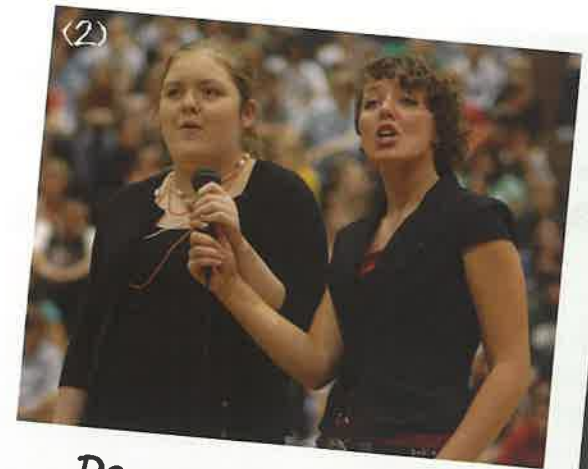
Being able to go out on weekends, having money to buy anything, and having gas in the car are all benefits that make having a job worthwhile.

-Amanda Montgomery

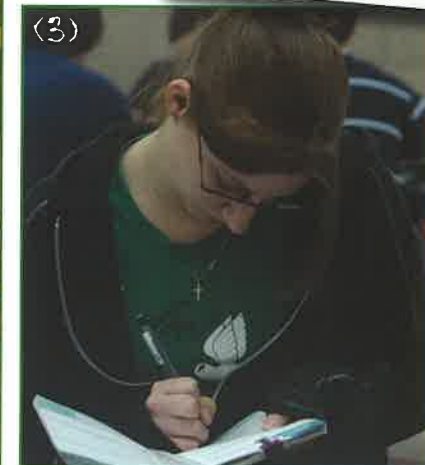
### Top Five Jobs at WFHS

1. Grocery stores
2. Clothing stores
3. The bank
4. Fast food restaurants
5. Gas stations

\*According to The Yearling staff



Do re mi fa so la ti do!



1) Let me hear your Packer spirit... Seniors Ashley Helm, Jessica Wilkens and Jenny Capouch cheer at a basketball game. "Games are a great place to get together with your friends and have a good time," Helm said. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

2) Aruba, Jamaica... During the fall pep rally, seniors Stephanie Cwikla and Jenna Poppenhagen sing the theme song for Homecoming. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Check, check, check... Senior Tiffany Irving checks what homework she has to do while sitting in the commons at lunch. (Photo by Abby Paul)

# Becoming yourself

## Students mature in time

As English teacher Megan Gredesky looks out at her senior English students, she sees how much they have changed and matured since she last taught them as sophomores. As students go through high school they grow more into their own person.

Freshmen students are less emotionally mature compared to seniors. They have a harder time being themselves and are more likely to go along with crowd.

"When 'popular' people are acting out, I go along with things and don't really say anything," freshman Victoria Hackett said.

Gredesky believes younger students are more willing to do what is popular so they can fit in. "Freshmen want their transition into high

school to be a positive transition," Gredesky said. "They want to be popular to fit in. Seniors have gotten over that."

Senior Alyson Holland agrees with Gredesky. She feels she has grown and expanded since her freshman year.

"I have not grown physically, but I've matured and I'm more independent," Holland said.

Gredesky's students have changed and matured since the first time she met them as sophomores, and they will continue to grow as they take the next step into the real world.

-Kira Gilbraith

### Top Ten Ways to Be Yourself

1. Believe in yourself
2. Don't be afraid to speak up
3. Dress how you want
4. Join clubs that interest you
5. Be proactive
6. Set goals
7. Eat healthy
8. Love yourself and others
9. Laugh often
10. Inspire others

\*According to The Yearling staff



1) I scream for ice cream... While making a Blizzard at Dairy Queen, junior Tyler Hewson concentrates to make it perfect. "I've been working at Dairy Queen for a while now so I have become a manager," Hewson said. (Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

2) Your total is... Sophomore Krissanne Ryerson takes money from a customer while working at Perkins. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)

3) Have a nice day... While working at Scheels, senior Jessica Wilkens says goodbye to a customer. (Photo by Whitney Adams)



# Need or want?

## Students admit to caffeine addictions

As sophomore Alyssa Hummel walks into school one morning, she realizes she forgot to get her cappuccino, so she goes right away to the cafeteria to get one. Just like Hummel, many students have become addicted to the caffeine in drinks. Students become more addicted to these items the more they drink them. "I started drinking cappuccino occasionally in middle school, but now I have one at least once a day," Hummel said.

Students such as sophomore Mackenzie Schommer sometimes wish they had never started drinking coffee because of the effects it has. "I don't like drinking coffee because right after I drink it I have to go brush my teeth right away because I know I get bad breath from it," Schommer said.

Students who do not drink coffee do not see the point of drinking it, but they can see the effects that it has on their lives. "I think it is a pointless because people spend a lot of money weekly just to have caffeine," sophomore Cody Mammenga said.

Everyday Hummel walks into the school, she has to get a cappuccino because she has become addicted just like many other students.

-Jamie Green



### Top Five Caffeine Addictions

1. Pop
2. Energy drinks
3. Coffee
4. Cappuccinos
5. Chocolate

\*According to The Yearling staff



# Depression affects students

Depression is sometimes called the common cold of mental health. Unlike the common cold, it is not always obvious that students could have this disorder. "It is really difficult to know who is depressed," counselor Robert Elliott said. "I think with all of the drugs and alcohol made more available to students today it is more prevalent." Depression can affect students in numerous ways.

It is not always easy to tell when someone has depression. It may be hurting the person inside, but it is easily covered up by a smile. "If I thought someone was depressed, I would talk to them and make them feel wanted and special," junior Kasey Pulkrabek said.

Even though approximately 18.8 million American adults have a depressive disorder, getting help is not always the easiest thing. "If I was depressed I would probably talk to a counselor or parent, but it would be hard to talk about my feelings," senior Elizabeth Erickson said.

Students are not sure what to do when their friends are depressed either, but they have an idea of how they could help. "I would help them find help and be there for them," sophomore Jesika Jaeger said.

Just like a common cold, depression can come and go, but the effects of it could change a life forever.

-Kelsey Stroh



How would you help a friend dealing with depression?



"I would tell my friend to talk to a counselor and that she needed to get help immediately."

-Junior Stevi Kinsella



"I would first see if I could help in any way and if I couldn't, I would tell my friend to get help from a counselor."

-Junior Kyler Eid

# Books considered Foreign

## Students lack ambition for reading

English teacher Marti Simmons' class chats amongst itself with five minutes left in the period. In the back corner, a girl with glasses sits quietly reading a book by her favorite author. The other students discuss the book in the girl's hand like she is holding a rubber chicken. Reading for enjoyment has become a taboo among high school students.

The idea that only "nerds" enjoy passing their time with a book sprang up only over the past decade. "Used to be the days where everyone would come with a book, and if there were a few extra minutes at the end of class, they'd read," Simmons said. "Now if you say, 'Get out a book,' people look at you like you're crazy."

Perhaps books have taken the back burner because new gadgets come out every month, keeping teenagers more entertained. "I'd rather do something else," sophomore Ryan Eckelberg said. "With technology, we won't have to read anymore."

While they definitely make up the minority, students who enjoy reading still exist. Many believe their non-reading peers could be just a step away from achieving bookworm status. "They haven't found the right book or author," junior Erin Behrmann said. "They need that extra shove to help them find the right book for them."

Leading by example often changes the worst problems, it could solve the problem of declining interest in reading as well. "I think [students] have to see people reading, parents and teachers," Simmons said. "You have to model reading. Studies show when parents read to their children, their children will read more."

As the bell rings ending Simmons' class period, the bespectacled girl puts away her book. Walking out the doorway, she glances at her favorite sign featuring Garfield the cartoon cat. The sign says, "Read - it's how smart people get that way."

-Emily Hartley



### Top Five Reading Distractions

1. Television
2. Computer
3. Cell phone
4. iPod
5. Videogame



Fun and games!

# Lunch choices take healthy step

On the first day of school the students walked into the lunchroom thinking they were going to find all of the choices that were available from last year; they soon discovered they were wrong. After last year the school administration decided the students needed to be given healthier food choices for lunch.

Many students were unhappy about the change, but they still agree with the decision. "I miss the Oreos and big Gatorades, but I think it is still a good idea," junior Justin Cronin said.

Now, about the only unhealthy food left in the lunchroom is the cookies. They are a popular item; however, students wonder if they will soon be taken away too. "I think they might take them away because they are not very healthy, and they took away all of the other unhealthy choices," sophomore Alyssa Hummel said.

Even though some students like having healthier food choices, there are others who do not like it. "The only thing I don't like about having healthy food choices is that they require you to buy things that you are not even going to eat," junior Sadie Doggett said. When someone buys a certain food they are required to also buy an apple juice or milk to go with it.

As the year goes on and the students are not offered unhealthy food choices, they see the point the school is trying to get across, but still do not agree with it one hundred percent.

-Jamie Green



What kind of food would you like to see in the lunchroom?



"I think we should have grilled cheese and not the uncrustable kind, the real grilled cheese. We should also have chocolate cake with vanilla frosting."

-Sophomore Shayla Lund



"I would like to see more fun food. I'd like to see more food grilled over a charcoal grill. Also, they should switch Pizza Hut back to Dominos."

-Senior Zach Odegard

# Finally Friday Fever

## Students wait for weekends

Looking at the clock every 10 seconds, it seems like one minute has taken an hour. It is finally Friday, and anticipation for the weekend is building. As the school year goes on, the weeks seem to get longer and weekends are not taken for granted. Every student has a different idea of what a perfect Friday night might be, but for many it means going out to have a good time.

After a long week of tests, worksheets and teachers, some students look for a way to let loose and enjoy their time off on Friday night. "I like to party with my friends and meet new people," junior Justin Schiermeister said.

Although some activities may run the risk of getting in trouble, some find there is nothing else to do in West Fargo. "There is nothing new to do in this town that we won't get in trouble for," junior Luke Steckler said.

Others find that just staying home is the safest way to have fun on the weekends. "I usually just watch movies with friends and hang out at my house," senior Alexa Kleingartner said.

Whether it is a movie or a party, keeping safe or living on the edge, each person has a different idea of an exciting Friday night. After the final bell rings on Friday the possibilities are endless and it is up to each person to decide how far he is willing to go to have a little fun.

-Danielle Mehus

### Top Five Friday Night Plans

1. Movies
2. Get-togethers w/ friends
3. Sporting events
4. Cosmic bowling
5. Cruising

\*According to The Yearling staff



(1)



(2)

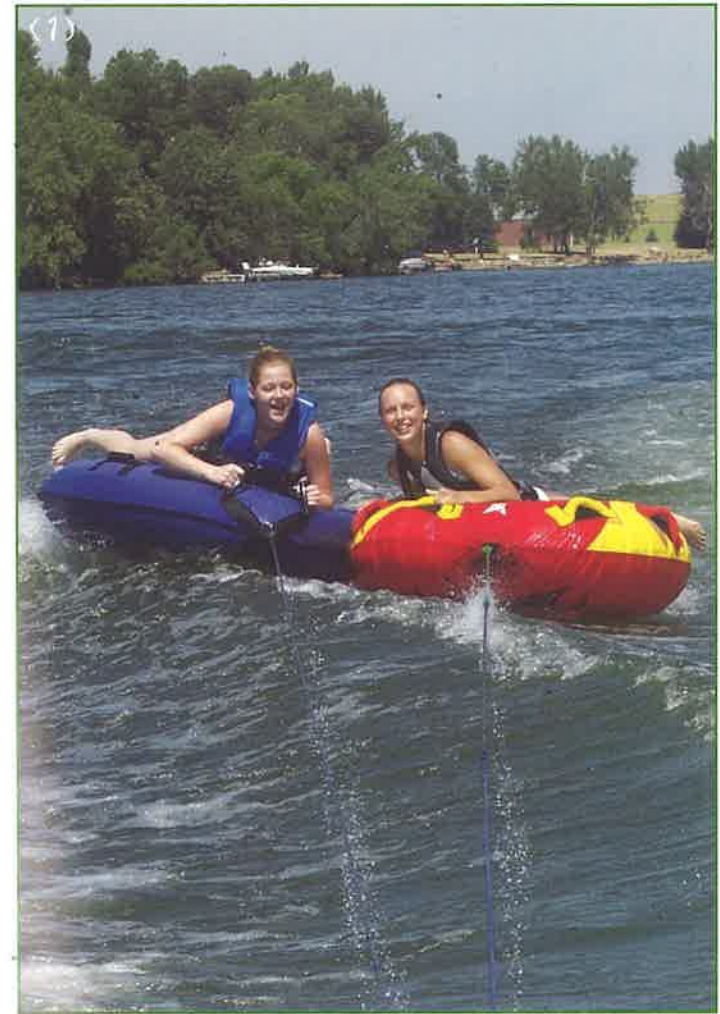
1) **Cruising Broadway...** While trying to find something to do on a Friday, senior Dylan Grant drives around with friends. "There is not a lot to do in West Fargo so we end up driving around town most nights," Grant said. (Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

2) **Sitting, waiting, wishing...** While sitting at a friend's house, senior Adam Crist watches TV to pass the time away. (Photo by Ashley Helm)

3) **P-A-C-K-E-R-S...** Juniors Erin Behrmann, Jill Utter and senior Morgan Anderson cheer as loud as possible at the football game in Wahpeton. (Photo by Ashley Helm)



(3)



(1)



(2)

*This is how you do it...*



(3)

1) **Hang on...** Juniors Amanda Montgomery and Jamie Green try to hold tight while tubing during a volleyball grouping at the lakes. "The lakes was a fun time to bond with all of my teammates," Green said. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

2) **Make it burn...** While setting up the wood for a fire, seniors Justin Rheault and Ashley Yochim concentrate to make it just right. (Photo by Ashley Helm)

3) **Yummy yum yum...** Junior Jessica Holaday watches her marshmallow burn during a bonfire at her friend's house. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

# Soak up the sun

## Summer creates relaxation

Summer is a time to relax. It is a time to sit back, enjoy a coke, and watch the sun go down. Many students take advantage of the summer as an opportunity to hang out with their friends, and go on vacations.

Summer, for most students is viewed as a time to bond with their friends, which can be accomplished in any number of ways. "During the summer, I hang out with my friends, we have sleepovers, lots of runs to Ihop, random outdoor movies at Island Park, we play at parks, drive around aimlessly with the windows down and the music blaring," sophomore Emily Vrem said. "My best memory of this summer was the 'grilled cheese maker' joke," Vrem said. "It lasted all summer long, and it was kind of an inside joke that cheered my friends and I up if we were down."

Students stress levels are drastically reduced during the summer due to no school, so they don't have

to worry about having homework done and getting to bed early. "I like summer because you can spend as much time as you want doing whatever you want," junior Karen Flesberg said.

Another factor that makes summer more enjoyable for students is that their parents are more lenient. "I had lots more freedom, I was never home, and my parents didn't care. During the summer I have less responsibility because we don't have school, so I have more time to hang out with my friends," junior Haley Johnston said.

Summer is one of the most memorable experiences for many students, whether they spent it running around with their friends, or sitting back and watching the clouds.

-Kimberly Stulken

### Top Ten Summer Events

1. No School
2. Bonfires
3. Going to the lakes
4. Red River Valley Fair
5. Jobs
6. WeFest
7. Tan
8. Sleep
9. Sport camps
10. Waterparks

\*According to The Yearling staff

# Prom loses glitter over time

## Junior class remains most involved

Searching for the perfect dress, tanning for months, watching a manicurist file away and taking a deep breath as a hairdresser sprays glitter on top of bouncy curls are all fun and exciting ways many prepare for Prom. These luxuries may lose their value if someone has attended Prom since freshman year.

From freshman year to senior year, the excitement of Prom begins to decline. "It's not as exciting getting ready when you've done it all four years," said senior Sarah Parkhouse, who attended Prom all four years.

Numerous students, however, enjoy attending Prom as underclassmen. "I had a lot of fun because I went with my other sophomore friend, but it was kind of weird because I didn't know anyone," said senior Kallista Nilson, who has attended Prom three years.

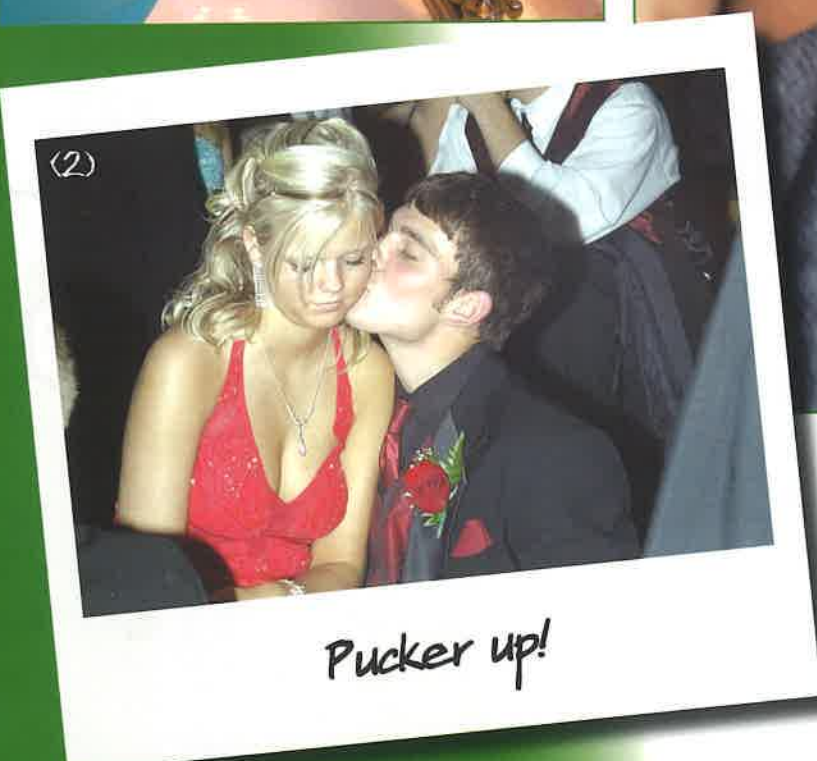
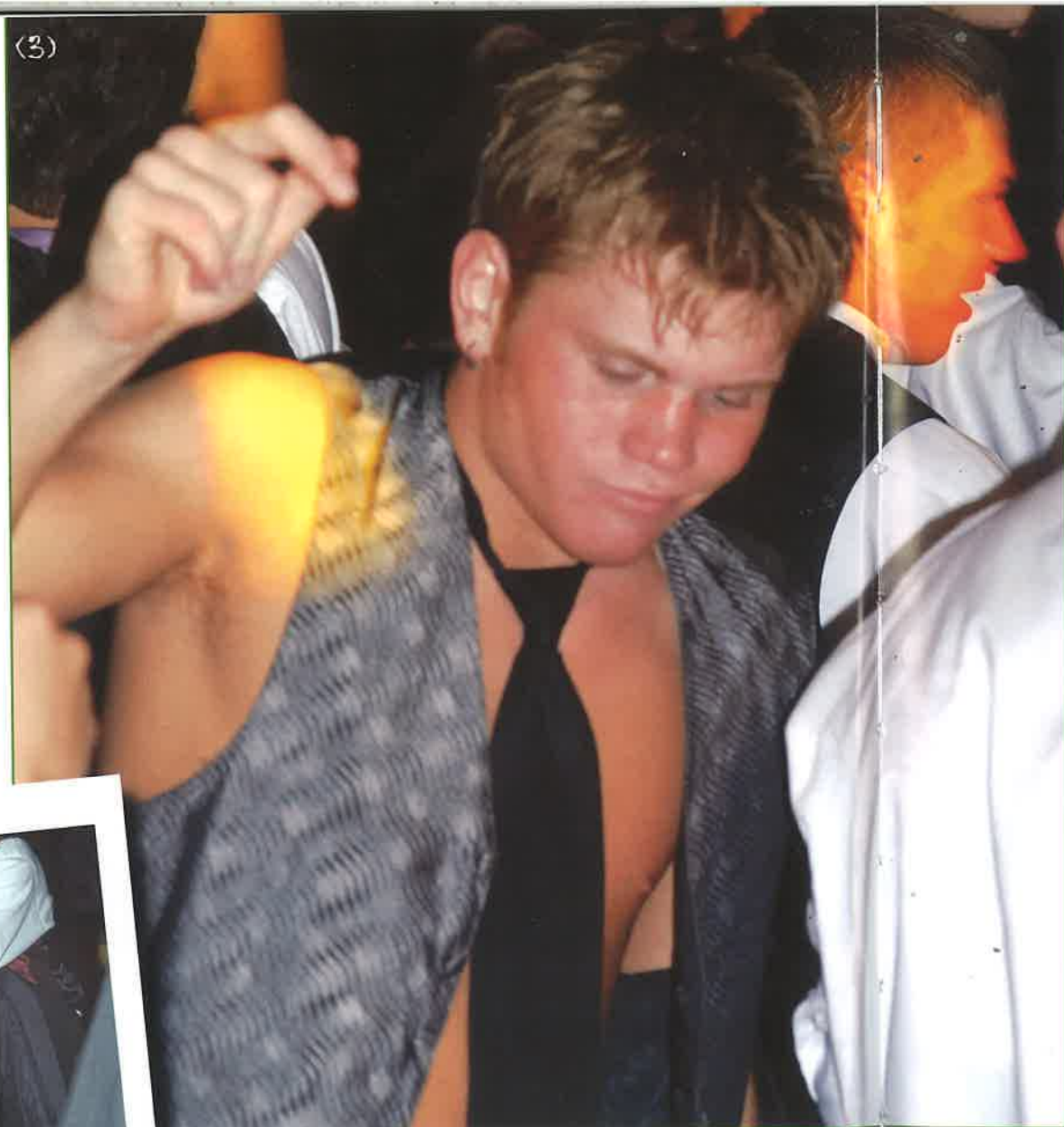
Going as upperclassmen seems more enjoyable, because few underclassmen attend. "(My favorite year was) junior year because I had all my friends with me," Parkhouse said.

Junior year appears to be the most fun, according to Prom Committee adviser Jane Holland. Juniors are the most involved with Prom because they help plan and decorate. "I

believe Prom becomes special when you have the opportunity to take part in it," Holland said.

Prom still offers students an opportunity to live it up for an evening, whether it is for the first time or the fourth time.

-Tania Peters



Pucker up!

### What is your favorite memory of Prom?

"My favorite memory was when we all danced together and put our arms around each other in one big group. It was all my friends in high school."

-Senior Kira Gilbraith

1) **Final touches...** Senior Jessica Hermanson puts the finishing touches on her make-up before leaving to eat before Prom.

(Photo by Ashley Helm)

2) **Give her a smooch...** While sitting in the commons during Grand March, senior Robert Huber gives junior Brittany Haaland a kiss on the cheek.

(Photo by Scherlings Photography)

3) **Sh-sh-shake it...** Junior Andrew Hanson gets his groove on during the dance after Grand March. "[The best part of Prom] was being at the dance with all my friends and singing karaoke at post-Prom," Hanson said.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

4) **Tape it up...** Prom Committee members juniors Tyler Lund and Tanner Parkas apply tape to James Bond theme decorations.

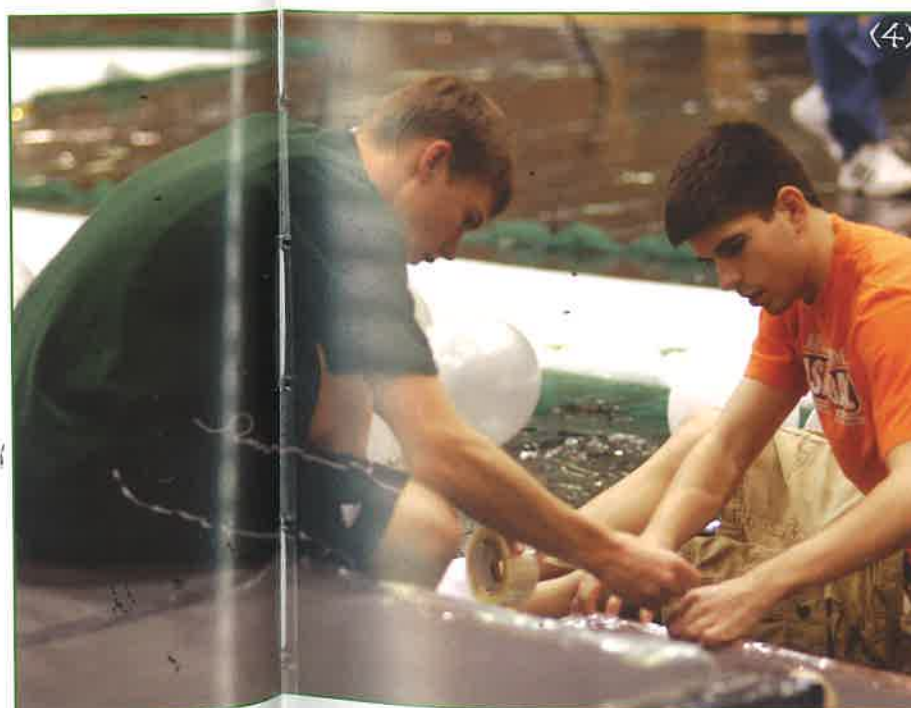
(Photo by Sam Gehrig)

5) **Now you'll look just right...** While waiting for the Grand March line up to begin, senior Cinder Buzick fixes Amanda Beauchamp's hair.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

6) **Ready if you are...** Senior Ashtynn Sylvester and date Zane Ziemann take a look into the gym and prepare to walk down the Grand March.

(Photo by Victoria Hackett)





(1)



(3)

# Ready or not, high school ends

## Seniors face choices before graduating

Graduation (noun): a conferral or receipt of an academic degree or diploma marking completion of studies. This word has multiple meanings to each senior, but the most common feeling at the mentioning of this word is pure and utter fear. Students see the end of their high school career racing toward them and the "real world" ready to kick their butt.

thought I would get all my hard classes over with during my freshman, sophomore, and junior year, but this year is proving to be just as hard as the rest," senior Kira Gilbraith said.

Graduation, college, and real life are all just a hop, skip and a jump away.

-Kelsey Stroh

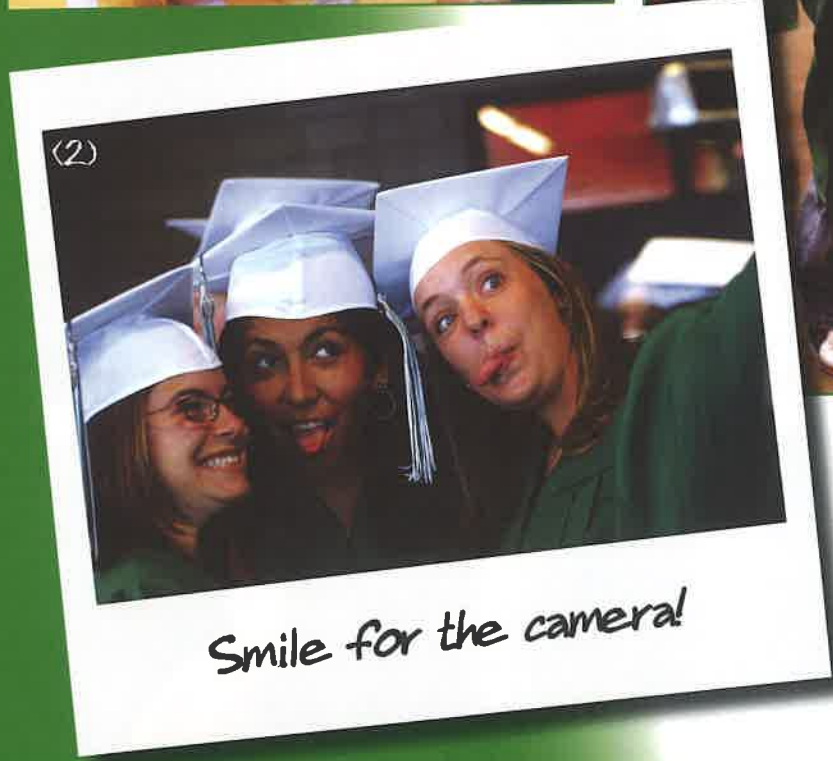
Senior year is busy for many and usually involves more responsibilities at home including car payments, saving for college, and being a good role model for younger siblings. There are also many college choices, and the deadlines for applying seem to whiz by. "I have to figure out what college I want to go to, what major I want, and what scholarships to fill out," senior Elizabeth Erickson said.



(6)

Along with the pressure of college, pressure still mounts in high school. Many upperclassmen feel more mature than the younger grades they share space with. Senior Kallista Nilson thinks it takes freshmen time to realize how to act in high school. "Sometimes I guess [freshmen] seem a lot more like they don't care who you are, but if you get in their way in the halls they'll push you," she said.

Most seniors think of their last year as the "slack" year, but it is a rude awakening as they realize the effort they have to put forth to pass their classes along with planning their future. "I always



(2)

Smile for the camera!

What will you miss the most about high school?

"I will really miss seeing everybody everyday. I will miss all the friends."

-Senior Heather Gray

1) **Ready to rumble...** Getting ready to sumo wrestle at the Post-Grad party, senior Grant Schmidt gets help putting on the helmet. (Photo by Abby Paul)

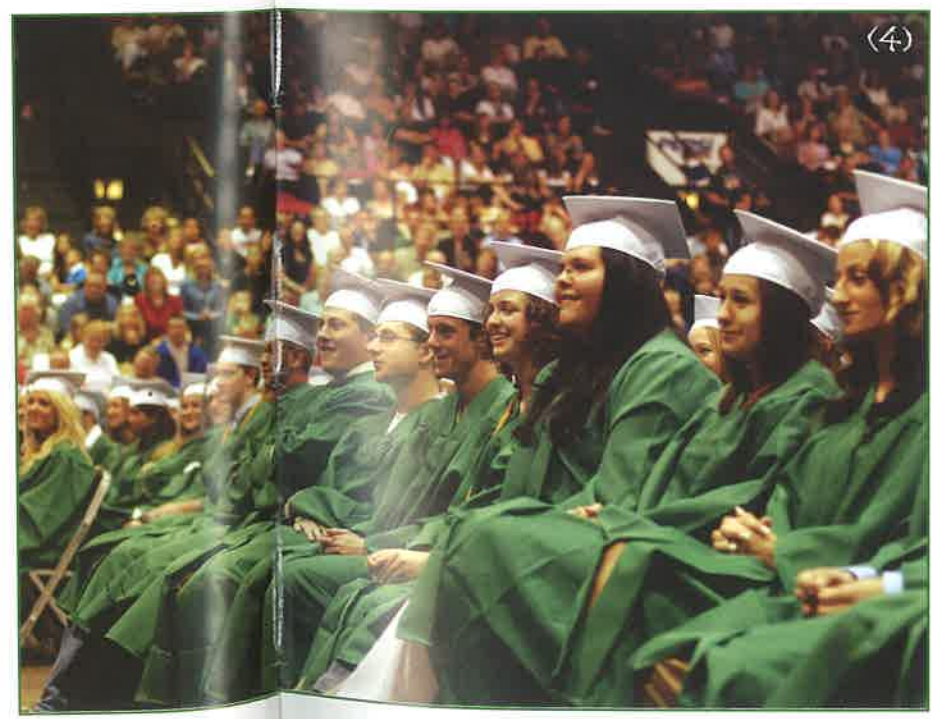
2) **Crazy shot...** Senior Heather Utke holds up her camera to take a picture with fellow grads seniors Rachel Johnson and Natalia Carenas. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) **A walk to remember...** Seniors Seth Houkom and Cole Horsager happily walk out of graduation. "It's a great feeling to move on to the next part of your life, and I'm happy to be done," Horsager said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

4) **He's so inspiring...** Listening to senior Jason Carriveau's speech, graduating seniors laugh, smile, and cry as they experience a wave of emotions. (Photo by Abby Paul)

5) **Just a little farther...** Flying forward, senior Jessica Roth tries to reach farther to get her Velcro marker past senior Elizabeth Erickson's during the post-grad party. (Photo by Abby Paul)

6) **There's that smile...** Senior Jamila Brown laughs as senior Sarah English tells the seniors the lesson she learned from Brown, to always keep smiling. (Photo by Abby Paul)



(4)



(5)



1) It's hot dog time... Tailgating at the Wahpeton football game, senior Matthew Klein opens a pack of hot dogs so he can get ready to grill. "My favorite part of tailgating was eating and hanging out before the big games," Klein said.  
(Photo by Ashley Helm)

2) Study break... Sophomores Mackenzie Schommer and Chelsea Peterson catch up while studying in the library.  
(Photo by Garsen Harrison-Bower)

3) Stick up for yourself... German teacher Michelle Highman teaches a self-defense class at the high school.  
(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

4) Blinded by the light... Juniors Chelsea Holmquist and Emily Dahley squint into the sun while watching their Powder Puff teammates.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



# People

As The Students See It...



Kelly Aamold



Adam Aarestad



Garrett Abraham



Paige Adams



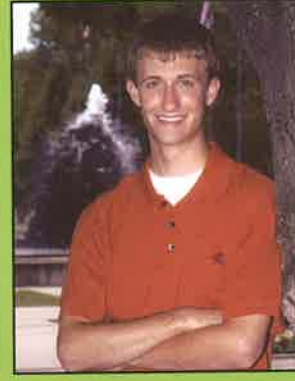
Samantha Adcock-Page



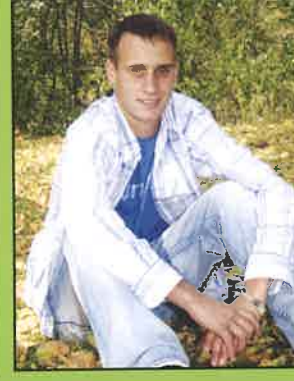
Shamsi Ahmed



Chelsea Akason



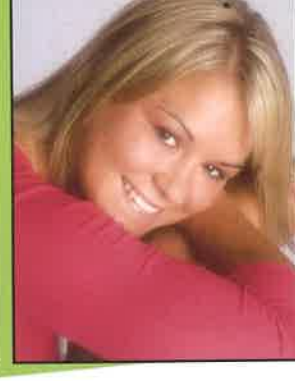
Andrew Albrecht



Brian Albrecht



Elmedina Aljji



Morgan Anderson



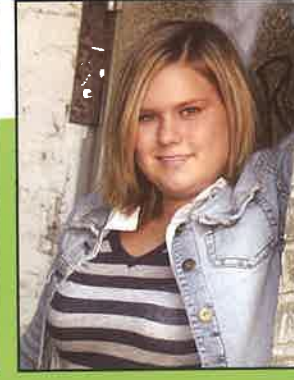
Tyza Anderson



Faduma Arale



Brenna Ashburn



Tiffany Bachmeier



Madeline Bailey



Jessica Balster



David Baltezare



Amanda Barclay



Daniel Baumgartner



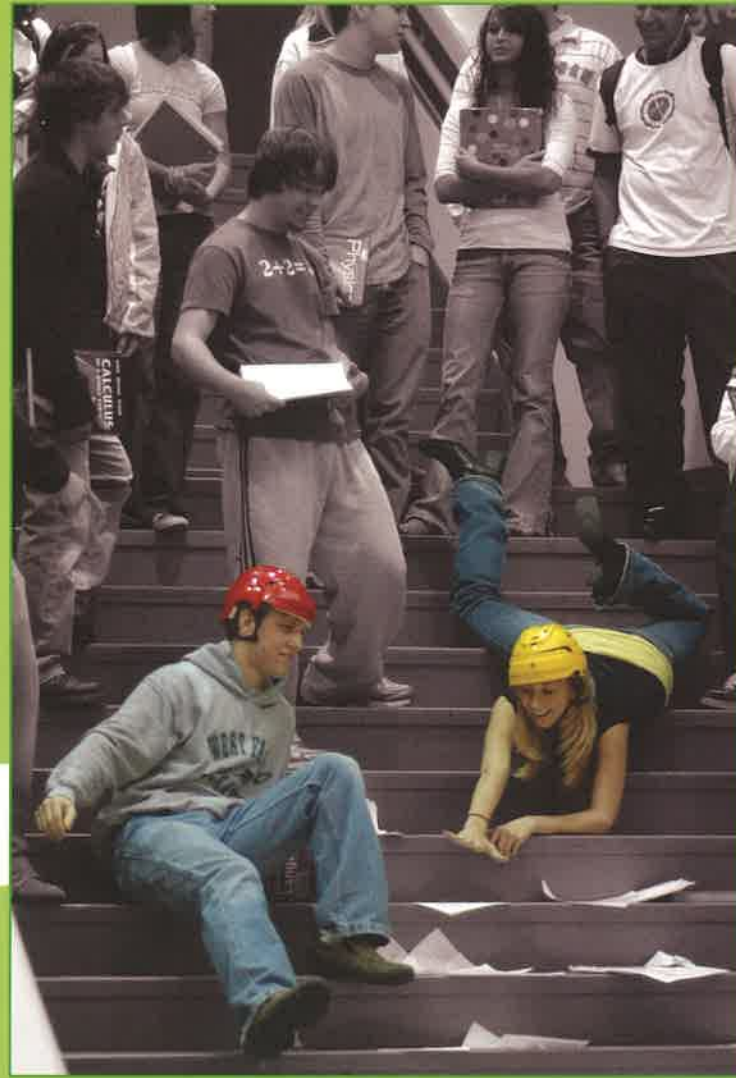
Blaine Beam



Amanda Beauchamp



Broc Bellmore



Most Likely to Believe Anything  
(Most gullible)  
Megan Schwartz and Zachary Rudlang

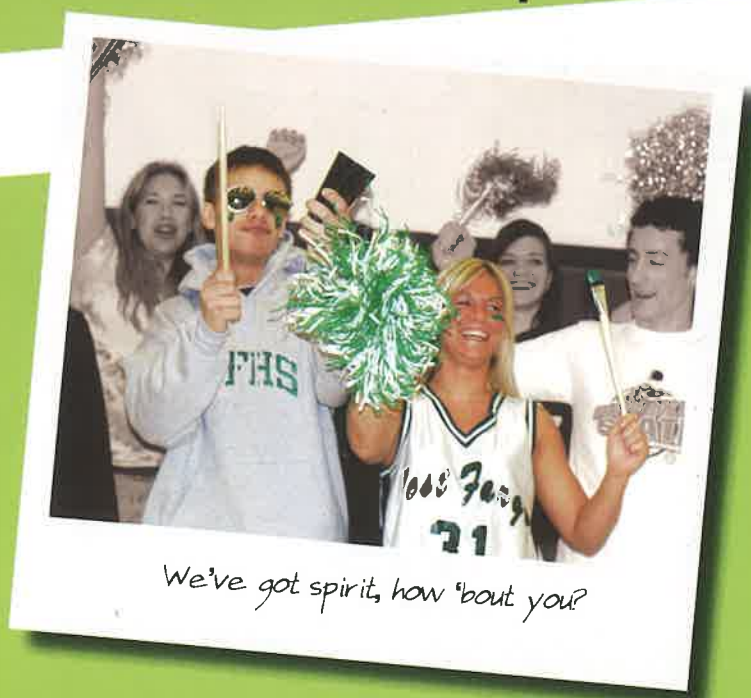
Most Likely to Fall Down the Stairs  
(Most clumsy)  
Sarah Parkhouse and Matt Kloos

Most Likely to Paint Themselves Green  
(Most school spirit)  
Morgan Anderson and Matthew Klein

*How have you changed throughout the years?*

*"I have learned to enjoy life more and take more risks."*

*-Senior Brittany Ragan*



*We've got spirit, how 'bout you?*



1) **Make them dodge.** During the Third Annual Dodgeball Tournament, seniors Brandon Walters, Sean Spiker and Seth Dye get ready to throw balls at the other team. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) **This will explode.** During a chemistry lab, senior Joshua Johnson constructs a rocket. "It was a blast," Johnson said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) **Let's go team...** Seniors Sarah Parkhouse, Emelia Farhman and Kayla Burns cheer on the football team during the first home game of the year. (Photo by Abby Paul)



Three cheers for WF!



Brandy Bergh



James Broton



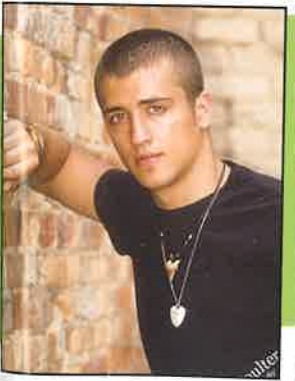
Kayla Burns



Lucas Bergquist



Jamila Brown



Zachary Busche



Ashley Carlholm



Peter Berthelsen



Nathan Brown



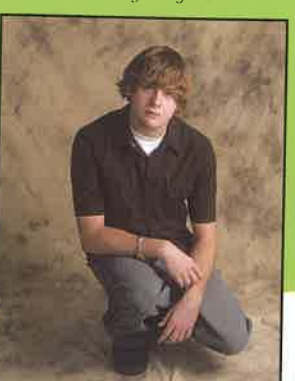
Cinder Buzick



Jason Cariveau



Chelsey Beyer



Cristoffer Bruce



Megan Byzewski



Jessica Charging



Cody Blair



Brandon Bucholz



Jennifer Capouch



Tara Christiansen



Heather Bohn



Amanda Bullis



Natalia Cardenas



Kelli Clark

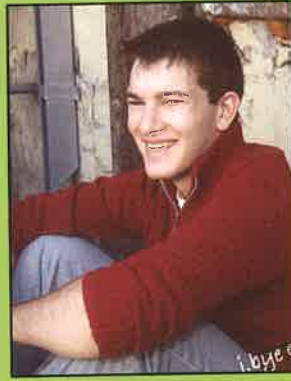
*What are you looking forward to in the future?*

"I'm looking forward to having more independence and having a family and career."

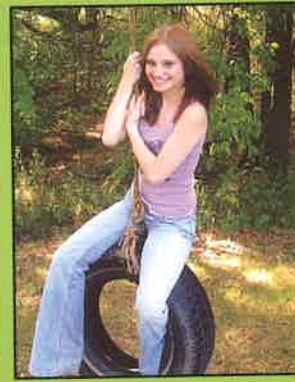
-Senior Sara Dell



Adam Cody



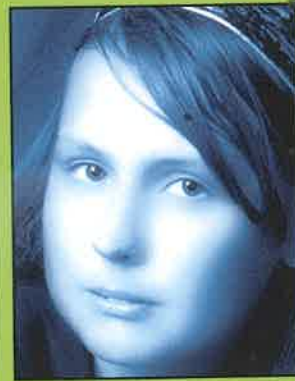
Joseph Connor



Sara Conrad



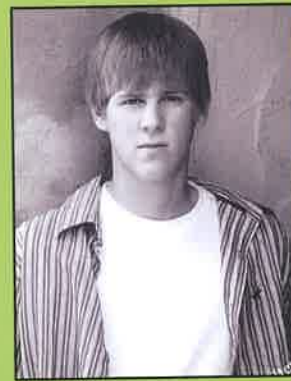
Christopher Cook



Ann Corneliussen



Stephanie Cossette



Adam Crist



Jade Cuffe



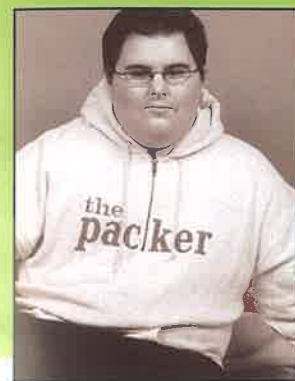
Kayla Cummings



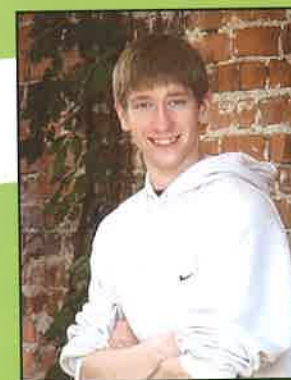
Stephanie Cwikla



Jerad Daul



Derek Davis



Kurt Davison



Timothy De Forge



Sara Dell



Amanda Dirks



Jason Dockter



Desiree Draeger



Tracy Dvorak



Jessica Eckroth



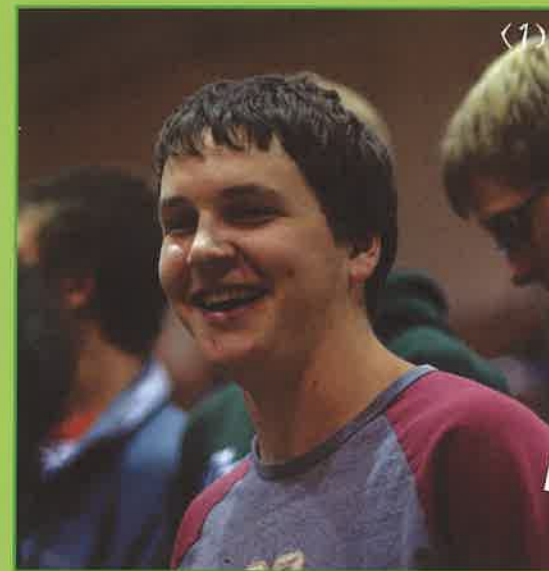
Ruth Ehike



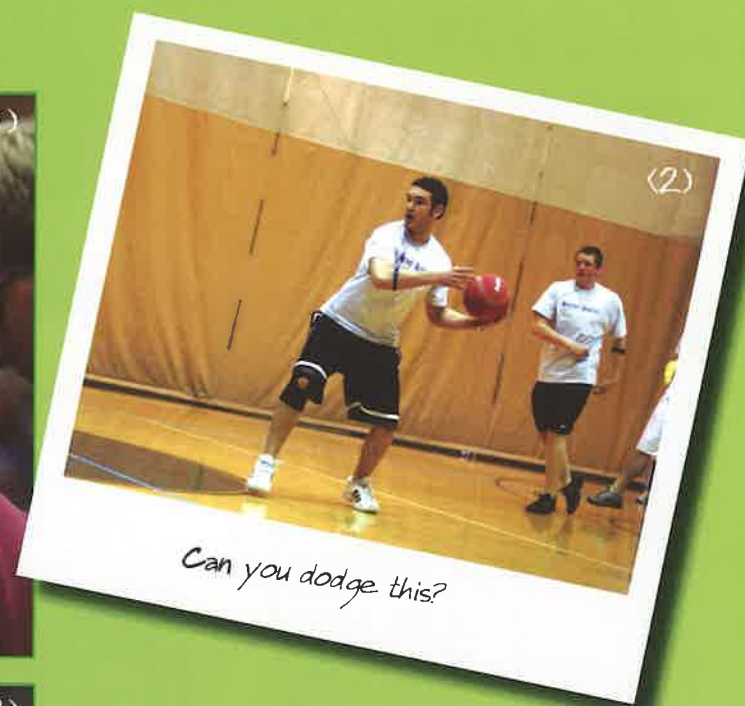
Brianna Ehrenberg



Ashley Ekstrom



(1)



(2)

Can you dodge this?



(3)

- 1) Smiling away... While at a volleyball game, senior Sam Lancot poses for the camera. "It's a fun competition of talent," Lancot said. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)
- 2) I'm gonna get you... Senior Curtis Hensley throws a dodgeball toward his opponents at the Third Annual Dodgeball Tournament. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 3) Give a clap... Supporting the football players at a home game, seniors Jessica Wilkens and Megan Schwartz cheer from the stands. (Photo by Abby Paul)

## Sweet, sweet eighteen

### Seniors take on 'adult' challenges

Coins are jingling, people are celebrating, and slot machines are roaring; the casino is one place a normal high school student would not be found, but for seniors turning 18 it is a new location to find fun.

Becoming an 'adult' is something seniors go through in their last year of high school, and although there are a lot of new things they get to experience, there are also many new responsibilities that go along with it.

It is true students are able to do many more activities when they turn 18, but they also have to own up to what they do wrong and pay for bills.

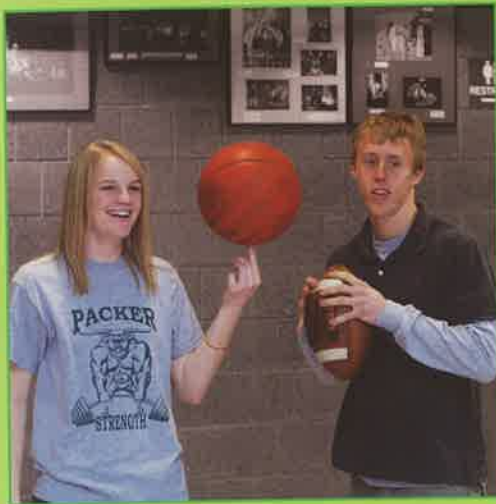
Choosing what to do for a birthday party is usually hard because there is a very limited amount of things to do and places to go. New doors are now open and people are taking advantage of them. "When I turned 18 I went to Canada with my friends and I'm excited to be able to go to the casinos and gamble too," senior Haley Gorby said.

Despite these great advantages, some people are not quite as eager to turn 18. Being considered an 'adult' has its downside because getting in trouble with the law entails greater consequences. "Getting minors isn't a huge deal when you're younger because it gets cleared when you turn 18, but now you have to watch what you do," senior Matthew Sanders said.

Another disadvantage many people face is becoming financially responsible for themselves. "When I graduate I have to start paying rent if I continue to live at home," senior Kyle Panek said.

Becoming an 'adult' has its ups and downs. It creates many more opportunities for people to enjoy themselves, however it also brings about many new tasks that did not have to be dealt with before. In the end, the glass can be half full or half empty, but either way somebody has to drink it.

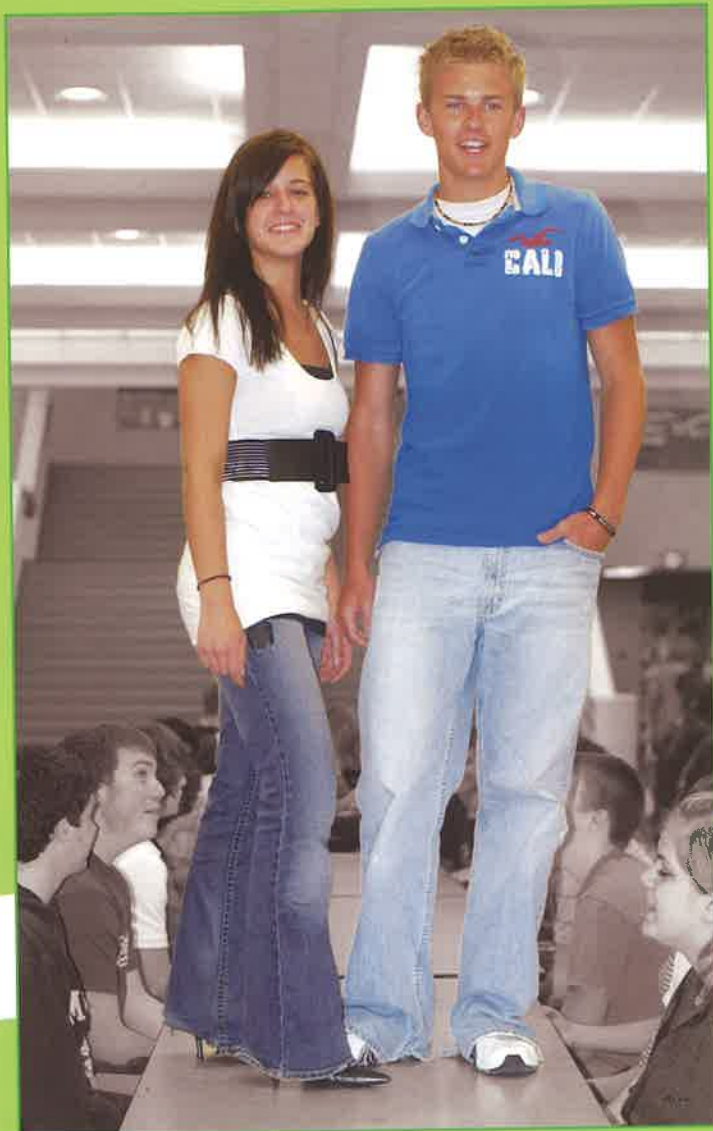
-Danielle Mehus



Most Likely to Go Pro:  
(Most athletic)  
Jojo Haerter and Rob Gibson

Most Likely to Dress to Impress:  
(Best dressed)  
Ashley Helm and Kyle Poirier

Most Likely to be the Life of the Party:  
(Most outgoing)  
Ellen Vaagen and Seth Houkom



Sarah English



Ashley Falstad



Chelsie Fuss



Bruce Erdmann



Kelsie Feickert



Alexandra Gamache



Samantha Gibson.



Elizabeth Erickson



Justin Feist



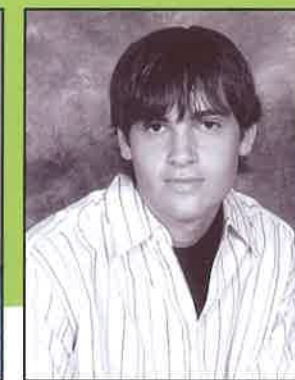
Anthony Gatto



Kira Gilbraith



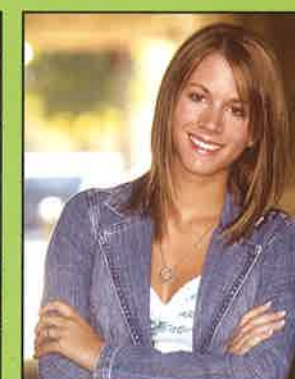
Taylor Erickson



Zachary Fink



Sara Gatto



Haley Gorby



Jennifer Ertelt



Matthew Flanagin



Lindsey Gianakos



Hannah Grady



Emelia Fahrman



Ashley Fournier



Rob Gibson

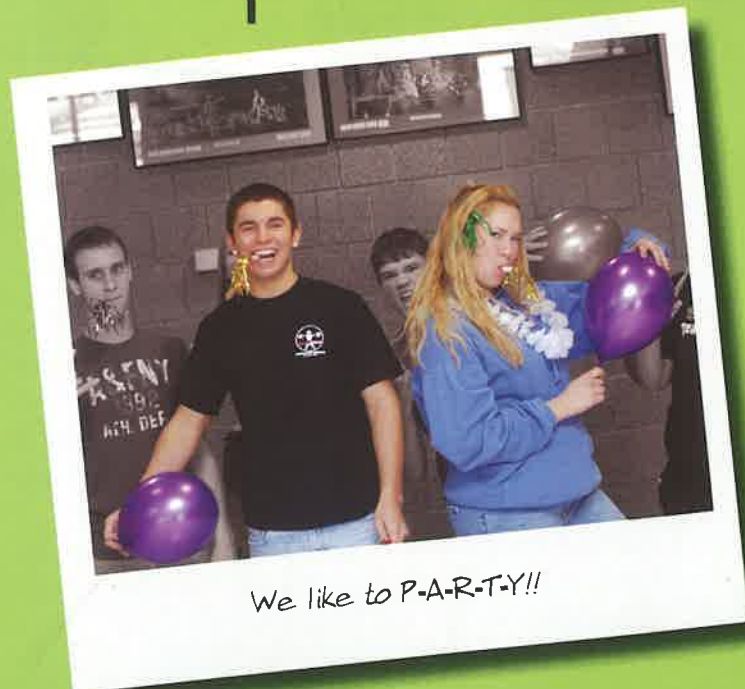


Dylan Grant

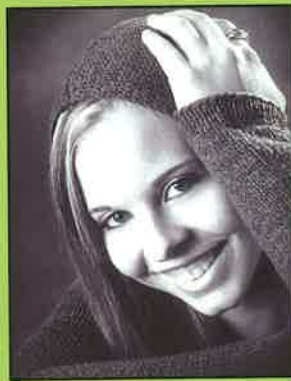
What is the best part about being a senior?

"That we don't have to come to school next year."

-Senior Chris Cook



We like to P-A-R-T-Y!!



Heather Gray



Tyler Greshik



Justin Gronbeck



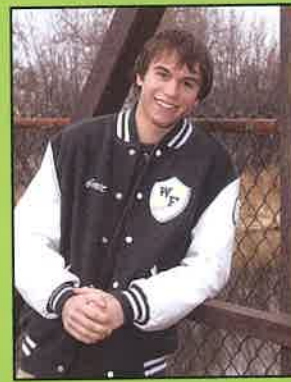
Travis Grosche



Eric Haarsager



Sawisan Habib



Gerrit Haerter



Johanna Haerter



Timothy Hagel



Nicholas Hanson



Blaze Harmon



Marissa Harsch



Michelle Harviell



Christine Hasse



Christina Hawley



Brian Heinz



Ashley Helm



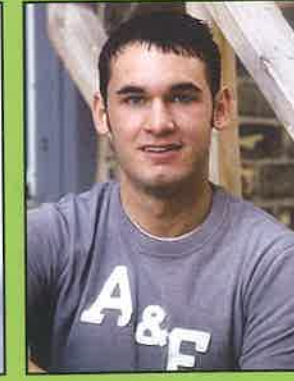
Starla Helmer



Chelsea Henderson



Lacey Henningsen



Curtis Henlsey



Jessica Hermanson



Rachael Hillerson



1) That's loud... Seniors Necedá Nohrenberg and Marie Mueller plug their ears, trying not to hear the sound of a rocket during a chemistry lab. "The rocket lab was exciting because of the loud noises," Mueller said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) This looks good... At a bake sale, seniors Marie Miller and Tiffany Irving sell some homemade goods. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Photo finish... Junior James Landford and senior Christopher Smykowski end a close race through the Marines' obstacle course in gym class. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

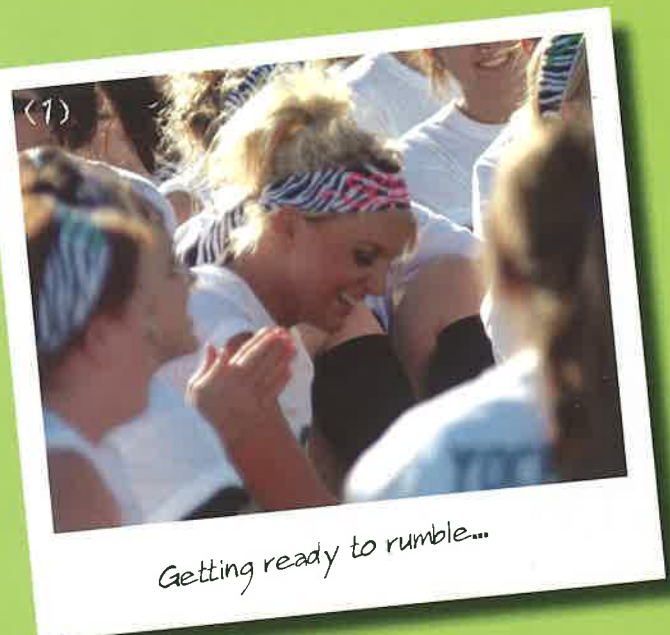


Inflatable fun...

*What's the craziest thing you have done in high school?*

"The time my boy Mike Tintes and I stole all his lightbulbs from his house, or when we tried to make a rocket-powered scooter."

-Senior Peter Lavelle



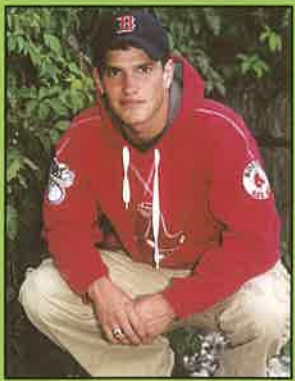
Getting ready to rumble...



Alyson Holland



Ashley Holm



Cole Horsager



Seth Houkom



Robert Huber



Jennifer Huether

1) That's what I'm talkin' 'bout... Senior Brandy Burgh has a laugh as the Powder-puff girls listen to their coaches' pep talk. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) No kidding... Laughing at layout night, junior Lindsay Kloos and senior Kira Gilbraith discuss the book. "Layout nights can be stressful, but they are worth the time and effort that we put into them," Gilbraith said. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)

3) We dominate... Swimming captains seniors Kelsey Schoonhoven, Alyson Holland, Christina Hawley and Lindsay Wangler tell the fall pep rally crowd about their season. (Photo by Abby Paul)



Ashlea Huseby



Alyssa Illich



Tiffany Irving



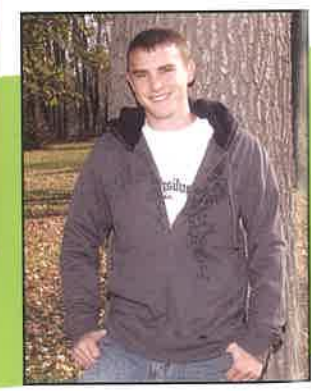
Tiffany Jacob



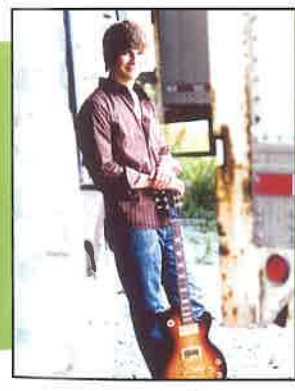
Alison Jenson



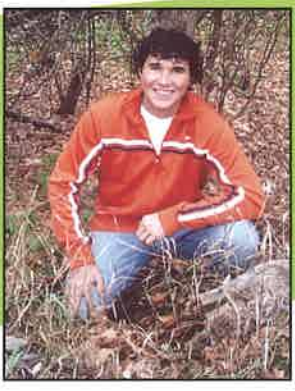
Jessica John



Casey Johnson



Darin Johnson



Joshua Johnson



Michael Johnson



Rachel Johnson



Kendra Joyce

# Beginning of something new

## Seniors 'lasts' come closer

Last homecoming, last football game, last time walking through the halls as a high school student. All of these are things seniors will experience this year as they remember high school and look to the future.

High school is a big part of growing up and a student's life. When the time comes to leave high school, it can be scary. "I'm scared to leave, but excited for the independence that comes with [leaving]," senior Jessica Roth said.

Leaving high school can be difficult when realizing all the friends, teachers and events that will be left behind. "I will miss the people the most," senior Starla Helmer said. "You get used to them being around."

Roth is also afraid to leave her friends because she knows she might become distant from them. "I am scared of losing touch with my friends," Roth said.

As graduation approaches, the reality of going out into the "real world"

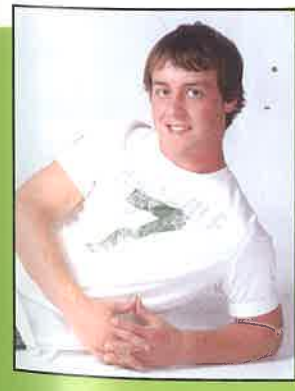
becomes more of a reality. "The scariest part of being a senior is realizing you are not a kid anymore," senior Caleb Simpson said.

Looking back, seniors have learned a lot, not only in classes but also about life. "If I could change one thing about high school, I would not worry so much about what people thought of me and get more involved," Roth said.

The time is coming closer for seniors to graduate and go out on their own. Although there are many fears, they are also excited. "I am glad it is almost over," Simpson said.

As all of the "lasts" come to an end and graduation becomes closer, seniors become scared about life after high school, but they are ready to move on and try something new.

-Kira Gilbraith



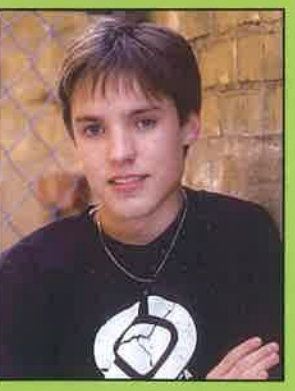
Patrick Joyce



Kayci Jung



Indira Karabegoic



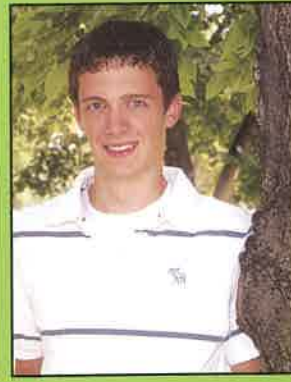
Samuel Karkela



Joseph Karvonen



Alex Kautz



Ross Keller



Whitney Kennedy



Dane Kersting



Rachael Kirchoffer



Danielle Kjaer



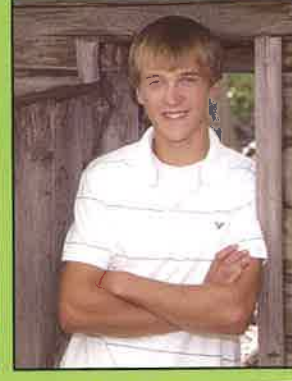
Matthew Klein



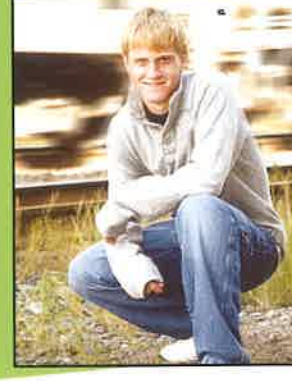
Zachariah Klein



Alexa Kleingartner



Matthew Klocke



Matthew Kloos



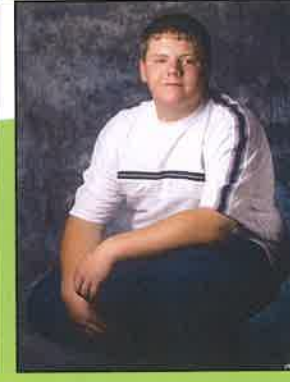
Sarah Koste



Brandon Kracht



Samantha Krumwiede



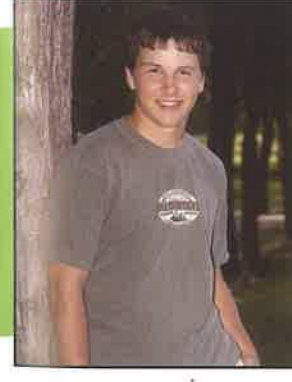
Travis Kuchenbecker



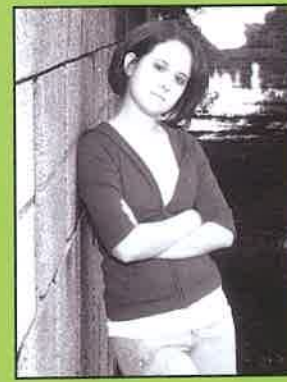
Amanda Kunze



Tallal Lafta



Samuel Lanctot



Breanna Langston



Peter Lavelle



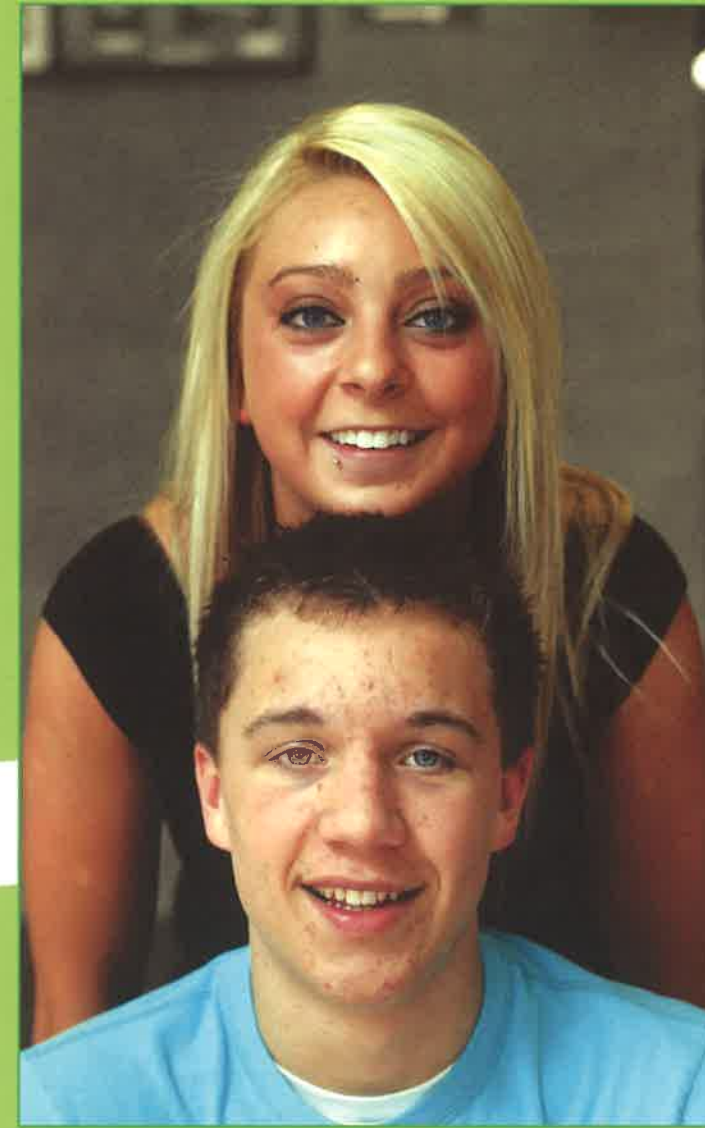
Alex Lee



Ashley Lee



Samantha Leno



Most Likely to Star in an Orbit Commercial:  
(Best smile)  
Jessica Wilkens and Alex Olson

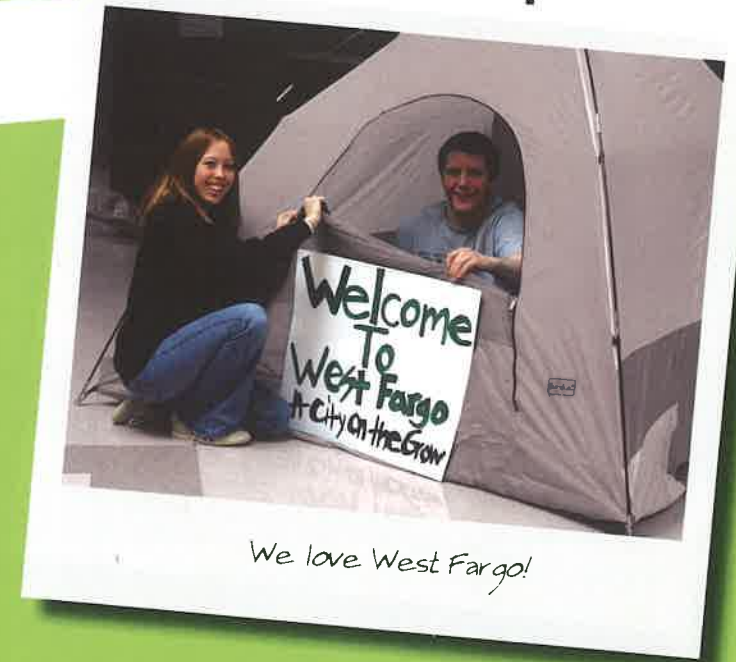
Most Likely to Model Contacts  
(Best eyes)  
Ashlynn Sylvester and Casey McGarry

Most Likely to Never Move Away:  
(Live in West Fargo forever)  
Kelli Clark and Bruce Erdmann

What teacher influenced you the most?

"Mr. [Michael] Preston influenced me the most. He instilled a sense of responsibility and really made learning enjoyable."

-Senior Peter Quinn



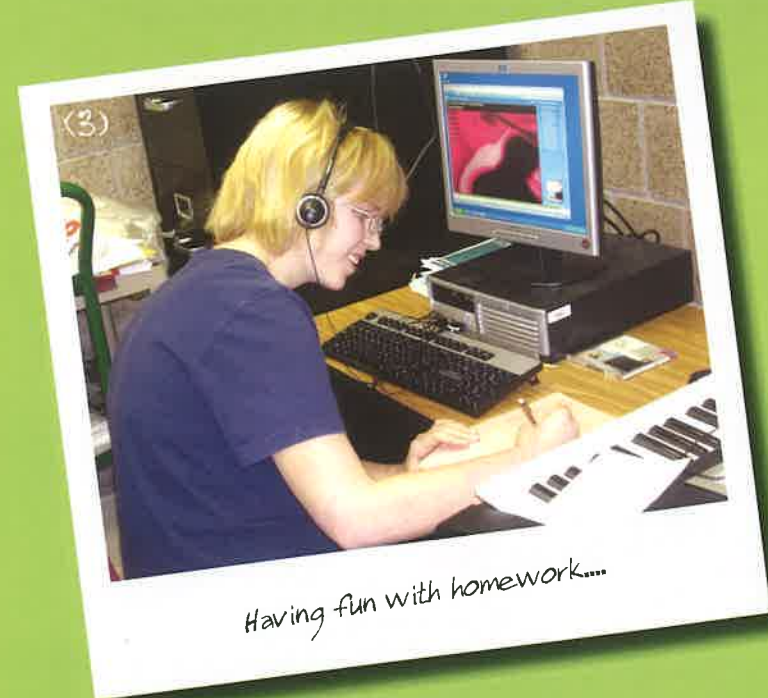
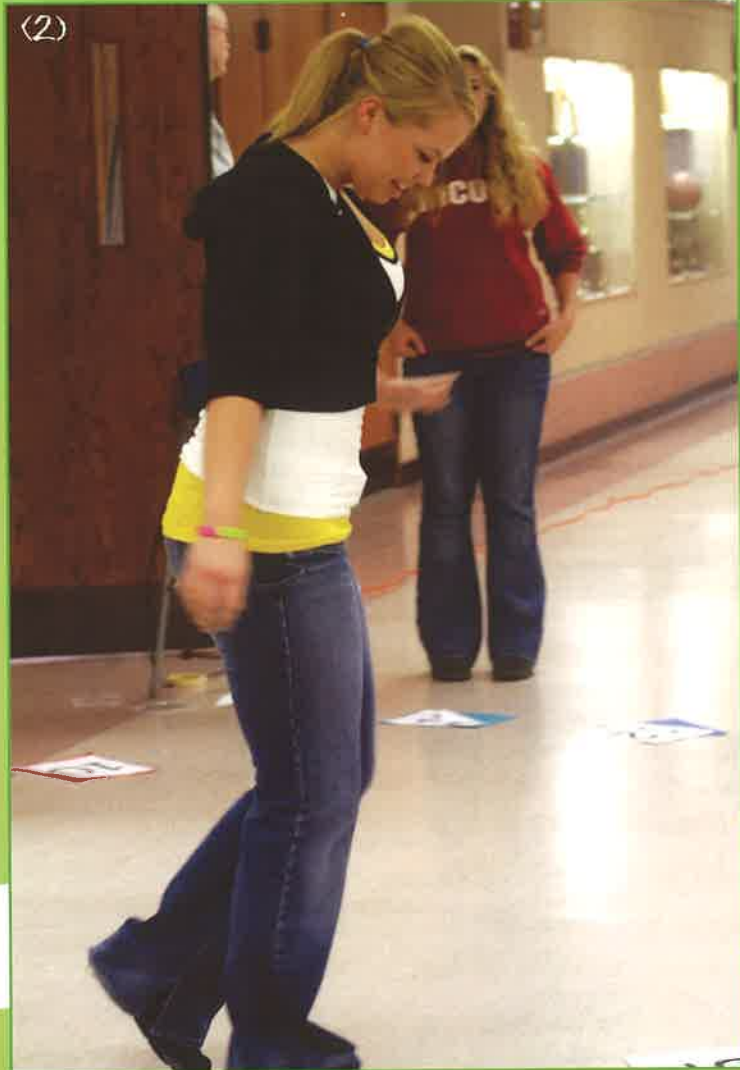
We love West Fargo!



1) Wrap those bars... Seniors Sabrina Swanson and Sara Spothun wrap candy bars for a newspaper fundraiser. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

2) Move to the beat... During the cupcake walk sponsored by Student Council, senior Jessica John dances around the circle, hoping for a treat. "Who wouldn't walk when cupcakes are involved?" John said. "Honestly." (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Keeping with the beat... Senior Kelly Arnold works on an assignment for her choir class with some interactive software. (Photo by Jill Uter)



Having fun with homework....



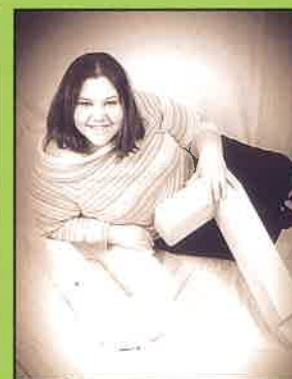
Kathren Lewis



Bradley Lindblad



Ashley Link



Kimberly Linton



Jennifer Lipp



Brandon Lisburg



Emilie Lisburg



Nicole Litzinger



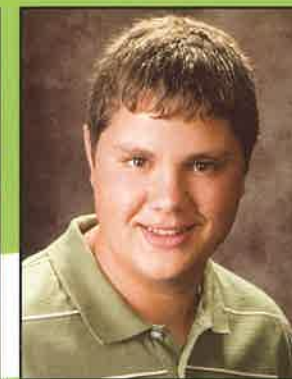
Grace Lucia



Jennifer Lundberg



Nicole Lynch



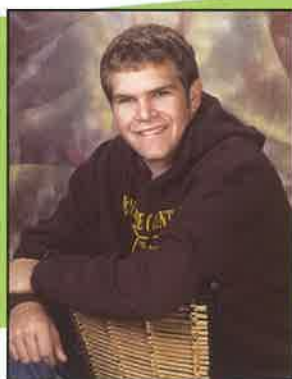
Jamil Maleki



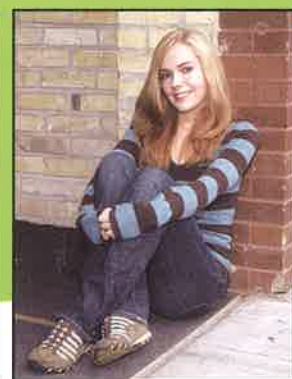
Megan Mallett



Karee Marquart



Joshua Martinez



Jessica McClellan



Allyson McDonald



Amanda McDonald

## What advice do you have for the underclassmen?

"My advice is to respect the upperclassmen. You might learn a thing or two."

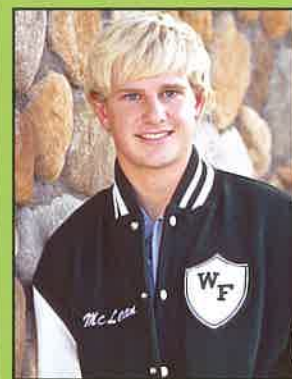
-Senior Jerad Daul



Casey McGarry



Justin McLane



Kevin McLean



Kelsey Meade



Kyleigh Mears



Ashley Meehan



Danielle Mehus



Amanda Mickelson



Jacob Miller



Marie Miller



Kylie Mitchell



Candice Mogard



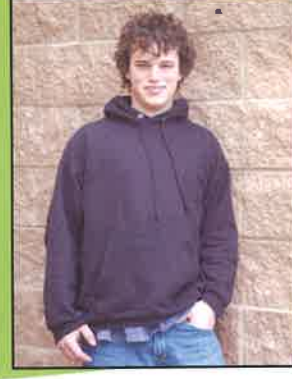
Bashir Mohamud



Mitchell Molstad



Dustin Monson



Eric Monson



Sara Morrison



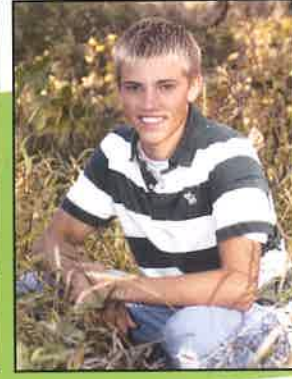
Ashlee Morrow



Marie Mueller



Stephanie Myers



Adam Nelson



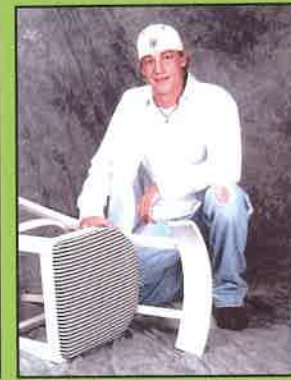
Cassey Nelson



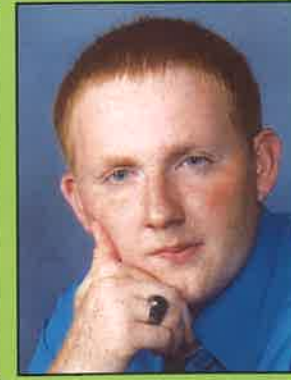
Jessica Nelson



Joslin Nelson



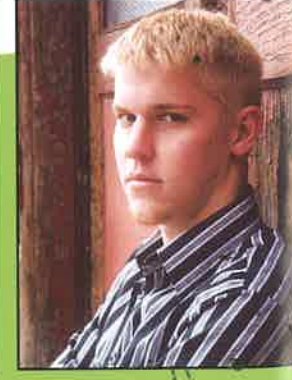
Alex Ness



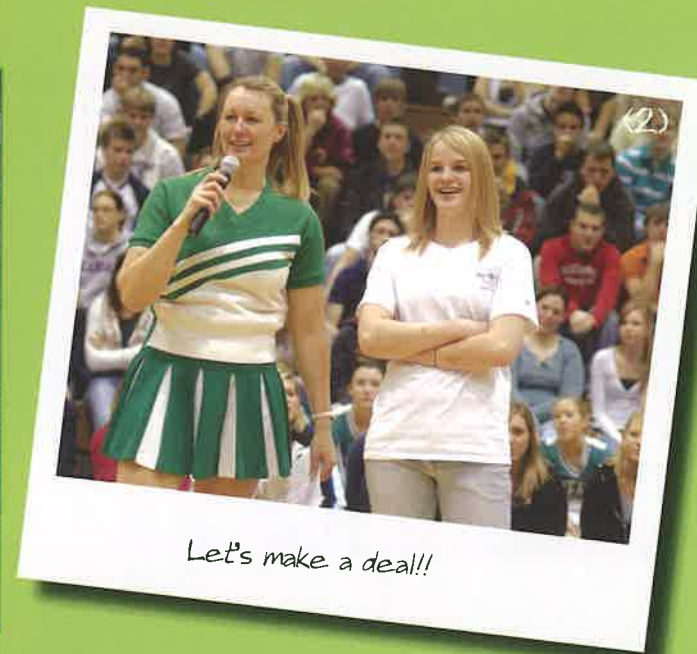
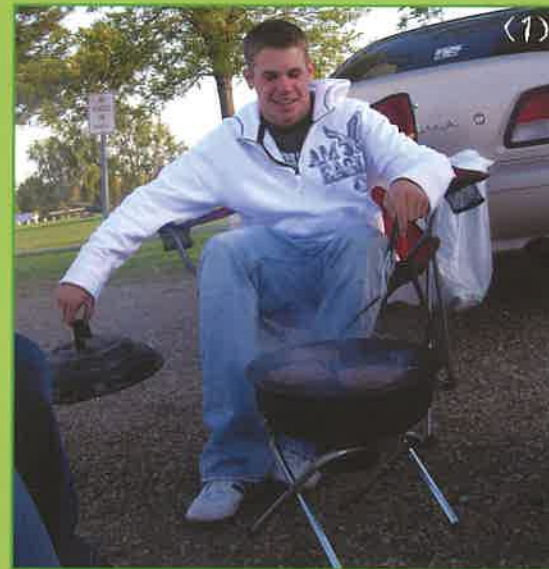
Andrew Nicholson



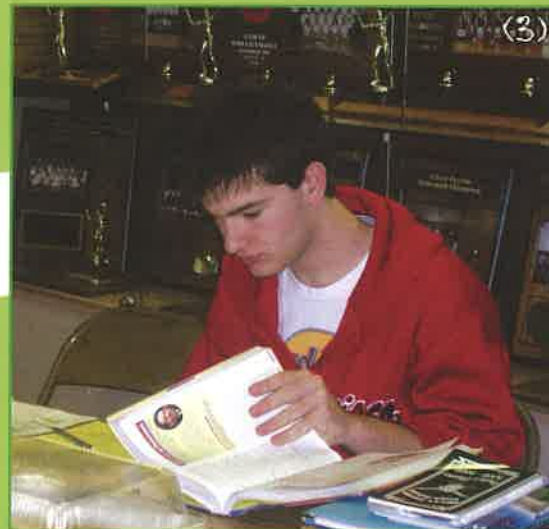
Brent Nielson



Isaiah Nielson



Let's make a deal!!



1) It's steamy hot... While tailgating during an away game in Wahpeton, senior Justin Rheault waits for his burger to get done cooking. "The burgers were kind of gross, but tailgating was fun," Rheault said. (Photo by Ashley Helm)

2) What's it gonna be... English teacher Lynette Mund and senior Johanna Haerter discuss Haerter's choice for the "Deal or No Deal" contest at the winter pep rally. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Where is the answer? Catching up on some studying, senior Joseph Connor looks up a few answers. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

# Memories stay, people go

## Seniors go separate ways

"We'll be best friends forever and ever." Susie says to Mary on graduation day. Those words seem to be said among many seniors this year. The students would all like to remain best friends with their buddies after high school, but the reality is they will all be going their separate ways.

Many seniors plan on going to a college that is not in the Fargo-Moorhead area. They want to have freedom and experience college on their own. "I'm planning on attending UND and rooming with my best friend," senior Casey McGarry said. Even though some students may not be close to home, many plan to be with their best friends.

On the other hand, not everybody stays in touch with their best friends, which can be hard. Everyone says they plan to put a lot of effort into their friendships after high school, but that is not always what happens. "I still stay in touch with a few of my close friends from high school but not with

my very best friend from the third grade," English teacher Toni Nelson said.

In the end, everyone would like to be together again, but it may take more than just a phone call to keep a great friendship going. "I plan on putting as much effort into my high school friendships as I possibly can once I start college, but I know I will hopefully see everyone again at our ten year reunion," senior Sara Dell said.

Sure, seniors may be telling their best friends right now that he/she is going to be in their wedding, but after they graduate, they will all be going their separate ways. Even though the seniors may be miles apart, the memories will keep them coming back for more.

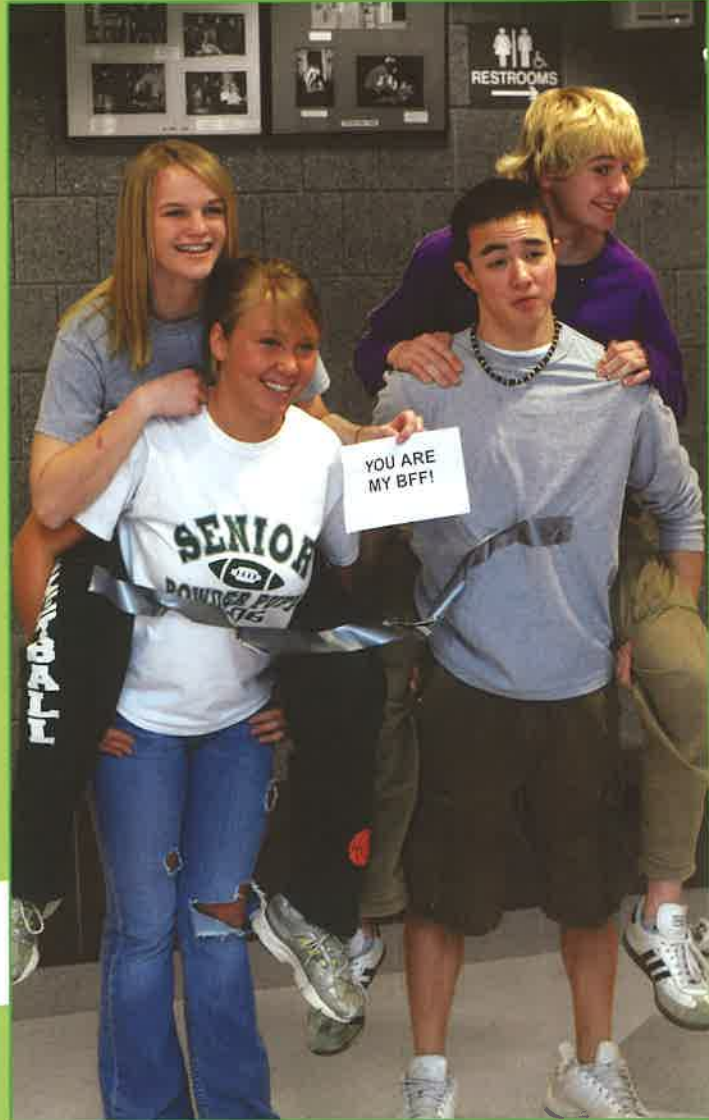
-Kayla Burns



Most Likely to Start a Fight  
(Most cocky)  
Ashley Falstad and Cole Horseager

Most Likely to be Friends Forever  
(Best friends)  
Johanna Haerter and Amanda Dirks  
Kevin McLean and Nathan Saye

Most Likely to Never Stop Talking  
(Most talkative)  
Tiffany Badmeier and Curtis Hershey



Shut the mouth!



Kallista Nilson



Serge Nzepa



Cole Palloch



Neceda Nohrenberg



Jamie Odden



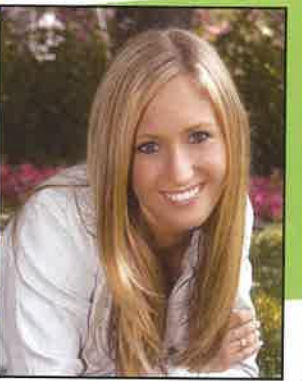
Kyle Panek



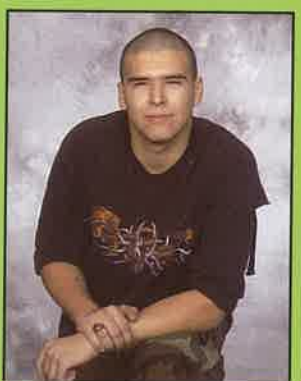
Aron Norem



Zachary Odegard



Sarah Parkhouse



Eric Novacek



Alex Olson



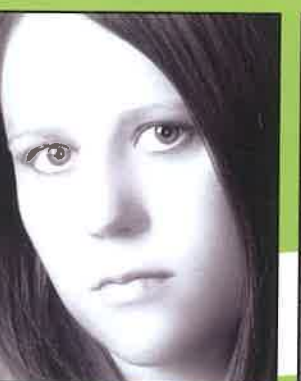
Melissa Parsons



Haley Nudell



Breanna Olson



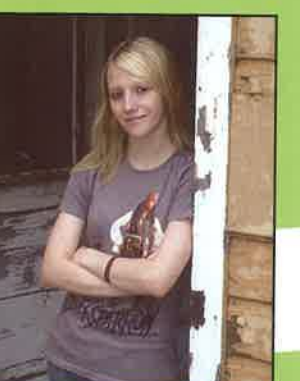
Kassandra Jo Patton



Thomas Nygren



Sadie Olson



Tiffany Peihl



Christopher Perala



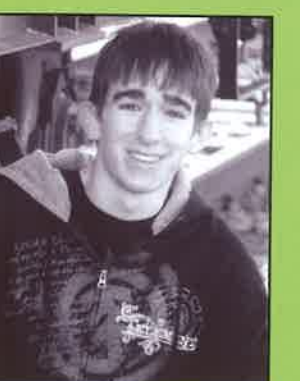
Samuel Pilch



Kyle Poirier



Jenna Poppenhagen



Devin Power

What do you expect to see at your 20 year reunion?

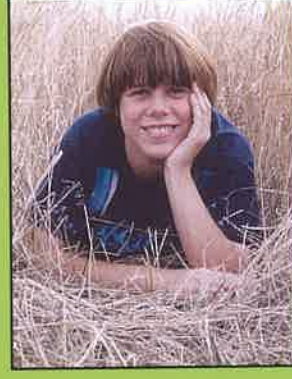
"I think it would be cool if everything flopped and it was all the opposite of what it is now."  
-Senior Kelli Clark



Kyle Prashek



Matthew Punton



Ashley Quast



Kendra Quast



Peter Quinn



Corey Raethz



Brittany Ragan



Joshua Randall



Aaron Redenius



Kari Remmen



Justin Rheault



Amy Rogers



Evan Rolstad



Laura Ronning



Matthew Ronning



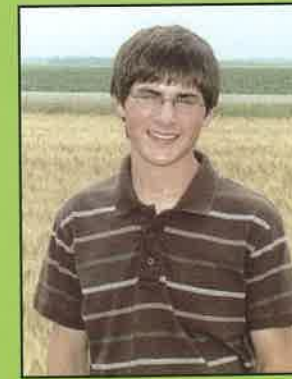
Jessica Roth



Melinda Rothhouse



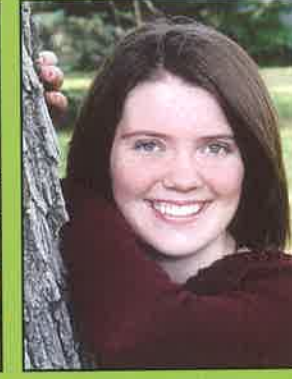
Zachary Rudlang



Adam Rutten



Ryan Salter



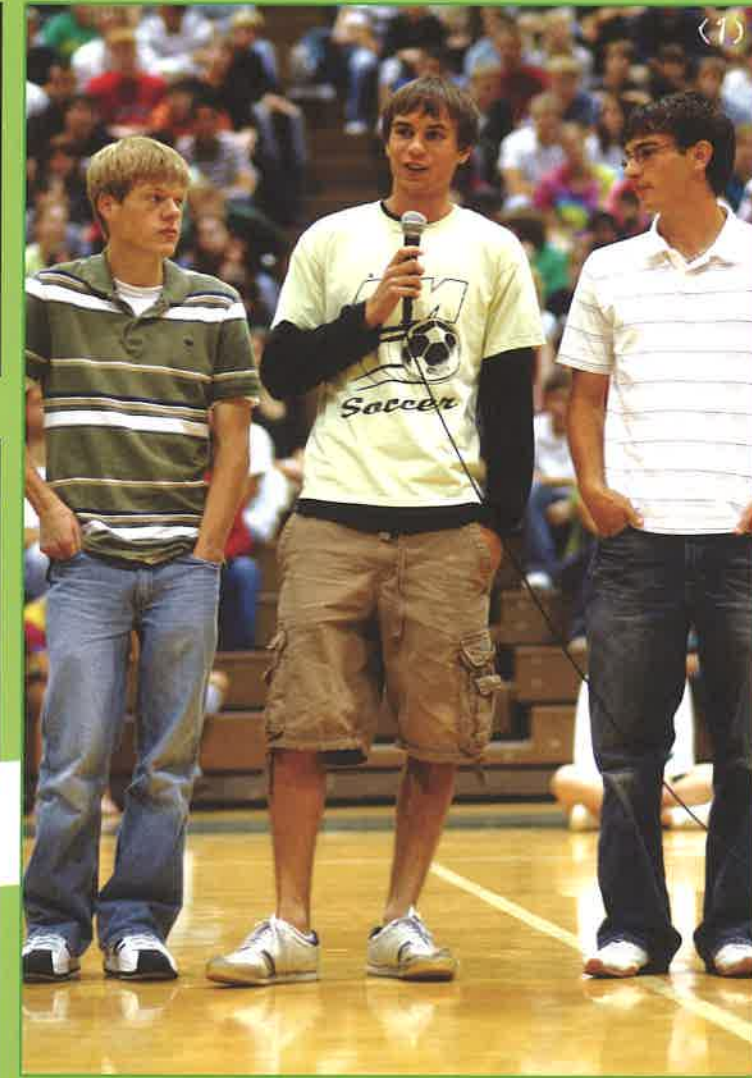
Andrea Samsten



Matthew Sanders



Tanya Sather



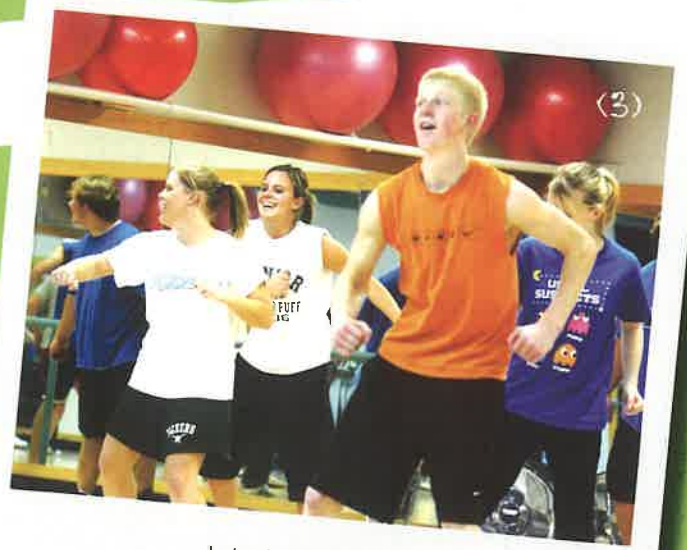
1) Here's the scoop... Senior soccer captains Ryan Salter, Gerrit Haerter and Aaron Redenius fill the crowd in on the boys soccer team during the fall pep rally. "It was fun just competing and getting together with my friends and stuff," Salter said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Battle of the beats... Showing off his "Guitar Hero" skills, senior Jared Walz landed himself the title of Guitar Hero winner twice this year. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)

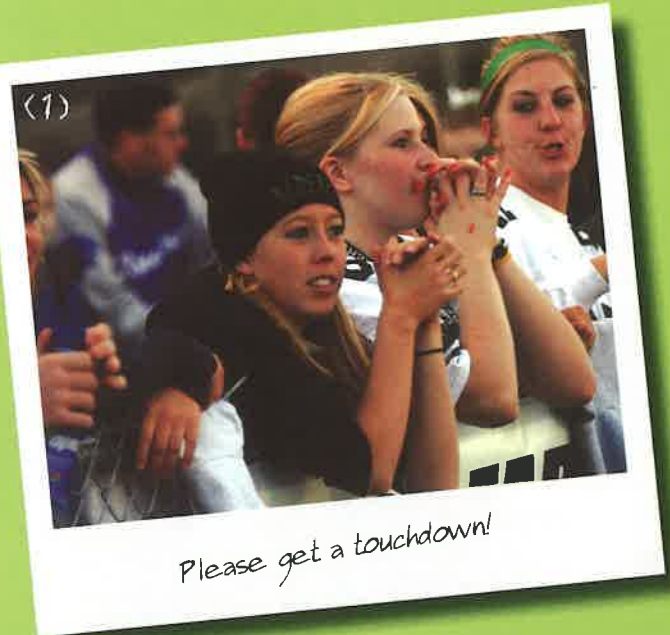
3) Hit right... Senior Matthew Sanders learns kickboxing with his classmates during a field trip for Food and Fitness. (Photo by Abby Paul)

What advice do you have for your fellow class of 2007?

"Work your hardest in everything you do, but don't forget to have fun."  
-Senior Emelia Farhman



Work it out...

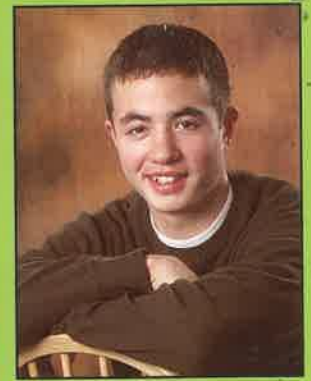
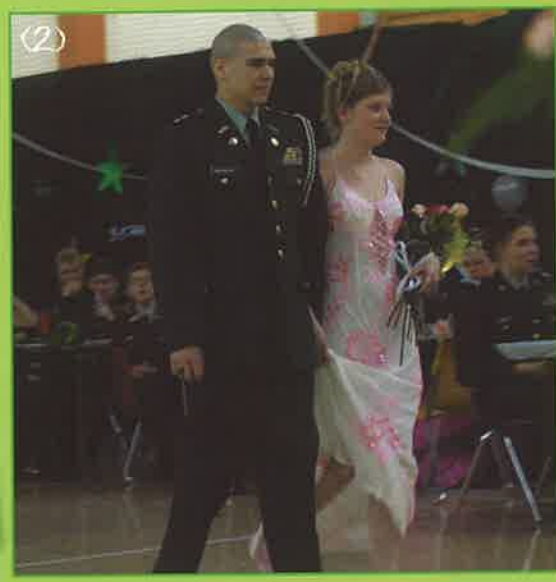


Please get a touchdown!

1) Ooo look... Seniors Kelli Clark and Jennifer Lundberg watch the football players at a home game.  
(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

2) Don't trip... Seniors Eric Novacek and Samantha Krumwiede make their way down the Looen gym for being "Cadet Joe and Jane" of the Military Ball. "I think the ball was better than Prom," Novacek said.  
(Photo by Sabrina Swanson)

3) Give them some love... English teacher Megan Gredesky and senior Jessica John cheer wildly for their favorite dodgeball team at Newspaper's Third Annual Dodgeball Tournament.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



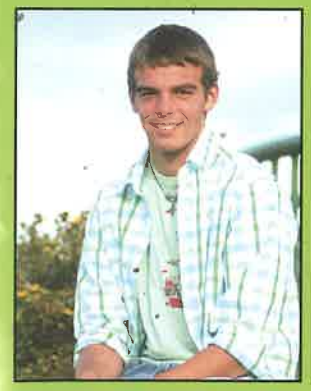
Nathanael Saye



Megan Schwartz



Sara Sjohun



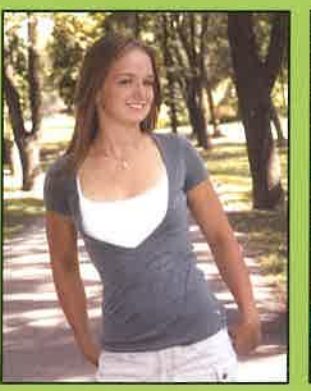
Brian Schiller



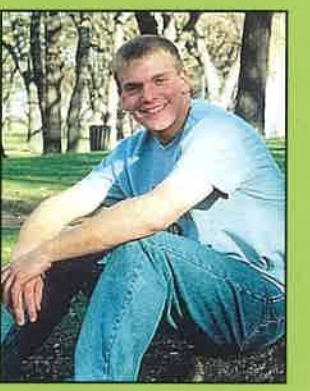
Grant Schmidt



Elizabeth Schmitz



Kelsey Schoonhoven



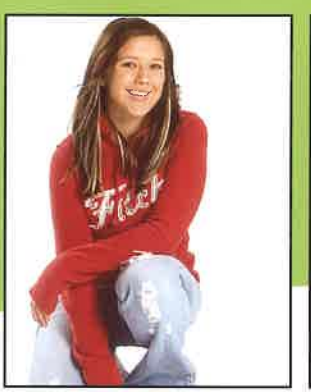
Mark Schultz



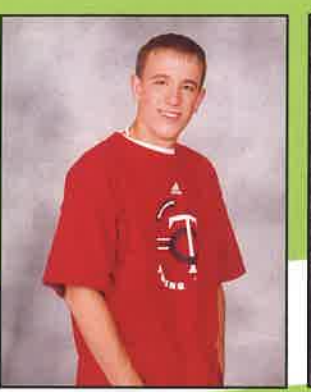
Jordan Schweitzer



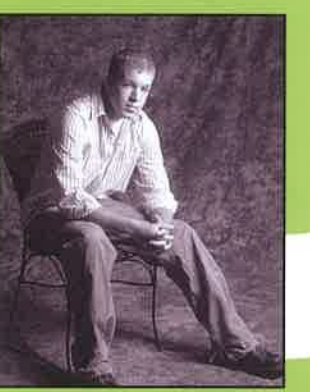
Matthew Setter



Sierra Shorman



Michael Simmons



Caleb Simpson



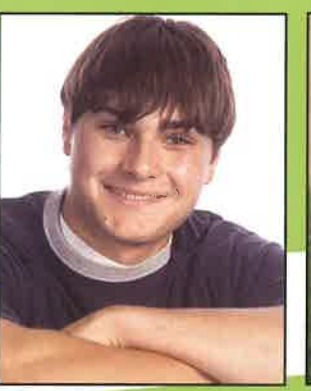
Jarrod Skoog



Christopher Smykowski



Pamela Soroba



Sean Spiker



Brittni Spitzer



Kelsey Stroh



Timothy Stulken



Brittany Summers



Sabrina Swanson



Ashtynn Sylvester

# Strangers become Friends

## Seniors grow closer

"In the end, my friend, we will all be together again..." Many seniors would agree that this quote, from O.A.R.'s song "City on Down", describes the way seniors feel throughout their final year.

Over the past four years most seniors would say their class, as a whole, has grown closer. "I believe we have grown closer because freshman year nobody really knew anyone, but now everyone gets along and can talk to everybody," senior Justin Rheault said.

While going through four years of high school, students have the option of becoming a part of many different organizations. Some students believe joining an organization is a great way to become closer with others. "It is great to get involved in clubs because it is a chance to meet more people who have similar interests as you do," senior Kylie Mitchell said.

Pep rallies show school spirit and have many games in which students participate as a grade level. Students, such as senior Sarah Parkhouse, think pep rallies bring students closer together. "I think pep rallies would be the one main event that has brought our senior class closer together because we are there **and together** as a whole," Parkhouse said.

As senior year comes to a close, walking across the stage and receiving a diploma is the second to last step a senior will take before going on his or her own path. As the memories with the whole class are running through their minds, they finally take the last step and throw their caps in the air to the last words, "Congratulations graduating class of 2007!"

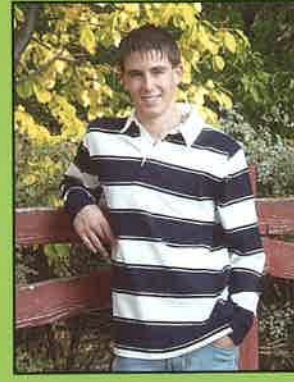
-Ashley Yochim



Levi Thene



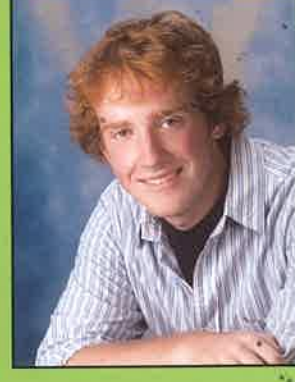
Alisia Thomas



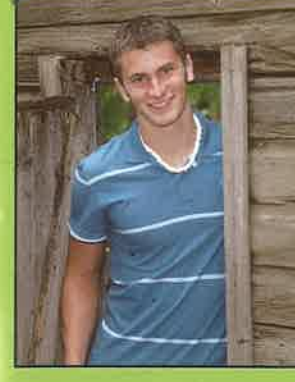
Nathan Thompson



Brady Thorson



David Tibbals



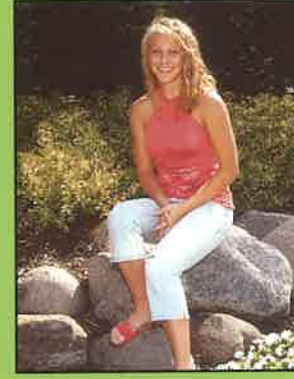
Christopher Urlaub



Heather Utke



Ellen Vaagen



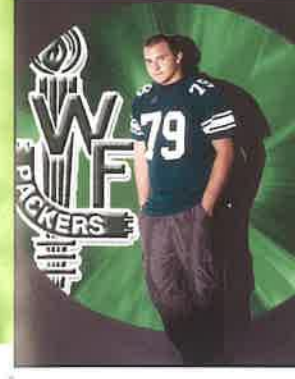
Mary-Michael Vance



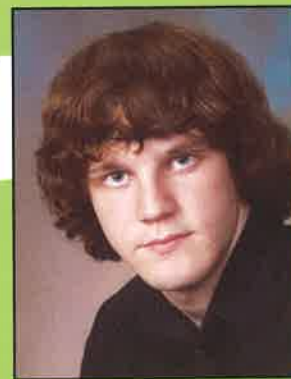
Rachel Vigen



Benjamin Walock



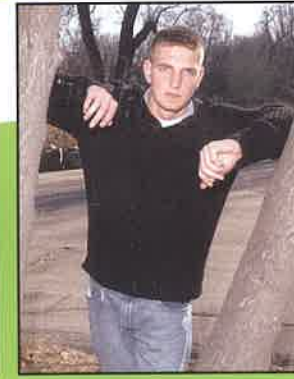
Brandon Walters



Jared Walz



Lindsay Wangler



Andrew Watne



Samantha Watson



Melinda Wendel



Jessica Wendt



Rachel Western



Julia Whittle



Ashley Wileman



Jessica Wilkens



Samantha Wohler



Most Likely to Become the Next Picasso:  
(Most artistic)  
Sarah Koste and Jason Dockter

Most Likely to Hit on You:  
(Most flirtatious)  
Paige Adams and Brian Albrecht

Most Likely to Become President:  
(Most successful)  
Aranda McDonald and Joseph Connor

What message would you like to leave your teachers?

"It was a fun four years and thanks for everything."

-Senior Casey McGarry



This is how we do it...



Most Likely to Make You Smile  
(Most friendly)  
Jessica John and Jason Carriveau

Most Likely to Tell You How it is  
(Most opinionated)  
Sarah English and James Broton

Most Likely to be on the Big Screen:  
(Best actor/actress)  
Julia Whittle and Timothy Stulken



Jennifer Wolff



Jordan Wolff



Ashley Yochim



Codie Zahradka



(1)

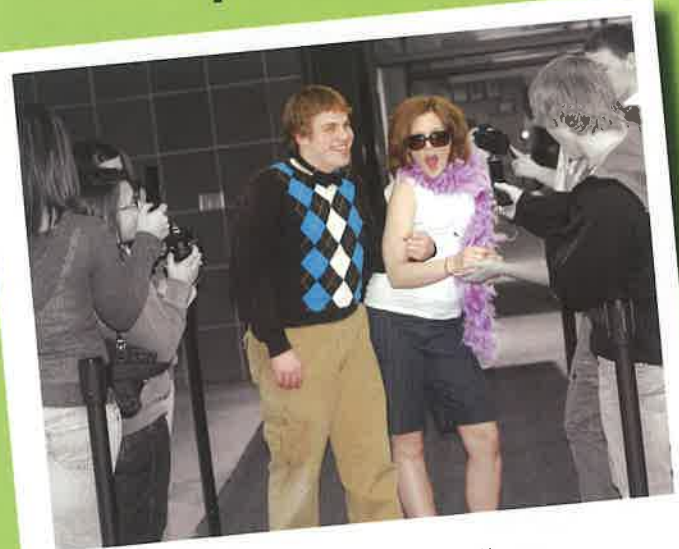
### Not Pictured

- |                    |                      |
|--------------------|----------------------|
| Kayla Borseth      | Yannick Pet Ngongang |
| Carl Clemens       | Christopher Obembe   |
| Dustin Engebretson | Nevzeta Ormanovic    |
| Chelsie Fuss       | Marcella Peyerl      |
| Dustin Halberg     | Dustin Pfeifle       |
| Aaron Hannestad    | Darren Spicer        |
| Rachael Hillerson  | Shaun Storley        |
| Dale Howell        | Nicolett Stromme     |
| Alyssa Jorgenson   | Miodrag Vukomanovic  |
| David Loebrick     | Lawson Weah          |
| Angela Loomis      | Allen Williams       |
| Pamela Melendez    | Masood Zuri          |
| Talon Mohammad     |                      |

*If you could do one thing over, what would it be?*

"I would've tried harder freshman year and taken slack classes my senior year."

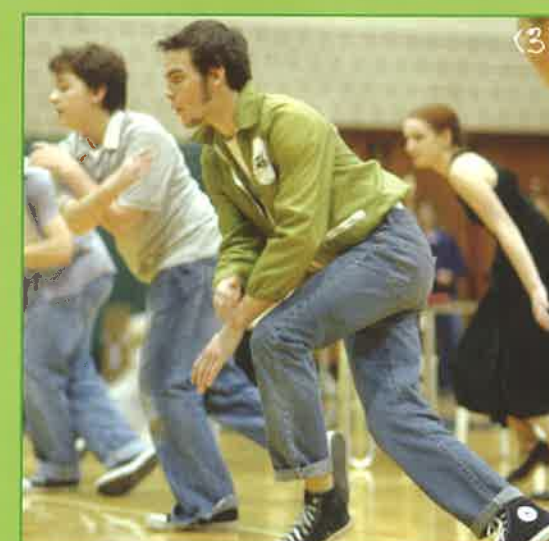
-Senior Ellen Vaagen



Strike a pose!!



(2)



(3)

1) What are you wearing? While joking around, seniors Amanda Dirks and Johanna Haerter laugh at each other's hats. "All the fun times I've had with my friends throughout high school will always be in my memory," Haerter said.

(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

2) His hands are tied. Aided by senior Ashley Helm, senior Broc Bellmore gets ready to begin the spaghetti eating contest at the fall pep rally.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Cool cats. Senior Brian Schiller plays Rif while performing the musical number "Cool" from drama's production of *West Side Story* at the winter pep rally.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

Our lives are before us, our past is behind us,  
but our memories are forever with us.

# Senior Class



Lisa Ackerman  
Kevin Ackley  
Lauren Adams  
Whitney Adams  
Joshua Addai  
Merema Ahmed



Dalton Alfstad  
Godfried Asa-Attuah  
Ernily Basch  
Jessica Ballou  
Shauntel Barnes  
Tanner Beauchamp



Nicholas Becher  
Jacob Bechtold  
Kyle Beck  
Cassandra Beckerleg  
Erin Behrmann  
Matthew Beilke



Kelsey Bergeron  
Hannah Berglund  
Eric Beyer  
Erin Binde  
Landry Boehm  
Nicholas Boll



Kaylee Bond  
Raina Bondy  
Allison Boutiette  
Tasha Breker  
Nicole Brokmeier  
Chantae Brown



Cody Brown  
Michael Brown  
Cassandra Bruggeman  
Kirsten Bubach  
Blaise Bucholz  
Alan Cassezza



Anthony Charbonneau  
Samuel Cheney  
Megan Chiodini  
Brandon Clark  
Marissa Cline  
Adam Cooper



Nicole Cowden  
Andrea Crary  
Justin Cronin  
Cydney Crowe  
Alexandra Crummy  
Emily Dahley



Cayla Dallmann  
Jacob Danielson  
Jeremy Daur  
Spencer Davis  
Ty Day  
Michael Delaney



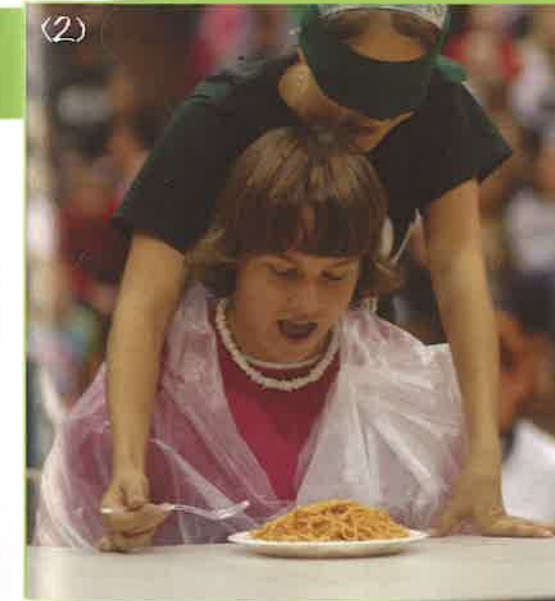
Chelsi Desotel  
Eric Dockter  
Sadie Doggett  
Regina Doll  
Samantha Dougherty  
Brock Drayton



John Deere green (and white)...

## What is the difference between girl and guy sports?

"Most guy sports have more physical contact, and girl sports practice more coordination."  
-Junior Mike Winge



1) We're number one... Junior Kyler Eid expresses his school spirit at a girls volleyball game. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

2) Yummy... Waiting for the OK to go, junior Brandon Millar prepares to eat his plate of spaghetti faster than the other contestants at the fall pep rally. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) She sells seashells... Sporting their West Fargo gear, senior Sarah English and junior Stevi Kinsella support the girls swim team at the EDC meet. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

Alison Dreher  
Jordan Dufault  
Seth Dye  
Kyler Eid  
Brady Elverud  
Sean Emerick



Phillip Engen  
Hawken Erickson  
Katrina Fahrman  
Eric Falde  
Tanner Farkas  
Jaden Fedora



Joshua Ferguson  
Maida Fikic  
Lacey Finck  
Karen Flesberg  
Nicholas Folkedahl  
Dylan Foss



Armand Foudjet Petnkeu  
Panta Francis  
Zachory Friesz  
Martin Fruehauf  
Aaron Fry  
Joshua Fry



Kirsten Gaulrapp  
Janet Gaylah  
Samantha Gehrig  
Glendon Gengel  
Kaycie Gerstner  
Kassandra Gierke



David Gilman  
Sara Giuliano  
Joseph Glarum  
Brittani Goldader  
Tory Graves  
Jamie Green



Jordan Greer  
Brock Gusaas  
Gretta Haagenson  
Brittany Haaland  
Katharina Haase  
Ronak Habib



Brittany Hagensen  
Andrew Hanson  
Kendra Harland  
Kevin Harris  
Matthew Harsch  
Emily Hartley



Steven Hay  
Daniel Hedstrom  
Eric Heiden  
Alexander Henderson  
Michelle Herman  
Abby Hestbeck



Tyler Hewson  
CJ Hoffart  
Jessica Holaday  
Jace Holm  
Dustin Holmes  
Chelsea Holmquist

## Upperclassmen Feeling empowered

### Status excites, pressures some

A clan of junior boys and girls walks confidently down the hall. In their walking path is a pack of young freshmen girls who are surrounding obviously the coolest guy in their grade. "Hey Mr. Cool," yells one of the junior boys to the young man, "take your groupie of girls and move out of our way!" The uprising feeling of being an upperclassman and feeling superior to the younger people at school enables him to shout this out.

Being an upperclassman can make students feel more powerful and mighty simply because they are older. "In the halls the kids seem scared because we are older and they will move out of the way to for us," junior TessAnna Rossow said.

Becoming older and climbing the ladder toward the top also means that juniors have more privileges than certain lower classes at school. "Being able

to have open campus now is awesome," junior Kyler Eid said.

Even though the feeling of superiority can be exciting and fulfilling, there are also certain feelings of pressure along with becoming a junior. "[There is more pressure] because of ACT testing we have to take and knowing that we have to grow up sooner than we think and move on to college," Rossow said.

Above all things, class unity is something that most juniors start to feel even before they move on to the senior year. "[Our class unity is] growing closer as a family. Being able to watch or play in the Powderpuff game brings us closer together I think," junior Michael Brown said.

As the young freshman boy realizes who is shouting at him to move, he immediately hurries out of the way. The clan of juniors proceeds to walk boldly down the hallway with confidence in their eyes.

-Jill Utter



1) She's a dancing diva. During the fall pep rally dance-off, junior Erin Behrmann strikes a pose in front of the judges to impress them with her stellar moves. Though she did not win, Behrmann made the junior class proud. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) I'll tattoo you. Sitting on the sidelines of a boys soccer game, juniors Rebecca Pegg and Jessica Holaday draw pictures on one another. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

Whitney Hoovestol  
Lacie Horton  
Alana Houkom  
Christopher Hulm  
Taylor Jackson  
Samuel Jacobs



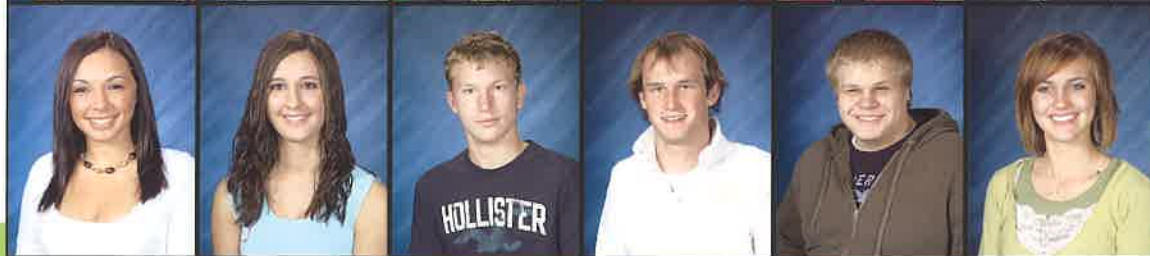
Jasmina Jaha  
Philip Jahnke  
John Jasken  
Austin Jensen  
Leah Jenson  
Kelby Jesz



Jordan Johnson  
Joseph Johnson  
Paul Johnson  
Haley Johnston  
Alyssa Jones  
James Jorgensen



Katie Kapel  
Indira Karabegovic  
Kyle Kastet  
Kirby Keller  
Tyler Kelly  
Abby Kiefer



Stevi Kinsella  
Austin Kinzler  
Lindsay Kloos  
Tyler Knapp  
Raymond Knutson  
Kelly Koenen



Cody Kopp  
Paige Kostelecky  
Levi Kouba  
Sadie Kraft  
William Krumwiede  
Nathan Kuik



Brandon Kummeth  
Brittany LaMont  
Eric Larson  
Tuyet Le  
Adam Lester  
Sasha Lettow



Brooke Lisburg  
Davin Loogering  
Tyler Lund  
Lex Lunde  
Festim Luzha  
Brian Maas



Tasha Maenza  
Samantha Magnus  
Tyler Martin  
Jared Martinson  
Kassandra Mastre  
Tyler Matthys



Rebecca Mattson  
Brandi McConnell  
Jena McIntyre  
Jennifer Merrick  
Joshua Mikkelsen  
Brandon Millar



## What do you think of our school rules?

"They are too strict, and we want backpacks, slippers and PJs."  
-Junior Gretta Haagenson



- 1) You guys are crazy... While sitting in the training room after school, junior Yuliya Soboleva laughs with all the other students. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 2) Time to decorate... Getting in the holiday spirit, junior Kelsey Bergeron decorates a Christmas tree at Waterford Retirement Home for Key Club. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 3) Never fear, Spiderwoman is here... Enjoying herself on Hero Day during Homecoming week, junior Kimberly Stulken practices rescuing in her Spiderman costume. (Photo by Abby Paul)

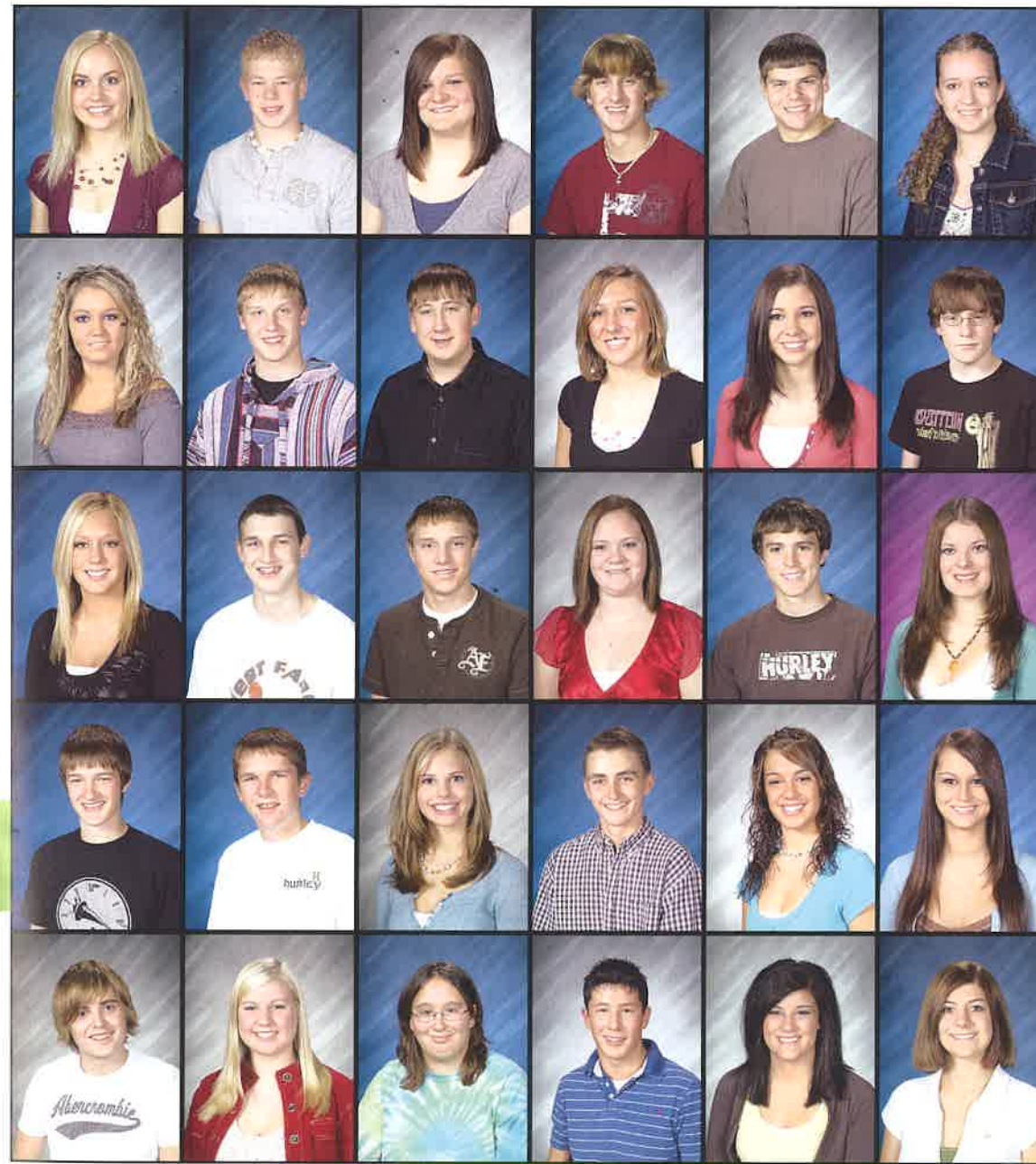
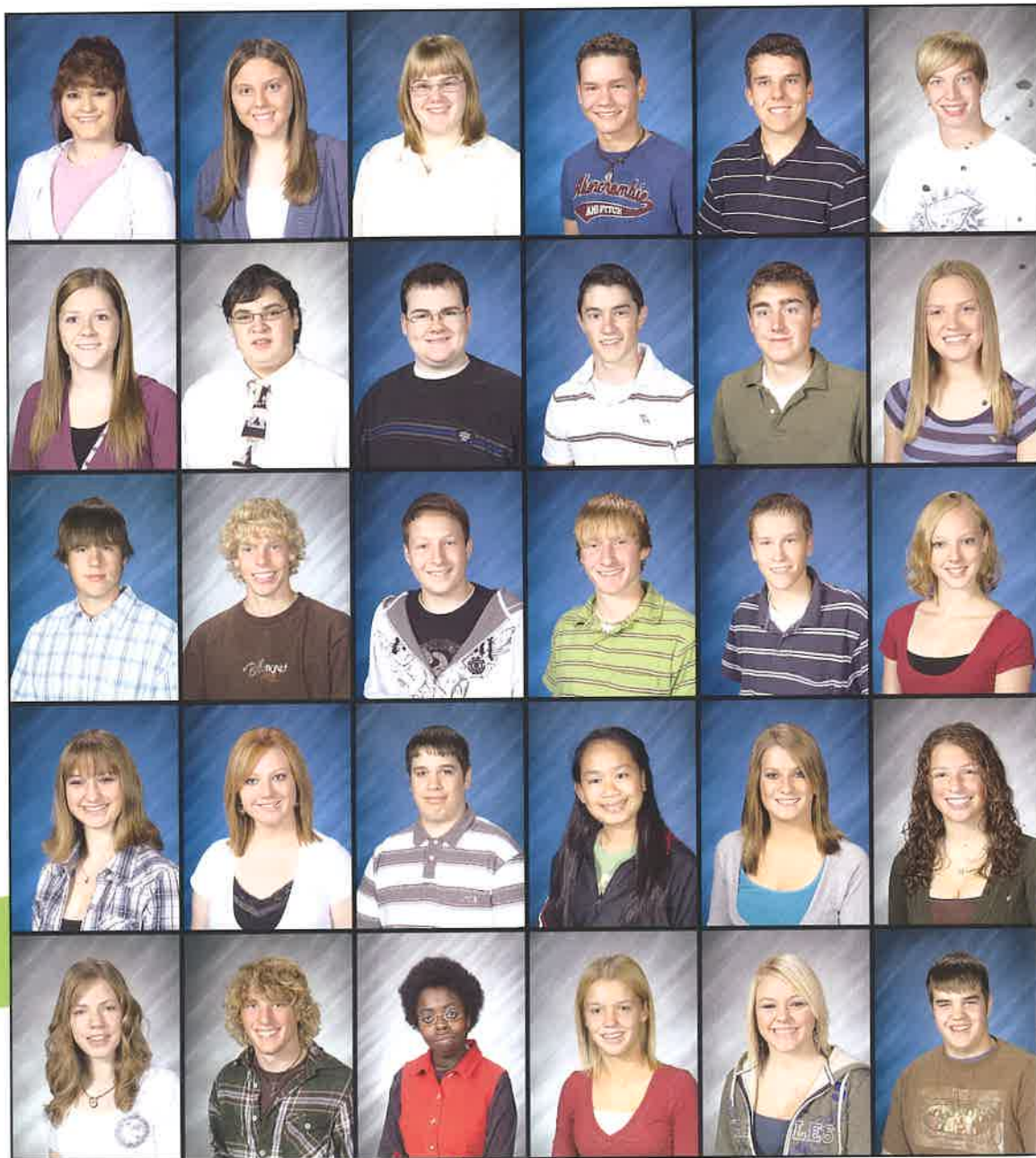
Ashley Miller  
Leah Miller  
Nichole Miller  
Ryan Mischel  
Michael Misialek  
Andrew Monson

Amanda Montgomery  
Matthew Morrison  
David Morrow  
Cody Mowry  
Thomas Mrozla  
Allison Muller

Bill Murray  
Brandon Nelson  
Keane Nelson  
Lane Nelson  
Lucas Nelson  
MaryJo Nelson

Natascha Nerud  
Samantha Netterville  
Timothy Newgren  
Kieu Nguyen  
Brittany Nicholson  
Maggi Nicholls

Brittany Nolan  
Jonathan Novacek  
Matilda Oberbe  
Amanda Olson  
Brooke Olson  
Tayler Olstad



Lynae Opdahl  
Anthony Owens  
Laura Paczkowski  
Kristopher Paisley  
Christopher Parsons  
Amanda Paulson

Melissa Paulson  
William Pedersen  
Corey Pederson  
Rebecca Pegg  
Tania Peters  
Joseph Pfeifer

Shelby Pickard  
Andre Pilch  
Jeremy Pistorius  
Ashley Pokrzywinski  
Matthew Pomey  
Hannah Potter

Michael Potter  
Peter Pranke  
Haylee Preebt  
Matthias Price  
Brianna Puhr  
Kasey Pulkrabek

Samuel Pulkrabek  
Melissa Pytlik  
Ashley Ragan  
Cameron Ramberg  
Jaclyn Rankin  
Breanna Ranzenberger

# Exchange students involved

## Soboleva joins volleyball team

Exciting, nerve-racking and a little overwhelming may be how junior Yuliya Soboleva feels coming to a different country.

Soboleva has joined the volleyball team to get more involved in an American sport and meet more people to try and feel more comfortable in her environment. "It has been good for her team," sophomore volleyball coach Angie Vetter said. "She makes everybody laugh and she is always teaching us words in Russian. Everybody loves her."

Being on the team has helped Soboleva meet new people and learn more about America. She has enjoyed playing volleyball, too. "It's exciting, and it makes my experience better," Soboleva said.

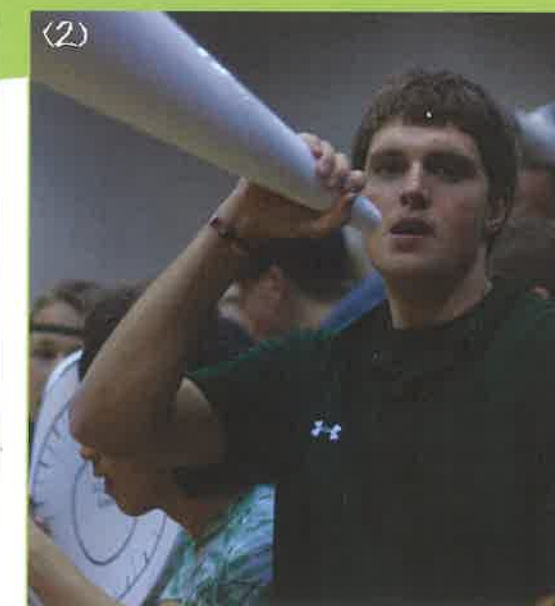
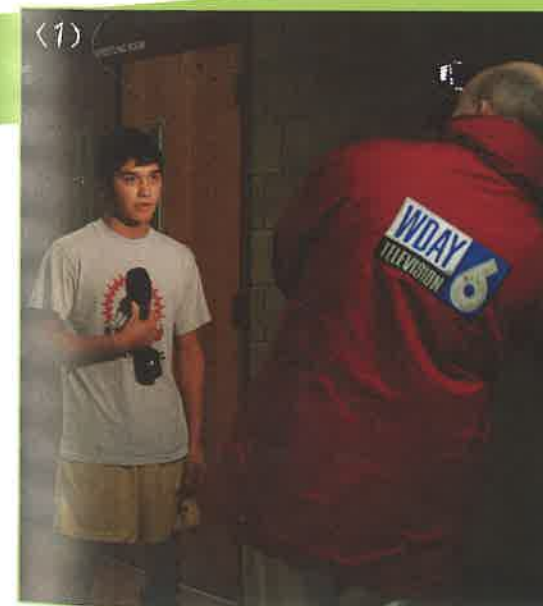
Sports are different in America than in Russia. "We just have physical

education. I joined because it's an experience, and I wanted to see how it works. I was interested."

Not only is it fun for Soboleva, but her teammates also like having her on the team. She makes things fun and makes everyone laugh. "It is interesting with her," sophomore Meghan Meyer said.

Even though it may have been a little intimidating in the beginning, Soboleva has had fun and it is all worth it in the end. Playing volleyball has made her experience better because she has met more people from being a part of the team. She likes being in activities to learn more about America and American people.

-Amanda Montgomery



1) Hello there. While getting interviewed by a WDAY news reporter in the hallway, junior Anthony Charbonneau talks about his wrestling expectations for the team this year. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Oh, hi. Junior Seth Dye stares into space as he cheers on the girls volleyball team at a home game against Shanley. Because of their classmates' great cheering, the volleyball team won the match. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

Alisa Rector  
 Angel Retzlaff  
 Jon Reznicek  
 Andrew Rheault  
 Kyle Rheume  
 Sarah Rodlund

Abel Rodriguez Jr  
 Mark Roe  
 Briana Roeber  
 Rebecca Rohrer  
 Andrew Rood  
 TessAnna Rossow

Courtney Roush  
 Ashley Rud  
 Amanda Rudlang  
 Scott Rudrud  
 Hyasmine Saintias  
 Aaron Sanderson

Bryant Sanderson  
 John Sandvig  
 Cassandra Saylor  
 Christopher Schaefer  
 Alexander Schanilec  
 Justin Schiermeister

Michael Schnepf  
 Emily Schreier  
 Jonathan Schroeder  
 Caitlin Schuessler  
 Justin Schumacher  
 Breanna Seibel



Simona Sjoblom  
 Megan Skarsten  
 Garrett Smith  
 Yuliya Soboleva  
 Joshua Soland  
 Caroline Spack

Cayla Sprecher  
 Travis Stadum  
 Casey Stavenger  
 Lucas Steckler  
 Bret Stoppler  
 Britta Strahn

Amelia Streifel  
 Tiffany Stuber  
 Kimberly Stulken  
 Kayla Sturre  
 Jared Summers  
 Alison Sund

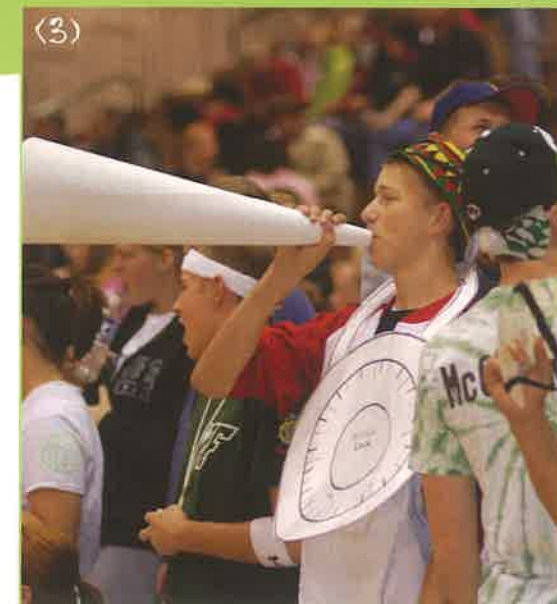
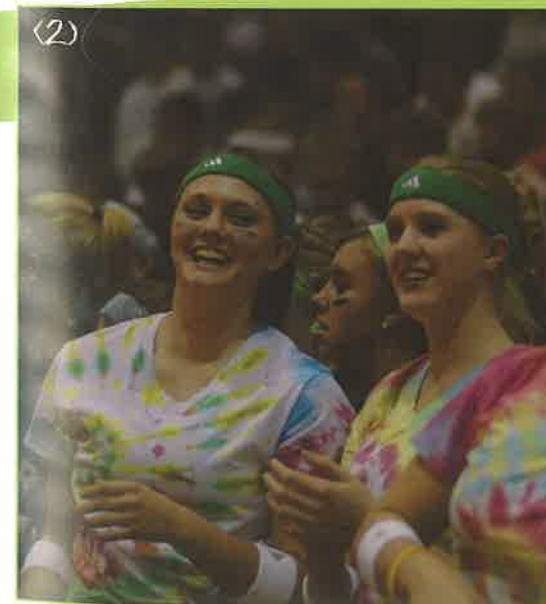
Tyler Swanson  
 Donald Swenson  
 Katie Symanietz  
 Jayce Thomas  
 Machaella Thompson  
 Kade Thornton

Mason Thorstad  
 Adam Trapp  
 Alex Trosen  
 Alina Tyulyandina  
 Jordan Ulven  
 Jill Utter



What were your thoughts of this year's PowderPuff game?

"I thought it was fun because it brought a lot of the girls closer together."  
 -Junior Cassie Beckerleg



1) You can't catch me... Trying to get through the senior crowd, junior Tavga Weled has the ball during the powderpuff game. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Ha ha ha... Juniors Jessica Holaday and Alison Dreher laugh at their classmates during the fall pep rally. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) You can do it... Cheering on his favorite volleyball girls is junior Michael Schnepf during a home game against Shanley. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

Jordan Vance  
Deni Vigessa  
Alannah Villanueva  
Artan Vilahiu  
Amy Walen  
Jasen Walker



Shawnie Wangler  
Peter Weber  
Stephany Wegenast  
Catherine Weick  
Ryan Weishaar  
Tavga Weled



Alex Windjue  
Michael Winge  
Adele Young  
Carrie Young  
Chancellor Zacher  
Ethan Zaun



Mikayla Zimmerman  
Matthew Zurn



### Not Pictured

- |                        |                   |                  |                    |
|------------------------|-------------------|------------------|--------------------|
| Rodolfo Astran         | Kirby Christopher | Tiffany Jacobs   | William Pedersen   |
| Shane Barnes           | Kayla Cote        | Ross Jacobs      | Paul Rumsey        |
| Allen Belcourt         | Gage Durbin       | Kyle Johnson     | Zachary Schumacher |
| Kyle Benjamin          | John Engebretson  | Sara Knaus       | Theresa Schwartz   |
| Matthew Black          | Ian Evanson       | Ashleigh Kroynta | Nicholas Skjorsby  |
| Sarah Borah            | Andrew Ferber     | Sara Kram        | Brandan Spitzer    |
| Eric Breslin           | Zachary Fischer   | James Landford   | Alexandra Sprung   |
| Christopher Christlieb | Jordan Greer      | Aaron Larson     | Colin Watkins      |
|                        | Darshayne Hayenga | Cindy McDonald   | Kari Wilenian      |
|                        | Lee Huckle        | Michael Pedersen |                    |



1) **King of the jungle.** Together with her volleyball teammates, junior Sadie Doggett traces a lion to put on the gym wall. The volleyball team used the theme "Welcome to the Jungle" to inspire its decorations and warm-up music.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)

2) **Slip and slide.** Racing through the Marines' obstacle course in gym class, junior Brittany Nolan flies down a slide.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)

3) **Ballin'.** Getting into the excitement at a boys basketball game, junior Lucas Steckler celebrates a great play.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)

4) **It's an honor, really.** Junior Travis Stadum informs the student body about the cross country team's accomplishments with juniors Cydney Crowe and Cassandra Saylor and senior David Baltezare at the fall pep rally.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

## Opportunities Finally arise

The class of 2008 has been missing out since it left elementary school. New schools were built and facilities were improved after students had moved on, so they could not take advantage of them. As for the upcoming school year, the class gets to look forward to a school without freshmen.

While the class of 2008 was in eighth grade, there was talk about the construction of the new middle school. It really did not concern the students much since they would not be able to attend it. It even made some of them a little bit angry. "I wish we could have gone to the new middle school because the old one was junk," junior William Pedersen said.

The summer before ninth grade the class of 2008 found out it was not able to park in the parking lot. Most students did not care because they

## Juniors no longer miss out

did not have their licenses. "At first I was upset about not being able to park in the parking lot, but once I parked behind the school I found it wasn't bad," junior Justin Cronin said. The students did not know then that before their senior year there would be some other changes.

After missing out on opportunities, students get to look forward to saying goodbye to freshmen. "I am really glad that there won't be any freshmen next year," junior Brittany Hagensen said.

The class of 2008 has missed out before, but now it gets to look forward to a new change. As for the 2007-2008 school year, freshmen will no longer attend West Fargo High School. The class of 2008 will finally get to enjoy more room in the halls and lunches.

-Jaclyn Rankin

Halimo Abdulkarim  
Ahmed Abdulle  
Nelson Adam  
Noor Aden  
Umi Ahmed  
Jennifer Akason



Mohammed Ali  
Rennah Al-Kayali  
Dakota Allmaras  
Brianna Anderson  
Garrett Anderson  
Travis Anderson



Jonathon Archibald  
Gladys Asa  
Dillon Asleson  
Samuel Barenthsen  
Amber Batsch  
Justin Baumgartner



Emily Beets  
Connor Belcourt  
Scott Belcourt  
Eric Benson  
Michael Benson  
Ryan Berglund



Austin Berogan  
Brady Birrenkott  
Jordan Birrenkott  
Lindsey Bishop  
Taylor Blakeway  
Sondra Booth



Nicholas Borkowski  
Alyssa Bossert  
Kimberly Braesch  
Travis Bregier  
Elizabeth Brekhus  
Zachary Brend



Megan Brennan  
Dylan Breyer  
Drew Brovold  
Marissa Brown  
Stephanie Brown  
Chandi Buchholz



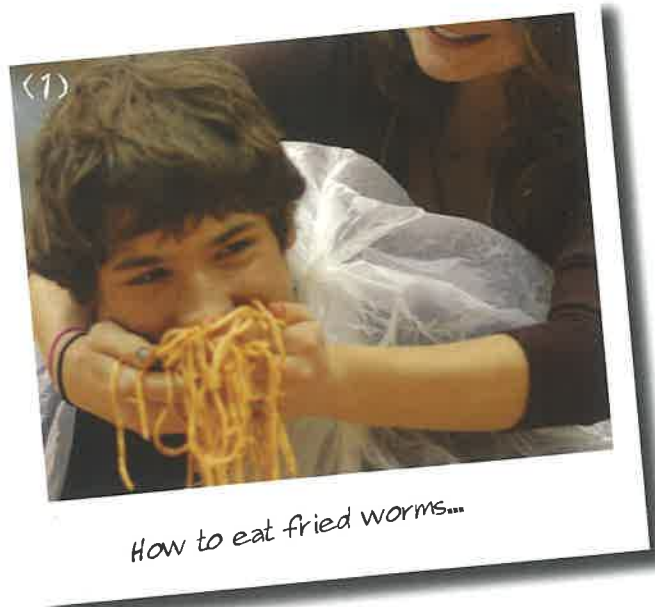
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Justin Burck  
David Burdick  
Darrett Bykonen  
Austin Cassezza  
Brad Cernik



Kevin Cernik  
Travis Charging  
Katie Chiodini  
Tory Christianson  
Ashley Cole  
Phillip Comella



Kayla Corcoran  
Zachary Cormican  
Ian Crawford  
Meredith Cummings  
Zachary Dahl  
Saraya Dahlen

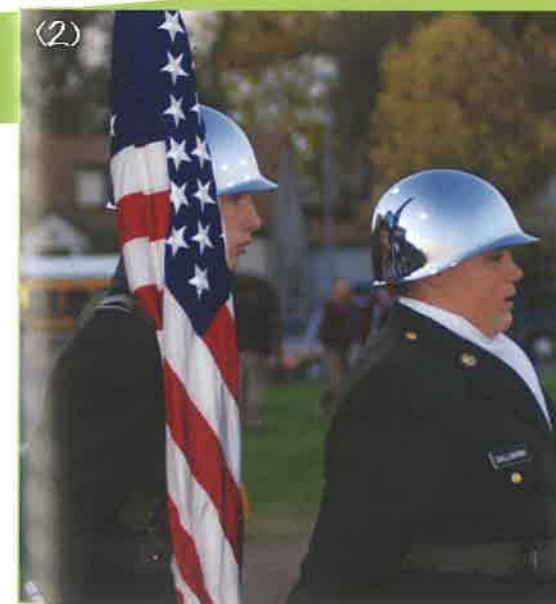


How to eat fried worms...

## What is the best quality a friend can have?

"The best quality a friend can have is that they should not be afraid to tell you the truth."

-Sophomore Sarah Denne



- 1) **A mouth full.** Rapidly eating spaghetti, sophomore Anthony Lacavera races to win the food eating contest at the fall pep rally. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 2) **About face.** Marching in for the national anthem, sophomore Nicholas Hulm holds the flag at a West Fargo football game. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)
- 3) **Sweets and beats.** After playing at the orchestra dessert concert Nov. 9, sophomores Lindsey Levin and Hillary Ehlen enjoy a treat from the wide selection. (Photo by Abby Paul)

Anyu Dai  
Khalid DaKane  
Amber Danzeisen  
Brittany Davila  
Amy De Forge  
Ajlin Dedic



Emma DeJong  
Brittany Dell  
Tyler Delorme  
Sarah Denne  
Jesse Dietz  
Angela Dockter



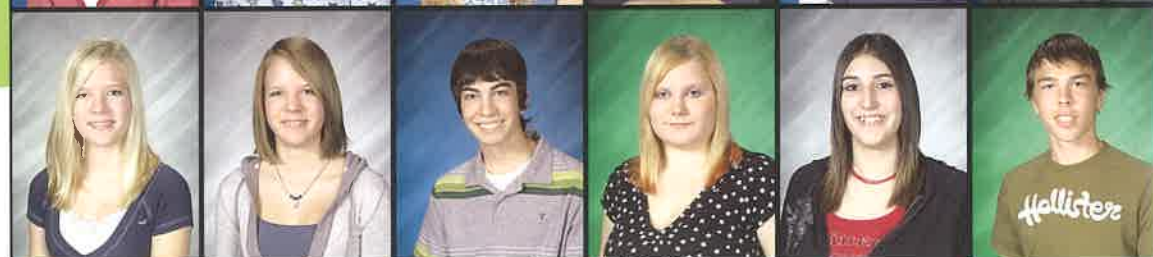
Brandon Dockter  
Eric Driscoll  
Chanel Duguid  
Elizabeth Dvorak  
Ryan Eckelberg  
Lee Eggen



Hillary Ehlen  
Katherine Eidenschink  
Alysa Eidenschink  
Steven Eltz  
Erik Erdmann  
Justin Erickson



Courtney Evanson  
Kayla Evanson  
Tyler Evin  
Mariesa Feland  
Jessica Fercho  
Brandon Fitterer



Derek Flaten  
Shelby Foltz  
Kayleigh Fontaine  
Samuel Forsey  
Kalyn Fraser  
Michael Freeman



Aaron Freitag  
Thomas French  
Katie Fretheim  
Brandi Fry  
Travis Gahner  
Shadric Gaylah



Anthony Geary  
Tyler Gelfre  
Gregory Gengel  
Robert Gertz  
Kiah Gianakos  
Suah Gilman



Jay Gjestvang  
Amanda Goebel  
Heather Goebel  
Kali Golay  
Chase Golliet  
Sara Gooding



Christan Gorden  
Benjamin Gould  
Catherine Gowah  
Audrey Grady  
Tatum Grandstrand  
Makayla Gratz

## Forgotten lower class

### Sophomores feel stuck in middle

Johnny is walking into school. It is the first day of his sophomore year, and he has more confidence than he had his freshman year. This year is different than last year for him; he is not lost as much as he was last year. He is still a younger classman, but he does not get noticed at all.

It is not only hard and scary for underclassmen in the crowded, overpopulated halls filled with upperclassmen, but the classes also get harder for them. "I am in geometry now, I have a headache everyday," sophomore Cody Rubertus said.

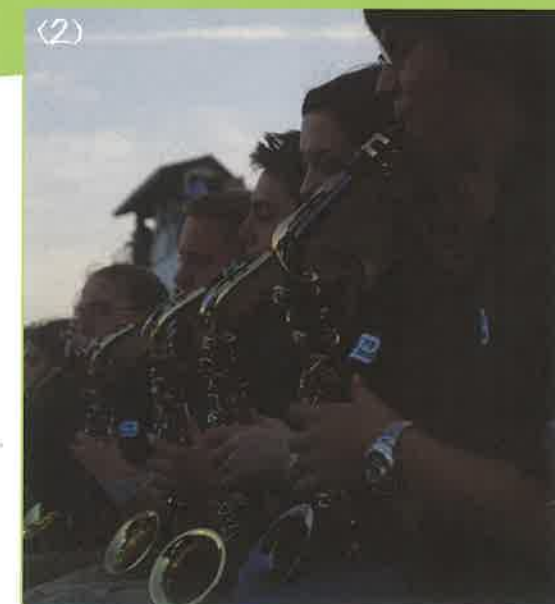
The sophomore class does not usually get a lot of attention either way. They do not get picked on, that's only the freshmen, but they do not get upperclassmen respect either.

It is opposite for some. "I get more respect this year, because I think the seniors are nicer than the ones last year," sophomore Miranda Mars said.

There are some advantages becoming older. Getting past freshman year means a lot, such as learning the secrets of high school. "The back stairs are much quicker to get to class," sophomore Anthony LaCavera said.

After the first day of school Johnny goes home and tells his mom he had a good day. He did not get picked on, and he knew where he was going.

-Amanda Montgomery



1) Strokes of color... Sitting and pondering in her Art III class, sophomore Anyu Dai concentrates hard on perfecting her painting assignment. In the class, students receive regular assignments in various forms of art. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) "We will, we will rock you..." During a football game Sept. 8, sophomores Samuel Forsey, Emily Vrem and Justin Burck play a spirited song for pep band on their saxophones. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

BreAnne Gregory  
Tyler Gronbeck  
Jessica Gust  
Breanna Gustafson  
Brittney Hager  
Candace Hager



Brandon Halberg  
Nathan Halda  
Eric Halvorson  
Abby Hammes  
Darryk Hanenberg  
Andrew Hanes



Amanda Hanson  
Emily Harris  
Eric Hartog  
Fadhiya Hassan  
Hassan Hassan  
Kaltun Hassan



Safiyo Hassan  
Wanaga Hassan  
Elizabeth Heim  
Zachary Heinen  
Alyssa Henderson  
Peter Hettwer



Justin Heuer  
Shana Heuer  
Beatrice Hill  
Derek Hiltwein  
Alyssa Hinze  
Zachary Hofmann



Cierra Holm  
Marissa Holmquist  
Kelsey Holmvik  
Kelsey Hoovestol  
Ariel Hotten  
Megan Hought



Samantha Hughes  
Nicholas Hulm  
Alyssa Hummel  
Kaysha Hvidsten  
Samantha Ireland  
Akhmed Israfil



Chad Jaberg  
Reuben Jacobson  
Jesika Jaeger  
Todd Jansen  
Jessica Jendro  
Lucas Jensen



Tyler Jensen  
Adam Johnson  
Andrea Johnson  
Jami Johnson  
Jennifer Johnson  
Aryelle Jones



Kaitlyn Jorgenson  
Jacob Kaiser  
Karily Kalstad  
Zinnah Kawah  
Brian Keller  
Heather Kelsey



Don't worry, I got you!!

## If you could meet any celebrity, who would it be?

"Hilary Duff- I've liked her since childhood. She appreciates the fans that she has and does programs for children."  
-Sophomore Emily Harris



1) A trusting friend. Demonstrating in Youth Leadership, sophomores Aryelle Jones and Katherine Eidschink catch one another to build trust. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Scream with spirit. Supporting classmates in the spaghetti competition at the fall pep rally, sophomores Joshua Ockert and Taylor Blakeway cheer. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Come on, it's FUN. Members of SADD have a good time laughing while waiting to begin the circle game. (Photo by Tony Graves)

Yusuf Kemokai  
Ashley Kerbaugh  
Daniel Kiehl  
Casey Kjolberg  
Jorddan Kleindl  
Ashley Klevgaard



Brendan Klocke  
Austyn Kloehn  
Danielle Knodle  
Samuel Knutson  
Nicolette Koehmstedt  
Jared Koehnen



Damir Kolakovic  
Jenna Kolb  
Amanda Kommer  
Sierra Kommer  
Channing Kopp  
Ashley Koskela



Kayla Krabbenhoft  
Kailey Krause  
Jessica Krick  
William Kuehn  
Brandon Kunze  
Martha Kweku



Anthony Lacavera  
Erica Laddusaw  
Charlee Lakoduk  
Chelsey Lang  
Kasey Lang  
Mercedes Larson



Stephanie Larson  
Garrett Laubach  
Andrea Lee  
Gentry Lee  
Brittany Legler  
Kelby Lemar



Dustin Lemke  
Jessica Leno  
Andrew Lenzmeier  
Crystal LeTexier  
Lindsey Levin  
Brandon Lewis



Breanndolyn Lies  
Rachel Lisk  
Blake Loyland  
Amber Lund  
Nels Lund  
Shayla Lund



Tasha Lund  
Kelsey Lundquist  
Lindsay Lundstrom  
Michael Lynch  
Katie Lyon  
Bule Mahad



Fatuma Mahad  
Cody Mammenga  
Joseph Manning  
Cole Mapes  
Miranda Mars  
Cassandra Martin

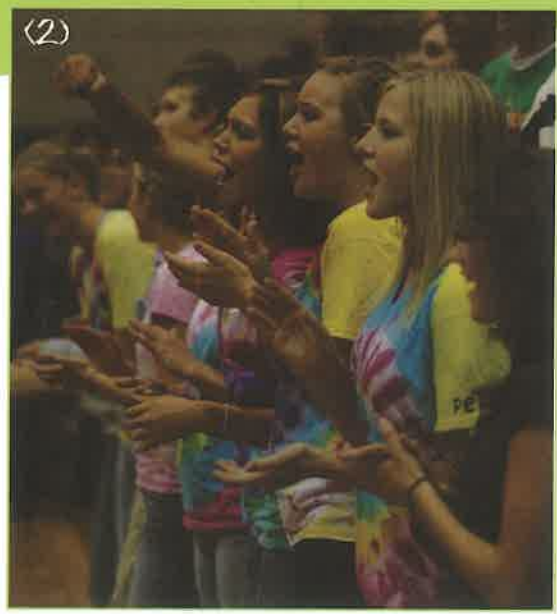
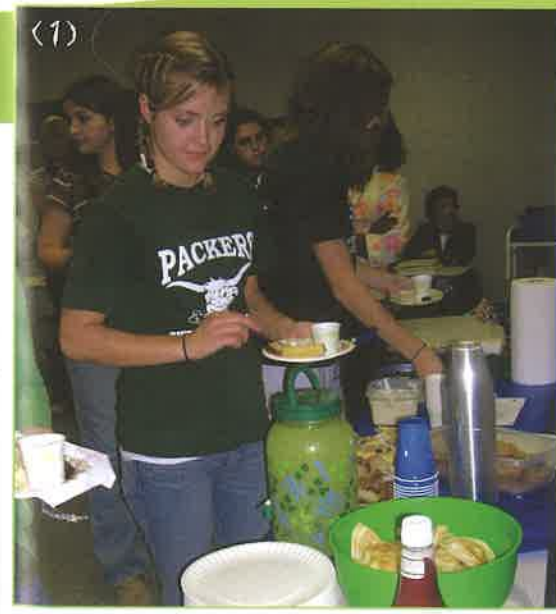
# Working at young age

## Sophomores earn living

Juggling school, friends and family can be difficult. Adding jobs makes it even harder. Sophomores are putting more on their plates this year. Reasons for this overloading are mainly due to financial problems. "I have a job so I can have a cash flow and so I don't have to ask my parents for money," sophomore Jessica Pierce said. Age is also another part of getting a job. Sophomores are between the ages of 15 and 16, and the majority of employers do not hire students until they turn 16. If students are hired they are getting paid minimum wage. Although some parents think it is necessary for them to pick out the jobs their kids have, most students choose themselves. "I chose a job that I

wanted to do, not what my parents wanted me to do," Pierce said. Sports are something that can also get in the way of jobs, but not for sophomore Cody Rubertus who does the paper route. "I get up really early," Rubertus said. Some students do not have jobs because of sports or other activities, and their parents pay for most things. "I don't have a job because I'm in dance and I don't have time," sophomore Shawna Wienckowski said. Getting jobs can be difficult for some students because of other commitments. Sooner or later they will have to get jobs, but until then some can enjoy their time and not worry about jobs.

-Brianna Puhrt



1) Decisions, decisions. Scanning her choices, sophomore Megan Nelson carefully picks something to eat at a cultural food party held in Mary Sherman's Honors' English class. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Sophomore class is really great. Yelling loudly, sophomores Krisanne Reyerson, Miranda Mars and Meghan Meyer scream their grade's chant at the fall pep rally. (Photo by Abby Paul)

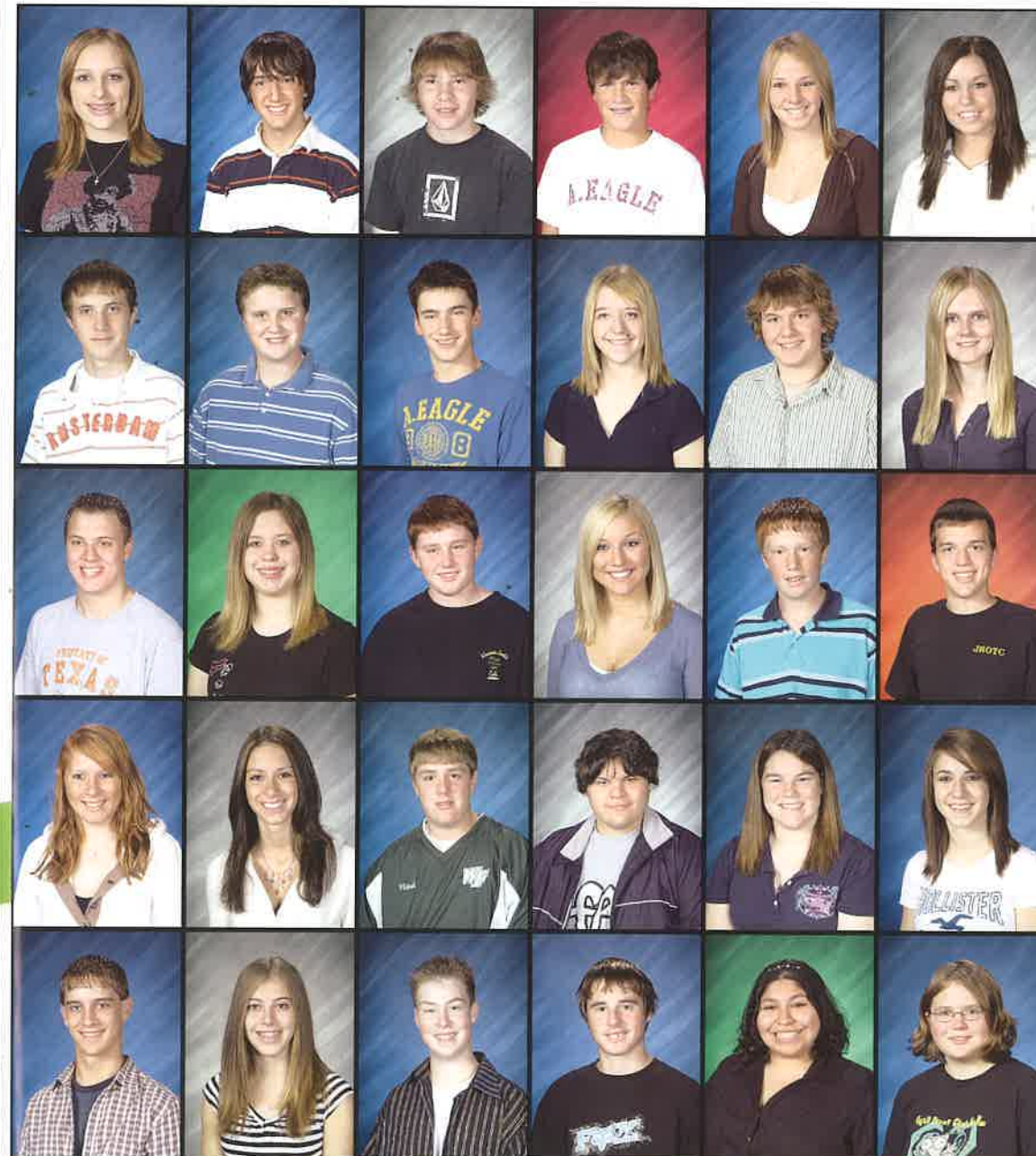
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Meagan McDougall  
Joshua Mears  
Scott Mehus  
Andrew Merkel

Alexis Metz  
Meghan Meyer  
Adam Miller  
Sara Misialek  
Jason Moch  
Devin Moerke

Tylor Mogard  
Ali Mohamed  
Michael Mohn  
Matthew Molstad  
Claire Moltzan  
Jason Monnin

Heidi Morman  
Melissa Morse  
Lindsay Morton  
Kaylynn Moss  
Mariah Mueller  
Brooke Myogeto

Alan Neer II  
Jessica Nefzger  
Nicholas Neisen  
Megan Nelson  
Nicholas Nelson  
Jayme Noel



Kally Nygren  
Joshua Ockert  
Mason Odegard  
Brian Olson  
Jenna Olson  
Kelsey Olson

Michael Olson  
Steven Olson  
Jordan Olstad  
Katie Palloch  
James Parrow  
Abby Paul

Beau Paulsen  
Jessica Paulson  
Dillon Peltier  
Chelsea Peterson  
Cole Peterson  
James Peterson

Victoria Peterson  
Jessica Pierce  
Trevor Plehal  
Travis Poitra  
Ashli Powell  
Kelce Prashek

Alex Pribula  
Abbey Prudlick  
Mitchell Quast  
Troy Quenette  
Desirae Quesada  
Stephanie Ragan



They're the real Shades...

## What do you think about PDA in school?

"I think it is gross. Making out and groping each other should be saved for their alone time at home."

-Sophomore Desirae Quesada



1) Nice shades... Looking good, sophomores Beatrice Hill and Katherine Eidschink watch a football game with smiles. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

2) We are number one... Eating up some lunch, sophomore Ajdin Dedic and freshman Adib Omanovic support Packer Pride day during Homecoming week. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) What a pretty butterfly... Making an animal to hang on the gym wall for volleyball, sophomore Jessica Gust adds a girl's touch to her butterfly. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

Asmir Rahimic  
Aaron Ranzenberger  
Jared Reber  
Alyssa Regner  
Braeden Regner  
Ashley Reiter



Krisanne Reyerson  
Jacob Rhinesmith  
Cassandra Rich  
Lucas Riedlinger  
Alexander Ringdahl  
Kellen Ringdahl



Nicholas Ringdahl  
Blaine Rosendahl  
Lance Rosenkranz  
Randall Rothhouse  
Stacy Rott  
Cody Rubertus



Samantha Rusness  
Anna Rutten  
Brian Ruud  
Ashley Ryan  
Briana Sahr  
Abby Salquist



Adam Salter  
Andrew Sandahl  
Nicholas Sanders  
Travis Sather  
David Sauvageau  
Ryan Sauvageau



Samantha-Jo Saye  
Danielle Schiefert  
Erik Schmaltz  
David Schmidt  
Hali Scholl  
Mackenzie Schommer



Monica Schroeder  
Melissa Schulz  
Blake Selisker  
Ashley Severson  
Deka Sharif Hassan  
Nadifa Sharif Hassan



Joel Sheehan  
Ashley Sheppard  
Claire Shive  
Jordan Shive  
Jacala Short  
Adam Siegert



Shaun Sinner  
Erin Sistas  
Andrea Shuke  
Zachary Smith  
Natasha Smykowiak  
Christina Soland



Luke Solum  
Stephanie Sorenson  
Christina Sorum  
Jacob Springer  
Alysha Stanczyk  
Jordan Steckler

## Tradition stays with Comella

### Smooth move across country

It all began in North Carolina when sophomore Phillip Comella was eight years old. He started playing lacrosse because it was a family affair, and it was important to him. Now, seven years later, he has moved to North Dakota, where lacrosse is not a popular sport.

When Comella moved here at the beginning of this year he found that his favorite sport, lacrosse, was not as popular here as it is in North Carolina. "I wasn't too excited when I found this out because it is something that I love to do," Comella said.

Just thinking about moving to a new state where their favorite sport is not as popular is tough for many kids to imagine. "I would feel awkward and out of place because the sport isn't as popular," sophomore Aryelle Jones said.

Most kids admire Comella because he has not given up on something he loves even though lacrosse is not as popular. Even though he lives halfway across the country now, Comella still finds a way to play the sport he loves through a league of college players from the surrounding area. The league consists of colleges such as North Dakota State University and Minnesota State University of Moorhead. "I think it is very cool and interesting that he still plays lacrosse in this area," sophomore Ashley Reiter said.

Even though Comella plays lacrosse here now, it still is probably not quite the same as it would be in North Carolina, but at least he gets to play the sport he loves.

-Jamie Green



1) Pep it up sophomores... Getting her class fired up, sophomore Shelby Foltz performs with her fellow cheerleaders at the fall pep rally in the school gymnasium. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Please rise... Getting ready to strut his stuff for the fans at the Lodoen field, sophomore Samuel Barentsen prepares to play the drums in the pep band. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

Stephani Steffen  
Alexander Stremick  
Steven Strom  
Rebeca Sura  
Haylee Swanson  
Christopher Taxdahl



Amber Tendeland  
Zacory Thiessen  
Jessica Thomas  
Patience Thomas  
Hope Thompson  
Alyssa Thorson



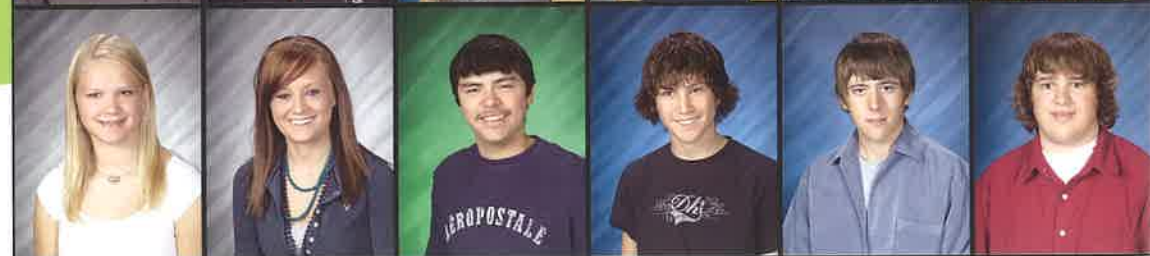
Emma Torrance  
Taylor Trauger  
Carly Trowbridge  
Colton Turner  
Ryan Tyo  
Samuel Vaagen



David Van Dorpe  
Aaron Vannett  
Kayla Videen  
Amelia Vigen  
Andrea Volk  
Emily Vrem



Ashley Walen  
Kirsten Walker  
Felix Walleite  
Dakota Walz  
Trace Waterworth  
Adam Watts



Shelia Weagha  
Krista Weiszhaar  
Robert Wendlick II  
Nichole Wendt  
Matthew Werlinger  
Dustin Westerman



Crystal White  
Shawna Wienckowski  
Alex Wilhelm  
Nathan Wilke  
Maggie Wilken  
Alexandra Williams



Genia Wilson  
Justin Wilson  
Kostas Wilson  
Clint Wohler  
Taylor Wolf  
Richard Wulu



Eric Ylarra  
Kristina Yerisov  
Derrek Zaczkowski

### Not Pictured

- |                     |                        |
|---------------------|------------------------|
| Rennah Al-Kayali    | Ty Kramlich            |
| Dilon Allen         | Tara Loberg            |
| Harndi Arale        | Eric Major             |
| Sierra Arso         | Samantha Martinson     |
| Adam Barton         | Chad Miller            |
| Alyssa Brown        | Kayla Ohnstad          |
| Robert Delorme      | Jesse Ostlund          |
| Jayden Duursma      | Zachary Panek          |
| Molly English       | Carley Pendleton       |
| Trevor Finley       | Brenda Peou            |
| Jerica Games-Conway | Rico Perojo            |
| Ariel Gauslow       | Mitchell Reller        |
| Samantha Gutzke     | Bailey Reynolds        |
| Ashley Hamner       | Sharmarke Sharif-Yusuf |
| Matthew Hanson      | Amber Ultner           |
| Skylar Howell       | Tyler Vareberg         |
| Dillon Huber        | Brandon Walter         |
| Samantha Kaul       | Michael Walz           |
| Travis Knapp        | Brandon Williams       |



1) Clean up... After enjoying bagel pizzas in Food and Fitness class, sophomore Saraya Dahlen and junior Cassandra Saylor wash off the dirty dishes. (Photo by Abby Paul)  
2) This is interesting... Working on the computers in the library, sophomores Charlee Lakoduk and Abbey Prudlick do their homework for the next day of school. (Photo by Jill Utter)  
3) Balancing act... Sophomore Jordan Shive cautiously tries to get across the ropes course while sophomore Sarah Denne waits behind him during Youth Leadership. (Photo by Abby Paul)



Scrub a dub dub...

*If you could have one superhero power, what would it be?*

"I would be able to levitate chickens and other forms of poultry because it is a rare commodity that most others do not possess or even think about possessing. My name would be Sultury Poultry Levitator because it rhymes."  
-Sophomore Emily Vrem



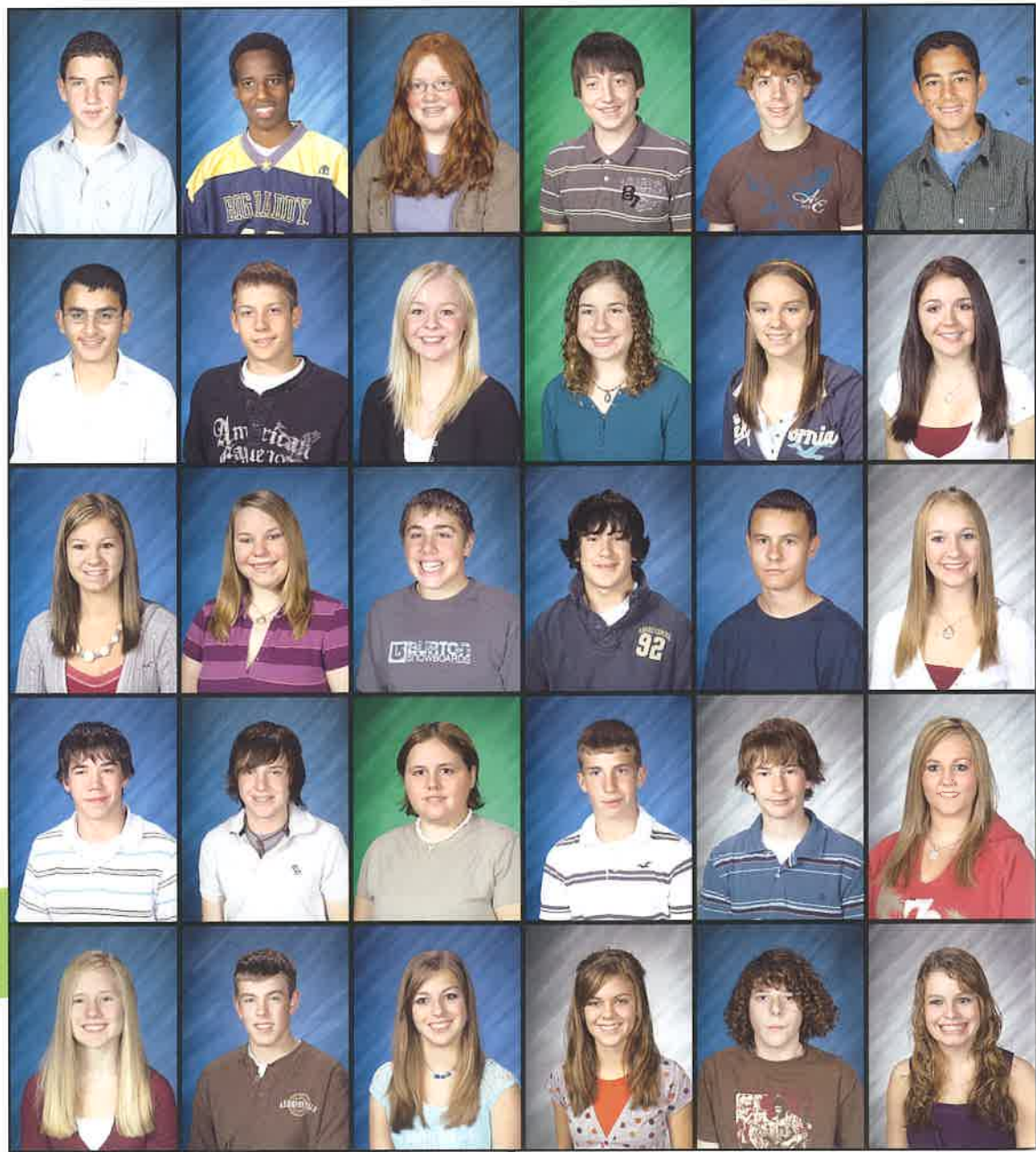
Justin Aalgaard  
Abdikadir Abdulle  
Caitlin Ackley  
Ty Adams  
Gatlyn Affield  
Omar Al-Abbse

Saleh Alamri  
Cody Albert  
Kirsten Andersen  
Brittany Anderson  
Elizabeth Anderson  
Heather Anderson

Madison Anderson  
Shelbie Anderson  
Alex Anderson-Roesler  
Dylan Archigo  
Devin Asleson  
Katelyn Aswege

Jordan Auster Miller  
Eli Baana  
Heather Bach  
Levi Bachmeier  
Tyler Baern  
Kayla Barkie

Taylor Bates  
Matthew Bauduin  
Jennifer Baumeister  
Cassandra Baumgartner  
John Baumgartner  
Brittany Barking



Jillian Bechtold  
Hailee Beck  
Alexander Beckius  
Alyssa Bockius  
Meghan Berg  
Anthony Bergan

Brianna Berry  
Tyler Bertsch  
Beth Beyer  
Sarah Beyer  
Jenna Beyers  
Ryan Binde

Blake Birrenkott  
Christopher Birrenkott  
Briana Bitterman  
Brian Bjerk  
Christina Bohn  
Matthew Bond

Nathan Borchardt  
Lucas Borgerson  
Brandon Borseth  
Andrew Braaten  
Michael Braaten  
Caleb Braun

Matthew Bregier  
Bridgit Breker  
Tara Brekke  
Maria Brekkestran  
Jacob Bucholz  
Christopher Burek

# Freshmen make history

## Youngest class twice

They say lightning never strikes twice in the same place; however, that is not the case for the class of 2010 in West Fargo High School. This year's freshman class will have the distinct honor of being the youngest class in school not once, but twice. In the fall of 2007, West Fargo School District will be opening the freshmen academy. The current class of 2011 will be starting their high school careers in the new academy.

Not all freshman think it is bad being the youngest twice. "It will just be a new year, and it won't be like we're newcomers," freshman Robert Jacobs said.

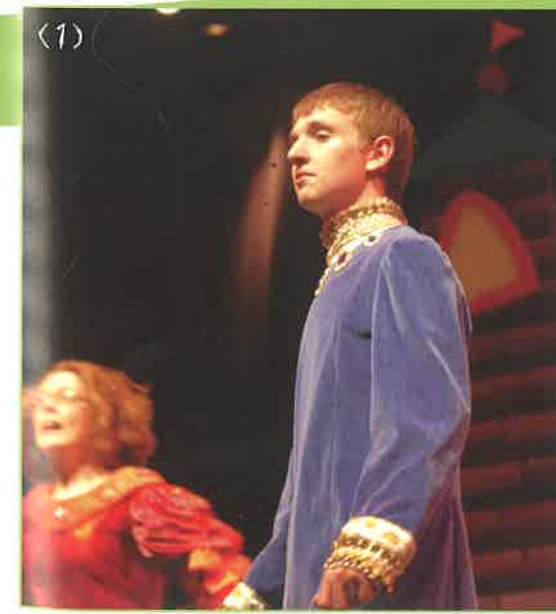
Another benefit of the new academy will mean less crowding. "There

will be more space in the halls," freshman Tia Lopez said.

Just like a lightning strike is not a good thing, some freshman find disadvantages of the new school. "Next year I won't be able to talk to my friends that are younger," freshman Courtney Voeller said.

Next year is sure to bring something new. The class of 2010 will go down in history for being the youngest class in the high school, twice.

-Lindsay Kloos



1) **Name that tune...** Preparing for his next line, freshman Matthew Bregier listens to senior Julia Whittle during the play "Once Upon a Mattress."  
(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

2) **Shake that thing.** During a home football game, freshman Stephanie Shagena cheers with her fellow cheerleaders.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

Shelby Bursch  
 Jordyn Byzewski  
 Lucas Byzewski  
 Taylor Cable  
 Leah Camery  
 Austin Canode



Rebecca Capouch  
 Sebastian Carmana  
 Terry Carlblom  
 Andres Casarez Jr  
 William Case  
 Deah Collins



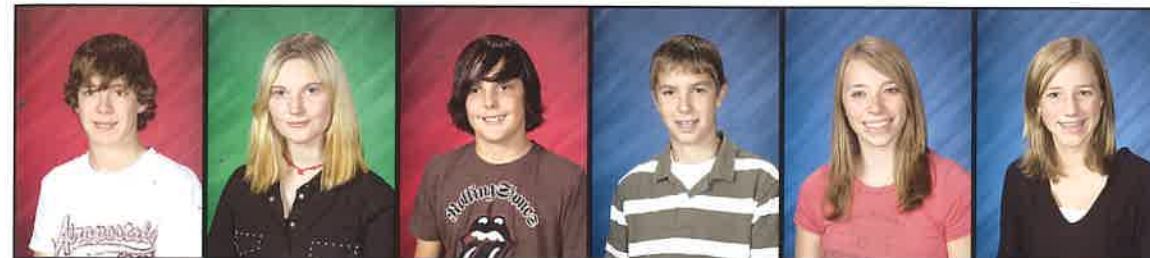
Tyler Conklin  
 Saidu Conteh  
 Megan Cooper  
 Aren Cossette  
 Stephanie Cossette  
 Jared Cowden



Heidi Crist  
 Grant Cummings  
 Benjamin Dalbol  
 Kyle Dallmann  
 Oscar DeLeon  
 Jordan Denis



Haley Deserly  
 Tori Desotel  
 LaCher Dolan  
 Amy Doll  
 Ashley Doll  
 Jennifer DuShane



Brady Eidenschink  
 Marylea Engstrom  
 Jackson Erbstoesser  
 Alexander Erickson  
 Emily Erickson  
 Johanna Erickson



Alexander Falk  
 Abdiya Farah  
 Sean Fawbush  
 Chelsey Fenske  
 Tyler Fietzek  
 Mickey Finnell



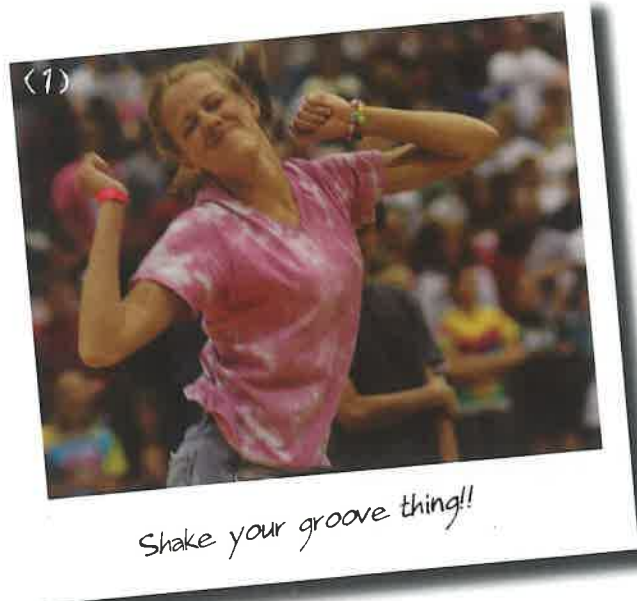
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 Tiffany Fitterer  
 Spencer Flaten  
 Nicholas Fradet  
 Laura Freitag  
 Jolee French



Victoria French  
 Makayla Fry  
 Sheree Gange  
 Brett Garske  
 Fazli Gashi  
 Jamison Gehrig



Chelsea Gentzkow  
 Jared Gibbon  
 Hayley Gibbons  
 Brandon Gibson  
 Justin Gibson  
 Dustin Gilberts



(1)

Shake your groove thing!!

## What is your favorite hang out place on the weekends?

"I like to go to my friends' houses to be with them and chill out."  
 -Freshman Dylan Archigo



(2)



(3)

1) Bust a move... At the fall pep rally, freshman Rebecca Capouch dances for the student body as part of the dance-off competition. (Photo by Abby Paul)

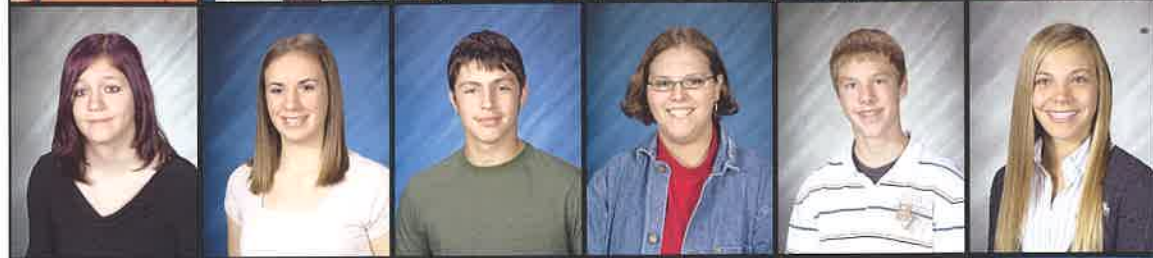
2) Heavy machinery... Operating a big load, freshman Dylan Heger works it out during the Career Expo at the Fargo Dome. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

3) Fa la la la... At the winter choir concert, the freshmen members sing "Deck the Halls" as one of the songs for the recital. (Photo by Abby Paul)

Trevor Gilleshammer  
Rob Glarum  
Ashley Gonzalez  
Tiana Goulet  
Corbin Gray  
Trista Gray



Breanna Green  
Jenna Green  
Shawn Greenman  
Katie Gregor  
Jarred Grindahl  
Ellie Grooters



Tanner Grosche  
Cody Grosz  
Dylan Gulbrandson  
Katelyn Gunderson  
Molly Gusaas  
Dustin Haaland



Jennifer Haaland  
Ghariba Habib  
Victoria Hackett  
Diane Hahn  
Dre Halle  
Brandi Hansen



Corrine Hansen  
Ryan Hansen  
Prathik Harikrisnan  
Meranda Harris  
Carsen Harrison-Bower  
Briana Hartog



Ethan Hartwig  
Kasey Hartwig  
Asmir Hasimovic  
Mohamed Hassan  
Brandi Hatch  
Madison Hausauer



Kayla Hawley  
Carleigh Hedstrom  
Chelsea Hedstrom  
Dylan Heger  
Brittany Heiden  
Allison Heinen



Justin Henderson  
Samantha Henderson  
Swayze Henry  
Taylor Herk  
Mason Herman  
Matthew Hersch



Thane Hillig  
Joshua Hoel  
Tanner Hoffart  
Robert Hogenson  
Emily Holland  
Erika Holmes



Gustin Hoovestol  
Sheena Houkoum  
Morgan Houle  
Daniel Hoy  
Jordan Huseby  
Coty Irwin

## Youngest class again

### Freshmen take role of youngest twice

Kids all over in the commons, many new faces, new teachers and a whole different school, all are part of walking into the high school as a freshman. It is a nerve-racking process that the freshmen have to go through on the first day of high school knowing they are the youngest.

Normally a typical class only has to go through this once, but not this year. The class of 2010 will have to go through this process twice. "It won't bother me being the youngest because it's just school," freshman Austin Nelson said.

Even though the freshmen will technically be sophomores next year, some people think that they still will be treated as freshmen because they are the youngest class in the school. "I think we will be treated like fresh-

men because there is no one else younger than us to pick on," freshman Meghan Schreier said.

Knowing that there will not be any freshmen in the school next year is going to be a weird transition for all of the classes. It may also seem a little unbalanced. "I think it will be different because I have never known the high school without four different classes," freshman Kristin Kautz said.

After all the commotion of the new changes throughout the year, it will not be the same for the class of 2010. They know that next year there will be no freshmen left in the high school and because of this they probably will be treated like they are still freshmen.

-Jamie Green



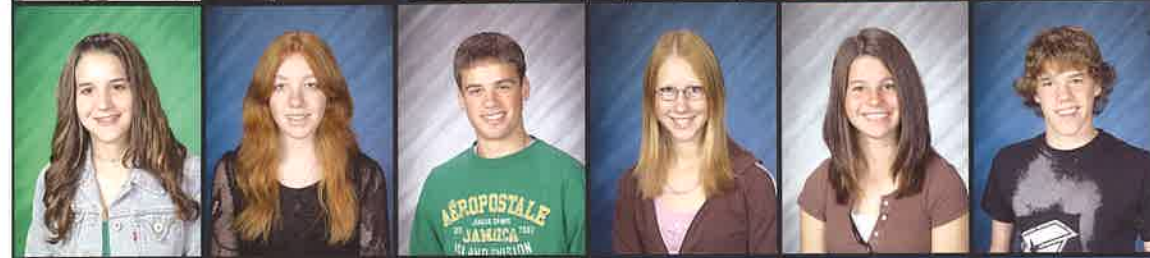
1) Hole-y cow - Freshman Andrew Mongoh smiles in delight after drilling through a board at the Career Expo. The event was held at the Fargo Dome to expose area freshmen to new and different career fields.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)

2) Listen up now - Sitting on the floor during the kindness retreat, freshman Molly Gusaas helps the instructor demonstrate the importance of teamwork. The retreat was intended to bring the freshmen together.  
(Photo Ashley Yochim)

Lexi Jackson  
Robert Jacobs  
McKenzie Jaeger  
Kelsey Jensen  
Dylan Jerger  
Skyler Jeske



Brenna Johnson  
Brittney Johnson  
David Johnson  
Holly Johnson  
Mara Johnson  
Dustin Jonasson



Brandi Jorgenson  
Bryce Jorgenson  
Michael Joyce  
Tessa Juhl  
Dylan Just  
Dillon Juve



Kristin Kautz  
Austin Keller  
Kayleanne Keyes  
Marisha Khunger  
Jacob Kiefer  
Kayla Kinslow



Skye Kinzler  
Kelsey Kloos  
Allison Klug  
Landon Knoll  
Russell Koetz  
Nicholas Koskey



Ashley Kranda  
Alayna Krantz  
Carly Kratcha  
Massah Kromah  
Victoria Krynski  
Andrew Kuhn



Myla Kulink  
Skurta Kurti  
Ahmed Lafla  
Jackson Lahren  
Christina Lammers  
Cody Lancaster



Kayla Lancor  
Gregory Larson  
Justyn Larson  
Mitchell Lattimore  
Karlee Laubach  
Tanner Lautt



Jordan Laybourn  
Eva Lee  
Katie Lee  
Christopher Lehfeldt  
Caitlin Leick  
Arriel LeMier



Jasper Leotta  
Alyssa Lind  
Lance Little  
Tanner Logan  
Sheila Loomis  
Tia Lopez



Hard working girls...

## What is your favorite TV show to watch?

"I like MTV Exposed because it is a step up from the regular show Next, which is probably the best show on MTV."

-Freshman Patrick Stuber



1) Can we fix it? Freshmen Lexi Jackson and Ellie Grooters pound away while trying out a construction booth at the Career Expo held at the Fargo Dome. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

2) Waiting their turn. Goofing around during a break in the varsity volleyball match, freshmen players view their future. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

3) I can't reach. Standing on the ladder, Key Club member freshman Katherine Roth waits for an ornament to put on the Waterford Christmas tree. (Photo by Abby Paul)

Peter Lund  
Charlie Luong  
Jordan Machart  
Shandi Mack  
Adin Mackovic  
Brandon MacLeod



Amanda Maddux  
Philip Maenza III  
Saidali Mahad  
Paris Malaterre  
Cristina Martinez  
Delphine Martinez



Jacob Mathias  
Michael Mathison  
Todd Mattson  
Austen McFarren  
Cierra Meisch  
Megan Metcalf



Danielle Meyer  
Isaac Meyer  
Laura Mikkelsen  
Ciara Miller  
Ian Miller  
Kayla Miller



Kenneth Miller  
Logan Miller  
Lucas Mittel  
Shelby Moen  
Abdi Mohamed  
Philip Moltzan



Mokenge Mongoh Ndiva  
Ross Montgomery  
Jonathan Morken  
Keith Morrison  
Christian Moss  
Tristan Mowery



Michael Mueller  
Emira Muminovic  
Katie Myers  
Fallon Nathan  
Scott Nelsen  
Ashton Nelson



Austin Nelson  
Jordan Nelson  
Tiffany Nerud  
Chelsea Ness  
Austin Neu  
Willann Nganje



Willette Nganje  
Sam Nicholson  
Mitchell Nyhammer  
Ethan Odegaard  
Robert Odegaard  
Kene Okigbo



Hillary Olheiser  
Ryan Olien  
Ryan Olsen  
Caley Olson  
Jared Olson  
Kayla Olson

## Starting out stressful

### Freshmen find freedom

The summer is over, school is starting. Sophomores, juniors and seniors are all used to the beginning of school, but Sarah is a freshman, and she is scared. A million thoughts are flying through her head. Will I get lost? What will the upper classmen do?

Getting lost is a big stress freshmen have on the first day of school. "I am still so surprised I did not get lost," freshman Samantha Henderson said.

For some students, one class at one end of the building and the next on the other can be very difficult to get used to. "The worst change I had to get used to was having our classes so far apart," freshman Shannon Wright said. "It was hard to get used to, and to get to class on time."

Classes are spread so far apart, but the lockers can be even further.

"All of our lockers were right next to our classes last year and made everything easier," freshman Guadalupe Trevino III said.

Most freshmen would agree that they miss the closeness of their classes, but they still prefer being in the high school. "There is a lot more freedom in the high school," Henderson said. "Seeing and meeting new people makes the day go by so much faster."

The stresses of the first day of school and the drastic changes from middle school to high school can be very nerve wracking for freshmen. After the first couple days of school, however, Sarah starts to realize that high school is not as bad as everyone makes it out to be.

-Allyson McCracken



1) Music to our ears... Performing at an orchestra concert, the freshmen members play "Rockin' Around the Christmas Tree" for their parents and friends in the audience. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Wonder women... Freshmen Sheila Loomis and Sheena Houkorn show construction work is not just for boys as they put their drilling skills to use during the Career Expo. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

Michael Olson  
Duane O'Marro Jr  
Jeffrey Ostlund  
Jessica Otto  
Alice Paulson  
Elizabeth Pelton



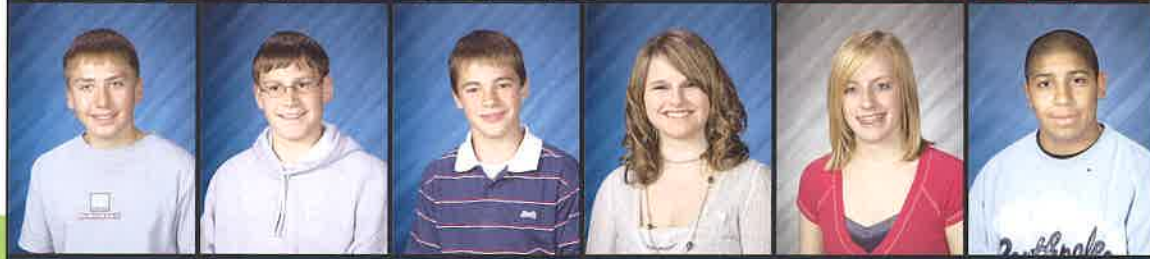
Alexander Perala  
Darac Peters  
Katelyn Peterson  
Viet Phung  
Paul Pilch  
Cassandra Pillen



Brittany Prentice  
Samantha Pyle  
Kara Ramsey  
Nicholas Randall  
Sara Raugutt  
Amanda Rector



Taran Reiersen  
Luke Rheume  
Patrick Richard  
Ashley Ridder  
Megan Roaldson  
Adrian Rodriguez



Krysta Ronning  
Anthony Ross  
Katherine Roth  
Robin Roush  
Abdikarim Sahel  
Mohamed Sahel



Germine Saintias  
Scott Salter  
Mary Samson  
Derek Sand  
Jordan Sanders  
Malyun Santur



Megan Sather  
Andrea Sattler  
Taylor Sauvageau  
Ryne Schaeffer  
Cody Schill  
Scott Schiller



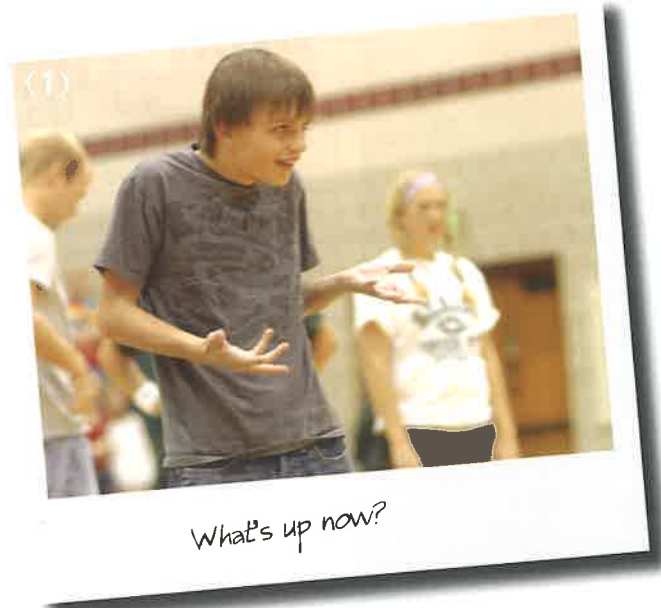
Kolby Schmidt  
Nicole Schmidt  
Domic Schmit  
Meghan Schreier  
Laurel Schuessler  
Jennifer Schultz



Ma'Taylie Schweitzer  
Ryan Seamands  
Natasha Sellheim  
Stephanie Shagena  
Angela Sharp  
Erik Sheehan



Ashley Shipley  
Gage Shoman  
Kyle Shorman  
Cassandra Shorma  
Blaze Sigmund  
Garret Sjue



## Who is your favorite musical band?

"I would have to say my favorite band is Death Cab for Cutie, because their music is relaxing in an Indie way."  
-Freshman Emily Erickson.



- 1) I can't do that. Trying to figure out what to do next, freshman Corbin Gray gets dance ideas from his classmates at the fall pep rally. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 2) Just keep it going. Preparing for her EDC race, freshman Jillian Bechtold talks with girls swimming coach Marsha Dahl. (Photo by Emily Hartley)
- 3) Like ER. Participating in the Career Expo at the Fargo Dome, freshman Jennifer DuShane discusses career options with a nurse from Merit Care. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

Justino Skauge  
Peter Slabik  
Cody Smith  
Paige Smith  
Jonathan Sneed  
Jennifer Snyder



Ethan Sorenson  
Jessica Soucy  
Matthew Spadafore  
Brittany Spletstaszer  
David Staples  
Stacy Stavedahl



Sasha Steichen  
Jared Steinberger  
Danielle Strahm  
Matthew Strahm  
Whitney Streifel  
Nicholas Strom



Jack Stromberg  
Zachary Stromsodt  
Patrick Stuber  
Mikel Stulken  
Eric Sturdivant  
Courtney Summers



John Sund  
Solveig Swanson  
James Sweere  
Jared Sykora  
Elvis Tahirovic  
Jeremy Thompson



Kelsey Thoreson  
Zachary Thornton  
Alex Tibbals  
Ty Tollefson  
Vanessa Torvik  
Joseph Trelstad



Guadalupe Trevino III  
Nathan Trosen  
Laura Tuinstra  
Brandon Tveito  
Hope Twitero  
Spencer Uetz



Tiffany Utke  
Meagan Vaageri  
Melissa Vanclave  
Peyton Vane  
Andrew Vedquarn  
David Vetter



Justin Videen  
Christopher Vigen  
Sarah Vigstol  
Courtney Voeller  
Kaleigh Von Bank  
Tayla Wagenman



Alexis Walette  
Stephanie Walters  
Dylan Walton  
Anna Wang  
Kaitlyn Watkins  
Aaron Watne

## First year worries

### Freshmen experience new school

Notebooks, paper, pens, pencils, backpacks, these school supplies are some of the oh-so-familiar aspects of school starting. For the seniors, juniors, and sophomores, it is just another year. However, for the freshmen, this is the first year at the high school.

Middle school and high school are different in many ways, some of them positive, and some negative. One optimistic freshman shared his favorite part of high school. "I like having four choices at lunch," freshman Patrick Richard said. "That's better than middle school."

Another reason why students like high school is because there is a wider variety of attractive students. "My favorite part of high school is the boys," freshman Alyssa Lind said. "I like how cute they are."

Some students appreciate the athletics at high school. "Football this year is more competitive than last year, and that makes it more fun to play and watch," freshman Mikel Stulken said.

Other students found changes that were not so exciting the first week of school. "I was always confused about where to go, and the halls were so crowded," freshman Lexi Jackson said. "I was also a little worried about how lunch worked."

From lunch, to boys, to hallways, high school is a new and exciting experience that the freshmen class will always remember.

-Kimberly Stulken



1) 2010, 2010, 2-2-2-2, 2010... While attending the pep rally, the freshmen students yell out their class cheer, trying to win the competition for the loudest grade. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Where it stops, nobody knows... Freshmen Kirsten Anderson and Meranda Harris anxiously wait for the prize wheel to stop at a Career Expo booth during their trip to the Fargo Dome. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

Timothy Weber  
Jacob Weible  
Alyssa Weisbeck  
Katie Wendt  
Sean Wenger  
John Westrick



Jesse Woeller  
Tiffanie Wold  
Nathan Woollard  
Shannon Wright  
Brooke Yochim



### Not Pictured

- |                      |                    |
|----------------------|--------------------|
| Kirsten Andersen     | Miranda Gustafson  |
| Brady Bahls          | Ethan Haas-Hartwig |
| Heather Beatty       | Meghan Lies        |
| Derrick Brandt       | Daniel McKaughan   |
| Trevor Brossart      | Hussein Mohamud    |
| Matthew Brower       | Ashley Morris      |
| Joseph Cajobe        | Alice Paulson      |
| Shanae Cote          | Raymond Reeves     |
| Ryan Dahl            | Erika Rocha        |
| Vanita Gentry        | Joseph Roy         |
| Joshua Gooding       | Abdikadir Santur   |
| Sabra Greger         | Thomas Schwartz    |
| Kenneth Griesbach II | Cody Sinclair      |
| Miranda Gustafson    |                    |

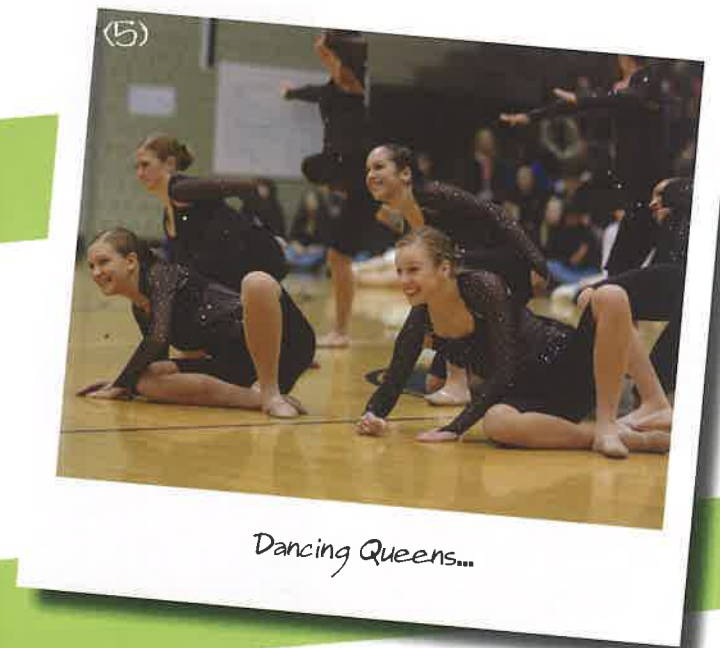


Glam squad to the rescue!!

*If you could travel anywhere,  
where would you go?*

"I would go to the Bahamas. I think it would be fun to go to the beach because it has nice, sunny weather."

-Freshman Erikka Holmes



Dancing Queens...

- 1) **Full of surprises.** Running a game at the winter pep rally, freshman cheerleaders Jennifer Haaland and Alayna Krantz reveal the prize chosen by a classmate during "Deal or No Deal."  
(Photo by Abby Paul)
- 2) **Here's looking at you.** Getting their hair primped at the Career Expo, freshmen Meghan Lies and Briana Bitterman anticipate the results.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)
- 3) **Nice choice bud.** Freshman Kelsey Kloos laughs at classmate freshman Oscar DeLeon's prize in "Deal or No Deal" at the winter pep rally.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)
- 4) **This is gonna be worth a lot of money.** Participating in Student Council-sponsored Spirit Week, sophomore Daniel McKaughan signs freshman Cody Irwin's white t-shirt.  
(Photo by Megan Schwartz)
- 5) **Best of the best.** Freshman Allison Heinen and sophomore Stephanie Larson, members of the Junior Varsity Packatahmas, perform their first place routine at the winter pep rally.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)
- 6) **If the coat fits.** Freshman Garret Sjue gets help putting on a heavy jacket before he tries his hand at welding during the Career Expo.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)

Tracy Aaker  
Ellen Aaront  
Brian Anderson  
Larry Anderson  
Lori Anderson  
Mary Anderson

Mike Anderson  
Richard Anderson  
Steven Anderson  
Kathy Antonelli  
Jerome Bailey  
Joan Baltezare

Darin Bardal  
Laura Bartsch  
Kim Bauer  
Cheryl Baumgarten  
Mark Berntson  
Janice Best

Sean Bourke  
Judy Boutiette  
Lindsey Braaten  
Sydney Brown  
Donald Burnham  
Adam Christensen

Jerome Christiansen  
Gary Clark  
Mary Conant  
Dwight Corbell  
Richard Cwikla  
Linda Dahl



Ronald Dahley  
Nanci Dauwen  
Lori DeRemer  
James Dew  
Aimee Dorrheim  
Debora Egge

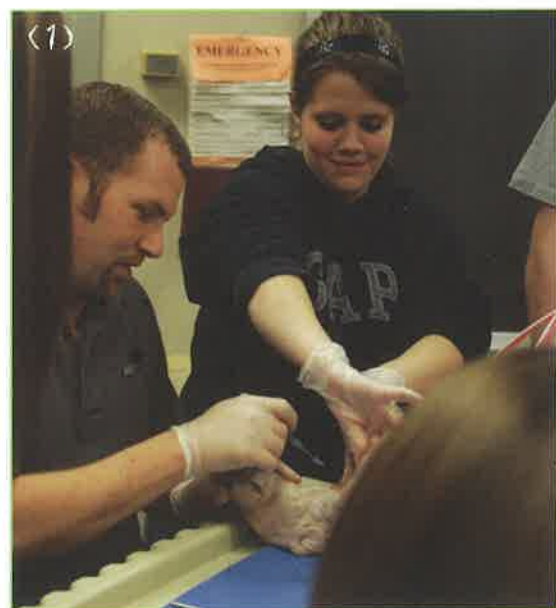
Robert Elliott  
Claudia Engelstad  
Sara Forness  
Jay Gibson  
David Gravdahl  
Megan Grodesky

Dawn Grindahl  
Greg Grooters  
Pam Grove  
Jami Grueneich  
Diane Hahn  
Ron Halverson

Melissa Halvorson  
Rhonda Harmon  
Sandra Harris  
Dennis Healy  
Jerome Heinz  
Robyn Hohertz

Jane Holland  
Randy Holzkamm  
Sybil Hopkins  
Sarah How  
Monica Huseby  
Amy Jacobson

1) Nip, tuck... Science teacher Michael Preston shows his Anatomy class how to perform a cut during pig dissections with the help of junior Chelsi Desotel.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)



2) Did you just say that... Sharing in the Yearbook class's pizza party prize, assistant principal Karen Olson reacts to a joke.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)



3) Give it a try... English teacher Mary Sherman helps serve dishes as her Honors English class works with ELL students to experience a variety of ethnic food.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



*What is the biggest change in high school from when you were a student?*

"My junior year in high school was the first year we had access to the internet, and it took a half hour for each page to load. Now kids get mad if it takes five seconds."

-Social Studies teacher Daniel Holder

Cultural cuisine...

Connie Jenson  
Betty Johnson  
Denise Johnson  
Joan Johnson  
Patrick Johnson  
Curtis Jones



Ruth Joyce  
Christopher Kalsow  
Raquel Kilen-Ibach  
Matthew Klamann  
Aaron Knodel  
Brenda Knoll



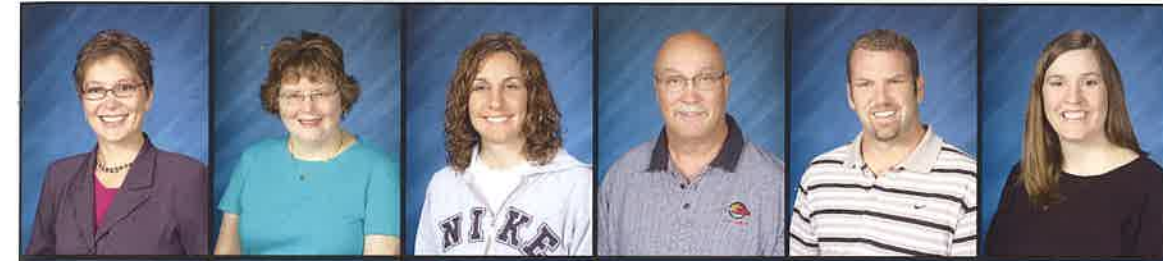
Nathan Knudsen  
Karla Knutson  
Joel Komrosky  
Lindsey Larsen  
Trina Lewis  
Lori Liebl



Brenda Luthi  
Mary Jo McKay  
Barbara Metcalf  
Jeffery Mueller  
Lynette Mund  
Jeremy Murphy



Toni Nelson  
Jerry Nordstrom  
Carol Olson  
Karen Olson  
Candice Paczkowski  
Erin Pearson



Maria Pegg  
Nancy Peterson  
Nicole Peterson  
Doyle Plecity  
Michael Preston  
Summer Quamme



Jessica Raile  
Thomas Rakoczy  
LaRae Rosenfeldt  
Amber Rudolph  
Katina Rued  
Lynne Sahr



Ryan Salisbury  
Terry Salter  
Jackie Schell  
Leslie Schmidt  
Donna Schneider  
Marti Simmons



Chris Sjue  
Matthew Slocumb  
Kathryn Stangeland  
Cory Steiner  
Rollin Swedberg  
Suzanne Thibert



Aaron Thielges  
Gail Tobkin  
Debra Uetz  
Irene Van Eeckhout  
Tonya Vetter  
Tom Whaley



Jana Wisthoff  
Jill Wold  
Susan Woodley  
Susan Zurn

### Not Pictured

- |                  |                  |
|------------------|------------------|
| Robert Bjornson  | Heather Klundt   |
| Darrin Boehm     | Liberty Leining  |
| Susan Boyle      | Greg Linke       |
| Stacy Erlandson  | Steve Marquart   |
| Joy Fisch        | Leah Martell     |
| George Fisher    | Darin McKinnon   |
| Ryan Gravalin    | Jessica McKinnon |
| Brenda Hansen    | Karen Nickel     |
| Steve Hanson     | Ross Richards    |
| Michelle Highman | Mary Sherman     |
| Suellyn Hoffart  | Kim Soderholm    |
| Daniel Holder    | Aaron Tank       |
| Jim Jonas        | Paul Tefit       |
| Susan Jordahl    | Kerri Whipple    |
| Brian Kappel     |                  |



*How does your car reflect your personality?*

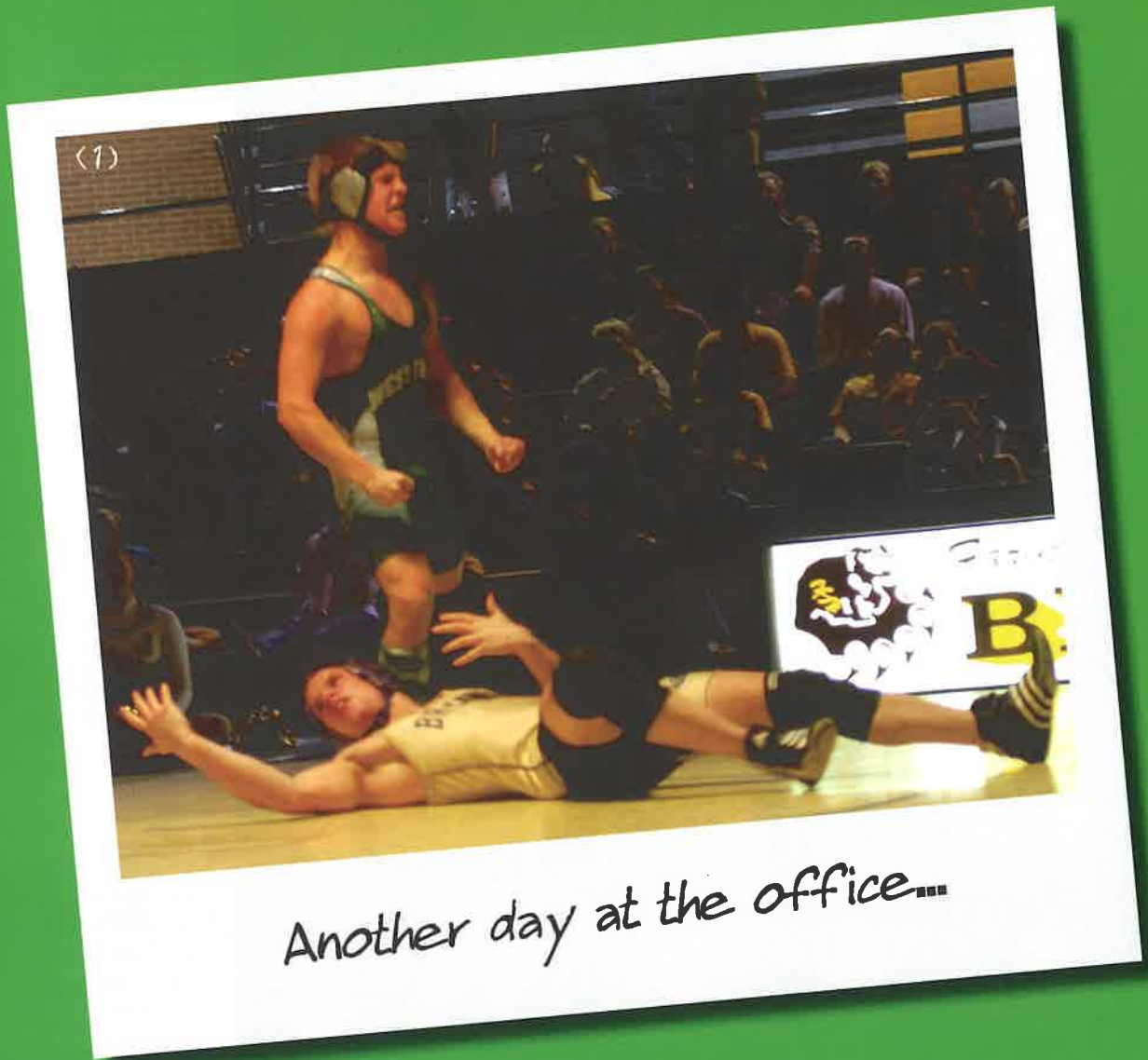
"It's reliable and does what it's supposed to do when it's supposed to do it."

-English teacher Irene Van Eeckhout



1) And now I proudly present... Speaking to the audience at a choir concert, performing arts teacher Jeffery Mueller introduces his students. (Photo by Jill Utter)

2) Picking and choosing... Librarian Jane Holland, history teacher Barb Metcalf, computer technician Steve Swenson and business teacher Steve Anderson decide on the winner of the fall pep rally dance off. (Photo by Abby Paul)



Another day at the office...



1) What a pin... Junior Dustin Holmes celebrates after pinning Fargo South's Lee Gullickson. "It felt good to pin him because we wrestled three times that year," Holmes said. "He is a very physical wrestler so I felt like I accomplished something."  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Just keep swimming... Freshman Austin Keller comes up for a breath between laps while swimming the butterfly stroke.  
(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

3) Almost to the finish... Running with all her might, freshman Cassandra Baumgartner tries to get past a Moorhead opponent to take the lead.  
(Photo by Jill Umer)

4) Defense... As Bismarck Century tries to make its way across the field August 25, senior Jordan Schweitzer goes in for the tackle.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



# Sports

As The Athletes See It...

# Fall Sport Teams

## Season Results:

Overall Record: 6-3  
 Biggest Win: 44-0 against Shanley  
 Captains: Broc Bellmore, Rob Gibson, Tyler Swanson, Chris Urlaub

### As the captains see it:

"We did pretty well this year considering all of the inexperience on the team."  
 - Junior Tyler Swanson

## Season Results:

Overall Record: 20-14  
 Biggest Win: 2-1 against Fargo South  
 Captains: Jamie Green, Sadie Doggett, Jessica Holaday

### As the captains see it:

"We were excited to win the Fargo Tournament. We were the first team to do that in the school's history."  
 - Junior Jamie Green



Boys Football



Volleyball



Girls Swimming

## Season Results:

Overall Record: Individual results  
 Biggest Win: Upsetting Fargo North  
 Captain: Christina Hawley

### As the captains see it:

"One of our big goals was to beat North, so it was really exciting to win our dual against them."  
 - Senior Christina Hawley

## Season Results:

Overall Record: 4-5  
 Biggest Win: 8-1 against Wahpeton  
 Captains: Jim Broton

### As the captains see it:

"Even though we just missed state, I am proud of the progress we've made and what we've accomplished."  
 - Senior Jim Broton

## Season Results:

Overall Record: Individual results  
 Biggest Win: State meet  
 Captains: Cydney Crowe, Cassandra Saylor, David Baltezare, Travis Stadum

### As the captains see it:

"The state meet was our biggest win because everyone had their best times."  
 - Junior Travis Stadum

## Season Results:

Overall Record: 7-2-7  
 Biggest Win: 2-1 against Shanley  
 Captains: Aaron Redenius, Gerrit Haerter

### As the captains see it:

"This year was a learning experience for a lot of the underclassmen, but when we played Shanley, our hard work and effort shined through."  
 - Senior Gerrit Haerter

## Season Results:

Overall Record: N/A  
 Biggest Win: EDC at Rose Creek  
 Captains: Alexa Kleingartner, Haley Nudell, Rachel Western

### As the captains see it:

"Our goal was to get to state and place higher than last year. We didn't end up placing, but did good overall."  
 - Senior Alexa Kleingartner



Boys Tennis



Cross Country



Boys Soccer



Girls Golf



- 1) You can't catch me... Junior Tyler Swanson makes his way down the field, trying to get away from his Devils Lake opponents. "We worked hard this year and did well for losing so much experience," Swanson said. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)
- 2) Keep running... Senior Rob Gibson runs from a Bismarck player while trying to score a touchdown. (Photo by Anna Gibson)
- 3) Hut, hut! Junior Mason Thorstad waits for the signal to snap the ball at the home game Friday, Aug. 25 against Bismarck Century. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 4) Jump up high... Preparing to land on top of the pack as they get ready for the game against Fargo South, senior Cole Hørsager runs and jumps. (Photo by Abby Paul)

# Goodbye Lodoen Field

## New turf, new challenge

It is the last home game of the football season. The final touchdown is scored, making the final score 42-7, West Fargo defeats North Fargo. As the clock winds down, the players realize this is not only the seniors' last time to step foot on the Lodoen Field, but all of the underclassmen as well.

After the outstanding outcome of this year's home games, winning all five, it may be hard for

the Packers to take these great wins to a different field starting in the fall of 2007.

Because of the change, there are both pros and cons to the new field. "I think it is a good contribution to what our school is becoming," senior Broc Bellmore said. "Now most of our activities are located in one central area."

Although the new location will be more convenient for the football audience, many players agree the field will not feel the same. "We have played on the Lodoen Field throughout high school," junior Tyler Swanson said. "It is going to be weird to be on this new field every Friday night instead of the old one."

Despite the fact the players will not be playing on the same field, there is a consensus that the same Packer excellence must follow. "Even though it is not our regular turf, we'll make the new field our new home," junior Kyler Eid said.

Playing on the new football field in the fall of 2007 has arguments for both sides. It is true, however, that wherever the West Fargo Packer excellence is brought, it will always be considered "home sweet home."

- Ashley Helm



Get pumped up!

1) Ready, set, serve... Hoping the ball gets over the net, junior Jessica Holaday serves. (Photo by Jill Utter)

2) Keeping the game fun... During a home game, juniors Whitney Adams and Emily Hartley share a laugh in between serves. (Photo by Jill Utter)

3) Jump and block... Sophomore Sarah Denne and junior Jamie Green jump to block the ball at EDC. "I needed to block it because I wanted to get the team and fans excited," Green said. (Photo by Megan Schwartz)

4) Way to go team... Giving each other high fives, senior Jennifer Capouch, sophomore Blake Selisker and junior Jessica Holaday congratulate each other. (Photo By Alyssa Jones)



# Girls roam through jungle

## Volleyball team survives wild

In the wild jungles of South America, natural selection reigns king. Moving north across the equator, the same survival of the fittest rule applies in North Dakota high school volleyball. The West Fargo team proved to be one of the fittest teams this year, finishing first at the East-West crossover Fargo Tournament in October and second at the EDC tournament.

Though a winning season is always exciting, the Pack was most proud of the strides they took as a team. "Our big goal was becoming a team, and we achieved that over the year," senior Jennifer Capouch said.

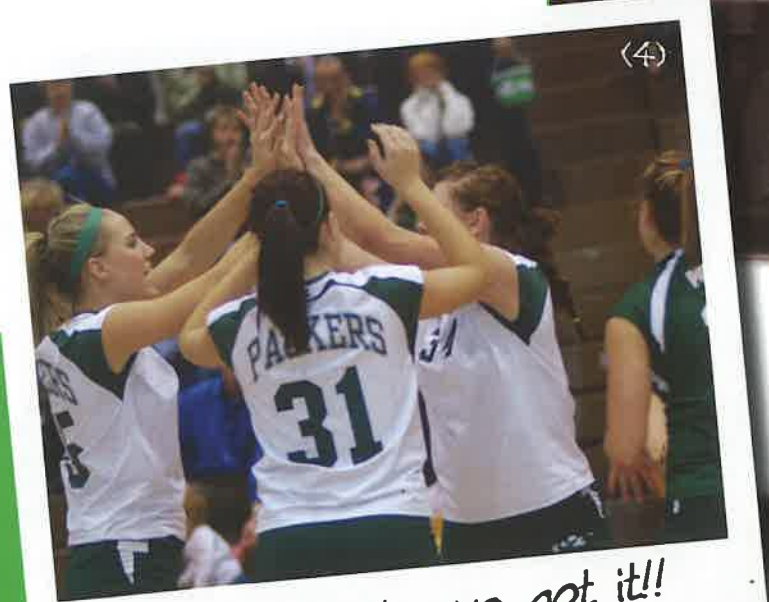
The path the girls followed to the final product had its bumps along the way. "The beginning of the season we started slow, and we went through some thick obstacles," junior Whitney Adams said. "As we worked our way up, the trees started thinning. We worked our way through the thick parts of the jungle."

The main factor in the Packers not-so-stellar beginning was inexperience. The team had only one senior, but playing a few games turned the players into old pros. "I think we acted like we had experience, and we were able to come out of tight situations with a win," sophomore Sarah Denne said.

These close wins resulted from a new team chemistry found in the middle of the season. Working together, the team discarded earlier clashes to achieve victory. "We're all very different, but we depended on each other, like in the jungle," Denne said.

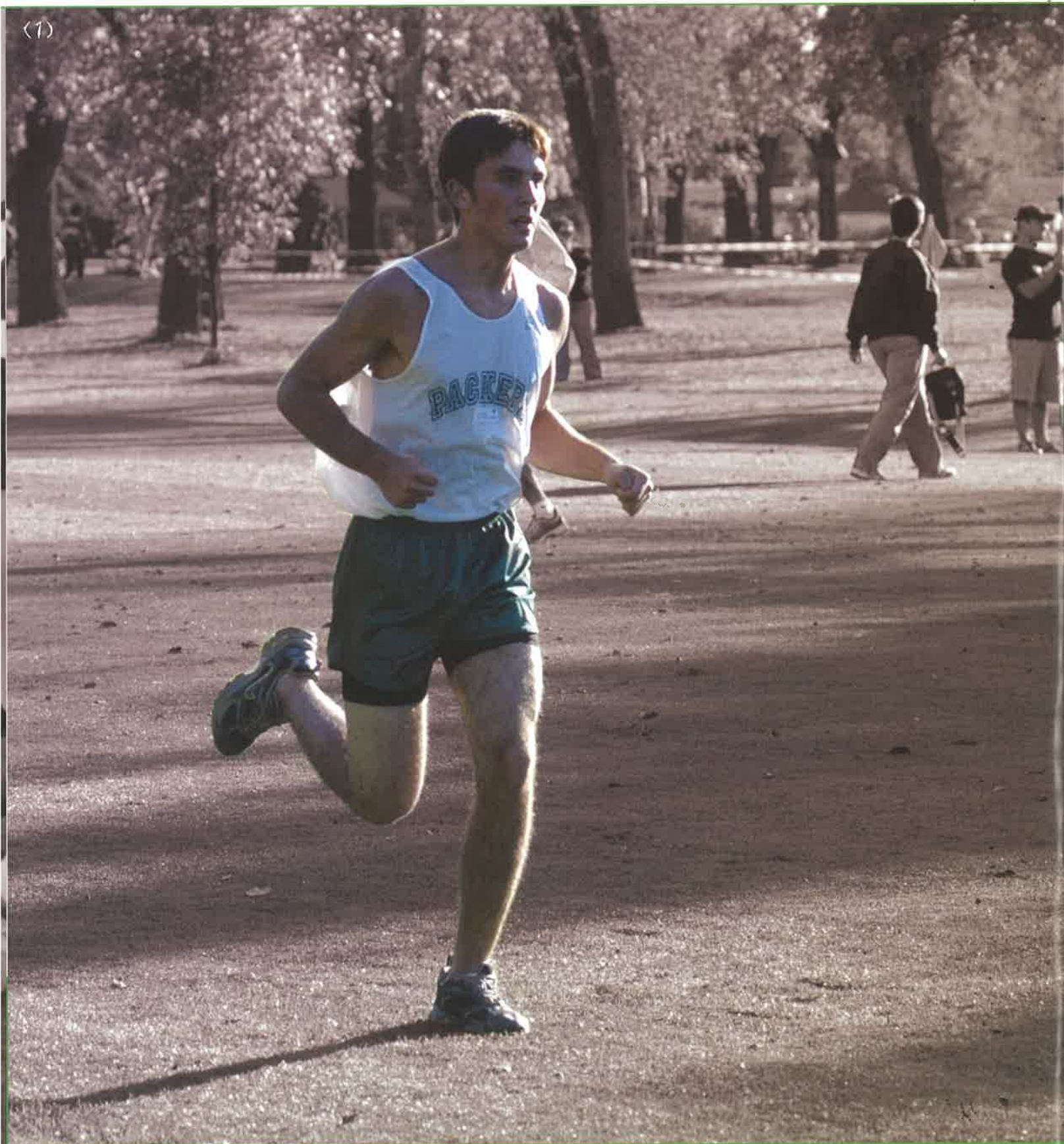
With the pressures of being on top of the "food chain" and the need to depend on one another to "survive," it is only appropriate that the Packers ran into the gym for home matches to the screaming of Guns-N-Roses "Welcome to the Jungle."

-Emily Hartley



Fire up girls, we got it!!





- 1) **Just keep running...** Senior Robert Huber tries to keep a good pace during his run for cross country. "Cross country teaches you patience," Huber said. "It is a good way to keep in shape." (Photo by Megan Schwartz)
- 2) **Running hard...** While getting to the finish line, senior Kevin McLean runs as fast as he can at Rose Creek Golf Course. (Photo by Megan Schwartz)
- 3) **Getting good mileage.** Pushing herself, sophomore Courtney Evanson runs at a meet in Grand Forks. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)
- 4) **You got this...** While waiting for the meet to start, seniors Robert Huber, Brian Heinz and Codie Zahradka get themselves pumped up. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)

# Finishing with beats

## Music makes difference

The wind is blowing; sweat is dripping down his face, and pain is shooting up his leg with every step. This is what runners may go through during a cross country meet, but if they want to finish they have to put the pain aside and fill their minds with other thoughts. During a run many things may be on the mind of the runner; whether it is thinking about what they are doing after practice, the music playing in their ear, or just the thought

of finishing, there is always something to think about. Some people on the team try to stay optimistic when they run and think about what they are planning on doing later in the day. "I try to think positive and think about hanging out with friends," senior Amanda Barclay said.

Listening to music is another thing that helps some of the runners get ready for a race. "I listen to music before I run sometimes," senior Mary-Michael Vance said. "If I you to the right kind of music it can pump you up."

Others simply keep their mind focused on the thought of completing the race. "When I run all I think about is finishing," senior Codie Zahradka said.

Either way, the pain seems to fade away when the mind is filled with other thoughts. For every person those thoughts may be different, but they are all achieving the same thing.

The boy sees the finish line, the image that's been in his mind the entire race. He suddenly picks up his pace. His mind is no longer on the pain; it's on his victory.

-Danielle Mehus



Just concentrate!

1) Like a windmill... Being precise on her strokes, freshman Chelsea Gentzkow warms up at the EDC swim meet. (Photo by Emily Hartley)



2) Silence is golden... Holding the audience captivated, junior Emily Baasch performs her first place dive at the EDC swim meet. (Photo by Emily Hartley)



3) We have lift-off... Racing at the EDC swim meet, sophomore Katie Fretheim catapults into the pool. The Packers took second place at the meet. "With everyone cheering, it makes the atmosphere really exciting," Fretheim said. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

4) Just in time... Glancing at the clock after finishing her race, senior Kelsey Schoonhoven and sophomore Katie Fretheim confirm Schoonhoven's first place finish in the 50-meter freestyle at the EDC swim meet. (Photo by Emily Hartley)



# More of a lifestyle

## Girls put in time, hard work

Swimming, according to Webster's dictionary, is to move through or across a body of water. This definition however may be considered incomplete to the girls swimming team, especially the four senior girls who have dedicated many years of their lives to swimming.

Swimming, to these girls is more than a sport. "Swimming takes so much time, it is more like a lifestyle than a sport," senior Ally Holland said.

The girl's swim team has been through many experiences together, that only let them become better friends. "These girls are some of my best friends, swimming wouldn't be the same without them, I'm so glad I was able to swim with them over the years," senior Lindsay Wangler said.

As the swim team spends so much time together, it is important that they are able to support each other. "The girls on the swim team are always so positive, we push each other up and try to get each other to do better," senior Kelsey Schoonhoven said.

The four senior girls have been swimming together for most of their high school careers, and will always look back at the time spent with happiness. "My favorite

memory of swimming is when I used to be faster than both Ally and Lindsay, and I never let them forget it. Its kind of a joke now," senior Christy Hawley said.

Swimming for these for seniors has been more than a sport. It's been a way of life, a form of exercise, and most importantly a way to express themselves. up having a very successful season.

-Kimberly Stulken



Good job! You did it!



(1)



1) Here it comes. At the last home game Sept. 12, sophomore Brian Olson sends the ball to his Devils Lake opponent. "I'm looking forward to a good season next year," Olson said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Reach for it. Playing at the North High courts during the West Fargo Invitational, sophomore Shaun Sinner quickly jumps up to hit the ball. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Watch the ball. Playing a match in Island Park during the West Fargo Invitational, junior Brandan Spitzer concentrates on returning the ball. (Photo by Abby Paul)

4) What's the plan. Listening to coach Chad Anderson, the tennis players get the game plan. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

# Support runs thin

## Tennis fans not effective

Tennis balls are flying through the air, rackets are swinging, shoes are squeaking on the court and boys are dressed in green and white uniforms. This is what a person would see if they were to attend a West Fargo boys' tennis match; the only problem is not many people go.

Listening to the conversations in the hallway, people would notice kids talking about going to a football or volleyball game, but they would not

hear many kids talking about going to a tennis match. "There are usually a lot of people there, but mostly parents come to the matches," junior Kyle Kastet said.

One aspect of poor student attendance at tennis matches could be the lack of a typical "student section" where they can cheer them on. "Everyone is usually scattered around and sitting with the parents in one big crowd," sophomore Brian Olson said.

Even though not as many students go to tennis matches, it does not affect the players. "I don't care if people come to watch me or not because it doesn't affect my performance," senior James Broton said.

Athletes supporting teammates, fans yelling at the top of their lungs and coaches giving orders are plenty for the players to take in at a tennis match; yet through it all they do not let the number of people in the stands affect their game.

-Jamie Green



Get your game face on!

1) **Teamwork is key...** Passing the ball between them, senior Gerrit Haerter and junior Artan Vlahiu work together against Mandan.  
(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)



2) **Be aggressive...** Working hard senior Aaron Redenius collides with a Fargo South player as he kicks the ball toward the goal.  
(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)



3) **Follow that ball...** Eyeing the ball, junior Michael Schnepf attempts at the goal against Fargo South. "We had a good season but I thought we could have done better," junior Michael Schnepf said.  
(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

4) **Man on...** Seeing his opponents coming for the ball, sophomore Brandon Fitterer kicks it up high away from the Crookston team.  
(Photo by Tory Graves)

# So close, so far

## State soccer out of reach

Sodden with sweat and looking forlorn, two boys soccer players share a disappointed glance as their dream of reaching the state tournament is torn from their grasp.

After finishing third in the state in 2005, the Packers lost a host of senior players. They began the 2006 season with an inexperienced team and a 1-4 record. "Our defense was very young and still learning, and our offense was experienced but didn't score often," junior Matthew Harsch said.

With a few games under their belt, the boys found their place later in the year. "We never found our rhythm until the end of the season when we changed our playing style to the way most of us had played before," senior Aaron Redenius said.

This new style helped the Packers peak at the end of the season, winning four out of their last five games. The peak, however, was not high enough, as a loss to Grand Forks Red River on Sept. 28 dashed the team's hopes of returning to state for the 11th time in 12 years. "We played hard to finish the season on a winning streak and prove we deserved to go to state," Redenius said.

The team hopes this winning streak will continue into next year as they push again to earn a state berth. "We need to apply what we learned this year

right at the beginning of next year so we can come out winning," junior Nathan Kuik said.

The two teammates half-heartedly listen to the coach console his players after the game. Crumpling into their cars, the senior looks back to passed years at state, while the junior looks forward to another chance next year.

-Emily Hartley



Heads up!



# Golf becomes mental game

## Girls feel pressure to putt

She stands at the hole ready to putt in the ball; if she makes this shot, she will start off her round under par. She swings and misses, bringing down her confidence and setting a bad outlook for the rest of the course.

Most sports are physically demanding. Golf, however, is a mentally challenging game. One bad hole, and the rest of the round goes down hill. "Golf is a mental game because you are out there on your own and need to pick yourself up if you do bad," senior Haley Nudell said.

Pressure put on by coaches and parents can also affect a player's mental attitude. Some find they can zone out the pressure when it comes right down to it. "Coaches put pressure on you and want you to do well, and your parents want the best for

you, but I can zone out the pressure when it comes to knuckle time," senior Alexa Kleingartner said. "I still feel the pressure, but in the end I know they still love me."

Senior Rachel Western feels less pressure from coaches and parents and more from herself. "I put the most pressure on myself," Western said. "Most of the time it hurts my game."

Because golf is a mental game, many golfers have superstitions that help them feel better prepared for the game.

Although golf may be a stressful game, it is worth the long hours of practice and mental preparation. Players accept the stresses of golf, and know they have to work hard. "You have your good days and your bad ones," Nudell said.

-Kira Gilbrath



Fooooore!!



1) Oh no... Sophomore Cassandra Martin watches after she drives the ball into the sand trap at the Rose Creek Golf Course. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)

2) Watch out... Looking to see how far she drove the ball, senior Alexa Kleingartner watches the green at the Village Green Tournament in Moorhead Sept. 20. "Golf is a lot harder than it looks," Kleingartner said. "If it was so easy, then everyone would want to try it." (Photo by Sam Gehrig)

3) Score... Leaning over to watch the ball sink, senior Haley Nudell keeps an eye on the hole at the Village Green Golf Course Sept. 20. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)



# Fashion Found on Fairway

## Golfers dress professionally

Suiting up for a meet has become more than just picking out regular clothes. The dress code for competition remains strict and golfers are forced to dress accordingly.

Although they can wear street clothes to practice, the players are required to wear specific clothing to meets.

For practice, the boys often dress according to the weather or what is most comfortable. "At practice we wear our regular clothes, mostly what we wear to school," senior Matthew Flanigan said.

Unlike the laidback style at practice, during tournaments players are required to look more professional. "At all meets we wear collared shirts and khaki pants," senior Matthew Klein said.

Because of the strict dress code, the players are forced to wear certain clothes or face the consequences. "It's frowned upon if we are not dressed the right way," junior Adam Lester said.

Whether they are at a meet, or just swinging away at practice, the boys on the golf team always have to keep the dress code in mind.

Clothing may seem like a minor detail to most people, but on the course appearance is key.

-Ashley Helm and Danielle Mehus



Putt putt...



1) Swing away... After driving at a golf meet, junior Adam Lester hopes for the best as he watches the ball. (Photo by Megan Schwartz)

2) A long drive... Senior Matthew Klein practices his swing at the Village Green Golf Course. "Our biggest accomplishment was making it to state," Klein said. (Photo by Victoria Hadzait)

3) Soft touch... Taking a stroke, senior Adam Nelson putts the ball at golf practice. (Photo by Victoria Hadzait)

# Winter Sport Teams

## Season Results:

Overall Record: 6-3  
 Biggest Win: 66-58 against Devils Lake  
 Captains: Mary-Michael Vance, Sara Dell, Johanna Haerter

### As the captains see it:

"This year was a learning year but we showed what we had when we beat Devils Lake who took second at state."

-Senior Sara Dell



Girls Basketball

## Season Results

Overall Record: 8-13  
 Biggest Win: 5-3 against Detroit Lakes  
 Captains: Alex Olson, Jake Miller, Tyler Swanson

### As the captains see it:

"We were shaky in the beginning of the season, but we showed what we had when we beat Detroit Lakes at the Holiday Tournament."

-Senior Alex Olson



Boys Hockey



Wrestling

## Season Results:

Overall Record: Individual results  
 Biggest Win: Against Wahpeton at Sertoma  
 Captains: Lex Lunde, Anthony Charbonneau, Cameron Ramberg

### As the captains see it:

"The whole team did really well this year, especially when we beat Wahpeton at Sertoma who actually won state."

- Junior Lex Lunde

## Season Results:

Overall Record: -  
 Biggest Win: Winning kick and jazz at state  
 Captains: Kelli Clark, Sarah Parkhouse

### As the captains see it:

"This year was a trying season, but the wins felt great and we worked really hard."

-Senior Kelli Clark



Packatahnas

## Season Results:

Overall Record: -  
 Biggest Win: Fifth place at Mall of America competition  
 Captains: Christine Hasse

### As the captains see it:

"We did the best at the DeLaSalle competition. We didn't drop any stunts and it went really well."

-Senior Christine Hasse



Cheerleading

## Season Results

Overall Record: 17-8  
 Biggest Win: Beating Devils Lake at state  
 Captains: Tanner Farkas, Rob Gibson

### As the captains see it:

"Making it to state and taking fifth place was a big accomplishment for us because we were an inexperienced team."

- Junior Tanner Farkas



Boys Basketball

## Season Results:

Overall Record: Individual results  
 Biggest Win: 44-0 against Shanley  
 Captains: Ross Keller, Garret Abraham

### As the captains see it:

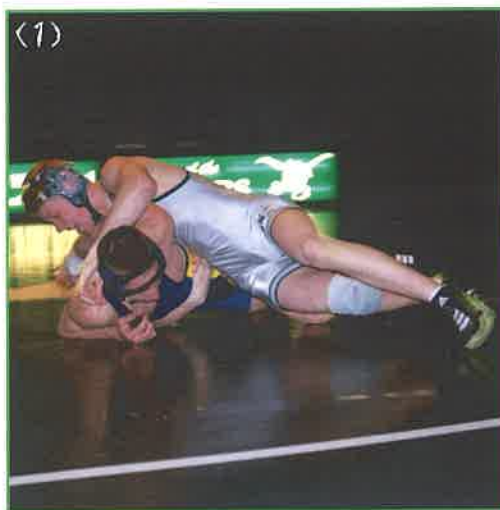
"The team really improved over the season and the new swimmers stepped up. We did well and placed second at EDC."

-Senior Ross Keller

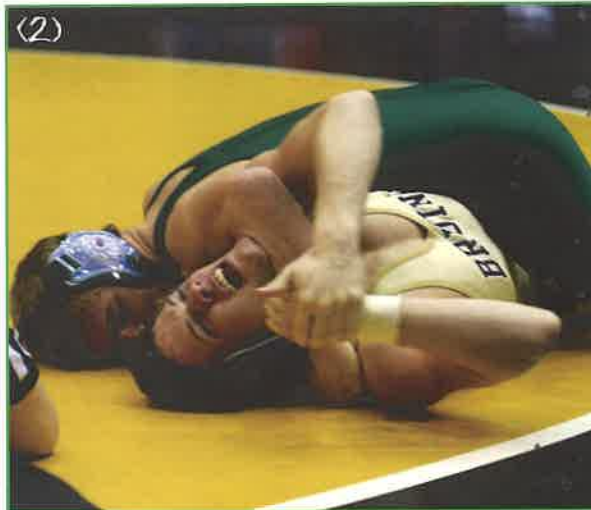


Boys Swimming

1) Stay on top... With a tight grip around a Fargo North opponent, junior Tony Owens battles to get on top and make a pin.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



2) Almost got him... Junior Dusty Holmes strives for the pin against his Fargo South opponent at the EDC competition.  
(Photo by Tory Graves)



3) Take him down... Junior Anthony Charbonneau headlocks his opponent and wins the match on his way to taking second place at the state wrestling tournament at the Fargo dome. "We finished better in reality than on paper," junior Anthony Charbonneau said.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

4) You're mine... While at the EDC wrestling tournament, sophomore Austin Casazza struggles to pin his opponent's shoulders.  
(Photo by Tory Graves)

# Juniors pin leadership

## Team lacks senior guidance

The wrestling team ended the 2006 season with a bang. More than half the members who helped with previous Packer success graduated and left the team with the oldest athletes being juniors.

As the season started with no seniors, the team had to find captains. The juniors, being the oldest wrestlers this year, took the role of leading the team. "Once the season started the juniors stepped up and took the job of keeping everyone together," coach Kayle Dangerud said.

Many of the younger wrestlers found themselves going to the juniors for guidance. "I found myself looking to Dusty, Anthony and Lex because they took the first step in the beginning and acted as leaders to the team," freshman Scott Schiller said.

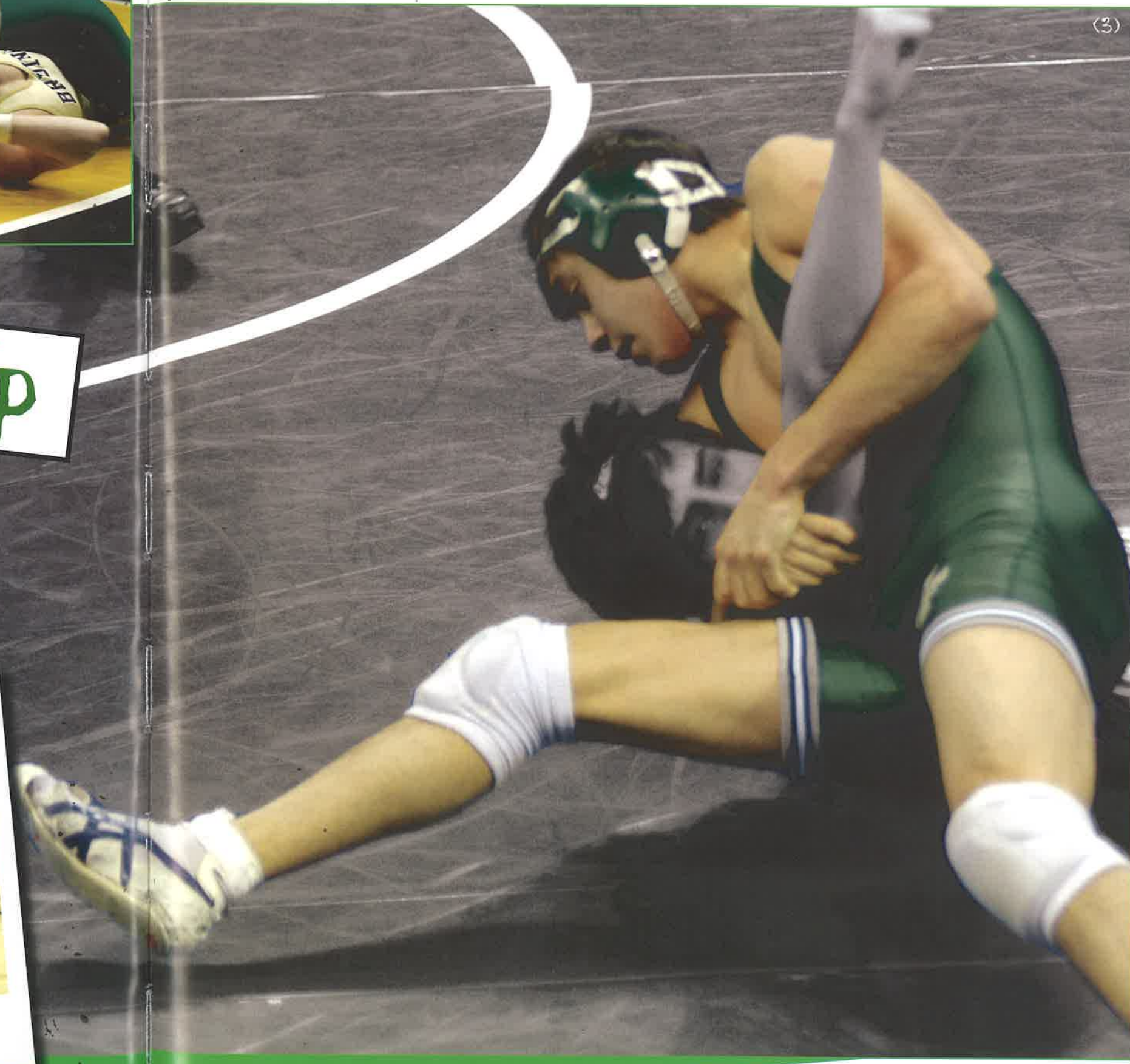
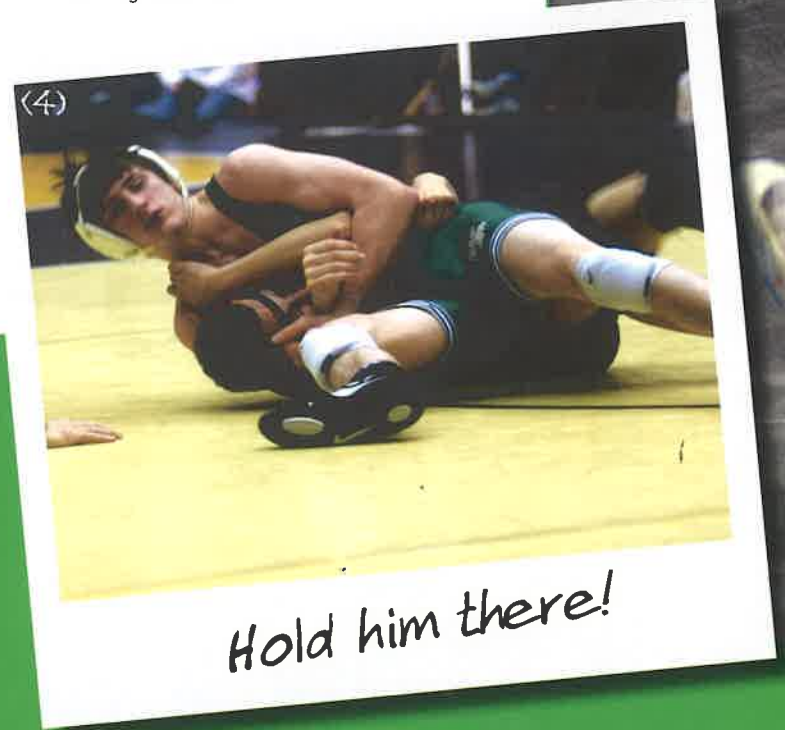
Some people see a team without seniors as weak, but not for West Fargo. "They were a young team with two eighth graders, four freshmen, one sophomore, and eight juniors looking to only juniors for guidance, and the juniors did a good job," Dangerud said.

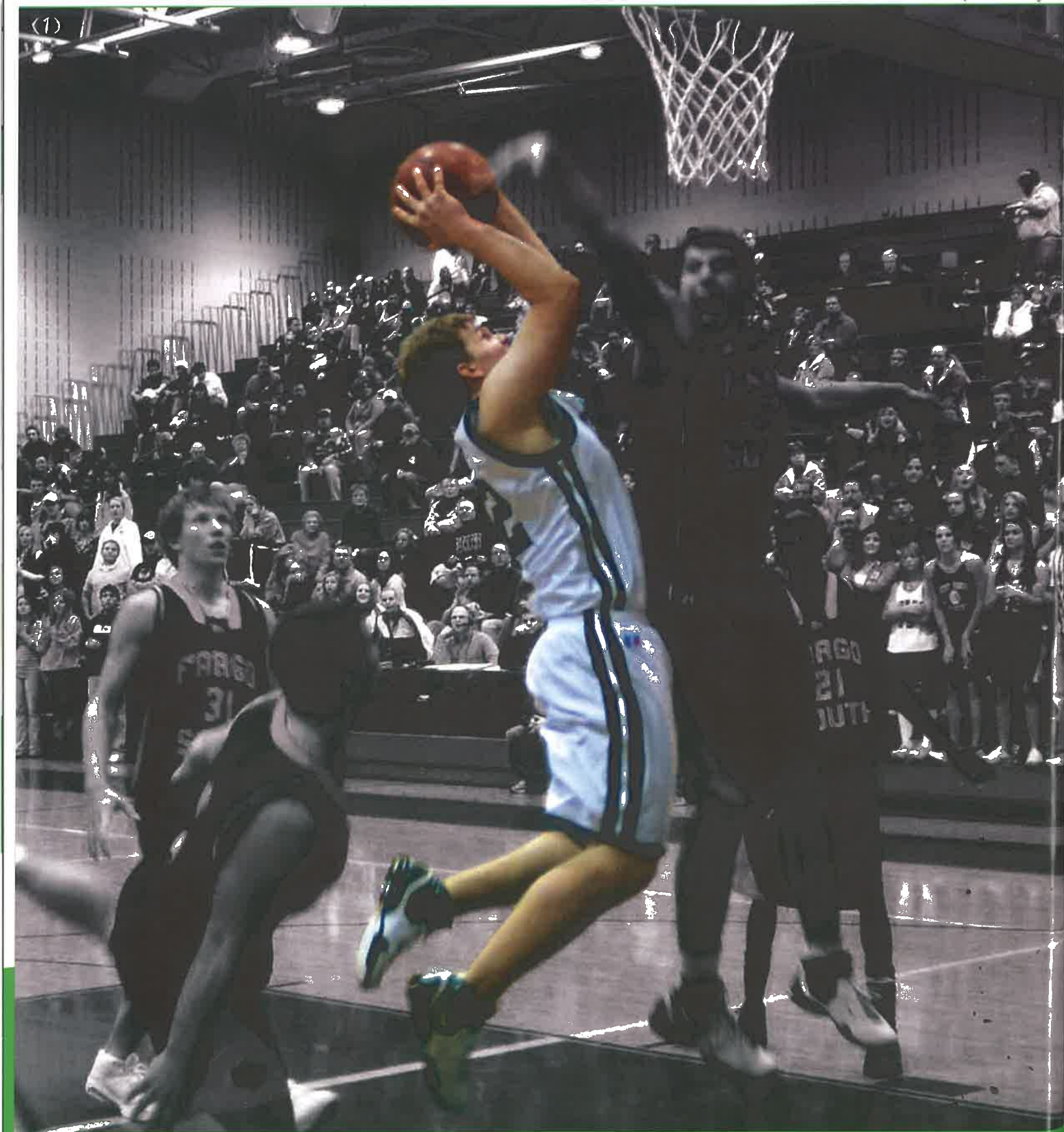
The wrestlers are still lifting and participating in many tournaments this summer to stay strong and come back tough next year. "I'd like to see everyone qualify for state, win EDC and state as a team next

year," junior Anthony Charbonneau said. "Also, I'd like to see us crown some individual EDC and state champions next year."

The team overcame the challenge of no seniors and looks forward to coming back next year experienced and strong.

-Ashley Yochim





(1)



(2)



(3)

- 1) **Count the basket.** Junior Nathan Kuik is fouled in the final minute against Fargo South, resulting in a three-point play to win the game. "Tanner [Farkas] gave me a great pass, and I finished it," Kuik said.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)
- 2) **He jumps and he...** Playing against Fargo North, junior Tanner Farkas jumps to get the ball into the hoop.  
(Photo by Megan Schwartz)
- 3) **Box out.** Defeating Fargo North, junior Jon Reznecheck boxes out to win the game.  
(Photo by Megan Schwartz)
- 4) **He shoots, he scores.** Senior Rob Gibson takes a three-point shot in the Packer gym against Moorhead.  
(Photo by Emily Hartley)

# Staying Focused

## Outside factors affect game

His feet are planted and his mind is set on preventing the opponent from scoring. Suddenly he gets charged into and knocked over, but the referee calls the foul on him. Many factors affect the outcome of a basketball game and people do not realize

how much a bad call, traveling and rowdy crowds can change a game.

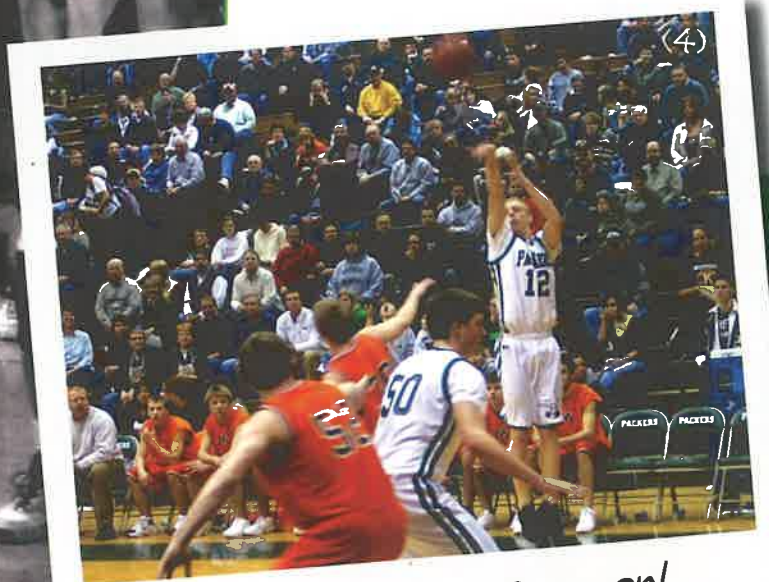
During a game a lot of calls are made and some of them do not always go the way they should, but the players can not do anything about it. "I just keep playing and try not to let it affect my game," junior Tanner Farkas said. "I let the coach deal with the refs."

Going on the road also creates a different atmosphere that can be challenging. Playing in an unfamiliar gym is not always easy and can make it hard to take charge of the game. "I like playing home games better because I am used to the gym," senior Gerrit Haerter said.

Crowds can also be a key element when playing rival teams. "When the crowd is loud it gets us pumped up," junior Steven Hay said.

In the end, there are many issues that can affect a basketball game that people do not always realize. When the game comes down to the last second, it is the little things that make the biggest difference.

-Danielle Mehus



(4)

Get your game face on!

1) Driving the lane... After rebounding and dribbling across the court, junior Sadie Doggett tries for a basket.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

2) I'm coming through... Running at full speed, junior Jamie Green maneuvers her way through the opponents to try and make a shot.

(Photo by Sam Gerhig)

3) Getting down and dirty... During a game against Moorhead, senior Johanna Haerter fights to keep the ball in her possession. "The seniors showed great leadership this year," Haerter said.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

4) Heads up... Senior Mary-Michael Vance dribbles her way past an opponent, ready to make a pass at a game against Grand Forks Red River.

(Photo by Abby Paul)



# Young athletes move up

## Packer team less experienced

As senior Sara Dell walks down the hallway looking into the gym, she sees all of her basketball friends inside shooting around getting ready for the first day of practice. She knows this year will be a tough season, but she is not worried because she knows the team has talent.

Coming into this season the girls basketball team was missing a few familiar faces. The team lost five experienced seniors from last year and everyone wondered what was going to happen this year with the team's inexperience. "I was a little nervous because I didn't know what to expect this season," junior Whitney Adams said. "I played on the junior varsity team last year, but varsity is a whole different game."

As the season progressed the Packers ended up fourth in the conference, which some people did not expect. Others such as Dell were not surprised. "I knew we could be up there in the conference if we played hard and worked together as a team," Dell said.

The inexperience of the team did not seem to be a factor throughout the season until the state tournament rolled around. "It might have been a

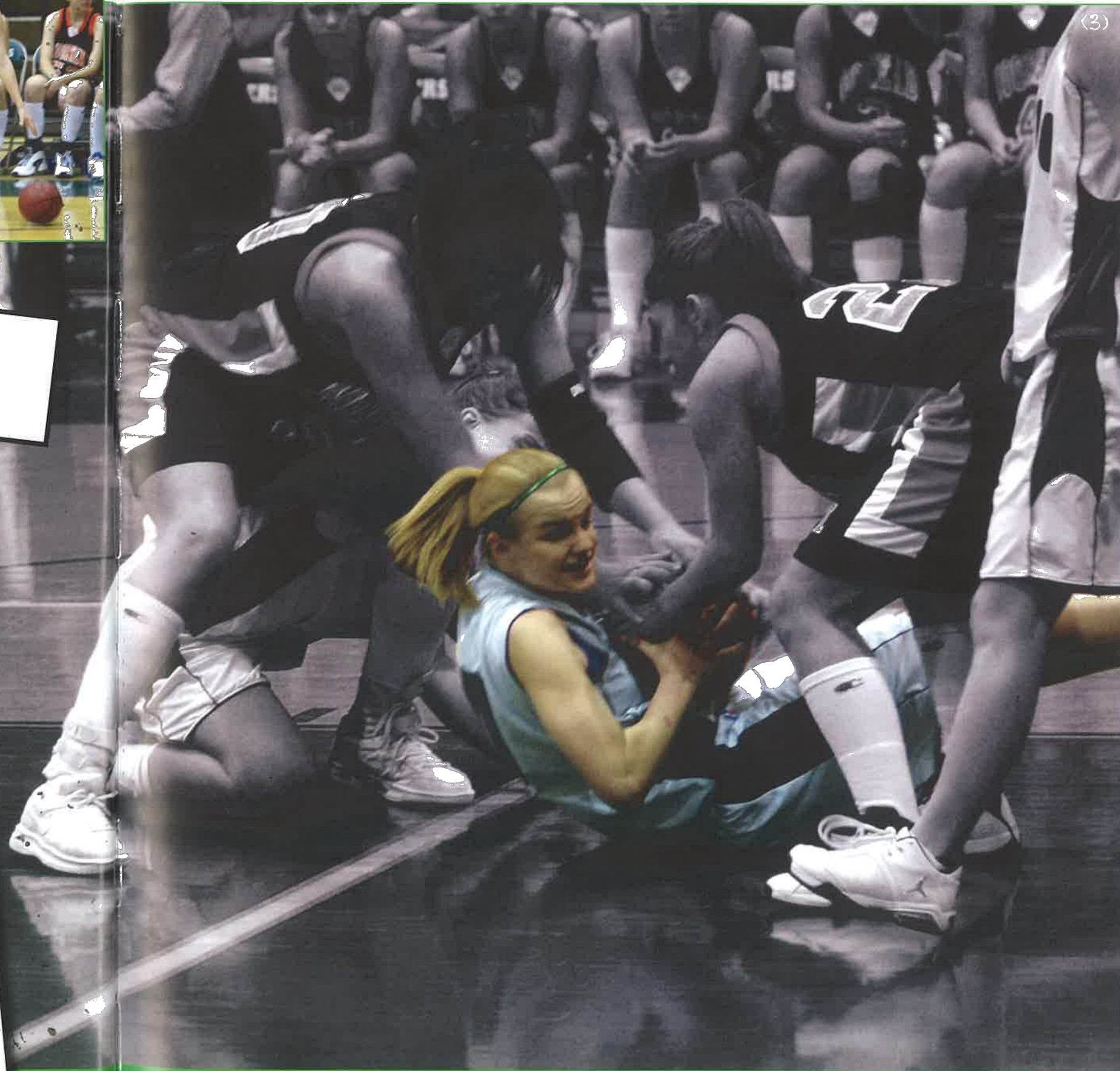
factor in not making it to state, but we also had a lot of injuries that we had to overcome throughout the season," senior Johanna Haerter said.

Even though a lot of people had their doubts about the girls basketball season this year, there were still some who had faith, just like Dell.

-Jamie Green



Move it, sister!





1) **It's mine.** During a home game, senior Jake Miller battles for a face-off in his opponent's zone. "I am going to miss doing stuff with my hockey teammates on the hockey rink and off," Miller said.  
 (Photo by Samantha Gehrig)

2) **I got him.** Fighting against his opponent, junior Tyler Swanson battles for the puck.  
 (Photo by Megan Schwartz)

3) **On the move.** Gaining control of the puck, junior Kyler Eid works his way down the ice.  
 (Photo by Samantha Gehrig)

4) **Good work.** Junior Garrett Smith and sophomore Nathan Halda share a team moment after scoring a goal.  
 (Photo by Megan Schwartz)

# New team, new tricks

## Hockey team overcomes change

The hockey team began the season prepared for the large number of new teammates. Fourteen seniors from the previous year were no longer on the team.

The team had fun throughout the season with the obstacles they had to overcome. "To play with a bunch of new guys was a fun,

but difficult challenge," senior Alex Olson said. "The players who never played varsity last year really stepped up and performed like veterans. It took awhile to get into a rhythm, but once we did we were able to play with the top team."

To get used to the new players, they bonded as a team through many activities. "We did a lot of lifting and running together," senior Adam Crist said. "We also had team meals and started skating together early on in the year."

The outlook of next year is close to the same as this year, although there will only be seven seniors leaving versus the fourteen last year. "Next year will be similar to this year," junior Kirby Keller said. "There are a lot of underclassmen coming up that with time will have a lot of talent. We are looking forward to a successful year and our seniors will have to step it up."

Although the team had to overcome a huge change, they played their hardest and had a fun and successful year.

-Jaclyn Rankin



'At a boy!!

1) Breath of fresh air... Competing in the 200-free-style, junior Samuel Jacobs lifts his head for a quick breath.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

2) One stroke at a time... Sophomore Zachary Cormican swims the back stroke at the Fargo North Invitational.

(Photo by Emily Hartley)

3) I think I can... Senior Garrett Abraham gets on his tippy toes to go into a dive at the Jan. 26 home meet.

(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

4) Just a little bit farther... Freshman Christopher Burck comes up for a breath while swimming Jan. 26 at Berger pool.

(Photo by Alyssa Jones)



# Swim team bonds

## Plays Guitar Hero, helps community

The cheers of triumph echo all around, high fives are given and everyone is excited for the victory. The boys swim team can be found not only cheering on teammates at a meet, but also playing a favorite game, Guitar Hero.

The boys swim team finds new, unconventional ways to create growth and friendships. "This year, a bunch of us got together, shaved our heads and played Guitar Hero," freshman Jerrad Grindahl said. "It was a cool way to get pumped up and hang out with the other swimmers."

In addition to trying new team bonding activities, the boys swim team participates in traditional events year after year. "We always have a Super Bowl party at someone's house," senior Ross Keller said. "We also have various team meals, an EDC and State dinner. Then, we normally have parties after EDC and State."

The swim team likes to have fun, but they also give back to the community. "We participate in several community service projects," junior Sam Jacobs said. "The team helped at a charity event for the disabled; it really helped the team grow together as a whole."

The team does service projects for a variety of reasons, including creating team unity. "When the team does service projects, it brings us closer together

to be better teammates to each other," Jacobs said.

Another benefit of team parties or dinners is getting to know the new teammates. "Team dinners help the team bond and get to know each other better, especially the new swimmers," Keller said. "It also helps build team spirit."

From Guitar Hero to community service projects, the boys swim team does it all with the intention of producing more unity and creating team spirit.

-Kim Stulken



Just keep swimming...





- 1) Rise to the top... Bringing up the Packer spirit at the winter pep rally, senior Starla Helmer (front right) leads a cheer. "It's fun to be seniors at the pep rally because you're the oldest in the school," Helmer said. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)
- 2) 1,2,3, up... Freshman Beth Beyer receives a lift from fellow cheerleaders while performing for the crowd at the winter pep rally. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 3) Go green, go white... Waving pomps, freshman Vanessa Torvik, sophomore Jessica Leno and senior Amanda Mickelson pump up classmates. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 4) Catch me if you can... Coming down during a cheer, freshman Katie Myers, senior Starla Helmer and freshman Kelsey Thoreson hope to land safely. (Photo by Abby Paul)

# Successful youth

## Year brings new freshmen

While watching the cheerleaders at the pep rally, a spectator sees a young freshman girl tossed in the air. As the spectator keeps watching, he finds seven other freshmen cheering with her.

This year the cheer team started its season with eight rookies. Eight is not a big number, but when the team is made of 13 girls, rookies make up a high percentage. One may wonder why

there could possibly be such a small team. "We lost six seniors last year, and a middle school program started last year," senior Christine Hasse said.

The new middle school program sparked a lot of interest for freshmen trying out. "It's a big advantage having a middle school program because we don't have to re-teach them [freshmen] everything," sophomore Jessica Leno said.

The upperclassmen still help teach the new girls the ropes. "They told us about upcoming events and how to prepare for them," freshman Jennifer Haaland said.

Considering the number of rookies, the team still bonded well. "At first we were cliquey, but as the year went on we started bonding because we were with each other every day, and we got to know each other," Haaland said.

There are advantages to such a young team. "They can be on the team a lot longer so there isn't as many seniors leaving us," Leno said.

The cheerleaders had a good season with the new freshmen. The team received fourth place at the Fall State Competition, and at the Mall of America competition they received fifth.

-Tania Peters



Free Falling!

1) **Timing is key.** Dancing right in sync, the Packatahnas show off their first place high kick routine at a basketball game.

2) **Show some teeth.** While performing their pom routine at the fall pep rally, senior Kelli Clark and sophomore Kristina Yerisov enthusiastically smile at the crowd.

3) **Dramatic effect.** Sophomore Claire Moltzan stands out among Packatahna dancers at a basketball game performance. "There's much more pressure being on varsity, but it's more fun," Moltzan said.

4) **Strut your stuff.** Seniors Sarah Parkhouse and Kallista Nilson perform their jazz routine during half-time of a basketball game.



## All heart, dedication

### Packatahnas leave it on floor

Pop star Nelly explains through his music that, "It's the heart of a champion," and that is what the Packatahnas comprise. They were all heart this year, putting everything they had into each of their difficult routines.

The girls took on the challenge of five dance routines this season, compared to the usual three. This meant they had to compete in divisions they never had before and step out of their comfort zone. "I think we did well," senior Jessica Roth said. "We challenged ourselves with styles that were different for us."

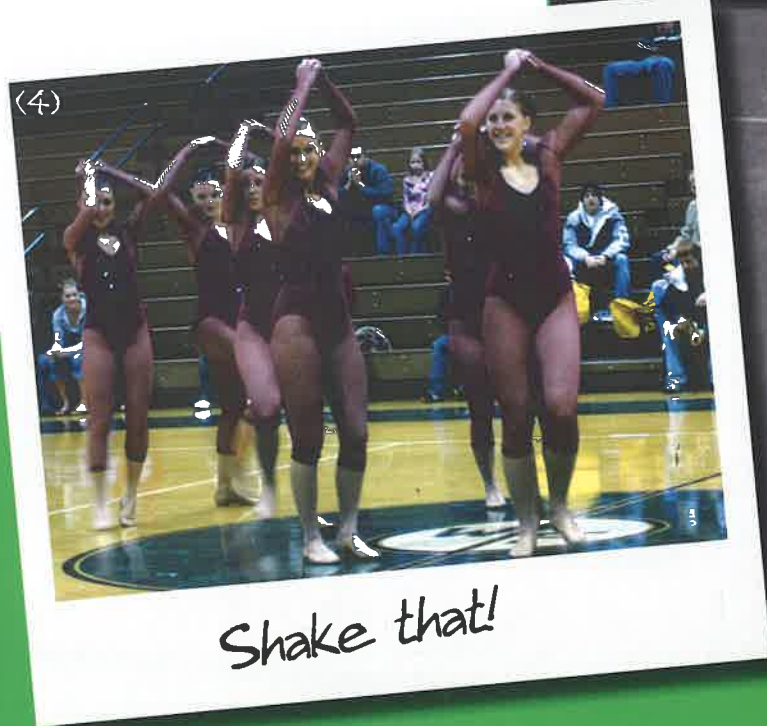
Even with all of these changes, the girls managed themselves well. "We have performed and have become better dancers than we ever were before," senior Elizabeth Erickson said.

Throughout the season they had to deal with some twists and turns in the awards. They realized they could not influence the judges in any other way than leaving it all out there on the floor. "It is out of our control," senior Kelli Clark said. "We did well and we were always proud of our placements."

As the Packatahnas finished off their season,

they found that they were champions in their own hearts. "I have learned that winning isn't everything," Clark said. But with two national titles and one third place finish under their belt, the Packatahnas have changed the level of West Fargo dance forever.

-Kelsey Stroh



Shake that!



# Spring Sport Teams

## Season Results:

Overall Record: 11-18  
 Biggest Win: Beating Fargo South at state  
 Captains: Grant Schmidt, Zach Odegard

### As the captains see it:

"We couldn't have capped off the season better than by beating South."  
 -Senior Grant Schmidt



Baseball

## Season Results

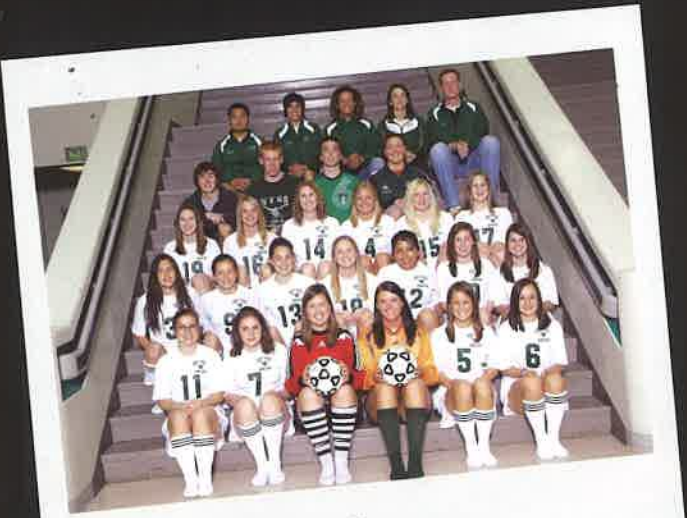
Overall Record: Individual results  
 Biggest Win: Qualifying for state  
 Captains: Adam Nelson, Matthew Klein

### As the captains see it:

"EDC was probably the biggest win for us because this is where we knew we were going to state in Grand Forks."  
 -Senior Matthew Klein



Boys Golf



Girls Soccer

## Season Results:

Overall Record: 3-6-3  
 Biggest Win: 5-0 against Grand Forks Central  
 Captain: Johanna Haerter

### As the captains see it:

"The season went by really fast. I thought we did really well."  
 -Senior Johanna Haerter

## Season Results:

Overall Record: Individual results  
 Biggest Win: Second at EDC  
 Captains: Jessica Hermanson, Abby Kiefer

### As the captains see it:

"It was an amazing way to finish the season for the girls to place fifth at state."  
 -Senior Jessica Hermanson



Girls Track

## Season Results:

Overall Record: 25-9, State Champions  
 Biggest Win: 5-4 and 10-6 against Fargo North  
 Captains: Sara Dell, Jamie Odden, Sarah English

### As the captains see it:

"It was completely improbable; we were the underdogs and we did it."  
 -Senior Sarah English



Softball

## Season Results

Overall Record: 9-4, Fourth at state  
 Biggest Win: Beating Fargo South  
 Captains: Jessica John, Sadie Doggett

### As the captains see it:

"We were really happy with the season. It was the biggest success the girls tennis team has ever had."  
 -Junior Sadie Doggett



Girls Tennis

## Season Results:

Overall Record: Individual results  
 Biggest Win: Second at EDC  
 Captains: Rob Gibson, Chris Urlaub, David Baltezare, Kirby Keller

### As the captains see it:

"We improved a lot during the year. At the beginning of the year at the indoor track meet we didn't place, but by the we placed second overall."  
 -Senior Rob Gibson



Boys Track

<1>



- 1) **Don't trip...** Leaping over a hurdle, senior Alexa Kleingartner jumps her way toward the finish line. "The most challenging thing about the 100-meter hurdles is to keep up your speed after you hit a hurdle," Kleingartner said. (Photo by Jill Utter)
- 2) **Ready, set, throw.** Trying to throw her hardest, freshman Briana Hartog launches the shotput out to get her mark at the NDSU meet. (Photo by Jill Utter)
- 3) **Almost there.** Dashing toward the finish line, junior Kirby Keller hopes his legs will not die on him before he reaches the finish line in the 400-meter dash. (Photo by Jill Utter)
- 4) **Flying high.** Lifting himself over the bar, junior Tyler Lund attempts to get himself over the bar in the pole-vaulting event at the Concordia meet. (Photo by Jill Utter)

# Opposing Forces

## Girls, boys teams differ

Based on gender alone, boys and girls are complete opposites. This opposing nature has come forth on the track and field teams this year, with underclassman girls and upperclassman boys taking on leadership roles.

With young state qualifiers in the 100 and 200

meter dashes, as well as relay teams and long distance, the girls track team has relied heavily on its underclassmen for points and motivation. "They contribute to the team and cheering people on, and a lot of underclassmen are some of the leaders on the team too," sophomore Krista Weiszhaar said.

Though they are the youngest members on the team, the underclassmen's leadership skills come from years of experience at the varsity level, starting for some in middle school. "We've been there longer than most of the seniors," sophomore Sarah Denne, a state qualifier in four events, said.

To contrast the underclassman leadership on the girls' side, the boys track team is continually led by juniors and seniors. "We have experience and know the ropes," junior Travis Stadum said. "[We] have helped the younger kids and been role models."

Despite the difference in age, the girls and boys track and field teams share one common trait - success.

-Emily Hartley



Just a little higher!

1) **Fight for it.** Freshman Kayla Miller races her Fargo North opponent to the ball.  
(Photo by Sam Gehrig)



2) **One with the ball.** Keeping the ball close to her feet, junior Allison Muller makes a move against Grand Forks Central.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



3) **Weaving through traffic.** Senior Jojo Haerter works through a crowd of Grand Forks players at a home game. "We should've won, but we didn't play our best," Haerter said.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

4) **Roughing up.** Fighting against her Grand Forks Central opponent, freshman Tia Lopez works to get the ball.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

# Feeling "Fit" to be tied

## Conditioning camp sparks team

An awkward-looking girl receives suspicious glances as she lumbers backward down the commons staircase. Unknown to her peers, the girl is trying to lessen the effects of the soccer conditioning camp she attended the night before.

The week-long camp before tryouts left many girls soccer players stiff and hurting. "The worst part about conditioning camp would have to be the squatting and walking like [you are sitting on] a chair across the court multiple times because it hurt really bad, and you could feel it in the morning," junior Nicole Brokmeier said.

The camp, brought about by new co-head coaches, was part of a season with a new look. "We had conditioning camp because our coaches felt we needed an edge against other teams and also because we're a really young team, and it would help us to run," Brokmeier said.

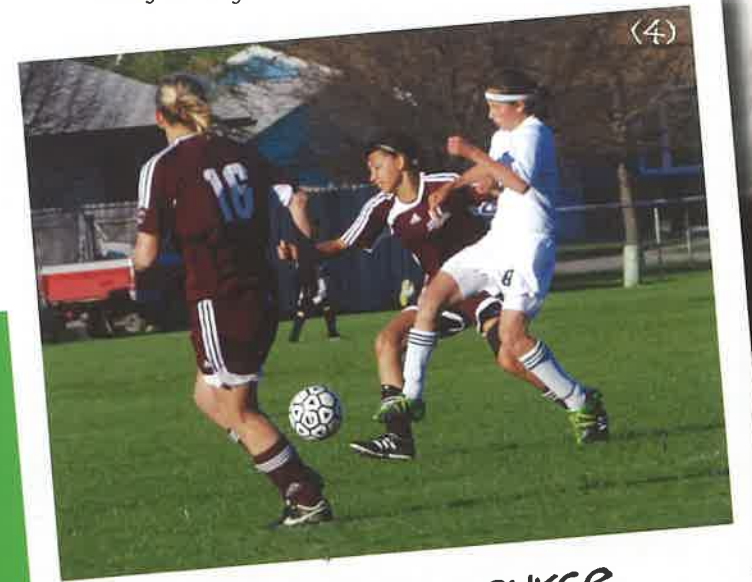
In addition, the camp helped girls who did not participate in other sports. "I think it was helpful because some of the girls hadn't done anything all fall," junior Cassandra Beckerleg said.

With the team in shape before tryouts, practices

also became more productive. "It has helped us do more drills at a longer time to improve faster," freshman Tia Lopez said.

During tryouts week last year, the same girl trudged sorely through the hallways; this year she skips down the stairs, pain free because of her strenuous camp the week before.

-Emily Hartley



Collision course





- 1) **Eyeing the strike zone.** While pitching at a game, sophomore Andrea Sluke concentrates on the batter. "While pitching I sing a song and focus on Becca's glove," Sluke said. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)
- 2) **Bust that ball baby.** Stepping up to the plate, senior Sara Dell gets in position, ready to keep her eye on the ball. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)
- 3) **Come to mama.** During a home softball game, senior Jennifer Lundberg waits for a grounder. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)
- 4) **P-U-M-P, pump it up.** Putting their heads together, the softball players cheer to keep their spirit up during the game. (Photo by Abby Paul)

# Girls prove passion

## Softball dedicated to victory

Callie drives past Elmwood with her heat on high and mittens on, she looks at the fields thinking anyone would be crazy to be outside, and then she sees the West Fargo fast pitch team practicing in their sweatpants, sweatshirts, and stocking caps on. She thinks, "Maybe they got into trouble and this is their punishment." But no, this is what happens

every year, no matter what the weather, no matter what team, the softball team practices outside.

Nine straight state championships and head coach Pat Johnson still loves every minute of coaching. "Being outside with girls who really want to play softball is the best part," Johnson said. "Does it get any better?"

With 12 seniors that graduated last year, there are not many players with varsity familiarity on the team. "The experience is huge difference," senior Sara Dell said. "There are only three players on this team who have started and played a whole varsity game before this season began."

The players, who played West Fargo softball in the past, still come to the games and feel pride of what they see. "I look out there and see so many of my students playing their hearts out, like I once used to," English teach Amber Rudolph said. "Although it has been eight years since I was a normal high school softball player, watching the team always helps me remember those times where my most stressful day was playing Fargo South at Mickelson Park."

As Callie still watches the girls practice, she realizes to them it does not matter what the weather is like, they play and practice as a team to achieve success.

-Ally McCracken



Lets go girls!

1) Right down the middle. Senior Justin Rheault pitches against Fargo North. (Photo by Ashley Helm)



2) Good connection, wrong direction. Senior Grant Schmidt fouls off a pitch by Grand Forks Central. (Photo by Emily Hartley)



3) Getting a good jump. Intent on the pitcher, junior Anthony Charbonneau gets a lead at first base. "The hardest part [about base running] is beating out a throw to a base," Charbonneau said. (Photo by Megan Schwartz)

4) Just playin' around. Goofing off at Parents Night, seniors Zachary Odegard and Cole Horsager throw some friendly punches. (Photo by Ashley Helm)

# Swing batter, batter

## State switches to wood bats

The ball goes flying through the air, a perfect hit to left field. Instead of the light "tink" the fans heard last year, they hear a bone crushing "smack".

The West Fargo Baseball team, and the rest of the state, went from using metal bats to wood bats this year. "Switching to wood bats is a three-year experiment that started this year," senior Curtis Hensley said. "When the ball is hit off the metal bat it is very dangerous for all infielders and especially the pitcher."

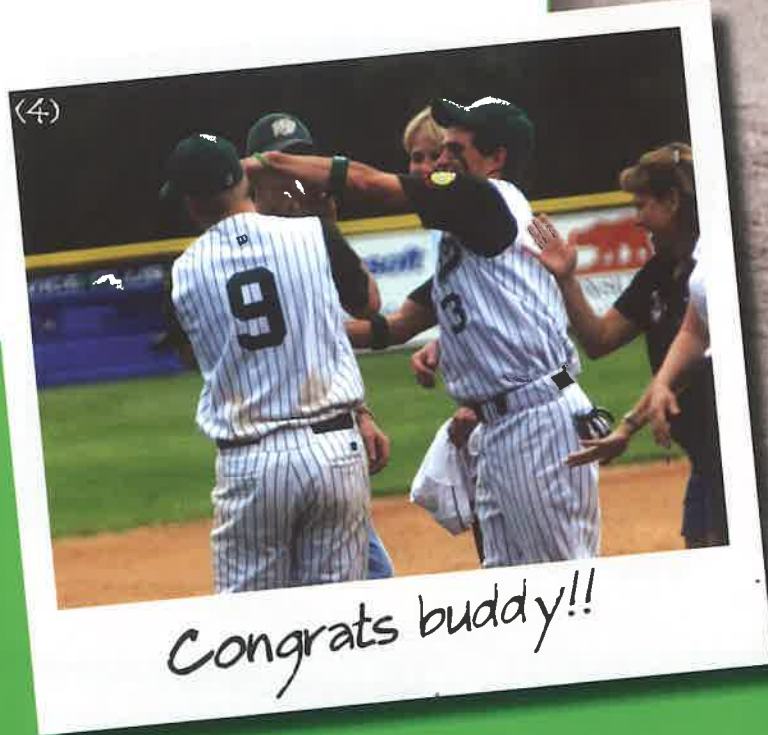
Wood bats not only help the safety of the players; they also improve their hitting. "The metal bats you could hit the ball anywhere on the bat and get a hit," junior Rudy Astran III said. "The wood bats make it a lot harder to get a hit because you need to hit the ball in the sweet spot."

New bats can even affect the outcome of the game. "This year there is not going to be very many 10-8 games," junior Anthony Charbonneau said. "It's going to be more fundamentals; the team with the fewest errors

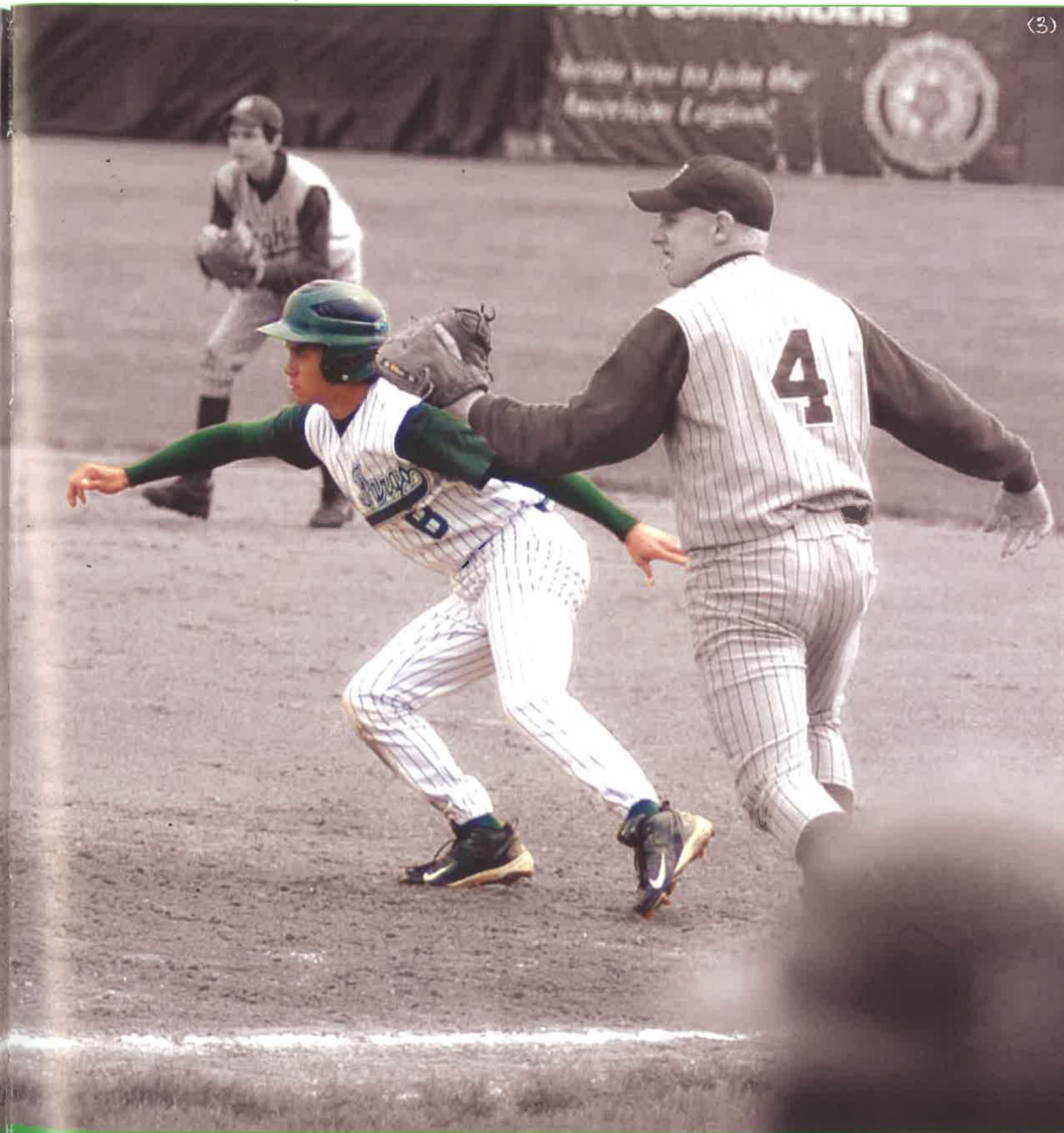
will end up winning the 2-1 game."

The left fielder tries to throw the batter out, but is just a few feet short. The batter hit the "sweet spot" on the new wood bat and safely slides into second.

-Ally McCracken



Congrats buddy!!





- 1) **Fancy footwork.** Senior Jessica John creatively gets to the ball. "Placing for the first time at state in 25 years was our greatest accomplishment," John said. (Photo by Whitney Adams)
- 2) **Time to score.** Taking a swing, junior Sadie Dogett makes contact for a point. (Photo by Whitney Adams)
- 3) **I got it.** Sophomore Anne Dai winds up to swing during a home tennis match. (Photo by Whitney Adams)
- 4) **I'm ready for it.** Staring down her opponent, junior Merena Ahmed waits for the return of the ball. (Photo by Whitney Adams)

# Proving their passion

## Players grow to love sport

The hot summer sun beats down on the court, the players are fatigued by heat and they begin to wonder why they play tennis.

Senior Sawisan Habib began to play tennis because she needed something to do after school; however, she was inspired by famous tennis players, which helped her go further. "Fernando Gonzalez and [Maria] Sharapova are awesome at what they do," Habib said. "They

are very passionate about tennis."

Like Habib, senior Jessica John joined needing something to do. "The softball sign up for summer rec was full and the only one that wasn't full was tennis," John said.

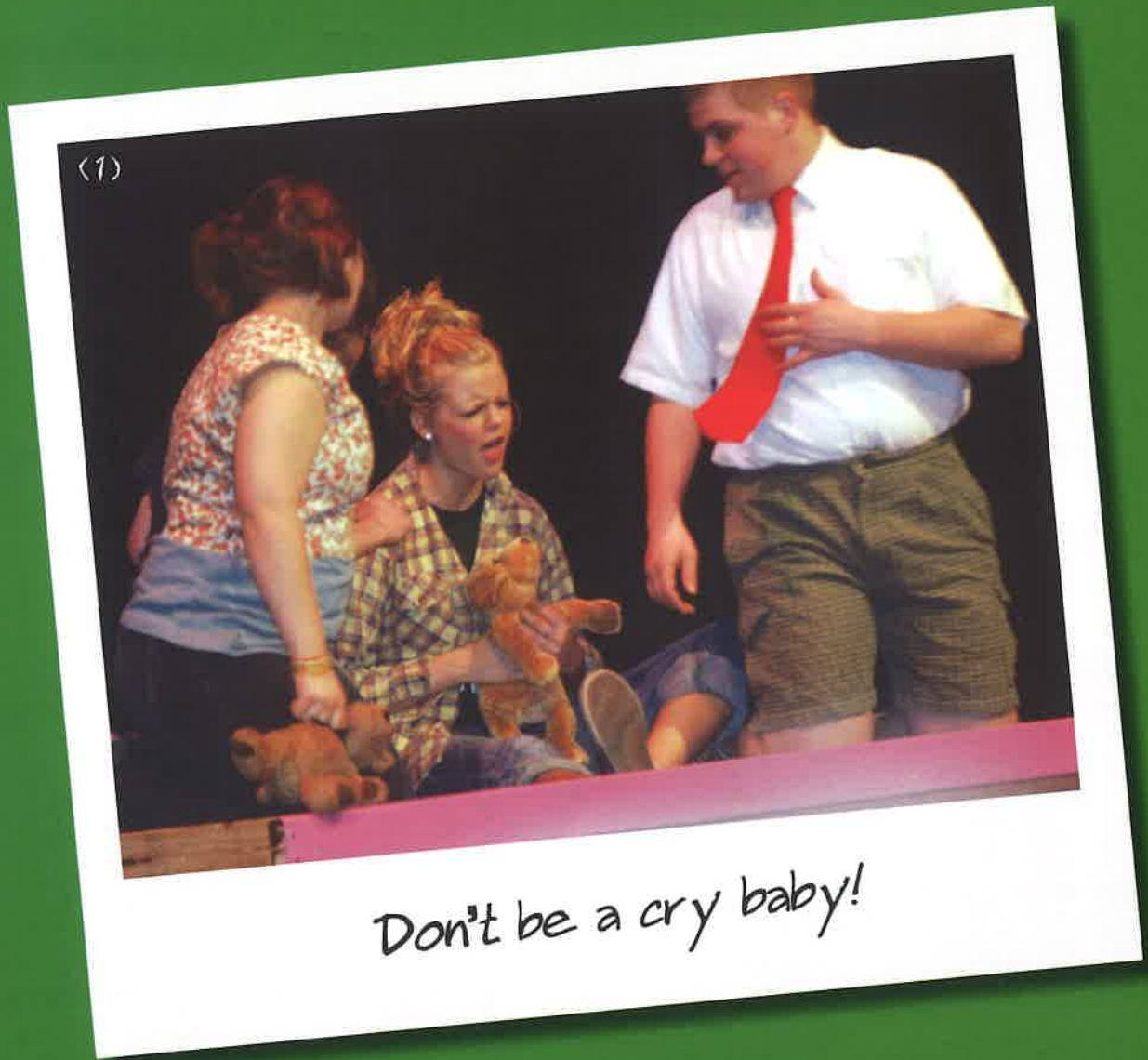
Although John joined to fill her time, she has found a passion for the sport. "I like how tennis is so individual, but in the end it all adds up to the team," John said.

Tennis has also taught these players lessons they can apply on the court as well as off the court. "It's helped me learn how to take losses, how to handle wins, and how to collaborate and work with a team," freshman Beth Anderson said.

The girls remember how far they have come and what inspired them to get there. They run back onto the court with confidence and prepare to win their match.

-Kira Gilbraith





Don't be a cry baby!

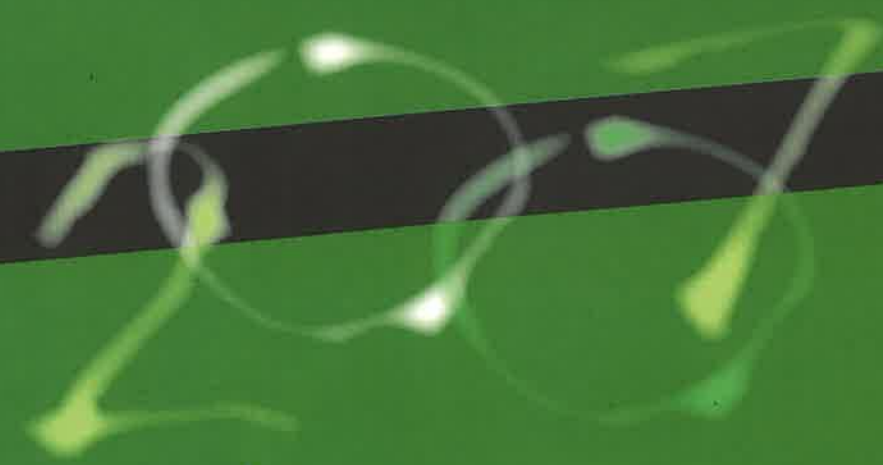
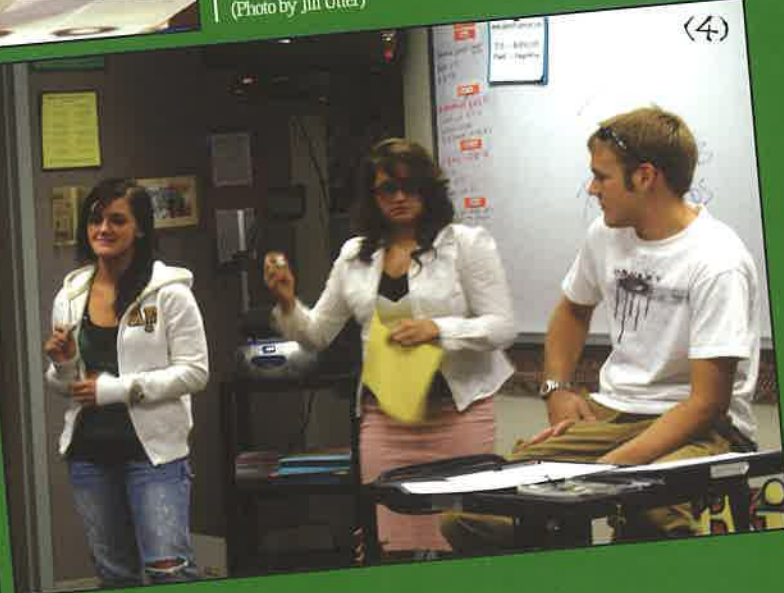
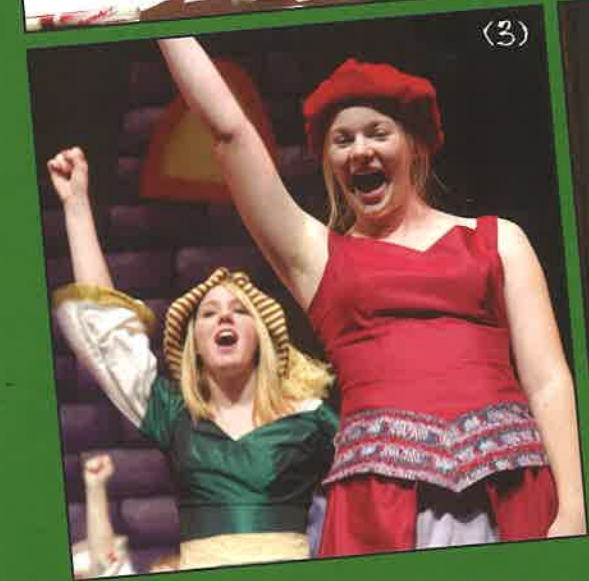


1) Boohoo... During a Cabaret performance, junior Brittany Haaland expresses the emotion of her child character. "My favorite part of Cabaret is being able to act like other characters, different than myself," Haaland said.  
(Photo by Tory Graves)

2) Gorgeous greeting... Making holiday cards for nursing home residents, junior Emily Dahley and sophomore Sarah Denne contemplate over how to construct the perfect greeting in Youth Leadership.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Having a good time... Dancing with a smile, senior Jessica Nelson and sophomore Taylor Blake-way enjoy performing a song at the musical, "Once Upon a Mattress".  
(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

4) Hear yee, hear yee... Taking charge at a Student Council meeting, seniors Ashley Helm, Amanda McDonald and Jason Carriveau try to get ideas on the upcoming events taking place at school.  
(Photo by Jill Uiter)



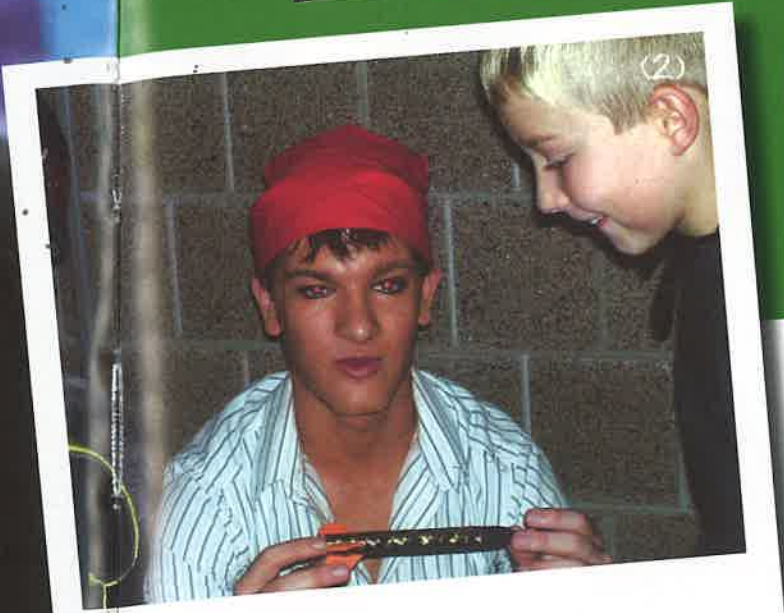
# Organizations

As The Members See It...



# Boring transformed to beauty

## NHS creates atmosphere



Trick or treat!

Long cement side walks are framed by areas of grass, and a flag pole sits all alone. Empty and boring is one way to describe the front landscape of West Fargo High School. However, the National Honor Society plans to change this with its landscaping project.

With a committee of about 16 members, NHS members hope to make the front of the school a brighter place. "We want to bring in flowers and a decorative landscape to the front area of the school," senior Kelli Clark said. The committee has many ideas of how to change the landscape of the school's front lawn. It would like to either put in pavers or cement the grass area and also add a tree, benches,

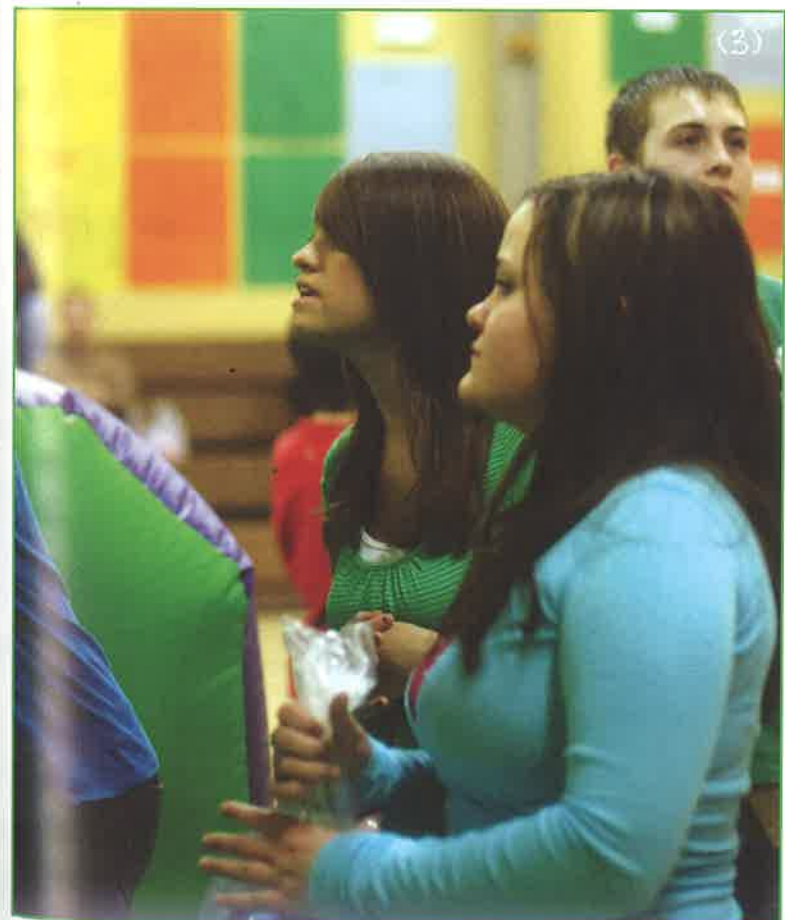
picnic tables and plants. "NHS will start the project, but we are hoping the school will join in and help," NHS adviser Sue Jordahl said.

NHS members have wanted to do this project for a while and feel it is a necessary change to be made. "It will help so kids don't walk all over the grass," senior Cinder Buzick said. "People will also have more respect for (the landscape)."

Although NHS will look to the school to help fund this project, it will fund most of it itself. "We raised extra funds last year, and decided to use them for the project," Clark said.

A tree surrounded by benches and picnic tables, makes up the new beautiful landscape around West Fargo High School.

-Kira Gilbraith



- 1) **Keep your eye on the ball.** While helping out at the Eastwood elementary carnival, junior Samuel Jacobs helps a student prepare to hit a ball. "My favorite activity in NHS was helping with the elementary carnival," Jacobs said. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 2) **Be very afraid.** During Haunted Hallways, hosted by NHS, senior Joseph Connor entertains students who visit the event. (Photo by Tory Graves)
- 3) **That looks like fun.** Juniors Tory Graves and Sadie Kraft help students play in the Games-to-Go obstacle course at the Eastwood Carnival. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 4) **Contemplating over a cookie.** Looking over the treats at an NHS bake sale, senior James Broton tries to decide what to choose. (Photo by Abby Paul)

# Walking in new shoes

## Students switch lives

Students walk down a crowded hallway where everyone else wears a uniform and gives curious looks. These outsiders not wearing the school uniform are West Fargo High School students among the Shanley High School hallways.

West Fargo Student Council students experienced an exchange program with Shanley Student Council students for a day in November. Members decided it would be interesting to see how different student councils and schools operate. "We wanted to do the student exchange with Shanley to see how other councils around the area do things and get ideas to bring back to our own student council," junior Steven Hay said.

Student Council members all expected the dress code, diversity, freedom and size to be different at Shanley. The size was

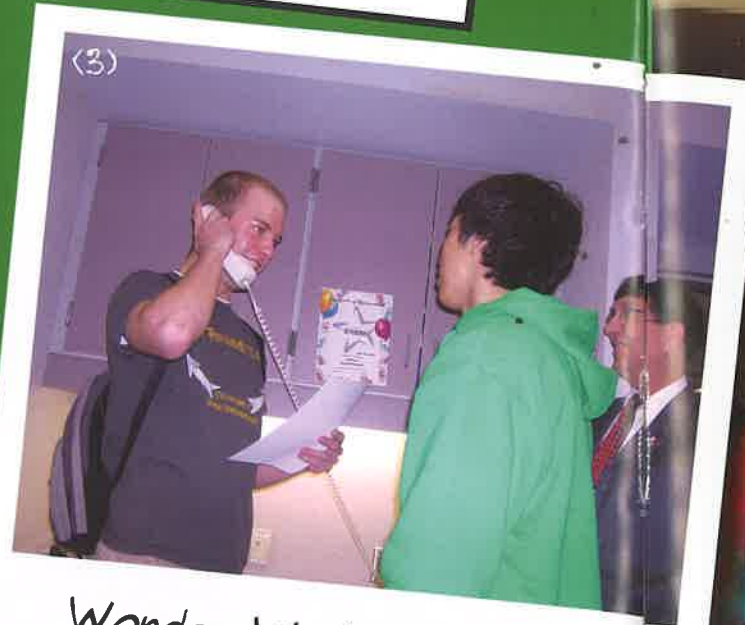
the biggest difference, but Shanley students did not seem lost coming to West Fargo.

"The Shanley students weren't fish out of water, but they did marvel at the size and population of WFHS," senior Sarah English said.

With all the uncomfortable looks from others, West Fargo students still enjoyed their experience in a private school. "I enjoyed leaving them with a good impression of public school," English said.

Many of the student council members would like to do it again if the opportunity comes around. "I would do it again because it was really cool seeing how another school operates and meeting new people," senior Ellen Vaagen said.

-Haylee Preabt



(3) Wonder Wednesday!



(1) Stash of canned goods. Trick-or-treating for a good cause, seniors Ellen Vaagen and Sara English dispose of their items gathered for the food bank.

(Photo by Ashley Helm)

(2) Oh yeah. Celebrating their long day of campaigning, junior Abby Kiefer, sophomore Ashley Reiter and freshman Sheena Houkom party in the pool.

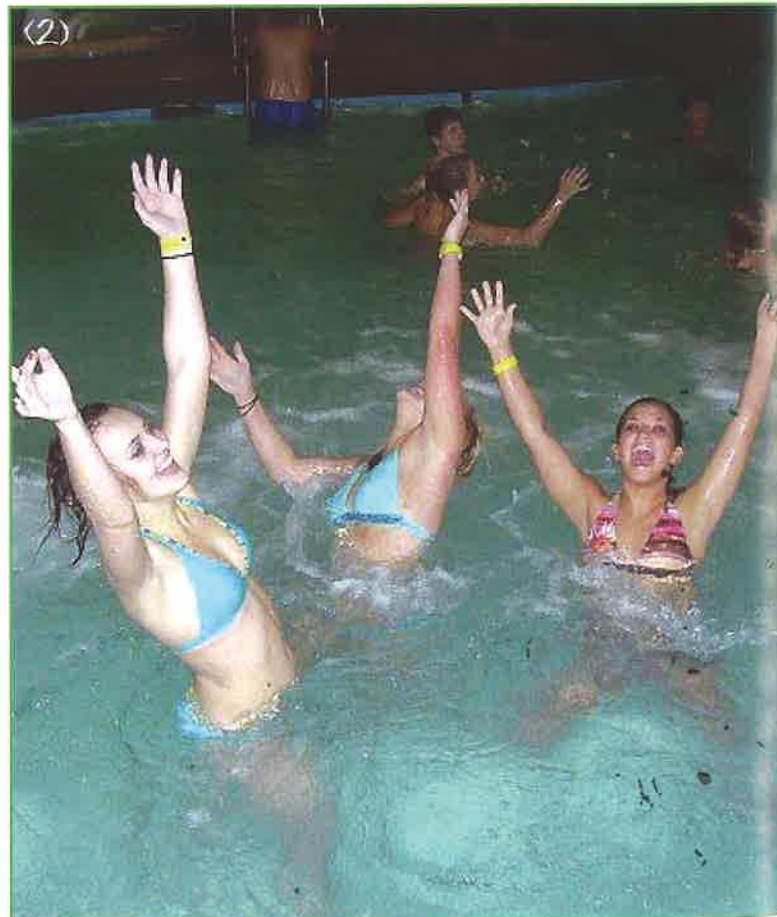
(Photo by Ashley Helm)

(3) Inspiration for your day. Juniors Steven Hay and Kyler Eid offer words of advice over the intercom for Student Council's weekly "Wonder Wednesday".

(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

(4) Cut and paste... Junior Abby Kiefer and senior Ellen Vaagen prepare campaign material to help junior Lex Lunde run for Class A Student Council Representative. "Student Council state is a really fun time to meet new people," Kiefer said.

(Photo by Ashley Helm)



# FBLA takes control in Minot

## State convention successful

In Minot, students begin dancing beyond their control in front of a big audience. The students are unaware of their uncontrollable movements because they are hypnotized.

A hypnotist, school dance and awards ceremony all appeared during the FBLA State convention.

Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA) students traveled 265 miles to Minot to attend the state convention, in April.

The convention lasted three days, with a new fun activity every day. "The first night was an introduction to FBLA, and there was a hypnotist," junior Michael Schnepf said.

The hypnotist did not stay for the

second day, which was more serious than the first. "The next day we had to take a couple of tests and go to different workshops," senior Elizabeth Erickson said. "There was also a dance that night."

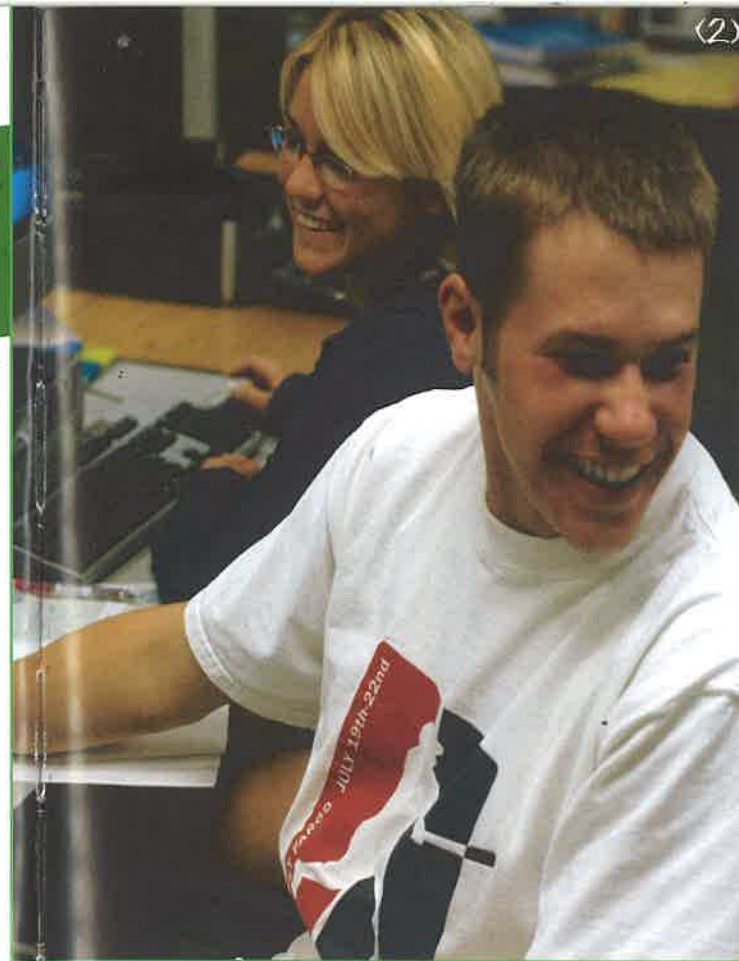
Overall, the students enjoyed the convention and finished with success, placing fourteen students in the top ten. "I thought it was a great time to get to know people and a fun trip," senior Kelli Clark said.

Once they are no longer hypnotized, the students return to their seats listening to the laughter of the audience.

-Tania Peters



Thank you, thank you



1) Award winning... Receiving his award, freshman Austin Keller accomplishes his goal of placing at state FBLA. (Photo submitted by FBLA)

2) Hanging out... Seniors Morgan Anderson and Justin Rheault relax in Accounting class, which helps prepare them for FBLA competitions. "FBLA state was a good time because of all the competitions," Rheault said. (Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)

3) Working away... Focusing on his work at US Bank, senior Jacob Miller applies the skills he learned in FBLA. (Photo by Ashley Helm)

# DECA enhances skills

## Learning group leadership techniques

### Learning group leadership skills

confidence and financial knowledge are just a few skills DECA members learned at the 2006 National Conference. The National Conference was held in Minneapolis, Minn. on Dec. 1-3. More than 2,500 students participated from 13 states.

The primary purpose of going to the conference was to improve the DECA members' leadership and money skills. "It was a leadership business conference, so the purpose was to develop leadership skills and be able to lead not only in DECA, but in the community and in your life," junior Alex Windjue said.

The DECA members participated in many activities that enhanced their skills. "We attended many different workshops as well

as dances," junior Landry Boehm said. "We also toured the Best Buy Headquarters and the Metrodome."

DECA enjoyed participating in the conference, and there are a few favorite activities among the members. "My favorite part of the conference was going to the DECA 'Super' dance, which was hosted by Target," junior Luke Steckler said.

Throughout the whole National Conference, DECA members learned new group leadership skills and money knowledge, which will help them in their DECA experience and in their life.

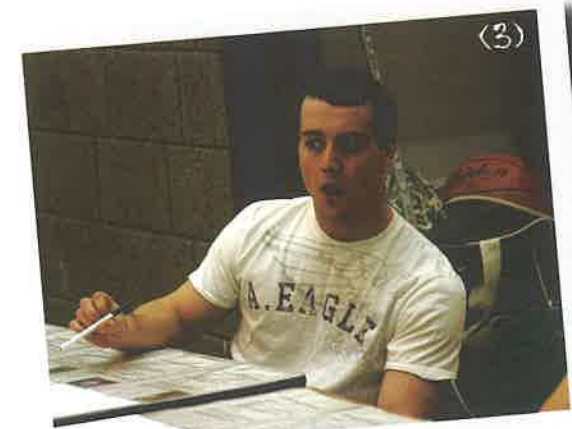
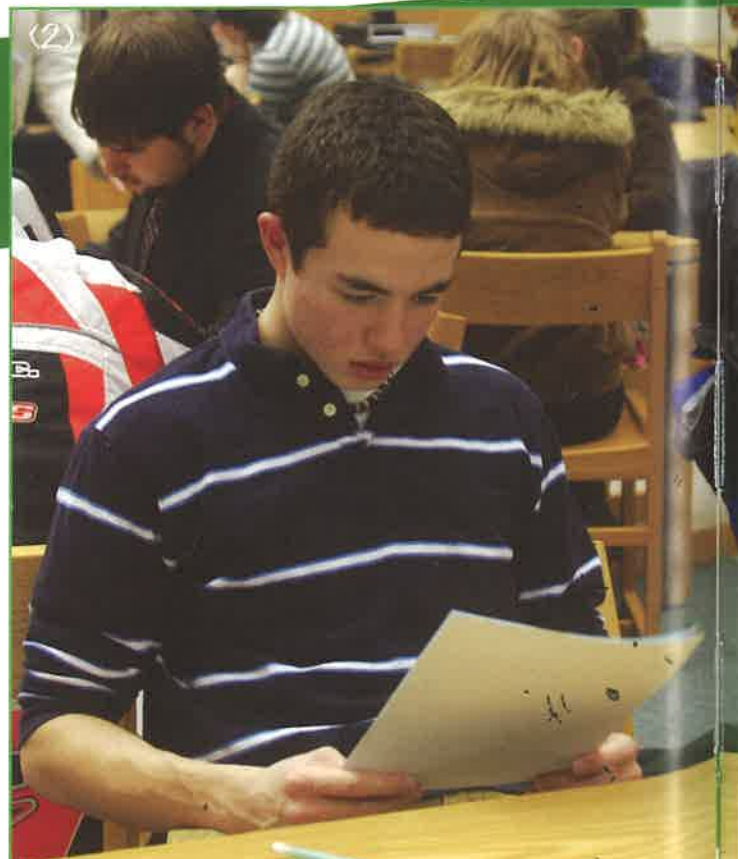
-Haylee Preabt



1) Decisions, decisions... After reading their given situation, seniors Kelsie Feickert and Kylie Mitchell talk about the best way to solve the problem. (Photo by Tory Graves)

2) Let's see here... While at the DECA competition, senior Nathan Saye reads the situation. DECA developed several fundraisers to help with group expenses. "DECA was successful in raising money with the dream dates," Saye said. (Photo by Tory Graves)

3) Excuse me?... During the silent auction held by Student Council and DECA, senior Patrick Joyce looks around for people to bid on potential dates. (Photo by Chelsa Holmquist)



Need a date?

# Just joking around

## Cabaret, Improv make fun

"Hello, this is 'Who Wants to Win Five Bucks.' Let's get started; who will be our next contestant? And the contestant is... Jimmy Carter from North Dakota. Hello Jimmy, how are you doing?"

The Cabaret and Improv troupe creates parodies of television shows, famous people, comics, movies and current events. "I like how we get to make fun of movies and people without getting in trouble for it," freshman Laurel Schuessler said. "We have lots of fun writing and putting together the skits."

Cabaret and Improv are forms of theater that help actors and actresses expand their talents. "I work in Caba-

ret because I love drama and theater," senior Jessica Nelson said. "Cabaret is another aspect of them that stretches me and allows me to reach a full potential."

Cabaret takes situations from present life and turns them into comical scenes. "The best part of Cabaret is doing scenes that you can relate to in modern day life," sophomore Garrett Anderson said. "It is a way of letting your opinion on current 'hot topics' be known."

The parody making fun of "Who Wants to be a Millionaire?" ends with Carter not winning his five dollars from the game, but finding it on the street.

-Kim Stulken



Remember when...



1) You won't get away this time... Senior Timothy Stulken as the Green Goblin and sophomore Garrett Anderson as Spiderman confront during a Cabaret scene. (Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)



2) Make some noise... Junior CJ Hoffart makes random sounds while freshman Dylan Gulbrandson and sophomore Emily Vrem respond during a crazy situation for Improv. (Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)

3) The good old days... Sophomore Monica Schroeder and juniors Leah Jenson, Megan Chiodini and Megan Skarsten look back on high school memories in a skit. (Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)

4) Fish food... During a short play written by Cabaret and Improv members, sophomores Kimberly Braesch and Gentry Lee, and senior Samuel Pilch have dinner. "My favorite part was when the crackers were dropped on Gentry's head," Braesch said. (Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)



# New year, new challenges

## Students overcome obstacles

Overcoming challenges creates issues many organizations face and the speech team is no exception. This year it overcame many obstacles, including working with new advisors and dealing with members without much experience.

Losing a big number of seniors was one of the difficulties the team faced throughout the year. "The fact that we lost half the team was hard, but by rebuilding the team we did very well," senior Julia Whittle said.

Another challenge the team faced was getting used to the new instructors. "We had new coaches so I was really nervous," senior Tim Stulken said. "I respected the old ones."

These problems, however, did not hinder

the performance of the team and many young members are looking forward to future years on the team. "We have a lot of underclassmen on the team so I'm hoping that they come back to the team next year," sophomore Eric Halvorson said. "When they find their niche we should be really successful."

Through several complications, the speech team proved it is always up for a challenge. Facing new problems does not scare the dedicated members; they have overcome those problems, leading to future success.

-Danielle Mehus



Whatever!



1) Silly speech... Freshmen Kately Aswege and Katherine Roth get into their humorous duo during the West Fargo speech tournament Jan. 27.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Excellent expressiveness... Junior Brandon Clark and sophomore Beatrice Hill practice their serious duo titled "Sid and Elsie." "Speech has greatly improved my social skills and it has been a good way to meet new people," Hill said.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Need to be prepared... During a break between speeches, sophomore Samantha-Jo Saye sits with senior Timothy Stulken in the commons and quickly looks over her speech.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

# Debate equals hard work

## Dedication in debate pays off

Walking by a room, a student hears laughing and smells food. The student later learns the room was where a debate practice was held. Contrary to what the student observed, debate is not just fun and games.

Students who participate in debate show a high level of dedication. The students must practice in order to be successful during a debate. "I like to practice my speech at least three or four times a week," junior Brandon Clark said.

Different types of debate require different ways of preparing. Two types of debate are congressional and parliamentary. Congressional debate includes three or four speakers and can be individual or team. During this debate speakers go back and forth with cross examinations. "In congressional debate, you write a speech ahead of time,

and then after listening to your opponent's speech, you write a rebuttal, kind of on the spot," junior Melissa Pytlik said.

Parliamentary debate has different requirements than congressional. "In parliamentary debate you research one side of each of four resolutions and write multiple speeches for each resolution," Pytlik said.

One challenge students encounter includes "flowing," which involves writing down everything and creating a response in three minutes. "(The hardest part of debate is) being able to 'flow' everything, and pulling your information," sophomore Meagan McDougall said.

From practicing to flowing information together, the students in debate show dedication.

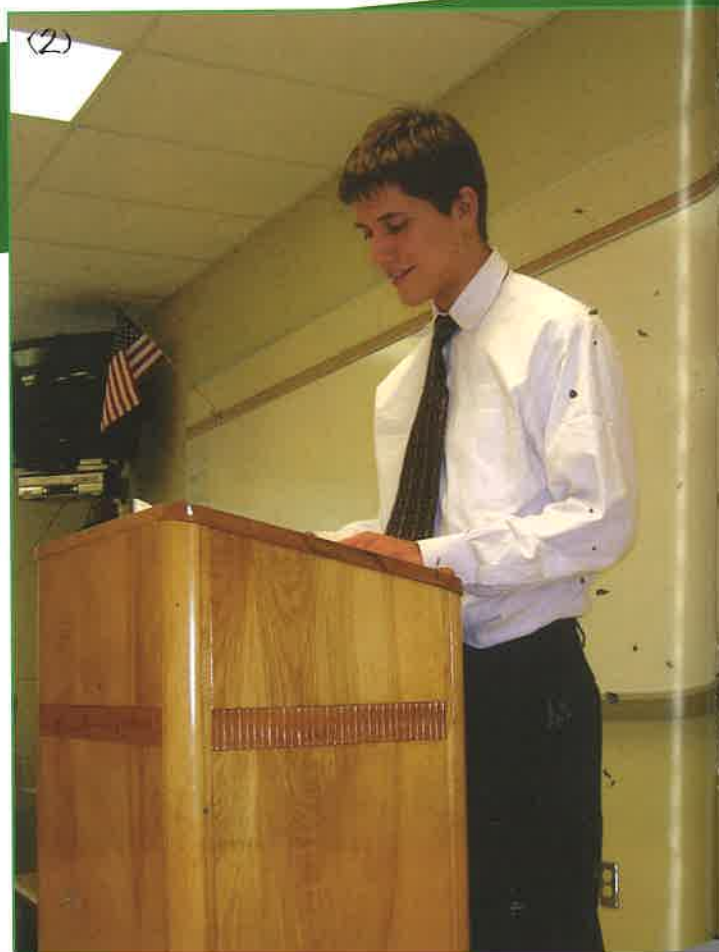
-Tania Peters



1) That's the plan... Senior Timothy Stulken and junior Glendon Gengel fill coach Brandon Donahue in on the details of their debates during a tournament. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)

2) Up for debate... At the podium, junior Glendon Gengel reviews his notes for the Shanley debate. "My favorite part of debate was the grasp of the English language when in a debate round," Gengel said. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)

3) Searching for support... In between debates, sophomores Samuel Barentsen, Andrew Lenzmeier, and junior Glendon Gengel look for information to use for the next debate. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)



We can use that idea!

# Cast members change appearance

## Sacrifices enhance play

All of a sudden, most of the drama students show up to school with tan and with dark, brown hair. Other students begin to wonder why all drama members need to change their appearance for the play.

West Fargo drama students performed the play "West Side Story" in February, where a majority of the characters are Puerto Rican. Blonde-haired Puerto Ricans are just not logical, so the cast decided to dye their hair dark brown or black and get a mystic tan.

It was not required for a cast member to dye his or her hair; it was more a mutual decision with the director. "It is almost a joint decision between yourself and the director," junior Erin Behrmann said. "Miss Gredesky did not care if we dyed our hair or tanned.

She thought we could use self-tanner or find a way around dying our hair." Most cast members decided by themselves to dye their hair and go tanning.

There are some disadvantages with taking the risk of dying hair and tanning. "You never know what you are going to look like, and I felt very fake being tan and blonde," junior Sadie Kraft said.

Making changes to their appearance enhanced the play and helped the cast members feel more like their character. "It gets you more into your character, and it is kind of like changing your personality," junior Leah Jensen said.

To many of the cast members, becoming their character is important. "You are able to not only emotionally become your character, but also physically," Kraft said.

-Haylee Preabt



Oohhhhh Maria!



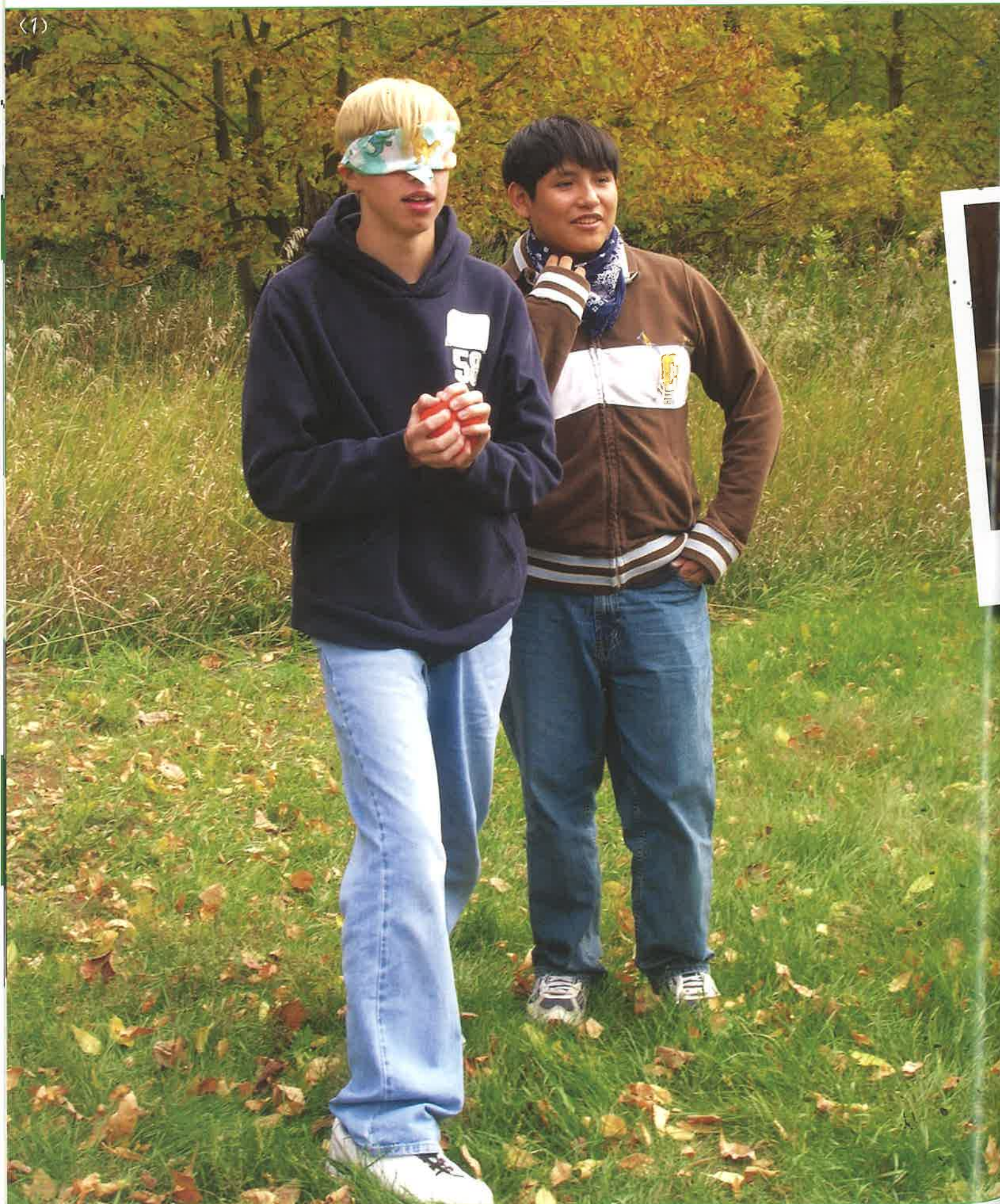
1) Maa-reee-aaahh... Declaring their love for each other during a scene of "West Side Story", juniors Brandon Millar and Erin Behrmann play Tony and Maria. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Amer-ii-ca... Junior Sadie Kraft and sophomore Chelsea Peterson wave their arms and ruffle their skirts while singing "America" in "West Side Story." "My favorite part of drama is just working with the people because they are amazing," Peterson said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Name that tune... Holding a ukulele, freshman Matthew Bregier lets senior Julia Whittle strum a tune during the play "Once Upon a Mattress." (Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

4) Hold me back... The cast members of the spring play really get into the show while trying to intimidate freshman Robert Jacobs during a fight scene in the play. (Photo by Carson Harrison-Bower)





# Leadership members develop unity

## Students build trust



Innocent or guilty?

Chirping birds, noisy crickets and fresh air fill the atmosphere of Buffalo State Park. Today, the park consists of students eager to learn new leadership skills from the Fargo-Moorhead Chamber of Commerce Youth Leadership program. Twenty students from West Fargo participate in Youth Leadership, along with students from the F-M area. The students meet one Wednesday every month and partake in different activities. "They try to teach us how to communicate to different types of people, therefore becoming a good leader," junior Andrew Monson said.

One of the first activities was a trip to Buffalo State Park, where students were introduced to one another and played

games. "We did a lot of games to get to know each other and to test our leadership skills," junior Emily Dahley said.

Some teambuilding activities included ropes and blindfolds. Students were required to get their blindfolded teammate through a web of ropes without talking; however, that was not the only activity. "The rope thing was really fun," junior Adele Young said. "Another thing had three beams and three ropes and we had to figure out how to get people across the beams."

With the knowledge of new leadership skills the students leave the park, anxious to participate in next month's activity.

-Tania Peters



1) In the dark... Junior Andrew Monson learns to depend on sophomore Jordan Shive as they participate in a team building activity. "The best part of youth leadership was the new relationships I was able to form," Monson said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) Tough decisions... During the mock trial, sophomores Areyelle Jones, Katherine Eidenschink and Taylor Blakeway listen closely as they sit on the jury. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Drill 'em... Junior Steven Hay quickly jots notes hoping to prove the defendant innocent as he plays a defense attorney in the mock trial for Youth Leadership. (Photo by Abby Paul)

4) Hold on tight... With help from a teammate, sophomore Sarah Denne makes her way across the ropes course. (Photo by Abby Paul)

# Newspaper tells it like it is

## Truth told through news

Standing amid cries of "traitor" in the hostile environment of the West Fargo High School Theatre, senior Joe Connor announces his resignation from Student Council. Connor dropped his position due to a controversial editorial he and his fellow Packer Newspaper Editors wrote about Student Council.

The Editors find a relevant topic to write about in The Packer editorial each issue, and the Student Council's failure to represent was deemed a significant problem in the school. "The Packer Editors must contribute to the Packer Editorial, and this was a topic everyone felt needed to be addressed," Assistant Editor Connor said. "The Student Council does do many good things, but it's supposed to have an impact on the student body directly."

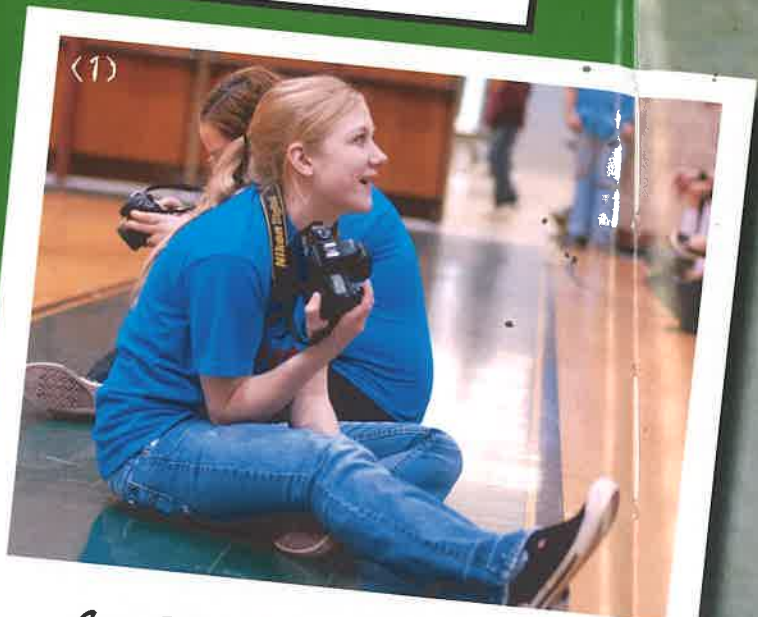
Upon the release of the story in The

Packer, the whole student body was talking. Student Council members especially reacted to the editorial's poor portrayal of their group. "Anytime that you criticize someone and tell them they're not working to their fullest potential, it upsets people, but I think we said what everybody else was thinking but they were afraid to say it themselves," senior Feature Editor Tiffany Irving said.

Connor said the main purpose in writing the editorial was to make the Student Council realize it needed to start representing the student body, and apparently it paid off. "Now Student Council is doing a ton of stuff, and I think it's ironic," junior Advertising Editor Jessica Ballou said.

Just as a newspaper should, the staff of The Packer spoke for the entire student body. "In the end, the truth must be told," Connor said.

-Emily Hartley



Can I take your picture?



1) Don't look at the camera... Snapping photos at the Third Annual Dodgeball Tournament, senior Ruth Ehlke interacts with the crowd.

(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

2) Taking home the trophies... At the NIPA awards banquet, senior Christina Hawley receives a first place award for the Journalist-in-Action competition. "NIPA is a great way to get recognized for all the hard work we put in during the year," Hawley said.

(Photo by Abby Paul)

3) Concentrate... Wrapping up candy bars, junior Katharina Hasse competes with other newspaper staff members for a fundraiser.

(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

4) Laughing it up... Sophomore Meagan McDougall and Newspaper adviser Toni Nelson share a laugh while waiting in the hotel before the NIPA trivia bowl.

(Photo by Starla Helmer)

# Introducing Murphy mania

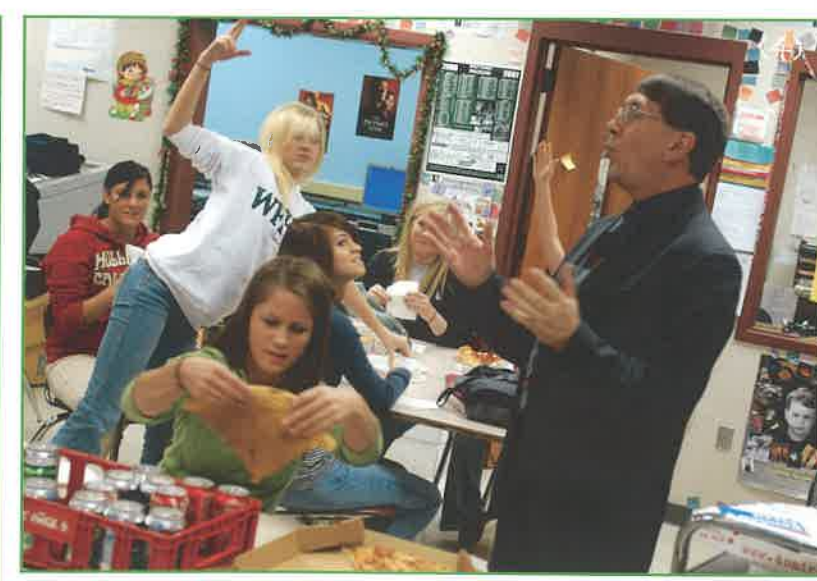
New adviser brings new flavor



Because I said so!!

The yearbook students walked into class the first day of school to discover that Jeremy Murphy was their new adviser. Murphy was Newspaper adviser Toni Nelson's student teacher last year, and after student teaching, he took over Meghan Brown's position as the yearbook adviser. Murphy has had an interesting, yet fun time teaching a class full of girls, a tough job for a male. "I find myself learning a lot as the weeks pass," Murphy said. "I learned about different foods and color-coordinating. I will never wear a yellow tie with a yellow shirt again." The girls like having a new teacher who has taught them new ideas for the

yearbook. "I think he has really made our book better and changed the way we do some things to make them more efficient," junior Assistant Editor Emily Hartley said. Along with having a new teacher, the moods of the class have also changed. "The atmosphere has changed this year since we have a male adviser," junior Assistant Editor Maggi Nicholls said. "However, Murphy keeps us laughing and pushes us to get our work done, just like JB (Meghan Brown) did in the past." This year has brought many new experiences for the yearbook students. Although the staff came across a big change, they will soon get used to Murphy, for he is here to stay. -Jaclyn Rankin



- 1) **More whip cream.** Sophomore Ally McCracken and junior Alyssa Jones prepare to throw a pie in the face of Principal Gary Clark after the Yearbook class raised the most money for United Way. "We decided to super size it, because we wanted to get the whole class involved," McCracken said. (Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)
- 2) **Layout night dilemma.** Debating over a design decision during layout night, senior Kayla Burris asks Yearbook adviser Jeremy Murphy a question about her assigned layout page. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)
- 3) **Murphy's Smurfs.** After receiving her award at NIPA, junior Jill Utter smiles as her classmates cheer her on. (Photo by Abby Paul)
- 4) **Pizza party.** While Principal Gary Clark praises the Yearbook staff for raising money, junior Lindsay Kloos enjoys a piece of pizza. (Photo by Emily Hartley)

# VICA members require responsibility

## Building an engine as a team

When some people think of VICA, they just think about cars and oily fingers, but there are many responsibilities that go along with being a member of VICA. Most of the members in Vocational Industrial Clubs of America (VICA) joined for one main reason, they like building objects like a house or a car engine, but they also get a discount on car parts for being in VICA. "You can get discounts on car parts at any place that sells them," senior Eric Monson said. At the end of the year there is a state-wide competition in Bismark for VICA members. "We compete against other schools that can take apart and put back together a car engine," Monson said. Being a member of VICA does not guaran-

tee a spot in the competition. "It's hard to be in the competitions, because there's a limited amount of people that can be in it," senior Travis Kuchenbecker said. VICA prepares students for the future in various ways. "It makes you a good leader and teaches you responsibility because you have to know how to put together an engine for the competition in Bismark," Walock said. When VICA members represent West Fargo in the competition in Bismark, people realize it is not just about cars and oily fingers; it is about teamwork and responsibility.

-Allyson McDonald



It's tool time!!



- 1) Working man. Senior Caleb Simpson applies his knowledge to a VICA project. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)
- 2) Say what?... Checking out a car in Rec Engines class, junior Hawken Erickson gets a laugh from a friend. "I'm looking forward to next year," Erickson said. "Hopefully, the competition is successful." (Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)
- 3) Staying on task. Senior Codie Zahradka works on a tail light in Rec Engines class. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)

# TSA changes technology world

## One project at a time

When people think of the award winners at West Fargo High School, the group who deserves more recognition is not the athletes, but the technologically advanced students. Their wins seem to be overlooked when they should be praised. In all actuality, Technology Student Association (TSA) is an extremely well-known group around the state taking students' knowledge of technology and expanding it outside of the classroom. "You can hang out with friends and apply school to real life," junior Eric Falde said. The group traveled to the state competition in Mandan and all left with smiling faces. Each one of the members who competed came home with a shiny, first-place trophy. "My favorite part about being the TSA advisor is I get to take the students' tech-

nological literacy to a level they don't get to do in a classroom," TSA advisor Richard Cwikla said. Cwikla proves to be involved with the students and even stays late with them to work on projects for TSA. "Mr. Cwikla is a teacher I can connect with," senior Blaze Harmon said. When these students need help, he is always there for them and has been known to stay at school late working with TSA members. Even though these students are not running up and down a field chasing a ball, they are still using their skills to win for their school. -Kelsey Stroh



- 1) Timely typing. Senior Timothy Stulken works on a computer during TSA. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)
- 2) Careful. Working on his bridge senior Blaze Harmon concentrates during the state TSA conference in Mandan. "The benefit of TSA is meeting people at state and national camp," Harmon said. (Photo by Timothy Stulken)
- 3) Tag team. Juniors Glendon Gengel and Eric Falde team up to work on a TSA project. (Photo by Victoria Hackett)



Computer savvy...

# Life lessons learned

## Mueller teaches music, life

Students file into the cold choir room, "He never loses his cool, never yells, but talking amongst themselves. Soon Jeffery Mueller walks into the room ready to begin class for the day. The students suddenly become quiet and look to their teacher with respect, wondering what life lessons he will teach them today."

Mueller has a unique teaching style many students have come to appreciate. "He expects a lot, but he understands and helps us learn," senior Ellen Vaagen said. "He really loves music, and you can tell he is passionate about what he teaches."

Senior Jessica John believes Mueller is a great person and teacher. "He is an incredibly good person," John said.

"Not only is Mueller a choir teacher, but a friend as well. "He works with his students on both an educational and personal level," junior Chelsi Desotel said. "He interacts with students, and you could always go to him." As the students exit the classroom, they have smiles on their faces. They leave with the feeling that they have learned a little bit about not only music but life also. They feel as though these lessons will have a long-lasting effect on them and will stay with them forever.

-Kira Gilbraith



Jingle bells, jingle bells...



1) **Fa la la la...** Singing in front of a large audience, seniors Cinder Buzick and Stephanie Cwikla perform their duet in the theater for their fall choir concert. "Concerts are a fun way to show off what we've got," Buzick said. (Photo by Jill Utter)

2) **Season of singing...** Senior Jenna Poppenhagen, junior Deni Vigessa, senior Jessica John, and senior Jessica Nelson sing carols during the Madrigals performance at the winter concert. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) **Singing together...** The Concert Choir girls harmonize their song and sing during their fall choir concert in the theater. (Photo by Jill Utter)

4) **Tap tap tap...** In the fall choir concert, junior Paul Johnson plays on the drums along with the girls Chamber Choir. (Photo by Jill Utter)

# Crowd appreciates enthusiasm

## Pep band improves spirit

As the game begins, the pep band takes its seats on the risers. The smell of popcorn, the anxiety of the players and the sounds of the musicians warming up fill the air.

Concert and Symphonic Band members are required to participate in pep band. Pep band includes all the instruments in regular band and is conducted by band teacher Mark Bernston. "Pep band is there to get the crowd excited for the game," junior Corey Pederson said. "Through music and chants, we get them wound up and cheering on the players."

One of the behind the scenes parts of

pep band is the Spirit Award. The Spirit Award is given to the player or section who displays immense spirit during pep band. One student in particular, senior Darren Spicer has been awarded the spirit award several times. "Darren has gotten pretty crazy to get the Spirit Award," senior Marissa Harsch said. "He has painted his face and worn wigs; he gets pretty into it."

Pep band attempts to get the crowd worked up and get them into the game. They play a variety of upbeat music that the fans are familiar with. "Pep band rocks," sophomore Emily Vrem said. "It keeps the crowd going."

-Kim Stulken



And a one and a two...



(2)



1) **Keep it on the beat...** As the song continues at a band concert, freshman Tanner Logan and other members of varsity band keep the beat going.  
(Photo by Alyssa Jones)

2) **We sound good...** Freshmen Kate Gunderson and Matthew Bregier play the flute at the band concert on March 27. "It was alright but it got kind of long because the groups weren't in order" Gunderson said.  
(Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)

3) **That's a lot of gold...** Freshman Jared Steinburger plays the baritone at the Band Chamber concert in March.  
(Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)

4) **Hold it steady...** Senior Emilie Lisburg helps her fellow band members by holding down their music so the wind does not carry it away during a football game.  
(Photo by Alyssa Jones)



(3)

# Fun with strings

## Students experience String Day



Stand up and take a bow

Orchestra students are used to meeting with the same large orchestra. String Day, however, was not an average school day. Students had the opportunity to practice in groups with similar instruments with students from other schools.

Students enjoyed String Day and learned how to better play their particular instrument. "It was fun and interesting," sophomore Abby Hammes said. "Other orchestras from other schools were there. It was a cool experience."

Officials divided students according to their instrument and they went into different rooms, where they had the chance to work with their particular instrument group. "I learned to be confident in my playing and to go

forward and take the lead," junior Meremia Ahmed said.

String Day concluded with students getting the chance to watch the Appalachian Waltz Trio. "Their pieces were crazy," sophomore Samantha Jo Saye said. "They play so fast. It was a good experience just to see them."

Hammes was also amazed with the Appalachian Waltz Trio. "They played different pieces in different ways," Hammes said. "They played heavy metal on violins."

String Day proved to be a not average day. Students enjoyed meeting with those from other schools and feel they learned how to be better musicians. "There is so much you can learn just from going," Hammes said. "Just from even watching others you can learn."

-Kira Gilbraith



1) **Serious sounds.** Playing their violins at the fall Orchestra concert, junior Samantha Magnus and senior Joseph Connor focus intently on the piece. "Mrs. Klundt has been able to stay with me for seven years and see what I've become," Connor said. (Photo by Abby Paul)

2) **Time to stretch our legs.** Junior Amy Walen and sophomores Abby Hammes and Eric Halvorson receive applause for the high-quality first half of their concert. (Photo by Abby Paul)

3) **Fellow on the cello.** Junior Michael Misialek concentrates on the notes he plays on his cello during the song "Air." (Photo by Abby Paul)

4) **Mamma Mia.** Junior Ashley Pokrzywinski plays her violin to a lively arrangement of Queen songs. (Photo by Abby Paul)

# Mikkelsen contributes to science

## Three years and still going

Competing in tower building events and academic events involving astronomy, chemistry labs, physics labs, circuit labs and many more, junior Josh Mikkelsen has been involved in Science Olympiad for three years.

Science Olympiad offers a variety of categories, which keep Mikkelsen interested in competition. "I like working on the different events and taking what I know or made to the competitions," Mikkelsen said. "It is also fun just to mess around in the lab."

After three years of being involved in Science Olympiad, Mikkelsen has shown he can be a leader. "I would say he has become a leader because he has started to

help new members and show them what it is all about," Science Olympiad adviser Aaron Tank said.

Mikkelsen has contributed a great deal to the group and has provided a lasting impact since he has been in it for so long. "He has been in it for a while and he knows a lot about science and cares about what he is doing," junior Whitney Hoovestol said.

Throughout Mikkelsen's three years in Science Olympiad, his experience has contributed to the success of the group. In competing in all of the different events, he has grown to love what Science Olympiad is really all about.

-Jamie Green



Science success!



1) Medals galore... Sporting their medals after the Science Olympiad banquet, juniors Regina Doll, Whitney Hoovestol and Tom Mrozla enjoy their time in the limelight. (Photo by Carsen Harrison-Bower)

2) Watch out... While performing a chemistry lab, sophomore Kelsey Hoovestol and freshman Kayla Hawley measure the amount of chemicals needed for the solution. "My favorite part is getting the chance to compete with kids from all over the region," Hawley said. (Photo by Brittany Davila)

3) Watch carefully... During a chemistry lab, Science Olympiad member sophomore Peter Hettwer (center) watches adviser Aaron Tank demonstrate how to construct a rocket. (Photo by Abby Paul)

# Envirothon makes a difference

## Learning environmental facts



1) It's not dirt, it's soil... Students watch intriguingly as Keith Anderson shows and talks to them about soil at an Envirothon meeting. (Photo by Whitney Adams)

2) At an Envirothon meeting... Envirothon adviser Sara Forness tries to get the students' attention with her energetic love for science. "I think these students are some of the kindest and most driven students I have ever had in the program," Forness said. (Photo by Whitney Adams)

3) That's a good snake... Sophomore Amber Lund keeps her cool while holding Envirothon adviser Sarah Forness's pet snake. (Photo by Emily Hartley)



Captain Planet always said that anyone can assist with solutions or funds to help tackle environmental problems in the world.

Students who want to follow the Captain's word or get involved with environmental competition join the school's supportive environmental group, Envirothon.

"We meet every Tuesday for about an hour and each week we study different sections of the environment like soils, plants and aquatics," senior Tanya Sather said.

While studying all of these exciting topics they make life-long friends and learn more and more about the world they live in.

Science teacher Sara Forness is a big part of this group, senior Peter Quinn said. Not only is she the adviser, but she really gets into the work the students do. "She is like another team member, constantly helping the different members with problems and questions," Quinn said.

The students grow throughout the year and become more knowledgeable about the environment. "My favorite part about this group is watching them give intelligent solutions to real life problems," Forness said. "It makes me cry."

-Kelsey Stroh



Don't choke me!

# Students share interests

## Club creates friendships

As junior Merema Ahmed walks into the Key Club meeting after school, she talks to her friends while she waits for the meeting to start. This group is preparing for Operation Christmas Child, which is just one of the many projects Key Club members do throughout the year.

When talking about Key Club, there are students who still do not know what it is and what the club members do. "Key Club is a group of students who meet to learn about opportunities to volunteer around the community," sophomore Abby Paul said.

Being an advisor is a simple task that German teacher Michelle Highman

takes part in. "Since the club is student led, I just help facilitate discussion and find projects for them to do," Highman said. "I just help facilitate discussion and help the students find projects to do."

Key Club is a growing organization and more students are becoming involved. "We have 25 members in the club and it is growing," Ahmed said. "It is becoming more popular, and we want to let people know that anyone can be a part of it."

Joining Key Club and participating in all of the different activities is a great opportunity for students who like to volunteer and meet new friends.

-Jamie Green



Santa's helper!



1) **Fold and tape...** During Operatoin Christmas Child, sophomore Lindsey Levine carefully wraps a shoebox.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

2) **Pick your prize...** While volunteering at the Eastwood carnival, sophomore Carly Trowbridge opens the bag of prizes for a student to choose from. "I enjoy getting to know people and volunteering in the community," Trowbridge said.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

3) **Listen up...** Senior Ellen Vaagen announces uncoming events at a meeting and encourages members to participate.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)

4) **Rockin' around the Christmas tree...** Spreading out branches, freshmen Madison Anderson and Kayla Miller help decorate at Waterford Retirement Home.  
(Photo by Abby Paul)



# Grand March randomized

## No longer first-come, first-serve

As students stand in line and wait to buy their Prom tickets, they know about the big change this time around. Behind Prom Committee members is a sign that says "Randomizing Grand March Order."

In years passed, the Grand March order formed from the order the Prom ticket was bought on a first come first serve basis, but this year Prom Committee changed that rule. There are some students that do not agree with this new idea. "I don't like it because I got put at the end, and I was one of the first ones to buy my ticket," junior Kaycie Gerstner said.

On the other hand, there are students who like the idea of randomizing. "I don't mind it because you have an even chance

and you don't have to worry about getting tickets early and beating others for a good spot," junior Alison Sund said.

The question about why the Prom Committee members even decided to change the Grand March order has come up numerous times. "I am sure some people were not happy because they were at the end, but someone has to be at the end," Prom Committee advisor Holland said. "Last year we ran into hassles because there were too many people in line to buy tickets and not enough time to sell them all one."

Only time will tell if that same sign will remain on the wall behind the Prom Committee members in years to come.

-Jamie Green



Afraid of heights?



1) Look out below. Junior Prom Committee member Tyler Lund cautiously works on ceiling decorations while setting up for Prom 007. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)

2) Balloon bonanza. Working on the centerpiece for Grand March, juniors Haylee Preabt and Tania Peters look for advice. "The balloon fountain didn't turn out how we imagined it to, but it still added to the whole setup," Preabt said. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)

3) Silver strings. Juniors Emily Baasch and Brianna Puhr assist in hanging decorations for Grand March. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)

# Art Club decks the halls

## School atmosphere complimented

Briskly walking past the office to their next class, some students glance to the right to check out the display case. Bright colors, usually in correspondence with the upcoming holiday, cover the background and recent works of art from West Fargo students are hung up to be admired.

Art Club does this task to create a more exciting atmosphere around school. "We help bring excitement and the enjoyment of art to the school and we also have fun working as a team," senior Andrea Samsten said.

Most of the members really enjoy setting up the decorations for Christmas because they get to work together. "Christmas decorating is fun to set up and take down," sophomore Andrew Merkel said. "Also, it

looks good for the school."

Many people notice the trees in the lobby and how well-decorated everything is for the holiday. "We get a lot of compliments on it from people at school or visiting," Art Club adviser Larry Anderson said.

Not only do the students decorate the school, but they get together at least once a week to work on individual projects such as scratch board and clay figures. "My favorite part about this club is that it gets the kids to socialize," Anderson said.

While having fun and creating works of art, these students enhance the school atmosphere.

-Kelsey Stroh



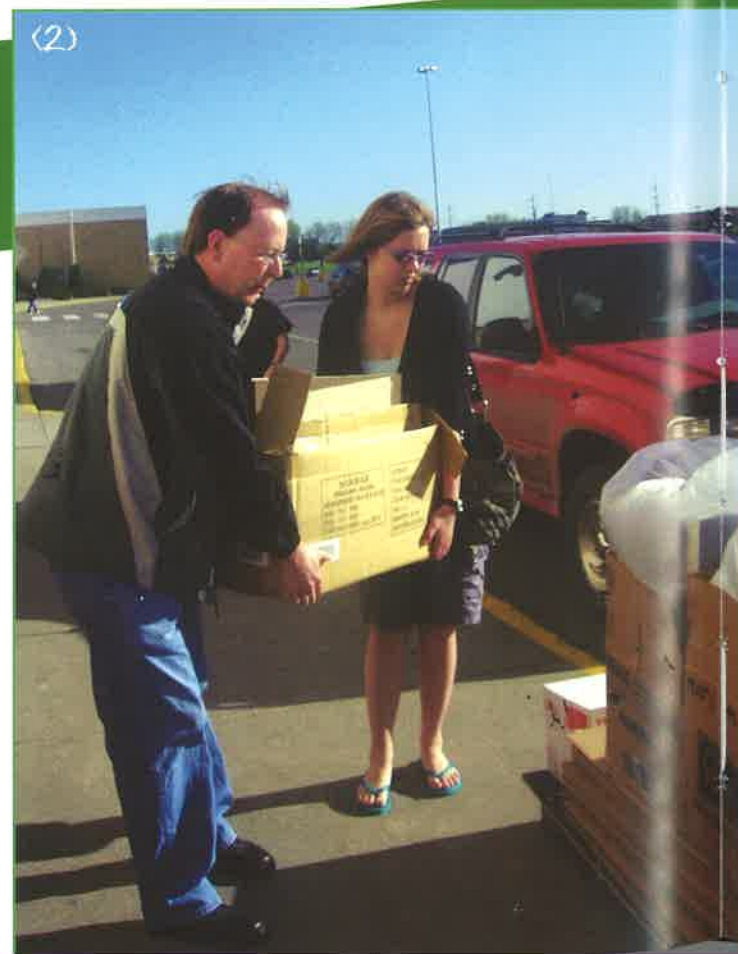
Taking an art break...



1) Precise preparation. Measuring out the right length, juniors Tiffany Stuber and Stephany Wegenast set up for the Art Show at West Acres Mall. (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

2) Heavy weights. Art Club adviser Larry Anderson and junior member Samantha Magnus unload supplies for the Art Show. "All the schools at the mall were good," Anderson said. "[They] have been improving over the past years." (Photo by Alyssa Jones)

3) After-school fun. Junior Steven Hay and sophomore Natasha Smyrkowski take part in an Art Club meeting. (Photo by Sam Gehrig)



# Principal's Club solves issues

## Club involves all organizations

Most clubs involve students with similar interests and passion. The Principal's Advisory Club, however, is different. This club encompasses students from different school organizations.

According to senior Morgan Anderson, Principal's Advisory Club provides students a common ground to be informed of the school's issues. "Members of different clubs get together to see what everyone else is doing," Anderson said. "It is also for the principal to know from students what is going on during school."

Principal's Advisory Club involves students who are members of different clubs. "We are not just the principal's

favorite people," senior Christina Hawley said. "We were nominated by others to get in."

Senior Ashley Helm believes having a club such as Principal's Advisory Club is beneficial to the student body. "It is one group in the school that incorporates all the different organizations in a single room," Helm said.

Principal's Advisory Club brings students from different walks of life together in order to find solutions for the school's problems.

-Kira Gilbraith



Let me think about that one!



1) **Gathering information...** Listening to an idea, senior Amanda McDonald is ready to transform the idea from words to writing.

(Photo by Victoria Hackett)

2) **Full of new ideas.** Senior Sarah English and Principal Gary Clark discuss topics prior to the Principal's Advisory Club meeting. "Principals club gave me a chance to voice my opinion," English said.

(Photo by Chelsea Holmquist)

3) **Dig in...** While having a group meeting at IHOP, senior Alex Olson prepares to take a big bite of his breakfast food.

(Photo by Ashley Helm)

# Student Congress achieves goals

## Two students travel to nationals



1) **Get together.** Junior Alannah Villanueva and sophomores Taylor Blakeway and Beatrice Hill show off their smiles during the Student Congress banquet.

(Photo by Heather Stulken)

2) **Congratulations.** During his speech at the Student Congress banquet, junior Brandon Clark congratulates all of his teammates on their great season. "The biggest achievement was qualifying for the national competition because to be able to qualify for nationals is a once in a lifetime chance in Student Congress," Clark said.

(Photo by Heather Stulken)

3) **Great Job.** Student congress adviser, Aaron Knodel, shows his appreciation for senior Timothy Stulken at the banquet.

(Photo by Heather Stulken)



Student Congress is a relatively new organization to West Fargo High School. The team has only been around for two years; but, this has not stopped the team from achieving greatness. Members of Student Congress are able to meet high goals because they enjoy the activity.

Student Congress is a new activity that allows students a unique experience. "Student Congress is an activity aimed at improving public speaking," Student Congress coach Aaron Knodel said. "It combines debate discussion, extemporaneous speaking and parliamentary procedure."

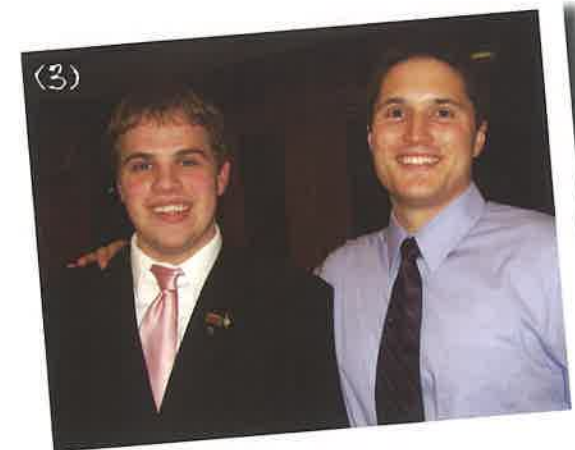
From North Dakota, only four high school students are sent to National Student Congress each year. This year, two of those students came from West Fargo, junior Brandon Clark and sophomore Eric Halvorson.

The task of making it to nationals was not

an easy one, however. "To place for nationals, I had to prepare for the resolutions, which includes many hours of research," Clark said. "Then at the competition I had to give good speeches and stay positive with the other competitors." Not only does a student need to do well in the round, but they are voted in by their peers, so they must have good sportsmanship.

Student Congress is a lot of work, but it pays off in the end. "It's really fun to go to the tournaments and beat kids who've been in [Student Congress] for years when we're a new team," senior Christy Hawley said. Although Student Congress has only been around at West Fargo for two years, it looks as if it will stay for a while with each year resulting in more success.

-Kim Stulken



Smile!

Our experiences during the past nine months shaped us in different ways. Watching the football players dominate Shanley 4-0 **inspired** us. We participated in contests during the pep rallies to **pump** us up. Teachers gave us tools to use beyond the classroom, making us **smarter** individuals. The ref crew at the basketball games cheered, forcing us to **scream louder**. Meeting life-long friends provided us with **happy** memories along the way. Girls battling it out in the Powder Puff game gave students the **competitive** edge. The way we experienced these events forced us to **alter** the way we perceive life. Although we all see things through different perspectives, our common experiences throughout the year provide us with an everlasting connection. That is how we **saw** it.

-Ashley Helm  
Yearling Senior Editor

### Kira Gilbraith



Always dream big dreams!

Love,  
Mom, Dad &  
Nate

### Sara Conrad



Good job. We're proud of you.

Love,  
Mom & Dad

### Sara Dell



Congratulations Sara!

Love,  
Mom & Dad

### Ashley Falstad



Who knew this little light would soon turn into a big star.

Forever in our hearts, Mom, Dad & Trevor

### David Baltezore

From diapers to diploma! Congratulations David! We are so proud of you!



Mom, Dad,  
Darin &  
Christine



### Starla Helmer

Cuter, older, just as full of spirit!  
Little Miss Cheerleader



Love,  
Your Family



### Zachary Odegard



Good Luck  
Love you!

Dad, Mom,  
Mason & Buddy

### Brittany Ragan



Congratulations,  
Good Luck  
Fighting Fires!

Love,  
Mom, Dad  
& Justin

### Kayla Burns

You have a very bright future! Keep reaching for the stars. We love you very much!



Mom, Dad,  
Darin & Eric



### Ashley Holm

Look how you've grown, Ashley. We are so proud of you!! Good Luck to you always! We Love you!



Dad, Mom,  
Nicole, Kelsey  
& Seth



### Amy Rogers



Congratulations Amy and best wishes in all your future endeavors.

Love, Mom

### Josh Randall



Congratulations, Josh.  
We love you.

Love,  
Mom & Dad

## Alexa Kleingartner

Congratulations Jo!  
Let success be measured  
by the happiness in your  
heart!



Love,  
Mom & Dad



## Tanya C. Sather

Good things never change-  
like how much we LOVE  
you! Congratulations and  
God bless!



Love,  
Dad, Mom &  
Travis



## Kelli Clark

Congratulations!  
We believe in you and are so  
proud. Always remember to  
take time to have fun!

Love,  
Mom, dad &  
Amy



## Chelsea Henderson and Andrea Samsten

**Best Friends**  
are forever.

Class of 2007



## Ashley Lee



You have come a long  
way and I am so very  
proud of you and all  
your accomplishments  
in getting to this huge  
milestone in your life.  
Congratulations  
"Poopsie"

Love, Mom

## Yearbook Seniors 2006-2007

Congratulations seniors!  
You will be missed.

Best wishes,  
The Yearling staff



## Megan Schwartz, Joslin Nelson and Sierra Shoman

Our little angels...

Love,  
your MOMS



## Jessica Nelson

\* Super Star \*



Love,  
Mom, Dad,  
Ellie &  
Megan

## Colophon

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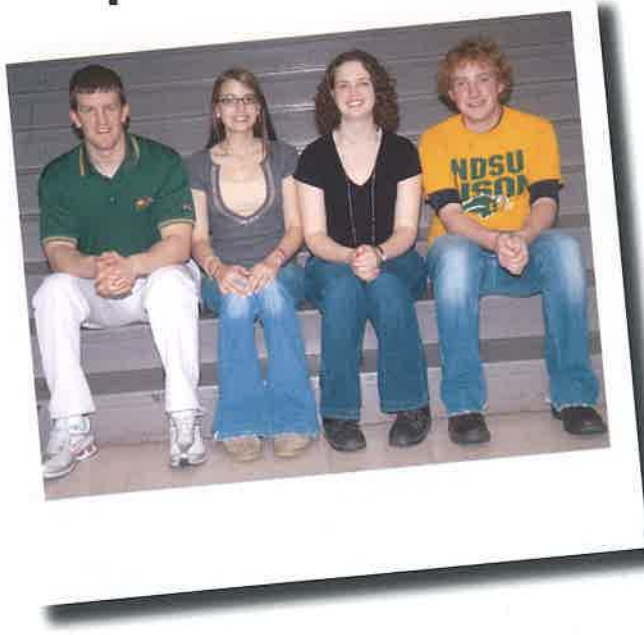
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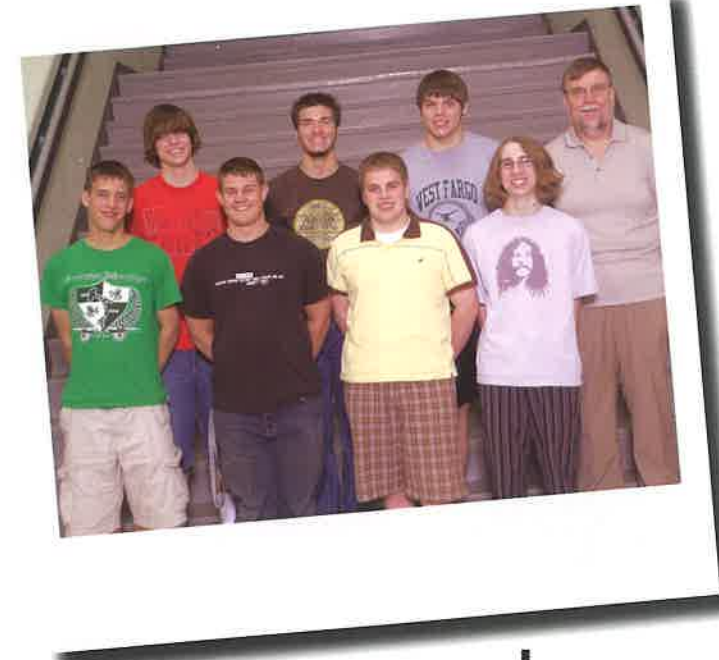
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STLF

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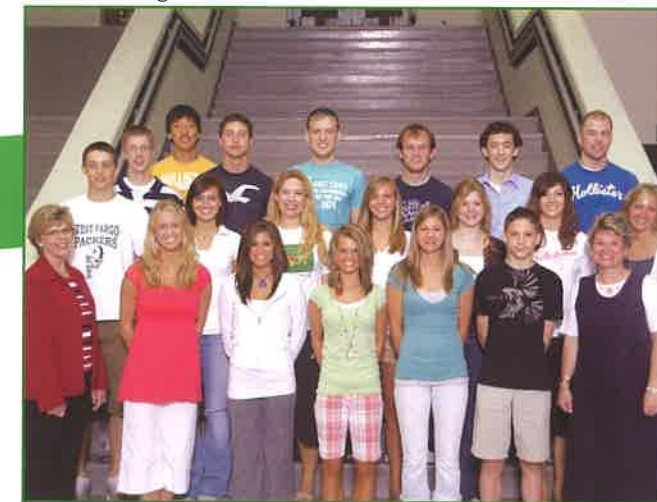
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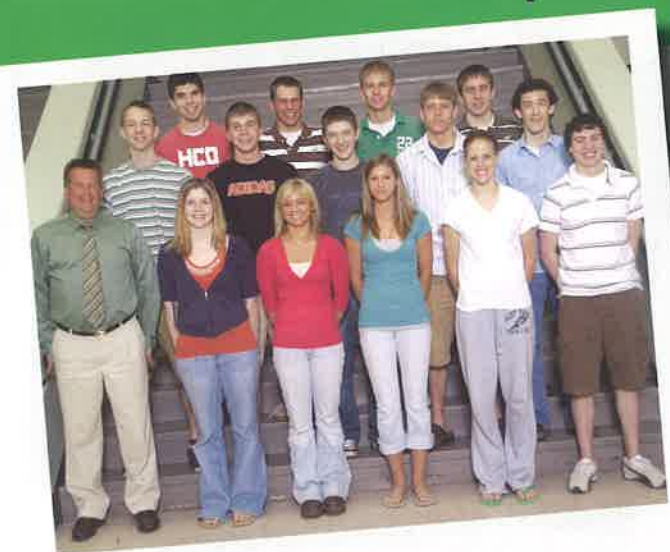


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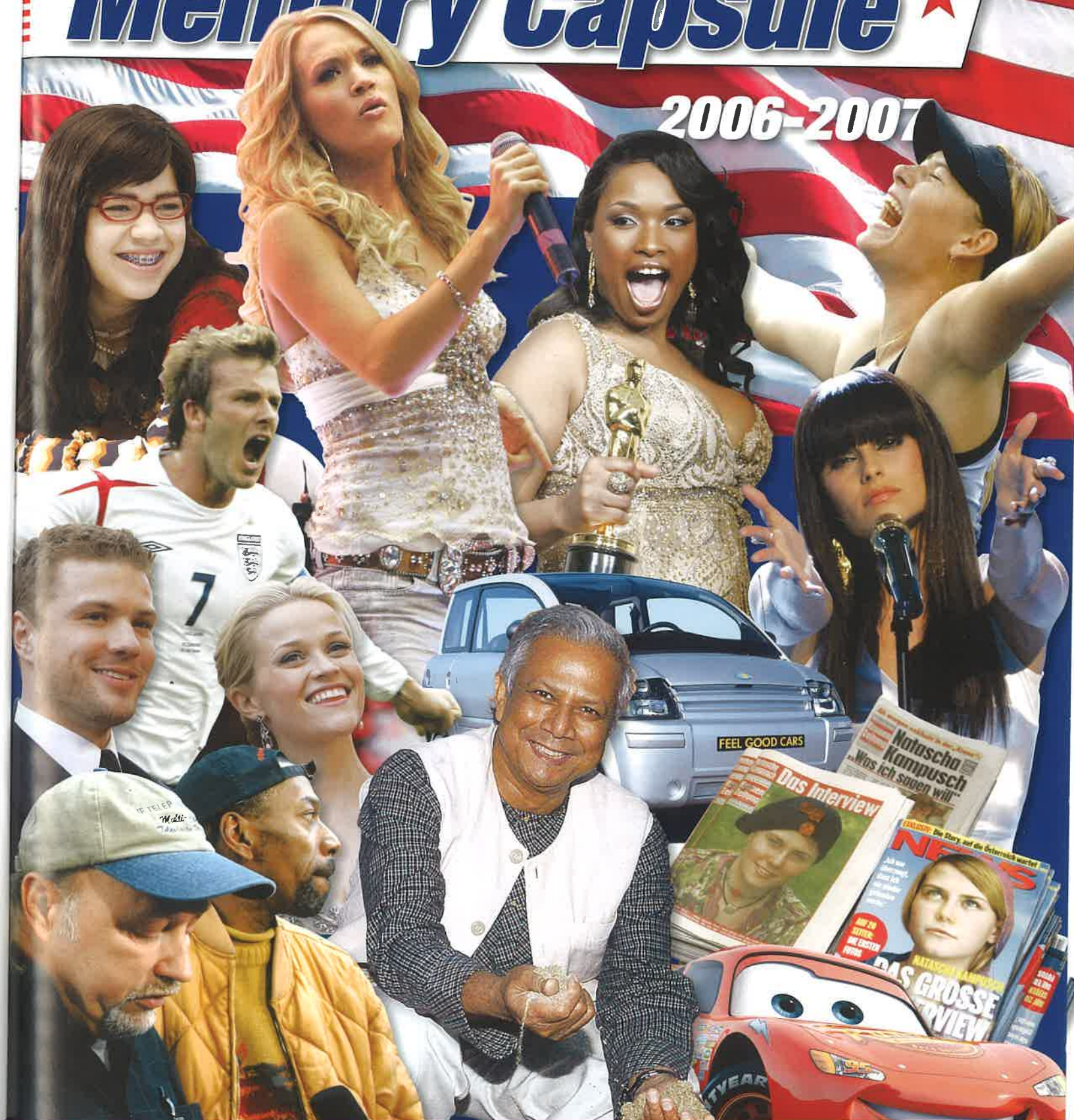
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# Memory Capsule ★

2006-2007



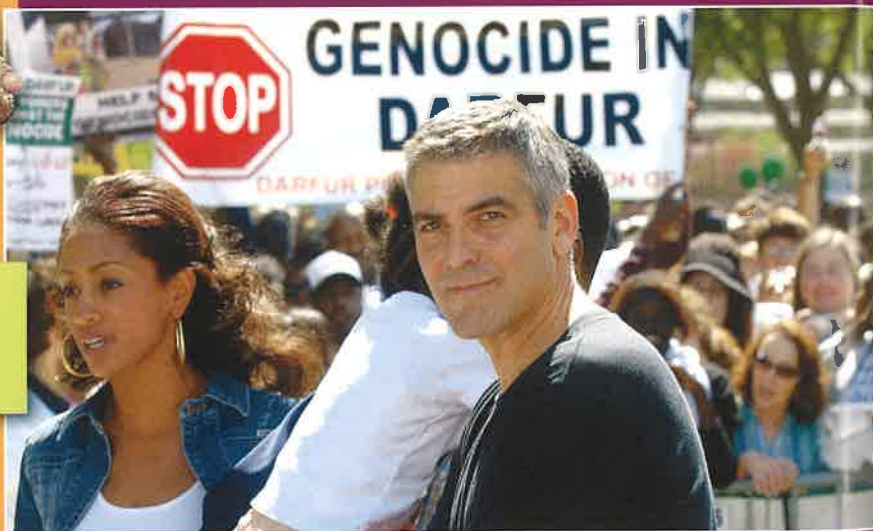


# World

▲ **SMALL BILLS PRODUCE BIG CHANGE.** Bangladeshi economist Muhammad Yunus was awarded a Nobel Peace Prize for his pioneering strategy of bankrolling poor people to enable them to start small businesses. Microcredit financing helps the poor to access loans without a down payment. The Grameen Bank was founded by Yunus in 1976 with \$27. It now boasts 6.6 million borrowers in 70,000 Bangladeshi villages. The average loan is \$227, and 97 per cent of the borrowers are women. (Karel Silman/AP)

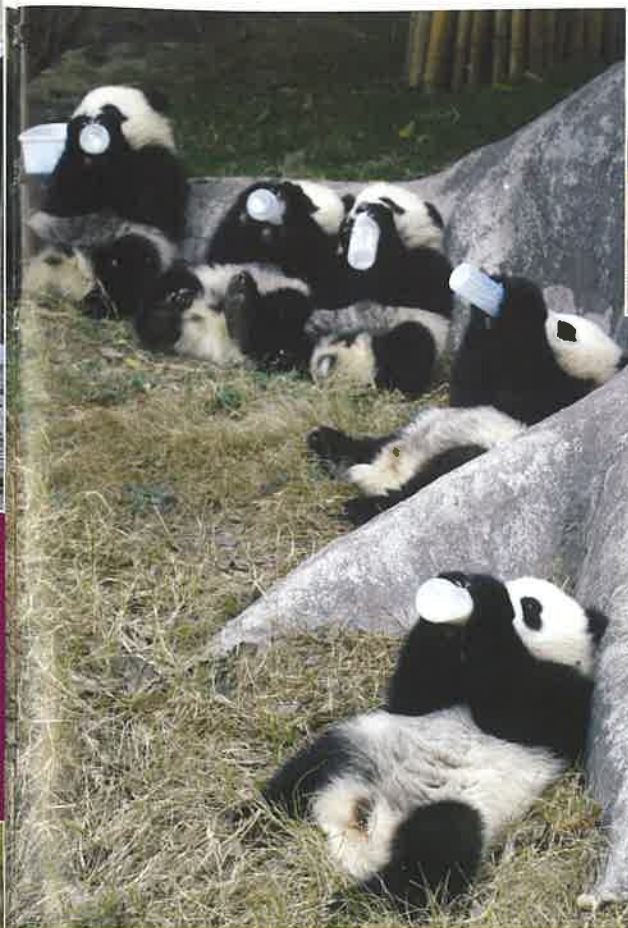


▲ **IRAQ TEETERS.** While the trial and execution of former dictator Saddam Hussein should have been a sign of progress in Iraq, the steady flow of bad news continued. More than 60,000 Iraqi civilians are estimated to have died since the U.S. invaded in March 2003. And there was growing evidence that the country is spiraling into utter chaos, with car bombings, brutal death squads and mounting casualties a daily occurrence. The unrest has forced millions to flee their homes. The UN estimates there are 1.8 million internally displaced people and 2 million more who have left Iraq. Prime Minister Nuri al-Maliki has pledged to disband Shia and Sunni militias that have been fueling the violence and to restore basic government services. (Bruno Klein-Abaca Press/MCT)



▲ **SPOTLIGHT ON DARFUR.** The United Nations renewed efforts to revive the stalled peace process in the war-torn Darfur region of Sudan. More than 200,000 people have been killed and at least two million others displaced since 2003 largely because of fighting between government forces, militias and rebel groups. Almost 4 million people are dependent on humanitarian aid, but unstable conditions have led to the withdrawal of many relief workers. Meanwhile actor George Clooney uses star power to keep the world's attention focused on the crisis. He has traveled to the war-ravaged region, where he describes the situation as "ethnic cleansing," and produced a documentary of the horrors he saw. He has also lobbied China, Egypt and the UN for action to halt the violence. (Timothy Smith-U.S. Navy/KRT)

◀ **THE SUMMER WAR.** On July 12 the Lebanese militant group Hezbollah kidnapped two Israeli soldiers. Israel responded with a military assault to defeat the Shia organization. While Hezbollah launched hundreds of deadly missiles into Israel, that country flattened swathes of southern Lebanon and Beirut. Trapped international civilians, including 14,000 U.S. citizens, fled Lebanon by ship, plane and helicopter. After 34 days, a shaky ceasefire was imposed but more than 1,000 civilians were dead, Hezbollah had survived and the two Israeli soldiers were still missing. (Paul Assaker/MCT)



▲ **PANDA PERFECTION.** Eighteen panda cubs left their mothers and moved into a kindergarten at China's Wolong Nature Reserve in February. Aged between five and seven months, the endangered animals will be raised together until their first birthday when some could leave their outdoor school to join the estimated 1,600 pandas still found in the wild. (AP)



▲ **KING OF CROCS.** The khaki-clad Crocodile Hunter from Down Under had a life-long love affair with animals and the natural world. And his enthusiasm was contagious. Fans of Steve Irwin's TV shows never tired of his buzzword "Crikey!" or his tendency to ham it up for the camera. Irwin, 44 and the father of two, was killed when a stingray's barb pierced his heart while he was filming off Australia's Great Barrier Reef. (Bob Pepping)



▲ **YOUNG, ROYAL AND HUNKY.** With a murmured "I love the uniform... it's so sexy," Kate Middleton admired boyfriend Prince William as he graduated from Britain's Sandhurst military academy in December. The future King of England will spend time in all three services before starting royal duties. However, younger brother Prince Harry (right, with William and father Prince Charles) is making the army his career, with Iraq his first foreign tour. (WPA Photo-Express Syndication/KRT)

▲ **SEE-THROUGH LUGGAGE.** After the British government announced last August they'd foiled a plot to use liquid explosives to bomb a transatlantic flight, passengers around the world learned to cram "anything liquid or cream" into transparent ziplock bags. Immediately after the warning, authorities wouldn't even permit paper and pencils in airplane cabins, though they did make one exception—J.K. Rowling was allowed onboard clutching her unfinished manuscript for *Harry Potter and the Deathly Hallows*. (Jonathan Hochstetler-Express Syndication/MCT)

▼ **FREE AT LAST.** During the eight years of her confinement, largely in a windowless room under a house in Strasshof, Austria, Natascha Kampusch waited for an opportunity to run. On Aug. 23 the moment arrived when kidnapper Wolfgang Priklopil left her alone to get the phone. After reuniting with her joyful family, the 18 year old reassured both her relatives and Austria that "they don't have to worry about where I am anymore." (Ronald Zak/AP)





▲ **PARADISE LOST.** As members of an Amish community near Paradise, Penn. struggled with the aftermath of a massacre in their one-room schoolhouse, they also turned the other cheek and urged forgiveness of the killer. Charles Carl Roberts IV shot ten girls at the school before turning the gun on himself. Five of the girls died. One grieving family invited Roberts' widow to their daughter's funeral in hopes of consoling her. (Glenn Fawcett-Baltimore Sun/MCT)



▲ **CONTAINING IRAQ.** As the number of U.S. troops killed in Iraq climbed above 3,000 and the bill for the campaign soared past \$400 billion, daily acts of violence and terror provided growing evidence that the country was spiraling into civil war. Former secretary of state James Baker, head of the Iraq Study Group, reported that a quick exit by U.S. troops could lead to even more chaos in the region. Defying public opposition to the war, President George W. Bush announced more than 20,000 additional soldiers and Marines would join the 132,000 U.S. military personnel already deployed. (Tony Overman-The Olympian/MCT)



▼ **SUBWAY SAVIOUR.** When Wesley Autrey saw a young man who had suffered a seizure fall onto New York City subway tracks, he jumped in to save the stranger. Autrey, a 50-year-old construction worker, grabbed Cameron Hollopeter, 20, in a bear hug and the pair landed in a shallow trough between the tracks, with Autrey on top. Seconds later a train roared into the station, narrowly missing them. Although Autrey (right, with Hollopeter's father) insisted he was no hero, just "in the right place at the right time," Mayor Michael Bloomberg presented him with a Bronze Medallion, the city's highest civic honor. (Viora Florescu-Newsday/MCT)

▲ **SPREADING THE WEALTH.** Billionaire investor Warren Buffett announced he'll give away 85 per cent of his fortune including \$31 billion to the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, a charity that aims to reduce poverty, improve health, and increase access to education and technology in developing countries. In the United States, the Gates foundation focuses on education and technology in public libraries. The gift was announced shortly after Gates confirmed he is giving up his day-to-day role at Microsoft to concentrate on the foundation's work. The donation is thought to be the world's largest charitable. (Dave Weaver/AP)



(Chad J. McNealey-Department of Defense/KRT)



▲ **LADY OF THE HOUSE.** In a historic midterm election, voters sent a clear message of disapproval to the Republican Party and gave control of both houses of Congress to the Democrats. The strong vote of no confidence on the war in Iraq was headed by President George W. Bush, who immediately accepted the resignation of Defense secretary Donald Rumsfeld. And as the political winds shifted, Democrat Nancy Pelosi took the reins as America's first female Speaker of the House in the 110th Congress. (Chuck Kennedy/MCT)

► **PRESSURE AT THE PUMP.** Drivers felt the pinch as gasoline prices hovered at the \$3 per gallon mark for most of the summer. Prices spiked amid fears of unrest in the oil-producing Middle East, combined with increased demand in India and China. Though prices began to slump, moving down toward \$2 by Thanksgiving, in the Spring tensions over Iran, the world's No. 4 producer and a nuclear wannabe, had shot gas prices back up to record levels - bad news for gas-guzzling SUV drivers. (Ron Heflin/AP)



▲ **IN MEMORIAM.** Former president Gerald Ford, who led the U.S. gently and steadily out of the Watergate era, died at age 93. Thrust into the Oval Office after president Richard Nixon resigned in August 1974, he assumed power amid division over the Vietnam War, the turmoil of the Watergate scandals and staggering inflation. In an effort to heal divisions, he pardoned Nixon the next month, which probably cost him the 1976 election and ended his 14-month presidency. He once summed up his modest ways before Congress, saying, "I am a Ford, not a Lincoln." (Amy Loang-Detroit Free Press/MCT)



▲ **WHO GETS IN?** The long-simmering issue of illegal immigration hit the front burner when Congress debated different bills intended to halt the flow of illegal migrants and fix the nation's immigration policy. In response, millions of migrants, their U.S.-born children and their supporters marched in many cities, demonstrating the contribution they make to the nation's economy with their cheap labor, and demanding a path to citizenship for longtime residents. (Thomas A. Ferrara-Newsday/KRT)

► **FALSE CONFESSION.** For a couple of weeks it looked as though the arrest of John Mark Karr was a stunning breakthrough in the sensational, decade-old murder case of JonBenet Ramsey. In a series of emails, Karr had described in detail how the 6-year-old beauty queen was killed at her Boulder, Colo. home on Dec. 26, 1996. But DNA tests failed to link him to the crime scene, and prosecutors dropped their case, concluding Karr's confession was a lie. (Arichart Weerawong/AP)



# USA



▼ **THIS IDOL HASN'T BEEN IDLE.** During her senior year of college in 2005, Carrie Underwood was crowned the winner of American Idol (Season 4). Within six months she released her debut album, *Some Hearts*, whose two singles *Jesus, Take the Wheel* and *Don't Forget to Remember Me*, topped the charts on Christian and country radio. After wins at all major music awards, she headed overseas to Iraq to entertain the troops during the 2006 holiday season. And to kick off 2007, the Idol sweetheart scooped two Grammys, including Best New Artist. The new face of country proves America's star-making machine can still work its magic.

(Kelley Chinn-Fort Worth Star-Telegram)



▲ **SUPERDOME SUPERSTARS.** New Orleans football fans were welcomed back to the rebuilt Louisiana Superdome with a rocking half-time show featuring U2 and Green Day. It was a perfect healing tonic, following the disaster of Hurricane Katrina.

(Andrew Cohen/AP)



▲ **A DREAM DUET.** Imagine performing live, on stage with Justin Timberlake. That dream became a reality for Robyn Troup, 19, of Houston, Tex. After she won the "My Grammy Moment" contest, Troup sang Timberlake's recent No. 1 hit *My Love* with the man himself at the February awards show. Timberlake, meanwhile, took home two Grammy awards to add to his collection.

(Mark J. Terrill/AP)

▶ **WAITING IN THE MIDDLE.** John Mayer's single *Waiting on the World to Change* is a plea to resist apathy and get involved. "I think there's a lot of kids watching TV going 'That sucks, oh that totally sucks,' but then there's this other voice that goes, 'What are you gonna do about it?' The world needs someone to stand between Bono and Paris Hilton, and I want to be right in the middle." For now, he'll have to be content riding the charts with his *Continuum* CD, which won a Grammy award for best pop vocal album.

(Janet Holtz-Abaca Press/MCT)



▲ **MARY J. BLIGE.** *Be Without You*, the lead-off track from the R&B diva's seventh album, entitled *The Breakthrough*, topped the R&B singles chart for a record-setting 15 consecutive weeks. CD sales were brisk, making *Breakthrough* one of the top-selling albums of 2006. With all that momentum, it was no surprise when Blige carried off three Grammy awards.

(Amanda M. Parks-Abaca Press/MCT)

## Top 10 Albums • 06

1.	SOUNDTRACK	HIGH SCHOOL MUSICAL
2.	ME AND MY GANG	RASCAL FLATTS
3.	SOME HEARTS	CARRIE UNDERWOOD
4.	ALL THE RIGHT REASONS	NICKELBACK
5.	BACK TO BEDLAM	JAMES BLUNT
6.	FUTURE SEX/LOVE SOUNDS	JUSTIN TIMBERLAKE
7.	TAKING THE LONG WAY	DIXIE CHICKS
8.	BREAKTHROUGH	MARY J. BLIGE
9.	NOW 21	VARIOUS ARTISTS
10.	8'DAY	BEYONCÉ



▲ **INSANE SUCCESS.** Their run-away hit single *Crazy* was arguably the most adventurous, irresistible song of 2006, blending soul and rock in a tune that appealed to just about everyone. Gnarls Barkley, the quirky duo that is DJ/producer Danger Mouse (Brian Burton) and rapper/singer Cee-Lo Green (Thomas Callaway), love to dress up in an ever-rotating roster of costumes — everything from airline flight crew uniforms to *Star Wars* characters. Nominated for four Grammys, the pair's *St. Elsewhere* won for best alternative album, and their wild antics earned the best urban/alternative performance Grammy for *Crazy*.

(Jeff Christensen/AP)

◀ **WE LIKE TO PUT HER RECORDS ON.** While attending the University of Leeds in England, Corinne Bailey Rae worked evenings at a local jazz club, and occasionally got a turn at the mike, where she perfected the tunes that made up her first demo CD. Her breezy, bluesy voice caught the attention of the right people, and for her 27th birthday she released a debut album titled *Corinne Bailey Rae*, featuring singles *Put Your Records On* and *Like a Star*. We expect to hear more from this Rae of sunshine.

(Mark J. Terrill/AP)



◀ **BLUNT INSTRUMENT.** His intimate, confessional single *You're Beautiful*, which features a sweet, sparse falsetto, was inescapable listening on pop radio stations nationwide, riding the Billboard Hot 100 for 38 weeks. The track eclipsed the other nine songs on James Blunt's debut album *Back to Bedlam* and portrayed a vulnerable side that is at odds with the macho image of this former British army officer who served in Kosovo in the late 1990s. But a music career was always Blunt's goal, and he has happily swapped guns for guitars.

(Jason DeCrow/AP)



# Music

▼ **TOUGH TEXAS TRIO.** Back in March 2003, Natalie Maines (center) told a British audience her band was "ashamed the President of the United States is from Texas." The backlash from U.S. country music fans was fierce, and the Chicks' career went flat. But their 2006 CD *Taking the Long Way* struck a chord with more than just country fans, and earned them five Grammy awards including album and song of the year. Contrary to the title of their hit single, seems they just might be ready to make nice.

(Amanda M. Parks-Abaca Press/MCT)



◀ **NELLY GETS LOOSE.** With help from hip-hop super producer Timbaland, the little girl from Victoria, Canada created a slick, R&B hip hop sound. Nelly Furtado's third album, *Loose*, with hit singles *Promiscuous*, *Maneater*, *Say It Right* and *All Good Things (Come to an End)*, reached No. 1 in North America.

(Kevin D. Johnson/AP)



# Lifestyle



◀ **BIG IS BEAUTIFUL.** First it was oversized sunglasses. Now the fashion industry has super-sized women's handbags. No more demure evening clutches. Today's stylemakers lug purses that resemble midsize duffel bags. At first glance it seems like a match made in heaven: fashion AND function in one accessory. The upside: these bags hold everything but the kitchen sink. The downside: they're causing a sharp increase in reported neck, shoulder and back problems. (Patrick Rifeaux)



▶ **FLASHDANCE REDUX.** Hey, we liked the 1983 movie too, but not enough to parade in public wearing spandex leggings and baggy pullovers. Yet many continue to mine the '80s for these fashion faux pas. Skinny jeans and wide belts also fly off the racks. What's next? Shoulder pads? (Fernando Salazar-Wichita Eagle/MCT)

▲ **WALKING SKELETONS AREN'T ROLE MODELS.** Wanting to project an image of beauty and health, organizers at top international fashion shows barred super skinny models from the runway. The Madrid show hired medics to check the catwalk queens, and those with a body mass index below 18 were turned away. BMI is a height-to-weight ratio. The normal range is between 18.5 and 25. Many designers insist on size 0 models, who typically have a BMI of 16 and often look gaunt, frail and sickly. But the World Health Organization says such a figure borders on starvation. Tah-tah to the toothpick trend. (Steve Wood-Express Syndication/MCT)



▲ **MADE YOU LOOK.** YouTube, the site that allows everyday folks to post video clips to the Internet, which the rest of us can't stop watching, was sold to Google for \$1.65 billion. With 72 million visitors each month, YouTube's success shows how the Internet continues to evolve, as more and more people go online not just to work, but to amuse themselves. Google hopes this huge Web audience will attract new advertisers. Stay tuned for innovative ads and video clips.



▲ **BATTLE OF THE BULGE.** Fried food, sugary sweets and salty treats may soon be on the endangered species list. From California to Connecticut local governments are banning unhealthy foods. In New Jersey no soft drinks or candy may be sold or distributed during school hours. New York City announced a ban on trans fats, and junk food in vending machines is under attack across North America. In Britain even hot dogs have been taken off the menu in school cafeterias. While youngsters pack on the pounds and obesity rates soar, city councils, school boards and legislatures opt for lean and green. Say goodbye to that side of fries and hello to a fruit cup. (San Jose Mercury News)



▲ **ITUNES: TWO BILLION SERVED.** Music lovers in 22 countries around the globe have purchased more than 2 billion songs from the iTunes Music Store. Launched in April 2003, iTunes sold its first million tracks in just five days and since then it hasn't looked back. iTunes accounts for more than 80 per cent of legal music downloads in the United States. While digital music sales account for only 10 per cent of overall music sales, they total almost \$2 billion a year. And that's music to Apple CEO Steve Jobs's ears. (Romain Blanquart-Detroit Free Press/KRT)

## Top 10 GOOGLE SEARCHES '06

1. BEBO
2. MYSPACE
3. WORLD CUP
4. METACAFE
5. RADIOBLOG
6. WIKIPEDIA
7. VIDEO
8. REBELDE
9. MININOVA
10. WIKI

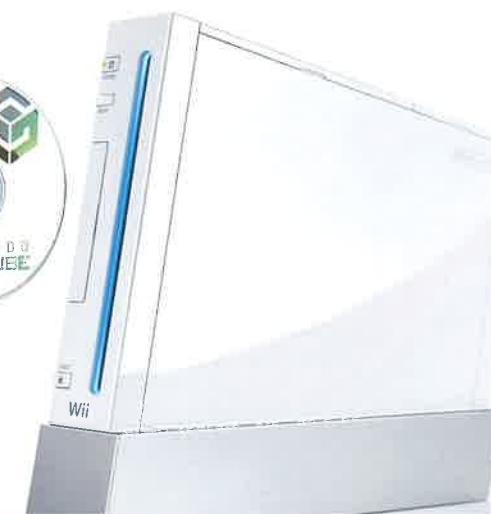
▼ **TOO HOT TO HANDLE.** In the largest safety recall in the history of the consumer electronics industry, Dell Inc. agreed to replace 4.2 million notebook computer batteries made by Sony Corp. because they can burst into flames. After a number of laptops overheated and caught fire, other companies joined in with recalls of their own, swelling the number of batteries to be replaced to 9.6 million worldwide. Sony is feeling the heat. The burning issue now is whether the Japanese giant can recoup its reputation. (Matt Stocum/AP)



▼ **GAMING: THE NEXT GENERATION.** The much-anticipated launch of Sony's PlayStation 3 saw eager gamers jostling for the few consoles that were initially available. PS3 features awesome, high-rez graphics: a treat for all video fans. Meanwhile, Nintendo's Wii lures players off the couch with its motion-sensitive control panel. Some gamers got so caught up in the action that they lost their grip on the wands and sent them crashing into TVs or other players. Ouch! (PRNewsFoto/Nintendo)



▲ ▼ **IT'S ALL ABOUT US.** Web traffic statistics show social network site MySpace is wildly popular in North America, and Facebook is a hit particularly with 17- to 25-year-olds. While studying might slide, we all work hard at other forms of homework: upgrading our profiles, surveying news feeds from friends, and tagging our photos. Chances are that one or the other site is your first visit of the day and your last visit before bed. The trend toward user-generated content caught the eye of Time magazine editors who name "You" their Person of the Year. (Peter Bregg)





▲ **TAKING JET-SETTING TO A NEW LEVEL.** Angelina Jolie and Brad Pitt have been racking up frequent-flier points. After a stint in Paris, they decamped to Namibia for the May birth of Shiloh. They'd barely returned to Los Angeles when the household hit the road again, this time to India to shoot *A Mighty Heart*. In March, Jolie jetted off again, this time to Vietnam to adopt a three-year-old orphan named Pax Thien. (Tim Ockenden)



◀ **REMEMBER WHAT HAPPENED TO PINOCCHIO!** After the pop singer's nose changed shape, Ashlee Simpson, 22, wouldn't confirm speculation she'd had a nose job, telling *People* magazine, "everybody's already saying it, so I just don't talk about it. I'm like, okay, whatever. It doesn't bother me." Better publicity came months later, ironically, when she played publicity-mad Roxie Hart in the musical *Chicago*. (Al Diaz-Miami Herald/MCT)



◀ **BFF.** Paris Hilton's debut album failed but the party life of America's favorite heiress/celebrity continued unabated. In August, Las Vegas's mayor declared a Paris Hilton Day and two months later she ended her feud with *Simple Life* co-star Nicole Richie by being seen with the alarmingly thin author/celebrity. The show's fifth season will have the pair playing Malibu, Calif., camp counsellors. (Chris Carlson/AP)



▲ **WHAT WAS THAT LINE AGAIN?** After her divorce from Nick Lachey (above) was finalized last year, Jessica Simpson was rarely out of the headlines. In August, her appropriately titled album, *A Public Affair*, was released and then, years after Rosie O'Donnell inspired her by prophesizing "you're gonna be a star," she was O'Donnell's debut guest on *The View*. Her botched lyrics to Dolly Parton's "9 to 5" in a tribute to the singer are forgotten now that she's starring in a movie with Luke Wilson. The title says it all—*Blonde Ambition*. (Lionel Hahn/Abaca Press/MCT)

◀ **MISSION: POSSIBLE.** Everyone wrote off Tom Cruise when his lucrative producer's contract was canceled after his couch-jumping antics. But Cruise pulled his career out of the fire by signing a deal to resurrect the historic United Artists. Then in *Vanity Fair*, he and fiancé Katie Holmes introduced their baby daughter Suri to the world. "TomKat" finally tied the knot in a romantic Italian castle filled, naturally, with A-list celebrities. (Gregorio Borja/AP)

▼ **BACK ON THE SINGLES SCENE.** Another victim of the Best Actress curse (six in the past 10 years have left their significant others after embracing Oscar), Reese Witherspoon ended her marriage to Ryan Phillippe after, or so gossips say, discovering his infidelity. At the Oscars the actress wore a sculpted purple dress that screamed "I'm sooo over that *Fathers* guy." (Michael Coudling-Orange County Register/NYT)



▲ **"SHAVED THAT MAN RIGHT OUT OF MY HAIR."** In November, after giving birth to second son Jaden, Britney Spears filed for divorce from dancer-turned-wannabe rapper Kevin Federline. The pop princess celebrated her decision with months of all-night partying. Her increasingly bizarre public appearances culminated with an impromptu hair shaving in February. Days later, a bald Britney entered rehab. (Danny Moloshok/AP)



◀ **DEAL...OR NO DEAL?** With no mentally challenging history questions, *Deal or No Deal* is the anti-*Jeopardy*. Contestants open cash-stuffed briefcases while gambling that they can "beat the bank" by cashing out just before opening one case too many. The show's immediate popularity was due not only to the game's simplicity but also Canadian-born host Howie Mandel, a game show master of suspense and drama. (Tara Farnham/WBC)

▼ **GOING GREY.** The Fray was just another band when *Grey's Anatomy* adopted their melancholy song, *How to Save a Life*. Downloads by the show's devoted fans catapulted the tune into the seventh most popular digital song of the year. Meanwhile, sites like *SeenOn.com* were overwhelmed as people purchased fashions seen draped over the show's actors. (Rob D'Amico/ABC)



▲ **DRAWING THE LINE TO SUCCESS.** Fox's *American Idol* might get all the attention but the network's domination of the TV animation schedule is equally impressive. *Family Guy* achieved the rare status of being brought back to life after cancellation by the strength of its fan base. Then there's *American Dad!*, the twisted tale of a CIA agent coping with his troubled home life and a German-speaking goldfish. But, duh!, nothing can match the subversive wit of *The Simpsons*, now closing in on two decades on air. (FOX)

# Television



◀ **THE LITTLE SHOW THAT COULD.** *Heroes'* quirky premise of ordinary people with extraordinary skills worried NBC execs. But fans were instantly drawn to characters including a geeky Japanese office worker who can stop time and an un-killable cheerleader with the creepy "Horned-Rim Guy" as her father. When its slogan "Save the cheerleader, save the world" was uttered, *Heroes* rescued NBC's Monday ratings. (Chris Haston/NBC)



◀ **THE BACKGROUND WAS WHITE, OF COURSE.** Capitalizing on Apple's coolness quotient, its Spartan Mac commercials simply featured two men personifying computers. The dry wit of John Hodgman (PC guy) played off the hip Justin Long (Mac guy) and viewers' sympathy towards the geeky PC guy, desperately trying to finesse his product's finicky reputation, added to the ads' success—Apple was crowned "Marketer of the Year" and Mac sales shot through the roof.



▲ **WALTZING HIS WAY TO THE TOP.** Emmitt Smith led the NFL in career rushing yards, rushing touchdowns and rushing attempts. The retired athlete can add another honor to the list—*Dancing with the Stars* champion. With bespangled shoes carefully coordinated to his outfit, über-popular Smith won by getting the fan vote. (ABC/ADAM LARKEY)



▲ **FRIDAY NIGHT TOUCHDOWN.** The pressure on Roman gladiators couldn't have been as intense as that on high school athletes in football-obsessed Texas. *Friday Night Lights* graphically combined the triumphs and tragedies of players, including quarterback Jason Street (Scott Porter, center), with the soap opera that is high school. Recognizing its cult status, NBC threw the show a Hail Mary and picked it up for the season. (Paul Drinkwater/NBC)



▶ **HOLA, BETTY!** The season's hottest comedy, *Ugly Betty*, is about how a sweet Latina girl—and her signature braces, thick eyebrows and ghastly clothes—conquers the snake pit of a fashion magazine with intelligence and bravado. This family-friendly show proved that good writing and acting can lure viewers away from reality TV. (ABC/CRAIG SJOJINI)

# Entertainment





◀ **DIVA-LICIOUS.** Shrugging off her *American Idol* rejection, Jennifer Hudson displayed her impressive pipes as well as her acting skills in *Dreamgirls* by playing Effie, the Dreamettes' lead singer who is dumped so svelte Deanna (Beyoncé Knowles) can break the group into superstardom. Hudson's heartbreaking rendition of "And I Am Telling You (I'm Not Going)" was so powerful that one preview audience gave it a standing ovation. At the Academy Awards, *The Departed* picked up the Best Picture prize, but the night belonged to Hudson as she walked off with the Best Supporting Actress honor.

(Daniel A. Anderson-Orange County Register/MCT)



▲ **ROMEO AND JULIET, GREASE, FOOTLOOSE** and now... Disney's *High School Musical* was about a jock (Zac Efron) and an academic (Vanessa Hudgen) who, drawn together by their love of singing, try out for the school musical. An instant hit, the made-for-TV movie spawned the year's No. 1 CD, a bestselling DVD and a blockbuster concert tour by the movie's stars. More than 2,000 amateur groups will stage their own versions of the show this year and a sequel will be out in the summer. It's truly the *Grease* of the iPod generation.

(Disney Channel / Everett Collection)



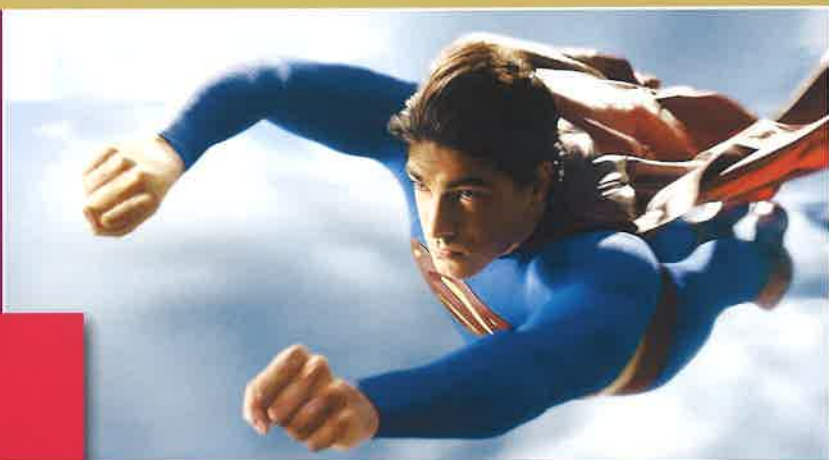
▲ **FASHION WORLD FOLLIES.** In *The Devil Wears Prada*, Andy Sachs (Anne Hathaway) was an average young woman wearing chain store clothes. Yet Miranda Priestly (Meryl Streep), the superciliously arrogant editor of "Runway" hired her as a new assistant, loading her down with impossible tasks such as getting the unpublished Harry Potter book. Along the way Sachs got a killer wardrobe and realized what she wants out of life while viewers got a hilarious look inside the fashion world, set to a great soundtrack.

(Barry Wetcher/Fox)



▲ **JACK IS BACK.** The second *Pirates of the Caribbean* film, *Dead Man's Chest* saved the summer movie season when fans plunked down more than \$400 million to see the swashbuckling adventures of glam-rock Capt. Jack Sparrow (Johnny Depp, centre), and ever-separated sweethearts Will Turner (Orlando Bloom) and Elizabeth Swann (Keira Knightley). Whether the cute couple will ever get hitched will be revealed in the series' final installment, due this summer. Just in time to rescue another summer movie season.

(Matt Disney/Everett Collection)



▲ **COMEBACK OF THE CAPED CRUSADER.** A lot can change in five years. When Superman (Brandon Routh) returned to Earth after searching for the destroyed Krypton, he discovered Lois Lane not only had a boyfriend but also a son. Oh, and Lex Luthor was cooking up another diabolical plot. *Superman Returns* returned to its comic book origins and rebuilt the legend, one magnificent rescue at a time. (© 2006 Warner Bros. Pictures)



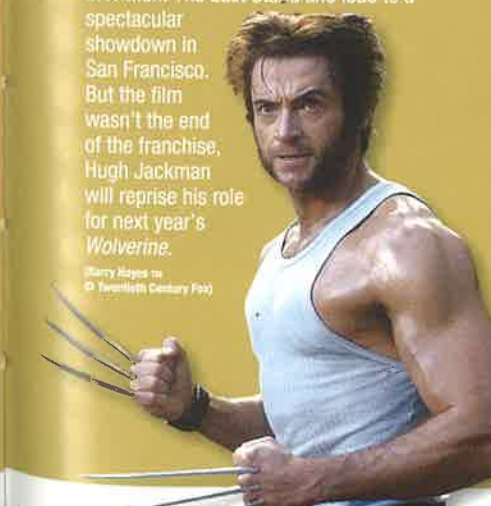
▲ **THE JOKE'S ON US.** Kazakhstan's government spent millions trying to pitch their central Asian country as a tourist destination, but no marketing campaign could change the fact that their most famous citizen is the fictional Borat Sagdiyev. British comic Sacha Baron Cohen's explicit, demented comedy, *Borat: Cultural Learnings of America For Make Benefit Glorious Nation of Kazakhstan*, was packed with ethnic, religious and sexual stereotypes as it showed off unscripted encounters between Borat and unsuspecting Americans. Talk of a sequel started the minute after it killed the competition at the box office. (Paul Drinkwater/NBC/Everett Collection)



▲ **VROOMING UP THE BOX OFFICE LIST.** Pixar has made hits such as *Toy Story*, *Monsters, Inc.*, *The Incredibles* and *Finding Nemo*, but an animated film about cars that have eyes made from windshields? In *Cars*, Lightning McQueen (Owen Wilson) detoured off the highway, parked in Radiator Springs and learned that his "I don't need help from no one" attitude needed a tune-up. The movie motored into last year's No. 2 spot, with a \$244 million box office. (© Walt Disney/Everett Collection)

▼ **THE MUTANTS TAKE SIDES.** If you had to choose whether to turn off alienating superpowers, such as Rogue's inability to touch anyone without hurting them, would you? That decision split the mutant community apart in *X-Men: The Last Stand* and lead to a spectacular showdown in San Francisco. But the film wasn't the end of the franchise, Hugh Jackman will reprise his role for next year's *Wolverine*.

(Barry Hayes in © Twentieth Century Fox)



◀ **A BUFF BOND.** Daniel Craig claimed the James Bond character as his own in the opening of *Casino Royale* when he made his first kill by bashing a man into a bloody pulp. Displaying an impressively-muscled body, the British actor turned the suave tuxedoed super-spy into a chillingly brutal assassin who, thank heavens, works for the good guys. (© 2006 Columbia Pictures/MGM)



▲ **LOOK WHO'S COMING TO DINNER.** As Dupree in *You, Me and Dupree*, Owen Wilson perfected his slacker/Valley-boy act. Why newlyweds Carl (Matt Dillon, left) and Molly (Kate Hudson) allowed Dupree to crash at their house when he lost his job and apartment is the question that echoes through this comedy. They had to know trouble was moving in when Dupree brought not only a ukulele but also a moose head. (Universal/Everett Collection)



# Movies



▲ **"I'M JUST A BIG HAIRY AMERICAN WINNING MACHINE, YOU KNOW?"** Will Ferrell's sports satire, *Talladega Nights: The Ballad of Ricky Bobby*, was the comedic hit of the summer. His good-natured ode to the power of car racing included every cliché about the South, NASCAR and America; it also hit every funny bone in the theater. (Sony Pictures/Everett Collection)

## Top Movies • 06

1.	PIRATES OF THE CARIBBEAN: DEAD MAN'S CHEST	\$423 MILLION
2.	CARS	\$244 MILLION
3.	X-MEN: THE LAST STAND	\$234 MILLION
4.	THE DA VINCI CODE	\$218 MILLION
5.	SUPERMAN RETURNS	\$200 MILLION
6.	ICE AGE: THE MELTDOWN	\$195 MILLION
7.	OVER THE HEDGE	\$155 MILLION
8.	HAPPY FEET	\$149 MILLION
9.	TALLADEGA NIGHTS	\$148 MILLION
10.	CASINO ROYALE	\$138 MILLION

# Sports



◀ **FROM MADRID TO L.A.** British soccer star David Beckham is leaving his current team, Real Madrid, to join Major League Soccer team Los Angeles Galaxy this summer. Beckham signed a five-year deal worth a whopping \$250 million including endorsements and profit sharing. He will relocate to California with his wife Victoria (formerly "Posh" of Spice Girls fame) and their three sons. (Stuart Robinson-Express Syndication/KRT)

▶ **BRIGHT STAR.** He's only 22 and yet already LeBron James has played in three NBA all-star games. With dazzling speed and agility, the Cleveland Cavaliers' small forward moves down the court and lights up the scoreboard. Consistently setting new records, just before Christmas "King James" became the youngest player in league history to score 7,000 points. (Ken Love-Akron Beacon Journal/MCT)

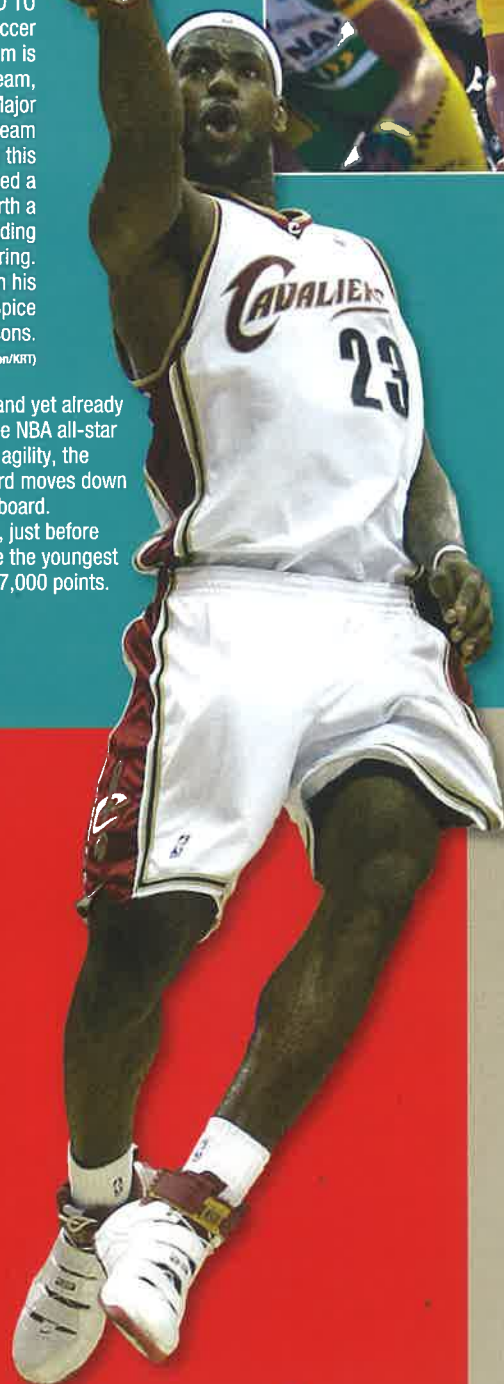


▶ **PITCHER PERFECT.** After eight years with the Seibu Lions of Nippon Pro Baseball, Japan's ace pitcher Daisuke Matsuzaka signed a six-year, \$52-million contract with the Boston Red Sox. His first name is pronounced "Dice-K," but in Japan the 26-year-old right-hander is known as "the Monster"—and with good reason: at the 2004 Olympics, his fastball was clocked at 100 mph on a radar gun. After Boston's lackluster 2006 season, the team's fortunes are definitely improving. Immediately after signing Matsuzaka in December, the Red Sox saw ticket sales jump to record levels. (Chitose Suzuki/AP)

▶ **A GOLDEN RUN.** At the 2007 edition of the Winter X Games in Aspen Colo., 16-year-old Jamie Anderson became the youngest athlete ever to win a gold medal. The 11th grader from Lake Tahoe, Calif., won the women's snowboard slopestyle title after successfully landing a 720—which entails rotating in the air twice—her first in competition. (Nathan Blouw/AP)



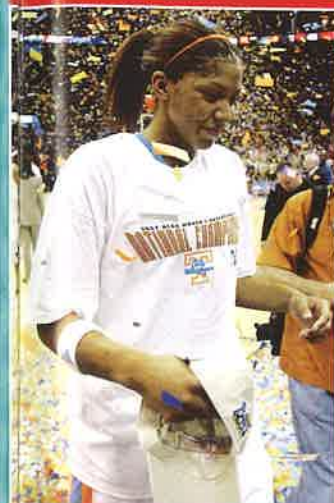
▶ **SPINNING HIS WHEELS.** Last July U.S. cyclist Floyd Landis (above, in an earlier race) was the toast of Paris as he stood atop the winner's podium at the Tour de France. But within days of completing the grueling three-week race, Landis was accused of doping, when higher-than-allowable levels of testosterone were found in two urine samples. Since then Landis has steadfastly maintained his innocence. Still recovering from hip-replacement surgery, he has agreed not to participate in this summer's tour. (Grant Blankenship-Macon Telegraph/KRT)



▶ **FIESTA BOWL MAGIC.** Boise State wide receiver Drisan James scored the first touchdown of the Fiesta Bowl. In a thrilling, back-and-forth game, the Broncos tied the score with the Oklahoma Sooners in the final seven seconds of regulation play, and then eked out a 43-42 win in overtime. Many believe it was the best NCAA football game of all time. The Broncos, who had completed the 2006 season as the only undefeated NCAA I-A team in the country, were rewarded for their efforts with a \$36 million expansion to their home stadium. (Chris Rutter-Alpha Stationery/MCT)

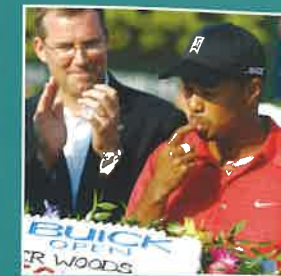


▶ **REST IN PEACE.** Wonder horse Barbaro won the Kentucky Derby in 2006, and was favored to win the Preakness (above) before he shattered his right hind leg in that race. It was an injury that would end the career of the 4-year-old colt. Despite owners Roy and Gretchen Jackson's best efforts and the outpouring of support from fans around the country, Barbaro suffered a series of complications in January and had to be euthanized. (Elizabeth Robertson-Philadelphia Inquirer/KRT)



▶ **TENN FIGHTS OFF SCARLET FEVER.** It was the first time a Rutgers team had been so close to a national title in a major sport, but it was not to be. The Scarlet Knights went down to defeat when the University of Tennessee Lady Volunteers defeated them 59-46. Vols' forward Candace Parker, who stands six foot four, was named the Most Outstanding Player after getting 17 points, seven rebounds and three assists. Meanwhile in the men's NCAA final, the Florida Gators held off Ohio State 84-75 to successfully defend their national title. (Tony Dejak/AP)

▶ **HE LEAVES THE REST IN HIS WAKE.** U.S. swimmers dominated the world championships in April, with unbeatable Mark Phelps winning seven gold medals and setting five new world records. Next stop for this 21-year-old powerhouse: the 2008 Olympics in Beijing. (Rob Griffith/AP)



▶ **KING OF THE LINKS.** After Tiger Woods won July's British Open—his first victory following the death of his beloved father, Earl—he sobbed uncontrollably on the shoulder of caddie Steve Williams. That win, his 11th major, set off a remarkable string of wins, including his 50th PGA win in August, which he celebrated by sneaking a taste of his victory cake. His impressive streak of seven consecutive PGA tour wins ended at February's Accenture match play tourney. (Julian H. Gonzalez-Detroit Free Press/MCT)

▶ **THE INSULT SEEN AROUND THE WORLD.** Italy should have dominated the headlines after defeating France to win the 2006 World Cup in a dramatic penalty-kick finale, but, instead, all the talk was about French captain Zinedine Zidane's head-butt of Italian defender Marco Materazzi. After the great French player (in the No. 10 jersey) was expelled by the ref, his team's chances drained away. Zidane, named the tournament's best player, later apologized for his action, saying that Materazzi had insulted his sister. (Gouhier-Hahn-Orban-Abaca Press/MCT)



▶ **ON TOP OF THE WORLD.** She's just celebrated her 20th birthday but already Maria Sharapova is one of the world's top-ranked female tennis players and defending champ at this summer's U.S. Open. The statuesque Russian, who has lived in Florida since she was seven, is the highest paid female athlete in the world thanks to lucrative sponsorship deals. She was recently named as a goodwill ambassador for the UN development agency UNDP, and in that role, is focusing on projects to assist the people of Chernobyl, Ukraine, site of the world's worst nuclear disaster. Sharapova has a personal connection there: her parents fled from the contaminated area months before she was born.



## 2006-07 Champions

SUPER BOWL XLI	INDIANAPOLIS COLTS OVER CHICAGO BEARS	29-17
WORLD SERIES	ST. LOUIS CARDINALS OVER DETROIT TIGERS	4-1 SERIES
NBA	MIAMI HEAT OVER DALLAS MAVERICKS	4-2 SERIES
NCAA FOOTBALL	FLORIDA GATORS OVER OHIO STATE BUCKEYES	41-14
NCAA MEN'S B-BALL	FLORIDA GATORS OVER OHIO STATE BUCKEYES	84-75
NCAA WOMENS B-BALL	TENNESSEE LADY VOLUNTEERS OVER RUTGERS SCARLET KNIGHTS	59-46
PGA	TIGER WOODS	\$ 9.9 MILLION
LPGA	LORENA OCHOA	\$ 2.6 MILLION
WOMEN'S TENNIS	JUSTINE HENIN	\$ 4.2 MILLION
MEN'S TENNIS	ROGER FEDERER	\$ 8.3 MILLION
STANLEY CUP	CAROLINA HURRICANES OVER EDMONTON OILERS	4-3 SERIES



# Science



▲ **THE HOTTEST STORY.** From wildfires across the U.S. Southwest, to floods in India, to melting ice caps in Greenland and Antarctica, to drought in Africa, to Cyclone Larry, a category 5 storm that hammered Australia, the global warming crisis is upon us. Our CO2 emissions, mostly from burning fuel — gasoline for cars and coal for electricity— trap heat from the sun and raise global temperatures. These greenhouse gases were the focus of former Vice President Al Gore's box office hit *An Inconvenient Truth*. The movie demonstrated that when temperatures rise, climatic disasters strike hard and will keep coming as planet Earth attempts to fight the fever. (Steve Ringman/Seattle Times/KRT)



◀ **AND THEN THERE WERE EIGHT.** When the world's professional stargazers, the International Astronomical Union, met to consider the fate of wannabe planet Xena, they hammered out a new definition of what constitutes a planet, and poor little Pluto didn't make the cut. The judging panel voted to downgrade the tiny sphere to "dwarf planet" status, which for many earthlings, was the biggest news from space since the cow jumped over the moon. As for Xena, although her discovery in 2005 turned heads, she was tagged as a dwarf too, and her name was changed to Eris.

(Nick U/AP)



◀ **WALL-TO-WALL TV.** When it comes to flat-screen televisions, size matters. Sharp Electronics has produced a gargantuan, 108-inch liquid-crystal display (LCD) that probably won't even fit through the front door of most homes. That's nine feet, measured diagonally corner to corner. With the introduction of high-definition digital broadcasting, sales of flat-screen TVs are booming, and three-quarters of those sales are LCD units. The rest are plasma. Monster screens come with monster price tags: Sharp's model isn't available yet, but Panasonic's 103-inch plasma TV retails for \$70,000. (Lee C. Hwang/EP)

◀ **URBAN WHEELS.** As gasoline prices soared to new highs at the pumps, Toronto-based Feel Good Cars rolled out the ZENN (Zero Emissions No Noise). The two-seat electric runabout is designed for short trips on city streets. It's designated as a low-speed vehicle (LSV) and has a top-rated speed of about 25 mph, perfect for congested downtown routes, quiet suburban communities or sprawling university campuses.

▲ **BLAME IT ON EL NIÑO.** According to officials at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, last year was the warmest in the U.S. since record keeping began 112 years ago, due in large part to an unusually warm December. While the eastern half of North America basked in record-breaking warm temperatures well into January, leaving the ski industry there struggling, Denver dug out from multiple blizzards that dumped dozens of feet of snow. Meanwhile California's citrus crop was flash-frozen on the tree when the thermometer plummeted, and the Pacific coast suffered through wind storms, heavy snowfalls and torrential rain. The major cause of the wacky weather? El Niño, a condition that involves a periodic warming of Pacific Ocean waters near the equator. (Tom Fox-Dallas Morning News/MCT)

▶ **A CANCER VACCINE IS BORN.** Gardasil, a new vaccine from drug manufacturer Merck, prevents four of the most common strains of human papillomavirus (HPV), the virus that causes most cases of cervical cancer. The vaccine is approved for females aged 9 to 26, and is given in three injections over six months. Cervical cancer is the second-leading cause of cancer in women, therefore the arrival of this vaccine is a major medical breakthrough. (Sharon Gekoski-Kimmel/Philadelphia Inquirer/MCT)

