New principal unleashes school spirit

Aliens search for intelligent life

WDOG 6 skycam monitors traffic

Big Brother is always watching
out of this world....

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Spring
NEWS FLASH!!

Students activate their brain cells in headgear that can only be described as:

OUT OF THIS WORLD

IRIS 2001

Highland High School
Highland, Illinois 62249
12760 Troxler Avenue
Phone: (618) 654-7131
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Faculty and Staff: 75
Enrollment: 962
Phaze II

From basements to the center stage at the Missouri State Fair Highland High School's own melodic rock band, Phaze II, played numerous shows last year and even recorded a ten song cd "Older with Age". Phaze II, composed of Jacob Boyd, 12, Cory Done, 12, Jason Fieker, 11, Nathan Robinson, 11, and David Wise, 12, performed at many community events, played at Post-Prom, 5th Quarters and at Effie's last benefit show for Glik Park as well as many other high school events.

Iris

Exclusive

out of this world!

-Disclaimer

If you have ever gone grocery shopping you are bound to have come across one of those trashy, unbelievable, extraordinary tabloid newspapers. Over the summer the editors of the Iris staff were faced with the dilemma of finding a theme to follow for this yearbook. After many weeks of agonizing over possible theme ideas, a light came on inside the brains of editors David Wise, 12 and Cory Adolph, 12, to borrow the theme idea of the National Enquirer and other trashy super market tabloid papers. So this book, "Out of This World", is set up in the same journalistic style and theme of a tabloid paper.

Miss America

While the drifting snow diminished the visibility outdoors, the message inside was crystal clear. On December 13, 2000, the Highland area was privileged to have Miss America, Angela Perez Baraquio, speak to the Highland community and surrounding areas. Due to the harsh weather, school was canceled, but many took advantage of
the day off and came to hear her speak. Reporters, students, parents, and local citizens all braved the weather to hear what this high profile woman had to say. While she answered many questions about herself, most of what she spoke on was her views of education, parenting, and mentoring children and teens. Baraquio has high respect for teachers and has high ideals toward students. When asked about her views on the recent school violence, her answer regarded parenting by example, and the effects of good role models. This woman of great stamina and morale has a bright future ahead of her, and it was a pleasure to have her visit our school.

Meet the stars
This was a year of endless possibilities to students and staff alike. Not only did many meet nationally renowned Miss America, but our own WDOG 6 TV and Radio Productions class had the opportunity to meet local KMOV personalities Larry Connors, Mary Phelan, and Kent Ehhardt. Students Scott Wessel, 10, David Wise, 12, Amanda Zeller, 10, Scott Schuetz, 12, Matt Ressman, 10, Justin Schrumpf, 10, and Justin Gibbons, 10, took advantage of this experience while Sherry Fletcher and Jim Nickerson chaperoned the trip.

The adoption of character development programs in our country’s schools must become a national priority. As Miss America, I am encouraging educators, parents and students to make character education an integral element of their school’s culture and curriculum.
Crazed fans: Louis Staley, 11, Jeff Weinacht, 11, and Travis Navickas, 11, lead the crowd in a new cheer that would carry school spirit throughout the year.
Falling into school spirit: As students began the school year, there were numerous sightings of red and black apparel, an exciting new wave of pep assemblies, and a frenzy of school spirit. Nothing could have prepared us for what was about to happen next: 97% perfect attendance, a surge of sports victories, and personal achievements that were truly out of this world.

Three friends: Emily Johnston, 11, Alicia Weiss, 11, and Kristen Gianino, 11, head towards the first all school assembly for the year.
Star struck
Another favorite event among students was FCA, or Fellowship of Christian Athletes. Members Tim Nagel, 12, and Dane Barker, 10, meet with Cardinals' baseball player J.D. Drew at Camp FCA.

Skate or die
A portable ramp and solid deck are all Jacob Zink, 9, needs to enjoy his hours after school. In between his hours at Diamond Mineral Springs Restaurant, Zink and his friends passed many hours performing death-defying stunts on their skateboards.

In the bag
Carrying groceries to customers' cars is only one of the many jobs of a grocery store employee. Associate of Schnucks, Robert Merwin, 12, handles many of these jobs everyday.

Gone fishin'
"After school I go home and eat some food. After that I go fishing."
-Tyler Munie, 9

Hanging on
Lindsay Hess, 12, holds tight to the rope as she skis along the clear lakewater. Many long hours were spent in the water as Hess and her family and friends took advantage of the glorious Midwestern climate.
What we did After School

Each afternoon at 3:00, the much awaited final bell sounded, and released students from books, research, tests, and deadlines that filled their lives with worry and stress. That final bell released them to a whole other world. Whether that world held more stress, less stress, co-workers, friends, or family, it never failed to be a relief from the daily grind of school. Our students were involved in a wide range of after school activities making the student body as diverse as their activities.

Blitz!!
McKendree College praise band, Blitz, performs for local FCA chapters. Every Wednesday night was a new activity for the boys and girls involved in FCA.

Check mate
An evil expression always scares away Jason Ficker's, 12, opponents in any games he plays. From chess to Monopoly, Ficker enjoys many rousing board games and the friendly competition they bring.

The softer side
"I enjoy lazy afternoons on my couch, gourmet meals, and long walks on the beach while listening to my favorite band, Phaze 2."
Jacob Boyd, 12

Watch and wait
One of the most consuming events after school, was the Bulldog hockey club. Here, Chad Zurliene, 9, Joe Gitersonke, 10, and Ned Kampwerth, 9, eagerly await their chance to compete with the JV club.
Sailing, sailing...

Sailing over the ocean blue doesn't quite fit into Chris Stahl's, 12, schedule, but Carlyle lake sure does. Stahl enjoyed sailing locally as well as traveling around the country to experience different bodies of water.

Paper or plastic

Christy Bargetzi, 11, bags groceries at Tom Boy after school. After school jobs took up a wide array of students' time and energy.

Champions

The varsity hockey team made a name for themselves that will be remembered for years to come. In only their third season together, these bulldogs captured the MVCHA championship. Many students spent a lot of time cheering on the team in hockey rinks from East Alton to O'Fallon.

Takin' care of business

"My dog, Bob, looks forward to me getting home from school, because he needs me to let him out to do his business. As soon as I do that, I talk to my friends, do my homework, and relax." - Ellyn Cox, 10

Cleaning up

Andee Barnes, 12, hangs clothes on racks at Schwend's Dry Cleaning as part of her after school Co-op job. Like many students, Barnes fits work in between homework and fun.
Deer hunter
While some students spent time behind closed doors, outdoorsman Eric Sumner, 11, took advantage of deer season and brought home an eight point trophy.

All wet
The 2001 HHS Boys Swim Team competed in Springfield at the IHSA Boys Swimming Sectional in February. Members Ryan Poss, 12, David Meyer, 10, David Trame, 10, and Darren Gress, 12, finished 7th overall with three individual medals awarded.

Girl talk
"I spend my time after school doing homework and talking to my friends on the phone."
- Elizabeth Reppond, 11

High hopes
Many of these first year players have much to look forward to next year as they approach new varsity slots. This team ranged from freshman to seniors, so many will be back next year.
My lungs were screaming for air, and my heart beat wildly. Sweat poured down my face and stung my eyes. My legs ached with a pain that increased with every step. I struggled to go faster and faster, racing not only against the person one millisecond behind me, but most importantly against myself as I saw the chute grow closer and closer. I pulled energy from deep inside myself as I rushed through it and collided with the person in front of me. Doubled up in pain, I clutched the ropes of the chute and fought to stay standing. This was the best feeling in the world. Yes, the best feeling in the world which comes from not only finishing a race, but from scrouring up the courage to begin. It’s the feeling at the finish of a race that motivates cross country runners to work hard. This determination and satisfaction from running led the cross country team to an impressive season that went beyond the scheduled one. Both teams slaughtered the other conference teams and captured both boys and girls MVC Championships. Dan Strackeljahn, 11, returned as MVC Individual Champion. The boys varsity team and Holly Mitchell, 9, earned the right to compete at the IHSA Sectional Meet. Strackeljahn also competed in the state championship meet in Peoria against the best runners in the state. The cross country team became more than runners; they became champions.

CROSS COUNTRY CHATTER

“This year’s runners ran hard during the summer workouts, Heck Week, and season practices. We also had fun by covering ourselves in mud, running around the school in the coaches’ Super Lightning Bonus Round, and Ultimate Frisbee. It was a blast.”
- Daniel Strackeljahn, 11

TEAM GOALS

“The team really came together this year to accomplish many goals. We all had fun singing songs and making each meet interesting and memorable.”
- Sara Wilkinson, 11

Stop in the name of love
With his love of the sport evident in his smile, Jason Schmitz, 10, spreads his joy of running by commenting, “We had fun this year, especially after we bought the orange spandex pants.”
Sigh of relief
Rebekah Shea, 12, rushes through the chute just ahead of Stephanie Gruender, 10, at the Madison County Meet. Both girls ran the 2.5 mile course with superior strength and endurance, earning them record times and top honors.

Beyond the finish line
Michelle Watts, 11, reflects back on her race at the team’s first meet in Alton while Lindsay Sweetnam, 9, rests near by. Watts believed, “The best part was winning MVC. We worked so hard to accomplish that goal.”

Home on the range
The boys cross country team feels right at home on a three mile course in Alton. Though the heat made the race more stressful, all the boys ran well and proved to local schools that Highland was their new worst nightmare.

All Conference Runners
Brick wall
Sticking together, Michelle Maedge, 10, and Jamie Bast, 10, are determined to not let anything by them while they’re at the net.

Setting sensation
With perfect form, Mandie Plocher, 10, sets the ball, while Erica Ross, 11, and Jamie Zurlene, 10, prepare to get a kill.

Air time
Getting total air time, Jamie Bast, 10, spikes the ball over the net for a kill.

Team Record
(4-12)

Triad
L 9-15, 15-13
14-16
Jerseyville
W 15-12, 15-13
Civic Memorial
L 15-7, 6-15
14-16
Collinsville
W 15-2, 15-7
Triad
W 15-10, 15-13
Granite City
L 15-1, 10-15
12-15

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Time To Kill

Written by: Jessie Koerkenmeier

The Junior Varsity girls volleyball team won four and lost 12 matches during the 2000 season. During every match and practice, the girls played well and strived to win. "Even though we didn't win all the time, we still had a lot of fun," commented Jamie Zurliene, 10. The team consisted of one junior and the rest were sophomores, in the beginning of the season. By the end of the season, a few freshmen moved up to help out the team. The JV team had a very tough schedule, but they worked hard and proved their talent when they beat Triad 15 to 10 and 15 to 13. They also defeated Jerseyville and Collinsville who were strong teams. The volleyball team had many kills and good blocks throughout the season. As the coach Jamie Murphy said, "We had a fun season. They were a good group of girls to coach. They all got along so well that it was easy for them to mesh together on the court. I look forward to working with them again next year." The JV volleyball team is looking forward to a successful season next year.

Hitting Hard

"The girls were great! It was a fun year. I'm going to miss the seniors so much! Next year will be great too. I have a lot of fun being an outside hitter."
- Nicole Taylor, 10

High Hopes

"I had so much fun this year! It was great! I'm looking forward a good season next year."
- Hsiao lei Miller, 10

Hustle: Showing hustle, Michele Maedge, 10, gets the ball and passes it to the setter. Waiting there with support is Nicole Taylor, 10.
Hot Nets Cool Hits!

Written by: Michelle Frey

With only three starting seniors returning, the volleyball team put up a good fight. Their record didn’t show it, but they were a great team with a lot of talent. Leading and coaching the ladies volleyball team was Jody Plater. Coach Plater concluded, “The varsity team had so much talent. Although the teamwork was not there, the skill was. It was fun to see each of the girls show their talent whether it was an ace serve by Sara Ulrich, 12, or a kill by Jennifer Harsy, 11, on an opponent’s head. Sometimes we would expect Michelle Frey, 12, to set up a hitter but would kill it herself and leave the other team dumbfounded. Whenever a hitter would get around our block, Nicole Rezabek, 12, would be there diving on the floor digging the ball for play to continue. Every now and then we would get a butterfly in our stomach when Jackie Koerkenmeier, 11, would serve a ball so short it would barely make it over the net for an ace. Overall, these were a great group of girls and I enjoyed coaching them.” As the season came to an end the girls were sad but they were determined for a better and more experienced season next year.

Having Fun Through Disappointment

“I know the season didn’t go the way we planned but I had a lot of fun and I am really going to miss the seniors next year.” - Beth Schrumpf, 11

Memories

“Despite our low record, the varsity team really came together and made the season fun. I’ve made tons of friends and memories over the past four years.”

- Nicole Rezabek, 12

The intensity: Several varsity players watch intently as their team-mates work to gain another victory.
Spike it
Towering over the net, Jennifer Harsy, 11, jumps high to kill the ball and crush her opponent.

Ahhh ace!
Using all of her power Amanda Gallatin, 11, serves the ball over the net hoping for an ace.

Fired up
Varsity members come together to get pumped before a strenuous match. The huddle includes: Sara Ulrich, 12, Michelle Frey, 12, Jessie Koerkenmeier, 11, Amanda Gallatin, 11, Jennifer Harsy, 11, and Jackie Koerkenmeier, 11.

Team Record
(7-25)

Granite City
L 1-2
Wesclin
L 1-2
Civic Memorial
L 0-2
Triad
L 0-2
Jerseyville
W 2-1
Waterloo
L 0-2
Mascoutah
W 2-1
Collinsville
W 2-0
Down the fairway
John White, 11, freezes his perfect golf stance, as he spots his shot down the fairway.

Serious evaluation
After a successful practice swing, Jared Zappia, 11, eyes up his drive.

Photogenic
Chris Frey, 11, is happy to record another low golf score for his team.

Team Record
(21-0)

Mater Dei
W 151-162
Triad
W 154 -164
Jerseyville
W 157-160
Waterloo
W 166-177
Columbia
W 158-164
Bunker Hill
W 151-218
Marquette
W 154-161
Greenville
W 161-179
Perfection Under Par

Written by: Gabriel Michael

Throughout the numerous games, tense matches, and stressful tournaments and conferences, the boys golf team managed a record-shattering 21-0 season. Low scoring players for this record season were Chad Jakel, 12, and John White, 11. Jakel was awarded titles of Best Scoring Average, First Team All-Area, and also an Individual Sectional Qualifier. White was awarded titles of First Team All Conference, First Place at the O’Fallon Invitational, and also an Individual Sectional Qualifier. “My favorite part of the year was when we won conferences, and got out of sectionals,” White stated. In the Mississippi Valley Conference championship, the team placed first out of six teams, their first time placing first since 1983. It took much hard work and determination of the team’s behalf to achieve their impressive record. “The golf team had an outstanding season. To the best of my knowledge, this is the first undefeated golf team in HHS history. It was definitely the best team I’ve had in my fourteen years as the HHS golf coach, and one of the best in HHS history,” Coach Jeff Faulkenberg emphasizes. In the end, the golf team managed perfection under the great pressure of the game.

Selfless Support

“One of the things that made us an excellent team was our great camaraderie, and our concern for the team over ourselves.” - Ryan Fulton, 12

Record Breaking Season

“We had good teamwork for our 21-0 school record.”
- Matt Miller, 9

Chipping on: Individual champion Chad Jakel, 12, chips his ball smoothly onto the green. In order to execute their record breaking season, everyone on the team needed to make perfect chips similar to this one.
Golf Champs 2000

Written by: Cory Done

Golf is a mentally intense activity which requires hand-eye coordination, strength, and accuracy. The 2000 girls golf team not only met these crucial elements of the game, but they excelled in every aspect of golf. By combining their unique talents they were able to put together an excellent season. The season started with a strong showing at a tough Alton Marquette Invitational and continued with spectacular victories over such competitors as Triad, Belleville West, Greenville, and Mascoutah. Later in the fall season, the team brought home a victory at the Mascoutah Invitational. Although these triumphs were an integral part of the season, perhaps the most rewarding accomplishment was capturing the 2000 MVC Championship. The team also stepped up to the challenge of competition in the post-season. The squad earned third place honors at the IHSA Regionals, and upon completion of IHSA Sectionals, Jami Potthoff, 12, emerged as a state competitor. Over the course of the season, many goals were set and fulfilled. These aspirations will be continued in the proceeding year, with a strong influx of underclassmen talent.

A Good Group

“Our team motto: ‘Golf is our friend and we have lots of fun,’ certainly applied to this year’s team. What a fun group to coach. My hat is off to Jami for reaching the State Tournament.” - Coach Gina Hirsch

Great Golf

“We had an awesome season this year! The team was very close, and we all played great golf!”
- Rebecca Davis, 9

MVC champs: A strenuous season pays off with the awarding of the 2000 MVC Girls Golf plaque. After receiving the prestigious award, the team along with Coach Gina Hirsch, gather to celebrate a prosperous season.
Much needed break

Jami Potthoff, 12, takes a break before teeing off at the next hole at the MVC Championship match. Potthoff commented, “Being a good senior leader and always being there for the rest of the team were my high priorities this year.”

Next hole

Dena Korte, 11, sets out in search of the next hole after finishing with a low score on a tough green. The girls came through with many good scores on tough courses, and those scores led to an eventual MVC Championship.

Ball drop

After her tee shot lands in the rough, Katie Ehlke, 10, is forced to drop the ball in a more playable position. However, such minor setbacks failed to affect the players or their scores.

Team Record

Alton Marquette Invitational
6th place
Mascoutah Invitational
1st place
MVC Championship
1st place
Edwardsville Invitational
3rd place
IHSA Regional
3rd place
IHSA Sectional
6th place
Big serve in a small package
While gritting her teeth, Lauren Campbell, 11, exerts all her power into an unreturnable first serve.

Perfection is key
Suzanne Rogier, 11, puts spin on the ball for her famous shot, a down the line winner.

Serving time
Gazing into the sun, Erin Clark, 11, tosses the tennis ball high to maximize the power of her serve. Erin held a strong position at number four singles.

Team Record
(9-6)

Centralia
W 4 - 1
Waterloo
W 6 - 1
Alton Marquette
W 7 - 0
Greenville
W 5 - 0
Hillsboro
W 5 - 0
Vandalia
W 4 - 1
Collinsville
W 6 - 1
Triad
L 1 - 6
Court Swingers

Written by: Veronica Rickher

Victory set the precedent for the rest of the season, when the girls tennis team nearly swept the competition and stole first place at the Highland Doubles Invitational Tournament. Since there were only three returning seniors, the younger players proved they were up to the task of filling the varsity positions. The ladie’s hard work, sense of humor, and good attitudes were the main contributions to the team’s winning success. Even through endless hours of repetitive drilling, the girls always managed to have a great time at practice. The girls developed close knit friendships which helped raise the level of respect for each other on the team. As the year progressed, the girls faced the challenge of playing stronger and more experienced teams. The girls wrapped up their winning season by taking second place overall at the Mississippi Valley Conference Tournament and third place of ten teams at Sectionals. In the number one singles position, Suzanne Rogier, 11, triumphantly took third place at Sectionals, which allowed her to advance onto the state level. Winning one out of three matches, Suzanne finished the season ranking 76th in the state. Coach Cary Ifter summed up the season with the remark, “Tennis is a lifetime sport that is as competitive, demanding, and enjoyable as you want it to be.”

Court Rage

“I loved tennis so much! It was a lot of fun. I found it amusing when my opponents got angry at me for not paying attention to the match.” - Laurie Nobilette, 9

Sad Farewell

“I had such a blast playing this year. I’m definately going to miss everyone, even the freshmen.”
- Brittany Turner, 12

Focus, focus, focus:
Concentrating on the ball, Lindsay Hess, 12, sets her feet to make a picture perfect cross court backhand shot. Lindsay proved to be an important asset to the team by excelling at her number two singles position.
Breaking News

Written by: Jason Fieker

The JV football team experienced a challenging but strong season. Working together as a unit, the team crushed several of their opponents such as Triad and Mt. Vernon. Though the team’s mediocre record of four and four seemed disappointing, this season united the players under the banner of hard work and dedication. Coach Henry Voegleman stated, “The boys learned a lot this season and overcame many difficult obstacles. Overall, they fought hard and played well.” With very little team practice, the JV boys managed to pull off some spectacular plays. The offense, led by quarterback Trent Shauster, 10, plowed its way down field with dazzling catches and electrifying runs. When the going got tough, the players got tougher as the defense pushed back their opponents causing critical game turnovers. Many of this year’s players received the privilege of dressing or playing varsity football. These players will work next year to fill holes left by the seniors. This young team proved through their valiant efforts that they can succeed no matter what the outcome.

Looking Forward

“It was a tough season finishing at four and four, but I’m sure we’ll do better next year.”-Bryant Michael, 10

Good Times

“It was hard playing JV because we hardly ever got to practice together as a unit. The games were still a lot of fun and it was a great learning experience for all of us.”

-Trent Shauster, 10

Holding their ground
The defensive line puts on their game faces as they prepare for battle. Little does the other team know, but they’re in for a vicious attack.
Captured in the moment
Todd Wessel, 10, peers
downfield while the
intensity of the game
skyrockets. The JV team
put up a tough fight all
season long.

Pure energy
Pausing during halftime for
a water break is John
Chapman, 10. It’s just
what he needs to get his
energy boost for the game.

Set, hike
The offense stands ready in
the few nerve-racking
seconds before the ball is
released.

Team Record
(4-4)

M.E. Lutheran
L 0-52
Waterloo
L 0-22
Centralia
L 7-20
Civic Memorial
W 28-0
Triad
W 14-0
Jerseyville
W 21-14
Mt. Vernon
W 48-0
Mascoutah
L 0-26
Midfield dogpile
Players unite as a team to get psyched before their game. The excitement from the roar of the fans and being among teammates gets them fired up for a victory.

Sideline gossip
Ryan Watts, 12, Jet Singh, 12, and Coach Hawkins discuss the game as they nervously watch from the sideline. Nearby Coach Laxson confers with assistants in the press box.

Chill out
In between plays a cold squirt of water was well appreciated by the hardworking players Brian York, 12, and Jared Missey, 11.

Team Record
(7,3)
Mt. Zion
W 28 - 21
Centralia
W 27 - 0
Civic Memorial
W 36 - 26
Triad
W 42 - 0
Jerseyville
L 27 - 28
Waterloo
W 28 - 18
Mascoutah
W 53 - 0
Paris
W 54 - 28

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What A Shock!!

Written by: Nathan Robinson

With the beginning of a new season, many lofty goals and aspirations were set by the members and coaches of the football team. The team's tough reputation demanded respect and fear from all their opponents. The season began with the near defeat of DuQuoin, one of the highest ranked teams in the state. This, along with the numerous pep rallies, catapulted the whole school into a frenzy. The next several victories only encouraged the rapidly spreading "Bulldog Fever." Then came the team's most anticipated game of the season, Jerseyville. By the end of the fourth quarter we were ahead by six points. Then the unexpected happened and on the last play of the game Jerseyville scored and the mighty Bulldogs fell and lost the MVC championship by only one point. Coach Joel Hawkins commented, "Despite this loss, the skill and effort put into each game night made it an enjoyable and unforgettable season." They made it to the playoffs but due to numerous injuries and other factors they were defeated by Washington. Although as a team they didn't advance, teammate **Brendon Delaney, 12**, was named an All State player, with over 2150 yards accumulated and **Lewis Staley, 11**, received honorable mention.

**Valuable Teaching**

"Football teaches a lot of life's lessons. This season was one of them and proved to be very memorable."

- Brian York, 12

**Poetic Players**

"The Louie Louie team always stunned, while Brendon and the 'A' team had some fun. We may not have won all our games but in my book, we are still number one!"

- Chris Comrie, 12

**Armed for battle**

The running backs launch towards the line. Ready for anything **Aaron Meffert, 12**, **Dusty Witt, 12**, and **Travis Navickas, 11**, run their plays and make our team a force to be reckoned with. All three of these running backs had wonderful seasons and Witt finished with over 1000 rushing yards.
Loose Spirits

Written by: Teri Hammer

Year after year, season after season, there is always one group of girls who provide endless school spirit. This year’s squad, which was composed of 18 girls, did not let that tradition die. Promoting school spirit was a difficult challenge which they welcomed with honor and enthusiasm. The numerous pep rallies, posters, floats, and fundraisers helped the squad support themselves, the football teams, and provide school spirit. The squad’s sharp motions, difficult mounts, and spirited chants were perfected with their hard work and determination during endless practice hours. The squad also found time to choreograph a routine which they performed several times throughout the season. “I had a lot of fun this year. I will deeply miss cheering with all of my friends. They made it fun and exciting.” -Bobbi Lam, 12. The football cheerleaders did an outstanding job backing the football teams and providing school spirit.

A Memorable Year

“I really enjoyed cheerleading this year. I had a lot of fun which made it a memorable year. I think the girls worked hard and really came together as a squad.” -Chrissy Siever, 12

Showing Support

“I had a great time cheering for our successful football team. The fans were very supportive and everyone showed their school spirit.” -Amanda Klaus, 10

Senior moment: Bobbi Lam, 12, Susan Mueller, 12, Casey Fields, 12, and Chrissy Siever, 12, pose for one last picture together.
Follow the sign
Laura Iberg, 9, waits for her part in a cheer during a pep rally. They made signs that helped the students get more involved.

Reliable teammates
Bobbi Lam, 12, leads the crowd in a cheer while Laura Iberg, 9, relies on her six teammates to hold her in the air.

Practice makes perfect
While warming up, the football cheerleaders stick a difficult mount making it look picture perfect.
"The junior varsity soccer team relied on defense to keep games close. They recorded seven shutouts in the process. The two shutout wins over Triad were the high points of the season," commented Coach Terry Marks. Dan Eaker, 10, recorded the seven shutouts. Joe Korte, 11, led the team in goals with four, while Chad Eversgerd, 10, took the total points with two goals and four assists. Eversgerd also received the MVP Award. Nine freshmen and sophomores started the junior varsity team. "Although the team was young, it played with poise and good ball control. With the quality play from the young players and constant improvement through the year, these players will be able to step up and help the varsity team next year," insisted Coach Marks. The junior varsity soccer team consisted of six juniors, nine sophomores, and six freshmen. They finished the season with a record of 5-4-5.

Tons of Fun

"Soccer was a great experience for me and I had a lot of fun." - Mike Sorge, 10

Learning Season

"We had a lot of fun this year and we gained a lot of experience to succeed next year." - Michael Ulrich, 10

Caught in action: All eyes are on Robby Zbinden, 9, as he drives the ball to his fellow teammates.
Concentrate
Midfielder Kyle Schwarz, 9, concentrates on placing the ball with a powerful kick.

What a foot
Andrew Fernandez, 10, prepares to send the ball soaring across the field to the perfect position for his teammates.

Determination
Determined to score a goal, Drew Aebischer, 9, charges past the defenders in a game against Triad.

Team Record
(5-4-5)

Triad
W 3 - 0
Jerseyville
W 2 - 0
Belleville West
T 1 - 1
Waterloo
T 1 - 1
Mascouhtah
L 0 - 1
O’Fallon
L 1 - 4
Civic Memorial
W 1 - 0
Triad
W 1 - 1
Ground ball
Josh Oswald, 12, dives in for his teammates. He beat the school record with 13 shutouts in a single season. What an accomplishment!

Kick in the grass
With a look of desperation, Chad Eversgerd, 10, attempts to regain control of the ball during an intense game.

Outer limits
Mike Ulrich, 10, shoots toward the sky in an amazing head shot to take charge of the other team while opposing teammates watched closely in fascination.

Team Record
(15-7-3)

Gibault
W 1-0
Triad
T 1-1
Waterloo
W 1-0
O'Fallon
L 0-1
Triad
W 1-0
Wesclin
W 5-0
Triad
W 1-0
Alton Marquette
L 0-1

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Unidentified Flying Objects

Written by: Tiffany Parnell

Opening their season with several wins and a new head coach, the varsity soccer team took charge all the way to Super Sectionals. Throughout their season the team trained and bonded together to satisfy the high expectations of their coaches and fans. When asked about the season, coach Jay Cryder, responded, “Being my first year as head coach, this was a great group of guys who put their teammates first, and from that success resulted.” The soccer team was also given the privilege to work under new assistant coaches. “These were a great group of guys with a lot of talent and they learned that hard work and hustle will pay off in the end,” remarked assistant coach Clay Smith. Through their struggles and victories the soccer team worked together as one. Before Super Sectionals, the team decided to shave their heads and dye what was left, blonde to show off their team unity. Though they were defeated at Super Sectional the team’s hard work paid off.

Season Ended Too Soon

“It was fun playing with this group of guys. It was too bad that the season ended so soon, but we did end with a good season.” - Brent Knebel, 12

Extreme Initiation

“We had a lot of fun on our bus rides home, because the upperclassmen were able to initiate the freshmen. I also liked shaving my head for the team.”

- Blake Harris, 11

Heated chase: Cory Frey, 12, rushes down the field in hopes of scoring another goal.
Taking part in the fall play left cast and crew on the verge of insanity. This was not necessarily because of the chaos involved in the preparation, but the complex plot line of *Arsenic and Old Lace*, a play by Julius and Philip Epstein. The compensation satisfied those in attendance.

*Arsenic and Old Lace* told the story of two spinster sisters and their ambition to protect their three nephews. added to the comedic storyline. asylums, while another thought he dead bodies around his aunts' Teddy Roosevelt. When the basement, an investigation was launched underneath the floor boards. Who were the killers? And masking the assailants brought Vogelman commented on her experience guiding this group of talented actors, "Arsenic and Old Lace had a challenging set that added to the adventure of directing a fantastic cast. Thanks to all of the work done by the students and parents, we had an 'insanely' fun time." The participants found their sanity in the recognition they received by the audience for all their hard work.

### On one knee

**Natalie Schleper, 12,** assumes the position on bended knee, as she tells the story of a romantic proposal.

### A pause in preparation

The cast of *Arsenic and Old Lace* gather together after their final dress rehearsal before opening night of the fall play.
The happy couple
Mortimer and Elaine, played by Scott Ammann, 11, and Janna Ledbetter, 11, gaze into each others eyes as they discuss plans for their engagement.

Concealing the site
Shandi Greve, 10, and Mary Maxfield, 10, attempt to disguise one of their hiding places for corpses. The two play Martha and Abby, a pair of scheming spinster sisters.

Taking him in
The bumbling Officer Brody, Chad Korte, 10, and Officer Klein, Michael Beck, 11, capture escapee Jonathon, Colin Durbin, 11, to escort him to prison.
Simply Enchanted

Written by: Cat Timmermann and Nat Herzberg

One Enchanted Evening stretched into a week full of spirited activities. As Homecoming King and Queen were announced, Adam Wiedner, 12 and Casey Fields, 12 shed a few tears of happiness. Throughout the week they presided over the festivities. Each day of Homecoming week had a different motif or activity. During lunch we watched students stuff their mouths with Twinkies, friends dressed up as twins, and Twister and limbo were popular games. Hula-hoop enthusiasts had two chances to move their hips thanks to two hula-hoop competitions. On Friday afternoon students and faculty were summoned to the gym for a pep rally to boost the students’ spirits and team pride to win the Homecoming battle against Triad. At the rally, the faculty elite fought in the first ever Teacher Olympics. Scrambling all over the gym the secretaries won the games. Pumped into the night, school spirit carried the football team to a 42-0 victory over the Knights bringing Homecoming to an enchanted ending.

Did you know?
- 769 tickets were sold
- Over 100 flowers were bought
- Over 96 liters of soda and ten gallons of water were bought
- 83 T-shirts were sold
- Over 20 boxes of Twinkies were bought
- The cost of DJ Jim Miles was over $3000
- 75 hours was spent on decorating the gym

Charlie’s angels: Are those Charlie’s Angels standing by the fountain? No, it’s just Nicole Rezabek, 12, Michelle Frey, 12, Brea Scott, 12, Tiffany Parnell, 12, and Stephanie Merkel, 12, acting as Charlie’s Angels. “We struck this pose to give our moms a funny picture” says Nicole.

Finishing touches
Late at night before homecoming, Kristen Giannio, 11, diligently weaves together vines as a finishing touch to the Homecoming decorations.

Done at last
At the stroke of 12:00 a.m. Student Council’s underclassmen, Jennifer Chapman, 9, Molly Aeschleman, 9, Kalen Iberg, 9, Sandra Munie, 9 and Sarah Frey, 10, finish the lobby decorations.

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Respectful royalty
To join in Homecoming festivities Miss. Daniels, and Mr. Hawkins are crowned King and Queen of faculty court. Showing his respect, Mr. Hawkins presents the new Faculty Queen to the student body.

Pillar of strength
Using her muscles, Brittany Quade, 9, moves a pillar to its strategic place.
Star Studded Parade
Rowdy Civilians Cause Uproar!
"I didn't go to Homecoming because there was a car show in Highland and I have my priorities."

- Ryan Pirok, 11

"Some of my friends and I went to Bolivar, Mo. to see some college friends. Plus that night, Cards vs. Cubs... Need I say more?"

- Tim Nagel, 12
Counted And Re-counted Here's Your Royalty Court

Sophomores:
Front row: Ashley Hemann, Natalie Herzberg, Jessica Gilomen, Brooke Potthast
Back row: Keith Duffin, John Chapman, Josh Schlechte, Trent Schauster

Freshman:
Tyler Shelton, Laurie Nobilette, Coren Weis, Kyle Ilges

Juniors:
Front Row: Colin Durbin, Erica Ross, Emily Johnston, Timothy Duffin
Second Row: Amanda Gallatin, Renee Korte, Amy Cook, Lindsey Gilomen, Chris Frey, Jamie Wildhaber
Last Row: Dustin Luber, David Harvick, Louis Staley, Travis Hollenkamp
Look Who's in Court

Casey Fields & Adam Weidner
King and Queen

Jennifer Rehberger & Joseph Malisia
Special Maid & Special Escort

Jessica Conrad & Timothy Gould

Kimberly Byers & Matthew Lewis

Britny Dillier & Brian Hill

Rachel Savas & Kyle Troxell

Jackie Eilers & Todd Luitjohan

Wendi Shimer & Cory Frey

Kara Scholl & Cory Adolph
Master & Mistress of Ceremonies
Math was an important subject for many students. Math classes were interesting and challenging. However, some students questioned the purpose of learning so many complicated formulas and ideas. Mr. Uhls had an answer, “High school math prepares young people to become highly skilled professionals in our nation’s work force.” Furthermore, Mrs. Duncan pointed out that a recent Illinois Principals Association Newsletter reported that, “Finishing a course above the level of Algebra 2 (such as trig or pre-calculus) doubles the odds that a student who enrolls in college will complete a bachelor’s degree.” Despite the difficulty of applying math to real life, students managed to find meanings in the many complicated formulas.

**Showing Enthusiasm**
“There are so many wonderful things about math that I can’t put them all into words.”
- Sarah Weiss, 11

**Candid Honesty**
“The expert in anything was once the beginner. I am still the beginner.”
- Mike Beck, 11

**Listening diligently**
Amanda Potthast, 9, and David Wilson, 9, pay careful attention to their algebra 1 class study of variables and graphing. They do not want to miss a second of Mr. Uhls’ fascinating lecture.

**Crunching the numbers**
Working quickly to finish their assignments, Maureen Gunn, 9, and Corey Frey, 9, are afraid they may not finish before the bell rings. They want no homework over the weekend.
The interesting dates, places, people, and stories studied in history classes helped students to appreciate other civilizations and cultures. Statistics about wars, foreign governments, and economies kept students constantly thinking. The teachers also aided in the shaping of these future historians.

Not only did teachers provide general information of historical facts, but they also used several unusual and enjoyable projects to keep their students’ attention. Mock trials and mock elections showed the political and justice systems at work. Computer programs, such as Oregon Trail, intrigued and taught students about life on the frontier. Through the year students realized that history has set patterns. History is not just events that happened in the past, but events that may happen again in the future if society does not learn from previous mistakes.

Call on me
These students all want to volunteer the answer to an unusually intriguing question. Elizabeth Rinderer, 12, Ben Hall, 12, and Jet Singh, 12, demonstrate their enthusiasm for history.

Working The System
“Mr. Vogelman is the greatest teacher in the world! I just got myself an A.” - Jessica Deien, 10

Twisting History
“I think, therefore I am, a history teacher.”
- Ms. Kaye

Leading the lesson
Mr. Holt makes sure to use his patented pointer as he indicates important historical people and places.
Discoveries were made, reactions were observed, and lessons were learned in the science classrooms. Students worked both on paper and interactively in labs, allowing for a variation from the day’s notes and lectures.

Mrs. Hirsch, Biology I and II teacher, gave her opinion on how students obtain the information best. “I feel that students retain information that is important to them. My Biology I students witnessed how easily bacteria is spread. The more labs they can do, the more they will remember. Students seem to remember dissections the best, especially when things look really gross!”

Whether testing chemicals or listening intently to a test review, students were able to obtain the needed information for their various science classes.

The Forgotten Science
“I learn more of a variety of information (in Agricultural Science) that I can use everyday. I have learned alot with Mr. Schmitz, and I like that Ag. Science is more interactive than other science classes.” - Serena Everett, 10

Learning From Experience
“Science is a great class, as long as you study for the tests. That was probably the hardest part.”
- Mike Sidwell, 11

Recording the data
After completing a biology lab, Kevin Fernandez, 12, makes a notation on his lab sheet as Tina Frank, 11, reminds him of the results of the reaction.

Making an observation
Rachel Bennett, 10, studies an organism under a microscope during lab work. Her partners, Jared Stetina, 10, and Tricia Aldrich, 10, listen closely to record her findings on a data sheet.
English may not have been the most diverse topic but it allowed students to grow. A requirement all four years of high school, English helped students to build their capabilities in reading, writing and literary interpretation, creating a foundation for career goals after high school. Teachers aided in this growth process, though for seniors, independence also becomes a necessity to make the grade.

When asked about Advanced Placement English, Mrs. Nelson, replied, “Second semester is completely independent. Students sign a contract, choose their own material and are allowed to move at their own pace. They are given the extra freedom and responsibility to prepare them for college.” Developing the skill for writing allowed students to increase their success for the future.

Able To Relate
“I enjoyed the section with Romeo and Juliet and the way Mrs. Fredricksen put everything into (my) point of view to make Shakespeare easier for me to understand.” - Amanda Garner, 9

Self Expression
“English has inspired me to be more open about my thoughts and feelings. It is now more enjoyable to express myself on paper and other people understand me.” - Katie Heidbrink, 10

Pleading with the judge
Nina Paeth, 11, kneels on the floor and takes the hand of Suzanne Rogier, 11, to beg for a pardon in their reinactment of the play The Crucible for their Honors English III class.

Amateur actors
Erin Ruebhausen, 10, and Jessica Marchetti, 10, portray the characters of Antigone as Amanda Zeller, 10, and Janelle Hecht, 10, wait in the wings for their cue.
The foreign language courses allowed students to learn the vocabulary, grammar, and culture of the Spanish and French speaking countries. The Spanish and French classes took various field trips to achieve a better knowledge of the two cultures. Seniors were given the opportunity to take a trip to Chicago in the spring. They visited Hispanic neighborhoods and other cultural aspects of the city.

Spanish classes also experienced a music concert earlier in the year in which entertainer, Justo Lamas, "the next Ricky Martin", appeared. Several students also watched Spanish Flamenco dancers perform.

The French classes participated in several exciting activities such as folk dancing and cooking the Buche de Noel. They also experienced the chance to taste other French foods like Nutella and Perrier. French II also baked Meringue Mushrooms.

**Mistaken identity**
Adorned in some very revealing women’s clothing, Kyle Motycka, 10, shows his feminine side during the Spanish fashion show in Mrs. Twyford’s Spanish II class.

**Ricky Martin?**
"All I can say is Justo Lamas is a wanna-be Ricky Martin, whose life long dream will never come true." - Jon Budde, 12

**Spanish vs. French**
"I chose to take a French course this year instead of Spanish because I was interested in the European language, culture, and art." - Erin Clark, 11

**The ladies’ man**
With Sara Frey, 10, on one arm, and Nancie Gause, 10, on the other, Jason Rezabek, 10, struts his stuff in a very interesting Spanish class.
"Art isn’t just a class; it’s a way of life. If a person loves art, it reaches into his very being, influencing how he lives his life." - Jason Stoff, 11. Many students expressed their extraordinary talents and artistic abilities through Mrs. Burns’ art classes. "The art program recently became a chapter of the Illinois Student Art Association and the National Art Honor Society. This allowed serious art students more opportunities to receive art credentials," remarked Mrs Burns. Art classes were busier than usual when working on the Mondrian style table tops out on the art patio. Painting I designed the stained glass piece, and Painting II put together theatrical masks for the Madrigals. Art students also submitted proposals for the People Project where sculptures of life size people were installed throughout the St. Louis area.

What Art Means To Me

"Art is special to me because I can create things and nobody can tell me it’s done the wrong way. Art is what I see, not what someone else sees." - Jennifer Walter, 12

Art At Its Best

"I like art. The greatest thing is that art is messy. To fully appreciate it, you have to stick your hands in, get elbow deep in your art, and don’t be afraid of it. It’s only creation and imagination at it’s best."

James Witcher, 12

Sticky fingers

Vanessa Holtgrave, 11, looks admiringly at her latest piece of art: a fingerpaiting. Although a little messy, the results are worth it.

Hard at work

Out on the art patio, Jennifer Chapman, 9, and Ashley Breuck, 9, work diligently on their project. The girls attach colored tiles to their Mondrian style table.
Some of the worst fears of business students were cramping fingers, aching hands, and two minutes left in class with a project due at the end of the hour. This along with computers constantly freezing without work being saved amounted to added tension in these students school day. Business classes were offered in areas such as Introduction to Marketing, Accounting, Consumer Education, Word/PP/BP, and Excel/Access. These classes gave students a chance to learn about business opportunities and careers they could pursue.

Classes that offered a more hands-on approach to business learning included Manufacturing, Industrial Education, and Construction Technology. These classes combined class work with experience found only with hands-on experience.

Slacking off
Chris Bellm, 9, takes advantage of extra time in Word Processing and plays a quick game of "Heavy Cannon" instead of doing his class work.

Lending a helping hand
Always ready to help fellow students, Tim Warneke, 12, lends a hand to Andrew Durbin, 10, and Matt Workman, 11, while working on a project in Construction Technology.
The hallways were filled with the smell of good cooking almost everyday. Walking down Smorgasboard Square, the smell of delicious food being prepared by the foods department filled the air. That wasn’t all the Home Economics department had cooking. Classes such as Resource Management, Adult Living, Pathways, and Clothing/Textiles were offered to give students important life lessons. In Resource Management students learned to balance a checkbook and how to file taxes. Adult Living gave students an insight to parenthood and child care.

In all these classes, lessons in life and business were learned. Pathways offered students a chance to plan a career after high school. Many students took this opportunity to plan their life after school. Some students decided that the military was for them, while others chose to go on to pursue a college degree.

Funniest Mistake

“Spilling puppy chow all over myself and my clothes was the funniest mistake I think anyone ever made in Foods. Although the puppy chow went everywhere it still tasted fine.” - Holly Cook, 9

Life Lesson

“The most important lesson I learned from Mrs. Peden is that you can balance your budget and still have fun!” - Jaret Sisson, 12

Cross dressing

Showing off his feminine side Dustin Luber, 11, puts on lip stick to test products in Resource Management. Students were asked to test durability of products for a lesson in consumer shopping.
Not quite, but Highland was the sole surviving agriculture department in Madison, County. This year our agriculture department was the third largest in the state. Not an unbelievable fact considering the wide variety of classes offered. Most of which had labs for hands-on experience. Students studied in the land, forestry, horticulture, computer, mechanics, tech, and industrial education labs.

Sows, cows, and plows were not involved in the everyday teachings of the agriculture classes like in the past. The focus was on computers and keeping up to date with the rest of the world. A lot of classes still taught the basic skills; however, new trends were also an important part of the curriculum.

Holy cow!
Ashley Zurliene, 11, and Cherie Rogier, 12, dress up in farm costumes and talk to elementary students about trick-or-treating safely.

Prepared For The Future
"In ag class, I learned many skills and a lot of useful information that will benefit me throughout my life." - Travis Eilers, 10

Big wheels
Keith Duffin, 10, Justin Schrumpf, 10, and Phillip Hencen, 10, show off their "farmer qualities" on their agriculture class field trip to the farm progress show.

Speaking Out
"Through agriculture, I have developed public speaking, leadership, crop judging, and computer skills. I know everything I have learned will help me at some point in my life." - Michelle Schrumpf, 10
Looking good, staying healthy and learning to drive were important aspects of every high school student’s life. Students learned to maintain healthy bodies in P.E., and in drivers education they learned the rules of the road.

The physical education program allowed students to choose how they wanted to exercise. Some kids played games and hung out with friends, while others lifted weights to strengthen their bodies.

Not only did students have the opportunity to take great physical care of themselves, but mental and social health as well. They were informed about diseases, affects of drugs, and many other life threatening situations.

No person in Illinois, under the age of 18, was allowed to drive without taking and passing safety. Safety taught the basics of driving and its possible dangers.

Hangin’ Out
“P.E. is a good place to let lose and have some fun!” - Travis Navickas, 11

Just The Facts
“In safety, I learned about driving in more detail. I knew about driving, but I didn’t know all of the facts. I was pretty excited when I got my permit.”
- Rhonda Mettler, 10

Working hard
Luke Kapp, 11, builds muscle during his conditioning class. Students are taught how to stay in shape and build muscle correctly in P.E. and conditioning.

Listen up
Students in Mr. Stillwagon’s safety class listen attentively to him as he explains the correct way to make an alley turnabout.
Paparazzi
Written by: David Wise

You might have seen them sneaking around the hallways and ducking into the back of classrooms with their cameras. You may have seen some of them at those crazy sporting events standing on the side lines blinding referees with their flashes, and you may even have seen some of them on America’s Most Wanted. Who are they? Members of the Iris staff, that’s who. They are the ones who captured the moments and broke the stories that will be remembered for a lifetime. They are the ones who snapped your picture on that bad hair day and bothered you for a quote until you finally gave in and told them your story. They are the ones who strived to make this yearbook Out of This World.

All in good fun
Editor, David Wise, 12, informs Nicole Rezabek, 12, that she has to re-crop her pictures because her layout is in color and it’s due before the end of the hour. Not all of the journalism students handled the stress of everyday yearbook life as well as Nicole.

Hacking away
Nathan Robinson, 11, types frantically as he tries to finish the copy for his layout before the bell rings. If a student wasn’t a fast typer before taking journalism, he or she left typing faster than a court reporter on too much coffee.

Cropping hard
Jackie Koerkenmeier, 11, checks the dimensions before cropping a picture for her layout. This advanced technique required skill and precision with a plastic, L-shaped ruler and a colored pencil.
Beam me up
The journalism class anxiously awaits the arrival of the "Mother Ship". They had the rare opportunity to take an all expense paid trip to Mars for the summer.

Not too lofty to do work
Editor Cory Adolph, 12, Editor Scott Schuetz, 12 and Mrs. Martz scramble to finish pages at the last minute to meet a deadline. Everyone from editors to photographers scrambled at one time or another to get layouts finished.

Pure 80's
Veronica Rickher, 11, was spotted outside of a Huey Lewis and The News concert sporting a new do. Veronica spent most of her time trying to find her way back to the 80's and the rest of it was devoted to crimping her hair and the yearbook.
Let it snow, let it snow, let it snow. Plows and snowblowers worked overtime this winter clearing sidewalks, driveways and parking lots. Students had more snow days this year than the last two years combined!!
Rowdy crowd keeps spirits warm: In one of the worst winters Highland has experienced in many years, students managed to keep spirits warm with a new look, attitude and pride. Wearing fearsome red and black t-shirts, the Rowdy Crowd managed to intimidate opponents, cheer for their school, and instill a sense of school spirit and pride in the student body.

Students read newspapers and sport their Rowdy Crowd T-shirts as the opposing team shoots free throws. Many students purchased the Rowdy Crowd T-shirt to support their school as well as receive free admission to all home sporting events.
Fast thinking
Caught on his back, Andy Sauls, 11, had to come up with a fast move to outwit his opponent. Quick on his feet and hands Sauls fought his way to a third period win against Althoff.

Watchful team
Colby Schrumpf, 12, Dusty Witt, 12 and Beau Ohren, 11, sit on the sidelines as they watch team members fight to come up victorious.

Catching a breath
Standing at the sidelines of the mat Adam Weidner, 12, takes a breather during an intense match. Going strong, Weidner fights his way to a victory against Althoff.

Team Record
(15-4)

Centralia
W 67-12
Pickneyville
W 63-18
Belleville West
L 27-40
Wood River
W 68-9
O'Fallon
W 40-29
Civic Memorial
W 42-33
Mascoutah
W 56-23
Jerseyville
W 53-19
Mats On Fire
Written by: Catherine Timmermann

Head pressed against the mat, arms stretched out, legs tense and the wrestler finds himself in a tangle. Team members yell from the sidelines, coaches scream instructions and one thing is on the wrestler’s mind: Is the time out yet? Six minutes in the eyes of a wrestler can be long, exhausting, miserable, and victorious all at the same time. This year’s wrestlers fought through dehydration, injuries, and tough moments to come up strong and as champions. Match after match they climbed to their impressive record of 15-4. Aiming high, the wrestlers also finished first in all three invitationalys where they competed. Traveling to Triad the wrestlers upstaged the other teams to proclaim that they are MVC champs! Going strong the wrestlers went to regionals where Brett Merkle, 11, Dusty Witt, 12, and Colby Schrumpf, 12, came out as champions. Darrel Ferkle, 12, and Andy Sauls, 11, placed as well and advanced to sectionals. There Colby Schrumpf, 12, advanced to state, while the others suffered tough loses.

Tough season

“Even with the loss of team members we were still able to pull off a great season and become MVC Champs!” - Derek Bardill, 10

Team work

“We had a great year and with the teamwork and dedication we were able to overcome obstacles and accomplish many goals.” - Brett Merkle, 10

Fighting it out: On the edge of the mat Derek Bardill, 11, fights for a way out of a sturdy grip of the Althoff opponent. Gnashing his teeth, Bardill contemplates escape.
Standing strong
Post player, Jackie Plocher, 10, grips the basketball tightly as two opponents hover over her.

Big “D”
An opponent is unsuccessful in driving past Hsiaoei Miller, 10, while she slides her feet on defense.

Elevation
Nicole Westerman, 10, takes a wide open jump shot as her opponent trails behind her.

Team Record
(11 - 7)

Salem
W 45 - 41
Civic Memorial
W 37 - 31
Triad
W 33 - 29
Jerseyville
W 36 - 30
Waterloo
W 42 - 33
Mascoutah
W 43 - 36
Centralia
W 33 - 28
Wesclin
W 35 - 32
Sighted: Flying Lady Bulldogs

Written by: Jackie Koerkenmeier

The junior varsity girls basketball team approached the 2000-2001 season with good experience. Three juniors, Jessie Koerkenmeier, Michele Watts, and Jennifer Halvorson, demonstrated leadership for the younger players. They surpassed the previous year's record of 3-15. Their 11-7 record reflected their hard work and dedication. The new j.v. coach, Jeff Wright, helped the team go on a 5-0 winning streak for the Mississippi Valley Conference after the first round of games. After playing each team twice, they succeeded with a 7-3 conference record. Coach Wright added, "Basketball season is the most wonderful season of the year. The j.v. team made it a wonderful time because they listened and played hard. I am very proud of them because some of the girls moved up to the varsity team which showed that they had improved. It also allowed younger players to get some playing time and contribute to the team."

Experience

"This basketball season was a great learning experience. We worked hard and it showed. I am now ready for next season." - Melissa Hooker, 10

Improvement

"This year was tons of fun! Each practice helped us improve more and more." - Cheryl Cawi, 10

Domination: The girls show their good sportsmanship by shaking hands with their opponents. Highland defeated Waterloo 42-33 at Highland and 43-25 at Waterloo.
Extreme intimidation

In total concentration, Sara Ulrich, 12, plays tough defense with a hand in the face of her opponent. "I'll really miss this group of girls because they're all great, hardworking people and I've made some close friends," Ulrich insisted.

Follow through

Looking for the perfect shot, Michelle Frey, 12, concentrates on the basket during a free throw shot. Frey was voted as the team's Most Valuable Player by her teammates.

Flying high

Focusing on the game at stake, Jamie Wildhaber, 11, fights through the defense for the rebound. Wildhaber was a vital member of the team, averaging 5.8 rebounds and 7.6 points per game.

Team Record

(6-17)

Carlyle
W 55-40
Triad
L 38-43
Jerseyville
L 54-27
Waterloo
W 58-31
Mascoutah
L 44-53
Civic Memorial
W 60-50
Wescllin
W 62-58
Alton
W 56-40
Nothing could stop the Lady Bulldogs from working hard and playing with their hearts. Armed with new assistant coach Jeff Wright, the team improved steadily throughout the season and was always ready to surprise their opponents with new plays, presses, and skills. The new season, complete with a list of team goals, opened with a victory over Carlyle but the team didn’t quit pushing themselves there. The team’s specialty seemed to be playing twice as hard as teams who they were expected to lose against, causing some great upsets. Coach Dawn Steiner stressed, “This team has improved so much over the past few months. They had a great work ethic and really played together as a team.” Although the team will lose six seniors this year, they are looking forward to next season and all the opportunities that will show up for new leadership. Jennifer Mettler, 12, ended the season as the team’s leading scorer, while Jackie Plocher, 10, captured the free throw champion title. Michelle Frey, 12, continued through the post-season in the IHSA’s three-point shooting competition and led the MVC in steals. Jackie Koerkenmeier, 11, led the team in rebounding with a total of 135, landing herself fifth in the MVC in rebounding leaders.

Major improvement

“Although statistically our record may not show how well we did, to say we improved is an understatement compared to the progress the girls basketball program made this year.” - Jennifer Mettler, 12.

Sweet memories

“We’ve had a lot of fun the past four years, but this year was probably the best. The best time was when we TP-ed Coach Steiner and she ended up following us around the whole night.”

- Michelle Frey, 12, and Amy Henschen, 12.

Team support:
As the game continues on the floor, the rest of the team looks on and supports their teammates.
1-2-3-Good love
To entertain those in attendance at girls basketball senior night, j.v. dance team gives another spectacular performance of their pom dance. "Good Lovin'."

Surprise reaction
Attending UDA summer camp, the girls spent some down time in dorm rooms. Kym Eley, 9, reacts to a teammate telling a ghost story to pass the time before their next session.

Celebrating victory
With first place pom dance trophy in hand, the j.v. dance team members gather together to celebrate their victory over tough competition.

Competition Record
Mascoutah Regional
1st- Pom Dance
1st- Funk
Altoff Regional
1st- Pom Dance
2nd- Funk
Edwardsville Regional
1st- Pom Dance
1st- Funk
O'Fallon Regional
1st- Pom Dance
1st- Funk

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Nothing But It All

Written by: Rachel Buckler

When the j.v. dance team was established in April of 2000, coaches were not sure that the girls would be as successful as the teams in the past. To their surprise, ten girls would come together to set a standard for the junior varsity squad. As they barreled through their regional competitions, the girls fought hard to bring home more first place trophies than any other j.v. squad present in various divisions. They competed in the aerobic funk and pom dance divisions with their funk dance, “Scarred,” and pom dance, “Good Lovin’,” bringing home nearly perfect records in both. When asked about her squad, coach Tiffany Conzelman elaborated on the dance season by saying, “Coach Flath and I have been overwhelmed by the j.v. team’s success this year. For being a first year team, the girls have gained a lot of confidence, technique, and leadership skills. They have had so many great achievements and we can only see them continuing to strive for the best in the future.” The girls ended their season with their exceptional performance at j.v. finals in Chicago, IL, scoring season highs in both dances.

Taking the lead

“Being captain of j.v. dance team this year has really taught me a lot about being a leader. I will never forget all of the memories I’ve made with these girls. They are awesome.”
- Lindsey Austin, 11

The pay off

“Even through tough practices and competitions, we pulled together as a team and showed our opponents how good a first year j.v. squad could be.”
- Patricia Thomas, 9

Just call male Betty Crocker: Amanda Garner, 9, and Amanda Klaus, 10, help their team mix up close to 50 batches of cookies for their Christmas cookie fundraiser to raise money needed for competitions.
Un-Stop-Able

Written by: Tiffany Parnell

In July the dance team headed off to Maryville University where they would attend a National Dance Association (NDA) dance camp. While at the camp the dancers brought home a first place trophy along with several individual awards. In August the dance team traveled to Springfield to participate in the Illinois State Fair Pom Pon Contest where they brought back another first place. Throughout the season the dancers attended several regional competitions where they received a first place at all. The dance team qualified both their dance routine and their pom dance for Super Sectionals. A couple of weeks before Super Sectionals the girls realized what working together and team work was all about. They spent countless hours of unscheduled practice to prepare both of their routines for the upcoming competitions. The dancers did qualify both of their dances for state while at the South Super Sectional. At state the dance team accomplished something that no other dance squad has from Highland; they became Illinois State Champions. This was a well deserved milestone for the girls and their coach, Mrs. Michelle Deets. The first place is from the dance category where they performed to a song titled “Don’t Stop Me Now”. The season was one full of ambition, high spirits, and success where the girls proved how unstoppable they were.

The unstoppable

High hopes of going to state fill the stairways at the South Super Sectional contest at Collinsville High School.

Spirit leaders

Spirit charges through the dancers as they get ready for another fun filled day at Dance Camp. Every year the dance team spends a week at a university to learn new techniques and dance routines. This year they went to a NDA camp at Maryville University.
The above pictures show the Dance Team bundled together before the Thanksgiving Day Parade in Chicago. Selection is based upon grade point average as well as a video audition, where dancers choreograph a dance routine. In the above pictures, the strenuous hours of shakin’ their poms pays off for the dancers while they perform their pom dance at the state contest in Champaign, IL. The Dance Team also proves how unstoppable they are in their dance to “Don’t stop me now”, by Queen.

Every day after school the dance team practices from 3 to 4:45 in the commons rechoreographing their dances to be able to compete at their best.
Smooth move
Travis Hollenkamp, 11, maneuvers around his Triad rival in an attempt to keep possession of the ball. The annual grudge match against Triad always brings about the best in our team.

Up, up, & away
After a battle for control of the ball, Jacob Post, 11, aims, shoots, and scores.

Reaching the limit
All energy exerted, Justin Gibbons, 10, battles to score the points. Gibbon's uses his skills on the court to help his team win games.

Team Record
(7-8)
Civic Memorial
W 69-44
Mascoutah
L 51-52
Wesclin
L 65-67
Jerseyville
W 56-44
Salem
W 56-44
Waterloo
L 58-67
Triad
W 61-58
Central
L 53-56
The junior varsity boys basketball team began the season with a huge victory against Civic Memorial. They dominated their opponents 69-44. The 12 player team utilized their skills to the best of their abilities in an effort to have a winning year. Their efforts resulted in a 7-8 season record. Although their record did not reflect the team’s hard work and dedication, the energy they displayed in practice brought about an optimistic attitude all season. Assistant Coach Smith confidently stated, “The j.v. basketball team had a good season. These kids came to the gym every day and worked hard. They were a great bunch of kids who I enjoyed coaching.” Winning both games against Jerseyville was a great accomplishment for the boys because they won at home and away. The number of games played this year was far less than last year due to snow days, but the improvement from last year’s season demonstrated nothing will stand in their way. This season helped them to learn important lessons about teamwork.

Unforgettable memories

“My favorite memory of the j.v. season was when we went to Jerseyville and won both, j.v. and varsity, games.”
-David Meyer, 10

Home again

“It was a great season and I enjoyed playing basketball back here at Highland.”
-Mike Knebel, 11

Fast break away: Michael Ulrich, 10, drives hard up the court to make the lay-up. Ulrich is a strong point guard for this season. He is sure to be a great help in years to come.
Crucial points
With seconds left in a close game, Tim Gould, 12, takes a shot from three point land.

Adrenaline rush
As pregame introductions are made, Matt Lewis, 12, and Louis Staley, 11, get pumped up for the game.

Tough shot
Against a strong Triad defense, Brendon Delaney, 12, puts up a jump shot from inside the paint.

Team Record
(7-17)

Civic Memorial
L 53-44
Mascoutah
L 58-46
Wesclin
L 70-57
Triad
L 64-58
Jerseyville
W 65-63
Waterloo
L 67-57
Civic Memorial
W 66-64 OT
Triad
W 71-60

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The Varsity Bulldogs got off to a great start in what would prove to be a tough season. Different challenges met the team at every game, and the competition proved to be strong. The team fell into tough times around the middle of the season, but their attitudes and dedication did not fall. The players continued to practice hard and they pulled through with some key victories. One of the highlights of the season was defeating Jerseyville at their home court, a feat which had never been accomplished by this year’s squad. We avenged the previous loss to Triad, by winning a climatic game in Troy. Team work proved to be a critical element in all their victories. The boys finished out the season with a loss to East St. Louis in Regional competition. At the end of the season, 2nd Team All-Conference honors were given to Brendon Delaney, 12, and Chris Frey, 11. With plenty of new talent emerging from the j.v. and freshmen squads, the team will be stronger in the years to come. Despite rough times and tragic defeats, the Varsity Bulldogs did manage to uphold the pride of our school, and they will continually seek to improve for next year’s season.

High point

“The high of our season was beating Jerseyville for the first time on their court.” - Tim Gould, 12

Future talent

“We learned alot this season. We had good talent, and I think the team will be strong next year.” - Matt Lewis, 12

Scrambling for the ball: Three players battle under the net for an offensive rebound. Despite some disappointing losses, the team fought long and hard through every game.
Looking pretty
Ashley Newton,9, Kristen Weiss,9, Kara Shimmer,9, and Meghan Henschen,9, model attire they sold in the cheerleading garage sale.

Rising high
Junior varsity members perform a stunt during the school song. Members include Brittany Sexton,9, Kiley Bolen,9, Meghan Schwartz,9, and Kara Shimmer,9.

Getting involved
Firing up the crowd, Brook Pottast,10, and Meghan Schwartz,9, strive to keep the fans involved in the game.
Cheer 2 Extreme
Written By: Michelle Frey

With positive attitudes both on and off the sidelines, the cheerleaders devoted much time and team spirit to the game. The squad was made up of eighteen freshman, three sophomores, and two juniors. The cheerleaders worked hard all year to prepare for the state competition. Their goal was to become state champions for the third year in a row, which would also be the seventh time in the history of Highland High School. The junior varsity squad was coached by Sheryl Hazelhorst, and according to her, “I had the opportunity to work with a great group of girls, they are really talented when they put their heart into it.” With much dedication, time, and effort, the junior varsity girls went to regionals and stuck it out to make it to state. There they did an excellent job and placed 2nd out of 29 squads. It was a great year for the junior varsity team!

Push it

“I thought regionals were a lot of fun. We really had to work hard and push ourselves to get there and actually be able to perform.” - Kristen Weiss, 9

Talented

“We had a lot of talent this year. We all worked hard for regionals and state and we had fun at the same time.” - Barbie Klaus, 10

High spirits: With spirit on their minds, the junior varsity cheerleading squad performs a floor cheer during the game.
Up close and personal
Waiting patiently for the varsity game to begin, several cheerleaders bunch up and show their true school spirit.

Balancing act
Emily Lewis, 9, had the honor of being one of the three freshman on the varsity squad. Mounting on a different group is not an easy task, but she pulled it off with style.

Stretching for success
Chelsey Kantner, 12, shows her flexibility by doing a ground-up scorpion. Being a “top” requires trust in your “bases” and other teammates.
With only four returning seniors and two new coaches, the varsity cheerleading squad was mainly composed of underclassmen. Overall, the season seemed to be a challenge. The girls worked up to the last minute preparing and perfecting a routine to perform at the Highland Regional. They pulled off a spectacular performance only to have it completely replaced with a new routine for the following weekend. While at the Lockport Regional, the squad encountered yet another disappointment. Due to one of the many injuries, they were forced to withdraw from the competition. The next challenge was one that they could not let slip away. With a week of endless practices and hard work, they prepared themselves for the Mt. Vernon Regional. With injuries still healing and new ones occurring, the squad placed first and qualified for the State Competition. With a little over a month, the squad had to choreograph one final routine. They performed their last routine at the State Competition on March 11. They placed fifth out of twenty-three teams.

A rocky experience

"This year has been quite an experience. Although we got off to a rocky start, I feel that I've learned a lot and I am a better person because of it. But after all the tears, fears, injuries and dreams, our squad came together to do some incredible things." - Brooke Tally, 11

Achieving goals

"I think we had a great squad this year. We all worked hard together and got along. We knew what we had to do and we worked hard to achieve our goals."

-Amanda Gallatin, 11
Whassup with Madrigals? Well here is whassup with Madrigals! The esteemed group performed at many locations this year including the Kansas City Renaissance Festival. At the festival the Madrigal singers were the only high school group to be asked to be part of the parade. The group also performed locally for the Jaycees, the Rotary Club, and at the Winter Wonderland at Faith Countryside Home. They sang at the IAEOP, a state convention and they performed for the faculty at this year’s open house, and various Christmas parties.

The theme for this year’s Madrigal Dinner was “Disguises and Surprises”. King Steven, as played by Mr. Steve Moore, fooled everyone by becoming part of the audience as a deceptive trick. This year there were many opportunities for the crowd to be involved. One of the “special” participants was Mr. Carmitchel who was put in the stocks and then in the feared gilded cage.

This year there were two choirs; the Madrigal singers, who sat at the head table; and the chamber choir, the group of singers in training for head table.

“Every year the Madrigal Dinner adds a new feature. I thought those sassy wenches added zing! The head table once again out did itself,” said Ms. Suzailue Meyer

Sweet sounds
Amy Cook, 11, and Chad Eversgerd, 10, use their melodic voices to enhance the sound quality of this year’s Madrigal group. This was Chad’s first year in the esteemed group.

Court jester
Mike Beck, 11, juggles to entertain the rowdy dinner crowd. Mike was one of the members who mingled with the crowd and helped to get them involved.
Complete confusion

Suzanne Rogier, 11, looks for people to serve and men to flirt with at this year’s dinner. Suzanne helped to serve the guests at King Steven’s Court. Without her help the dinner wouldn’t have been the same.

Singing for joy

Leading this year’s Madrigal head table, Lindsay Hess, 12, and Scott Ammann, 11, entertain their guests with a holiday song.

Awful smell

Helping make the atmosphere more enjoyable, Rebekah Shea, 12, and Chris Schwend, 12, parade around the commons at the Madrigal Dinner. The two asked guests if they wanted to buy some dung and fertilizer!
Pre-game warm up
The marching bulldogs take their place on the field for the half time show. The band entertained football fans with selections from *Les Misérables.*

Unusual play
The jazz band features many instruments not typically found in concert or symphonic band, including the bass guitar, played by Jeremy Schmidt, 10.

Into the music
Ben Hall, 12, enthusiastically beats out a tune on the drums. The bulldog pep band entertained the crowd at numerous basketball games this season.

The Band

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The marching bulldogs had an awesome season, including first place in class A Division at the U of I Parade Competition. The band competed in five major competitions bringing home various trophies, including three first division championships, three first place colorguards, two first place percussion, and two first place drum major trophies. The band performed selections from Les Miserable at the half time of football games. After the marching season, band members settled down and formed into two main bands: concert and symphonic. Students were chosen by audition and instrumentation. The concert band, typically for younger members, performed for the spring concert and festivals. A group of selected musicians got together after school hours, to create the jazz band. The group played at basketball games and at social events in the community. In February, the jazz band played at a benefit to raise and contribute money to the Rosenthal Scholarship Fund.

Fun being first

“This year’s band was awesome! It was fun being first in every competition we participated in!”
-Charlotte Weiss, 11

Band camp

“One time, at band camp...” - John Tebbe, 11

Beam me up Zoby:
Eric Zobrist, 11, appears to be abducted by aliens during marching practice!
Ama-Sing!

Written by: Gabriel Michael

Throughout the school year, chorus students participated in several contests, music competitions, and school events. In the fall, selected students competed at the Illinois Music Educators Association - the IMEA All-State contest. He level in over a decade. Throughout caroling around Highland neighborhoods, the square in late November. In was finally held in late February, sippi Valley Conference competition. Members of the Jazz money money for trips and costumes, candy and carnations to loved ones formed at the Highland Optimist’s Highland High School Coffee and dinner with the local jazz the Rosenthal Scholarship Fund. she loves to teach music to the chorus students with this quote by Clara Wieck: “What, indeed is more beautiful than to clothe one’s feelings in sound? What a comfort in sad times, what a pleasure, what a wonderful feeling—to provide an hour of happiness to others.” Displaying their amazing talents to the community, the chorus made the school year outstanding.

Working under pressure
Matt Pople, 11, and Zach Rakers, 11, work diligently on a music worksheet. Tests, worksheets, music exercises, and attendance at school concerts make up a student’s grade in chorus.

Nodding off
Catching up on some precious minutes of sleep, Joe Thole, 10, rests his head on the shoulder of Lauren Kirchoff, 11. Students dozing off in the Earlybird chorus was not an unusual sight, since they wake up extra early to participate in this class.

Top four
- 78 students in Chorus.
- 26 males in Chorus: the highest percentage at HHS ever.
- 25 students competed at Mississippi Valley Conference.
- 7 students competed at the IMEA contest.
Practice makes perfect
Members of 6th hour chorus, John Severs, 11, and Lindsay Hess, 12, practice one of the many songs they work on for the Mid-Winter concert in late February.

Morning break
Students in Earlybird chorus talk, and work on assignments between songs and exercises. “I like chorus, especially when the director’s left and right hands don’t work together; it’s trash!”
-Jason Sallee, 10

Chattin’ it up
Becky Bellm, 11, and Amy Cook, 11, talk before their chorus hour begins. “I enjoy chorus because I get to be around friends, and I get to do what I love to do, sing!” -Becky Bellm, 11
Decorated With Honors
Written by: Cory Adolph

The students invited to participate in National Honor Society had a very busy year. The group's organized activities ended up being a lot of fun. The most memorable event that took place for this group was the senior citizen prom. Although the students were not yet senior citizens, they still had as much fun as the participants. Along with the prom, NHS had many meetings, hosted numerous concession stands, and attended the annual NHS banquet. Senior officers were President Jennifer Rehberger, Vice President Sean Williams, Treasurer Stephanie Merkle, and Secretary Lindsay Hess.

John Morton, 12, is the life of the NHS concession stand. All members were recruited for shift work at fund raising activities.

"Participation in NHS looks great on applications and scholarships. It was also a good opportunity to join with others and be positive role models."
- Tim Nagel, 12

"NHS was a great learning experience for me. I will use the skills I developed in this program for the rest of my life."
- Mark Ellers, 11

The senior citizen prom required a lot of set up and clean up in order to make the night a success. Bobby Watts, 11, spends his 7th hour in preparation for the evening. Many students also used their lunch study hall to make the decorations.

While the senior citizens enjoyed the dancing, many of the students also discovered the joy of waltzing. Others, such as Danielle Schrumpf, 11, and Amy Zbinden, 11, improvised.
This year the mentoring program exploded to almost two-hundred participants, ranging from elementary to high school age. The year began with mentors attending a morning training session. Here they learned techniques on how to handle any possible situation they may encounter.

Mentors needed to be ready to help their mentees with all aspects of their lives. Late in the year, the middle school pairs took a trip to the St. Louis Zoo, while the elementary pairs closed the year with a picnic at Lindendale Park. This program proved to be a meaningful experience for students and mentors.

"Mentoring was a great experience. I formed a great friendship with my mentee, and also got to spend all my free time with Cory!"  
- Jennifer Rehberger, 12

"I had a lot of fun. I was able to find out what the younger kids are really like. I really enjoyed playing games together and just being a role model."  
- Adam Vosholler, 11

Many students were able to use the new middle school facilities. Tim Nagel, 12, and mentee Mark Lawson play wiffle ball during one of their meetings.
The Future Medical Careers Club has participated in many events to better inform them on the interesting aspects of various careers in the medical field. The club sponsored Family Care Medical Equipment and Family Care Pharmacy in Faith Countryside Homes' Christmas tree decorating contest. Their efforts paid off, earning their tree first place. They also participated in the Adopt-a-Family program and the Blood Drive. In addition, the club members were given the opportunity to tour both St. Joseph's Hospital and St. Louis Children's Hospital.

Demonstrating her medical expertise, Mrs. Duckworth explains to Amy Hensch, 12, and Britny Diller, 12, how easy it is to perform a simple checkup.

"Being in FMCC has shown me how to be a leader and given me the opportunity to experience what it will be like to have a career in the medical field." - Wendi Shimer, 12

"I had so much fun when I participated in the annual blood drive. It really feels good to know that you could be saving lives." - Kyle Schuster, 11

Several members of FMCC including Jessica Ribbing, 12, and Kara Scholl, 12, participated in Faith Countryside Homes' Annual Winter Wonderland.
SADD Protests
Written by: Nicole Rezabek

Students Against Destructive Decisions worked to prevent everyday problems such as drinking, drugs, and suicide. The group sponsored several speakers including state trooper, Ralph Timmons, who shocked the students with a graphic slide show on the effects of drinking and driving. SADD also led the area schools during Red Ribbon Week. They spread awareness on the negative effects of drugs and alcohol by hanging posters, handing out ribbons, and getting the students to sign contracts. The group also participated and won second place in the Faith Countryside Home's tree decorating competition.

An aerial view exposes Sean Williams, 12, and John Severs, 11 as Christmas elves.

"The SADD Conference in Mascoutah was a really good learning experience for me. The speaker was also very inspirational."
-Emily Hohl, 10

"I think SADD is a great program because it helps kids make the right decisions in life. I've made a lot of new friends from joining this club."
-Krystal Gantner, 9

With much concentration, Jason Sallee, 10, works on an ornament for the SADD Christmas Tree at Faith Countryside Homes.

Students Against Destructive Decisions' president, John Severs, 11, converses with club sponsor, Mrs. Gauen and fellow club member, Nathan Tinker, 12, about upcoming events that the club is planning to sponsor.
What A Challenge
Written by: Nathan Robinson

The main purpose of Lifesavers was to discourage possibly harmful activities. Some of those included drinking, drug use, and giving teens options to deter destructive behavior. Lifesavers also had several retreats. At these they spent several days learning proper ways of dealing with suicidal teens, drug users, depressed peers, and many other things. They also assisted with the organization of the pre-prom assembly. At this assembly a guest spoke on the damaging effects of drunk driving. All this was in order to keep students from making destructive decisions that could have had a negative impact on their lives.

"Lifesavers was a great experience for me. I've met and become closer to alot of people through this year."
-Jessica Massey, 11

"I thought Lifesavers was really cool and I had alot of fun. The retreat that we had was great until it got cancelled."
-John Chapman, 10
U.N. Real Delegates

Written by: Nathan Robinson

Twice this year there was a group of local students that met and solved problems like world hunger, terrorism, and ethnic cleansing. It may sound unbelievable that students have done this, but that was the purpose of Model U.N. Committees were formed and assigned a country. Then the students acted as delegates for that country. They were given a list of topics for which they wrote possible solutions. At the conference those issues were discussed within the committee and they then had to write a resolution that solved the problem. For those that planned on being in politics or possibly in the United Nations, Model U.N. gave them a foundation for the future.

"The Model U.N. program allows students to address serious world issues by transcending the petty bickering found in many of the United Nations deliberations."

-Charlie Keller, 11

"I love Model U.N., It's been the most exciting and fun club I've ever participated in. Beyond it being fun, it's been incredibly profitable for learning experience."

-John Morton, 12

Jason Luitjohn, 11, leads a debate about the problems with the Middle East Peace Process. In the Spring conference, Luitjohn was a member of the General Assembly Committee.

The Model U.N. group takes a break from their extensive research and debating to pose for a picture.

Jacob Boyd, 12, looking sharp while he solves world issues in a meeting with Model U.N.
The Art Club joined the Rembrandt Society (Illinois Student Art Association) and the National Honor Society this year. Serious art students were given more opportunities to receive art credentials from these organizations. Also, the club participated in Kids USA by wrapping and filling shoe boxes with Christmas gifts for underprivileged children. Members face painted at the PTO Carnival and met for studio nights twice a month. The year ended with a trip to Laumeier Sculpture Park in May.

"Art Club is fun because you are surrounded by people who can help you see something that you normally wouldn't look at."
- Jennifer Halverson, 11

"Art club was good, but the candy was great."
- Ashley Ledbetter, 9

Janna Ledbetter, 11, and Shanna Liening, 11, decorate Jennifer Halverson, 11, with colorful artwork. The club practiced the art of face painting this year at the PTO Carnival.

Using colored pencils, Emily Hohl, 10, attempts to create a perfect work of art.
Students Save Planet
Written By: Jason Fieker

The future of the earth rests on the shoulders of today's youth. HHS's Ecology Club stepped forward and took that responsibility. This year the club continued its on going and successful recycling program. It also took its annual trip to Peoria for the Envirathon, where students demonstrated techniques on how to help save the planet. These students hope to make a better tomorrow for the people of our earth. It needs all the help we can give.

"Ecology club was fun because we supported the earth and met with other ecology organizations."
-Jeremy Fite, 11

"Ecology club gave me the knowledge to help protect and serve my planet."
-Bobby Watts, 11

It's dirty work, but somebody has to do it. Paper must be sorted and gathered before it makes its way to the recycling center.

Club officers are Leah Bennet, 10, Dena Cruthis, 10, Theresa Dickman, 10, Michelle Schrumpf, 10, Kate Kampwerth, 10, and Katie Ernst, 10.
Working Hard
Written by: Catherine Timmermann
The first day of school came and Student Council members diligently began work on homecoming activities. Three weeks before Homecoming, members worked against time to put together "An Enchanted Evening." With decorations up, the school enjoyed a great homecoming. Momentum going at full blast, members bought and wrapped presents for two families for the winter holidays. After break, members jumped into compatibility tests for Valentine's Day and a spirit filled pep rally. Ending on a high note members attended the Kaskaskia District Convention in March.

"Even as a freshman I was able to meet older people, get involved and have a lot of fun!"
-Brittany Quade, 9

The night before Homecoming, Matt Pople, 11, and Britney Quade, 9, stood tall on ladders to put the last touches on the decorations.

Shopping hard, Stephanie Merkle, 12 and Brea Scott, 12 look at clothes that would be perfect for members in the families they adopted for Christmas.

"Student Council has been a great influence on my life! I have made new friends and developed new values that I can carry with me throughout my life."
-Jessica Linnenfelser, 12

After collecting bears for St. Joseph Hospital, Jill Frey, 12, took the bears to the representatives to bring a smile to the children.
Children of the Corn
Written by: Ashley Zurliene

Throughout the year, the FFA participated in many activities, whether for the community, learning, or just for fun. They took trips to the Farm Progress Show in the fall, John Deere Day in January, and to Busch Stadium in February. The students involved in FFA raised money through fundraisers to pay for their field trips. The biggest fundraiser, raising over 7000 dollars, was the member auction. To get the school involved and show off their colors, the club hosted FFA week. They had activities through the week and ended it with the teacher appreciation breakfast.

Dena Korte, 11, playfully demonstrates how to milk a "cow." Cherie Rogier, 12, during the Safe Halloween field trip.

"It's pretty scary when a club elects me as their president!" - David Ernst, 12

"It's a good opportunity to meet people from other schools." - Kristy Frank, 11

Trying to look buff and desirable, Jason Schmitz, 11, poses at the FFA Auction. The members of FFA were purchased as a fundraiser for the club.

With money provided by a grant, members develop a plot in the forestry lab.
Techno-Logical
Written by: Veronica Rickher

Technology Students Association participated in many volunteer activities and fundraisers throughout the year. In May, the group donated their time to help build houses for Habitat for Humanity. Using their creativity and technological skills, the 70 members worked together to create and sell their own t-shirts, coffee mugs, chess boards and pieces. The club expanded their imaginative minds when making and establishing the TSA website. As a way to unwind from stress and let loose, the club took a field trip to the Livingston Wildcat Paintball Center.

Team Effort:
Lending a helping hand, Chris Stahl, 12, folds TSA's newly designed t-shirts.

"I learned a lot about web design while working on the TSA website."
- Matt Rutz, 9

"Being the president of TSA is great. It teaches each member how to be responsible and it's a great club to join."
- Adam Weidner, 12

John Gantner, 11, creates a computer aided draft (CAD) design of a floorplan, while David Harvick, 11, instructs him.

Students watch intently, while club sponsor Mr. Baile shows them how to work with a program called AutoCAD 2000.
Going Under the Knife
Written by: Sean Williams

"Time to get up!" What? It's 7:30am and it's Saturday. That was the common phrase heard in the home of students who participated in Saturday Scholars. The group went beyond the call of duty by being at the highschool at 8:45 every Saturday the month of February. This year the group participated in many exciting lectures and a special field that left everyone in a dead silence. The lectures focused on Crime Scene Investigations, learning about the human past and their future. Six students examined a cadaver and learned about the human body first hand at the practical anatomy workshop at St. Louis University. Mrs. Probst said this trip was one of this year's highlights.

Fun times
Amanda Zeller, 10, and Hsiao lei Miller, 10 show excitement about the coming day.

"Saturday Scholars is a great way to meet people from other schools and have a great time."
- Scott Ammann, 11

"I really enjoyed the field trips on Saturday mornings. I learned a lot, and I'm looking forward to the rest of this year."
- Stephanie Merkle, 12

Rebecca Shea, 12, grins in anticipation of this Saturday's speaker. Shea comments "I have never been to Cahokia Mounds before. I had a great time and thought the speaker was fascinating."
French Frenzy
Written by: Jessie Koerkenmeier

Led by Mrs. Thebus, the 25 member French Club learned all about French culture. The officers were: President, Andrew Buck; Vice President, Catherine Timmermann; Treasurer, Mindy Knebel; and Secretary, Erin Clark. The French students enjoyed many activities, including cooking French food during Christmas, and working at concession stands during basketball games. The biggest event the French Club participated in this year was their trip to Chicago. While there this Spring, students toured the city, visited museums and dined on French cuisine.

Stirring up trouble
Andrew Fitzpatrick, 10, and Tyler Diebert, 10, mix ingredients to make French foods during French class.

Fun in French
"French club is very fun. The trip to Chicago is going to be great next year."
- John Gantner, 11

Voyage avec moi
"It would be really cool if we could go on a field trip to Paris. We would learn a lot about France and its culture in an exciting way."
- Christy Bargetzi, 11

Cuisine du France
Mindy Knebel, 11, and Jessica Marchetti, 10, make the traditional French Christmas log cake, called Buche de Noel.

Windy city
Seniors Andrew Buck, Jessica Plocher, Jill Frey, Erica Cornelius, and Katherine Timmermann, enjoy their visit to the art museum on their French field trip to Chicago.
Science Scandals
Written by: Jessie Koerkenmeier

All students were eligible for membership in Science Club. The purpose of the club was to help promote interest in various fields of science. The highlight of the year for members was Science Day. Members met during class/club on Thursdays to get organized for the two day event. They went to elementary schools throughout the district to demonstrate and present scientific concepts to the students. Some of the schools they visited were Alhambra, New Douglas, Grantfork, and Highland Primary. Science Club was sponsored by Ms. Kohnen.

Role model
"Science Club is really fun. I like going to the centers and doing cool experiments with the younger kids."
- Kristine Tucker, 10

Learning experience
"I like Science Club a lot. I learn a lot from it and have fun, too."
- Cindy Berkley, 10

Measuring chemicals
Adam Dozel, 10, prepares the correct quantity of water in the test tubes in the science lab.

Magic bottles
Josh Sandberg, 10, works on an experiment to silver the inside of a glass bottle.

Preparing
Kelly Feder, 10, prepares for an experiment during her Chemistry II class.

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World-Wide Youth in Science and Engineering had an outstanding year. They received first place at regionals for the first year in their history as a team. Doing especially well at regionals were Jeremy Fite, 11, who received second place in biology, Zoran Tasic, 12, earned second place in physics, Chris Stahl, 12, took second place in engineering graphics, and John Gantner, 11, won an amazing first place in engineering graphics. Due to the team’s outstanding first place victory at regionals the entire team was invited to sectionals.

"Even though I didn’t win anything, WYSE was still a fun and interesting learning experience."
- Josh Sandberg, 10

"WYSE was great because you take two tests and then mingle with the hot college guys for the rest of the day."
- Courtney Rakers, 11

Various members of the WYSE team accept their trophy at regionals. The team won an amazing first place against very challenging competition.
Problem Solved
Written by: Bradley Boudouris

Math team members participated in many competitions this year. One that they took part in was the four part Southwestern Math Conference at Southwestern Illinois College. The team held a lead throughout all four days and ended in first place. The team also participated in the Excellence in Math Competition in St. Louis. Throughout the year, Mathfax tests were taken school-wide. Highland placed highly in both the individual and team competitions. To finish the math year the team competed at the SIUC Math Field Day.

Brett Merkle, 11, begins working out a tricky problem on matrices in preparation for a math competition at SWIC.

"The best part of math team is getting a first place medal. When you get first place, you know that you are better at math than hundreds of your peers."
- Andrew Fitzpatrick, 10

"Just because Einstein failed math doesn't give us the right to."
- Charlie Keller, 11

Jason Stoff, 11, shows off his honors pre-calculus skills in order to prove that he really needs to buy a calculator.

A confusing parabola graph keeps Matt Frey, 9, thinking after completing his first Math Team competition at SWIC.
Battles On The Board
Written by: Ashley Zurliene

The eight members of chess team spent their Wednesday afternoons in the library, competing against one another. They had weekly tournaments against other schools where they battled by board number. The members were rated by the USCF (United States Chess Federation) and played equally skilled players. The crew went to state in a blaze of glory.

Marshall Todt, 9, carefully comes up with a plan to beat his opponent.

"The best part about being in chess is that everyone thinks I'm a nerd. I like chess. It is super dooper cool, cool, cool!" -Nick Finley, 11

"Control the Center." -Matt Frey, 9

With a smug smirk on his face, Jonathan Stallings, 11, prepares to conquer his opponent.

Dance team members are not the only people with spirit. Steve Glockner, 9, wears a borrowed sign to one of their matches.
Tough Choices

Written by: Ashley Zurliene

Although Mr. Harsey has moved on to another school, the club he created continues. The Student Advisory Committee, more commonly known as SAC, was a group of students who met with administrators to voice their opinions on how the school was run. Students talked openly about things that upset them or they felt needed to be changed. The administrators took notes and tried to put the students' ideas into effect. This year, the group came up with the Ambassador program, which gave the administrators a view through students' eyes.

Becky Bellm, 11, stands up to introduce herself to SAC members, administrators, and students.

"The best part of SAC is that I get to miss class to sit there and yell all hour." - Danielle Schrumpf, 11

"I enjoy knowing that my decisions now make an impact on the future of HHS students." - Quinn Frey, 12

New freshmen and sophomores are welcomed by students of their own age at the ambassador program with food and fun.

Natalie Herzberg, 10, attentively listens to other students as they share their ideas with the group.
This year's scholar bowl team faced some well trained and prepared opponents. Although their season was not very successful, the participants had a great time and enjoyed the extra learning experience. The team was coached by Mr. Appel and Mr. Uhls, both second year veterans, who were proud of their struggling team. There were many highlights for the j.v. team including their brilliant win over Civic Memorial. The team had many new members this year and hope to expand the club next year to help make Highland an intellectual powerhouse.

"Scholar bowl was a blast. Learning new information was exciting."  
- John Starkoll, 11

"I can't wait until next year, when I finally get to be on varsity. This year was alright but there were lots of disappointments for the j.v. team."
- Brandon Adair, 10

Jon Morton, 12, Jacob Boyd, 12, and Charlie Keller, 11, group together to discuss question. The team members learned team work under pressure and work skills.

"I can't wait until next year, when I finally get to be on varsity. This year was alright but there were lots of disappointments for the j.v. team."
- Brandon Adair, 10

Adam Dolezal, 10, ponders a question during a match with Civic Memorial at home. The j.v. team slaughtered their opponents according to the announcements.
Picture This
Written by: Veronica Rickher

The photography club embarked on their first ever field trip to photograph the bald eagles in Alton, Illinois on February 8. Not only did members get the opportunity to capture fantastic pictures of eagles, but also of other rare bird species such as the Schmu, Blue Heron, Trumpeter Swans, and Canadian Geese as well. New club sponsor Mr. Nickerson states “This trip was a great learning experience for all. Most students didn’t realize we had this variety of birds present in this area.” In spring, the club took their second trip to OLaumeier Sculpture Park in St. Louis.

Megan Gordon, 11, and Lauren Kirchoff, 11, get some good shots of the rare birds in East Alton. The two had some great photographs to show their family.

Matt Brown, 11, JaredThueman, 10, and Chris Howard, 11, get a perfect view of exotic birds while on the field trip to watch bald eagles in Alton.

“This was my first year and it was so fun. The best part was viewing the eagles in Alton. That new .69, .79, .99, menu at McDonald's saved me some money.” - Mandy Plocher, 10

“The best part of being in photo club was that my friends were in it and we did lots of cool things. I liked the sculpture park and got lots of good pictures.” - Kim Byers, 12

Hoping for a great picture, Suzanne Rogier, 11, cleans the lens on her camera before viewing the eagles in Alton.
A Bright Future
Written by: Tiffany Parnell

Through teachers and administrators, a group of seniors were chosen to be part of the class: Jobs for Illinois Graduates. Once the students were in the class, they were automatically part of the Illinois Career Association. Through this class the students learned how to achieve their goals, plan for a secondary education, and decide what they would like to do with their lives after they graduate from high school. They participated in several leadership activities and were involved in community projects.

This group of ICA students are enjoying a bus ride home from Camp Wartberg, where they met with other students from Jacksonville. They participated in a ropes course working on teamwork and leadership.

"The class was fun most of the time. It really helped me plan my future and decide where I want to go to college. The class also helped me make good decisions about what I want to do." - Tara Thole, 12

"Illinois Career Associate has helped me decide what I would like to do after I graduate. I plan on going to a college and graduate with an engineering degree." - Ivan Enriquez, 12

These students participate in the Meals-On-Wheels program. This program is set up by the hospital. Two of four students go to the hospital each day to get their route and deliver the meals.

Teffy Dicus, 12, James Holloway, 12, and Crystal Gillespie, 12, gather for a group hug at the Monticello 4H Camp.
Spanish Invasion
Written by: Tiffany Parnell

All students in Spanish III and IV are automatically members of Spanish Club. In March the Spanish Club took a trip to Chicago. While there, they visited a Mexican Museum, and were able to visit a Spanish neighborhood. The students were able to get a first hand look into Spanish culture that has adapted to modern America. The sponsor of the club was Mrs. Deets. The Spanish IV students voted for officers of Spanish Club. The members who were chosen for office were President—Preston Rachal, 12, Vice President—Chris Schwend, 12, Secretary—Chad Jakel, 12, and Treasurer—Ryan Fulton, 12.

Snake tamer, John Budde, 12, proves that hugging is the same in every language.

"Being Vice President was a lot of fun. We got to do a lot art projects during arts and craft time with Deets." - Chris Schwend, 12

"Tenemos muy divertido. We were able to see Spanish Dancers and we also got to go on a field trip to El Rancherito." - Lindsey Boda, 11

This group of senior Spanish students were chosen to be part of the Spanish National Honor Society. To be a member one must obtain an A average for the first nine weeks, and also be a senior.

Eight senoritas visit with an elephant inside Chicago's Rainforest Cafe where Spanish Club members dined safari style.
Looking towards the future, Joe Malisia, 12, ponders his post-high school plans and whether his love for the game and dedication to his sport can carry him to a starting position on a college baseball team.
Spring Fever: As the sun came out and snow melted, students were involved in a wide array of outdoor activities. Whether it was hitting a softball, running a four-minute mile or simply enjoying the outdoors students kept busy. As a result of the gorgeous weather, the campus became alive with activities and the spirit of new beginnings.

Destiny Fritz, 12, Mike Beck, 11, Jessica Linenfels, 12, Johnathan Starko, 11, and Jessica Marchetti, 10, take time out for their fans in between rehearsals for the spring musical.
Free kicks
Amanda Niggi, 12, Mandy Mugler, 9, and Holli Holzer, 10, prepare to take shots on the goal before a game.

Dribbling fool
Amber Eilers, 9, practices her ball skills during a pre-game warm-up before facing tough competition.

Fancy feet
Amanda Potthast, 9, glares at the ball while juggling during the warm-up before a game.

Team Record
Civic Memorial
W 2 - 0
Belleville West
L 0 - 1
O'Fallon
L 0 - 2
Mascoutah
L 0 - 2
Waterloo
Gibault
L 0 - 2
Wesclin
T 1 - 1
Civic Memorial
W 1 - 0
Waterloo
L 0 - 3
The junior varsity girls soccer team faced a very tough season and every game was a tremendous challenge. They started off the season with an excellent 2 - 0 Mississippi Valley Conference win over the Civic Memorial Eagles. They kept the excitement going with a tough tie to the Weselin Warriors. This was the soccer team’s second season, so they were very young but had some excellent leaders. Coach Terry Marks proudly stated, “The lady junior varsity team was young and inexperienced, but worked hard in every game. Win or lose, they improved with each game and never gave up. Through the season, the ladies continued to work hard on their skills and most of all had fun.” With a lot of hard work, a few of the junior varsity players got the chance to move up to the varsity position. Though the record doesn’t show it, the young team worked hard and improved throughout the season.

Success

“Even though I was injured at the beginning of the season, this team has been through the up’s and down’s of life. We’ve been there for each other and we’ve succeeded fully which is why this team is so great!”

- Heather Trelow, 9

Great season

“This season was a blast and I loved making new friends. We had a great season and I can’t wait for next year!” - Tara Gaffner, 10

Team effort: The team comes together at halftime to listen to the influential words of Coach Terry Marks.
Pushin down field
Driving intensely towards the goal, Jennifer Halverson, 11, trucks down the field with the ball.

Blitzkrieg
Jill Ash, 10, delivers a swift attack on the enemy. Jill's catlike reflexes allow her to steal the ball with ease.

Kicking ace
Booting the soccer ball down field, is Megan Freidel, 9. This year Megan suffered a concussion after being kicked in the head while making a heroic game save.

Scores
Greenville
W 3 - 0
Civic Memorial
W 2 - 0
Wesclin
W 5 - 1
Belleville W.
L 2 - 3
Granite City
L 0 - 5
Mascoutah
W 3 - 1
O'Fallon
L 2 - 3
Waterloo
W 2 - 1
The girls soccer team began their sophomore season with strength and confidence. Several new faces provided the team with a new spirit and determination. This year’s captains displayed an enduring effort throughout the season. Julie Gentemann, 10, Jackie Koerkenmeier, 11, and Linnea Sorge, 12 took on this task. One new challenge brought to the team was the task of adjusting to a new coach, Mr. Jim Baldus. Coach Baldus stated, “I have been extremely pleased with my first season as the girls soccer coach. We have a good group of ladies who work hard and enjoy playing the game. Fortunately, we started a lot of younger players so we should only get better the next couple of years. This spring has been a pleasure and we hope to have continued success in the future.” Many injuries also occurred this season, but luckily these drawbacks did not affect the team’s performance. Pushing all obstacles aside, this year’s girls soccer team had the ability to rise up no matter what the challenge.

**Beating the odds**

“...I thought we had a great season despite the team’s many injuries.” - Linnea Sorge, 12.

**Great line-up**

“...With great players and a new coach, we had a fun and exciting season.” - Megan Guase, 12

*Shopping spree:* The soccer girls took time off to do some Easter shopping during the Carbondale tournament.
Optimistic review
Shana Liening, 11, Michelle Fay, 10, and Katey Stanhaus, 9, look over their scores after a tough match. The girls team’s high scores and awesome matches helped make this year a great one.

Perfect moves
Displaying the form of a master bowler, Matt Beck, 12, prepares to release his ball in the high hopes of a strike. The boys team went to state championships this year, and enjoyed a more challenging and competitive year.

Striking gold
Launching another powerful shot down the alley, Katey Stanhaus, 9, eyes her ball on its path down the lane. She said, “It was a huge honor to be on the varsity team this year; we did a great job.”

Boys Varsity
Division: 10-2
Conference: 7-1

Boys JV
Division: 9-3
Conference: 7-1

Girls Varsity
Division: 12-2
Conference: 9-1

Girls JV
Division: 6-0
Conference: 9-1
The second year of the bowling team’s existence was a successful and winning year. The boys junior varsity and varsity teams, along with the girls junior varsity and varsity teams, both clinched the division championships. The girls junior varsity and varsity teams also won the title of sixth place in their conference championships. The boys’ teams also went to the state competitions. Boys’ team captain, Gino Paoletti, 12, set the boys’ high score at 276. Girls’ varsity member Kately Stanhaus, 9, set the girls’ high score at 228. Girls’ team captain, Beth Schrumpf, 11, helped lead the girls’ team to several victories throughout the year, and an overall successful and competitive year. Coach Laura Wander reflected the season’s great success with this quote: “This team in its second year has continued to improve, and dominate the conference. They have learned to play as a team, and that has made all the difference.” The MVP players of this year were Chris Harbison, 11, for the boys’ team, and Beth Schrumpf, 11, for the girls’ team. The group’s overall great teamwork and practice together was an important asset through this year and will continue to be for many more to come.

Competitive games

“This year was definitely more competitive and more of a challenge compared to last year, but that didn’t stop us at all from many wins and good showings at regional competitions.” - Shana Liening, 11

Positive outlook

“I enjoyed the bowling team a lot this year. The girls’ team made a good placing in the conference championship, and helped give us a positive feeling for the year.”

- Michelle Fay, 10

Down the alley: Nick Korte, 9, shows his great bowling skills, hurling the ball right down the lane. As a freshman, Nick was a new member of the bowling team, but still added to its great year.
Talking strategy
After a grueling inning team members huddle together to go over strategy and talk about the upcoming inning.

Teamwork and victory
“We had a really fun year and coach taught us a lot about how to work as a team and win as a team,” comments catcher Dane Barker, 10

Thrown out
The ball is hit and the base runner is going, not a problem for Seth Bohnenstiehl, 10 who is ready to throw the runner out.

Team Record

Breese Central
W 4-0
Mater Dei
W 10-8
Triad
W 5-4
Salem
W 6-0
Greenville
W 14-0
Althoff
L 8-3
Jerseyville
W 11-0
Wescin
L 4-3

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The sun is shining bright, the air is blowing gently, and baseball fever is in the air. The crack of the bat, the soft catch in the outfield and the rush of a player stealing the next base brings smiles to the fans' faces. Hitting, pitching, defense, and teamwork are all important aspects of baseball. For this year's baseball players teamwork, determination and humor were in the front of their minds. "They always stay loose and relaxed in pressure situations because there are so many guys on the team that are so funny and keep everyone loose," commented Coach Oestreich. Game after game, under the intense sun the players were led by dominating pitching, with the help of defense in the outfield, and a few runs made the season memorable. With five starting pitchers, which included sophomores Justin Gibbons, Matt Malisie, Aaron Griffith, Dane Barker, and Todd Wessel, kept the team's ERA a little under 2.00! Even with great pitching the frustrations of losing could not stop the junior varsity team from striving to win and be the best. They kept their eyes on the ball and on victory which carried their spirits throughout the season.

Winning is everything

"It's not worth winning if you don't win big." -Steven Fieker, 10

What is it all about?

"It's all about winning." -Aaron Griffith, 10

Throwing strikes: Isolated on the pitcher's mound, Justin Gibbons, 10 challenges the batter with every pitch. Winding up and releasing, Gibbons leads the team in pitching.
Pep Talk
During the Highland Triad game, Coach Hawkins calls the infield together for a brief chat and a possible pitching change.

Eyes on the Ball
Jeremiah Knackstedt, 11, chases a foul ball during the game against Triad. His spectacular catch helped the team defeat the knights 5-4.

On the lookout
Tim Nagel, 12, and Andrew Buck, 12, stare intensively at the game. While Jarett Sisson, 12, practices his trade mark homerun swing.

Team Record
Mater Dei
W 9 - 3
Roxana
L 1- 2 W 12- 4
Triad
W 5- 4
Wesclln
L 3- 6
Cahokia
W 10- 0 W 2-1
Mascoutah
W 1- 0
O'Fallon
L 14- 0
Salem
W 8- 3 W 7-1
Civic Memorial
W 10- 0
The ability to have the proper communication and the instincts to anticipate each other's reactions during every game was a key to the success of this year team. The varsity baseball team showed complete dedication and devotion towards the sport as they vigorously trained for perfection. They dedicated a great deal of time to the sport they loved by practicing everyday. It was this hardwork that opened avenues to explore their dreams on the field. "The 2001 version of the HHS baseball team is a solid group of young people who are easy to work with. They hustle and work hard on the field and are reliable and enjoyable to be around off the field and in school. I am proud of their efforts," stated Coach Joel Hawkins. Overall everyone played an equal part causing it to be a total team effort. Once again the bulldogs added to their long tradition of winning and undoubtedly provided many thrilling moments for their devoted fans, especially when they won the MVC championship.

Unbelievable

"It has been pretty unreal. Things have been a lot different from last year, but I am having fun and hopefully the season ends up better this year." -Kevin Fernandez, 12

A Valued Sport

"Varsity baseball is a great way to compete, have fun, and better myself as a person." - Jacob Post, 11
Using muscle
Lindsay Austin, 11, throws the eight pound shot put at a Highland track meet.

Soaring high
Stephanie Gruender, 10, flies toward the sand pit for a great jump.

Finishing strong
Stephanie Capalupo, 10, completes the 3200 meter relay, helping the team earn a first place finish.

Scores
Highland
1st place
Alton
1st place
Roxana Relays
4th place
Madison County
4th place
Carlinville Invite
4th place
Edwardsville
2nd place
Collinsville Invite
5th place
Highland
1st place
The girls track team was coached by Mr. Cipicchio and Mrs. Twyford during the 2001 season. "They had a very successful year and they were a great team to coach," commented Coach Twyford. **Stephanie Gruender, 10, Stephanie Capalupo, 10, Jessie Koerkenmeier, 11, and Holly Mitchell, 9,** were Madison County champions in the 3200 meter relay. Highland finished fourth as a team in the county meet at East Alton Wood River. Another highlight of the season was receiving fourth out of twelve at the Roxana Relays, where the girls earned medals in every relay. Also, Highland received first place in two of four of their home meets. "It was fun and exciting and I will really miss the seniors next year," said Michele Watts, 11. At the Mississippi Valley Conference meet, Highland finished in second place, only losing to Jerseyville by four points. MVC champions included the Sprint Medley, 4x800, 4x200, and 4x100 teams, and **Stephanie Gruender, 10,** in the 800 meter run. They earned 21 first place medals. Although the girls track team faced extremely difficult opponents throughout the year, their season was still very successful.

**Throwing shot and disc**

"Being a thrower was really exciting. I liked being finished with my event early and then getting to go watch and cheer for my other teammates for the rest of the meet."

- Amanda Zeller, 10

**Running for fun**

"I had so much fun in track this year. All the upper classmen were really nice and fun to be with. I got to run in a variety of events this season; from the 100 meter dash to the 2 mile."

- Jessica Leathers, 9

A team thing:
Members of the girls track team group together at the Alton Invitational where they finished 8th against tough competition.
Singing it all in stride
Chris Stahl, 12, and
Nathan Robinson, 11,
ear the finish line in the
300m intermediate hurdle
race. Both these runners
improved greatly this year.

Scores
D’Fallon Relays
5th
Greenville
Relays
1st
Roxanna
Relays
2nd
Madison
County
Championship
3rd
Mississippi
Valley
Conference
1st

A hobby for hobby
Bob Watts, 11, passes a
runner in the 4 by 800m
relay at the Highland
Invitational.

Strack attack
Long distance
extraordinaire Daniel
Strackeljahn, 11, perfects
his running style in the one
mile run.

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High Speed Chase

Written by: Nathan Robinson

From the beginning of their season, the track team had lofty expectations. Team goals were set high but for this group they were well within reach. Some such goals were to break every record from the previous season, break three or more school records, to win the Conference Championship, and send two athletes and a relay to state. The team's motto was 100% effort, 100% of the time; which was exactly what they did. All season the track athletes worked harder and ran faster than ever before, despite the extreme temperatures and several injuries. A main source of inspiration and encouragement to the team was their coach Mr. Baele. This season, Coach Baele's last at HHS, was one the runners wanted him to always remember. This was accomplished by achieving every goal the team made at the beginning of the season. In the Mississippi Valley Conference Championship Highland held a commanding lead and took first place for the first time in five years. At the Sectional meet Daniel Strackeljahn, 11, qualified for state in the one and two mile run. Several school records were also broken by Nathan Robinson, 11, in the 110 high hurdles, and Matt Lewis, 12, Zach Poss, 10, Louis Staley, 11, and Jason Keilbach, 11 in the 4x100 and 4x200 meter dash. This team cruised at high speeds leaving the other teams in the dust.

Track memories

"My favorite part of track was stretching. This year they even named a muscle stretch after me called the Jo-C-Fuss. One thing for sure is that runners know how to have a good time." - Joey Kovach, 11

Youth on top

"Being a sophomore member of the team and running varsity track has been a great experience and a huge challenge this year. I really am looking forward to my next two years running for Highland." - Zach Poss, 10

Leaping to new heights:
This year, with the addition of Matt Lewis, 12, and Michael Sorge, 10, as high jumpers, the team has been able to accumulate more points in the field events, than in recent years.
It's a hot one
During a quick break between innings, Valerie Elliot, 9, sheds some of her catcher’s gear and grabs a quick, refreshing drink. “I had a lot of fun this season and the time I spent catching was great,” Elliot explained, looking forward to next year.

Too close to call
Struggling for the out, Megan Diesen, 9, reaches to get the runner out. “It’s been a hard year but I think we’re getting more accomplished,” Diesen stated as she thought back upon the season.

And it’s a home run!
After a spectacular hit to the outfield, Chelsea Brendel, 10, rounds the bases and slides into home for a homerun. “I feel like the other girls have become like my sisters because we are always together and we are supportive of each other,” shared Brendel.

Schedule
Roxana
Belleville Althoff
Alton
Belleville West
Mascoutah
Triad
Freeburg
Waterloo
Centralia
Jerseyville
Mater Dei
Civic Memorial
Granite City
Cahokia
Breese Central
Mr. Vernon
Edwardsville
The junior varsity softball team set many high standards in order to meet their goals of working as a team and improving their hitting, fielding, and catching. With ten new freshmen on the team, everyone was full of spirit and anxious to play and win. Coach Kohnan was the team’s inspiration, stressing, “We have a young team this year who is working hard to gain the experience needed to play competitively. This season we are looking to see improvements in both basic skills and teamwork.” Through the friendships that developed through victories and defeats, their teamwork efforts bloomed. Led by the tenacious pitching efforts of Alisha Parker, 9, the team continued building on their defensive strengths. “We had a very successful season, not only winning games, but improving our own personal skills as well. It was a great experience, and all our hard work payed off. In the end we were a team both on and off the field.” Parker believed. The girls made up a hard working team that understood the meaning of dedication and gained the competitive experience that will be valuable in the years to come.

Playing varsity

“It was a lot of fun this year. We practiced hard but it paid off and we did really well. I got a chance to play varsity a little which was really cool and I’m looking forward to next year.” - Jenna Rozum, 10

Hard work pays off

“Since the beginning of the season, we’ve been working very hard. All that hard work is helping us reach the goals that we’ve set.” - Kalen Iberg, 9

Striking them out:
As the team’s only pitcher, Alisha Parker, 9, was very important to the team’s success, and she handled the responsibility extremely well.
Skills to pay the bills
Showing off her talent, Courtney Winet 11, pitches a vicious curveball.

Accurate execution
Angela Becker 10, loosens up her throwing arm in between innings.

Preparation is key
With a grimace on her face, Amy Henschen 12, takes a quick warm-up swing before stepping up to the plate.

Team Record

Roxana
L 2-3
Althoff
L 7-12
Wood River
W 12-1
Triad
L 0-1
Freeburg
W 11-4
Jerseyville
W 11-1
Mater Dei
L 3-5
CM
W 6-5
The girls varsity softball team kicked off their season with a shaky start. Unfortunately, the girls faced the challenge of having to play against several powerhouse conference teams “right off the bat.” However, the lady bulldogs redeemed themselves later in the season with help from their unwavering dedication. With a grueling practice schedule (6 days a week/at least three hours per practice), the girls clearly proved that practice truly makes perfect. Coach Jodie Ramsey proudly stated, “The varsity team is full of young talent that is learning as they go, setting attainable goals, and working hard to meet them.” The team as a whole gained motivation and advice from their coaches and applied these teachings to their game. The girls also exhibited a great deal of comradery, respect, and competitive edge towards each other. The close-knit friendships formed throughout the season and the amount of respect between the girls definitely were significant factors to yet another enjoyable season filled with terrific memories.

**Team improvement**

“The season started off a little slow but now we’ve all developed a real drive to improve individually and as a team. I think we’ve all become very close and have a lot of fun which makes the team even stronger.”

-Kristen Gianino, 11

**Wonder years**

“This has undoubtedly been the best four years of my life. I truly have enjoyed the opportunity to work with such an incredible group of girls.”

-Jennifer Mettler, 12

On the ball: On her toes, Sara Ulrich, 12, crouches in a defensive position ready for the next play.
Winding up
Raising his racket, Nicholas Finley, 11, is ready to slam a cross-court forehand for a winner.

Astonishing power
With an expression of intense concentration, Nathan Cricelli, 12, crashes a mighty forehand shot.

Drawing an ace
Mark Varner, 10, blows a serve by his opponent with a burst of energy.

Team Record

Roxana
W 5 - 2

Civic Memorial
W 4 - 3

Jerseyville
L 2 - 5

Waterloo
W 7 - 0

Greenville
W 6 - 3

ESL Senior
W 7 - 0

Mascoutah
W 5 - 2

Triad
L 1 - 6
Entering the season with confidence in their skills and with a winning spirit, the boys tennis team had hopes of winning the conference championship once again. Even though several strong tennis players graduated, the team still received strong leadership from its two seniors. Preston Rachal, 12, and Scott McCammon, 12. Several freshmen and sophomores also stepped up to play varsity tennis. Mr. Hirsh returned to coach the team on to a victorious season. This was his second year as coach, and he led extended practices and Saturday practices to ensure that the team performed to the best of their abilities. Looking back at the season Mr. Hirsh said, "Hard work was the key to success. The more work players put in at practice the better they performed in matches.” Because of windy, stormy, and sometimes snowy weather, the team adjusted its style of play for these conditions. It was frustrating but, like mailmen, the players delivered.

Looking forward

“Tennis was a great experience. I look forward to playing for the next two years.” - Tom Schuette, 10

Freshmen duties

“As a freshman on the team, I had all the extremely important responsibilities riding on my shoulders such as picking up balls after practice and hauling around the ball machine.”

- Matt Pellock, 9

Ready to unload: Preston Rachal, 12, prepares to smash a backhand down the line on match point for an important win.
Unforgettable

Written by: Michelle Frey

Chic limousines and freshly washed and waxed cars filled with beautiful girls in gowns and dashing young men in tuxes paraded through the parking lot of the Highland Knights of Columbus Hall, home of this year’s prom. Much time and effort was devoted to transforming the hall into a glittering cityscape. Prom sponsors and a few juniors created life size pillars and arch ways. Tables were decorated with flowers and crepe paper while the entire room was illuminated with hundreds of little white lights.

The theme “Unforgettable” seemed appropriate for this evening as many students danced the night away to the music provided by Convention Entertainment Systems. Everyone had a wonderful time whether they were dancing and hanging out with friends or sharing a special moment with their sweethearts. Prom goers will always remember this year’s prom because it was truly unforgettable.

Dancing divas

This group of beautiful girls truly danced the night away.

Fun Facts

- There were 24 10X8 sections of scenery lined with lights for the city skyline.
- 80 roses were used as decorations on the tables.
- There were over 450 tickets sold to attend the prom.
- Prom sponsors were: Mrs. Duncan, Mrs. Massey and Mrs. Watts

Setting up

Amy Zbinden, 11, helps cover tables and straighten chairs before the big night.

Nice dress

These three girls must have the same dressmaker. They all are stunning.
Getting close
Josh Beard, 11, and date Charlotte Weiss, 11, find it hard to separate on this special evening.

Dressed to impress
Lori Frey, 12, Amber Hagan, 12, and Natalie Schleper, 12, are dressed to impress all those eligible guys at prom.
Musicals in Highland have always been extravagant, well-attended events. They gave many students the chance to show their musical talents to members of the community.

This year's musical, *Meet Me In St. Louis*, showcased many talented vocalists and musicians. Many upperclassmen returned to take leading roles this year, but many freshman and sophomores stepped up to the challenge and gave a preview of the talent available for future musicals. Not only was *Meet Me In St. Louis* the first musical experience for some students, but it also marked the first year for a new director. Mr. Noud, a music teacher at the Lindenthal campus, provided strong leadership and good advice in his first year as the musical director.

**How to win a man**

All it takes is "A Touch of the Irish" to set things straight around the Smith household. Katie, who was played by Becky Bellm, 11, gives advise to the Smith daughters on how to attract a bachelor.

The storyline revolved around the Smith Family's move from St. Louis to New York. The moving plans became complicated when Esther Smith fell in love with her neighbor, John Truit. Their relationship deepened and Esther did not want to leave St. Louis, but she was not the only one who wanted to stay. Many members of the Smith Family had their reasons for wanting to stay in St. Louis. All problems were solved when Alonso Smith turned down the job in New York and decided to remain in St. Louis.

**1904's Fair**

- Debut of Ice Cream and Iced Tea
- Admission to attend the fair was 50 cents.
- First time electrical lights had been used outdoors.
- "The Louisiana Purchase Exposition" was the original name of the fair.
- Was originally scheduled for the year 1903.

**Ride to the fair:** Driving the trolley, Rose, Esther and Tootie Smith get a ride to the fairgrounds. The main focus of the play centers around the family moving to New York and how the Smith's will have to leave the town of St. Louis and the fair behind.

**Love at first sight**

Esther Smith, portrayed by Whitney Degge, 11, meets her love interest John Truit, played by Scott Ammann, 11, at Lon's going away party. This sparked the relationship which would be the focus of the musical.
Resolving their differences

Rose Smith, acted out by Lindsay Hess, 12, finally hooks up with her love interest, Warren Shefield, played by John Severs, 11, at Lon’s going away party. The two share a song and in the end all troubles are solved.

Up too late

Agnus, Esther, and Tootie Smith show off some dance moves for the crowd at Lon’s party. Roxanne Gillespie, 11, who played Agnus, and Laurie Noblette, 9, who played Tootie, get an opportunity to sing and dance past their bedtime.
This mysterious photographer hides his face behind his camera, but all the while he is watching. Who is this suspicious character??
**Rare!! Photo Shoot**

**Lights, Camera, Action:** Iris is proud to bring to its readers this exclusive photo shoot. There were no security guards too tough, no barriers too strong and no faces too unphotogenic for this yearbook staff. Our highly-trained professional photographers tried to capture moments as they actually happened, so some of the pictures may be shocking, possibly embarrassing or just plain silly. Throughout this photo shoot, familiar faces and places will make this issue truly out of this world. None of the names have been changed to protect the innocent. So take a sneak peak or a behind the scenes look at Highland High School. The Iris staff hopes you enjoy this portfolio featuring the students of today and the stars of tomorrow.

Modeling swimwear is tough work. After a little bit of candy Sierra Mulvey, 10, Jessica Gilomen, 10, Drew Fulton, 10, Justin Schrumpf, 10, Lacey Bucziki, 10, and Kyle Korte, 10, are ready for another grueling day poolside.
Freshmen

Written by: Rachel Buckler and Sean Williams

A
fter all the fuss and rumors of initiation were over, and the fear of something new and exciting was gone, they realized they too were an important part of Highland High School. They soon found the rumors and tales their older siblings had told them were just that, rumors. The freshmen class, after finding their way around the new building, began to feel a part of something much bigger than they have ever felt before. After the excitement of the first football game, and the adjustment to the new school started to wear off, the freshman class began to fit into a new lifestyle.

Freshmen found themselves surrounded by activities and clubs they had never even dreamed of joining. From ecology club to math team to varsity athletics, freshmen found their calling and had the opportunity to meet with upper classmen. The experiences shared with these older students gave them an insight to true high school life.

Do I have to?

With a hesitant approach, Maureen Gunn unwillingly dissects an earthworm for her Biology 1 class.

Bench warmer

Taking time out of his busy schedule, Kyle Ilges tries to cram for a test between classes. The freshmen had to adjust to a new type of scheduling along with getting used to trudging across the school to get to class on time.
Missing Middle School

"I liked the teachers and not getting as much homework." - John Parker

"In high school, the schedule changes between semesters was hard to adjust to." - Shari Eilers.

"When coming into high school, you don't really know what to expect. I was surprised how things turned out, but it was a big change." - Jessica Gillespie

"I mostly miss the junior high teachers. They let you get away with a lot more stuff!" - Laura Compton
Alberto Lugo
Timothy Manville
Jeffrey Mason
Bryan McClanahan
Benjamin McDonald
Chris Meadors
Andrew Miller
Matthew Miller
Ronnelle Mindrup
Andrea Minney
Holly Mitchell
Stephen Morris
Nathan Motsinger
Michael Mueller
Mandy Mugler
Sandra Munie
Tyler Munie
Ashley Newton
Laurie Nobilette
Angela Omans
Andrew Oswald
Tiffany Oswald
Shanda Owens
Felicia Pace
Alisha Parker
John Parker
Derik Payne
Matthew Pellock
Emily Pender
Alexander Plocher
Danielle Poehling
Jessica Pople
Megan Porter
Danielle Poss
Katherine Potter
Amanda Potthast
Kyle Potthast
Brittany Quade
Danielle Rakers
Stephanie Rakers
Casey Reagan
Ryan Reckmann
Janelle Reidelberger
Matthew Reiff
Nichole Riechmann
Nicholas Rikli
Cheryl Rinderer
Daniel Ripperda
Richard Robbs
Marie Robinson
Aaron Rogier
Erica Runge
Matt Rutz
Change One Thing?

"If I could change one thing about myself, I wouldn’t worry as much and I would try to have more fun.” -Stephanie Hartlieb

"I would like to be a better student, with my grades and getting all my homework done." -Alisha Parker

"I wish I had bigger muscles.” -Chris Meadors

"I wish I was not such a procrastinator.” -Emily Dyer
Frosh Ideas

"The teachers and classes are a lot more spread apart." - Adrienne Branger

"I like how the faculty shows school spirit, especially the janitor’s red shirts." - Matt Baer

"I enjoy the air-conditioning." - Kris Dukachek

"I really like all of the people but I dislike the class setup." - Shanda Owens
You don’t have to suffer to be a poet; adolescence is enough suffering for anyone.
- John Ciardi

The terror of being wimpy freshmen vanquished the second they walked through the doors of the high school for their second year. No longer the newcomers changed the outlook of sophomores’ attitudes and relationships with others. The class elections brought new faces to the head of the class. To raise money for the class funds, they sold boxes of candy. This fundraiser turned out to be more successful than last year’s and more of the class was involved.

Mrs. Hirsch, one of the class sponsors, stated, “This sophomore class has some real ‘go getters’ in it. At this point in time there are many students with 5.0 averages. We can certainly say that this is a very gifted class! We are anxiously awaiting to put on prom in the year 2002. We are hoping to put on one of the best ever. The election of officers will be a highlight and our prom committee is set. Look out for the class of 2003!”

Class president Andrew Durbin summed up the class motto with, “Work hard, have fun, be safe!”

Sleeping beauty

Nathan Piurek catches up on a few desperate minutes of shut eye during English class. His short nap revived him just enough to read his assignment in Fallen Angels.

Pearly whites

Perhaps Kyle Motyka will be able to maximize his smile and become a toothpaste model when he grows up.
Brandon Adair
Tricia Aldrich
Jill Ash
Caleb Ayres
Aramis Balaniuc
Derek Bardill
Dane Barker
Jessica Barkley
Travis Barnett
Jamie Bast
Angela Becker
Rachel Bennett
Molly Bergman
Cynthia Berkley
Jacob Bickline
Robert Bisbee
Aaron Blake
Johnny Blankley
Tiffany Bock
Mark Boekhout
Jennifer Boeser
Seth Bohnenstiehl
Marissa Brave
Brett Bray
Chelsey Brendel
Tasha Brown
Rachel Buckler
Megan Burns
Thomas Burton
Marielle Bushong
Lacey Buzick
Stephanie Capalupo
Caitlin Capelle
Cheryl Cawi
Nicki Chambless
John Chapman
Crystal Connors
Isaac Corn
Danille Cort
Ellyn Cox
Colin Cronin
Deana Cruthis
Megan Cruthis
James Dale
Andrea Daniels
Mitchell Daniels
Melissa Davidson
Timothy Debourge
Jennie Degge
Tyler Deibert
Jessica Deien
Sarah Delashmit
Megan Desherlia
Teresa Dickman
Ian Dixon
Adam Dolezal
What Frightens You?

"Vacuum cleaners" - Leah Schmidt

"Losing someone I care about" - Heather Gauen

"Needles" - Jarrod Stetina

"Bobcats in thorn trees" - 7th Hour Ag Science
What Looks Hot?

“Smile and good teeth” - Danielle Seifried

“Butt” - Tricia Aldrich & Jenny Boeser

“Eyes” - Bobby Funderburk

“Looks” - Jacob Bickline

Mandie Plocher
Michael Pocheck
Zachary Poss
Brooke Potthast
Jamie Potthast
Tessa Potthast

Riva Price
Lisa Pruett
John Prusa
Daniel Ramsey
Todd Ratermann
Ryan Reiff

Elizabeth Reppond
Matthew Resmann
Jason Rezabek
Sean Riggins
Kendall Ripperda
Jamie Robards
Favorite Foods

“Anything that doesn’t smell bad!” - Jason Novack

“Brown Cow Ice Cream Bar” - Conrad Dale

“Everything except cafeteria food!” - Nathan Schoen

“Pizza” - Jason Shuppert

Andrew Unangst
Mark Varner
Valerie Vosholler
Brandon Voss
Amanda Walch
Theresa Weckman

Thomas Welge
Leah Wellen
Christina Werner-Schulz
Heather Wernle
Scott Wessel
Todd Wessel

Nicole Westerman
Janna Wheat
Brandi Wilson
Patrick Wilson
Rebecca Wilson
Amy Wise

Caleb Youngman
Amanda Zeller
Todd Zobrist
Eric Zurliene
Jamie Zurliene
“Freedom is the will to be responsible to our selves.”

- Nietzsche

With age comes responsibility, freedom and wisdom. We are given space to express ourselves while being counted on to achieve our goals. We are to prepare ourselves for the future with the help of our family, teachers and friends. No longer are we the clueless freshmen or the awkward sophomores, but finally - upper classmen.

Between school, work, practice and homework, the juniors were busy preparing for an "Unforgettable" prom. Not to mention cramming for ACTs, completing research papers and trying to have fun. We could be found on and off all fields of play. Because of our strong display of school pride, we captured the homecoming spirit stick.

Nevertheless, we keep in mind that there is one year left. Total and utter freedom approaches. When it arrives, we will be completely responsible and dependent on ourselves. We have one year to prepare ourselves for life after high school. It finally kicks in that our new lives are so close. Yet, there are still 365 days ahead to fill with fun and a little irresponsibility.

Love of nature

Down by the river, Dusty Luber and Sarah Bradstreet take in the view while on their photography club field trip.

Time out

A group of juniors take time out of algebra and get together for a picture.
At a Stoplight?

"Look around and if no one is there, I go." - Jennifer Harsey

"Burn-outs; smoke the tires." - Matt Workman

"Sing and dance around in the car." - Shaun Southwick

"Turn up the bass, check for cops and do the first thing that comes to mind." - Joey Kovache

Carla Frey
Christopher Frey
Mark Frey
Nathan Frey
Tara Frey
Danielle Frueh

Brandy Funderburk
Tiffany Galbiati
Amanda Gallatin
John Gantner
Joseph Garson
Karrie Gianino

Kristen Gianino
Nina Gieseking
Justin Giger
Roxanne Gillespie
Lindsey Gilomen
Sean Gleason
Mindy Goestenkors
Eric Goldman
Meghan Gordon
Michael Gragert
David Grindstaff
Kevin Grulke
Margaret Gunn

Jennifer Halvorson
Matthew Hammer
Anna Hansen
Christopher Harbison
Kelly Hardas
Blake Harris
Jennifer Harsy

David Harvick
James Head
Matthew Heldenbrand
Ryan Higgins
Cody Hodges
Natalie Hoffmann
Travis Hollenkamp

Marissa Holtgrave
Vanessa Holtgrave
Mary Ellen Holthaus
Matthew Horstmann
Christopher Howard
Matthew Hoyt
Christina Huelsmann

Elizabeth Johnson
Michael Johnson
Emily Johnston
Ryan Jorgensen
Rachelle Kampwerth
Luke Kapp
Morghan Kapp

Nicholas Keeven
Jason Keilbach
Charles Keller
Katy Kennedy
Lauren Kirchhoff
Barbara Klaus

Patricia Klaus
Amber Kloss
Jeremiah Knackstedt
Michael Knebel
Miranda Knebel
Karla Koch

Jacqueline Koerkenmeier
Jessica Koerkenmeier
Dena Korte
Renee Korte
Joey Kovach
Ashleigh Kruep
Amanda Kuegler
Danielle Kutz
Daniel Lairson
Shalan Lake
Tabitha Langford
Casey Lautz
Dana Lawson
Janna Ledbetter
Melissa Lemanski
Brittney Lengermann
Eric Lengermann
Shana Liening
Dustin Luber
Jason Luitjohan
Michelle Marquardt-McCool
Kristen Marti
Wesley Martindale
Jessica Massey
Ashley Maurer
Robert McDonald
Brett Merkle
John Messerli
Gabriel Michael
Kelly Miller
Ashley Missey
Jared Missey
Paul Morence
Emily Munie
Daniel Myers
Travis Navickas
Nicholas Netzer
Thomas Nier
Beau Ohren
Karina Oliveira
Matthew Omans
Nina Paeth
Randy Pierson
Ryan Pirok
Garret Plocher
Luke Plocher
Heather Plog
Matthew Pople
Stacey Port
Richard Porter
Jacob Post
Ember Price
Julie Pye
Courtney Rakers
Zachary Rakers
Jenna Reidelberger
Eric Remlius
Ty Renko
Jeremy Reynolds
After School?

"At home on Napster." - John Messerli

"Out with my friends." - Lindsey Gilomen

"Doing push-ups for Coach Baele." - Jason Keilbach

"Wal-Mart (working)." - Mindy Knebel

Veronica Rickher
Joel Rinderer
Sarah Rinderer
Michael Ripperda
Twyla Rittenhouse
Nathan Robinson

Amy Roblek
Suzanne Rogier
Bryan Ross
Erica Ross
Andrew Sauls
Danielle Schrumpf

Elizabeth Schrumpf
Kyle Schuster
Chris Schwarz
Brian Schwierjohn
John Severs
Michael Sidwell
Why Those Clothes?

“‘It’s comfortable and it’s me, not everyone else.’” - Annie Wilson

“It’s a black thing.” - Louis Staley

“Whatever goes along with my personality.” - Brooke Tally

“I wear what I wear because it looks good on me and I like it.” - Ty Small

Ashley Zurlieue
Lifting the lid on graduation

By: Mrs. Susan Martz

It wasn’t the force of flying caps that lifted the lid off the high school gym. On Thursday, May 31st at approximately 3:08 p.m., a tornado swept through town causing damage to several businesses and the high school. Fortunately nobody was injured; unfortunately some structural damage was done to the gym when the cyclone lifted up its roof. According to teacher Don Schmitz who happened to be standing outside the gym at the time, “It looked like a big dust devil coming at us and the ceiling tiles in the gym fell so fast they looked like falling snow.” The ceremony was moved to the middle school gym. Because it was so much smaller than the high school gym, many friends and relatives were unable to attend the ceremony. That coupled with the fact that it rained almost the entire day made for a graduation ceremony people will talk about for many years. Select seniors opened with the singing of the national anthem. After the class greetings, the valedictorian and salutatorian awards were presented by Superintendent Jim Burgett. The five valedictorians and one salutatorian who were recognized at the ceremony were Stephanie Merkle, Zoran Tasic, Christopher Stahl, Chadwick Jakel, Amanda Niggl and salutatorian Jami Potthoff. Senior class president Britny Dillier gave the class farewell followed by the presentation of diplomas. The ceremony closed with the recessional played by the high school band.

All smiles
It is a day to remember as Victoria Potter goes through the receiving line to be congratulated by the members of the Board of Education.

Grad Stats
- 5 valedictorians and one salutatorian
- 196 graduates
- tornado a few days before caused extensive damage to the gym
- graduation held in the gym of the new middle school
- Fanfare and Recessional by Elgar were played by the band as the graduates marched out

Three’s company
It is time to march in for graduation as these three seniors line up for their final walk together.
In the line-up
After receiving his diploma, Steve Zobrist shakes hands with Principal Andrew Carmichel.

The storms of life
Rainy weather cannot hold back these hearty souls attending the 2001 graduation. Umbrellas were indeed the order of the day.

Headed for the finish
Kassy Massey and Robert Merwin follow the parade of seniors to their seats.
Seniors

Written by: David Wise and Nicole Rezabek

"I cannot rest from travel: I will drink life to the lees: all times I have enjoyed greatly and suffered greatly, both with those that loved me, and alone... Yet all experience is an arch wherethrough gleams margin fades forever and forever pause, to make an end, to rust use." - Alfred, Lord Tennyson

Now that this journey is ending for beginning, we have to ask our- not to shine in use? Whether future or a trade school, all of us start new lessons we learned or the help we seniors prepare to go their separate them an "Out of This World" expe- them for the rest of their lives. So page through our lives this past pictures, quotes or surveys we will be able to carry these memories with us for a lifetime. After all what is life without a journey, and what is a journey without the memories?

Don’t get caught!!

Ben Gitersonke, 12, quickly puts away his study guide before his biology exam. He like many other students spent a lot of time "cramming" before tests and didn’t always remember to put the study guide away before taking the test.

Class Size by Year

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Size</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Freshman</td>
<td>245</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sophomore</td>
<td>226</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Junior</td>
<td>201</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Senior</td>
<td>192</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

all of us and new endeavors are selves: Are we going to sit idly, endeavors include college, work journeys. We cannot forget the received along the way. As the ways the Iris Staff hopes to offer rience that they can carry with take a breath, sit back, relax, and year. Maybe through these pic-

daes经常会做的一件事。

You’re so silly

Adam Wilke, 12, and Liz Scaggs, 12, chuckle over the fact that Spanish 3 and 4 aren’t the only classes with coloring projects.
Embarrassing Moments

"Ms. Swank asked me if I was a foreign exchange student." - David Wise

"Chad Jakel poured water on my lap and I had to walk around like that all day." - Ben Gitersonke

"I depantsed a girl my freshmen year in gym class and got an after school for it." - Jenny Zarliene

"I got caught smoking outside of the gym by Mr. Stillwagon." - Nick Hayman
Noble Acts

"The most noble thing I have done this year is being a mentor."
- Ivan Enriquez

"I helped an old lady carry a ten pound bag of dog food to her car."
- Mike Reiff

"The most noble thing I have done was spending 21 days in South Africa serving little kids."
- Catherine Timmermann

"I took my sister for a bike ride when no one else would."
- Cory Done
Achievements

"My greatest achievement to date was making the Cavaliers Drum and Bugle Corps, and making the I.L.M.E.A. All-State 'Honor' band." - Ben Hall

"Being head drum major and leading the band to a first place victory at U of I was my greatest achievement thus far." - Jessica Plocher

"I was extremely involved in Model U.N. and helped this club double the membership in the few years I participated." - John Morton

"My greatest achievement is that I received a perfect GPA throughout all of high school." - Amanda Niggli
Jennifer Walter
Daniel Warnecke
Timothy Warnecke
Rick Wasson
Ryan Watts

Daniel Weakly
Adam Weidner
Laura Wellen
John Wheat
Adam Wilke

Sean Williams
Amy Williamson
David Wise
James Witcher
Dustin Witt

Brian York
John Ziegler
Steven Zobrist
Jennifer Zurliene
Jeremy Zurliene
Higher Learning

"I plan on attending SIUE and then transfer to Rolla." - Matt Beck

"I cannot wait until I am a student at the University of Illinois." - Cherie Rogier

"I am going to the University of Illinois to study journalism, be in the marching Illini, and a member of the dairy judging team." - Jessica Plocher

"I will be going to SIUE after high school as part of my military training." - James Witcher

"I can't wait to go away to school, meet new friends, and play cheesy board games." - Sean Williams

"I am going to go to SIUE. I really am looking forward to it." - Kristi Drda

Best Times

"Graduation is what I have been looking forward to, and it will be the best part of high school." - Jessica Arcynski

"Proms were the best because I got to be with my friends and have a lot of fun." - Bria Korte

"My best times were spent learning every guitar scale from the master, Zoki Tasic." - Jacob Boyd

"During study hall with Mrs. Bolk we watched Montel and snuck cookies into the back office." - Ashley Scherschel

"There where a lot of fun fights in school." - Paul Bickline

"Graduation is the best part of high school because we will be getting away." - James Smith

Award-Winning Teachers

"Mrs. Meyer has prepared me for college in a tough way. But she always knew how to have fun." - Elizabeth Rinderer

"Mrs. Martz has taught me how to believe in myself." - Victoria Potter

"Mrs. Wolfe is my favorite teacher because she always knew what was for lunch." - Chirs Comerie

"Mr. Hawkins taught me not to give up, and to give 100% in life." - Josh Berneking

"Mrs. Deets was a lot of fun on the Chicago trip and Mr. Baele was a cool teacher in tech lab." - Todd Luitjohan

"Ms. Kay because she is funny." - Crissy Siever
"I cannot wait until I go to SIUC next year, but I have enjoyed the four years that I spent here."
- Marty Jenkins

"High school is too early!! I look forward to sleeping in next year."
- Eric Miller

"I cannot wait until next year when I attend the University of Kentucky. I will miss all my friends and family."
- Brittany Turner

"The last four years here at HHS have been the best part of my life."
- Justin Hedtkamp

"I plan to attend Blackburn College. I will miss the atmosphere of the football season."
- Ty Barr

"Becoming a senior and finally graduating took a long time, but it was well worth it."
- Shanna Anderson

"I will truly miss my friends from high school, but I am looking forward to meeting new people and going to new places."
- Destiny Fritz

"Coach Twyford was an influence on me and I will miss her along with all of my friends."
- Heather Thole

"The familiar faces of people in the high school is what I will miss the most while I am at SWIC."
- Laura Wellen

"I am excited about attending Illinois State. I am really going to miss Mr. Holt's economics class."
- Brandi Starko
Survey Says...

Favorite Movie
1. Top Gun
2. Save the Last Dance
3. Dirty Dancing
4. Dazed and Confused
5. The Mexican

Top Radio Stations
1. Z 107.7 (KSLZ)
2. 100.3 The Beat
3. 101.1 The River
4. 92.3 WIL
5. Q95.5 (WFUN)

After School Activities
1. Work
2. Sports
3. Sleep
4. Hunting
5. Exercise

Sayings
1. How you doin’?
2. You were an accident
3. What are you doing?
4. It happens
5. Wazzzzzzzzup????

Favorite Songs
1. Angel - Shaggy
2. Butterfly - Crazytown
3. Put It On Me - Ja Rule
4. Arms Wide Open - Creed
5. Don’t Tell Me - Madonna

Favorite TV Shows
1. Friends
2. Dawson’s Creek
3. MTV
4. Survivor
5. Who Wants to Be a Millionaire
The Price Is Right

Deodorant $2.37
Playstation 2 $299.00 without accessories

Avocado $2.00 ea
Frosted Flakes $3.50

Roma Tomatos $1.10 a pound

Toilet Paper $9.97
Oreo Pop Tarts $2.57

DVD $19.99
Case IH Tractor $80,000
Facult y

Written by: Bradley Boudouris

"To teach is to learn twice over."
- Joseph Joubert

"A teacher is better than two books."
- German Proverb

This year’s faculty, led by our new principal Mr. Carmitchel, was a busy group of educators. Not only did they teach students and make important administrative decisions, they also arranged special school events such as Mrs. Meyer’s work on the Madrigal dinner or Mrs. Voegleman’s organization of the school play. Other faculty members sponsored clubs such as Mr. Appel’s leadership of Model U.N., Mrs. Watts direction of Math Team, and Mrs. Gauen’s guidance of Students Against Destructive Decisions.

One highlight this year, was when Mrs. Massey received the prestigious SIUE Excellence in Teaching Award for 2000-2001. This school year proved that Mr. Carmitchel is both a strong leader of school spirit and quite the entertainer. Many times students were amazed by his ability to captivate a full gymnasium. Other times he amused students with his unique form of intercom humor. The year proved to be quite successful with the new leader.

Devious Plotting

Officer Manville maniacally devises fiendish plans involving student parking passes. Periodically he glances up at his monitors to snoop on possible criminals.

Stocks Go Down

Shortly after Mr. Carmitchel took over Highland High School, America’s stock market began to fall. While this fact could have been coincidental, many thought it was still necessary to use this old, reliable punishment.
Andy Carmitchel, Principal
Steve Lanxon, Vice Principal
Barry Thomas, Vice Principal
David Appel
Loren Baele
Dr. Arlen Baker
Liza Basden
Erlene Bretzlaff
Kathy Burns
Ted Cipicchio
Tiffany Conzelman
Jay Cryder
Julia Daniels
Michelle Deets
Karen Duckworth
Margie Duncan
Eric Frankford
Cynthia Garcia
Karen Gauen
Gail Geib
Christy Golder
Jody Harrison
Barbara Heyen
Gina Hirsch
Carolyn Ittner
Larry Jones
Barb Kay
Tamara Kohnen
Brenda Korte
Susan Martz
Daborah Massey
James Meyer
Suzanne Meyer
Steve Moore
Jim Nickerson
Nicole Peden
Jeanie Probst
Jody Ramsey
Lori Ruebhausen
Joe Schaefer
Don Schmitz
Jackie Schneider
Clayton Smith
Hilary Snider
Dawn Steiner
Carrie Stewart
Sherry Thomas
Dianna Timm
Karen Twiford
Max Uhls
Robert Vance
Sarah Voegelman
Henry Vogelman
Pamela Watts
Cathy Weiss
Laura Weshinskey
“This has been a super year! Sophomores, you can really WRITE! I’m looking forward to my ‘new batch’ of students - but I will miss you!”
- Mrs. Gauen

“Wow! What a year. First semester I had the best English III class ever. Also my seniors were a wonderful surprise.” - Mrs. Meyer

“This has been a fast year. Lots of cooking, lots of eating, and lots of fun!”
- Mrs. Bretzlafl

“This year was enlightening. I introduced young minds to great literature, and pigged out on popcorn everyday with my third hour prep buddies.”
- Mrs. Martz
A Story Book Ending

After all the stories, pictures and captured moments that were "Out of this World" one cannot help but feel fulfilled. The year was full of memories, and through this book, they will live on and never be forgotten. Now that this chapter in our lives is finished is it really an ending or just a new beginning? Either way we all have "Out of this World" memories, and whether those memories are throwing the winning touchdown in the big game, or acing your calc test or simply finding the courage to ask that special person to prom all of us can look back at the pages of this book and find something nostalgic. The Iris staff hopes that these memories become larger than life. So like the story of that big fish that got away, it grows more spectacular, more extraordinary, more incredible every time you remember it, eventually becoming out of this world.

As summer comes knocking at the door, and kids start hitting the beaches, working full time or just enjoying their time away from the halls of HHS, do not forget to take a minute to look at the pages full of your memories and the friends and faces that have become ingrained in your hearts and minds forever. The Iris staff truly hopes this book gave you an out of this world experience.

Colophon

All layouts in volume 81 of the IRIS "Out of this World" were chosen by editors Cory Adolph, Scott Schuetz and David Wise. The senior ads were created by Bradley Boudouris and Scott Schuetz, as well as the innovative business ads located at the bottom of every page. Our Herff Jones representative was Dr. Lucy Conner.

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Advisor- Susan S. Martz
Senior Ads

Congratulations Dave! We are so very proud of you and all you have accomplished. We expect great things from you in the future.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, & Amy

Congratulations Todd. We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments. We love you and wish you all the best in your future.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Angie, Grandma, and Grandpa

Jeremy,

I remember thousands of hockey pucks being shot off the basement walls. You became a repeat "All Star" hockey player. With your determination and perseverance you help make your dream of a bulldog ice hockey team a reality. I’m so proud of you and I’ve loved watching you play.

Love,
Mom

May God’s blessings go with you wherever you go and whatever you do.

Love always,
Dad, Mom, Jenny, Julie and Jackie

Dear Jennifer,

We are very proud of you. You are a wonderful daughter and the light of our life. May your future be full of happiness and success. Reach for the stars.

Love,
Mom & Dad

My thoughts and prayers are with you, my peanut, to be the very best the Lord would have you to be for His service.

Love,
Mom
2000 - 2001

Sean,
I am very proud of you. Time has gone by too fast and my baby is now graduating. May God be always at your side.

Love,
Mom, Paul, Nikki, and Tricia

Nicole,
You have grown into a special young lady. You have always been a fun loving person and have a lot of good memories to show it. We are very proud of you and your accomplishments. You have a bright future ahead of you. Good luck in college.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Jason and Matthew

Kristi,
Congratulations! We’re so proud of you. We wish you the best of luck in everything you do in your future. We love you and we will always be there for you.

Love,
Dad, Mom and Jason

We’re excited about what the future holds for you Scott. Your knowledge of the technological world should take you to many interesting and exciting places. May your enthusiasm for helping others with computer and tech needs never wane. We’re extremely proud of you!

Mom and Dad

We are so proud of you and what you accomplished in your life. May you find the path to success or make yourself one! Just remember to be true to yourself. We love you and are so proud!

Love,
Mom and Grandma

You are a responsible, caring and intelligent young women. We are very proud of you. We know you will succeed in whatever you do.

We Love You,
Mom & Dad
Teri,

We are proud of your accomplishments. Set your sites high and good luck in your future. Wherever life takes you, remember we are here for you. Follow your dreams and always remember we love you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, and Gail

Go for it Tim. Keep your positive attitude and you will succeed. I’m proud of you.

Love,
Dad

Jami,

You are on your way to a bright and shining future. No matter which path you choose to follow just remember to keep reaching for the stars.

We love you,
Mom, Dad, Brandon, and Austin

Congratulations Stephanie!

We are so proud of you and all you have accomplished. You have a very bright future - Good luck with college.

We love you,
Mom and Dad

We love you Amy and we are so proud of you!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Kyle, and Anita

Sara,

Congratulations on four terrific years of high school. The hard work and determination has brought you much success. We are very proud of you!

Love,
Dad, Mom, and Michael
Congratulations Peanut,
You go girl! Keep that great smile and positive attitude. Follow your dreams.
We love you.
Dad and Mom

Jessica,
Graduation is a time to reflect on your past and make plans for your future. We are proud of all you’ve done, what you are yet to do, and the wonderful person you have become. May all your dreams come true. Congratulations!
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Christopher

Dear Tiff,
I never would have dreamt 18 years could go by so fast. We have so many cherished memories of your childhood and throughout your high school years. We wish you all the happiness in the world and that all your dreams come true.
We Love You!
Mom, Jim, and Jaime

Much love and happiness to our daughter who we are very proud of. We wish you a wonderful life. Congratulations!
God Bless You,
Dad and Mom

Congratulations Aaron!
We are very proud of you and everything you have accomplished. We hope for you all that you want to achieve. We know you will strive to be the best person you can be and fulfill all of your dreams.
All our love,
Mom, Dad and Jennan

Congratulations Josh!
We’re proud of you.
Good Luck.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Tiffany
Jackie,
You have shown us good times since 1983. Thanks for all the memories you have given us. Keep going forward with your dreams and spirit. We will always love and be proud of your accomplishments.
Love always,
Dad, Mom, Jamie, Robbie, Russell, and Ryan

Congratulations on all your accomplishments and good luck in all your future endeavors. Thanks for your hard work which resulted in the fun and excitement of your successful soccer seasons. We're proud of you and will always love you and be here for you in all you do.
Love,
Mom, Harry, and Chad

Nicole -
You did it Punkin!! I am very proud of you. You are so special to all of us. Now, "Go get tat degree!!!"

Congratulations Niki (and Geraldine)!
I love you with all my heart!
Mom

Tera -
We are so very proud of you Tera. May success, happiness and good health be with you throughout your life. Don't forget we will always be there for you.

We love you!!!
Mom and Dad

We are very proud of you and we wish you good luck in the future. May all your dreams come true. Remember, keep smiling and enjoy your life to the fullest. Congratulations!!!!!!!

With all our love,
Mom and Dad
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Amanda,

We love you. Always SMILE, and NEVER lose sight of your dreams. Congratulations!

Love,
Dad, Devin, & Dillyn

Monica Lyn,

You are so special, and we are so very proud of you. Aim high and never lose sight of your dreams!

Love Ya,
Dad, Mom, Michelle, Megan, & Mindy
Highland Band
Parents
P.O. Box 285 Highland
618-654-2055
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Highland, Il 62249
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