Clubs
114

09

to Eye

People
144

Graduation
194
Eye To Eye
2009 Iris
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With the start of the 2008-2009 school year, students of HHS welcomed new superintendent Mike Sutton to the district. Along with our new superintendent, America welcomed the first African-American President, Barack Obama. With eyes wide open, Freshmen walked the high school halls for the first time. Sophomores focused their eyes on the road; most of them received their driver’s licenses during the school year. While the Juniors were now viewed as upperclassmen, they still had to stare down the upcoming ACT test in April. Seniors’ eyes looked to the future as they prepared for graduation and life after high school. In this year’s Iris, “Eye to Eye”, we looked at our lives through their eyes of our students.
While trying to focus on school, many students still managed to fit other important aspects into their lives. They found time to participate in school productions as well as holding jobs. Homecoming and Prom dances were also a big hit with all of the students. Students interacted socially in and out of school without the stress of teachers and homework.
Students enjoy a football game at the stadium. Most Friday nights the stadium was filled with excited fans.
What We Do After School

By: Erica Maurer & Taylor Tiller

Lindsey Milner, Sr., helps in the high school counselor's office with computer and book work.

Seniors, Bri Deuser and Charis Hobbs help serve ice cream at Faith Countryside Nursing Home.

Lifeguarding at the Korte Rec Center is Brittany Hammel, Sr. Most lifeguards work 4 hour shifts between 5:00 a.m. to 9:00 a.m.
Filing papers at the Special Olympics office are Seniors, Nathan Straeter and Alex Crandall. Students are required to volunteer for extra hours for community service.

Helping a youngster with basic swim skills, Senior lifeguard Alex Bowman uses a kickboard to demonstrate the butterfly kick.

Blake Manville, Sr. uses a pressure washer to wash his car on a nice day. Blake cleaned up cars on most days after school.
"North Face Jackets" 
-Ryan Newton, Sr.

"Peace Signs" 
-Emily Miller, So.

"Scarves" 
-Kayla Kidd, Sr.

Hobbies

IN

"Facebook" 
-Mrs. Simmons

"Hockey" 
-Adam Rose, So.

"Knitting" 
-Logan Frank, So.

OUT

"Halo" 
-Mr. Bradley

"Uggs" 
-Sarah Eilers, Fr.

HOT Twilight

8 Student Life
IN

Music

"Brittany Spears"
- Sami Kampwerth, Sr.

"Jonas Brothers"
- Katie Wendler, Fr.

"Crocs"
- Kelly Fulton, Jr.

"Pajama Pants"
- Devon Dumstorff, Sr.

"Guys in girls pants."
- Dylan Stanek, Jr.

"Whatever I'm wearing."
- Mrs. Nelson

IN

Movies/TV

"Project Runway"
- Mrs. Kloss

"Gossip Girl"
- Nick Lampen, So.

"Stepbrothers"
- Michelle Whaley, Sr.

"One Tree Hill"
- Whitney Zobrist, Jr.

"The Hills"
- Maria Foehner, Fr.

OUT

"Dawson's Creek"
- Katie Henricks, Sr.

"The Hills"
- Maria Foehner, Fr.
Senior, Chris Miles, plays his guitar on the bleachers during his band's bonfire performance. This was the Smokin' Aces's second year performing at the bonfire.

The Sophomores (left) go up against the Juniors (right) during one of the powderpuff games. The rest of the students stood on the sidelines to cheer on on their teams.

Juniors, Taylor Tiller, Tyler Gross, and Jason Scott cheer as our football team scores a touchdown Friday night vs Civic Memorial. The boys won 34-21.

Seniors gather around the Highland flag during half time of the volleyball game.
This year’s homecoming theme was “Beneath the Heavens.” Each day students dressed up in their assigned class attire in order to compete for the spirit stick. The boys threw on their spandex, pulled up their kneepads, and battled in their annual power volleyball tournament. The girls muscled up and got down and dirty in the well-anticipated powderpuff football tournament. Following the event, the Smokin’ Aces, a local band, played for the students as they socialized around a bonfire. Each class built an Asian themed float to display in Wednesday night’s parade. The whole school crowded the stadium Thursday night to support the varsity soccer team. Afterwards everyone filed into the gym to participate in a brand new event, coed dodgeball. At Friday morning’s pep assembly students and teachers participated in high spirited events. The varsity football team beat the Civic Memorial Eagles Friday which put everyone in a celebatory mood just in time for Saturday’s coronation and dance.

The Junior class pretends to “read the paper” while the Senior team is announced before the power volleyball finals. The students were competitive in their battle for the spirit stick.

Coaches, Travis Becherer and Bobby Ostrander huddle up the senior girls to go over their game plan. Both boys played for the varsity football team this year.
Senior, Kristy Frey and Sophomore, Nick Lampen wind down a long night of dancing.

Sophomore, Eric Hempen and his guest participate in a withstanding tradition of pinning a flower to your date for the evening.

An excited group of Freshmen girls, Kara Grunder, Ayn Weis, Elizabeth Foster, Ashley Holtgrave, Kathryn Torre, Shaina Painter, Clare Munie, and Brianna Netemeyer, prepare for their first big high school dance.
After taking group pictures and going out to dinner, students returned to the Asian inspired gym and this year's Homecoming Dance, "Beneath the Heavens." Dragons, pagodas, waterfalls, and bonsai trees transformed all who attended to an oriental paradise. After court members were announced by the faculty King and Queen, Mr. Jim Warnecke and Mrs. Kristie Simmons, Seniors Jacob Strackeljahn and Ariel Frey were crowned as 2008 HHS royalty. The new King and Queen shared a dance and were joined by all court members. "Beneath the Heavens" was a hit.

Sophomore Court: Nick Lampen, Lindsay Compton, Michael Buehne, Christy Balkenbusch, Cassey Leitschuh, Dade Noones, Leah Duncan, and Colin Duft.

Freshman Court: Christian Lee, Katie Lowe, Mikayla Miller, Mark Keeven, Shannon Weiss, Austin Welz.
Caitlin Byrd and Chris Miles

Jordan Duft and Randy Knebel

Briana Gilomen and Gabe Fuehne

Kayla Kidd and Zac Bethel

Katie May and Travis Becherer

Stephanie Short and Josh Lee

Homecoming Court 15
Some of the cast of The Lottery talk amongst themselves while performing at a dress rehearsal.

Kelsey Frey, Sr., Ariel Frey, Sr., and Aaron Biggs, So., perform their skit "Off to College" during What I Wanted to Say.

This year the Fall Play was entitled A Night of One Acts. The actors did two different shows, The Lottery and What I Wanted to Say. Originally published as a short story in the New Yorker Magazine, "The Lottery" was set in a small rural town at the turn of the century. All townspeople were required to participate in the yearly lottery. However, the lucky winner was not lucky at all because he was used as a sacrifice in a dark tradition. "What I Wanted to Say," written by a group of high school students, was a series of different one-act scenes that explored the common human experience of wanting to say one thing while saying something else, or nothing at all. Various scenes included a teacher who corrected students kindly but really felt a different way, and teens who commented on other people's styles and weight, but really lied about how they felt towards their friends.
Josh Weiss, So., and Lynette Chinal, Sr., have a fight onstage during The Lottery. They played a brother and sister who did not get along.

The cast of The Lottery dress in their traditional 1900’s clothing. This performance was the first for many of the actors.


Aaron Biggs, So., Justin Gifford, Jr., and C.J. Knebel, Fr., are three local men in The Lottery.
Tim Osborn, Sr., does his Elvis impersonation. The crowd loved it.

Bailey Bricker, Jr., Dan Grandage, and Nick Zobrist, So., perform a country-western themed song. Each brother tried to get the technicolor coat from their father.

Joseph, Alex Truccano, Jr., portrays an angel. This was Truccano's first lead in an HHS musical.

The Brothers of Joseph and their wives pray for Joseph to come back safely. They felt guilty for sending their brother away.
Band instructor, Mr. Chris Wilson, directed Joseph and the Amazing Technicolor Dreamcoat. The original musical written by Andrew Lloyd Weber, was a story that followed a young man named Joseph, played by Alex Truccano, Jr., who was his father’s favorite son. However, he was loathed by his 11 brothers. Joseph proclaimed that he could interpret dreams, but only his father believed him. His brothers sold him into slavery, and he was taken to Egypt. His spirit was challenged continuously. While in Egypt he was purchased by Potiphar, played by Andrew Copeland, So. Potiphar’s wife landed him in jail with her seductive allure. After some time, his dream interpretations and rumors reached the Pharoah who channeled his inner Elvis Presley, played by Tim Osborn, Sr. Joseph’s brothers, who suffered the whole time Joseph was gone, threw themselves at Joseph’s feet not realizing that he was their brother. Joseph tested their integrity, and then revealed himself. This brought their family back together. The production used many musical styles such as country-western, calypso, bubble-gum pop, and rock-n-roll. All three performances were big hits.

Seniors Brooke Welge and Kelsey Frey narrate the story of Joseph and his brothers. The girls sang their parts as a story.

The chorus cast of Joseph and others from the cast finish off the musical by lifting Joseph over the crowd. The chorus was a group of fifth and sixth grade students from Highland.
The Madrigals have a different story every year. The writers this year were Seniors Jazmin Downing and Britni Snow. Set once again at the royal castle during Christmas, the plot revolved around a mysterious ball of foil. Lord Timothy, played by Tim Osborn, Sr., made it his mission to solve the origin of the ball. There were many arguments between wenches, jesters, lords, ladies, and the king and queen. A brownie, played by Kathryn Krev, Sr., was blamed for the mysterious ball, which turned out to be a crumpled piece of aluminum foil she threw on the ground after eating a sandwich. At the end, the Madrigals sang a traditional farewell song to the Seniors. The cast was filled with actors from all grades playing many of the various roles. Throughout the year, the Madrigals also performed at the December faculty meeting and for senior citizens at the nursing home. They sang a Christmas medley at the opening of a new Bed and Breakfast in Greenville. Mrs. Lori Reubhausen was the director in charge of leading the Madrigal singers through another successful year.

Samantha Kineke, So., Kathleen Bean, So., Deborah Oldenkamp, Sr., and Emily Lemanski, So., perform in Greenville at a Renaissance Festival.

The Madrigals take a group picture at the annual Renaissance Festival.
Kathryn Krev, Sr., watches in fright as Lord Timothy reveals that she is to blame for the aluminum foil ball.

Seniors, Justin Louvier, Brooke Welge, Tim Osborn, Cami Kennet, and John Nigglie perform at the annual Renaissance Festival held in Kansas City, Missouri.

Ray Fromme, Sr., Morgan Cundall, So., Dylan Stanek, Jr., Samantha Campos, So., and Logan Wolfe, So., sing at the Renaissance Festival. Madrigal singers are required to show emotion while they sing.


Madrigals  21
Performing to "The Typewriter Song", secretaries, Gail Braundmeier, Sherry Fletcher, Sue Schatte, Dena Henricks, and Donna Munie break out their typing skills.

Cindy Tolbert and Jill Klosterman dance to "Dancing Queen." Both teachers were from the Highland Upper Elementary.

Heidi Fredericksen, playing Paula Abdul from American Idol, smiles while waiting for the show to start.


22 Student Life
Full of laughter, joy, and embarrassment, The No Talent Talent Show had students on the edges of their seats. The show was an opportunity for teachers to show how talented they really were, or were not. Teachers from the Upper Elementary, Middle School, High School, and the administration participated in the show this year. The highlight was Ms. McClellan, Mrs. Hoepfner, Mrs. Barr, Mrs. Simmons, Mrs. Kloss, and Ms. Linard performing to “Single Ladies” by Beyonce. Students also enjoyed Mr. Hirsch and Mr. Holt performing to “Little Ron, Big Ron.” In this act Mr. Hirsch was Mr. Holt’s puppet. All teachers and administration were very honored by the number of students who showed up to watch the show. Many students received extra credit in their classes for attending if they got a performer’s signature. All proceeds benefited the charity, The Angel Fund. The performers of the No Talent Talent Show practiced many times to perfect their performances for the crowd that night.

Mrs. Meyer as Simone Cowell and Mr. Thomas as Randy Jackson were the judges of Highland’s American Idol.

The Math Department, Katie Walker, Joel Hawkins, Angie Powers, Valerie Kimmie, Margie Duncan, Deb Massey, and Jeanie Probst, along with Sam Weber, dance and sing to “Driving in a Car with Fred.”
Coffeehouse Cabaret
By: Sami Kampwirth

Alex Sutterfield, So., performs with The Barbershop Quartet Club. They performed a baseball themed song and a small skit within the song.

Samantha Campos, Jr., Cassandra White, So., and Kelsey Frey, Sr., perform with the jazz choir. They sang a song called "Java Jive".

This year there was a wide variety of musical talents and short skits at the Coffeehouse Cabaret. Many students chose to play instruments such as guitar and piano. Also on display were art pieces that students created throughout the year. Cabaret featured The House Band: Shayde. Members included Eric Stoff, Sr., Lucas Winkler, Jr., and Sam Pellock, Jr. The Masters of Ceremonies for the evening were the Three Nerd Herd with Seniors Tim Osborn, Jacob Strackeljahn, and Josh Lee. The night followed the Three Nerd Herd and their quest to find girlfriends. After practicing pick-up lines and going through the C.O.O.L Machine, the boys found their new girlfriends to be among the faculty from HHS. Mrs. Margie Duncan, Mrs. Amy Kloss, and Mrs. Mary Jackson were recognized as their "hot" new girlfriends. Performances included Acappella choir, Jazz choir, and the newly formed Barbershop Quartet. All of the money and benefits went to the Highland Food Pantry.
Brooke Welge, Sr., sings a solo. She also participated in singing with the Jazz and Acapella choirs.

Nick Zobrist, So., and Megan Jakel, Jr., perform a song from Aladdin. Where Megan sang Aladdin’s part and Nick sang Jasmine’s part.

Sophomore Halie Miller shows her skill at playing piano. Many students used instruments to showcase their talents.

Seniors Tim Osborn, Josh Lee, and Jacob Streckeljohn stand in front of their C.O.O.L Machine. This machine was used to make them "hot."
With the heart of downtown St. Louis as their backdrop, Senior couple Devon Dumstorff and Christine Noones stop at the fountain.

On the ride back from Bella Milano, Juniors, Garrett Meier and Alec Perfetti act like bandits.

Prior to dinner at Maggiano's, Bailey Bricker, Jr., Mitchell Moenster, Fr. Dylan Parker, So., Britni Diesen, Jr., Austin Potthoff, Jr., Fallon Poettker, Jr., Megan Jakei, Jr., Josh Hale, Jr., and Rebecca Braundmeier, Jr., met at Fallon Poettker's.
On April 25th, with the Greek Gods looking on, the Juniors and Seniors of HHS were found making preparations for prom. The day was action-packed with appointments, and the evening proved to be a night of great fun. During the day, girls raced from nail appointments to hair appointments to makeup appointments and then slipped into their dazzling dresses. Of course, the boys waited until the last minute to put on their tuxes. And then, as expected they complained about the ties and the fit. After pictures, groups hopped into limos, party buses, and cars to start the night. Returning to Highland, they entered the Knights of Columbus Hall and stepped into a Grecian Garden, surrounded by Greek statues, ivy, and the twinkle of white lights. The first page of the evening was about to be turned, and the page that held a night of dancing and activities that would be forever cherished was about to be written.
As limos, Hummers, buses, and cars rolled into the Knights of Colombus Hall, a long night of dancing was ahead for the students of Highland High School. The hall was decorated with orchids, ivy, and Grecian architecture on the walls and tables. Students looked forward to the music from Hot 104.1 DJ’s. This was all thanks to Jesse Vincent, Jr., who entered a song-writing contest. The song had to be about drunk driving, and Jesse won! This meant that Hot 104.1 would send two DJ’s to Highland’s Prom on April 25. Song favorites were “On a Boat” and the remix tribute to Rock ‘n’ Roll. Seniors enjoyed sharing their very last dance of their high school careers with their classmates. Juniors were excited to attend their first Prom. The select Sophomores and Freshmen, dates of the upperclassmen, got a taste of what Prom will be like for them in a few years. Randy Knebel, Sr., said, “The highlight of my night was when Mrs. Twyford jumped in the middle of everyone and danced with all of us.”
Having fun at the dance are Nicole Wiegand, Jr. and Tony Hanlon, Sr.

Seniors Brittany Hammel and Brad Merkle pose together after being crowned Prom King and Queen.

The DJs from 104.1 keep the music going all night long.

HHS Students take advantage of the great music and dance.
All students at Highland High School made their own personal adjustments throughout the years. Underclassmen tried to adjust to the new aspect of block scheduling and different teachers. Upperclassmen looked into plans for the future after high school. There were many great classes that appealed to each student's interests such as Medical Occupations, Floral Design, and TV & Radio. Yet, students still had to attend the required core classes each year. Freshman, Troy Nave, said, "The variety of classes at Highland helps me feel more comfortable and well-prepared for college." Sometimes students found themselves struggling to keep their eyes open in class, but they knew focusing on their grades and studies would benefit them in the end.
Ryan Keller, Jr., watches as his group members, Sam Pellock, Jr., and Mary Reagan, Jr., work in Mrs. Martz's Honors English III class.
The classes in the Agriculture Department varied from horticulture and landscaping, to crop production and raising animals. Mrs. Jackson, Mr. Schmitz, Mr. Jones, and Mrs. Barr were all teachers in this department. Students were able to interact with others by doing projects such as making floral arrangements, learning how to judge livestock, and growing plants in the greenhouse. These classes all prepared students for the future and taught them how to manage an agriculture related business.

What class from the agriculture department would you recommend?
“I would recommend floral design, because you get to be creative in making flower arrangements.” Kaci Ehlers, Sr.

Why did you decide to take an agriculture class?
“Because I grew up around farming so it comes easy to me.” Andrea Hosto, Jr.

What do you like most about this department?
“I like all the teachers and that we don’t have a lot of homework.” Ben Sparlin, Fr.
Jared Hatton, Sr., uses the welding torch to complete a class assignment. In this class, they made a variety of different things, such as barbecue grills.

Tony Zajac, Sr. and Jordan Mettler, Jr. work together, using a cutting torch. They use it to cut metal for a project.

Welding is offered as part of the Industrial Arts program. All of the classes in this department are related to mechanics and machinery services. This learning takes place in the classroom, wood shop, metal shop, and on the site at the building trades house.

What is your favorite part about the welding department?
"I like doing hands-on projects the best." Jake Bosen, Jr.

What tools did you learn to work with?
"I learned how to use a welding torch and plasma cutter." Devin Randall, Jr.

What do you like best about this class?
"It doesn’t involve a lot of homework because it all has to be done in class." Jordon Frerker, Fr.
The marching band faced one of its toughest years ever. Director, Clay Dugger, decided to place the band in field show competitions for the first time in ten years. The Marching Bulldogs were skeptical at first, but then took it on as a new challenge to perform their routine, “From the Ashes.”

The band practiced nearly 300 hours to compete in field shows. In the first competition at Edwardsville High School, they earned 5th place. Their last two field competitions took place on the same day. The first was at Newton High School, and the second at Effingham High School. The band won 3rd place at both competitions and brought home two new trophies. The band also competed in a parade at the University of Illinois and placed 7th.
What was your most memorable moment during band? "The feeling of walking on the field for the first time at Edwardsville." Christine Keltner, So.

Why did you decide to join band? "Because I love music and I enjoy taking a break from the rest of my day." Lauren Miller, Fr.

What is your favorite part of being in band? "Mr. Dugger's hilarious quotes." Josh Amman, Sr.

"It doesn't require homework." Thomas Korte, Fr.

What do you enjoy most about band? "Being around music and my band buddies." Logan Wolf, So.
The Business Department provided many opportunities for students to set foot into the business world. TV and Radio class spent a majority of the year filming documentaries for local organizations while students in the JILG program raised awareness inside the high school walls and gave back to the community. Many students filled the computer labs and learned the basics of accounting. Others spent time with Microsoft Office and Web Design. Co-operative education was also an alternative choice for some seniors. It allowed students to come to school for half the day, while the other half was spent at a job assigned at the beginning of the year. Students learned to become comfortable with computers in Mrs. Wolfe’s Word Processing class.

Learning how to prepare power points are Cody Morton, So. and Kray Landman, Fr.
It was an eventful year for Chorus members. They kicked off the year early when the Acapella and Madrigal Choir traveled to Kansas City, Missouri to take part in the Renaissance Festival. This was the tenth year the choir attended. The mixed choir had a total of three concerts: Christmas, mid-winter, and spring. The Christmas performance delivered holiday cheer, while the spring concert honored the dressed-up Seniors with flowers. At State the All-Girls Choir placed with a second. The Acapella and Jazz Choirs finished with superiors. The Madrigals performed at the yearly dinner while many of our students showcased their talent at the Coffee House Cabaret. Senior Maryssa Beckman said, "Choir was a great choice for me in high school, because I made so many friends."
English classes were set up to appeal to many interests. Freshmen sailed through their year as they reviewed basic grammar. Sophomores pulled hair out as they analyzed Julius Caesar. After turning in the dreaded research paper, weight was lifted off the Juniors’ shoulders. Seniors were assigned an endless number of papers. Students of Literature and Hollywood and Science Fiction kicked off their shoes while they watched and then analyzed films. International debate researched, discussed, and argued world issues. Students advanced their presentation skills in Public Speaking, and Greek Mythology students learned about gods and goddesses.

What is your favorite part about English?
“'The blow pops you get when you complete a contract”
-Mitch Cunningham, Sr.

International Debate staged a press conference. Seniors Devon Dumstorf and Alina Poskin represented two different countries, Kari Kooopmah Jr., and Mrs. Swank take notes.

In pathways, freshmen Lauren Beckman, Dannyelle Braundreier, and Jacob Bush researched for their future careers.
Students made their mark on Highland at 401 North Harvest Court. Beginning with a simple design on paper, students used raw materials to construct a modern house. Under the guidance of Mr. Bruce Deibert, they browsed occupations and broke ground. Using the hands-on learning method, students mastered carpentry, painting, concrete work, and drywall. Second semester work on the house continued. Students learned how to plan a job and developed appropriate work behaviors. In order for the house to be finished by the end of the year, some students volunteered to work after school. All proceeds from the house were put back into the Construction Trade fund for next year.

What is your most memorable moment of Construction Trades?

"Noah Haukap falling through the roof of the garage."

-Tyler Gross, Jr.
In the Math Department, students accomplished another year of learning. From binomials to slopes and angles, math was taught for students to use in everyday life. Welcomed into the department this year were Mrs. Powers and Mrs. Ayer. On March 14, National Pi Day, the students celebrated math with oatmeal cream pies.

What's the hardest math class that you have taken?

"Pre Calc, no doubt!" Andy Reutiman, Jr.

What's your favorite part about this subject?

"Bathroom breaks." Tim Friedel, Jr.

What's the easiest assignment that you have had this year?

"When we had a math crossword puzzle." April Lauchner, Jr.

Tiffany Potthast and Katherine Mueller, Sophomores, work quietly on the math problems assigned to them by Mrs. Massey. They studied their notes to prepare them for the Algebra tests.

Juniors, Mallory Frey, Lukas Korte, Andy Reutiman, Tenor Kapp, Ryan Keller, and David Ammann, work together on Pre Calc homework for Mrs. Watts. This gave the students time to get a better understanding of the lesson.

Juniors, Becca Braundmeier and Taylor Cippichio, help each other during Mrs. Watt’s Honors Pre Calc class. The two friends practiced problems and compared answers.
A lab group records their observations and works together quietly. In Mrs. Basden’s Class, labs gave students a better understanding of biology.

In Mrs. Mertes’ class, Sophomores take notes in addition to learning about the Periodic Table. In her Biology class the students completed many labs.

Science: “A department of systematized knowledge that is an object of study of the natural sciences.” (Merriam Websters Dictionary). This department broadened the views of students by introducing them to future careers of science. Students explored the world of science by working in labs. They found this to be a learning experience, while still having fun.

Is Honors Chemistry hard, why?

“I don’t think it’s hard; it can be at times. Mrs. Basden makes it easy!” Sierrah Oldenkamp, So.

What’s your favorite part about science?

“All the experiments that we get to do.” Jess Gibbs, So.

What’s the easiest assignment you have had this year?

“The Safety Lab Assignment was really easy!” Sarah Randle, So.
From ceramics to painting, the students in Mrs. Burns' class enjoy a block of expressing themselves through their artwork. One of the great aspects of this class compared to others is that students can listen to music and get advice from others all while working on their individual project. Mrs. Burns, an experienced art teacher, offers inspiration and suggestions to everyone. In addition, there are also after school art programs in this department that students can be involved in.

**Why did you take art?**
"I took art because it's better than any other electives." Travis King, Jr.

**What department of art do you like best?**
"I like ceramics, because I think it's easy to mold things." Dylan Madron, Jr.

**What is your favorite thing about art?**
"My favorite thing is talking with the people at my table." Cassie Becker, Jr.

Dylan Madron, Jr., refers to a book for help with his work. Art students enjoy having no homework.
Juniors Ashley Nicoloff and Colleen Cahalan work together to complete a history assignment. Ms. Kay's AP U.S. History class worked on an assignment called "Meet the Press" where students pretended to be people from history.

Hayley Ridall, Fr., sits quietly, working on her homework in Mrs. Beyer's class. In this class the students colored maps to show differences in the time period.

Josh King, Sr., and Jesse Vincent, Jr., work on a group assignment during class.

Everything was covered this year in the social studies department from Pre-Greek civilizations to current day events that affect today's history. Juniors really focused this year on passing the constitution test, a requirement for graduation. There were also credits to be earned from electives such as geography, sociology, government, and many more. Memorization, researching, and reading were vital parts of all Social Studies classes.

What is the hardest history class you have taken?
"A.P. Euro, because of the tests."
Megan Kujawa, So.

What is your favorite Social Studies class?
"Economics, because it's dealing with money."
Tim Friedel, Jr.

Who has been you're favorite teacher in the Social Studies Department?
"Ms. Kay, because she's fun and keeps the class interesting...and she plays the piano," Andrea Hosto, Jr.
Me gusta Español! A popular elective this year was Spanish because teachers made it interesting. Spanish class was filled with oral presentations, movies, and bookwork. Spanish was offered in four different levels. Levels three and four received college credit through SWIC. All Spanish students learned vocabulary, grammar, and culture. Each year built on the information learned the previous year. However, even though Spanish students were required to learn things, they still enjoyed class. Spanish teacher knew how to mix learning and fun.
The 2008-2009 school year was the last for Mrs. Elaine Thebus. She taught French and Spanish at Highland High School for 24 years. As our only French teacher at, Mrs. Thebus made her students focus on vocabulary, grammar, and culture, but she always taught class in an innovative way. French was offered in levels one, two, and three. Throughout the years at HHS Mrs. Thebus made many connections with students and other teachers. Mrs. Deets, a coworker and friend of Mrs. Thebus said, “Mrs. Thebus has been one of my best friends through out the years we have worked together. We will all miss her crazy stories and her fun personality.” One thing is for sure, Mrs. Thebus impacted on everyone around her. “Mrs. Thebus left a few words for her students.” I hope you always remember Mrs. D.R. Vandertramp, Madame Deslande, and listen to Edith Piaf on your iPODS”
The Home Economics Department prepared students for life on their own. Foods classes celebrated Thanksgiving together by cooking a meal fit for a king. The classes were assigned dishes and the entire meal was conquered in less than two hours. Advanced students took a field trip to Patty Cakes where they watched, owner, Patty Jacoby decorate a wedding cake. New clothing classes were offered by Mrs. Leslie Taylor to her advanced students. Tailoring classes selected patterns and adjusted them to their body types. They completed their wool jackets just in time for winter and started formal dresses for prom. Child and Daycare worked one on one with elementary and primary students. They helped children with reading, writing, and assisted teachers by making copies and preparing arts and crafts.
Leading warm-ups Tony Hanlon Sr. demonstrates the proper way to do sit-ups.

Heads Up! The gymnasium was a war zone this year. The age old struggle between lower and upper classmen continued onto the dodgeball court. Students put blood and tears into every game. Besides playing traditional dodgeball, students showed their athletic ability in other games and in the weight room. Conditioning classes pumped iron to achieve their maximum weights while regular physical education classes combined their math and P.E. skills at High Top Bowling Alley. Scoreboards were shut off and students calculated their scores by hand. They took their yearly field trip to Highland Fun Park where they practiced putting. Students suited up for water aerobics at the Highland Korte Recreation Center, where they swam laps and did water aerobics.
The athletic program was a proud and very large part of Highland High School. No matter the weather, sport, or location, Highland teams always had a student fan section following them to each game. Fall was host to an outstanding varsity football season, boy’s soccer and girl’s golf. The bitter winter cold hosted the girl’s basketball team’s exciting playoff run along with fans a.k.a. the “Camo Crew”. The dance team and cheerleading squad defended their state titles. Varsity softball ended the 11-year drought against Triad by beating them in a one-run game, while girl’s soccer won the Highland tournament. This year’s teams left with a bang and big shoes to fill for next year’s upcoming athletes.
After stealing second base, Corey Gall, Jr. dusts himself off.
Although the Cross Country team had some setbacks, their season was still successful. The team was made up for ten girls and 15 boys. However, the boys managed to get 2nd at Conference, 3rd at Regionals, and 8th at Sectionals. The Girls' Cross Country Team received 3rd at Conference, 4th at Regionals, and 19th at Sectionals. Coach Doug Bradley said, “We had a very competitive boys’ team this season and we will greatly miss our four graduating seniors.” He also said, “The girls team may have been small in number but we had a ton of fun.” Overall the season was filled with memories that none of the runners will ever forget.

Alex McCloud, Chris Weidner, Tyler Weis, Dominic Cicchchio, Landon Goldstein, Eric Stoff, and Nathan Oliveria admire their latest trophy.
Katelyn Denap, Fr., Ariel Strasser, Sr., Jamie Hundsdorfer, Fr., Emily Comish, Fr., Alanna White, Fr., Missy Walter, Jr., and Mary Komeshak, Jr., start their race at a good speed.

Jamie Hundsdorfer, Fr., pushes herself to get in front of her opponent at a meet.

Brenton Kastelein Senior

Emily Comish Freshman

Nathan Oliveria Junior

What are you going to miss most about Cross Country?

What do you think about while you run?

What was your favorite moment of the season?

"The long runs and the time to think."

"At competitions I think about the people around me."

"Getting a personal record at Triad."
Kristin Randant  
Senior

What will you miss most about high school golf?

"I'll miss the feeling of being part of a team."

Codi Gramlich  
Freshman

How was your first year of high school golf?

"It was fun, especially getting to know the people. The practices were hard to get used to at first."

Ashley Wellen  
Sophomore

What did you like best about the season?

"We were a good group and almost went undefeated."

Preparing to swing, Senior, Katie Henricks concentrates on her shot. She was a key member to the success of the team this year.

Below, Emily Michael, Fr., and Hayley Welz, So., wait to begin their round. The Regional competition was held at the Highland Country Club.
The Girl's Golf team, coached by Mrs. Gina Hirsch, had a fantastic season. They jumped started their season, winning the Conference. Following that, they earned 2nd at Regionals. They also won the Par 3 tournament at Yorktown, in Belleville, and placed first at the Mascoutah Invitational. The team worked to prepare themselves all year in hopes of making it to State. Junior, Megan Jakel, and Senior, Sarah Frasier, both qualified. This was a great achievement in the history of the girl's golf program. At State, Jakel placed 39th and Frasier placed 61st. The Belleville News Democrat recognized Coach Hirsch's talents by naming her the 2008 Coach of the Year. Following through, Sophomore, Hayley Welz strikes the ball. The girls spent many hours perfecting their golf skills in the fairway and on the green.

Maddy Michael, Sr., takes her time to concentrate and sink the putt.

"Excellence is no accident"
-Coach Gina Hirsch
The Boys' Golf team had another outstanding season. With only nine golfers they all showed leadership and accomplished many goals. This year the team only had one senior, Michael Trobaugh. Their season was a good start when Brenden Bargetzi took home 1st place at the O'Fallon Tournament. At Conference the team placed second and were looking straight ahead to State.

The competition was tough, but in the end it was a success. Nick Italiano placed in the 80's and Brenden Bargetzi's score was in the 70's. This was an impressive placement for the two players. The score for the season was 10-8 and the coaches, Mr. Houchins and Mr. Hughes, were proud at such a great turn out!
Coach Hughes gives the team encouragement and pointers before the big day. Hughes and Houchins were a big support to this year's golf team success.

Nick Italiano, Michael Trobaugh, Brenden Bargetzi, Alec Perfetti, and Michael Boyer show off their award after winning the Tamarac Tournament.

Brenden Bargetzi Junior
What's your most memorable moment?
"When I got a hole in one at the O'Fallon Tournament."

Michael Boyer Junior
What is a goal you achieved this year?
"Having someone different from the team go to state."

Alec Perfetti Junior
What is your most memorable moment?
"The car ride to regionals."
Hayley Peters
Sophomore

What was your favorite part of the season?

“Winning the Edwardsville JV Tournament!”

Amber Rode
Sophomore

What do you think about during the game?

“What I need to focus on and accomplish next.”

Kristin Frey
Sophomore

What is your favorite part of the game?

“After I make a kill.. we get Blizzards!”

JV members get in serve receive position during a game against Triad. Although the team fell twice to Triad this season they battled hard their last game falling short after three matches.

Kayla Gruner, So, pass a ball during warm up to prepare for the upcoming game. Kayla along with teammate, Cheyenne Miranda, were key essentials to the JV’s defense serving as the team’s liberos.
"This group of girls was very fun and exciting to watch because they played with so much fire and emotion," said Coach Tammy Manhart. The season ended with a winning season record for both conference, 6-4, and overall, 16-9. This junior varsity team of all freshmen and sophomores had no complaints. Their biggest accomplishment for the season was winning the Edwardsville tournament.

"We played with great passion and played consistent for five straight matches defeating some good teams" said Coach Manhart as she reflected back on the great triumph. In addition to this win the team placed 2nd at the O’Fallon tournament falling to Freeburg, 15-21; 11-21. Coach Manhart said, "I feel very confident about next season and the future of Highland volleyball knowing what this group has to offer."

The JV team worked hard this season to obtain a winning record of 16-9 but they always made time for some fun. Here the sophomores all show off.

"Good teams become great ones when the members trust each other enough to surrender the "me" for "WE".

-Monica Stumpf
"This season was a season of learning and gaining experience," said head coach Tammy Manhart as she reflected on the season. With only three returning Varsity players the Lady Bulldogs battled through many struggles to end their conference season with a 4-6 record. According to the coach, the team's biggest accomplishment was the girls' solidarity at the Pumpkin Smash Tournament held at the Belleville Sport Complex on October 17 and 18. "We played some of our best volleyball during that tournament with a 3-2 record. In the two games that we lost, we fought hard and played competitive volleyball," said Coach Manhart. The team ended up placing 9th out of 16 teams that weekend. The Varsity team also ranked 5th at both the Mater Dei and Granite City Tournaments. Although the season was full of ups and downs the girls bonded together to end the season with a 9-21 overall record. Coach Manhart said, "I feel good about next season with this year of experience and the addition of some younger players we should get back to where we want to be."
Middle hitter, Amber Koch, Jr., goes up for an attack while teammate Chelsey Henschel, Jr., waits behind for the coverage. Amber was a leading force this year at the net with 137 kills.

Monica Stumpf, So., goes in for a pass while warming up for one of the home games. This was Monica's first year playing varsity and she made her mark having a match high of 14 defensive digs at Mascoutah.

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What do you do to get ready for games?

“I listen to music. Paper Planes is my favorite.”

What was the best part of the season?

“When we won four straight games.”

How do you feel the season will be next year?

“Successful.”

While some kept the passing game on the ground, Garret Meier, Jr., preferred to pass back and forth with his head.
The JV Boys Soccer season proved to be a successful one. The team worked together to finish with a record of 7-4-3. Their hard work paid off when they went on a four game winning streak. The team spent a majority of practice on individual skills and footwork. When asked about the season, Coach Scott Cloin said, "We all agreed that we were here to have a good time with the season. When we won, we had a good time, so I'd say we definitely had a good time with the season." When the team wasn't playing a game, they were on the field practicing. Between the structured ball exercises and the running, the players improved on many levels.

Score board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Centralia</td>
<td>W 3-1</td>
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<tr>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>W 4-3</td>
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<tr>
<td>Belleville West</td>
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<td>Triad</td>
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<tr>
<td>Jerseyville</td>
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<td>Columbia</td>
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<td>Waterloo</td>
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<td>Mascoutah</td>
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<td>Collinsville</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mascoutah</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"I was very satisfied with the growth and strength this team showed me this year."

Coach Scott Cloin

First Row: Nick Daeborg, Austen Happold, Kevin Kimmle, Clayton Wilke, Ryan Bowman. Second Row: Josh Rinderer, Reed Happold, Terence Dankoy Third Row: Troy Nave, Logan Daily, Cameron Cagel, Jordan Frecker
The soccer season was a success with 18 wins, six loses, and one tie. Returning coach, Brent Knebel couldn’t be more proud of the team’s winning season. Aside from their outstanding record, the boys won both the Waterloo and CYC tournaments as well as taking the Regional Championship, and making it all the way to the Sectional Finals. Out of all these achievements, Coach Knebel stated, “Our biggest accomplishment was the team coming together and playing as a whole, with one goal in mind, winning.” This is exactly what this talented group did. Knebel’s philosophy was to “always play a physical game, but play fair.” The Seniors played a big role in bringing the team together. Each one of them helped each other as well as coaching the underclassmen. Although it’s going to be hard seeing the Seniors go, Coach Knebel is confident that next season will be a success with the return of several key players including Dakota Gilbert, Jr. who placed third in the MVC in goals and scoring, as well as Trey Plocher, Jr., who led the MVC in saves at goal.

Zac Bethel, Sr. sprints to the win the ball. This was Zac's fourth year as a member of the varsity team.

Jacob Strackeljahn, Sr., works to defend the goal as Trey Plocher, Jr., gets ready in the goal. Both Plocher and Strackeljahn have played on the varsity team since they were Freshmen.

Was anyone or anything an inspiration to you?

"Garrett Meier, just spend one day with him."

What is your favorite part of the game?

"Right after we score to take the lead, everyone is super psyched!"

Do you have a pre-game ritual?

"We have a team huddle in the middle of the field before the game to pump us up."

Lucas Winkler  
Junior

Jacob Strackeljahn  
Senior

Andrew Thompson  
Senior

Varsity Boys Soccer  63
Ashley Nicoloff  
Junior

How do you warm up before a match?
"I practice my serves and hit balls around."

Jordan Duft  
Senior

Is it hard to balance school and tennis?
"At times, you just have to be organized."

Kathy Rausch  
Sophomore

What is your least favorite part of practice?
"When we don’t get critiqued."

Valerie Strasser, Fr., steps back as she anxiously awaits the return of her hit while a Triad opponent waits for her point to begin.

Team members, Lauren Miller, Fr., Kathy Rausch, So., and Valerie Strasser, Fr., smile as they show off their trophies from the Highland Invitational.
The 2008 Girls Tennis team had a nice season. The girls began in August with practices and continued throughout the first quarter. This season, the team got to work with a new assistant coach, Matt Pellock. The girls felt he was an excellent addition to the team and prepared them well for their matches. Overall the team went 8-6 and placed 3rd in the Mississippi Valley Conference. Another award they earned was the Sportsmanship Award at Edwardsville Sectionals. It was also at Edwardsville that Senior members Jordan Duft and Alex Rinderer were just a tie breaker away from going to the Illinois State Championship. The girls ended the season with the annual team sleepover.

Sophomores Jessica Callahan and Jazmin Olivares have fun on a long bus ride to Waterloo.

Senior, Jordan Duft runs to return a ball to her awaiting opponent. Duft was this year's number one player.

"Love means nothing to a tennis player."  
- Jordan Duft


Score board

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<tr>
<td>Gibault</td>
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Football Cheerleading

By: Erica Maurer

The football cheerleaders started off their season with a one day camp filled with stunting, yelling, and sharp motions. This camp prepared them for the long season where they cheered at football games and pep rallies. Being part of the cheerleading squad also included many fundraisers such as selling doughnuts and pizzas and hosting a cheer camp for grade school girls. Missing practice is a big issue for cheerleaders. "You can't practice when someone is missing, because if everyone in your stunt group isn't there, you can't stunt," said Senior, Kristee Elliott.

Mariah Miranda, Fr.
Amber Donnelly, Fr. Alex Kopp, Fr. Rachael Brown, Fr. Alayna Gillespie, So. Logan Frank, So. Paige Micheletto, Fr. and Allison Miller, Fr., huddle for warmth on a cold day.

“Cheer full out or not at all”
-Coach Sherri Eveland

Hillary Zitta, So., Taylor Tiller, Jr., Erica Maurer, Jr., Kristee Elliott, Sr., and Lindsey Compton, So. before the Waterloo game at Highland.

Cheering at a Saturday JV football game are Sophomores Alana Gillespie and Hillary Zitta. Not only did the football cheerleaders cheer at Varsity games but they did at JV and Freshman games as well.
Performing for the crowd are the football cheerleaders. This was their "Hello" cheer.

Cheerleaders show off some of their stunts with the Bulldog Mascot.

Kristee Elliott
Senior

What was an inspiration for you?

"When people get into the game. It inspires me to cheer"

Hillary Zitta
Sophomore

Do you have a pre-game ritual?

"Stretch, jump, and warm up stunts."

Logan Frank
Sophomore

What do you think about during the game?

"What cheer is going to be next."
Jordan Holtgrave
Junior

How do you feel the season will go next year?

“We did well, but next year we will be better.”

Kevin Keeven
Junior

What was your favorite part about football this year?

“When Warnecke yelled at Majerus.”

Grant Holt
Sophomore

What was the best moment of the season?

“Beating Mascoutah.”

The Bulldog defense works to prevent Belleville West from taking the lead.

Hands up! The Bulldogs try to stop the pass as the clock gradually fades to zero.
The JV Football Team had a great year finishing with an overall record of 6-2. Coach Jim Warnecke Sr. emphasized the importance of teamwork which led to a winning season. He also said, "The primary focus of the Junior Varsity football program was not to have an undefeated season, but rather to prepare for the upcoming challenges that await over the next year, and for some, the next two." The team managed to defeat Mascoutah which gave them the momentum needed to finish the season strong. There was a lot of potential and size on the team which will be a great asset next year.

After scoring, Kevin Keeven, Jr. readies the ball as Andy Reutman, Jr. prepares to attempt the extra point.

James Range, Jr. lowers his shoulder and drives through a defender as he works the ball up the field.

"You never know when a player will shine his brightest."
-Jim Warnecke Sr.

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<td>W 35-28</td>
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<td>Centralia</td>
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<td>Civic Memorial</td>
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<td>W 35-16</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mascoutah</td>
<td>W 32-14</td>
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</table>

The pregame huddle was a ritual as the team prepared themselves for their competition.
Highland’s elite eleven stepped onto the field with determination running through their veins this season. The Bulldogs took their competitors by storm; it was one exciting season. They placed 2nd in Conference. We have not seen success like this since 1989 when we went to the state semi-finals, won Conference and went to the Elite Eight in 2001. In the first round of playoffs, they faced long time rivals the Triad Knights. Behind in the final seconds of the fourth quarter, Bobby Ostrander scored a touchdown ending a five year losing streak to the Knights, and advancing the team to the second round of playoffs against Decatur. They faced the Generals on our home field on a rainy Saturday afternoon. Highland had the lead until the fourth quarter when Decatur advanced for the win. The Bulldogs efforts did not go unappreciated “I am super proud of the effort the kids gave; they worked their tails off,” said Coach Ron Holt. The team ended with a winning season of 7-4, placed 2nd in conference, and above all raised the bar for the 2010 varsity football team.

Score board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Score</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Belleville West</td>
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<tr>
<td>Marion</td>
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<td>W 40-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>W 49-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>W 34-21</td>
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<td>Triad</td>
<td>L 32-15</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerseyville</td>
<td>W 35-14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Charleston</td>
<td>W 40-7</td>
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<tr>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>W 26-21</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Decatur</td>
<td>L 15-14</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"This year’s team got better as the year went on, and we will always remember the playoff victory over Triad."

Coach Ron Holt

First Row: T. Davis, H. Seeger, K. Lane, B. Ostrander, T. Bechere, E. Shimer, C. Conner, J. Knackstedt, T. Zajac
Third Row: R. Kloss, M. Stearns, B. Pearman, D. Bugger, R. Cornell, J. Broadhurst, J. Range, M. Buehne, B. Ohren
Fourth Row: A. McCubbins, M. Murphy, J. Majerus, T. Donaldson, K. Keeven, D. Kurz, D. Korte, J. Holtgrave, S. Jansen
Sixth Row: Coaches Warneke Jr., Warneke Sr., Siever, Lobb Augrin, Gunter, Holt
In a break away move from the Knights are Seniors Hudson Seegers, Bobby Ostrander, and Travis Becherer. The final score was Highland 26 Triad 21.

Seniors, Hudson Seegers and Justin Knackstedt, and Junior, Justin Huelsmann take down the Triad Knights.

Ethan Shimer Senior

What inspires you to play football?

"Everyone in my family plays football, and I plan to play in college."

Tony Zajac Senior

What do you think about during a game?

"Why is the kid across from me so fat?"

Dale Korte Junior

What was your greatest accomplishment during the season?

"Beating Triad."
What do you think about during a match?

"I’m thinking move-to-move."

What was your greatest accomplishment this season?

"Winning all three tournaments."

Do you have any advice for your teammates?

"Don’t quit."

Sophomore Stephen Rensing pins his opponent during this match at one of the team’s two tournaments.

Mitchell Moenster, Fr., shakes his opponent hand before the match.
Wrestling

By: Taylor Tiller

Wrestling took both physical and mental strength, which is just what the team had this year. They pulled out a winning season, and finished with a 15 and 6 record and 2nd in the MVC conference. The team was plagued by injuries and consisted of mainly underclassmen but still managed to send two team members to state, Dylan Madron and Stephen Rensing. The team was led by captains, Ryan Graminski, Sr., and Dylan Mardron, Jr., as well as coach and former HHS wrestler, Jeremiah Knackstedt. Coach Knackstedt said, "Besides having a successful season, two of our athletes qualified for the state finals which was great for our wrestling program." Wrestling was a sport where every second counted and every wrestler played an important role on the team.

McGee Lewis, So., Dustin Rosbourgh, Fr., and Matt Murphey, Jr., sit patiently and wait for their next match.

"I was happy with the way the boys wrestled. It was a fun season and I'm looking forward to next year" - Coach Knackstedt

Score board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Finish</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CM Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>MIT Tournament</td>
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<tr>
<td>West Frankfort Trn.</td>
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<td>12-4</td>
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<td>Triad</td>
<td>12-5</td>
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<td>14-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MVC</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

“We were able to develop players that Coach Elledge could use and had an immediate impact on the Varsity level.”

-Coach Deibert

The JV girls basketball team had a successful season under Coach Bruce Deibert. This team consisted of three juniors, seven sophomores, and just two freshman, but all played very well together despite the age difference. The girls managed to get along as both teammates and friends on and off the court. The JV girls team had the purpose of training the Varsity team and challenging themselves to be at their best level of play. By pushing themselves to reach this goal, the girls were able to make sure that they will be ready for the tough competition once they reach the Varsity level. The ladies finished the season with an overall record of 8-5 and a Conference record of 8-2.


Score board

- Civic Memorial W 57-53
- Triad L 41-46
- Jerseyville W 64-31
- Waterloo W 71-24
- Centralia L 31-36
- Breese Central L 32-35
- Mascoutah W 62-25
- Civic Memorial W 36-15
- Triad L 29-37
- Jerseyville W 71-45
- Sacred Heart L 49-51
- Waterloo W 58-19
- Mascoutah W 40-37
Kayla Martin, So., fakes and drives past her defender in a Junior Varsity win.

Suzi Wessel, So., drives the baseline past two defenders enroute to a basket.

Sarah Trobaugh
Freshman
What was your least favorite part of practice?
All the running we had to do.

Kelsey Zobrist
Sophomore
How did the team get along this season?
We all got along really well all the time, it made the whole season a lot of fun.

Mallory Frey
Junior
What was your favorite memory of the season?
When we got the win over Mascoutah at Mascoutah. We were down by quite a bit and managed to come back.

JV Girls Basketball 75
Knsty Frey
Senior

What is your favorite part about practice?

“When it’s over.”

What do you think about during the game?

“Kristy Frey making all of her threes when I pass to her.”

What is your favorite part about this sport?

“Gathering in the training room and taking ice water baths.”

Katie Hempen
Sophomore

What do you think about during the game?

“Knsty Frey making all of her threes when I pass to her.”

Maddy Michael
Senior

What is your favorite part about this sport?

“Gathering in the training room and taking ice water baths.”

Casey Junge, Sr., goes in for a lay up against Belleville East as her teammates Katie Hempen, So., and Jamie Kloss, Sr., watch.
What was thought to be a year of rebuilding turned into a year of overachieving. From winning the Mississippi Valley Conference to Regional Champs, the HHS Lady Bulldogs have "proven to be a team that never quits," said Coach Matt Elledge. Their journey began when they defeated Triad and kept their four-year reign as MVC champions. From there, the girls took down the state's previously unbeaten and number one ranked team, Quincy Notre Dame. That Thursday night, with only 8.9 seconds on the clock, Sophomore point guard Katie Hempen shot the winning basket to make the triumphant score 42-41. After winning regionals, the team advanced to the next level: sectionals. With their renowned camo cheer squad there to support, the girls took the court at Centralia against the Salem Wild Cats. Together the team took care of the ball and came out with a win that night, 69-55. Later that week, the Mater Dei Knights stopped the Lady Bulldogs on their quest to sectional champs. After going into overtime and with three key players fouled out, the Lady Dogs fell to the Lady Knights in the last nine seconds. With two free throws and an ending score of 69-67, the girls’ aspirations of advancing to state were lost. But the support from their fans remained. Following the emotional loss, the court was flooded with camo and blazing orange apparel as Highland students gathered round to support their team. Although four seniors leave this year, this group of girls will be remembered in Highland girls basketball history forever.

Score board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tournament</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<td>Quincy Notre Dame</td>
<td></td>
<td>W 42-41</td>
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<td>Salem</td>
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<td>W 69-55</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mater Dei</td>
<td></td>
<td>L 69-67</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Go Hard or Go Home."
- Assistant Coach Bruce Deibert

The JV Dance Team celebrated another successful year of achievements and memories. With only eight dancers, the girls worked together and set many goals. In the dance category, the girls performed to an upbeat routine, "Hot Stuff". The competition was tough in this category, but with determination and practice they beat their competitors. The girls consistently placed first with their lyrical routine. It was a favorite to perform for the dancers. In the hip hop category, the dancers showed attitude and fun. It was known as a crowd pleaser to friends, family, and the judges. Hayley Welz, So., and Sierra Price, Fr., stood out to the judges and received the Rising Star Award. At a regional competition, the team's scores allowed them to qualify and head to the next level, finals. The team strived to bring home two firsts, which they did.

Coach Romero was proud to continue being state champs in the dance category along with lyrical. Despite the competition in the beginning of the season, the girls accomplished their main goals. "I'm going to miss the girls this year. We became really close," said Coach Romero.

After a long night of practice, the team gets together for a traditional carbo party. These are held the night before a competition and are used to motivate the girls.

The JV Dance Team
By: Megan Blackburn


Scoreboard
Belleville East Hip Hop-1st Dance-3rd
Belleville Althoff Hip Hop-1st Lyrical-1st Dance-1st.
Triad Hip Hop-1st Lyrical-1st Dance-2nd
Highland Hip Hop-1st Lyrical-1st Dance-1st
Finals Lyrical-1st Dance-1st

"Go out, smile, give them attitude, and have fun!" -Coach Romero
Coach Romero and the team congratulate each other on a well-earned season, which was rewarded with two first place finishes. JV Finals was held in Downers Grove.

Hayley Welz, So., Katelyn Levad, So., Shaina Rittenhouse, So., and Claire Munie, Fr. perform their hip hop routine at the Belleville-Althoff regional. This was one of the girl’s favorite dances while showing off their personalities.

Sierra Price Freshman

What’s the biggest change from middle school to high school dance?

“It puts a little more pressure on you.”

Kaitlyn Levad Sophomore

What’s your favorite category of dance and why?

“Jazz, because it’s the one where you get to use the most energy.”

Hannah Runge Sophomore

What do you think about while competing?

“I think about doing the best I can and helping my team win.”

JV Dance 79
Brianna Netemeyer
Freshman

What is your favorite part of dance team?

"The experience of learning more and meeting new people."

Lyndsey Poettker
Sophomore

Do you feel pressure as a member of the dance team?

"Yes because we are always expected to win."

Lauren Heim
Senior

What are you going to miss the most about dance team?

"The close relationships I've made with the team and Deets."

The Varsity Dance Team performs their lyrical routine "Cannonball" at Senior Night. This dance was one of the team's favorites.
This year the Varsity Dance Team continued its winning streak. The team had an undefeated season that was capped off with three state titles. This was the first time in the State of Illinois that a team won three titles in one year.

AA Lyrical, AA Dance, and AA Hip Hop were the categories the team captured champion in. Also at the state competition the team received the highest score of the day out of 113 performances. This was also a first for Highland’s dance program. All of the team’s success was due to the dedication of the dancers and their coach, Mrs. Michelle Deets. The team started out their season in the summer by attending a UDA summer camp and an IDTA sponsored workshop, “Push the Limit”. After the school year started, the girls practiced every day after school until their state competition in March. The girls competed in many IDTA regionals and the IDTA Super Sectionals leading them to their important competition in March. Besides competing, the team also performed at all home boys’ basketball games in front of a large crowd. They considered this practice for their competitions.

Scoreboard

Belleville East 1st- AA Pom Dance AA Dance AA Lyrical AA Hip Hop
Althoff 1st- AA Pom Dance AA Dance AA Lyrical AA Hip Hop
Triad 1st- AA Pom Dance AA Dance AA Lyrical AA Hip Hop
Highland 1st- AA Pom Dance AA Dance AA Lyrical AA Hip Hop
Super Sectionals 1st- AA Dance AA Lyrical AA Hip Hop
State 1st- AA Dance AA Lyrical AA Hip Hop

"I am extremely proud of my team! We set our goal for three 1st places and achieved it.”

-Coach Michelle Deets

With only five returning members, the boys dance team practically started from scratch. The start of the season was a challenge, but their hard work and dedication was reflected in every performance. They made their presence known at every competition. Because Highland had the only all boy dance team in Illinois, they were quite popular. The Dogs made a star appearance on the Channel 5 News, where they performed their crowd pleasing routine. Seniors Zac Bethel, Aaron Niggli, and Jacob Strackeljahn were asked back for another segment. They learned and performed a dance choreographed by Kenny Ortega, director and choreographer for High School Musical. The team pushed their limits and endured injuries in order to compete. Spending endless hours together perfecting their routine, they became a tight group. The boys took leadership and organized secret practices in order to beat their biggest rivals the girls dance team. They applied their tumbling and stunting skills to their performance. At the Triad competition, they placed 2nd and scored 1.6 points behind the girls. The Dogs wound up their season with a 6th place at Super Sectional.

“They were an amazing group of guys to work with, and I enjoyed every minute.”

-Coach Michelle Deets

The Dogs bring their sense of humor to dance. John Rekowski, Jr., Gage Williams, Sr., and Tim Osborn, Sr., rip off their jackets and reveal their painted-on abs. This was a highlight of their routine.

Scoreboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Place</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Lindbergh</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belleville East</td>
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<tr>
<td>Althoff</td>
<td>3rd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland</td>
<td>2nd</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>O'Fallon</td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
At Super Sectionals, Dade Noones, So., Tim Osborn, Sr., Zac Bethel, Sr., Nathan Trout, Fr., and Cody Conner, Sr., wow the crowd.

Pop, Lock, and Drop it! Nathan Trout, Fr., Kris Yalacki, Fr., and Jacob Strackeljahn, Sr., isolate their shoulders.

What do you think about during a performance?  
"I think about the girls who are watching."

What is one life lesson you learned from dancing?  
"How to communicate with the ladies."

What was your most memorable moment?  
"When we put Dade in the trash can and rolled him across the gym."
Is it hard to balance basketball and school?

"No you just have to manage your school work."

What is your favorite part of the game?

"Fourth quarter, we usually come back and win."

What is your favorite part of the game?

"Warm-up, it gets you ready and pumped for the game."

Mark Keller, Sr., tries to make a basket while two opposing players go for the block.

Junior, Corey Gall, watches his fellow teammate Luke Haberer, Jr., concentrate on a free throw.
Even though they did not post a winning record this year, the JV Basketball team improved their skills in hopes of competing at the Varsity level in the future. The players had many chances to develop the basketball fundamentals needed to compete. JV playing time also provided the players the experience of “game-type” situations on the court.

"The purpose of playing time at the JV level is to provide development for Varsity. We try to play as many (players) as possible to further their development," says Coach Sam Weber. The team also served as the practice team for the Varsity. With the helpful encouragement of Coach Weber, Coach Andy Lobb, and Coach Aaron Due, the players grew as a team.

Score board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
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<tr>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>65-60</td>
<td>65-60</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

First Row: T. Knebel, C. Gall, N. Ammann, M. Keller, and C. Duft

“MV most memorable moment was: Our team working hard every day to get better”
- Coach Weber
With only five returning Varsity players, the basketball team had much practice ahead of them for the season, but they persevered and were successful despite their lack of experience and size. "For the first time in 15 years we won a game in the Christmas tournament," said Coach Todd Strong. The boys also made history during the Optimist shootout as the second team in a decade to win a shootout game. The Dogs took down Mater Dei 57 to 53. After coming off a Mississippi Valley Conference loss, the boys beat Civic Memorial to advance to the Regional Championship where they lost a hard-fought battle to number one ranked Triad in overtime. The boys improved on their game execution from practice, and it paid off at the end of the year in game situations. Their biggest strengths were the cohesion of the team, their work ethic, and their improvement. "They were just a great overall group," Coach Strong said. "This group has been fun to have. I'll miss the seniors next year. We should be very competitive! We have a lot of kids coming back."

"We accomplished more than a lot of people give us credit for; that is a tribute to our kids."

-Todd Strong

Scoreboard

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Record(s)</th>
<th>Score(s)</th>
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<tr>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>L</td>
<td>L 53-57 OT</td>
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</tbody>
</table>
Andy Reutiman, Jr., takes the ball strong to the hoop while Luke Haberer, Jr., waits for a pass. Reutiman and Haberer worked well together this year.

Michael Buehne, So., reaches to grab a loose ball. Buehne started the majority of the games this season.

Trent Donaldson
Sophomore

What is your favorite part about this sport?
"Playing on a Friday night in front of our home crowd."

Andy Reutiman
Junior

What is your favorite part about practice?
"Anything that doesn't require running."

Chris Sudhoff
Senior

How does your coach inspire you?
"To always give 110%, and always give your best."
Kat1e Lowe
Freshman
Favorite part of practice?
“When we finally get a skill we’ve been working on for a long time, or when we finally can go home.”

Micky Wheeler
Sophomore
Least favorite part of practice?
“How long it is, and how we never know what time it will actually be over.”

Stephanie Short
Senior
Favorite part of the season?
“Winning state—the feeling when they announced second and it wasn’t us, so we knew all of our work finally paid off.”

The squad hits a perfect mount at the regional at Highland. The difficulty of this mount along with much more earned the squad first place and qualified them for the championships in Springfield.

Kaylynn Rehberger, Jr., Taylor Tiller, Jr., Alex Crandall, Sr., and Kayla Kidd, Sr., prove that cheerleading is not all about hard work while they have fun cheering on the Bulldogs at a basketball game.
Cheerleading
By: Kristee Elliott

The 2008-2009 season for the cheerleading squad was a season of total change. The team went from the usual JV and Varsity competitive teams to one joined squad. This new team had two separate coaches for competition and game cheer. At camp in Tinley Park, the squad brought home best sidelines and best stunts. The girls practiced throughout the entire summer. This also included extra gymnastics classes and conditioning on their own time. When the season went into full swing, the squad decided to have another tryout in attempt to gain more members. It was after this tryout that the seniors decided to be in the co-ed division with the addition of Senior, Mitch Cunningham. The squad gave a new meaning to the term “two-a-days” at this point and instead had “all day” practices. These paid off however when the team advanced to both ICCA and IHSA state championships. After the team performed at IHSA finals, a choreographer was brought in to fix the routine in just four short days. At the ICCA state championships the squad won first place with the improved routine, which they performed flawlessly. This championship was the program’s tenth state title under the direction of coach Terry Aebischer. The win was well deserved, and practice had definitely paid off.

Score board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Region</th>
<th>Place</th>
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<tr>
<td>IHSA State</td>
<td>9th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICCA State</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


Senior Briana Basler shows off her flexibility at the opening of the routine while her teammates throw over difficult standing backtucks showing that the team could not only stunt, but tumble as well.

“Because everyone got along so well this year, it made the routine a lot easier and fun to do.”

-Erica Maurer, Jr.

The squad demonstrates perfect form while they do a toe touch at the sectionals in Edwardsville. This performance earned the team 2nd place and a spot in Bloomington at the IHSA state competition.
The Bowling team, led by Coach Laura Wander-Vrell, had a season full of success. The four teams, boy’s Varsity and Junior Varsity, and girl’s Varsity and Junior Varsity all had many wins. The boy’s Varsity team even went a step further, being named Division Champions, bringing their final record to 13-3. All of the teams had to work hard to make up for the seven Seniors who left from the previous year. The boy’s JV team finished strong with their record 10-6, and the girl’s scores were similar, with JV winning only two more than the varsity team. Senior, Paul Chapman and Junior, Jordan Mettler, both received qualifying scores at Super Sectionals and went on to compete at the State competition. Junior Alison Krump also scored high at Super Sectionals and was very close to qualifying as well. The season had a memorable ending with the traditional yearly banquet held at the Poplar Junction bowling alley.

Senior Corey Werner releases the ball, finishing off his game. Corey’s talent has improved over his four years on the team.

“"This year, we really bonded as a team and met all of the goals we set for ourselves."” 

Alison Krump, Jr.

Scoreboard

Boy’s Varsity 13-3
Boy’s JV 10-6
Girl’s Varsity 11-4-1
Girl’s JV 13-3
Tyler Becker, Jr. works on improving his average during a daily team practice. This was his first year competing on the team.

Cassey Leitschuh
Sophomore

What was a goal you had this year?
"My goal was to try to get a 190 average."

Thomas Korte
Freshman

How was your first year of high school bowling?
"It was fun spending time with all the people on the team."

Danika Dale
Junior

Where and how often does the team practice?
"Every school day from 3-5pm at Poplar Junction."

---

Tyler Becker, Jr., works on their bowling technique during a warm up before practice.

Alison Krump, Jr., Sabrina Davis, So., and Danika Dale, Jr., concentrate on their bowling technique during a warm up before practice.
Mallory Frey  
Junior  
What was your greatest accomplishment this season?  
“My greatest accomplishment was when I got second at conference.”

Erica Leady  
Sophomore  
What was your favorite event and why?  
“I liked the 4x8 because I am decent at it.”

Lauren Beckman  
Freshman  
How was your first year of high school track?  
“It was fun and the Junior girls helped us a lot.”

Emilee Hargis, Sr., concentrates while running. As a Senior, she was a strong part of the team’s success.

Leading the team in the 4x800 relay is Freshman Molly Redman. She was one of the new additions to the team.
The girls track season this year was a memorable one. Coach Cipicchio said, "We had a really successful year. We had probably the hardest working group of freshman and the team really appreciates all of their hard work." The team started out strong, placing third at the Jerseyville Relays. They practiced every day after school to work on endurance and improve their times. They were consistent, placing second at the Carlinville Invitational, Roxana Relays, and Greenville Relays. Later, at Sectionals, they placed fifth out of the 13 teams that competed at the competition held in Salem. The team's overall record was 56-16.

Score board

Jersey Relays 3rd
Carlinville Invitational 2nd
Roxana Relays 2nd
Greenville Relays 2nd
Madison County 6th
MVC 2nd
Sectionals 5th

"We had a lot of obstacles, but we worked hard around them and it paid off in the end."

Taylor Cipicchio, Jr.
Coming into the season after losing many Seniors from the year before, the team knew they would have to work hard. The season got off to a rocky start, but by the Panther Relay, the team improved and even finished second. They continued to set goals for themselves and had a good outcome in the Nashville Triangular. Between each meet, the team would practice hard and do what it took to beat the competition. Coach Erin Cotto and Coach Bob Vance helped when it came to training. They pushed the runners harder at practice and gave them motivation before they stepped onto the track. The team encouraged each other and worked together to meet their goals. Even though they struggled, the team’s technique and strategy improved, along with bonding as a team. At the Roxanna Relays, the team’s hard work showed when they placed first. They then accomplished another goal and went on to conference and placed fourth. The team had another amazing year, from placing first at the relays, improving their running times, and making it to state.

“What they can control is what they do and if they keep up improvement on that, then that’s what really counts.”

Coach Vance
Terrance Danky, Sr., runs, determined to beat his competition. He enjoyed being a part of the boy's track team this year.

Taking the lead, Ryan Keller, Jr. hopes to finish first. At practices, he ran to improve his time.

"I'll miss how much fun we had at practices."  

Joey Sauls  
Senior  
What are you going to miss most about track?

"To assist the team in making it to state."

Jared Schmitz  
Sophomore  
What was a goal for yourself this year?

"I think about running, which makes me run faster."

Landon Goldstein  
Junior  
What do you think about while running?
Claire Eller
Junior

Is it hard to balance school work and soccer?

"At first it was a lot to handle, but once I got used to it, it wasn't that bad."

Emilee Bramstedt
Sophomore

What was a goal the team had this year?

"This season we wanted to do better than last season. We ended up reaching that goal and doing way better."

Mariah Embry
Sophomore

Who inspires you to play soccer?

Our coaches, because they have made us get as far as we've gotten."

Dribbling down the field, Katie Hobbs. So, looks to score on the opponent.

The team huddles and talks about the last game and what they need to work on.
Coach Durbin spoke highly of the Junior Varsity soccer team this year. He said, "Coaches Harry Painter, Bob Nave, and myself were able to share our passion and excitement for soccer with the girls. By the end of the season, the team had gotten to love soccer as much as we do." All of the coaches were dedicated to helping the team as a whole improve. With daily practices, much time was spent improving technique by doing drills to strengthen their offense and defense. They worked through their obstacles facing rival teams and recovering from injuries to win their games. At the beginning of the season the team made a goal to do better than any season prior to this one. There wasn't a clear separation between JV and Varsity teams. In fact, some players played on both teams. This made them in a sense, one big team. With all of the time spent together, they were able to bond, which showed on the field. They started off the season by winning the Metro Cup and won most of their games to follow. Reflecting on the season, Coach Durbin said, "We have gotten so much better, and I can not wait to see how much better they get next year."

Sophomore Kristi Kidd runs to stop the ball from going out of bounds.

The Lady Bulldogs gather to take a picture with their trophy. They placed first in the Metro Cup Tournament.

Score board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>JV Metro East Cup</th>
<th>1st</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>Won</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>Lost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mascoutah</td>
<td>Lost</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>Won</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Highland</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Final record</td>
<td>10-3</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"Our girls' soccer program experienced a rebirth this year."

- Coach Durbin
When the Lady Bulldogs started this year's soccer season they had three goals in mind: be .500 overall, win the Highland Tournament, and unify as a team. Not only did the girls achieve these goals, but they exceeded them according to Coach Harry Painter who said, "Overall I am very proud of the girls. We were able to accomplish the goals in their thinking, teamwork, and winning." The girls held an overall winning record of 10-8-1, and a conference record, 4-5-1. The girls agreed with Coach Painter that it was their pulling together as a team rather than individuals that led to their success.

This unification showed in their regional game against Mater Dei. The Lady Bulldogs remained tied 1-1 with the Lady Knights after four golden goal overtimes, which is equivalent to 120 minutes. The two teams then went to penalty kicks where Highland fell to Mater Dei 4-3. With three starting freshman this year, the future of our soccer program looks bright. Coach Painter said, "The goal for next year is to do better than this year. 2009 was the benchmark and from here we build and grow."

"Whether you think you can or not, you're right."
-Coach Harry Painter

Senior, Kristin Harkey, sweeps down the field as freshman stopper, Shannon Weiss, looks on.

As she battles against Civic Memorial's defense forward, Alex Taylor, Fr., takes control of the ball.

Kristin Harkey
Senior
What was your most memorable game this season?

"When we played Triad. Everyone's heart was in the game and it showed. It was the best we have ever worked together as a team."

Mariah Singler
Senior
What is your favorite part about practice?

"Doing the drills because we try to make everything a game. So it makes it more exciting."

Charis Hobbs
Senior
What was your most memorable moment?

"When we won the Highland Tournament."
Colin Duft
Sophomore
What was your favorite thing about tennis?
"The guys on the team. We have a really good time together."

Sam Pellock
Junior
What is a tennis term not everyone would know?
"Love means zero in a game."

Nathan Oliveira
Junior
What is the most frustrating part of tennis?
"It's really frustrating when you miss a shot, or if you're having a rough match. It's hard to get out of the pattern."
The 2009 Boys' Tennis season was all around successful. The boys had the same roster as last year since they lost no seniors. One new addition however, was the coach. Coach Matt Pellock, the girls' tennis assistant coach, took over as head coach for the boys. The team had a good time with Coach Pellock and thought that he taught them a lot about the game. As they hoped, the team improved immensely at conference play. At the end of the season, the boys traveled to Triad to compete at the conference tournament. They fought hard and finished second. Coach Pellock said, "Winning second was a great accomplishment for the team this season."


Nathan Oliveira, Jr. clears the net and backs up to get into a defensive position during a singles match.

**Scoreboard**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>W</th>
<th>L</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Hillsboro</td>
<td>9-0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Roxana</td>
<td>9-0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerseyville</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Benton</td>
<td>2-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mascoutah</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>9-0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alton Marquette</td>
<td>9-0</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Greenville</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Alton Senior</td>
<td>0-9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>0-9</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Effingham</td>
<td>2-7</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Collinsville</td>
<td>8-1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Centrailia</td>
<td>4-5</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"It's really great to have a lot of the same guys as last year. It makes us have really good chemistry."

-Lukas Korte, Jr.
"Kinda' like sisters" is a way to describe the JV softball team this year. "They were a very fun and exciting team to work with," said Coach Simmons. The team had a great year defensively as they pulled off quite a few double plays. Although their defense was solid, the team struggled offensively. "I called for fifteen bunts one game and we did not get a single one down.

It was embarrassing," said Coach Simmons. This year was the first year the JV team beat Triad twice since Coach Simmons has been coaching. The team also did very well at the O'Fallon Tournament. They won two games and lost one against Edwardsville. With their loss the team was not able to qualify for the championship game.

"Smack it like you own it."

-Coach Simmons

Trina Isaak, So., is congratulated by her teammates after hitting a homerun to tie the game.

Coach Simmons gives encouragement to the team between innings.

Codi Gramlich
Freshman

What is your favorite part about softball?

“I get to hang with my friends and it is fun.”

Katie Wendler
Freshman

What was your greatest accomplishment during the season?

“Winning Conference.”

Courtney Ernst
Sophomore

What is one life lesson that you learned from softball?

“Always try your best and never give up.”
Stephany McCalla
Senior
What was your most memorable game this season?
"The Triad game. We finally came together and beat them for the first time in 11 years!"

Fallon Poettker
Junior
What is your favorite part about this sport?
"Listening to Kristy Frey make fun of Jenna at practice."

Taylor Blackwell
Sophomore
What do you think about during the game?
"I get into the mindset of getting ahead and getting the first batter out every
Dedication, determination, and teamwork were the building blocks for the 2009 Lady Bulldogs. With almost the entire Varsity team returning, this year looked promising from the very beginning. This proved to be true for the Bulldogs as they smoked the competition with an outstanding overall record of 25-7. This year, the team consisted of seven seniors, six of whom played together for seven years. The chemistry and teamwork of this group was irreplaceable. They worked hard and went further than they ever thought was possible. The ladies beat their rival, Triad, for the first time in eleven years.

This was a huge break for the team. They had even more success in the post season when they crushed Civic Memorial in a 9-0 defeat and beat Mater Dei to capture the regional title for only the second time in the school's history. The bulldogs season came to a close after losing to number one ranked Mattoon in extra innings during the first round of sectionals. Coach Sharon Schmitz commented, "What a great season! We performed as a team and were able to set many records. I am very proud to have been the coach but all the credit goes to the girls for performing and achieving what they did this season."

Taylor Blackwell, So., delivers her pitch as Kelsey Zobrist, So., and Fallon Poettker, Jr. get ready to field the ball. Zobrist stepped up to the plate when Senior Rachel Keller was hurt at the start of the season.

Score board

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Opponent</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>4/15</td>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>L 4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/20</td>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>W 21-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/21</td>
<td>Mascoutah</td>
<td>W 11-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4/24</td>
<td>Jerseyville</td>
<td>W 12-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/2</td>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>L 1-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/4</td>
<td>Mascoutah</td>
<td>W 7-2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/6</td>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>W 2-1</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/11</td>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>W 12-4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/15</td>
<td>Jerseyville</td>
<td>W 10-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/18</td>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>L 2-3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>5/29</td>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>W 9-0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

"It's a rough road that leads to the heights of greatness."

-Anonymous


Varsity Softball 105
The sun was bright, the air was blowing gently, and baseball fever was in the air. The crack of the bat, the soft catch in the outfield, and the rush of a player stealing the next base made the fans smile. Hitting, pitching, defense, and teamwork were all important aspects of the 2009 baseball season. The JV baseball team had an excellent season this year. Success was always defined by wins and losses, and this team exceeded all expectations. A small team, only 10 members, worked to improve at every practice. "They continued to improve every day and that is a credit to the kids," said Coach Caleb Houchins. They also had great chemistry and together made a great team. Coach Houchins also said, "This season has been one of the best since I have been coaching at HHS."

"Play Hard, Play First, Play Smart."  
- Coach Houchins

**Score board**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Team</th>
<th>Result</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>L 3-9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>L 3-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mascoutah</td>
<td>W 8-7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Triad</td>
<td>L 4-5</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Waterloo</td>
<td>W 7-6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jerseyville</td>
<td>W 5-0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Civic Memorial</td>
<td>L 3-7</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The JV baseball team huddles with Coach Houchins during a time out at their game in the Grizzly's Stadium.

Derek Brinker, So., warms up his swing on deck.

Derek Brinker
Sophomore

In what ways does your coach inspire you?

“By yelling at us and making us work harder.”

Tyler Klosterman
Sophomore

What is your favorite thing about practice?

“Coach Houchins and the shortness of them.”

Chris Bentlage
Freshman

What was your most memorable moment this season?

“Playing second base with Taylor Heinold.”

JV Baseball 107
Ben Fieker
Junior

What do you think about during a game?

“I’m thinking about the next play.”

Corey Gall
Junior

What was your most memorable moment?

“Beating Triad twice during the regular season.”

Sean Gagen
Senior

What is your favorite part of practice?

“Playing in the dirt.”

Coach Hawkins advises his players on what to do next.

At their game in Grizzly Stadium, Brent Kuper, Sr., tags out a Belleville East runner at home plate.
The 2008-2009 school year served as a successful and exciting season for the Boy’s Varsity Baseball team. With an overall winning record of 25-10 the team proved that they could remain successful after winning the IHSA State Title the previous year. After losing many seniors, the team had to rebuild itself. Besides these difficulties this team became the 12th team in Coach Joel Hawkins 18 years to obtain at least 20 wins. They were also the sixth team in school history to have at least 25 wins. Another big accomplishment of Coach Hawkins’ was earning his 400th career win. Brandon Koisher and Travis Becherer also made school history by having 115 wins in their four years of high school. The team’s season ended with a loss against Triad for the Regional Championship. But that loss did not define this team. The Varsity Baseball team was defined by the coaches, players, and the great team chemistry.
Bass Fishing
By: The Editors

Babe Winkelman, a professional bass fisher, once said, "Instead of 'practice makes perfect', it should be perfect practice makes perfect." That was the motto for Highland's first bass fishing team. This team was started by a New Douglas teacher, Jon Rinderer. The boys along with Mr. Jon Rinderer and Coach Scott Sautman, practiced daily at Silver Lake to prepare themselves for the state tournament at Carlyle Lake. There, 53 boats competed for first place, two from each school.

Highland sent two boats out on the water and came home with an 8th and 15th place finish. A highlight of the boys’ season was being interviewed by Fox 2 News’ Tim Ezell at Silver Lake. Their fellow classmates all tuned in for the morning news and watched as the boys fished live on television. The camera followed Tim Ezell out on the lake as he fished with the team in the rainy weather. The boys started a new tradition at Highland High School.

"Early to bed, early to rise, fish all day, make up lies.”
—Jared Mettler, Fr.

First Row: T. Wieser, C. Hemann, D. Koberczyk

Sophomore Taylor Wieser shows off his big catch from practice at Silver Lake.

Score board

Coffeen Sectionals
1st Boat-2nd Place
2nd Boat-3rd Place

Carlyle Lake State
1st Boat- 8th Place
2nd Boat-15th Place

Between catches, Philip Barker, Jr. relaxes for a moment at Carlyle Lake.
Corey Hemann, Jr. and Travis Funderburk, Sr. set cast at Silver Lake.

While Coach Jon Rinderer steers the fishing boat, Ron Hoette, Jr., reels in his line.

What is the biggest fish you caught?
Corey Hemann
Junior
"Four and a half pounds."

Why did you join the bass fishing team?
Jared Mettler
Freshman
"It's not a passion it's an obsession."

What is your favorite part about practice?
David Koberczky
Senior
"Relaxing and being with friends."

Bass Fishing 111
SPORTS
To compensate for the variety of students at Highland High School, all sorts of clubs were available to fit each person's interests. On one end of the spectrum, our school had artists who brought color and creativity to the hallways and display cases. On the other end, there were the athletes who brought excitement to our evenings and gave us a reason to cheer. There were also the students who excelled in groups such as National Honor Society and National Art Honor Society. For students interested in medicine, there was Future Medical Careers Club, which introduced students to the basics of the medical field. Students who enjoyed working with numbers found a home on the Math team. Agricultural students enjoyed their time as Future Farmers of America members. French and Spanish clubs were introduced to a diverse culture very different from their own. As far as clubs were concerned for Highland High School, there really was something for everyone.

Co-presidents, Justin Thiems, Sr. and Emilee Hargis, Sr., welcome the guests at the induction banquet for National Honor Society.
At a National Art Honor Society meeting, Juniors Carin Gramlich, Cassey Becker, and Mallory Frey discuss a piece of art.
The "Official Nerds" or National Honor Society was the highest academic honor for students at HHS. These students were an elite group of scholars who portrayed qualities of leadership, service, character, and community. Those who met the requirements were inducted and performed eight hours of community service. They did this by working basketball concessions, working at the annual Senior Citizen Prom, or by helping with or making posters for the annual No Talent Talent Show. The co-presidents this year were Seniors, Justin Thiems and Emilee Hargis, along with officers Jordan Duft, Alex Rinderer, and Mitch Cunningham. Jordan Duft said, "My favorite part of being an officer this year was eating lots of cake, cookies, and the GRINGO DIP!" Sponsor, Mrs. Linda Nelson said, "This year's group was a really good one to work with. My favorite part was getting to watch the students dance with the senior citizens."

Senior President Justin Thiems dances with Brooke Welge, Sr., at the Senior Citizen Prom. The theme this year was, "An Evening with the Stars."

National Art Honor Society, led by Mrs. Kathy Burns, was the elite of the art world. Gifted students tried out for the club by submitting five pieces of original artwork for approval by the art department. These pieces then were rated by a panel of five art professionals. Of course, there were other qualifications the students needed to meet. These included completing both Art I and II, as well as being active in an advanced art class. Once accepted, the members attended an induction ceremony, similar to that of the National Honor Society club. Many members of NAHS were also enrolled in Advanced Placement art as a part of their schedule. Catherine Wortstell, Sr., said, "My favorite part about being in NAHS is having the opportunity to create extra artwork, as well as see everyone else’s creativity."
The Lifesavers kicked off the year by helping out at Freshman orientation. There, members helped to show Freshmen the different classes and where their lockers were located. The Lifesavers also hoped to gain new members at orientation. After orientation, Lifesavers held their first event. The annual retreat was held at the high school over three days. During the retreat, guest speakers were brought in to talk about healthy relationships and mental health issues. The members also enjoyed a bonfire and daily energizers to keep their spirits up.

During second semester, the Lifesavers had their second retreat called the Senior Farewell where they recognized Senior leaders and did more group activities.
A group including Chris Miles, Sr., Ashley Vohlken, So., Maryssa Beckman, Sr., and Kathleen Bean, So., huddle to mentally prepare for the trust fall.

Mr. Konopka, Kelsey Frey, Sr., Kelsey Hoyt, Sr., and Alex Bowman, Sr., participate in a skit during the first retreat of the year.

What is your favorite part of Lifesavers?

"The retreats because we get to meet new people each year and also the Senior Farewell with the Jello fights."

-Alex Rinderer, Sr.

Why did you join Lifesavers?

"I joined Lifesavers so I could meet a new group of people and talk about problems I might have without getting judged."

-Logan Frank, So.

What was your favorite part of the retreat?

"The Jerry Springer Show and the food."

-Chris Miles, Sr.
Since 1932, the Highland FFA has grown and prospered. This year there were 108 members enrolled, 36 of them female. The role of today's modern FFA was to offer its members primarily the qualities of leadership, citizenship, and character development. For the past 76 years the Highland FFA members have shown these qualities in school, community, and in their homes. The club had its renowned teachers' appreciation breakfast, to thank all the teachers in the school. They also assisted at the local fourth grade science nights. The chapter helped set up for the Friends of Highland annual dinner and participated in the local community's Adopt-A-Family. In May, FFA put on its district wide farm safety day. They won countless Career Development Events and had their annual chapter banquet to award members for all their achievements on April 2009.
Mr. Vance, JILG sponsor, prepares to give blood at the first blood drive of the year, held on November 17th.

At the “Beat the Eagles” car bash Senior, Cody Bellm, takes aim.

Jobs for Illinois Graduates, JILG, was a program for Seniors which prepared them for the challenges beyond high school. It was through this program that students became members of the Illinois Career Association, ICA, which was established to help build leadership, social awareness, career preparation, and citizenship skills in their members through community service. Members of JILG exemplified these qualities through the many activities they hosted this year. The organization held two blood drives, one in November and the other in March, collecting 145 units of blood. The club also raised money for the St. Jude’s Children’s Hospital Fund through the “Beat the Eagles” car bash during homecoming week. In addition, JILG had its annual fundraiser selling carnations during Valentine’s Day Week.

JILG President, Devon Dumstorff, Sr., takes a fall of trust in to the arms of his fellow leaders at the leadership retreat in Flornia, Illinois.
Future Medical Careers Club gave students the opportunity to interact with medical professionals and learn about different areas of the field. This year, FMCC organized a blood drive. Members were in charge of advocating the blood drive by making posters and reciting daily announcements. The highlight of their year was their visit to St. Louis University, where they observed the dissection of a cadaver. Due to limited space, only Juniors and Seniors were admitted into the same room as the cadaver. In addition to S.L.U., members also toured the Children’s Hospital. At Barnes Jewish Hospital, they job shadowed a nurse, physical therapist, and occupational therapist. FMCC was lead by Seniors, President Emilee Hargis, Vice President Stephanie Vick, Secretary Stephanie Short, Treasurer Hudson Seeegers, and sponsor, Mrs. Karen Duckworth.
As guests arrive for the premiere of *Grand Canyon*, Kayla Frey, So., stamps their hands while Theresa Reinhardt, So., and Mrs. Manker take tickets.

Sophomore Joshua Weiss creates a poster of simple ways everyone can reduce pollution.

Seniors Jacob Strackeljahn and Sarah Fraser make their contributions by collecting recycled papers.

This year, a new club was offered to students with a desire to better understand the environment and raise awareness about pollution. The Ecology Club was lead by President Kelsey Wellen, So., Vice President Anna Beck, Sr., and Secretary Trisha Engle, So. Throughout the year they collected used electronics and empty ink cartages to properly be recycled. Determined to make an impact on everyone, the club premiered *Grand Canyon*, the Imax film. All proceeds were donated to Ryan’s Well Foundation, which helps provide safe drinking water for those in need.

**What is your most memorable moment of Ecology Club?**

“Napoleon, the magic plant that sprouted inside my refrigerator.”
-Kayla Frey, So.

FMCC/Ecology Club 123
The Fellowship of Christian Athletes is a large group of students who were also athletes who met weekly for fun activities and fellowship. A prayer opened every meeting and was followed by a discussion of current sports. Food and drink were provided as well as an activity for the night. The club always had fun-filled events from playing capture the flag at the high school to ice skating at Forest Park. Some of the events were co-educational while some were not. The club gave students a chance to meet new people and develop a stronger Christian lifestyle, all while dealing with the daily struggles of high school life. Teachers Karen Twyford and Joel Hawkins were in charge of this year’s FCA group while Seniors Michelle Whaley, Alex Rinderer, Brandon Koishor, Randy Knebel, and Travis Becherer, along with Lukas Korte, Jr. took turns leading each meeting.

In line for a cup of hot chocolate, Seniors Alex Rinderer and Maddy Michael smile for a picture to remember the fun night.
The Bulldog Hockey Club used the 2008-2009 year to grow and develop as a team rather than crush the opposition. Ending with a record of 5-8, the team did not consist of many Seniors. However, Derek Sallee, Sr., and Travis Anderson, Sr., were co-captains for the team under captain, Jim Hoffman, Jr. The team managed to garner together a few wins, but instead took the season to improve on individual skills such as shooting and conditioning. Derek Sallee, Sr., said, “My favorite thing about the hockey season was practice, because we just messed around. It is what led to our success.” The team was forced to travel for every game for the fact that there was no local ice rink. Under head coach, Jeff Dortch, the Highland hockey team played each game at the East Alton Ice rink in East Alton-Woodriver.
Spanish Club was one big fiesta this year. In class they celebrated the Day of the Dead and Cinco de Mayo by eating bread and decorating the classroom. They took their yearly trip to Chicago and one of its Spanish neighborhoods. Here they held a scavenger hunt and used their Spanish language skills. It was an opportunity to experience foreign culture outside of the classroom. This year’s officers included President Joey Sauls, Vice President Jacob Strackeljahn, Secretary Grant Morton, and Treasurer Katie Henricks.

What will you remember about Spanish?
“Going to see the Spanish dancers in St. Louis and eating at Zapatos.”
Austin Potthoff, Jr.

What was the best part of this year’s Spanish trip?
“Definitely our tour guide with the plastic star earrings.”
Gabe Fuehne, Sr.

Touring the Field Museum are Seniors Kari Weis, Janie Welge, Brandy Balkenbush, and Ieva Luotaite.

Seniors, Brittany Hammel and Amanda Hempen gear up for the wind off of Lake Michigan.

While in Chicago, Seniors Kelsey Hoyt and Josh Lee chow down a deep dish pizza at Giordano’s.
French Club members enhanced their knowledge of foreign language and culture. In class they practiced their culinary skills by preparing a French cuisine. Members said "Bon Voyage!" to HHS and joined the Spanish Club to Chicago. While in Chicago they visited museums, shopped and dined together. This year’s officers include Presidents, Grant Morton, Hannah Jamruk, and Anna Beck, and Vice President Maryssa Beckman.

What is your most memorable moment?
"Getting stranded by other French Club members at the dinner." Hannah Jamruk, Sr.

Who designed this year’s t-shirt?
"Anna Beck designed the front and Dave Bourgeois designed the back." Jasmine Downing, Sr.
Leadership, communication, and research skills were among just a few of the many characteristics Model United Nations members learned this year. While the team only had two conferences, Fall and Spring, the members of this club worked hard throughout the entire year. The club taught students how to take a world issue and represent it based on another country’s beliefs. The club showed a significant amount of growth this year when international debate was offered as an elective. Students in the class already completed all the work necessary to attend the conference without devoting too much time to after school curricular activities. Plans for next year’s group include a trip to Chicago where club members will be given the chance to take the stage with delegates from across the nation.

John Doll, Sr. searches for a consensual agreement from the other delegates.
WYSE stood for Worldwide Youth in Science and Engineering. The team was made up of 14 individuals who took place in team events, while some competed individually. There were seven fields of study in which students competed: Chemistry, English, Biology, Mathematics, Physics, Engineering Graphics, and Computer Science. Regionals were held at S.W.I.C. Andrew Kimmle, Sr., and Olivia Geiger, Fr., placed while Jacob Strackeljahn, Sr., and John Petermeier, So., advanced to sectionals. There, Petermeier missed qualifying for state by just one point while Strackeljahn advanced to the state finals at the University of Illinois-Urbana/Champaign.
Math Team had a successful season this year. Which consisted of competitions in which the students took math tests individually and as a team. This year they started the season with the Southwest Math Conference competition. Many students received medals for their hard work, including Olivia Geiger, Fr., Jeremy Keller, So., Blake Petermeier, So., John Petermeier, So., Ryan Keltner, Jr., and Tim Johnson, Jr. The team also earned four team 2nd places. At the conclusion of the conference, the Bulldogs proudly took home the 2nd place trophy. On that high, they entered their last competition which was in the Division I bracket of the Excellence In Math Competition at Saint Louis Community College. Here, 41 schools participated, with a total of 336 students in Division I. John Petermeier, So., earned individual recognition for 10th place out of 97 students.
"We have forgotten more than the other teams have learned," said sponsor, Mr. Max Uhls. This quote summarized a year of perseverance, hard work, and a competitive drive for the Scholar Bowl team. The Varsity team finished their season with 11 wins and seven losses. "We should have had a lot better record," said Uhls, "But we fell short on a couple matches." Out of the 19 teams in their Quad League, they came in 9th place and had fun doing it. Mrs. Pam Watts coached the JV team who proudly ended their season with 16 wins, one loss, and one tie. This year was the final year for both Mr. Uhls and Mrs. Watts as coaches. Uhls said, "It is always unlucky to be behind at the end of the game but also bad luck to be superstitious," and that is one thing his team will remember.
Powerhour and 5:17 were faith-based events that were open to all students should they feel compelled. Power Hour was an EL activity held on the last Thursday of every month. Guest speakers were invited to Powerhour to share the Word of God. 5:17 was another group of like-minded, faith-based students who met every morning before school in the Kennel to pray together about the upcoming day. Power Hour was run and organized by Dylan Stanek, Jr., and Logan Wolf, So., with the help of Mr. Jim Nickerson. 5:17 was started by Robert Volker, Jr., and ran by Brooke Welge, Sr., Rachel Adair, Sr., Dylan Stanek, Jr., Meghan Ostebur, Fr., and Jessica Nave, Jr., with advisement of Ms. Deanna Dobbs.

Pastor Jordan Muck addresses the Power Hour students during an EL session.

Robert Volker, Jr. reads scripture to students during 5:17.

RJ Short, So., Tara Barker, Fr., Robert Volker, Jr., Robert Hoertel, Fr., Nole Paubel, Fr., and Izzy Dunaway, Fr., gather in prayer at a 5:17 session.
Chess requires more than just luck. It takes skill and intense concentration. Some people underestimate what it takes to play a real game of chess. The game is challenging and works the mind. It’s more than just a lucky move here or a lucky move there. The environment surrounding the chess team seemed relaxed this year. This activity quickly became intense when an attack was made or a king fell to the board. It was evident by their successes in both matches and tournaments that individual preparation is the key to winning.

Backed by the support of Coach Terry Menz, the players take playing skills into life and carry memories forward as well.
Focus St. Louis was an organization formed 12 years ago. The Highland chapter began attending meetings in September and learned positive leadership skills ever since. The main goal of Focus St. Louis was to inspire citizens to act as leaders in the community. There were over a thousand members including students, teachers, and even business leaders around the Metropolitan area. This year was very different than every other year because for the first time Highland hosted an actual meeting. In this meeting they discussed how small towns affect large cities. This was a great experience for the students to practice their leadership skills. Focus St. Louis consisted of only Juniors and were sponsored by Mrs. Hilary Wagenblast and Mrs. Holly Ayer. Austin Potthoff, Jr., said, "One fun thing about Focus was our glorious bus rides there and back."
Saturday Scholars had a very educational year in 2009. With 23 members, they set out every Saturday in February for four trips. Three of these were to O'Fallon High School to listen to lectures on a range of issues. These issues consisted of global warming, bioterrorism, pandemic influenza, and Kryptos, the unsolved code. They also got to go on a Field trip to Saint Louis University to view a cadaver. They joined with the Future Medical Careers Club for this field trip. The group learned that sleeping in is not always the best thing to do on a Saturday. Hillary Zitta, So., said, “Although seeing dead bodies was very disgusting, it was an interesting experience and I learned a lot.”
Student Council was a student group that organized many fun school activities. The Council’s main activity was hosting Homecoming Week. The members decided on the theme, dress up days, lunch activities, night activities, decorations, parade, and the coronation. Besides Homecoming, Student Council helped with teacher appreciation week. The Council also held a winter dance in the commons to raise money for their Adopt-A-Family. With the money they raised they bought the families Christmas presents to make their Christmas more enjoyable. Student Council also raised money for the Food Pantry in Highland. Another activity the Council organized involved in was Highland’s Relay for Life. The Council had their own team made of members. Student Council served both our school and our community. The Council was lead by their advisors Ms. Beyer and Mrs. Basden.
Sophomores, Chad Mayes, Mickey Wheeler, Lindsay Compton, and Junior, Ashley Nicoloff attend an Ambassador Meeting.

Ambassadors was a club students joined to help other students. The main purpose of the club was to welcome new students to our school. Ambassadors escorted new students around and "showed them the ropes of HHS". This meant every new student to the district was assigned an ambassador who showed them to their classes and introduced them to other students. To help Freshmen adapt to high school, Ambassadors hosted Freshman Day before the school year started. This allowed the Freshmen to find their lockers and classrooms. The Ambassadors' advisor was our friendly neighborhood guidance counselor himself, Mr. Wartick.
The Leo Club was a youth version of the Lions club. Members spent time creating awareness for future high school students through a number of activities. The "Choose Respect" program was a youth-led group that helped middle schoolers with advice on healthy relationships. President Katie Henricks said, "This year has been a great hit with the incoming freshman, we never expected such a great response to the Choose Respect program." This year's other events included a Sadie Hawkins Dance for the middle school as well as the beloved Krispy Kreme Donut sale at the high school. Senior, Brandy Balkenbusch said, "My favorite thing about being in the club is being able to observe the development of future high schoolers."
After their first year as a club, Independent Impact looked to make an even bigger difference in the local community and environment. The club dealt primarily with environmental issues from a school standpoint and was sponsored by Mrs. Suzanne Meyer. The club held a babysitting night so local parents would have time to Christmas shop for their children. Another fun event they hosted was a game night for students at the high school. Future plans for the club include picking up trash along local highways. The club gave students a chance to give back to the community. Independent Impact was not known as just a group to help the environment, it was also a group to help better our generation. At meetings, group members discussed world issues along with local issues as well. Emily Fulher, So., said, "I joined because I just like to help others." Many of the students in the club shared the same heart Emily had, which was why Independent Impact was an important club for HHS.
Project Lead the Way was a new club this year. It was led by Mr. Chris Durbin and it welcomed students of any age. The class taught concepts on drafting and graphic building. The class was important to those who wanted to pursue a career in engineering. Computers were used quite often along with other technology. In the future, Mr. Durbin hopes the class will expand, giving students the opportunity to expand their knowledge and learn new learning skills.

Why did you choose to be in this club?
“I’m interested in pursuing a career in engineering.” Jared Schmitz, So.

Would you recommend the club?
“Yes, it gives engineering people a feeling of what it’s like.” Jacob Rose, Jr.

Sarah Wagner, So., follows the book instructions to make cubes. This class involved a lot of hands-on projects.
Sophomores, Kayla Frey, Halie Miller, and Chasity Logue, have fun while sharing information about their book with the group. Later, they watched a movie which the club members enjoyed.

Book Club met three times a year to analyze books that had been made into movies. These books included: Memoirs of a Geisha and Desiree. After completing the novel, the group met in the library to watch the film version and compare the differences between the two. Mrs. Nancy Gentleman was the sponsor and led the discussion. This after-school activity also encouraged students to continue to enjoy reading.

Why did you decide to join book club?
"I joined because a lot of my friends were in it and I enjoy reading." Jazmin Downing, Sr.

Would you recommend joining book club and why?
"Yes, if you like to read, it is a lot of fun!" Sarah Hickey, So.
If you asked your parents where they keep their photo album, they probably couldn't tell you. On the other hand if you asked them where they keep their high school yearbook, they would be able to tell you the exact location. It's hard to imagine that today's yearbook will become tomorrow's treasure. We staffers and our advisor, Mrs. Martz understand and appreciate all the time and dedication that our fellow students devote to their pursuits because we put time and dedication into reporting their exploits accurately in the Iris. Hours of hard work including interviews, layouts, photographs, selling ads, copy writing, and overall great teamwork and collaboration came together to produce this book. We hope that the 2009 edition of Iris will be something its owners treasure now and for many, many years to come.

This year's staff do their spirit mount at the 2008 Herff Jones workshop at UMSL. Some members of the staff were cheerleaders.

Working on their Fall layouts are Juniors Alyssa Freker and Megan Blackburn.

Brandy Balkenbush, Sr., types her layout. All students are required to do layouts and must meet the set deadlines.
Juniors Taylor Tiller and Erica Maurer have a little fun while trying to concentrate on layouts.

John Doll, Sr. edits his spring layout before turning it into the editors.

Senior editors Kristy Frey, Katie May, and Leah Nungesser talk over final deadlines.

What was your favorite part about yearbook?
"Selling ads!"
-Erica Maurer, So.

What is the hardest thing you had do in yearbook?
"Dealing with everyone's stupidity."
-Editors, Sr.

What are you going to miss most about yearbook?
"Starbucks runs and ice cream cakes."
-Kristee Elliott, Sr.

What is your best memory of yearbook?
"Mrs. Martz fighting with the deer foot."
-Kayla Kidd, Sr.
Nadya Sulleman expanded her family to 14 members with the birth of octuplets, six boys and two girls.

Special Education teacher, Tim Hirsch, made his mark in the No Talent Talent Show by producing entertainment for the crowd who laughed at him for being "Little Ron" next to Ron Holt.

Highland’s unique male dance team, The Dawgs, made their mark this year. The boys were one step away from making it to State and were interviewed on News Channel 5.

Illinois Governor, Rod Blagojevich says farewell to Illinois residents after being indicted for trying to sell one of Illinois Senate seats.

Along with the depressed economy, gas prices skyrocketed this year to over four dollars.
Making history as the first African-American President, Barack Obama talks to the troops in front of the American flag.

The baas fishing team enjoyed having the spotlight shine on them this year. Corey Hemann, Jr., poses with Fox 2's Tim Ezell and his anchorman.
Students at Highland High School kept themselves busy with homework, clubs, sports, and other activities, all of which brought everyone closer throughout the year. The class of 2009 roamed the halls for the very last time and looked into the future and their last summer with all their Senior friends. As Juniors, the class of 2010 brought a load of school spirit to Homecoming week and enjoyed their newly, inherited roles of being upperclassmen. The class of 2011 received their driver’s licenses and was relieved to no longer be the youngest class in the school. The Freshman class of 2010 came into Highland High School as underdogs and had to adjust to new schedules, teachers, and faces surrounding them in the hallway. Another year came and went, but the faces and surroundings of Highland High School will remain.

The camo crew cheers for the girls at a basketball game. This year’s group of students continued the tradition of wearing camo to games.
Mrs. Martz and Mrs. Meyer show off their deer arms. The two teachers played jokes on each other throughout the year.
Mr. Ebenber and Clayton Wilke, So., slap hands while bowling at Poplar Junction. At the end of the season the teachers competed against the bowlers.

Mrs. Burns relaxes outside the art room in a chair constructed by students from past years.
Trina Gregg, Secretary
Barbara Heyen, Guidance
Gina Hirsch, Science
Ron Holt, History
Caleb Houchins, Physical Education
Ashley Hummel, Special Education
Mary Jackson, Agriculture

Lauren Jansen, Secretary
Dawn Jones, Home Economics
Larry Jones, Agriculture
Valerie Kimmie, Math
Amy Kloss, English
Steve Konopka, Guidance
Brenda Korte, Special Education

Amanda Kuhlman, English
Beth Limmer, Special Education
Khourtney Lowder, Special Education
Amy Manker, Science
Susan Martz, English
Brenda Mertes, Science
Suzanne Meyer, English

Michelle Murphy, Science
Linda Nelson, English
Jim Nickerson, Business
Wendy Phillips, Special Education
Marcia Potthast, Aide
Jodie Ramsey, Science
Randy Riggs, Resource Officer

Kimberly Romero, English
Lori Ruebhausen, Chorus
Michelle Rusteberg, Special Education
Kate Schaefer, Special Education
Donald Schmitz, Agriculture
Kristie Simmons, Science
Todd Strong, History

Lesley Taylor, Home Economics
Karen Twyford, Foreign Language
Max Uhls, Math
Robert Vance, Business
Dianne Voss, Aide
Hilary Wagenblast, Foreign Language
Judy Wagner, Home Economics

Katie Walker, Math
Michael Wartick, Guidance
Pam Watts, Math
Sam Weber, History
Cathy Weiss, Special Education
Cheryl Wolfe, Business
Marilyn Wolters, Aide
Freshmen, Austin Wells, Katie Lowe, Ryan Bowman, Jeffery Hartlieb, and Ben Melosi work together on a Spanish project.

Anthony Abert
Amber Adkins
Hailey Ahlgren
Daniel Ammann
Lori Augustin
Morgan Barker

Tera Barker
Jordan Bartels
Adam Beck
Matthew Becker
Lauren Beckman
Christopher Bentlage

Alexander Black
Kourtnee Boatman
Zachary Boemer
Melissa Bossler
Ryan Bowman
Mary Brann

Dannylee Braundmeier
Andrew Bray
Caleb Brink
Rachel Brown
Sean Brown
Amber Bruce

152 People
Jaryn Lankford
Rachel Leadbetter
Christian Lee
Katelynne Leman
James Leroy
Kyle Littlefield

Riley Litzenburg
Jordan Lobb
Dakota Lobb
Catelyn Long
Tucker Lurkins
Jacob Markus

Victoria Maxwell
Derek McDaniel
Mark McKinley
Ryan McKinnon
Jordan McLain
Matthew McNeilly

Benjamin Melosi
Jared Mettler
Emily Michael
Paige Micheletto
Allison Miller
Lauren Miller

Mikayla Miller
Mariah Miranda
Mitchell Moenster
Austin Molkenbur
Briana Moore
Alexa Moss

Bryce Mueller
Isabella Mueller
Michael Mueller
Claire Munie
Brian Murphy
Emily Myers
Nicholas Ruffini
Hunter Schuchardt
Garett Schumacher

Nathan Schuster
Lauren Scoggins
Holden Seegers

Corbin Sells
Drake Shelton
Jared Shimer
Cameron Singler
Gravell Slusher
Allen Snow

Benjamin Sparlin
Alli Staggs
Ryan Straeter
Valerie Strasser
Alexander Sutterfield
McKenzie Swift

Shane Swofford
Alexandria Taylor
Lindsey Taylor
Jared Thiems
Zachery Thompson
Charlie Timmermann

Christina Todd
Kathryn Torre
Sarah Trobaugh
Nathan Trout
Nicholas Vaccaro
Katelyn Verfurth

158 People
Brandon Zick
Anna Zobrist
Shane Zobrist

Travis Vogelbacher
Hayley Vonder Haar
Logan Vonhatten
Casey Waeckerle
Joshua Warren
Tony Webb

Aryn Weis
Jacob Weis
Kate Weis
Stephanie Weis
Abby Weis
Shannon Weiss

Sydney Wellen
Austin Weiz
Katie Wendler
Sean Wheeler
Alanna White
William White

Benjamin Wick
Brittany Wiley
Nicolas Wille
Cody Winning
Paige Workes
Alicia Zick

Brandon Zick
Anna Zobrist
Shane Zobrist
Madi Laney, Trent Donaldson, and Richard Heinold work on a project in Web Design.
Levi Goestenkors
Rachel Goestenkors
Michael Gosciniski
Hannah Graham
Taylor Gray
Nicolette Groce

Shaina Gross
Kayla Gruner
Kane Hammond
Ashley Hanna
Austin Happold
Austin Harlan

Michelle Harrison
Brianna Hartnagel
Richard Heinold
Eric Hempen
Katie Hempen
Carrie Henrichs

Amber Henry
Alexander Hernandez
Savannah Hipkins
Kathryn Hobbs
Spencer Hohl
Granton Holt

Jason Hooks
Christopher Horton
Trevor Horvath
Nicholas Howard
Kelsey Huber
Cody Hudson

Melissa Hug
Karissa Iberg
Trina Isaak
Nicholas Italiano
Andrea Kampwerth
Brianna Kastelein

162 People
Danielle Zobrist

What was the funnest part of your Sophomore year?

“All the Homecoming activities.”

Hunter Michael

What was the most memorable moment of your Sophomore year?

“Dancing at Homecoming.”

Alex Westerman

What was your most rebellious moment?

“First time I ever skipped class.”

Shaun Teague

What was the funnest thing you have seen in class?

“When Clifton Roberson tripped over a desk and fell on his face.”

Kristin Frey

What was the hardest thing about Sophomore year?

“Taking tests.”
A Junior US History class texts and talks on their cell phones. Rules for cell phones were more strict this school year.

Robin Allen
Alicia Alvarado
Marin Amzich
David Ammann
Paige Ammann
Kimberly Anders

Dean Anderson
Samuel Ankrom
Brendan Bargetzi
Phillip Barker
Tyler Barr
Emily Barth

Challen Bauguss
Joseph Baumgartner
Michelle Bearley
Cassandra Becker
Tyler Becker
Chynna Belim

Megan Blackburn
Victor Blanchard
Katie Bodi
Kelly Bone
Jacob Bosen
Michael Boyer

168 People
Albert McCubbins
James McFain
Leah McKinley
Chad Medina
Garrett Meier
Simon Menz

Jordan Mettler
Ashley Miller
Hailey Miller
Jacob Minney
Dylan Moad
Amanda Montayne

Jessica Mooney
Nicholas Moss
Matthew Murphy
Lynsey Mustain
Brock Myers
Jessica Nave

Amanda Newsome
Ashley Nicoloff
Jade Noll
Nathan Oliveira
Jonathan Owen
Andrew Panyik

Tanner Paletti
Brandon Parsons
Brandon Pearman
Dylan Peek
Samuel Pellock
Alec Perfetti

Trey Plocher
Fallon Poettker
Austin Pothoff
Taylor Pruett
Rebekah Radford
Devin Randall

172 People
### Question and Answer

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Cami Gramlich</th>
<th>Austin Pothoff</th>
<th>Dylan Stanek</th>
<th>Garrett Meier</th>
<th>Josh Hall</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>What was the funnest part of your Junior year?</strong></td>
<td><strong>What was the most memorable moment of your Junior year?</strong></td>
<td><strong>What was your most rebellious moment?</strong></td>
<td><strong>What was the funnest thing you have done in class?</strong></td>
<td><strong>What was the hardest thing about Junior year?</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>&quot;Every day that I spent with Deets.&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Dominating at announcing the power volleyball games. The class of 2010 will always be the loudest.&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Doing the &quot;push-it&quot; cheer at the girls' basketball game.&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;Baking a Mayan temple cake for Twyford's class.&quot;</td>
<td>&quot;A.C.T.&quot;</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
With one final chapter left in their high school career, the Senior class strived to make it the best year yet. The class of 2009 went through three different principals in four years. Their freshman year, Mr. Jason Leahy ruled the school. Each day, students were blessed with “Leahy Live”, a news session starring the principal himself. Sophomore year, Andrew Carmitchel stepped in as principal. Receiving his or her driver’s license was the highlight of every student’s year. Current principal, Josh Ebener, came into office for the class of 2009’s Junior year and stayed for their final year of high school. As Juniors, the class kicked off the year on top as they defeated the Senior girls in the annual Powderpuff football game. As Seniors, the class of 2009 blew the other classes out of the water in Homecoming week activities, which led to receiving the Spirit Stick for being loudest at the Pep Rally. “Senioritis” kicked in as college deadlines approached. Teachers buckled down and did anything they could to keep students focused for their final days at HHS. Prom was a hit with the radio DJ from Hot 104.1 laying down the beats. Senior year was wrapped up with AP tests, exams, and a very warm graduation ceremony. The class of 2009 enjoyed their Senior picnic as well as the start of their summer vacation.

**Question and Answer**

**Alex Crandall**

What is your most memorable moment during Senior year?

"The mysterious disappearance of Fat Al."

**Nathan Straeter & Blake Bircher**

Who was your favorite teacher at Highland and why?

"Maximum Destruction (Mr. Uhls). He’s a great guy with a good sense of humor. He deserves a raise."

**Michelle Whaley**

What is one thing you will never forget about being at HHS?

"Sophomore year when Ryan Melosi danced on the table at lunch."

**Devon Dumstorff**

What was your favorite thing to do on the weekends?

"Playing in The Smoking Aces."

**Stephanie Vick**

What would be your advice for next years Seniors?

"Take easy classes."
Seniors Jacob Strackeljahn, Tyler Weis, and Eric Stoff, show off their "Wacky Wednesday" Olympic shirts.

Katie Henricks and Josh Lee show how a busy school year can cause a mess.

Showing off their happy pumpkin, Liz Stumpf and Noah Haukup take a break from a class in the agriculture department.

Ethan Beck gives a thumbs up while wearing a very attractive mustache.

Office workers, Randy Knebel and Kristen Randant, study hard while waiting on notes to deliver.
Seniors, Brent Kuper, Ryan Newton, and Sean Gagen, sleep on the bench during a hard day of school.

Kyle Abert
Rachel Adair
Joshua Ammann
Travis Anderson
Monica Baczewski
Brandy Balkenbusch

Brian Basler
Felicia Bearley
Travis Becherer
Anna Beck
Ethan Beck
Maryssa Beckman

Cody Bellm
Jenna Bentlage
Zachary Bethel
Blake Bircher
Rachel Boaz
Alex Bowman

Sara Bruce
Kimberly Bruning
Caitlin Byrd
Haley Carter
Paul Chapman
Lynette Chinal

178 People
Brennan Girdler
Lindsay Glockner
Ryan Graminski
Lindsey Hahn
Brittany Hammel
Heidi Hammond

Anthony Hanlon
Reed Happold
Jakob Hardas
Emilee Hargis
Kristin Harkey
Jared Hatton

Noah Haukap
Stephanie Heffron
Lauren Heim
Brett Heinz
Amanda Hempen
Katherine Hennicks

Charis Hobbs
Dustin Hook
Travis Horner
Shaun Horstmann
Kelsey Hoyt
Spencer Huck

180 People
Brandi Lambert
Victoria Lampe
Kyle Lawrence
Joshua Lee
Justin Louvier
Leva Luotaite

Brent Maedge
Damiano Magnante
Blake Manville
Lindsey Markus
Briana Martin
Katherine May

Stephany McCalla
Dakota McConville
Ryan McDaniel
Sarah McDaniel
Cameron McKee
Bradley Merkle

Madeline Michael
Courtney Mener
Christopher Miles
Clinton Miller
Rebecca Miller
Lindsey Milner

Katelyn Missey
Brittany Morgan
William Morton
Brittany Netemeyer
Ryari Newton
Timothy Nicoson

Aaron Niggli
John Niggli
Christine Noones
Leah Nungenesser
Deborah Oldenkamp
Dustin Olson

182 People
Britni Snow
John Snow
Lee Stahlhub
Alanna Steinmann
Eric Stoff
Jacob Strackeljahn

Nathan Straeter
Ariel Strasser
Elizabeth Stumpf
Christopher Sudhoff
Chelsie Switzer
Nathan Sykes

Jamie Tedford
Kelly Terrill
Justin Thiem
Andrew Thompson
Sharon Tipsword
Lacy Toennies

John Toussaint
Michael Trobaugh
Stephanie Vick
Rebecca Volluz
Maddie Waldman
Emily Warnecke

184 People
Sami,  
Wherever you go,  
whatever you do  
The choices you make will be up to you  
You’ve got a great start,  
so stay in the zone  
And remember this promise,  
YOU ARE NEVER ALONE!  
We love you Princess,  
Dad and Mom  
P.S. Best wishes to all your friends. It’s been a pleasure to know such a great group of kids.

Brandon Koishor  
We showed you:  
Patience, Understanding, Loyalty, and  
Unconditional Love  
You found:  
A sense of achievement  
Courage and determination  
Respect and inspiration to others  
Integrity from within yourself  
Now we give you:  
Congratulations, Applause, and Wings

Jacob,  
Wow! It seems like yesterday, when we watched you take your first steps.  
Now, you are getting ready for your next big steps- off to college! We are proud of the young man that you have grown to be. We love you and will always be there for you as you continue to make your life decisions.  
Love,  
Mom and Dad

Brian  
We want to say from the bottom of our hearts we wish the best for you. Everything you do, you give it your all. We are so proud of you and your accomplishments.  
Always believe in yourself. Best of luck at ASU!  
Love you very much,  
Mom, Dad, and Derek

Dear Tyler,  
Wow! It’s hard to believe that you’re graduating high school. It seems like only yesterday you were a toddler. We want to let you know how proud we are of you and wish you all the best after graduation. Whatever you decide your future to be, we know you’ll be successful, and we will always stand behind you 100 percent. We wish you the best of luck, and we all love you very, very much.  
Love,  
Your family

Ryan,  
You made it!  
You’ve made us very proud. Always remember you can depend on our support, guidance, friendship, and love as you go out into the world to follow your dreams. Go for your dreams in life, be honest, and be your best. Always remember you have our love and best wishes. Thanks for being a GREAT son! A son like you deserves it all. Good luck at UNC!  
Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Derek

Congratulations Brandy!  
We could not be more proud of the wonderful young lady you have grown to become. We know that whatever you choose to do with your life, you will do it with love, passion, and faith. We only have one wish for you- to be happy and let your heart show you the way. Good luck in Kentucky! Go Patriots!  
Love,  
Mom, Dad, Christy, and Nick

Christine Alexis Nooness,  
Having you we promised the world to leave it a better place. In a rare case, we really did. And it’s all because of you. Honesty, Integrity, compassion, generous, thoughtful, inclusive, and unspoiled. You couldn’t be better. Now you get to share yourself with the big world, and command your own piece of the sky. With the utmost respect and love your proud and humbled parents.  
Dave and Tara Nooness
Rachel,
Tell me it's not true. You can't be graduating already. What happened? When did I blink? From precious little baby doll to beautiful young lady- it doesn't seem possible that it passed so quickly. Watching you grow, knowing we've made mistakes along the way, but seeing the incredible person you've become, it's all been worth it. Go set the world on fire for Jesus!
Love,
Dad, Mom, Brandon, Britanni, and Madisen

Congratulations Keith!
Time has passed by so quickly. It's hard to believe you'll be going off to college soon. We have truly enjoyed watching you grow up into a handsome young adult. You are such a role model for your younger brother and sister. We wish you the best of luck and will always be your biggest fan. We are so proud of you Keith!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Kelsey, and Kyle

Congratulations Kristee!
We are so proud of you and all of the accomplishments you have achieved at Highland High School. We know you will have continued success in college and remember we will always be there for you! Thanks for being the great person that you are! We love you more than you will ever know.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Ashley

Congratulations Chelsie!
We find it hard to believe that you are graduating from high school, but know with your positive and go get em attitude you will prevail in college and beyond. Good luck at college and remember that we are always there for you!
Love,
Mom & Dad

Congratulations Ariel!
We are so proud of you and your many accomplishments throughout your high school years. We know that wherever life takes you, you will be a success! Remember that we are always here for you- no matter what! Good luck at Lindenwood!!
Love,
Mom & Jerry
Dad & Elizabeth

Leah,
Congratulations on four great years. Be as proud of all your accomplishments as we are. Work hard and enjoy your college years at SIUC.
Love,
Mom, Dad, and Drew

Justin,
We are so proud of the young man that you have become and all that you have accomplished along the way. While it might seem like a big part of you life is over there is so much more in store for you! As you look forward to college remember, hold true to yourself and always follow your heart and in return may you find happiness and success.
Love,
Mom, Dad, Zach, and Jared

Congratulations Briana!
We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments. It has been a joy watching you grow into the wonderful young woman that you have become. As you begin this new chapter in your life, we wish you lots of happiness and success. Good Luck at KU!
We love you,
Mom, Dad, and Brett
Congratulations Josh!
Way to go! You Did it! We are so proud of you! You’ve grown up to be a remarkable young man with so many great opportunities ahead of you. Our love and best wishes will be with you wherever you are. Good Luck at Lindenwood University! Stay strong in your faith.
We love you.
Mom, Dad, Nick, & Lucas

Congratulations Lynette!
We are proud of you and what you have accomplished, and the bright and talented young woman you have become. Thank you for the wonderful memories and all of those yet to come. Follow your dreams, stay true to yourself, and there’s nothing you can’t accomplish. Wherever life may take you, you will always be Daddy’s little girl in the clothes basket. Good luck in college.
Mom, Dad, Grandma, & Grandpa

Congratulations Tony,
Wow! How time flies. It seems like just yesterday you were starting kindergarten and now you are graduating and heading to college. Tony we are so proud of the good young man you have become. You have worked so hard through school and football. You never quit, even when quitting would have been easier, and it has paid off. You have a good heart with many accomplishments and always remember we are always here for you! Good luck at McPherson College and football in Kansas.
We love you!
Mom, Dad, Kailey, & Taylor

Lacy,
It’s said God made the world in six days, on the seventh day he rested. Not true. On the seventh day he created you. We’ve always said you were close enough to perfect for us, clean your room and you would be perfect.
Love always,
Mom and Dad
XOXO

Jenilee,
Your strong will, determination, and belief in yourself has molded you into a leader, role model, and young woman that I am proud of. Remember to allow God to guide you in your path. Also remember this... “Make good choices.”
I love you,
Mom

Congratulations Taylor!
We are very proud of you! Good luck with your future.
We love you always,
Mom, Dad, and Alex

Congratulations Zachary!
You make me very proud.
An amazing future is at your fingertips. Stay focused and excel through you next phase of life. You a gifted young man. I love you Zac!
Dad

Yeah Felicia,
It's difficult for me to accept the fact that you are graduating high school and I have to let you grow up. You are an incredible young woman and you will do wonderful things with your life. Never once doubt how proud I am of you. Always remember to love yourself, listen to your heart, take chances, and be happy. Most of all remember, I will always be here for you.
Love,
Mom
Congratulations Danny! 
Love to you always. On your special day we all want you to know just how proud of you we are. We have watched you grow to be the best young man. We are so very, very proud of you. May god continue to guide you in your life. Good luck in all you do. 
Mom, Dad, PePa, MeMa, & Family

Tim, 
We're so proud of the young man you have become. Although you like to march to the beat of your drum, that is what makes you so special, so unique, so Tim! As you go off to college and into your adult life, we hope you always remember to remain true to yourself. Believe in yourself, reach for the stars and you will catch them! 
Love always, 
Mom and Olivia

Lindsey, 
We can't believe our little girl is graduating high school. We are so proud of you! Congratulations on your successful high school years. You have become a responsible hardworking young person and constantly amaze us with all that you achieve. We are excited to send you off to Mizzou and wish you the best. Dream high and keep thinking of your future goals. You will achieve them! 
Love, 
Mom, Dad, and Jacob

Mark Korsmeyer, 
We have enjoyed watching you grow from Daddy's little boy and side kick to his young right hand man. You have given us so many precious memories over the past 18 years, and we look forward to many more. Graduation day has finally come and we are all so proud of you! Good luck with college and your future. We love you very much. 
Love, 
Mom, Dad, Eric, Amber, Dylan, Grandpa, and Grandma

Maddy, 
Words cannot express how proud we are of you and the person you have become. It's been truly rewarding to watch you grow and see all that you have accomplished during this chapter of your life. Look forward to the many opportunities that await you during the next chapter. Always remember to follow your dreams and believe in yourself. Keep in mind to walk by faith, not by sight. You are an amazing daughter, wonderful sister, and best friend. 
We love you! 
Mom, Dad, Emily, and Will

Congratulations Dominic! 
Looking back on these past 18 years fills me with pride and a few tears. You have given me so much joy from your first tiny steps, Such a precious little boy - To this young many- so caring & giving- A future so bright, guiding the life you'll be living- I could not ask for a son better than you- I look forward to witnessing the amazing things you'll do. 
Love, 
Mom

Bri, 
We've watched you grow from a shy little girl to the beautiful, confident, determined young woman you are today. May all of your accomplishments and beliefs give you a solid foundation to conquer this world. Our wish for you- be strong, be smart, and be passionate in what you believe in with those who come into your life. You are an extraordinary gift, and a beautiful blessing. We love you Angel Face! 
Mom and Dad

Charis (Peanut), 
Where have 13 years gone? It seems like yesterday that one waited for the "short" kindergarten bus for your first school day! When it stopped, you ran and never looked back. I've run with you to school, softball, basketball, volleyball, cheerleading, band, and soccer. I've enjoyed our journey and will always treasure the memories! We'll be with you while you continue to run towards college and beyond! 
Love, 
Daddy, Katie, Christy, and Joey
Congratulations Alex!
The time has flown by! I can’t believe you are already graduating from high school. You have become a wonderful young man. We are so proud of all that you have accomplished, both academically and personally. You are very successful in all of the activities you have pursued. Enjoy the road ahead to college! Study hard and have fun! We know you will do well!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Marissa, and Ryan

Congratulations Randy!
We are so proud of you. You are an amazing you man. Remember to keep your eyes on God and let him guide you through your life. There’s no stopping you!
Love,
Mom, Dad, David, and Kevin

Congratulations Chris!
We are so proud of you and all you have accomplished at HHS! These last four years have flown by and in that time you have achieved so much, academically and personally: Honors, State Champion for BPA, and Homecoming court twice. Mentoring HMS students and being in Leo Club, Life Savers attest to your charity and integrity! We know you’ll achieve all your dreams at Mizzou! Remain undaunted and ROCK ON!!!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Laura, and Joey

Dear Haley,
We are so very proud of you, but then again we always have been proud of you. We are thrilled you chose Eastern Illinois University. Haley, whatever path the university leads you, we know your integrity, honesty, intelligence, strength and passion for seeking and speaking the truth even when it may be uncomfortable for others, you will be able to go anywhere you choose to. We can’t wait to see.
Love,
Mom and Dad

Congratulations Jordan!
You have given us nothing but joy for the last 18 years. We couldn’t be more proud of you and your accomplishments. Remember..."Every day is a wonderful chance to be what you’ve dreamed...to do what you’ve imagined." We hope that each day that follows be another wonderful step to all that you love and want in life. We love you, and we will always be here for you.
Love,
Dad, Mom, Colin, and Evan

Congratulations Cody!
Your athleticism and your ability to rule the guitar have been nothing short of success. And now, as you embark on a new chapter in your adult life it shall be no different. We all know that only good things will come your way. Never forget who you are. Embrace life with passion, hope, and faith. We will always be there to cheer you on and support you. May all your dreams come true!
Love,
Dad, Mom, Casey, Jeff, Michael Jr., and Kristi

Great Job John! Congratulations!
We wish you continued success in all that you do. Remember that we will always be here for you. Now it’s time for you to move on and begin a new and important phase in your life. Make us proud as you continue your education at The University of Illinois. But for now, sit back, smile, and be proud of you accomplishments. Well done.
Mom, Dad, Tanner, and Austin

To Our Sweet Jayna,
Congratulations on 12 great years! We are all so proud of you and the beautiful Christian young lady you have become. You have a great big world ahead of you, and always remember, “You can do all things through Christ who gives you strength.”
Phil 4:13
We Love You!
Dad, Mom, Molly, and Lydia
Gage,
Your day here at HHS has finally come and there are more goals and achievements for you to reach in your future. You will excel at anything you set your mind to. We are your biggest fans! GO GAGE!
Love,
Mom, Dad, Cori, and Bailee

Congrats Brittany,
We are so proud of you!
We love you.
Hugs and Kisses,
Mom and Dad

Dakota,
You have turned into not only a handsome young man but one with such a bright future ahead of him. I want to wish you the best of luck towards your career goal in the automotive industry.
Love,
Mom

Kristy,
We are so proud of you and everything you have accomplished. Good luck at Maryville! We know you will do great there too.
Love,
Your Mom and Dad

KT- My Little Buckeye,
I couldn’t be any prouder of you or could have wished for a better daughter. You’ve grown into such a beautiful, compassionate, and intelligent young woman. It’s been a tough road in many ways, but you did it! Watch out world here she comes!
I love you the mostest!
Mom

Congratulations Wendy!
As one chapter closes a new and exciting one begins. Enjoy life! Every new adventure is a learning experience. Embrace them all. As you begin your new chapter in life this fall, it will be like putting you on the school bus for the first time. With tears in our eyes we are happy to see you grow and sad to see you go. We are proud of you always!
Love,
Mom and Dad

Zachary,
Thank you for the pleasures and treasures you have given me, both deserved and not. There has never been anything you have done that has taken away my unconditional love for you. Always and forever, in my eyes, heart and soul, you are to me the most wonderful son!
I have loved you from the day you were born...I love you with every breath you take...I will love you forever!
Mom
On Sunday, May 31 the class of 2009 celebrated the completion of 12 years of learning with a ceremony held in the high school gymnasium. Before the ceremony, Voegle Photography snapped individual shots of students while others gathered in the Commons to mingle before their march into the gym. After the band played the processional, the 2009 chorus members sang The National Anthem to the standing room only audience. Class officers Jacob Strackeljahn, Josh Lee, and Sarah Dickman welcomed the crowd of family and friends, Mr. Michael Sutton, Superintendent, presented Emilee Hargis and Stephanie Short with their Valedictorian awards. Salutatorian was Andrew Kimmel. Class comments were given by Hargis and Short. Senior chorus members once again entertained the audience with “For Good”. Class President, Amanda Hempen bid the farewell and Principal Josh Ebener presented the graduates with an inspirational speech. The ceremony ended with a celebration full of silly string and laughter. The class of 2009 graduated 234 students, who walked out of the Highland High School gym for the last time to Edward Elgar’s “Fanfare and Recessional”.
Principal Josh Ebener gives a speech to the Class of 2009 one last time.

Jordan Duft smiles as she shakes Superintendent Sutton's hand and receives her diploma.

Singing the National Anthem in harmony are chorus members Janie Welge, Tim Osborn, Cami Kennet, and John Nigglı.

The Class of 2009 celebrates after being handed their diplomas by spraying silly string on their classmates.
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CLASS OF 2009

-Steve, Kris, & Stevo Klingbeil
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