Stirring things up, Breana Lynn helps her group cook a special dish as part of an Iron Chef competition in Tara George's Culinary Essentials class.

On a Friendship Group field trip, junior Aaron Lewis plays his guitar at the Cider Hill Family Orchard. The group sat around a campfire to sing and eat s'mores at the end of the day after choosing pumpkins and picking apples.

Squaring the wood, junior Dustin Russell is assisted by Wood Technology teacher Casey Seiler while making a clock during fourth hour.
We create...

MEMORIES, FRIENDSHIPS, BONDS THAT WILL LAST

DRAMA, EXCUSES, THINKING ON THE GO

LAUGHER AND LOVE, MOMENTS TO CHERISH

CONFIDENCE, CHARACTER, OUR OWN IDENTITY

PURPOSE AND MEANING, UNFORGETTABLE MOMENTS

Spicing it up, junior Haley Richmond performs in a Latin-themed halftime show at a home game. The band used this performance to sharpen their skills for their trip to the Alamo Bowl at the end of December.

Representing their class, seniors Dyan Mackey and Maryssa Peterson compete in a two-legged race during the first Renaissance assembly.

Working together, juniors Circa Sweeney and Jared Clements create a Wizard of Oz themed pumpkin in their seventh hour independent study art class. "Jared and I always work well together," Sweeney said. "We chose this design because the Wizard of Oz is a very recognizable Kansas symbol. I liked how it turned out, and I was glad it was part of a service project to help those with special needs."
You walk through the front doors and open your locker for the very first time, not knowing what's ahead or what you'll be asked to create. A phone dialog in your senior English class? A box for an egg baby? A halftime show that's good enough to take to Texas?

The possibilities are endless, and you learn pretty quickly that your time here is a reflection of what you choose to create.

The process can be exhausting, but also rewarding—like when you overcome your fear of being wrong and score your first point in a Scholar's Bowl meet. Or when you finally create your Senior Project, putting behind the daunting task that made eight hours of sleep a distant memory.

It's the silly tweets you create and the inside jokes that only you and your friends understand. It's those unforgettable moments you share with the people you've known your whole life or with those you just met in your seventh hour psychology class.

It's the camaraderie you create every day in practice that leads you to a district football championship or a trip to the state basketball tournament. It's the realization that the only way you can possibly understand Calculus is when you create snowmen with functions in the land of Sharpnackia.

It all comes down to finding your identity through four long, yet short years. You create high school and it in turn creates you. Through your eyes, mind, heart and hands, you build, explore, love, see, discover and live, but most of all, you...
Sporting a new jersey, senior Toby Sullivan readies himself to take control of the ball in a home game against Topeka Seamen.

Slicing into her slab of clay, sophomore Alex Carter creates a ceramic mobile in her 3-D art class.

Deep in thought, freshman Maressa Garcia intently listens to a presentation by English teacher Jennifer Stricevich during freshman orientation on Aug. 12.

Chilling in the commons, sophomores Skyler Lucas and Nicole Norris (middle) work on the Mac laptops to research successful entrepreneurs in Bryce McFarland's Business Management class.
80's Day

I like being able to dress up in something I wouldn't normally wear. It didn't really take me too long to put it together because I had already thought of what I wanted to do the night before. I'm all for dressing up and dressing like people back in the day.

-Kathryn Sanborn, 10

Maui Day

My sister had a Hawaiian 16th birthday party, so I just used clothes from that I heard many comments throughout the day from people who said they loved my dress.

-Stephanie Rose, 11

Camo Day

I used my mom's Army jacket from her basic training days. It took me a while to go through all of her Army stuff in the basement, but I was glad I did. I thought Camo Day was a great addition to the week.

-Jessica Carroll, 12

War Party

I worked at Price Chopper after school and had to explain more than a dozen times that it was my high school's homecoming. One man came to my checkout lane and just fell to the ground laughing, breaking his eggs in the process.

-Cesar Diaz, 11

I picked Lucille Ball from 'I Love Lucy' because she is very funny, and I think I somewhat resemble her. Mackenzie Lofton and her mother put together the idea and the outfit. I'm very glad they did.

-Haley Meier, 12
Jesus because I wanted to represent the coolest person that ever walked the face of this earth. Some people bowed down to me in the cafeteria, which was pretty funny.

Hannah Novogradić, 11

Rocking the 80’s mullet, freshman Ryan Closser works on a paper during his third hour World History and Geography class.

"I adore Mrs. Sharpnack. She’s hilarious and sassy and just plain amazing. The hardest part was definitely the hair. It took several good tries, and quite a few poor tries to perfect it, and it still wasn’t good enough. I would so do this again. It was fun being Mrs. Sharpnack, and it was cool to feel the kind of power that she possesses."

Jacob Palmer, 12

"I picked Mr. Addington because he’s my favorite teacher and I haven’t really seen anyone else at school who wore a bow tie. I thought it would be easy for other people to tell who I was impersonating. I couldn’t find a bow tie at my house, so my dad decided to make one out of cardboard; it worked out great."

Luciano Pasani, 10

"I was just brainstorming with some people on who to be when Mr. Moulin walked by, thus giving me my inspiration. Mr. Moulin was thoroughly impressed with how accurately I portrayed him. I felt powerful and in charge. Now I see why Mr. Moulin is always happy."

Ryan Cook, 12

"I wanted to dress up like Mr. KLAGER because his style is very professional and easy to notice. I think he approved because he told me that I was looking good that day. It felt odd because everyone kept calling me Klager, but it was also awesome because he is the Klagerator."

George Docking, 12
Say Aloha to a Hawaiian Homecoming

"Float construction was a lot better because we actually had a plan. It was just guys that were working, so there was a lot more done."

-Kimberly Sanchez, 10

"I had a lot of fun working with my friends, and I was really proud of the way we worked together to totally dominate the competition."

-Cork cannon, 11

"We really took it all the way this year. We had a simple, yet awesome idea, and after three years, our class has learned how to work together."

-Chad Vol, 11

"I think the pep rally was a really good way to get everyone in the spirit before the game. People look forward to dunking others into the freezing water," Timberlake said.

-letting loose, freshmen Kianna Hickman and Antonia Holiday (far right) get down during the pep rally as senior Spencer Bush joins in.
Dress, heels, hair, and nails are usually the stressing points for a Homecoming queen candidate, but for senior Bre Tendick it was avoiding the urge to sneeze and covering up a black eye. During a softball accident the week before the festivities, Tendick suffered a concussion and a broken nose and had to ignore the pains. Although nobody else had to go through the same, her friends were kind enough to wear sunglasses with her during the royalty assembly. "We didn't want her to be the odd one out, so we all thought it'd be nice to make it easier for her. Besides, who doesn't like sunglasses?" Emily Hunt said.

"I was shocked when I saw my friends slide on their sunglasses right before we stepped out. It was a relief and I didn't feel so awkward."

Breanna Tendick, 12

Queen Breanna Tendick

King B.J. Watson and
Brett Steuart and Toni Stock
How many times do you tweet a day?
At least 10 times a day.
How many followers do you have? 10,600

What famous people do you follow?
Mac Miller, Lil Wayne, Tyga, Drake
What do you tweet about?
Mostly random stuff, whatever is trending.
Why do you think your tweets are so popular?
They’re funny and people can relate to them.

What do you tweet about?
Anything that’s on my mind. Twitter is mine to open up.

My lunch usually consists of a turkey wrap, chips, an apple, and juice. My mother packs my lunch every evening.
-caroline clark, 10

I don’t really like the school lunch. I got sick two years ago from it, and I’ve brought my lunch ever since.
-Gonzalo Richards, 12

I bring my lunch to school because school lunch is really gross and my mom doesn’t want to pay $2.05 for a lunch that I don’t even enjoy.
-Kathryn cochran, 10

You saw plenty of them in the fall, sported by celebrities in commercials and in movies, but after winter break they were everywhere. Whether bright pink, red, blue or silver, over-the-ear headphones became the hottest new trend, leaving the earbud headphones behind.

Shutting out the world, junior Mason Roberts listens to his music through his new high performance headphones. “I saw a commercial for Beats and I really liked them, so I got them. The sound quality is great and I like how I can’t hear anything else when I have them on. They were around $300 and I’ve had them since Christmas.”

"Hyping themselves up," seniors Jordaine Smallwood and B.J. Watson listen to “House Party” by Meek Mill with their beats before the Pink Out game at Turner.
I'm addicted to Nutella

Pet Peeves

Fun Facts

- One serving size of Nutella (1 tablespoon) has 100 calories.
- The amount of Nutella produced in one day is equivalent to three times the weight of the Statue of Liberty.
- If you lined up the number of Nutella jars sold annually, it would wrap around the moon four times.
- About 70 million hazelnuts are used worldwide each day in the production of Nutella.

"It really gets under my skin when people wear calf-high basketball socks with Sperry's because they just don't go together. They are two completely different styles that should never be mixed."

- Sammy Weller, 11

"I don't like it when people wear socks with sandals. I just find it annoying. If you're going to put on socks, then why not put on tennis shoes? If you don't have tennis shoes, why wear socks?"

- Lavissa Mitchell, 12

"It really irks me when I see a person running, and they have to pull up their pants so they don't trip on them. Sometimes I even see a belt and the pants are still baggy! If you want to wear baggy jeans, then please wear them at home. No one wants to see your boxer shorts at school when they're trying to learn."

- Beverly Moore, 12

"I don't like it when guys' shoes don't match their clothes. It also annoys me when guys' collars don't lay flat."

- Andrew Cobbing, 12

"I hate it when girls wear really baggy sweatpants, and they tuck them into their boots. Another thing I don't like is when girls tuck in their tank tops."

- Madison Hurla, 10

Why do you color your hair?
I like how it puts me out there. When people talk about me they can say, "That one chick with the rainbow mohawk."

What do you use to color your hair?
Funky Fruit Dye

Do you style your own hair?
Yes. I cut, shave, and dye my hair.

What are people's reactions?
I only get good reactions. No one ever comes up to me and says, "Hey, I hate your hair."

How often do you change your hair?
I touch up my hair every two weeks, but I recolor it.

How long have you been dying your hair?
I've been dying my hair since I was nine, and I am pretty sure that my natural hair color is light brown.

At first I saw Nutella in stores, but I didn't pay attention to it until all the girls brought it to school. I like Nutella because it's unique and tastes delicious. I usually eat it with pretzels, but it's good with fruit and on crepes at IHOP.

-Alex Carter, 10

- Stephanie Isley, 1

Lifestyles & Trends 13
Staying in harmony with the Women's Ensemble, junior Krista Owens (top) sings "I Say A Little Prayer For You" by Dionne Warwick.

Dancing in the middle of the stage, sophomore Austin Twombly fist pumps to the song "Hey Ya!" by OutKast with junior Jacob Sophet.

Soaking up his time in the spotlight, senior B.J. Watson sings "My Girl" by The Temptations in front of a captivated audience. "I loved the quality of this song, and I loved it more that I could sing it with my friends," Watson said.

Enjoying the final musical number, juniors Sarah Caaron and Stephanie Arnold dance to the song "Ain't No Mountain High Enough" by Marvin Gaye and Tammi Terrell.
Veterans Day tribute highlights pop show

With images of fathers and grandfathers, brothers and sons flashing on the screen behind him, junior Kevin London softly paid tribute to area veterans while singing "Tell My Father" from the musical Civil War. London's performance was one of five solo acts featured in Bravo, the vocal music department's November pop show.

According to director Brian J. White, the tribute to veterans came about by accident, but made sense when the Friday performance fell on Veterans Day.

"Once Kevin chose his song, it just seemed to fit," White said. "The pictures for the slide show were submitted by USD 204 staff and choir members."

Other show-stopping moments came when senior Deidra Elijah brought down the house with "And I'm Telling You I'm Not Going" from the musical Dreamgirls.

White said the vocal music department presents Bravo every other year as a way to showcase talents.

"It takes a couple of months to prepare, and it's more difficult because performers must learn the dance and the song," White said. "The kids look forward to it because it's different, like a musical, and it's always a high point. There's nothing quite like performing. It's like an emotional release, like a mountain-top feeling."

“My Solo
Who has the spotlight?

"Singing by myself is one of my favorite things to do, so I always enjoy it. I was so nervous, but I felt happy at the same time."
- Caitlyn Khatshadnian, 11

"This was my first time ever doing a solo, and I have never been so nervous. The first show was the worst, but I felt that the second show was a little easier for me."
-Kayla McPherson, 10

"My favorite part of the solo was overcoming my fear of singing in front of people. I was so scared and shaky but towards the end of the song I felt proud of myself."
-Ciera Sweeney, 11

"My solo went better than I expected. It was fun to prepare for. Once it came time to perform, I didn't know what to do. I went out and did the best that I could."
-Cheyenne Scott, 12
The Cost of Expression

We all find ways to express ourselves, whether it be inside or outside of school. Through a myriad of mediums, we express our ideas and feelings.

These expressions, however, can come at a price. "I got involved in choir at a very young age. I was two when I joined my first choir. I love choir because it's a way for me to express how I'm feeling to others," junior Deidra Elijah said.

Elijah had to give up sports to make time for music. It was a worthy sacrifice, though, leading Elijah to develop her love for the vocal arts.

"When I sing, I feel that I express the value of life. Every breath that's taken is a gift; people can enjoy life through music. I feel powerful just knowing that my voice can comfort others."

Expression surrounds us everywhere we go. We see it in everything from dancers to gymnasts to vocalists and more. All of these forms and styles express who we are both individually and as a whole.

"When I was really young, I liked to dance and it was something I thought I would love. When we dance, we portray a story. We get to show our emotions, and it lets me portray life in a completely different way through movement. Dancing teaches you to be your own person and express yourself. Through dance, I get to view life in a completely different way. It opens up your eyes to a whole different section of life. I spend six hours during the week and about eight to 10 hours during the weekends practicing nearly everything there is, but mostly contemporary. It takes up a lot of my time for other things throughout the week, but I don't see it as an inconvenience because it's just a part of me. It is a dedication, a dedication to improve myself."

--Brenna McGuffey

My Devotion...

"I saw bull riding for the first time on TV when I was five. It just caught my eye as something different and at the time I thought it was really cool. Bull riding has taught me to never give up; when things are looking down, you just work harder. It has also taught me to set goals and to work hard at achieving them. I have had a lot of success with bull riding, but at the same time it has consumed much of my time and that of my parents. I have to plan my schedule around bull riding, but it is what you have to do if you want something as your career path."

--Nick Franchetti

"It has always been my dream since I was young to go to the Olympics for gymnastics. When I was little, I met Sean Johnson, a famous young gymnast at the time, and got to train with her and watch her practice. She was my role model. I trained for the 2012 Olympics, but after six years of training, I fractured my back. The following year, when I was 14, I tried to get back into gymnastics but I had to stop. My injury forced me to quit. I was really upset, but I couldn't control it. I had to have surgery. So, instead of gymnastics, I do competitive cheerleading. I still enjoy gymnastics, but I just have lower limits now; I can't do it like I used to."

--Brittany Frendtrop
Singing a solo, junior
Desiree Elijah performs at the fall choir concert on Oct. 6.
Enjoying a day at the orchard,
sophomore McKenna Spies receives help collecting apples from seniors Kylee Timberlake and Bre Jendick.

- **Busting a move**, sophomore Erin Walters and junior Anna Deegan participate in a Zumba class at a local dance studio.

- **Sharing a s'more**, sophomore Keith Shields and junior Joseph Arnett sit by the campfire during a trip to the Cider Hill Family orchard on Oct. 28. "I joined Friendship Group because I enjoy helping out and interacting with the kids. They need peer influence, not just adults," Arnett said.

- **Exploring an educational program**, sophomore Steven Shunkwiler learns about health and fitness during an interactive demonstration at Arrowhead Stadium. The Friendship Group was able to explore all parts of the stadium during their tour on Feb. 2.
Forging Relationships

Students discover the power of new relationships

Friendship Group is a new organization that gives student volunteers an opportunity to broaden their horizons by working with students who have struggles socially and/or behaviorally.

Sponsor Denise Chowning said student volunteers are selected to participate in the Friendship Group if they are "good friends to others" and possess strong social skills themselves.

As part of the relationship-building process, the Friendship Group went on a variety of excursions to give the new friends an opportunity to connect and have fun, such as learning Zumba at a local dance studio, visiting an apple orchard, and venturing to Arrowhead Stadium.

Through these trips and other activities, the students were able make personal connections that allowed them to identify with each other.

"The goal would be for these peers to educate the rest of the student population so that throughout the school and community, all students will be accepted and included," Chowning said. "I believe the friendship group has helped people to become more educated and to not only understand that everyone is different but to embrace it."

New Friends!

I first became interested in the cello when I heard Zoe Keating play. She has a sound of her own and that's where I started. I appreciated her love for the instrument and that inspired me to do my best. While I was in Mr. Romanishin's art class, I was given a free-draw assignment. I drew a cello and Mr. Romanishin asked me what had given me the inspiration, so I told him about my passion for playing the cello. He learned later that I had to stop my lessons because I could no longer afford to rent a cello.

Completely unknown to me, Mr. Romanishin organized an effort as part of the Braves Build Character program where students and staff donated money that was used to surprise me with a nice, used cello. It was awesome to know that there were people who cared.

-Salina Duarte, 12
High school is a place of building relationships, whether it be with your boyfriend or girlfriend, new friends, old friends or your parents. Our friends support us through the good times and bad, and our parents... well, they try to make us the best we can be. Yet, there is only one high school relationship that seems to overpower others: the one with that special someone.

Dating is very common throughout high school. We date to see what we like, what we’re looking for and what we want in a person. We go on dates and create the dream date. We create the perfect person for us, and we count the cute things done for us — whether that be how they ask us to the Women-Pay-All (WPA) dance or what they get us for Valentine’s Day. Some of us fall in love, some think we do and some just want to be. And after all, that’s what we’re all looking for, aren’t we? Because we all know you can’t live with them and you can’t live without them.

Laughing together, juniors Andria Wigleworth and Grant Lewis (top left) enjoy the techno-themed WPA dance on Nov. 19.

Dancing to a slow song, sophomores Cheyenne Hale and Jared Kromschrid (top right) embrace a moment with each other.

Having fun, junior Tristan Abes and Mandy Ballew (far left) and Cord Cannon and sophomore Nicole Norris (left) enjoy the WPA dance.

Slowing it down, freshmen Hannah Fehlhafer and Jordan Castro (above) enjoy their first WPA dance along with Faith Seaton and Alex Povlicki (left). “I had a lot of fun,” Fehlhafer said. “We wore Toy Story shirts.”

I went to WPA with Guilherme. We bought white v-necks and dyed them green and blue, the main colors of the American and Brazilian flags. The back of his shirt said America and mine said Brazil.”
—Bethany Hailey

I went to WPA with my boyfriend Ethan Hook. We picked out matching shirts that said ‘Free Bear Hugs.’ We actually enjoy dancing, so we stayed together the whole time.
—Hailey Kendrick

I went with my friend, Cassie Stock. We got T-shirts together and had a great time. I always have fun with friends.
—Madison Hamsough
**Fast Facts**

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<thead>
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<th>Percentage</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>51.3%</td>
<td>Have been or are in a relationship for over a year...</td>
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<tr>
<td>62.2%</td>
<td>At one time or now are in love with their best friend...</td>
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**My Perfect BF/GF is...**
- Athletic: 68.8%
- Musical: 37.5%
- Artistic: 21.9%
- Techy: 14.6%

**What I Notice First is...**
- Eyes: 72.7%
- Hair: 24.2%
- Physique: 29.3%
- Clothing: 19.2%

**How did it End?**
- Text: 66%
- Phone: 25.5%
- Facebook: 22.3%
- In-Person: 48.9%

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**Create**

**The Perfect Date**

"My perfect date would be to go out to the middle of a field with a blanket and have a picnic and then watch the stars. It's cheesy, but it's true."

- Katrina Houston, 12

"My idea of a perfect date would go like this: He picks me up, looking sexy but casual. We go to a restaurant where we are seated by a host. He makes good conversation, is relaxed but still has manners. Then we would go somewhere for live entertainment like a poetry session or dancing. I'd like it if he'd offer to pay for everything, but I'd chip in too. And then he'd take me home safely."

- Tyke Johnson, 12

"It would be during the summer, where there is an open field. We'd have a picnic and then lay back and look at the perfect clouds. We'd also joke around and have fun being ourselves, like throwing grapes at each other. And of course, it would be with Zac Efron."

- Linelle Wilson, 11

"Going to McDonald's and then dancing till the break of dawn, the good stuff. But we don't go on 'dates.'"

- Steve Williams & BJ Watson, 12

"To me the perfect date would be lying under the stars and stargazing with whomever it would be."

- Micaela Reed, 11

"Going to dinner and the movies would be the perfect date. For dinner, we'd get Mexican food and then we'd go see a funny movie."

- Raleigh Shearr, 11

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**The Ideal Girl**

"The perfect girl for me would be someone who is nice, smart and good-looking."

- Justin Carroll, 10

"She's got to be someone who can accept me for who I am and who can deal with my sometimes mean sense of humor."

- Alec Martinez, 11

"The perfect girl would have a nice personality; she'd be smart, stylish and have long hair."

- DeAndre White, 12

"She'd be someone like a friend—faithful, beautiful, sweet and funny, just an all-around good person."

- Weston Will, 10

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**Oh So Sweet ❤️**

"One of the many sweet moments in my relationship with Reed came on Valentine's Day when he carved me a wooden heart box that said 'My beloved.' It was so sweet."

- Madison Morris, 12

"I made a storybook for Skyler that told the story of us. It started off with 'Once upon a time...' and ended with 'Will you be my boyfriend?"

- Coleman Isaac, 11

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It was a great year to be a member of Orange Crush because our athletes gave us a lot to cheer about.

The football team got things going with an impressive win over Topeka Seaman and ultimately qualified for the state quarterfinals.

Not to be outdone, the boys' and girls' basketball teams also had stellar seasons. However, the ultimate highlight came when the girls' team gave the Orange Crush crowd a chance for a road trip to Salina for the three-day state tournament. The Crush responded with a terrific turnout to support the Lady Braves.

During the game, sophomore Sasha Bingaman and Elizabeth Baier cheer the football team on to a victory against Tonganoxie at the Homecoming game.

During the game, sophomore Sasha Bingaman and Elizabeth Baier cheer the football team on to a victory against Tonganoxie at the Homecoming game.

Front Row Fanatics

Sitting on the front row of the Orange Crush is a much coveted senior privilege. It’s understood that you must wait your turn to get a spot there. Here’s a look at some of the most loyal front-row fans.

Toby Sullivan
Favorite cheer: D-d-d-defense!
Most memorable game: Home against Mill Valley
Necessity item: My #24 jersey
Team you love to hate: Basehor and Mill Valley
What you’ll miss most: The rivalries

Why you are a front-row fanatic: Because I like supporting my Bonner Braves to the fullest.

Shane Jones
Favorite cheer: We are the Bonner Braves!
Most memorable game: Home against Mill Valley
Necessity item: Mullet and the Stache
Team you love to hate: Basehor
What you’ll miss most: Friday night basketball

Why you are a front-row fanatic: Because I’m a Bonner Brave for life.

Dre Henn
Favorite cheer: I believe that we will win!
Most memorable game: Home against Mill Valley
Necessity item: My headband
Team you love to hate: Basehor
What you’ll miss most: Hilton telling us to stop chanting
Why you are a front-row fanatic: Because I bleed orange and black.
RESERVED für
Rachel Taylor

After discussing some ideas with the USD 204 maintenance staff and then gaining their approval, Wilson built a platform that would allow Rachel to watch games in the Orange Crush section. His daughter Erica, also a senior, made a plaque for the platform that said, “Reserved for Rachel Taylor.”

Rachel is confined to a motorized chair due to a condition known as arthrogryposis, which means she has trouble moving her joints on her own. Although she had been a member of Orange Crush for four years, Rachel had never even attended a football game until this year. But thanks to Wilson’s handiwork, she was able to watch the Homecoming game with her peers on her new platform.

“It was a little scary at first because I wasn’t used to being up that high,” Taylor said. “But it was fun to be with the rest of Orange Crush and my friends. I’m very appreciative of what Mr. Wilson did for me.”

Before the game, junior Sydney Turner shows her respect during the national anthem at Mill Valley. “I like being a part of the Orange Crush because you can show your school spirit and cheer on your team,” Turner said.

Boosting the Braves, senior Garrett Pearce (top right) encourages the boys’ basketball team at a home game.

At the home opener, seniors Erin Marx, Meagan Sice and Spencer Bush (left) hold their shoes up to support senior kicker Nate Mitchell. The shoe tradition started as a way for soccer players to celebrate when one of their players was kicking for the football team.
Enjoying the night, Brad Newberry, junior Tessa Newberry teases him about his era of music.

- Laughing with her father, Brad Newberry, junior Tessa Newberry teases him about his era of music.

- Getting jiggly with it, senior Maryssa Peterson and her dad, Bar Peterson, dance to a different version of the "Cupid Shuffle."

- Engaging the conversation, junior Jason Van Maren shares a nice moment with his mom, Diane. "I had a blast. I really connected with my mom that night," Van Maren said. "She really enjoyed the dance too."

- Dancing the night away, senior Emily Hunt and her father, Dennis Hunt, enjoy the evening. "It was the first time in a long time that my dad and I got to do something together without all of my other siblings and my mom," Hunt said.

- Enjoying the night, senior Rebecca Peña and her father, Miguel, sway to the rhythm. "We didn't plan on staying the whole night, but we did because it was so fun," Peña said.
Parent Dance offers a change of pace

While the thought of spending a Saturday night with dear ol’ dad or mom might sound pretty painful to some students, some juniors and seniors welcomed the opportunity provided by the Jan. 14 parent dance.

The dance offers a stress-free change of pace with no hair or nail appointments and no weighty decisions on where your group might want to do dinner.

“The dance was a good chance to be able to dress in something that was comfortable to dance in, and the pre-dance prepping wasn’t as expensive,” junior Skyler Taylor said.

The relaxed atmosphere is one of the dance’s strongest appeals.

“We had about 20 people in our group, and we all went to Twisters before the dance. It was nice because it wasn’t expensive, and it was still good food. It was a casual night, which is always fun,” senior Spencer Bush said.

Music was provided by special education teacher Jim Mitchell’s Johnny Dollar band. Even though their music is targeted more towards the parents, the students also enjoyed it.

“We did the Cupid Shuffle to a different song that wasn’t as modern. The parents enjoyed it because it gave them a taste of what we do at other dances,” junior Haley Hoffine said.

With a different atmosphere, the parent dance was a good time for bonding with your parent.

No one enjoys a school dance quite like Jacob Sopher. In addition to hitting the dance floor with his mom, Shannon McKelvin, Sopher played the harmonica with the Johnny Dollar band.

“Jacob’s harmonica performance went very well. We asked him in advance if he wanted to perform with us at the dance since he was unable to do so last year because he was sick. Jacob had a good time, and the crowd really enjoyed him,” said Jim Mitchell, special education teacher and lead singer.

“It meant a lot to me that Sam’s dad, Glenn Weller, took me to the dance. Ever since my dad died, I haven’t really had a father figure. Before the dance, we all went to Stix to eat. It was a great experience since I never thought I would actually go to a ‘Father-Daughter Dance.’ I’m thankful for Sam and her dad for taking me.”

—Kayla Horn, Jr.

“My favorite part of the dance was getting to play the harmonica for everyone and when everyone clapped for me.”

—Jacob Sopher, Jr.

Creating bonds

I had a lot of fun at the dance. I don’t really get to see my dad a lot, so it was good quality time for us. I loved getting to see my dad dance because he really doesn’t like to dance, so it was cool and funny to see him get out there and have fun.

—Lauren Culter, Jr.

Entertaining the crowd, junior Jacob Sopher plays along with the Johnny Dollar band. “Jacob has always loved music,” Shannon McKelvin said.
Soaring into the air, senior Yesenia Hernandez puts up a shot against Pratt in the first game of the state tournament.

After the game against Pratt, the girls basketball team celebrates their advancement to round two of the state tournament. "We were all really excited about winning the first round; it was a big accomplishment," Deegan said.

Finding an open teammate, senior Erica Wilson makes a pass in the game against McPherson. "I thought that we tried really hard in this game, and we left it all out on the floor. The season went really well. We had tons of fun, and we all got along," Wilson said.
For the first time in school history, the girls basketball team earned a trip to Salina to the state tournament, and there were many students and staff members who made the journey to support them.

Students were allowed to ride the Crush Bus for the Wednesday and Friday games, and there were 322 who left school early Friday to watch the second-round action. To encourage students to go, teachers Nancy Baker, Lisa Lugar, Donna Sharpnack and Chris Wood each donated $60 to cover the costs for 40 students.
Courtswarming: An Enchanted Amazon

By Madison Epp

Enjoying the night, sophomore Elizabeth Berger demonstrates her robot dance move to fellow sophomore Thomas Hook.

Busting a move, sophomore Erin Walters gets her groove on. "The dance was awesome. I went with Cody Cramer. We made a commitment to go to all the dances together," Walters said.

In the middle of the dance floor, junior Anna Deegan (left) and senior Meagan Sitz move to the beat. "After the dance, my group went bowling and let's just say it wasn't my cup of tea," Deegan said.

Sharing a moment, sophomores Kennedy Bizzell and Robby Glenn slow dance at Courtswarming.

With sisterly love, senior Toni Stock tries to teach her sister, freshman Cassie Stock, how to do the "Stanley leg."

Slowing it down juniors Taylor Coleman and Logan Terrell share a dance together. "Before the dance we had catered dinner from Olive Garden and then we got our boogie on. I had a good time with Taylor and she looked very beautiful that night," Terrell said.
Spirit Week

Animal Print Day

“I’ve had these clothes for a long time. I just threw on anything in my closet that was animal print.”
- Skylar Taylor, II

Crazy Hair Day

“It took me 15 to 20 minutes to do my hair. I got my idea from Cindy Lou Who from the “The Grinch.” I used a cup to make the puff on the top of my head, and I put a wire through the braids so they would stay.”
- Emily Hunt, II

Western Day

“Feel more like a redneck that day. Western Wednesday brought out the country in me.”
- A.J. McKinney, II

“"
Fans of card game create new club

In a world filled with online games where your opponent can be miles and miles away, some students are going back to the first multi-player games, those played around a tabletop where adversaries can clash eye-to-eye.

This was the case for senior Bradean Zamora, who discovered the card game, “Magic the Gathering,” last summer when his cousins got him “hooked on it.”

“I found out that I had a knack for it, and I’ve been playing ever since,” Zamora said.

Zamora then introduced the game to fellow senior Brad Shonkwiler, who thought it would be fun to start an after-school club. Shonkwiler took it a step further and contacted the administration to gain permission to play after school in science teacher Chris Klager’s classroom.

Klager was the obvious choice because he himself began playing as a middle-schooler 13 or 14 years ago when the game was brand new and his friends and older siblings were all really into it.

As the club’s sponsor, Klager helped students build card decks and offered advice on strategies and tactics. He also provided cards to beginners from his personal collection.

“You have to learn patience,” Klager said. “Many beginners want to attack their opponents with their first card, but it’s more than that. You have to read your opponent and then carefully consider a strategy. It’s just for fun, but at the same time students learn from each other and become better players.”

But for Zamora, Magic is more than just a game.

“Since I’ve started playing Magic, it has been a way for me to get out and not only meet people, but to help relieve stress and even spend time with my family,” Zamora said. “I definitely see Magic in my future, and there will always be a future for Magic.”
How many hours do you play a week?

- Survey of 75 students

Video games have become an essential part of high school culture. Many students play video games to escape the stress and weight of life.

Gaming Gurus

Are you one?

“Every time I get a new game, I always try to play it until I beat it. I don’t really go for any of the achievements, but I still try to do everything that’s possible in the game.”

-Monica Stimac, 11

“I’ve grown up with playing video games and I just really enjoy them. I tend to play more shooters and action RPGs. When I start experiencing a game, I try to get a feel for the surroundings and controls, then go all in.”

-Nick Trischler, 12

“I play video games a lot; it’s just fun and lets me interact with my friends. After I get home from school, I go straight to playing. I’m a game nerd.”

-Meranda Hall, 11

PS3 vs. Xbox 360

J.T. Johnson, 9
PSN ID: MMlownage
How many times do you play in a week?
Three or four times a day.
Favorite game? Skyrim
Single player or multiplayer? Multiplayer, especially coop. I like having a strategy with other players.
Why do you like the PS3 more? I’ve always had the PS3. I like the Blu-ray features and the awesome graphics.

Bryan Williams, 12
Gamertag: Cherokee wolves
Favorite genre of games?
Fighting games like UFC Undisputed.
Do you use your Xbox for more than just games?
I use my Xbox to watch Netflix because it’s really easy to use and when I’m bored of games I just watch a movie or TV shows.
Why do you like the Xbox more?
It’s more fun, and you can talk to your friends easier with Xbox Live Parties.

Game Dictionary

Feel out of the loop? Here are some terms that you may have heard said by a screaming 12-year-old.

- Camping: Staying in the same place for long periods of time, waiting to attack your enemy. A cheap tactic.
- n00b: A rookie or newbie.
- Pwn: Dominating your opponent in a cruel manner.
- Lag: When your internet connection isn’t good and causes stalling or other problems in your game.
- Red Ring of Death: An omen of doom...it shows that your Xbox360 just bit the dust.
- 1337:leet, as in elite; alternative alphabet used primarily in gaming and on the Internet.
Taking an art class is about expressing who you are and learning to create something from nothing. In the process, you learn skills that you can use for the rest of your life.

**My Creations**

I thought it would be cool to put some of my favorite musicians, Jimi Hendrix, Kurt Cobain and Bob Marley, on a pair of jeans. These pants will be a continual project.

—Shelby Tnacker, 10

I wanted something to remember the school year by and skateboarding means a lot to me. I gave everyone who wanted to draw on it a chance to do so.

—Nathan Allenbrand, 10

The silence was deafening in Linda Horvath’s Textiles class as students concentrated intently to perfect their knitting and crocheting skills while creating hats of all colors and sizes. Horvath added the knitting project as “something new” and received a strong response from her students.

“At first it was really hard to knit, but once I got the hang of it, I couldn’t stop,” sophomore Caroline Clark, shown above, said. “I enjoyed the project because knitting is a skill I can use my whole life.”

While listening to music, sophomore Stephanie Gear knits the beginning part of her hat. “It was super fun and so relaxing,” Gear said.

With her new knitting skills, sophomore Lonisha Henderson works on her hat in her second-hour Textiles class. “At first it was hard, but once I got the hang of it, it became easy,” Henderson said.

**Ceramics**

*In Linda Horvath’s ceramics class, senior Mikayla Burgoon and freshman Kelise Wohler work on smoothing their clay for their mobile project. “I gave mine away as a present,” Burgoon said.

*Using his previous experience, sophomore Demetri Hart shapes his clay bowl. “I decorated it with geometric patterns and a Star Trek symbol,” Hart said.
"With careful concentration,"
Jr. Kayla Fatzel pays close attention to the details on her pumpkin, which depicted a scary park scene featuring an eerie tree and an empty swing set.

"With keen eyes," sophmore Sasha Bingaman paints octopus tentacles on her pumpkin. "I liked the project because it was a new surface to experiment on," Bingaman said.

"Painting his pumpkin," sr. James Everhart levels himself with his pumpkin to get a better view. "It was nice to know that my artwork was for a good cause," Everhart said.

Pumpkin Project
The Creative Art Comprehension class taught by Jason Romanishin painted pumpkins as part of a contest for Mosaic, a local, nonprofit organization that benefits the disabled. The pumpkins were then auctioned off as part of a fundraiser to help Mosaic. "Doing work for others is something rewarding. It shows citizenship and self-sacrifice," Romanishin said. The prize-winning pumpkin was painted by freshman Shelby Taylor. "I just enjoyed getting to pick what to draw. I never thought I was going to take first place," Taylor said.
I can't sleep without...

He said:
"I can't sleep without my stuffed Simba from the movie The Lion King. It was a gift from my girlfriend."
-Joseph Lentz, 11

She said:
"I can't sleep without my Spiderman blanket. It is the warmest blanket in the world."
-Cesar Diaz, 11

"I can't sleep without my baby blanket, especially if it's storming outside. I guess it's just because I've had it ever since I was born."
-Courtney Brown, 12

"I can't sleep without my stereo playing Drake's new album Take Care. I am his biggest fan ever, so I fall asleep listening to his beautiful voice."
-Elizabeth Barger, 10

Sleep
Do you get enough?

"Most of the time I don't get enough sleep because I usually get off work at 11, come home and do chores and then finally get to sleep by at least 1 a.m. I get up between 5 and 6 a.m. to get ready for school and to do morning chores."
-Ariel Mellus, 12

"I don't feel like I get enough sleep because I have late night workouts, and I usually stay up too late sketching."
-T.J. Kimbrough-French, 11

"I don't think there has been a day that I've gotten a sufficient amount of sleep this year, my conscience always reminds me of homework right before I get into bed."
-Tony Sanchez, 12

"Sometimes, I don't get off work until 9:15 p.m., so I get home at almost ten. Then I still need to shower, do homework, and eat."
-Sherrie Thornton, 12

My morning ritual

I'm a lifeguard at the YMCA, and I work at least three days a week before school starts. I wake up at 3:45 a.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday to get ready for work. Once I have all of my stuff together, I head out at around 4:20 a.m. After clocking in at 4:30 a.m., I spend the next 30 minutes going through various checklists. Once I have gone through everything necessary to open the pool, I grab a cup of coffee. At 5 a.m., the YMCA doors open, and surprisingly, people actually want to plunge into a freezing pool that early. When I get off at 7 a.m., I get ready for school in the YMCA locker room and then head off for first hour.
-Kayci Diaz, 11

High school students need an average of 9.5 hours of sleep per night.

How many hours of sleep do you get?

Survey of 82 students

"I'm an early bird. I live on a farm and have to wake up early because my cows depend on me not being a bum."
-Chance Hite, 11

"I'm a night owl. I love spending time with my friends and family, and more often than not that happens at night time."
-Emily Haynes, 11

Early Bird* or Night Owl?
Listening to music, senior Katrina Houston gets ready to eat a breakfast of Chex Muddy Buddys. "I go to the Brave Cave every morning around 7:10 or 7:15 to either finish homework, eat breakfast, or hang out with my friends," Houston said. 

How Sleep Deprivation Affects the Appearance and Attitude of Students.

- Bad mood
- Messy hair
- Baggy eyes
- Sweat shirt
- Sweat pants

This is not a representation of this student. It represents the effects of sleep deprivation on students in general.

Sometimes, my mom makes me stay up all night with her playing Zombies or Call of Duty, so I'm usually sleepy the next day.

-Michelle Brings, II

I got this clapper as a Christmas gag gift and figured that I might as well put it to good use. If a student sleeps in my class, I shake it over their ear. It works quite well," social studies teacher Jennifer Schlicht said.
Things you Never Knew

They make how many PIZZAS?

Papa Murphy’s became the newest player in Bonner Springs’ changing pizza landscape when a shop opened just off Highway K-7 near Walmart. Junior Shawn Bryant (above) joined Papa Murphy’s when it opened on Nov. 14 and makes approximately 125 pizzas per week. Bryant has several peers as coworkers, including senior Mackenzie Lofton (top right) and junior Stephen Lewis (bottom right). “It’s a great place to work,” Bryant said. “The time really flies when you’re making so many pizzas.”

WASN’T THAT DONE in the SEVENTIES?

Footbag, more commonly known has hacky sack, was created in 1972 and was a popular hobby back in those days. But that hasn’t stopped some students from picking up the sport. “I started playing with random people who already knew how to play. We used to do it almost every day,” senior Renado Durley said. “I like playing because of the amount of concentration it takes.”

THEY GO WHERE ON Wednesday NIGHTS?

Wednesday is the forgotten day of the week, not close enough to the weekend but far enough from the horrors of Monday. For some students, however, it’s a day of worship and fellowship. Approximately 10 to 20 BSHS students attend youth group activities at North Point Church in Lenexa on Wednesday evenings. “My favorite activity is when we break into small groups and all of us guys just get to talk and know more about each other’s lives,” sophomore Weston Vitt (right) said. “Travis Anderson (above) is our youth pastor. He’s a Christian rapper and a really awesome guy.”

Engaging in some self reflection, sophomores Jacob Dobbs (right) and Travis Dooley spend some one-on-one time with God.

Spending some personal time with God, senior Blake Pyles finishes youth group with a silent prayer.

{36} Academics and Organizations
They play the Ukulele

I've been playing the ukulele for about a year. My friend played and I was like "teach me, please!" I've never played in front of an audience. To be honest, I kind of have stage fright.

- Bethany Bailey, II

I bought a ukulele on my birthday from the music department at Best Buy. It was something I had thought about doing for a long time; it sounded really fun.

- Keita Lambe, II

I've been playing the ukulele for about a year and a half. I was really into the band Never Shout Never and the lead singer plays the ukulele in a couple of his songs, so I decided I wanted to play it too.

- Sierra Sacat, II

I started playing two years ago. I saw a ukulele in a pawn shop in Seattle, so I bought it and learned how to play. I played at a wedding once and I played in a few shows as well.

- Jared Clements, II

When did that Change?

Every year there are always lots of adjustments for students, but they aren't the only ones making changes. From Kelly Hammond becoming Kelly Hoopes to Olivia Morgan's introduction to the world, the BSHS staff family grew by leaps and bounds.

Marriages:
Adrienne DeLeon, Tara George, Kelly Hoopes, Brandon Jobe, Jennifer Laughlin, and Crystal Richardson

Engagements:
Andrew Addington, Bill Downing, and Trisha Manthei

Babies:
Heather Campbell, Sarabeth Morgan, and Jennifer Myers

Wait... they're Related?

Senior Jacob Palmer’s grandpa’s nephew is English teacher Bill Downing

Senior Amber Richmond’s grandmother is English teacher Chris Wood

Junior Cassady Holloway’s cousin’s half-brother is senior Nicholas Franchett

Junior Ciera Sweeney’s cousins are freshman Kyle Lackner and junior Jordan Lackner

Senior Meagan Stice’s cousin is social studies teacher Ryan Hull

Sophomore Mikayla Ussery’s cousin is senior Jake Nairn

Counselor Lisa Terrell’s sister is social studies teacher Jennifer Myers

Things You Never Knew {37}
class of 2012

Seniors
Dialing it up, Alesha Tomasevic delivers one of the many infamous phone dialogues in Chris Wood’s World Literature class. “It was fine with doing them, but I would get occasionally nervous because I’m shy,” Tomasevic said.

Serving up a slice, Kyle Turner works in the Brave Cafe during lunch. “I get to step away from all the madness, relax on these beyond comfy couches, and make conversation with new people,” Turner said.

Checking her screenshot,_txnka Johnson uses the camera on a new Mac in her economics class. “I like the overall feel and look of the new Macs. They’re simple to use, just can do so much,” Johnson said. Every PC in the building was replaced in August, and the business lab got a renovation with 30 new Macs.
Nicholas Clark  Austin Clouse  Austin Cobb  Andre Cobbins  Matthew Coffman
Jose Contreras  Ryan Cook  Monte Cox  Jacob Crawford  Shane Crosby
Jairo Diaz  George Docking  Joseph Dooley  Kayla Doolittle  Reed Dougherty
Salina Duarte  Jessica Duckworth  Renee Dumler  Cinthia Ebertz  Blaine Edmondson
Austin Edwards  Ivory Elijah  James Everhart  DeVanti Finch  Thomas Fisher
Shrugging their shoulders, Jake Naim and Frank Walters demonstrate the joint movement of elevation. The joint dance was one of many hands-on projects that Anatomy students participated in. “Anything hands-on helps students to remember better,” instructor Cindy Hayes said. “It breaks the monotony of classwork.” Other projects included students learning and then teaching an entire chapter to the class, a trip to the UMKC dental school and dissecting cats.

Moving to the groove, Amber Stephens takes part in a dance showcasing the joints in the body. “Getting up and moving helped me remember better and made it easier to learn,” Stephens said. “I feel like I learn more when I do hands-on activities.”

With jazz hands, Hannah Maik and Morgan Simpson shake it up during their fourth hour Anatomy class.

“My favorite year of high school was probably freshman year because it was just fun. I had classes with people who later became my friends. The best part of my senior year was getting a jump on my Senior Project, but the worst part was seeing friends drift apart.”

-Austin Edwards

“During senior year, I attended all of the home football games. I never really had the time to go in the past, but my friends dragged me along and I had a great time.”

-Jessica Poggio

“The best moment of senior year was playing soccer for the high school team for the first time. I’m a huge fan of soccer and by joining the team I was able to learn a lot about teamwork and myself.”

-Ricky Urriola
Quenching his thirst, defensive lineman Dalen Reed takes a break during the black-and-orange scrimmage. “My favorite part of the season was getting the opportunity to step on the football field and compete with my friends,” Reed said.

Cheering on towards victory, Shawn Bryant, Kayla Fretzel and Rachel Jensen support the boys’ basketball team at the “Coming Together For A Cure” game against Turner.

Getting pumped up, Colbin Bulkeley (No. 20) and a group of juniors participate in the fall sports pep assembly. “The connection between the players is good,” Bulkeley said. “We all get along because we’re a team on and off the field.”

Passing the flame, Taylor Coleman and Tanner Clark take part in the National Honor Society induction ceremony in November. “I like being able to give back to the community and help out during the community service projects,” Clark said.
Tristan Abts
Kelsey Addie
Joseph Arnett
Stephanie Arnold
Gabriela Arzabala
Allison Augustine

Bethany Bailey
Patrick Ballard
Mandy Ballou
Caleb Bennett
Loren Bergstrom
Kaysi Bias

Jonathan Blackwell
Joshua Bonwell
Johnathan Brantley
Mark Brantley
Michelle Briggs
Amber Brillhart

Jordan Brown
Shawn Bryant
Coltin Bulkley
Buddy Burnett
Matthew Call
Cord Cannon

Nicholas Casteel
Sarah Catron
Drew Clark
Tanner Clark
Jared Clements
Haley Close

Taylor Coleman
Will Collins
Kathleen Cosgrove
Allie Crane
Jordan Crawford
Dante Crider

Lauren Culter
Anna Deegan
Paul Deeter
Cesar Diaz
Deidra Elijah
Tanise England

Madison Epp
Edwardo Flores
Shalyice Flynn
Tessa Franchett
Spencer Frank
Kayla Fratzel

Juniors { 49 }
My Junior year in
#140 characters

Short, music-obsessed, Hunger Games!
-Miranda McCullough

My junior year was a lot of fun, from sports to classes with all my friends.
-Nick Castel

My junior year was pretty eventful, but I'm glad I went through it. It was fun.
-Alli Augustine

My junior year was very fast and great. Everyone says it is the worst, but it wasn't so bad.
-Alex Shearer

My junior year was both great and terrifying. It can be a struggle with getting prepared for college, the ACT, and senior year approaching.
-Margarette Smith
When and how did you begin doing the morning announcements?

I began doing the morning announcements during the second semester of my freshman year after Mr. Streit, the current announcer, gave me the job. I was in his introductory journalism class and I asked him if I could give it a try, but I had to prove to him that I had the voice and skills to do it.

Do you have trouble saying anything?

I always have trouble pronouncing certain names and the phrase "warm roll" when giving the lunch menu. However, I feel like when I mess up it brings a smile to everyone's day.

Do you get any time to practice the day's announcements ahead of time?

It depends on how early I get to school. I try to read through the script first, but some days when I'm running late I'll be giving the announcements right as I walk through the door.

Is it hard trying to be peppy every morning?

No, when I start doing the announcements, it's like a switch turns on inside me. I can have a terrible morning but sound like nothing's wrong.
What is the weirdest app you have?

Have a yoga app. I guess that might be weird, but I use it because they have a lot of good poses and I like yoga.

-Kayti Brat

I have a 3D sound illusions app and iFake. iFake is an app that makes someone's iPhone or iPod look broken.

-Sarah Catron

What is an app you wish you had?

I want an app that can me get A's on everything, so I wouldn't have to do any work.

-Hannah Reed

I wish I had an app that unlocks the answers to all the questions in the world.

-Tyler Jenkins
As part of a meiosis project, Dakota Cunningham and Josh Kelly look for information on chromosome spilts in Trisha Manthei's fourth hour Biology class.

Dazzling the crowd, Valerie Torres performs during the fall pep assembly. "I love the energy we get from the crowd when we dance. It really gets me pumped up," Torres said.


- Strolling down the hall, Madison Hurta and Brianna Robinette catch up between classes.
Lizbeth Acosta
Timothy Adams
Andrew Adkins
Diana Aguilar
Nathan Allenbrand
Jordyn Arnold

Jonathan Atchison
Kelsey Bailou-Lyngstad
Rachel Barber
Elizabeth Barger
Colin Barker
Connor Bennett

Sasha Bingaman
Kennedy Bizzell
Lucas Bolejack
DeAngelo Bradley
Haely Burdick
Devin Burke

Charity Burnworth
Amanda Burris
Jackeline Calderon
Justin Carroll
Alexandra Carter
Johnathan Carter

Antonio Chavez
Caroline Clark
Kassidy Clark
Kayleigh Clark
Killian Clarke
Katelyn Cochran

Destini Colvin
Andrew Conn
Jeimy Contreras
Stephanie Cook
Danielle Cornwell
Ana Correa

Elijah Cote
Cody Crider
Dakota Cunningham
Jhoseph Davis
Anisett Delgado
Blake Dilley

Travis Dooley
Zshavon Dotson
Aaron Ducey
Kyle Dumler
Paul Dykes
Thomas Eads
Why do you enjoy cooking?
I got into cooking when I started my health kick about two years ago. Learning to cook helped me to manage my eating lifestyle. I also discovered the joy that comes in cooking for others. When I make others happy with the food I make, it makes me happy. I tried a lot of dessert recipes on the yearbook staff. They liked my cookie-cake cupcakes the best.

What types of food do you often make?
I cook all kinds of food, but I make desserts more often than meals. I prefer to make desserts because they're more enjoyable to make and they taste good.

What is your favorite dish to make?
Banana bread is one of my favorites. It's easy to make, but it takes forever to bake.

Do you subscribe to any cooking magazines or watch any cooking TV shows?
I used to subscribe to Cooking Lite, and I found a lot of great ideas for healthier desserts there. As far as TV goes, I'm not into cooking shows. Sometimes I'll watch Rachael Ray and the Live Well Network.

How will cooking play into your future?
Eventually, I want to be able to have my own bakery. I am planning on taking some cooking classes at Johnson County Community College over the summer. In the future, though, I would like cooking to be more of my side job. I will mostly do it for fun, but it's something I'll always love.

Rachel Barber
I worked a lot harder in school this year, which made it better than last year. I didn’t mess around in my math class that much any more.

— Joseph Davis

I’ve tried to be better at what I do. I haven’t really done much different than freshman year. I just strive to be better academically among other things.

— Hayley Hinton

I made sure to be a part of everything. I have so many more friends, and I’m a lot more social this year than I was freshman year.

— Lilly Bickhoff

I haven’t done much differently this year. I just took advanced classes like Chemistry and Calculus and challenged myself more.

— Rebekah Thompson

This year I learned how to drive. That made my year better because I got to go where I wanted, when I wanted by myself. It was nice to have more freedom.

— Nathan Ruff
My best times were in Mrs. Smith's English class. She's my favorite teacher. I enjoy her energy, her jokes and the crazy voices that she uses.

-Jackie Calderon

The highlight of my year was going to all the parties, hanging out with my friends, and doing all the little things that I will one day look back upon and realize made a difference in my life.

-Delangelo Bradley

My best memory was in Mr. Downing's class when the whole class passed the state assessment and we got a pizza party.

-Jenny Contreras

One of my favorite memories was when the JV Quiz Bowl team placed first at a meet. It was the first time I had my name attached to an award that the school could be proud of.

-Daniel Mejia

I really liked not being at the bottom of the food chain this year. Having underclassmen was definitely enjoyable.

-Eleanor Lynch
Jake Wenzel
Les Wessel
Brittany White
Corey Williams
Shelby Yuncker

Denni Pressley
Emily Prince
Zachary Quigley
Caleb Ray
Brianna Robinette
Dalton Robinson

Erica Rosales
Nathan Ruff
Dominic Salvino
Kortni Sanborn
Kimberly Sanchez
Ksee Sanchez

Brianna Sawyer
Nathan Schaber
Quinton Schneck
Austin Schuler
Kristina Schwab
Cheyanne Scott

Tre Scott
Bailey Sears
Josiah Seaton
Mariah Seifert
Ne'kye Sheppard
Keith Shields

D.J. Simpson
Shelby Smith
Itzel Soto
McKenna Spiess
Aaron Spurgeon
Ryan Steinbacher

Ashley Sutton
Rebekah Thompson
Valerie Torres
Ryan Turner
Auston Twombly
Mikayla Ussery

Jeremy Vanden Hull
Weston Vitt
Ahmad Walls
Erin Walters
Abigail Ward
Danan Weaver

Jake Wenzel
Les Wessel
Brittany White
Corey Williams
Shelby Yuncker
Hard at work, Ross Hogan adjusts to the high school environment. "The best part of high school was that it felt like we got more freedom and had the opportunity to do stuff we liked," Hogan said.

Opening her locker for the first time, Toni Dunn takes time to check out her new space. "I was nervous for my freshman year," Dunn said. "Coming to a new school district at the start of my high school career was overwhelming. I didn't know anyone until Freshman Orientation, where I met some of my new friends."

Finding out his fate, Layne Warner opens a slip of paper to see if he will be continuing on to the next round at the January Renaissance Assembly. "I was surprised when they called my name," Warner said. "I enjoyed being a part of it, and I won a McDonald's gift card."
Sudarat Alongkornvilai
Bill Anderson
Logan Anderson
Dominick Armstrong
Aaron Ashford
D.J. Ballard

Danae Banks
Frankie Banuelos
Courtney Barger
Steven Barnes
Skyla Barton
Gabrielle Bennett

Grace Bennett
Mikaela Bennett
Tyler Bennett
Gabriella Blakney
Michael Bounmiswang
Erin Bowser

Reigna Boyd
Briana Brison
Joshua Brown
Adam Burdolski
Damien Burke
Keegan Burkhart

Nathan Campbell
Akiko Capalla
Joseph Casteel
Jordan Castro
Marquise Chapple-Stokes
Jessica Christensen

Dylan Clark
Dallas Clayton
Tyler Closser
Joshua Coffman
Cheyenne Cook
Amber Cox

Joseph Crane
Josh Cubbage
Austin Dennison
Jasmine Diaz
Jacob Dobbs
Brenden Dotson

Alyssa Driskill
Tori Dunn
J.R. Eastwood
Hannah Fehlhafer
Rodrigo Fernandez Alvarado
Austen Ford
My freshman year was the first time I was on a dance team with my friends. I had danced before at a studio, but never for school.

—Allie Mulich

I'd been waiting to play baseball for a school team for a long time, and it was an experience that I enjoyed. Getting to play at the T-Bones stadium was something I'll never forget.

—Jeremy McDonald

Going to my first high school dance was fun because I got to interact with people I'd never met before.

—Amber Cox

I didn't think I would become friends with some of the seniors on the baseball team, but I did and that surprised me. Seniors usually don't hang out with freshmen.

—Jordan Castro

My freshman year was the first time I had to work hard in school. My hardest class was Mr. Pickens' social studies class because I really don't like the subject.

—Cheyanne Cook
How does the game of Roller Derby work?
Basically, each team has four blockers and one jammer. The jammer is the person that scores by passing the people from the other team. If they pass a blocker they get one point, and if they pass the other jammer, they get a "grand slam" which is worth five points.

How did you get into Roller Derby?
My mom plays Roller Derby and she always talked about how fun it was, so I decided to find a junior league and try it out.

What position do you play?
I'm a blocker. Sometimes I play pivot, which is at the front of the pack, but occasionally I switch to bumper, which stays at the back of the pack.

Have you gotten any injuries while playing?
One time I fell on my tailbone and couldn't walk the next day, but that was the worst one. People get Velcro scratches and bruises often, but not anything serious.

What is your favorite part of playing?
I really enjoy being able to hit people without getting into trouble.

Lauren Murphy

Stephanie Isley
Sacharey Jackson
Jalisa James
J.T. Johnson
Rachel Johnson
Sam Johnson

Tiara Johnson
Mackenzie Jones
Samantha Joyce
Michael Kelley
Madelyn Kempf
Hailey Kendrick

Caitlyn Khatchadourian
Jeremy Kilmartin
James King
Hope Koch
Jacob Kraus
Kyle Lackner

Bryan Lanning
Megan Laughlin
Allie Ledbetter
Cameron Leslie
Amber Lies
Caleb Malone

Kelli Mauk
Kailey McCorkendale
Jeremy McDonnell
Tierra McGee
Larissa Mitchell
Michaela Mock
"I was scared about not being able to find my classes and that I was going to be late to class."
- Raleigh Shearer

"My biggest fear was failing everything. I had heard good and bad things about the school and had no idea what to expect."
- Samuel Johnson

"I was worried going into all of my sports. I was most nervous about making the teams with all of the upperclassmen talent."
- Michaela Mock

"I was afraid of getting lost and looking stupid in the halls. Plus, I didn't think the upperclassmen would like me."
- Alley Washburn

"I was a little nervous about how I would get from class to class and how hard the work might be. It wasn't as difficult as I thought."
- Bill Anderson
Andrew Addington, Social Studies
Lucinda Arnett, Paraprofessional
Lucas Aslin, Physical Education
Nancy Baker, Language Arts
Monty Bechard, Physical Education
Maria Betzen, Paraprofessional

Twila Bolton, Food Services
Diane Bonner, Success Center
Dan Burns, Industrial Technology
Heather Campbell, Mathematics
Carla Cline, Food Services
Crystal Coleman-Richardson, Physical Education

Adrienne DeLeon, Business
Bill Downing, Language Arts
Andrea Eick, Mathematics
Sally Finck, Music Accompanist
Jeff Fouquet, Language Arts
Linda Francis, Student Services

Martha Gamble, Food Services
Tara George, Family and Consumer Science
Carol Hahner, Paraprofessional
Jennie Hale, Food Services
Kelly Hammond, Foreign Language
Cynthia Hayes, Science

Jennifer Hicks, Guidance Counselor
John Hilton, Vice Principal/Athletic Director
Jill Holder, Journalism
Joe Hornback, Principal
Linda Horvath, Art
Ryan Hull, Social Studies

Sarah Kolle, Mathematics
Rosemary Kruger, Custodian
Lisa Lugar, Language Arts
Trisha Mantei, Science
Tabitha Marriott, Special Education
Judie McDonnell, Paraprofessional

Nicole McDowell, Mathematics
"Bryce McFarland, Business
Stephen Miller, Special Education
Jim Mitchell, Special Education
Sarabeth Morgan, Special Education
Connie Mosher, Food Services
They did What?

Staff cuts loose on in-service day

But you didn’t know that while you were sleeping in on the first day of Christmas break, your teachers were building balloon towers in the commons and strutting their stuff in the auditorium during a Dec. 20 professional development day.

To mix things up a bit, principal Joe Hornback organized a series of team-building activities in which teachers were divided into teams and worked together all morning.

“Our goal for this day was to have some fun, build a sense of team and get to better know the people we work with every day to help create a unified staff,” Hornback said.

Activities included a balloon tower contest, free-throw shooting contest and a “Faculty Feud Festival.”

But the activity that brought the most laughter was “Bonner Idol,” a hilarious event that had teachers dressing up in wigs and hats and lip syncing to popular songs by Lady Gaga, Journey and Garth Brooks on the auditorium stage.

“Our belief is that if we have a positive and professional working environment it will benefit student achievement,” Hornback said.

Hitting the buzzer, media center manager Iva Powers and art teacher Linda Horvath face off during the “Faculty Feud Festival.”

Tower ing above the competition, vice principal Rick Moulin checks the height of a balloon tower constructed by Spanish teacher Kelly Hoopes (left), guidance counselor Jennifer Hicks and other staff members. Teams were given 15 minutes and some tape to construct a tower that had to stand on its own.

Jamming out, new math teacher Jessica Laster strums her guitar during Bonner Idol.

Busting a rhyme, physical education instructor Brandon Jobe lip syncs to “Ice Ice Baby” by Vanilla Ice. “It definitely got me out of my comfort zone,” Jobe said. “I’m not much of a showman, but it was a fun morning.”

Making an impression, journalism teacher Dan Streit tries to influence celebrity guest judge Bob Caldwell during the “Bonner Idol” competition. “It was hilarious and showed what talent we have here,” Caldwell said. “But Mr. Streit’s impersonation of a female was a true low point.”
**Tireless Teacher**

Whether it's planning a variety of zany games for the Renaissance awards assemblies or coordinating efforts to recognize outstanding educators, the Student-Teacher Recognition committee does its best to honor excellence in a variety of ways. The Tireless Teacher award is one of the committee's newest contributions. "It's an ongoing way for the staff to recognize each other for all the great things they do and to be proud of those efforts," special education teacher Tabitha Marriott said. "When we think of the great teachers at BSHS, sometimes the same names always come to mind. This award was designed to give teachers who might not be recognized a chance for recognition."

Marriott said teachers can nominate one another by sending her a quick email; however, staff members cannot be eligible to win the Tireless Teacher award unless they have nominated a fellow staff member.

Those selected receive a treat delivered by Marriott and her students and a certificate of appreciation. All winners are eligible for a drawing to win a $10 gift card to a restaurant. The name of each winner is added to a traveling tire that was donated by Berning Tire.

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**Teacher of the Quarter**

It's a good feeling knowing that your students and coworkers respect what you're doing on a day-to-day basis.

— Andrea Addington

I had a lot of fun during my first year of teaching. It went really well, and I enjoyed the experience and my students. I'm glad to be a part of Bonner Springs High School.

— Justin Pickens

My first year has been great. It was a blessing to learn from the faculty and students at BSHS. I know I still have room to grow, but teaching has been very rewarding.

— Andrea Eick

It was a real honor. I try hard to improve year by year, but this year a great group of kids worked hard to meet me halfway.

— Jeff Fongnet
Doin' some time

Criminal Justice students take field trip to the Wyandotte County jail

When social studies teacher Justin Howe told his Criminal Justice students that they would be headed to jail on Nov. 4, he received some puzzled looks.

"I was nervous because it sounded a little sketchy," senior Madison Scott said. "They told us we couldn't take our cell phones or a writing utensil and that we shouldn't make eye contact or point at the inmates."

Howe's Criminal Justice class was one of the four new social studies electives that were available to upperclassmen. The purpose of the class was to examine three specific areas—law enforcement, corrections, and the courts—as well as to look at possible career options and the relatively new world of law enforcement in the post 9/11 world.

Howe scheduled the field trip to the Wyandotte County jail to provide his students with a real-world experience where they could be exposed to each aspect of the criminal justice system.

While at the jail, the students had a Q&A session with the sheriff, under sheriff, district attorney and detectives, toured the facilities, and ate a typical lunch that would be served to inmates.

Howe had never taken a class to the jail and said he "couldn't say enough" about the way the sheriff department's staff opened their facility to his students.

"From the sheriff down, they really rolled out the red carpet," Howe said. "Seeing and experiencing the things discussed in class is the best way to bring learning to life. It gives students a frame of reference for the content and exposes them to things they may have never experienced if it were not for this class."
Brainiacs
Psychology students study the brain inside and out.

Hector Flores, 12
What was your brain made out of?
I used all different kinds of Play-Doh to make my brain.

How does this tie into psychology?
It ties into psychology because we learned all about the parts of the brain and how they work.

What will you remember about this project?
I’ll remember getting to play with Play-Doh for a class project. I really enjoyed learning about the brain.

Blaine Edmondson, 12
What was the point of the project?
To learn about the different parts of the brain and what they do.

What did you learn?
I went into this knowing nothing about the brain. Working on this project got me familiar with the parts of a brain and how it does everything for you.

What was hard and easy about this project?
The hardest part was figuring out what to make my brain out of. I ended up using gardening foam. The easiest thing about this project was presenting it. I’m good at presenting and don’t get nervous.

 Searching for a tennis ball, junior Chad Uhl gains assistance from junior Winter Lutzell while participating in a demonstration on sensory adaptation in his seventh hour psychology class. Students had to try to throw a ball at a target while wearing goggles that distorted their vision. "The demo showed us how our brains interacted with the environment through the senses," Uhl said.

 Presenting her model, junior Sydney Turner explains the parts of the brain during Jennifer Schlicht’s seventh hour psychology class. "I used Rice Krispies and food coloring to make the different parts. I also used toothpicks with slips of paper attached to them to label each part. I enjoyed the class because it was a challenge. You had to really work at it to do well," Turner said.
Lights, Camera, Deadline

It's the middle of the day and most students are fighting off the post-lunch lull, but in one classroom, things sound a little bit different. "Can you hear me all right? Okay. Hey there. It's time for your weekly weather report from me, Steven Caswell."

During fourth hour, there are two groups of students who are working hard to deliver the news to their student body in two different ways. One of those news sources is the Pow Wow, the school newspaper that was published under the direction of junior co-editors Sydney Shepherd and Courtney Wheeler.

"This was a special year for the Pow Wow because it marked our 75th anniversary, and we were also one of four class 4A schools to receive the KSPA All-Kansas award, which is given to the top publications in the state," Wheeler said. "We work really hard to maintain the publication's high standards."

Tee Pee Talk is the other option for student news, a weekly video production that centers around reporting events in the school and community. Senior Matt Coffman was this year's final editor.

Sophomore Weston Vitt was a member of the Tee Pee Talk staff and enjoyed his first year as a sports anchor.

"I really like seeing the final product. It's nice to see everything finished and to know that I was able to help," Vitt said.

Whatever the medium, there are multiple ways for BSHS students to keep up with their peers and community.

State Champions

Students on the newspaper and yearbook staffs combined to win a first-ever Class 4A Sweepstakes title at the KSPA state contest on May 5. The individual competition results are below.

- Sasha Bingaman: Honorable mention, academics photography
- Taylor Coleman: Third place, yearbook layout
- Cynthia Ebertz: First place, outline writing; second place, yearbook layout
- Devyn Hayes: Third place, editorial cartoon
- Tessa Newberry: Second place, student life photography; honorable mention, photo illustration
- Samantha Ricci-Weller: Honorable mention, academics photography
- Mariah Seifert: First place, student life photography; third place, sports photography
- Sydney Shepherd: Second place, feature writing
- Peter Swanson: Second place, headline writing
- Aaron Lewis and Andrea Wiglesworth: Second place, graphics and theme development
- Chad Uhl and Tessa Newberry: Honorable mention, graphics and theme development

How it's done

According to broadcast teacher Dan Streit

On-Screen

It's everyone wants to be on-screen, so the students get to say whether they want to do this or not and then we delegate the responsibility based on that. At the beginning of the week, we say, 'Okay, we need two anchors. Who wants to do it?' and whoever volunteers gets the role. That way nobody is put in a pressure situation they aren't comfortable in.

Behind-the-Scenes

Choose the editor based on who has the most experience. This year it was Matt Coffman, who's been on the staff for three years. Each student edits his or her own footage and section and then they send it to Matt, who edits all the pieces, for the final production. Everyone does some form of editing. Matt is just the final editor.
Deep in thought, Peter Swanson alongside John Holder to join a story, Mr. Holder talked to John to join a story. Mr. Holder talked to John to enjoy the story because he didn't think they would do much with it. I think we produced a lot of really good issues.

---Sydney Shepherd, 11

Tee Pee Talk

Tee Pee Talk is a great source for student news because we cover everything going on in sports, the school, and the district. People want to know what's going on with their kids and their friends. All you have to do is turn Tee Pee Talk on and listen; it's an easy source of information. We made a big change this year by using the libcasters. It replaced the green screen with a background, and our productions look a lot better.

---Matt Coffman '12

Newspaper

Our publication is great news for anybody. We do our best to stay true to our talents while meeting the needs of our audience. It's really hard to do what we do, and people don't realize that. We work weekends and after school for hours at a time to make sure that what we do is quality. With just 14 staff members and one senior, I think we've done a really good job.

---Courtney Wheeler, 11

Searching for errors, junior co-editors Sydney Shepherd and Courtney Wheeler stay after school to go over the final layouts for the April newspaper. The Pow Wow staff published seven issues this year.

Fitting the scenes together, junior Cesar Diaz edits the movie review section of Tee Pee Talk. "It started last year when I was watching Fox 4, and I noticed that they did movie reviews. I decided to incorporate that into our broadcast," Diaz said.
Selfless Service
with a smile

As a teenager, your life revolves around you: grades, sports, friends and more. It's your social life and it's your academic life, but what about the rest of the world?

National Honor Society is a group focused on helping others through community service projects while also promoting high standards of scholarship, service, leadership and character.

Students must have a minimum 3.2 grade point average in order to be considered. Once selected by a faculty council, students participate in an official induction ceremony.

As part of that special event, the new members were called up one by one to sign the registry, went onto the stage to repeat the pledge and exited to the commons for refreshments.

"I thought the ceremony was beautiful, especially with the candle light on people's faces," junior Jason Van Maren said.

Once they have joined, students are required to complete 10 service points during the course of the school year: seven individual, two large groups and one small group.

Many volunteer opportunities are offered to the students through NHS, but many plan and execute their own service activities.

Senior Blaine Edmondson found his own way to help by working with Mission Adelante, a Kansas City, Kansas organization that works with Bhutanese children.

"Most of the kids are young enough to have learned English, but their parents haven't, so while the adults are in English classes, I work with the kids and help to entertain them," Edmondson said.

The motto "To whom much is given, much is expected" along with the service requirements teach NHS members to help the less fortunate, shaping the leaders of tomorrow into generous and thankful men and women.

"Digging through the rocks," junior Lauren Culter picks up trash on the side of a creek. "My favorite part of NHS was getting out to do some good for our neighborhood," Culter said.

On one of the first nice Wednesday afternoons in April, seniors Nate Mitchell and Trey May weren't in their seventh hour classes studying. Instead, they were tying trash bags and helping to beautify Kansas Highway 7. Every fall and spring, NHS members clean K-7 between Kansas Avenue and I-70 as part of their required large group project. Groups of four or five students were given blue trash bags and were assigned to various sections of the road. The group cleaned until all the trash bags were full.

"Getting to help is nice. The first time we cleaned K-7 it was really bad and there was a lot of trash. But the second time it was a lot better. I feel like we really helped," senior Adriana Rodriguez said.

"Filling up a bag," senior Spencer Bush and Joseph Dooley clean their section of the K-7 highway. "Through NHS I found that I actually liked helping people. I enjoyed hanging out with friends while doing good for the community," Bush said.
After giving blood, junior Jordan Jennings holds up his contribution while senior Frank Walters prepares to make his donation.

Passing out snacks, senior Erica Wilson helps at the NHS-sponsored blood drive on Feb. 22. A total of 6.6 gallons were donated that day.

Preparing to donate, junior Stephanie Rose has her arm sterilized. Rose and 26 other students donated blood for the first time that day.

With the stroke of a pen, senior Amber Richmond signs her name in the NHS registry while her sponsor and grandmother, Chris Wood, looks on.

Under her mom's loving eye, junior Kayla Fratzel signs her name to become an official NHS member. "My mom was my sponsor because she's my biggest role model," Fratzel said.

As part of the ceremony, seniors Matthew Coffman and Courtney Brouhard pass the candle flame down the line. "It was a little scary because I was the first one to receive the flame, but other than that it was good," Brouhard said.

Signing the registry, Allen Maness officially joins National Honor Society. Each inductee picked a sponsor who had helped them through their academic career to accompany them to the ceremony.

let the ceremony Begin
Spanish Honor Society
by Cinthia Brunz

Whether it was learning to salsa dance or sampling new dishes at different restaurants, the Spanish Honor Society continued to expand and grow.

Now with 69 members, the organization sponsored several new activities.

"We created SHS because the students wanted more. They were asking to learn more, and we didn't have the time for it in class. So we did it for them," sponsor Susan Swabb said.

During the March 8 induction ceremony, new members swore to become lifelong ambassadors between cultures and lifelong students of Spanish.

Other highlights included making cake pops for a fundraiser, seeing a Flamenco demonstration, dining out at four area restaurants and taking a field trip to the Mattie Rhodes Art Gallery for the Dia de los Muertos holiday.

After receiving her candle, sophomore Kim Sanchez prepares to recite the pledge at the SHS initiation on March 8.

What event or activity did you like the most?
What more have you learned as a Spanish Honor Society member?

What event or activity did you like the most?
I went to a restaurant with my family and we danced to Spanish music. It was very fun!

What made you want to be part of the Spanish Honor Society?
I wanted to be a part of the Spanish Honor Society because I enjoy learning about Spanish culture and I wanted to participate in some activities with other students.

The only guy in attendance, sophomore Austin Schuler partners with Dawn Mariott, who taught SHS members to salsa dance on March 21. "It wasn't as uncomfortable as I thought it would be. I actually learned how to dance fairly well, and I had a good time," Schuler said.

Dyan Mackey, 12
Austin Wells, 12

I enjoyed learning Spanish and about the Hispanic culture. I've taken four years of Spanish now and I would like to carry it on throughout life.

How do you feel knowing Spanish impacts your life?
It gives me the chance to expand my horizons and I use it at my job. I'm not fluent but sometimes I can help someone out if it's pretty basic.

What more have you learned as a Spanish Honor Society member?
I'm able to understand what people are saying in Spanish, sometimes. It's an accomplishment for me because of all the hard work I've put in.

What event or activity did you like the most?
My favorite activity was going out to eat, even though I didn't get Spanish food. I got steak every time. It was still fun, though.

As the only guy in attendance, sophomore Austin Schuler partners with Dawn Mariott, who taught SHS members to salsa dance on March 21. "It wasn't as uncomfortable as I thought it would be. I actually learned how to dance fairly well, and I had a good time," Schuler said.
Parlez-vous français?

Students in the French program not only learn the language but also study the culture through games, movies and food labs. The food labs are the most popular of all the cultural activities. Students volunteer to prepare certain dishes and then share them with the class. An important annual highlight for the program is the Mardi Gras celebration. Students spend a day or two creating masks, jester hats and jester puppets in preparation for their celebrations.

Chinese, Please

Although most assume that Spanish and French are the only languages available for study at BSHS, Mandarin Chinese is an option during fifth hour. Moderated by gifted education teacher Sarabeth Morgan, the class is taught by Chinese teacher Kun Zhang through the CILC (Center for Learning Interaction and Collaboration) virtual program. The teacher is actually teaching another class at the same time in Clearwater, Kan., and toggles activities between Bonner Springs and Clearwater students.

In trying to learn one of the hardest languages, students have to focus on not only retaining basic phrases, but also memorizing how to write and read characters. Students also learn about Buddhism, Taoism, Confucianism, and the everyday life of Chinese people. On Chinese holidays, students would spend the class period learning about the culture through making paper lanterns, 3D Chinese characters and practicing how to use chopsticks.

- Trying out some jambalaya, freshman Frankie Banuelos assembles his plate during his French I class in celebration of Mardi Gras. "I had never tried French food before and the jambalaya was my first dish," Banuelos said. "The food tasted better than it looked."
- Masking her identity, sophomore Valerie Torres shows off her final product after spending a day creating a Mardi Gras mask.
- Cutting an outline, senior Adela Herrera (top left) prepares her mask for Mardi Gras. "This year has been fun because the seniors in French IV have been together since freshman year and we are like a family," Herrera said.
- Proud of her creation, sophomore Jackie Calderon holds up her Mardi Gras mask in a candid moment.
- Setting up the table, French teacher Mrs. Marsha Nelson arranges the homemade-French meals students made to share in celebration of Mardi Gras.
- Holding up his project, junior Keith Lambie shows his online teacher a 3D form of a Chinese character.
- In her fifth-hour class, junior Elizabeth Ruth cuts construction paper after folding it to make a Chinese lantern.
Armed with carefully decorated foam turkeys, sophomore Katey Cochran entered the Bonner Springs Health Center on Morse Avenue ready to make a difference.

"I thought that going to the nursing home and decorating it was a great way to make the residents feel special. The best part was seeing how something so simple could make their day. I was really glad that I was able to go," Cochran said.

The Thanksgiving decorations were all in a day’s work for the Kayettes, an all-female organization that seeks to make the world a better place through service opportunities.

“Kayettes is a great way for students to be involved in something positive that helps the area,” co-sponsor Jennifer Schlicht said.

To raise money for their projects, the Kayettes hosted their annual Powder Puff football game on Sept. 20. The freshmen and senior members battled the sophomores and juniors in an evening that was highlighted by the antics of the senior male cheerleaders on the sidelines.

“I really enjoyed this year’s game because so many girls participated. It was a really successful fundraiser,” co-sponsor Linda Orangkhadivi said.

Co-Presidents: Kassy McKelvin and Kelsey Bailou-Lyngstad.

Our creations: Flower pens for teachers, Thanksgiving and Valentine’s Day decorations, healthy snack packs for kids in need, letters to wounded soldiers at Walter Reed Hospital.

Entertaining the crowd, the senior Powder Puff cheerleaders kick up their heels. The boys each made up and adopted female names while participating in the game.

Jairo Diaz as Marisol
Tony Sanchez as Sara
Gonzalo Pichardo as Roseli
Nate Mitchell as Whitney
Aaron Rudolph as Persia
Austin Cobb as Sandy
Matt Coffman as Matilda
J.R. Jones as Daisy

“This was my first year to play, and I had a lot of fun. The weather was perfect, and the cheerleaders put on a really good show.”
- Ramey Hunt, 12

"Dressing up like a cheerleader was something I never thought I'd do, but I ended up having a lot of fun.
- Matt Coffman, 12
It was really good feelings scoring the first touchdown," Johnson said. "I wish I could play again next year."

> Making a break, junior Taylor Coleman runs the ball down the field to score the game-winning extra point. "Scoring made me feel athletic, which isn’t how I usually feel," Coleman said.

> Helping her team, sophomore Hannah Hunt attempts to recover a loose ball while senior Ariel Mellei looks on. "I love the intensity between the grades," Hunt said. "I put in all my effort so we could win."
Q&A

Andrew Over, 12

When did you start choir?
My junior year.

What inspired you to pursue music?
I enjoyed singing in the choir in middle school, and it's become one of my passions here.

What role will music play in your future?
It will always be one of my hobbies and something that I enjoy doing. I hope to sing at KCKCC in the fall.

What's your favorite song to perform?
"Taholahala (Go Forward)"

Hannah Mank, 12

When did you start choir?
I started my sophomore year.

What inspired you to pursue music?
I grew up singing with my mom at church. My mom inspired me to sing, so I've loved singing since I was little.

What role will music play in your future?
I will sing in college if I can.

What's your favorite song to perform?
"If You're Out There" by John Legend.

Kelin Woolridge, 12

When did you start choir?
I started my freshman year.

What inspired you to pursue choir?
I've been singing in church choir ever since I was a little kid.

What role will music play in your future?
I'm going to continue to play the drums and sing with my church choir.

What's your favorite choir memory?
Performing "My Girl" by The Temptations with all of my friends at Brave.

Harmonizing together, juniors Emily Haynes, Breanna Lynn and Micaela Reed perform with the Women's Ensemble at the fall concert on Oct. 12.

In the spotlight, senior B.J. Watson sings a solo at the fall concert. "Mr. White is a great teacher and makes the songs easy to learn," Watson said. "All of my friends were in A Cappella, so it was a really fun class."
Going over her sheet music, junior Gabriela Arzabala studies up for a future performance. "It's not difficult to memorize lyrics; you just have to pay attention. Sometimes I practice outside of school to help memorize the songs better," Arzabala said.

Singing with Chorale, senior Tei Haynes, sophomore Alexandria Jenkins and senior Renee Dumler harmonize at the fall concert.

If you tuned in to NBC 41 Action News on Christmas Day, you may have noticed some familiar faces and heard some festive music. For the second year, the A Cappella choir was asked to come to the TV station to perform three Christmas songs that were videotaped and aired several times on Dec. 25.

"I'm glad we had the opportunity to go back," director Brian White said. "I thought the students looked and sounded great."

During February, A Cappella showcased its talents during the Black History month assembly where they performed "Tshotsholoza," a South African freedom song meaning "go forward." White said it took three weeks of hard work to make the song performance ready.

Another highlight came when the Women's Ensemble earned a "I" rating at the State Large Group contest on April 18.

"These 14 ladies completed a Cinderella story," White said. "Our class size was decimated at the start of the spring semester, and we weren't sure we would be able to perform but these ladies proved they can overcome all odds and delivered an exemplary performance."

Other memorable moments included the performances of seniors Ashley Muldoon and Kelin Woolridge, junior Kevin London and Project X at the state solo and small ensemble festival at Andover High School on April 29. They all qualified for state by earning "I" ratings at regionals.
The Alamo Bowl trip
What do you remember?

"I will always remember the food! The hotel's fried potatoes and bacon were amazing. It was also nice to get out of Kansas for awhile. Overall, it was a great high school experience."

-Aaron Ashford, 11

"I will always remember the dance banquet the day before the Alamo Bowl. Everyone had a good time dancing and requesting their favorite songs."

-Dakota Nason, 10

"I will always remember being out on the field with four other schools and two college bands, surrounded by people who enjoy making music like me."

-Keith Lambis, 11

"I will always remember having fun with my friends and taking in the history of San Antonio. Getting to see Robert Griffin III (RG III) directly in front of me when we were lining up to march on the field was awesome."

-Lady Mance, 12
For the first time in 10 years, the Marching Braves were able to hit the road and travel to San Antonio to perform at the Valero Alamo Bowl. The trip started off with a 4 a.m. meeting the day after Christmas where students checked in their luggage and confirmed trip details one last time.

"It was smooth sailing until the bus crossed the Texas state line and was promptly pulled over by the state troopers for a routine procedural check of the driver's time log.

"At first I thought that he [the bus driver] might get arrested, and then I worried about how late we were going to be in arriving at the hotel," sophomore Tyler Eckhoff said.

The first full morning was devoted to a quick one-lap marching contest at SAISD Alamo Stadium where the Marching Braves placed first. After that, they headed to a local high school to perform their concert pieces in another competition where they placed first.

The second day was devoted to a four-hour field show practice with the four other participating bands.

Despite an extremely busy schedule, there was still time to shop and explore the River Walk area and other famous sites.

The highlight, of course, came the next day when the band marched into the Alamo Dome for the first time for a final practice.

"It was a pretty cool trip," junior Joseph Arnett said. "We got to see a lot of great stuff, and I'm pretty sure we all enjoyed it."
It's after school and everyone is rushing home or to practice, but a few students stay behind. These students make up the competing clubs.

From Science Olympiad to Academic Decathlon, they practice speeches and craft towers. For a non-member, the motivation to stay after school for more education might be puzzling.

"We do it because we make it fun. The practices and all of the inside jokes make it so worth it," said junior Courtney Wheeler. Like many of her peers, Wheeler participates in multiple clubs, seven to be exact.

Also participating in several clubs, junior Sierra Seacat worked with Wheeler to achieve seventh place in the Thermodynamics category at the regional Science Olympiad meet at the end of February.

"I was pretty pleased because we did much better than last year. Even though it was only seventh, I think it opened the door for success next year," Seacat said.

The Academic Decathlon team was also successful at the January state meet on the K-State campus. They took third place in 3A/4A category and earned 26 medals overall.

"This year I saw a stronger, more cohesive team thanks to the dedication and maturity of our members and the newfound excitement of electing officers," sponsor Sarabeth Morgan said. "I believe it was these qualities which allowed us to make our mark at state."

Finishing her test, freshman Rachel Johnson competes in a scrimmage against Bishop Ward. The Academic Decathlon team sets up two practice rounds with Bishop Ward in order to prepare for the regional competition.

With intense focus, junior Courtney Wheeler waits for the next question in the Honors section of the Super Quiz at the regional Academic Decathlon competition at Shawnee Mission West.
Reviewing the next round's questions, juniors Aaron Lewis and Chad Li work the varsity Scholar's Bowl meet. "It's interesting because you get to be on the other end of the question," Lewis said.

Battling through the math, junior Sierra Seacat and senior Devyn Hayes figure a 60-second math question at the Perry-Lecompton Scholar's Bowl meet. The team took fifth overall in that meet.

In between rounds, sophomore Kayla McPherson and senior Jessica Carroll share a laugh while waiting for the round to start. "All of our punny van rides to and from meets brought out my happiness," Carroll said.

Comparing their purchases, senior Devyn Hayes and junior Aaron Lewis talk about the interesting items available at the Topeka Salvation Army store. The Scholar's Bowl team visits the store every year after QUEST, a competition sponsored by Washburn University.

LEFT, or right-brained?

Brian Gray 1
Why do you consider yourself left-brained?
I feel like I think pretty rationally and have a few technical creative skills.

How does this benefit you in academics?
It makes it easier to find a logical and rational answer to problems. I can think systematically about things.

How does this affect your identity?
I tend to have decent decision-making skills; I think rationally and always plan ahead.

Jordan Lackner, II
Why do you consider yourself right-brained?
I think differently than people, and I'm always doing crafty things; I try to express myself through art.

How does this benefit you in academics?
I don't look for the usual answers.

How does this affect your identity?
I'm probably more open-minded than some people, and I see the beauty in everything—including intellect to utilizing it.
Voting for Spirit Day themes, senior Alyssa Buttacio participates in a Stuco meeting for Courtwarming. "Being on Stuco was exciting yet busy. It was a new experience and I got to meet a lot of new people," Buttacio said.

Cutting shamrocks. Freshman Mikaela Bennett helps to create a Teacher Appreciation thank you treat.

"As the Stuco executive president, I had to come up with ideas to get others involved. Going to Stuco camp made me a better leader and I was able to make a difference by helping my peers to be more involved and spirited. I have to say that my biggest challenge was sitting still during meetings."

- Ryan Cook, 12

"Stuco is completely different than most people think. It's a fun group that I get along great with and all we do is try to improve the school. Attending Stuco camp was an amazing and unique opportunity that I am so glad I had. I feel like I learned a lot about leadership and made a lot of lifelong friends."

- Tessa Nesbary, 11

"I really enjoyed being able to help with the dances. We're so much more involved at the high school level than we were at the middle school. I also had to help organize our homecoming float. Even though the man on our float wouldn't stand up, I do think we worked really well together. We learned a lot, mostly to never trust duct tape."

- Hannah Fehlhafer, 1

"People don't realize everything Stuco actually does. We organize and decorate for dances, announce at pep assemblies, pass out Pink Crush shirts, make thank you gifts for teachers, sell Crush cans on Valentine's Day and most importantly try to get as many students involved as possible. Being a part of Stuco is fun because of everything we do."

- Kim Sanchez, 10

"This year was the first time that multiple Stuco officers were able to attend a summer leadership camp together. I was really nervous about going, but I soon discovered that many of the people were a lot like me and it was easy to make friends. We brought back so many excellent ideas and strategies to our school. The new Spirit Day themes, for example, came as a result of that experience."

- Breanna Tendick, 12
Making a difference

Helping out, juniors Alli Augustine and Stephanie Arnold travel to classrooms collecting cardboard during Project Time on Thursdays.

Taking his turn, senior Reed Dougherty empties recyclables into a cart during Project Time. "At first I started out doing Green Team because my girlfriend was in it, then I realized how fun it was and how much of a difference we were actually making."

Pitching in, senior Angelica Galvan rinses plastic bottles in sponsor Jason Romanishin's room. "Being on Green Team has helped me realize how even collecting little things makes a big difference," Galvan said.

Behind the leadership of new sponsor Justin Pickens, the Fellowship of Christian Athletes (FCA) was reorganized with weekly meetings and outside-of-school events.

On Thursday mornings anywhere from five to 25 students would gather in the weight room at 7:15 a.m. for breakfast snacks and faith-based activities.

"The meetings gave us time to enjoy fellowship as the Christians of the school and to share our faith," said junior Tyler Jenkins, one of the team captains.

Outside of school, FCA hosted two movie nights and a presentation by former NFL player Anthony Davis.

Fellowship of Christian Athletes

Meeting before school, junior Hannah Novogradic and sophomore Lawsha Mays listen while sponsor Justin Pickens reads a Bible verse.

Sharing his faith, junior Tyler Jenkins leads the way at an FCA meeting. "Having Mr. Pickens as our sponsor has been awesome because we're meeting on a weekly basis for the first time in years," Jenkins said. "He does so much for us."

Green Team

With about 16 devoted members, the Green Team makes a difference one plastic bottle at a time. The group stays busy year round processing recyclables that are collected from bins throughout the building.

"I couldn't even begin to estimate how much we recycle," sponsor Jason Romanishin said. "I think we recycled about seven tons of paper, but I wouldn't be surprised if that's a low number."

Romanishin said the process begins like this: Students report to his room during Project Time on Thursdays and sign up to collect paper, plastic or cans. Once they've made their choice, they hit the hallways.

Romanishin said his club members are passionate about the importance of what they are doing.

"They see all the possibilities of reusing recycled materials and having less going to landfills," Romanishin said. "They are responsible citizens who see this as a necessity. It's a dirty job, but somebody needs to do it."

FCA

What does it mean to you?

"I went through some tough times when my grandma passed away this year. FCA gave me the strength and courage to have faith, trust in God and to get back on my feet."

-Leah Walker, 11

"It made me realize there is more to life than just me. It was fun to hang out with people who aren't afraid to show their religion."

-Frank Walker, 12

"Attending meetings makes me thankful for what I have. I'm glad that I have people around me to support me and what I believe in."

-Cassady Hollaway, 11
A Cappella

Concert Choir

Women's Ensemble


Groups
Writing Club


Green Team


NHS


November Inductees


Groups

92
Kayettes


Newspaper


What happens when you mix a lost cell phone with a group of melodramatic high-schoolers? That question was answered when 10 student actors took the stage to portray a play within a play on April 12-13.

The plot of Ten Actors in Search of a Cell Phone focuses on a group of actors who are preparing to do their own play. But just as the stage manager (Kayla Gilbert) gets ready to call “places,” everything comes to a screeching halt when one of the lead actresses discovers that her cell phone is missing.

What follows is not only the quest to find a cell phone, but a trip through a tangled web of who said what to whom. From secret boyfriends, to pet nicknames, to the confusion between Tony the boy (Nathan Schaber) and Toni the girl (Ciera Sweeney), the audience gets a comical look at how gossip gets started and what it leads to.

“Being a spectator to high school drama every day in the classroom, I thought it would be interesting to put it on the stage,” director Dan Streit said.

Streit said the cast struggled with timing on opening night, but showed quick improvement.

“Their second night was far better, and the crowd was more responsive to them,” Streit said. “You only have a small window to get it right, and if there had been a third show, it would have been even better. They worked hard and did a great job.”

MEET THE CAST

Stage Manager
Kayla Gilbert
Pizza Delivery Boy
Dakota Nason
Brandy
Micaela Reed
Toni
Nathan Schaber
Toni
Ciera Sweeney
Kevin
Dustyn Gilbert
Katie
Eleanor Lynch
Trey
TJ Kimbrough-French
Christine
Hayley Hinton
Nicky
Linelle Wilson

How long have you been acting? I’ve been acting since second grade, so that would be nine years.

Why did you decide to try out for the play? I thought it would be a great experience for me to learn more and to branch out with my acting.

Who was your character and what was her role? I was Nicky, who is Trey’s secret girlfriend. Nicky is a very controlling person, and she has a big attitude. It was a good challenge to be her.

With lots of attitude, junior Ciera Sweeney (Toni) reveals that she didn’t know her relationship was a secret. “I love acting because when the audience laughs I know I brightened their day just a little,” Sweeney said.

Bowing to the crowd, sophomore Nathan Schaber presents himself to the audience with his fellow cast members.

Hayley Hinton, 10
How long have you been acting? My first school play was in middle school, and I’ve done a few church plays too.

Why did you decide to start acting? I enjoy not being in the real world. It’s like Halloween every day when I’m acting.

What was your character’s role and what did you like most about your character? I was Christine, the sassy snob of the play. She was evil and I really liked that about her.
"**Dressed up**, junior T.J. Kimbrough-French acts out his part as Troy. "I liked being Troy because Mr. Streit was so enthusiastic when working with me. He let me make Troy a pimp when he was supposed to be a truck driver," Kimbrough-French said.

"**In a heated discussion**, Brandy (Micaela Reed) tries to reason with her boyfriend Kevin (Dustin Gilbert). "He was telling me that I crushed his 'little chicken,' which was his heart in this situation," Reed said.

"**Being confronted**, junior (Kellee Wilson (Nicky) is about to find out that the stage manager (Kayla Gilbert) has feelings for Nicky's boyfriend, Troy (T.J. Kimbrough-French).

"**Making a delivery**, sophomore Dakota Nason presents an eagerly anticipated pizza to Brandy (Micaela Reed). "I had a small role, but I still enjoyed being a part of the production," Nason said.

"**Full of happiness**, junior Dustin Gilbert hugs director Dan Streit at the end of the play. "I love acting because I love making others laugh. When the crowd laughs, I get really into it," Gilbert said.
Andre Cobbins

Project: Painted and designed art work for the Warrior Walk sidewalk
Hours: More than 60
Materials: High traffic paint and permanent cement paint
Cost: About $600. The school donated approximately $300 and my father added another $200. I provided the brushes, tape and other supplies.

I started my project the first week of school after Mr. Horrback approved it, and finished at the end of April, ultimately painting orange-and-black borders on 34 8-by-8 concrete slabs for a total distance of 272 feet. The first step was to power wash the sidewalk and to thoroughly clean the surface with an acidic compound. My mentor, art teacher Linda Horvath, was a huge help and taught me how to do this and how to use new materials and methods. I couldn't have completed this project without her.

After that, I worked on the design which included four different sports silhouettes that represented the sports played on the football field. I wanted to do something that would make a lasting impression and that would allow me to use my passion for art. The most difficult obstacles were maintaining a schedule and managing my time. The greatest rewards came in accomplishing my goal of beautifying the campus by choosing a challenging project and sticking with it. It's also been satisfying to hear the positive comments from students and teachers who have told me that they can see the orange borders as far away as the bus barn.

This was a very time-consuming project, but completely worth it.
Cynthia Ebertz

**Project:** Taught English as a Second Language classes to adults and parents within the district whose English language skills were limited.

**Hours:** More than 49

**Materials:** Notebooks, binders, textbooks, workbooks, the Oxford English Picture Dictionary textbook, flash cards, my personal laptop, flash drives, and a classroom.

**Cost:** Completely free

I taught a total of nine classes on Tuesdays and Thursdays from 5 to 6 p.m. at the start of October and finished on Nov. 3. My goal was to teach the parents valuable lessons that they would be able to use to help them communicate better with their children's teachers, at their own workplace and in everyday life. This was also a test of my teaching and language skills since the careers I want to go into are multilingual translating and teaching different languages.

Because of this project, I realized that there's a lot more to teaching than it seems. You have to know your subject and be thoroughly prepared for just about anything. You never really know what a person could be going through; the parents let me into their personal life and issues, and it was definitely an eye-opener to their everyday lives.

Nothing like this program existed within the community. I found that there was a need for it, so I filled that need and I did it with whatever resources I had available. It wasn't easy, but I wanted to challenge myself with something that was completely out of my comfort zone. I feel that my time was well spent on this project; I feel like everything I did was needed, had a purpose and was very helpful to the parents.

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**Project Profiles**

**Project:** Shadowed Tom Wachs, a meteorologist at KCTV5.

**Hours:** 27

**What did you do?** I observed Tom and other TV personalities at work and delivered data for two different evening news broadcasts.

**Why this project?** I love weather, and I want to pursue a career in meteorology.

**Biggest challenge:** Probably getting all the forms turned in on time.

**Biggest reward:** The benefit of gaining more knowledge on the study of meteorology and how meteorologists work.

**Project:** I wrote and published a book of poetry called "Express," which features poetry written by my friends and I. I plan on selling my book and giving the proceeds to a children's homeless shelter.

**Hours:** More than 25

**Why this project?** I've always loved poetry ever since I was 12.

**Biggest challenge:** Raising the money to get the book published was a problem.

**Biggest reward:** I got to see my poems mature along the way.

**Project:** Created a web server, which is a computer designed to do a specific task like running a web site.

**Hours:** 18

**What did you do?** I learned to use Xcode, an application to host a web site so people can view it.

**Why this project?** I wanted to learn more about computer programming.

**Biggest challenge:** Remembering where I saved my files and doing lots of online research on how to write the coding needed to set up my web site.

**Biggest reward:** I did it for self-growth, and I was proud to learn a lot of stuff from this being a very complicated project.

**Project:** Rehabilitated my horse, Gal, who had a serious spinal infection.

**Hours:** About 88

**What did you do?** Gave her oral medication with a syringe twice a day.

**Why this project?** I was in the process of buying Gal when we learned that she had the infection. I'd worked with horses before, but this was a whole new realm.

**Biggest reward:** We saved her life. If she wouldn't have gotten the treatment, she would have been put down for sure.

**Biggest challenge:** Finding the time for the horse. It took about three hours a day for almost two months.

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**Senior Projects**

Miriah Bailey  Mackenzie Lofton  Jourdaine Smallwood  Breanna Tendick
Nick Franchett  Haley Meier  Amber Stephens  B.J. Watson
Damon Franklin  Amber Richmond  Brett Steuart  Steve Williams
Fire & Ice
Prom 2012

Senior Dyan Mackey and junior Joshua Bonwell
Senior Danielle Matthews and her date T.J. Richardson
Junior Loren Bergstrom and senior Austin Edwards
Senior Katelyn Smith and junior Jared Clements
Senior Jake Carter and junior Sammy Ricci-Weller
Senior Ricardo Umlola and sophomore Citaly Fernandez Alvarado
Juniors Addison Tofliver and Chad Uhl
Senior Steve Williams and junior Haley Hoffine
Juniors Aaron Lewis and Kayol Bias
Seniors Kylee Timberlake and Gonzalo Pichardo

Prom 99
Dancing nose to nose, junior Drew Clark and Miranda McCullough enjoy their first Prom. "Instead of going to a restaurant, I made dinner at my house," McCullough said.

Stepping to the beat, freshman Alix Mulich and senior Emily Hunt groove to the "Cupid Shuffle".

Slow down, junior Amber Brillhart and sophomore Jake Laing dance together at the Lake Forest Clubhouse. "The dance was just all-around fun," Brillhart said. "But I enjoyed the party bus most of all."

In a tender moment, junior Jordan Lackner and senior Nick Trischler dance to a slow song. "I was thinking about wearing heels, but Nick suggested that we should wear our matching TOMS," Lackner said.

Getting down to the music, juniors Josh Bonwell and T.J. Kimbrough-French show off their moves during the dance.

Dancing the night away, juniors Bethany Bailey and Gui Pato enjoy one last dance before his return to Brazil.
Working precisely, Rachael Jensen carefully cuts a dance decoration. Juniors on the Prom Committee were allowed to miss Friday classes to decorate the Lake Forest Clubhouse. "We had a fun day with Mrs. Schlicht and Mrs. Deteren," Jensen said. "It was stressful at times, but we got through it by making jokes out of everything."

Working side-by-side, seniors Breana Lynn and Britney Huffman hold the arch frame while others add the finishing touches. "Decorating for Prom was fun, but putting the arch together was hard. It took about two hours to put it together," Huffman said.

It was an unforgettable moment when a crowded, thriving dance floor came to a halt to witness a heartfelt occasion. As the crowd parted and the Prom candidates made their way down the dance floor, applause was given, cheers were screamed and friends were supported.

Then senior Philip Holcomb took his walk down the aisle with fellow nominee, Emily Hunt.

As he and Emily took their places near the stage, cheers erupted and the crowd became frenzied shouting "Philip Holcomb!" to support their soon-to-be king.

"It was honestly a special moment when Philip won Prom King because we all grew up with him, and he's like a brother to so many of us. Everyone who knows Philip knows how much this meant to him, and I really feel like he's a special part of the Class of 2012," senior Spencer Bush said.

Moments later, Scintilla Capalla was greeted with the same excitement from the crowd.

"It felt like a dream come true. I felt like Philip really deserved to be prom king. I think that he's the sweetest person that I've met in the whole school and having the opportunity to be prom queen with him as king was a great honor," Capalla said.

Approximately 130 couples attended the April 21 Prom at the ever-familiar Lake Forest Clubhouse.

Swinging for Success

by Aaron Lewis

The girls tennis season started with a bang when 32 girls showed up to the first day of practice.

“T was the biggest girls team I’ve had in all my years of coaching,” head coach Bill Scott said.

Trying to get all of those 32 girls into matches was a challenge, but Scott kept his promise to the last eight girls and gave them the chance to play in two JV duals.

“Never did any of those eight girls quit,” Scott said. “They paid the $50 fee, bought a racket and team shirt and made it to every practice. It’s always a successful season if we have a lot of kids that come out, stay out, and not quit, and it’s also a bonus if we win a lot of medals.”

Those medals came flowing in at the DeSoto Wildcat Invitational when junior Bethany Bailey and senior Bre Tendick placed third in No. 1 doubles and seniors Lauren Callahan and Toni Stock finished eighth out of 16 teams in No. 2 doubles. At the league meet at Mill Valley, Tendick and Bailey were second in No. 1 doubles, while senior Melissa Cisneros and sophomore Hannah Hunt placed first in No. 2 doubles.

“The varsity did exactly what I thought they would do,” Scott said. “They played hard and gave it their all.”

Scott said the season was an overall success with the great enthusiasm and effort displayed by such a large squad.

A Short Lived Season

After back-to-back trips to the state tournament, senior Bre Tendick had high expectations for completing her final season.

Unfortunately, she was unable to make a last run at a state championship due to a freak softball injury three weeks before regionals.

“It was a hard-hit ground ball that hit a rock and shot straight up into my face,” Tendick said. “I don’t remember much after that. The next thing I know they were shoving cotton balls up my nose to stop the bleeding.”

Diagnosed initially with a broken nose and small head injury, Tendick tried to push through the injury. But the pain intensified and her grades were dropping along with her athletic performance. Ultimately, Tendick was diagnosed with a severe concussion and was ruled out of action for three months.

“I cried in the doctor’s office when I heard the news,” Tendick said. “I knew Bethany [her doubles partner] and I would have done well, and we definitely had a chance to place in the top ten, but it wasn’t meant to be. I didn’t want it to end this way, but I enjoyed the time I was able to play.”

“The only thought in my head was I can’t believe I just did that.”

—Aubrey Julo, II

At the Bonner Springs JV Tournament, junior Aubrey Julo played as the No. 1 singles player and ended the day with an undefeated record of 7-0, the first player to do so since the 1990s. When all was said and done, Julo played 51 games in the seven matches, winning 36 and losing a measly 15.

“After Bre was injured, Aubrey really stepped up and was one of our most improved players,” head coach Bill Scott said.

Julo said the day felt like the longest of her life.

“At the start of my last match I was losing, but then I came back and completely shocked myself,” Julo said.
Locked in sophomore Hannah test Spring varsity Sodium ended the season having doubles record of 99-56. "Something that stands out for me is when I had to play against last year's state champion at the Wildcat Invitational at DeSoto," Hunt said.

"It was fun getting to spend time with my sister in a different place besides our house. We even got to play together in a match against Sumner and that was fun because we were winning big, so we didn't have to take it so seriously.

-Toni Stock, 12"

"Having my sister on the tennis team was fun. We could just joke around and one time when we got to play together we just couldn't stop laughing.

-Cassie Stock, 1"

Moustache Mania

For the girls and boys tennis teams, no trip to Lawrence is complete without a visit to Cic's Pizza. While there, the team would go into the arcade and pay a quarter to buy little fake moustaches for the return trip.

"We all wanted to be like Coach Scott and wore the moustaches all the way home and sang great songs," senior Ashton Itonas said.

The Bagel Award goes to...

The Bagel Award is given to the varsity and JV player who has been "bageled" the most during the season. A "bagel" in tennis is when a player doesn't win any games within the match.

The varsity Bagel Award went to junior Aubrey Julo while sophomore Sasha Bingham took the honor for the JV squad.
Runners make return to state meet

For the past two years, senior Matt Coffman and junior T.J. Kimbrough-French (shown right) have run side-by-side, encouraging each other to finish strong in pursuit of a return trip to the state meet at Wamego.

During the regular season, Coffman usually finished ahead of Kimbrough-French, but that wasn’t the case at state.

Despite losing his shoe at the 800-meter mark, Kimbrough-French finished with a season-best time of 18:14.05 to place 51st while Coffman was 58th with a time of 18:30.31.

"I think I ran well, but if I could change one thing I would have started my race faster, that way I would have been in a higher place from the beginning," Kimbrough-French said. "I didn’t even care that my shoe fell off; I think I ran faster without it on."

"I’m Just a Newbie" I enjoyed participating in a new sport, but running was nothing new to me. I have always enjoyed running, but I hadn’t gotten into it much until now. We had to get a lot of miles in and most of them for me were in the morning. But after awhile I actually started to enjoy the morning workouts.

-Austin Schuler, 10
Scintilla Capalla, our Inspiration

Scintilla Capalla has been an active participant in cross country from her freshman year to her senior year and has always played a huge role on the team. Scintilla finished her junior year as a team captain along with Mandy Ballou. By always giving her best to her teammates and through her many acts of kindness, Scintilla became the team’s inspiration.

However, Scintilla was diagnosed in mid-June with Osteosarcoma, a form of bone cancer. Although she was unable to compete, she attended practices and always had words of encouragement.

At the Bonner Springs Invitational, the Basehor cross country team gave their best to support Scintilla. Runners from every team in attendance wore shirts with a heart design and the words, “We love you Scintilla.”

Basehor coach Jeff Venema completely surprised Scintilla by organizing the masses of people wearing these supportive shirts.

“Seeing everyone wearing the shirts for Scintilla is something you won’t forget,” boys coach Bill Downing said. “It was great to see the running community come together for someone you care for and admire.”

Through morning practices, weekend runs, and team dinners, the cross country team became closer than ever.

They gave their best to all of their races as well as to each other. They stood together through bad weather, hard practices and all of the challenges that were presented to them.

“The team had a lot more runners this year and that helped us to bond together and become more like a family,” junior Mandy Ballou said.

One of the more interesting challenges for the squad came when the location for their home invitational was moved from the Wyandotte Country Park to the grounds of the Kansas Speedway due to a scheduling conflict.

“Creating a new course was a lot of work but an enormous amount of fun. We drove over 40 miles in the jeep to map out a course of 3.1 miles,” girls coach Rob Marriott said.

While junior Tessa Newberry found the new course to be “weird” because of the team’s comfort zone with the Wyandotte County Park, she enjoyed running at the Speedway because it was “flat and fast.”

Marriott said almost every girl achieved a personal best at the Speedway course, inspired by a touching tribute to senior Scintilla Capalla to start the day.

Highlights for the boys team came in sending two runners to the state meet and placing second at the Wyco Invitational.

Senior Matt Coffman was the team’s top runner, medaling in every meet and winning the first high school race of his career at the Eudora Invitational.
With eight seniors, the Lady Braves took advantage of their experience and finished the season with a 21-18 record.

"It's a great feeling to not just be over .500, but to hit 20 wins," head coach Heather Campbell said.

After spending their high school years playing together, the seniors had built the bonds necessary to reach their goal of a winning season.

"We had played with each other for a long time, and we all had a close relationship. We knew how to play well together while having fun," senior Kylee Timberlake said.

Campbell said season highlights included beating Piper in five games at home, the selection of three players to the All-KVL squad, and a strong effort at the WYCO tournament.

"I was happy to end the season with a first-place finish at Wyco. It was our last time together and a great way to end our time together," senior Erin Marx said.

At the end of the season, Heather Campbell decided to step down as the head volleyball coach, a position she had held since 2009.

"I had coached some of these girls for four years, and it was a joy to watch them increase their volleyball skills and mature as young women, but I want to spend more time with my own three girls," Campbell said.

Under Campbell's directions, the squad improved steadily. With only seven wins in 2009, they improved to 17-19 in 2010 and then posted a 21-19 mark in 2011. Campbell received many compliments on how much better the girls had become.

"I will miss the competitive spirit and being a part of the team in practice and games, but I will be watching and cheering the underclassmen on as they continue to take Bonner volleyball to the next level," Campbell said.

"I thought we really came together as a team, and we played our best at the WYCO Tournament. Making the All-KVL first team was a nice end-of-the-season surprise."

-Haley Hoffine, '11

"I felt like I had a lot more blocks this year and that might have been what helped me to receive All-KVL recognition. I wasn't expecting it, but when I found out, I was very excited."

-Madison Scott, '12
Having been voted most inspirational on the team meant a lot to me. I enjoyed getting to cheer my girls on through a record of wins.

—Meagan Stice, ’12

"I'm not sure what Erin (center) and Miranda were laughing about, but the relationships we had on the team were exceptional, and there are so many memories I will never forget. It helped that we were always friends on and off the court."

—Kylee Timberlake, ’12

• **Focusing on the bump**, sophomore Shelby Mata gets in perfect position to make her pass in a junior varsity game at home. "I missed a lot of serves my freshman year, so my goal was to get better at serving, and I think I did an amazing job meeting that goal," Mata said.

• **Making the return**, senior Madison Scott prepares to tip the ball back to the Turner side of the net. Scott was the only senior to earn a varsity letter all four years of her high school career.

• **Getting low**, senior Kylee Timberlake digs the ball to a teammate while junior Jena Williams looks on. Timberlake finished her season with 250 digs.

• **Preparing for the block**, senior Erica Wilson reaches up to stop a Mill Valley opponent from scoring. "My favorite game was beating Piper to win the Wyco Championships," Wilson said.
Q: What was your overall take on the season?
A: We did well, but we could have done a lot better. We needed a lot more chemistry than we had.

Q: Can you describe the pressure that is put on you as a goalie?
A: There's a ton of pressure on me. If someone scores, it's entirely my fault and I feel bad because I haven't done my job.

Q: Was there anything you did to get ready to play?
A: Before every game I put a little rubber band on my wrist just for good luck.

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**Noah Monroy**

Q: How long have you been playing and what position did you play?
A: I've played all four years of high school, and I was the defensive stopper.

Q: Do you have any advice to offer future players?
A: Give it all you have every practice and game. Listen to the coach and remember that if you put your mind to it you can achieve anything.

Q: How was you high school soccer experience?
A: It was great. I love soccer, especially playing with these guys over the years and building up the chemistry that helped us to compete.

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**Nate Mitchell**

Q: What's your favorite memory of playing in high school?
A: Going to state was definitely my favorite memory. I felt that it was really good for our community. It showed that we can make it just as far as any 5A or 6A team.

Q: Has anything unusual happened to you on the field?
A: In one of our first games, I received a red card but I was able to prove the referee he was wrong and got back in the game.

Q: How long have you been playing soccer?
A: Since I was 3, so about 15 years.
Kicking it forward
By Sasha Bingham

EXPECTATIONS: A BLESSING AND A CURSE

After a first-ever trip to the state tournament last year, the soccer team opened the season hungry for a return trip.

"The expectations were high," head coach Mike Moulin said. "And during those first couple of games those expectations weighed heavily on the team. But they soon relaxed and worked on playing hard."

The Braves faced a difficult schedule that included many 5A and 6A teams. But the guys didn't let this stop them from reaching their goals.

"Going to state was ultimately a goal for everyone. But my goal was to have a unit that worked hard in games and practice, which they did in the end," Moulin said.

With senior team captains Spencer Bush, Nate Mitchell and Brett Steuart leading the way, many younger players also stepped up and the team saw great improvement as the season progressed.

"A really defining moment was when all of the players realized they needed to be leaders and not followers," Moulin said.

Bush pointed to a victory over Turner as another important achievement.

"Beating Turner 4-2 on our home field was our best game as a team. We hadn't beaten them during any of my four years," Bush said.

The season wound down with a tough 1-0 loss to K.C. Christian, the ultimate state champions.

"We had plenty of opportunity to finish but just didn't capitalize," Moulin said.

What do you look for in a cleat?

Brand: Adidas
Cost: $320
Owners: Nate Mitchell, 12

"I prefer Adidas soccer cleats over the ones from Nike. I like the AdiZero F50's because they're very light and durable. My limit on spending is just a little over $100, and I usually look for cleats with bright colors."

Luciano Pasani, 10

"The weight is important. You want light ones so you can run faster. The size is also important you want something that fits to your foot well. I would be willing to spend about $300 on a good pair of cleats."

Dominic Galvino, 10

"They've got to be flashy. The last pair I bought were $250. They should be kind of pricey because that's how you can tell if they're good or not. Usually they last me a season or two and they have to be Nikes."

Toby Sullivan, 12

"My favorite memory happened at one of our home games when I made a goal in the last 10 minutes with assistance from Colin Barker. The kick soared right over the goalie's head, and we won 2-0."

-J.K. Franz, 11

"I played mostly on the JV squad, and I thought our strength was that we flowed the ball really well. My favorite moment came when I scored my first goal against Piper. It was really exciting."

-Anniston Schneck, 10

"For the past three years I played football, but for my senior year I wanted something that was more fun, and soccer definitely was. I got a chance to have some new teammates and to play a sport I'd always liked."

-Aaron Rudolph, 12
Senior running back Johnathan Jackson played a huge role in the Braves’ success. Determined to not get hurt, Jackson scored 26 touchdowns and put together the best single-season rushing performance in Bonner Springs history with 1,549 rushing yards, breaking the record set by Max Barren in 2010.

Jackson said his success was the result of the things he learned from Barren his freshman year and the support of his parents, who instilled the values of hard work and commitment.

“He is one of the hardest working guys I have seen in all my years of coaching,” head coach Lucas Aulin said.

“It was awesome to get a chance to play with my brother. We had always played catch in the backyard, so it was fun to be able to take that connection to an actual game. Jordan stepped up to be a great quarterback and leader as a sophomore.”

—Johnathan Jackson, 12

Sophomore Jordan Jackson made his debut as the starting quarterback after the team lost three straight games, and once he hit the field, the Braves couldn’t be beat.

“I was nervous at first, but I had the confidence that my coaches had prepared me for the situation,” Jackson said.

Jackson finished the season with 82 completions in 139 attempts for 1,393 yards. He had 17 touchdowns passes with just one interception.

“The biggest moment for me and the team was winning the district championship. It was a goal that we had since the beginning of the season, so it was a sense of accomplishment,” Jackson said.

“Playing football with my brother, it was something I have always wanted to do because I know how much football means to him.”

—Jordan Jackson, 10

With a big hit, junior Matt Cail shuts down Tonganoxie’s offense. A linebacker, Cail received second-team All-Kaw Valley League honors and was the team’s leading tackler with 86 stops.

Making the stop, junior Tyler Howell (top right) pounces on top of his Lansing opponent with assistance from seniors Jose Contreras and Daemon Franklin. Howell finished the year with 36 tackles while Franklin, a second-team All-KVL selection, had 18 and Contreras had 23.

Running the ball, sophomore Jared Krenschedel rushes past Tonganoxie’s defense. Krenschedel finished the season with 203 rushing yards and 125 receiving yards as a running back.
CHAMPIONSHIP NO ONE EXPECTED

SENIORS ACCEPT DISTRICT TROPHY

Under the direction of new coach Lucas Aslin, the football team kicked off its season with an exceptional 21-17 home win over Topeka Seamen. It was a great way to introduce the new-and-improved program.

"The Seamen game was a huge, unexpected victory since nobody thought we were going to win. We proved we were better than we were last year and got off to a great start," senior Daemon Franklin said.

But the next three games were a disappointment, to say the least, with losses to Mill Valley, Turner, and Basehor.

To stop the losing streak, Aslin decided to make major changes, most notably the installation of sophomore Jordan Jackson as the starting quarterback.

"The three games we lost were to good teams, but we stayed together and worked harder in practice. We believed we could turn around the losing streak and change our season," senior Steve Williams said.

After a 48-13 blowout win over Tonganoxie, the Braves went on to win five in a row, outscoring their opponents 229-89.

The play of senior running back J.J. Jackson was huge during the winning streak, with five-touchdown performances against Tongie and Bishop Ward.

To get on top in the district playoffs, the Braves pulled together for a hard-fought 41-34 over an undefeated Schlagger squad, giving them confidence to go all the way.

They closed out the season with a 35-21 win over Lansing, allowing the seniors to raise the district championship trophy in front of their fans in a memorable post-game moment.

The Braves moved on to play Gardner-Edgerton in the state playoffs but fell short of their dreams in a lopsided loss.

"The key to our success was a result of the players and coaches beginning to get comfortable with each other and buying into our system's philosophies," Aslin said.

"The three years I played for Bonner were awesome, and I made some really great friendships. Being able to play was the greatest thing to happen to me, and I couldn't ask for better people to play with." - Jose Contreras, 12

"I will never forget the lasting impression that Coach Aslin's energy and intensity brought to the team and the results we had this season. It was a dream come true to win the district championship, a goal we have had since we were freshmen." - Monte Cox, 12

LUCAS ASLIN
ERA BEGINS

Coming from Garden City Community College, new head coach Lucas Aslin brought with him an energetic, ready-to-win attitude. Stressing fundamentals and teamwork, Aslin led the team to a 6-4 record and a district championship.

"Our practices were more intense, and he pushed us to work hard, get things done, and to never get down on ourselves," junior Logan Terrell said. "He told us what we did right and what we did wrong, but he always put more emphasis on the positives. He's just a great coach."

Although it was challenging at first, Aslin said his goals and dreams for the team remained the same from day one.

"The major goals at the beginning of the season were to teach the players to compete every day and to win a district championship. I feel like most of my goals were either met or at least we worked really hard to accomplish them."

Savoring the moment, senior drew Hern lifts the district championship trophy with pride as part of a mid-field celebration. Coach Lucas Aslin had all the seniors accept the trophy together after the Lansing win.

"Making the grab, senior Joseph Dooley scores against Lansing." Winning district was something I will never forget, but the biggest game for me personally was against Gardner. It was our chance to move on in the playoffs, and I went out and played my best," said Dooley, who finished his final season with 18 catches for 290 yards.
Season of change

Cheerleading helps give athletes the extra encouragement they need to push for a win. But it's more than just yelling and throwing stunts up. It's a way to express yourself. Each cheerleader has a different story, a different life, a different type of creativity.

No matter what, they all have something in common. They have the passion for their school. It takes drive and dedication to be a part of the squad—going to early practices and getting home so late that you can barely do your homework.

It was a season of transformation for this year's squad with the addition of male cheerleaders during the winter sports season.

"The guys really made our stunts stronger and added more personality to our team," junior Madison Epp said.

Cheerleading may not be considered a sport to some, but it is to this squad. Being a cheerleader takes physical strength, skill, motivation, honesty, love, and ambition. The cheerleaders, all with their own individual skills, come together as one and always know how to make the Braves proud.

It takes four people to construct a stunt, and each person in the stunt has an important job.

"I know I've got to stay tight because if I don't, the entire stunt will fall," junior Mandy Bailou said. "It takes balance, and you can't be afraid because then the whole stunt team might become afraid and the stunt will collapse."

Being a flyer, you've got to stay strong and whatever you do, don't fall. "I honestly don't really feel anything. I just focus on staying tight and hitting my pose," sophomore Caroline Clark said. Then, once I'm there, I just have fun and share my spirit with the crowd."

During football season, freshman cheerleader Gabby Bennett was tossed into the air quite often to be caught by her fellow cheerleaders. "I'm not really scared while stuntig. I trust them. I'm only scared when I try new things," Bennett said.

Enjoying the game, junior Taylor Coleman cheers for the Braves at a Mill Valley basketball game. "There's actually a small rivalry between the two cheer squads, and every time we play them, we work harder," Coleman said.

With a smile, senior Emily Hunt presents the Mayor's Trophy for the top entry in the Tidlow Days parade to Jody Cox, a member of Bonner Beautiful. Assisting with the awards is one way the squad gives back to the community.
Why did you try out for cheerleading? A lot of the girls from the team told me that I should do it, and it sounded like a lot of fun.

What do you like about cheerleading? I like stunting the most. It’s fun seeing what cool stunt combinations the team is capable of.

What’s the most challenging part? Balancing homework when I don’t get home from a game until 10 p.m.

What’s been the most fun? I’ve really enjoyed building new relationships with the girls on the team.

How do you feel you’ve contributed to the cheer squad? I’ve added a little male muscle to the squad, and the coaches have said having Cord and I on the team has been a positive change.

Why did you try out for cheerleading? I tried out because it’s something I thought I would enjoy and something that I’m good at.

What do you like about cheerleading? Stunting is the best part of cheerleading. I love trying new stunts.

What’s the most challenging part? The most challenging part about cheer would be trying new stunts.

What’s been the most fun? The most enjoyable part for me is performing at pep assemblies and stunting.

How do you feel you’ve contributed to the cheer squad? I tried to bring the team together more. I feel like having guys on the team helps to make it much more dynamic and interesting. It brought up the “wow” factor.

It’s not much different now that we don’t have a JV team. On the positive side, little Baleigh got to be moved up to varsity, and it’s really fun to put her up in stunts. We have lost a few girls on the team, but we all still work really well together, and I couldn’t ask for a better team of girls.

—Madison Epps, II

I think it’s pretty different from last year, but I like it. I think it’s easier without a JV because the coaches can now focus on one squad. You have more time to improve yourself and you have more time with the coaches.

—Kelsey Ballou-Ingstad, 10

This year’s cheer squad was really fun to be a part of. All of us girls are close, and we all get along great together. I look forward to being a part of the squad next year because I feel like we’ve all improved ourselves, and I’m positive we will gain more great cheerleaders.

—Tylynn Colman, II
Lucas becomes first male Dazzler

As a new member of the team, sophomore Skyler Lucas made history by becoming the first ever male dancer for the Orange Dazzlers. Although he was not originally selected for the team, he stepped up when an opening became available.

"Nicole Norris convinced me to try out," Lucas said. "People were really supportive about it, and it motivated me to do the best I could. I feel that camp was probably the best part because there was a lot of team bonding."

Highlights

What was yours?

"I think the team worked together really well, and the addition of Skyler helped our team a lot. My favorite memory was the dance banquet. We all came together and watched a video the team made of the whole season."

-Brittney Huffman, 11

"I saw a lot of change during my four years on the team, but I think it's good to keep it fresh and not do the same thing every year. It was hard to be the only senior because I didn't have anyone to share all of those last year memories with. Overall, I had a great time, and I'm glad I stuck with it."

-Ashley Muldoon, 12

"Getting to the new dancers was hard because we had to teach them everything we already knew. We had to have a lot of patience, but they were all very fun and outgoing. Camp was very stressful, too. We had to learn a lot of dances at once, but in the end we had a good time."

-Nicole Norris, 10

"Being captain was a different experience for me because I had to take on a leadership role. It was fun getting to choreograph with the other co-captain, Ashley Muldoon. My favorite dance was probably the senior dance because we could do anything we wanted to, and it was all our own."

-Lauren Cutter, 11
The Orange Dazzlers started their season by attending a summer camp at Emporia State and returned with several awards, including "Most Improved" and 13 nominations for "All American."

This was the strong start that the young squad needed in a year defined by change and new friendships.

"It was definitely a year of growth because we had a lot of freshmen and sophomores," senior captain Ashley Muldoon said. "But as the year went on everyone gained the experience they needed, and we all got used to each other."

It was also a year of special celebrations with the marriage of co-sponsor Tara George on Nov. 20. The whole team attended her wedding to celebrate the memorable day with her.

"I loved having my dance team come to my wedding. I was thrilled they were there to support me at such a huge moment of my life," George said.

The end of the year marked the retirement of co-sponsor Cindy Hayes. The team dedicated its "Walk Like an Egyptian" dance to her at their Feb. 14 performance.

"As a coach she was very technical, so all of our fundamentals were strengthened," junior Miranda McCullough said. "But she also cared about us as a people and not just dancers."
Racing in their home pool for the last time, seniors Ryan Cook, Blaine Edmondson, Ethan Hook, and Nate Mitchell capped off their careers by qualifying for state in the 200-yard freestyle relay with a time of 1:40.71. For all but Mitchell, the qualification was an all-important repeat from last year.

"It was great to see those seniors have that experience," coach Lynn LaNoue said. "The unique thing was that they swam faster in the relay than they would have individually. The team was more important to them than their own personal accomplishments."

Edmondson also qualified in the 50-yard and the 500-yard freestyle. Accompanied by alternates Thomas Hook and Jacob Kraus, the team headed to Topeka on Feb. 17 with high expectations.

In the preliminaries, the free relay team recorded a 1:39.15, good enough to advance to the finals the next day where they finished 14th with a time of 1:39.87.

Edmondson qualified for the finals in both of his events, finishing 14th in the 50 free and 16th in the 500 free, shattering a five-year-old school record with a time of 5:42.17.

"Making it to finals was the most memorable moment of my season because I didn't make it that far last year. I felt so relieved and successful," Edmondson said.

"Going to state for swimming felt really good. It was great to go to state in four different sports throughout my high school career."
- Nate Mitchell, 12

"I liked swimming preliminaries at state because everyone did really well, and it was an amazing accomplishment for us."
- Ethan Hook, 12

"Going to state for the second year in a row felt like a great accomplishment for me; it was everything that I had been working towards this season."
- Ryan Cook, 12

"Flying down the lane, senior Blaine Edmondson swims the butterfly with intensity. Edmondson's best time was 1:03.08 recorded at the last home meet."

"Studying the heat sheet, seniors Nate Mitchell and Ryan Cook prepare to swim in the preliminaries at state by comparing their times with those of their competitors. The team practiced before and after school for two weeks to get ready for state."

"After a three-hour drive, senior Nate Mitchell stretches his legs at Inter-League Championships in Coffeyville by taking a few warm-up dives."
With determination, sophomore Dakota Nason swims at a home meet. "The best moment for me was when I swam the 200 individual medley. I got a really positive reaction from the seniors," Nason said.

Going the extra mile, senior Madison Morris congratulates her boyfriend senior Reed Dougherty at a home meet. "I went to every swim meet this year to support Reed because he has always supported me, and I really wanted to go and watch him do something that he is good at," Morris said.

Circling up, the team is surrounded by St. James swimmers at the KLC championships in Coffeyville. "We had a very small group of swimmers go to that meet and since many of us are friends with the St. James guys, I asked them to join our traditional pre-meet cheer," senior Ryan Cook said.

Caught up in the moment, seniors Blaine Edmondson and Ethan Hook cheer on their teammates at the final home meet.

Hitting the Water

Led by a core of strong seniors, the swim team enjoyed one of the best seasons in team history, finishing 23rd at the state meet.

"I would rank it as one of my top two seasons, maybe even the best, in terms of team bonding and team commitment," coach Lynn LaNoue said. "It was a fun season, one I will cherish."

The team kicked off the season with a strong showing at the Shawnee Mission West Invitational with five first-place finishes against mostly 6A opponents.

LaNoue said the tone was set before the start of the season when the swimmers took part in an unspoken competition.

"They all participated in preseason workouts, and they used that to goad each other," LaNoue said. "Ryan started the season with great turns he had worked on over the summer, and it made the others want to turn better. They just continued to feed off each other, and it was really neat to watch the dynamics of their interaction."

The team dominated the Wyco Invitational where they finished second with multiple top finishes. Senior Blaine Edmondson had a big night, placing first in the 100- and 200-yard freestyle events while sophomore Thomas Hook and senior Nate Mitchell swam their personal bests, achieving first- and second-place finishes in the 50 freestyle. Senior Ethan Hook added a first-place in the 100 backstroke and established a meet record.

But the season's best storyline belonged to the 200 freestyle relay.

"Their last race as high-schoolers was their best swim," LaNoue said. "What more could you ask for?"

Q&A with Ryan Cook

How many Top 10 finishes did you have?
I made it into the Top 10 in almost every event, so roughly 40.

What was your favorite event?
My favorite event was the 200 individual medley because I feel like I'm pretty good at it. I like being able to do all four different strokes and not just the same thing for a long distance.

How many times have you been to state?
I have been to state twice and both times it has felt like a great accomplishment.

What was your most memorable moment?
It would have to be when the 200 freestyle relay team qualified for state. It was a little easier to do at a home meet because our crowd really helped to pump us up.

My favorite part of the season was when we went to Hibachi Grill after one of the meets. I liked that the best because that's when I began getting to know the team.
- Reed Dougherty, 12

The best part of the year for me was becoming friends with the seniors. The season overall was great, but I think we could have done a bit better if we had more people on the team.
- Thomas Hook, 10

Going to state was very amazing. I felt very enthusiastic, like I was a part of something bigger than myself.
- Jacob Kraus, 1
Despite battling injuries and overcoming adversity, the wrestlers pulled together and had a season to remember.

"We had a lot of injuries, more than I can count," said head coach Brandon Jobe. "We rarely had a full lineup."

But the team hung tough, and by the end of the season there were plenty of highlights.

For example, the team had its highest finish ever in the tough Lee’s Summit Holiday Invitational, placing fourth out of 22 teams.

At their own Dick Burns Mat Classic, the team finished sixth with five champions.

They also dominated at the Wyco Invitational, placing third with championships coming from Josiah Seaton (106), Bryan Lanning (138), Jonathan Blackwell (145), and Jared Clements (170).

Their great performances continued at the league meet where they added another third-place finish to the team and at regionals where they placed second, qualifying seven for the state tournament at Wichita.

With five wrestlers finishing at least fourth or better, the Braves turned in a spectacular third-place finish at state, bringing home a trophy for the first time since 1972.

With such a strong showing, there were post-season accolades for Jobe, who was selected the Class 4A Coach of the Year, and for senior Mark Hobson, who was named the Wyco Wrestler of the Year.

"Mark was selected by all of the coaches and earned the right to compete at the 2012 Senior Classic where 5A and 6A wrestlers battled 3A and 4A wrestlers. It was a real honor for Mark," Jobe said.

The Braves were ranked 10th in the final Metro Sports wrestling poll and seventh in Class 4A in the Kansas Wrestling Coaches poll.
Winning his match, junior Aaron Puckett looks back at his coaches for approval at the Dick Bums Mat Classic. "Winning at our own invitational made me feel accomplished," Puckett said.

With all his might, junior Jonathan Blackwell tries to put his opponent on his back by running a power half at the Dick Bums Mat Classic. Blackwell enjoyed another dominant season, finishing at 43-3 with 23 pins.

Keeping his distance, junior Justus Seaton waits for an opening to make his next move. Seaton finished with a 22-9 record and advanced to the state tournament despite battling a broken hand.

Murderer's Row is actually a baseball nickname referring to the powerhouse lineup of the 1927 New York Yankees.

This year, wrestling coach Brandon Jobe had his own Murderer's Row, a dominating lineup of varsity wrestlers in consecutive weight classes: junior Jonathan Blackwell at 145 pounds, senior Mark Hobson at 152 pounds, junior Aaron Puckett at 160 pounds and junior Jared Clements at 170 pounds.

Jobe called this group Murderer's Row because they rarely lost, and if the team was losing or off to a slow start, they could turn it all around.

"These guys were the heart of the lineup," Jobe said. "The dedication they've shown and the time they've put in is what makes them special."

Jobe said his Murderer's Row had its most dominant impact at Gardner, where they got the rest of the team going after a slow start, at KVL and regionals. "Murderer's Row was a big part of our team's success and was feared by all," Puckett said.

Creating A Legacy:

In just his third year, head coach Brandon Jobe has quickly built one of the best programs in the state. The Braves placed 16th at state in Jobe's first season and improved to fifth last year. This year, the Braves had high hopes to come out on top and returned home with an impressive third-place finish and four medalists.

"I couldn't be happier with the effort these guys put in and the time and dedication they showed," Jobe said. "It was a very fun tournament. It was very exciting for the wrestlers, the coaches, and all of our fans."

The Braves were led by state runner-ups junior Jonathan Blackwell and senior Mark Hobson, but it was bittersweet finish for Blackwell, last year's champion.

"It wasn't what either of us wanted," Jobe said of Blackwell's finish. "Mark had a good run and some of the toughest draws."

Hitting the road, state qualifiers Austin Cobb, Justus Seaton, Josiah Seaton, Mark Hobson, Jonathan Blackwell, Aaron Puckett, and Jared Clements make their exit after a good luck send-off from the drum line and fellow classmates.
High expectations

Getting his 200th win and a trip to the state tournament, head coach Clay Oakes was more than satisfied with the way his sixth season at BSHS turned out.

"It is one of those stats that is a reflection of many good teams and hard workers," said Oakes after achieving the 200-win mark with a 51-28 victory over Lansing. But in all of his years coaching, Oakes said this team was the best team he has ever worked with.

"This team dedicated themselves to doing what it took to become a championship-caliber team," Oakes said.

Oakes said winning at Mill Valley and Piper in close games was on his list of memorable victories while another highlight came when the Lady Braves soared back after being behind at halftime to beat Spring Hill in the Top Gun Tournament championship game.

However, his top two victories were beating Tonganoxie for a trip to state and "getting our first win at state against Pratt, " Oakes said.

Oakes expected a trip to state and that's what he got. He says it meant a lot "to see all the hard work that pay off. It was great to see how much it influenced our school and community spirit."

Dynamic Duo

Yessenia Hernandez

Awards: All-KVL, first team; All-State, honorable mention; KCK Preps, first team; Defensive Player of the Year; Inspirational Player of the Year; Top Gun Tournament, first team

Key Stat: Led the team with 92 assists

On teammate Anna Deegan: "Anna is a great ball player. We are a good team because she attacks the basket, and I get the ball to her. She gets the points and I get the assists."

Anna Deegan

Awards: Top Gun Tournament, first team; All-KVL, first team; All-State, third team; KCK Player of the Year; Offensive Player of the Year; Team MVP

Key Stats: Led the team in scoring, averaging with 14.4 points a game

On teammate Yessenia Hernandez: "She works extremely hard. She is one of the most unselfish players I know, and I think that's why we worked well together."

My State Experience...

Penetrating to the basket, junior Cassidy Holloway tries to draw contact in the paint. "To me the beating Piper and Tongie in sub-state were very big games, it was an emotional week," said Holloway.

In stride, coaches Clay Oakes and Nick Schuster (left) talk game strategy at the state tournament. "I was really excited for our players. To see them taste success in their first-ever trip to state and be able to compete in all three games was very rewarding as a coach," Oakes said.

State was the perfect definition of what we seniors had been working for since our freshman year. We showed we had the potential to beat anyone in the McPherson game.

- Erin Marx, 12

The whole experience of State was amazing—the court, the crowd, I just loved it all. The game against Ottawa meant the most to me because I knew it would be my last while in high school.

- Yessenia Hernandez, 12

The trip to state was so meaningful because we did it as a team. I loved beating Pratt the first game because I felt it was one of my best games of the season, and I led my team to a victory.

- Emily Wilson, 12

State was such an amazing experience. Going to state has been a goal since I started playing basketball and achieving that goal was indescribable.

- Erica Wilson, 12
When the Lady Braves kicked off their season with a 34-32 win over Piper, they had no idea that they were about to embark on the most successful season in the program's 37-year history.

The Lady Braves had plenty of early wins, including one over Blue Valley Southwest in which senior Erica Wilson had a season-high 15 points, and the first victory over Mill Valley in 12 years.

The winning ways continued with six straight before the Lady Braves entered the Top Gun tournament at Wellsville on Jan. 24.

With an undefeated record and a target on their back, the Braves had their eye on the prize and brought home a first-place trophy for the first time in school history.

Junior Haley Hoffine put up 10 points against Spring Hill to seal the championship.

Rounding out the regular season at 19-1, not only did the Lady Braves post the best record in school history, but they also won a Kaw Valley League championship for the first time in 11 years.

The top-seeded Lady Braves opened the post-season with an 88-21 annihilation of Perry-Lecompton. Freshman Kaleigh Taylor even got her time to shine, putting seven points on the board.

The next round of sub-state brought a KVL matchup against Piper. Senior Erin Marx’s eight points and tough defense aided in the win.

In a sub-state championship game on their home court, the Lady Braves squared off against an old KVL foe, the Tonganoxie Chieftains.

Both teams put it all on the line for a trip to state, but junior Anna Deegan and senior Yessenia Hernandez stepped up to lead their team to the championship with 38 combined points.

Basking in the glory of a first-ever trip to the state tournament, the Lady Braves had to adjust to the pressure of playing at the next level—in a large arena where people have traveled hours to watch you. Not even picked to win their first game, the Lady Braves came out and proved that they belonged, with a 51-40 win over Pratt.

After this accomplishment, they then faced the reigning SA state champions, McPherson, to whom they fell, 49-40.

The game for third place would be an intense and emotional end to the season. The Lady Braves started slowly against the Ottawa Bulldogs but came back to end regulation time in a tie and another chance in overtime. Tears filled the court and stands as they fell short by a single point, losing 49-48.

“The overtime loss was a heartbreaker, and I really felt the pain and disappointment along with all of our players,” said head coach Clay Oakes. “But finishing fourth at state is nothing to hang your head about.”
Living up to their Expectations

A SHINING SEASON LED BY EIGHT SENIORS

In a competitive and tough Kaw Valley League, the boys basketball team made it their goal to finish as one of the league's top three teams. With eight seniors leading the way, these high expectations were within close reach.

Beginning the season with a confidence-building win over Piper, the Braves' senior leadership made a shining debut. Showing a high-powered offense, senior B.J. Watson gave an outstanding performance, ending the night with a career-high 29 points.

Throughout the season, the Braves continued to gain respect from students, fans and adversaries with wins over tough opponents such as Mill Valley, Turner, Baldwin and Tonganoxie.

"They came in and played their roles," head coach Andy Price said.

The squad fought hard in games, such as the double overtime loss against Lansing, and on their way to a third straight title at the Baldwin Invitational.

Their championship run at Baldwin included wins over Anderson County with a score of 72-41, Bishop Ward with a score of 62-46 and Baldwin with a score of 47-32.

"It's the proudest I've ever been of a team," Price said. Meeting their goal and finishing number three in the KVL, the Braves ended their season with a 16-6 record.

Leaving on top, Price informed the USD 204 Board of Education that he would be resigning at the end of the season to accept a position in the Ottawa district.

After his seventh season as head coach, Price became the second-winningest boys basketball coach in Bonner Springs history with a 91-51 career record.

Memorable Moments

What's yours?

"I would have to say the highlight to my season was beating the Basehor junior varsity team because we knew that Basehor had a good season going, and we knew it would be a tough team to beat.

-Weston Witt, 10"

"Winning the Baldwin Invitational for the third straight year was huge. Back-to-back seasons with 15 plus wins was a big thrill for the players and the coaching staff.

-Dan Street, coach"
Racing down the court, sophomore Jordan Jackson speeds past Piper's defense. "My best game was against Turner, where I had seven three-pointers," Jackson said.

Defending the ball, senior Jourdan Smallwood plays keep away while scanning the court for an open teammate in a home game against Piper. "Our goal was to get further than we did last year, and I'm happy that we achieved that goal," Smallwood said.

Going for a layup, senior J.J. Jackson reaches above his Mill Valley opponent in a road win. Jackson finished with seven steals and five points that night.

Dribbling up the court, senior Ivory Elijah (center) looks to score. Elijah averaged 3.2 points per game.

Clearing his space, senior Deomon Franklin (far left) grabs a defensive rebound against Mill Valley. Franklin led the team in free-throws, shooting with a 72 percent average.

Q&A with the Players

BJ Watson, 12
What's your favorite memory of playing in high school?
All of the locker room talks with my team and coaches were important and very meaningful.

When did your basketball career officially begin?
I started playing when I was four years old.

What was the best thing about playing your senior year?
The Piper game was the best game for me. It was my highest-scoring game where I had a total of 29 points.

Joseph Dooley, 12
Who has had biggest impact on your high school career?
Coach Price and Coach Stitt impacted me a lot. They really pushed me to better myself.

What was the most difficult thing to overcome this season?
My shoulder would become dislocated after nearly every play. More than anything, it was very frustrating.

What will you miss most about playing high school basketball?
Practicing with the Tie Squad (JJ, Jordan and me) and dunking on people shorter than me.
My Season

Our team had a lot of individual talent that we knew could take us far. Unfortunately, a black cloud flew over and game by game we started losing players to injuries. But lots of players stepped up and gave it their all with nothing to lose. We couldn't have done it without the support and motivation from our coaches.

— Skye Taylor, 11

There were a lot of changes within the team over my four years. We worked together, and we didn't give up when the game got tough. I think we improved because every year we became more of a team. The same girls played each year, so by the time we were seniors, we were used to playing with each other.

— Mikayla Burgoon, 12

That's not my name

To build chemistry, the coaches gave nicknames to all the players on the bus ride to Ottawa. The names stuck and even made their way on to the end-of-year recognition certificates. The varsity nicknames included:

Mikayla "Mad Dog" Burgoon
Yesenia "The Ninja" Hernandez
Emily "The Enforcer" Hunt
Erin "Mack Truck" Marx
Madison "Mighty Mouse" Morris
Anna "Big Red" Deegan
"Fenice" Kayla Fratzer
"Tough" Taylor Hogan-Gooch
"Hot Foot" Haley Hoffine

"Jammin" Jessica Moulin
Tessa "The Nightmare" Newberry
"Scorching" Skye Taylor
Kennedy "The Bombshell" Bizzell
Jackie "Chun" Calderon
Bailey "The Brut" Hightower
Hannah "Hit Man" Hunt
Allie "Lightning" LeBeter
Shelby "the Terminator" Taylor

The pain of it all

Injuries and illnesses took a significant toll on the Lady Braves, forcing younger players to step up.

Junior Skye Taylor tore her ACL at Basehor and two days later Anna Deegan, also a junior, tore her ACL.

Senior Madison Morris and sophomore Kennedy Bizzell battled illnesses that limited their action while senior Courtney Brouhard and junior Kayla Fratzer suffered concussions. And if that wasn't enough, junior Haley Hoffine also played through a stress fracture.

Looking for an opening, sophomore midfielder Bailey Hightower pushes through the defense in the regional game against DeSoto.

Reaching out, senior Emily Hunt receives flowers from her sister, sophomore Hannah Hunt, during Senior Night festivities.

Breaking through, junior Haley Hoffine tries to push her way through two Gardner defenders in a tough 3-1 home win. "I was really happy we won. We all really came together as a team and worked as a unit," Hoffine said.

Looking to trail, junior forward Kayla Fratzer is about to make a run in a 5-0 home loss to Bishop Miege. "The girls on our team were amazing," Fratzer said.

Taking possession, junior midfielder Jessica Moulin runs down a pass towards the goal in the team's first-ever victory over Lansing.
LADY BRAVES FINISH SECOND IN KVL

With incoming freshman talent and experienced upperclassmen, the Lady Braves were a team hungry for success. That success could be seen in a 3-0 start and the squad’s first victory over their long-time rivals, the Lansing Lions.

The Lady Braves trailed the Lions the entire first half and until the last 10 minutes of the second half when sophomore Bailey Hightower scored.

“Last year they beat us 7-0, so to come back to win was really exciting,” Hightower said. “We surprised everyone, mostly ourselves.”

The Lady Braves marched on to an unblemished KVL record until they played the undefeated Mill Valley Jaguars for the KVL title.

“Even though we lost 8-0,” we were their toughest game,” Junior Tessa Newberry said. “We couldn’t quite capitalize on our scoring opportunities, and a few mistakes cost us the game. Still, it was a huge accomplishment to finish second in league play.”

Offensively, the team was led by Hightower and junior Haley Hoffine, who had seven goals each, good for all-KVL and all-region honors.

While they came up short of their ultimate goal of going to state, the Lady Braves took some impressive steps forward.

“I’ve seen a lot of growth in attitude and in skills,” senior Yesenia Hernandez said. “My freshman year people didn’t work that hard. Now, they work hard and listen to the coaches.”

Going out in style

After receiving a first-round bye, the Lady Braves hosted the DeSoto Wildcats with a trip to state on the line.

Locked in a tight battle, the Lady Braves were down 2-0 at halftime. That’s when head coach Mike Moulin surprised everyone by moving seniors Madison Morris and Yesenia Hernandez to the front in the hopes of generating some offense.

Morris responded with two quick goals to keep the Braves’ post-season dream alive. Hernandez responded with a couple of agonizing misses off the goal posts before the Wildcats knocked one in to win 3-2.
Swimming her first-ever 500 freestyle, junior Stephanie Rose (above) pushes on to finish with a time of 7:01.27. "I thought everyone was passing me, but I was actually lapping everyone. I thought I had miscounted when I stopped because no one was waiting for me, but then my coach pointed to the scoreboard, and I’ve never felt so proud of myself," Rose said.

Gilding through the water, freshman Madison Stumbaugh (top middle) swims the freestyle during an April 11 home meet. "Madison’s strength is her heart," coach Laloue said. "Her commitment to swimming is what will enable her to improve and to become faster."

In her first home meet, freshman Cassie Stock swims the 100-yard breaststroke where she placed first and qualified for state.

Taking a breath, freshman Akiko Capalla (left) swims at the Leavenworth Invite. "Akiko made tremendous progress," coach Laloue said. "She is a natural kicker, so I’m confident if she continues to work on the basic drills she will become a stronger backstroke and freestyle swimmer."

Reaching back, sophomore Elizabeth Barger (above) focuses on her form while swimming the backstroke in the 200-yard individual medley at the WyCo Championships where she placed third with a time of 3:03.60. "I wasn’t crazy excited about placing third, but it was pretty sweet."
Talk about a strong start. In just their first varsity season, freshmen Lei'Onna Smith, Cassie Stoc and Madison Stumbough reached the ultimate goal for most high school athletes—a trip to state.

The trio joined senior Toni Stock in qualifying to swim the 200 medley and 200 freestyle relay events.

Toni also qualified to swim the 100-yard butterfly, while her sister, Cassie, qualified in the 100 breaststroke.

Although they did not advance past the preliminary round, the girls finished 18th in the medley race and eclipsed their best time by three seconds at 2:07.67.

"The medley relay set the tone and showed how much better they have all become," coach Lynn LaNoue said. "I was really excited to see them drop it me.

Although a faulty exchange resulted in a disqualification in the 200 freestyle relay, LaNoue still found many positives. "The girls raced with heart and passion, and as a coach I couldn't ask for anything more. Cassie turned in a personal best time of 27.50 in her 50-yard split, and Toni closed the race out as a sprinter should."

In the individual events, Toni finished 18th in the butterfly at 1:10.31, while Cassie was 20th in the breaststroke at 1:18.43, a second better than her previous best time.

"I was impressed with the way that Cassie swam with maturity. A lot of times freshmen will get really nervous, but I thought she responded well," LaNoue said.

The team's best regular-season performance came at the ILC meet at Turner, where they finished eighth, but everyone was relaxed and more cohesive and turned in personal-best times, according to LaNoue.

With a BIG Splash
by Sasha Bingaman

YOUNG TEAM SENDS FOUR TO STATE

The sheer size of the pool at Hummer Park was a little overwhelming, but we had a lot of fun overall. It was a good experience because I know what to work for next year.

-Cassie Stock, 1

How do you get in the zone?

- At the starting block, freshman Madison Stumbough prepares to swim the backstroke. "Usually I talk to Liz, Cass, and Toni to take my mind off the race. I also like to listen to music to settle my nerves," Stumbough said.

- To calm her nerves, senior Scinta Capalla reads while waiting for her next event. "Mentally, I tell myself that it's not like everyone is going to tell me 'you stink.' And if they do, it shouldn't stop me from improving. Otherwise, I just visualize how I'm going to dive and what my form should be," Capalla said.

Girls Swimming 129
DOUBLES TEAM ADVANCES TO STATE

When head coach Bill Scott paired senior Spencer Bush with sophomore Quinton Schneck for doubles play at the Mill Valley Invitational on March 28, he had no idea that the duo would march through most of the season undefeated on their way to the state tournament.

"They were a perfect doubles team," Scott said. "Quinton is an aggressive player while Spencer is a consistent player. They always got along and never got on each other's case when one of them was making errors."

The duo's 16-0 start was the most dominant beginning since 2005 and their 18-2 regular-season record was the second-best in school history. They also won the tournament "Triple Crown," which consists of championships at Mill Valley, the Bonner Invitational and Leavenworth.

In their opening round at the state tournament, Bush and Schneck faced a team from Wichita Collegiate, losing in a close tiebreaker, 4-6, 6-4, 10-8.

"We played really well in the first set, but kind of got out of rhythm late in the second set, which caused us to go to the tiebreaker," Schneck said.

Scott was not only proud of his doubles team but his entire squad. The team started the season with a fifth-place finish at Mill Valley and then placed second at their home invitational and Leavenworth. Another bright spot was the play of foreign exchange student Gui Pazos, who quickly moved up the ladder and won the singles title at the Bonner Invitational in four impressive matches.

"The strength of this team was its coachability," Scott said. "They just absorbed everything that we were trying to teach them."

Celebrating a good shot, senior Spencer Bush receives a high-five from sophomore Quinton Schneck during their state match against Wichita Collegiate. "We didn't know much about them," Schneck said. "But they were solid baseline players with very few flaws in their game. Even though it didn't go like we wanted it to, I learned a lot by our experience at state, and I'm really glad I got the opportunity to play with Spencer. He's a great player."

On his toes, sophomore Quinton Schneck reaches to return a high lob at an April 2 home meet. Schneck had an overall record of 25-8 in singles and doubles play.
Charging the net, junior Jordan Crawford chases down a low return while playing singles at the home JV invitational on April 10. Crawford finished the season with an 8-7 singles record.

Pushing for an alley shot, junior Aaron Lewis uses a strong forehand during a varsity dual against Maranatha Academy. Lewis played singles and doubles, and his best finish was fourth-place at the Bonner Springs Invitational.

For the Sport of it

My best finish was at the Bonner Springs junior varsity invitational where I was third. I enjoyed the season and hanging out with my teammates.

-Jake Klingsby, 10

I never even picked up a racquet when I decided to give tennis a try. I had to learn the game real fast in order to keep up with players who had developed their techniques through many seasons of competition. I loved the sport and will continue to play when I return to Brazil.

-Cami Pasos, 11
TEAM CAPTURE TWO TOURNEY TITLES

With youth on their side, the golf team made steady progress that resulted in improving scores by the end of the season. "This was one of my most enjoyable years in coaching. The kids were just great to be around. It makes all the difference," head coach Ryan Hull said.

The team kicked off its season with a fifth-place finish at the Sunflower Classic. New golfer Tristan Abts, a junior, got off to a great start, firing a 78 to place second. Starting the season off strong as well, sophomore Marc McClain finished seventh with an 84.

Abts and McClain would prove to be an effective 1-2 punch all season long.

"They really pushed each other competitively," Hull said. "They had lots of conversations about everything from how to handle each course to how to improve their swings. It was a very positive relationship."

The duo led the way at the nine-hole Bonner Invitational where McClain fired a 38 to capture first and Abts shot a 40 to place second. With strong performances from the rest of the team, the Braves captured the first-place title. Freshman Stevie Greer shot a 50 in his first high school tournament while sophomore Jake Laing shot a 53 to round out the team score of 182.

The team earned its second title at the Wyco Championships on April 17 with five of the 10 medals going to the Braves. McClain notched his second championship while Abts finished second.

The team also turned in a strong performance at the very tough Blazer Invitational at Gardner.

"My favorite moment of the season was the shock of placing third out of 13 teams at Gardner, which we didn't think was going to happen. That was a pleasant surprise. I know we won the Wyco championship, but that doesn't rank as high as what we did at Gardner," Hull said.
Step One: I usually take about three practice swings to get the feel of how hard I need to hit. Then I think about how I’m going to hit and try to do the same thing over and over.

Step Two: I set up to the ball and focus on copying the same thing that I had just practiced a few seconds ago.

Step Three: I try to swing smoothly and make good contact with the ball while pulling through to hit.

Step Four: I watch my ball slowly roll towards the hole, hopefully waiting for it to drop.

Marc McClain, 10
Even though you are right-handed, why do you golf left-handed?
I started swinging my dad’s left-handed clubs when I was three.

What goes through your head right before you putt?
I think about which way I’m going to putt, left or right, and then I clear my head of all thoughts.

What was your favorite part of the season?
Spending time with the team and knowing it will be a similar group next year.

What is the strongest aspect of your game? Driving, putting, or chipping?
My strongest aspect is chipping. It is the part of my golf game I work on the most.

Tristan Abts, 11
Why did you transfer to Bonner?
I transferred to Bonner to give myself the chance to play high school golf. Bonner was the only option because of the open—district policy.

What was it like to have Mr. Hull as a coach?
Coach Hull just puts everyone in a great mood. He’s a great coach and a great person in general to be around.

How long have you been playing golf and what made you want to play golf?
I started playing when I was around nine or ten years old. I got into it because that’s when my dad started. It’s always been our thing. We’ve always played together and still do. He’s my favorite person to play with.

How was your season in general?
My season was great even though my scores didn’t always show it. I learned a lot, and I think I really improved.
A Fresh, New Start

TEAM WORKS TO REBUILD PROGRAM

Under the direction of new coach, Scott Lero, the Braves looked to rebuild the program with the leadership of eight seniors.

The team started its season on a positive note with a 3-2 victory over Lansing.

"We played relaxed and comfortable for the first game of the year," junior Logan Terrell said. "Unfortunately, we tensed up after that."

After a rough patch of seven straight losses, the Braves finally bounced back with a 6-3 win against Eudora.

Another memorable moment came with the opportunity to play at Community America Ballpark in the Butch Foster Memorial Classic. The Braves opened the tournament with a hard-fought loss to Saint James, but came back strong the next day with an 11-1 victory over Holton to earn a sixth-place finish.

As the season drew to a close, the Braves began playing some of their best ball, splitting with Tonganoxie and Basehor to notch some wins before regionals.

As a sixth-seeded underdog, the Braves knew they would have their work cut out for them in a rematch with St. James, the defending state champs.

But Coach Lero, who once coached at St. James, and the players didn't see this as a reason to back down and give up. They saw it instead, as an opportunity to leave everything on the field and to play their hearts out.

With a stellar pitching performance from senior Sergio Valenzuela and a strong defense behind him, the Braves put themselves in a position to shock the Thunder.

The Braves were down by one in the top of the seventh inning with the bases loaded and just one out. Their dream was within reach, but a hard shot to the pitcher allowed St. James to turn a double play to end the game.

"Coach Lero ran things a lot differently than we had seen in previous years," Valenzuela said. "He always pushed us to work hard, and we learned a lot from him just one season. Our season wasn't bad considering all the changes and improvements we made."

I don't remember my best game distinctly, but I do remember my clutch hit against St. James at regionals to load the bases when we were down by just one. I will miss my teammates. I've been playing with and against them before high school.

—Jairo Diaz, 12

My memories of high school baseball come from playing with my brothers on the team for four years and growing together. It was an intense and emotional ending when we lost such a close game to St. James in regionals.

—Tony Sanchez, 12

The St. James game was the best game we played as a team all season, but my personal best game was the second one against Eudora. I pitched six innings and had nine strikeouts, and I will never forget my performance that game.

—Austin Clouse, 12

I was really nervous pitching in my first varsity game. I thought the very first batter was either going to hit a home run or going to be hit by my pitch. But after the first couple of batters, it was a piece of cake.

—Austin Wells, 12
What were your goals at the beginning of the season? My top three goals were to hit over .400, go to State, and be a good leader on the field.

How did new coach Scott Lero add to your success? Coach Lero was always there for me when I needed help or needed to talk. We would hit in the cage after practice or on a day off, and he always told me to never give up and to always work hard.

What is one important memory from your senior season? I will never forget the St. James game because it was the last game I would play in a Bonner Springs jersey.

What was your biggest accomplishment? I was able to earn All-State honors, which was the result of my hard work in losing weight and getting in shape so I could perform my best.

Key Stats: Led the team with .408 batting average, 18 RBIs, and two home runs.

Looking for a strikeout, senior Sergio Valenzuela leads his team. "My best game pitching was against St. James in the last game of my high school career because it was a close one that was at our fingertips," Valenzuela said.

Rounding third base, freshman Thaddeus Glenn heads for home to score against St. James in the Butch Foster Memorial Classic. Glenn went 9-for-20 in his varsity at bats.

Making contact (far left), senior Shawn Jones, gets a hit against Mill Valley. Jones led the team with a .439 batting average and a .468 slugging percentage, earning first-team All-State honors at the end of the season.
Attempting a pickoff, senior Bre Tendick (far right) attempts to hit it past Turner's defense. Tendick had a .500 batting average, along with scoring 33 runs for the Braves.

Making contact, junior Gemma Harris gets a hit against Turner in a home game. Harris lead the team with a .619 batting average, three home runs, and 33 RBIs.

At the end of the game, senior Shelby Thornton was voted Most Valuable Player by her team.

Receiving the ball, senior Shelby Thornton frames the pitch during the Lansing game. Thornton had a .508 batting average and 14 stolen bases.

WE WANT A PITCHER

What do you think about when you're pitching? How do you get in the zone?
I actually try not to think too much because when I do I tend to overthink things and that causes me to do bad. I get in my zone by staying to myself; it's kind of my preparation.

What was the best part of your season?
Definitely my teammates. I love those girls; they're my other family and going to regionals with them was a bonus to the season.

What made this team so special?
How close all of the girls were with each other; this team was definitely special and the seniors will be missed greatly.

What did you do to improve your pitching?
Basically having no "off" season. I tried to stay busy year round, getting critiques from my pitching coaches and building from it.
Our Season

How did it go?

"I think the season went pretty well even with the adjustment to a new head coach. Coach Chowning taught us a lot of things, and there were some minor changes that made us better as a team.

-Mikayla Vissery '10

"I learned that you really have to step up at the varsity level and that there's not much room for error there. I thought everyone tried their hardest, and I enjoyed my first season at the high school level.

-Mikaela Bennett '11

"I really enjoyed the team bonding and the practices where always fun. My favorite memory from this season was when we beat Tonganoxie 11-5.

-Kelsie Wohler '11

A Sweet Side

The softball team started a sweet new tradition this year. After every game, the coaches would recognize individuals who turned in strong performances and award them with a specific type of candy related to that effort.

Head coach Denise Chowning said she got the idea from a former coach who used to do something similar and thought it might be a fun tradition to start here.

"It gives each girl a chance to get some positive attention from their teammates and helps them to look for and acknowledge each other's skills," Chowning said.

A sampling of the sweet rewards includes:

- Twix = good sticks (good hitting)
- Babe Ruth = home run
- Skor Bar = whoever scores the most runs
- Mounds = strong pitching performances
- Nerds = something silly that happened
- Crunch bar = gets the team out of a crunch

A Sweet Side

"My favorite thing about Senior Night was being announced and knowing that I had come this far in my four years of playing varsity softball.

-Megan Stay '12
Soaring to Second

After placing first at regionals with a season-best vault of 11 feet, junior Bethany Bailey returned to the state meet to average her fifth-place finish from the previous year. Bailey entered the competition as the No. 1 seed.

"It's just another meet," said Bailey, who went in at 8-6 and who competed until there were just two vaulters left. Bailey and her Andale opponent both got out at 11-6, but because Bailey did not clear 0 on her first attempt and her opponent did, she took second place.

"I went out there and did my best. It's a bit disappointing that I got second, but it was nice that my competitor got first as a senior," Bailey said. "She and coach Mitchell helped a lot in the last two weeks, so I still had a lot of fun."

The end of the Jim Mitchell Era

How long have you been coaching?
I have been coaching for 28 years, the last 16 years at Bonner.

What's been the best part of coaching at Bonner?
Definitely the kids and the coaching staff.

Why do you like coaching track? There is something for everyone, and no one gets cut. Someone always improves and there's a lot of positives.

What will you miss the most? Working with the kids that will still be here, next year's juniors. They're going to do a lot of good in the future.

What is your secret to success? My secret is being positive and allowing the athletes to have fun while working hard for a goal.

What was the best part of this year? The best part was the effort the team put forth at regionals to qualify for state and watching Bethany placing second at state. Seeing how the team stepped up at the Bonner Invitational was also very special. They won the entire meet, and the boys 4x400 relay team won the last race that I would coach at our home track.
Senior Anthony Kabas and Jordan Jackson were a dominating force in the triple jump with top-10 performances at KVL regionals and state.

Kabas had his breakout meet at the Booster Invitational where he made a 40-foot mark for the first time and edged out second place jump of 41.8.

Jackson had his best meet at the Booster Invitational and also set school records for the 4x400 relay and 4x100 relay.

His 14th place time of 45.5/45.6 in the 100m dash was a career-best.

The 4x400 team was comprised of Kabas, Jackson, sophomore Jordan Jackson and Austin Schuler. The team's time of 3:33.38 at the state meet was a new experience.

Qualifying three relay teams for the state meet was a huge accomplishment for the boys track team.

The 4x100 relay consisted of seniors Edmondson, Jackson and Kabas. The team's time of 45.27 was a career-best.

The 4x400 relay team comprised of Kabas, Edmondson, and junior Kham Khan. The finished in 11th place with a time of 3:33:18.

The 4x800 relay team was comprised of seniors Edmondson, Jackson and Schuler. The team's time of 8:33.00 at the state meet was a new experience.

Jackson's 4x100 relay performance was a huge accomplishment for the boys track team.

The 4x800 relay team comprised of Kabas, Edmondson, and junior Kham Khan. The team's time of 8:33.00 at the state meet was a new experience.
GIRLS TENNIS

### Varsity Soccer

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### Varsity Football

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**Record:** 6-4

### Cross Country

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<td>5th</td>
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<tr>
<td>Regionals</td>
<td>13th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>6th</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Boys:**

- 6th
- 5th
- 3rd
- 2nd

**Girls:**

- 6th

### Cross Country

**Record:** 21-19

---

**CROSS COUNTRY**

Front Row: Rachel Barber, Citally Fernandez Alvarado, Cheyenne Hale, Morgan Nichols, Amber Lies, Akiko Capalla, Tessa Newberry, Mandy Ballard.

**Row 2:** Boys coach Bill Downing, Alex Martinez, Josiah Seaton, Mariah Sallert, Tyneka Johnson, Sasha Bingaman, Eleanor Lynch, Itzel Soto, Matt Coffman, Joe Castell, girls coach Rob Marreott. **Row 3:** Jake Wenzel, Austin Schuler, Brian Williams, Ethan Hook, Steven Caswell, T.J. Kimbrough-French, Peter Jenkins, William Scott, Thomas Hoek, Zach Quigley.

---

**JV Volleyball**

Front Row: Mariah Sallert, Itzel Soto, Lauren Murphy. Shelby Mata, Shelby Taylor. **Row 2:** Mikaela Bennett, Michaela Mock, coach Crystal Coleman-Richardson, Skylar Taylor, Allie Ledbetter.

---

**Freshman Volleyball**

Front Row: Amber Lies, Monica Stima, Hannah Fehlhafer. **Row 2:** Tiani Hammons, Bridget Rittinghouse, coach Trisha Marshel, Amber Cox, Alley Washburn.

---

"It was really nice having support from the community, our parents and all of the students. It made the team feel very confident."

- Jared Knorrchield, 10
WRESTLING


BOYS SWIMMING


JV GIRLS BASKETBALL


VARSITY GIRLS BASKETBALL


FRESHMAN BASKETBALL

Wrestling

Wyco Championships 3rd
KVL Meet 3rd
Wamego Invitational 4th
Lee's Summit Invitational 4th
Dick Burns Mat Classic 4th
Basehor Bobcat Classic 12th
By Northwest Tournament 4th
Osawatomie Tournament 8th
Regionals 2nd
State 3rd

Boys Basketball

Piper 61-51 Win
Blue Valley Southwest 46-43 Win
Mill Valley 55-52 Win
Lansing 62-60 Win
Tonganoxie 59-28 Win
Athchison 74-35 Win
Basehor-Linwood 68-61 Loss
Turner 58-47 Win
Anderson County 72-41 Win
Wellsville 52-28 Win
Bishop Ward 62-46 Win
Baldwin 47-32 Win
William Chrisman 63-52 Win
Piper 61-27 Win
Bishop Ward 74-44 Win
Mill Valley 44-34 Win
Tonganoxie 54-45 Win
Turner 59-46 Win
Tonganoxie 76-53 Win
Basehor-Linwood 77-51 Win
Bishop Ward 40-33 Win
Basehor-Linwood 63-50 Loss
Bishop Ward 46-34 Loss

Girls Basketball

Piper 36-26 Win
Blue Valley Southwest 48-33 Win
Tonganoxie 47-23 Win
Tonganoxie 48-32 Win
Basehor-Linwood 63-42 Win
Tonganoxie 59-47 Win
Turner 57-42 Win
Basehor-Linwood 58-36 Win
Sumner Academy 54-28 Win
Wellsville 52-28 Win
Baldwin 51-25 Win
Spring Hill 48-40 Win
Piper 27-26 Win
Bishop Ward 39-35 Win
Lansing 51-28 Win
Mill Valley 38-37 Win
Turner 53-32 Win
Tonganoxie 45-32 Win
Bishop Ward 58-28 Win
Basehor-Linwood 58-36 Win
Piper (Sub-state) 58-28 Win
Piper (Sub-state) 58-36 Win
Pratt/Stafford (State) 51-40 Win
McPherson (State) 49-40 Loss
Ottawa (State) 49-48 Loss

Girls Swimming


Varsity/JV Boys Basketball


Freshman Basketball

Front Row: Jordan Williams, Roman Glenn, Brenden Dotson, Dylan Stagner, Marquise Chappel-Stokes, Steven Greer, Thaddeus Glenn. Row 2: Coach Andrew Addington, Jake Wylie, Jonah Freez, Vince Roul, Alex Povitzki, manager Kayla Greer.
### Varsity Track

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Boys</th>
<th>Girls</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Baldwin Invitational</td>
<td>13th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Basehor-Linwood Relays</td>
<td>8th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bonner Springs Invitational</td>
<td>1st</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>KVL League Meet</td>
<td>7th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Regionals</td>
<td>13th</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>State</td>
<td>42nd</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

- Turner: 15-0 Win, 15-0 Win
- Bishop Ward: 19-1 Win, 15-5 Win
- DeSoto: 3-0 Loss, 9-3 Loss
- Lansing: 16-1 Loss, 10-0 Loss
- Mill Valley: 10-0 Loss, 12-5 Loss
- Basehor-Linwood: 11-0 Loss, 5-2 Loss
- Tonganoxie: 8-5 Win, 11-5 Win
- Turner (Turner Invitational): 10-8 Win
- Blue Valley North (Turner Invitational): 6-1 Win
- St James (Turner Invitational): 12-7 Win
- Bishop Ward (Regionals): 19-3 Win
- Tonganoxie (Regionals): 8-5 Win
- Basehor-Linwood (Regionals): 7-0 Loss

**Record:** 13-9

### Varsity Softball

- Lansing: 3-2 Win, 12-2 Loss
- Piper: 22-4 Loss, 13-5 Loss
- Turner: 7-5 Loss, 3-0 Loss
- Bishop Ward: 12-2 Loss, 7-5 Loss
- Eudora: 9-4 Loss, 6-3 Win
- Mill Valley: 10-0 Loss, 11-4 Loss
- St. James (Butch Foster Classic): 8-3 Loss
- Holton (Butch Foster Classic): 11-2 Win
- Paola (Butch Foster Classic): 7-1 Loss
- Basehor-Linwood: 9-6 Win, 14-1 Loss
- Tonganoxie: 7-6 Loss, 6-1 Win
- DeSoto: 10-0 Loss
- St. James (Regionals): 3-2 Loss

**Record:** 5-16

### Varsity Baseball

- Lansing: 2-0 Win
- Ottawa: 6-0 Win
- Gardner-Edgerton: 3-1 Win
- Shawnee Heights: 7-0 Loss
- K.C. Christian: 1-0 Loss
- Topeka Seaman: 3-1 Loss
- Lansing: 2-1 Win
- Basehor-Linwood: 4-0 Win
- Bishop Miege: 5-0 Loss
- Piper: 4-1 Win
- Bishop Ward: 10-0 Win
- Blue Valley: 6-1 Loss
- Christ Prep Academy: 2-2 Tie
- Spring Hill: 3-1 Loss
- DeSoto: 1-0 Loss
- Mill Valley: 8-0 Loss
- DeSoto (Regionals): 3-2 Loss

**Record:** 7-9-1

### Varsity Golf

- Sunflower Classic: 5th
- Bonner Springs Invitational: 1st
- Blazer Invitational Tournament: 3rd
- Mill Valley Invitational: 5th
- Lansing Invitational: 9th
- Archie Invitational: 12th
- KVL Tournament: 4th
- Regionals: 6th

- Piper: 6-5 Win, 4-2 Win
- Turner: 15-0 Win, 15-0 Win
- Bishop Ward: 19-1 Win, 15-5 Win
- DeSoto: 3-0 Loss, 9-3 Loss
- Lansing: 16-1 Loss, 10-0 Loss
- Mill Valley: 10-0 Loss, 12-5 Loss
- Basehor-Linwood: 11-0 Loss, 5-2 Loss
- Tonganoxie: 8-5 Win, 11-5 Win
- Turner (Turner Invitational): 10-8 Win
- Blue Valley North (Turner Invitational): 6-1 Win
- St James (Turner Invitational): 12-7 Win
- Bishop Ward (Regionals): 19-3 Win
- Tonganoxie (Regionals): 8-5 Win
- Basehor-Linwood (Regionals): 7-0 Loss

**Record:** 13-9

### Girls Soccer


*"I have played stopper for three years now, and I love it because you're always involved in the action."*  
- Taylor Hogan-Gooch

### Boys Tennis

**Front Row:** Jacob Crawford, Spencer Bush, Kyle Sear, Andrew Coons, Tyler Jenkins, Quinton Schneck, Aaron Lewis, Jordan Crawford. **Row 2:** Keith Lambie, Cody Cridle, Sarah Caton, coach Bill Scott, coach B.J. Congleton, Peter Jenkins, Luciano Facani. **Row 3:** George Docking, Jimmy Klingele, Trey May, Jack Klingele, Alex Shearer, Justin Carroll, Joseph Arent, Guillaume Puezo.

Spring Groups 145
As Yerds, we have practically spent most of our high school lives working (and eating) in the yearbook room, giving up our social life as we knew it, dedicating weekends and days off to meet strenuous deadlines. This has been a tough baby to crack out, but it was worth it. From finding the perfect font to stalking people for quotes and pictures, we have pushed ourselves to the limit trying to CREATE a better yearbook.

But to put together the best yearbook possible, it takes a team effort, which in turn made us into a family. Growing and learning together, we created our own inside jokes and shared many laughs, tears and countless hours of stress. Room 101 has become our second home, and Mrs. Holder became our Mama Holder.

After three years, we take with us so many memories and leave behind our best wishes. Yearbook has been a huge part of our high school years, and although we are moving on, know that we are still with you in true Yerd spirit. May your next nine months of labor bring you as much joy as it brought us.

-Jake Carter & Cynthia Ebertz
To our Creative Family

Aaron & Kaysi -
You two were great additions to the staff. You both brought reliability and a strong creative energy to the table. Thank you so much for all your hard work with the sports pages! They look awesome! Also, thanks for everything you both contributed toward the end. We couldn’t have been able to get everything done without your help.

Andrea -
First off, we’d like to thank you for dealing with panels. We know it’s been a humongous pain in the butt and not the most exciting part of the yearbook, but it’s the most important. Your diligence in getting a job done was our reason for giving you such a daunting task. So thank you for that. You also saved us a ton by helping others with your creative input and your eye for design. You’re also an amazing photographer; we can always depend on you to take the best of pictures. Thank you for the Lauren picture!!!

Toni -
Man, oh man. Your beat-someone-up attitude sure got us through a lot of painful situations with local businesses. You did an awesome job with the senior and business ads; we don’t think we’ve ever had them done so quickly. We’re going to miss your harassment and sassiness, and we’re positive Mama Holder will as well. Thanks for all the great memories and for your hard work!

Ashton & Emily -
You two were the spirit of the staff. The addition of the Follow The Leader dance during stress breaks and parties was a great idea. Thanks for taking on the spreads that were hard to recreate and make them awesome. Also, we know it’s been a tough year but we’re glad you stuck it through to the end. The best of luck to both of you in the future!

Bre & Kylee -
We are completely amazed at your ability to finish a spread so fast, Kylee. Thank you so much for allowing us to manipulate your pages during tough times and just going with the flow. We are so proud of both of your accomplishments. You stuck through the hard and stressful times and kept it together very well, even as Bre went through so many injuries. We’re going to miss the weird stories and Bre’s uncontainable giggles. You both have a bright future ahead and we wish you the very best. Thanks for everything!

Lily & Rachel -
Your ability to organize yourselves so well and to do what you were asked to do with a smile on your face was a blessing this year. Thanks for all the name-checking and for pulling pictures whenever it was needed, especially towards the end. We’re very proud of your growth and we hope you continue to thrive. We LOVED all of Rachel’s recipes, you definitely deserve to be called the Queen of Baking Goods. You helped satisfy our ravenous appetite during block days, so thank you for that! And Lily, your bright and cheery personality lifted us up on stressful and long days. Both of you had motivation to do what is right and you always took part of your own time to come in and do the extra work needed. Thanks a ton!

Maddie & Taylor -
First, we’d like to mention how impressed and blown away we were by both of your spreads! Your ability to learn so quickly and to create such high quality pages has really been a huge asset to our staff and to the yearbook itself. Without you two, we would have gone crazy trying to figure out how to change things up a bit. The pair of you has shown such great improvement in your designing and you both have a natural talent. Thanks for tackling so many spreads throughout your first year on the staff! It also helped to have Taylor, the Lady Gaga of the staff, to provide us with her dancing and singing every now and then, you were our walking and singing stress reliever.

Mariah & Sasha -
You two are total picture junkies and we love that! We think it’s needless to say you are both unbelievably amazing photographers. All the KSPA contest results prove it. Every snapshot you take turns to gold. It’s crazy how much talent you both have, we know you’ll go far. The yearbook staff is blessed to have the two of you with us. We’re pretty sure about half of the pictures in the book have been taken by you. And not only that, you also gave Chad and Tessa a little breathing room when you took on some of their responsibilities. Thank you so, so much for everything you have done and for everything else you will do. You are true journalists at heart.

Chad & Tessa -
Well, where to start... You two are the heart of the staff, the driving force. The both of you are so dedicated, focused, and have great work ethic. With such amazing leadership in your sections, it’s no wonder you were chosen to be next year’s editors. You have been lifesavers, the tech-savvy geniuses of the class. The stress-magnets. The Tumblr addicts. We honestly don’t know where we would be without all of your organization and thank you for all the cutouts. Both of you are a complete joy to work with. We couldn’t think of a more perfect duo to take over the reins and inherit the coveted and stressful positions of Co-Editors-In-Chief. Make us proud, like you have all year long, and good luck!
During her last performance, Melissa Cosnors plays "Call to Victory" on the clarinet.

Hitting a final note, Adriana Rodriguez, Hannah Mauck and Ashley Muldoon sing "If You're Out There," with the A Cappella choir for their last time.

Walking in for the last time, Cody Miller, Blake McMahon and Brett Steuart head towards their designated room to put on their robes.

Getting ready for the ceremony, De'Vanti Finch dons his cap in anticipation for the walk across stage.

Smiling at the crowd, Dion Washington and Symone Warren walk into the graduation ceremony on May 10.

With watery eyes, Donna Billington claps in appreciation for teacher Chris Wood's speech.

Savoring the moment, Aaron Rudolph walks across stage receiving a pat of approval from teacher Ryan Hull.
THE Advice

"They've given me an assignment!" teacher Chris Wood said when she heard that the graduating class had chosen her to speak at their ceremony. After receiving a standing ovation when she was introduced, Wood advised students to keep their "mental high beams" on during their travel on "life's road."

"You're in charge of so much about your future! Let all the forces be with you."

The Gift

The Class of 2012 decided to help improve the Brave Cave by donating three restaurant booths, one L-shaped booth, and three high-top tables with chairs.

The gift was presented by class president Bre Tendick and Stuco executive president Ryan Cook.
• Adding final touches, sophomore Kennedy Bizzell paints a section of her class float during Homecoming.

• Crafting a small project, sophomore Audrey Schuler and junior Chris Griffiths create a miniature baseball bat as part of a wood-turning project in their Wood Tech class. "It took only one block day to construct," Schuler said. "It was neat being able to create whatever we wanted to."

• Picking up a slip of paper, sophomore Lisa Laub learns to use chopsticks during one of the Friday culture days in her long-distance Chinese class. "I had never used chopsticks until that day. It was kind of hard at first, but after a bit of practice it got easier," Laub said.
Just nine short months ago you received a blank canvas and the opportunity to **CREATE** something special. So how did it go? What did you do? How did you add color and vibrance to the things you were a part of?

Did you earn straight A's like you planned? Did you work up the courage to ask that certain someone out? Did you take any risks or did you play it safe?

Maybe you discovered that your best **CREATIONS** were a complete surprise, something totally unexpected. Maybe the thing you’ll remember most is the thing that you didn’t see coming.

Some of those memories will fade, and some of them will remain permanently etched into who you are. So whether you’re a soon-to-be sophomore or a graduating senior, there will always be opportunities to grow. The year may be over,

**but you never stop creating...**
Kylee Timberlake

Kylee Shaw Timberlake,
I will always be your #1 fan. There
will never be a parent as proud as
me. You've become such a smart and
beautiful (inside and out) woman.

I love you,
Mommy

Brittany Frentrop

Brittany Michelle Frentrop
Congratulations!
You have accomplished so many things over
the years and this is just the beginning.
May you continue to grow and have faith in
what you can accomplish.
Way to go, Britt!

We love you and are very proud of you!
Dad, Mom, and Jamie Jo

Rachel Taylor

Never let your wings touch the ground
my Butterfly!
I love you and am so very proud!

Love you more,
Mom

Kristy Chastain

Kristy,
We know it hasn't
always been easy, but
you did it!
Keep trying and you
will succeed in life.

Love,
Mom, Dad, James,
Kelly, Becky, Tim,
Judge, Amanda, Ed,
Jack, Chip, and Alix
Nate Mitchell

Nate: We are so proud of you and all of your accomplishments. Your sense of humor, caring heart, and open mind will take your far! The world is yours!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Whit, Ben, Cass, and Ross

Spencer Bush

Spencer, You have become the kind of person that brightens the room just by entering it, and we are so proud of you. Remember to live your life as an “exclamation,” not an “explanation”!

Love always,
Mom, Dad, and Ryan

Anna Baker

You have grown up so fast. The years have flown by. Continue to smile and hold your head high. You will be successful in the rest of your life.

Love,
Mom and William

Jake Carter

We are so proud of you, Jake! ...“have the courage to follow your heart and intuition... they somehow already know what you truly want to become.”
—Steve Jobs’ Stanford Commencement Address

We love you! Rock Chalk!
Dad, Mom, Alex,
Aunt MiMi and Grandpa

Emily & Erica Wilson

You have been bright lights in our lives. The world awaits you both, continue to follow your dreams, and let your lights shine on.
Love, Mom and Dad
Ashton Istas

Ashton,
You are an amazing girl with such a beautiful soul. Believe in yourself and know that God has a great plan for you.
We love you and are so proud of you.
Mom, Dad, and Colton

Bryan Williams

Bryan,
May you face the world’s challenges head on and have success in all you do.
Love,
Mom and Steve, Dad and Celeste

"It is clear the future holds great opportunities. It also holds pitfalls. The trick will be to avoid the pitfalls, seize the opportunities, and get home by six o’clock."
—Woody Allen

Gary Knight

Gary,
We knew at birth your accomplishments in life would make us proud and your successes prouder. This senior milestone only proves our predictions haven’t changed. Know that Dad and Grandpa are smiling from heaven and we all hope that your dreams and wishes come true.
Love,
Mom and Grandma

Austin Clouse

Follow your dreams. Keep your feet grounded and your head up high! We are so proud of you. Make sure you Live Laugh and Love!
Love you,
Mom, Dad, and Logan
Katelyn Smith

Katie,

We love you so much and thank God every day for blessing us with such an independent, talented, beautiful daughter and granddaughter. Follow your dreams, Kate and know that we are here for you always.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Chris,
Grandma and Grandpa Adkins

Cinthia Ebertz

Cinthia,

We are so very proud of you. You have accomplished so much in all these years! We know that you are going to be a wonderful woman.

Love,
Mom, Dad,
and Luciano

Miriah Bailey

Notabo,

Congratulations! We are so proud to share in your success. Watching you grow into a strong, beautiful young woman has been such a blessing. We embrace your dreams and are excited about the future of many more successes.

Love,
Chris, Mom,
Josh, and Jake

Breanna Tendick

Bre,

Our blue-eyed baby girl is all grown up—beautiful, smart, athletic, and amazing. You can and will do great things because that's who you are. We are so proud of you and love you!

Dad, Mom,
and Lexi

Toni Stock

Toni,

It doesn't matter where you've been, it matters where you're going. May Jesus light your path along the way.

Love,
Mom & Dad

Haley Meier

We are so proud of you—from preschool to high school graduation. I am sure your dad is looking down on you and is so proud of you too.

Love, Mom, Courtney, and Lindsey
From all of us at

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