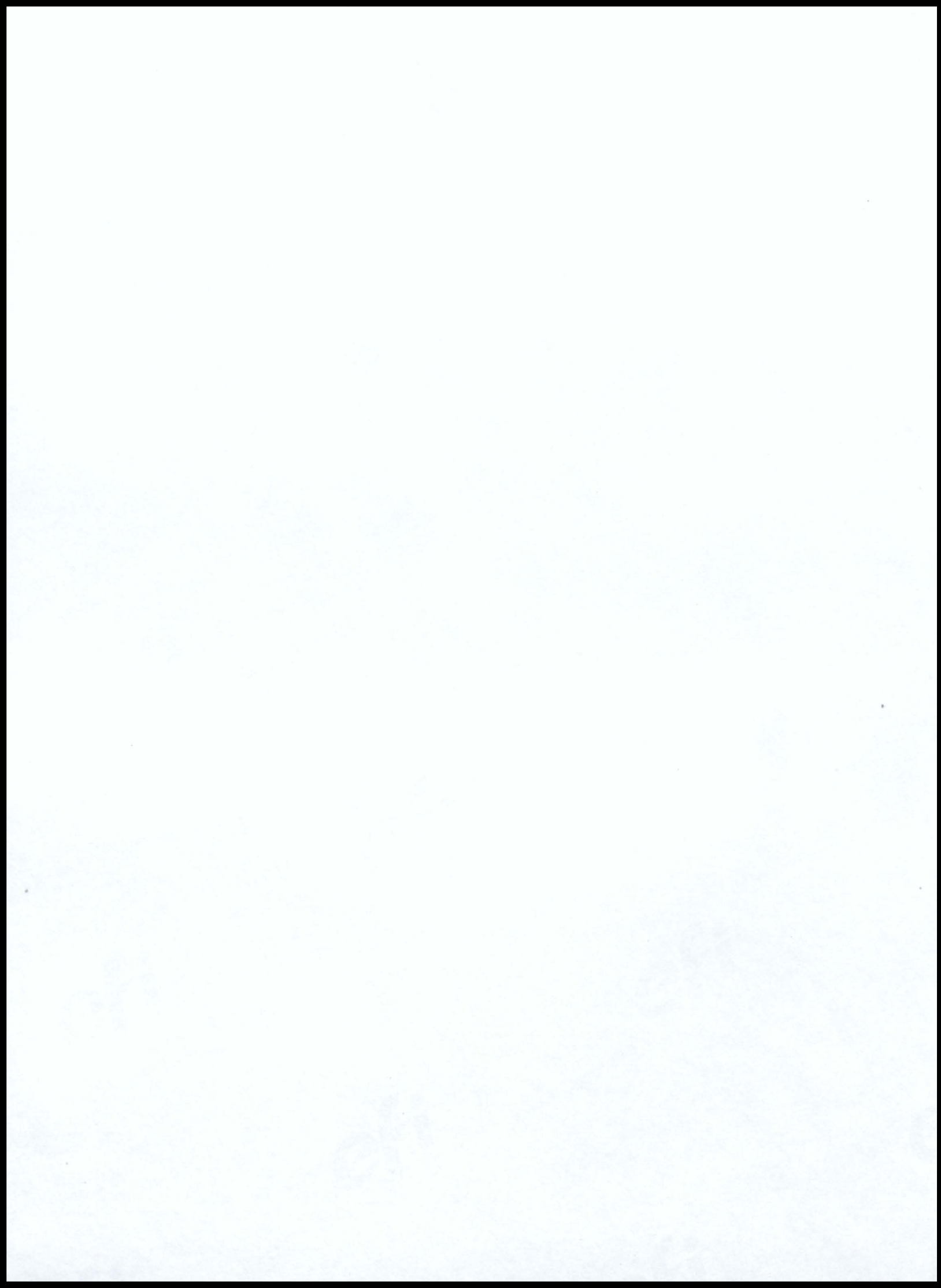


# ABSTRACTIONS









# ABSTRACTIONS



**2004 NEXUS**

**Volume III**

**Okaw Valley High School**

709 South St John Street

Bethany, IL 61914

(217)665-3631



When contemplating a theme for the 2003-2004 yearbook, assistant editor Tiffany Spellman and I decided it was time to do something unique and different. Knowing there was going to be several very creative minds in the publications class, we wanted to choose something that would capture their creative spirits. The possibilities were endless, but we finally settle on an idea that would encompass the diversity of the students and the experiences at OVHS.....  
**ABSTACTIONS.**

We have been breaking all the rules of the traditional yearbook. From cutting out people and not following guidelines (which makes Mrs. Yantis pull out her hair) to creating fun and unique collage pages, pretty much everything was allowed. The class enjoyed creating a new and different look for the NEXUS. After all is said and done, we hope we have captured every aspect of the Okaw Valley experience and at the same time created a fun and unique look back at the 2003-2004 school year. Keep an open mind as make your way through our ABSTACTIONS.

Sabrina Bone, Editor





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The 2003 - 2004 Nexus is dedicated to

# Blake Robert Wood

September 29, 1985 - November 1, 2003



A son, a brother, a student and a friend. Most people dread going to school, but for Blake it was a miracle and he enjoyed every minute. He achieved many great things in his short life including academic excellence, membership in the National Honor Society and Muscular Dystrophy Association and Who's Who Among American Students. He also enjoyed Nascar, video games, basketball and people at school and church. His courage, bravery and smile will live in the heart and soul of every person who had the pleasure of meeting him. Quincy Wood, a junior at OVHS, had the following to say about his brother.



*"Blake Robert Wood was his name. Everyone saw him going down the hallways day after day, probably now wishing they had taken the time to get to know him. He never complained about anything, he just made the best out of everyday. He loved to watch anything that had to do with sports, even though he could never play. Jeff Gordon was his favorite Nascar Driver. He never got to meet him personally, but he has his autograph which meant the world to him. He has went to church his whole life, even though he was shy, he was worried that he hadn't done his job of "witnessing" to people. He didn't have to worry about that, even the people that never talked to him, felt a certain joy from just being near him. The important thing is that he finished the race in First Place!"*



# FALL



# 2007 of Class



No Photo Available

Corey Barter



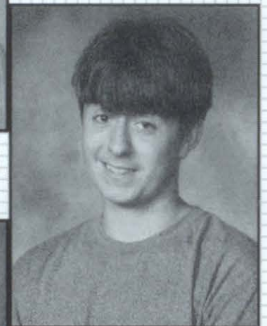
Andrew Fultz



Megan Cotner



Amber Livingood



Steve Nichols



Jon Lawrence



Bonnie Munson



Molly Shelton



Allison Wheeler



Taylor Mose



Paige Schoonover



Alishia Utsler



Alison Rostek



Savannah Uphoff





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Kristin Bennett



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Andrienne Hood



Mallory Byrum



Kelsey Cody



Kyle Kruse



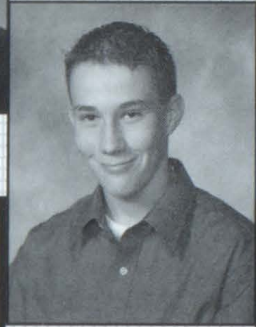
Drew Luckenbill



Jessica McLain



Daniel Kidwell



Andrew Morgason



Ivan Roslak



Josh Rhodes



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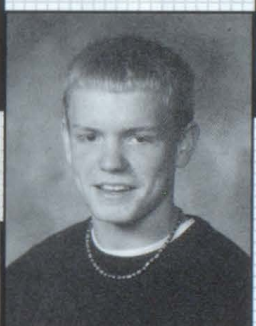
Josh Rivers



Melissa Sifford



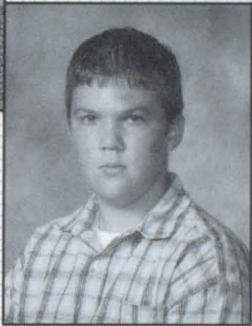
Heath Sweeney



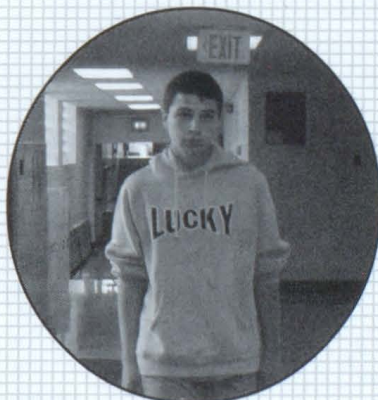
C.J. Swinehart



Dylan Woodworth



Jarrod Yantis



# Class of 2007



**Above:** Savannah Uphoff plays in the pep band at a boys basketball game.



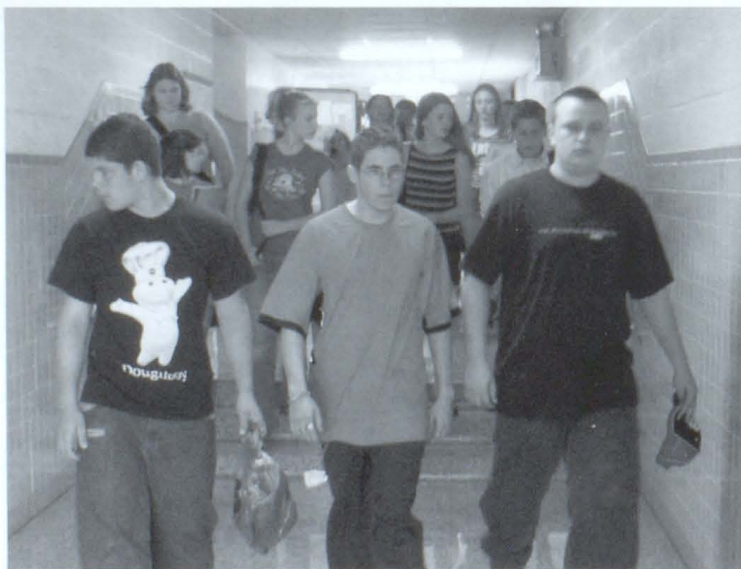
**Above:** Kyle Kruse waves energetically to the camera.



**Above:** A group of freshmen girls work on the homecoming float with Miss Taylor and Mrs. Horsman.

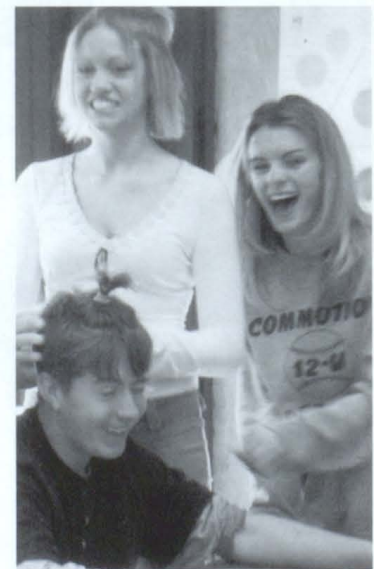
The Class of 2007 entered OVHS with a great deal of energy and enthusiasm. They brought a fresh spirit and could be seen in every activity through out the school. Many of the freshmen spent quality time in October working on and celebrating their first Homecoming. Between floats, windows and spirit activities, most made the best of the celebration week. The Class of 2007 also keep busy during the winter months working at the girls and boys basketball concession stand. Mrs. Horsman and Miss Taylor were the class sponsors.

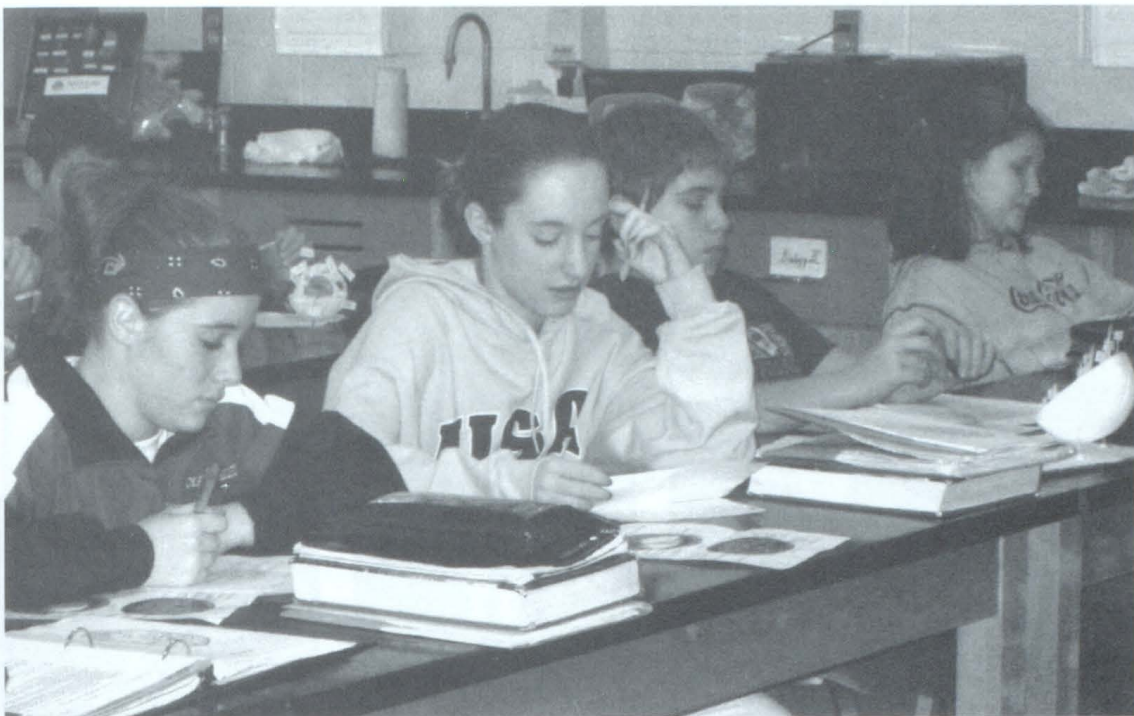
**Below:** Alison Rostek, Amber Livingood and Alicia Utsler show their school spirit during homecoming week.



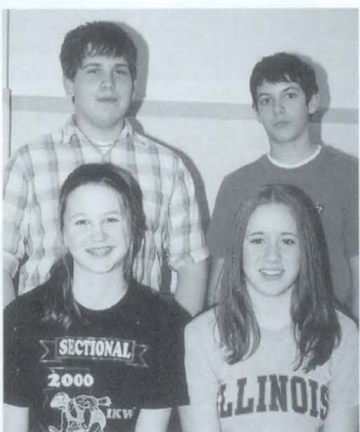
**Right:** Steve Nichols sports a new hairdo created by Kelsey Cody and Taylor Mose.

**Left:** Jon Lawrence, Drew Luckenbill and Dylan Woodworth lead the freshman to class after the morning bell.





**Above:** Several freshmen concentrate on taking notes in Mrs. Doan's science class.



**Above:** Jessica McClain plays her instrument in the pep band.



**Above:** The freshmen struggle to win a tug-o-war match.



**Above:** Ivan Roslak, Heath Sweeney and Jarrod Yantis have a good time bowling.



**Above:** C.J. Swinehart takes it easy after a hearty lunch.



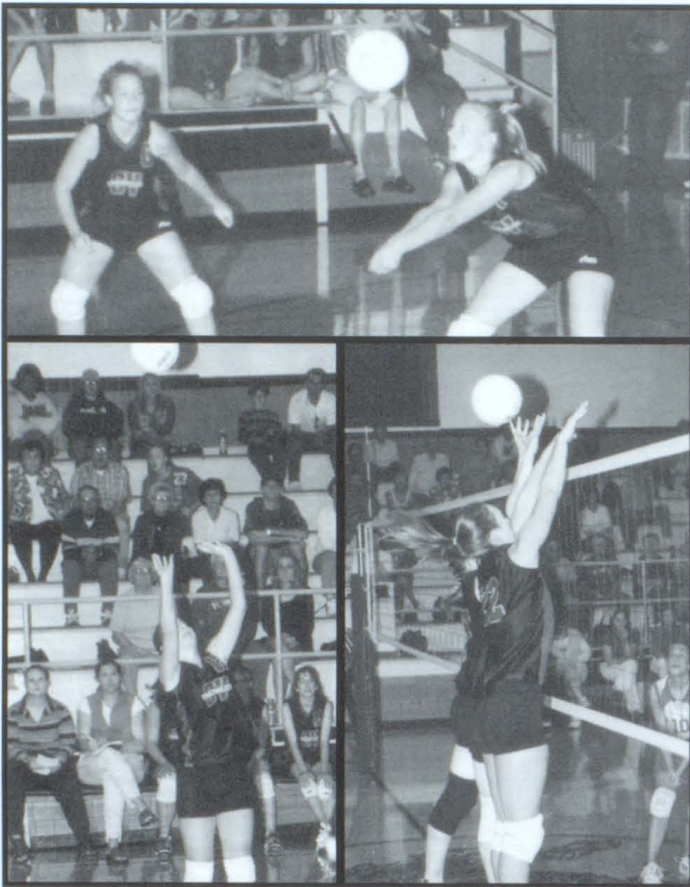
**Above top:** The freshmen class officers include Melissa Sifford, Paige Schoonover, Ivan Roslak and Josh Rhodes.



**Above:** Daniel Kidwell smiles for the camera.



# VOLLEYBALL



**Above:** Kate Meyer sets the ball to complete the play.

**Above:** Tracie Yantis and Whitney Kingery stuff the ball back over the net.

**Left:** Desiree Fleming bumps the ball while Sarah Kowalis prepares to assist if needed.



**Above:** Claudia Yantis sets the ball for a spike.



**Above:** Chelsey Brewer passes the ball with perfect form.



**Above:** Codi Marshall sets the ball for her team mate.



Windsor:	Win
Cerro Gordo:	Win
Sullivan:	Loss
Lovington:	Win
Oakland:	Win

Lancer Classic  
Tournament  
1st place

Shiloh:	Win
Villa Grove:	Win

Windsor Invitational  
1st place

Edinburg:	Win
Arthur:	Win
Bement:	Win
Heritage:	Win
Niantic-Harristown:	Loss

LOVC Tournamnet  
3rd place

Tuscola:	Win
St. Teresa:	Win
Arcolea:	Win
Atwood-Hammond:	Win

Regional  
2nd Round



**Above:** The Champions celebrate after winning the Windsor Invitational.



**Left:** Laura Stollard dives after the volleyball.



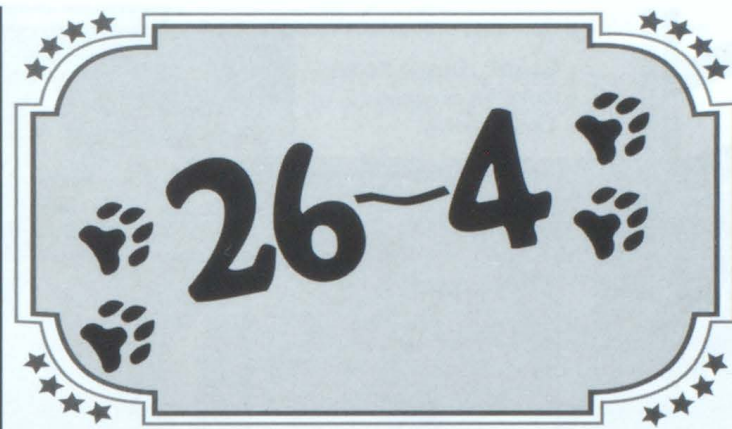
**Right:** Ashley Robinson keeps the ball in play.



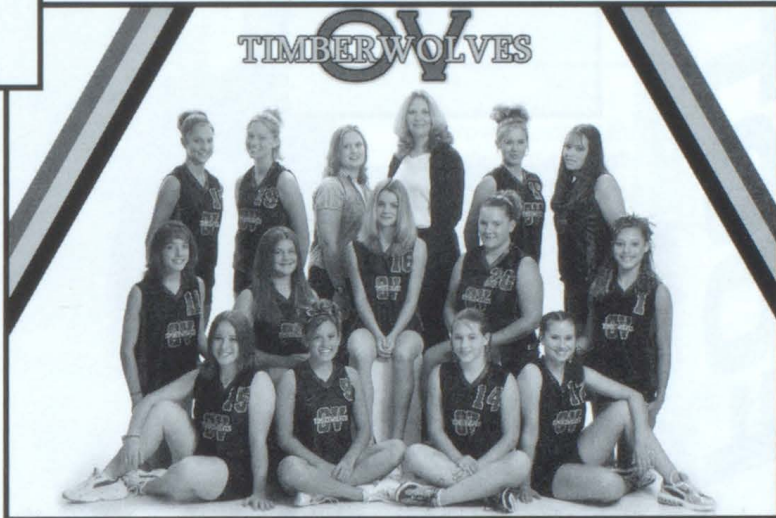
# TIMBERWOLVES



**Above:** The 2003 OVHS Varsity Volleyball Team. Front - Shannon Swinehart, Cassie Shelton, Sarah Kowalis and Kate Meyer. Middle - Brooke Miner, Sheena Ashley, Melissa Fleming, Codi Marshall, Laura Stollard, Ashley Allen and Tracie Yantis. Back - Coach Nelson, Chelsey Brewer, Desiree Fleming, Whitney Kingery, Ashely Robinson, Claudia Yantis and Coach Taylor.



# TIMBERWOLVES



**Right:** The 2003 OVHS Junior Varsity Volleyball Team. Front - Paige Schoonover, Ashley Allen, Kim Conlin and Kate Meyer. Middle - Sarah Colclasure, Casey Nichols, Taylor Mose, Erin Shelato and Brooke Miner. Back - Amber Livingood, Kelsey Cody, Coach Taylor, Coach Nelson, Ashley Robinson and Alison Rostek.

**Below:** Tracie Yantis slams the ball back over the net.



**Below:** Taylor Mose spikes the ball.



## Timberwolf Senior Quotes



**Chelsey Brewer**

"This season was a summary of all of our hard work from the past four years. Our attitudes, and most importantly, our record showed for it."



**Sheena Ashley**

"I am very proud of our team's accomplishments. We worked very hard to reach our goals."



**Sarah Kowalis**

"We beat lots of teams — by a lot!"



**Whitney Kingery**

"Our senior year and we finally came through! It was so much fun getting to win almost every single game, and being champions every tournament. I'm really going to miss this year."

**VOLLEYBALL**

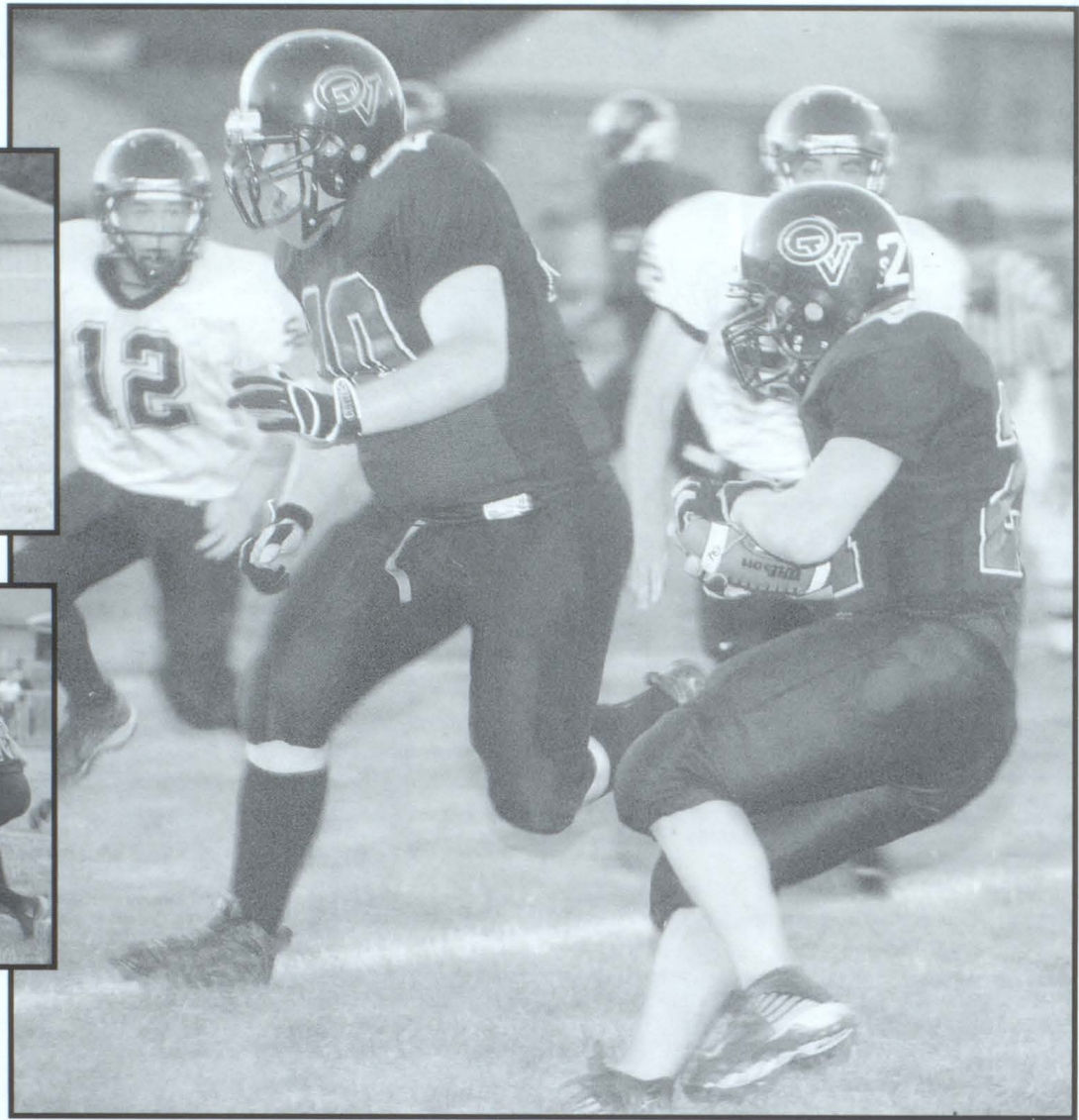


# FOOTBALL

**Below:** Dustin Yoder looks for an open Timberwolve.



**Above:** Adam Allsop blocks for the ball carrier, Nathan Livingood.



**Below:** Cody Brands waits to make his move.



**Below:** Matt Kowalis runs the ball.



**Above:** Chris Gill plows through the defensive line to clear a path for tailback Zack Kowalis.

*"Ah Balongal!"*

*"Yeah Baby!"*

*"My Mother can do better than that!"*

Famous Phrases of Coach Sulaski

A new tradition began with the 2003 football season ... the first Varsity football in Okaw Valley History. The team may have ended with an 0-9 record, but they learned a great deal about themselves and football. The boys showed heart and dedication week after week. Whether it was at practice during the week or Friday nights at games, they were giving it their all. For the Seniors, this was the only Varsity football they would have a chance to play. Even with very little experience, the seniors stepped up and led the rest of the team on *and* off the field. In the end, every player got to dress Varsity and they were able to walk away from the season with a lot of play time and varsity experience.







**Left:** The offensive line anticipates a first down.

**Below:** The Timberwolves make a grand entrance on the first Friday night of Varsity Football.



**Below:** Andrew Fultz and Rusty Johnson patiently wait for the game to begin.



**Below:** The Timberwolves prepare to dominate on the field.



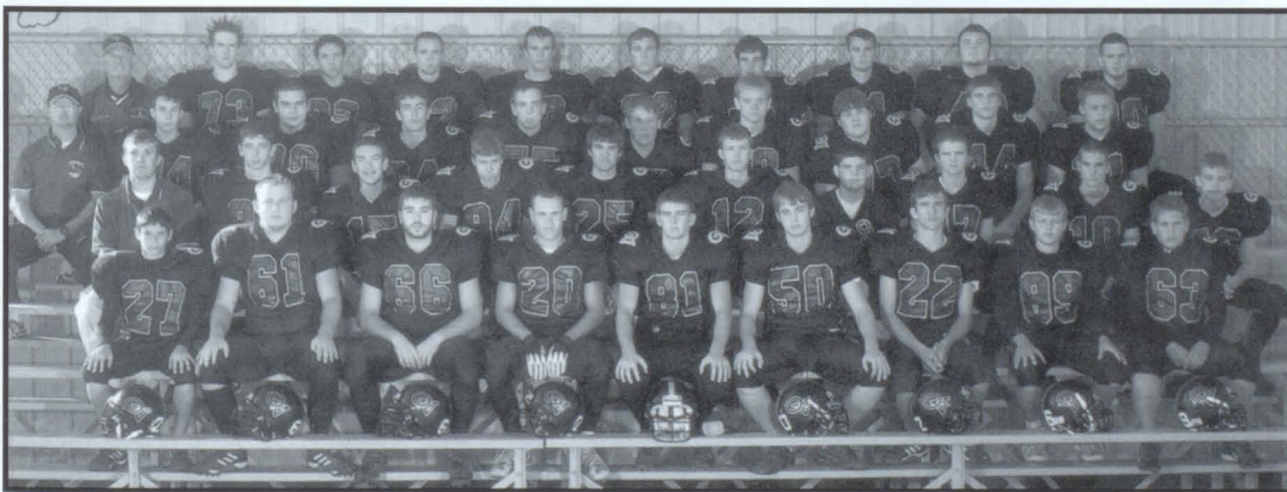
**Below:** The Timberwolves bring down the opposition.



**Above:** Daniel Bennett runs a kick off return to gain a few yards.



**Above:** The team gets pumped up before the kick off.



# FOOTBALL

**Above:** The 2003 OVHS Football Team. First - Josh Rhodes, Cody Brands, Chase Sifford, Daniel Bennett, Mike Waseen, Kenny Sanders, Matthew Utsler, Heath Sweeny and Ivan Roslak. Second - Coach Kearfott, Channing Foster, Dustin Yoder, Derek Pope, Mitch Wilson, Paul Kruse, Jon Lawrence, Jonathon Keefe, Nathan Livingood and Shelby Simmons. Third - Coach Underwood, Andrew Morgason, Lance Macklin, Mikey Sims, Adam Allsop, Andrew Fultz, C.J. Swinehart, Brandon Craig, Michael Snearly and Zack Kowalis. Fourth - Coach Sulaski, Matt Davis, John Rhodes, Matt Kowalis, Shaun Cotner, Kody Henderson, Rusty Johnson, John Ascenzo, Chris Gill and Shane Howell.



# GOLF



**Above:** The 2003 OVHS Golf team. Front - Shelby Simmons, Dustin Plummer and Chad Palmer. Back - Tiffany Spellman, Quincy Woods, Coach Davis, Dustin Yoder and Mandy Rhodes.



**Above:** Chad Palmer chips the ball onto the green.



**Right:** Dustin Plummer tees off with good form.



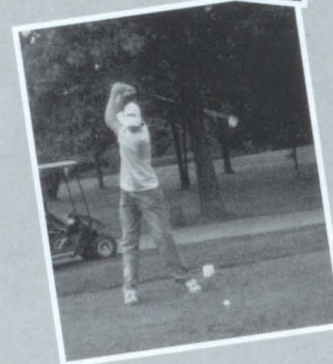
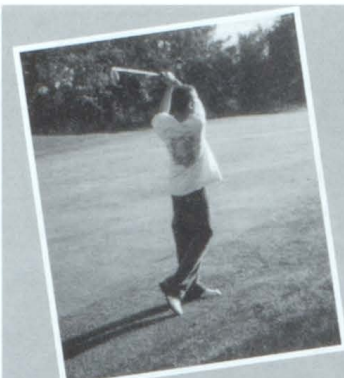
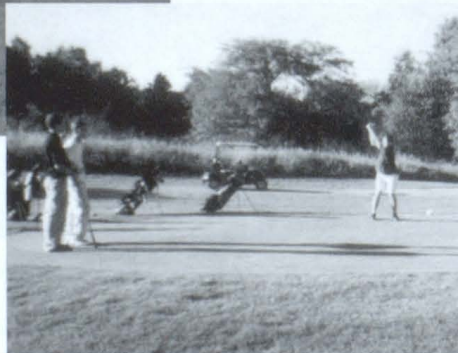
**Right:** Quincy Wood watches the ball to see how far it went.



**Below:** Zack Brewer makes sure he keeps his eye on the ball as a few teammates look on.



**Left:** Mandy Rhodes prepares to make a great hit.



The 2003 Okaw Valley Golf Team finished the season with a 2 - 25 record. With many of the players being first time golfers, a great deal of their time was spent learning the game. Experienced or not, every one had a great year and improved their swings. Veteran team member Dustin Plummer finished 7th place in the LOVC Tournament and also received medals in several matches.





**Above:** Sarah Kowalis, Tracie Yantis and Ryne Inman prove it's dangerous in the woods.



**Above:** Sarah Kowalis fills in an empty space on Melissa Fleming's shirt with the score of the Bat competition.



**Above:** Ryne Inman, Tracie Yantis and Team Captain Melissa Fleming point out their last place finish in the Bat Test.

**Below:** The 2003 OVHS Eco Team members include Melissa Fleming, Sarah Kowalis, Tracie Yantis and Ryne Inman.

Test	Raw Score	Place	Final
Ponds	76	8	13/ 18
Fish	23	16	
Bats	32	18	

Studying every morning before school may not sound like fun to most, but the Eco team crammed for two weeks before they competed in the Eco Meet at Camp Camfield in Sullivan on October 16, 2003. Team members spent quality time in Mr. Hackney's room every morning studying Ponds, Bats and Fish. The actual test day was long and cold, but the satisfaction of not placing last kept the team's spirits high!



**Above:** Sarah Kowalis, Tracie Yantis, Melissa Fleming and Ryne Inman show off the first place trophy.....that was borrowed from Litchfield.



**Above:** Tracie Yantis works hard on one of two tests she is required to take.



# Student Council

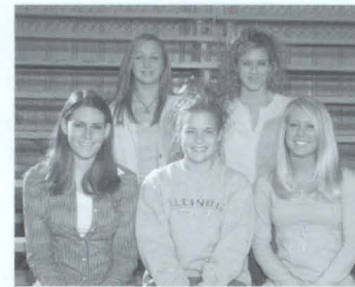
Student Council is the foundation of all student organizations at OVHS. It's members are made up of representatives from every other club and organization. Their primary function is to oversee the events and activities that take place at OVHS. The council must give it's approval for all other organizations to have fund-raisers, activities or special events. The group is also responsible for hearing concerns of the student body and taking action if/when necessary. A few of the activities sponsored by student council include homecoming week, dance and parade, powder puff football, Thanksgiving turkey legs contest, Sadie Hawkins dance, candy cane sales and the annual Kid's Night Out. This great organization is a way for students to become more involved in the school and in the community and learn a little about the governing process.



**Above:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Student Council. First - Brooke Miner, Ashley Robinson, Chelsey Brewer, Whitney Kingery, Sarah Kowalis, Kate Meyer and Mrs. Doan. Second - Mrs. Will, Kasey Nichols, Laura Stollard, Tammy Holthaus, Paige Schoonover, Megan Cotner and Jessica Brandenburg. Third - Andrew Fultz, Sabrina Bone, Codi Marshall, Claudia Yantis, Amanda Robinson, Ashley Allen and Dustin Yoder. Fourth - Cody Brands, Jessie Buker, John Ascenzo, Ryne Inman, Matt Kowalis and Shelby Simmons.

**Top right:** Student Council officers include (front) Chelsey Brewer, Sarah Kowalis, Sabrina Bone (back) Whitney Kingery and Ashley Robinson.

**Middle right:** Kyle Traster, Dereck Pope and Nidal Abbed show off their legs during the Turkey Leg Contest.



**Right:** Sabrina Bone exhibits her frustration during KNO.

**Below:** Jessica Brandenburg, Kate Meyer, Paige Schoonover and Ashley Allen pose for a picture during the Student Council State Convention in Springfield.



**Below:** Several girls enjoy playing football in the powder puff game during homecoming week.





The 2003-2004 school year was very productive for SADD (Students Against Destructive Decisions). They started off the year by participating in the homecoming parade. Cyle Traster and Chancy Briscoe dressed up in clown costumes, while Shannon Swinehart carried a SADD sign and passed out candy. In October, nine students attended the annual prevention day workshop at Eastern and came back with new and useful information. The group also held a very exciting Red Ribbon Week that included miss match day, twin day, pajama day and Halloween costume day. In April, the SADD members concluded the year with an assembly to inform students about the dangers of drinking and driving after prom.



**Above:** Codi Marshall passes out candy at the Red Ribbon Week Assembly.



**Above:** The 2003-2004 SADD Organization. Front - Jessica Brandenburg, Kate Meyer, Kasey Nichols, Ashley Allen, Chelsey Brewer, Tammy Holthaus, Chancy Briscoe, Cyle Traster and Shannon Swinehart. Back - Megan Cotner, Amanda Robinson, Taylor Mose, Codi Marshall, Melissa Sifford, Brooke Miner, Erin Shelato, Sabrina Bone and Whintey Kingery. Top - Laura Stollard and Matt Davis.

**Below:** Poem readers for the Prom assembly included Ashley Allen, Kasey Nichols, Tammy Holthaus, Jessica Brandenburg, Cyle Traster, Kate Meyer, Brooke Miner, Erin Shelato, Chelsey Brewer and Sabrina Bone.



**Above:** Cyle Traster, Shannon Swinehart and Chancy Briscoe prepare to pass out candy at the homecoming parade.

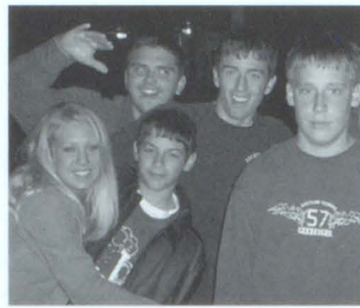
**Above:** Michael Snearly wears a big wig for halloween costume day.

**Above:** The prevention day students board the Collins and head back to school after a fun day of learning.

**Above:** Drew Luckenbill sports a Halloween costume during red ribbon week.



**Below:** The 2003-2004 FFA Organization. Front - Brooke Miner, Quincy Wood, Tracie Yantis, Josh Rhodes, Claudia Yantis, Shelby Simmons, Chancy Briscoe, Cyle Traster, Stacey Harley, Kourtney Haas and Jessica Brandenburg. Back - Ivan Roslak, Dustin Yoder, Andrew Fultz, John Rhodes, Dar Richardson, Margaret Owens, Kody Livingood, Chelsea Henson, Mr. Kearfott and Laura Stollard.



**Above:** FFA members and friends prepare to enter the Hunted House in Clinton.



**Above:** Brandon Craig tosses a hay bail during an FFA Week contest.

The OVHS FFA organization had a very successful 2003-2004 school year. Several members spent countless days soil and livestock judging. The teams' were very successful and brought home numerous trophies and awards for their efforts. As a fun activity in October, the group took a trip to Clinton and ventured through the notoriously scary haunted house. As an awareness project, members organized the annual FFA Week that included dress up days and several fun farm related contests. For its last event of the year, FFA held their Awards banquet in which members were honored for their achievements from the past year.



**Above:** Stacey Harley, Cyle Traster and Chancy Briscoe man the desert table at the FFA Banquet.



The OVHS Livestock Judging Team: Chancy Briscoe, Stacey Harley, Tracie Yantis, Claudia Yantis, Jessica Brandenburg and Brooke Miner. Not pictured - Luara Stollard



**Above:** Tracie Yantis holds the pig so contest winner, Mrs. Duis can pucker up during FFA Week.



**Above:** Shelby Simmons and Claudia Yantis sell dinner tickets for the Awards Banquet.

**Above top left:** The 2003-2004 FFA Officers include (front) Jessica Brandenburg, Chancy Briscoe, Claudia Yantis, Tracie Yantis, (back) Quincy Wood, Brooke Miner and Stacey Harley.



## FCCLA CREED

We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.  
We face the future with warm courage and high hope.

For we have the clear consciousness of seeking old and precious values.  
For we are the builders of homes, Homes for America's future,  
Homes where living will be the expression of everything that is good and fair,  
Homes where truth and love and security and faith will be realities, not dreams.

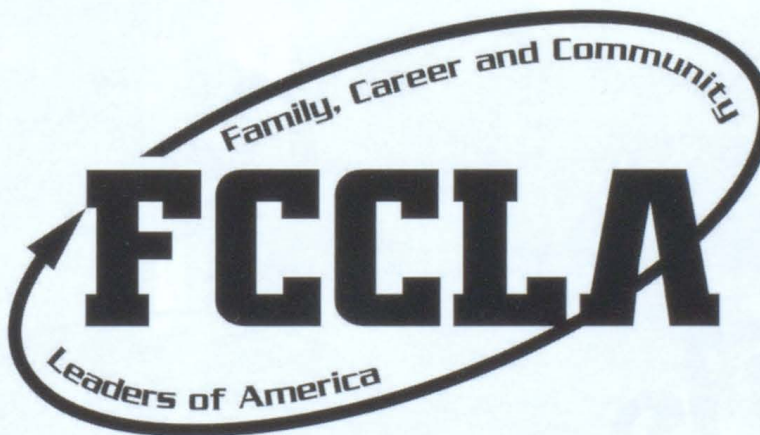
We are the Family, Career and Community Leaders of America.  
We face the future with warm courage and high hope.



Above: The 2003-2004 OVHS FCCLA members include Tammy Holthaus, Mrs. Donahoo and Erin Shelato. Not pictured are Margaret Owens and Kasey Nichols.

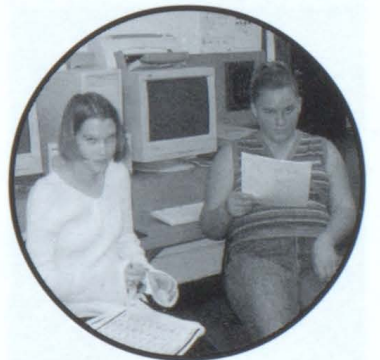
Although small in number, the OVHS FCCLA set some goals and held a few activities during the 2003-2004 school year. The main event was a food drive in which they invited the entire school to contribute to the cause.

Collected items were the Moultrie food pantry. activity in-handing out with inspirational phrases at- The purpose of the sucker was to help self-esteem



lected given to County Another involved suckers tional tached. behind brigade boost the

of fellow classmates. Officers for the 2003 - 2004 school year included President and Student Council Representative Tammy Holthaus, Vice-President Margaret Owens, Secretary Erin Shelato and Treasure Kasey Nichols.





Above: The Okaw Valley Marching Timberwolves march in the Homecoming parade on October 3rd.

## 2004 Marching Show - The Music of STYX

Date	Contest	Overall Band	Drum Majors	Percussion	Flag Corps	Other Awards
9/27	Danville	2nd Place	1st Place	1st Place	2nd Place	
10/13	Atwood Hammond	Parade: 4th Place	Parade: 1st Place	Parade: 2nd Place	Parade: 3rd Place	3rd Place Winds
		Field: 3rd Place	Field: 1st Place	Field: 1st Place	Field: 4th Place	
10/18	University of Illinois	4th Place	1st Place	2nd Place	1st Place	
10/25	Pinckneyville Mardi Gras	Parade: 1st Place	Parade: 1st Place	Parade: 2nd Place	Parade: 1st Place	3rd Place in Grand Championship Points Outstanding Soloists in Field Show
		Field: 1st Place	Field: 1st Place	Field: 1st Place	Field: 1st Place	



Above: Sam Stollard plays in a football half-time show.

Center circle: The Marching Timberwolves are on the prowl.



Above: Percussion section members include Matthew Utsler, Tiffany Spellman, Channing Foster, Corey Booker, Zack Kowalis, John Ascenzo, Erik Thomas and Andrew Fultz.

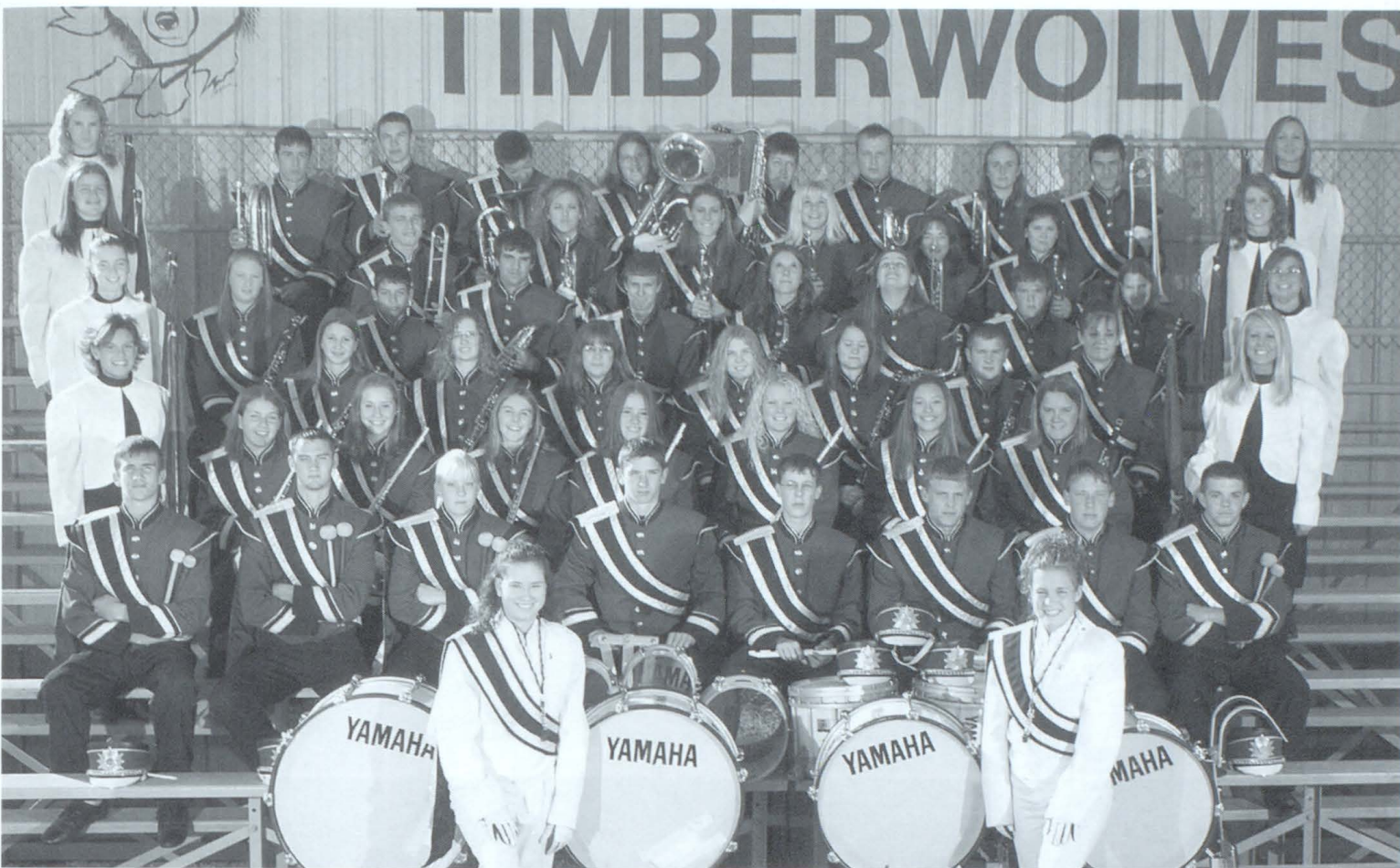


Above: The 2003-2004 Drum Majors Kate Meyer and Sarah Kowalis.





# TIMBERWOLVES



**Above:** The 2003-2004 Marching Timberwolves. Front - Kate Meyer and Sarah Kowalis. First - Matthew Utsler, John Ascenzo, Tiffany Spellman, Channing Foster, Corey Booker, Zack Kowalis, Andrew Fultz and Erik Thomas. Second - Ashley Allen, Kim Conlin, Brittney Logsdon, Savannah Uphoff, Paige Schoonover, Courtney Yantis, Brooke Miner, Erin Shelato and Sabrina Bone. Third - Jessica Brandenburg, Melissa Sifford, Codi Marshall, Courtney Yantis, Sam Stollard, Cassie Shelton, Ray Rich, Alison Rostek and Sheena Ashley. Fourth - Laura Stollard, Josh Rhodes, Mitch Wilson, Derek Pope, Mandy Rhodes, Casey Carr, Jarrod Foster and Tammy Holthaus. Fifth - Kasey Nichols, Shelby Simmons, Ashley Robinson, Chelsey Brewer, Jessie Buker, Sarah Colclasure, Molly Shelton and Amanda Robinson. Sixth - Megan Cotner, Mikey Sims, Dustin Yoder, John Rhodes, Jessica McLain, Kyle Herron, Cody Brands, Melissa Fleming, Ryne Inman and Whitney Kingery.

**Below top right:** Flag Corps members include Sheena Ashley, Sabrina Bone, Kasey Nichols, Whitney Kingery, Megan Cotner, Amanda Robinson, Jessica Brandenburg and Ashley Allen.



**Above:** Courtney Yantis and Cassie Shelton perform during the homecoming half-time show.



**Above:** Brittney Logsdon concentrates on her music.



**Above:** Jessie Buker, Chelsey Brewer and Tiffany Spellman play in the stands during the homecoming football game.



**Center circle:** The band warms up before hitting the parade route.



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October 1, 2003



**Above:** The black team members include coach Matt Kawalis, Jessie Buker, Tiffany Spellman, Kasey Nichols, Brooke Miner and coach Shane Howell.



**Above:** The red team members include (bottom) Brittany Logsdon, Ashley Robinson, coaches Daniel Bennett, Chase Sifford and Mike Waseen, Daniel Willoughby (top) Tracie Yantis, Mandy Rhodes and Claudia Yantis.



**Above:** The white team members include (front) Amanda Robinson, Heather Sims, Sheena Ashley, Margaret Owens, Laura Stollard and (back) coaches Zack Kowalis and Brandon Craig.



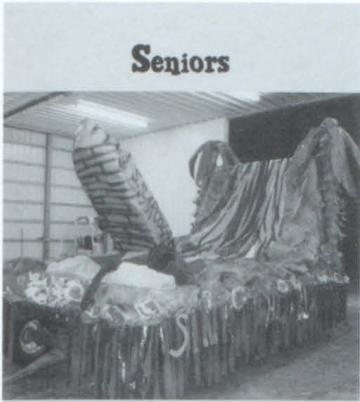
**Above:** The blue team members include (ground) Casey Carr, (front) Jennifer Hambrecht, Ashley Allen, Sabrina Bone, (middle) Chelsey Brewer, Whitney Kingery and (back) coaches Matt Davis, Adam Allsop, Lance Macklin and Chris Gill.



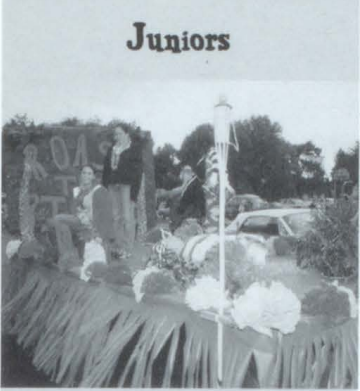
# Tropical Paradise '03

September 29 - October 3

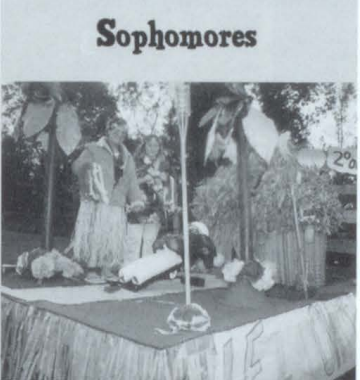
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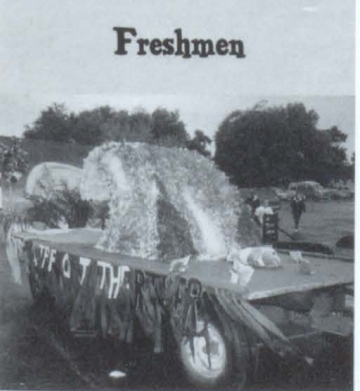
Seniors



Juniors



Sophomores



Freshmen



Left: Heather Peirce and Brooke Miner show some Hawaiian Spirit during homecoming week.



Freshmen

Sophomores

Juniors

Seniors

Below: The class window displays.



Above: Kody Livingood sports the latest hippy fashion for decade day.



Above: Matt Kowalis, Shaun Cotner and John Ascenzo flash back to the 70's during spirit week.



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**Above:** The 2003 Homecoming Court. Front - Seniors Zack Kowalis and Sabrina Bone, Freshmen Megan Cotner and Josh Rhodes, Crown Bearers Jo and Natalie Jeffers and Sophomores Jessica Brandenburg and Channing Foster. Middle - Juniors Amanda Robinson and Kenny Sanders, Seniors Mandy Rhodes and Corey Booker and Seniors Whitney Kingery and Chase Sifford. Back - 2002 King Ryan Parsons and Queen Molly Poland, 2003 Queen Sheena Ashley and Shane Howell.

**Above:** 2003 Homecoming Queen and King, Sheena Ashley and Shane Howell.



**Below:** Mallory Byrum, Molly Shelton and Alison Rostek enjoy their first homecoming dance.

**Above:** Courtney Haas, Amber Livingood and Kelsey Cody pose for a picture .

**Below:** Paige Schoonover, Melissa Sifford and Taylor Mose are all smiles.





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**Above:** Sarah Kowalis and Matt Davis take a break from the dance.



**Above:** Melissa Fleming steals Chris Gill for a dance.



**Above:** Kyle Traster and MIndy Seelow dance the night away.



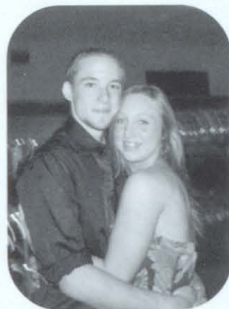
**Above:** A group of dancers sing along to "YMCA".



**Above:** Kody Livingood and Brittany Logsdon pose for the camera.



**Above:** Ray Rich, Jennifer Hambrech, Carrie Rogers, and Danielle Willoughby get together for a picture.



**Above:** Whitney Kingery and Matt Kowalis share a slow dance.



**Above:** Tiffany Spellman and Heather Sims flirt with the camera.



**Above:** Tim Myers and Amber Livingood prepare to dance.



**Above:** Paige Schoonover, Megan Cotner, Taylor Mose, Melissa Sifford and Savannah Uphoff hook arms for a group picture.



**Below:** Andy Smith, Rusty Johnson and Zack Plunkett sit out a dance.



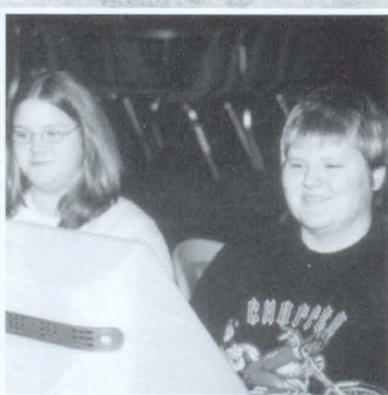
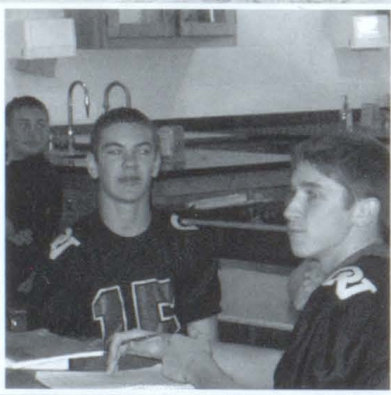
**Above:** The snake dance takes over the OVHS gym.



**Below:** Jessica Brandenburg, Kate Meyer and Daniel Willoughby work the Electric Slide.

**Below:** John Ascenzo and Chris Gill sing along with the music.





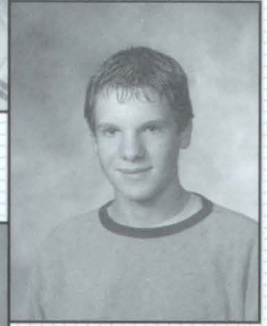
# WINTER



# 2006 of Class



Nidal Abbed



Zach Brewer



Jessica Brandenburg



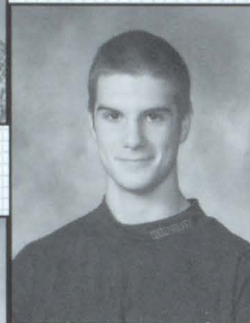
Kourtney Haas



Brittney Logsdon



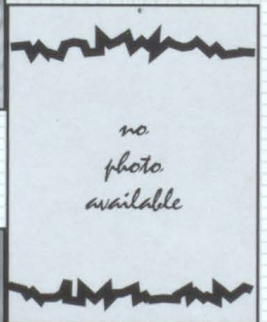
Channing Foster



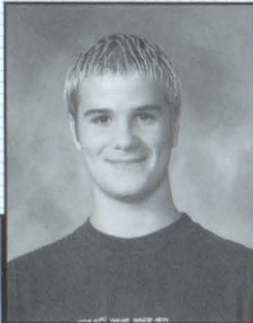
Nathan Livingood



Heather Pierce



Kasey Nichols



Kody Livingood



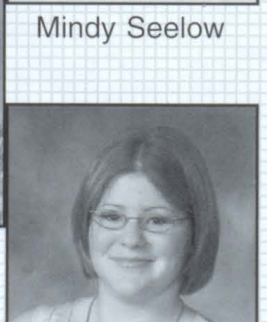
Chad Palmer



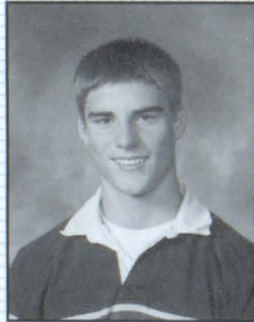
Ashley Robinson



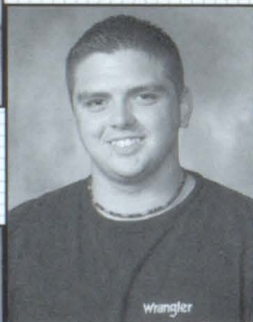
Erik Thomas



Mindy Seelow



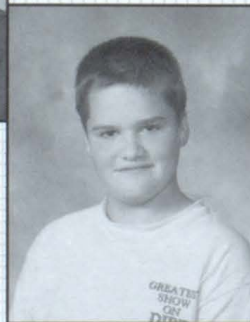
Michael Snearly



Dar Richardson



Brigit Teegarden



Erik Williamson



Matthew Utsler





Ashley Allen



Chancy Briscoe



Ryan Berner



Sarah Colclasure



Krystal Bolin



Kim Conlin



Stacey Harley



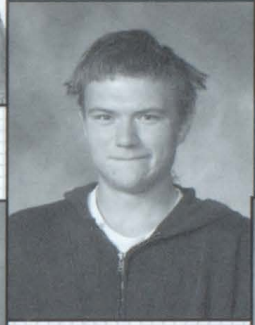
Kate Meyer



Chelsea Henson



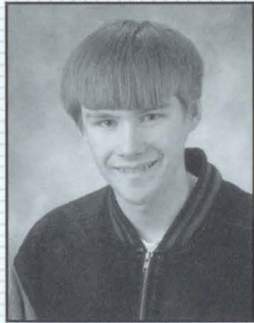
Katie Miller



Matthew Leonard



Brooke Miner



Zack Plunkett



Erin Shelato



Derek Pope



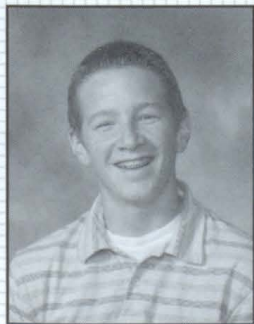
Shelby Simmons



John Rhodes



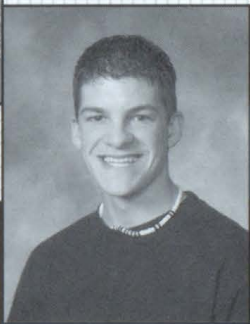
Michael Sims



Ben Tipsword



Quincy Wood



Cyle Traster



Dustin Yoder



Emilee Trussell



# Class of 2006



**Above:** Heather Pierce and Brooke Miner take a break from Biology.



**Top right corner:** Ashley Robinson pretends to strike it rich.

**Imm. right:** Chelsea Henson flashes a big smile.

**Bottom right corner:** Kasey Nichols and Brigit Teegarden prove to be good friends.



**Below middle:** Stacey Harley, Danielle Willoughby and Chancy Briscoe take a few moment during lunch to pose for a picture.

**Below left:** Ryan Berner actively engages in History class.

**Imm. below:** Brittney Logsdon prepares to hand in her homework.



The Sophomore Class of 2006 had a very productive school year. Their first attempt at float building proved successful as the talented class took top honors during the homecoming parade. The class elected Jessica Brandenburg and Channing Foster as their 2003 Homecoming Attendants. Fund-raisers for the class included football and boys basketball concessions. Class sponsors were Mr. Hackney and Mrs. Ponce.



Kim Conlin



Dar Richardson



Ben Tipsword and Matthew Utsler arm wrestle while Michael Snearly, Mikey Sims, John Rhodes, Derek Pope and Erik Thomas wait for an assembly to begin.



Katie Miller



Matthew Leonard

# Class of 2006



**Above:** Channing Foster forces a smile during class.

**Above:** Kate Meyer wears her science goggles with pride

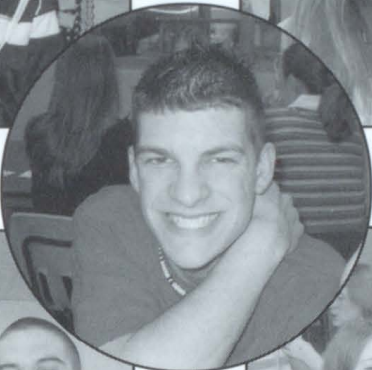
**Above:** Quincy Wood flashes a smile before taking a drink.



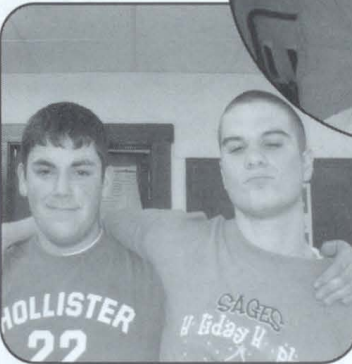
**Far left:** Sarah Colclasure sits in front of the Wall of Honor.

**Imm. left:** Erin Shelato gets up close and personal.

**Middle:** Cyle Traster gives himself a great big hug.



**Below far left:** Nidal Abbed and Nathan Livingood get tuff with the camera.



**Below left:** Krystal Bolin and Kourtney Haas chat before the bell.

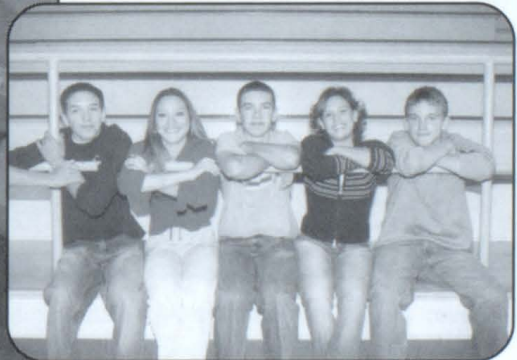
**Below:** Zach Brewer and Chad Palmer are stunned by the flashing camera.



**Below:** Mr. Hackney, John Rhodes, Heather Pierce, Jessica Brandenburg, Shelby Simmon and Kody Livingood work on what will become the first place float.



**Below:** Sophomore class officers include John Rhodes, Brooke Miner, Dustin Yoder, Ashley Allen and Shelby Simmons.



# BASKETBALL



**Above:** The girls basketball team create a pyramid during a pep assembly in their honor.



**Above:** Tracie Yantis goes for the layup.



**Above:** Margaret Owens hold tight of a loose ball.



**Above:** Casey Carr puts up a strong defense.



**Above:** Jessie Buker shoots from under the basket.



**Above:** Mandy Rhodes feels the pressure and looks for an open teammate.



**Above:** Ashley Robinson dribbles down the court.





**Above:** Amber Livingood keeps her eye on the ball while covering her man.

**Left:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Girls Basketball Team. Front - Brittney Logsdon, Tracie Yantis, Mandy Rhodes, Sheena Ashley, Jamie Alexander and Paige Schoonover. Back - Margaret Owens, Mindy Seelow, Casey Carr, Sam Hudson, Jessie Buker, Amber Livingood, Claudia Yantis and Tiffany Spellman. Not pictured are Ashley Robinson and Alison Rostek.



Speed, determination and team work describe the 2003-2004 OVHS girls basketball team. With a record of 26-4, the lady T-Wolves finished the season with a bang. Not only did they set an outstanding season record, but they also set a school record as well. The talented team recorded the most successful season in Bethany, Findlay and Okaw Valley history. Their efforts did not go unrewarded and with an 11-0 conference record, the team was crowned the LOVC Champs.

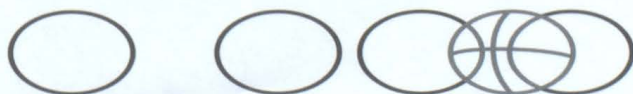


**Above:** Sheena Ashley waits for the offense to set a play up.

**Above:** Claudia Yantis shoots for two.

**Above:** Tiffany Spellman puts up a jump shot.

# BASKETBALL



# BASKETBALL



**Above:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Varsity Boys Basketball Team. Front - Rusty Johnson, Nathan Livingood, Dustin Rauch, Matt Kowalis, Dustin Yoder, Ryne Inman and Zack Kowalis. Back - Chris Gill, Micheal Snearly, Dustin Plummer, Adam Allsop, Coach Reynolds, Mike Waseen, Shane Howell, Channing Foster and Brandon Craig.



**Above:** Dustin Yoder passes the basketball to a teammate.



**Above:** Nathan Livingood tries to put the ball in the basket.



**Middle right:** Chad Palmer takes the ball down the court.



**Far right:** Chris Gill fights for the basketball.

**Below:** The 2003-2004 Junior Varsity Boys Basketball Team. Front - Eric Thomas, John Rhodes, Michael Snearly, Chad Palmer, Nathan Livingood and Derek Pope. Back - Quincy Wood, Matthew Utsler, Mitch Wilson, Mikey Sims, Zach Brewer, Dustin Plummer, Channing Foster and Nidal Abbed.



**Above:** Matthew Utsler and the T-Wolves try to get possession of the ball.



**Above:** Matt Kowalis tries to pull down the rebound.





The 2003-2004 Okaw Valley Boys Basketball Team ended their season with a record of 8-24. Even with a few minor complications, including several injuries, the T-Wolves managed to pull off a 3rd place win in the Thanksgiving Turkey Tournament. Although they were a very young team, the Wolves played with excitement and heart in each and every game. The scoreboard may not have always been in Okaw's favor, but the team managed to hold their heads high and finish each game with a fight.

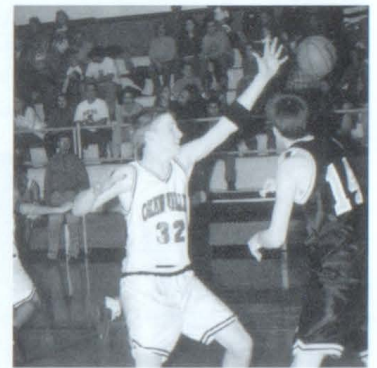
**Left:** Ryne Inman dribbles the ball down the court.

**Below:** Mike Waseen looks for an open teammate.

**Below:** Channing Foster passes the basketball to an open Timberwolve.

**Below:** Quincy Wood fights off the opposition and prepares to pass the ball.

**Below:** Zach Brewer tries to keep the opposing team from passing the ball.



**Below:** The 2003-2004 Fresh/Soph Boys Basketball Team. Front - John Rhodes, Quincy Wood, Derek Pope, CJ Swinehart, Andrew Fultz and Eric Thomas. Back - Heath Sweeney, Dylan Woodworth, Matthew Utsler, Mikey Sims, Zach Brewer, Michael Snearly, Chad Palmer, Nidal Abbed and Josh Rhodes.

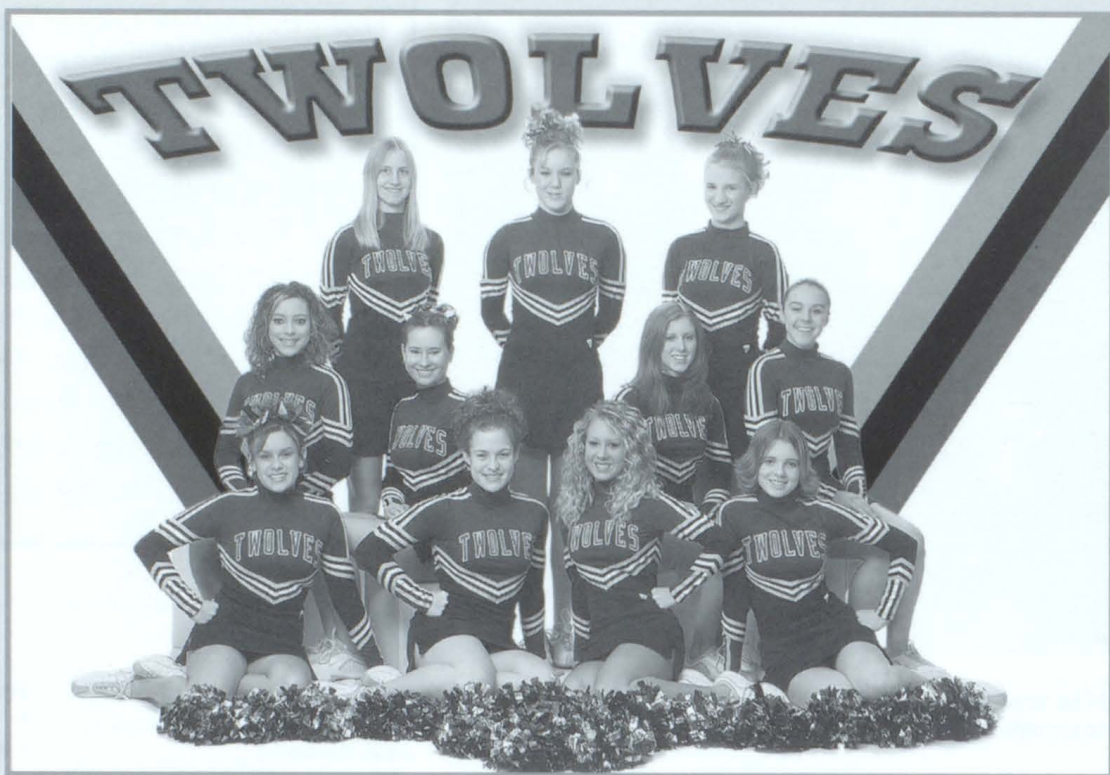
**Below:** Shane Howell tries to break through the defense and go up for a shot.



# BASKETBALL



# CHEERLEADING



**Above:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Cheerleading Squad. Front - Ashley Allen, Sarah Kowalis, Sabrina Bone and Jessica Brandenburg. Middle - Brooke Miner, Kate Meyer, Amanda Robinson and Savannah Uphoff. Back - Desiree Flemming, Ashley Robinson and Megan Cotner.

**Right:** Sabrina Bone flies high in the basket toss.



**Left:** The cheerleaders end the school song with pride!



**Below:** The girls cheer on the boys during the starting line-up.



**Above:** The JV squad cheers on their classmates.



**Above:** Sarah Kowalis, and Kate Meyer groove to the music!

**Above:** The squad prepares to throw footballs during an all school pep assembly.



**Above:** The whole squad unites at a time-out to cheer on the varsity team.







Cheerleading .... if it was any tougher it would be called football. The 2003-2004 season brought a big change for the squad. Most of the girls didn't realize how stressful it could be cheering for two straight seasons in a row. Everyone was happy to get new cheer uniforms and warm-ups for the inaugural year of football cheerleading, but most of the girls had never experienced cheering on the sidelines of a football game and they looked to former Redskin cheerleaders Sarah Kowalis and Ashley Allen for guidance. The squad worked hard and learned a great deal about the game of football. Basketball season brought new floor cheers, difficult stunts and energy filled dances. The T-Wolve Cheerleaders did their best all year to bring spirit to the students and athletics at OVHS.



# CHEERLEADING



# Scholastic Bowl



**Above:** Ryne Inman prepares for an intense match.



**Above:** The 2004 JV Scholastic Bowl Team. Front - Coach Agge, Paige Schoonover, Chancy Briscoe, Brooke Miner, Ivan Roslak, Josh Rodes and Jarrod Yantis. Back - Cyle Traster, Zack Plunkett, Derek Pope, John Rhodes, Dustin Yoder, Matthew Utsler and Andrew Fultz



**Left:** The 2004 Varsity Scholastic Bowl Team. Front - Melissa Fleming, Sarah Kowalis and Tracie Yantis. Back - Chris Gill, Matt Davis, Ryne Inman and Coach Clodfelter.

The 2004 Scholastic Bowl Team may not have come away with a true win, but they had many other things that brought pride to the coaches and school. The team received numerous compliments on their spirit and energy during the season and were by far, one of the most entertaining teams in the LOVC conference. Both JV and Varsity learned a great deal throughout the season and had a genuinely good time during both practices and matches.



**Above:** Matt Davis poses before transforming into his "nerdy scholastic bowl" persona.



**Above:** Seniors Matt Davis, Ryne Inman, Sarah Kowalis, Melissa Fleming and Chris Gill prove they have the athletic look as well as book smarts!

## The Scholastic Bowl Team's Memorable Moments:

- \* The Mullet Wig
- \* The stares Matt Davis received (his hair)
- \* Meeting "New People"
- \* Eating at the Olive Garden/getting lost in Springfield
- \* Mrs. Clodfelter and Mrs. Agge - The Instigators



**Above:** Ryne Inman, Sarah Kowalis, Melissa Fleming, Chris Gill and Matt Davis concentrate on a difficult question.



**Above:** Dustin Yoder and Andrew Fultz show off the first place conference trophy...even though it didn't belong to Okaw Valley.

The OVHS National Honor Society participated in numerous service orientated activities during the 2003-2004 school year. In order to maintain membership in the prestigious society, each person was required not only to keep their high GPA average, but they also had to complete 100 service hours by the end of the year. Each quarter, members participated in a group community service project. A few activities included collecting food items for the Moultrie County Food Pantry, collecting animal products for the animal shelter and collecting money at Christmas to buy gifts for the less fortunate. All of the projects listed (plus the individual activities) helped NHS achieve their 2004 goals and also helped those around the community in need.



**Imm. right:** Cassie Shelton tears down decorations after the Senior Citizen's dinner.

**Below far left:** Tammy Holthaus lights the candle of knowledge during the Induction Ceremony.

**Far left:** Desiree Fleming and Sarah Kowalis prepare to meet and greet their dinner guests.

**Below middle:** Ryne Inman refills a punch bowl



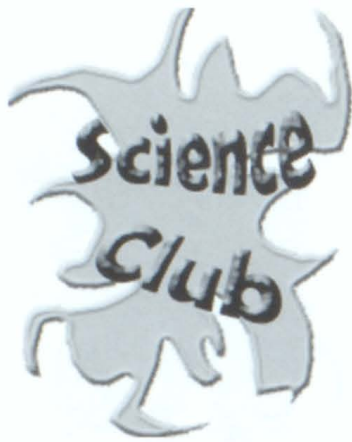
**Below:** Tracie Yantis lights her candle at the induction ceremony while Corey Booker, Mrs. Duis and Melissa Fleming look on.



**Left:** The 2003-2004 OVHS National Honor Society. Front - Samantha Stollard, Tammy Holthaus and Amanda Robinson. Middle - Tracie Yantis, Cassie Shelton, Desiree Fleming, Jessie Buker and Ryne Inman. Back - Melissa Fleming, Sarah Kowalis, Laura Stollard, Shannon Swinehart, Matt Davis, Barrett Watson and Corey Booker.

**Below:** Shannon Swinehart and Melissa Flemming set up for the Senior Citizens Dinner.





**Top right:** Sarbina Bone offers her artistic talent to the trash can bergade.

**Above right:** Science club member work diligently on painting trash cans to place around the town for the Spores and More Festival.

**Imm. right:** Andrew Fultz prepares to do an experiemnt for Kids Science Night.

**Below:** The 2003-2004 Science Club. Front - Mindy Seelow, Tracie Yantis, Tammy Holthaus, Brooke Miner, Zack Kowalis, Andrew Fultz and Mitch Wilson. Middle - Sarah Kowalis, Desiree Fleming, Kate Meyer, Ashley Allen, Codi Marshall and Jessie Buker. Back - Mrs. Doan, Sabrina Bone, Chelsey Brewer, Melissa Fleming and Amanda Robinson.



To maintain membership in the OVHS Science Club, each person must complete a community service project. Many members created individual projects, but also participated in the ever popular group activities as well. Officers for the 2003-2003 school year included President Chelsey Brewer, Vice-President Melissa Fleming, Secretary Amanda Robinson and Treasure Sabrina Bone. Sponsors for the club were Mrs. Doan and Mr. Hackney.

## Top

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## Science Club Activities

- 1.) Highway Clean-up
- 2.) Earth Week
- 3.) Kid's Science Night
- 4.) Flower Planting
- 5.) Star Lab

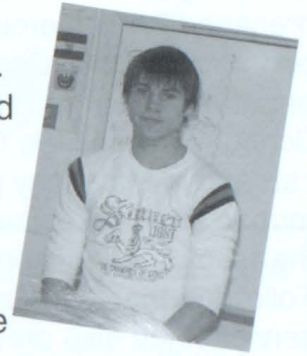




# Spanish Club



The 2003-2004 Spanish Club activities consisted mostly of meetings and paying dues. For their main activity Mrs. Ponce and 30 members took an exciting trip to Springfield to see a dramatic performance. The play, *Don Quiote*, was presented by a traveling drama troupe that focused on interacting with the audience and featured Flamenco dancers. To get the entire "Spanish experience," the group stopped at El Matador in Mt. Zion on the way home and devoured lots of scrumptious Mexican food.



**Imm left:** Jessie Buker, Amanda Robinson and Claudia Yantis tend to some Spanish homework.

**Far left:** The boys table at El Matedor in Mt. Zion.

**Middle left:** The girls table at El Matedor in Mt. Zion.

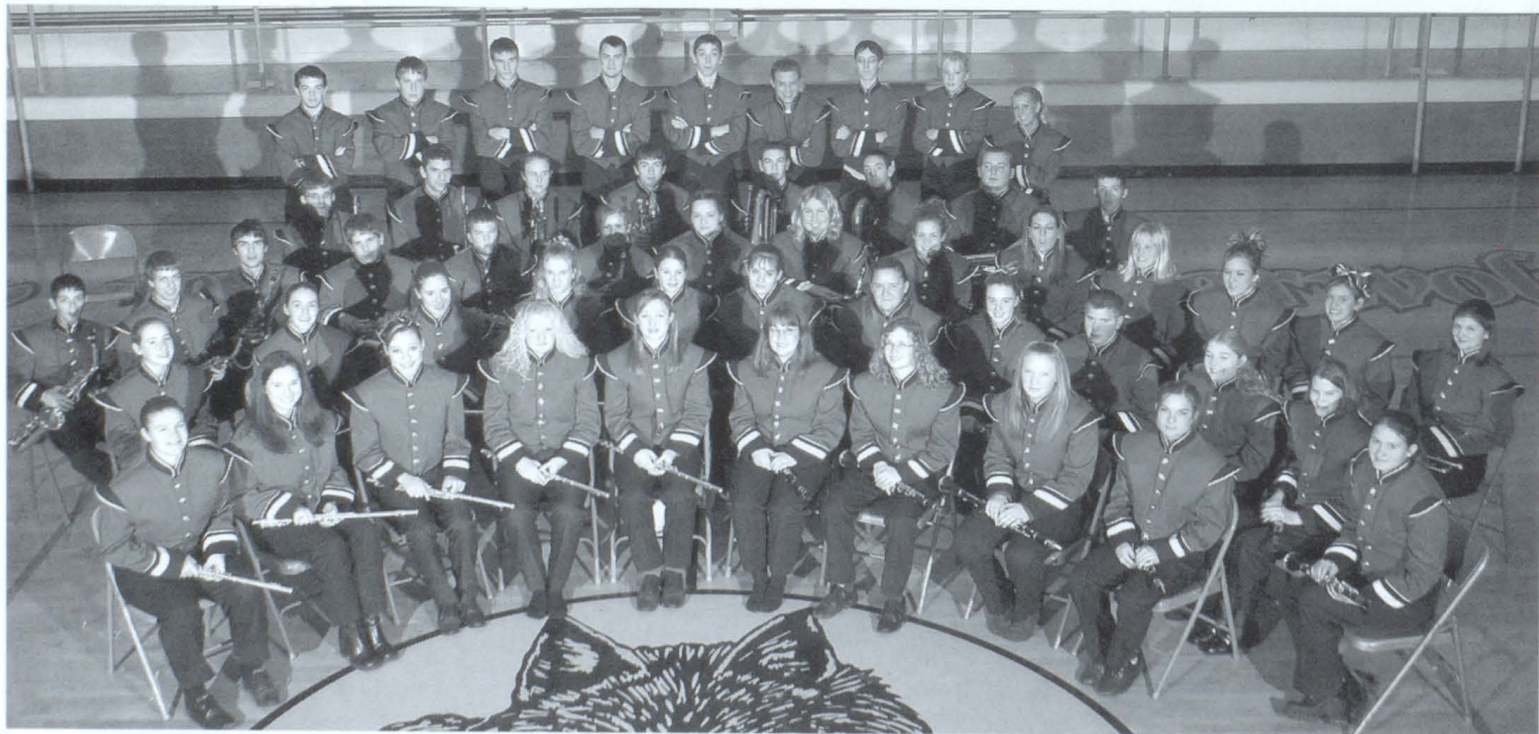
**Bottom left:** Spanish Club Officers include Brittney Logsdon, Cyle Traster, Jessie Buker, Chelsey Brewer, Kate Meyer and Ashley Allen.



**Imm. left:** The 2003-2004 Spanish Club. Front - Chelsea Henson, Kate Meyer, Ashley Allen, Jessica Brandenburg, Ivan Roslak and John Rhodes. Middle - Jessie Buker, Chelsey Brewer, Sarah Colclasure, Ashley Robinson, Brittney Logsdon, Heather Pierce and Mrs. Ponce. Back - Nidal Abbed, Mike Waseen, Brooke Miner, Cyle Traster, Brigit Teegarden and Nathan Livingood. Top - Alisha Utlser.



The OVHS Concert Band spent a great deal of time preparing for numerous performances. In December, they played at High School Winter Music Concert and in May, they performed for the community at the Memorial Day services. Following the community service, they also presented their own concert that featured patriotic music. All their hard work was in preparation for a trip to Washington, DC where the group participated in the Memorial Day Weekend Celebration activities.

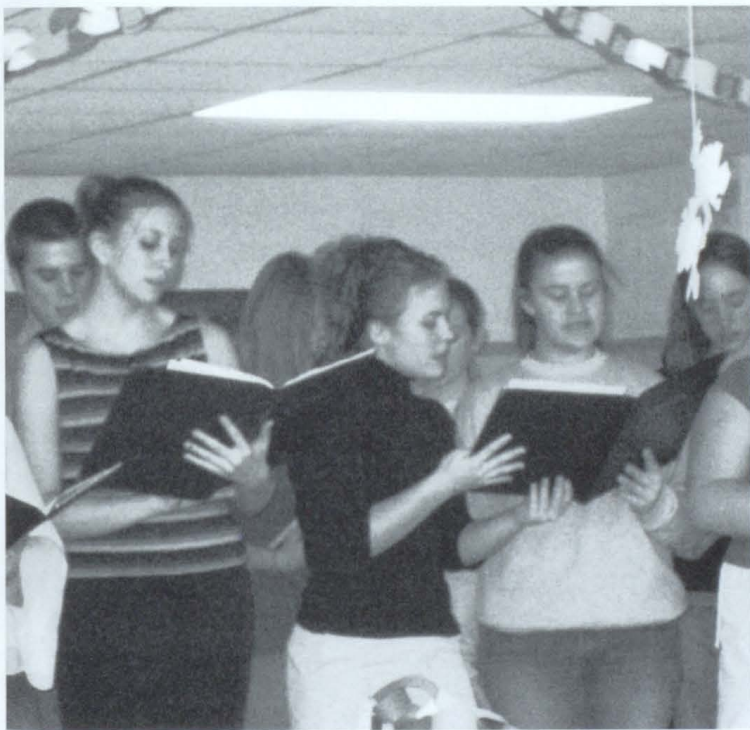


**Above:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Concert Band. First - Kasey Nichols, Kate Meyer, Brooke Miner, Claudia Yantis, Whitney Kingery, Courtney Yantis, Codi Marshall, Laura Stollard and Sheena Ashley. Second - Brittney Logsdon, Savannah Uphoff, Paige Schoonover, Megan Cotner, Melissa Sifford, Alison Rostek, Erin Shelato, Jessica Brandenburg, Ray Rich, Sam Stollard, Tammy Holthaus and Cassie Shelton. Third - Josh Rhodes, Derek Pope, Mitch Wilson, Ivan Roslak, Jarrod Yantis, Amanda Robinson, Casey Carr, Stephanie Cole, Sarah Kowalis, Chelsey Brewer, Jessie Buker, Ashley Robinson, Ashley Allen and Molly Shelton. Fourth - Shelby Simmons, Ryne Inman, Melissa Fleming, Mikey Sims, Dustin Yoder, John Rhodes, Cody Brands and Kyle Herron. Fifth - Eric Thomas, Andrew Fultz, Matthew Utsler, John Ascenzo, Channing Foster, Zack Kowalis, Corey Booker, Tiffany Spellman and Sabrina Bone. Not Pictured - Sarah Colclasure, Kim Conlin, Shaun Cotner, Jessica McLain and Mandy Rhodes.





**Above:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Chorus. Front - Bonnie Munson, Mollory Byrum, Brittney Logsdon, Kody Livingood, Whitney Kingery and Monica Gordon. Back - Allison Wheeler, Mindy Seelow, Krystal Bolin, Danielle Willoughby, Brigit Teegarden, Chelsea Henson and Katie Mahannah.



The OVHS Chorus kept very busy during the 2003-2004 school year. As a group, they attended the LOVC Choral Festival where they had the opportunity to sing with several areal schools and individually, several members also participated in the LOVC Solo and Ensemble Contest. In December, the group had the opportunity to entertain guest at the annual Senior Citizens Dinner. Members also amazed the community with their talent during two different musical concerts held at the OVHS gym in December and May.



**Far left:** Brigit Teegarden, Sarah Kowalis and Kasey Nichols sing at the Senior Citizens lunch.

**Imm. left:** Krystal Bolin, Brittney Logsdon and Whitney Kingery practice a few songs during class.



**Left and above:** Members of the OVHS Chorus entertain the audience at the Winter Music Concert.



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"We welcome you to munchkin land."



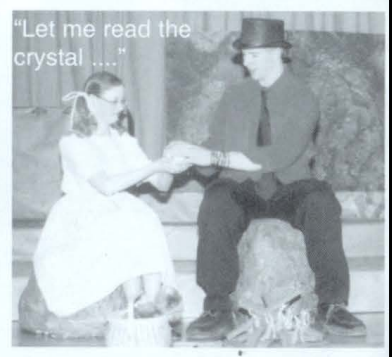
"I thought you were my friends...."



"I'll fight you with one paw behind my back."



"Fly.... Fly.....!"



"Let me read the crystal ...."



"You're out of the woods, you're dark, you're out of the night...."



"We're off to see the Wizard, the wonderful Wizard of Oz....."





The March 12 & 13, 2004 presentations of *The Wizard of Oz* were a smash hit. With efforts from an all star cast and 18 Bethany 3rd and 4th graders, the Drama Club recorded their highest attendance ever. Seniors Codi Marshall and Sarah Kowalis made it a weekend to remember as they superbly portrayed the lead characters, Dorothy Gail and the Scarecrow. Cyle Traster and Kody Livingood's characterizations of the Tinman and Lion helped bring excitement to the evening as well. Sabrina Bone (Auntie Em) recalled, "I saw sides of people I had never seen before!" and Kate Meyer (Wicked Witch of the West) commented, "I was able to play a part that wasn't like me at all." The entire cast put on 3 great shows and had a blast during the 3 month rehearsal process.



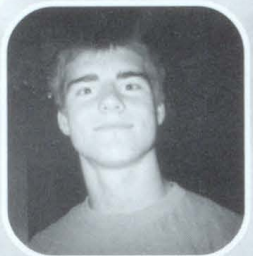
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**Left:** The Cast and Crew of *The Wizard of Oz*. First - Barrett Watson, Cody Corrington, Ashlyn Nickerson, Shelbi Tingey, Elizabeth Malloy, Dakota Wagoner, Shelbi Butt, Ashton Doty, Jessica Seitz, Cody Holt and Hunter Perrine. Second - Casey Carr, Chelsey Brewer, Meagan Foran, Courtney Carlson, Jacob Griggs, Riley Tingey, Kayla Pierce, Wesly Thompson, Savannah Uphoff and Mrs. Weston. Third - Jessica McLain, Ashley Allen, Whitney Kingery, Sabrina Bone, Codi Marshall, Hunter Marshall, Sean Still, Paige Schoonover and Kasey Nichols. Fourth - Mrs. Yantis, Amber Livingood, Matt Davis, Cyle Traster, Sarah Kowalis, Jessica Brandenburg, Kody Livingood, Kate Meyer, Alison Rostek, Alishia Utsler and Molly Shelton.



# FACES OF OUVHS



# SPRING



# 2005 OF CLASS



Jamie Alexander



Shaun Cotner



Jessie Buker



Jennifer Hambrecht



Katie Mahannah



Monica Gordon



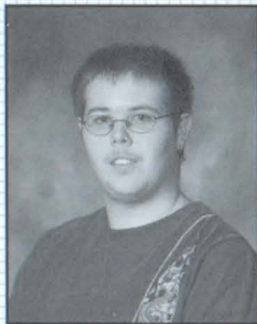
Paul Kruse



Ray Rich



Andy Smith



Andrew Queitzsch



Jonathan Keefe



Drew Rentfro



Kenny Sanders



Cassie Shelton



Claudia Yantis



Tracie Yantis

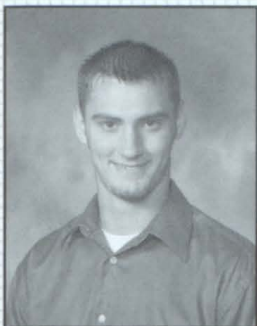
Below: Tracie Yantis laughs with Desiree Fleming during homeroom.

**Middle left:** Drew Rentfro and Sara Bear enjoy lunch at the bowling alley on rewards day.

**Middle right:** Eric Williams is caught off guard by the camera flash.

**Middle right:** Paul Kruse and Katie Mahannah take a break during art class.





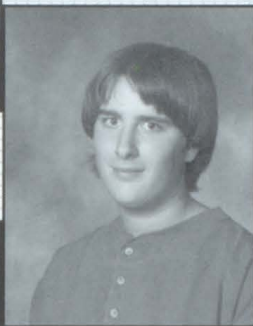
John Ascenzo



Sara Bear



Josh Brands



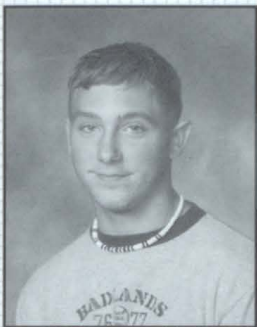
Daniel Dotson



Jessica Dotson



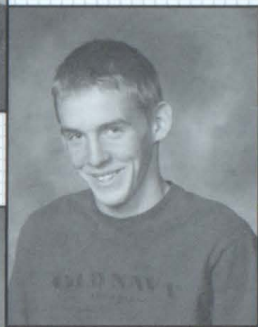
Desiree Fleming



Kody Henderson



Sam Hudson



Tim Jensen



Dustin Plummer



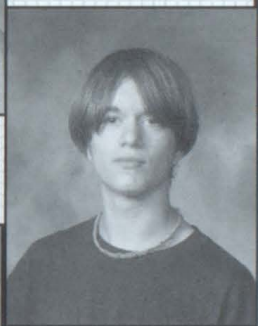
Amanda Robinson



Margaret Owens



Blake Perry



Cole Rogers



Sam Stollard



Carrie Rogers



Mitch Wison

Below: Several Juniors pose for a picture after spending the evening decorating the Decatur Club for Prom.

Below: Paul Kruse, Amanda Robinson and Margaret Owens work feverishly on the Junior float.



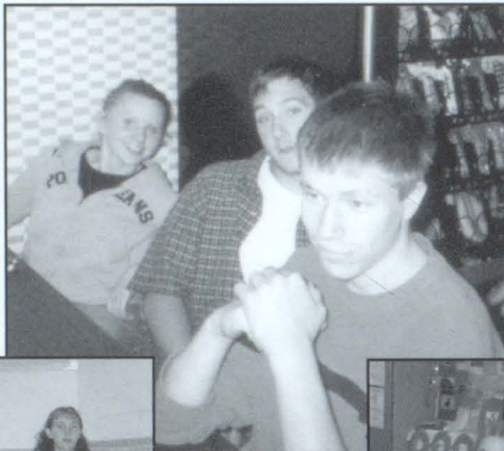
# CLASS OF 15 2005

Although many obstacles were thrown in their way, the Class of 2005 successfully completed another year. The junior year has a reputation for being one of the busiest years in high school and at OVHS, the tale stands true. Along with their regular classroom studies and extra curricular activities, the juniors also had to deal with ACT Prep Classes, the stress of taking the ACT and PSAE and they were also responsible for planning the Junior/Senior Prom. Held at the Decatur Club on April 17th, the 2004 Junior/ Senior Prom was a huge success. Many members of the class devoted countless hours and worked hard to create a very elegant "Night In Heaven." After having spent most early mornings since February studying in the prep class, 32 juniors spent two days, April 28 and 29, ACT and PSAE testing. From that point on, it was smooth sailing for the class as the weeks dwindled down and they anxiously anticipated their senior year.



**Above:** Several juniors pose on the stairway at the Decatur Club after finishing decorating for prom.

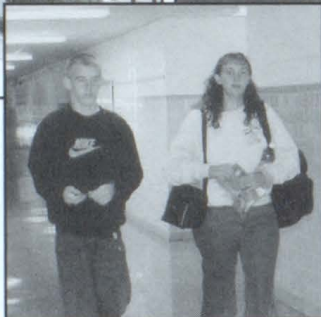
**Right:** Tim Jenson and Sam Husdon head to the DATA bus.



**Above:** Katie Mahannah, Kody Henderson and Blake Perry share a few laughs during lunch.



**Above:** Dustin Plummer gives the "innocent" student look.

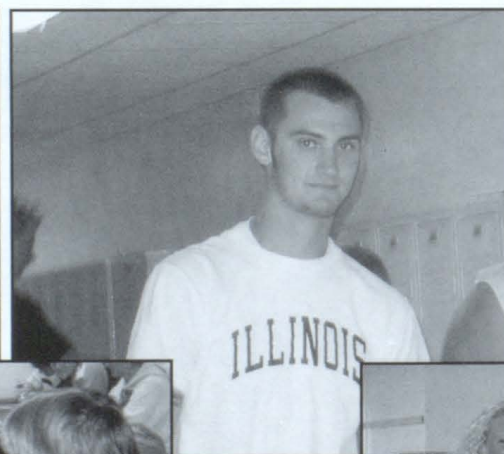


**Left:** Tracie Yantis waits patiently for class to begin.



**Above:** Carrie Rogers tries to hold back a smile.

**Right:** Daniel Dotson reaches for a "forbidden" drink during lunch.



**Above:** John Ascenzo flirts with the camera.



**Above:** Jessica Dotson takes a momentary break from her studies.



**Left:** Claudia Yantis wonders why she is the only one in the hall.





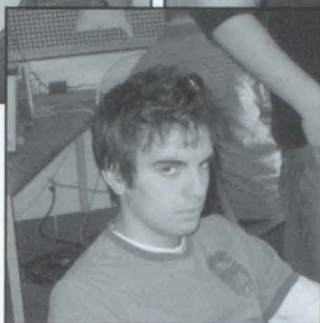
**Above:** Margaret Owens and Amanda Robinson flash their pearly whites.



**Above:** Cassie Shelton and Jennifer Hambrecht take a break after decorating for prom.



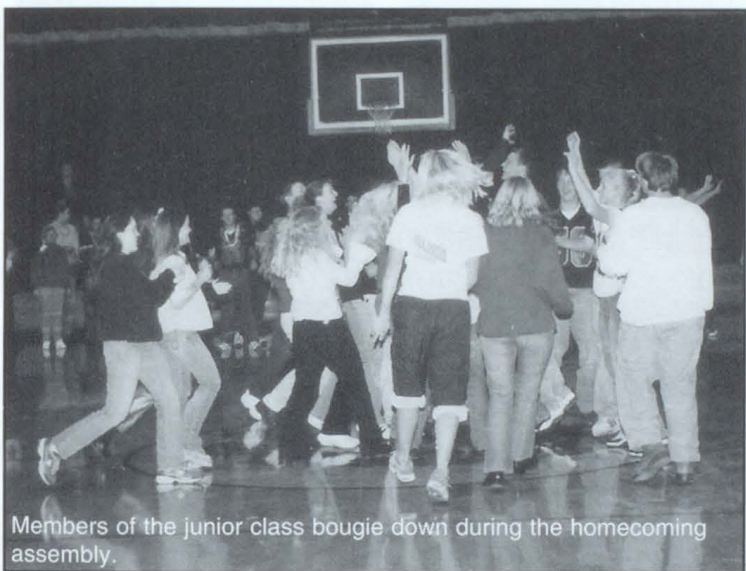
**Above:** Quincy Wood works on a plaster sculpture in art class.



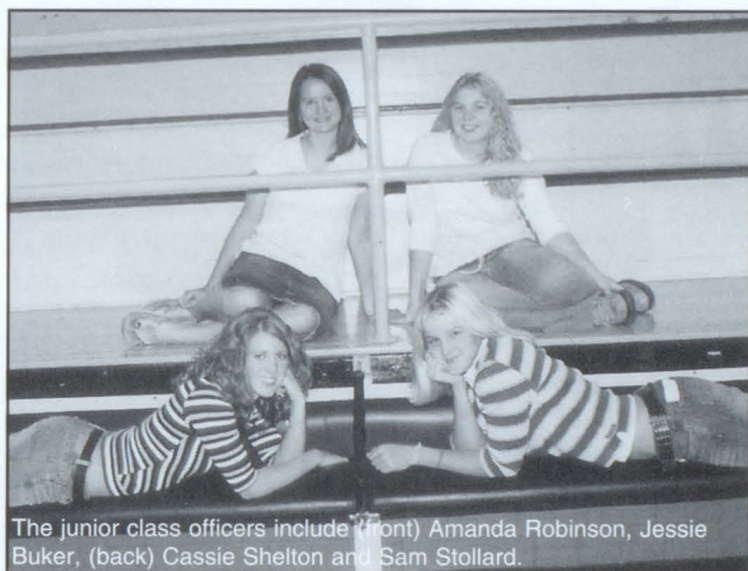
**Right:** Mitch Wilson tries a new look.



**Left:** Jamie Alexander shows off her cheesiest smile.



Members of the junior class bougie down during the homecoming assembly.



The junior class officers include (front) Amanda Robinson, Jessie Buker, (back) Cassie Shelton and Sam Stollard.



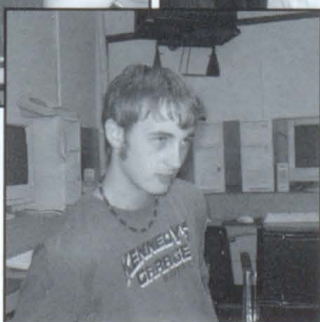
**Above:** A table full of juniors pass the lunch hour talking.



**Above:** Desiree Fleming is caught off guard at her locker.



**Above:** Drew Rentfro looks back for a picture.



**Right:** Kenny Sanders tries hard not to look at the camera.



**Left:** Kody Henderson doesn't seem to be quite awake yet.



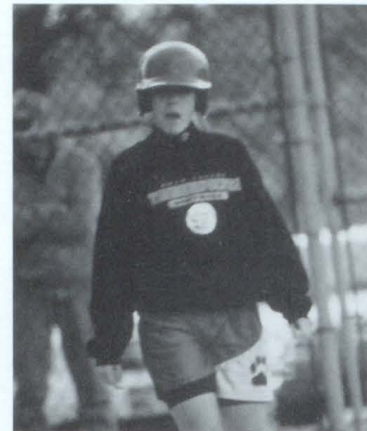
# SOFTBALL



**Above:** Tracie Yantis slides safely back into first base.



**Above:** Claudia Yantis prepares to pound the softball.



**Below:** Savannah Uphoff assists the team as first base coach.



**Above:** The 2004 OVHS Softball Team. Front - Ashley Allen, Sheena Ashley and Savannah Uphoff. Middle: Kasey Nichols, Sarah colclasure, Taylor Mose and Tracie Yantis. Back - Mandy Rhodes, Chelsey Brewer, Coach Blank, Jessie Buker and Claudia Yantis.



**Above:** Mandy Rhodes uses all of her strength to pitch another strike.







**Above:** Sheena Ashley pitches for a strike.



**Above:** Third baseman Chelsey Brewer waits for a softball to come her way.



**Above:** Jessie Buker prepares to return the softball to the pitcher.

**Above top:** Kasey Nichols stays alert in the outfield.

The OVHS Softball team had a rough start, but pulled it together to create a highly successful 2004 season. With many young and new members, the girls had to basically start over and learn to work together. Hard work and dedication became the norm and the girls quickly overcame many obstacles. As the team surpassed expectations and continued to beat the "unbeatable" teams, their spectators and support grew. In the end, their talent and teamwork earned the girls a 20-6 season record and the first ever Softball Regional Championship title in school (Bethany, Findlay and Okaw Valley) history.



**Above:** Taylor Mose heads back to the mound to pitch another inning.



**Above:** Ashley Allen does a windcheck in the outfield.



**Above:** Tracie Yantis returns the softball to the pitcher.

# SOFTBALL

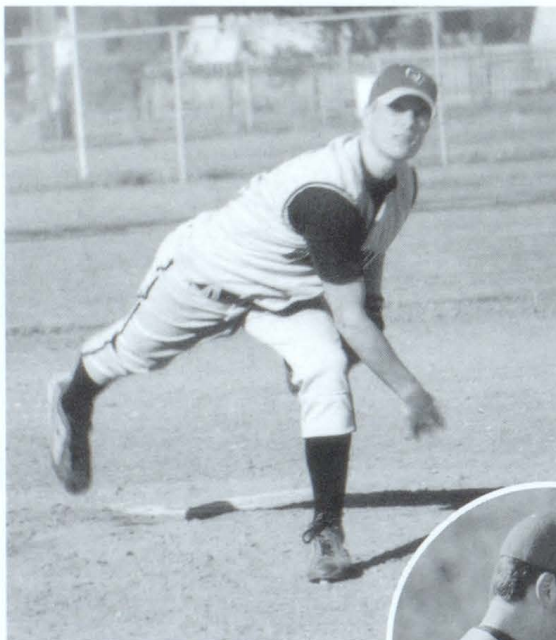


# BASEBALL

The OVHS Baseball team struggled during the 2004 season. Changes in coaches and a young team forced the players to focus on a year of rebuilding. In the end, it may not have been a "dream" season, but the boys can be proud of their efforts and their continuous drive for improvement. The T-Wolves season record was 4-21-1.



**Above:** The 2004 OVHS Baseball Team. Front - Nathan Livingood, Jonathan Keefe, Cody Brands, Andrew Fultz, Steve Nichols and Shelby Simmons. Back - Coach Elder, Zach Kowalis, Nidal Abbed, Dustin Yoder, Shaun Cotner, Channing Foster, Chris Gill and Quincy Wood.



**Imm. right:** Nathan Livingood throws a hard strike.



**Far right:** Chris Gill is ready for anything that might come his way.



**Above:** Dustin Yoder prepares to smash the baseball.





**Above:** Quincy Wood saves the grounded pitch.



**Imm. left:** Channing Foster keeps his eyes on the ball.

**Far left:** Zack Kowalis takes first base after being walked.

**Below:** Steve Nichols waits for the perfect pitch.



**Above:** Shaun Cotner throws the baseball back to the pitcher after catching a hit.

# BASEBALL



# TRACK & FIELD



**Above:** Whitney Kingery throws her arms up to get a farther jumping distance.



**Above:** Talented Matt Kowalis stretches in perfect form in order to jump his highest and furthest.

Jessie Buker - State Qualifier  
Shot & Discus

Desiree Fleming  
Hurdles, 4 x 1 & Triple Jump

Melissa Fleming  
Shot & Discus

Whitney Kingery  
Long and Triple Jump & 4 x 1

Brooke Miner  
Long Jump, 400m, 100m & 4 x 1

Amber Livingood  
400m, 800m & 4 x 1

Chelsey Brewer  
Long Jump, 4 x 1 & 200m

Matt Kowalis  
Long and Triple Jump, 100m & 4 x 1

Derek Pope  
100 and 300 Hurdles & Triple Jump

John Rhodes  
Long and Triple Jump, 400m & 4 x 1

Cyle Traster  
100m, 4 x 1 & 300 Hurdles

Chris Gill  
Shot & Discus

Mitch Wilson  
Triple Jump, 400m & 800m

Josh Rhodes  
Long and Triple Jump, 400m & 4 x 4

Heath Sweeney  
4 x 1 & 4 x 4

Daniel Kidwell  
4 x 1 & 4 x 4

Matt Davis  
Shot & Discus



**Below:** State qualifier, Jessie Buker throws the discus her longest - 127 feet.



**Below left corner:** The Timberwolves make a clean pass in a 4 x 4 relay race.

**Below:** Cyle Traster runs the hurdles and jumps with good form.



**Below:** Melissa Fleming grunts loudly and throws with awesome force



**Above:** John Rhodes, Shaun Cotner, Mitch Wilson and Derek Pope hang out at a track meet.

**Above:** Brooke Miner starts off the 100 meter dash with a bang.

**Below:** The 2004 Okaw Valley High School Boys and Girls Track Team. Front - Ashley Robinson, Whitney Kingery, Brooke Miner, Jessie Buker, Erin Shelato, Amber Livingood and Chelsey Brewer. Middle - Melissa Fleming, Daniel Kidwell, Heath Swiney, C.J. Swinhart, Derek Pope, Shelby Simmons, Cyle Traster, Josh Rhodes and Desiree Fleming. Back - Coach Major, Chris Gill, Matt Kowalis, Mitch Wilson, Channing Foster, Matt Davis, Drew Rentfro, Dustin Yoder, John Rhodes, Cody Brands and Alishia Utsler.



# TRACK & FIELD



# Varsity Clubs

**Left:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Girls Varsity Club. First - Ashley Allen, Brooke Miner, Jessica Brandenburg, Kate Meyer, Melissa Fleming, Taylor Mose and Savannah Uphoff. Second - Whitney Kingery, Sabrina Bone, Chelsey Brewer, Laura Stollard and Codi Marshall. Third - Tracie Yantis, Desiree Fleming and Jessie Buker. Fourth - Tiffany Spellman, Fandy Rhodes, Claudia Yantis, Amanda Robinson and Sheena Ashley.



**Left:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Boys Varsity Club. First - Michael Snearly, Dustin Yoder, John Rhodes, Derek Pope and Channing Foster. Second - Mikey Sims, Mike Waseen, Dustin Rauch, Zack Kowalis, Shane Howell, Adam Allsop and Chase Sifford. Third - Kenny Sanders, John Ascenzo, Dustin Plummer, Shaun Cotner, Mitch Wilson, Matt Kowalis, Chris Cesar and Chris Gill. Fourth - Shelby Simmons, Matthew Utsler, Matt Davis, Brandon Craig, Ryne Inman and Zach Brewer. Fifth - Quincy Wood, Chad Palmer and Nathan Livingood.





**Above:** The 2003-2004 OVHS DATA Students include (front) Amy Trussell, Sonja Little, (middle) Daniel Dotson, Jonathan Keefe, Josh Brands, Jennifer Hambrecht, Brandon Craig, (back) Andrew Queitzsch, Andy Smith, Tim Jensen, Blake Perry, Jeremy Kirkley and Kody Henderson.. Not pictured: Sara Bear

**Above:** Kitchen workers Paul Kruse, Lance Macklin and Quincy Wood take a break from washing trays and silverware during second lunch.

**Below:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Office Workers include (first) April Christensen, Chelsey Brewer, Sarah Kowalis, Mandy Rhodes, (middle) Sheena Ashley, Dustin Rauch, Tiffany Spellman, Casey Carr, Courtney Yantis, (third) Alex Bricker, Chase Sifford, Codi Marshall, Laura Stollard, Melissa Fleming, (fourth) Chris Gill, Matt Davis, Matt Kowalis, Corey Booker, Zack Kowalis and Cody Brands.





**Right:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Drama Club. Front - Whitney Kingery and Chelsey Brewer. Second - Ashley Allen, Sabrina Bone and Alison Rostek. Third - Sarah Colclasure, Paige Schoonover, Kate Meyer, Jessica Brandenberg and Taylor Mose. Fourth - Sarah Kowalis, Codi Marshall, Cyle Traster, Brittany Lodgson and Kody Livingood.



The 2003-2004 Drama Club spent most of its time concentrating on the spring production of *The Wizard of Oz*. In preparation, several members had the opportunity to travel to Lincoln College to watch a performance of *The Wiz*. Although a slightly different version, the performance helped energized the group and also provided a wonderful day away from the pressures of school. Besides their on stage and crew responsibilities, many drama club members spent numerous hours painting and creating the set for the spring production. The group also provided refreshments for all three OVHS performances of *The Wizard of Oz*.



**Above:** (Front) Matt Davis, Sarah Kowalis, Codi Marshall, (middle) Kody Livingood, Kate Meyer, Jessica Brandenberg, (back) Whitney Kingery, Sabrina Bone and Cyle Traster prepare to return to school after attending a performance of *The Wiz* at Lincoln College.



**Above left:** Crew member Barrett Watson, stage manager Chelsey Brewer and cast member Whitney Kingery hang out at the controls area before a performance of *The Wizard of Oz*.



**Above:** Katie Mahannah and Heather Sims work on the Wizard's balloon for the play.



**Above:** Jessica Dotson paints the muchkin land scenery.





The 2003-2004 publications class consisted of fourteen very creative and energetic people. With only ten working Adobe Pagemaker computers, the group had to learn to work together on many layouts and also had to compromise on ideas and pictures. The class also moved to the digital lab in order to be able to use Adobe Photoshop and to be able to send everything to the plant digitally. The class had a very successful year not only in yearbook production, but in ad sales as well.



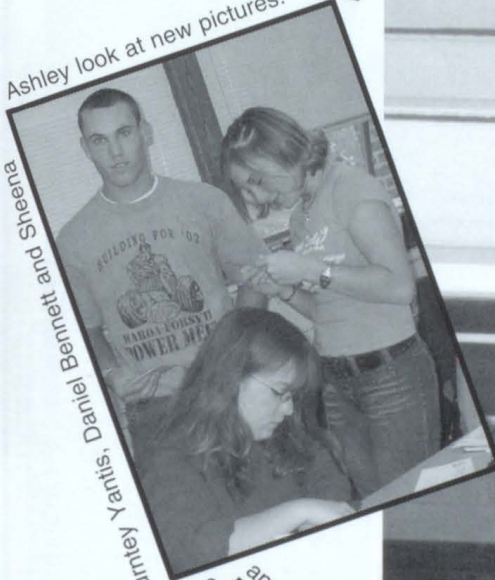
**Below:** The 2003-2004 OVHS Yearbook Staff. First - Tiffany Spellman, Melissa Fleming, Daniel Bennett, Tammy Holthaus and Erin Shelato. Second - Casey Carr and Courtney Yantis. Third - Mandy Rhodes and Sheena Ashley. Fourth - Whitney Kingery, Kate Meyer, Sabrina Bone, Codi Marshall and Chelsey Brewer.



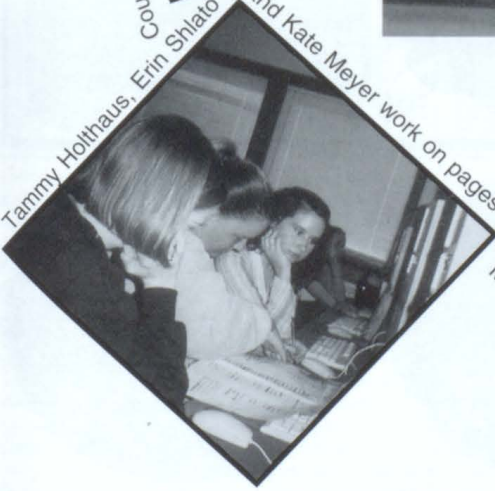
Editor Sabrina Bone shows her enthusiasm for publications.



Ashley look at new pictures.



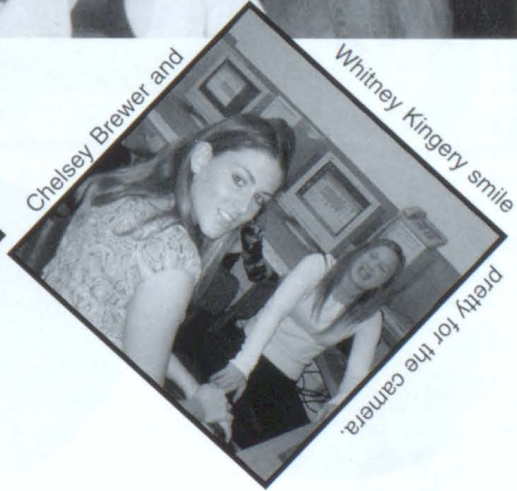
Tammy Holthaus, Erin Shlato and Kate Meyer work on pages.



Melissa Fleming works diligently on creating exciting pages.

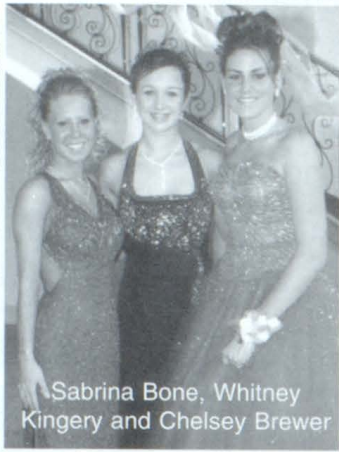


Chelsey Brewer and Whitney Kingery smile pretty for the camera.



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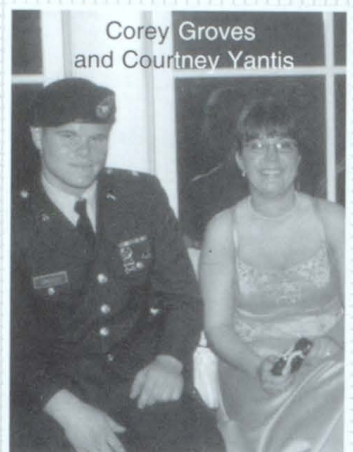
April 17, 2004



Sabrina Bone, Whitney Kingery and Chelsey Brewer



Mike Waseen, Matt Kowalis, Chase Sifford, Zack Kowalis and Chris Cesar



Corey Groves and Courtney Yantis



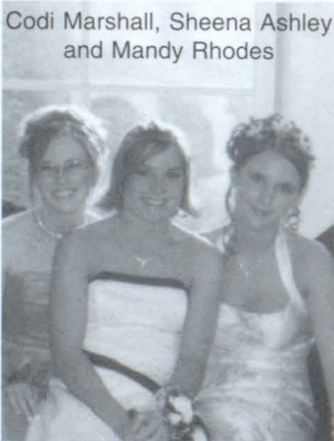
Corey Booker



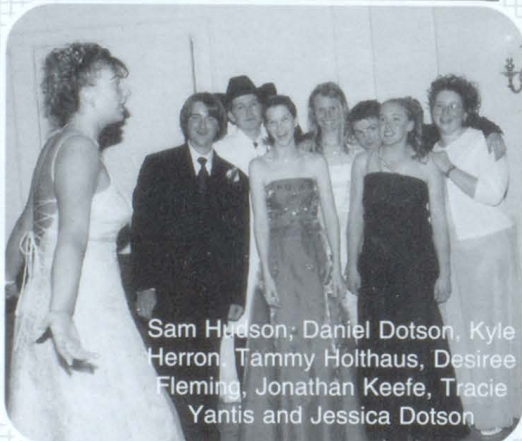
Queen and King  
Sarah Kowalis and Ryne Inman



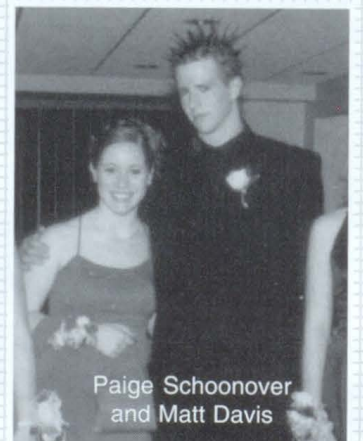
Melissa Fleming and Chris Gill



Codi Marshall, Sheena Ashley and Mandy Rhodes



Sam Hudson; Daniel Dotson, Kyle Herron, Tammy Holthaus, Desiree Fleming, Jonathan Keefe, Tracie Yantis and Jessica Dotson



Paige Schoonover and Matt Davis





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Above: The 2004 OVHS Prom Court. Sabrina Bone, Matt Kowalis, Tiffany Spellman, Corey Booker, 2004 Queen Sarah Kowalis, 2004 King Ryne Inaman, Zack Kowalis, Mandy Rhodes, 2003 Queen Melissa Crawley and 2003 King Darin Yantis.



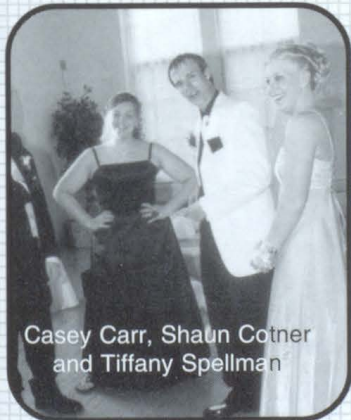
Cody Brands



Andy Smith, Andrew Queitzsch, Ray Rich, Blake Perry, Rusty Johnson, Jonathan Keefe, Katie Mahannah and Tim Jenson.



Heather Sims



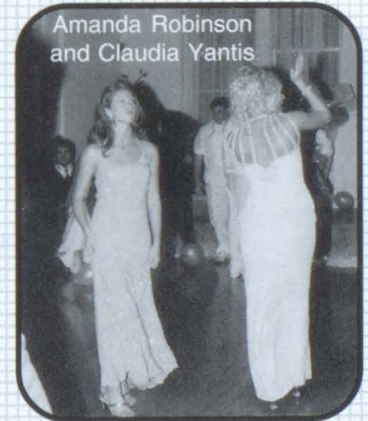
Casey Carr, Shaun Cotner and Tiffany Spellman



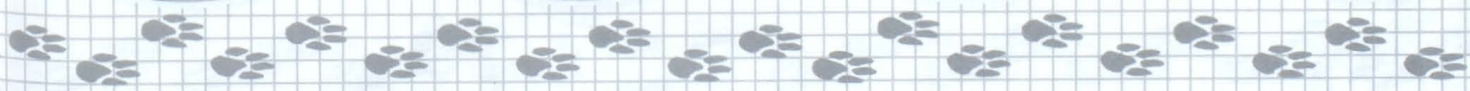
Sonja Little



Monica Gordon and Mindy Seelow

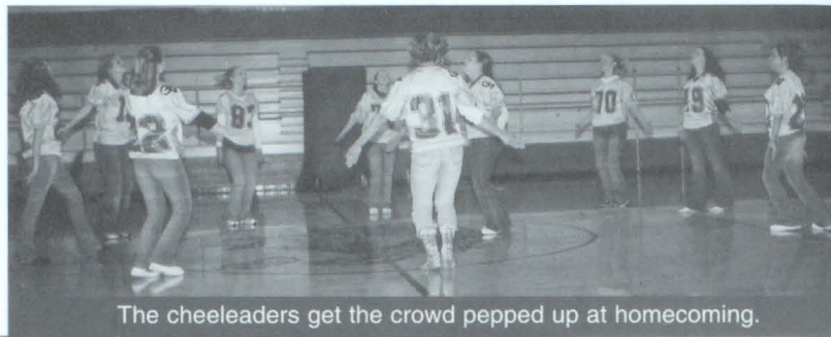
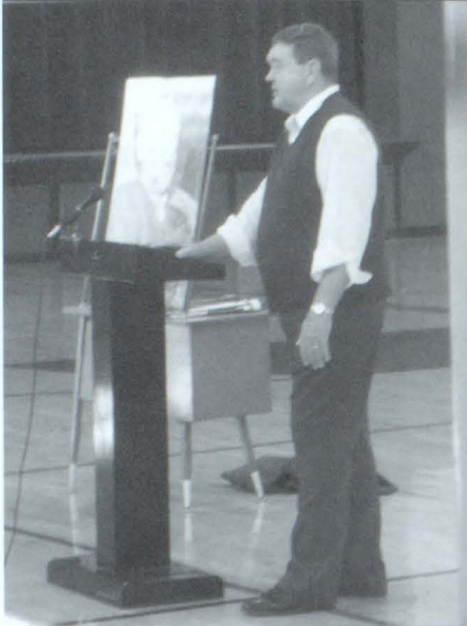


Amanda Robinson and Claudia Yantis



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Carl Randall shares his life story at a SADD assembly.

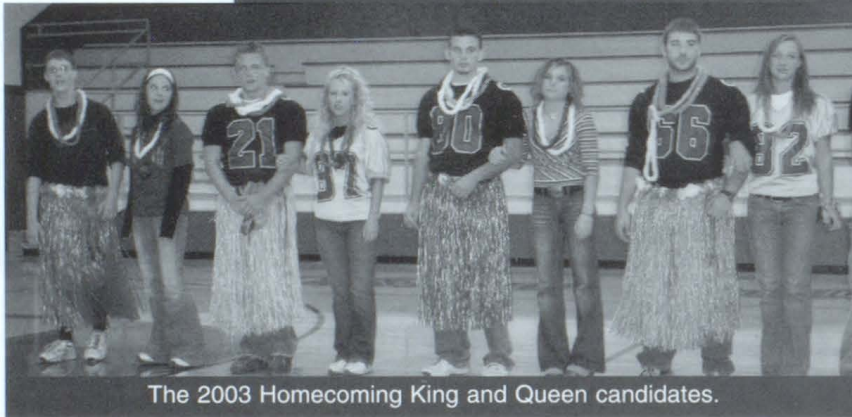


The cheerleaders get the crowd pepped up at homecoming.

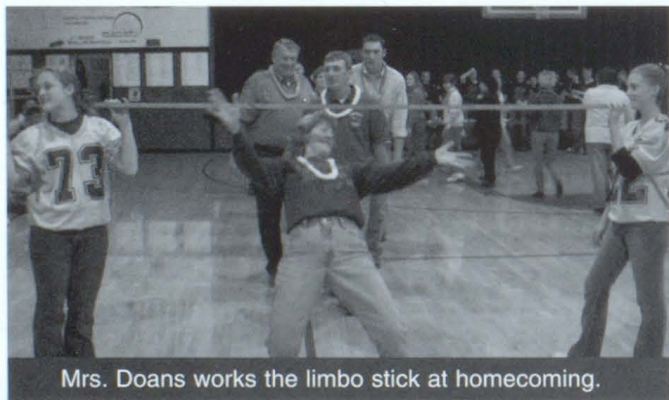


Chris Chaps shares her life experiences and how she became a professional actress.

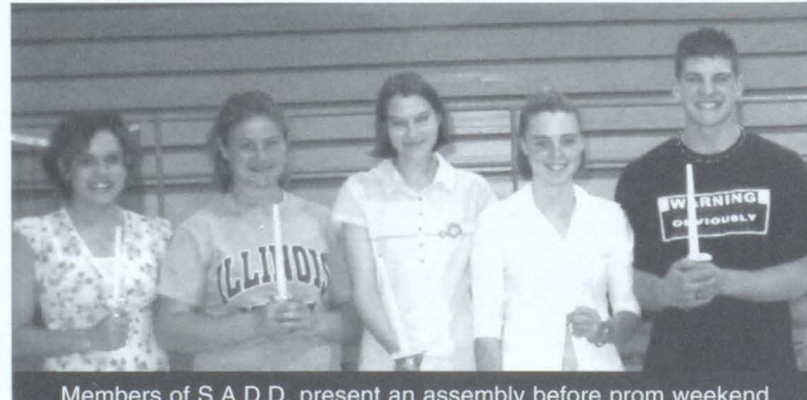
Michael Cooper shares his life experience as a recovering alcoholic.



The 2003 Homecoming King and Queen candidates.



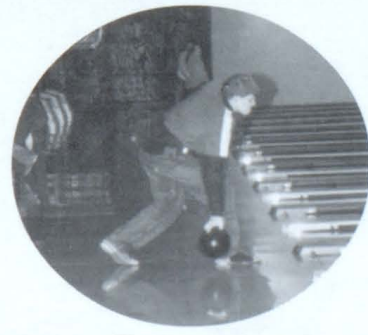
Mrs. Doans works the limbo stick at homecoming.



Members of S.A.D.D. present an assembly before prom weekend.



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**Friday, May 28, 2004**

9:00pm Depart Bethany, IL

**Saturday, May 29, 2004**

11:00am Arrival in Washington, D.C.,  
Visit the Smithsonian Institute's American  
History Museum, Natural History Museum  
and the Air & Space Museum

2/4:00pm Dedication Ceremony  
of the World War II Memorial

**Evening** tour of the Kennedy Center for the  
Performing Arts and the Old Post Office  
Pavilion

**Sunday, May 30, 2004 - Washington, DC**

8:30am Driving tour of Embassy Row  
and National Cathedral and visit to the  
Washington Monument

10:45am Group photo at Grant's Memorial

1:05pm Half day afternoon tour of Arlington  
National Cemetery to participate in the  
special U.S. Military Wreath Laying  
Ceremony at the Tomb of the Unknown

**Evening** tour of the Lincoln, Korean, Franklin  
Delano Roosevelt and Vietnam Memorials  
and the Jefferson Memorial, Iwo Jima  
Marine Memorial

**Monday May 31, 2004 - Washington, DC**

9:00am Parade Performance as part of the  
World War II Memorial Dedication  
Afternoon Tour of Mount Vernon and  
Old Towne Alexandria

8:00pm Performance at the Jefferson  
Memorial as part of the National Festival  
of the States "C"

**Tuesday, June 1, 2004- Gettysburg, PA**

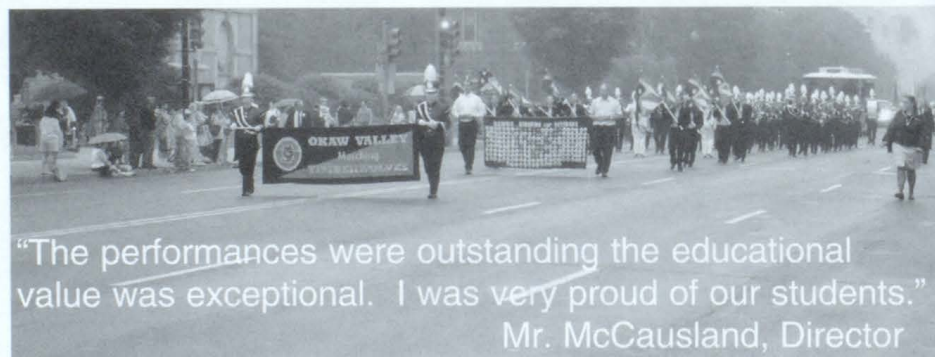
10:30am Arrive in Gettysburg

2:15pm 2 hour tour of The Gettysburg  
Battlefield

**Wednesday, June 2, 2004**

10:00am Depart Gettysburg

10:00pm Arrive in Bethany, IL



# SENIORS



2009

cLASS oF tWo



Adam Gregory Allsop



Sheena Renee Ashley



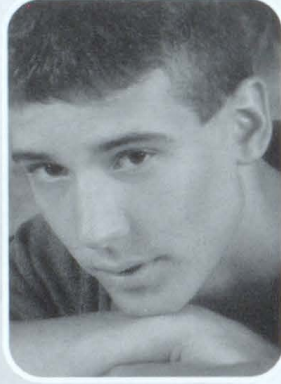
Daniel Alan Bennett



Sabrina Ann Bone



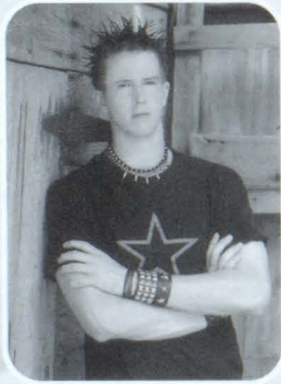
Casey Lynn Carr



Christopher Daniel Cesar



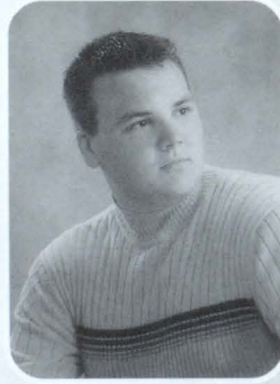
April Marie Christensen



Matthew James Davis



Melissa Ann Hemming

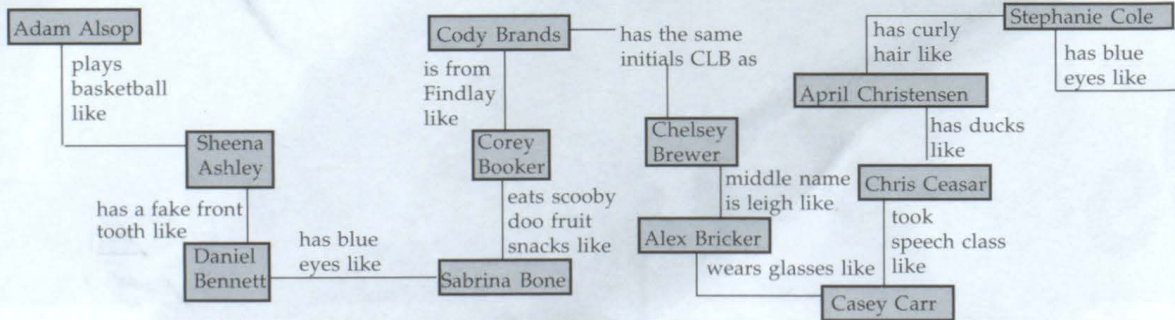


Christopher Allen Gill



Kyle Austin Herron

2009





# tHouSaNd FoUr

2009



*Corey Andrew Booker*



*Cody Lee Brands*



*Chelsey Leigh Brewer*



*Alexander Lee Bricker*



*Stephanie Marie Cole*



*Ryan Jalor Cox*



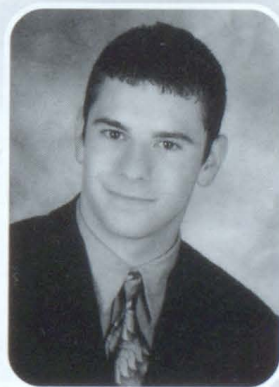
*Brandon Scott Craig*



*Jamera Renee Holthaus*



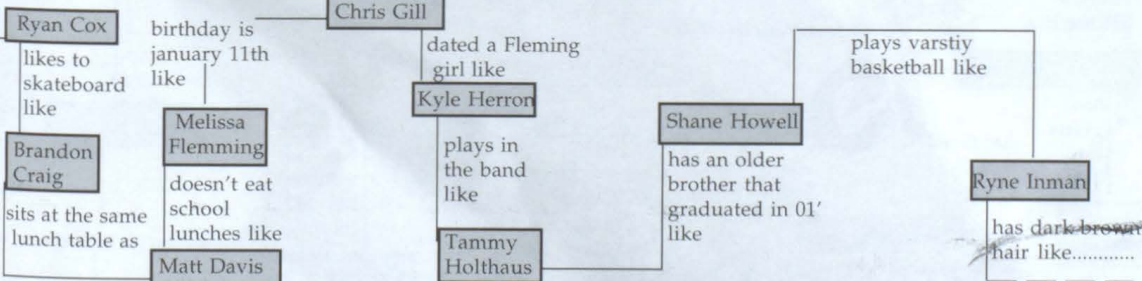
*Shane Evan Howell*



*Ryne Ingall Inman*



*Russell Dean Johnson*



2009



2009

# cLASS oF tWo



*Whitney Erin Kingery*



*Jeremy Eugene Kirkley*



*Matthew John Kowalis*



*Sarah Ann Kowalis*



*Timothy James Myers*



*Dustin Matthew Rauch*



*Mandy Jo Rhodes*



*Aaron Patrick Springman*



*Laura Brynn Stollard*

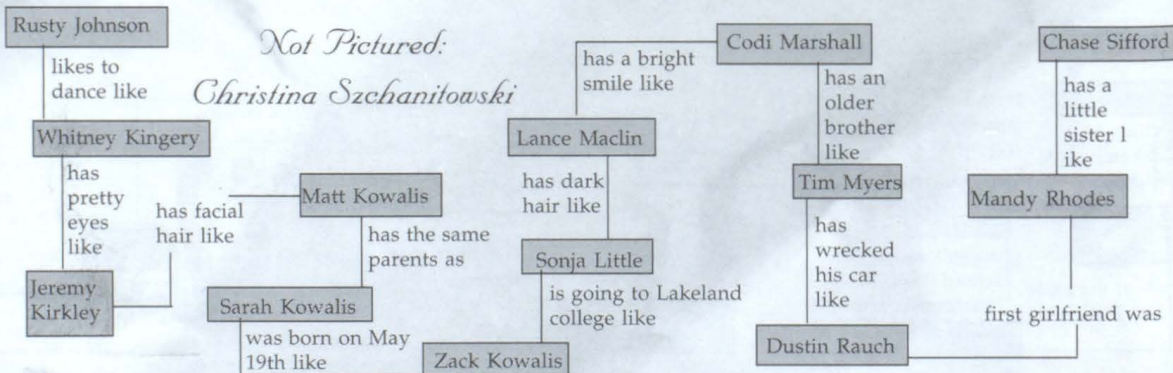


*Shannon Marie Swinehart*



*Amy Dawn Trussell*

2009





Zachary Charles Kowalis



Sonja Marie Little



Lance Tyler Macklin



Codi Nicole Marshall



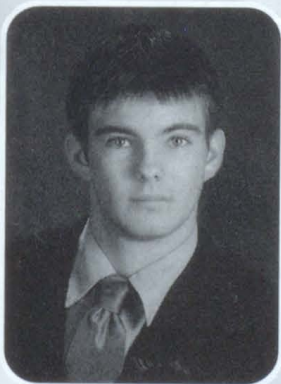
Chase James Sifford



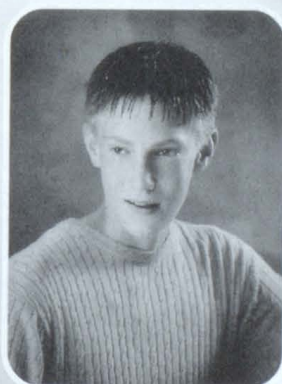
Heather Marie Sims



Tiffany Alyse Spellman



Robert Micheal Waseen



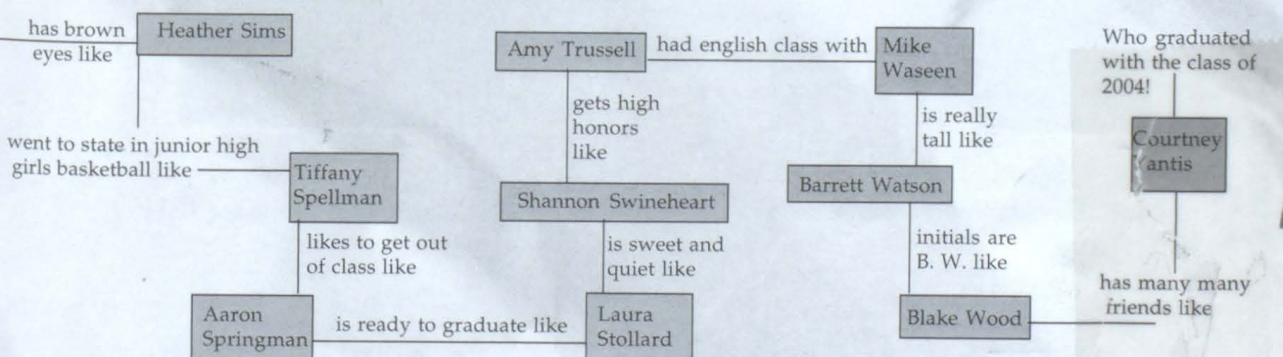
Barrett Mendel Watson



Blake Robert Wood



Courtney Erin Yantis

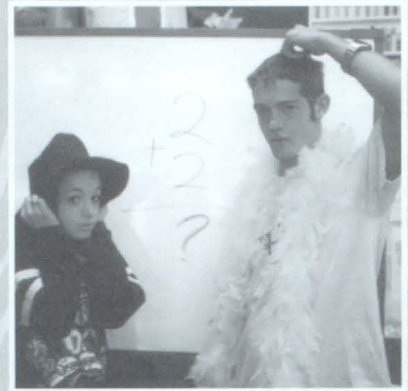


2014

# cLaSs oF tWo



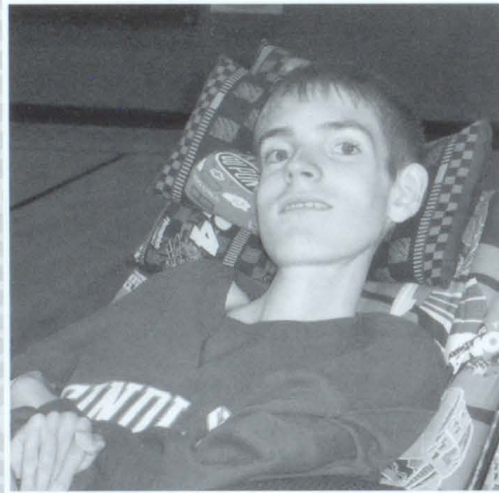
**Prettiest Eyes**  
Daniel Bennett and Mandy Rhodes



**Most Forgetful**  
Heather Sims and Dustin Rauch



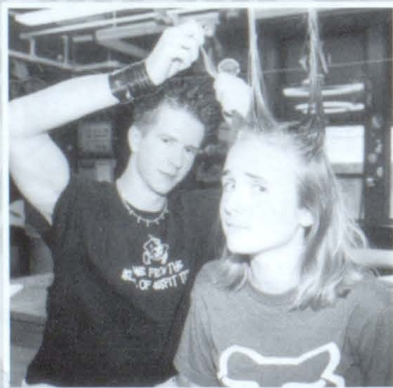
**Class Clown**  
Corey Booker and Casey Carr



**Most Courageous**  
Blake Wood



**Best Smile**  
Sabrina Bone and Matt Kowalis



**Most Talented**  
Matt Davis and Melissa Fleming



**Biggest Klutz**  
Brandon Craig and Stephanie Cole

2014

# cLaSs oF tWo

tHouSaNd FoUr

2004



**Most Likely to Succeed**  
Sarah Kowalis and Ryne Inman



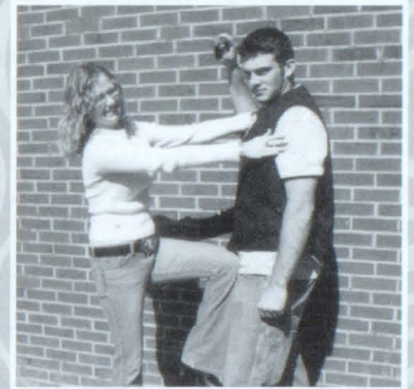
**Biggest Flirt**  
Whitney Kingery and Tim Myers



**Most School Spirit**  
Cody Brands and Chelsey Brewer



**Most Athletic**  
Sheena Ashley and Zack Kowalis



**Best Personality**  
Codi Marshall and Shane Howell



**Most Rebellious**  
Sonja Little and Ryan Cox



**Best Dressed**  
April Christenson and Aaron Springman

tHouSaNd FoUr

2004





# cLaSs oF tWo

I, Adam Allsop, will all the underclassmen the silver object we ganked and Derek Pope some food in hopes he will gain weight.

I, Sheena Ashley, will Claudia Yantis all the "huffy" accessories available for her ride to go along with the car charger and hard top.

I, Daniel Bennett, will next years football team the ability to kick some butt and John Ascenzo to get the most tackles for his fourth year in a row.

I, Sabrina Bone, will Amanda Robinson the Courage to cheer on the basketball team and let the underclassmen know who's **BOSS!**

I, Corey Booker, will Shaun Cotner a Casey's cup filled with the beverage of his choice and Mikey Sims a hip-hop CD to dance to.

I, Cody Brands, will Kenny Sanders friends, so he has more than the ones off Starcraft.

I, Chelsey Brewer, will Jessie Buker and Ashley Allen the power to be cynical and to survive through the good and bad times of high school.

I, Alex Bricker, will everyone the memory of all my stupid human tricks that might one day land me on "The David Letterman Show."

I, Casey Carr, will Amber Livingood the floor in between the second and third.

I, April Christensen, will Mrs. Bruyn to grow up, and to write her math book.

I, Stephanie Cole, will to Kat Miller all my awesome CD's we listened to cruising in my car.

I, Brandon Craig, will my biggest Klutz award to anyone who is that talented!

I, Melissa Fleming, will Kate Meyer butt pinches and an Autographed picture of Dan Marino (go #13)

I, Chris Gill, will my football ability to John Ascenzo (w/out the injuries.)

I, Kyle Herron, will underclassmen the shiny, silver, cylindrical beverage holder, which I found.

I, Tammy Holthaus, will Sam Hudson, Jessica Dotson and Jamie Alexander the ability to graduate and succeed in life through the years to come!

I, Shane Howell, will a "toast" to all the school faculty, and a ball and chain to all the underclassmen



I, Ryne Inman, will a story that begins: A priest, a rabbi, a cowboy, a fighter pilot, gynosaurus Rex, the two guys from the bunk bed story, a proctologist, a mime, Polly Pocket, Shocka, Grady, Emperor Spin Pop, Ben Tipsword, a nun riding a burrow, the Pope and Mrs Duis walk into a bar \_\_\_\_ (It truly was a great day to be a Timberwolf!)

# cLaSs oF tWo



# tHouSaNd FoUr

2009

I, Rusty Johnson, will Andy Smith and Zack Plunkett my punk rock attire and attitude.

I, Whitney Kingery, will Taylor Mose the ability to take my spot on the Volleyball court and Claudia Yantis the ability to go through band with, well, she knows.

I, Matt Kowalis, will Kenny Sanders my PIMP skills in hopes he will use them to find true love someday.

I, Sarah Kowalis, will Kate Meyer leopard print underwear for the Danville judge and Desi the ability to do summer-sualt races with the short amish boy.

I, Zack Kowalis, will Mikey Sims a brush so he can brush my hair every night at 11:00 pm and Shaun Cotner a few treats to have at the park.

I, Codi Marshall, will Claudia Yantis, Amanda Robinson and Margaret Owens the ability to get through their senior year with the mulish class of 2006.

I, Tim Myers, will Kenny Sanders unlimited squares, in order to calm the shakes.

I, Dustin Rauch, will anyone the ability to find a wand, for I am the wizard.

I, Mandy Rhodes, will Jessie Buker a McChicken from McDonalds with no lettuce and extra Mayo and an extra big hockey bag to transport toilet paper.

I, Chase Sifford, will Disco Dan a fever one Saturday Night!

I, Tiffany Spellman, will Ashley Allen the ability to be a DA and Melissa Sifford a wax on and wax off!

I, Aaron Springman, will "Bender" (Shane Howell) to recite "Don't mess with the bull young man, you'll get the horns".

I, Laura Stollard, will Jessica Brandenburg the ability to wear the "I love Tyler" t-shirt with pride.

I, Shannon Swinehart, will Cassie Shelton the ability to sit on the bench during Volleyball and sing "the frog song".

I, Mike Waseen, will Kenny Sanders my ungodly ability to play Madden Football, while being out of my dinosaur.

I, Barrett Watson, will pop to anyone who doesn't want something heathy to drink during lunch.

I, Blake Wood, will my classmates the ability and opportunities to succeed in life!

I, Courtney Yantis, will Lafanda the ability to go to a real party!

2009

# tHouSaNd FoUr



# cLaSs oF tWo

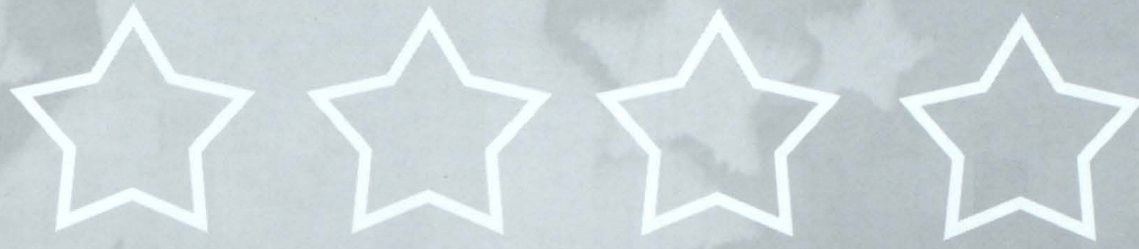


**Above:** The Senior Class Officers include Matt Davis, Ryne Inman, Sarah Kowalis and Whitney Kingery.

# cLaSs oF tWo



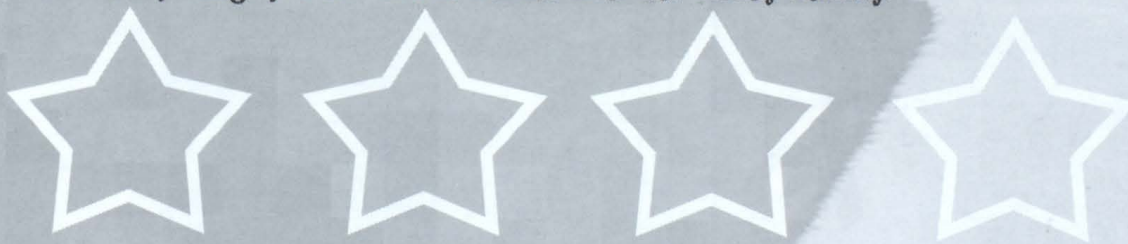
tHouSaNd FoUr



2004



First - Courtney Yantis, Amy Trussell, Sonja Little, Daniel Bennett and Stephanie Cole. Second - Heather Sims, Casey Carr, Tiffany Spellman, Codi Marshall, Cody Brands, Adam Allsop, Kyle Herron, Brandon Craig and Tammy Holthaus. Third - Mike Waseen, Mandy Rhodes, Sheena Ashley, Shane Howell, Chase Sifford, Zack Kowlis, Dustin Rauch, Barrett Watson, Alex Bricker, Ryne Inman, Laura Stollard, Sarah Kowalis, Melissa Fleming and Chris Gill. Fourth - Lance Macklin, Rusty Johnson, Corey Booker, Matt Kowalis, Chris Cesar, Aaron Springman, Chelsey Brewer, Whitney Kingery, Matt Davis, Sabrina Bone and Jeremy Kirkley.



tHouSaNd FoUr

2004



# Courtney

Congratulations, we are so proud of you!



Good Luck!  
Love,  
Mom and Dad

# Chris

Still love that cute little grin.

Congratulations!



We love you!  
Mom, Dad and your little sis too.

# Casey

You're as beautiful and special to us today, as you were 18 years ago. Always remember Phillipians 4:13, and you'll be successful in what you do!



We are proud of you!  
Love,  
Mom and Dad

# Tiffany

We love you very much. Good luck in the future. (T-time)

Congratulations!!



We love you!  
Mom, Dad, Chad and Brett

There is a whole new world out there for you to succeed in... Just remember life is hard and its not always fair but you will survive and grow from it all!! You have made us very proud to be your parents!

# Mandy



Congratulations,  
Love Ya Always,  
Mom, Dad and Molly

# Sheena

We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Continue to grow and be strong.



Good Luck!!  
Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Shane

# Shane

The little boy who tamed the kitty's heart - to the young man you've become today. You have always made us proud. Aim high and you will achieve all of your goals!



We love you!!  
Dad, Mom, Seth and Tarcie

# Aaron

Aaron, you have been a joy and blessing to us for 18 years now, its time to get out into the big world and follow your dreams. Remember you can accomplish anything you set your mind to.



We love you very much and God Bless.  
Mom and Dad

# Chase

"Rise up" to your full potential, we know you can accomplish all your dreams. We are proud of the young man you have turned out to be.



All our love,  
Dad, Mom and  
Melissa

# Alex

From the minute you were born, we have felt blessed to have you in our lives. We're so proud of the wonderful young man you've become and can't wait to see what the future holds.



We love you!!  
Mom and Dad

# Cody

Mommy loves you CodyBoy!



Love,  
Mommy

# Melissa

You will reach the high goals you have set for yourself.



We are proud of you and love you.  
Dad, Mom and "Desi"

# Chelsey

How quickly these past 17 years have gone. You have been a joy to raise. We wish you much success in whatever you choose. You have made us so proud and we wish you happiness.



All our love,  
Mom and Dad

# Baby Ads

## Brandon

Congratulations!  
Best wishes in whatever you do in the future and always.  
Janet and Dean Craig  
and Family

# Kyle

Way to go big guy! We're proud of you.

Look out world, here he comes!



Mom, Dad,  
Jonathan and  
Joel

# Tim

Congratulations and our very best good wishes for your future.



Love you much,  
Your Family



In this colorful adventure of watching you grow from our little angel to our wonderful brat to the beautiful lady you have become. We have hit a few bumps along the way. Not only have you learned and grown, but

# Heather



we we as parents have also grown and learned. We will always love you unconditionally. We are proud of you!  
Love Mom & Dad

# Codi

We've all enjoyed watching you grow up these last 18 years and being a part of your life. Your high school years were very special years for all of us, especially for me.



We wish you much success and happiness in the future.  
Love, Dad, Clint and Barb

# Matt

We are just as proud of you as you take the next step in your life, as we were when you took your first steps.



Congratulations,  
Mom and Dad

# Sonja

You always did like mustangs. Congratulations you've come a long way. We knew you could do it!



Good luck in the future.  
Love  
Dad, Lori and Dakota

# Mike

We know that you will be successful. We wish you a happy and healthy life. We have always been proud of you.



Love,  
Mom and Dad

The three of you have made us so proud. Your accomplishments have gone far beyond our hopes and dreams for you. It's just so hard to believe that this bitter-sweet moment has arrived. It's hard to hide the tears while we share your excitement at the words, "your futures are waiting!" You'll each have to follow your own unique path

# Matt, Zack & Sarah



to fulfill your dreams, but always hold close to your heart how your journey began... together. You've been blessed with so many of your own special Gifts... use them wisely and we know you'll never stumble.  
We love you very much.  
Mom and Dad

Congratulations on your high school graduation! We are proud of you for the hard work and dedication you have put forth in completing this level of your education. As you continue on with your goals of a college education and a successful career, we are confident that you will be greatly blessed.

# Barrett



We trust in your good judgement of developing your talents and making the best decisions for your life and the plans that lie ahead. You have our blessings, our prayers and our love,  
Dad, Mom, Nolan, Ansley & Jencie

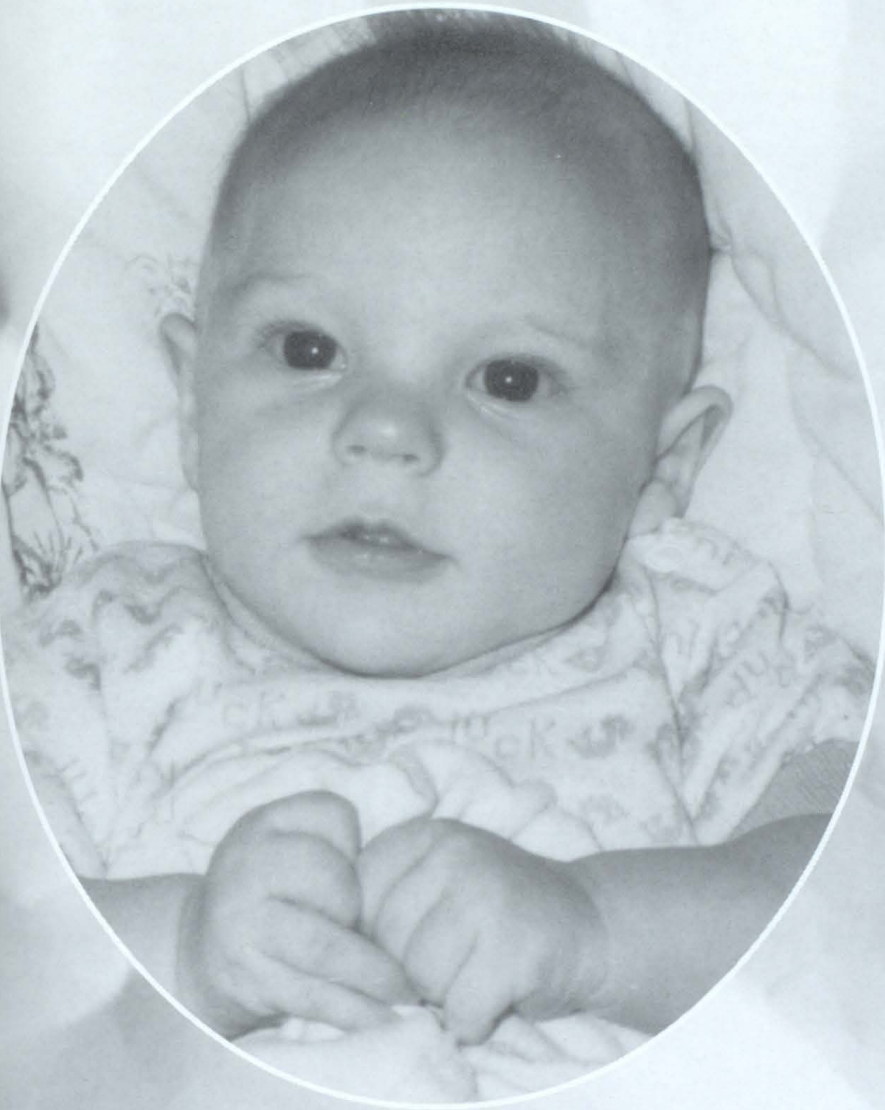
# Daniel

Booner,  
Hope you will love life as much as we do. You are the greatest son, one could ask for.



Congratulations!  
Love,  
Mom, Dad & Nancy

# Blake



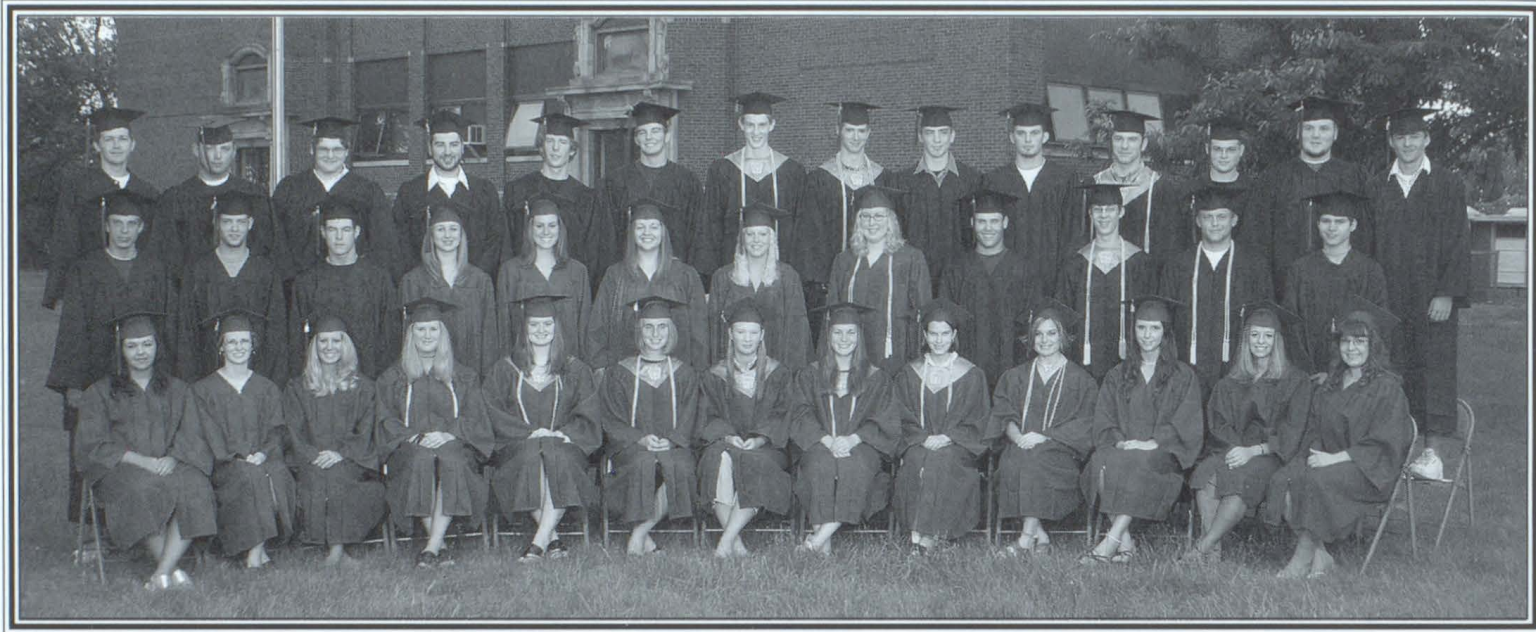
*In Loving Memory,  
Dad, Mom & Quincy*



2004

# cLaSs oF tWo

**Below:** The OVHS Graduating Class of 2004. Front - Sonja Marie Little, Codi Nicole Marshall, Sabrina Ann Bone, Amy Dawn Trussell, Shannon Marie Swinehart, Melissa Ann Fleming, Laura Brynn Stollard, Sarah Ann Kowalis, Tamara Renee Holthaus, Sheena Renee Ashley, Mandy Jo Rhodes, Heather Marie Sims and Courtney Erin Yantis. Middle - Timothy James Myers, Dustin Mathew Rauch, Rusty Dean Johnson, Whitney Erin Kingery, Chelsey Leigh Brewer, Casey Lynn Carr, Tiffany Alyse Spellman, Stephanie Marie Cole, Daniel Alan Bennett, Corey Andrew Booker, Zachary Charles Kowalis and Aaron Patrick Spellman. Back - Kyle Austin Herron, Cody Lee Brands, Brandon Scott Craig, Chase James Sifford, Christopher Daniel Cesar, Robert Michael Waseen, Barrett Mendel Watson, Matthew James Davis, Adam Gregory Allsop, Shane Evan Howell, Ryne Engle Howell, Alexander Lee Bricker, Christopher Allen Gill and Matthew John Kowalis. Not Pictured are April Marie Christensen, Ryan Taylor Cox, Jeremy Eugene Kirkley, Christina Joann Szachnitowski and Blake Robert Wood.



The Third Commencement Exercise of the Okaw Valley Community Unit School District #302 was held on Saturday, June 5, 2004 at 2:00 PM in the High School Gymnasium.

.....

Valedictorian.....Sarah Ann Kowalis  
 Salutatorian.....Ryne Engle Inman  
 Class Advisors.....Shari Bruyn & Jeni Yantis  
 Class Colors.....Red & White  
 Class Flower.....Red Rose  
 Class Mott.....Let the good times roll  
 Class Song....."Here's to the Night" by Eve 6  
 Class President.....Ryne Engle Inman  
 Class Vice-President.....Matthew James Davis  
 Class Secretary.....Sarah Ann Kowalis  
 Class Treasure.....Whitney Erin Kingery

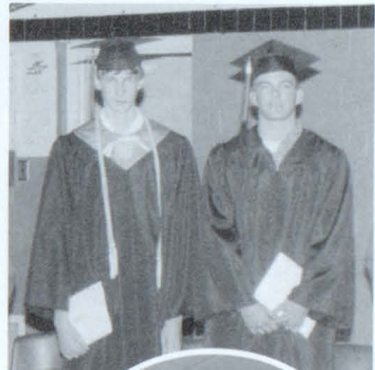
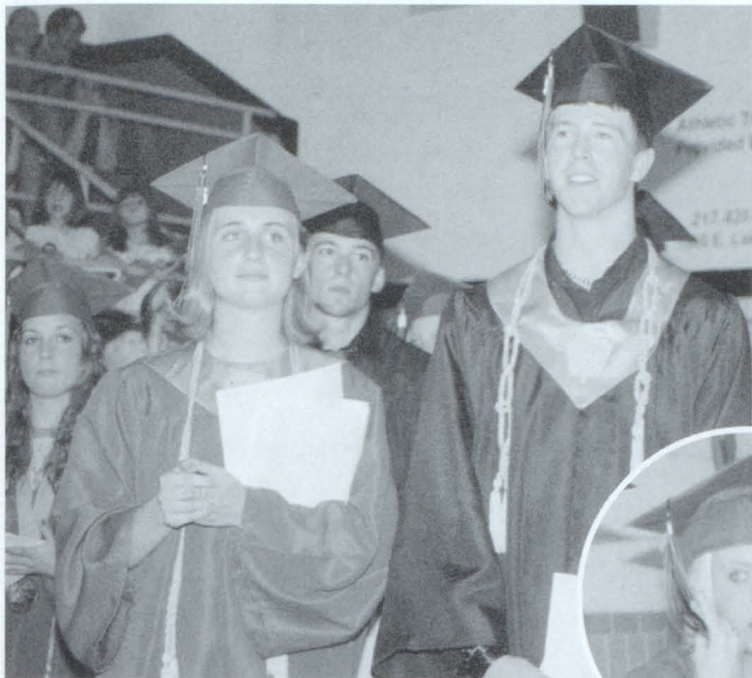
2004

# cLaSs oF tWo



tHouSaNd FoUr

2009

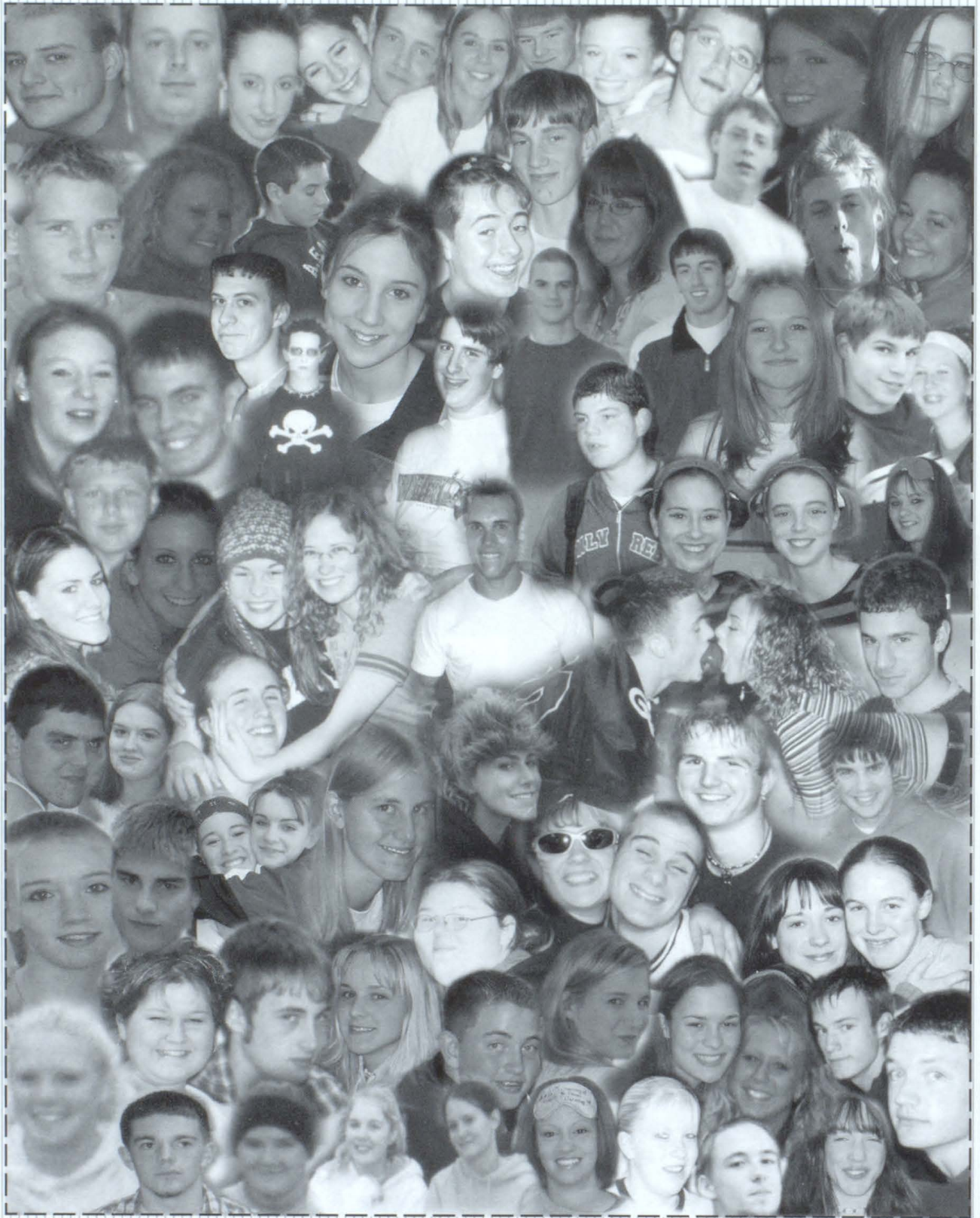


tHouSaNd FoUr

2009



# Faces of OVHS







# TEACHERS



Mrs. Lisa Agge  
Resource



Mrs. Gayle Banning  
Social Studies



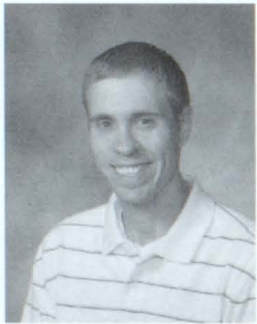
Mr. Dan Brewer  
Industrial Arts



Mrs. Shari Bruyn  
Math



Mrs. Shelly Clodfelter  
Resource



Mr. Joel Hackney  
Math/Science



Mrs. Trudy Horsman  
English/Psychology



Mr. Nick Kearfott  
Agriculture



Mrs. Sharon Lowry  
Library



Mr. Doug McCausland  
Band/Technology



Mrs. Lin Will  
English



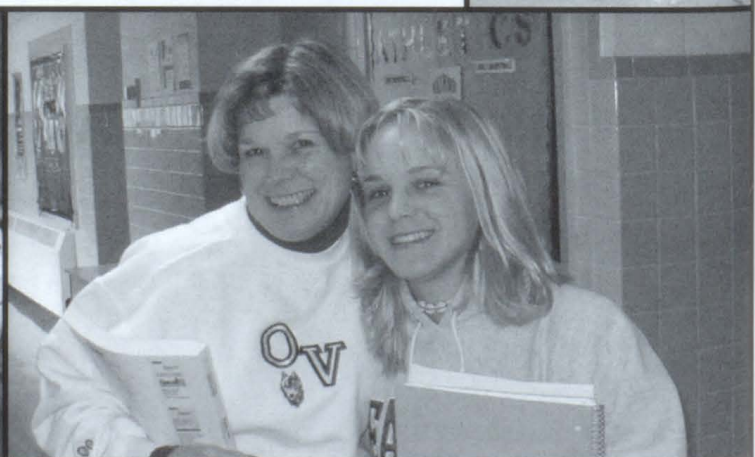
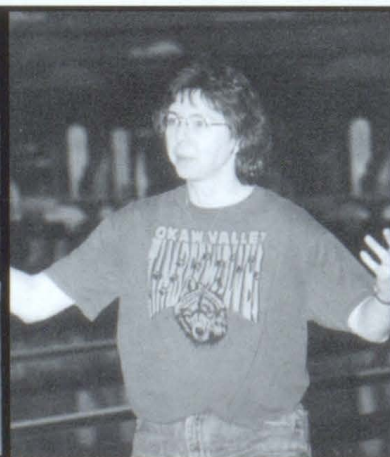
Mrs. Ann Wilson  
Computers/Accounting



Mrs. Jeni Yantis  
Art/Speech



Mrs. Rhonda Yantis  
Personal Aide



# TEACHERS



Mr. Mike Cummins  
Government



Mrs. Arlone Doan  
Science



Mrs. Marilyn Donahoo  
Home Economics



Mr. Duzan  
Student Teacher



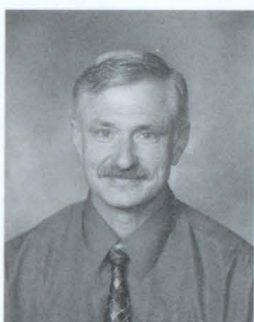
Mrs. Shelli Foster  
Library



Miss Trisha Mitchell  
Band



Ms. Frances Ponce  
Spanish



Mr. Mike Reynolds  
PE/Math



Miss Tammy Taylor  
Resource



Mrs. Gwenn Weston  
Chorus



# Administration & Staff



Superintendent  
Ms. Marilyn Bayley



Principal  
Mrs. Paula Duis



Dean of Students/  
Athletic Director  
Mr. Randy Major



Unit Secretary  
Mrs. Cindy Hauck



Unit Bookkeeper  
Mrs. Carolyn Lash



H.S. Secretary  
Mrs. Becky Marshall



H.S. Secretary  
Mrs. Nikki Cloyd



Guidance Counselor  
Mrs. Kim Davis



Guidance Counselor  
Mrs. Patsy Lenz



Guidance Secretary  
Mrs. Linda Utsler



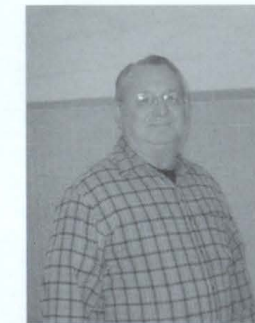
Transportation Director  
Mr. Hans Fox



Custodian  
Mr. Mike Stroyeck



Custodian/Grounds  
Mr. Danny Livingood



Maintenance  
Mr. Ralph Kidwell



Cook  
Mrs. Jane Russell

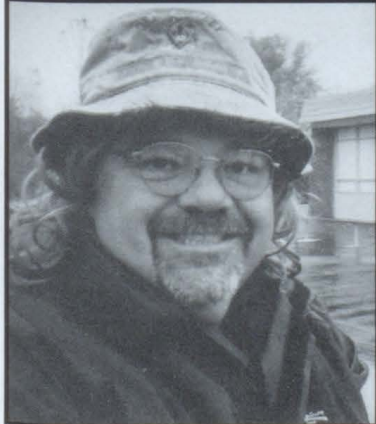
Cooks  
Mrs. Jodi Davis  
Mrs. Bonnie Brewer

Bus Drivers  
Mrs. Lori Matz  
Mrs. Brenda Willoughby



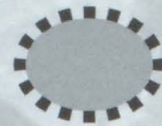
**Right:** The Okaw Valley CUSD #302 Board of Education. Front - Mr. Randy Meyer, Mrs. Michelle McClain and Mr. Sean Creviston. Back - Mr. Steve Booker, Mr. Paul Snyder, Mr. Randy Rhodes and Mr. Tim Spellman,

# Okaw Valley High School Staff 2003-2004





Casey's General store was voted favorite convenience store by our students.



Mountain Dew is the preferred soft drink of OV students.

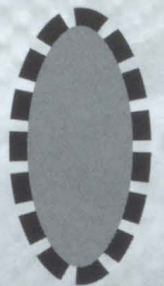
Okaw Valley students prefer 93.1 over any other radio stations.



The average OV Student misses 2 days of school a month.



Crispitos is the most popular cafeteria food.



# Did You Know?

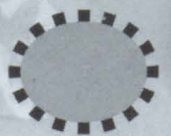
Blue is the most common color of clothing worn by our school.



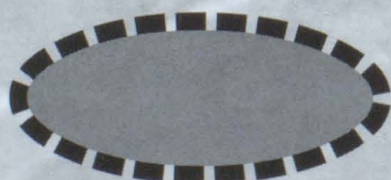
OV students prefer the bathroom in the old Jr. High Wing over all others.



American Eagle was voted most popular store to shop at.



NIKE is the most popular brand of tennis shoes at Okaw Valley.





Shop Classes are the most popular type of class at our school.



The most typical excuse for late students was that a rabid dog bit their leg off while they were walking to school.



Most students have an average of 0-30 minutes of homework each night.



Reese's is the favorite choice of candy bar.



The average Okaw Valley student is involved in two extra-curricular activities and sports throughout the school year.



Rascall Flats was the most popular band chosen by our students for the 2003-2004 school year.



Okaw Valley Students usually go home after school rather than going to someone else's house, or an extra-curricular activity.

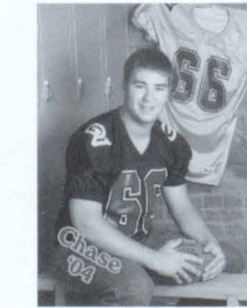




**Congratulates  
the  
Class of 2004**



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Sullivan, IL 61951  
728-7722

Member F.D.I.C.



## Thank you Scott State Bank!!

The 2004 Nexus staff and students of OVHS would like to thank Scott State Bank for their monetary support. Once again, Scott State Bank made it possible for us to purchase the 'World Beat' magazine found at the back of the book! We would like to give them the recognition and the credit for adding these 10 color pages that remind us of the issues and trends from the last year. Thank you Scott State Bank for your continuing support!

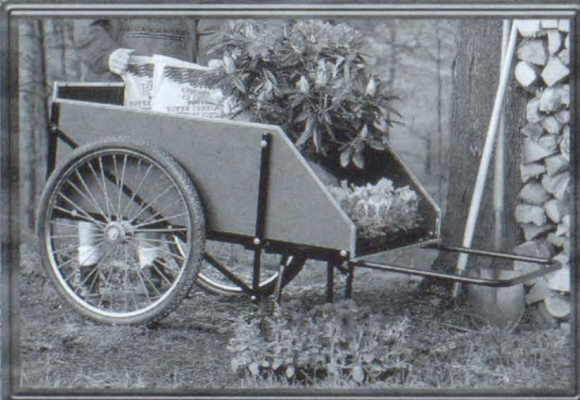


# LAWN & GARDEN ATTACHMENTS



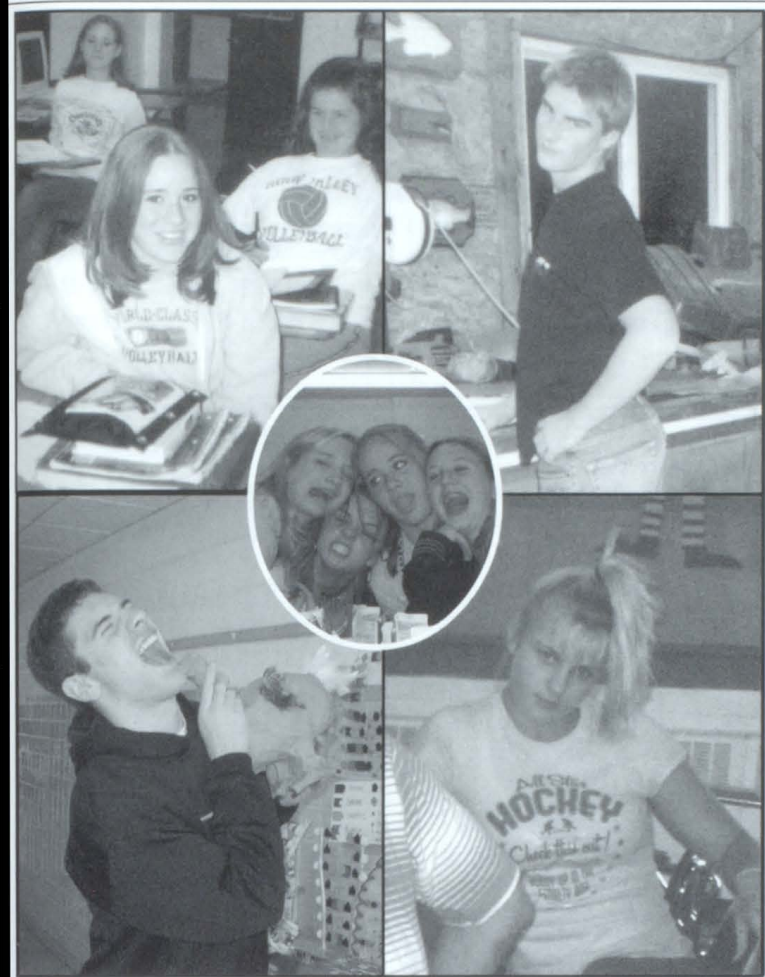
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*Congratulations  
Class of  
2004*



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**Laundry and Tans**  
**Peadro's Feed Co.**  
**Rita's Dolls**  
**Spillway Motel**  
**Sullivan Ace Hardware**  
**Sullivan Pizza Hut**  
**The Cutting Edge**

Darlene Brown

Sue Moon

Gary Arthur

## **Crowder Insurance**

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Bethany, IL 61915

--and--

## **Shelbyville Insurance Sevices, Inc.**



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Shelbyville, IL 62565



## **Good Luck Okaw Valley Graduates!!**

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665-3215



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728-2212

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Shelbyville, IL 62565



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**Kaskaskia Valley  
Animal Hospital**

Gregory A. Mauck, D.V.M.

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Sullivan, IL 61951  
728-7974



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Used Cars**

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Shelbyville, IL 62565

774-3975

**ADM Grain**

417 East Water  
Sullivan, IL 61951

728-7541

**Wade's  
Meat Market**

611 N. Broadway  
Shelbyville, IL 62565

774-1006

**Timberlake  
Golf Course**

RR 3  
Sullivan, IL 61951  
797-6496

**Marrobone  
Township Shed**

RR 1  
Bethany, IL 61914

665-3230

**Bethany Sales**

102 West Main  
Bethany, IL 61914  
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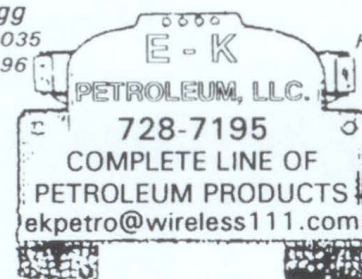
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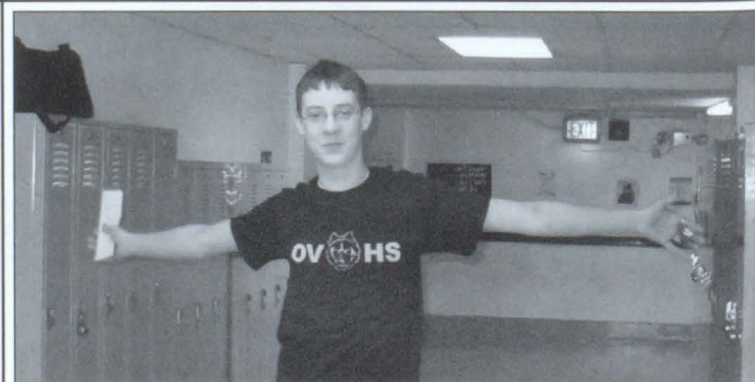
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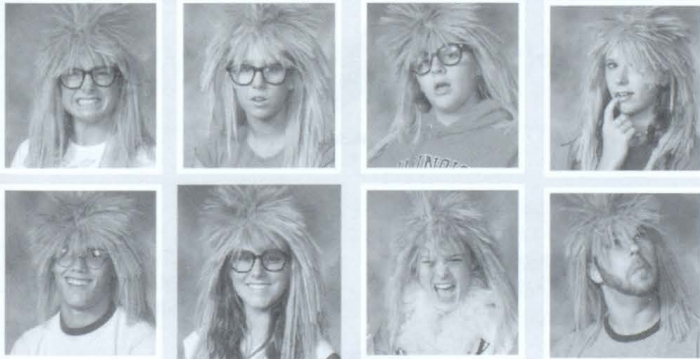
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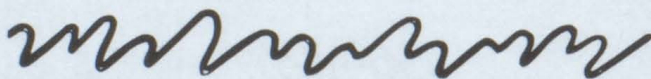


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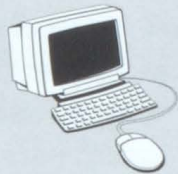
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# The Abstractions of High School are the Memories at Okaw Valley



Another year has passed and another class is leaving,

Some students and teachers are left behind grieving.

The incoming freshman had intimidation written all over their faces,  
but the upperclassman showed them around and put them in their places.

The sophomores always stuck together through thick and thin,  
and all their athletic ability sometimes helped the teams win.

The juniors are self defying and independent,  
when it comes to academics and organizations they are very attendant.

The athletes went through seasons winning and losing,  
and the seniors visiting colleges and then finally choosing.

The class of 2004 has definitely left an impression.  
The teachers will miss them, but were left with a frustrated expression.

Every student has their own perspective of school,

Some of them think, to have fun, they must break every rule.

Most, just take each day one step at a time until their year of graduation,  
Then high school will be over, and you'll feel relief and no more frustration.

The 2003-2004 school year has been a year of joy and sorrow,

Remember make each day better, because the future is tomorrow.



By: Sabrina Bone

## 2003-2004 Nexus Staff:

- \*Advisor - Mrs. Yantis
- \*Editor - Sabrina Bone
- \*Assist. Editor - Tiffany Spellman
- \*Chelsey Brewer
- \*Whitney Kingery
- \*Sheena Ashley
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- \*Courtney Yantis
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- \*Melissa Fleming
- \*Tammy Holthaus
- \*Erin Shelato
- \*Kate Meyer
- \*Daniel Bennett



The 2003-2004 Nexus Staff had a blast putting together this year's yearbook. With all the technology and changes we made this year it was a little overwhelming for everyone. Now, it may not seem like the best time of your life, but when you look back, high school makes up most of the memories of your teenage years.

Sabrina Bone - Editor

## Colophon

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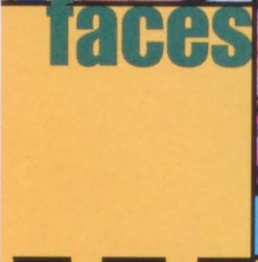
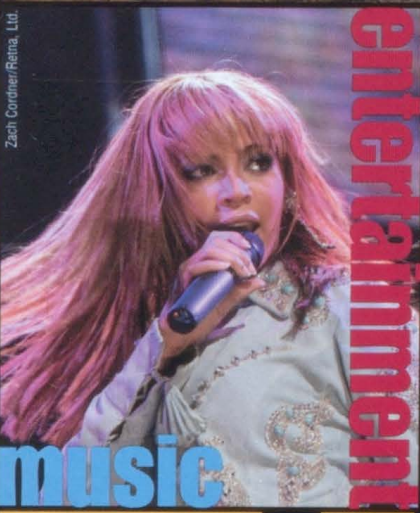
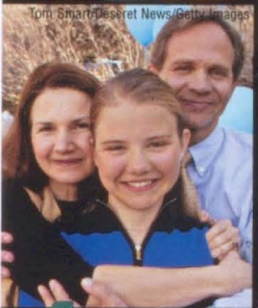
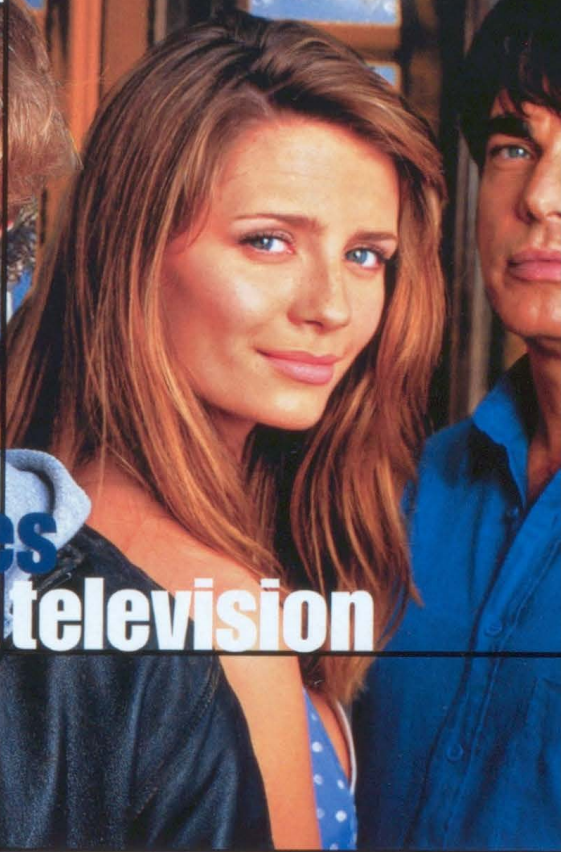
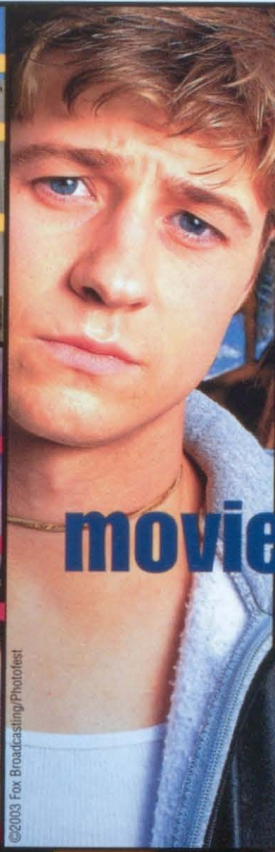
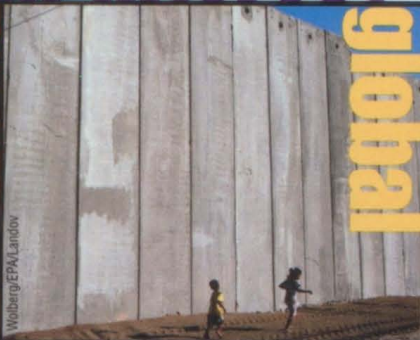
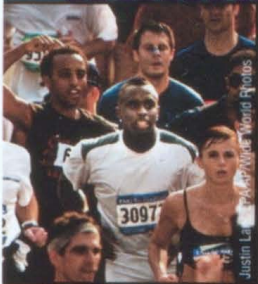
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human interest



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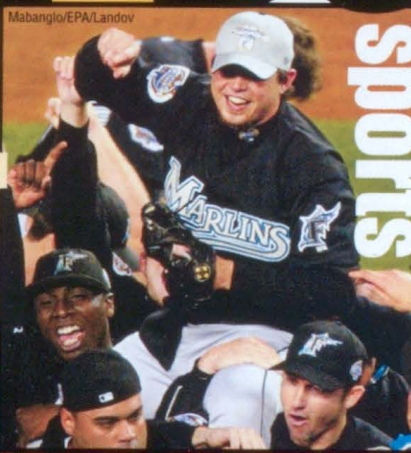
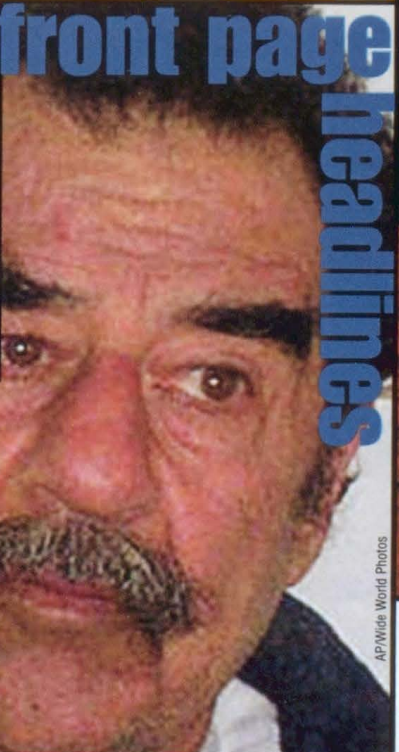
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## 03-04



lifestyle trends



techno

nature

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AP/Wide World Photos

Jutta Klee/Corbis

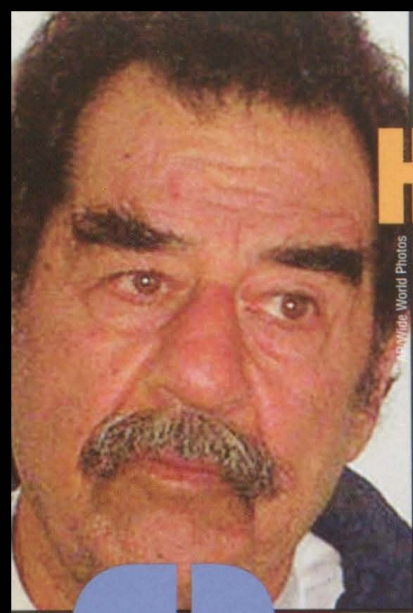
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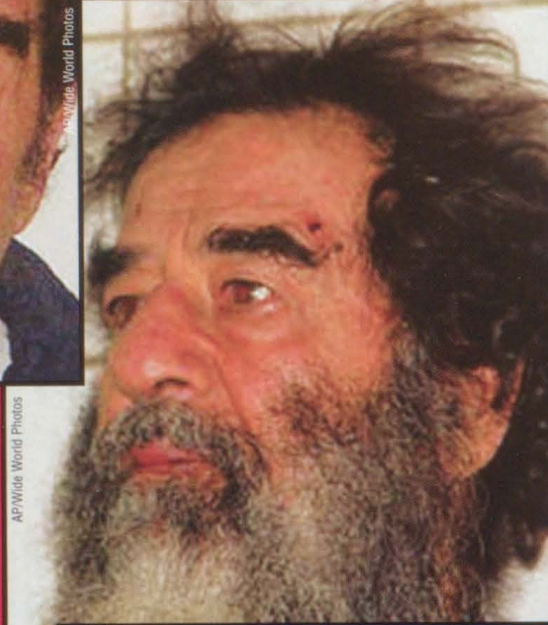
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# front page

## HEADLINES



AP/Wide World Photos



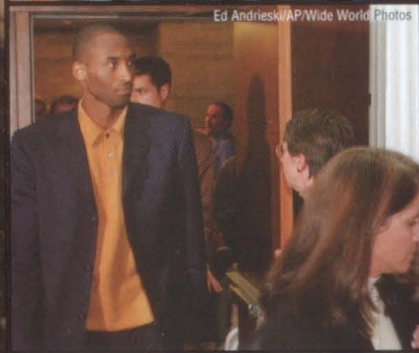
AP/Wide World Photos



U.S. Forces capture deposed Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein in a "spider hole" at a farm outside his hometown of Tikrit.



Richard H. Cohen/Corbis



Ed Andriess/AP/Wide World Photos



Gary Tramontina/Bloomberg News/Landov

← A fatal Staten Island Ferry crash in New York harbor leaves 10 dead and dozens injured after the pilot loses consciousness and slams into the dock.

← NBA star Kobe Bryant of the Los Angeles Lakers is charged with the sexual assault of a 19-year-old Colorado woman.

← A federal appellate court orders the removal of a Ten Commandments monument from the Alabama Supreme Court building, citing violation of the First Amendment.

→ In October, the Federal Trade Commission initiates the National Do Not Call Registry to minimize the number of telemarketing calls consumers receive.

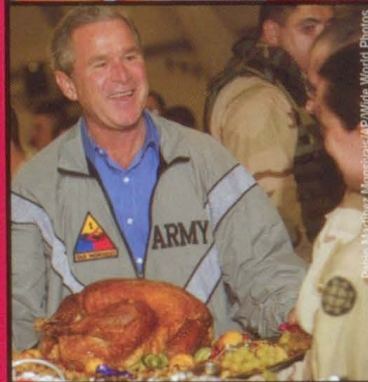


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## flash

The economy shows signs of recovery when the Dow Jones Industrial Average tops 10,000 points for the first time in over 18 months on December 12.

→ President Bush becomes the first U.S. president to visit Iraq when he makes an unannounced Thanksgiving visit with troops stationed there.



Kevin Maizland/AP/Wide World Photos



The worst wildfires in California history claim 22 lives, destroy more than 3,400 homes and consume 750,000 acres of land.

→ The abduction of University of North Dakota student Dru Sjodin, 22, results in the arrest of convicted sex offender Alfonso Rodriguez Jr., 50.



Reuters/Landov



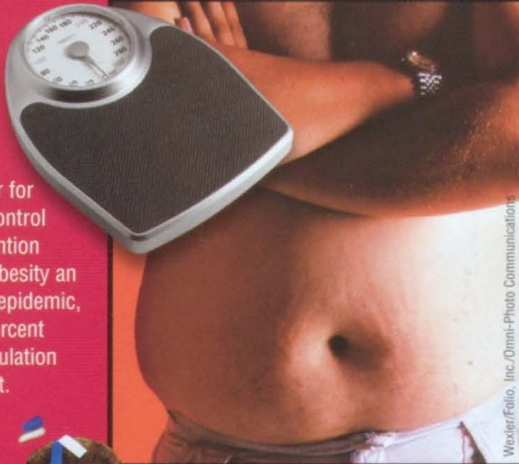
Frederic Lanson/San Francisco Chronicle/Corbis, SABA

→ Michael Jackson is arrested on multiple counts of child abuse after an accusation from a 12-year-old boy.



UPI/Landov

→ The Center for Disease Control and Prevention declares obesity an American epidemic, with 64 percent of the population overweight.



Westfoto, Inc./Omni-Photo Communications



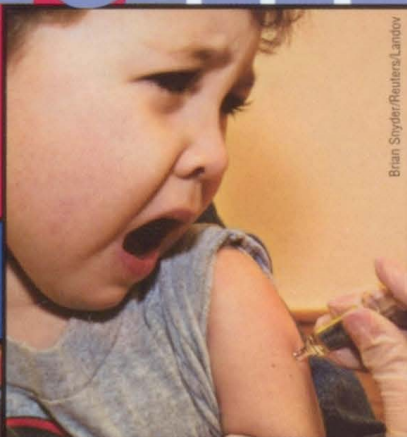
U.S. Army Pfc. Jessica Lynch, a POW of the war in Iraq, becomes a media sensation after her rescue by U.S. Forces is aired on the news.



Mark J. Terrill/AP/Wide World Photos

← Action star Arnold Schwarzenegger replaces Gray Davis as governor of California in a highly publicized recall election.

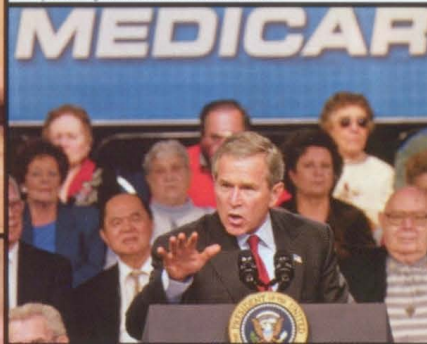
# Headlines



Brian Snyder/Reuters/Landov

← Americans rush to receive vaccinations as the country is hit hard by a new strand of the influenza virus.

Larry Downing/Reuters NewMedia Inc./Corbis



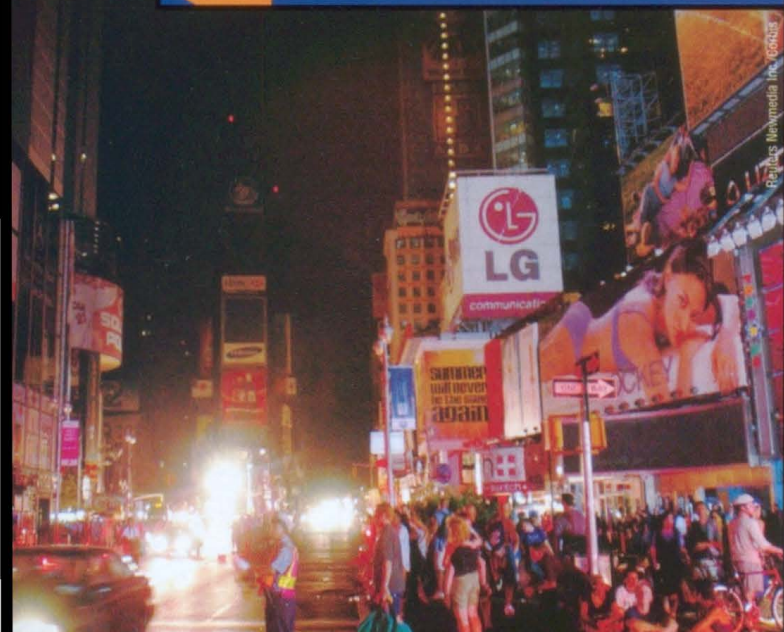
↑ President Bush signs a controversial bill calling for a \$400 billion Medicare overhaul.



Reuters/Landov

← Scott Peterson stands trial on murder charges in the slaying of his pregnant wife, Laci, and their unborn son.

On August 14, the largest North American blackout occurs when three Ohio line failures leave more than 50 million people in eight states and Canada without power.



Reuters NewMedia Inc./Corbis

# GLOBAL



Goran Tomasevic/Reuters/Landov



Rob Griffiths/AP/Wide World Photos



Franck Prevell/AP/Wide World Photos

Bazuki Muhammad/Reuters/Landov

← A European heat wave in August claims more than 19,000 lives, making it one of the world's deadliest hot-weather disasters.



The Raedle/Getty Images



Ben Curtis/AP/Wide World Photos

← The World Health Organization reports that severe acute respiratory syndrome (SARS) infected more than 8,000 people in over 25 countries, killing 700.



On May 1, 43 days after the war in Iraq began, President Bush declares "major combat operations in Iraq have ended." As hundreds of thousands of U.S. and British forces remain to restore peace and deliver aid to Iraqi citizens, more soldiers are killed in the months after the war than during it.

→ Around the world, "flash mobs" — large groups of people recruited by anonymous organizers via the Internet — gather, perform a wild act and quickly disperse.



Alexandre Meneghini/AP/Wide World Photos



← An Economic Community of West African States peacekeeping coalition ends 14 years of fighting between Liberian rebels and government forces, sending tyrant Charles Taylor into exile.

→ In a dramatic six-day ordeal, rescue workers save 44 of 46 Russian miners trapped in a water-filled coal mine.



Sergei Yegorov/AP/Wide World Photos



On December 26, a devastating earthquake measuring 6.6 on the Richter scale strikes the Iranian city of Bam, killing more than 41,000 people.



Shaharaj Srinivas/Syga Collection/Corbis

→ Tens of thousands of Palestinians are cut off from family and livelihoods when Israel builds a concrete barrier beyond the cease-fire line in an effort to curtail Palestinian terrorist activities.



Volker PEPK/Landov

# global



→ During the summer of 2003, low-risk prison inmates help battle Southern California's wildfires for only \$1 an hour.

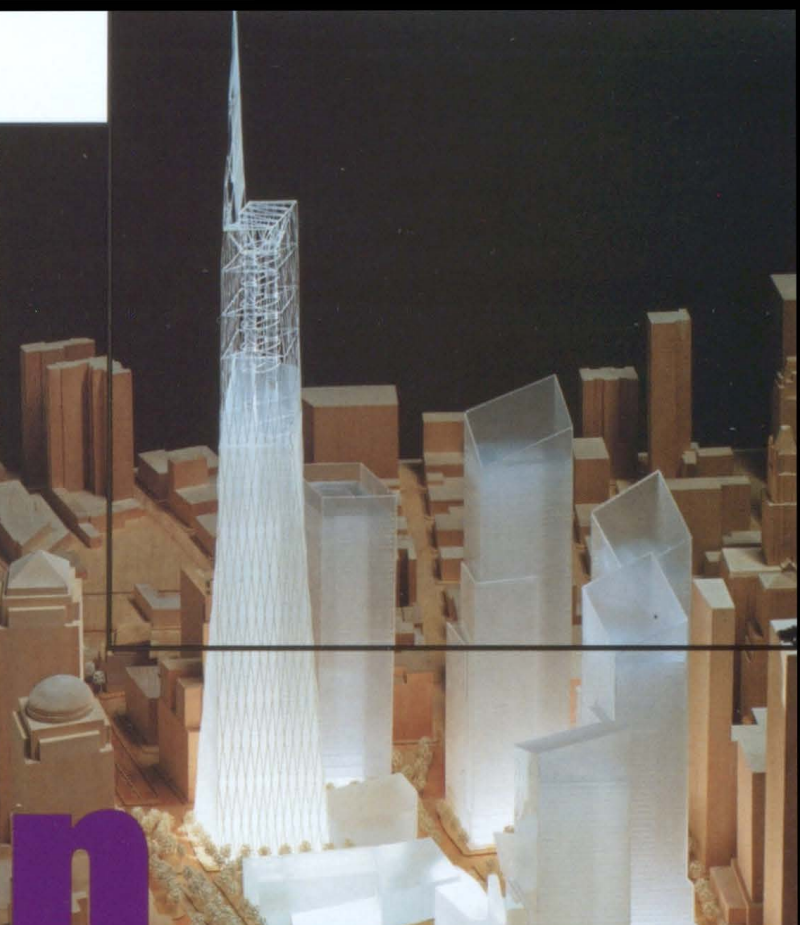
→ At a St. Louis dog shelter, Cain, a one-year-old mutt, survives tranquilization and a trip to the gas chamber and is then adopted by the animal shelter owner.



AP/Wide World Photos

Bill Greenblatt/UP/Landow

Lower Manhattan Development Corp./AP/Wide World Photos



The world's tallest structure—a 1,776-foot spire—anchors a memorial entitled "Reflecting Absence," which is chosen to fill the World Trade Center site.

# human interest



← Comedian Robin Williams travels to Baghdad to lighten the spirits of U.S. troops as he kicks off a holiday tour of U.S. bases in the Middle East.

Photo: AP/Wide World Photos



← While aboard the International Space Station, Russian cosmonaut Yuri Malchenko marries his American girlfriend by video link in the first "space wedding."

Richard Carson/Reuters/Landow

↓ Rap mogul P. Diddy runs the New York City Marathon to raise over \$2 million for the city's children's charities and public schools.

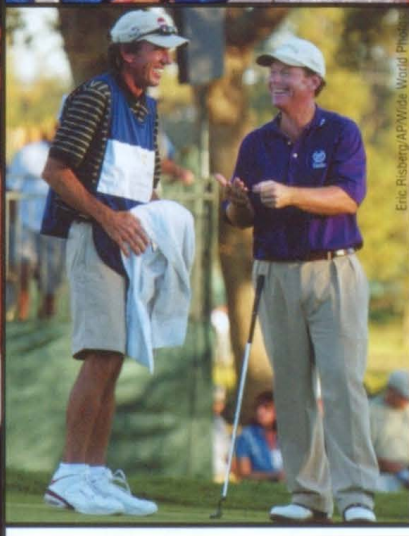


Justin Lane/EPA/AP/Wide World Photos



↑ Iranian lawyer Shirin Ebadi wins the 2003 Nobel Peace Prize for human rights activism as she fights to improve the status of refugees, women and children in Iran.

Ali Khaligh/UP/Landow



← Golfer Tom Watson donates his \$1 million Charles Schwab Cup winnings to fund research for Lou Gehrig's disease, which has stricken his caddie, Bruce Edwards.

Eric Fischer/AP/Wide World Photos

# SCIENCE



Ed Bric/AP/Wide World Photos

← British Airways and Air France ground the supersonic Concorde after 27 years of service. Despite their speed, the aircraft were uneconomical to operate.



← In response to e-mail spam, the Can-Spam Act requires e-mail marketers to clearly label messages as ads and include an Internet-based opt-out feature.



In January 2004, the Mars exploration rover Spirit lands safely and NASA releases the first 3-D images and the sharpest color photos ever taken of the surface of Mars.

→ Fast-food patrons can now get their food even quicker, thanks to McDonald's introduction of self-service ordering kiosks.



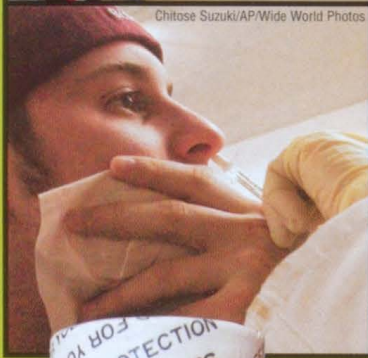
Reuters Newmedia Inc./Corbis



Wang Jianmin/Xinhua/Corbis

← In October, China becomes the third country to travel in space when the world's first successful taikonaut, Yang Liwei, returns to Earth after 21 hours in orbit.

→ FluMist, America's first intranasal influenza vaccine, provides needle-wary patients with an alternative for the 2003 flu season.



Chitose Suzuki/AP/Wide World Photos



The Food and Drug Administration mandates that nutrition labels disclose the amount of cholesterol-increasing trans-fatty acids.

→ The Food and Drug Administration bans dietary supplements containing ephedra due to health concerns and warns consumers not to take products containing the stimulant.



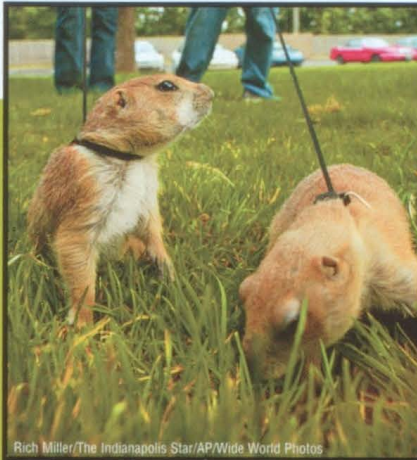
Steven Senne/AP/Wide World Photos

Akito Ono/AP/Wide World Photos

Nutrition Facts	
Serving Size 1 cup (228g)	
Servings Per Container 2	
Amount Per Serving	
Calories 260	Calories from Fat 120
<hr/>	
Total Fat 13g	% Daily Value*
Saturated Fat 5g	20%
Trans Fat 2g	25%
Cholesterol 30mg	10%
Sodium 600mg	28%
Total Carbohydrate 31g	10%
Dietary Fiber 0g	28%
*Percent Daily Values are based on a diet of other people's misdeeds.	

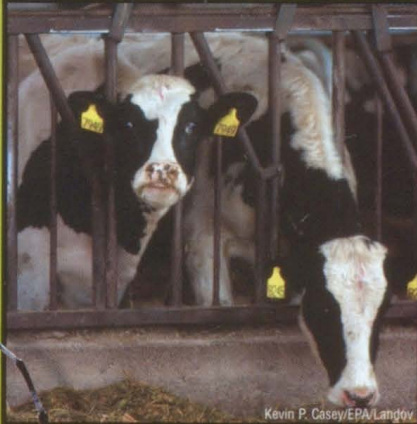
# Techno

→ In June, pet prairie dogs in Wisconsin, Illinois and Indiana infect people with monkeypox after being infected by a giant Gambian rat while in transit.



Rich Miller/The Indianapolis Star/AP/Wide World Photos

→ Federal workers in Washington kill a herd of 449 calves that include the offspring of a Holstein infected with mad cow disease.



Kevin P. Casey/EPA/Landov



Weatherstock/Doms-Photo Communications

Hurricane Isabel knocks out power to more than 3.5 million people as it wreaks havoc on the nation's eastern seaboard.



Barbara Strnadova/Photo Researchers

← North American trees are threatened by Asian longhorned beetles, which allegedly arrived in Chinese wooden packing material.

The strongest solar storms to hit the Earth in 11 years cause northern lights to appear as far south as Texas.



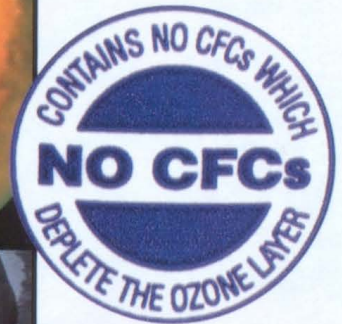
Himich B. Serrano/DPA/Landov

# nature



AP/Wide World Photos

← In August, Mars' orbit brings it closer to Earth than it has been in 60,000 years.



↑ American scientists discover the deterioration of the atmosphere's ozone layer is slowing. The 1996 worldwide ban on CFC gases is credited for the improvement.




John McConico/AP/Wide World Photos

← Keiko, star of the *Free Willy* movies, dies of pneumonia at the age of 27.

# trends



 The "Laverne and Shirley" look becomes fashionable again in the retro monogram clothing and accessory trend.

→ Girls get into breakdancing at events like the Queen B Breakgirl competition in San Diego, the country's biggest female breakin' competition.



Babatunde Martins

↓ With the resurgence of '80s-style rock music, '80s clothing styles make a comeback of their own.

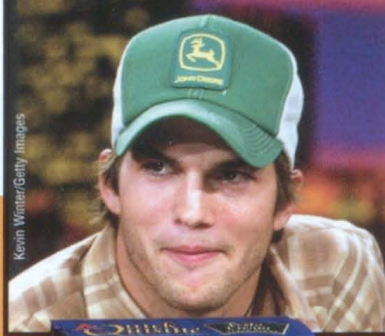


Roymen/Reuters/Landov

↑ The year's hottest foot fashion is the Australian-made Ugg boot, which stays cool in heat and warm in cold.

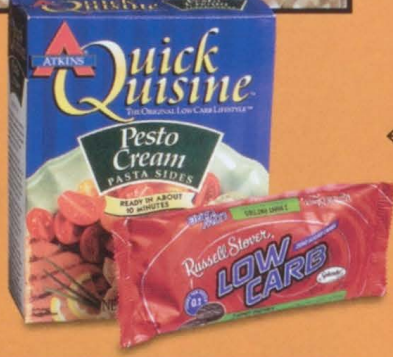


Graylock.com/Refna, Ltd.



Kevin Winter/Getty Images

← Celebrities like FOX's "That '70s Show" star Ashton Kutcher make the "trucker hat" a fashion must-have.




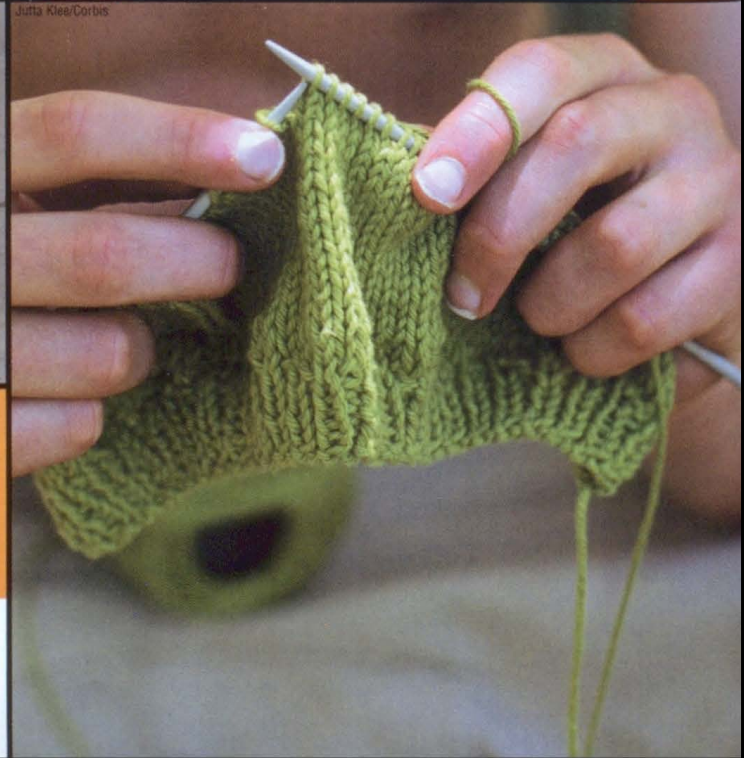
← The country goes low-carb diet crazy, with dieters demanding food products and menu items with fewer carbohydrates.



Everett Collection

← Popularized by music stars like Busta Rhymes and J.Lo, track suits are seen everywhere.

 American teenagers take up knitting and form knitting clubs at many schools across the country.



Jutta Klea/Corbis



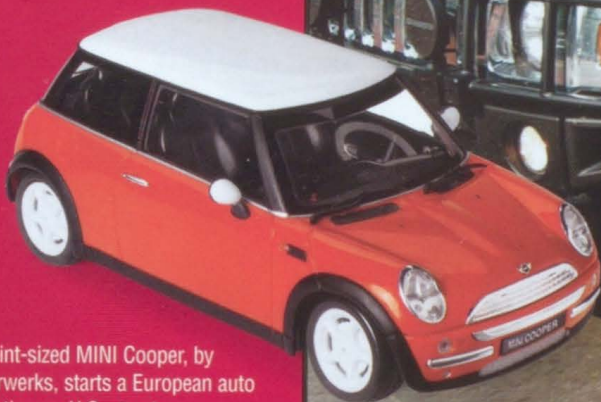
Mary Ann Chastain/AP/Wide World Photos

↑ The College Entrance Examination Board develops a revision of the SAT that tests for increased vocabulary and writing skills.



Ron Edmonds/AP/Wide World Photos

↑ The pint-sized MINI Cooper, by Motorwerks, starts a European auto revolution on U.S. streets.



Drivers find a spacious but expensive ride in the General Motors Hummer H2. In response to criticism, GM promises to release a more fuel-efficient version in the future.



Mark Kuchel/Corbis SABA

← To improve lunch and vending machine nutritional values, the U.S. Department of Agriculture issues tougher regulations for American schools.

# lifestyle



← Avon, the world's largest direct seller of beauty products, introduces mark — a new cosmetic line intended for teens to sell.

David Parker/Omni-Photo Communications

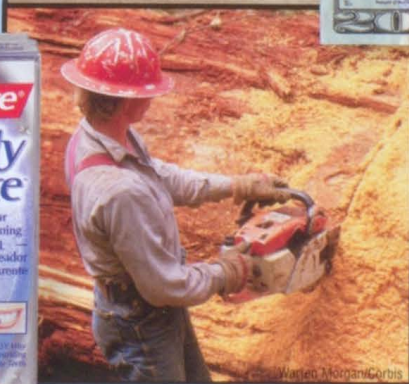


↑ In an effort to thwart counterfeiters, the U.S. Treasury releases a colorful new \$20 bill, with a background blend of blue, peach and green.



Affordable, over-the-counter teeth whitening kits have consumers smiling, as they no longer have to visit the dentist for this cosmetic procedure.

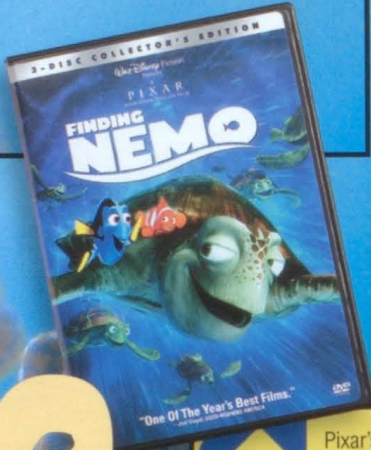
Photodisc



Corbis/Warner Morgan/Corbis

← A new study reveals the Top 10 most dangerous U.S. occupations. Lumberjack tops the list.

# MOVIES



Pixar's *Finding Nemo* swims to the top as the highest-grossing animated movie and top-selling DVD of all time in the United States.

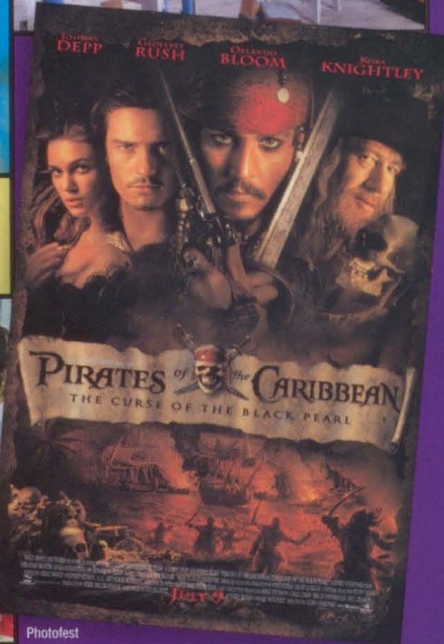
Photofest

Everett Collection



← Bill Murray gives a career performance in *Lost in Translation*, from director and Golden Globe-winning screenwriter Sofia Coppola.

← Will Ferrell continues his comedic success in the heartwarming holiday hit *Elf*.



← Heartthrobs Johnny Depp and Orlando Bloom make Disney's *Pirates of the Caribbean: The Curse of the Black Pearl* a swashbuckling success.

# MOVIES

→ Keira Knightley and Parminder Nagra get a kick out of breaking stereotypes on and off the soccer field in the British comedy *Bend It Like Beckham*.



Photofest

→ The two most anticipated sequels of the year, *Matrix: Reloaded* and *Matrix: Revolutions* turn out to be major disappointments for fans and critics alike.



Photofest

→ Tobey Maguire rides high in the successful summer flick *Seabiscuit*, nominated for an Academy Award for Best Picture.



Universal/Everett Collection

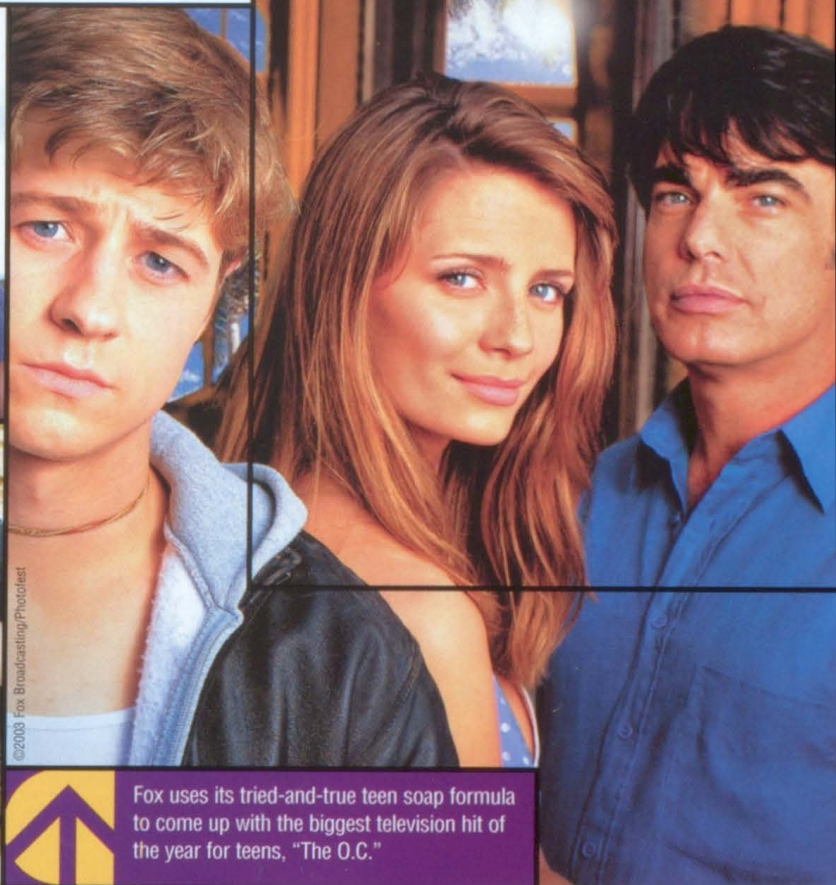
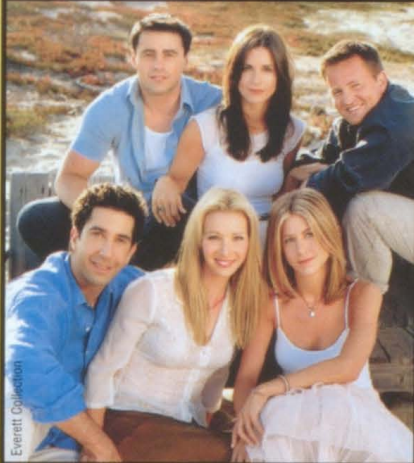
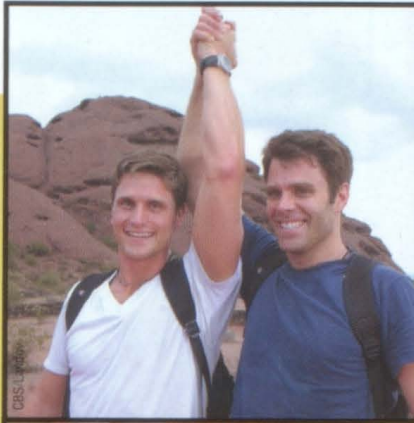
Frodo and company complete their epic journey in *The Lord of the Rings: The Return of the King*, winner of the Golden Globe for Best Picture, Drama.

Everett Collection



→ The pulse-pounding CBS hit "The Amazing Race" wins the inaugural Emmy Award for Best Reality Program.

→ America bids farewell to the cast of "Friends" after the NBC sitcom's 10th and final season.



Fox uses its tried-and-true teen soap formula to come up with the biggest television hit of the year for teens, "The O.C."

↓ In February 2004, CBS airs "Survivor: All-Stars," starring past "Survivor" winners and contestants.

# television



← Jessica Simpson, star of MTV's "Newlyweds" with husband Nick Lachey, makes entertainment headlines for mistaking Chicken of the Sea tuna for chicken.



Shows such as TLC's "Trading Spaces" and Bravo's "Queer Eye for the Straight Guy" create a new niche for the home improvement TV genre.

Stephen Chernin/AP/Wide World Photos



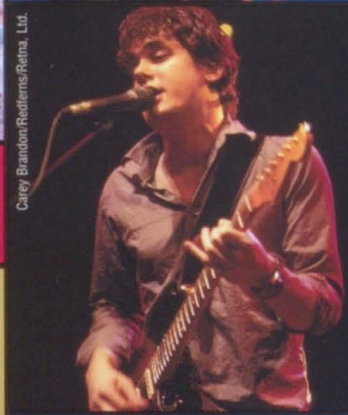
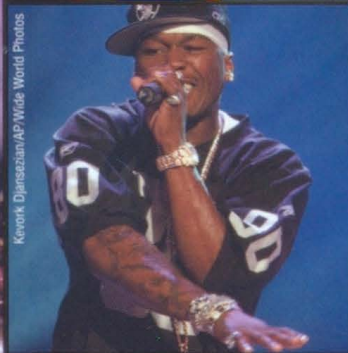
↑ Famous for "Three's Company" and star of ABC's "Eight Simple Rules for Dating My Teenage Daughter," actor John Ritter dies suddenly from heart failure in September.

← "Alias" star Jennifer Garner earns high viewer ratings for ABC TV and lights up the big screen in *13 Going on 30*.

# MUSIC

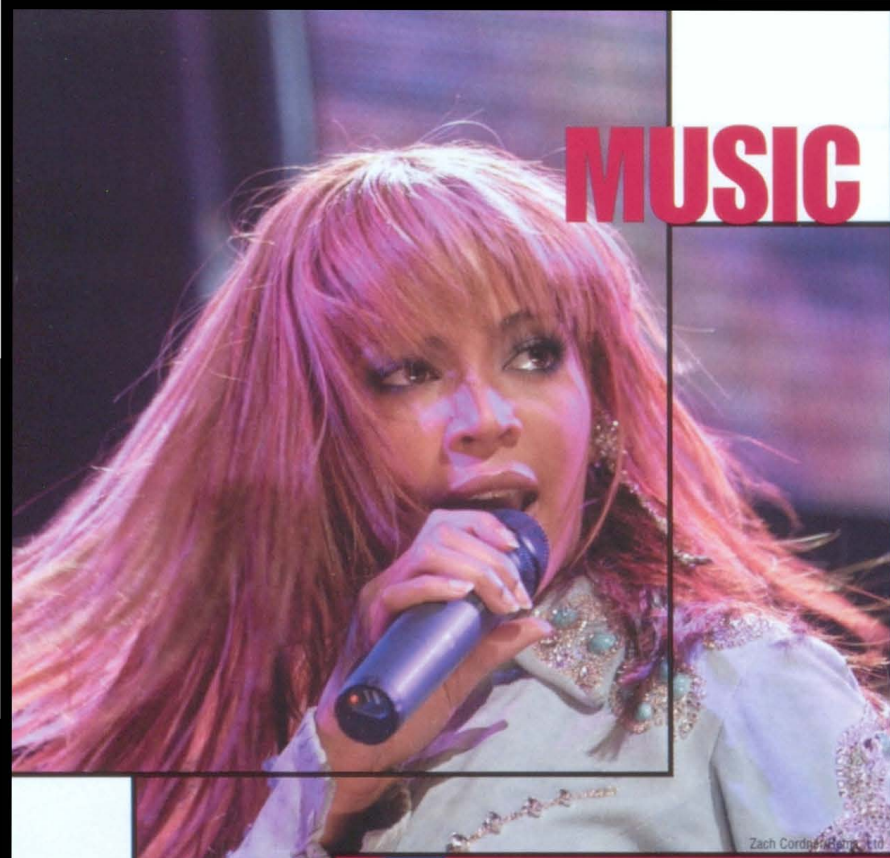


← The legal battle between the music industry and music downloaders prompts lawsuits and online music purchasing outlets, while driving CD prices to their lowest point in a decade.



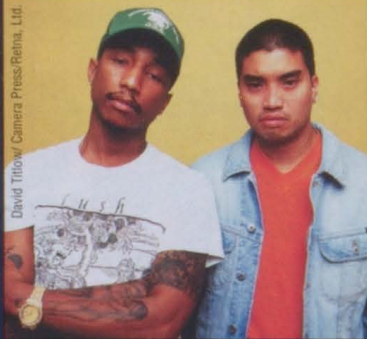
← According to Nielsen SoundScan, 50 Cent's debut, *Get Rich or Die Tryin'*, is 2003's best-selling album, with 6.5 million copies sold.

← Songwriter John Mayer wins a Grammy in 2003 for the album *Room for Squares* and follows it up with *Heavier Things*.



Superstar Beyoncé Knowles stars on the big screen, releases a hit album, *Dangerously in Love*, and wins four *Billboard* Music Awards.

→ The Neptunes' Pharrell Williams and Chad Hugo receive three Grammy nominations as a production duo. Williams gets three more for collaborations with Snoop Dog and Jay-Z.



→ OutKast's genre-busting album *Speakerboxxx/The Love Below*, featuring the infectious single "Hey Ya!," wins the Grammy for Album of the Year.



→ Country music legend Johnny Cash dies at 71, but wins three CMA awards posthumously, including Best Single for his remake of the Nine Inch Nails' "Hurt."



## flash

Claiming that he has "had it with the rap game," Jay-Z, 33, retires after the release of *The Black Album*.



Coldplay claims the title of *Spin* magazine's Band of the Year, and the band's lead singer Chris Martin marries actress Gwyneth Paltrow.



# music

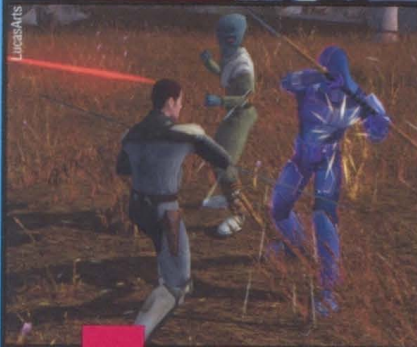


→ In December, Rolling Stones' legendary lead singer Mick Jagger, 60, is knighted by Prince Charles.



Camera Press/HOTA-Rehau, Ltd.

→ Role-playing games like "Star Wars: Knights of the Old Republic" find mainstream success on consoles.



LucasArts



Cedar Point Amusement Park/Resort, Sandusky, Ohio

Cedar Point Amusement Park in Sandusky, Ohio, boasts the world's tallest, fastest roller coaster, the Top Thrill Dragster.

# entertainment



← Pop diva-turned-author Madonna releases two children's books: *The English Roses* and *Mr. Peabody's Apples*. Her third book, *Yakov and the Seven Thieves*, arrives in late winter.

Two months after being mauled by a tiger, Roy Horn, half of the famed "Siegfried and Roy" wild animal entertainment act, is released from a Las Vegas hospital.

Ethan Miller/Las Vegas Sun/Reuters NewMedia Inc./Corbis



Joan Marcus

← Hugh Jackman of *X2: X-Men United* showcases his singing ability on Broadway in *The Boy from Oz*.



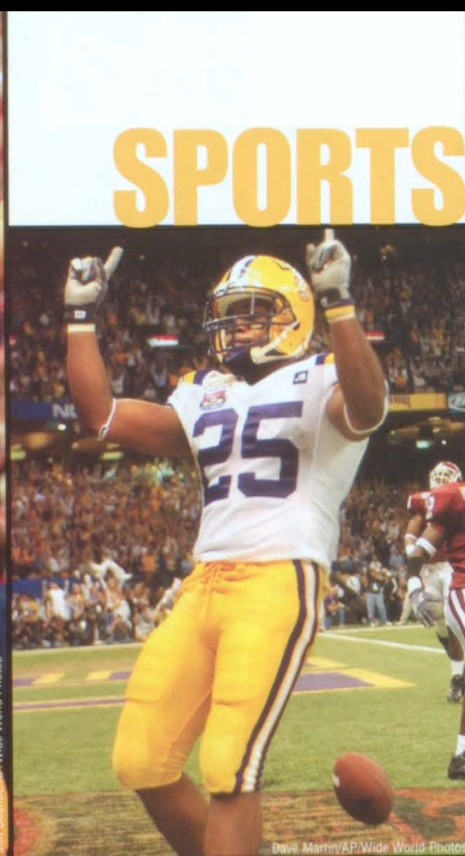
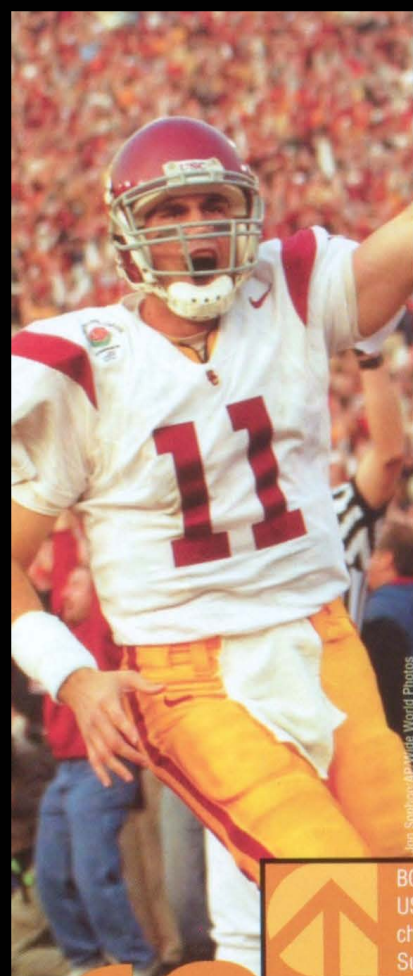
CBS/Landov

↑ On CBS's "Late Show" host David Letterman, 56, announces the November birth of his first child, a baby boy.



← After the success of his best-selling fantasy novel *Eragon: Inheritance*, author Christopher Paolini, 19, begins writing the much-anticipated sequel.

# SPORTS



John Sheehy/AP/Wide World Photos

Dave Martin/AP/Wide World Photos

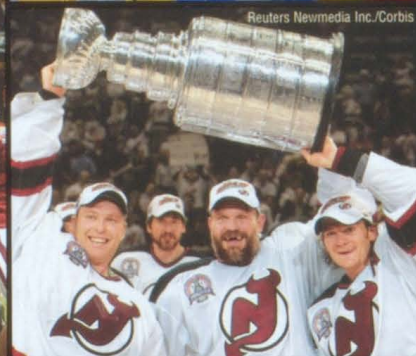


BCS computers fail to invite the nation's No. 1 team, USC, to the 2004 championship game. The Rose Bowl champion USC Trojans share the national title with the Sugar Bowl champion LSU Tigers.



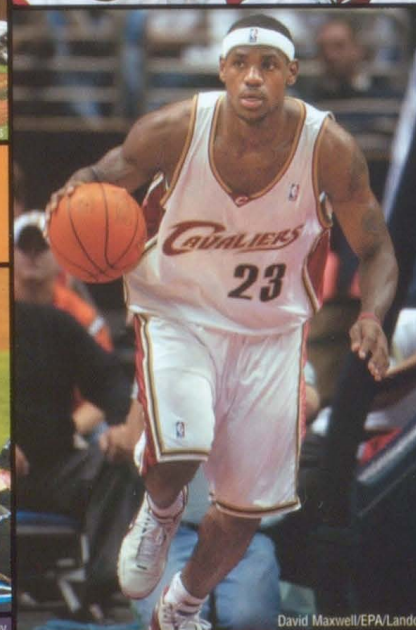
Reuters/Landov

Reuters Newmedia Inc./Corbis



← Despite several crashes and severe dehydration, Lance Armstrong wins his fifth straight Tour de France by a mere 62 seconds.

← Behind the defensive brilliance of goalie Martin Brodeur, the New Jersey Devils win the 2003 NHL Stanley Cup by icing the Anaheim Mighty Ducks 3-0 in game seven.



David Maxwell/EPA/Landov

← High school phenomenon LeBron James, 19, is picked first in the 2003 NBA Draft by the Cleveland Cavaliers and enjoys instant success as a pro.

# SPORTS

→ Led by MVP pitcher Josh Beckett, the Florida Marlins beat the heavily favored New York Yankees 2-0 in game six to win the 100th World Series.



Mabanglo/EPA/Landov

Sergio Perez/EPA/Landov

→ Tennis pro Andy Roddick, 21, also known as Mandy Moore's boyfriend, wins his first grand slam title at the U.S. Open in September.

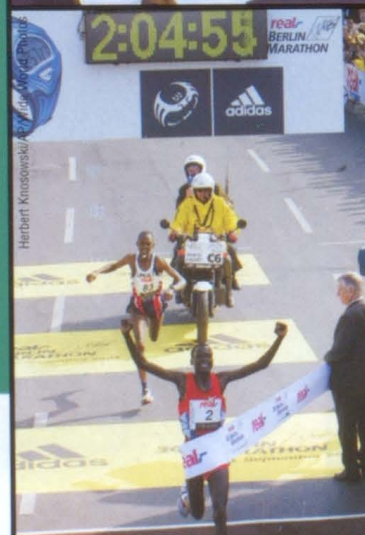


In June, Michelle Wie, 13, becomes the youngest winner of a U.S. Golf Association adult event when she wins the U.S. Women's Amateur Public Links.

Tom Mihalek/EPA/Landov



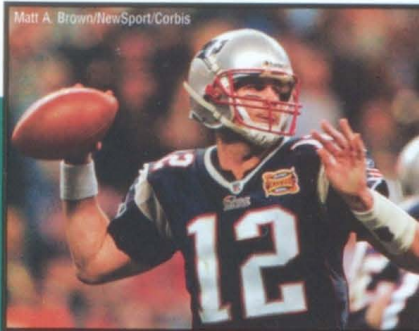
→ In September, Kenya's Paul Tergat sets the world record in the Berlin Marathon, running the 26.2-mile course in just 2 hours, 4 minutes, 55 seconds.



Herbert Krcosowski/AP/Wide World Photos

→ The New England Patriots defeat the Carolina Panthers 32-29 with a field goal in the closing seconds to win Super Bowl XXXVIII.

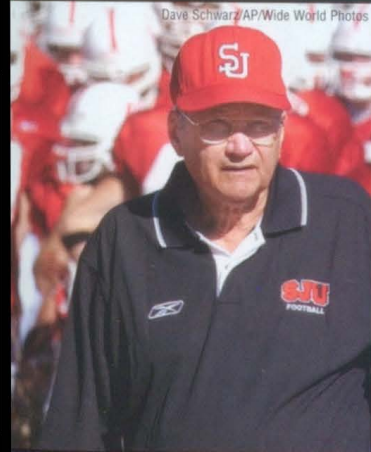
→ Due to a lack of revenue, the Women's United Soccer Association gets the boot after just three seasons.



Michael Larent/AP/Wide World Photos

Champion surfer Bethany Hamilton, 13, loses her arm in a shark attack. Just 10 weeks later, Hamilton places fifth in her age group at a National Scholastic Surfing Association meet in January 2004.

Dave Schwarz/AP/Wide World Photos



# sports

← St. John's University coach John Gagliardi, 77, leads his team to an undefeated NCAA Division III Football National Championship while also setting the NCAA Football record for coaching victories with 414.



← Matt Kenseth claims the NASCAR Winston Cup Series championship, after leading the standings through a record 33 races.

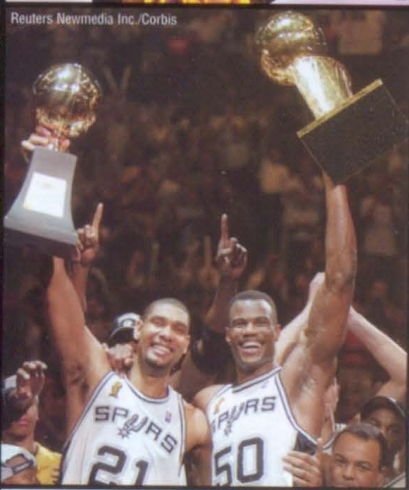
Gary Bogdon/NewSport/Corbis



↑ Freddy Adu, 14, becomes the youngest American pro team athlete in over 100 years when he signs with D.C. United of Major League Soccer.

Death-defying tricks and thrills bring the extreme sports craze to new heights at the January 2004 EXPN Winter X Games VIII in Aspen, Colorado.

Gibson/Folio, Inc./Omni-Photo Communications



Reuters Newmedia Inc./Corbis

← League MVP Tim Duncan and David Robinson — in his final game — lead the San Antonio Spurs to the 2003 NBA title with a 4-2 series win over the New Jersey Nets.

# Faces



PhotoFest



PhotoFest



ElippoMonte/EPA/Wide World Photos

← In October, Mother Teresa of Calcutta is beatified by Pope John Paul II in Vatican City. This marks the final step before sainthood in the Roman Catholic Church.



Bettmann/Corbis



America loses three entertainment icons with the deaths of comedian Bob Hope, actress Katharine Hepburn and actor Gregory Peck.

# faces

→ In his first of a number of trials in several states, a Virginia jury sentences D.C. area sniper Lee Boyd Malvo, 18, to life without parole.



Martin Smith-Rodden/EPA/Landov



↑ The Pentagon releases decks of 55 cards to U.S. soldiers that feature the most-wanted Iraqi leaders. Dictator Saddam Hussein is the Ace of Spades.

→ After winning 64 career titles, including 14 grand slam events, and a record six years ranked No. 1, tennis great Pete Sampras retires at the U.S. Open in August.



After being abducted for nine months, Elizabeth Smart is rescued and returns home in March 2003. Her story is made into a TV movie that airs later in the fall.



Tom Smart/Deseret News/Getty Images

→ Teen star Hilary Duff tops off her successful movie debut, *The Lizzie McGuire Movie*, with a hit pop album, *Metamorphosis*, and a nationwide tour.



Fred Pousner/Reuters/Landov



