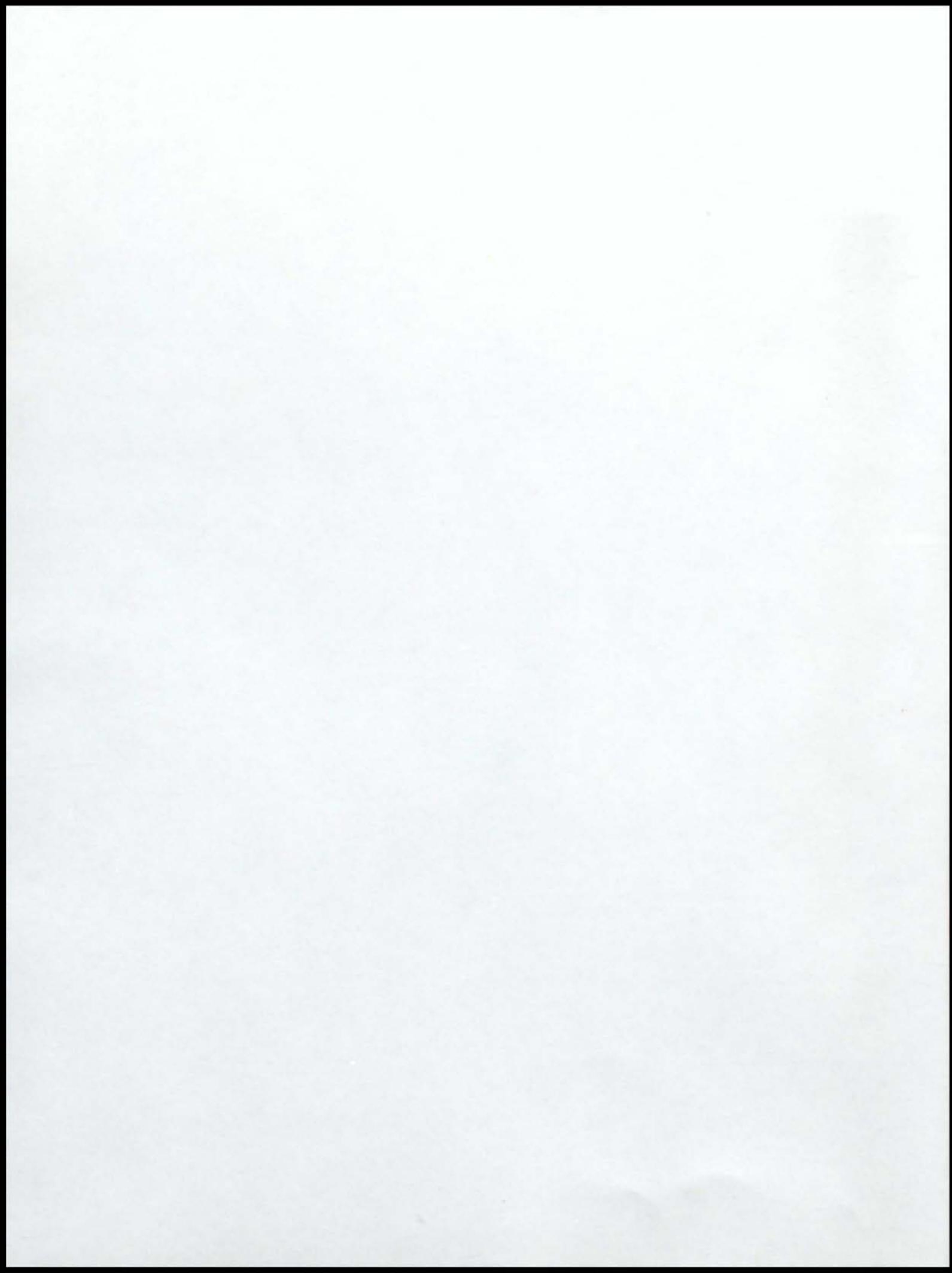




BULLDOGS

matter here





Bulldogs matter here

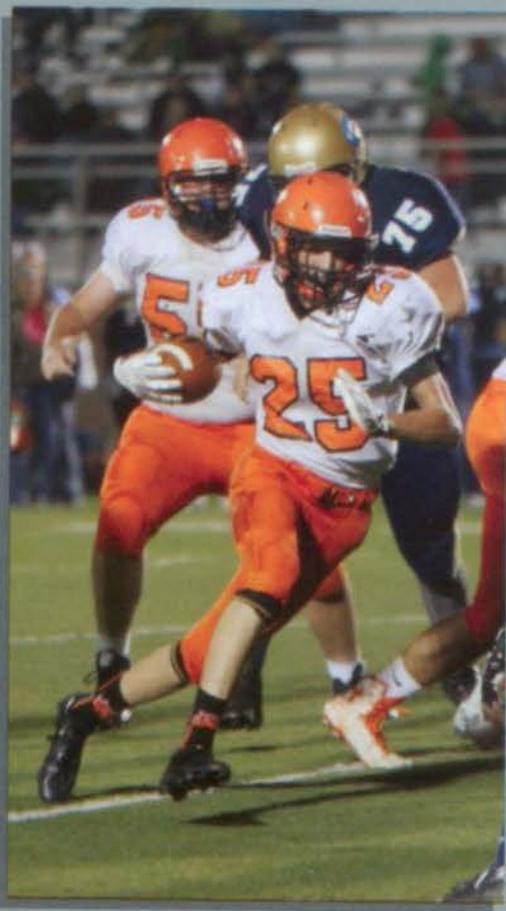
A group of students huddle together in a locker pod, talking about the Friday night game. A groggy senior walks through the halls looking at his phone and almost knocks over a small freshman. Clusters of students sit at cafeteria tables, trying to wake up before their first class that's only moments away. A teacher works to prepare for the students who will enter her classroom, hopefully ready to learn. So go the early morning hours at IHS.

While each of us is involved in different things and hang out with different people, we are all part of the Bulldog family. No matter what happens or where life take us in the years to come, we all matter here, as both individuals and as a whole.

As the staff wrote stories and selected photos, our goal was to include as many students as possible because... Bulldogs matter here.



Orange and Black 2016
Volume 91
Independence High School
1301 North Tenth Street
Independence KS, 67301
(620) 332-1815
Student Population: 545
Mascot: Bulldog
School Colors: Orange and Black
www.indyschools.com



Girls Tennis

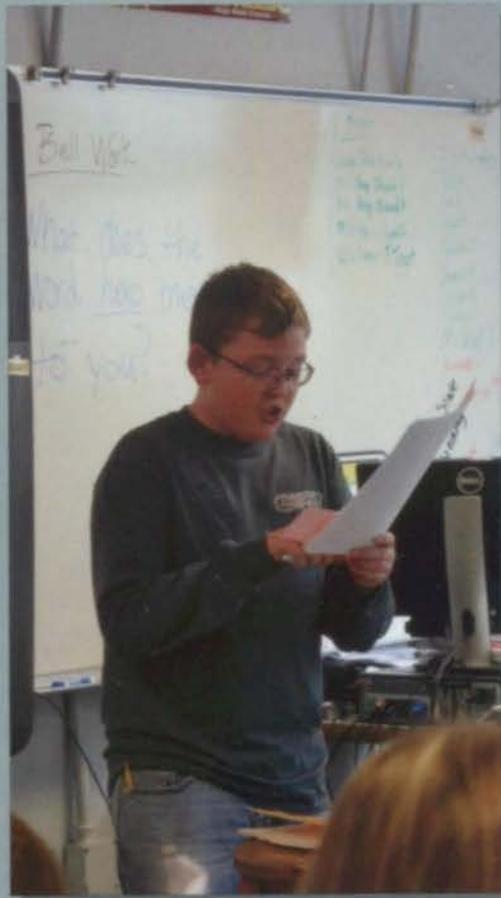
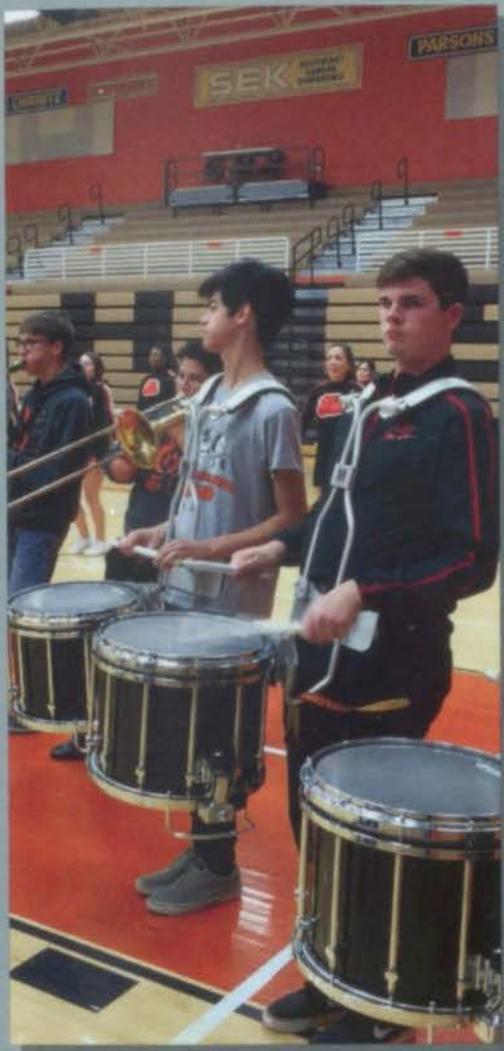
Football

Cross Country

Soccer

Volleyball

Color G



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Marching Band

Debate

Fall Homecoming

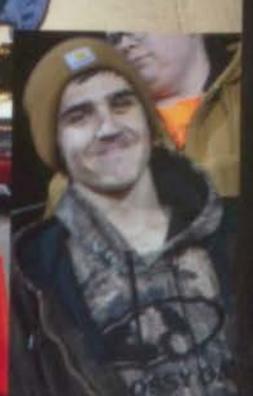
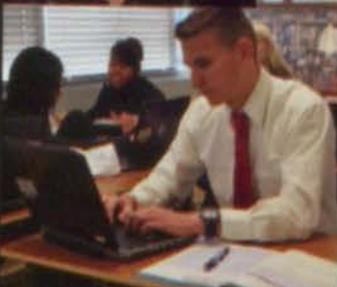
Neewollah

Bulldogs
matter here

Class of Seniors 2016



Class of 2016 officers include Chelsea Cushing, president; Anna Miller, treasurer; Hope Renfro, secretary; and Jake Mitchell, StuCo representative. Not pictured: Taylor Dufur, vice-president; and Kennedy Froebe, StuCo representative.





Teyler Maria Bell Aemisegger



Jordan Cole Ashford



Morgan Kay Augustine



Jose Eric Ayala



Branden Dean Bales



Dominic Eli Barker



Collin Ray Bean



Danielle LeslieAnne Berry



Cattlyn Cathleen Beyer



Caleb Joseph Bohr



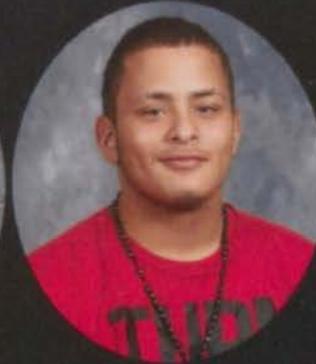
Brianna Mary Bradshaw



A'Nessa Lauren Branscum



Sarah Kathryn Brennan



DysAnthony N. Brown



Richard Logan Bruce



Carsyn Ann Bryant



Kaylee Jean Bryant



Cloey A. Burris



Gabriel Joseph Campbell



Autumn Nicole Caputo



Taylor D'Na Chapman



Courtney R. Cleve



McKayla Renee Clubb



Sebastian Amadeus Cole



Trey A. Conger



Cody Douglas Michael Cox



Chelsea Ann Cushing



Devin R. Davison



Courtney Lynn Day



Alexandra Elizabeth Driskel



Brooke Nichol Drumeller



Taylor Elizabeth Dufur



Lucas Theron Dunn



Haylie Ann Nickole Eades



John William Arthur Easley, III



Marshall C. Easter



Aron Jacob Elias



Marissa Rene Florio



Jessikah Nomie Kaylynn Fowler



Kennedy A. Froebe



Amber Lynn Gibson



Alyssa Hope Golden



Takia Green



Meagan LeeAnn Greer



Aaliya Ganna Griffin



Theresa Lynn Grover



Trevor Gareth Gustin



Clayton Guthrie



Hayden Michael Thomas Hallacy



Dalson Eugene Hamlin



Mollie Elizabeth Hastings



Nathan Justin Hogge



Lacey Sunshine Houk



Paige Louane Hufferd



Caleb Michael Warren Johnson



Kristina Michelle Johnson



Danielle Marie Gingery



Bayleigh Ann Jones



DeAndre Jones



Maxmillian Noble Jones



Colby Justin Kaiser



Darrel Justin Kessler



Michael Anthony Kirchoff



Paige Teresa Kyle



Jalynn Lee Lawrie



Jeremiah Jamahl Lawrie



Sha'la Daviona Lewis



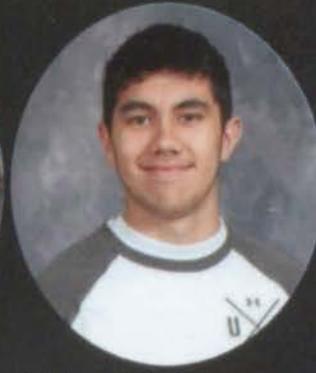
Daphne Lin



Reagan Ainsleigh Linn



Angela Gayle Long



Michael Martin Lopez



Justin Lumley



Mackinsey Cheyenne MacRae



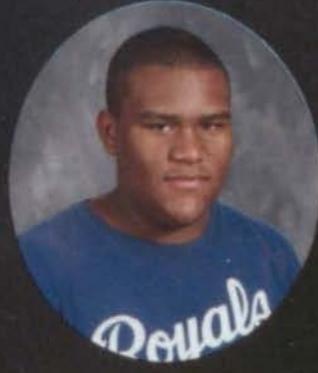
Maria Fernanda Madrigal



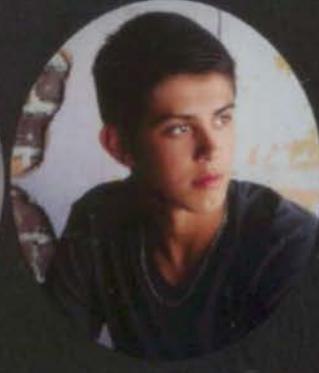
Quentin D. Malotte Jr.



Dustin Shane Mann



Marcus Anthony Martinez



Matthew Edward Mason



Jaret Carl McCabe



Eleni Dawn McCaffery



Kara Lynn McGrath



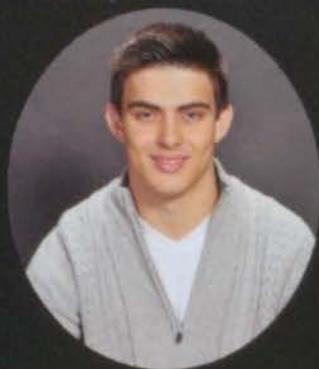
Aaron Chase Medlock



Anna Helen Miller



Emily Elaine Mitchell



Jacob Holden Mitchell



Donavon L. Monroy



Arthur John Montgomery



Dylan J. Newman



Jaycee B. Newton



Madeline Claire O'Rourke



Walt Lee Offenbacher



Hadleigh Paige Diane Palmer



Ricky Emilio Pando Jr.



Eric Jeffery Parker



Matthew C. Peck



Vance Peyton



Nicholas Colton Pierce



Scotty P. Quisenberry



Hunter O'Brien Reed



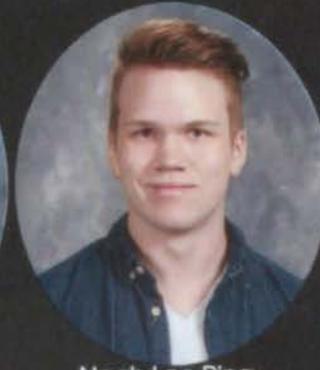
Hope Marie Renfro



Kyle Lee Rinck



Lauren Taylor Rinck



Noah Lee Ring



Courtlynn Analece Rose



Ethan Pierce Roten



Kyler Dewitt Sanders



Spencer Aaron Sanders



Roxana Yicela Santos



William Harrison Satchel



Bailey Paridine Schaub



Kimberly Marie Scheibe



Patrick David Schlange



Joshua Cole Sharp



Christa Fay Shoat



Shayne D. Shobe



Jacob Lane Smith



Mccormick Rush Smith



Tanner David Strange



Noah James Stroble



MacKenzie Renae Strycker



Christopher Ryan Sutton



Dalton Thompson



Dillon Micheal Thompson



Hunter Wayne Tyler



Chandler S. Vankirk



Austin S. Villasmil



Johnathan Wallace



Breana Ashley Ward



Conagher B. Welch



Alex Eugene Wesselowski



Warren Brian Westerfield



Simon Issiah Westhoff



Clayton L. Williams



Trevor A. Wilson



Thomas C. Woods



Zachary J. Woodward





"Don't *cry* because it's over.
Smile because it happened."
 -Dr. Seuss

Girls State Tennis

matters here



For the fortieth time, Lady Bulldogs had another great season by bringing home some hardware from State, as they took third in the tournament. **Lyssa Schabel (10)** placed second at SEK at number one singles and at Regionals. Lyssa also placed ninth at State. **Anna Miller (12)** and **Alex Keller (11)** were the SEK Champs at the number one doubles and they placed second at Regionals. Overall they placed sixth at State in the doubles bracket.

Qwynn Marquez (10) got second at SEK at number two singles. **Addison Julian (9)** and **Qwynn** placed third at SEK number two doubles and fifth at Regionals.

"Once again, our Lady Bulldogs proved they are a force to be reckoned with in the post-season," said Coach Ysusi. "It would be easier for each player to just worry about herself and winning a medal, but it takes a total team effort to come home with a plaque."

"I am so impressed with how we well did as a team at State, especially after losing so many seniors last season, but we definitely took the challenge head-on and did a fantastic job!"

Anna Miller (12)

"My first time qualifying for State was a great experience. I wouldn't want to play with anyone else besides my teammates."

Alex Keller (11)

"We weren't tennis waiters, but boy could we serve up some L's."

Lyssa Schabel (10)



Overall Records

Lyssa Schabel
28-12
Anna Miller and Alex Keller
28-11
Qwynn Marquez
23-16
Addison Julian
26-15



Girls Tennis *matters here*

With 16 players on the girls tennis team, Matt Ysusi, head coach, had the enviable problem of figuring out how to put his varsity and junior varsity teams together to capitalize on their depth.

Early in the season Coach Ysusi moved several players between both singles and doubles and toyed with some different doubles teams combinations in an attempt to put together the top six who could likely capture league and Regional championships on their way to the State tournament. Apparently, Coach Ysusi figured out the right combinations.

Lyssa Schabel (10) captured first place at the Fort Scott tournament, while **Chelsea Cushing (12)** and **Amanda Trout (10)** won third place in number one doubles. **Emma Stoner (9)** and **Alexis Clapp (9)** took second place in number two doubles.

At the Ark City Invitational top finishers included Lyssa who placed sixth in singles and **Anna Miller (12)** and **Alex Keller (11)** who finished in twelfth place in doubles.

IHS finished in second place at the Campus Invitational. Lyssa won first place at number one singles, and Anna and Alex finished in second place at number one doubles. **Addison Julian (9)** and **Qwynn Marquez (10)** also took second place in number two doubles.

The Lady Bulldogs faced tough competition at the Tournament of Champions in Wichita. Lyssa finished in eighth place, while Alex and Addison teamed up to earn ninth place in the doubles bracket.

The team peaked at just the right time as the Lady Bulldogs captured the SEK Championship at Parsons. Alex and Anna finished in the top spot to lead the team for the day. Lyssa took second place in number one singles, and Qwynn just came up short of the title. Addison and Chelsea teamed up for the first time and took third in their division. It was the Lady Bulldogs' fourth straight SEK title.

Continuing their winning ways, the Lady Bulldogs captured the Regional championship with two second place finishes (Lyssa and Anna/Alex) and one fifth (Qwynn/Addison).

Not only did the Lady Bulldogs achieve success on the tennis court, but they also had success in the classroom. Anna, Alex and Lyssa were named Academic All-State. To earn this recognition, they had to finish in the top 10 at the state tournament and earn a 3.5 GPA over the last year.



Lyssa Schabel (10)



Addison Julian (9)



Sagan Shire (11)



Chelsea Cushing (12)

Photos courtesy of Thomas Lott

"I'll never forget the time Alex and I won SEK my senior year in a really tough match against Parsons, which happened to be the day of my grandma's funeral. We were pretty sure she helped us with that winning shot! I loved forming close relationships with the other girls and getting fourth at State was icing on the cake!"

- Anna Miller (12)

"I can't express how proud I am of how much these girls grew this year and the high level they played at. After losing four out of our top six last year, many thought we would be down. However, these girls stepped up and got the job done. The future looks good for these young ladies!" - Coach Ysusi



Front Row: Sagan Shire, Qwynn Marquez, Chelsea Cushing, Danesa Ramos, Emma Stoner.

Middle Row: Alexis Clapp, Alex Keller, Grace Slaton, Clare Bindley, Kaylee Bryant, Meredith Campbell.

Back Row: Matt Ysusi (head coach), Lyssa Schabel, Amber Ellis, Amanda Trout, Anna Miller, Addison Julian and Gina McLenon (asst. coach).



Alex Keller (11)



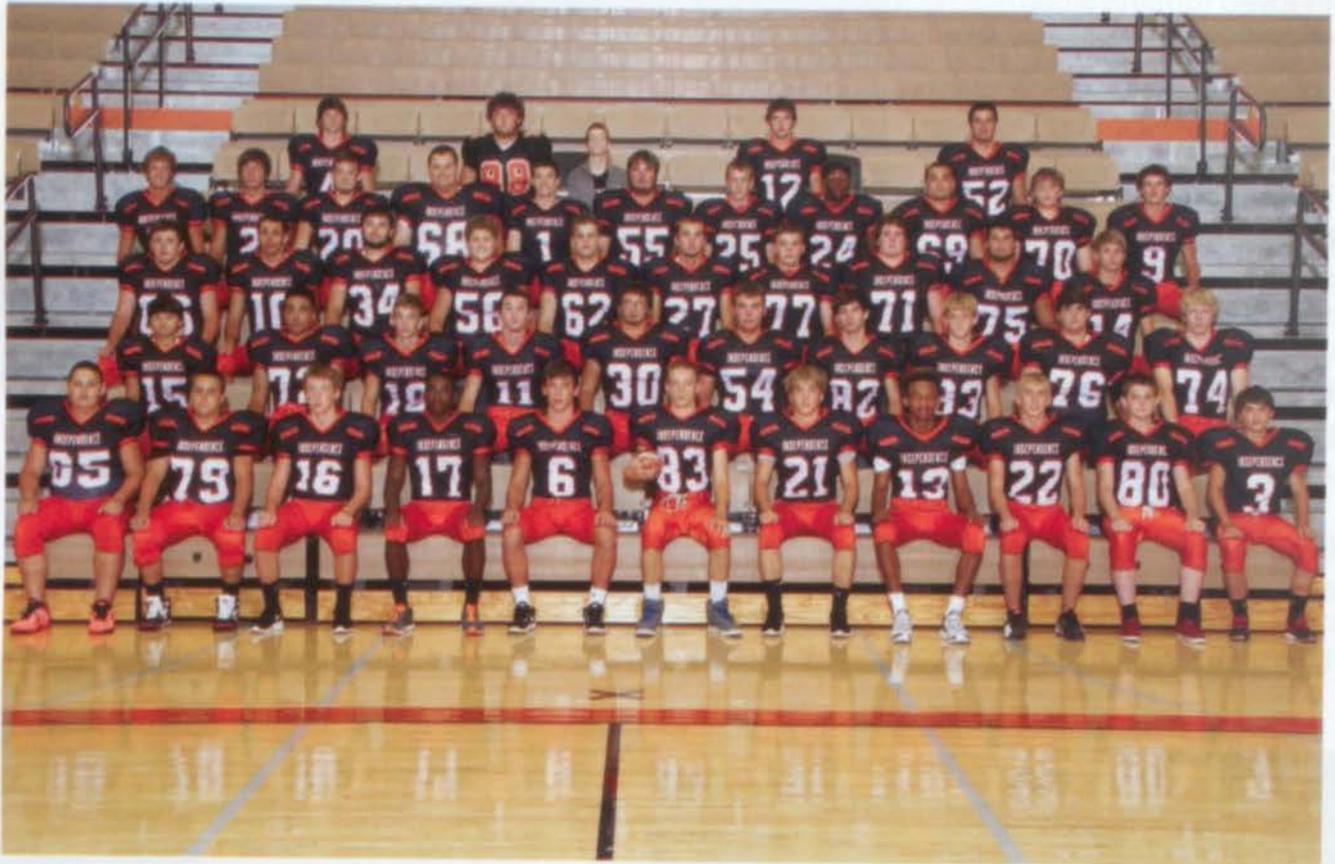
Kaylee Bryant (12)



Amanda Trout (9)

Football

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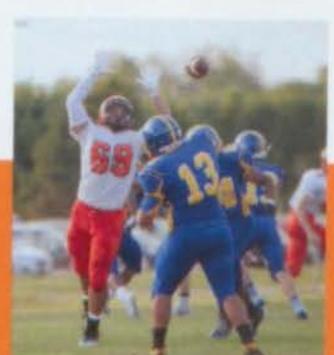
Front Row: Chet Augustine, Kaleb Ogle, Jeb Stafford, Chicago Elias, Jackson Stafford, Skyler Shouse, Kyler Sanders, Zeadric Daniels, Logan Payne, Buddy Hulse, Gabe Eades.

Second Row: Megan Rodriguez, Izaiah Rodriguez, Cody Schicke, Zachary Shaffer, Ricky Pando, Cory Janasek, Bryson Linnebur, Cole Swearingen, Nick Turner-Washburn, Richard Garriss.

Third Row: Evan Sprague, Christian Phillips, Hunter Tyler, Jerod Knight, Jaycee Newton, Kyle Woods, Trace Smith, D.J. Kessler, Seth Stroble, Josh Pralle.

Fourth Row: Levi Kemp, Aaron Medlock, Skyler St. Clair, Robbie Bailey, Evan Kleiber, Tommy Woods, Will Schabel, Max Jones, Peyton Usher-Pearson, Kody Koehn, Dalson Hamlin.

Back Row: Colan Snodgrass, Lucas Dunn, John Strycker (manager), John Easley and Noah Stroble.



The football team started out with a win against Labette. The team went on to capture wins against Parsons, Caney, Chanute, Coffeyville, Winfield and Augusta and finished the regular season with an overall record of 7-3.

Through their hard work and dedication the football team became District Champions, and **Coach Carl Boldra** was named SEK Coach of the Year. Coach Boldra, who completed his eleventh season as head coach, said, "I am fortunate enough to receive Coach of the Year, but it is more of a team honor than anything. We had a great group of boys this year and we had a lot of fun."

The Independence Daily Reporter awarded **Peyton Usher-Pearson (11)** with Defensive Player of the Year, and **Max Jones (12)** was awarded with All-Area first team for offense and defense. **John Easley (12)** earned first team offense honors, while **Seth Stroble (11)** was chosen for All-Area first team defense. Honorable Mention for offensive line went to **D.J. Kessler (12), Noah Stroble (12) and Tommy Woods (12)**. **Levi Kemp (11)** earned Honorable Mention for wide receiver. Running back Honorable Mention went to **Will Schabel (11)**, and Noah Stroble was named Honorable Mention for defensive line. **Kyle Woods (11)** was mentioned for linebacker. **Josh Pralle (10) and Chicago Elias (11)** were both mentioned for defensive back. For Special Teams **Aaron Medlock (12)** received First Team punter.

"Winning the district championship was a great way to cap off our senior season."

Aaron Medlock (12)

"We had a good year and I'm glad to have shared it with the boys. I can't wait to see what they do next year."

Max Jones (12)

"I think that we did a good job this year and would like to thank the coaches for everything these past seasons."

Kyler Sanders (12)



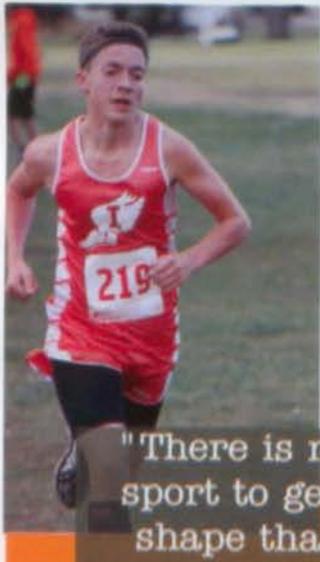
Cross Country

matters here

It was another great year for Bulldog cross country. Head coach, **Max Bradbury** said, "What a great group of kids to coach. The seniors were great role models, leaders, and hard workers. Without them, this year would not have turned out as well as it did. The seniors helped build a strong team and by the end turned them into a family. That was by far the biggest success of the season."



This year the SEK cross country meet was held in Chanute. **Jillian Stafford (9)**, **Addie Mattes (9)**, **Rindy Marquez (11)**, **Dara Mendoza (9)**, and **Abby Dunham (11)** earned All-SEK Honorable Mention at this year's league meet. **Brandon Bales (12)** earned the title of All-Team SEK, while **Jacob Smith (12)**, **Carson Hufferd (9)**, and **Nathan Hogge (12)** earned All-SEK Honorable Mention. The team finished the season with a total of 10,281 miles.



"There is no better sport to get you in shape than cross country country."
Nathan Hogge (12)

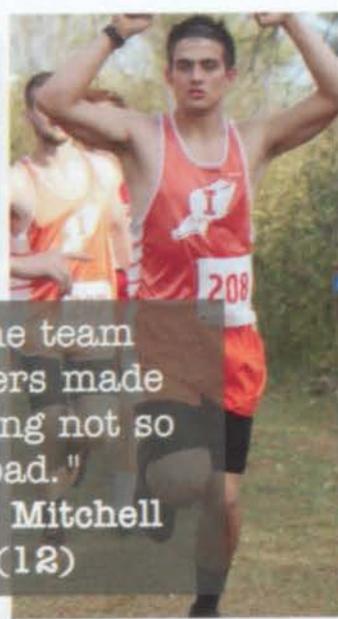


"Teamwork makes the dream work."
Mcormick Smith (12)

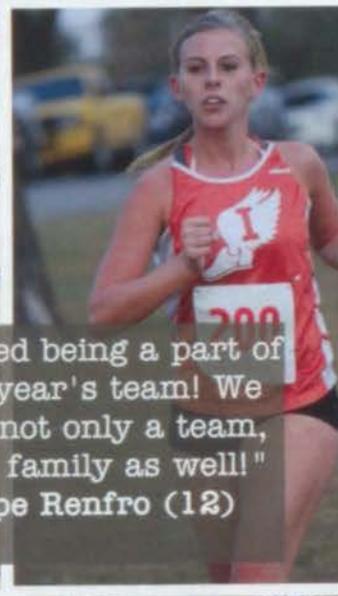


"Cross country is the best of both worlds. It allows me to compete as both an individual and as part of my team."
Brandon Bales (12)





"The team dinners made running not so bad."
 Jake Mitchell
 (12)



"I loved being a part of this year's team! We built not only a team, but a family as well!"
 Hope Renfro (12)

Front Row: Addie Mattes, Dara Mendoza, Hope Renfro, Tyler McDow, Rindy Marquez, Cally Weaver, Jillian Stafford.
 Second Row: Lane Ewing, Cameron Goodrich, Whitney Rutland, Nate Morrison, Aiden Charter, Jack Edwards, Landon Ewing.
 Third Row: Alex Cole (manager), Abby Dunham, Jacob Green, Nathan Hogge, Liam Jarrell, Marissa Florio, Carson Hufferd, Marsha Farnsworth (manager).
 Fourth Row: Max Bradbury (head coach), McCormick Smith, Aidan Brumley, Jacob Mitchell, Adam Hayse, Robert Skaggs, Branden Bales, Jacob Smith and Stacey Campbell (asst. coach).



Photos Courtesy of
 Paula Schabel and Nellie Mendoza

Soccer

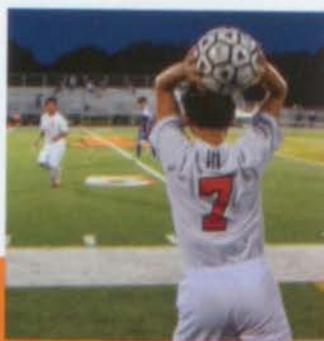
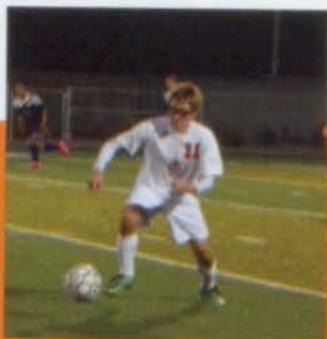
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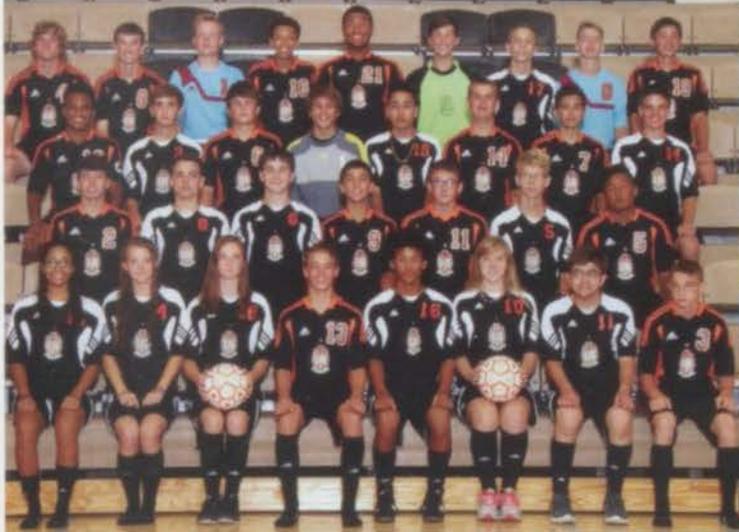
IHS soccer team ended its season with an overall record of 9-8. The season ended abruptly, even though the Bulldogs began their season with a promising 5-0 record. The seniors truly led the team this year, evidenced by first-year coach Michael Villareal.

"They are a great team; they are brothers," said Villareal. "They make sure the great wall stands strong, and I can't tell you how many times I've seen Jalynn, Dom and Jeremiah bail our keeper out of a bad situation that could have ended up ugly."

Although this year has had its ups and downs, the team truly pulled itself together. They learned a lot about teamwork and family.

"Coaching the IHS soccer team is an honor that I hold dearly to my heart," said Coach Villareal. "As with any sport, there are ups and downs throughout the season, but my players are the reason why I do what I do. As a first-year coach, I got to know some wonderfully talented individuals. I look forward to continuing with such a storied program, and making more great memories along the way."





Memorable Moments

"A lot of things were thrown at us, but we never gave up."

Jeremiah Lawrie, Captain (12)

"The best memories were being in the circle before games."

Dominic Barker (12)

"These guys are my brothers. I'll never forget playing with them."

Jalynn Lawrie (12)

"We did our best with what was given to us. We stayed a team through everything."

Jose Ayala (12)

First Row: Liandria King, Meg Barrett, Kylie Wilson, Jon Lingenfelter, Majour Johnson, Jenalyn Reichenbach, Andrew McCarty, Bryan Ramey.

Second Row: A.J. Charter, Harlan Milligan, Cole Cunningham, Tanner Godinez, Garrett Smith, Jacob Hogge, Carlos Ventura.

Third Row: Jeremiah Lawrie, Brock O'Malley, Zack Schroeder, Courtlan Cox, Emmanuel Jaimes, Corbyn Hugo, Jose Ayala, James Lingenfelter.

Fourth Row: Conagher Welch, Sam Hilger, Kelvin Heckman, Dominic Barker, Jalynn Lawrie, Caden Hayward, Mason Foster, John Gray and Drew Pasternak.



Volleyball *matters here*

The IHS Lady Bulldog volleyball team had three individuals named All-SEK: **Lauren Rinck (12)**, first team [unanimous]; **Taylor Chapman (12)**, second team; and **Danielle Veille (11)**, third team.

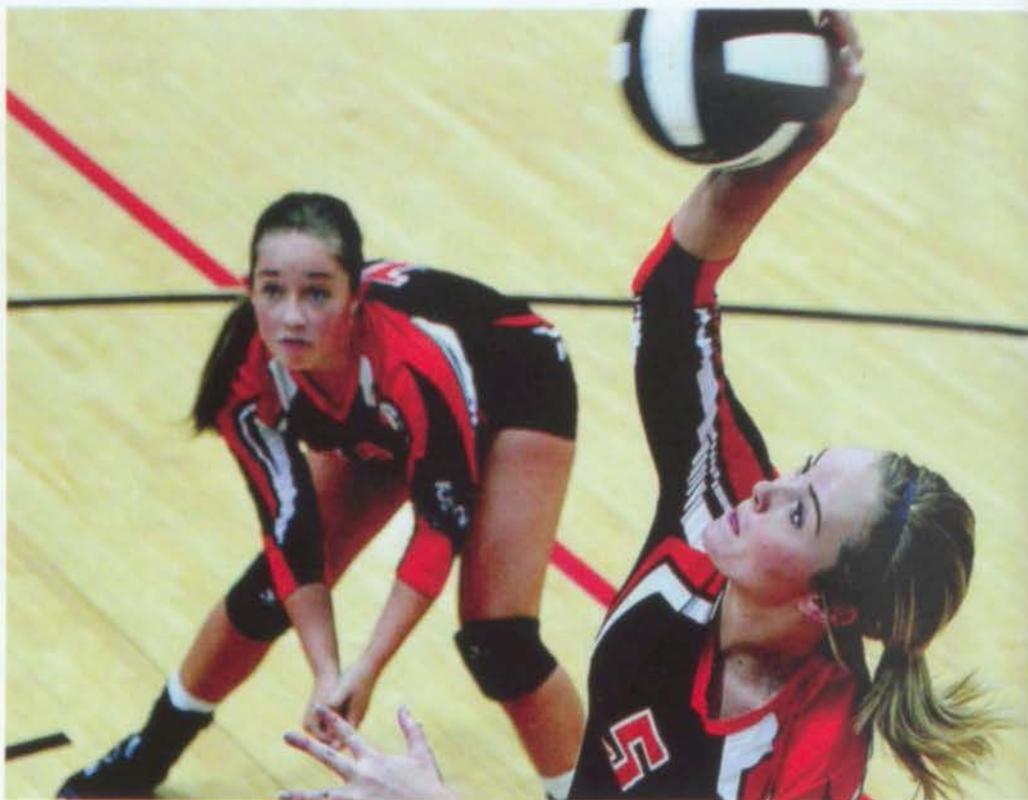
Coach Kristi Speicher was awarded with the title of SEK Coach of the Year. Coach Speicher said, "The 2015 volleyball season was one of the better seasons."

Speicher went on to say, "This was because the team worked hard; they get along well with each other and are very competitive. It was an enjoyable season, and I hated to see it end."

Varsity ended its year at 35-35 and finished second at Sub-State behind Wellington.

The freshman team had a successful season, as well. They finished with a single loss to Chanute and an amazing 28-1 season record.

"Coaching this group of girls was a pleasure," said Cori Edington, freshman coach. "We didn't have an easy schedule, and the team had to work for their wins. When this team moves up to junior varsity and varsity next year, great things will happen!"



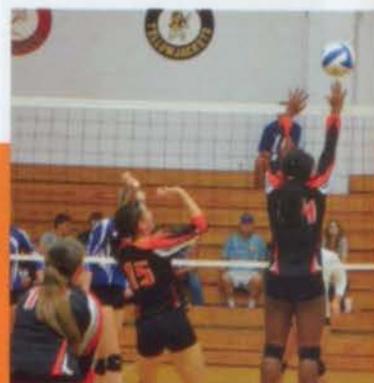
"We worked hard and came together as a team."

Kara McGrath (12)



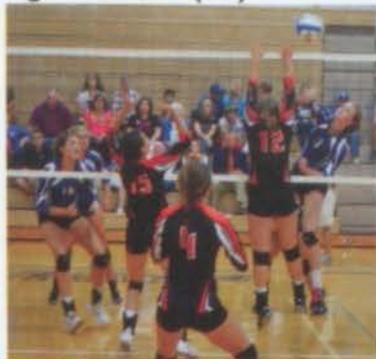
"It was a great season. We all connected and I will miss them all dearly."

Lauren Rinck (12)

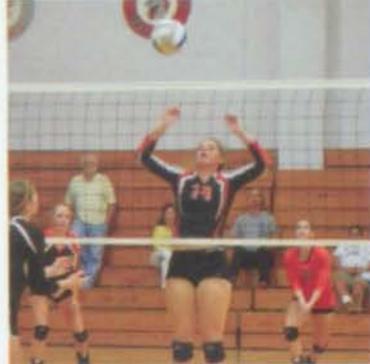




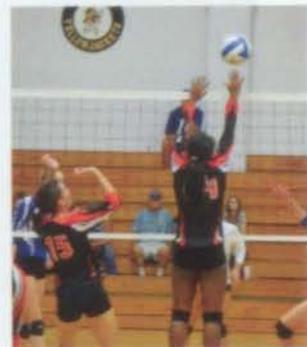
"We leave behind a strong legacy at IHS. I know great things will happen for IHS volleyball in coming seasons!"
Paige Hufferd (12)



"This season was fun and by far the best season of my high school career."
Taylor Chapman (12)



"Why couldn't the volleyball player cross the road? Too many bumps."
Dani Berry (12)



First Row: Kylie Wilhelm, Morgan Mavers, Katy Chapman, Taylor Howland, Sydney Rinck, Raygan Cunningham, Lauren Pasternak, Graci Carr.

Second Row: Meagan Hendrix, Ashley Johnson, Jessica Reed, Lauren Easley, Lakelyn Shaffer, Abby Ewing, Terra Daniels, Hannah Burnett, Pauline Gomez, Olivia Merrick.

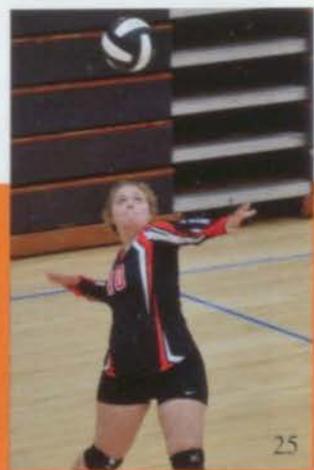
Third Row: Morgan Augustine, Danielle Veile, Courtlynn Rose, Kallie Smith, Dani Berry, Lauren Rinck, Paige Hufferd, Taylor Chapman, Kara McGrath.

Back Row: Cori Edington (freshman coach), Kristi Speicher (head coach), Coylene Speer (junior varsity coach), Brittney Jabben (manager), and Diamonque Johnson (manager).

"It's hard to walk away from volleyball after four years with this team. I'm proud of what we accomplished."
Courtlynn Rose (12)

"This season was by far my favorite because of all the hard work the team brought to the court."
Morgan Augustine (12)

Photos courtesy of Janna Rinck, Gayle Chapman & Thomas Lott



Color Guard

matters here



Photo courtesy of Carlin Barwick

Front Row: Annastasia Howland, Dulce Asgari, Alyssa Velasquez, Cierra Farris.

Middle Row: Marsha Farnsworth, Alexis Bell, Courtney Taylor, Angella Solano, Dani Rathbun.

Back Row: Eva Bohr, Bailey Schaub, Byanca Pando and Alice Whittet.

The color guard had an early start, working on routines and fundamentals for two weeks before school began.

Coach Ashley Webber and captains **Bailey Schaub (12)** and **Alyssa Velasquez (11)** soon pulled the team together.

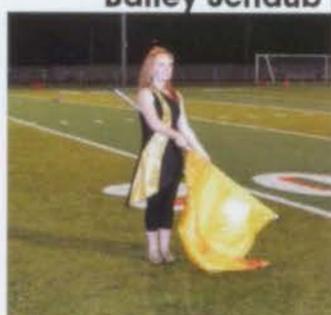
Practices were often two or four times a week and a lot of hard work was involved. They learned, polished and perfected three routines, and with time, all their effort paid off. Marching alongside the band, the color guard received a two at Oologah-Talala and and a one at both the Winfield and Neewollah festivals.

"When I look at the crowd, then at my color guard family, that's when I realize this is exactly where I am supposed to be."

Alyssa Velasquez (12)

"Sometimes you wonder if the hard work is worth it, but then when we come away with a one rating, I know it is."

Bailey Schaub (12)



Marching Band

matters here



Band: Ten-hut!

The IHS marching band quickly moved into action with the 2015 show "The Wizard of Oz Meets the Wiz."

Under the direction of **Erin Shelton** and **Richard Harper**, with the assistance of Drum Majors **Aaliya Griffin (12)** and **Cameron Goodrich (11)**, the band soon found its way down the yellow brick road. Practice began in early August, learning fundamentals and getting the first glimpse into the music beyond the curtain that hides the powerful Oz.

The music featured solos performed by **Paige Kyle (12)**, **Donavon Monroy (12)** and **Ethan Pope (11)**. The band received a two rating at both Oologah-Talala and Winfield festivals. The band then found its way home and received a one rating and tied for best drum majors at our very own Neewollah Festival.

The marching season came to an end with the last performance in the local Christmas parade where band members decked themselves out in holiday attire.



Debate

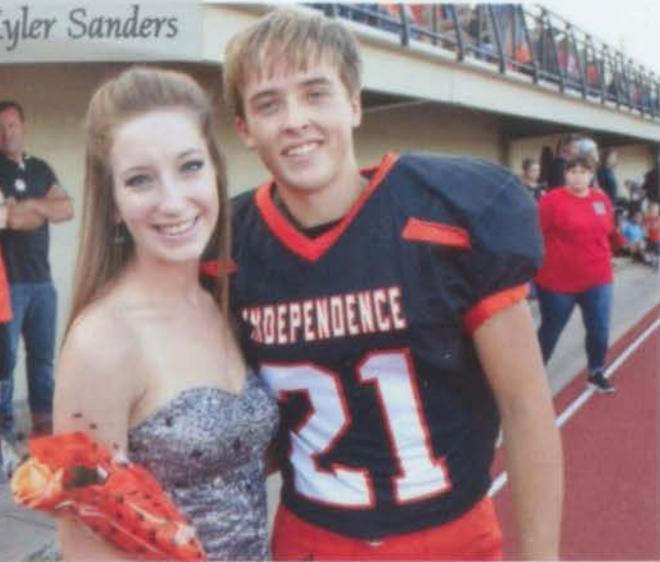
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What is debate? Basically, a debate is an argument with rules. Debating rules will vary from one competition to another, and there are several formats for debates. Debates can involve single member teams or include several students. Typically, in a debate, two teams are given a resolution or topic to debate and each team is given a set amount of time to prepare. Some school teams will encourage individuals to choose special topics and focus on them. This can give a team special strengths. One team will argue in favor (pro) and the other will argue in opposition (con). The IHS Debate team did well this year, going 6-6 at the 4-speaker regional tournament, debated by **Maddy O'Rourke (12)**, **Marshall Easter (12)**, **Anna Howland (10)**, and **Alyssa Velasquez (11)**. When the team traveled to state debate, teams that competed in the preliminary rounds included **Logan Bruce (12) & Ally Driskel (12)**, scoring 2-4, Anna Howland & Alyssa Velasquez going 2-4, **Jacob Hogge (10) & Amanda Trout (10)** going 2-4, and Maddy O'Rourke and Marshall Easter going 3-3. O'Rourke and Easter qualified for the double octafinal round where they were eliminated by the only undefeated team in the tournament.

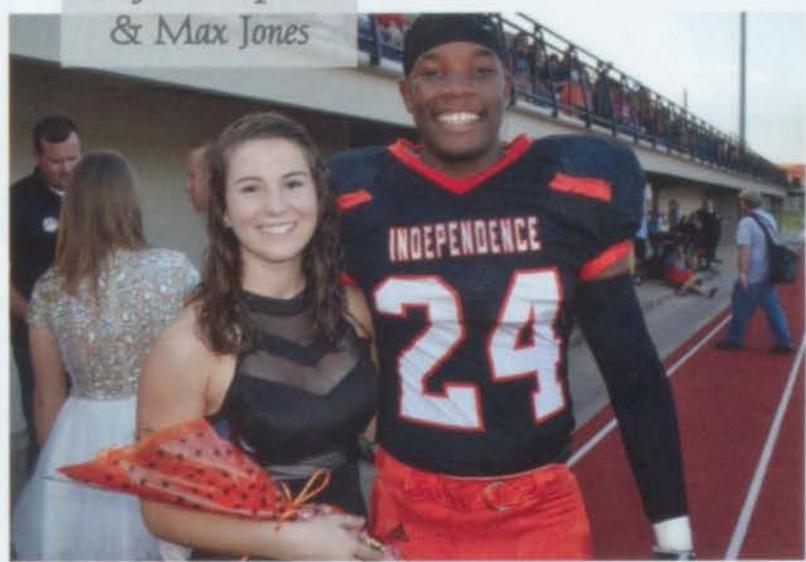


Fall Homecoming *matters here*

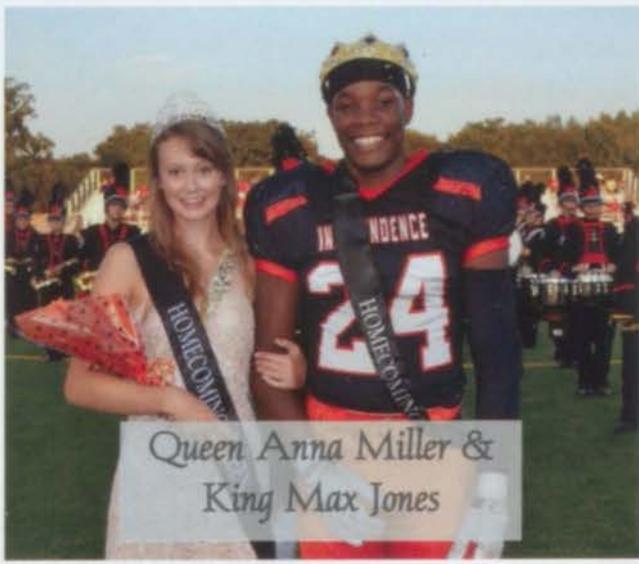
Brooke Drumeller
& Kyler Sanders



Taylor Chapman
& Max Jones



"It was such an honor being on the court and winning queen, as well! This is definitely a highlight of my senior year!"
Anna Miller (12)



Queen Anna Miller &
King Max Jones

"One cannot be 'Black Dynamite' without the pursuit of happiness."
Max Jones (12)

Anna Miller
& Dalson Hamlin



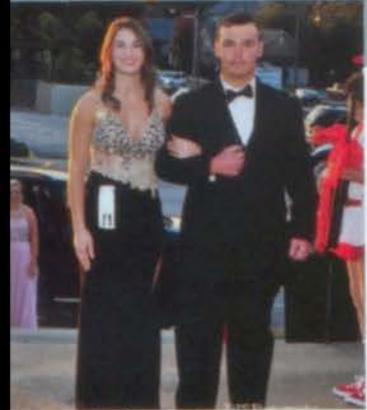
Hope Renfro
& McCormick Smith



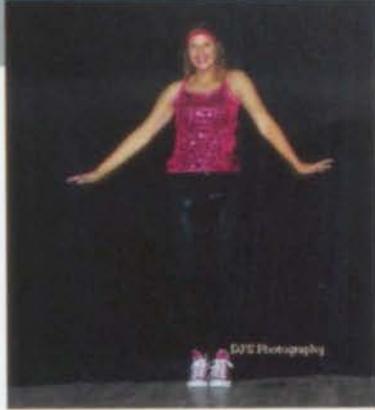
Hadleigh Palmer
& Branden Bales



Queen Neelah *matters here*



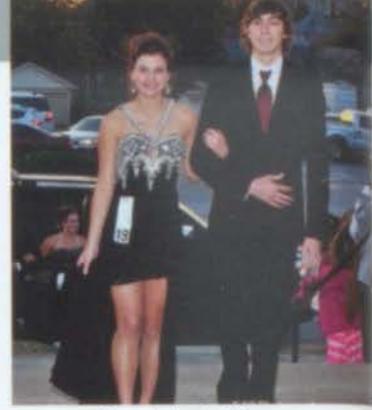
Taylor Chapman



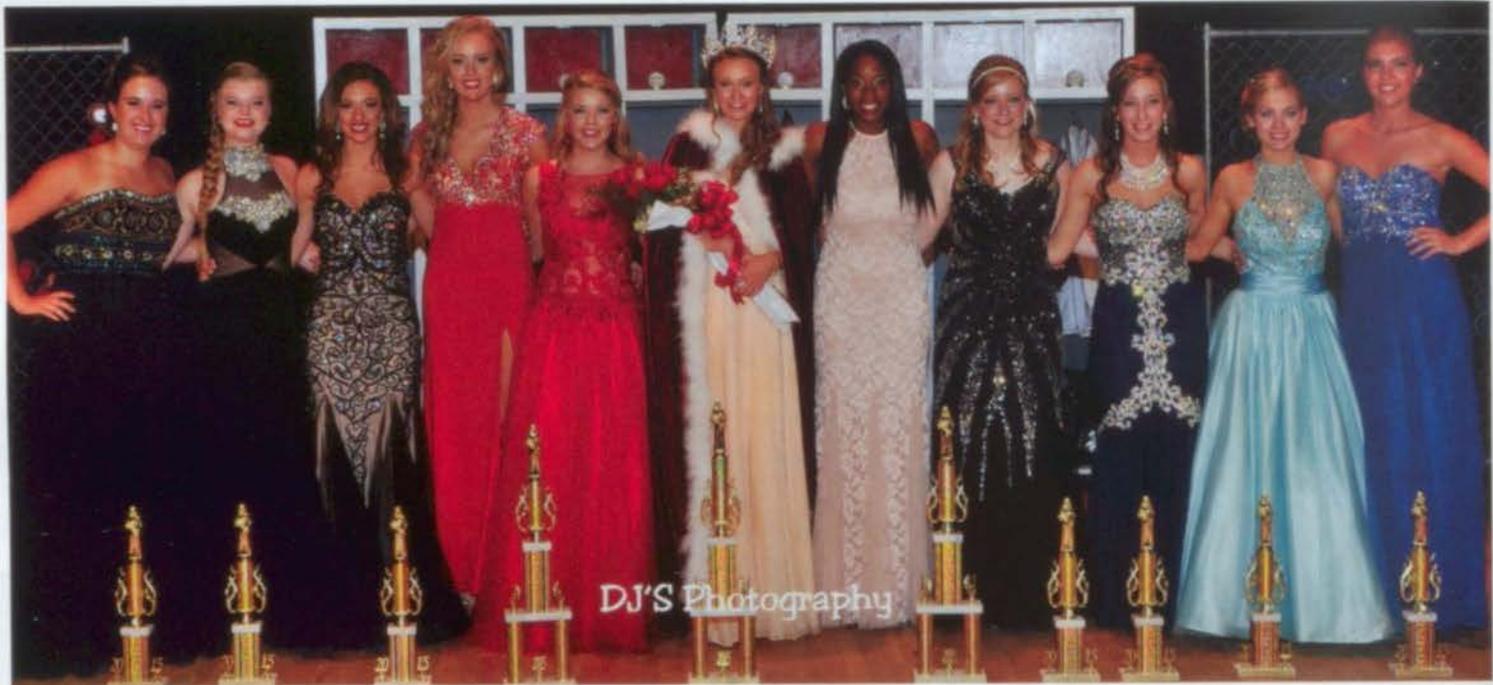
Marissa Florio



Paige Hufferd



Ainsleigh Linn



DJ'S Photography

Queen Neelah: Anna Miller
First Runner Up: Courtlynn Rose
Second Runner Up: Chelsea Cushing
Miss Photogenic: Lauren Rinck
Miss Beauty: Kara McGrath
Miss Fashion: Teyler Aemisegger

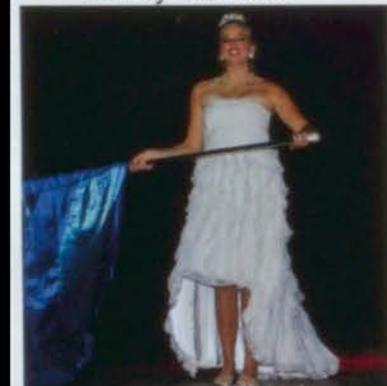
Miss Poise: Madeline O'Rourke
Miss Congeniality: Taylor Dufur
Miss Talent: Taylor Dufur
Miss Interview: Emily Depew
Miss Personality: Kennedy Froebe
Miss Originality: Brooke Drumeller

Bailey Schaub

MacKenzie Strycker

Carsyn Bryant

Sarah Brennan

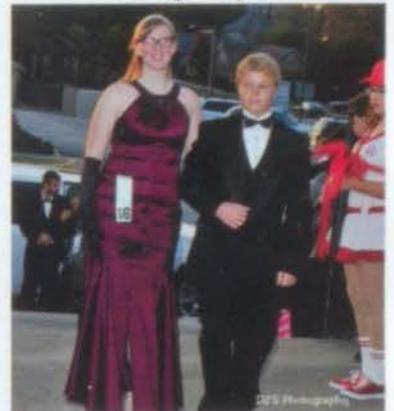


QUEEN NEELAH LXXIV

Anna Miller



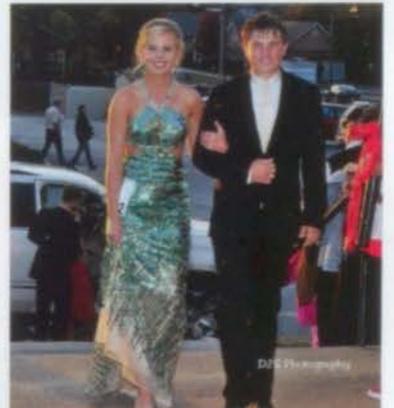
Paige Kyle



Hadleigh Palmer



Hope Renfro



Breana Ward



2015 Stage Escorts



Front Row: Matt Mason, Dalson Hamlin, Kyler Sanders, Cody Cox, McCormick Smith.

Back Row: Noah Stroble, Dominic Barker, Alex Wesselowski, Tommy Woods and John Easley.

Kaylee Bryant



2015 Neelah Debs



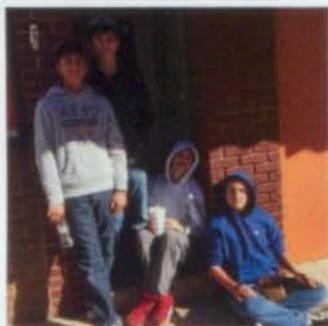
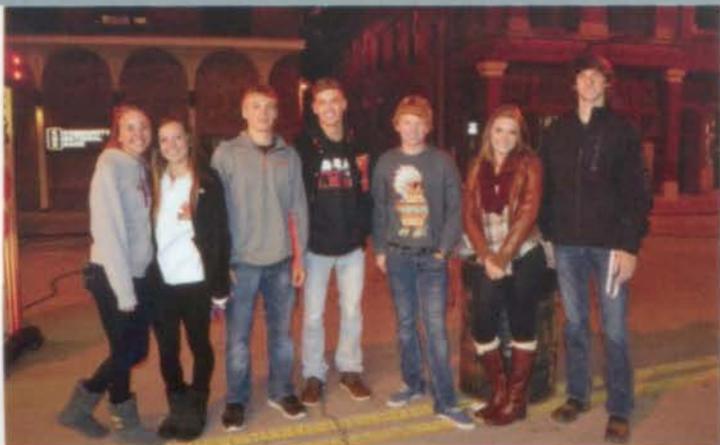
Front Row: Kelsie Lane, Lyssa Schabel, Erin Latimer, Qwynn Marquez.

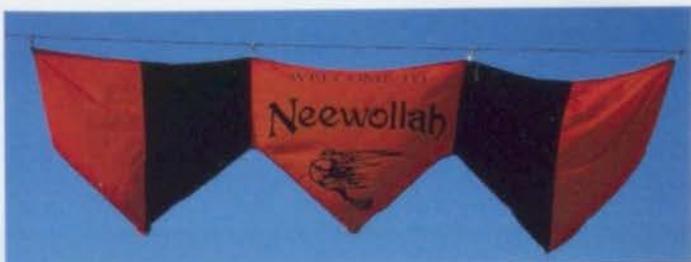
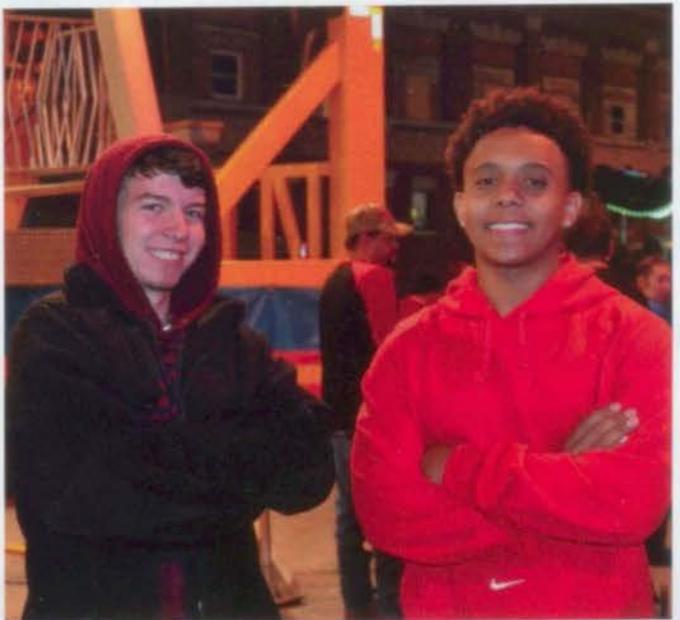
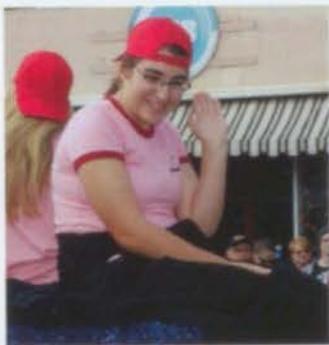
Middle Row: Amanda Trout, Terra Daniels, Lauren Easley.

Back Row: Abby Ewing, Ellen Unruh & Aubree Lawrie.

Neewollah

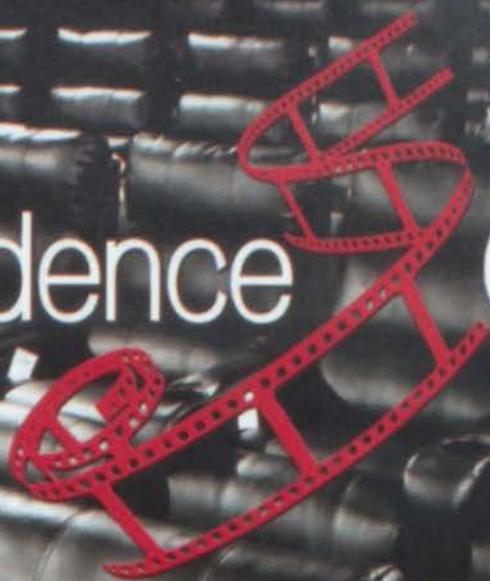
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Junior Life

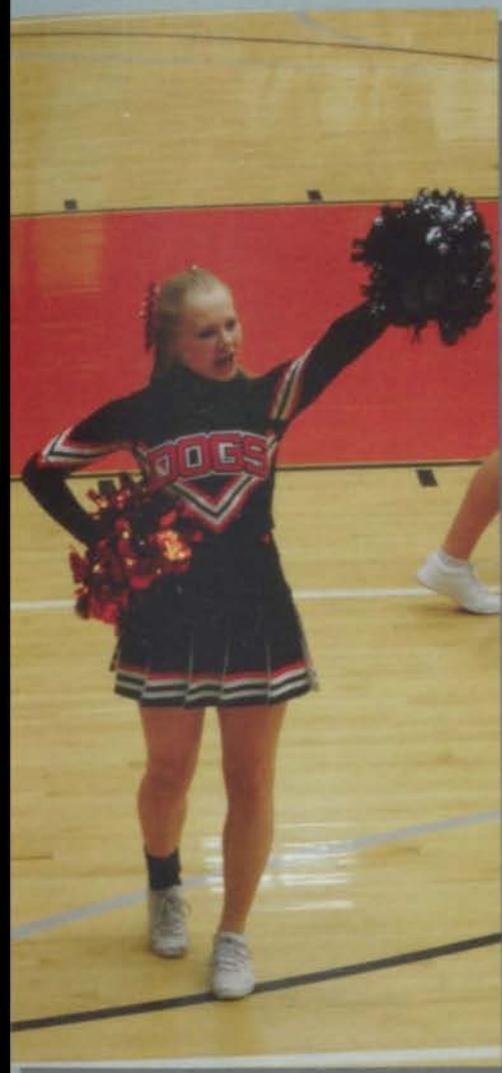
Girls
Basketball

Boys
Basketball

Wrestling

Dance
Team

Cheerleadin



Boys
Swim

Winter
Homecoming

Semi-
Formal

Bulldog
Bark

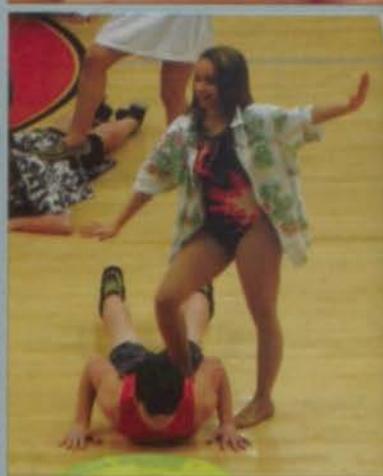
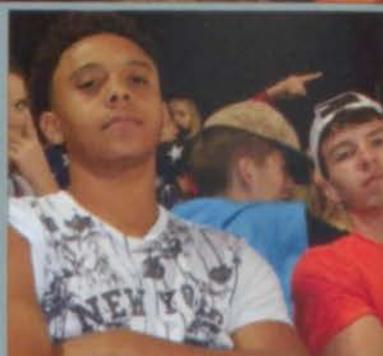
Dodgeball

Bulldogs
matter here

Class of Juniors 2017



Class Officers: Cooper King, president; Daniel Grice, vice-president; Emma Schaper, treasurer; Doraly Aguirre, StuCo representative; and Sean Neyland, StuCo representative. Not pictured: Alex Cole, secretary.





Doraly Aguirre
 Cheyenne Ainesworth
 Marie Alliston
 Bailey Babcock
 Robert Bailey



Karson Ballew
 Megan Barrett
 Seth Barton
 Alexis Bell
 Adrianna Betts



Ahmad Bey
 Octavious Birde
 Krista Blades
 Linda Campbell
 Zebadiah Campbell



Alexis Carr
 Kason Carroll
 Arren Charter
 Summer Chastain
 Avery Chism



Taylor Clark
 Madelene Clinkscales
 Alexavier Cole
 Jonathan Coltrane
 Micah Conger



Jeremiah Davis
 Miller
 David Detar
 Austin Drake
 Shayla Drake
 Abigail Dunham



Christopher Durnil
 Chicago Elias
 Marsha Farnsworth
 Cierra Farris
 Nicholas Fosnight

Jacob Freeman
 Kristopher Gilmore
 Danielle Gingery
 Cameron Goodrich
 Jacob Green



Daniel Grice
 Yasna Hadipour
 Destany Hadley
 Zoe Hannah
 Zoe Hannah



Ryan Hare
 Adam Hayse
 Caden Hayward
 Emma Hentzen
 Samuel Hilger



Corbyn Hugo
 Brittney Jabben
 Cory Janasek
 Liam Jarrell
 Ashley Johnson



Diamonique Johnson
 Anthony Keafer
 Alex Keller
 Levi Kemp
 Destiny Kendrex

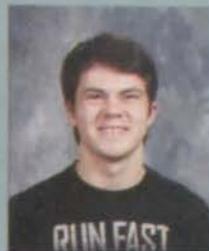


Cooper King
 Evan Kleiber
 Kody Koehn
 Rolland Krause
 Madeline Kyle



Dylon Leyda
 Bryson Linnebur
 Taylor Lumley
 Pete Maldonado
 Rindy Marquez





Christian Martinez
 Quinton Mason
 Andrew McCarty
 Preston McNamara-
 McGauvran
 Kyler Mellen



Andrew Metcalf
 Tyron Morton
 Nichole Moses
 Austin Mydland
 Sean Neyland



Brooklyn O'Daniel
 Brock O'Malley
 Byanca Pando
 Drew Pasternak
 Christian Phillips



Skyler Phillips
 Ethan Pope
 Carson Purdunn
 Danielle Rathbun
 Jenalyn Reichenbach



Sarah Rigney
 Avery Risner
 Dulce Rodriguez
 Asgari
 Shayanne Ross
 Brooklinn Royer

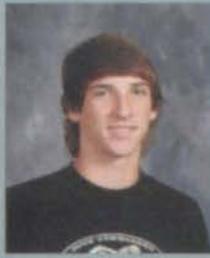


Ashton Royse
 Emma Schaper
 Matthew Schenck
 Davin Schmitt
 Zachary Schroeder



Zachary Shaffer
 Sagan Shire
 Robert Skaggs
 Jacey Smith
 Kallie Smith

Maleasa Smith-Yates
 Colan Snodgrass
 Evan Sprague
 Skyler St.Clair
 Jackson Stafford



Seth Stroble
 Spencer Swope
 Courtney Taylor
 Emily Thompson
 Alexander Threlkeld



Ian Tillery
 Samantha Tosh
 Lane Tucker
 Peyton Usher-Pearson
 Mary Veile



Alyssa Velasquez
 Matthew Wallace
 Colby Welton
 Emily Wilson
 Kyle Woods



Rylee Ysusi
 Taylor Zamora



Robert Skaggs

Junior Feature



Based upon his selection to District Orchestra, Robert Skaggs (11) traveled throughout Europe on a once-in-a-lifetime trip with other orchestra members this past summer.

While in Europe, Robert visited numerous different sights in various locations in Europe including England, France, Switzerland, Austria, Italy and Germany.

Before the tour Robert participated in a band camp and learned the different pieces the orchestra performed throughout its tour.

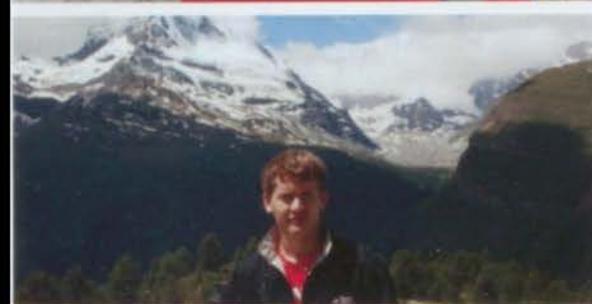
Out of the places he visited, Robert said his favorite stop was in Switzerland. While there, the entire group was welcomed by the city with a celebration dinner with dancing and music. "Their homemade cheese fondue they had made for the celebration was by far my favorite dish I tried while in Europe," said Robert.

He found Switzerland was not all he expected it to be. Robert said the weather was the most surprising part. "It was cold everywhere I went!" he exclaimed.

The Eiffel Tower and Big Ben were not as large as he had anticipated, but he enjoyed seeing all the sights.

If he could go back, Robert said he would go back to Switzerland.

"I really enjoyed the relaxing vibe of the mountains," said Robert. "There were not as many people and it was the most scenic place we visited. I learned so much about European culture and had a great time overall!"



Girls Basketball

matters here

The Lady Bulldogs had a strong start to their season but struggled down the stretch. The team had some pretty interesting games when it came to playing against the tougher teams.

The first loss of the season was tough on the Lady Bulldogs and Coach Reynolds. **Kara McGrath (12)** scored 13 points and had seven rebounds. **Paige Hufferd (12)** put in some work with nine points and six rebounds. **Lyssa Schabel (10)** and **Rindy Marquez (11)** both finished the game with six points. It was a close game and a tough 54-50 loss to the Lady Mavericks.

The home game against Parsons ended well for the Lady Bulldogs. Kara shot 2 three-pointers which brought the score to 20-7. In the fourth quarter, Rindy shot a three-pointer which put the Bulldogs in the lead, and then **Aubree Lawrie (10)** hit a three-pointer to finish up the game against Parsons.

The Lady Bulldogs capped off their regular season with a 44-40 win at home against Fort Scott. Lady Bulldogs finished with an overall record of 12-9.

"The girls always fought hard," said Coach Reynolds. "Sometimes we didn't end up the winning side of the battles."

IHS ended the season with a first round loss in Sub-State action against Labette.

Two IHS players, Kara McGrath (second team) and **Kallie Smith (11)** (honorable mention), were awarded post-season honors by the SEK league coaches.



"Winning is fun and losing sucks, but quitting is something we never did."

Paige Hufferd (12)

"I couldn't have asked for a better team to end my basketball career with! I loved everything about this season, including the incredible amounts of effort by all the girls and the friendships we built throughout the season. It was a season I'll never forget"

Hope Renfro (12).

"We might not have had the best record, but we definitely were the best looking team."

Kara McGrath (12)



Front Row: Kara McGrath, Hope Renfro, Morgan Mavers, Rindy Marquez.

Second Row: Graci Carr, Raygan Cunningham, Courtlynn Rose, Aubree Lawrie, Alex Keller, Dara Mendoza.

Third Row: Kylie Wilson, Taylor Howland, Kallie Smith, Paige Hufferd, Lyssa Schabel, Addison Julian, Tyana Carter.

Back Row: Megan Hendryx (manager), Terra Daniels, Aaliyha Griffin, Mollie Hastings, Marie Alliston. Abby Ewing, Jacey Smith and Jessica Reed (manager).



Boys Basketball

matters here

The Bulldogs started their season at the Osawatomie tournament where the team had to learn to play together fast, which showed through out the whole season as they improved as a team. As a whole they beat each team in the league except Parsons. They tied for fourth in the SEK with Fort Scott.

It was a rebuilding year for IHS, as there were only two returning starters. The team finished the regular season at 11-9 before heading into Sub-State as the second seed. They suffered a disappointing first-round loss to league rival Field Kindley.

Jalynn Lawrie (12) was named first team All-SEK (unanimous) and **Caleb Johnson (12)** was honorable mention.

"This year was much more than basketball. It was about coming together as a family. This team is so special to me and they have helped each other out in so many ways. First Coach Smith had to step away from coaching because of health issues, and then Cody Schicke's mom passed away mid-season. This team lived through some rough times and now they will forever be one big family," said Coach Lanning.



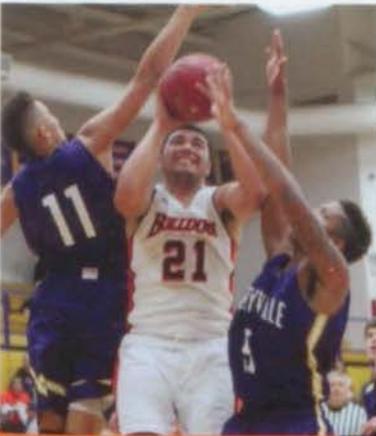
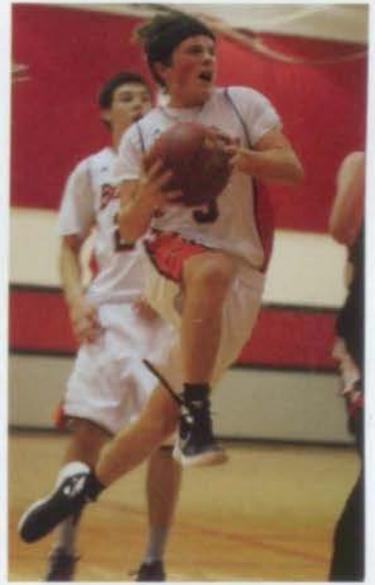
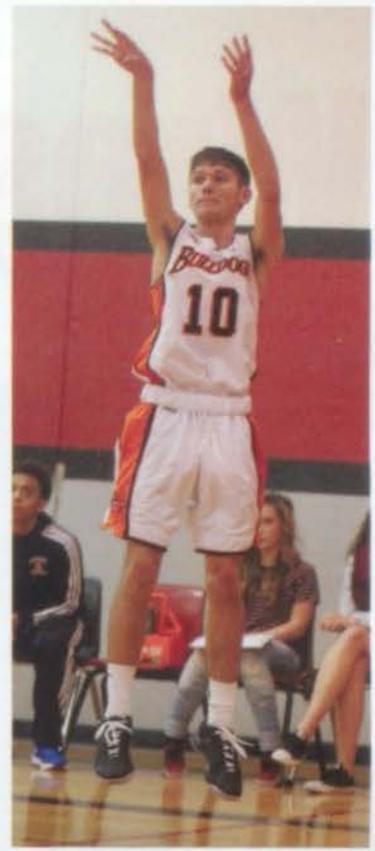
All About Andy: Independence boys' basketball assistant coach **Andy Smith** was diagnosed with mutated lung cancer. During the season the team dedicated itself to honor Andy and everything he has done for the team. "We're here to play basketball, but there's bigger things than basketball," said **Coach Lanning**. Family, friends and the community supported Andy and his family throughout his courageous battle. The team hosted a benefit dinner and auction at the Civic Center to help offset his current and future medical expenses. This family has been through a lot from health problems to field damage from fires, yet Andy's positive outlook is,

"It could be worse." Andy expressed special thanks to the team and went on to say, "This year's team dealt with more adversity than a group of young men should have to. They matured both on and off the court. They represented our school with pride. The players and their families went above and beyond to help my family during an unexpected illness and for that, we will be forever grateful."





Front Row: Bryan Ramey, Alex Gibson, Aiden Charter, Deontrey Hadley, Tyron Morton, Zane Lawrence, Jon Lingenfelter.
Middle Row: Calvin Edwards, Drew Pasternak, Josh Pralle, Christian Phillips, TreyVon Kendrex, Zack Schroeder.
Back Row: Levi Kemp, Darrius Scott, Jalynn Lawrie, Will Satchel, Caleb Johnson, Evan Kleiber and Caden Hayward.



"Our senior season is one we will never forget."
 Kyle Rinck (12)



"I loved our team. It's a family regardless on how our season goes."
 Caleb Johnson (12)

"I won't always have the sport, but I'll have my team."
 Jalynn Lawrie (12)

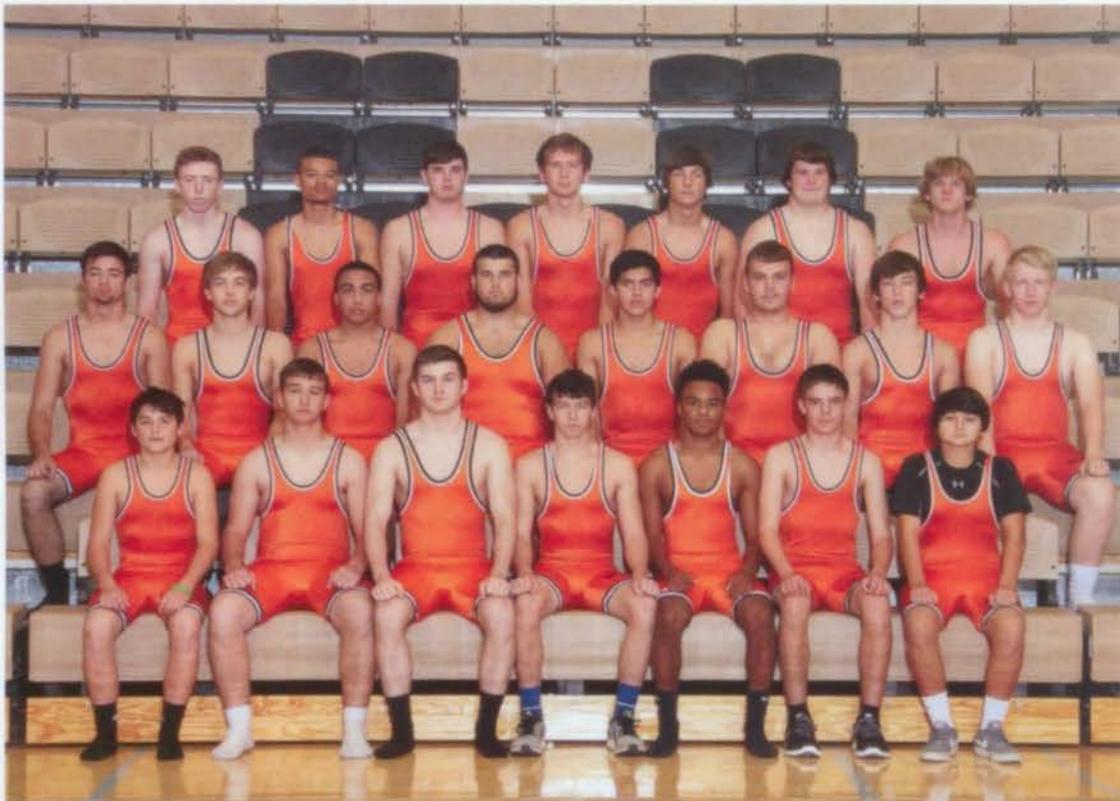


"I loved the bench atmosphere and felt like a part of team!"
 Will Satchel (12)



Wrestling

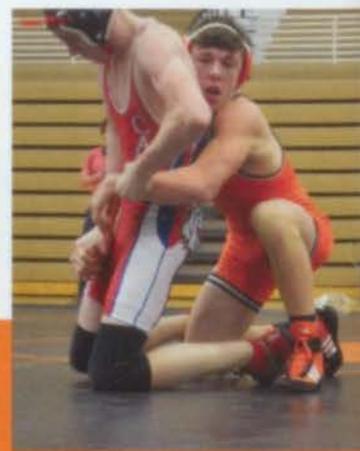
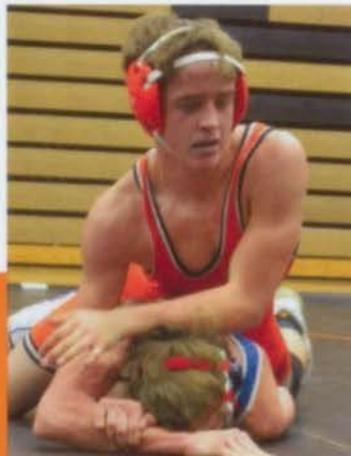
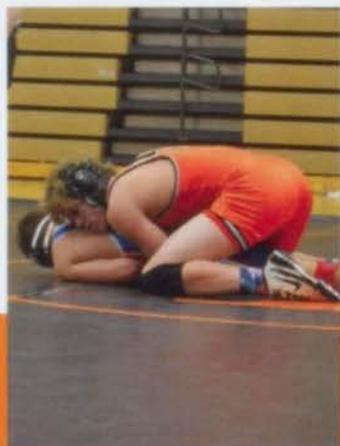
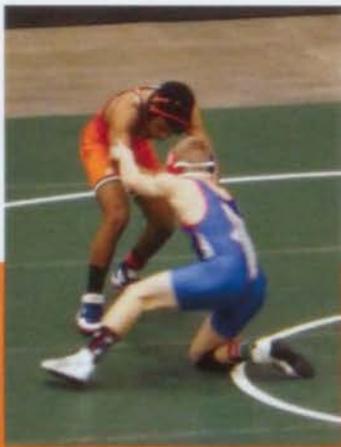
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Front Row: Gabe Eades, Seth Lloyd, Matt Schenck, A.J. Charter, Jeremiah Lawrie, James Lingenfelter, Megan Rodriguez.

Middle Row: Anthony Keafer, Kyler Sanders, Izaiah Rodriguez, Seth Stroble, Pete Maldonado, Cory Janasek, Jackson Stafford, Rich Garris.

Back Row: Quinton Mason, Anthony Biehler, Kris Gilmore, Robert Skaggs, Aaron Medlock, D.J. Kessler and Conagher Welch.



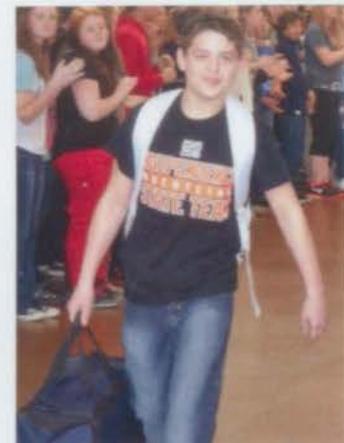
IHS wrestling enjoyed a successful season. They started off the season placing fourth at the KanOkla Invitational. The team also placed second at the Anderson County Invitational.

Jeremiah Lawrie (12) was named All-SEK First team. **Cal Bloomfield (10)**, **Gabe Eades (10)**, and **D.J. Kessler (12)** were recognized with an All-SEK honorable mention.

With the hard work and dedication five wrestlers qualified for State: D.J. Kessler, Jeremiah Lawrie, **Seth Stroble (11)** and **Jackson Stafford (11)** and Gabe Eades.

Seth Stroble finished fourth in his weight class. "Qualifying for State is always a goal. I was happy to get a chance my junior year."

Coach Camacho said, "I am very proud of how the guys did this year; they all did a great job. I am looking forward to next year and seeing what our returning wrestlers will accomplish."



Dance Team

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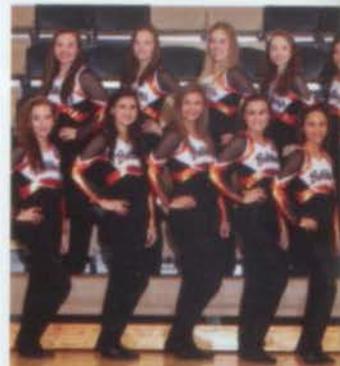


The IHS dance team started out its season by getting third on home routine, a Team Full-Out award and a Spirit Stick at dance camp.

Through the year, they performed at all the home football and basketball games (one of those accompanied by the IHS orchestra), a little girls dance clinic and all four pep assemblies.

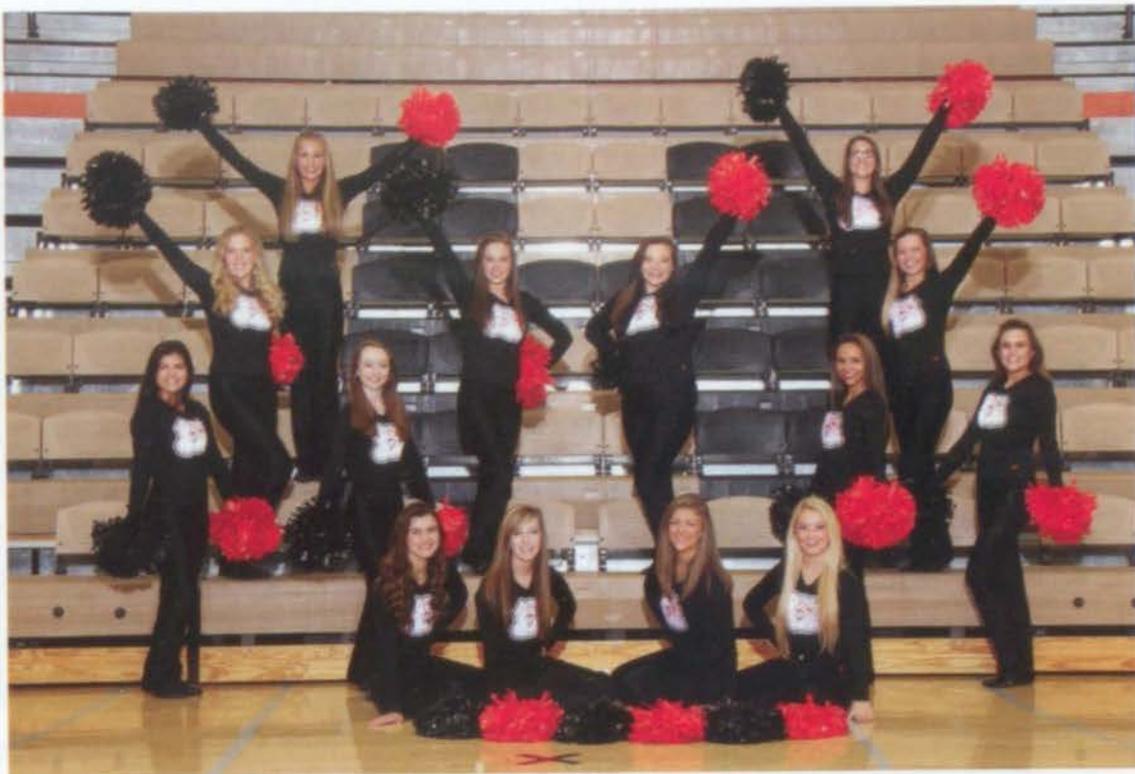
"My second year as coach of the IHS dance team has been really exceptional. While most dance teams experience a little bit of drama or discord, we've made it through the year with nothing but positivity. The girls get along so well, and they're always willing to help encourage one another," Said **Coach Rene Stanley**.

She continued, "Our officers did a fantastic job leading this team, and their leadership abilities are phenomenal. Many teams hire choreographers, but our officers choreograph every single dance on their own time, and they never complain. These girls are all hard-workers; whether it be a 6 a.m. practice or in the classroom, they always rise to the occasion."



"All four years I've spent on the IHS dance team have been filled with unforgettable memories and friendships." **Ainsleigh Linn (12)**





Front Row: Ainsleigh Linn, Brooke Drumeller, Carsyn Bryant, Haylie Eades.
Second Row: Qwynn Marquez, Erin Latimer, Ashley Johnson, Brooklinn Royer.
Third Row: Jasmine Hall, Shayla Schaper, Kylie Wilhelm, Morgan Mavericks.
Back Row: Lyssa Schabel and Addison Julian.



"Being a part of the IHS dance team all four years has been a blessing. I don't know what I would do without any of these girls." Carsyn Bryant (12)



"Unproductive practices, uncontrollable laughs, and unforgettable friendships have made being on the dance team one of the highlights of my high school career." Brooke Drumeller (12)



Cheerleaders

matter here

With the assistance of coaches **Ellie Chickadonz** and **Haley Dunn** and captains **Mackenzie Strycker (12)** and **Breana Ward (12)**, the squad had an early start. Practices began at the beginning of the summer followed by a camp July 7-10, where they competed against other squads.

"As a first-year coach, I appreciated the leadership from the senior cheerleaders," said Coach Chickadonz. "We inherited a strong program, which made this job a pleasure. We spent a lot of time with this squad."

This group of girls is always smiling, cheering on our Bulldog teams and pepping up the student section. They practice long and hard to perform amazing cheers and chants that keep the crowds up on their feet.

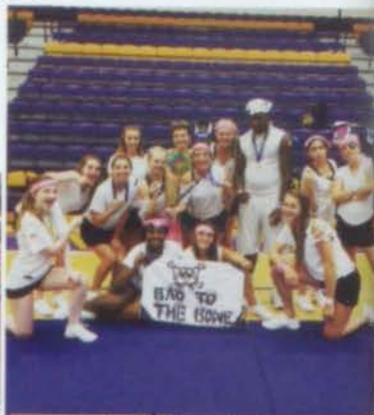
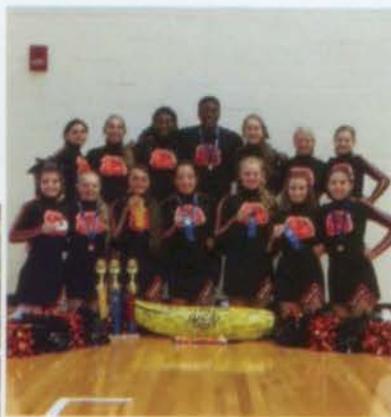
"They always put a smile on my face and push me to try new skills," said **Emily Wilson (11)**. The IHS cheerleaders are great at what they do and never stop impressing the crowds with their stunning performances.

"We had some struggles throughout the year, but we all stuck with it. Overall it made us closer as a team."

Alexis Rinne (10)

"What made me happiest about cheering was building all these new relationships and being a part of such a positive group."

Jocelyn Howland (9)





Front Row: Breana Ward and MacKenzie Strycker.
Middle Row: Destiny Kendrex, Bailey Babcock, Karson Ballew, Emily Wilson, Taylor Zamora.
Back Row: Lindsey Seger, Alexis Rinne, Ellen Unruh, Ashley McChesney and Jocelyn Howland.

" My four years as a high school cheerleader created some of the most memorable moments. I was always impressed at the hard work and dedication that the team puts into the routines and performances. I will never forget the amazing friendships I made and I will always miss IHS cheer. "

MacKenzie Strycker (12)



"These past four years as an IHS cheerleader have made me the person I am today. I made some amazing memories with teammates I will never forget. Being a part of the cheer team has had its ups and downs, but at the end of the day, we are all family. We're a family who will have each other's backs for years to come. I am proud to say I was and always will be an IHS Bulldog cheerleader. "

Breana Ward (12)



Boys Swim

matters here



Front Row: Sean Neyland, Nathan Hogge, Michael Lopez, Jordan Ashford, Jacob Smith, Jacob Hogge.

Back Row: Kathy Clapp (coach), Branden Bales, Adam Hayes, John Easley, Jacob Mitchell and Grace Slaton (manager).

Although none of the swimmers qualified for State, they all improved from the beginning of the year. "The boys had a great season. They consistently improved their times through diligent practice. Our seniors provided excellent leadership and the new swimmers made huge improvements. Overall, I could not have been more pleased with the inaugural year of IHS swimming," said **Coach Kathy Clapp**.

"I enjoyed the season and I'm going to miss the team."

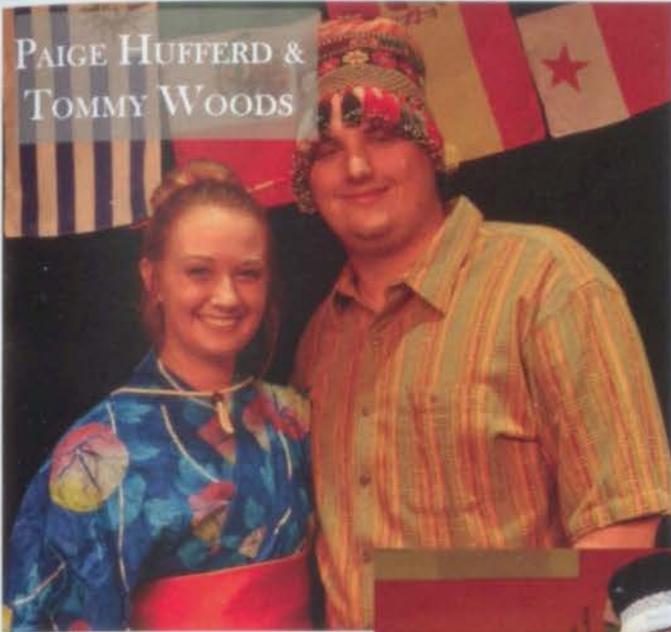
Jordan Ashford
(12)

Photos courtesy of Amy Bales and Tabitha Easley

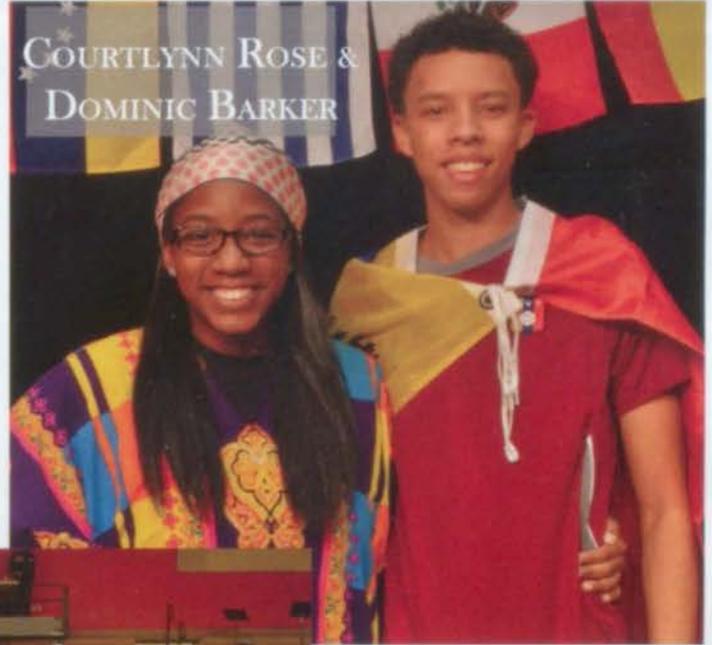


Winter Homecoming *matters here*

PAIGE HUFFERD &
TOMMY WOODS



COURTLYNN ROSE &
DOMINIC BARKER



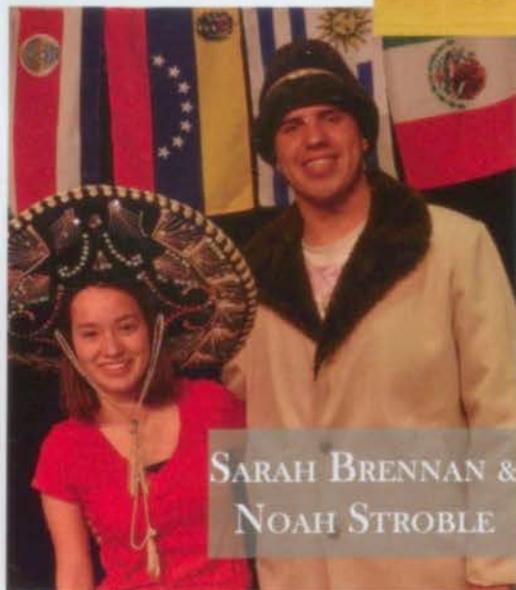
"Being on the court was great. I had a lot of fun in the homecoming assembly, but winning king was even better."
Noah Stroble



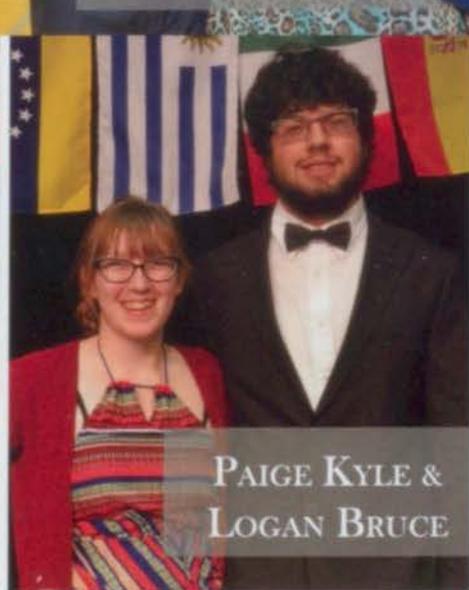
AALIYAH GRIFFIN &
NOAH STROBLE

"Winning queen was awesome. It has made my high school experience even better."
Aaliyah Griffin

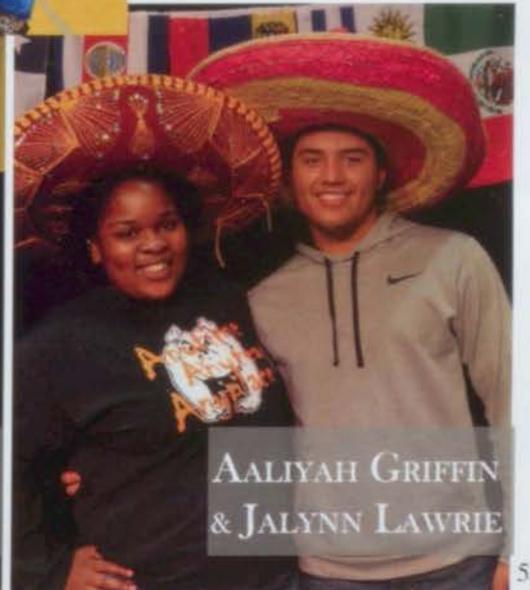
SARAH BRENNAN &
NOAH STROBLE



PAIGE KYLE &
LOGAN BRUCE

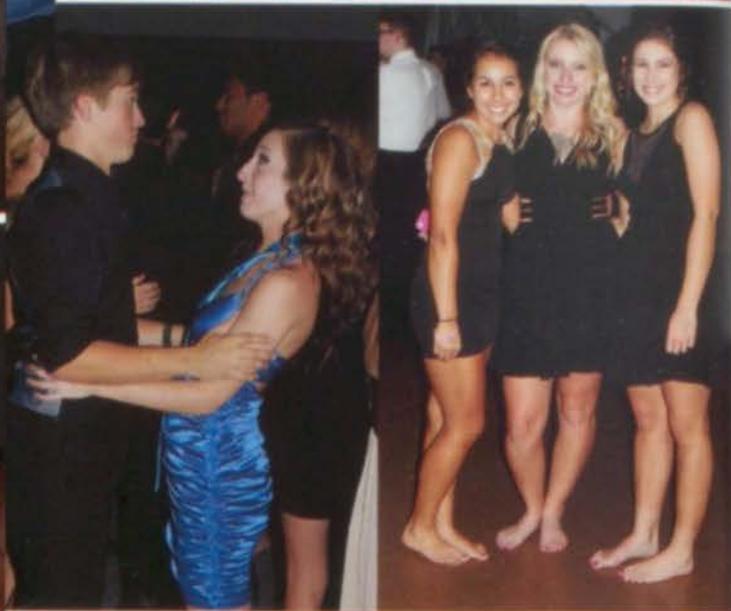


AALIYAH GRIFFIN
& JALYNN LAWRIE



Semi Formal

"A Starry Night"



Open Mic Night

matters here

Q & A

Q: What was the most nervous or scary thing about getting up in front of everyone?

A: Having my partner messing up and me not being able to help.

Tori Reyes (11)

Q: What was something you liked and disliked?

A: I liked how people showed up and that I got to see people that I knew show off their theater skills.

Jasmine Hall (10)

Every year at IHS puts on an Open Mic Night. This year we were able to do just one.

Open Mic Night allows students to get up in front of a live audience and perform a skit, sing a song, read poetry or perform a variety of other "talents."

Even untalented people were not afraid to get up in front of everyone and show what they have. At the very end everyone is awarded with a trophy and there's an ugly sweater contest. The outcome was terrific this winter! There was a good amount of people who showed up and came out to support IHS students.

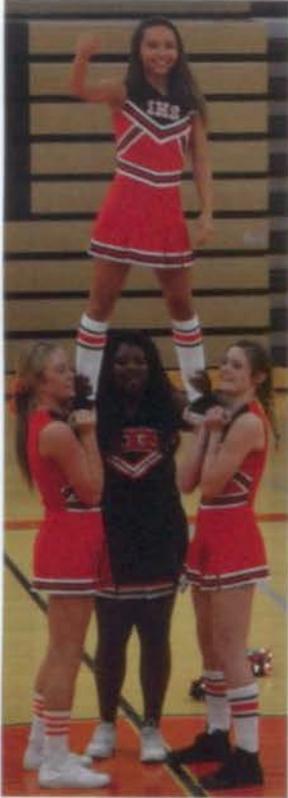
This is a really nerve wracking activity to do, but once you are in front of the audience it's really not that bad.



2015 Winter Ugly Sweater Contest

Bulldog Bark

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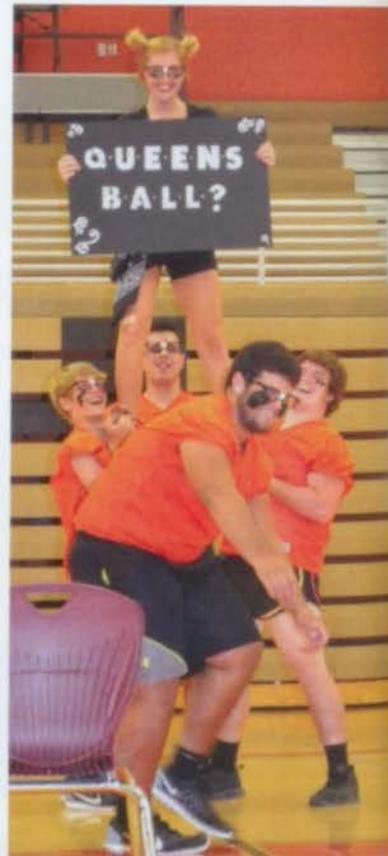


Bulldog Bark kicked off another year at IHS with the fall sports doing their fantastic routines. Teams that participated were soccer, football, girls tennis, cross country, volleyball and band. The cheer and dance teams choreographed the routines. IHS fall champion was the football team. Who could forget **Teyler Aemisegger (12)** asking **Seth Stroble (11)** to the Queens Ball? Of course, Seth said yes. How could he not?



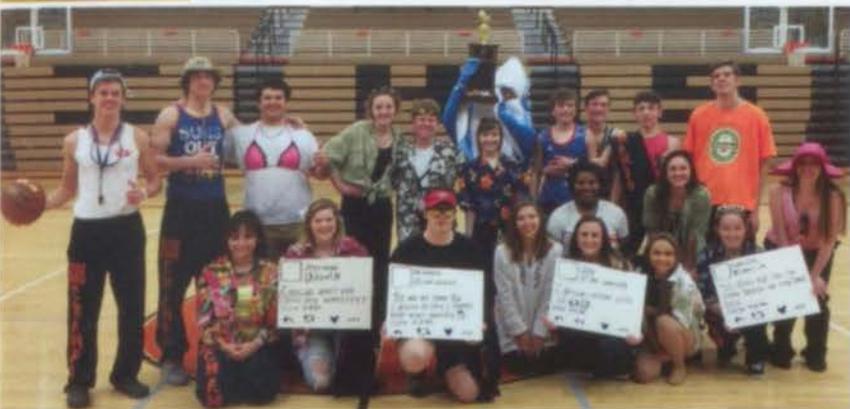
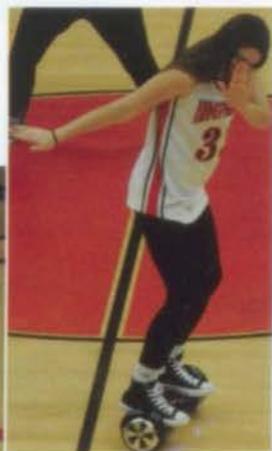
"It was awesome; she surprised me out of nowhere. The bulldog bark team knew the whole time and I was clueless." **Seth Stroble (11)**

Girls tennis showed us how to rock those ponchos and sombreros.





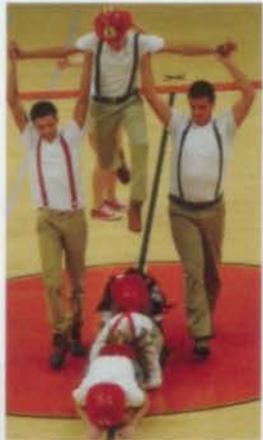
The seniors decided it would be a great idea if Bulldog Bark teams were grouped by class instead of by sport. The juniors won the Bulldog Bark for the winter. They came up with a beach theme with a shocking twist. We'll never forget **Levi Kemp (11)** trying to "revive" **Cooper King (11)**. Didn't see that coming!



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Bulldog Bark new surfin' Queen B. **Brooklinn Royer (11)**



Whooh! The seniors were on fire out there!



One day for spirit week was American Freedom Day. The sophomores showed that freedom spirit for Bulldog Bark.

Dodgeball

matters here

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CHAMPS 2016



Left to right: Conagher Welch, Matt Mason, Adam Hayse, Kyle Rinck, Alex Wesselowski and Dalson Hamlin.

Adam and the Boys



Entrepreneurship

matters here



IHS entrepreneurship class spent a lot of time marketing bulldog t-shirts, visors, tumbler cups, to make profits. In addition to the students learning about the process of selecting a product, preparing it for distribution, etc., they have the opportunity to earn scholarship money through their essay, presentation and interview with the entrepreneurship board.

The course is taught by Ms. McClure, who has worked with students within this program for several years.

The scholarship winners were **Aubree Lawrie (10)** for best president, **Bailey Babcock (11)** as best vice-president, **Marie Alliston (11)** as best VP of finance, **Lyssa Schabel (10)** as best VP of marketing, **Jeremiah Lawrie (12)** for best VP of production, **Cory Janasek (11)** for best VP of HR, **Ryan Novotni (10)** for best web master, and **Darrius Scott (10)** as a top sales person, while second place went to **Clare Bindley (10)** and third place went to **Daniel Grice (11)**. All scholarship winners won \$400.00. The best company was The Go Getters. They won a special \$50.00 gift card.

Entrepreneurship is all about coming together as one and marketing items and learn about the business world.

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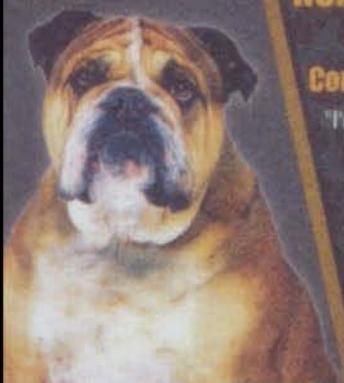
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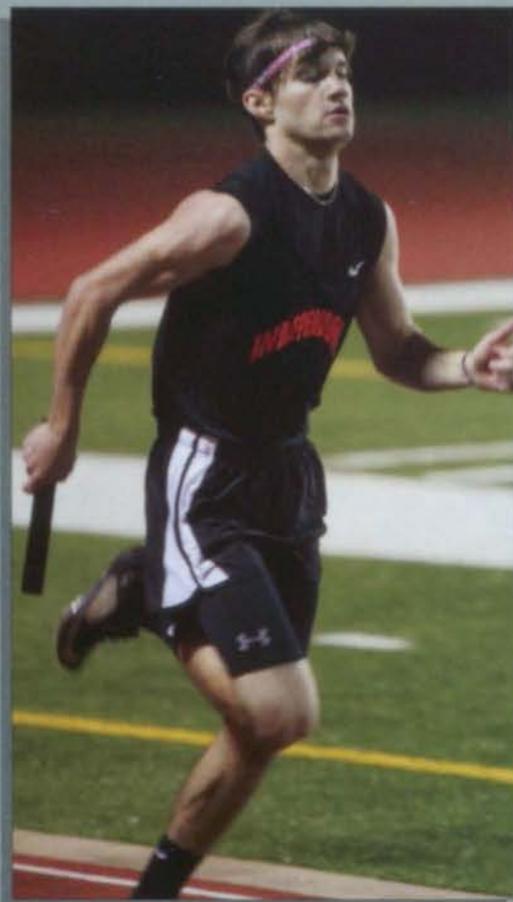
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Sophomore
Life

Boys
Tennis

Girls
Swim

Track

Golf

Softball

Bas

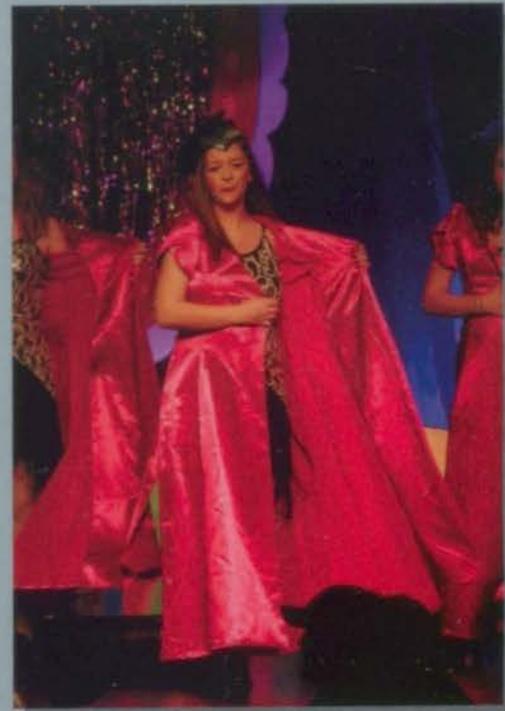


Concert
Band



Forensics

Blood
Drive



Guys & Dolls

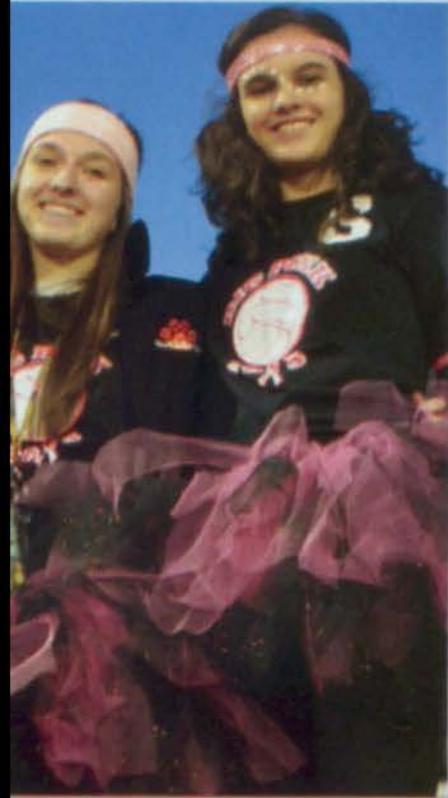
First
Leadership

Bulldogs
matter here

Class of Sophomores 2018



Class of 2018 officers include Clare Bindley, vice-president; Jerod Knight, secretary; Ellen Unruh, StuCo representative; and Jeb Stafford, treasurer. Not pictured: Aubree Lawrie, president; and Josh Pralle, StuCo representative.





Katie Alexander
Leonard Armstrong
Xena Baker
Cristina Barraza
Savannah Barton



Laura Barwick
Edward Bauer
Ledvia Bethancourt
Andrea Betts
Clare Bindley



Michelle Blades
Cal Bloomfield
Eva Bohr
Kathleen Bradshaw
Chantel Brown



Denton Brown
Hannah Burnett
Tyana Carter
Zebadiah Carter
Aiden Charter



Zoe Cobb
Mathew Connelly
Mathew Connelly
Curtis Cook
Cortlan Cox



Cole Cunningham
Terra Daniels
Megan Darkis
Donovan Darrow
Dustin Darrow



Michael Driscoll
Gabriel Eades
Lauren Easley
Calvin Edwards
Abby Ewing

Emily Jane Fairbank
 Kevin Foster
 Matthew Gardner
 Alexander Gibson
 Tanner Godinez



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 Randie Golden
 Jasmine Gray
 Johnathan Gray
 Deontrey Hadley



Jasmine Hall
 Kelvin Heckman
 Megan Hendryx
 Ellie Hentzen
 Jacob Hogge



MaeJaun Howard
 Anastasia Howland
 Raiden Hughes
 Maxewell Hulse
 Genesis Jabben



Jacob Jabben
 TreyVon Kendrex
 Liandria King
 Jerod Knight
 Elaina Knisley



Isiah Krause
 Erin Latimer
 Zane Lawrence
 Aubree Lawrie
 Dalton Leyda



James Lingenfelter
 Jonathan Lingenfelter
 Seth Lloyd
 Qwynn Marquez
 Brannen Mayfield





Corey
McCambridge
Ashley McChesney
Ivette Mejia
Lillian Melle
Britney Melton



David Meredith
Olivia Merrick
Harlan Milligan
Madison Mitchell
Elizabeth Monroy
Gonzalez



Jakob Morgan
Amber Nading
Ethen Neary
Keaton Nelson
Hannah Nickle



Ryan Novotni
Dusty Owen
Javian Pereira
Joshua Pralle
Bryan Ramey



Lexis Ramsey
Jessica Reed
Alexis Rinne
Benjamin Roark
Izaiah Rodriguez



Megan Rodriguez
Whitney Rutland
Lyssa Schabel
Shayla Schaper
Darrius Scott



Jacob Scott
Lakelyn Shaffer
Trenton Shamblin
Dawson Sharp
Grace Slaton

Garrett Smith
Lacey Smith
Jeb Stafford
Kierra Streeter
Casey Sutton



McKenzie Tillery
Amanda Trout
Chase Tucker
Ty Umlauf
Ellen Unruh



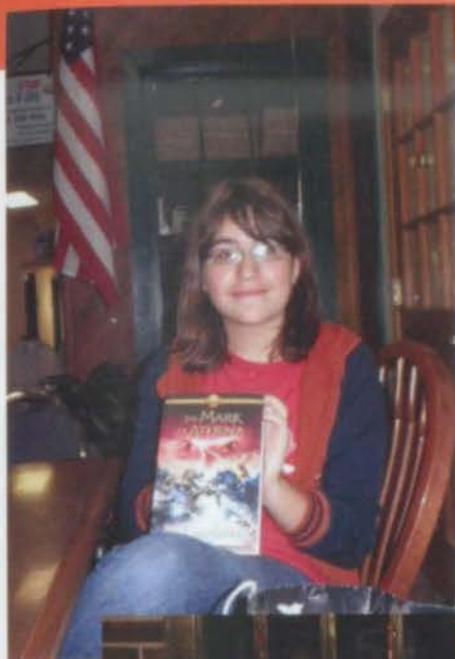
Jessie Van Dyne
Luke Wallace
Julian Welch
Troy Welch
Samuel Whitaker



Michael Whitson
Alice Whittet
Erin Williams
Rana Zimmerman



Amanda Trout, Not only reading stories, *She's writing them, too.*

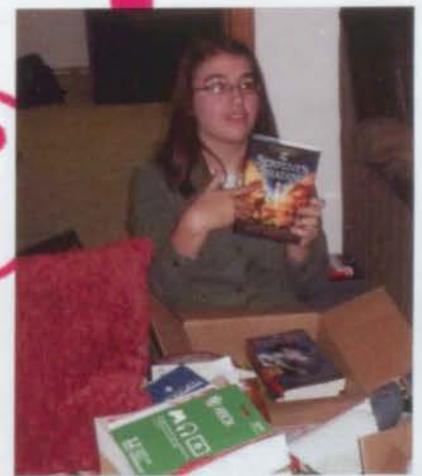
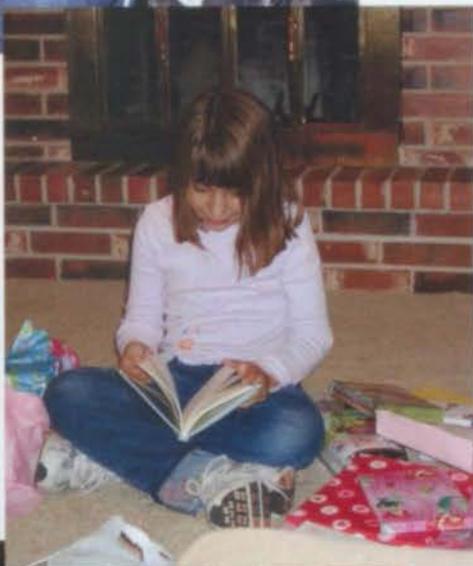


Finding her inspiration in friends, family and music, **Amanda Trout (10)** began writing her fourth grade year at the age of nine. Amanda recollected, "I realized that it's a really fun thing to do, and it let me express myself in a way I never thought was possible."

She has been actively writing ever since. Through her seven years of writing she has written poems, twelve short stories, one novel, and has one story in progress. She has had one poem and a short story published through an online source; she hopes to officially be published sometime in the near future.

Through her writing she hopes to "tell the world the stories that have been brewing in my head for years." Writing is her way of expressing herself, not only to her peers and people around her, but to the world. She finds joy in creating the characters, making their lives reflect her own and those around her.

Her stories are an extension of herself and she has big hopes for the future of her writing. She has every intention to continue writing for years to come.



Boys Tennis

matters here

The IHS boys tennis team had another great season. The tennis team never lets the IHS Bulldog tennis fans down.

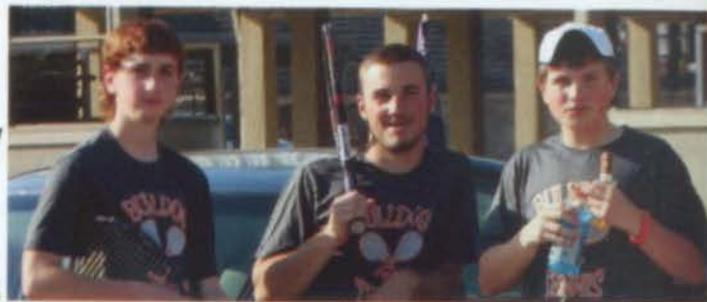
IHS grabbed another SEK team championship. Number one doubles team of **Will Schabel (11)** and **Sam Hilger (11)** captured first place at the SEK tournament, as well as the number two doubles team of **Jalynn Lawrie (12)** and **Kyle Woods (11)**.

Number one singles **Zack Schroeder (11)** and number two singles **Logan Payne (9)** both had second place finishes at SEK.

For the twelfth straight year, the IHS boys tennis team claimed the Regional championship and qualified five for state. "I could not be more proud of how our guys performed under pressure," Coach **Matt Ysusi** said.

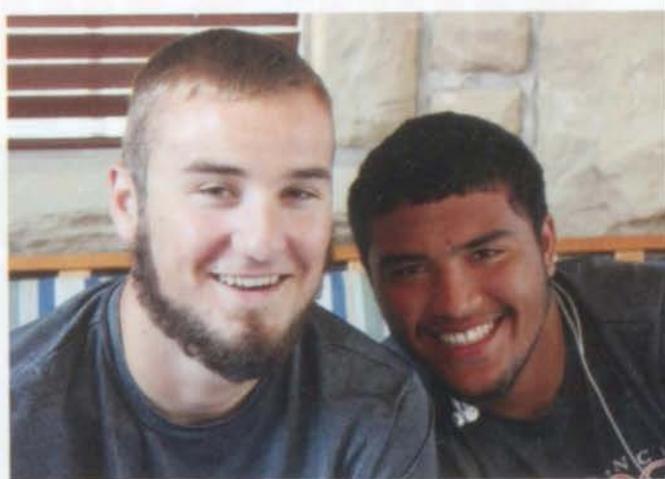
The future appears bright for the IHS boys tennis team since IHS will only lose one senior to graduation.

"It's a long season," said Coach Ysusi, "but our guys peak at the right time and always make a great showing in the post season."



"I never realized how much I would miss high school tennis until it was nearly over."
Jalynn Lawrie (12)





Front Row: Evan Carnes, Harlan Milligan, Shane Sanders, Brock O'Malley, Logan Payne, Cy Smith.

Middle Row: Zack Schroeder, Garrett Muninger, Tanner Godinez, Jordan Ashford, Cortlan Cox, Donivan Darrow, Dayton Post.

Back Row: Sam Hilger, Chase Tucker, Kyle Woods, Daniel Grice, Will Schabel and Ben Roark.

Photos courtesy of Dee Dee O'Malley



"Even though I only played JV, at least I had fun."
Jordan Ashford (12)



Boys State Tennis *matters here*

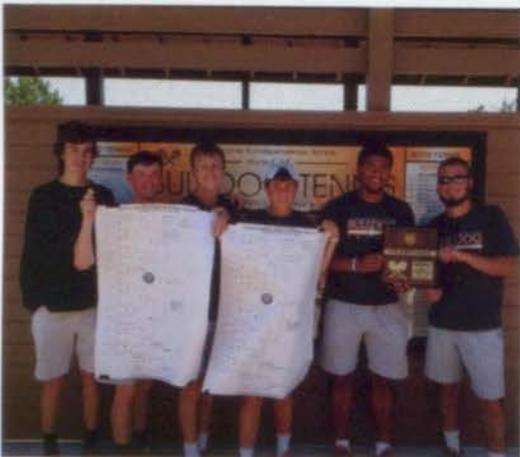


The IHS boys tennis qualified five players for State and finished fourth as a team. **Sam Hilger (11)** and **Will Schabel (11)** finished eleventh in number one doubles, while **Jalynn Lawrie (12)** and **Kyle Woods (11)** finished thirteenth in number two doubles. **Zack Schroeder (11)** finished third in number one singles.

"It's not what we wanted, but it was a really good showing, so I think that's something to be really happy and positive about. Like dang, we came here, maybe not necessarily played our best tennis, but still were a Top 4 team, in the State.

"I think there are a lot of people who would take that any day, so we just need to be happy with what we got, but also not be satisfied. We'll make sure we get back to work this summer," said **Coach Matt Ysusi**.

Photos courtesy of Thomas Loft



"Going to State for the third time, only makes me want to practice even more to go for a fourth time and do the best I've ever done."

Zack Schroeder (11)



Girls Swim

matters here



Front Row: Sean Neyland (manager), Lexi Carr, Alexis Clapp, Dara Mendoza, Yasna Hadipour (manager).

Middle Row: Grace Slaton, Hadleigh Palmer, Emily Lewis, Molly Thompson.

Back Row: Coach Haylie Marchant, Lanie Stair, Libby Davis, Ellen Unruh and Emma Stoner.

Breast, fly, free: What do these words have in common? They're all different kinds of strokes swimmers use in competition. IHS swimmers attempted to secure first place finishes in every stroke possible this season.

There have been a few important firsts this year for the swim team. This has been the very first year that Independence has had its own swim team, as girls involved in the sport previously had to swim cooperatively with Field Kindley's team.

2016 is also **Coach Haylie Marchant's** first year coaching the IHS girls swim team. "It has been an exciting first year for me as coach of the high school swim team," she said. "I had a determined team this year and could not have asked for a better one. The girls worked hard and in the end it paid off when we were representing Independence at the state meet."

Lexi Carr (11) became the first IHS swimmer to medal at State. She took third in both the 50m and 100m freestyle.

"My goal was to get into finals," said Lexi. "The last two years I was disappointed in myself for not making it into finals. Although my favorite stroke is the butterfly, I knew I had a better chance to medal in free, so that's why I chose to swim that stroke."

Other IHS swimmers who qualified for State included **Hadleigh Palmer (12)**, **Karsyn Ballew (11)**, **Ellen Unruh (10)**, **Alexis Clapp (9)** and **Dara Mendoza (9)**.



Track & Field

matters here

A year ago, the IHS track team finished as the Class 4A runner-up in the girls division of the Kansas State Track and Field Championships. Those were some big shoes to fill for the 2016 team. Not only did the track team improve as a whole throughout the season, but they also gained some very young, yet talented athletes.

This year's team consisted of 55 individuals and **Coach Boldra** entered his fourth season as the track coach.

"We had a fun, energetic group of kids who learned that hard work helps you... not kill you," said Coach Boldra.

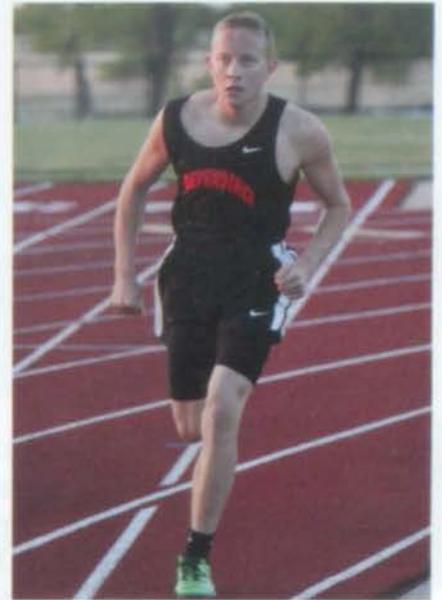
Regional qualifiers included **Zac Shaffer (11)** in the 100m and 200m, **James Lingenfelter (11)** in the 1600m and 3200m, **Max Jones (12)** in the shot put, the girls 4x100 meter relay team, girls 4x400 meter relay team, **Graci Carr (9)** in the 100m and 200m, **Lauren Pasternak (9)** in the 100m, **Kylie Wilson (9)** in the 200m and 400m, **Tyana Carter (10)** in the 400m, **Courtlynn Rose (12)** in the long jump and triple jump, **MacKenzie Strycker (12)** in the triple jump, javelin and pole vault, and **Taylor Howland (9)** in the javelin.

When State rolled around Zac finished fifth in the 100m dash and Graci finished sixth in the 100m dash. The girls 400 meter relay team including Graci, Kylie, Tyana and **Nicole Moses (11)** finished fifth as a team at the State meet.

"This group of athletes impressed me," said Coach Boldra. "They were willing to put in the hard work at practice each and every day, and it paid off. We performed well at State and came away with some great finishes."

Photos courtesy of Thomas Lott





Golf *matters here*

The IHS golf team had four players complete their senior season: **Dominic Barker**, **Kyle Rinck**, **Alex Wesselowski** and **Kennedy Froebe**.

With the support of six underclassmen, IHS enjoyed success on the course this year. "We have some talented players coming up through the ranks," said **Coach David Harlin**. "I think we'll reap the benefits of their talent in the next couple of years."

IHS finished in second place at the Pittsburg tournament. **Dominic Barker** shot an 82 to finish in second place, and **Alex Wesselowski** finished with an 85 in fourth place.

"Juniors **Corbyn Hugo** and **Kason Carroll** really improved the early season," said **Coach Harlin**.

That improvement was apparent when **Corbyn** shot an 84 for second place in the Fort Scott tournament, and **Kason** shot a 94 to finish in the eleventh spot.

Although the players enjoyed individual success in tournaments, the team as a whole struggled to play well consistently at the same time.



"I know I got better because I hit fewer spectators as the year went on."
Kyle Rinck (12)



"They say golf is like life, but don't believe them. It's way more complicated than that."

Alex Wesselowski (12)



"Golf is a game of luck. It's a good thing I am both good and lucky."

Dominic Barker (12)





Alex Wesselowski was the lone Bulldog golfer to qualify for the State tournament this year. Alex played a solid game and shot an 88 at the tournament, which left him in a tie for 51st place. Alex played exceptionally well among the best golfers in the state.

"A coach is always pleased when a player makes it to the top tier of state competition," said Coach David Harlin. "Alex put in the time on the course to strengthen his game. He represented IHS well."

"It was by far one of my greatest experiences I had in my four years at IHS," said Alex. "I couldn't have done it without the strong support of my team and my two favorite coaches, Mr. Harlin and Mr. Bradbury."



Front Row: Jakob Vowell, Nate Morrison, Drew Pasternak, Kason Carroll, Corbyn Hugo, Kennedy Froebe.
Second Row: Dominic Barker, Kyle Rinck, Noah Stroble, Cooper King, Alex Wesselowski and Jalyynn Lawrie.

Softball *matters here*

The softball team had a very memorable season. They had a season record of 19-6 and won Regionals, making it to State for the first time since 2001. The Lady Bulldogs also broke the longest winning streak, with thirteen wins in a row and the most wins in a season in IHS softball history.

The girls placed third at State, making that the best finish in a state tournament. This year five players were named All-SEK. The first team includes **Courtney Day (12)**, **Hannah Burnett (10)** and **Lyssa Schabel (10)**. With 57 hits, Hannah broke the record for the most single season hits. The All-SEK second team includes **Rindy Marquez (11)** and **Morgan Mavers (9)**.

"I can't think of a better way to finish the season," said Coach Reynolds. "To end our season at third in State is really special. I am so proud of this team who won two games in the state tourney for the first time in IHS history."

Courtney Day was the only senior on the team this year. "I knew we had a shot at doing something great at State," said Courtney. "Taking third with my teammates was a great way to cap my senior season."



Photos courtesy of Thomas Lott

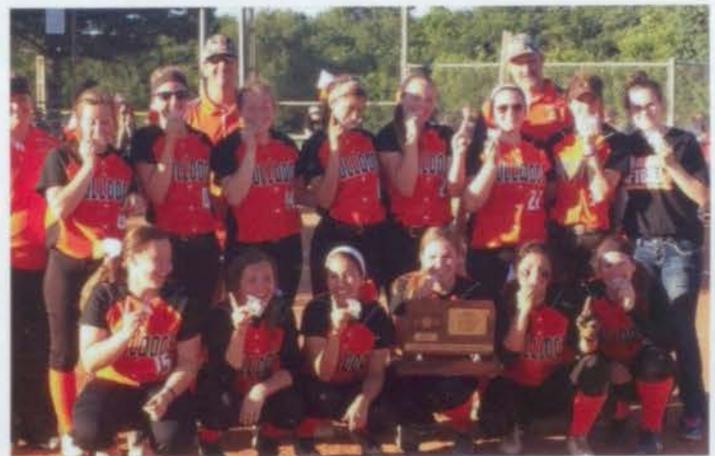
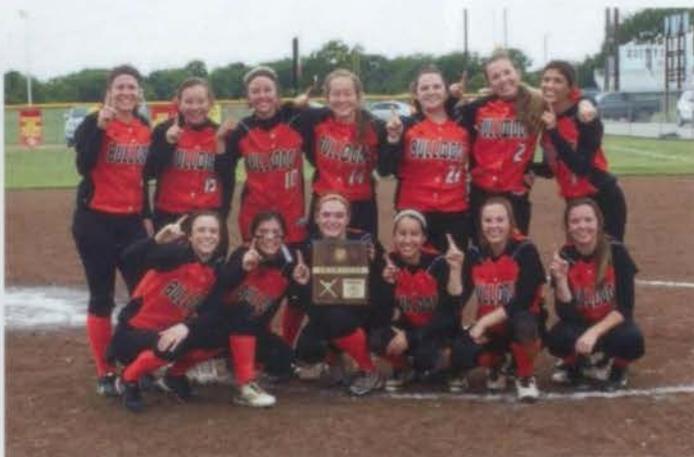




Front Row: Megan Henry, Kylie Wilhelm, Anna Wilson, Shayla Schaper, Kelsie Lane, Rindy Marquez, Qwynn Marquez.

Middle Row: Morgan Mavers, Claire Cook, Courtney Day, Katy Chapman, Danielle Veile, Megan Darkis.

Back Row: Ashlynn Brook (manager), Hannah Burnett, Lyssa Schabel, Sydney Rinck, Ashlee Wilson, Aubree Lawrie and Taylor Howland.



Baseball

matters here

It's been four years since the IHS baseball team has won a league championship. That was one of the team's goals for the season. Although the team fell short of that goal, there were several successes throughout the season that are worth celebrating.

Team leadership came from senior players **Matt Mason**, **Conagher Welch**, **Tommy Woods**, **Luc Dunn** and **Dalson Hamlin**. "Our players really look to these guys to set the tone each practice and every game," said **Coach Marcus Lanning**.

The season started off a bit bumpy with a season opener 15-6 loss to Galena. The team struggled with errors, which cost the Bulldogs the win.

From that game on the season was a series of ups and downs... a win here, a loss there. IHS won two road games at Caney Valley 14-8 and 11-5 due to an improved defensive game.

The Bulldogs took on Montgomery county rival FKHS and were victorious with 15-0 and 12-0 wins. IHS was able to capitalize on some FKHS errors in both games.

Then the team split with Iola. Luc hit a two-run homer, followed by a two-run homer by **Colan Snodgrass (11)** and a three-run homer by **Josh Pralle (10)**, his first as an IHS player.

IHS took an 8-3 loss against St. Mary's Colgan. "The team just made several mental mistakes, which cost us the game," said Coach Lanning.

Frontenac handed the Bulldogs another loss (13-3). Coach Lanning admitted the team had a job ahead of itself in catching up with others in the league.

After a four-game losing streak, IHS split with Chanute, losing the first game 11-6 and winning the second 13-1. Then IHS dropped two games to Fort Scott and split with LCHS.

Post-season honors went to **Evan Sprague (11)**, catcher (first team); **Josh Pralle**, center fielder (first team); **Luc Dunn**, pitcher/first baseman (second team); and **Dalson Hamlin**, pitcher/second baseman/shortstop (second team).

According to Josh Pralle, "We have a lot of senior leadership on the team, and the underclassmen help, as well. Evan did a great job getting the team up and going."

The team finished the season with a 12-10 record. Considering there were 19 underclassmen on the team roster, the future looks bright for IHS baseball.

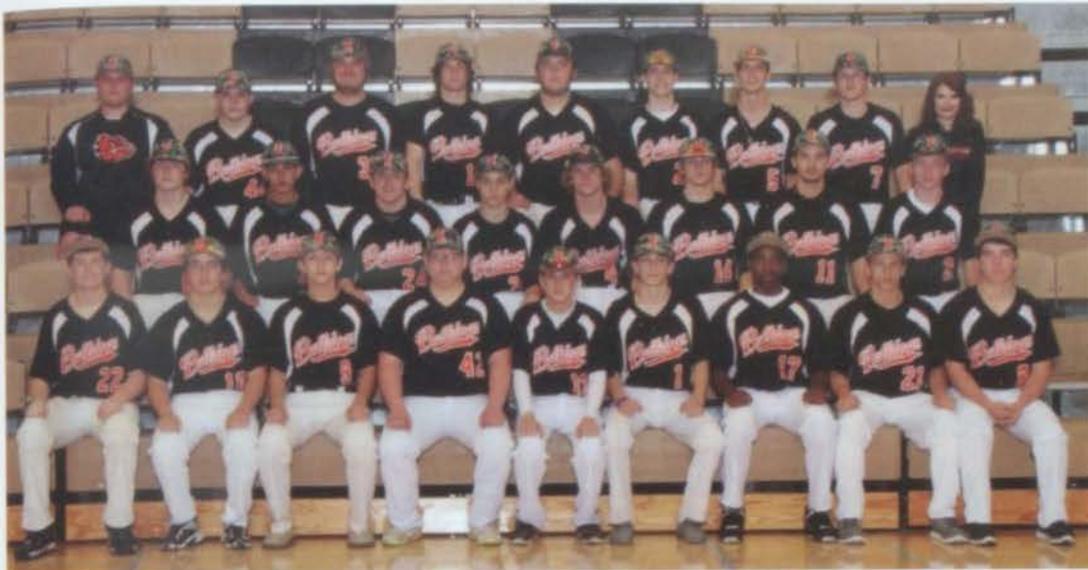


"The season was a roller coaster year. Pittsburg was one of the best games we played. I believe the baseball tradition is going back up in its own way like before. The boys did have ups and downs, but overall they were successful."

Coach Lanning

"My favorite memory will be spending time with my teammates and coaches. Senior year felt like the year we were closest, which is why it was our best record for our four years."

Dalson Hamlin (12)



Front Row: Chance Bennett, Lane Ewing, Jack Edwards, Casey Sutton, Zane Lawrence, Cody Schicke, Chicago Elias, Lane Tucker, Landon Ewing.
Middle Row: Cal Bloomfield, Matt Mason, Evan Sprague, Logan Copeland, Conagher Welch, Josh Pralle, Calvin Edwards, Whitney Rutland.
Back Row: Jaret McCabe (manager), Trace Smith, Tommy Woods, Colan Snodgrass, Luc Dunn, Evan Kleiber, Levi Kemp, Dalson Hamlin and Kristina Johnson (manager).



Photos courtesy of Thomas Lott

"The most memorable game to me was when we played Pittsburg because Dalson and I both threw complete game shutouts, and apparently we were the 'worst team in Kansas' according to them." **Luc Dunn (12)**

"As Michael Scott said, 'I knew exactly what to do. But in a much more real sense, I had no idea what to do.'" **Tommy Woods (12)**

"We had a good season, didn't quite complete the goals we had in mind but either way I love my team and the people on it." **Matt Mason (12)**

Concert Band

matters here

No sooner than marching season ends, concert season begins. The band divides into two groups for this season: concert band and wind ensemble. Both groups worked incredibly hard to put on great performances. In April both groups competed in large group contest, and wind ensemble received a 1 rating and concert band a 2.

"The high school band students had a very successful year," said **Mrs. Shelton**, IHS band director. "With 20 seniors strong, they had a great showing."

IHS students represented our school well in a solo and ensemble competition by bringing home seventeen 1 ratings, thirteen 2 ratings, and a 3 rating from district. They followed that up with ten 1 ratings and eight 2 ratings at State.

"Our jazz band also received a 1 rating at contest," said Mrs. Shelton. "We had a record number of students take solos and ensembles to contest this year and many participated in honor band. I love the variety that teaching band provides and having students for seven years straight from sixth grade to seniors is really special. We all become a crazy family! We had a great year!"



Forensics

matters here



The IHS forensics squad had a marvelous year with almost everyone in the top six in many tournaments. Four students qualified for State. **Maddy O'Rourke (12)** earned the title of Class 4A State Forensics Original Oratorion Champion. Maddy also placed fifth in Informative Speaking.

Tori Reyes (11) finished thirteenth in Humorous Interpretation and **Amanda Trout (10)** finished ninth in LD Debate.

At State Festival **Meagan Greer (12)** earned a 1 rating in Poetry Interpretation.

Maddy made a return trip to Nationals for the third consecutive year. She finished in the top 90 in Informative Speaking.

"Competing at nationals is really special," said Maddy. "I'm pleased that I achieved the goals I set for myself this season."

"I am very pleased with about how the season went. I had an amazing group of students, and the seniors in particular had a great year. I will certainly miss having them on the squad," said **Miss Burris**, forensics coach.



Blood Drive

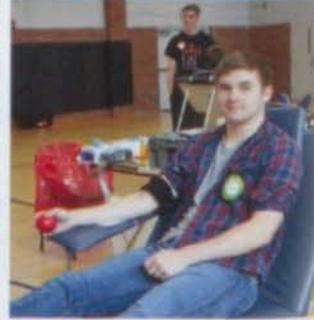
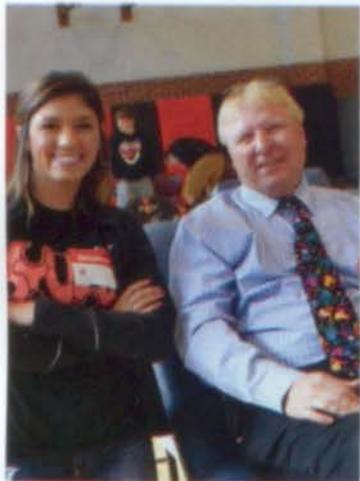
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Independence High School's Student council pulled off another successful blood drive in April. The group collected 48 units of donated blood, which will be used to save 144 lives. Each donation is split into 3 separate donations: the red blood cells, the plasma, and the platelets, which are all desperately needed in hospitals.

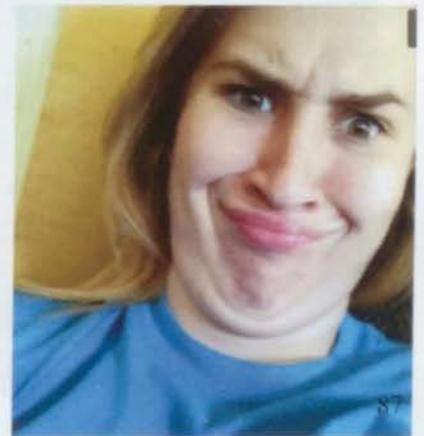
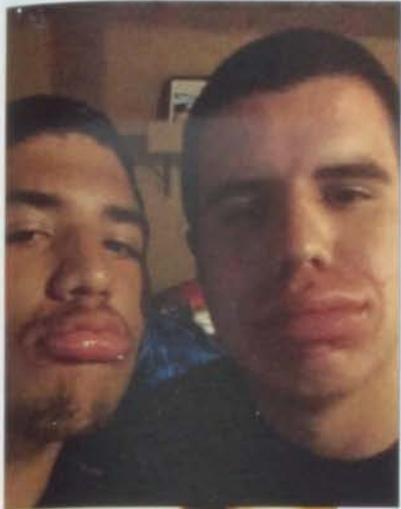
"These kids really pulled it together and it's so great to watch young people get involved like this," said **Ms. Beth Smith**, StuCo adviser.

Student council members showed up at the high school at 7:30 a.m. before the drive to help set up and organize. Many of the StuCo members, in addition to working at the blood drive, are also donating.

"We always have most of the eligible StuCo members donate," said **Eleni McCaffery (12)**, StuCo vice-president. "It really feels great to be a part of this huge effort to help others."



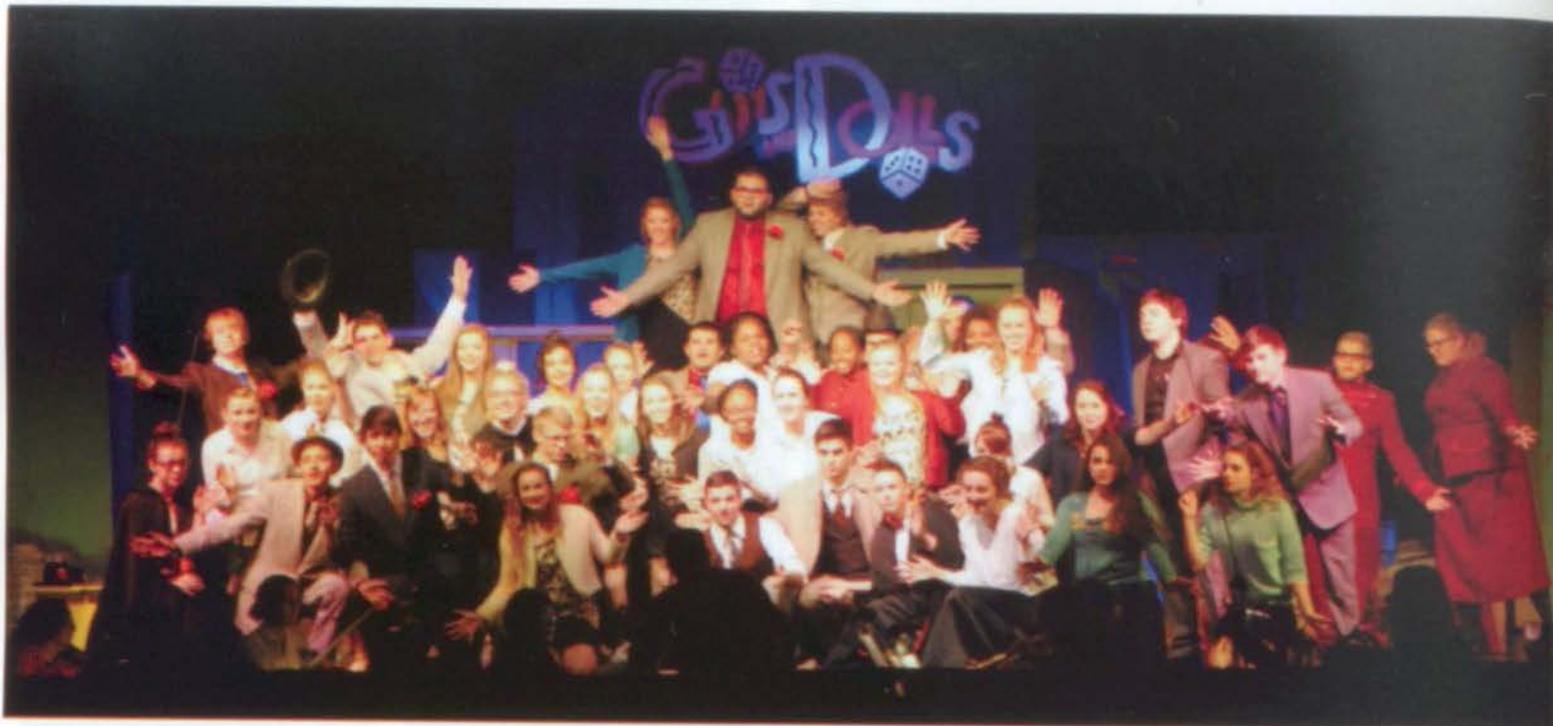
Selfies



Schools that *selfie*
together, **stay**
together.

Guys and Dolls

matters here



After Mr. Annable and Ms. Bennin cast parts for the classic Broadway musical *Guys & Dolls*, rehearsals began in January.

The cast members and orchestra quickly started learning their parts and other students started bringing the sets to life. The production was a huge group effort and took a lot of team work, but everyone did great as they pulled the play together.

It literally takes a village to put on a high school production. Many hours are spent procuring set pieces and props; the musicians who play for the vocalists must be at nightly rehearsals, and then there are the many costumes to fit and all the makeup that must be applied.

"I believe it was a great success; a lot of hard work, time, and effort was given by the cast, directors, crew, orchestra and other adults who helped with the show," said Ms. Bennin. "Teamwork and collaboration is what truly makes a musical great."

After two months of long practices, the musical was brought to life in early March.

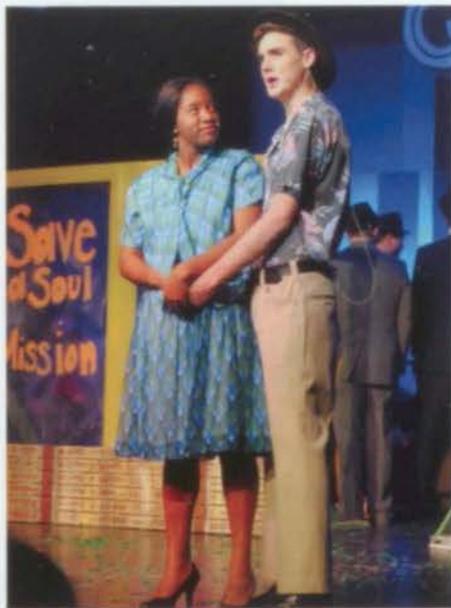
"*Guys and Dolls* is my favorite musical and the students did a fantastic job. I really enjoyed it," said Mr. Annable.

"The *Guys and Dolls* experience this year was wonderful. I am so glad to have been a part of it. I loved to meet and become friends with the people in the cast and crew, and I was very glad about how we pulled the play together. Ms. Bennin and Mr. Annable were fantastic directors and I am very thankful for them. I am excited to be a part of more musicals, and I hope that more people will come out next year."

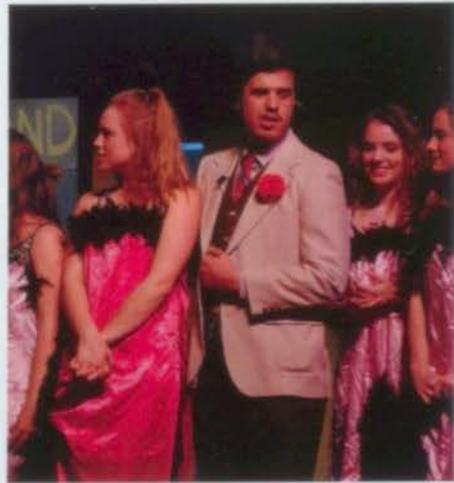
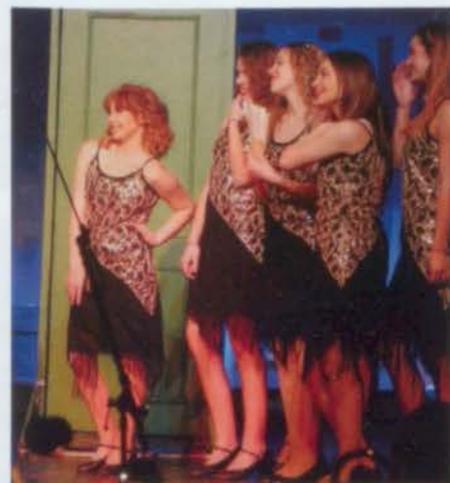
Luke Wallace (10)



"It was an amazing show with amazing people and I wish I could do it all over again! The directors are some of the best I've worked with and I'll never forget the experience!"
Courtlynn Rose (12)



"I can't imagine having any more fun than I had bringing the role of Adelaide to life. She is a great character."
Sagan Shire (11)



First Leadership *matters here*

First Leadership participants are sophomores who are interested in growing their leadership skills, enhancing our community and learning about themselves.

The program is facilitated by the Independence Chamber of Commerce.



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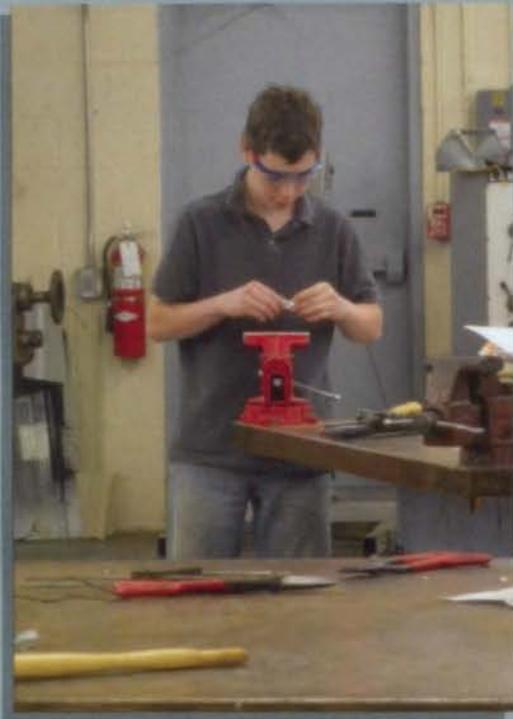
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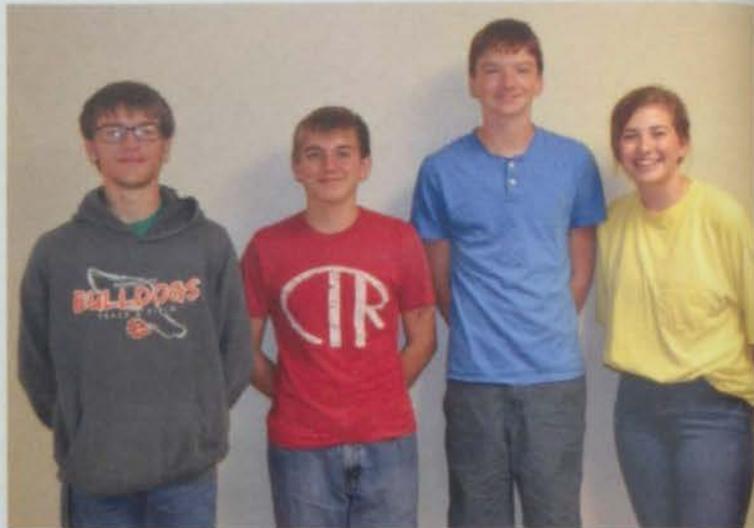
Spring
Break

National
Honor
Society

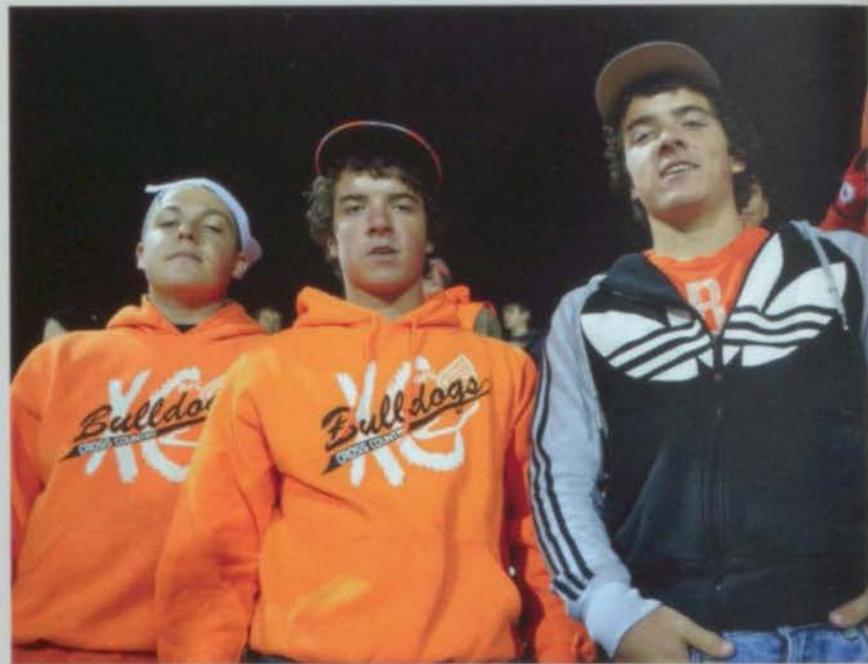
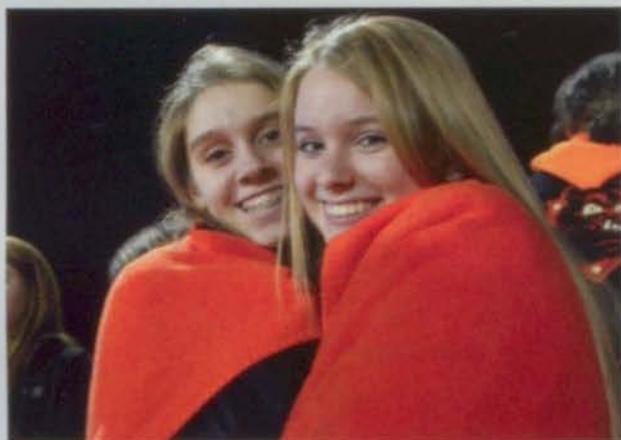
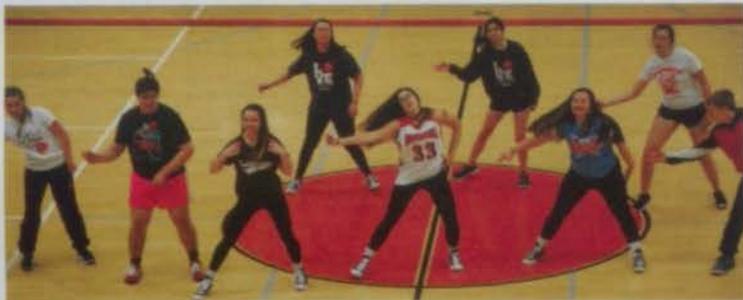
Graduation

Bulldogs
matter here

Class of Freshmen 2019



Class officers: Payton Ward, vice-president; Cy Smith, treasurer; Aidan Brumley, secretary; Libby Davis, StuCo representative. Not pictured: Kylie Wilhelm, president; and Trace Smith, StuCo representative.





Erin Allen
Deavin Barnhizer
Chance Bennett
Anthony Biehler
Kayla Blex



Isiah Brown
Aidan Brumley
Natalie Bryant
Patrick Burgess
Cassidy Camacho



Meredith Campbell
Evan Carnes
Graci Carr
Kaitlyn Chapman
Logan Copeland



Avriauna Cornett
Raygan Cunningham
Destiney Drake
Jacobe Dye
Courtney Eades



Thomas Easter
Breanna Edwards
Jack Edwards
Sara Elliott
Amber Ellis



Landon Ewing
Lane Ewing
Sierra Flanders
Ariana Florio
Kaitlyn Foster



Madison Fraley
Destinee Frank
Joshua Freeman
Jordan Fussell
Richard Garris

Ryann Gray
 Kamelia Hadipour
 Ashantea Hayden
 Ashlyn Hennen
 Megan Henry



Micheal Henry
 Cole Holt
 Jocelyn Howland
 Taylor Howland
 Carson Hufferd



Buddy Hulse
 Emmanuel Jaimés
 Tyler Jensen
 Majour Johnson
 Addison Julian



Debra Laurie
 Shaylee Lesslie
 Emily Lewis
 Emily Loomer
 Liandra Martinez



Adeline Mattes
 Stephanie Mattes
 Morgan Mavers
 Tyler Mcdow
 Jasmine Mcmanus



Dara Mendoza
 Alexis Mitchell
 Nathaniel Morrison
 Garrett Muninger
 Gabriella Neary



Heather Newman
 Kaleb Ogle
 Lauren Pasternak
 Logan Payne
 Dylan Penrod





Dayton Post
 Carlos Prieto-Ventura
 Danesa Ramos
 Jacob Rathbun
 Trenton Rathbun



Sydney Rinck
 Ashlyn Roten
 Laney Royse
 Shane Sanders
 Lisbet Santos



Paloma Schaub
 Cody Schicke
 Skyler Shouse
 Dallas Sizemore
 Brayden Smith



Cedric Smith
 Cy Smith
 Trace Smith
 Angella Solano
 Lanie Stair



Emma Stoner
 John Strycker
 Skyler Sumner
 Cole Swearingen
 Erica Swearingen



Molly Thompson
 Chelsi Tran
 Abbigale Vineyard
 Jakob Vowell
 Brooklyn Ward



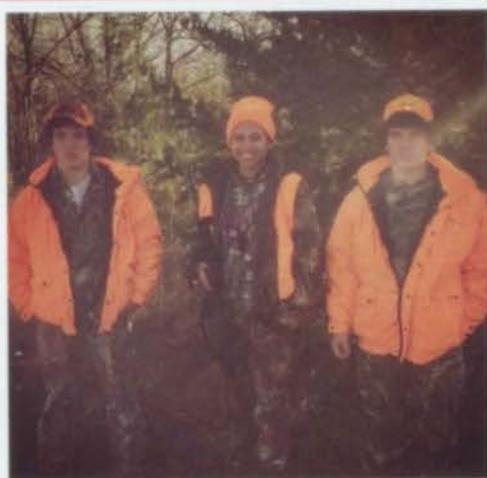
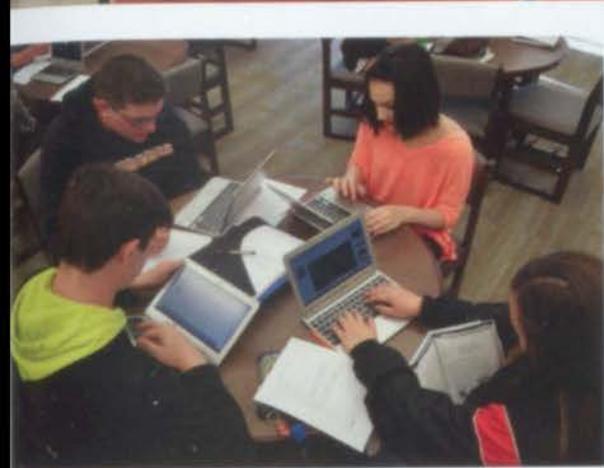
Payton Ward
 Nicholas Washburn
 Montana Watts
 Caledonia Weaver
 Taren Westerfield

Ben Whitaker
 Kylie Wilhelm
 Anna Wilson
 Ashlee Wilson
 Kylie Wilson-Stover



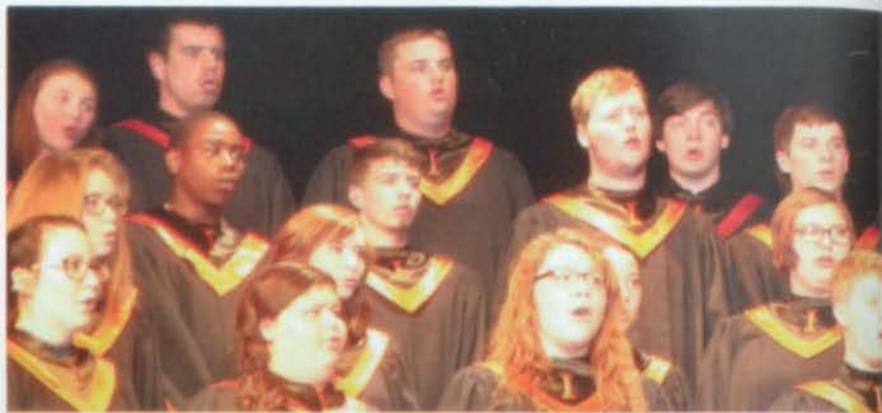
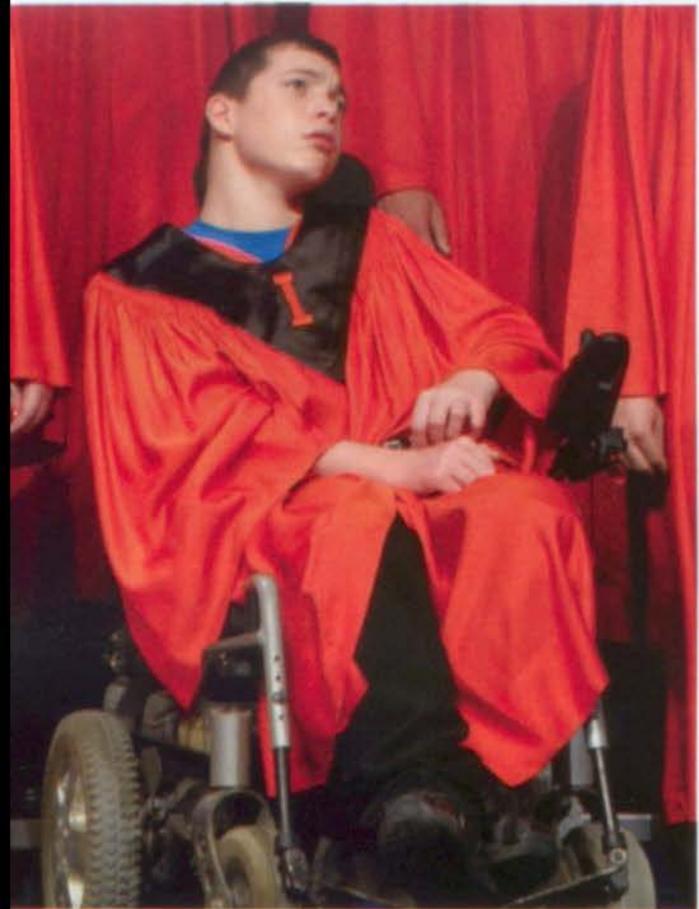
Ethan Wolf
 Chloe Wright
 Novalee Wright
 Larz Wrinkles





Vocal Music

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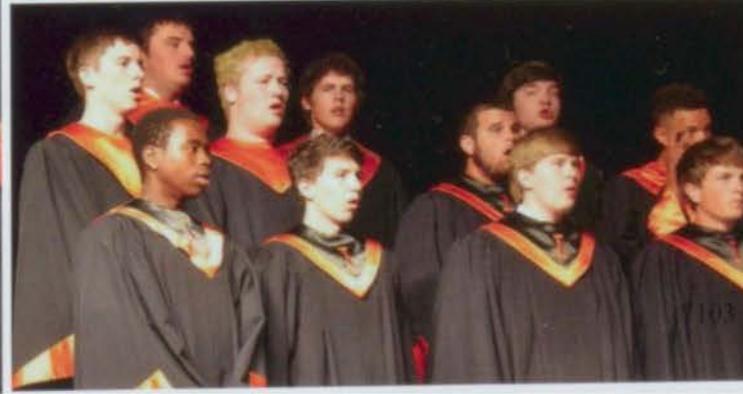
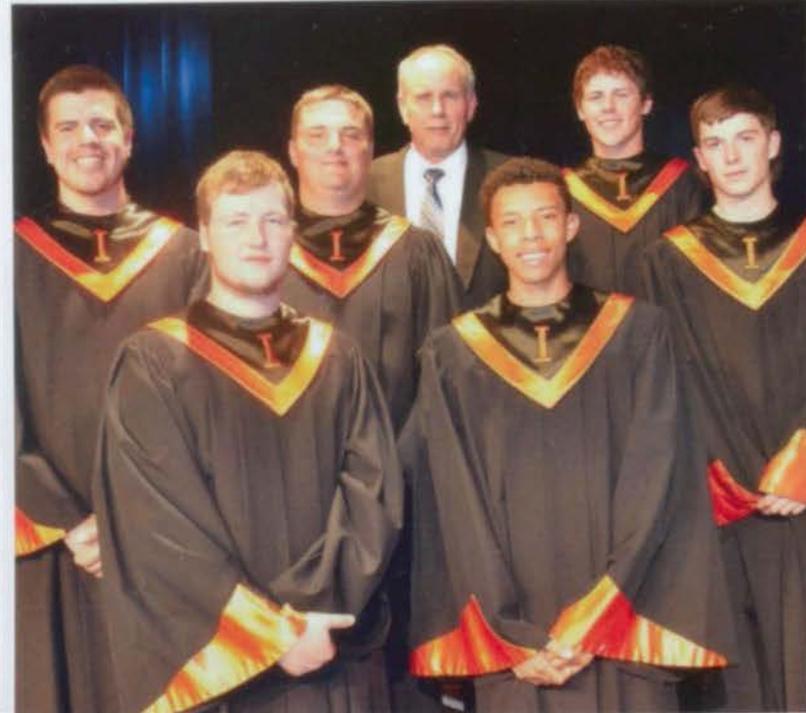
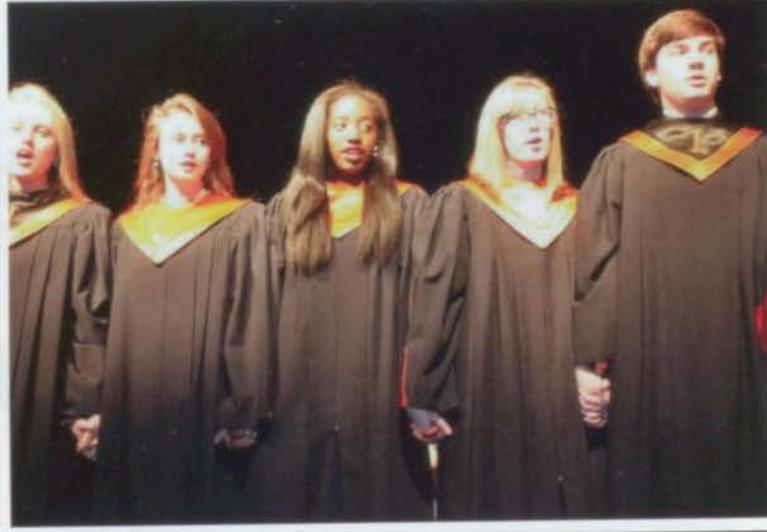


This year, the IHS vocal department enjoyed stunning success at competition. At the state solo and small ensemble competition, many of the IHS students earned the highest possible rating, a I or superior, rating. Students earning a I rating included **Courtlynn Rose (12)**, **Austin Drake (11)**, **Kathleen Bradshaw (10)**, **Sagan Shire (11)**, **Sebastian Cole (12)**, **Robbie Bailey (11)** and Indy Ensemble, while IHS Mixed Ensemble, **Adam Hayse (11)** and **Caden Hayward (11)** received a II rating.

"The students did an outstanding job performing, and all their hard work really paid off," said Mr. Annable, vocal music teacher.

Courtlynn Rose has been an outstanding performer through the four years of her high school career. She made All-State Choir all four years of high school, making her the first performer in IHS history to earn this award.

Courtlynn reflected on her senior year, "Some of my strongest high school memories involve choir. Mr. Annable is the best music teacher I have ever had. Anyone who gets the chance to have him as a teacher for any music class is lucky." She continued, "Choir is an intense class, but I will miss it immensely."



Orange & Black

matters here



This year's Orange & Black staff was comprised of four seniors, **Carsyn Bryant, Paige Hufferd, Eleni McCaffery and Hope Renfro;** and three juniors, **Taylor Clark, Brittney Jabben and Dani Rathbun.** **Mrs. Kelly Cox** taught the course.

Staff members chose the book's theme, designed the cover, photographed events, wrote stories and created the pages.

"I was on staff for two years," said Hope. "It was a lot of fun, but it was also a lot of work. Luckily we all got along, so that kept the stress to a minimum."

Staff members included Taylor Clark, Hope Renfro, Kelly Cox (adviser), Eleni McCaffery, Carsyn Bryant, Dani Rathbun, Paige Hufferd and Brittney Jabben.



Eleni and Carsyn excitedly open a carton of the 2015 Orange & Black yearbooks. IHS opts for a fall delivery to ensure extensive coverage of spring sports and activities.



Brittney feels more comfortable behind the camera than in front of it.



Carsyn and Hope show off their Christmas presents from fellow staff members. Secret Santa is an excellent way to build staff spirit.

Orchestra

matters here

Independence High School's orchestral program is one of the best in the region. Not only do they tirelessly practice in and out of school, they also perform around the area and within Independence at many different locations. They perform at public events, nursing homes, elementary schools and various other venues.

"This year, our orchestra family made amazing things happen," **Director Jami Kleinert** said of this year's group. "We all pitched in together and worked hard to perform as an ensemble, earning a II rating at our State Large Ensemble festival held at PSU." At State, the group earned two I ratings, seven II ratings, and one III rating.

Brayden Smith (9) earned a I for his bass solo. "I'm really looking to pursue a career in music," said Brayden.



StuCo matters here

Student council members are the unseen influence present in Independence High School. From football games to dances to fund raisers, StuCo is involved in absolutely everything. Students interested in being a part of the group, run in the election, competing for votes and giving speeches in order to be elected by their classmates.

Once in the group, new members hit the ground running and learn how to adapt to the busy StuCo schedule. This schedule is one that involves every major school event, and requires each "pod" (subgroup within StuCo) to raise money, run a community service project and complete a project within the school every quarter.

StuCo community service projects include cleaning up Independence's downtown, volunteering at the local animal shelter, raising money for various organizations and peer tutoring.

Each pod raises money to aid in funding the group's two summer programs: Peers Understanding Peer Problems and Student Council Camp. StuCo is also responsible for the IHS blood drive, fostering student spirit and spreading awareness about bullying.

Junior member **Taylor Clark** (11) said, "I like being in StuCo because I love the things we do to help people and to improve the community."

In student council meetings, council members discuss ways to improve student life, play games, analyze leadership qualities and how to improve the different ways in which student council functions.

StuCo members that go to PUPPs camp are able to assist the high school administrators in student conflicts by acting as conflict mediators. Trained PUPPs kids are brought in to deal with fights and arguments among the students in an attempt to give students a healthy way to deal with conflict.



StuCo Officers

President: Noah Stroble
 Vice President: Eleni McCaffery
 Secretary: Kallie Smith
 Treasurer: Madeline Kyle
 Historian: Bailey Babcock



"Being StuCo president this year was a huge honor; I loved working with the group and representing the school and community."
Noah Stroble, president

"StuCo has been a really important part of my high school experience. PUPPs Camp especially has shaped who I am and how I treat people."
Eleni McCaffery, vice-president



"My first year of student council was really special to me because of the work we did and the friends I made."
Cy Smith (9)



"StuCo is the best 30 minutes of the day and the most stressful 30 minutes of the day. But also, the most fun!"
Clare Bindley (10)

KAYS matters here



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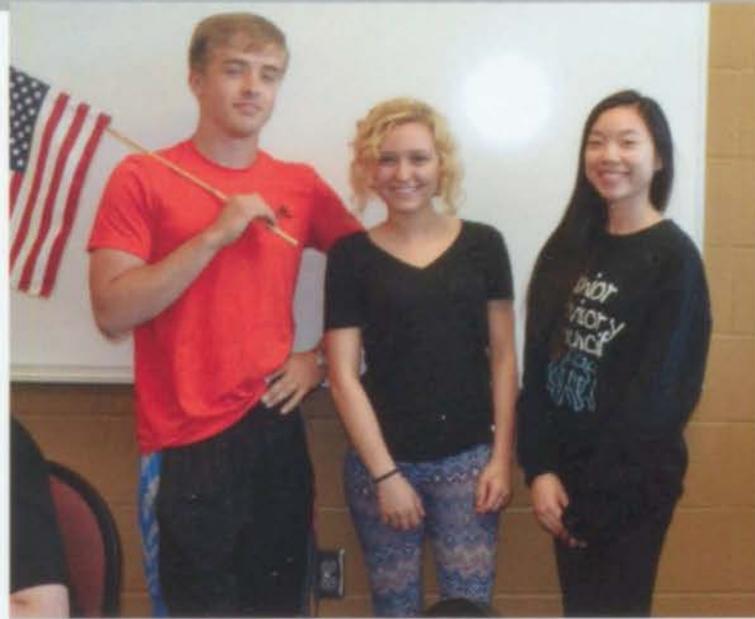


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NHS matters here

National Honor Society is one of the nation's largest and most prestigious organizations established to recognize outstanding high school students. More than just an honor roll, NHS serves to recognize those students who have demonstrated excellence in the areas of scholarship, leadership, service, and character. The characteristics have been associated with the membership in the organization since its beginning in 1921. The IHS chapter membership not only recognizes students for their accomplishments, but challenges them to develop further through active involvement in school activities and community service. Four main purposes have guided NHS from the beginning; to stimulate a desire to render service, to promote leadership, to create enthusiasm for scholarship, and to develop character. These purposes also translate into the criteria used for member selection of new inductees. The IHS chapter of NHS is involved in community activism.

Members have also been involved in an ongoing peer mentor program to promote a deeper focus in scholastics among the underclassmen. NHS is committed to Independence and demonstrates this commitment by serving the community.



President: Kyler Sanders
Vice President: Courtlynn Rose
Secretary: Eleni McCaffery
Historian: Daphne Lin
Treasurer: Sagan Shire



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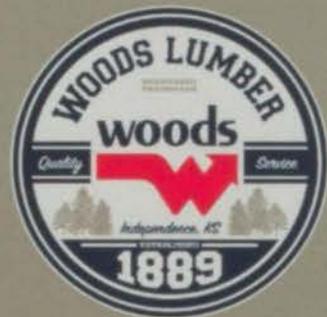
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 Travis Holehan
 Breeze Jones

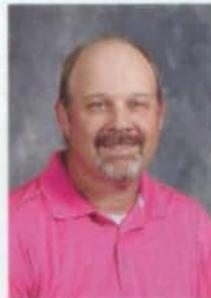


David Jones
 Jami Kleinert
 Aimee Lakin
 Janice McBride
 Laura McClure





Gina McLennon
 Jamie Milligan
 Carol Mooney
 Cheryl Moor
 Karen Newkirk



Jamie Peschka
 Becky Prather
 Gloria Price
 Dale Reynolds
 Tiffany Roth



Erin Shelton
 Mario Sherrell
 Beth Smith
 Kristi Speicher
 Nancy Sprague



Rene Stanley
 Shane Stanley
 Jennifer Stewart
 Leigh Ann Stewart
 Ronda Taraboletti



Janelle Taylor
 Tonya Trout
 Michael Villarreal
 Scott Webb
 Mary Woldum

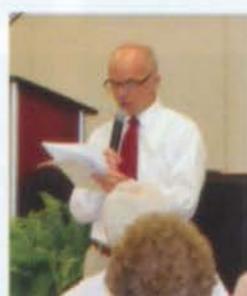
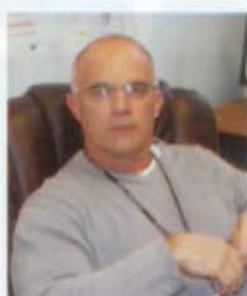
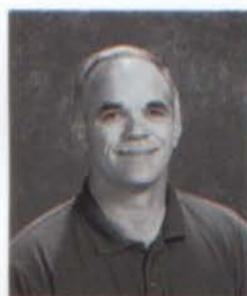
Our Faculty

matters here

IHS Teacher, Administrator and Support Staff Choose Retirement



Mrs. Ronda Taraboletti joined the IHS science department in 2001. During her teaching career at IHS, Mrs. Taraboletti taught biology, chemistry, anatomy & physiology and medical terminology. She also served as department chair for several years. Mrs. Taraboletti is a talented quilter and knitter, so we know many of her friends and family will benefit from the time she'll have in retirement to create her works of art.



Mr. Brad Fredrickson served as the IHS activities director for fourteen years before his retirement this year. He experienced many changes in his job description throughout his tenure at IHS, including the construction of the new gymnasium, the addition of several sports including dance team and boys and girls swim, and additional administrative duties. Our student-athletes and parents will miss his quiet humor and dedication to IHS.



Mrs. Theresa Barnhart was a true "Jill of all trades" at IHS before she chose retirement this year. Mrs. Barnhart joined the IHS staff in 1991 and during those 24 years served IHS in a wide variety of roles. She worked with students in ALC, helped with hall security, and worked as the site monitor for distance learning for Arabic, Chinese and French language classes, just to name a few. Mrs. Barnhart was well known for her gentle demeanor and kind smile. She and her husband, **Mr. Ray Barnhart**, who worked with many students as a case manager, will be missed by students and faculty, alike!

Future Graduates *matter here*

The Class of 2016 started what they hope will become an annual tradition for IHS seniors.

After watching a video on Facebook of a senior class walking through the halls of an elementary school in full graduation regalia, **Ms. Lakin**, senior class co-sponsor, thought it would be fun for our seniors to do the same.

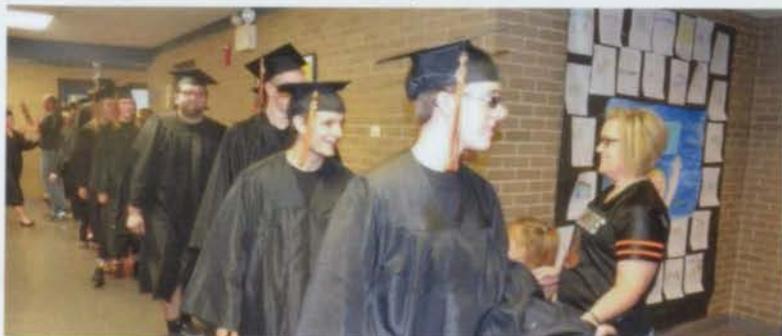
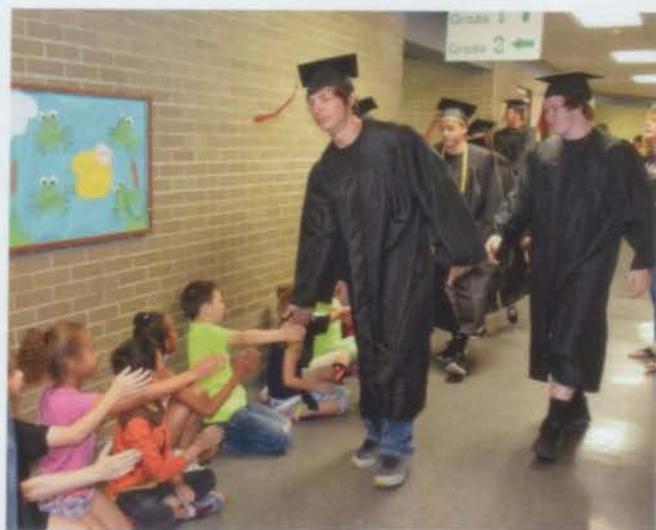
"I reached out to Mr. Moseley at Jefferson, and he thought it was a great idea," said Ms. Lakin. "We just had to figure out the logistics of working it into a very busy morning of graduation practice."

It didn't take long for word to get around, and soon an Eisenhower administrator asked if seniors could do the same in her building.

"Unless a child has an older sibling or family member, he may never see what a senior in a cap and gown looks like," said Ms. Lakin. "We want our future IHS graduates to have a goal. We want them to know that walking across the stage in front of their friends and family is what they're working toward in their education."

IHS senior class president **Chelsea Cushing (12)** loved the idea.

"It was so much fun walking the halls and seeing some of our old teachers. I know it means a lot to them to see us accomplish this goal," said Chelsea. "It was also fun for me to give my little brother a high-five. He thought it was pretty cool."



Spring Break 2016





MASQUERADE BALL

2016



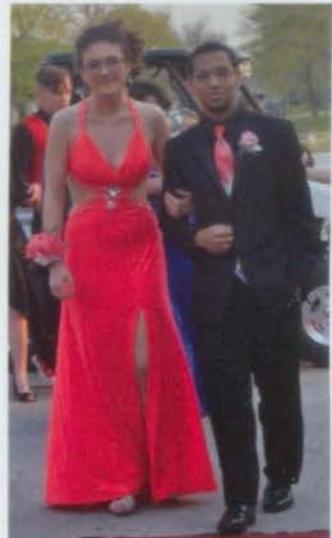
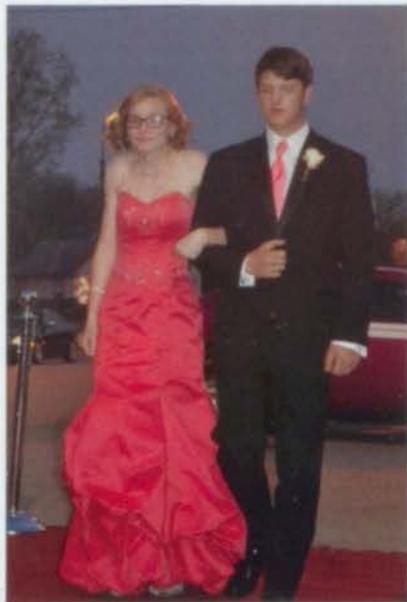
Senior Class

Junior Class

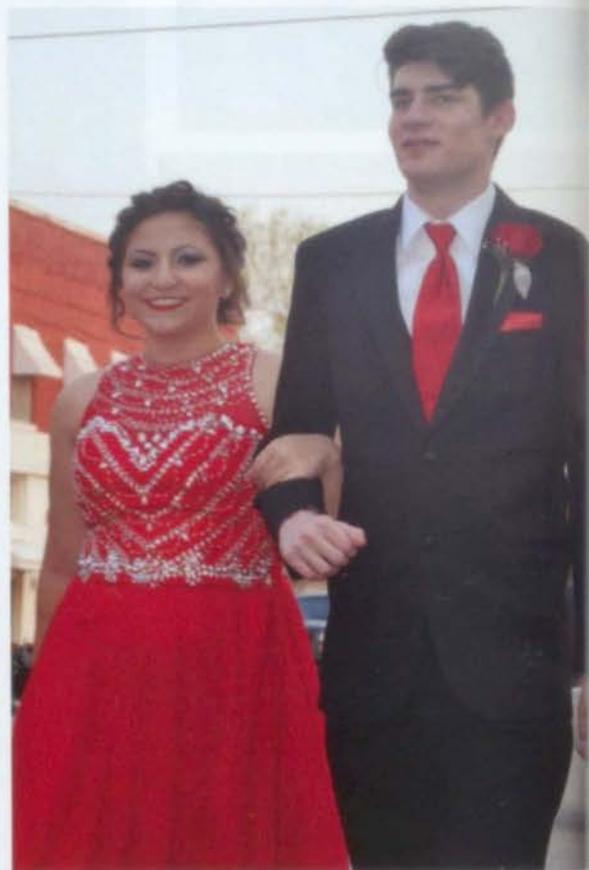
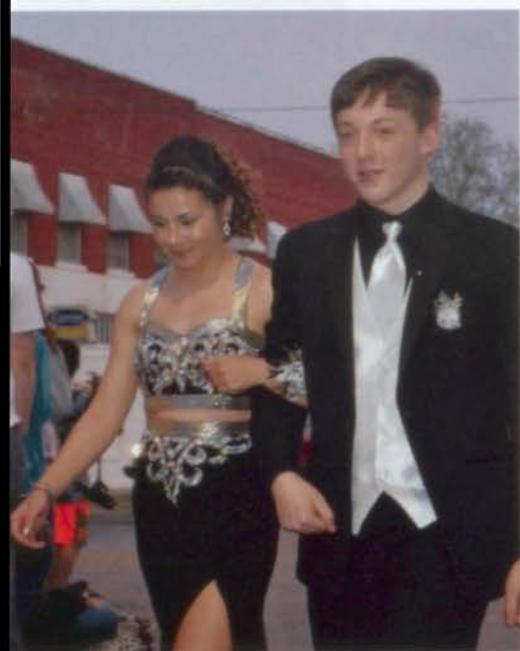
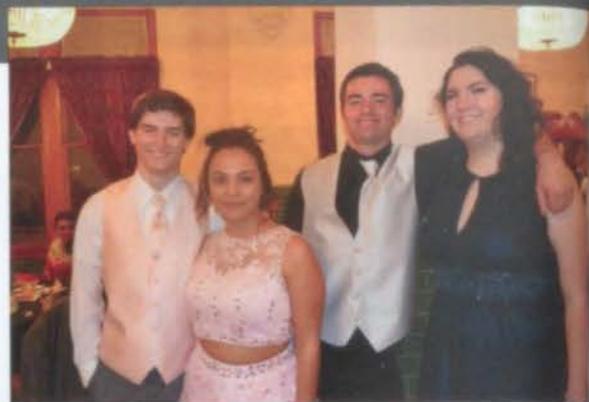
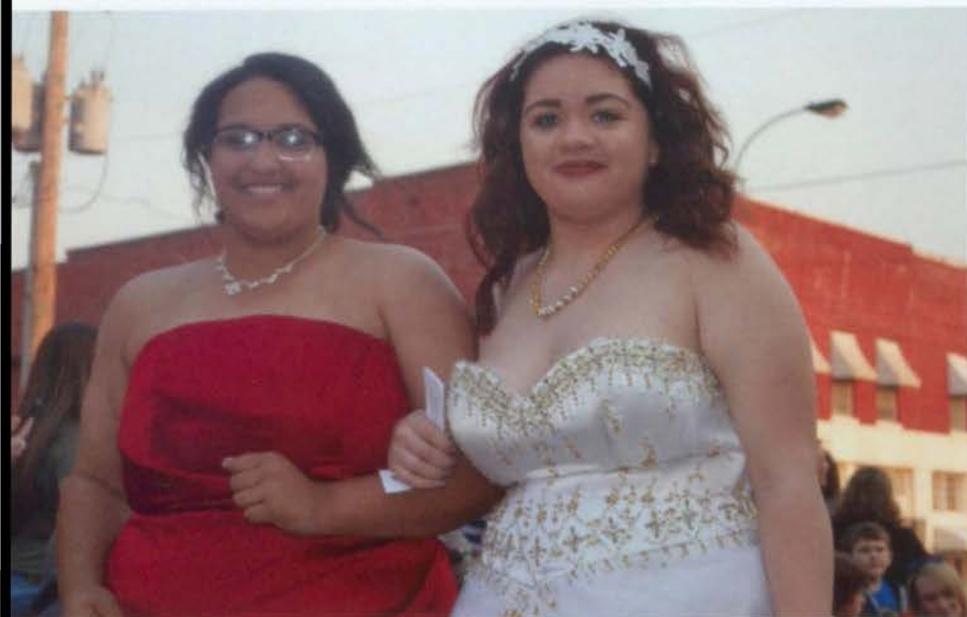


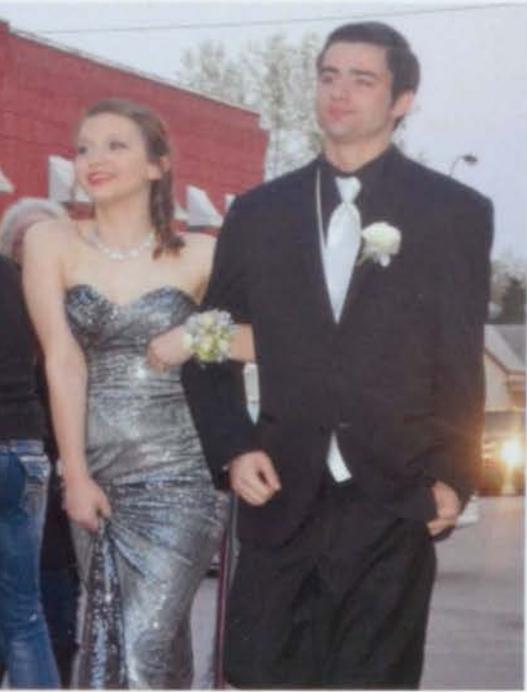
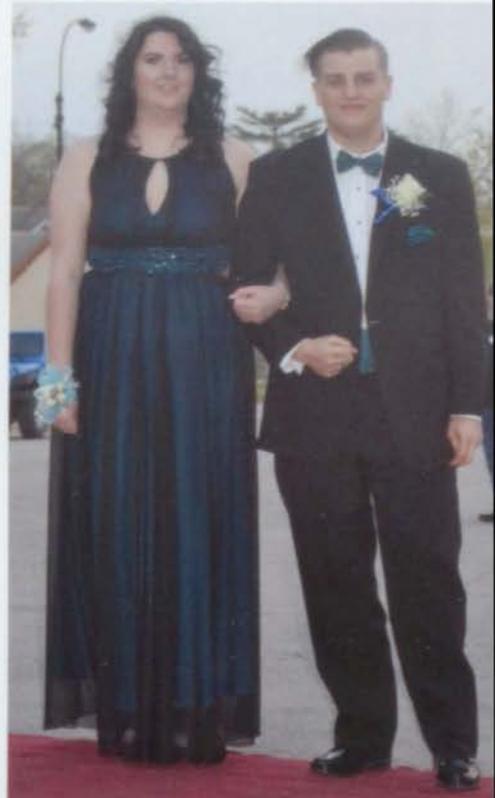
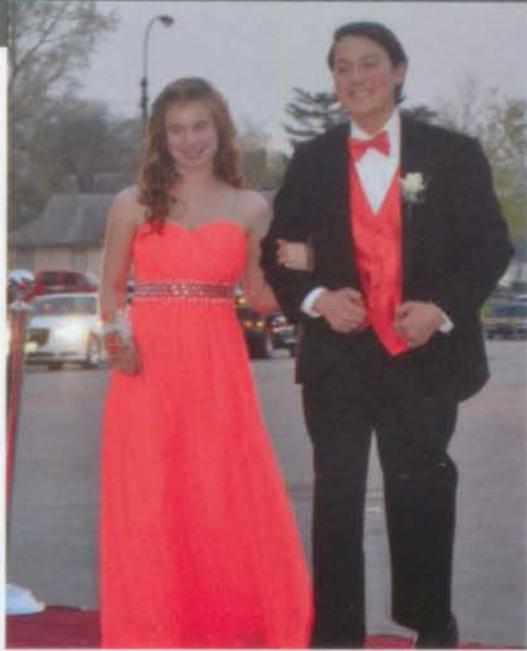
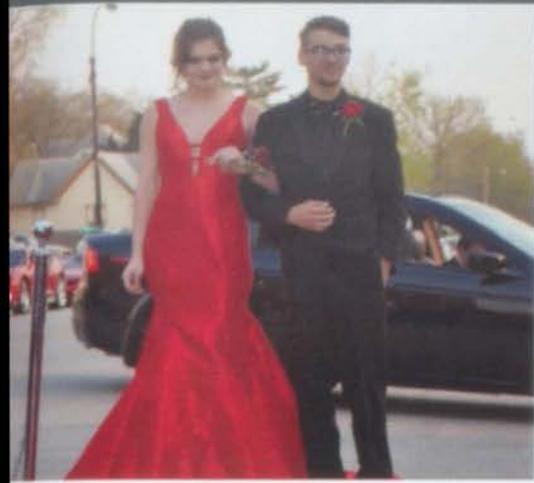
2016 Prom Court

Left to right: Kyler Sanders, Taylor Dufur, Paige Kyle, Jacob Mitchell, Jalynn Lawrie, Kara McGrath, Jeremiah Lawrie, Kennedy Froebe, Luc Dunn and Chelsea Cushing.



PROM





Puerto Rico

Spanish Club Trip 2016



Luc Dunn

Luc,

It has been a joy to watch you grow through the years. We are so very proud of the man who you have become. We are excited to see what the future holds for you.

Always remember your roots, your manners and the way home~

*Love always,
Mom & Dad*



McCORMICK SMITH

WE ARE SO PROUD OF THE MAN WHO YOU HAVE BECOME AND CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT THE FUTURE HOLDS FOR SUCH A WONDERFUL PERSON. NEVER STOP BELIEVING IN YOURSELF.

LOVE YOU LOTS,
MOM, SHANE & PRESLEY





Hope Marie Renfro



We are proud of the young lady you have become and are so excited to see what your future holds!

We love you to the moon and back!
Dad, Mom, Joy & Annie

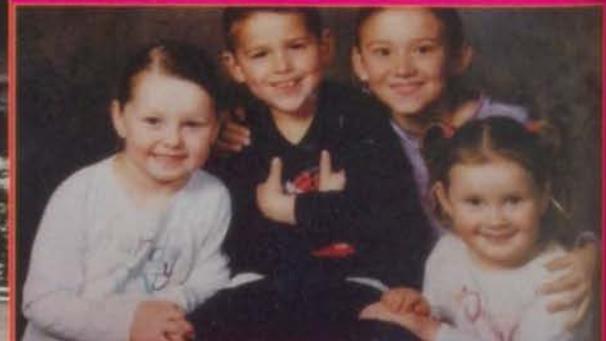
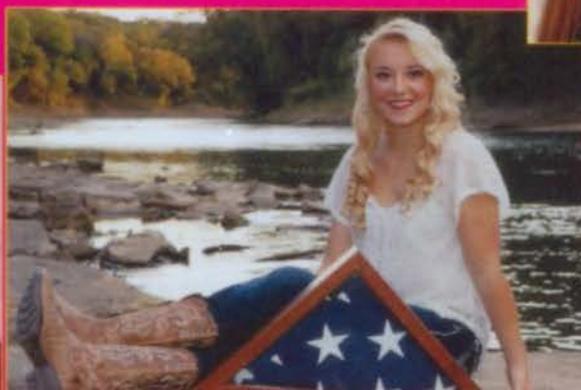
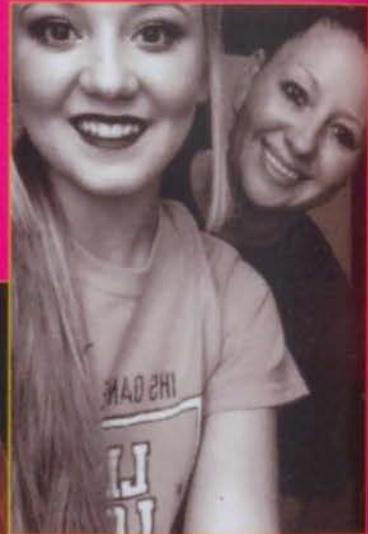


Haylie Eades

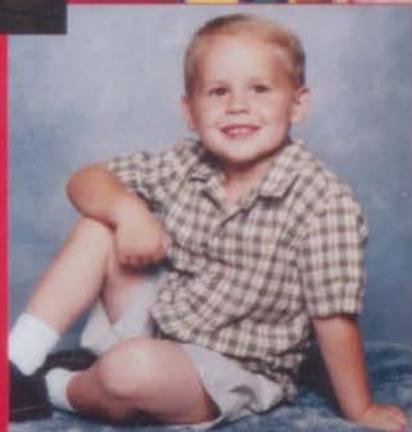
I am so proud of the person you have become. There are no words to describe the love I have for you and always will! Remember to always be caring and kind. You're going to do great things! You're very precious to me in every way, the sunshine of my day, the happiness to my soul and one of the loves of my life!

You're never too old to call home!

Love Always from Your #1 Fans,
Mom & Casey



Dalson Hamlin



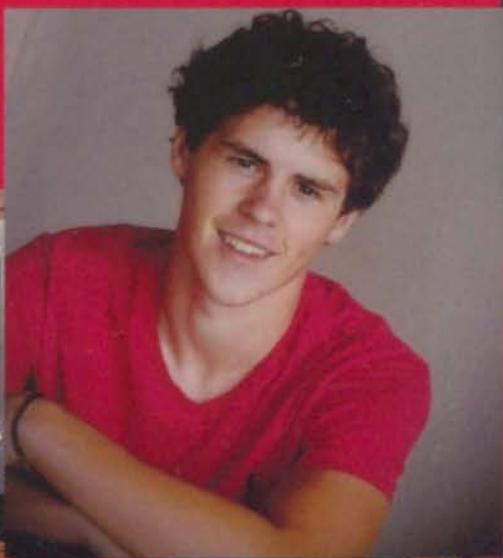
Dalson,

From the day we found out that we were going to have another child and that you were a boy, you have made our family complete. You and your sister are the center of our world. We have spent countless hours watching you do what you love- playing sports, and we wouldn't change that for anything. We are so proud of you and what you have already accomplished in your 18 years of life and what we know you will accomplish in the years ahead.

Always put God first in your life and you will succeed in anything that crosses your path. We love you and will always be here for you and cheering you on in your endeavors.

Love,

Mom, Dad & Brooklynn



MacKenize Strycker

You have kept us busy since the day you were born. We love your endless amount of energy and your kind heart. We are excited to see what your future holds!

Love,
Mom, Dad, Scottie & John



BRANDEN BALES

Branden,

May you always play in the rain. So proud of you!

We love you forever, love you for always, as long as we're living, our baby you'll be.

Love,
Mom & Dad



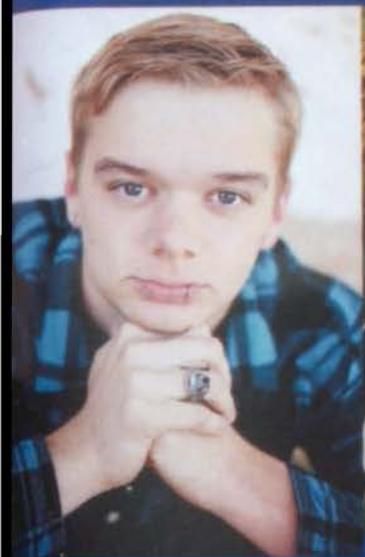
Alyssa Golden

We are so proud of the beautiful, smart and caring young woman you have become. We can't wait to see what the future holds for you!



Mom & Dad





We are so glad to have been the ones to have shared all these moments with you. You are truly an amazing person with such a multitude of talents. We are excited to see what the future holds for you. You will do well with whatever challenges come your way.

We are so proud of you!
Mom & Dad

Simon

Westhoff



Taylor Chapman

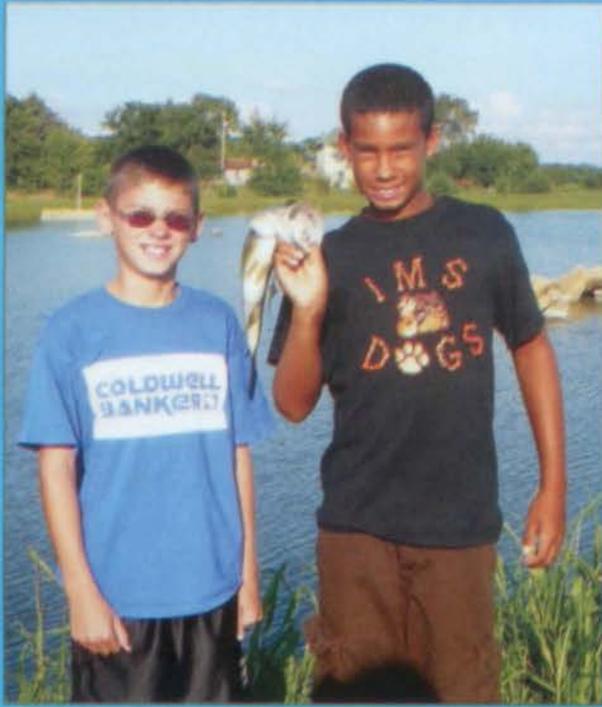
Taylor,

We can't believe you are graduating this year. It just seems like yesterday you were starting kindergarten. You have grown into such a beautiful young lady inside and out. You have made such good friends over the years, and we hope you will continue that friendship for the rest of your life! Always follow your dreams and remember to reach for the stars!

We love you to the moon and back!

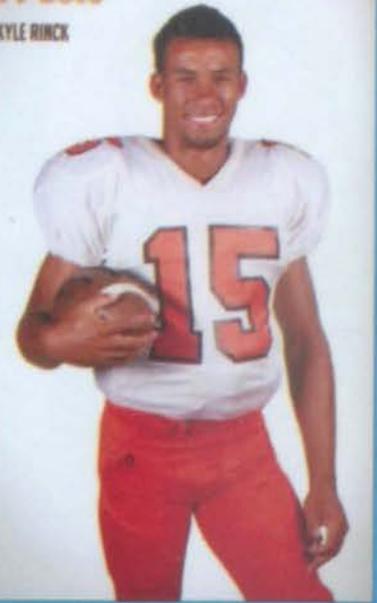
Love,
Dad, Mom & Katy





2014-2015

KYLE RINCK

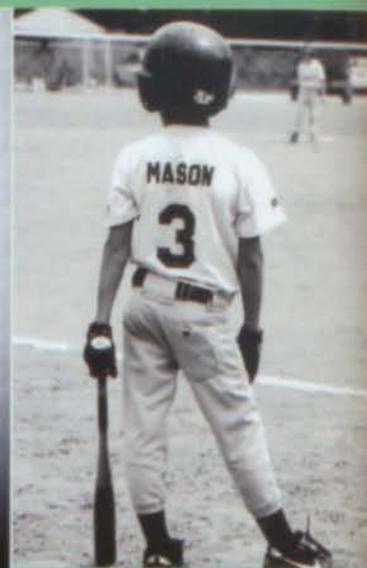
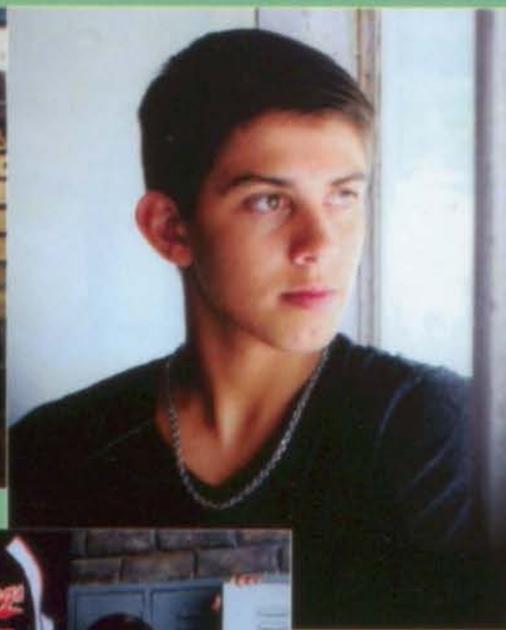


Kyle,

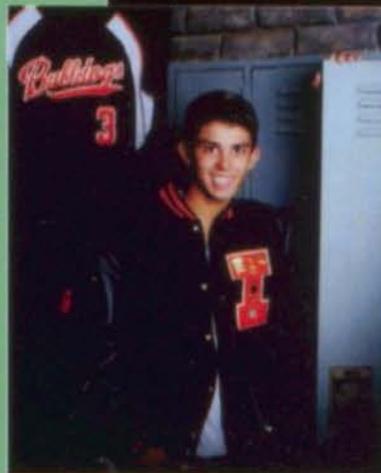
We can't wait to see what your future hold. You are a true blessing, and we are proud of you!

Love,
Mom & Dad

Kyle Rinck



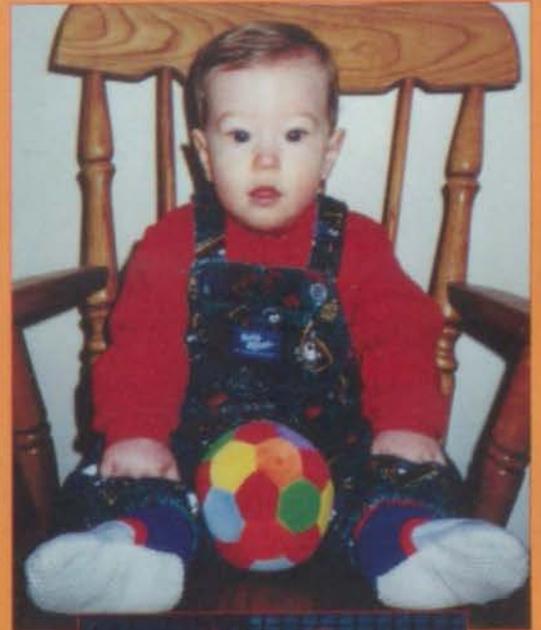
Remember that in life, as in baseball "Never let the fear of striking out keep you from playing the game."



In the blink of an eye, those little league days were left behind... and "the big game" is about to begin. We love you- we're proud of you- and we're excited for all life has in store for you!

-Your Home Team

Matt Mason



Patrick Schlange



**We love you!
Mom, Dad, Eric
& Judy**

Conagher Welch

We gave you a original name at birth so you could be your own person. You have shown us your individuality while you were sporting military blues for a wedding, donning the chaps and cowboy hat for your cowboy days or speeding around in a go cart (You haven't out grown that one!). As you got older you showed us your style with your neon shoes for soccer, the funky shoes you wore while strutting onto the wrestling mat, getting yourself out of pickles of one kind or another, and we cannot forget the haircuts for baseball! All those things acknowledge you **ARE** Conagher Welch. We are excited for you to continue playing soccer at Bethany!

GOOD LUCK in everything you do Bub!
Mom, Dad & Tyra



Eric Parker

Congratulations!
We love you and are so proud of you!
Mom, Dad & Evan



Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understandings. In all your ways acknowledge Him, and He shall direct your paths.
Proverbs 3:5-6

Daphne Lin



As you finish one chapter in your Book of Life and embark on a new quest, remember that life is defined not only by those moments of laughter and joy, but also the times of tears and sorrow. We are proud of your accomplishments and successes, as well as your attempts and failures. May kindness and your enthusiasm for the life guide you through the challenges ahead.

With All Our Hearts,
Dad, Mom, Tiffany, Ama & Bobo

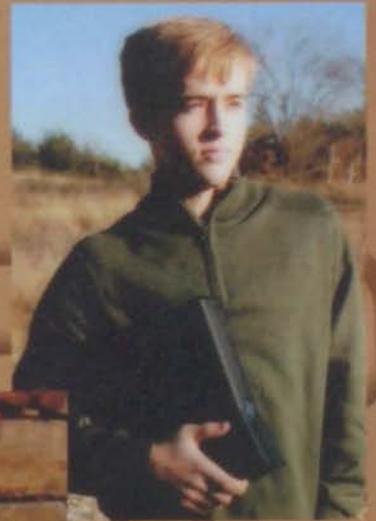
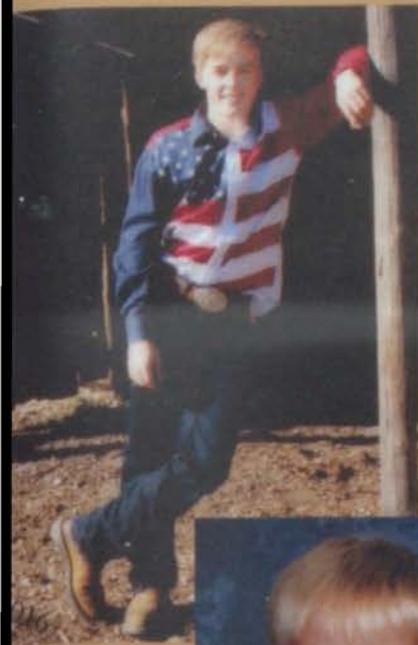


Kyler Sanders

"DON'T EVER LET ANYONE TURN YOUR SKY INTO A CEILING."

WE LOVE YOU SON AND SO VERY PROUD OF THE MAN YOU HAVE BECOME!

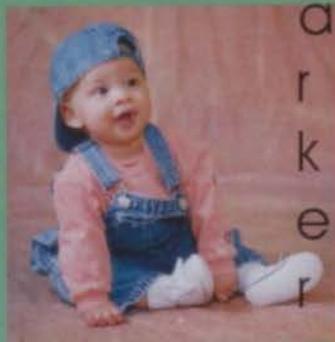
LOVE, MOM, DAD, RILEY & KEITH



D
O
M
I
N
I
C

Dom,
The best is yet to come... Congratulations on having such a wonderful high school career. Words cannot express how proud we are of you!

Love you to the moon and back!
Mom, Dad & Avery



B
A
R
K
E
R



Courtlynn,
God has a wonderful plan for your life. Jeremiah 1:5 says, "Before I formed thee in the belly I knew thee; and before thou camest forth out of the womb I sanctified thee..." Continue to trust in the Lord with all your heart and lean not to your own understanding. In all your ways, acknowledge Him and He shall direct your path.

Love,
Mom, Dad, Michaela
& Lorraine



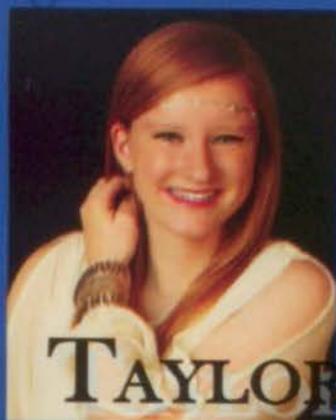
Courtlynn Rose

And we know that
in all things God
works for the good of
those who love
Him, who have
been called
according to His
purpose. Romans 8:28



Shine your
light!

We love you,
Dad, Mom
& Preston



TAYLOR DUFUR

Hadleigh Palmer

We wish you the
strength to face challenges
with confidence... along
with the wisdom to choose
your battles carefully...
We wish you adventure
on your journey and may
you always stop to help
someone along the way...
Listen to your heart and
take risks carefully...
Remember how much you
are loved... We are so
proud of you!
Mom, Dad, Lakin &
Brady



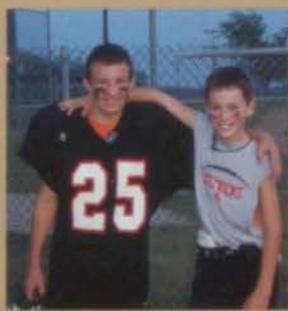
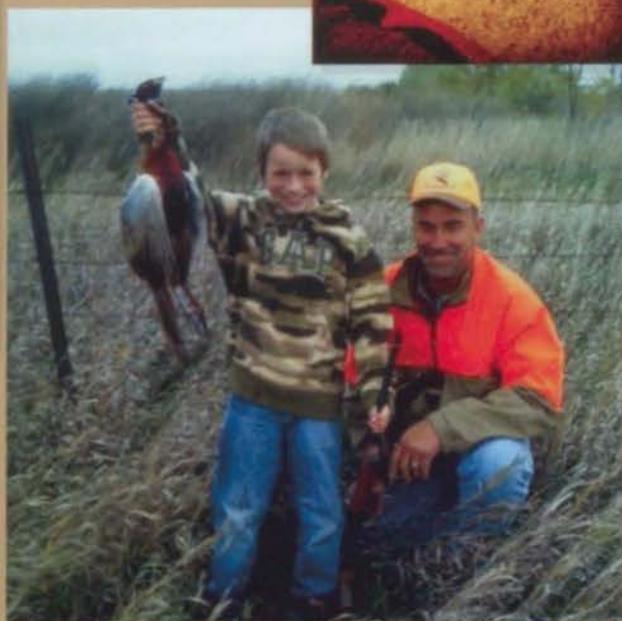
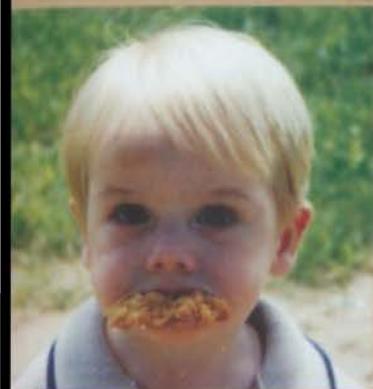
Jalynn Lawrie

We are proud of the young man you have become. Continue to
work hard to pursue your dreams! The sky is the limit!

Love,
Mom, Kyle Aubree, Nate & Kylee



Cody Douglas Michael

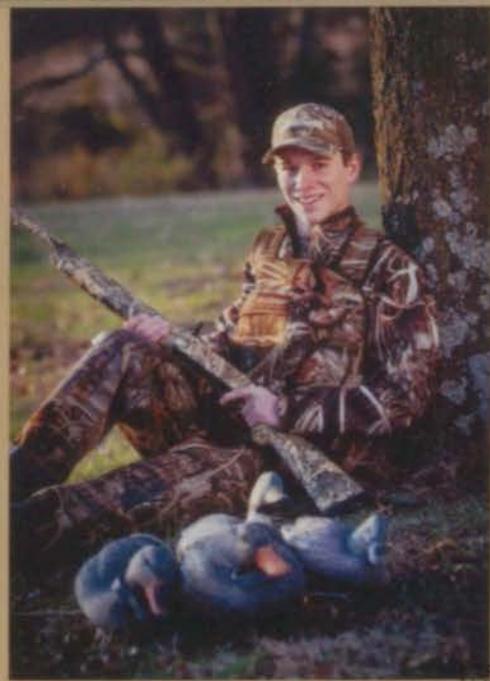


Cody,

You have certainly kept us on our toes! We are very proud of the person you have become and look forward to watching your next adventures in life.

Never lose your swagger!
We love you,
Mom & Dad
Kelsey & KasiDee

P.S. I'm going to miss seeing you at school every day. ~Mom



From our little tutu twirling pre-schooler to a high school graduate! We have enjoyed watching you grow into the beautiful young lady you are.

The future is yours to follow your heart and live your dreams. Always believe in yourself and be the best person you can be. We love you to the moon and back and will forever be your biggest fans.



Love you!
Mom & Dad
David, Maeson & Jake

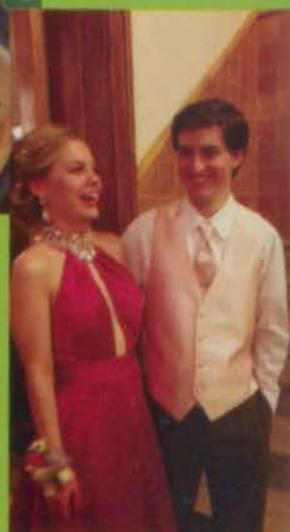
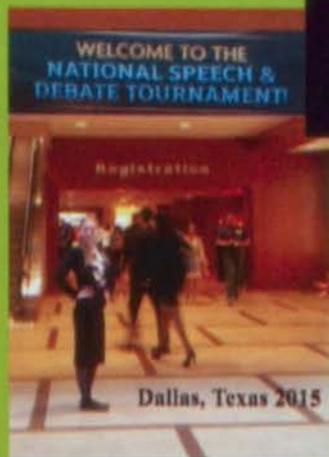


Carsyn Ann

- *54 speech and debate medals
- *4-year State forensics qualifier/ 3-year State debate qualifier
- *3-time national speech and debate qualifier: Kansas City, Dallas & Salt Lake City
- *2016 4A Original Orator State Champion/ 5th Place Informative

Maddy O'Rourke

From Mom, Dad, Ian, Grandma Pete & all the family



" I am the one thing in life I can control!"

- Lin Manuel Miranda
composer of the Broadway musical *Hamilton*



Courtney Day



We have thoroughly enjoyed watching you grow into a beautiful, young lady. We love you and are so proud of you for what you have achieved over the years. Can't wait to see what you will accomplish in the future.

Love you kiddo,
Mommy & Daddy



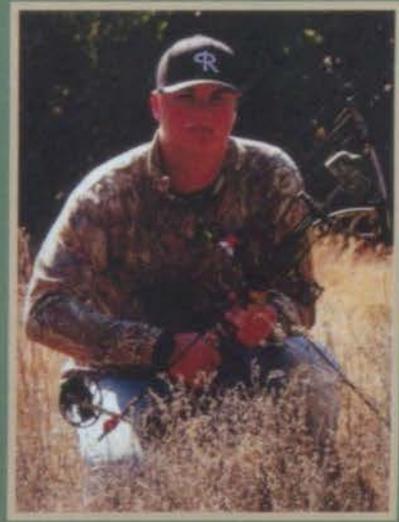
"Wherever you go, go with all your heart."
- Confucius

AND THE ADVENTURE CONTINUES...

TOMMY WOODS

CONGRATS &
GOOD LUCK!
LOVE YOU!

MOM, DAD & KYLE



Thank you
Orange & Black
senior staff members
Eleni McCaffery
Hope Renfro
Paige Hufferd
Carsyn Bryant

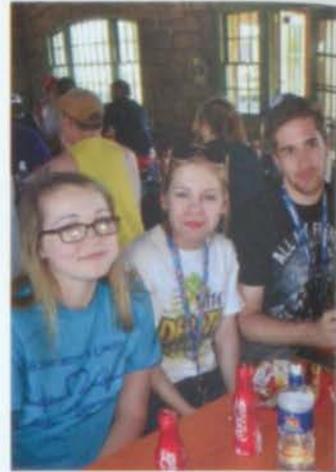


We appreciate your
creativity, dedication and
leadership!
Taylor, Dani, Brittney & KCox



Senior & Faculty Softball Picnic

matters here

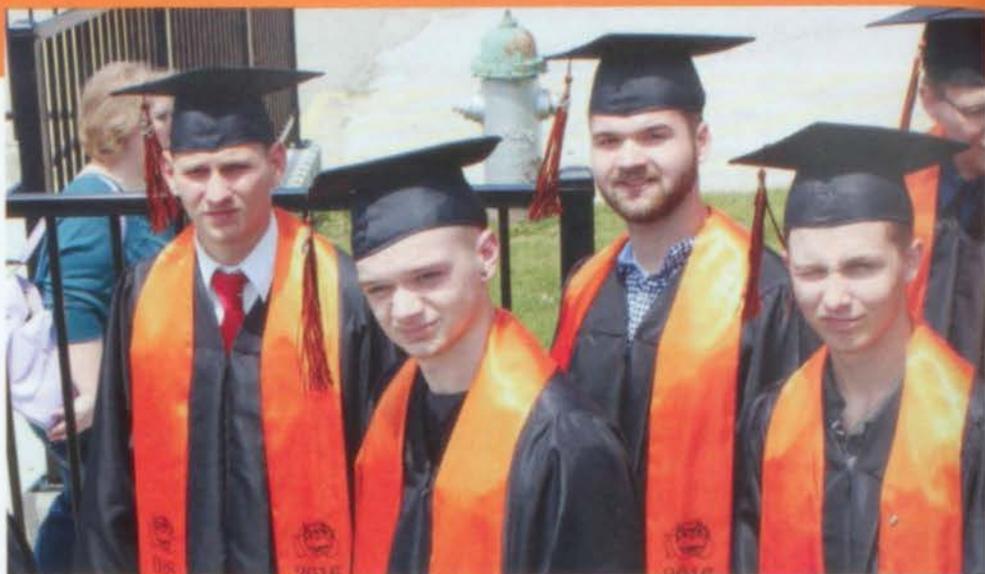


Soak 'Em Seniors

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IHS GRADUATION 2016



"If we want the chance to succeed in life, we should ditch the procrastination. We can still take lessons that we have learned here in the last four years and apply them to whatever we do."

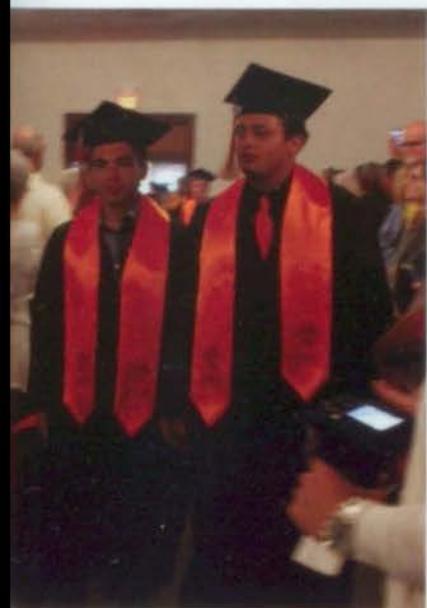
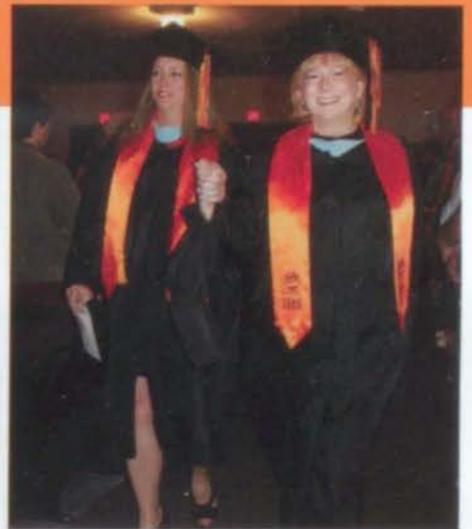
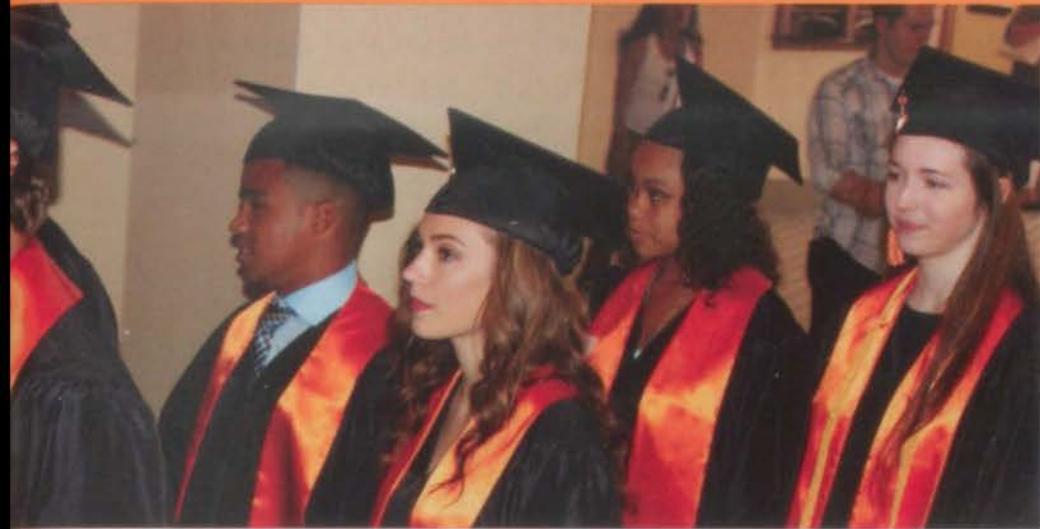
Eric Parker, valedictorian



"Take some time today to reflect on everything you have gone through this year... no matter how and why you got here or where we are going next, we as a class seem to always be there for one another as we always have been in these last four years."

Daphne Lin, salutatorian





IHS GRADUATION 2016



*Eric Parker
Valedictorian*



*Daphne Lin
Salutatorian*



Sarah Brennan



Kyler Sanders

Citizenship Award Winners

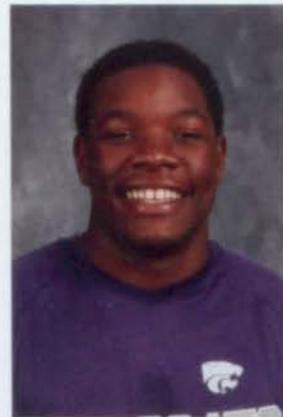
Kyler Sanders and Sarah Brennan

Kathryn Kidd Memorial Scholarship Winners

*Kyler Sanders, Sarah Brennan,
Max Jones, Taylor Dufur,
Madeline O'Rourke and
Spencer Sanders*



Madeline O'Rourke



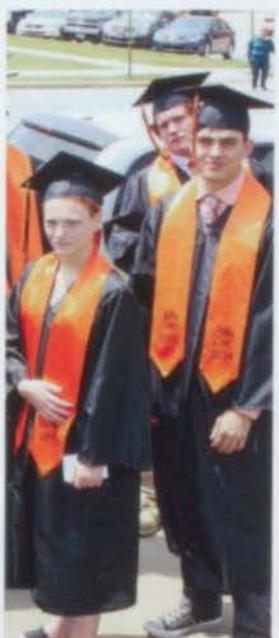
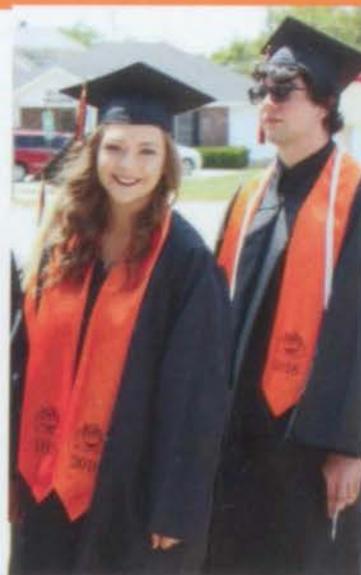
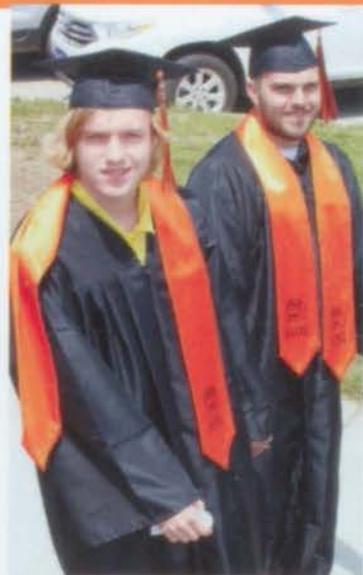
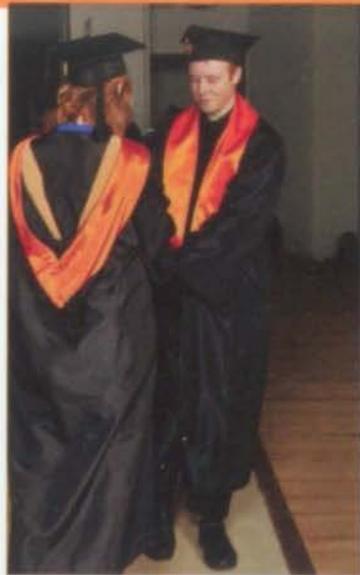
Max Jones



Taylor Dufur



Spencer Sanders

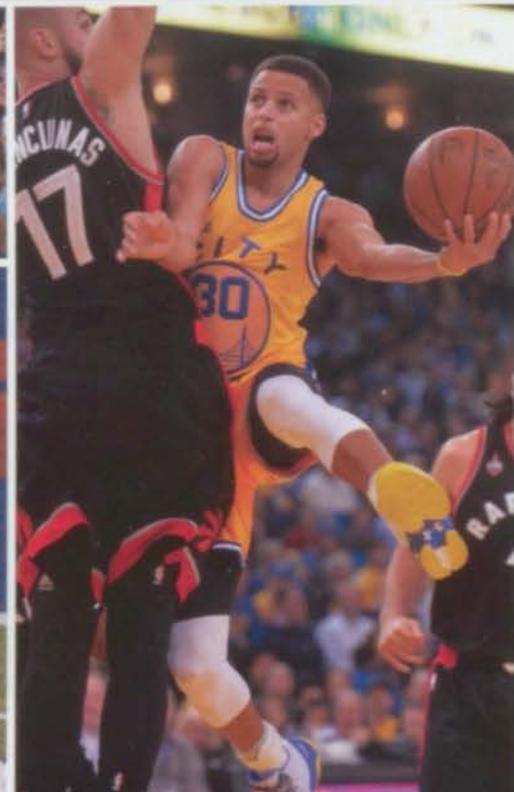
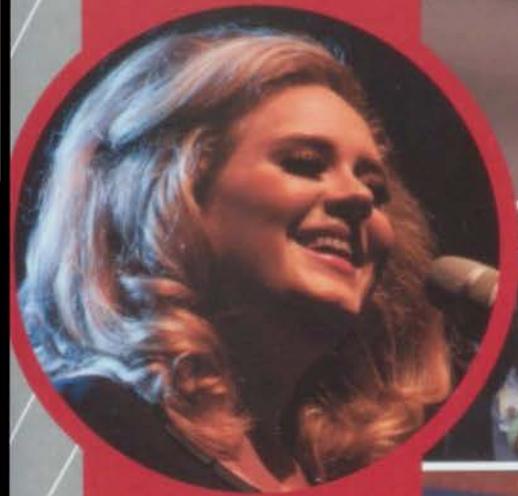


Photos courtesy of Dee Dee O'Malley and DJ's Photography

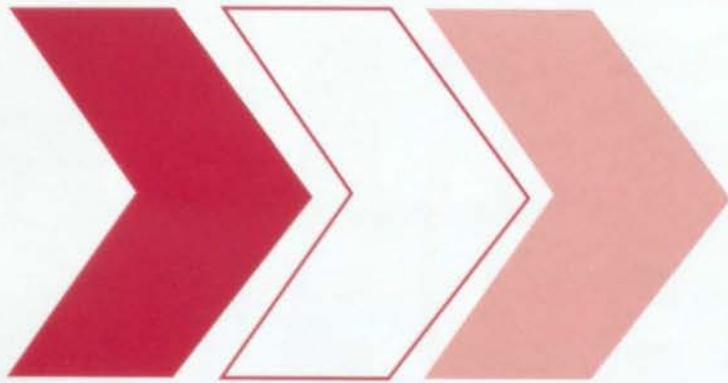


Independence High School Class of 2016

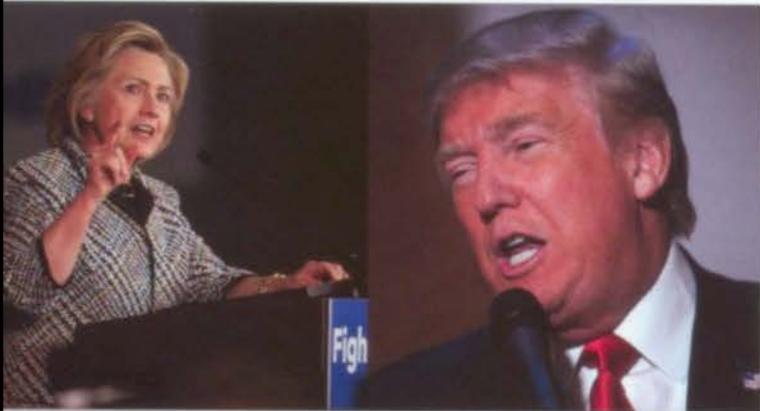
YEAR IN REVIEW



15
16



Adele released 25, her first new album in almost four years. The first single "Hello" became the first song to ever sell more than one million downloads in its first week.



Declared U.S. Presidential Candidates*

DEMOCRATS

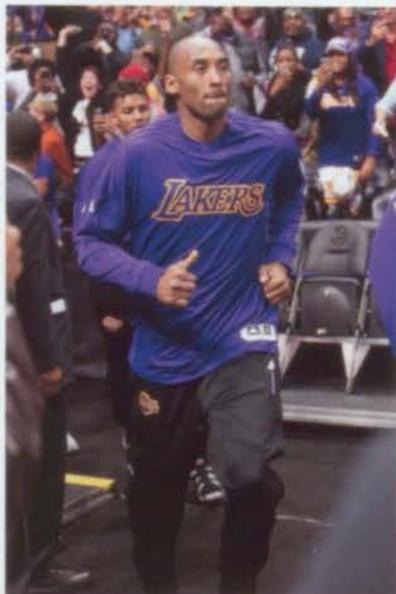
Hillary Clinton (pictured)
Martin O'Malley
Bernie Sanders

REPUBLICANS

Jeb Bush
Ben Carson
Chris Christie
Ted Cruz
Carly Fiorina
Jim Gilmore
Mike Huckabee
John Kasich
George Pataki
Rand Paul
Marco Rubio
Rick Santorum
Donald Trump (pictured)

*10 months before the 2016 election

KOBE BRYANT announced he was retiring from basketball after 20 seasons with the Los Angeles Lakers, an NBA record for a player spending the most seasons with one team. Bryant finished his career as a five-time NBA champion and 17-time All-Star with the Lakers, and the third-leading scorer in league history.



THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY-PART 2, the final movie in *The Hunger Games* series of films, hit theaters to wide fanfare in the fall. The movie, which saw Katniss Everdeen finally confront President Snow, received raves from fans and critics.



A TERRORIST ATTACK STRUCK VENUES in Paris on the night of Friday, Nov. 13. Major cities around the world lit their iconic landmarks in a show of solidarity with France.



WATCH THE PHOTO COME TO LIFE!

- Visit the App Store or Google Play and download the Yearbook 3D app.
- Open the app on your phone or tablet.
- Point the viewfinder over photos with the Yearbook 3D icon and watch them come to life.



Sci-fi novel *The 5th Wave* told the story of 16-year old Cassie Sullivan as she struggled to survive during an alien invasion. The book was popular enough that it was made into a movie starring Chloë Grace Moretz.

NEW YORK TIMES BEST SELLERS LIST — YOUNG ADULT PAPERBACK

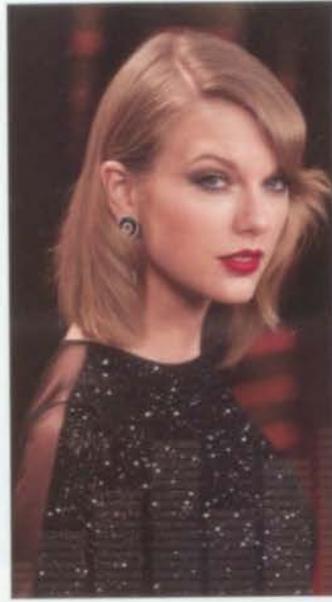
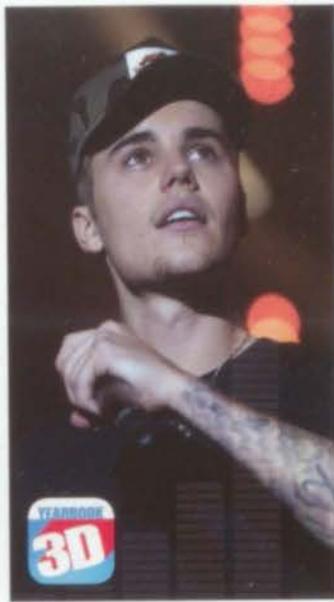
THE 5TH WAVE
RICK YANCEY

PAPER TOWNS
JOHN GREEN

LOOKING FOR ALASKA
JOHN GREEN

ME AND EARL AND THE DYING GIRL
JESSE ANDREWS

THE BOOK THIEF
MARKUS ZUSAK



THE YEAR IN POP MUSIC had plenty of familiar faces at the top of the charts, such as Justin Bieber and Taylor Swift. But there were also plenty of new stars who had breakout years, such as The Weeknd and Shawn Mendes.



POPE FRANCIS VISITED THE U.S. FOR THE FIRST TIME EVER. He addressed Congress in Washington, D.C., and the United Nations General Assembly in New York City. He ended his trip in Philadelphia. His schedule included a parade and services, and crowds followed him hoping for a glimpse of or a hug from the pontiff.



THE STRONGEST HURRICANE EVER RECORDED — named Patricia — made landfall in a sparsely populated area of southwest Mexico on Oct. 23. Hurricane Patricia caused a lot of damage in Mexico and then swept northeast, merged with another storm and caused flooding in Houston, Texas, and Louisiana.



After 16 years, comedian **JON STEWART** (pictured interviewing President Obama) stepped down as the host of popular satirical news program *The Daily Show*, surprising an entire generation of college-aged kids used to getting their news laughs from Stewart.



The Fox network drama, *Empire*, which centered around the story of fictional hip hop music company Empire Entertainment and its founding family members fighting for control of it, became a can't-miss show for many.



Even after band member Zayn Malik left the group, boy band **ONE DIRECTION** still released a new album, *Made in the A.M.*, that was one of the year's top sellers. Despite that, the four remaining members of One Direction decided to take a break and pursue solo careers.



NASCAR driver **KYLE BUSCH** won five races during the 2015 season and won his first Sprint Cup championship. **JEFF GORDON** retired after 23 seasons and 93 career race wins.



GAS PRICES steadily crept lower throughout the year. By Thanksgiving and Christmas, the national average fell below \$2 a gallon for the first time around a holiday since 2008.



HIGHEST-RATED NETWORK TV SHOWS

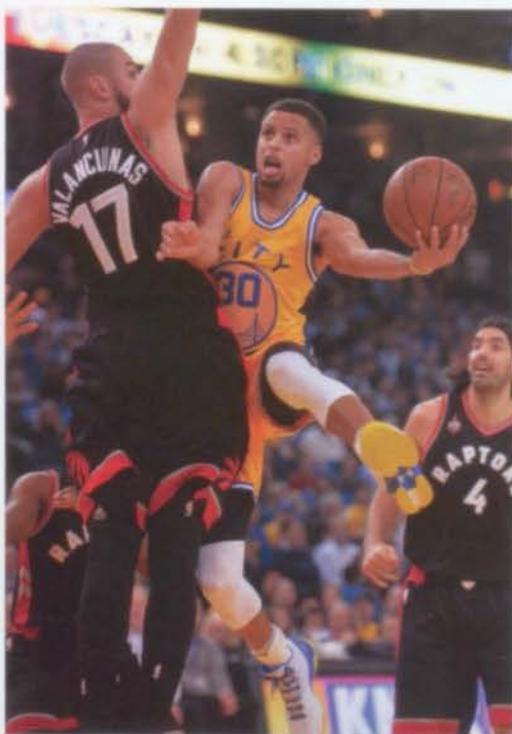
EMPIRE

SCANDAL

THE BIG BANG THEORY

GREY'S ANATOMY

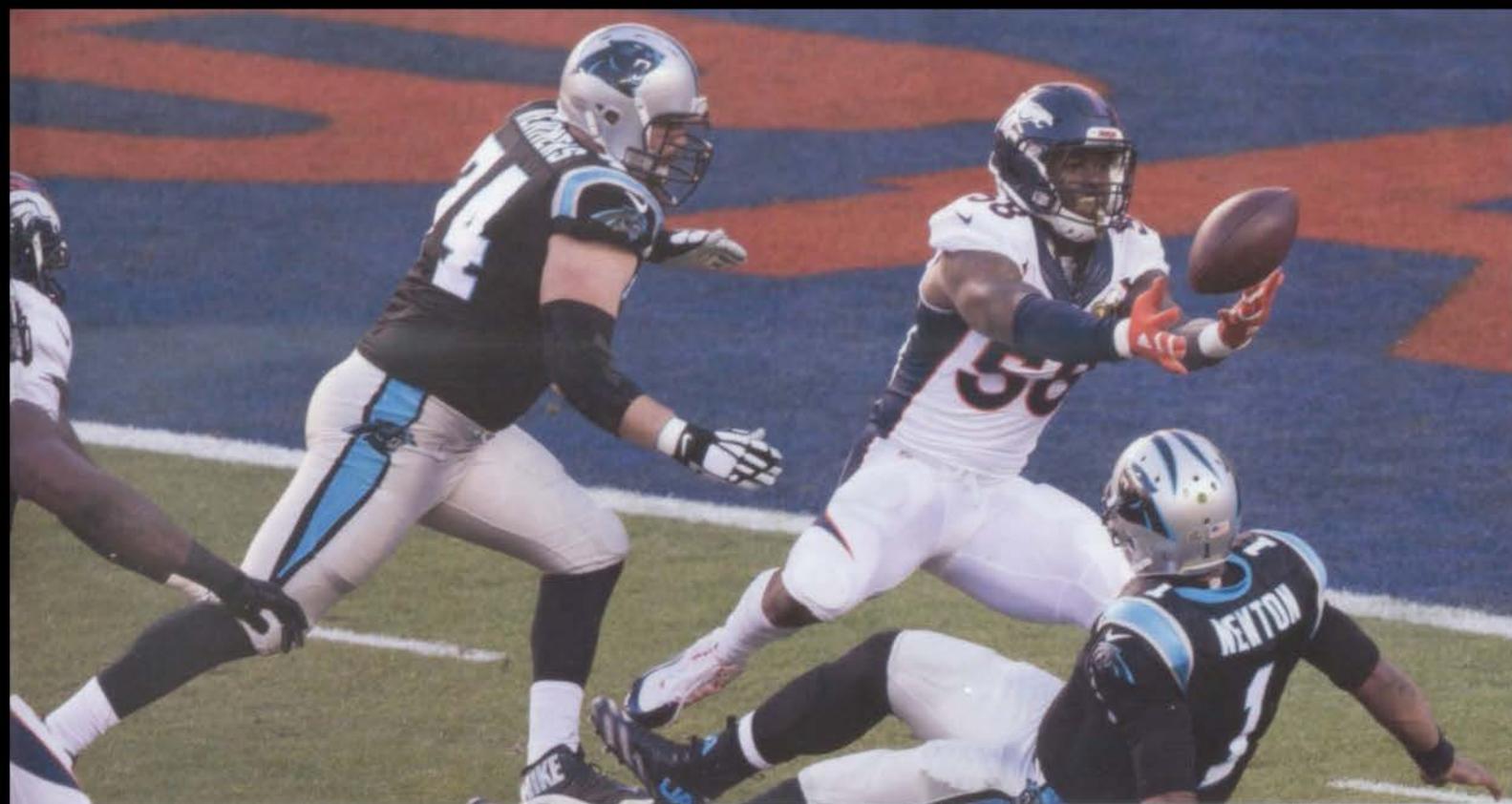
MODERN FAMILY



STEPHEN CURRY won MVP and led the Golden State Warriors to an NBA title, then got the 2015-16 season off to a 24-0 start, which set a new record for the most consecutive wins to start an NBA season.

Source: tvbythenumbers.com

Photo credits: Newscom



The Denver Broncos defeated the Carolina Panthers, 24-10, to win Super Bowl 50. Denver's top-rated defense, led by game MVP Von Miller, shut down quarterback Cam Newton and the Panthers' offense. The victory was also the second championship for Denver quarterback Peyton Manning.



Several **NEW SPECIES WERE DISCOVERED** in the Eastern Himalayas in recent years, and the World Wide Fund for Nature (WWF) raised concerns this year about whether they are endangered. Among them were the Burmese snub-nosed monkey (shown), a "Dracula" minnow and the megophrys anrae, a new species of frog.



This year's field of **BEST PICTURE NOMINEES** at the Oscars included *The Martian*, which saw Matt Damon playing an astronaut trapped on Mars. Other movies nominated included *Spotlight*, *The Big Short* and *Mad Max: Fury Road*. *The Revenant* starring Leonardo DiCaprio led all movies with 12 nominations.



Mixed martial artist **HOLLY HOLM** shocked the MMA world in November when she knocked out UFC women's bantamweight champ Ronda Rousey. The victory for the relatively unknown Holm was considered a huge upset.



ALABAMA DEFEATED CLEMSON, 45-40, in the championship game of the 2016 College Football Playoffs. The victory earned a fourth national title in seven seasons for the Crimson Tide under coach Nick Saban.



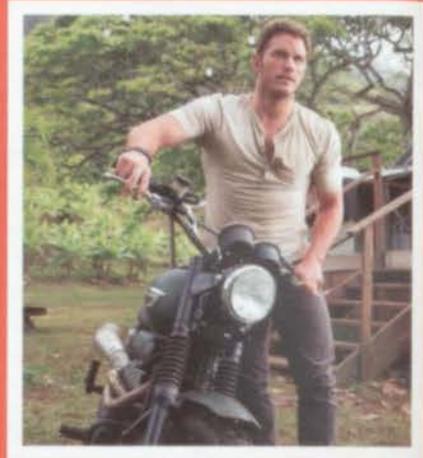
GOOGLE unveiled a new version of its famous multi-color logo, changing to a sans-serif font for the first time in more than 17 years. The company said the update was an attempt to make the logo look better on multiple devices.



Apple released the **APPLE WATCH**, a new brand of smartwatch that performed many of the same functions as an iPhone, but with a more personal connection for the user. In the first year, Apple sold 12 million watches.



QUEEN ELIZABETH II became the longest-reigning monarch of Great Britain on Sept. 9. She surpassed her great-great-grandmother, Queen Victoria, who sat on the throne 63 years and 216 days. Elizabeth was already the country's longest-living and oldest-serving monarch. She became queen in February 1952.



After more than a decade, the dinosaurs were set loose again and **Jurassic World** made millions at the box office. Star Chris Pratt played a raptor expert and trainer at the new dinosaur theme park.



TOP BOX OFFICE MOVIES

STAR WARS: THE FORCE AWAKENS

JURASSIC WORLD

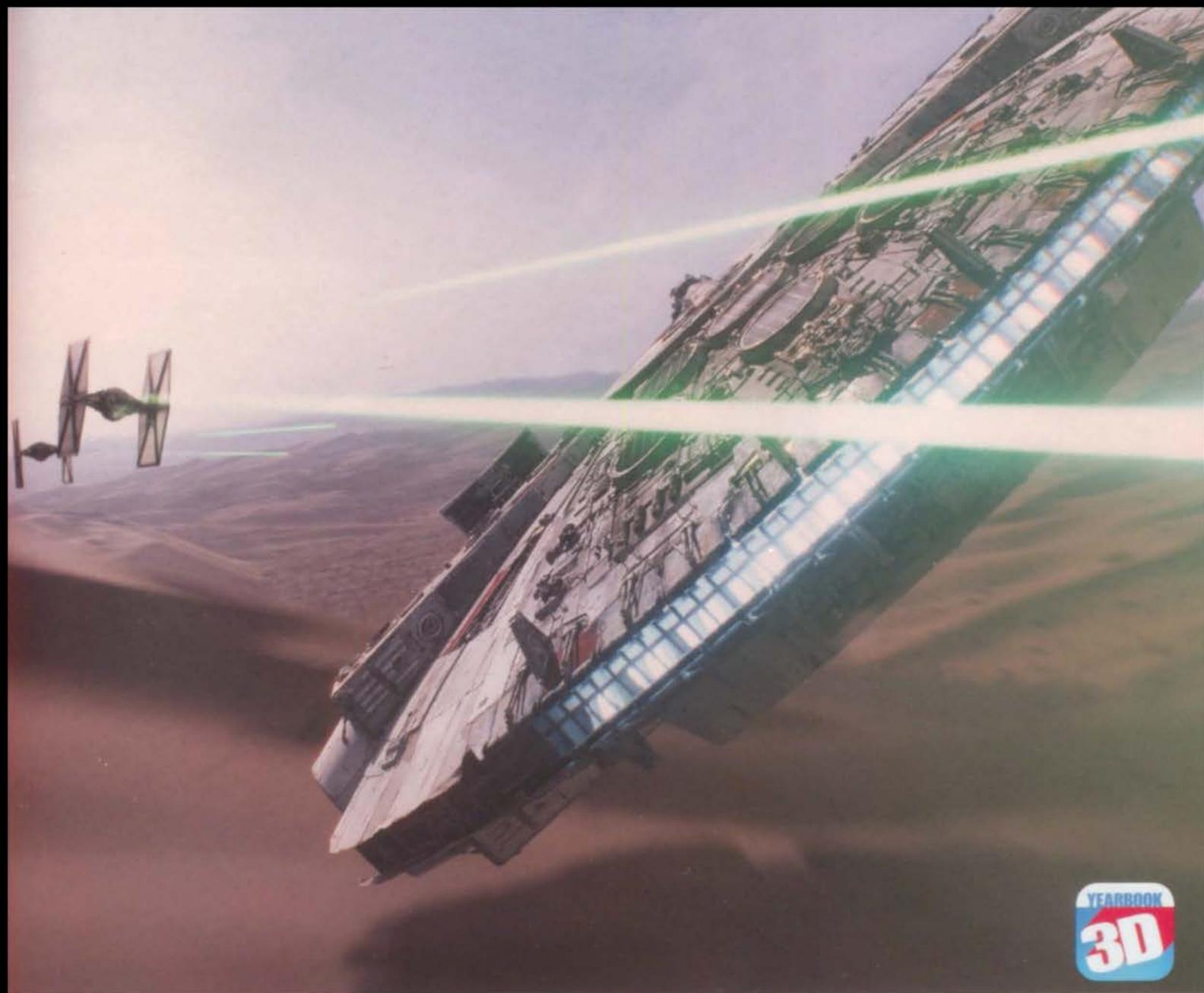
AVENGERS: AGE OF ULTRON

INSIDE OUT

FURIOUS 7

Source: boxofficemojo.com

Photo credits: Newscom



The force was with many of us when *Star Wars* returned to the big screen for the first time in 10 years. *Star Wars: The Force Awakens* opened a week before Christmas to huge audiences. The movie introduced a new generation of characters, but also saw the return of favorites Luke Skywalker, Han Solo and Princess Leia.



Egg McMuffins all the time! For the first time, fast-food chain **MCDONALD'S** began serving several items from its popular breakfast menu 24 hours a day.



As more people purchased **DRONES**, local, state and federal governments debated how to regulate the aircraft for safety and security reasons. The FAA estimated that as many as 30,000 drones could be flying in the U.S. by 2020.



Stargazers everywhere received a treat in September when a **LUNAR ECLIPSE** took place. The event was rare as it was a total eclipse of a supermoon, meaning the eclipse took place at the same time as a full moon.

The Kansas City Royals

defeated the New York Mets in five games to win the 2015 World Series. It was the first World Series title for the Royals in 30 years. In six of their 11 playoff wins, Kansas City trailed by at least two runs, setting a record for the most comeback wins in one postseason.



AMERICAN IDOL aired its 15th and final season, with Keith Urban, Jennifer Lopez and Harry Connick Jr. taking their last turn as judges. Several past winners returned to make appearances in the show's last go-around.

Photo credits: Newscom

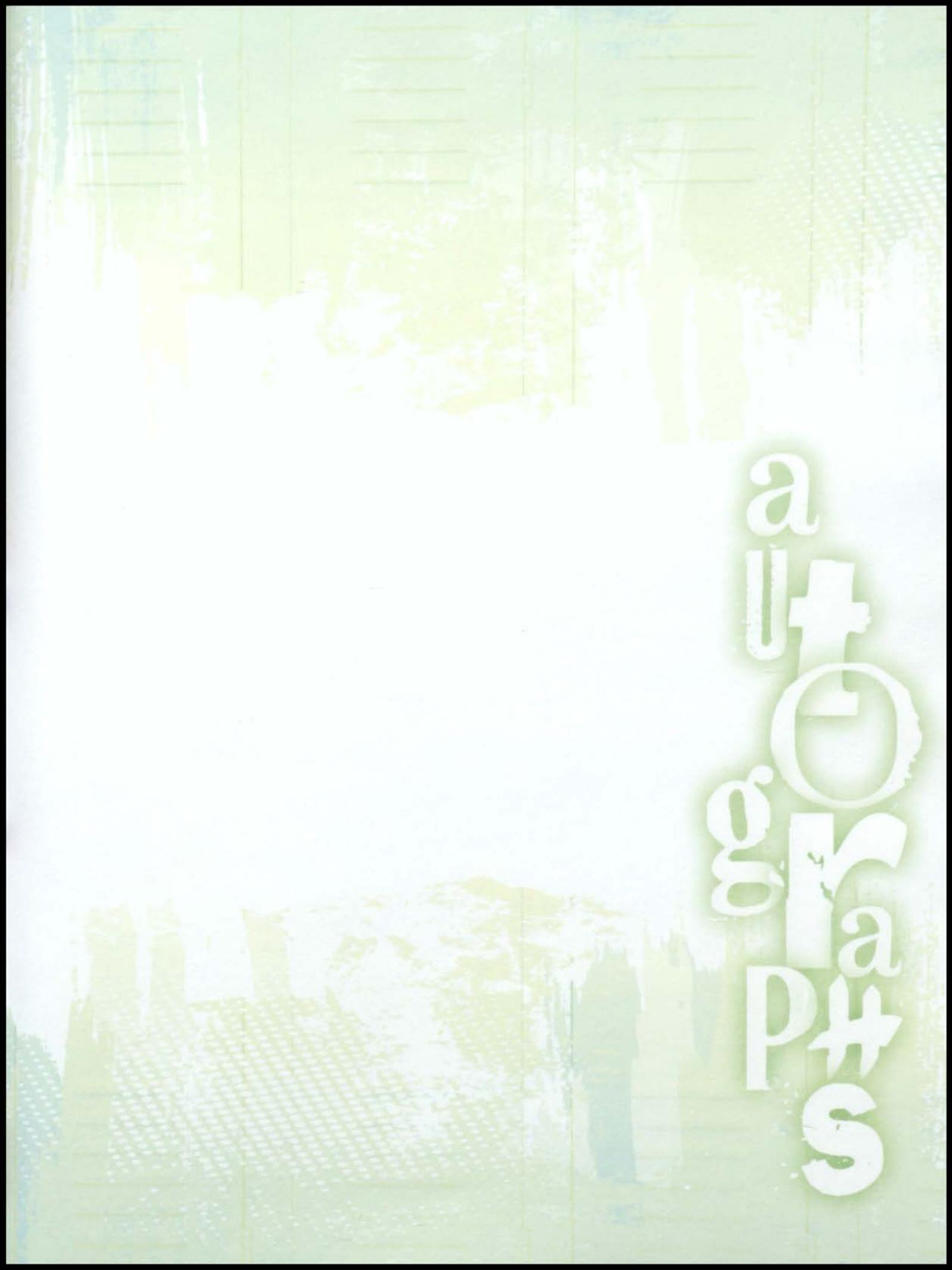


New England quarterback **TOM BRADY** was suspended for four games by the NFL when the league ruled he was "generally aware" of possible wrongdoing in the Deflategate controversy. However, Brady's suspension was overturned on appeal by a federal judge, allowing him to start the year for the defending Super Bowl champs.



A mass migration of **REFUGEES** from Syria, Iraq, Afghanistan and other countries headed for Europe by foot or boat in search of better opportunities. The situation strained resources and raised tensions in many places.

The Oxford Dictionaries **WORD OF THE YEAR FOR 2015** was not actually a word – it was the emoji 🥹, known as the Face with Tears of Joy. In its announcement, Oxford Dictionaries said the emoji was chosen "as the 'word' that best reflected the ethos, mood, and preoccupations of 2015."



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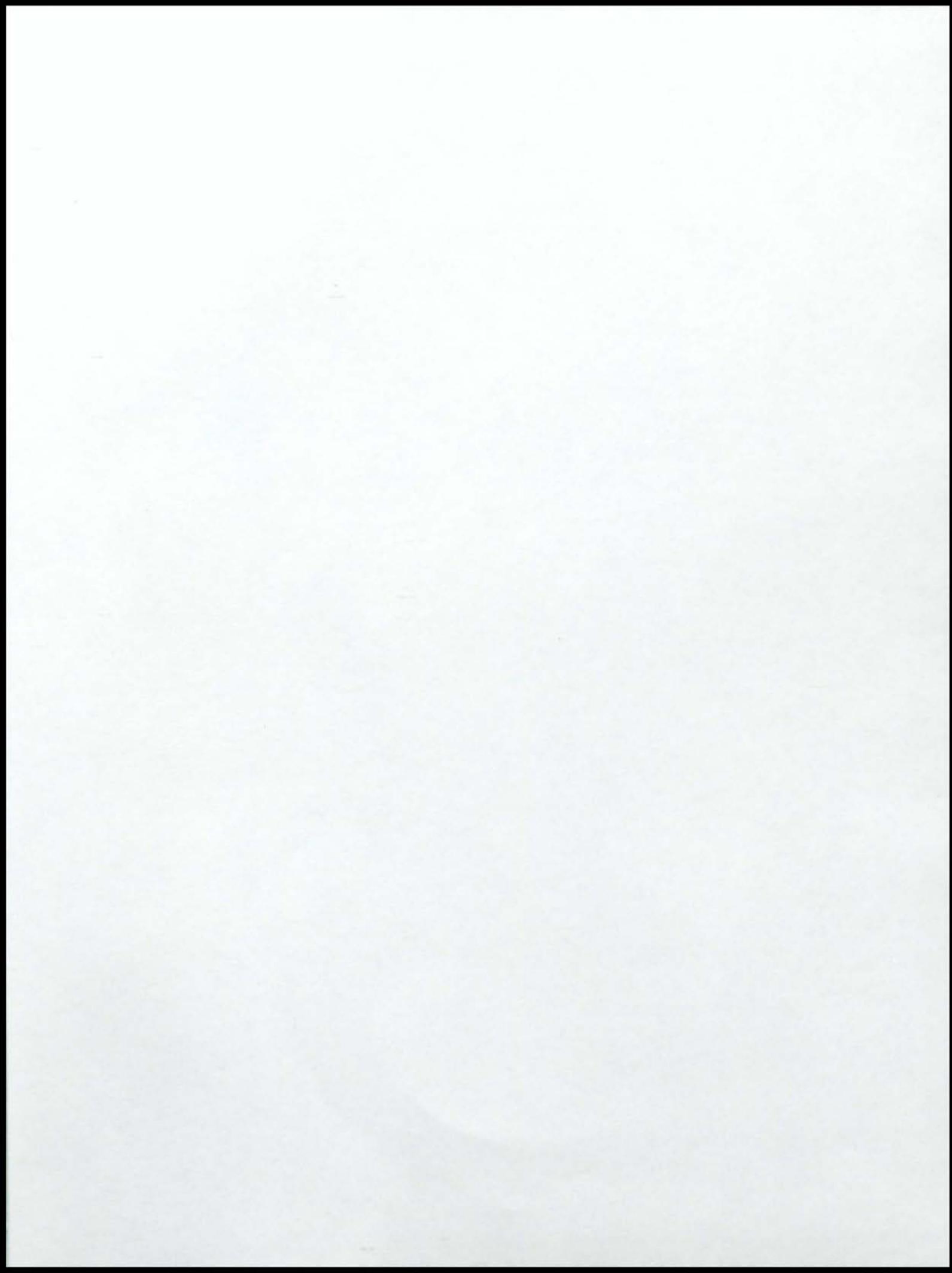


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