

Something ...



C•A•M•B•I•A 1987

BLUE

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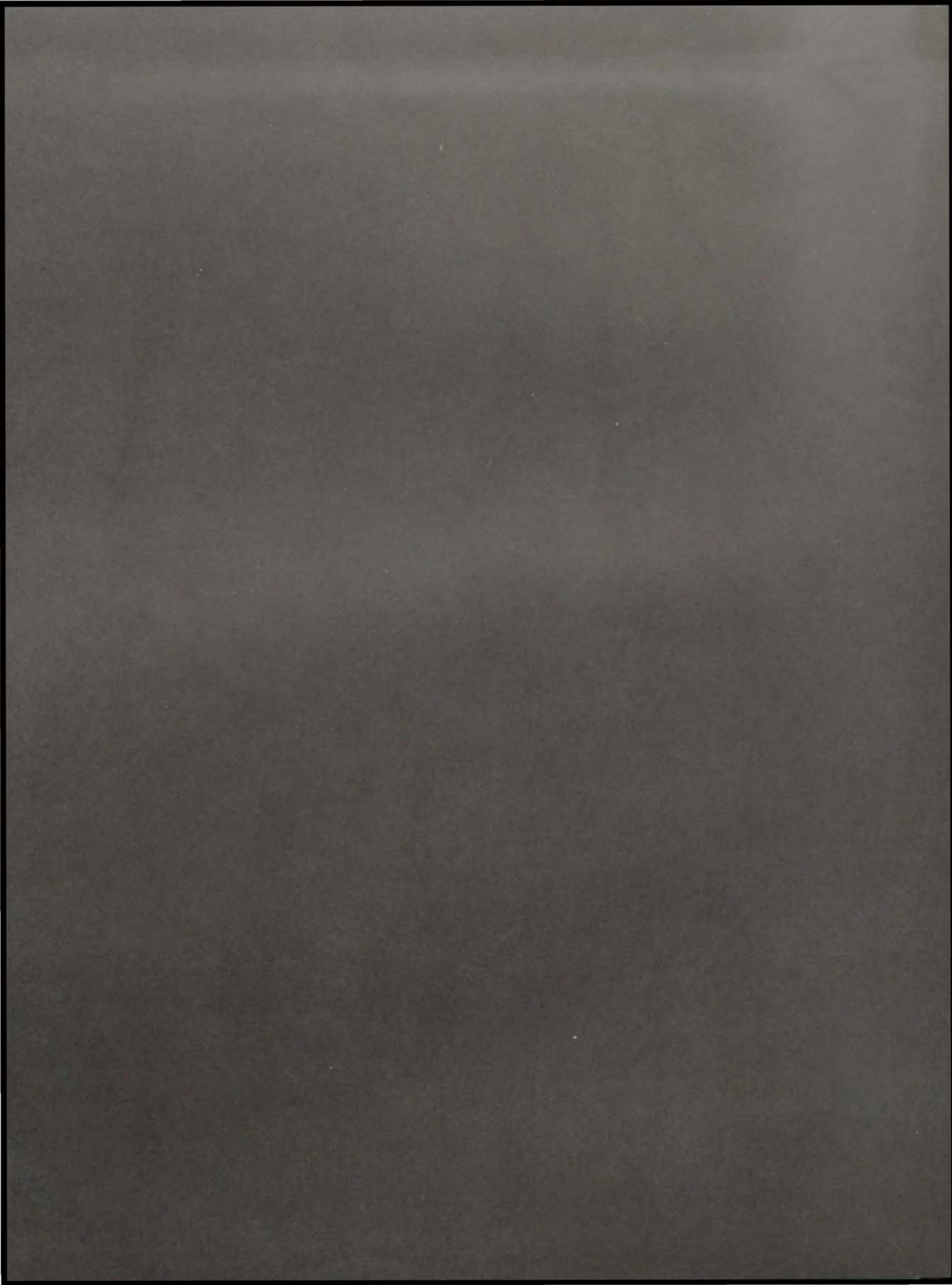
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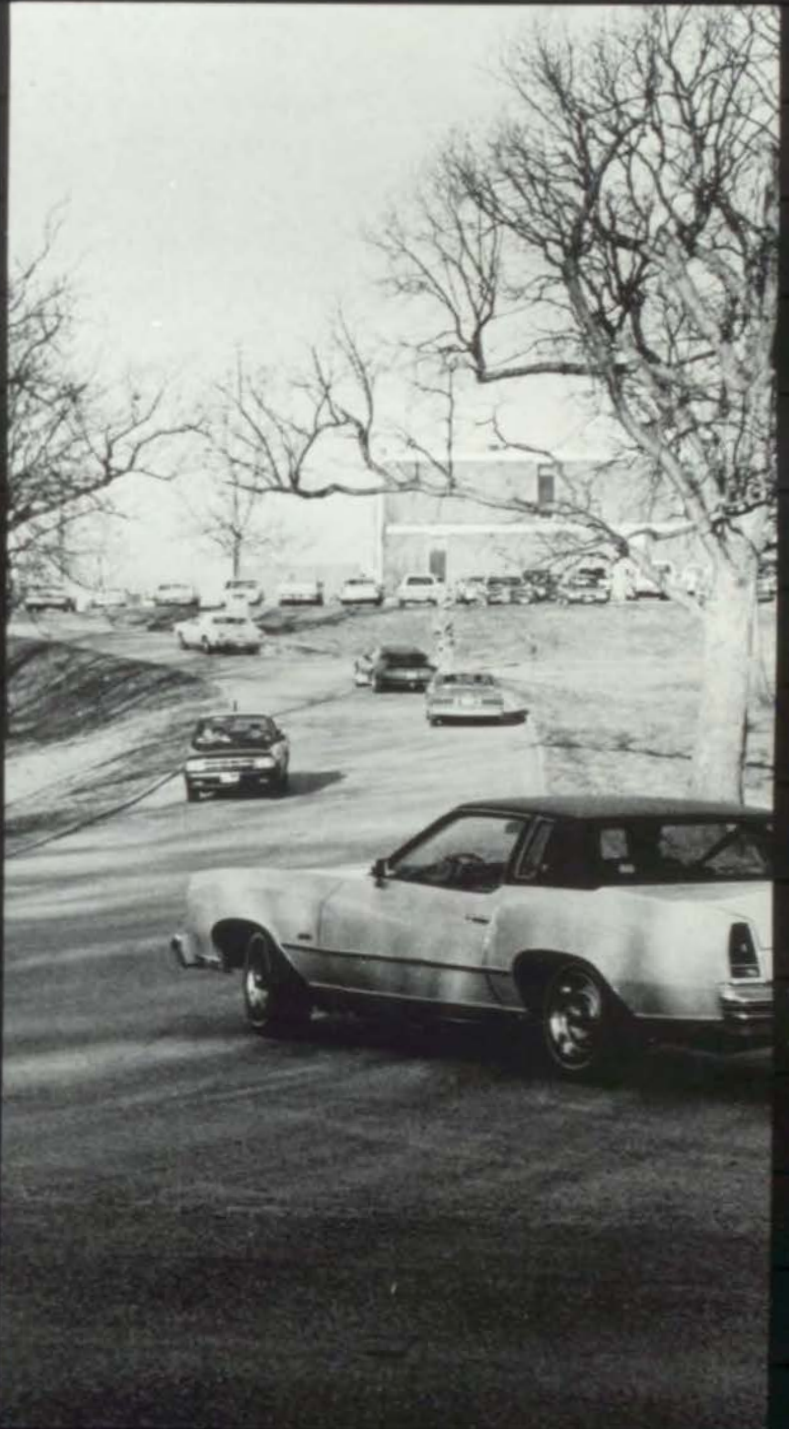
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Getting the entire student body involved with school spirit is a tough task, but Renee Wade, junior, gives it her best shot at an assembly. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Seeing Oak Park through the Oak trees which gave the school its name is a sight seen daily by Oakies who drive to school. (photo by David Cunningham)



S

• by Tamela Simpson

Something old ...
Something new ...
Something borrowed ...
Something blue ...

Individually each phrase could stand alone, but when this old cliché was put together, it described Oak Park in 1987.

Usually, this saying only symbolizes new beginnings; this year it meant following old traditions, starting new ones, working on borrowed time, and displaying school spirit - the special Oak Park blue on blue.

As the year began, 2,100 of us brought to the twenty-two year old building memories, friendships, familiar faces and of course, ourselves.

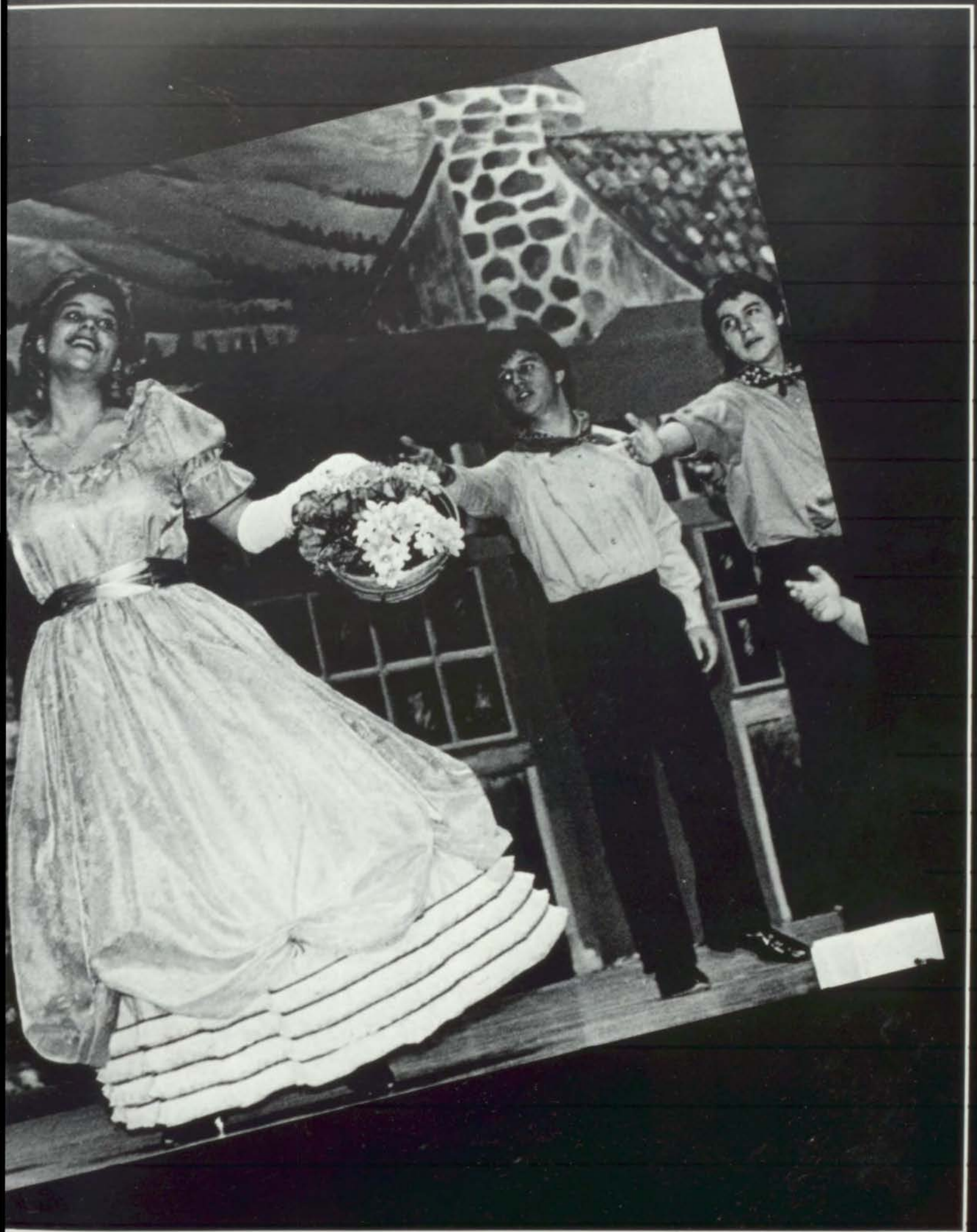
From adjusting to a new principal to breaking old traditions like altering senior week the students adapted to change. Everyday brought new faces and traditions to Oak Park, including AFS students. Some things were borrowed like NKC stadium for football games.

Oak Park, then, was a combination of what it gave and what it was given. The building was old, the people were new, the traditions were borrowed, the spirit was blue.

Having more than librarian skills, Martha Treutz, has the honor of being Oak Park's oldest original Oakie. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Being serenaded during the musical Little Mary Sunshine, Tammy Johnson, enjoys the attention by singers, Wayne Thomas and Scott Smith. (photo by Jimmy Preston)





• by Tamela Simpson

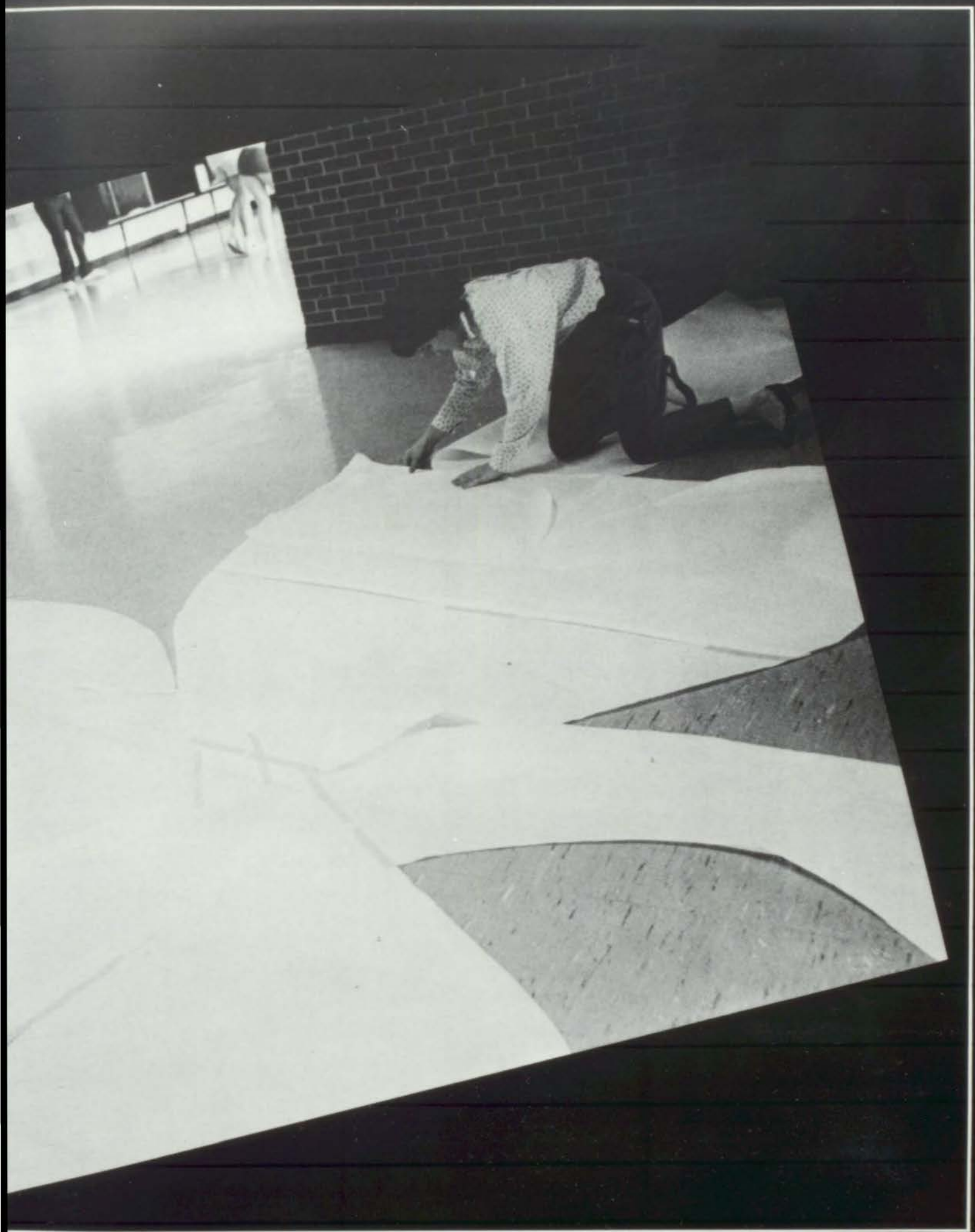
How can something be common and special at the same time? It could if it were Oak Park blue. From letter jackets to class rings, Oakies proved blue was more than a color; it represented Oak Park. Blue meant spirit at basketball games, studying at lunch time or raising \$9,000 for United Way. The way the color blue was portrayed to others was as unique as the new volleyball uniforms and Stuco buttons. This year the shade of blue was a mix of endless pride and determination. Pride was expressed in many different ways; football players dyed parts of their hair blue before games or students dressed up for plaid day.

Throughout the year students worked hard to represent the Big Blue. From 6 a.m. basketball practices to studying for finals, Oakies lived up to their reputation. The color blue, although a common color, was unique because the whole student body was involved. Each face, class and activity were all a part of making 1987 something special, something blue.

Breaking the ritual of an usual day, Becky Ploth, senior shares a little Oakie Spirit at Oak Wood Manor Nursing Home. (Photo by Lisa Mason)

Making a life size shamrock Patty Palmer, junior, prepares decorations for the St. Pats King Assembly. (photo by Lisa Mason)





S

by Kelly Reed

Something was going to happen. A crowd had gathered around the student-made poster to read all about it. Was it a hayride, a dance, or maybe a lock-in? Anything was possible.

Before anything could be done though, money had to be earned. Fund-raisers went on all year long in every club. From Gold C coupon books to car washes, Oakies helped raise thousands of dollars for their clubs. Once the money was earned practically anything could be and was done.

Fund-raisers were not the only ways clubs advertised themselves. T-shirts were another popular way. Almost every club had some kind of shirt with their club logo on it. The color varied from the norm of blue on blue to red, bringing out the personality of each club in and out of Oak Park.

Clubs gave us a richer color of blue. They enriched our lives, gave us a little fun with all the hard work put into them. Without them, Oak Park would have been a faded shade of Blue.

Signs like the one Danny Bishop, senior, puts up keeps everyone in the school informed of all activities each club was doing. (photo by Lisa Mason)

After a fine performance the audience applauded for an active family of musical talents, including alumni at the "Messiah". (photo by Lisa Mason)





ACTIVITIES

Homecoming

Starting New Traditions

• by Jill Hall

The clock was running down and the Northmen were behind. The tension increased as every second passed. One more touchdown would not even tie the game. Oak Park's chances of winning seemed bleak. Then the bomb came. The 43 yard "bomb" by Joe Reid, senior. A touchdown followed, closing the gap to a margin of one.

The extra point would tie the game, throwing it in would put the Oakies in the lead for the first time against the Park Hill Trojans, ranked third in the city. A gutsy decision by head football coach Keith Ross and the team's will to win, put Oak Park in the lead.

The crowd which had been leaving only moments before swarmed the end zone, sideline, and stands.

"Defense! Defense!" boomed across the field by the fans in blue.

Two seconds left in the game and Park Hill decided to go for the field goal. The ball fell short and the Northmen had won their biggest game of the year.

Homecoming game, the one movies are made about, and the one girls dream of being crowned at, was the site of the 37-36 triumph by Oak Park.

"The kids never quit. They, above everybody else, thought they could win and that's what counts," said football coach Joe Briley.

But the game was not all of Homecoming. During half time, the seven queen candidates Tonya Brennan, Stefanie Edmundson, Susan Kane, Michelle Twitt, Raelyn Williams, Connie Willkett and Lana Wooten were driven onto the field in convertibles loaned by family and friends.

Michelle Twitt was named the 1986 Homecoming Queen and was immediately swarmed by friends.

A parade was not included in Homecoming because the cost of insurance was too high. Instead a car decorating contest and Pep Rally before the game were decided upon.

"I thought the Pep Rally was fun because some of my friends were there," said Rene Reynaud, freshman.

Winning the game only heightened the fever of excitement in students as they looked forward to the Homecoming Dance, moved from a Friday to a Saturday night and made semi-formal.

The change of nights and dress were decided upon in the spring of 1986, senior Kathy Warner, chairperson in charge of Homecoming, because, "it's different than all the other dances and it made it a little more special."

Most semi-formal dances in the recent past had been unsuccessful but the Homecoming Dance raised \$1400.



Enjoying the semi-formal dance are Chris Coomer and Todd Marsh. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Before the queen crowning at halftime, Michelle Twitt, senior, and her father ride in Linda Jones' Corvette in the procession around the football field. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Performing at the Homecoming Assembly are the Oak Street Singers. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Being presented to the student body at the Homecoming Assembly are the queen candidates. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Enthusiastic fans, Pam Williams and Mike Pierson, seniors, show their support for the football team by wearing Oak Park colors and cheering the team on to victory. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Mark Kelly and Bob Randall, juniors, observe their competitors during the swimsuit competition. (photo by Mary Beall)

In the swimsuit competition, John Farmer, junior, struts his stuff. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Judging the Mr. Oak Park Pageant were Max Floyd, KY-102; Lisa Valenti, channel 41; Gina Bowman, Farmland Industries; and Alice Priest, Chiefette. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Dressed as a mermaid, Steve Thornberry, junior, charms the audience in the swimsuit competition. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Bon Jovi

visits Mr. Oak Park Pageant

• by Kim Melton

The audience cheered as Bon Jovi entered Oak Park's stage singing "Livin' On a Prayer." But wait, how could he be at Oak Park when he was to be at Kemper Arena performing?

For those people who missed the real Bon Jovi concert, they got a special treat at the second annual Mr. Oak Park Pageant when Mark Kelly, junior, (ala Bon Jovi) performed his lip-sync act.

The Mr. Oak Park Pageant was divided into four competitions that included swim wear, talent, formal wear, and an interview.

The swim wear competition consisted mainly of contestants dressed Hawaiian. However, a few contestants had some unusual costumes.

"I went as a mermaid, which was kind of cute and kind of embarrassing," said Steve Thornberry, junior.

Next, came the talent competition, which included a variety of different talents.

Bob Randall, junior, did a narrative from Mark Twain, juggled, and played the harmonica for his talent.

"I think that (talent competition) is the category that decides who wins," said Lennie Niernberger, sophomore. "So I think there is more pressure to do good."

The formal wear competition involved the contestants showing their tux-

edos. Lisa Bowman, senior, provided entertainment during this event by singing a solo to the contestants.

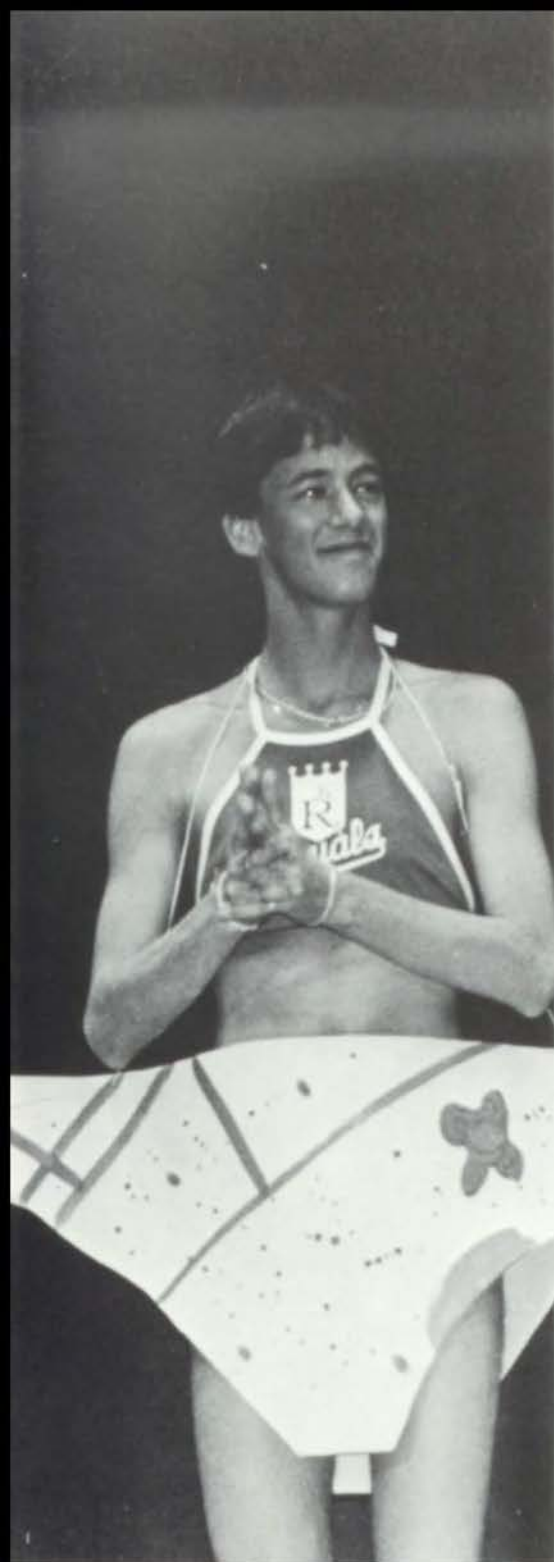
The interview involved the contestants answering a question with a precise and prompt response. For some, it was difficult coming up with good responses immediately.

"We didn't know what to expect," said Steve. "We knew what we had to do for the other competitions, but for the question, we were unprepared and it was the unknown."

After the competitions were over, the winners were finally announced by last year's Mr. Oak Park, Joey Zeff, 1986 graduate. First place was awarded to Bob, first runner-up was Steve, second runner-up was Lennie, and third runner-up was David Farris, senior.

"I didn't think there was a chance that I could win, and I didn't want to face the disappointment," said Bob.

The Mr. Oak Park contestants and the clubs they represented were: David Cunningham, National Thespian League; John Farmer, French Club; David Farris, vocal music; Doug Graves, Log; and Jeff Jones, Student Council; seniors; and David Delameter, Pep Club; Anthony Files, Students Who Care; Mark Kelly, Honor Society; Bob Randall, Cambia; and Steve Thornberry, NFL; juniors; and Lennie Niernberger, German Club; sophomore.



Lisa Bowman, senior, provides entertainment during a break in the pageant. (photo by Mary Beall)



Sharing a few laughs with Superintendent
isar. Noe Castro, junior, enjoys the banquet.
ta Hotel. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Participation

Family looks on as Sal Bonsignore, sophomore, Jenny Potter and Susan Resch, seniors, Allan Samson and Brooke Warner, juniors, and Sara Mosbacher and Stephanie Boling, sophomores, receive service awards. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Trying to make Honor Society money, Jennifer Fields, senior, sells Tom Wat to her neighbor. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

high in academic club

• by Jill Hall

Honor Society is boring because they don't do anything," said Joe Blow, perpetual I student. "They don't really know how to have a good time."

Refuting that, members of Honor Society gave examples of the many things their club did.

Honor Society went to Children's Mercy Hospital over Halloween to give treats to the kids who could not go trick-or-treating.

Honor Society adopted a family over Christmas and bought them gifts and food with the members own money, elaborated Mrs. Phyllis McConnell, sponsor of Honor Society.

Honor Society provided free tutoring for students who needed extra help.

"It was a learning experience. I learned more by trying to teach others," said junior Noe Castro, treasurer of the club.

Honor Society took all of its club members to a Kansas City Comets game.

Honor Society's end-of-the-year banquet was held at the Vista Hotel where they gave out \$1500 worth of scholarships.

The recipients were Debbie Dobney, who received a \$500 scholarship, Angela

Roos, who received a \$300 scholarship, and Joanne Dake, Jenny Potter, and Susan Resch who each received \$200 scholarships.

To raise money for their activities, Honor Society once again sold Tom Wat for a fundraiser.

"Tom Wat is a suitcase full of household items, just little knickknacks," said Noe.

Membership in Honor Society not only required a student to participate in serving the community, but to maintain a 3.5 grade point average.

This year students were not eligible for the Honor Roll if they received an M in any class. This change in Honor Roll requirements did not affect Honor Society requirements.

"We allow the M if they have the 3.5 accumulative because they take such hard classes," said the club's other sponsor, Mrs. Susie Tarwater. Feelings for the club overall were summed up by Mrs. Tarwater. "I think it is good to have an active club because so often kids at the top are labeled as just bookworms. They don't just study, they can have a good time too."



Congratulating Susan Resch, senior, Julie Jackson, junior presents her with a service scholarship. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Ingredients for success found

• by Tamela Simpson

After the rigors of terrifying tryouts over 7,380 combined hours of memorizing lines and rehearsing, The Oak Park Drama Department was ready to present "The Matchmaker", by Thornton Wilder.

The play was a comedy with an intricate love plot. Dolly Levi, played by Suzi Rastorfer, was determined to find her friend Horace Vandergelder, played by John Tyree, a wife. Ironically, during the end of the play Horace and Dolly fall in love themselves.

In order for the intricate plot to flow smoothly a few obstacles had to be overcome.

"Since the play was a comedy everything was fast paced. You had to keep on your toes in order for the play to be light and funny," said Stefanie Edmonson, senior.

With only five weeks to prepare, the cast had to work extra hard to produce a hit play.

"The cast and I didn't think we were going to make it. I think opening night we surprised both ourselves and the director," said Suzie Rastorfer.

Stage manager Karen Chrisman felt the biggest obstacle was working with the props.

"We started too late moving props in the dark, and since we had so many bulky pieces of furniture it made it even harder,"

said Karen.

Suzie added, "Working with the food during the restraint scene was really difficult. You would never expect something so easy as eating would be really hard. It also didn't help when we had to use the same food every night. It was awful at the end."

The cast found that working well with people and understanding their characters were the keys to good acting.

"Since we were mostly all seniors and this was our last play, everybody gave it their best effort to work well with each other," said Suzie.

"This cast was unique because they learned to work well together. It was a very special group because they were so unified," said Mrs. Nancy Hudson.

"When I developed my character I observed people in real life so I could understand how my character would act and feel," said Abby.

Working close with the director helped the cast find mistakes.

"Mrs. Hudson saw a lot of things we missed that helped refine the play," said John.

"There are so many things to think about in directing a play, it usually gets so tiresome but in this play I really enjoyed myself. The cast and script were wonderful." Mrs. Hudson added.



Long hours

Talking with stage crew, Karen Chrisman tells Pamela Minthorn, Chris Foree, Craig Lanio, and Leigh Anne Nichoson, the best way move stage furniture. (photo by Katie Adamson)



Preaching to the audience, Malachi Stack.(Doug Graves), talks about destroying bad habits. (photo by Katie Adamson)

Forseeing her future, Dolly Levi (Suzie Rastorfer) read the palm of her finance Horace Vandergle (John Tyree). (photo by Katie Adamson)

Vacation

Band performs in Colorado

• by Brenda Heffron

When most people think of Colorado, they think of going skiing. When the Oak Park Band members, think of Colorado, they think parades.

During the summer forty-seven members took a bus to Pike's Peak, Colorado to march in the "Pike's Peak or Bust" parade.

"Anytime you travel, you are involved in a learning experience. In the case of the band students, the experience varied according to each individual," said Mr. Pat White, band director.

During the one week they were there the band visited such places as Cripple Creek, St. Elmo, and the Sand Dunes National Monument. They also spent some time in the mountains.

"Some students had never seen the mountains, much less climbed them. Most had also never been down one-thousand feet in a working mine," said Mr. White.

According to Brad Green, junior, one of his of favorite activities during the week was swimming in a pool heated by geothermal activity.

"Even though it was jacket weather, the pool was perfect, but I hated to get out," said Susan Goldammer.

Pike's Peak has approximately thirty percent less oxygen than Kansas City.

"Walking can be tiring at that altitude, and playing an instrument even more so," said Mr. White.

"I was born in Colorado so I knew what to expect, the part that made me tired was the long march and playing the same song so many times," explained Lani Fernandes, junior.

During the trip the group became used to a fast pace.

"We were totally scheduled. We tried to do as much as we could in the time we had," said Mr. White.

"We didn't have time to do our own sightseeing or anything like that. We were always doing something with the whole band," explained Lani.

The group financed the trip by fundraisers during the school year. The expenses were cut down by the group staying with "host" families in Alpine.

"I have a cabin in Alpine, one of the residents of that summer community lives in Colorado Springs and was parade chairman for the event. They helped us out a little with the expenses," explained Mr. White.

"The band was well-received during the whole trip. All along the route people would yell out 'Hey, Missouri' or 'Hi K. C.', said Mr. White.

Normally the Flag Corp would have traveled with the band, but since there were only three girls in the corp, they did not attend the parade.

Once school began, the band had to get used to, not only Kansas City again, but to a full season of playing for Oak Park.



Rich Miller shows off his Halloween spirit while performing with the band. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Drummers display talent by playing a drum solo during the song "Wipe Out". (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Lori Henager twirls her way through a baton routine during a halftime performance. (photo by Lisa Mason)



Despite the mud from the many fall rains, the Marching Northmen did not mind getting their feet dirty for a performance. (photo by Lisa Mason)



Drum major Rich Miller gives the band the downbeat from his platform. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Kyle Belville, junior, and Melinda Jenkins, senior, help AFS Club with the sale of 1250 carnations. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

AFS representatives and a student from NKC enjoy a story by AFS student, Meike de Boer. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Julie Clark, senior, helps Helena Ripatti, AFS student, choose foods from other countries during International Night. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Relaxing from school, Levent Yilmaz, AFS student, leisurely rides his bike. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Souvenirs

consist of idealistic values

• by Kim Melton

When most people visit other countries, they bring back material souvenirs such as sweat-shirts, banners, or food. However, if the three AFS students could return to their countries with anything from the United States, it would not be materialistic souvenirs.

Meike de Boer, AFS student from the Netherlands, would return home with the non-academic classes in schools such as sports and drama. Levent Yilmaz, AFS student from Turkey, would return with the literal meaning of the freedom of speech. Helena Ripatti, AFS student from Finland, would take the Missouri winters home with her, because Missouri's winters are warmer than Finland's.

These were just a few of the ideas that the AFS students wished they could return to their countries with. Also, visiting the U.S. helped these three students to expand their minds.

"I learned how to live without my parents," said Helena.

For Levent, his visit changed his image of the U.S.. Before Levent visited the U.S., he thought there were a lot of rich people, parties, and happiness.

"It was different because the people had the same feelings. There were lots of poor people too," said Levent.

Meike felt it was hard to make the transition to the U.S. because she had to deal with people younger than her besides getting use to a new place and new ideas.

"You really grow because you have to figure out how you're going to deal with things on your own," said Meike.

Along with the advantages came the disadvantages to visiting another country. All three of the AFS students disliked the fried foods in the U.S.. Also, they found that U.S. food was much sweeter than theirs.

However, Helena's main disadvantage was that she will be a year behind in school in her country.

"All of the little things that I don't like here doesn't really matter because what I have learned here is far greater than the things I don't like," said Helena.

Levent said the main disadvantage of being here is "missing your friends and parents. It's so nice and a beautiful experience. But it's also hard for some people if you're not objective."

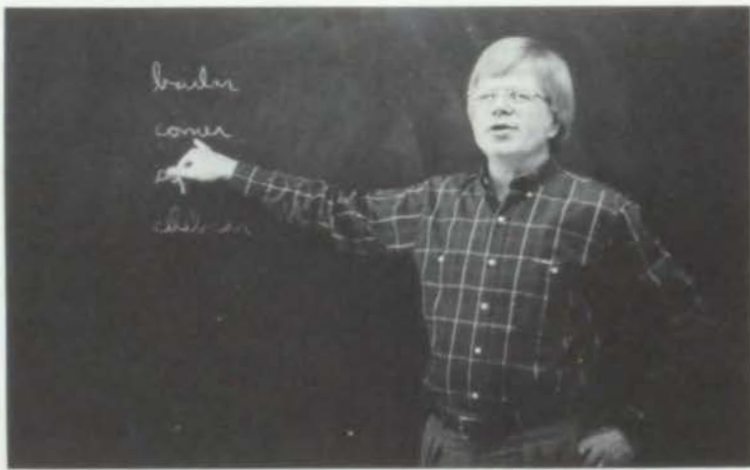
These students felt that AFS Club helped to make the transition to the U.S. easier, because they had someone to talk to when they had problems.

"There are different steps you go through in the year. At first you have fun, then you get use to things here, and you get homesick. You have a lot of mixed feelings through the year," said Meike.

Although the AFS students were not able to return home with their idealistic souvenirs, they had many ideas and memories that they could take with them anywhere in the world.



Handing out basketballs during a practice. Meike de Boer, AFS student, fills her role as girls basketball manager. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Students watch in fascination as Mr. John Sanders teaches them the finer points of Spanish. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Part of the learning experience for Spanish students was watching "Footloose" in Spanish. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Fundraising

Playing volleyball was only one activity German Club took part in at their annual lock-in at William Jewell College. (photo by Ted Mehl)

Santa (Erick Warner, junior), hands out presents to Cindy Smith, senior, at International Night. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Sales help less fortunate

• Aimee Rogers

To your left, Spanish dancers stamp out a can-can to the tune of castinets and marachas. Ahead of you are German boys in lederhosen singing "O Tannenbaum", and to your right you glimpse students in berets munching down croissants and Napoleans. Although it may sound like a European holiday, it was actually International Night, a cultural get-together attended by French, Spanish, and German language clubs.

International Night was only one of the activities in which the clubs participated. Spanish Club made flowers for the carnival and went on a hayride, French Club went to the Renaissance Festival and Worlds of Fun, and German Club's activities included a lock-in at William Jewell College and a gag awards party.

The foreign language clubs paid for their activities by selling items such as candy bars, magazine subscriptions, and advent calendars throughout the year. While getting students to sell on their own time was sometimes a problem, most students understood that it had to be done.

"I think it's a good way to raise money for a club," Abby Ferry, senior, said. "It's the only way I can think of to raise money, because no one's going to donate it."

"I think it's worth it because German Club pays for everything. They're paying

you back for selling," said Erin Harris, junior and German Club president.

According to Ms. Julie Halsey, French teacher, the students liked to sell candy bars because it was easy. An attempt to sell crystal in October was not successful.

"They hate to sell if it's hard to sell," she said.

Sometimes the club activities reflected on the language class itself.

"Sometimes the club takes up class time, when Frau needs to get things in order," Erin said.

"It usually takes about five minutes of class time to see who wants to go to different things. And we can discuss the meetings because just about all the people in class are in French Club," added Ms. Halsey.

Ms. Halsey said that most of the money raised by French Club did not go to activities. Instead it was used to adopt a child in West Africa and send handicapped students on a ski trip.

"When the students bought our French Club items they didn't realize they were supporting a child. For example, the other clubs' money goes to them personally, for their activities. But for us, it goes to that child," Julie Clark, senior, said.



Ms. Julie Halsey hosts a French Club party at her house where students such as Julie Clark, senior, learn to cook couscous, a French dish. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Kim Melton, senior, practices reading her speech for the Cambia Queen assembly while Aimee Rogers, junior, Julie Clark and Kelly Reed, seniors, listen. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Staff enters Computer Age

• by Kim Melton

New ideas and firsts were welcomed in different ways.

The Cambia staff had to welcome the new idea of using a computer to help put together the yearbook.

"At first, I thought it might get in the way of writing good copy," said Mr. Bill Hankins, Cambia adviser. "However, I think it's more efficient. And it gives us a chance to learn about computers."

Tamela Simpson, senior and Cambia co-editor, said, "I liked it (the computer) because once we got use to it, it made everything easier. It seemed like we were ready for a change. And it was a challenge because it was something new to learn."

The Cambia staff was also lucky enough to be able to go to Chicago, Illinois, for the national journalism convention.

Kelly Reed, senior and Cambia co-editor, received an award of excellence for the layout she drew in the contest at Chicago.

"It was a real honor to be able to compete with people all over the whole nation," said Kelly.

"I think the national conventions can be good because they gather the best speakers and best students from all around. Plus, it was fun to go to Chicago," said Mr. Hankins. "I picked up a few things about the law, coverage, and photography that I've incorporated into my classes."

Another first for Cambia was hosting the Journalism Educators of Metropolitan

Kansas City awards at Oak Park. The Cambia staff along with the Log staff provided refreshments to the 150 guests. Also, Phil Witt, news caster from Channel 4, was the guest speaker at the awards ceremony.

During the end of the year at the Journalism banquet, Mr. Hankins renamed the journalist of the year award. The award was renamed in the honor of the late Lynn Blair, who was the Log adviser from 1967 to 1974. David Cunningham, senior and Cambia photographer, was the first person to receive this award of excellence in journalism on the Cambia staff.

David said, "It surprised me. It was quite an honor to get this award."

The use of the computer and new designing ideas helped to make the creation of the Cambia unique.

"I always expect that the Cambia will win All-American because the staff always sets their standards high, and there were a lot of people that were on the staff for the second year and they knew the ropes," said Tamela.

Aimee Rogers, junior and Cambia layout co-editor, summed up the year by saying, "There were fantastic people on the staff and everyone knew what they were doing. Everything as a whole was different this year which made this yearbook good."



New Ideas

The Cambia and Log staffs walk across the street to the awards banquet at the Hyatt Regency in Chicago. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Michele Tunnell and Katie Adamson, seniors, cut the first slice of a four foot long submarine sandwich for a Cambia party. (photo by Mark Strecker)



At the Missouri Interscholastic Press Association, Jimmy Preston, senior, accepts a photography first place for Matthew Ward, senior. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Jill Hall, junior, helps Michelle Murphy, senior, type in a story on the computer. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Top-notch

Awards go to 'Northmen's Log'

• by Kelly Reed

"Donnie and Marie Osmond host 'Evangelist Tonight'" or "Bing Crosby Opens Pixy Stix Treatment Center" could have been headlines that caused million dollar lawsuits for the National Enquirer. Instead, these headlines were found in the award-winning Northmen's Log, with no lawsuits at all.

The humorous side of the news was needed to balance serious stories like drugs, sex education, and the Vietnam War. It was the serious news that allowed the "Log" to win eleven awards and to let Susan Resch receive the Top Journalist of Clay County Award last year.

"I received a couple of different awards, but this particular award meant more to me," said Susan, feature editor. "I was competing against students from the entire county and only one person was selected."

To prepare Loggers for the year-long task of putting out twelve award winning issues, six Loggers went to Journalism camp at the University of Missouri-Columbia.

At camp, Loggers learned how to meet deadlines, write better stories, take better pictures, and make the paper the best it could be.

"It (camp) prepared me to become more of a leader and to face responsibilities that I had to face," said Sherrie Watkins, co-editor.

"It was a relief when the paper came

out to know all the work and frustration was over for the next two weeks," said Jill Graves, layout co-editor.

"When the paper came out, I felt a sense of relief and accomplishment because of all the hustle and bustle that goes into the paper," said Sherrie.

All the "hustle and bustle" helped Loggers create award-winning material.

At the MIPA awards, Log was awarded All-Missourian for the seventh year in a row. Along with that award, Craig Grawe received third place in photography, and Carol Parks received honorable mention in photography. Susan Resch won first place in feature writing, while honorable mention went to Jill Graves and Karen Miscavish for a new story they wrote together.

At the JEMKC awards, Carol received third place in photography, Susan won third place for in-depth writing, and Karen was given honorable mention in editorial writing, along with honorable mention shared with Jill for news writing.

At the journalism banquet, the Log staff named Karen Miscavish as the first annual "Lynn Blair Top Journalist".

"That award was the single most important award that I have won in my life," said Karen. "It made me realize the people on the staff appreciated the things I had done all year."

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After winning Top Journalist of Clay County, Joan Henges showed Susan Resch around the Kansas City Star. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



In Chicago for the national journalism convention, Lovena Stamitiou leaves her mark among many others on the wall of Gino's Pizza Place. (photo by Mark Strecker)

Staying after on Wednesday nights to "put the paper to bed" was all a part of Log as Mike Lile and Jill Graves found out. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



As deadline gets closer, Lisa Salisbury and Cari Caffy, seniors, find themselves in a race against time to finish their copy. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Mark Strecker and Erin Vanlandingham photo-flow their film before hanging it up to dry. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

The junior pom pom squad performs during the Variety Show. (photo by David Cunningham)

Leadership class members hold up the challenge goal that students not only met but went over. (photo by Mary Beall)

The King of the Assembly, Frank Corte, senior, reigns over the assembly activities. (photo by David Cunningham)



Beauty and the Beast play tug-of-war for class competition at the United Way assembly. (photo by David Cunningham)

Sharing spirit



Oakies reach ultimate goal

• by Brenda Heffron



\$9549.27 could purchase many things to be enjoyed: a new car, college tuition, or a trip around the world.

Oak Park's \$9549.27 went to a better cause than just personal satisfaction. The money was given to the United Way, making Oak Park the biggest donator of any school in the Kansas City area.

"I think Oak Park's successful in its fundraising because of the commitment from the staff and students who feel concern for the community, and express that concern by the enthusiasm in fundraising," said Festus Tatum, United Way's representative to Oak Park.

This year's campaign was full of firsts for Oak Park, the first King, Frank Corte; the first cheerleader-football team auction; the first year for the United Way Honor Roll; and the first year that a goal was set.

The goal was \$8000, including students and faculty, but there was a surprise. Students alone gave over \$8000, and the teacher donations threw Oak Park way above the set goal. The activities held to raise money for the campaign included an assembly, a dance, the Variety Show, Kevin Pickett's football throw, the Honor Roll, and the auction.

"The assembly was a good way to get the campaign started, it got everyone in

the spirit," said Mike Nagy, sophomore.

A great influence for reaching the goal was Kevin Pickett, junior. Kevin dared students to guess how far he could throw a football, despite his handicap.

"Kevin was a big incentive to Oak Park because the students could see where the money was going and what it was going to do," said Mr. Benny Cain, vice-principal.

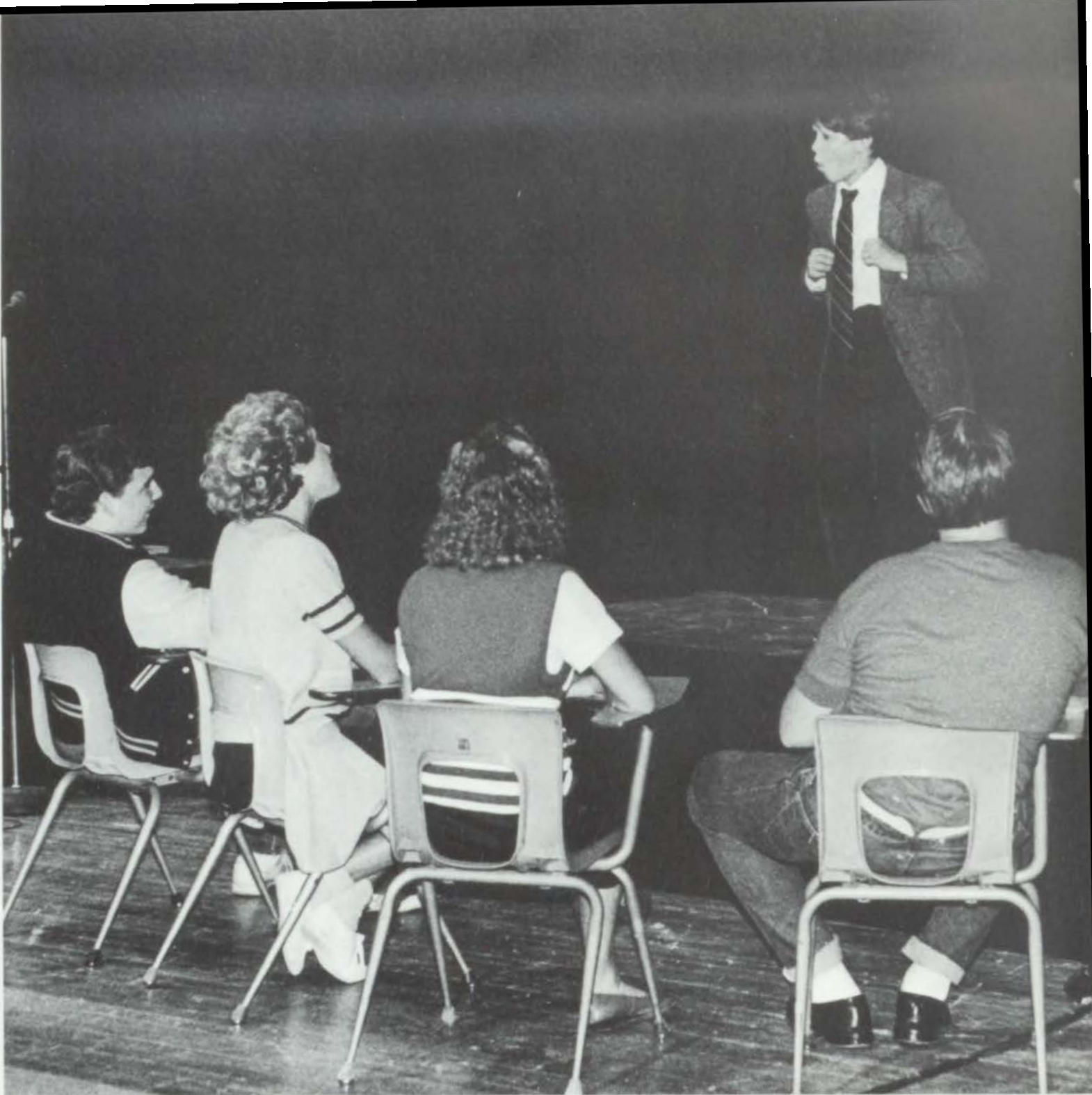
The Variety Show was another big money-maker, and it is getting more attention every year.

"The Variety Show is getting more popular because more people are getting involved in performing, where it used to be embarrassing to get up in front of people," explained Jeff Johnson, senior, Assistant Chairperson of Charities Committee.

"It seemed we had a lot more school spirit this year, that probably helped us with reaching our goal for United Way," said Stefanie Edmondson, senior.

The money will stay in the Kansas City area, and will be distributed between 145 agencies in the 5 county area, according to Mr. Tatum.

"The campaign helped pull us together as a school during the first couple weeks and gave Oak Park the incentive to work together through the year," said Mr. Cain.



Deana Johnson, junior, questions Mr. Rice, the Speech and Debate coach, about a couple of lines in the play. (photo by Lisa Mason).

Many students gathered around to hear the Student Congress debate over the apartheid issue. (photo by Matthew Ward).

On the prowl

Mike Ball, freshman, performs his humorous cutting at the Raiders of the Lost Stick. (photo by David Cunningham).

Mark Rieter, freshman, and Tariq Abdullah, freshman, practice a few lines before the night performance. (photo by David Cunningham).

For the perfect spirit stick

• by Michelle Murphy

Not only did the 1986-'87 Speech and Debate squad have a play, "Raiders of the Lost Stick," about losing their spirit stick at a tournament but this year because three Oakies again went to Nationals, they also had the opportunity to search for another one for next year.

The spirit stick originated six years ago at Nationals according to Mr. Richard Rice, debate coach. "Driving through Colorado," he explained, "Stan Masters, an OP graduate who qualified for nationals, was wading in the Colorado River relieving boredom from the long trip. After picking up a floating log he realized it would be the perfect symbol for all first place winners to be able to hold to distinguish the Oakies from any other school. Ever since then the National qualifiers always get a spirit stick from a ocean, river, lake, or anywhere in that city," added Mr. Rice.

This year Tony Durone, junior, Sal Montalbano, junior, and Carey Smith, junior, were in search of a spirit stick at Nationals in Cincinnati, June 13-19. In order to be lucky to find the next year's spirit stick a lot of work, dedication, and preparation has to be done.

"The preparation for a tournament is like a part time job, about twenty hours a week," said Mr. Rice.

Sal explained the reason he felt dedicated toward the squad was the opportunity and experience he gained. "I set a goal for myself at the beginning of the year to first make it to Nationals and then to do well," said Sal.

After graduating seventeen seniors from last year's class many questioned the squad's talent.

"I think the highlight of the year was overcoming the obstacle of no experience and becoming very successful," said Suzie Rastorfer, senior. Steve Thornberry, junior, explained that the squad was just as or even more successful than last year.

Many goals were accomplished during the '86-'87 school year.

"Winning first place in the Suburban Speech Conference for the fifth consecutive year and qualifying students to Nationals for the 9th year in a row were important factors this year," Mr. Rice said.

To reach perfection on a project, performance, or even a speech you need a friend, instructor, or a judge to voice an opinion or give advice. Many of the squad members attributed their successes to Mr. Rice.

"Mr. Rice is an excellent coach with much energy and dedication, but he's more than a coach he is a friend," said Suzie.



With much expression, Renee Reynaud, freshman, emphasizes a point over the Contra-Aid issue. (photo by Matthew Ward).

Spirits weren't dampened despite the rainy and windy weather that forced Oak Park's first ever carnival inside. (photo by Matthew Ward)

StuCo brings it back in '87

• by Julie Clark

How does one of the top civic minded organizations at Oak Park surpass itself? For Oak Park's Student Council, who has been tops in blood drives and United Way fundraisers, their main goal was not only community actions, but also student body involvement this year.

"Our main goals were to create spirit, to get the representatives involved and to do more things for the student body," Michelle Murphy, vice-president said.

Danny Bishop, president, said that Oak Park broke records with United Way again this year, but they strived for more student involvement.

"We felt the more fun activities we could do for them, the more able they were to 'Catch the Spirit'," said Danny.

Joette Myers, Charities Chairman, set up sign-up sheets in the office, played announcements, and hung posters in order to achieve student involvement.

According to Danny, that was the start of a new initiated spirit in the school.

"It helped bring back spirit to a certain extent," said Danny.

This year, old traditions were revised and new projects were begun at Oak Park.

Homecoming, a yearly tradition for all high schools, was changed this year.

According to Joette, the dance was held on Saturday, instead of the traditional "after-the-game" and was semi-formal. The parade was done away with due to new regulations, and a pep rally was set up before the game instead. A carnival on the school grounds was new as well.

New projects ranged from helping needy families with Adopt A Family, to teacher luncheons during the summer workshops.

"We tried to improve the teachers' morale this year. If teachers pushed, more students would come to the activities," Michelle said.

Cooperation between the administration and StuCo was a major role.

Danny and Joette felt that the administration was very supportive and cooperative with StuCo's ideas.

"Without them, we wouldn't be able to do things," said Michelle.

All and all, it was a great year in Michelle's opinion.



Spirit Revival

30

StuCo

Bob Vogelaar, junior, refreshes Mrs. Charlene Law with a soda at a luncheon during the summer workshops for teachers. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Kelly Forslund, senior, gives a Christmas hug to Stu-Co's Santa. (photo by Matthew Ward)



An "icebreaker" game warms up participating StuCo members, Bob Randall, junior, Carrie Chambers and Tom Robertson, seniors. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Jeff Jones, Jeff Johnson, Stefanie Edmonson, seniors, and Nikki Elliott, junior, get the canned food from the food drive ready for delivery to needy families. (photo by Matthew Ward)

performing

'Messiah' brings back alumni

• by Aimee Rogers

As the lights go down, the crowd becomes still. The orchestra stops tuning their instruments, and a wave of people covers the stage. As the choir steps into their places, the orchestra breaks into the first song of the ensemble known as Handel's "Messiah".

The "Messiah", a yearly tradition since Oak Park's beginnings, was performed in the main theater on the afternoon of Dec. 21 in front of hundreds of former students who return annually to sing in and watch the performance.

"I got to sing with my mom," Monica Matthews, junior, said.

According to Monica, Mrs. Matthews graduated in 1966 and has been back every year. She has only missed it twice in 22 years.

"I've been watching it since I was little and watching my mom sing in it," Monica said. "I've always wanted to be the one singing and this was the first year I've been able to so it was really exciting for me."

Mrs. Hale, orchestra director, said, "We had a lot of people come back. It was really an exciting day."

Even after long rehearsals, the orchestra and choir were still understand-

ably nervous.

"I was nervous for the soloists," Monica said.

Wyn Hilty, senior, was one of the soloists. "It was nerve-racking singing in front of 1300 people, most of whom would hear any mistake you made instantly," she said.

"It made me nervous knowing that I had to sing a solo in front of all those people. But it was nice knowing there were all those other singers up there with me that had to go through the same thing," Deana Johnson, junior, said.

Ten soloists played to a theater with standing room only. Monica said, "Next year we're going to have it in the big gym I think, because there were at least 20 people standing outside in the halls."

Tom Woitasczyk, senior, played violin in the concert. "I think it went really well. I thought it was the best one since I've been here. It sounded better than any I can remember," he said.

Mr. Grace, choir director, said, "I think all the soloists had their best day and the choir and orchestra hung together."

"They really did just a superb job," Mrs. Hale said. "I was really pleased with it."



Singing the "Hallelujah Chorus". Connie Wilkett, senior, Deana Johnson, junior, Tammy Johnson, Lisa Bowman, David Farris, Andrew Giyer, Jason Swan, Mike Pierson, and Daryl Irby, seniors, complete the show. (photo by Lisa Mason)



As the crowd becomes still, Oak Park alumni and students prepare to perform. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Stepping into the limelight, Deana Johnson, junior, sings her solo while Connie Wilkett, senior stands by.



After long hours of practice, the bass section of the orchestra begins their only performance. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Taking control, Mr. Bill Grace directs his choir through their numbers. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Activities to "break the ice" on the Student Council retreat confuse Jill Arnold and Michelle Soules, freshmen.

Exhibiting their skill, German Club members take advantage of the facilities at Maybee Center. (photo by Kristy Ford)



At the German Club lock-in, Patty Wilson, Frank Reinsch, Samantha Sluder, and Karen Boney, seniors, test their knowledge while playing Trivial Pursuit. (photo by Ted Mehl)

Dave Hensel, Student Council sponsor, Dan Bishop, senior, and Richard Rice, Stuco sponsor, listen in on a meeting at the Council retreat. (photo by David Cunningham)

Togetherhness

built by club retreats

• by Bob Randall

Curfews are forgotten. You are able to stay out all night (with parents' blessing). There was only one place that this could happen — at a retreat.

The debate and forensics squads had their retreat with the squads from North Kansas City High School Sept. 26-27. It was held at the Cedars in Liberty, the building that was once Precious Blood Seminary.

Because of the time spent, "It gave us a positive attitude about the beginning of the year," said Mr. Richard Rice, debate instructor.

The retreat was suggested by Mr. Rice and Mrs. Ruth-ann East, the National Forensics League sponsors from the schools. The activities for the event were planned by both school's NFL officers.

Their night together consisted of organized sports like volleyball and basketball and performances by forensics students from both schools.

"The students really enjoyed it because it was a good way to get to know kids from another school," Mr. Rice added.

German Club held its fourth annual retreat in January. It was again held at the Maybee Center of William Jewell College.

"The first year of the lock-in, we didn't know what to expect," Mrs. Kay

Melewski, German Club sponsor, said.

Maybee Center facilities included an Olympic-size swimming pool, a tumbling room, racquetball courts, and a large open area for basketball or volleyball.

Erin Harris, junior, German Club president, said that she thought the lock-in "brought everyone together."

"Riding the buses together screaming in the beginning and sleeping on the way back draws everyone together as a group," she said.

Student Council was the third group to have a retreat. It was held Feb. 1-2 at Hillside Christian Church.

Speakers at the retreat were Rev. George Campbell, Hillside's pastor, Gail Morris Vaughn of Christian Crisis Counseling, and Jimmy Albright of Wyatt Park Baptist Church.

"Our goal was to keep Student Council from slacking in the second half of the year," said Dan Bishop, Stuco president.

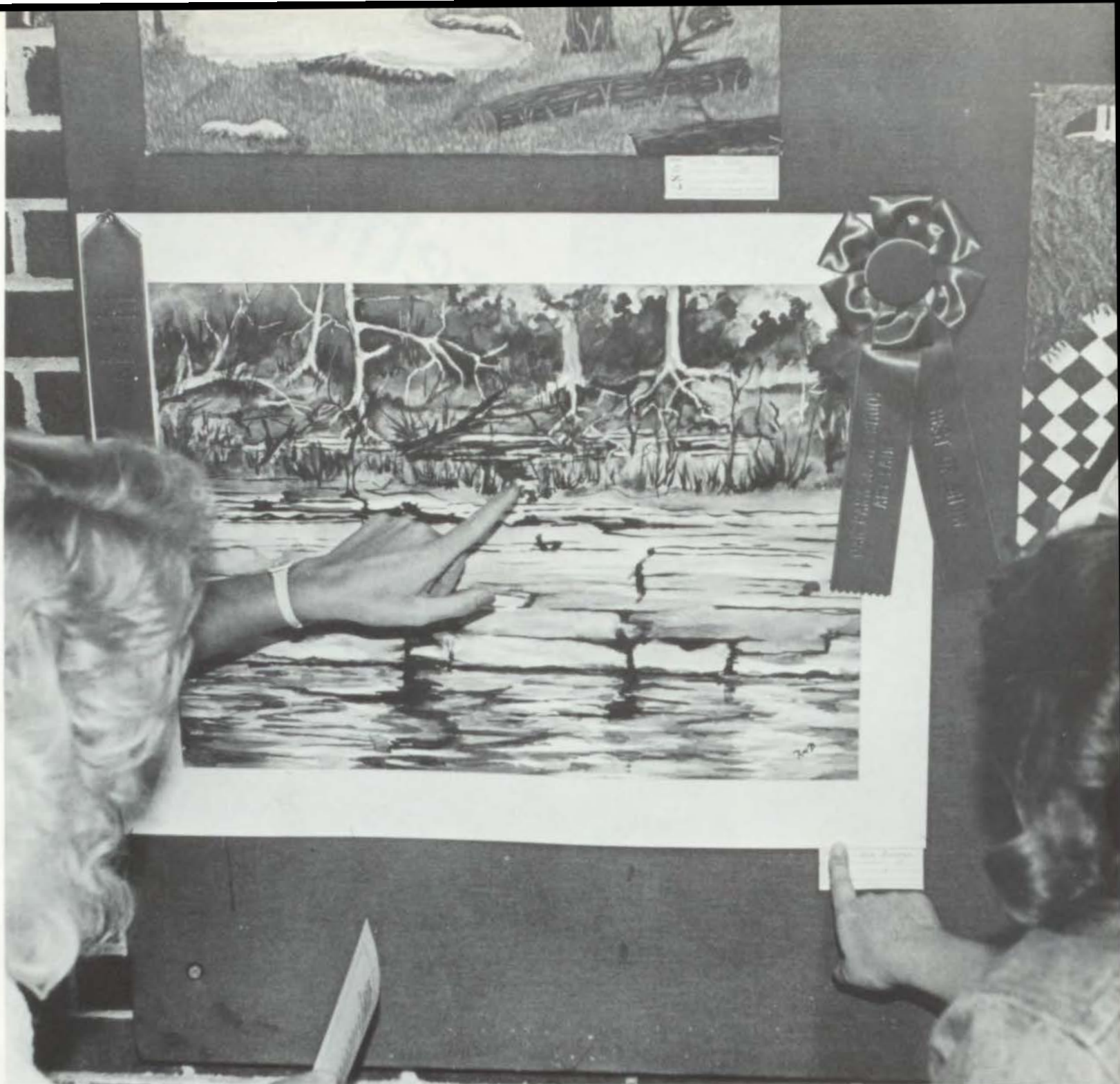
"I also wanted the students to get a better understanding of each other and their ideas," Mr. Rice said.

Both Student Council and German Club allowed few people who were not in the organization to attend.

"I don't like the risk of sponsoring students I don't know," Frau Melewski explained.



At the debate overnight at Joplin-Webb City, Carey Smith, junior, Scott Wagner, sophomore, and Sal Montalbano, junior, prepare for their round.



Tammy Richardson, freshman, works on perfecting her entry in the show. (photo by Mary Beall)

Enjoying a reception given to them for participating in a National competition in New York, Rich Bowman, Gregg Shepard, and Shannon Gaines, seniors, take time out to enjoy a few laughs. (photo by Mary Beall)

Artistic

Students spend time at the art show admiring the great detail in the Best of Show painting. (photo by Mary Beall)

Judges Catherine Vesce and Richard Pond critique the art work in the 22nd Annual Art Show. (photo by Mary Beall)

Art Show 'draws' attention

• by Brenda Heffron

Instead of traveling to the Nelson Art Gallery to admire fine art, Oakies were able to enjoy their own museum right in the halls of Oak Park.

The art students entered the art show for many different reasons. Some personal, some to win, some to just let others enjoy their talents. "I liked to do the silk scarves because it's an easy way to release my frustrations and hopefully I made something beautiful," explained Kim Jackson, junior.

Kim received first place for one of her silk scarves and another received Honorable Mention.

Chris Conlisk, junior, had a different reason.

"I'm really trying hard to put together a portfolio for college. I want to go to the Kansas City Art Institute," explained Chris.

A scarf Chris created won a blue ribbon and gold key in the Scholastic Art competition in Missouri. From there it was sent to New York to be judged on a National level where he received an Honorable Mention.

"I want people to see the time and details I have put into my art," said Chris.

Many hours were dedicated to the preparation of the art show.

"I had them start showing their best work for the art show at the beginning of the year. As the year went on the students got better," explained Ms. Linny Carrier, art teacher.

Kim worked on one of her scarves for two months. Chris had worked on his for a year.

Student participation increased this year. The number of entries also increased.

The art show was judged on originality, creativity, organized composition, quality, style, and in the drawing category they favored pieces drawn from direct observation.

First place winners included: Rich Bowman, drawing-black and white, drawing-color, painting, sculpture; John Cop, printmaking-block; Barrie Fisher, printmaking-serigram; David Resch, ceramics; Jason Majors, metals and combined Media; John Witteborg, design and calligraphy; Mitch Magee, cartoon; Kim Jackson, Fiber 2-D; Brooke Grey, Fiber 3-D; Michelle Pope, photography-mood, theme; Ted Mehl, photography-special technique. Best of Show was awarded to Rich Bowman.

"I had left while they were still judging that day. When I was at Prom that evening I was showing a person my first place work and that's when I saw the Best of Show ribbon attached to it," explained Rich.

Along with excitement of receiving four first places and Best of Show, Rich also felt disappointment.

"I was disappointed that they would not display my nude sculpture along with the others. I think the American society



David Brown, sophomore, and Mike Schulz, junior, help with one of the first steps in setting up the art show. (photo by Mary Beall)

Singers learn more than music

• by Tamela Simpson



Our singers will be more confident ten to thirty years from now because after contest this year, Oak Park rubbed elbows with great artworks," said Duncan Council, Judge at William Jewell.

Some of that great musical art included confidence, and great knowledge of the music which singers used to help them earn ones at contest. Not only did the vocal music department achieve ones at contest, they got a taste of being in the limelight. Performing at contest was more than memorizing the music. All the singers had to work well with their peers and have control of their voices, according to Jason Swan, senior. "Learning the music was the easiest part, what made contest hard was learning to get along with the people in your group and to work with each other to achieve common goals," said Jason.

The outcome of contest proved that the vocal music department had the art of performing perfected.

"I was pleased all groups came through very strongly," said Bill Grace, vocal music teacher.

Perfection was not as easy as it looked. Students spent every spare second preparing.

"It took all my time, it was basically my high school life," said Mike Pierson,

senior.

"We only had three weeks to prepare because of 'Little Mary Sunshine' so the smaller groups had a harder time getting ready," said Jason.

Even though the vocal music students spent most of their time bouncing the notes off room 142 all the hard work paid off.

"It was great when we won, all the pressure left. The feeling was exhilarating," said Leigh Anne Nicholson.

Jason believed winning made practicing worthwhile.

"Practice made contest more special because when I won I knew I did it on my own," said Jason.

Throughout the year the vocal music department was involved in more than just competitions. Alumni prepared for Messiah, Accapella sang at the first football game and the Oak Street singers entertained inmates at the Liberty Jail. A large group of Oakies also sang for the musical and soloist sang at Baccalaureate and Commencement.

Vocal music students agreed that they gained experience, performance skills and a lot of friends throughout the year, but most of all they gained self-confidence.



Excellence

Gary Pierson and Mike Pierson sing to their mom with Oak Street and Northern Lights at the Renaissance Festival. (Photo by Ted Mehl)

Tara Ciarrocchi enjoys the coolness of the courtyard while she practices singing for vocal music class. (photo by Lisa Mason)



At the fine arts festival, Craig Hagenbuch, performs his piano solo that he received a one for at state. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Oak Street performs at one of the many concerts they gave. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Determination

Experience gained at Districts

• by Kelly Reed

A student walked into the room with his instrument in one hand, music in the other. He looked nervously around the room, taking in the twenty or so people who had come to listen to his work. A quick glance at the judge said it all - this was going to be tough. He had practiced so hard for the past month with only one thing in mind, to impress the judge and receive the highest compliment given - a "one" at District Contest.

"It (receiving a one) is really an experience," said Mike Lile, senior, who attained a one in a brass sextet at the district contest held at William Jewel. "You actually had someone tell you your work is very good."

Earning a one meant many things to everyone, whether it was a sense of accomplishment or the blue medal that was received. The one thing that was on everyone's mind was the trip to the University of Missouri-Columbia to compete at the state level. Before anyone could even think about going to state though, they had to work hard to get through districts. Many hours of practice and sweat went into each note played. If a solo was taken, the music had to be memorized.

Time was needed to prepare for everything, and that was the one thing there was not much of. Both orchestra and band were busy with Messiah and the musical until a month before district contest.

"I felt I was prepared, even with the

little amount of time I had," said Tom Woitasczyk, senior, who received two ones.

No matter how much practice was put into a piece of music, a one could not be guaranteed. The symphonic band, who practiced every day for five months found this out when they received a two at state level.

"The band played up to my expectations," said Mr. Patrick White, band conductor. "They played as well as they were prepared to play."

The symphonic orchestra had problems besides not having enough time. Many of their top-notch players from past years were lost to college.

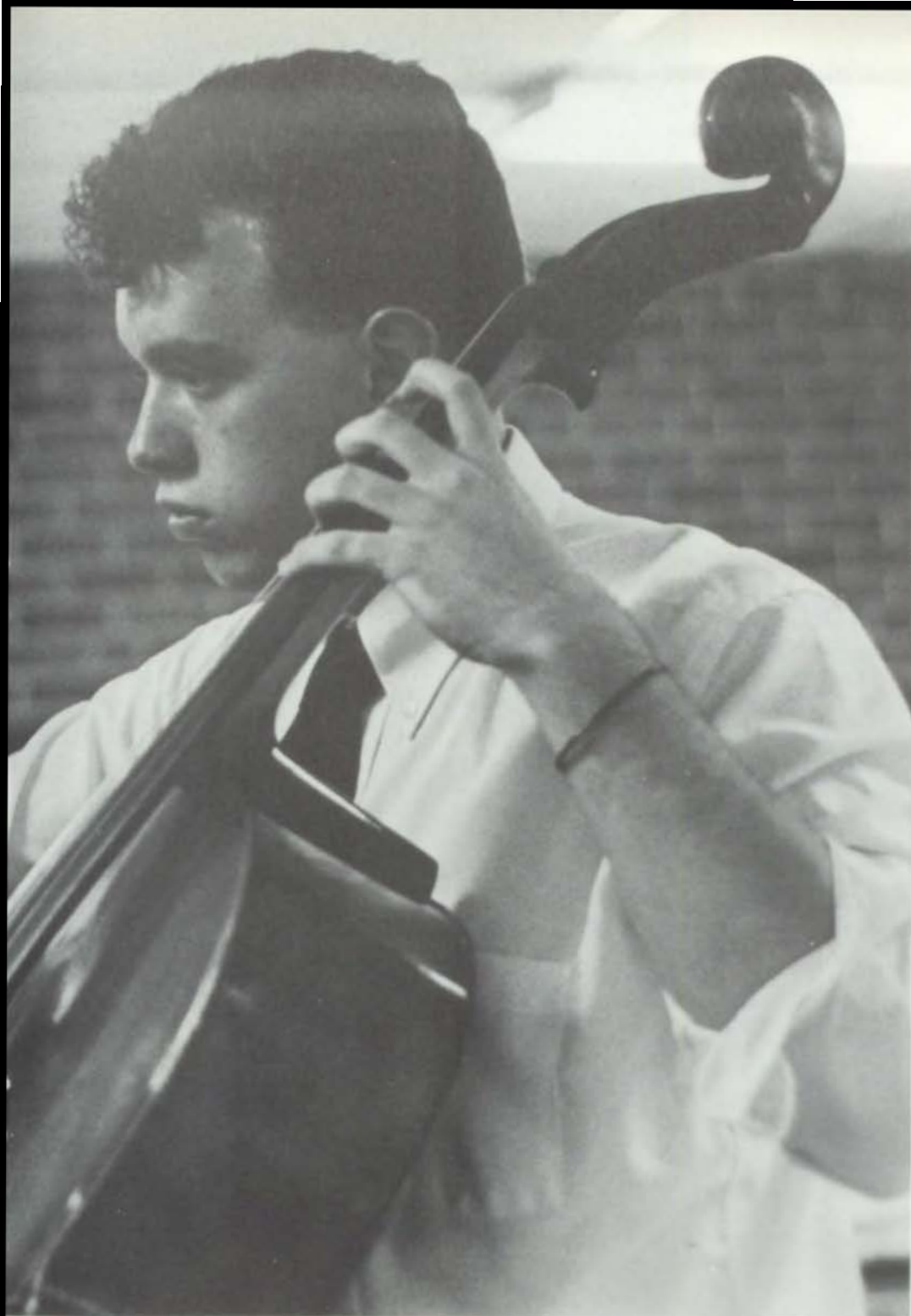
"I felt the orchestra did better than people thought we'd do," said Doug Graves, senior. "After losing such strong seniors we all were terrified the orchestra would not do well."

The feeling of terror was not needed though, as the symphonic orchestra came home with a one rating from state level, just like in the past years.

As the student set his instrument down, a feeling of accomplishment went through his body. All the practice had finally paid off. With a last look at the judge, a smile came across the student's face, and the judge gave a nod of excellence.



Taking part in the Fine Arts Music Festival, Kristin Mayo plays her flute along with the freshmen band. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Concentrating intently on his cello, Doug Graves shows the public what he earned a one on at state contest. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Before a public performance, Julie Clark and Susan Goldammer psyched themselves up. (photo by Matthew Ward)



The percussion and brass sections play along with the rest of the symphonic band at a spring concert. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Heidi Schallberg plays her violin at the Fine Arts Music Festival. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Captain Jim (Jason Swan, senior) sings to the other forest rangers about their duties. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Working on the 44 by 18 foot backdrop. Shannon Gaines, senior, paints the Colorado Inn. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



When the curtain first opens, Chief Brown Bear (David Cunningham, senior) tells the audience that the forest rangers are coming. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Giving presents to little girls is one of Uncle Oscar's (Steve Senter, senior) favorite things to do, which he explains to Angie Rogge, Audra Tuggle, Lisa Bowman, and Leigh Anne Nicholson, seniors. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Sunshine

Musical melts winter blahs

• by Kelly Reed

The blonde heroine tied to the railroad tracks with a train fast approaching; a blonde heroine being eaten by the jaws of a giant, man-eating plant; a blonde heroine being threatened by an over-due mortgage payment. In rides a gallant knight dressed in white to save his damsel in distress.

What do these all have in common? Corn, pure and simple. That is what made the movie "Little Shop of Horrors" such a hit nationally, and Oak Park's musical "Little Mary Sunshine" an even bigger hit here at home.

"This show was pure corn. It was unlike anything ever seen at Oak Park before," said Mr. Bill Grace, vocal director.

Little Mary Sunshine was the first off-broadway musical melodrama to be done at Oak Park. Most of the cast had never seen a melodrama or heard of the musical. This caused the cast to start completely from scratch.

Soon, however the cast realized that "Little Mary Sunshine" would be exactly what they made it.

"If we worked hard on it (the musical) and did our best, it would be great," said Patty Wiltz, senior. "If we sat around and moped because we did not get a famous musical, we might as well quit there."

Right from the start, the cast realized all that they had to overcome and the challenge that faced them all. One of the

biggest obstacles in their way was the musical being held in the winter, and the fact that it interfered with all of the practices Oak Street had to have.

"The musical is always very time consuming, but this year it conflicted with everything," said Jason Swan, senior. "We had so much to do."

Many times, classes and schoolwork got in the way. Though homework had to be done, some cast members just did not have time nor the energy to do it. "You had practice, you ate dinner, and that was what life consisted of," said Patty. "Even though I knew it was wrong, homework had to take a back seat sometimes."

"It took a lot of my free time, but at least I was with my friends," David Cunningham, senior, said.

"Everyone could be really hyper with this musical. It really made it neat," David added.

Thousands of hours were spent on making "Little Mary Sunshine" the best musical ever.

"I'm very grateful the students gave so much of their time to the musical," said Mr. Grace. "They learned a lot by putting together a show with many people they have never met before."

"Every year I swear I'll never do another musical," said Mr. Grace. "By the time it gets on stage, I am ready to do another."



Shannon Gaines, senior, prepares to apply Jon Tyree's makeup for the big performance. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Congratulations are in order for Karen Chrisman, Courtwarming Queen. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Courtwarming candidates sit nervously and reign over the assembly. (photo by Jim Preston)

Spring Livened

The St. Pat's King candidates are serenaded by Lisa Bowman, senior, singing "Caught Up in the Rapture." (photo by Mary Beall)

Awarding first place in the Oak Park Wrestling Invitational to Lee's Summit is Queen Angie Taylor. (photo by Mary Beall)

Northmen royalty reign

• by Bob Randall

While the British were busy with their royal wedding of Prince Andrew and Sarah Ferguson, Oak Park was thinking about royalty of their own. Angie Taylor was crowned Invitational Queen Feb. 6, and Karen Chrisman was named Courtwarming Queen Feb. 24. Then, three weeks later, David Zimmerman was announced the 1987 St. Pat's King.

All of the candidates said that they were surprised to be chosen.

"I was relieved because I had really worked for it, being a manager. It made me realize they appreciated me a little bit," Angie said. Invitational Queen was voted on by the wrestling team.

"It was special because the basketball players were my friends, and they thought enough of me to choose me," said Michelle Loveall, Courtwarming candidate. Courtwarming Queen was voted on by the varsity and JV basketball teams.

St. Pat's King, on the other hand, was voted on by the entire student body.

"I was really surprised because I was 1 of 9 candidates out of so many guys," David said.

Angie said that after being nominated, she had to buy a dress, order flowers, and get her assembly escort, Carl Cesor, senior, a gift.

Being introduced in an assembly in their honor made many candidates nervous.

"My knees wouldn't stop shaking. Kevin (Perkins), my escort, kept trying to calm me down," said Cindy Smith, Invitational candidate.

"It was easier being recognized at halftime of the game in front of parents, rather than in front of the whole school during the day," Karen said.

Angie was crowned Invitational Queen Saturday afternoon before the final round of the varsity wrestling in the tournament.

Karen was announced Courtwarming Queen during halftime of the varsity game against Truman. All candidates were escorted by JV basketball players.

The crowning of St. Pat's King took place Saturday, March 21 at the Stuco sponsored St. Pat's Dance.

Duties for royalty include coming back next year to pass down the title. An additional responsibility for Angie was to hand out the first place medals in the tournament.

"The icing for me was for Oak Park to win the tournament. That was something I will never forget," Angie said.



Angie Taylor, senior, receives the crown from last year's invitational queen, Chrissy Demeyer. (photo by Mary Beall)

Decorating the gym for the assembly was only one of the many things that Cambia staff members Bob Randall, junior, Katie Adamson, Jennifer Snow, seniors, and the rest of the staff did to prepare for Cambia week. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Two share a crowning memory

• by Brenda Heffron

Best friends do lots of things together, but it is rare that they both are able to become Oak Park royalty.

Cambia queen, Laura Meier, and her best friend, Homecoming queen, Michelle Twitt, will always share the special memory of their reigning as queen together.

"We've shared so much together over the years and we've always been there for each other, so both of us being queens, we'll never forget," said Laura.

The Cambia queen candidates included Michelle Murphy, Michele Tunnell, Lovena Stamatiou, Jadee Bowden, Dee Owen, and Kim Granquist, seniors.

The theme chosen for the week was "Steppin in Style".

"'Steppin in Style' fit the week because every day is in its own style. Some people considered Pee-Wee style and others sweatshirts stylish," said Julie Clark, Cambia business manager and senior.

For two days the candidates sold peppermints during the lunch hours.

"It was fun selling peppermints because all the candidates got to get together. It was nice that we were involved with activities," said Michelle Murphy, senior.

The Cambia staff was able to take a break from the norm of deadlines and copywriting to cut out snowflakes for the peppermints that were sold during the week by the candidates.

"We had a good time cutting out snowflakes and planning sales during

Cambia class. It was nice to take a break from writing and drawing layouts but something I hadn't done since third grade," said Aimee Rodgers, junior.

"I was really pleased with how Cambia got coordinated for the week of sales and the crowning. It is difficult to take time away from yearbook production, but they did it," said Mr. Bill Hankins, Cambia advisor.

The queen was crowned at an afternoon assembly that included class competition. The candidates were escorted by the man of their choice and received a charm and roses.

"I really didn't think I would win. I was just happy to be nominated. When I heard my name I just sat there, I didn't know what to do because I didn't think I would hear my name," explained Laura.

A dance was held in honor of the candidates after the basketball game against the Hornets. Music was supplied by Joel Mitchell and Jamie Walk, seniors.

"We just wanted everyone to have a good time. It did not really matter if we made a profit or not," said Tamela.

"I really liked Cambia week because it was different than homecoming. It promoted a lot of spirit and was a nice break in the middle of the winter," said Sherrie Watkins, senior.

"I really enjoyed myself during Cambia week because it was a nice break from all the hard work," explained Tamela Simpson, co-editor and senior.



Best friends

Summing up the week, Sandy Vaughn, freshman and Staci Garrison, freshman, enjoy the Cambia dance. (photo by David Cunningham)



Giving Oakies a winter treat, Cambians, Mitzi Craft, senior and Mary Beall, senior, deliver peppermint snowflakes to classrooms. (photo by Katie Adamson)



Volleyball team shows support for teammate Laura Meier, Cambia queen candidate. (photo by Mary Beall)

Escorted by Don Duran, Cambia queen candidate Laura Meier accepts more than a rose from Julie Clark, Cambia business manager. (photo by Mary Beall)

Mystery

As Superintendent Baxter (Chris Foree) questions Marian Selby (Trisha Westhoff) about the incidence, Mrs. Piper (Kathy Warner) listens patiently. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Body disappears at Oak Park

• by Michelle Murphy

What happened? Who could have done it? How could a man get killed with no witnesses and a body no where to be found? Why would anything like this happen at Oak Park?

But happen it did, April 8-10 during "Busybody," the spring play.

The action of the play took place in Richard Marshall's (Todd Adrian) private office.

'Busybody' involved Mrs. Piper, (Kathy Warner) the cleaning lady, frantically finding a man dead. Immediately she contacted Superintendent Baxter (Chris Foree), a detective, to figure out the mystery. Upon his arrival the body was no where to be found. Richard Marshall was fixed up to look like he had been the one killed but in reality Mr. Cameron, Claire Marshall's (Abby Ferry) lover had died.

Through all the confusion, Mrs. Piper was able to figure out that Robert Westerby (Jon Tyree) was the guilty one.

The play was prepared in approximately five weeks.

"Busybody" was a good choice for the little time we had to work with it," said Abby Ferry, senior.

Shannon Gaines, senior, as Vickie Reynolds explained that the play rehearsals were at least two weeks behind. "It was so scary but we finally pulled it together in the last rehearsal," she said.

Although the time was limited, many actors/actresses experienced their first role in a play.

"The play brought new people in and it was hard at first because we did not know each other. Before each practice we would do exercises to help us feel comfortable," said Abby.

Tricia Westhoff, junior, as Marian Selby in her first play, explained that she was worried about memorizing lines and being part of the cast but found no problems doing it.

Performing in a play for the first time is often frightening but, for many, characters having an accent, or losing your voice seemed to cause worse problems.

"The character I played demanded a cockney accent. I had so many lines that it was hard to concentrate on the accent," said Kathy.

Shannon explained that the first day of the show she lost her voice. After gargling vinegar all day she was able to speak through the performance.

"I was told that my scratchy voice added to my character. I guess I was lucky," she added.

Through all the hard work it was agreed by all the cast that "Busybody" was a true success.

"The audience's applause and laughter was worth every hour we practiced," said Kathy.



Shannon Gaines as Vickie Reynolds carries a knife, the murderer's weapon, as she explains how it must of been used. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Advertising the spring play, Corkey Garko, senior, outlines the victim's body on the floors of Oak Park. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Mrs. Piper (Kathy Warner) and Baxter Westerby (Chris Foree) concerned over the wandering murderer retrace their memory about the killing while Goddard

(Skip Whitt) carries in the inspected chair. (photo by Mary Beall)



Mrs. Piper (Kathy Warner) shows one of her many clues to Todd Adrian, junior, as Mr. Marshall. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Varsity cheerleaders, Renee Wade and Mary Beth Mockridge, juniors, cheer at a home football game with other varsity cheerleaders. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Tracy Jones, Auro Faxon, Lisa Pollard, and Tonya Davis, freshmen, try to cheer and keep dry during a rainy football game. (photo by Matthew Ward)

A 'few' pep club girls do their job and promote spirit at a home football game. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Yell-leaders

During a boys basketball game, Debbie Dobney, senior, jumps to show her spirit. (photo by Matthew Ward)

New dimension in cheerleading

• by June Sumerlin

At a basketball game, the scene in the gym included cheerleaders cheering, the pep band playing, and spectators yelling.

Now picture that same scene and add one thing: yell-leaders. New this year to the varsity cheerleaders squad were five boy yell-leaders. They assisted the girls and helped them to raise spirit among Oak Park students and spectators.

"They helped a lot," varsity cheerleader Renee Wade, junior, said. "We had a totally new squad."

"We all worked real hard," Renee said. "The guys were real dedicated."

The girls were good, but the boys were an added dimension according to Mrs. Jane Stone, sponsor.

"Cheerleading is not strictly a domain of women, and I think everyone needs to know that," Mrs. Stone said.

"I felt very honored to be a part of the squad," said David Delemeter, junior.

The squad spent a great deal of time together practicing and perfecting their moves to make the team the best they could.

"For the amount of time we had to spend together, it would have been easy to get frustrated but we all worked hard and did real good," said David.

The other yell-leaders were seniors Bobby Smith and Brent Guglielmeno, junior Mike Vold and sophomore Chad Brooke.

Helping the cheerleaders create spirit was the pep club. The pep club consisted mainly of freshmen girls.

"They (freshmen) usually joined because they were interested in becoming a cheerleader as an upperclassmen," said Miss Maureen Higgins, pep club sponsor.

In order to be a cheerleader or pom pon, girls had to be a member of pep club.

Pep club had many fundraisers this year. The money raised was used for various needed items.

The cheerleaders had a car wash and sold stationary and popcorn jars. The money was used for new uniforms and shoes. Some was also used for camp by various girls.

The pom pon girls also had a car wash and sold Oak Park bumper stickers. The money they raised was used for new uniforms.

The pep club girls had one fundraiser according to Miss Higgins. It was their traditional cheese sales. Paper, paints and other supplies were bought with the money raised by this fundraiser.



As a yell-leader couple, David Delemeter and Shannon Dowden, juniors, chant a cheer at a basketball game. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Concentrating on the music, Aaron Mumma, freshmen, plays the school fight song. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Playing along with the Pep Band with her flute is Tracy Meyers, senior. (photo by Katie Adamson)

Support grew

With hair flying, Lana Wooten, senior, Michelle Kirtley, junior, and Kim Granquist, senior, perform at a basketball game. (photo by Matthew Ward)

All lined up for action are Michele Tunnell and Lana Wooten, seniors. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Enthusiasm spread by groups

• by Jill Hall

The basketball team enters amidst a spattering of applause. Their names are announced and they run onto the court. Except for the applause and bouncing balls, the gymnasium is silent. Something seems to be missing.

Now, try the same setting except this time when the team enters, the school fight song is blaring from the bleacher. As the team is announced, drums roll, the crowd screams, and fifteen girls are dancing.

The Oak Park Pep Band and Pom Pon Squad were the missing links in the first scenes.

Pep Band, which has performed for years at sporting events, noticed a change this year.

According to clarinet player Julie Clark, senior, there was more spirit among the Pep Band musicians.

"It was the same old people reformed. People just started doing more yelling and cheering for people," said Julie.

Pep band members gave more than just their enthusiasm, they gave their time.

They practiced at 7 a.m. every Tuesday and Thursday and sometimes more before they were going to give a performance.

Giving a performance involved more than just the band. The Pom Pon squad also performed.

Pom Pon worked with the Pep Band, and not recorded music. "Live music

makes it more exciting," said Tracy Christopher, junior.

Being a member of the Pom Pon squad took hard work plus dedication. Members arrived at school at 7 a.m. every day to practice with Ms. Annette Luyben.

"She worked us hard. She knows what it takes to be good and she emphasized those things," said Michelle Murphy, captain of the Pom Pon squad.

"It took up a lot of time," Michele Tunnell, senior, said. "I didn't have time to do what I wanted."

After practice in the morning, Michele said, "I wanted to go home and take another shower."

Even though performing for most people was a lot of hard work, friends made it all worthwhile.

"Some of the best friends I have ever met are from band. It's a great way to have friends and keep them," said Julie.

"I met and made one of my best friends this year on Pom Pon," said Tracy.

After making a lot of friends and practicing hard, Mr. Pat White felt all students developed a general attitude.

"You don't have to work for enthusiasm. It comes in little ways, like the "Go Big Blue" chant, or the charges the brass plays for team introductions. It all adds to the exciting sounds of a game," said Mr. White.



Going Hawaiian on Hawaiian night, Christy Fulton, junior, dances to "Party All The Time". (photo by Matthew Ward)

"The Twelve Days of Christmas" was revised for the Christmas assembly allowing Nikki Elliot, Kristin Quinn, and Kristy Mouser, juniors, to take part as "Eleven Juniors Waiting." (photo by Katie Adamson)

Assemblies — Variety of fun

• by Sandy Gilpin

A choir full of teachers, tug of war between the classes, the twelve days of Christmas, caramel onions, and dancing cheerleaders.

Only one place could offer such varied entertainment- an Oak Park assembly.

Throughout the year there were many assemblies for different reasons.

The United Way assembly helped raise money so Oak Park could reach their goal of \$8,000 for charity.

According to StuCo Vice President Michelle Murphy, senior, "The students enjoyed it (assembly) because there were other students competing in the relays." She also added, "The assembly was informational on what was going on in the week and how much money we wanted to raise."

There were always assemblies to honor the king and queen candidates and to show spirit to Oakie teams.

"Up till this year, the wrestling invitational queen candidates haven't had an assembly and I was glad to be recognized," said Vickie Stephens, senior. "It seemed to make it more special."

For Andrew Crain, junior, being involved in assemblies made him feel as if he was helping Oak Park.

"Helping with assemblies made me

feel good that I was helping make Oak Park look good and also try to get more school spirit," he explained.

Although most students did not know what went into having an assembly they felt they were significant not only to get out of class but because they made them aware of the activities going on around school.

"You always want to know whose doing what in and out of school," said Christy McDougal, senior.

Besides wanting to know what was going on in school activities, students also wanted to know who was number one.

Class competition was part of almost every assembly and also a way to find out which class was the 'cream of the crop.'

"I think it was a good idea because it let students know that the seniors aren't always the best," Patty Palmer, junior, explains.

Although Oak Park had more assemblies this year students still felt the threat of being punished for bad assembly behavior.

"The students acted more mature and handled them better," Patty said. Even with the increase of assemblies some Oakies still believed that Oak Park should have even more assemblies.



Giving all they have, Jorge Solis and Tim Lake, seniors, show their spirit during class competition at the United Way assembly. (photo by Mary Beall)

Class break

Showing their talent, Susan Kane, senior, and Tracy Christopher, junior, perform during the Christmas Assembly with the pom pon squad. (photo by Mark Strecker)

Volunteer, Scott Brown, freshman, was used to show how the paramedics treat victims at the scene of an accident. (photo by Mark Strecker)

Photo by Mark Strecker



Enjoying the fun during the Christmas assembly, Helena Ripatti, Sherr Creel, and Meike Deboer, seniors, represent the "Three Foreign Languages." (photo by Katie Adamson)

S

• by Kelly Reed

Something was in the air. It made the school spirit come out of every Oakie sitting in the stands. It was not the smell of the popcorn popping or the nacho cheese melting, but the feeling of victory.

As the football team won Homecoming against Park Hill the feeling grew even stronger. It was the times of victory that made the true Oakie spirit come out of hiding.

Victory made the athletes feel special, like they had accomplished what they had practiced so hard for. Defeat made them strive harder to become the best.

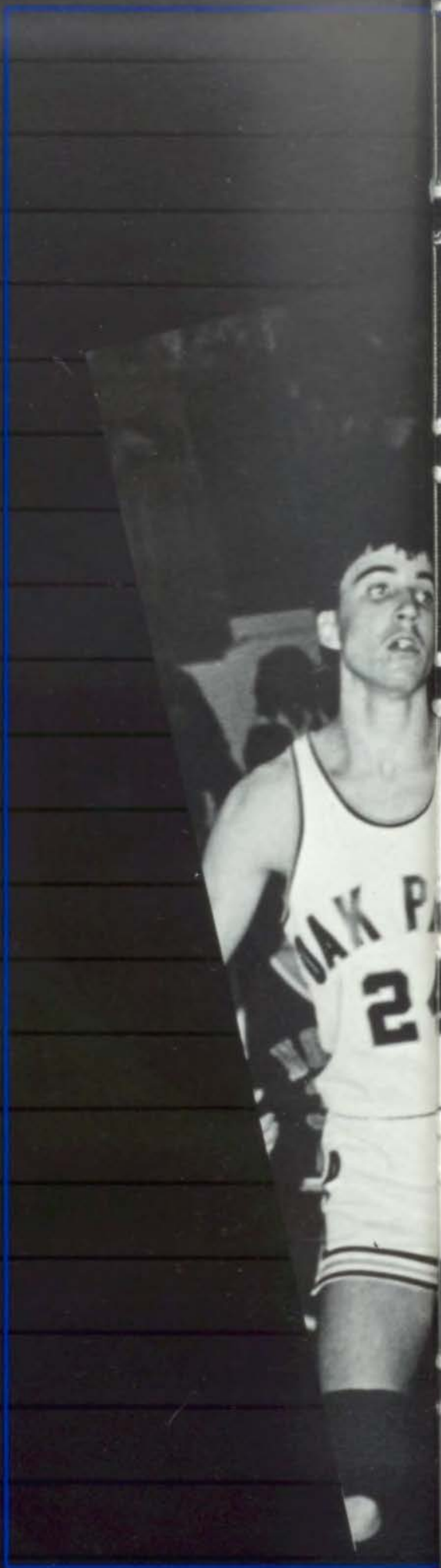
The spectators were always there when the team needed them, cheering them on during victory or defeat. They encouraged the athletes, letting them know it was okay when they lost and congratulating them if they won.

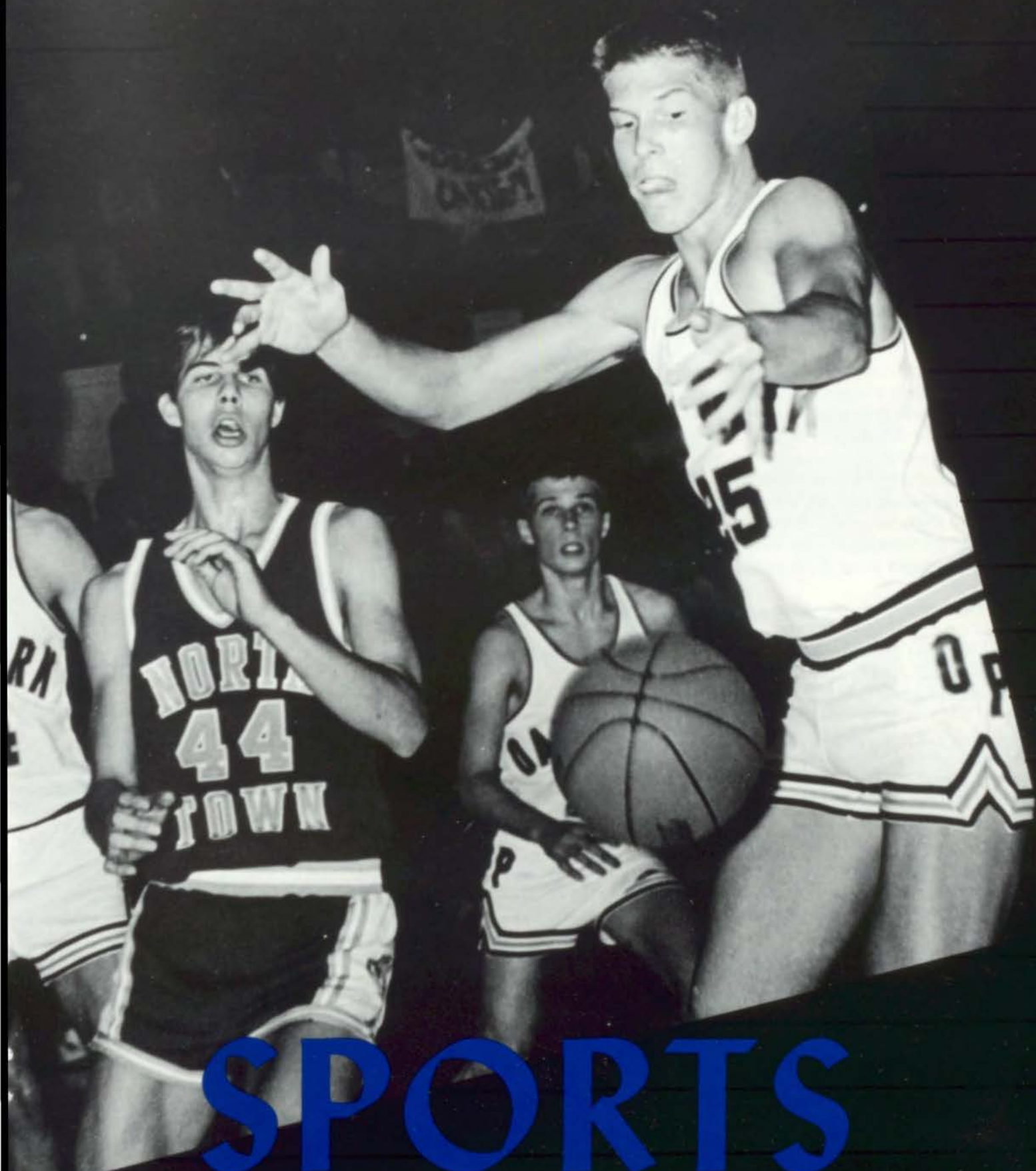
From the upsets to the outstanding victories, both players and spectators made up that something special about Oak Park - the Big Blue.



Follow the bouncing ball. After a ball is rebounded, that is what Steve Lundy, David Duello, and a Northtown opponent try to do. (photo by Matthew Ward)

At a football game that put the "Big Blue" against Northtown, Coach Keith Ross ponders a problem. (photo by Matthew Ward)





SPORTS

Drug testing to play sports

• by Jennifer Snow



ust say no!" "It's hip to be square!" "4 No Drugs!" Slogans such as these were made popular by President Reagan's "War on Drugs" campaign. This campaign attracted much attention and created controversy across the country. Many people were affected from pilots, to athletes, to policemen. One group that attracted much attention was athletes.

By the end of 1983, four Kansas City Royals had been sentenced to prison on drug charges. In 1986, LaMarr Hoyt of the San Diego Padres voluntarily entered a drug treatment facility. These were just a couple of the many cases.

The increase in drug arrests of professional athletes had changed the view of many younger athletes.

"Some of my favorite athletes were on drugs and now I no longer look up to them as much," said Steve Welch, freshman.

Not only had the increased awareness of drugs changed attitudes, but it also brought about the question of why athletes got hooked on drugs.

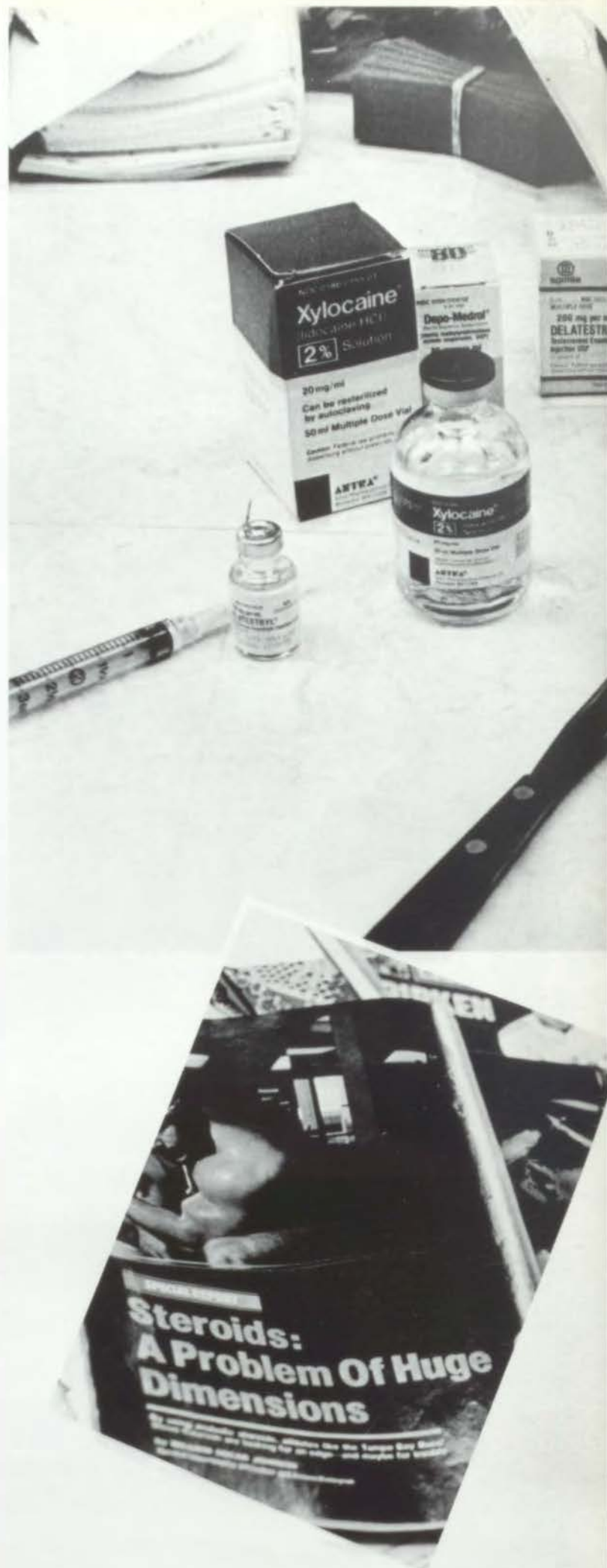
"I think the athletes felt the drugs would help them handle the pressure," said coach Keith Ross.

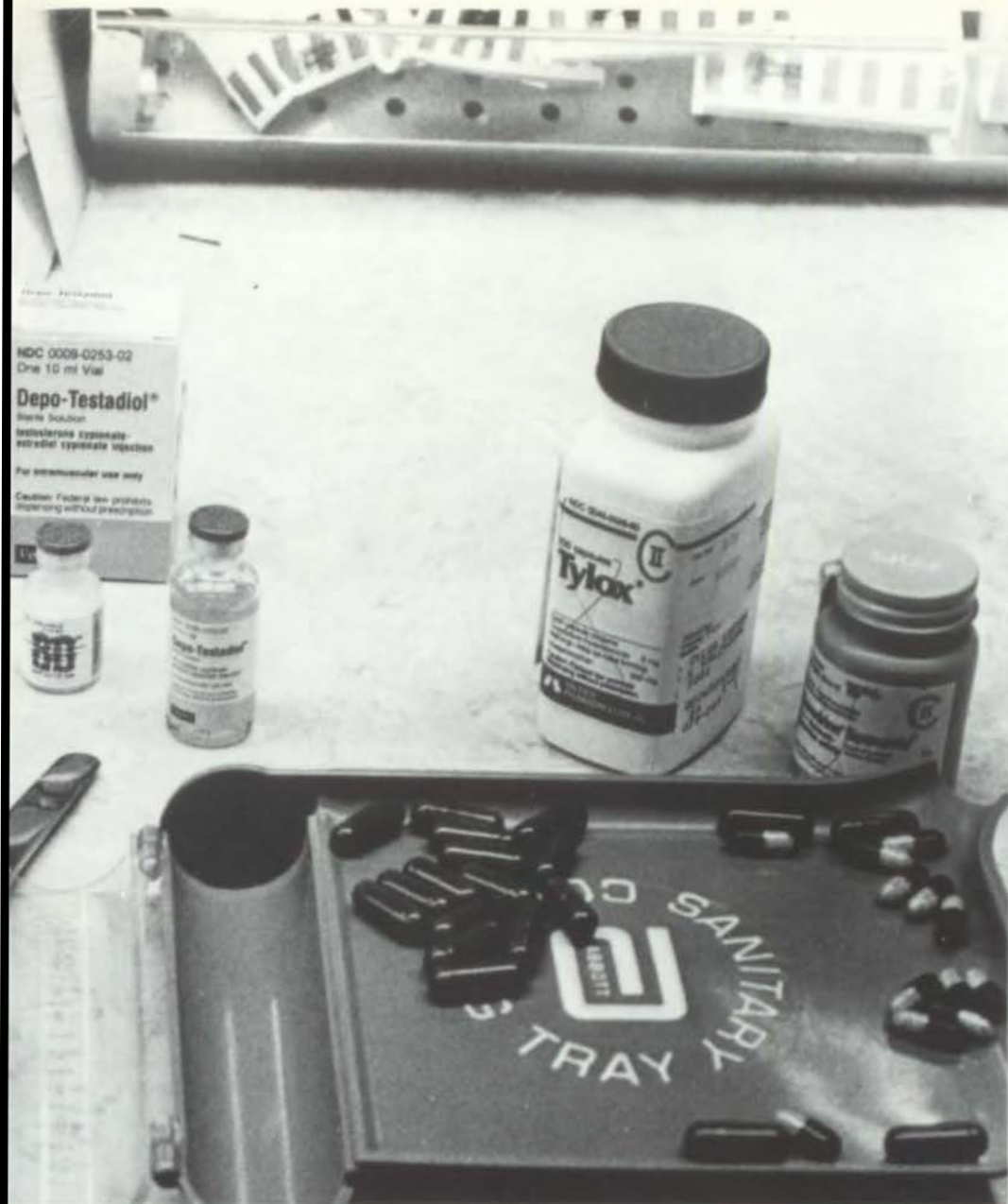
Not only were the pressures of performance felt by professional athletes but also by college and high school athletes as well. These pressures brought up the question of drug testing on both levels.

"If mandatory drug testing was enforced I still would have run track," said Jennifer Potter, senior.

A bill cosponsored by state representative Fletcher Daniels of Kansas City in the General Assembly proposed that all athletes in Missouri high schools and colleges undergo mandatory drug testing at least once while they participate in sports.

"I think a mandatory drug testing law would be good because if someone is on drugs it will affect the way they play and reflect back on the team not just the individual," said Jim Williams, senior.





"I think that the pressure to perform to meet society's expectations and the sudden increase in money were the main reasons the athletes got hooked on drugs," said wrestling coach Mark Mundell.



"Some of my favorite athletes were on drugs and I no longer look up to them as much," said freshman Steve Welch.



"I think the athletes felt that the drugs would help them handle pressure," said football coach Keith Ross.



"I believe everyone deserves one chance. Young people are taught that they are not forced to live with the consequences, we are all accountable for what we do," said track coach Darrell Cotter.



Extensive media coverage sparked the curiosity of the public and ignited the age of drug testing. (photo by Katie Adamson)

Drugs such as these caused the declaration of the War on Drugs - the effect drug testing. (photo by Katie Adamson)

The Comets overcame their drug problem of recent years with a winning season. Here they extend a nine game winning streak against San Diego before a 13,000+ crowd.

Thirteenth not unlucky for O.P.

• by June Sumerlin



The number "13" may be considered bad luck for making hotel floors or jersey numbers, but it is just fine for marking Oak Parks climb to the top of the volleyball world.

The Oakies won their thirteenth district title by placing first at districts.

"No other team has won thirteen straight district titles," said Coach Linda Jones.

"We were a little bit nervous because we didn't want to be the first to break the tradition," said Kristy Mouser, junior.

At districts, Oak Park played and beat Winnetonka and Park Hill to win first place.

The scores were 15-8 and 15-7, 15-7 and 15-6 respectively.

When the girls went to sectionals, there were sixteen teams left in the state. Four in Oak Parks northwest section.

Oak Park beat St. Teresa in the first match with scores of 15-4 and 15-6.

Beating them meant Oak Park took fifth place in the area.

St. Teresa had the fifth place spot before the matches.

At quarterfinals, Oak Park was upset by Truman 10-5 and 7-15. This meant the end of one terrific season.

"We always came through," said Stephanie Craun, senior.

"We knew we could do it and we were strong."

Early in the season, Craun injured her left ankle. She was out for most of the season.

She recovered from the injury and was able to play again a few games before the season ended.

Sophomore Kerrie Kerns advanced from the junior varsity level to help the varsity girls.

She also went with the team to districts.

"I wanted to help them pull through with another district title," said Kerrie.

"Being with them and winning with them as a sophomore was my most memorable moment of the season."



Concentrating on the ball, Nikki Elliot, junior, is poised for an ace. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Trying not to touch the net, Laura Meier, senior, lightly tips the ball over to the opponent's side. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Varsity Volleyball: Sara Mosbacher, Karen Twitt, Karrie Kearns, Kristy Mouser, Nikki Elliot, Rhonda Wibright, Stephanie Craun, Michelle Twitt, Laura Meier, Susan Yardley, Barrie Fischer. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



STATS

Standings

Truman	10- 0	Lee's Summit	4- 6
Oak Park	7- 3	Fort Osage	3- 7
Park Hill	6- 4	Blue Springs	0-10

Scores

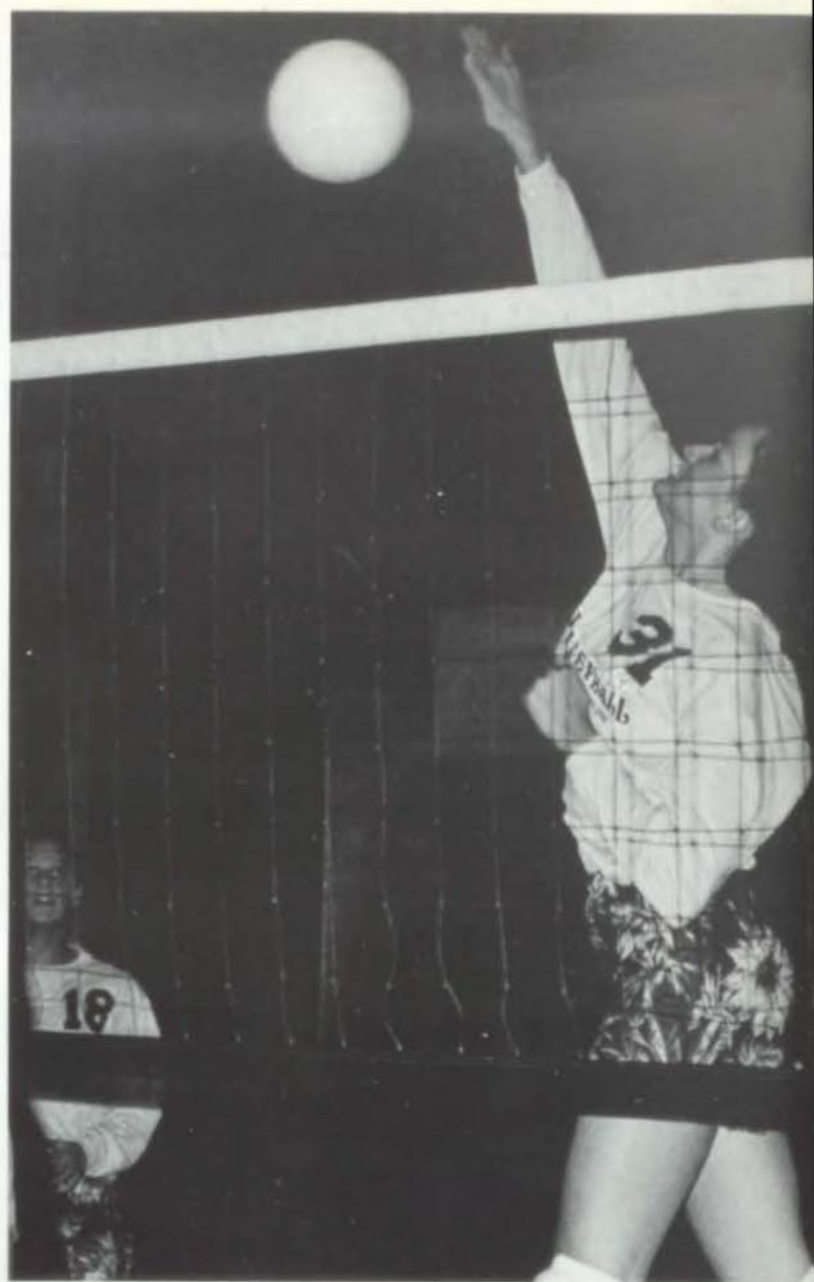
Winnetonka	15- 6	15- 4	
Wm. Chrisman	10-15	10-15	
Ex. Springs	15- 7	15- 6	
Northtown	15- 1	15- 2	
Truman	10-15	15- 7	11-15
Lee's Summit	9-15	2-15	
Park Hill	15- 8	15-11	
Fort Osage	15- 4	15-10	
Blue Springs	15- 6	15-12	
Truman	7-15	8-15	
Lee's Summit	15- 6	15-13	
Park Hill	10-15	15-5	15-13
Fort Osage	15- 8	15-10	
Blue Springs	15- 3	2-15	15- 1
JCCC Tournament:			
Shawnee Mission S.	15- 3	15- 5	
Blue Vally	7-15	7-15	
Olatha South	15-10	15-12	
Shawnee Mission N.	15- 6	15- 2	
Bishop Miege	10-15	15- 7	10-15
Blue Vally	15- 5	6-15	15-13
Truman Tournament:			
O'Hara	15- 4	15-11	
St. Mary	12- 3	15- 0	
Truman	12-15	10-15	
Lee's Summit	15- 8	15- 0	
Park Hill	15-10	15- 2	
Truman	10-15	4-15	



Michelle Twitt, senior, jumps high to spike the ball past her opponent. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Rhonda Wibright, senior, reaches to spike the ball past a Truman Patriot. (photo by Mary Beall)

Junior Varsity Volleyball: Barrie Fisher, Christy Criscione, Shannon Armstrong, Jennifer Briggs, Brenna Prather, Debbie Bishop, Becky Gatewood, Missy Kothe, Cheryl Doak, Amy Zimmerman, Julie Jackson, Sara Mosbacher. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Freshmen Volleyball: First row-Shauna Haddix. Second row-Megan Lary, Dena Salisbury, Heidi Brenner, Tara Tischinski, Tonya Jenkins, Jennifer McCann, Sonya Jenkins. Third row-Beth Hensen, Caroline Peuker, Mary Meier, Kelly Andersen, Kristina Mitchell, Shannon Coffey, Amy Meier, Amy Eastland, Amy Brook. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Tipping the ball. Michelle Twitt, senior, tips the ball over a rival's outstretched hands. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Goal of twenty wins achieved



• by June Sumerlin



wenty wins or bust"

That could have been the banner on the side of the volleyball wagon as it rolled to 21 wins and its thirteenth straight district title.

Although the goal was met, the "bust" finally arrived with a sectional loss to Truman.

Despite not following the path of the '85 team to state, the girls worked close together all season with Coach Linda Jones. The captain of the team, Michelle Twitt, senior, said the team was like a family.

"Everyone worked together," said Michelle.

Key elements to a good game, said Coach Jones, were "communication and hustle, combined with good practice and hard work on fundamentals."

The team voted and awarded Michelle Twitt with Miss Volleyball.

This year a tradition was also broken, but for the good.

The team decided not to give a Most Valuable Player award because they felt no one player could be picked and that the season was all team effort.

"They did not want to single out anyone," said Coach Jones, "and I respect them for it."

Oak Park placed second in their conference.

All conference awards went to all seniors, Laura Meier and Michelle Twitt first team, Susan Yardley second team, and Honorable Mention went to Rhonda Wibright.

The seasons highest hitting percentage went to Nikki Elliot, junior, with a 86.7%.

Stephanie Craun, senior, led the team with the best percentage of serves, 96.6%.

Many players felt the season was a great success. Having Mrs. Jones as a coach made it all possible.

"She's great," said Twitt, "and we have a great coaching staff. It starts out good at the freshmen level and carries through."



Discussing the upcoming game with teammate Laura Meier, senior, is Stephanie Craun, senior, on the side lines due to ankle injury. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Varsity Football: front row — Paul Burkhalter, Mike Henderson, Sittichoke Huckuntodd, Jack Armstrong, Eric Sapp, Scott Spradlin, Bob Smith, James Ackermann, David Ackermann, Joe Gonier; second row — Keith Ross, Brad Newland, Noland Huff, Bill Shaddox, Dan Arst, Joel Mitchell, Mike Walls, John Farmer, Shane Caldwell, Steve Denisar; third row — Mike Ervin, Jim Turney, Chris Canada, Bret Smothers, Todd Adrian, Todd Nugent, Jeff Niemeier, Chris DeGhelder, Mike Neuman; fourth row — Mark Mundell, Brad Beach, John Lutgen, Eric Bruemmer, Joe Reid, Doug Cross, Brian Berkley, Mike Vold, Kelly Kavanaugh, Tom Reynolds

Stats

Standings

Lee Summit	5-0
Oak Park	4-1
Park Hill	3-2
Blue Springs	2-3
Fort Osage	1-4
Truman	0-5

Scores

Oak Park	7	Rockhurst	35
Oak Park	23	Raysouth	30
Oak Park	21	NKC	0
Oak Park	9	Winnetonka	28
Oak Park	9	Hickman Mills	14
Oak Park	37	Park Hill	36
Oak Park	20	Lee Summit	42
Oak Park	21	Truman	6
Oak Park	14	Blue Springs	8
Oak Park	22	Fort Osage	0



Brad Newland, senior, and Eric Sapp, junior, celebrated after the Oakies scored. (photo by Matthew Ward)

At the homecoming game, the Oakies were relieved by the one point lead in the last few seconds. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Victory

OP knocks off No.3 trojans



It was a clear, blue Friday night in October at NKC Stadium and the spirit was rushing through the stands. It was a special night not only because it was homecoming but also because it was the first conference game of the season - against undefeated and third ranked Park Hill.

The fact that Park Hill had an intimidating record didn't stop the Oakies.

"We went out there knowing it was a big game, thinking positive, and knowing there couldn't be any mistakes," said Joe Reid, senior.

But mistakes were made and at half-time the score was 21-14, Park Hill.

"The team knew we were going to win. We realized each one of us couldn't give up," said Reid.

Most of the players felt the spirit and the excitement was so tremendous that nothing could have stopped them.

"We went out there after half-time wanting to beat them so bad, we kept cranking and playing our hardest until finally they gave up," Jack Armstrong, senior, explained.

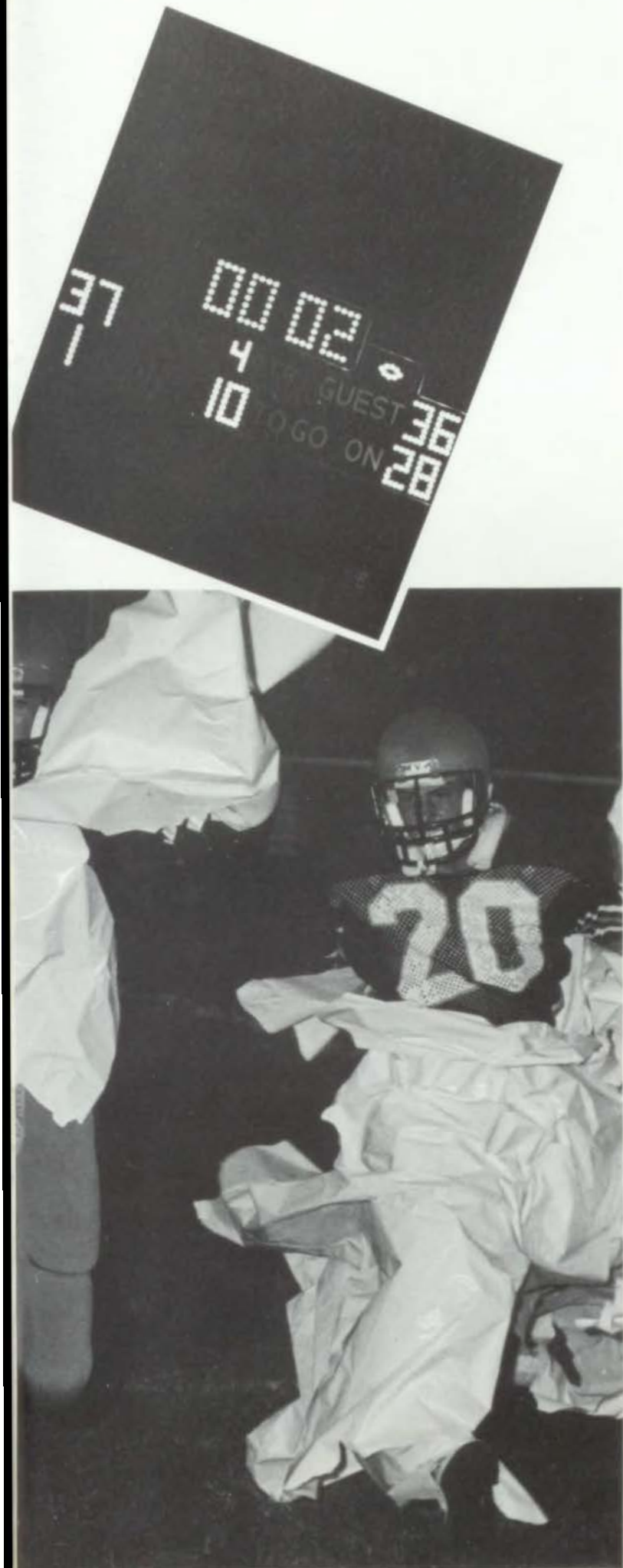
After half-time the Oakies came out determined, making a touchdown and changing the score to 28-22. Park Hill was still in the lead but nevertheless they scored again, making the score 36-22.

The Northmen didn't give up, a touchdown was made in the end of third quarter and the score as 36-29. The Oakies had nothing to lose, so in the fourth quarter, one and one-half seconds left, Bill Shaddox, junior, recovered a fumble and shortly thereafter the Northmen scored a touchdown. The two point conversion was made and Oak Park won 37-36. The Northmen not only played a good game, and won their first conference, but they also brought the excitement of winning back into the team and also the Oakie fans.

"The team played well, but it was the fans and the sideline that kept us going. It was a total effort on everyone's part," said Ross.



Jack Armstrong, senior, Dan Konency, senior, and Bob Smith, senior, break through the victory sign in hopes to win. (photo by Matt Ward)



Spirit came back Team improved

• by Michelle Murphy

A tale of two seasons. That is how it seemed as the 1986 football season started with a 1-4 record and early season hopes disappeared. But after Oak Park played Park Hill, winning a homecoming victory, the team finally began their second and best season.

The team finished with a 5-5 record, winning most of their games in the second part of the season and placing second in the Big Six conference.

"They learned what it took to win. During practice they worked hard so it would eventually make a difference," said Coach Keith Ross.

Keeping a positive outlook in the end helped the Oakies.

Joe Reid, senior, explained that before the Rockhurst game, the team knew that they would get slaughtered, but before Park Hill the entire team knew that Oak Park would win.

All the players felt the turning point, or the beginning of a new season, was the first conference game against the Trojans.

The team's size, however, often took its toll in the second half. Many of the games during the first part of the season resulted in Oak Park losing after halftime.

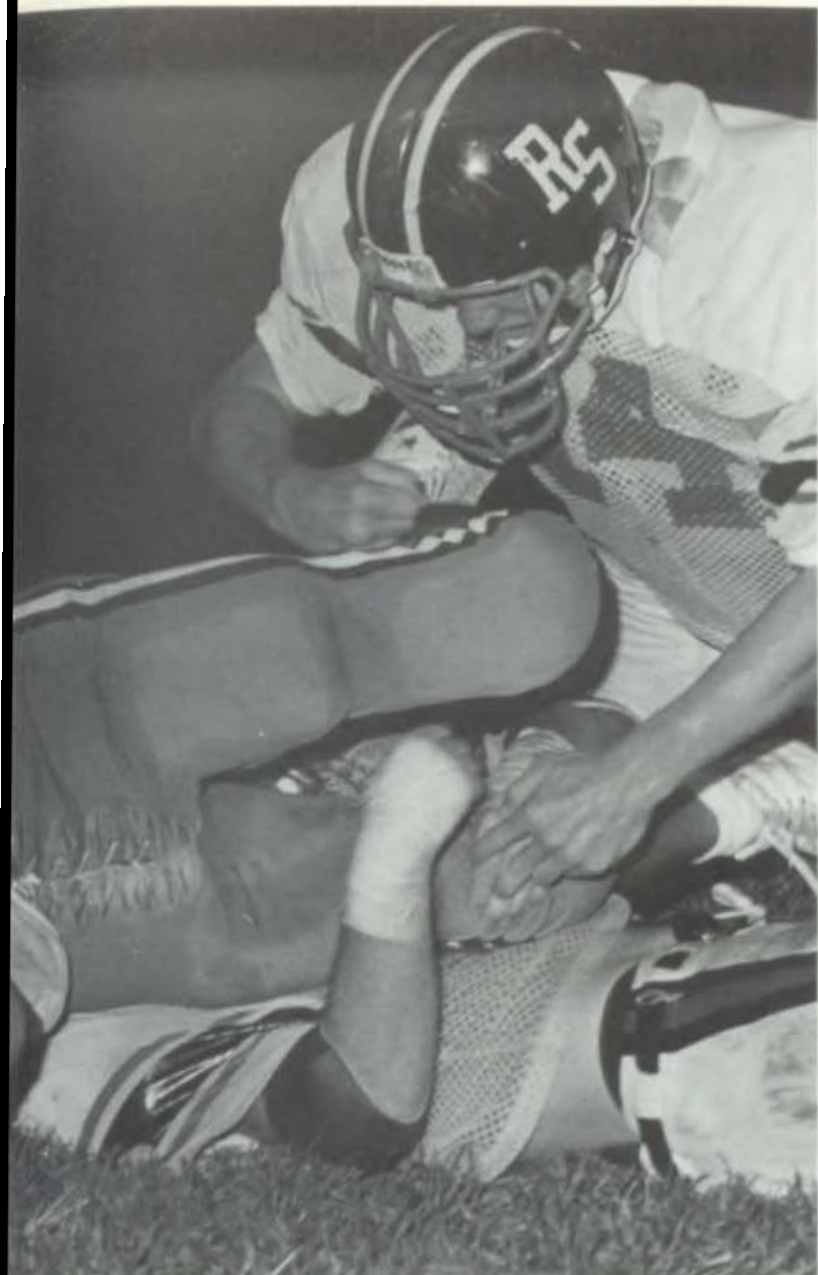
"I think our disadvantage was the fact that whenever we got ahead during a game we didn't know how to put a team away," said Jack Armstrong, senior.

During the season, several Oakies broke some records. Armstrong surpassed the career rushing record with a total of 2,526 yards. John Farmer, junior, set a new school record with a 42 yard field goal and Reid, broke the passing percentage record by completing 53 percent of his passes.

School awards were given to Armstrong and Reid for the offensive players of the year, Eric Bruemmer for offensive lineman of the year, Brad Newland for defensive player of the year, and the most inspirational was Sittichoke Huchentodd.



Through the season many of the players had injuries. Sittichoke Huchentodd, senior, suffered during one game. (photo by Matthew Ward)



The play was stopped after Brian Berkley, senior, was pushed down and tackled at the Oak Park / Ray South game. (photo by Lisa Mason)



J. V. Football: front row — Noland Huff, Paul Burkhalter, Mike Henderson, David Ackermann, Brian Swanson, John Stathopolous, Shane Caldwell, Jason Rieter; second row — Mike Ervin, Kelly Kavanaugh, Steve Denisar, Dan Arst, Chris Deghelder, Tim Smith, Mike Nance; third row — Jim Turney, Gary Blackwell, John Farmer, Todd Nugent, Doug Cross, Dave Henderson, Mike Nagy, Pedro Estabon, T. J. Salmon



Sophomore Football: front row — Chris Garko, Cregg Porter, Randy Hamilton, Mike Hanes, Terry Sears, Bill Mackley, Noland Huff, John Stathopolous; second row — Aaron Smith, Gary Clay, Nathon Thomas, Paul Williams, Paul Burkhalter, Chris Deghelder, Bill Turnage; third row — Steve Denisar, Gary Blackwell, Mike Irvin, Darren Overstreet, Shane Caldwell, Brian High, Benny Canter; fourth row — Gary Flowers, Jon Baltzell, Russ Wright, Kelly Kavanaugh, John Rapp, Don Lauf, Steve Giltner; fifth row — John Sayers, Bryan Boydston, Ken Steeples, Richard Fox, Pete Blackburn, John Mills, Ed James



Joe Reid, senior, launches a pass downfield as other Oakies block and cover for him. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Freshman Football: front row — Matt Barr, Steve Foot, Adam Ashcraft, Phil Lanio, John Sanstra, Gale Zimmerman, Jason Jurgeson, Bill Kirk, Lance Price, Mike Brewer; second row — Chad Montgomery, Shane Vogel, David Clark, Sam Clark, David Nance, Justin Toms, Kevin Greer, Derek Spradlin, Mike Vandenburg, Chad St. Louis; third row — Jason Allwood, Frank Mendoza, Jason Rieter, Lance Beach, Mike Roos, Brad Jackson, Bill Magrone, John Morlan, Doug Noble, Brett Peart; fourth row — Dean Hill, Mark Ingles, Mark Miller, Rick Simms, Bill Mutch, Robert Wibright, Damond Samual, Danny Miller, Mike Edsall, Kyle Moore; fifth row — Steve Burdick, James Barry, Trevor Walker, Randy Sloniker, David Gately, Brian Delaney, Don Beck, David Swob, Danny Sole, Brett Nugent; sixth row — Doug Beason, Steve St. Louis, Joe Briley

Team takes 3rd in conference

• by Sandy Gilpin

History-making" was one way to describe the soccer team. For the first time since the first soccer team in 1984, the Oakies defeated Lee's Summit, Grandview, and Blue Springs.

"Those were the best three games we played," said Bobby Nichols, junior.

Jason Gregory, sophomore, also thought these games were important.

"After we beat Grandview and Lee's Summit we started working better as a team," he said.

Although those games may have given more spirit to the team, the injuries of some players was still a downfall.

"It was difficult trying to have a consistent line-up when you have injuries," according to Coach Cam Jury.

One injury was to Tony Files, junior, who was on and off the field most of the season with back problems.

Also losing Todd Macrorie, junior, for the whole season hurt the team, according to Tim Allen, junior.

Even though the injuries caused problems, "we had fewer losses than we had last year," said Jury.

"If we would have made four or five more goals we would have won conference," Jury said.

Tying lots of games may have been a reason for losing conference.

"The team was unpredictable," explained Gregory. "We beat the teams we expected to lose to and we either tied or lost to the ones we should have beaten."

Even though the team finished second in the Northland Tournament, the season was upsetting to Andy Baker, senior, "I wanted to go farther since it was my senior year."

Receiving All-Conference honors were Mike Eickhoff, junior (first team) and Don Duran and Bobby Nichols, juniors, (both second team). Also receiving honorable mention were Jon Reed and Andy Baker, seniors, Tim Allen, junior, and Jason Gregory, sophomore.



With determination, Andrew Crain, junior, blocks an opponent's kick. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Soccer First row - Stephanie Greer, Bobby Nichols, Tony Files, Carol Dobney. Second row - Ernie Loera, Tim Allen, David Krupka, Jim Jiabia, Jerrel Osborn, Mike Conn, Mike Gaines, Brian McGinley, Steven Greer, Jonathon Reed. Third row - Tammy Glidewell, Paul Sneed, Jim Rehrig, Jason Gregory, Andrew Crain, Mike Eickhoff, Coach Cam Jury, Jeff Cooper, Paul Comprenolle, Rodney Weymuth, Don Duran, Andy Baker, Roseann Smith.

STATS

Scores

Park Hill	1-1	William	0-8
		Chrisman	1-2
North Kansas City	0-4	Lee's Summit	1-2
Winnetonka	2-3	Blue Valley	6-2
Liberty	2-0	Shawnee	
		Mission East	2-0
Fort Osage	5-0	Park Hill	2-0
Grandview	1-2	Ray South	2-2
Ruskin	0-0	Truman	1-1
Liberty	1-5	Winnetonka	2-4
Blue Springs	0-1	North	
		Kansas City	0-2
Raytown	1-0	Liberty	4-0

Standings

Lee's Summit	5-1-1	Fort Osage	4-2-1
Park Hill	4-1-2	Truman	2-3-2
Oak Park	4-2-1	Winnetonka	1-6-0
Blue Springs	4-2-1	William	
		Chrisman	0-7-0



Striking the ball with his head, Steven Greer, freshman, attempts a header for a goal. (photo by Todd Kussman)

Number one player, freshmen, Julie Price, practices her forehand before a game. (photo by James Preston)



STATS

Standings

Lee's Summit	5-1
Park Hill	6-0
Blue Springs	5-1
Oak Park	3-3
Truman	2-4
Winnetonka	1-5
William Chrisman	0-6

Scores

Oak Park	5	Liberty	0
Oak Park	9	Excelsior Springs	0
Oak Park	0	Lee's Summit	5
Oak Park	4	Truman	1
Oak Park	5	William Chrisman	0
Oak Park	0	Lee's Summit	5
Oak Park	2	St. Joseph Central	7
Oak Park	5	Winnetonka	0
Oak Park	2	Blue Springs	3
Oak Park	6	Center	1
Oak Park	0	Park Hill	5
Oak Park	1	Pembroke Hill	4
Oak Park	6	North Kansas City	3
		Districts 3rd	



Junior, Nancy Barnett, concentrates as she pounds a serve across the net. (photo by James Preston)



Girls Tennis: First row - Amy Rigg, Katherine Groom, Kristin Kelco, Jenny Esslinger, Renee Reynaud; Second row - Susan Meyer, Pam Calvert, Kathy Foote, Larissa McDonald, Lisa Kelco, Tracy Christopher, Mitzi Craft, Kristin Quinn, Nancy Barnett, Michelle Reiter, Jill Hall; Third row - Ms. Tana Hiatt, Jill Russell, Christy Walberg, Nancy Miller, Jill Graves, Lynette Pither, Allison Sakata, Leslie Parkhurst, Nancy Meier, Carol Cross, Melissa Chavez, Rosie Torres, Felicia Fernandes, Julie Price, Amy Rathgeber. (photo by James Preston)

Tennis offers equal rights



• by Michele Tunnell

In the 1980's, equal opportunity is a big issue. Women, minorities, and minors fight for equal rights, all looking for one thing, equal opportunity employers. This year, the Oak Park girls' tennis team proved to be an equal opportunity "employer" with a freshmen, senior, and a junior playing the top three singles.

"Since I was the only senior, I didn't have much power like last year's seniors," Mitzi Craft, the number two player, said. "But I knew a lot of the other tennis players so it was still fun."

"It was kind of strange being the only freshmen on varsity," Julie Price said.

Julie has been playing tennis since she was nine years old. Even though she was a freshmen, she was the number one player on the tennis team.

"It didn't bother me that she was the number one player," Jill Hall, junior, said about Julie. "She helped our team."

"It was kind of frustrating," Mitzi said about Julie being the number one player. "But we got along just fine and I wish she would have been able to go to state as a freshmen because she deserved it."

Although the team was young, there were still highlights of the season. The team won the first meet of the year, with Liberty, five to zero and two junior varsity doubles teams went to finals in the Conference meet.

"With one returning lettermen, we were inexperienced, but we were able to be competitive with even the strongest schools," Coach Tana Hiatt said.

"If we would have worked harder in practice, we would have been better," said Julie. "It was a good year but I hope it's better next year."

"Even though the team wasn't as successful as the past two years, it was fun," said Mitzi.



Mitzi Craft, senior, uses her forehand to return the ball to a startled opponent. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Cross Country: first row - Coach Reed Black, Carrie Cessor, Wendi Steele, Sara Hubner, Amy Quinn, Missy Nagy, Coach Fred Kester, second row - Jennifer McLaughlin, Jane Devers, Jenny Plush, Laurie Paden, Anne Hagen, third row - Robin Reese, Debbie Hale, Lisa Williams, Stephanie Black, fourth row - Russell Hadsel, Steve Neer, Jeff Kirk, Sean Murphy, David Lucas, Mark Reiter, Mark Smith, Amy Bunnell, Michelle Leverich, Cindy Kirkland, Brooke Warner, Angie Taylor, Ryan Barnett, David Relford, Matt Hensley, Christy Reedy, Chris Riley, Jeremy Chambers, fifth row - Mark Stockmeyer, Chris Stewart, John Baker, Tim Roberts, Craig Ball, Craig Auman, Bob Vogelaar, David Cunningham, Carl Cessor, Brent Anderson, Jason Rincker, Shane Hagan, Tom Meyer, Joey Thornton, Randy Smith, Charlie Walburg. (photo by Todd Kussman)

STATS

Standings

BOYS		GIRLS
14th	Truman Invitational	11th
18th	Park Hill Inv.	19th
20th	Liberty Inv.	15th
13th	Excelsior Springs Inv.	13th
7th	Shawnee Mission Northwest Inv.	7th
5th	Big Six Conference	6th
9th	District	8th



Wendi Steel, sophomore, supports her team mate, Craig Ball, sophomore, after a tiring race. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

During the Liberty Invitational, Amy Quinn, sophomore, concentrates on the field. (photo by Mary Beall)

Team rebuilds with sophs



• by Kim Melton

Rebuilding the cross country team brick by brick was the goal, since only one girl and no senior boys returned from the top six from the previous year.

Cross country's varsity team was made up of two seniors, and the rest were sophomores and freshmen in 1986.

"All the pressure was put on the sophomore and freshmen class because there weren't that many juniors or seniors to take up the slack," said Coach Fred Kester. "It's always hard when all of your top runners graduate at the same time."

Coach Kester added that the runners gave 100 percent during meets, but when there are younger runners competing against older runners, it puts the team about a year behind the others.

"The people that were use to running track weren't use to the hills, but in the middle of the season, they started coming alive and moving up," said Shane Hagan, sophomore.

Although the boys varsity team did not do well this season, the sophomore boys took first place over all at the Liberty Invitational. According to Coach Kester, the girls team progressed greatly throughout the season.

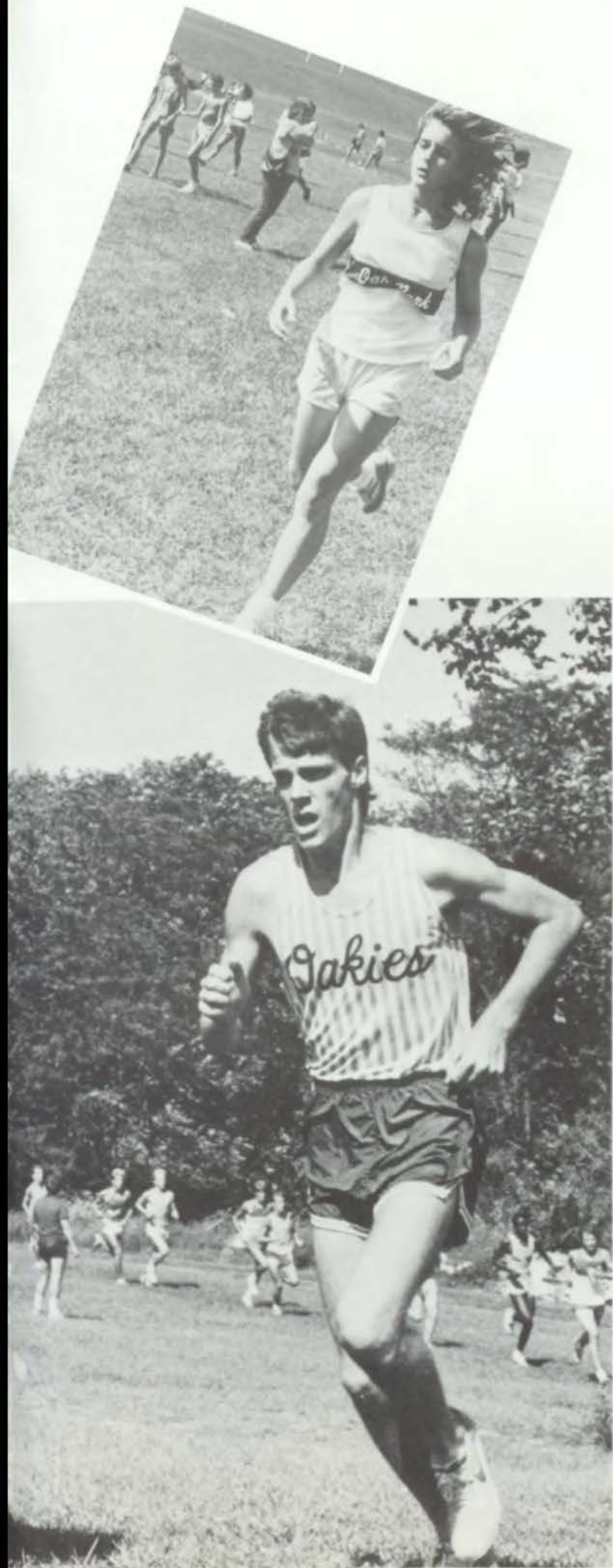
"Coach Kester pushed a lot this year, and so did Coach Reed Black. They were both very supportive. And the team mates were very supportive at meets and at practices to do better," said Hagan.

Coach Kester thought that the two most outstanding runners on the team this year were Jason Rincker, sophomore, and a tie between Stephanie Black, freshman, and Amy Quinn, sophomore. The reason for this was "because of their competitiveness and their never say die attitude."

The team captains for 1986 were Craig Ball and Wendi Steele, sophomores. Mr. and Miss Cross Country were Carl Cesor and Angie Taylor, seniors.



Meeting his match, Bob Vogelaar, junior, tries to outrun his opponent during the Liberty Invitational at William Jewell College. (photo by Mitzi Craft)





Against odds Northmen win

• by Michelle Murphy



When the Northmen meet the Cardinals, feathers tend to fly. This year was no different. Many Oakies felt that the Ray South/Oak Park game had to be one of the best this year. The team fought back and showed Ray South who owned Oakie territory.

"Ray South has always been a basketball orientated school and ranked often in the city," said Kevin O'Neil, senior.

Rich Brill, basketball coach, explained that Oak Park has beaten Ray South three out of five times in the last two years. Ray South's reputation didn't bother the Northmen.

"We went into the locker room ready to give up, but somehow Brill inspired us to battle it out," said O'Neil.

Dave Duello, senior, explains that the team was fed up with playing the way they were. We got mad at ourselves.

At halftime the score was 14-31. Starting over, the Oakies tried to dig themselves out of the hole that they just recently dug.

"During the first half of the game, we just weren't really with it," said Brill.

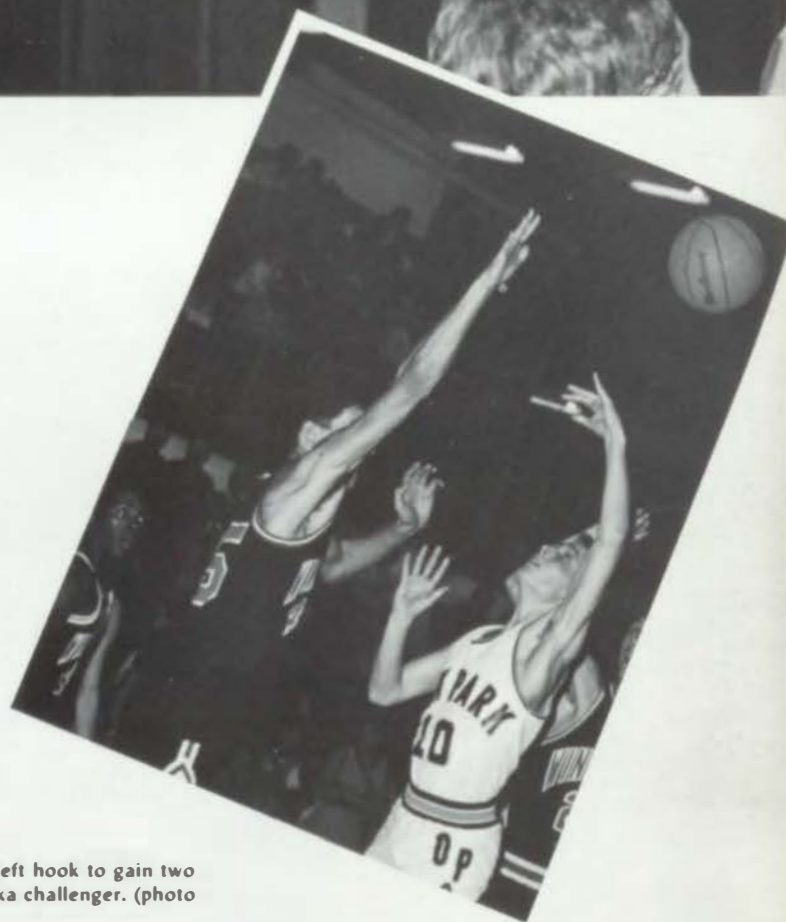
Little by little the team chipped away points. Gaining on Ray South, the Northmen were six points behind at third quarter with the score of 33-39.

"We got the momentum going our way, the team was doing some things right with no mistakes," said Brill.

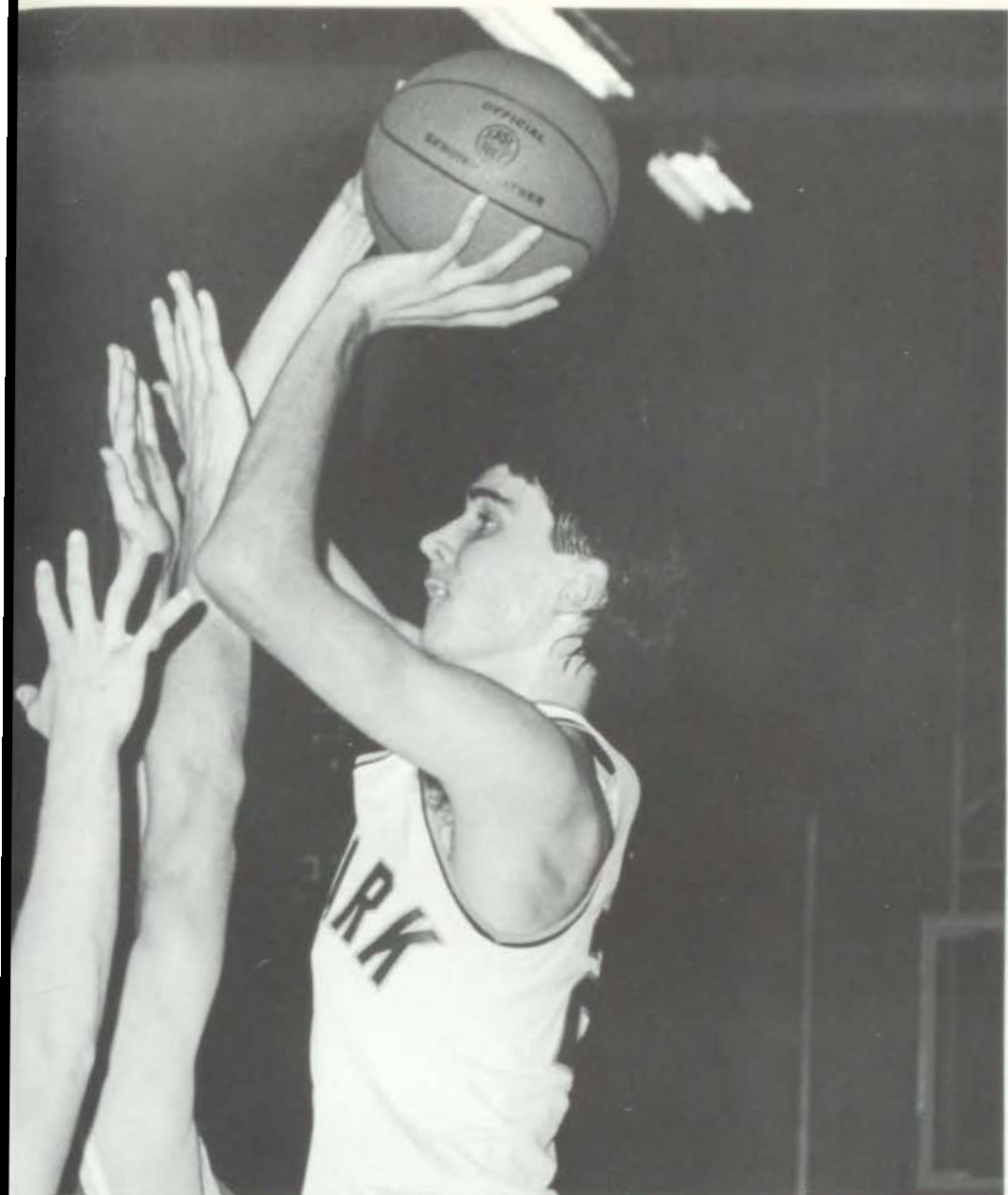
During fourth quarter, the Northmen kept hammering away. Kevin O'Neil scored the final shot in the last three seconds finalizing the score, 50-49.

"We never gave up, we kept trying until we were sure we would win," Duello said.

With a fresh start, the Northmen dug themselves out of that deep hole and were ready to fight the next team that was on Oakie territory.



Brant Prather, senior, uses a left hook to gain two more points over his Winnetonka challenger. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Dave Duello, senior, standing tall above the other players concentrates on the shot with much determination. (photo by Lisa Mason)

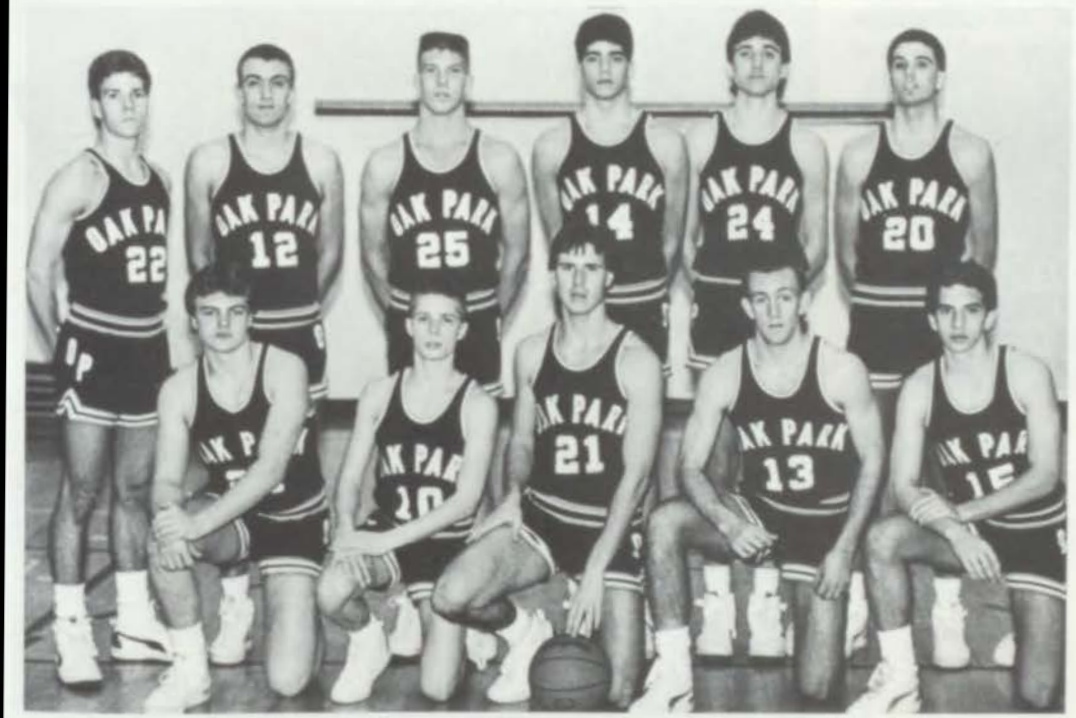
STATS

Standings

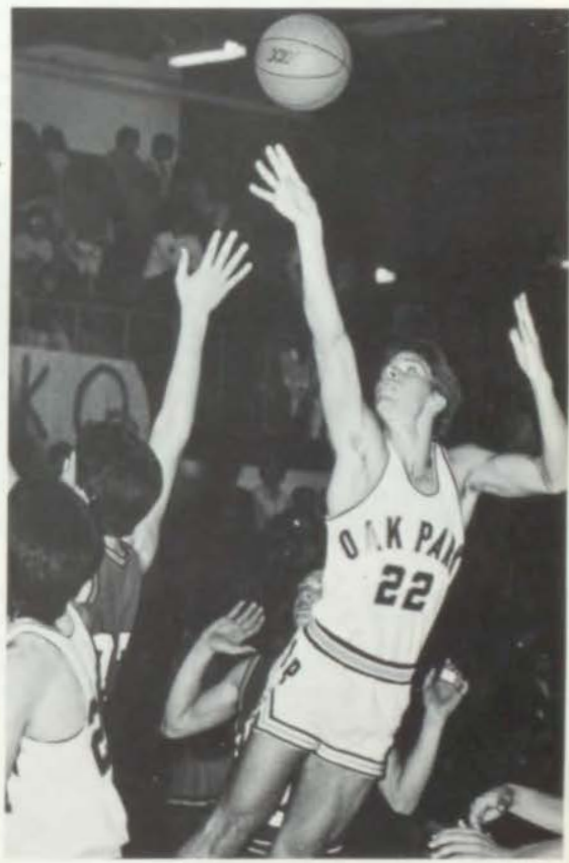
Blue Springs	9-1	Park Hill	4-6
Lee Summit	8-2	Oak Park	2-8
Fort Osage	5-5	Truman	2-8

Scores

Oak Park	34	NKC	44
Oak Park	55	Park Hill	54
Oak Park	54	Lee Summit	70
Oak Park	48	Paseo	59
Oak Park	54	St. Joe Central	74
Oak Park	50	Ft. Osage	47
Oak Park	57	William Chrisman	65
Oak Park	67	Ex. Springs	56
Oak Park	58	Northeast	70
Oak Park	59	Van Horn	58
Oak Park	41	Lee Summit	50
Oak Park	45	Park Hill	48
Oak Park	71	Winnetonka	80
Oak Park	48	Ft. Osage	40
Oak Park	42	Truman	41
Oak Park	58	William Chrisman	60
Oak Park	36	Truman	45
Oak Park	50	Ray South	49
Oak Park	55	Winnetonka	86
Oak Park	55	Blue Springs	69
Oak Park	45	Ft. Osage	52
Oak Park	45	Lee Summit	72
Oak Park	51	Park Hill	64
Oak Park	64	Truman	61
Oak Park	67	Blue Springs	89
Oak Park	59	St. Joe Central	73



Varsity basketball: front row--Jeff Niemeier, Brant Prather, Jeff White, Brad Newland, Jeff Norman; second row--Todd Macrorie, Brian Berkley, Steve Lundy, Darren Baker, Dave Duello, Kevin O'Neil. (photo by David Cunningham)



Falling away from a jump shot, Todd Macrorie tries for two points against their opponent. (photo by Matthew Ward)



High hopes disappeared

• by Michelle Murphy

Disappointed is the best description of how this year's boys basketball team felt about their record. "We had a 8-18 record. It could of been opposite," said Kevin O'Neil, senior.

The team had high hopes going into the season.

"The beginning was exciting, our future looked bright because we thought we had what it took to make a impact in the conference or city," said Kevin.

Although the season turned out to be a letdown for the Northmen, they ended up proud for hard they had worked.

"They were a good bunch to work with," said Rich Brill, basketball coach.

To function properly a winning team must be equipped with height, experience, ball handling, rebounding, and many other attributes.

Brill explained that you can have all the experience or height on a team but if you can not shoot well, the team's record will reflect on that fact.

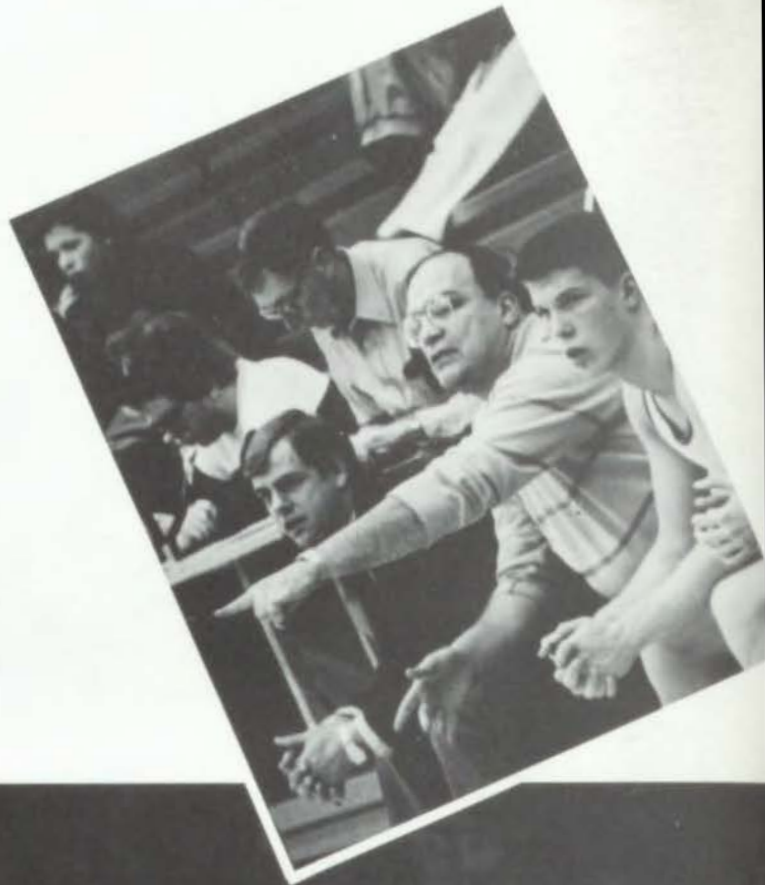
In many games, the team would work hard the first half of the game but fall behind in the third quarter, often falling too fast to catch up. "We didn't play up to what we could have but the team always kept plugging away," said Brill.

Despite the disappointing season many awards were given to the Northmen.

All-Northland awards were awarded to; Duello, first team captain; Prather and Macrorie, second team. All conference awards were given to; Duello, first team; Prather and Newland received honorable mention.

Best freethrow percentage, Norman; Best Fieldgoal percentage, O'Neil and Lundy; Most assists, Prather; Top rebounder, Duello; Most steals, Prather. The Jeff Loveall six man award went to Baker, and the Allen Chenoweth effort award, Newland.

Team voted awards were Co-Captains, Prather and Newland; Most valuable player, Prather; Mr. Basketball, Newland.



Moving too quickly, Jeff White tries to regain his composure after just missing a pass. (photo by Matthew Ward)



J V Basketball: front row — Tim Allen, Mike Walls, Doug Yager, Kevin Brill; second row — Bob Kanatzar, Shane Willman, Doug Cross, Mark Kelly

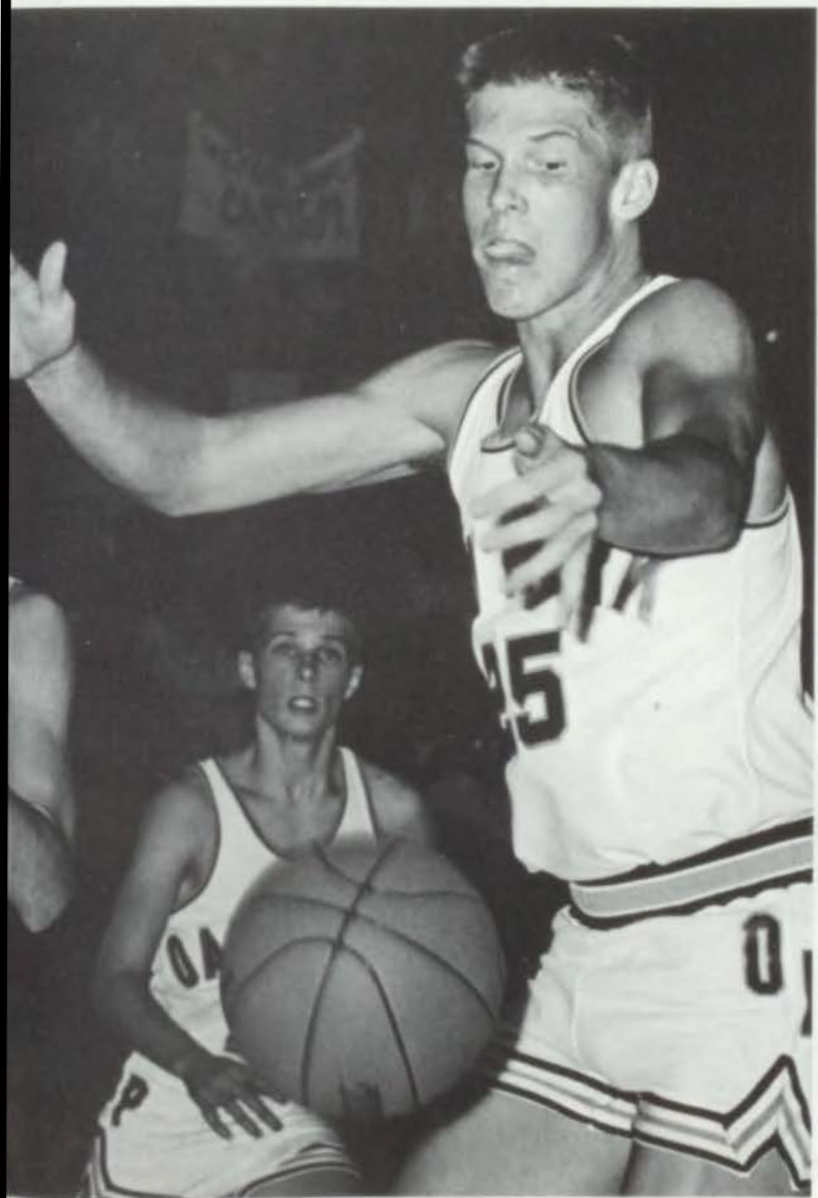


Sophomore Basketball: front row — Van Maier, Joe Roos, Mike Dorsey, Kevin Brill, Chris Shultz, Bryan Boydston; second row — Greg Booth, Matt Kiser, Steve Herrington, Jim Kantola, Scott Martensen, Bob Kanatzar, Tim Blake, Mike Nagy, Tracy Chrisman, Coach Fox



Freshman Basketball: front row — Steve Cordle, John Morlan, Chris Swetnam, Bill Kirk, Cory Strother, Mark Ingels; second row — Chris Parham, Jason Allwood, Jim Mutti, Steve Foote, Jason Richter, David Gately, Aaron Fleenor; third row — John Beard, Chris Burroughs, Doug Beason, Chad Starr, Richard Rodgers, John King, Danny Sole, Brett Nugent, Mike Otterman, Brian DeLancey

Steve Lundy struggles to retrieve the basketball while Dave Duello and Brant Prather anticipate the next move. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Rhonda Wibrigh, senior, attempts to receive a pass from Kristy Mouser, junior, in a tough battle against Liberty. (photo by Mary Beall)

Stats

Standings

Truman	10-0	Fort Osage	2-8
Lee's Summit	7-3	Park Hill	3-7
Blue Springs	6-4	Oak Park	1-9

Scores

Oak Park	50	Grandview	64
Oak Park	41	Park Hill	38
Oak Park	49	Hickman	63
Oak Park	52	Liberty	35
Oak Park	41	Ray South	39
Oak Park	58	Ft. Osage	60
Oak Park	37	Lee Summit	58
Oak Park	26	Park Hill	43
Oak Park	61	Winnetonka	29
Oak Park	41	NKC	45
Oak Park	46	Wyandotte	47
Oak Park	37	S.M. West	44
Oak Park	45	Center	39
Oak Park	32	Truman	74
Oak Park	41	B. Springs	43
Oak Park	49	St. Plus	31
Oak Park	39	Wm. Chris.	40
Oak Park	35	Park Hill	25
Oak Park	47	Ft. Osage	34
Oak Park	28	Lee Summit	60
Oak Park	39	St. Joe C.	55
Oak Park	36	Park Hill	36
Oak Park	51	Truman	76
Oak Park	37	B. Springs	63
Oak Park	41	Central	50



Laura Meier, senior, squares up for two points against Winnetonka. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Varsity: Top row: Manager Anna Marie Morrissey, Candice Kastor, Becky Gatewood, Julie Reidel, Michelle Benton, Kristy Mouser, Manager Meike Deboer. Bottom row: Stephanie McIntyre, Linda Zimmerman, Rhonda Wibrigh, Laura Meier, Michelle Twitt, Karie Kearns. (Photo by Mitzi Craft)



Girls double team victories

• by Brenda Heffron

With a 9-17 record, the girls' basketball team doubled their victories of the previous season. With a few additional points in particular games they could have had a winning season.

"Give me ten more points in the right places and our record could've been 15-11," explained Coach Steve McArthur.

Out of the seventeen losses eight of them were lost by less than four points.

The doubled wins had been attributed to the experience of the older squad and the way they worked together as a team.

Four out of the five starting players were returning lettermen. These being Linda Zimmerman, Rhonda Wibright, Laura Meier, and Michelle Twitt.

"I think we worked great as a team. We got along so well and no one was selfish with the ball," said Rhonda Wibright, senior.

"Last year we lacked experience and this year we had that experience with the older team," said Coach McArthur.

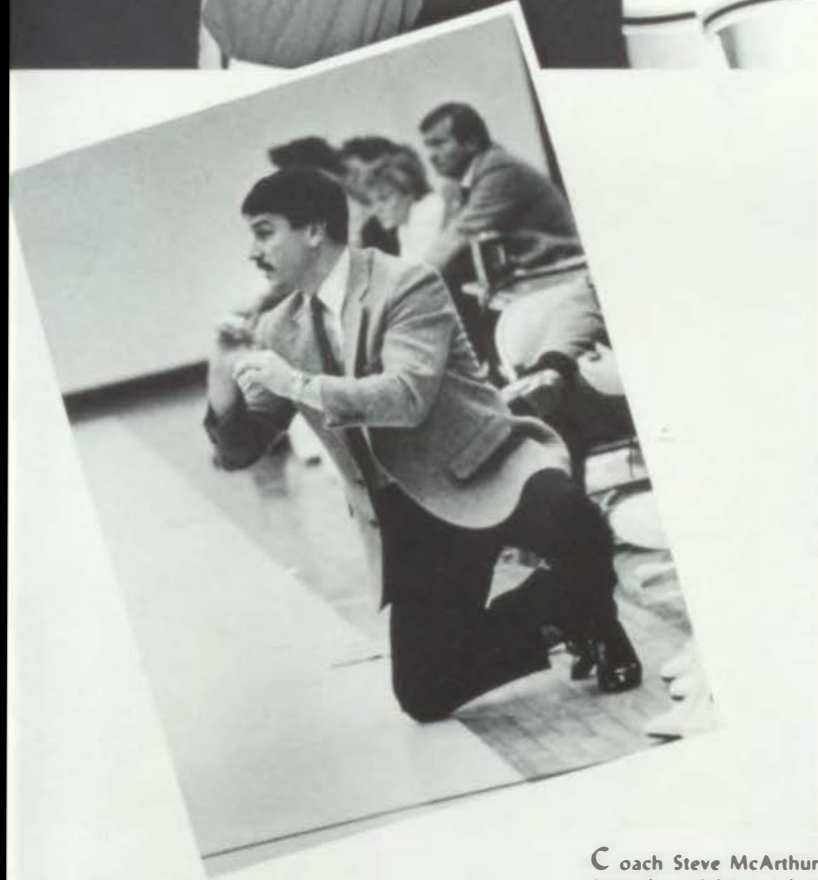
"This year we accomplished a lot, like doubling our record. I really think that at times we were unstoppable because we worked as a team," explained Karie Kearns, sophomore.

One of the highlights of the season was the game played against William Chrisman. The Northmen lost by one point with only fifty seconds left in the game.

"Everything we did was a value in the game. We all had our heads in the game and ready to play," said Karie.

"William Chrisman was rated high in the city and we shut down their key player, only to lose by one point in the end. It was an exciting game," said Rhonda.

"I thought Rhonda played an excellent game," said Coach McArthur. "she played against a girl with a full ride scholarship to college on basketball."



Coach Steve McArthur, sends signals to his team from the sidelines. (photo by Mary Beall)

With Laura Meier, senior, blocking the Griffins, Kristy Mouser, junior, shoots a jump shot. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Junior Varsity: Top Row: Michelle Blay, Brenna Prather, Julie Reidel, Debby Bishop, Becky Gatewood, Nancy Meier, Coach Glinn Bottom Row: Wendi Steele, Nancy Sims, Sara Hibner, Amy Quinn, Shelly Lutle. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

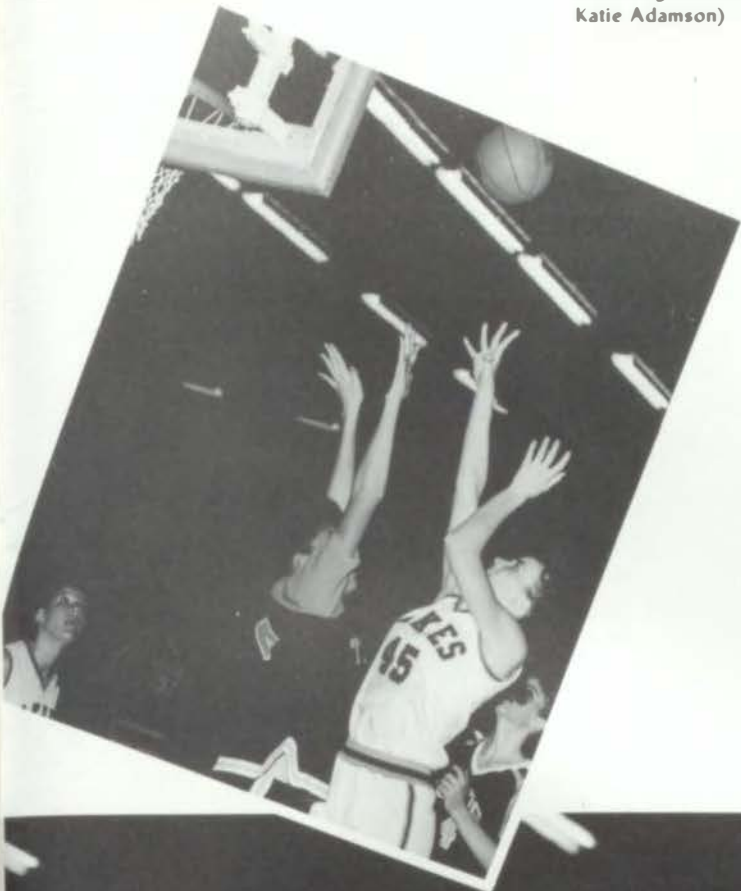


Freshman: Top Row: Manager Kelly Hall, Mary Meier, Carol Cross, Kelly Anderson, Rebecca Thompson, Coach Bob Bryant, Christina Mitchell, Paula Michaels, Amy Meier, Caroline Peuker, Kelly Newell, Beth Henson Bottom Row: Trish Peterson, Heidi Brenner, Larissa McDonald, Manager Shauna Haddix, Magen Lary, Amy Brooks, Deana Lane. (Photo by Katie Adamson)



Karie Kearns, sophomore, tries for a lay-up shot in a hard match with Winnetonka. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Trying for two, Rhonda Wibright, senior goes for a basket against the Lee's Summit Tigers. (photo by Katie Adamson)



Effort helps achieve goals



• by Brenda Heffron

Despite finishing last in the conference, the girls' went on to accomplish other goals.

As a team they shot 37.8 percent. They averaged forty-three points per game while their opponents averaged forty-eight.

Top scorers for the season were Rhonda Wibright, senior, and Kristy Mouser, junior.

"We had peaks and valleys in our shooting," explained Coach McArthur.

Rhonda was also the top rebounder averaging seven rebounds per game.

Kristy was the top free-thrower, making sixty-one percent of the shots attempted.

Laura Meier, senior, and Michelle Twitt, senior, were chosen as the team captains at the awards banquet.

"The best part about being captain was being able to share it with my best friend, Laura," explained Michelle.

Linda Zimmerman, senior, was awarded the sixth player award.

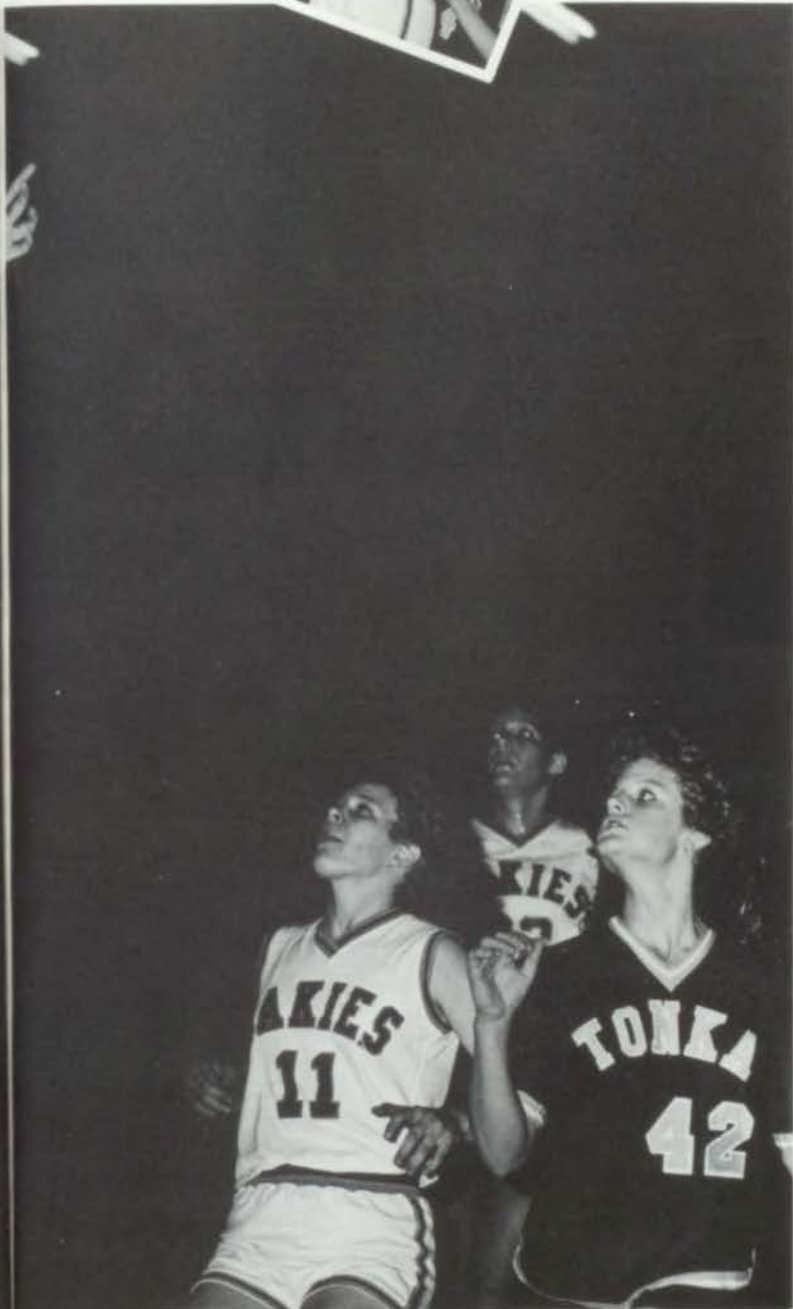
"I was really surprised because I didn't expect it. I was out on crutches for two weeks," said Linda.

The 1987 Miss Basketball award was earned by Rhonda Wibright.

"I was real excited to know that my teammates chose me. It was an honor to know that they thought that much of me to choose me for it. I was honored," explained Rhonda.

The Most Valuable Player award was given to Kristy Mouser.

Rhonda Wibright was chosen for the All-Northland team, while Kristy Mouser was chosen for the All-Conference and the All-Northland teams.



State Wrestlers most since '68

• by Michele Tunnell

Self confidence, determination, independence, self control . . . all qualities of a good wrestler according to Coach Mark Mundell. All of these and a lot of sweat, made it possible for eight wrestlers to compete at state this year, the most Oak Park wrestlers sent to state since 1968.

Freshmen, Rickey Williams, sophomore, Randy Smith, juniors, Joe Gonier, Eric Sapp, and Bill Shaddox, and seniors, Carl Cessor, Tim Lake, and Kevin Perkins all got a chance to show the best of their ability in the Missouri State Wrestling Championship at the University of Missouri in Columbia.

"After putting in four years of punishment, it finally paid off," said Tim.

"I was scared but I knew it was something I had always wanted to do," Rickey said when he first found out he was going to state.

To make it to state a lot of dedication is required during all of the wrestling season. Each wrestler had his own way of leading up to their position as one of the top 16 wrestlers in the state.

"I always wrestled with someone better than me," said Rickey. "If you wrestle someone that's better than you it helps when you get on the mat with someone lighter."

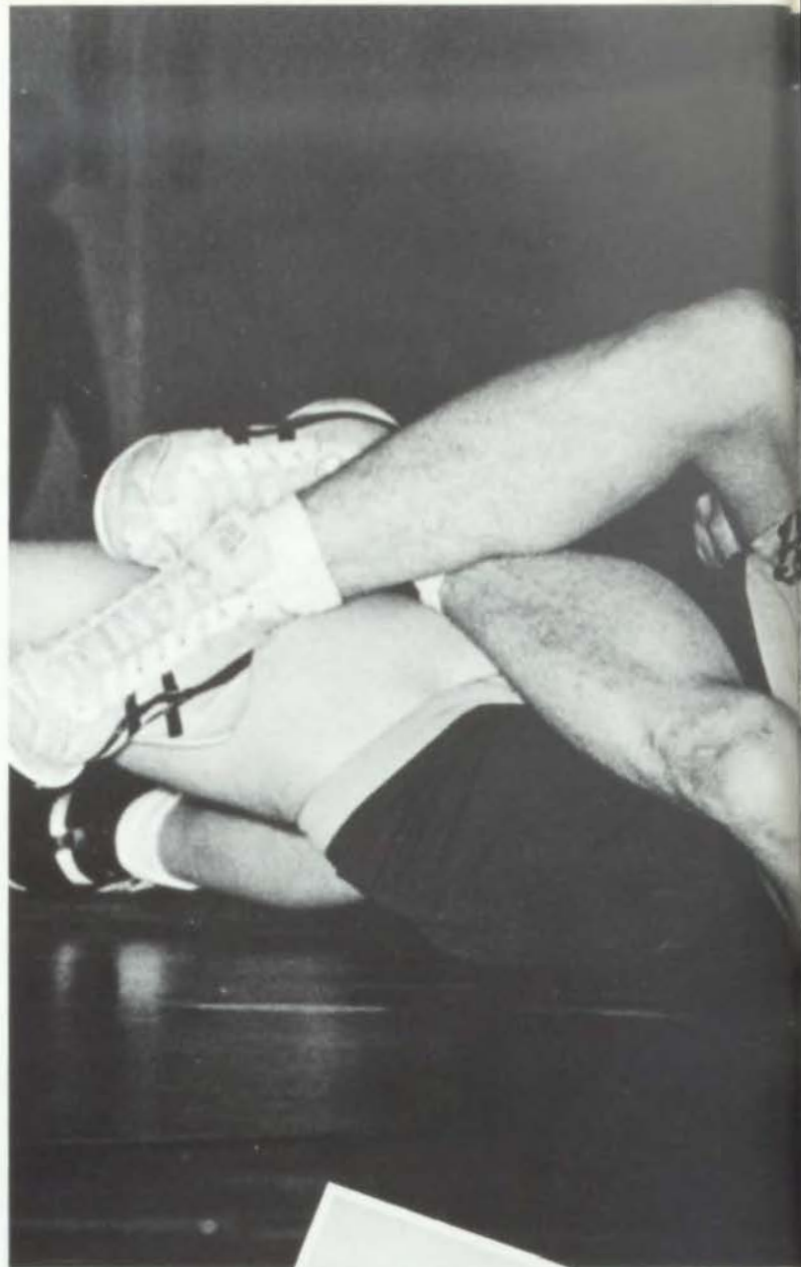
One of the things that all of the wrestlers tried to maintain was a good mental attitude. But the hard part was reflecting this attitude on the mat.

"I looked at the match (state) as a match just like in practice," Tim said. "If you push yourself you'll crack under pressure."

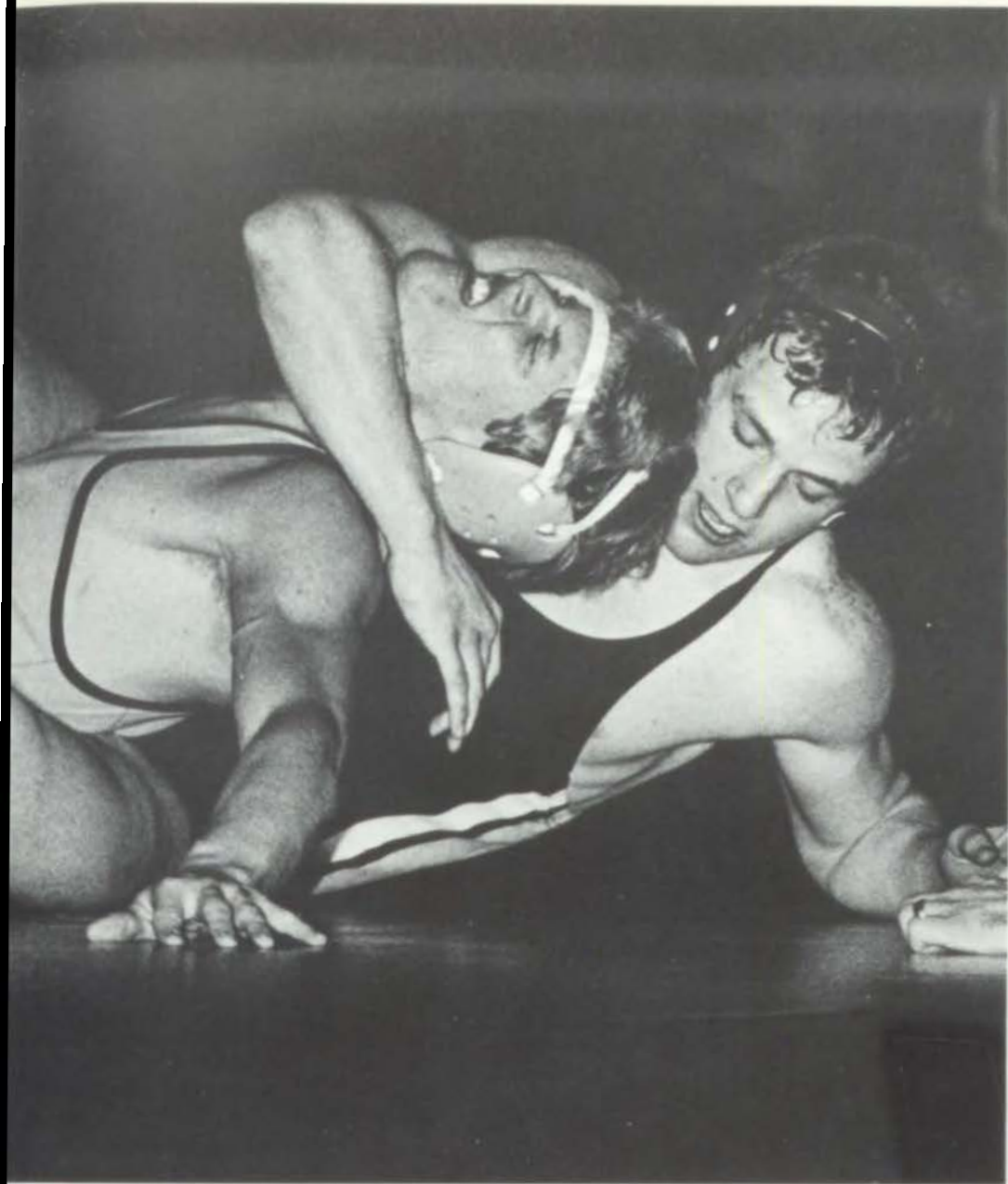
"I didn't talk before I went out on the mat," Eric said. "I tried to think about the match and what I had to do to win."

The state competition ended with Rickey first in the 105 pound weight division, Kevin second in the 138 pound division and Eric in fifth place in the 132 pound division.

"It was the most wrestlers we've sent to state since I think '68 and that speaks for itself," said Tim.



State champion, freshmen, Rickey Williams raises his hand in victory. (photo by Mark Strecker)



Leading Oak Park to another victory, Bill Shaddox, junior, attempts a crossface on his William Chrisman opponent. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

STATS

Standings

Oak Park	4.0:1	Blue Springs	2:3
Park Hill	4.0:1	Truman	1:4
Lee's Summit	3.2	Fort Osage	0:5

Scores

Oak Park	57	Ruskin	12
Oak Park	45	Truman	24
Oak Park	43	North Kansas City	24
Oak Park	40	Lee's Summit	21
Oak Park	29	Park Hill	29
Oak Park	51	Blue Springs	11
Oak Park	58	Fort Osage	11
Oak Park	41	Excelsior Springs	23
Oak Park	41	Winnetonka	21
Oak Park	61	William Chrisman	8
Lee's Summit Tournament			3rd place
Raytown South Tournament			1st place
North Kansas City Tournament			1st place
Winnetonka Tournament			3rd place
Oak Park Tournament			1st place
Districts			2nd place
State			7th place



Varsity Wrestling, front row — Steve Welch, Rickey Williams, Randy Smith, Troy Klith, Carl Cessor, Eric Sapp; second row — Marc Smith, Kevin Perkins, Joe Gonier, Bill Shaddox, Steve Denisar, Tim Lake, Jamie Beerup. (photo by David Cunningham)



Having an advantage on his opponent, Kevin Perkins, senior, goes for a pin. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

No Big Mac's only Wheaties

• by Michele Tunnell

Tension mounts as the scale is stepped upon. The weights move farther and farther up the scale. For weeks all that was eaten was fruit and vegetables (no McDonald's french fries or Big Mac's). As the scale is balanced perfectly at 119 pounds, all of the hard work and dedication paid off.

This scene was familiar for most wrestlers and not only did they work hard to lose weight, but also to build a winning team. This style of dieting and hard work paid off for freshmen, Rickey Williams, who won a state title.

"Two weeks before districts I had to lose weight," said Rickey. "I'd eat a candy bar right before practice and one for dinner."

The team as a whole won every meet and refused to take less than third place at any tournament.

"It was the best year I have had since I've been here," said senior, Tim Lake, who had wrestled all of his four years at Oak Park.

One advantage the team had was experience. Almost all of the wrestlers on the team had wrestled for three years or more.

"A lot of these kids have been wrestling for seven or eight years so they are experienced," Coach Mark Mundell said. "Plus, they support each other well on and off the mat."

Before each of the meets, the team would gather in the locker room and say a prayer. As one wrestler said, "it relieved the pressure." These prayers also "helped keep the team close."

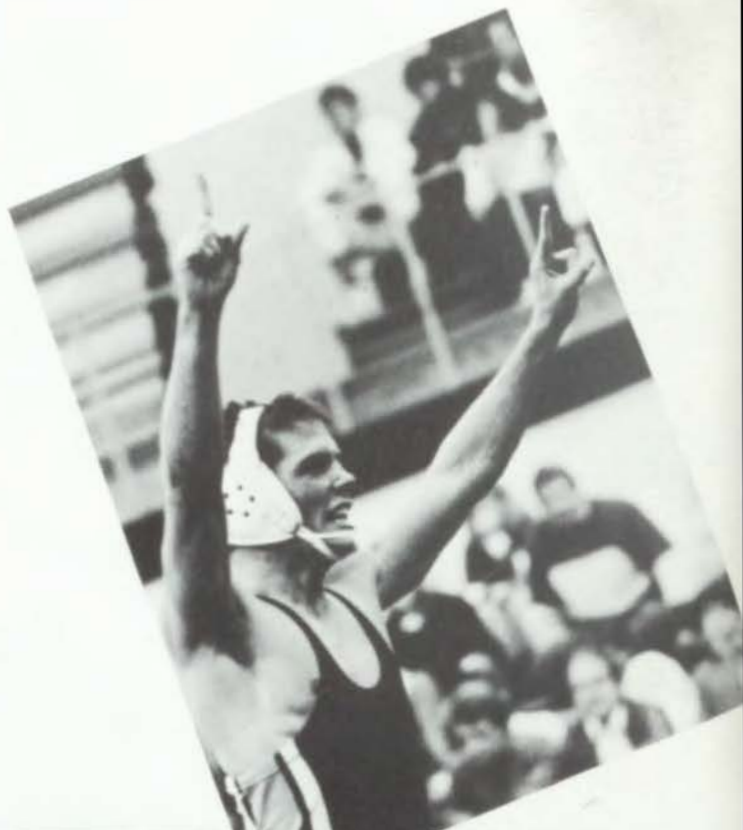
"I think it is important to have a closeness," said Coach Steve St. Louis.

"A good family learns to share the good and the bad," Coach Mundell said.

However, the team had more good to share than bad. They took first place in the Raytown South, North Kansas City, and Oak Park tournaments, second at Districts, and third in the Lee's Summit and Winnetonka tournaments.

"We took it slow at first and everyone peaked at the end of the year instead of the beginning," Eric Sapp, junior, said.

"What made us so good was the kids desire to win," Coach St. Louis said.



Accepting his victory gracefully, Eric Sapp, junior, gives a cheer of success. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Coaches Mark Mundell and Steve St. Louis give useful tips during a heavy match. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Junior Varsity Wrestling; front row — Steve Neer, Jeff Anderson, Brian Schmidt, Matt Heelan, Mark Peterson, Steve Sloniker, Paul Sneed, Paul Burkhalter; second row — John Stathopoulos, Dave Relford, Mike Jenkins, Rodney Reynolds, Noland Huff, Jim Turney, Eric Smith, Mike Roos. (photo by David Cunningham)



Freshmen Wrestling; front row — Chris Kemp, Steve Welch, Steve Nelson, John MacDonald, Jeff Bechham, Steve Neer; second row — Adam Ashcroft, Kevin Greer, Mark Peterson, Mark Reiter, Darrel Hulber, Debbie Sloniker, Stephanie Taylor, Sharon Morris; third row — Mike Vandenberg, Mike Roos, Toby Long, Trevor Walker, Rob Wibright, Dave Relford, Doug Noble. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Trying to overcome his opponent senior, Tim Lake, sets up for a pin. (photo by David Zimmerman)

As the only four-time state baseball champions, Oak Park players proudly hold up their championship trophy after defeating Lafayette, 9-8.

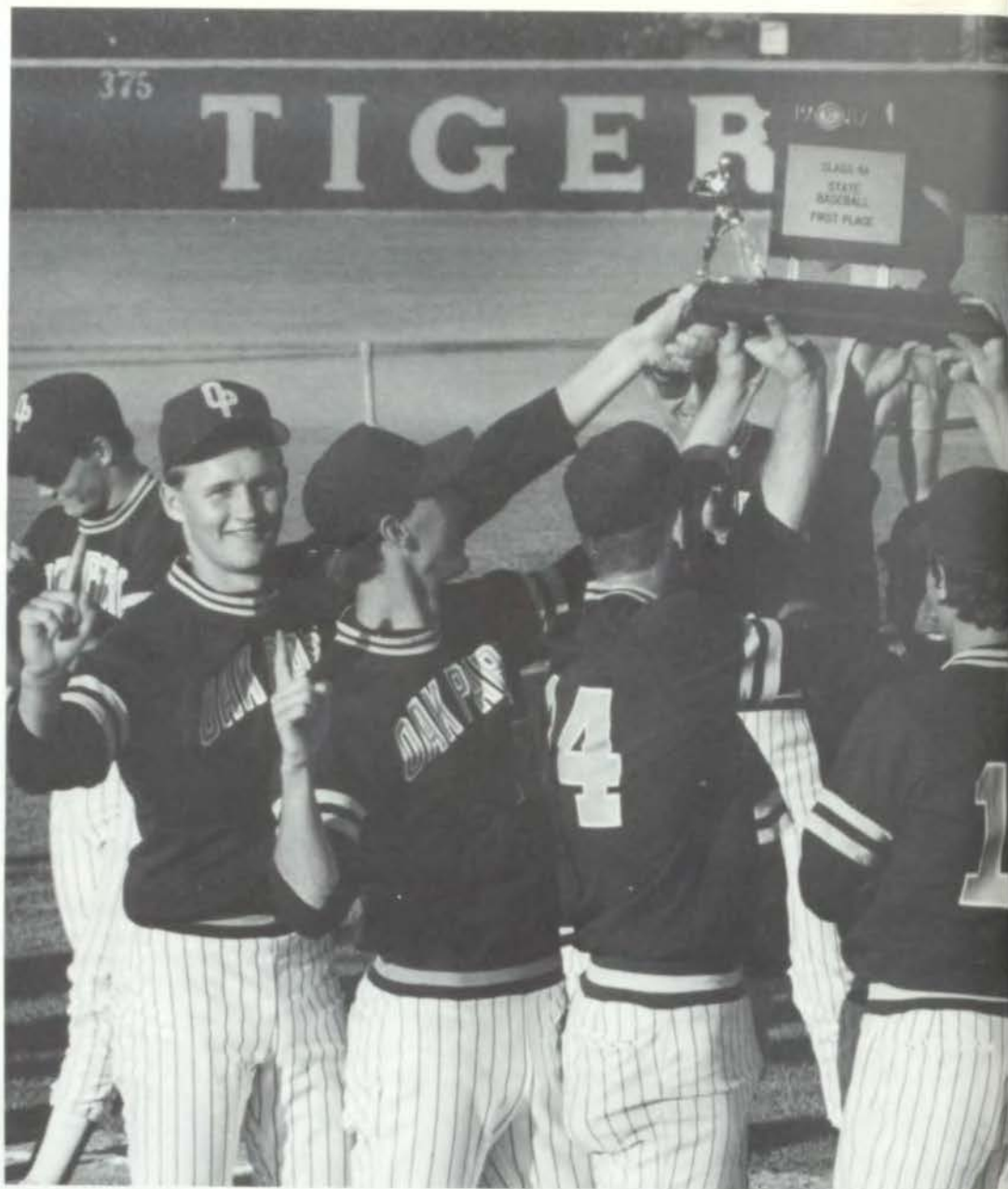
STATS

Standings

Oak Park	8-2	Lee's Summit	5-5
Truman	8-2	Fort Osage	2-8
Blue Springs	7-3	Park Hill	0-10

Scores

Oak Park	27	Fort Osage	2
Oak Park	9	North Kansas City	3
Oak Park	9	Lee's Summit	14
Oak Park	14	Hickman Mills	7
Oak Park	5	Truman	2
Oak Park	12	Park Hill	7
Oak Park	12	Shawnee Mission West	5
Oak Park	17	Shawnee Mission West	7
Oak Park	11	St. Joe Le Blond	1
Oak Park	6	St. Joe Central	1
Oak Park	7	Fort Osage	0
Oak Park	8	Winnetonka	3
Oak Park	12	Raytown South	0
Oak Park	7	Lee's Summit	4
Oak Park	14	Truman	2
Oak Park	10	Park Hill	6
Oak Park	12	Blue Springs	4
Oak Park	4	Blue Springs	5
Oak Park	10	Raytown	2
Oak Park	7	Winnetonka	4



Delivering a crucial pitch in the state finals, Jeff Herrington cuts loose with a fast ball.

Varsity baseball: front row — Joe Gonier, Brant Prather, Sittichoke Huckuntod, Mark Johnson, Jim Williams, Eric Sapp; second row — David Roggy, Brent Guglielmino, Shane Chester, Jimmy Donaldson, Jeff Neimeier, Jeff

Norman; third row — Andy Braams, Jeff Herrington, Brian Berkley, Jeff White, Shawn Lewis, Mark Haskins, Coach Cam Jury. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Big wins bring State to OP



• by Jennifer Snow



"It's not over til it's over."

That old baseball adage was never more true than in the Missouri State baseball final game as Oak Park squeezed past St. Louis County Lafayette, 9-8, on a dramatic putout by David Roggy at the plate on the last play of the game.

The win gave the Northmen their fourth State baseball crown, a Missouri high school record. They also won titles in 1968, 1969, and 1983.

Jeff Herrington, senior, got the win with help from juniors Andy Braams and Shane Chester. Jeff White, senior, homered for the Oakies.

To get to the finals, Oak Park defeated Jefferson City, 7-0 in the semi-finals and North Kansas City, 12-0, in the quarters.

Mark Johnson, senior, led the way in the semi-final game with three doubles and two RBIs. White also homered for the Northmen.

"We had set a goal to work harder and win the state championship ever since last year when we lost the state quarterfinals," Brent Guglielmino, senior, said.

Not only did hard work and a goal help the Oakies to a winning season but a new head coach drove them further.

"Coach Jury was kind of like one of the guys," said Guglielmino.

Coach Jury was, in fact, once "one of the guys." A former Oak Park student, he pitched for Oak Park's teams in 1966 and 1967 before pitching for William Jewell College where he was All-American. He then played for the Chicago Cubs Rookie league before returning to Oak Park as only the second head baseball coach in the history of the school.

"It felt great to be number one," Coach Jury said. "Everyone strives to be on top. It's a feeling of satisfaction that the hard work paid off."

Oak Park finished their season with the most wins in the school's history and a 24-2 record.



Making the game-winning play, David Roggy blocks the plate and tags out the Lafayette runner, giving the Oakies a 9-8 win.

Returning Oakie, Cam Jury, only second head baseball coach in Oak Park history coached his team to an 18-2 season and a title of number one in the city. (photo by Mitze Craft)

Shawn Lewis, senior, takes a cut during a Lee's Summit / Oak Park game. (photo by Mary Beall)

Junior Varsity baseball: front row — Joe Gonier, Mike Hanes, Jeff Anderson, Chris Schultz, Eric Sapp; second row — Coach Keith Ross, Mike Burkhalter, Sal Montalbano, Paul Burkhalter, Matt Kiser, Benny Alcantar, Scott Marsh, Coach Craig Lewis; third row — Tim Allen, John Walter, Rodney Weymuth, Todd Nugent, Scott Martenson, Brian Boydston



Freshmen Baseball: front row — Steve Cordle, Adam Ashcroft, John Morlan, Chris Spinola, Ron Dyer; second row — Manager Andrea Lambert, Chad Montgomery, Bill Kirk, Kevin Greer, Phil Lanio, Randy Sloniker, Coach Ken Steeples; third row — David Johnson, Sam Allison, Steve Burdick, Don Beck, Mike Otterman, Brad Jackson, Dave Relford



Records fall for Oakie hitters



• by Jennifer Snow

Records were meant to be broken. That was the season game plan for the varsity baseball team. The help of a new head coach, extra batting practice, and a drive to be successful contributed to the team being number one in the city and breaking almost every personal and team record.

"We knew we had a great team and all we had to do was just prove it to others," said Shane Chester, junior. "Our drive to show others and prove ourselves helped make us number one in the city."

Attitudes such as this and extra batting practice gave the team a 24 - 2 regular season and a batting average of .415, the highest in Oak Park history.

The players attributed much of their success to new head coach, Cam Jury.

"He worked us harder and kept us in good condition," said David Roggy, senior.

The hard work paid off with statistics such as 262 runs, 304 hits, 220 runs batted in, and 57 homeruns, all breaking past records of Oak Park baseball history.

Not only were records broken by the team but by individuals themselves.

Mark Johnson, senior, broke season records with a .528 batting average 37 hits, and 20 extra base hits.

"Breaking records doesn't matter as much if we didn't go to state," said Johnson.

Not only were season records broke but career records as well. Sitchoke Huckuntod, senior, finished off the regular season with career records such as a .417 batting average, 99 hits, 14 homeruns, and 125 total bases to name a few. Teammates, coaches, and local news recognized Huckuntod's achievements.

"I thought the interview was embarrassing but it was a lot of fun being on t.v.," said Huckuntod.

Extensive running and extra batting practice helped some players. However, pre-season conditioning helped Jeff Herrington, senior, end a regular season of pitching with 5-0.

"The attitude at the first practice made the team different this year. They decided they wanted to be successful and spent extra time hitting," said coach Jury.



Trying to add to the record number of runs, David Roggy, senior, takes a lead off third base. (photo by Mary Beall)



Records set by achieving goals

• by Sandy Gilpin

Being mentally prepared, giving 110 percent, work to win, to never quit, and win or lose as a team were some of the goals the softball team had for the season.

"We were a young team, so experience wise, we weren't that good but we were all confident," said Laura Meier, senior.

Though the team was young, they pulled together to achieve some new school records.

The team tied the number of homeruns (10), stole the most bases (48), had the highest team batting average (.353), and they had the most wins (16-4) in the history of Oak Park softball.

Christi Criscione, sophomore, helped to accomplish the most stolen bases record by her record of stealing eleven bases this year.

She also had a record for the most walks (27).

"Since this was my first year on varsity, I know what to expect next year, and I think I can beat my records," said Christi.

Likewise, Susan Meyer, junior, helped to achieve the new record of highest batting average with her average of .472. Two pitchers also made records. Katie Adamson, senior, had the most career wins of twenty. And Karie Kearns, sophomore, pitched the second "no hitter" in Oak Park history against Lee's Summit 10-0.

"A no hitter in softball is hard to do because you must have a good defense and ours was really strong," said Karie.

Laura also made records in softball for the most RBI's (31), most career stolen bases (22), career RBI's (70) and she tied the most career doubles (9).

"We got a lot done this year and we didn't give up," said Laura. "There wasn't much we could have done better because we broke so many records."



Stomping across the plate, Jill Hall, junior, makes a run for Oak Park. (photo by Mary Beall)





Winding up for the delivery, Karie Kearns, sophomore, pitches the ball against Blue Springs. (photo by Mary Beall)

STATS

Standings

Oak Park	9-1	Lee's Summit	3-7
Blue Springs	9-1	Lee's Summit	3-7
Park Hill	6-4	Truman	2-8
Park Hill	6-4	Fort Osage	1-9

Scores

Winnetonka	2-8	Blue Springs	3-5
Lee's Summit	12-5	Ray South	7-0
Ray South	16-10	Truman	8-9
Truman	9-6	Truman	9-6
Fort Osage	9-4	Park Hill	11-1
Northtown	13-3	Blue Springs	10-9
Park Hill	12-2	Kearney	14-0
Hickman Mills	11-4	Ray Peak	15-1
Lee's Summit	10-0	Park Hill	7-
			11
Fort Osage	11-9	Belton	10-3



Varsity First row - Shannon Armstrong, Karie Kearns, Jenny Briggs, Christi Crisone. Second row - Jennifer Field, Katie Adams, Susan Meyer, Laura Meier, Jennifer Shaw, Meike DeBoer, Michelle Reiter, Jill Hall, Christie Wilson, Barry Fisher. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Discussing a previous play, Jenny Briggs, sophomore, and Michelle Reiter, junior, help each other learn from their mistakes. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Title divided among two teams

• by Sandy Gilpin



They exceeded my expectations from the beginning of the season," said softball coach Linda Jones.

The softball team started out their season with a loss to Winnetonka 2-8. But from then on, the Oakies began to establish themselves.

"At the beginning of the year I didn't know what to expect but when we played a few games, I knew we were good and we'd do great," said Jill Hall, junior.

After the Winnetonka game the team picked up confidence and wanted to prove they were good.

The girls won the next nine games and then lost to Blue Springs 3-5.

The Oakies learned from that loss. Jennifer Shaw, senior, learned "if we made one mistake, don't make another one, and keep your head up."

After the Blue Springs game they went into the William Chrisman tournament and placed second.

Next came the 'spark that lit the fire'.

Oak Park defeated Blue Springs in another match 10-9. Until the top of the seventh, Oak Park was ahead 8-1. Blue Springs came back to lead 8-9. In the bottom of the seventh, Christie Wilson, junior, had two RBI's that won the game for Oak Park 10-9.

"Beating Blue Springs was the highlight," said Jill. "It was for conference title and a really good game."

The team ended the season by receiving third place in the Blue Springs tournament.

Although the Oakies may have wanted the honor all to themselves, they shared the conference title with Blue Springs 9-1.

"We should be proud to be right up there with them (Blue Springs)," said Laura Meier. "We had a great season and it was a nice way to end since it was my senior year."



Rounding third base, Laura Meier, senior, heads for home in the game against the Park Hill Trojans. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



After a victory with Fort Osage, Coach Linda Jones, talks over the game with the players. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Protecting home plate, Jennifer Shaw, senior, prepares to tag a Fort Osage runner out. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



JV First row- Chrstine Mitchell, Michelle Blay, Meagan Lary, Wendy Steele, Carol Dobney, Diana Lincoln. Second row- Barry Fisher, Ann Gonner, Amy Meier, Brenna Prather, Mary Meier, Kelly Anderson, Cheryl Doak, Nancy Sims, Amy Zimmerman, Helena Ripalti.



Freshman First row- Amy Rathgaber, Amy Brooks, Dena Salsbury, Jennifer McCann. Second row- Beth Henson, Renee Ricketts, Rebecca Thompson, Paula Michaels, Caroline Peuker, Heidi Brennen, Christina Dewald.



STATS

Big Six Track Meet Standing

Blue	219 1/2
Springs	
Lee's Sum- mit	119 1/2
Park Hill	114
Truman	38
Oak Park	37
Fort	26
Osage	



Struggling for victory, Joel Mitchell, senior, and Mike Walls, junior, compete in the 110-meter high hurdles at districts. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Arching his back for extra height, Kyle Belvill, junior, makes it over the high jump. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Boys track Front row: Managers Tammy Johnson, Karen Chrisman, Kevin Kolka, Joel Anderson, Chris Riley, David Whitcraft, Jim Baker, John Sanstra, Jason Bainter, Craig Fears, Managers Heather Lane, Barbie Hawkins Second row: Ralph Baldston, Joey Thorton, Jerrel Osborn, Ed Doolin, Brad Green, Mike Vandenberg, Sean Murphy, Chris Griffin, Derek Spradlin, Managers Tracy Chrisman, Tammy Molleson Third row: Jeff Hurst, Tom Black, Cory Strother, Scott Olson, Bryan Hammer, Mike Marquez, Victor Acosta, Toby Long, Scott Robeson, Doug Noble, Bretton Pearl Fourth row: Jeff Campbell, Rick Judy, Chris Webster, Bill MaGrone, Jason Rincker, Charlie Walberg, Brad Rickleffs, Jason Stevens, Joe Roos, Jon Mills, James Ackerman, Kyle Belvill, Matt Gasswint Fifth row: Chris Stuart, Rick Judy, Kevin Jumps, Todd Marsh, Joel Mitchell, Mark Kelly, Mike Walls, Joe Reid, Dallas Smith, Jason Hasenohr, Brian Overturf, Shane Hagen, Mike Nagy, Van Maier Back row: Tim Blake, Rich King, Jamie Beerup, John Lutgen, Matt Lightfoot, Steve Lundy, Kelly Kavanaugh, Mike Vold, Phil Roades, John Rapp, Steve Trischler. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Rebuilding a track obstacle



• by Jill Hall



wasn't good at anything else and I thought how hard can running be," said Corey Struther, freshman.

Very hard, according to head boys track coach Mr. Darryl Cotter, because Oak Park is part of the Big Six Conference which he feels is one of the toughest in the state.

The competition within conference was harder this year, according to Joel Mitchell, senior.

"There was only one fast guy last year in my event and there were three or four this year," Joel said.

Running was not the only skill it took for team to be successful.

"It takes coordination and time to develop skills," said Mike Walls, junior.

Those were things Mr. Cotter helped the athletes develop during practices.

"Cotter is a great coach, very inspiring. His work-outs are extremely helpful in building endurance," said Joel.

Mr. Cotter feels he knows what to stress during practice because he said track was his favorite sport in high school.

"It's an individual sport. You race against a clock, and you can only get better and better," he said.

Mr. Cotter's help paid off this year for two track runners. Oak Park sent Joel and Mike to state in Columbia, Joel in the 300-meter intermediate hurdles, and Mike in the 110-meter high hurdles. Mike went on advancing to finals where he placed eighth.

"I didn't run my best time, but next year I think I have a really good chance at medaling because there weren't many underclassmen," Mike said.

The competition was tough and there were more competitors than Mike thought there would be.

"I have never been so nervous before my race. So many guys down there looked intimidating," said Mike.

Competing in all events is not the only thing that makes a good athlete. Each year boys track votes for Mr. Track, which is a senior who has helped the team the most, physically or mentally. This year's Mr. Track was Joel.

"It felt good to get Mr. Track because my brother got it too," he said.



Heaving a shotput, Phil Rodes, senior, tries to outdistance his opponents. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Sectional qualifier Kathy Brehm runs the 800 M open at Winnetonka. (photo by David Cunningham)

Girls track First row: Gail Broils, Denise Zvorak, Christy Walberg, Shannon Dillow, Anna Marie Morrissey, Stephanie Black, Jenny Plush, Karla Steele, Shauna Haddix Second Row: Dee Dee Davies, Beth Stinard, Jennifer Verbeck, Tara Tischinski, Lisa Pollard, Lynn Wicks, Danna Cooley, Tracy Byers, Lisa Lindsay Third row: Emily Nelles, Larissa McDonald, Tara Ciarrocchi, Tina Campbell, Laurie Scalici, Jane Devers, Deana Lane, Anne Hagan, Susan Nyen, Stephanie Shinkle, Kay Dewhurst, Amy Eastland, Ellen Hagsten Fourth row: Carol Kester, Jennifer McLaughlin, Jill Graves, Debbie Hale, Amy Quinn, Melissa Nagy, Elisa Atwell, Allison Sakata, Kathy Brehm, Stephanie McIntyre, Sheri Coffey, Amy Pinnick, Kim Willis, Coach Krohne Fifth row: Tracy Fair, Michelle Leverich, Cindy Kirkland, Carson Young, Missy Atkins, Lynette Pither, Shannon Shugart, Renee Leverich, Carol Cross, Renee Reynaud, Kristin Kelco, Jennifer Potter, Melanie Heinen, Darla French, Kathy Alber, Coach Hiatt Sixth row: Jennifer Cindrich, Lori Kaster, Candace Kaster, Kristin Kaylor, Leslie Parkhurst, Marlene Carlisle, Nikki Elliot, Debbie Bishop, Kim Heins, Amy Bunnell, Brooke Warner, Robin Reese, Missy Kothe, Shannon Coffey (photo by David Cunningham)



STATS

District Meet	11th
Conference Meet	6th
St. Joe Central relays	4th
Ruskin relays	8th



In the 1600 M relay, Amy Quinn, sophomore, hands off to Kristin Kaylor, sophomore, at the North Kansas City triangular. (photo by David Cunningham)



Season called building process



• by Bob Randall

A building process. This was how the 1986-87 year for the girls' track team was described. There were only four seniors on the team, and this year was the first on the team for three of them. This lack of experience put a lot of pressure on the team's underclassmen.

Karla Steele was one of the three seniors on the team without experience.

"I decided to run to make my senior year go by faster," she said.

"We ran mostly freshmen, sophomores, and a few juniors in varsity positions, where they normally would run JV," said Fred Kester, head girls' track coach.

Daily workouts for the team tried to help along the building process of the members.

"Workouts were harder for me because I switched from sprinting like I did last year to running distances," Amy Quinn, sophomore, said.

Injuries made the team's building process even more difficult.

Shin splints caused by running on the hard track plagued many runners, forcing some to drop from the team.

Melanie Heinen, sophomore, injured her hip near the end of the season. "I was really disappointed because I couldn't finish the season after putting in all that work," she said.

"The injuries made many people have to run more events, distracting them from getting their best times," Coach Kester said.

There were three team members who qualified after the May 16 district meet at Blue Springs for the sectionals May 23-24 at Raytown South. Kathy Brehm, junior, qualified in the 800 M run, Jill Graves, junior, in the 200 M dash, and Candace Kaster in throwing the discus.

At sectionals, Kandace qualified for state, placing second. At the state meet on May 29-30, she placed 8th out of 16 competitors.



Candace Kaster, sophomore, hurls the discus at practice behind the school. (photo by David Cunningham)



Hopper places first in state

• by Tamela Simpson

Olympic athletes, nobel prize winners, and valedictorians all have one thing in common. They are the best of the best. This year David Hopper found out how it felt to belong in this elite group. After placing in state three years in a row, David captured first in state this year.

"It has been a goal of mine, since I was a freshman, to place in state all four years. I was really happy to place my senior year because I know I accomplished my goal," said David.

Success of the tennis team did not end with David, the whole team contibuted to make 1987 a winning season.

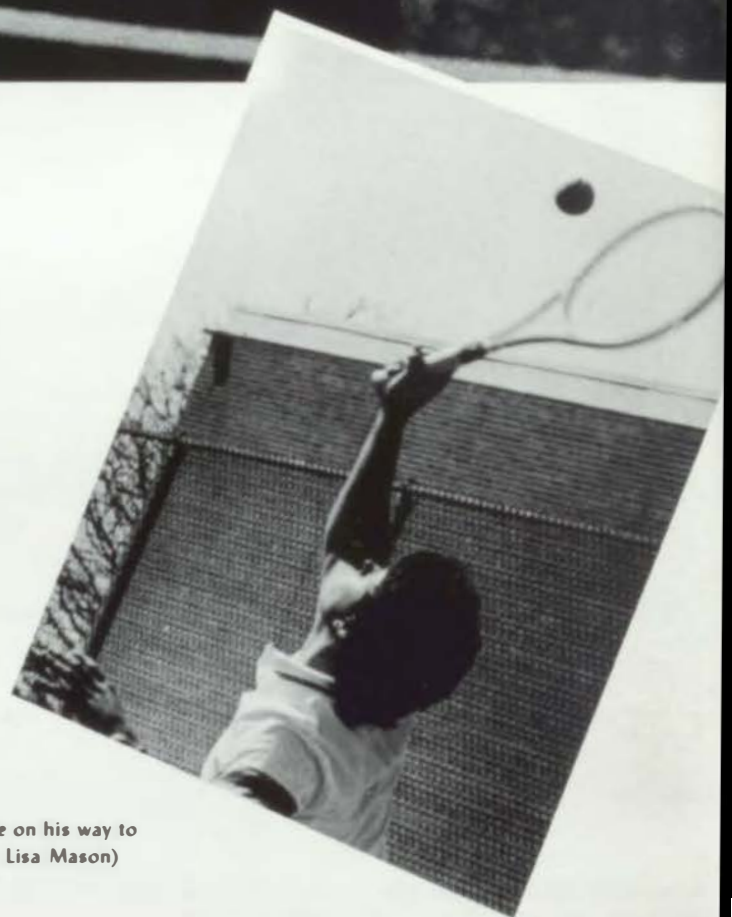
Mr. Mike Bennett felt the reason why the team did so well was because of experience.

"Most of my athletes played during the summer in conference and took private lessons. It is an advantage if they take private lessons," said Coach Bennett.

Even though the team was strong, the suspension of four varsity players shattered the team's goal of being undefeated. "We (four varisty players) were suspended from a match because we went to a Royals game. Other people had to play our matches for us so we lost to Truman 5-0. If we would have won we would have been tied with Park Hill for conference," said T.J. Salmon, junior.

"We lost our goal of being undefeated. As an individual I had something to work for but as a team we didn't," said Hopper.

The 1986-87 tennis team ended their season by placing second in districts, second in conference, and third as a team at state.



Jay Crockett, senior, serves up an ace on his way to a conference meet victory. (Photo by Lisa Mason)

State champion David Hopper, senior returns a serve with an air of determination. (photo by Lisa Mason)



STATS

Standings

Big six suburban conference	2nd place
St. Joe Central Tournament	4th place
Conference Tournament	3rd place
District Tournament	2nd place

Scores

Winnetonka	9-0
St. Joe Central	3-6
Truman	0-5
Lee's Summit	3-2
Lee's Summit	3-2
Fort Osage	5-0
Blue Springs	4-1
Blue Springs	3-2
Pembroke Hill	4-5
Park Hill	3-2
Park Hill	2-3
Rockhurst	4-1
Truman	4-1
North Kansas City	5-4



Boys Tennis First row- Coach Mike Bennett, Scott Conley, James Flanagan, Scott Herring, Steve Evans, Jay Crockett, David Hopper, Brad Evans, T.J. Salmon, Jeff Johnson, Corey Thomas, Scott Osborn, Amy Francis, manager. Back row- David Resch, Danny Hernandez, Stuart Muehl, Jeff Canty, Scott Hagen, Allen Sampson, Sean Hendskog, Mike Justice, Jon Shaw, Mike Roos, David Sierbert, Jim Reeves, Ryan Barnett, Mike Rollofsz, Dwayne Bargfrede, Jennifer Allivato, manager (photo by David Cunningham)



Coach Bennett discusses the strategy of the next play. (photo by Lisa Mason)



Golf strokes exceed par

• by Brenda Heffron



There have been many people who have tried to fit a size 10 foot into a size 8 shoe with little success. However this was not true with the Oak Park golf team. The team managed to fit seven varsity players into five varsity positions.

"There were two guys better than me and I was better than the rest. It made me try harder because I wanted to keep my position," said Steve Smith, junior.

"Having seven players was bad because all of us were capable of playing varsity. If you shot badly you were moved to junior varsity, which gave us the incentive to try harder to play better," explained Matthew Ward, senior.

Two of their best matches were against Blue Springs and the Winnetonka tournament, but both were lost. The Winnetonka match was lost by one stroke and the team was defeated by Blue Springs by five strokes.

"In the last couple of matches we got it together and shot well. It all came together for everyone at the same time," said Coach Gus Baker.

"Blue Springs was considered one of the best teams. We felt and still feel that we could have beaten them," said Matthew.

Stephen Turner was the only varsity player from Oak Park to qualify for state.

"It felt good to qualify for state because I was one of the only one from the Northland area," said Stephen.

Even with the over abundance of varsity players, the team did not experience their best season.

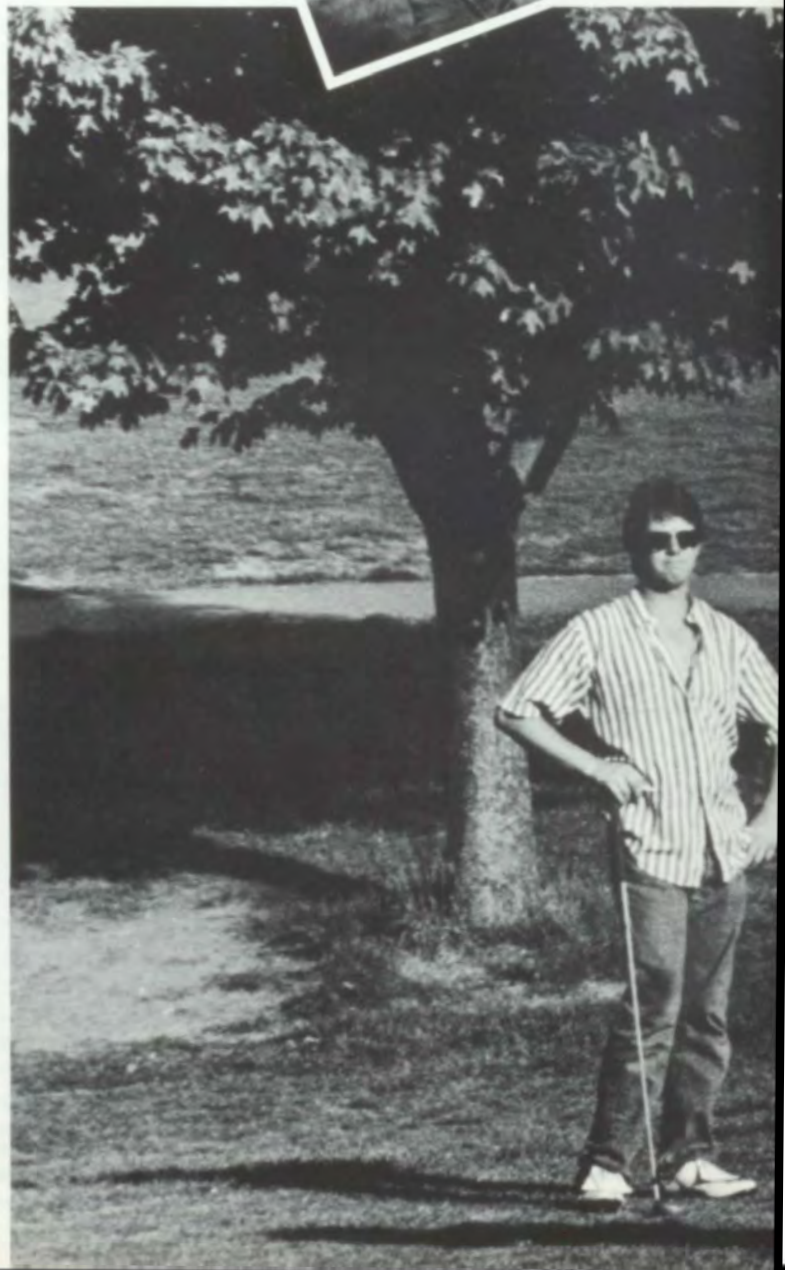
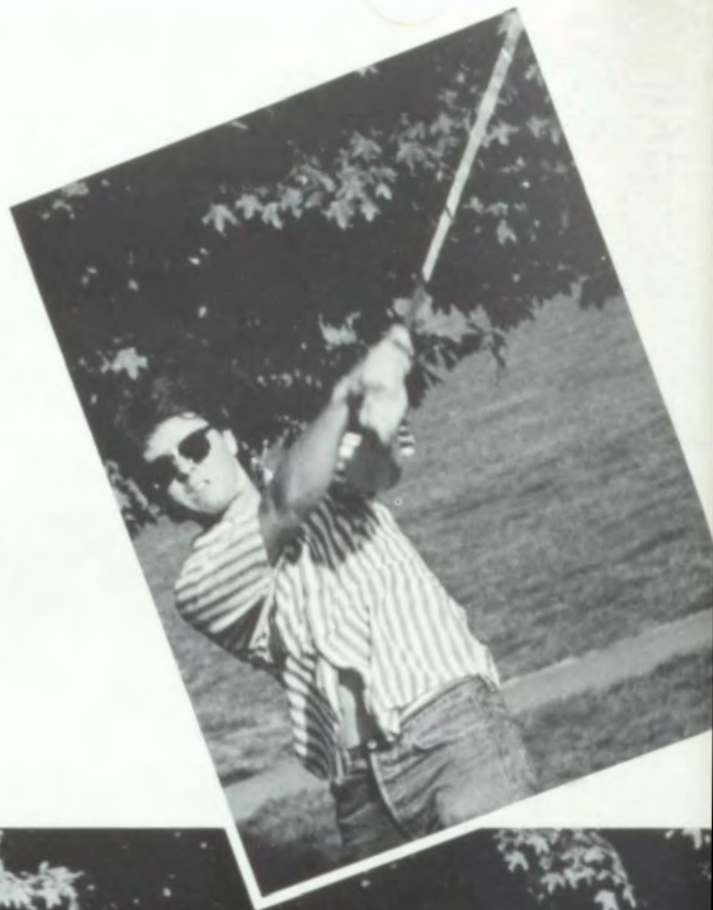
"We had good potential. During our matches a few would play well and the rest would not, at the next match it would be the opposite. We couldn't all play well at the same time," explained Steve.

"I do not think we did well because it seemed nobody cared. We had good potential but poor attitudes," said Troy Ferrero, junior.

"Even though we didn't do too well I think the team had a lot of good times together," explained Steve.



Lofting the ball into the air. Alex Tinsley, senior, follows through with his swing as Matthew Ward, senior, looks on. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



With a look of determination on his face, Matthew Ward, senior, drives the ball with powerful force. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Golf Team: Back Row: Alex Tinsley, Jason Clark, Stephen Smith, Stephen Turner, Matthew Ward, Doug Beason Front Row: Jeff Olson, Mike Dorsey, Troy Ferrero, Bob Hanner, David Wall, Coach Gus Baker. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

STATS

Standings

Blue Springs	9-1
Park Hill	8-2
Lee's Summit	7-3
Oak Park	3-7
Truman	2-8
Fort Osage	1-9

Scores

Oak Park	182	Truman	178
Oak Park	174	Park Hill	172
Oak Park	171	Lee's Summit	162
Oak Park	170	Fort Osage	176
Oak Park	163	Blue Springs	158
Oak Park	177	Truman	187
Oak Park	164	St. Joe Cent.	171
Oak Park	176	Park Hill	164
Oak Park	161	Lee's Summit	155
Oak Park	175	Blue Springs	158
Oak Park	175	Fort Osage	186
Oak Park	173	Winnetonka	184



Watching the ball roll past the hole, Stephen Turner, junior, gives a look of disgust. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

S

by Kelly Reed

Something could be heard as a person walked into Oak Park. A teacher's lecture or a student's question cut the silence that filled the halls. It was the sound of learning, and could be heard down every hall from every classroom.

Many times, Oakies had a tendency to forget what the real purpose of school was. It slipped their minds that school was for reading assignments, not just socializing.

Since students wanted to have fun while learning, teachers planned field trips, VCR movies, and games like jingo in French class.

But school could not always be fun. Tests such as finals were a must to see how much was really learned.

From the irritating squeak of chalk on the board to the whirring of saws in shop class to the chattering "yard apes" in child development, the sounds of learning at Oak Park made an audio rainbow, but somehow tinged with that special Oak Park Blue.

Many seniors, like Linda Zimmerman, find themselves having to complete a term paper in Advance Composition before they are able to graduate. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Oakies were used to dancing to "Living on a Prayer", but to "Do-si-do"? Karen Gilliam and Kevin Cooper learn a new but old style of dance in gym class - square dancing. (photo by Mitzi Craft)





RRICULUM

Mr. Joe Spruytte keeps the students "in holding", informs about the fire and lets them know there would be no third hour classes for that day. (photo by Noeida Castro)



R

Real fire replaced planned tornado drill

• by Kelly Reed

A loud, obnoxious noise penetrated the halls of Oak Park, trying to alert everyone of the existing danger. Students and teachers alike thinking it was the tornado drill planned for that day, proceeded to tornado position. Confusion arose as Oakies realized the siren signaled not a tornado, but a fire.

"This is not a drill," came the voice over the intercom suddenly. "This is a real fire."

For the first time in Oak Park's 22 years, on March 11, the school caught on fire. The fire, which was allegedly set by an unknown student, caused an estimated \$2-4000 in damage and repairs.

Many Oakies were shocked when they learned that a fellow Oakie could actually plan to "endanger the lives of so many others."

"He (the arsonist) didn't think the consequences through. He was a person who had little or no concern for the welfare of others," said Dr. William Barber, English teacher, whose room was close to the fire.

There were Oakies who did care about the welfare of others. Clint Cook, Gallen Sellens, and Jason White, seniors, braved the flames and smoke to put the fire out.

"I was there and my first reaction was to put the fire out. I didn't even stop to think about it," said Gallen. "The worst part of the whole thing was the smoke. It was choking."

"I was there and my first reaction was to put the fire out. I didn't even stop to think about it."

Gallen Sellens
senior





Students were sent to the gymnasium to be kept "in holding" while debris left from the fire was cleaned up by faculty. (photo by Noeida Castro)

Having to clean the bathroom after the fire was no easy task and very time consuming for Mack Hunt and Clinton Dennis, custodians. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

The one thing Oakies will remember most about the fire was the smoke. The smoke was so thick, people could not see more than a few feet in front of themselves and as a result of the residue third period was not held. Students were put "in holding" in the Main Theatre and Big Gym, while the faculty cleaned the rooms near the fire.

"The thing that hit me first was how black it was in the hall," said Mr. Joe Spruytte, vice principal. "I thought there was a complete blackout. The thickness and blackness of the smoke really shocked me."

The seriousness of the fire was not experienced by everyone in the building. Students downstairs and across the building thought "it was just a joke". The people near the fire realized just how serious it really was.

"I thought it was just a joke, until I saw the smoke," said Charlie Walberg, sophomore. "Our LAPT tests were almost ruined by the soot."

"The people who were there (near the fire) were more impressed with the fact that it was a real fire," said Mr. Spruytte.

Though the smoke was thick no one panicked and everyone was efficient in exiting the building. No one seemed to mind standing outside in the cold for twenty minutes, according to Mr. Bob West, principal.

"I felt great about the entire student body being responsible citizens and handling the emergency so well," said Mr. West.



Distractions make work tougher

• by Aimee Rogers



"If I see you copying off anyone's paper, I will take both tests and you will both receive zeros. And remember - I'll be watching you!" the teacher says as he passes out the tests. That sounds like something Big Brother would say, you think.

And then you realize that your teacher is standing in front of your desk, glaring right at you . . .

This may sound like a nightmare on the night before finals, but for some students it almost represents reality. Glaring over students' shoulders while they are taking a test is only one annoying habit that many Oakies have to put up with in class.

Staci Bosse, junior, said, "Teachers that walked around when you were trying to take a test really annoyed me."

"It bothered me," said junior Mike Bogue. "It made me think I got a question wrong when they walked behind me and stared at my paper. He (my teacher) walked behind my desk and stared at my test for about ten minutes. Then he kind of chuckled and walked off."

Teachers watching tests being taken was not the only annoying habit in the classroom.

Kristy Reedy, sophomore, said, "When you were starting to take a test and the teacher slammed a ruler down on the desk-that annoyed me."

She explained, "We were all sitting

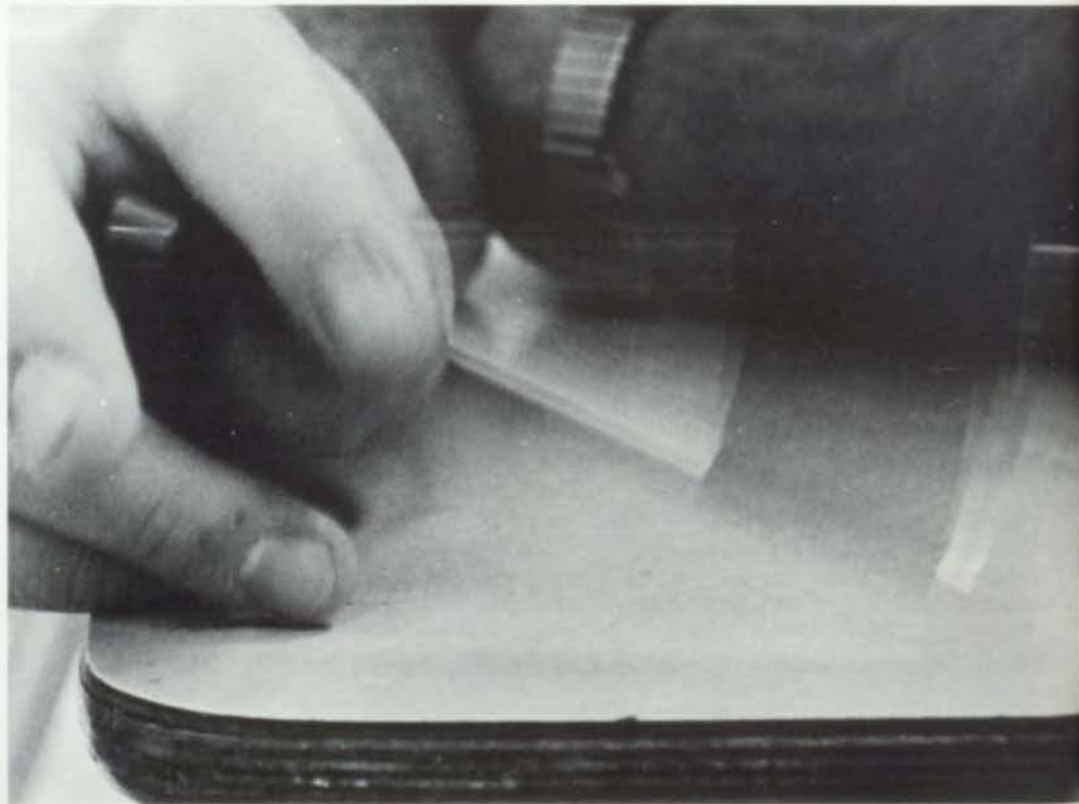
"When you're starting to take a test and the teacher slams a ruler down on the desk-that annoyed me."



-Kristy Reedy,
sophomore



Having your chair pushed forward by feet from behind was a distraction for many students. (photo by Lisa Mason)



there writing our test that he gave us, and then he slammed a ruler down on the desk and said he kinda sorta did it on purpose'. The whole class was upset. I don't think anyone thought it was funny."

She also added that she thought it affected her concentration when a teacher watched her closely.

"It bothered me when teachers erased the board with their hands, and it was yellow chalk. Then they wiped it on their pants and it left a big mark," said one senior girl.

Sometimes simple distractions became a form of torture for students.

Kristin Ahlerich, junior, said, "I had a teacher once who brought food for a demonstration and when she was through she ate it in front of us and didn't share it with us."

Mike said students bothered him, too.

"I hated it when people played with their hair," he said.

Kristin said, "I don't like people who kick my chair when I'm trying to work. But it really perturbed me when they put their feet on my chair and pushed it forward."

"Students bugged me when they tapped their pens on their desks for a long time," Staci said. She added, "I guess everyone does little things like that during class. It made the time go faster."



One student displays boredom by tapping his pen on his desk. (photo by Lisa Mason)

M

odern Technology found in Oak Park

• by Jenny Snow

Take away the sounds of chalk clicking on the chalkboard, rattling of papers, and the sound of pencils tapping. Replace all of these sounds with computer keyboards typing and printers printing. It could possibly be a classroom in the future according to many predictions. But all over Oak Park the future did not seem so far away.

Oak Park was the first school in the North Kansas City School District to use and store their own system and the first to use college micro-view to look for jobs. "I think the other schools will eventually get their own computer systems too," said Mr. Larry Blackwell, counselor. "It makes things so much easier."

The newest computer was in the Oak Park office. It was used to do all the scheduling for enrollment this year.

"We had a few difficulties but we got them worked out," said Mr. Bob West. "With over two thousand students there was a need for a quicker more organized way of doing things."

Not only was a computer found in the office but also in the counseling center.

"The primary use for the computer," said Mr. Bill Overbey, counselor, "was for schedule changing. However, it was also used for new students, recording BEST test scores, and averaging grade point averages."

Mr. Blackwell also used it for the college explore program, which helped students match themselves to colleges best suited for them.

Many teachers took a step toward the future like the administrators and counselors. Some got a computer for a hobby, such as Mr. Phil Jones, but found them to be useful tools in their line of work today. Most faculty such as Mr. Barry Kennedy used their computers to create handouts. Others such as Mr. Jones used it to average grades and record make-up work.

In the chemistry room Dr. Ken Kramme used the districts hook up to measure temperature, record conductivity experiments, and to keep track of supplies such as chemicals and equipment that needed to be ordered.

Many students preferred computer handouts to normal copied handouts.

"I used my computer to do homework such as essays, term papers, and to play games," said Brent Guglielmino, senior. "It saved me a lot of writing."

The administrators, counselors, teachers and students all took a step toward the future by using computers in their various ways. Most believe that within five to ten years every one will be required to know how to use a computer.

"With over two thousand students there was a need for a quicker more organized way of doing things."

- Mr. Bob West
Principal



Charts made by Dr. Ken Kramme's computer allowed chemistry students such as Blake Mathews, junior, to see experimental results. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Computers in the counseling center aided Mrs. Judy Eden, counselor, in scheduling and recording grades. (photo by Matthew Ward)



By popular demand, computer designed greetings, like that hung by Missy Moore, senior, decorated Oak Park lockers. (photo by Matthew Ward)



In a chemistry experiment, Meredith Roberson, senior, watches the test tube for changes. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Stephanie Nelson, Katie Paddock, seniors, and Trish Cassell, junior, are a few of many that contributed to the smokey smell of the smoking area. (photo by Lisa Mason)



The girls restroom was a common place to spray perfume. Here Lori Barber, senior, leaves a trace of Pearls & Lace. (photo by Lisa Mason)



S

mell was a 'sense'itive topic

• by June Sumerlin

Whether good or bad, students said the school definitely had a 'smell' all its own.

Among the many popular were hair spray from the girl's bathrooms, cigarette smoke from the teachers offices, food from the lunchroom, fresh-cut wood from the industrial arts room, sweat from the gym, paint from the art room, food from the home economics room, chemicals from the chemistry rooms, formaldehyde from the biology rooms and nail polish from various classrooms.

Most said they would be able to tell what part of the school they were in because of the smell if they were blindfolded.

"The gym always stunk," Stephanie Boling, sophomore said. "You could definitely distinguish it from other areas of the school."

"The industrial arts room usually smelled like warm and freshly cut wood," Audra Tuggle, senior said. "It smelled good compared to many other places in the school."

Some felt the lunchroom had its own odor.

"The smell of the food was gross at times," Stephanie said. "It was like the food was not real."

Others did not like when the biology classes would dissect because of the smell.

"The ventilation system did a pretty good job of transporting the burnt hair smell all over the school from the biology rooms," Mark Strecker, senior said.

"With one whiff of the formaldehyde, I would get sick to my stomach," Tami Soules, senior said.

"The students reactions were really never positive," Mr. Keith Smith, biology teacher said. "At first they did not like it, of course, but after a while they got used to it."

"I don't blame them, I got tired of smelling it too," he said.

Another smell many did not like was the smoke from the smoking area or the teachers offices.

"The smoking area made me sick. It was just a dirty smell," Audra said.

"I did not think it was fair that the students had an assigned area and the teachers could smoke in their offices," one Oakie said. "The smell drifted into the halls and it really got to me because it was so strong."

Many students did enjoy the smell of the halls when the home economics classes had food labs.

"The halls always smelled so good when they (home economics students) cooked," Leslie Treece, junior said. "It made you hungry."

Maybe instead of saying 'Something smelled fishy', some Oakies in remembering Oak Park could have said, 'Something smelled 'Oakie Dokie'.

"The ventilation system did a pretty good job of transporting the burnt hair smell all over the school from the biology rooms."

Mark Strecker
Senior



B

owling for grades - a renewed craze

• by Julie Clark

The student walks into the locker room - expecting to dress out and run 20 laps before the hour is up. But suddenly he realizes - today is the day that his class is saved from gym class by the "savior" sport - bowling.

For the past 22 years, the North Kansas City School District has allowed high school students to expand their education outside of the school at the local bowling alleys.

Freshmen gym classes were accompanied by similiar classes that mainly consisted of upperclassmen when they went bowling. All of the students paid a dollar before they boarded the bus on their various scheduled bowling days.

Participating students were graded on how much they bowled and on their scores, according to Mrs. Jane Stone, physical education teacher. Of course, to make everything fair to non-bowlers, handicaps were given.

Mrs. Stone felt that the students had wonderful scores.

"I don't think we're quite ready for the Professional Bowlers Association tour - but everyone did fine," she said.

Just like any other class, the main purpose of being there is to improve the student's skills.

"We were to improve our athletic skills in the sport of bowling," said Jon Lile, freshman.

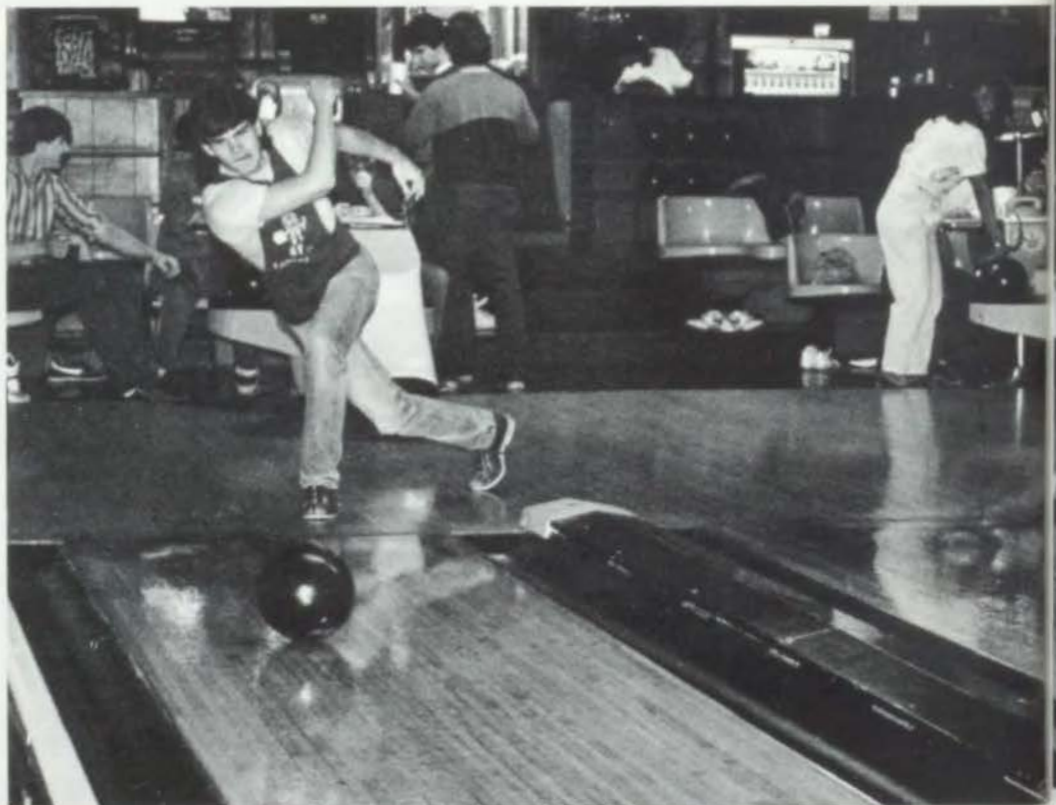
However, Mrs. Stone feels that it was a good learning experience.

□ "You learn to do something you'll do for the rest of your life."

*Mrs. Jane Stone
P.E. teacher*



The only "dressing out" Joey Thorton, senior, had to do was to change his shoes. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



"You learn to do something you'll do for the rest of your life," she said. "You reach a certain age when you can't play other sports anymore."

Mrs. Stone felt that people need to know how to bowl because later in life when they reach that certain age, they will want a place to go to meet people and to have fun.

"Bowling carries a lot of social connotations," she said.

Julie Dake, freshman, agreed.

"It was a great way to have fun with your friends," said Julie.

Even though Tara Paxton, an employee of Brunswick Gladstone Bowling alley, saw balls being dropped occasionally, she also saw an increase in student bowlers.

"Several of them do bowl in the junior leagues - the under 21 group," she said.

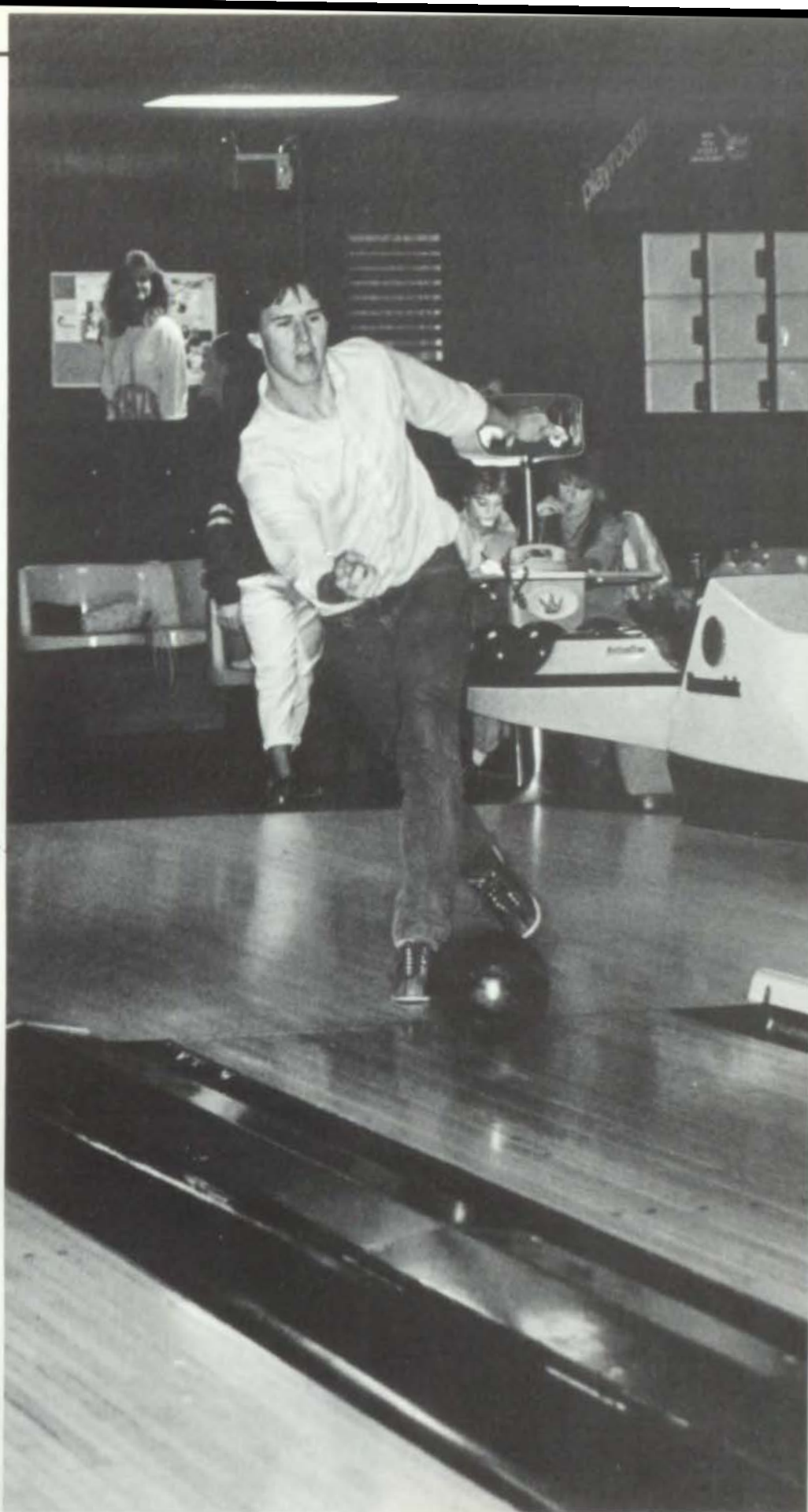
Many of the students felt that the best part of the bowling unit was leaving the school. It was an escape for them from gym's physical activity.

For Julie, the worst part was the embarrassment.

"I couldn't bowl - I made a complete fool out of myself," she said.

But for Sean Murphy, freshman, the required footwear was the worst part.

"We had to wear green and red shoes that clashed with whatever we wore," said Sean.



Bowling for grades, not dollars. Jeff White, senior, tries his luck. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

One of a hundred students, Jeff Roath, junior, follows through after releasing the ball. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



V

ideo tape 'saving grace' for students

• by Michele Tunnell

Sixth hour class starts. It is the last hour of a long and hard day. But after sitting through five hours of lectures, one more is just too much. The door to the room opens, all eyes turn expecting to see the teacher with a folder full of lecture notes. As he enters, students hear a familiar clicking sound. As they listen harder, they realize the familiar click is of an audio visual cart. "Hey," one student says, "it's the VCR."

That saving grace for students was their salvation for more than just sixth hour. As the year went on, VCR's showed up in classrooms more and more often.

"I think watching the tapes got the students rejuvenated and helped to get the class more interested in the subject they were learning about," senior, Becky Brink, said.

Some of the reasons for playing the tapes were not only for learning purposes, however. Some students claimed that teachers played video tapes for an easy way out of a lesson plan.

"It (the VCR) could certainly be used as an easy lesson plan," Miss Linda Alverson, RCG II and Advanced Composition teacher, said. "Most people used it to supplement something they learned in class."

"I think when some people saw you using a video tape, they thought you were

cheating," Mr. Gary O'Dell, World Studies teacher, said. "But I think it can help tell a story."

Mr. O'Dell has been called the "video junkie" of Oak Park. He and Mr. Joe De-grado got together the last two years to put together a video festival at Christmas and the end of the year for students. Many hours went into setting up for the festival. Did students appreciate this effort?

"Most students seemed to appreciate it but sometimes it didn't show on their faces," said Mr. O'Dell.

Even though the teachers used a VCR as a source of entertainment, or relaxation, they also used it as a teaching tool.

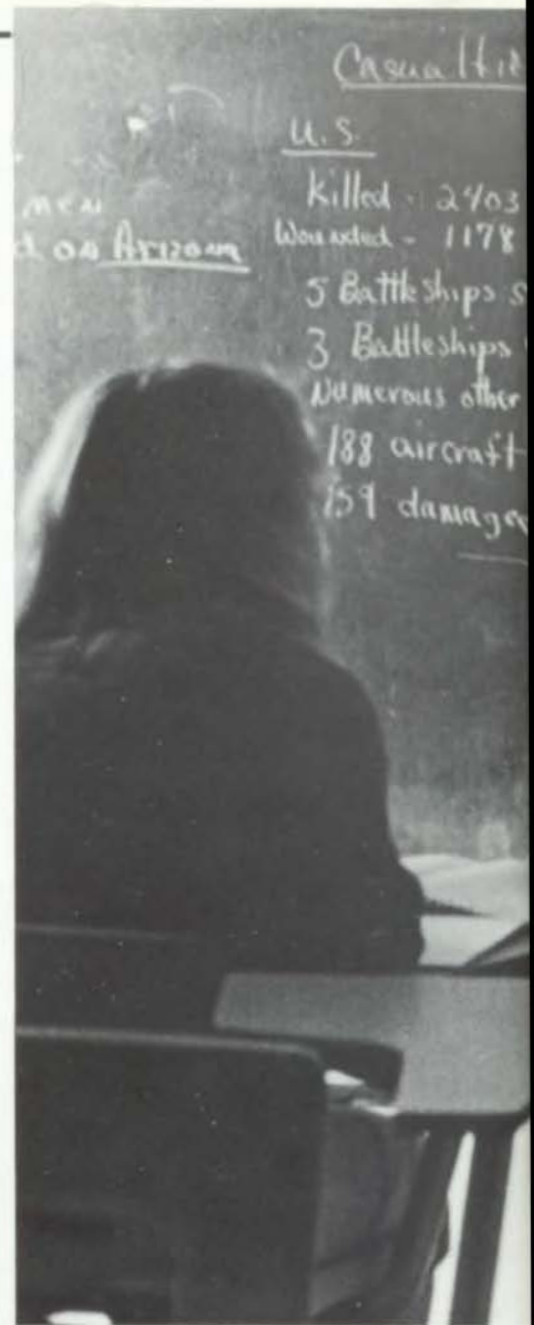
"It exposed them to some novels," Miss Alverson said about the literary video tapes she showed in class.

"Television will not replace a book or a good discussion but it gave a common ground to study," Mr. O'Dell said.

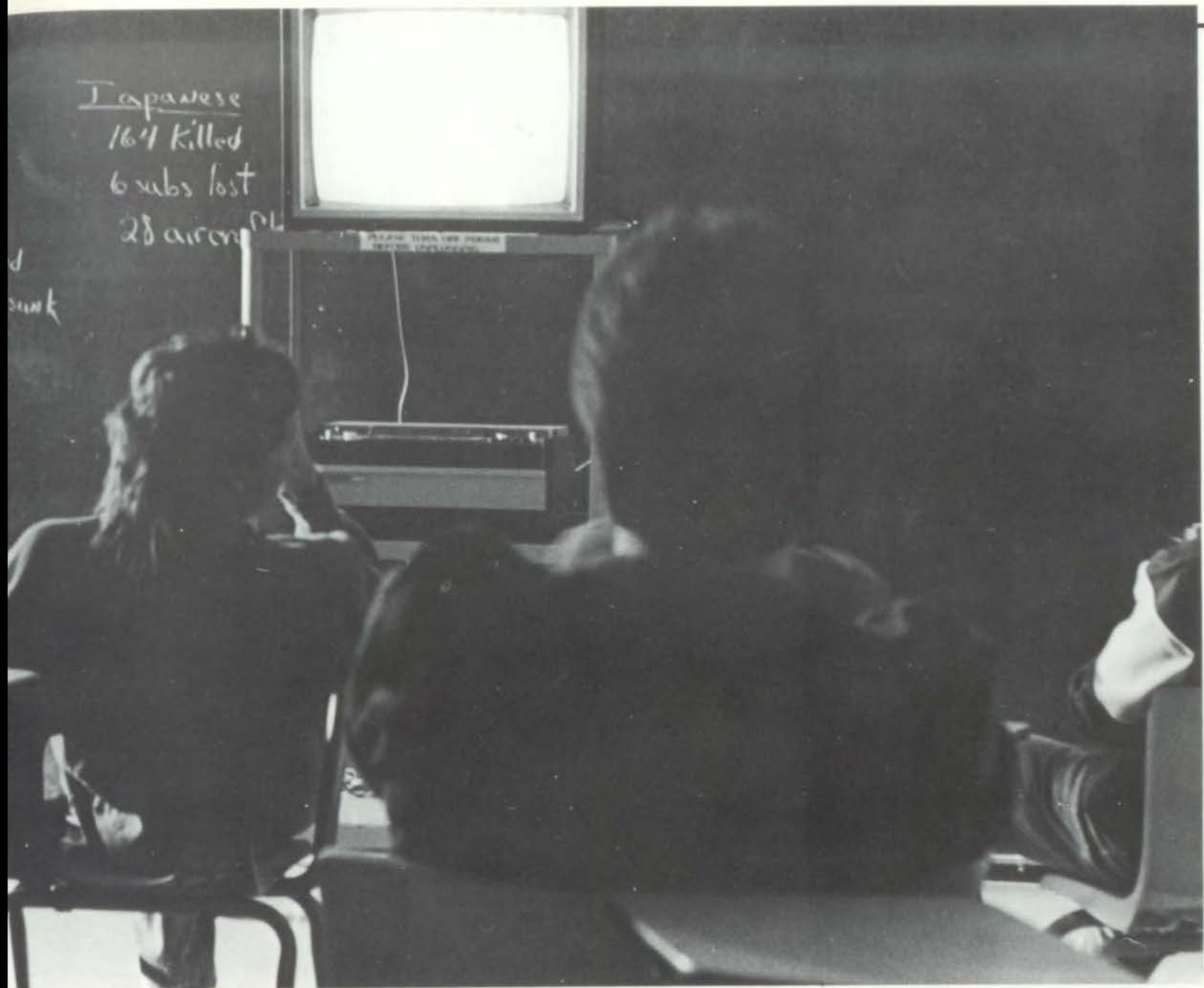
Some people claim that a VCR takes students away from reading and finding out facts by themselves. Yet, as Edward R. Murrow once said, "The instrument (video tapes) can teach, it can illuminate, yes, and it can even inspire. But it can do so only to the extent that humans are determined to use it to those ends. Otherwise it is merely lights and wires in a box."

"I think watching the tapes got the students rejuvenated and helped to get the class more interested in the subject they were learning about."

-Becky Brink,
senior

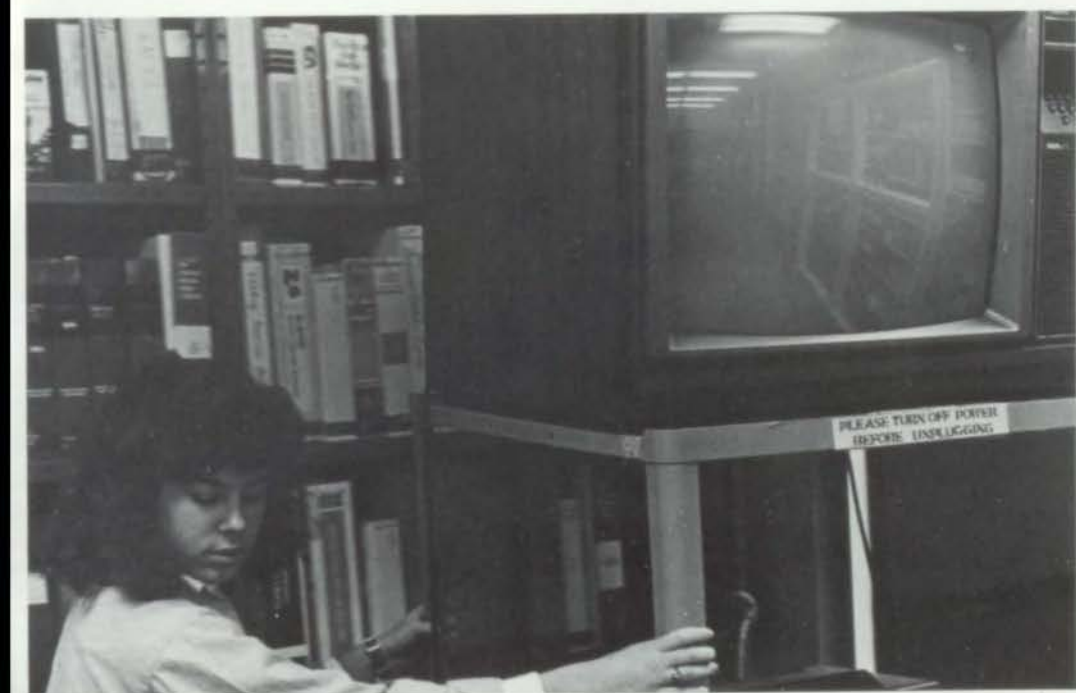


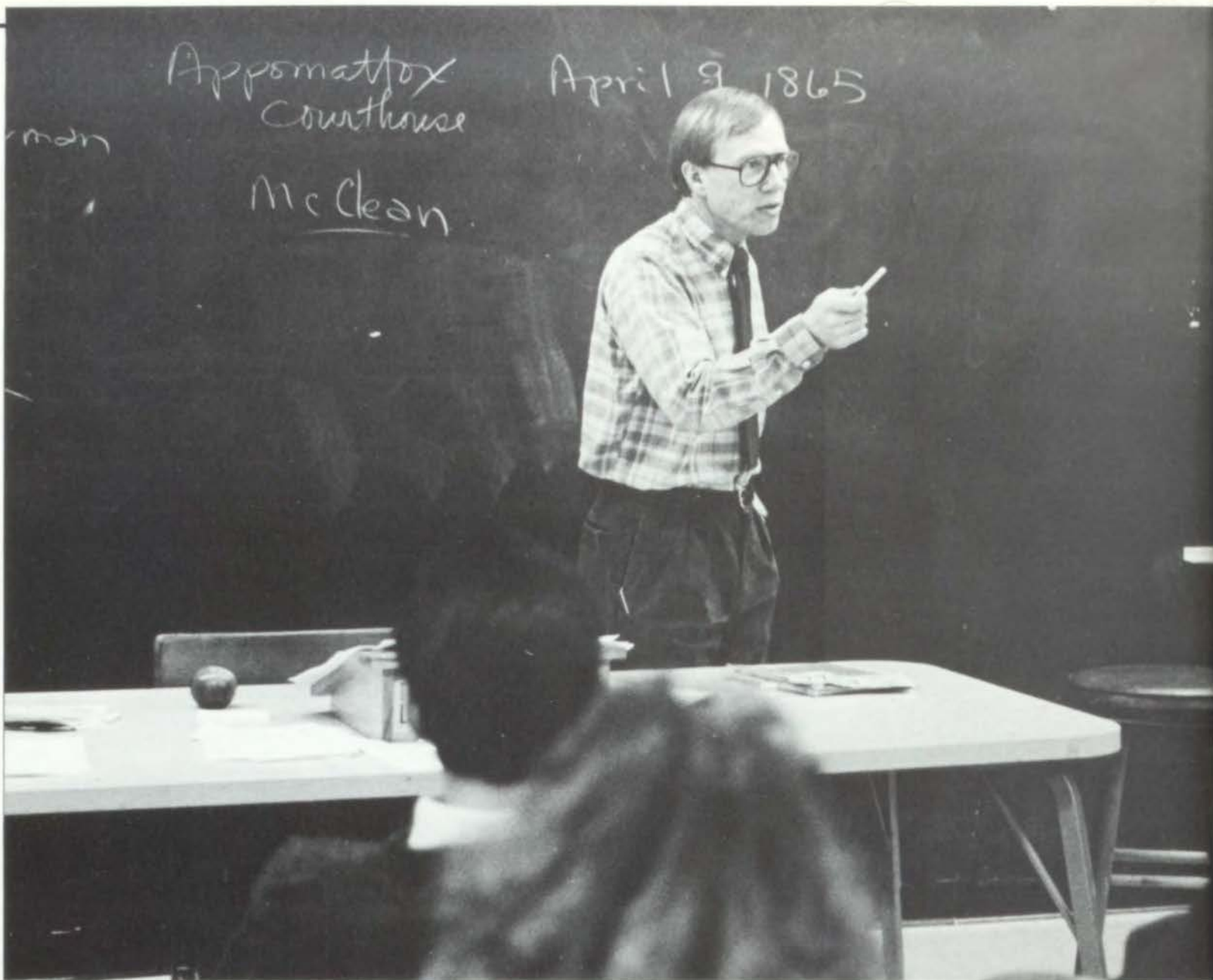
Preparing tapes for viewing in class was common for Mr. Gary O'Dell. (photo by Mary Beall)



Students learned about split personalities while watching the VCR tape "Sybil" in Mrs. Nancy Binkley's psychology class. (photo by Mary Beall)

Being a T.A. in the A.V. department, Anna Marie Morrissey pushed televisions with VCR's all around the school. (photo by Mary Beall)





Taking a test in P.E., Tara Ciarrocchi and the rest of her freshman gym class were not laying down on the job. (photo by Matthew Ward)



T

ests vary for students, teachers

• by Bob Randall

AIDS. Terrorism. Cancer. Nuclear war. Tests. "Tests" is included in the above series because it is one of many words that instilled fear in the hearts of students.

Tests given at Oak Park could consist of multiple choice questions, short answer statements, true or false sentences, or essay questions.

Some students felt that there was no way to conquer a test.

"True and false are usually tricky sentences. I never know what is wanted on short answer questions, and essays take forever," Linda Zimmerman, senior, explained.

Mr. Reed Black, American History teacher, included both objective and subjective sections on his tests. He said that students usually like his multiple choice because they are really "multiple guess."

Ms. Camille Naeve, student teacher of chemistry, explained that the distractors (wrong multiple choice answers) in college were usually more realistic, making the question more difficult.

"Multiple choice questions are usually not a good indication as to what the student knows. Essay questions test their knowledge better," Mrs. Glenda Misner, English teacher, said.

Sara Hibner, sophomore, said that essay questions were difficult because we had nothing to start with, no clues to a cor-

rect answer.

"A lot of students have been conditioned to think that if they write anything, they should get credit," Mrs. Misner added.

Mr. Black tried to give his tests in the middle of the week.

"On Tuesdays," he explained, "both students and teachers are back into their routine."

On the other hand, Mrs. Misner gave most of her tests on Fridays.

"Test days are easy for teachers. They gave me a chance to relax after the long week," she said.

Studying for tests for students ranged from using word association to reading the question aloud in class.

"If I were sitting in class, I would skim the text in class the day before the test. That night, I would revise my notes of the unit," Ms. Naeve said.

"Mrs. Marylou Johnson, math teacher, grades on a curve, the number possible being the average of the two top scores. She feels that this makes up for the difficulty of some of her tests.

Mrs. Misner said, "I wish I had the time to go back and eliminate the questions on my tests consistently missed by my students. Maybe I didn't stress that point, and that would create a more accurate test."

Giving his class an oral quiz, Mr. Reed Black raises questions about the Civil War. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Carey Smith, junior, ponders a question on his Chemistry test. (photo by Matthew Ward)

"True and false are usually tricky sentences, I never know what is wanted on short answer questions, and essays take forever."

-Linda Zimmerman
Senior



C

lasses teach step by step processes

□ "Some kids just didn't have self-confidence. They were scared that they might fail, even though they knew how to read and follow directions."

-Mrs. Nancy Clemens,
home economics teacher



• by Sandy Gilpin



et's see how well Oak Park students can follow directions.

1. Take out a pencil, a piece of paper, and scissors.

2. Fold paper in half.

3. Make an X on the top right hand corner of one half of the paper.

4. Tear paper in half at the fold line.

5. Cut out a pattern, from the half with the X, in the shape of a O.

6. Throw away the half you cut the O from.

7. Make sure you read all of the directions before you begin.

8. Take the other half of the paper and cut it in the shape of a P.

9. Make sure you don't throw anything away.

10. Now you have the letters OP if you followed directions.

For some Oakies this little lesson of following directions would not have been very rewarding but for those students in home economics and industrial arts it was something they experienced everytime they went to class.

"As children, people are taught to follow directions," explained Mrs. Nancy Clemens, sewing and foods teacher. "I can tell when students have been taught to follow directions at home by the way they do at school."

Mr. Dan Duane, industrial arts teacher, explained it as a 'maturing process.'

"Younger students tended not to follow directions as well as older students," said



Following the recipe card in Foods class, Kim Hill and Kelly Forsland, seniors, learn how to make cookies. (photo by Katie Adamson)



Duane.

Sewing, industrial arts, and foods were different when it came to following directions.

"If students did not follow the sequence then they were unable to put the project together," said Duane.

For example, a student was supposed to make a coffee table but instead he ended up with a little end table.

In foods class, Mrs. Zeta Davidson explained, "if a student had previously made this item it probably turned out okay, but if they had no experience they might be in trouble."

Jenny Briggs and Stacy Ruckman, juniors, remembers a time in foods when they were making icing for the first time.

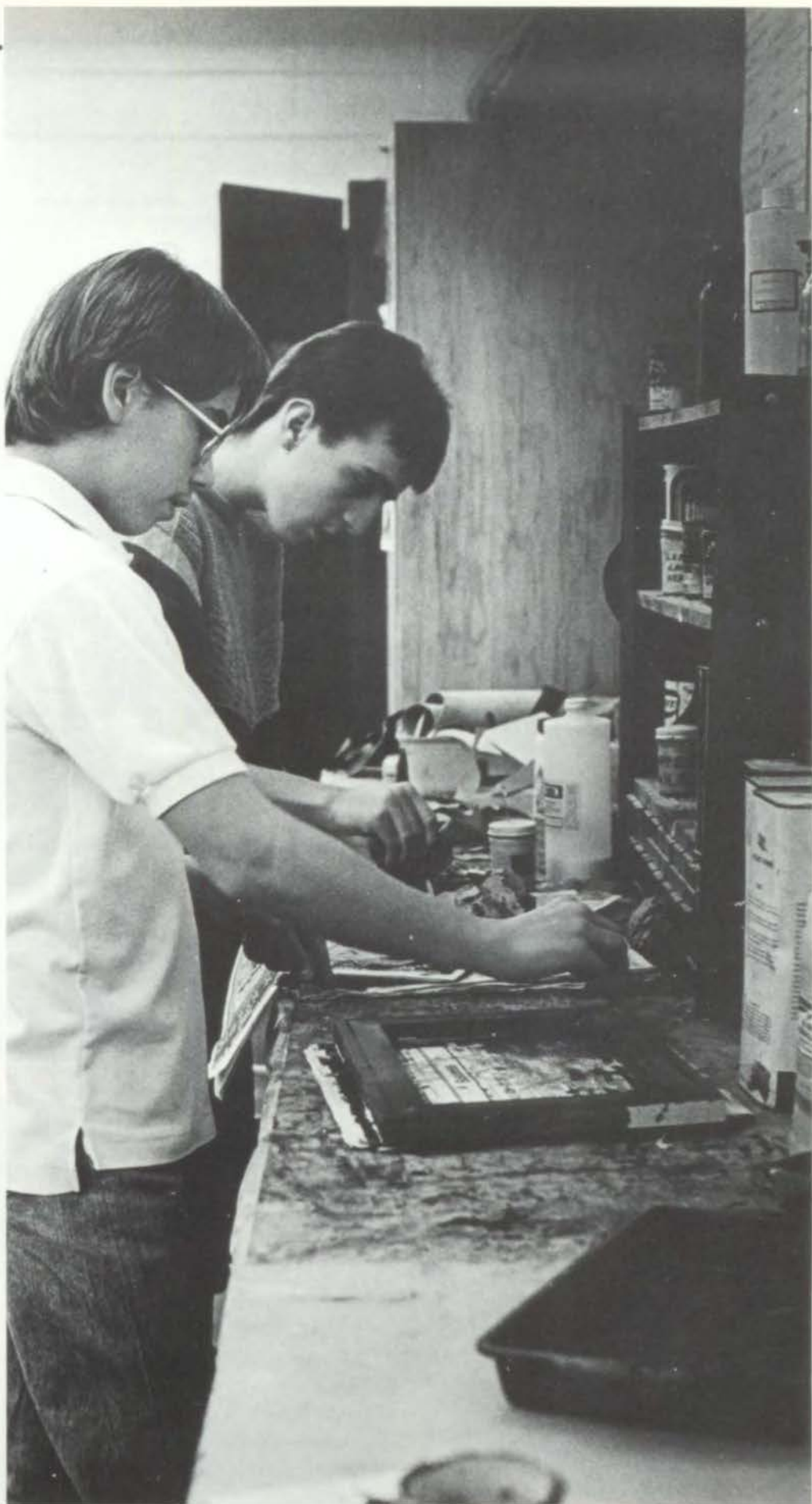
"The recipe said to pour the corn syrup in the egg whites gradually," remembers Briggs, "but I guess I poured the corn syrup too fast."

As a result, Jenny and Stacy's icing was stuck in the beaters and could not be spread on their cake.

Being shown what to do was often easier than reading directions.

"More students would like to be shown, rather than following a pattern," said Clemens.

Baking a cake or making a lighted lamp for those students not involved in practical art classes can be a disaster but the students involved in home economics or industrial arts found step by step instructions to be as easy as one, two, three.



After completing their frames, Mike McAfee, freshman, and Eric Gossey, sophomore, put the finishing touches on their project. (photo by Katie Adamson)

Using a pattern, Amber Brooke and Sherri Ribando, seniors, make a blouse for sewing class. (photo by Katie Adamson)



N

urse one way out for test victims

• by Aimee Rogers



It begins with a sick feeling in the pit of your stomach. Soon your palms start to sweat, your head hurts, and your eyes begin to blur. You recognize the symptoms - the well-known Test Syndrome. As your teacher begins to pass them out, you panic and rack your mind for ideas. Then you stifle a smile and raise your hand. "I feel awful," you say. "Could I go to the nurse?"

Students went to the nurse for many reasons, and only one of them was sickness. One junior girl said she would go to the nurse so she could get out of school to see her boyfriend when he was in town.

"I'd just tell them I got sick and that I had to go home," she said.

Students who worked late or were up doing homework at night often went to the health room to sleep.

"Some of them just came out and told you they wanted to sleep and others didn't," said Mrs. Rita Greer, assistant nurse.

The nurses said they got a lot of excuses.

"We got a lot of stories, people saying their teachers said it was OK for them to come down, but when we sent them back to get a pass, they didn't come back," Mrs. Betty Himmelberg, nurse, said.

Other students said they would not bother to go to the nurse at all.

"I usually didn't go to the nurse. If I was going to skip school I just usually stayed home instead of missing half the day. I took the full day off," Patrick Jenkins, sophomore, said.

The two nurses had their hands full with a constant flow of students. The peak month of the 1986-87 school year for students visiting the health room was October, when 1,421 found ways to get out of class. 149 students were sent home in December. The nurses said 5-10 students a day went home.

Students also went to the health room to get passes that would keep them out of class for an hour.

"A lot of students would come down here and when we gave them a pass to go back to class they didn't go back. The next day their teacher would come down and say, 'Did you keep them all hour?' and then we knew they didn't go back to class," Mrs. Himmelberg said.

Ultimately, though, the student got his wish and temporarily escaped from school.

"Some went home and we questioned whether they needed to go home, but the parents said they could go, and they're the final judges," Mrs. Himmelberg said.

"I usually didn't go to the nurse. If I was going to skip school I just usually stayed home."

-Patrick Jenkins,
sophomore



Relaxing in the health room, Trish Peterson, freshman, catches up on her sleep. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Moving down the line, Mrs. Betty Himmelberg, nurse, inspects Becky Plothe, senior, Mike Nance, junior, and Cindy Smith, senior. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

After obtaining her parents' permission to leave school, Sharon Lappin, senior, signs out. (photo by Mitzi Craft)





Applying the final touches on the Building/Trades house, Edward Adams, senior, puts siding on. (photo by David Cunningham)

Building a circuit in the Electronics Theme school at North Kansas City High School, Joel Mitchell, senior, places components in a bread board. (photo by Mary Beall)

• by Michele Tunnell

"Be all that you can be."
 "Get a head start on your career."
 "Begin your career. Now!"
 "Find your future."

All of these sayings have to do with getting a head start on a career out of high school. However, there is a chance to get training while in high school. Every year, the North Kansas City School District offers theme schools. The schools consist of two or three hour classes that focus on a specific skill. Students are able to get training in Automechanics, Building and Trades, Business, Child Development, Data Processing, and Electronics.

"I'm already learning things at a college sophomore level," said senior Joel Mitchell, an electronics student.

"Right now we could go out and get a job from this experience," Debbie Dobney, senior, said about her Business Theme School class.

Although the theme schools provided an advantage to get ahead, there were some drawbacks. One major problem was the scheduling of classes.

"It was hard to get my schedule arranged because all of the classes were set hours," said Debbie.

"There were some classes that I wanted to take but I couldn't because there weren't enough hours in the day," said another Business Theme School student, Samantha Sluder, senior.

Some of the theme schools were away from the halls of Oak Park. The Autome-



chanics and Electronics Theme Schools were both held at North Kansas City High School and the Child Development Theme School was held at Winnetonka High School.

"You kind of lose touch with your school because you're gone half of the day," Joel said. "Since I was gone the first half of the day I didn't hear the announcements so I usually didn't know what was going on." The variety of different theme schools has dropped in recent years. The Health and Food and also the Fashion Theme Schools were dropped and next year the Electronics Theme School will be gone. Most students claim that the reason for the drop in enrollment was that there was not enough publicity.

"Mrs. Tarwater recommended the class for me because she knew I wanted to go into business," Debbie said, "otherwise I wouldn't have known about it."

"No one knew about theme because it wasn't promoted enough," claimed Joel.

However, the counselors had different reasons for the drop in enrollment.

"There's been a change in the focus of many students," said Mr. Larry Blackwell, "There's more interest in keeping a broad academic background."

Next year there will be five theme schools left. So even though a few will be gone, there still will be a chance to get a "head start."



Theme Schools help to give head start

□ "There were some classes that I wanted to take but I couldn't because there weren't enough hours in the day."

- Samantha Sluder
Senior



Concentrating hard in Advanced Computer Programming, Mark Strecker, senior, debugs a program. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

A

game of knowledge Academic Bowls

• by Jennifer Snow

Question: The wavelength of a certain sound wave in air is 3 meters when the air has a temperature of 10 degrees C. The frequency of the sound is how many vibrations per second?

Answer: 110

With hurdles such as this question Academic Bowls were a game of knowledge more than of physical capability. Whether competing in the Chemathon, Science Knowledge Bowl, or Scholars Bowl students found that their past educational training paid off.

"I liked the Chemathon better than the Science Knowledge Bowl because it was a test of what you remembered over the years," said Kim Melton, senior. "Sometimes you don't think you understand when you're in the class but you answer more questions than you thought you knew."

This was the fourth year Oak Park participated in the Chemathon. It was held at Missouri Western State College in St. Joseph. Oak Park placed second in Physics and third in the Chemistry 1 and 2 divisions. Besides the competition of these divisions there was also a chemical demonstration, tours of the science building and a nationally known guest speaker, according to Dr. Ken Kramme, chemistry teacher.

"The Chemathon let our best students see how other top students from different schools measured up," said

□ "I felt privileged that the teachers had faith in me to do well."

Karla Steele
Senior



Mrs. Mary Lou Johnson, Scholar Bowl sponsor, helps her scholar's team prepare for competition at Maple Woods (photo by Jimmy Preston).



Dr. Kramme.

"At first I was intimidated by all the students, but after they gave me the test I was more relaxed," said Tamela Simpson, Senior.

The Science Knowledge Bowl was similar to the Chemathon. However, there were no divisions. Students were asked questions about all types of sciences.

"I felt priveledged that the teachers had faith in me to do well," said Karla Steele, senior.

Not only was there faith in the science department but for all subjects from Geography to Language in the Scholars Bowl. This was the third year Oak Park participated in the Scholars Bowl held at Maple Woods. The competition consisted of two rounds of 30 questions with highest point total winning. Oak Park placed second out of 14 teams.

"After the second round it was intense competition for the championship," said Brent Guglielmino, senior. "There were 150 people in the room listening in total silence, there was a lot of intensity."

Even with much intensity, winning was not as important as with sports.

"Most people wanted to win but didn't get disappointed if they didn't. It was more for fun," said Mark Turner, senior.

Weeks of practices and trial runs went into the preparation for all three tests of Oakies' mental skills.



With the help of Mrs. Linda Whitmore, John Baker, senior experiments with a laser beam in preparation for the Chemathon in which he took first place in the Physics Division (photo by Jimmy Preston).

Wynn Hilty, senior takes a shot at a question with the help of teammates Carey Smith, junior, Brent Guglielmino, senior and Scott Wagner, sophomore (photo by Jimmy Preston).

P

rep diploma means tougher schedule

• by Aimee Rogers

You have been sitting there for over an hour. You flip through the Oak Park "Leaflet" one more time, but you just do not see how you can do it. College credit classes, night school, summer school, a college prep diploma—how can you manage to take all the classes you want, but still graduate after four years?

This was a question most students faced all through high school, as they tried to balance classes they had to take against classes they wanted to take. Some students found it even more difficult to obtain the needed credits, because they were involved in the college preparatory program. This program involved taking three math credits instead of two, two foreign language credits instead of none, etc.

Did the college prep program actually help students get into college? Wyn Hilty, senior, thought so.

"A lot of the applications I filled out asked, 'Were you in a college prep program?'" she said.

According to an admissions counselor at William Jewell College in Liberty, a college prep diploma is only one of the things considered when a student applies to a college. Students' grade point average, extracurricular activities, and clas-

ses they have taken are also taken into account.

Shannon Gaines, senior, did not think a college prep diploma was needed.

"I got a 24 on my ACT so I don't think it will hurt. I'm going to try to get into an art school. But I don't think it will hurt my chances—my grades are good," she said.

Taking the extra classes can also lead to a much fuller work load. But one way of making school hours easier was to take summer school.

"I took two years of summer school. After my freshman year I took World Studies and after my sophomore year I had to take American History to have room for what I wanted take," Stephanie Pogge, junior, said.

Mike Jenkins, sophomore, took night classes after school so he could get his college prep diploma. He felt it would help him get into college.

Other college related classes are those such as College American History, taught by Mr. Roy Williams, and College English, taught by Ms. Rita Vonn, that count as a college credit. These classes cost \$20 a credit hour, as opposed to more expensive prices charged at a college.

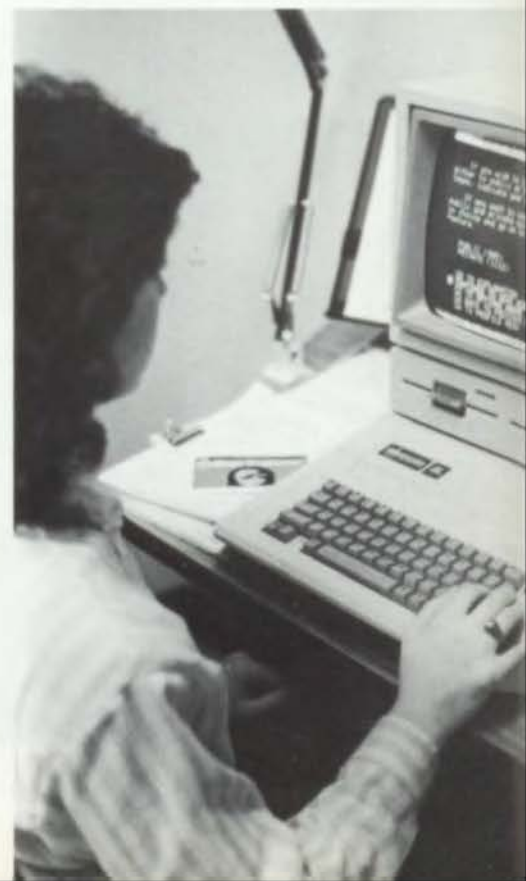
"It got six hours of credit out of the way cheap," Wyn Hilty, senior, said.

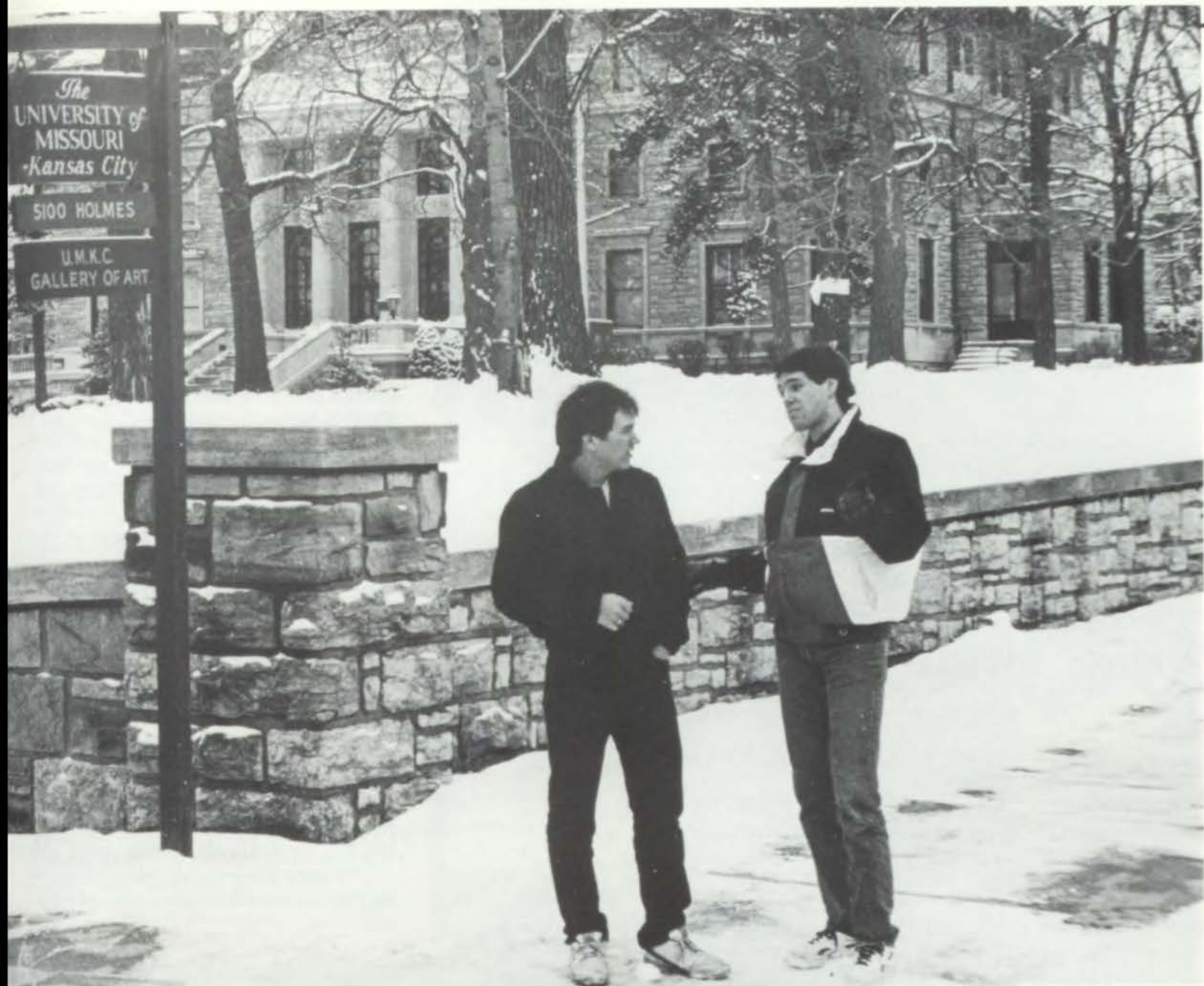
"A lot of the applications I filled out asked, 'Were you in a college prep program?'"

-Wyn Hilty,
senior



Taking specialized classes was one way to get all the needed credits. (photo by David Cunningham)





Touring the UMKC campus, Doug Linville, an '85 graduate, shows Sam Allen, senior, around. (photo by David Cunningham)



Getting a head start, Bob Vogelaar, junior, sends away for information on colleges. (photo by David Cunningham)



Tim Roberts, senior, dictates his term paper while Brian Libeer, senior, types it into his computer. (photo by David Cunningham)

Studying together helps Amy Quinn and Jennifer Aschentrop, sophomores, get ahead in English. (photo by David Cunningham)

• by Bob Randall



Two heads are better than one," the saying goes. On the other hand, it is commonly known that, "Two many cooks spoil the broth." When applied to school, which saying was right?

When it came to studying, most teachers, though, agreed that students' putting their heads together and studying with others was often beneficial.

"If a student could explain something to another, he usually reinforced what the teacher had said," Mr. Gus Baker, math teacher, said.

Dr. Ken Kramme, chemistry teacher, said that some classes, chemistry included, are even geared to study groups. He said that explanations given by a student could be understood easier because of the different point of view.

Tony Durone, junior, agreed. "With many students, you got just as many different insights."

"You got more ideas and different input into what you were doing when you worked in a group," Renee Reynaud, freshman, added.

Study groups were valuable for other reasons, too.

"They forced students to truly communicate with and learn from each other," Ms. Rita Vonn, English teacher, said.

"Students were often more accessible than most teachers were. A small com-



plication or question could be explained without bothering a teacher," Mr. Baker said.

Studying with friends, though, did have its drawbacks.

"The maturity level dictated whether or not the students were able to work in groups. The dependent learner needed a teacher, while the independent learner was able to work in small groups with less teacher guidance," Ms. Vonn said.

"I was often distracted when working with a group because we would start talking instead of getting our work done," Tony said.

While he admitted that those working in study groups sometimes scored better, Dr. Kramme added that the solitary student sometimes learned more.

"I heard students working in groups saying, 'I'll take your word for it,' instead of thinking it out and understanding it themselves," he said.

Most teachers supported these groups as long as there was learning, not cheating, taking place.

"If we got something out of studying together, I think most teachers were all for it," said Brian McGinley, junior.

"I think group learning is quite beneficial. It provided personal contact with those who students trust and are comfortable with," said Ms. Vonn.

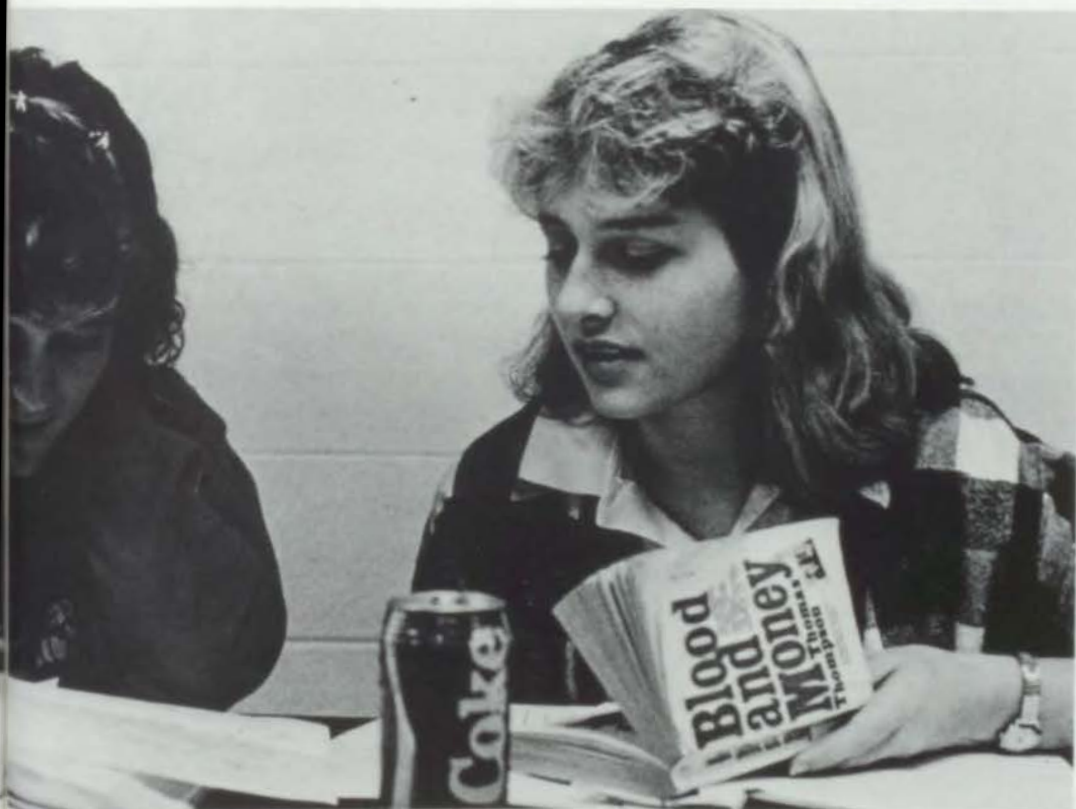


Study buddies excel learning together

□ "If a student could explain something to another he usually reinforced what the teacher had said."



- Mr. Gus Baker, math teacher



Tami Soules and Angie Rogge, seniors, compare notes before class. (photo by David Cunningham)

S

• by Matt Ward

Something to do on Friday night was on most every Oakies' mind at least once during the week. That "something" varied greatly from person to person.

Whether it was a date with Ferris Bueller at the movies or a round of miniature golf with Arnold Palmer, there was a variety of things to keep an Oakie entertained and busy all through the weekend. But, not always did they stay in the Northland area.

Many students ventured out of state to Kansas and visited some of their dance clubs or to Colorado to ski the weekend away. But when students found not enough time or money to go away, they found plenty of places in Kansas City to visit.

The Plaza was one of the more popular places to visit, especially during the Christmas season, despite the new ordinance to cut down on teenage loitering.

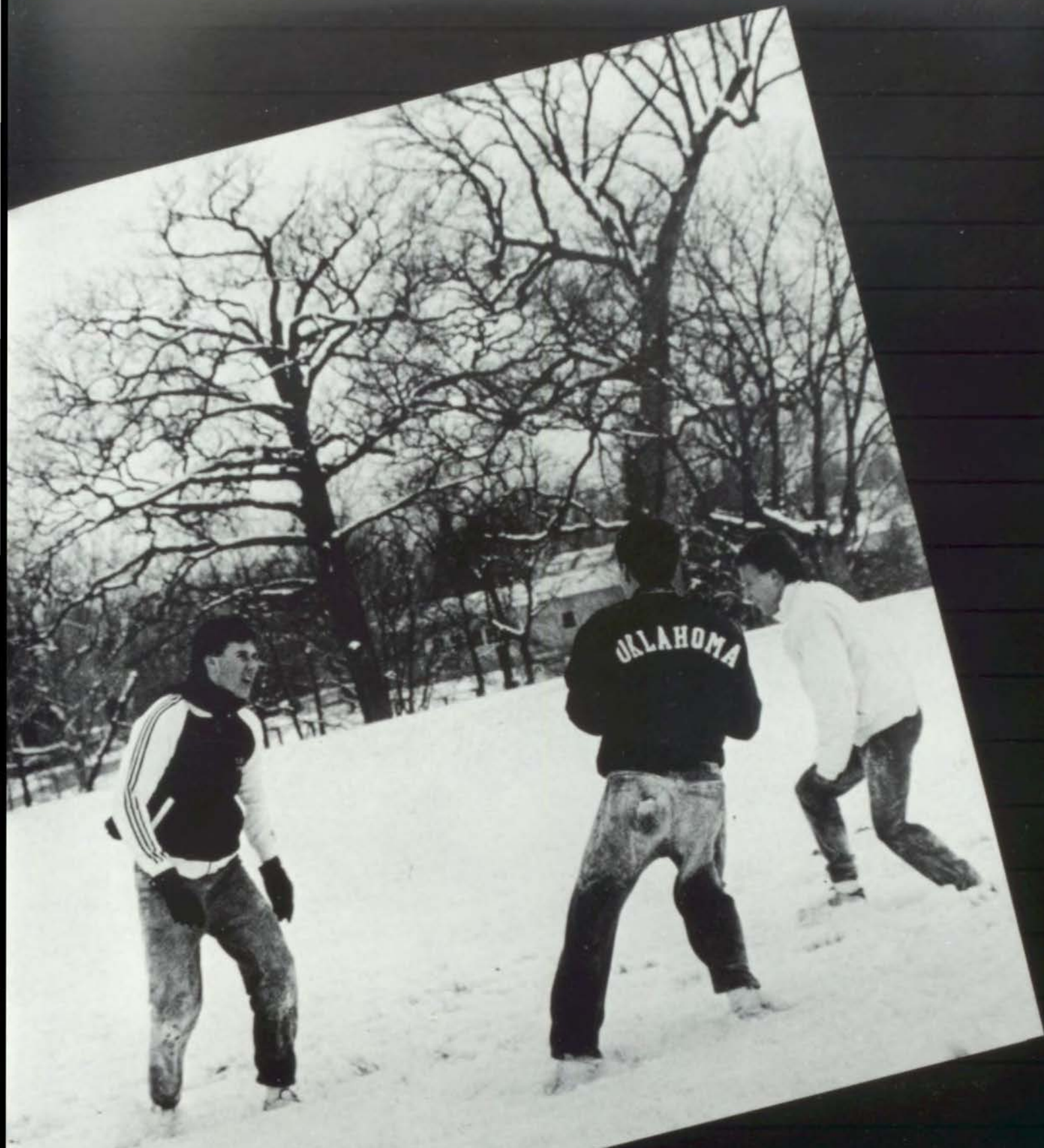
Without any of these places, there would have been no such thing as Student Life at Oak Park, and without student life, Oakies would have felt kind of "blue."

Satchoke Huckintod, Jeff White, Brent Gaglianino, and Jerald Osborn did not let the weather turn them "blue", they chased the winter blais away by playing football in the snow. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Oakies at the Christmas dance admire the lighting ceremony in the main courtyard. (photo by Matthew Ward)



ST



UDENT LIFE



Slippin' When We

TOUR OF THE

Kristi Ford and Joey Grossman, juniors, show off their Bon Jovi t-shirts from last night's concert.

An enthusiastic, cheering crowd enjoys the Kansas concert.



The Stage comes alive

• by Kim Melton

The lights went down as the crowd of cheering fans on the floor of the arena rushed forward towards the stage. The audience went wild with cheers of happiness as Triumph entered the stage. After a few bars of "Somebody's Out There" the audience was hooked for the next two hours.

This scene from the Triumph concert was typical of most rock concerts which students attended throughout the year.

Some other concerts that came to Kansas City this year included: Bob Seger, Shooting Star, Genesis, Iron Maiden, Billy Idol, Deep Purple, and Bon Jovi.

Although most students attended rock concerts, some students attended country or new wave concerts.

Just as the type of concerts students attended varied, so did the reasons why students attended concerts.

Stacy Marshall, senior, said, "I went just to see the show and hear the music."

"I went to pick up techniques to get ideas similar to other guitarists," said Tommy Lee Graff, senior.

Kelly Crawford, senior, liked going to concerts "to see the members of the band in person."

"I liked Triumph's and Iron Maiden's stage shows the best," said Stacy. "I liked the lights and Iron Maiden's special effect props, such as the balloon figures and spaceships and Eddie the electronic dummy."

Some students were lucky enough to receive backstage passes to concerts.

Mark Strecker, senior, received backstage passes to the Triumph concert. "I was shocked at first. But I was disappointed because it wasn't what I expected. I expected it to be a party. But instead, they (the members of Triumph) came out and just signed autographs."

The dress for concerts had variety too. Some students wore their school clothes to concerts. Others would wear concert t-shirts from previously attended concerts. And some students would even wear spandex pants, leather, or chains.

"When you go to a concert, there are all different types of people there, because different people like different music," Kelly concluded.



Loyal Kansas fans, Diane Nemecek, junior, and Andy Baker, senior, stand in line waiting for tickets to go on sale.

The lead singer, Jimi Jamison, from Survivor sings "The Search is Over."





Money earned burned holes in Oakies pockets

• by Jill Hall



reenbacks, bucks, paper, moolah, dough, bread or in other words money, is a commodity Oak Park students use, wisely or unwisely, but it is spent nonetheless.

An average Oak Park student spent \$10.50 a week

on food, \$9.00 a week on gas, \$19.00 a week on clothing and \$13.00 a week on entertainment.

To students without jobs, the money supply usually came from Mom and Dad.

Shannon Armstrong, sophomore, felt that she spent the money her parents gave her more freely than if she had earned it herself.

"If I am in a store and see something I like I just say, 'I like that. I want it.'" "I don't look at other stores and compare prices," said Shannon.

Sale items, which stores use to attract business, did not have much effect on Oak Park students.

"I didn't buy things if they were on sale because I thought they were cheap quality or rejects or something," said Stephen Smith, junior.

Coupons were more of a success with students, though not with all things or all students.

"I used them (coupons) for the movies on Christmas vacation and also things like miniature golf, basically all the entertainment areas" said Kristin Quinn, junior.

"Normally I just didn't get around to looking through coupon books," said Shannon.

Even when spending his own money, Stephen felt, "Coupons got in the way. They were a nuisance."

Stephen's solution to paying more, "I work more."

Whether students make more money or spend their parents, most Oak Park students were not consumer wise shoppers. However, "I manage my money very well," said Stephen.



Taking advantage of "Taco Tuesday" at In-a-Tub is Mitzi Craft, senior. (photo by Mary Beall)

Coupons were used to save money on movies. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Sales signs attracted shoppers like Jennifer Shaw, senior. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Carnival A New Tradition

• by Aimee Rogers

The smell of caramel apples and smoked turkey legs wafts through the air. Blue balloons float slowly up to the ceiling. Groups of people wander among booths, buying tickets, throwing darts and beanbags. Oak Park's first carnival is underway.

Leadership class first came up with the idea of the carnival to be held in conjunction with homecoming, said Kathy Warner, senior, chairperson for the event. The carnival was held in the big gym on Oct. 11. Originally, it was to be held outside on the soccer field, but bad weather forced it to be moved inside.

"I think the clubs that were involved and all the people in leadership class who organized it did a great job. Unfortunately, I feel the student body was unaware of the day's activities," Chris Foree, senior, said.

Only 500-600 students attended the carnival, Kathy said. Low student attendance was only one of the problems experienced by leadership class. "At first not enough clubs were willing to participate by setting up booths," said Chris.

"Most clubs did not make a profit," said Chris. "We broke even. You never make money the first year in things like this."

"Even though we didn't make money it was worth the work because it promoted school spirit," said Angela Barnes, junior.

According to Angela, the most interesting booth was StuCo's "Wheel of Fortune". Stefanie Edmonson, who worked at the booth wearing a sign saying "Vanna", said Tom Robertson came up with the idea for the booth.

"I think the booth was popular partly because everyone could get involved in it, not just people who purchased tickets," she said.

But others saw the carnival as a future success. "The carnival was a lot of fun and I think the more often we do it the more popular it will get," Angela said.

Trying his luck, Ted Mehl, junior, tries to win the prize while Joette Meyer, senior, watches. (photo by Mary Beall)

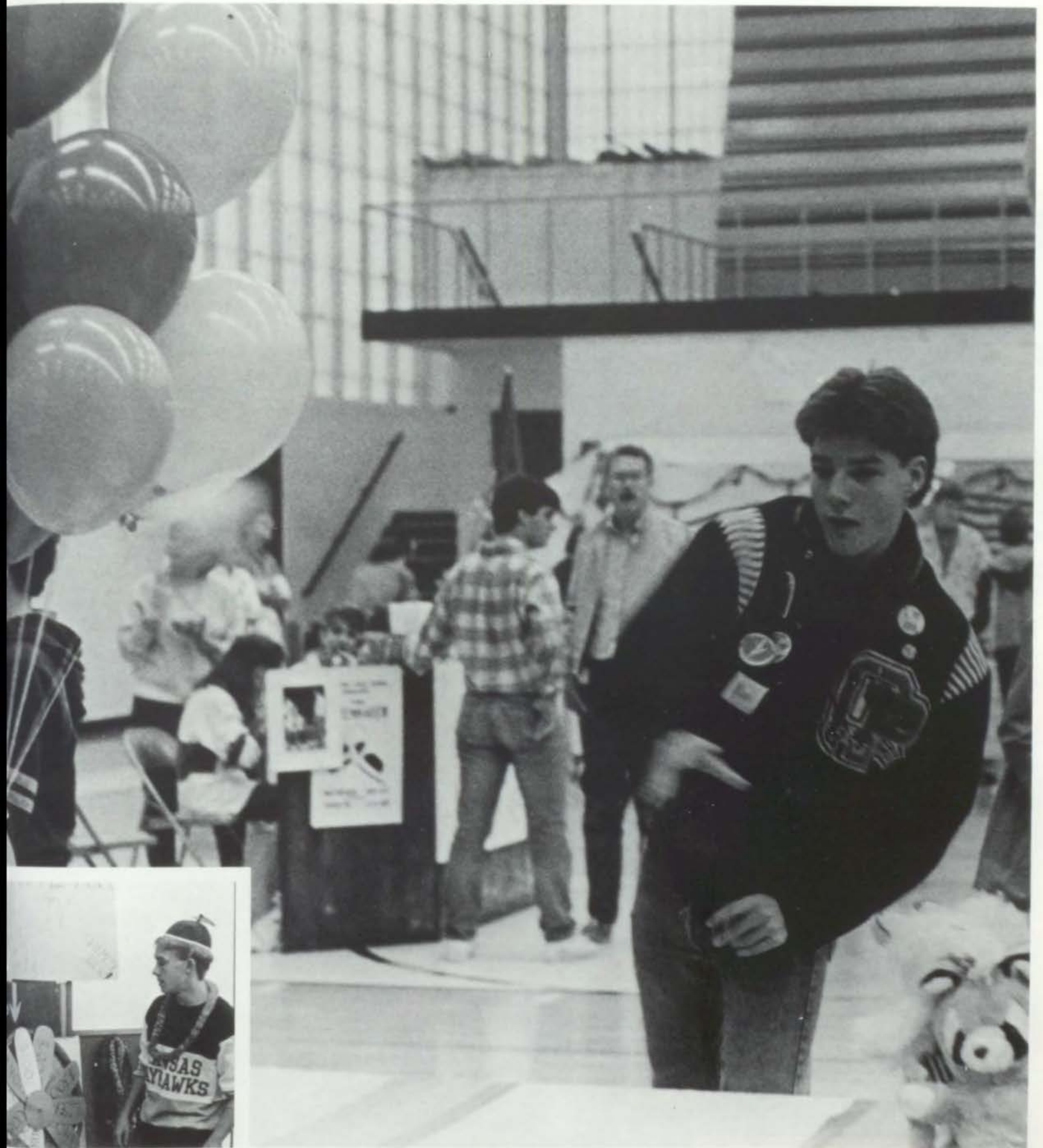


Shivering in the cold, Mr. Jim Hughes prepares to be dunked. (photo by Mary Beall)

Pat Sajak, a.k.a. Tom Robertson, senior, and Vanna White, alias Stefanie Edmonson, senior, spin the Wheel of Fortune at the StuCo booth. (photo by Mary Beall)



raiser



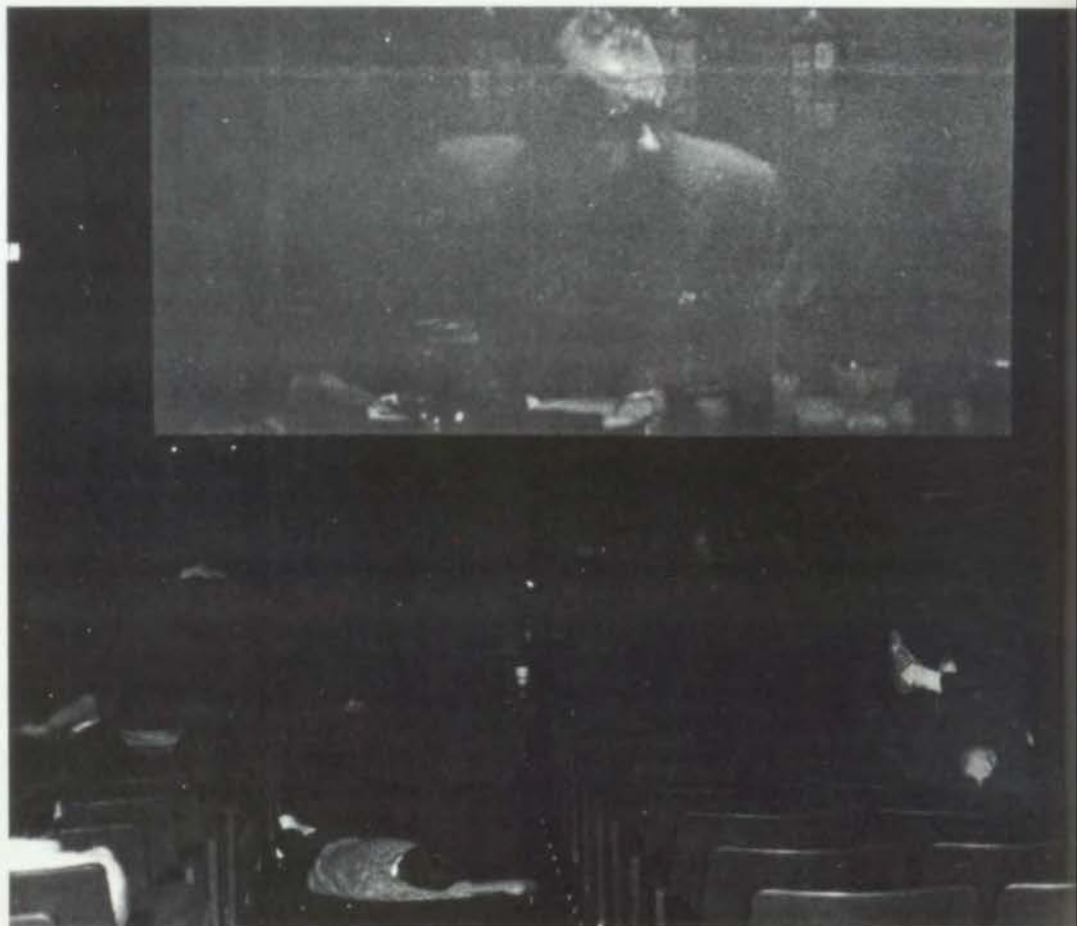
I-70 Drive-In provided an escape from the ordinary. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Relieved students exit after surviving the Nightmares Haunted House. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Students enjoyed the Rocky Horror Picture Show from all angles, even lying down. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Beheading was one of the many horrifying sights students could anticipate seeing in Dungeons of Death Haunted House. (photo by David Zimmerman) (far right)



• by Jennifer Snow

The darkness settles in, everything becomes silent as the excitement builds. A scream is heard, followed by a tremor of movement to get closer to friends. Outside in the chilled fall air lurks not Jason, not Freddie Crougar, but the ever-fearful "fall-boredom."

This eerie setting could be one of several places where Oak Park students took refuge from "fall-boredom." Haunted houses, drive-ins, and late night movies all helped get rid of the blahs.

"They (the teenagers) liked being scared and liked the anticipation," said Pam Williams, senior.

"I liked going to these places because it was something different to do," said Denise Sullivan, senior.

Being with their friends was what Oakies really liked.

"I usually went to haunted houses with five or six of my friends," said Shane Vogel, freshman. "It was more fun that way."

Some students saw drive-ins, late

night movies, and haunted houses a good way to start off the new season and end the summer.

"I liked going to the drive-in in the fall because it was not so crowded, and I could be with all my friends," said Richard Miller, senior.

According to Gerry McGaw, manager of AMC Theater at Metro North Mall, going to see the late night movies like Rocky Horror or The Wall gave teenagers something to do besides going to parties or staying home.

"I liked going to see the Rocky Horror because you could participate with the movie, you didn't have to just sit and watch it," said Denise.

"You could rent a movie any time but going to the drive-in got you out of the house and with your friends," said Leanne Harrelson, junior.

For some Oakies, as their tans faded so did their fun, but most could be found in variety of places trying to fight off the boredom of fall.

Wanted: ways to scare away fall boredom



*"Brown-bagging it"
brings excitement
to Oak Park's*

Lunchroom

• by Dyan Bargfrede

A new year in school always brings with it new challenges—tougher classes, different teachers, and new people. However, many Oakies were unprepared for the challenge that lie behind the lunchroom doors.

What met them was the product of Oak Park's overcrowded

conditions—long lines, short tempers, and a mad scramble for a place to sit.

The result? More students carried in and went out for lunch along with a rebirth of the sack lunch.

"It was much more convenient for me to pop into the lunch room with my sack lunch than to struggle my way through the hectic lunch lines in the cafeteria," said Jason Snitker, junior.

Now, students could be seen toting McDonald's bags, pizza boxes, geometric-print lunch sacks, or even metal lunch pails.

Shelly Lutte, sophomore, usually brought her lunch in small plastic bags from stores like "The Limited" or "Ups 'n' Downs".

"I liked to be different and break the stereotype of the old brownpaper bag," she said.

Senior David Cunningham turned a few heads with his "Kermit the Frog and Muppet Show" lunch box, which he bought for 49 cents at the Downtown Thrift Store.

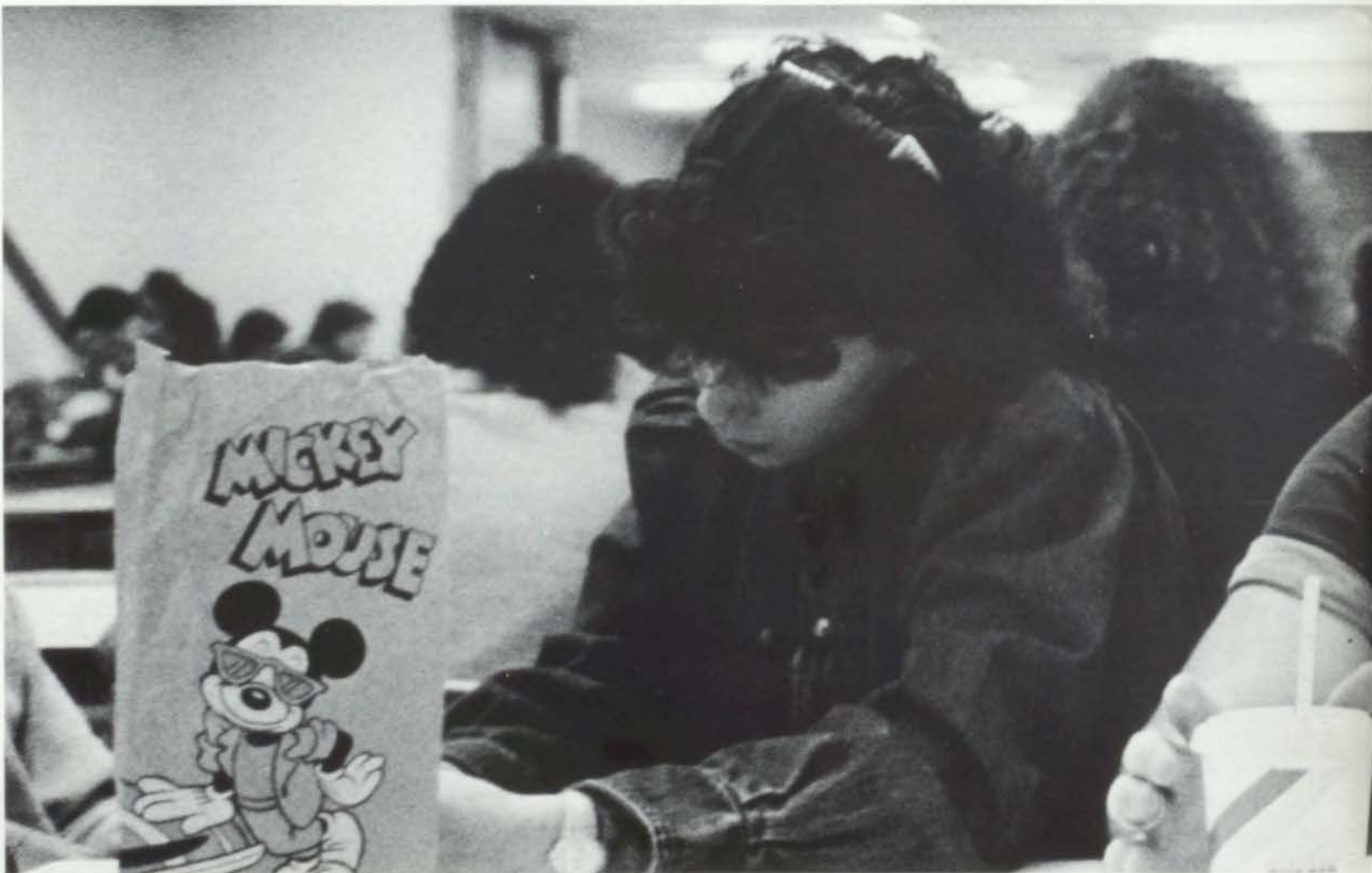
"For one thing, the price was right. The same pail would be \$7 at K-Mart," said David. "Besides that, it was something different. A lot of people used to give me funny looks, but I think they started to get used to it."

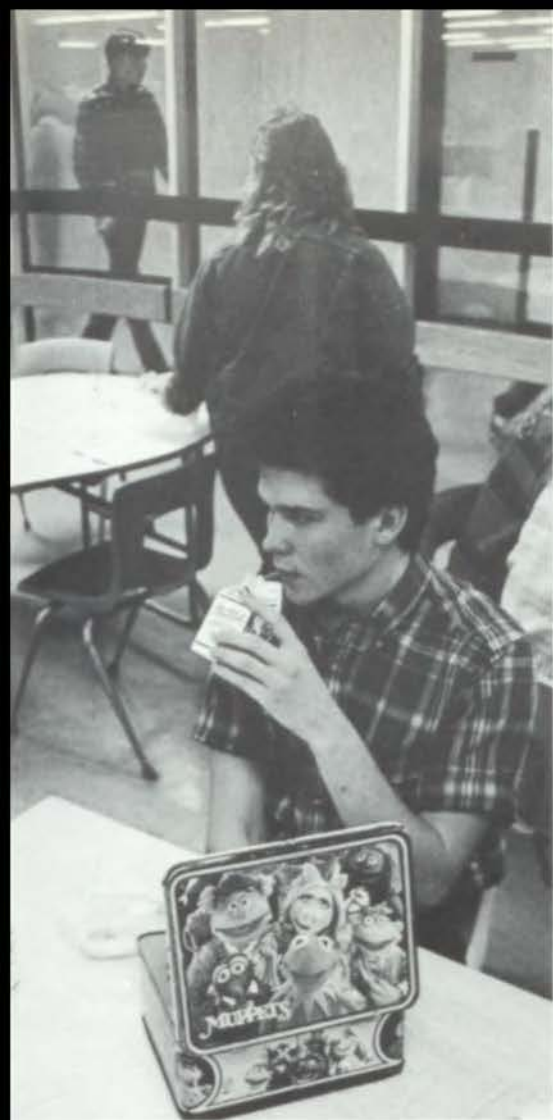
"I just used a plain brown sack because I didn't have to carry anything back to the locker and it was easy to get rid of," said Amy Rathgeber, freshman.

Debbie Dobney, senior, took an even more practical view.

"It was what we had at home and it's the cheapest way to go," she said. It is this search for variety that helped students meet the "lunchtime" challenge in their own unique style.

For some, that challenge included getting food inside from the outside. Some Oakies just called "Mom and Pop Delivery" and by lunch time their order had arrived: personal pizza, quarter pounder, or whatever.





The Muppets found themselves a permanent guest at lunch with David Cunningham, senior. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



The crowded, long lines in the Scramble Area of the cafeteria made many people turn to brown bagging their lunch. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Turning to food from outside of the school was the way Missy Moore, Christopher Canada, and Michael Zink, seniors, found to get around eating the school food. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Prom was 'hot'



Stephanie Boling, Missy Kothe, Kristln Quinn, and Nancy Barnett help each other to prepare decorations for the gym.

After dancing, Barry Bates, Natalie Closser and Jason Snitker get themselves a glass of punch to quench their thirst.



date for all

• by June Sumerlin

For many prom-goers this year, being formally dressed was a real 'hot' item.

For this year's prom committee, one concern was not having air conditioning in the gym, or the school for that matter.

"We were afraid the gym was going to get too hot and people would not enjoy themselves. We were also worried people would leave early," said Bob Randall, junior class president and chairperson of the committee.

"It was totally 'uncool' that they (Oak Park) did not get it fixed," said Steven Senter, senior.

The courtyard was open to the students with tables, chairs and decorations all around. Many wandered into the fresh night air to cool themselves from the heat.

"Being able to walk around and visit friends while cooling off at the same time was nice," said Laura Huff, senior.

"I felt the students had a good time in spite of the heat," said Mrs. Nancy Binkley, sponsor.

This year's theme was "A Touch of Spring". Fountains, park benches, grassed areas and patio tables were displayed throughout the gym.

According to Mrs. Binkley, decorating the gym for prom for the second time was a lot quicker and simple to do.

"The decorations did not take as long to make and they went up quicker," said Mrs. Binkley. "We learned a lot last year and more this year, what can and can not be done."

According to Bob, handing the glasses and programs out at the doors

helped to prevent students from taking extras of each as was done last year.

Having assigned seats for the students was another change this year. There were no assignments and students were free to go where they wanted.

Mrs. Binkley felt prom was "a tremendous success". Ticket sales were another 'hot' item. According to her, the number of tickets sold this year surpassed last year by approximately 150 tickets.

"Without the janitor's help along with Mr. Bob West (principal), we could not have done it," said Mrs. Binkley. "They wanted to make the evening as good as we did."

Again this year the PTSA sponsored an after-prom party on the Missouri River Queen from 1 to 3 a.m.

Many prizes were given away ranging from televisions and stereo cassette players to American flags and World's of Fun passes.

There were also artists aboard and there was a magic show.

"I had a better time this year

than last. I also had fun participating in the magic show," said Steven.

The entertainment was the riverboat band. Many felt a D.J. would have been better.

"I would have rather heard Lawrence Welk sing 'You Give Love A Bad Name' than to listen to the riverboat band," said one Oakie.

Prom was viewed by many to be an over-all success.

"I had a really good time and I think others will have to work extra hard to top this year's committee," said Laura.

"We were afraid the gym was going to get too hot and people would leave early,"

said Bob Randall



Dancing to an upbeat tune, Emily Volk and Chris Conlisk show their moves.



Four hot prom-goers, Carol Parks, Cletis Murry, Julie Swinford, and Mark Strecker, contemplate cooling off in the fountain.



Watching others from the gazebo in the courtyard Craig Hagenbuch, Lara Horacek, Susan Resch and Tim Hanes enjoy the night air.



At the SADD assembly, the audience gets involved with the speaker Rich Linden. (photo by Carol Parks)

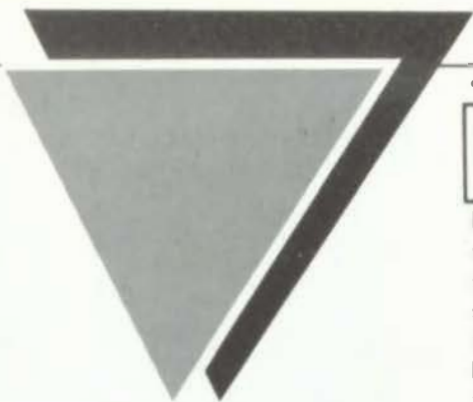
Jason Swan, senior, introduces Rich Linden, who spoke for the SADD assembly. (photo by Carol Parks)



After turning in his contract for life, Sean Foree, freshman, receives a sticker from Jennifer Mock, junior. (photo by Carol Parks)

Showing how much she cares about her daughter, Cyndi Roth's mother signs a Contract For Life. (photo by Lisa Mason)





SADD promotes no drinking and driving

• by Kelly Reed

The bright lights, tires squealing, screeching of metal against metal, then total darkness takes over. It seemed like hours before consciousness was regained. Trying to move the head to see what was going on, all that could be seen and heard were flashing red lights that got brighter and the sirens that got louder. "Another drunk driver" came faintly from the paramedic as darkness again took over.

Scenes like this forced people all across the nation to fight to put an end to them. Groups were formed to make the public aware of the dangers in driving drunk.

Students Who Care (SWC), a group of students at Oak Park against drugs and alcohol, sponsored a new program- SADD (Students Against Drunk Drivers).

It took Oak Park students three years to be allowed a SADD chapter. The administration and parents had felt that though SADD was against driving drunk, it still condoned drinking, according to Joette Myers, senior. With persistence, SWC fi-

nally convinced the administration to try SADD. The SADD chapter at Oak Park decided to have a SADD week, the week before prom. The reason being Prom is the weekend more teens are killed than any other, according to Jason Swan, senior.

To start the week long battle, contracts for life were handed out to students.

"Out of 2000 people, only 50 contracts were turned back in to SADD," said Jennifer Mock, junior. "I was very disappointed. It was such a simple task to have a parent or friend sign them."

Another way SADD was promoted was with an assembly. The assembly featured Rich Linden.

"I thought the assembly was real good. It was needed to inform people of the dangers of driving drunk," said Tim Allen, junior. "It was eye opening."

Joette felt that even though SADD had very little response with the contracts, "it was a real good start for next year. If we affected one person, everything we have done is worth it."



Officer Robert Mesa issues a warning to an Oak Park student. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Gladstone police pull over an Oak Park student after a Friday night basketball game. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

A Z-28 Camaro zooms down a heavily patrolled stretch of Shady Lane Drive. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Hazards for teens learning to drive?

TICKETS

• by Kim Melton



ll of a sudden, Jim's heart starts pounding as he looks into the rearview mirror of his car, and he sees red lights flashing. Slowly, Jim pulls his car toward the side of the

road, and he waits for the officer to tell him how much over the speed limit he was driving, and then, for the officer to write him a ticket.

Some Oakies, like Jim above, preferred to live their lives in the fast lane. However, for a few Oakies, this resulted in paying the price of a speeding ticket.

"I felt stupid (when pulled over) because I knew everybody that was behind me from school was laughing at me," said Mark Strecker, senior.

For about a week after receiving his ticket, Mark said he drove the speed limit because "I was real paranoid after I got that ticket."

While Mark was pulled over, someone mistook Mark's Monte Carlo for being senior David Zimmerman's Monte Carlo, and they told his sister, who relayed the message to their mom. So David was surprised when he came home and his mom began asking him where the speeding ticket was. This time he was "not guilty."

David has received three speeding tickets. He got his first ticket three months after getting his driver's license, and he got his second two weeks afterwards.

"The first time I was nervous," said David. "The second time I was mad because I got pulled over by the same cop in less than two weeks, and he recognized who I was."

Mark and David mainly speed when there is no one in the car with them.

"I don't speed when others are in the car because I'm conscious of their safety and what they think of my driving," concluded Mark.

Whether a new or experienced driver, Oakies sometimes found that speeding was not their ticket to success.



Fruits and vegetables seemed like the most nutritional food for Becky Ploth, senior, when she was dieting. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Aerobics is being taught, for the first year, to many Oakies who enjoy exercise. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



In many of the local newspapers, ads of all sorts, publicized their diet program. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Jennifer Field, senior, exerts herself at Mademoiselle Spa, by lifting weights. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

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**REDUCING THE 1987
QUICK START PLUS PROGRAM**

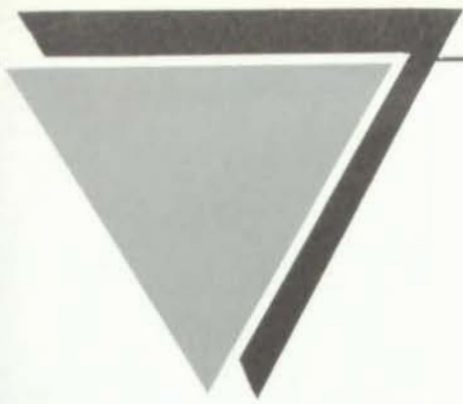
**THIS IS THE YEAR YOU'RE
REALLY GOING TO DO IT!**

Don't just change your weight, change your life! With the healthy new 1987 Quick Start Plus Program, you'll lose more than pounds. You'll lose the bad habits that kept the pounds there, year after year. And you'll gain more than good looks. You'll gain new confidence and self-respect. Start with delicious menus and food choices, all nutritionally sound. Add a new optional exercise plan. Tailor it all to your own lifestyle. And top it off with the emotional support we all need. Then, bye bye caterpillar, hello butterfly!

Weight Watchers

JOIN FOR 1/2 PRICE JAN 5-31

CALL



Oakies get physical to lose weight

• by Michelle Murphy

Eating a double-decker chocolate-chip sundae, relaxing on the couch in front of that favorite sit-com, or taking a nap every day after school sounds good to many Oakies; however, many of the Northmen feel better about themselves if they diet and exercise regularly.

"I did aerobics and lifted weights every morning at five a.m. to keep my body in shape," said Michelle Zuniga, senior. Michelle felt that exercise and a nutritional diet were something that everyone must do to remain healthy.

Health was important to faculty and staff, too.

"I have always been one to exercise. It makes you feel so much better about yourself," said Ms. Martha Troutz, library secretary. Ms. Troutz usually exercised by walking around the school at 6:30 a.m.

Many Oakies were involved in activities and sports but still took time to exercise.

"I tried to take time once or twice a

week to do aerobics. It gave me so much energy," said Erin Harris, junior.

Exercise was not always fun and games, but usually Oakies found something good about it.

"My favorite thing about exercise was lifting weights every day because your muscles look and feel different. You feel like you're accomplishing something," said Michelle.

Exercise was one thing, but diet was a four-letter word.

"I'm really on a diet because I'm self-conscious about my weight. I feel I gain weight so easy, so I watch everything I eat," said Nicole Kirtley, junior.

Exercise and dieting are two activities that were emphasized at Oak Park, on t.v., radio, and in other ways during '86-'87.

"I think the reason that being thin and in shape are emphasized is because on t.v., or in magazines, the beautiful women are advertised, and everyone wants to be like someone else," remarked Nicole.





Hoping he will not reach the credit limit, Tom Schollars, senior, purchases the latest fads. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Keeping the children happy, Kathy Brehm, junior, pays for her little brother's way into the movie. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Sometimes you gotta say . . .

• by Brenda Heffron

Honey, I know you'll use your best judgement and be on your best behavior."

This is the phrase teenagers dream of hearing some glorious Friday afternoon, while taking their parents to the airport for a week of fun in the sun for the parents and freedom for the teen left behind.

"I love it when my parents go out of town because I can do whatever I want," said Jodi Massic, senior.

'Whatever I want' can have different meanings to different people. Anything from throwing parties to jumping on the coffee table with nothing but the lamp shade on- Ala "Risky Business."

"My parents wouldn't let me have a party if they were here because of all the bad things they hear about parties, but when they leave and I have a party they never find out because everything is cleaned up so they must not be as bad as my parents think they are," said one Oak Park student.

Some are not as fortunate, many parties are basically demolition derbies.

"I was at a party once when the host's parents were not at home. A locked door was kicked in, the smoke alarm busted up, and liquor stains were on the carpet," said Mike Smith, senior.

For Rob Johnson, senior, and other students left with the responsibility of caring for a little brother or sister, or holding down a job, the thought of having a party is the last thing on their minds when the parents go out of town.

"The hardest part of watching my little brother is cooking dinner. I can't cook," explained Jadee Bowden, senior.

With the parents gone, one must be innovative to keep the little ones happy.

"There is a bowling alley across the street so I give them money to go over there and play video games," said Rob.

Parents will always go out of town and the teens at home will always remember their first trial run at freedom. Whether the memory is remembered as good or bad depended upon the fate of "the party".



Students face more than a headache the day after a party. along with cleaning up the disaster, they have to welcome home returning parents. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Some decide to live dangerously by taking out daddy's 1982 corvette. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Reach



out and

Touch someone

Telephones used as a way of communicating

• by Kelly Reed

Trying to keep up on current the gossip going around school, Amy Zimmerman, sophomore, chats on the phone to a friend. (photo by David Zimmerman)

W

ith one leg thrown over the side of the chair, Suzi picks up the receiver and punches the seven digits that will allow her to reach her destination in a matter of seconds.

"Hello? Is Jane there?" Suzi asks into the receiver. "Hi Jane. What's up . . .?"

This scene could be found in many Oakies homes each night as they reached for the telephone. The reasons were as different as the seven digits dialed and the people who answered. Help on homework, catching up on the current gossip, or talking to a sick friend were just a few reasons why the telephone was used.

Oakies felt though, that the telephone was not the best way to let people know all the facts. There were certain times when talking over the phone had its disadvantages.

"You need eye contact to really talk to a person," said Maryhelen Flinn, junior. "Over the phone, people could hide their true feelings. Face to face, all the emotions show."

At times, the phone was a necessity. Students at school realized this when they had to call parents or wanted to find out why a friend was not in school that day. That was when Oakies realized just how convenient the pay phones were during the lunch hour.

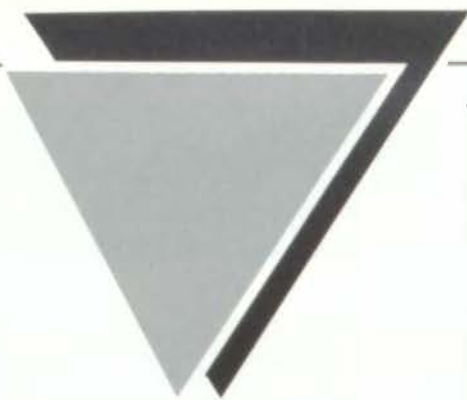
"When my boyfriend had his car wreck I called to make sure he was okay," said Maryhelen.

Phones took an important part in the lives of Oakies. Without this luxury item, life would have been very "boring" according to many Oakies and it would have been "hard to find out what was going on".

". . . Welp, gotta go. I'll talk to you tomorrow at school," Suzi said two hours later and caught up on the gossip going around Oak Park.

The phone in the drivers' ed office was often used by TA's like Kim Granquist, senior. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Some students find a need to call out of the school during lunch, and Steve Kowalski, senior, finds the pay phones handy. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Move over Colorado, try skiing MO.

• by Jill Hall



It's different than all the other sports, more challenging."

"It is dangerous."

"It is a thrilling sensation."

"The men out there are very nice."

The reasons were all different, but the sport was the same. Downhill snow skiing was a favorite sport for many students.

But going to Colorado took time and money, yet it still ranked high on the list of favorite winter sports.

1986 brought about a change for Oak Park skiers. Snow Creek, close by Platte County, was introduced as a new place to ski downhill, Missouri mountain style.

Since Snow Creek was only 40 minutes away from home it was an easy drive to make, one short enough for Oak Park's German Club.

Oak Park German Club took 80 club members to Snow Creek and went skiing.

Success in numbers as well as entertainment made the trip possibly one they will want to repeat again.

"If the kids want to do it again we will," said Mrs. Kay Melewski, German teacher and club sponsor.

Besides the valleys and mountain peaks, there are many highs and lows to skiing.

"I hate the chairlifts. It seems like you are on them more than the slopes," said Jeff Johnson, senior.

"I like going through moguls and powder, and getting away from the flatlands," said Michelle Reiter, junior, "but the worst part is the cold weather and injuries."

"It was a freak accident," said Jeff about breaking his thumb skiing. "It hasn't changed my attitude about skiing at all."

Michelle's pulled tendons in her knee were due to a "hit and run accident."

"I didn't get killed, but there was a potential of danger," said Denise Haddix, junior.

But the risk is worth it to many students.

Summing up her feelings for the sport Amy Zimmerman, sophomore, said, "It's all downhill for me."





David Resch, sophomore, "skis the bumps," at Alta, Idaho. (photo by Susan Resch)

Finding your own skis in the masses can be a problem. (photo by Kristy Ford)



Before an early spring forced the closure of Snow Creek, hundreds of students flocked to the slopes. (photo by Kristy Ford)

After injuring her knee skiing at Snow Creek, Michelle Reiter, junior, waits for a ride home. (photo by Kristy Ford)



Hair fashions

• by Michelle Murphy

Kids hate it, girls have to spend an hour on it, boys do not care about it, and parents lose it. What is it?

Hair!

Different hairstyles at Oak Park included flat tops, the grown out bob, spiked, mohawk, punked, indentation of OP, arrows or jersey numbers.

Certain hairstyles come and go like fads, but many Oakies felt like current trends were more than a fad.

"No, it's not a fad because it's a way of expressing myself," said Lori Green, senior.

Lori explained that her hair was new wave with one side shaved and the top spiked.

Brant Prather, senior, agreed. "It's not a fad because not many people have designs on their head."

Brant felt his hairstyle represented his personality.

Chrissy Kenish, senior, disagreed saying that hair is a part of a fad but not really in the Midwest area. She went on to explain that in Europe her hairstyle is very common.

Whether a fad or not, after Oakies had their hair done they had to experience the reactions of their parents. Chrissy said her parents had no objections to her hair. Lori was not so lucky. "Dumb" was the only comment she got.

"My father loved it and my mom just laughed and made fun of me," said Brant.

Hair is something that identifies a person. By changing the hairstyle, it changes a person and leads to one thing, attention.

"My hair does draw attention because I have so much of it," replied Kristin Quinn, junior. "People can notice me all

the way down the hall."

Attention from students is not always the best thing, especially when a person does not want it.

"I didn't have hair like this for attention because all I got was bad attention," Lori explained.

Oakies had different reasons for getting hair styled the way they did.

"I decided it would look neat and it would be fun to be wild. Besides, not too many people have hair like it," replied John Lutgen, senior.

Chrissy explained, "I like it, it's me. Hairstyles are not important but mine resembles my lifestyle, friends, and music."

Whether or not the person's hairstyle is appealing, the most important thing is

his personality.

"It's like a freedom of choice or a part of me. I like it. If others would take a chance and get to know me, they'd like it too," added Chrissy.

"It's not a fad because it's a way of expressing myself."

-Lori Green
senior

Hairstyles are often changed because the individual wants to be like someone else.

"I think the players see something in someone else that they like, and want to be like them," replied Coach Keith Ross.

Traditions, fads, and people often change but rules somehow always stay the same. The rules about hairstyles were somewhat changed because many Oakies had different styles.

"I feel the hairstyles are just part of a fashion coming back in, not something to cause problems," Coach Rich Brill said.

Oakies' hairstyles changed but one thing made the difference. "The difference is what is in the inside of the head not covering the outside," Brill replied.



Jack Armstrong, senior, displays team spirit by shaving his jersey number into his hair. (photo by Matthew Ward)

overcome O.P.



Sprucing up her latest hairdo, Lori Green, senior, gets ready to face the day. (photo by Lisa Mason)



A shampoo and rinse helps Chrissy Kennish, senior, prepare for her haircut. (photo by Lisa Mason)



After getting her haircut, Chrissy has her hair styled with a little bit of hairspray and a blow-dryer. (photo by Lisa Mason).



Taking a glimpse of her newly cut hair, Chrissy nods in approval. (photo by Lisa Mason).



Madonna, Garfield, and Taco Bell adorn the inside of an Oak Park student's car. (photo by Jim Preston)



Rob Nessari's Camaro can be identified by his personalized license plate. (photo by Jim Preston)



A white stripe on the side of her Camaro personalizes senior Cyndi Roth's car. (photo by Jim Preston)



From U2 pins to hanging dice, Oakies decorate CARS

• by Bob Randall

The automobile is considered "home" to many students because of the time spent driving to school, to work, or to a movie. After a while, a car tends to take on the character of the driver. Instead of, "You are what you eat," the saying becomes, "You are what you drive."

John Farmer, junior, drove a red 1967 Chevrolet Chevelle.

"I've always been interested in that kind of car, and I've put a lot of work into it to get it to where it is," John said.

A car can influence the first impression made about the driver.

"I think my car and I both come across as pretty easy to handle," Troy Ferrero, junior, said. Troy drove a red 1978 Spitfire convertible.

The type of car was not the only telling characteristic.

The color of a car told of the driver's personality. A red car, for example, showed an aggressive, outgoing person, while a blue color generally indicated a more passive individual.

The condition of a car also revealed a personality. A very clean car usually belonged to a neat, tidy perfectionist. A dirty, unkept car, on the other hand, probably belonged to an unconcerned, maybe messy person.

Another way to personalize one's car was to add to the interior.

Tonya Brennan, senior, had a tiny pair of blue ballet shoes hanging from her rearview mirror.

"A friend gave them to me and they're really special. I've taken dance since I was in second grade," Tonya said.

A final way to express yourself through a car was to get personalized license plates.

Rob Nessari, senior, had plates on his car that displayed his given first name, "Sohrab."

The most prominent of characteristics that tied Oak Park's cars together was the fact that they belonged to Oak Park residents. Because of their uniqueness and singularity, these cars may almost be considered Oak Park citizens themselves.



In the

NE

M. King

"It was voted on by Congress to be celebrated as a national holiday, obviously it should have been celebrated."

Bob Randall, junior

AIDS

"It would bother me (sitting next to someone who had AIDS) it would make me feel uncomfortable."

Tracy Fredrick, junior

Drug testing

"If they are going to make it for anybody it has to be for everybody especially for people involved in sports because little kids look up to them."

Brad Evans, senior

1987 national news hits the home front

• by Tamela Simpson

A photographer carefully focuses on an oppressed, emaciated African child, seeing with his eyes a part of Africa that the rest of the world has never seen. The photographer has taken many pictures when traveling from country to country. He anxiously awaits his arrival home, because it is there that they will develop his film, and expose all that he has seen to every American.

Just as one photographer revealed hunger to Americans, other photographers exposed different stories that were as important. The Iran Contra, a story that started developing in November finally came into full picture when The Tower Commission Report was exposed. The public also became aware that AIDS was not just a homosexual disease when celebrities Rock Hudson and Liberace died. The great pacifist, Martin Luther King, was finally accepted and recognized for his peaceful and ingenious ways of solving racial segregation. Famous athletes like Len Bias died of drug overdoses.

The year 1987 brought exposure to every front page. The news not only effected the rich and famous but in some ways, every student at Oak Park.

The Iran Contra Scandal seemed to be so distant, but each time money or arms were traded, it directly effected each American.

"I think it is defeating the purpose of world peace because they would use arms to terrorize other people, it's just like a cycle," said Debbie Prater, senior.

Brad Evans felt that the President should have left the hostages in Iran.

"I think they should be on their own. We have too many people as it is to take care of," said Brad.

Since Martin Luther King's birthday was declared a national holiday, many students protested Oak Park's not recognizing his birthday by wearing black arm bands.

"We should have done something for the day. He was not only emphasizing peace but equality," said Debbie.

Many students were aware of the big news headlines in '87 but, there were many other events in the news. Apartheid in South Africa, the new Heartland Bridge replacing the old ASB, the Chiefs in the playoffs for the first time in 15 years, and the Voyager made the longest flight ever.

Oakies agreed that class discussion was needed to inform students about all the possible events that made 86-87 different.

Senior Sherrie Watkins concluded, "It is important for students to discuss the news and be aware of the world situations so they will know the problems to be able to help figure out the answers."

Protesting not celebrating Martin Luther King's birthday, students Kyle Belvill, Bob Randall, Stephanie Pogge, wore black arm bands symbolizing peace. (photo by David Cunningham)

W/S

Transferring not only drugs, a hypodermic needle spread the newest lethal disease, AIDS. (photo by David Cunningham)

Making top news of the year, the Iran Contra story could be found on the cover or front page of every magazine and newspaper. (photo by David Cunningham)



S

• by Kelly Reed

Something was special about Oak Park. It was not just the sports or the classes. It was the people who made these things come alive, the 2200 people who made Oak Park what it is.

The people were the most important part of Oak Park. Without them, Oak Park would have been just another building along North Oak.

People at Oak Park - from custodians to students - pitched in to make Oak Park totally different from any other school. They helped make Oak Park the number one school in Kansas City when it came to such things as donations.

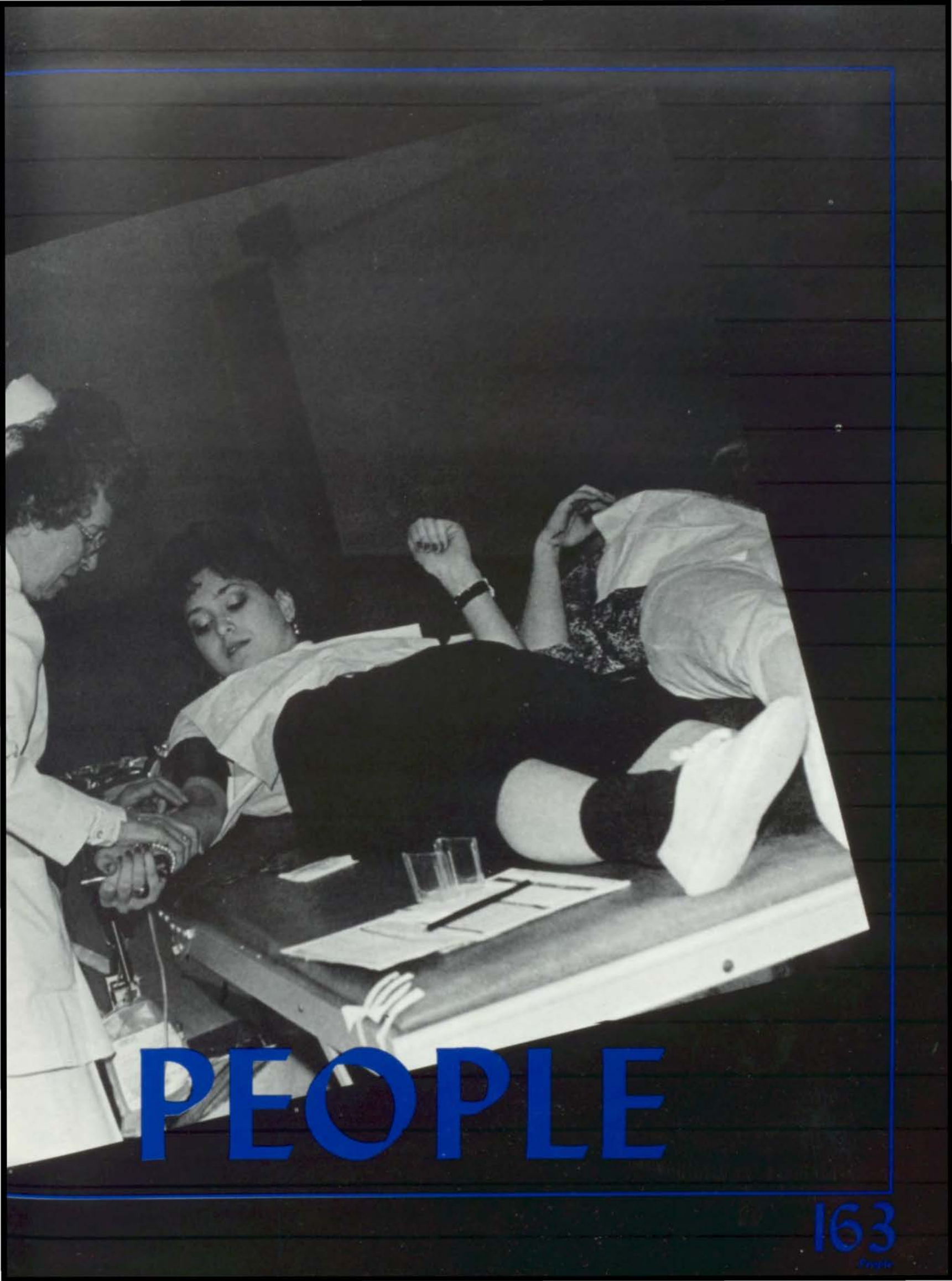
United Way was the beginning of it all. In one week alone, Oakies dug deep into their pockets and scraped up all their pennies and collected close to \$9500. At Christmas time, Oakies brought car loads of food, clothes, and toys for the needy around Kansas City.

Oakies ability to care about others showed every day of the year. Helping people made the true spirit come out. It was the students who were the true blue.



Despite the spring goals for the blood drive not being met, Debbie Prater, senior, does her share. (photo by David Cunningham)

Insuring that they will not be late for their first hour, Gregg Glass and other freshmen park their books in front of room 226. (photo by David Cunningham)



PEOPLE



From calculators to brochures, the senior book was stuffed with memories. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

The Great American Novel: The senior book

• by Michele Tunnell

The Great American Novel? Well, not really, but for some seniors, their senior book was like a novel of their high school career. Memorabilia saved from the years are crammed in boxes, dresser drawers, and eventually the memories are all put together to make the "novel."

"I looked forward to starting my senior book since my freshmen year and I saved things since then," senior, Rhonda Wibright, said.

No matter what activity, whether it is a school event or an outside event, students could be found collecting items for their senior book. After these items were collected, the seniors would spend hours organizing the book.

"It (a senior book) was a part of your life," Kelly Forslund, senior, said. "You want it to look neat."

"You want to keep your senior book organized so you'll remember things better," said Julie Coleman, senior.

To most seniors the book was special and the memories in the book were to be kept forever.

"You can tell a person's personality from their senior book," Rhonda said. "It will be fun to show my kids what we were like when we were kids."

"I want to be able to look in my book and bring back memories," said Kelly. "It (the senior book) is kind of like a showcase of things we did our senior year."

The show case contained items that ranged from concert tickets to matches from various restaurants. Some of the items were expensive and some of the items cost next to nothing.

"I saved my ticket stub from the Journey concert because my boyfriend and I went and it was very special," Teresa Heelan, senior, said. "I also saved every ticket stub from the movies we went to."

The cost of the senior book itself was \$10.50 to \$12.50 but the seniors did not hesitate to pay this money because the book was considered so special.

A senior book was something different to everyone. But whether it was considered a showcase or the way of determining a personality, it contained one important thing—memories.

Seniors



James Ackermann
Edward Adams



Mark Adams
Kathleen Adamson



Craig Albers
Sam Allen



Joseph Andrus
Denise Apley



Jeffrey Arendt
Jack Armstrong



Carol Ashley
 Billy Babbitt
 Andrew Baker
 Darren Baker
 John Baker



Michele Ballard
 Ralph Balsdon
 Dianna Bane
 Lori Barber
 Laura Barnes



Todd Barr
 Lucy Basinger
 Staci Baska
 Tamela Bassett
 Terri Bates



Tarri Bavaro
 Brad Beach
 Maryanna Beall
 Margaret Beatty
 Rachelle Bennett



Cynthia Benson
 Brian Berkley
 Douglas Berls
 Michael Berry
 Stephanie Bethke



Samuel Bigham
 Renee Billingsley
 Heidi Bischo
 Daniel Bishop
 Sherry Blake

Seniors

Ruth Blanco
Laurie Blankenship



Todd Bluhm
Shelli Bock



Jeffery Bogue
Joseph Bonavia



Karen Boney
Greg Borcharding



Chris Boswell
Tracy Boswell



Cara Cone's talent leads her to the Marimba

• by Lisa Livingston

Marimba: A primitive xylophone of Southern Africa and Central America with resonators beneath each bar; also: a modern improved form of this instrument." Webster's Dictionary.

In a little over a year Cara Cone, senior, has mastered the marimba, an instrument most people have to look up in the dictionary if they were asked what it was.

Cara proved her talent her junior year by receiving an honorary one, the highest rating possible, at the state competition.

"State was my most memorable performance," said Cara.

In addition, Cara was one of two students chosen out of four to attend a master class in Maryville, Missouri.

"The judge critiqued and made suggestions to improve my playing," Cara said.

Afterwards the students in the master class participated in a concert.

Cara's talent is not confined to just one instrument. She plays the piano and is the second violinist in orchestra.

"It comes naturally to me," she said.

But these instruments do not tune out her love for the marimba.

"This instrument is so natural," Cara said. "I love playing marimba."

According to Cara the marimba is a difficult instrument to play. It involved learning how to control multiple sticks and learning "the arrangement of a keyboard."

"I'm going to major in percussion music education and then perform some after college," she said, "and I'll have my teaching degree to fall back on."

Cara said her private teacher, Charmaine Asher-Wiley, is one person who has helped the most in developing her talent.

Cara's parents have also been supportive in her musical career.

"They rented me a marimba," she joked, but added with a more serious note. "They support me in all I do."

Rest assured Cara will continue to share her talent with her students if she becomes a teacher and with an audience if she continues to perform.

Playing the xylophone was only one of Cara Cone's musical talents. (photo by David Zimmerman)





Cheryl Botts
Jadee Bowden
Susan Bowen
Lisa Bowman
Richard Bowman



Patrick Brazelton
Tonya Brennan
Gregory Brick
Rebecca Brink
Kendra Britt



Amber Brooke
Alan Brown
Donald Brown
Marvin Brown
Stephen Brown



Todd Brucker
Eric Bruemmer
Robert Bryant
Marci Bull
Cari Caffey



James Campbell
Jeffery Campbell
Christopher Canada
Stacey Carter
Troy Caswell



Carl Cessor
Carrie Chambers
Toni Charmello
Joseph Chenoweth
Karen Chrisman

Jason Clark
Julie Clark
Ronda Clutter
Mary Cochran
Teri Cockrell



Jaimee CoHu
Starrlyn Colbert
Julie Coleman
Melissa Collacott
Teggie Collins



Wendy Comer
Cara Cone
Michael Conn
Clint Cook
Debra Cooley



Brian Cordle
Kyla Cordray
Tracy Corley
Frank Corte
Michael Costelow



Mitzi Craft
Stephanie Craun
Phillip Craven
Kelly Crawford
Sheri Creel



Lisa Crispell
David Cunningham
Lori Curtin
Craig Curtis
Joann Dake





Karen Smith and Todd Brucker, seniors visit travel agency to plan a slowly approaching senior week. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Senioritis plagues the Class of '87

• by Brenda Heffron

Skippping school, feeling independent, procrastinating, and arriving to school at 8:02 a.m. are serious symptoms of a disease expert doctors do not and will never know the cure for. This dreaded disease is also the only illness a student can not get an excused absense for. It is known as senioritis.

Signs of senioritis can appear as early as the last day of a student's junior year.

"The first time I stepped into Oak Park my senior year was the first time I felt senioritis. I was just sick of the same old thing everyday for three years," said Jerrel Osborn, senior.

"The end of the first quarter was when I felt senioritis by not wanting to go to school everyday," explained Jason White, senior.

Senioritis has many symptoms, but not all symptoms effect all people in the same way.

"I got to school in time to walk through the door and right to class. The extra ten or fifteen minutes of sleep you got is more important than socializing in the morning. You had classtime to do that," said Joe Bonavia, senior.

Underclassmen sometimes felt the effects of senioritis-such as in the lunchroom.

"It's easier to cut in front of people in the lunch line. If someone said anything to you, you just told them 'I'm a senior'," said Richie Bowman, senior.

"Easy" classes were full of seniors trying to get through the year.

"I took easy classes because I finished all the harder classes early so I wouldn't have very much homework my senior year," said Jason.

As the feeling of independency came over the victim the senior is feeling 'too cool for school' and was looking forward to leaving at the end of the day.

"I took everything with me to last hour that I wanted to take home with me, so at 2:40 p.m. I could be the first one out of the parking lot," said Polly McLean, senior.

Senioritis is the only disease a cure is not being researched for.

Seniors



Geary Dalman
Bradley Dark



Scott Davidson
Cathy Davis



Jeffrey Davis
Kevin Day



Meike Deboer
Brandi Denning



Shaune Deweese
Christine Dobbins



Debra Dobney
Joel Dodge
Larry Dowse
Dawn Draper
David Duello



Lisa Dunlap
Dale Economou
Stefanie Edmonson
Robert Edsall
Saeed Eshraghi



Anthony Esteb
Stacey Eugenio
Bradley Evans
David Farris
Shon Ferguson



Charles Ferrara
Abby Ferry
Jennifer Field
Jonathan Fields
Brian Findley



Heather Flanagan
Renee Flint
Christopher Foree
Kelly Forslund
Gregory Forson



Christopher Foster
Christopher Francisco
Jeffrey Frasier
Jacqueline Fulton
Shannon Gaines



Hard work for the fun or for the freedom

• by Michele Tunnell

Top Gun" was a very popular movie, partly because the characters got to do something most people only dream about, fly. A feeling of freedom and weightlessness is a part of this dream. For some, this dream will never come true, but for one Oakie, hard work and a lot of time made the dream come true.

Tamela Simpson, senior, dreamed about flying ever since she was a little girl.

"When I was seven we used to go to my grandparents' house that was right by an airport," Tamela said. "My grandpa told me if I came up with the money he would build me an airplane."

"She just came up to me one day and said, 'I want to take flying lessons,'" Tamela's father, Jerry Simpson, said.

However, achieving the goal of a flying license was not so simple. It took many steps, the first one being ground school. In this part of the schooling Tamela had to not only learn about the plane but the weather and other conditions outside of the plane.

"It's a lot harder than people realize," said Tamela. "You need to know everything about the plane so if something goes wrong, you can fix it."

After ground school, which consisted of a 40-hour Maple Woods College class, Tamela had to spend many hours in the air. To complete the process of getting the flying license, she had to fly ten hours solo, forty hours dual, ten hours flying cross country, and ten hours night flying.

"I was apprehensive with her flying," Mr. Simpson, said. "You normally do not take a sixteen year old girl and tell her to fly."

"When all of my friends were going out at night, I always had to be in early so I could get up early and fly," said Tamela.

After college, Tamela plans to join the Airforce and fly jet airplanes.

"I believe she set a goal and she achieved it and I've been behind her 100 percent," Tamela's mom, Barbara Simpson, said.

Getting ready to take off, Tamela Simpson gets clearance from the control tower at the Downtown Airport. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Seniors

Kenneth Garber
Carl Garko



Tonia Gavin
Deborah Gentry



Victor George
Sharie Gere



Matthew Gibson
Sandra Gilpin



Andrew Giyer
Tim Glathaar



Memories large or small are kept forever

• by Kathy Alber

Memories. When most people hear that word, they think of moments that will never be forgotten. For many Oak Park seniors, those moments ranged from sports to prom to getting involved in special groups.

Becoming a member of Oak Street Singers was Charla Ringhausens's most memorable moment in high school.

"It was my goal when I stepped in the doors of Oak Park and it has given me more confidence to go after the things I want to do," said Charla.

Meeting friends were also included in the special high school moments.

Karen Miscavish said meeting her best friend was special because "even when he's not around, I think of him and it helps".

If she could have changed their friendship, she said, "I would have gotten to know him sooner."

For Susan Kane, her special moment in high school was being a candidate for Homecoming Queen.

"It was an honor and very exciting," she said.

The District Track meet in 1986 was Matt Lightfoot's most memorable moment because he qualified for sectionals and state in the high jump. Matt said it has encouraged him to try harder for this year's track season and to reach his goal.

Jennifer Sinnett said when she went to prom in 1985, during her sophomore year, was a memorable moment to her.

"I went with someone very special to me and I'll never forget it or him. It was the most fun I've ever had," she said.

One senior said passing out every time StuCo sponsored a blood drive would be memorable because he was embarrassed each time.

Most seniors agreed that they will remember the special moments for years to come.

While there is that one special moment to some, others agreed that smaller things were just as important.

"There will always be special memories of my friends and teachers that I will remember," said Dee Owen.

One golden memory for Kristy Wolfer and Denise Sullivan was stopping off for a quick breakfast before school. (photo by Katie Adamson)



Seniors



Ronald Goetz
Thomas Graff



Kimberly Granquist
Maria Grantham



Douglas Graves
Lori Green



Jeffrey Gregory
Kimberly Grill



Bryan Grisham
Phillip Grosse



Brent Guglielmino
Craig Hagenbuch
Mary Hale
Scott Haley
Gregory Harper



Brent Harris
Christina Harris
Laura Harris
Richard Harris
Jason Hasenohr



Mark Haskins
Scott Heddings
Teresa Heelan
Brenda Heffron
Shelly Henley



Paula Herod
Jeffrey Herrington
Paul Hickson
Shanel Hiebert
Curtis High



Kimberly Hill
Wyn Hilty
Kelly Hook
David Hopper
Marvin Horn



Scott Horton
Robin Howel
Brian Hoyer
Bruce Hubbard
Todd Hubert

Seniors

Larry Huckleberry
Sittichoke Huckuntod



Laura Huff
Sheim Hughes



Shawn Hunt
Christina Hutsell



Karen Hynson
Daryl Irby



David Jacks
James Janchar



Practicing lines before a performance, Laurie O'Donnell makes sure she is prepared. (photo by David Cunningham)

Mother Nature launches acting career

• By Susan Goldammer

"Wow! I'm on T.V." is all Laurie O'Donnell can remember about her acting experience on the "Mother Nature Show", the first of her many public appearances as an aspiring actress.

Laurie, senior, participated extensively in Oak Park's dramatic courses and over 25 school and community related productions. All of this was not just a hobby, Laurie plans to develop her talents into a professional acting career.

"I just always knew that I wanted to be an actress," said Laurie. "It makes me feel good about myself."

Laurie began as a toddler in an advertisement for chocolate and on the "Jack Cafferty Show".

As she grew older, Laurie participated in various musicals and plays at the Parkville Bell Road Barn and was involved in Oak Park's production of "Annie".

Laurie's most challenging role was the part of Emily Webb in the play "Our Town", performed by the Wyandotte Community Players last August. In it, her character began as a 12-year old and "grew" to the age of 26.

"I felt wonderful after I had accomplished it," said Laurie.

Besides her drama workshops and the Avila College Theater Camp last summer.

Laurie took dancing lessons at Dianna's School of Dance and had her parents help her with her singing. Nevertheless, she felt that acting is her true calling.

When she had trouble with a characterization, Laurie consulted Nancy Hudson, Oak Park's drama instructor, and a few other experienced friends and actresses.

Laurie hoped to enter Syracuse University and major in theater with a minor degree in a medical field as a stand-by profession.

Laurie plans to use her medical training instead of becoming a "starving actress" as she searches for the role that will make her a star.

"If it went by ambition, I'd make it," said Laurie.



Melinda Jenkins
 Mitchel Jenkins
 Alec Johnson
 Jeffrey Johnson
 Mark Johnson



Robert Johnson
 Tamra Johnson
 Jeffrey Jones
 Jessica Julin
 Stacey Jurgens



Denise Kammerlohr
 Susan Kane
 Lori Kaster
 Michael Kearns
 Jeff Kever



Christine Kennish
 Randall Kent
 Richard King
 Bryan Kirkland
 Jennifer Kloth



Susan Knox
 Daniel Konecny
 Jana Kontoulas
 Edward Kothe
 Bridgette Kotlyn



Steven Kowalski
 Todd Kussman
 Suzanne Lake
 Timothy Lake
 Matthew Lane

Barbara Lappin
 Sharon Lappin
 Cheri Lawhon
 Shannon Ledgerwood
 Brett Letkowski



Shawn Lewis
 Brian Libeer
 Matthew Lightfoot
 Michael Lile
 Steven Liles



Cathy Linard
 Margaret Lindsey
 Michelle Loveall
 Billie Lumsden
 Steve Lundy



John Lutgen
 George Lyon
 Anjanette Maier
 Shaun Marcotte
 Stacy Marshall



Christi Martin
 Julie Mason
 Melissa Mason
 Jodi Massic
 Anne Masters



Bert Mathews
 Grant McCarty
 Janel McCullick
 Christine McDougal
 Don McGrath



In colleges answer final questions

• by Tamela Simpson

Trying to make all E's, taking the ACT and SAT tests, and filling out scholarship applications were all a part of getting ready for college but after all this preparation seniors still faced the biggest decision of all—Which college should they attend?

Seniors had to consider many different factors before making their decisions. Two of the main factors were majors offered and size.

"Since I am going into a science related field I chose Northwestern in Evanston, Illinois because it has a really good science department," said Joann Dake.

Jerrel Osborn chose Central Missouri State University because it was one of the few schools that offered criminal justice as a major.

"I felt there was no point in me going to a college that didn't have my major," said Jerrel.

Kim Granquist based her decision on the size of the school.

"M.U. seemed too big and C.M.S.U. seemed too small, I chose S.M.S.U. because it was the right size for me," said Kim.

Some students felt that attending college out of state would help them to be more independent.

"My parents encouraged me to go out of state so I could meet people and experience life in the real world," said Kevin O'Neil.

"My best friend is attending Northwestern and she loves it. I was a little influenced because of her decision," added Joann.

Some decisions were not based on academics at all. "I decided on S.M.S.U. because my boyfriend was going to attend there also. Since I haven't decided on a major, my first interest was my boyfriend," said Kim.

"Kids came to me and asked where they should attend college. I listed the factors they should consider since each student was different the only one that could make the right decision was the student himself," concluded Mr. Bill Overby, counselor.

Facing decisions. Oak Park seniors tour William Jewell campus to find the right college for them. (photo by Lisa Mason)



Seniors



Kevin McLaughlin
Pat McLaughlin



Polly McLean
Jason McNeil



Laura Meier
Kim Melton



Joette Meyers
Christopher Miller



Kevin Miller
Richard Miller

Dale Minton
 Karen Miscavish
 Allen Mische
 Joel Mitchell
 Sue Molder



Debbie Molleson
 Melissa Moore
 Garrett Mumma
 Kristy Murphy
 Michelle Murphy



Matt Murray
 Danyel Murtha
 Tracey Myers
 Daniel Nelson
 Stephanie Nelson



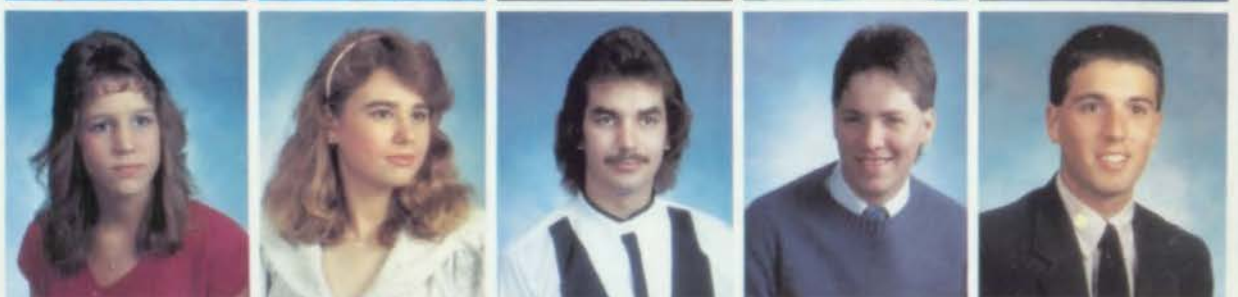
Sohrab Nessari
 Bradley Newland
 Leigh Nicholson
 Angela Norman
 Julie Norris



Rebecca Nourse
 Trilby Nunes
 Donald Nye
 Susan Nyen
 John O'Brien



Janie O'Dell
 Laurie O'Donnell
 Danny Olguin
 Richard O'Keefe
 Kevin O'Neil



Seniors

Shannon O'Reilly
Jerrel Osborn



Chris Overall
Deanne Owen



Deirdra Ozment
Catherine Paddock



Suzanne Park
William Park



Tammy Patrick
Staci Patterson



Talking with a friend from camp, Tammy Johnson tells about her day at school. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Smiles keep Tammy volunteering with MDA

• by Michelle Leverich

Muscular Dystrophy. It is a disease that most people have heard of but it is a disease that Tammy Johnson, senior, is very close to.

Tammy worked during the summer as an attendant at Camp Chihowa, a camp for victims of MD. While Tammy was at the camp she was in charge of one person.

"All of my time was spent with my camper. I just helped her," Tammy said.

Some of the campers needed help with everyday activities like eating, but some just needed a friend, someone to talk to.

Muscular Dystrophy deals with thirty different muscle diseases. It is a genetic disease that can affect anyone.

Tammy has a friend who, from the time she was born, was not expected to live past the age of two or three.

"She keeps beating the odds. She is now sixteen," Tammy said, "and now she isn't expected to live past the age of twenty."

Tammy started working with the Muscular Dystrophy Association last spring. A friend who already worked with MDA got her involved.

"I've always wanted to work with the MDA," Tammy said. "It's a special organization."

At first Tammy did not think she would become as involved with MDA as she has.

"I thought I'd go to the camp for a week and that would be it," Tammy said, "but now it's a big part of my life."

One thing that inspires Tammy to keep on working is "their smiles."

"They are always happy, even with their handicap and it's inspiring," said Tammy.

She was a part of the Labor Day Telethon where she met this year's poster child and helped answer phones. She was also on television.

"It was a real fulfilling experience," said Tammy.

Tammy has made some close friends who have MD and they play an important part in her life.

"When I look at them and see how happy they are," Tammy said, "I look at myself and see how lucky I am."



Remembering back to camp, Doug Graves and Daryl Irby look at one of their many photo albums. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Camp teaches scouts to 'always be prepared'

• by Kelly Reed

Summer vacation. Those two words put together could bring tears to students' eyes during the school year. Their minds conjure up a picture of soaking up the sun on a beach or visiting Mickey and Minney Mouse at Disneyland. But who would even dream of spending their entire summer vacation in a remote town such as Osceola, Missouri?

For Doug Graves and Daryl Irby, seniors, there was no dreaming needed- it was a reality. Both spent two months of their summer in Osceola, working at H. Roe Bartle Scout Reservation, a boy scout camp.

Both Doug and Daryl attended the camp when they were younger, which made them interested in working at the camp. This job was like no job in Kansas City though.

"A lot of stuff that I would have learned at department stores and much more I learned down there," said Doug, who worked in the Trading Post, a general store, and also at Reservation Headquarters as an instructor.

Daryl, who has worked at the camp for the past four years, held many different positions. His favorite job was business manager. He ran the accounts on the camp, basically keeping track of all the money that goes through the camp.

Some people might feel that being away from home for two months might not be worth making contacts. Doug and Daryl both felt that it was worth all the time put into camp.

"Sometimes it got depressing being so far from home. But we were so busy we did not have time to think about it," said Doug. "It's better because you have not seen your friends all summer and you are happier to see them when you return."

Not only was camp a place to get away from family and friends, it was also a place to make new family and friends.

"Year after year, you develop friends. It was like a home away from home," said Daryl. "I cannot imagine a summer without it. It is just a part of me and always will be."

Seniors



Terri Pearson
Kevin Perkins



Shelley Phebus
Michael Pierson



Katie Pinkston
Charles Pittman



Rebecca Plath
Joseph Pollina



Susan Poston
Jennifer Potter



Stanley Potter
Carey Powers
Thomas Powers
Deborah Prater
Brant Prather



James Preston
Blanca Ramos
Martin Randle
Michael Randle
Suzanne Rastorfer



Gregory Rebel
Jonathan Reed
Kelly Reed
Joe Reid
Frank Reinsch



Susan Resch
Sherri Ribando
Michael Rice
Shannon Riley
Charla Ringhausen



Helena Ripatti
Kimberly Ristow
Phillip Roades
Meredith Roberson
Eric Roberts



Timothy Roberts
Thomas Robertson
Kenneth Rock
Phillip Rodriguez
Angela Rogge

Graduation expenses cost seniors some grief

• by Michelle Murphy

Graduating may have occurred in May, but the process of graduating started with senior pictures, senior book, senior key, invitations, and ended with cap and gown. In order to have these things, seniors had to deal with one thing . . . money.

A senior is involved in graduating the minute the photographer shoots that first senior picture. The senior then begins to start spending money.

"Yes, I ordered pictures, cap and gown, announcements, senior book, senior key, and thank-you notes. Thank goodness my parents paid for it otherwise I would have been broke," said Michelle Zager, senior.

Many seniors had to have a part-time job outside of school, or worked in the summer, in order to have some spending cash.

"Besides spending fifteen to thirty dollars a week, I had to buy my senior pictures and wanted to have some money on the weekends," said Teresa Heelan, senior.

Although these Oakies had to spend money on graduation supplies, they were also looking ahead into the future, getting ready for senior week.

Kelly Forslund, senior, added, "I worked two jobs this summer so I could save money to go towards senior week."

Many Oakies felt like they were committed to buy senior paraphernalia.

"I felt obligated to purchase the senior things because it's an important step that I wanted to remember," said Michelle.

Remembering graduation and all the fun things a senior does is why Oakies decided to buy the extra accessories.

"It is my last year of high school and I want to remember all the crazy times in classes," said Garrett Mumma, senior.

Money is hard to come by, especially if it belongs to you, but in the long run the senior will want to remember everything.

"What this year means to me can't be measured by money," explained Tom Robertson, senior.

Thinking about graduation, Karen Chrisman, senior, and Michelle Loveall, senior, try on their robes. (photo by Mary Beall)



Seniors

David Roggy
Angela Roos



Cynthia Roth
Richard Ruth



Tania Ryser
Lisa Salisbury



Gregg Sandridge
Thomas Schollars



Sherrie Schworer
Sean Seidel





Linda Sellars
Galen Sellens
Steven Senter
Jennifer Shaw
John Shaw



Kier Sheldon
Gregory Shepherd
Bobbie Shever
Teresa Short
Donna Simons



Tamela Simpson
David Singleton
Jennifer Sinnett
Samantha Sluder
Cindy Smith



David Smith
Karen Smith
Mark Smith
Robert J. Smith
Robert N. Smith



Suzanne D. Smith
Suzanne M. Smith
Jennifer Snow
Stephanie Snowden
Tamara Soules



Michael Sparks
Stacy Speich
Lovena Stamatrou
Tim Stark
Karla Steele

Vickie Stephens
Tommy Stevenson
Jennifer Stilts
Kristine Stoneking
Mark Strecker



Sheri Stucker
Denise Sullivan
June Sumner
Rebecca Sutton
Rebecca Sutton



Jason Swan
Jaye Tartar
Angela Taylor
Michelle Taylor
Valrita Taylor



Patrick Tepesch
Kristen Theus
Carol Thomas
Wayne Thomas
Randy Thompson

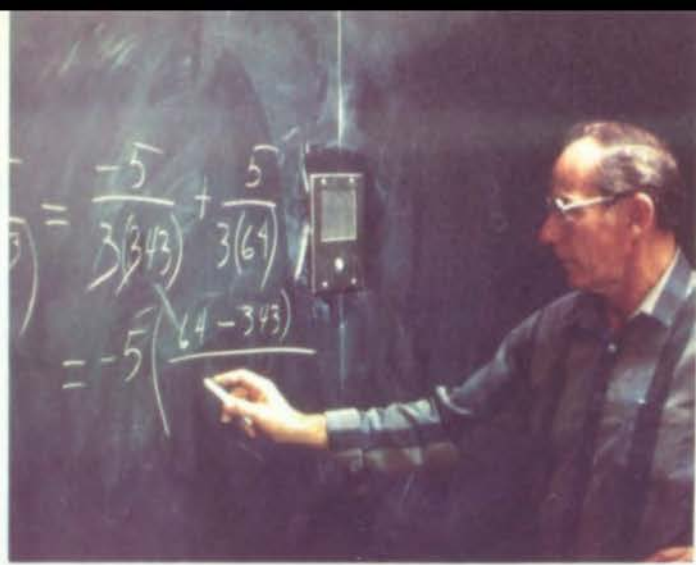


James Thornton
B.G. Thurston
Brett Tinius
Alexander Tinsley
Cameron Tremain



Steven Trischler
Kyle Tubbs
Audra Tuggle
Michele Tunnell
Mark Turner





To help give students a head start, Mr. Gus Baker explains calculus, a college credit class. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

College classes give seniors head start

• by Jill Hall

Not everyone has the time or money to go to two colleges at the same time. Not to mention the fact that they attend high school as well. But letting a \$100 scholarship go unused seemed like a waste to senior Brent Guglielmino who was enrolled in a night college algebra class. He also took a college American history class at Oak Park through U.M.K.C.

"I had gotten all my requirements over for high school so I thought I'd work on my college requirements," said Brent.

Barbara Lappin, senior, had other reasons for enrolling in college classes.

"I took them to get them over with. I saved myself two classes in college. Plus, it was less expensive," said Barbara.

Preparing students for college requires different teaching methods.

"I go faster and cover more material. I don't explain it in as much detail and I have few review days," said Mr. Gus Baker, math teacher.

"I think they (the teachers) are pressured more to push us," added Barbara.

Mr. Baker thinks benefits, other than receiving college credit, are gained.

"It is tough to get through college in four years. Things have to work out just right. If any courses are closed the student might have to do more than four years to complete the course requirements. Also, students have more time for elective courses," added Mr. Baker.

College credit classes are easier when taken in high school rather than in college feels Brent because, "they are smaller classes in high school."

But they are still harder than high school classes. "I've studied more this year than ever before," said Brent.

"Even when it gets tough, I think I still like it," said Barbara. "I'm glad they have it."

Brent agrees because, "After this year I'm completely done with math."

For whatever reason, college credit classes are being chosen by many Oak Park students.

"If you have the opportunity to get rid of some college hours, do it," advises Brent.

Seniors



Michelle Twitt
Jon Tyree



Sheri Unscheid
Erin Vanlandingham



Jamie Walk
Larry Walker



Kevin Walters
Matthew Ward



Kathryn Warner
Sherrie Watkins



Tanni Weller
 Jerry Wells
 John Whetzel
 Conrad White
 Jason White



Jeffrey White
 Cari Whitten
 Beth Whitten
 Rhonda Wibright
 Tonia Wilkinson



Jim Williams
 Pamela Williams
 Raelyn Williams
 Connie Willkett
 Patty Wilson



Patricia Wiltz
 Rachael Wise
 John Witteborg
 Thomas Woitasczyk
 Lana Wolf



Kristy Wolfer
 Lana Wooten
 Kimberly Worrel
 Robin Wright
 Steven Wyatt



Susan Yardley
 Levent Yilmaz
 Michelle Zager
 David Zimmerman
 Linda Zimmerman



"Clean Options" gives an independence

• by Lisa Gidley

Being unemployed is common among teenagers, and for most, the solution is plowing through the want ads in search of an available job. Two enterprising Oakies, though, solved this problem in a more creative manner. Andy Giyer and Phil Grosse, seniors, founded and financed their own cleaning business.

Andy and Phil began their service, called Clean Options, last October. They worked in both private homes and businesses, and according to Andy, cleaned "mostly carpets, but usually anything that needed it." And yes, they even did windows!

But as the old saying goes, it takes money to make money, and Clean Options was not immediately profitable. However, starting a cleaning business was less costly than beginning most other types of businesses.

"It costed little to start because we performed a service instead of selling a product," Phil explained.

It was a desire for independence that attracted Andy and Phil to the idea of working for themselves.

"We didn't want to work by anyone else's set hours," said Phil. "Having a rigid schedule is dull; it limits you."

The duo planned on continuing Clean Options after graduation. They also wanted to open a business office to operate out of.

Although having their own business proved rewarding for Phil and Andy, neither plans of cleaning carpets for a life-long career. Phil would like to open a clothing store on the Plaza, featuring "emotional, bizarre, and classy fashions."

Andy, a guitarist, would enjoy making a living off his musical skills.

"I'd love to tour professionally," he said.

Both felt their business enterprise taught them independence and responsibility, things necessary for the "real world" after high school.

"I'd like to live off my own means," said Phil. "When I look at a multimillion dollar business, I admire the person who had the mind to start it. I want to be that type of person, not work for one."

Cleaning windows was one thing Phillip Grosse was used to with a cleaning business. (photo by Mary Beall)



Seniors



Lora Zimmerman



Michael Zink



Rachael Zuber



Michelle Zuniga



Denise Zvorak

Honors



Jason Swan receives congratulations as well as his college scholarship from Mr. Benny Cain, (photo by Susanne Combs)



Enjoying the PTSA cake. Michelle Twitt and Laura Meier, seniors, are served by Brooke Warner, junior, at the first reception ever at Senior Honors Night. (photo by Mike Gentry)

• by Michele Tunnell

Seniors recognized for their achievements

There was not a roaring crowd, nor was there a ticker tape parade, but the Parent Teacher Student Association made a great effort to make senior honors night special for the students and parents. After the awards ceremony, for the first time in O.P. history, the P.T.S.A. invited everyone to the cafeteria where individually decorated cakes and drinks were served.

"It was a nice idea," said senior, Brian Berkley. "It gave everyone a chance to socialize and also gave an opportunity to congratulate people."

However, the main reason for the evening, honors, was held in the main theater.

This year only two perfect attendance awards were handed out. Kim Melton and Karen Smith both went four years without missing one day.

"There were lots of times when I got tired of being at school," said Kim, who was also awarded an R.B. Doolin scholarship, a University of Missouri-Kansas City scholarship, and a Rotary scholarship.

Another traditional award, the Norma and Norman Northman award, was given to Danny Bishop and Michelle Murphy, Student Council president and vice-president.

"It was an honor to know that the whole senior class thought that I had done the most for the school," Michelle said.

Student Council also had some awards of their own to hand out. Mr. Larry Prather, Booster Club president, received the Big Blue Award, and Ms. Annette Luyben, Oak Park pompon sponsor, received the Dan Kahler "Excellence in Education" award.

This was the second year for the Bill Grace scholarship, which was given to Karen Chrisman.

"It was an honor and a shock to receive the Bill Grace scholarship," Karen said, "because he's such a great guy and I admire him a lot."

Other awards that were given were the Jon Berbert Award, given to Brad Newland; the Steve Overby Scholarship, given to Karen Chrisman; and the male and female athlete of the year, given to Sittichoke Huckuntod and Laura Meier, who both also received the U.S.A.R. Scholar-Athlete Award.

In all, 165 students were honored at least once during the ceremony. The night ended with happy faces and satisfied stomachs.

Examining their certificates. Michelle Murphy and Dan Bishop are named Norma and Norman Northman. (photo by Ted Mehl)



Congratulating Mr. Larry Prather. Dan Bishop presents him with the Big Blue award. (photo by Mike Gentry)



Salutatorian, Patty Wiltz, receives her award for four years of hard work from Mr. Joe Spruytte. (photo by Susanne Combs)

Baccalaureate chairperson Tamela Simpson introduces Rev. Richard Butler. (photo by Lisa Kelco)



One step closer to graduation, Denise Kammerlohr is all grins at the Baccalaureate service. (photo by Jenny Esslinger)



"Let There Be Praise" is sung by A Capella Choir at Thursday's service. (photo by Kristi Ford)



Scripture is read by Dee Dee Ozment at Thursday's Baccalaureate. (photo by Kristi Ford)

'Can you imagine' Message touches seniors

• by June Sumerlin

"Can you imagine . . . taking that pain, that rejection, that hurt, and not using it against the others . . . can you imagine?" said Rev. Richard Butler in his closing words at Baccalaureate.

Rev. Butler, the minister of the North Oak Christian Church, was referring to a boy with cerebral palsy and how many students in his school teased and made fun of him. All through the boy's years of high school, he did not use the pain, hurt, and rejection against the others.

The point Rev. Butler made in his sermon was directed to each senior. Many felt his message came across well.

"It (the sermon) really made me think about the past and the future. It was very motivating," said Rhonda Wibright, senior.

In addition to Rev. Butler's message, three musical numbers were sung to add to the service. The first, "We Are His Hands", was a sextet consisting of Deirdra Ozment, June Sumerlin, Pam Williams, Samantha Sluder, Karen Chrisman, Charla Ringhausen, and Jason Swann.

"Destined to Win" was sung by Steven Senter, Michael Pierson, Tracy George, Chris Foree, Tamra Johnson, Connie Wilkett, Linda Sellars, and Angela Rogge. Jason Swann, Patricia Wiltz, Doug Graves, and Cara Cone were instrumentalists. The acappella choir also sang "Let There Be Praise".

The invocation was given by Jason Swan and the benediction by June Sumerlin. Scripture was read by Deirdra Ozment, and Tamela Simpson introduced the speaker and welcomed him to Oak Park.

According to Tamela, chairperson of the Baccalaureate Committee, there were only three seniors on the committee, enabling them all to be involved in the service.

As they filed out of the gym to waiting parents and a barrage of picture-taking, many of the seniors were left thinking of Rev. Butler's words - "Can you imagine?"

Ceremony



Reverend Richard Butler delivers his sermon at the Baccalaureate service. (photo by Lisa Kelco)

Finale



As parents and friends rise, Donald Adams and Troy Caswell lead the seniors' procession into the gym (photo by Nancy Miller).



Waiting behind stacks of diploma covers, Mr. Richard Moore and Mrs. Sandra Clark, school board members, listen to Tom Robertson giving the invocation (photo by Nancy Miller).

Caps and gowns Seniors leave friends

• by Aimee Rogers

It is something that is never realized until the day it happens. Although everyone knows it will eventually take place, it is unreal until the robes are put on, the names are called, the tears are cried, and the good-byes are said. And when your heart feels as empty as the school really is on the last day, you know it is time for graduation.

Commencement ceremonies were held in the big gym May 31 at 3 p.m., the first afternoon graduation in Oak Park's 22 year history. While several seniors showed signs of emotion when singing or receiving their diploma covers, most said they were happy.

"It's a combination of all my feelings," said Robert Witcher. "I'm happy, sad, excited all at the same time."

For the seniors and their friends, graduation was a time to reflect and remember.

Samantha Sluder said, "I feel like I've accomplished a lot these last four years. And I'm ready to move on."

After AFS students Meike deBoer, Levent Yilmaz and Helena Ripatti lit the candles and pep band played "Pomp and Circumstance" as the seniors entered, Tom Robertson, senior class president, gave the invocation, calling the class of 1987 "builders of destiny."

Lisa Bowman and Jason Swan sang "Somewhere Out There" accompanied by Patricia Wiltz, and Stefanie Edmonson presented the senior gifts. Tamela Simpson and Danyel Murtha, senior class officers, read "Just Another Day" by Tom Robertson, followed by Oak Street singing "Maybe Someday".

Next Mr. Joe Spruytte, vice principal, introduced Mrs. Sandra Clark and Mr. Richard Moore, school board members, who later distributed diplomas, then Mr. Spruytte introduced the seniors. After Mrs. Susan Tarwater and Ms. Debra Pyle read the seniors' names, the graduates stood and sang the Alma Mater. Debbie Dobney gave the benediction, saying, "Wherever we go, we will always have a common bond. We are Oak Park's graduating class of 1987." The Recessional followed.

Lighting the candles, Helena Ripatti and Meike deBoer, AFS students, begin the commencement ceremonies (photo by Nancy Miller).



Trying to keep up with 515 seniors, Mrs. Susan Tarwater and Ms. Debra Pyle read their names (photo by Michelle Pope).



Receiving her diploma from Mr. Moore, Connie Wilkett realizes she has finally graduated (photo by Michelle Pope).



Delivering flowers was one of many things Cheryl Coole, junior, did while volunteering at North Kansas City Memorial Hospital. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



A job without pay makes a patient's day

• by Jennifer Snow

Minimum wage times 300 hours of work sounds good. But 300 hours for free? It takes a very special person to give 300 hours of her time on a job for free. While many Oak Park students spent their leisure time shopping, going to basketball games, or watching movies, Cheryl Coole, junior, volunteered her sparetime at North Kansas City Memorial Hospital.

Cheryl worked one night a week during the school year as a volunteer. She, along with other volunteers, performed many activities. They delivered flowers, newspapers, and magazines and also fed, admitted, and dismissed patients. Emergency room assistance was another of the many jobs the volunteers did, whether it was being with a frightened child before getting stitches or sitting with a family in the waiting room.

"We knew that we touched each patient directly or indirectly," Cheryl said.

She felt feeding the patients helped directly and assisting the nurses with paper work helped indirectly.

"I know the experience helped me," Cheryl said. "I learned how to communicate and deal with people which is good since medicine might be my career."

Wanting to help and having a genuine interest in other people, according to Mrs. Regina Henson, supervisor of volunteers, is what it took to be a volunteer.

"Volunteering was different than a job at McDonalds or Hardees," said Mrs. Henson.

Even though Cheryl did not receive a weekly paycheck. She was paid in a different way.

"The rewards were worth more than any amount of money," said Cheryl.



Pam
Abramowicz
David
Ackermann
Todd
Adrian

Kristin
Ahlerich
Kathy
Alber
Robert
Alexandre

James
Allen
Tim
Allen
Jennifer
Allivato

Brent
Anderson
Charlie
Anderson
Chuck
Anderson

Kevin
Anderson
Bill
Andrew
Danielle
Annan



Anna Annis
 Kelly Archer
 Rachael Arello
 Sal Arello
 Dan Arst
 Elisa Atwell
 Craig Auman

Tina Bailey
 Janette Bair
 Carey Baker
 Sandy Baldwin
 Craig Ball
 Jamie Ballard
 Dyan Bargfrede

Angela Barnes
 Nancy Barnett
 Bronwyn Barrett
 Brenda Barton
 Barry Bates
 Jim Beaird
 Ron Beal

Michele Beck
 Jamie Beerup
 Kyle Belvill
 Robert Bennett
 Tim Bennett
 Michelle Benton
 Yvonne Bernath

Nicole Beverlin
 Marti Billingsley
 Robert Bingham
 Michael Bogue
 Staci Bosse
 Jennifer Bowen
 Andy Braams

Kim Branham
 Paul Braun
 Kathy Brehm
 Angie Brennan
 Shannon Brenner
 Melissa Brooks
 Jay Bruemmer

President for three terms in a row

• by June Sumerlin



just wanted to be one of the people that cared about the school," Bob Randall, junior said.

That philosophy let Bob to be not only involved in Oak Park, but class president for three years.

He was encouraged by many to run for freshmen class president.

"My older brother, who was in high school when I was in eighth grade, told me it was neat to be a part of student government and those that wanted to better Oak Park," he said.

Bob ran for president and got the office. At first he did not know what was expected of him. After talking to Mr. Jim Stone, a freshmen class sponsor at the time, and Jason Swan who was class president as a freshmen, he got ready for the position.

"I had the responsibility if something did not get done, they (the students) came to me," said Bob.

Bob also served as the president of his class his sophomore and junior years.

"I thought I could change more by being sophomore president than when I was freshmen president," Bob said.

He ran his junior year because he knew prom would be a big responsibility and he wanted to be a part of that.

"I was anxious to work with prom and have a chance to do something with responsibility so people could see what I could really do."

Bob felt he gained a lot from all three years.

"I feel I gained a lot of friends, including adults. Also I feel I was known by my class and that is what I wanted," he said.

He plans on running for Student Body President his senior year.

"If I can do something to add to Oak Park High School, I want to do it for the whole school, not just my class."

Bob Randall, Junior Class President, shares ideas with the 1987 prom committee.



Juniors

Paul Bryan
Vicky Burec
Mike Burkhalter



Sean Burns
Debora Burton
Jim Butler



Lori Callendar
Pam Calvert
Tom Cambiano

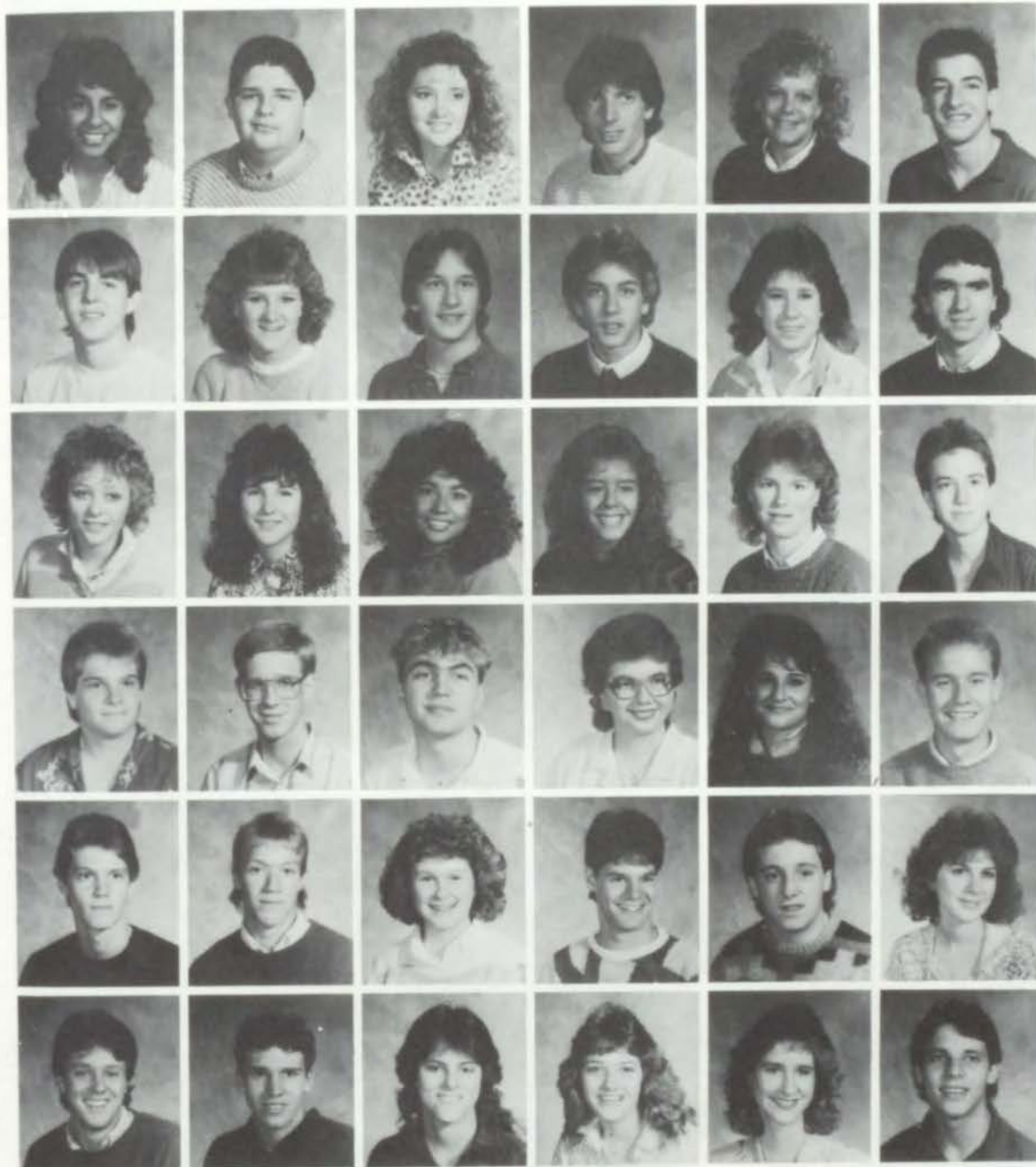


Dave Cameron
Leesa Cannon
Marlene Carlisle



Mike Cascone
Dawn Casey
Trisha Cassell





Noeida Castro
 Ricardo Castro
 Shelley Chapman
 Shane Chester
 Tracy Christopher
 Pat Churchman

Alan Clark
 Liz Clark
 Steve Clegg
 Mark Clevenger
 Natalie Closser
 Steve Cochran

Susan Cochran
 Mandy Coe
 Robin Coe
 Tanya Collins
 Susanne Combs
 Craig Comfort

Paul Compennolle
 Scott Conley
 Chris Conlisk
 Cheryl Coole
 Chris Coomer
 Jeff Cooper

John Cop
 Larry Corte
 Lisa Cory
 Andrew Crain
 Craig Craven
 Melissa Crawford

Jay Crockett
 Doug Cross
 Jolene Crow
 Andrea Crump
 Andra Culp
 Charles Curry

Shannon Damanti
Casey Davison
Toby Deister
David Delameter
Frank Demoro
Heidi Dillingham



Kim Ditsch
Sherry Dodson
Eddie Doolin
Trent Doss
Shannon Dowden
Don Duran



Tony Durone
Teresa Dyer
Eric Edmundson
Sherri Edwards
Michael Eickhoff
Nikki Elliott



Grant Ellis
Rebecca Ellis
Jennifer England
Jenny Esslinger
Pedro Esteban
Alyson Estes



Doug Evans
Michelle Evans
Steve Evans
John Farmer
James Featherston
Jill Fernandes



Dee Dee Ferrara
Troy Ferrero
Anthony Files
Daniell Fisher
Jason Fisher
Scott Fleenor





Christy Fulton, junior, is awarded a trip to Hong Kong for being a NCA superstar at Pom Pon camp. (photo by Mary Beall).

'You're the winner of a trip to Hong Kong'

• by Adrienne Corn

You're the winner of a new . . . condo in California! Well, not quite like Vanna, Pat, and Wheel of Fortune, but Christy Fulton, junior, was a winner in a different way. She was chosen out of hundreds of pom-pom girls to represent pom-pom of America in Hong Kong.

"I was surprised that I was chosen. I felt very lucky, very fortunate," Christy said.

Christy was chosen along with about 75 other girls nationally to represent the U.S. over spring break, 1986.

"It's basically a goodwill type gesture from the NCA (National Cheerleading Association)," said Ms. Annette Luyben, pom-pom instructor. Nominees were chosen at pom-pom camps and clinics throughout the country last summer and Christy was one of the girls singled out.

"The girls were watched constantly throughout the week and then chosen as nominees," said Mrs. Jane Stone, P.E. instructor and cheerleading sponsor.

"They were chosen on how well they danced, thier personality and attitudes as well as how they performed and their technique," Ms. Luyben said.

"I didn't feel like I was being watched while I was at camp, but I saw the other girls being watched," commented Christy.

Only pom-pom girls who have been nominated for or who are pom-pom "superstars" are eligible to go on these international tours.

"It's a marvelous experience to go to another country and it's neat to go with other girls one's own age," Ms. Luyben said.

Going to Hong Kong to perform was something that many juniors do not have a chance to do.

"It was a chance of a lifetime and I'm glad I got to go," Christy agreed.

Not by guessing the price on a tube of Crest toothpaste or buying vowels did Christy Fulton get this chance, but rather by dedication and hard work and always "doing my best," Christy concluded.

Juniors



Mary Helen Flinn
Kathy Foote
John Forbis



Kristi Ford
Ted Forster
Amy Francis



Leigh Francis
Bill Francis
Mary Beth Franklin



Mike Fraser
Tracey Frdrick
Marni Freeman



Tammy Fry
Christy Fulton
Bryan Gaines

Jason Galusha
Tanya Gasswint
Becky Gatewood
Patsy Gatten
Mike Gentry
Terry Gentry



Machele Gibbons
Lisa Gidley
Mike Gilliam
Mark Gillispie
Tammy Glidewell
Susan Goldammer



Joe Gonier
Jenny Good
James Gorbet
Cheryl Gorman
Laura Grantham
Diana Graves



Jill Graves
Craig Grawe
Juli Green
Mat Green
Brad Green
Stephanie Greer



Brooke Grey
Jennifer Griffith
Jerald Grossman
Glenn Guerrero
Heather Gunter
Denise Haddix



Steve Hadley
Lisa Haerther
Scott Hagen
Debbie Hale
Dee Dee Hall
Jill Hall



Juniors

Rich Halloran
Julie Hamblen
Kimberly
Hammons



Craig Haning
Robert Hanner
Kristine Hansen



Michael Harper
Leanna Harrelson
Cindi Harris



Erin Harris
Barbie Hawkins
Sean Hedenskog



John Heisman
Mark Heller
David Henderson



Primeaux dedicated to art

• by Kim Melton

"Art is like abstract thinking," said Russ Primeaux, junior and art student. "You can put stuff down on paper that you can't normally see in reality."

Russ has been involved with art ever since he can remember. The main reason that motivated Russ to study art was self-motivation.

The main types of art that Russ studied were drawing, ceramics, and mixed media.

"These were the types of art that I was presented with first, so I liked them the best," said Russ. "But now I'm starting to get interested in computer art."

Russ added, "Mr. Barry Kennedy (art teacher) introduced me to computer art. He suggested that I get involved in computer graphics in order to broaden my horizons."

Russ has won approximately eight awards for his art in his life time. Five of those awards he won at Oak Park, and the others he won in grade school or middle school. Some of his awards were for art, and the others were for his overall performance in art during the school year.

Mrs. Lawing, art teacher, presented Russ with an achievement award his freshman year, for the work he had done in class throughout the year.

During his sophomore year, Russ won a second place ribbon for a ceramic planter that he had entered in the spring art show at Oak Park.

"I didn't expect to win, because I didn't think it (the ceramic planter) was that good. But obviously, the judges thought differently," explained Russ.

Russ also won a bronze palette for his overall performance in art during his sophomore year. Mr. Kennedy presented Russ with the award.

According to Russ, drawing is one of the first things that one needs to perfect in art.

"Drawing teaches you most of the basic ideas you need to learn, such as shading and coloring," explained Russ.

"If you're good in art, pursue that subject. And if you finish a project, look at it and see what you could do to improve it, don't just stop and say it's perfect. Otherwise, you don't improve," Russ concluded.

Displaying more than art talent, Russ Primeaux, junior, mixes paint to put the finishing touches on another award winning project (photo by David Zimmerman).



Higher standards put O.P. under pressure

• by Michelle Evans

The class of 1988 was the first to have to cope with the new challenges. America's academic expectations rose, and so did the credit requirements for graduation.

"At first I was outraged," said Kary Holliday, junior, about the addition of credits.

Expectations of high grades were lower, since harder classes had to be taken to fulfill credit requirements. Many found their grade point average suffering because of these classes although for some it did not make any difference.

"I found myself choosing classes that I probably won't use later in life over ones that I might have used," said Christine Hynek, junior.

Students trying for a College Preparatory Diploma found it difficult to fit "enjoyable" classes in their full schedules.

"Instead of taking classes I was interested in, I took all the classes necessary for the College Preparatory Diploma," said Kary.

The goal of the increase in credits was to improve the education system. Many Oakies found themselves receiving a solid background for college.

For others, they simply tried to get through each class, just passing to accommodate the requirements.

"In the required classes, I just wanted to pass so I could get my credits, and go on to classes I wanted to take," said one junior.

Students who filled their requirements did so by basing all their classes on the credits list given out at the beginning of each year.

Early bird classes, and summer school became good alternatives for many Oakies to get classes out of the way, so they would have room for classes they wanted to take.

"I believe summer school helped many students. Early bird classes only helped students of C.O.E.," said Mr. Bill Overbey, counselor.

America's desire for higher academic standards was felt at Oak Park in 1986-87.

In order to receive the twenty-three credits required to graduate, juniors Jay Crocket and Todd Nugent, dissect a cat for biology class, (photo by David Cunningham)



Juniors



Michael
Henderson
Catherine Henson
Tabitha Herman



Amber Herrera
Scott Herring
David Heston



Debra Hill
Scott Hill
Cheryl Hoffman



Angie Hogan
Kary Holliday
Kimberly Hook



Jackie Hopkins
Sheila Hopkins
Stacy Hornung



Ruth Horton
Rhonda Hott
Bob Huckabey
Jack Huenefeld
Tammy Humphrey
Rhonda Hunsucker



Liz Hunt
Heather Hunter
J.R. Hutcherson
Christine Hynek
Rob Icenhour
Julie Jackson



Kim Jackson
Michele Jacobs
Jay Dave
Sheri Jett
Jim Jeabia
Deana Johnson



Gil Johnson
Kathleen Johnson
Jackie Johnston
Julie Jones
Kristin Jones
Mike Justice



Kirby Kavanaugh
Lisa Kelco
Mark Kelly
Tracy Kimball
Sean Kirkpatrick
Brad Kirtley



Michelle Kirtley
Nicole Kirtley
Kimberly Kluter
Venessa Kost
Glenn Laity
Heather Lane

Juniors

Doug Larson
Mike Laghlin
Kindra Laybourne



Chad Lee
John Lewis
Christy Lightfoot



Kelli Lloyd
Ernie Loera
Sean Luke



Amy Lundberg
Matt Lundy
Scott Lute



Todd Macrorie
Dawn Mahomet
Lisa Mall



The '86 Missouri Scholar's Academy was not all work and no play for Trisia Westhoff, junior, discovers

Summer academy aided OP scholars

• by Sara Russell

Think summer! What comes to mind? For four juniors, summer thoughts brought images of new friends and learning experiences. Dyan Bargfrede, Gina Marchisio, Carey Smith and Tricia Westhoff attended the 1986 Missouri Scholar's Academy.

In the fall of 1985 approximately twenty top-rated sophomores were chosen to be tested for admittance to the Academy.

"It (the selection) was based on our school grades and our test scores," Gina said.

Participation in extra-curricular activities was another factor, according to Tricia.

The nominees then took the P.S.A.T. Tricia, who was attending Washington High School in Washington, Missouri, took the Scholastic College Aptitude Test.

Finalists Dyan, Gina, Carey, and Tricia then took an IQ test whose scores were submitted to the State Board of Education, Academy Selection Committee.

"On our application we wrote two essays which were submitted to the selection committee," Tricia said.

From June 14 to July 4, 1986, the Academy's second annual session took place at the University of Missouri, Columbia. The 319 participants stayed in dorms.

According to Dyan, a normal day consisted of optional exercise (such as aerobics or jogging), classes for three hours and personal social relation group (PSR). This was time to discuss feelings with others.

"We spent a lot of time talking," Carey said.

On Sundays they could attend church or just relax. They had major classes, such as Past and Present China, Aeronautics for the Future, and Photography, six days a week. Minor classes, including Creative Writing and a study of ancient medical techniques called Indians, Willows, and Aspirin, were held two days a week.

"They were real in depth studies of strange things you'd never have a chance to study in school," said Dyan.

A scholar's academy may not fit into some people's thoughts of summer. But for four juniors it will always be remembered.



Sean Manley
Mark Mann
Tony Manzo
Gina Marchisio
Scott Marsh
Todd Marsh



Andrea Martinez
Jennifer Marts
Elizabeth Massa
Heather Massic
Patric Massoud
Blake Mathews



David Mathiesen
Jana Mathis
Monica Matthews
Bonnie Mauslein
Robin McCluey
Doug McCord



Scott McCubbins
Carrie McCullick
Derek McFerrin
Brian McGinley
Stephanie McIntyre
Pamela McKay



Julie McPheeters
Brian Meade
Kristi Medick
Len Medley
Ted Mehl
Mike Melton



Ralph Mendoza
Kandi Merritt
Geoffrey Meyer
Susan Meyer
Alicia Michel
David Mikel

Allen Milford
 Aaron Miller
 Nancy Miller
 Teresa Miller
 Wendi Miller
 John Mills



Erica Minter
 Brian Minton
 James Misner
 Jennifer Mock
 Mary Beth Mockredge
 Margie Molder



Sal Montalbano
 Larisa Moore
 Jodi Moran
 Shirley Morris
 Steve Morris
 Tracy Morrison



Anna Marie Morrissey
 Kristy Mouser
 Shawna Mullenix
 Cletus Murray
 Chad Musteen
 Ken Myers



Mike Nance
 Ron Neds
 Diane Nelson
 Diane Nemecek
 Scott Newell
 Robert Nicholes



Phil Nigro
 Jeff Norman
 Kathy Norris
 Todd Nugent
 Stephanie Oneil
 Robin Oakes



563 Juniors made up largest class since '81

• by Jennifer Snow

The new lottery was not the only numbers game in town. When it came to numbers, the junior class was the winner or the loser, according to whom you talked to. With approximately 563 students, the junior class was the largest since 1981, when freshmen were brought into high school.

"It was hard to communicate with that many people," said Bob Randall, junior class president. Though Bob found it difficult to communicate with the large class, according to Mr. Bob West, principal, the increase in numbers did not affect the learning.

"Each year modifications need to be made in teachers' schedules," said Mr. West. "For example, since there were more juniors for American History classes we took some teachers from Citizenship and World Studies classes to teach the junior American History classes."

Even though the large junior class required modifications in schedules it had its advantages such as more spirit.

"When the whole class was together, like in school assemblies, more spirit was generated simply because there were more people to participate," said Jill Hall, junior class treasurer. "It could lead to confusion if not handled well, but on the whole I liked having a large class."

Many students felt that not only did the large number create more spirit but also made it easier to make friends.

"I thought it was easier to make friends because there were more students in my class to choose from," said Denise Haddix, junior.

Another advantage to having a large class according to Jill was having more money to spend.

"We had over \$6000 to spend on prom which was \$700 more than last year," said Jill.

Every day brought new ideas and different challenges. Students could be found taking their chances and playing against the odds. So, like the lottery, the 563 students in the junior class became winners, losers, or even both.

Large numbers brought more class spirit at assemblies for the junior class. (photo by Mary Beall).



Matt Oldehoeft
Scott Osborn
Rick Padilla

Ursula Palmer
Tammy Panter
Tina Panter

Carla Park
Carol Parks
Debra Parton

Janene Patterson
Jackie Penko
Don Perry

Jennifer Perry
William Phillips
Tami Piburn

Sandy Pickard
 Chris Pickett
 Kevin Pickett
 Amy Pinnick
 Dan Pipkin
 Dan Pittman
 Stephanie Pogge



Mathew Pollard
 Michelle Pope
 Diane Poppenhagen
 Kim Powen
 Russ Primeaux
 Andrea Procopio
 Tina Proctor



Andy Pruneda
 Gary Pylypczuk
 Cheryl Quick
 Kristin Quinn
 Shelly Ramirez
 Robert Randall
 Jennifer Randolph



Chris Ranes
 Mike Rankin
 Erin Rastorfer
 Kelly Ratliff
 Marcus Ratliff
 Robin Reese
 Jim Rehrig



Michelle Reiter
 Jon Reith
 Donovan Reves
 Sherri Reynolds
 Bret Rice
 Mike Ricketts
 Stacey Riddle



Julie Riedel
 Nick Rigoli
 Robert Riley
 Tim Riley
 Jeff Roath
 Pete Roberts
 Chandra Robinson



Juniors



Wrestling is a sport, Randy Smith, junior, has mastered well.

10 a magic number at state for Smith

• by Jill Hall

Battling 1,000 is Randy Smith's claim to fame, not in baseball, but in wrestling. A ten year wrestler, Randy has gone to state ten times, eight as a Northland wrestler and twice in his two year high school tenure.

In "little kids state" as Randy calls it, he has placed third four times, second three times and first once. In high school he placed eighth as a frosh and sixth as a sophomore.

Going to state in high school was scary, said Randy because he did not know what it was like and there were "a thousand people in the stands."

As for being a freshman having to wrestle older people, Randy was more relaxed.

"I knew we were all as good as each other if we were down there," said Randy.

Being "down there" representing Oak Park as an individual rather than a team puts more pressure on the athlete. "There were two people from Oak Park so it took some of the pressure off," said Randy. "Also if the team was there you would have to worry about the team placing. I did it for myself rather than the team."

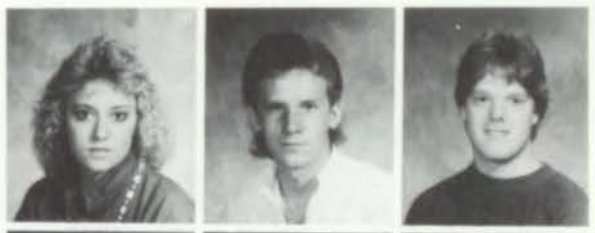
High school state differs from "little kids state" by the fact the wrestlers have to make it through districts as well as sectionals. There is one match and a loss means not going to state.

"It's more of a challenge because it is harder to get there," said Randy.

Randy got interested in wrestling after seeing his brother wrestle and he began wrestling for Northland Wrestling. He has also wrestled in summer camps. The wrestling done in the summer is not collegiate wrestling as in high school, but freestyle. The main difference, Randy said was wrestlers are allowed to throw people in freestyle wrestling. "It is a lot of fun to watch people fly in the air," said Randy.

Even though there is more action in freestyle, injuries are fewer Randy thinks, because the matches are not as intense.

Melissa Robinson
Darren Rodman
Mike Roelofsz



Aimee Rogers
Kelly Rogge
David Rojas



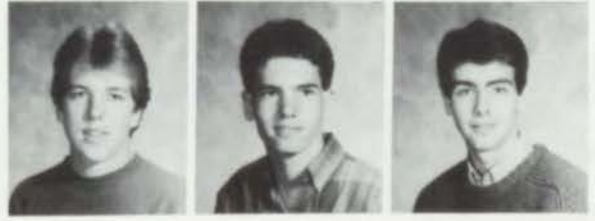
Jim Romig
Brian Rose
Judy Rothrock



Maria Rudd
Nancy Ruehle
Sara Russell



T.J. Salmon
Dean Samson
Allan Samson





Students like Jay Crockett, junior, learned to cope with the stress that comes from difficult classes. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Higher requirements brought more stress

• by Brenda Heffron

You see the television specials almost yearly, read articles in all the magazines, and always take the tests in the "Enquirer".

The subject - STRESS.

Since day one students are subjected to stress. Whether it be academic, social, work, reality of the future or peer pressure, stress was something all students had to deal with.

"I think stress is on us more now as teenagers than on adults because adults know what they are doing basically day to day. They don't have to worry about whether their grades are high or if they will get into a college," said Kathy Brehm, junior.

Academic excellence put a lot of pressure on students, especially students not far from college. Parents played a large role in the push for good grades.

"My parents want me to do well in school and learn as much as I can," explained Dan Arst, junior.

Not only did parents want better grades for their children but also the students themselves wanted better grades.

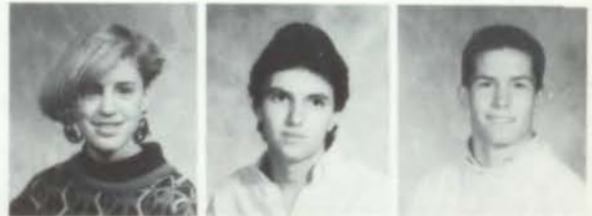
"Keeping my grades up and looking forward to my senior year are my major concerns," Scott Osborn, junior, added.

Sports and academics sometimes combined to worry students. Coaches put pressure on teams just as the players put pressure on themselves to play well.

"Lettering in soccer put a lot of stress on me because I didn't know if I had enough qualities or enough playing time to letter," said Ernie Loera, junior.

For some juniors the closer the thought of "Senior Year", the closer came the fear of the future.

Kathy Samuel
Paul Santulli
Eric Sapp



Jeff Scalici
Angie Schaefer
Jennifer Scheffer



Brad Schler
Mark Scholl
Heather Schuck



Michael Schulz
Bill Shaddox
Heather Shafer



Kristie Sharp
Tonya Sharp
Michael Shaw





Jill Shelton
 Kim Sherer
 David Shever
 Jeff Shoemaker
 Ken Shreve
 Greg Sinclair
 Stacey Sisney



Phil Sloniker
 Steve Sloniker
 Carey Smith
 Dallas Smith
 Randy Smith
 Roseann Smith
 Stephen Smith



Tim Smith
 Bret Smothers
 Paul Sneed
 Jason Snitker
 Keith Sollazzo
 Christy Spencer
 Kristy Spencer



Barbara Spinner
 Scott Spradlin
 Mike Sprague
 Mike Stachowski
 Michelle Stallsworth
 Kristin Stanberry
 Tony Starr



Paul Steinle
 Dave Stepp
 Jeff Straight
 Chris Stuart
 Jennifer Sullivan
 Deona Summers
 Jami Sundburg



Brian Swanson
 Mike Szoke
 Chris Tarbill
 Christy Taylor
 Andy Thomas
 Carey Thomas
 Valerie Thompson

Seven year tradition broken by junior

• by Heather Reed

Being a Student Council officer is always a big responsibility, but being the only underclassman Student Council officer makes the job an even tougher one.

Bob Vogelaar, junior, held the office of Student Council secretary. While he was running for office, he said he was cinscious of the fact he was the only junior, but that did not stop him. However, at times, it did make him feel uneasy being the only junior officer.

"At times I felt uncomfortable because everyone else was a senior, but I tried to ignore it."

This was the first time since the Student Council Constitution was changed, seven years ago, that an underclassman had been elected. The reason for the constitutional change was to make the elections more open and fair for everyone, according to Mr. Dave Hensel, Student Council advisor.

Mr. Hensel said that Bob was elected this year, even though no juniors were officers last year, by being the ideal person in everyone's mind.

"He was the people's choice. He was what they wanted," said Mr. Hensel.

While running last year Bob's specific goal was just to do a good job, but he did not really put much thought into next year.

"Being a junior holding a senior office was a lot of responsibility, but it would have been just as much responsibility if the office had been held by a senior," said Bob.

"Know what you're getting into. It is a wonderful experience if you know the responsibilities you will have. If you make it as an underclassman, be sure to run again the following year. You have nothing to lose," said Bob to any underclassmen who think they might run for a Student Council office in the future.

Stuco plays an important part at Oak Park. An officer's work is hard and they have many responsibilities, according to Bob. Being an underclassman officer may at times be tougher, he admitted, but definitely was worth the work in the end.

Breaking a seven year tradition, Bob Vogelaar, junior, proves underclassmen can get the job done (photo by Lisa Mason).

Juniors

Timberly Thornberg
Steve Thornberry
Pam Thorton



Leslie Treece
Serena Tripp
Angela Trost



Corlin Tucker
Stephen Turner
Karen Twitt



Khela Vandiver
Kim Van Horn
Jeff Veatch



Jeff Veenstra
Bob Vogelaar
Mike Vold



Stacey Vutich
Steve Vutich
Renee Wade





Christy Walberg
Cavid Wall
Michael Walls
Steve Ware
Brooke Warner
Eric Warner



Laura Watilo
Shawna Webster
Mike Weddle
Shannon Weeks
Michelle Welburn
Kristi West



Tricia Westhoff
Rodney Weymuth
Kim White
Scott Wilkerson
Lindy Williams
Lisa Williams



Tara Williamson
Laura Wilson
Beth Witcher
Brad Witschner
Cathy Witte
Heather Worledge



Toby Wymore
Doug Yager
Annette Yardley
Lisa Yeager
Tina Yoksh
Kris Yokum



Dionne Young
Mark Youngers
Mark Zurbuchen

Jose Acosta
Carla Adams
Benny Alcanter
Jill Ament
Jeff Anderson
Kristy Anderson
Rodney Anderson



Edward Anselmo
Christy Apel
Rick Appleberry
Gina Armstrong
Shannon Armstrong
Robby Arrington
Jennifer Aschetropp



Cathy Auffert
Lisa Avery
Mike Baker
Lana Balagna
Elizabeth Balbuena
Jon Baltzell
Dwayne Bargfrede



Adam Barksdale
Celeste Barrett
Deann Baska
Darin Batchelor
James Bates
Todd Beckum
Keith Bennett



Eugenia Bernauer
Danielle Birk
Cebbie Bishop
Pete Blackburn
Jennie Blackmore
Gary Blackwell
Tim Blake



Michelle Blakely
Amy Blanton
Michelle Blay
Kelly Bloomer
Stephanie Boling
Sal Bonsignore
Greg Booth



Mike Botts
Bryan Boydston
Tammy Branham
Michele Breen
Doug Bretz
Jennifer Briggs
Kevin Brill





Working up a sweat, Dan Heston, sophomore, practices for an upcoming cross country bike race.

Five miles a day keeps Dan trained

• by Dyan Bargfrede

The sun is just beginning to set as Dan Heston rounds the final turn on a Raleigh bicycle, into the last leg of his daily workout. Over two years of experience and conditioning have trained his body to work with the bike as one efficient machine. The presence of a helmet, gloves, and riding shorts leave no doubts as to the energy and intensity with which he pursues his sport.

Dan, a sophomore, first became interested in serious biking through a friend.

"We used to talk about it a lot and he showed me his bike and equipment," Dan said. "He also told me about the commitment and personal satisfaction he got from the experience, and I knew then that I wanted something like that for myself."

Today, he keeps that promise to himself by running three to four miles and riding his bike about five miles every day after school. During the summer he tries to ride between fifteen and twenty miles a day.

"It's important for a biker to stay in shape—even during the winter," he said. "I like to ride by myself or with just a couple of friends. One of the best parts of bike riding is being able to enjoy all of the beautiful scenery in silence and just sit back and soak it up."

Another benefit Dan enjoys is the freedom to travel long distances by bicycle. Last year, he and a friend rode to St. Joe for the day, and, later he placed fifth in a group of 508 that made a two day trip to Columbia, Missouri for muscular dystrophy.

Over all, Dan does not compete in many competitions, except to test his skill. Dan's future plans include riding to Dallas with his father.

"I basically do it for the fun and for achieving my own personal goals that I set for myself. Someday I hope to ride to California with my dad. That is my one big goal for now. When I can do that, I'll feel like I've won my own competition."



Chad Brooke
Stephanie Broughton
David Brown



Chris Bryan
Amy Bunnell
Jenny Burdick



Brian Burford
Elizabeth Burgess
Paul Burkhalter



Kirk Burns
Shane Caldwell
Rachelle Camacho



Brian Campbell
Dan Campbell
Tina Campbell



Kim Cariddi
Chris Carter
Mike Cavalho

Sal Castelluccio
 Carrie Cessor
 Todd Chain
 Jeremy Chambers
 Chip Chandler
 Lee Ann Chaney
 Melissa Chavez



Tracy Chrisman
 Gary Clay
 Shauna Clevenger
 Shirley Cochran
 Marci Cockrum
 Mary Coe
 Sheri Coffey



Shannon Collins
 Vincett Combs
 Scott Compton
 Melanie Conrad
 Adrienne Corn
 Kim Cowell
 Christi Criscione



Chad Cronk
 Stephaine Cross
 Rebecca Curry
 Larissa Curtis
 Lisa Dais
 Sherri Dawson
 George Cean



Deana Deen
 Christopher Deghelder
 Steve Denisar
 Kay Dewhurst
 Michael Diaz
 Becky Dick
 Shannon Dillow



Cheryl Doak
 Carole Dobney
 Eric Dodge
 Mike Dorsey
 Theresa Dotson
 Dwaine Dulle
 Mike Dungan



Elizabeth Durham
 Alecia Edwards
 Scott Eiken
 Christy Ekstrom
 Lori Elsberry
 Mike Ervin
 Sherry Evans



Young lettermen gain experience

• by Rod Winkel



hen climbing the ladder of success some people are known to skip a few steps. This happened to be the case for the few sophomores that played varsity sports.

When playing a varsity sport, players agree you need to give it your all. Sometimes older players, coaches, and friends can make succeeding tough.

Competing with the older players adds tension. "I feel I need to do as good as I can and more, to equal their strengths," said Mike Gaines, soccer.

"I feel a little pressure because they're older and have more experience," said Shane Hagen, cross country.

Trying to be accepted by the older players also adds pressure, since playing as a team is the key to winning. Younger players often are ridiculed and teased. "They treated me like a baby at first but when the team got together they treated me fine," said Gary Blackwell, football.

Because sophomore players have had less experience than the older players, the younger players often looked up to the older players for advice. "The older varsity runners like Joel Greener and Craig Ball have helped me with my running," said Jason Rincker, cross country.

Players often receive extra encouragement by talking to coaches. "The coaches had helped me the most because they are with me all the time," said Steve Denisar, football.

Many of the sophomores playing varsity sports have made valuable contributions. Jason Rincker and Shane Hagen led the cross country team all year. Jeff Niemeier was in the spotlight in football. He was close to the top in tackles and interceptions. Michelle Leverich was a varsity letter winner in cross country.

At the end of the season the athletes got rewarded with a letter. How does it feel to be rewarded for the hard work they did and the pressure they worked under?

"It feels great to me because of all the hard work I've put in," said Jason.

Practice was especially important for sophomore Cross Country leaders Jason Rincker and Shane Hagen. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Sophs

Tracy Fair
Stuart Fefel
Trent Finnell



Mark Fiorino
Mike Fiorino
Barrie Fisher



James Flanagan
Kris Flint
Dana Flourney



Paul Ford
Deon Foreman
Kirk Forslund



Susan Forson
Darla French
Will Frost



Tamara Fuller
Mike Gaines
Shae Gaines



Love of horses is story of devotion

• by Dyan Bargfrede

At some time during childhood, almost all kids have begged their parents for a horse or some other type of pet. Impractical as this may seem for most Oak Park students in the suburbs, sophomores Tom Meier and Andrea Lambert, who both own quarterhorses, have made it work for them.

Just how they make it work is a story of devotion.

Tom, whose horse is named "Just a Jet Away", takes care of it everyday after school at the New Mark Stables.

"He has to be fed twice a day and it takes a few hours to clean his stall," he said, "but for my horse, the time is worth it."

Andrea has a female horse named "Daisy" which she also keeps at the New Mark Stables. She tries to get up to see her at least three times a week.

"I exercise her, feed her, and groom her," Andrea said. "I also spend a lot of time talking to her. She's a good listener and kind of like a part of the family."

Both Tom and Andrea agreed that one of the most endearing aspects of their horses is their distinct personalities. Tom, who competes in various horse shows, felt that personality has a lot to do with the horses' overall appearance.

Tom entered his horse in the halter class of the American Royal, a class which is judged strictly on appearance. To prepare for the tough competition, he participated in horse shows all summer and got his horse in top shape.

"Being in horse shows gives me a great sense of pride," he said. "Having all my hard work on display gives me a feeling of accomplishment-especially when I win an award."

Andrea does not enter Daisy in any competitions, she simply enjoys riding her for the fun of it. Tom also enjoys riding on horse trails just to relax and enjoy nature.

"It's a great feeling to just be out in the woods with nothing artificial around. Just you and the horse enjoying the day," he said.

Showing great care, Tom Meyer, sophomore, brushes his horse. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Sophs



Jeanne
Gannaway
Chris Garko
Matt Gasswint



Shawn Gastner
James Gentry
Tammy George



Nichole German
Steve Giltner
Christy
Goepferich



Scott Goetz
Dana Golden
Ann Gonner



Eric Gossey
Jason Gray
Stuart Gray



Lisa Greer
Jason Gregory
Katharine Groom



Dina Guarino
Shandi Guerrero
Heather Haberle
Russell Hadsall
Shane Hagen
Chris Haile
Robin Hakan



Jeremy Hall
Matt Hall
Randy Hamilton
Shawn Hamilton
Bryan Hammer
Michael Hanes
Mark Hanway



Julie Haralson
Mike Harding
Dawn Harris
Terry Hasenohr
Jennifer Hassenpflug
Chris Hawblitzel
Elizabeth Hays



Matt Heelan
Melanie Heinen
Scott Hensley
Crystal Herbanson
Robert Herman
Robert Herndon
Steve Herrington



Andrea Herron
Elizabeth Herrsh
Dan Heston
Sara Hibner
Steve Hicks
Brian High
Jay Hill



Jay Hilty
Micah Hobbs
Shannon Holcomb
Christiana Hook
Shannon Hoover
Tracy Hostetler



Mike Huckleberry
Noland Huff
Craig Hufford
Bryon Hughes
Vickie Hummel
Jeffrey Hurst
Brian Hyder



Looking for places yet unseen, Matt Gasswint studies the globe.

Sophs

World Studies live
Not just a class

• by Jill Hall

Seeing America is many peoples' dream, but for Matt Gasswint, sophomore, the dream just starts there. He wants to see the world, and he already has a good start.

Matt has traveled through North America, Europe, Asia, Australia, and Africa twice. South America and Antarctica are the only continents he has left to see.

In the summer of 1986, Matt and his family left to spend two weeks in Kenya, Africa. That was Matt's second trip to Africa.

Why go to Africa again? "We thought it would be neat and seeing all the different animals was neat," said Matt.

Comparing it to the "good old USA" Matt said, "It definitely had its differences."

Matt talked about the low income housing in Africa and the fact that some people still live in tribes and hunt animals for survival.

"I thought it was very interesting," said Matt, but he still would not want to live there.

Different from Africa, and still different from America, is England. When Matt visited England he noted that the English people "dressed and ate English. They were definitely more formal."

For those who like scenic landscapes Matt recommends Scotland.

"By beauty, my favorite country out of any country I have been to, is Scotland," said Matt, "but Kenya is still one of my top five favorite places to go."

In addition to seeing other countries, Matt has seen the United States as well.

"Two summers ago we mainly drove around some of the states," said Matt. They mostly saw national parks and historical landmarks said Matt.

"We just skipped around and saw the ones that had interesting things in them."

Matt and his family have traveled to so many places "because we have the ability to, due to my father's job, and we thought it would be a good experience."

In the summer of 1987 he hopes to go to South America. He wants to go to Peru and see the Mayam ruins.

That would leave him only one continent yet to see. And Matt plans on seeing them all.

Travis Irvin
Christine Irwin
Jennifer Jacobs



Ed James
Jana Jenkins
Mike Jenkins



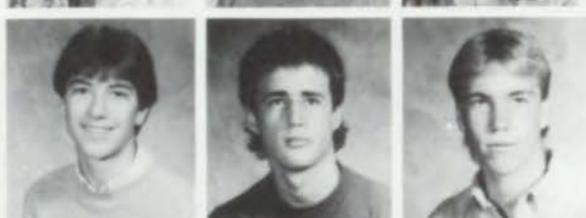
Patrick Jenkins
Missy Jensen
Amy Jordan



Michele Jordon
Bill Judd
Kevin Jumps



Hal Kammerlohr
Bob Kanatzar
Jim Kantola



Candace Kaster
Kelly Kavanaugh
Kristin Kaylor





Karrie Kearns
 Kristin Kelco
 Wendy Keller
 Nancy Kenyon
 Virginia Kerr
 Robert Kimes
 Jimmie Kinder



Steve King
 Jennifer Kirke
 Cindy Kirkland
 Matt Kiser
 Troy Klith
 Shalaine Kobby
 Missy Kothe



Todd Krey
 David Krupka
 Leslie Kuhlman
 Karen Kuhn
 Jon Kurtz
 Craig Kuznia
 Andrea Lambert



Stacy Laner
 Spencer Langley
 Craig Lanio
 Donald Lauf
 Michelle Laurenzana
 Bryce Lausch
 Stacey Leakey



Vanessa Leavene
 Charles Ledford
 Stephanie Lemaitre
 Alex Leong
 Missy Leuty
 Michelle Leverich
 Heidi Liggett



Brandy Lindensmith
 Theresa Lininger
 Lisa Livingston
 Debra Loboda
 Mike Locke
 Ann Lohman
 Amy Lutgen



Shelly Lutte
 Patrick MacDonald
 Stacey MacDonald
 Bill Mackley
 Mitch Magee
 Van Maier
 Mike Marquez

Scott Martensen
Rick Martin
Jeff Massey
Jason McBride
Mark McCall
Traci McCarty
David McCord



Justin McGuire
Heather McKenzie
Steve McNulty
Nancy Meier
Scott Melton
Joe Messina
Tom Myer



Denise Miller
Sheri Miller
Jon Mills
Pam Minthorn
Angie Minton
Tammy Molleson
Sherri Moore



Jon Moralee
Erica Morris
Sara Mosacher
Patty Murphy
Mike Naggy
Westly Nance
Kim Naylor



Amy Nelson
Lars Nelson
Terri Nelson
Bryan Nerich
Matt Ness
Brad Nicholson
Jeff Niemeier



Lennie Niernberger
Christie Nixon
David Norris
Julie Norton
Brian Nowling
Jeff O'Dell
Kenny Odgen



David Ohnesorge
Dan Oldehoft
Scott Olson
Darin Overstreet
Brian Overturf
Lori Paden
Chong Park



Gari Dawn's opportunity knocks

• by Shari Hart

Finding a sophomore who has already chosen a career can be a difficult job. To find a student who knows what they wanted and already took steps in the right direction was even harder.

Yet, Gari Dawn Tingler, sophomore, has done just that. Many people dream of being able to dance, to those dreamers a chance to dance and teach would be a rare and welcomed opportunity.

Opportunity came knocking at Gari Dawn's door. A dancer of 12 years, Gari Dawn taught at Priscilla's school of dance three days a week.

Gari Dawn taught a variety of ages which ranged from three years to seventeen years.

While teaching had it's moments, a very big part included hard work.

"To be a good teacher you must be able to relate to kids and get your point across," Gari Dawn explained. "It is often very hard."

Teaching classes and taking classes is not all of Gari Dawn's dance involvement. She is also a member of the Kansas City Stars, a performing group composed of Priscilla's students.

In the past, parades, Gladfest, and other similar events have graced this group's performance list. The Stars have also been known to perform at shopping centers such as Metro North and Antioch.

Despite the time teaching takes up, Gari Dawn finds time to take a class and do dancing on her own. Much of her spare time is spent dancing.

Gari Dawn explained that although she enjoys all types of dance, she prefers jazz.

"I really like jazz because it gets me going and it can be exciting," she said.

What does the future hold for Gari Dawn?

"I plan on going to school to get a business degree then on to teaching dance," concluded Gari Dawn.

Demonstrating a pose to her little dancers is Gari Dawn Tinkler, sophomore. (photo by Katie Adamson)



Sophs



Leslie Parkhurst
Melissa Patton
Lisa Pearce



Jeffrey Penland
Julie Pennington
Brian Penske



Joe Perniciaro
David Perry
Scott Phelps



Sharla Pierce
Gary Pierson
Bridgett Pike



Marty Pike
Lynette Pither
Tina Pitts



Gregg Porter
Laurie Potter
Colleen Powell

Lisa Powell
 Brenna Prather
 Mike Queisert
 Kevin Quigley
 Ann Quinn
 Brian Ramirez
 John Rapp



Ed Rapstine
 Heather Reed
 Kristy Reedy
 Jim Reeves
 David Resch
 Ana Rice
 Brad Ricklefs



Angie Riley
 Cathy Riley
 Jason Rincker
 Rebecca Riteneur
 Cathy Robertson
 Rhonda Rock
 Becky Rodriquez



Allen Rolf
 Joe Roos
 Kendra Rose
 David Ruder
 Dan Ruppell
 Jill Russell
 Shannon Ryser



Pete Santulli
 Jason Sayers
 Peter Schlosser
 Todd Schoonover
 Tracy Schumer
 Terry Sears
 Angie Seybould



Tonya Sharp
 Stephanie Shinkle
 Eric Short
 Chris Shultz
 David Siebert
 Staci Siener
 Stephanie Siener



Nancy Sims
 Nancy Sirinek
 Aaron Smith
 Christine Smith
 Eddie Smith
 Marc Smith
 Mark Smith



Monkeys are not all fun and games

• by Kary Holliday

There is no monkeying around with a monkey especially one named Thomi.

Thomi is the unusual member of Darla French's family, unusual not only because she never dresses, has "animal-like" eating habits, and refuses to shave her hairy legs, but because she is Darla's pet monkey.

Thomi is Darla's pet monkey. She became a member of the French family seven years ago when they saw an ad for a monkey in the newspaper.

"We were looking for a kitten in the newspaper when we saw the ad for the monkey," said Darla, sophomore. "The owner didn't take care of the monkey, we felt sorry for her and decided to get her."

Taking care of a monkey is not all it is cracked up to be. "Thomi is real hard to take care of. You must give her a bath and clean out her cage," said Darla.

Thomi gets a lot of exercise although she is kept in a cage about five by four feet.

"We let her out almost all the time in the summer, but in the winter we only let her out once in a while," said Darla.

She has a jungle gym to play on, but rarely does.

Thomi needs certain shots like Polio, TB, and Rabies to keep healthy. She eats lots of food and she is not picky about what she eats, as long as it is not monkey food, according to Darla.

"Some of Thomi's eating habits are just like humans. She eats three meals a day and likes the same foods we do," said Mrs. French.

Not only are Thomi's eating habits humanistic, but so is her temper.

"There was an instance or two when I doubted having a monkey. Once she bit me, because I was teasing her. Another time Mom left her out of the cage. She went into the kitchen and got into everything," said Darla. "If I had to pick between another pet or a monkey I would choose another pet such as a kitten," she added.

For Darla and her family, keeping a pet has turned into a lot of monkey business.

It is dinner time as Darla French, sophomore, feeds her pet monkey Thomi. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Sophs

Scott Smith
Rachel Spaw
Paul Spring



Mike Sprinkle
John
Stathopoulos
Wendi Steele



Mary Stephenson
Jason Stevens
Mark Stockmyer



Christine Stone
Dedra Stoneking
Hannah Sumerlin



Nevin Swofford
Stephanie
Taliaferro
Jeff Taylor



Jennifer Taylor
Robbie Taylor
T.J. Templeton





Brian Boydston feels the effects of the levy passing after stretching out for sophomore basketball. (photo by David Cunningham)



Levy allows sophomore sports

• by Mark Troxel

As the old saying goes: the third time is the charm. This rang true as the ninety-two cent Levy passed in August on the third try, saving the sophomore football and basketball programs.

"The first time they tried to pass the levy they thought people would vote for it because there was a need for it," said Mr. Jerry Crews, activities coordinator.

However, Mr. Ken Steeples, head coach of the sophomore football team, was not optimistic on the first try due to negative feedback from the Kansas City School District Levy.

The students also were upset when the chances of the levy passing looked slim.

"I didn't believe we didn't have enough money to support a team," said Mike Gaines, sophomore.

According to Mr. Crews, if the levy had not passed, five coaching positions would have been lost; however, Mr. Steeples was not worried about the possibility of losing his coaching position.

"My only concern was that since the levy passed so late in the summer, I might not have coached sophomore football," Mr. Steeples said.

Mr. Steeples said a loss of the sophomore program would have a definite effect on varsity teams in two years.

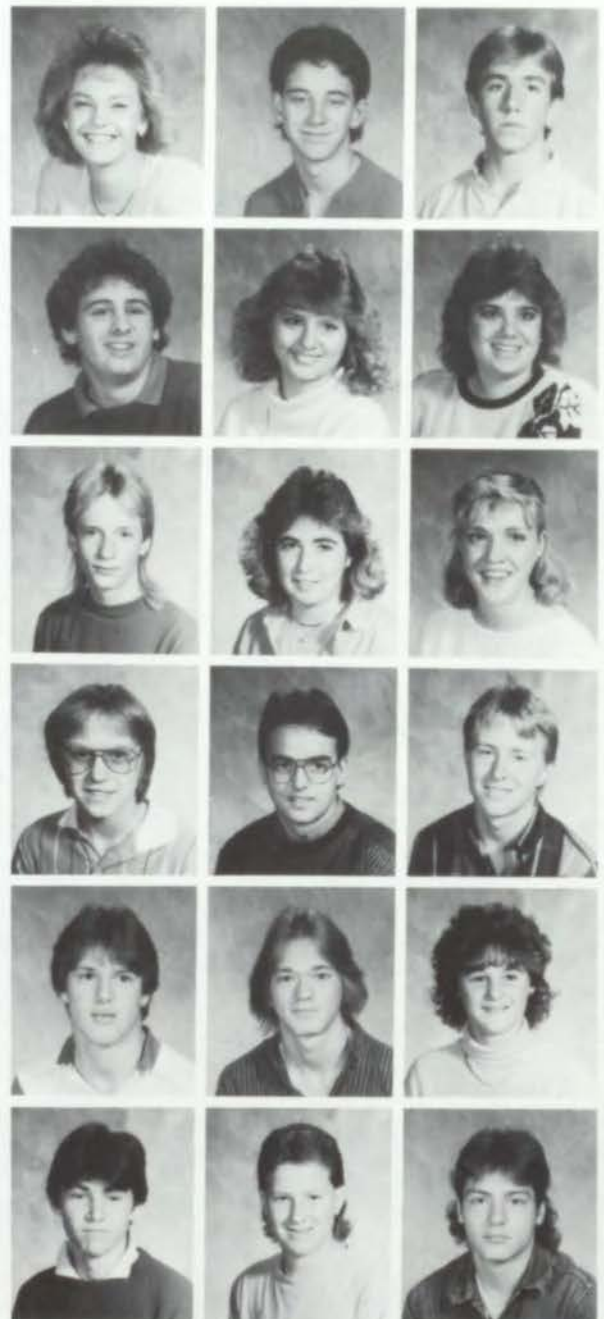
"I think that was my biggest concern, said Mr. Steeples. "Some kids improve so much through their sophomore year it's difficult to tell what impact they will make."

Players were also concerned at the possibility of losing a year of sports.

"I would have lost a provisional letter and a year's experience," said Ed James, sophomore.

According to Mr. Steeples, if the students had not got to play at all as sophomores, they would have lost a lot of experience for their athletic careers. "I think sophomore sports are important in the continuity of the program," he said.

Mr. Crews agreed. "Once you lost the program, you lose the depth of the program. Depth is what makes the program strong."



Shelly Terry
Jim Thomas
Nathan Thomas

Christian Thompson
Stacey Thompson
Stacey Tidwell

Ron Tindall
Gari Dawn Tingler
Karen Tisor

Vince Trigg
Mark Troxel
Bill Turnage

James Turney
Aaron Underwood
Karen Vanderhoorn

Scott Vaughn
Kevin Vieth
Eric Voorvart



Scott Wagner
Charles Walberg
Brittney Wallace
John Walter
Joanne Wardlow
Mark Warner



Linda Warstler
Neil Watkins
Shelly Watkins
Chris Webster
Brad Wegener



Bryan Werner
Jerry West
Andrea White
Skip Whitt
Autumn Williams



Joe Williams
Nora Williams
Paul Williams
Ronnie Williams
Stephen Williams



Shane Willmann
Shane Wilson
Rodney Winkel
Jen Winkeljohn
Stephen Wintz



Angela Wishkeno
Tony Witcher
Ross Woody
Russ Wright
Lee Yates



Devin York
Shawn Young
Terri Yunger
Amy Zimmerman
Michelle Zink

Romeo and Juliet captures imagination

• by Bob Randall

"Romeo, Romeo, wherefore art thou, Romeo?" As most freshmen know, Romeo is in the Oak Park Main Theatre — same time every year.

Although William Shakespeare's "Romeo and Juliet" has become a cliché of English-Renaissance poetry, it is a play freshmen must study.

"Romeo and Juliet" was added to Oak Park's curriculum in 1982, the first year freshmen were added to the school's student body.

Mrs. Glenda Misner, RCG-I teacher, taught "Romeo and Juliet" for three years at Maple Park Junior High School before coming to Oak Park. At Maple Park, she also taught one of Shakespeare's comedies, "The Merchant of Venice".

"I think 'Romeo and Juliet' is easier to read than 'Merchant' because it has the generation gap students can identify with," Mrs. Misner said.

Many freshmen, at first, were very apprehensive about reading the Renaissance play. Mrs. Tarwater feels that it should be taught because it could be the only exposure to Shakespeare the students get. She said that it provides freshmen with the chance to read and understand one of the great literary works of all time.

"I liked it, but I'm glad we did not have to re-anything like it again during the year," Rachele Camacho, sophomore, said.

Many students disliked the way the play was written. "It was too long, and it was hard to read," said Carol Dobney, sophomore.

"I think it's an excellent play to teach high school students if you can get beyond the language and cultural difference," Mrs. Misner said.

The ending, though, bothered some students.

The story ends with each of the 'star-crossed lovers' taking their own lives, showing their love for one another.

"I wish it could have ended in a happier way. I thought it was too sad," Melissa Nagy, freshman, said.

Ms. Mary Lou Swain, RCG-I teacher, echoes, "I love it. Every year, I hope it ends differently."

Prior to watching the movie in the main theatre, Romeo and Juliet is studied by Mrs. Phyllis McConnell and her freshman English class.



Frosh

Tara Abdullah
Shonia Adams
Coleen Adamson



Donna Addis
Kenny Allen
Scott Allen



Toby Allen
Sam Allison
Jacqueline Allivato



Jason Allwood
Joel Anderson
Kelly Anderson



Kristie Anderson
Paul Anderson
Christa Andrew



John Appleberry
Jill Arnold
Kathleen Aschertrop





Adam Ashcroft
 Brian Atherton
 Michelle Atkins
 Eric Bachman
 Jason Bainter
 Jim Baker
 Patricia Balbuena



Candace Balkovec
 Mike Ball
 Shawn Barclay
 Kyle Barnes
 Matthew Barnes
 Tara Barnes
 Ryan Barnett



Matt Barr
 James Barry
 Shawn Bauer
 Michelle Baysinger
 Lance Beach
 Jon Beard
 Doug Beason



Robin Beatty
 Don Beck
 Andrew Beckett
 Jeff Beckham
 Roxanne Beckham
 Annette Bennett
 Hadley Bennett



Tracy Bernard
 Fred Bishop
 Sonny Bivona
 Stephanie Black
 Tiffany Blackburn
 Misty Blankenship
 Trey Boley



Laurie Bonavia
 Jim Bowman
 Tehra Boyers
 Michelle Bradley
 Amy Brady
 Heidi Brenner
 Craig Breshears



Dan Bretz
 Michael Brewer
 Gail Broils
 Amy Brooks
 Lucinda Brown
 Becky Brown -
 Rhonda Brown

Scott Brown
Lori Bunning
Steve Burdick
Chris Burroughs
Kelly Butterfield
Tracey Byers
Sheri Caldwell



Chonda Campbell
Jeff Cantu
Dana Cariddi
Charlie Carolla
Kimberly Carter
Sam Carter
Chad Cassell



Katie Cassidy
Doug Caster
Jeff Castle
Lori Chambers
Mike Chambers
Tara Ciarrocchi
Jennifer Cindrich



David Clark
Shay Claxton
Crista Clevenger
Don Clutter
Sheryl Cochran
Laurie Coffey
Shannon Coffey



Heather Colbert
Danna Cooley
Keith Coomer
Kevin Cooper
Jennifer Corbett
Craig Corda
Steven Cordle



Stacy Crabtree
Todd Creel
Carol Cross
Tisha Cunningham
Rusty Daft
Julie Dake
Deedee Davies



Ashley Davis
Tonya Davis
Brian Davolt
Charles Day
Steve Day
Maggie Deghelder
Brian Delancey





Mrs. Connie Hostetler goes over her gradebook with Carol-Ann Ross, freshman. (photo by Mitzi Craft)

Island paradise Home for Ross family

• by Kristy Reedy



Wouldn't it be nice to vacation on a small island where it never gets cold, there are no large crowds, and the air is clean and fresh? Then visit the island of Barbados "the beautiful island in the sun".

To the vacationer, Barbados may have seemed like the ideal get away, with its warm temperatures, small crowds, and friendly people. However, to Carol-Ann Ross, Barbados was home.

Carol-Ann, a freshmen, was born and raised in Barbados in the town of St. Micheal. Barbados is the roughly pear-shaped island farthest east in the Atlantic Ocean's West Indies.

Carol-Ann and her mother moved to the United States in June 1986 to join her step-father who had been transferred with TWA.

Moving from one country to another, one must make several large adjustments from climate changes to cultural changes. This was no exception for Carol-Ann.

Carol-Ann had a hard time accepting Kansas City's changeable weather since she was used to seventy-five degrees all year round in Barbados.

"The biggest adjustment for me to make when moving here was going from cool summer shorts and tops to warm winter clothes. I was coughing and sneezing all the time. I froze" said Carol-Ann.

Beside climate Carol-Ann experienced a cultural change.

"There were no big buildings in Barbados, and the styles and types of houses are different. What is really different was in Barbados there were pastures and lawns where the children could play," said Carol-Ann.

As the sun rises and sets in Kansas City, Carol-Ann's thoughts of the warm climate and memories of going to the beach with her friends lie in Barbados.

"I miss living there. All my friends were there, but we still keep in touch," Carol-Ann said.

Frosh



Jane Devers
Kristina Dewald



Jill Dickerson
Shannon Duckworth
Steve Dulin



Ronnie Dyer
Amy Eastland
Carrie Eddy



Mike Edsall
Merideth Edwards
Shad Edwards



Jeffrey Eiken
Terry Ellis
Jeannine Engle



Lisa Fanning
Aura Faxon
Craig Fears

Jennifer Fedderson
 Mike Ferguson
 Felicia Fernandez
 Victor Herrera
 Jim Fisher
 Aaron Fleenor
 Steve Foote



Michelle Fox
 Kyle Froese
 Rodney Fry
 Melissa Gaik
 Stacey Garrison
 David Gately
 Joseph Gentry



Ernestine George
 Karen Gilliam
 Greg Glass
 Dena Glathaar
 Tanya Glathaar
 Kerri Gogan
 Karen Goodman



Leeann Grantham
 Kevin Greer
 Stephen Greer
 Chris Griffin
 Kathlene Grindstaff
 Chris Guerrero
 Lori Gunter



Shauna Haddix
 Anne Hagan
 Ellen Hagsten
 Mike Haley
 Kelly Hall
 Mary Hampton
 Bill Hankins



Sarah Harkness
 Matt Harp
 Brian Harvey
 Pam Heinen
 Kim Heins
 Bryan Heinz
 Jim Heisman



Mike Heitzman
 Jon Heller
 Tom Heller
 Joel Hembree
 Bobbi Henderson
 Tami Hendrickson
 Lori Henegar



Lori is tops at State twirling contest

• by Casey Davison

A shiny silver rod with rubber tips can be seen spinning through the air, seeming to stop before coming back down to its owner, Laurie Henegar, freshman.

Lori is a baton twirler, but not any ordinary twirler. She is the 1986 state champion. Lori has been twirling for seven years. She started lessons when she was seven or eight years old, and as time progressed she became more interested. During her freshman year, she twirled, competing solo and on a team.

"I twirled back and forth between solo and team. It really didn't bother me," said Lori.

Lori also competed up to twice a month. After winning at state last summer, she qualified for nationals, which was held at Notre Dame University in the summer of 1987.

Before she went to state and nationals, she had to prepare herself for the competitions.

"I worked on a routine, then I went back and worked out all the trouble spots that I had," said Lori.

During the school year, she would practice with the band in the morning, and to help her learn new routines, on Sundays she took private lessons.

Mrs. Marilyn Henegar, Lori's mother, said she really had to plan her time around Lori and is lucky to have her father to help take Lori to all of the places she had to go to.

During this past year, Lori started twirling on a new team and with a new teacher, so baton twirling in the future is a question to Lori. She said that she would like to become a judge of baton twirling.

"Baton twirling has really helped me out a lot. It made me do things for myself, made me grow up, and also helped me to make many new friends," she said.

Mrs. Henegar said, "I think it has given Lori lots of poise and the chance to learn what losing and winning is all about."

Lori Henegar twirls her baton with confidence at an Oak Park football game. (photo by Lisa Mason)

Frosh

Beth Henson
Danny Hernandez
Dean Hill



Jason Holzapfel
Stacy Hoover
Patty Hoyes



Brian Huber
Darryl Huber
Louisann
Huskisson



Mark Ingles
Brad Jackson
Chris
Jacobsmeier



Jessica Jesse
Tammy Jester
Richard Jewell



Bonnie Johnson
David Johnson
Howard Johnson



Being a frosh, all in eye of beholder

• by June Sumerlin

"E" everyone goes through it," Kelly Anderson, freshmen said.
Being a 'freshmen' that is.

Seniors saw freshmen and said, "Why don't you go back to middle school where you belong?"

Juniors saw them and said, "Was I that short when I was a freshmen?"

Sophomores said, "I'm glad I am not one of them this year." As if they were not human.

Most freshmen viewed themselves as being o.k. and some did not.

"I felt kind of stupid being a freshman," Michell Fox, freshmen said. "Everyone made fun of us."

Others said it did not bother them.

"It was just a name that was given to us," Stacy Hoover, freshman said.

"It (teasing) was normal, frosh expected it," Kevin Greer, freshman said.

When it came time for class competition in the assemblies or standing in the lunch line, the so-called 'upperclassmen' took over and booed or pushed the 'frosh' out of their way.

"I guess it was because we were younger and they had seniority," Stacy said.

It did not bother all freshmen to be pushed around. When upperclassmen cut in line at lunch, few said anything.

"They were head of the school. Everyone has their time to do that, and we're waiting," Kelly said.

One freshman, Jason Walker, just ignored most of what went on.

"They all did it," he said. "It was their job."

Chad Starr, freshman, thinks he will probably tease freshmen someday too.

"They were freshmen once too," he said.

Everyone has to be a freshman when starting high school. Most can expect to be teased sometime during the year. Some can take it and some can not.

Despite being the young ones in the school, some freshmen, like Kristina Dewald and Tammy Jester, had to assert themselves in the lunch line, (photo by Katie Adamson)



Jennifer Johnson
Richard Johnson
Brian Johnston

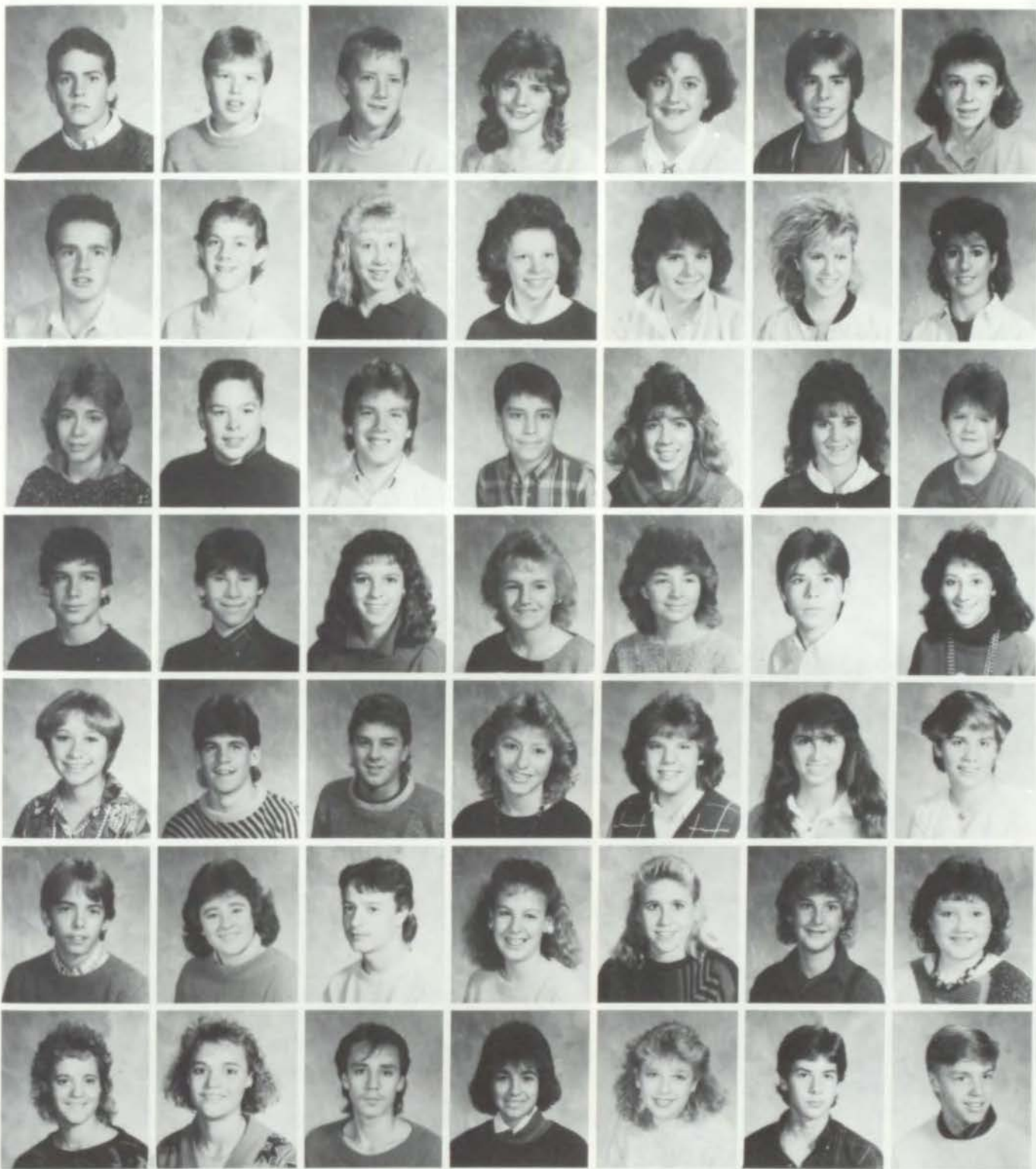
Steven Jones
Tracy Jones
Chante Judy

Rick Judy
Carrie Jurgens
Jason Jurgenson

Chris Kalinka
Tammy Kaske
Steven Keepes

Kathy Kell
David Kelly
Christopher Kemp

Charlotte Kimes
John King
Jeff Kirk



Bill Kirk
Neil Kish
Kevin Kolk
Melanie Kost
Kendra Kwak
Eric Land
Deana Lane

Jonathan Lane
Phillip Lanio
Megan Lary
Tammy LeBoeuf
Jenny Lesnet
Becky Leuty
Renee Leverich

Trena Lewis
Larry Liebsch
Jon Lile
Steve Limpic
Lisa Ann Lindsey
Christie Logston
Jennifer Lohr

Toby Long
David Lucas
Angie Lykken
Shelly Lyman
Kim Lyon
John MacDonald
Donna Mackley

Tammy Madel
Bill Magrone
Travis Manley
Toni Marchio
Kristina Martin
Danielle Massoud
Kristin Mayo

Mike McAfee
Jennifer McCann
Scott McCollum
Megan McCormick
Larissa McDonald
Jennifer McLaughlin
Trena Mehagan

Amy Meier
Mary Meier
Frank Mendoza
Annette Mercado
Angela Mesh
Eddie Messina
Kyle Meyer

Frosh

Paula Michaels
Danny Miller
Dustin Miller



Jennie Miller
Julie Miller
Rebecca Minter



Thomas Misner
Kristina Mitchell
Chad Montgomery



Bryn Moore
Kyle Moore
Tiara Moore



Petra Morgan
John Morlan
Sharon Morris



Stuart Muehl
Aaron Mumma
Sean Murphy



Increasing the strength of his legs, John Sanstra, freshman, does the leg press.

Freshman triumphs over birth defect

• by Bob Randall

Growing up, as they say, is hard to do. Growing up with a handicap from birth, however, makes this a more complicated task.

John Sanstra, freshman, was born November 18, 1971 at Research Medical Center of Kansas City, Missouri with a birth defect in his right arm. His forearm was shortened, and his wrist began a few inches under the elbow at a right angle to the arm.

He was born without a thumb on his right arm. He was generally right-handed until the age of seven. In 1978, he had an operation through Prime Health that moved his right index finger into the place of the absent thumb.

"John did everything scissor-like, and we thought he would have a better grip with the thumb," Mrs. Jean Sanstra, John's mother, said.

This operation was performed by Dr. Lynn Ketchum, an expert in hand surgery. At the time, Dr. Ketchum was the head of hand rehabilitation in Kansas.

"I could not ever say 'Ketchum'. He was always 'Dr. Ketchup' to me," John said.

John has gone through a total of nine operations for his hand.

"I had two pins in my wrist to try to straighten it out, but they got infected and had to be taken out," John said.

Despite his handicap, he remains active in sports. He was an offensive split-end and a defensive safety on this year's freshman football team. He was a guard when playing basketball when living in Cimarron, Kansas. John was also part of the weightlifting program for football players during the off-season.

"He's never met anything he could not do," Mrs. Sanstra said.

Growing up, John said that he did not have any major problems with other kids and their opinions.

"Nobody ever really paid much attention to it," he said.

Mr. and Mrs. Sanstra are very understanding and are very proud of John.



Bill Mutch
 Jim Mutti
 Melissa Nagy
 David Nance
 Scott Neal
 Steve Neer
 Suetta Neilson



Emily Nelles
 Steve Nelson
 Kelley Newell
 Shane Nichols
 Doug Noble
 Doug Noble
 Brett Nugent



Shane O'Roark
 Deanna Oakes
 Michelle Oldham
 Jeff Olson
 Mike Otterman
 Kim Pace
 Angela Paden



Chris Parham
 Mi Ra Park
 Chris Parkinson
 Ray Parks
 Michael Parton
 Mitchell Parton
 Mike Pastor



Donald Patrick
 Earl Patrick
 Shane Pearson
 Bretton Pearl
 John Peel
 Mike Pence
 Mark Peterson



Irish Peterson
 Bill Petry
 Wendy Pettlon
 Caroline Peuker
 Annette Pittman
 Jennifer Pittsenbarger
 Jennifer Plush



Linda Polfus
 Lisa Pollard
 Louie Pollina
 Tammy Pooler
 Jason Pope
 Jason Powers
 Jason Pratt

Juliet Price
Lance Price
Michelle Primeaux
Tricia Quackenbush
Chad Quasebarth
Amy Rathengeber
Tracy Rausch



Mark Reiter
Dave Relford
Renee Reynaud
Tammy Richardson
Jason Richter
Renee Ricketts
Laura Ridge



Amy Rigg
Chris Riley
Tammi Riley
Alan Ringhausen
Scott Robeson
Dee Dee Robinson
Richie Rodgers



Mike Roos
Carol Ann Ross
Traci Ross
Amy Roth
Mark Ruckell
Doug Rupell
Allison Sakata



Dena Salisbury
Rae Jean Sample
Damon Samuel
John Sanstra
Diana Sauer
Laurie Scalici
Heidi Schallberg



Tabby Schnoebelen
Eric Scofield
Scott Seyller
David Shackelford
Shelly Shaw
Allison Shearin
Mike Shelton



Shannon Shugart
David Silvers
Beth Simpson
Rick Sims
Michelle Sinnings
Debbie Sloniker
Randy Sloniker



Education achieved in public, private schools

• by Bob Randall

Coming to Oak Park, a high school of 2300 students, was said by freshmen to be a "living nightmare." Coming to a class of 500 from a private school class of 50 compounded this fear.

"My school was so small. After being the oldest at St. Charles, being in school with seventeen year olds really scared me," Tara Tischinski, freshman, said. Tara attended St. Charles Catholic School from kindergarten through eighth grade.

Jeff Cantu, freshman, was also a student at St. Charles all through his life. He held the fear that almost all freshmen held, that of not knowing anyone.

Coming to a public school from a private school did have its advantages.

"Teachers at St. Charles were tough and they really made me learn the information. This has helped me because I remember almost everything," Tara said.

Attending a private school was very different than going to a public school.

"You get to know your teachers much better. You can even call them by their first name," Sara Harkness, freshman, said.

Tara said that she had trouble accepting that she would not be able to get to know everyone. She said that she knew everyone before, where they lived, their favorite color, etc.

Values and opinions were also differences between the two types of schools.

"Here, because I don't have a haircut like everyone else's, it's like I'm not treated the same. I get called name just because I look different. That never used to happen," Sarah added.

A larger school held its advantages in some of the extra-curricular activities it offered. Photography, advanced arts, and weightlifting were some classes that were not given by smaller schools.

As with most situations, the sides of the scales become balanced. An education is the goal of the student, and it was reached by all.

Julie Price, freshman, checks her schedule to see where she is to go.



Frosh



Amy Smith
Amy Smith
Andy Smith



Rachel Smith
Cindy Sneed
Marty Snitker



John Snyder
Dan Sole
Michael Solis



Michelle Soules
Stephanie Speich
Chris Spinola



Derek Spradlin
Andrew Stanard
Chad Starr



Ray Stauch
Ryan Stephens
Chase Stewart

Beth Stinard
 Jeff St. John
 Cory Strother
 Mike Sturm
 Jeff Sutton
 Chris Swetnam
 Susie Swiss



David Swob
 David Taylor
 Stephanie Taylor
 Tiffany Taylor
 Tina Taylor
 Tracy Taylor
 Tara Teel



Connie Thompson
 Rebecca Thompson
 Paul Thompson
 Tanya Thomson
 Jennifer Tice
 Tara Tischinski
 Scott Tolle



Justin Toms
 Rosie Torres
 Rhonda Trezell
 Ginni Troglin
 Dana Tyhurst
 Laura Tyhurst
 Shannon Umcheid



Mike Vandenberg
 Sandi Vaughan
 Jennifer Verbeck
 Shane Vogel
 Eric Wagner
 Jason Walker
 Trevor Walker



Katy Walsh
 Todd Walters
 Winnie Wang
 Anne Watkins
 Steve Welch
 Casey Wentler
 Jeff Wescott



Michelle West
 Patrick West
 Tina Westwood
 David Whitecraft
 Jeff Whitton
 Robert Wibrigt
 Lynn Wicks



Frosh

Jeff Williams
Rickey Williams
Kim Willis



Jennifer Wilson
Kim Winkel
Scott Wolverton



Steve Woods
Angela Worrell
Travis Wrigley



Amy Yardley
James Yardley
Dan York



Carson Young
Jeff Young
Melissa Zeff



Gale Zimmerman
Jody Zollars



Despite his 4' 8" frame, Mike Ball, freshman, holds his own in a P. E. class run. (photo by David Zimmerman)

Frosh Mike Ball makes a big impression

• by Cindy Kirkland

The last time most Oakies remember being 4' 8" tall and weighing 78 pounds was in grade school. But for Mike Ball, freshman, this became a high school memory last year.

Although Mike was one of the shortest students, his height never stopped him from doing what he wanted to in school.

"It hadn't affected me an incredible amount. It made me work harder sometimes," he said.

Mike moved to Kansas City from Kirksville, Missouri, in October, 1985. He has been active in extracurricular activities for most of his life.

"I was in my first soccer league when I was six. I have also been playing baseball for eight years. During 7th grade at Kirksville, I was in student council," Mike said.

For Mike, a busy schedule took him through the year. During the fall, he was on the junior varsity soccer team. Being the smallest team player had its disadvantages for Mike.

"I'm shorter than the average high schooler and I have to run twice as fast to keep up with them," Mike said.

He was also on the fund raising committee for student council.

"It's interesting and a lot different. I'm getting involved," Mike said.

For his first year, Mike was also on the debate and speech squad. He liked it because of the competition and speaking it involved.

"I like a lot of competition. Debate is very competitive and it gives me a chance to argue and talk." He added, "I really like to argue."

"It's a learning experience," he said. "If I were not involved, high school would be awfully boring."

Mike has little spare time, but when he is not busy doing something else, he can usually be found playing football, baseball, or basketball. His goals for next year include being on the varsity soccer team.

He will also continue debating and hopefully be elected to student council. Maintaining a 4.0 grade average is also important.

"I hope to be busy all the time. It gives me something to do," Mike said. "If I'm not busy, I'm bored."



More paper work was just one of the many challenges Mr. Bob West had to face during his first year as principal. (photo by Katie Adamson)

New traditions Principal brings change

• by Jennifer Snow

Old traditions, original ideas, accomplishments and future plans were all a part of the 1986-87 school year. All of these were made possible by the student body, faculty, and new principal, Mr. Bob West.

With his first year as principal, Mr. West faced many challenges as did the students.

"My time was more difficult to manage," said Mr. West. "There were more demands in many different items of business such as dealing with sales people, central office, and community groups."

However, Mr. West's first priority was his family. With daughters involved in sports at both North Kansas City High School and William Jewell College, Mr. West and his wife spent much of their spare time attending their daughters' games.

His daughters' sports abilities were not surprising. During high school Mr. West was involved in many sports such as football, basketball, and baseball. While attending William Jewell he ran track and cross country.

After graduating from William Jewell and receiving a master's degree from University of Missouri Kansas City, Mr. West began his career by teaching mathematics at Maple Park. In 1970 he came to Oak Park as an assistant principal until his promotion to principal.

According to Mr. West his biggest accomplishment for the year was instituting a computer program system for attendance, academic reports, and use in the counseling center.

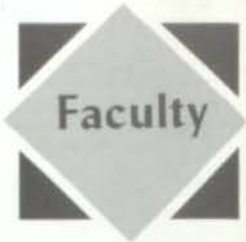
"We entered the age of computer science which most everything relies on," said Mrs. Joyce Taylor, secretary. "In that respect the year changed quite a bit."

Some students did not notice much of a change in the school itself but in rules.

"The school itself hadn't changed, but the rules were enforced more," said Deedra Stoneking, sophomore.

Mr. West felt the policies enforced were necessary to accomplish his future goal.

"I would like to provide an atmosphere where students not only achieve maximum educational opportunities but also could learn some important aspects of living in a society as complex as ours," said Mr. West.



Robert West
Principal
Joe Spruytte
Asst. Principal



Benny Cain
Asst. Principal
Jim Hughes
Asst. Principal



Jerry Crews
Activities Coordinator
Linda Alverson
Adv. Comp., RCG II



Laura Angell
Behavioral Disorders
John Bahnmaier
Acct., I & II, Typing



Gus Baker
Trig., Cal., Gen. Math, Alg.
William Barber
Adv. Comp., RCG II, Prob.
Solv.,
Sci. Fict., Short Story





Ronald Beckham
Bas. Math, Alg. B, Geom.
Mary Beethe
Ch. Dev., Adv. Ch. Dev.
Mike Bennett
RCG II, St. Hall, Myth.



Nancy Binkley
Psych., Sociol.
Reed Black
Am. History
Larry Blackwell
Counselor



Jan Blaylock
Careers
Larry Blaylock
Crafts, Bas. Elect., Gen. Wood,
St. Hall
Linda Blocker
Micro., Data Pro., Comp. Prog.,
Typing



Gerald Brasel
Wld. Studies, Con. Issues
Joe Briley
Am. History, St. Hall
Rich Brill
Phys. Ed., Phys. Fit.



Carol Burgess
Counselor
Mary Carrier
Art
Rosemary Casebolt
RCG I, Am. Lit., St. Hall

Lori Caylor
Attendance Secretary
Doris Cetto
Registrar
Nancy Clemens
Foods, Con. Living



Darrell Cotter
Mod. Chem., Adaptive P.E.
Karen Cummings
Instructional Aide
Sandy Cutler
H.S. Math, Gen. Math, Geom.



Zeta Davidson
Marriage, Wld. Foods, Gour. Meals
Joe DeGrado
Problem Solving
Joan Denney
Secretary



Daniel Duane
Gen. Wood, Adv. Wood
Judy Eden
Counselor
Linda Espeer
Data Pro., Comp. Prog., Typing,
Bus. Man., Micro., St. Hall



Rich Fox
Wld. Studies, Wld. Geog., Psych,
Citiz., St. Hall
Debbie Fritson
IA, Math, Foreign Language
Theresa Gerjets
IA, Media Center



Past Oakies Teachers return home

• by Tamela Simpson



Bill Grace
Fr. Choir, Con. Choir,
A Capella, Soph. Choir
Rita Greer
Teacher Clerk



Mary Grun
Media Specialist
Barbara Hale
Fr. Orch., Mus. Theory,
Orch.



Julie Halsey
French I, II, III & IV
Bill Hankins
Photo., Journ., Cambia, Log



Marilyn Hawkins
Media Specialist
Dave Hensel
COE



Janet Herdman
Adv. Data., Typing, Micro.
Tana Hiatt
Phys. Ed., Team Sports



When I graduated from Oak Park I never thought I would be back here as a teacher. It didn't even enter my mind," said Mr. Bill Hankins, a 1968 Oak Park graduate.

For many Oak Park graduates, attending high school becomes only a fond memory but for Oak Park teachers Bobby Bryant, Bill Hankins, Maureen Higgins, Cam Jury and Joe Briley, Oak Park is not only a memory but a part of their future.

Along with the four other teachers Mr. Briley chose to teach at Oak Park.

"I wanted to teach here, I thought that Oak Park was the most progressive school, Dr. Kahler wanted the best for everyone," said Mr. Briley, a 1969 Oak Park graduate.

Even though the teachers enjoy their jobs at Oak Park they felt there have been some major changes since they left.

"Today the kids have so much more freedom, no dress code, freedom at home," said Mr. Briley.

"Kids have more things to do like video games and computers but they take it all for granted," said Mr. Bryant, a 1969 Oak Park graduate.

Mr. Hankins feels that the students change outwardly as fads and fashions do but their beliefs and goals are still the same.

"There are a lot of similarities between now and then. One thing I see this year is more awareness about political issues. We were more like that in the 60's," said Mr. Hankins.

Not only were there some differences in the students but in the school itself.

"It's a lot different now. Most of it had to do with modular scheduling," said Ms. Maureen Higgins, a 1981 Oak Park graduate.

Another change was the newness of the building in the early years.

"The sense of newness made the difference between now and then. Not as many people littered the halls, if they did other students would let them know," said Mr. Hankins.

For all five teachers Oak Park is more than a job, it is a career.

"I enjoy working with young people. I have been teaching thirteen years, I wouldn't have been able to stay with it even for one year if it was just a job," said Mr. Jury.

Mr. Hankins concluded, "I do see it as a job but a meaningful one. Some people see a high school as a factory but I see it as an Oak tree. We help people to grow, develop, branch out and become. I'm not sure I could do only a job."

Relating with students, past Oakie, Mr. Joe Briley explains to Casey Shreve and Joel Ogdon about the battles of the Civil War.



Mrs. Hale works overtime with new job

• by Brenda Heffron

Holding down two jobs can be tough, but for Mrs. Barbara Hale, it was just another day.

Mrs. Hale was appointed District Coordinator of Instrumental Music in addition to her teaching job.

Mrs. Hale's new responsibilities included coordinating district activities, arranging transportation for tours, visiting music teachers, and working out the budget for fifth through eighth grade classes.

Mrs. Hale felt the responsibilities did not change the way she taught.

"I think I taught the way I've always taught. I was a lot busier than I used to be, but I only missed one day of classes to observe the other instrumental music teachers," said Mrs. Hale.

Mrs. Hale spent half of the day at Oak Park and the other half with the district.

"I was not really teaching less because last year I assisted in two classes," she explained.

She also was able to get a new perspective on the North Kansas City district's music program.

"I like seeing what goes on in the district. I think you can get a broader perspective of what goes on and the learning that takes place," explained Mrs. Hale.

Along with a new job came new goals and objectives.

"I hope we can find the most efficient program structure for the instrumental music students in our district. There is so much talent here."

Though her coordinating job took time away from Oak Park, Mrs. Hale still had the responsibilities of teaching along with the responsibilities of administrating for the district.

There were still lesson plans to be made, orchestras to conduct, and if that wasn't enough there were always the "pits".

Despite all the new changes Mrs. Hale still feels her primary responsibility is to Oak Park.

Mrs. Barbara Hale enjoys the time she is able to spend with her students in music theory class. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Faculty



Maureen Higgins
H.S. Math, Alg. A, Alg. II
Risa Hille
RCG I, Film Appreciation,
Sci. Fict.



Betty Himmelberg
Nurse
Connie Hostetler
Spanish I, II, III, & IV



Cathy Johnson
Geom., Bas. Math II,
H.S. Math, Alg. II
Mary Lou Johnson
Alg. II, Alg. II U,
Trig., H.S. Math



Linda Jones
Tumbling, Phys. Ed.,
Pow. VBall
Cam Jury, Phys. Ed.,
Con. Sports, Phys. Fit.



Nancy Kahn
Adv. Bus., Bus. Law,
St. Hall, Typing
Lee Kavan
Instructional Aide





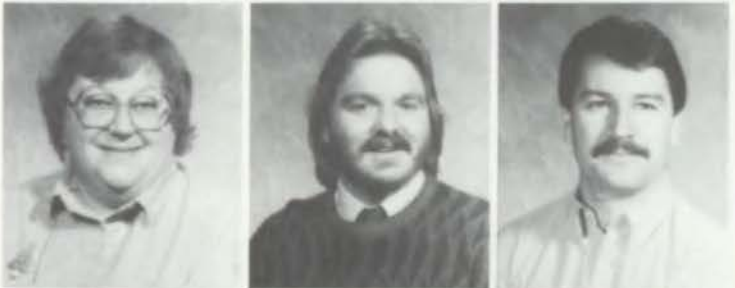
Barry Kennedy
Art
Fred Kester
Bas. Math II, Alg. I, Ras. Alg.
Thomas Kincaid
Learning Disabilities



LaVonne Kothe
Alg. A & B, Cons. Math
Ken Kramme
Chemistry I & II
Dennis Krohne
Citizenship



Delbert Lampson
Drivers Ed.
Charlene Law
Rdg. II & III, Dev. Rdg.,
RCG III
Jeanne Lawing
Art



Jane Mace
Citizenship
Chuck Malan
Biology I
Steve McArthur
Am. Hist., Sr. Am. Hist., Psych.,
St. Hall



Phyllis McConnell
RCG I & II, Grammar
LaVern McKinzie
Typing, Shorthand
Jerry McLain
Instructional Aide

Randall McPike
Alg. B, Geom., Cons. Math,
Alg. II
Kay Melewski
German I, II, III, & IV
Glenda Misner
Am. Lit., Prob. Solv., RCG I



Byron Moats
RCG III, Rdg I
Linda Moore
Bas. Math, Alg. I & II,
Cons. Math
Kay Mowry
RCG II



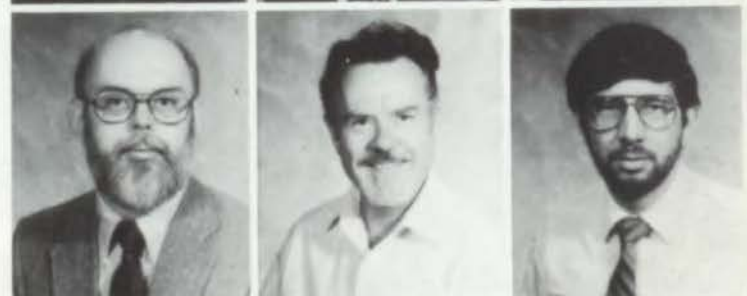
Mark Mundell
Phy. Sci., Biology
Mike Newman
Physical Science
Carol Noland
IA, Music



Gary O'Dell
Wld. Studies, Wld. Geog.
Bill Overbey
Counselor
Pam Pettitt
Am. Lit., RCG II



Chuck Posson
Typing, Acct. I, Econ.
Jim Pulley
Biology I & II, Coll. Bio.
Mike Ramirez
German I, Spanish I



Faculty

Karol Relford
Attendance Secretary
Tom Reynolds
Am. Hist., Citiz., St. Hall



Richard Rice
Debate, Leadership,
Forensics
Beverly Riemensnider
Instructional Aide



Carolyn Rosencrans
Citizenship
Keith Ross
Phys. Ed., Phys. Fit.



Linda Salsbury
Bio. I, Phy. Sci
John Sanders
Spanish I & II



Mary Scoggins
Learning Disabilities
Bunnie Scott
Learning Disabilities



The point was still lost even though Coach Cam Jury was using the ultimate plan - to win against the Comets. (photo by Matthew Ward)

Pros vs. Amateurs Comets challenge staff

• by Julie Clark

As the girls walked into the big gym, their eyes were suddenly transfixed on well-formed, muscular legs. No, it was not a horse show. It was a volleyball game between members of the Oak Park faculty and Kansas City's professional soccer team, the Comets.

The rules allowed the faculty to use their hands in the volleyball match. However, the Comets were only able to use their heads and their feet. But, in the end, the Comets still outwitted the faculty with a 7 to 11 score on November 10.

The money from the match went to the Oak Park Booster Club to support school activities. "The Booster Club sponsored this event to aid in the purchase of warm ups for the track and cross country teams," said Mr. Jerry Crews, Activities Coordinator.

The faculty members volunteered themselves for the match. "Actually, I offered myself as a living sacrifice to the 'heads and feet' of the Kansas City Comets in order to support the cause of the Booster Club," said Mr. Mark Mundell, science teacher.

Preparation for the game varied. The Comets had been going around to different area schools playing volleyball this way and getting lots of practice, while the faculty members had little or no time at all.

"We had a rigorous training regimen that began fifteen minutes before the match started and ended five to ten minutes later," said Mr. Jim Hughes.

"It was a different twist as a Booster Club fund raiser, because it had student, faculty, and parent interest involved," said Susan Goldammer, junior.

After the damage was done, some faculty members still thought that they had done a great job. However, students would probably agree more with Mr. Mundell's statement, "Not bad for a bunch of old broken down teachers."

Faculty

Keith Smith
Biology HSCI



Margaret Spindler
Instructional Aide



Ken Steeples
Phy. Sci., Pri. Sci. II



Lonnie Stephenson
Drafting I, II, III & IV



Steve St. Louis
Behavioral disorders



Receiving one hundred and twelve flowers one by one from teachers, Ms. Pyle smiles as she reads each and every one. (photo by Katie Adamson)

Pyle fights back by savoring each moment

• by Michelle Murphy

There have been no dragons in my life. Just small spiders and stepping in gum."

A dragon is exactly what Ms. Deborah Pyle faced this year with the discovery of pancreas cancer. Although the little things in her life often gave her trouble, Ms. Pyle faced her own personal dragon eye to eye.

During a back-to-school physical in August, Ms. Pyle was informed about the lump on the left side of her waist. The doctor tested and examined it to determine if it was cancer.

On Aug. 17 she was informed that it was indeed a malignant tumor surrounding her pancreas.

"I was absent the first month of school and I missed it," said Ms. Pyle.

However, by February the therapy had not stopped the cancer.

"The cancer cells in my pancreas have metastasized to my liver. I now have two tumors the size of a golfball and a softball in my liver," Ms. Pyle said.

Ms. Pyle was informed that her doctors were working to try to find another alternative to the chemotherapy.

Cancer is a disease that people are afraid of and tend to be negative about. Not Ms. Pyle, she kept a positive attitude.

"I'm sure that I am going to get cured. I always have been," said Ms. Pyle.

Through this ordeal, Ms. Pyle has learned a lot.

"I have learned a lot about cancer and how much I truly enjoy teaching," said Ms. Pyle.

Ms. Pyle explained that teaching is what she really enjoys right now. Her students felt much the same.

"Ms. Pyle is one of the best teachers I've ever had. She taught me more than just the class, she taught me about life," said Karla Steele, one of Ms. Pyle's TA's

Ms. Pyle faced that dragon eye to eye in '86-'87 and found out how strong a person she could be.



Jim Stone
Counselor
Marylou Swaim
Am. Lit., RCG I
Dave Tarver
Alg. A, Alg. I, Alg. II,
Bas. Math
Susie Tarwater
RCG I, RCG IIA



Sherri Taylor
Learning Disabilities
Debbie Thompson
Cloth., Self Dev., Ind. Liv.
Martha Troutz
Media Specialist
Valdonna VanEmmerick
Instructional Aide



Rita Vonn
Coll. Eng., Grammar, RCG I-A
Debbie Walker
Media Specialist
Bob Walsh
Am. Hist., You and the Law
Karen Warren
World Studies



Patricia Warren
Alg. A, Gen. Math, Geom.,
Alg. II
Carl West
COE
Patrick White
Band, Fr. Band, Mus. Appr.,
St. Hall
Roy Williams
Coll. Am. Hist., U.S. Milt.,
Am. Hist., St. Hall



Dorothy Williams
RCG I, RCG II, Det. Story
Alice Young
Media Specialist



A Cappella Choir. Pam Abramowicz, Kristin Ahlerich, Angela Barnes, Daniel Bishop, Jennifer Bowen, Susan Bowen, Lisa Bowman, Jim Butler, Valisa Cannon, Karen Chrisman, Mark Cleverger, Cara Cone, Mike Conn, Kevin Day, Mieke DeBoer, David Delamater, Edward Doolin, Eric Edmundson, David Farris, Shon Ferguson, Lani Fernandes, Abby Ferry, Chirs Foree, Bryan Gaines, Becky Gatewood, Tracy George, Mike Gilliam, Sandy Gilpin, Kim Granquist, Doug Graves, Juliann Green, Jeff Gregory, Jody Haddock, Craig Haggenbuch, Mary Hale, Gregory Harper, Brenda Heffron, Mike Henderson, Catherine Henson, Kim Hill, Wyn Hilty, Laura Huff, Daryl Irby, Sheri Jett, Deana Johnson, Tamara Johnson, Kristin Jones, Betsy Kenny, Jennifer Kloth, Kim Klutter, Monica Matthews, Scott McCubbins, Ted Mehl, Joette Meyers, Teresa Miller, Erica Minter, Jenny Mock, Diane Nelson, Leigh Anne Nicholson, Laurie O'Donnell, DeeDee Ozment, Ursula Palmer, Terri Pearson, Kevin Perkins, Tami Piburn, Sandy Pickert, Mike Pierson, Becky Ploth, Stephanie Pogge, Michele Prince, Jenny Randolph, Erin Rastorfer, Suzi Rastorfer, Sherri Reynolds, Charla Ringhausen, Missie Robinson, Phillip Rodriguez, Angie Rogge, Nancy Ruehle, Mark Scholl, Heather Schuck, Linda Sellars, Steve Senter, Jill Shelton, Teresa Short, Samantha Sluder, Tamara Soules, Vickie Stephens, June Sumerlin, Jason Swan, Angie Taylor, Michelle Taylor, Valrita Taylor, Wayne Thomas, Audra Tuggle, Brooke Wagner, Beth Whitton, Pam Williams, Connie Willkett, Patty Wiltz, Rachael Wise, Lana Wooten, Lisa Yeager, Karisam Yokum (photo by David Cunningham)



A FS. Front Row: Mrs. Bunnie Scott, Helena Ripatti, Julie Clark, Kim VanHorn, Rhonda Hott, Alicia Michel, Tabitha Herman, Kathy Warner, Levent Yilmaz, Ted Mehl. Back Row: Diane Nemecek, Terry Nelson, Laura Watillo, Meike DeBoer, Tammy Johnson, Stephanie Pogge, Melinda Jenkins, Andrea Culp, Heather Lane, Kyle Belleville, Blake Mathews, Corky Garko. (photo by David Cunningham)



Cambia Queen. Front Row: Queen Laura Meier. Back Row: Michele Tunnell, Jadee Bowden, Michelle Murphy, Kim Granquist, Dee Owen. (photo by Katie Adamson)

Aids

"Hopefully a cure will be found soon to stop this epidemic."

Dan Bishop, senior

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Bon Jovi

"The only reason anyone listens to them is because Jon Bon Jovi is gorgeous."

Christy McDougal, senior

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Chanters: First row, Elisa Atwell, Laura Grantham. Second row, Vickie Stephens, Sandy Gilpin. (photo by David Cunningham)



Courtwarding Queen: Debbie Dobney, Susan Yardley, Karen Chrisman, Michelle Loveall, Rhonda Wibright.



French Club: First row Sara Hibner, Michelle Zink. Second row: Melissa Gaik, Julie Clark, Jimmy Preston, Sheri Creel, Laura Wilson, Ms. Julie Halsey, Jana Kontoulas, Jaye Lee Tartar, Christy Ekstram, Stephanie Taliaferro. Third row: Stacey Crabtree, Linda Sellars, Sara Russell, Theresa Lininger, Tammy Leboeuf, Debbie Bishop, Helena Ripatti, Jason Rincker, Tracy Chrisman, Deona Summers. Fourth row: Colleen Powell, Chandra Robinson, Mike Pierson, Pam Heinen, Tom Powers, Jeff Gregory, Meike DeBoer, Lisa Bowman, Leven Yilmaz, Jason Swan, Tony Durone.

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C "She's very entertaining. She shows us the humorous side in the day to day seriousness of the world." *Mr. Steve MacArthur, teacher*

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Freshmen Band: First row: Ginni Troglin, Jenny Plush, Bonnie Johnson, Tammy Kaske, Dena Glathaar, Jennifer Pittsenbarger. Second row: Jody Zollars, Laurie Sealic, Tina Westwood, Todd Creel, Doug Noble, Kristin Mayo. Third row: Damon Samuel, John Lile, Mike Sturm, Jane Devers, Jennie Miller. Fourth row: Dustin Miller, Chris Griffin, Chris Riley, Rob Wibright, Debbie Stoniker. Fifth row: Carolla, Mike Edsall, Jim Mutti, Jim Fisher. (photo by David Cunningham)



Freshman Choir: Donna Addis, Kelly Anderson, Christa Andrew, Jill Arnold, Kathleen A Schentrop, Michelle Arkins, Shawn Barclay, Tara Barnes, Michelle Baysinger, Lance Beach, Jon Beard, Doug Beason, Andrew Beckett, Tracy Bernard, Laure Bonavia, Amy Brady, Heidi Brenner, Chris Burroughs, Kelly Butterfield, Sheri Caldwell, Chondra Campbell, Dana Cariddi, Tara Ciarrocchi, Christa Clevenger, Sheryl Cochran, Shannon Coffey, Jennifer Corbett, Carol Cross, Tisha Cunningham, Jim Duff, Tonia David, Steve Day, Jill Dickerson, Jeannine Engle, Lisa Fanning, Jenny Feddersen, Sean Forree, Stacey Garrison, Karen Goodman, LeeAnn Grantham, Ellen Hagsten, Matt Harp, Joel Hembree, Lori Henegar, Elizabeth Henson, Patty Hoyes, Jessica Jessee, Chante Judy, Carrie Jurgens, Chris Kalinka, Melanie Kost, Larry Lieblich, Lisa Lindsey, Christy Logston, Kim Lyon, Tammy Madel, Christina Martin, Jenny McCann, Paula Michaels, Matt Miller, Bryn Moore, Bill Mutch, Scott Neal, Steve Nelson, Mike Pence, Trish Peterson, Heather Powell, Tricia Quackenbush, Amy Rathgeber, Renee Reynaud, Laura Ridge, Tamara Riley, DeeDee Robinson, Amy Roth, Dena Salisbury, Diana Sauer, Teresa Sauer, Tabby Schnoebelen, Shelly Shaw, Beth Simpson, Michelle Soules, Stephanie Speich, Ryan Stephens, Beth Stinard, Tammy Stump, Jeff Sutton, Stephanie Taylor, Tiffany Taylor, Tracy Taylor, Tara Teel, Paul Thompson, Jenny Tice, Rhonda Trekkell, Shannon Umheid, Jenny Verbeck, Katherine Walsh, Casey Wentler, Pat West, Lynn Wicks, Carson Young, Jeff Young, Melissa Zeff.



Freshman Class Officers: Michelle Soules, Shannon Coffey, Jill Arnold, Brad Jackson, Mark Reiter. (photo by David Zimmerman)



Freshmen Orchestra: Front row: Kim Willis, Deana Lane, Kyle Forese, Heather Colbert. Second row: Danna Cooley, Shauna Haddix, Gail Broils, Heidi Schallberg, Felicia Fernandez. Third row: Trina Mehagen, Mi Ra Park, Emily Nelles, Tina Taylor. Fourth row: Caroline Peukev, Jenny Fedderson, Jenny Lesnet, Michael Heitzman.



Freshmen Pepsters: First row: Lori Henager, Susie Swiss, Amy Smith. Second row: Michelle Soules, Jill Arnold. (photo by David Cunningham)



German Club Officers: Front row: Herr Mike Ramirez, Frau Kay Melewski. Second row: Kathy Samuel, Jill Hall, Lennie Niernberger. Third row: Denise Haddix, Julie Jackson, Amy Francis, Erin Harris, Ted Mehl.

- Cochran, Steve 197
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Drug Testing

D "It won't alleviate the drug problem, but it might help a little bit."

Paul Bryant, junior

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Girls Sports Cheerleaders: Dana Golden, Lisa Livingston, Tammy Branham, Traci McCarty, Heather McKenzie, Dana Cariddi.



Homecoming Queen: First row: Connie Wilket. Queen Michelle Twitt, Susan Kane. Back row: Raelyn Williams, Tonya Brennan, Lana Wooten, Stephanie Edmundson. (photo by Katie Adamson)



Honor Society: First row: Mrs. Phyllis McConnell, Mrs. Susie Tarwater. Second row: Noeida Castro, Brad Ricklefs, Debbie Dobney, Julie Jackson, Angela Roos. Third row: Ryan Barnett, Christy Taylor, Michelle Reiter, Kathy Foote, Jill Hall, Tamela Simpson, Susan Reisch, Charla Ringhausen, Karla Steele, Ann Lohman. Fourth row: Mike Burkhalter, John Farmer, Allan Samson, Rodney Wymouth, Jill Russel, Jennifer Ashentrop, Bob Randall, Jennifer Potter, Amy Brooks, Theresa Lininger. Fifth row: Mike Walls, Mark Kelly, Joe Ross, Scott Conley, Adam Barksdale, Kristina Martin, Trisha Westhoff, Cheryl Coole, Mi Ra Park, Deanna Lane. Sixth row: Lee Yates, Mike Roos, Chris Pickett, Doug Noble, Caroling Peuker, Brooke Warner, Kristin Quinn, Nancy Barnett. Seventh row: Brad Jackson, Shalaine Kobby, Sara Mosbacher, Karen Kuha, Christy Stone, Renee Reynaud, Juliet Price, Michelle Pope. Back row: Hannah Sumerlin, Stephanie Boling, Missy Kothe, Stephanie Taliaferro, Cathy Riley, Coleen Powell, Deona Summers. (photo by Katie Adamson)

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European Missiles

E "If we aren't going to take them out, then we should reduce the amount of arms in Europe."
Sharron Lappin, senior

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F "I don't thing people should have made such a big deal of just a wedding."
Pat MacDonald, sophomore

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Graduation on Sunday

"I liked the idea because you had a lot of time for a family party then you could go to other parties with friends."

Jason Swan, senior

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Invitational Queen: Vickie Stephens, Angi Taylor, Cindy Smith. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Junior Class Officers: First row: Jill Hall, Bob Randall, Michelle Reiter. Back row: Kristy Mouser, Brooke Warner, Roby Coe.



Junior Varsity Cheerleaders: First row: Tonia Collins, Sherrie Moore. Second row: Kendra Rose. Third row: Shannon Hoover, Lisa Greer. (photo by David Cunningham)

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Dick Houser

H

"He did more for the team than you could really ask for just by trying to come back after his operations."

Andy Braams, junior

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Marching Band, Front row, Drum Majors Richard Miller, Lani Fernandes, Mike Lile, Second row, Jay Hilty, Angie Nordman, Jennifer Sinnett, Lisa Dunlap, Mike Creel, Barbra Hawkins, Craig Hufford, Chris Coomer, Lori Callendar, Lisa Cory, Christy Reedy, Debbie Laboda, Susan Goldammer, Maryhelen Flinn, Third row: Dan Heston, Brad Witchner, Paul Steinle, Julie Dake, Amy Jordan, Stacy Hornung, Kathleen Johnson, Stephanie Boling, Melissa Kothe, Debra Hill, Lisa Gidley, Christine Walberg, Neil Watkins, Mitch Jenkins, Fourth row, Deedra Stoneking, Stephanie Cross, John Lewis, Mark Hanway, Shawn Hamilton, Scott Conley, Michael Szoke, Michael Kearns, Robert Edsall, Jeffrey Scalici, Keith Sollazzo, Mike Shaw, Jeffrey Veitch, Sean Murphy, Fifth row, Kirk Forslund, Derek McFerrin, Andy Pruneda, David Heston, Paul Ford, Dougals Newton, Charles Anderson, Chirs Garko, Don Reeves, Craig Haning, Mark Stockmeyer, Todd Beckum, Shannon Holcomb, Aaron Mumma, Sixth row, Ruth Horton, Barbra Spinner, Jennifer Griffith, Jeff Veenstra, Tracy Kimball, Cara Cone, Casey Davison, Mike Huckleberry, Alyson Estes.



Mr. OP, Front row, Anthony Files, Jeff Jones, Steve Thornberry, David Farris, David Delameter, Back row, John Farmer, Doug Graves, Lennie Niernberger, Mark Kelly, Bob Randall, David Cunningham, (photo by Mitzi Craft)

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Iran Contra

"Reagan was trying to get the hostages back so he just gave them arms instead of using the diplomatic way."

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Northmen Express: First row: Jeanne Gunnaway, Terry Sears, Wendi Steele, Jill Russell, Jennifer Burdick, Scott Phelps, Karen Kuhn. Second row: Lars Nelson, Tammy Brainham, Steve Herrington, Hal Kammerlohr, Andrea White, David Perry. Third row: Jason Gregory, Jennifer Taylor, Gary Pierson, Christy Stone, Christian Thompson, Pam Minthorn. Fourth row: Amy Blanton, Brian Campbell, Adrienne Corn, Nancy Sirinek, Lee Yates, Joanna Wardlow. (photo by ?)



Northern Lights: First row: Renee Wade, Stephanie Pogge, Lisa Yeager, Jennifer Mock, Nancy Ruele. Second row: Eddie Doolin, Christian Thompson, Becky Gatewood, Deana Johnson, Heather Schuck, Mark Scholl, Ted Mehl, Mike Pierson, Scott Phelps, Jim Butler, Brooke Wagner, Patty Palmer, Erica Minter. Back row: Mike Gilliam, Scott McCubbins, Kristin Jones, Jill Shelton, Lee Yates, Sheri Jett, Angie Barnes, Catherine Henson, David Delameter, Mike Henderson. (photo by David Cunningham)



Oak Street: Front row: Leigh Anne Nicholson, Patty Wiltz, Pam Williams, Tammy Johnson, Karen Chrisman, Charla Ringhausen, Lisa Bowman, Wyn Hilty, Suzie Rastorfer, Angie Rogge, Lana Wooten, Kim Granquist, Linda Sellars, Tami Soules. Back row: Steve Senter, Tracy George, Jeff Gregory, Craig Hagenbuch, Mike Pierson, Kevin Day, Jason Swan, Doug Graves, Mike Conn, Chris Foree, David Farris. (photo by David Cunningham)



Ochestra: First row: Chris Ranes, Steven Wyatt, Scott Lute, Brandi Denning, Craig Ball, Scott Wagner. Second row: Lori Elsberry, Nancy Kenyon, Ana Maria Rice, Sharon Lappin, Susan Nyen, Barbra Lappin, Tricia Westhoff, Heidi Schallberg, Shannon Hoover, Elizabeth Burgess, Vicky Burec, Ann Lohman, Kathy Samuel, Julie Price. Third row: Ross Woody, Lenny Niernberger, Tom Woitascyk, David Ohnesorge, Doug Graves, Gary Pierson, Sal Bonsignore, Brian Overturf, Todd Krey, Dwayne Bargfrede, Carol Dobney, Vickie Hummel, Crystal Herbranson, Matt Lightfoot.



Pep Band: First row: Tracey Myers, Barbra Hawkins, Debbie Loboda, Christy Reedy, Susan Goldammer, Maryhelen Flinn, Laura Martin, Debra Hill, Dasey Davison, Cara Cone, Eric Land, Richard Miller. Second row: Lisa Gidley, Deedra Stoneking, Kathleen Johnson, Amy Jordan, Julie Dake, Craig Hufford, Don Reeves. Third row: Lisa Cory, Julie Clark, Jennifer Sinnett, Sheri Creel, Lisa Dunlap. Fourth row: Stephanie Boling, Missy Kothe, Brad Witchner, Lani Fernandes, Lori Callendar, Jeff Veatch, Dan Heston, John Lewis, Sean Murphy, Jeff Veenstra. Fifth row: David Heston, Andy Pruenda, Todd Beckum, Andy Braams, Mark Stockmeyer, Jon Lile, Aaron Mumma. Sixth row: Jeff Koelling, Robert Edsall, Shawn Hamnilton, Mark Hanway, Kirk Forslund, Mike Szoke, Mike Kearns, Scott Conley, Brad Green, Mike Shaw, Jeff Scalici.



Pep Club Officers: First row: Andrea White, Hannah Sumerlin, Heather Lane, Amy Francis. Back row: Deedra Stoneking, Crystal Herbranson, Jeanne Bannaway, Rachelle Commacho. (photo by David Cunningham)

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"I wouldn't pay to play it because it promotes violence." *Scott Osborn, junior*

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M "I was suprised he got fired but I like Ganz better. I think he'll be better for the Chiefs."

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Pom-Pom: Front row: Robyn Coe, Tina Bailey. Second row: Tonia Brennan, Susan Kane, Stephanie Snowden, Tracy Christopher, Kim Granquist, Lana Wooten. Third row: Christy Fulton, Erin Rastofer, Melissa Brooks, Kirby Kavanaugh, Michelle Murphy, Michele Tunnell, Michelle Kirtley. (photo by David Cunningham)



Poly-Sci: Front row: Sal Montalbano, Susan Knox, Randy Thompson, Toby Allen. Second row: Mr. Joe Walsh, Tom Powers, Margie Beatty, John Lile, Todd Blume. (photo by David Cunningham)



Senior Class Officers: Michelle Twitt, Daniel Murtha, Tamela Simpson, Debbie Dobney, Tom Robertson. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

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O-P won't be able to think of war as anything but futile murder and destruction." Leigh Anne Nicholson, senior

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Party "Naked"

"It is nothing more than a statement of individuality and independence."

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"It's really neat to see someone from Kansas City make it the way they have." *Chirstine Hynek, junior*

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Seven Semester 4.0: Sittichoke Huckuntod, Charla Ringhausen, JoAnn Dake, Karla Steele, Jeff Arendt. (photo by David Cunningham)



Solid Oak: First row: Laurie Bonavia, Stacey Garrison, Sean Foree, Lias Lindsay, Steve Day, Annette Bennett, Casey Weutler. Second row: Lori Henegar, Tara Barnes, Renee Reynaud, Ellen Hagsten, Stephanie Speich, Beth Stinard, Kristina Martin, Jill Shelton. Back row: Scott Neal, Jon Beard, Chris Burroughs, Doug Beason, Mike Pence, Jeff Sutton, Jeff Young. (photo by David Cunningham)



Sophomore Cheerleaders: Gina Armstrong, Jill Amendt, Kathy Robertson. (photo by David Cunningham)



Sophomore Class Officers: Ann Gonner, Denise Miller, Lennie Niernberger, Shannon Armstrong. (photo by Katie Adamson)



Sophomore Choir: Carla Adams, Debbie Bishop, Amy Blanton, Michelle Blay, Bryan Boydston, Tammy Branham, Jennifer Burdick, Brian Campbell, Kim Cariddi, Shannon Collins, Adrienne Corn, Deana Deen, Becky Dick, Deon Foreman, Tamare Fuller, Jeanne Gannaway, Matt Gasswint, Nichole Gierck, Christine Goeperich, Jason Gregory, Kathy Groom, Russell Hadsall, Julie Haralson, Steve Herrington, Jay Hill, Jennifer Jacobs, Pat Jenkins, Harold Kammerlohr, Virginia Kerr, Robert Kimes, Karen Kuhn, Spencer Langley, Pamela Minthorn, Kim Naylor, Scott Olson, Patty Palmer, Julie Pennington, David Perry, Scott Phelps, Gary Pierson, Lisa Powell, Heather Reed, Jill Russell, Terry Sears, Angie Seybold, Nancy Sirinek, Scott Smith, John Stathopoulos, Wendi Steele, Christine Stone, Jenny Naylor, Nathan Taylor, Chirs Thompson, Eric Voorvart, Renee Wade, Andrea White, Lee Yates, Terri Younger. (photo by Matthew Ward)



Spanish Club: Front row: Laura Watilo, Jim Butler, Mark Troxel. Second row: Christy Spencer, Rhonda Hott, Tabitha Herman, Cindy Smith, Mrs. Connie Hostettler. Back row: Randy Thompson, Adam Barksdale, Paul Anderson, Terri Nelson, Gregg Glass, Paul Steinley, Doug Noble. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



StuCo Officers, Bob Vogelaar, Dan Bishop, Michelle Murphy, Jeff Jones, Audra Tuggle. (photo by Todd Kusman)

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Skiing Weston

S

"It was different from Colorado because it did not have the mountains or neat atmosphere."

Lisa Greer, sophomore

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T-U *Terrorism*
 "There should be stiffer penalties for its violators. This is a world-wide problem." *Robert Witcher, senior*

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St. Pat Kings: Brad Newland, Jeff White, Jack Armstrong, Brant Prather, Darren Baker, Rob Nessari, Tom Robertson, Dan Bishop, King David Zimmerman. (photo by Jimmy Preston)



Symphonic Band: Charles Anderson, Tarri Bavaro, Todd Beckum, Tom Black, Stephanie Boling, Andy Braams, Kim Branham, Lori Callendar, Julie Clark, Scott Compton, Cara Cone, Scott Conley, Chris Coomer, Lisa Cory, Sheri Creel, Stephanie Cross, Julie Dake, Casey Davison, Lisa Dunlap, Robert Edsall, Alyson Estes, Lani Fernandes, Maryhelen Flinn, Paul Ford, Kirk Forsland, Ken Garber, Tammy George, Lisa Gidley, Susan Goldammer, Brad Green, Shawn Hamilton, Craig Hanning, Mark Hanway, Barbie Hawkins, Dan Heston, Dave Heston, Debra Hill, Jay Hilty, Shannon Holcomb, Bruce Hubbard, Mike Huckleberry, Craig Hufford, Kathleen Johnson, Amy Jordan, Mike Kearns, Jeff Keever, Traci Kimball, Jeff Koeling, Melissa Kothe, Heather Lane, John Lewis, Mike Lile, Diane Lincoln, Debbie Loboda, Derek McFerrin, Laura Martin, Rich Miller, Aaron Mumma, Garrett Mumma, Michelle Murphy, Tracey Myers, Doug Newton, Angie Norman, Jennifer Pierce, Andy Pruneda, Kristy Reedy, Don Reeves, Jeff Scalici, Mike Shaw, Jennifer Sinnett, Keith Solazzo, Paul Steinle, Mark Stockmyer, Deedra Stoneking, Mike Szoke, Jeff Veatch, Jeff Ceenstra, Christine Walburg, Neil Watkins, Martin Wilson, Brad Witschner, Sean Murphy, Eric Land. (photo by David Cunningham)



Talking Northmen: Sitting: Vanessa Kost, Scott Wagner, Richard Rice, Taria Abdullah, Angie Lykken, Adam Barksdale, Mark Turner, Scott Wolverton, Lisa Polland, Kristin Kelco, Lisa Lindsay, Allison Shearin, Cindy Kirkland, Lori Elsberry, Steve Nelson, Tracy Jones, Chris Swetnam, Mary Meier, Julie Jackson, Jim Butler, Amy Bunnell, Adrienne Corn, Christy Stone, Denise Miller, Becky Minter, Angie Barnes, Suzy Rastorfer, Renee Reynaud, Jill Arnold, Doug Noble, Lori Henegar, Deana Johnson, Bob Vogelaar, Lars Nelson. Standing: Nancy Meier, Tara Barnes, Chris Spinola, Mark Reiter, Ron Dyer, Lori Bunning, Amy Yardley, Charlotte Kimes, Lori Chambers, Andrew Crain, Eric Wagner, Amy Meier, Matt Gasswitt, Ryan Barnett, Brad Jackson, Sal Montalbano, Tom Powers, Scott Robinson, Alan Ringhausen, Andrea Culp, Mike Heitzman, Lisa Mall, Steve Jones, Matt Hensley, Nancy Rauhle, Chad Starr, Kenny Myers, Todd Adrian, Paul Anderson, Tony Durone, Steve Thornberry, Sean Hedenkog, John Vanasselt, Lance Beach, Carey Smith, Steve Day, Kristina Mitchell. (photo by David Cunningham)

V-W

Bruce Willis

"He is the hottest guy on prime time."

Becky Brink, senior

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Yellleaders

"They gave a special sense of entertainment. It made the squad seem unique."

Tim Smith, junior

Y-Z

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Thespian Club: Front row: Aimee Rogers, Leigh Anne Nicholson, Chris Foree, Shannon Gaines. Second row: Kristin Alterich, Jodi Moran, David Cunningham, Pat Jenkins, Erin Rastorfer, Suzie Ratorfer, Jon Tyree, Nancy Hudson. Third row: Abby Ferry, Elizabeth Massa, Stephanie Pogge. Back row: Jeff Gregory, Angie Rogge. (photo by Mitzi Craft)



Trainers: Tracy Chrisman, Gregg Booth, Tom Robertson, Karen Chrisman.



Varsity Cheerleaders: Starla Robeneck, Renee Wade, Shannon Dowden, Debbie Dobney, Mary Beth Mockridge, Patty Palmer. (photo by David Cunningham)



Yellleaders: Bobbie Smith, Brent Guglielmino, Chad Brooke, David Delameter. (photo by David Cunningham)

• by Tamela Simpson

The 1987 school year was almost a marriage of what we were, what we are, and what we are to become. Big Blue was not only a freshman surviving in an oversized world, a sophomore passing his driving test, a Junior finding a special date to prom or a senior finding his dreams. Big Blue was this and more; Big Blue was all of us. As the year progressed exciting events were turned into treasured memories. Highlights, like winning the homecoming football game or entering the gym for that special dance became a part of many Oakies.

Change affected each class. Seniors had to rearrange plans because of changed graduation dates.

Juniors had to work harder because requirements were increased to twenty-three credits. Sophomore sports were brought back because of the levy passing. And Freshman had to adapt to the new environment.

The year brought a little old, a little new, even a little borrowed, but always Blue - Oak Park Blue.



Collecting more than pictures, seniors collect memories when putting together a senior book. (photo by Mary Beall)

Enjoying a basketball game, Oak Park students cheer while, Brant Prather attempts a freethrow. (photo by Matthew Ward)





• Lamela Simpson

The end of the 1987 school brought many questions that needed answers. Upperclassmen faced the decision concerning college and careers, and teachers and underclassmen had to prepare for the upcoming school year.

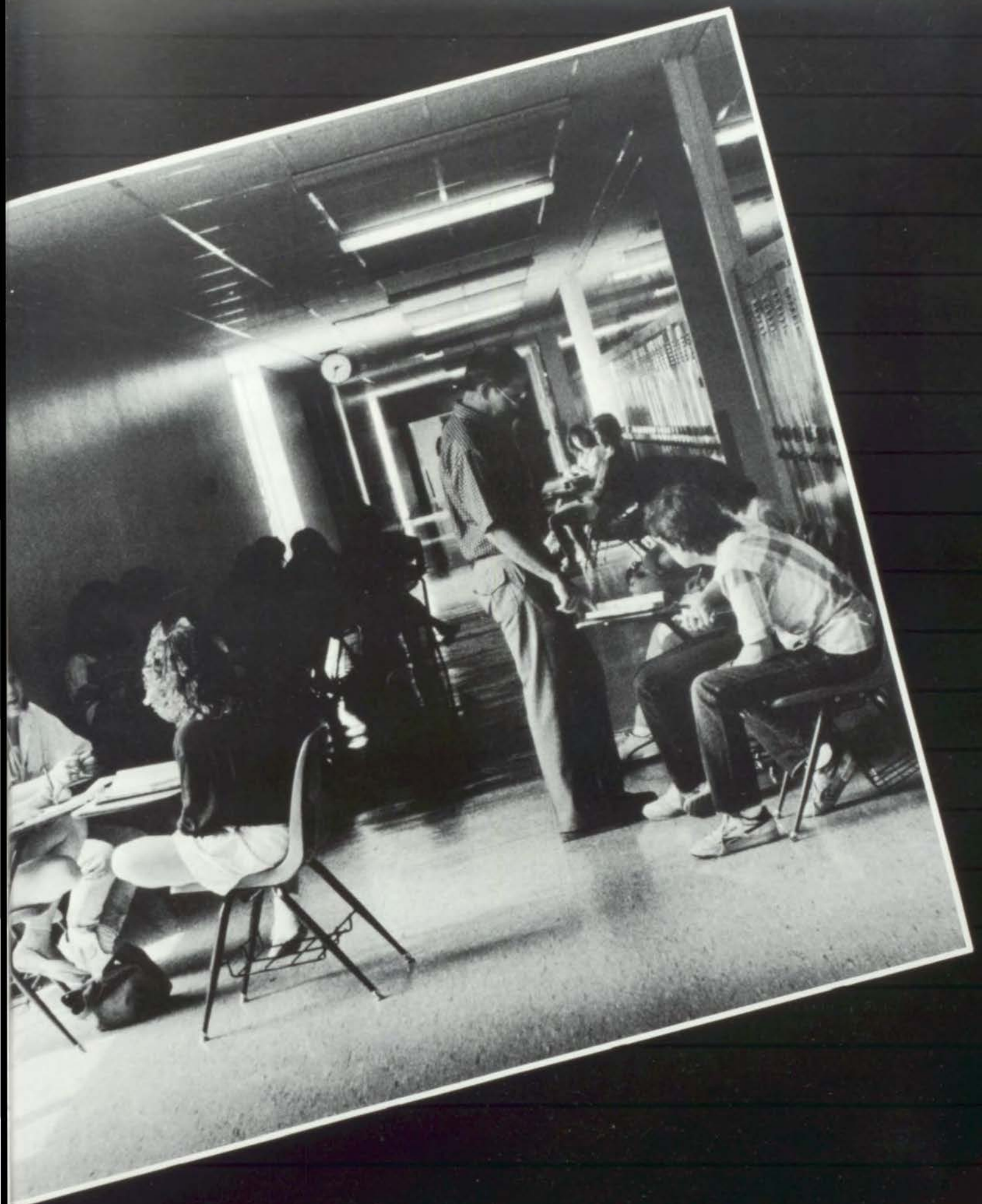
Time was the only thing that separated us from the answers. Even though the future seemed bright and clear, students began to realize that they were going to miss the every-day ritual of going to school. The early morning Quick Trip stops or tanning in the courtyard during lunch would be a part of the past. Students traded phone numbers and promised to keep in touch. Oakies would go in different directions, some would change schools, some might even change the future.

But no matter what the future brought, Oakies were ready to face it. What we take with us from Oak Park is what has become a part of us. That we can not change. No matter where our future takes us, there will always be something special inside us—something blue.

In order to escape the heat, during the month of May when the air conditioning broke down, teachers held classes in the halls or outside. (photo by Jimmy Preston)

Almost making a collage of the year 1987, students' folders include a collection of the latest rock bands, sayings or even school reminders. (photo by David Zimmerman)





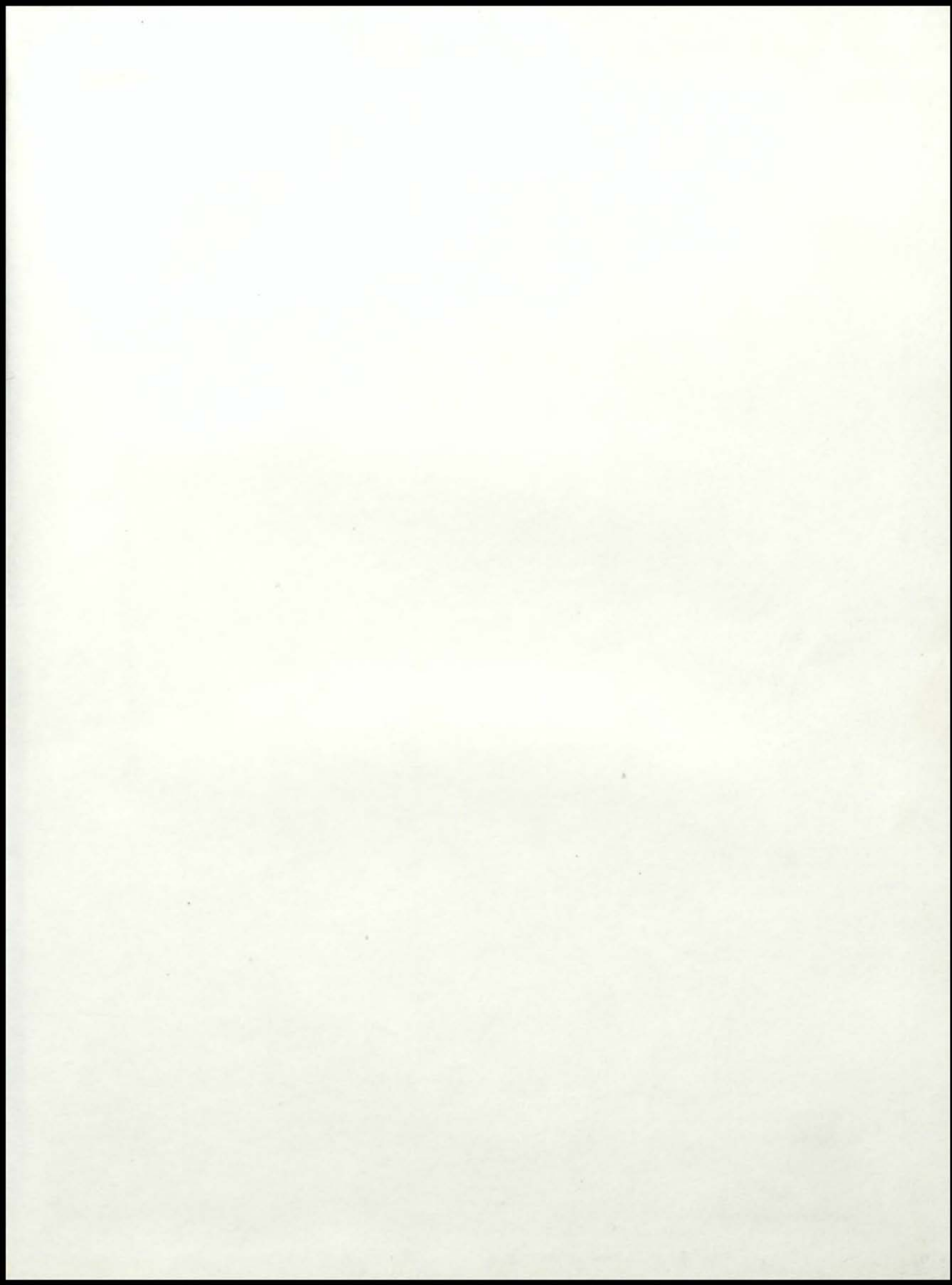
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The 1987 Cambia was published by Walsworth Publishing Company of Marceline, Missouri.

The type used was Lydian 10 point for body copy with 30 point initials. Headlines vary from 24 point to 144 point. Cutlines are 8 point Lydian with 12 point large initial letter.

Spot color is 100% flag blue. The paper is 80 pound enamel. Senior pictures shot by Cambia photographers were processed by Custom Color of Kansas City. Portraits were shot by Campus Photo. The staff would like to thank our advisor Mr. Bill Hankins and Walsworth representative Mr. Jim Reed. We would also like to thank Oak Park for making this year something old, something new, something borrowed, and especially something blue.





Staff Positions

CO-Editors - Kelly Reed and Tamela Simpson
CO-Copy Editors - Kim Melton and June Sumerlin
Senior Section Editor - Michele Tunnell
Junior Section Editor - Jenny Snow
Sophomore Section Editor - Jill Hall
Freshmen Section Editor - Bob Randall
Business Manager - Julie Clark
Layout CO-Editors - Sandy Gilpin and Aimee Rogers
Writers - Brenda Heffron and Michelle Murphy
Photo CO-Editors - Lisa Mason and Matthew Ward
Group Shot Editor - David Cunningham
Dark Room Manager - Jimmy Preston
Photogs - Katie Adamson, Mary Beall, Mitzi Craft, and David Zimmerman

Every year Cambia is unique but the 1986-87 Cambia was even more unique. Not only was the staff different, but so was the procedure of processing the book. This year the staff incorporated a computer into all the deadlines.

The staff would like to extend a special thanks to Mr. Bill Hankins for being so patient and allowing us to learn from all of the mistakes we made as the year went by.

The CO-Editors would like to express their gratitude to all the staff for all of their time, effort, and dedication put into the making of the yearbook.

CO-Editors Kelly Reed and Tamela Simpson





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