

Mater Dei High School  
Hi-Lights 2012



# WESTSIDE STORY

*a yearbook*







Mater Dei  
Yearbook  
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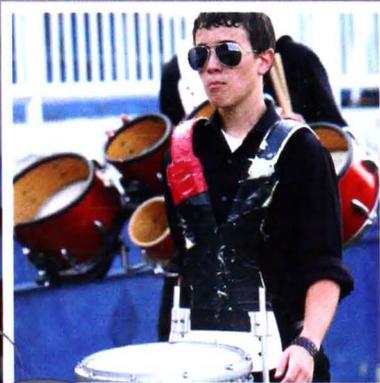
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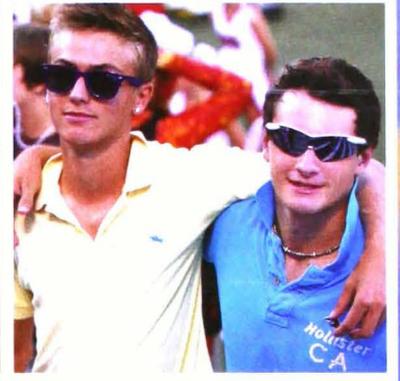
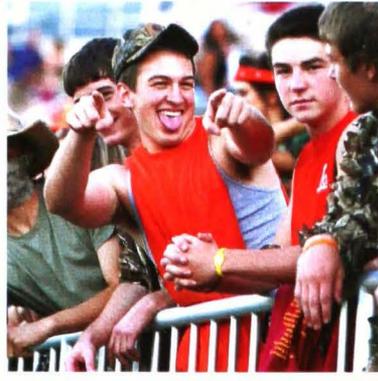
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Mater Dei High School  
1300 Harmony Way  
Evansville, IN 47720  
(812) 426-2258

Student Population: 501  
Faculty & Support Staff: 76  
[www.materdeiwildcats.com](http://www.materdeiwildcats.com)





Like any good tale, the *Westside Story* began a long time ago, and the ideals that the institution of Mater Dei were formed upon are still in place today. It took years of hard work, sweat, and teamwork to achieve what we know now as Mater Dei-ville. The different aspects of this city form the chapters of this book and help to keep the plot moving with unexpected twists and turns waiting around every corner.

This year, the chapters tell of teams going to State, friends dancing the night away, peers helping the less fortunate, and students excelling in academics. This is why we chose *Westside Story* for our theme. We decided that we had a story to tell, and it was time to tell it. Over the years, the story has stayed fairly consistent: students enter as naïve freshmen and after four long and enjoyable years leave as educated scholars. This is the story of Mater Dei; this is the *Westside Story*.

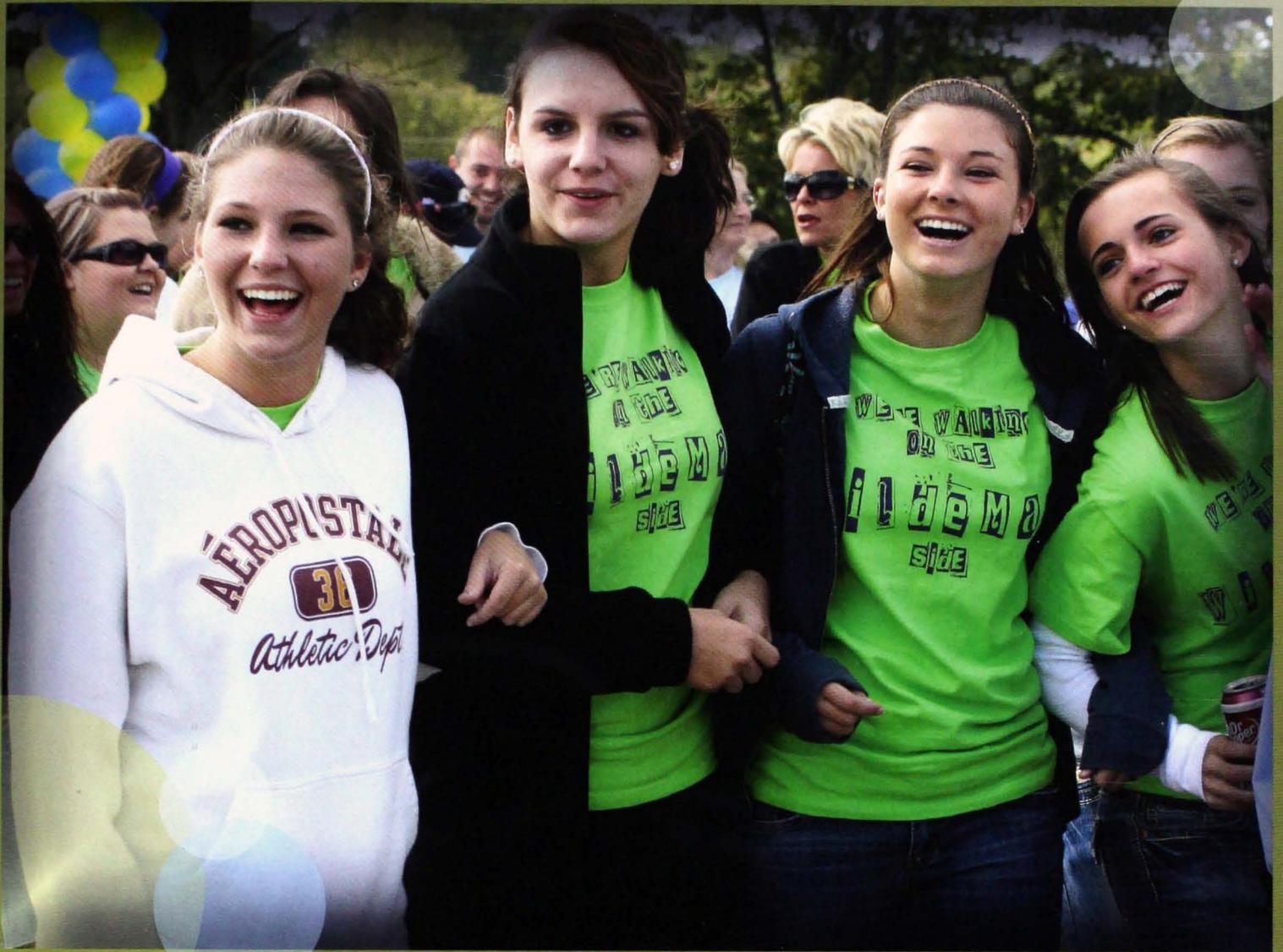
By Alexa Bueltel and Sarah Kelley, '12  
Co-Editors



# CHAPTER 1

## *Portraits*





*"The Buddy Walk is important to me because I am really good friends with Joe Wildeman, and I want my class to be aware of Down Syndrome. The service projects at Mater Dei have given me the opportunity to participate in events like the Buddy Walk."*

*-Sophomore Taylor Mayer*

# STAFF

2011-2012

Kim Alles  
Roseanna Ames  
Georgianna Amos  
Gloria Bumb  
Sr. Ann Marie Butler



## Picture PERFECT

Somewhere in the hills of Memphis, Tennessee, a dream was born: a dream of a photography business called Roberson Photography.

It all began when one woman, with a degree in fine arts and a love of photography, and one man filled with creative juices decided that they might win big taking pictures. These two people were English teacher Mrs. Roberson and her husband, Andrew. "I used to take pictures of my Cabbage Patch dolls when I was little and Andrew is just very creative," said Mrs. Roberson. The business started and continues to consist of the two of them taking pictures, editing, and printing.

The Robersons shoot weddings, families, seniors, future mothers, and newborn babies. Altogether, they are very "anti-studio." They like going out and exploring the world. "We've taken pictures at people's houses, and even the graveyard. We like taking pictures at people's houses because it really gets them comfortable because it is in their natural habitat." Senior Caitlin Moore, who had her senior pictures taken with Roberson Photography, said, "I felt like I had the freedom to express how I wanted my pictures to look."

As much as Mrs. Roberson loves being a teacher and a theatre director, she quite enjoys being able to express her creative side through her work with photography. "It can sometimes be a pain, especially when people don't appreciate what we do as photographers," said Mrs. Roberson. However, it's the moments when parents and her other customers break into big smiles at their finished products that Mrs. Roberson truly treasures.

### Double Duty

English and drama teacher, Mrs. Roberson, middle, works on monologues with her Theatre Arts class. Mrs. Roberson splits her time between directing plays for the Mater Dei Theatre Department and taking photos for her business.

By Sarah Kelley '12



Angela Conner  
Mandy Craig  
Valorie Dassel  
Timothy Dickel  
Joe Dippel



Carol Doninger  
Brenda Donofrio  
Christina Edwards  
Sarah Flener  
Dave Flick



Bobbie Gibbs  
Lou Ann Gilbert  
Mike Goebel  
Leslie Goth  
Sue Greulich



Debbie Haton  
Joe Herrmann  
Adam Heuck  
Ron Hickman  
Dodi Hoefling



Angie Hunter  
Jeff Jewell  
Rick Keith  
Mary Jo Kirchoff  
Darin Knight



Sandy Lasher  
Donna Lefler  
Jennifer Lintzenich  
John McMullen



Allison Mesker  
Jeanne Mesker



Ken Miller  
Wynn Mitchell  
Beth Ann Murray  
Carol Nurrenbern  
Julie Payne



Darlene Quinlin  
Kevin Quinlin  
Shea Reneer  
Donna Richardson  
Marilyn Richey



# Teacher Spotlight

*Last to Leave the Parking Lot*



*Mr. Hickman & Mrs. Roberson*

*Most Inspirational*



*Mrs. Mitchell & Mr. Schaefer*

Cora Leta Ritchie  
Crystal Roberson  
Stephen Rode  
Rose Rogge  
Greg Schaefer



Tonya Schenk  
Robert Schleter  
Kathy Scott  
Roger Sills  
Alex Smith

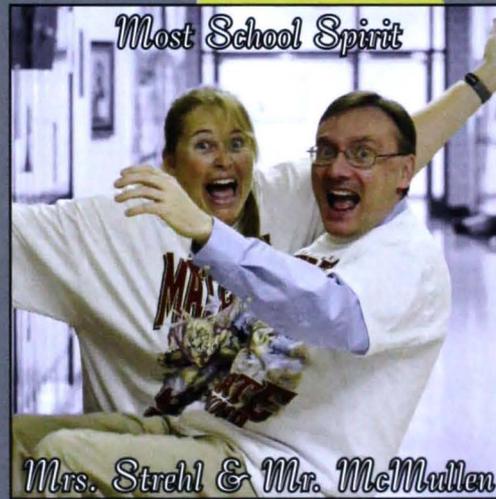
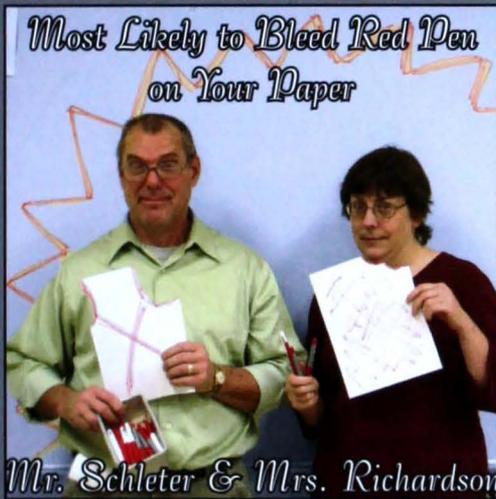




Guy Smyth  
Sheila Spaulding  
Angela Strehl  
Chris Tanner  
Dennis Thomas



Jeanne Thomas  
Jeanne Tornatta  
Kelly Ubelhor  
Carl Voegel  
Sarah Wagner



Toni Wallace  
Buffy Wannemuehler  
Dave Wathen  
Kathy Weber  
Molly Weber



Lee Ann West  
Scott Whitehouse  
Kurt Wildeman  
Sr. Mary Francis Williams  
Gail Wirtes



# FRESHMEN

## class of 2015

Chase Anslinger  
 Haley Anson  
 Mallory Anson  
 Cassandra Baker-Schnelle  
 Samuel Bartek



## Laying Down the **LAW**

The sight of a police car can evoke a variety of strong feelings in people, from security to intimidation. However, several students at Mater Dei not only appreciate the Evansville Police Department and the Vanderburgh County Sheriff's Office, but they have close ties to them.

Senior Allie Phelps is the daughter of Officer Joe Phelps. She said, "Whenever I tell people that my dad is a cop, I usually get the response, 'Wow, that has to suck,' but really it doesn't." She said that her daily life isn't much different from her peers. However, Phelps acknowledges that she is held to a higher standard by her parents. Freshman Evan Williams, son of Sheriff Eric Williams, agreed. He said, "He expects me to do right. My behavior reflects on him."

Senior Jacob Hahn, son of Robert Hahn, Assistant Chief of the Evansville Police Department, said his dad doesn't fall into the category of a strict parent. "He usually just scolds and gives us really stern lectures," Hahn said.

Each of these students' fathers have been in law enforcement for more than twenty years. In that time, they've had the opportunity to protect and serve their community. Phelps said she is always proud of her dad. Williams said he's proud of his father, especially for overseeing the building of the new jail.

Policemen, deputies, and sheriffs will always be a part of the community. So if you get pulled over, remember that the officer may be someone's parent and has a family at home.

By Adriana Funke, '12



Samuel Bassemier  
Jared Becker  
Amanda Blankenberger  
Mark Blankenberger  
Emily Bradley



Leland Braun  
Gavin Brown  
Brently Buedel  
Nicholas Buedel  
Katelyn Bueltel



Joshua Clem  
Ian Clevenger  
Dalton Cochran  
Trevor Dale  
Meredith Daunhauer



Rebecca DeCarli  
Anthony DeWeese  
Randall Dougan  
Allison Farmer  
Megan Farny



Andrew Folz  
Marie Folz  
Ashton Forzley  
Ellason Freeman  
Owen Fritch



Tanner Fritch  
Anthony Glaser  
Edward Goebel  
Jacklyn Gries  
Tyler Halbig

Drew Harrison  
 Mason Head  
 Brandon Hefley  
 Emily Heldman  
 Patrick Helfrich



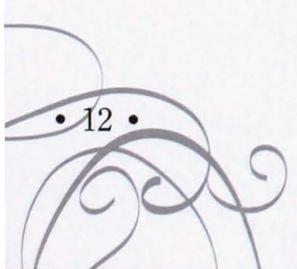
Amanda Herrmann  
 Caylon Hobgood  
 Aaron Hoefling  
 Blake Hoffman  
 Dana Hunt



Megan Hunt  
 Logan Jarboe  
 Alexander Johnson  
 Evan Karcher  
 Julie Kelley



Gabrielle Kempf  
 Quinn Kempf  
 Michael Kercher  
 Will Kirk  
 Ryan Krizenesky





Kylee Laymon  
Taylor Laymon  
Megan Lucas  
Samantha Luigs  
Justin Lyons



Brian MacGregor  
Sarah Martin  
Ashley May  
Logan McCann  
Evan McDonald

When it comes to Evansville, Indiana, celebrities are sparse and hard to come by. However, the local weathermen always make excellent exceptions. One of the most popular of these weathermen, Jeff Lyons, has an interesting connection to Mater Dei. His son, Justin Lyons, is a freshman who is very involved in the Mater Dei community. Born on August 16, 1996, Justin has two siblings, Natalie and Patrick.

### Getting to Know Justin

*Favorite Food:* Alaskan King Crab  
*Least Favorite Movie:* Annie Get Your Gun  
*Hero:* Lynn C. Thompson  
*Favorite Video Game:* Combat Flight Simulator 3  
*Special Talent:* Knife Throwing

*Favorite Flavor of Ice Cream:* Banana  
*Favorite Crayon Color:* White  
*Favorite Quote:* "I am a cop; you will respect my authority." – Eric Cartman  
*Favorite Channel:* Discovery Channel  
*Favorite Thing to Do with your Dad:* Watch movies



Isaac Memmer  
Jacob Moers  
Hannah Morrow  
Cassie Muensterman  
Luke Neitzke



Paige Niemeier  
Spencer Niemeier  
Grant Nowling  
Reed Olivey  
Mikail Parkinson

Joshua Price  
Megan Pritchett  
Anthony Pugh  
Andrew Reising  
Jonathan Reising



Megan Reker  
Noah Renfroe  
Kyle Rexing  
Gabriel Rohleder  
Jessica Sapp



Brendan Scheller  
Victoria Schickel  
Briana Schoettlin  
Monica Scofield  
Sydney Seger



Tara Seibert  
Benjamin Sellers  
Kayla Shane



Scout's  
**HONOR**

Being a Boy Scout involves more than just selling buttery popcorn and Christmas trees. Many Mater Dei students work toward becoming an Eagle Scout in order to earn the highest honor that the organization offers. This honor can be received while being a scout, but much time and preparation goes into the project.

Most of the Boy Scouts have been involved in the group for six to eight years. Seniors Austin Flittner and Joey Mayer have already completed their Eagle Scout projects. Flittner said, "I built photo opportunities for the zoo and painted them myself. Some are up year-round and some appear at Boo at the Zoo." Mayer's Eagle Scout project was re-doing the porch at the Evansville Life Center.

Both Flittner and Mayer devoted countless hours to ensure that their projects were completed. While it may take time to complete these projects, the accomplishments will be worth it in the end. By being involved in Boy Scouts, students are given opportunities that will be helpful for tasks later in life.

By Alexa Bueltel '12





Riley Shanks  
Micah Smith  
Jacob Stauber  
Abigail Stratman  
Abigail Tenhumberg



Eva Traylor  
Hannah Ubelhor  
Jacob VanBibber  
Victoria Wagner  
Julian Weidner



Isaac Weinzapfel  
Jessica Weinzapfel  
Roman Weinzapfel  
Stephan Welcher  
Nathan Werner



Brianna Wicks  
Megan Wildeman  
Alisyn Will  
Evan Williams  
Haley Winiger



**Paint to Perfection**

Far left, senior Austin Flittner paints one of his photo opportunities for his Eagle Scout project. Flittner has been actively involved in Boy Scouts for many years.

**Eagle Eye**

Left, while helping paint senior Austin Flittner's photo opportunities, senior Joey Mayer poses for the camera. Mayer also completed an Eagle Scout project of his own.



**Boo at the Zoo**

Above, one of the four photo opportunities that senior Austin Flittner completed for his Eagle Scout project is displayed. Flittner's photo opportunities were designed for the Mesker Park Zoo.

# SOPHOMORES

## class of 2014

Gabriel Adler  
Taylor Anderson  
Stephanie Atherton  
Laura Berendes  
Grace Berry



## On the way TO THE TOP

Wrestling is both an individual and a team sport; a successful wrestler must not count only on themselves, but also on their teammates. At Mater Dei, there has always been a steady stream of good wrestlers that join the program every year.

It's always good to have new wrestlers joining the team, and Mater Dei was blessed to have a few freshmen make varsity last year. Although the boys may have still been trying to adjust to the transition between grade school and high school, they had no problems making themselves at home with the wrestling "family." Current sophomores Josh Pierre and Wyatt Seng are prime examples of how hard work and dedication can start someone at the top even when they are at the bottom.

As freshmen, Pierre and Seng showed how much potential they had to become a great part of the family of wrestlers; both boys advanced all the way to State and showed that a little hard work could get them ahead of the game. Seng said, "I think the best part was getting experience to become a better wrestler. I also enjoyed just getting to go and see different and good competition." Pierre said, "As a freshman, I wasn't sure what to expect about what the team could do. This year, I expect the team to compete for a state championship."

This year, because they are sophomores and past the first-year experience, they both hope that they can continue to improve more and more each year and have major accomplishments that they can look back on years from now. Both have high expectations for themselves for this year and the years to come. Seng said, "I see myself improving my wrestling technique and improving on being a good leader."

The Mater Dei wrestling tradition will continue through the years as long as there are boys like Seng and Pierre who are ready to step up to the mat and take the challenge.





Mitchell Berry  
Emily Blankenberger  
Kendra Blankenberger  
Loren Browning  
Emily Burnett



Jakob Bury  
Joseph Bush  
Austin Carr  
Hunter Chancellor  
Sarah Claybon



Magdalene Cox  
Matthew Cox  
Alexandra Curtis  
Shelby Dewig  
Haley Donahue



Alexandra Dyson  
Alex Eger  
Jacob Elpers  
Michael Elpers  
Jacob Englert



Jacob Fleming  
Baylee Flittner  
Megan Fulton  
Benjamin Garrett  
Grant Glaser

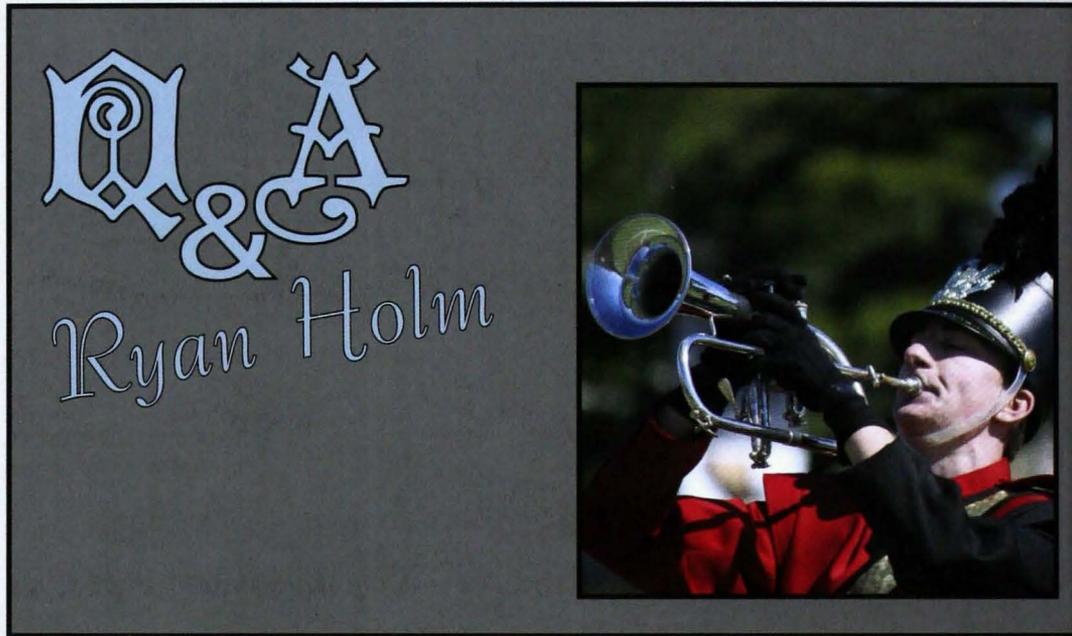


Nolan Goebel  
Zachary Goedde  
Kyle Haas  
Ryan Haas  
Kristen Hahn

Alaina Halsey  
 Candace Harsh  
 Haley Hatcher  
 Sonja Hines  
 Jacob Hoefling



Chase Hoehn  
 Ryan Holm  
 Brandon Keller  
 Bayley Kempf  
 Bennet Kempf



Rachel Kempf  
 Adam Kissel  
 Hayden Knapp  
 Adam Koewler  
 Tamarea Kramer



Seth Kruse  
 Jonathan Kuester  
 Ariel Kuhn  
 William LaRue  
 Kelly Lehman





Nicole Loehr  
Evan Luigs  
Levi Massey  
Madison Maurer  
Chloe Mayer



Taylor Mayer  
Dalton Meyer  
Matthew Mobley  
Allison Montgomery  
Anna Muensterman

*Ryan Holm is a sophomore with a special knack for music. He plays in the Mater Dei Marching Band and has astounded many with his raw talent at such a young age. In the band, Holm plays trumpet, but he has learned other instruments as well. When it comes to his music, Ryan is anything but quiet; his music is his voice.*

**Getting to Know Ryan**

*Instruments you Play:*  
Guitar, piano, and trumpet

*Favorite Instrument to Play:*  
Trumpet, because you can do so many things with it. You can play either really low or really high. I've played it since fifth grade.

*Favorite Color:* Blue  
*Favorite Food:* Tacos

*Favorite Lunch at Mater Dei:*  
Italian Shells and Sausage

*Favorite Type of Cookie:*  
Chocolate Chip

*Coke or Pepsi?*  
Coke

*Is Yellow a Flavor?*  
No, it's a color.



Maura Muensterman  
Logan Nicholson  
Sydney Oliver  
Kayla Orth  
Chase Partain



Johnathan Pauli  
Joshua Pierre  
Danielle Quinlin  
Abbigail Raben  
Emma Raben

Kiersten Record  
 Alexandra Reisinger  
 Haley Rheinlander  
 Alexander Rodd  
 Clarice Rode



Caroline Scales  
 Jared Schapker  
 Luke Schapker  
 Jered Schenk  
 Alexandria Schmitt



Lauren Schmitt  
 Catherine Schneider  
 Madeleine Schneider  
 Bailey Schnur  
 Samantha Schoenbachler



Kayla Schoettlin  
 Mackenzie Schuler  
 Maria Schweizer  
 Noah Schweizer  
 Matthew Seitz



Wyatt Seng  
 Weston Sheridan  
 Kiersten Singer  
 Ashlynn Spahn  
 Megan Steinkamp



## Wacky WILDEMAN'S

Sophomore Joe Wildeman was diagnosed with Down Syndrome when he was young. Every afternoon, he spends his day at Reitz for their special education program. However, his true home is at Mater Dei, where Joe has the support of his twin sisters, seniors Katie and Erin Wildeman, as well as the rest of the school.

Both of Joe's sisters encourage him to keep trying new things and to open up to people. Erin said that they also cheer him on at his swim meets and encourage him when he's learning new things. However, there is a certain balance that they must maintain. "Joe's a 'grown man,' as he likes to say, so he does most things for himself. When he

does need help, I'm always there for him," Katie said. Joe always appreciates the help that they offer. "They always watch out for me. I love them," he said.

Although the siblings have the system worked out well, they still face some challenges. "I struggle with not knowing how he is going to do when we go to college," Erin said. Katie said, "I'm going to miss him next year when I'm away at college, but I know that he has plenty of people that are supporting him and cheering him on for me through his years here at Mater Dei."

By Denise Blankenberger '12



Jacob Stratman  
Emily Todisco  
Alexandria Turpin  
Ethan Vibbert  
Keili Wagner



Kasey Wargel  
Kelsey Wargel  
Kirstyn Wargel  
Logan Weinzapfel  
Samantha Weinzapfel



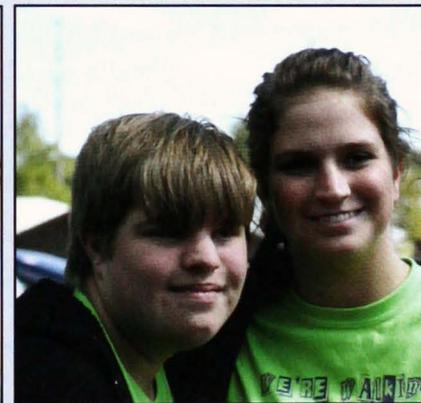
Levi Weiss  
Joe Wildeman  
Blake Wilderman  
Alexis Will  
Carolyn Wilmes



Grant Wilmes  
Brandon Wilson  
Alexandria Wink  
Sydney Winstead  
Haeli Wolf

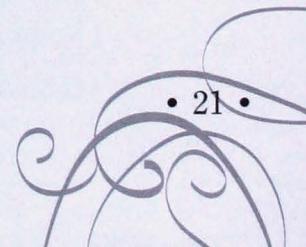


Megan Woodruff  
Jacob Zigenfus



**Got Your Back**  
Left, sophomore Joe Wildeman and his sister, senior Katie Wildeman, pose for a picture at the Buddy Walk. Joe's sisters are always there for him and take care of him whether at home or at school.

**Dynamic Duo**  
Left, sophomore Joe Wildeman sings a duet with his cousin, freshman Megan Wildeman, at the Buddy Walk. Singing is one of Joe's favorite pastimes.



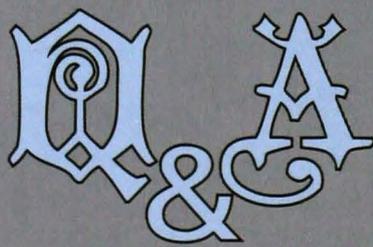
# JUNIORS

class of 2013

Grady Adler  
Kelsey Allison  
Dylan Ambrose  
Hadley Bauer  
Jill Beamer



Matthew Becker  
Katherine Bender  
Adam Berendes  
Chase Bittner  
Abigail Braun



Taylor Dolletzki



After fourteen years of playing music, junior Taylor Dolletzki developed his unique hobby into a music career. Dolletzki began his career at age three on the violin; now he is playing everything from guitar and bass guitar to piano and drums. He has been a member of the high school band, the band Win Some Lose Some, and the very popular band Loveless. Taylor is one of the vocalists in the band and also plays bass guitar. Dolletzki says the band is composed of his five best friends, so the time spent together is very enjoyable.

### Getting to Know Taylor

**Favorite Snack:** Oreos

**Favorite Band:** Maroon 5

**Favorite Class:** History, Chemistry

**Describe yourself in three words:**

Considerate, Friendly, Driven

**Ancient place you would like to visit:** The Holy Land

**If you had a time machine, what would you do?**

Go back and watch the King of Pop, Michael Jackson

**If you could talk to one animal, what would it be?**

My little brother's fish



Christopher Clements  
Evan Collins  
Aaron Costlow  
Matthew DeVault  
Olivia DeWeese



Jessica Dickens  
Taylor Dolletzki  
Rachael Doninger  
Nathan Drury  
Katrina Duncan



Taylor Dunlap  
Andrea Emmert  
Suzan Fields  
Christian Fife  
Beth Fischer



Joseph Folz  
Samuel Goad  
Aubrey Goebel  
Laura Greenwell  
Allison Gregory



Jenae Gries  
Katharina Gruber  
Natalie Harpenau  
Jace Hartz  
Jacob Hartz



Mackenzie Hartz  
Kyle Hassler  
Joseph Hayden  
Randy Hayden  
Ethan Head

Cody Hefley  
 Jeffrey Helfrich  
 Brandon Hertel  
 Austin Hoefling  
 Mallory Hogan



Jessica Hunt  
 Lauren Karcher  
 Korbett Kempf  
 Sarah Kercher  
 Madeline Kissel



# On a mission

When people think of summer vacation, they think of the free time they will have to do summer camps, spend time with friends, and possibly go on a family vacation. Last summer, a group of juniors found a different way to spend their time off from school. Katherine Bender, Jenae Gries, Lauren Karcher, and Rachel Scofield went on a mission trip through their church to the Appalachian Mountains.

While on the mission trip, there were many activities to keep them occupied throughout the week. "We painted a mobile home, cleaned a physically-handicapped woman's home, helped out around the ranch, and built a wheelchair ramp," Karcher said. She added that there were a lot of fun things to do at the ranch, such as dancing and having a volleyball tournament. However, it wasn't all fun and games.

For some of them, it was a life-changing experience. Scofield said, "It opened my eyes to people that need my help

and it showed me that it is possible to make a change in another person's life. This week was just a time to let go and let God." Gries said that she became much closer to her friends and God during the trip.

When the trip came to an end, all of them agreed they would go on another if they could. Bender said, "After seeing how thankful the people we helped were, it made me want to continue mission work. Also, I feel that it's my duty to help those in need with the gifts that God has given me."

Mission trips are a time to help those in need and grow closer to God at the same time. It is all about helping others and serving God, along with making lifelong friendships in the process. Although the trip lasted only a week, the experience that is taken away from it will last a lifetime.

By Alexa Bueltel '12

Katelyn Klingler  
 Lance Koester  
 Cody Krietemeyer  
 Molly Krizenesky  
 Troy Major



Jill Martin  
 Trevor Martin  
 Tyler Marx  
 Brett Masterson  
 Catherine Mayer





Cooper Mayer  
Emily McAtee  
Amanda McCandless  
Hannah McNeely  
Mitchell Meeks



Samantha Memmer  
Jacob Mischler  
Emily Moers  
Brennan Murphy  
Katarina Nash



**Building God's House**

Left, the mission trip volunteers help paint a house and build a wheelchair ramp. Throughout the week, the volunteers built lifelong friendships while answering God's call to go out and help those who are less fortunate.

**Friends in Christ**

Left, juniors Rachel Scofield, Allison Gregory, Lauren Karcher, Katherine Bender, and Jenae Gries take time to relax at their cabin. The volunteers had a full week of work and took advantage of any breaks that they received.



Keaton Oliver  
Mahlon Parkinson  
Emily Pfister  
Benjamin Polk  
Ryan Powers



Zachary Price  
Jared Raben  
Jacqueline Reising  
Kendra Rexing  
Peyton Rexing

Dakota Richardt  
Victoria Richmond  
Easton Ricketts  
Lauren Risley  
Joseph Ritter



Bryan Roales  
Mallory Robinson  
Anthony Ross  
Nathan Schapker  
Leo Scheller



Chelsea Schlitt  
Danielle Schmitt  
Adam Schneider  
Alex Schneider  
Alex Schoettlin



Blake Schoettlin  
Branson Schroeder  
Erin Schweizer  
Laura Schwindel  
Rachel Scofield



Emily Sellers  
Jenna Smith  
Alex Springer  
Andrew Stagg  
Philip Stoltz



## Making the **CHANGE**

*As restless students roam the halls, sit through classes, and go to lunch, no one can help but notice changes that have taken place this year at Mater Dei. For some, these changes come with great joy at the opportunity to experience something new, while for others, the changes may take some time to get used to.*

*One very noticeable change is not having a ninety-minute homeroom period. With this change comes less time for students to work on homework and be involved in clubs. "With my hectic schedule of sports and extracurricular activities, I feel pressed for time on getting my homework*

*done," junior Madeline Kissel said. Due to this lack of time to work on homework, sophomore Megan Fulton said she has to stay awake later to finish her homework.*

*To help students with busy schedules, Mater Dei began offering study halls this year. These study periods help to replace the time that students previously used during Wildcat Block to complete their homework.*

*The changes that have taken place this year have impacted students in various ways. Whether good or bad, change can mean new and exciting things for the future.*

*By Anna Weinzapfel '12*



Alexa Straub  
Megan Thomas  
Emily Tison  
Emily Ubelhor  
Seth Walker



Tyler Walsh  
Travis Wannemuehler  
Jack Weinzapfel  
Jenna Weinzapfel  
Ashton Welte



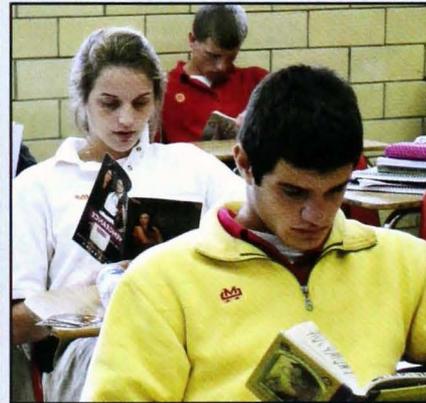
Kate Whitaker  
Erica Whorl  
Mallorie Will  
Matthew Will  
Nicholas Will



Kyle Willis  
Craig Wilmes  
Drew Winiger  
Bryan Wolf  
Heather Wolf



Nathan Wright

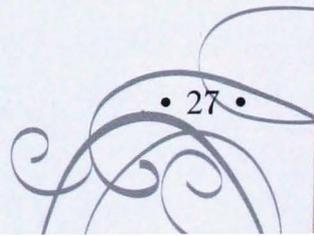


**The Book Nook**

Left, during the newly-formed student development period, senior Eric Wildeman reads his book. This time was incorporated into the schedule to improve the reading comprehension skills of the student body.

**Bookworm**

Left, senior Olivia Williams reads during the twenty-minute student development period. The entire student body was required to read every Monday, Wednesday, and Friday.



# SENIORS

class of 2012



**Christopher John Adler**

likes to ride his four-wheeler. His favorite subject at Mater Dei was World History, and his favorite thing to do in Evansville is to go to Rural King.



**Cody Alexander Adler**

considers his greatest achievement being elected mayor. His favorite color is ocean blue, and his favorite memory at Mater Dei is winning the May Day games junior year.



**Troy Vincent Adler**

plans to major in Conservation Law in college. He has a great love for Dr. Pepper, and he is an excellent hunter. His favorite lunch at Mater Dei was pizza and mashed potatoes.



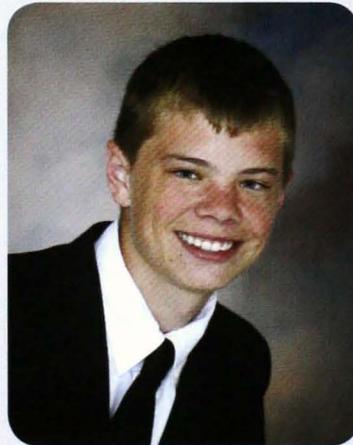
**Kendall Renae Altstadt**

loves country singer Taylor Swift, and considers Swift her personal hero. She plans to attend Western Kentucky University after high school, and her favorite book is *The Choice*.



**Claire Marie Alvey**

was involved in volleyball and tennis. She is allergic to raw vegetables, her favorite actor is Denzel Washington, and her most embarrassing moment was not being able to open her locker.



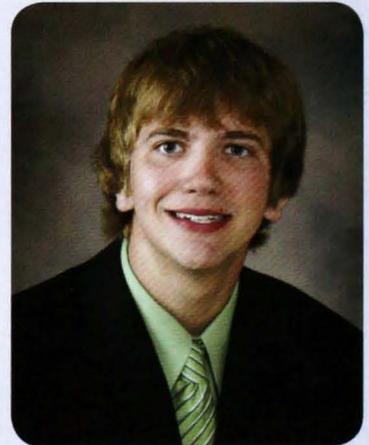
**Christopher Alexander Ambrose**

was the Vice-President of the speech team and a work-on member for the Student Council. His favorite subject at Mater Dei was Music History and Appreciation.



**Jared David Anson**

plans to attend Indiana University after high school. While at Mater Dei, he was involved in Spanish Club and Service Club, and competed in the Academic Super Bowl.



**Benjamin Martin Barchet**

was co-editor of the newspaper and was involved in theatre his senior year. His favorite memory was cheering at the volleyball games, and in ten years, he sees himself becoming a doctor.



# CODY ADLER

mayor of Mater Dei-ville



**Alexander Joseph Bassemier** considers chemistry to be his favorite subject at Mater Dei, and can shoot flies with rubber bands. His favorite color is electric blue, and his favorite movie is *How to Train Your Dragon*.



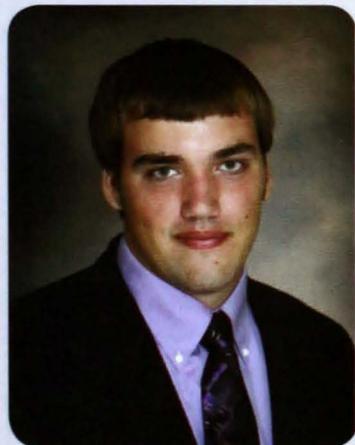
**Adam Ryan Blankenberger** played football and baseball and was the fire chief at Mater Dei. His favorite book is *The Jungle*, and he hates tomatoes. He plans to attend Indiana University in the fall.



**Denise Marie Blankenberger** considers her best achievement at Mater Dei setting the pole vault record. She was co-captain of Color Guard and was involved in track and yearbook. She can pop almost every bone in her body.



**Whitney Beth Blankenberger** sees herself with a successful job living in a big city with her husband in ten years. She was on the varsity volleyball team and was involved in Pep Club and Student Council.



**Bernard Vincent Boots** was involved in football, basketball, and track. His favorite memory at Mater Dei was when Mr. Wildeman smiled, and his favorite number is fifty-seven. His favorite color is lavender.



**Joshua Ryan Born** plans to major in Chemical Engineering in college. His favorite actor is Gerard Butler, and his favorite memories at Mater Dei were road trips to sporting events.



**Jacob Aaron Bossé** was a member of the Supermileage Team and plans to become an engineer. He hopes to win the lottery by the age of twenty-four. His favorite movie is *Black Hawk Down*.



**Dalton Le Brandenstein** played football and wrestled. His favorite movie is *Pineapple Express* and his greatest achievement at Mater Dei was beating a wrestler from Crown Point.



# MITCH CULLEY

manager



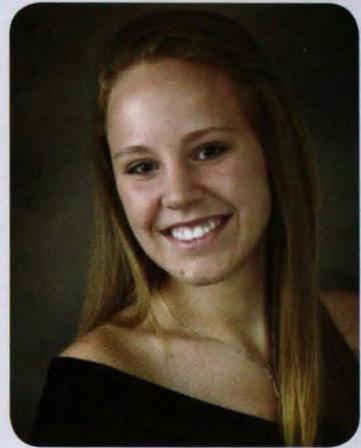
**Madison Bailey Brown**  
was a member of Pep Club, Mat Cats, and Youth First. Her favorite lunch at Mater Dei was buttered noodles, and her favorite thing to do in Evansville is spend time with her friends.



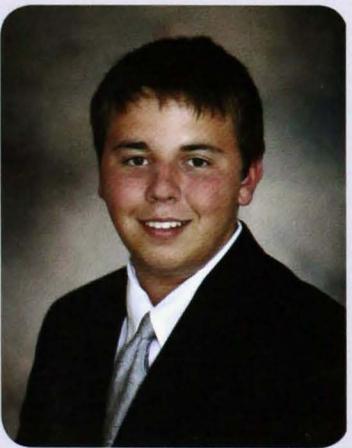
**Alecca Lynn Bueltel**  
was the co-editor of the yearbook and a member of Student Council and National Honor Society. She hates the sound of popping balloons and her favorite television show is *Glee*.



**Olivia Ranne Burress**  
loves to draw and dance, and her favorite memory at Mater Dei was going to the school dances. Her favorite subject was art, and her favorite movie is *The Proposal*.



**Mary Catherine Clements**  
considers tickle-me-pink her favorite color. She is ambidextrous and going to State for band was her greatest achievement. Her personal hero is her grandmother.



**Mitchell Joseph Culley**  
sees himself as the football manager of the Colts in ten years. He loves fries, and his favorite memory at Mater Dei is the baseball sectional championship in 2010. His favorite color is blue.



**Carlee Michele DeHart**  
was involved in Pep Club, Service Club, and Mat Cats. Her favorite event in Evansville is the Fall Festival, and *Grey's Anatomy* is her favorite television show.



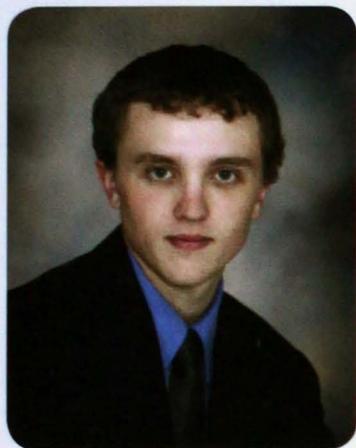
**Amy Moncrief Deig**  
loves the color pink. She was co-captain of the DanceCats and enjoyed attending Friday night football games. Winning the Mater Dei-Reitz football game is her favorite memory.



**Brianna Sue Dickerson**  
considers winning basketball sectionals on her birthday her favorite memory at Mater Dei. She plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana in the fall.



I like being the football manager because it's fun and it gets me involved in school. It has also opened up scholarship opportunities for me.



**David Ross Doughty**

likes to ride dirt bikes and play video games. His favorite memory at Mater Dei is the 2011 football season, and his favorite lunch at Mater Dei was hamburgers.



**Abigail Rose Eger**

was involved in Pep Club, Student Ambassadors, Student Council, and Service Club. Her favorite subject was English, and her favorite television show is *Bones*.



**Rachel Kelle Eickhoff**

plans to become a doctor and study at the Indiana University School of Medicine. She loves walking downtown, and she was a part of the volleyball team and Service Club.



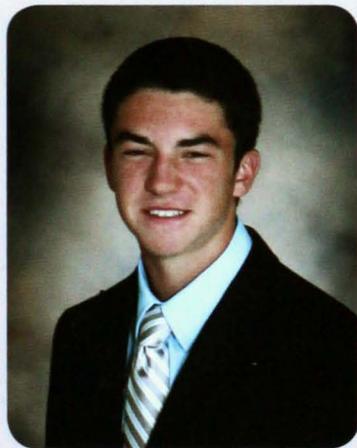
**Dylan Scott Elpers**

was a member of the tennis and track teams, and the Service Club. His favorite thing to do in Evansville is attend the 4-H Fair, and his favorite subject was Physical Education.



**Paul Jacob Elpers**

was a member of the tennis and golf teams, and sees himself as a mechanical engineer in ten years. His favorite color is cerulean, and his favorite subject at Mater Dei was Calculus.



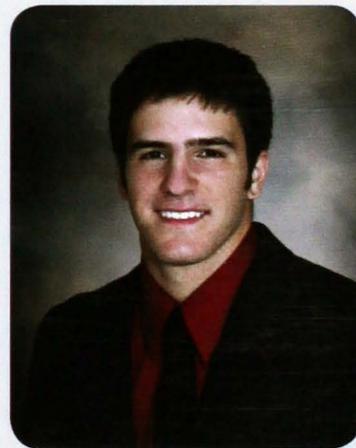
**Andrew Cade Emmert**

likes the color macaroni orange. His favorite movie is *The Lion King*, and his greatest achievement at Mater Dei was playing varsity baseball. His favorite number is three.



**Kirstin Renee Ethridge**

is the youngest person in the senior class. She sees herself penning novels while raising four children in a remote area in Wales in ten years, and her favorite number is seven.



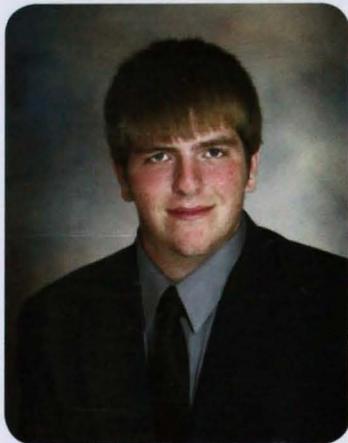
**David Richard Euler**

was involved in football and Student Ambassadors, and he loves Will Ferrell. His favorite thing to do in Evansville is to eat, and burgundy is his favorite color.



# MADDY GANSMAN

cheerleading co-captain



**Donald Eugene Euler**

was a member of the football and track and field teams. His favorite subject at Mater Dei was Music History and Appreciation and his favorite book is *Ghosts of Onyx*.



**Ryan Joseph Fehrenbacher**

was involved in tennis, track, and basketball. His favorite actor is Adam Sandler. He likes to drive around Evansville listening to his iPod, and his personal hero is his grandfather.



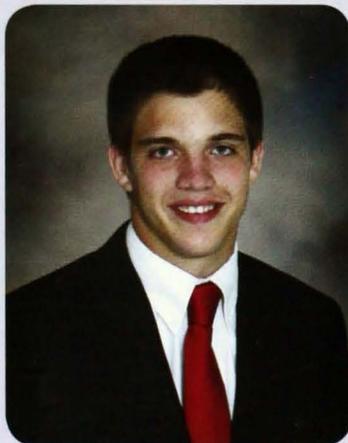
**Austin Taylor Flittner**

was involved in Prom Committee and was the Vice-President of Spanish Club. His best achievement at Mater Dei was receiving Magna Cum Laude, and his favorite subject was 3-D Art.



**Adam Walker Fols**

went to State in speech. In ten years, he hopes to have earned a Ph.D. in psychology. He studied culinary arts at the Career and Technical Institute, and his favorite subject was English.



**Logan Michael Fols**

was a member of the wrestling and football teams and was a Eucharistic Minister. His personal hero is Franklin Roosevelt and his favorite book is *Eye of the Wolf*.



**Sally Jean Fols**

was involved in Student Council, softball, Pep Club, and Service Club. Her favorite memory is attending the Rave her sophomore year and her favorite subject was Algebra II.



**Kelsey Marie Fulton**

was on the golf team, and was President of the Spanish Club. She was also a member of Teenpower. In ten years, she sees herself traveling throughout the world.



**Zackary Lee Fulton**

was a member of the football and baseball teams. His favorite high school memory was going on road trips to Mater Dei athletic events. His favorite movie is *The Green Mile*.

Cheer has been a memorable experience for me ever since I was younger. Being a captain of the Mater Dei cheer team has taught me responsibility through my team's hard work. This aspect of my life will never be forgotten.



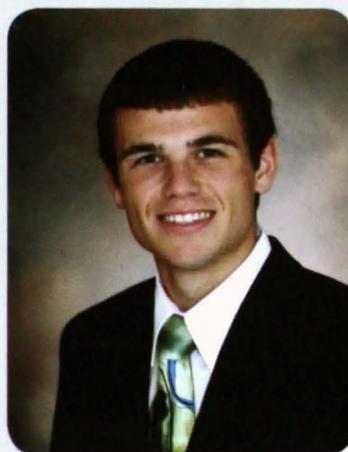
**Adriana Louise Funke**

was a member of the swim team, Teens for Life, and Service Club. In ten years, she sees herself traveling the world taking pictures for a publication such as *National Geographic*.



**Madeline Christine Gansman**

is an only child. Her favorite movie is *Where the Wild Things Are*, and her personal hero is her mother. Her most embarrassing moment at Mater Dei was being a new student.



**Jonathan Dylan Gears**

was a volunteer firefighter at the German Township Fire Department. His favorite event at Mater Dei is out-to-lunch, and his favorite television show is *Rescue Me*.



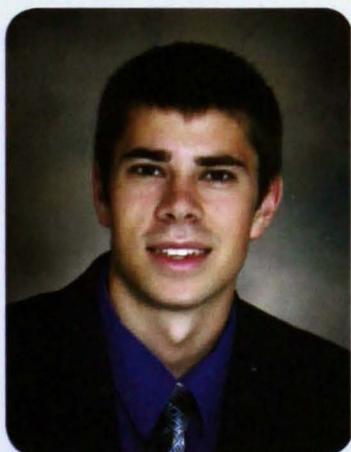
**Kelsey Nicole Goebel**

loves shopping, and her personal hero is her grandmother. Her favorite subject at Mater Dei was biology, and hanging out is her favorite thing to do in Evansville.



**Samuel Andrew Goebel**

was involved in wrestling, Pep Club, and Superfans. His favorite memory at Mater Dei was going to State in wrestling his junior year, and his favorite movie is *Lord of the Rings*.



**Lucas Elmer Goedde**

loves the color midnight blue. He plans to study engineering at Purdue, and he can whistle loudly. He was a member of the swim team and was Senior Councilperson At-Large.



**Jacob Paul Hahn**

was class treasurer, prosecutor, and a member of the National Honor Society. In ten years, he sees himself working for the FBI. Math and music were his favorite classes at Mater Dei.



**Andrew Keith Hamilton**

was a member of the varsity soccer, track, and swimming teams, and was a Student Ambassador. He sees himself as a physical therapist at ProRehab in ten years.



# JESSICA KELLEY

actress



**Kayla Renee Hammelman** was a member of Student Council, the Dance Marathon Committee, and the swim team. Her best achievement at Mater Dei was setting a new 200-yard IM record for swimming.



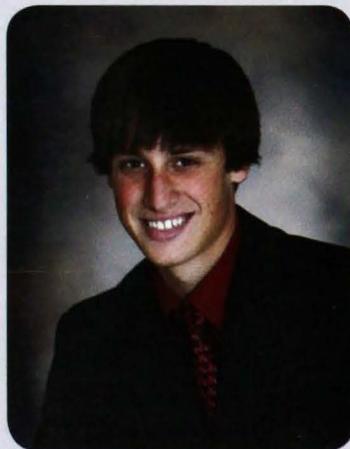
**Joshua Wayne Hammatt** was on the soccer, track, and swim teams. His personal heroes are his parents and his favorite actor is Will Smith. His favorite lunch at Mater Dei was Italian Shells and Sausage.



**Ariel Marie Happe** was captain of the soccer team and President of the International Thespian Society. Her favorite color is seafoam green and she plans to major in theatre in college.



**Cody James Hess** was a member of the football, baseball, and basketball teams. His favorite memory at Mater Dei was playing in the state finals at Lucas Oil Stadium for football his senior year.



**Austin David Hoefling** was on the soccer and baseball teams and was a member of Spanish Club. His best high school achievement was maintaining a 4.0 GPA, and his favorite TV show is *Breaking Bad*.



**Wade Michael Hoffman** was on the football team. He plans to attend Indiana State University after high school. His favorite thing to do in Evansville is to hang out with friends, and his personal hero is Tim Tebow.



**Ian Jacob Horstman** was on the football team, the baseball team his freshman and sophomore years, and was a police officer. His best achievement at Mater Dei was playing varsity football for three years.



**Shawn Patrick Horty** was a member of the football and baseball teams. His favorite memory was going to State in football his senior year. He loves shoes and his favorite color is neon green.

Getting the role as Mina in *Dracula* was everything I had worked for since coming to Mater Dei. I didn't make the cast as a freshman, so when sophomore year came I wanted to somehow be on that stage. Since my first show was as a supporting role in *Caught in the Act*, I knew I had to work my way up for the part I wanted. Since then, I've been in *Cinderella*, *Fools*, and *Footloose*. *Fools* was my first production with Mrs. Roberson. It was rocky at first, but once I put my trust in Mrs. Roberson, it was all uphill from there. After casting me as Mina, Mrs. Roberson was there every step of the way to help me become the character. I have her to thank, along with other people, for helping me become a better actress.



**Abbie Leigh Huff**

was a member of Liturgical Ensemble, participated in musicals and plays, and was Vice-President of Teens for Life. She loves to sing, and in ten years she hopes to be a nurse.



**Daniel Stephen Hurm**

was an Eagle Scout and a member of the swim team. His favorite movie is *Saving Private Ryan*. After high school, he plans to attend Purdue University to major in civil engineering.



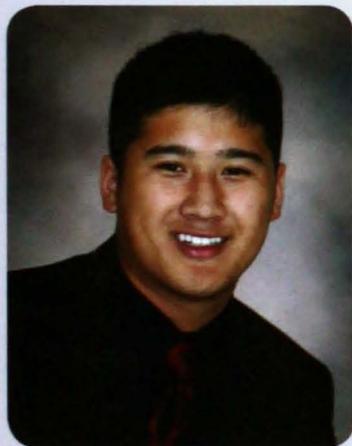
**Casey Lynn Jochem**

was on the basketball and track teams and was a member of Pep Club. She loves listening to Elton John and her favorite thing to do on the weekend is hang out with friends.



**Brienna Michelle Johnson**

was involved in cheerleading, Pep Club, the Dance Marathon Committee, and Prom Committee. Her favorite movie is *Dear John*. She plans to attend beauty school after graduation.



**Joseph Charles Jourdan**

was on the wrestling team. He likes working on cars and hanging out with friends. His best achievement at Mater Dei was beating Crown Point at wrestling state his junior year.



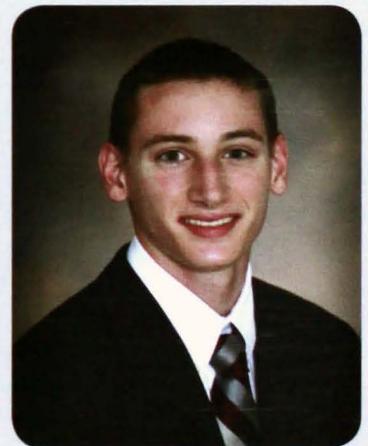
**Jessica Lynn Kelley**

was co-captain of the DanceCats and was involved in theatre, marching band, and National Honor Society. Her favorite book is *The Hunger Games* and her favorite number is 13.



**Sarah Elizabeth Kelley**

was co-editor of the yearbook, President of National Honor Society, and the light designer for theatre productions. Her favorite actor is Johnny Depp and yellow is her favorite color.



**Aaron Lee Kempf**

was on the math team and was a member of the freshman football team. In ten years, he hopes to be a Marine aviator. His favorite subject at Mater Dei was German.



# JENNA KRUSE

student leader



### **Maria Elisabeth Kempf**

was involved in Teens for Life, Service Club, and Student Council. In ten years, she sees herself as a neonatal nurse. Her favorite subject was Fiber Arts and her favorite movie is *Titanic*.



### **Austin Robert Kennedy**

was co-editor of the newspaper and his best achievement at Mater Dei was making the varsity soccer team. He plans to study physical therapy at Indiana University.



### **Adam Bernard Knapp**

played football and plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana after high school. His favorite television show is *South Park* and his favorite number is 17.



### **Austin Edward Knapp**

was a member of Service Club, the baseball team, and a two-year captain of the tennis team. His favorite class was math and his favorite book is *The Blind Side*.



### **Jenna Kate Kruse**

was a member of Peer Mediation, Smart Moves, and Student Ambassadors. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei was going to the football games. Her favorite movie is *Elf*.



### **Jacob Curtis Lannert**

was a member of the wrestling team. He loves Dr. Pepper and his favorite movie is *Stepbrothers*. In ten years, he sees himself owning his own business and starting a family.



### **Jordan Cris Lipking**

was co-captain of the cheerleading squad and a member of Pep Club. Her favorite movie is *Despicable Me* and her favorite class was Anatomy. She plans to become an orthodontist.



### **Jamie Louise Logel**

was a member of Mat Cats and the tennis and soccer teams. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei was being in Mr. Goebel's homeroom. She plans to attend Indiana University.

Teenpower has opened up many new leadership opportunities and allowed me to meet many new people. Working on projects such as Fresh Beginnings with Mrs. Dassel has been a lot of fun and I have gotten to work with many new people from different classes and become good friends with them. Teenpower and Fresh Beginnings have made great memories for my last year of high school.



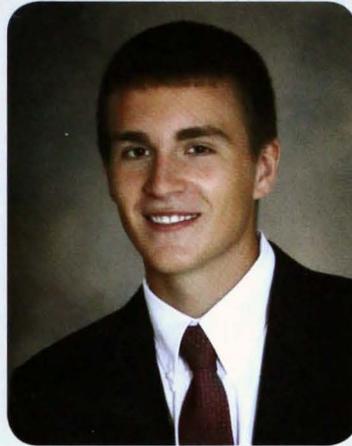
**Nathan Reese Lutz**

plans to attend Ivy Tech after graduating from Mater Dei. His favorite subject was U.S. History with Mr. Wildeman, and his favorite book is *Eragon*.



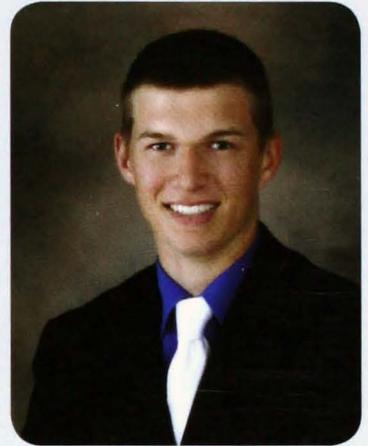
**Noah Anthony Lutz**

was on the cross country and track teams. He qualified for Semi-State in cross country all four years of high school. After high school, he plans to attend college as an art major.



**Miles Daniel Mann**

was on the football and baseball teams. He was a member of Student Council and National Honor Society. His favorite memory at Mater Dei was playing football with his friends.



**Evan Michael Martin**

was a Eucharistic Minister and a member of the football and track and field teams. His favorite TV show is *Phineas and Ferb*. His favorite number is 33, his football number.



**Kristy Ann Martin**

was involved in Student Council, Pep Club, Service Club, and Peer Mediation. Her favorite class at Mater Dei was Newspaper. Her favorite actor is Bradley Cooper.



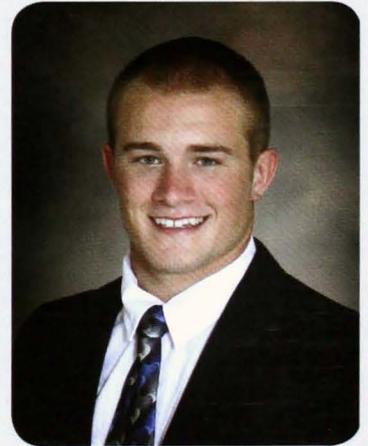
**Van Edward Masterson**

was a member of the football, track, and Supermileage teams. He plans to pursue a major in engineering after graduation. His favorite television show is *The Mentalist*.



**Ashton Lee Maurer**

was involved in Pep Club, Prom Committee, and Spanish Club. She knows every line in the movie *Elf*. Her best high school achievement was receiving straight A's.



**Dane Michael Maurer**

was on the football and wrestling teams. His favorite memory at Mater Dei was going to football state his senior year. His personal hero is Blake Maurer, his brother.



# HUNTER OWEN

*all-star athlete*



**Joseph Clay Mayer**

was in percussion for the Band and was a member of the speech team. He likes to watch movies for fun. His favorite movie is *Inception* and his personal hero is Batman.



**Caitlin Anne Moore**

was involved in theatre and speech. Her favorite memory is going to State for speech her freshman year and her best achievement at Mater Dei was getting a part in the plays and musicals.



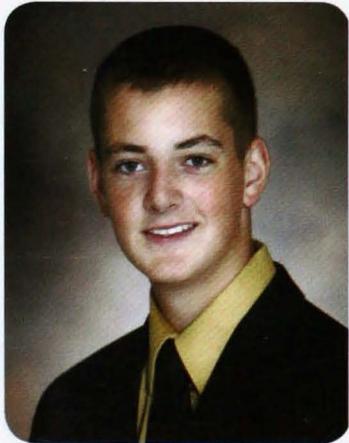
**Emily Jane Naas**

has the special talent of ripsticking and pogo sticking. She played on the soccer and tennis teams and was involved in Peer Mediation. Her favorite subject at Mater Dei was Elective P.E.



**Benjamin Henry Niemeier**

plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana to study engineering. His favorite lunch was Haystacks and his best achievement at Mater Dei was getting on the honor roll.



**James Maxwell Niemeier**

was a prosecuting attorney for Student Council and was on the speech and cross country teams. He plans to join the United States Marine Corps after graduating from Mater Dei.



**Danielle Elise Norman**

has the special talent of humping and her favorite TV show is *One Tree Hill*. She was a Mat Cat and a Smart Moves leader. Her favorite subject at Mater Dei was English.



**Rose Meredith Oliver**

loves the color dandelion yellow. She was a Superfan and a Mat Cat, and participated in choir. Her favorite television shows are *How I Met Your Mother* and *The Big Bang Theory*.



**Alexandra Kay Orth**

was a Student Ambassador and a member of Pep Club. Her best achievement at Mater Dei was playing Rusty in *Footloose* and her favorite subject at Mater Dei was Anatomy.

Signing with Indiana State University was a great experience. I was shocked at how many people showed up. It's always been a goal of mine to play Division I baseball, and Indiana State was the best fit for me.



**Stephen Hunter Owen**

played on the football and baseball teams and used to take ballet. His favorite thing to do in Evansville is to play baseball and he sees himself coaching baseball in ten years.



**Ashley Michelle Parkinson**

plans to attend Murray State to become a nurse and she loves the color green. She was involved in Pep Club and Mat Cats. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei was senior homecoming.



**Allie Nicole Phelps**

played on the soccer team and was one of the leaders of Pep Club. Making it to Semi-State in soccer her senior year was her best achievement at Mater Dei. Her favorite number is three.



**Cydney Bevin Quinn**

was on the swim team and was a Student Ambassador. She plans to attend Indiana University to study dentistry. Her best achievement was breaking records in swim.



**Mary Elizabeth Raben**

was involved in Pep Club and was on the swim team. Her favorite subject was 3-D Art and she loves the color purple. Her favorite actor is Chris Farley.



**Amelia Mary Reckelhoff**

was the Vice-President of National Honor Society and President of Teens for Life. She enjoys singing, playing guitar, and playing piano, and her favorite book is *The Princess Bride*.



**Reed Randall Rexing**

played football, threw shot and discus for track, and was on the Supermileage Team. His favorite memory at Mater Dei was riding to school with his brother and sister his freshman year.



**Kaitlyn Renee Ricketts**

was a member of Pep Club, Mat Cats, and Service Club. She plans to attend Indiana University to study psychology and her favorite color is purple. Her personal hero is Rachel Scott.



# GARRETT SCOTT

scholar



**Kristine Elisabeth Rollett**

was involved in Mat Cats, Pep Club, tennis, and Service Club. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei was attending every football game and wrestling meet since freshman year.



**Sara Nancy Sartore**

plans to attend Ball State University. She can play piano, knit, and cross-stitch, and her greatest achievement while at Mater Dei was earning a 3.8 GPA.



**Zachary Aaron Schapker**

plans to study Computer Science and Programming in college. His favorite subject at Mater Dei was Elective P.E., and his favorite lunch was Italian Shells and Sausage.



**Abigail Marie Scheller**

was involved in Concert Choir and enjoys singing, drawing, and riding horses. She plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana as an elementary education major.



**Kelsey Marie Schenk**

was involved in Pep Club, Service Club, and swimming. She plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana and would like to become a labor and delivery nurse.



**Leslie Marie Schenk**

was involved in soccer, Peer Mediation, Skills for Life, and Service Club. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei was winning soccer sectionals her junior year, and soccer regionals senior year.



**Tyler Wayne Schickel**

competed at State in both track and cross country. He can run a mile faster than any high-schooler in Evansville, and his best achievement was graduating Magna Cum Laude.



**Abbey Leigh Schmitt**

was the captain of the cross country team and was the Student Council Clerk. She was also involved in National Honor Society, Pep Club, and Peer Mediation.

At Mater Dei, we are encouraged to excel. The classes offered are diverse and allow us to explore various topics. There are quite a few classes that are extremely challenging, but they give me the opportunity to prepare for college and identify my strengths. Since arriving at Mater Dei, I have learned that I enjoy math, which I hope will lead me into a future including math.



**Andrew James Schmitt**

was on the tennis team. His special talents include waterskiing, and he plans to attend Murray State University and major in Mechanical Engineering Technology.



**Michelle Dawn Schmitt**

was involved in Colorguard, Peer Mediation, Pep Club, Student Ambassadors, and Prom Committee. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei is the Band placing 4th at State.



**Garrett Edward Scott**

was involved in Spell Bowl, tennis, basketball, Student Council, and National Honor Society. After graduating, he plans to attend college to study math.



**Abby Nicole Seibert**

was the secretary of the senior class, and was involved in Pep Club, Service Club, and Mat Cats. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei is cheering at football games as a Superfan.



**Shay Marie Seibert**

was involved in Pep Club, Service Club, and softball. She plans to attend Murray State University to study anesthesiology. Her personal hero is her nephew.



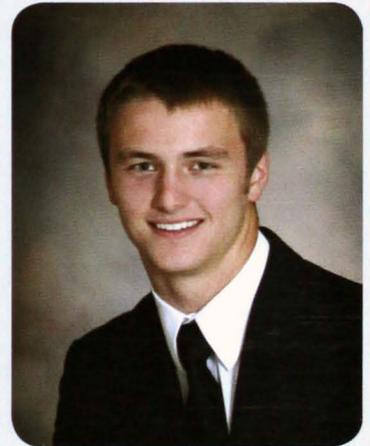
**Kyle Edward Seitz**

competed on the golf team. His favorite television show is *The Office* and his favorite actor is Rainn Wilson. In ten years, he sees himself working and owning his own home.



**Erica Marie Sollman**

was involved in Pep Club, Service Club, Prom Committee, soccer, and swimming. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei is gym class freshman year with Mrs. Adler.



**Adam Keith Sweeney**

was on the varsity football team for three years. His favorite class was weightlifting, and he plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana after graduating.



# ALYSSA WEINZAPFEL

superfan



**Molly Kay Swihart**

was on the swim team and was a member of Service Club and Prom Committee. Her favorite subject was Anatomy and she hopes to get a job working at the San Francisco Zoo.



**Isaac Stephen Tekoppel**

played basketball and football, and his best achievement was earning Mater Dei's Best Receiver Award in 2010. His favorite subject at Mater Dei was U.S. History.



**Devon Jo Tenbarge**

was involved in Mat Cats and Pep Club, and was on the swim team. She would like to become a pediatric oncology nurse. Her favorite movie is *Dirty Dancing*.



**Eric August TenBarge**

was a member of Pep Club and the swim team, and was a Superfan. His favorite memory at Mater Dei was going to Lucas Oil Stadium for football.



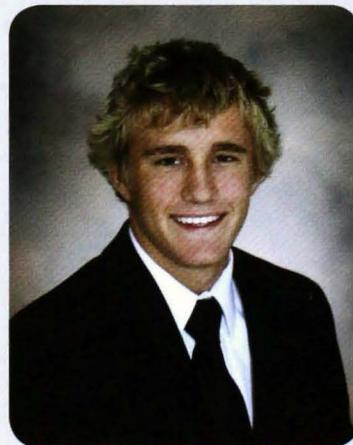
**Katlyn Marie Tison**

likes the TV show *Pretty Little Liars* and the book *A Child Called It*. Her most embarrassing moment at Mater Dei was getting hit with the boys' restroom door on her way to lunch.



**Kyle Thomas Tison**

loves the color blue and his favorite memory at Mater Dei was *May Day*. His favorite subjects were Chemistry and Anatomy, and he enjoys swimming and boating in Evansville.



**Jackson Gerard Traylor**

ran for the track and cross country teams and was the Police Chief for Student Council. His favorite memory at Mater Dei was the Junior Retreat, and he can play the piano.



**ThuThienSuong Hoang Trinh**

has the special talent of doodling and her favorite color is yellow. She was involved in Band, Choir, and Liturgical Ensemble. She plans to study zoology after high school.

Our goal as Superfans is to make Mater Dei's student section the biggest and loudest at every event. I wanted to be involved my senior year to be remembered for bringing Mater Dei's crazy school spirit back.



**Megan Elisabeth Tromley**

was involved in DanceCats and the musical productions. She can touch her nose with her tongue and her personal hero is her brother, Zach. She can play both guitar and the violin.



**Wesley Alan VanMeter**

was voted Football Homecoming King and was a Superfan and the wrestling manager. His most embarrassing moment at Mater Dei was getting pied in the face during an assembly.



**Joseph David Wannemuehler**

plans to attend the University of Wyoming after graduating from Mater Dei. He ran track all four years, is an excellent fisherman, and graduated Magna Cum Laude.



**Ryan Joseph Wannemueller**

played on the basketball team all four years and was a member of the Supermileage and tennis teams. He is allergic to orange flavoring and his favorite color is sunset orange.



**Kendal Jo Weaver**

was the co-president of Service Club and a member of the Dance Marathon Committee. Her personal hero is her sister, Kylie, and her favorite subject was Newspaper.



**Adam Joseph Weinzapfel**

plans to study medicine after graduating from Mater Dei. He was involved in wrestling all four years and his favorite book is *The Odyssey*. His favorite subject was Anatomy.



**Alyssa Genevieve Weinzapfel**

sees herself doing hair and make-up for theatre productions in ten years. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei was the musical production of *Footloose* and her favorite class was *Theatre Arts*.



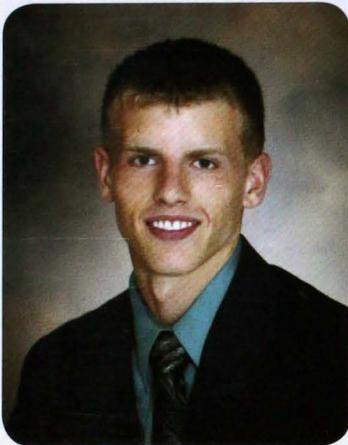
**Anna Rose Weinzapfel**

was involved in volleyball, basketball, and track. She plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana to study Occupational Therapy and her favorite TV show is *Modern Family*.



# JOEY WILSON

jack of all trades



**Joshua Bruce Weinsapfel** played soccer for four years and basketball for two years. His biggest achievement at Mater Dei was earning 1st Team All-City and 1st Team All-SIAC titles.



**Eric Alan Wildeman** loves the color tickle-me-pink and his favorite memory at Mater Dei was football season. His personal hero is Albert Pujols and his favorite subject at Mater Dei was U.S. History.



**Erin Rose Wildeman** earned 1st Team All-City in volleyball and won volleyball sectionals her junior and senior years. She also played basketball and ran track, and her favorite subject was journalism.



**Kathryn Jean Wildeman** enjoyed attending all of the football games and was a member of Pep Club and Service Club. Her favorite TV show is *Grey's Anatomy* and her favorite actress is Katherine Heigel.



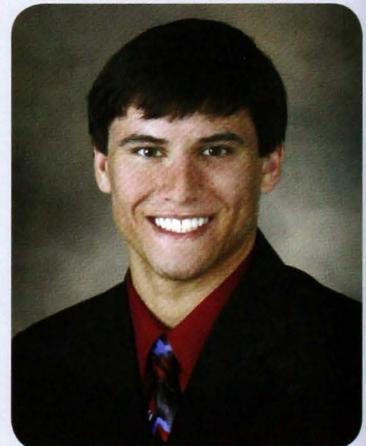
**Timothy Maxwell Wilderman** participated in football and wrestling and plans to attend the University of Southern Indiana. His favorite subject was chemistry and his favorite book is *Blood Memory* by Greg Iles.



**Mackenzie Ann Will** was involved in Pep Club, Service Club, and Student Council. She plans to study engineering, and one of her best achievements was helping to put together the Flash Mob for Pep Club.

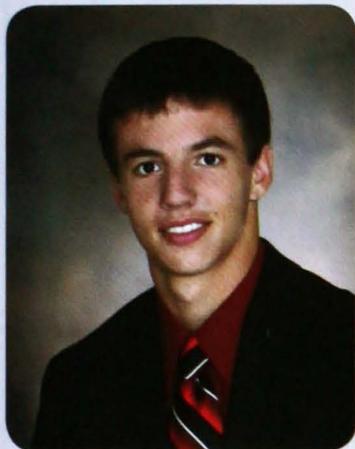


**Olivia Ashtyn Williams** ran cross country her freshman year and received a varsity letter. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei was beating Reitz High School in football. Olivia is one of eight children.



**Joseph Henry Wilson** has played football since the fourth grade and played all the way through his senior year. He was the senior class president and the recipient of the Tomorrow's Workforce Scholarship.

I liked football because we all became like family throughout the season. On the other side of the spectrum, participating in the school musicals gave me a way to relax and have fun throughout high school. Although they are very different, they both have made my high school years enjoyable.



**Kyle Scott Wilson**

plans to attend the University of Evansville to play soccer. His greatest achievement at Mater Dei was receiving Academic All-City in soccer and track all four years.



**Brandon Marshall Wright**

played baseball all four years at Mater Dei and football for three years. He enjoys working out to stay in shape and his favorite class at Mater Dei was Mrs. West's senior English class.



**Katlyn Marie Zirkelbach**

was a co-captain of the varsity girls' soccer team and co-president of Service Club. Her favorite memory at Mater Dei was going to Semi-State in soccer her senior year.

**The world is not ending...  
We're just taking over!**

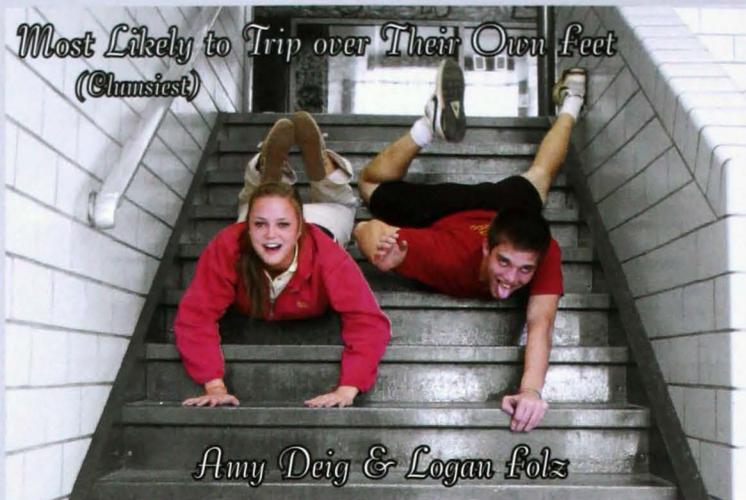


*On the Cover of Vogue  
(Best Dressed)*



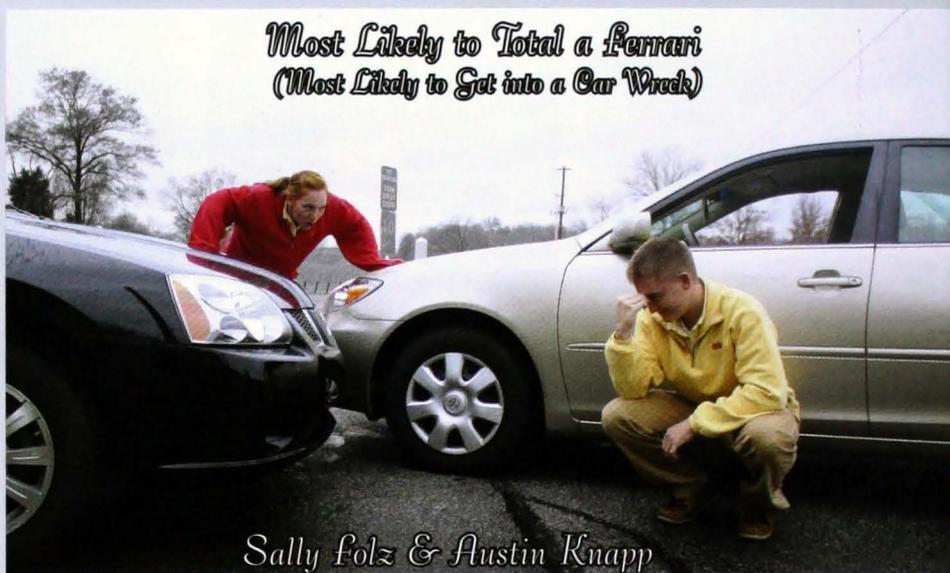
*Kendal Weaver & Shawn Horty*

*Most Likely to Trip over Their Own Feet  
(Clumsiest)*



*Amy Deig & Logan Folz*

*Most Likely to Total a Ferrari  
(Most Likely to Get into a Car Wreck)*



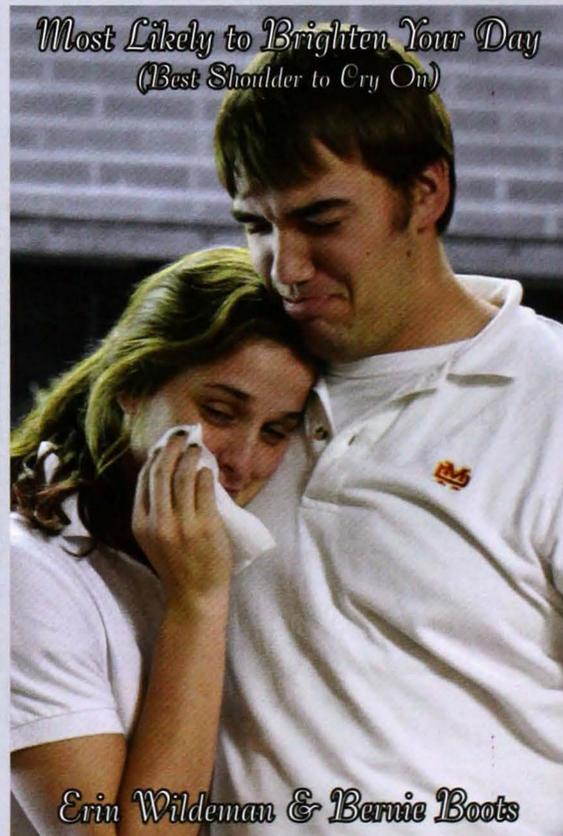
*Sally Folz & Austin Knapp*

*Future Winner of America's Got Talent  
(Most Talented)*



*Megan Tromley & Garrett Scott*

*Most Likely to Brighten Your Day  
(Best Shoulder to Cry On)*



*Erin Wildeman & Bernie Boots*

# Supreme SENIORS

*Heart of Red and Gold  
(Most School Spirit)*



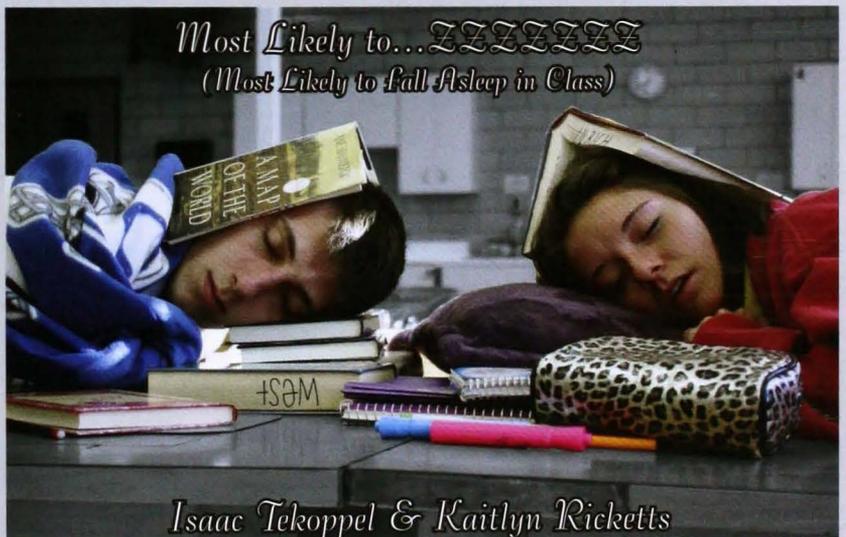
*Wes VanMeter & Kristine Rollett*

*Goody-Two-Shoes  
(Biggest Teacher's Pet)*



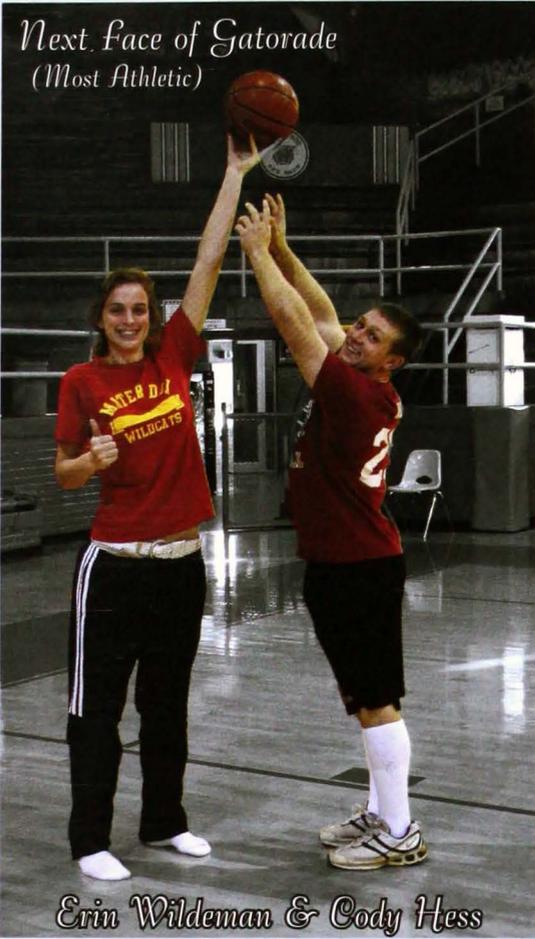
*Paul Elpers & Kelsey Fulton*

*Most Likely to...ZZZZZZ  
(Most Likely to Fall Asleep in Class)*



*Isaac Tekoppel & Kaitlyn Ricketts*

*Next Face of Gatorade  
(Most Athletic)*



*Erin Wildeman & Cody Hess*

*Sweetest 'Thang'  
(Biggest Flirt)*



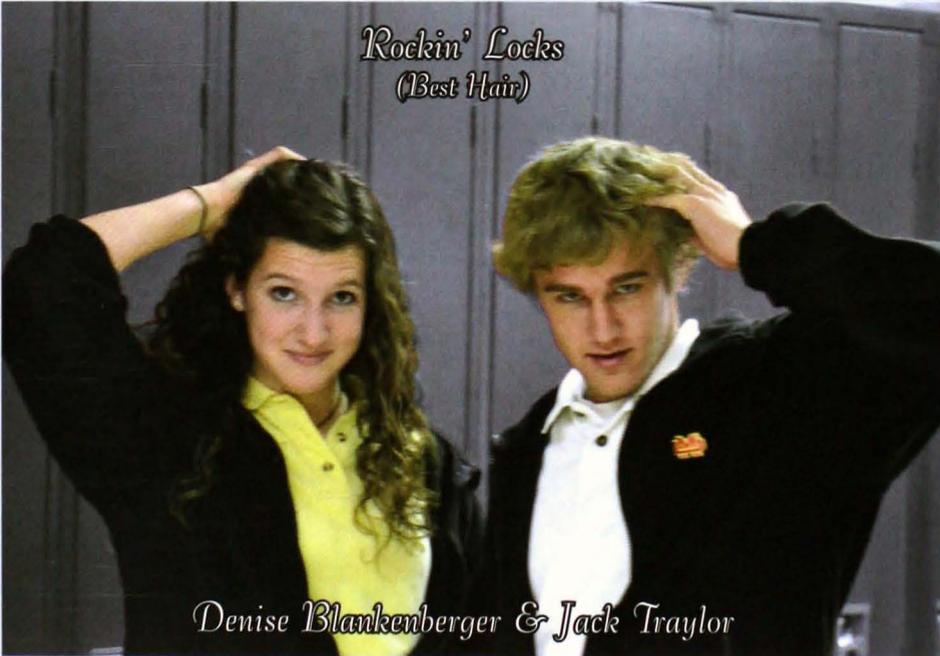
*Shawn Horty & Cydney Quinn*

*Most Likely to Live in Neverland  
(Never Going to Grow Up)*



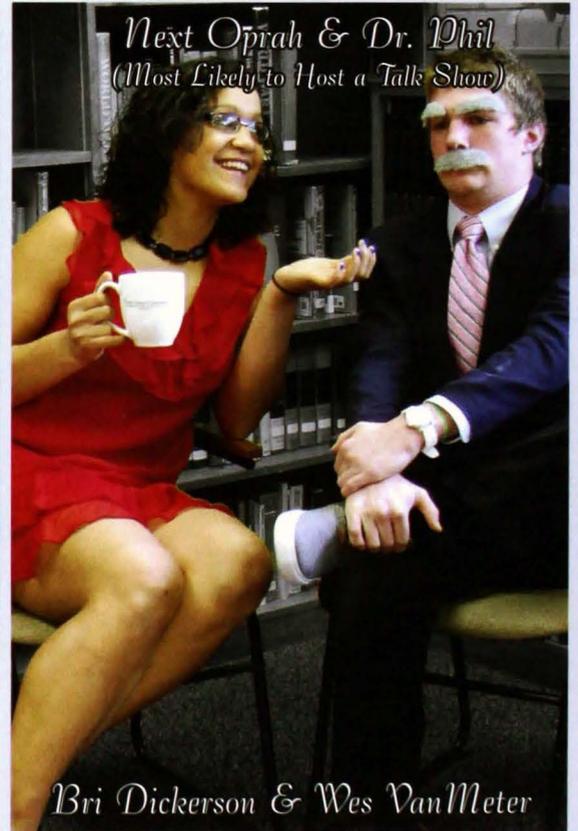
*Dalton Brandenstein & Kristine Rollett*

*Rockin' Locks  
(Best Hair)*



*Denise Blankenberger & Jack Traylor*

*Next Oprah & Dr. Phil  
(Most Likely to Host a Talk Show)*

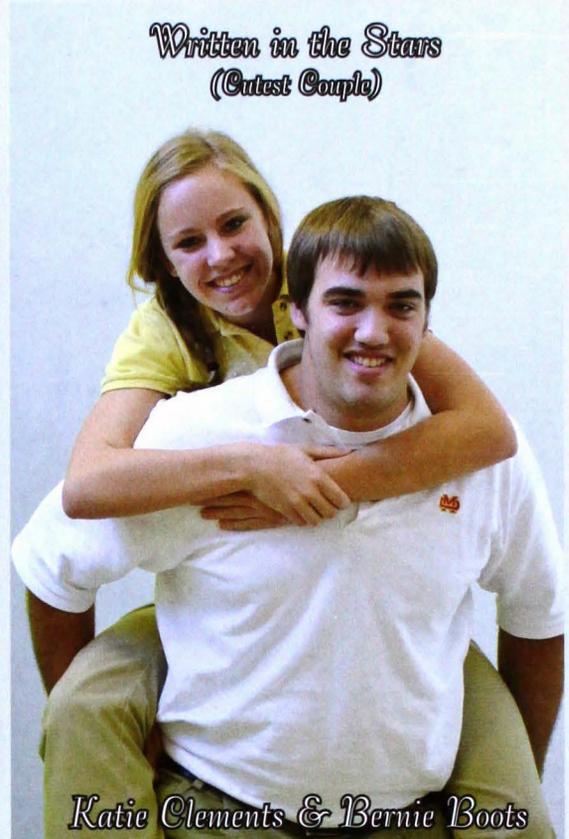


*Bri Dickerson & Wes VanMeter*



*Will Fall for Anything  
(Most Gullible)*

*Alexa Buettel & Adam Blankenberger*



*Written in the Stars  
(Cutest Couple)*

*Katie Clements & Bernie Boots*



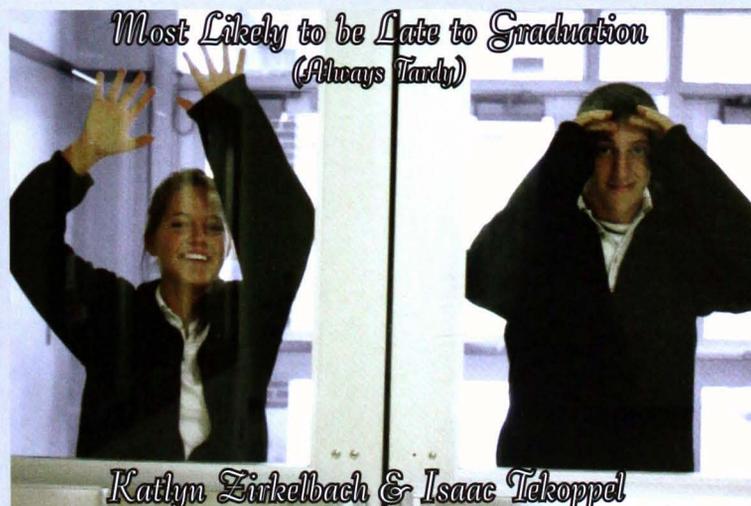
*Most Likely to Save the Planet  
(Biggest Tree Hugger)*

*Austin Flittner & Molly Swihart*



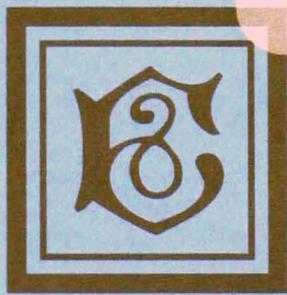
*One of a Kind  
(Most Unique)*

*Alex Bassemier & Thu Thien Suong Trinh*



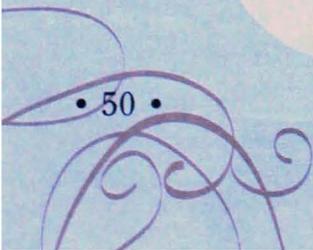
*Most Likely to be Late to Graduation  
(Always Tardy)*

*Kathyn Zinkelbach & Isaac Tackoppel*



# CHAPTER 2

## *Academics*





*"Mater Dei gave me academic opportunities that I wouldn't have found at another school, as well as a community of friends who enjoy learning just as much as I do."*

*-Senior Kirstin Ethridge*

### Painting Perfection

Right, senior Kayla Hammelman paints glue on her fabric bowl in Fiber Arts. This class was devoted to using materials derived from plants.



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Sarah Kelley

### Local Celebrity

Right, local singer/songwriter Andrea Wirth talks to Mr. Smith's Music History and Appreciation class about a song she wrote as a tribute to her grandparents. Mr. Smith brought in many local musicians to give his students a chance to experience music firsthand.



Photo by Rachel Eickhoff

### A Blast from the Past

Above, while in Economics class, senior Ryan Fehrenbacher creates a new product out of playdough. The purpose of this exercise was to give students the chance to convince their peers that their products were the best.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

# Mixing the OLD with the NEW

There is something thrilling about change, and this year Mater Dei added many new classes to the curriculum to improve the quality of learning and provide students with different experiences.

One of the new classes, *Aerobics*, is an exercise class taught by Miss Mesker. "I wanted to teach this class because it's a fun, energetic class, and we have theme days which makes it even more exciting," Miss Mesker said. Sophomore Sydney Oliver took this class first semester because she thought it sounded like fun. Senior Denise Blankenberger also took *Aerobics* first semester. Blankenberger said, "It gave me the opportunity to stay active during the school week and I enjoyed all the fun activities we did, especially theme days." Oliver and Blankenberger's expectations were met and both enjoyed learning new ways to exercise.

Another new class, *Fiber Arts*, taught by Mrs. Wallace, took the place of the fashion class ejected from the curriculum last year. "Fiber Arts is a great way for the girls to express themselves in an unusual art form. It exposes them to a variety of different materials and techniques that our regular art classes do not provide. In this class, students used household materials such as paper and fabric to make new and unique art projects," Mrs. Wallace said. Senior Maria Kempf, who took the class first semester, said, "It

was a super fun class and I still do some of the art projects to give as gifts."

*Forensics*, which is taught by science teacher Mr. Jewell, allows students to take a look into the world of criminal investigation. Junior Nathan Drury said, "It offers something new and exciting to students." Junior Dylan Ambrose added that it expands the variety of classes offered at Mater Dei, allowing students to pursue their diverse interests.

However, some classes are not necessarily new to the curriculum, but new because of the teacher. One such class is *Theatre Arts*, taught by Mrs. Roberson. Although this class has been offered in the past, this is the first year Mrs. Roberson has taught it. Many students took the class as an elective that would get them more involved in school activities. Members of this class helped with the drama productions and many went on to try out for the play and musical. Sophomore Taylor Mayer said, "It helps people open up and the theatre department to grow."

Whether it's making bowls out of fabric or doing acting exercises in the auditorium, the classes at Mater Dei always encourage students to try their best and accept change with glee.

By Sarah Kelley, '12



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

### Chicken Little

Left, seniors Austin Plittner and Olivia Williams cut a piece of chicken to examine under the microscope during their Anatomy class. Anatomy teacher Mr. Voegel always found new ways to keep the class invigorating.

### Girls Just Wanna Have Fun

Above, during *Aerobics* class, seniors Kendal Weaver and Kristy Martin face each other while doing an 80's workout video. Miss Mesker liked to keep the class interesting by incorporating theme days.

# Stroke of Genius

Art is not only a form of expression, but also a way for students to demonstrate their creativity. From 3-Dimensional Art to Visual Communications, Mater Dei offers many different types of art classes for students to enroll in. Students enjoy being given the freedom to show off their creative sides and get their hands a little dirty. The Mater Dei Art Department is full of young artists, some with a stroke of genius.

Being in an art class isn't always a relaxing experience; sometimes the students become aggravated at how their art is turning out or stressed because of an upcoming deadline. Senior Austin Flittner said, "The hardest part of art class is coming up with an actual idea and then getting the idea that I come up with to turn out the way I want it to." On the flipside, though, senior Erin Wildeman said, "Everyone in the class is great and we like to bounce ideas off of each other. We all work hard to create something good and unique." After a project is finished, the students can let out a big sigh of relief that they accomplished such a big feat.

Over the past few years, the Art Department at Mater Dei has expanded to become quite an impressive program. Senior Denise Blankenberger said, "The quality has definitely improved. The new class options give students new opportunities for fun art project ideas." Through donations and grants, the Art Department has been opened to a whole new world of choices and ideas. Flittner said, "When we get more money or grants, it really allows us to do more in the class. It allows us to get better materials and try new things that normal funding wouldn't allow."

The 2012 High School Art Show was a huge success for Mater Dei students, and many projects were entered. Cash awards were given to Blankenberger and Flittner, as well as sophomore Rachel Kempf and freshman Amanda Blankenberger. The local high school art show was a way to reward students for their outstanding exhibits.

The Art Department at Mater Dei continues to grow stronger and stronger every year. The students enjoy the flexibility and openness of the classes and like to express themselves. Without taking notes and filling out worksheets, art enables students to find creative ways to show their strokes of genius.

By Cydney Quinn, '12



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

## Hard at Work

Above, senior Erin Wildeman works diligently on her candy corn sculpture. The 3-D art class had many large and time-consuming projects to finish.

## Picture Perfect

Right, senior Alyssa Weinzapfel stands beside her print, "Butterfly Lady." Weinzapfel, along with two other students, had her prints put on display at the high school art show.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**Meatball Madness**

Left, senior Logan Folz works on his giant meatball sculpture for 3-D art. The 3-D art class was required to come up with a creative sculpture of something that caught their interest.

**Seavolved**

Below, senior Austin Flittner poses with his sculpture. Flittner also had a print in the art show that won a fifty-dollar merit award.

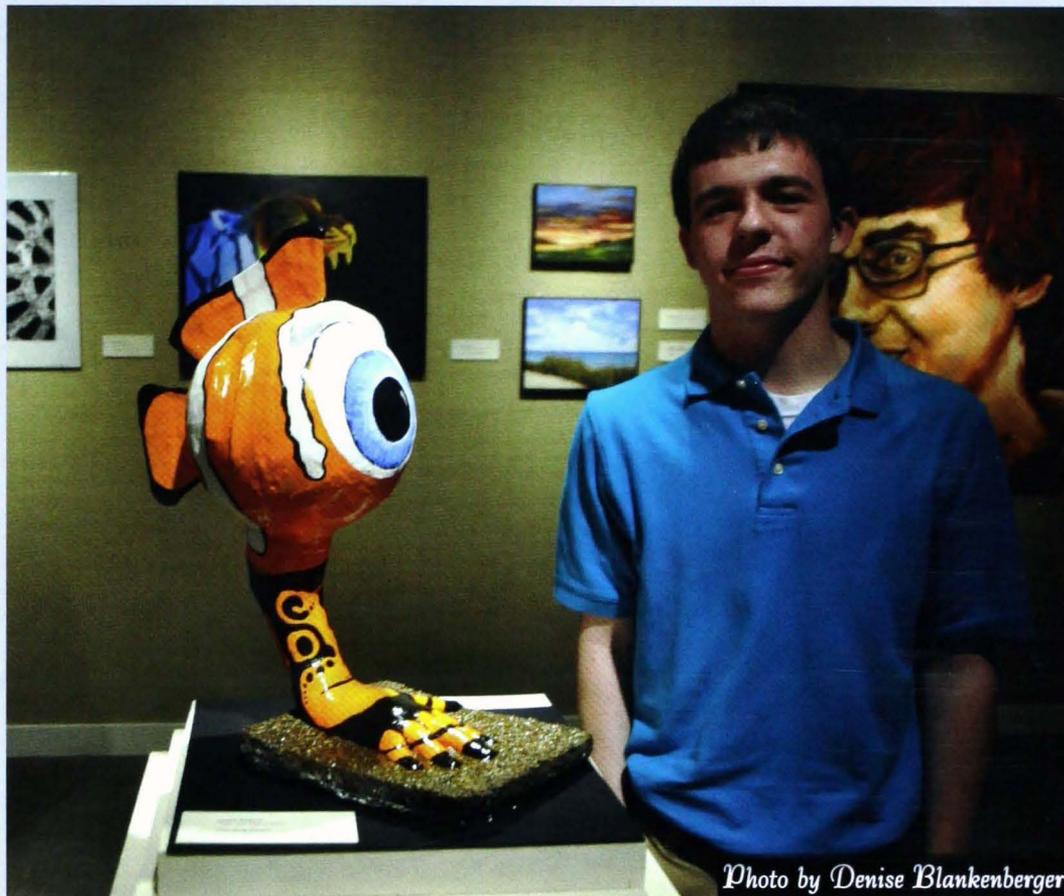


Photo by Denise Blankenberger



Photo by Cydney Quinn

**Complete Concentration**

Above, sophomore Megan Woodruff threads beads onto a string to make a necklace during her art class. The art students made jewelry as well as masks and many other unique projects over the course of the semester.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

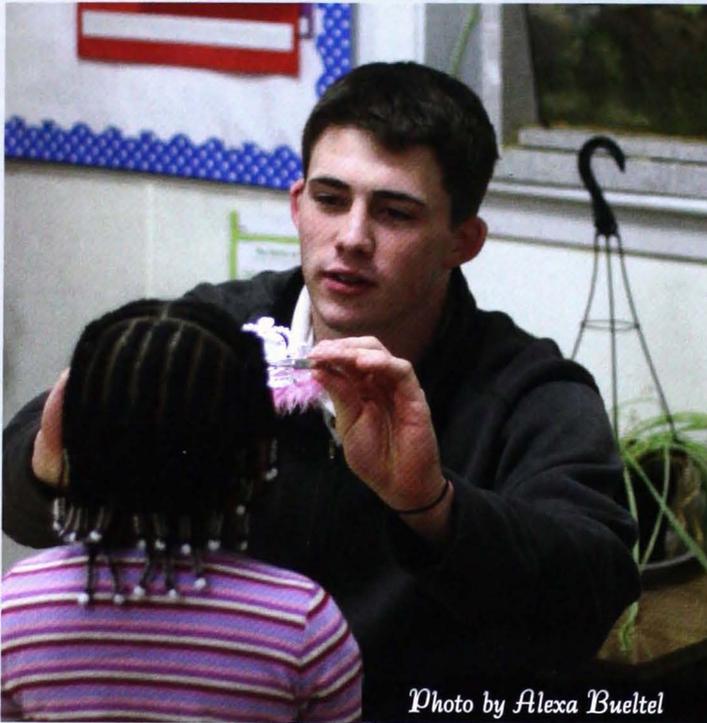
**Chicken Fingers**

Above, senior RoseMeredith Oliver's plaster sculpture, "Cock-a-Doodle-Do," stands in a display case at the High School Art Show. Many Mater Dei students had artwork that qualified for the contest and were in the running to win cash prizes at the show.



**Easy as 1,2,3**

Right, senior Kendal Weaver helps a child with her counting. Students played several learning games with the children to assist with their brain development.



**Princess Coronation**

Right, during Ministry class, senior Shawn Horty "crowns" a girl a princess. Horty and senior Paul Elpers were the only males in Ministry class.

Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Piecing it Together**

Above, senior Kirstin Ethridge assists two children with a puzzle. The children enjoyed the interactions they had with the Mater Dei students.

**Put on a Happy Face**

Right, after playing a game of dress-up, senior Kelsey Fulton bonds with one of the children at St. Vincent de Paul Daycare. Playing dress-up was one of the children's favorite activities.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

Little Minds...

# BIG Hearts

Traditional classroom activities consist of reading textbooks, taking notes, and studying for tests and quizzes. For the Ministry class, the activities are slightly different. Classes are frequently held at the St. Vincent de Paul Daycare, and the day is spent helping out with the children there. Ministry is a class that is not only an elective, but a class that teaches the students about serving others while incorporating their faith into the experience.

The students enrolled in Ministry wanted to take the class for a variety of reasons. Senior Megan Tromley said, "I chose to take Ministry because I enjoy helping others and working with the children. It is so rewarding to see the smiles light up on their faces when we visit them." Senior Kelsey Fulton added that Ministry is a class where students get to apply what they have learned in their religion classes.

Consisting of only eighteen students, Ministry is one of the smallest classes offered at Mater Dei. Senior Paul Elpers said, "I think that more people should take Ministry because it's a great class to express your faith." Senior Bri Dickerson said that it makes a positive impact on both the student's life and the children's lives.

Because classes take place at St. Vincent, Ministry is a very unique experience. "We get to engage in hands-on activities and we get to serve others instead of just talking about it, which makes it more real and fulfilling," Tromley said. Dickerson added that it gives the students a chance to develop a social bond with others in the community.

Ministry is a class that the students seem to really enjoy. Tromley said, "My favorite memory would be seeing how much my interaction with these children means to them." Ministry has shown that students don't have to learn in a traditional classroom setting but can learn by going out and spreading God's word to others in the community.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

By Alexa Bueltel, '12



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### Precious Moments

Above, while on a visit to the St. Vincent de Paul Daycare, senior Jordan Lipking puts a smile on a little girl's face. Students were able to express their faith through their experience in Ministry.

### In a Barbie World

Above, senior Kristy Martin and a daycare student play with Barbies. Martin enjoyed interacting with the children at the St. Vincent de Paul Daycare.

### Quick Facts

Right, senior Kayla Hammelman helps a St. Philip student with her math. A part of every ambassador's job was to assist students with daily reading and math lessons.

### Wildcat Promotions

Below, seniors Abby Eger and Amy Deig work on making a poster to reserve seating for grade school students who attended Mater Dei basketball games. The reserved seating was a way to promote Mater Dei to the feeder schools.



Photo by Cydney Quinn



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### Walkin' and Talkin'

Above, during the Open House, senior Adam Blankenberger takes a group of eighth graders and their parents on a tour of Mater Dei. The Open House got the eighth graders used to the layout of Mater Dei and gave them an idea of where their freshman classes would be.

### Starting with the Basics

Right, senior Madison Brown helps two Corpus Christi kindergartners with their reading skills. Helping the younger students with their reading is an essential part of being a Student Ambassador.



Photo by Cydney Quinn



Photo by Erin Wildeman

# All are Welcome

Being a Student Ambassador is like being the link between two separate worlds. It is the job of the ambassadors to help out in feeder school classrooms and spread the word that "All Are Welcome" here at Mater Dei.

"I like being with the students and helping them in the classroom," senior Jessie Kelley said. "By being at their level, I gain their confidence and then they're not afraid to ask questions and I can share my experience at Mater Dei with them." The young students feel like they can be a part of Mater Dei without physically being there yet. Senior Andy Hamilton added that being a Student Ambassador benefits him because he gets to learn how to teach others who are younger than him, and it also helps him learn to be more patient.

Not only are the feeder school students benefitted by the ambassadors, but the teachers are as well. Hamilton said, "I help out the different teachers by doing little things like making copies and putting up bulletin boards, so they can have more free time or more time to focus on teaching."

With the help of the Student Ambassadors, potential students can enter Mater Dei with a sense of fearlessness and a feeling of welcome. Kelley said that they help bridge the gaps between Mater Dei and the feeder schools and that she has made numerous new friends that she can count on no matter what; this is a sure sign that all truly are welcome at Mater Dei.

By Cydney Quinn, '12



Photo by Cydney Quinn



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### Knowledge is Power

Above, senior Megan Tromley shows off what she has learned in anatomy class this year at the Mater Dei Open House. During the Open House, feeder school students toured the building and met with their future teachers.

### Taking Care of Business

Left, senior Andy Hamilton works on putting up a feeder school bulletin board. Most of the bulletin boards were switched monthly to help keep the schools updated on Mater Dei sports, academics, and upcoming activities.

# Capturing the STORY

As deadlines approach and pictures are taken, the work never seems to end for the newspaper and yearbook staff members. From interviewing fellow students to completing a spread, these students work year-round to create something that will highlight the year's main events. Though it requires a lot of hard work and dedication, it all pays off in the end.

While working under deadlines can be hectic at times, this is where good leadership comes into play. This year, seniors Sarah Kelley and Alexa Bueltel shared the leadership role as co-editors of the yearbook. "My favorite part about being a co-editor is being able to pull from Alexa and rely on someone else to help me with my job. We balance each other out," Kelley said. Sharing the role as co-editors of the newspaper this year are seniors Ben Barchet and Austin Kennedy. "Being in newspaper has taught me how to deal with people in a business setting and also how to best organize a group of people so that a common goal can be met," Barchet said.

Despite the fact that being involved in these classes takes a lot of dedication, junior Olivia DeWeese is enrolled in both newspaper and yearbook. "Sometimes meeting two deadlines in the same week can be hard, but it has also helped me decide my career path," DeWeese said. She also said that being involved in both newspaper and yearbook has taught her to avoid procrastination.

Getting articles and spreads done on time is a key point for both newspaper and yearbook students. "My least favorite thing about yearbook is when people do not meet deadlines and pull their own weight," Bueltel said. Kelley added that deadlines can be very stressful for her. "Newspaper is hard work, but seeing the result of all our work and hearing good feedback from our readers makes it all worth it," Barchet said.

Above all, the newspaper and yearbook staff wants to create something that not only they can be proud of, but that the student body can appreciate as well. "I like being a part of something that people will look back on for years to come," Bueltel said.

By Anna Weinzapfel '12

## Helpful Hints

Right, at the football homecoming game, senior Erin Wildeman shows sophomore Ashlynn Spahn and freshman Briana Schoettlin how to use the digital camera. Each quarter, newspaper and yearbook staff members were responsible for mentoring the younger journalism students.

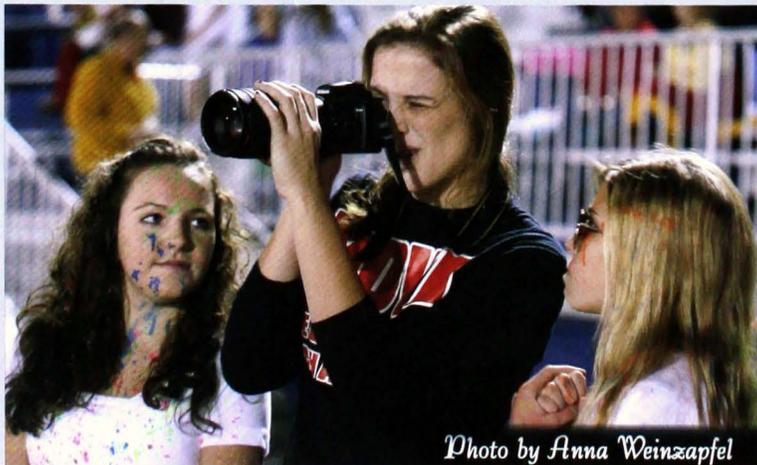


Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

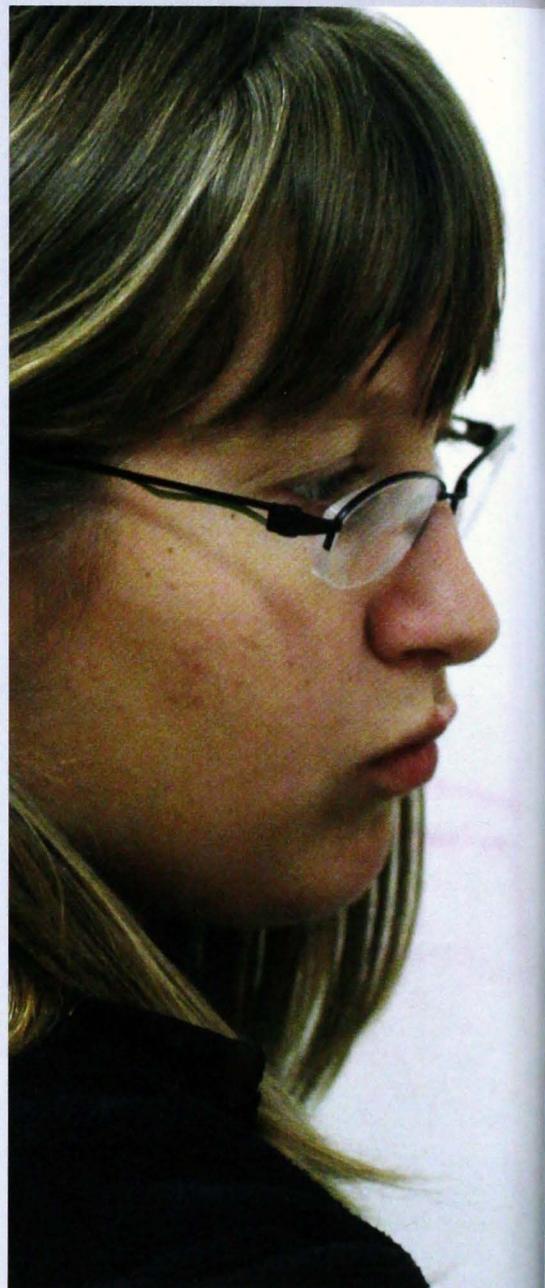
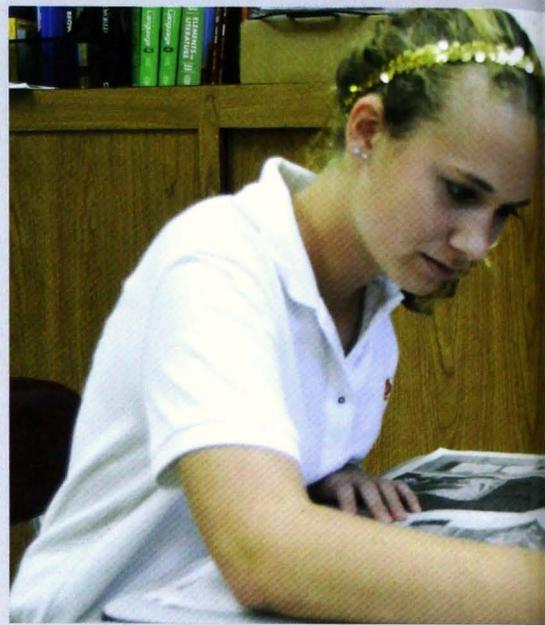




Photo by Anna Weinzapfel



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

**Expert Editing**

Far left, junior Olivia DeWeese edits an article for the school newspaper. DeWeese was enrolled in both the newspaper and yearbook classes this year.

**Working Down the Line**

Left, yearbook staff members work on finishing their spreads. Each student was responsible for taking pictures and interviewing fellow students.

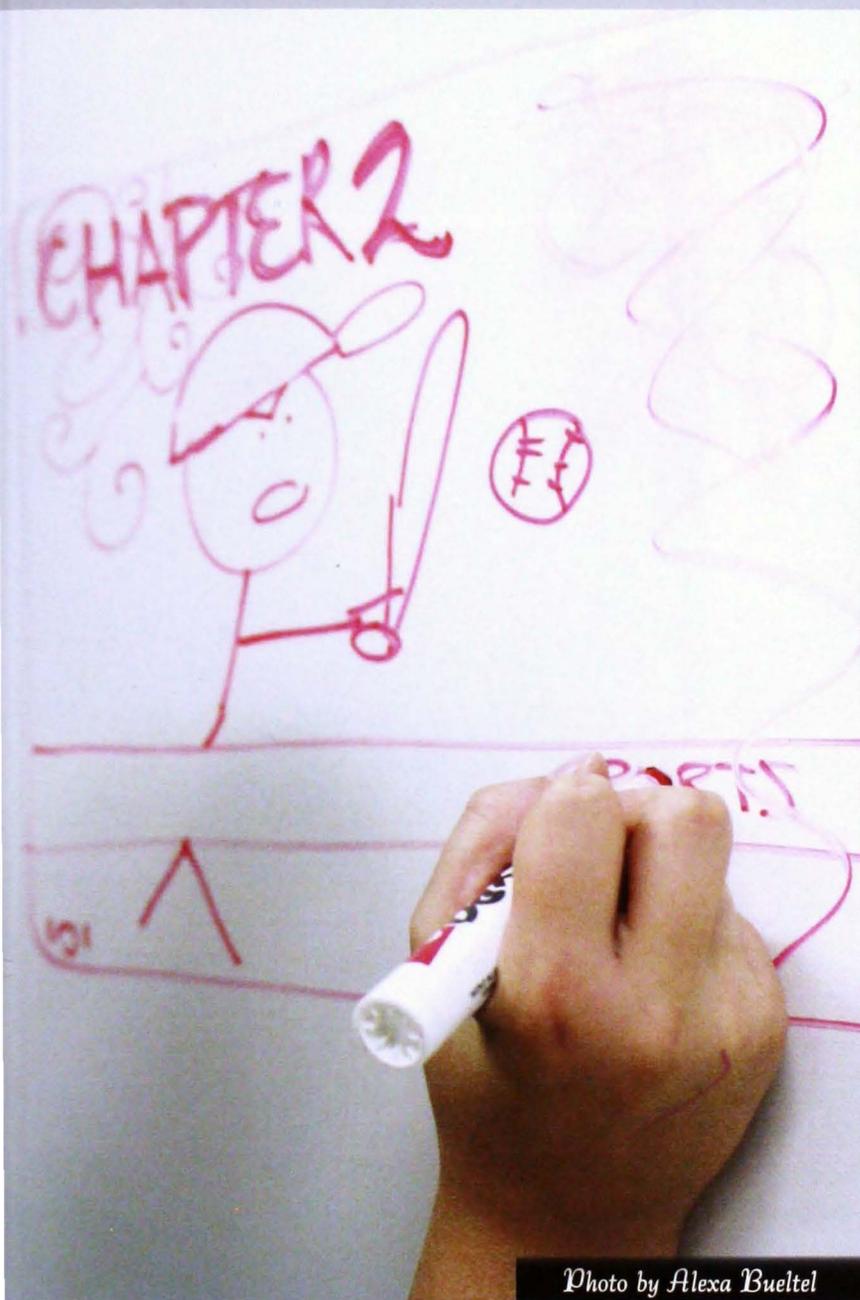


Photo by Alexa Bueltel



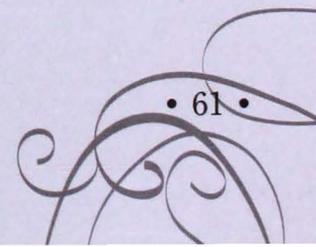
Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Bookworms**

Above, while looking through books at Barnes and Noble bookstore, seniors Anna Weinzapfel, Alexa Bueltel, Denise Blankenberger, and Adri Funke get ideas for the yearbook. The students met during the summer to get a head start on the book.

**Rough Draft**

Left, senior Sarah Kelley illustrates a design for the yearbook at the cover design workshop. Members of the yearbook staff met with a professional graphic designer to help create this year's book cover.



# Using their Noodles

How many teenagers would be willing to put in the extra hours studying beyond their normal schoolwork? A carefully selected team of dedicated individuals make up Mater Dei's Academic and Spell Bowl teams. Mater Dei academic team members can be found around town at area high schools munching on bananas and cramming over their multiple study sheets. As part of the Academic or Spell Bowl teams, students must be devoted and ready to compete against other area schools.

This year's theme was Colonial America. The students examined this time period in various subjects, including math, fine arts, history, English, and interdisciplinary, a combination of all categories. To practice for their competitions, the teams met after school occasionally, but most students were

expected to study and gain knowledge of their subjects on their own time as well. Junior Craig Wilmes said he joined the academic team to better himself in the math field and gain experience in solving problems. The sponsoring teachers for each category helped their dedicated teams by providing study sheets and extra

materials. Junior Katherine Bender said, "I participate in academic team because I learn information that I wouldn't have learned otherwise."

Although the members of the team are serious competitors, they also enjoy each other's company. Junior Heather Wolf said, "My favorite parts of the meets are all of Paul Elpers's funny comments and the good food." Bender said her favorite part is being able to do something productive while hanging out with her friends.

Armed with bananas to calm their nerves, Mater Dei's academic teams are always ready to battle their competitors. Meanwhile, the Spell Cats clawed their way to a great finish by placing second in the city competition. The small group of devoted students shows part of the core purpose of Mater Dei-ville; they are working tirelessly toward academic excellence.

By Olivia DeWeese, '13



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

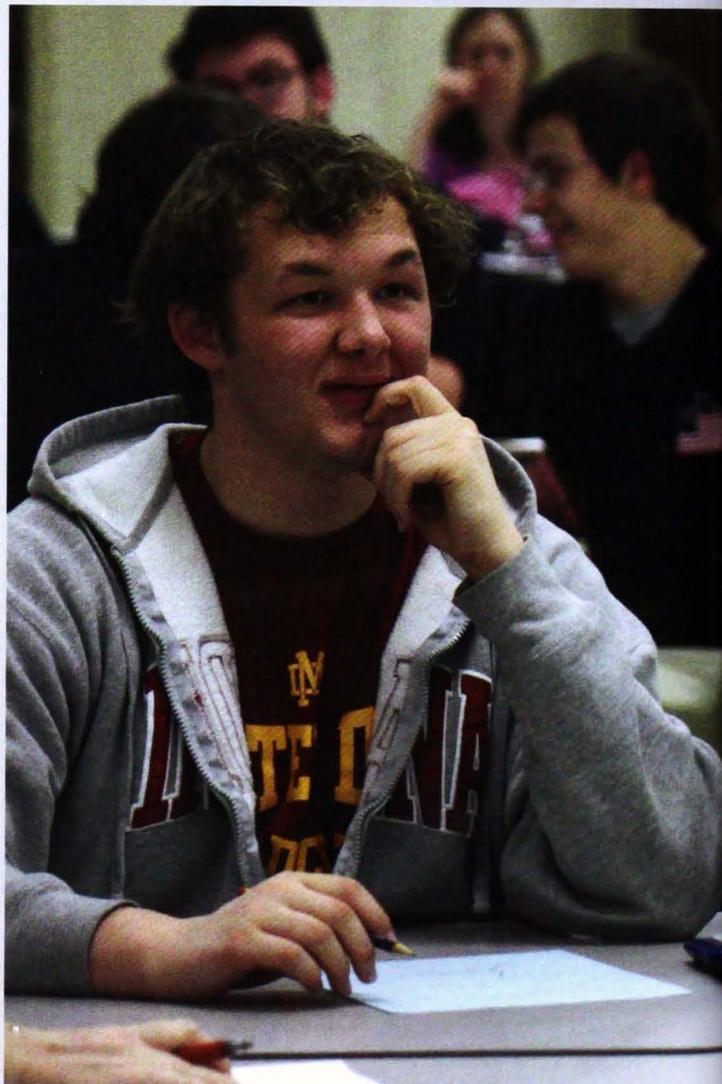
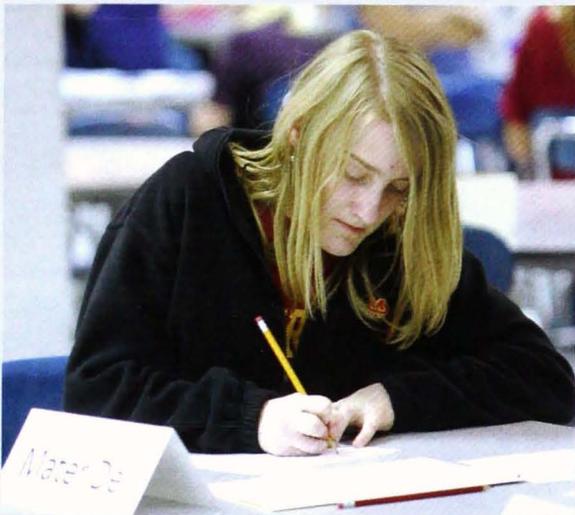




Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Loud 'n Proud**

Far left, senior Garrett Scott rejoices as his fellow teammate spells a word correctly. Scott was an asset to the Spell Bowl team, having competed his entire high school career.

**Mathematic Mastermind**

Left, while working with his teammates, senior Jacob Hahn contemplates his answer. Hahn competed with the math team, which took 2nd place in the city competitions.

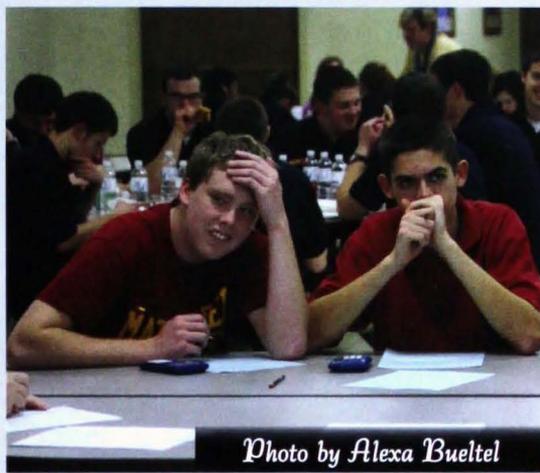


Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Tricky Teamwork**

Left, senior Paul Elpers and junior Craig Wilmes struggle to answer a difficult problem. Elpers was a four-year member of both the Academic and Spell Bowl teams.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



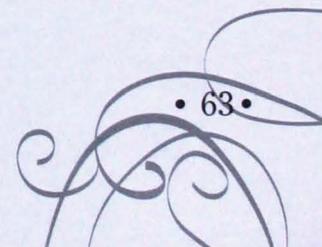
Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**Keeping Concentration**

Left, junior Adam Berendes and senior Sarah Kelley work together to solve a math question during the Academic Bowl. Kelley said she was honored to have been asked to be part of the team.

**Purposeful Practice**

Above, juniors Katherine Bender and Rachel Scofield laugh as they prepare for their upcoming Spell Bowl rounds. Both Bender and Scofield participated in Spell Bowl as well as Academic Bowl.



**Making the Cut**  
Right, in a Building Trades class, senior Jacob Boze double checks his measurements before cutting a plank of wood. T & I students learned how to use the tools that would be necessary in their future careers.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Top Chef**  
Right, in his chef hat and coat, senior Adam Folz carries a rack of clean dishes to the dining room to be put away. The culinary class at T & I cooked food and served it to customers at the in-school restaurant.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**Mr. Roboto**  
Above, senior David Doughty experiments with a robot in an electricity class. Students at T & I were able to gain technical expertise by participating in hands-on projects.

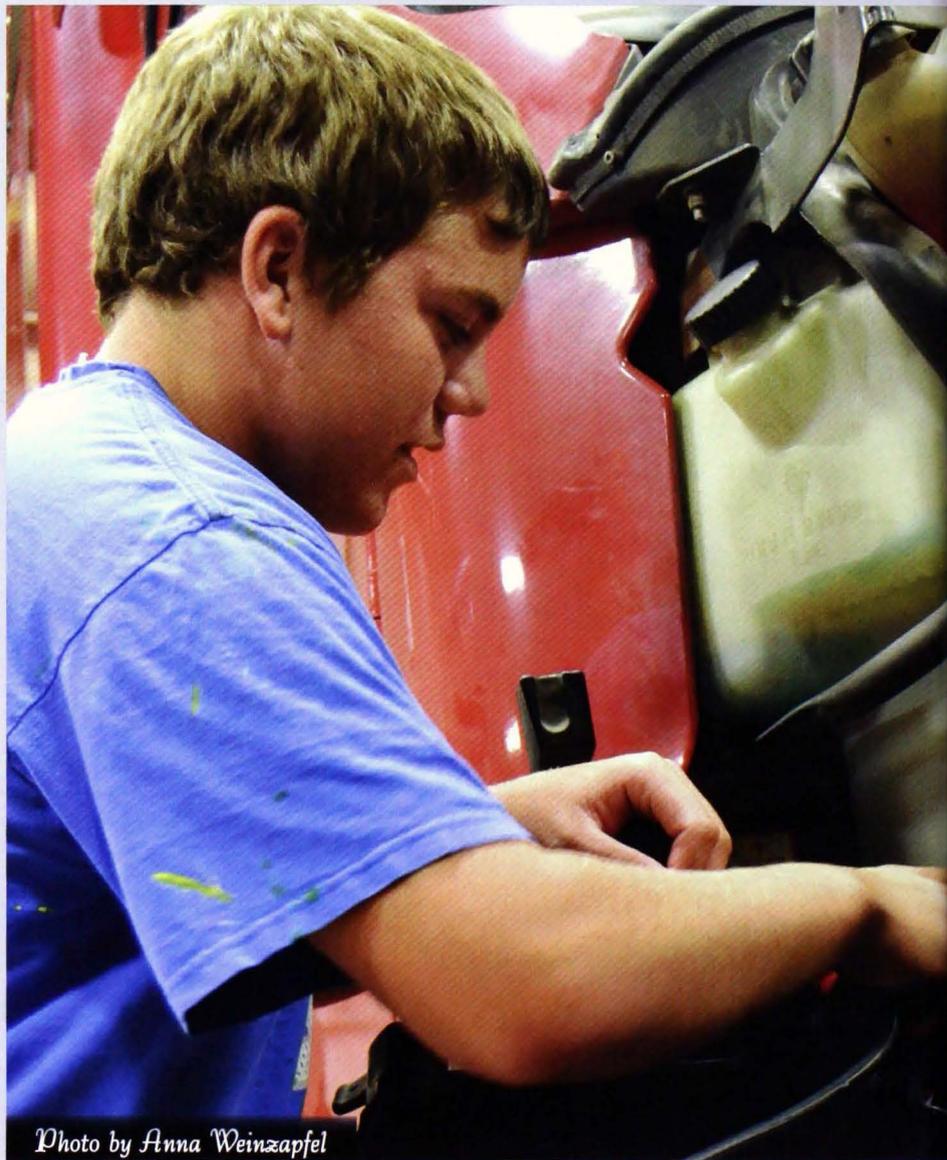


Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

# Experimenting with EDUCATION

**T**hey journey from far and wide to better their education. They make the epic journey every day to and from T & I to jump-start their careers. These are the students of Mater Dei that spend half of each school day at the Career and Technical Institute. These ambitious students get the opportunity to supplement their Mater Dei educations with specialized programs at T & I. Only a select few programs that focus mainly on technological and industrial careers are offered at the institute. Juniors and seniors from Mater Dei are enrolled in everything from Culinary Arts to Building Trades. Through these classes, students get an experience that Mater Dei cannot offer them.

The experience that T & I offers to students will benefit them in college and in their future careers. Junior Jacob Hartz, who is enrolled in the Automotive Services and Technology program, said, "My experience at T & I will allow me to get a head-start on my career and a head-start on college." Senior Kelsey Goebel, an architecture student, said that T & I will ultimately help her to be ahead of many others in college. T & I is all about giving students a jump-start on their futures so that they are more prepared. "I learned many skills that will help me later in life," Goebel said.

The hands-on experience at T & I gives students knowledge in their desired field of work. Junior Katarina

Nash, who studied Culinary Arts, got the chance to run a small restaurant at T & I three days a week and make lunch for people. "This opportunity gives me the knowledge of knowing what running my own restaurant will be like," Nash said. Automotive students like Hartz got to work on cars for hands-on work with real vehicles. "I got to work on cars and start on my future career," Hartz said.

At T & I, students experience things that are not readily available at Mater Dei. "Culinary Arts has the full restaurant experience that I could not get from Mater Dei," Nash said. Culinary Arts students get to work with everything a professional restaurant would provide: a kitchen, the dining area, and all of the cooking equipment. Likewise, students in technological classes get to experiment with technology and tools that Mater Dei does not have available. Students get to test out robots, computers, and construction tools that will be essential in their future careers.

Even though T & I students miss half of their day at Mater Dei, the experience at T & I doubles the knowledge gained with each day. The journey these students take may be long and exhausting, but once these students reach their destination, a successful career, they will look back on their journeys and be proud of their efforts.

By Denise Blankenberger, '12



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

## **Automotive Excellence**

Left, senior Kyle Seitz tinkers with the parts of a semi truck in a Diesel Technology class. Students in automotive classes at T & I got to work on functioning cars to apply their knowledge of the automotive field.

## **Gears Gears Up**

Above, fully clothed in his firefighter uniform, senior Jon Gears waits by a fire truck. Gears already volunteered as a firefighter, and he gained even more experience through his classes in public safety at T & I.



# CHAPTER 3

## *Sports*

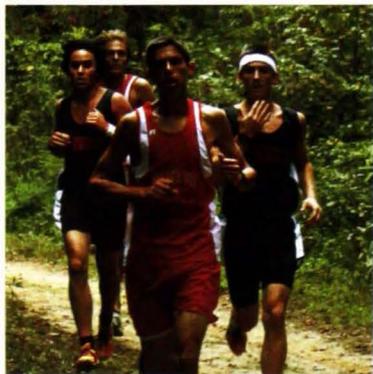




*"The Mater Dei sports program made me who I am today. The sports I played were the most fun part of high school, and I am so glad I got to share these memories with my best friends."*

*-Senior Dane Maurer*

# Pushing the Limits





*A* rmed with spikes, a stopwatch, and endurance, the Mater Dei boys' cross country team made their way up hills, around cornfields, and through trails this year. Beginning in June, the dedicated cross country team started their conditioning, and kept their dedication flowing strongly into the school year. Running precisely 3.1 miles per race, the boys clocked in at about 900 miles during their season.

Cross country runners are frequently asked, "Why do you run?" but the answer is simple for the Mater Dei boys' team. "I choose to run because it is a true test of strength and perseverance," said freshman Michael Kercher. "It shows not your talent, but the amount of hard work and training you do every day." According to senior Noah Lutz, three things consume him during a race: focus, determination, and exhaustion.

Of course, there has to be a secret behind running great distances like these boys. Senior Tyler Schickel said his secrets were concentration, breathing, pacing, eating well, and drinking water. The team consisted of 13 boys, each of them contributing to the team in their own way. Junior Aaron Costlow said, "The team will be lost without the seniors. Each one of them brought something special to the team."

The cross country team placed third in City, with Lutz advancing to individual Semi-State and Schickel placing 70th out of 196 runners at State. Guided by God, who was the strength in their legs, the wind at their backs, and the fire in their hearts, the Mater Dei boys' cross country team ended with a successful season that all of the Wildcats were proud of.

By Olivia DeWeese, '13

# Going the Extra Mile

After a Verve drink, a little light stretching, and a warm-up jog, the gun sounds and the cross country girls take off. Most people would consider cross country a ridiculous sport. Who would want to run for a warm-up and then go on to run for practice? The girls' cross country team does at each practice during their season. Running long distances is all about building up endurance, so practices are spent pushing endurance to the max.

The cross country girls are dedicated to their sport. "Cross country is different than any other sport because the athletes actually enjoy running," sophomore Kendra Blankenberger said. No other sports team spends as much time running through trails, on the roads, or back in the woods. "Our sport is other sports' punishment," senior Abbey Schmitt said.

Through all of the miles and races run during the season, the team really grew close. "We got new members this year and all of us got really close to each other. It helps us all to do well and run our best during races," sophomore Kristen Hahn said. Even outside of practice, the girls spent time together and grew closer as a team. "All of us girls bond together. A few of us went camping together and got to know each other better," Blankenberger said.

After a long season and thousands of miles run, the team accomplished great feats. The greatest achievement of the season by far was the team's advancement to Semi-State. "It was awesome that we made it that far the second year in a row," Schmitt said. Blankenberger added that she was proud of her personal accomplishments as well as the team achievements.

Cross country may seem ridiculous to some people, but not to the girls' cross country team. Running is the girls' passion, and as a team, they have grown together and made great achievements.

By Denise Blankenberger, '12



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### Fighting for the Finish

Above, sophomore Emily Blankenberger sprints toward the finish line. Blankenberger was the strongest runner of the season, advancing to Semi-State individually as well as with the team.

### Band of Sisters

Right, the entire team warms up together before a race. Even outside of practice, the girls were very close.



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**The Final Stretch**

Left, freshman Amanda Blankenberger sprints toward the finish line at the USI cross country course. The underclassmen were very strong, gaining many points for the team throughout the season.

**Extraordinary Endurance**

Below, freshman Eva Traylor pushes past runners from Castle and Reitz. Endurance is what gives runners an edge, so the Water Dei girls pushed themselves at practice to boost their endurance for meets.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

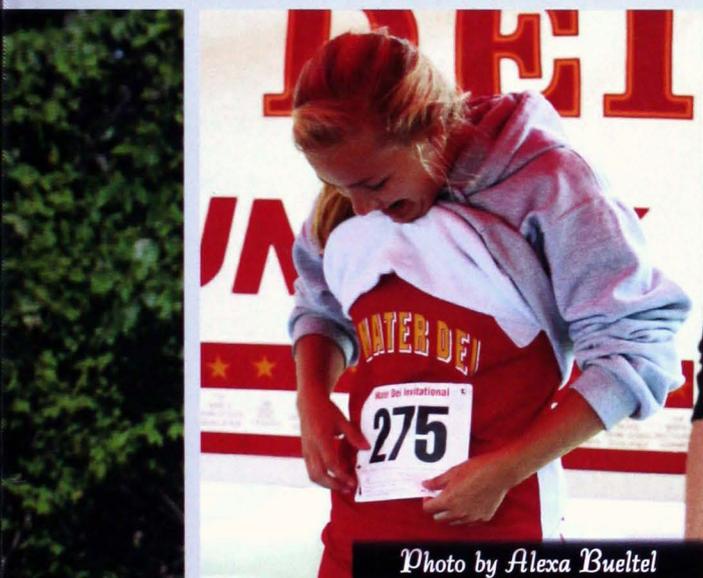


Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Sticking with It**

Above, sophomore Kendra Blankenberger attaches her number to her shirt before the beginning of the race. Runners were given numbers to be sure that no mistakes were made when the times were recorded at the end of each race.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

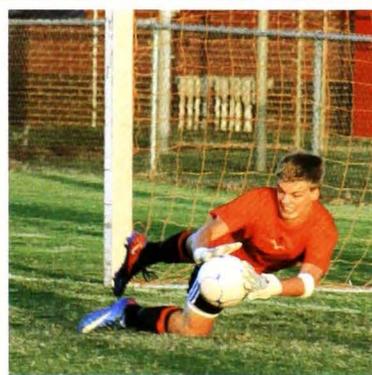
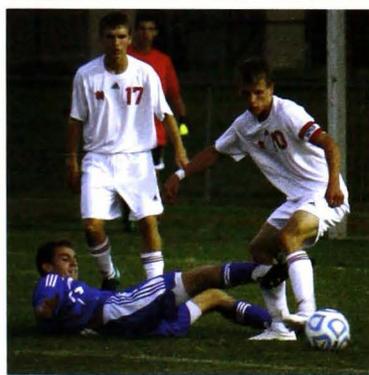
**Running Buddy**

Above, freshman Amanda Herrmann and junior Katie Duncan run together at the end of a race. With such a small team, it was important for all the girls to push each other and always run their best.

*A*

# LEGENDARY

*Team*





*The boys' varsity soccer team had a storybook season. They advanced through the post-season, playing their best soccer, and made it to the state finals.*

*This year's team was the first in Mater Dei's history to make it to the state championship game. Although the final score wasn't what the boys had hoped for, they still looked back on their season with positive attitudes.*

*Some of the funniest moments and memories from the year were what the players called "Coach Quotes." Senior sweeper Josh Weinzapfel remembered Coach Settles telling the team, "If we score more than the other team and keep a shut-out, we'll win." Other times, the "Coach Quotes" were more serious. Senior Kyle Wilson, who has committed to play for the University of Evansville, said, "He told us we were the best senior class he's coached." For many of the players, post-season was the best time for the team. Junior Sam Goad started varsity for the first time this year. "Winning Semi-State was by far the best," Goad said. Junior Travis Wannemuehler, who committed to North Carolina State, said his biggest accomplishment came when he scored a hat trick in the Semi-State games against Greencastle and Lawrenceburg.*

*While the Wildcats were disappointed at State, they were optimistic when thinking about next year. Goad said, "We've gone farther than any other team before us." Wannemuehler added, "We'll build on our success for next year. We can only go up from here." With the team's first state appearance and a record of 17-6-2, Weinzapfel said, "We will go down in history as one of the best teams at Mater Dei."*

*By Adriana Funke, '12*

**Fancy Footwork**

Right, senior Leslie Schenk takes a goal kick during the girls' soccer Semi-State game. As a senior, Schenk had a big responsibility to demonstrate good leadership.

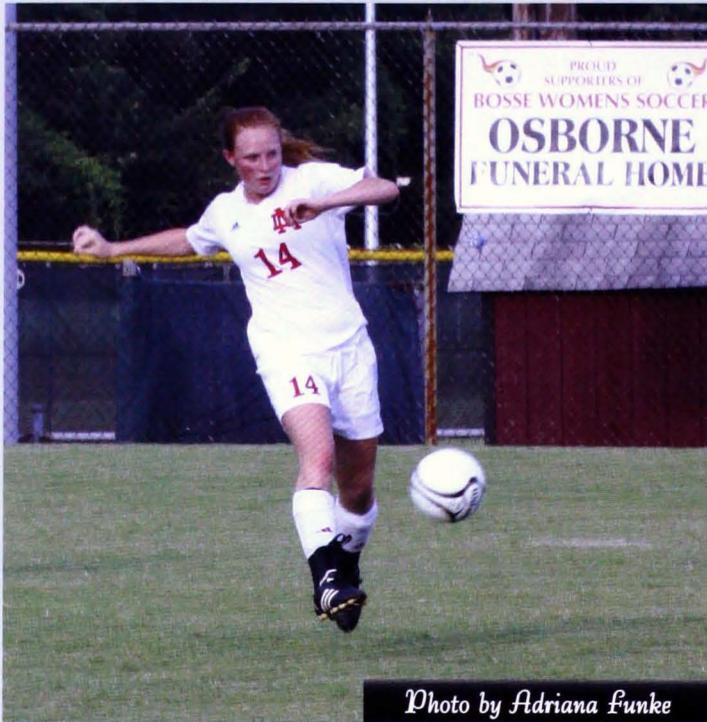


Photo by Adriana Funke

**Defying Gravity**

Right, while in mid-air, senior Ariel Happe prepares to kick the ball. The team worked all season on their long kicks to better prepare for the games.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Gettin' Scrappy**

Above, sophomore Caroline Scales plays aggressively with a Memorial opponent. The team worked on taking the ball at every given opportunity.

**Keeping Control**

Right, junior Hadley Bauer defends the ball from her opponent during a regular season game. Ball control is a big factor in the game of soccer.



Photo by Adriana Funke

# Kickin' it OLD SCHOOL

This year, the girls' soccer team went above and beyond the accomplishments of any of the girls who have tried in the past by making it to the final round of Semi-State.

Junior Samantha Memmer said, "I think we were able to make it to Semi-State because we have so much heart and we all really wanted it. Each person really stepped up and gave it their all throughout the whole season."

Soccer is a sport that not only calls for agility, but also for good coordination and precision. It requires the teammates to understand each other through actions as well as words in order for the game to go smoothly. Freshman Emily Bradley said, "We got along well and everyone was very helpful."

Most of the girls established that this year was by far the best they have had. Sophomore Allison Montgomery said, "This has been my favorite year because our team became really close and we had a lot of accomplishments." Senior Allie Phelps added that her favorite memory was beating Reitz and that there was a little extra fire in everyone at that game.

This year's seniors did a good job of running the team. Phelps said, "I love being a leader of my team. In years past, the seniors have done an amazing job giving us advice and getting us pumped up for the games. Now, it's my turn to do the same for my team." Part of being a freshman includes doing the "dirty work," Bradley said. "We had to get the equipment together after practices and games, but overall the older girls were really nice to us."

Looking ahead, Memmer said, "Next year, we definitely want to make it to State. We already made it pretty far this year and now we know what to expect, so hopefully we will be more prepared both physically and mentally next year."

The girls' soccer team had an exceptional year, and they are proud to say that they made it farther than any previous Mater Dei girls' soccer team. It was a huge accomplishment and something they will carry with them forever.

By Cydney Quinn, '12



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### Going for the Goal

Above, sophomore Haley Rheinlander moves the ball up the field toward the goal. Despite being an underclassman, Rheinlander had a lot of varsity playing time.

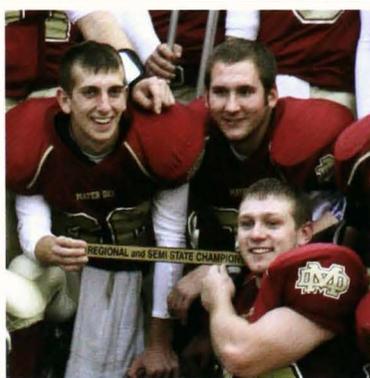


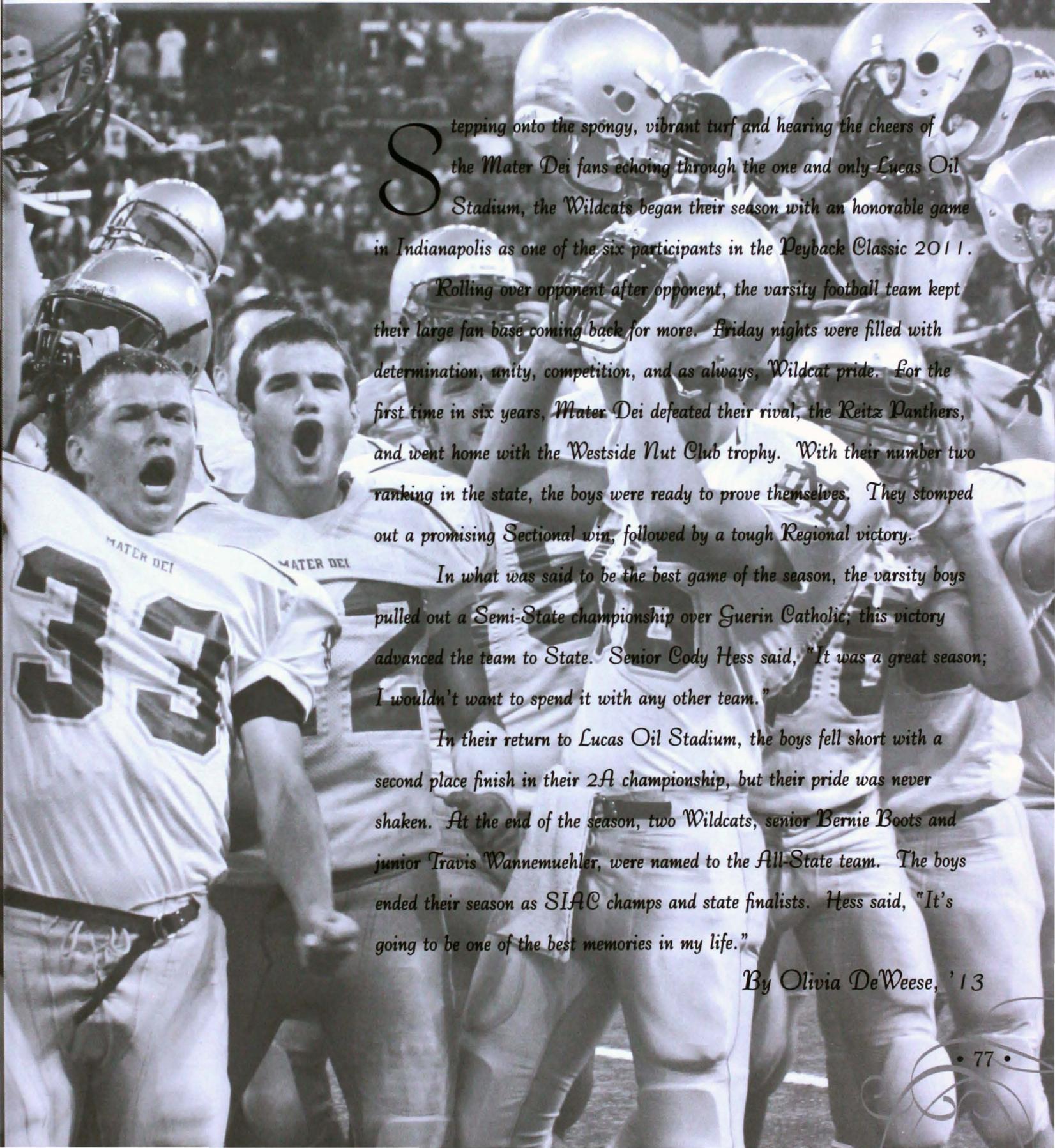
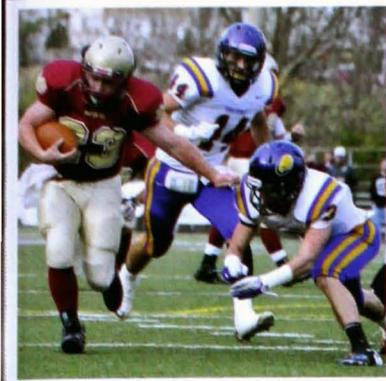
Photo by Sarah Kelley

### Preparing for the Pass

Above, junior Emily Moers gets into position for a pass during the game against North Posey. The girls always tried to set themselves up for open passes so they could advance the ball down the field.

Can't Hide our  
**Pride**





Stepping onto the spongy, vibrant turf and hearing the cheers of the Mater Dei fans echoing through the one and only Lucas Oil Stadium, the Wildcats began their season with an honorable game in Indianapolis as one of the six participants in the *Peyback Classic 2011*.

Rolling over opponent after opponent, the varsity football team kept their large fan base coming back for more. Friday nights were filled with determination, unity, competition, and as always, Wildcat pride. For the first time in six years, Mater Dei defeated their rival, the Reitz Panthers, and went home with the Westside Nut Club trophy. With their number two ranking in the state, the boys were ready to prove themselves. They stomped out a promising Sectional win, followed by a tough Regional victory.

In what was said to be the best game of the season, the varsity boys pulled out a Semi-State championship over Guerin Catholic; this victory advanced the team to State. Senior Cody Hess said, "It was a great season; I wouldn't want to spend it with any other team."

In their return to Lucas Oil Stadium, the boys fell short with a second place finish in their 2A championship, but their pride was never shaken. At the end of the season, two Wildcats, senior Bernie Boots and junior Travis Wannemuehler, were named to the All-State team. The boys ended their season as SIAC champs and state finalists. Hess said, "It's going to be one of the best memories in my life."

By Olivia DeWeese, '13

**Stare Down**

Right, senior Erin Wildeman keeps a close eye on her opponent. Wildeman's blocking proved to be a major advantage for the team.

**Perfect Pass**

Far right, senior Anna Weinzapfel makes a pass to the coach during warm-ups. Weinzapfel shared the role as team captain this year with senior Whitney Blankenberger.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Calling the Shots**

Above, while calling for the ball, junior Beth Fischer receives a set from senior Claire Alvey. The team worked hard throughout the season to perfect their plays.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

Teach me how to

# VOLLEY!

**W**alking into the gym, the sound of cheering fills the air as the Mater Dei Volleycats take the floor. The team works hard and puts in hours of practice for this very moment.

This year, the team was led by five seniors: Anna Weinzapfel, Claire Alvey, Erin Wildeman, Rachel Eickhoff, and Whitney Blankenberger. "I loved being a senior leader," Wildeman said. "I loved helping out the younger players by giving them tips, while also learning from them." Blankenberger stated that it was nice to have everyone's respect and to know that the underclassmen looked up to her. "All of the seniors were close this year, and I feel like we set a positive example for seniors in the future," Wildeman said. Blankenberger added that the seniors were able to set the standards for the rest of the team and push everyone to their playing limits.

Having good leaders is what kept this team together. "We had great leadership this year with the five seniors, and we can all have a good time together off the court, which helped bring the

team closer," Alvey said. Wildeman agreed that the team became stronger as the season progressed and everyone was like family.

This type of leadership is essential when younger players join the team. Freshman Victoria Schickel said that all of the upperclassmen made it so much easier for her as she joined the varsity team this year. "They were all very encouraging and welcomed me onto the team. They included me and drove me everywhere I needed to go," Schickel said.

The strong base that the team formed over the season helped carry them into sectional play. The team defeated Tell City in four games to claim the sectional title for the second year in a row. "I was very proud of my team. We never gave up, and in the end, it all paid off," Blankenberger said. Eickhoff added that she was glad they won because they were the underdogs in their sectionals. For her first sectional experience, Schickel said it was an amazing feeling knowing that she was part of a team that accomplished so much.

By Anna Weinzapfel, '12



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### "I Believe that We Can Win"

Left, the team gathers together for a final cheer before the start of the game. Cheering before the games helped the team get pumped and ready to play.

### Sectional Queens

Above, the volleyball team smiles for a photo as they celebrate their sectional win. The team beat Tell City in four games to claim the sectional title for the second year in a row.

# See you on the COURT

Love is defined as having a passion or strong enthusiasm for something. However, love means nothing to the boys' tennis team. This season, each opposing team was put to the challenge of whether they could handle the wrath of the mighty Wildcats.

Throughout the season, the team met many of the goals set at the beginning of the year. "My biggest accomplishment was beating Memorial's number one doubles team and receiving first all-district number one doubles team," senior Paul Elpers said. Elpers's doubles partner was his brother, sophomore Michael Elpers, and he said that playing with his younger brother was an experience he would never forget.

The players learned many lessons during the season that they would have never known if it weren't for playing tennis. "I have learned to keep your cool and never show your emotions or your weaknesses while playing," junior Joe Ritter said. Elpers learned that winning isn't everything and concentrated more on having fun. It allows for a better time on the court. The positive attitudes of every player kept the team going during the tough matches and helped keep their minds focused.

Not only were matches won this season, but memories were made as well. Senior Andrew Schmitt said that winning his last match against Mt. Vernon was his favorite memory. It would be the last match he would ever play, and it went into three sets. Michael Elpers said, "I enjoyed playing with my brother, Paul, because he helped keep me going during the tough matches, and I played a lot better because of it." When the going got tough, teammates were there to offer their support.

The team was as strong as ever, and they played their hearts out in every set, especially the difficult ones. They put their game face on each time they met on the court and proved that life can't be lived without love.

By Alexa Bueltel, '12

## Eyes on the Prize

Right, during the Bosse match, senior Austin Knapp returns the ball to his opponent. Knapp played number two singles this season.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel





Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**Future Leader of the Pack**

Far left, sophomore Michael Elpers hits the ball over the net at the match against Harrison. Elpers was the youngest member on the varsity team.

**Stringing it Together**

Left, in between matches, senior Ryan Fehrenbacher re-strings his tennis racquet with the help of sophomore Zach Goedde. Teammates sacrificed their time and talent to help each other out during the season.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Keeping Focus**

Above, senior Paul Elpers keeps his eye on the ball during a tennis match. Elpers played both singles and doubles this season.

**Still Got Game**

Left, senior Garrett Scott returns the ball over the net to his opponent. Scott was the recipient of the Kiwanis Award for the boys' tennis team.

**Eye on the Ball**

Right, junior Emily McAtee keeps a close watch on the ball as it soars through the air. McAtee was the winner of the Kiwanis Award for the 2011-2012 school year.

**Swing Away**

Below, sophomore Laura Berendes finishes her swing. Berendes decided to play golf because she thought it would be a new and fun experience.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Quick Decisions**

Above, sophomore Megan Fulton plans her next shot. Staying focused and concentrating are important aspects of golf.

**Putting with Pride**

Right, junior Erica Whorl squares herself up to putt. In golf, each stroke is added up after 9 or 18 holes to calculate the final score.

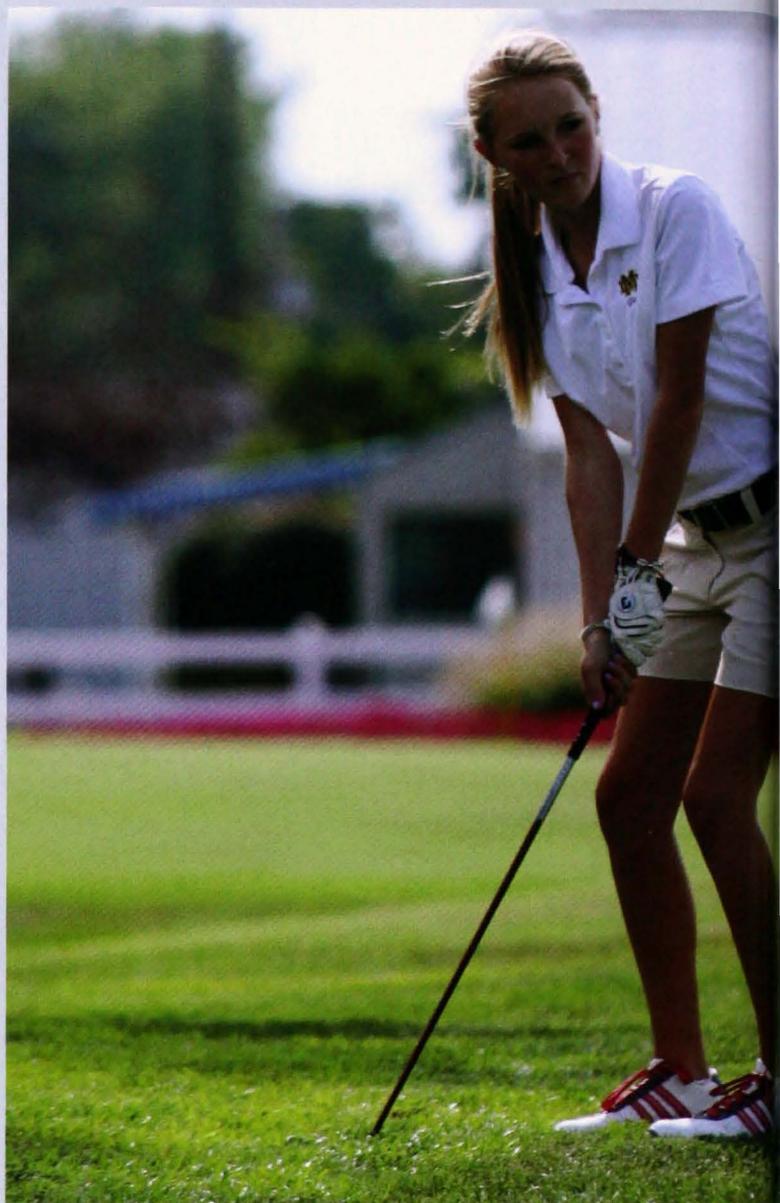


Photo by Alexa Bueltel

# Tee TIME

One phrase that can be used to describe the Mater Dei girls' golf team is "small but mighty." Even with only seven players, the girls have shown that nothing can get in their way.

An advantage to having a small team is that close friendships can be formed. Junior Emily McAtee said that her favorite part of the golf season is being with her team. "This year particularly we became a lot closer and improved greatly. We always had a good time at practices with each other while learning more about the game and enjoying our time together," McAtee said.

While forming friendships served the team well, there are some parts of the game that the players still find difficult. Senior Kelsey Fulton said the hardest part of golfing is getting the swing. "If you do one thing wrong, your swing doesn't work the way you want it to," Fulton said. Sophomore Laura Berendes said the hardest part about golfing is concentration and getting the ball to go straight.

Taking extra time to practice on their own helped the team tremendously this year. "To improve my skills, I would go to the range on my own, play with friends, take lessons, and putt and chip when we didn't have practice," Fulton said. McAtee said that several players also took private lessons in order to improve their game even more.

Overall, the girls' golf team had a phenomenal year. The team placed third in the city with an overall record of 30-33. "The girls' golf team usually does not get much credit, but I think this year we surprised a lot of people when we placed in city," McAtee said. She also stated that even though they had a young team, she couldn't have been more proud.

Photo by Alexa Bueltel

By Anna Weinzapfel, '12



Photo by Adriana Funke



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### Speedy Swing

Above, senior Kelsey Fulton gets ready to tee off. Fulton said her favorite part of the golf season was all the new people she got to meet at the matches.

### Staying Focused

Left, while focusing on the ball, sophomore Nicole Loehr prepares to putt. The team practiced four times a week to prepare themselves for the matches.

*This One Time...*  
**at Band Camp**





The sound of a trumpet, the crash of a drum, the flash of glitter, and the whirl of a flag. All of these things are signs that the Mater Dei Marching Wildcats have taken the field to perform their 2011 band show entitled "El Toro."

The theme of the show revolved around a matador and her fight against a bull. Senior Michelle Schmitt, who played the role of the matador, said, "As the matador, I fight the bull, but am defeated. Then I build myself up and fight it again and win." However, the theme went much deeper than just a bullfight; it was designed to relate to life struggles. "There are certain fears we face in life. Sometimes we are knocked down, but we build ourselves up and conquer them," Schmitt said.

The season's accomplishments took the band all the way to the state competition at Lucas Oil Stadium for the second year in a row. Senior Jessie Kelley said that being in a stadium that big gives the band energy that they didn't know they had. "The state performance was the best of the year by far," junior Mitch Meeks said. "You can't really explain the feeling of performing at State. It was exhilarating, fun, and amazing," junior Adam Berendes said. Even though the placement at State was not as high as the band's goals were, the performance surpassed anything they could have hoped for. "A placement is a placement. As long as we're happy with the show, that's all that really matters in the end," Schmitt said.

The band season ended on a high note, and everyone was proud of the outstanding show at State. The band members faced their fears and triumphed in the end, conquering their own personal "bulls" in life.

By Denise Blankenberger, '12

# Helping Hands

All of the credit for the sports here at Mater Dei seems to rest on the shoulders of the athletes, but what goes on behind the scenes rests solely on the shoulders of the "extra help": the MatCats and the team managers. Whether it is mixing up Gatorade or making a scrapbook, the MatCats and managers are always busy doing something they love: helping out their friends and Wildcat family.

Most students don't realize the amount of time managers and MatCats put into helping out with unnoticed but necessary tasks. Senior Mitch Culley, who managed both the football and the boys' basketball teams, said, "My biggest job as manager is to make sure the players have everything they need to perform to their fullest and to make sure that Bernie Boots gets his food."

The athletes count on the managers to take care of them and their needs even when it comes down to the simplest things like a quick drink when they come off of the court or field. Sometimes the tasks aren't quite as easy, like making a scrapbook full of memories for the wrestlers to enjoy. But, no matter what the task, it is always satisfying.

Just like the managers of any other sport, the Mater Dei MatCats have a lot of very time-consuming jobs to accomplish over the course of the wrestling season. Senior MatCat Devon Tenbarge said, "We have to take stats and pictures, videotape, make scrapbooks for the wrestlers, and decorate posters for them as well. We have a lot of different activities to be involved in, but they are all worth it in the end."

Being a manager or MatCat is a good way to stay involved without actually playing the sport. It's a great opportunity to be close to friends and even make new ones, and the team counts on the managers to help them out just as much as they count on their coaches to teach them new plays. Culley said that it is a fun way to stay active in school activities and be with a team. Tenbarge added that being with her friends is great and since she grew up around wrestling, it is great to be able to stay around it. What happens behind the scenes helps what goes on in front of the Wildcat fans run flawlessly.

By Cydney Quinn, '12



Photo by Sarah Kelley





Photo by Adriana Funke

**Manager on a Mission**

Far left, freshman Andrew Folz takes care of getting the drinks ready for the football team as they come in for a time-out. The managers did a good job of staying on top of their tasks.

**Picture Perfect**

Left, senior Kendall Altstadt and junior Erin Schweizer snap shots of the wrestlers at the Holiday Classic meet. The MatCats took pictures at every meet for the wrestlers' scrapbooks.

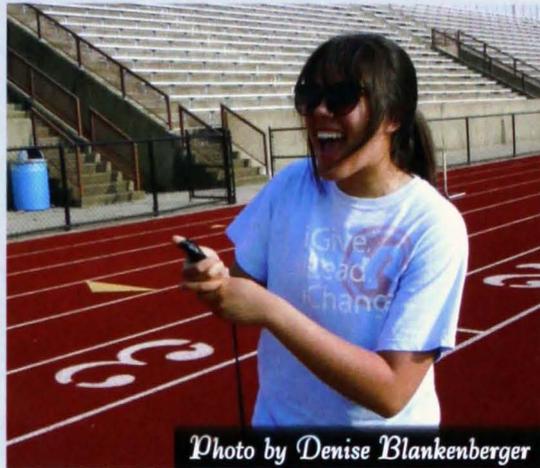


Photo by Denise Blankenberger

**Perfect Timing**

Left, senior Alexa Bueltel calls out times for the girls' track team at practice. Bueltel was manager of the track team for two years.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese



Photo by Sarah Kelley

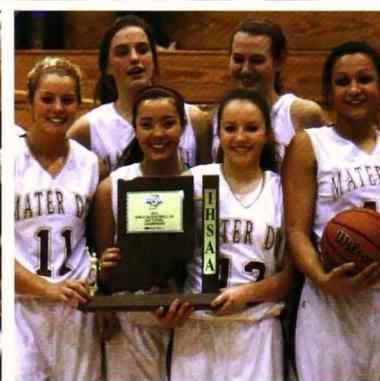
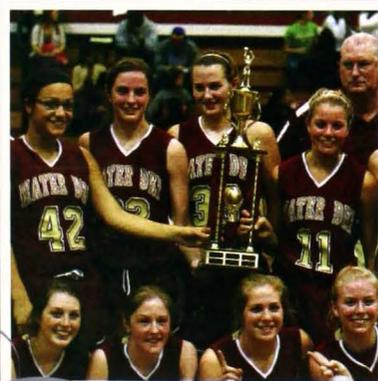
**Scrapbook Madness**

Left, senior Danielle Norman works on a scrapbook for her wrestler. Each MatCat made a scrapbook for the wrestler she was assigned.

**Dirty Work**

Above, sophomore Gabe Adler, freshman Patrick Helfrich, sophomore Ben Sellers, and freshman Andrew Folz prepare to move the drinks during a football game. Part of a manager's job is to do all of the dirty work for the team.

*A team of*  
**Champions**





*A*t the beginning of the year, the girls' basketball team had many mountains to overcome to reach their goal of winning State. From the first practice to the victory fire truck ride, the season was filled with unforgettable memories that the players will treasure for years to come.

For seniors Bri Dickerson, Casey Jochem, and Erin Wildeman, basketball has been a huge part of their lives. "I have always loved the sport. I became a part of a family upon entering the gym my freshman year, a family I couldn't give up," Wildeman said. The sport isn't just what they'll miss; they'll miss their teammates as well. "We've gotten so close this season and not being able to be with them every day will be hard to adjust to," said Jochem.

During overtime at the State championship game against Fort Wayne Bishop Luers, sophomore Maura Muensterman scored the game-winning shot. "I was a little worried for a split second that it wasn't going to go in, but once I jumped into the air and felt the ball roll off my fingers, I knew it was going in. The feeling was indescribable," Muensterman said.

In an overtime victory of 56-52, sophomore Ashlynn Spahn contributed five critical three-point shots, one shot away from the state record of six. Spahn said, "I knew once we got into the tournament that I was going to have to step it up." Spahn wasn't the only player to step up for the team this season. Freshman Tori Schickel was the youngest starter on the team. "It feels good that the coaches and my teammates have faith in me for making me a starter. It's always so much fun playing with the older girls and becoming close with them," Schickel said. The players' hard work paid off when the final buzzer sounded and they all huddled together to cherish that victorious moment.

The team ended with an overall record of 27-1 and was the first Mater Dei girls' basketball team in history to win a State title. There wasn't a mountain too high that the team was unable to climb or a valley too low that they couldn't overcome.

By Alexa Bueltel, '12

# Dribble, Shoot, Rebound, Score!

With the sound of the band playing the fight song and eager fans awaiting the start of the game, no one can deny that the Mater Dei boys' basketball team is getting ready to take their place on the floor and prove that they have what it takes to win.

Although they make it look easy, the boys' basketball team has put in countless hours to improve their game and learn how to work together as a team. "My favorite drill is the progression drill because it is high-energy and intense," senior Isaac Tekoppel said. Senior Garrett Scott added that his favorite drill is giant shooting because it involves a lot of shooting, and they get to compete as a team against the clock.

While practice is important, this year's team was guided by five seniors who helped lead the team in a positive direction. "I tried to be a good example for the other guys by working hard and encouraging them. If they had questions, I would answer them," Scott said. Scott also stated that if members of his team were feeling down, he would try to pick them back up.

With good senior leadership, the team has grown closer this season. Remaining good friends throughout the season helped lead the team into Sectional play, where they advanced to the final round. "We grew closer this year during pre-games and bus rides," Tekoppel said. Senior Bernie Boots agreed that bus rides allowed the team to stay close. "We have grown close this year because we all are willing to work hard to achieve our goals," Scott said. Scott added that they all cared about one another and wanted to succeed.

By Anna Weinzapfel, '12

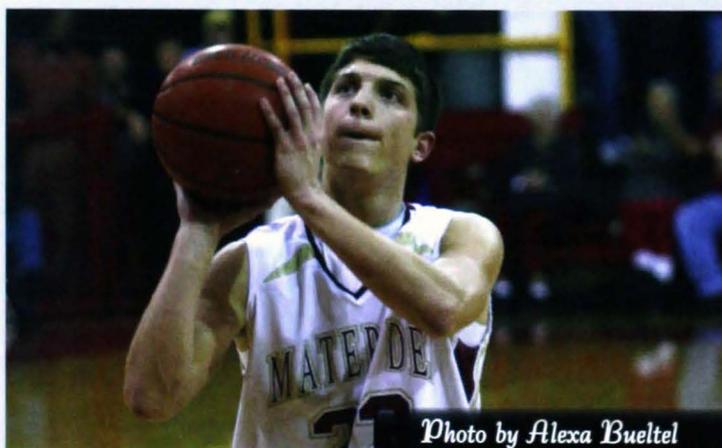


Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### Swish!

Above, junior Bryan Wolf takes his time as he prepares to shoot a free throw. Staying focused and concentrating on the basket is a major aspect of becoming a good free throw shooter.

### Coast to Coast

Right, senior Ryan Wannemueller runs down the court during a fast break. Being able to react quickly under pressure helped Wannemueller score many points for the team.



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

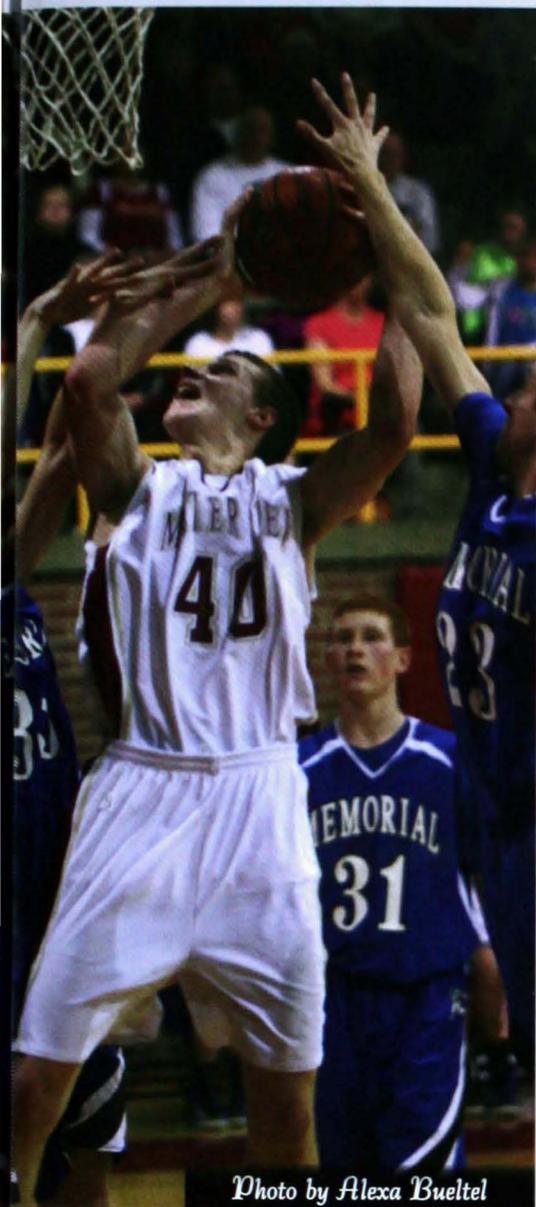


Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Take it to the Hoop**

Left, while fighting his way through the defense, junior Tyler Walsh takes the ball to the basket. Walsh's aggressive play helped score many points for the Wildcats.

**Defense, Defense**

Below, senior Garrett Scott plays defense against a Forest Park opponent. As a senior, Scott proved to be a great leader for the team.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

**High Energy**

Above, freshman Jacob Stauber gets pumped up before the game with senior Garrett Scott. One way that the team got energized for the games was by giving one another pep talks.

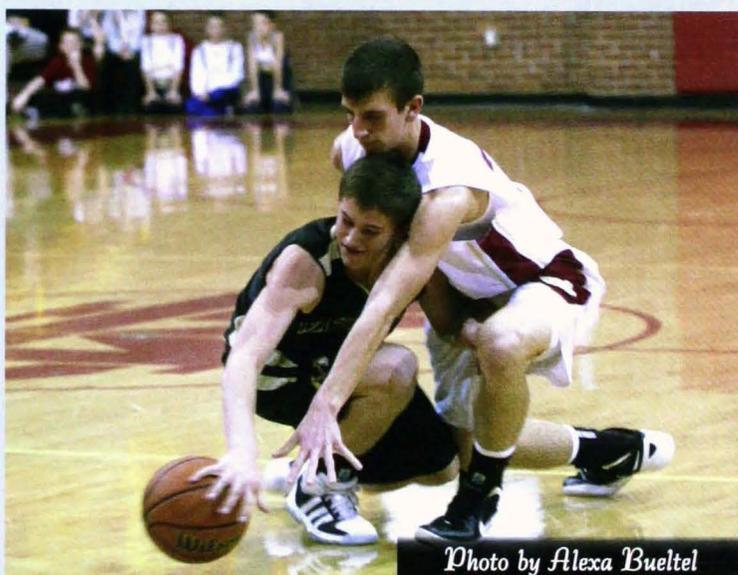


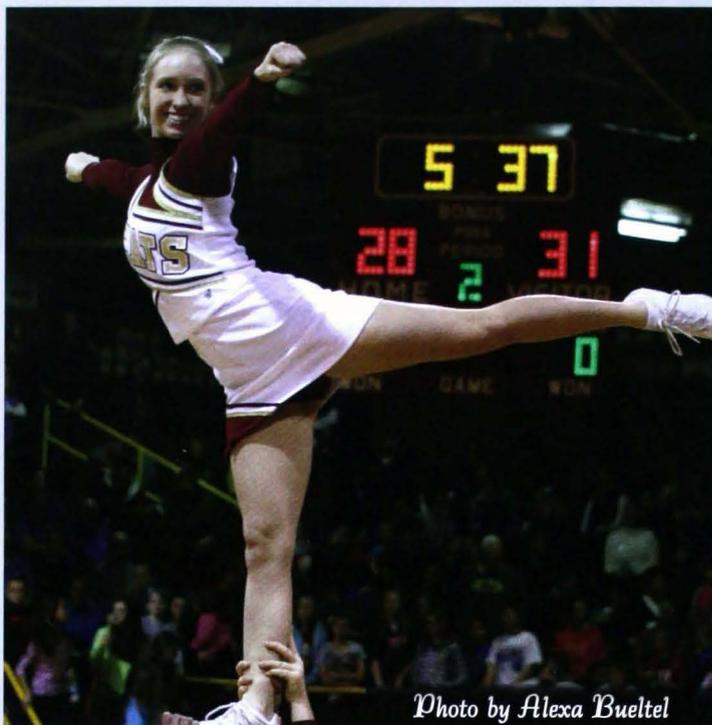
Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**No Harm, No Foul**

Above, senior Isaac Tekoppel dives for a loose ball. Tekoppel was a member of the basketball team for four years.

### *Kicking and Screaming*

Right, junior Jenna Weinzapfel takes a breath during one of the many cheers the girls learned this year. The cheerleaders memorized over 50 cheers for the football and basketball seasons.



*Photo by Alexa Bueltel*

### *Flying High*

Right, while performing during halftime at a home varsity basketball game, senior Maddy Gansman holds her stunt. Gansman won "best jumps overall" at the city-wide cheer expo at Central High School.



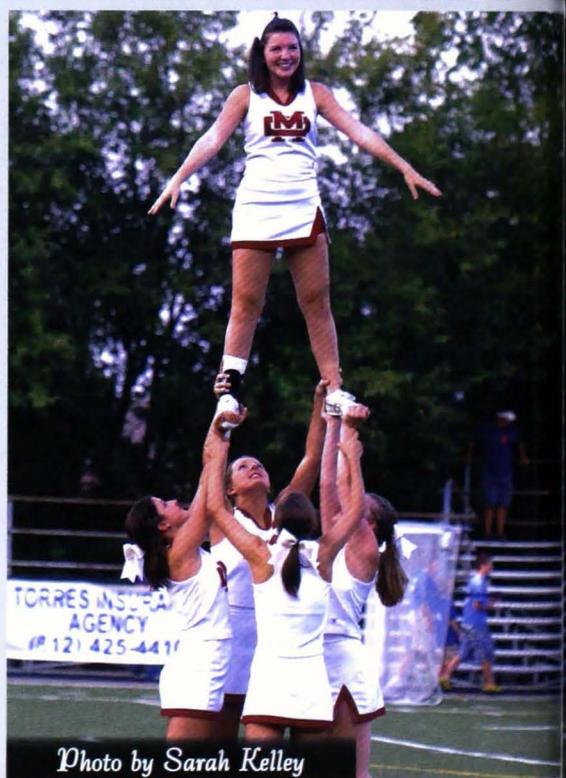
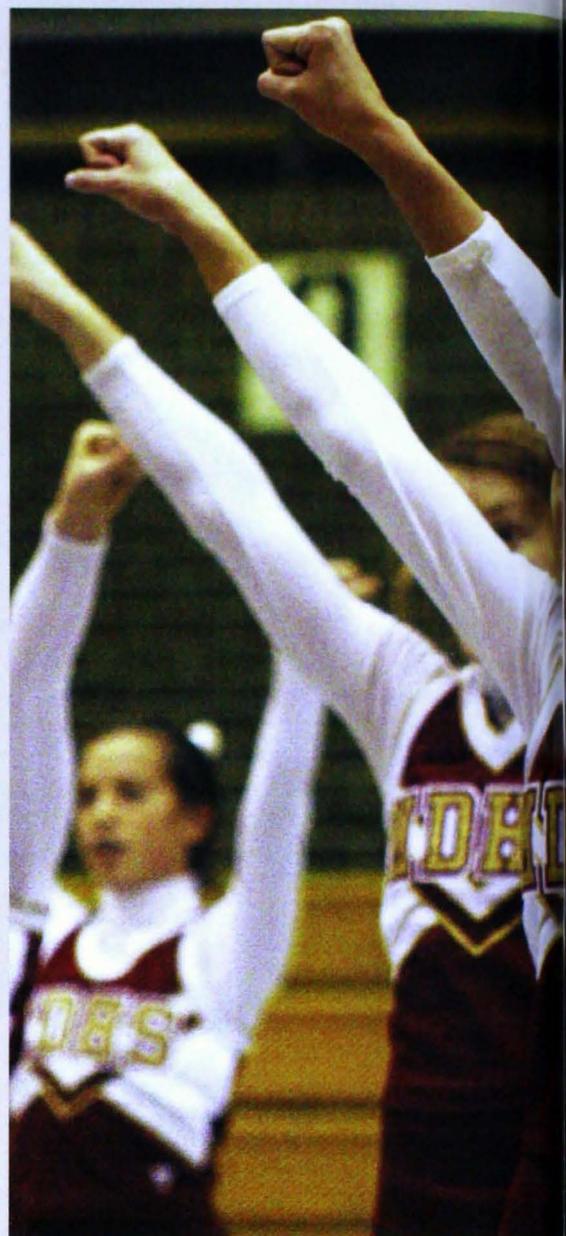
*Photo by Olivia DeWeese*

### *Just Stuntin'*

Above, sophomore Sydney Oliver, junior Cooper Mayer, and senior Jordan Lipking cheer on their fellow Wildcats during the starting line-up at a varsity football game. The cheerleaders shared the State experience with the football team, cheering them on all the way to Lucas Oil Stadium.

### *Balancing Act*

Right, junior Anni Emmert cheers on the football team with her teammates while atop a stunt. Emmert balanced not only varsity cheering, but also theatre, choir, and various other clubs.



*Photo by Sarah Kelley*



Photo by Adri Funke

# LOUD and PROUD

Pretty smiles, cute uniforms, and high ponytails are a few things that generally describe cheerleaders; however, these athletes are often underestimated. This year, the Mater Dei cheerleading team consisted of 12 varsity members, each responsible for executing difficult stunts and tricky tumbling routines and for memorizing over 50 cheers.

The cheerleaders practiced each week and before every event they cheered at. Sophomore Alex Turpin said one of her favorite things about cheering is being so involved in the events. The girls make it look easy while they consistently perform crisp cheers during starting line-up, halftime, time-outs, and other parts of the game. This year, they pulled together an outstanding routine that they performed at the annual Cheer Expo at Central High School against all of the cheer teams in Evansville. Although there is no official winner named, all of the Mater Dei fans who witnessed the exciting new routine would agree that the team's hard work and practice paid off. "Our team's biggest accomplishment would definitely be the expo routine. We managed a lot of stuff that people, even ourselves, didn't think we had the ability to," said Turpin.

While some members of the cheer team are new to the sport and learning as they go, others like junior Kendra Rexing have been practicing for years. The mix of girls creates a wonderful team and many friendships. Senior Maddy Gansman said, "The seniors are really proud of the girls this year. They have worked very hard and helped make it a memorable year." Gansman and fellow senior Jordan Lipking were co-captains of this year's team.

Whether it be tumbling in front of the entire school at a pep assembly or leading a cheer in front of hundreds at the one and only Lucas Oil Stadium, the girls have made the Wildcats proud.

By Olivia DeWeese, '13

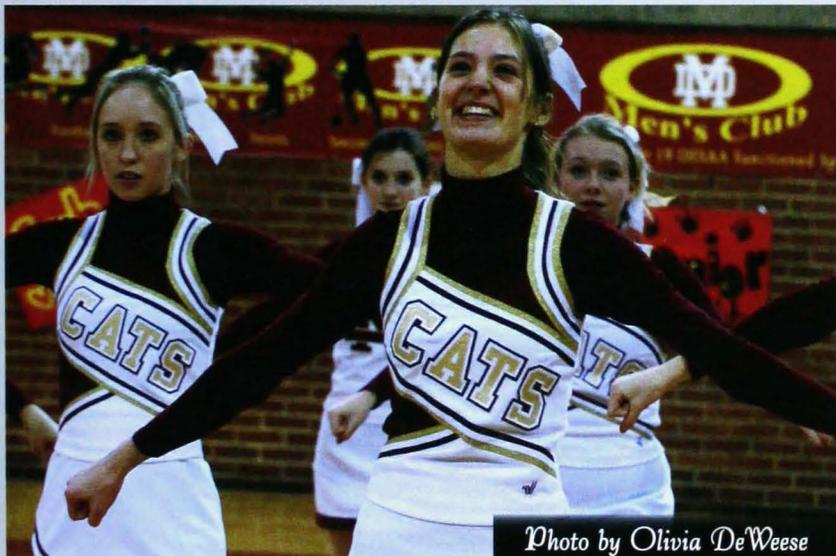


Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### All Smiles

Above, junior Mallory Robinson smiles at the crowd as she and her teammates perform their exposition routine to the entire student body. The team practiced extremely hard to perfect their outstanding expo routine to perform at events and cheer competitions.

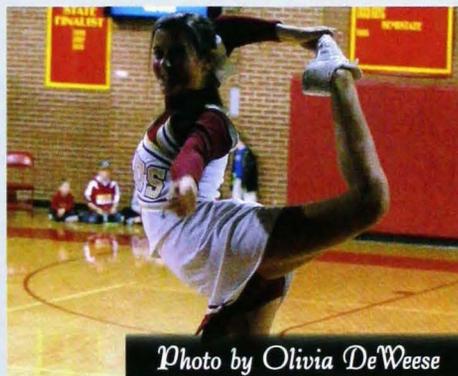


Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### Picture Perfect

Above, junior Cooper Mayer points at the crowd and smiles as she holds a scorpion in her stunt. Mayer said, "Cheer this year has been a whole new experience. Our coach has done a great job spicing things up for the team."

# Eat, Sleep,

# DANCE

A group of lions is called a pride, and a group of fish is called a school, but a group of DanceCats is called a family. This year's team of 12 girls spent the entire season together, learning routines and perfecting choreography. Because they spend so much time together, the DanceCats connect in a special way.

On the day of a performance, the DanceCats have certain rituals that they always do. "We practice the dance that we will be performing and go out to eat somewhere. We always do each others' hair and make-up before we perform," sophomore Kelsey Wargel said. Senior Amy Deig said that even though the DanceCats enjoy performing their routines, it can be stressful at times. However, they always manage to have fun with their team. "We have a lot of inside jokes, and we do a special cheer before we perform," senior Katie Clements said.

Being a DanceCat isn't only about the performances. Clements said, "We have gone through many obstacles this year that have made us so much closer." The DanceCats enjoy spending time together outside of practices as well. Junior Danielle Schmitt said that they have lots of sleepovers with the whole team. Because of their shared experiences, they have grown to know each other better. Wargel said, "It has been a successful year. We have grown much closer, and our dance technique improved as well."

This special connection has made the DanceCats a close-knit group of friends. They are actually more like a family. Senior Jessie Kelley said, "We are more like family because there is no judgement. Just like a family, each girl has a different role. We have the sports junkies, the ballerinas, the mother figures, and even the ditzes, but we support each other 100%." Despite their differences, they have grown to protect each other no matter what. Freshman Mallory Anson said that the DanceCats are one big family. "We can be ourselves around each other; we're pretty much like sisters," she said.

Just like a family, the DanceCats support each other through any situation and have grown together as a team. Whether at practice, while bonding at sleepovers, or while showing off their moves on the basketball court, the DanceCats are always there for each other.

By Denise Blankenberger, '12

**Dancers in Training**  
Right, senior Megan Tromley teaches a Christmas-themed dance to kindergarten girls. The DanceCats host a dance clinic every year to get new girls interested in becoming dancers in high school.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

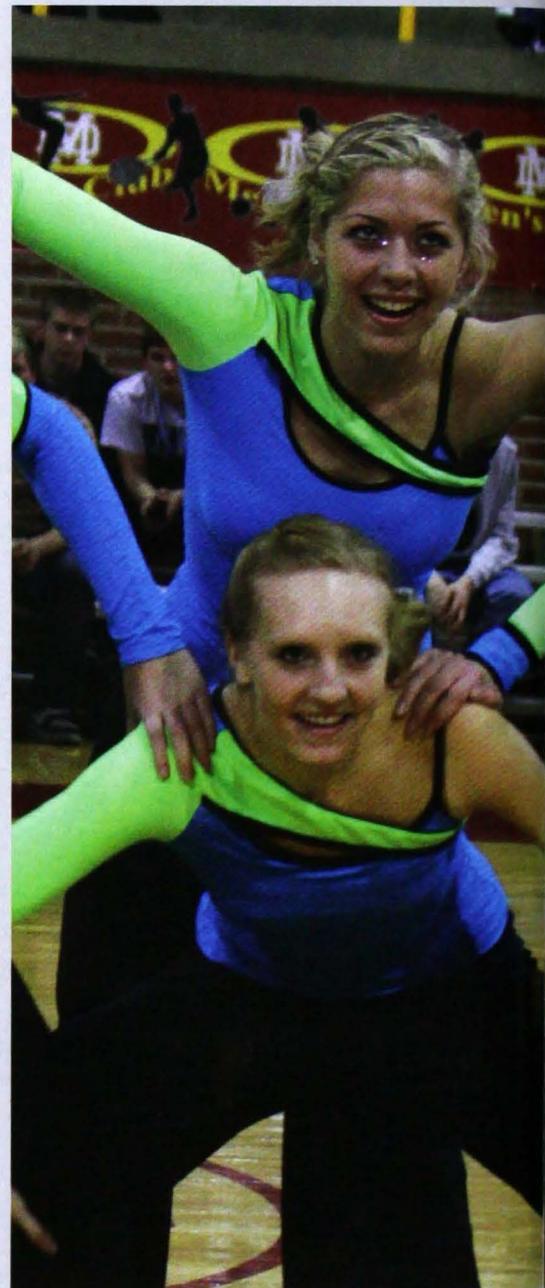
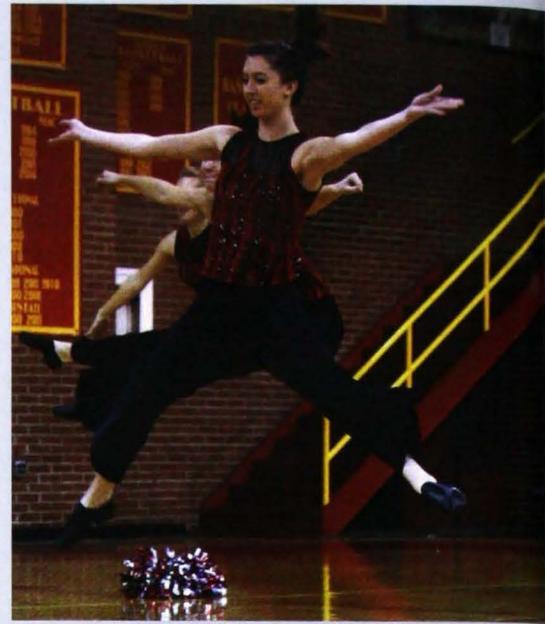




Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Adriana Funke

**Flying High**

Far left, junior Suzan Fields and senior Jessie Kelley leap into the air during the "Burlesque" routine. The DanceCats practiced basic moves to maintain their technique.

**Band of Sisters**

Left, senior Amy Deig jumps into the air in the band show "El Toro." The DanceCats did their own routines during basketball season, but also performed with the band and Colorguard in the fall.



Photo by Sarah Kelley



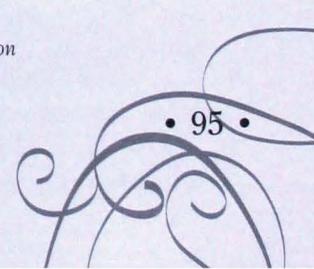
Photo by Denise Blankenberger

**Rumor Has It**

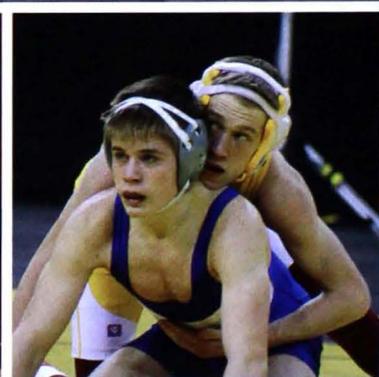
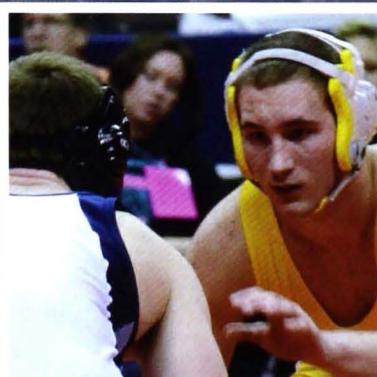
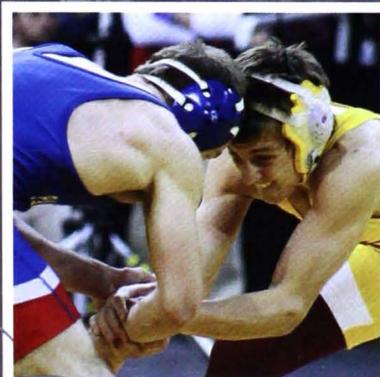
Above, freshman Haley Anson and senior Katie Clements pose at the end of the "Rumor Has It" routine. The routine featured a difficult new move, but the DanceCats managed to nail it every time they performed.

**Hip-Hop Divas**

Left, sophomores Carolyn Wilmes, Emily Burnette, and Kelsey Wargel, along with junior Danielle Schmitt, perform a hip-hop routine at halftime at the Washington basketball game. The DanceCats learned new routines for basketball games.



*It's a [Mat]ter of*  
**Pride**





Wrestling has been a tradition at Mater Dei since the beginning of this school. This year was no different. The team sent nine wrestlers to Individual State and advanced to Team State as well. Although they did not return with a State title, the wrestlers clung to the memories made over the season and the tight bonds formed between teammates. This year, the wrestling team was more than just a tradition; it was a family.

113-pound wrestler freshman Alex Johnson was among the nine boys sent to State. "Being a freshman wrestler was overwhelming," Johnson said. "Mater Dei is a wrestling dynasty and to be a part of that was fantastic." Johnson considered the seniors on the team to be strong leaders. "Where some lead by example, others were like 'follow me' leaders, and there was always somebody to look to for answers." Junior Mahlon Parkinson, who wrestled at 160, agreed with Johnson about the seniors. "They gave us sweet pump-up talks before meets," Parkinson said. Junior heavyweight wrestler Nathan Wright added that the seniors helped lead by showing determination.

One such senior leader was Dane Maurer, who wrestled at 195. Maurer only wrestled freshman year before deciding to wrestle again his senior year. He described the relationship between wrestlers as "pure." "We were one big family who knew how to make the sport fun," Maurer said. Junior Branson Schroeder, weighing in at 132, said, "We're all very close, moreso, in my opinion, than any other sport. We're like a big family, especially during tournaments. We cut weight together and we hung out a lot during the season. We're always there for each other."

Wrestling will always be a tradition at Mater Dei, and each of the wrestlers has added to the story in his own individual way.

By Sarah Kelley, '12

# Live to swim, Swim to Live

Swimmers are a dedicated group of people and the Mater Dei girls' swim team is no exception. This year, they competed well as both individuals and as a team. Each girl overcame a unique set of obstacles to reach their goals for the season and still managed to have fun while doing so.

Senior Kayla Hammelman broke the backstroke record and improved it three more times. She also improved her 200 IM record and conquered a condition from previous years that caused her to pass out after many of her races. Hammelman said, "I also reached my goal of going a 1:02 in my back. It was a goal I set freshman year that I never thought would be attainable."

Sophomore Megan Steinkamp swam the 200-yard IM and the 100-yard backstroke. Steinkamp said, "Backstroke is probably my favorite because I get to breathe the whole time." Her goals were to beat her times from last year. She ended the season with her best times at Sectionals.

Senior Molly Swihart probably had the most difficult obstacle to overcome and the hardest goals to reach. She injured her elbow at the beginning of the season and was out of the pool until the end of Christmas break. Swihart said, "Mentally, it was frustrating and upsetting, but I'm just grateful I was able to come back from it. Physically, I was in a lot of pain during each race." She wanted to place in the top eight at Sectionals. After weeks of working hard to get back into shape, Swihart reached her goal.

The girls' swim team isn't all work and no fun, however. Senior Leslie Schenk joined the team for the first time this year. Schenk said, "I was motivated to swim because I missed the sport. I forgot how much fun it could be." Steinkamp added, "I loved how there was never a boring moment with the swim team."

By Adriana Funke, '12



Photo by Adriana Funke

#### Oxygen is Overrated

Above, sophomore Megan Steinkamp swims breaststroke during the 200-yard individual medley. Steinkamp consistently cut time throughout the season.

#### Sink or Swim

Right, senior Molly Swihart takes a breath while swimming the 500-yard freestyle. Swihart overcame an elbow injury to make it to the Sectional finals in both of her events.



Photo by Adriana Funke



**Got Chlorine?**

Left, sophomore Alexis Will does an open turn while swimming butterfly. Fast turns are an important part of cutting time.

Photo by Sarah Kelley

**High-Flying Sisters**

Below, sophomore Chloe Mayer and her sister, junior Cooper Mayer, execute a back one somersault, one-and-a-half twist in the free position. The divers pushed themselves this year to get higher scores.



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Adriana Funke

**Rock the Block**

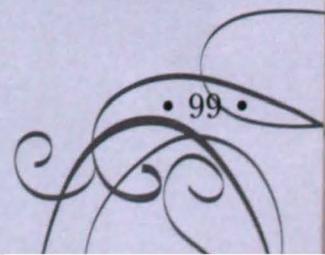
Above, as her teammates look on, senior Kayla Hammelman throws her head back at the start of the 200-yard medley relay. The swimmers worked on perfect technique throughout the year.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Swim Now, Breathe Later**

Above, senior Ashley Parkinson competes in the 100-yard butterfly. Parkinson was one of two flyers on the team this year.



**Take Your Mark...**

Right, sophomore Sam Goad takes his place on the blocks, waiting for the start of the race. Good reaction time off of the block was essential for the boys to have a strong finish.



Photo by Cydney Quinn



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Under the Sea**

Right, sophomore Grant Glaser works on his underwater streamline during warm-ups at Castle. Having good streamline was the determining factor for the boys in many of the close races.



Photo by Cydney Quinn

**Strike a Pose**

Above, junior Adam Schneider concentrates on his next move for a flawless entry into the water. The divers constantly worked on technique so they could perform perfectly when meets rolled around.



Photo by Adri Funke

# Hold your BREATH

**B**utterfly. Backstroke. Breaststroke. Freestyle. The goal of the Mater Dei boys' swim team was to master all of these strokes over the course of the season. Swimming is a sport that takes a lot of dedication and hard work, and the boys were willing to put in their time to improve and excel to their fullest potential. They exceeded expectations, and in the process "broke some records and took some names."

Most people see swimming as a sport for the "weak," but it is not. Countless hours of hard work are put in for a few minutes of glory in an actual competition. Senior Lucas Goedde said, "Swim takes a lot of practice if you want to improve and go anywhere with it." Sophomore Kyle Haas added that if you start swimming, the best thing you can do is just stick with it.

The boys' swim team went above and beyond expectations this year. They broke a few of the Mater Dei records, and pulled

out a few wins that no one saw coming. Goedde said, "My favorite swim memory this season was when we beat Pike Central, the reigning PAC champs, by one point." Haas agreed that winning that meet was also one of his favorite memories. It's those kinds of close calls that fired the boys up and pushed them to keep going even when they felt like they couldn't go anymore.

The team practiced two-and-a-half hours every day and all of the boys said that after being together for that much time every day, plus having meets, road trips and even a two-day training trip in Indianapolis thrown into the mix, the team really bonded. Every person on the team was a very important part of their support system and all of the encouragement went a long way for the boys this past season.

By Cydney Quinn, '12



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

## **Takin' a Breather**

Left, senior Lucas Goedde takes a quick breath before returning to his stroke during the swim meet at Jasper. The boys practiced every day to perfect their strokes and improve their times.

## **Float like a Butterfly...**

Above, sophomore Jered Schenk flies through the water while competing for a place at the Conference meet. Schenk was one of the primary butterfly swimmers on the boys' team.

# RUN HARD

or run home

When most people think of running, the word "fun" doesn't usually come up—unless you are a member of the Mater Dei girls' track and field team. Running is more than just a sport to these athletes; it is a way to have fun and push themselves, both individually and as a team, to achieve success.

"I decided to join track because I enjoy running and I like how it is an individual sport as well as a team sport," junior Maddy Kissel said. Freshman Paige Niemeier added that she joined track because it keeps her in condition for other sports, and she wanted to see what she could accomplish as a freshman.

Track has more to offer than just running. Many of the runners also participate in field events, which include anything from pole vault to shot put. Junior Beth Fischer, a participant in both shot put and discus, said that throwing helps make her stronger. "This was my first year on the track team, so working on my form was the hardest part," Fischer said. She added that remembering everything she learned in practice was challenging.

While practice is important, many of the girls put in extra time outside of practice to improve their skills on the track. "I go for runs by myself outside of practice to keep up my endurance," junior Samantha Memmer said. Niemeier agreed that running at home keeps her strong for her races.

After working hard in practice, the girls have a chance to show off what they have accomplished as they compete against other schools in the meets. "My favorite part about track meets is the intensity and excitement of everyone cheering you on," Niemeier said. Niemeier also said that she likes the feeling of winning and doing well in a race. Memmer added that her favorite part of the meets was hanging out with friends and meeting new people in between races.

Whether running a race or participating in field events, the members of the track team can agree that everyone can have a good time. "I like cheering my teammates on as they run," Fischer said. Kissel agreed that cheering on her teammates is one of her favorite parts about being on the track team.

By Anna Weinzapfel, '12

## A Time for Prayer

Right, juniors Sam Memmer, Emily Ubelhor, and Jenae Gries, and sophomore Kiersten Record, take time to pray before their relay. Praying before a race has been a tradition for the girls' track team for many years.



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel





Photo by Adriana Funke



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

**Flying High**

Far left, senior Denise Blankenberger clears 10'3" at the Evansville Invite. Blankenberger trained months before the season started in order to set the new school record in this event.

**Racing the Clock**

Left, while running the 3,200 meter relay, freshman Amanda Blankenberger concentrates on perfecting her stride. During relays, it was important for the girls to push themselves individually to benefit the team.



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel



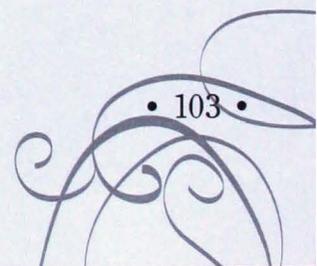
Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Staying Inside the Lines**

Above, junior Beth Fischer works on her form as she throws the discus. This was Fischer's first year throwing for the team.

**Taking Off**

Left, while working her way to the finish line, freshman Paige Niemeier sprints past her competitor. Niemeier worked hard all season to prove that she could be one of the strongest members of the team.



# Pride in each Stride

Most sports involve working as a team, and the boys' track team at Mater Dei is no different. Most events in track require individual strengths and personal talent. The only real team events are the relays. However, when it comes down to it, each athlete is nothing without his team behind him.

Many athletes choose to compete in track to stay in shape for other events. Senior Noah Lutz said that he joined to become a better runner but also to meet other people and have fun with friends. For others, track was a completely new experience. "I wanted to try something I have never done

before, and I ended up enjoying it," senior Bernie Boots said. Boots has been a member of the team for four years, and has been improving ever since. "I've always wanted to be competitive, and that's what has driven me to improve," Boots said.

Each member of the team has individual goals for their events. These goals cannot be accomplished without ambition and perseverance. Senior Tyler Schickel, who set the record as

the fastest mile runner in Evansville, had some obstacles to overcome first. "I worked through injuries three of my four years on the track team to eventually set SIAC Conference and City records in all of my events," Schickel said. Junior Jace Hartz, who also overcame injury, had lofty goals of setting the school record for high jump. "I have grown more mature in this sport. I learned to take things seriously," Hartz said.

Even with all of the individual efforts made by the athletes, support from the team is far more important. "We put in countless hours of hard work all spent together as a team. Being on the track team is like having a second family," Lutz said. For freshman Julian Weidner, his team efforts lie in the relays. "We individually work on our speed, but I feel like we have really come together to improve our relay times." Hartz said that communicating with each other improves team relations immensely. The Mater Dei boys' track athletes always encourage each other, but they also encourage other teams at meets. "Track is one of the few sports where a person will cheer for their own team as well as other teams at the same time," Lutz said.

The saying goes that you are only as strong as your weakest link. For the boys' track team, the chain is very strong, and the team always encourages each individual to practice and compete at their best every day.

By Denise Blankenberger, '12



Photo by Denise Blankenberger





Photo by Denise Blankenberger

### Swing into Action

Far left, junior Matt DeVault takes off from the ground in pole vault. DeVault spent countless hours working on his form to improve throughout the season.

### A Record-Setting Pace

Left, senior Tyler Schickel runs a fast pace against his rival from North High School at the City Meet. Schickel won and set two records in the meet: the mile and two-mile events.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

### Leap of Faith

Left, flying through the air, senior Evan Martin competes in the long jump event. Martin worked on his technique in practice every day to increase his personal best at each meet.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger



Photo by Sarah Kelley

### A Stride Ahead

Left, freshman Julian Weidner takes off from the blocks in the start of the 200-meter dash. Even as a freshman, Weidner was a vital asset to the team, running many different events.

### Taking it Higher

Above, junior Jacob Hartz strains to clear the high jump bar. Hartz and his twin brother, Jace, both competed in the high jump event as well as running other sprinting events.



# Diamonds are a girl's best friend

With the pop of the mitt, and the ping of the bat sounding, it's hard not to get caught up in the atmosphere surrounding the Lady Wildcats' softball team. The girls' favorite cheer rings out amongst the crowd, "Hits...hits...hits, hits, hits everybody!"

Many of the girls have played together throughout the years on the Mater Dei feeder team or on travel softball teams. Junior Alexa Straub said, "I have played since I was five. I started pitching at age ten, and I have loved the game ever since." Sophomore Ashlynn Spahn said she has also played since she was young and has spent countless hours practicing. She said she enjoyed getting to know everyone and learning to work together for a victory.

The Lady Wildcats had a tremendous season with only a few losses. Sophomore Carolyn Wilmes achieved the unthinkable and led the team in pitching two no-hitters. Wilmes said, "I expect the team to go far this season, but I try not to think about it too much. I take it game by game." Spahn said she hopes for a city and conference title, along with a Sectional victory in the post-season.

Many of the girls on the softball team switched between JV and varsity, and each girl helped with her own special responsibility. The team was led by the only senior, Sally Folz. Folz said, "With such a young team, we knew we would have to work extra hard to become a strong team and beat those with experience."

Backed by many fans and those who simply have a love for the game, the Wildcats pushed through their season with strong victories, numerous accomplishments, and inseparable bonds.

By Olivia DeWeese, '13

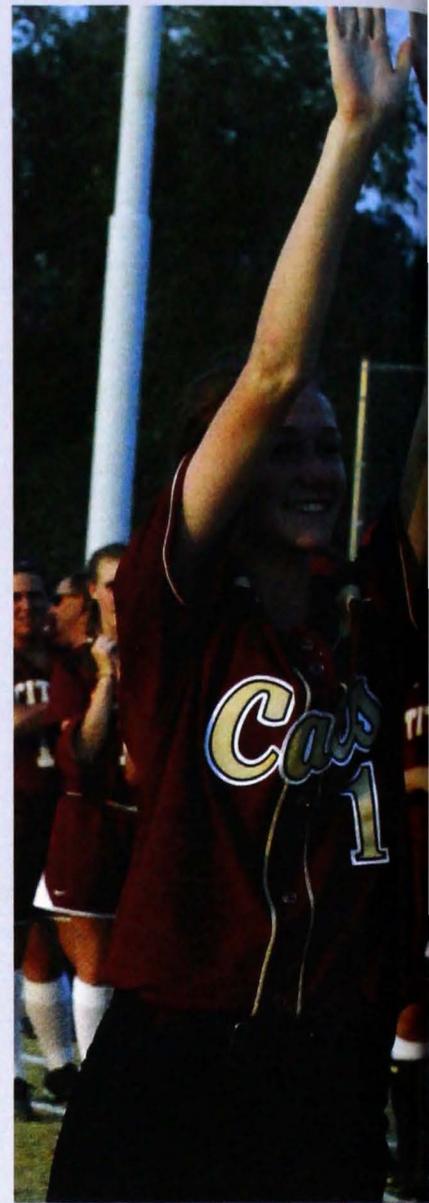


Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**Keeping the Faith Alive**  
Above, the varsity softball team holds hands as they pray before their game. The softball team prayed the "Hail Mary" and participated in a pump-up cheer before every game.

**Face of Concentration**  
Right, senior Sally Folz winds up before releasing the ball to her defender. Folz was a four-year varsity member of the Mater Dei softball team and was the only senior player this season.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### Ready to Rumble

Left, freshman Meredith Daunhauer waits for sophomore Ashlynn Spahn to high-five her before their game. The girls enjoyed hearing the starting line-up announced before listening to the National Anthem.

### Down 'n Dirty

Below, sophomore Madi Maurer focuses on a ground ball reaching her glove. Maurer was a versatile player as a second baseman, outfielder, and first baseman.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese



Photo by Sarah Kelley

### Outfield Snag

Above, sophomore Carolyn Wilmes winds up to release her fastball to an opponent. Wilmes ended the season with two no-hitters, a rare accomplishment for a varsity softball pitcher.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### Quick Release

Above, sophomore Ashlynn Spahn comes up with a grounder and prepares to throw the runner out. Spahn was the varsity team's shortstop and was known for her speed and quick plays.

### Safe Sliding

Right, sophomore Jacob Fleming slides into first base to keep from being tagged out. The baseball team regularly practiced sliding techniques so they could be prepared for the games.

### Huddle Up!

Below, members of the varsity baseball team have a group huddle on the pitcher's mound to talk strategy. Every member of the team was depended upon to pull their own weight and play well with their teammates.

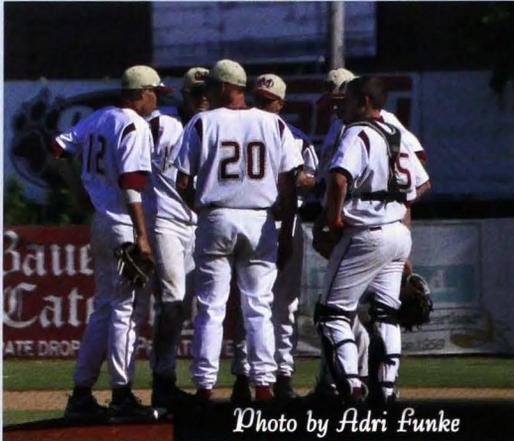


Photo by Adri Funke

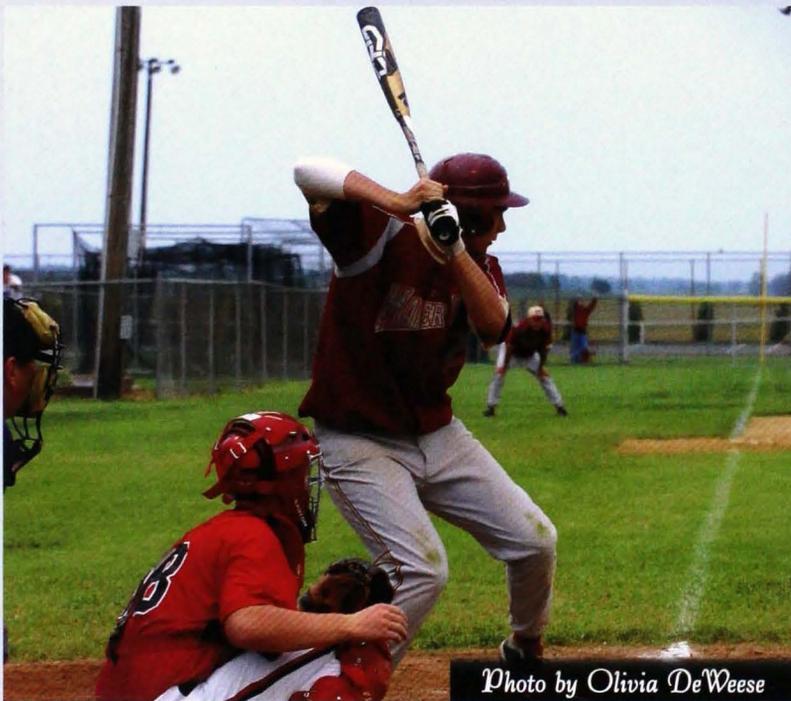
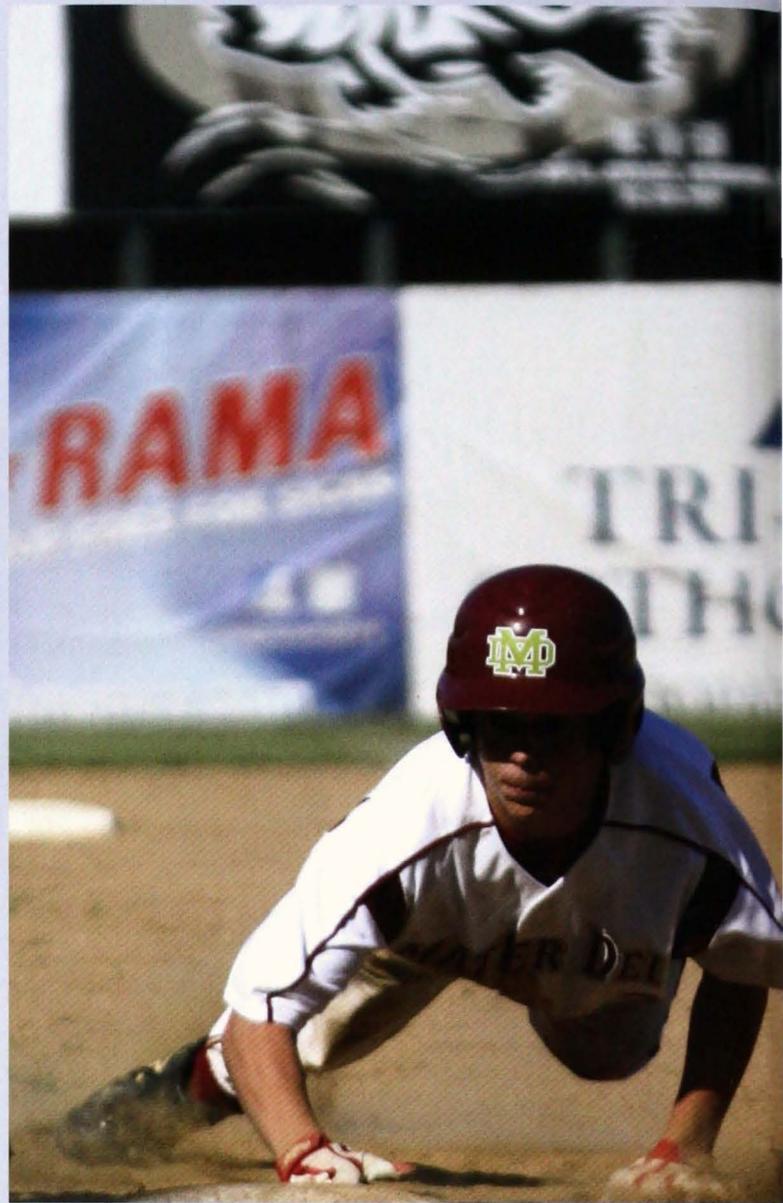


Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### Hey Batter, Batter

Above, junior Chase Bittner prepares to bat at the game against North Posey. Having good batting posture and keeping an eye on the ball is a must when it comes to having a solid hit.

### Strike One

Right, junior Brett Masterson snags a strike as it flies past a Harrison player. The catchers had to make sure they were always on their toes when behind home plate.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

# Curve Ball



Photo by Sarah Kelley

Baseball is a game that requires complete cooperation between players and this year's team possessed that quality. Senior Andrew Emmert said, "You know that everyone has your back at all times." Senior Zack Fulton said, "One word that describes the team atmosphere is 'ecstatic!'"

Many of the team members have been playing baseball for most of their lives. Senior Brandon Wright said, "I've been playing baseball since I was seven, so I've learned how to get along with my teammates so we can reach our goals." Fulton and Emmert, along with fellow senior Austin Knapp, said they have been playing since tee-ball at the age of four.

Every team has "off" games, but a little motivation can go a long way. The team had expectations to make it farther than they did last year. Knapp said, "My expectations weren't to start out 3-9, but we finally started to play a lot more like a team." Emmert added that although the Mater Dei baseball team always has a tough Sectional, the team is so full of talent that there is always a chance to make it far.

Each and every player worked hard to achieve their own personal goals on and off of the field. Some goals were lofty and time-consuming, and some could be met with just a little concentration. Knapp said, "Every time I got to start, I tried to pitch well so that we could win. I also worked to improve on how I pitched last year, and be a good team leader as a senior." Throwing a perfect game was on the top of the list of personal goals Fulton gave himself.

Although things started off a little rocky in the beginning, the team pulled themselves together and worked cooperatively to end the season on a positive note.

By Cydney Quinn, '12



Photo by Sarah Kelley

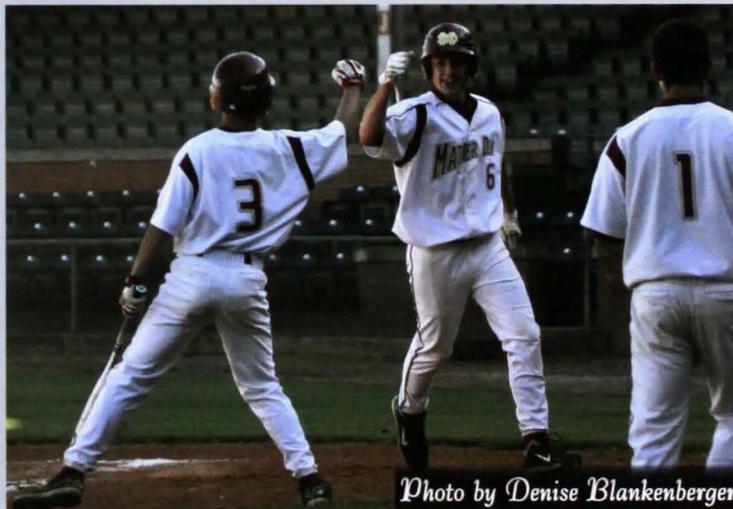


Photo by Denise Blankenberger

## Pound It

Above, sophomore Jacob Fleming and junior Joe Ritter celebrate a home run with a fist pound. Every home run was a major accomplishment and an exciting moment for the baseball team.

## Here's the Wind-Up

Left, senior Zack Fulton gets ready to send a pitch flying toward the strike zone. The baseball team was full of talented pitchers.

**Play with your Heart**  
 Right, senior Claire Alvey returns the ball to her opponent. At number one singles, Alvey went up against the best player from each team.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Hustle, Hit, Never Quit**  
 Right, senior Kayla Hammelman focuses on returning the ball to her opponent. The team worked to be prepared to run up for short hits that fell just over the net.



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Adriana Funke

**Tennis, Anyone?**  
 Above, freshmen Dana Hunt, Amanda Herrmann, and Megan Pritchett watch their teammates play. All of the girls on the team supported each other during their matches.

**Serve it, Smash it, Win it, Love It**  
 Right, senior Jamie Logel makes an overhead smash hit. Having a powerful arm was a great asset during difficult matches.

# QUEENS

## of the court

Many people tend to overlook tennis or don't think it is a tough sport. But the Mater Dei girls' tennis team isn't afraid to put in the hard work and dedication it takes to be great tennis players. The girls practiced every day at the Burdette Park courts in order to hone their skills. Practice started with warm-ups and then moved on to drills specific to the singles and doubles players.

For several of the girls, the best part of practice came toward the end. When practice was almost over, the team would get together to play a game. Senior Claire Alvey said, "The games are the best part because everyone gets really competitive." The games were a great way for the team to let go of stress and got them prepared for unusual situations they might have encountered in a match. Senior Jamie Logel said, "Competitive volley games like 'volley wars' were my favorite to play."

The team also had fun while supporting each other during matches. Sophomore Bailey Schnur said, "I love getting to spend time with my friends, whether I'm on the court playing with them or off the court cheering my teammates on." All the support and encouragement helped pull the girls through tough matches. Schnur said, "My first match with my partner Kelsey Wargel was against Princeton and we won 6-0." However, the tennis team knows that winning isn't everything. Alvey said, "I lost in the second round of SIAC, but I played the best match I've ever played." Her team was there to help pick her back up after a tough loss.

Logel worked hard this season to be one of the seven varsity players, along with her doubles partner, sophomore Megan Steinkamp. Logel said, "Being on varsity has been an amazing experience. It's taught me to never give up. I feel really close with my team and feel like I'm really a part of something."



Photo by Sarah Kelley

By Adriana Funke, '12



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Adriana Funke

### Refuse to Lose

Above, juniors Jenna Smith and Victoria Richmond talk with their coach during a match. The breaks between sets allowed the players to rest and discuss strategy.

### Believe and Achieve

Above, senior Emily Naas stretches to reach the ball. Naas and her teammates put in hours of work each day to be the best they could be.

**Reckless Driver**

Right, junior Drew Winiger swings to drive the ball toward the green in the first hole of the match against Evansville Day School. The small size of the team allowed underclassmen to fill varsity positions.

**Putting Around**

Below right, junior Alex Schoettlin takes a practice putt before a match. The golf team put in many hours practicing at Helfrich Hills Golf Course after school every day.

**Teed Off**

Below, senior Kyle Seitz drives the ball off the tee. Seitz said that controlling his emotions during golf matches helped him play better.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese



Photo by Denise Blankenberger



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

One, two, three. . .

# FOR E

**And Away it Goes**  
Senior junior Bryan Wolf  
watches his first drive of the  
season soar over the course. Wolf  
began playing golf this year  
and was moved up to varsity.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

Many people golf as a pastime, but everyone has their own unique reasons for why they choose to play the sport of golf. For many new golf team members, it is a hobby they recently picked up but discovered that they enjoy. For returning players, golf is a passion.

Senior Kyle Seitz, the team captain, has been a member of the golf team for four years and has been very successful. As a junior, he placed third in Sectionals and sixth in Regionals. This year, he had even higher goals. "I hope to make it to State this year. To do that, I have to place in the top three at Regionals," Seitz said. No Mater Dei golfer has ever made it to State before.

The team is relatively small, so it gives underclassmen a chance to play as varsity members often. For example, junior Alex Schoettlin, who played on the reserve team as a sophomore, was moved up to varsity this year. "We have been growing as a team. Because there are so few of us, we are all very close," Schoettlin said. Junior Bryan Wolf was also moved to the varsity roster, and he just began playing golf at the beginning of the season. "I originally joined because I had friends on the team. I'm really glad I joined because I enjoy golfing," Wolf said.

Golf is a sport based purely on skill, and it takes a lot of time to hone those skills. "The golf team practices every day after school at Helfrich, and we take time to learn the course," junior Drew Winiger said. In addition to skills, golf takes a lot of mental concentration. "I have to work on dealing with pressure during matches and not getting angry when I'm golfing," Seitz said.

No matter what, there is no way to improve in the sport of golf without putting in the hours. Seitz said, "It is important to spend time working on your skills. It takes time to improve and play well." Whether a first-time player or a four-year veteran, anyone can learn how to play golf as long as they take time to work on it.

By Denise Blankenberger, '12



Photo by Olivia DeWeese



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

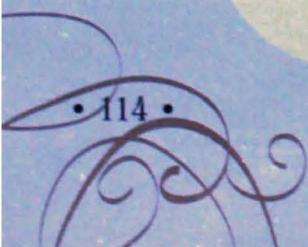
**Playin' in the Sand**  
Left, senior Paul Elpers hits the ball out of the sand pit. Elpers used his past experience as a golfer to improve his technique throughout the season.

**Craig's Eye View**  
Above, junior Craig Wilmes looks for a straight shot to sink his putt. Golf is a very technical sport, and it requires the golfer to find perfect angles in order to make par.



# CHAPTER 4

## *Clubs*





*"Clubs really got me involved with people I've never met before and, unlike sports and academics, they encourage you to interact with peers in a way you've never experienced before."*

*-Senior Adam Blankenberger*

# Succeed by Speaking

Talking in front of a classroom is one of the biggest fears that high school students face. The thought of stuttering their words or even forgetting what to say just makes many people uneasy. On the other hand, the speech team finds all of this to be a piece of cake. Besides being able to deliver a speech to a group of people, they are able to creatively add hand gestures and put emotion into their speeches so that the audience can understand what the message of the speech is.

Speech is a club that is very different from other activities. Junior Kate Whitaker said, "Speech is very time-consuming and frustrating at times, but it is fun and I love hanging out with the people." Because of how much time is put into speech, the team gained many skills that will be useful to them later in life. Senior Mary Raben said, "I have learned to talk with more enthusiasm and I don't mumble as much as I used to. Also, I'm not afraid to talk in front of crowds."

The speech team sent thirty-four students to Sectionals and received fourth place, which advanced them to the State competition. They placed fourth there, as well. After the close of the season, the team realized they will miss speech very much. "I am going to miss the coaches and all of the friends that I've made," senior Max Niemeier said. Since the season began early in the year, the students became very close. "I think it's really cool how the entire team came together. We became close like a family," Raben said. After scoring very high in both Sectionals and State, the team had a very successful season.

No matter how intimidating the crowd may be, the speech team has no fear. After the countless hours of practices and competing at the State level, they have conquered the biggest fear of high school students: talking in front of people.

By Alexa Bueltel, '12

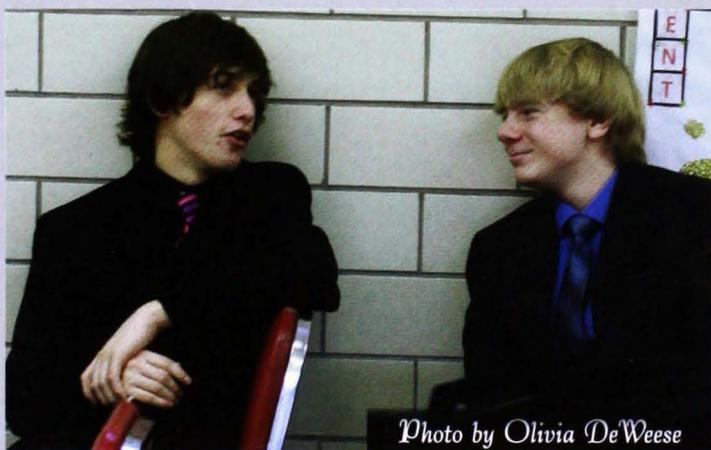


Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### Taking a Break

Above, in between rounds, junior Aaron Costlow and freshman Isaac Memmer take a break from the previous round. A speech meet consists of four rounds.

### Pause for a Moment

Right, senior Max Niemeier performs his speech at the Mater Dei meet. Niemeier competed in poetry, memorized duo, and humorous interpretation.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**Making Faces**

Left, sophomore Tamarea Kramer shows emotion as she practices her speech. The team put in hours of practice to place fourth at State.

**Perfecting the Speech**

Below, senior Chris Ambrose gives his speech in the broadcasting category. Speech is divided into fourteen categories.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

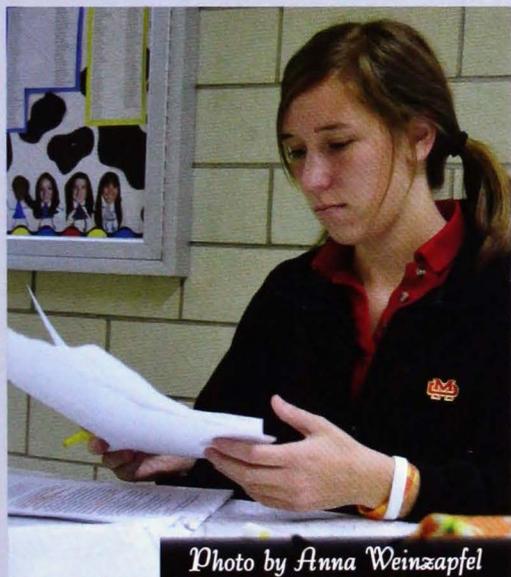


Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

**Scorekeeper**

Above, at a grade school speech meet, junior Mallorie Will tallies up the scores of the participants. The speech team helped out at all of the grade school meets that were held at Mater Dei.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Showing some Sass**

Above, senior Mary Raben shows her sassy side during her poetry performance. Adding gestures to a speech gives it emotion so that the audience can better relate to it.

### Serve that Soup

Right, sophomore Ryan Haas serves soup at the annual Souper Supper. Once again, the Student Council partnered up with Memorial's Student Council to raise money for Riley Children's Hospital.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Sarah Kelley

### Chowing Down

Right, while enjoying a slice of pizza, senior Lucas Goedde smiles at the camera at the annual Luau. The Student Council organized many social gatherings to allow the student body to grow closer together.



Photo by Cydney Quinn

### Swearing In

Above, senior clerk Abbey Schmitt swears in senior judge Ariel Happe. All of the members were sworn in at the Inauguration Ceremony.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

*There's no Place like Mater Dei*  
 Below, in a Student Council skit,  
 junior Peyton Rexing gets "oiled"  
 by Dorothy, played by senior  
 Lucas Goedde. The purpose of  
 this assembly was to teach students  
 the different parts of Mater Dei's  
 mission statement in a creative way.



*Photo by Alexa Bueltel*

# Elected to LEAD

Once upon a time, sixty-three years ago, the city of Mater Dei was formed out of the valley of truth. And from this great city arose a student-run power to govern this grand citadel...and it became known as Student Council.

Each year, the citizens of Mater Dei-ville elect a mayor, clerk, and judge to govern the city with justice. This year, the student body elected seniors Cody Adler as mayor, Abbey Schmitt as clerk, and Ariel Happe as judge. "I ran for mayor because Student Council was a big part of my life last year and I wanted to take my Student Council experience to a whole new level," Adler said. Schmitt added that she believed she could do more for the school by running for clerk.

Along with these three auspicious positions, each homeroom elects one person to be their homeroom representative. If a student does not get elected as homeroom representative, he or she can petition the Council to be added as a work-on member. Sophomore Michael Elpers, a work-on member, said he wanted to be involved in what made Mater Dei great.

The Student Council will continue to be a guiding force in the city of Mater Dei-ville. Whether they are meeting on Friday morning or forming new rules in Room 209, the Student Council of Mater Dei will be around for years to come.

*By Sarah Kelley, '12*



*Photo by Alexa Bueltel*

### **Party Preparations**

Left, juniors Craig Wilmes and Joe Hayden carry a table to the back gym in preparation for the basketball homecoming dance. Student Council members were required to help set up for all Student Council-sponsored events.

### **A Rave-ing Good Time**

Above, before the homecoming dance sponsored by the Student Council, senior Eric TenBarge is splatter-painted by senior Mackenzie Will and freshman Amanda Blankenberger. The Rave was one of the most successful fundraisers the Student Council held.

### **You're my Cupcake**

Right, while dipping batter into a pan, seniors Kristy Martin and Abby Eger make cupcakes for the Rescue Mission. Service Club members always enjoyed helping the less fortunate.

### **Fun Fundraising**

Below, senior Katlyn Zirkelbach sells senior Rachel Eickhoff a shamrock for the Muscular Dystrophy Association. This is one of the numerous fundraisers the Service Club did for the community.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### **Family Tunes**

Above, while participating in the Buddy Walk for Down Syndrome held in the fall, sophomore Joe Wildeman and his cousin, freshman Megan Wildeman, sing karaoke. Many Mater Dei students took part in the walk to show their support for Joe Wildeman.

### **Someone's in the Kitchen**

Right, juniors Victoria Richmond and Hadley Bauer scoop food onto trays at a soup kitchen. The Service Club traveled to many different places around the community to show their support.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

# Service with a Smile



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

Enter to learn, go forth to serve is the well-known slogan of Mater Dei High School and is exactly what the Service Club does. Service Club members spend countless hours away from school helping the community become a better place.

"Service Club is a way to bring people together to help the community in a positive manner," said junior Katherine Bender, who joined the club because she wanted to give back to her community. This is the main reason why students are compelled to join Service Club. Freshman Megan Pritchett added that it is a fun way to stay involved. Pritchett's favorite part of the club is being able to interact with her friends while still making a difference.

This year, two senior girls, Kendal Weaver and Katlyn Zirkelbach, took on the responsibility of being the leaders of the club. "Although it's hard work, I find it very rewarding. It's easy to get distracted with friends and schoolwork, but being this involved with Service Club helps me to take the focus off myself and put it on people who really need it," Weaver said. Zirkelbach added that she loves the sense of good will she feels by helping others.

One unique aspect of Service Club is that members can choose what events they want to work at. Freshmen and seniors alike can work together and grow closer while helping the community.

Whether it be volunteering at soup kitchens or helping at the Buddy Walk, the Service Club always goes forth to serve.

By Sarah Kelley, '12



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

## Going Forth to Serve

Above, with a smiling face, senior Kendal Weaver serves during the St. Nick Breakfast at the St. Vincent de Paul Daycare. Weaver enjoyed sacrificing her time for the good of the community.

## Getting Down for Downs

Left, senior Danielle Norman draws with chalk to prepare for the Buddy Walk. These friendly drawings led the marchers throughout the park.

**A Golden Ticket**

Right, junior Jackie Reising, freshman Eva Traylor, and senior Joey Wilson fawn over the discovery of the golden ticket by junior Aaron Costlow. The cast and crew put in countless hours to make the *Willy Wonka* production a success.

**Say it... Vampire**

Below, after becoming a vampire, freshman Jessica Weinzapsel, who played Lucy, attempts to seduce Jack Seward, played by freshman Justin Lyons. Although new to theatre, both freshmen stepped up to the challenge and showed they had the right stuff.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

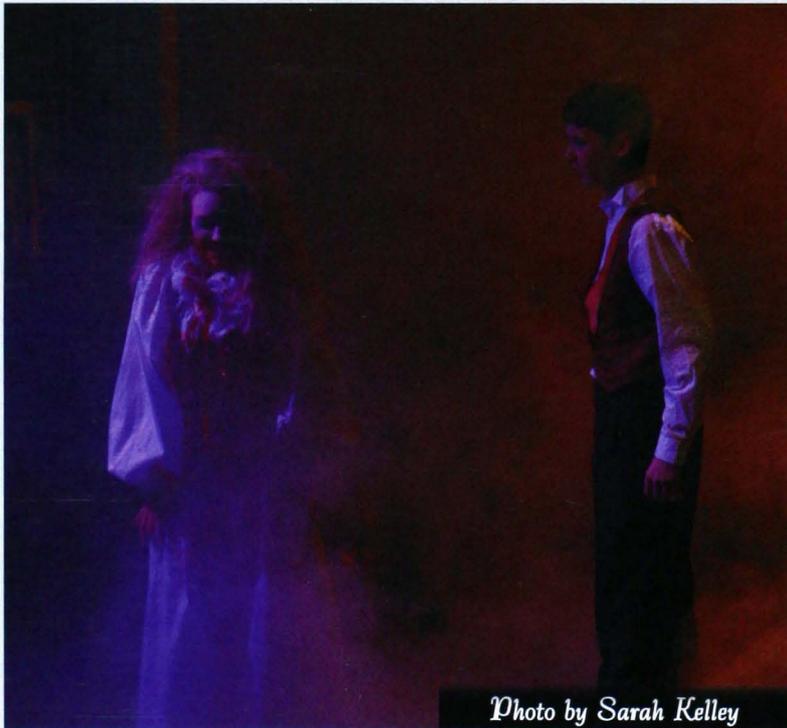


Photo by Sarah Kelley

**An Apple a Day**

Above right, junior Mitch Meeks prepares to put a sticker on an apple during the one-act play "The Apple." This was the first time a one-act festival has been held at Mater Dei.

**A Sweet Ride**

Right, the Wonka-vator touches the ground as the musical comes to a close. The musical was double cast this year, which allowed more students to have principal roles in the production.

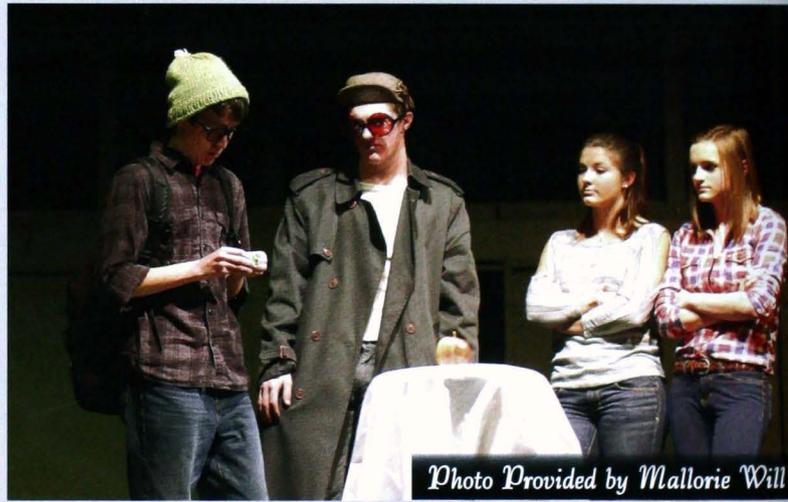


Photo Provided by Mallorie Will

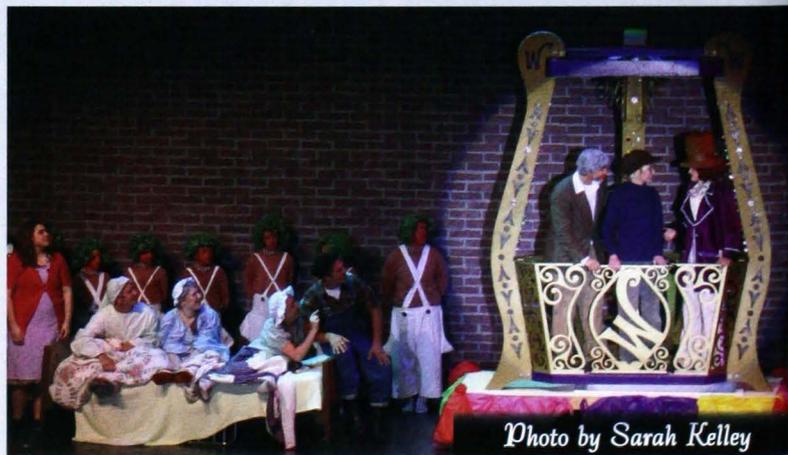


Photo by Sarah Kelley

# An eye for Innovation

## Pure Imagination

Above, junior Matt Becker sings during the opening number of *Willy Wonka*. This was the third year Becker has been a part of the theatre productions.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

One thing the Theatre Department is good at is being dramatic and making sure that they are seen. This year, director Mrs. Roberson made sure this stayed true by adding many technological advancements as well as new elements to the performances.

Mrs. Roberson had much to live up to after directing the popular musical *Footloose* last year. However, by choosing *Dracula* for the fall play and *Willy Wonka* as the spring musical, she knew she could make this happen. "For *Dracula*, we did all of our flashback scenes on videotape, and for *Willy Wonka*, we flew people and we brought in a professional designer," she said. Freshman Jessica Weinzapfel, who had a leading role in both shows, said, "The new advancements that were involved in the shows are a perfect example of how the Theatre Department has grown."

Another element that the Drama Department incorporated this year was the addition of a one-act festival. This provided a way for people who aren't normally a part of the shows to have their time in the spotlight. Four one-act shows were presented in this festival; three were student-directed, while the last was guest directed by Mr. McMullen. On the night of the festival, the audience had the chance to vote for their favorite one act. The winning show was "The Apple," which featured a cast of sixteen students. "We had a huge audience of students that came out to see the one acts, and we didn't make a lot of money but that's not the point. It connected people to the theatre who usually aren't connected. It also gave students a chance to be on the directing side of things," Mrs. Roberson said.

Whether it's flying in the fizzy lifting room or falling through the trap door, all of the advancements made this year will pave the way for wonderful shows in the future.

By Sarah Kelley, '12



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Sarah Kelley

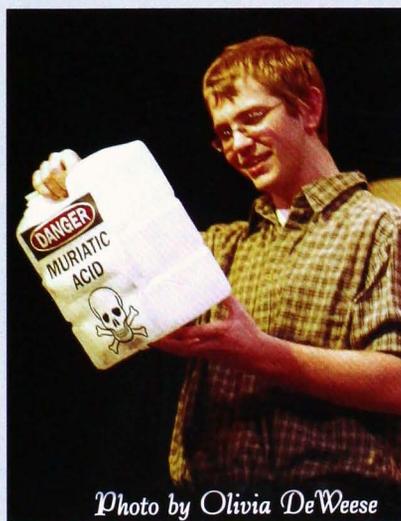


Photo by Olivia DeWeese

## Fang-tastic

Above, *Dracula*, played by junior Matt Becker, sinks his teeth into Mina, who was played by senior Jessie Kelley. The actors spent countless hours becoming one with their parts.

## Madman

Far left, during the opening scene of *Dracula*, senior Wes VanMeter has his shirt stripped away as he is dragged to an insane asylum.

## Murder on the Mind

Left, senior Ben Barchet examines a container of acid during the one act "Where's Doobie?" The one-act festival allowed more students to become involved in theatrical productions.

**And the Grand Total is...**

Right, the executive committee holds up the grand total of money raised at the end of the Dance Marathon. The committee raised \$23,610.08, which was \$3,000 more than the previous year.

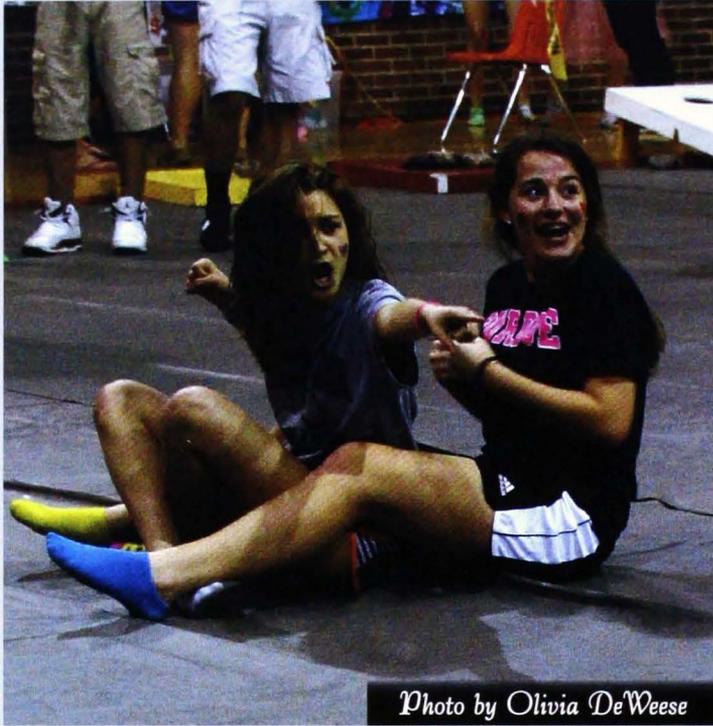


Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**You're Out!**

Right, during a game put on by the Heartbreakers, freshmen Taylor Laymon and Megan Reker call another team out. The Heartbreakers organized a variety of games to make the night entertaining.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**We all Scream for Ice Cream**

Above, senior Erin Wildeman pours chocolate syrup onto ice cream on "Topping Tuesday." Every Tuesday during the second semester was designated as "Topping Tuesday" to help raise money for the Dance Marathon.

**Musical Mania**

Right, sophomores Chloe Mayer and Kiersten Record, and senior Kyle Tison compete in a game of musical chairs. The game of musical chairs was one of the students' favorites at the Dance Marathon.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

# It's all for the KIDS

Eleven months of preparation went into this year's Mater Dei Dance Marathon for Riley Children's Hospital. From car washes to "Topping Tuesdays," the committee put in countless hours of hard work to ensure that everything was accomplished before the night of the Dance Marathon.

This was the second consecutive year for the Dance Marathon, and an executive committee was created to make sure everything was taken care of before the big event. The members of the executive committee were seniors Alexa Bueltel, Sally Folz, Kayla Hammelman, and Erin Wildeman, and juniors Olivia DeWeese and Sarah Kercher. "I wanted to be a part of the executive committee because I wanted to make sure the Dance Marathon was carried on and make sure it was everything it should be," Hammelman said. From being on the executive committee, the students developed skills that would be useful to them later in life. "Working on the executive committee gave me the chance to work on something bigger than myself and to make a difference in the lives of those who don't have the same opportunities as me," Kercher said.

On the night of the Dance Marathon, the gym was filled with dancing, inflatables, games, and members of the Riley families. Junior Lauren Risley's cousin, Ozzy Keyher, was a patient at Riley Hospital and his family was invited to share their story that evening. Risley said, "I got to see firsthand what it was like to have a family member depend on Riley for their life and the Dance Marathon is a great benefit to all of the kids at Riley."

The Dance Marathon committee raised a total amount of \$23,610.08 for the patients at Riley Children's Hospital. When the committee members announced the total, the feeling was indescribable and the room was filled with positive energy that left everyone smiling and knowing that they did it all for the kids.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

By Alexa Bueltel, '12



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Cydney Quinn

### Dance to the Music

Above, at a Zumba fundraiser, seniors Isaac Tekoppel and Eric TenBarge break a sweat during the workout. It was the first year for the Zumba fundraiser and the committee raised \$600.

### Squeaky Clean

Above, during summer vacation, junior Olivia DeWeese washes a car at the first Mater Dei Dance Marathon Car Wash. The committee raised around \$700 at this event.

# Keep on Rolling

After applying equation after equation, welding, testing, and driving way too far on a tiny tank of fuel, Mater Dei's supermileage team continued to improve this year with handsome new cars and a quest for excellence. Junior Joe Ritter said, "We put in many hours building and putting the final details on all of our cars so they would be ready for competition." Ritter joined the team, following in his older brother's footsteps and joining his father, who was a supervisor for the team. Ritter was also captain of the newly-constructed gasoline prototype car. Along with the gasoline

internal combustion car, the team also took the ethanol

internal combustion car, the urban concept car, and the battery electric car to the Shell Eco-Marathon in Houston, Texas.

The members of the team traveled to Houston after building special vehicles to achieve the highest possible fuel efficiency. In September, Mater Dei's supermileage team began working on their four carefully-designed cars. This year, the team gained three new additions; juniors Emily McAtee, Erin Schweizer, and Victoria Richmond joined as the only female members of the supermileage team at Mater Dei.

Many of the members believe participating in supermileage is a fun way to put into practice the math and science they learn during school. Junior Joe Hayden said he joined because he thought it was a unique and interesting experience that he could learn from. Hayden was the assistant captain of the prototype gasoline internal combustion car and was responsible for driving the ethanol internal combustion car.

Out of 1,000 students and over 113 vehicles in the competition, the Wildcats took first place in all four divisions they entered. After the months of hard work, Hayden said the clean sweep at the Shell Eco-Marathon was a great accomplishment. The team achieved a best run of 2,188.6 miles per gallon in the prototype class, a best run in the gasoline category, a best run in the urban concept class, and a run of 611 miles per gallon in the gasoline category. They also achieved the highest mileage in prototype, battery electric, and prototype, alternative gasoline.

By Olivia DeWeese, '13



Photo provided by Emily McAtee





Photo provided by Emily McAtee

### Ready to Rumble

Far left, junior Joe Hayden climbs into his car, preparing to show off Mater Dei's entry in the race. Hayden was the assistant captain of the new gasoline internal combustion car.

### Getting Their Hands Dirty

Left, sophomores Grant Wilmes and Jared Schapker work together to perfect their car before competition time. The team worked throughout the winter and spring to tweak everything so that it would work just right.



Photo provided by Ethan Vibbert

### Strapped in for Safety

Left, junior Emily McAtee prepares for a trial run by strapping herself into the car. The team took safety seriously with full body suits and helmets.



Photo provided by Emily McAtee



Photo by Cydney Quinn

### Speed Racer

Left, the supermileage team members not participating in the race line the track to support their teammates. The supermileage team bonded as a group, especially after spending a week camping together during competition.

### Bringing Home the Bacon

Above, the entire supermileage team poses for a photograph with their awards and one of their model cars. The team was honored at a pep assembly that recognized their hard work and accomplishments.

**Flashy Moves**

Right, members of the Pep Club teach the student body how to dance the flash mob. The flash mob was a great way to bring the school together at sporting events.

**Super Spirit**

Below, seniors Kristine Rollett and Rose Meredith Oliver show how to have Wildcat pride through their outfits. Rollett and Oliver helped lead the Superfans.



*Photo by Anna Weinzapfel*



*Photo by Alexa Bueltel*

**Dig In!**

Above, sophomores Shelby Dewig and Hayden Knapp participate in a homecoming game. The Pep Club tried to think of the messiest game for the court to play during the assembly.

**Pep in their Steps**

Right, seniors Claire Alvey and Wes VanMeter run down the basketball court during the football homecoming pep assembly. The Pep Club always came up with interesting challenges for the couples to do at homecoming assemblies.



*Photo by Alexa Bueltel*



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

# Are You Ready Kids?

This year, the Mater Dei student section came alive like never before. The Pep Club played a major role in boosting school spirit. They made posters, came up with clever pep assemblies, and created one of the most visible signs of Wildcat pride: the flash mob.

Seniors Whitney Blankenberger and Kristy Martin were in charge of pep assemblies this year. Blankenberger said, "We really tried to get the crowd involved in everything." Martin added that the other members of Pep Club were an important part of assemblies. They rehearsed skits and the Superfans helped lead chants. To come up with ideas for the assemblies, Blankenberger and Martin brainstormed with Ms. Mesker and Mrs. Wannemuehler, the Pep Club advisors. Martin and Blankenberger spent one to two hours planning each assembly and putting together any props they needed.

Besides the improved assemblies, Pep Club's most notable achievement was the flash mob. Even if some students were hesitant, it soon became a favorite part of home football games. Junior Erica Whorl said, "The seniors presented the idea of the flash mob to the rest of us. I think it turned out pretty awesome." Martin said, "The flash mob was a huge success and got not only the high school students involved, but the feeder schools as well."

The Pep Club worked hard to improve school spirit and make the assemblies more fun for everyone this year. Blankenberger said, "We made people realize it's fun to get involved and have school spirit."

By Adriana Funke, '12



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

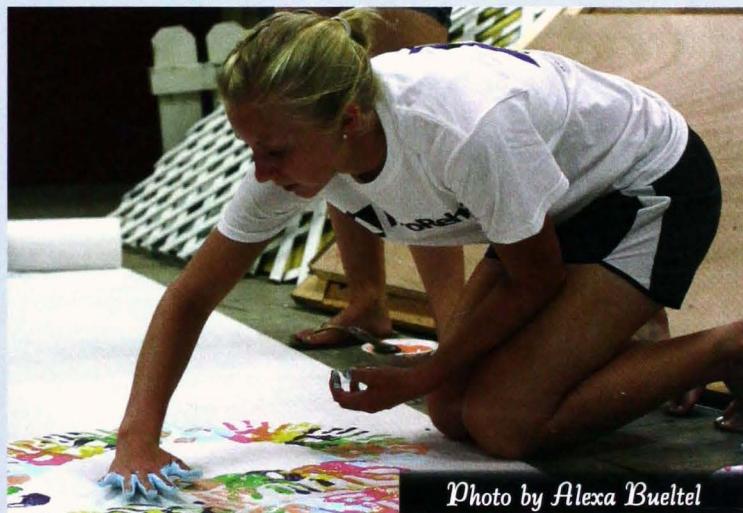


Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### "Handy" Work

Above, junior Samantha Memmer helps make a sign for her class. Dedicated members of the Pep Club made posters and signs to hang in the hallways.

### Teach Me How to Dougie

Left, senior Sam Goebel "dougies" at a pep assembly. Superfans led by example to show students how to have exceptional school spirit.

### Gathering Together

Right, members of the Liturgical Ensemble gather around to sing during homeroom. The members of the ensemble were students who wanted to dedicate extra time to singing.



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Sarah Kelley

### Taking the Stage

Right, choir members perform for their classmates and parents during the annual Stage Show. This year, the groups performed a mix of Maroon 5 songs.

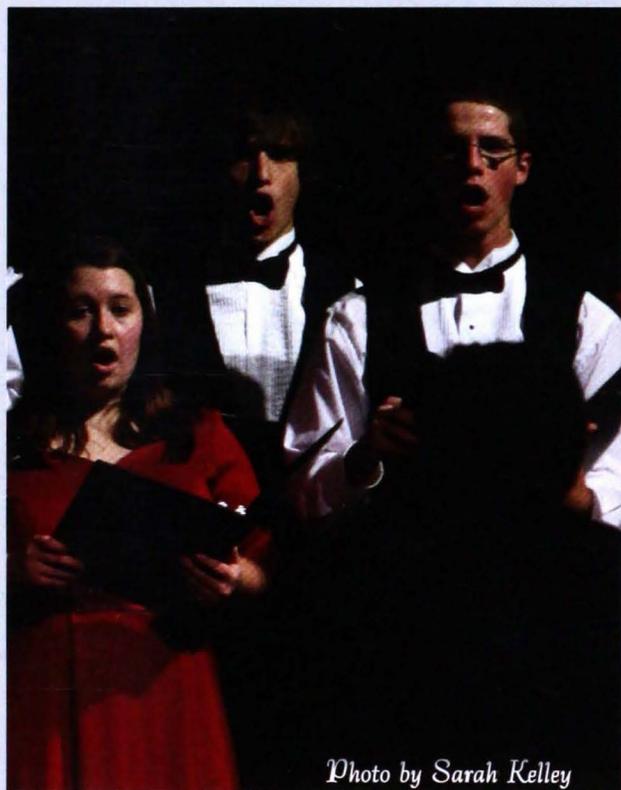


Photo by Sarah Kelley

### Sing Me a Song

Above, senior Olivia Williams, junior Aaron Costlow, and freshman Ben Sellers show off their voices at a competition at Castle High School. The choir practiced diligently to perfect their singing so that they could show others how much they had improved throughout the year.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

In perfect

# HARMONY

There is nothing quite as amazing as the sound of a choir singing in perfect harmony. Members of the Mater Dei Choir and Liturgical Ensemble practiced diligently throughout the year to perform to the best of their abilities.

This year, however, something new happened to the choir. It was split into two separate choirs: a standard choir and a select choir.

Choir director Mr. Smith had his reasons for splitting the choir. "After last year with the extraordinarily large choir, I wanted to try to have a two-level choir here at Mater Dei. The purpose was to have a beginning choir for all the new students and an advanced choir for the more seasoned singers. The problem with this plan was scheduling conflicts. Not all of the best singers were in the select choir because the class time did not fit in their schedules," Mr. Smith said.

He added that the select choir was meant to be the performing choir for masses and other events such as the Straight No Chaser concert because they would be older and more experienced.

Senior Olivia Williams, who was in choir for two years, enjoyed being in the select choir for many reasons. Williams said, "There are fewer people in the class, so we each can get individual help easier and the people in it have a tight-knit bond. We also have to try a little harder since there aren't as many people to cover up your mistakes." Junior Emily Sellers agreed with Williams and added that she likes having more chances to perform.

That is another reason Mr. Smith felt compelled to split the choir. "It allows me to work on harder music with the regular choir. They don't have to constantly practice for masses and other events because that is strictly what the select choir can work on. In the end, it allows us to be a better choir because we can spend more time where we need it and less where we don't," Mr. Smith said.

Whether it's performing in class or at a competition, the Mater Dei choirs and the Liturgical Ensemble will continue to sing in perfect harmony.

By Sarah Kelley, '12



Photo by Sarah Kelley

## Jolly Good Voices

Left, juniors Aaron Costlow and Nathan Wright sing to a group of fellow classmates while Christmas caroling around Mater Dei. This was a way for the select choir to get the student body involved while spreading holiday cheer.

## Sing, Sing, Sing

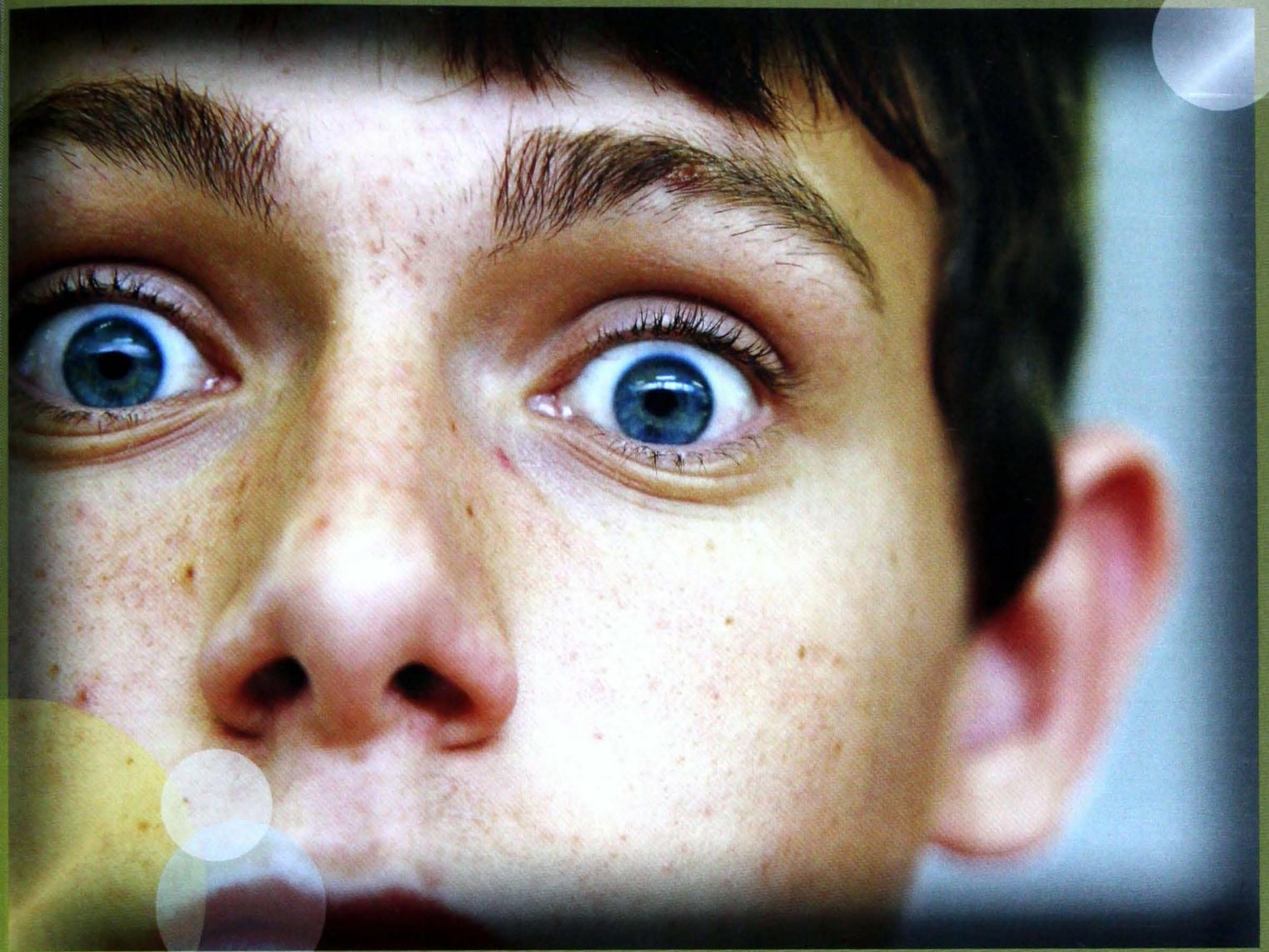
Above, Mr. Smith directs his class of choir students while they practice singing for an upcoming event. The choir class was a very diverse group, but they came together as one voice when they sang.



# CHAPTER 5

## *Student Life*





*"Mater Dei is one big family that knows how to work together to do our best and achieve great things."*

*-Junior Chase Bittner*

**Picture Perfect**

Right, the members of the basketball homecoming court stop to take a picture after the crowning. This year's queen and king were seniors Amy Deig and Joey Wilson.

**Crowned Royalty**

Below, seniors Daniel Mann and Ariel Happe smile for a picture after being crowned Snowflake Queen and King. This was the first year that this honor was given at the Christmas Dance.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Wobble Baby**

Above, at the basketball homecoming dance, students dance to the "Wobble." The students had fun dancing to synchronized songs that everyone could join in.

**The Shining Moment**

Right, seniors Wes VanMeter and Ashley Parkinson are crowned football homecoming king and queen. This was a special occasion for Parkinson because both of her older sisters were crowned homecoming queen as well.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

# Just Dance

Flashing lights, blaring music, and sounds of students dancing the night away fill the air as the homecoming festivities begin. These dances allow students to have fun with friends while making lasting memories with their fellow classmates.

But before any of that can happen, there must first be a crowning of the royal queen and king. "I was excited and surprised at the same time," senior Amy Deig said. Deig was crowned the basketball homecoming queen with senior Joey Wilson as her king. "I was happy that my class chose me and Amy. It was a memorable experience to be on the court with my girlfriend," Wilson said. Deig added that it was exciting to get to walk with her boyfriend and that she was glad they both won.

After hugs are given and pictures are taken, it is time for the students to let loose and show their moves on the dance floor. "My favorite part of homecoming dances is dancing and being with all of my friends and just having a good time," senior ThuThienSuong Trinh said. Sophomore Kirstyn Wargel said that she likes the dances because they help her get to know people better.

Whether it be dancing with friends or meeting new people, homecoming dances can be enjoyable for all. "My favorite part is hanging with friends and being with the senior class," Wilson said. Senior Abbey Schmitt said that dance-offs are one of the things that make the dances fun as well. Wilson stated that dances are a great way to celebrate the year.

By Anna Weinzapfel, '12



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

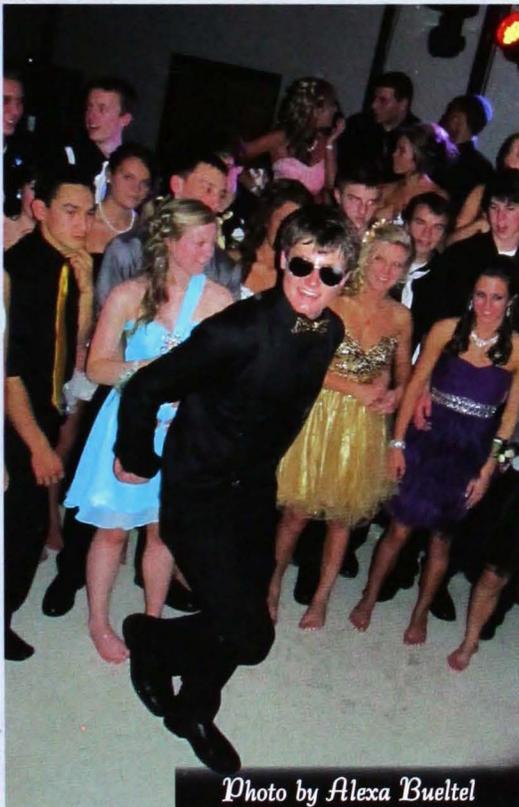


Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

## All Smiles

Above, sophomores Emily Blankenberger and Joe Wildeman take the time to enjoy the moment as they walk out onto the court at basketball homecoming. Both were excited to be chosen to represent their class.

## Moves like Jagger

Left, at the Christmas Dance, senior Joe Wannemuehler shows off his dance moves. Many of the students enjoyed participating in dance-offs while others crowded around to watch.

# Fall Festival Frenzy

Greasy food, fun rides, a talent show, and an exciting parade all can be found during the first full week of October in Evansville, Indiana, on Franklin Street. This particular event was the 90th Annual West Side Nut Club Fall Festival where memories were made and taste buds were tested. The Fall Festival has been a part of Mater Dei culture since the very beginning of the school. Of course, every year is filled with new experiences and an opportunity for the students to bond with each other.

During the school year, junior Katharina Gruber, a German exchange student, had her first-ever Fall Festival experience. "My first impression was



that there was a huge choice of all different kinds of food and there were lots of people," Gruber said. In Germany, there is an Oktoberfest that is similar to the Fall Festival. Gruber said there aren't as many food booths but instead they have more traditional food items. Overall, Gruber thought it was a great festival where one can meet many new people and have fun.

On Thursday evening, junior Emily Pfister and freshman Jessica Weinzapfel performed at Amateur Hour, the Fall Festival Talent Show. The duet performed the song "Replay" by Iyaz. "I liked having Emily up there because I trusted her," Weinzapfel said. Although the duet received runner-up, their performance was memorable.

As a service to the community, students also volunteered their time to help work some of the food booths at the Fall Festival. Seniors Michelle Schmitt and Chris Ambrose helped work the Mater Dei Band Booth. "I always have fun working at the booth. There are usually other band kids working there also, so it makes it fun to be able to spend some time outside of practice with them," Schmitt said. Because her father is in charge of the booth, Schmitt said that she helps out the best that she can.

Whether it be working a food booth or grabbing lunch, the Fall Festival is an experience that will never be forgotten by Mater Dei students. It gives them opportunities to bond with their classmates along with having food that is not common in their everyday lives. Once again, the Fall Festival was a success and will continue to be a tradition for years to come.

By Alexa Bueltel, '12



Photo by Alexa Bueltel





Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Out to Lunch Adventures**

Far left, senior Claire Alvey eats a bowl of chicken and dumplings at the Fall Festival. During the week of the Fall Festival, the seniors were allowed to go out to lunch every day.

**Turtles for Sale**

Left, while working the Marian Day Educational Outreach Booth, seniors Mackenzie Will and Sally Folz sell turtle candies. Will and Folz worked this booth as volunteers for Service Club.

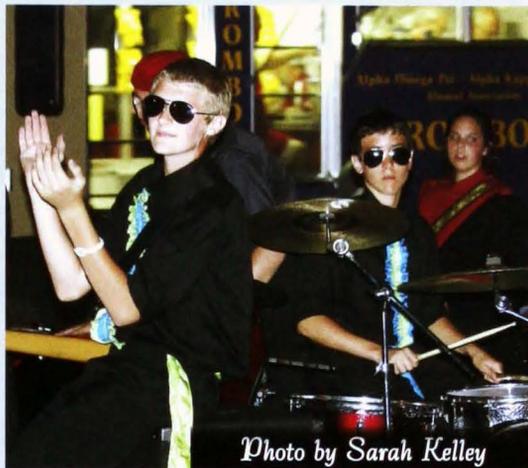


Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Party Rockin' Parade**

Left, while riding in the Fall Festival Parade, freshman Nathan Werner and junior Mitch Meeks play songs from the Mater Dei Band Show. The Mater Dei Band performs every year in the parade.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Time for Dessert**

Left, senior Garrett Scott chows down on an apple dumpling at the Fall Festival. With the variety of booths, the students always found something that would satisfy their taste buds.

**Hard at Work**

Above, senior Michelle Schmitt hands a customer a bottle of water at the Fall Festival. Many students worked different booths at the Fall Festival when they weren't participating in other school activities.

**Full of Spirit**

Right, the Mater Dei student body shows their support at the football State game in Indianapolis. Students were notorious for coming up with crazy costumes for all of the football games.

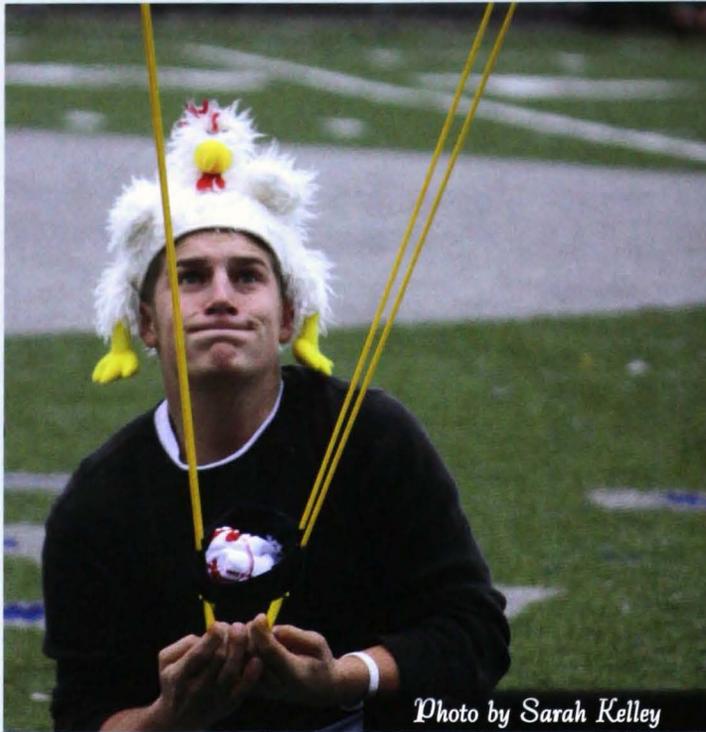


Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Slingin' it Old School**

Right, senior Eric TenBarge prepares to launch a T-shirt to the pumped-up crowd. The free T-shirts were a good way to get the students up on their feet during halftime.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Make Some Noise**

Above, seniors Jack Traylor, Brandon Wright, and Joe Wannemuehler watch the Mater Dei vs. Reitz game unfold. The Wildcats came out victorious over the Reitz Panthers.

**If You've Got It...Flaunt It**

Right, juniors Mitch Meeks and Adam Berendes show off their crazy red and gold attire for homecoming week. For two weeks out of every school year, the students can come to school dressed in something other than uniforms and spirit dress.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

## Show your true COLORS

Here at Mater Dei, school spirit is everything. At sporting events, as well as musicals, plays, and other school activities, Mater Dei prides itself in having plenty of pep.

When students come and support their classmates, it pumps up the team or performers and prepares them to work their hardest. Senior Eric TenBarge said, "If you love the place where you go to school, it is very important to support it. Other schools look at our student section and get jealous, so it is important to keep it up." This year, for the first time ever, Mater Dei made an official Superfan group, complete with buttons and tryouts. Senior Kristine Kollett said, "There have been Superfans since my freshman year, but they were never an actual club. I hoped that starting the actual Superfan group would get people more involved."

From the school song to the crazy outfits and insane cheers, Mater Dei students pride themselves upon having great school spirit and good sportsmanship. Junior Superfan Alex Schneider said, "I play sports; it is nice to have a crowd behind you and it is important to support your school. I like when there is a crowd supporting my team, so it's the least I can do for the other teams and performers."

The spirit has been surprisingly strong even for the second half of the school year. Typically, the spirit level is high during football season, but after returning from Christmas break, all of the excitement starts to die off and the focus turns to the end of the school year and the beginning of summer break. Part of the Superfans' job is to keep everyone going and keep the spirits high. "When others get involved with school spirit, it makes me want to get the entire student section going," TenBarge said. "We feed off of one another."

By Cydney Quinn, '12

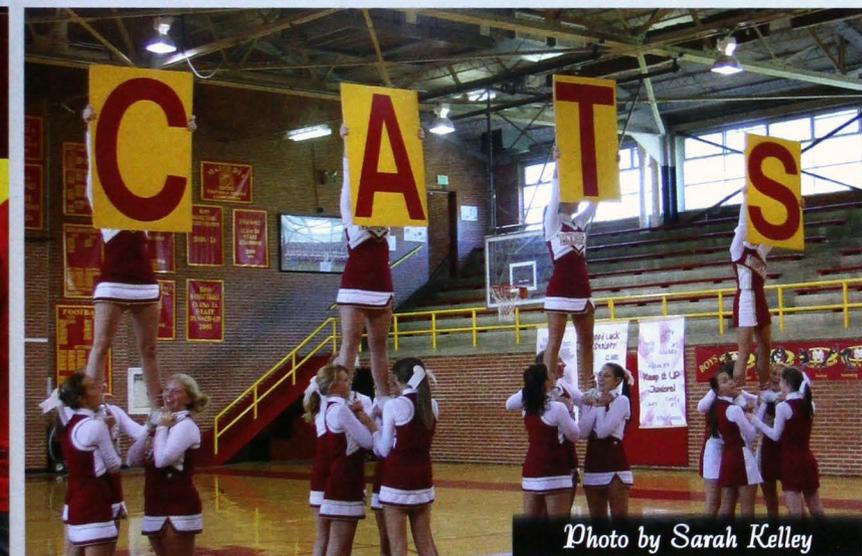


Photo by Sarah Kelley

### C-A-T-S, Cats! Cats! Cats!

Above, the Mater Dei cheerleaders lead the school in a cheer during one of the many pep assemblies. The cheerleaders put in many hours of hard work to perfect their cheers so they could share them with the rest of the student body.

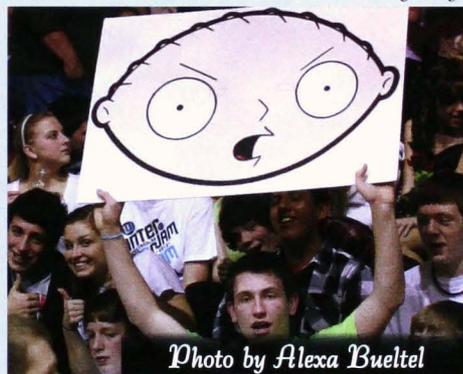


Photo by Alexa Buetel

### Making Distractions

Above, sophomore Hayden Knapp holds up a sign of Stewie during a basketball game. The students used large posters to distract the other basketball teams as they were shooting their free throws.

**Honoring Heroes**

Right, freshman Jared Becker plays his trumpet on the morning of September 11th. Wildcats reverently remembered the lives lost on the 10th anniversary of the World Trade Center attacks with prayer and the solemn playing of "Taps."



Photo by Olivia DeWeese



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**The Body of Christ**

Right, senior Ben Barchet receives communion from Bishop Thompson. The newly-ordained bishop celebrated the feast of St. Paul with the Wildcats at an all-school mass.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**Modern Meditation**

Above, junior Chris Clements sits in the Religion Department Office during prayer group meditation. This year, Sister Ann Marie Butler introduced her spiritual direction program to the juniors at Mater Dei.

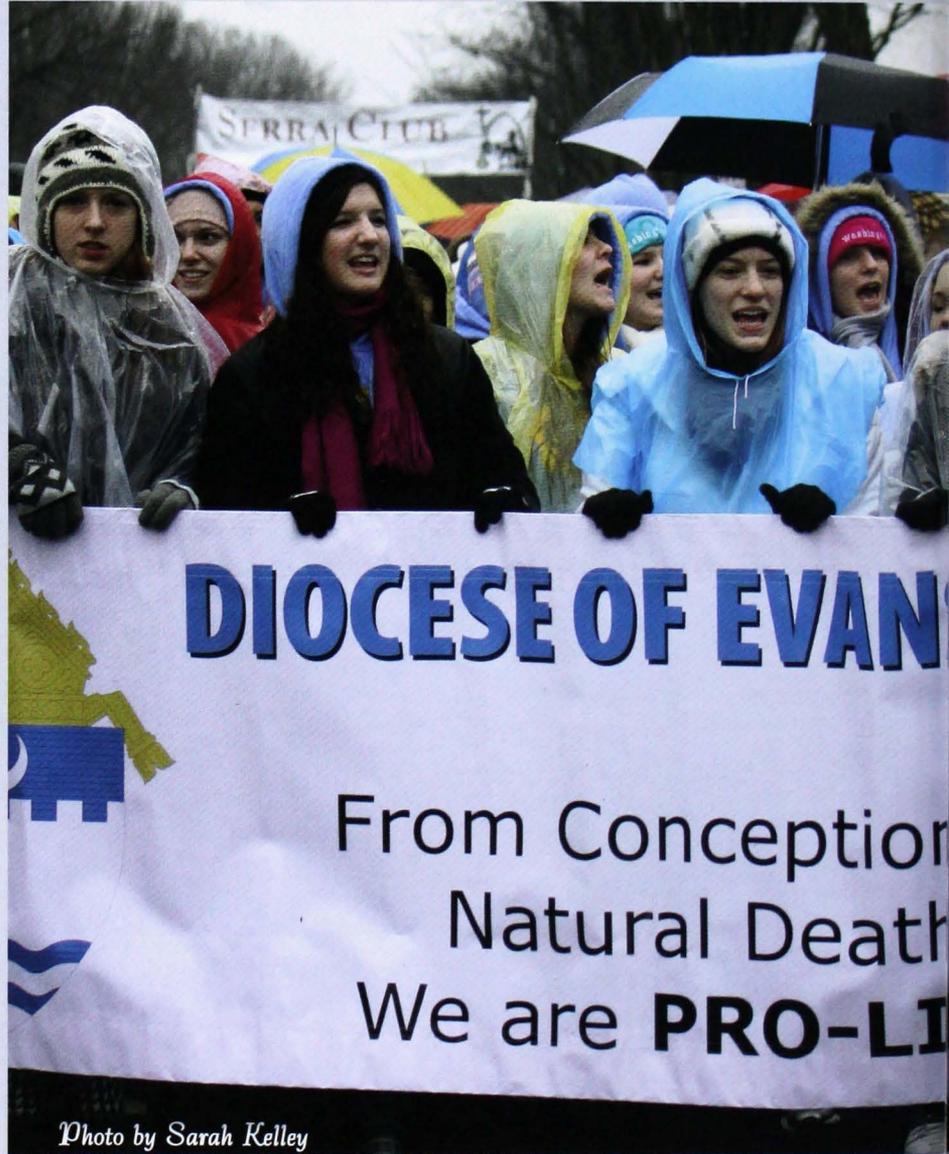


Photo by Sarah Kelley

# TOGETHER *as* ONE

Many people describe the Mater Dei community as a "family." Being a tight-knit community comes from the students', staff's, and parents' undying connection with their faith. The Wildcats' beliefs, morals, and values hold them together stronger than any other type of bond.

What sets Mater Dei apart from many other schools is the opportunity for students to express their faith with the school as a whole. Every morning, the students stand simultaneously as they take a moment to thank God for their day. Junior Suzan Fields said, "Prayer and announcements are important because they remind me of what I have to do and have been blessed with each day."

Some other opportunities Wildcats are given that set them apart are the annual trips to Washington, D.C. for the March for Life, where students march against abortion. Junior Danielle Schmitt said, "Being able to have the opportunity to go on the Right to Life trip is one way that Mater Dei has helped me to be able to embrace what I believe."

Students are able to attend prayer in Mater Dei's very own chapel, and also participate in all-school masses. "All-school masses are beneficial because they bring the whole school together for prayer," said Fields.

A new addition to the Mater Dei Religion Department this year was a spiritual direction program implemented by Sister Ann Marie Butler. Her nationally-recognized program helped students to deepen their relationship with God and enhance their prayer experiences. Sister Ann Marie said, "One of the greatest gifts we can give to young people is to help them realize God's unconditional love in becoming all that they can be and giving back in service to others."

For the students that have the opportunity to attend Mater Dei, they have the blessings to express their beliefs openly and come together as one in prayer. As religion teacher Mr. Wathen always says, "You just can't get this anywhere else."

By Olivia DeWeese '13



## **Roe v. Wade Has Got to Go**

Left, senior girls chant at the annual March for Life trip to Washington, D.C. Mater Dei took thirty students to challenge the Roe v. Wade bill, which legalized abortion.

## **Prayer at the Pole**

Above, students and faculty members assemble at the flagpole on September 28th for Mater Dei's first "See You at the Pole" gathering. The participants spent their morning in prayer along with millions of other Christians around the world.

**Martial Artist**

Right, senior Max Niemeier demonstrates a ChunjiDo pose. ChunjiDo is a combination of Kempo, Taekwondo, Jujitsu, and other forms of martial arts.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**Balancing Act**

Above, junior Jenna Weinzapfel performs a handstand on the beam at the Mega Gymnastics facility. Weinzapfel competed on Mega's gymnastics team.

**Let's Go Ride a Bike**

Right, speeding down the teardrop hill, freshman Justin Lyons rides his bicycle to swim conditioning. Lyons enjoyed riding his bike around town.



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

# COMMIT to be

## FIT

While the vast majority of Mater Dei students participate in at least one athletic activity, other students prefer to stay in shape on their own. Staying active has become a large part of our culture and Mater Dei is no exception. Students work out to have fun and to be with their friends, but not everyone has a conventional workout routine.

Senior Max Niemeier participates in ChunJiDo, a form of martial arts, at the Tri-State Athletic Club. "I try to go at least twice a week," Niemeier said. He explained that the class always begins with a warm-up of kicks and punches, and then they work on sparring and defense. "It's almost like a dance routine but more violent," Niemeier said.

Another unexpected workout routine is mountain biking. Junior Kate Whitaker rides the trails at Harmonie State Park and Scales Lake with her family. "My mom and dad both mountain bike. We just got my little brother into it too," Whitaker said. For Whitaker, the best trails have a balance of uphill and downhill sections. "It's a lot of work, but you get to enjoy your work when you ride downhill," she said.

The motivation behind working out is just as diverse as the exercises themselves. Junior Heather Wolf, who takes a spin class at the YMCA, works out to stay in shape while freshman Justin Lyons just enjoys riding his bike. Whitaker said she loves the adrenaline rush of mountain biking. Niemeier said he can't imagine life without martial arts.

By Adriana Funke, '12



Photo by Adriana Funke



Photo Provided by Kate Whitaker

### Downhill Derby

Above, junior Kate Whitaker rides her mountain bicycle through the trails at Harmonie State Park. Whitaker enjoyed bicycling in her spare time.

### Power Walk

Left, senior Alexa Bueltel listens to her iPod while she walks the loop. Many students walk the three-mile route around Helfrich Hills Golf Course for exercise.

# Head, HEART, Hands, Health



In a land where making posters and growing squash is considered honorable, there is an elite group of people known as the 4-H'ers. Their kingdom has everything a good kingdom needs: a queen, artisans, knights who ride shiny metallic horses, and farmers who tend to the animals. Every year they hold a festival for the entire populace. This event is known as the Vanderburgh County Fair.

Most people who go to the Vanderburgh County Fair venture out to see the tractor pulls, the animals, or the concerts. What most people do not realize is that the entire event is centered on the children and teens involved in 4-H.

4-H is an organization that started over 100 years ago as a youth development program. "It teaches leadership skills and many other skills," said freshman Megan Pritchett. Anyone in third grade to twelfth grade can be a part of 4-H. All they have to do is register with a club. Meetings are held once a month in various places around Evansville. In order to keep their membership, members have to enter at least one project in the fair. These projects range from showing livestock to cake decorating to bicycle safety.

Many students who attend Mater Dei are involved in 4-H. Senior Dylan Elpers, an eight-year member, said, "4-H helps kids meet people like themselves and participate in projects that they like to do." Freshman Eva Traylor said, "It's good for introverts and people who aren't organized because 4-H helps you make friends and get organized."

For most 4-H'ers, it only takes about a month to prepare for the fair. However, when it comes to showing livestock, countless hours year-round are dedicated to helping their animal to be the best it can be.

The festival draws many people from near and far to marvel at the wonders of the competitions. When the festival comes to a close, they keep what they have seen close to their hearts.

By Sarah Kelley, '12

## Coming Right Up

Right, junior Kendra Rexing makes a walking taco at the Junior Leaders Booth at the Vanderburgh County Fair. Members of the Junior Leaders Club were required to work the booth over the course of the fair.



Photo by Sarah Kelley





Photo by Sarah Kelley

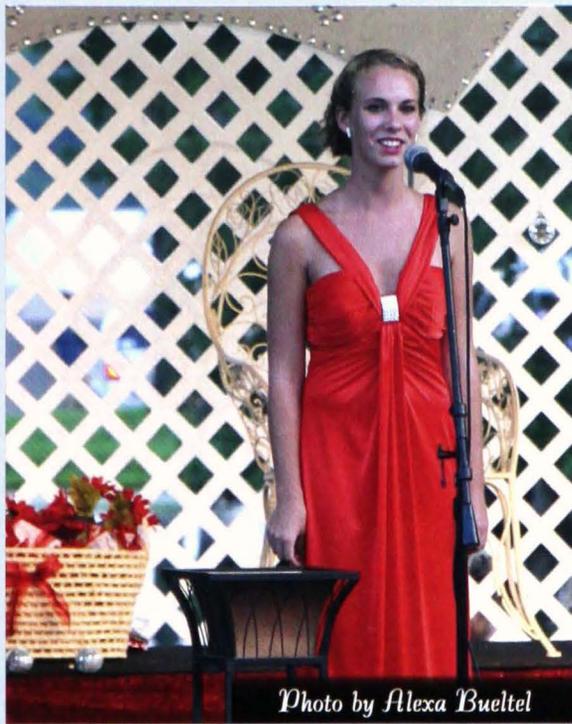


Photo by Alexa Buettel

**The Perfect Pie**

Far left, junior Jill Martin shows her pie to the foods judge on the Saturday before the fair. 4-H members worked hard to ensure that their projects were top quality.

**The Queen Bee**

Left, answering a question about the effects of 4-H, junior Olivia DeWeese charms the judges while remaining poised. Any girl in 4-H is allowed to enter the queen contest as long as she is sixteen years of age.



Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Sarah Kelley

**This Little Piggy**

Above, junior Adam Berendes and senior Chris Adler show pigs during the pig show at the fair. Both students worked year-round to prepare their animals for the day of the show.

**How Now Brown Cow?**

Left, while keeping her eye on the judge, senior Abbey Schmitt shows her cow, Dolly, during the beef heifer show. Schmitt won supreme showmanship at the fair this past year, the highest award possible.

# Juggling Act

With the attack of oil giants leaving gas prices rising and the expenses of everyday Wildcat life increasing, many brave-hearted Mater Dei students have taken the challenge of an after-school or weekend job to put an end to the nightmare. Students work at a variety of occupations ranging from pet stores and landscaping businesses, to gymnastic studios and restaurants.

Most MD job-holders work an average of about twenty hours a week or four to five days out of the week. Balancing the work and school loads doesn't seem to be a problem for these ambitious Wildcats though, especially with employers who are considerate when it comes to homework during the week.

Most job-holders at Mater Dei were hired their junior and senior years, and many of them enjoy what they do. Junior Jenna Weinzapsel enjoys working with kids and helping them exercise; she is employed at Mega Gymnastics. Most students received their jobs because of connections and work on the Westside where they are close to home and school. Junior Lauren Risley, who works at Marx BBQ, said, "I like everyone that I work with, and my bosses are really laid back."

Although most students have had great experiences at their jobs, there are occasional horror stories at the workplace. At Pet Food Center, senior Josh Born said he once accidentally hit a lady in the face with a bag of Pedigree dog food. Another employee of Pet Food Center, senior Andrew Emmert, claimed that dogs will urinate anywhere they please, and it is his responsibility to clean it up.

Although it may be tricky to balance school, athletics, social lives, and work, the Wildcats are valiant and willing to juggle these activities in order to be successful students at Mater Dei High School.

By Cydney Quinn, '12 & Olivia DeWeese '13



Photo by Cydney Quinn

## Hauling Hay

Above, senior Andrew Emmert moves a bale of hay in front of the Westside Pet Food Center. Many Mater Dei students are employed at Pet Food Centers around Evansville.

## Order Up

Right, after preparing a pizza, junior Erin Schweizer hands it to a customer. Schweizer was employed at Papa Murphy's on the Westside.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese





Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### The Special Sauce

Left, while working at her after-school job, junior Lauren Risley stirs the special sauce at Marx BBQ. Marx's employs many Mater Dei and Keitz students.

### Braving the Tank

Below, senior Josh Born cleans out one of the reptile cages at the Northside Pet Food Center. Born chose to work at the Pet Food Center because he claimed animals like him more than people.



Photo by Cydney Quinn



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### Smiles All Around

Above, after spotting a back handspring, junior Jenna Weinzapsel shares a laugh with one of her students. Weinzapsel enjoyed working with the kids and helping them exercise at Mega.



Photo by Cydney Quinn

### A Sweeping Success

Above, junior Emily Pfister sweeps the entrance of the Northside Pet Food Center, her after-school employer. Like many other Mater Dei students, Pfister balanced her job with her schoolwork and sports.

*The Last Song*

Right, sophomore Joe Wildeman and freshman Megan Wildeman hug as they sing together. Joe chose to sing with his cousin to thank everyone for his time at Mater Dei.



Photo by Cydney Quinn

*Greetings, Earthlings*

Right, seniors Eric TenBarge and Wes VanMeter joke around between acts. The two were chosen to be Masters of Ceremony because they could come up with clever skits on the spot to keep the crowd entertained.



Photo by Alexa Bueltel



Photo by Cydney Quinn

*Voice of an Angel*

Above, junior Emily Sellers sings her own a capella version of "Someone Like You" by Adele. Sellers's vocal performance wowed the crowd and earned her the runner-up award.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

In the

# SPOTLIGHT

The annual Talent Show at Mater Dei, organized by the Student Council, is an opportunity for students to show what they are made of. Singing, dancing, comedy, and everything else in between are just a few of the talents that students showcased at the Talent Show. While singing acts dominated the night, other special acts also caught the audience's attention.

Even before the first act was performed, the audience was surprised by a completely different talent. The Masters of Ceremony were seniors Wes VanMeter and Eric TenBarge, and were specially chosen for this particular event. The two had a knack for thinking on their feet and keeping people entertained. VanMeter said, "We came up with a few ideas about half an hour before showtime. Overall, everything was improvised." The crowd seemed to enjoy their skits just as much as the acts they introduced. "All of our nerves went away and we handled it as if it was what we always do," VanMeter said.

For the winners of the show, seniors Megan Tromley and Joey Wilson, being on stage was only natural. Both have had a history of singing and performing at Mater Dei. Their act consisted of both singing "Collide" by Howie Day, and Tromley played the guitar as well. Wilson said that the duo arranged it all. However, winning was a surprise to both. "Megan and I

knew we probably were not going to win because our act was very simple. To hear our names called was surprising," Wilson said.

Nerves are a major obstacle for any Talent Show performer. Wilson said that he was nervous. "I have been singing my whole life, but the nerves never go away. Megan is a talented person and made me feel comfortable on stage." For vocal performer senior Abbie Huff, who sang "Hallelujah" as senior Max Niemeier accompanied her on guitar, the anxiety of performing on stage was short-lived. "On stage, I felt calm. My nerves went away when I started singing," Huff said. The duo's strong performance was noticed by the judges, and they won third place. Junior Emily Sellers felt the same way as Huff; her nerves vanished once she began singing. "At first, I had butterflies in my stomach. I always get nervous singing in front of other people. I felt much better after hearing the applause echo through the auditorium," Sellers said. The crowd's enthusiastic response to Sellers's outstanding solo a capella act helped to win her the runner-up placement.

With all the incredible talent at Mater Dei, the Talent Show was one to remember. Students fought their fears to showcase their talents and impress the audience.

By Denise Blankenberger, '12



Photo by Cydney Quinn

## Perfect Harmony

Left, seniors Joey Wilson and Megan Tromley sing their duet, "Collide" by Howie Day. The duo's blended voices and Tromley's skill at playing guitar won them first place.

## Goofin' Off

Above, juniors Aaron Costlow and Matt Becker sing during their comedy act, "The Four-Chord Song." The two were part of a trio that drew much laughter from the crowd.

# A Day with God

There is always one day out of the school year that students excitedly look forward to – their class retreat. The retreats are a time for students to learn more about themselves, their classmates, and their relationship with God. Sometimes it's hard to take time to appreciate all that Mater Dei has to offer when students are so busy with practices and academics. Retreats give them a time to reflect and enjoy the moment.

Along with the standard class retreats, this year was the first year Mater Dei students participated in Rachel's Challenge. Students were randomly selected to attend the program, which was dedicated to stopping bullying both in and out of school. The students spent the day in discussion groups and listened to a guest speaker. After this event, a Friends of Rachel Club was formed to raise awareness about bullying.

This year was the second year for Fresh Beginnings, the freshman lock-in sponsored by Mater Dei's Teenpower group. Sophomore, junior, and senior leaders helped guide the freshmen through discussions that centered on drugs and alcohol. The freshmen also had the opportunity to ask their older peers any questions they had about what to expect from the next four years. Fresh Beginnings was a great way for the students to meet their new classmates.

The theme of the junior retreat was centered on the Bread of Life. The students focused on the three major ingredients in their lives: friends, family, and God. Junior Kelsey Allison said that the retreat was an opportunity to show how close her class has grown together. Seniors participated as table leaders and gave speeches related to the theme. Juniors read letters their families had written to them, and also letters they wrote as freshmen.

The senior retreat was one of the last times that the Class of 2012 spent together. During the retreat, the seniors reflected on the past, looked forward to the future, and were reminded to live in the present. Senior Joe Wannemuehler said, "When we were freshmen, we were all separated into our cliques. And now as seniors, we've finally come together." The retreat taught the students to express their feelings to each other and get issues off their chests. At the senior retreat, the students were given the opportunity to write apology letters to anyone they had wronged in the past four years. "The letter writing was my favorite part of the retreat. We got to lay everything on the table," Wannemuehler said.

Retreats were a unique way for students to reflect upon their time at Mater Dei. They allowed students to strengthen their relationship with God and their peers.

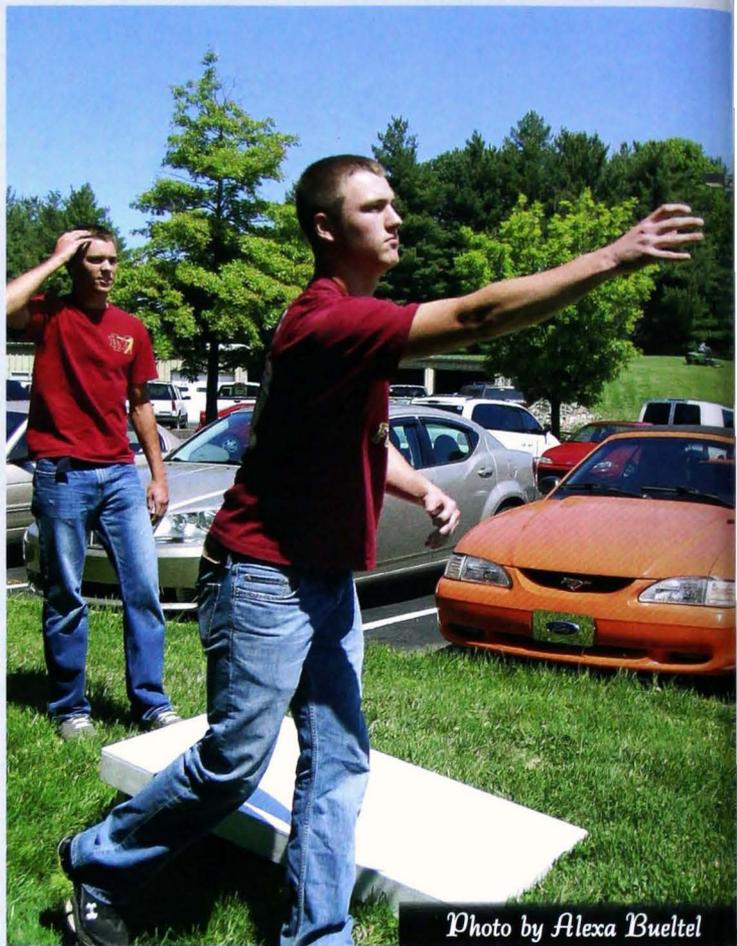


Photo by Alexa Bueltel





Photo by Alexa Bueltel

### **Bean Bag Bonanza**

Far left, senior Adam Sweeney plays cornhole during lunch at the senior retreat. The down time allowed the students to make some last-minute memories before graduation.

### **Always Fresh**

Left, sophomore Hayden Knapp leads his group in a discussion during the Fresh Beginnings retreat. The retreat was a great way for freshmen to get to know their classmates.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

### **Bread of Life**

Left, junior Alexa Straub kneads bread dough at her class retreat. The students focused on the theme of God, friends, and family as important ingredients in their lives.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

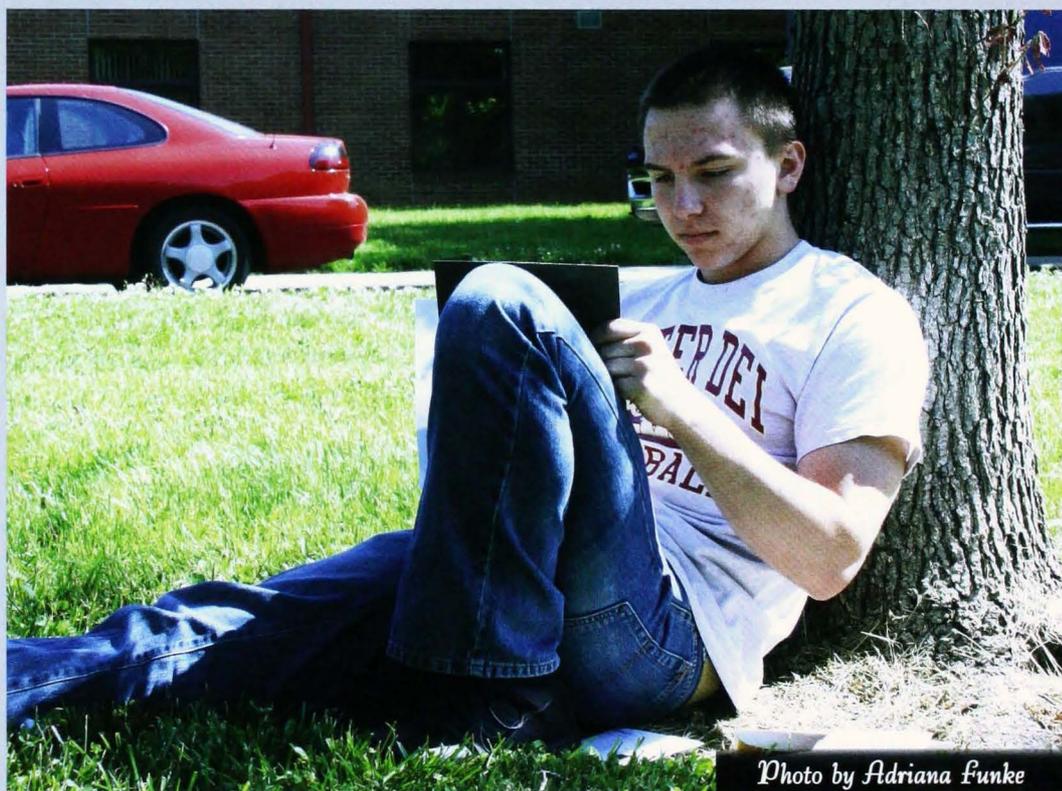


Photo by Adriana Funke

### **Eating Adventures**

Left, senior Zack Fulton is forced to eat baby food during a game at the Rachel's Challenge retreat. This retreat helped to strengthen the bonds between students at Mater Dei.

### **A Time to Think**

Above, senior Max Wilderman writes a personal letter during the senior retreat. The retreat was a time for seniors to mend relationships and look forward to the future.

### Hail Holy Queen

Right, senior Rachel Eickhoff crowns Mary during the May Day ceremony. Eickhoff was chosen by her class as the representative for May Queen.

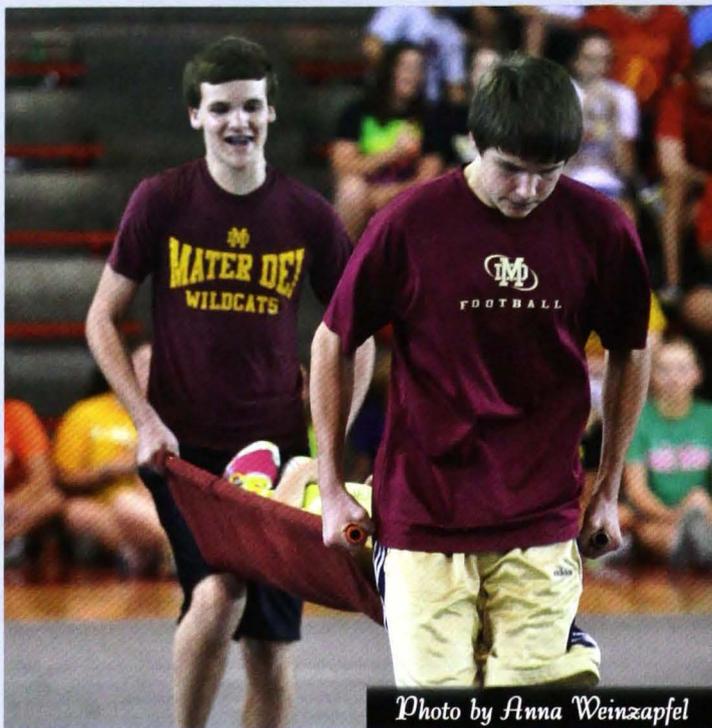


Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

### Racing the Clock

Right, freshmen Tyler Halbig and Patrick Helfrich carry a classmate during the Emergency Cat Run. In this game, each class raced against the clock to get the fastest time possible.

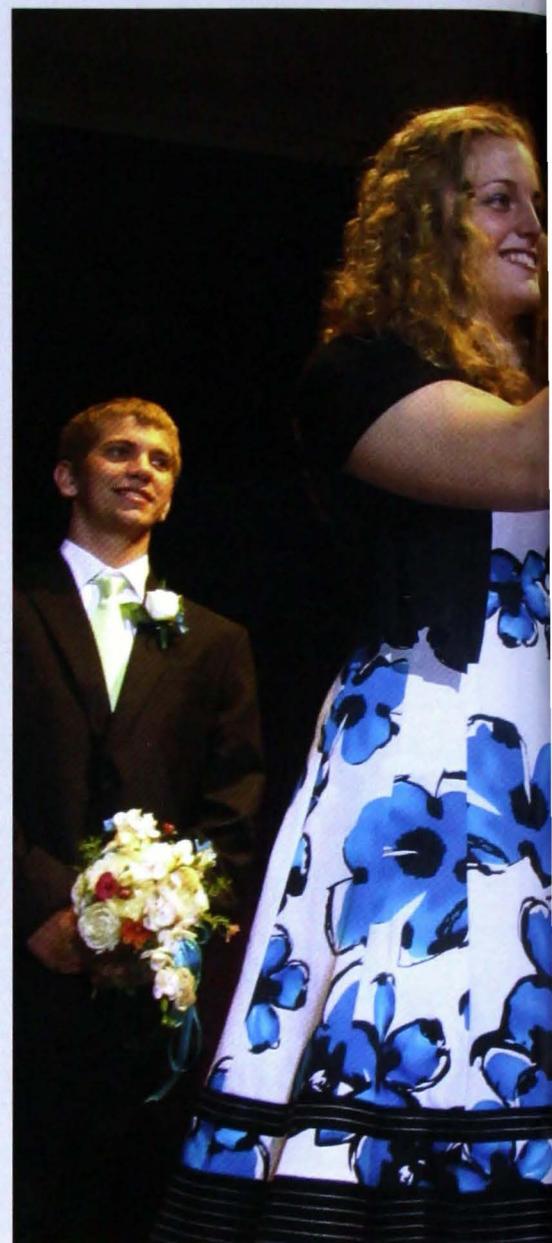


Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

### Slip and Slide

Above, while sliding through shaving cream, junior Laura Greenwell makes her way to the end of the tarp. The Obstacle Course was always a favorite event for the students to both watch and participate in.

### Release the Fury

Right, junior Jenae Gries prepares to throw the dodgeball at the opposing team. During May Day, every class competed against one another.



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel



Photo by Alexa Bueltel

# MAY the games BEGIN

*M*ay Day is a time each year when the students, faculty, and staff come together to celebrate in prayer and have fun together as a school community. The day starts off with a mass in honor of Mary, the patron saint of Mater Dei, and is followed by games and activities in which everyone is given the opportunity to have a good time.

The May Queen this year was senior Rachel Eickhoff. "I was extremely honored to represent the class as May Queen. I was greatly appreciative of being chosen," Eickhoff said. She added that initially she was shocked and a little overwhelmed when she found out she had been chosen by the senior class. "It was a great honor," Eickhoff said.

After the crowning of Mary and the celebration of the Eucharist had ended, students made their way toward the gym for a day full of excitement. "I like the easy, laid-back atmosphere throughout the day," sophomore Alex Schmitt said. Junior Nathan Wright added that he likes spending time with the other students and having fun.

During May Day, students are given the opportunity to participate in a number of different games against fellow students. "Tug of War is my favorite May Day game because everyone gets to work together," Schmitt said. Senior Olivia Williams said that the Obstacle Course is her favorite because it's fun to watch.

Overall, May Day gives students the chance to socialize with friends and participate in friendly competition with other classes. Everyone can agree that May Day is an entertaining and enjoyable day for all.

By Anna Weinzapfel, '12



Photo by Anna Weinzapfel

### Hippity-Hop

Above, a group of juniors hops their way down the court to the finish line in the Sack Full of Cats competition. This game required everyone to communicate and work together as a team to beat their opponents.



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

### In Attendance

Above, seniors Tyler Schickel and Maria Kempf wait outside the auditorium before going in for the crowning of Mary. Kempf said that she enjoyed playing a part in such a special day.

# An ARABIAN Night

After taking group pictures and eating dinner, students arrived at the Discovery Lodge for this year's prom. Inside, the "Arabian Nights" theme transported prom-goers to another world. Junior class president, Jacob Mischler, along with the other class officers, began planning for prom last summer. Mischler said, "We had a long list of theme ideas that we narrowed down over the summer. The biggest challenge this year was finding time for all of the students and parents to work together. But everything turned out great."

Junior class treasurer Alex Schneider's job for this year was to find good prices on decorations and book the DJ. Schneider said, "The whole Prom Committee came up with theme ideas and then the officers picked one. We went with 'Arabian Nights' because it hadn't been done in awhile. We felt like we could pull it off." The juniors and their parents put in many hours of work to make this prom the best yet. They had a small window of time to set up the decorations, but they succeeded in turning the Discovery Lodge into an Arabian palace.

Students spent the night dancing alongside cut-outs of camels and elephants and took pictures on the "magic carpet." There was even a "pillow lounge" at the back of the room for students to relax in. Toward the middle of the night, the 2012 Prom Court walked out onto the dance floor. Seniors Bernie Boots and Kayla Hammelman were crowned Prom King and Queen. After being chosen as queen, Hammelman said, "I was very surprised and very honored." Boots added, "I really couldn't believe I had won, especially with the other guys up there with me. It must have been hard for many people to choose."

For Hammelman and many others, the best part of prom was dancing the night away with their classmates. Hammelman said, "It was my last school dance and it was definitely the best!" Boots said that his favorite part of the night was seeing how pretty the girls looked and how well-dressed the guys were.

After-prom was held at Franklin Lanes. Students put their names in a bowl to be drawn for prizes throughout the night. For many people, the free food was their favorite part of the event. Besides bowling, there was also a photo booth for students to take pictures in. When the night was over, many students said that this year's prom was their favorite school dance.

By Adriana Funke, '12

## Dancing King

Right, senior Josh Weinzapfel dances in a crowd of his friends. Many times during the night, students circled up to watch their friends bust a move.

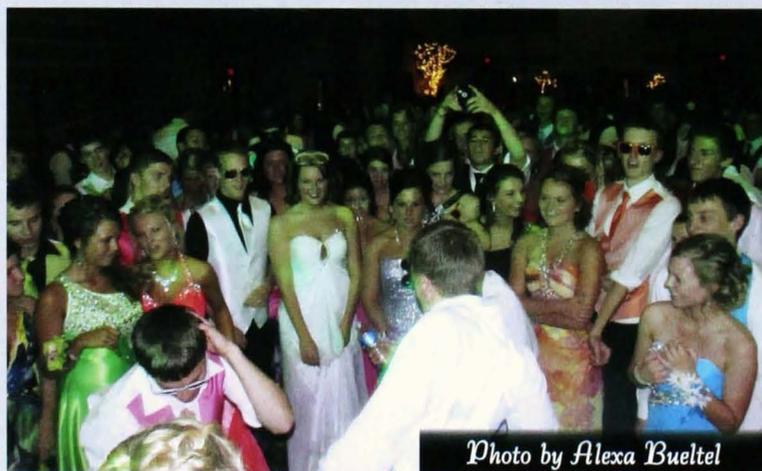


Photo by Alexa Bueltel





Photo by Sarah Kelley



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

**Cut Loose**

Far left, seniors Molly Swihart and Megan Tromley dance as part of a "train." Students liked the songs where they could all dance together.

**Say "Cheese!"**

Left, juniors Kyle Willis and Samantha Memmer pose for a picture. For many students, prom was a day filled with picture-taking.



Photo by Denise Blankenberger

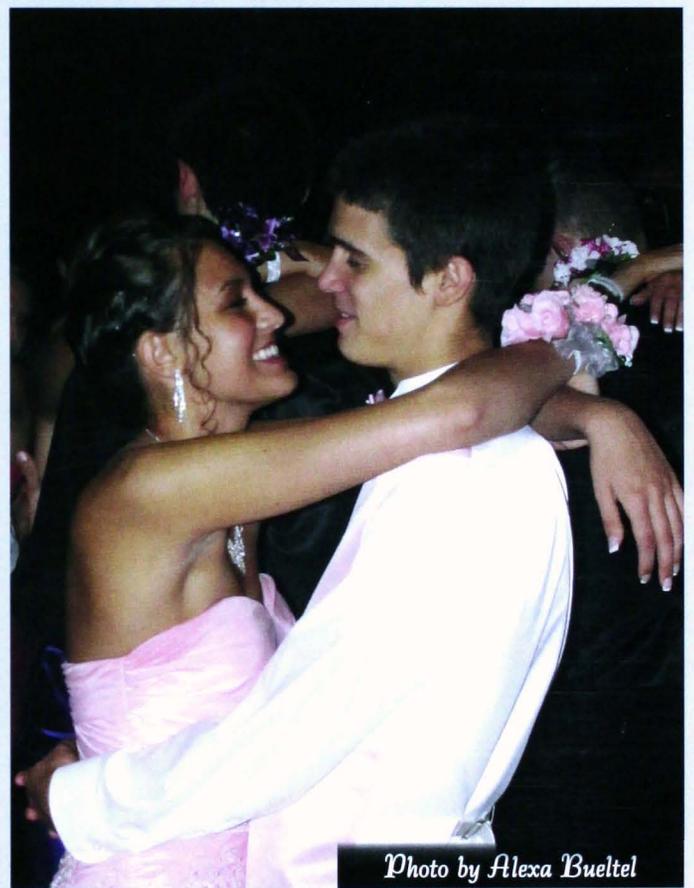


Photo by Alexa Bueltel

**Dance the Night Away**

Above, sophomore Kayla Orth and senior Adam Weinzapfel slow dance together. Slow songs gave students a break from fast-paced dancing.

**Royal Students**

Left, the 2012 Prom Court smiles before they walk out to the dance floor. The junior and senior classes voted for the King and Queen.

***In the Limelight***

Right, taking a break from the fun, senior Adam Sweeney squirts barbecue sauce on his pork sandwich. The seniors were supplied with a hog roast to chow down on.

***Sticking to It***

Below right, seniors Ben Barchet and Joey Jourdan try to outreach each other while running on an inflatable track. This was one of the most popular attractions at Project Graduation.

***A Time to Remember***

Below, holding a shirt from the Homecoming Rave, senior Sally Folz waits to present her gift to the Mater Dei community. The gifts represented what the class accomplished over the year.



*Photo by Sarah Kelley*



*Photo by Olivia DeWeese*



*Photo by Sarah Kelley*

Only the

# Beginning

## A Bunch of Bull

Below, laughing on a mechanical bull, senior Jamie Logel struggles to keep her balance. Many students tried to last the longest on the bull to beat their friends.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

There comes a time when everything must end. For the seniors at Mater Dei High School, that time begins with Baccalaureate and Project Graduation. For most seniors, this was one of the last times they truly joined together as an entire class. However, the memories made on that night will last forever.

The night began with the Baccalaureate ceremony, which consisted of an offering of memories from the senior class, mass, and a video presentation that included a baby picture of all of the seniors. "I love that we brought in all the things that helped build us as a class because it really defined who we are and who we've become over the past four years," senior Abby Eger said. She, along with sixteen other seniors, brought forth the gifts at the beginning of the ceremony. Some of the gifts included a Bible to represent the students' faith, sports trophies to represent their athletic accomplishments, and the Willy Wonka "W" for the students' success in the arts.

After mass was over, students headed down to the gym for Project Graduation, a fun event sponsored by the senior parents. "We rocked the night away," senior Adam Knapp said. "It's going to be sad seeing my friends go their separate ways." Senior Ashton Maurer added, "It was amazing to spend such a fun night with my MD family." The night included food, inflatables, a mechanical bull, music, dancing, and games, everything the teenagers needed to have a good time.

But, like everything in life, the night had to come to an end. However, this was only the beginning of the rest of their lives.

By Sarah Kelley, '12



Photo by Olivia DeWeese



Photo by Sarah Kelley

## Dueling Duo

Above, seniors Joey Mayer and Jared Anson fight to the death in an inflatable arena. Inflatables were a great way to keep the seniors entertained.

## A Helping Hand

Far left, senior Max Wilderman gets some help with his tie from Mrs. Weber. Seniors had to make sure they looked ship shape for the Baccalaureate ceremony.



Photo by Sarah Kelley

## Monkey on My Back

Left, during a Heartbreakers' game, senior Jacob Boze hops on senior Bernie Boots's back. The Heartbreakers played games frequently with the senior class.

# Wherever you go, go with all your heart

Before going their separate ways, the Class of 2012 got together one last time for graduation. The ceremony was full of speeches, singing, and of course receiving their diplomas. Graduation also provided an opportunity for students to reminisce on the past four years they spent together and look forward to the years to come.

As the seniors looked back on their four years, they realized that there were many rewarding elements during their time at Mater Dei. Senior Cody Adler said, "Being the Mayor of Mater Dei-ville was rewarding because my whole class was supportive of everything I did for the school. With that big of a support group in one class, it was hard not to have a fun and successful year." Senior Joey Wilson added that it meant a lot to him that his class chose him to represent them as their class president.

During the graduation ceremony, a few designated seniors were asked to give speeches. The co-valedictorians, Austin Hoefling and Garrett Scott, each gave a five-minute speech sharing their thoughts about their time at Mater Dei. "I wanted everyone to enjoy my speech and feel like they could relate to it. Our class was a very close-knit group that was successful in everything we attempted," said Scott.

Some of the students in the senior class didn't spend all four years at Mater Dei. Senior Molly Swihart made the transition from Castle High School during her sophomore year. Swihart said, "I am very glad that I switched to Mater Dei because I really love this school. It is a much better environment to learn in, and I have made so many friends here."

Whether it was for all four years or only a portion of their high school careers, the members of the Class of 2012 treasured their time at Mater Dei. From participating in state competitions to receiving millions of dollars in scholarship money, the Class of 2012 has left a powerful legacy.

By Alexa Bueltel, '12



Photo by Mallorie Will

**Always There for You**  
Above, senior Molly Swihart shakes hands with Mr. Dickel. With the help of senior Adam Sweeney, Swihart managed to safely make it across the stage.

**A Song for Mary**  
Right, seniors from the choir sing at the closing of the graduation ceremony. The choir sang a song about Mary as one last acknowledgement of her impact on their lives.



Photo by Mallorie Will



Photo by Olivia DeWeese

**Hug it Out**

Left, senior Eric TenBarge gives President of Mater Dei Mr. Dickel a hug upon receiving his diploma. TenBarge was known for his charismatic personality.

**Soaking it all In**

Below, members of the senior class listen to a speech during the commencement ceremony. This year's commencement speaker was Bishop Charles Thompson.



Photo by Mallorie Will

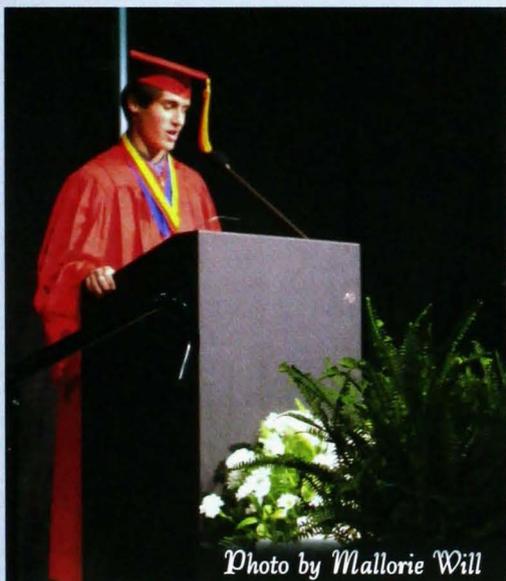


Photo by Mallorie Will

**A Final Farewell**

Above, during commencement, senior Austin Hoefling gives his valedictorian speech. Hoefling was co-valedictorian with senior Garrett Scott.

**Say Cheese!**

Above, before the ceremony begins, seniors Megan Tromley, Erica Sollman, and Devon Tenbarge pose for a photo. The seniors posed for many last-minute shots before the start of the ceremony.

Photo by Olivia DeWeese



# CHAPTER 6

## *Advertisements*



*"At Mater Dei, we come together as a family to go out and serve the community."*

*-Senior Mackenzie Will*



David & Don Euler

Here you both are, starting your school careers at Sacred Heart Pre-School. We are very proud of you both.

Love,

Dad, Mom '77, and Daniel '04

Casey Jochem

We are very proud of the fine young woman you have become. We will always treasure our memories of watching you in your many activities through the years. Good luck in college. Always stay true to yourself, have faith in God, and keep reaching for the stars.

Love,

Mom, Dad, and Jared



Kyle Wilson

From the first day of kindergarten through high school graduation, we are so proud of you and your accomplishments. You have a bright future.

Love you,

Mom & Dad



Megan Tromley

It has truly been a pleasure watching you grow into the young lady you have become. You are beautiful in every aspect! We wish you the best of luck as you pursue your dreams!

Love,

Dad, Mom, Nick, Zach, and Molly



Jamie Logel

Follow your heart. Follow your dreams. Keep that smile even in the tough times. Always be grateful to God for all of your blessings. You are a blessing in my life and I love you with all my heart.

Mom

Eric Wildeman

Congratulations! We are very proud of you! Good luck in all you do.

We love you,

Mom, Dad, Megan, and Adam



Mitch Culley

Good luck with your future. We wish you the best of everything and hope all of your dreams come true.

Love you always,

Mom, Dad, Matt, and Mason



Sally Folz

Sally, we are so proud of you! We know you can do anything you put your mind to so set high goals, work hard, and have a great time in college!

We love you!

Mom, Dad, and Sarah



Noah Lutz

As I write this note, memories of us fill my mind. I hope I never forget staying up late to play Pacman, the letters you sent me when I was at camp, that you always wanted to comfort me when I was sad, making tents in the car, when you thought I got flushed down the toilet, waking up really early every year on Christmas, and so much more. We're all grown up now, but I know that many more precious moments await us. I'll always love you, little brother. Laura

Troy Adler

Can't believe our "Little Miracle Baby" is graduating high school. Work hard and you can be or do anything! Keep God and your family in your life and may He keep you safe and healthy! We are so proud of you! Good luck!

We love you!

Mom, Dad, Ashley, Kyle, and Emily





Leslie Schenk

The years have flown by. I remember your first day playing soccer; the ball was bigger than you and now you are on your way to playing soccer in college. We are so proud of you. Thank you for the wonderful person you have become. May your future be full of happy and fun times.

Mom, Dad, Brennen, and Lindsey

Jared Anson

Congratulations Jared!! We are proud of you. Good luck at IU!

Love,

Mom, Dad, Mallory, and Haley



Garrett Scott

Your hard work in and out of the classroom has paid off. You gave it your all and took advantage of your opportunities to succeed. We are extremely proud and couldn't be happier for you. Job well done!

All our love,

Dad, Mom, and Sarah



Kendall Altstadt

When you wish upon a star  
Makes no difference who you are  
Anything your heart desires  
Will come to you!

Even as a little girl you knew what was fake and what was real. Dream big! We love you!

Mom and Dad



Eric TenBarge

We are so proud of your big heart, helpful hands, and good choices you have made. We know you've made so many friends in the past four years and had fun too! Your school spirit is amazing! Continue to make good choices and to pray daily. And always remember we are here for you for anything and we love you!

Mom, Dad, and Emily

Jenna Kruse

Congratulations! We are so proud of you and the lady that you have become. You are strong, beautiful, and amazing. May God keep you safe as you go out into such a big world, and may all of your dreams become a reality. Keep your friends close, and your family closer, and above all - "Make good decisions."

Mom, Dad, and Seth



Whitney Blankenberger

Our baby has grown up! We are so proud of your accomplishments at MD and look forward to seeing what the future has in store for you. Make your dreams come true!

Love,

Dad and Mom



Reed Rexing

You did it! Eighteen years have flown by and you have made me realize how important each and every day has been. I wish you the best in college and I hope you give it 110% like you did swimming the day this picture was taken. Work hard in college so that your dreams come true! I am proud of what you have accomplished and hope you continue to work hard. Dream, believe, become! -Mom



Tyler Schickel

Congratulations on all your accomplishments so far. We are so proud of you and wish you great success in the future. Keep your faith strong and keep reaching for your dreams.

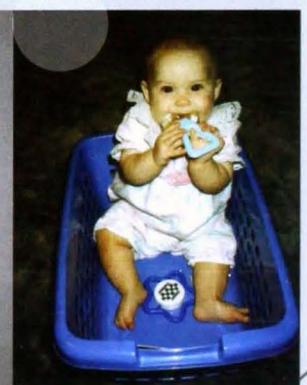
Love you always,

Mom, Dad, Tori, and Tanner

Sara Sartore

You've come a long way. We are very proud of the young lady you have become.

Mom, Dad, Rosanna, and Bre





Austin Flittner

Austin, we have been and always will be proud of you! You have accomplished so much already. Continue to reach for your goals and be you.

Love you always,  
Dad, Mom, and Baylee

Abbie Huff

You've been practicing showmanship all your life, now it's time to be a star! We love you and we're proud of you.

Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Bryce



Ashley Parkinson

Wow! Time has flown by. Our baby is all grown up. Always remember to smile and the world will smile with you. If you frown, you will frown alone. We are proud of you!

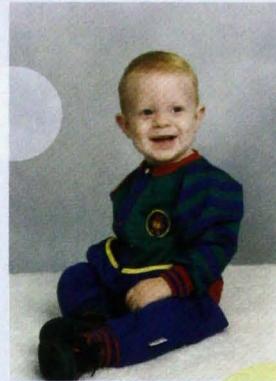
Love,  
Mom, Dad, and the rest of the gang



Austin Kennedy

We are proud of your accomplishments in the classroom and on the field at Mater Dei. You have worked hard to earn these accomplishments, and have grown into a responsible young adult. You are ready to soar to new heights. The sky is the limit.

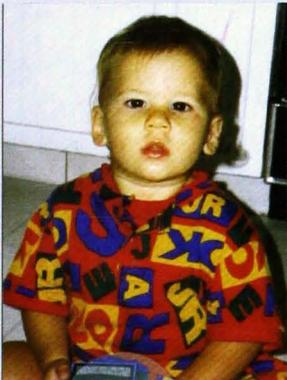
Love,  
Mom and Dad



Dalton Brandenstein

Our baby has grown up! How we have enjoyed watching you in football and wrestling! Thank you for being the loving person you are, don't ever change. Congratulations on your achievements, we look forward to seeing your future ones! Good Luck!

Love,  
Mom, Dad, Cody, and Weston



Ryan Wannemueller

Congratulations, Ryan! We are very proud of the young man you have become. Dream big, work hard, and you will accomplish great things. Good luck next year in college and thanks for the memories.

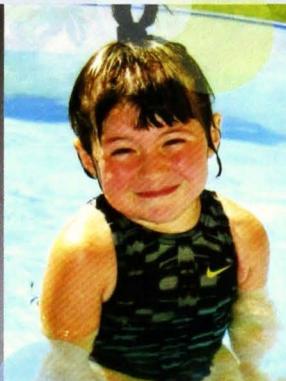
Love,  
Mom, Dad, and Alex



Cydney Quinn

Cydney, we are so proud of you. Stay true to your values, work hard and become the best version of yourself that you can be!

We love you!  
Dad, Mom, and Ema



Carlee DeHart

Carlee - Always our little fashion plate, pretty inside and out.

Love,  
Grammy and Grandpa Schaefer



Andrew Emmert

Congratulations, Andrew! Continue to grow while staying true to yourself and keeping your sense of humor. We love you and wish you the best of luck for the future.

Mom, Mike, and Anni





Kaitlyn Ricketts

It has been such a joy to watch you grow into the amazing young woman that you are today. We are so proud of you and your accomplishments. Work hard, dream big, believe in yourself and keep God in the center of your life; through Him anything is possible. We wish you the best of everything for your future. We love you Sweetpea!

Love always, Mom and Connor

Daniel Hurm  
Congratulations! We are proud of you,  
Mom, Dad, and Maggie



We are so proud of your hard work these last four years. You are one of the best people I know and I can't wait to see your next adventure!  
"Life's like a play: it's not the length, but the excellence of the acting that matters."  
- Seneca  
Be true to yourself & keep reaching for excellence.  
Your very proud big sister & biggest fan,  
Crystal

Wes VanMeter



Rachel Eickhoff

We love you and are so proud of you. Always follow your heart and enjoy all the future has to offer.

Congratulations!

Dad, Mom, Mitch, and Caleb



Sarah Kelley

Where has the time gone? We wish for you much joy and laughter in the years ahead. We are so proud of our baby girl, now a beautiful young lady. May God bless you in all that you do!

Love,

Mom and Dad

Noah Lutz  
Our wonderful little boy has grown up to be an outstanding young man. You have brought us so much joy and happiness. We are so proud and blessed to have you as our son. May God bless you in your future endeavors. Congratulations and wishing you much success.  
Mom and Dad



Katlyn Zirkelbach  
We've watched you grow up over the last eighteen years. You've been a pain, a joy, and one of the best things that God has given us.  
We love you!  
Mom and Dad



Dylan Elpers

Our wish for you is that this life becomes all that you want it to be! Never look back, but never forget the ones who love you, in the place you left. We are and always will be so proud of you, and remember "Make good decisions!"

Love,

Dad, Mom, and Dalton



Max Niemeier  
Same haircut!!!

Abby Eger  
We are so very proud of you and all your accomplishments at M.D. As you begin your life journey remember to pray and God will always have your back.  
We love you,  
Mom, Dad, Alex, and Natalie





Aaron Kempf

The father of Godly children has cause for joy. What a pleasure it is to have wise children. So give your parents joy! May she who gave you birth be happy.

-Proverbs

Love,

M and D

Devon Tenbarge

Congratulations! We are so proud of you and all your accomplishments. Good luck in college and always follow your dreams.

Love you,

Mom, Dad, and Wes



Bernie Boots

We wish you all the best for your future. We are very proud of you.

Love,

Dad, Mom, Michael, Katie, and Nicholas

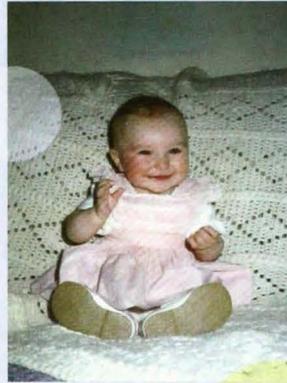


Anna Weinzapfel

Good luck in all you do in life! We are so proud of you! You have brought us so much joy!

We love you!

Mom, Dad, & Brett



Kelsey Goebel

Congratulations, Kels! Hugs!

Mom and Dad



Josh Born

My Uncle Josh has graduated from high school! I feel so old!

Love, Serena Born

P.S. Congrats from my Mom and Dad too!

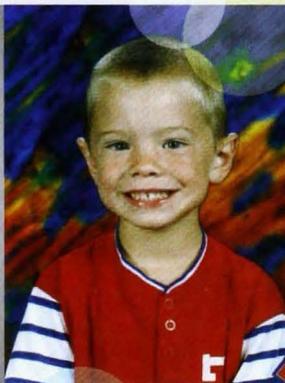


Chris Ambrose

We are so proud of you. God bless you on your new journey. Good luck with all you do in the future.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Nick, and Dylan



Kirstin Ethridge

The road goes ever on and on  
Out from the door where it began.

Now far ahead the Road has gone,

Let others follow it who can!

Let then a journey new begin...

Congratulations! Love, Mom and Dad



Cody Adler

So proud of the person you have grown to be.

Love you!

Mom



Kendal Weaver

Brown eyes, curly hair, you've always been a treasure. We love you so, to watch you grow, has certainly been a pleasure. Have fun, try hard and I know you will succeed.

Love,

Grandma Weaver





Wade Hoffman

We are so proud of all you have accomplished this far. Can't wait to see what the future holds for you. Best of luck always.

Love,

Dad, Mom, and Blake

Madison Brown

What an amazing journey this has been to watch you grow into the beautiful person that you are today. We are so proud of you and are truly blessed to be your parents! Follow your heart and stay true to yourself and all of your hopes and dreams will come true!

With all of our love,

Mom, Dad, and Nick

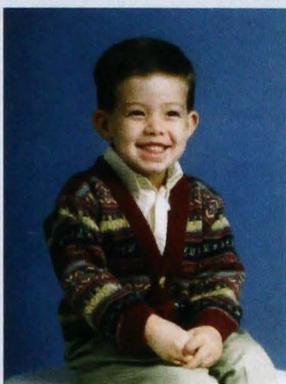


Denise Blankenberger

Congratulations!! We're so proud of you! Good luck in all your college endeavors! We love you so much!

Love,

Stephanie, Mark, Kevin, Mom, and Dad



Andy Hamilton

We are so proud of you. You're smart, considerate, and can always make us laugh. You've never met a stranger and you've blessed many with your friendship.

We love you!

Mom and Dad



Ben Barchet

We have no doubt you will be successful in whatever you choose to do. We are so proud of you!

Love,

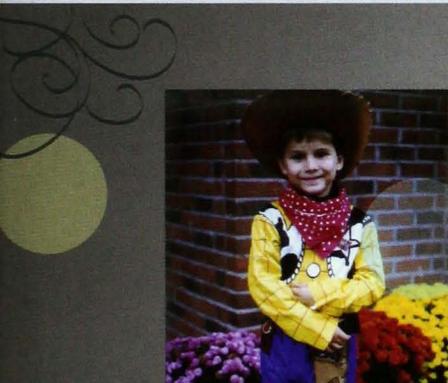
Mom and Dad

Amy Deig

Keep moving forward. We're so proud of you.

Love,

Mom, Dad, and Lindsey

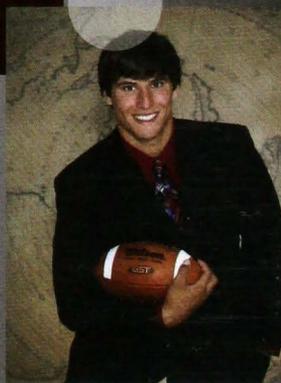


Joey Wilson

As the youngest of three boys, you certainly had to grow up fast. You've met the challenge, and are an original in your own right, writing your own story. Continue to rely on your solid faith in God which is an example to our family. We are so proud of you and all of your fine accomplishments and look forward to the great things ahead. We know that God will light the way for the next chapter in your life and we are blessed to be a part of it. Thank you for being such a wonderful son and caring friend.

We love you,

Mom, Dad, Tom, and Bob





*Kaitlyn Ricketts*

*We are so proud of you. Best of luck on your future ambitions. Believe and follow your hopes and dreams.*

*Love,*

*PaPaul and Mamaw Baehl*

*Chris Adler*

*Congratulations! We are so proud of you. Keep up the hard work and you will go far.*

*Love,*

*Mom, Dad, Josh, and Ashley*

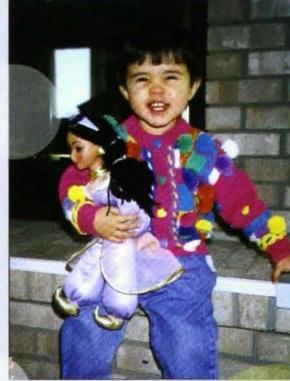


*Logan Folz*

*Keep your great smile and winning attitude and you will be successful at whatever you do. We are so proud of you!!*

*Love,*

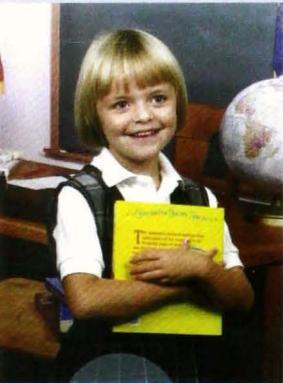
*Dad, Mom, Audrey, Allie, and Lucas*



*Alexa Buettel*

*You have always been our shining star! We are so proud of you! Congratulations and we love you!*

*Mom, Dad, Brett, Katelyn, and Brian*



*Emily Naas*

*Congrats, Em! We love you! Good luck at Murray State!*

*Love,*

*Dad, Mom, and Carter*

*Ryan Fehrenbacher*

*You're a fine young man with a bright future ahead. We are so very proud of you and all your accomplishments. May God continue to watch over you and bless you as you enter the next chapter of your life.*

*We love you,*

*Mom, Dad, and Jenna*



*Shawn Horty*

*So our always unique and best dressed son. We couldn't be more proud of you!*

*Love,*

*Mom and Dad*



*Austin Knapp*

*You are such a blessing and have brought so much happiness to our life. We are so proud of you and the young man you have become. Remember how much we love you and that we will always be here for you. Continue to make good choices and be happy! Congrats!*

*Love you,*

*Mom, Dad, and Hayden*



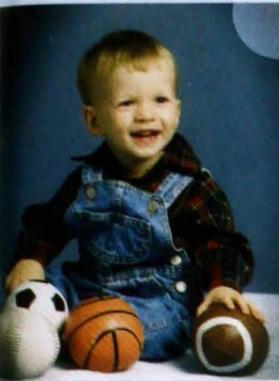
*Josh Born*

*We know you've had fun at Water Dri, but you have also worked hard. Continue to set high goals and to apply yourself. You are a true blessing for us.*

*Love,*

*Dad, Mom, Jennifer, Jerad, and Bentley*





*Evan Martin*

*We are so proud of you. Good luck in college and all your endeavors. Remember we will always be here for you.*

*Love,*

*Mom, Dad, and Jill*

*Kristine Rollett*

*No matter what the weather, you always bring sunshine wherever you go. We are so proud of you and the young woman you are growing into.*

*Love you!*

*Mom and Rod*



*Kendal Weaver*

*We are so very proud of not only your accomplishments but also the person you have become. Work hard and strive to be the best. Don't ever lose your spirit!*

*We love you!*

*Dad, Kylie, and Logan*



*Ben Niemeier*

*Congratulations, you made it! Good luck in the future! May all your dreams come true. Work hard and make your Grandpas proud!*

*Love,*

*Mom, Dad, Lauren, Caroline, Katelyn, and Grandma*



*Josh Born & Bernie Boots*

*You cousins have done a bit of growing, and a lot of laughing at MD together. Enjoy the memories!*

*Abby Scheller*

*Our little girl has grown up to a beautiful young lady. We are so proud of you and love you so very much. Happy Graduation!*

*Dad, Mom, and Alex*



*Danielle Norman*

*You have finally grown up to fill those shoes! We hope you dance...*

*Love,*

*Mom, Dad, and Chelsea*



*Adam Blankenberger*

*We are so proud of the young man that you've become. We know you will be successful, no matter what you do!!*

*We love you!*

*Love,*

*Mom, Steve, Megan, and Kendra*



*Brandon Wright*

*Congratulations! We are so proud of you and love you very much. Keep smiling!*

*Love,*

*Mom, Dad, and Ozzie*

*Max Wilderman*

*You have always been a great kid. I know you will do great things in what you choose to do. I will always be there for you.*

*Love you,*

*Dad*





Jessie Kelley

Latin Momma  
Most ghetto  
Jess-a-belle  
Queso Kitty  
Pistol  
Miss Lynn

No matter what you call her, she's still our remarkably amazing "sweet Jessie."  
So proud! Love always, Mom and Dad

Adam Knapp

Congratulations! We are so proud of the young man you have become, along with all of your accomplishments. We wish you success for the future. God bless you.

Love always,

Mom, Austin, and Claire



Nathan Lutz

We are so proud of you. We wish you all the best in the future. Remember to keep your faith, and believe in yourself.

We love you,

Mom and Dad



Ashton Maurer

It has been an incredible journey watching you blossom over the years. What a lovely young lady you've become! We are so proud of you and love you so very much!

XOXO

Mom and Dad



Erica Sollman

Our precious baby girl! You have never ceased to amaze us with your positive and take charge attitude! We have been so blessed to have you in our lives! You will be incredible with whatever life brings you. We love you so much and know that you will continue to have the most amazing future ahead of you!

Love Always,

Mom, Dad, Derek, and Jacob

Jacob Boze

What a wonderful young man you have become. Always keep that wonderful smile and drive.

Love,

Mom and Dad



Kyle Seitz

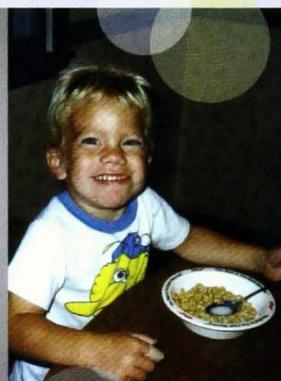
You are a very talented and skilled young man, and we are excited to see what your future holds.

We love you!

Mom and Dad

"Keep your eyes on the stars and your feet on the ground."

-T. Roosevelt



Kayla Hammelman

Congratulations on your many accomplishments during your high school years. You make us proud and we are blessed that you are a part of our family. Good luck in your future endeavors.

We love you,

Mom, Dad, Neil, and Leah



Maria Kempf

We are so proud of you. Jesus will guide you to great places in your future. "You are fearfully and wonderfully made." We will pray for you always. You will always be our "Punkin."

Love,

Mom, Dad, Rachel, Gabrielle, Zachary, Joshua, and Alyssa

Adam Sweeney

We have enjoyed watching you grow these past few years--on and off the football field! May God grant you a future of love and success. We love you very much!

Love,

Dad, Mom, Rachel, Sarah, and Elizabeth





Muddy Gansman

I am so proud of the amazing young woman you have become. Trust in God and live life to the fullest. Take chances and change lives.

I love you, always,

Mommy

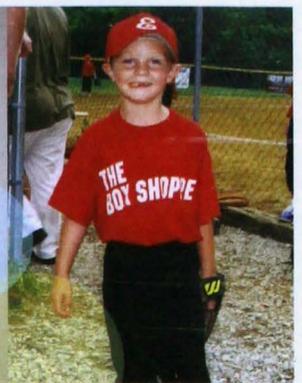


Hunter Owen

Congratulations, Hunter! We are all so proud of you

Love,

Dad, Tina, Tyler, Leslie, Mimi, and Papa



Kelsey Fulton

We are so proud of the person you have become. Continue to work hard and reach for your dreams. We look forward to enjoying your future accomplishments.

Love you always,

Mom, Dad, Megan, and Scott



Isaac Tekoppel

It's been such a joy to watch you grow up. Thanks for all the exciting memories, especially the ones watching you catch the football senior year. Always remember your faith and to be thankful every day for your gifts.

We love you,

Mom and Dad



Adam Weinzapfel

We wish you all the success in the world. But remember, it can be the small things you find along the way that may bring you the most joy.

Love,

Mom and Dad



Caitlin Moore

Congratulations! We are so proud of you!

Love,

Mom, Dad, and Sam



Alyssa Weinzapfel

You are a loving, caring, warm-hearted and compassionate person, which sometimes you are afraid to show. Always be true to God and true to yourself and everything else will fall into place. We have always been proud of you, but our pride grows with each day.

We love you, Dad, Mom, Kari, Brent, and Jessica

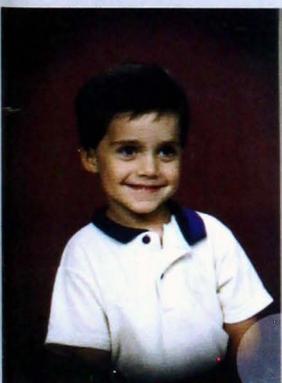


Adam Folz

We're very proud of you! You're such an intelligent, humorous, and polite young man. Keep believing in God and yourself and you can accomplish your dreams.

Love,

Dad, Mom, and Sarah



Katie Clements

Katie Pooh,

We are very proud of you and love you so much.

Mom and Dad





Molly Swihart

We're so proud of you! You've worked hard and didn't let the obstacles that come along get in your way of achieving your goals. Just remember... Believe!!

We love you,

Mom, Dad, and Tyler

Bri Dickerson

To our most precious Bri,

You are such a ray of sunshine in our family! We are so proud of what you have already accomplished and can't wait to see what your bright future holds for you! Keep shining, Bri!

Love, Mom, Dad, Matt, Mariah & Halle



Abbey Schmitt

We are so proud of you and all that you have accomplished at Mater Dei. You have a bright future ahead of you.

We love you,

Mom, Dad, Alex, and Bennet



Kelsey Schenk

Tessie:

Mom and I are so proud of you. These four years have flown by. We know you will have great success in your mission to become a nurse.

We love you,

Mom and Dad



Alex Orth

We are so proud of you. You are talented in so many ways. This is only one milestone in your life and we are sure you will succeed in all you choose to do. Remember we are always here for you.

Love,

Pappy and Grandma Nancy



Abby Seibert

We're so proud of you and your achievements. Dream big. You have an amazing future ahead of you.

We love you,

Mom, Dad, Hope, and Tara



Adri Funke

We are so proud of you, and all that you've accomplished. You are ready for college. Confidently go follow your dreams. Know that we will be cheering you on, and will be always ready to welcome you home.

We love you, sweetie,

Mom, Dad, Katie, and Alex



Jessie Kelley & Caitlin Moore

Still zany! Still buddies!



Erin & Katie Wildeman

Keep these sweet smiles shining through in everything you do...we are proud of you!

Love,

Mom and Dad





Alex Orth

We are so proud of you now and always. You have brought so much joy to our lives. Stay true to your values and know there is nothing you can't achieve. May God keep you safe and may all your dreams come true.

Love,

Dad, Mom, Kayla, Opie, Will & Veronica

Carlee DeHart

We are so proud of the amazing young woman you've become. Remember to keep your dreams big and your worries small. We know that only great things lie ahead. Never settle for anything but the best because that's what you deserve. Remember that life is what you make it. Be sure to make your AWESOME!!

We love you! Mom, Dad, and Cody



Ashley Parkinson & Logan Folz

God made you cousins, choice made you friends. Always remember your roots!

Love you always,

Your families



Mackenzie Will

I can't believe you're graduating high school. We are so proud of you. It was a very fast four years, and I know you had fun, and you worked hard. We wish you good luck in your college career. Keep working hard. It will pay off in the end, but don't forget to have fun along the way.

We love you! Mom, Dad, Shawn, and Jr.



Wes VanMeter

Grasshopper, we are so proud of you. Best of luck to you on your journey through college. Continue to dream, change the world, make them laugh. Your future is whatever you want. Great job on the plays! You were awesome.

Love you more,

Mom, Dad, and Lauren

Katie Tison

We are so proud of you. We hope the future brings you much joy and happiness. Remember to keep God and your family close to your heart.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Jacob, Lucas, Kyle, Emily, Zachary, and Rachel



Kyle Tison

We are so proud of the person you have become. Keep setting your goals high and believing in yourself as we do.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Jacob, Lucas, Katie, Emily, Zachary, and Rachel



Lucas Goedde

Luke, Luke, good old Luke. We are so proud of you. Keep up the hard work at Dad's. You can achieve anything you put your mind to.

Love,

Mom, Dad, Jacob, Kyle, Katie, Emily, Zachary, and Rachel

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<b>Lori Messal Pierre</b> Class of '89	<b>Jim Pierre</b> Class of '89
<b>John Pierre</b> Class of '88	

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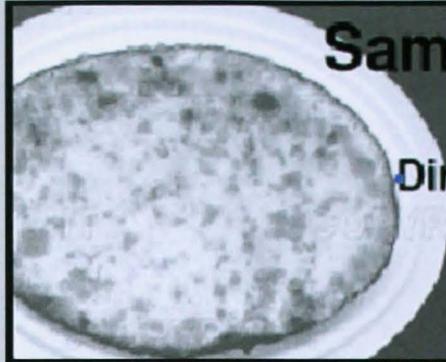
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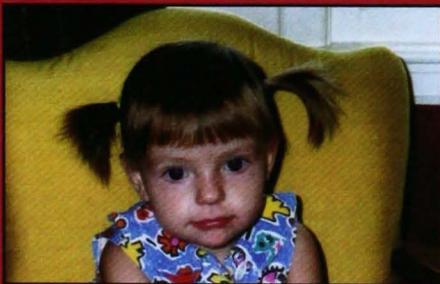


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*Catherine Schneider - Class of 2014*

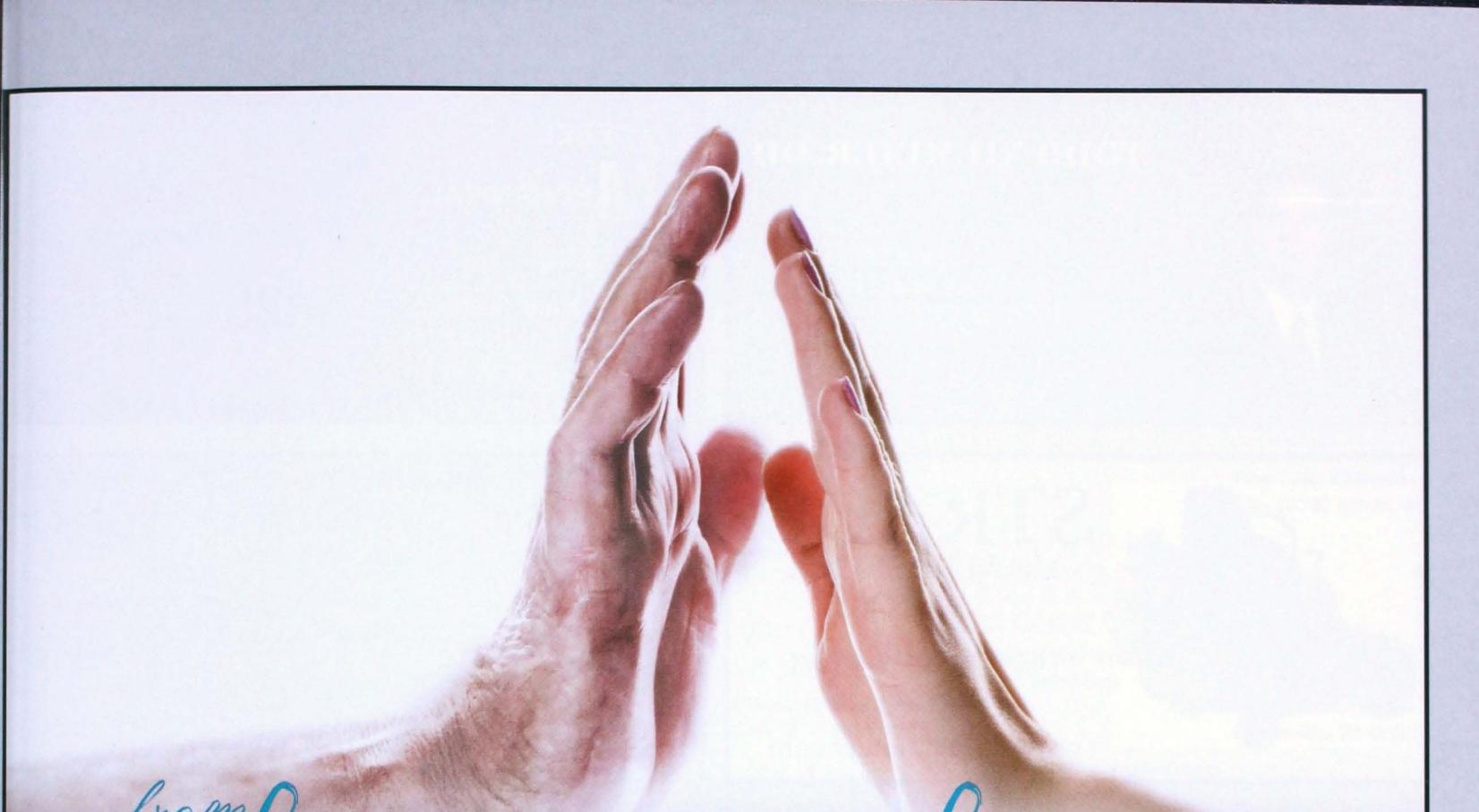
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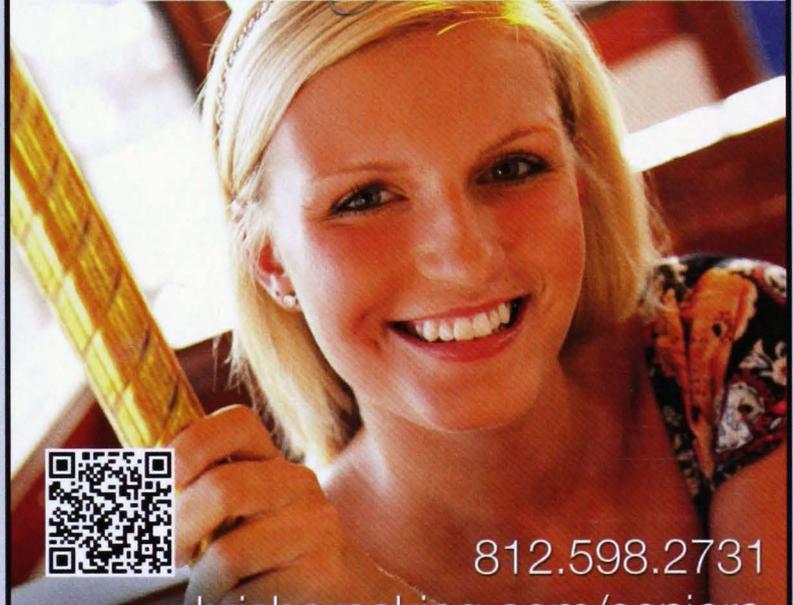
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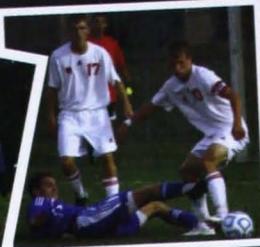
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Girls' Golf



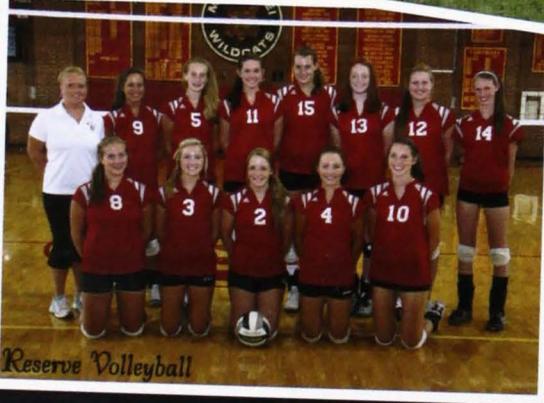
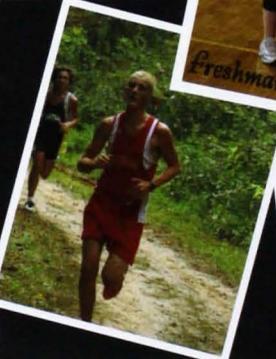
Varsity & Reserve Football



Freshman Volleyball



Girls' Varsity Soccer



Reserve Volleyball



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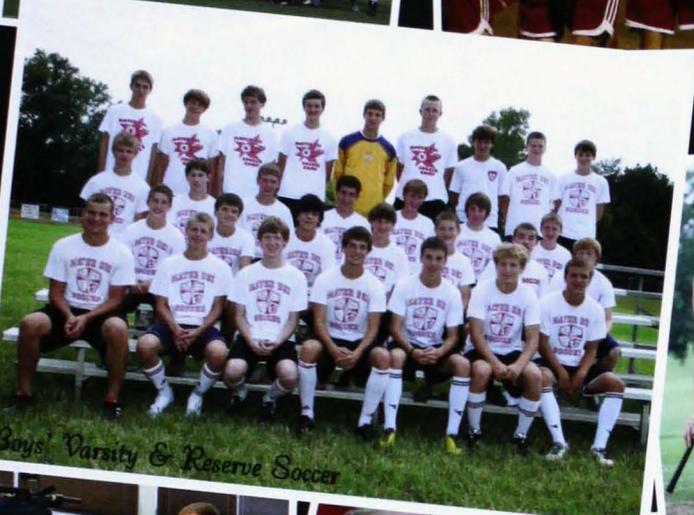
Freshman Football



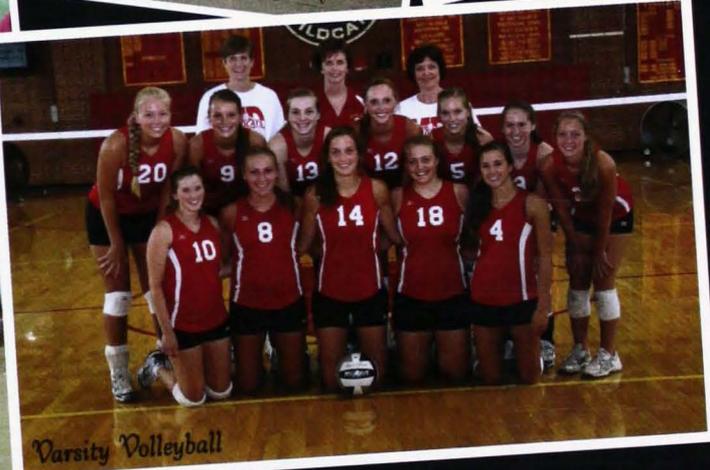
Marching Band



Girls' Reserve Soccer



Boys' Varsity & Reserve Soccer

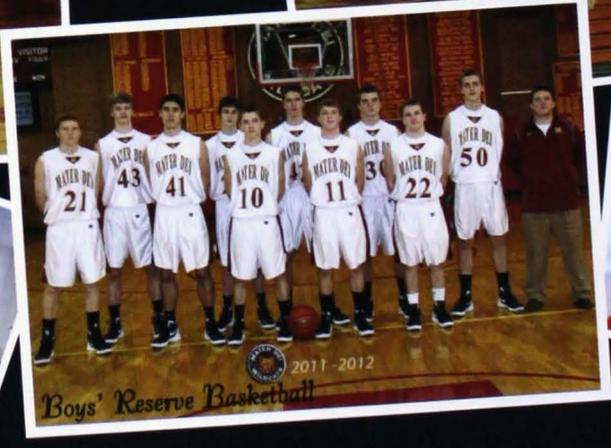
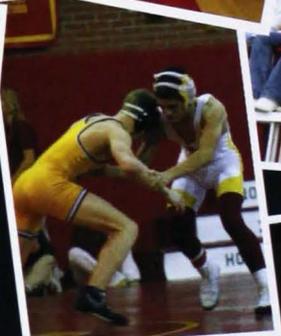
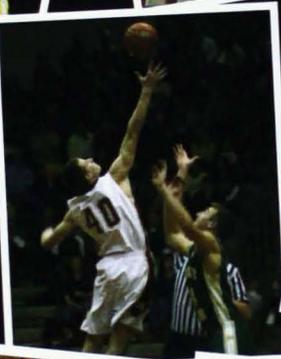
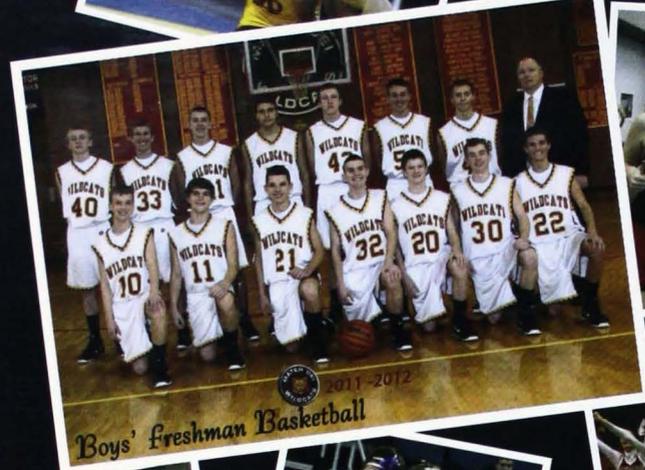


Varsity Volleyball



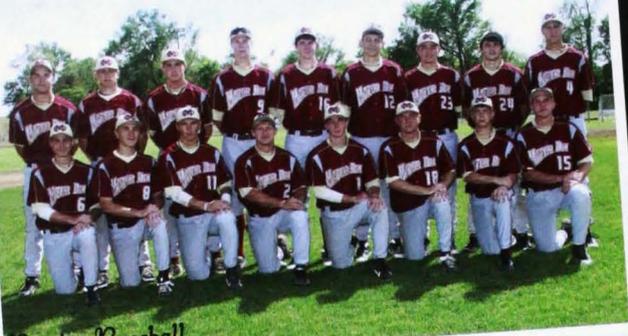
Girls' Cross Country

# fall sports





# winter sports



Varsity Baseball



Boys' Track & Field



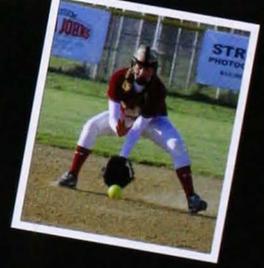
Boys' Golf



Freshman Baseball



Girls' Track & Field







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# student government



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Spell Bowl



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# academic clubs



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Prom Committee

# school spirit



Freshman Mentors

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# service clubs



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# *fine arts*



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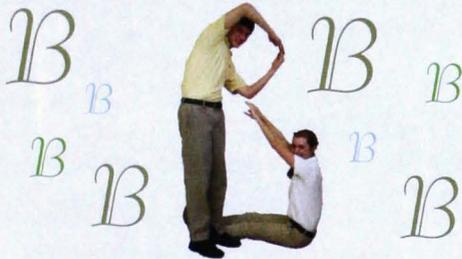
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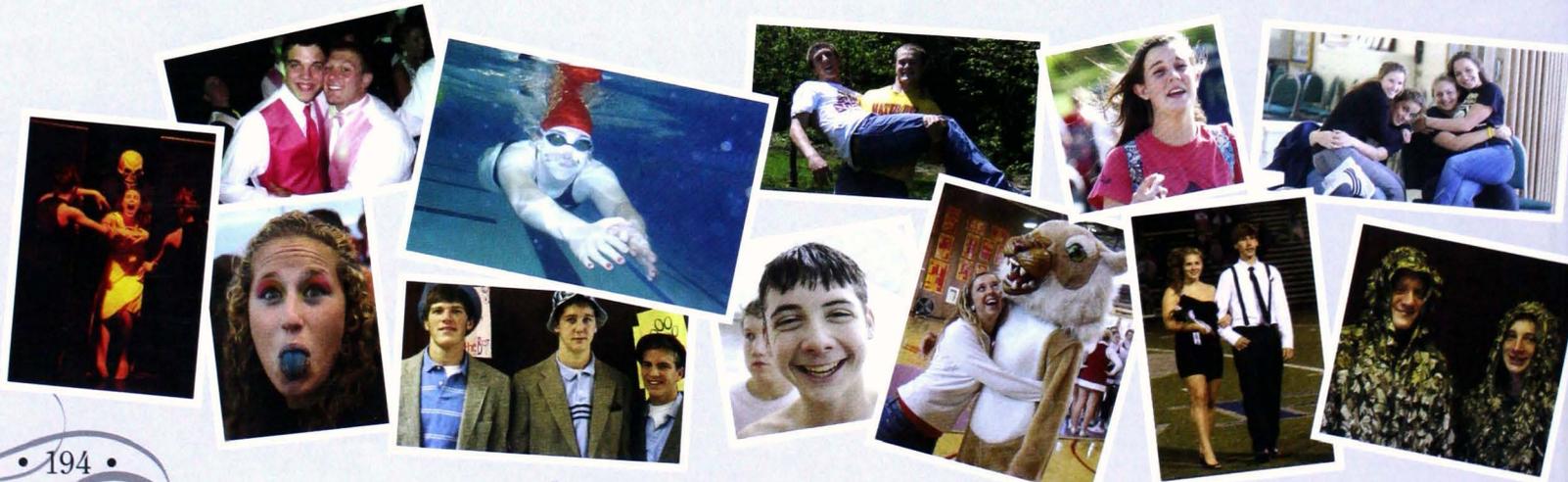
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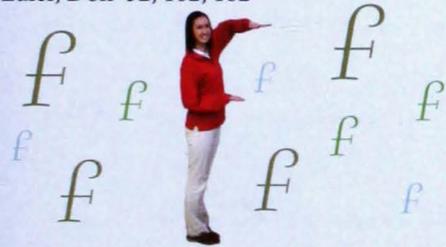
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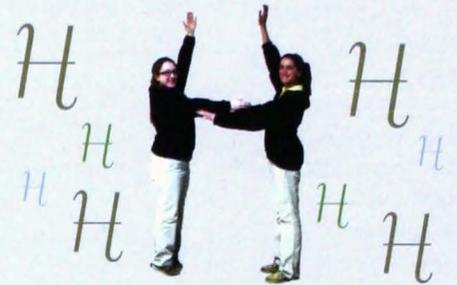
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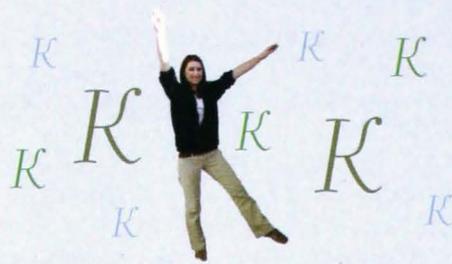
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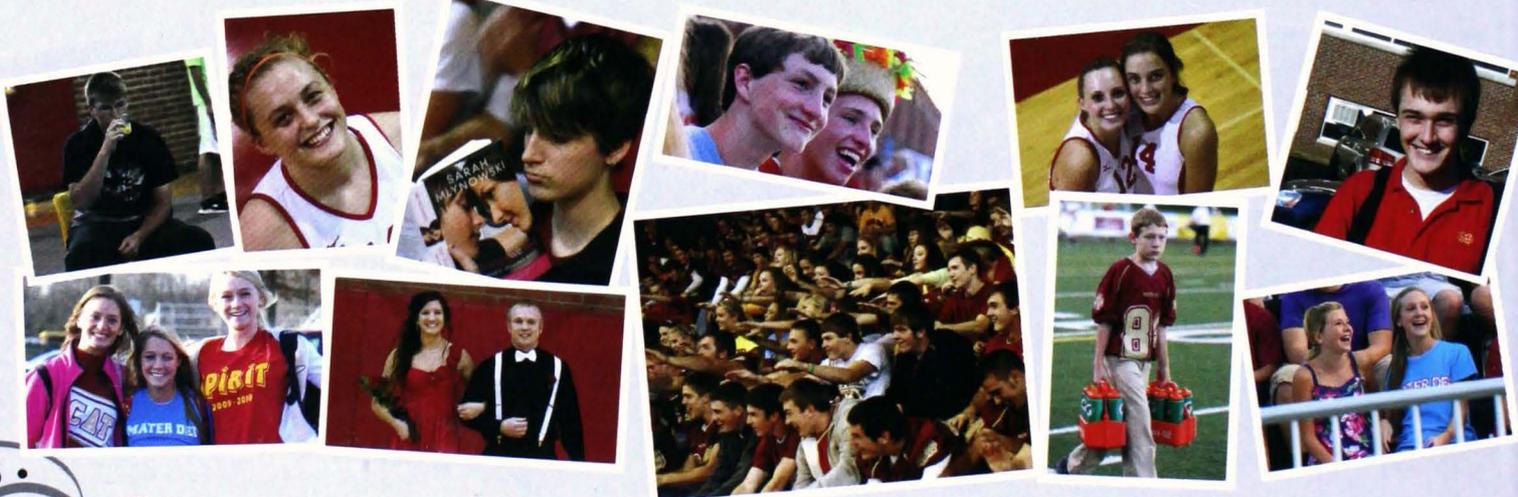
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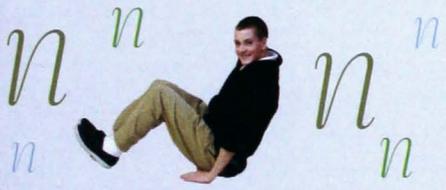
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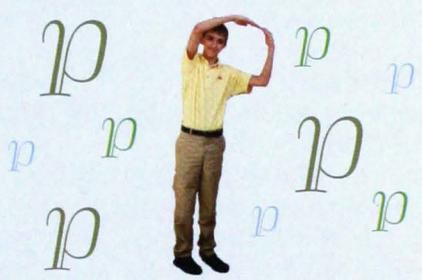
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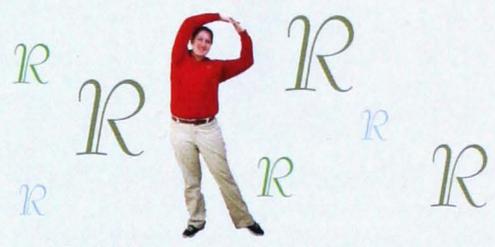


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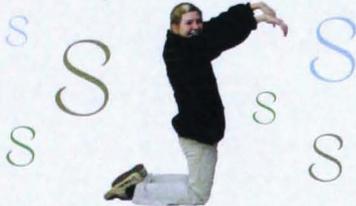
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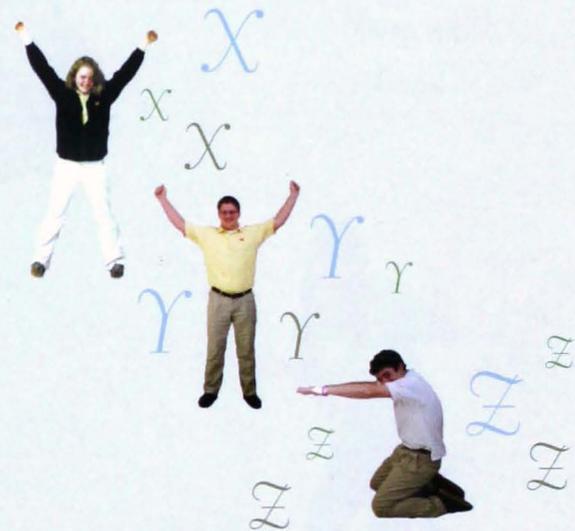
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# About the **AUTHORS**



Mrs. West

Fearless Leader



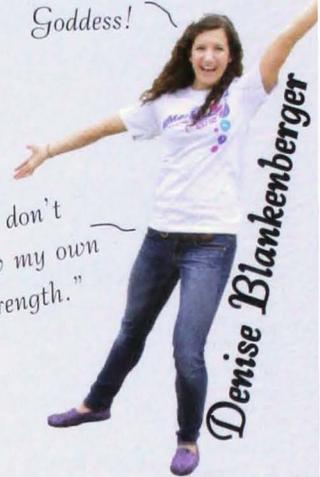
Cydney Quinn

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"Beyonce's Baby!"

Pinterest Party!

Photoshop Goddess!



Denise Blankenberger

"I don't know my own strength."

Co-Editor in Chief



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Spreads

Cockroach

"You can't creep on us, homie!"



Adri Funke

Silly Drawings

The green hand

Camera

Media Day

"If it's important, I carry it on my head."



Alesca Bueltel

Pictures

It's The Blind Side."

Co-Editor in Chief

InDesign



Anna Weinzapfel

"It could have been crawling on my leg!"

Selling Ads

## Colophon

This year, Herff-Jones Publishing's Gettysburg, Pennsylvania, plant printed 400 copies of the yearbook. The book was sold to the student body, staff, and friends for \$50 and then for \$65 after the deadline the yearbook staff placed had passed. Business advertising space was sold for between \$50 and \$300, whereas senior advertising space was sold for \$30. Everyone on the yearbook staff contributed in her individual way to the "Westside Story" theme.

The cover and endsheets were created by the yearbook staff at the Herff-Jones Cover Design Workshop, and the page layouts were based on the collaborative efforts of the yearbook staff. Algerian, AHJ Bernhard Tango, and AHJ Suited were the fonts used throughout the book, and the majority of the photos in this yearbook were taken by the yearbook staff. The underclassman class photos were taken by Straub Photography, and the senior and group photos were taken by Patty Dewig.

Mater Dei  
Yearbook  
Blank Page





*"Go, Mater Dei,  
Show your spirits bold,  
Keep your colors flying,  
Loyal red and royal gold.  
RAH, RAH, RAH!  
Sons, brave and dauntless,  
Daughters ever true,  
Victory and Glory, that's our story,  
Mater Dei we're proud of you!"*

*-Mater Dei School Song*